

Proposal to add a Stability Policy: No more decompositions to combining marks

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I propose the addition of the following Stability Policy:

Applicable Version: Unicode 2.1+

No further characters will be encoded whose canonical decomposition starts with a non-zero combining mark.

Unicode has 7 such characters (U+0340, U+0341, U+0343, U+0344, U+0F73, U+0F75, U+0F81).

Such characters add significant complexity for processing processing of canonically equivalent text.

Note that such characters are not very useful since they get normalized away even in NFC.

Sample issues:

- Enumerating the set of strings that are canonically equivalent to an input string.
- Collation contractions with non-leading combining marks of a decomposition mapping.

Details: [http://unicode.org/cldr/utility/list-unicodeset.jsp?a=\[\[\[:nfd_qc=no:\]\]%26\[:^lccc=0:\]\]&g=age](http://unicode.org/cldr/utility/list-unicodeset.jsp?a=[[[:nfd_qc=no:]]%26[:^lccc=0:]]&g=age)

Age=1.1

Combining Diacritical Marks — Vietnamese tone marks

[U+0340](#) () COMBINING GRAVE TONE MARK

[U+0341](#) () COMBINING ACUTE TONE MARK

Combining Diacritical Marks — Additions for Greek

[U+0343](#) () COMBINING GREEK KORONIS

[U+0344](#) () COMBINING GREEK DIALYTIKA TONOS

Age=2.0

Tibetan — Dependent vowel sign

[U+0F73](#) () TIBETAN VOWEL SIGN II

[U+0F75](#) () TIBETAN VOWEL SIGN UU

[U+0F81](#) () TIBETAN VOWEL SIGN REVERSED II