



# Life and Health Science

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## Chapter 2: The Chemistry of Life

- All things are made up of atoms
- Atoms link together using chemical bonds to form molecules
- Why are molecules of water so important?

*Corresponds with OpenStax Biology 2e Chapter 2*



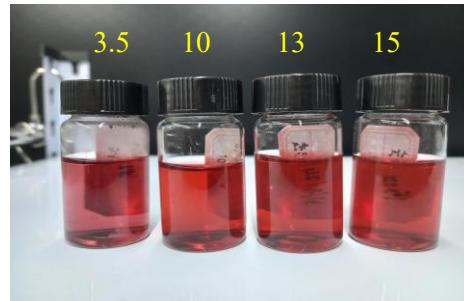
# All things are made up of atoms

- All matter that takes up space (solids, liquids, & gases) is made up of **elements**
  - Element = a substance that cannot be broken down chemically into other substances
    - e.g. oxygen, gold, aluminum, calcium, iron, etc.

*gold*



<https://pixabay.com/images/id-4131091/>



*aluminum*



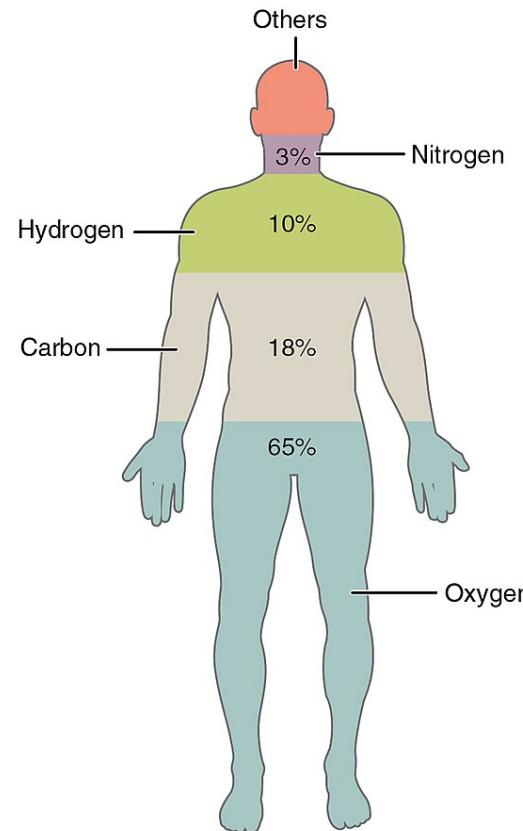
<https://snl.no/aluminium>



<https://www.maxpixel.net/photo-466542>



- There are over 100 elements that we know of
- But there are only ~25 elements essential to life
  - if a living thing is deficient in any one element they can become ill or die



Element	Symbol	Percentage in Body
Oxygen	O	65.0
Carbon	C	18.5
Hydrogen	H	9.5
Nitrogen	N	3.2
Calcium	Ca	1.5
Phosphorus	P	1.0
Potassium	K	0.4
Sulfur	S	0.3
Sodium	Na	0.2
Chlorine	Cl	0.2
Magnesium	Mg	0.1
Trace elements include boron (B), chromium (Cr), cobalt (Co), copper (Cu), fluorine (F), iodine (I), iron (Fe), manganese (Mn), molybdenum (Mo), selenium (Se), silicon (Si), tin (Sn), vanadium (V), and zinc (Zn).		less than 1.0

Figure: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:201\\_Elements\\_of\\_the\\_Human\\_Body-01.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:201_Elements_of_the_Human_Body-01.jpg)



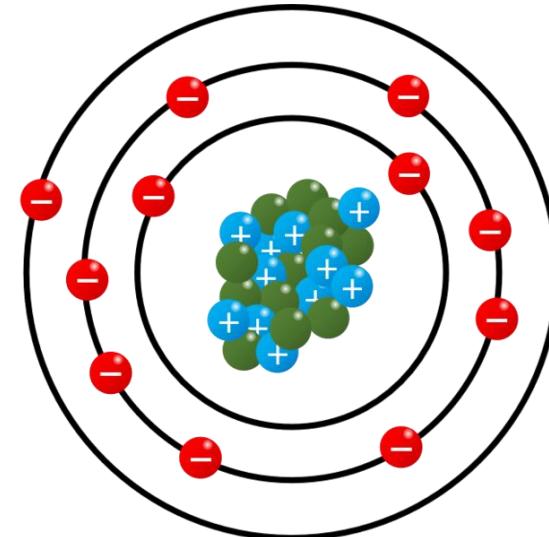
- e.g. an iron deficiency = anemia (low red blood cells), which causes fatigue, impaired immune function, & eventually death
- e.g. a potassium deficiency = muscle cramps, weakness, eventually the heart will stop beating
- e.g. an iodine deficiency = goiters (swollen thyroid glands, located in the neck), depression, & eventually deficits in mental function
  - *You don't need to know these examples, they are just to emphasize the importance of each element, even if you only need small amounts.*



Figure: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Goiter.JPG>



- The smallest unit of an element = an **atom**
  - e.g. one unit of oxygen is an atom of oxygen (smallest you can get)



A single atom of the element sodium

*“Because they are so long lived, atoms really get around. Every atom you possess has almost certainly passed through several stars and been part of millions of organisms on its way to becoming you. We are each so atomically numerous and so vigorously recycled at death that a significant number of our atoms – up to a billion for each us, it has been suggested – probably once belonged to Shakespeare.”*

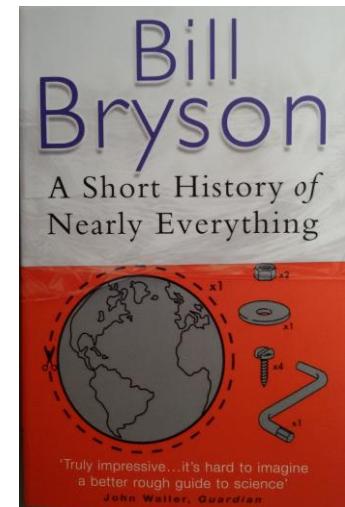


Figure: [https://commons.m.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Sodium\\_Atom.png](https://commons.m.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Sodium_Atom.png)



- Atoms themselves are all made up of 3 components:

- **Protons** = positive charge (+)
- **Neutrons** = no charge
- **Electrons** = negative charge (-)
  - orbit around the nucleus within *electron shells*
  - *electrons are in constant motion orbiting the nucleus - the shells just represent where they are orbiting (virtual)*

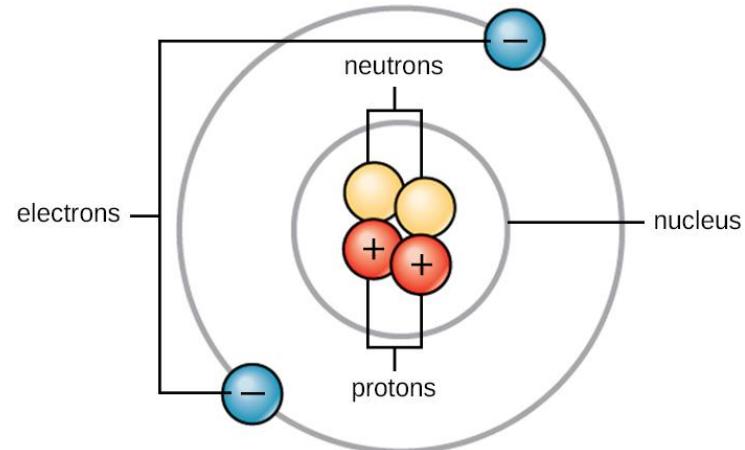


Figure: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:OSC\\_Microbio\\_00\\_AA\\_atom.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:OSC_Microbio_00_AA_atom.jpg)



- Atoms are electrically neutral because the number of protons (+) is equal to the number of electrons (-)
- Other than hydrogen (a special case), a regular atom also has the same amount of neutrons
  - e.g. helium atom = 2 protons, 2 neutrons, 2 electrons
- *If an atom does not have the same number of everything, it will have a special name – we'll talk about these soon*

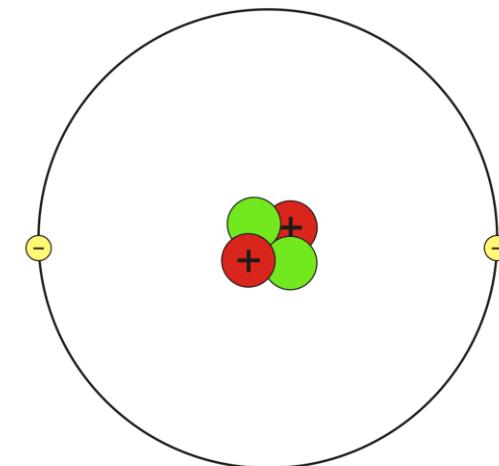
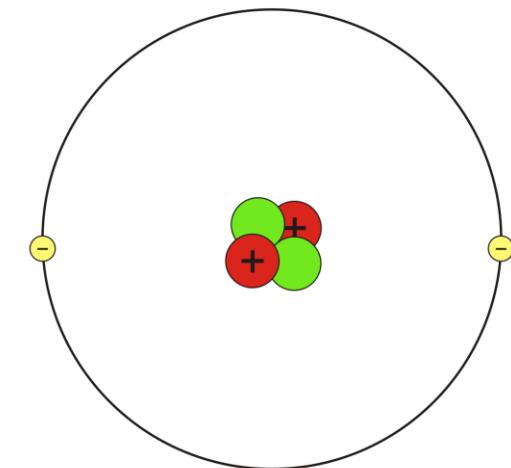


Figure: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Helium-Bohr.svg>

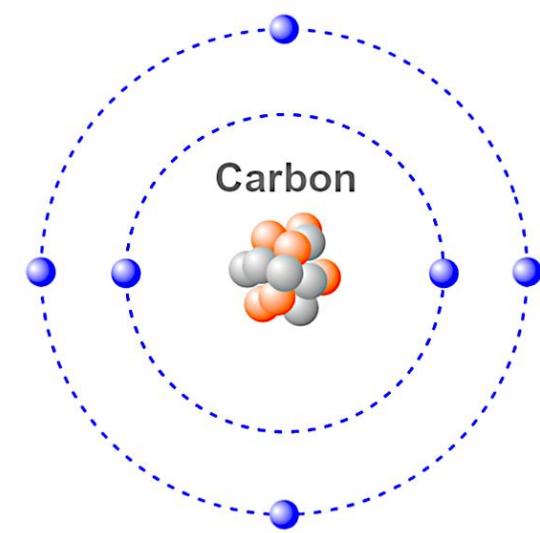


## ■ Protons

- Each element has a unique number of protons
  - e.g. hydrogen ALWAYS has one
  - e.g. helium ALWAYS has two
  - e.g. carbon ALWAYS has six
- If you change the number of protons, you change the element completely
  - e.g. *if you add a proton to hydrogen, it becomes helium*



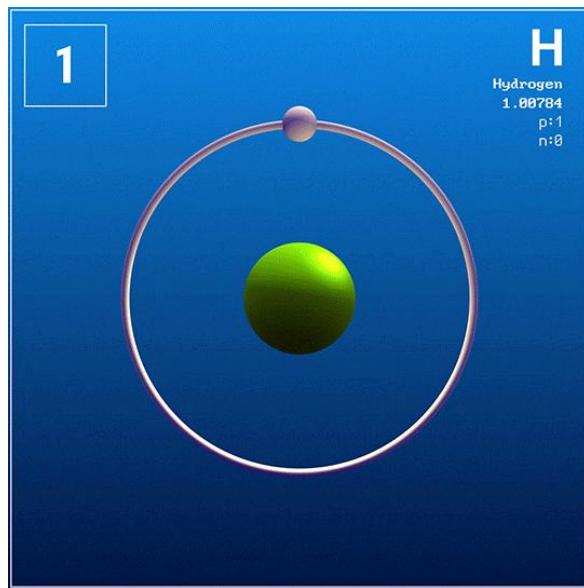
**Helium (He)**



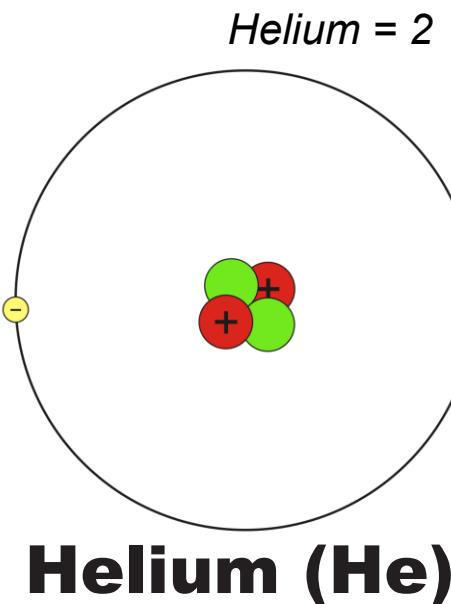


- Because an atom of hydrogen always has one proton no matter what, we can define hydrogen by this unchanging fact – we call this its atomic number
  - Atomic number** = the number of protons an atom has

*Hydrogen has an atomic number of 1*

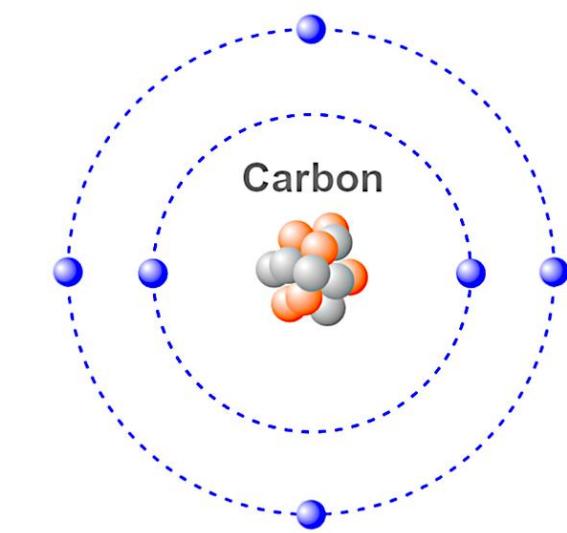


[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Hydrogen\\_GIF.gif](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Hydrogen_GIF.gif)



<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Helium-Bohr.svg>

*Carbon = 6*



<https://pixabay.com/images/id-4426054/>



- On a periodic table of elements, you'll always see the atomic number for each element listed

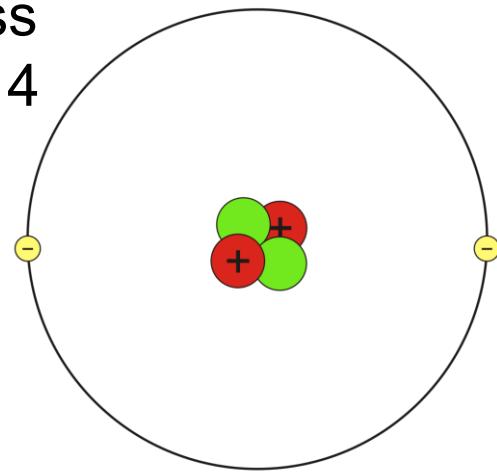
1 H																									2 He
3 Li	4 Be																								
11 Na	12 Mg																								
19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr								
37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe								
55 Cs	56 Ba	*	71 Lu	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn							
87 Fr	88 Ra	*	103 Lr	104 Rf	105 Db	106 Sg	107 Bh	108 Hs	109 Mt	110 Ds	111 Rg	112 Cn	113 Nh	114 Fl	115 Mc	116 Lv	117 Ts	118 Og							
*	57 La	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb											
*	89 Ac	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	93 Np	94 Pu	95 Am	96 Cm	97 Bk	98 Cf	99 Es	100 Fm	101 Md	102 No											

Figure: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Simple\\_Periodic\\_Table\\_Chart-blocks.svg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Simple_Periodic_Table_Chart-blocks.svg)



- We can also describe an atom by its atomic mass
  - **Atomic mass** = number of protons + neutrons
    - *Electrons are so light, we usually ignore them in biology*

Atomic mass  
of helium = 4



**Helium (He)**

Protons, Neutrons, and Electrons

	Charge	Mass (amu)	Location
Proton	+1	1	nucleus
Neutron	0	1	nucleus
Electron	-1	0	orbitals

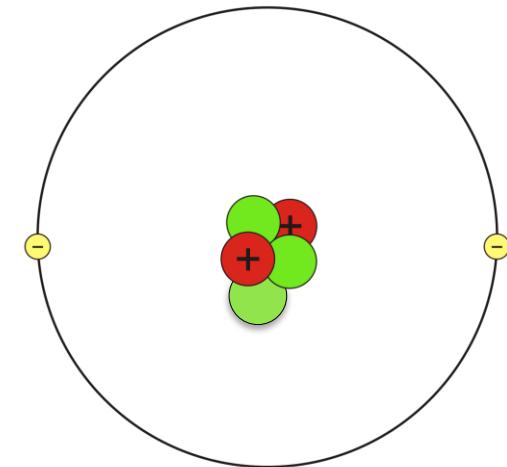
Figure: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Helium-Bohr.svg>

Figure from OpenStax Biology 2e



## ■ Neutrons

- The number of protons never changes, but the number of neutrons an atom has can change
  - A regular helium atom has 2 P+, 2 N, & 2 E-
- An **isotope** = an atom with a different number of neutrons
  - e.g. helium with 2 P+, 3 N, & 2 E-





- Why are isotopes important in biology?
  - Some isotopes are stable, but some are unstable
    - Unstable isotopes are **radioactive**
      - They break apart, releasing radiation

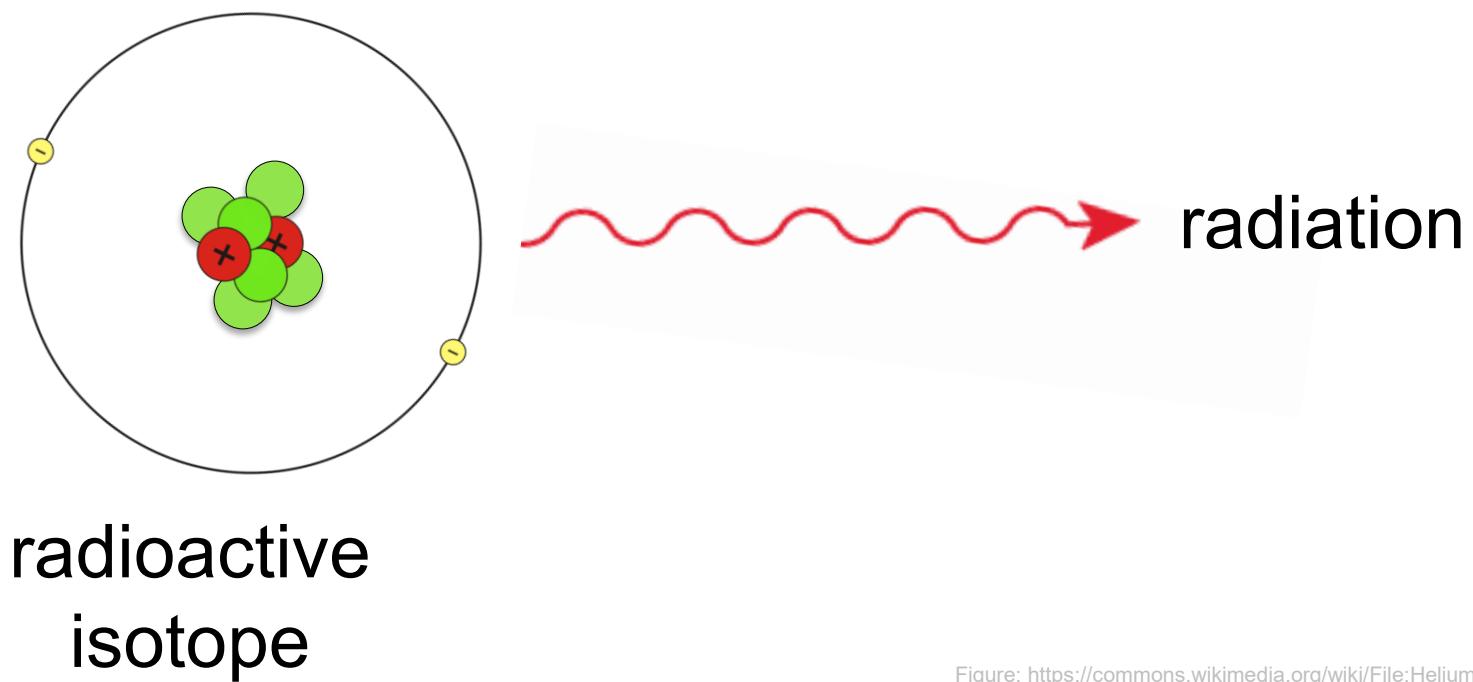
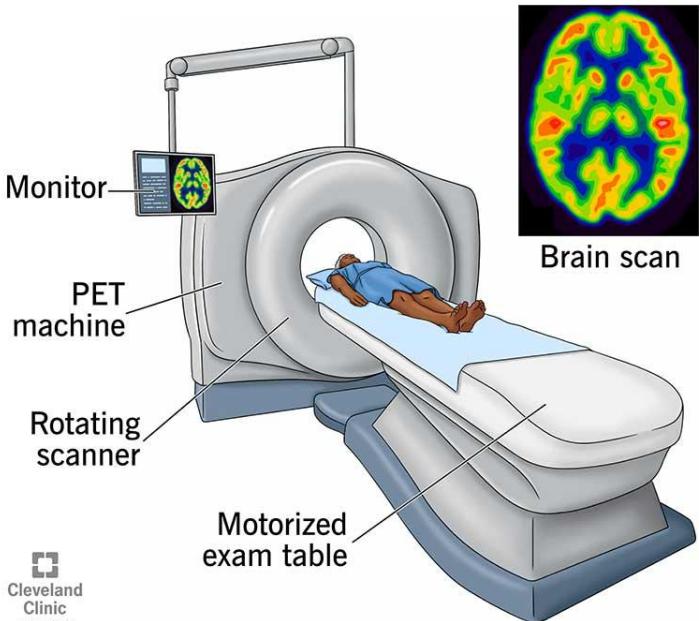


