# Science of Living System (BS20001)

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Research interests:

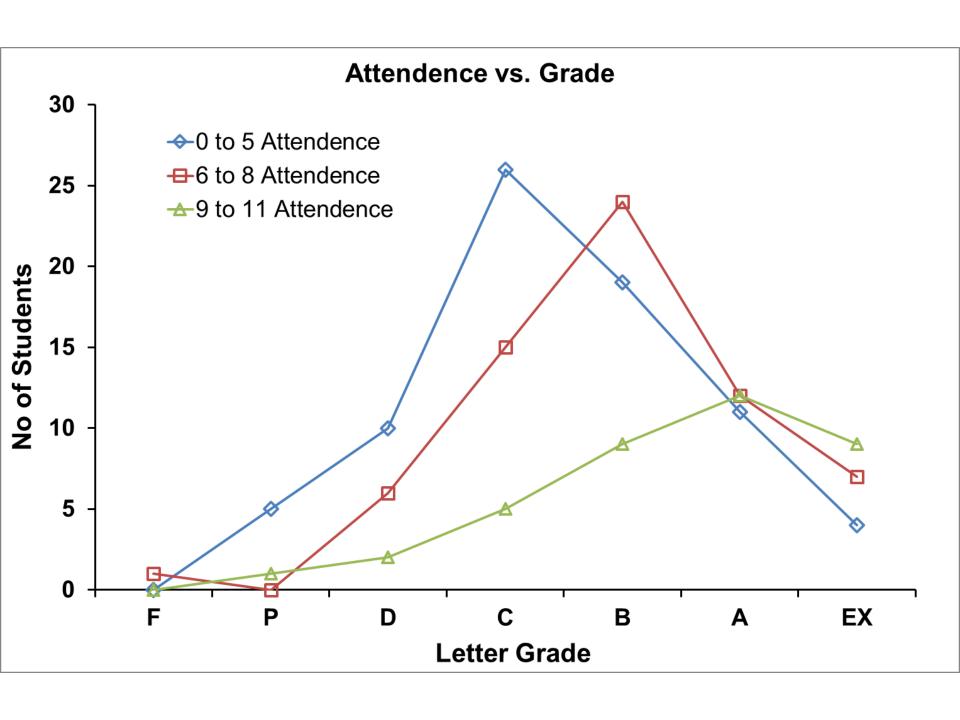
Biophysics

Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Spectroscopy

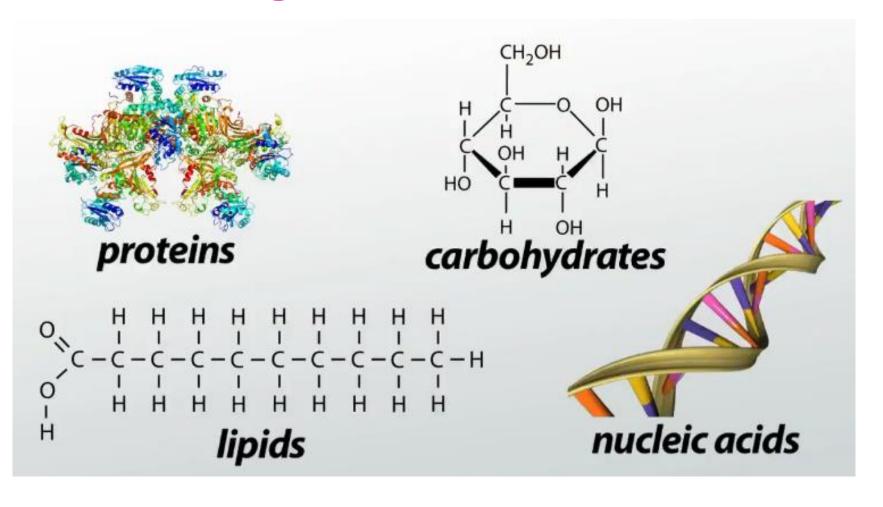
Protein Engineering

Signal Transduction and Gene Expression

Enzymology



# Molecules of Life Biological Macromolecules



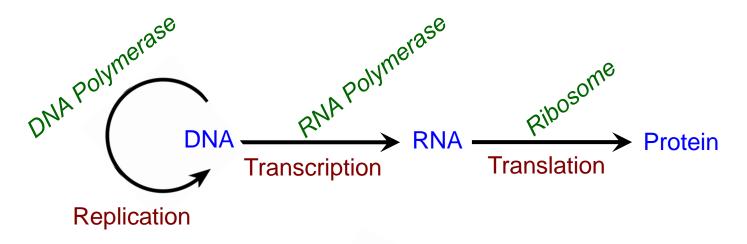


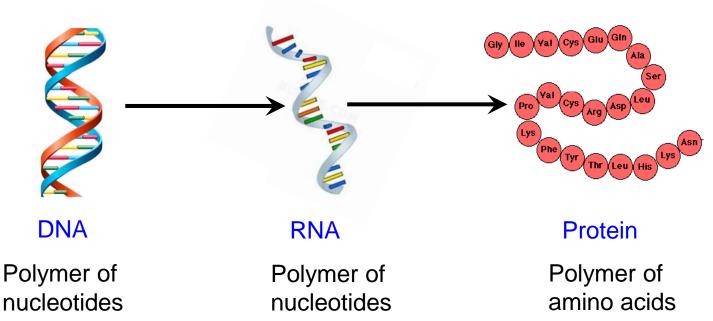
#### **Nucleic Acid**

RNA: Ribonucleic Acid

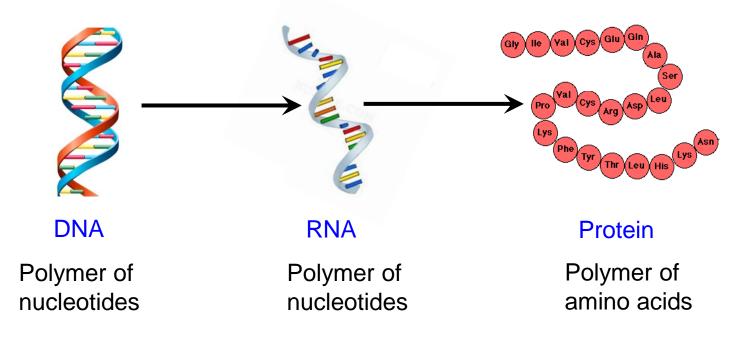
**DNA**: Deoxyribonucleic Acid

# Flow of Genetic Information: The Central Dogma of Molecular Biology





#### DNA is a long thread that stores information



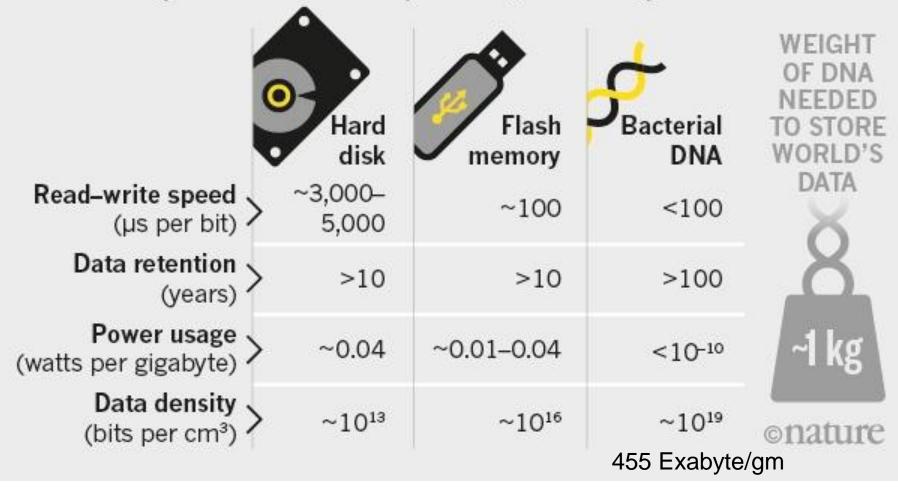


Cassette Tape

# Why study Living System?

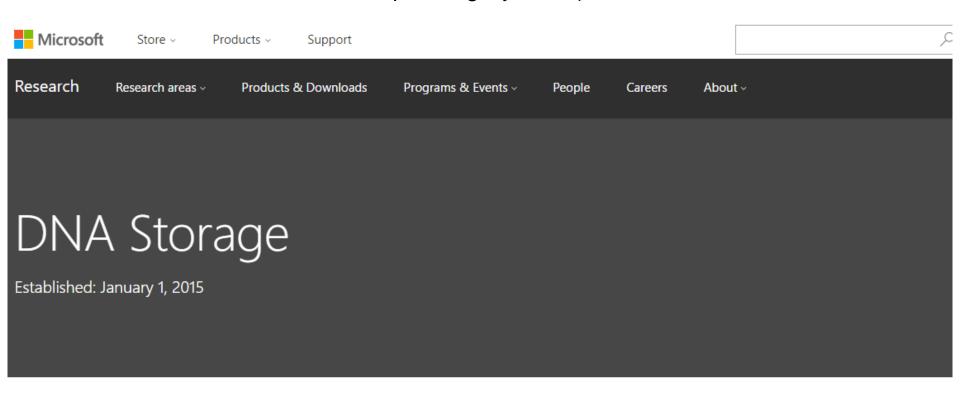
#### STORAGE LIMITS

Estimates based on bacterial genetics suggest that digital DNA could one day rival or exceed today's storage technology.



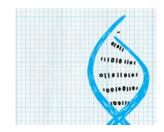
#### Microsoft Corporation – DNA Storage Research

A DNA-Based Archival Storage System Bornholt J, et. al. ASPLOS 2016 (International Conference on Architectural Support for Programming Languages and Operating Systems)



