

**regioselectivity (regioselective)**

A regioselective reaction is one in which one direction of bond making or breaking occurs preferentially over all other possible directions. Reactions are termed completely (100%) regioselective if the discrimination is complete, or partially ( $x\%$ ), if the product of reaction at one site predominates over the product of reaction at other sites. The discrimination may also semi-quantitatively be referred to as high or low regioselectivity. (Originally the term was restricted to *addition* reactions of unsymmetrical reagents to unsymmetrical alkenes.)

In the past, the term ‘regiospecificity’ was proposed for 100% regioselectivity. This terminology is not recommended owing to inconsistency with the terms *stereoselectivity* and *stereospecificity*.

See also *chemoselectivity*.

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