

**segment (in analytical chemistry)**

1. (for bulk materials): Each of the single, large portions of material pre-existing either in space (e.g. bags, bales, drums) or accumulated during a fixed time (e.g. discharge from a conveyor belt) or formable as increments by a sampling device. Segments may be actual or conceptual.

1990, *62*, 1202

2. The set of samples which can be analysed between two successive calibrations. A segment includes samples, control materials and blank samples. This term is of particular importance in clinical chemistry.

1989, *61*, 1661