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: $l$ or -)

eg:

$(R)$-Lactic acid: (1) is levorotatory

see also dextrorotatory

---

**Contributors**

- Gamini Gunawardena from the OChemPal site (Utah Valley University)