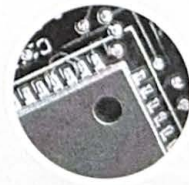
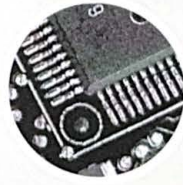


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data type

data type A manner of classifying data. The specification of a data type dictates the way a program handles the data. For instance, most applications can not calculate text. Other examples of data types include integers, real numbers, Boolean, and floating point. Also called **type (4)**.

data unit A group characters which is treated as a unit.

data validation The process of determining if data is accurate, complete, or compliant with specified criteria.

data visualization The showing of computer data in the form of graphics. For example, the presenting of data using 3D models as opposed to text or formulas. Since graphical data is analyzed by the brain at a more intuitive level than text data, greater amounts of information can be more simply displayed, speeding up the navigation through and assimilation of the information being viewed. Also called **information visualization**, or **visualization (1)**.

data warehouse An extensive database which combines all the databases of an entity, such as a large corporation. Some organizations store terabytes of information, and data warehouses provide a means to organize the data, and make decisions based on the information as a whole.

data word A group of bits or bytes treated as a unit of information, as opposed, for instance, to being considered as a control code. Also called **information word**.

database An interrelated collection of information in the form of records, fields, and files. The contents of a database are entered, processed, and accessed by a database program, and the information held may be of any kind, including text, graphics, sounds, and so on. Also spelled **data base**.

database engine Within a DBMS, the software that serves to store and retrieve data. Also spelled **data-base engine**.

database machine One or more computers or devices which are dedicated to database functions. Such devices may use parallel computing to reduce storage and retrieval times by factors of over 100, and are linked to the front-end processor via a high-speed channel. Also spelled **data-base machine**.

database management software Same as **DBMS**.

database management system Same as **DBMS**.

database program An application program designed for the entry, storage, manipulation, organization, security, integrity, and retrieval of data. The most common example of a database program is a DBMS. Also spelled **data-base program**.

database server A computer, within a LAN, that is dedicated to database management functions. It incorporates the databases and the DBMS. Also spelled **data-base server**.

database system Same as **DBMS**.

datacenter A centralized location where computers, data libraries, and associated equipment are housed. Large entities may have many mainframes at such a location. May be used, for instance, for centralized processing. Also spelled **data center**. Also called **data-processing center**, or **computer center**.

datacom Acronym for **data communications**.

dataflow Same as **data flow**.

dataflow diagram Same as **data flow diagram**.

datagram A block of data of a specific size, or of a maximum size, transmitted in a TCP/IP network. In addition to the payload, a datagram contains information such as the source and destination addresses. Also called **IP datagram**.

datamart Same as **data mart**.

datamation Abbreviation of **data automation**.

dataport Same as **data port**.

datascope 1. Software that extracts data from multiple sources and organizes it for analysis, what-if scenarios, and the like. 2. A device that can detect bit patterns traveling

along a transmission line. Such a device may also be able to intercept such patterns traveling through air.

dataset Same as **data set**.

datum Although the plural form of **datum** is **data**, **data** is commonly used in either the plural or singular forms. 1. A single item of factual information, such as that derived from observation, experimentation, or calculation, especially that which is used for processing and/or further analysis. 2. A single item of information which is represented in a manner suitable for digital transmission or computer use.

daughter board Same as **daughterboard**.

daughterboard A printed-circuit board which plugs directly into another, especially the motherboard. Although similar to an expansion board, a daughterboard accesses the motherboard directly, and not through an expansion bus. Also spelled **daughter board**. Also called **daughtercard**.

daughtercard Same as **daughterboard**.

