# Polymers

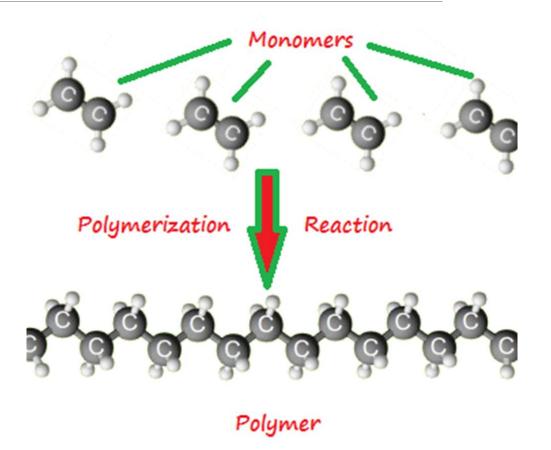
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### Definitions

#### **Polymer:**

It is a high molecular weight molecule that is composed of many repeating units. (poly = many, mer = unit).



### Definitions

#### Monomer:

It is the smallest repeated building unit of the polymer chain. (mono

= single).

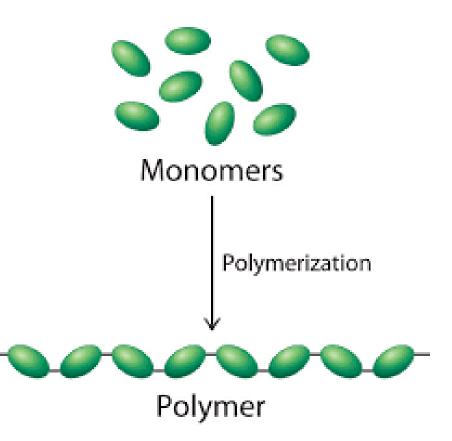


### Definitions

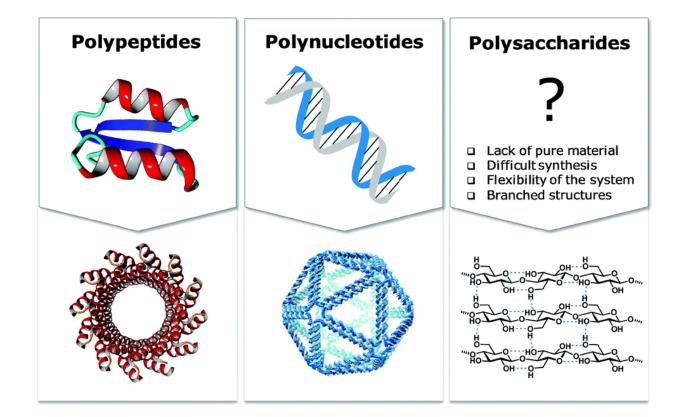
#### **Polymerization reaction:**

It is the reaction by which the

monomers form the polymeric chain.



- **1.** <u>According to origin:</u>
- a) <u>Natural Polymers:</u>
- Synthesized by living cells. eg:
- proteins, starch and
- polysaccharides (agar and
- alginate).



### **1.** <u>According to origin:</u>

b) <u>Synthetic polymers:</u>

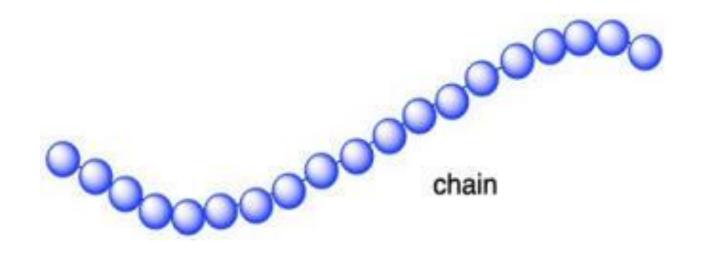
Synthesized by chemical reactions inside the laboratory. e.g: Acrylic resin.



#### 2. According to arrangement in space (spatial configuration):

a) Linear Polymers:

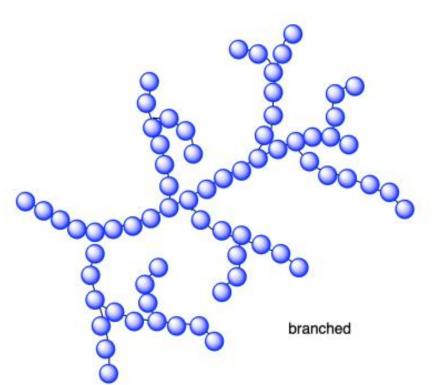
The polymer molecule forms a thread without any branches.



- 2. <u>According to arrangement in space (spatial</u> <u>configuration):</u>
- b) Branched Polymers:

In the polymer molecule, a shorter side chains

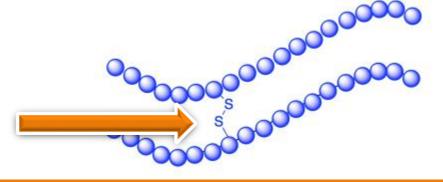
are attached to the main backbone chain

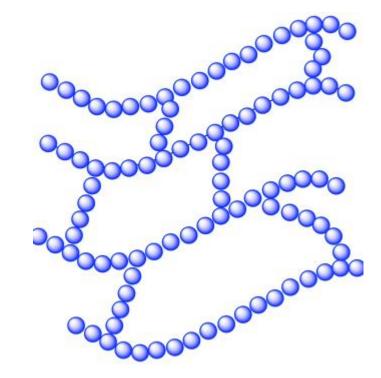


- 2. According to arrangement in space (spatial configuration):
- c) <u>Cross-linked Polymers:</u>

