

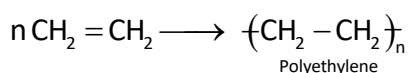
# Study Notes on Polymers

## Polymers

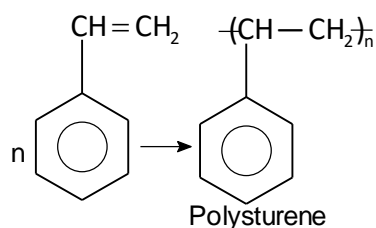
A polymer consists of a large number of simple monomeric structural units which are repeated to form a giant molecule which is known as a "Macromolecule".

Some examples of polymers:

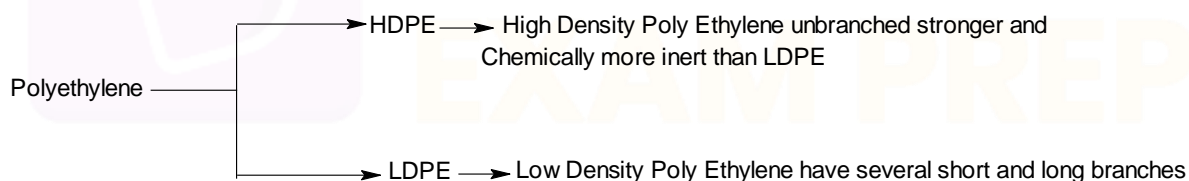
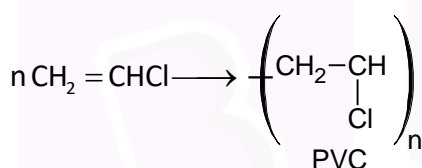
(1) Polyethylene



(2)



(3) Poly Vinyl Chloride [PVC]



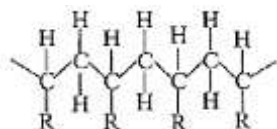
**Degree of Polymerization:** It is the number of monomeric units present in a macromolecule or in a polymer. Mathematically, it can be expressed as:

$$P = \frac{M}{m}$$

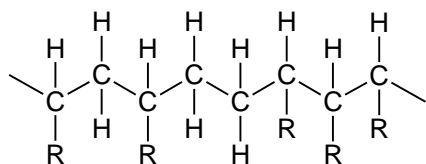
M = Molar mass of polymer, m = Molar of monomeric units

**Classification of polymers:**

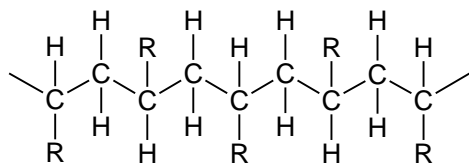
**1). Isotactic Polymers:** In isotactic, all substituents are present on the same side of the macromolecular backbone. All asymmetric carbons have same *d/l* configuration.



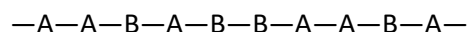
**2). Atactic Polymers:** These are generally amorphous and are less dense than that of isotactic. They have random sequence of *d*/*l* configuration of asymmetric carbon.



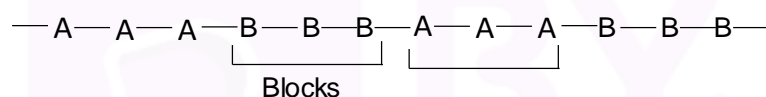
**3). Syndiotactic Polymers:** These polymers have regular alternation of *d*/*l* configuration in molecular chains and the substituent group lie alternatively above below the main chain.



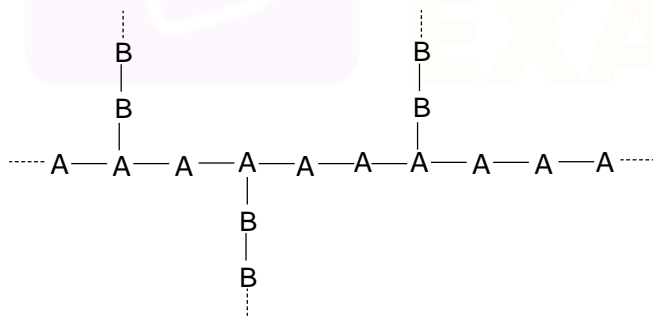
**4). Copolymers:** These are the polymers that are generally derived from more than one species of monomer.



**5). Block Polymer:** It is a type of a copolymer in which blocks are arranged in a linear pattern.



**6) Graft Polymers:** It is a type of a copolymer in which one or more blocks of homopolymer are present as branches.



**Number Average Molar Mass:** It is the ratio of total weight of sample to total number of molecules.

Its expression is:

$$\bar{M}_n = \frac{n_1 M_1 + n_2 M_2 + \dots}{n_1 + n_2 + \dots} \quad \boxed{\bar{M}_n = \sum_i \left( \frac{n_i M_i}{n_i} \right)}$$

Each molecule counts equally. It is used in Osmotic pressure, End group analysis, Colligative properties.

**Mass Average Molar Mass:** It can be calculated as:

$$\bar{M}_m = \frac{n_1 M_1^2 + n_2 M_2^2 + \dots}{n_1 M_1 + n_2 M_2 + \dots} \quad \boxed{\bar{M}_m = \sum_i \left( \frac{n_i m_i^2}{n_i M_i} \right)}$$

Each molecule contributes to its mass.

If  $C$  denotes the concentration of polymer solution in gm/unit volume, then  $C_i = \sum n_i M_i$

$$\boxed{\bar{M}_m = \sum \frac{C_i M_i}{C_i}}$$

It is used in light scattering, Sedimentation velocity.



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