

**measurement**

A description of a property of a system by means of a set of specified rules, that maps the property onto a scale of specified values, by direct or 'mathematical' comparison with specified reference(s).

The demand for rules makes 'measurement' a scientific concept in contrast to the mere colloquial sense of 'description'. However, in the present definition, 'measurement' has a wider meaning than given in elementary physics. Even a very incomplete description of, for instance, a patient (at a stated time) has to be given by a set of measurements, that are easier to manage and grasp.

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