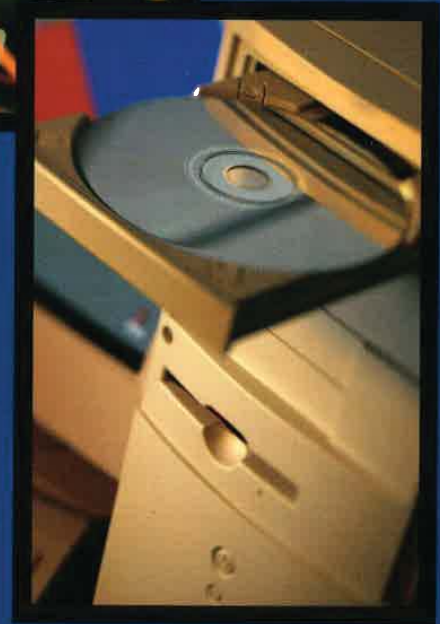
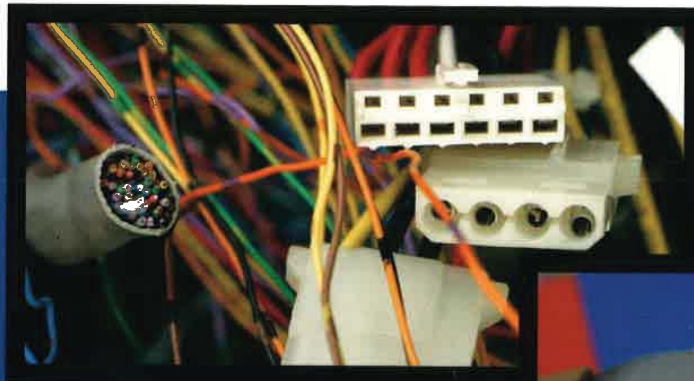


Mehdi Khosrow-Pour

Dictionary of Information Science and Technology



Volume I
A – J

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APICS®: See *American Production and Inventory Control Society*.

APON: See *APON or Broadband PON*.

APON or Broadband PON (APON/BPON)

APON is defined by the ITU-T G.983 series of recommendations. It features a passive optical network for fiber-to-the-home service that uses ATM as its transmission protocol. BPON is an alternate name for this technology. (Kelic, 2005)

Apparent Distance

The perceived proximity of faculty and students in a distance education environment. Close apparent distance is the term used to describe a relationship that is perceived as positive, supporting, in regular communication—a relationship in which the student and faculty are well known to each other and where communications flow easily. (Sales, 2005)

Applet

A computer program that is portable between operating systems and requires only minimal memory to run, often written in the Java programming language. (Fagan, 2005)

Application 1

1: An application is a program, script, or other collection of instructions that direct the operation of a processor. This is a wide definition of “application.” It does not distinguish Web-based software from stand-alone software. Nor does this definition distinguish system software from goal-specific software. (Maris, 2005) **2:** Knowledge integration to create organizational capability through directives, organizational routines, and self-contained task teams. (Lindsey, 2006)

Application Aware vs. Application Transparent

In application-aware fault tolerance, the application programmer writes code for fault tolerance methods that perform specific operations. In application-transparent fault tolerance, the fault tolerance middleware performs those operations automatically, using standard operating system functions and the technique of library interpositioning. (Zhao, Moser, et al., 2005)

Application Domain

That part of the assumed real world that is changed by a work system to achieve the work system’s goals. (Diaper, 2006)

Application Infrastructure Provider (AIP)

A type of ASP that usually originates from telecommunication operators that run their own networks and Internet data centers. The AIP focuses on server hosting and network infrastructure management for other ASPs and corporate clients, and provides value-added services based on its technology leadership, for example, online security and e-payment services. (D. Kim, 2005)

Application Integration

The process of bringing data or a function from one application program together with that of another application program. (Karakostas, 2005)

Application Layer

Layer 7 of the OSI model. This layer determines the interface of the system with the user. (Ngoh & Shankar, 2005)

Application Program Interface (API)

1: Part of the run-time environment described in SCORM. It provides a standardized way for content to communicate with the learning management system. (Stavredes, 2005b) **2:** A set of programming tools that provide developers with a simple, consistent mechanism for extending the functionality of an application and for accessing existing computing systems. (Yow & Moertiyoso, 2005) **3:** A description of the way one piece of software asks another program to perform a service. A standard API for data mining enables different data-mining algorithms from various vendors to be easily plugged into application programs. (Zendulka, 2005a)

