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# **McGRAW-HILL DICTIONARY OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TERMS**

**Sixth  
Edition**

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**On the cover: Representation of a fullerene molecule with a noble gas atom trapped inside. At the Permian-Triassic sedimentary boundary the noble gases helium and argon have been found trapped inside fullerenes. They exhibit isotope ratios quite similar to those found in meteorites, suggesting that a fireball meteorite or asteroid exploded when it hit the Earth, causing major changes in the environment. (Image copyright © Dr. Luann Becker. Reproduced with permission.)**

Over the six editions of the Dictionary, material has been drawn from the following references: G. M. Garrity et al., *Taxonomic Outline of the Prokaryotes*, Release 2, Springer-Verlag, January 2002; D. W. Linzey, *Vertebrate Biology*, McGraw-Hill, 2001; J. A. Pechenik, *Biology of the Invertebrates*, 4th ed., McGraw-Hill, 2000; U.S. Air Force Glossary of Standardized Terms, AF Manual 11-1, vol. 1, 1972; F. Casey, ed., *Compilation of Terms in Information Sciences Technology*, Federal Council for Science and Technology, 1970; *Communications-Electronics Terminology*, AF Manual 11-1, vol. 3, 1970; P. W. Thrush, comp. and ed., *A Dictionary of Mining, Mineral, and Related Terms*, Bureau of Mines, 1968; *A DOD Glossary of Mapping, Charting and Geodetic Terms*, Department of Defense, 1967; J. M. Gilliland, *Solar-Terrestrial Physics: A Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations*, Royal Aircraft Establishment Technical Report 67158, 1967; W. H. Allen, ed., *Dictionary of Technical Terms for Aerospace Use*, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 1965; *Glossary of Stinfa Terminology*, Office of Aerospace Research, U.S. Air Force, 1963; *Naval Dictionary of Electronic, Technical, and Imperative Terms*, Bureau of Naval Personnel, 1962; R. E. Huschke, *Glossary of Meteorology*, American Meteorological Society, 1959; *ADP Glossary*, Department of the Navy, NAVSO P-3097; *Glossary of Air Traffic Control Terms*, Federal Aviation Agency; *A Glossary of Range Terminology, White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico*, National Bureau of Standards, AD 467-424; *Nuclear Terms: A Glossary*, 2d ed., Atomic Energy Commission.

**McGRAW-HILL DICTIONARY OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TERMS,  
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 DOW/DOW 0 8 7 6 5 4 3

ISBN 0-07-042313-X

**Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data**

McGraw-Hill dictionary of scientific and technical terms--6th ed.

p. cm.

ISBN 0-07-042313-X (alk. paper)

1. Science--Dictionaries. 2. Technology--Dictionaries. I. Title: Dictionary of scientific and technical terms.

Q123.M15 2002  
503--dc21

2002026436

**aspiration psychrometer** [ENG] A psychrometer in which the ventilation is provided by a suction fan. { ,as·pə'ri·shən ,si'krām·əd·ər }

**aspiration thermograph** [ENG] A thermograph in which ventilation is provided by a suction fan. { ,as·pə'ri·shən 'tħərm·ə·graf }

**aspirator** [ENG] Any instrument or apparatus that utilizes a vacuum to draw up gases or granular materials. [MIN ENG] A device made of wire gauze, of cloth, or of a fibrous mass held between pieces of meshed material and used to cover the mouth and nose to keep dusts from entering the lungs. { 'as·pə,rüd·ər }

**aspirin** See acetylsalicylic acid. { 'as·prən }

**aspire** [GEOL.] A cratered volcano with the base wide in relation to the height; for example, Mauna Loa. { 'as,pit }

**asporogenic mutant** [MICROBIO] A bacillus that is unable to form spores due to alterations at any of several gene loci. { ,ā,spər·ə'jen·ik 'myūt·ənt }

**asporogenous** [BOT] Not producing spores, especially of certain yeasts. { ,ā·spə'räj·ə·nəs }

**Aspredinidae** [VERT ZOO] A family of salt-water catfishes in the order Siluriformes found off the coast of South America. { ,a·sprə'din·ə·dē }

