



Sugars and Glycolysis: glucose breakdown or catabolism

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Objectives

- Sugars for energy pathways
 - 6C sugars or hexoses are the main sources of energy
Textbook Chap. 9
- Breaking down glucose: glycolysis
 - 2 phases: starting up and then producing high energy molecules for the cell
 - 10 reactions
 - Input = 2 ATPs
 - Output = 4 ATPs and 2 NADHs (+ 2 3C pyruvate ions)
Textbook Chap. 12



Diverse Functions of Carbohydrates

- Carbohydrates have diverse functions:
 - 1) Storage and generation of energy (e.g., glucose, glycogen, starch)
 - 2) Molecular recognition (e.g., immune system)
 - 3) Cellular protection (e.g., bacterial and plant cell walls)
 - 4) Cell adhesion (e.g., glycoproteins)
 - 5) Biological lubrication (e.g., glycosaminoglycans)
 - 6) Building and maintaining biological structure (e.g., cellulose, chitin)

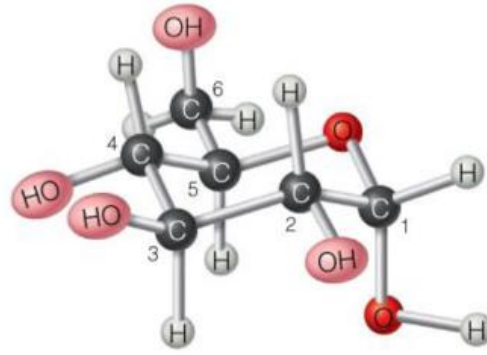


Carbohydrate Terminology

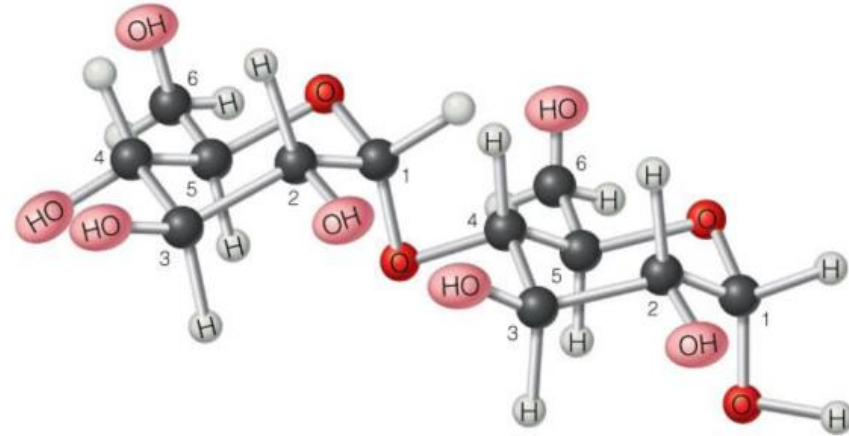
- **Monosaccharide:** Simple sugars and derivatives with 3 to 9 carbon atoms
- **Oligosaccharide:** Compound formed by linking several monosaccharides together (e.g., disaccharide, with 2)
- **Polysaccharide:** Polymer formed from multiple saccharide units; may be homopolysaccharide or heteropolysaccharide
- **Glycan:** Generic term for oligosaccharides and polysaccharides



Example mono-, di- and polysaccharides

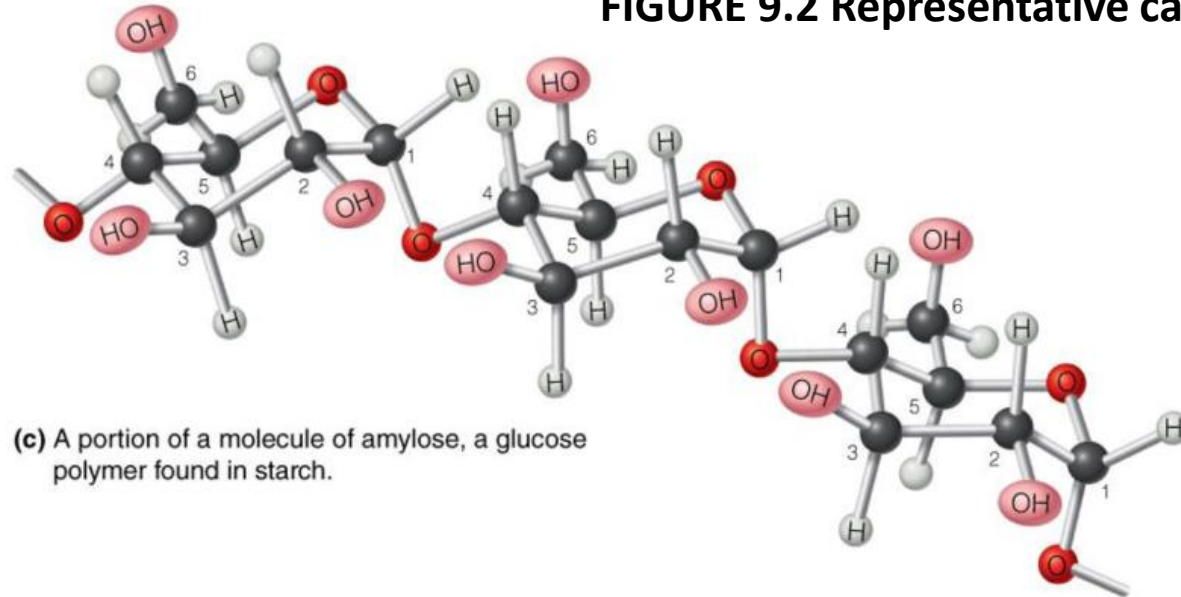


(a) Glucose, a monosaccharide.



(b) Maltose, a disaccharide containing two glucose units.

FIGURE 9.2 Representative carbohydrates



(c) A portion of a molecule of amylose, a glucose polymer found in starch.



Carbs for powering the cell

- Simple sugars and polysaccharides store energy
- The structure of carbohydrates is important in understanding how they are metabolized
 - Carbohydrates have the general formula $[\text{C.H}_2\text{O}]_n$
 - usually contain an **aldehyde** or **ketone** group as well as **many hydroxyl groups**
 - We need to understand the structures of the simplest sugars to very complex carbohydrates
 - The simplest carbohydrates contain only **three carbon (3C) atoms** and are derived from glycerol.



The 3-carbon sugars (trioses): $\{\text{CH}_2\text{O}\} \times 3$

– brief overview

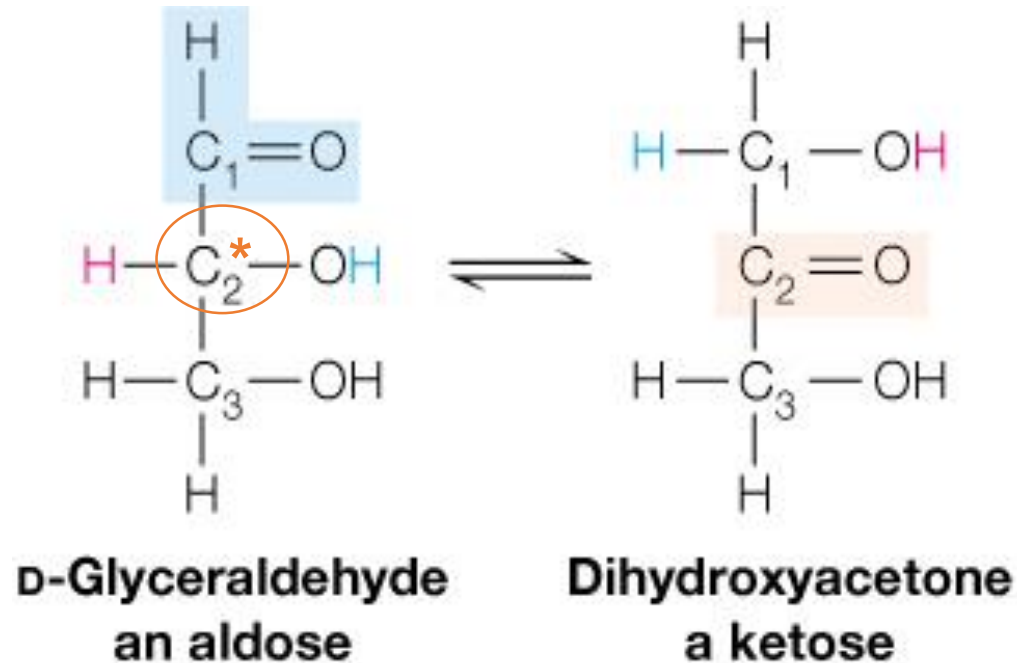
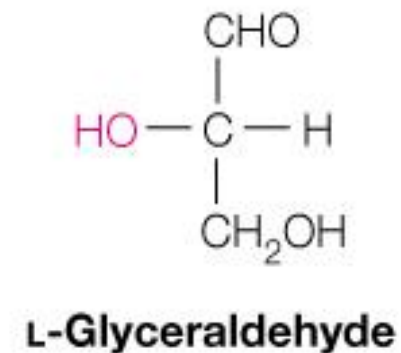
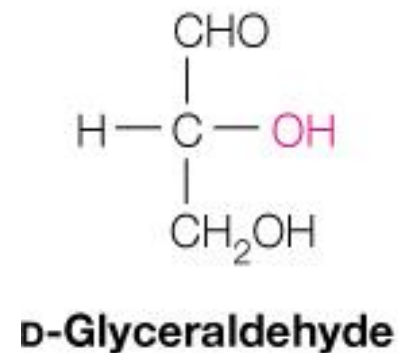
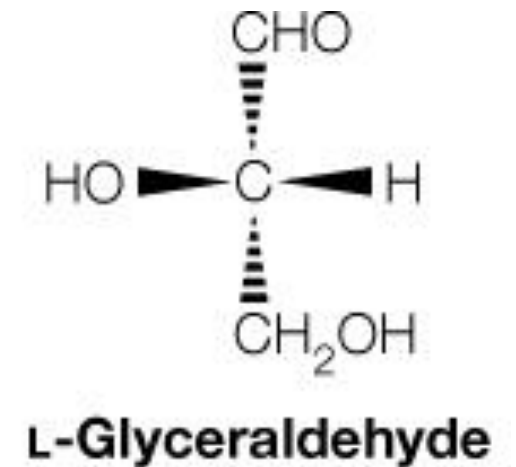
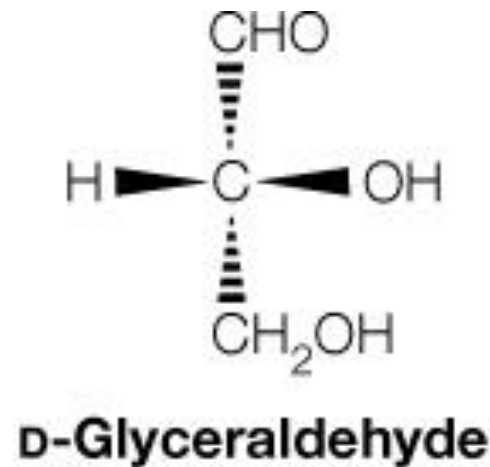


FIGURE 9.3 Trioses,
the simplest
monosaccharides.

- **Aldose**: glyceraldehyde and **ketose**: dihydroxyacetone
- D and L (or R and S) forms are determined by the configuration of the optically active C, linked to four different groups (usually marked C*)
- D is important for the sweet taste of sugar

Enantiomers

- Fischer projections (see top) are the most compact way to represent stereochemistry
- The wedge-dash representations of the D- and L-forms glyceraldehyde are also shown (bottom)



Carbon number:

