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Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set
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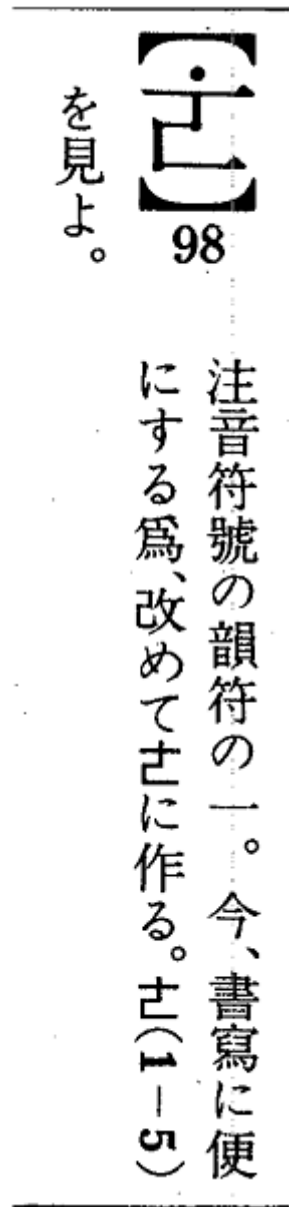
1. Introduction

The UK ballot comments to PDAM 2.2 and CD 5th edition (see N4656 and N4686) note that the proposed character 2CEF1 in Extension F (JMJ-056848) may be the existing CJK unified ideograph 20000 𠄎 with an editorial dot, and therefore representable as 20000 𠄎 plus 0307 combining dot above.

2CEDC — 1.11 𠄎 GZ-1741407	2CEF0 、 3.2 𠄎 GPGLG-3002
2CEDD — 1.11 𠄎 KC-04894	2CEF1 、 3.4 𠄎 JMJ-056848
2CEDE — 1.11 𠄎 GZ-1301301	2CEF2 、 3.5 𠄎 JMJ-056849

In WG2 N4677 IRG confirmed that the character in question was attested in Morohashi's *Dai Kan-Wa Jiten* 大漢和辭典, as shown below, and therefore should be encoded.

Fig. 1. *Dai Kan-Wa Jiten* MD-pp321-i98



My translation: "One of the vowel signs for phonetic symbols (*zhùyīn fúhào* 注音符號, the formal name for Bopomofo). Nowadays, in order to simplify the writing of it, its shape has changed to ㄜ."

Further evidence has now been found that throws the decision to encode this character as a CJK unified ideograph in doubt.

2. *Early Form of Bopomofo Letter E*

The *Chinese National Language Magazine* 國語月刊 no. 7 "Reformation of the Chinese Characters" 漢字改革號 special number, published in Peking in 1923 shows that ㄜ is the original form of

Bopomofo letter E (U+311C ㄜ). As /o/ and /e/ are in complementary distribution in standard Mandarin Chinese, the Mandarin /e/ sound was originally written in Bopomofo as the sign for /o/ with a dot on top (i.e. ㄛ̣). This dotted form of Bopomofo letter E was later replaced by a new letter with a vertical stroke in place of the dot (i.e. ㄜ).

The examples below from the 1923 special issue of *Chinese National Language Magazine* clearly show that ㄛ̣ is the early form of the Bopomofo letter E.

Fig. 2. *Chinese National Language Magazine* No. 7 (1923) p. 100

韻母的全表如下：

ㄉ	rh	--r	rr	r	-rh'
ㄌ'	-z	--z	-zz	-z	
一	ih	y	ii	i	ih'
ㄒ	uh	w	uu	u	uh'
ㄌ	vh	yv	vv	v	vh'
ㄚ	ah	--a	aa	a	ah'
ㄚ	iah	ya	iaa	ia	iah'
ㄨㄚ	uah	wa	uaa	ua	uah'
ㄛ̣	oh	--o	oo	o	oh'
ㄛ̣					ioh
ㄨㄛ̣	uoh	wo	uoo	uo	uoh'
ㄜ					eh'
ㄜ	eh	--e	ee	e	

有的把崑崙拼作 Kuen-lun, 就是因為 k, l 影響於韻母不同的緣故。但是 Wade 拼法除單用作 wen 以外一律用 un。作者暫擬用

uen guen kuen xuen juen teuen cuen
ruen dun tun nun lun zun tsun sun

這樣拼音準些, 但是沒有 Wade 拼法簡單, 倒底哪種拼法適當?

疑點第五: “**亡**, 世”底讀音。——“亡, 世”是一個很有興趣的問題。這兩韻母在北京不分北京的讀音是一種很難學的複合韻母, 在萬國發音符號裏就是 ew (就是倒寫的 m 加倒寫的 e), 而且北京

第一, 把前四聲一律讀 è (開封“世”); 入聲開口呼的一律讀 e (北京“亡”後半); 入聲齊齒撮口仍舊讀 è (ie, ve)。這辦法和字典裏的國音有一點不合的地方, 就是把“折, 浙, 哲, 撤, 舌, 設, 涉, 熱”本來念“世”的要改成“亡”了。但是實際上沒有關係。

第二, 前四聲讀法同上; 入聲齊齒撮口也同上; 入聲開口呼的除有 u , i , y , ü 的也同上; 就是入聲開口呼的有 u , i , y , ü 的讀 è (世)。這辦法讀音很自然, 和字典裏的國音衝突處就是把“宅, 澤, 澤, 炙, 拆, 斥, 瑟, 發”本來是“亡”的

3. Recommendation

As the proposed character 2CEF1 (JM1-056848) has been shown above to be the early form of the Bopomofo letter E, and not a Han ideograph, we believe that it is completely inappropriate to encode this character as a CJK unified ideograph, and suggest that it be removed from CJK Unified Ideographs Extension F.

However, this character is needed, so we recommend that a new Bopomofo letter be encoded in the Bopomofo block at 312E, with the name BOPOMOFO LETTER O WITH DOT or BOPOMOFO LETTER E EARLY FORM (or any other suitable name as decided by WG2 experts).