**ASROC** See antisubmarine rocket. { 'as,räk }

**ass** [VERT ZOO] Any of several perissodactyl mammals in the family Equidae belonging to the genus *Equus*, especially *E. hemionus* and *E. asinus*. { as }

**assault** [ORD] 1. Final phase of an attack; closing with the enemy in hand-to-hand fighting. 2. The landing of troops for attack on the enemy's beach defenses. 3. The landing of parachute and glider elements on unsecured and unprepared drop zones and landing zones to attack and seize an airhead. 4. A short, violent, but well-ordered attack against a local objective, such as a gun emplacement, fort, or machine gun nest. { ə'səult }

**assault aircraft** [AERO ENG] Powered aircraft, including helicopters, which move assault troops and cargo into an objective area and which provide for their resupply. { ə'səult 'er,kraft }

**assault boat** [NAV ARCH] A small boat that can easily be transported on land; used for amphibious military attacks or to cross lakes and rivers in land warfare. { ə'səult ,bət }

**assault fire** [ORD] 1. Fire delivered by attacking troops as they close with an enemy to engage him at close range or in hand-to-hand fighting, usually delivered from the hip or the standing position at a sustained rate. Also known as advancing fire. 2. In artillery, extremely accurate, short-range destruction fire at point targets. { ə'səult ,fir }

**assault gun** [ORD] Any of various sizes and types of guns that are self-propelled or mounted on tanks and are used for direct fire from close range against point targets. { ə'səult ,gən }

**assault-landing model** [ORD] A special form of assault model designed specifically for planning amphibious landings. Also known as amphibious-assault landing model. { ə'səult ,lənd·iŋ ,mäd·əl }

**assault model** [ORD] Vehicle designed to provide direct fire in combat. { ə'səult ,mäd·əl }

**assay** [ANALY CHEM] Qualitative or quantitative determination of the components of a material, as an ore or a drug. { 'a,sä }

**assay balance** [ENG] A sensitive balance used in the assaying of gold, silver, and other precious metals. { 'a,sä ,bal·əns }

**assay bar** [MET] A bar of pure or nearly pure gold and silver; used by a government as a standard. { 'a,sä ,bär }

**assay plan** [MIN ENG] A mine map showing the assay, stope, width, and so forth of samples taken from positions marked. { 'a,sä ,plan }

**assay pound** [MIN ENG] A weight which varies from time to time but is sometimes 0.5 gram, and is used by assayers to proportionately represent a pound. { 'a,sä ,paund }

**assay ton** [MIN ENG] A unit of weight of ore equal to 29,167 milligrams; the number of milligrams of precious metal in this measure equals the number of troy ounces in a short ton. { 'a,sä ,tən }

**assay value** [MIN ENG] The amount of gold or silver as shown by assay of any given sample and represented by ounces per ton of ore. { 'a,sä ,val·yü }

**assay walls** [MIN ENG] The planes to which an ore body can be profitably mined, the limiting factor being the metal content of the country rock as determined from assays. { 'a,sä ,wəlz }

**assemblage** [ARCHEO] All related cultural traits and artifacts associated with one archeological manifestation. [ECOL] A group of organisms sharing a common habitat by chance. [GEOL.] 1. A group of fossils that, appearing together, characterize a particular stratum. 2. A group of minerals that compose a rock. [ORD] A collection of items designed to accomplish one general function and identified and issued as a single item. [PALEON] A group of fossils occurring together at one stratigraphic level. { ə'sem·blij }

**assemblage zone** [PALEON] A biotstratigraphic unit defined and identified by a group of associated fossils rather than by a single index fossil. { ə'sem·blij ,zən }

**assembled stone** [MATER] A stone made of two or more gem materials, whether genuine or imitation. { ə'sem·bəld 'stən }

**assembler** [COMPUT SCI] A program designed to convert symbolic instruction into a form suitable for execution on a computer. Also known as assembly program; assembly routine. { ə'sem·blər }

**assembler directive** [COMPUT SCI] A statement in an assembly-language program that gives instructions to the assembler and does not generate machine language. { ə'sem·blər di,rek·tiv }