DAVC Abbreviation of **delayed automatic volume control**.

daylight lamp A lamp whose emitted light has a spectral distribution similar to that of daylight.

dB Abbreviation of **decibel**. 1. A dimensionless logarithmic unit utilized to express the ratio of two powers or intensities, such as voltages, currents, or sound intensities. The number of decibels is equal to 10 times the common logarithm of the ratio of the measured powers, or when comparing voltages, currents, or analogous acoustic quantities, it is 20 times the common logarithm. It is equal to 0.1 bels, or approximately 0.1151 nepers. 2. In acoustics, the sound pressure ratio that determines the relative intensity of sounds, against a reference pressure. Such a pressure is usually defined as 20 micropascals, which is assigned a value of 0 decibels. Anything above this 0 decibels threshold is considered to be audible. Before pain sets in, a person with good hearing can listen at 120 decibels, or 20 pascals, which is a trillion times louder than 0 decibels.

Db Chemical symbol for **dubnium**.

DB-9 A **data-bus connector** with 9 pins.

DB-15 A **data-bus connector** with 15 pins.

DB-25 A **data-bus connector** with 25 pins.

DB-37 A **data-bus connector** with 37 pins.

DB-50 A **data-bus connector** with 50 pins.

DB connector Abbreviation of **data-bus connector**.

dB meter Abbreviation of **decibel meter**. An instrument which indicates, in decibels, the power level of a signal in reference to another, or to an arbitrary reference level. Its scale is calibrated logarithmically. Also called **decibel-level meter**.

dB scale Abbreviation of **decibel scale**. A measurement scale based on **dBs**. An example is that utilized when describing **dB SPL**.

dB sound pressure level Same as **dB SPL**.

dB SPL Abbreviation of **decibel sound pressure level**. A measurement of sound pressure, expressed in decibels, with respect to the threshold of hearing. The threshold of hearing is usually defined as 20 micropascals, which is assigned a value of 0 decibels. For example, leaves gently rustling produce a sound level of approximately 15 dB SPL, a whisper is about 30 dB SPL, the dial tone of a telephone is more or less 80 dB SPL, and an approaching subway train is somewhere around 110 dB SPL. Naturally, each of these approximations may vary quite a bit. For instance, the type of train, its approaching speed, and station acoustics are some of the factors which affect a dB SPL reading in the case of a subway. For a person with good hearing, pain begins somewhere around 120 dB SPL, and there is immediate damage to hearing above 150 dB SPL. Also called **sound pressure level (1)**.

ply, the other for take-up. Also spelled **video cassette**. Also called **videotape (2)**, **videocassette tape (1)**, or **video (5)**.

videocassette deck Same as **videocassette player**. Also spelled **video cassette deck**.

videocassette format A specific **videocassette** format, such as VHS, or S-VHS. Also spelled **video cassette format**.

videocassette player A device, such as a VHS player, which serves to record and playback **videocassettes**. Also spelled **video cassette player**. Its abbreviation is **VCR**. Also called **videocassette recorder**, **videocassette deck**, **videotape player**, **videotape recorder**, **videotape deck**, or **video (6)**.

videocassette recorder Same as **videocassette player**. Also spelled **video cassette recorder**. Its abbreviation is **VCR**.

videocassette tape Also spelled **video cassette tape**. 1. Same as **videocassette**. 2. Same as **videotape (1)**.

videocast Abbreviation of **video broadcast**. An RF transmission, such as a TV broadcast, consisting of video signals intended for public or general reception.

videoCD Same as **video CD**.

videoconferencing Conferencing in which still or moving pictures are transmitted, usually along with voice and text, between users or entities at multiple locations. Such conferencing can use POTS for freeze-frame or jerky image transmission, although higher bandwidths can provide crisp real-time full-motion video. Also spelled **video conferencing**. Also called **video teleconferencing**.

videodisc Also called **Laserdisc**. 1. An optical disc format typically utilized for audio and video, such as movies and music. This format usually provides two analog and two digital audio channels, and its horizontal resolution is generally 425 lines. Also, a disc encoded in this format. Such discs are usually 12 or 8 inches in diameter, and a laserdisc player is required to read them. 2. Any optical disc format or disc.

videophone Abbreviation of **video telephone**. A telephone which in addition to providing speech, and other audible signals, has a display to present images. Such phones may provide still images which are periodically updated, or real-time video. Also spelled **video phone**.

videotape Also spelled **video tape**. 1. A magnetic tape, such as a VHS tape, which is suitable for recording and playing video signals. A video tape is contained within a **videocassette**. Also called **videocassette tape (2)**. 2. Same as **videocassette**.

