

change of a quantity

The increment of the value of a quantity Q with time. The change may be expressed either infinitesimally at time t by the differential dQ or $dQ(t)$, or in practice it may be expressed by a finite increment over the time interval $(t_1; t_2)$, i.e. $Q(t_2) - Q(t_1)$, which may be written ΔQ or $\Delta Q(t_1; t_2)$

$$\Delta Q = \Delta Q(t_1; t_2) = Q(t_2) - Q(t_1)$$

Examples are: mass change, Δm ; amount of substance change, Δn ; volume change, ΔV ; substance concentration change, Δc .

Source:

PAC, 1992, 64, 1569 (*Quantities and units for metabolic processes as a function of time (IUPAC Recommendations 1992)*) on page 1571