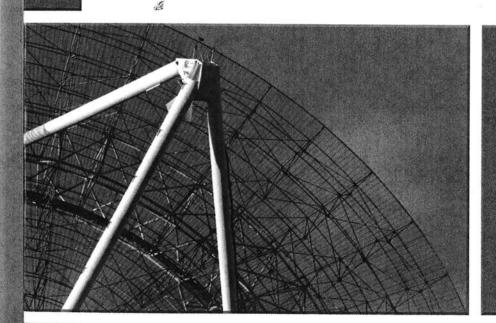
## McGRAW-HILL

# DICTIONARY OF COMPUTING & COMMUNICATIONS



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Preface Staff How to Us Fields and **Pronuncia** A-Z Terms Appendix Equi Cι Conv m Math Sche Parti ASC Elec Radi Mict

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ssed by equipments. [ 'käm-

fluid dynamics [FL MECH] A oncerned with the use of highmputers to numerically solve the tear partial differential equations ous fluid flows. [,käm-pyə'tä-

al control ( käm-pyə'tā-shən-

kən'tröl } program See CPU-bound propyüt ¦baùnd 'prō-grəm }

pyüt ipaund program (COMPUT SCI] A control proce-RAN which allows the transfer of e ith label of a set of n labels ement numbers in the program. J'gö,tü)

 COMPUT SCI The operation of mputer in which input signals are computing units to calculate a contrast to hold mode and reset m'pyüt möd )

m pyut indu i OMPUT SCI A device that receives, nd presents data; the two types are digital. Also known as computing {kom/pyüd-ar.

led design [CONT SYS] The use of in converting the initial idea for a badetailed engineering design. Comels and graphics replace the sketches eering drawings traditionally used products and communicate design n. Abbreviated CAD. { kam'pyüd-ar

in } ided design and drafting [COMhe carrying out of computer-aided deisystem that has additional features for ng function, such as dimensioning and . Abbreviated CADD. { kam'pyüd-ar in an 'draft-iŋ }

(in an 'draft-in) ] aided engineering [ENG] The use of r-based tools to assist in solution of ing problems. { kam'pyüd-ar ,ād-ad

 in instruction See computerinstruction. [ kəm'pyüd-ər ,ād-əd in

an) -aided management of instruction mputer-managed instruction. [kam r\_ad-ad 'man-ij:mant av in'strak-shan] r\_ad-ad 'man-ij:mant av in'strak-shan]

\*alded manufacturing [CONT SYS] The computers in converting engineering into finished products. Computers assist ers, manufacturing engineers, and proa workers by automating many producisks, such as developing process plans, ng and tracking materials, and monitoring ction schedules, as well as controlling the nes, industrial robots, test equipment, and ns that move and store materials in the y. Abbreviated CAM. [kəm'pyüd-ər,ād-əd olfak-chə.rin ]

ə'fak-chə-riŋ } ter-aided software engineering ICOM SCI] The use of software packages to assist in

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all phases of the development of an information system, including analysis, design, and programming. Abbreviated CASE. {kəm'pyüd-ər,ād-əd söft,wer en-jə'nir iŋ }