**assembler language** See assembly language. { ə'sem·blər ,ləŋ·gwij }

**assembler program** [COMPUT SCI] A program that is written in assembly language. { ə'sem·blər ,prō·grəm }

**assembling bolt** [CIV ENG] A threaded bolt for holding together temporarily the several parts of a structure during riveting. { ə'sem·blij ,bəlt }

**assembly** [COMPUT SCI] The automatic translation into machine language of a computer program written in symbolic language. [MECH ENG] A unit containing the component parts of a mechanism, machine, or similar device. { ə'sem·blē }

**assembly drawing** [GRAPHICS] A working-type engineering drawing depicting a complete unit, usually included with detail drawings of all parts in a set of working drawings. { ə'sem·blē ,drō·iŋ }

**assembly language** [COMPUT SCI] A symbolic, nonbinary format for instructions (human-readable version of machine language) that allows mnemonic names to be used for instructions and data; for example, the instruction to add the number 39321 to the contents of register D1 in the central processing unit might be written as ADD#39321, D1 in assembly language, as opposed to a string of 0's and 1's in machine language. { ə'sem·blē ,ləŋ·gwij }

**assembly line** [IND ENG] A mass-production arrangement whereby the work in process is progressively transferred from one operation to the next until the product is assembled. { ə'sem·blē ,lin }

**assembly-line balancing** [IND ENG] Assigning numbers of operators or machines to each operation of an assembly line so as to meet the required production rate with a minimum of idle time. { ə'sem·blē ,lin 'bal·əns·iŋ }

**assembly list** [COMPUT SCI] A printed list which is the by-product of an assembly procedure; it lists in logical instruction sequence all details of a routine, showing the coded and symbolic notation next to the actual notations established by the assembly procedure; this listing is highly useful in the debugging of a routine. { ə'sem·blē ,list }

**assembly machine** [MECH ENG] A machine in a manufacturing facility that produces a configuration of some practical value from discrete components. { ə'sem·blē mə,ʃhən }

**assembly method** [IND ENG] The technique used to assemble a manufactured product, such as hand assembly, progressive line assembly, and automatic assembly. { ə'sem·blē ,meth·əd }

**assembly program** See assembler. { ə'sem·blē 'prō·grəm }

**assembly robot** [COMPUT SCI] A robot that positions, mates, fits, and assembles components or parts and adjusts the finished product to function as intended. { ə'sem·blē ,rō,bāt }

**assembly routine** See assembler. { ə'sem·blē rü'tēn }

**assembly system** [COMPUT SCI] An automatic programming software system with a programming language and

machine-language programs that aid the programmer by performing different functions such as checkout and updating. { ə'sem·blē ,sis·təm }

**assembly time** [ENG] 1. The elapsed time after the application of an adhesive until its strength becomes effective. 2. The time elapsed in performing an assembly or subassembly operation. { ə'sem·blē ,tīm }

**assembly unit** [COMPUT SCI] 1. A device which performs the function of associating and joining several parts or piecing together a program. 2. A portion of a program which is capable of being assembled into a larger program. { ə'sem·blē ,yü·nät }

**assessment drilling** [MIN ENG] Drilling to fulfill the requirement that a prescribed amount of work be done annually on an unpatented mining claim to retain title. Also known as annual labor. { ə'ses·mənt ,dril·iŋ }

**assessment work** [MIN ENG] Annual work at an unpatented mining claim in the public domain performed under law to maintain the claim title. { ə'ses·mənt ,wɜ:k }

**assets** [IND ENG] All the resources, rights, and property owned by a person or a company; the book value of these items as shown on the balance sheet. { 'æs·ets }

**assign** [COMPUT SCI] A control statement in FORTRAN which assigns a computed value  $i$  to a variable  $k$ , the latter representing the number of the statement to which control is then transferred. { ə'sɪn }

**assignable cause** [IND ENG] Any identifiable factor which causes variation in a process outside the predicted limits, thereby altering quality. { ə'sɪn·ə·bəl 'kôz }

**assignment problem** [COMPUT SCI] A special case of the transportation problem in a linear program, in which the number of sources (assignees) equals the number of designations (assignments) and each supply and each demand equals 1. { ə'sɪn·mənt 'prəb·ləm }

