Null Language-Independent Type for YAML™ Version 1.1

Working Draft 2005-01-18

Oren Ben-Kiki `<oren@ben-kiki.org>`
Clark Evans `<cce+yaml@clarkevans.com>`
Brian Ingerson `<ingy@ttul.org>`

Status

This specification is a draft reflecting consensus reached by members of the yaml-core mailing list [http://lists.sourceforge.net/lists/listinfo/yaml-core]. Any questions regarding this draft should be raised on this list.

URI: **`tag:yaml.org,2002:null`**

Shorthand: **`!!null`**

Kind: Scalar.

Canonical: **`~`**

Regexp:

```
 ~ # (canonical)
|null|Null|NULL # (English)
| # (Empty)
```

Definition: Devoid of value.

A null value is used to indicate the lack of a value. This is typically converted into any native null-like value (e.g., **undef** in Perl, **None** in Python). Note that a null is different from an empty string and that a mapping entry with some key and a null value is valid and different from not having that key in the mapping.

Example 1. `!!null` Examples

```
# A document may be null.
---
---
# This mapping has four keys,
# one has a value.
empty:
canonical: ~
english: null
~: null key
---
# This sequence has five
# entries, two have values.
sparse:
  - ~
  - 2nd entry
  -
  - 4th entry
  - Null
```