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isoionic

having the same (hydrogen) ion concentration; that mix without change of ionization. L19. 2 *Physiol.* Occurring without causing any change in pH, as the removal of carbon dioxide from the tissues by the blood. E20.

isoionic /AISŌUAI'dnik/ a. E20. [f. ISO- + IONIC a.²] *Chem.* Of a solute or solution: giving rise to or containing no non-colloidal ions other than those formed by dissociation of the solvent.

isoionic point the point (usu. pH value) at which the average number of protons attached to the basic groups of solute molecules is equal to the average number dissociated from the acidic groups.

isolable /AIS(a)lŏb(a)l/ a. M19. [f. ISOLATE v. + -ABLE.] Able to be isolated.

isolability n. L20.

isolatable /AISŏletŏb(a), AISŏ(u)'leɪ-/ a. M20. [f. as prec.] = prec.

isolatability n. M20.

isolate /AIS(a)lŏt/ a. & n. E19. [f. (as) ISOLATED.] A *adj.* = ISOLATED. E19. B n. 1 An isolated thing; *esp.* a thing abstracted from its normal context for study. L19. 2 *Perfumery.* A compound purified from a natural oil. E20. 3 *Microbiol.* A group, *esp.* a pure culture, of similar micro-organisms isolated for study. M20. 4 *Sociol. & Psychol.* A person, community, group, or (occas.) an animal isolated from normal social interaction, from choice or through separation or rejection. M20. 5 *Biol.* A population which has become distinct from the parent species through the operation of an isolating mechanism. M20.

isolate /AISŏleit/ v. t. E19. [Back-form. f. ISOLATED (now regarded as the pa. pple of the vb); partly after Fr. *isoler*: see -ATE³.] 1 Place or set apart or alone; cause to stand alone or detached, separated from or unconnected with other things or persons. Also, distinguish, identify. E19. 2 *Chem.* Obtain or extract (a substance) in a pure form. M19. 3 *Electr.* Insulate, *esp.* by a physical gap; disconnect. M19. 4 Subject (an infected person or place) to strict quarantine. L19.

1 W. S. CHURCHILL Until agrarian problems could be isolated from other political issues, there was little hope. M. MEYER Strindberg withdrew into himself and isolated himself. . . from his colleagues. A. MUNRO Blizzards still isolate the towns and villages. J. M. COETZEE I isolated over four hundred different characters in the script. 2 M. PYKE A few milligrams of vitamin B12 had been isolated and the nature of its complex molecule established.

isolated /AISŏletid/ a. M18. [f. Fr. *isolé* f. It. *isolato* f. late L *insulatus* made an island, f. L *insula* island: see -ATE³, -ED¹. Cf. prec.] Placed or standing apart or alone; detached or separate from other things or persons; unconnected with anything else; solitary.

J. REED There were still isolated cases of defiance towards the new Government, but they were rare. B. EMECHETA An isolated place, hidden . . . by the surrounding desert and hills. L. NKOSI A bitter man, secretive and isolated. **isolated pawn** *Chess*: without other pawns of the same colour in adjacent files.

isolati n. pl. see ISOLATO.

isolating /AISŏleitɪŋ/ ppl a. M19. [f. ISOLATE v. + -ING².] That isolates; *Ling.* (of a language) in which words tend not to vary in form (by either agglutination or inflection) according to grammatical function; = ANALYTIC a. 3.

isolating barrier, isolating mechanism a geographical, ecological, seasonal, physiological, or other factor which limits or prevents interbreeding between groups of plants or animals.

isolation /AISŏ'leɪʃ(ə)n/ n. & a. M19. [f. ISOLATE v. + -ATION, partly after Fr. *isolation*.] A n. 1 The action of isolating something or someone; the fact or condition of being or having been isolated; separation from other things or

inherent tendency. L19. b *Psychoanalysis.* A defence mechanism whereby a particular wish or thought loses emotional significance by being isolated from its normal context. E20. 5 *Biol.* The limitation or prevention of interbreeding between groups of plants or animals by some isolating mechanism, leading to the development of new species or varieties. E20.

