

McGraw-Hill DICTIONARY OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TERMS

Fourth Edition

Sybil P. Parker

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On the cover: Pattern produced from white light by a computer-generated diffraction plate containing 529 square apertures arranged in a 23 × 23 array. (R. B. Hoover, Marshall Space Flight Center)

On the title pages: Aerial photograph of the Sinai Peninsula made by Gemini spacecraft. (NASA)

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**McGRAW-HILL DICTIONARY OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TERMS,
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I. Parker, Sybil P.

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contact pressure [ELEC] The amount of pressure holding a set of contacts together. { 'kän,takt ,presh-ər }

contact-pressure resin See contact resin. { 'kän,takt ,presh-ər ,rez-ən }

contact print [GRAPHICS] A photographic image produced by the exposure of a sensitized emulsion in direct contact with a negative or positive transparency. { 'kän,takt ,print }

contact printer [GRAPHICS] **1.** A device which provides a light source and a means for holding the negative and the sensitive material in contact during exposure. **2.** A specialized device for exposing diapositive plates at the same scale as that of the negative. { 'kän,takt ,print-ər }

contact process [CHEM ENG] Catalytic manufacture of sulfuric acid from sulfur dioxide and oxygen. { 'kän,takt ,prä-səs }

contact protection [ELEC] Any method for suppressing the surge which results when an inductive circuit is suddenly interrupted; the break would otherwise produce arcing at the contacts, leading to their deterioration. { 'kän,takt ,prə'tek-shən }

contact ratio [DES ENG] The ratio of the length of the path of contact of two gears to the base pitch, equal to approximately the average number of pairs of teeth in contact. Also known as contact gear ratio. { 'kän,takt ,rä-shō }

contact rectifier See metallic rectifier. { 'kän,takt 'rek-tə ,fī-ər }

contact resin [MATER] A liquid resin which thickens or polymerizes on heating and, when used for bonding laminates, requires little or no pressure for adherence. Also known as contact-pressure resin. { 'kän,takt ,rez-ən }

contact resistance [ELEC] The resistance in ohms between the contacts of a relay, switch, or other device when the contacts are touching each other. { 'kän,takt ri'zist-əns }

contact screen [GRAPHICS] A photographically made halftone screen on film having a dot structure of graded density, specifically designed for making halftone negatives and positives for photomechanical reproduction; the screen is placed in direct contact with the film or plate to obtain a halftone pattern from a continuous original. { 'kän,takt ,skrēn }

contact sensor [ENG] A device that senses mechanical contact and gives out signals when it does so. { 'kän,takt 'sens-ər }

contact sparking [ELEC] The formation of a spark or arc at the contact points when a circuit is opened while it is carrying a current. { 'kän,takt ,spärk-ɪŋ }

contact thermography [ENG] A method of measuring surface temperature in which a thin layer of luminescent material is spread on the surface of an object and is excited by ultraviolet radiation in a darkened room; the brightness of the coating indicates the surface temperature. { 'kän,takt thər'mäg-rə'fē }

contact time [ENG] The length of time a substance is held in direct contact with a treating agent. { 'kän,takt ,tīm }

contact transformation See canonical transformation. { 'kän,takt ,tranz'fər'mā-shən }

contact tube [MET] A device which provides electric current to a continuous electrode in a welding process. { 'kän,takt ,tüb }

contact twin [CRYSTAL] Twinned crystals whose members are symmetrically arranged about a twin plane. { 'kän,takt ,twin }

contact vein [GEOL] **1.** A variety of fissure vein formed by deposition of minerals in a fault fissure at a rock contact. **2.** A replacement vein formed by mineralized solutions percolating along the more permeable surface areas of the contact. { 'kän,takt ,vān }

contact zone See aureole. { 'kän,takt ,zōn }

contagion [MED] **1.** The process whereby disease spreads from one person to another, by direct or indirect contact. **2.** The bacterium or virus which transmits disease. { kən'tā-jən }

contagious abortion [VET MED] Brucellosis in cattle caused by *Brucella abortus* and inducing abortion. Also known as Bang's disease; infectious abortion. { kən'tā-jəs ə'bōr-shən }

contagious disease [MED] An infectious disease communicable by contact with one suffering from it, with his bodily discharge, or with an object touched by him. { kən'tā-jəs di'zēz }

contagious distribution [STAT] A probability distribution which is dependent on a parameter that itself has a probability distribution. { kən'tā-jəs dis-trə'byū-shən }

CONTAINER SHIP



Inboard profile of a container ship.

