dispersion (for spectroscopic instruments)

Dispersion of a material $= \frac{dn}{d\lambda}$ where n = refractive index and λ wavelength; angular dispersion $= \frac{d\Phi}{d\lambda}$ where Φ = angle; and linear dispersion $= \frac{dx}{d\lambda}$ where $x =$ separation of spectral lines. The reciprocal of the last-named quantity is more frequently used ($\frac{d\lambda}{dx}$), and is commonly expressed in Å mm^{-1}.

Source:
Orange Book, p. 101