

Unicode request for Lot of Fortune and eclipse symbols

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This request is for three astrological symbols: the Lot of Fortune, \otimes , and the eclipse symbols, \sphericalangle \bullet .

The Lot or Part of Fortune, *Pars Fortunae*, is defined as $\lambda_H \pm (\lambda_{\odot} - \lambda_{\ominus})$: i.e. a longitudinal distance from the ascendant, H (the *horoscopus*: the sign ascending on the eastern horizon), equal to the longitudinal separation of the Sun and the Moon (Neugebauer & Van Hoesen 1959: 8–9, 174). Astrologer Walter Pullen, author of the popular shareware program *Astrolog*, says (p.c. 2021): *the Part of Fortune is a commonly used astrological symbol, with a single glyph that everybody uses.*

This symbol has coincidentally had minor astronomical use as an alternative of the Earth symbol U+1F728 \oplus ALCHEMICAL SYMBOL FOR VERDIGRIS (Figure 5.) A similar symbol is used in philately for ‘fiscal cancellation’, though that might be able to use an existing Unicode character (Figure 6.)

There were once hundreds of lots, but the only other one still of any importance today is the Lot of Spirit, which (for those who use it) is the reverse of the Lot of Fortune: whereas the Lot of Fortune is $\lambda_H + \lambda_{\odot} - \lambda_{\ominus}$, the Lot of Spirit is $\lambda_H + \lambda_{\ominus} - \lambda_{\odot}$. (Some use $\lambda_H + \lambda_{\odot} - \lambda_{\ominus}$ during the day and $\lambda_H + \lambda_{\ominus} - \lambda_{\odot}$ at night, but call them both the Lot of Fortune.) The Lot of Spirit does not have a fixed symbol. A circled S or a circle with a vertical bar is sometimes seen; for the latter, U+29B6 CIRCLED VERTICAL BAR or U+1F715 ALCHEMICAL SYMBOL FOR NITRE might be appropriate.

The symbols for the eclipses, \sphericalangle \bullet , are filled-in variants of U+206C CONJUNCTION \sphericalangle and U+206D OPPOSITION \sphericalangle° . The rationale is that a solar eclipse occurs when the Moon is in conjunction with the Sun and a lunar eclipse occurs when the Moon is in opposition to the Sun. The filled conjunction symbol \sphericalangle is also used when the Moon eclipses other bodies – that is, it is a generic occultation symbol, as in $\sphericalangle \sphericalangle \text{♀}$ ‘Moon in conjunction with Venus’ versus $\sphericalangle \bullet \text{♀}$ ‘Moon occults Venus.’ (See Figure 7.) When lunar occultations are listed alongside a solar eclipse, the solar eclipse may be spelled out as $\sphericalangle \bullet \odot$ ‘Moon occults Sun’. (See Figure 7.)

In practice, the symbol \bullet seems to only be used for terrestrial lunar eclipses, though theoretically it could be used for any object that passes through the shadow of another, such as the Galilean moons eclipsed by Jupiter (Pullen p.c. 2021). Such usage is unattested, but the terrestrial case is nonetheless sometimes spelled out unambiguously as $\sphericalangle \bullet \odot$ ‘Moon eclipsed by Sun’. (See Figure 8.) Pullen notes that these two eclipse symbols are found in popular astrological calendars. The names requested for them are the ones chosen by the editors of the HamburgSymbols font (Figure 11.)

Thanks to Deborah Anderson of the Universal Scripts Project for her assistance.