contagious polyarthrititis [VET MED] An infectious bacterial disease of mice caused by members of the genus *Bacteroides*; characterized by inflammation and abscess formation in the joints. { kən'tā-jəs 'päl'e-är'thrid-əs }

contagious pustular dermatitis [VET MED] An infectious disease of sheep and goats characterized by vesicles on the skin which are transformed into pustules. { kən'tā-jəs 'pəs-chə-lər ,dər-mə'tid-əs }

container [IND ENG] A portable compartment of standard, uniform size, used to hold cargo for air, sea, or ground transport. { kən'tā-nər }

container car [ENG] A railroad car designed specifically to hold containers. { kən'tā-nər ,kär }

containerization [IND ENG] The practice of placing cargo in large containers such as truck trailers to facilitate loading on and off ships and railroad flat cars. { kən,tā-nə-rə'zā-shən }

container ship [NAV ARCH] A cargo ship which carries its cargo in weatherproof boxes (usually metal) of standard size, called containers, which need not be opened and are rapidly loaded or unloaded from the ship. { kən'tā-nər ,ship }

containment [NUCLEO] **1.** Provision of a gastight enclosure around the highly radioactive components of a nuclear power plant, to contain the radioactivity released by a possible major accident. **2.** The use of remote-control devices (slave apparatus) to remove spent cores from nuclear power plants or, in shielded laboratory hoods, to perform chemical studies of dangerous radioactive materials. { kən'tān-mənt }

containment building [NUCLEO] A steel-reinforced concrete dome built over a nuclear reactor to trap radioactive vapors that might otherwise be released into the environment during a nuclear accident. { kən'tān-mənt ,bil'diŋ }

containment vessel [NUCLEO] A gas-tight shell or other enclosure around a reactor. { kən'tān-mənt ,ves-əl }

contaminate [SCI TECH] To render unfit or to soil by the introduction of foreign or unwanted material. { kən'tam ə,nāt }

contamination [COMPUT SCI] Placement of data at incorrect locations in storage, where it generally overlays valid information or a program code and produces bizarre results. [GEOL] A process in which the chemical composition of a magma changes due to the assimilation of country rocks. [HYD] The addition to water of any substance or property that prevents its use without further treatment. [MICROBIO] The process or act of soiling with bacteria. [NUCLEO] The deposit of radioactive materials, such as fission fragments or radiological warfare agents, on any objective or surface or in the atmosphere. [PSYCH] The fusion of words, resulting in a new word. [SCI TECH] Something that contaminates. { kən,tam-ə'nār-shən }

contamination monitor [NUCLEO] A radiation counter used to detect radioactive contamination of surface areas or of the atmosphere. { kən,tam-ə'nār-shən ,mān-əd-ər }

contemporaneous [GEOL] **1.** Formed, existing, or originating at the same time. **2.** Of a rock, developing during formation of the enclosing rock. { kən,təm-pə'rā-nē-əs }

contemporary carbon [CHEM] The isotopic carbon content of living matter, based on the assumption of a natural proportion of carbon-14. { kən'təm-pə,rer-ē 'kär-bən }

content-addressed storage See associative memory. { 'kän,tent-ədrest 'stōr-ɪŋ }

content analysis [COMPUT SCI] A method of automatically assigning words that identify the content of information items or search requests in an information retrieval system. { 'kän,tent ə'nal-əs-əs }

content indicator [COMPUT SCI] Display unit that indicates the content in a computer, and the program or mode being used. { 'kän,tent ,in-də,kād-ər }

contention [COMMUN] A method of operating a multiterminal communication channel in which any station may transmit if the channel is free; if the channel is in use, the queue of contention requests may be maintained in predetermined sequence. [COMPUT SCI] **1.** The condition arising when two or more units attempt to transmit over a time-division-multiplex channel at the same time. **2.** Competition for the same computer resources by two or more devices or programs, such as an attempt by several programs to use the same disk drive simultaneously, or by several users in a multiaccess system to use the system's resources. { kən'ten-shən }

contention resolver [COMPUT SCI] A device that enables a central processing unit, memory, or channel whose attention is

dry cell [ELEC] A voltage-generating cell having an immobilized electrolyte. { 'drī ,sel }

dry cap light [MIN ENG] A headlamp with a focusing lens, lamp and a dry-cell battery unit clipped to the belt; to prevent explosion in a mine, the bulb is ejected automatically in case of its breakage. { 'drī ,sel 'kap ,līt }

