A ampere (also amp; unit of electrical current)
Å Angstrom (unit of length = 10^-10 m)
a* color reflectance component (no unit)
a’a a lava
AABW Antarctic Bottom Water
AAD Australian-Antarctic discordance
AAG Australo-Antarctic Gulf
AAIW Antarctic Intermediate Water
ABI acoustic borehole image [logging]
ablation (use “laser ablation”)
ABM assigned board member (of the ERB) [publications]
aboard [but “on board”]
ABS American Bureau of Shipping [logistics]
abyssal
AC alternating current (n., adj.)
ACC Antarctic Circumpolar Current
accretion
ACEX Arctic Coring Expedition [IODP Exp 302]
acicular
acidification
acid-insoluble (adj.)
acidity (use “pH”)
acknowledgments
acme zone
ACORK advanced circulation obviation retrofit kit
acoustic impedance (n., adj.)
AD Antarctic Divergence [science]
A/D analog-to-digital
ADCB advanced diamond core barrel [drilling]
adcumulate
admixture
ADN Azimuthal Density Neutron [logging]
adnVISION [logging]
adsorption
advection
aeolian (use eolian)
AES atomic emission spectroscopy [science, chemistry]
AF alternating field (n., adj.) [science, paleomagnetism]
aff. related to [Latin *affinis*] [science, biostratigraphy]
affine
AGI American Geophysical Institute
agglomerate
agglutinated
aggradation; aggradational
AGU American Geophysical Union
AHC active heave compensator [drilling] (IODP use “WHC”)
air fall (n., adj.)
air gun (n., adj.)
Albian (Alb.)
albitization
alkalinity
alkanes
alkenones
allanite
allochthonous
ALN alien corer [drilling; ESO]
alongshore (adj.)
along-slope (n., adj.)
aluminium (use “aluminum”) 
aluminosilicates
amagmatic
ammonium (NH₄; not “ammonia”)
AMO anaerobic methane oxidation
amphibolitization
AMS (1) anisotropy of magnetic susceptibility [science, paleomagnetism]; (2) accelerator mass spectrometry/spectroscopy [science, radiocarbon dating]
AMST archive multisensor track (ODP; replaced by “SHMSL” in IODP)
AMU atomic mass unit; also “amu”
amygdale (not “amygdale”)
amygdaloidal
analcite (use “analcime”)
analog
anastomosing
AND azimuthal neutron density [logging]
ANDRILL Antarctic Geological Drilling
anion
Anomaly M0 (and others; capitalize “Anomaly” with a number)
ANSI American National Standards Institute
Antarctic Convergence
Antarctic Divergence
Antarctic Water Mass
anthracene
ANZIC Australia-New Zealand IODP Consortium
AO acridine orange [science, microbiology]
AODC acridine orange direct count method [science, microbiology]
AOM anaerobic oxidation of methane
APC advanced piston corer [drilling]
APCT-3 advanced piston corer temperature tool [drilling]
aphanitic
aphyric
API American Petroleum Institute
API units natural gamma ray units; also “gAPI” [logging]
APL Ancillary Project Letter
APLC near-array porosity [logging]
apophyses
APP Annual Program Plan [publications]
apparent polar wandering
appendixes (not “appendices”)
APS Accelerator Porosity Sonde (also “IPLT sonde”) [logging]
Aptian (Apt.)
APWD annular pressure while drilling [drilling]
APWP apparent polar wander path [science, paleomagnetism]
aq aqueous
Aquitanian (Aquit.)
Archaeabacteria (use “Archaea”)
ARC Australian Research Council
Archie’s law [formation factor]
ARI Azimuthal Resistivity Imager [logging]
ARM anhysteretic remanent magnetization [science, paleomagnetism]
ash fall (n., adj.)
ASGR ANTARES Spectral Natural Gamma Probe [logging]
ASK automatic stationkeeping [ship]
ASR anelastic strain recovery
ASTM American Society for Testing and Materials
ATP adenosine triphosphate [science, microbiology]
authigenic
auto- (generally closed up as a prefix)
autobrecciated
autochthonous
AUV autonomous underwater vehicle
AVS automated vane shear [science, physical properties]
-B-

b barn (unit of area = 10^{-28} m^2)
b* color reflectance component (no unit)
b.y. billion years
b/e^- (unit of photoelectric effect) [logging]
back arc (n.) back-arc (adj.) (not backarc) [GOG5, AGI Thesaurus]
back off (n., adj.) [drilling]
backfill
backflow
backpressure
backscatter
backstreaming [drilling]
backtitrated
backup (n., adj.)
back up [v.]
band-pass (adj.; not used as a noun)
bandwidth (n., adj.)
barrel sheet (n., adj.) (preferred term is “VCD” or standard graphic report)
Barremian (Barrem.)
Barriasian (Berrias.)
Bartonian (Bart.)
baseline
basinward
basinwide
bathyal
bbl 42-gallon barrel (US) [logging]
BCR (1) Bremen Core Repository, (2) bicenter reamer [drilling]
beadmaker
bedform
bedrock
bedset
belemnite
Benioff zone
benthic (not "benthonic"; adj., not used as noun)
benthic taxa (n.; not “benthic”)
bequerel (Bq) (SI unit of activity)
BGS British Geological Survey
BHA bottom-hole assembly [drilling]
bifurcation
bigradational
bio- (generally closed up as a prefix)
biochron
biochronology
biochronozone
bioevent
biogenic (not “biogenous”)
biosiliceous (adj.)
biozone
birefringence
bit [drilling]
bit sub [drilling]
BOH bottom of hole
bolboformids
Bølling-Allerød
bootstrapping
BOP blowout preventer [riser drilling]
borehole
BOSS BioOsmoSampler System
botryoidal
bottom water (n., adj.)
bowspring (n., adj.) [logging]
BP before present
breakout
brf below rig floor (as in mbrf, meters below rig floor) [drilling]
BRG Borehole Research Group, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory
Brunhes Chron
BSE backscattered electron [SEM imaging]
BSEM backscattering electron microscope [SEM imaging]
bsf below seafloor (as in mbsf, meters below seafloor) [science]
bsl below sea level (as in mbsl, meters below sea level) [science]
BSR bottom-simulating reflector/reflection [science]
bbuildup (n.)
bulk density (n., adj.)
bulkhead [ship]
bulk-rock (adj.)
bullnose [drilling]
Bullseye vent
bumper sub [drilling]
Burdigalian (Burd.)
by- (generally closed up as a prefix)
bypass
byproduct
-C-