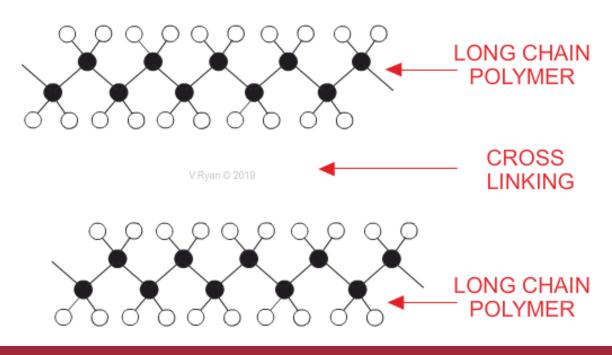
The main polymer chains are bonded by

covalent bond





- 2. <u>According to arrangement in space</u> (spatial configuration):
- c) <u>Cross-linked Polymers:</u>



### 3. According to Thermal behavior:

a) <u>Thermoplastic Polymers.</u>







Thermoplastic polymers	Thermoset polymers
Linear Polymers	Cross-linked Polymers
Chains bonded by secondary	Chains bonded by Primary bond
bond and entanglement of chains	
Reversible reaction	Irreversible reaction

Thermoplastic polymers	Thermoset polymers
Heat $ ightarrow$ softens the polymer then	Heat -> decomposes (burn) the
harden by cooling	polymer
Molded by heat and pressure $ ightarrow$	Molded by heat and pressure
temporary destroy secondary	during initial stages 🗲 forming
bond	primary bond

Thermoplastic polymers	Thermoset polymers
Final product has the same	Final Product is chemically
chemical composition	different than original substances
Show Glass Transition	Not show Glass Transition
Temperature (Tg)	Temperature

#### 4. According to Mechanical Properties:

a) <u>Elastomers (elastic Polymers).</u>

They have wide range of elastic deformation and low modulus of elasticity.

e.g: rubber base impression materials.



#### 4. According to Mechanical Properties:

#### b) Plastic Polymers.

They have moderate range of elastic deformation and moderate modulus of elasticity.

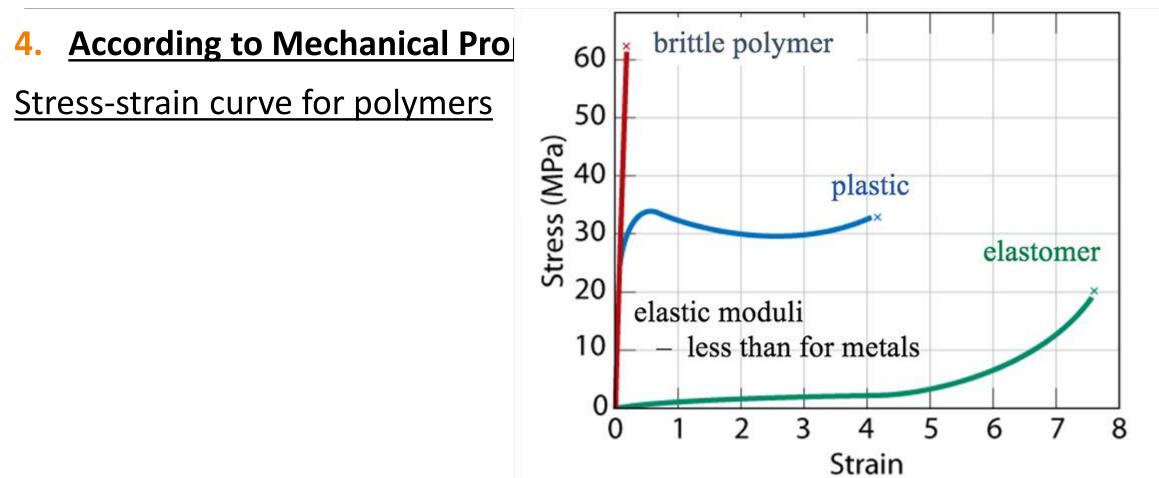
e.g: Acrylic resin.

#### 4. According to Mechanical Properties:

#### c) Brittle Polymers.

They have small range of elastic deformation and high modulus of elasticity.

