

steric factor (in polymers)

The ratio, σ , of the *root-mean-square end-to-end distance* of a polymer chain with unperturbed dimensions, $\langle r^2 \rangle_0^{1/2}$, to that of a *freely rotating chain* with the same structure, $\langle r^2 \rangle_0^{1/2}$, i.e. $(\langle r^2 \rangle_0 / \langle r^2 \rangle_{0,f})^{1/2}$, in the limit of infinite chain length.

The steric factor reflects the effect of hindrance to free rotation.

P.B. 50