An optically active compound that rotates the plane of plane-polarized light counterclockwise, observed toward the light leaving the compound, is said to be levorotatory (symbol: \(\textit{l}\) or \(-\))

eg:

\((R)-\text{Lactic acid: (1)}\) is levorotatory

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{CO}_2\text{H} \\
\text{H} \\
\text{C} \\
\text{CH}_3 \\
\text{OH} \\
\end{array}
\]

\(\text{1}\)

see also dextrorotatory

Contributors

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