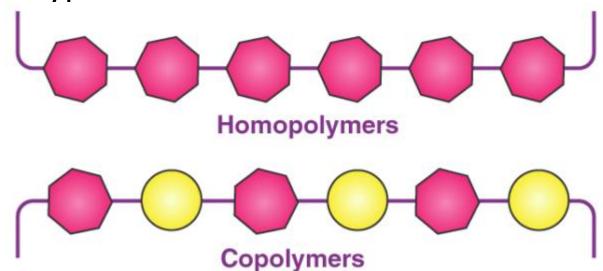




#### 5. According to chemical composition of monomers:

a) <u>Homo-Polymers.</u>

It is a polymer consists of single type of monomers

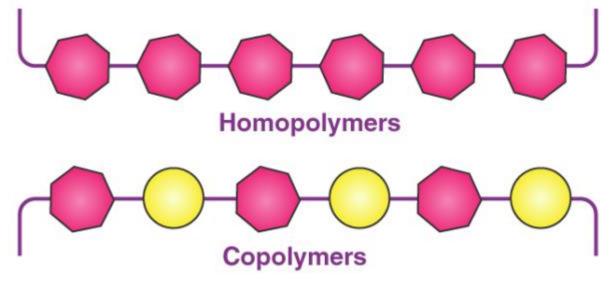


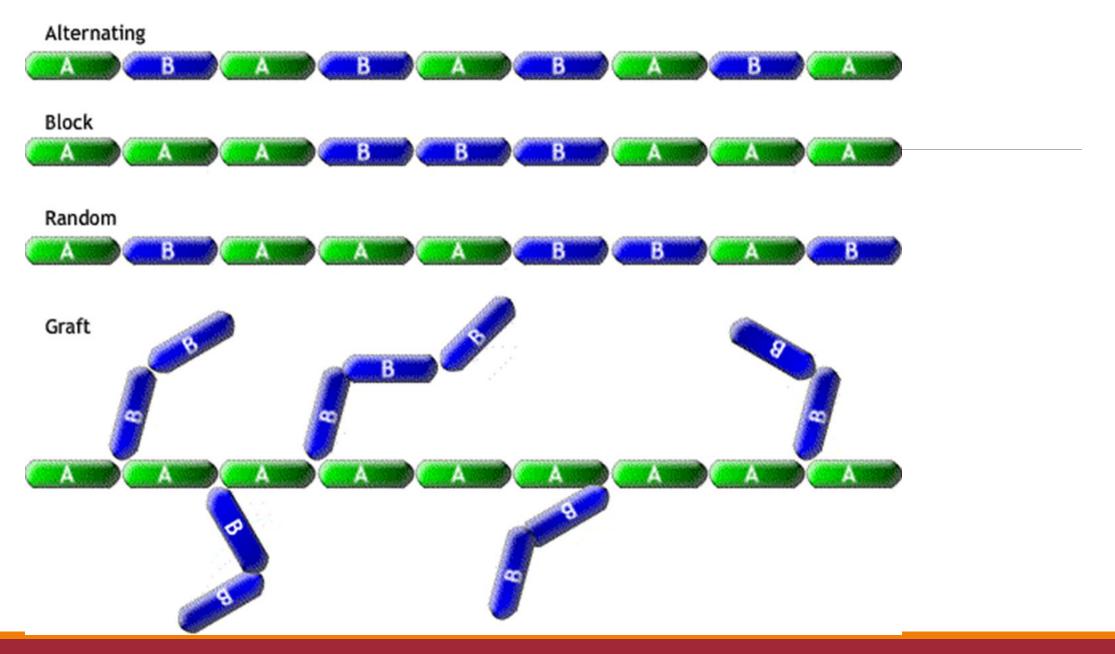
#### 5. <u>According to chemical composition of monomers:</u>

### b) <u>Co-Polymers.</u>

It is a polymer consists of two or more different types of monomers.

They could be:





- 5. According to chemical composition of monomers:
- b) <u>Co-Polymers:</u>
  - 1) Alternating copolymers:

Different monomers are arranged regularly in an alternative pattern.



- 5. According to chemical composition of monomers:
- b) <u>Co-Polymers:</u>
  - 2) Random copolymers:

Different monomers are arranged randomly.



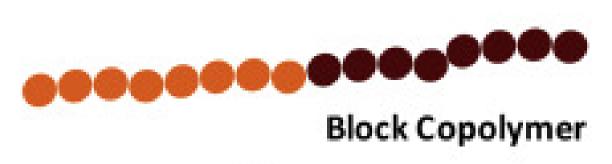
5. According to chemical composition of monomers:

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- b) <u>Co-Polymers:</u>
  - 3) Block copolymers:

Each monomer forms a cluster.

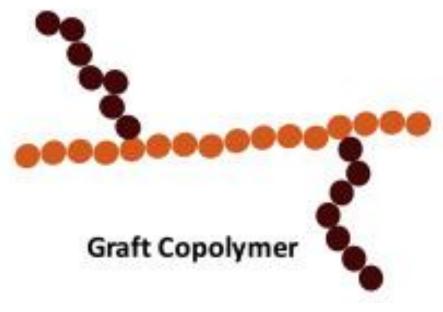
The clusters are arranged alternatively.



- 5. <u>According to chemical composition of</u> <u>monomers:</u>
- b) <u>Co-Polymers:</u>
  - 4) Graft copolymers:

One polymer forms a backbone.

The other monomer is attached as side chains to the backbone.



#### 6. According to Polymerization Reaction:

- a) Condensation Polymerization Reaction.
- b) Addition Polymerization Reaction.
  - i. Free radical
  - ii. Ring opening

### 6. According to Polymerization Reaction:

a) Condensation Polymerization Reaction.

The monomers react together to form the polymer chains with elimination of a small molecule called by-product. eg: water, gas, .... etc.

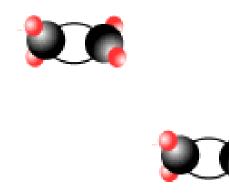




### 6. According to Polymerization Reaction:

b) Addition Polymerization Reaction.

The monomers react together to form the polymer chains without elimination of a by-product.





