

Calculating theoretical plates N at half height – How To

The theoretical plate number $N_{0.5}$ can be calculated from a chromatogram using the equation below:

$$N_{0.5} = 5.54 (t_R/w_{0.5})^2$$

Where t_R is retention time and $w_{0.5}$ is the peak width at half its height. Remember to use the same units (minutes or seconds) for both values (t_R and $w_{0.5}$).



Printed from the Chrom Resource Center

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Date: 07-27-2024