Figure: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Helium-Bohr.svg>

## PET Scan

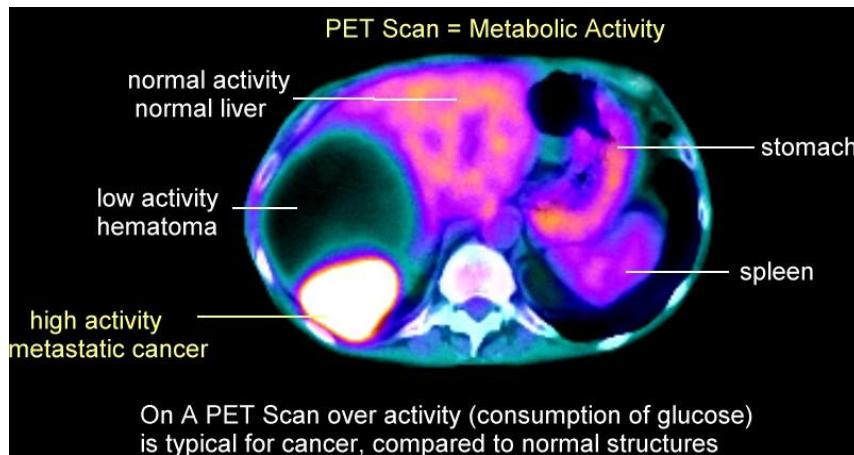


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### ▪ How radioactivity / radiation benefits science:

- Harnessed for energy
  - Treatment for cancer
  - Determining the age of fossils
  - Medical imaging (PET scans)
- PET scan = low dose of radioactive glucose injected into patient

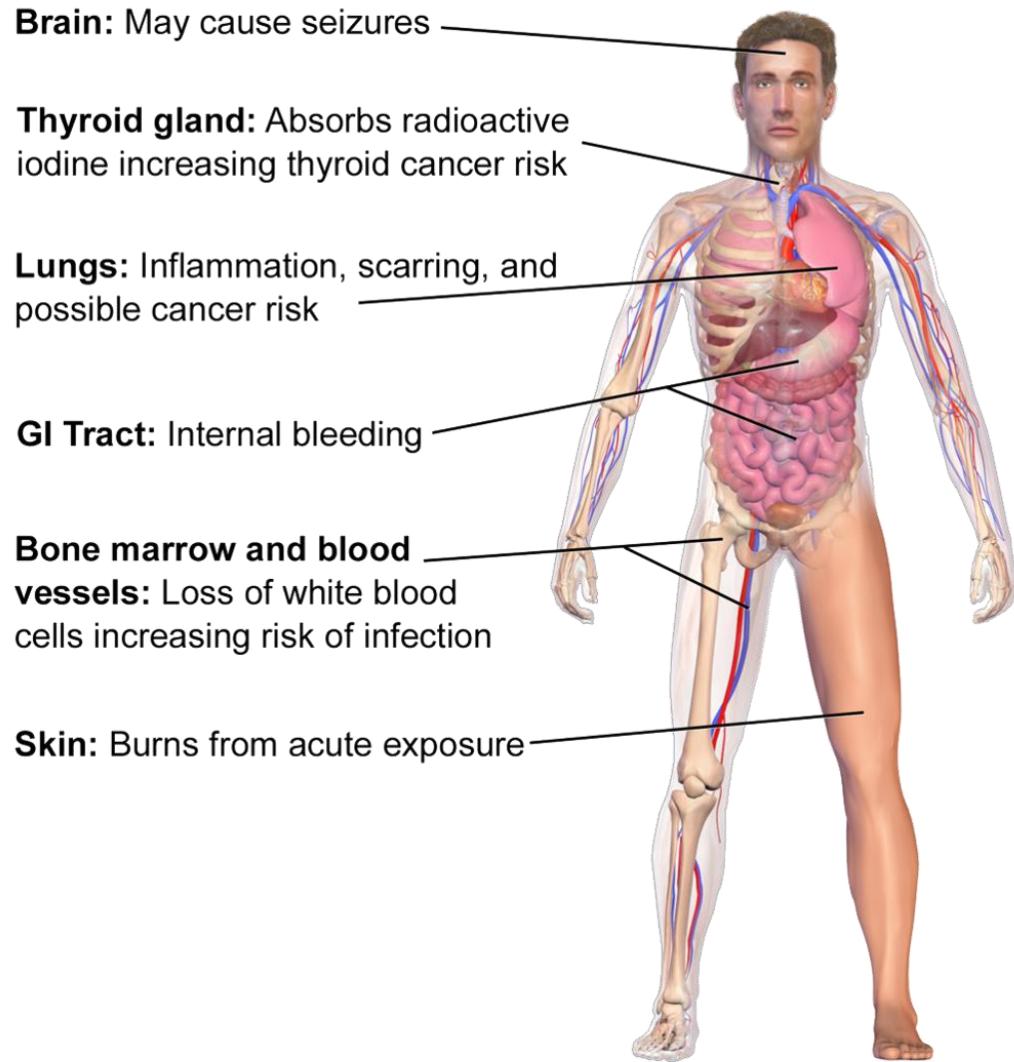
- *Positron Emission Tomography*
- *glucose is broken down for energy, releasing radio-activity, which we can measure*



*Red indicates high radioactivity, showing a cancerous tumor using a lot of energy*



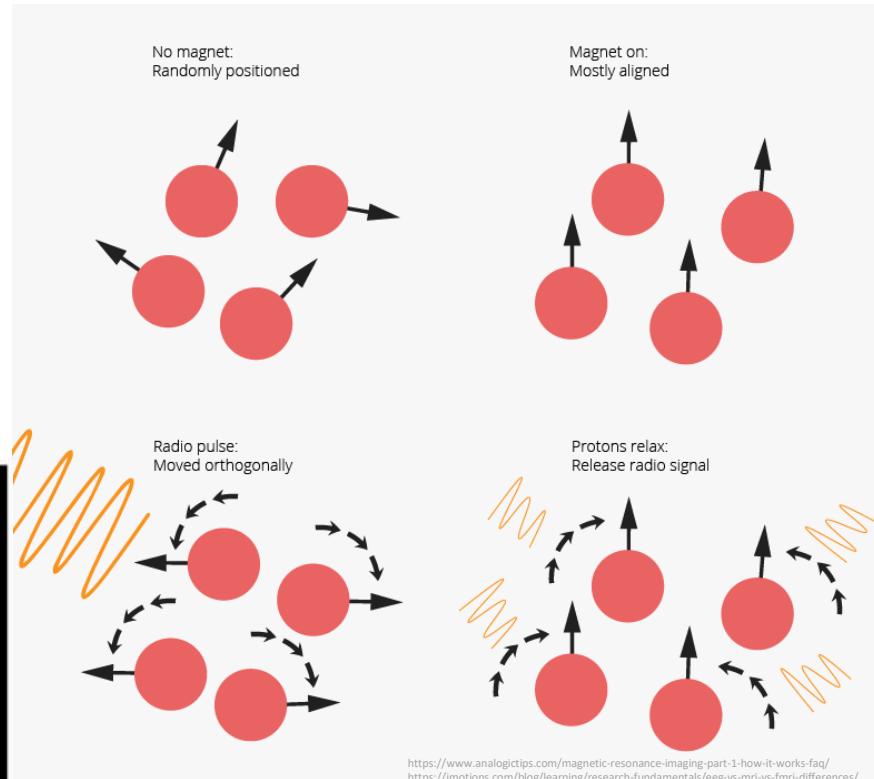
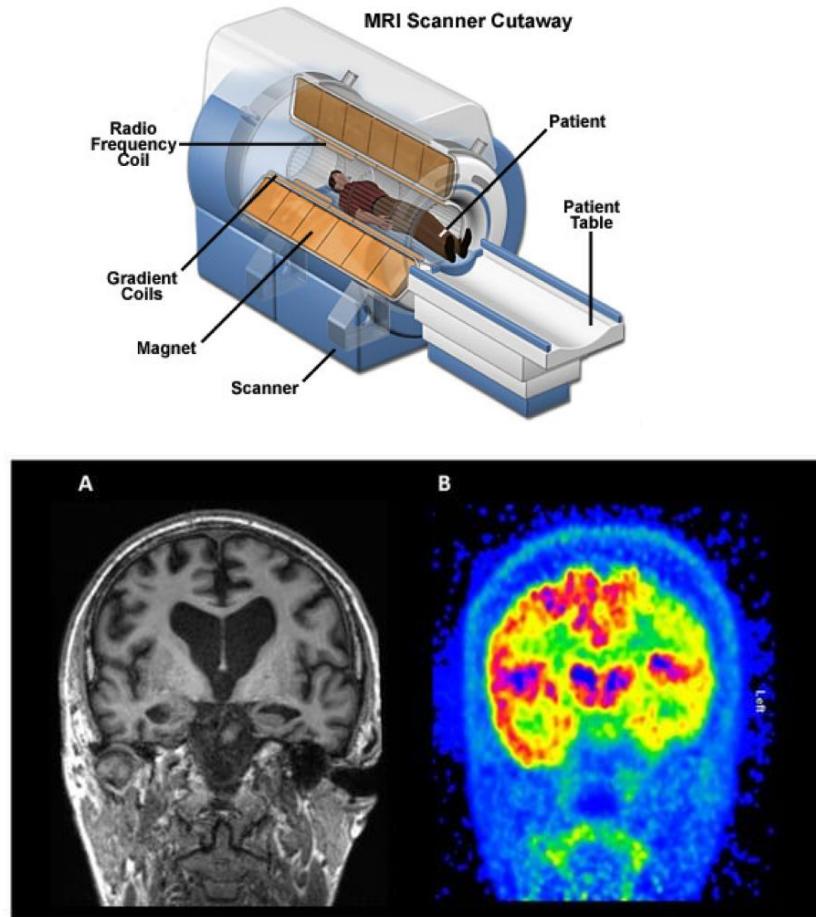
- Too much exposure to radiation can cause:
  - cancer
  - radiation sickness
  - severe birth defects
  - even death



## Selected Risks from Radiation Sickness



# MRI: Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Imaging



<https://www.analogictips.com/magnetic-resonance-imaging-part-1-how-it-works-faq/>  
<https://imotions.com/blog/learning/research-fundamentals/eeg-vs-mri-vs-fmri-differences/>

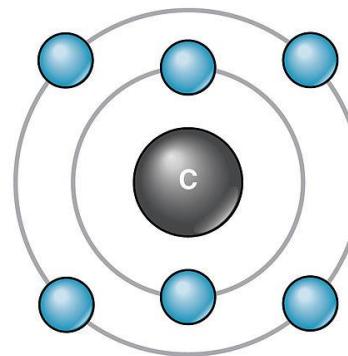
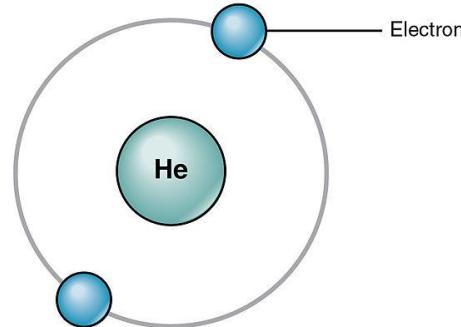
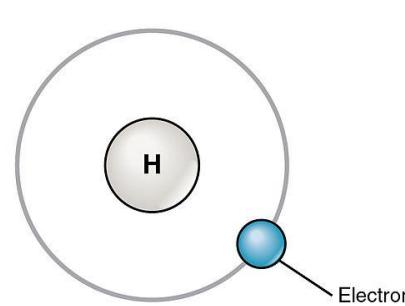
Imaging biomarkers of neurodegeneration. Coronal structural MRI section (panel A) and 18F-fluorodeoxyglucose (FDG) PET (panel B) from a patient with Alzheimer's disease (AD). *Int. J. Mol. Sci.* **2018**, *19*(12), 3702



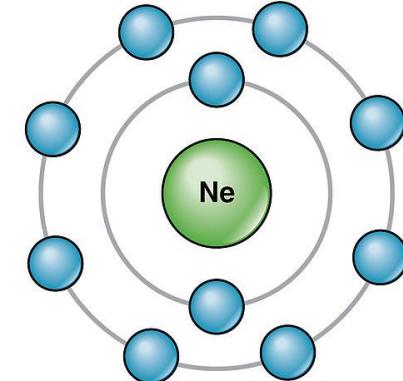
# Electrons (-) are distributed around the atomic nucleus in electron shells, where they are in constant motion

- The first electron shell holds up to 2 electrons
- The second electron shell holds up to 8 electrons
- The third electron shell also holds up to 8 or 18 electrons

*Hydrogen only has 1 electron but 2 can fit in this first shell*



*Carbon has 6 electrons, with 2 in the first shell and the remaining 4 in the second shell (which could hold up to 8)*



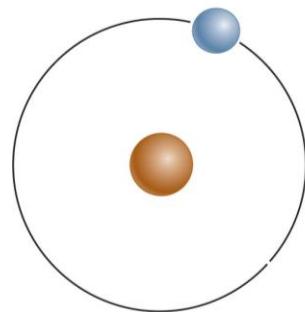


# Electrons are most stable when the outer shell of the atom is full

- To fill their shells, atoms interact with other atoms, **losing, gaining, or sharing** electrons

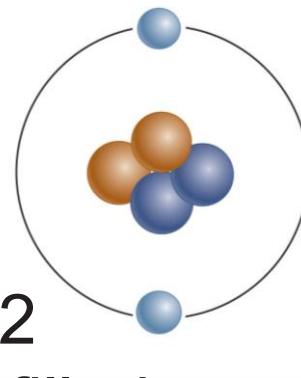
## Hydrogen (H)

- Atomic # = 1
- Outer shell not filled
- **Unstable**
- Will interact with other atoms



## Helium (He)

- Atomic # = 2
- Outer shell filled
- **Stable**
- Will NOT interact with other atoms



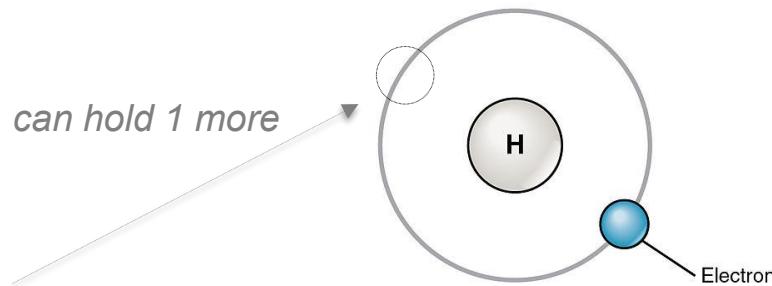


# ELECTRON SHELLS AND ATOM STABILITY

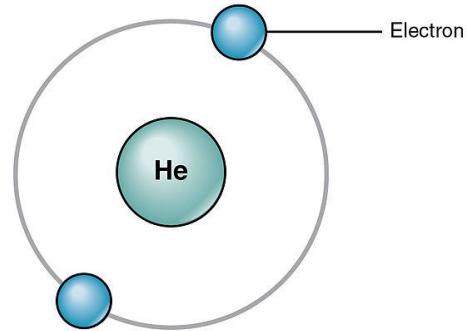
## ATOM STABILITY

Atoms become stable when their outermost shell is filled to capacity. Stable atoms tend not to react or combine with other atoms.

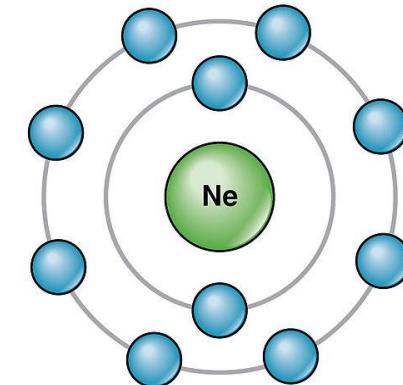
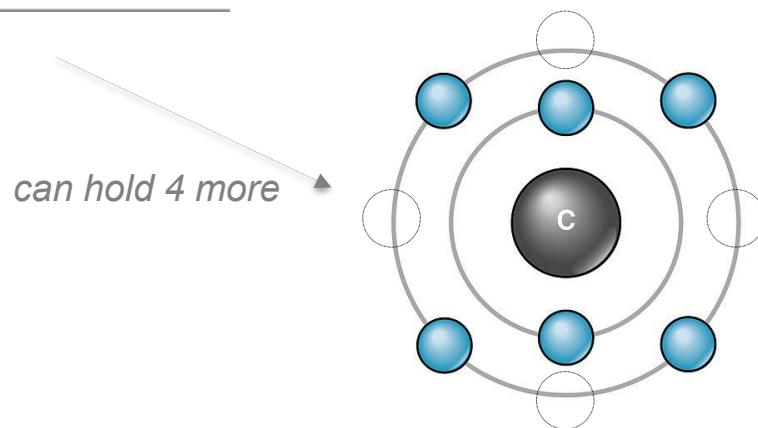
### UNSTABLE ATOMS



### STABLE ATOMS

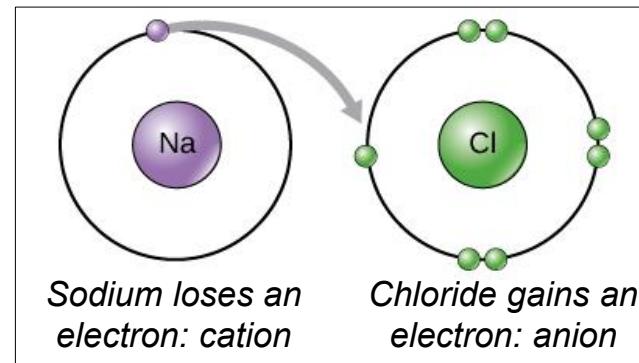


Only when atoms have electron vacancies in their outermost shell are they likely to interact with other atoms.





Atoms that lose or gain electrons to become stable are called **ions**



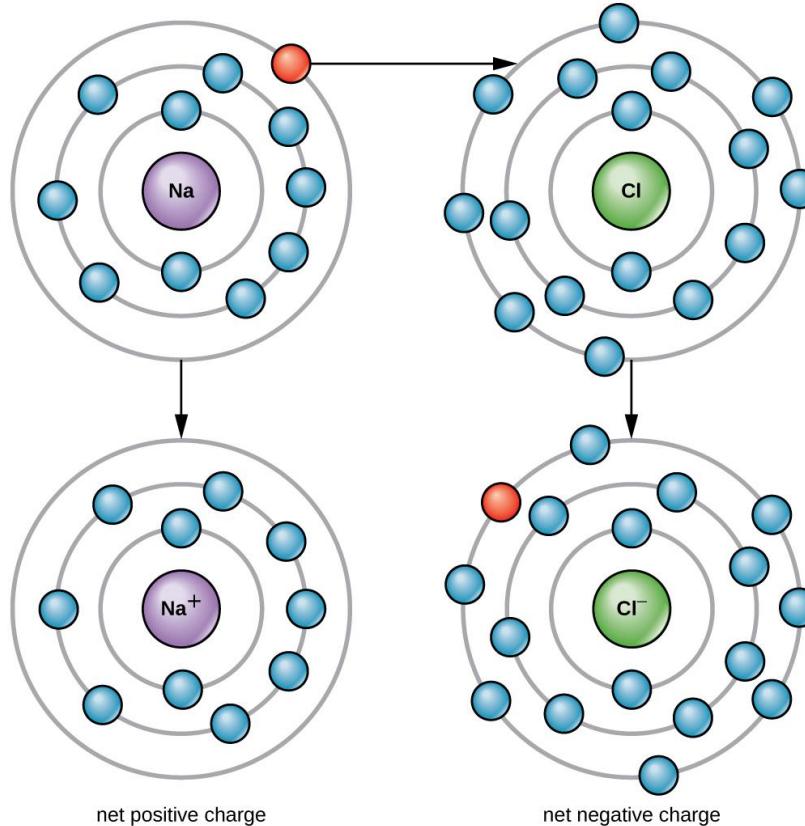
- An atom that loses an electron (-) will have a positive charge = **cation**
  - e.g. carbon with 6 P+, 6 N, & 5 E-
  
- An atom that gains an electron (-) will have a negative charge = **anion**
  - e.g. carbon with 6 P+, 6 N, & 7 E-





# IONS ARE CHARGED ATOMS

An atom that loses one or more electrons becomes positively charged, while an atom that acquires electrons becomes negatively charged. This transfer of electrons is driven by the fact that atoms with full outer electron shells are more stable.



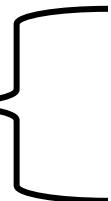
## SODIUM ION

- ⊕ 11 Protons
- 11 Neutrons
- ⊖ 10 Electrons

## CHLORIDE ION

- ⊕ 17 Protons
- 17 Neutrons
- ⊖ 18 Electrons

cation



anion

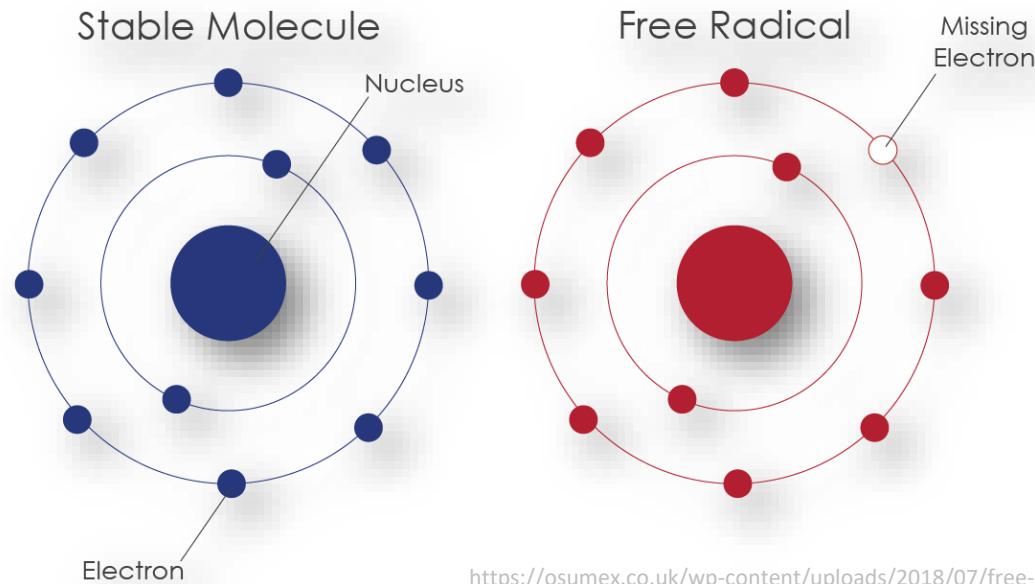




# Free Radical (*in biology*)

- Atoms interact with each other in order to stabilize
  - Some chemical reactions cause an atom or molecule to be stripped of its electrons
    - Can be caused by radiation, UV light, some chemicals & food additives, pesticides, pollution, cigarette smoke, etc.

