A Behavior Language (ABL): a programming language explicitly designed to support programming idioms for the creation of reactive, believable agents. ABL has been successfully used to author the central characters Trip and Grace for the interactive drama Facade (Mateas and Stern, 2003). The ABL compiler is written in Java and targets Java; the generated Java code is supported by the ABL runtime system. (Francis Jr., Mehta, & Ram, 2009)

\textit{a priori} Algorithm: the seminal algorithm for mining frequent itemsets for Boolean association rules based on the \textit{a priori} property (Gabroveanu, 2009)

\textit{a priori} Property: the property showing that values of evaluation criteria of sequential patterns are smaller than or equal to those of their sequential subpatterns (Sakurai, 2009)

\textit{a posteriori}: the knowledge that depends on evidence or experience (Harris, 2011)

\textit{a-Approximation Algorithm}: an algorithm producing a solution which is guaranteed to be no worst than a times the best solution (Bertossi, Pinotti, & Gupta, 2010)

\textit{a-Cut}: a crisp set, which holds the elements of a fuzzy set (on the same universe of discourse) whose membership grade is greater than, or equal to a. (In case of “strong” \textit{a-cut} it must be greater than a). (Kovács, 2009)

\textit{A/V Encryption}: an algorithm that can be used as one of access content system. The access content system (ACS) is a standard for content distribution and digital rights management, intended to restrict access to and copying of the next generation of optical discs and DVDs. (Kwon & Ko, 2009)

\textit{A/V Scrambling}: a technology that prevents byte-for-byte copies of an MPEG stream from being playable since such copies will not include the keys that are hidden on the lead-in area of the protected DVD disk. Second, it provides a reason for manufacturers to make compliant devices, since contents scrambling system scrambled disks will not play on noncompliant devices. Anyone wishing to build compliant devices must obtain a license, which contains the requirement that the rest of the copy-protection system be implemented (Kwon & Ko, 2009)

\textit{AAA}: see Authentication, Authorization, and Accounting
AAL: see Ambient Assisted Living

Abnormal Detection: to find out objects which appear to be inconsistent with the remainder of the object set (Xu, 2009a)

ABS: see Agent Based Simulation

Abstract Data Type (ADT): the specification of a set of data and the set of operations that can be performed on the data (Benítez-Guerrero & Nieva-García, 2009)

Abstract Database: an online literature search database that has a large number of abstracts with some full-text articles (Bartsch, 2008)

Abstract Interpretation: a theory of semantics approximation for computing conservative over-approximations of dynamic properties of programs (Cortesi & Logozzo, 2012)

Abstract System: an abstraction of an architecture and of programs running on it (Cortesi & Logozzo, 2012)

Abstract User Interface Definition: a platform-independent and technology-neutral description of the user interface (Mitrovic, Mena, & Royo, 2008)

Abstraction: a method for deriving VPs from PPs. An abstract process model results from the abstraction of some characteristics, that is, from variability of some elements of the PP. This mainly concerns the functions, which are suitable for abstraction. An abstract process model describes the possibility for process models by making several attribute values possible for some model elements. The effect is that it discloses details of process functions by allowing them to take different designs. Therefore, abstraction is suitable to create functionally alienated process models. (Ziemann, Kahl, & Werth, 2008)

Abstraction-Polymorphism, Inheritance, and Encapsulation (A-PIE): the steps in the object-oriented method (Shan & Hua, 2008a)

AC: 1. Actual Cost (Vanhoucke, 2009) 2. Authentication Center (Kasimatis & Varla, 2009)

Academic Discussion Groups: the online discussion groups associated with academic courses and are usually instructor led and of limited (one course/semester/quarter) duration. Participation is often required or graded. (Collins & Berge, 2008a)

Academic Learning Support Online (ALSONline): a generic academic support website designed by the Learning and Teaching Support Unit (LTSU) at USQ (Huijser, 2009)

Academic Library: a designated place, physical or digital, set aside to house scholarly research materials and materials supporting the academic, university, or college community and curriculum (Crummett & Perrault, 2008)

Academic Library User: the individuals with access to academic, university, or college library services and resources (Crummett & Perrault, 2008)

Academic Networked Environment: a set of contents and services available and distributed to the university campus community in electronic format (Morales, 2008a)

Accelerated Simulation Method (ASM): a state-based architecture that represents state by algebra as a non empty set together with number of functions and relations changing their values by guarded transition rules