

Calibration

Chemistry

How quantitative analysis is made traceable.

Types of standard and their role.

Term	Is
Primary standard	Pure, stable, known formula, high Mr
Standard solution	Known concentration, made from a primary standard
Calibration curve	Signal plotted against known concentrations
Internal standard	Added to every sample to correct for variation
Blank	Everything except the analyte
Certified reference material	Independently verified composition

Sodium carbonate is a good primary standard: pure, stable, non-hygroscopic and with a high relative formula mass.