

proton affinity

The negative of the enthalpy change in the gas phase reaction (real or hypothetical) between a proton (more appropriately *hydron*) and the *chemical species* concerned, usually an electrically neutral species to give the *conjugate acid* of that species. Proton affinity is often, but unofficially, abbreviated as PA.

See also *gas phase basicity*.

1994, 66, 1153