

Lecture 16: Representation, Encodings, Unicode, and UTF-8

The polynomial expansion of 362 is

$$362 = 3 \times 10^2 + 6 \times 10^1 + 2 \times 10^0$$

Binary numbers work in exactly the same way, but with powers of 2 instead of powers of 10. So the number

$$00100101 = 2^5 + 2^2 + 2^0 = 37.$$

Imagine that we write a small amount of textual data to file a file called `output.txt` using the following Python code.

```
1 with open('output.txt', 'wt', encoding='ASCII') as fout:  
2     print(" De La Soul is Dead", file=fout, )
```

If we cat the file in unix we see

```
$ cat output.txt
```

```
De La Soul is Dead
```

```
$ xxd -b output.txt
```

```
0000000: 01000100 01100101 00100000 01001100 01100001 00100000  De La  
0000006: 01010011 01101111 01110101 01101100 00100000 01101001  Soul i  
000000c: 01110011 00100000 01000100 01100101 01100001 01100100  s Dead  
0000012: 00001010
```

ASCII TABLE


Decimal	Hexadecimal	Binary	Octal	Char	Decimal	Hexadecimal	Binary	Octal	Char	Decimal	Hexadecimal	Binary	Octal	Char
0	0	0	0	[NULL]	48	30	110000	60	0	96	60	1100000	140	`
1	1	1	1	[START OF HEADING]	49	31	110001	61	1	97	61	1100001	141	a
2	2	10	2	[START OF TEXT]	50	32	110010	62	2	98	62	1100010	142	b
3	3	11	3	[END OF TEXT]	51	33	110011	63	3	99	63	1100011	143	c
4	4	100	4	[END OF TRANSMISSION]	52	34	110100	64	4	100	64	1100100	144	d
5	5	101	5	[ENQUIRY]	53	35	110101	65	5	101	65	1100101	145	e
6	6	110	6	[ACKNOWLEDGE]	54	36	110110	66	6	102	66	1100110	146	f
7	7	111	7	[BELL]	55	37	110111	67	7	103	67	1100111	147	g
8	8	1000	10	[BACKSPACE]	56	38	111000	70	8	104	68	1101000	150	h
9	9	1001	11	[HORIZONTAL TAB]	57	39	111001	71	9	105	69	1101001	151	i
10	A	1010	12	[LINE FEED]	58	3A	111010	72	:	106	6A	1101010	152	j
11	B	1011	13	[VERTICAL TAB]	59	3B	111011	73	;	107	6B	1101011	153	k
12	C	1100	14	[FORM FEED]	60	3C	111100	74	<	108	6C	1101100	154	l
13	D	1101	15	[CARRIAGE RETURN]	61	3D	111101	75	=	109	6D	1101101	155	m
14	E	1110	16	[SHIFT OUT]	62	3E	111110	76	>	110	6E	1101110	156	n
15	F	1111	17	[SHIFT IN]	63	3F	111111	77	?	111	6F	1101111	157	o
16	10	10000	20	[DATA LINK ESCAPE]	64	40	1000000	100	@	112	70	1110000	160	p
17	11	10001	21	[DEVICE CONTROL 1]	65	41	1000001	101	A	113	71	1110001	161	q
18	12	10010	22	[DEVICE CONTROL 2]	66	42	1000010	102	B	114	72	1110010	162	r
19	13	10011	23	[DEVICE CONTROL 3]	67	43	1000011	103	C	115	73	1110011	163	s
20	14	10100	24	[DEVICE CONTROL 4]	68	44	1000100	104	D	116	74	1110100	164	t
21	15	10101	25	[NEGATIVE ACKNOWLEDGE]	69	45	1000101	105	E	117	75	1110101	165	u
22	16	10110	26	[SYNCHRONOUS IDLE]	70	46	1000110	106	F	118	76	1110110	166	v
23	17	10111	27	[ENG OF TRANS. BLOCK]	71	47	1000111	107	G	119	77	1110111	167	w
24	18	11000	30	[CANCEL]	72	48	1001000	110	H	120	78	1111000	170	x
25	19	11001	31	[END OF MEDIUM]	73	49	1001001	111	I	121	79	1111001	171	y
26	1A	11010	32	[SUBSTITUTE]	74	4A	1001010	112	J	122	7A	1111010	172	z
27	1B	11011	33	[ESCAPE]	75	4B	1001011	113	K	123	7B	1111011	173	{
28	1C	11100	34	[FILE SEPARATOR]	76	4C	1001100	114	L	124	7C	1111100	174	|
29	1D	11101	35	[GROUP SEPARATOR]	77	4D	1001101	115	M	125	7D	1111101	175	}
30	1E	11110	36	[RECORD SEPARATOR]	78	4E	1001110	116	N	126	7E	1111110	176	~
31	1F	11111	37	[UNIT SEPARATOR]	79	4F	1001111	117	O	127	7F	1111111	177	[DEL]
32	20	100000	40	[SPACE]	80	50	1010000	120	P					
33	21	100001	41	!	81	51	1010001	121	Q					
34	22	100010	42	"	82	52	1010010	122	R					
35	23	100011	43	#	83	53	1010011	123	S					
36	24	100100	44	\$	84	54	1010100	124	T					
37	25	100101	45	%	85	55	1010101	125	U					
38	26	100110	46	&	86	56	1010110	126	V					
39	27	100111	47	'	87	57	1010111	127	W					
40	28	101000	50	(	88	58	1011000	130	X					
41	29	101001	51	)	89	59	1011001	131	Y					
42	2A	101010	52	*	90	5A	1011010	132	Z					
43	2B	101011	53	+	91	5B	1011011	133	[
44	2C	101100	54	,	92	5C	1011100	134	\					
45	2D	101101	55	-	93	5D	1011101	135]					
46	2E	101110	56	.	94	5E	1011110	136	^					
47	2F	101111	57	/	95	5F	1011111	137	_					