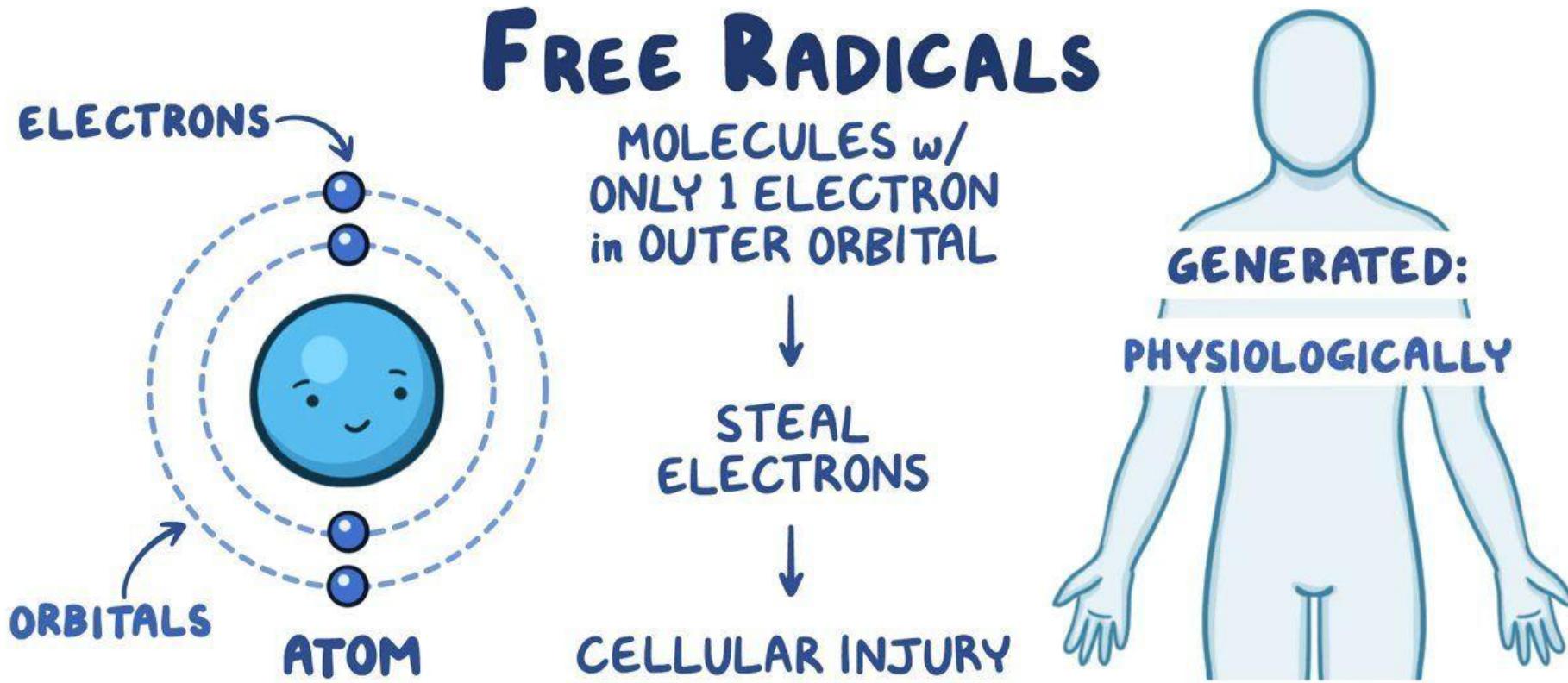
An atom or molecule that has been stripped of its electrons & is highly unstable = free radical



<https://osumex.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/free-radicals.png>



- **Free radicals** are HIGHLY unstable: grab electrons from any nearby source to stabilize themselves
  - Stealing electrons = new free radicals, plus it damages the molecules so they can't do their jobs in the body anymore



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- Free radicals are more & more common as pesticides, pollution, etc. increase in our environment
- How can we fight free radicals?
  - There are special molecules that can stabilize free radicals without becoming free radicals themselves = **antioxidants**

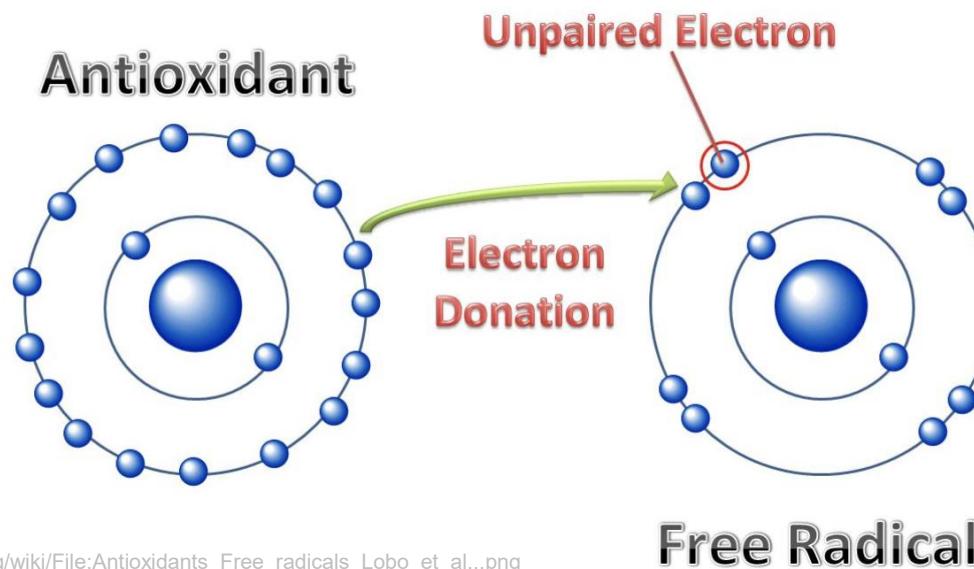


Figure: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Antioxidants\\_Free\\_radicals\\_Lobo\\_et\\_al\\_.png](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Antioxidants_Free_radicals_Lobo_et_al_.png)



- Antioxidants include vitamins A, E, & C, flavonoids, carotenoids, etc.
    - Found in high amounts in fruits & vegetables (especially raw)
    - Moderate amounts in nuts, tea, & coffee
    - Low amounts in red wine & dark chocolate
      - *watch out for milk proteins in chocolate or coffee though – bind to & negate antioxidants*



<https://pixabay.com/photos/antioxidant-apple-avocado-5954193/>

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Mint\\_tea\\_-\\_Petr\\_Kratochvil.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Mint_tea_-_Petr_Kratochvil.jpg)

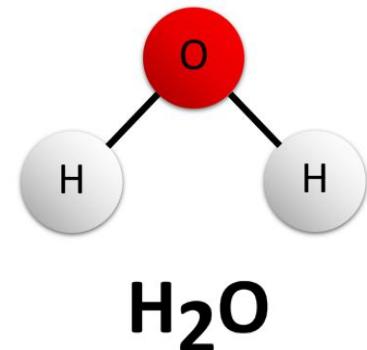
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# Atoms link together using chemical bonds to form molecules

- The interaction of atoms can cause them to attach together through **chemical bonds**
  - 2 or more atoms joined together by chemical bonds = **molecule**
    - e.g. oxygen joins to 2 hydrogen atoms through chemical bonds to make a water molecule
  - Remember: *life is organized – atoms make up molecules, which make up cells, which make up us*
  - Remember: *life requires energy & nutrients, which we get through eating molecules like fats & proteins*

WATER MOLECULE





There are many types of chemical bonds that hold molecules together

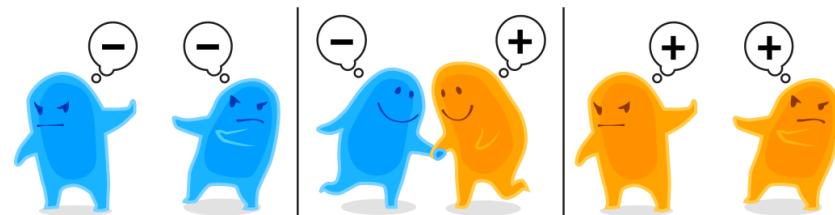
- 3 types are important for biology: they hold together our bodies & the foods that we eat

Type of Bond	Chemical Interaction	Strength
<b>Ionic</b>	An electron is transferred, creating positive & negative ions that attract one another	Moderate – breaks easily in water
<b>Covalent</b> - Nonpolar - Polar	Electrons are shared between atoms - Equally - Unequally	Strong
<b>Hydrogen</b>	A positive atom within a molecule is attracted to a negative atom in a different molecule	Weak

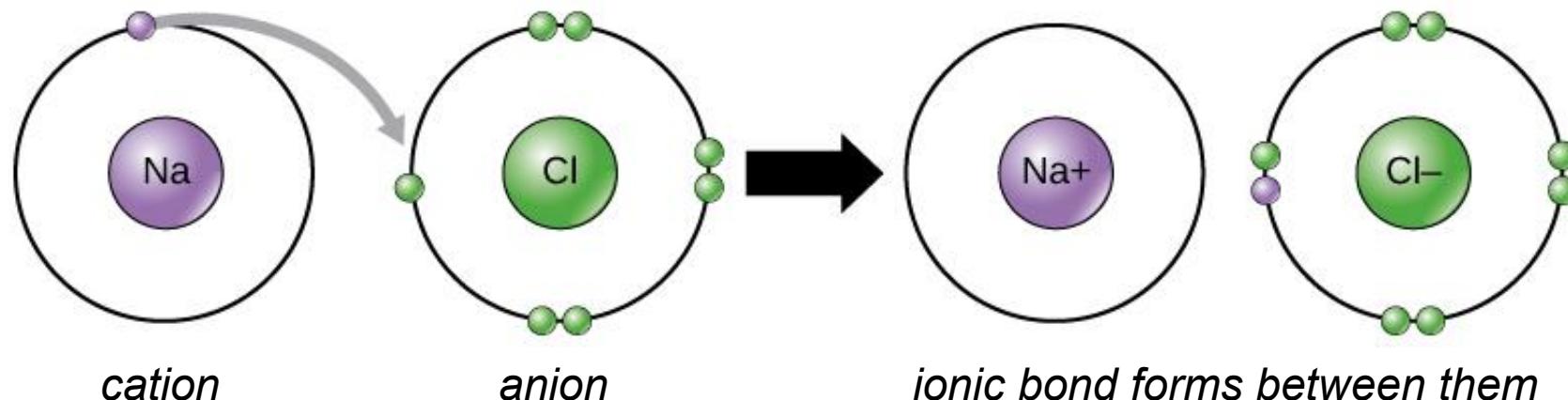


# Ionic Bonds

- The electrical attraction between cations (+) & anions (-) pulls atoms together
  - *similar to magnets*



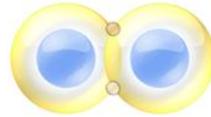
cations (+) and anions (-) attract, forming ionic bonds





# Covalent Bonds

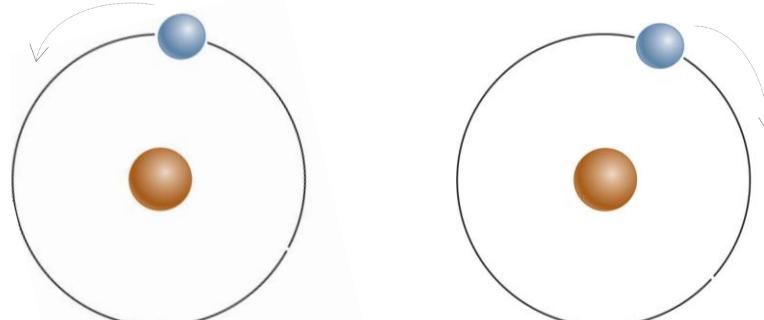
Hydrogen  
(H<sub>2</sub>)



- Two atoms share electrons

- this means each shared electron will orbit its own atom, but also orbit the other atom

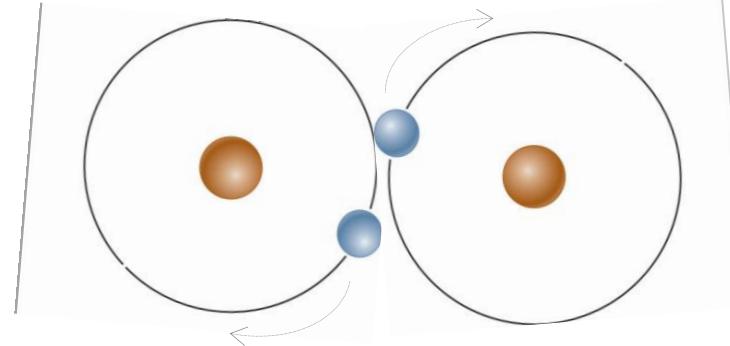
**1** An atom of hydrogen has one electron in its first shell. One more electron is needed to fill the shell.



Remember,  
electrons are  
constantly  
orbiting in the  
shell.

These are 2  
unstable atoms.

**2** The nuclei of two hydrogen atoms come closer together and share the two electrons, which circle around both of them. The new H<sub>2</sub> molecule is more stable.



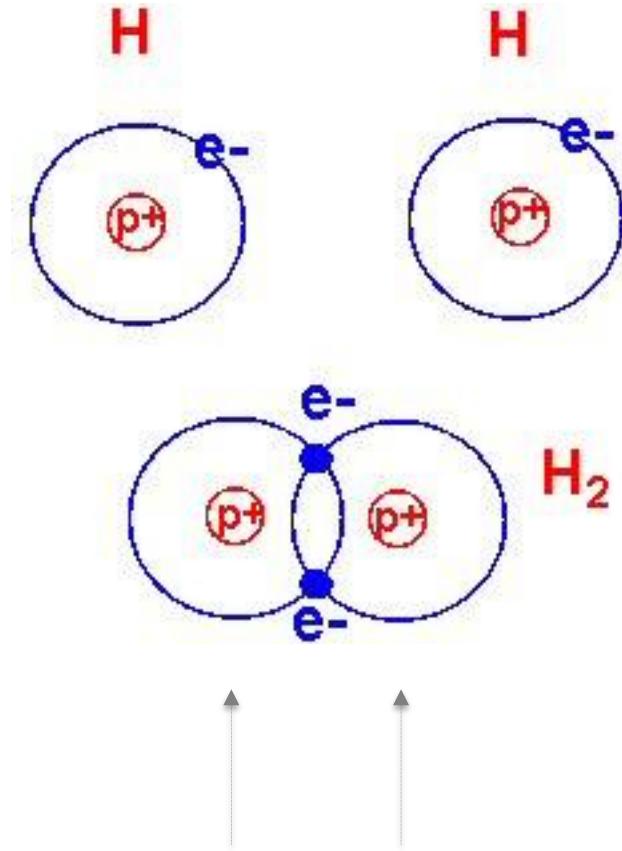
Now the shells overlap and each electron is orbiting both atoms.  
This is now a stable molecule.



## 2 types of covalent bonds:

- **Nonpolar** = electrons shared evenly = uncharged

- No charge builds up on either side



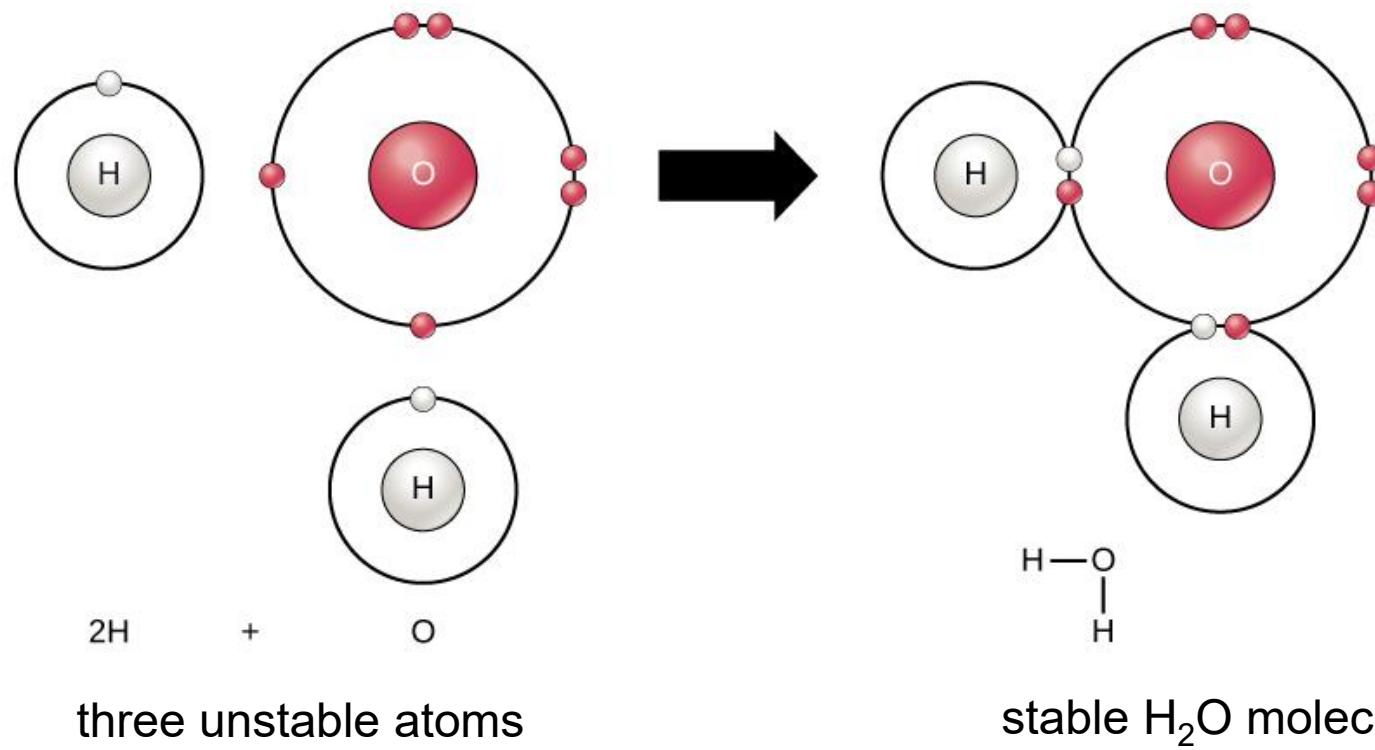
Same charge on either side (1 positive proton each), & electrons spend equal time near each nucleus

So no charge builds up on either side of this H<sub>2</sub> molecule: **nonpolar**



## 2 types of covalent bonds:

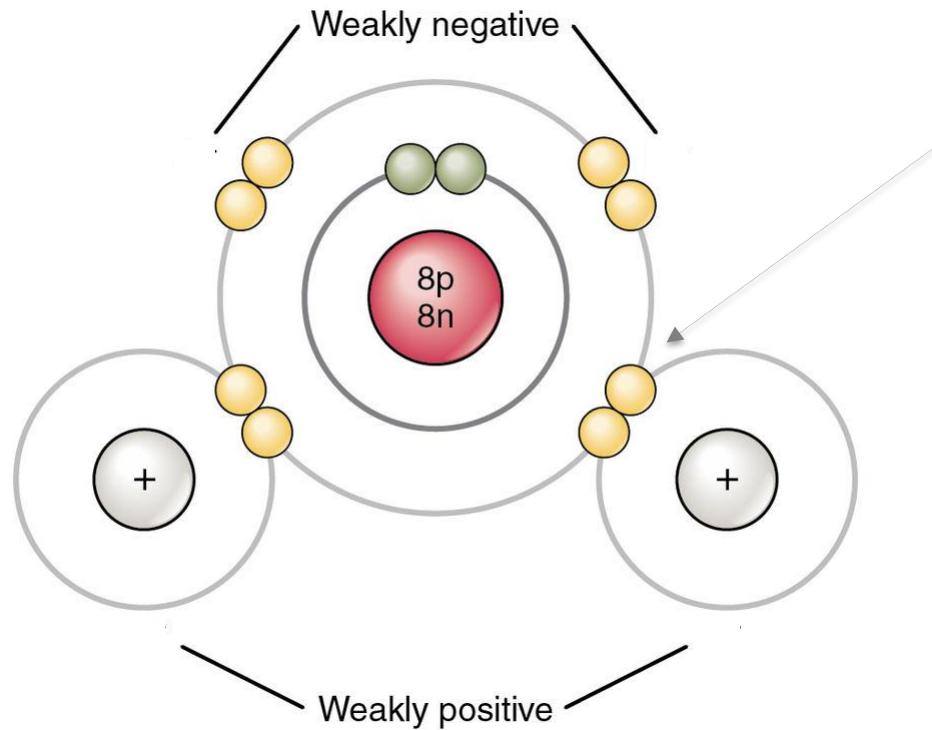
- **Polar** = electrons NOT shared evenly = charged
  - A charge builds up on either side of the bond





Polar = electrons NOT shared evenly = charged

- Some atoms pull more on electrons than others  
*(based on “electronegativity,” which is more detail than we will go into)*
  - Shared electrons now spend more time around one atom & less time around the other atom



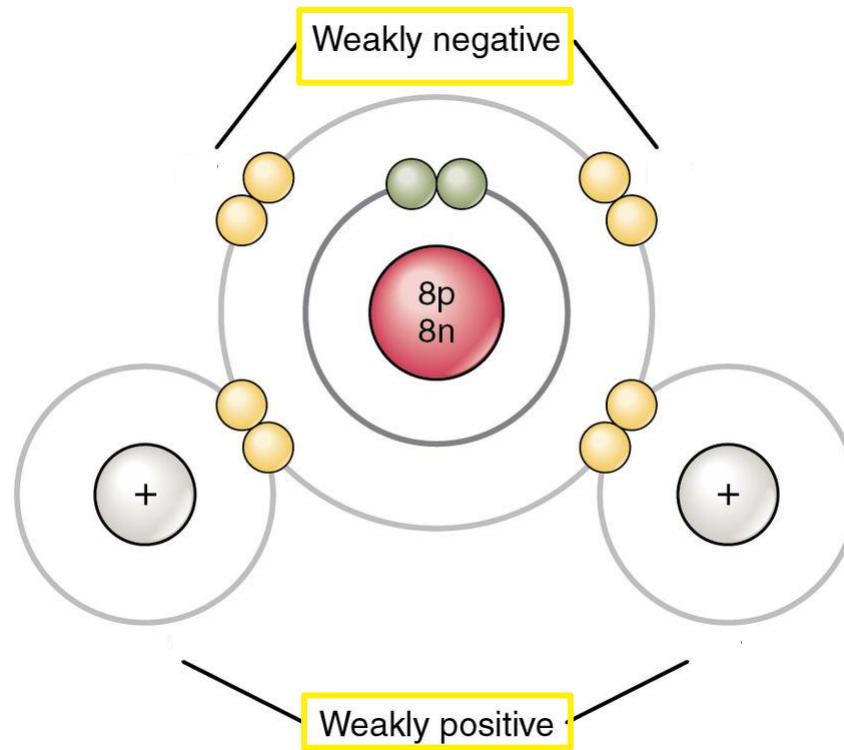
Remember: electrons are in constant orbit but they're more often orbiting Oxygen here. That means the Hydrogen atoms have a positive proton but no negatives around them most of the time, so they're now kind of positive.