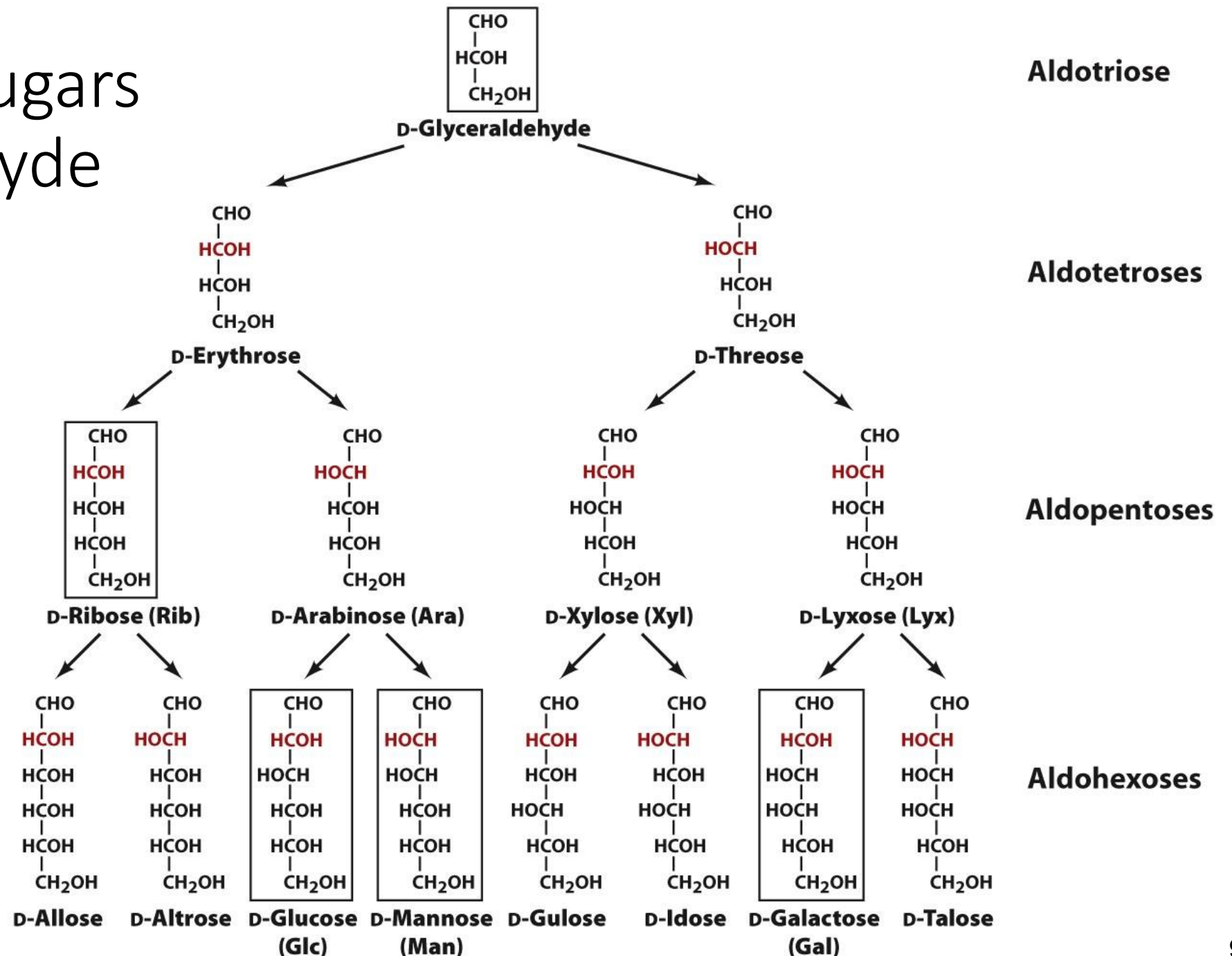
1

2

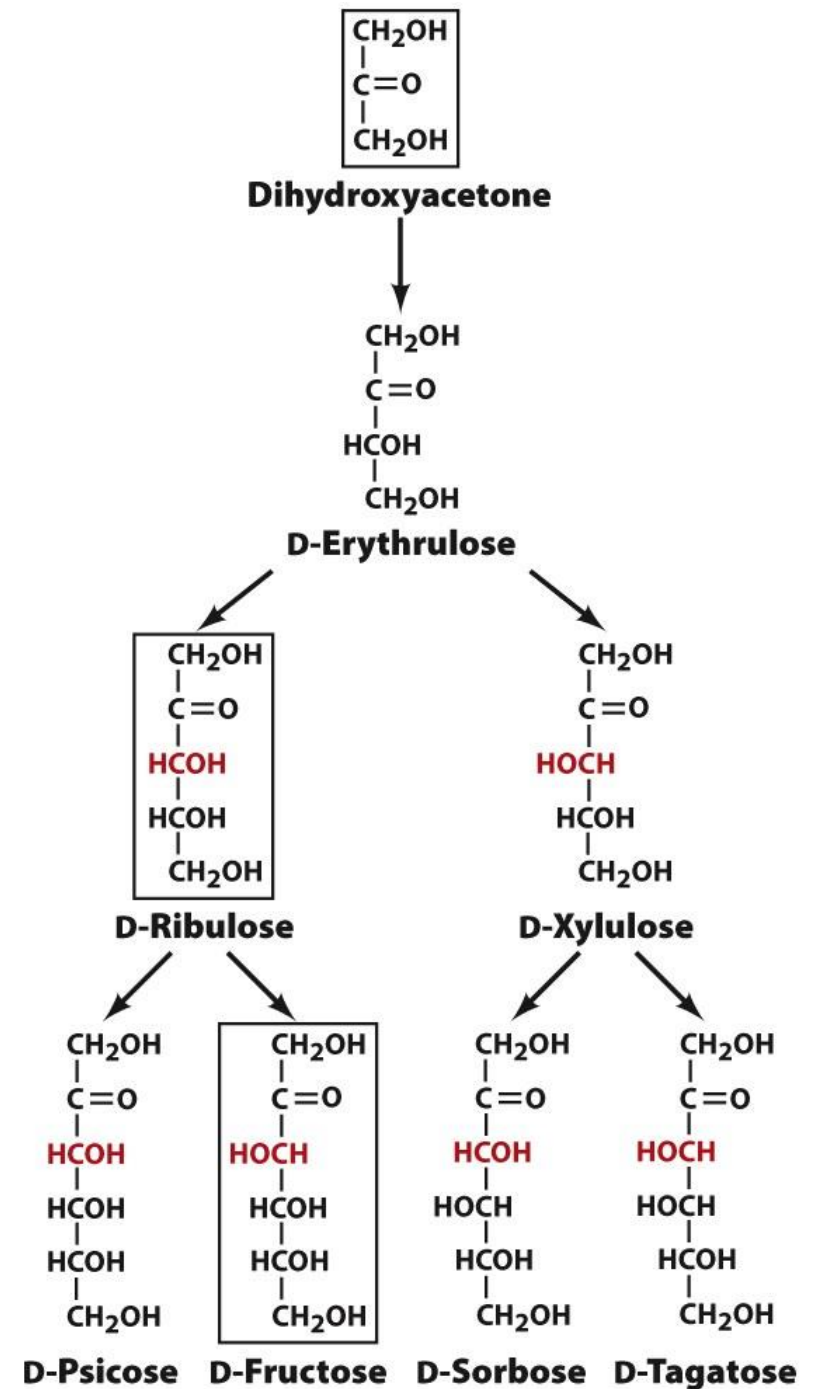
3



Aldoses are sugars with an aldehyde group



Ketoses are
sugars with a
ketone group

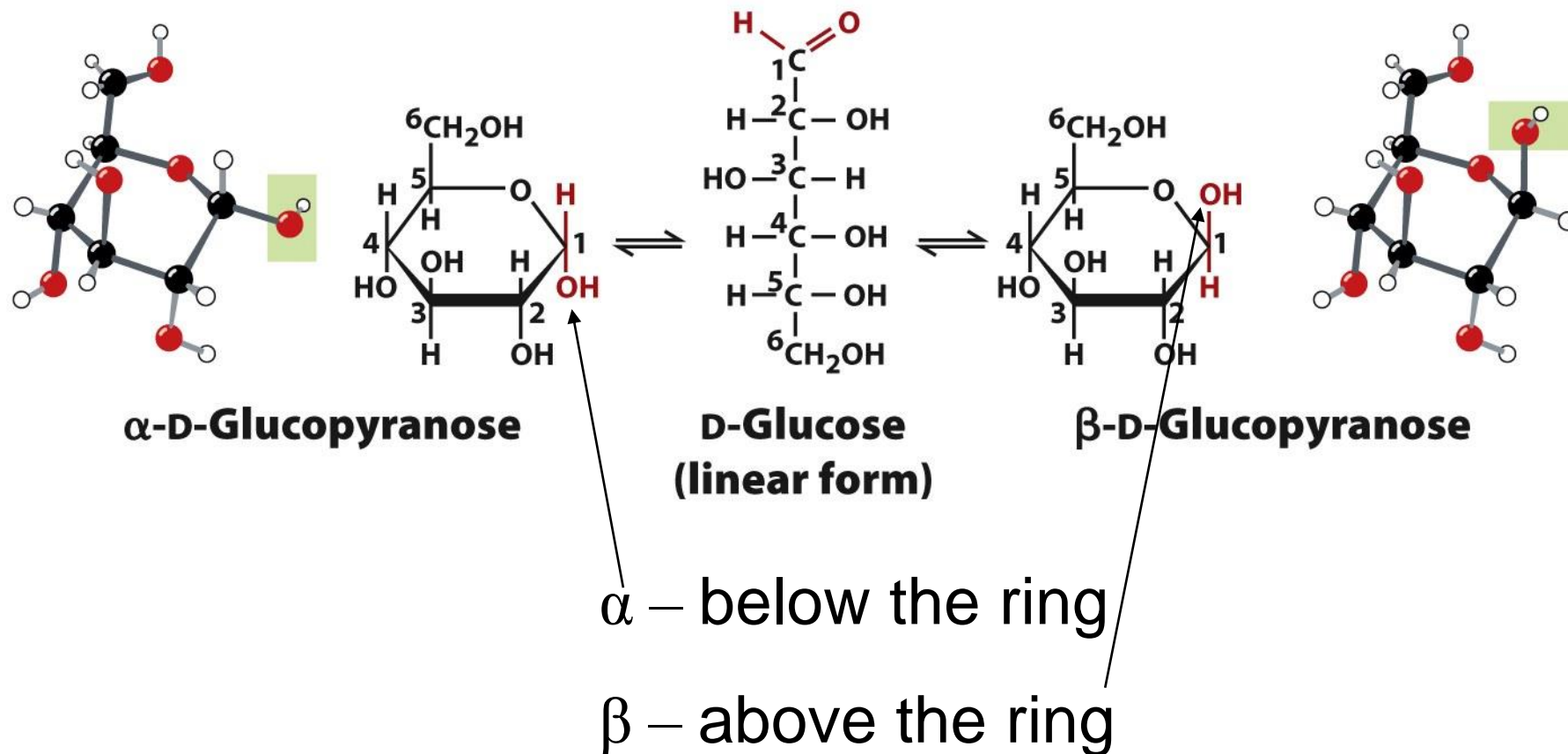


Monosaccharides

- **Hexose** (6C) and **pentose** (5C) sugars are also called just monosaccharides: these are very important biologically.
- They can ***cyclise*** by forming rings called *hemiacetals*, forming a chiral centre:
 - The ring formed has two distinct conformations around the chiral carbon, α and β (alpha and beta).



α & β stereoisomers of Glucose

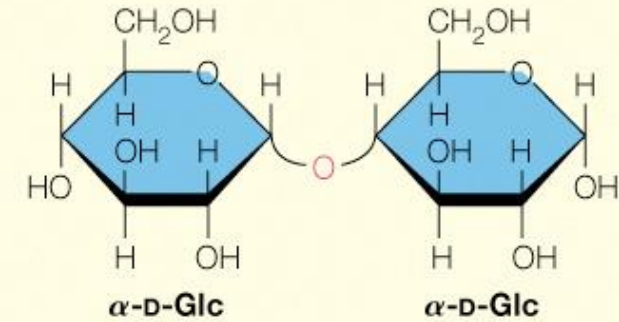


Polymerization of simple sugars

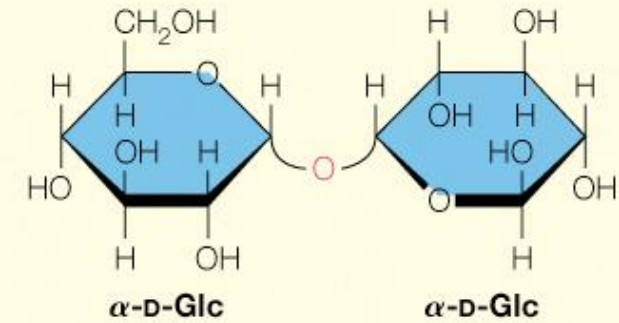
- Dimers of monosaccharides: α - and β -glycosidic bonds (similar to peptide bonds)
- Formed by condensation
- Glc: glucose; Fru: fructose;
- Gal: galactose (next slide)

Disaccharides with α -connections

Maltose:
 α -D-glucopyranosyl
(1 \rightarrow 4) α -D-glucopyranose



α,α -Trehalose:
 α -D-glucopyranosyl
(1 \rightarrow 1) α -D-glucopyranose



Sucrose:
 α -D-glucopyranosyl
(1 \rightarrow 2) β -D-fructofuranoside

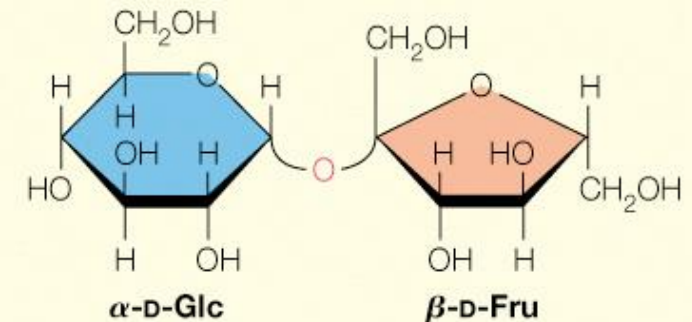


FIGURE 9.14 Structures of some important disaccharides.

(a) Disaccharides linked through the C-1 of the α anomer: maltose, trehalose, and sucrose.



