**resolving power**

*in mass spectrometry*

The ability to distinguish between ions differing in the quotient mass/charge by a small increment. It may be characterized by giving the peak width, measured in mass units, expressed as a function of mass, for at least two points on the peak, specifically at fifty percent and at five percent of the maximum peak height.

**Source:**
Orange Book, p. 203
PAC, 1978, 50, 65 (*Recommendations for symbolism and nomenclature for mass spectroscopy*) on page 72
PAC, 1991, 63, 1541 (*Recommendations for nomenclature and symbolism for mass spectroscopy (including an appendix of terms used in vacuum technology). (Recommendations 1991)*)) on page 1554