In a water molecule ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) the oxygen pulls more on the electrons



Because oxygen pulls more on the electrons (-), which spend more time around it, it now has a slight negative charge

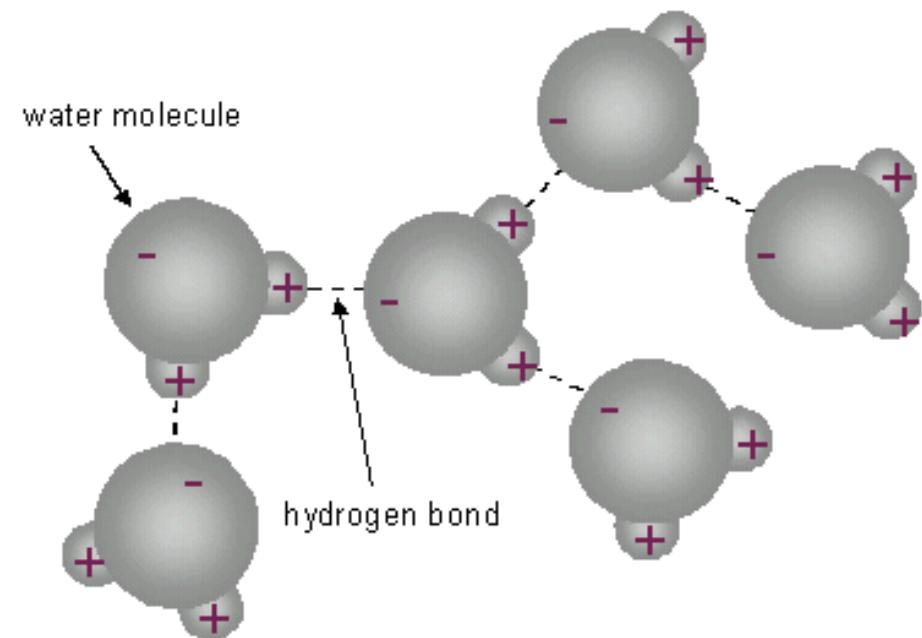
- The hydrogen atoms don't have electrons (-) around them very often, so now they are slightly positive





# Hydrogen Bonds

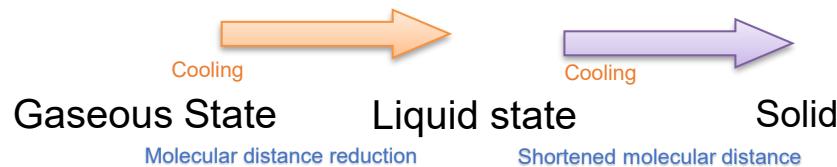
- Polar covalent bonds (like in H<sub>2</sub>O) produce positive & negative regions
  - These regions repel & attract each other, just like ions (or magnets)
  - *Notice the negative ends attract the positive ends & vice versa, so the entire molecules stick to each other*





# Intermolecular forces

The force that holds the molecules together (van der Waals force)



Molecules move irregularly Molecules are arranged in a regular way

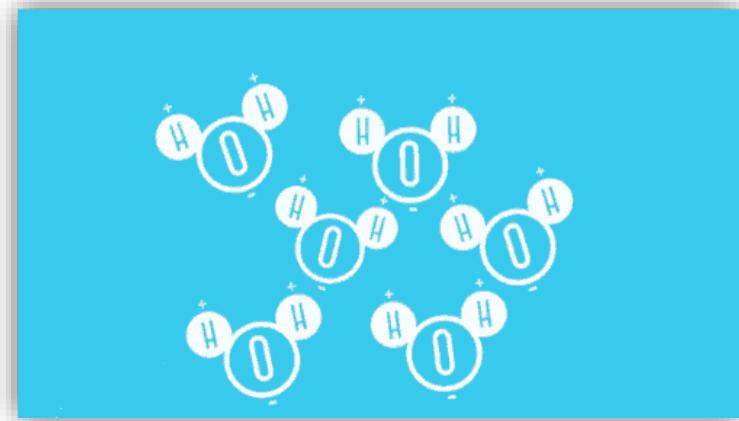
It shows that there are forces between the molecules of matter

This intermolecular force is called the van der Waals force

**Intermolecular forces** <> **chemical bonding**

Intermolecular force is an electrostatic action

J.d. van der Waals (1837-1923) was a Dutch physicist.  
He was the first to study intermolecular forces, hence the van der Waals force,  
also called the van der Waals force.



## 1. Being:

Van der Waals forces are common between solid, liquid, and gas molecules

## 2. Directivity and saturation:

Van der Waals forces are generally not directional, saturated, as long as the space around the molecule permits, when the gas molecules condensed, it always attracts as many other molecules as possible

## 3. Aggregation and separation:

Affect melting, boiling point and other physical properties; And interaction between macromolecules



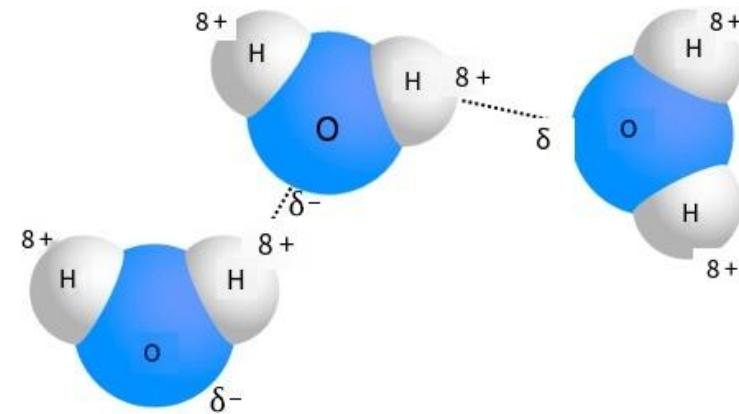
# Intermolecular forces

## Hydrogen bond

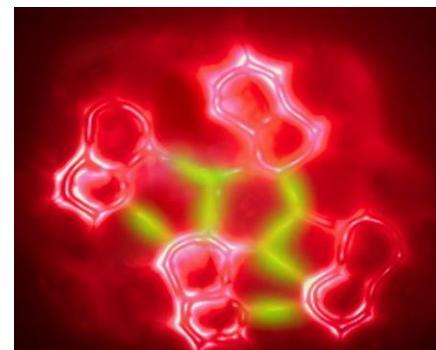
The hydrogen atom is covalently bonded to the electronegative atom X.

When it is in proximity to a small-radius electronegative atom Y (such as O, F, or N), a unique interaction occurs between X and Y, with H serving as a medium to facilitate the formation of an X-H...Y interaction known as a hydrogen bond.

X and Y may consist of identical atoms, exemplified by the hydrogen bonds present between water molecules; alternatively, they can be different types of atoms, such as ammonia hydrate ( $\text{NH}_3 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ ).



*The pair of electrons shared between the O and H atoms is predominantly localized in the region between the two atoms. Given that the H atom possesses only this single pair of electrons, it can be likened to a half-peeled orange, with a significant portion of its nucleus exposed, resulting in a certain degree of positive charge. In contrast, oxygen, with its eight electrons, exhibits electronegativity to some extent. When an O atom from one water molecule approaches a H atom from another water molecule, an electrostatic attraction occurs; this interaction is referred to as a hydrogen bond.*



Professor Qiu Xiaohui:

A hydrogen bond is like two people holding hands; they can easily pull apart or let go.

On the other hand, a chemical bond is more like their own hands and feet being tied together, making it impossible to separate.



# Why does water possess a greater density than ice?



What implications does this phenomenon hold for the origin and sustenance of life?

*Tips:*

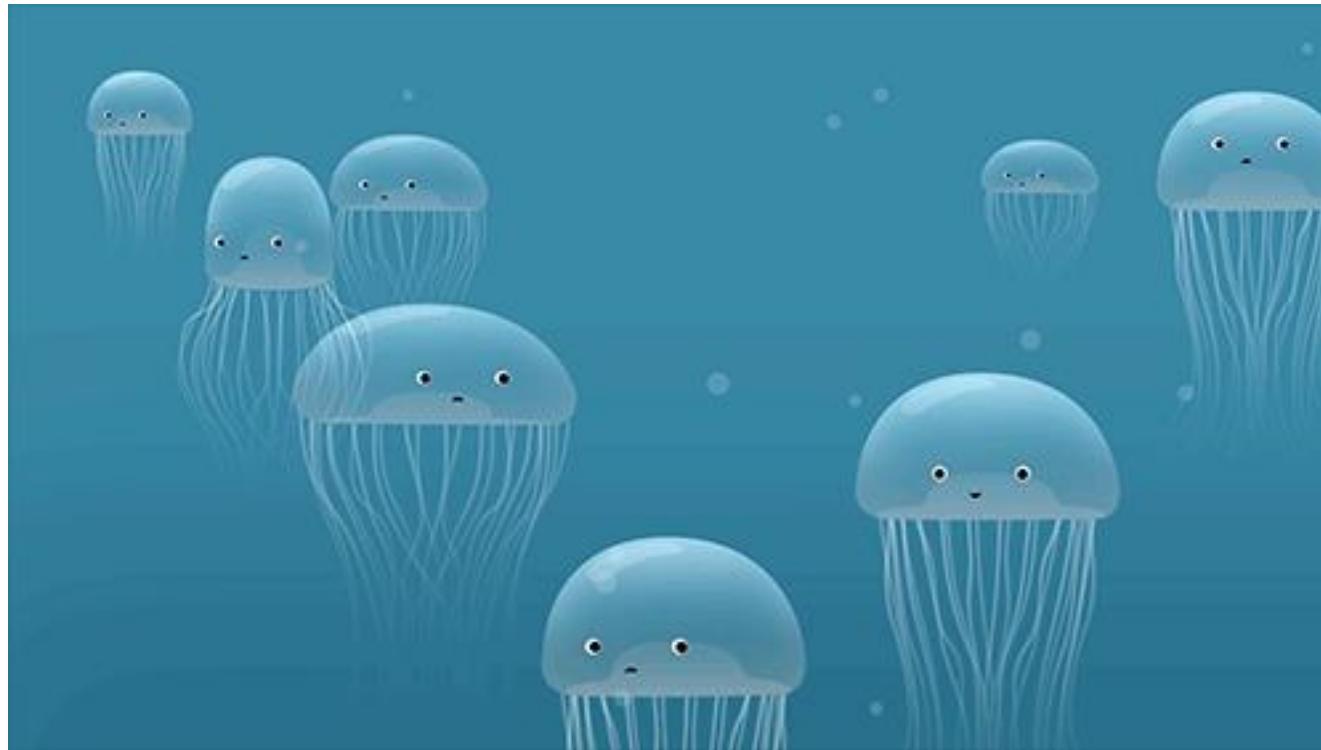
***No length restrictions or requirements; within 1 week.***

***Use what you know and think to make your point clearly and smoothly.***

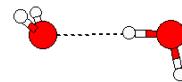
***Just remember to do your own writing, because our TAs are really experienced.***



# Hydrogen bonds

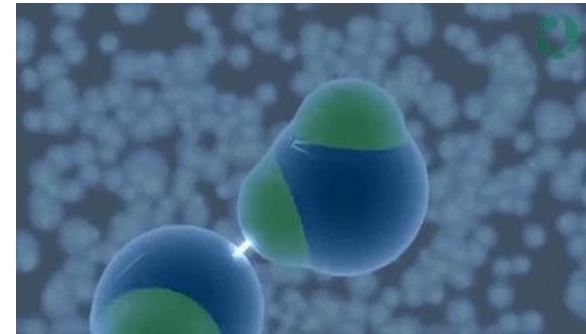


**The existence of living organisms relies on water.  
Life is fundamentally dependent on hydrogen bonds.**



### The 6 principles governing hydrogen bonding:

1. The formation of hydrogen bonds primarily arises from electrostatic forces. A partial covalent bond is established between the hydrogen atom (H) and the electronegative atom (Y) due to electrostatic interactions resulting from charge transfer between donor and acceptor species. The creation of this covalent bond is a consequence of discrete actions.
2. The typical covalent bond formed between atom X and hydrogen (X—H) is characterized as a polar bond. The strength of the interaction H...Y increases with the increasing electronegativity of atom X.
3. The dihedral angle formed by X—H...Y approaches linearity, ideally close to 180 degrees; stronger hydrogen bonds correspond to shorter distances between H and Y.
4. Hydrogen bonding causes an increase in the X-H distance, and the longer the X-H...Y bond length, the stronger the H...Y hydrogen bond will be, and some new vibrational modes will also be formed.
5. Hydrogen bonds also generate distinctive NMR signals, including the spin coupling interactions between atoms X and Y resulting from hydrogen bonding.
6. The Gibbs free energy associated with these hydrogen bonds exceeds that of thermal energy within the system.



The average bond energy data for common hydrogen bonds is:

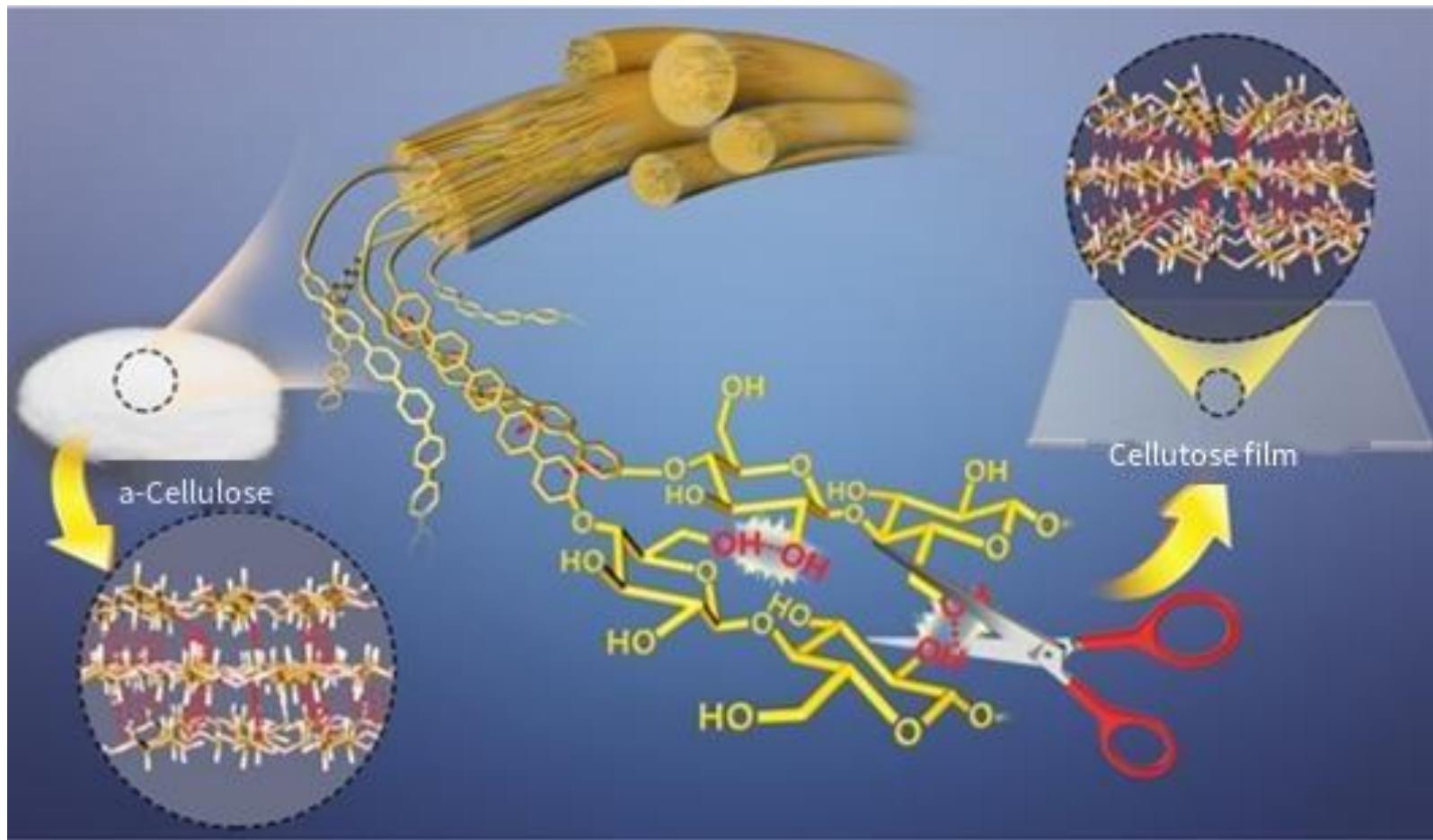
F—H ... F (155 kJ/mol or 40 kcal/mol)

O—H ... N (29 kJ/mol or 6.9 kcal/mol)

O—H ... O (21 kJ/mol or 5.0 kcal/mol)

N—H ... N (13 kJ/mol or 3.1 kcal/mol)

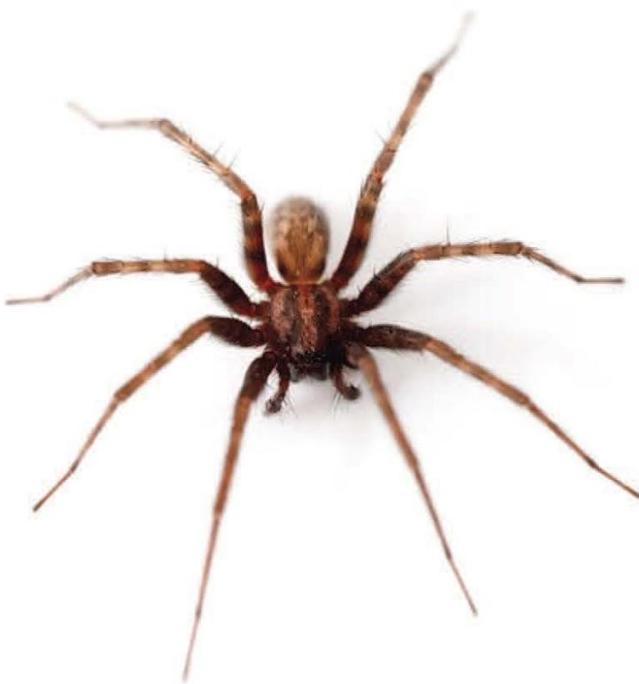
N—H ... O (8 kJ/mol or 1.9 kcal/mol)



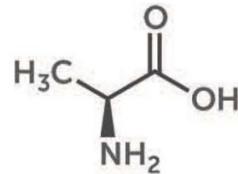


# THE CHEMISTRY OF SPIDERWEBS

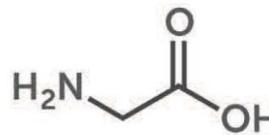
October is mating season for some spiders. Like them or loathe them, these arachnids use some fascinating biochemistry to spin webs with unique material properties that scientists want to emulate.