1 in **isolation** considered singly and not relative to something else. SPLENDID *isolation*.

B *attrib.* or as *adj.* Designating a procedure, place of confinement, etc., by which isolation is effected. M19.

isolation camp, hospital, ward, etc.

isolationism /AISŏ'leɪʃ(ə)nɪz(ə)m/ n. E20. [f. prec. + -ISM.] The policy of seeking (political or national) isolation.

isolationist /AISŏ'leɪʃ(ə)nɪst/ n. & a. L19. [f. as prec. + -IST.] A n. A person who favours or advocates (political or national) isolationism. L19. B *adj.* Characteristic of or being an isolationist. L19.

isolative /AISŏ'leɪtɪv/ a. L19. [f. ISOLATE v. + -ATIVE.] 1 *Philol.* Of a sound-change: taking place independently of adjacent sounds. Opp. COMBINATIVE 2. L19. 2 *gen.* Tending to isolate something or someone. M20.

isolato /i:sŏ'latŏ/ n. Pl. -tŏ /-tŏi/, -tŏs. M19. [It.] An isolated person, an outcast.

isolator /AISŏ'leɪtə/ n. M19. [f. ISOLATE v. + -OR.] A person who or thing which isolates something or someone; a contrivance for isolating something; an insulator.

isoleucine /AISŏ(u)'lu:sɪn/ n. E20. [f. ISO- + LEUCINE.] *Biochem.* A hydrophobic amino acid, CH₃CH₂CH(CH₃)CH(NH₂)COOH, which occurs in proteins and is essential in the human diet; 2-amino-3-methylpentanoic acid.

isolog n. see ISOLOGUE.

isologous /AISŏ'ləgəs/ a. M19. [f. ISO- + Gk *logos* relation, ratio (see LOGOS) + -OUS, after *homologous*.] 1 *Chem.* Of two or more (series of) compounds: having comparable or related molecular structures; now usu. *spec.*, (of compounds) having identical molecular structure but different atoms of the same valency at some position(s) in the molecule. Cf. HOMOLOGOUS a. 4. M19. 2 *Med. & Biol.* Genetically identical, *esp.* as regards immunological factors; involving such individuals. M20.

isologue /AISŏ(u)'lɒg/ n. Also *-log. L19. [f. ISO- + -LOGUE.] *Chem.* Each of two or more isologous compounds.

isomer /AISŏ'mə/ n. M19. [f. Gk *isomerēs* sharing equally, f. as ISO- + *meros* part, share.] 1 *Chem.* A substance isomeric with another; any of a number of isomeric compounds or forms of a compound. M19. 2 *Physics.* Each of two or more nuclei having the same atomic number and mass number but different radioactive properties, as a result of being in different energy states; *esp.* a nucleus in a metastable excited state rather than the ground state. Also *nuclear isomer*. M20.

1 *geometrical isomer, optical isomer, structural isomer, etc.*

isomerase /AISŏ'mə'reɪz/ n. M20. [f. prec. + -ASE.] *Biochem.* Any of various enzymes which bring about an isomerization reaction.

isomeric /AISŏ(u)'mɛrɪk/ a. M19. [f. as ISOMER + -IC.] 1 *Chem.* Of two or more compounds, or of one compound in relation to another: composed of the same elements in the same proportions, and having the same molecular weight, but forming substances with different properties owing to the different grouping or arrangement of the constituent atoms. (Roll. by

isomorphic

isomeride /AISŏ'mə'rɪd/ n. *rare*. M19. [f. as ISOMER + -IDE.] *Chem.* = ISOMER 1.

isomerise v. var. of ISOMERIZE.

isomerism /AISŏ'mə'rɪz(ə)m/ n. M19. [f. ISOMER + -ISM.] 1 *Chem.* The fact or condition of being isomeric; identity of percentage composition in compounds differing in properties. M19. 2 *Physics.* The fact or condition of being nuclear isomers. M20.

