

Doc Type: Working Group Document**Title:** Proposal to add Emoji Variation Sequences for four characters**Author:** Ken Lunde (Adobe Systems Incorporated)**Status:** Corporate Full Member Contribution**Action:** For consideration by the UTC**Date:** 2017-12-08

Background

Emoji Variation Sequences (EVSes) that distinguish text versus emoji-style presentation can be used to specify Black&White (aka text) versus color (aka emoji) glyphs that might be present in the same font or within a font-fallback system. There are currently 351 characters for which EVSes are defined ([Emoji Version 5.0](#)).

Adobe released in November of 2017 a new Japanese typeface called *Ten Mincho* (韶明朝) that includes Black&White and color glyphs for 10 characters, six of which already have EVSes. Four of the characters do not yet have EVSes defined, which is the nature of this proposal. More details about *Ten Mincho* and its development can be found at the [CJK Type Blog](#).

Proposal Summary

This document proposes to add EVSes for the following four characters:

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261C FE0E ; text style; # (1.1) WHITE LEFT POINTING INDEX
261C FE0F ; emoji style; # (1.1) WHITE LEFT POINTING INDEX
261E FE0E ; text style; # (1.1) WHITE RIGHT POINTING INDEX
261E FE0F ; emoji style; # (1.1) WHITE RIGHT POINTING INDEX
261F FE0E ; text style; # (1.1) WHITE DOWN POINTING INDEX
261F FE0F ; emoji style; # (1.1) WHITE DOWN POINTING INDEX
3020 FE0E ; text style; # (1.1) POSTAL MARK FACE
3020 FE0F ; emoji style; # (1.1) POSTAL MARK FACE

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Rationale

Three of the four characters in this proposal are glyphs for hands with a pointing index finger with the other three fingers folded but clearly visible: U+261C 🇨🇦 WHITE LEFT POINTING INDEX, U+261E 🇨🇪 WHITE RIGHT POINTING INDEX, and U+261F 🇨🇫 WHITE DOWN POINTING INDEX. One of the four such characters, U+261D 🇨🇩 WHITE UP POINTING INDEX, does have an EVS, so EVSes for the other three similar characters will bring parity to the set. As a side note, there are four similar characters—U+1F446 WHITE UP POINTING BACKHAND INDEX through U+1F449 WHITE RIGHT POINTING BACKHAND INDEX—for which EVSes are defined, but because the three additional fingers are not exposed, it would be inappropriate to map the four *Ten Mincho* glyphs to those characters.

The fourth character in this proposal is U+3020 𠂇 POSTAL MARK FACE whose shape is ripe for emojification, as demonstrated by *Ten Mincho*. The actual shape of this character includes a face with eyes, ears, and a mouth, with U+3012 𠂆 POSTAL MARK serving as the nose, eyebrows, and possibly hair, which can also serve as justification for defining an EVS for it. While most of today's fonts do not include an emojified glyph for this particular character, its shape and orientation does vary from font to font, such as 𠂇, 𠂇, and 𠂇, though it does tend to be generic among fonts made by a particular type foundry. (*I concede that the case for defining an EVS for this character is not as strong as the case for the other three characters.*)

That is all.