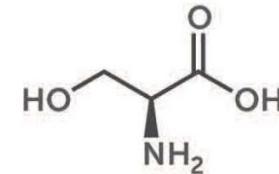
## SPIDER SILK'S ELASTICITY AND STRENGTH



ALANINE

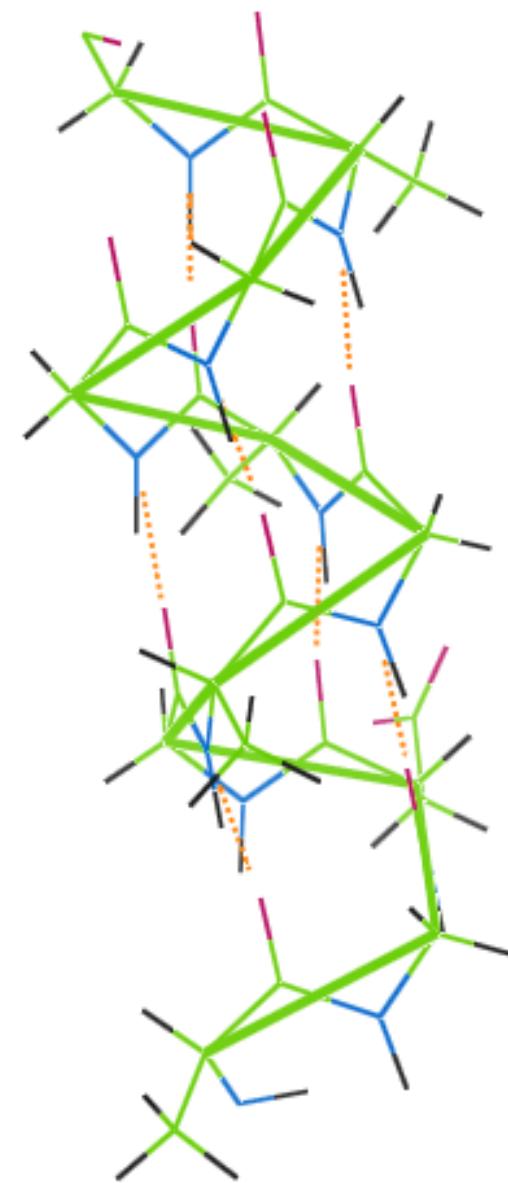


GLYCINE

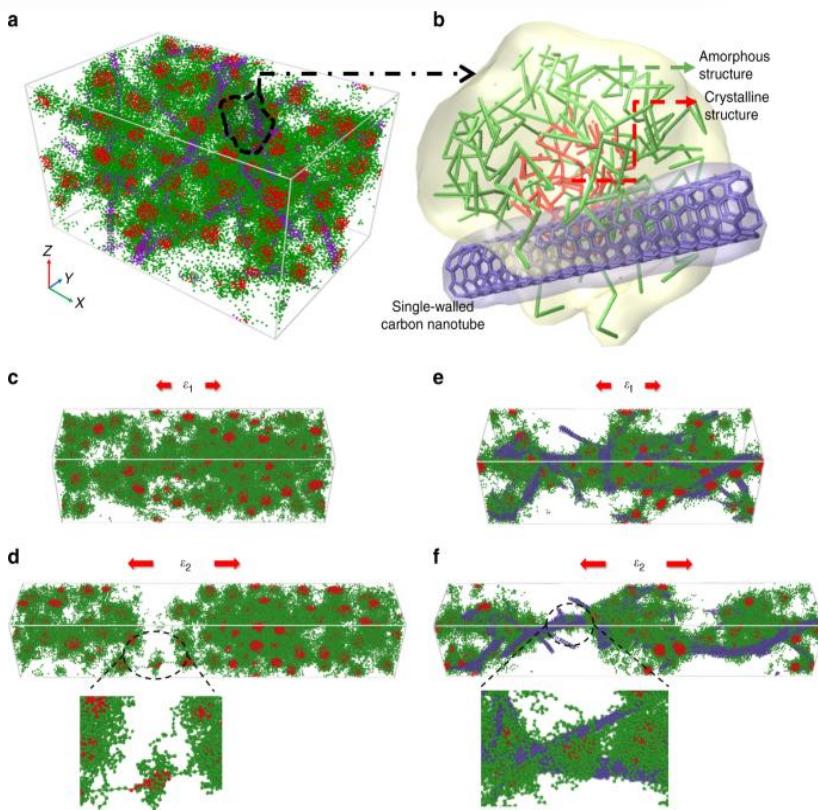


SERINE

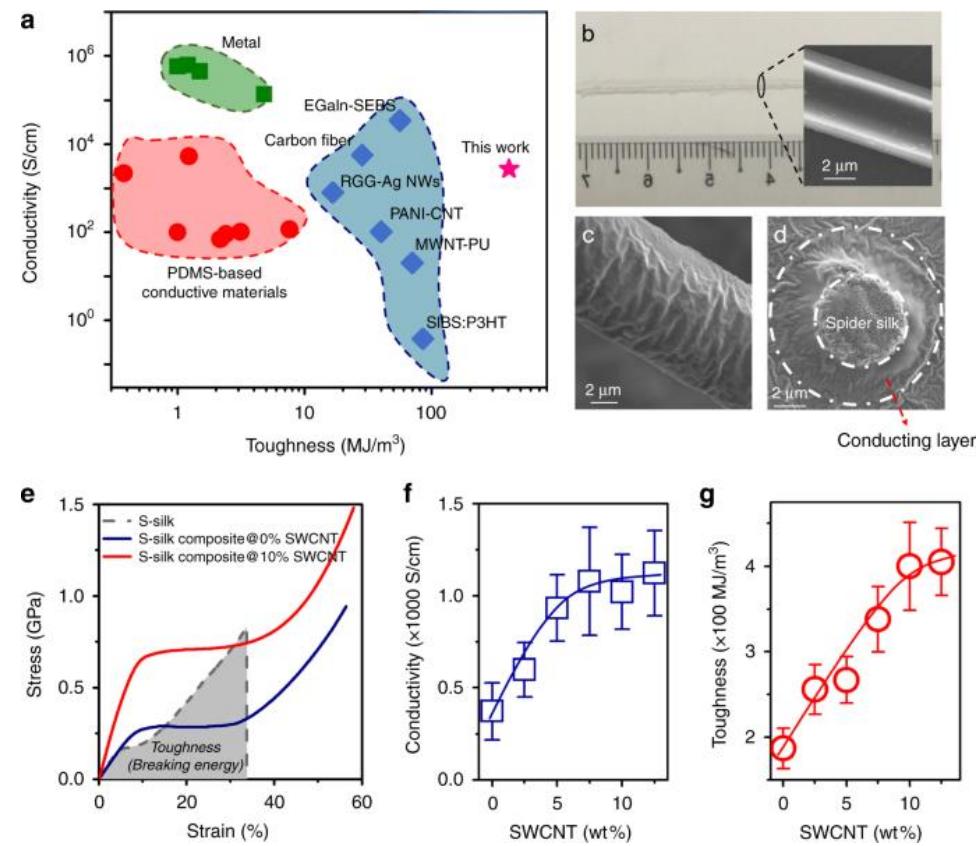
Spider silk is a protein fiber. Major amino acids in the silk proteins are alanine and glycine. Serine and proline are also present in significant quantities in some types of silk. Glycine-rich regions give spider silk its elasticity, forming amorphous areas in its structure. Alanine-rich regions link together through hydrogen bonds to form crystalline areas that give spider silk its strength.



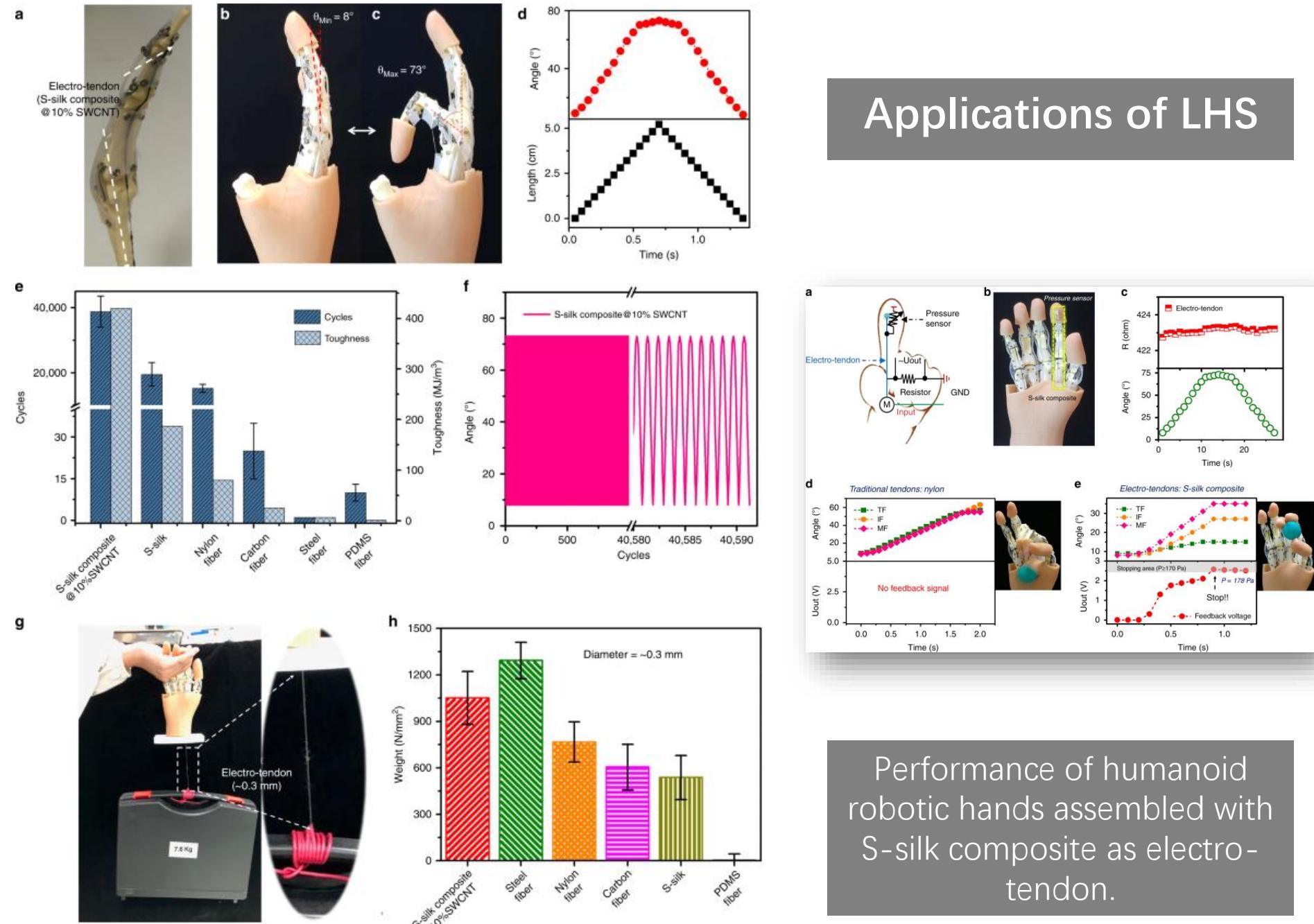
## A supertough electro-tendon based on spider silk composites



A typical mechanical test of the silk-SWCNT nanocomposite in DPD simulation.



Toughness and conductivity of spider silk composites.



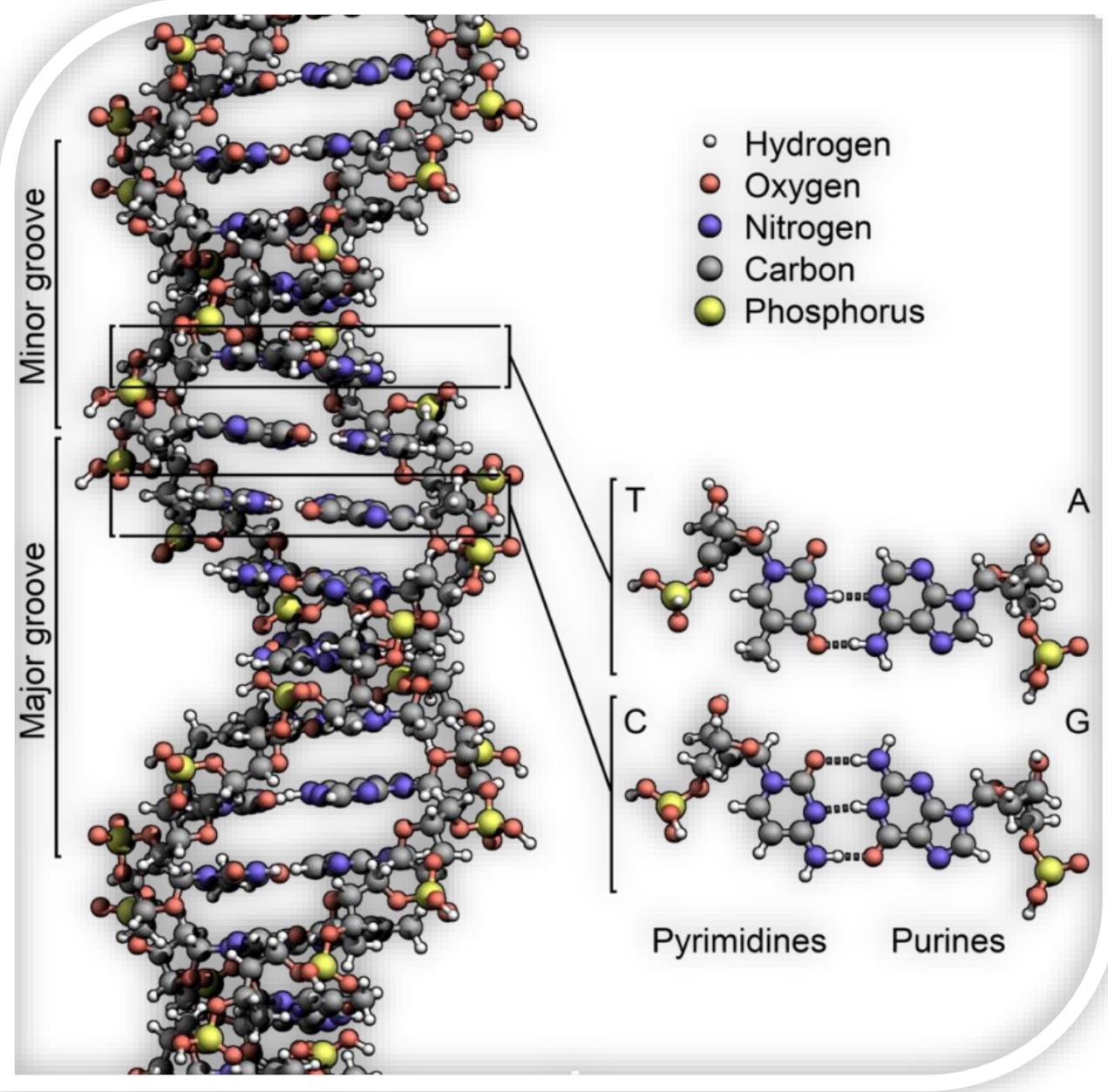
# Applications of LHS

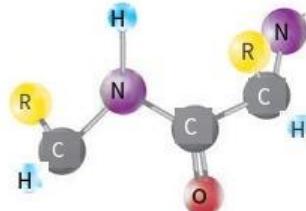
Performance of humanoid robotic hands assembled with S-silk composite as electro-tendon.



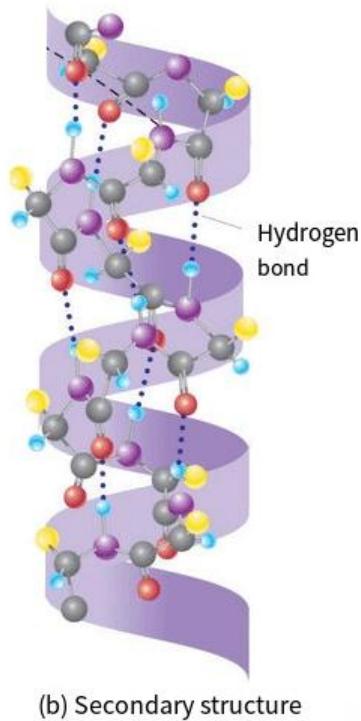
# The significance of hydrogen bonds for life



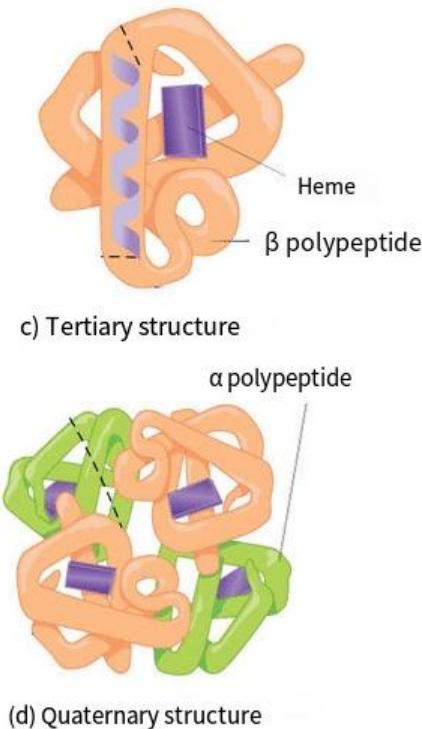




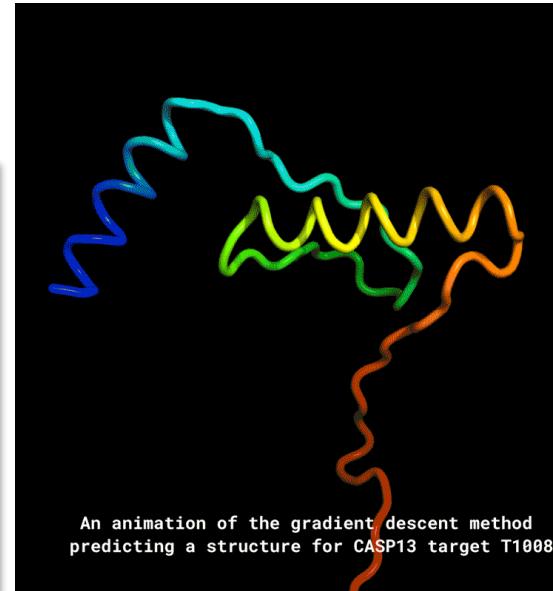
(a) Primary structure



(b) Secondary structure



(c) Tertiary structure



An animation of the gradient descent method predicting a structure for CASP13 target T1008

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# Convene at the opportune moment and location



## Hydrogen Bond: Coming together and Falling apart

- ✓ Hydrogen bond binding energy is 2-8 Kcal (Kcal)
- ✓ Hydrogen bonding is an interaction that is stronger than intermolecular forces (van der Waals forces) and much weaker than covalent and ionic bonds
- ✓ Saturability, directivity, asymmetry



The intricate and precise biomolecules, along with their associated reaction processes, are fundamentally reliant on hydrogen bonds.



# Why are molecules of water so important?

- **Water** is essential to life  
(as we know it)
  - This is why the search for life on other planets often begins with a search for water
  - Some properties of water that make it able to support life:
    - Water is cohesive
    - Many substances dissolve in water
    - Water solutions come in a range of pH values



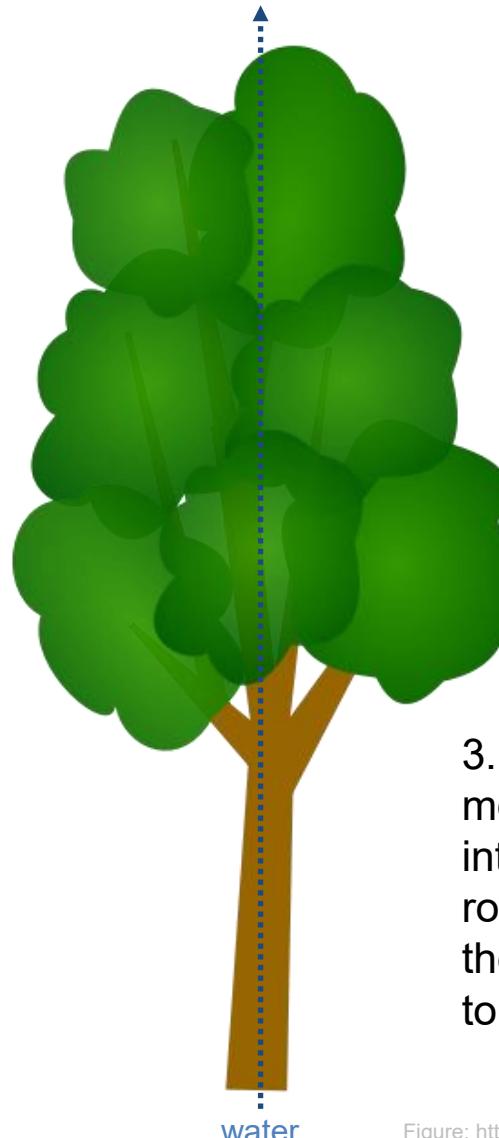


## ■ Water is cohesive

- **Cohesion** = the tendency of water molecules to stick together through hydrogen bonds
  - *remember hydrogen bonds!*
  - allows water to move to the top of the tallest trees, defying gravity

**WATER: STRONG COHESIVENESS**

Because of the cohesive properties of water, trees such as the giant sequoia are able to transport water molecules from the soil to their leaves 300 ft. above.

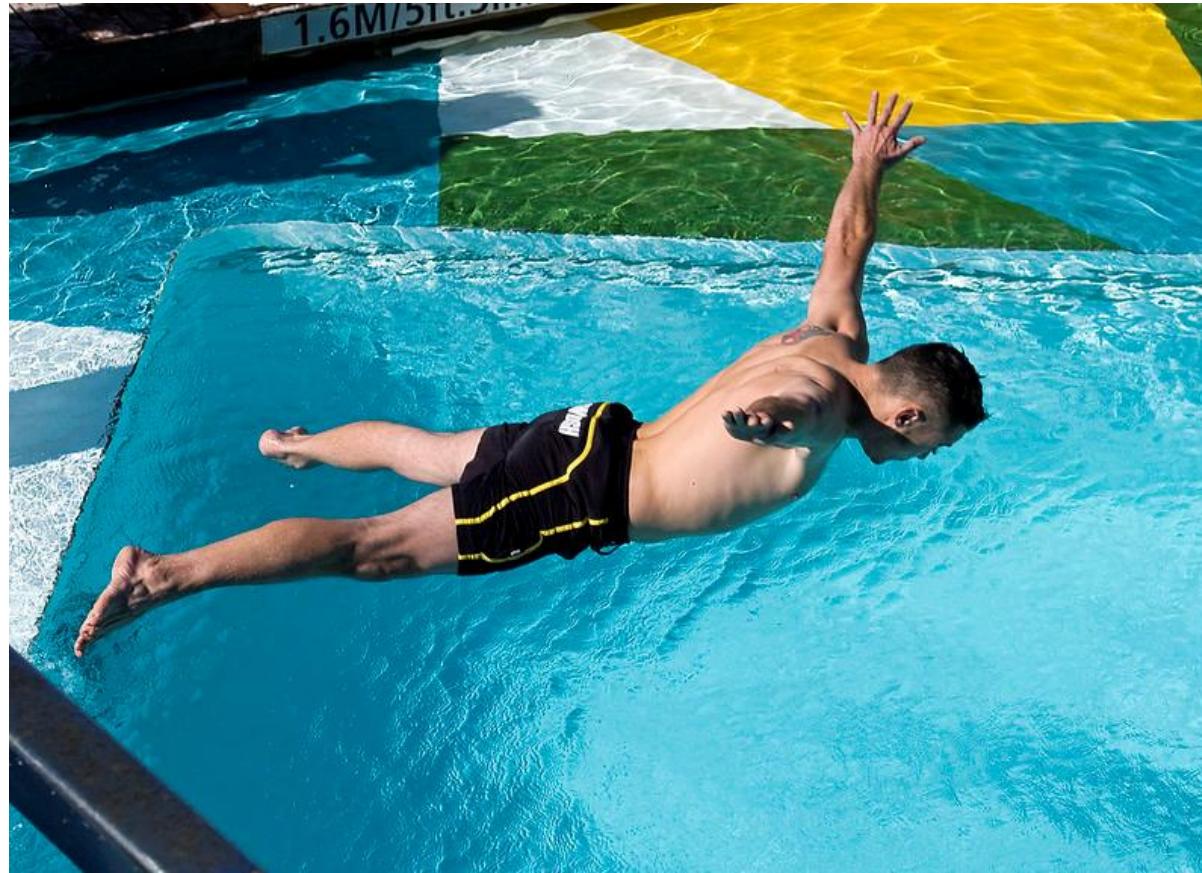


1. Water molecules are pulled into the atmosphere by evaporation
2. More water molecules are pulled up the tree, following those that evaporated
3. More water molecules are pulled into the tree from the root system, following the previous water due to cohesion

Figure: <https://freesvg.org/green-tree-clip-art-vector>



# Also why belly flops hurt!



<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lewishamdreamer/4060481490>



- Many substances dissolve in water
  - Substances that dissolve in water = **hydrophilic**
    - “water-loving”
    - e.g. salts, sugars, & electrolytes
  - important because we need these things to move through our blood stream (which is mostly water) easily

*Notice how water molecules happily surround these salts, allowing them to move in the blood stream easily*