**assignment statement** [COMPUT SCI] A statement in a computer program that assigns a value to a variable. { ə'sɪn·mənt ,stæt·mənt }

**assili cotton** [TEXT] A long-staple Egyptian cotton characterized by high tensile strength. { 'i·sə·lē ,kät·ən }

**assimilation** [GEOL] Incorporation of solid or fluid material that was originally in the rock wall into a magma. [PHYSIO] The conversion of nutritive materials into protoplasm. { ə,sim·ə'lā·shən }

**assimilative nitrate reduction** [MICROBIO] The reduction of nitrates by some aerobic bacteria for purposes of assimilation. { ə,sim·ə'lād·iv 'nī,tɾæt ri,dək·shən }

**assimilative sulfate reduction** [MICROBIO] The reduction of sulfates by certain obligate anaerobic bacteria for purposes of assimilation. { ə,sim·ə'lād·iv 'səʊ,fæt ri,dək·shən }

**assisted panel** [COMPUT SCI] In an interactive system, a screen that explains a question the computer has asked, the available options, the expected format, and so forth. { ə'sis·təd 'pan·əl }

**assisted takeoff** [AERO ENG] A takeoff of an aircraft or a missile by using a supplementary source of power, usually rockets. { ə'sis·təd 'tāk,ɒf }

**assize** [CIV ENG] 1. A cylindrical block of stone forming one unit in a column. 2. A layer of stonework. { ə'si:z }

**Assmann psychrometer** [ENG] A special form of the aspiration psychrometer in which the thermometric elements are well shielded from radiation. { 'æs,män ,sɪ'krəm·əd·ər }

**associate** [PSYCH] An item or event that is linked to another in the mind of an individual. { ə'sə·sē,æt }

**associate curve** See Bertrand curve. { ə'sə·sē·ət ,kərv }

**associated automatic movement** See synkinesia. { ə'sə·sē,əd·əd 'ɒd·ə'mad·ɪk 'müv·mənt }

**associated corpuscular emission** [GEOPHYS] The full complement of secondary charged particles associated with the passage of an x-ray or gamma-ray beam through air. { ə'sə·sē,əd·əd ,kɔr'pəs·kyə·ləɪ'ʃi·mɪʃ·ən }

**associated document** [COMPUT SCI] A file that is linked to the application program in which it was created, so that the application can be started by choosing such a file. { ə,sə·sē,əd·əd 'däk·yɔ·mənt }

**associated gas** [PETRO ENG] Gaseous hydrocarbons occurring as a free-gas phase under original oil-reservoir conditions of temperature and pressure. Also known as gas-cap gas. { ə'sə·sē,əd·əd 'gæs }

**associated prime ideal** [MATH] A prime ideal  $I$  in a commutative ring  $R$  is said to be associated with a module  $M$  over  $R$  if there exists an element  $x$  in  $M$  such that  $I$  is the annihilator of  $x$ . { ə'sə·sē,əd·əd 'prɪm ,ɪ·dēl }

**associated production** [PARTIC PHYS] Production of strange particles invariably in twos, never one particle alone. { ə'sə·sē,əd·əd prə'dək·shən }

**associated radii of convergence** [MATH] For a power series in  $n$  variables,  $z_1, \dots, z_n$ , any set of numbers,  $r_1, \dots, r_n$ , such that the series converges when  $|z_i| < r_i, i = 1, \dots, n$ , and diverges when  $|z_i| > r_i, i = 1, \dots, n$ . { ə'sə·sē,əd·əd 'ræd·i·dē,ɪ əv kən'vɜr·jəns }

**associated tensor** [MATH] A tensor obtained by taking the inner product of a given tensor with the metric tensor, or by performing a series of such operations. { ə'sə·sē,əd·əd 'ten·sər }

**associate matrix** See Hermitian conjugate. { ə'sə·sē·ət 'mā·trɪks }

**associate operator** See adjoint operator. { ə'sə·sē·ət 'əp·ə,ræd·ər }

**associates** [MATH] Two elements  $x$  and  $y$  in a commutative ring with identity such that  $x = ay$ , where  $a$  is a unit. Also known as equivalent elements. { ə'sə·sē·ətz }

