



# Dictionary of Computing

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# IBM DICTIONARY OF COMPUTING

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 DOC/DOC 9 9 8 7 6 5 4 3

ISBN 0-07-031488-8 (HC)  
ISBN 0-07-031489-6 (PBK)

*The sponsoring editor for this book was Daniel A. Gonneau and the production supervisor was Thomas G. Kowalczyk.*

*Printed and bound by R. R. Donnelley & Sons Company.*

**Tenth Edition (August 1993)**

This is a major revision of the *IBM Dictionary of Computing*, SC20-1699-8, which is made obsolete by this edition. Changes are made periodically to the information provided herein.

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When ordering this title, use ISBN 0-07-113383-6.

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**bibliography** A list of documents referred to within a document. For each document, the following is generally listed: the author, the document, notes about the document, and sometimes notes about its author.

**BICARSA** Billing, inventory control, accounts receivable, sales analysis.

**BID** (1) In SNA, a data flow control command that is used to request permission to start a bracket. (2) A BSC protocol exchange in preparation for the transmitting and also the receiving data. The transmitting station transmits an ENQ character, and the receiving station acknowledges the receipt of the ENQ character by sending an ACK0 control character.

**bid** In the contention form of invitation or selection, an attempt by the computer or by a station to gain control of a line in order to transmit data.

**bidder** Synonym for bidder session.

**bidder session** The half-session defined at session activation as having to request and receive permission from the other half-session to begin a bracket. Contrast with first-speaker session. See contention-loser session. Synonymous with bidder.

**BIDI** Bidirectional bus.

**bidirectional bus (BIDI)** A bus on which data can be sent in either direction.

**bidirectional flow** Flow in either direction represented on the same flowline in a flowchart. (I) (A)

**bidirectional language** The ability to write and read a language in two directions, such as from left to right and from right to left.

**bidirectional port** See shared port.

**bidirectional printer** A printer that can print left to right and right to left. Synonymous with reverse printer. (T) (A)

**bidirectional transmission** A transmission that may occur in either direction along a transmission medium. (T)

**bilateral closed user group (BCUG)** (1) In data communication, two users who have bilaterally agreed to communicate with each other, but not with other users. See also closed user group. (2) In X.25 communications, an optional facility that allows calls to be made only between two designated DTEs. Each user can belong to more than one bilateral closed user group and to more than one closed user group by means of outgoing access.

**bilateral closed user group with outgoing access** In data communication, two users in a bilateral closed user group who can access users outside the closed group, where appropriate.

**bilevel** Having black or white pels. See pel.

**bilevel image** An image in which the pels are either black or white. Contrast with gray image.

**bilingual command list** In the NetView program, a command list written in a combination of REXX and the NetView command list language.

**bin** In AFP support, the standard-size paper source on the IBM 3820.

**binary** (1) Pertaining to a selection, choice, or condition that has two possible different values or states. (I) (A) (2) Pertaining to a fixed radix numeration system having a radix of 2. (I) (A) (3) Pertaining to a system of numbers to the base two; the binary digits are 0 and 1. (A) (4) In the AIX object data manager, a terminal descriptor type used to define a variable as a bit string that is not null-terminated. See also terminal descriptor. (5) In SQL, a data type indicating that the data is a binary number with a precision of 15 (halfword) or 31 (fullword) bits. (6) See Chinese binary, column binary, row binary.

**binary arithmetic operation** (1) An arithmetic operation in which the operands and the result are represented in the pure binary numeration system. (I) (A) (2) Synonym for dyadic operation.

**binary Boolean operation** Deprecated term for dyadic Boolean operation.

**binary card** A card containing data in column binary or row binary form. (A)

**binary cell** (1) A storage cell that can hold one binary character. (I) (A) (2) A storage cell of one binary digit capacity; for example, a single-bit register. (A)

**binary character** Either of the characters of a binary character set; for example, T (true) or F (false), Y (yes) or N (no). (T)

**binary character set** A character set that consists of two characters. (T)

**binary code** (1) A code whose application results in a code element set whose elements are formed from a binary character set. (T) (2) A code that makes use of exactly two distinct characters, usually 0 and 1. (A) (3) See also gray code.