

hole burning

The photo bleaching of a feature, normally a narrow range, within an inhomogeneous broader absorption or emission band. The holes are produced by the disappearance of resonantly excited molecules as a result of photophysical or photochemical processes. The resulting spectroscopic technique is site-selection spectroscopy.

Source:

PAC, 1996, 68, 2223 (*Glossary of terms used in photochemistry (IUPAC Recommendations 1996)*) on page 2246