C (1) degrees Celsius (unit of temperature = degrees Centigrade); (2) coulomb (unit of electrical charge)
c/s counts per second (NGR unit; use “counts/s”) 
C\textsubscript{1}/C\textsubscript{2} methane/ethane ratio [science, chemistry] 
C\textsubscript{6+} hexane and higher hydrocarbons [science, chemistry] 
ca. circa (only used with age or time; IODP prefers “~” in all cases) 
CAB Curatorial Advisory Board 
cablehead [logging] 
CAE carbon accumulation event 
cal calorie (unit of energy) 
Calabrian (Cal.) 
calc-alkaline (adj.) 
calcareous (adj.) 
Campanian (Camp.) 
Carbonaceous (time period) carbonaceous (adj.) 
CARD-FISH catalyzed reporter deposition–fluorescence in situ hybridization [microbiology] 
casing [drilling] 
CASSI Chemical Abstracts Service Source Index 
cataclasis 
cataclasite 
cataelastic 
cathode 
cation 
catwalk [ship] 
CAVA Central American volcanic arc 
cave-in (n.) 
CB center bit [drilling] 
CC core catcher (n., adj.) [drilling] 
CCD (1) carbonate compensation depth/calcite compensation depth [science]; (2) charge-coupled device [imaging] 
CCSF core composite depth below seafloor 
C-DEBI Center for Dark Energy Biosphere Investigations 
CDEX Center for Deep Earth Exploration (obsolete; see MarE3) 
CDN Compensated Density Neutron tool [logging] 
cDNA copy deoxyribonucleic acid [science, microbiology] 
CDP (1) common depth point, (2) complex drilling project
CDR Compensated Dual Resistivity [logging]
CDT Canyon Diablo troilite [science, isotopes]
CDW Circumpolar Deep Water
celestine (not “celestite”)
celestite (use “celestine”)
Cello-Flake [drilling]
Cenomanian (Cenom.)
cenote
Cenozoic (Ceno.)
central equatorial Pacific
cf. compare (Latin confer; no comma follows) [biostratigraphy]
CFU colony-forming unit; also “cfu” [science, microbiology]
CGR computed gamma ray [logging]
cgs centimeter-gram-second (magnetic susceptibility units; not generally used in IODP)
chadacryst
channel-levee (n., adj.)
Chattian (Chatt.)
check shot (n., adj.) [seismic]
chemo- (generally closed up as a prefix)
Chikyu
CHIRP compressed high-intensity radar pulse
CHNS carbon-hydrogen-nitrogen-sulfur analyzer; also “flash elemental analyzer”
[science, chemistry]
Chondrites
ChRM characteristic remanent magnetization [science, paleomagnetism]
chromatography
chron
chronostratigraphy
chronozone
Cl (1) crystallization index; (2) contour interval
Ci curie (unit of radiation)
CIE carbon isotope excursion
CIPW norm Cross, Iddings, Pirsson, and Washington; normative system for reporting XRD data
circulating head [drilling]
clastic
clathrate [gas hydrate]
claystone
CLDC control length drill collar [drilling]
clinoform
close-up (n., adj.)
cm centimeter
cm$^3$ (not “cc”)
CMC crown-mounted heave compensator [CDEX]
cmcd corrected meters composite depth
CMP common midpoint [seismic]
CMS Content Management System
CNS Cocos-Nazca spreading center
coarsening-downward (adj.)
coarsening-upward (adj.)
Cobb Mountain Subchron
coccolithophore
Cochiti Subchron
coefficacy
cold seep (n.) cold-seep (adj.)
cold water (n.) cold-water (adj.)
compressional wave (n., adj.); also $P$-wave velocity; seismic wave
conchoidal
Coniacian (Coniac.)
contact probe (n., adj.)
coralgal
core barrel [drilling]
core bit [drilling]
core liner [drilling]
core scale (n., adj.)
C$_{\text{org}}$ organic carbon [science]
coring [drilling]
coring line [drilling]
coring system [drilling]
coring winch [drilling]
CORK subsea observatory (do not need to define: circulation obviation retrofit kit)
CORK-Lite
counter- (generally closed up as a prefix)
coverslip
CPI carbon preference index [science, chemistry]
CPO crystallographic preferred orientation
cps counts per second (NGR unit; use “counts/s”) [science]
Cretaceous (Cret.)
Cretaceous Normal Superchron
CRISP Costa Rica Seismogenesis Project
CRM chemical remanent magnetization [science, paleomagnetism]
crossbanding
crossbar (n.)
crossbeam
cross-bedding
cross-check
cross correlation (n.) crosscorrelation (adj.)
crosscut (n., adj.)
crosscutting (verb, adj.)
cross dip
crossed nicols
crossed polars (use “crossed nicols”)
cross-grained
cross-hatch
cross-hatching
crosshole
cross-index
cross-laminae (n.) (“cross-lamination” preferred)
cross-lamination (n.)
cross-latitudinal
cross-line
cross-link
crossover
crosspiece
crossplot
cross point (n.)
cross-polarized light
cross-purpose
cross section (n.) cross-section (adj.)
cross-stratification
cross-strike
cross-talk
crown [ship]
cryomag cryogenic magnetometer [science, paleomagnetism]
cryptocrystalline
crystal-plastic (adj.)
CSES conical side-entry sub [drilling]
CSF core depth below seafloor
CSV comma-separated value
CT computed tomography [science, imaging]
CTB conductivity, temperature, density [logging]
CTBE Cenomanian/Turonian Boundary Event
CTD conductivity-temperature-depth (recorder) [logging]
cu capture unit [logging]
cut and slip [drilling]
cutaway (adj.)
cutoff
cuttings [drilling]
cutting shoe [drilling]
CWL coring while logging (n.); coring-while-logging (adj.)
CY calendar year
IODP Dictionary

-D-

D-O Dansgaard–Oeschger
dactylitic
Danian (Dan.)
DAPI 4′,6-diamindino-2-phenylindole [science, microbiology]
Darcy’s law
darkfield (adj.)
DART drilling and reentry template [drilling]
data (treat as a plural noun)
data set
database
datum
dB decibel (unit of sound/loudness)
DBD dry bulk density [science, physical properties]
DC (1) drill collar [drilling]; (2) direct current [electronics]
DCB diamond core barrel [drilling]
DC-SQUID direct-current superconducting quantum interference device [paleomagnetism]
DDW deionized distilled water
deadline [drilling]
DEBI Deep Exploration Biosphere Investigative tool [logging]
DEBI-t Dark Energy Biosphere Investigation tool
debris flow (n., adj.)
debrizes
declination
décollement
deconvolution
deep-sea (adj.)
deep-tow (adj.)
deep water (n.) deepwater (adj.)
demagnetization
densiometer (use “densitometer”)
derrick [ship]
DES dual-elevator stool [drilling]
DESCINFO Descriptive and Interpretive Information Capture
DESClogik IODP core description application
DEVI hole deviation (GPIT) [logging]
devitrification
dextral

**DGGE** denaturing gradient gel electrophoresis [science]

**DGPS** differential GPS

**DHML** Downhole Measurements Laboratory [ship]

**DI** deionized water [science, chemistry]

**diabase** (U.S. usage; “diorite” in Europe and Japan)

**diapir**

**DIC** (1) dissolved inorganic carbon; (2) drill-in casing [drilling]; (3) differential interference contrast [science, microscopy]

**dike** (not “dyke”)

**DIL** dual induction log (resistivity) [logging]

**dilatancy**

**dinoflagellate**

**dip-slip fault**

**DIS** (1) digital imaging system, (2) ICDP Drilling Information System (ESO)

**disconformity**

**discontinuity**

**discordance**

**DIT** Dual Induction Tool [logging]; Phasor Dual Induction-Spherically Focused Resistivity Tool

**DLIS** digital log information standard

**DLL** Dual Laterolog [logging]

**dm** decimeter

**DMCG** Data Management Coordination Group

**DNA** deoxyribonucleic acid (does not need to be defined in text)

**DO** dissolved oxygen

**DOC** dissolved organic carbon

**Dogtooth**

**DOI** document object identifier

**dolostone**

**dope** [drilling]

**double piston coring** [drilling]

**downcore**

**downcurrent**

**downcutting**

**downdepth**

**downdip**

**down-dropped**

**downfan**
downflow
downgoing
downhole
downlap
download
downsection
downslope
downtime
downwelling
DP (1) dynamic positioning [ship]; (2) drill pipe [drilling]
DPS dynamic positioning system [ship]
DQ Dril-Quip [drilling]
drawdown
drawworks [ship]
DRF drilling depth below rig floor
DRH bulk density correction (HLDS) [logging]
DRHO bulk density correction (HLDS) [logging]
drill bit
drill collar (n., adj.)
drill core
driller
drillers depth (no apostrophe)
drill floor (n., adj.) also “rig floor”
drill hole
drill-in casing
drilling (also “washing”)
drilling fluid (n., adj.)
drilling line
drilling mud
drilling parameters
drillover (n.)
drill pipe (n., adj.)
drillship
drill site
drill string (n., adj.)
DRM depositional (or detrital) remanent magnetization [science, paleomagnetism]
dropstone
dry bulk density
dry water content
DSA (1) drill string acceleration tool; (2) downhole seismic array
DSDP Deep Sea Drilling Project
DSF drilling depth below seafloor
DSI Dipole Shear Sonic Imager (also “Dipole Sonic Imager”)
DSOW Denmark Strait Overflow Water
DSS drilling sensor sub; downhole sensor sub [drilling]
DTC (1) digital telemetry cartridge; (2) compressional-wave traveltime logs [logging]
DTCO compressional wave delay time (DSI) [logging]
DTSM shear wave delay time (DSI) [logging]
DTSR delta-t shear wave traveltime reconstructed
DTST Stonely wave delay time (DSI) [logging]
dual elevator [drilling]
ductile
D/V Drilling Vessel
DWOB downhole weight on bit [drilling]
dynamic-positioning (adj.)
E&O Education and Outreach
EAC East Antarctic Current
Earth [used as a planet]
eastern equatorial Pacific
EBSD electron backscattering diffraction
eccentralizing
eccentricity
ECD equivalent circulating density [drilling]
ECGR environmentally corrected gamma ray (SGT) [logging]
echinoid
echo sounder (n., adj.)
ECORD European Consortium for Ocean Research Drilling
EDAX energy dispersive analysis, X-ray
EDS energy dispersive spectrometry
EDTA ethylenediamine tetra-acetic acid; also disodium ethylenediamine tetra-acetate
EDTC Enhanced Digital Telemetry Cartridge [logging]
EDX energy dispersive X-ray analyzer
EECO Early Eocene Climatic Optimum
Eemian [time period]
EEZ Exclusive Economic Zone
EFA electrofacies [logging]
EGU European Geosciences Group
Eh redox (oxygen reduction) potential [science, chemistry]
eigenvalue
EIS environmental impact statement (or “study”)
electron backscattering diffraction EBSD
e-mail
emf (or “EMF”) electromotive force
E-MORB enriched mid-ocean-ridge basalt
EMPA electron microprobe analysis
EMS Environmental Measurement Sonde [logging]
emu (unit of electromagnetism)
en echelon (not italicized)
end cap (n., adj.)
end-member (n., adj.)
end point (n., adj.) completion of a process
endpoint (n.) value at end of a vector [paleomagnetism]
end of hole EOH
ENSO El Niño Southern Oscillation
Eocene (Eoc.)
EOH end of hole
eolian (not “aeolian”)
EOM extractable organic matter [science, chemistry]
EOP end of pipe [logging]
EOT Eocene–Oligocene transition
EPC European Petrophysical Consortium
EPCS extended punch coring system [drilling; CDEX]
epitactic
epm equivalents per million
EPMA electron probe microanalyzer [science, chemistry]
EPR East Pacific Rise
EPSP Environmental Protection and Safety Panel
EPT East Tasman Plateau
equal-area projection
equant
Equator
ERB Editorial Review Board [publications]
ERS Electronic Release System
esker (not “eskar”)
ESCS extended shoe coring system [drilling; CDEX]
ESO ECORD Science Operator
ET electronics technician [IODP ship]
ETA estimated time of arrival
ETBS Elevated Temperature Borehole Sensor
ETD estimated time of departure
ETM Eocene thermal maximum
euhedral
eukaryote
eustacy
eustatic
eV electron volt (unit of energy potential)
evaporites (n.)
EXN extended nose corer [drilling; ESO]
extra- (generally closed up as a prefix)
extraclast
-F-

