

moiety

In physical organic chemistry moiety is generally used to signify part of a molecule, e.g. in an ester R^1COOR^2 the alcohol moiety is R^2O . The term should not be used for a small fragment of a molecule.

Source:

PAC, 1994, 66, 1077 (*Glossary of terms used in physical organic chemistry (IUPAC Recommendations 1994)*) on page 1141