1 **geometrical isomerism**: in which compounds differ in the spatial arrangement of atoms relative to a (rigid) double bond. **optical isomerism**: in which compounds differ in the spatial arrangement of atoms around one or more asymmetric carbon atoms, and hence usu. in optical activity. **STEREISOMERISM.** **structural isomerism**: in which molecules having the same constituent atoms have different structures, the atoms being joined in different sequences.

isomerize /AISŏ'mə'rɪz/ v. t. & i. Also -ise. L19. [f. ISOMER + -IZE.] *Chem.* Change into an isomer (of the original substance). Usu. foll. by *into, to*.

isomerization n. (*Chem.*) the conversion of a compound into an isomer of itself L19.

isomeric /AISŏ(u)'mɛrɪk/ a. & n. M19. [f. Gk *isomerēs* (see ISOMER) + -OUS.] *Biol.* Having the same number of (similar) parts; *spec.* in *Bot.* (of a flower) having the same number of parts in each whorl (opp. HETEROMEROUS 2b).

isometric /AISŏ(u)'mɛtrɪk/ a. & n. M19. [f. Gk *isometria* equality of measure, f. as ISO- + -METRY: see -IC.] A *adj.* 1 Of equal measure or dimensions. M19. 2 *Drawing.* Designating a method of projection or perspective in which the three principal dimensions are represented by three axes 120° apart, with all measurements on the same scale, used in technical and architectural drawing. M19. 3 *Cryst.* = CUBIC a. 2b. M19. 4 *Physiol.* Of, pertaining to, or designating muscular action in which tension is developed without contraction of the muscle. L19. 5 *Physics.* Relating to, or taking place under, conditions of constant volume. L19. 6 *Biol.* Of growth: maintaining constant proportions with increase in size. M20. 7 *Math.* That is an isometry; related by an isometry. Foll. by *to*. M20. B n. 1 *Physics.* A line in a diagram that corresponds to or represents states of equal volume. L19. 2 In *pl.* A system of stationary physical exercises in which muscles are caused to act isometrically against one another or against an unyielding object. M20.

isometrical /AISŏ(u)'mɛtrɪk(ə)l/ a. M19. [f. as prec. + -AL¹.] = ISOMETRIC a. 2, 3.

isometrically /AISŏ(u)'mɛtrɪk(ə)li/ *adv.* M19. [f. ISOMETRIC a. or prec.: see -ICALLY.] 1 *Drawing.* In the manner of isometric projection. M19. 2 *Physiol.* Under isometric conditions. E20. 3 *Math.* By means of or in the manner of an isometry. M20.

isometry /AISŏ'dmɪtri/ n. M20. [f. as ISOMETRIC: see -Y³.] 1 *Math.* A one-to-one transformation of one metric space into another that preserves the distances or metrics between each pair of points. M20. 2 *Biol.* (Growth exhibiting) constancy of proportion with increase in size. Cf. ALLOMETRY. M20.

isomorph /AISŏ(u)'mɔ:f/ n. M19. [f. ISO- + -MORPH.] 1 A substance or organism isomorphous with another. M19. 2 *Ling.* A line (imaginary or on a map) bounding an area in which a particular morphological form occurs; a morphological isogloss. *rare*. E20.

isomorphic /AISŏ(u)'mɔ:fɪk/ a. M19. [f. as prec. + -IC.] 1 *Chem. & Min.* Isomorphous; pertaining to or involving isomorphism. M19. 2 *Math. & Philos.* Of groups or other sets: corresponding to each other in form, and in the

having the same (hydrogen) ion concentration; that mix without change of ionization. L19. 2 *Physiol.* Occurring without causing any change in pH, as the removal of carbon dioxide from the tissues by the blood. E20.

isoionic /AISəʊaɪ'ɒnɪk/ a. E20. [f. ISO- + IONIC a.] *Chem.* Of a solute or solution: giving rise to or containing no non-colloidal ions other than those formed by dissociation of the solvent.