**association** [ASTRON] A sparsely populated grouping of very young stars that appear to have had a common origin and have not yet had time to disperse. [CHEM] Combination or correlation of substances or functions. [ECOL] Major segment of a biome formed by a climax community, such as an oak-hickory forest of the deciduous forest biome. [PSYCH] A connection formed through learning. { ə,sə·sē'ā·shən }

**association area** [PHYSIO] An area of the cerebral cortex that is thought to link and coordinate activities of the projection areas. { ə,sə·sē'ā·shən ,er·ē·ə }

**association center** [INV ZOO] In invertebrates, a nervous center coordinating and distributing stimuli from sensory receptors. { ə,sə·sē'ā·shən ,sen·tər }

**association constant** [BIOCHEM] A quantitative description of the affinity of a ligand for a protein that binds to it. { ə,sə·sē'ā·shən ,kän·stənt }

**association fiber** [NEURO] One of the white nerve fibers situated just beneath the cortical substance and connecting the adjacent cerebral gyri. { ə,sə·sē'ā·shən ,fi·bər }

**association neuron** [NEURO] A neuron, usually within the central nervous system, between sensory and motor neurons. { ə,sə·sē'ā·shən 'nū,rɒn }

**association test** [PSYCH] Any test designed to determine the nature of the mental or emotional link between a stimulus and a response. { ə,sə·sē'ā·shən ,test }

**association trail** [COMPUT SCI] A linkage between two or more documents or items of information, discerned during the process of their examination and recorded with the aid of an information retrieval system. { ə,sə·sē'ā·shən ,træl }

**associative algebra** [MATH] An algebra in which the vector multiplication obeys the associative law. { ə'sə·sē,əd·iv 'al·jə·brə }

**associative dimensioning system** [COMPUT SCI] A system for making automatic changes in the dimensions of workpieces manufactured by machine tools. { ə'sə·sē,əd·iv di'men·shən·iŋ 'sis·təm }

**associative facilitation** [PSYCH] Ease in establishing a new association because of previous associations. { ə'sə·sē,əd·iv fə'sil·ə'tā·shən }

**associative inhibition** [PSYCH] Difficulty in establishing a new association because of previous associations. { ə'sə·sē,əd·iv ,in·ə'biʃ·ən }

**associative key** [COMPUT SCI] In a computer system with an associative memory, a field used to reference items through comparing the value of the field with corresponding fields in each memory cell and retrieving the contents of matching cells. { ə'sə·sē,əd·iv 'kē }

**associative law** [MATH] For a binary operation that is designated  $\circ$ , the relationship expressed by  $a \circ (b \circ c) = (a \circ b) \circ c$ . { ə'sə·sē,əd·iv 'lə }

**associative learning** [PSYCH] The principle that items experienced together are mentally linked so that they tend to reinforce one another. { ə'sə·sē,əd·iv 'lɜrn·iŋ }

**associative memory** [COMPUT SCI] A data-storage device in which a location is identified by its informational content rather than by names, addresses, or relative positions, and from

## drill weave

detail; for example, viewing total sales as opposed to individual sales. { 'dril 'əp }

**drill weave** [TEXT] Special fabric sometimes used in filtration; a three-harness, warp-face twill weave, having the two-up and one-down twill effect. { 'dril 'wæv }

**Drimonematoidea** [INV ZOO] A superfamily of parasitic nematodes in the subclass Spiruria. { 'drɪ-lɒ,nem-ə'tɔɪd-ē-ə }

**drip** [ARCH] See hoodmold. [HYD] Condensed or otherwise collected moisture falling from leaves, twigs, and so forth. [MATER] 1. Oil which comes through the cloth of a paraffin wax press. 2. Filter drainings too dark to be included in filter stock. [PETRO ENG] A discharge mechanism installed at a low point in a gas transmission line to collect and remove liquid accumulations. Also known as blowcase. { 'drip }

**drip cap** [BUILD] A horizontal molding installed over the frame for a door or window to direct water away from the frame. { 'drip ,kæp }

**drip-dry** [TEXT] Of a fabric, shedding water or moisture rapidly without squeezing, spinning, or wringing. { 'drip ,dri }