F (1) Fahrenheit (unit of temperature); (2) farad (unit of capacitance)
f fugacity (followed by chemical subscript)
FA first appearance [science, biostratigraphy]
FAAD first abundant appearance datum [science, biostratigraphy]
facies (singular and plural)
FAD first appearance datum [science, biostratigraphy]
fallopout
fall-in (n.)
fast line [drilling]
fast-spreading center
fauna
faunas
FCO (1) first common occurrence [science, biostratigraphy]; (2) first consistent occurrence
FCP fall cone penetrometer [science, physical properties]
Fe oxyhydroxide (no hyphen as adj.)
ferrimagnetic
ferromagnetic
FFF free-fall funnel [drilling]
FFQ ferrosilite-fayalite-quartz (geobarometer)
FH full hole [drilling]
fiber-optic (adj.)
FID flame ionization detector [science, chemistry]
fine-grained clays
fining-downward (adj.)
fining-upward (adj.)
finite-difference method
first appearance datum FAD [science, biostratigraphy]
fish [drilling]
FISH fluorescent in situ hybridization [science, microbiology]
fishing tool [drilling]
f-k filter [science: seismic]
flat lying (adj.)
FlexIT (replaced by Icefield MI-5 tool) [drilling]
float valve [drilling]
floatstone
FLOCS Flow-through Osmo Colonization System [CORKs]
floodplain
flow base
flow line
flow-in (n.)
flowmeter
fluxgate magnetometer
flysh
FMS Formation MicroScanner [logging]
FMS-sonic [logging]
FO first occurrence [science, biostratigraphy]
footwall (n., adj.)
foraminifer(s) use Foraminifera only for the formal taxonomic class
fore arc (n.; not “forearc”) [volume specific]
fore reef (n.)
fore-arc (adj.)
foreset
foreslope
fore-reef (adj.)
Formation MicroScanner FMS [logging]
forward [ship]
FOV field of view [science, microscopy]
framestone
free-fall funnel FFF [drilling]
freestone
freeze-dried (n., adj.)
freeze-dry (v.)
freshwater
frequency-domain method
FRIS fayalite-rutile-ilmenite-silica (geobarometer)
FRP fiber-reinforced plastic
FTIR Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy [science, chemistry]
fugacity
FV flapper valve [drilling]
FWHM full width at half maximum
FZ (1) fracture zone; (2) fault zone
-G-

G (1) Giga (SI unit); (2) specific gravity (no unit); (3) gauss (unit for magnetic induction)
g gram (unit of mass)
g gravity field strength
Gy gigayears
g/cm³ grams per cubic centimeter (not “cc”) (unit for density)
Ga giga-anum (billions \[10^9\] of years before the present)
GAD geocentric axial dipole [science, paleomagnetism]
gamma ray \[n., adj.\]
gAPI American Petroleum Institute gamma radiation units
gas chromatography–mass spectrometry  GC-MS [science, chemistry]
gas hydrate \(n., \text{adj.}\) (see “clathrate”)
gasteropod \(\text{use “gastropod”}\)
gauss \(G\) unit of magnetic induction
Gauss Chron
Gaussian distribution bell curve
GB gigabytes
GBM Goettingen tri-axial borehole magnetometer
GC gas chromatography [science, chemistry]
GCR Gulf Coast Repository (TAMU)
GDGT glycerol dialkyl glycerol tetraethers [science, chemistry]
Gelasian \(\text{Gel.}\)
geomagnetic field \(n., \text{adj.}\)
GEOMAR \(\text{now Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel - March 2019}\) FRG Research Center for Marine Geosciences
GeoRef geological reference database of the AGI
text
geo- \(\text{generally closed up as a prefix}\)
geotherm
geothermobarometry
geoVISION \(\text{logging}\)
GERM Geochemical Earth Reference Model
GF growth factor [science, core-log-seismic integration]
GFZ Charlie Gibbs Factor Zone
GHSZ gas hydrate stability zone
GI generator-injector
Gilbert Chron
GIS geographic information system(s)
GISP Greenland Ice Sheet Project; also GISP2
glacio-eustatic
glacioeustasy
glacigenic
glacigenic
glaciogenic
glaciomarine
globorotaliid
glomerophyric
glomeroporphyritic
GMBM Gottingen Borehole Magnetometer [logging]
GMT Greenwich Mean Time (replaced by UTC)
GNAIW Glacial North Atlantic Intermediate Water
GNS green nonsulfur bacteria [science, microbiology]
go-devil [logging]
goethite
Gondwana
Gondwanaland
goniometer
GPa gigapascal (unit of pressure)
GPIT General Purpose Inclinometry Tool [logging]
gpm gallons per minute (use “gal/min”)
GPS Global Positioning System [ship] (do not need to define)
GPTS geomagnetic polarity timescale [science, biostratigraphy/magnetostratigraphy]
GR natural gamma ray logging tool [logging]
GRA gamma ray attenuation [core logging]
grain size analyzer
grainstone
gram-negative bacteria [science, microbiology]
gram-positive bacteria [science, microbiology]
granoblastic
GRAPE (replaced by GRA; do not use)
gravel-sized (adj.)
gravity core, gravity coring (n., adj.)
gray (not “grey”)
graystone
graywacke
greenhouse gas (n., adj.)
Greenhouse Earth
Greenland Ice Sheet
greenschist
greigite
GRIP Greenland Ice Core Project
GRM gyroremanent magnetization [science, paleomagnetism]
groundmass
groundtruth
groundwater (n., adj.)
GS overshot [drilling]
GSA Geological Society of America
Gt gigaton
guide base [drilling]
guide horn (n., adj.) [ship]
guyot
GVR geoVISION resistivity tool (at the bit)
gyttja [geology]
half graben (n.)
half-graben (adj.)
half-life
half-space
halfway
half-width
hand lens
handheld
hanging wall (n., adj.)
hard rock (n., adj.)
hardground
Hauterivian (Haut.)
HAZI hole azimuth (GPIT) [logging]
HBCU Historically Black Colleges and Universities
HC hydrocarbons [science, chemistry]
HCGR computed gamma ray [logging]
HCO highest common occurrence [science, biostratigraphy]
HDPE high-density polyethylene
headspace (n., adj.)
heat flow (n., adj.)
heavy-wall drilling joints [drilling]
Heinrich Event
hemi- (generally closed up as a prefix)
hemipelagic
hertz (Hz) (SI unit of frequency)
heterochthonous
hexametaphosphate
hexapycnometer [science, physical properties]
HF hydrofluoric acid
HFK potassium measurement (HNGS) [logging]
HFS high-frequency depositional sequences
HFSE high field strength elements [science]
HFU heat flow units
HI hydrogen index [science, chemistry]
hiatus
hiatuses
high ground
highstand
HIRM hard isothermal remanent magnetization [science, paleomagnetism]
HKLD hook load [drilling]
HLDS Hostile Environment Litho-Density Sonde [logging]
HLDT Hostile Environment Litho-Density Tool [logging]
HLAPC half-length advanced piston corer
HLQ half-space needle probe [science: phys props]
HNGS Hostile Environment Natural Gamma Ray Sonde [logging]
HO highest occurrence [science, biostratigraphy]
Holocene (Holo.) (not “Recent”)
holohyaline
homogeneous (not “homogenous“)
homolog
hornblende
horst
horst-like
hot plate
hotspot
HPC hydraulic piston corer [drilling; ESO]
HPCS hydraulic piston coring system [drilling; CDEX]
HPLC high-pressure liquid chromatography [science, chemistry]
HREE heavy rare earth element(s) [science, chemistry]
HRLA High-Resolution Laterolog Array [logging]
HRRS hard rock reentry system [drilling]; replaced by HRT
HRVCD hard rock visual core description
HRT hydraulic release tool [drilling]; replaced HRRS
HQ mining-style core barrel [drilling; ESO]
HS headspace sampling
HSE health, safety, and environment
HSGR total spectral gamma ray [logging]
HST highstand systems tract
HTHO thorium measurement (HNGS) [logging]
HURA uranium measurement (HNGS) [logging]
HYACE hydrate autoclave coring equipment
hyaloclastite
hyalocrystalline
hyalophitic
hyalopilitic
hypabyssal
hyper- (generally closed up as a prefix)
hyperthermal
hypo- (generally closed up as a prefix)
hypocrystalline
hypohyaline
hysteresis
-I-