Distinction of Lot of Fortune ☒ from U+2297 ⊗

Superficially, the Lot of Fortune symbol resembles U+2297 ⊗ CIRCLED TIMES. There are however some significant differences, analogous to the differences between U+1F728 ⊕ ALCHEMICAL SYMBOL FOR VERDIGRIS (used in astrology for Earth) and U+2295 ⊕ CIRCLED PLUS. In VERDIGRIS ⊕ and FORTUNE ☒, the cross shape intersects the circle; in CIRCLED PLUS ⊕ and CIRCLED TIMES ⊗, the circle preferably encloses the mathematical operator without touching it. Indeed, there are variation sequences for mathematical usage to ensure that the operator does not touch the circle, e.g. U+2297 FE00 ⊗ WITH WHITE RIM. One of the original arguments for not unifying VERDIGRIS ⊕ with CIRCLED PLUS ⊕ was that the alchemical symbol did not have a white rim variant. In addition, U+2295 ⊕ and U+2297 ⊗ are mathematical symbols, and in a good font will be centerline aligned, whereas VERDIGRIS ⊕ and FORTUNE ☒ and are typical baseline-aligned symbols.

Location

With the advice of the SAH, I propose that these symbols be placed in the alchemical block.

Dark grey cells in the table here are already assigned; light grey cells were recommended by the SAH for L2/21-224. See the end of this proposal for the entire Alchemical Symbols code block.

	...0	...1	...2	...3	...4	...5	...6	...7	...8	...9	...A	...B	...C	...D	...E	...F
Alchemical symbols																
U+1F77x	☉	☌	☿	♊	☒	♃	♁					♁	♃	♁	♁	♁

Character

- ☒ 1F774 LOT OF FORTUNE. Figures 1–4. (See also similar symbols Figures 5–6.)
- ♃ 1F775 OCCULTATION. Figures 7, 9–11.
- ♁ 1F776 LUNAR ECLIPSE. Figures 8, 9–11.

Properties

1F774;LOT OF FORTUNE;So;0;ON;;;;;N;;;;;
 1F775;OCCULTATION;So;0;ON;;;;;N;;;;;
 1F776;LUNAR ECLIPSE;So;0;ON;;;;;N;;;;;

These characters are not intended to serve as emoji.

References

- Earl of Buchan (1793) 'Account of the Parish of Uphall'. *Archeologia Scotica (Transactions of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland)* 1: 139–155.
- Cafe Astrology (2021) Lunations: Eclipses 2021. cafeastrology.com/lunationseclipses.html.
- HamburgSymbols.pdf (no date). Documentation accompanying the font HamburgSymbols.ttf.
- Jim Maynard (2013) *Celestial Guide*. Quicksilver Productions.
- (2018, 2019) *Pocket Astrologer*. Quicksilver Productions. pocketastrologer.com.
- Michel (2007) *Übersee-Katalog*. Band 1/1 *Nordamerika 2007/2008*. Unterschleissheim Schwaneberger.
- Otto Neugebauer & Henry Van Hoesen (1959, 1987) *Greek Horoscopes*. American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia.
- Walter Pullen (2021) *Astrolog 7.20*. www.astrolog.org/astrolog.htm
- Kris Riske (2010) *Llewellyn's Complete Book of Astrology*. Llewellyn Publications.
- Martin Schulman (1978) *Karmic Astrology: Joy and the Part of Fortune*, vol III. Samuel Weiser, NY.
- Solar Fire* (no date) 'Solar Fire: a cool use for its fonts.'

Figures



Figure 1. Schulman (1978: 31). Textual use of ⊗ in a section title.

