

14 Biomolecules

Subtopics

- 14.1 Introduction: Principal molecules of the living world
- 14.2 Carbohydrates
- 14.3 Proteins
- 14.4 Nucleic acids

Straight or curly?

Hair is primarily composed of keratin, a protein, which grows from a sac called the follicle. Cells in the hair follicle generate keratin, and various other proteins, which become a part of the hair shaft. These proteins contain sulfur atoms, and when two of these sulfur atoms pair up and bond, they form a disulfide bond. If the two sulfur atoms in the same protein are at a distance, and join to form the disulfide bond, the protein will bend.

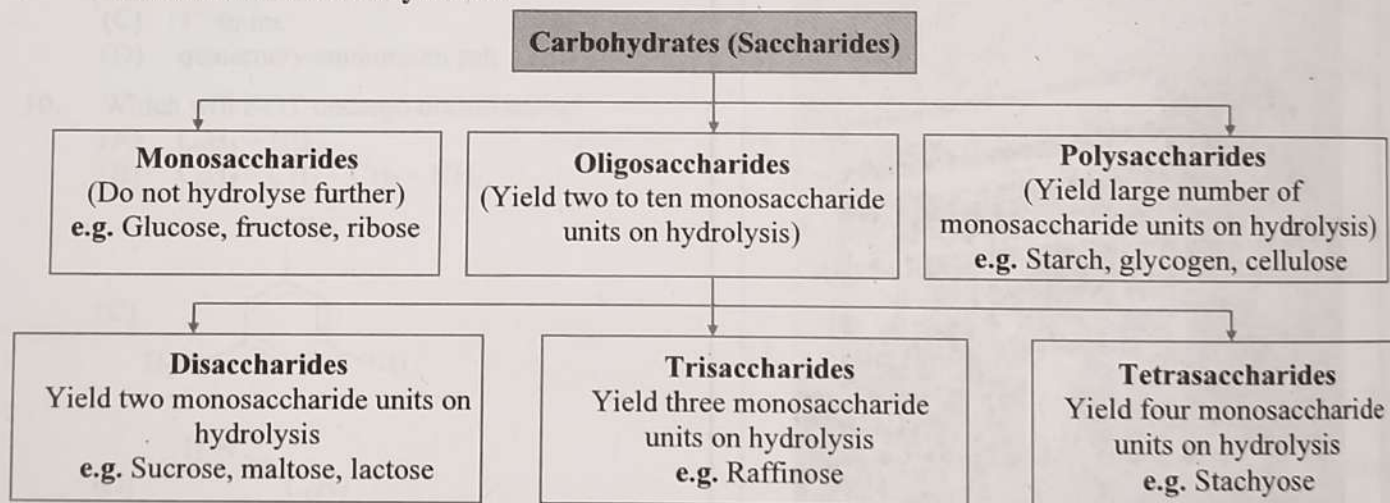


The greater the number of links, the curlier the hair, and the fewer the number of links, the straighter the hair.



