


Chemistry Fundamentals

BVIS 560 Molecular Pharmacology

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01 Chemical Energy & Electrons

02 Chemical Bonds in Biological Systems

03 Organic Chemistry & Functional Groups

04 Amino Acids: Backbone Atoms & Main Chain

05 Amino Acids: R groups & Side Chain

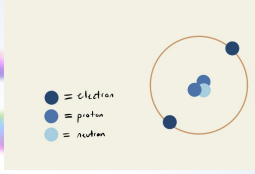


01

Chemical Energy & Electrons

Learning Objectives

- Describe the structure of the atom
- Explain chemical energy and its relation to electron distribution/charge
- Identify periodic trends

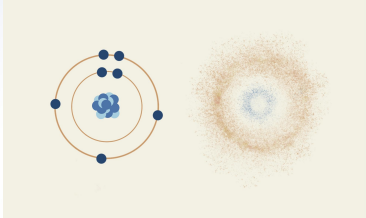


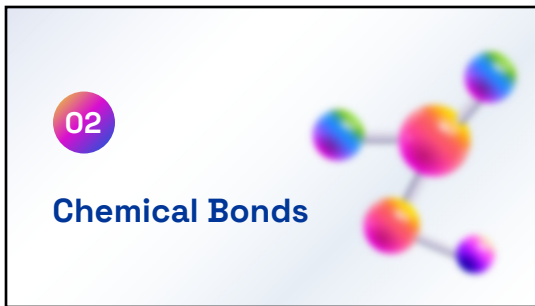
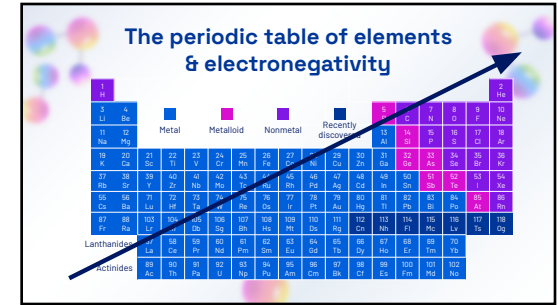
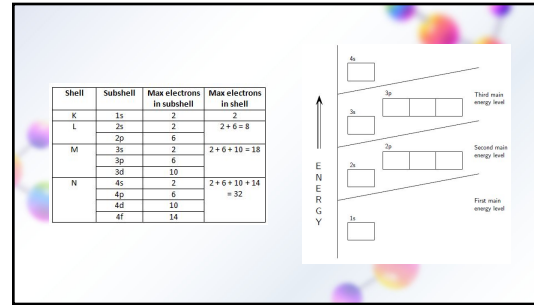
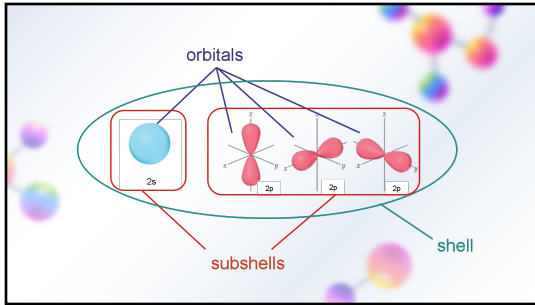
● = electron
● = proton
● = neutron

1
16
Sulfur
16.00

1s 1 $\bar{1}$:: 1s 2

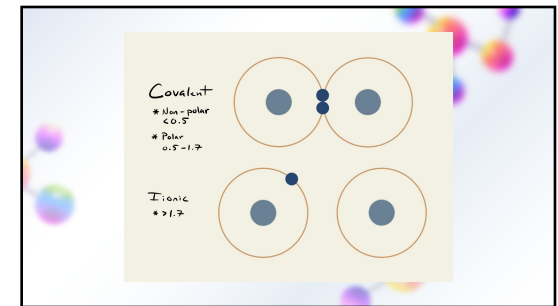
Atomic # = # of protons
of protons = # of electrons
Mass # = Protons + Neutrons





Learning Objectives

- Define a chemical bond
- Identify different types of chemical bonds
- Make biological connections to chemical bonds



