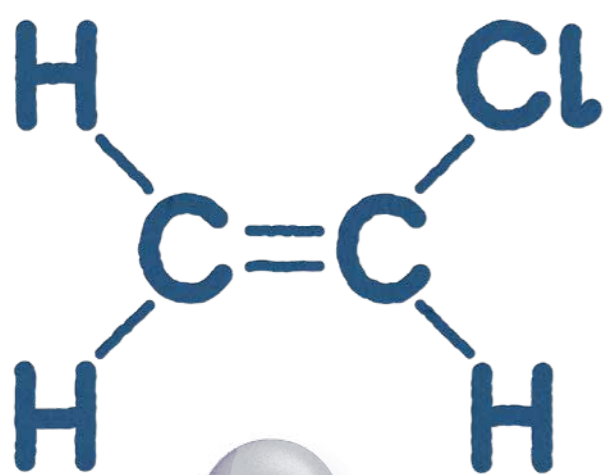
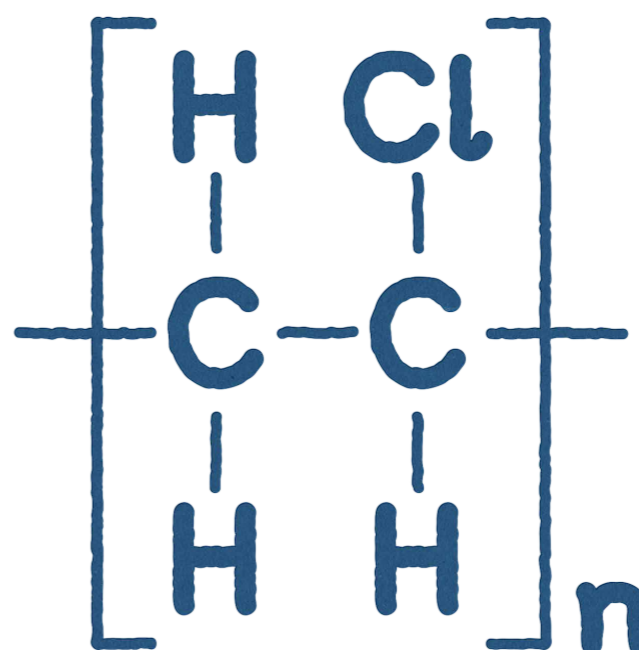


Addition polymers

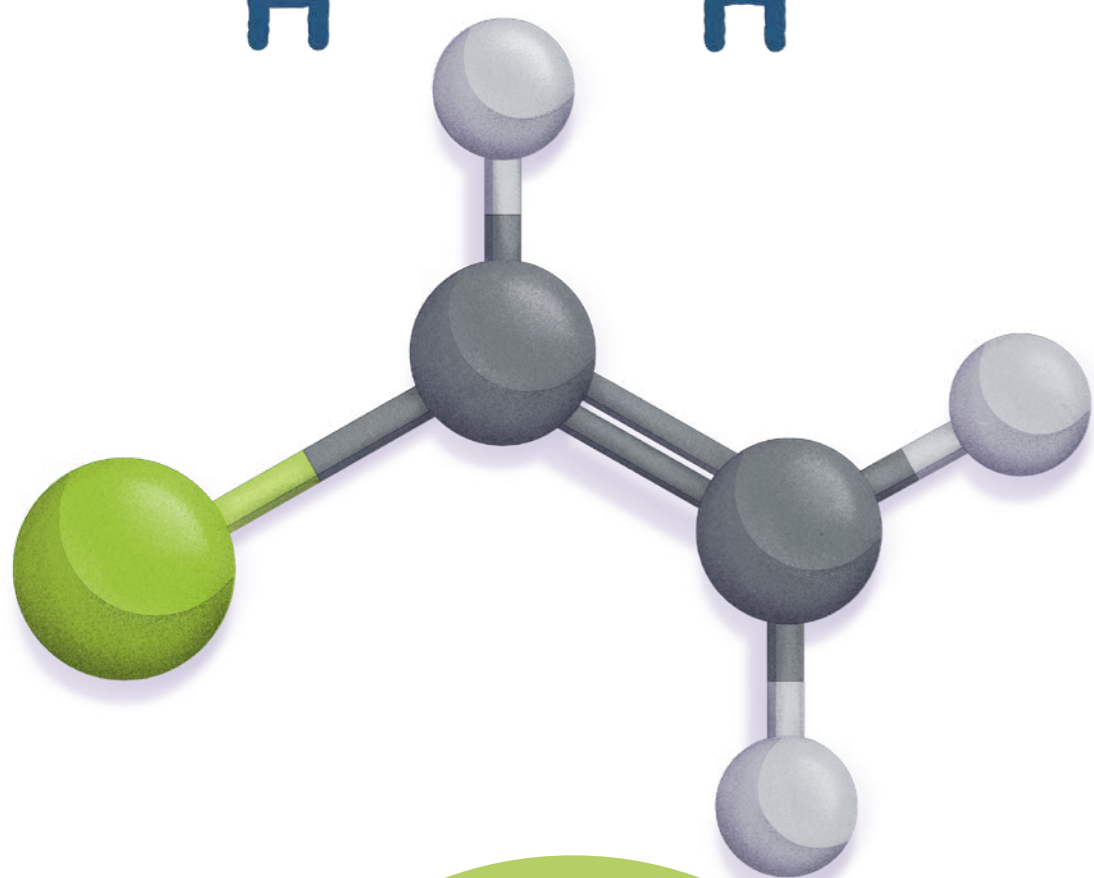
Addition polymers are **macromolecules**, long chain covalent molecular structures consisting of **repeating units**. In a **copolymer** there is more than one repeating unit, but **homopolymers**, eg **poly(chloroethene) (PVC)**, consist of only one.



Structure of chloroethene



Repeating unit of poly(chloroethene)



Synthesising addition polymers

Addition polymers are synthesised from **unsaturated monomers** without the formation of any side products. They tend to degrade less easily than **condensation polymers** because of the stronger C-C bonds in their **backbone chain**.

Did you know ...?

Shape memory polymers are smart materials which can use their shape memory to enable clothing to actively regulate your temperature.



Did you know ...?

Polymers are used as thickening agents in food sauces, paints, cosmetics and inks.



Did you know ...?

Poly(lactic acid) is made from plant starch and is used to make disposable cutlery and the plastic for 3D printing.