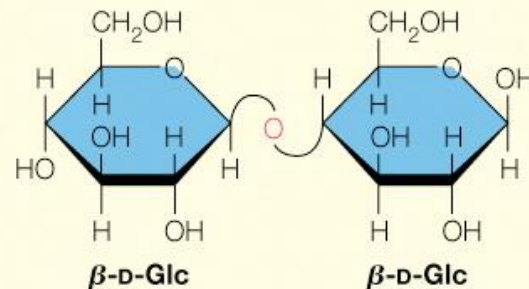
Representative Disaccharides and Their Biochemical Roles

TABLE 9.2 Occurrence and biochemical roles of some representative disaccharides

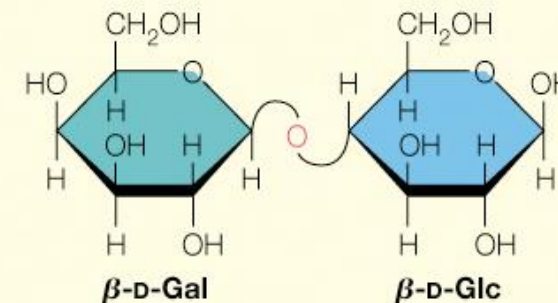
Disaccharide	Structure	Natural Occurrence	Physiological Role
Sucrose	$\text{Glc}\alpha(1 \rightarrow 2)\text{Fru}\beta$	Many fruits, seeds, roots, honey	A final product of photosynthesis, used as a primary energy source in many organisms
Lactose	$\text{Gal}\beta(1 \rightarrow 4)\text{Glc}$	Milk, some plant sources	A major animal energy source
α,α -Trehalose	$\text{Glc}\alpha(1 \rightarrow 1)\text{Glc}\alpha$	Yeast, other fungi, insect blood	A major circulatory sugar in insects; used for energy
Maltose	$\text{Glc}\alpha(1 \rightarrow 4)\text{Glc}$	Plants (starch) and animals (glycogen)	The dimer derived from the starch and glycogen polymers
Cellobiose	$\text{Glc}\beta(1 \rightarrow 4)\text{Glc}$	Plants (cellulose)	The dimer of the cellulose polymer
Gentiobiose	$\text{Glc}\beta(1 \rightarrow 6)\text{Glc}$	Some plants (e.g., gentians)	Constituent of plant glycosides and some polysaccharides

Disaccharides with β -connections

Cellobiose:
 β -D-glucopyranosyl
(1 \rightarrow 4) β -D-glucopyranose

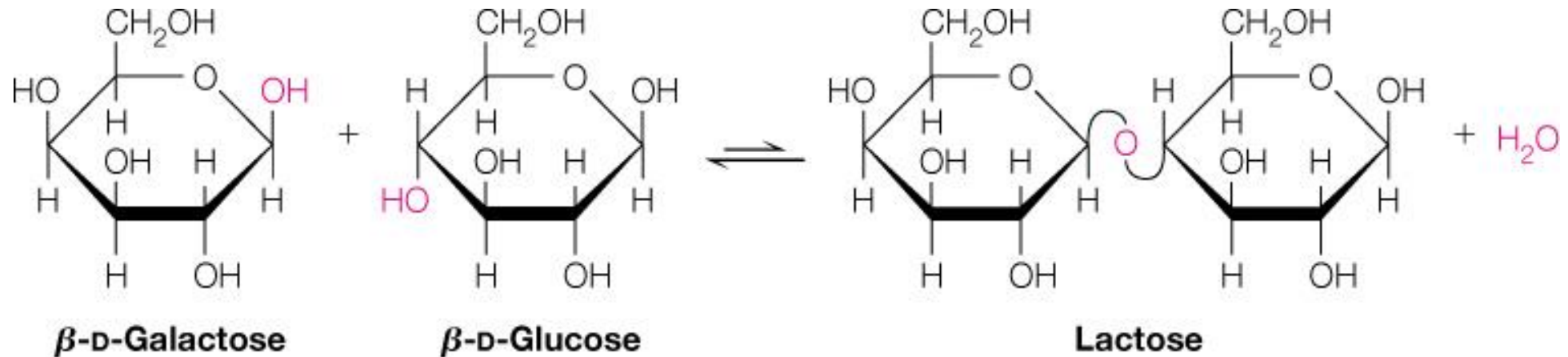


Lactose:
 β -D-galactopyranosyl
(1 \rightarrow 4) β -D-glucopyranose



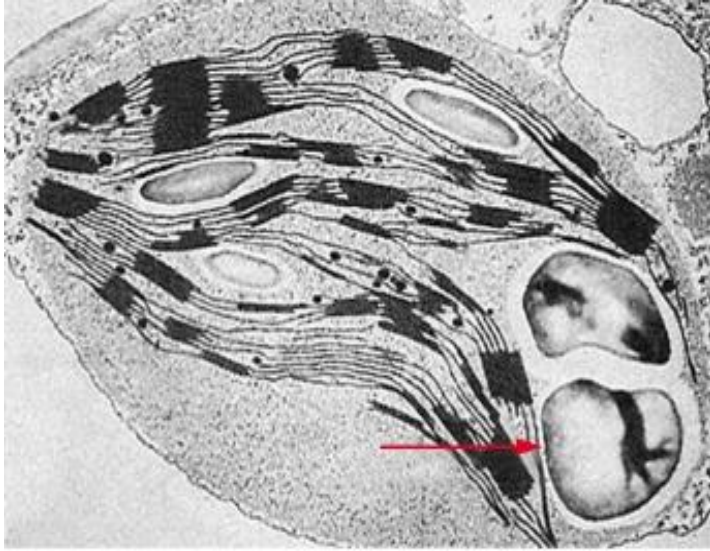
Stability and Formation of Glycosidic Bonds

- Glycosidic bonds are formed between monomeric saccharides by condensation reaction¹

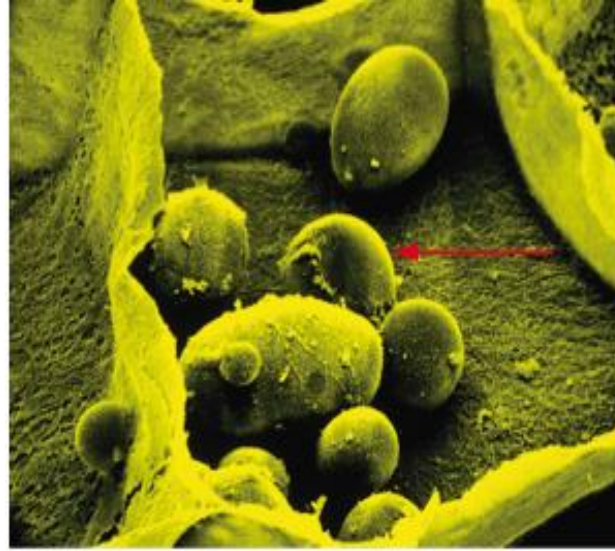


- However, the reaction (as written) is thermodynamically unfavourable

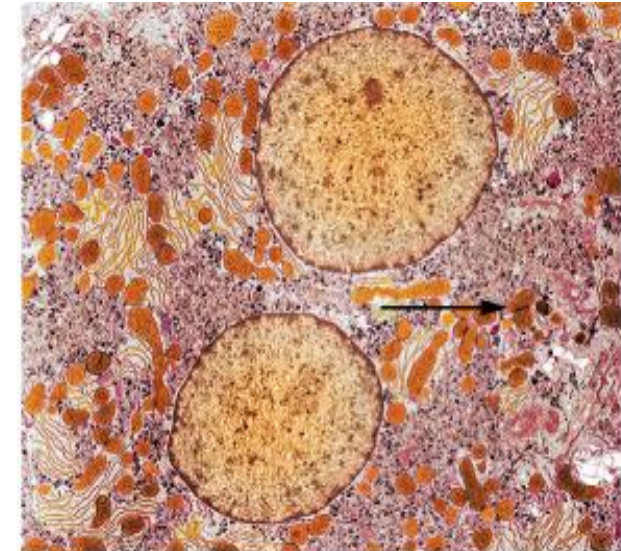
Energy Storage Polysaccharides: Starch (Amylose and Amylopectin) and Glycogen



(a) Starch granules in a plant leaf chloroplast.



(b) Starch granules in potato tuber cells.



(c) Glycogen granules in liver.

FIGURE 9.16 Storage of starch and glycogen in granules.

- Starch (plants) contains both amylopectin, $\alpha(1\rightarrow4)$ glucose polymer with $\alpha(1\rightarrow6)$ branches, and amylose, $\alpha(1\rightarrow4)$ unbranched polymer
- Glycogen (animals/microbes) is like amylopectin, but higher MW with shorter and more frequent branch points

Starch (Amylose and Amylopectin) and Glycogen

- **Starch** and **glycogen** are **both polymers of glucose** residues linked by **α (alpha) linkages**

- $\beta(1,4)$ -linked D-glucose is found in cellulose and chitin
- $\alpha(1,4)$ -linked D-glucose in starch and glycogen.

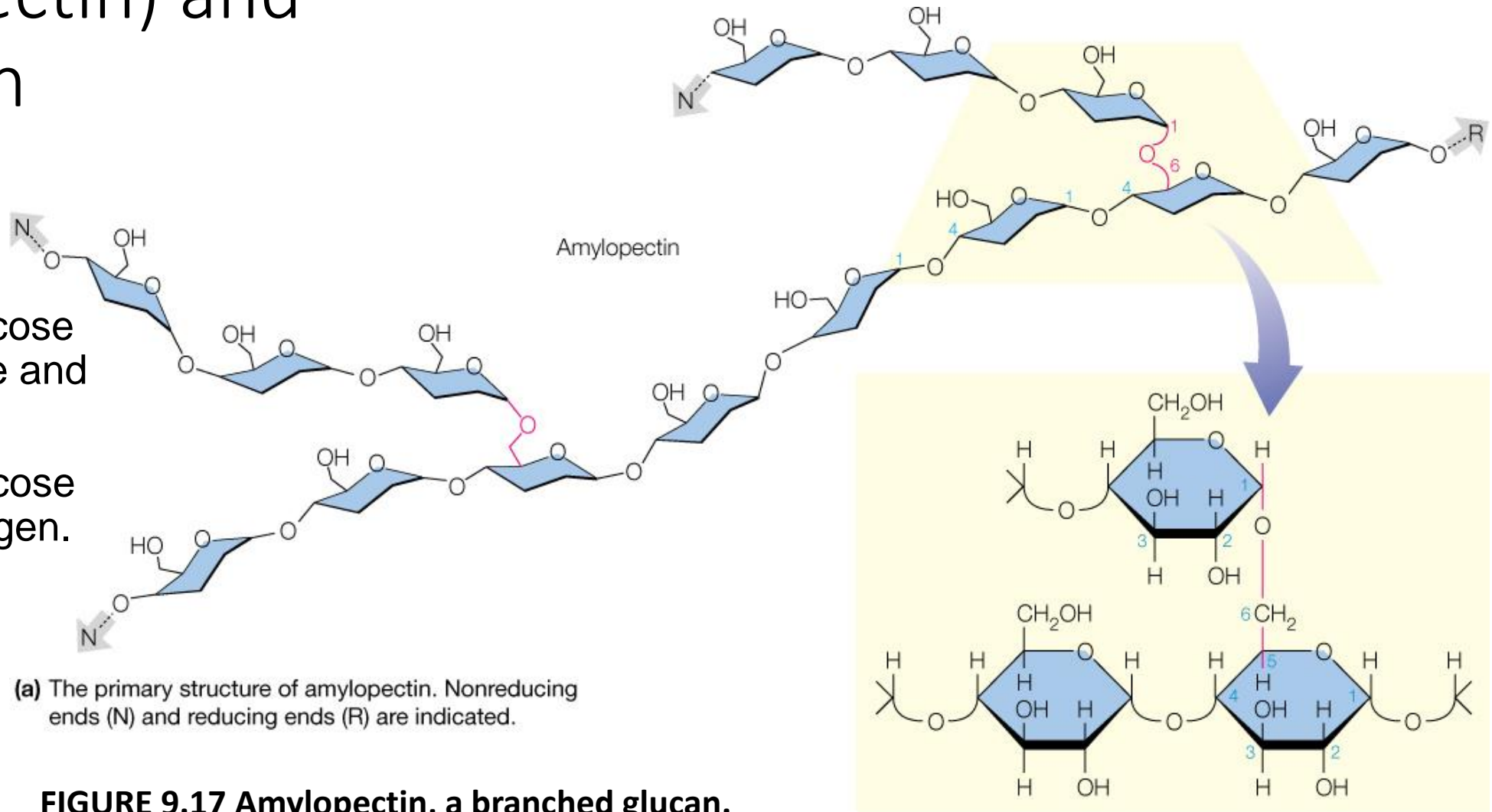
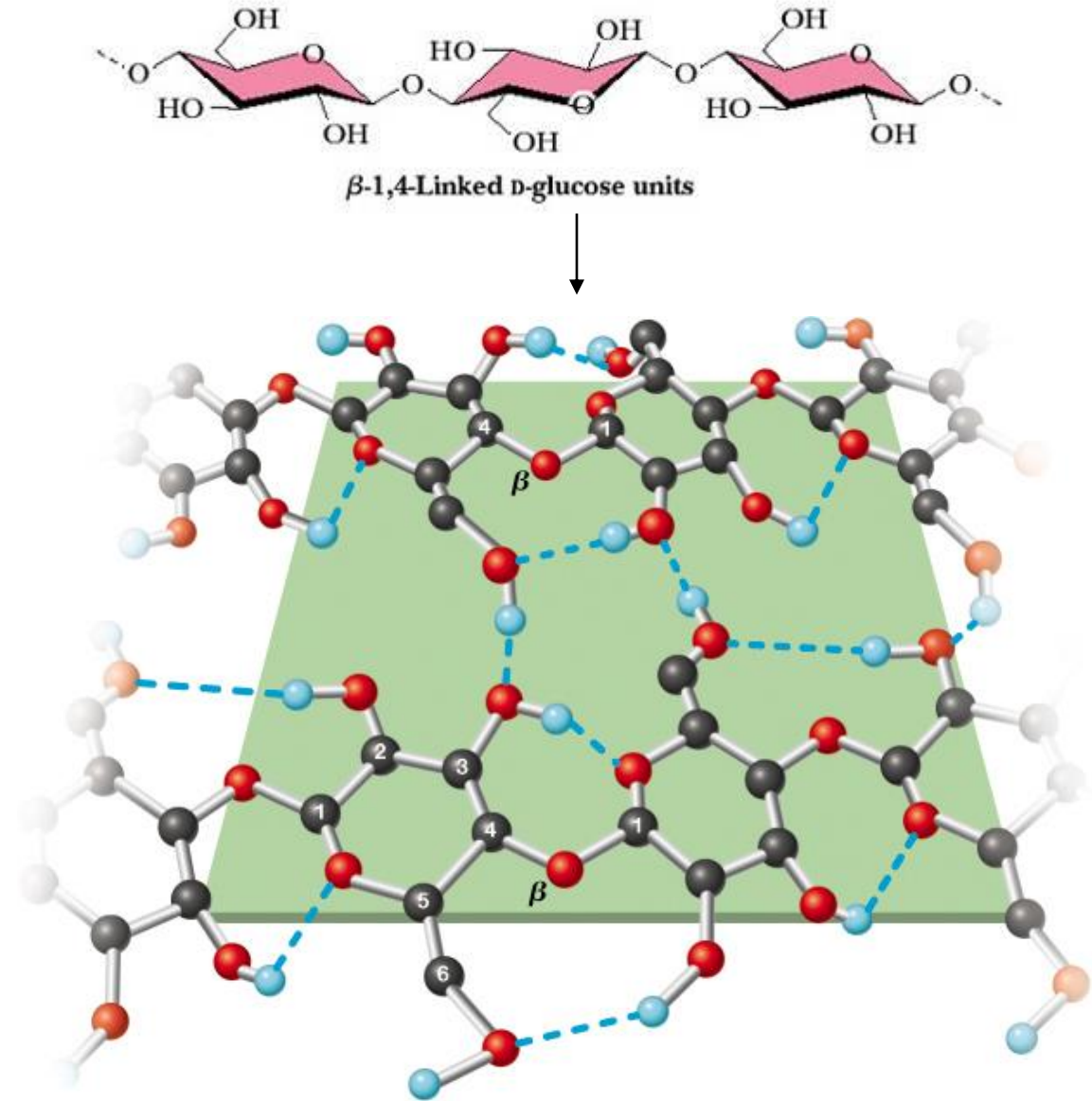


