

Re: Inverted 2 and inverted 3 in Unicode?

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Harlan Messinger wrote:

HM.2> Then I'm not sure what you're looking for. I thought you were
HM.2> trying to justify Unicode just listing radicals instead of
HM.2> characters, on the grounds that the characters can then just
HM.2> be defined as combinations of radicals.

I did not suggest Unicode doing anything but I have said that

- (1) a Chinese character (<zi4>) can be defined as a combination of radicals just as an English word is defined as a series of letters;
- (2) that modern computer technology may very well be able to layout a Chinese character on the fly based on the series of strokes/radicals using a "font" of radicals.

HM.2> I've demonstrated that it's not as simple as you assert.

I don't know what "simplicity" you think I have implied by the above; therefore I don't understand your demonstration at all. To wit, you merely said, "it is not that X [X=simple]" then "prove me wrong"; and when I showed a general scheme, you said "See? It is not that X". Perhaps it would help if you would describe more in more details what you consider to my assertion of simplicity.

HM.2> I also don't understand *why*

HM.2> you would want to do it that way.

My point was that the "abstract character" in Unicode is based in practical consideration rather than consistent logic — e.g., some "abstract characters" are atomic while others are composites.

TT.1> Laying out a Chinese character

TT.1> is similar to laying out a web page, so I imagine a reasonable
TT.1> setup would be that there will be a description of the character
TT.1> representable by some sort of markup language, a default
TT.1> "stylesheet" defining a set of reasonably aesthetic proportions

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TT.1> (e.g., that the "four_dots" radical should be half as tall as
TT.1> the component above it), and a collection ("font") of (scalable)
TT.1> radicals and strokes. These three components are more or less
TT.1> independent of each other. In addition, there should probably
TT.1> be a provision to override some of the parameters at the generic
TT.1> radical, generic character, or individual (occurrence of)
TT.1> character level (e.g., via additional "stylesheets").
TT.1>
TT.1> A layout of the <he