Name	Description	Molecular mass	Characteristics
Non-Polar			
London (1930) dispersion	Induced dipole - induced dipole	All compounds, non-polar interaction	Transient polarization, scales with molecular size
Polar			
	Hydrogen bonding	Extreme dipole-dipole interaction. Halogen interacts with H donor	Significant with compounds containing -OH or -NH groups
Keesom (1912)	dipole-dipole	Interaction between strong dipoles	Electronegative groups (e.g. halogens, -OH, -SO ₂)
Debye (1923)	Dipole-induced dipole	Interaction between a strong dipole and a weak dipole	More polarizable = easier induction



03

Organic Chemistry & Functional Groups

Organic chemistry basics with a focus on functional groups and their expected behavior

Learning Objectives

- List the important qualities of carbon
- Distinguish between visual morphology of aliphatic and aromatic molecules
- Explain the difference between single and double bonds
- Identify key functional groups and their chemical properties

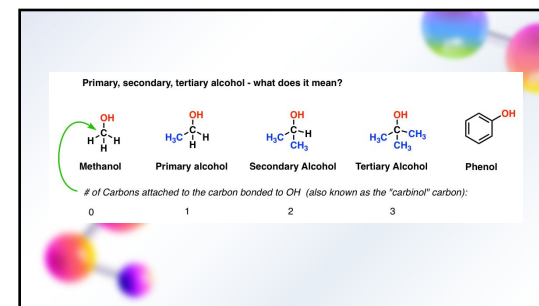
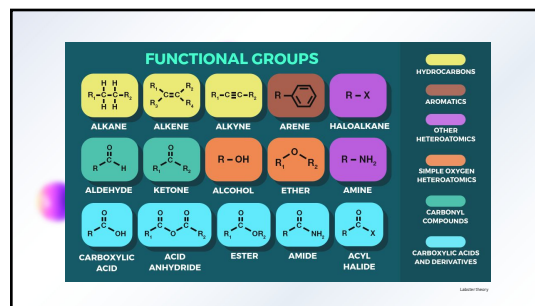
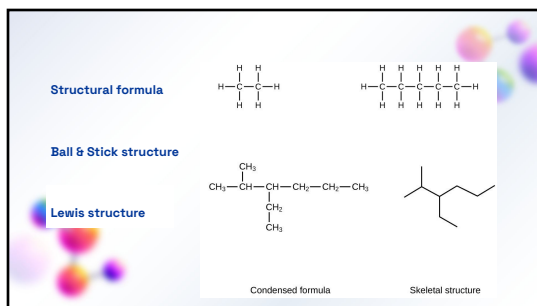
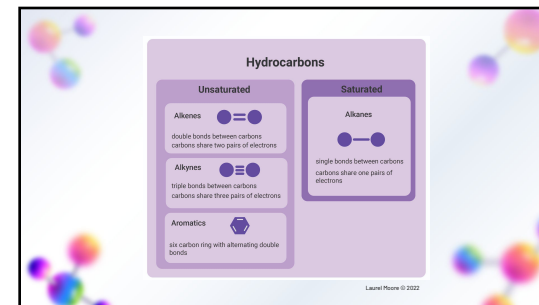
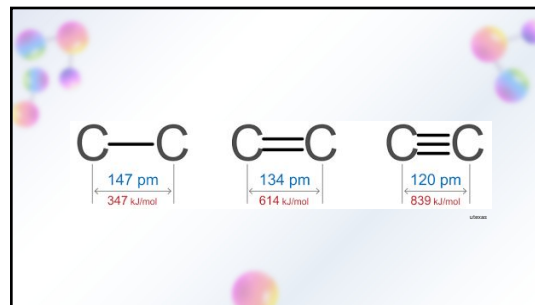
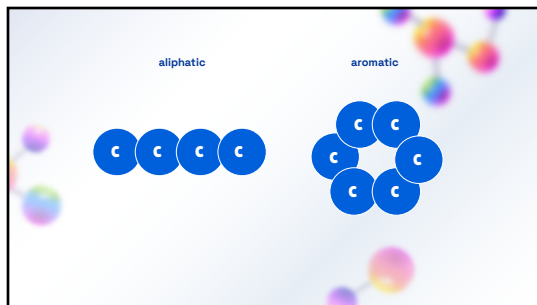


