

peak widths

in chromatography

Peak widths represent retention dimensions (time or volume) parallel to the baseline. If the baseline is not parallel to the axis representing time or volume, then the peak widths are to be drawn parallel to this axis. Three peak-width values are commonly used in chromatography. Peak width at base (w_b) is the segment of the peak base intercepted by the tangents drawn to the inflection points on either side of the peak. Peak width at half height (w_h) is the length of the line parallel to the peak base at 50% of the peak height that terminates at the intersection with the two limbs of the peak. Peak width at inflection points (w_i) is the length of the line drawn between the inflection points parallel to the peak base. The peak width at base may be called the 'base width'. However, the peak width at half height must never be called the 'half width' because that has a completely different meaning. Also, the symbol $w_{1/2}$ should never be used instead of w_h .

Source:

PAC, 1993, 65, 819 (*Nomenclature for chromatography (IUPAC Recommendations 1993)*) on page 836

Orange Book, p. 101

Orange Book, p. 102