FIGURE 9.17 Amylopectin, a branched glucan.



Cellulose

- In plant cell walls
- We cannot use this in sugar metabolism as we do not have the enzymes that can break these $\beta(1,4)$ -glycosidic bonds
- Termites can!



Summary of simple sugars

- 6C sugars (hexoses) are most important for energy metabolism
 - Most important are **D-glucose** and **D-fructose**
- 5C sugars (pentoses) make nucleotides: D-ribose
- Polymers of glucose are called complex carbohydrates or polysaccharides
 - We make glycogen from glucose
 - Plants make starch
 - Both these polymers have α (alpha) bonds
 - There are other polymers such as cellulose and chitin, which we cannot digest.



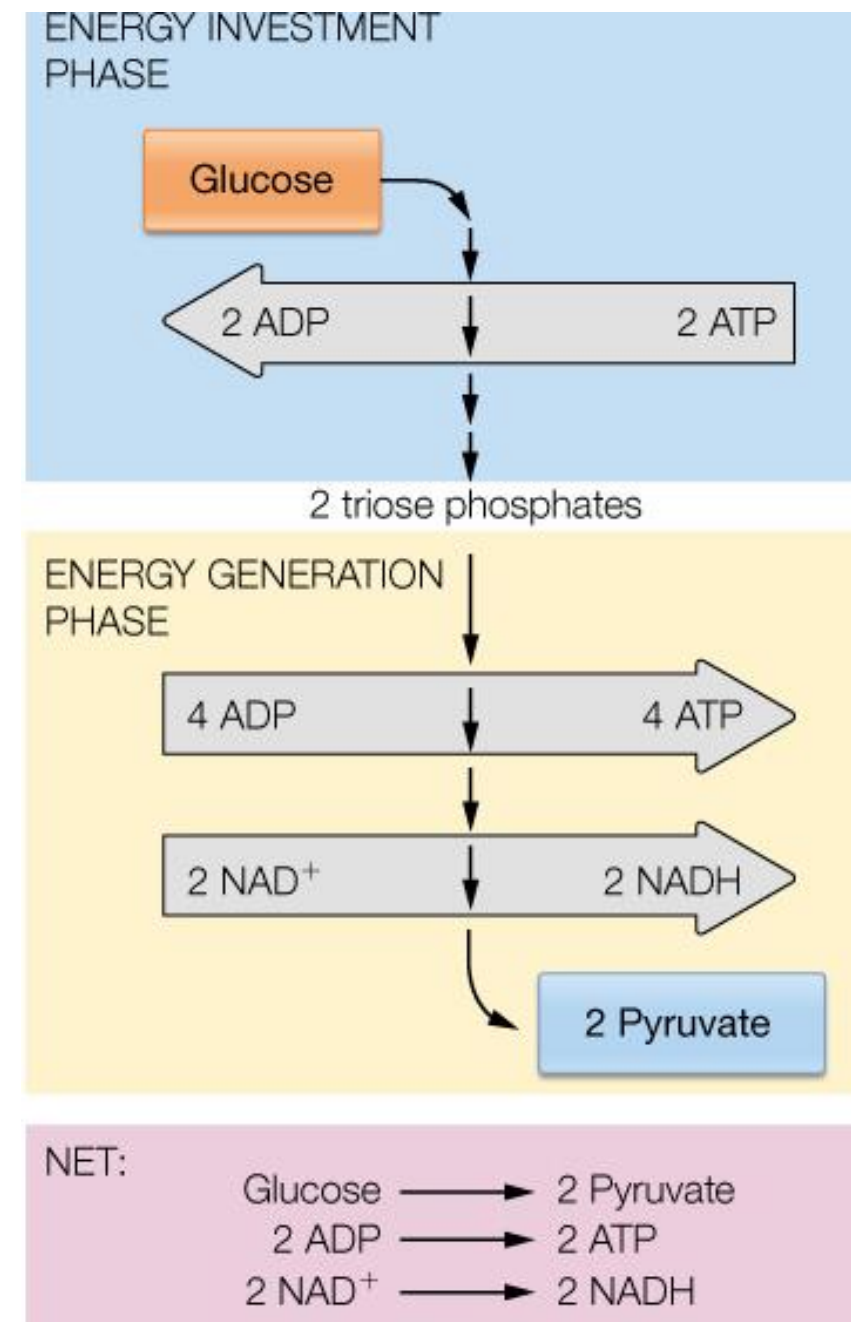
Glycolysis

- Glycolysis is the *catabolic* process by which **glucose** (6C) and other hexoses are converted to **pyruvate** (2x 3C)
- Glycolysis occurs in almost every living cell
- Glycolysis does not require oxygen (i.e. anaerobic)
- The **glycolytic pathway** was the first major metabolic pathway to be elucidated
 - *Embden-Meyerhof-Parnas* pathway



Phases of Glycolysis

- Glycolysis has 10 reactions, which can be divided into two distinct phases:
 - one to invest energy and
 - one to generate energy
- In the energy-investment phase, two ATPs are consumed to break down glucose into two triose phosphates
- In the energy-generation phase, the triose phosphates are oxidized to two pyruvic acids, thereby producing four ATP and two NADH
- Overall: Glucose + 2 ADP + 2 PO_4^- + 2 NAD^+ are converted to 2 pyruvic acid + 2 ATP + 2 NADH + 2 H^+



The Energy-Investment Phase of Glycolysis

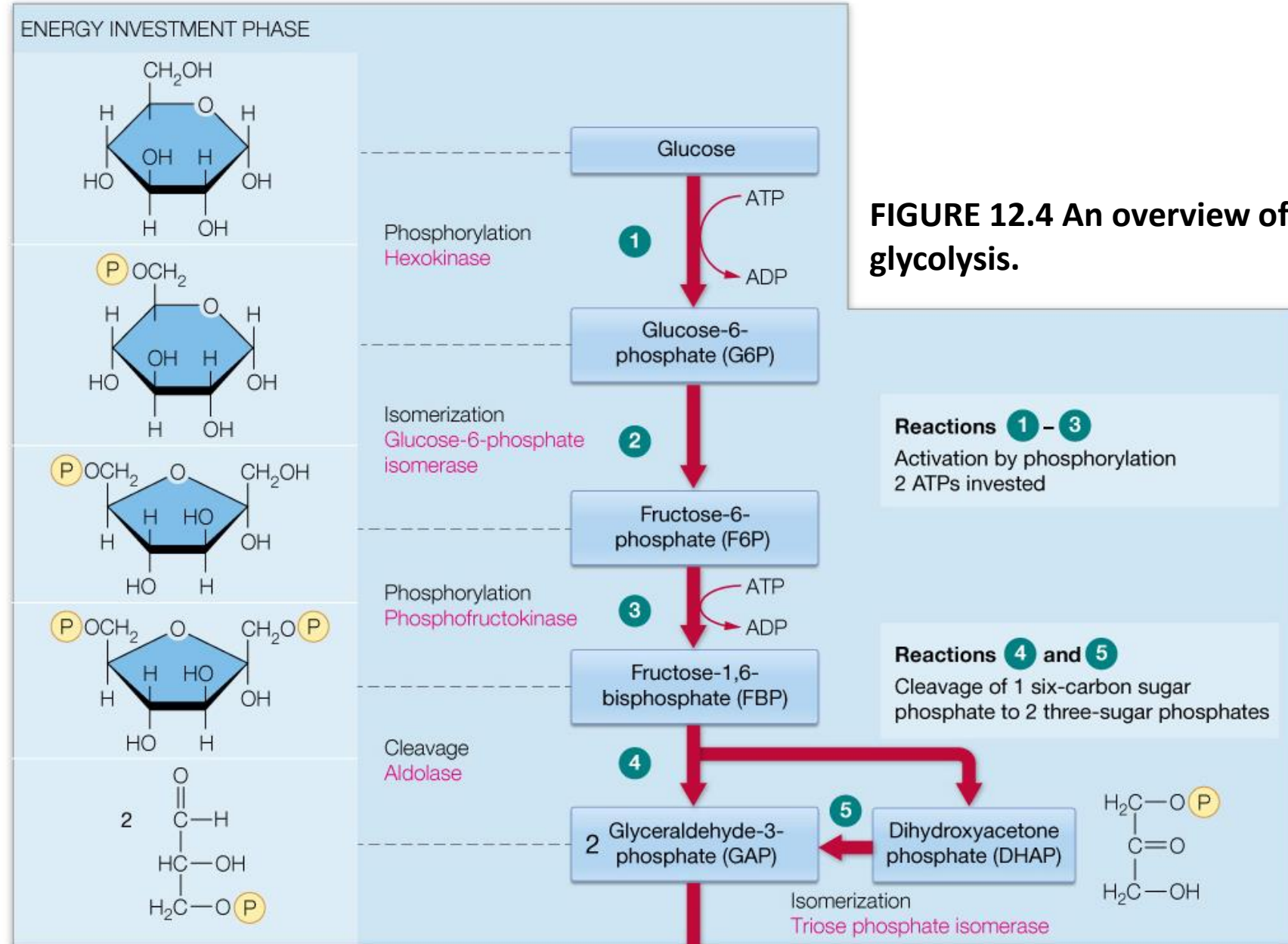
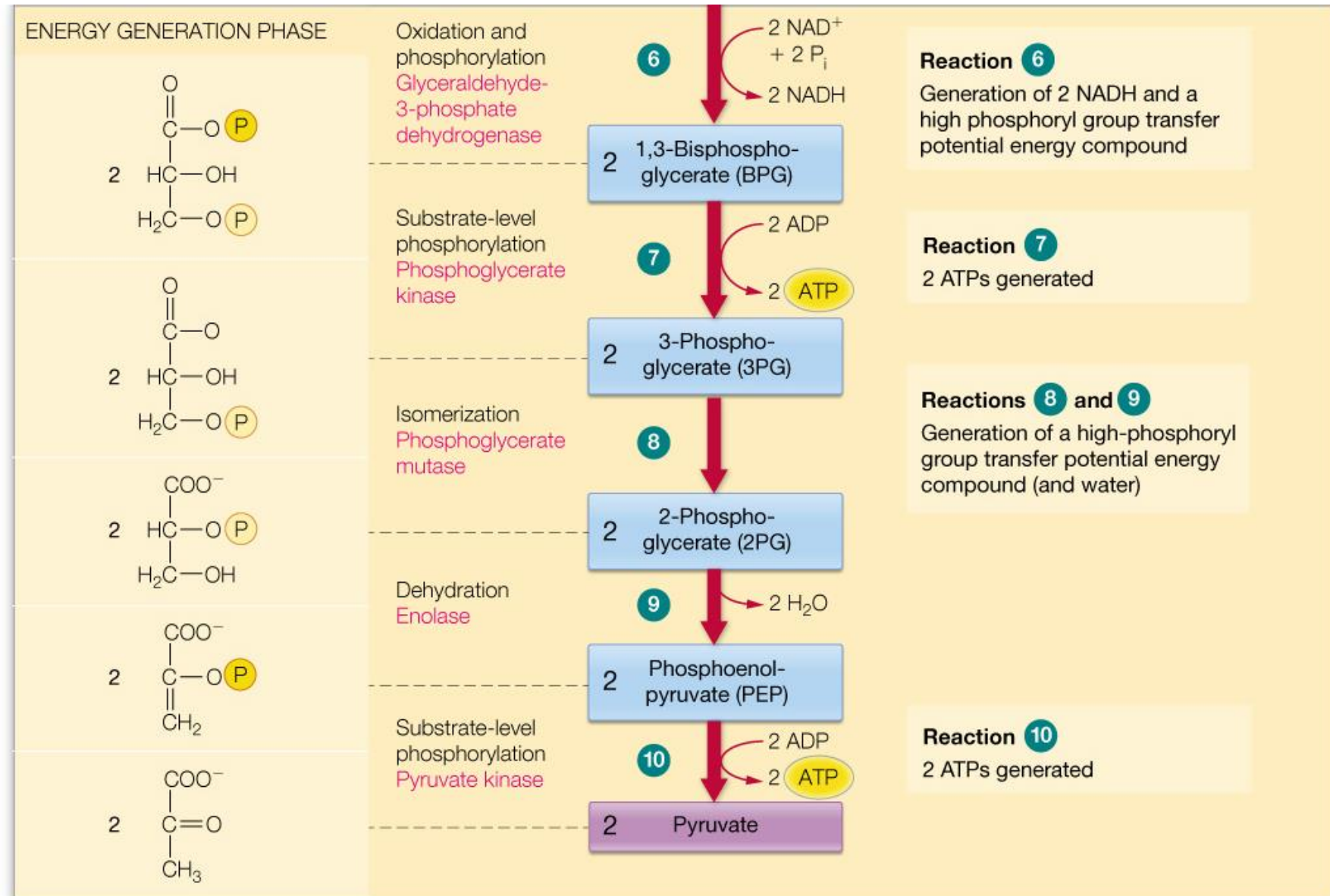


FIGURE 12.4 An overview of glycolysis.



