

bonding number

The bonding number n of a skeletal atom is the sum of the total number of bonding equivalents (valence bonds) of that skeletal atom to adjacent skeletal atoms in a parent hydride, if any, and the number of attached hydrogen atoms, if any.

Examples:

SH₂: for S, $n = 2$; SH₆: for S, $n = 6$.

B.B.(G) 21; see also 1984, 56, 774