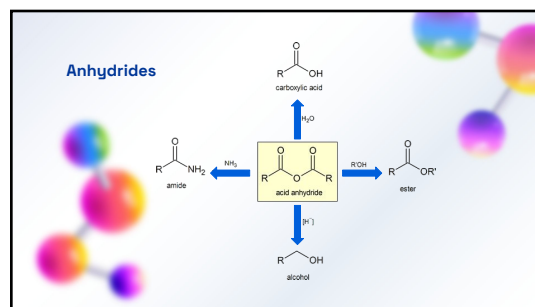
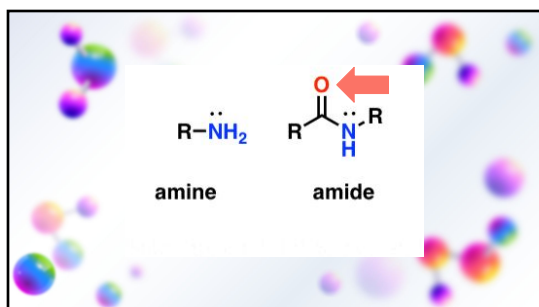
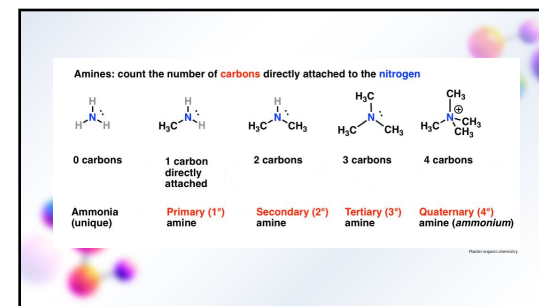
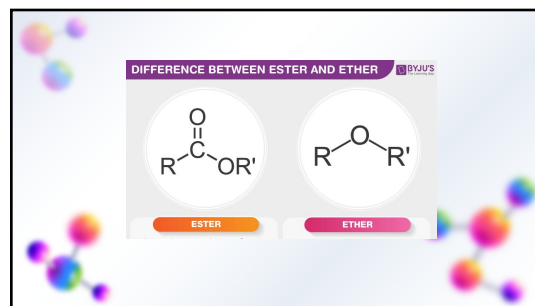
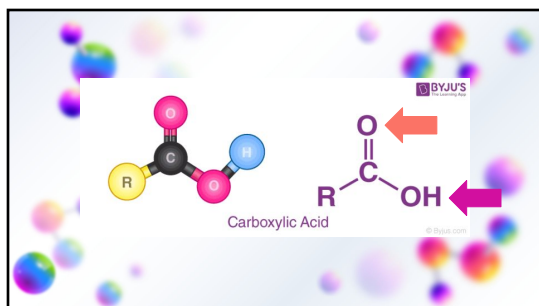
Organic chemistry is the chemistry of carbon



Carbon

6 electrons
4 valence electrons
4 bonds
Catenate





04

Chemistry of Amino Acids

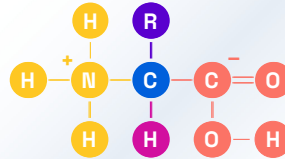
A focus on backbone atoms of the main chain

Learning Objectives

- Identify the different groups that make up the basic backbone of an amino acid
- Understand chirality and what makes amino acids chiral molecules
- Recognize how covalent peptide bonds are formed between amino acids

The "Amino Acid Backbone"

- Alpha Carbon
- Amino Group (NH₂)
- Carboxylic Acid Group (COOH)
- Unique R Group

