# scaling factor

A variational parameter used as a multiplier of each nuclear Cartesian and electronic coordinate chosen to minimize the variational integral and to make a trial variation function to satisfy the virial theorem. In practical calculations, the numeral factor to scale computed values, e.g. vibrational frequencies, to those found in experiments.

*Source:*
PAC, 1999, *71*, 1919 *(Glossary of terms used in theoretical organic chemistry)* on page 1961