computer algebra system See symbolic system. { kəm¦pyüd-ər 'al-jə-brə ,sis-təm }

- computer analyst [COMPUT SCI] A person who defines a problem, determines exactly what is required in the solution, and defines the outlines of the machine solution; generally, an expert in automatic data processing applications. { kom/pyüd-or 'an-o,list }
- computer animation [COMPUT SCI] The use of a computer to present, either continuously or in rapid succession, pictures on a cathode-ray tube or other device, graphically representing a time developing system at successive times. { kəm'pyüd-ər an-ə'mā-shən }
- computer architecture [COMPUT SCI] The art and science of assembling logical elements to form a computing device. {kəm'pyüd-ər 'är-kə tek-chər}
- computer-assisted instruction [COMPUT SCI] The use of computers to present drills, practice exercises, and tutorial sequences to the student, and sometimes to engage the student in a dialog about the substance of the instruction. Abbreviated CAI. Also known as computeraided instruction; computer-assisted learning. (kam'pyüd-ər a'sis-təd in'strak-shən)
- computer-assisted learning See computerassisted instruction. { kəm'pyüd-ər ə'sis-təd 'ləm-iŋ }
- computer-assisted retrieval [COMPUT SCI] The use of a computer to locate documents or records stored outside of the computer, on paper or microfilm. Abbreviated CAR. { kəm'pyüdər ə'sis-təd ri'trē-vəl }
- computer center See electronic data-processing center. (kəm'pyüd.ər,sen.tər)
- computer code [COMPUT SCI] The code representing the operations built into the hardware of a particular computer. {kam'pyüd-ər,köd } Computer conferencing See computer network-
- computer conferencing See computer networking {kəm'pyüd-ər 'kän-frəns-iŋ} computer control [CONT SYS] Process control in
- which the process variables are fed into a computer and the output of the computer is used to control the process. { {kam'pyüd-ar kan'trõl }
- to control the process. {kam'pyüd-ar kan'trol } computer control counter [COMPUT SCI] Counter which stores the next required address; any counter which furnishes information to the
- control unit. { kəm'pyüd-ər kən'tröl ,kaünt-ər } computer-controlled system [CONT SYS] A feedback control system in which a computer operates on both the input signal and the feedback signal to effect control. { kəm'pyüd-ər kən'tröld ,sis-təm }
- computer control register See program register. [kəm'pyüd.ər kən'tröl rej.ə.stər]
- computer efficiency [COMPUT SCI] 1. The ratio of actual operating time to scheduled operating time of a computer. 2. In time-sharing, the ratio of user time to the sum of user time plus system time. {kəm'pyüd-ər i'fish-ən-sẽ}

- computer graphics [COMPUT SCI] The process of pictorial communication between humans and computers, in which the computer input and output have the form of charts, drawings, or appropriate pictorial representation; such devices as cathode-ray tubes, mechanical plotting boards, curve tracers, coordinate digitizers, and light pens are employed. { kam'pyūd-ar 'grafiks ]
- **computer graphics interface** [COMPUT SCI] A standard format for writing graphics drivers. Abbreviated CGI. {kam;pyüd-ar ;graf-iks 'in-tar ,fās }
- computer graphics metafile [COMPUT SCI] A standard device-independent graphics format that is used to transfer graphics images between computer programs and storage devices. Abbreviated CGM. {kəm[pyüd-ər]graf-iks 'med-ə,fil}
- computer input from microfilm [COMPUT SCI] The technique of reading images on microfilm and transforming them into a form which is understandable to a computer. Abbreviated CIM. { kam'pyüd-ar 'in,püt fram 'mī-kra,film }
- computer-integrated manufacturing [IND ENG] A computer-automated system in which individual engineering, production, marketing, and support functions of a manufacturing enterprise are organized; functional areas such as design, analysis, planning, purchasing, cost accounting, inventory control, and distribution are linked through the computer with factory floor functions such as materials handling and management, providing direct control and monitoring of all process operations. Abbreviated CIM. { kam/pyüd-ar jint-a,grād-ad ,man-a/fak-char-in }
- computer-controlled telephone switching system that supports such services as conference calling, least-cost routing, direct inward dialing, and automatic reringing of a busy line. Abbreviated CBX. {kam'pyüd-a,rīzd 'branch iks'chān]}
- **computer-limited** [COMPUT SCI] Pertaining to a situation in which the time required for computation exceeds the time required to read inputs and write outputs. { kam'pyüd-or, lim-ad-ad }
- computer literacy [COMPUT SCI] Knowledge and understanding of computers and computer systems and how to apply them to the solution of problems. {kəm'pyüd-ər'lit-rə-sē]
- computer-managed instruction [COMPUT SCI] The use of computer assistance in testing, diagnosing, prescribing, grading, and record keeping. Abbreviated CMI. Also known as computer-aided management of instruction. { kam'pyüd-ar |man-ijd in'strak-shan }
- computer memory See memory. { kəm'pyüdər 'mem-rē )
- computer modeling [COMPUT SCI] The use of a computer to develop a mathematical model of a complex system or process and to provide conditions for testing it. {kam'pyüd-ər'mäd-əl-iŋ}
  computer network [COMPUT SCI] A system of two or more computers that are interconnected by communication channels. Also known as network. [kam'pyüd-ər'net,wərk]

