Biochem-708 MOLECULAR BIOCHEMISTRY 3(3-0)

Structural organization of genes and chromosomes in prokaryotes and eukaryotes, nucleosomes, properties of DNA and RNA in solution. Replication of DNA: Replication theory and semiconservative replication, molecular mechanism of replication in prokaryotes and eukaryotes. Enzymes involved in replication. Molecular nature of mutations, DNA damage and repair. Modification and restriction. Transcription: synthesis and processing of RNA. Reverse transcription and RNA replication in viruses. Genetic code and Wobble hypothesis. Translation, essential factors, enzymes, initiation, elongation and termination of protein synthesis. Posttranslational modifications and targeting of proteins. Control of transcription and translation. Regulation of gene expression in prokaryotes. Recent advances in biotechnology and genetic engineering.

SUGGESTED READINGS

•Berg, J.M., J.L. Tymoczko and L. Stryer. 2007. Biochemistry, 6th ed. W.H. Freeman and Company. New York.

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•Sambrook, J. F., Russell, D. W. and Irwin, N. 2000. Molecular cloning: A laboratory manual, 3rd ed. Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory press, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y.

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DNA as genetic material

Chromosomes are comprised of two types of macromolecules, proteins and DNA, but which one is the stuff of genes?

- the answer was discovered from a variety of different experiments, all of which shared the same basic design
 - if you separate the DNA in an individual's chromosomes from the protein, which of the two materials is able to change another individual's genes?

Frederick Griffith in 1928 experimented with pathogenic (i.e., disease-causing) bacteria

- he experimented with two strains of *Strepococcus pneumonia*
 - the virulent strain, called the S form, was coated with a polysaccharide capsule and caused infected mice to die of blood poisoning
 - a mutant form, called the R form, which lacked the capsule and was non-virulent

Griffith determined that when dead bacteria of the S form were injected into mice, the mice remained healthy

But, when Griffith injected mice with mixture of dead S bacteria and live bacteria of the R form, the mice unexpectedly died

 the R form bacteria now had transformed into the virulent S variety



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Oswald Avery, Colin MacLeod and Maclyn McCarty

The agent responsible for transforming *Streptococcus* went undiscovered until a classic series of experiments by Oswald Avery and his coworkers Colin MacLeod and Maclyn McCarty

- they also worked with Streptococcus strains, both dead S and live R, but were able to remove first nearly 99.98% of the dead S
- they found that the transforming principle was not reduced by the removal of the protein

The Avery team discovered that the transforming principle resembled DNA in several ways

- same chemistry and behavior as DNA
- not affected by lipid and protein extraction
- not destroyed by protein- or RNA-digesting enzymes
- destroyed by DNA-digesting enzymes

Based on this overwhelming evidence, the Avery team concluded that the heredity material was DNA

Alfred Hershey and Martha Chase experiment

Alfred Hershey and Martha Chase provided the final experimental evidence that pointed to DNA as the hereditary material

- the team studied viruses that infect bacteria
- the structure of these viruses is very simple: a core of DNA surrounded by a coat of protein
- the viruses attach themselves to the surface of bacteria cells and inject their genes into the interior
 - the infected bacterial cell is then forced to make hundreds of copies of new viruses, which then burst out of the cell to infect new cells

Hershey and Chase used radioactive isotopes to "label" or tag the DNA and the protein of the viruses

- some viruses were grown so that their
 DNA contained radioactive phosporous
 (³²P)
- other viruses were grown so that their protein coats contained radioactive sulfur (³⁵S)

The Experiment

After the labeled viruses were allowed to infect bacteria, only the viruses with 32 P had labeled tracer in their interior

The conclusion was that the genes that viruses use to specify new viruses are made of DNA and not protein



Components of Nucleic acids

In order to understand how DNA functioned as the molecules that stored heredity, researchers needed to understand the structure of DNA

- DNA is comprised of subunits called nucleotides
- each DNA nucleotide has three parts
 - a central dexoyribose sugar
 - a phosphate group
 - an organic base



