

paraffin [obsolete]

Obsolescent term for saturated hydrocarbons, commonly but not necessarily acyclic. Still widely used in the petrochemical industry, where the term designates acyclic saturated hydrocarbons, and stands in contradistinction to naphthenes.

Source:

PAC, 1995, 67, 1307 (*Glossary of class names of organic compounds and reactivity intermediates based on structure (IUPAC Recommendations 1995)*) on page 1356