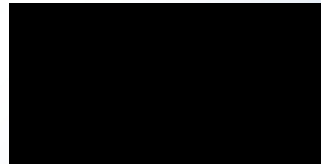


Chirality

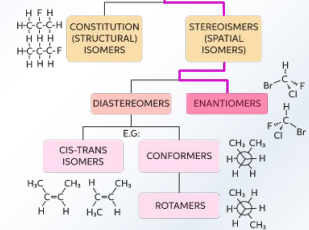
in Amino Acids

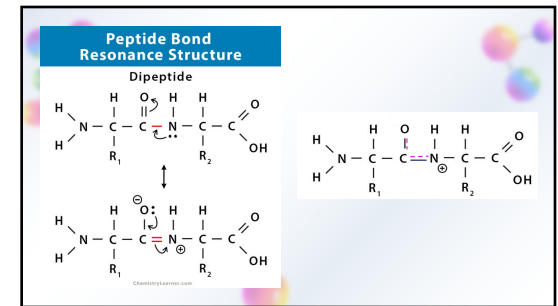
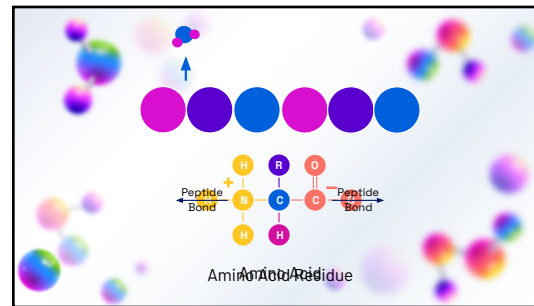
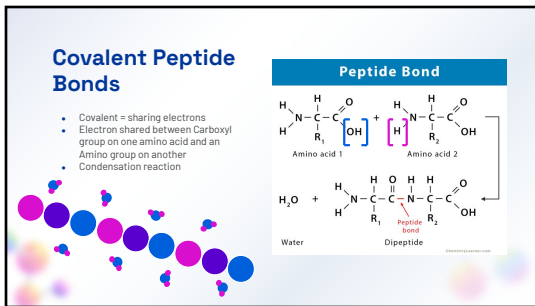
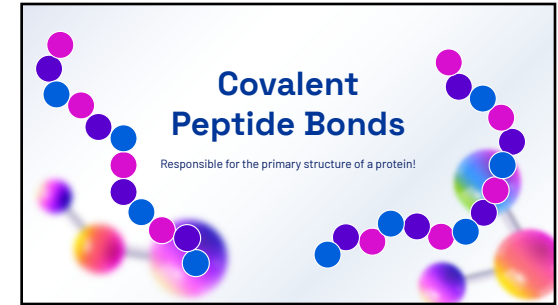
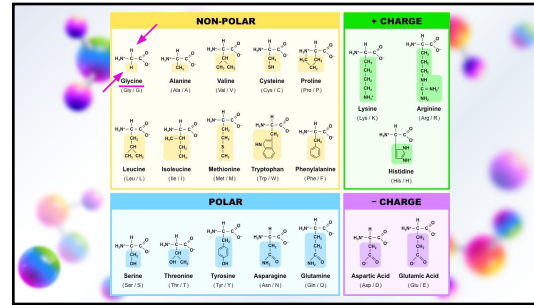
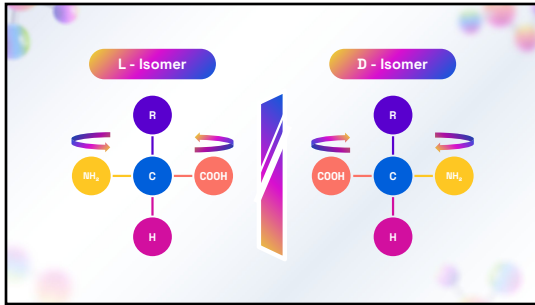
Chirality

- Mirrored Isomers
- Cannot be superimposed onto each other



ISOMERS





05

Chemistry of Amino Acids

A focus on R-groups and side chains

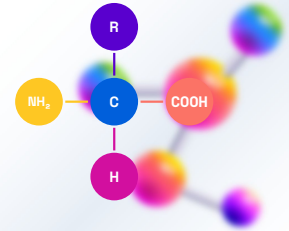


Learning Objectives

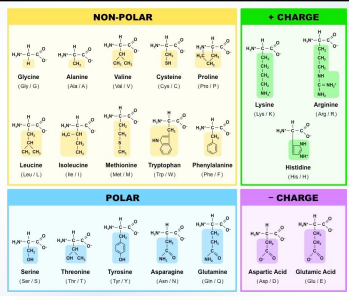
- Understand structure and chemical components of different R-groups that characterize each amino acid.
- Understand special features of the R groups and how they can be modified in different chemical reactions.

