An oligosaccharide is a carbohydrate whose molecule, upon hydrolysis, yields two to ten monosaccharide molecules. Oligosaccharides are classified into subclasses based on the number of monosaccharide molecules that form when one molecule of the oligosaccharide is hydrolysed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># monosaccharide molecules formed upon hydrolysis of one oligosaccharide molecule</th>
<th>oligosaccharide</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>disaccharide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>trisaccharide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>tetrasaccharide</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**eg:**

```
\[
\begin{align*}
\text{sucrose} & \xrightarrow{\text{hydrolysis}} \quad \text{\(\alpha\)-D-glucose} & \quad \text{\(\beta\)-D-fructose} \\
\end{align*}
\]
```

See also [polysaccharide](#)
Contributors

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