

# CHEM 204

## Introductory Biochemistry

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## Text

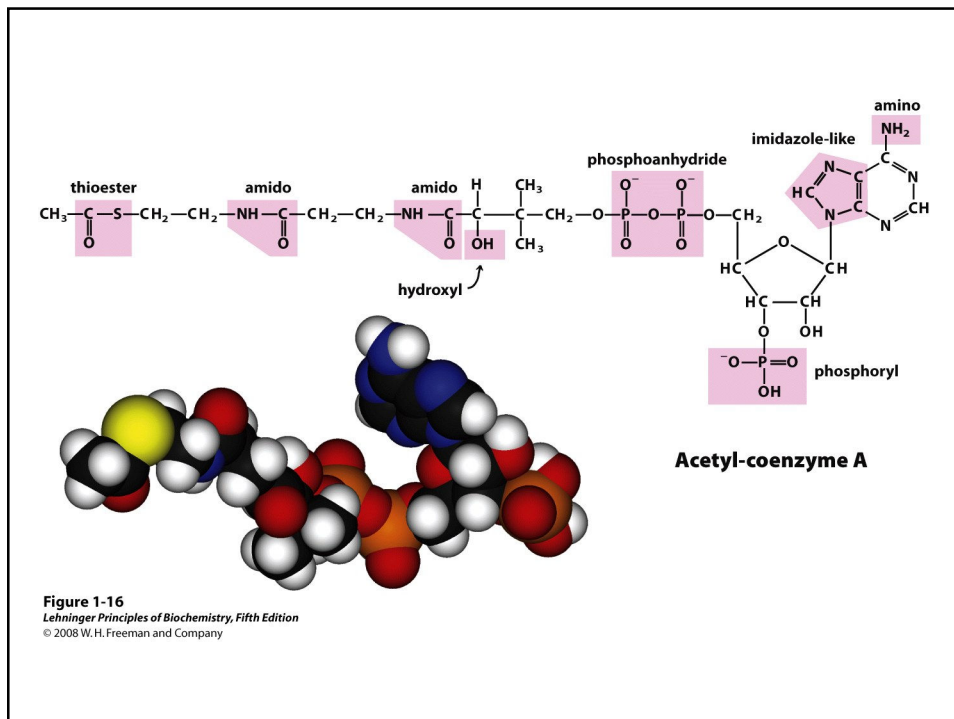
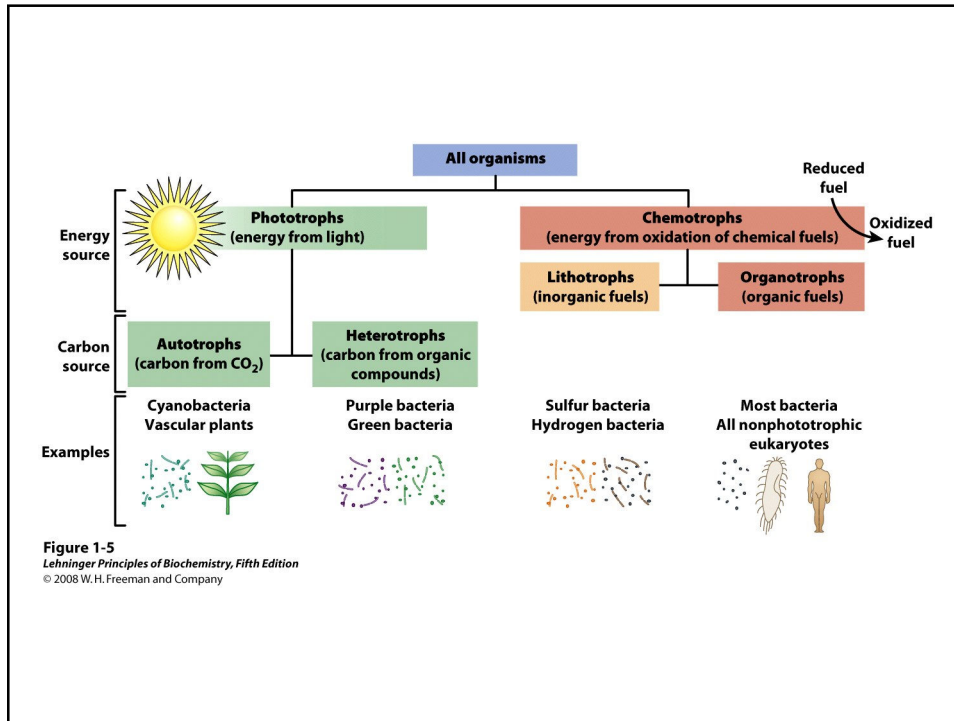
- Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry
  - 5<sup>th</sup> edition
  - D.L. Nelson and M.M. Cox
- [Website](#)

## Organic Chemistry

- Dates back to 1770's
  - unexplainable differences between molecules isolated from living (organic) sources and those derived from minerals
- Differences attributed to a vital force until 1820's when inorganic converted to organic
- Characteristic of organics is that they all contain carbons
  - Each has unique chemical and physical properties based upon their functional group.

## Biochemistry

- Dates to 1897
- Buchner demonstrated while sugar is fermented by yeast, it could also be fermented by the juices of yeast
- Simplest definitions
  - Chemistry of life
  - Collection of organic reactions which occur within a cell



## Things/Definitions to remember from prior chemistry

- G – Gibbs free energy
  - $\Delta G$  – free energy change
    - must be negative (-) for a process to be spontaneous
- H – enthalpy
  - Making/breaking bonds
  - $\Delta H$  – enthalpy change
    - Is positive (+) for melting and evaporation
- S – entropy
  - Randomness
- Remember :  $\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S$
- Solvent; solute
- Atomic structure (nucleus, electron)
- Covalent, non-covalent

## Biomolecules

- Amino Acids
  - proteins
- Carbohydrates
  - polysaccharides
- Nucleotides
  - Nucleic acids
- Lipids

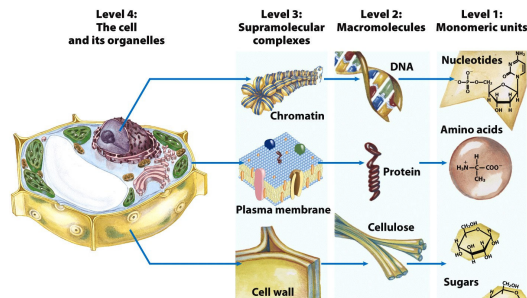


Figure 1-11  
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# Aqueous Systems

- Everything in biochemistry occurs in aqueous (water-based) systems
- Higher melting point, boiling point, heat of vaporization than other common solvents of similar molecular weight
- Properties due to interactions between adjacent molecules of water and with the solutes dissolved into it