The Energy-Generation Phase of Glycolysis



The Reactions of Glycolysis

Summary

- 10 steps in glycolysis.
- Enzymes in this pathway catalyze phosphorylation reactions, isomerizations, carbon–carbon bond cleavage, and dehydration.
- ATP is consumed in Steps 1 and 3 but regenerated in Steps 7 and 10, with a net yield of 2 ATP per glucose molecule.
- For each glucose, 2 NADH are produced in Step 6.
- *Note:* metabolism requires ATP and reducing molecules such as NADH – so both these are important products from glycolysis.

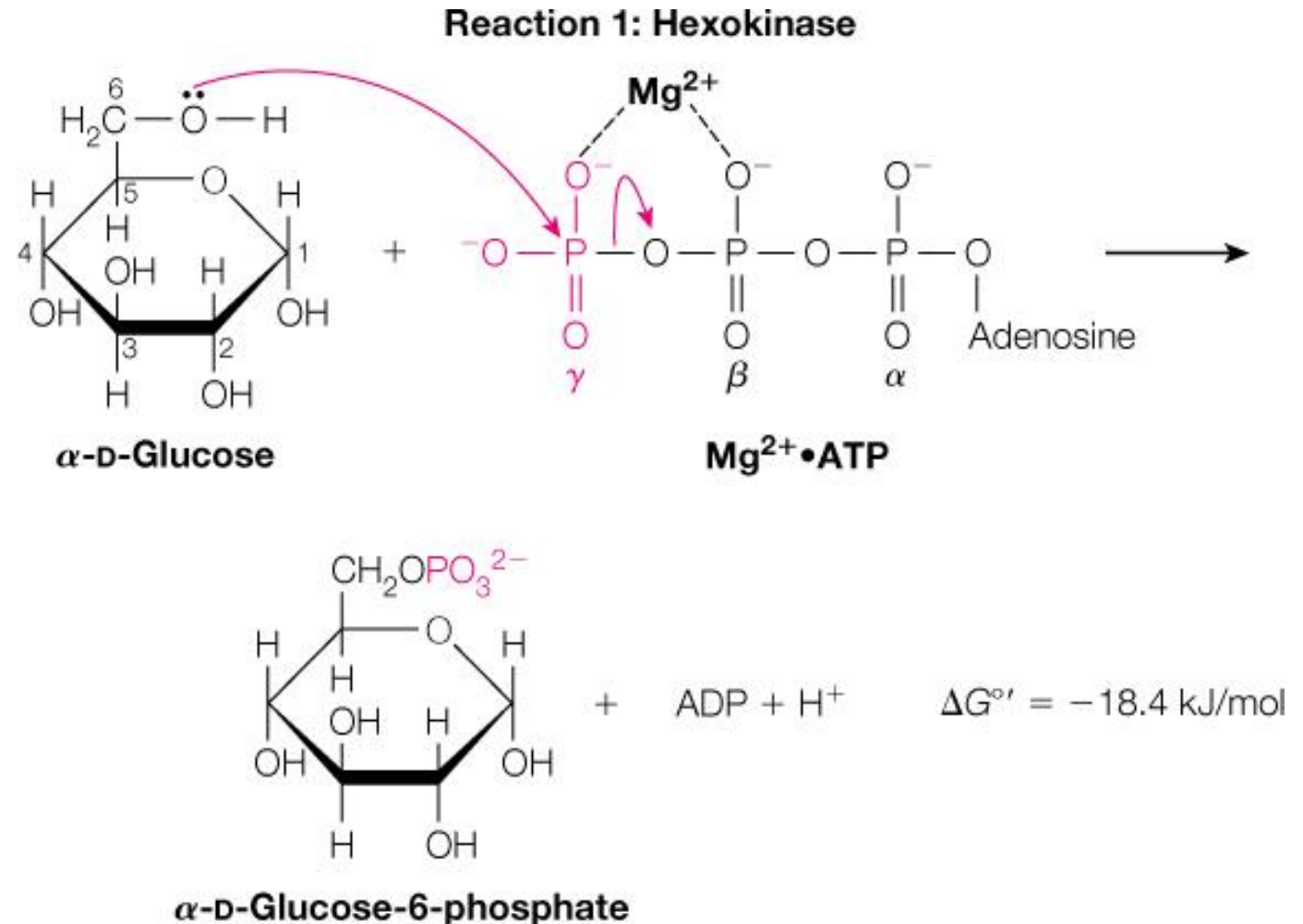


Reaction 1: Hexokinase Uses 1st ATP: activation of glucose by phosphorylation

- Mg^{2+} -controlled reaction
- Mg^{2+} ensures only the third phosphate is available for cleavage

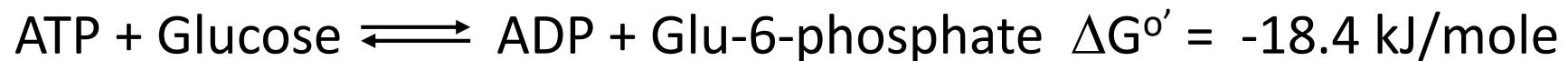
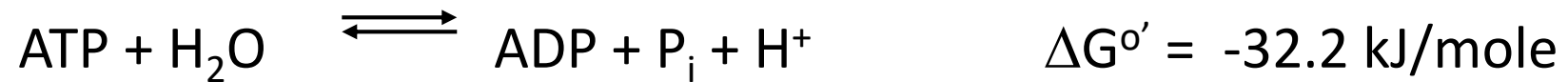
Hexokinase isoforms:

- different substrate specificities (many hexoses, not only glucose) and binding affinities
- low K_M for isoforms I, II, III
- **high K_M for hexokinase IV**, liver enzyme also called **glucokinase**
- hexokinase IV is a “glucostat,” allowing the liver to adjust its rate to varying blood glucose levels



This is energetically unfavorable work: overcoming unfavourable conditions....

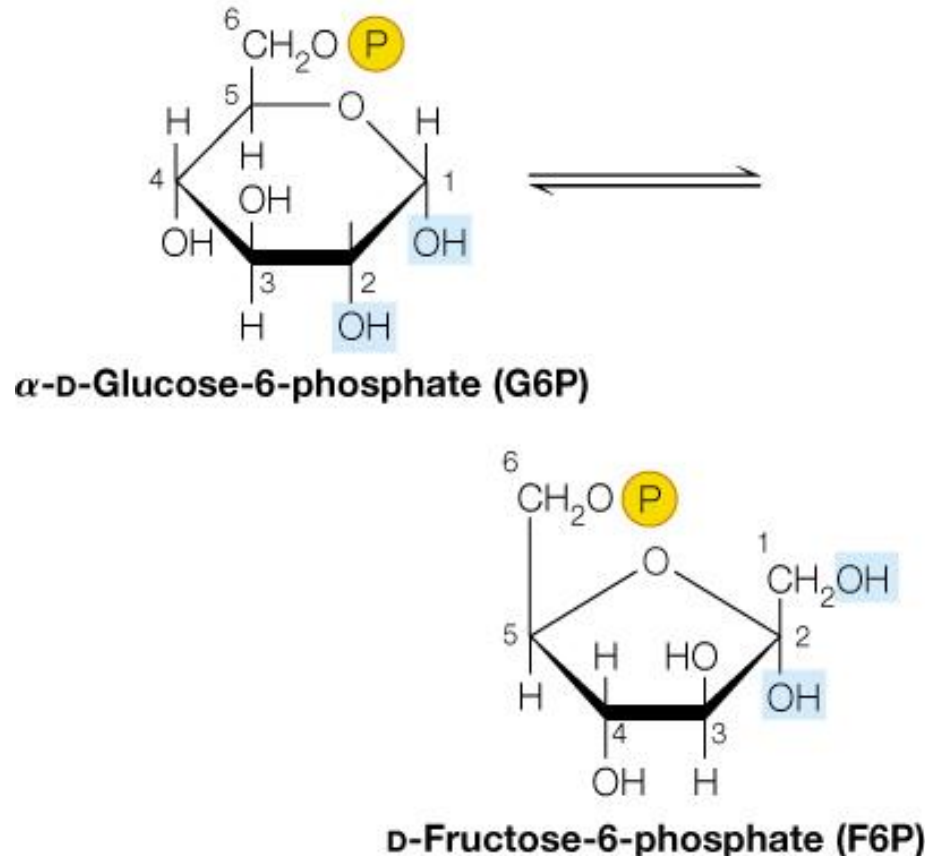
- By coupling an energetically favourable reaction with an unfavourable one:



Reaction 2: Phosphoglucose Isomerase

(from glucose to fructose, a ketone sugar)

Reaction 2: Glucose-6-phosphate isomerase

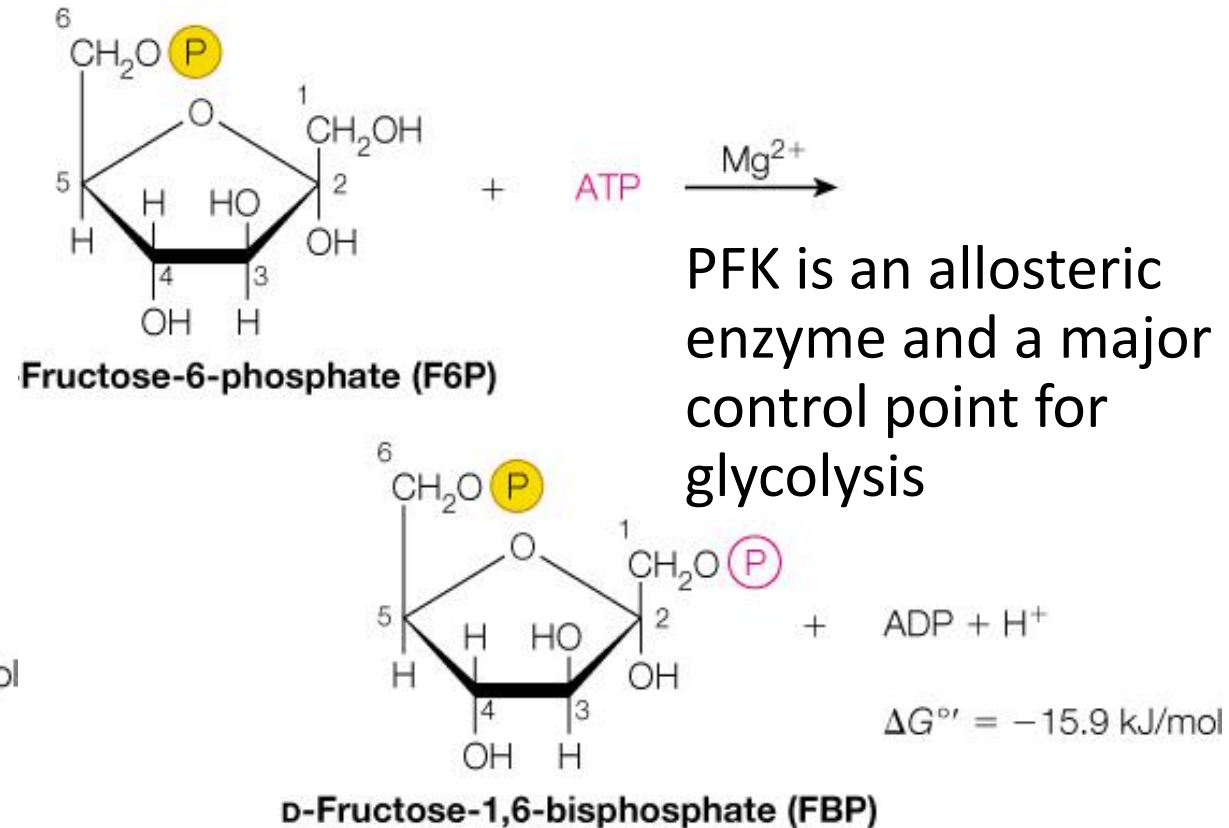


$$\Delta G'^{\circ} = +1.7 \text{ kJ/mol}$$

Reaction 3: Phosphofructokinase adds 2nd ATP to F6P:

