

**mass distribution ratio (in chromatography)**

The fraction  $(1 - R)$  of a component in the stationary phase divided by the fraction  $(R)$  in the mobile phase:

$$D_m = \frac{\text{amount of substance in the stationary phase}}{\text{amount of component in the mobile phase}}$$

This term is recommended in preference to the term capacity factor frequently used in the chromatographic literature.

See also *extraction factor*.

O.B. 107; 1993, 65, 2384