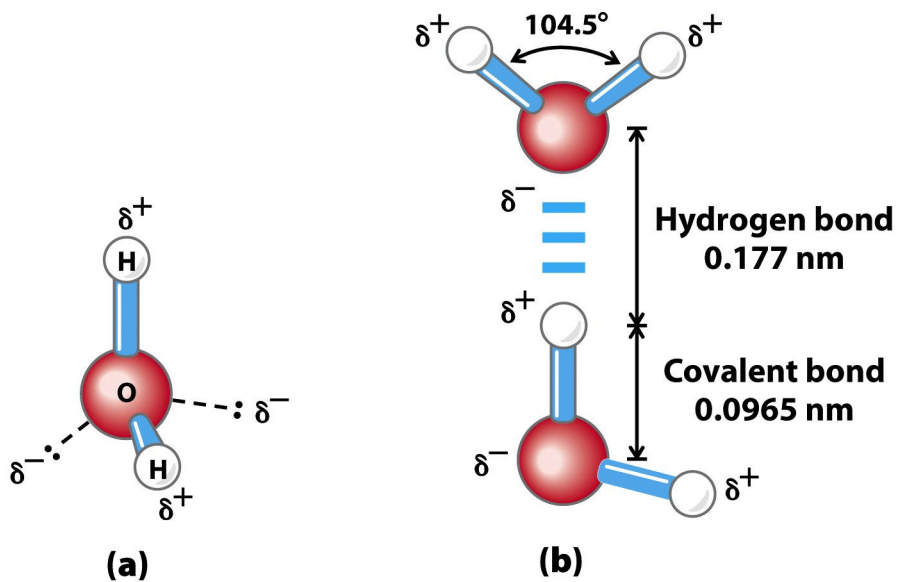
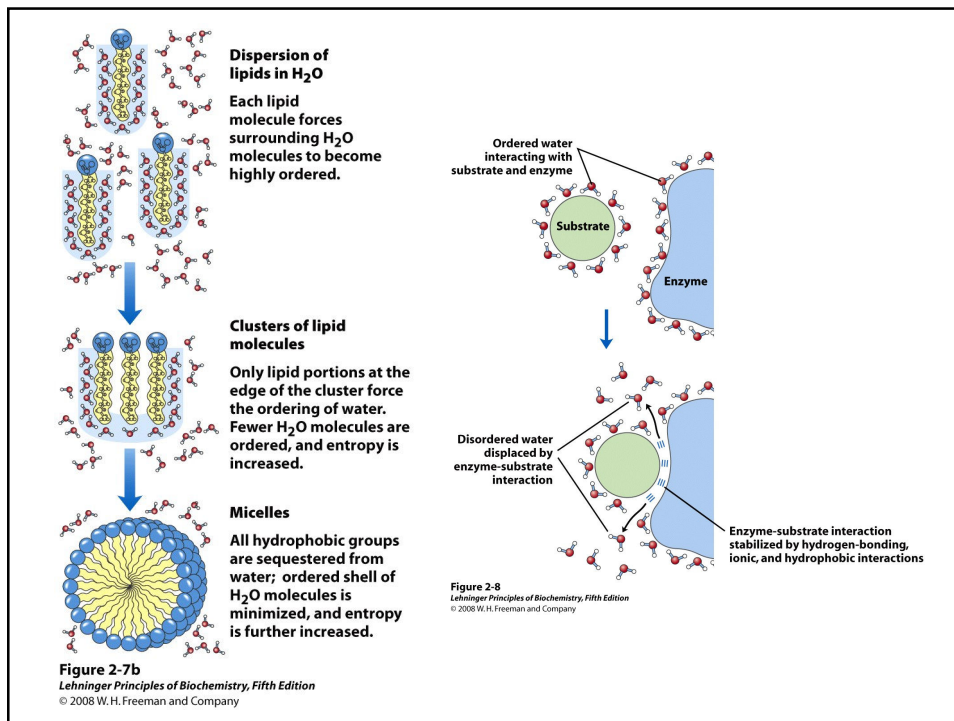
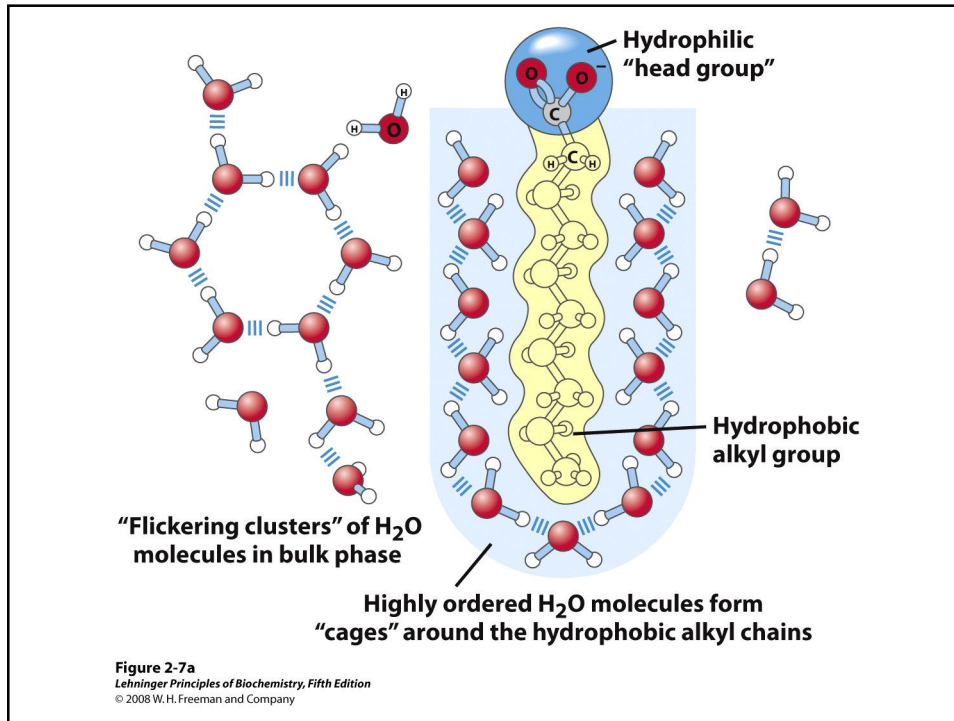


Figure 2-1  
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**TABLE 2-5** Four Types of Noncovalent ("Weak") Interactions among Biomolecules in Aqueous Solvent

<b>Hydrogen bonds</b>	
Between neutra groups	
Between peptide bonds	
<b>Ionic interactions</b>	
Attraction	
Repulsion	
<b>Hydrophobic interactions</b>	
<b>Van der Waals interactions</b>	Any two atoms in close proximity