69

### computer network

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### preamplifier

vander [COMPUT SCI] Equipment that ts links to several other devices to one { 'port ik,span.dər } a computer.

[COMPUT SCI] The process of converting e to run on a computer other than the one ch it was originally written. {'pord-iŋ } rations service [COMMUN] Maritime communications service in or near a port, in coast stations and ship stations, or in ship stations, in which messages are ed to those relating to the movement and of ships and, in an emergency, to the safety { 'port ,äp.ə'rā.shənz ,sər.vəs } ions.

al notation [MATH] Any of several nuon systems in which a number is repre-I by a sequence of digits in such a way te significance of each digit depends on its on in the sequence as well as its numeric Also known as notation. { pə'zish-ən-əl shan }

nal parameter [COMPUT SCI] One of a er of parameters in a group, whose signifa is determined by its position within the

{ pə'zish-ən-əl pə'ram-əd-ər } servomechanism [CONT SYS] nal ack control system in which the mechanical ion (as opposed to velocity) of some object itomatically maintained. { pə'zish-ən-əl 5'mek·əˌniz·əm }

n control [CONT SYS] A type of automatic ol in which the input commands are the ed position of a body. { pə'zish ən kən

ining action [CONT SYS] Automatic conaction in which there is a predetermined ion between the value of a controlled variand the position of a final control element. zish-ən-iŋ ,ak-shən }

oning time [COMPUT SCI] The time ed for a storage medium such as a disk to positioned and for read/write heads to be perly located so that the desired data can be

or written. {pə'zish-ən-iŋ,tīm } on pulse See commutator pulse. { pə (sleq, nevi

ve electrode See anode. ['päz.ad.iv i'lek 1}

feedback [CONT SYS] Feedback in ch a portion of the output of a circuit or ve ice is fed back in phase with the input so as ncrease the total amplification. Also known reaction (British usage); regeneration; re-erative feedback; retroaction (British usage). az.ad.iv 'fed,bak }

ive logic [ELECTR] Logic circuitry in which more positive voltage (or current level) resents the 1 state; the less positive level

resents the 0 state. {'päz-əd-iv 'läj-ik} tive modulation [ELECTR] In an amplitude dulated analog television system, that form television modulation in which an increase brightness corresponds to an increase in nsmitted power. {'päz-ad-iv,mäj-a'lä-shan} tive transmission [COMMUN] Transmission analog television sizede in state way that analog television signals in such a way that

