Problem 67

Suppose your bathroom scale reads your mass as 65 kg with a 3% uncertainty. What is the uncertainty in your mass (in kilograms)?

Solution

Find 3% of 65 kg.

$$0.03(65 \text{ kg}) \approx 2 \text{ kg}$$

Therefore, the uncertainty in the mass is 2 kg. To express this, the weight is written as (65 ± 2) kg.