Quick Review

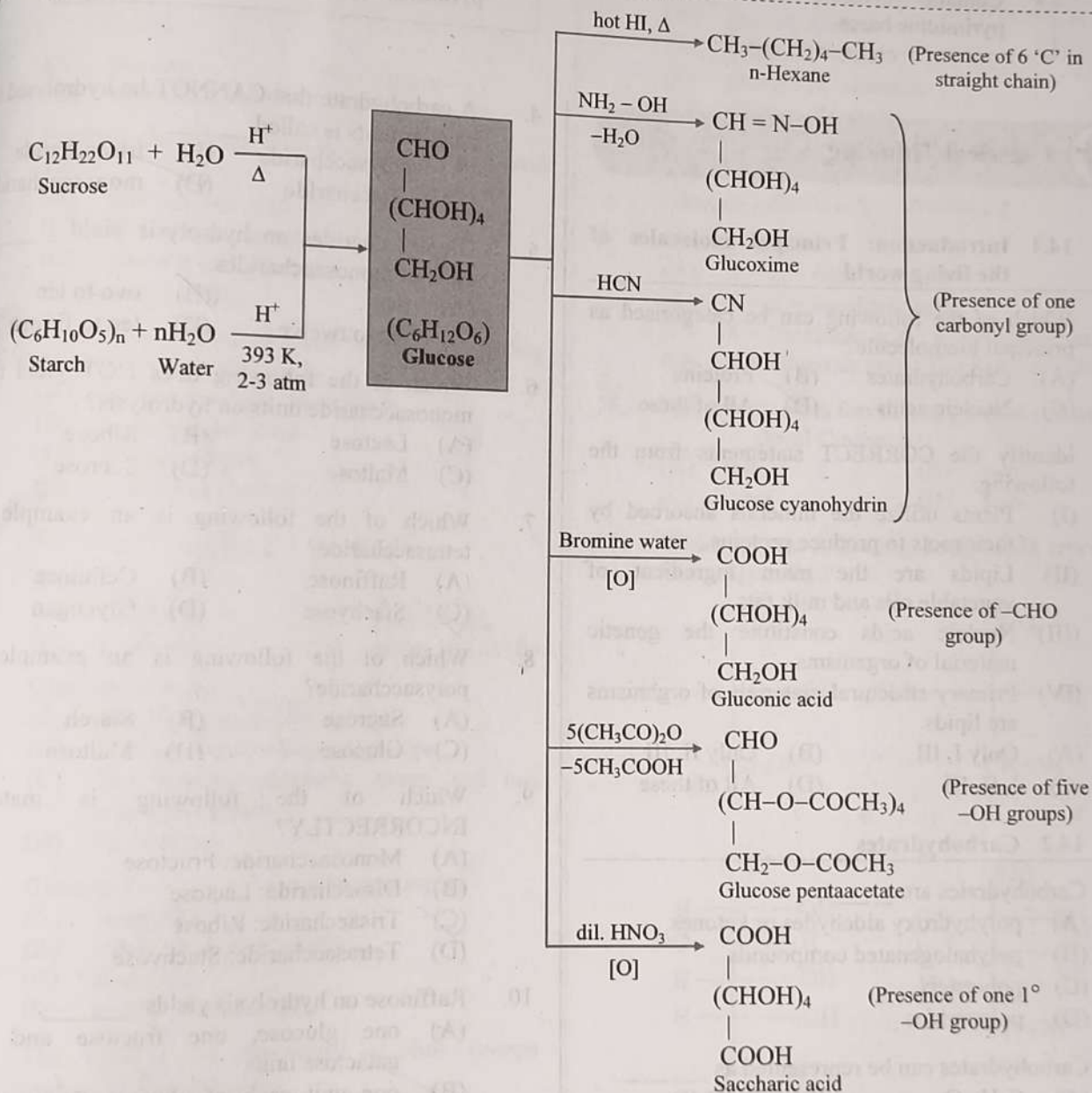
➤ Classification of carbohydrates:



➤ Constituent monosaccharides and glycosidic linkage of some carbohydrates:

| Carbohydrates | Examples | Constituent monosaccharides | Glycosidic linkage |
|----------------|-----------|--|--|
| Disaccharides | Sucrose | One unit each of α -D-Glucopyranose and β -D-fructofuranose | α , β -1,2-Glycosidic linkage |
| | Maltose | Two α -D-glucopyranose units | α -1,4-Glycosidic bond |
| | Lactose | One unit each of β -D-Galactopyranose and β -D-glucopyranose | β -1,4-Glycosidic linkage |
| Trisaccharides | Raffinose | One unit each of glucose, fructose and galactose | - |

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|--|---|
| Tetrasaccharides | Stachyose | One unit of glucose + one unit of fructose + two units of galactose | |
| Polysaccharides | Starch | Polymer of α -D-glucopyranose [Two components: Amylose and amylopectin] | Unbranched chains: α -1,4-Glycosidic linkage Branched chains in amylopectin: α -1,6-Glycosidic linkage |
| | Cellulose | Polymer of β -glucopyranose units | β -1,4-Glycosidic bonds |

Glucose:**Classification of proteins:****Proteins****Globular proteins**

- Soluble in water.
 - Folded to form spherical shape.
 - Shape results from coiling around polypeptide chains.
- e.g. Insulin, egg albumin, serum albumin, legumelin, etc.

Fibrous proteins

- Insoluble in water.
 - Have elongated, rod like shape.
 - Polypeptide chains of protein are parallel to each other.
- e.g. Keratin, myosin, etc.



➤ Nucleic acids:

