

Conventions

Below we use the English term “star” in the same way that Ancient Mesopotamians used Sumerian *mul* = Akkadian *kakkabu*. These cover a much wider variety of objects in the sky than modern English “star” in typical daily usage. Sumerian *mul* = Akkadian *kakkabu* can be used for individual fixed stars, planets, constellations, and constellation parts, but also for all sorts of other observable phenomena in the sky including, but not only, comets, meteors, and mirages. We will refer below to individual stars, such as modern Sirius, Polaris, or Alpha Centauri, as “fixed stars.”

Unless otherwise noted, Mesopotamian star-names and their translations are given as in the ancient source material, and with reference to the star list of Urta XXII published in Bloch and Horowitz (2015), the reference work of Kurtik (2007), and the Star Catalog of BPO 2 (Reiner and Pingree 1981, 9–16). Identifications of ancient names with modern stars and constellations are as in Kurtik (2007) and/or BPO 2. Standard Assyriological abbreviations are as in the CAD (*Chicago Assyrian Dictionary*) or PSD (*Pennsylvania Sumerian Dictionary*). The abbreviation *Horowitz Alb* is for Horowitz (2014), and *GSL* is for *The Great Star List*.

When used as an item marker, we render the DIŠ sign as ¶.

Italics are used within translations to indicate uncertainty of meaning.