dry charged battery [ELEC] A storage battery in which the electrolyte is drained from the battery for storage, and which is recharged with electrolyte and charged for a few minutes to be ready for use. { 'drī ,chärjd 'bad-ə-rē }

dry chemical fire extinguisher [CHEM ENG] A dry powder, consisting principally of sodium bicarbonate, which is used for extinguishing small fires, especially electrical fires. { 'drī 'kem-ikəl 'fīr ,stɪŋ'gwə-shər }

dry circuit [ELEC] A relay circuit in which open-circuit voltages are very low and closed-circuit currents extremely small, so that there is no arcing to roughen the contacts. { 'drī 'sər-kət }

dry cleaned coal [MIN ENG] Coal that has been mechanically separated from impurities without the use of liquids. { 'drī 'klēnd 'kōl }

dry cleaning [ENG] To utilize dry-cleaning fluid to remove stains from textile. { 'drī 'klēn-ɪŋ }

dry cleaning fluid [MATER] An organic solvent such as a mixture of hydrocarbons or petroleum naphtha with narrow, carefully selected boiling points; used in dry cleaning. { 'drī 'klēn-ɪŋ 'fljuəd }

dry climate [CLIMATOL] **1.** In W. Köppen's climatic classification, the major category which includes steppe climate and desert climate, defined strictly by the amount of annual precipitation as a function of seasonal distribution and of annual temperature. **2.** In C. W. Thornwaite's climatic classification, a climate type in which the seasonal water surplus does not exceed seasonal water deficiency, and having a moisture index of less than zero; included are the dry subhumid, semiarid, and arid climates. { 'drī 'klīm-ət }

dry coloring [CHEM ENG] A plastics coloring method in which uncolored particles of the plastic material are tumbled with selected dyes and pigments. [ENG] A method of coloring plastics by tumbleblending colorless plastic particles with dyes and pigments. [MATER] A powdered form of colorant. { 'drī ,kəl-ər-ɪŋ }

dry contact [ELEC] A contact that does not break or make under load. { 'drī 'kən,tækt }

dry cooling tower [MECH ENG] A structure in which water is cooled by circulation through finned tubes, transferring heat to air passing over the fins; there is no loss of water by evaporation because the air does not directly contact the water. { 'drī 'kūl-ɪŋ 'təwə }
{ 'drī 'kūl-ɪŋ 'təwə }

dry corrosion [MET] Destruction of a metal or alloy by chemical processes resulting from attack by gases in the atmosphere above the dew point. { 'drī kə'rō-zhən }

dry course [BUILD] An initial roofing course of felt or paper laid out in tar or asphalt. { 'drī ,kōrs }

dry criticality [NUCLEO] Reactor criticality achieved without moderator. { 'drī ,krɪt-ə'kal-əd-ē }

dry delta See alluvial fan. { 'drī 'del-tə }

dry desiccant dehydration [CHEM ENG] Use of silica gel or other solid absorbent to remove liquids from gases, such as water vapor from air, or liquid hydrocarbons from natural gas. { 'drī 'des-ɪ-kənt ,dehɪ'drā-shən }

dry disk rectifier See metallic rectifier. { 'drī ,disk 'rek-tə ,raɪ-fer }

dry distillation [CHEM] Distillation of materials that are dry. { 'drī 'dɪ-stɪ-l-ə-ʃən }

dry dock [CIV ENG] A dock providing support for a vessel and a means for removing the water so that the bottom of the vessel can be exposed. { 'drī ,dɒk }

dry caisson [CIV ENG] The floating gate to a dry dock, also known as caisson. { 'drī ,dɒk 'kɑ,sən }

dry ice See valley iceberg. { 'drī ,dɒk 'ɪs ,bɜrg }

dry drilling [MIN ENG] Drilling in which chippings and cuttings are lifted out of a borehole by a current of air or gas. { 'drī 'drɪl-ɪŋ }

dry electrolytic capacitor [ELEC] An electrolytic capacitor in which the electrolyte is a paste rather than a liquid; the electrolyte is a thin film of gas formed on one of the plates by electrochemical action. { 'drī i'lek-trə'lid-ɪk kə'pas-əd-ər }

dry forest See polar firn. { 'drī 'fɜrn }

surrounding a clean dry insulator or shell completely breaks down between electrodes. { 'drī 'flæʃ ,ɒ-vər ,vɔl-tɪj }

