

**calibration function (in analysis)**

The functional (not statistical) relationship for the *chemical measurement process*, relating the expected value of the observed (gross) signal or response variable  $E(y)$  to the analyte amount  $x$ . The corresponding graphical display for a single analyte is referred to as the *calibration curve*. When extended to additional variables or analytes which occur in multicomponent analysis, the 'curve' becomes a calibration surface or hypersurface.

1995, 67, 1703; see also 1990, 62, 2177