videotape deck Same as **videocassette player**. Also spelled **video tape deck**.

videotape format Same as **videocassette format**. Also spelled **video tape format**.

videotape player Same as **videocassette player**. Also spelled **video tape player**.

videotape recorder Same as **videocassette player**. Also spelled **video tape recorder**. Its abbreviation is **VTR**.

videotape recording The use of a **videocassette player** to record TV programming or other video content. Also spelled **video tape recording**.

videotex Same as **videotext**.

videotext A service, such as teletext, in which text and graphics are presented on a TV screen, computer monitor, or the like, and which is used for shopping, or providing information such as weather or news. Also called **videotex**.

vidicon A TV camera tube that is simpler than an image orthicon, and which is commonly utilized for closed-circuit TV.

view 1. To see what is displayed by a meter, instrument, computer monitor, TV, or the like. Also, that which is being viewed. 2. To cause to be displayed on a screen, such as that of a TV or computer. 3. A specific perspective of that

which can be seen. For example, a given angle of a scene. 4. To use a viewer. 5. In a database management system, such as that of a relational database, a specific manner in which data is presented. For example, a view in which only the desired fields are displayed.

viewable image The portion of a display screen, such as that of a TV or computer monitor, which has a usable viewing area. Computer CRTs, for instance, usually have a given space on the sides of the image, thus making the screen size larger than the size of viewable images. Usually measured diagonally.

viewer A separate computer application which is called upon to interpret and view files and data which could otherwise not be seen by the current application. Also refers to multimedia files. For instance, a Web browser plug-in utilized to display video in a format that is not currently supported. Also called **external viewer**.

viewfinder A device which serves to display an image corresponding to that which is being focused upon by a camera, such as a TV camera. Such a device may be optical and/or electronic. Also called **finder (2)**.

viewing screen The viewing area of a display device such as a computer, TV, oscilloscope, or radar.

viewport 1. A specific portion of the text, graphics, or the like which occupy the entire screen of a computer monitor at any given moment. 2. A specific portion of a window.

vignetting A reduction in the brightness at the edges of an image, such as a photograph or slide. May be caused, for instance, by a poor lens design or a partial obstruction. Vignetting may also be utilized intentionally to highlight a given section of an image.

Villari effect An effect which is the converse of **magnetostriction**. That is, when a magnetostrictive material is mechanically deformed, a magnetic property, such as magnetic induction or permeability, changes.

VINES A UNIX-based network operating system. It is an acronym for **virtual networking system**, **virtual networking software**, **virtual network system**, or **virtual network software**.

vinyl chloride A flammable and colorless gas whose chemical formula is C_2H_3Cl . Widely utilized in the production of polymers such as polyvinyl chloride.

vinyl plastic A plastic, such as polyvinyl chloride, made via the polymerization of **vinyl chloride**.

virial marketing A marketing scheme intended to spread like a virus. For example, free email providers, such as Yahoo!, usually include an advertisement for their service in all emails sent, thus increasing its exposure each time an email is viewed.

virgule In most computer operating systems, a character which serves to denote division, as seen, for instance, in: 22/7. This character also serves to separate elements within an internet address, as seen, for example in: <http://www.yipeeee.com/whooh/yaah.html>. This character has a place on the keyboard, and is shown here between brackets: [/]. Also known as **forward slash**, or **slash**.

virtual 1. That which is not real, but is perceived as real, seemingly real, or which is otherwise simulated. Said especially of that which is computer-related or generated. For example, virtual reality, or virtual memory. 2. That which is real, but appears or occurs elsewhere. Said especially of that which is computer-related. For example, a conversation between real people, each at their own location, but occurring in a chat room via a network. 3. Pertaining to computer, online, and/or logical concepts. The term is frequently utilized interchangeably with related connotations of **electronic**, **digital**, **logical**, or **online**.

virtual address In virtual memory, a memory location which is assigned to a place in a secondary storage device, such as a hard disk, as opposed to that in RAM.

virtual address