

allotropic transition

A transition of a pure element, at a defined temperature and pressure, from one crystal structure to another which contains the same atoms but which has different properties.

Examples: The transition of graphite to diamond, that of body-centred-cubic iron to face-centred-cubic iron, and the transition of orthorhombic sulfur to monoclinic sulfur.

Synonymous with allotriomorphic transition.

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