## specific surface area (in surface chemistry)

When the area of the interface between two phases is proportional to the mass of one of the phases (e.g. for a solid adsorbent, for an emulsion or for an aerosol), the specific surface area ( $a, s$ or preferably $a_{s}$ ) is defined as the surface area divided by the mass of the relevant phase.

1972, 31, 583; G.B. 63