second phosphate added to make sugar ready for breakdown

Reaction 3: Phosphofructokinase



$$\Delta G'^{\circ} = -15.9 \text{ kJ/mol}$$

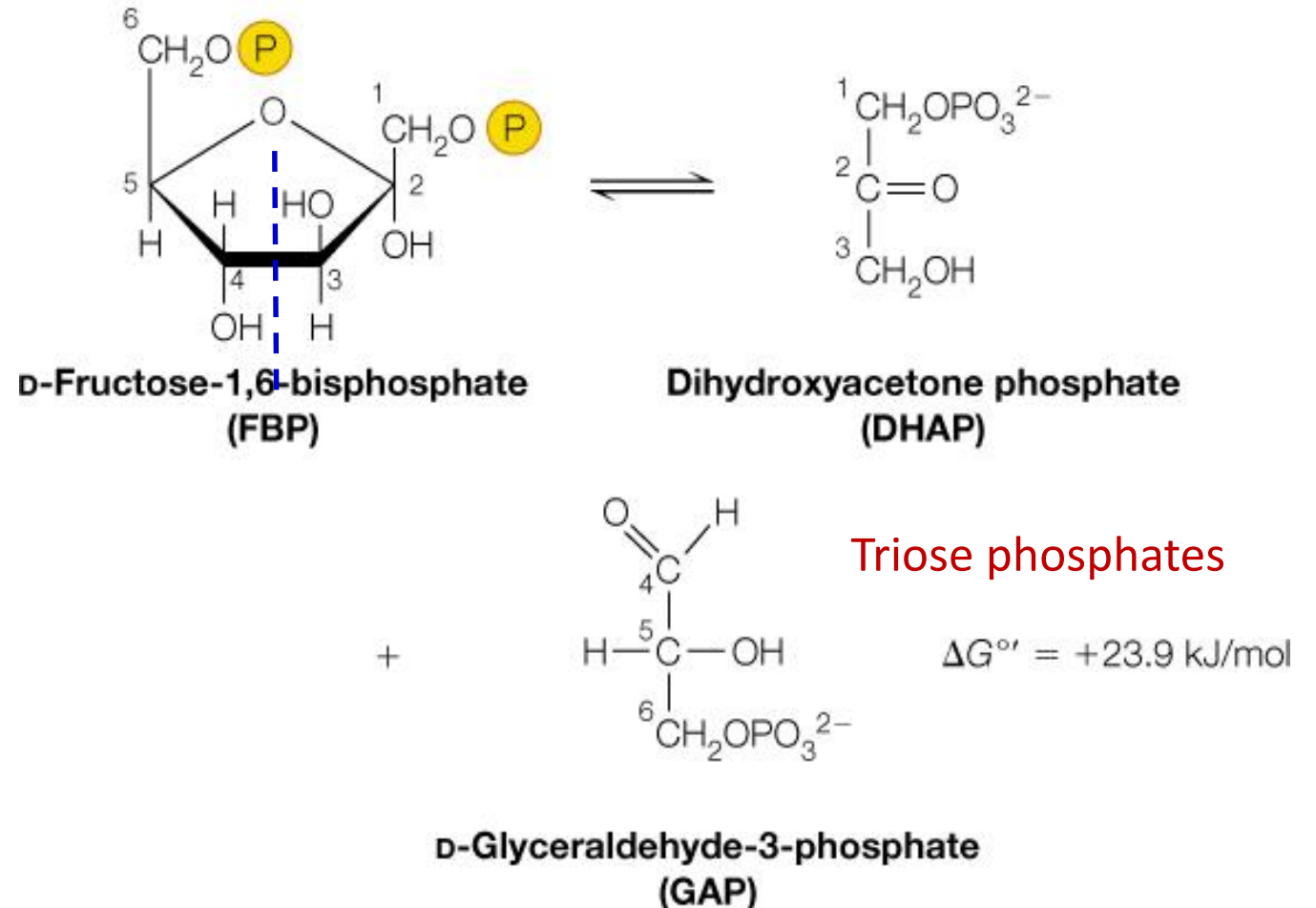
Reaction 4: Aldolase can break FBP:

6-Carbon FBP to 3-Carbon GAP & DHAP

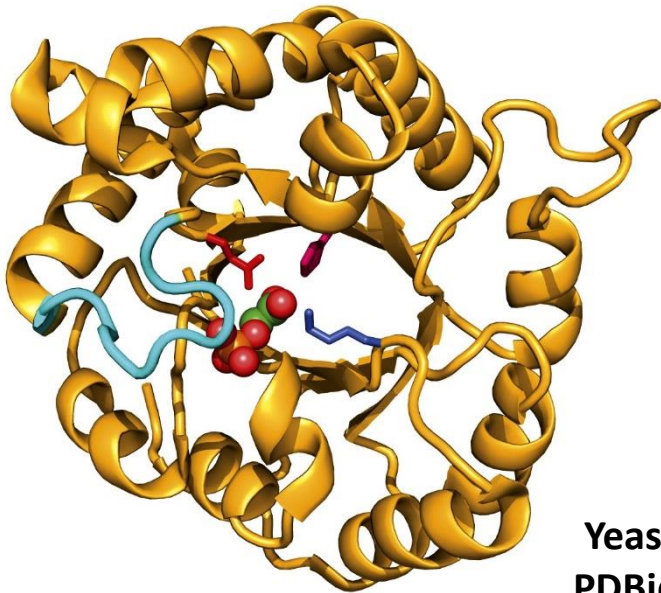
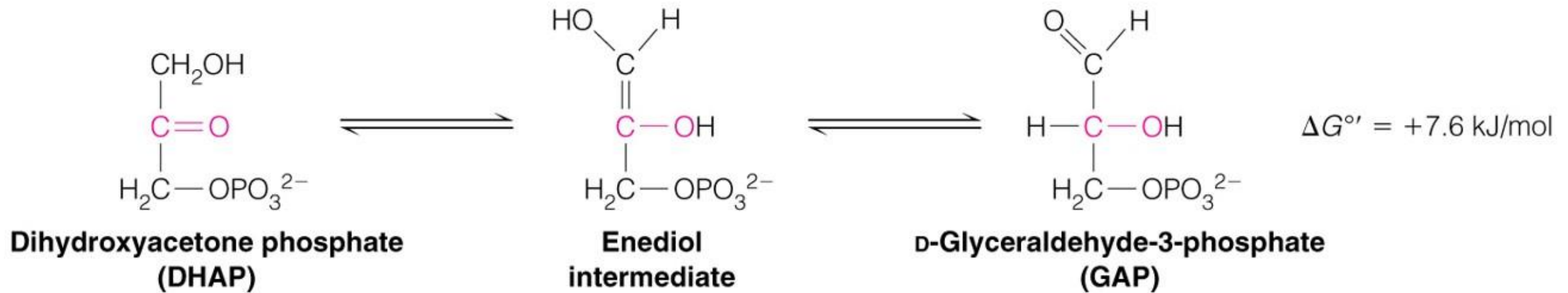
Aldolase cleaves fructose 1,6-bisphosphate (F1,6BP) into two triose phosphates in a reversible reaction.

Although $\Delta G^{\circ'}$ for the reaction is positive, ΔG under intracellular conditions is negative so that the reaction proceeds as written *in vivo*

Reaction 4: Aldolase



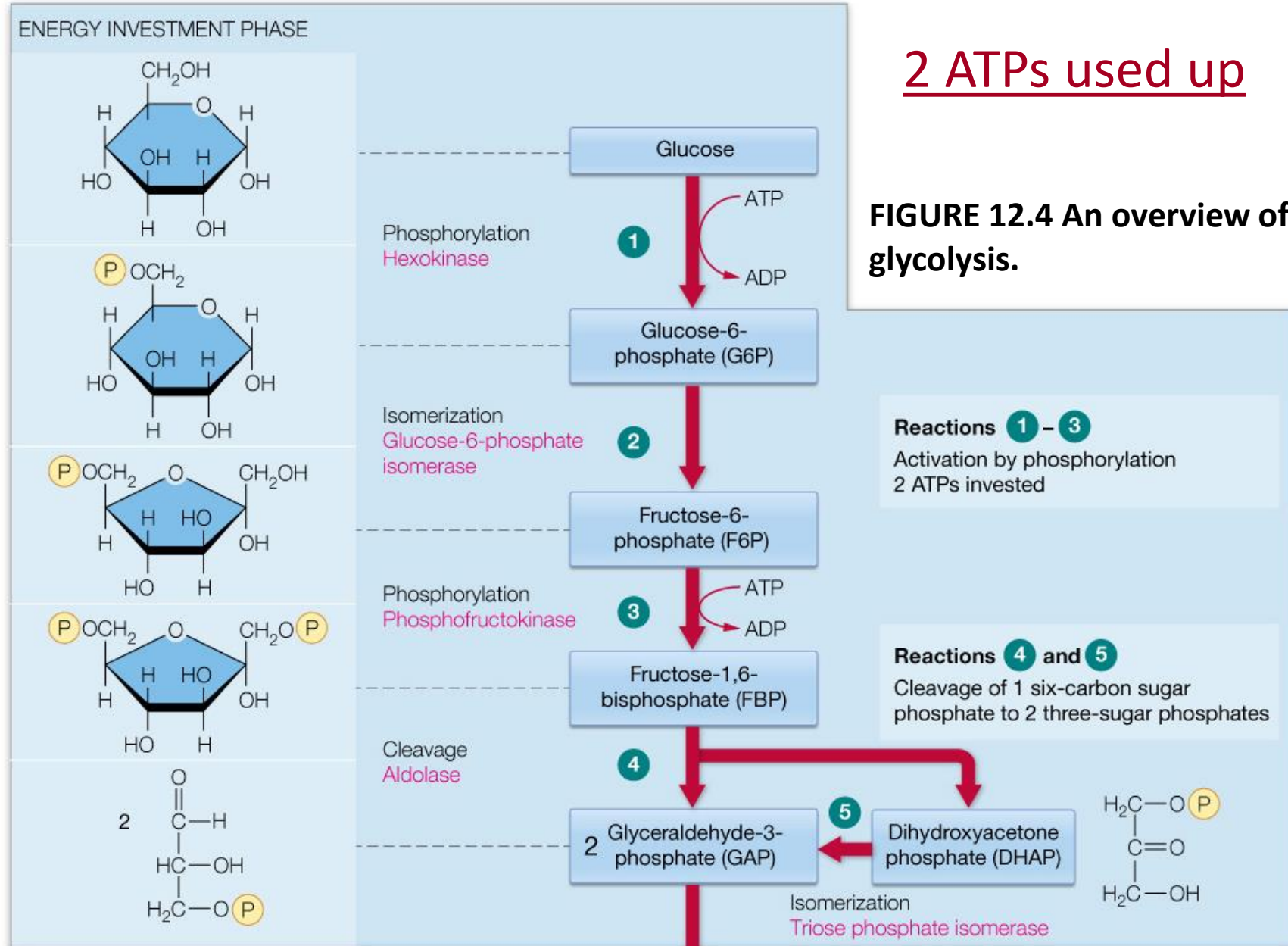
Reaction 5: Triose Phosphate Isomerase (TIM): Making more GAP for Phase II



Yeast TIM
PDBid [2YPI](#)

The TIM barrel is an example of the α/β repeating fold, which has a parallel β -sheet, connected by α -helices. A flexible loop closes over the active site, where the ligand is bound.