#### 6. According to Polymerization Reaction:

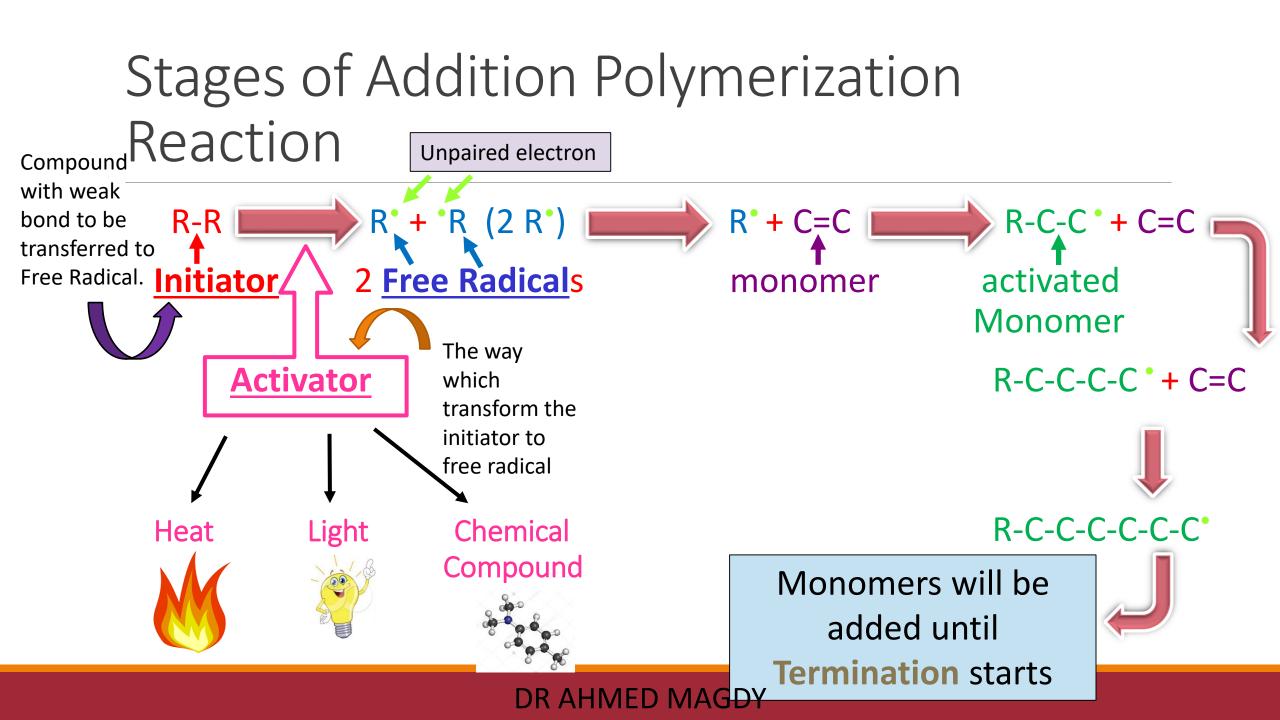
- b) Addition Polymerization Reaction.
- The Addition polymerization reaction gives more accurate polymers than the condensation type as there is no elimination of by-products.

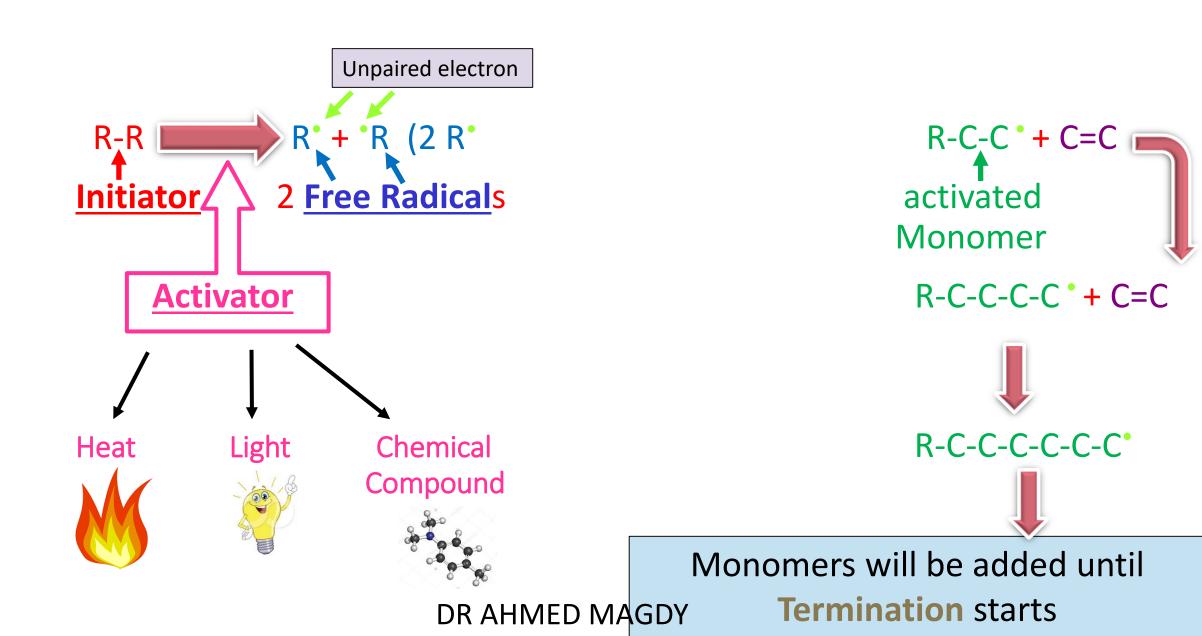
## Stages of Free Radical Addition Polymerization Reaction

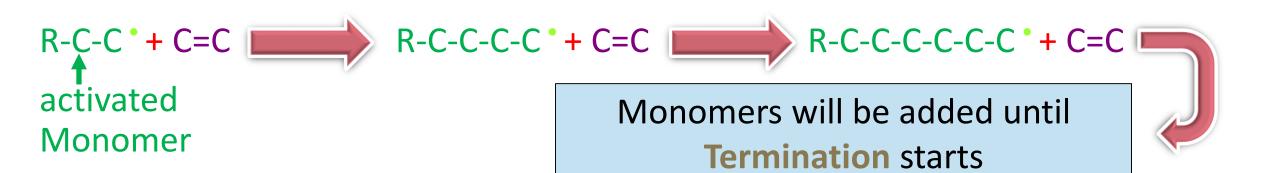
- 1. ctivation
- 2. Initiation.
- 3. Propagation.
- 4. Termination

