CARBOHYDRATES

- Most abundant biomolecules
- Each year, photosynthesis converts >100 billion metric tons CO2 & H2O into cellulose & other plant products
- Part of human diet sugar and starch
- Oxidation central energy-yielding pathway
- Carbohydrate polymers Structural elements

 in the cell walls of bacteria, plants
 in connective tissues, cell coats of animals

- Carbohydrates polymers

 -lubricate skeletal joints
 -provide adhesion between cells
- Complex carbohydrate polymers

 -covalently attached to proteins or lipids
 -act as signals

Carbohydrates are polyhydroxy aldehydes or ketones, or the substances that yield such compounds on hydrolysis

- Most have empirical formulas suggesting they are carbon "hydrates," Ratio of C:H:O is 1:2:1. (CH₂O)n
- For example, the empirical formula of glucose is C₆H₁₂O₆, which can also be written as (CH₂O) 6 or C₆(H₂O) 6
- Others do not; e.g. deoxyribose $C_5H_{10}O_4$ and rhamnose $C_6H_{12}O_5$
- Although Some non-carbohydrates do follow this empirical formula
- Some carbohydrates also contain N, P, S

Classification

1.Monosaccharides, 2.Oligosaccharides 3.Polysaccharides

Word "Saccharide" is derived from Greek sakkharon, meaning "sugar"

1. Monosaccharides

-Simplest sugars

-Consist of a single polyhydroxy aldehyde or ketone unit

-Most abundant monosaccharide in nature is the six carbon sugar D-glucose

2. Oligosaccharides

- Short chains of monosaccharide units (2-10 OR 3-11)
- Joined together by characteristic glycosidic linkages
- Most abundant disaccharides (2 monosaccharide units)
- -Sucrose (cane sugar) consist of six-carbon sugars Dglucose and D-fructose
- Most are joined to non-sugar molecules (lipids or proteins) in hybrid structures (glycoconjugates)

3. Polysaccharides

-Long chains 100-1000 monosaccharide units

-Some polysaccharides, such as cellulose occur in linear chains

-Others, such as glycogen have branched chains

-Most abundant polysaccharides - starch and cellulose

Classification of polysaccharides

1. Storage & structural polysaccharides Example: Starch, glycogen, chitin, cellulose

2. Homo-polysaccharides & heteropolysaccharides

Example: Starch, glycogen, cellulose, hyaluronic acid



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- Simplest of carbohydrates
- Subunits from which oligosaccharides, polysaccharides are constructed
- Either aldehydes or ketones
- With 1 OR > hydroxyl groups
- 6-C monosachharide glucose, fructose have 5 hydroxyl groups
- C atoms to which hydroxyl groups are attached are often chiral centers

- Colorless, crystalline solids
- Freely soluble in water but insoluble in nonpolar solvents
- Most have a sweet taste
- Backbone of monosaccharides -an unbranched
 C chain
- All C atoms linked by single bonds

- One of the C atoms is double-bonded to an O atom to form a carbonyl group
- Other C atom has a hydroxyl group
- If the carbonyl group is at an end of C chain, the monosaccharide is an aldehyde (aldose)
- If the carbonyl group is at any other position, the monosaccharide is a ketone (ketose)
- Simplest monosaccharides -three-carbon triose: glyceraldehydes, an aldose and dihydroxyacetone, a ketone



Figure 7-1a Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry, Fifth Edition © 2008 W. H. Freeman and Company

- Monosaccharides with 4, 5, 6 and 7 C atoms in their backbone called tetroses, pentoses, hexoses and heptoses
- There are aldoses and ketoses of each of these chain lengths
- The hexoses, which include the aldohexose Dglucose and ketohexose D-fructose, are the most common monosaccharides in nucleic acids





Figure 7-1b *Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry, Fifth Edition* © 2008 W. H. Freeman and Company

- Aldopentose D-ribose, 2-deoxyderibose components of nucleotides
 Monosaccharides Have Asymmetric Centers
- Monosaccharides except dihyroxyacetone contain 1 or > asymmetric (chiral) C atoms
- Thus occur in isomeric forms
- Simplest aldose, glyceraldehydes -1 chiral center (middle C atom), So has 2 different isomers or enantiomers



Figure 7-1c *Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry, Fifth Edition* © 2008 W. H. Freeman and Company

ENANTIONMERS

1 is designated the D isomer; other is the L isomer

Stereoisomers

Compounds that have the same structural formula but differ in spatial configuration (arrangement in space) are known as stereoisomers

 Presence of asymmetric carbon or chiral carbon atom allows the formation of isomers



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- In general, a molecule with *n* chiral centers can have 2ⁿ stereoisomers
- Example: Aldotriose Glyceraldehyde has 2¹ = 2; the aldohexoses, with four chiral centers, have 2⁴ = 16 stereoisomers

No. of asymmetric	No. of possible
carbon atoms	stereoisomers
1	$2^n = 2^1 = 2$
2	$2^n = 2^2 = 4$
3	$2^{n} = 2^{3} = 8$
4	$2^{n} = 2^{4} = 16$