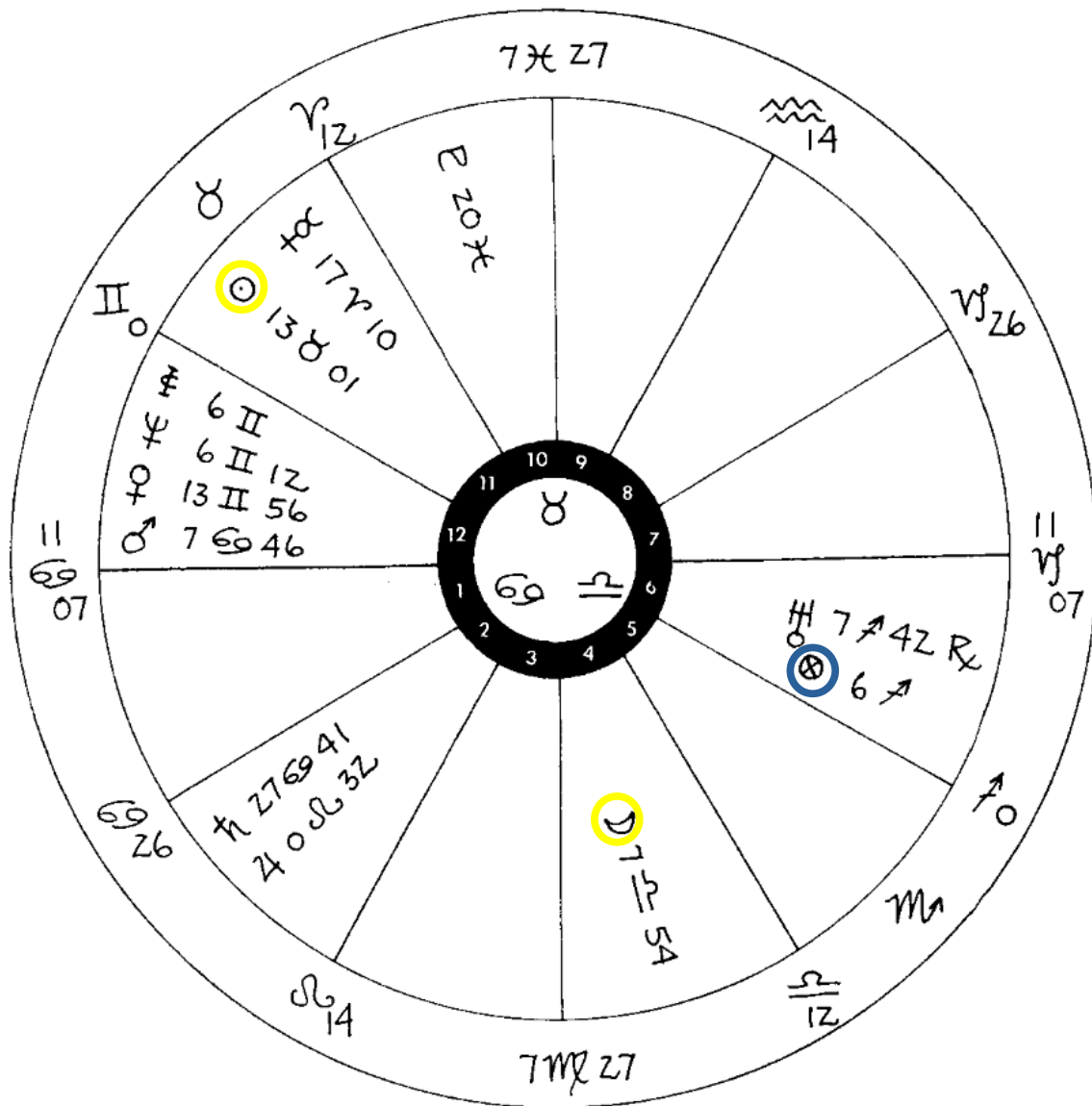


Figure 2. Schulman (1978: 105). ⊗ (blue) in a horoscope. In this handwritten text the symbol ⊗ has the same size as ⊙ Sun and ☾ Moon (yellow).