Application Service Provider (ASP)

1: A company that hosts an application on its servers so the client does not need to worry about the technical issues. The client then accesses the content and software via the Internet. (Kapp, 2005) **2:** A service company that can support and relieve a firm from the daunting challenges of finding, hiring, inspiring, and training technical personnel to manage an application in-house. An ASP provides software applications on a pay-per-use or service basis via the Internet and leased lines. (Archer,

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2005) **3:** A company that manages and hosts a software program on behalf of a client. (Baker & Schihl, 2005) **4:** A service company offering outsourcing solutions that supply, develop, and manage application-specific software and hardware so that customers' internal information technology resources can be freed up. (Zhu, 2005) **5:** The provisioning to individuals and companies of software applications and ICT-related services, via the Internet or other data networks, that are to be paid on a rental/usage base. (Iacob et al., 2005) **6:** A provider of application services over the Internet or an intranet. (Feuerlicht & Vorisek, 2006) **7:** A specialized operator that offers a bundle of customized software applications from a remote position through the Internet, in exchange for a periodic fee. (Morabito & Provera, 2005) **8:** A third-party service firm that deploys, manages, and remotely hosts software applications through centrally located services in a rental or lease agreement. Such application deliveries are done to multiple entities from data centers across a wide area network (WAN) as a service rather than a product, priced according to a license fee and maintenance contract set by the vendor. An ASP is considered by many to be the new form of IT outsourcing, usually referred to as application outsourcing. (Guah & Currie, 2005) **9:** An HTML page that includes one or more scripts that are processed on a Microsoft™ Web server before the page is sent to the user. An ASP is somewhat similar to a server-side or a common gateway interface (CGI) application in that all involve programs that run on the server, usually tailoring a page for the user. (Lee, Suh, et al., 2005)

Application Solution Providers

Third-party vendors who provide data center, telecommunications, and application options for major companies. (DeLorenzo, 2005)

Application State

Current snapshot of the application itself and all of the resources it addresses. (Trossen & Molenaar, 2005)

Application Synchronization

A specific type of wireless application whereby the data on the wireless device is synchronized with that on the main server. (K. J. MacGregor, 2005)

Application-Layer Multicast (ALM)

This does not require any additional protocol in the network routers, since it uses the traditional unicast IP-transmission. Its other names are host-multicast or end-host multicast. (Hosszú, 2006)

Application-Sharing Space

A groupware tool that produces multiple distributed remote views of a particular space. Any single-user application put under the control of the particular space can be viewed remotely and controlled by the group members that have access to this space. Therefore, the application-sharing space transforms any single-user application put under its control into a multi-user shared application. (Villemur & Drira, 2006)

Application-Specific Ontology

An engineering object defining the model of knowledge in a specific application case. (Cristani & Cuel, 2006)

Applicative-Oriented Formal Specification Language

Does not allow the use of variables. (Dasso & Funes, 2005)

Applied Behavior Analysis

Experimental analysis of behavior in which the three-term contingency, antecedent conditions, response, and consequent events are analyzed to explain behavior. (Lazarus, 2005a)

Applied Ethics

1: The branch of ethics that emphasizes not theories of morality but ways of analyzing and resolving issues and conflicts in daily life, the professions, and public affairs. (Goodman, 2005) **2:** The study of a morally controversial practice, whereby the practice is described and analyzed, and moral principles and judgments are applied, resulting in a set of recommendations. (Cook, 2005)

Appreciative Settings

A body of linked connotations of personal or collective interest, discrimination, and valuation which we bring to the exercise of judgment and which tacitly determine what we shall notice, how we shall discriminate situations of concern from the general confusion of an ongoing event, and how we shall regard them. (Vat, 2005a)

Appreciative Systems

Developed by Vickers in the 1960s, the concepts of appreciative systems and of appreciative inquiry go beyond the paradigm of goal seeking to explain the processes of social activity, including decision making and action. Vickers criticized the reductionism of the perspective of focusing exclusively on goals, which he thought would be adequate to explain the 'behavior of rats in mazes'.

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