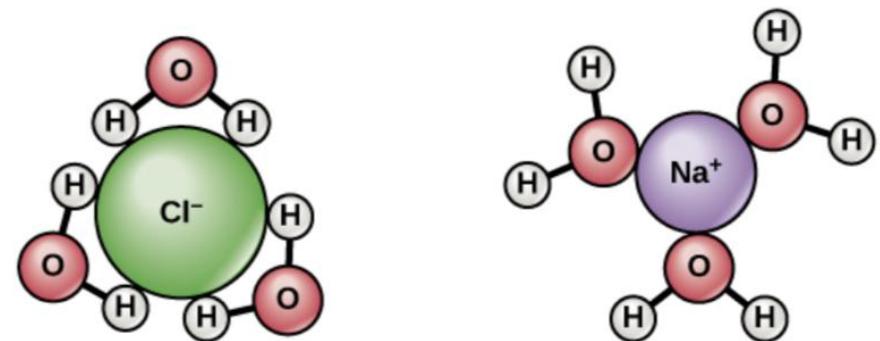
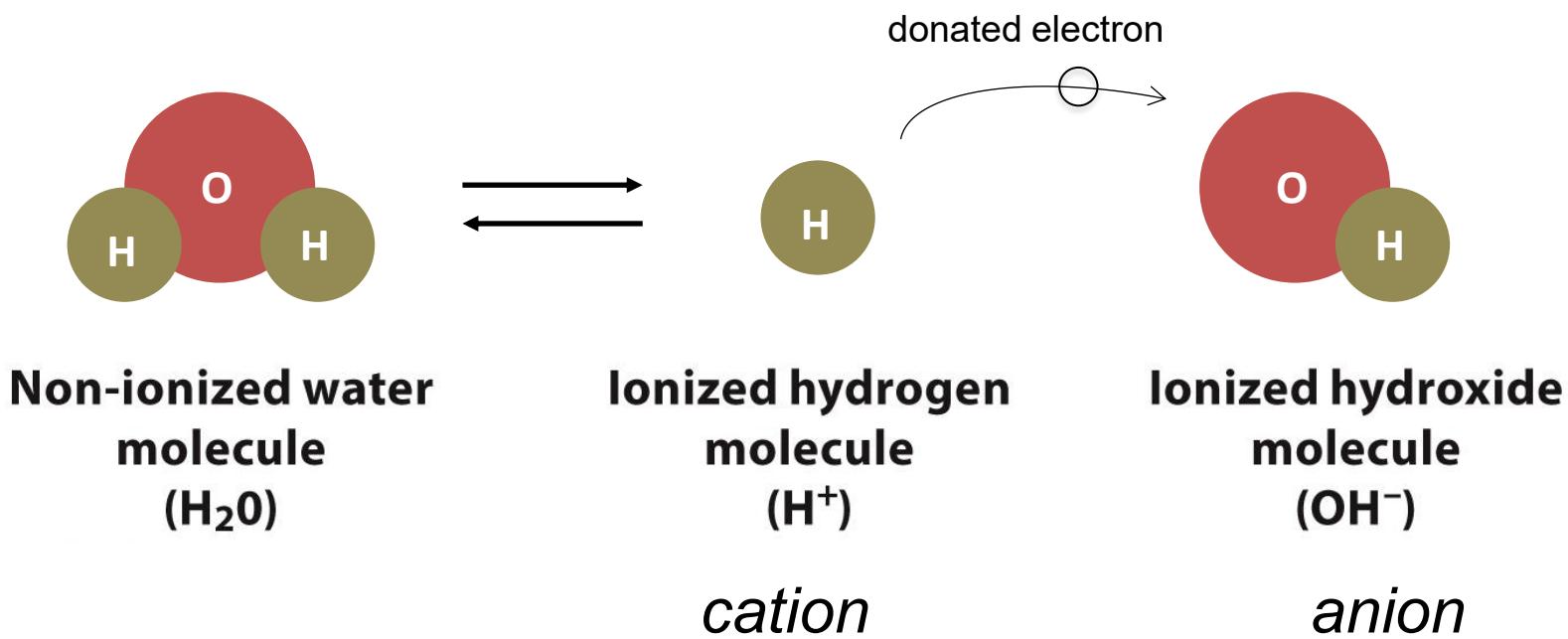


Figure from OpenStax Biology 2e



- Water solutions come in a range of pH values
  - In a solution of water, some molecules become “ionized” – they break apart & become charged
    - $\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{OH}^- + \text{H}^+$





- Solutions where  $\text{OH}^- = \text{H}^+$  are **neutral**      (*equal*)
  - pH 7
  - e.g. pure water
- Solutions where  $\text{OH}^- < \text{H}^+$  are **acidic**      (*more H<sup>+</sup>*)
  - pH 0-6
  - e.g. lemon juice & vinegar
- Solutions where  $\text{OH}^- > \text{H}^+$  are **basic**      (*more OH<sup>-</sup>*)
  - pH 8-14
  - e.g. ammonia & bleach



- The **pH scale** is a way of referring to the acidic, basic, or neutral quality of a solution

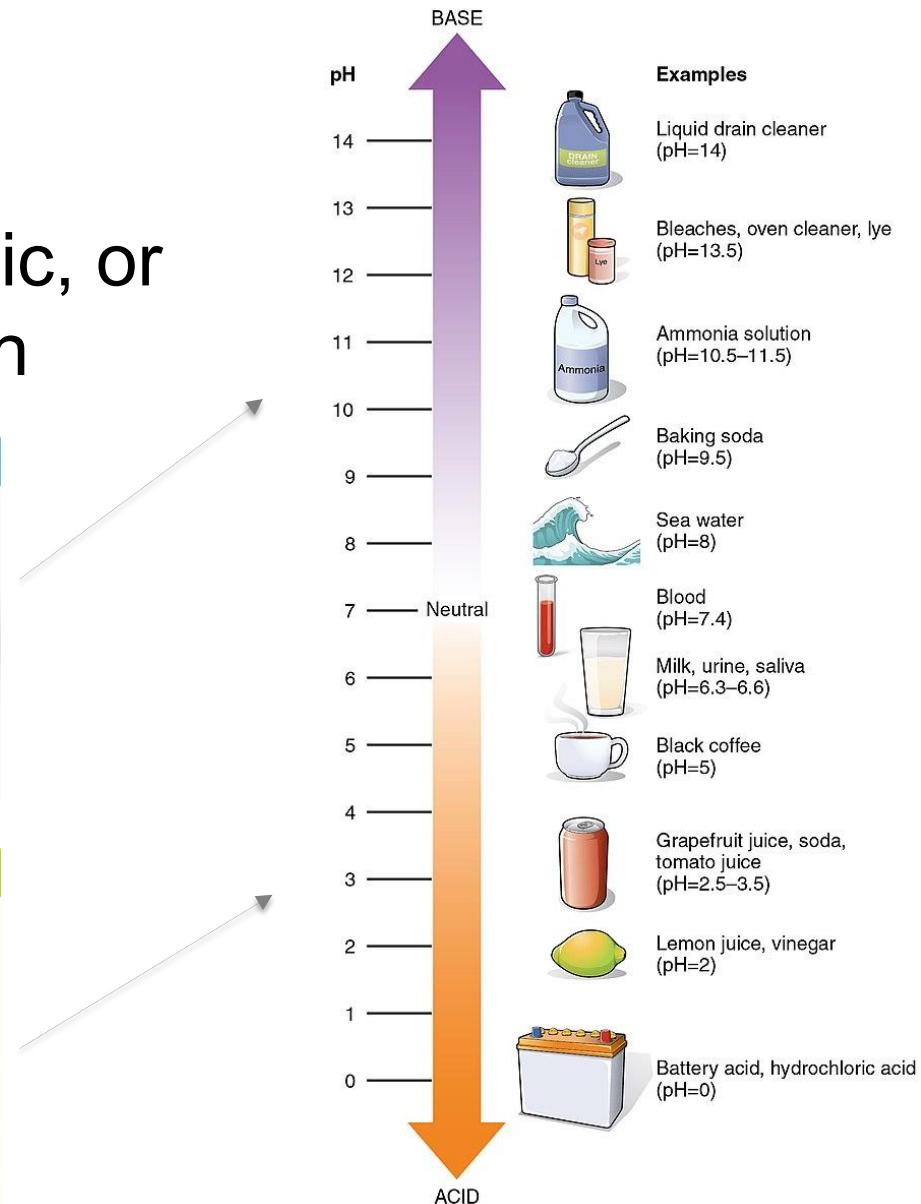
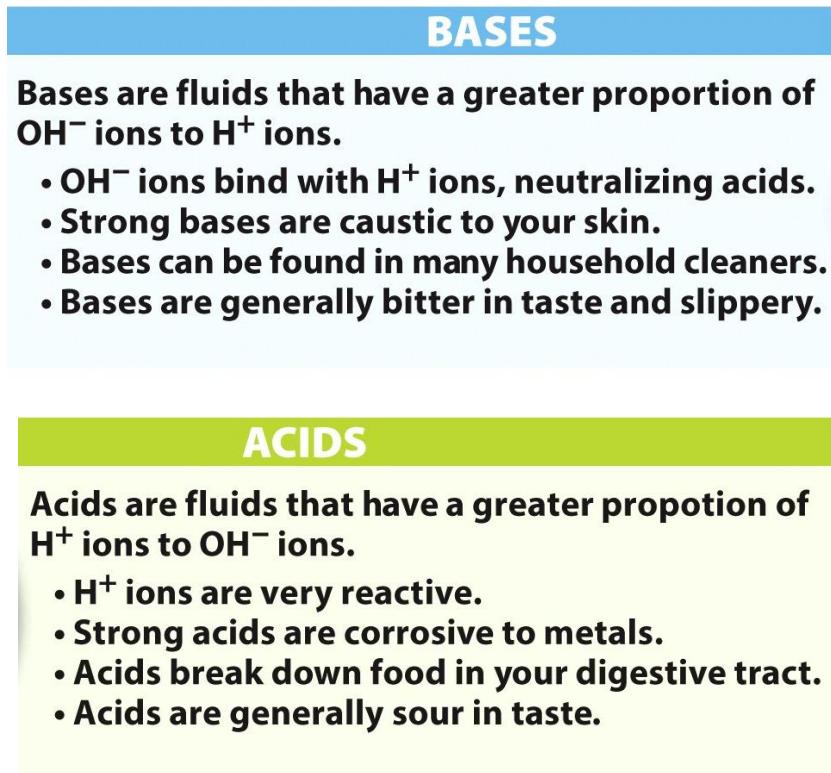


Figure: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:216\\_pH\\_Scale-01.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:216_pH_Scale-01.jpg)



- Many substances dissolve in water – some don't
  - Substances that do NOT dissolve in water = **hydrophobic**
    - “water-fearing” – clump up in water
    - e.g. fats, oils, & cell membranes
      - it is important that our cells do not dissolve when we get wet, or when they contact our watery blood stream, so we use these things to waterproof ourselves & form barriers



Figure: <https://www.maxpixel.net/Water-Drink-Crystal-Glass-Oil-Liquid-Drip-Glass-101666>

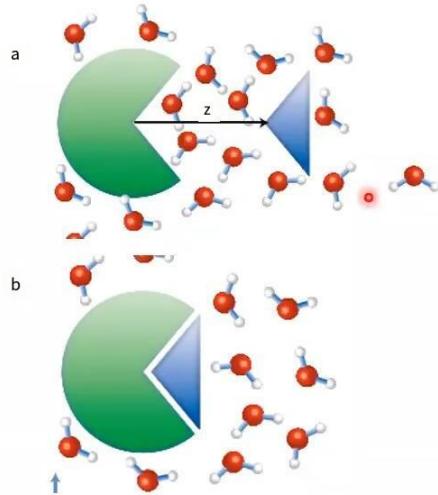


# Hydrophobic Force

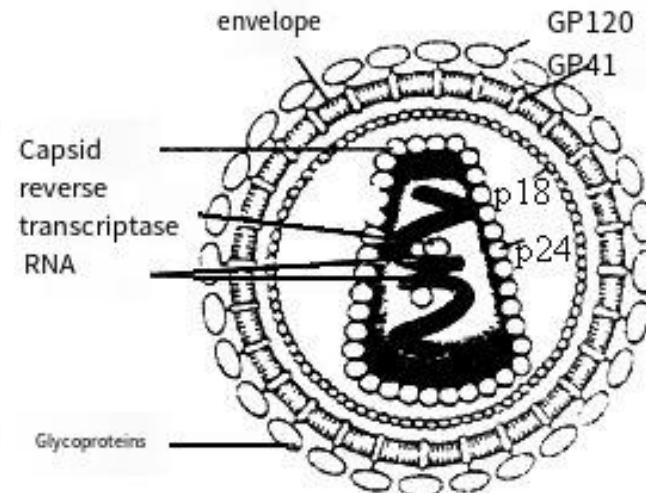
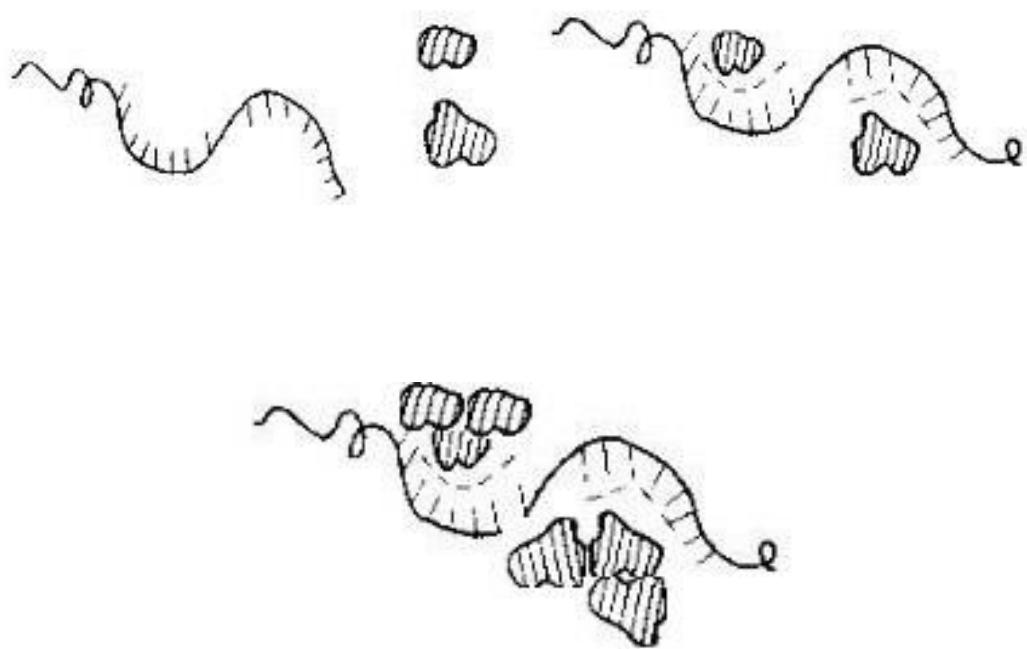
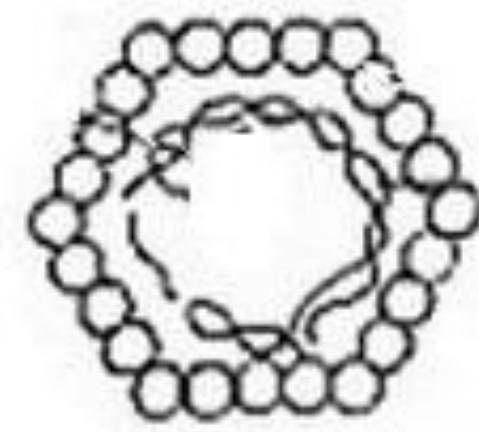


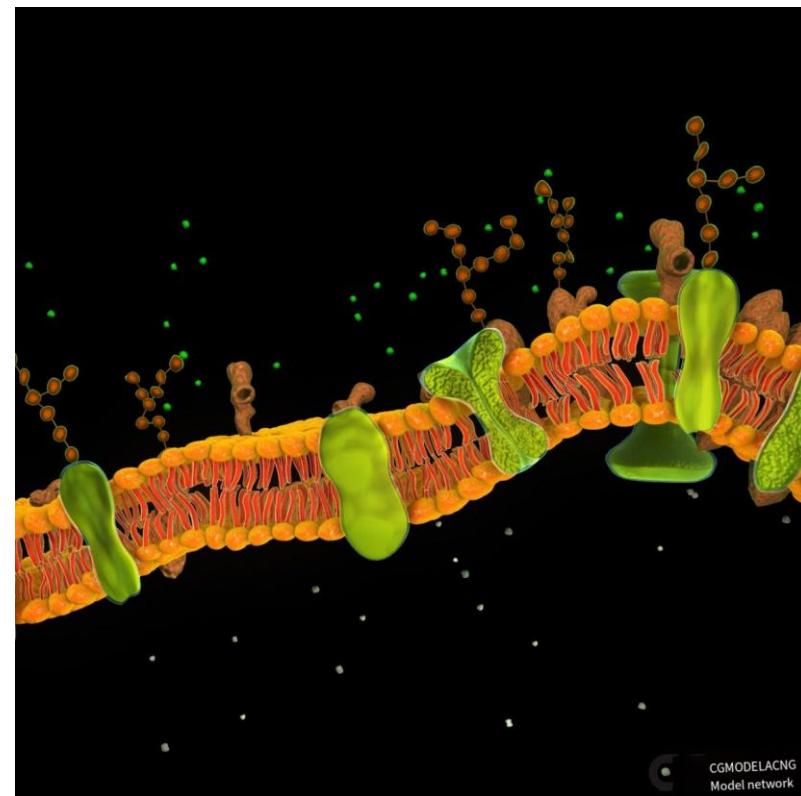
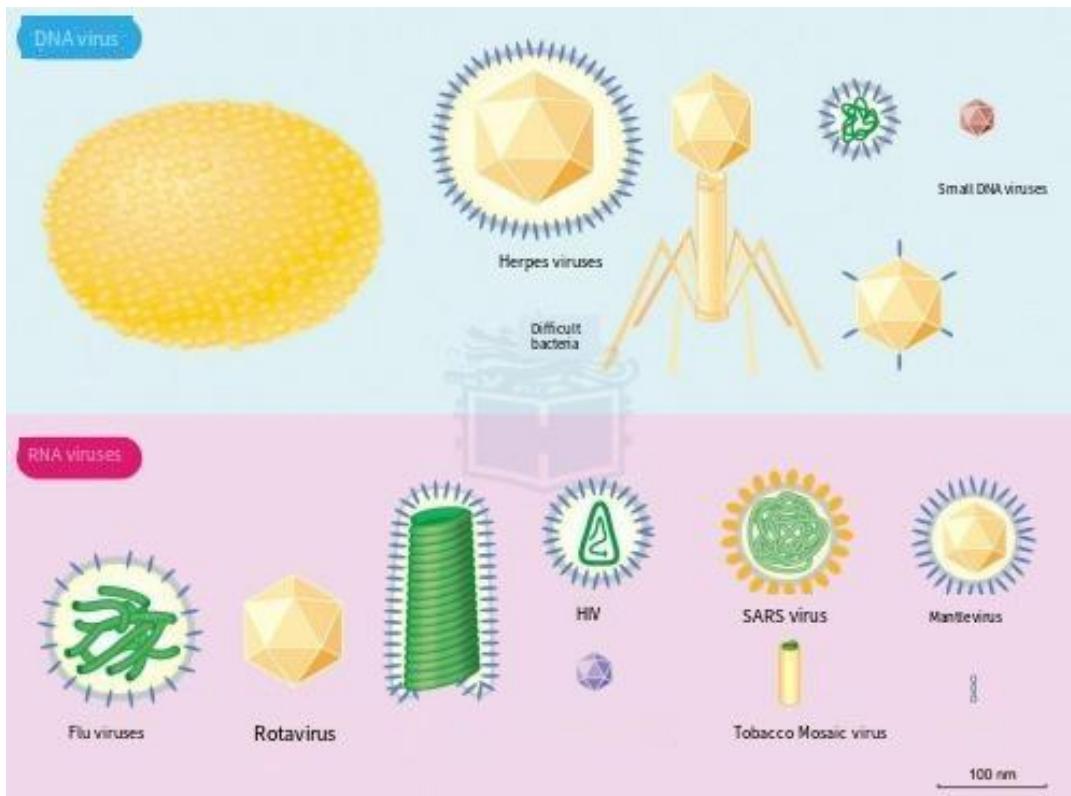
Cipla

An interesting property of phospholipids



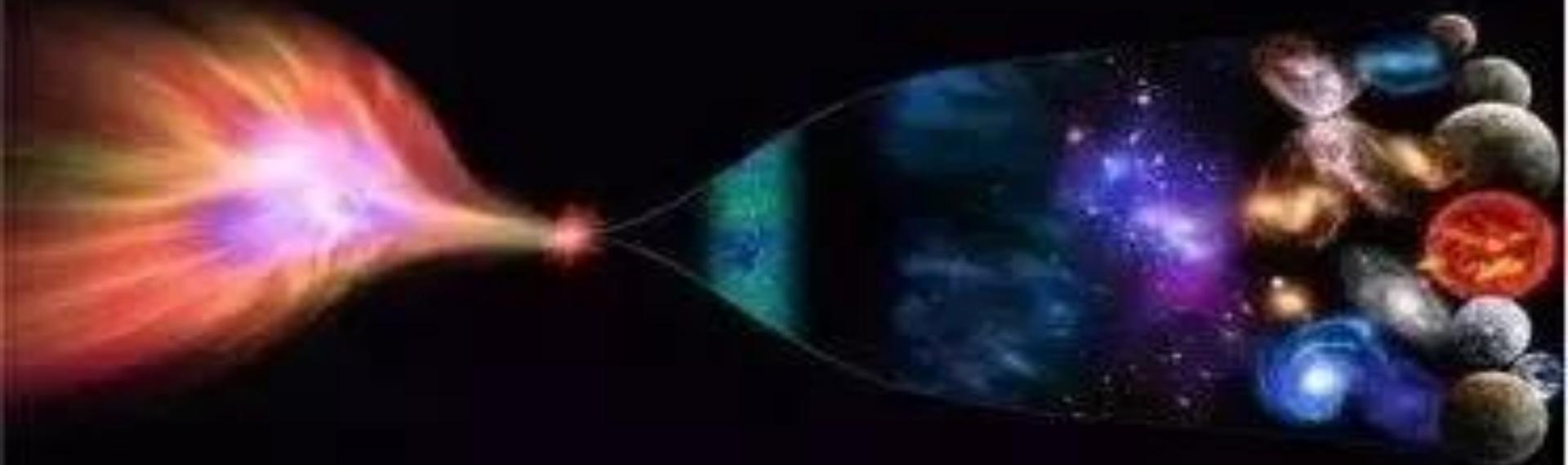
Hydrophobic action is when spherical proteins fold up in water and hide their hydrophobic parts inside. You could also say that this process changes the free energy because it increases entropy by releasing bound water during interactions between molecules.