- Stereoisomers of monosaccharides of each C chain length can be divided into 2 groups, which differ in configuration about the chiral center most distant from the carbonyl carbon;
- Those with the same configuration at this reference C as that of D-glyceraldehyde are designated D-isomers
- Those with the configuration of Lglyceraldehyde are L isomers

- When the hydroxyl group on the reference C is on the right side in the projection formula, the sugar is the D isomer
- When on the left, the L isomer
- D and L glyceraldehydes are mirror images, enantiomers
- Except for the difference in the direction of rotating plane polarized light, all of their physical and chemical properties are the same

- Of the 16 possible aldohexoses, 8 are D forms and 8 are L
- Most of the hexoses found in living organisms are D isomers
- Each of the eight D-aldohexoses, which differ in the stereochemistry at C-2, C-3 and C-4 has its own name: D-glucose, D-galactose, D-mannose etc
- Ketoses are commonly designated by inserting ul into the name of the corresponding aldose

D-Aldoses





Monosaccharide Classification

# Carbons	Category Name	D-aldoses	D-ketoses	
3	Triose	Glyceraldehyde	Dihydroxyaceto ne	
4	Tetrose	Erythrose	Erythrulose	
5	Pentose	Ribose, xylose	Ribulose, Xylulose	
6	Hexose	Glucose, Galactose, Mannose	Fructose	

- Few ketoses are named otherwise, such as fructose (from Latin fructus, meaning "fruit"; fruits are a good source of this sugar)
- When 2 sugars differ only in the configuration around 1 C atom, they are called epimers
- D-glucose and D-mannose, which differ only in the stereochemistry at C-2 are epimers, as are D-glucose and D-galactose (at C-4)







D-Mannose (epimer at C-2)

Figure 7-4 *Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry, Fifth Edition* © 2008 W. H. Freeman and Company D-Glucose

D-Galactose (epimer at C-4)

- Some sugars do occur naturally in their L forms
- Examples: L-arabinose, L-Rhamnose, L-Fucose and L isomer of some sugar derivatives that are common components of glycoproteins



L-Arabinose

Unnumbered 7 p238 *Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry, Fifth Edition* © 2008 W. H. Freeman and Company

Common Monosaccharides Occur in Cyclic Forms

- Monosaccharides with 5 or > C atoms -cyclic (ring) structures
- α- D-glucose, β- D-glucose (ANOMERS)
- a & β isomers of D-glucose

Pyranoses, pyran

- D-glucose a- D-glucopyranose & β- D-glucopyranose
- a & β forms of D-glucose interconvert in aqueous solution, by a process called mutarotation



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Polysaccharides/Glycans

- Most of the carbohydrates found in nature occur as polysaccharides, polymers of high molecular weight
- Polysaccharides, also called glycans, differ from each other:

-in identity of their recurring monosaccharide units

- -in length of their chain
- -in type of bonds linking the units
- -in degree of branching



Figure 7-14a Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry, Fifth Edition © 2008 W.H.Freeman and Company



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TABLE 7–2	Structures and Roles of Some Polysaccharides					
Polymer	Туре*	Repeating unit [†]	Size (number of monosaccharide units)	Roles/significance		
Starch Amylose Amylopectin	Homo- Homo-	(α1→4)Glc, linear (α1→4)Glc, with (α1→6)Glc branches every	50–5,000 Up to 10 ⁶	Energy storage: in plants		
Glycogen	Homo-	24–30 residues (α1→4)Glc, with (α1→6)Glc branches every 8–12 residues	Up to 50,000	Energy storage: in bacteria and animal cells		
Cellulose	Homo-	(β1→4)Glc	Up to 15,000	Structural: in plants, gives rigidity and strength to cell walls		
Chitin	Homo-	(β1→4)GlcNAc	Very large	Structural: in insects, spiders, crustaceans, gives rigidity and strength to exoskeletons		
Dextran	Homo-	(α 1→6)Glc, with (α 1→3) branches	Wide range	Structural: in bacteria, extracellular adhesive		
Peptidoglycan	Hetero-; peptides attached	4)Mur2Ac($β$ 1→4) GlcNAc($β$ 1	Very large	Structural: in bacteria, gives rigidity and strength to cell envelope		
Agarose	Hetero-	3)⊳-Gal(β1→4)3,6- anhydro-∟-Gal(α1	1,000	Structural: in algae, cell wall material		
Hyaluronan (a glycosamino- glycan)	Hetero-; acidic	4)GlcA(β1→3) GlcNAc(β1	Up to 100,000	Structural: in vertebrates, extracellular matrix of skin and connective tissue; viscosity and lubrication in joints		

*Each polymer is classified as a homopolysaccharide (homo-) or heteropolysaccharide (hetero-).

[†]The abbreviated names for the peptidoglycan, agarose, and hyaluronan repeating units indicate that the polymer contains repeats of this disaccharide unit. For example, in peptidoglycan, the GlcNAc of one disaccharide unit is (β 1 \rightarrow 4)-linked to the first residue of the next disaccharide unit.

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