### Stages of Addition Polymerization Reaction

- 1. Activation
- 2. Initiation.
- 3. Propagation.
- 4. Termination











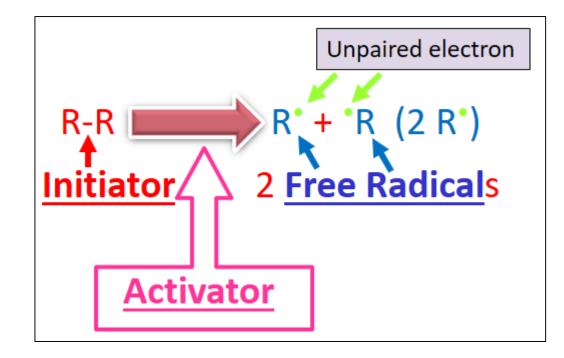




## Stages of Addition Polymerization Reaction

### 1. Activation:

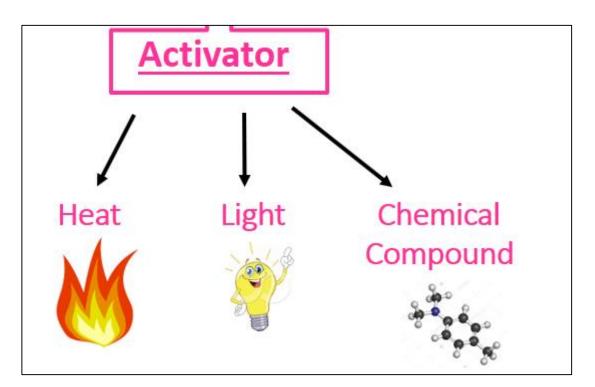
- It is the process of production of free radicals.
- Free radicals are the active form of the initiators.
- Free radical is highly reactive compound due to presence of unpaired electron.



## Stages of Addition Polymerization Reaction

### 1. Activation:

- Initiator can be activated by:
  - a. Heat.
  - b. Light.
  - c. Chemical compound.



### 2. Initiation:

- It is the reaction of free radical with the first monomer.
- The free radical breaks the double bond of the monomer (C=C) and react with one carbon atom.



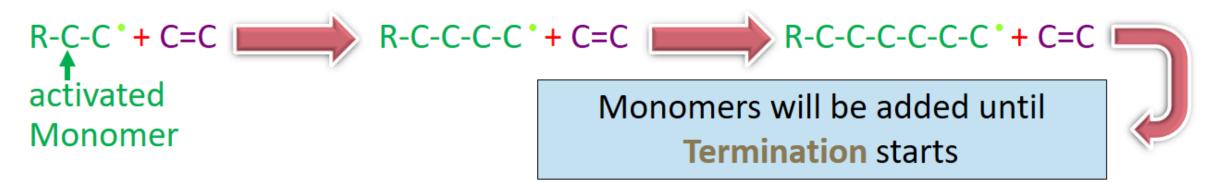
### 2. Initiation:

- The other carbon atom contains the unpaired electron making it very reactive.
- i.e: The reactivity of the free radical is transferred to the monomer (activated monomer)



### 3. Propagation:

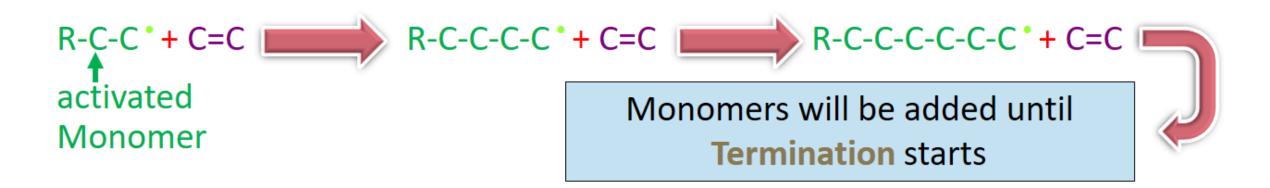
- It is the process of addition of the monomers to the growing chains.
- Each activated monomer attacks C=C of unreacted monomers transferring the active part to it.



### 3. Propagation:

Theoretically, the propagation step should be continued until all unreacted monomers are added.

Otherwise, the propagation step is stopped by termination



### 4. <u>Termination:</u>

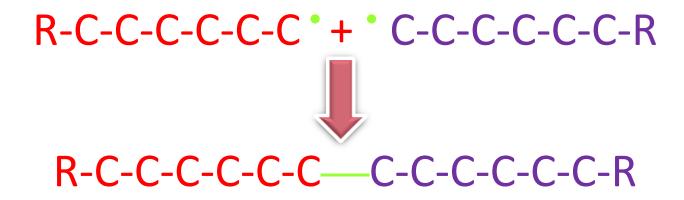
The termination process stops the growth of growing chains either by:

- a. Direct Coupling.
- b. Hydrogen atom transfer.

### 4. Termination:

a. Direct Coupling.

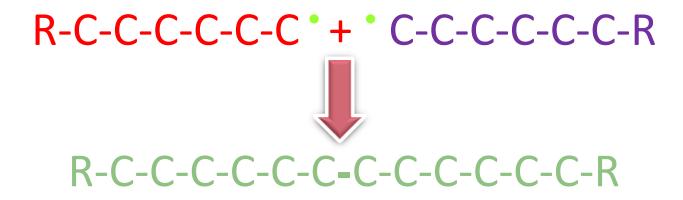
Two growing chains reacts together to give one long stable chain.