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isolable /AIS(ə)'ləʊə(ə)l/ a. M19. [f. ISOLATE v. + -ABLE.] Able to be isolated.

isolability n. L20.

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isolating barrier, isolating mechanism a geographical, ecological, seasonal, physiological, or other factor which limits or prevents interbreeding between groups of plants or animals.

isolation /AISə'leɪ(ə)n/ n. & a. M19. [f. ISOLATE v. + -ATION, partly after Fr. *isolation*.] A n. 1 The action of isolating something or someone; the fact or condition of being or having been isolated; separation from other things or persons; solitariness. M19. 2 The separation of a chemical substance in a pure state. M19. 3 *spec.* The complete separation of patients with a contagious or infectious disease from contact with other people; the prevention of access to a place so infected. L19. 4a *Psychol. & Sociol.* The separation of a person or thing from the normal (social) environment or context, either deliberately for study, or as a result of some

inherent tendency. L19. b *Psychoanalysis.* A defence mechanism whereby a particular wish or thought loses emotional significance by being isolated from its normal context. E20. 5 *Biol.* The limitation or prevention of interbreeding between groups of plants or animals by some isolating mechanism, leading to the development of new species or varieties. E20.

1 in **isolation** considered singly and not relative to something else. SPLENDID *isolation*.

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isolator /AISə'leɪtə/ n. M19. [f. ISOLATE v. + -OR.] A person who or thing which isolates something or someone; a contrivance for isolating something; an insulator.

isoleucine /AISə(ʊ)'luːsɪn/ n. E20. [f. ISO- + LEUCINE.] *Biochem.* A hydrophobic amino acid, $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CH}(\text{CH}_3)\text{CH}(\text{NH}_2)\text{COOH}$, which occurs in proteins and is essential in the human diet; 2-amino-3-methylpentanoic acid.

isolog n. see ISOLOGUE.

isologous /AISə'lɒgəs/ a. M19. [f. ISO- + Gk *logos* relation, ratio (see LOGOS) + -OUS, after *homologous*.] 1 *Chem.* Of two or more (series of) compounds: having comparable or related molecular structures; now usu. *spec.*, (of compounds) having identical molecular structure but different atoms of the same valency at some position(s) in the molecule. Cf. HOMOLOGOUS a. 4. M19. 2 *Med. & Biol.* Genetically identical, esp. as regards immunological factors; involving such individuals. M20.

isologue /AISə(ʊ)'lɒg/ n. Also *-log. L19. [f. ISO- + -LOGUE.] *Chem.* Each of two or more isologous compounds.

isomer /AISə'mɛrə/ n. M19. [f. Gk *isomerēs* sharing equally, f. as ISO- + *meros* part, share.] 1 *Chem.* A substance isomeric with another; any of a number of isomeric compounds or forms of a compound. M19. 2 *Physics.* Each of two or more nuclei having the same atomic number and mass number but different radioactive properties, as a result of being in different energy states; esp. a nucleus in a metastable excited state rather than the ground state. Also *nuclear isomer*. M20.

1 *geometrical isomer, optical isomer, structural isomer, etc.*

isomerase /AISə'dɒmɛrɪz/ n. M20. [f. prec. + -ASE.] *Biochem.* Any of various enzymes which bring about an isomerization reaction.

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¶ In sense 1, formerly extended to include compounds in which the number of atoms in one is a multiple of those in the other, or restricted to those with similar functional groups and hence similar properties.

isomerically *adv.* as regards isomers; by isomerization: L19.

isomeride /AISə'dɒmɛraɪd/ n. *rare*. M19. [f. as ISOMER + -IDE.] *Chem.* = ISOMER 1.

isomerise v. var. of ISOMERIZE.

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isomerization n. (*Chem.*) the conversion of a compound into an isomer of itself. L19.

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For other words beginning with *iso-* see the entry for **iso-**