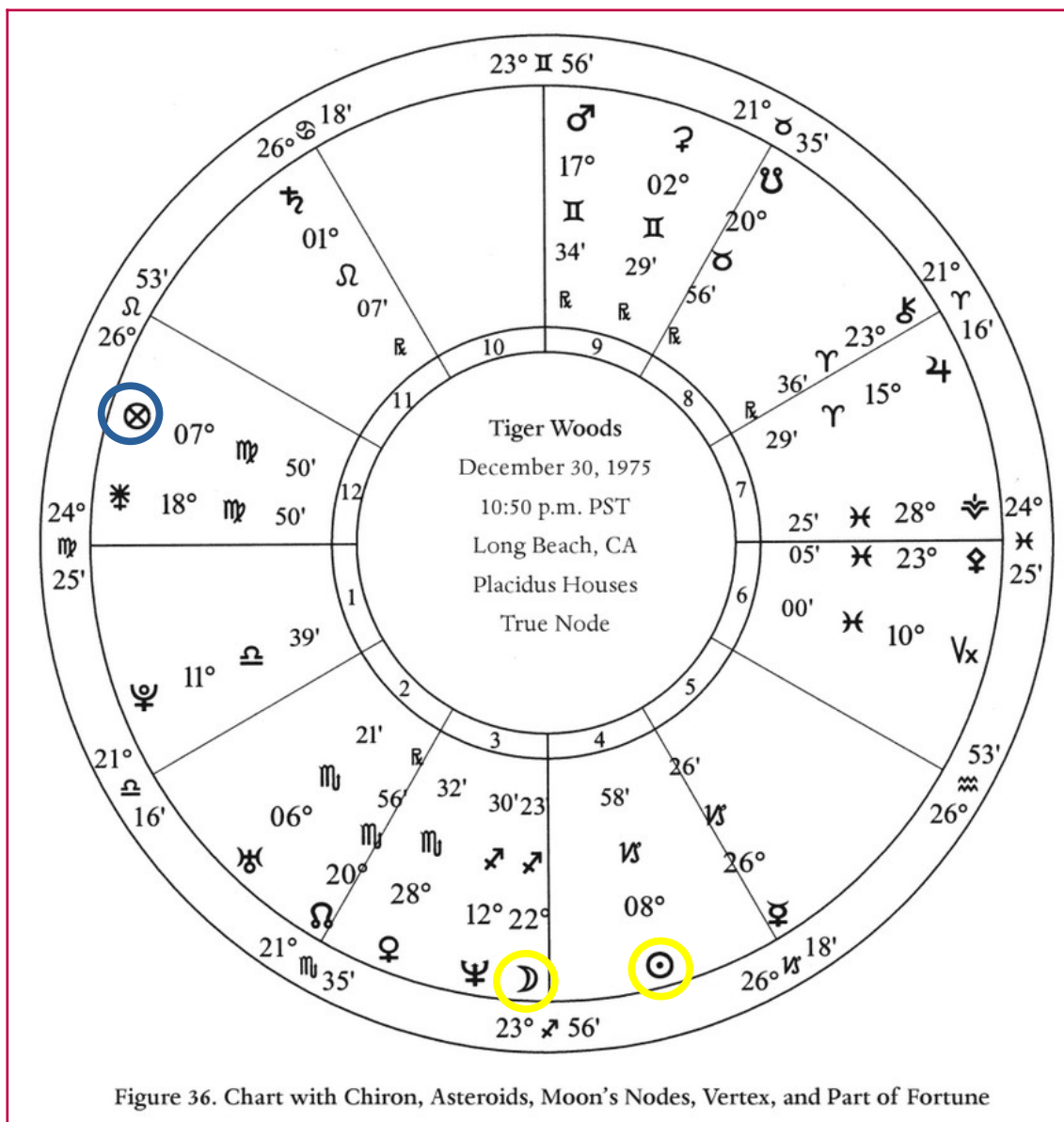


Figure 3. Riske (2010: 298) In this font also the symbols ⊗, ⊙ and ☾ are the same size.

