

mass resolving power

in mass spectrometry

Commonly and also acceptably defined in terms of the overlap (or 'valley') between two peaks. Thus for two peaks of equal height, masses m_1 and m_2 , when there is overlap between the two peaks to a stated percentage of either peak height (10% is recommended), then the resolving power is defined as $\frac{m_1}{m_1 - m_2}$. The percentage overlap (or 'valley') concerned must always be stated.

Source:

PAC, 1978, 50, 65 (*Recommendations for symbolism and nomenclature for mass spectroscopy*) on page 72