Table 2-5  
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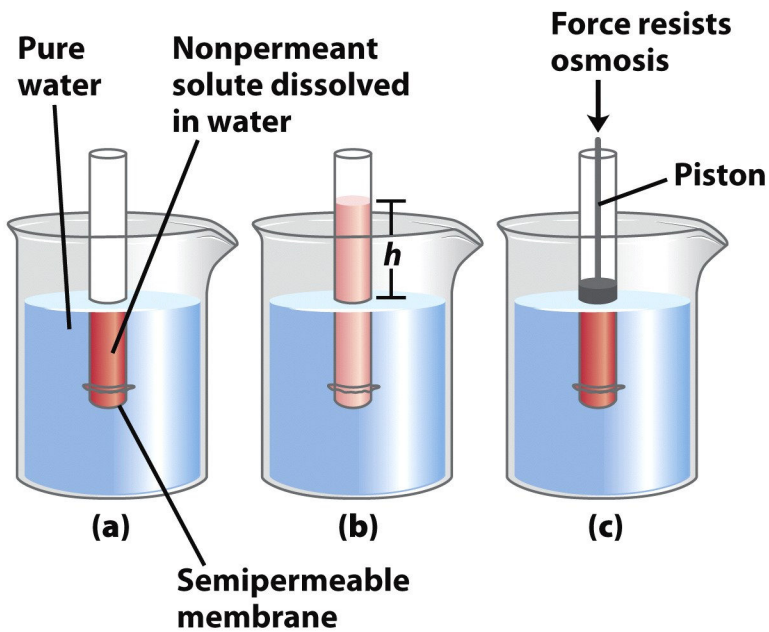
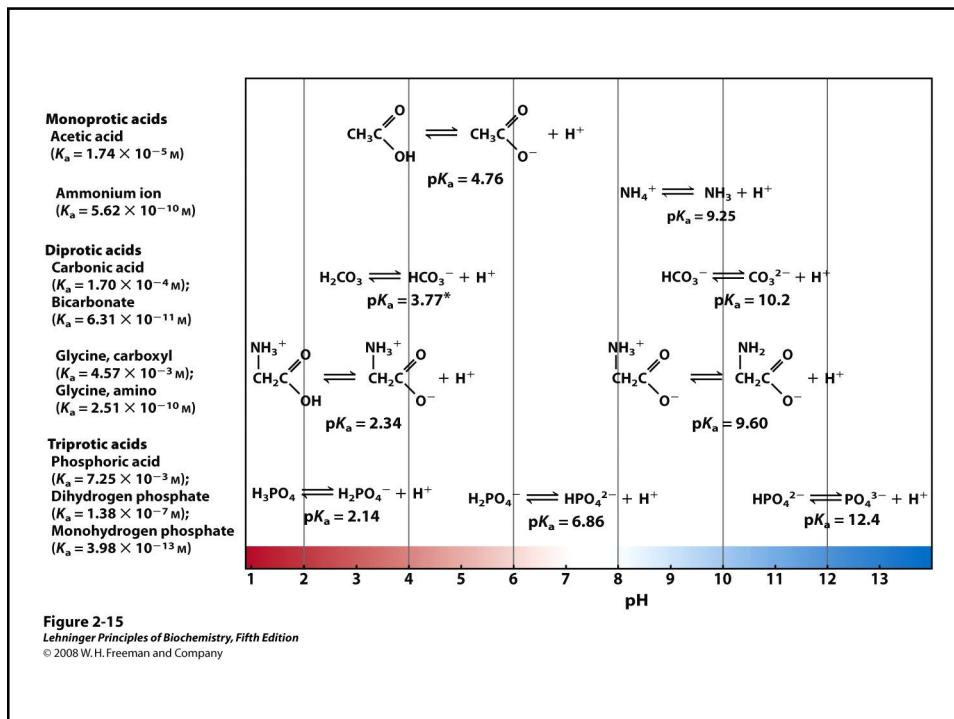
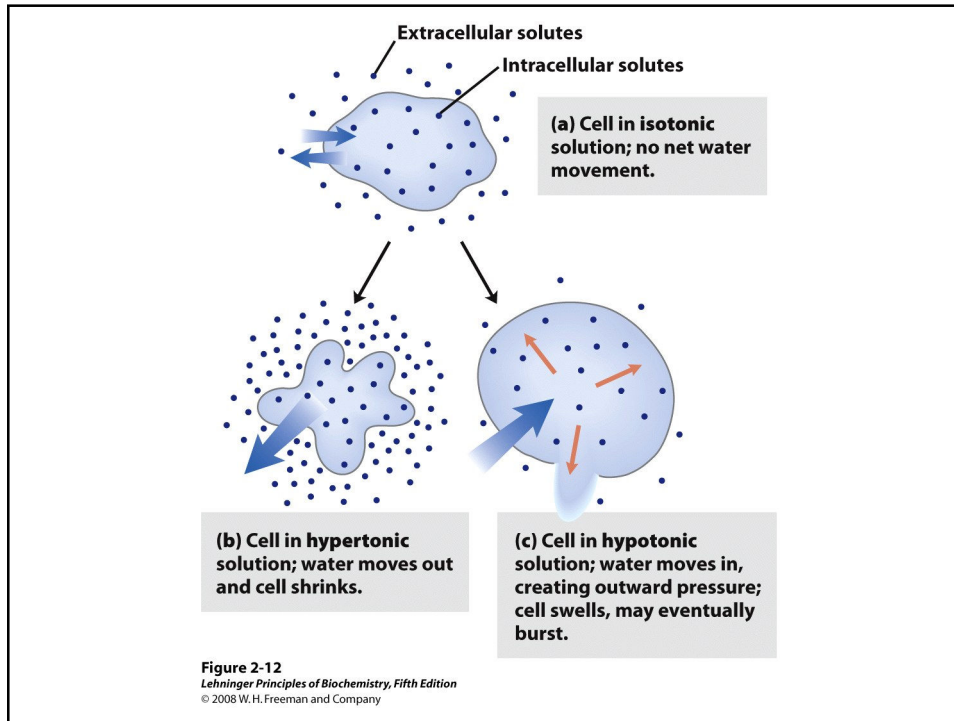


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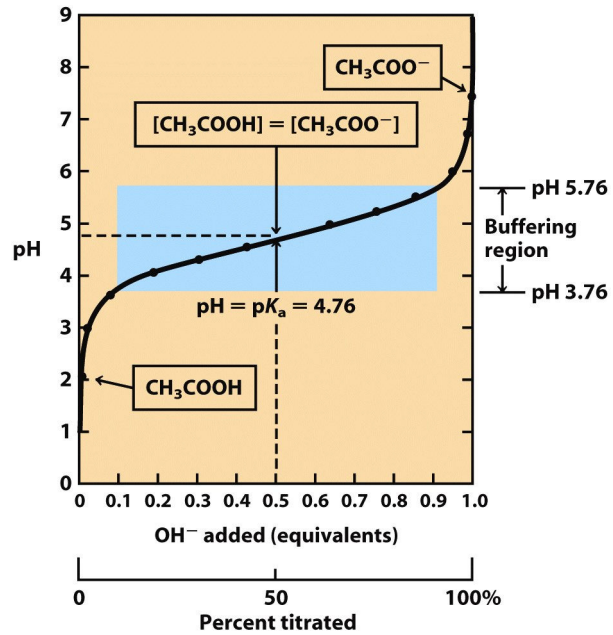