IAPSO International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Oceans
IC (1) inorganic carbon; (2) ion chromatography
ICBN International Code of Botanical Nomenclature
ICDP International Continental Scientific Drilling Program
ice sheet (n., adj.)
Icefield MI-5 core orientation tool [downhole measurements]
Icehouse
Icehouse Earth
Iceland-Greenland Ridge
ice-rafted (adj.)
ice-rafted debris IRD
IC (1) inorganic carbon; (2) ion chromatograph
ichnofabric
ICP inductively coupled plasma spectroscopy [science, chemistry]
ICP-AES inductively coupled plasma–atomic emission spectroscopy/spectrometry (do not use ICP-OES) [science, chemistry]
ICP-MS inductively coupled plasma–mass spectrometry/spectroscopy [science, chemistry]
ICP-OES inductively coupled plasma–optical emission spectroscopy/spectroscopy (use ICP-AES) [science, chemistry]
ICS International Commission on Stratigraphy
ICZN International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature
ID (1) inside/inner diameter; (2) identification
IDEAL integrated drilling evaluation and logging [logging]
IDPH deep induction phasor-processed resistivity (DIT) [logging]
IFREE Institute for Research on Earth Evolution
IGRF International Geomagnetic Reference Field
ILD deep induction resistivity [logging]
illite
illitization
ILM medium induction resistivity [logging]
IMAGES International Marine Past Global Changes Study
IMPH medium induction phasor-processed resistivity (DIT) [logging]
in situ (n., adj.) no italics
INAA instrumented neutron activation analysis
inboard
inc. sed. incertae sedis [science, biostratigraphy]
inches “inch(es)” is always spelled out to avoid confusion with the word “in”
indet. Indeterminate [science, biostratigraphy]
index properties (n.) moisture and density analyses (use “MAD”) 
index species [science, biostratigraphy]
indexes (in books), but “indices” of refraction index properties
inflow
in-line
impactite
inner core barrel [drilling]
inorganic carbon (n., adj.)
insertion probe (n., adj.)
inter- (generally closed up as a prefix)
interbedded
intercalation
interglacial
InterMARGINS International Margins Program
InterRidge an initiative for international cooperation in ridge-crest studies
interstitial water IW (n., adj.)
interval usually a general term and is not capitalized
intra- (generally closed up as a prefix)
intra reef
IO(s) Implementing Organization(s)
IODP International Ocean Discovery Program (spell out “Integrated Ocean Drilling Program”)
ion-exchange reactions [science, chemistry]
Ionian (replaced with “Middle Pleistocene” in the 2012 timescale
IPA isopropyl alcohol [science]
IPL intact polar lipid
IR (1) iron roughneck [drilling]; (2) infrared [science]; (3) insoluble residue
IRD ice-rafted debris
IRM isothermal remanent magnetization [science, paleomagnetism]
ISE ion-specific electrode [science, chemistry]
isoo- (generally closed up as a prefix)
iso-butane
isotropy
ISOW Iceland Sea Overflow Water
ISP Initial Science Plan
ISSN International Subcommission on Stratigraphic Nomenclature
ITCZ Intertropical Convergence Zone
ITRM inverse thermo-remanent magnetization [science, paleomagnetism]
ITT interval transit time
ITZ imbricate thrust zone
IUGS International Union of Geological Sciences
IW interstitial water (sample designation) [curation]
IWG+ International Working Group Plus
IWS instrumented water sampler
-J-

J joule (unit of work)

JAMSTEC Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology

Janus ODP/USIO database system (pre-Expedition 317)

Jaramillo Subchron

jars [drilling]

J-CORES Japanese database system

JD Julian day; the number of a day within a calendar year

J-DESC Japan Drilling Earth Science Consortium

jet in (v.) [drilling]

jet-in (adj.) [drilling]

JFR Juan de Fuca Ridge

JOIDES Resolution or Resolution; also “JR”

joint [drilling]

JRSO JOIDES Resolution Science Operator

JSPW Japan Sea Proper Water

junk [drilling]

junk basket [drilling]

junk mill [drilling]

junk sub [drilling] (also “boot basket,” “trophy sub,” “skirted sub”)

Jurassic
-K-

K Kelvin degrees (unit of absolute temperature; no degree symbol)
k (1) (lowercase kappa) low-field magnetic susceptibility; (2) SI abbreviation for kilo $[10^3]$
ka kiloanum; thousands of years before the present (unit of age)

Kaena Subchron
karst
kb (or kbar) kilobar (unit of pressure)
kal kilocalorie (unit of energy)
KCC Kochi Core Center
kelly [drilling]
kerf [drilling]
K-feldspar
KFZ Kane Fracture Zone
kg kilogram (unit of mass)
kHz kilohertz (unit of frequency)
KIGAM Korea Institute of Geoscience and Mineral Resources
Kimmeridgian
Kinley wireline cutter and crimper [drilling]
kips kilopounds (do not use; convert to pounds [lb] by multiplying by 1000)
kJ kilojoule (unit of work)
km kilometer (unit of length)
km/s kilometers per second (unit of speed)
knobby joints [drilling]
Koenigsberger ratio (Q) [paleomagnetism]
K/P usually Cretaceous/Paleogene; see below
kPa kilopascal (unit of pressure)
K/Pc Cretaceous/Paleocene
K/Pg Cretaceous/Paleogene
K/T Cretaceous/Tertiary boundary (outdated; see “K/P,” “K/Pc,” “K/Pg”)
kt knot(s); nautical miles/hour
Kuroshio Current
kurtosis
Kuster FTS Kuster Flow Through Sampler
kV kilovolt (unit of potential energy)
ky thousand years (unit of time duration)
-L-

L liter (unit of volume)
L* lightness; color reflectance (no unit)
LA last appearance, also lowest appearance [science, biostratigraphy]
LAAD last abundant appearance datum [science, biostratigraphy]
L*a*b* color reflectance color space
Labstack [ship]
LAC linear attenuation coefficient
LAD last appearance datum, also lowest appearance datum [science, biostratigraphy]
LA-ICP-MS laser ablation-inductively coupled plasma-mass spectrometry [science, chemistry]
landmass (n.)
Langhian (Lang.)
lapillistone
Laschamp Event
Layer 3 (lower crust/gabbro)
Lb pound (unit of mass; use only for drilling)
LCAL caliper [logging]
LCD large-diameter coring
LCM lost circulation material [drilling]
LCO (1) last common occurrence; (2) lowest consistent occurrence [science, biostratigraphy]
L-CORK lateral CORK
LDC low detrital carbonate (events)
LDEO Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory
LDEO-BRG Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory Borehole Research Group
LDRZ landward-dipping reflector zone
LDVT linear voltage displacement transformer
LDW Lower Deep Water
least-square
left-coiling (adj.)
LEH logging equipment head [logging]
LEH-MT logging equipment head-mud temperature [logging]
LEH-QT logging equipment head-Q tension [logging]
leucocratic
LFV lockable float valve [drilling]
LGH lower guide horn [ship]
LGM Last Glacial Maximum
lherzolite
LILE large ion lithophile element [science, chemistry]
LIMS Laboratory Information Management System
linescan
LIP large igneous province
LIS Laurentide Ice Sheet
LLSVP large low shear-wave velocity province
LMWFA low molecular weight fatty acids
LO (1) laboratory officer; (2) last (lowest) occurrence [science, biostratigraphy]
logging while coring (n.) LWC
logging while drilling (n.) LWD
logging-while-coring (adj.) LWC
logging-while-drilling (adj.) LWD
LOI loss on ignition [science]
long-core measurements
low latitude (n.)
low-latitude (adj.)
lowstand
LPTM Late Paleocene Thermal Maximum (also Paleocene/Eocene Thermal Maximum [PETM])
LREE light rare earth element(s) [science, chemistry]
LRF LWD depth below rig floor
LSF LWD depth below seafloor
LSR linear sedimentation rate [science]
LSS Long Spacing Sonic [logging]
LST lowstand systems tract
LSW Labrador Sea Water
LTSZ large thrust slice zone
Lutetian (Lut.)
LWC logging while coring (n.); logging-while-coring (adj.)
LWD logging while drilling (n.); logging-while-drilling (adj.)
LWG laboratory working groups
-M-