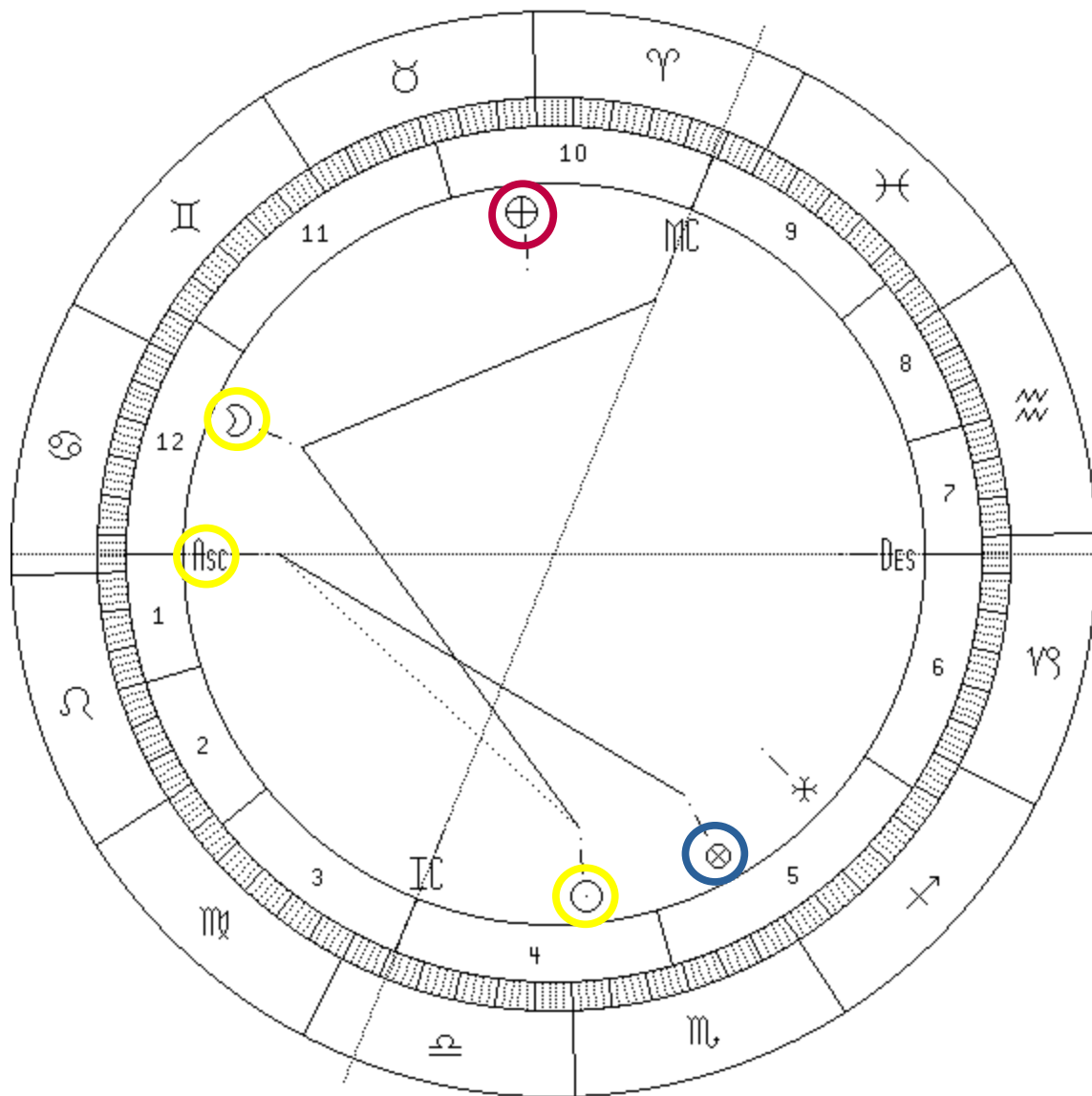


Figure 4. *Astrolog* wheel chart, using default font. The Lot of Fortune ⊗ (blue) contrasts with Earth ⊕ (red). Also included are the positions of the Sun, Moon and Ascendant (yellow), from which the Lot is calculated. In the *Astrolog* default display the symbol ⊗ is smaller than ⊕ Earth, ☉ Sun or ☾ Moon. The symbol seen here for the vertex, ⚡ (to the right of the Lot), should probably be encoded as U+1F70A ALCHEMICAL SYMBOL FOR VINEGAR.