Glycolysis Investment Phase Recap



First Stage of Glycolysis - Summary

- Three 6C sugar or hexose phosphates (from polysaccharides)
 - glucose-6-phosphate
 - fructose-6-phosphate
 - Fructose-1,6-bisphosphate
- Two ATPs consumed
- Mg^{2+} cofactor
- Two 3C sugar or triose phosphates generated
 - DHAP and GAP can change into each other

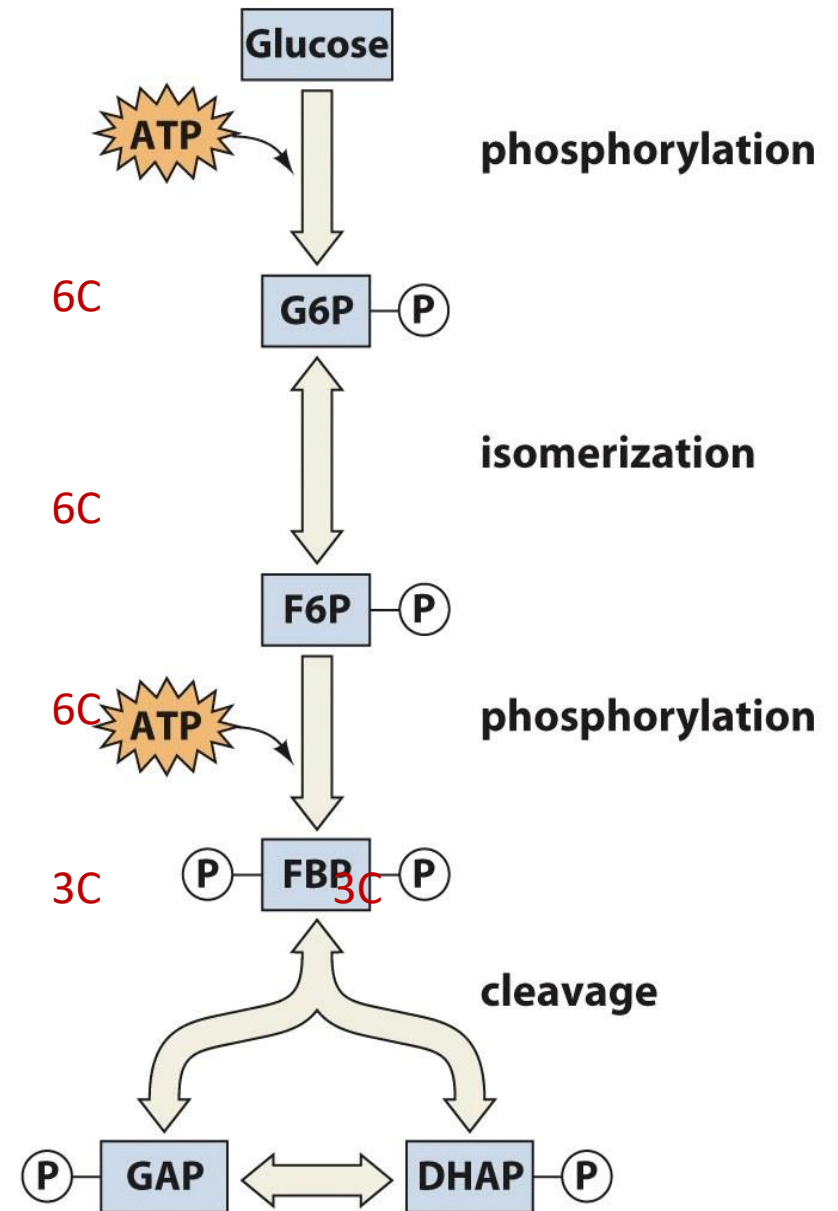


Figure 15-7

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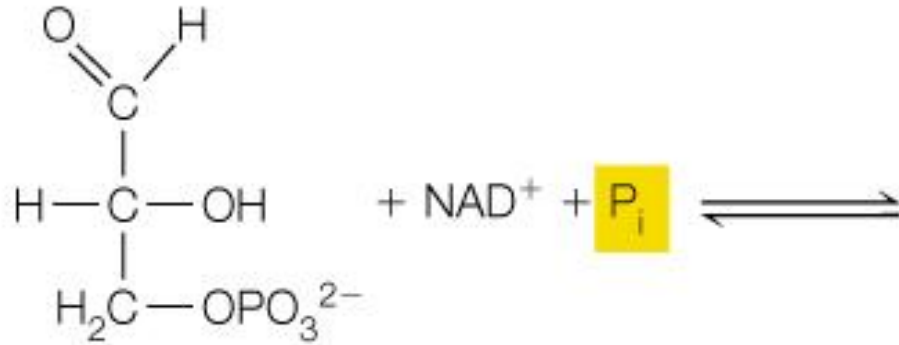


Reaction 6: Glyceraldehyde 3-Phosphate Dehydrogenase (GAPDH)

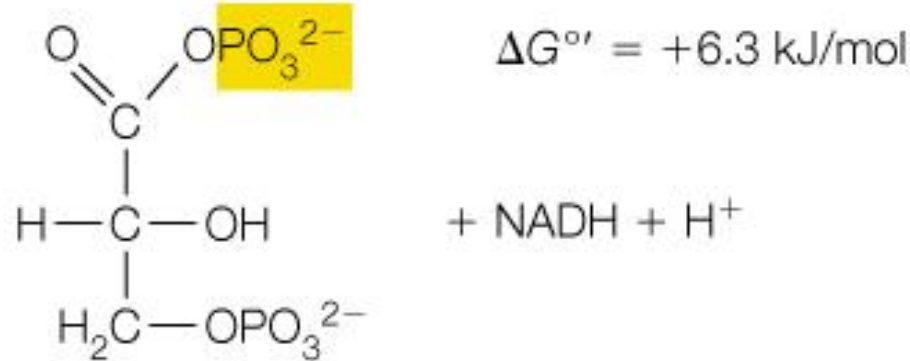
Forms 1st “High-Energy” Intermediate:

*GAP required and **NADH** made*

Reaction 6: Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase (GAPDH)

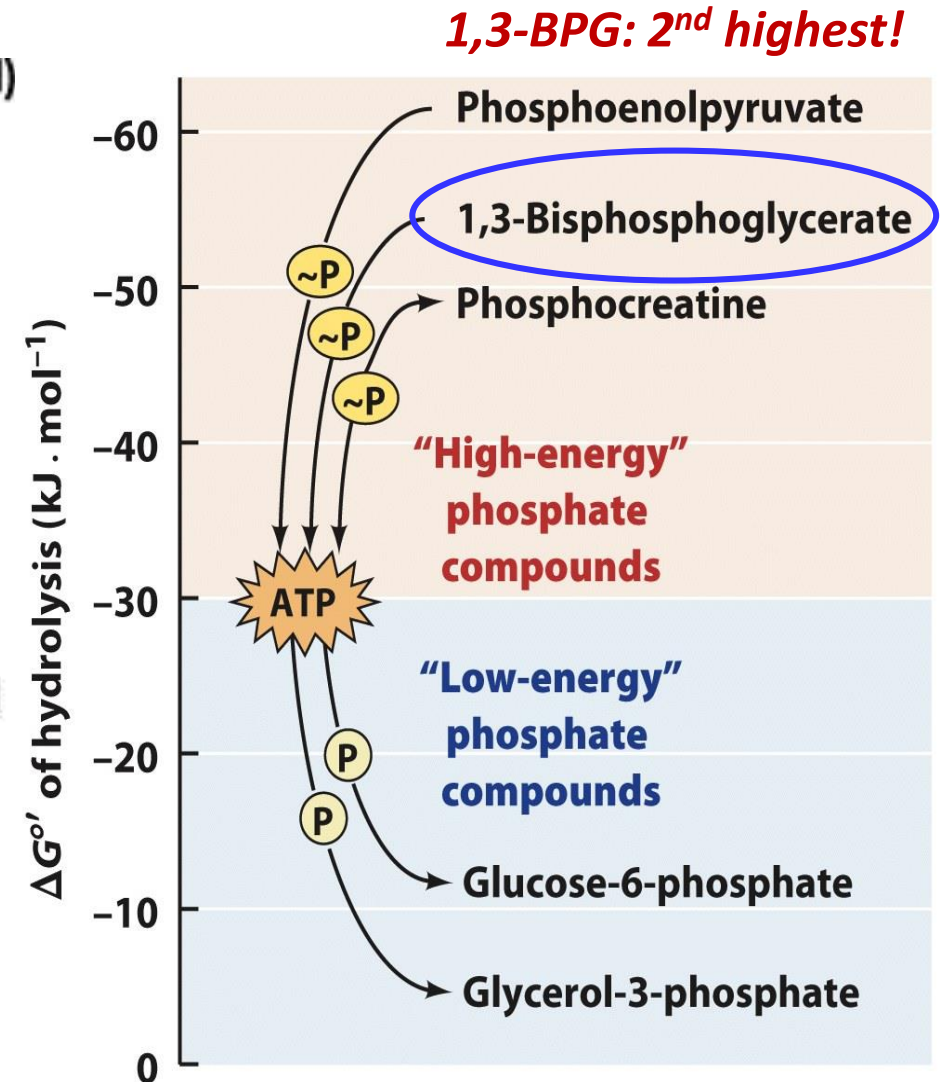


D-Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate (GAP)



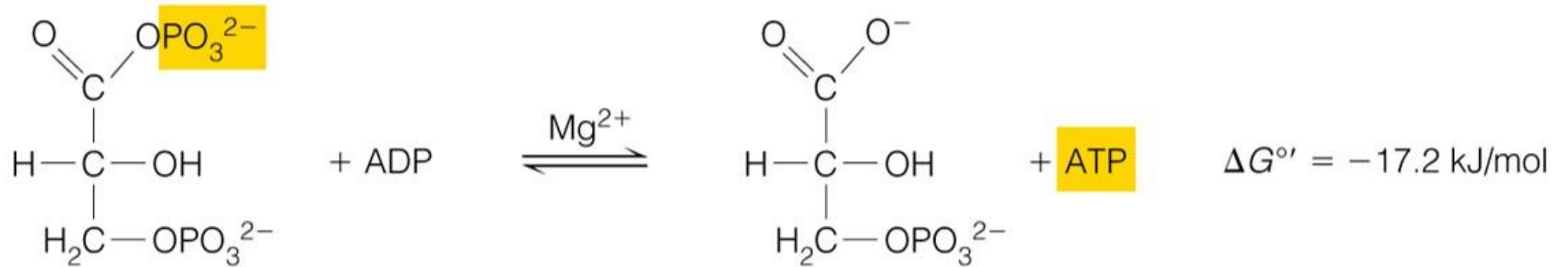
1,3-Bisphosphoglycerate (BPG)

+ NADH + H⁺



Reaction 7 – Phosphoglycerate Kinase (PGK)

*This is a **substrate-level phosphorylation**: drives Reaction 6.*

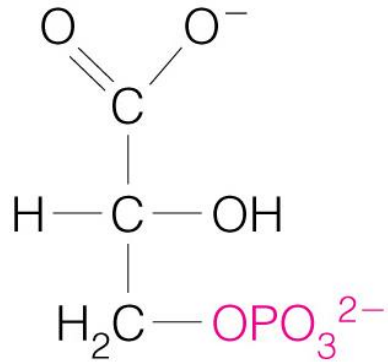


	<u>$\Delta G^{\circ'}$ (kJ/mol)</u>
glyceraldehyde-3-P + P _i + NAD ⁺ → 1,3-bisphosphoglycerate + NADH + H ⁺	+ 6.3
1,3-bisphosphoglycerate + ADP → 3-phosphoglycerate + ATP	-17.2
<hr/>	
glyceraldehyde-3-P + P _i + ADP + NAD ⁺ → 3-phosphoglycerate + ATP + NADH + H ⁺	$\Delta G^{\circ'}_{\text{Sum}} = -10.9$

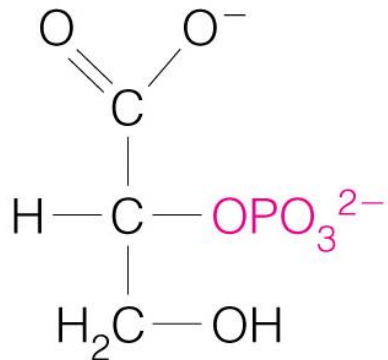
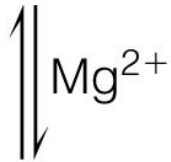
The energy of oxidation of an aldehyde to a carboxylic acid is conserved in the form of ATP through these two reactions



Reaction 8: Phosphoglycerate Mutase (PGM): Interconverts 3PG & 2PG



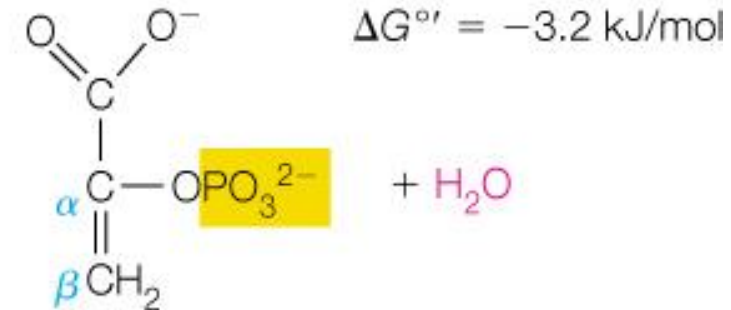
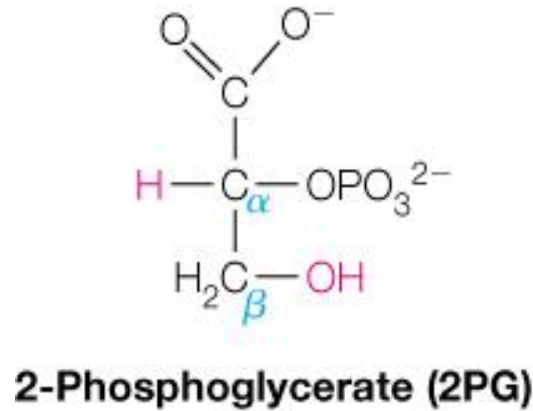
3-Phosphoglycerate (3PG)



2-Phosphoglycerate (2PG)

$$\Delta G^{\circ'} = +4.4 \text{ kJ/mol}$$

Reaction 9: Enolase Forms 2nd “High-Energy” Intermediate: highest!

