A ampere (also amp; unit of electrical current)
Å Angstrom (unit of length = $10^{-10}$ m)
a* color reflectance component (no unit)
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”)
aknowledgments
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”
amygdule (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 [drilling] (takes the word tool when used [e.g., we used the APCT-3 tool])
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
duto- (generally closed up as a prefix)
avobrecciated
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
backreaming [drilling]
backscatter
back thrust (n.) [GOG5]
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
bb 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]
buildup (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”)
C1/C2 methane/ethane ratio [science, chemistry]
C6+ 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
catalastic
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 (Cenoz.)
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
$\text{cm}^3$ (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
coefficency
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.) core-scale (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; “laminae” alone is fine)
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, data, tool, etc.) [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
D-O Dansgaard–Oeschger
dactylitic
Danian (Dan.)
DAPI 4',6-diamindino-2-phenyldione [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.)
debrites
decollement
decomposition
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
Dewar flask
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-

E&O Education and Outreach
EAC East Antarctic Current
Earth [used as a planet]
eastern equatorial Pacific
EBSD electron backscattering diffraction
eccentralizing
eccentricity
ECD (1) equivalent circulating density [drilling]; (2) electron capture detector
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
email
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)
end cap (n., adj.)
end-member (n., adj.)
end of hole EOH
end point (n., adj.) completion of a process
endpoint (n.) value at end of a vector [paleomagnetism]
en echelon (not italicized)
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
ESCS extended shoe coring system [drilling; CDEX]
esker (not “eskar”)
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]

fall-in (n.)

fallout

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

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]

floatstone

float valve [drilling]

FLOCS Flow-through Osmo Colonization System [CORKs]

floodplain

flow base
flow-in (n.)
flow line
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-arc (adj.)
fore reef (n.) fore-reef (adj.)
foreset
foreslope
forward [ship]
FOV field of view [science, microscopy]
framestone
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 (1) Giga (SI unit); (2) specific gravity (no unit); (3) gauss (unit for magnetic induction)
g (1) gram (unit of mass); (2) gravity field strength
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 hydrate (n., adj.) (see “clathrate”)
gasteropod (use “gastropod”)
gauge
Gauss Chron
Gaussian distribution bell curve
GB gigabytes
GBM Goettingen tri-axial borehole magnetometer
GC gas chromatography [science, chemistry]
g/cm\(^3\) grams per cubic centimeter (not “cc”) (unit for density)
GC-MS gas chromatography–mass spectrometry [science, chemistry]
GCR Gulf Coast Repository (TAMU)
GDGT glycerol dialkyl glycerol tetraethers [science, chemistry]
Gelasian (Gel.)
geo- (generally closed up as a prefix)
geomagnetic field (n., adj.)
GEOMAR (now Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel - March 2019) FRG Research Center for Marine Geosciences
GeoRef geological reference database of the AGI
geotherm
geothermobarometry
geoVISION (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
glacigenic
glacioeustasy
glacio-eustatic
glacigenic
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 Earth
greenhouse gas (n., adj.)
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)
Gy gigayears
gyttja [geology]
-H-

half graben (n.) half-graben (adj.)
half-life
half-space
halfway
half-width
handheld
hand lens
hanging wall (n., adj.)
hardground
hard rock (n., adj.)
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]
HLAPC half-length advanced piston corer
HLDS Hostile Environment Litho-Density Sonde [logging]
HLDT Hostile Environment Litho-Density Tool [logging]
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]
HQ mining-style core barrel [drilling; ESO]
HREE heavy rare earth element(s) [science, chemistry]
HRLA High-Resolution Laterolog Array [logging]
HRRS hard rock reentry system [drilling]; replaced by HRT
HRT hydraulic release tool [drilling]; replaced HRRS
HRVCD hard rock visual core description
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

**Icefield MI-5** core orientation tool [downhole measurements]

**icehouse**

**Icehouse Earth**

**Iceland-Greenland Ridge**

**ice-rafted** (adj.)

**ice sheet** (n., adj.)

**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 spectrometry/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

