preconcentration coefficient

*of a desired microcomponent

*in trace analysis

This is defined as

\[ K = \frac{Q_T/Q_M}{Q_T^\circ/Q_M^\circ} \]

where \( Q_T \) and \( Q_T^\circ \) are the quantities of the microcomponent in the concentrate and in the sample, respectively (mass units or concentration units), and \( Q_M^\circ \) and \( Q_M \) are the quantities of the matrix before and after preconcentration, respectively. If the recovery is 100\%, \( K = \frac{Q_M^\circ}{Q_M} \). The terms enrichment coefficient and enrichment factor are not recommended.

*Source:*

PAC, 1979, 51, 1195 (Separation and preconcentration of trace substances. I - Preconcentration for inorganic trace analysis) on page 1198