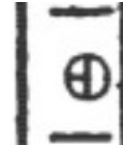


Figure 5. Left: FORTUNE ⊗ used as the *astronomical* symbol for ‘Earth’ in a table on the Kirkhill Astronomical Pillar in West Lothian, Scotland, erected in 1776.

Right: The published account of the pillar in Buchan (1793: 152) substituted the customary ⊕ form of the Earth sign. (Buchan also substituted the convenient but arbitrary symbol of Aquarius for the rings of Saturn.)

Entwertungen:	
⊙	= mit Poststempel entwertet
~	= Federzugentwertung
⊗	= fiskalische Entwertung
⊘	= Abstempelung zu philatelistischen Zwecken
○	= Lochentwertung
Ⓢ	= ausgabebezogene Sonderstempel
Ⓣ	= Tagesstempel

Figure 6. Michel (2007: 18) Symbols for various types of cancellation marks. These symbols are internationally standard across various publishers of stamp catalogs. ⊗ indicates a ‘fiscal cancel’, typically used on revenue stamps for taxation purposes. The other symbols are ⊙ for the usual post-office cancellation mark, ~ for pen cancels, ⊘ for Cancelled-to-order (CTO, for philately), ○ for hole-punch cancels, Ⓢ for special-issue postmarks, Ⓣ for date postmarks.

The astrological symbols LOT OF FORTUNE ⊗ and U+2609 ⊙ SUN might be used for fiscal and generic cancels. However, it might also be acceptable to typeset them with characters from the Supplemental Mathematical Operators block.

The CTO symbol ⊘ does not appear to have Unicode support.

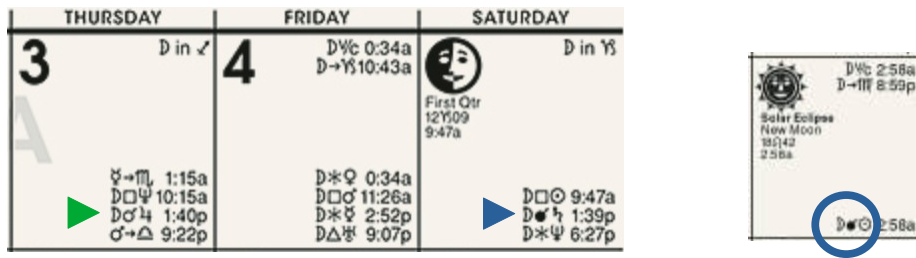


Figure 7. (Maynard 2018, 2019) Left: ♃♃♃ on 3 Oct 2019 (the Moon in conjunction with Jupiter, tagged in green) contrasts with ♃♃♃ on 5 Oct 2019 (the Moon occults Saturn, tagged in blue).

Right: A solar eclipse on 11 Aug 2018 is spelled out as ♃♃♃ (the Moon occults the Sun).

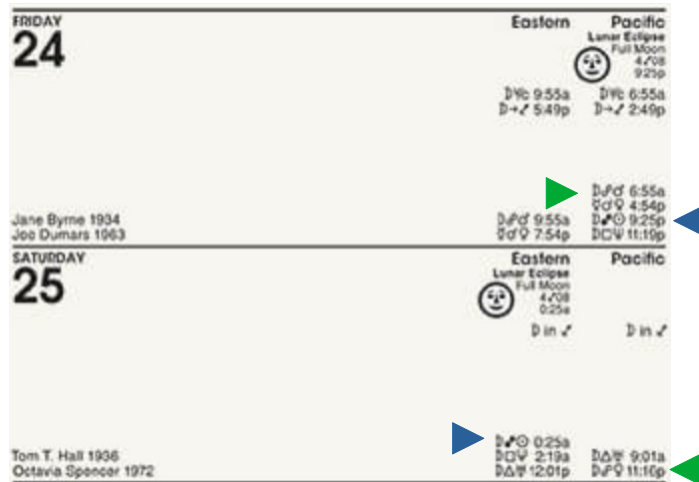


Figure 8. (Maynard 2013) Blue: A lunar eclipse, ♃♃♃, on May 24–25.