U+2B50 WHITE MEDIUM STAR

codepoints.net/U+2b50

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2B4F Miscellaneous Symbols and Arrows 2B51



U+2B50 WHITE MEDIUM STAR

U+2B50 was added to Unicode in version 5.1. It belongs to the block [Miscellaneous Symbols and Arrows](#) in the [Basic Multilingual Plane](#).

This character is a **Other Symbol** and is **commonly** used, that is, in no specific script.

The glyph is **not a composition**. It has a **Neutral** East Asian Width. In bidirectional context it acts as **Other Neutral** and is **not mirrored**. In text U+2B50 behaves as **Alphabetic** regarding line breaks. It has type **Other** for sentence and **Other** for word breaks. The Grapheme Cluster Break is **Any**.

The [Wikipedia](#) has the following information about this codepoint:

In typography, a star is any of several glyphs with a number of points arrayed within an imaginary circle.

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Representations

SYSTEM	REPRESENTATION
N ^º	11088
UTF-8	E2 AD 90
UTF-16	2B 50

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Bits in code pt	First code pt	Last code pt	# Bytes	Byte 1	Byte 2	Byte 3	Byte 4
7	U+0000	U+007F	1	0xxxxxxx			
11	U+0080	U+07FF	2	110xxxxx	10xxxxxx		
16	U+0800	U+FFFF	3	1110xxxx	10xxxxxx	10xxxxxx	
21	U+10000	U+1FFFFF	4	11110xxx	10xxxxxx	10xxxxxx	10xxxxxx

Here are several advantages of UTF-8.

- UTF-8 is compatible with ASCII because it encodes all ASCII characters as ASCII values;
- UTF-8 can encode all the unicode code points; and
- UTF-8 is self-synchronizing—one can use the byte signatures to both determine the number of bytes and the order of the bytes.