https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7948677

The amount of digital data produced has long been outpacing the amount of storage available. This project enables molecular-level data storage into DNA molecules by leveraging biotechnology advances in synthesizing, manipulating and sequencing DNA to develop archival storage. Microsoft and University of Washington researchers are collaborating to use DNA as a high density, durable and easy-to-manipulate storage medium.





PCMag India | News

#### Microsoft Is Using DNA to Solve Our Impending Data Storage Crisis

BY MATTHEW HUMPHRIES MARCH 22, 2019, 7:02 P.M.

The data stored in a warehouse-sized datacenter today would fit into 'a space roughly the size few board game dice.'

# Microsoft device stores digital info as DNA

It translated "HELLO" into DNA and back again -- and it only took 21 hours.

Newsletter signup

Science

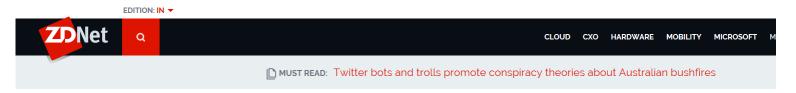
istine Fisher, @cfisherwrites
21.19 in Internet

Comments

Shares

# Microsoft and University of Washington demonstrate automated DNA data storage

BY ALAN BOYLE on March 21, 2019 at 6:00 am



# Microsoft's DNA storage breakthrough could pave way for exabyte drives

Scientists develop a more efficient way to find and selectively retrieve files stored on DNA.

