erythro structures

Also contains definition of: *threo* structures *in a polymer*

in a polymer

The relative configuration at two contiguous carbon atoms in the main chain bearing, respectively, substituents a and b ($a \neq b$), is designated by the prefix *erythro* or *threo*, as appropriate, by analogy with the terminology for carbohydrate systems in which the substituents are OH. Examples:

Similar systems in which a higher level of substitution exists may be treated analogously if the *erythro* or *threo* designation is employed to denote the relative placements of those two substituents, one for each backbone carbon atom, which rank highest according to the Sequence Rule.

Source:

Purple Book, p. 36