Homolysis or homolytic bond cleavage is the breakage of a single bond with the two electrons in the bond distributed equally between the two atoms bound by the bond.

\[ \text{A} \equiv \text{B} \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{A} \cdot + \cdot \text{B} \]

**eg. 1:**

\[ \text{Br} \equiv \text{Br} \quad \rightarrow \quad 2 \cdot \text{Br} \cdot \]

**eg. 2:**

\[ \text{H} \equiv \text{CH}_3 \quad \rightarrow \quad \text{H} \cdot + \cdot \text{CH}_3 \]

**see also** simple homolysis, assisted homolysis, heterolysis

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**Contributors**

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