dry fog [METEOROL] A fog that does not moisten exposed surfaces. { 'drī 'fæg }

dry freeze [HYD] The freezing of the soil and terrestrial objects caused by a reduction of temperature when the adjacent air does not contain sufficient moisture for the formation of hoarfrost on exposed surfaces. { 'drī 'frēz }

dry friction [MECH] Resistance between two dry solid surfaces, that is, surfaces free from contaminating films or fluids. { 'drī 'frɪk-shən }

dry-fuel rocket [AERO ENG] A rocket that uses a mixture of rapidly burning powders; used especially as a booster rocket. { 'drī 'fyūl 'ræk-ət }

dry gangrene [MED] Local death of a part caused by arterial obstruction without associated venous obstruction or infection. { 'drī 'gæŋ ,grēn }

dry gas [MATER] A gas that does not contain fractions which may easily condense under normal atmospheric conditions, for example, natural gas with methane and ethane. { 'drī 'gæs }

dry grinding [ENG] Reducing particle sizes without a liquid medium. { 'drī 'grɪnd-ɪŋ }

dry haze [METEOROL] Fine dust or salt particles in the air, too small to be individually apparent but in sufficient number to reduce horizontal visibility, and to give the atmosphere a characteristic hazy appearance. { 'drī 'hāz }

dry hole [ENG] A hole driven without the use of water. [PETRO ENG] A well in which no oil or gas is found. { 'drī 'hɔl }

dry-hot-rock geothermal system [GEOL] A water-deficient hydrothermal reservoir dominated by the presence of rocks at depths in which large quantities of heat are stored. { 'drī 'hæt ,ræk ,dʒ-ə'thɜr-məl 'sɪs-təm }

dry ice [INORG CHEM] Carbon dioxide in the solid form, usually made in blocks to be used as a coolant; changes directly to a gas at -78.5°C as heat is absorbed. { 'drī 'ɪs }

drying [CHEM] **1.** An operation in which a liquid, usually water, is removed from a wet solid in equipment termed a dryer. **2.** A process of oxidation whereby a liquid such as linseed oil changes into a solid film. { 'drɪ-ɪŋ }

drying agent [CHEM] Soluble or insoluble chemical substance that has such a great affinity for water that it will abstract water from a great many fluid materials; soluble chemicals are calcium chloride and glycerol, and insoluble chemicals are bauxite and silica gel. Also known as desiccant. { 'drɪ-ɪŋ ,æ-jənt }

drying oil [MATER] Relatively highly unsaturated oil, such as cottonseed, soybean, and linseed oil, that is easily oxidized and polymerized to form a hard, dry film on exposure to air; used in paints and varnish. { 'drɪ-ɪŋ ,oɪl }

drying oven [ENG] A closed chamber for drying an object by heating at relatively low temperatures. { 'drɪ-ɪŋ ,əv-ən }

Dryinidae [INV ZOO] A family of hymenopteran insects in the superfamily Bethyloidea. { 'drɪ-ɪn-ə-deɪ }

dry ink [MATER] A finely powdered mixture of resin and pigment that is deposited to form an image in electrophotography. { 'drɪ 'ɪŋk }

dry kiln [ENG] A heated room or chamber used to dry and season cut lumber. { 'drɪ 'kɪl }

dry limestone process [CHEM ENG] An air-pollution control method in which sulfur oxides are exposed to limestone to convert them to disposable residues. { 'drɪ 'lɪm ,stɒn ,præs-əs }

dry measure [MECH] A measure of volume for commodities that are dry. { 'drɪ 'mezʃ-ər }

dry mill [FOOD ENG] A machine for processing corn consisting of a horizontal, revolving conical drum covered with metal projections, in a housing also studded with metal projections and having small perforations through which pass fine particles of hull and germ. [MECH ENG] Grinding device used to powder or pulverize solid materials without an associated liquid. { 'drɪ 'mɪl }

dry mining [MIN ENG] Mining operation in which there is no moisture in the ventilating air. { 'drɪ 'mɪn-ɪŋ }

dry mounting [GRAPHICS] A method for mounting photographs and other paper materials on cardboard without paste or rubber cement; a light, thin tissue (mounting tissue) is placed over the photograph and heat is applied with slight pressure so that the photo will adhere to the cardboard. { 'drɪ ,maʊnt-ɪŋ }

fuchsite [MINERAL] A bright-green variety of muscovite rich in chromium. { 'fyük,sit }

fucoid [GEOLOG] A tunnelike marking on a sedimentary structure identified as a trace fossil but not referred to a described genus. { 'fyü,köid }

fucoidin [BIOCHEM] A gum composed of L-fucose and sulfate acid ester groups obtained from *Fucus* species and other brown algae. { 'fyü'köid-ən }

