# SC4002 CE4045 CZ4045 Natural Language Processing

**Introduction to UTF-8** 

Dr. Sun Aixin

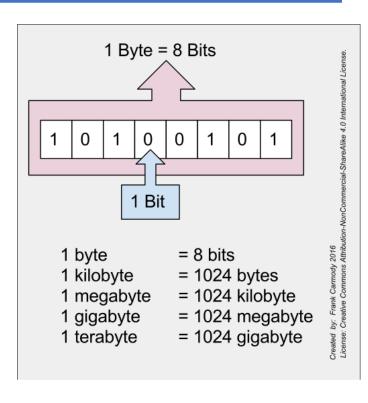
UTF-8 topics are unexaminable

#### Before we talk about language

- $\triangleright$  Computer recognizes and stores **0** and **I** 
  - Bits, bytes
- > How does computer store text and symbols?
  - "Hello World"

  - ■"自然语言"

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- Encoding scheme: a way to represent characters in binary
  - Unicode
  - Non-Unicode

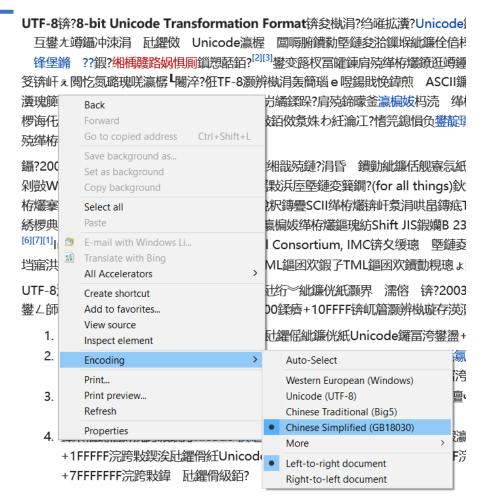
#### Unicode

- Unicode is a computing industry standard for the consistent encoding, representation, and handling of text expressed in most of the world's writing systems.
  - The standard is maintained by the Unicode Consortium
  - Unicode 12.1, contains a repertoire of 137,994 characters, covering 150 modern and historic scripts, and multiple symbol sets and emoji.
  - Unicode 14.0 was released in September 2021, Unicode 15.0 will be released in September 2022
- Each character is assigned a unique integer code, called "code points", usually in hexadecimal base
  - Code point is in the form of U+<hex-code>, from U+0000 to U+10FFFF.
  - Characters in English, Chinese, or other languages
  - Currency symbols, Mathematical symbols
  - Emojis e.g., 😭 U+1F436