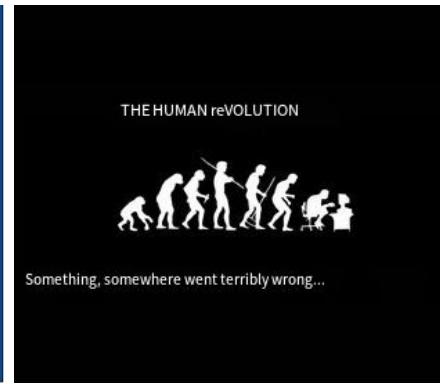
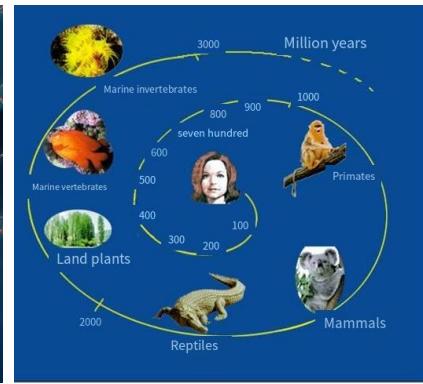
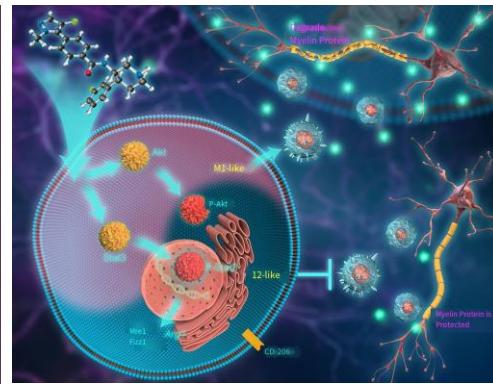
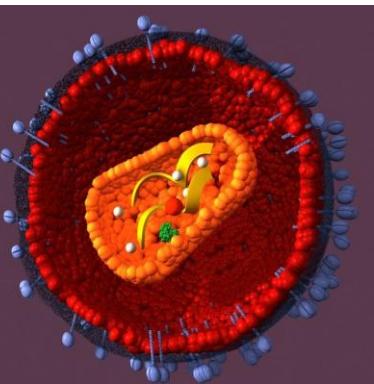
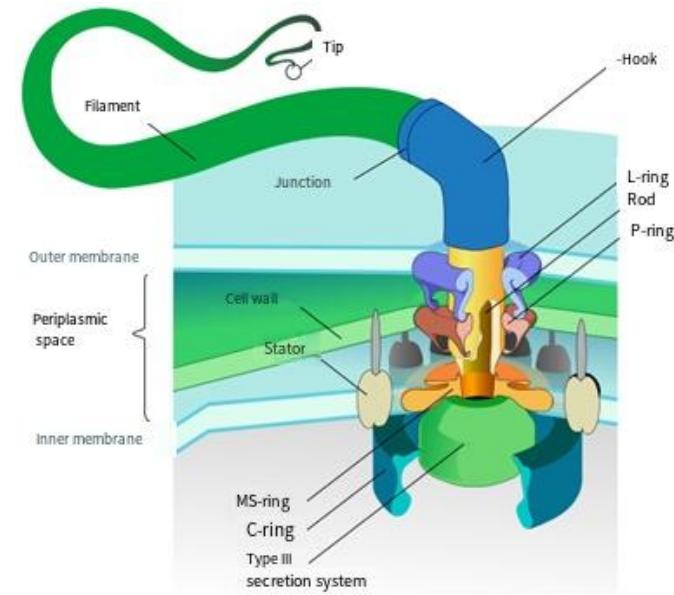
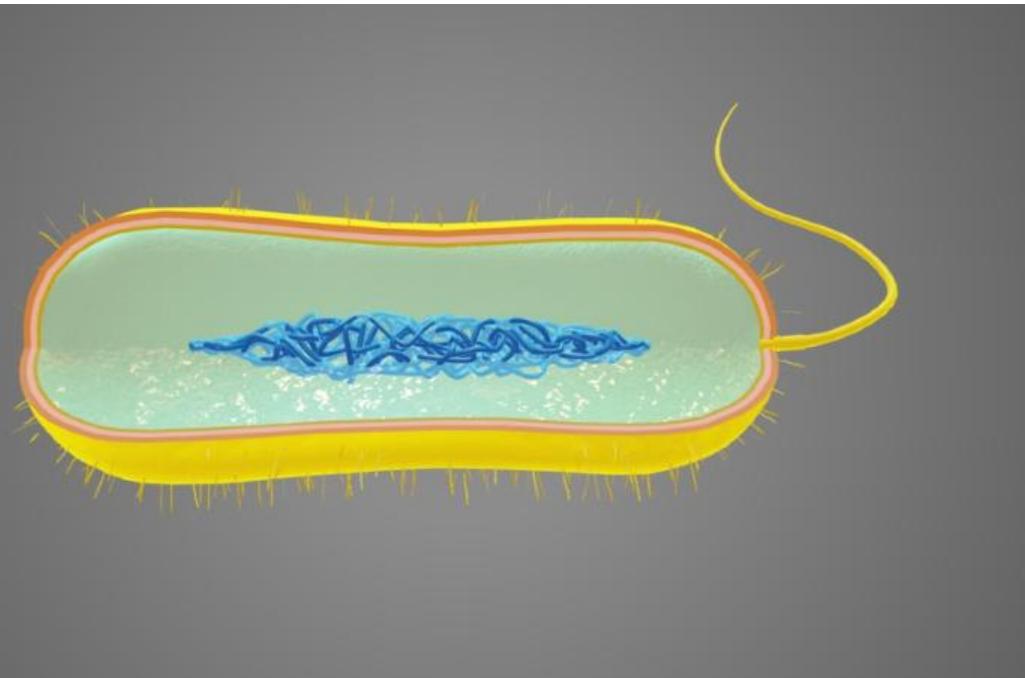
# The origin and evolution of the universe

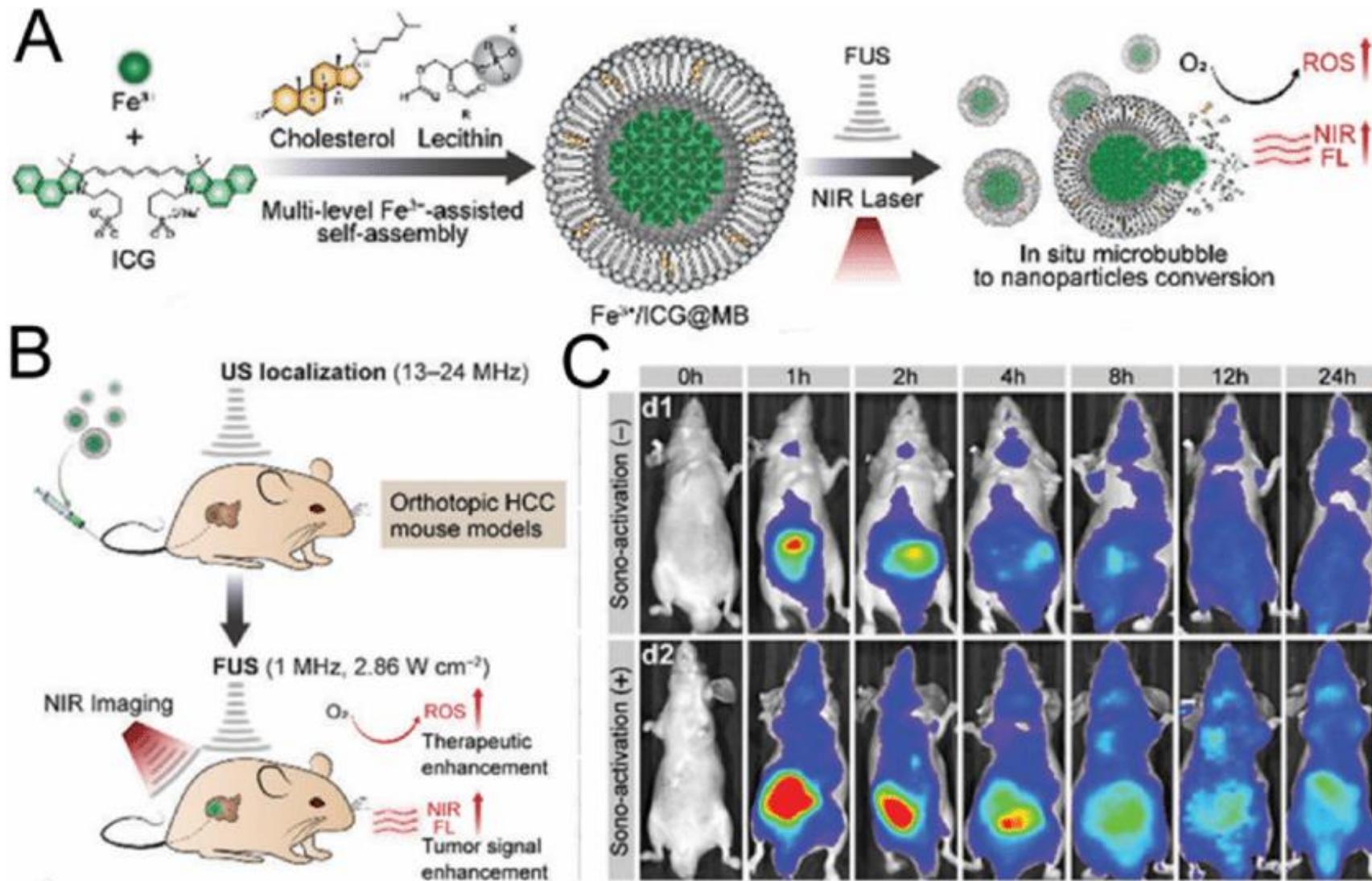


13.5 billion years ago, the Big Bang created matter, energy, time and space in the universe. (Physics)

After 300,000 years, matter and energy form complex structures and atoms and molecules appear (chemistry)

3.8 billion years ago, molecules joined together to form organisms (biology)







- Water will come up over & over as we learn more about how our cells & bodies work
  - We'll talk about the other molecules that make up our bodies – how they interact with water will be important (e.g. hydrophilic vs. hydrophobic)
  - We'll talk about why it's so important to keep our blood neutral, & not acidic or basic
- Up next: water is essential to life & our bodies contain a lot of it, but it is not what living things are actually built of
  - **So what molecules are we built of?**



# Chapter 3: Biological Molecules

- What kind of molecules make up living bodies?
- How do we build & break down (digest) those molecules?
- What are the four classes of molecules that build our bodies & that we have to eat?

*Corresponds with OpenStax Biology 2e Chapter 3*



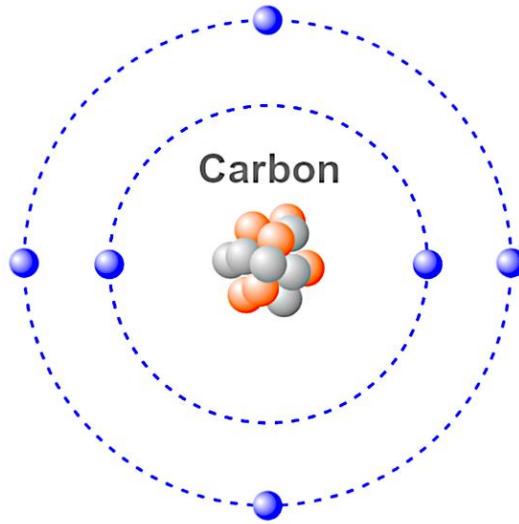
# What class of molecules make up life?

- Living things are made up of **organic molecules**
  - Plants make their own organic molecules, plus gain some through their roots
  - Animals eat organic molecules to build & fuel their bodies
- **Organic molecules** = all have carbon & hydrogen
  - Must have both – if a molecule only has 1 of those elements (or neither), it is inorganic
  - Organic molecules contain other elements too



- Why are all organic molecules (& thus all living things) carbon based?
  - **Carbon** = small & versatile: can make 4 different bonds with many different atoms
    - *at least 1 must be hydrogen to be organic*

## THE VERSATILITY OF CARBON

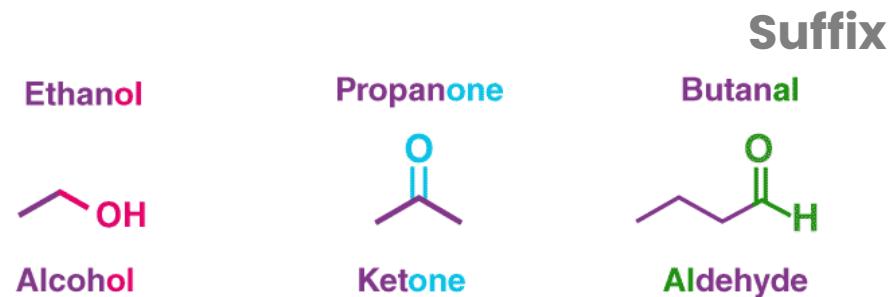


*Carbon can hold 4 more electrons in the second shell, so can make 4 bonds*

Figure: <https://pixabay.com/images/id-4426054/>



- Organic molecules have functional groups
  - **Functional group** = small groups of non-hydrogen atoms in organic molecules
    - *they make each organic molecule unique: protein vs. carbohydrate vs. fat...*
    - *responsible for the chemical reactions that the molecule they are attached to participate in*
  - *the same functional group will behave similarly and experience comparable reactions*

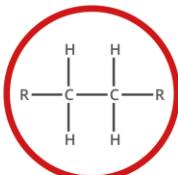


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# FUNCTIONAL GROUPS IN ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

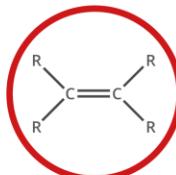
FUNCTIONAL GROUPS ARE GROUPS OF ATOMS IN ORGANIC MOLECULES THAT ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CHARACTERISTIC CHEMICAL REACTIONS OF THOSE MOLECULES.  
IN THE GENERAL FORMULAE BELOW, 'R' REPRESENTS A HYDROCARBON GROUP OR HYDROGEN, AND 'X' REPRESENTS ANY HALOGEN ATOM.

HYDROCARBONS SIMPLE OXYGEN HETEROATOMICS HALOGEN HETEROATOMICS CARBONYL COMPOUNDS NITROGEN BASED SULFUR BASED AROMATIC



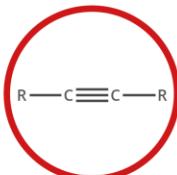
## ALKANE

Naming: -ane  
e.g. ethane



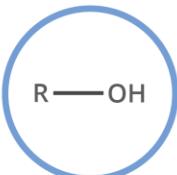
## ALKENE

Naming: -ene  
e.g. ethene



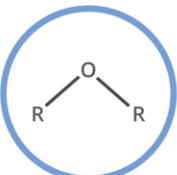
## ALKYNE

Naming: -yne  
e.g. ethyne



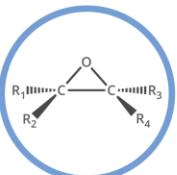
## ALCOHOL

Naming: -ol  
e.g. ethanol



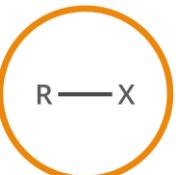
## ETHER

Naming: -oxy -ane  
e.g. methoxyethane



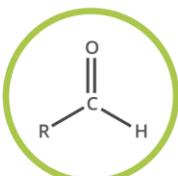
## EPoxide

Naming: -ene oxide  
e.g. ethene oxide



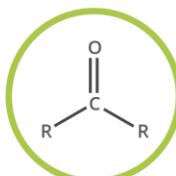
## HALOALKANE

Naming: halo-  
e.g. chloroethane



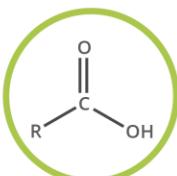
## ALDEHYDE

Naming: -al  
e.g. ethanal



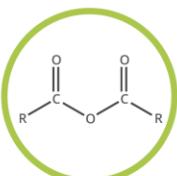
## KETONE

Naming: -one  
e.g. propanone



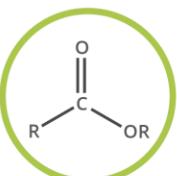
## CARBOXYLIC ACID

Naming: -oic acid  
e.g. ethanoic acid



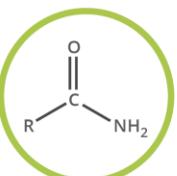
## ACID ANHYDRIDE

Naming: -oic anhydride  
e.g. ethanoic anhydride



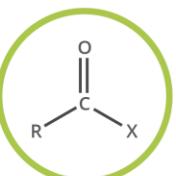
## ESTER

Naming: -yl -oate  
e.g. ethyl ethanoate



## AMIDE

Naming: -amide  
e.g. ethanamide



## ACYL HALIDE

Naming: -oyl halide  
e.g. ethanoyl chloride



## AMINE

Naming: -amine  
e.g. ethanamine



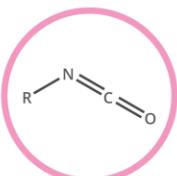
## NITRILE

Naming: -nitrile  
e.g. ethanenitrile



## IMINE

Naming: -imine  
e.g. ethanimine



## ISOCYANATE

Naming: -yl isocyanate  
e.g. ethyl isocyanate



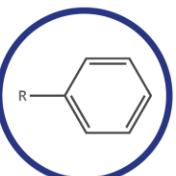
## AZO COMPOUND

Naming: azo-  
e.g. azoethane



## THIOL

Naming: -thiol  
e.g. methanethiol



## ARENE

Naming: -yl benzene  
e.g. ethyl benzene



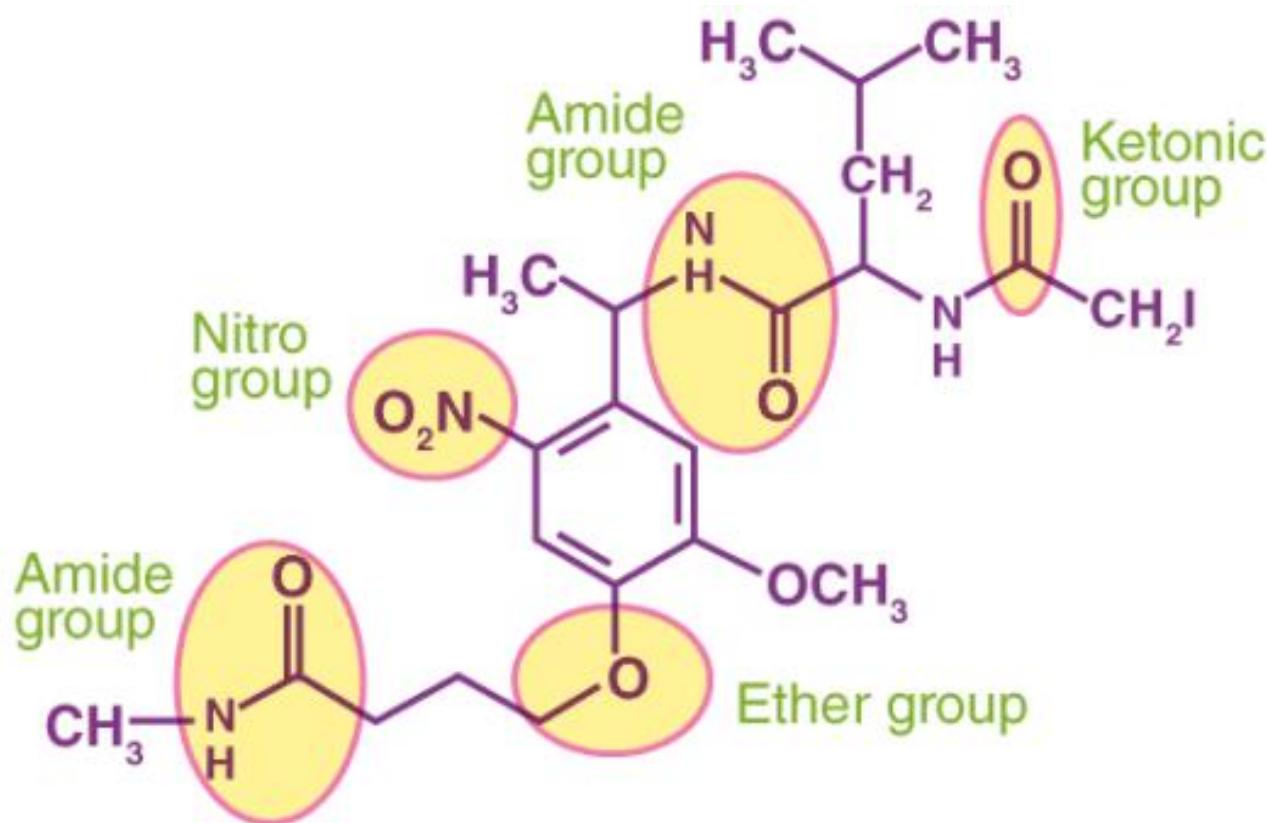
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Functional groups are the moieties which exhibit their own **distinct features** and properties independent of the molecule they are attached to.



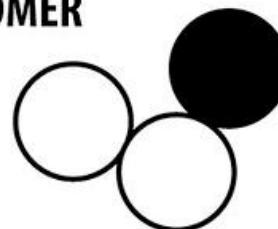
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# How do we build & digest organic molecules?

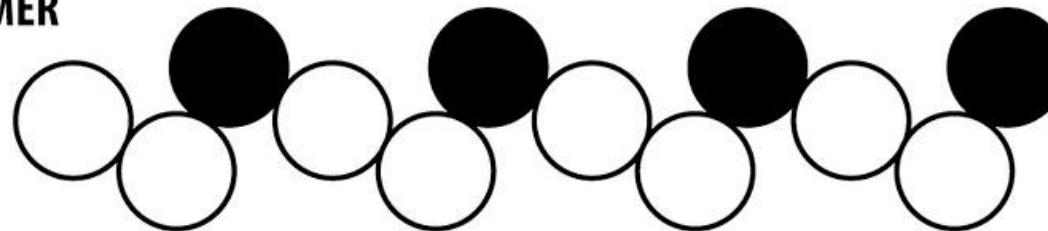
- Small organic molecules = **monomers**
- Monomers are joined to form bigger organic molecules = **polymers**

**MONOMER**



A monomer is a small molecule.