#### DNA Storage is robust and has high storage density



The ETH spin-off Turbobeads has stored the @NetflixDE series #Biohackers in #DNA. In the Making of, the researchers explain how the digital record was translated into a sequence of the four DNA building blocks adenine, guanine, cytosine and thymine.



youtube.com
Biohackers | First Original Series stored in DNA | Netflix
Biohackers is a gripping science thriller about
biotechnologies. We have turned the series itself into a ...

2:43 PM · Aug 17, 2020 · Falcon Social Media Management

#### DNA Storage has high storage density



\$800 million data center in Gallatin, a small town just outside of Nashville, Tennessee. Facebook acquired the 809 acres of land for this data center in 2020. One cricket ground is ~ 4 acres. Storage capacity is several Exabyte of data. 1 gm of DNA can store 455 Exabyte of data.

#### **DNA Storage is robust**



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Otzi



- Otzi the mummy was discovered in 1991 in the Ötztal Alps on the border between Austria and Italy.
- He lived from 3275 BC to 3230 BC i.e. 5000 years ago.
- Otzi's full genome has been sequenced and published on February 2012.
- DNA analysis also showed him at high risk of atherosclerosis and lactose intolerance.
- DNA of over 3,700 Tyrolean male blood donors revealed that Otzi has living relatives in Austria today.
- Oldest DNA sequenced: DNA extracted from the tooth of 1.2 million year old mammoth. (Feb 2021) https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-00436-x
- In 2016, researchers reported protein sequences from 3.8-million-year-old ostrich eggshells from Tanzania.

https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-58191123

#### **Nucleic Acid**

Nucleic acids are polymers



- Monomer---nucleotides
  - Nitrogenous bases
    - Purines
    - Pyrimidines
  - Sugar
    - Ribose
    - Deoxyribose

Phosphates

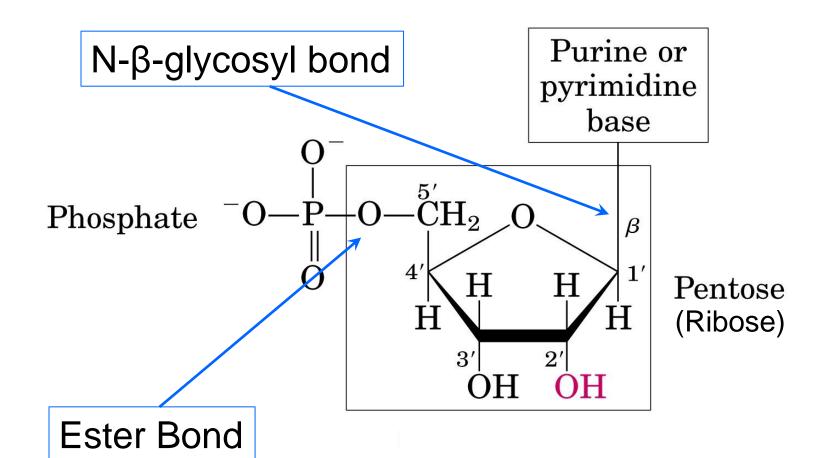
**Nucleosides** 

**Nucleotides** 

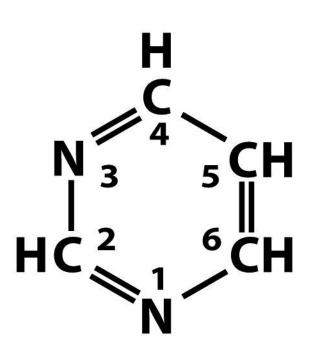
### Nucleic Acid monomer structure

RNA - Ribonucleic Acid (OH)

**DNA** - <u>Deoxyribonucleic Acid</u> (H)



# **Two Types of Nitrogenous Bases**



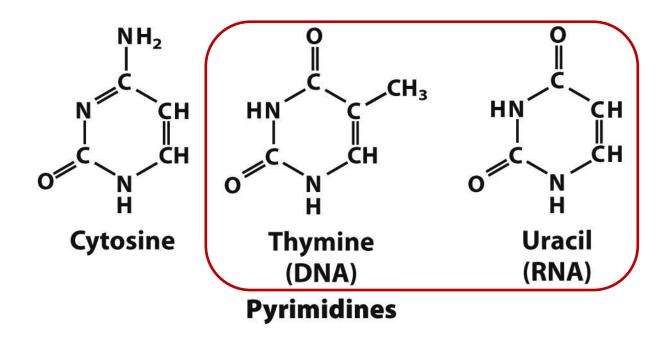
**Pyrimidine** 

**Purine** 

Figure 8-1b
Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry, Fifth Edition
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### **Purine and Pyrimidine Bases**

**Purines** 



#### **Nucleotide = Nucleoside + Phosphate**

(Nucleoside = Sugar + Base)

**Nucleotide:** 

Deoxyadenylate

(deoxyadenosine

5'-monophosphate)

Symbols:

A, dA, dAMP

**Nucleoside:** 

Deoxyadenosine

Deoxyguanylate (deoxyguanosine 5'-monophosphate)

G, dG, dGMP

Deoxyguanosine

Deoxythymidylate (deoxythymidine 5'-monophosphate)

T, dT, dTMP

Deoxythymidine

Deoxycytidylate (deoxycytidine 5'-monophosphate)