Green: The contrasting unfilled opposition symbol in ♃♃♃ (the Moon in opposition to Mars).

About the Lunar Eclipse on November 19th, 2021

As noted above, a Lunar eclipse is an especially potent lunation, in this case, a potent Full Moon. Lunar eclipses are relationship-oriented. The “crisis” that these eclipses

About the annular Solar Eclipse in Gemini on June 10th, 2021.

An annular Solar Eclipse occurs on June 10, 2021, at 6:52 AM EST at 19 degrees and 47 minutes of the sign of Gemini. We can feel its effects for up to six months after the actual

Figure 9. *Cafe Astrology* (2021) Stand-alone symbols for solar and lunar eclipses.

Eclipse Lunar	
Eclipse Solar	

Figure 10. (*Solar Fire*) The two eclipse symbols as defined in a table of the symbols in *Solar Fire*'s ET Astro font. *Solar Fire* is a popular commercial astrology program. 'Eclipse Solar' is too narrow a definition for the usage seen in Figure 7.







	occultation (solar eclipse).
	conjunction. 0° aspect.
	lunar eclipse.
	opposition. 180° aspect.

Figure 11. (HamburgSymbols.pdf, no date) Definitions of the eclipse symbols in the documentation to the HamburgSymbols font, a popular free font that is supported by the open-source *Astrolog* astrology software. The labels given here, of 'occultation' for  and 'lunar eclipse' for , are unambiguous and so are probably the best choice for Unicode use.

Code block chart

Here is the full Alchemical Symbols code block, including the three characters in this proposal (red background), the five characters in L2/21-224 (blue background), and the existing characters (white background). The graphic forms of the non-alphabetic characters have been extrapolated from several historical sources and stylized to harmonize with the new proposals. Those symbols composed of alphabetic letters (distinguished by a heavier line weight) are juxtapositions or modifications of characters taken from SIL's shareware sans-serif font *Andika*.

	1F70	1F71	1F72	1F73	1F74	1F75	1F76	1F77F
0	Œ	♀	♀	☉	♁	→	∧	♁
1	△	♀	♂	☉	♀	—€	f	⊠
2	△	♀	♂	☉	♁	*€	∇	ℑ
3	▽	ℑ	♁	☉	♁	♁	♁	ℑ
4	▽	⊖	⊕	♁	♁	◇	†	⊗
5	∇	⊖	♀	♀	♁	□	∇	♁
6	ℑ	⊕	♀	♁	♁	♁	∇	♁
7	ℑ	⊕	♀	♁	♁	ℑ	∇	
8	∇	♁	⊕	♁	ℑ	♀	⊥	
9	♁	♁	♀	♁	ℑ	ℑ	∇	
A	+	♁	♁	♁	♁	ℑ	ℑ	
B	⋈	♁	♁	♁	♁	ℑ	MB	♁
C	⋈	♁	♁	♁	♁	sss	VB	♁
D	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁	fff	♁	♁
E	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁
F	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁	♁

ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2
PROPOSAL SUMMARY FORM TO ACCOMPANY SUBMISSIONS
FOR ADDITIONS TO THE REPERTOIRE OF ISO/IEC 10646¹.
Please fill all the sections A, B and C below.

