

stereospecific polymerization

Polymerization in which a tactic polymer is formed. However, polymerization in which stereoisomerism present in the monomer is merely retained in the polymer is not to be regarded as stereospecific. For example, the polymerization of a chiral monomer, e.g. D-propylene oxide (D-methyloxirane), with retention of configuration is not considered to be a stereospecific reaction; however, selective polymerization, with retention, of one of the enantiomers present in a mixture of D- and L-propylene oxide molecules is so classified.

Source:

Purple Book, p. 19

Purple Book, p. 32