**absorption coefficient**

Linear decadic ($a$, $K$) and Napierian absorption coefficients ($\alpha$) are equal to the corresponding absorbances divided by the optical path length through the sample. The molar absorption coefficients (decadic $\varepsilon$, Napierian $\kappa$) are the linear absorption coefficients divided by the amount concentration.

**Source:**
Green Book, 2nd ed., p. 32

**See also:**
PAC, 1990, 62, 2167 (*Glossary of atmospheric chemistry terms (Recommendations 1990)*) on page 2169
PAC, 1996, 68, 2223 (*Glossary of terms used in photochemistry (IUPAC Recommendations 1996)*) on page 2226
PAC, 1996, 68, 957 (*Glossary of terms in quantities and units in Clinical Chemistry (IUPAC-IFCC Recommendations 1996)*) on page 959