

Title: Suggestion concerning tentative roadmap placement of Kanbun Extended block

Date: October 10, 2020

Author: Mika Moist

I would like to bring to the committee's attention a possible alternative to an aspect of the UTC's recommendation concerning the newly proposed Kanbun Extended block as documented in the Script Ad-Hoc Report of the recent UTC #165 committee meeting ([L2/20-250](#)).

This report requested the Roadmap Committee to tentatively reserve the codepoints extending from U+16FB0 to U+16FBF in the SMP for the recommended Kanbun Extended block. However, I would like to suggest that the Roadmap Committee instead consider reserving the codepoints U+2FE0 to U+2FEF in the BMP for this block.

My reasoning for this suggestion is that the space in the BMP is more sensible as it allows for much more flexibility with respect to future encoding decisions. The current tentative placement places the one-column block between an exploratory "Bopomofo Extended-A" block, which may change in size or location as more information is gathered about whichever characters it may eventually contain. Meanwhile, the BMP location has an identical amount of space as the number of codepoints needed to accommodate Kanbun Extensions, allowing the block to "fit neatly" within the plane while situating it with similar blocks.

This entire section of the BMP contains several characters also used for description and annotation within CJK texts, including the immediate surrounding blocks, Kangxi Radicals and Ideographic Description Characters. In fact, this reservation keeps it close to the original Kanbun block that Kanbun Extended intends to supplement.

No matter their final decision on the block's location, I appreciate the Committee's reading and consideration of my proposal and I wish the Unicode Consortium further success in its mission to facilitate universal encoding of every writing system in use all over the world.