**POLYMER**



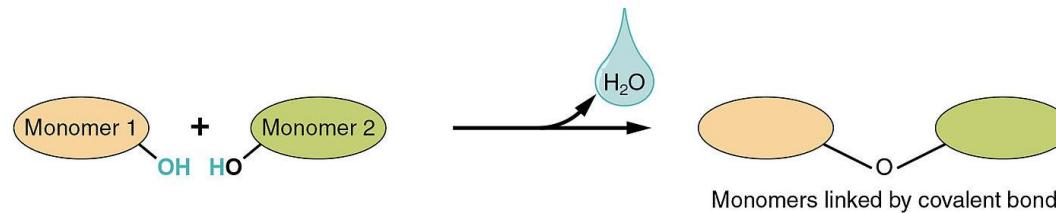
A polymer is a long-chain molecule made up of a repeated pattern of monomers.

Figure: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:1123ghjkghkjk.jpg>



- Monomers are linked together into polymers through **dehydration synthesis**
  - e.g. building muscle & other complex molecules

Monomers are joined by removal of OH from one monomer and removal of H from the other at the site of bond formation.



- Polymers are broken down into monomers through **hydrolysis**
  - e.g. digestion & breakdown of molecules for energy

Monomers are released by the addition of a water molecule, adding OH to one monomer and H to the other.

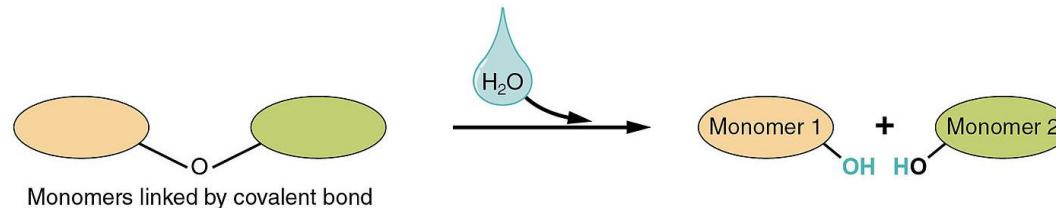


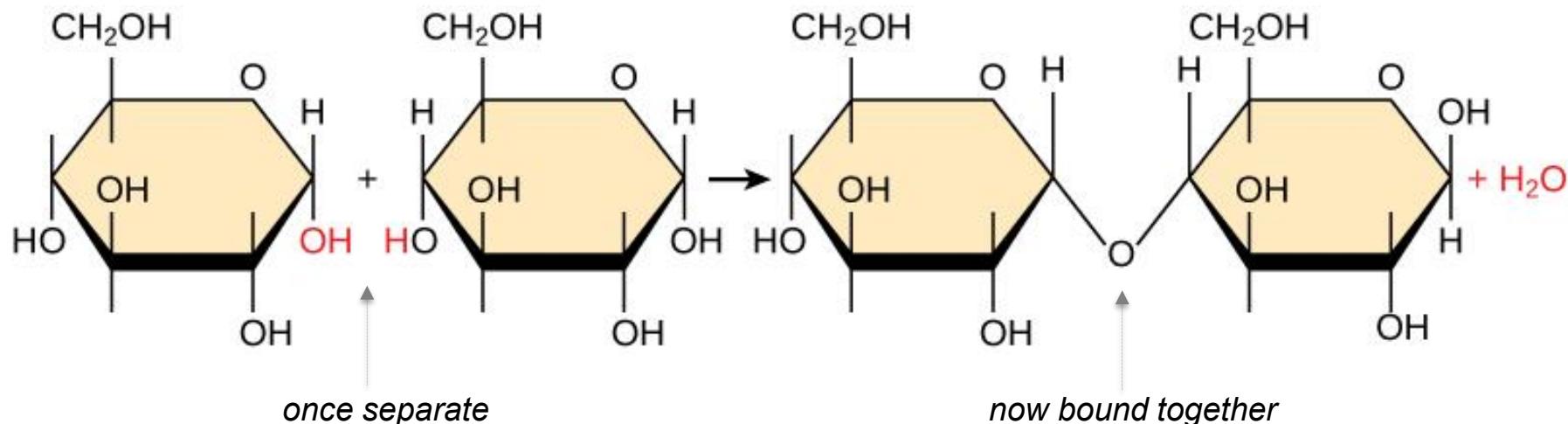
Figure: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:213\\_Dehydration\\_Synthesis\\_and\\_Hydrolysis-01.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:213_Dehydration_Synthesis_and_Hydrolysis-01.jpg)



- In **dehydration synthesis**:

- H & OH removed = loss of water molecule ( $H_2O$ )
- Loss of  $H_2O$  means atoms want to bond to stabilize (by forming covalent bonds)
  - Bond together: monomer + monomer = polymer

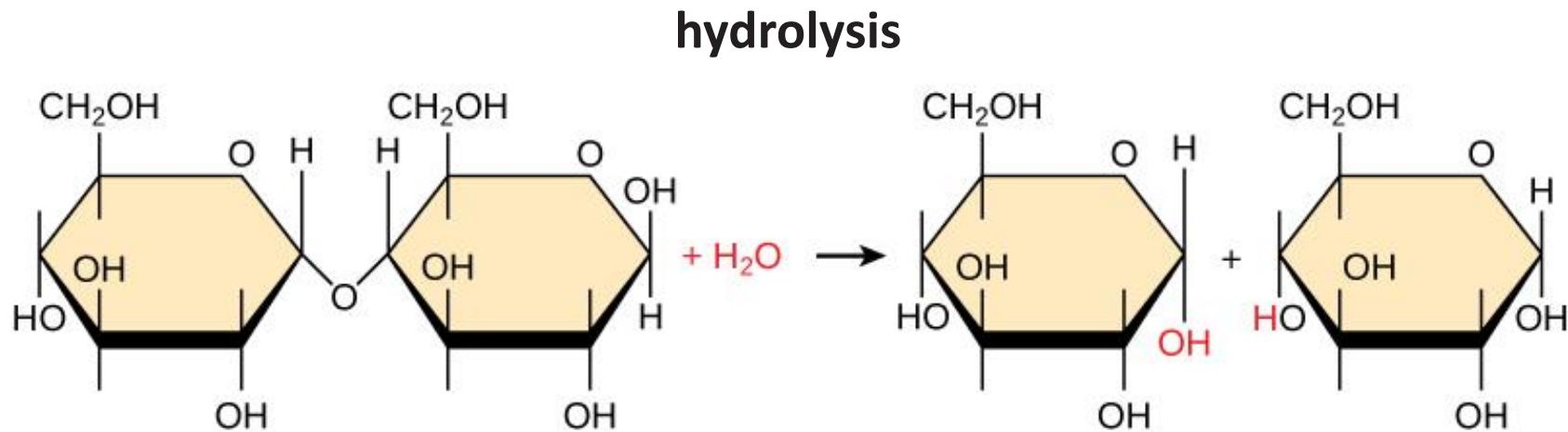
### dehydration synthesis





- In **hydrolysis**:

- Add water, which is separated into H & OH
- H & OH are inserted, breaking the bond between monomers
  - Digestion occurs: polymer broken down into individual monomers





# What are the four classes of molecules that build our bodies & that we have to eat?

- Organic molecules fall into 4 main categories
  - **Carbohydrates:** our main energy source & some for structure
  - **Proteins:** do nearly everything that keeps us alive
  - **Nucleic Acids:** energy carriers, cell messengers, & hereditary information
  - **Lipids:** energy storage, waterproofing, hormones, & cell membranes



## ■ Carbohydrates = sugars, hydrophilic

- 3 types based on size: monosaccharides, disaccharides, polysaccharides

– **Monosaccharide** =  
a carb of just 1 sugar  
molecule

- “simple sugar”
- sweet-tasting  
on the tongue
- *monomer*

Monosaccharide examples  
(glucose is the most common)

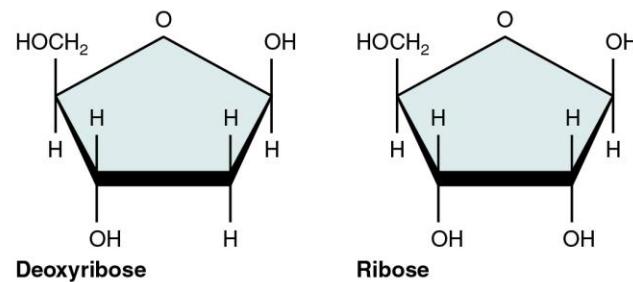
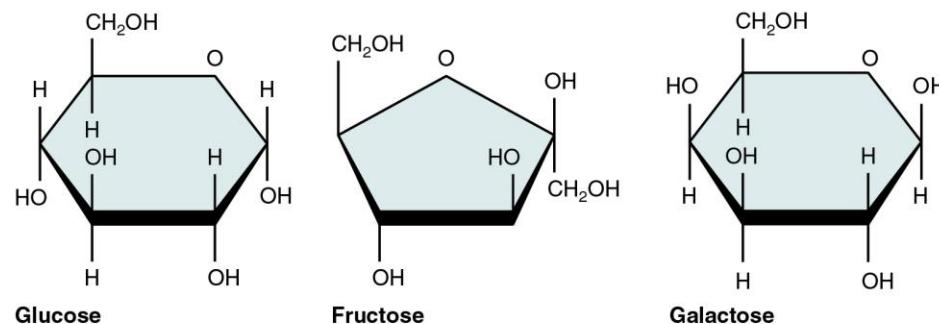


Figure: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:217\\_Five\\_Important\\_Monosaccharides-01.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:217_Five_Important_Monosaccharides-01.jpg)



## disaccharide examples

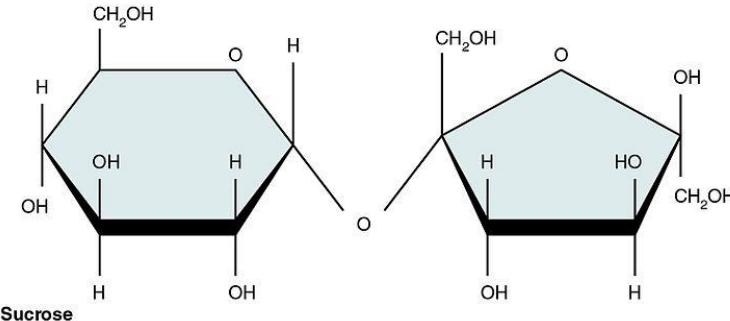
– **Disaccharide** = 2 monosaccharides linked together

- also sweet (table sugar)
- *small polymer*

– **Polysaccharide** = a *polymer* of many monosaccharides linked together

- “complex carb”
- NOT sweet-tasting

(a) The monosaccharides glucose and fructose bond to form sucrose



(b) The monosaccharides galactose and glucose bond to form lactose.

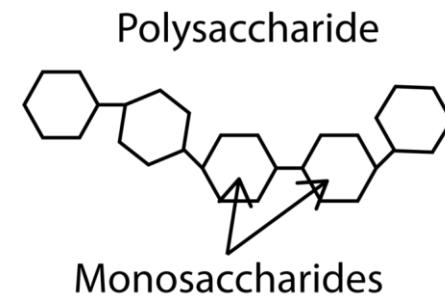
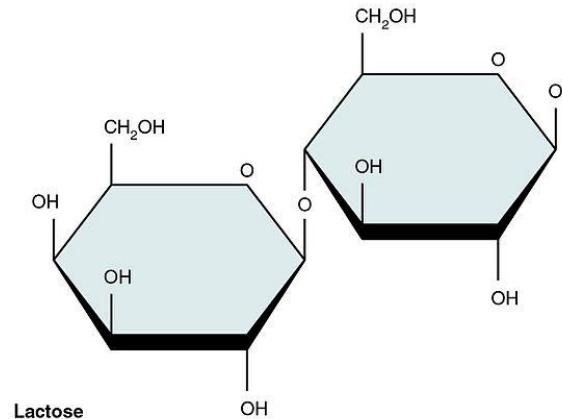


Figure: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:218\\_Three\\_Important\\_Disaccharides-01.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:218_Three_Important_Disaccharides-01.jpg)

Figure: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Simple\\_Polysaccharide\\_Hydrolysis.png](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Simple_Polysaccharide_Hydrolysis.png)



- In the body, **monosaccharides** are:

- used for immediate energy
- or joined together (dehydration synthesis) as polysaccharides or fats & stored for later energy use

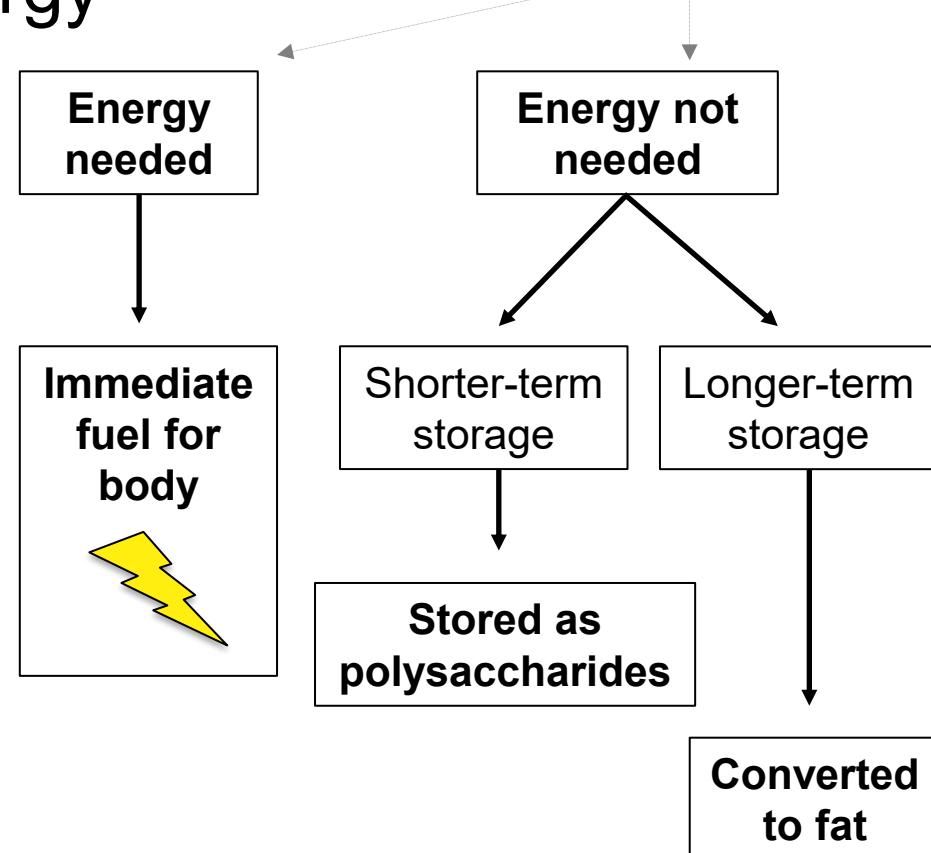


Figure: <https://www.maxpixel.net/Dessert-Donut-Icing-Sugar-Donuts-Pastry-Crescent-1200370>



- In the body, **disaccharides** are:
  - used for short-term energy storage
    - when energy is needed, they are broken apart into monosaccharides (by hydrolysis)
    - sucrose = table sugar, the most common disaccharide

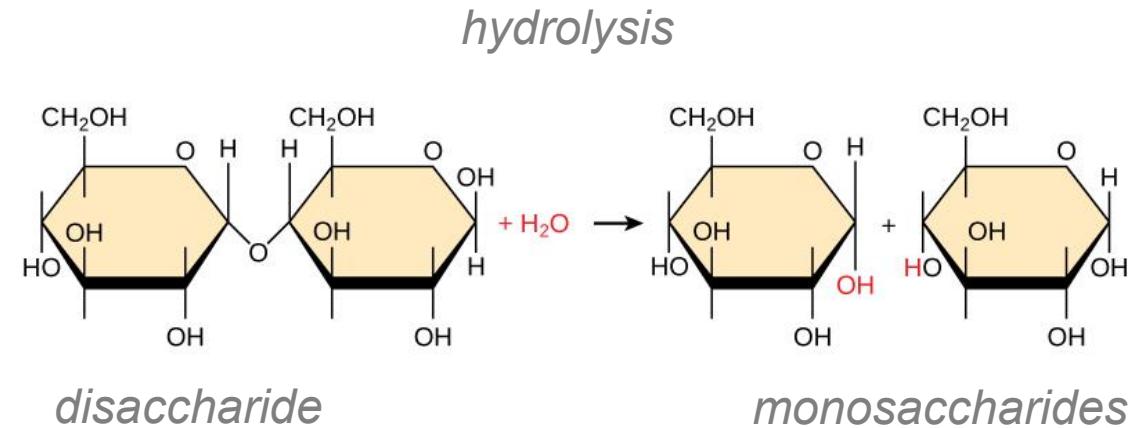


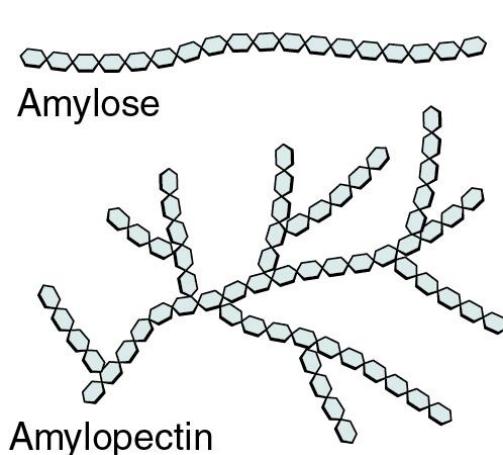
Figure: [https://world.openfoodfacts.org/cgi/product\\_image.pl?code=4864394070294&id=front\\_kar](https://world.openfoodfacts.org/cgi/product_image.pl?code=4864394070294&id=front_kar)

Figure: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Figure\\_03\\_01\\_02.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Figure_03_01_02.jpg)

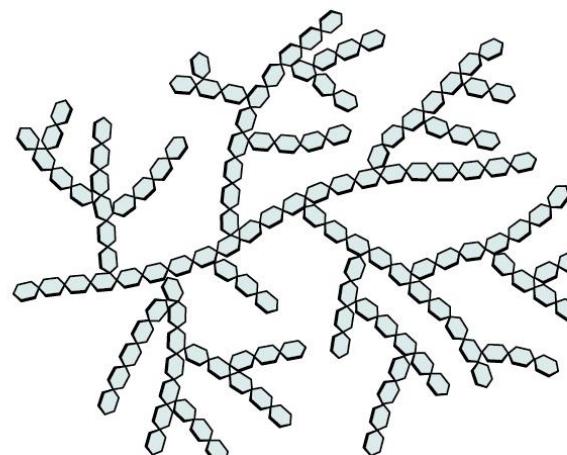


- In the body, **polysaccharides** are used for:

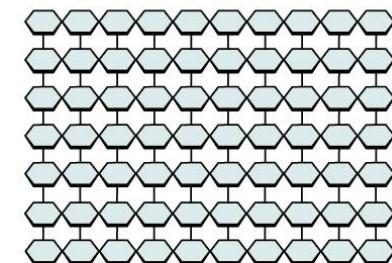
- long-term energy storage
  - starch (in plants) & glycogen (in animals)
- structural support
  - e.g. cellulose (fiber) in plants



**Starch**



**Glycogen**



**Cellulose (fiber)**

Figure: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:219\\_Three\\_Important\\_Polysaccharides-01.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:219_Three_Important_Polysaccharides-01.jpg)



- Carbohydrates (sugars) & blood sugar levels
  - Monosaccharides & disaccharides lead to quick, short increases in blood sugar
    - *if a lot of sugar is consumed, it may even crash afterward, leading to fatigue, headaches, hunger, etc.*
  - Polysaccharides lead to slow, longer-lasting increases or maintenance

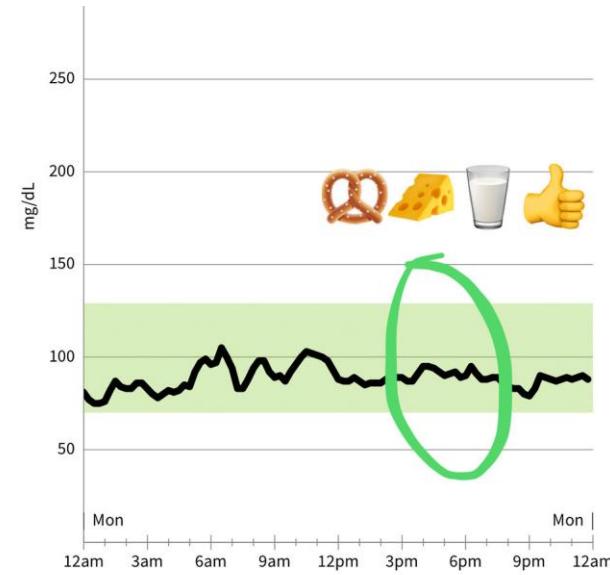
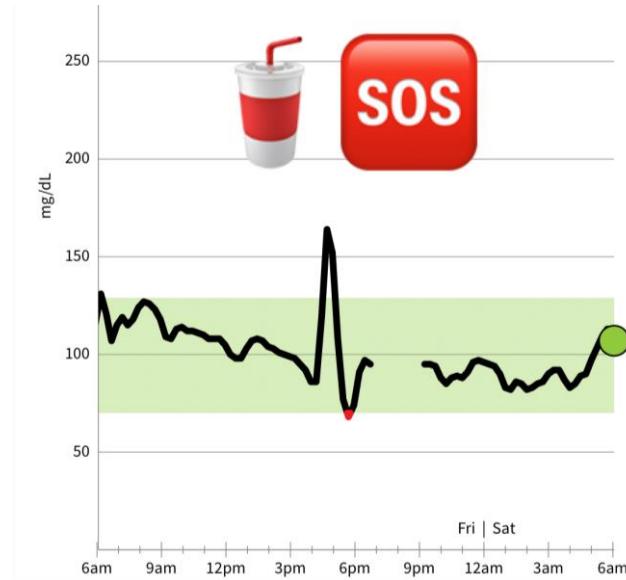


Figure: <https://www.tedeytan.com/2019/05/13/33492>

Figure: <https://www.tedeytan.com/2019/04/28/32835>



- Carbohydrates on nutrition labels
  - “Sugars” = monosaccharides & disaccharides
  - “Dietary Fiber” = not digested carbs
    - helps with movement through digestive system
    - helps regulate blood sugar
  - Rest of “Total Carbohydrates” = polysaccharides



Figure: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Palmini\\_Nutrition\\_Label.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Palmini_Nutrition_Label.jpg)