M (1) molar; (2) SI prefix for mega (10⁶)

m (1) SI prefix for milli (10⁻³); (2) meter (SI unit for length)

MΩ megaohm (unit of electrical resistance) [science, chemistry]

mA milliampere (unit of electrical current)

Ma mega annum (millions of years before the present)

Maastrichtian (Maast.) (not “Maestrichtian”)

MABS muscovite-almandine-biotite-sillimanite (geobarometer)

macro- (generally closed up as a prefix)

macroquartz

MAD (1) moisture and density; (2) mean angular deviation; (3) mean angular dispersion; (4) maximum angular deviation

mafic

magnesian

magnetic field (n., adj.)

magnetic hysteresis

magnetic susceptibility (n., adj.)

magnetometer

magnetotelluric

major element (n., adj.)

Mammoth Subchron

mantle

MAR (1) Mid-Atlantic Ridge; (2) mass accumulation rate

MarE3 Institute for Marine-Earth Exploration and Engineering (replaced CDEX in 2019)

MARK Mid-Atlantic Ridge Kane Fracture Zone

Marshall Paraconformity

MARUM Center for Marine Environmental Sciences

massif

MAT (1) Middle America Trench, (2) Mid-Atlantic Transect

matrix

matrixes

matrix-supported (adj.)

Matuyama Chron

MAXIS multi-tasking acquisition and imaging system [logging]

Mb megabit

MB megabyte

mb millibar (unit of pressure)
Mba megabar (unit of pressure)
MBIO microbiology sample [curation]
MBR mechanical bit release [drilling]
mbrf meters below rig floor [drilling]
mbsf meters below seafloor
mbsl meters below sea level
mcd meters composite depth
MCG Miscellaneous Crenarchaeotal Group (bacterial group)
MCM Schlumberger Minimum Configuration MAXIS
MCR methyl coenzyme-M reductase [science, microbiology]
MCS multichannel seismic
MDCB motor-driven core barrel [drilling]
MDF median destructive field
measurement while coring MWC (n.)
measurement-while-coring MWC (adj.)
measurement while drilling MWD (n.)
measurement-while-drilling MWD (adj.)
MECO Middle Eocene Climatic Optimum
mega- (generally closed up as a prefix)
megablock
megabreccia
megasplay
megathrust
meltwater
Mesozoic (Mesoz.)
Messinian (Mess.)
meta- (generally closed up as a prefix)
MeV mega electron volts (unit of energy)
MEXT Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology (Japan)
MFTM Multifunction Telemetry Module [logging]
MFS maximum flooding surface
mg milligram (unit of mass)
MGT Multi-Senor Spectral Gamma Ray Tool [logging]
MDHDS motion decoupled hydraulic delivery system
mho (unit of conductance)
MHz megahertz (unit of frequency)
mHz millihertz (unit of frequency)
mi² square miles
micro SI prefix for $10^{-6}$
micro- (generally closed up as a prefix)
microbreccia
microcore
microcross-lamination
microcycles
microfault
microfaulting
microfauna
microflaser
microfossils
microfractures
microgranular
micron ($\mu$m); use SI unit “micrometers” instead
micronodules
microresistivity
microslumps
microtectonic
microunits
mid- (generally closed up as a prefix)
midcontinental
middepth
Middle America Trench
midlatitude
mid-ocean
mid-oceanic
mid-ocean-ridge basalt (MORB)
midpoint
midslope
Milankovitch cyclicity
mill [drilling]
milli SI prefix for $10^{-3}$
millilid
min minute(s)
mini- (generally closed up as a prefix)
minicore
minicube
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<td>minitron</td>
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<tr>
<td>minor element</td>
<td>(n., adj.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miocene (Mio.)</td>
<td>Marine isotope stage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIS</td>
<td>Millimeter (unit of length)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mmol</td>
<td>Millimoles (unit of amount of chemical substance) [science: chem]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m/my</td>
<td>Meters per million years (sedimentation rate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>modeling</td>
<td>(not modelling)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MoES</td>
<td>Ministry of Earth Sciences (India)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moho</td>
<td>Mohorovicic seismic discontinuity [science]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohorovicic</td>
<td>Seismic discontinuity (Moho) at the Layer 2/3 boundary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mol</td>
<td>Mole (unit of amount of chemical substance) [science, chemistry]</td>
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<tr>
<td>mol%</td>
<td>Molar percent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>molluscan</td>
<td>(adj.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>mollusk</td>
<td>(n.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>moonpool</td>
<td>[ship]</td>
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<tr>
<td>MOR</td>
<td>Mid-ocean ridge</td>
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<tr>
<td>MORB</td>
<td>Mid-ocean-ridge basalt</td>
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<tr>
<td>MOST</td>
<td>Ministry of Science and Technology (PR China)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOU</td>
<td>Memorandum of Understanding</td>
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<td>mousse-like</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>moveout</td>
<td>[logging]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPa</td>
<td>Megapascal (unit of pressure)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPN</td>
<td>Most probable number method [science: microbi]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPS</td>
<td>Monopole P-wave/S-wave [logging]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPT</td>
<td>Mid-Pleistocene transition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MREE</td>
<td>Middle rare earth elements [science: chem]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MREFC</td>
<td>Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction [NSF]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MRU</td>
<td>Motion reference unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS</td>
<td>(1) Mass spectrometry/spectroscopy; (2) magnetic susceptibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>msb</td>
<td>Meters subbasement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSCL</td>
<td>Multisensor core logger (core logging; CDEX)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSCL-W</td>
<td>Whole-round multisensor core logger (core logging; CDEX)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MSDS  Material Safety Data Sheet [OSHA]

MSL  magnetic susceptibility loop, loop magnetic susceptibility

msl  mean sea level (also “MSL”)

MSP  (1) point magnetic susceptibility [half-core logging]; (2) mission-specific platform

MSS  Magnetic Susceptibility Sonde

MST  (1) multisensor track [whole-core logging] [ODP, ESO, CDEX; replaced by WRMSL in IODP]

mT  millitesla (unit of magnetism)

MTD  mass transport deposit

MTF  multiple toolface

MTFS  Multi-Temperature Fluid Sampler

MTL  miniaturized temperature data logger [logging]

MTT  Modular Temperature Tool [logging]

mud  drilling mud [drilling]

mudflow

mud clast (n., adj.)

mud motor [drilling]

mud sweep [drilling]

mudline (n., adj.) [drilling]

multi-  (generally closed as a prefix, except when i is doubled)

multichannel

multilog

multisensor track  MST [ODP, CDEX, ESO; replaced with WRMSL in IODP]

multishot [drilling]

multispectral

Munsell color system

MWC  measurement while coring (n.); measurement-while-coring (adj.) [drilling]

MWD  measurement while drilling (n.); measurement-while-drilling (adj.) [drilling]

MWP  meltwater pulse

My  million years (unit of duration)

