

## 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.  $g = \frac{\langle s_b^2 \rangle}{\langle s_l^2 \rangle}$ .

**Source:**

Purple Book, p. 51