C, dC, dCMP

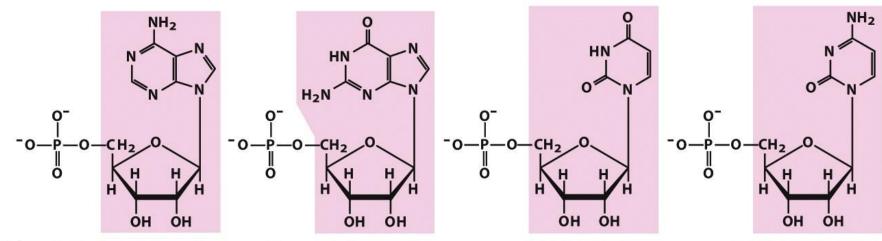
Deoxycytidine

Deoxyribonucleotides

Figure 8-4a
Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry, Fifth Edition
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#### **Nucleotide = Nucleoside + Phosphate**

(Nucleoside = Sugar + Base)



Nucleotide: Adenylate (adenosine

denylate (adenosine Guanylate (guanosine 5'-monophosphate) 5'-monophosphate)

Uridylate (uridine 5'-monophosphate)

Cytidylate (cytidine 5'-monophosphate)

Symbols: Nucleoside: A, AMP Adenosine

Guanosine

G, GMP

U, UMP

Uridine

C, CMP

Cytidine

Ribonucleotides

Figure 8-4b
Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry, Fifth Edition
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# Phosphodiester Linkages in the Covalent Backbone of Nucleic Acid

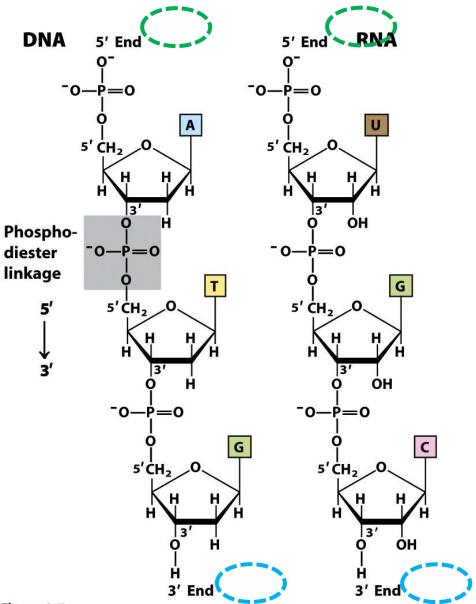
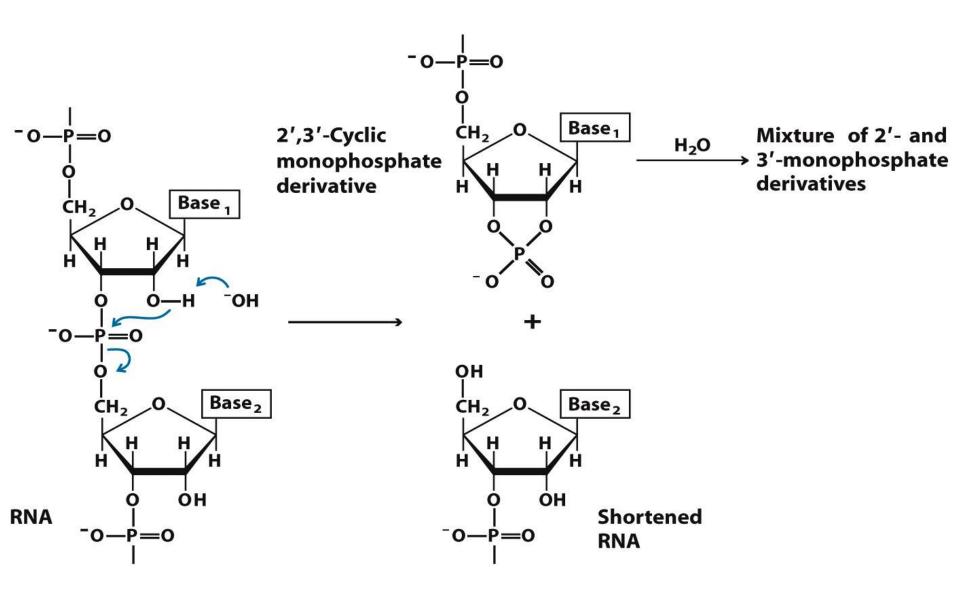


Figure 8-7 Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry, Fifth Edition

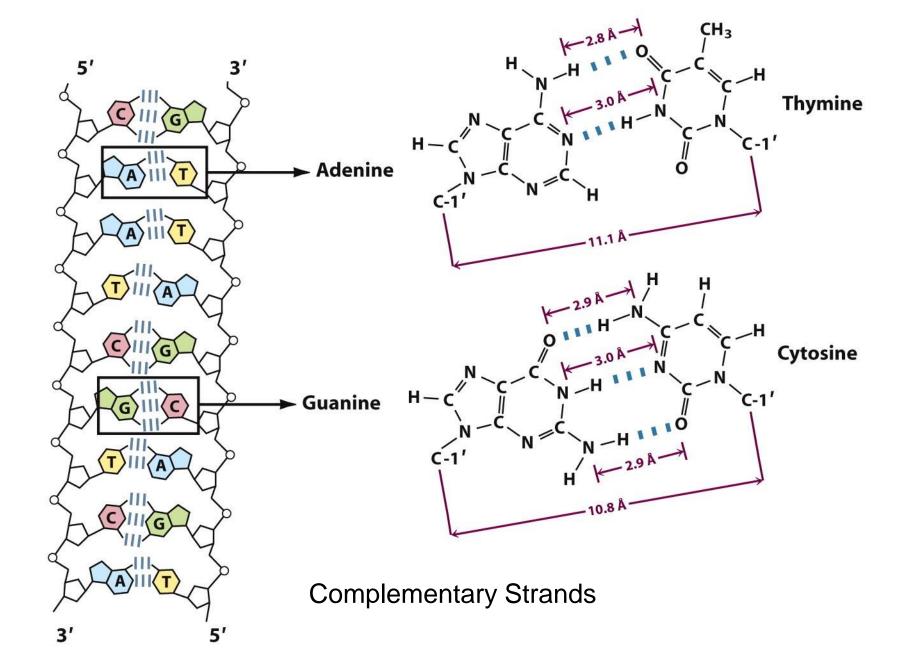
#### How information is stored in DNA or RNA?

