

**enantiotopic**

Constitutionally identical atoms or groups in molecules which are related by symmetry elements of the second kind only (mirror plane, inversion centre or rotation–reflection axis). For example the two groups c in a grouping Cabcc are enantiotopic. Replacement of one of a pair of enantiotopic groups forms one of a pair of enantiomers. Analogously, if complexation or addition to one of the two faces defined by a double bond or other molecular plane gives rise to a chiral species, the two faces are called enantiotopic.

See also *prochiral*, *diastereotopic*.

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