5A

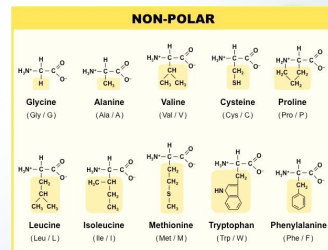
R-Groups



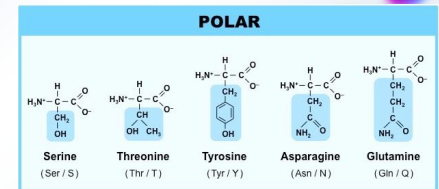
R-Groups



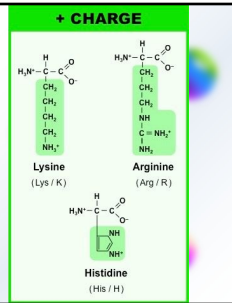
Nonpolar (hydrophobic) groups



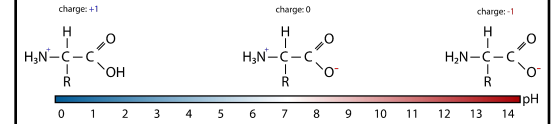
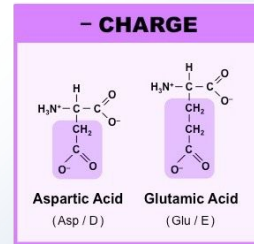
Polar (hydrophilic) groups



Positively charged (basic) groups



Negatively charged (acidic) groups

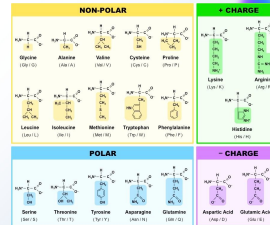


5B

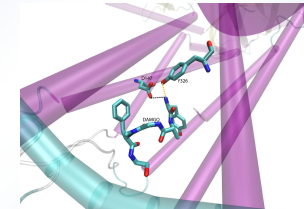
Protein Visualization

- Understand how a single amino acid is denoted and visualized in 3D protein visualization

MGCLTSAEDKAAVERSRMIDRNLRDEGEKAAREVKLLLLGAGESGKSTIVKQMKIIEHJ
 AEEGPMTAEAGVIKRLWKDSGVQACFNRSREYQLNDSAAYYLNDLDRLAQPNYIPTQI
 231 241 251 261 271 281
 LSDYDLVLAEDENRMHSMKLPDSCNNKWFDTSLILFLNKKDLFEKIKKSPILT



Using PDB File for Visualization



5C

Amino Acids with Special Features



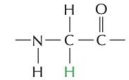
Learning Objectives

- Identify amino acids with special features
- Understand these features exert an effect on the structure and biological activity of proteins
- Understand how specific modifications of R-groups can change local chemistry

Glycine is the simplest amino acid

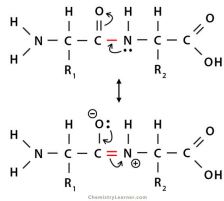
Glycine has a single hydrogen atom where other amino acids have a side chain

glycine
(Gly, or G)

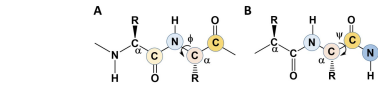


Peptide Bond Resonance Structure

Dipeptide



Torsion Angles



The C α -C β bond defines the Phi (Φ) angle

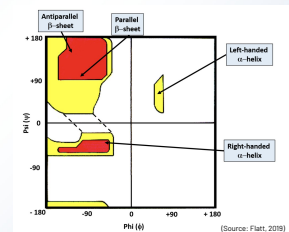
The N-C α bond defines the Psi (Ψ) angle