5'- <b>ATG</b> -3'	5'- <b>ATC</b> -3'	5'-ATA-3'	5'- <b>ATT</b> -3'
5'- <b>TTG</b> -3'	5'- <b>TTC</b> -3'	5'- <b>TTA</b> -3'	5'- <b>TTT</b> -3'
5'- <b>GTG</b> -3'	5'- <b>GTC</b> -3'	5'-GTA-3'	5'- <b>GTT</b> -3'
5'-CTG-3'	5'-CTC-3'	5'-CTA-3'	5'- <b>CTT</b> -3'
5'- <b>AGG</b> -3'	5'- <b>AGC</b> -3'	5'- <b>AGA</b> -3'	5'- <b>AGT</b> -3'
5'- <b>TGG</b> -3'	5'- <b>TGC</b> -3'	5'- <b>TGA</b> -3'	5'- <b>TGT</b> -3'
5'- <b>GGG</b> -3'	5'- <b>GGC</b> -3'	5'- <b>GGA</b> -3'	5'- <b>GGT</b> -3'
5'- <b>CGG</b> -3'	5'- <b>CGC</b> -3'	5'-CGA-3'	5'- <b>CGT</b> -3'
5'- <b>ACG</b> -3'	5'- <b>ACC</b> -3'	5'- <b>ACA</b> -3'	5'- <b>ACT</b> -3'
5'- <b>TCG</b> -3'	5'- <b>TCC</b> -3'	5'- <b>TCA</b> -3'	5'- <b>TCT</b> -3'
5'- <b>GCG</b> -3'	5'- <b>GCC</b> -3'	5'-GCA-3'	5'- <b>GCT</b> -3'
5'- <b>CCG</b> -3'	5'-ccc-3'	5'-CCA-3'	5'-CCT-3'
5'- <b>AAG</b> -3'	5'- <b>AAC</b> -3'	5'- <b>AAA</b> -3'	5'- <b>AAT</b> -3'
5'- <b>TAG</b> -3'	5'- <b>TAC</b> -3'	5'- <b>TAA</b> -3'	5'- <b>TAT</b> -3'
5'- <b>GAG</b> -3'	5'- <b>GAC</b> -3'	5'- <b>GAA</b> -3'	5'- <b>GAT</b> -3'
5'- <b>CAG</b> -3'	5'-CAC-3'	5'-CAA-3'	5'-CAT-3'

#### RNA is Less Stable than DNA



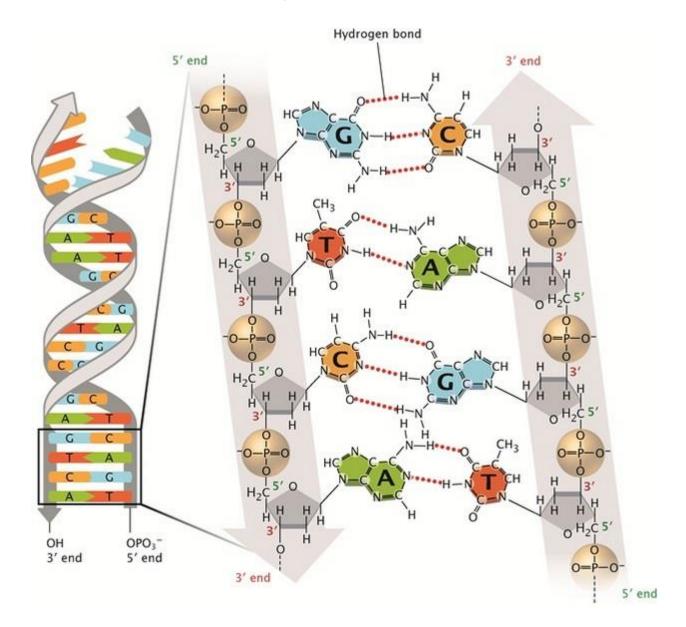
#### DNA: Deoxyribonucleic Acid



### Some key features of DNA

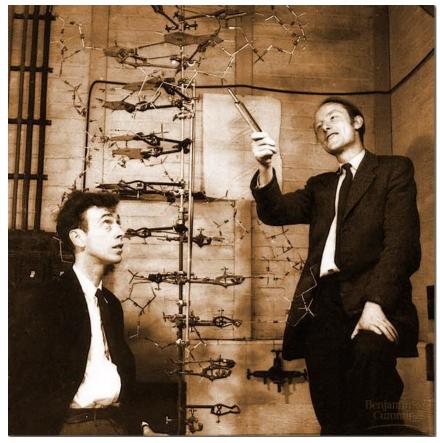
- In DNA, two nucleic acid strands anneal together through extensive inter-strand H-bonding between the bases. This base pairing follows the rule proposed by Watson and Crick.
- Chargaff's rule: A always pairs with T and G pairs with C
- Hence the two strands become complementary to each other
- Directionality of two strands is opposite: one is 5' 3' and another is 3'-5'
- Hence complementary DNA strands are antiparallel

#### DNA: Deoxyribonucleic Acid



#### **Discovery of the DNA Structure**

- Structure was discovered in 1953 by James Watson and Francis Crick
- Awarded Nobel Prize in 1962



