

Unicode U+2E2F, Cyrillic Yerik (Vertical Tilde)

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In the previous volume of *Scripta & e-Scripta* (vol. 6, 2008), the authors published a “White Paper” concerning “Early Cyrillic Writing after Unicode 5.1”, which commented upon achievements in Unicode version 5.1 as well as candidates for future inclusion and variants. The White Paper was accompanied by a large table that included, among other things, representative glyphs for each character and its assigned codepoint in Unicode 5.1. Copies of both documents were distributed to participants in the XIVth International Congress of Slavists, held in Ohrid in September 2008, and are also available on line (see links given below).

In the printed version, the Unicode code point for the *vertical tilde*, a new addition to Unicode version 5.1, was given as U+2E3A (see p. 188). This code point was given in accordance with the corresponding submission referred to in the publication (N3194R). However, as was brought to our attention later, the vertical tilde was assigned a different code point for the final published version of the Unicode standard, v. 5.1. In the standard, the correct code point for this glyph is U+2E2F (see <http://www.unicode.org/charts/PDF/U2E00.pdf>). Both the code point from the submission and the final, correct code point list the character within the “Supplemental Punctuation” block, and the notes that follow the character table explicitly state that this character is being used “for Cyrillic yerik”. Consequently, the code point that was stated in submission N3194R on page 6 and the corresponding slot that showed this character as part of the table on p. 19 (see figures below) are now obsolete and superseded by the official values.

Certain releases of the Unicode 5.1 fonts produced and/or maintained by the authors (David J. Birnbaum: Lazov, Menaion Medieval; Ralph Cleminson: Dilyana; Sebastian Kempgen: RomanCyrillic Std, Kliment Std, CampusRoman Std, Method Std; Sebastian Kempgen & William R. Veder: Bukyvede) and available from the authors’ servers (Obshtezhitie, Repertorium, Kodeks –see the links below) may have used the incorrect code point instead of or in addition to the correct code point (indeed, this is what caused the vertical tilde to be misprinted in the aforementioned publication: the font had the correct code point, but the table used the preliminary code point, which resulted in an empty square being printed). In conjunction with the correction given above, the authors have synchronously updated their fonts and made the updated fonts available on line. All of the font versions on line from their official download sites have Cyrillic yerik, i.e., “vertical tilde”, at code point U+2E2F and at that code point only as of this writing. Code point U+2E3A is currently unassigned as part of Unicode v. 5.1 and thus not used.

The authors recommend that users download and install current font versions and update any documents that may make use of code point U+2E3A (recommended action: globally change all characters with code point U+2E3A to U+2E2F).

References

White Paper

D. Birnbaum, R. Cleminson, S. Kempgen, K. Ribarov: “Character Set Standardization for Early Cyrillic Writing after Unicode 5.1”. *Scripta & e-Scripta* vol. 6, Sofia 2008, 161–193.

N3194R

“Proposal to encode additional Cyrillic characters in the BMP of the UCS.” ISO/IEC JTC1/SC2/WG2 N3194R. Submitted by the UC Berkeley Script Encoding Initiative (Universal Scripts Project). 2007-03-21. <http://std.dkuug.dk/jtc1/sc2/wg2/docs/n3194.pdf> .

Links

Kodeks: <http://kodeks.uni-bamberg.de/AKSL/AKSL.Schrift.htm>
http://kodeks.uni-bamberg.de/Unicode/SlavicUnicode_Fonts.htm
Obshtezhitie: <http://www.obshtezhitie.net/res/index.html>
http://www.obshtezhitie.net/docs/2008-07-26_white-paper.pdf
http://www.obshtezhitie.net/docs/2008-07-25_character-table.pdf
Repertorium: <http://clover.slavic.pitt.edu/~repertorium/resources/fonts/fonts.html>

Figures

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2DFE;COMBINING CYRILLIC LETTER BUG YUS;Mn;230;NSM;;;;;N;;;;;  
2DFF;COMBINING CYRILLIC LETTER IOTIFIED BIG YUS;Mn;230;NSM;;;;;N;;;;;  
2E3A;VERTICAL TILDE;Lm;0;ON;;;;;N;;yerik;;;  
A640;CYRILLIC CAPITAL LETTER ZEMLYA;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;A641;  
A641;CYRILLIC SMALL LETTER ZEMLYA;Ll;0;L;;;;;N;;;A640;;A640  
A642;CYRILLIC CAPITAL LETTER DZELO;Lu;0;L;;;;;N;;;A643;
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Fig. 1: Obsolete Unicode code point (encircled) from proposal N3194R, p. 6

A	z		s	
B	□			
C	\	\		
D	/	/		
E	~			
F	—			

Fig. 2: Obsolete Unicode code point and slot in proposal N3194R, p. 19, with later official value indicated