**impactite**

**IMPH** medium induction phasor-processed resistivity (DIT) [logging]

**INAA** instrumental neutron activation analysis

**inboard**

**inch** “inch(es)” is always spelled out to avoid confusion with the word “in”

**inc. sed.** incertae sedis [science, biostratigraphy]

**indet.** Indeterminate [science, biostratigraphy]

**indexes** (in books), but “indices” of refraction index properties
**index properties** (n.) moisture and density analyses (use “MAD”)
**index** species [science, biostratigraphy]
**inflow**
**in-line**
**inner core barrel** [drilling]
**inorganic carbon** (n., adj.)
**insertion probe** (n., adj.)
**in situ** (n., adj.) no italics
**inter-** (generally closed up as a prefix)
**interbedded**
**intercalation**
**interglacial**
**InterMARGINS** International Margins Program
**InterRidge** an initiative for international cooperation in ridge-crest studies
**interval** usually a general term and is not capitalized
**intra-** (generally closed up as a prefix)
**intrareef**
**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]
**iso-** (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 (n., adj.) (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.) 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)

kcal 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 \([\text{lb}]\) 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]
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 ($10^6$)

**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 “Maestrchtian”)

**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
MDHDS motion decoupled hydraulic delivery system
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]
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 (µm); 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
midpoint
midslope
Milankovitch cyclicity
mill [drilling]
milli SI prefix for $10^{-3}$
milliloid
min minute(s)
mini- (generally closed up as a prefix)
minicore
minicube
minitron
minor element (n., adj.)
Miocene (Mio.)
MIS marine isotope stage
mL milliliter (unit of volume)
MM scale-modified Mercalli scale (earthquake characterization)
mM millimolar; millimoles/liter (unit of concentration in aqueous matrix) [science, chemistry]
mm millimeter (unit of length)
MMM multisensor magnetometer module
mmol millimoles (unit of amount of chemical substance) [science: chem]
m/my meters per million years (sedimentation rate)
modeling (not modelling)
MoES Ministry of Earth Sciences (India)
Moho Mohorovicic seismic discontinuity [science]
Mohorovicic seismic discontinuity (Moho) at the Layer 2/3 boundary
mol mole (unit of amount of chemical substance) [science, chemistry]
mol% molar percent
molluscan (adj.)
mollusk (n.)
moonpool [ship]
MOR mid-ocean ridge
MORB mid-ocean-ridge basalt
MOST Ministry of Science and Technology (PR China)
MOU Memorandum of Understanding
mousse-like
moveout [logging]
MPa megapascal (unit of pressure)
MPN most probable number method [science: microbio]
MPS monopole P-wave/S-wave [logging]
MPT mid-Pleistocene transition
MREE middle rare earth elements [science: chem]
MREFC Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction [NSF]
MRU motion reference unit
MS (1) mass spectrometry/spectroscopy; (2) magnetic susceptibility
ms milliseconds (e.g., msbsf)
msb meters subbasement
MSCL multisensor core logger (core logging; CDEX)
MSCL-W whole-round multisensor core logger (core logging; CDEX)
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]
mud clast (n., adj.)
mudflow
mudline (n., adj.) [drilling]
mud motor [drilling]
mud sweep [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
mu-metal
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]
NAA neutron activation analysis [science, chemistry]
NAC network admission control
NACSN North American Commission on Stratigraphic Nomenclature
NAD (1) nonaxial-dipole [science, paleomagnetism]; (2) North American datum
NADW North Atlantic Deep Water
NAIW North Atlantic Intermediate Water
nannofossil ooze
nannoplankton
nanopure water
NAS network attached storage
NanTroSEIZE Nankai Trough Seismogenic Zone Experiment
n-butane normal isomer of butane (C₄)
NCR noncontact resistivity [core logging]
NCW Northern Component Water
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)
North American plate
North Atlantic Ocean
Northern Hemisphere
NorthGRIP
North Indian Intermediate Water
North Pacific Ocean
NPD North Pacific Diatom (Zone) [science, biostratigraphy]
NPDW North Pacific Deep Water
NPHI neutron porosity log [logging]
NPIW North Pacific Intermediate Water
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)

**offlap**

**offset**

**offshore** (adj.); **off shore** (adv.)

**ohm** (Ω) (unit of resistance)

**ohm-meter** (Ωm) (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

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

**onlap**

**onloading**

**onset**

**onshore** (adj.)

**on-site** (adj.); **on site** (prep.)

**oooid**
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 perfluoromethyldecalin (tracer) [science, microbiology]
PFT perfluorocarbon tracer [science, microbiology]
PfH (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]
Piacenzian (Piac.)
PICAT Petrographic Image Capture and Archiving Tool
pig [drilling]
pill [drilling]
pilotaxic
pin [drilling]
pinch out (v.) pinch-out (n.)
piperracker [drilling]
pipe tally [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-