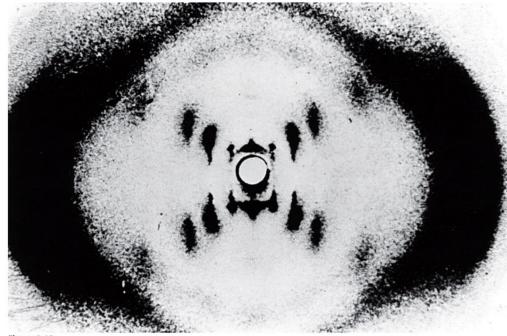
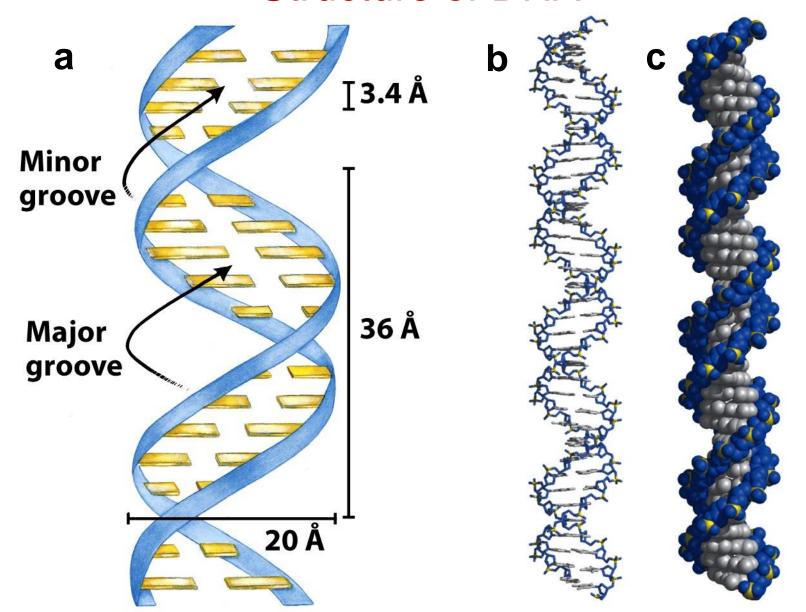


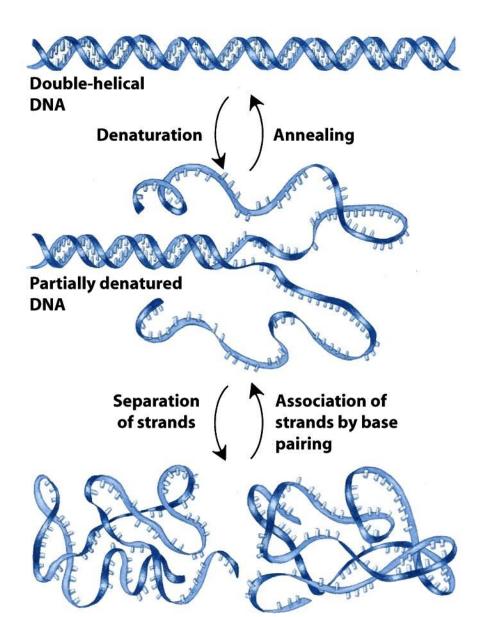
Figure 8-12
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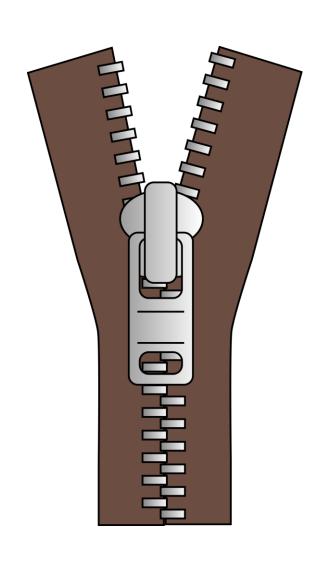
Rosalind Franklin