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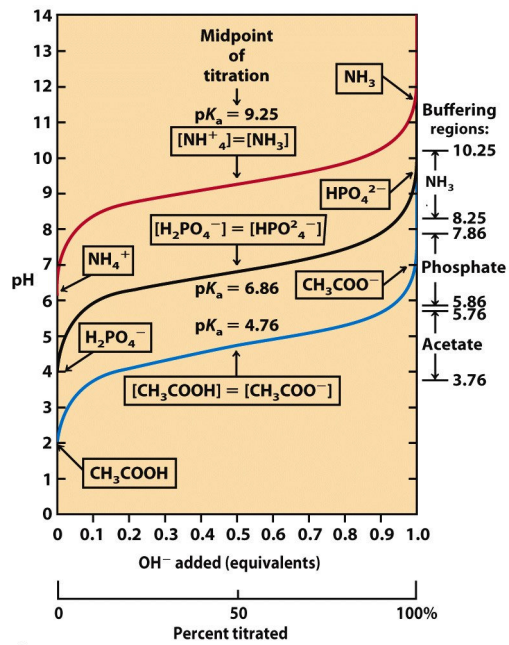
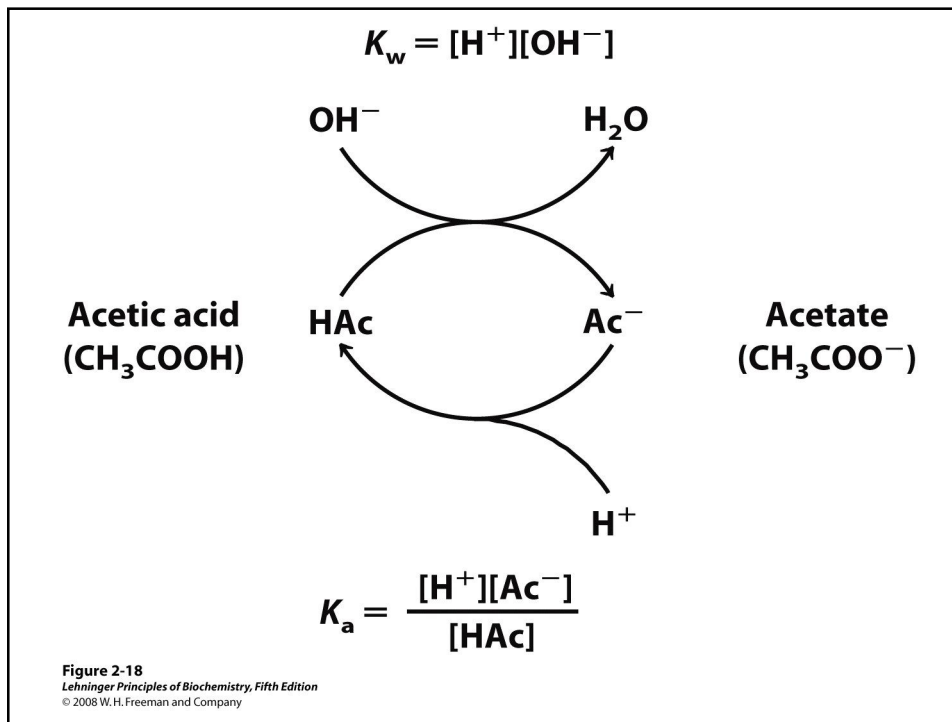


Figure 2-17  
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## $K_{eq}$ and Henderson-Hasselbach

- Definition of pH
- Henderson-Hasselbach equation
  - Defined as:  $pH = pK_a + \text{Log } [A^-]/[HA]$

## Examples

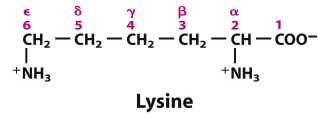
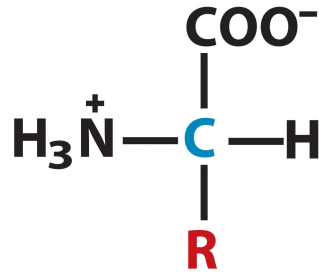
- What is the pH of a solution containing 0.2 M acetic acid ( $pK_a=4.7$ ) and 0.1 M NaAcetate?
- A weak acid (HA) has a  $pK_a$  of 5.0. If 1 mol of this acid and 0.1 mol of NaOH were dissolved in 1L of H<sub>2</sub>O, what would the final pH be?

## Proteins

- are the most abundant biomolecule
- great variety of functions
  - **Structural**
    - Collagen- skin and connective tissue (tendons)
    - Keratin- hair, fingernails
    - Silk
  - **Catalysts:** These are enzymes.
    - Hexokinase
    - trypsin
  - **Movement:** Muscle Proteins, flagella & cilia
    - skeletal
    - smooth muscle (digestive tract)
    - cardiac tissue
  - **Transport of other biomolecules:**
    - O<sub>2</sub> transport- hemoglobin in blood and myoglobin in muscle tissue
    - HDL/LDL –cholesterol transport

# Amino Acids

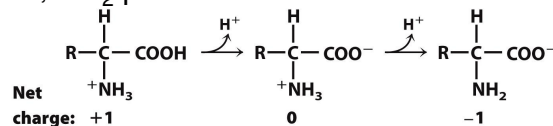
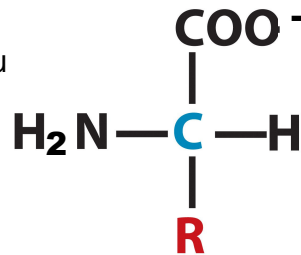
- Monomeric unit of proteins
- Ubiquitous
  - 20 commonly found
- 4 different groups bound to the C<sub>α</sub>
  - an amino group (-NH<sub>2</sub>)
  - carboxylic acid (-COOH)
  - Proton (H)
  - Side-chain or R-group
- Carbon called the C<sub>α</sub>
  - numbering from the carboxyl group
  - is a chiral center
- Named for their functional groups
- Nomenclature based upon historical basis
  - 3-letter and 1-letter abbreviations



