

**base**

A *chemical species* or *molecular entity* having an available pair of electrons capable of forming a *covalent bond* with a *hydron* (proton) (see *Brønsted base*) or with the vacant orbital of some other species (see *Lewis base*).

See also *hard base*, *superbase*.

1994, 66, 1088; 1990, 62, 2176