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- an increase in initial light intensity causes an increase in the transmitted power. ['päz-ad-iv tranz'mish.an |
- positive zero [COMPUT SCI] The zero value reached by counting down from a positive number in the binary system. [ 'paz-ad-iv zir.01
- post [COMPUT SCI] To add or update records in a file. { post }
- postdecrementing See autoo ing. [ post'dek-ra,ment-in ] See autodecrement addresspostedit [COMPUT SCI] To edit the output data of
- a computer. { 'post,ed.at } POS terminal See point-of-sale terminal. { pē
- [o'es ,term.an.al } postfix notation See reverse Polish notation.
- 'post,fiks no'ta.shan } postincrementing See autoincrement address-
- ing. { |post'in-kra,ment-in } postindexing |COMPUT SCI| Operation in which the contents of a register indicated by the index
- bits of an indirect address are added to the indirect address to form the effective address. { post'in,dek.siŋ }
- posting See update. {'post-in, } posting interpreter See transfer interpreter.
- ('post-in in'tar-prad-ar )
- postmortem [COMPUT SCI] Any action taken after an operation is completed to help analyze that operation. { post'mord am } postmortem dump [COMPUT SCI] 1. The print-
- out showing the state of all registers and the contents of main memory, taken after a computer run terminates normally or terminates owing to fault. 2. The program which generates this printout. { post'mord-am 'damp }
- postmortem program See postmortem routine. { post'mord om 'pro grom }
- postmortem routine [COMPUT SCI] A computer routine designed to provide information about the operation of a program after the program is completed. Also known as postmortem program. { post'mord.am rü,ten }
- post office [COMPUT SCI] The software and files in an electronic mail system that receive messages and deliver them to recipients. { 'post of-as }
- Post Office Protocol [COMPUT SCI] An Internet standard for delivering e-mail from a server to an e-mail client on a personal computer.
- Abbreviated POP. { post of as prod a,kul } postprocessor [COMPUT SCI] A program that converts graphical output data to a form that can be used by computing equipment. { post'pra ses.ar }
- Power bandwidth [COMMUN] The frequency range for which half the rated power of an audio amplifier is available at rated distortion. ('paù ər ¦band,width )
- Power check [COMPUT SCI] An automatic sus-Pension of computer operations resulting from a significant fluctuation in internal electric power. 'paù·ər ,chek }
- Power-density spectrum See frequency spectrum. { 'pau ər |den səd ē ,spek trəm }

- power detection | IELECTR| Form of detection in which the power output of the detecting device is used to supply a substantial amount of power directly to a device such as a loudspeaker or recorder. { 'paù-ər di,tek-shən }
- power detector [ELECTR] Detector capable of handling strong input signals without appreciable distortion. { 'paù ar di tek tar }
- power distribution unit [COMPUT SCI] Equipment located in or near a computer room which breaks down electric power from a highvoltage source to appropriate levels for distribution to the central processing unit and peripheral devices, Abbreviated PDU, ['paù-ər ,di·strə'byü·shən ,yü·nət }
- power down [COMPUT SCI] To exit from any running programs and remove floppy- and hard-disk cartridges before switching the computer off. [ |paù-ər |daùn ]
- power-line interference [COMMUN] Interference caused by radiation from high-voltage power lines. ['paù·ər,līn,in·tər,fir-əns ]
- power spectrum See frequency spectrum { 'paù-ər ,spek-trəm }
- power typing [COMPUT SCI] A word-processing technique that allows the automatic typing of repetitious text, such as appears in a form letter. { 'paù-ər tīp-in }
- power up [COMPUT SCI] To check that the computer memory, peripherals, and input/output channels are working properly before the operating system is loaded. { [paù-ər |əp ]
- PPI See plan position indicator.
- P-picture See predicted picture. [ 'pē .pik· chər }
- **PPM** See pulse-position modulation. **PPP** See Point-to-Point Protocol.
- P puise See commutator pulse.
- { 'pē pals } Practical Extraction and Reporting Language [COMPUT SCI] A scripting language often used for creating CGI programs, Abbreviated Perl. { prak-ti-kal ik, strak-shan and ri'port-in, lan-gwii } pragma [COMPUT SCI] A directive inserted into
- a computer program to prevent the automatic execution of certain error checking and reporting routines which are no longer necessary when the program has been perfected. { prag.ma }
- pragmatics [COMMUN] The branch of semiotics that treats the relation of symbols to behavior and the meaning received by the listener or reader of a statement. [COMPUT SCI] The fourth and final phase of natural language processing, following contextual analysis, that takes into account the speaker's goal in uttering a particular thought in a particular way in determining what constitutes an appropriate response. { prag'mad·iks }
- preamble [COMMUN] The portion of a commercial radiod ata message that is sent first, containing the message number, office of origin, date, and other numerical data not part of the following message text; { 'prē,am·bal }
- preamplifier |ELECTR| An amplifier whose primary function is to boost the output of a low-level audio-frequency, radio-frequency, or microwave

285