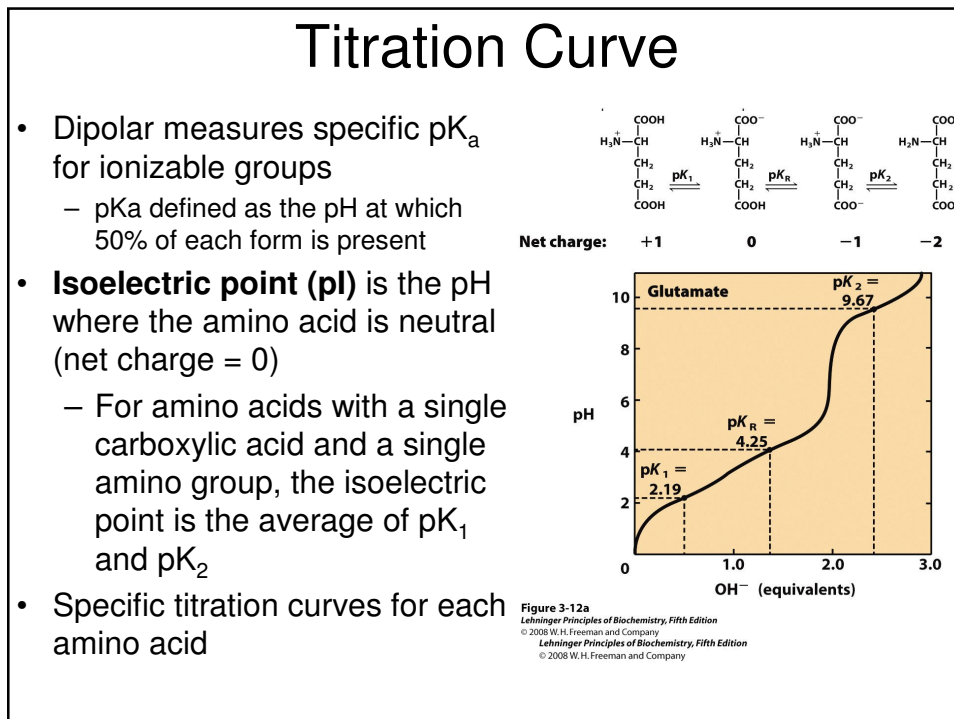
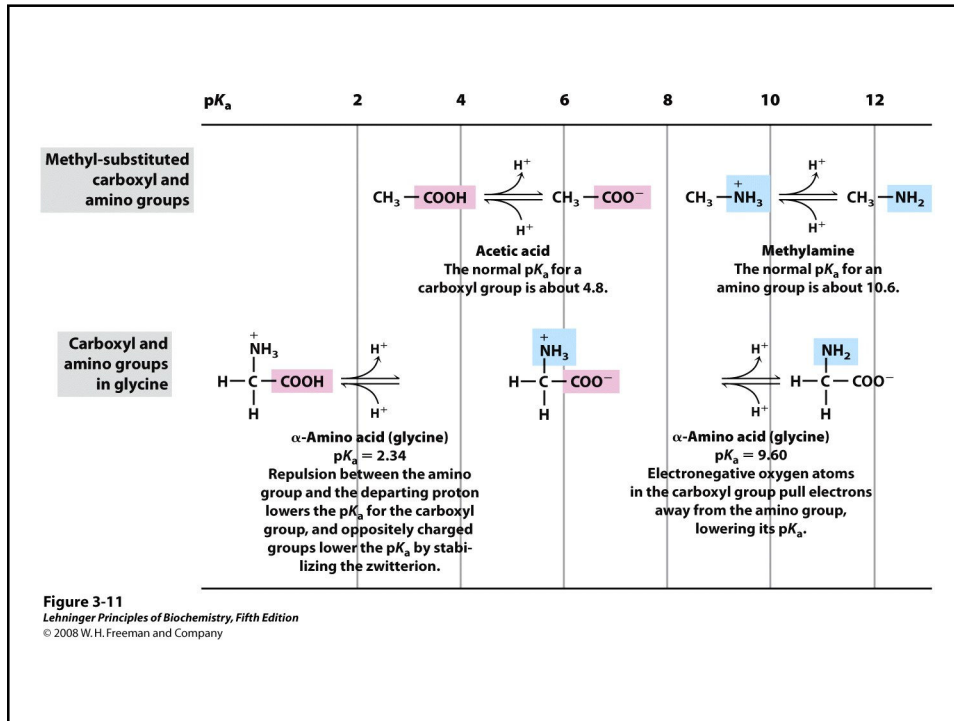
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# Amino acids are all Zwitterions

- Zwitterion
  - From German “hybrid”
  - Dipolar ion due to intramolecu acid-base reaction
- Net charge is 0
- Amphoteric
  - can act as either acid or base
  - COOH proton donor; NH<sub>2</sub> proton acceptor

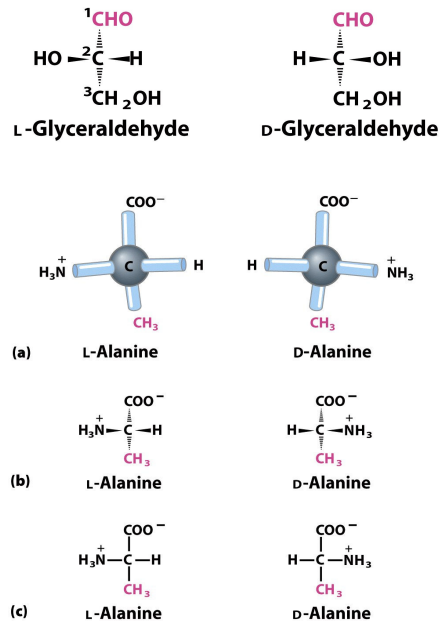


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# Stereoisomers

- Use Fisher Convention of assigning D,L configuration
- D, L distinct from *d,l* and refers only to the absolute configuration about the chiral carbon
- Biologically relevant isomers are the L-stereoisomers



## Amino Acid Side Chains : R group

- Names are historical and non-systematic
- Twenty standard R groups differing in
  - Size
  - shape
  - charge
  - hydrogen-bonding capacity
  - hydrophobic character
  - chemical reactivity

# Things you should know

- Be able to draw the structure of one amino acid from each of the 5 groups
- If given the structure of an amino acid, be able to place the amino acid into one of the 5 groups
- If given the structure of an amino acid, be able to give its name
- Know all of the 3-letter abbreviated names
  - Table 3.1 (5.1) gives the 3-letter abbreviated names and single letter codes for the 20 common amino acids

**TABLE 3-1 Properties and Conventions Associated with the Common Amino Acids Found in Proteins**

Amino acid	Abbreviation/ symbol	$M_r^*$	$pK_a$ values			Hydropathy index <sup>†</sup>	Occurrence in proteins (%) <sup>‡</sup>	
			$pK_a$ (-COOH)	$pK_a$ (-NH <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> )	$pK_a$ (R group)			
<b>Nongpolar, aliphatic</b>								
<b>R groups</b>								
Glycine	Gly G	75	2.34	9.60	5.97	-0.4	7.2	
Alanine	Ala A	89	2.34	9.69	6.01	1.8	7.8	
Proline	Pro P	115	1.99	10.96	6.48	1.6	5.2	
Valine	Val V	117	2.32	9.62	5.97	4.2	6.6	
Leucine	Leu L	131	2.36	9.60	5.98	3.8	9.1	
Isoleucine	Ile I	131	2.36	9.68	6.02	4.5	5.3	
Methionine	Met M	149	2.28	9.21	5.74	1.9	2.3	
<b>Aromatic</b>								
<b>R groups</b>								
Phenylalanine	Phe F	165	1.83	9.13	5.48	2.8	3.9	
Tyrosine	Tyr Y	181	2.20	9.11	10.07	-1.3	3.2	
Tryptophan	Trp W	204	2.38	9.39	5.89	-0.9	1.4	
<b>Polar, uncharged</b>								
<b>R groups</b>								
Serine	Ser S	105	2.21	9.15	5.68	-0.8	6.8	
Threonine	Thr T	119	2.11	9.62	5.87	-0.7	5.9	
Cysteine <sup>§</sup>	Cys C	121	1.96	10.28	8.18	2.5	1.9	
Asparagine	Asn N	132	2.02	8.80	5.41	-3.5	4.3	
Glutamine	Gln Q	146	2.17	9.13	5.65	-3.5	4.2	
<b>Positively charged</b>								
<b>R groups</b>								
Lysine	Lys K	146	2.18	8.95	10.53	9.74	-3.9	5.9
Histidine	His H	155	1.82	9.17	6.00	7.59	-3.2	2.3
Arginine	Arg R	174	2.17	9.04	12.48	10.76	-4.5	5.1
<b>Negatively charged</b>								
<b>R groups</b>								
Aspartate	Asp D	133	1.88	9.60	3.65	2.77	-3.5	5.3
Glutamate	Glu E	147	2.19	9.67	4.25	3.22	-3.5	6.3

\* $M_r$  values reflect the structures as shown in Figure 3-5. The elements of water ( $M_r$  18) are deleted when the amino acid is incorporated into a polypeptide.