Mylar  (trademarked)
-N-
n newton (unit of force)
N number
n SI abbreviation for nano (10⁻⁹)
n. gen. new genus (also Latin gen. nov.) [science, biostratigraphy]
n. sp. new species (also Latin sp. nov.) [science, biostratigraphy]
NAD nonaxial-dipole [science, paleomagnetism]
NAIW North Atlantic Intermediate Water
NAA neutron activation analysis [science, chemistry]
NAC network admission control
NACSN North American Commission on Stratigraphic Nomenclature
NAD North American datum
NADW North Atlantic Deep Water
Nankai Trough Seismogenic Zone Experiment (NanTroSEIZE)
nannofossil ooze
nannoplankton
nanopure water
NanTroSEIZE Nankai Trough Seismogenic Zone Experiment
NAS network attached storage
natural gamma radiation/ray NGR
n-butane normal isomer of butane (C₄)
NCR noncontact resistivity [core logging]
near-infrared (n., adj.)
nearshore
near-surface (adj.)
needle probe (n., adj.)
Neogene (Neog.)
neoglaciation
NERC Natural Environment Research Council (U.K.)
NGA natural gas analyzer [science: gas safety]
NGDC National Geophysical Data Center (of NOAA)
NGR natural gamma radiation/ray [whole-core logging; downhole logging]
NGRL Natural Gamma Radiation Logger [whole-core logging]
NGT Natural Gamma Ray Spectrometry Tool [logging]
NHG Northern Hemisphere glaciation
NIST National Institute of Standards and Technology
nm nanometer (unit of length)
NMDC nonmagnetic (stainless steel) drill collar [drilling]
nmi nautical mile [ship]
NMO normal moveout [logging]
N-MORB normal mid-ocean-ridge basalt
NMR nuclear magnetic resonance [science: paleomag]
NOAA National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
non- (generally closed up as a prefix)
nonbiogenic
nondeposition
nonindurated
norm normative analysis (calculated)
normal mid-ocean-ridge basalt (N-MORB)
North American plate
North Atlantic Ocean
North Indian Intermediate Water
North Pacific Ocean
Northern Hemisphere
NorthGRIP
NPD North Pacific Diatom (Zone) [science, biostratigraphy]
NPIW North Pacific Intermediate Water
NPDW North Pacific Deep Water
NPHI neutron porosity log [logging]
NRM natural remanent magnetization [science, paleomagnetism]
NSF National Science Foundation
NSOW Norwegian Sea Overflow Water [science]
NTD Neogene tropical diatom (zonation)
Nunivak Subchron
-O-

**OAE** oceanic anoxic event (general); Oceanic Anoxic Event (followed by a number/letter combination)

**OBH** (1) ocean borehole seismometer; also OBHS; (2) ocean-bottom hydrophones

**OBI** optical borehole image [logging]

**obliquity**

**OBS** ocean-bottom seismometer

**OCB** outer core barrel [drilling]

**OCC** oceanic core complex

**occipital**

**ocean floor** (n., adj.)

**OCR** overconsolidation ratio

**OD** outside/outer diameter

**ODF** orientation distribution function

**ODL** Overseas Drilling Limited

**ODP** Ocean Drilling Program

**Oe** oersted (unit of magnetic field)

**off shore** (adv.)

**offlap**

**offset**

**offshore** (adj.)

**ohm** ($\Omega$) (unit of resistance)

**ohm-meter** ($\Omega m$) (unit of resistivity)

**OI** oxygen index [science]

**OIB** ocean-island basalt; also oceanic island basalt

**oikocryst**

**Olduvai Subchron**

**Oligocene (Oligo.)**

**OM** organic matter [science]

**OMHC** offshore modular HELP Cab

**OMZ** oxygen minimum zone

**on board** (n.) not “onboard”; thus, “aboard ship,” not “onboard ship”

**onboard** (adj.) “an onboard computer”

**onlap**

**onloading**

**onset**

**onshore** (adj.)

**on-site** (adj.)
on site (prep.)
ooid
oolitic
OOST out-of-sequence thrust zone
opal-A
opal-CT
open hole [drilling]
open-marine (adj.)
open-ocean (adj.)
Operations Superintendent [ship]
OPIC other program integration costs
organic carbon (n., adj.)
organic matter (n., adj.)
organic-rich
OsmoSampler
OSN Ocean Seismic Network
OSP onshore science party (ESO)
ostracod
outcrop
outflow
out-of-sequence thrust (OOST)
over- (generally closed up as a prefix)
overconsolidation
overdrill(ed, ing)
overload
overpressure
overpull
overshot (n.) [drilling]
-P-

P pressure

p pico (SI abbreviation for \(10^{-12}\))

Pa pascal (unit of stress/pressure = 1 newton/meter\(^2\) [1 N/m\(^2\)])

PAC paleointensity-assisted chronology

packer [drilling]

pack off (v.) [drilling]

pack-off (n.) [drilling]

pahoehoe lava

palagonitization

paleo- (generally closed up as a prefix)

paleoceanography

Paleocene (Paleoc.)

paleoclimatology

paleodepth

paleoequator

paleoequatorial

Paleogene (Paleog.)

paleolatitude

paleomagnetic

paleomagnetism

paleome

paleopole

paleoposition

paleoshoreline

paleoslope

paleostress

paleotemperature

paleowater depth

Paleozoic (Paleoz.)

palynology

PANGAEA Publishing Network for Geoscientific and Environmental Data

paraconformity

PBS phosphate-buffered saline [science, microbiology]

PCA principal component analysis [science, paleomagnetism]

PCD polycrystalline diamond [drilling]; also PDC

pcf pounds per cubic foot
PCG IODP-MI Paleontology Coordination Group
PCR polymerase chain reaction [science, microbiology]
PCS pressure core sampler [drilling]
PDB Peedee belemnite [science, isotopes]
PDC polycrystalline diamond compact [drilling]; also PCD
PDCM positive displacement coring motor [drilling]
PDM positive displacement motor [drilling]
PDR precision depth recorder [science]
PDRM postdepositional remanent magnetization [science, paleomagnetism]
PEAT Pacific Equatorial Age Transect
PEF photoelectric effect; also PEFL [logging]
pegmatitic
PEIS Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement
pentapycnometer
peri- (generally closed up as a prefix)
periplatform
perireef
PETM Paleocene/Eocene Thermal Maximum (also Late Paleogene Thermal Maximum [LPTM])
PEX Platform Express [logging]
PFMD perfluoromethyl decaline (tracer) [science, microbiology]
PFT perfluorocarbon tracer [science, microbiology]
pH (no unit)
phaneritic
photomicrograph (not microphotograph)
physical properties (n., adj.)
physical property (n., adj.)
PI (1) principal (primary) investigator [ODP]; (2) production index [science, chemistry]
Placenzian (Piac.)
PICAT Petrographic Image Capture and Archiving Tool
pico (p) SI abbreviation for 10^{-12}
pig [drilling]
pill [drilling]
pilotaxic
pin [drilling]
pinch out (v.)
pinch-out (n.)
pipe tally [drilling]
piperacker [drilling]
piston core, piston coring (n., adj.)
plane-polarized light [science, microscopy]
planktonic (not “planktic“)
*Planolites*
plate tectonic (n., adj.)
*Pleistocene*
PLFA phospholipid fatty acid analysis
*Pliocene*
Pliocene–Pleistocene, Pliocene/Pleistocene (never Plio-Pleistocene, etc.)
PMAG paleomagnetism
PMCH perfluoromethylcyclohexane (tracer) [science, microbiology]
PMO Program Member Offices
PMT (1) Project Management Team; (2) photomultiplier
poikilitic
poikilotopic
Polar Front
polar wander
POOH pull out of hole [drilling]
pore fluid (n., adj.)
pore water (n., adj.)
porcellanite (not “porcelanite“)
porphyritic
porphyroclastic
porphyry
port call (n., adj.)
post- (generally closed up as a prefix)
postcruise
postdate
postdepositional
postglacial
postrift
PP physical properties (a.k.a. “fizz props” or “fish pops”) [science]
ppb parts per billion (unit of concentration)
ppg pounds per gallon (use “lb/gal“)
ppm parts per million (unit of concentration)
PPM Project Portfolio Management
ppmv parts per million by volume (unit of concentration, usually in headspace gas)
ppt (1) parts per thousand; use “‰” [permil]); (2) parts per trillion; (3) precipitate
**PPT** Pliocene–Pleistocene transition

**pre-** (generally closed up when used as a prefix)

**precruise**

**predate**

**predominant** (adj.)

**predominate** (v.)

**pre-evaporitic deposits**

**pre-rift**

**present-day** (adj.)

**prestack**

**pseudo-** (generally closed up as a prefix)

**pseudotachylytic**

**Priabonian** (Priab.)

**print out** (v.)

**printout** (n.)

**protodécollement**

**protomylonitic**

**PSB** Porcupine Seabight

**PSD** (1) pseudosingle-domain (adj.); pseudosingle domain (n.) [science, paleomagnetism]; (2) power spectral density

**psi** pounds per square inch (unit of pressure)

**PSV** paleosecular variation [paleomagnetism]

**PTFE** polytetrafluoroethylene (generic name for Teflon)

**PTRM** partial thermoremanent magnetization (science, paleomagnetism)

**PTZ** protothrust zone

**PUPPIs** pop-up pore pressure instruments [logging]

**pusher** [drilling]

**PVC** polyvinyl chloride

**PVT** pressure-volume-temperature

**P-wave** primary seismic or compressional wave [science]

**PWB** $P$-wave velocity (discrete, measured by bayonet)

**PWC** $P$-wave velocity (discrete, measured by caliper)

**PWL** $P$-wave logger [whole-core logging, physical properties]

**PWL-D** $P$-wave logger for discrete samples (CDEX)

**PWV** $P$-wave velocity

**pXRF** portable X-ray fluorescence spectrometer (or spectrometry)

**pyrometamorphic**

**pyrrhotite**
-Q-

Q ratio Koenigsberger ratio
QA quality assurance
QA/QC quality assurance/quality control
QC quality control
QLM quartz-feldspathoid-olivine and ore minerals plot
qPCR quantitative polymerase chain reaction [science, microbiology]
quadrupole
quartzofeldspathic
quasistatic
Quaternary (Quat.)
-R-