### 4. Termination:

a. Direct Coupling.

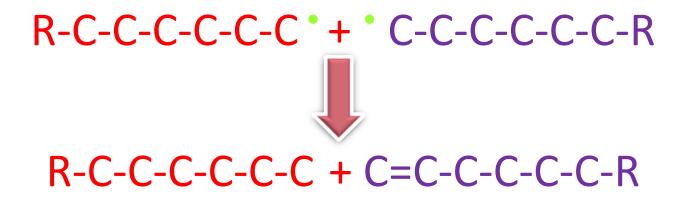
Two growing chains reacts together to give one long stable chain.



### 4. <u>Termination:</u>

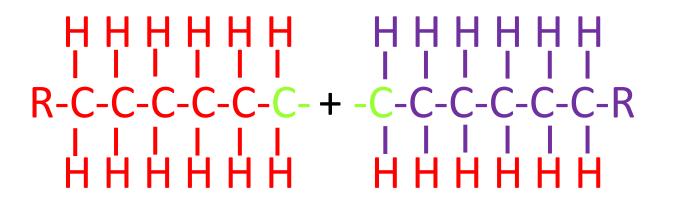
b. Hydrogen Atom Transfer.

The Hydrogen atom transfers from active chain to another active chain to give two stable chains.



### 4. Termination:

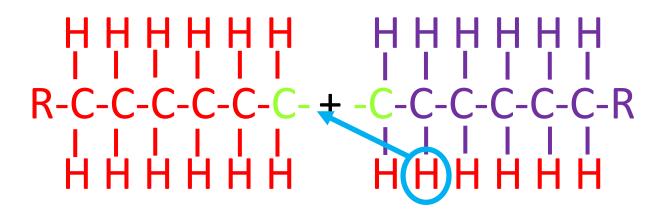
b. Hydrogen Atom Transfer.





### 4. Termination:

b. Hydrogen Atom Transfer.







### 4. Termination:

b. Hydrogen Atom Transfer.



## Chain Transfer

Chain transfer is a transfer reactivity from active chain to inactive chain.

# R-C-C-C-C-C-C + C=C-C-C-C-C-R R-C-C-C-C-C=C + C-C-C-C-C-R



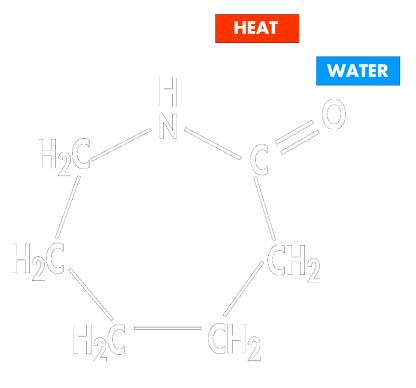
### Termination

- > The termination process occurs under normal conditions.
- This results in incompletion of the polymerization reaction and presence of residual monomers



## Ring opening polymerization reaction

The terminal group of the monomer is a ring.

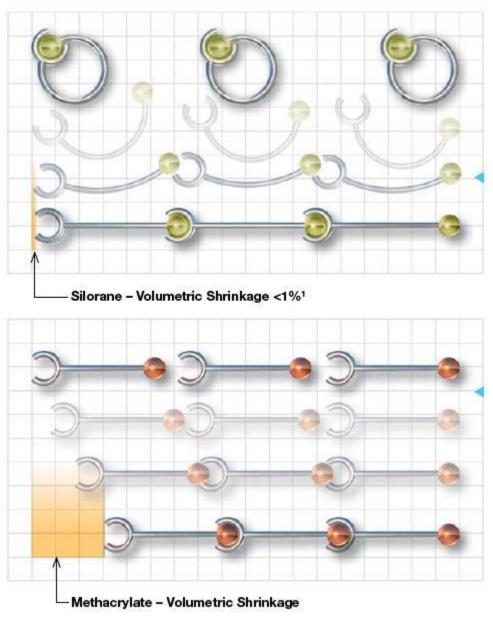


<u>Carprollacitam</u>

## Ring opening polymer

Advantages:

- 1. Less polymerization shrinkage
- 2. Less heat evolution



Inhibition → stopping Retardation → lowering the rate

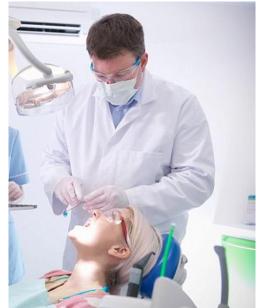


1. <u>Hydroquinone</u> are added to the monomers to inhibit the premature polymerization reaction of the monomers during

storage or accidental exposure to heat or light.







Eugenol inhibits the polymerization reaction of resin composite.
 So bases containing eugenol should not be used as a base under

composite resin restorations.



3. <u>Oxygen</u> inhibits the polymerization reaction of resin composite. So the surfaces of the restorations (in contact with oxygen during polymerization) should be polished to remove the unreacted surface layer or covered by a matrix band.



