

zwitterionic compounds/zwitterions

Also contains definition of: dipolar ions

Synonym: inner salts

Neutral compounds having formal unit electrical charges of opposite sign. Some chemists restrict the term to compounds with the charges on non-adjacent atoms. Sometimes referred to as inner salts, dipolar ions (a misnomer). E.g. $\text{H}_3\text{N}^+\text{CH}_2\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{O}^-$ ammonioacetate (glycine), $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}^+-\text{O}^-$ trimethylamine oxide.

See: betaines, dipolar compounds, ylides

Source:

PAC, 1995, 67, 1307 (*Glossary of class names of organic compounds and reactivity intermediates based on structure (IUPAC Recommendations 1995)*) on page 1375

PAC, 1994, 66, 1077 (*Glossary of terms used in physical organic chemistry (IUPAC Recommendations 1994)*) on page 1176