<sup>†</sup>A scale combining hydrophobicity and hydrophilicity of R groups. The values reflect the free energy ( $\Delta G$ ) of transfer of the amino acid side chain from a hydrophobic solvent to water. This transfer is favorable ( $\Delta G < 0$ ; negative value in the index) for charged or polar amino acid side chains, and unfavorable ( $\Delta G > 0$ ; positive value in the index) for amino acids with nonpolar or more hydrophobic side chains. See Chapter 11. From Kyte, J., & Doolittle, R.F. (1982) A simple method for displaying the hydropathic character of a protein. *J. Mol. Biol.* 157, 105-132.

<sup>‡</sup>Average occurrence in more than 1,150 proteins. From Doolittle, R.F. (1989) Redundancies in protein sequences. In *Prediction of Protein Structure and the Principles of Protein Conformation* (Fasman, G.D., ed.), pp. 599-625, Plenum Press, New York.

<sup>§</sup>Cysteine is generally classified as polar despite having a positive hydropathy index. This reflects the ability of the sulfhydryl group to act as a weak acid and to form a weak hydrogen bond with oxygen or nitrogen.

**Table 3-1**  
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## Classifications

- Based upon charge at pH 7.0
- Classifications
  - Non-polar aliphatic R groups
  - Aromatic
  - Polar, Uncharged
  - Positively charged (basic)
  - Negatively charged (acidic)

## Non-polar aliphatic R groups

- Carbon chain participates in hydrophobic interactions
  - Gly, Ala, Pro, Val, Leu, Ile, Met
  - G, A, P, V, L, I, M
- Glycine only non-chiral amino acid
- Met has thioether group
- Pro is technically not an amino acid
  - imino acid due to cyclic structure

## Nonpolar, aliphatic R groups

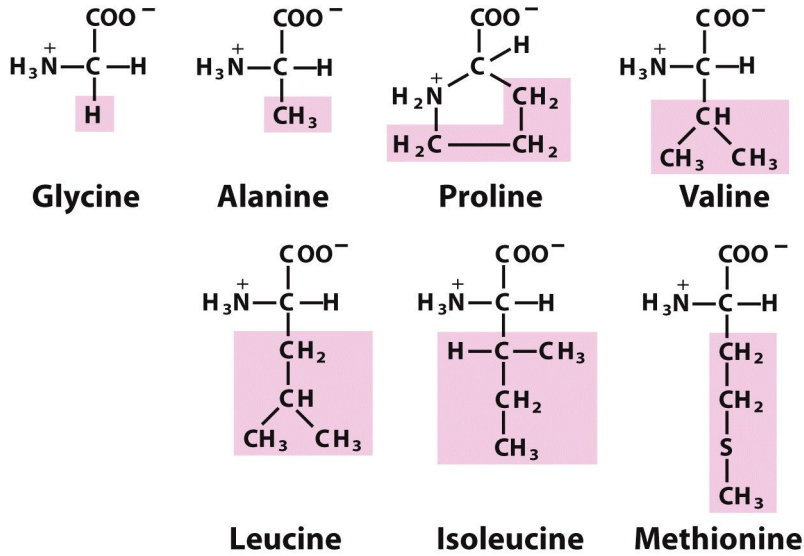
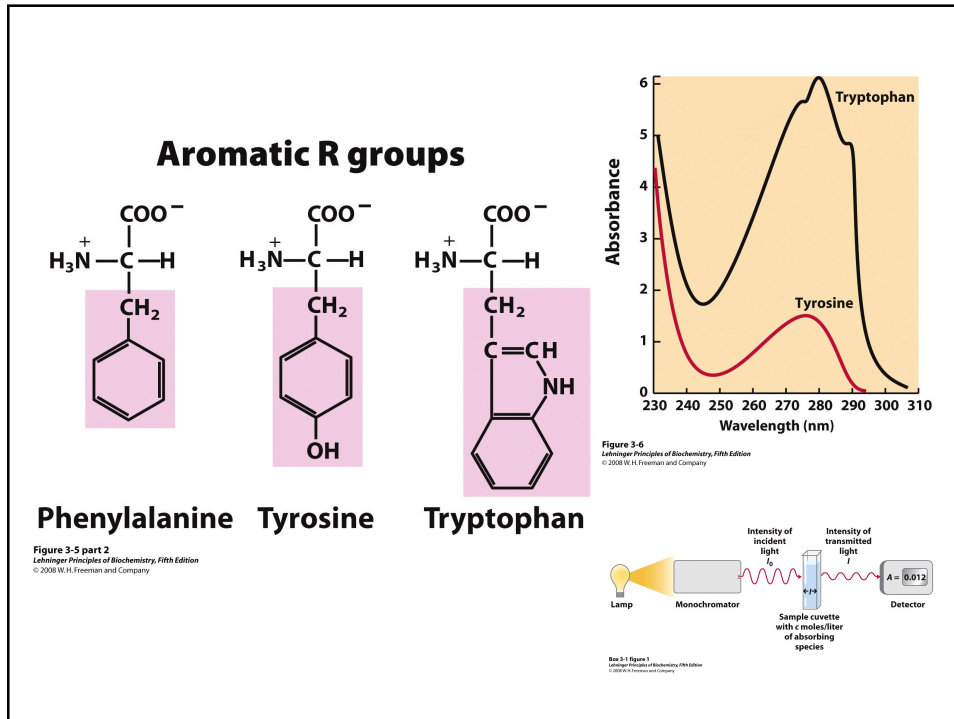


Figure 3-5 part 1  
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## Aromatic Amino Acids

- Contain an aromatic group
  - Phe, Tyr, Trp
  - F, Y, W
- Relatively hydrophobic (non-polar), though Tyr can participate in hydrogen bonds
- Are UV absorbers (Y&W more than F)



## Polar, Uncharged

- Are more hydrophilic as they can form H-bonds
  - Thr, Cys, Asn, Gln, Ser
  - T, C, N, Q, S
- Cys special case - ability to form disulfides; a covalent bond
  - the disulfide is non-polar

