

branching index (in polymers)

A parameter, g , characterizing the effect of long-chain branches on the size of a branched macromolecule in solution and defined as the ratio of the mean-square radius of gyration of a branched molecule, $\langle s_b^2 \rangle$, to that of an otherwise identical linear molecule, $\langle s_l^2 \rangle$, with the same relative molecular mass in the same solvent and at the same temperature, i.e. $g = \langle s_b^2 \rangle / \langle s_l^2 \rangle$.

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