*R* multivariate correlation coefficient (also $R^2$ and $r$; electrical resistance)

$R^2$ coefficient of determination (not “$r^2$”)

$r$ bivariate correlation coefficient

RAB resistivity-at-the-bit tool [logging]

rabbit [drilling]

radial

radiolarian (not “Radiolaria”)

rare earth element (n., adj.)

rathole [drilling]

RBI Rock Bit International (drill-bit manufacturer) [drilling]

RCB rotary core barrel [drilling]

RDNA ribosomal DNA

real time (n.)

real-time (adj.)

Recent/Modern use “Holocene”

re- (generally closed up when used as a prefix)

redeposited

REE rare earth element(s) [science]

reef front (n., adj.)

reefer refrigerated core/sample storage area [curation]

reentrant

reentry cone [drilling]

reentry [drilling]

relic (n.)

relict (adj.)

reoriented

resistivity at the bit (RAB) (n.)

resistivity-at-the-bit (RAB) (adj.)

reticulate

reverse fault (seismics, structural geology)

reverse grading (use “inverse grading”)

reversed gradient

reversed polarity

Reunion Subchron

RFP request for proposals

RFQ request for quotations
RGB red-green-blue color space [half-core logging/imaging]
Rhizon (trademarked) [science, chemistry]
RHOB bulk density measurement (HLDT) [logging]
RHOM bulk density [logging]
RI (1) refractive index; (2) reduction index
ridgetop
rig down (v.)
rig floor (n., adj.)
rig up (v.)
rigup (n.)
RIH run in hole [drilling]
rip-up clasts
RIS Rig Instrumentation System [drilling]
riser [drilling]
riserless (not “non-riser”) [drilling]
RITF Regional Integration Test Facility
RMM Remote Memory Module
RMS root mean square (e.g., in seismic velocities) [science]
RNA ribonucleic acid
Rock-Eval (not used during IODP)
rock saw
roller-cone bit [drilling]
ROP rate of penetration [drilling]
rotary shifting tool RST [drilling]
roughneck [drilling]
round trip [drilling]
roustabout [drilling]
ROV remotely operated vehicle [science]
rpm revolutions per minute
rRNA ribosomal ribonucleic acid (ribosomal RNA)
RS overshot [drilling]
RSC reflectance spectroscopy and colorimetry
RSD relative standard deviation (%)
RSMAS Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science (University of Miami)
RST rotary shifting tool [drilling]
RT (1) rotary table [drilling]; (2) round trip of the drill string (= POOH + bit change + RIH)
RTD resistance-temperature device
Rupelian (Rup.)
**R-wave** Rayleigh wave

**RZ** range zone [science, biostratigraphy]
-S-

S (1) entropy; (2) siemen (unit of conductivity)
s second
SAC Sample Allocation Committee
SAFOD San Andreas Fault Observatory at Depth
SAGMAGE South African Goldmine Euryarchaeotal Group [science, microbiology]
saltwater
SAN storage area network
sand line [drilling]
sand-sized (adj.)
Santonian (Sant.)
sapropel [science]
SAS Science Advisory Structure (IODP)
saussurite
saussuritization
saver sub [drilling]
sawtooth
SBDC seal bore drill collar [drilling]
sbsf seconds below seafloor (seismic)
SBTF Simulated Borehole Test Facility
SCBA self-contained breathing apparatus [safety]
SCIMPI Simple Cabled Instrument for Measuring Parameters In Situ
SCS single-channel seismic [science]
SD (or “sd”) standard deviation
SDRM Sample and Data Request Management System
SDRS seaward-dipping reflector sequence
Sea Beam 2000 (type of seismic equipment)
sea bottom
sea grass
sea ice (n., adj.)
sea level (n., adj.)
SeaBeam (name of company) [seismic]
seabed
seafloor
seafloor-spreading center
sea-going
sea ice (n., adj.)
sea level (n., adj.)
seamount
Seasat sea satellite
sea-surface temperature (SST)
seaward
seawater
seaway
Secci
sediment accumulation (n., adj.)
sediment accumulation rate (SAR)
SEGY Society of Exploration Geophysicists (file format “Y”)
SEIR Southeast Indian Ridge
Selandian (Selan.)
self-potential
self-reversal
seismic reflection (n., adj.)
seismic stratigraphic (n., adj.)
seismicVISION (Schlumberger logging tool)
seismic wave (n., adj.)
SEM scanning electron microscope [science, microscopy]
semi- (generally closed as a prefix unless the vowel is doubled [exception: semiinfinite])
semiquantitatively
serpentinization
Serravallian (Serrav.)
SES sidewall-entry sub [drilling]
SET2 Sediment Temperature 2 [drilling]
SET Sediment Temperature Tool [drilling]
set back [drilling]
setup (n.)
SETP sediment temperature pressure tool [drilling]
severing [drilling]
SFL spherically focused log [logging]
SFLU spherically focused resistivity (DIT) [logging]
SFR spherically focused resistivity (DIT) [logging]
SFZ silica-free zone
SG specific gravity
SGR standard gamma ray [logging]
shallow-marine (adj.)
shallow-water (adj.)
shatterbox [science]
shear pin [drilling]
shear wave (n., adj.)
sheave [drilling]
sheel break (n., adj.)
sheel edge (n., adj.)
sheel slope (n.)
sheel-slope (adj.)
shelly
SHIL Section Half Imaging Logger
shipboard
shiptime
SHMG Section Half Measurement Gantry
SHMSL Section Half Multisensor Logger
shore based (n.)
shore-based (adj.)
shoreface
shoreline
short trip [drilling]
shotpoint [seismic]
SHRIMP sensitive high-mass resolution ion microprobe [logging]
SHRIMPI Short Instrument Modular Probe Installation [logging]
shuck [drilling]
SI international system of units (Système International d' Unités)
side-scan sonar
sidewall
Sidufjall Subchron
signal-to-noise (adj.)
silica (H₄SiO₄; also silicate; not “silicon”)
siliceous
sill-sediment complex
silt-sized (adj.)
SIMS secondary-ion mass spectrometry [science, chemistry]
single [drilling]
single-bit [drilling]
sinker bar [drilling]
SIO Scripps Institution of Oceanography
SIRM saturation remanent magnetization [science, paleomagnetism]
site survey (n., adj.)
skate [drilling]

*Skolithos*
s.l. sensu lato (no italic), broadly defined [science, biostratigraphy]

slim-hole logging tools
slips [drilling]
slope-apron (adj.)
slug [drilling]

SMDC short monel drill collar (nonmagnetic) [drilling]
SMCS Sample Materials Curation Management System
smear slide (n., adj.)
SMI sulfate/methane interface
SMOW standard mean ocean water [science]
SMT sulfate–methane transition
SMTZ sulfate–methane transition zone
S/N signal-to-noise ratio
SOEST School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology (University of Hawaii)
soft-sediment (adj.)
solid-phase (adj.)
sonic-induction tool [logging]
sonicVISION [logging]
SOP standard operating procedure
source rock (n., adj.) [science, hydrocarbon maturity]

*Southern Hemisphere*
*Southern Ocean*
SOW statement of work

SP (1) shotpoint [seismic]); (2) spontaneous potential [logging]; (3) superparamagnetic [science, paleomagnetism]
sp. species [science, biostratigraphy]

space-out (n.) [logging]
SPC Science Planning Committee
spear [drilling]

spherulitic

spm strokes per minute (use “strokes/min”) [drilling]

SPO shape-preferred orientation
spud-in [drilling]
squeeze cake (n., adj.)