### Polar, uncharged R groups

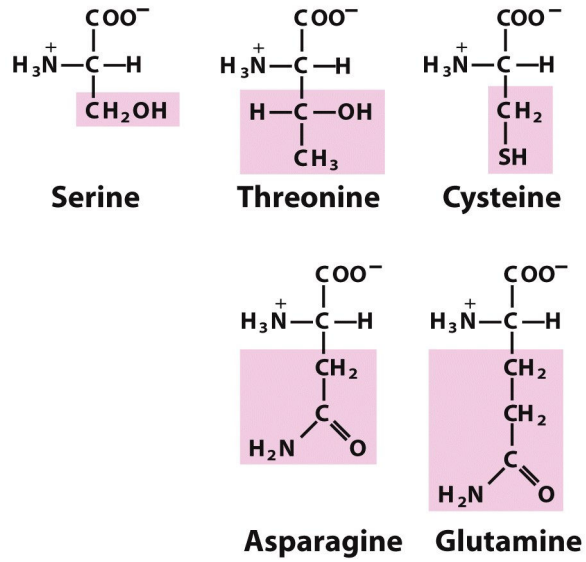


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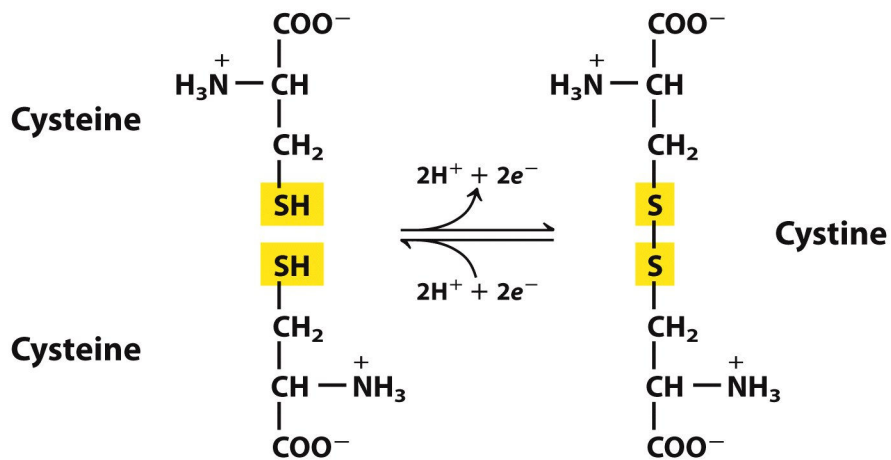


Figure 3-7  
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## Positively charged (basic)

- Have ability to accept proton
  - Lys, His, Arg
  - K, H, R
- His is only ionizable group at a neutral pH
  - pI of 6.0
- Are positively charged at neutral pH

## Positively charged R groups

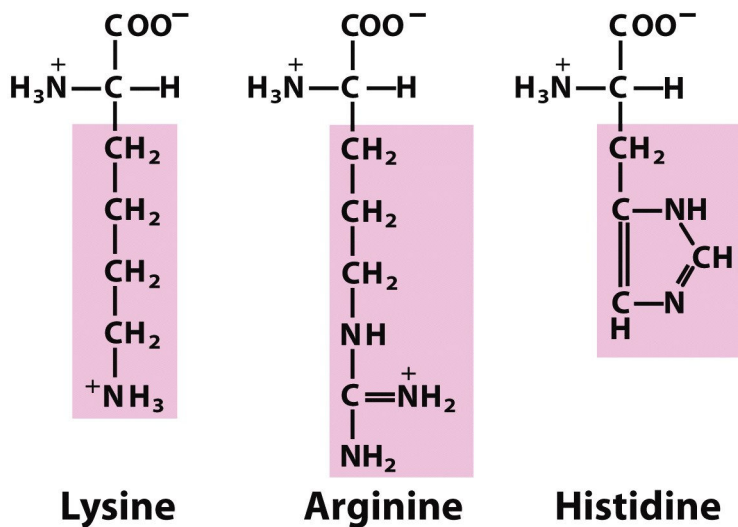


Figure 3-5 part 4  
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## Negatively charged (acidic)

- Donate protons
  - Asp, Glu
  - D, E
- Second carboxyl group on side chain of amino acid

### Negatively charged R groups

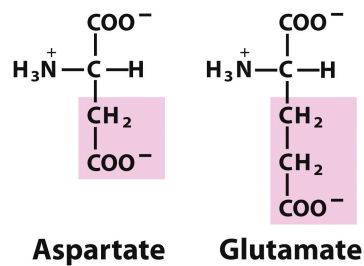
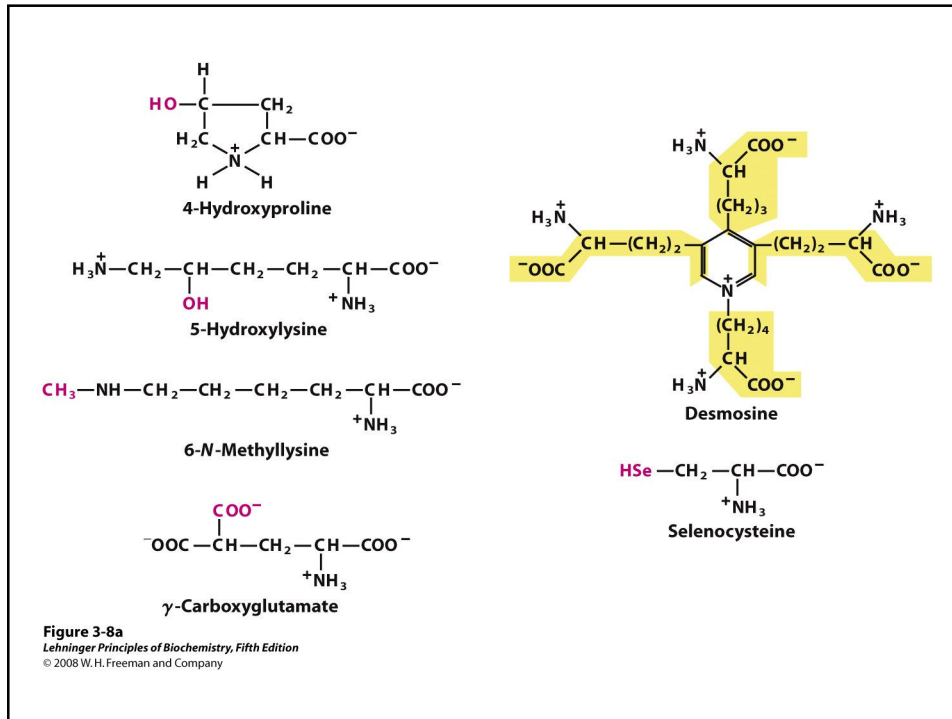


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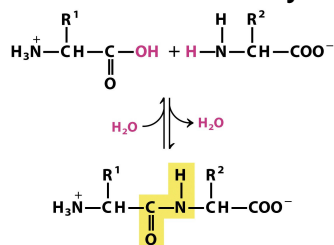
## Non-standard/uncommon amino acids

- can be metabolic intermediates, not found in proteins
  - Ornithine and citrulline
- can be made by modification of common residues incorporated in chain
- can be utilized as neurotransmitters
- selenocysteine special as it is coded for in genome



## Peptides and Proteins

- two amino acids joined together is a dipeptide
- Bond formed between the carboxyl of one amino acid and amino of another amino acid in a dehydration reaction
  - Amino acid of 2nd to carboxyl of 1st amino acid



**Figure 3-12**  
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- Covalent bond formed
  - called a peptide bond
- reaction is NOT spontaneous under standard conditions
  - $t_{1/2}$  for bond is approx 7 yrs
- Order of amino acids is important
  - Thr-Asp-Ala vs. Ala-Thr-Asp (TEA vs ATE)

## Writing Conventions

- $\text{NH}_2$  ( $\text{NH}_3^+$ ) on left,  $-\text{COOH}$  ( $\text{COO}^-$ ) on right
- Top to bottom of page
- $\text{NH}_3^+$  free is N-terminus
- $\text{COO}^-$  free is C-terminus