QA quality assurance (defined in Merriam-Webster; no need to define in text)
QA/QC quality assurance/quality control (defined in Merriam-Webster; no need to define in text)
QC quality control (defined in Merriam-Webster; no need to define in text)
QLM quartz-feldspathoid-olivine and ore minerals plot
qPCR quantitative polymerase chain reaction [science, microbiology]
Q ratio Koenigsberger ratio
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)

redistributed

REE rare earth element(s) [science]

reefer refrigerated core/sample storage area [curation]

reef front (n., adj.)

reentrant

reentry [drilling]

reentry cone [drilling]

relic (n.)

relict (adj.)

reoriented

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

reticulate

Reunion Subchron

reversed gradient

reversed polarity

reverse fault (seismics, structural geology)

reverse grading (use “inverse grading”)

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]
roughneck [drilling]
round trip [drilling]
roustabout [drilling]
ROV remotely operated vehicle [science]
rpm revolutions per minute (defined in Merriam-Webster; no need to define in text)
rRNA ribosomal ribonucleic acid (ribosomal RNA)
RSC reflectance spectroscopy and colorimetry
RSD relative standard deviation (%)
RSMAS Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science (University of Miami)
RS overshot [drilling]
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
SAGMEG South African Goldmine Euryarchaeotal Group [science, microbiology]
saltwater
SAN storage area network
sand line [drilling]
sand-sized (adj.)
Santonian (Sant.)
sapropel [science]
SAR sediment accumulation rate
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
SeaBeam (name of company) [seismic]
Sea Beam 2000 (type of seismic equipment)
seabed
sea bottom
seafloor
seafloor-spreading center
sea-going
sea grass
sea ice (n., adj.)
sea level (n., adj.)
seamount
Seasat sea satellite
seaward
seawater
seaway
Secci
sediment accumulation (n., adj.)
SEGY Society of Exploration Geophysicists (file format “Y”)
SEIR Southeast Indian Ridge
seismic reflection (n., adj.)
seismic stratigraphic (n., adj.)
seismicVISION (Schlumberger logging tool)
seismic wave (n., adj.)
Selandian (Selan.)
self-potential
self-reversal
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]
SET Sediment Temperature Tool [drilling]
SET2 Sediment Temperature 2 [drilling] (takes the word tool when used [e.g., we used the SET2 tool])
set back [drilling]
SETP sediment temperature pressure tool [drilling]
setup (n.)
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]
sheave break (n., adj.)
sheave edge (n., adj.)
sheave slope (n.) shelf-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]
SMCS Sample Materials Curation Management System
SMDC short monel drill collar (nonmagnetic) [drilling]
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-seawater (adj.)
surface water (n., adj.)
SVD singular value decomposition [science, XRD]
SW sea (salt) water [drilling]
swab [drilling]
swab cup [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
TCDD 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]
toolpusher [drilling]
tool string (n., adj.)
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.)
trachyandesite
trachybasalt
trachytic
track line
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]

Vcutainer (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 [seisms]

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]

Vmax maximum velocity

VMS volcanogenic massive sulfides

vol% volume percent

volcanic glass

volcaniclastic

volcanogenic

volcano-tectonic (adj.)

Vp compressional wave velocity

VPC vibra-percussive corer [drilling]

VPDB Vienna Peedee belemnite [science, isotopes]

VRM viscous remanent magnetization [science, paleomagnetism]

VSAT very small aperture terminal

VSI Versatile Seismic Imager

VSMOW Vienna standard mean ocean water [science, isotopes]

VSP vertical seismic profile [logging/seismic]
-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 [drilling]
wash core [drilling]
washout (n., adj.)
water column (n., adj.)
water depth (n., adj.)
water gun
water mass (n.) [GOG5]
water table (n., adj.)
wavefield
waveform
wavefront
waveguide
wavelength
wavenumber
waveshape
wave stack
wavetrain
WBUC Western Boundary Undercurrent
WD water depth [ship]
WDC World Data Center
website
Weddell Gyre
Weichselian (time period)
wellbore
wellhead
well log
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-core (adj.)
whole-round (adj.)
whole space
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]
-X-

**XCB** extended core barrel [drilling]

**xenocryst**

**XO** crossover (connecting pipe) [drilling]

**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