

## thermal ionization

*in mass spectrometry*

Takes place when an atom or molecule interacts with a heated surface or is in a gaseous environment at high temperature. Examples of the latter may be a capillary arc plasma, a microwave plasma or an inductively coupled plasma.

**Source:**

PAC, 1991, 63, 1541 (*Recommendations for nomenclature and symbolism for mass spectroscopy (including an appendix of terms used in vacuum technology). (Recommendations 1991)*) on page 1548

Orange Book, p. 203