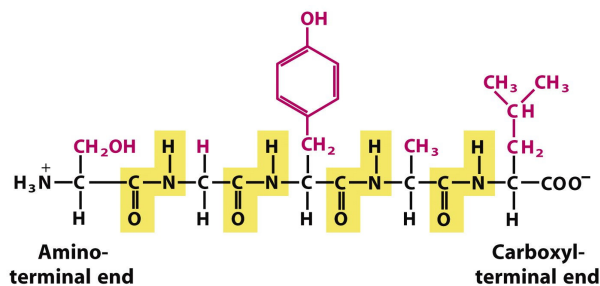


Figure 3-14  
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# Polymers are peptides

- length gives different names
  - Oligopeptides
    - i.e. di-, tri-, tetra-
    - generally less than 15 or 20
  - Polypeptides
    - <50 residues
    - < 10000MW)
  - Proteins
    - <50 residues,
    - >10000MW

# Protein Structure

- four levels found in proteins
  - Primary
  - Secondary
  - Tertiary
  - Quaternary
- describes the conceptual hierarchy

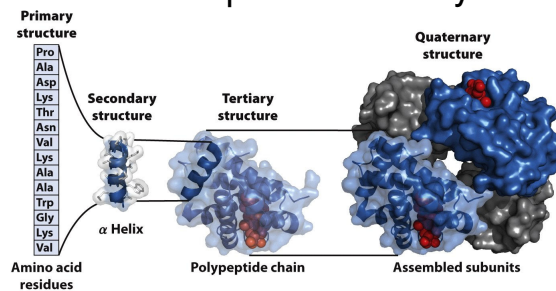
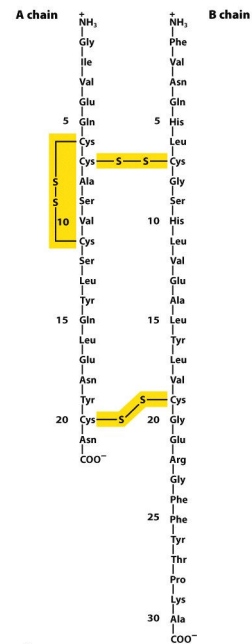


Figure 3-23  
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## Primary Structure

- Sequence of amino acids
- All covalent bonds in the 1<sup>o</sup> chain
  - Peptide bond sequence
  - Disulfide bonds



**Figure 3-24**  
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## Secondary Structure

- Local structure
  - Adjacent segments of the protein
- Stable arrangements of amino acids in recurring structural patterns
- Two most common
  - Alpha helices
  - Beta sheets

## Tertiary Structure

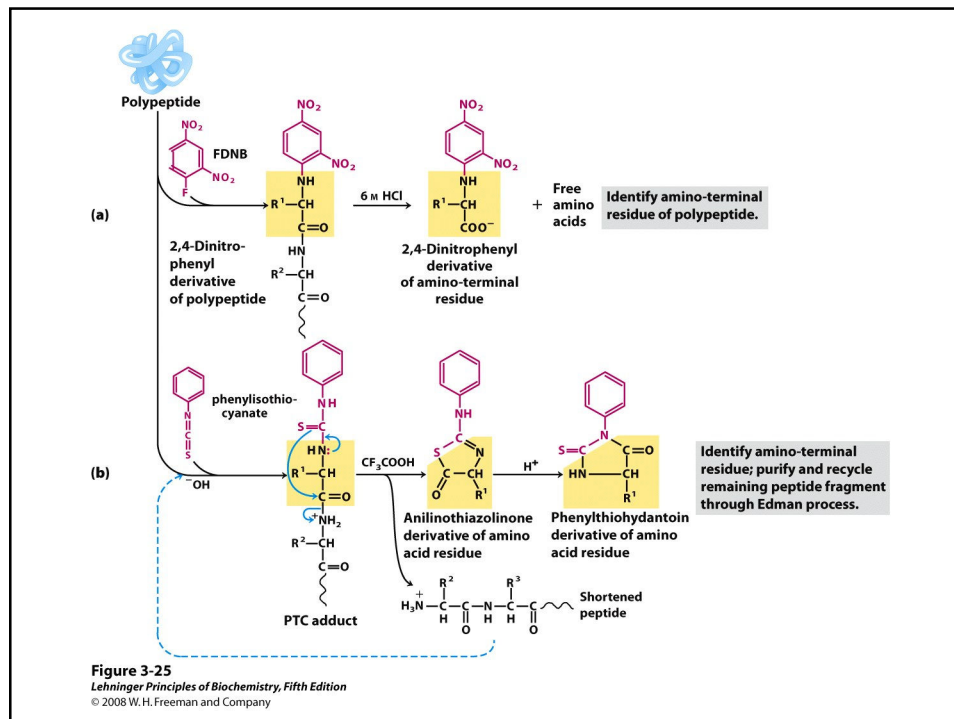
- Overall structure of the entire protein
- All the 3D folding of polypeptide
- Conformation
  - spatial arrangement of atoms in a protein
  - any structural state that can occur without breaking covalent bonds

## Quaternary Structure

- Association of more than one protein
  - Can be same or different polypeptide chains
  - Referred to by chain number
    - Dimer, trimer, tetramer
  - Referred to by chain type
    - Homomer or heteromer
    - i.e. homodimer ( $\alpha_2$ ) or heterodimer ( $\alpha\beta$ )
- Arrangement in space of the polypeptide chains

# Covalent structure of proteins

- Function depends upon 1° sequence
  - Can be polymorphic - aa variants within a protein with the same function
- First protein sequenced was insulin
  - 1953 Sanger took 10 yrs
  - 50 a.a. now common in 24-48 hrs





# Peptide Bond

- peptide bond is the carbon of adjacent aa residues are separated by 3 covalent bonds
  - $C_{\alpha}-C-N-C_{\alpha}$
- N-CH-CO-N- repetitive chain is called the backbone
- C-N bond is shorter than in a simple amine
  - therefore resonance between the carbonyl O and amide N
  - e<sup>-</sup> pair shared by interaction with the carbonyl group
  - sets up a dipole
  - Planar
  - N-H is 180° to the C=O

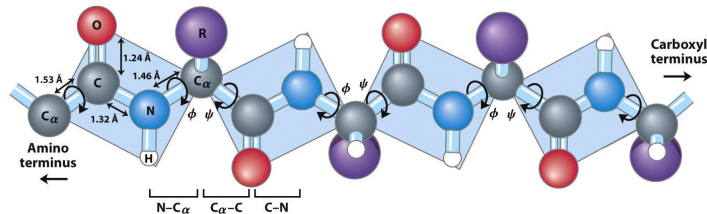


Figure 4-2b  
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# Angle Convention

- Phi ( $\phi$ ) is N-C $\alpha$
- Psi ( $\psi$ ) is C $\alpha$ -C=O
- Convention is that they are 180° when all peptide groups are in same plane
  - but this is sterically prohibited in proteins
  - atoms would overlap
- Allowed values of  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  are revealed when plotted as an x/y graph in a Ramachandran plot