**drip edge** [BUILD] A metal strip that extends beyond the other parts of the roof and is used to direct rainwater off. { 'drip ,eɟ }

**drip irrigation** [AGR] A method of providing water to plants, almost continuously, through small-diameter tubes and emitters. { 'drip ,ɪ-rɪ-gā-shən }

**drip line** [NUC PHYS] The boundary, on a chart of the nuclides, beyond which a nucleon (proton or neutron) is no longer bound to the nucleus. { 'drip ,lɪn }

**dripping drop atomization** [HYD] A type of natural gravitational atomization process in which there is periodic emission of drops from the bottom side of a surface to which a liquid is fed continuously, as in dripping of water from leaves. { 'drip-ɪŋ 'drɪp ,əd-ə-mə'zā-shən }

**dripstone** [GEOL] A cave feature, such as a stalagmite, which is formed by precipitation of calcium carbonate or another mineral from dripping water. { 'drip ,stɒn }

**drive** [ELECTR] See excitation. [MECH ENG] The means by which a machine is given motion or power (as in steam drive, diesel-electric drive), or by which power is transferred from one part of a machine to another (as in gear drive, belt drive). [MIN ENG] 1. To excavate in a horizontal or inclined plane. 2. A horizontal underground tunnel along or parallel to a lode, vein, or ore body. [PSYCH] A strong impetus to behavior or active striving. { 'draɪ }

**drive array** [COMPUT SCI] A collection of hard disks organized to increase speed and improve reliability, often with the help of data stripping. { 'draɪv ,ə,rɪ }

**drive bay** [COMPUT SCI] A space in the cabinet of a personal computer where disk drives, tape drives, and CD-ROM drives can be installed. Also known as bay. { 'draɪv ,bæ }

**drive-by-wire** [MECH ENG] Electronic throttle control in automobiles. { 'draɪv bi 'waɪr }

**drive chuck** [MECH ENG] A mechanism at the lower end of a diamond-drill drive rod on the swivel head by means of which the motion of the drive rod can be transmitted to the drill string. { 'draɪv ,ʧæk }

**drive control** See horizontal drive control. { 'draɪv kən'trɒl }

**drive fit** [DES ENG] A fit in which the larger (male) part is pressed into a smaller (female) part; the assembly must be effected through the application of an external force. { 'draɪv ,fɪt }

**drivehead** [ENG] A cap fitted over the end of a mechanical part to protect it while it is being driven. { 'draɪv ,hed }

**driveless work station** [COMPUT SCI] A computer or terminal in a local area network that does not have its own disk drives and relies on a central mass storage facility for information storage. { 'draɪv-ləs 'wɜ:kstā-shən }

**drive light** [COMPUT SCI] A lamp on the front of a disk drive that lights to indicate when the unit is reading or writing data. { 'draɪv ,lɪt }

**driveline** [MECH ENG] In an automotive vehicle, the group of parts, including the universal joint and the drive shaft, that connect the transmission with the driving wheels. { 'draɪv ,lɪn }

**driven array** [ELECTROMAG] An antenna array consisting of a number of driven elements, usually half-wave dipoles, fed in phase or out of phase from a common source. { 'draɪv-ən ə'rɪ }

**driven blocking oscillator** See monostable blocking oscillator. { 'draɪv-ən 'blɒk-ɪŋ 'ɔ:s-ə,ləd-ər }

**driven caisson** [CIV ENG] A caisson formed by driving a cylindrical steel shell into the ground with a pile-driving hammer and then placing concrete inside; the shell may be removed when concrete sets. { 'draɪv-ən 'kɑ:sən }

**driven element** [ELECTROMAG] An antenna element that is directly connected to the transmission line. { 'draɪv-ən 'el-ə-mənt }

**driven gear** [MECH ENG] The member of a pair of gears to which motion and power are transmitted by the other. { 'draɪv-ən 'gɪr }

**driven snow** [METEOROL] Snow which has been moved by wind and collected into snowdrifts. { 'draɪv-ən 'snəʊ }

**drive pattern** [COMMUN] In a facsimile system, undesired pattern of density variations caused by periodic errors in the position of the recording spot. { 'draɪv ,pɑ:d-əm }

