ion/neutral species reaction

in mass spectrometry

A process wherein a charged species interacts with a neutral reactant to produce either chemically different species or changes in the internal energy of one or both of the reactants. The contrasting expression ion/neutral reaction is not ideal, simply because the word neutral is not a noun. However, any alternatives such as ion/neutral species reaction are so clumsy as to mitigate against their general acceptance

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 1556