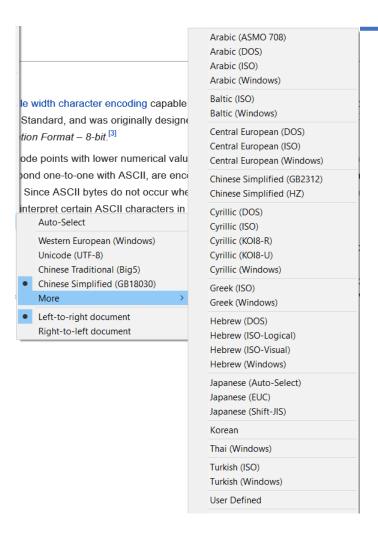


# Display with different encodings

UTF-8 (8-bit Unicode Transformation Format) 是一种针对Unicode的可 字符集中的所有有效编码点进行编码,属于Unicode标准的一部分,最初由肯·济 接使田山nicoda。编码效率低下一十号自弗内存空间。UTF-8就是为了解决向后兼 使用 并行编码, 这使得原来处理ASCII字符 子曲 用的编码方式。 Go to copied address Ctrl+Shift+L 白2 Save background as... E要的编码形式(对所有,而不仅是L Set as background 事物 月, 在所有网页中, UTF-8编码应用 Copy background 第二热门的多字节编码方式Shift JIS科 而右 Select all 所有电子邮件程序都能够使用UTF-8 Paste E-mail with Windows Li... Translate with Bing UTF 尽管如此,2003年11月UTF-8被RF( All Accelerators 字节): U+0Create shortcut 翤(Unicode范围由U+0000至U+( Add to favorites... View source 理尔字母、亚美尼亚语、希伯来文、 Inspect element ĖΕ). Encoding Auto-Select Print... Western European (Windows) Print preview... Unicode (UTF-8) Refresh Chinese Traditional (Big5) Chinese Simplified (GB18030) Properties More 对上述提及的第四种字符而言, UTF-8使用 Left-to-right document 且它的另一种选择, UTF-16编码, 对前述 Right-to-left document 视所使用的字符的分布范围而定。不过,如果使用一些传统的压缩系统,比如D



## **Unicode Transformation Format (UTF)**



#### Usage of character encodings for websites

This diagram shows the percentages of websites using various character encodings technologies overview for explanations on the methodologies used in the surveys. reports are updated daily.

How to read the diagram:

UTF-8 is used by 94.5% of all the websites whose character encoding we know.

UTF-8	94.5%				
ISO-8859-1	■ 2.6%				
Windows-1251	0.9%				
Windows-1252	0.5%				
Shift JIS	0.3%				
GB2312	0.2%				
EUC-KR	0.2%				
EUC-JP	0.1%				
ISO-8859-2	0.1%				
GBK	0.1%				
Windows-1250	0.1%				
Big5	0.1%				
ISO-8859-9	0.1%				
ISO-8859-15	0.1%				
Windows-1254	0.1%				
W3Techs.com, 18 December 2019 Percentages of websites using various character encodings					

Source: <a href="https://w3techs.com/technologies/overview/character-encoding">https://w3techs.com/technologies/overview/character-encoding</a>

#### UTF-8

- >UTF stands for Unicode Transformation Format
  - The '8' means it uses 8-bit blocks to represent a character.

1st Byte	2nd Byte	3rd Byte	4th Byte	No. of Free Bits	Maximum Expressible Unicode Value
0xxxxxxx				7	007F hex (127)
110XXXXX	<b>10</b> xxxxxx			(5+6)=11	07FF hex (2047)
<b>1110</b> xxxx	<b>10</b> xxxxxx	<b>10</b> xxxxxx		(4+6+6)=16	FFFF hex (65535)
<b>11110</b> xxx	10xxxxxx	10xxxxxx	<b>10</b> xxxxxx	(3+6+6+6)=21	10FFFF hex (1,114,111)

ā

(Latin Small Letter A With Macron)

Unicode: decimal 257, binary 100000001

https://www.unicode.org/charts/

## **Text processing**

Texts are stored in a continuous bit array of 0 and 1s

- Computer does not know any boundary regarding words or sentences;
- There are many different languages
  - With or without explicit word boundaries
  - Reads from left to right or right to left
  - We mainly focus on English



Jieba: 请南京市市长江大桥 先生 致辞 SnowNLP: 请南京市市长江大桥 先生 致辞 PKUSeg: 请南京市市长江大桥 先生 致辞 THULAC: 请南京市市长江大桥 先生 致辞 HanLP: 请南京市市长江大桥 先生 致辞 FoolNLTK: 请南京市市长江大桥 先生 致辞 LTP: 请南京市市长江大桥 先生 致辞 CoreNLP: 请南京市市长江大桥 先生 致辞 BaiduLac: 请南京市市长江大桥 先生 致辞 Stanza: 请南京市市长江大桥 先生 致辞

## Summary

- > A very high-level introduction to Unicode and UTF-8
- There are other encodings, but are less widely used
- Computer stores text in a string of Zeros and Ones
- > Computer does not know any boundary regarding words or sentences

Computer stores and display languages, but does not understand languages (for now).