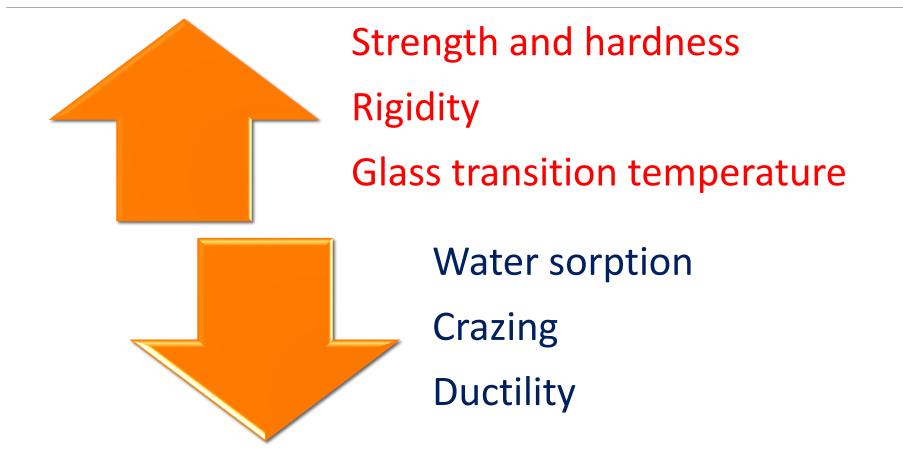


## Factors Associated with polymerization reaction:

- Evolution of heat due to the breaking of the covalent bonds of the monomers.
- 2. Reduction in the volume (Polymerization shrinkage).
- 3. Presence of residual monomers. Because not all the monomers participate in the reaction.

## General Properties of the Polymers

- Polymers is molecular solids.
- > Polymers is amorphous solids.



### **1.** <u>Molecular weight (M.W) and Degree of polymerization (DP):</u>

M.W of polymer molecule = Weight of mers X Number of mers.

The higher the M.W, the higher the degree of polymerization



### **1.** <u>Molecular weight (M.W) and Degree of polymerization (DP):</u>

Degree of conversion (Degree of polymerization): is the total number

of monomers in the polymer chain

D.P = Mw of polymer / Mw of mer

### **1.** <u>Molecular weight (M.W) and Degree of polymerization (DP):</u>

### **Effect on properties:**

The longer the polymer chain  $\rightarrow$  the more the entanglement

between chains occurs  $\rightarrow$  more secondary bonds

### 1. Molecular weight (M.W) and Degree of polymerization (DP):



### 2. <u>Copolymerization:</u>

Copolymer is a polymer consists of two or more different types of

monomers



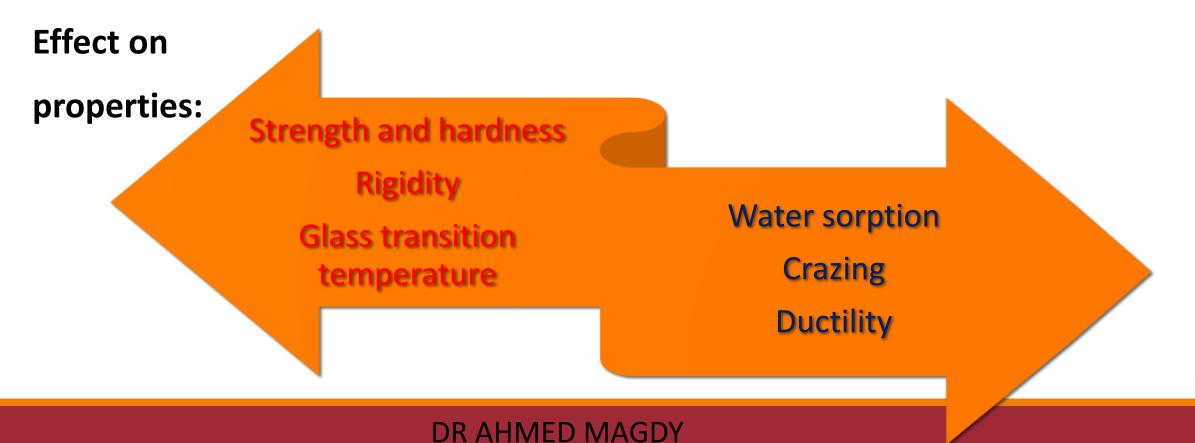
### 2. <u>Copolymerization:</u>

**Effect on properties:** 

Copolymerization allows the chemists to synthetize a polymer with

desired properties (Tailor-make effect).

### 2. <u>Copolymerization:</u>



### 3. Cross-linking:

It is the bonding of the polymer chains with primary covalent bond.

This leads to forming a network structure.



### 3. Cross-linking:

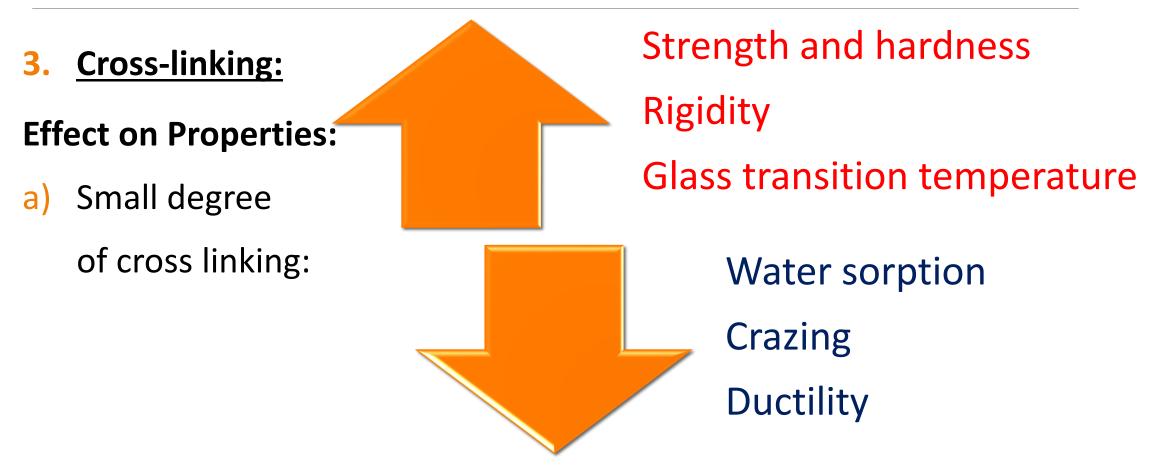
The cross linking agent is a chemical compound with two double bonds per molecule can bond covalently different chains.