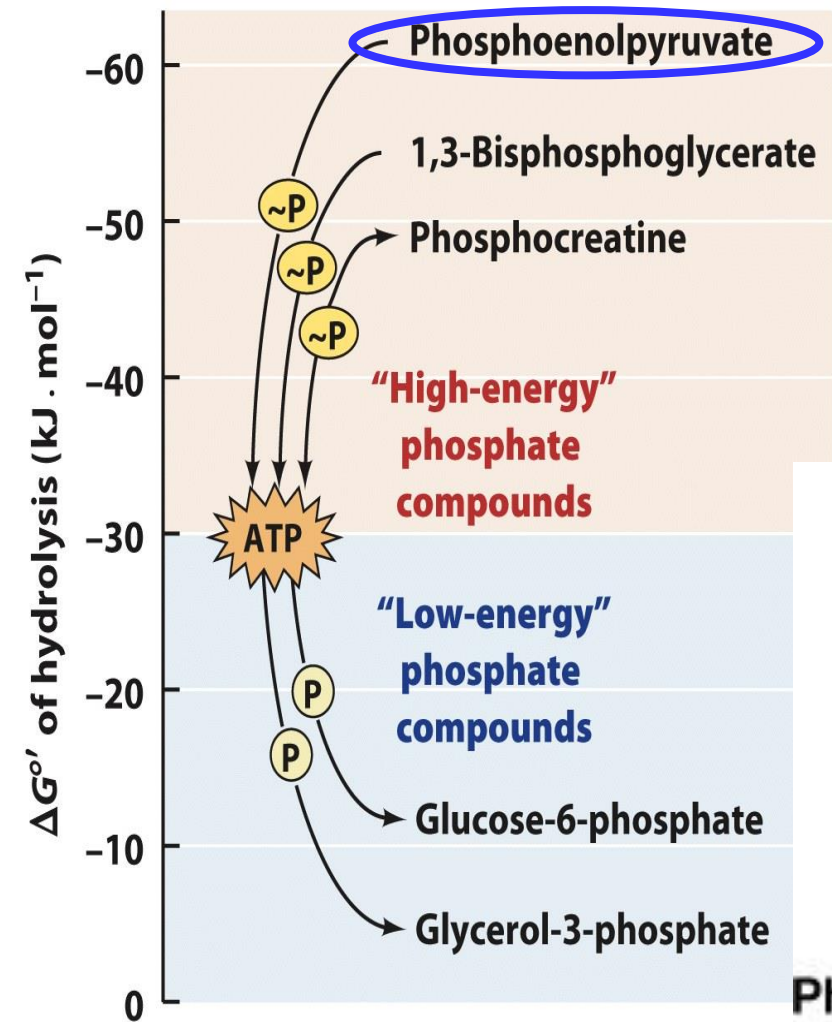


Phosphoenolpyruvate (PEP)

This is an α,β -elimination.

The elimination product is H_2O

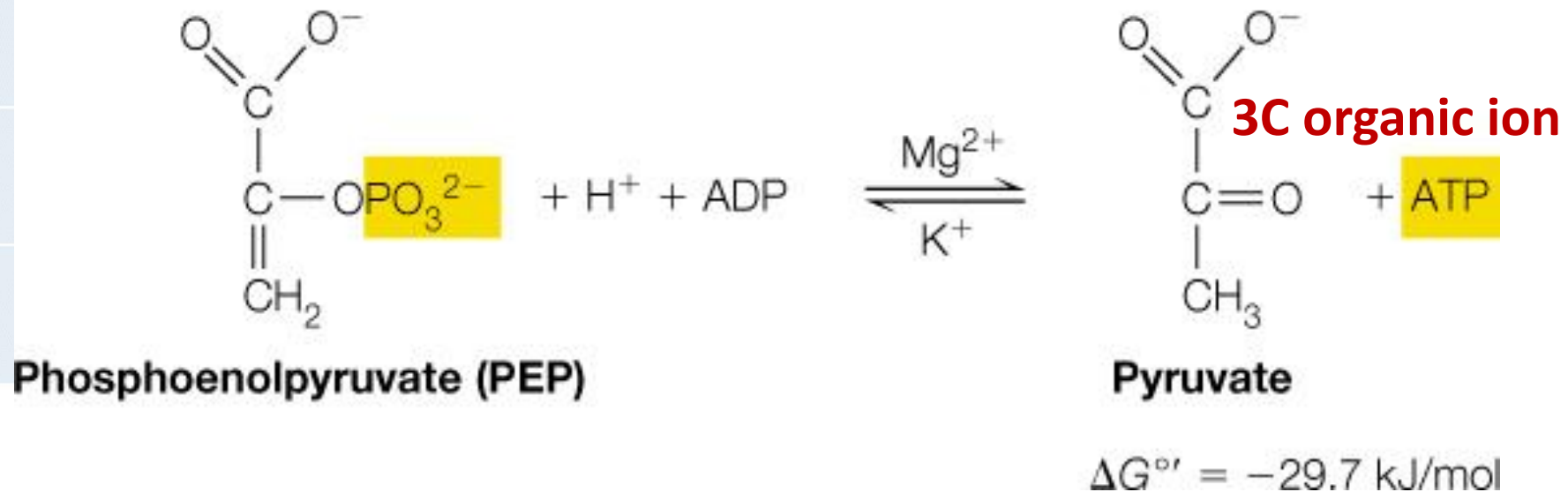




Reaction 10: Pyruvate Kinase (PK) Generates 2nd ATP!

- 2nd glycolytic substrate-level phosphorylation
- Synthesis of ATP is endergonic

Reaction 10: Pyruvate kinase

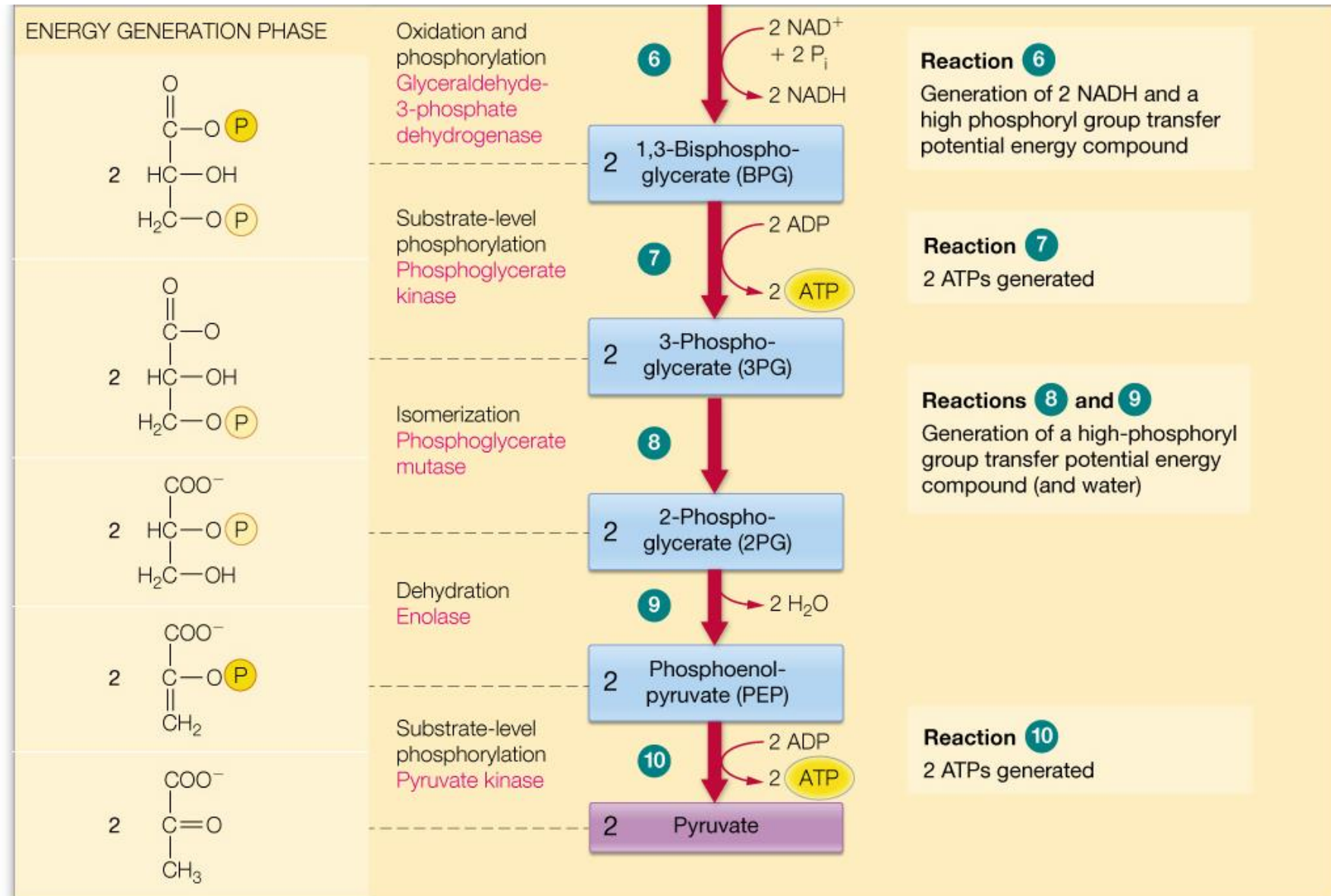


- Powered by the spontaneous tautomerization of the enolpyruvate to the more stable keto form (pyruvate)



The Energy-Generation Phase of Glycolysis

4 ATPs and 2 NADHs produced from 2 GAPs

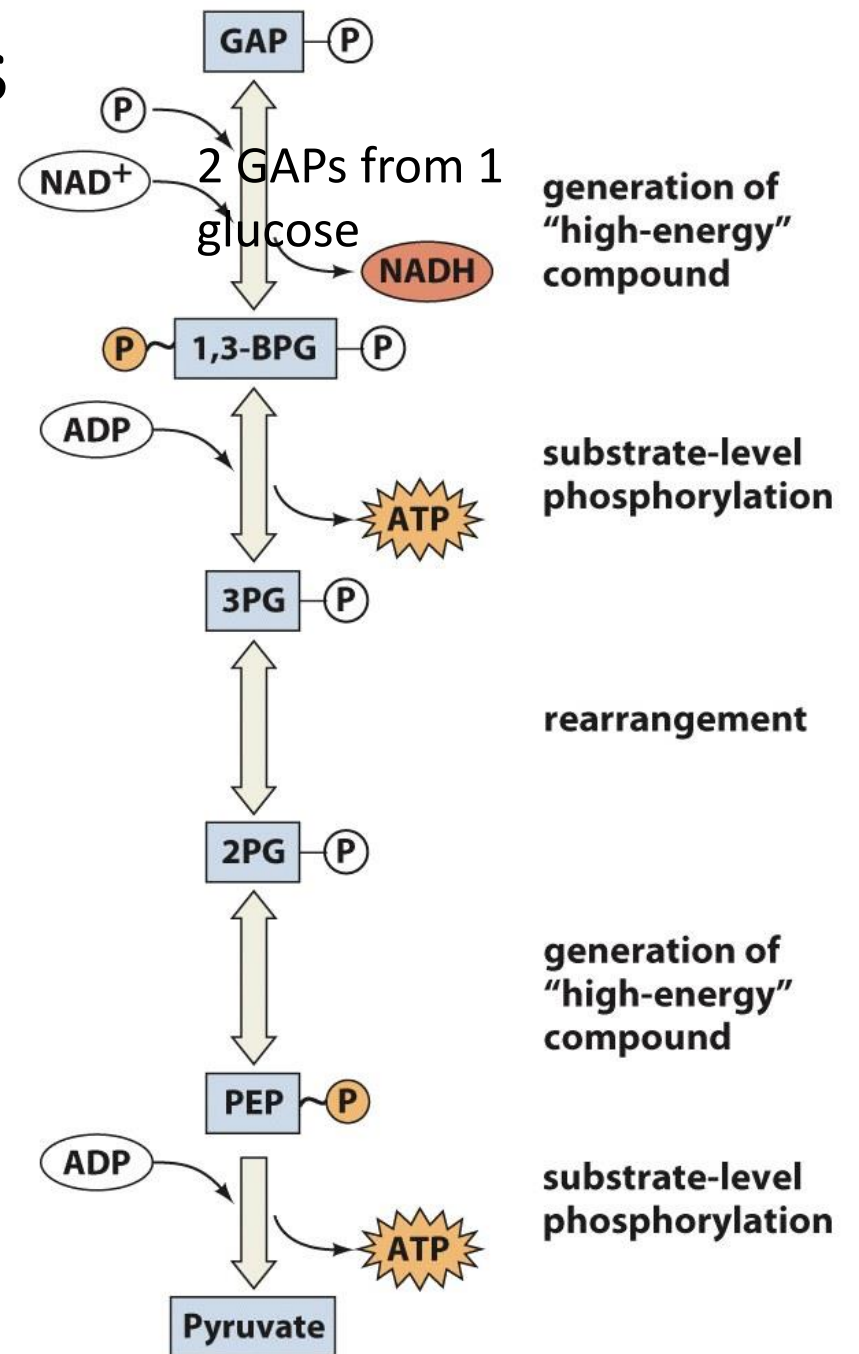


Second phase and Net result of Glycolysis

From one molecule of glucose (=2 GAPs), we get:

- ❖ 2 NADH
- ❖ 2 pyruvates
- ❖ 4 ATPs

- **Less 2 ATPs used up**
- **Overall, 2 ATPs generated**
- NADH produced must be reconverted (by oxidation) to NAD^+ for glycolysis to continue
 - Fermentation or
 - *Electron transport chain (aerobic)*



Glycolysis summary

- **Glycolysis** involves the breakdown of the **6C sugar, glucose** to **two 3C organic molecules, pyruvate** while using the free energy released in the process to synthesize **ATP from ADP and P_i** .
 - ❖ Anaerobic
 - ❖ Occurs in every cell
 - ❖ No CO_2 produced.
- The **10-reaction sequence** of glycolysis is divided into two stages: energy investment and energy generation.
 - Investment phase: **2 ATPs required for pathway activation**
 - Generation phase: **4 ATPs and 2 NADHs produced.**

