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On the cover: Photomicrograph of crystals of vitamin ${\rm B}_{\rm 1}.$ (Dennis Kunkel, University of Hawaii)

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McGRAW-HILL DICTIONARY OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TERMS, Fifth Edition

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of thorium which has mass number 228. Symbolized RdTh. [raderdo thor do am]

radio time signal [COMMUN] A time signal sent by radio broadcast. { 'rād ē ö 'tīm sig nəl }

radio tower [COMMUN] A tower, usually several hundred meters tall, either guyed or freestanding, on which a transmitting antenna is mounted to increase the range of radio transmission; in some cases, the tower itself may be the antenna. { 'rad e o tau.ər }

radiotracer See radioactive tracer. { 'rad e o 'trassr }

radio tracking [ENG] The process of keeping a radio or radar beam set on a target and determining the range of the target continuously. ['rād·ē·ō 'trak·iŋ] radio transmission [соммим] The transmission of signals

through space at radio frequencies by means of radiated electromagnetic waves. ('rād·ē·õ tranz'mish·ən)

radio transmitter [ELECTR] The equipment used for gener-ating and amplifying a radio-frequency carrier signal, modulating the carrier signal with intelligence, and feeding the modulated carrier to an antenna for radiation into space as electromagnetic waves. Also known as radio set; transmitter. 'rād·ē·õ 'tranz,mid·ər]

radio transponder [ELECTR] A transponder which receives and transmits radio waves, in contrast to a sonar transponder, which receives and transmits acoustic waves. { radeo tran'spän·dər]

radio tube See electron tube. ('rād ē ō, tüb) radio watch See watch. ('rād ē ō, wäch)

radio wave [ELECTROMAG] An electromagnetic wave produced by reversal of current in a conductor at a frequency in the range from about 10 kilohertz to about 300,000 megahertz. { 'rād·ē·ō ,wāv }

radio wavefront distortion [ELECTROMAG] Change in the direction of advance of a radio wave. ['rad·ē·o 'wav,front di.storshan]

radio-wave propagation [ELECTROMAG] The transfer of energy through space by electromagnetic radiation at radio frequencies. ('rād·ē·ō ¦wāv ,präp·ə,gā·shən)

radio window [GEOPHYS] A band of frequencies extending from about 6 to 30,000 megahertz, in which radiation from the outer universe can enter and travel through the atmosphere of the earth. ('rād·ē·ö ,win·dö }

radish [BOT] Raphanus sativus. 1. An annual or biennial crucifer belonging to the order Capparales. 2. The edible, thickened hypocotyl of the plant. { 'rad ish }

radist [NAV] Radio-navigation system in which the comparison of arrival times of transmitted pulses, at three or more ground stations, indicates the position of the vehicle. 'rä,dist]

radium [CHEM] 1. A radioactive member of group II, symbol Ra, atomic number 88; the most abundant naturally occurring isotope has mass number 226 and a half-life of 1620 years. 2. A highly toxic solid that forms water-soluble compounds; decays by emission of α , β , and γ -radiation; melts at 700°C, boils at 1140°C; turns black in air; used in medicine, in industrial radiography, and as a source of neutrons and radon. ['rad-ēam 1

radium age [NUCLEO] The age of a mineral as calculated from the numbers of radium atoms present originally, now, and when equilibrium is established with ionium. ['tād'ē·əm ,āj] radium bromide [INORG CHEM] RaBr₂ Water-soluble, poi-sonous, radioactive white powder, corrosive to skin or flesh; melts at 728°C; used in medicine, physical research, and luminous paint. ['rād-ē-əm 'brö,mīd]

radium carbonate [INORG CHEM] RaCO3 Water-insoluble, poisonous, radioactive, white powder; used in medicine. ['radē·əm 'kär·bə,nāt)

radium cell [NUCLEO] A sealed thin-wall tube containing radium. { 'rād·ē·əm ,sel }

radium chloride [INORG CHEM] RaCl₂ Water- and alcoholsoluble, poisonous, radioactive, yellow-white crystals; corrosive effect on skin and flesh; melts at 1000°C; used in medicine, physical research, and luminous paint. { 'rād-ē-əm 'klor,īd }

radium F See polonium-210. ['rādē əm 'ef] radium needle [NUCLEO] A radium cell in the form of a needle, usually of platinum-iridium or gold alloy, designed primarily for insertion in tissue. { 'rad-e-om ,ned-ol }

radium plaque [NUCLEO] A radium container in which the radium is distributed over a surface; the shielding is usually

small in one direction so as to permit transmission of β -rays as if on our rays, { 'radre-om plak } well as y-rays. [Taber and place] radium sulfate [INORG CHEM] RaSO, Water-insoluble, ta-dioactive, poisonous, white crystals; used in medicine.]