A. Administrative

1. **Title:** _____ *Additional phonetic click letters* _____

2. Requester's name: _____ *Kirk Miller* _____

3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution): _____ *individual* _____

4. Submission date: _____ *2021 December 23* _____

5. Requester's reference (if applicable): _____

6. Choose one of the following:

This is a complete proposal: _____ *yes* _____

(or) More information will be provided later: _____

B. Technical - General

1. Choose one of the following:

a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters): _____ *no* _____

Proposed name of script: _____

b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block: _____ *yes* _____

Name of the existing block: _____ *Alchemical symbols* _____

2. Number of characters in proposal: _____ *3* _____

3. Proposed category (select one from below - see section 2.2 of P&P document):

A-Contemporary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	B.1-Specialized (small collection)	<input type="checkbox"/>	B.2-Specialized (large collection)	<input type="checkbox"/>
C-Major extinct	<input type="checkbox"/>	D-Attested extinct	<input type="checkbox"/>	E-Minor extinct	<input type="checkbox"/>
F-Archaic Hieroglyphic or Ideographic	<input type="checkbox"/>	G-Obscure or questionable usage symbols			

4. Is a repertoire including character names provided? _____ *yes* _____

a. If YES, are the names in accordance with the “character naming guidelines” in Annex L of P&P document? _____ *yes* _____

b. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable for review? _____ *yes* _____

5. Fonts related:

a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font to the Project Editor of 10646 for publishing the standard? _____ *Kirk Miller* _____

b. Identify the party granting a license for use of the font by the editors (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.): _____

6. References:

a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided? _____ *yes* _____

b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of proposed characters attached? _____ *yes* _____

7. Special encoding issues:

Does the proposal address other aspects of character data processing (if applicable) such as input, presentation, sorting, searching, indexing, transliteration etc. (if yes please enclose information)? _____ *no* _____

8. **Additional Information:**

Submitters are invited to provide any additional information about Properties of the proposed Character(s) or Script that will assist in correct understanding of and correct linguistic processing of the proposed character(s) or script. Examples of such properties are: Casing information, Numeric information, Currency information, Display behaviour information such as line breaks, widths etc., Combining behaviour, Spacing behaviour, Directional behaviour, Default Collation behaviour, relevance in Mark Up contexts, Compatibility equivalence and other Unicode normalization related information. See the Unicode standard at www.unicode.org for such information on other scripts. Also see Unicode Character Database (www.unicode.org/reports/tr44/) and associated Unicode Technical Reports for information needed for consideration by the Unicode Technical Committee for inclusion in the Unicode Standard.

¹ Form number: N4502-F (Original 1994-10-14; Revised 1995-01, 1995-04, 1996-04, 1996-08, 1999-03, 2001-05, 2001-09, 2003-11, 2005-01, 2005-09, 2005-10, 2007-03, 2008-05, 2009-11, 2011-03, 2012-01)

C. Technical - Justification

1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before? If YES explain	<i>no</i>
2. Has contact been made to members of the user community (for example: National Body, user groups of the script or characters, other experts, etc.)? If YES, with whom? If YES, available relevant documents:	<i>yes</i> <i>Walter Pullen (author Astrolog software)</i>
3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example: size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included? Reference:	<i>yes</i>
4. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare) Reference:	<i>astrology</i>
5. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community? If YES, where? Reference:	<i>yes</i> <i>See figures</i>
6. After giving due considerations to the principles in the P&P document must the proposed characters be entirely in the BMP? If YES, is a rationale provided? If YES, reference:	<i>no</i>
7. Should the proposed characters be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)?	<i>no</i>
8. Can any of the proposed characters be considered a presentation form of an existing character or character sequence? If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided? If YES, reference:	<i>no</i>
9. Can any of the proposed characters be encoded using a composed character sequence of either existing characters or other proposed characters? If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided? If YES, reference:	<i>no</i>
10. Can any of the proposed character(s) be considered to be similar (in appearance or function) to, or could be confused with, an existing character? If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided? If YES, reference:	<i>no</i>
11. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences? If YES, is a rationale for such use provided? If YES, reference: Is a list of composite sequences and their corresponding glyph images (graphic symbols) provided? If YES, reference:	<i>no</i>
12. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as control function or similar semantics? If YES, describe in detail (include attachment if necessary)	<i>no</i>
13. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility characters? If YES, are the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic characters identified? If YES, reference:	<i>no</i>