

McGraw-Hill Dictionary of ELECTRONICS AND COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

Sybil P. Parker
Editor in Chief

McGraw-Hill Book Company

New York St. Louis San Francisco

Auckland Bogotá Guatemala Hamburg
Johannesburg Lisbon London Madrid Mexico
Montreal New Delhi Panama Paris San Juan
São Paulo Singapore Sydney Tokyo Toronto

McGRAW-HILL DICTIONARY OF ELECTRONICS AND
COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

The material in this Dictionary has been published previously in the McGRAW-HILL DICTIONARY OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TERMS, Third Edition, copyright © 1984 by McGraw-Hill, Inc. All rights reserved. Philippines copyright 1984 by McGraw-Hill, Inc. Printed in the United States of America. Except as permitted under the United States Copyright Act of 1976, no part of this publication may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means, or stored in a data base or retrieval system, without the prior written permission of the publisher.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 D O D O 8 9 1 0 9 8 7 6 5 4

ISBN 0-07-045416-7

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

McGraw-Hill dictionary of electronics and computer technology.

1. Electronics—Dictionaries. 2. Computers—Dictionaries. 3. Electronic data processing—Dictionaries.
I. Parker, Sybil P. II. McGraw-Hill Book Company.
III. Title: Electronics and computer technology.
TK7804.M4 1984 621.381'03'21 84-12211
ISBN 0-07-045416-7

Today's world of developments in electronics, business during the 1980s are one of the most rapid computer technologies in turn involves the physics.

There are many disciplines, and other: electronics, and other: hardware and software *puter Technology* is that explain the basic disciplines—electricity

The 10,000 terms *Dictionary of Science* acronyms, and abbreviations alphabetical sequence

The McGraw-Hill presents an integrated as a fully comprehensive nicate in the language

counter-free machine A sequential machine that cannot count modulo any integer greater than 1.

countermeasures set A complete electronic set specifically designed to provide facilities for intercepting and analyzing electromagnetic energy propagated by transmitter and to provide a source of radio-frequency signals which deprive the enemy of effective use of his electronic equipment.

counterpoise A system of wires or other conductors that is elevated above and insulated from the ground to form a lower system of conductors for an antenna. Also known as antenna counterpoise.

counter tube An electron tube having one signal-input electrode and 10 or more output electrodes, with each input pulse serving to transfer conduction sequentially to the next output electrode; beam-switching tubes and cold-cathode counter tubes are examples.

counting circuit A circuit that counts pulses by frequency-dividing techniques, by charging a capacitor in such a way as to produce a voltage proportional to the pulse count, or by other means. Also known as counter circuit.

counting-down circuit See frequency divider.

counting rate-voltage characteristic See plateau characteristic.

couple 1. Two metals placed in contact, as in a thermocouple. 2. To connect two circuits so signals are transferred from one to the other.

coupled circuits Two or more electric circuits so arranged that energy can transfer electrically or magnetically from one to another.

coupled transistors Transistors connected in series by transformers or resistance-capacitance networks, in much the same manner as electron tubes.

coupler A component used to transfer energy from one circuit to another.

coupling 1. A mutual relation between two circuits that permits energy transfer from one to another, through a wire, resistor, transformer, capacitor, or other device. 2. A hardware device used to make a temporary connection between two wires.

coupling capacitor A capacitor used to block the flow of direct current while allowing alternating or signal current to pass; widely used for joining two circuits or stages. Also known as blocking capacitor; stopping capacitor.

coupling coefficient The ratio of the maximum change in energy of an electron traversing an interaction space to the product of the peak alternating gap voltage and the electronic charge.

course programmer An item which initiates and processes signals in a manner to establish a vehicle in which it is installed along one or more projected courses.

CPE See computer performance evaluation.

C power supply A device connected in the circuit between the cathode and grid of a vacuum tube to apply grid bias.

CPU See central processing unit.

crash See abend.

crater lamp A glow-discharge tube used as a point source of light whose brightness is proportional to the signal current sent through the tube; used for photographic recording of facsimile signals.

creation operator

creep A slow chan

creepage The con

crest value See pe

crest voltmeter A terminals.

crimp contact A wire; after a bal metal firmly ag

crippled leap-frog tests are repeat of locations.

crippled mode Th are not working

critical anode vol

critical area See I

critical coupling energy from on to the same fre

critical current T is normal and perature and ir

critical field The prevent an elec reaching the ai

critical frequency

critical grid curre starts to flow i

critical grid volta tube. Also kno

critical magnetic conducting and in the absence

critical potential current.

critical voltage steady magnet magnetron at voltage.

CR law A law w circuit consisti the potential c value depends

CRO See cathod