SQUID superconducting quantum interference device [science, paleomagnetism]
SRA source rock analyzer [science, hydrocarbon maturity]
SRM (1) standard reference material; (2) superconducting rock magnetometer [science: paleomagnetism]
SRZ sulfate reduction zone
SS smear slide
s.s. sensu stricto (no italic), narrowly defined [science, biostratigraphy]
SSDB Site Survey Databank
SSP Site Survey Panel
ssp. subspecies [science, biostratigraphy]
SSR subsea release cementing system [drilling]
SSS sea-surface salinity
SST sea-surface temperature
SSW surface seawater
stabber [drilling]
stainless steel (n., adj.)
stand [drilling]
standpipe [drilling]
stationkeeping [ship]
STEM scanning transmission electron microscope
stick-slip [logging]
stillstand (n.)
STMSL Special Task Multisensor Logger
stoichiometry
stoped (step-like excavation)
STP standard temperature and pressure
STR South Tasman Rise
strap [drilling]
strike-slip (adj.)
$S_u$ undrained shear strength
sub [drilling]
sub- (generally open as a prefix)
subaerial
subangular
subbasement
subbasin
subbottom
subchron
subhedral
subjacent
subophitic
subrounded
subsea
subseafloor
subsequence
Subtropical Divergence
sucrosic
suevitic
sulfate reduction (n., adj.)
sulphate (use “sulfate”)
sulphur (use “sulfur”)
super- (generally closed up as a prefix)
superposition
supra- (generally closed up as a prefix)
surface water (n., adj.)
surface-seawater (adj.)
SVD singular value decomposition [science, XRD]
SW sea (salt) water [drilling]
swab cup [drilling]
swab [drilling]
S-wave secondary/shear wave [science]
SWD sonic while drilling (n.); sonic-while-drilling (adj.)
swivel [drilling]
symplectic
syn- (generally closed up as a prefix)
syndepositional
synrift
synsedimentary
-T-

T (1) ton; (2) tesla [unit of magnetism]
t (1) time; (2) tonne
T2P temperature dual pressure probe [drilling]
TAB time-after-bit (adj.), time after bit (n.)
tachylytic
TAG Trans-Atlantic Geotraverse
TAI thermal alteration index [science]
TAMRF Texas A&M Research Foundation
TAMU Texas A&M University
TAP Temperature/Acceleration/Pressure tool [logging]
TAZ taphronomically active zone (actively rifting zone)
TC total carbon
TCD thermal conductivity detector [science, chemistry]
TCI tungsten carbide inserts [drilling]
TCP/IP networking protocol available on the ship [computers]
TD total depth of a hole [drilling]
TDC tapered drill collar [drilling]
TDS total dissolved solids
tectono-eustacy
Teflon (trademarked; use “polytetrafluoroethylene”)
TEM transmission electron microscopy
tephrochronology
terrane
terrigenous matter (n., adj.)
Tethys
TFZ Tasman Fracture Zone
TGGE temperature gradient gel electrophoresis [science]
Thanetian (Than.)
thermal conductivity (n.)
thermal-conductivity (adj.)
thermochronology
thin section (n., adj.)
tholeiite
tholeiitic
Thvera Subchron
tie point
TIFF tagged image file format [computers]
time-rock unit
timescale (n., adj.)
TIMS thermal ionization mass spectrometry [science, chemistry]
TLC thin-layer chromatography [science]
$T_{\text{max}}$ [science: hydrocarbon maturity]
TN total nitrogen
TOB torque on bit [drilling]
TOBI towed ocean bottom instrument
TOC total organic carbon [science]
toe-of-slope (n., adj.)
toesets
topset
tongs [drilling]
tool joint [drilling]
tool string (n., adj.)
toolpusher [drilling]
top drive [drilling]
Tortonian (Tort.)
tortuosity
total inorganic carbon (n., adj.)
total organic carbon
TP-Fit (software used with the APCT-3)
TPW true polar wander [science, paleomagnetism]
trace element (n., adj.)
track line
trachyandesite
trachybasalt
trachytic
trade-off
traveling block [drilling]
traveltime
trench-wedge (adj.)
T-RFLP terminal-restriction fragment length polymorphism [science, microbiology]
tri- (generally closed up as a prefix)
Triassic
trip [drilling]
triple combination (n., adj.); also “triple combo” [logging]
TRM thermal remanent magnetization [science, paleomagnetism]
trondhjemite

TS (1) top sub [drilling]; (2) IODP code for thin section [curation]

TSB thin-section billet (sample designation) [curation]

TST transgressive systems tract

TTL transistor-transistor logic [logging]

tugger [drilling]

turnaround

Turonian (Tur.)

TWT two-way traveltime (not TWTT) [seismic]

Tyvek
-U-

UBI Ultrasonic Borehole Imager [logging]
UGH upper guide horn [drilling]
UHF ultrahigh frequency (n.); ultrahigh-frequency (adj.)
ultra- (generally closed up as a prefix)
un- (generally closed up as a prefix)
unconformably
unconformity
under- (generally closed up as a prefix)
underconsolidation
underpressured
underreamer
underway (adj.)
under way (adv.)
undulating
Universal Time Coordinated (UTC)
up- (generally closed up as a prefix)
upcore
upcurrent
updip
upgoing
uphole
upload
upper slope (n., adj.)
upsection
upslope
upward-coarsening use coarsening-upward instead (adj.)
upward-fining use fining-upward instead (adj.)
USAC United States Advisory Committee for Scientific Ocean Drilling
USGS United States Geological Survey
UTC Universal Time Coordinated (use in place of "GMT" or "Z"; first-use definition not required)
UTM projection universal transverse Mercator projection
UV ultraviolet
UWG underway geophysics laboratory [ship]
-V-

V (1) volume; (2) volt
VAC void gas sample [curation]
Vacutainer (trademarked)
Valanginian (Val.)
variolitic
VCD visual core description form
V-CDT vs. Canyon Diablo troilite [science, isotopes]
VDN Vision Density Neutron [logging]
V-door [drilling]
VE vertical exaggeration [seismics]
Vertical Seismic Profile VSP [logging]
VFA volatile fatty acids [science, chemistry]
VGP virtual geomagnetic pole [science, paleomagnetism]
VHF very high frequency
VIT vibration isolated television [drilling]
vitrification
VLP viruslike particle [science, microbiology]
VLQ full-space needle probe [science, physical properties]
$V_{\text{max}}$ maximum velocity
$V_p$ compressional wave velocity
VMS volcanogenic massive sulfides
vol% volume percent
volcanic glass
volcaniclastic
volcanogenic
volcano-tectonic (adj.)
VPC vibra-percussive corer [drilling]
VPDB Vienna Pee dee belemnite [science, isotopes]
VRM viscous remanent magnetization [science, paleomagnetism]
VSAT very small aperture terminal
VSP vertical seismic profile [logging/seismic]
VSI Versatile Seismic Imager
VSMOW Vienna standard mean ocean water [science, isotopes]
-W-

W (1) watt; (2) IODP core-type letter indicating a wash core
wacke
wackestone
WAGS wollastonite-anorthite-garnet-silica (geobarometer)
wall rock (n., adj.)
wash core [drilling]
wash [drilling]
washout (n., adj.)
water column (n., adj.)
water depth (n., adj.)
water gun
water table (n., adj.)
watermass (n.)
wave stack
wavefield
waveform
wavefront
waveguide
wavelength
wavenumber
waveshape
wavetrain
WBUC Western Boundary Undercurrent
WD water depth [ship]
WDC World Data Center
website
Weddell Gyre
Weichselian (time period)
well log
wellbore
wellhead
well-preserved (adj.)
wet bulk (n., adj.) density
WGC West Greenland Current
WHC wireline heave compensator [logging]
Whirl-Pak (trademarked)
WHOI Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
whole space
whole-core (adj.)
whole-round (adj.)
whorl
wideband
WinFrog
wiper trip [drilling]
wireline [drilling]
wireline trip [drilling]
WOB weight on bit (n.), weight-on-bit (adj.)
WOW waiting on weather (suspended operations) [drilling]
WPWP Western Pacific Warm Pool
WRMSL Whole-Round Multisensor Logger
WST-3 Three-component Well Seismic Tool [logging]
WSTP water sampler temperature probe [logging]
wt% weight percent
WVSP walkaway vertical seismic profile [logging]
XCB extended core barrel [drilling]
xenocryst
XO crossover (connecting pipe) [drilling]
X-ray diffraction
X-ray fluorescence
XRD X-ray diffraction [science]
XRF X-ray fluorescence [science]
XRI X-Ray Imager
-Y and Z-

y year
YD Younger Dryas Event
younging
Ypresian (Ypres.)
yttrium

Z (or “z”) atomic number
Zanclean (Zan.)
z-axis
zeolite
zeolitization
zigzag (n., adj.)
zoisite
zoobenthos
Zoophycos
zooplankton