(Source: Flatt, 2019)

Ramachandran Plots display the most stable Phi and Psi torsion angles for a given peptide

Favorable Phi (Φ) torsion angles

Favorable Psi (Ψ) torsion angles

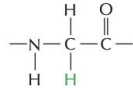


(Source: Flatt, 2019)

Glycine has a broader range of Phi and Psi angles because of its smaller R group

glycine

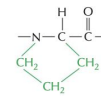
(Gly, or G)



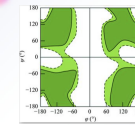
Proline has a bulky, cyclic R-group that restricts psi and phi bond rotations

proline

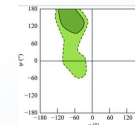
(Pro, or P)



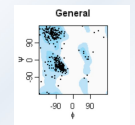
Glycine and proline have unique Ramachandran plots



Glycine



Proline



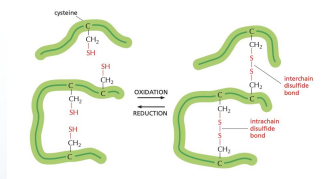
Other amino acids

(Biological Crystallography, 2013)

Cysteine has the only side chain that forms disulfide bonds

cysteine

(Cys, or C)



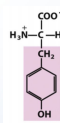
(Alberts et al., 2015)

Aromatic R-groups

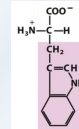
Phenylalanine



Tyrosine



Tryptophan



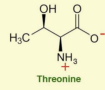
5D

Modifications of R-Groups can change local chemistry

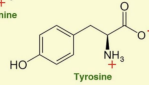
Serine is a polar amino acid. It's non-essential for humans but is a precursor for many important cellular compounds.



Threonine is a polar amino acid. It is essential for humans.

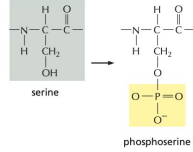


Tyrosine is a polar amino acid. It is non-essential for humans.

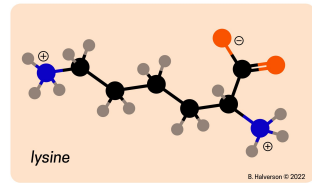


Serine, threonine, and tyrosine all contain hydroxyl groups, making them frequent sites for phosphorylation.

(B) SERINE PHOSPHORYLATION



Protein phosphorylation is a reversible post-translational modification where kinase adds a covalently bound phosphate group to an amino acid residue.

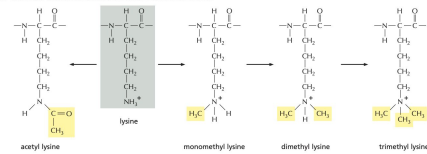


Protonation states are at physiological pH (7.2)

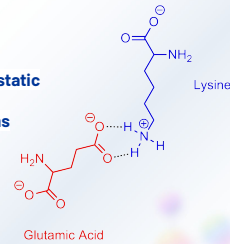
© Harwood © 2002

Lysine modifications

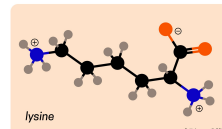
(A) LYSINE ACETYLATION AND METHYLATION ARE COMPETING REACTIONS



Salt bridges are a type of electrostatic interaction between oppositely charged atoms or groups of atoms

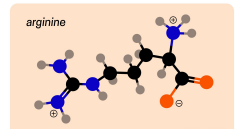


Lysine and arginine commonly form salt bridges



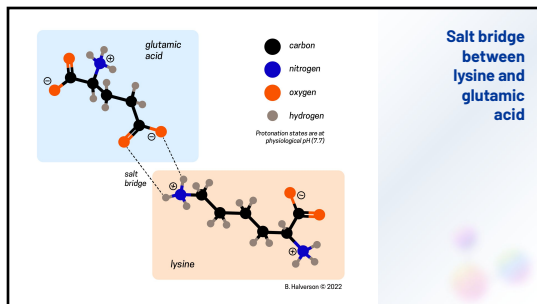
Protonation states are at physiological pH (7.2)

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Protonation states are at physiological pH (7.2)

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