radium therapy [MED] Radiotherapy using the radiation from radium. { 'rad-c-om ,ther-o-pc }

from radium. [radie on the ope] radius [ANAT] The outer of the two bones of the human and the corresponding part in vertebrates of the forearm or of the corresponding part in vertebrates other human 1 A line segment joining the center and forearm of of the control of the segment joining the center and a point fish. [MATH] 1. A line segment joining the center and a point is a solution of such a line and a point

fish. [MATH] LA THE age of such a line segment { 'rādre əs ; radius cutter [MECH ENG] A formed milling cutter with teen

ground to produce a radius on the workpiece. ['råde 33, ka

or } radius of action [ENG] The maximum distance a ship, arcraft, or other vehicle can travel away from its base along a given course with normal load and return without refucing, but given course with required to perform those maneuvers made including the fuel required to perform those maneuvers made necessary by all safety and operating factors. ['fade as av all shən }

shon) radius of convergence [MATH] The positive real number corresponding to a power series expansion about some number a with the property that if x - a has absolute value less than a with the property devices that the property devices that the property devices that the property devices the pro absolute value greater than this number the power series d verges at x. { 'rād·ē·əs əv kən'vər·jəns } radius of curvature [MATH] The radius of the circle of cur-

vature at a point of a curve. { 'rādē s s v 'kərvə chə' | radius of damage [orb] The distance from ground zero of a nuclear blast at which there is a 0.50 probability of achieving the desired damage. { 'rād·ē·əs əv 'dam·ij }

radius of geodesic curvature [MATH] For a point on a curve lying on a surface, the reciprocal of the geodesic curvature m the point. { 'rād'ē:əs əv jē:ə',des-ik 'kərvə-chər } radius of geodesic torsion [MATH] The reciprocal of the

geodesic torsion of a surface at a point in a given direction ('rād·ē·əs əv ,jē·ə'des·ik 'tor·shən)

radius of gyration [MATH] The square root of the ratio of the moment of inertia of a plane figure about a given axis to its area [MECH] The square root of the ratio of the moment of inertia of a body about a given axis to its mass. | 'rāde as av ji ra shon 1

radius of normal curvature [MATH] The reciprocal of the normal curvature of a surface at a point and in a given direction [¦räd·ē·əs əv ¦nór·məl 'kər·və·chər]

radius of protection [ENG] The radius of the circle within which a lightning discharge will not strike, due to the presence of an elevated lightning rod at the center. ['radees av protection

radius of rupture [ORD] Greatest distance from the center of an underground explosive charge at which the explosion will be destructive. { 'rad e əs əv 'rəp chər }

radius of safety [ORD] The horizontal distance from ground area beyond which the weapon effects on friendly more a acceptable. ('rād ē əs əv 'sāf tē)

radius of torsion [MATH] The reciprocal of the torsion of space curve at a point. ('rād-ē-əs əv 'torshən) er radius of total curvature [MATH] The quantity of where C is the total curvature of a surface at a point. I have

radius of visibility [NAV] The radius of a circle limiting to area in which an objective can be seen under specified cost

tions. ['rād·ē·əs əv ,viz·ə'bil·əd·ē] radius ratio [PHYS CHEM] The ratio of the radius of a can the radius of a ca to the radius of an ion; relative ionic radii are pertinent to com-lattice structure lattice structure, particularly the determination of coordination

radius rod [ENG] A rod which restricts movement of # P to a given are [] address of the strict of t radius vector [ASTRON] A line joining the center of an orbing body with the forum of the set is primar

ing body with the focus of its orbit located near its primary [MATH] The coordinate r in a polar coordinate system, whe gives the distance of a ratio and polar coordinate r in the polar coordinate system. gives the distance of a point from the origin. [' $rid \neq \infty$, 'rid' are solved tor]

radix See base of a number system; root. ['radiks] radix approximation [MATH] The approximation of a number by a number that can be expressed by a specified from

RADIO-WAVE PROPAGATION



Possible transmission paths of electromagnetic radiation at radio frequencies.

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