

channel

1. Regions of *potential-energy surfaces* where there are valleys are sometimes referred to as arrangement channels. The *reactant* channel or entrance channel is that corresponding to configurations similar to those of the reactants; the *product* channel or exit channel relates to configurations similar to those of the products. In collision theory, the specification of a complete set of quantum numbers in a given arrangement channel is called a channel.

See also *entrance channel, exit channel*.

1996, 68, 157

2. (in analysis)

That part of an analytical instrument that is dedicated to a single analytical procedure, including the transducer.

This term relates to the internal operation of certain types of instruments, particularly in clinical chemistry. The general term channel has a much broader meaning, and the term is not recommended.

1989, 61, 1661