**drivepipe** [ENG] A thick-walled casing pipe that is driven through overburden or into a deep drill hole to prevent caving. { 'draɪv ,pɪp }

**drive pulley** [MECH ENG] The pulley that drives a conveyor belt. { 'draɪv ,pʊl-ē }

**drive pulse** [ELECTR] An electrical pulse which induces a magnetizing force in an element of a magnetic core storage, reversing the polarity of the core. { 'draɪv ,pʊls }

**driver** [COMPUT SCI] A sequence of program instructions that controls an input/output device such as a tape drive or disk drive. [ELECTR] The amplifier stage preceding the output stage in a receiver or transmitter. [ENG ACOUS] The portion of a horn loudspeaker that converts electrical energy into acoustical energy and feeds the acoustical energy to the small end of the horn. { 'draɪ-vər }

**driver element** [ELECTROMAG] Antenna array element that receives power directly from the transmitter. { 'draɪ-vər ,el-ə-mənt }

**drive rod** [ENG] Hollow shaft in the swivel head of a diamond-drill machine through which energy is transmitted from the drill motor to the drill string. Also known as drive spindle. { 'draɪv ,rɒd }

**driver sweep** [ELECTR] Sweep triggered only by an incoming signal or trigger. { 'draɪ-vər ,swɛp }

**driver transformer** [ELECTR] A transformer in the input circuit of an amplifier, especially in the transmitter. { 'draɪ-vər tranz'fɔ:mər }

**drive sampling** [ENG] The act or process of driving a tubular device into soft rock material for obtaining dry samples. { 'draɪv ,sæm-plɪŋ }

**drivescrew** [DES ENG] A screw that is driven all the way in, or nearly all the way in, with a hammer. { 'draɪv ,skruː }

**drive shaft** [MECH ENG] A shaft which transmits power from a motor or engine to the rest of a machine. { 'draɪv ,ʃɑ:ft }

**drive shoe** [DES ENG] A sharp-edged steel sleeve attached to the bottom of a drivepipe or casing to act as a cutting edge and protector. { 'draɪv ,ʃuː }

**drive spindle** See drive rod. { 'draɪv ,spɪn-dəl }

**drive train** See power train. { 'draɪv ,traɪn }

**drive winding** [ELECTR] A coil of wire that is inductively coupled to an element of a magnetic memory. Also known as drive wire. { 'draɪv ,wɪn-dɪŋ }

**drive wire** See drive winding. { 'draɪv ,waɪr }

**driving clock** [ENG] A mechanism for driving an instrument at a required rate. { 'draɪv-ɪŋ ,klɒk }

**driving force** [CHEM] In a chemical reaction, the formation of products such as an insoluble compound, a gas, a nonelectrolyte, or a weak electrolyte that enable the reaction to go to completion as a metathesis. { 'draɪv-ɪŋ ,fɔ:rs }

**driving pinion** [MECH ENG] The input gear in the differential of an automobile. { 'draɪv-ɪŋ ,pɪn-ɪən }

**driving-point function** [CONT SYS] A special type of transfer function in which the input and output variables are voltages or currents measured between the same pair of terminals in an electrical network. { 'draɪv-ɪŋ ,pɔɪnt ,fəŋk-shən }

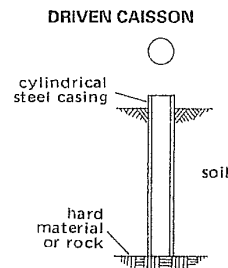
**driving-point impedance** [ELECTR] The complex ratio of applied alternating voltage to the resulting alternating current in an electron tube, network, or other transducer. { 'draɪv-ɪŋ ,pɔɪnt ɪm'pɛd-əns }

**driving resistance** [MECH] The force exerted by soil on a pile being driven into it. { 'draɪv-ɪŋ rɪ'zɪs-təns }

**driven signal** [ELECTR] Television signal that times the scanning at the pickup point. { 'draɪv-ɪŋ ,sɪg-nəl }

## driving signal

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Driven caisson, top view and cross-section from the side.

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