Fucophyceae [BOT] A class of brown algae. { 'fyü'kə'fis-ə,ē }

fucopyranose See L-fucose. { 'el,fyü'kə'pirə,nös }

fucose [BIOCHEM] $C_6H_{12}O_5$ A methyl pentose present in some algae and a number of gums and identified in the polysaccharides of blood groups and certain bacteria. Also known as 6-deoxy-L-galactose; L-fucopyranose; L-galactomethyllose; L-rhodoese. { 'el'fyü,kös }

fucoxanthin [BIOCHEM] $C_{40}H_{60}O_6$ A carotenoid pigment; a partial xanthophyll ester found in diatoms and brown algae. { 'fyü'kō'zan'thən }

Fucus [BOT] A genus of dichotomously branched brown algae; it is harvested in the kelp industry as a source of algin. { 'fyü-kəs }

FUDR See floxuridine.

fuel [MATER] A material that is burnt to release heat energy, for example, coal, oil, or uranium. { 'fyül }

fuel assembly [NUCLEO] A combination of fuel and structural materials, used in some nuclear reactors to facilitate assembly of the core. { 'fyül ə'semb-lē }

fuel bed [MECH ENG] A layer of burning fuel, as on a furnace grate or a cupola. { 'fyül ,bēd }

fuel cell [ELEC] A cell that converts chemical energy directly into electric energy, with electric power being produced as a part of a chemical reaction between the electrolyte and a fuel such as kerosene or industrial fuel gas. { 'fyül ,sel }

fuel-cell catalyst [CHEM] A substance, such as platinum, silver, or nickel, from which the electrodes of a fuel cell are made, and which speeds the reaction of the cell; it is especially important in a fuel cell which does not operate at high temperatures. { 'fyül ,sel 'kad-ə,liš }

fuel-cell electrolyte [CHEM] The substance which conducts electricity between the electrodes of a fuel cell. { 'fyül ,sel 'lek-trə,lit }

fuel-cell fuel [CHEM] A substance, such as hydrogen, carbon monoxide, sodium, alcohol, or a hydrocarbon, which reacts with oxygen to generate energy in a fuel cell. { 'fyül ,sel 'fyül }

fuel cycle See reactor fuel cycle. { 'fyül ,sī-kəl }

fuel decanner [NUCLEO] A machine used for removing the stainless steel or other metal cans that enclose the enriched uranium fuel rods of a nuclear reactor; the cans are removed by a chipless machining operation in which the tubing is sheared into a spiral strip. { 'fyül də,kən-ər }

fuel element [NUCLEO] A rod, tube, plate, or other geometrical form into which nuclear fuel is fabricated for use in a reactor. { 'fyül ,el-ə-mənt }

fuel filter [ENG] A device, as in an internal combustion engine, that removes particles from the fuel. { 'fyül ,fil-tər }

fuel gas [MATER] A gaseous fuel used to provide heat energy when burned with oxygen. { 'fyül ,gäs }

fuel injection [MECH ENG] The delivery of fuel to an internal combustion engine cylinder by pressure from a mechanical pump. { 'fyül in,jek'shən }

fuel injector [MECH ENG] A pump mechanism that sprays fuel into the cylinder of an internal combustion engine at the appropriate part of the cycle. { 'fyül in,jek-tər }

fuel oil [MATER] A liquid product burned to generate heat, exclusive of oils with a flash point below 100°F (38°C); includes heating oils, stove oils, furnace oils, bunker fuel oils. { 'fyül ,oil }

fuel pellet [NUCLEO] A small pellet of frozen deuterium and tritium that would be used as fuel in a laser-induced fusion power plant. { 'fyül ,pel-ət }

fuel plate [NUCLEO] A form of nuclear fuel element consisting of a flat or slightly curved sheet of fuel, which is usually a sandwich of uranium fuel protected by metallic cladding. { 'fyül ,plät }

fuel pump [MECH ENG] A pump for drawing fuel from a storage tank and delivering it to an engine or furnace. { 'fyül

fuel reprocessing [NUCLEO] The processing of nuclear reactor fuel to recover the unused fissionable material. { 'fyül rē'präs-es'ɪŋ }

fuel rod [NUCLEO] A long, rod-shaped fuel assembly. { 'fyül ,räd }

fuel shutoff [AERO ENG] 1. The action of shutting off the flow of liquid fuel into a combustion chamber or of stopping the combustion of a solid fuel. 2. The event or time marking this action. { 'fyül ,shəd,ōf }