# Watson-Crick Model for the Structure of DNA

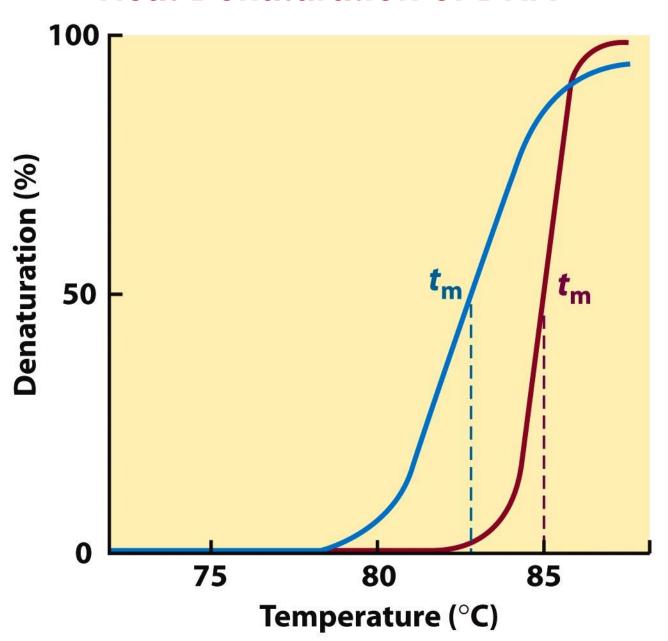


# Reversible Denaturation and Annealing (Renaturation) of DNA

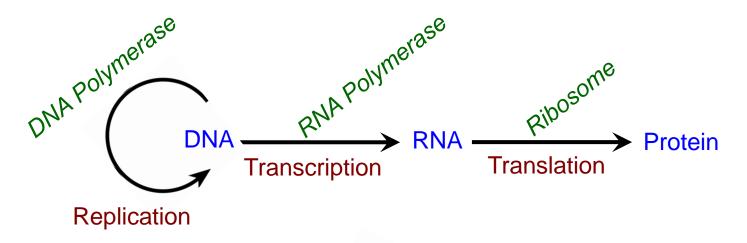


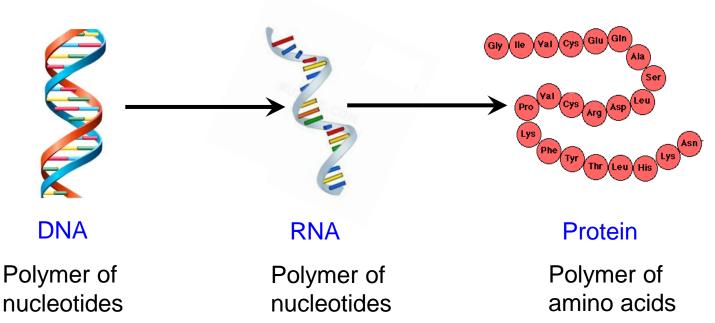


#### **Heat Denaturation of DNA**

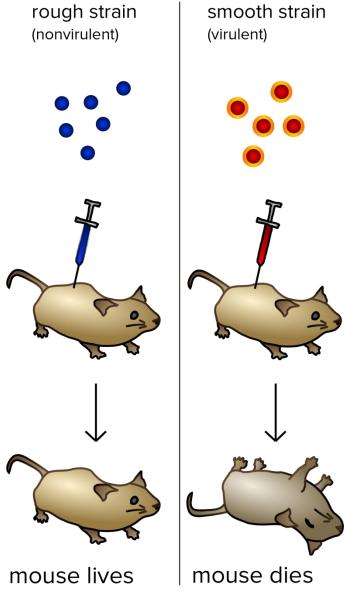


# Flow of Genetic Information: The Central Dogma of Molecular Biology





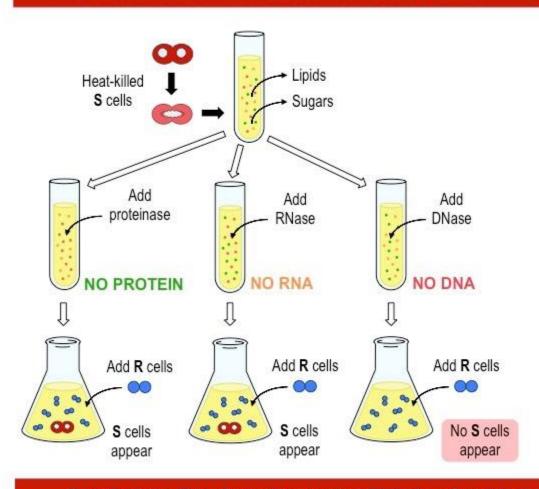
#### **Experiment that Proves DNA is Our Genetic Material**



Frederick Griffith's experiment with bacteria (Streptococcus pneumoniae) (1928).

#### **Experiment that Proves DNA is Our Genetic Material**

#### Hypothesis: The genetic material of the cell is either protein or nucleic acid (DNA or RNA)



Remove lipids and sugars from a solution of heat-killed **S** cells. Proteins, RNA and DNA remain

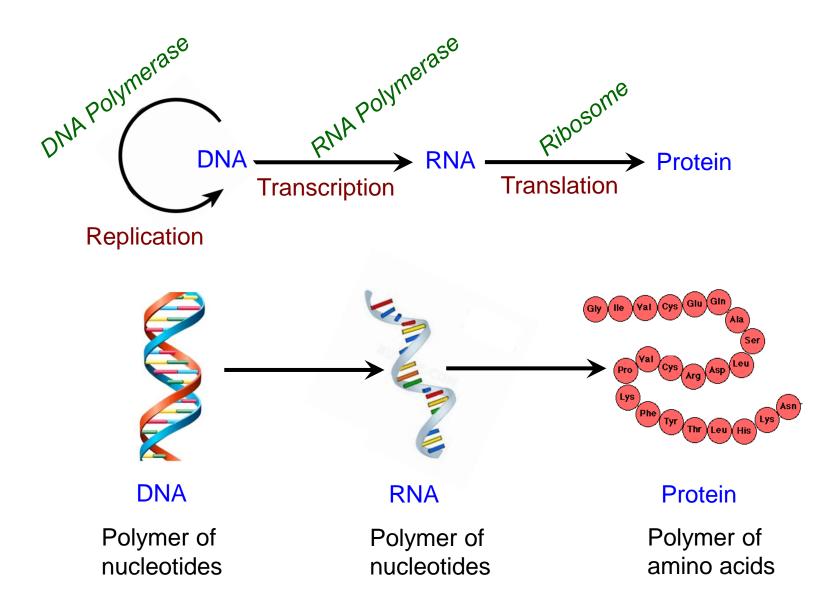
Treat solutions with enzymes to destroy protein, RNA or DNA

Add to culture containing living **R** cells.