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Н

Pyrimidine

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TABLE 8-1	Nucleotide and Nucleic Acid Nomenclature		
Base	Nucleoside	Nucleotide	Nucleic acid
Purines			
Adenine	Adenosine Deoxyadenosine	Adenylate Deoxyadenylate	RNA DNA
Guanine	Guanosine Deoxyguanosine	Guanylate Deoxyguanylate	RNA DNA
Pyrimidines			
Cytosine	Cytidine Deoxycytidine	Cytidylate Deoxycytidylate	RNA DNA
Thymine	Thymidine or deoxythymidine	Thymidylate or deoxythymidylate	DNA
Uracil	Uridine	Uridylate	RNA

Note: "Nucleoside" and "nucleotide" are generic terms that include both ribo- and deoxyribo- forms. Also, ribonucleosides and ribonucleotides are here designated simply as nucleosides and nucleotides (e.g., riboadenosine as adenosine), and deoxyribonucleosides and deoxyribonucleotides as deoxynucleosides and deoxynucleotides (e.g., deoxyriboadenosine as deoxyadenosine). Both forms of naming are acceptable, but the shortened names are more commonly used. Thymine is an exception; "ribothymidine" is used to describe its unusual occurrence in RNA.

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Aldehyde

Figure 8-3a Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry, Fifth Edition © 2008 W.H. Freeman and Company β -Furanose



Deoxyribonucleotides

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Adenosine 3'-monophosphate

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Adenosine 2'-monophosphate



Adenosine 2',3'-cyclic monophosphate



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James D. Watson

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Francis Crick, 1916–2004



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Rosalind Franklin, 1920–1958

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Maurice Wilkins, 1916–2004

Erwin Chargaff and his colleagues in the late 1940s

1. The base composition of DNA generally varies from one species to another.

 2. DNA specimens isolated from different tissues of the same species have the same base composition.
 3. The base composition of DNA in a given species does not change with an organism's age, nutritional state, or changing environment.

4. In all cellular DNAs, regardless of the species the number of adenosine residues is equal to the number of the thymidine residues (that is, A : T), and the number of guanosine residues is equal to the number of cytidine residues (G : C)

Thus: the sum of the purine residues equals the sum of the pyrimidine residues; that is, A+G:T+C.



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	A form	B form	Z form
Helical sense Diameter Base pairs per	Right handed ~26 Å	Right handed ~20 Å	Left handed ~18 Å
helical turn Helix rise per base	11	10.5	12
pair Base tilt normal to	2.6 Å	3.4 Å	3.7 Å
the helix axis	20°	6°	7 °
Sugar pucker conformation	C-3' endo	C-2' endo	C-2' endo for pyrimidines; C-3' endo for purines
Glycosyl bond conformation	Anti	Anti	Anti for pyrimidines; syn for purines

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Palindrome T T A G C A C G T G C T A A A A T C G T G C A C G A T T

Mirror repeat



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Guanosine tetraplex

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Figure 8-20d Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry, Fifth Edition © 2008 W. H. Freeman and Company





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Hairpin double helix

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Guanine

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of DNA in random coils

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Separated strands of DNA in random coils

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NaNO₂ Sodium nitrite

NaNO₃ Sodium nitrate



Nitrous acid precursors

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Alkylating agents

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O⁶-Methylguanine

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Computer-generated result after bands migrate past detector

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bands migrate past detector

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Abbreviations of ribonucleoside 5'-phosphates				
Base	Mono-	Di-	Tri-	
Adenine	AMP	ADP	ATP	
Guanine	GMP	GDP	GTP	
Cytosine	СМР	CDP	СТР	
Uracil	UMP	UDP	UTP	

Abbreviations of deoxyribonucleoside 5'-phosphates					
Base	Mono-	Di-	Tri-		
Adenine	dAMP	dADP	dATP		
Guanine	dGMP	dGDP	dGTP		
Cytosine	dCMP	dCDP	dCTP		
Thymine	dTMP	dTDP	dTTP		







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Coenzyme A

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Nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NAD⁺)

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Flavin adenine dinucleotide (FAD)

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Adenosine 3',5'-cyclic monophosphate (cyclic AMP; cAMP)





Guanosine 3',5'-cyclic monophosphate (cyclic GMP; cGMP)

Figure 8-39 Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry, Fifth Edition © 2008 W.H. Freeman and Company Guanosine 5'-diphosphate, 3'-diphosphate (guanosine tetraphosphate) (ppGpp)