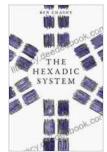
# Unveiling the Enigmatic Hexadic System: A Journey into the Hexadic Cosmos

The hexadic system, also known as the base-6 system, is a unique and fascinating numbering system that has captured the curiosity of mathematicians, scientists, and programmers alike. While it may not be as widely used as other numbering systems such as the decimal or binary systems, the hexadic system holds a special place in the realm of computer science and digital technology.



The Hexadic System by A. L. Burgos 🚖 🚖 🚖 🚖 👌 5 out of 5 Language : English File size : 6845 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Enhanced typesetting: Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 121 pages Lending : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported

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### **Origins and History**

The hexadic system is believed to have originated in ancient Mesopotamia, where it was used by the Sumerians around 3500 BC. The Sumerians used a base-6 system for their arithmetic calculations, with the numbers 1 to 5 represented by distinct symbols and the number 6 represented by a repeating symbol. This system was later adopted by the Babylonians, who further developed and refined it.

In the modern era, the hexadic system was popularized by the computer scientist and mathematician George Stibitz in the 1950s. Stibitz was involved in the development of early computers, such as the Bell Labs Model II, which used a base-6 system for its internal calculations. The hexadic system was also influential in the design of the DEC PDP-1, one of the first commercially successful minicomputers.

#### **Representation and Notation**

In the hexadic system, numbers are represented using six distinct symbols: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. Unlike the decimal system, which uses 10 symbols (0 to 9),the hexadic system does not use the symbols 6 to 9. Instead, the numbers 6 to 11 are represented by the letters A to F.

To convert a number from the decimal system to the hexadic system, we divide the number by 6 and note the remainder. We then divide the quotient by 6 and repeat the process until we reach a quotient of 0. The remainders, read from bottom to top, give the hexadic representation of the number.

For example, to convert the decimal number 15 to hexadic, we perform the following calculation:

- 15 ÷ 6 = 2 (remainder 3)
- $2 \div 6 = 0$  (remainder 2)

Therefore, the hexadic representation of 15 is 2F.

### **Advantages and Applications**

The hexadic system offers several advantages over other numbering systems. One of its main advantages is its compact representation. In the

hexadic system, numbers can be expressed using fewer digits than in the decimal system. For example, the hexadic number 1F is equivalent to the decimal number 31.

Another advantage of the hexadic system is its divisibility by 2 and 3. This makes it particularly useful in computer science and digital technology, where binary and ternary operations are common. For example, the hexadic number 1F can be divided by 2 to get 0F and then divided by 3 to get 5. This division is not possible in the decimal system.

The hexadic system is widely used in computer architecture and programming. It is used to represent memory addresses, register values, and other data structures. The hexadic system is also used in computer graphics, where it is used to represent colors and other attributes.

The hexadic system is a unique and fascinating numbering system that has played a significant role in the development of computer science and digital technology. While it may not be as widely used as other numbering systems, the hexadic system continues to be an important tool for programmers, engineers, and anyone interested in the inner workings of computers.

#### **Image Credits**

- Sumerian tablet with hexadecimal numbers, 2600 BC (Public domain)
- Hexadecimal representation of the number 15 (Public domain)

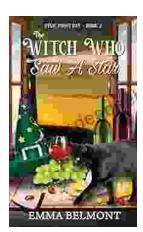
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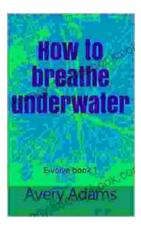
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