Cross linking of rubbers is called vulcanization.

### 3. Cross-linking:

### **Effect on Properties:**

- a) Small degree of cross linking:
- It limits the movement of polymer chains past each other



### 3. Cross-linking:

**Effect on Properties:** 

b) Extensive cross linking:

It Leads to brittleness of the polymer

### 4. Plasticizer:

It is the partially neutralization of the secondary Van der Waal forces

between the polymer chains.



### 4. Plasticizer:

**Types of plasticizers:** 

a) Internal plasticizer.

b) External plasticizer.

#### 4. Plasticizer:

- a) Internal plasticizer.
  - > Incorporated by copolymerization.
  - > It is a part of the polymer.

#### 4. Plasticizer:

b) External plasticizer.

- > It is a compound added to the polymer.
- It penetrates between the polymer chains to partially neutralize the secondary forces between the chains.

#### 4. Plasticizer:

**Effect on properties:** 

> It partially neutralizes the secondary forces between polymer.



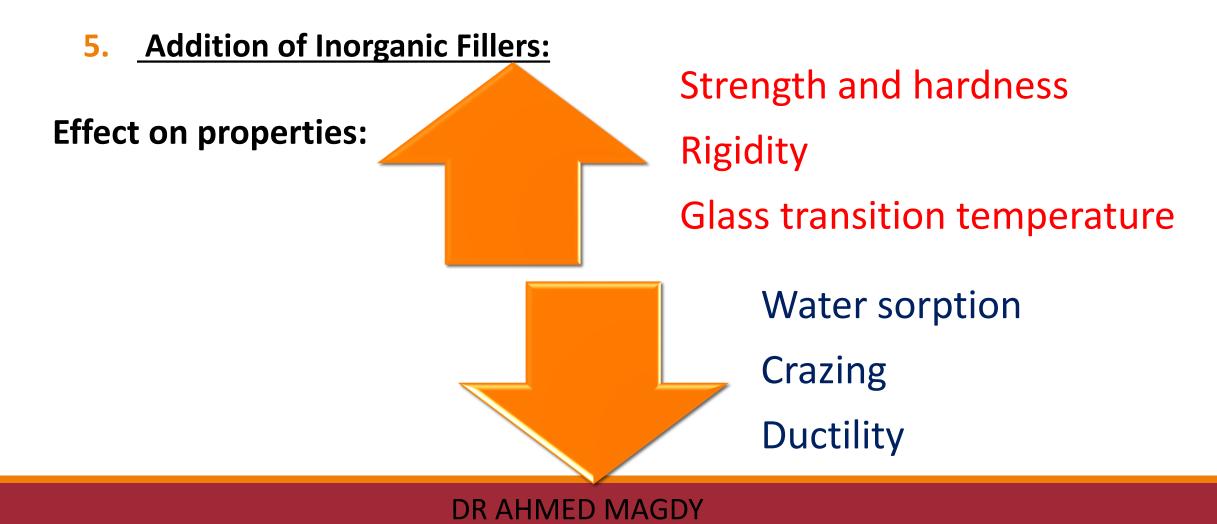


#### 5. Addition of Inorganic Fillers:

Like composite resin

**Effect on properties:** 

> The fillers improve the properties.



#### 6. <u>Rate of Loading:</u>

Polymers are viscoelastic materials  $\rightarrow$  sensitive to rate of loading:

- ➢ At slow rate of loading → behave in a ductile manner.
- $\succ$  At high rate of loading  $\rightarrow$  behave in a brittle manner.

#### 7. <u>Degree of Crystallinity:</u>

- > Polymers are generally amorphous solids.
- In certain polymers, the chains can be aligned to form different degrees of ordered crystalline structure.

#### 7. Degree of Crystallinity:

Degree of crystallinity depends on:

1) Chain configuration: (it should be simple)

Side branching and network → decrease crystallinity

Copolymerization  $\rightarrow$  decrease crystallinity.

#### 7. Degree of Crystallinity:

Degree of crystallinity depends on:

2) Monomer chemistry: (it should be simple)

High molecular weight  $\rightarrow$  decrease crystallinity

Additives (plasticizers) → decrease crystallinity.

#### 8. <u>Spatial configuration:</u>

Cross linking improve polymers properties.



#### 9. <u>Temperature:</u>

Polymers softens when they heated near their glass transition

temperature

### Elastomers

- They are polymers that display wide range of elastic deformation.
- They are formed of highly coiled and twisted polymeric chains that are uncoiled and straightened with tensile load.
- After removal of load, the chains spring back to their previous shape.

### Elastomers

### **Elastomers are characterized by:**

- a. Low modulus of elasticity.
- b. Their glass transition temperature is below room temperature.
- c. Have few cross linking.

# Uses of polymers in dentistry:

Denture base material.

Artificial teeth.

Teeth restorative materials.

Dental cements.









# Uses of polymers in dentistry:

Temporary crown materials. Endodontic filling and sealers. Maxillo-facial prosthesis. Impression materials.