fuel structure ratio See fuel-weight ratio. { 'fyül ,strək-chər ,rā-shō }

fuel system [MECH ENG] A system which stores fuel for present use and delivers it as needed. { 'fyül ,sīs-təm }

fuel tank [MECH ENG] The operating, fuel-storage component of a fuel system. { 'fyül ,tæŋk }

fuel-weight ratio [AERO ENG] The ratio of the weight of a rocket's fuel to the weight of the un fueled rocket. Also known as fuel structure ratio. { 'fyül 'wät ,rā-shō }

fugacious [BOT] Lasting a short time; used principally to describe plant parts that fall soon after being formed. { 'fyü'gä-shəs }

fugacity [THERMO] A function used as an analog of the partial pressure in applying thermodynamics to real systems; at a constant temperature it is proportional to the exponential of the ratio of the chemical potential of a constituent of a system divided by the product of the gas constant and the temperature, and it approaches the partial pressure as the total pressure of the gas approaches zero. { 'fyü'gäs-əd-ē }

fugitive air [MIN ENG] Air which moves through the ventilation fan but never reaches the mine workings. { 'fyü'jəd-iv 'er }

fugitive dye [CHEM] A dye that is unstable, that is, not fast; used in the textile processing for purposes of identity. { 'fyü'jəd-iv 'di }

fugue [PSYCH] A flight from reality, as in hysteria, during which an individual performs acts which later are not recollected. { 'fyüg }

fulchronograph [ENG] An instrument for recording lightning strokes, consisting of a rotating aluminum disk with several hundred steel fins on its rim; the fins are magnetized if they pass between two coils when these are carrying the surge current of a lightning stroke. { 'fül'krän-ə,graf }

fulcrate [BIOL] Having a fulcrum. { 'fül,krät }

fulcrate trophus [INV ZOO] A type of masticatory apparatus in certain rotifers characterized by an elongate fulcrum. { 'fül,krät 'trō-fəs }

fulcrum [MECH] The rigid point of support about which a lever pivots. { 'fül-krəm }

Fuld-Gross unit [BIOL] A unit for the standardization of trypsin. { 'fүld'grös ,yü-nət }

Fulgoroidea [INV ZOO] The lantern flies, a superfamily of homopteran insects in the series Auchenorrhyncha distinguished by the anterior and middle coxae being of equal length and joined to the body at some distance from the median line. { ,fүl'gə'röid-ē-ə }

fulgurator [ENG] An atomizer used to spray salt solutions into a flame for analysis. { 'fүl'gə,räd-ər }

fulgurite [GEOLOG] A glassy, rootlike tube formed when a lightning stroke terminates in dry sandy soil; the intense heating of the current passing down into the soil along an irregular path fuses the sand. { 'fүl'gə,rīt }

full adder [ELECTR] A logic element which operates on two binary digits and a carry digit from a preceding stage, producing as output a sum digit and a new carry digit. Also known as three-input adder. { 'fүl 'ad-ər }

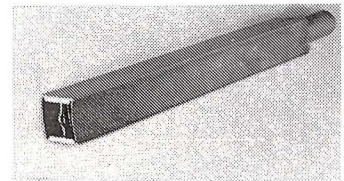
full annealing [MET] Heating steel to a high temperature and then cooling to ambient or near-ambient temperatures. { 'fүl ə'nē-lɪŋ }

full automatic [ORD] A weapon that provides continuous fire as long as the trigger is depressed; used to distinguish from semiautomatic. { 'fүl 'öd-ə'mad-ik }

full automatic plating [MET] Electroplating a piece of work that is carried through the full cycle automatically. { 'fүl ,öd-ə,mad-ik 'pläd-ɪŋ }

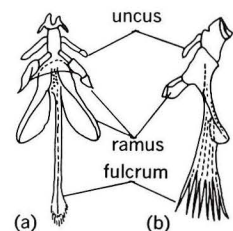
full-cell process [ENG] A process of preservative treatment of wood that uses a pressure vessel and first draws a vacuum on the charge of wood and then introduces the preservative without breaking the vacuum. Also known as Bathell process.

FUEL ELEMENT



A plate-type fuel element. (From Robert Laws, *Salon of Photography*)

FULCRATE TROPHUS



Fulcrate trophus of *Seison*. (a) Dorsal view. (b) Lateral view. (After de Beauchamp)

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