Observe for transformation by testing for the presence of virulent **S** cells

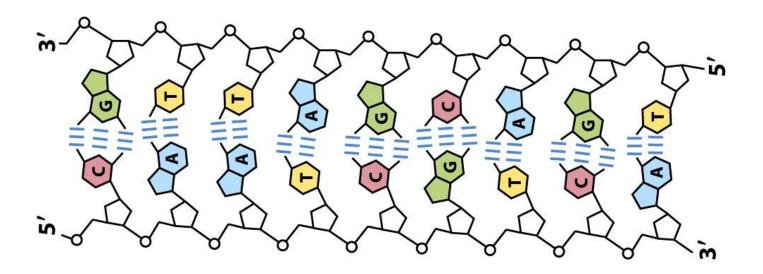
Conclusion: Transformation requires DNA, therefore it is the genetic material of the cell

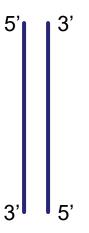
# Flow of Genetic Information: The Central Dogma of Molecular Biology

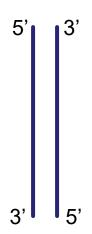


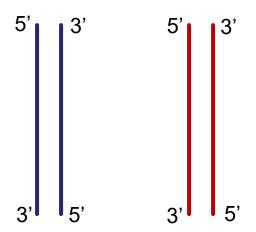
# **DNA Replication: An Overview**

(Copying of the genetic information)

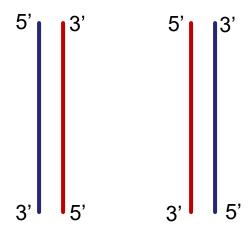






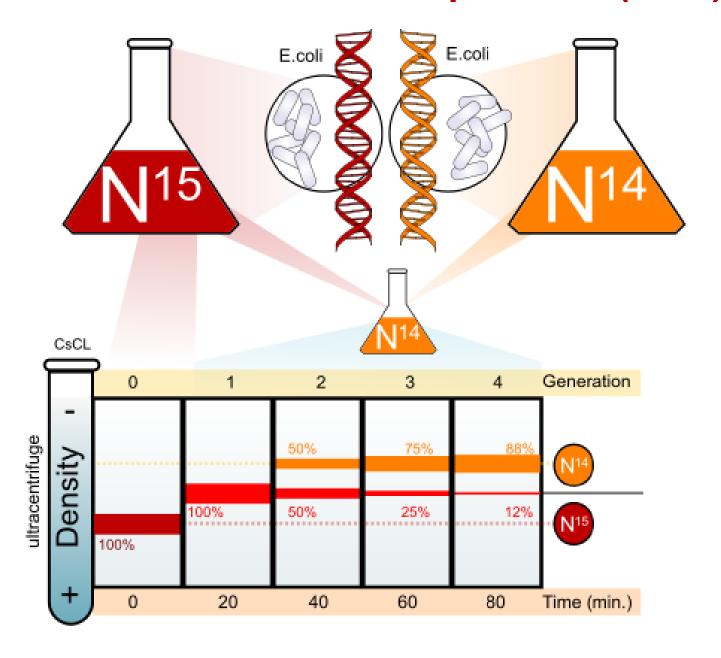


**Conservative Replication** 

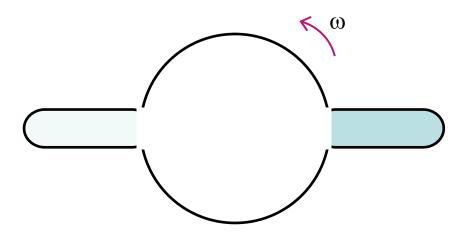


Semi-conservative Replication

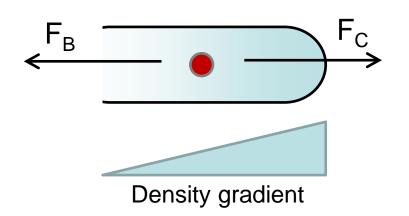
#### The Meselson-Stahl Experiment (1958)



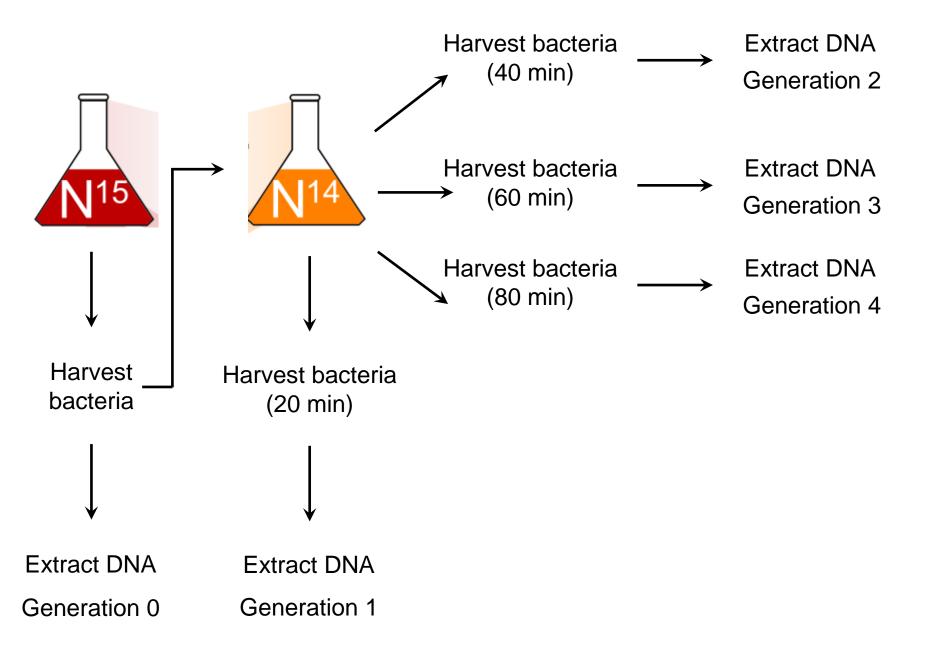
#### Centrifugation with density gradient



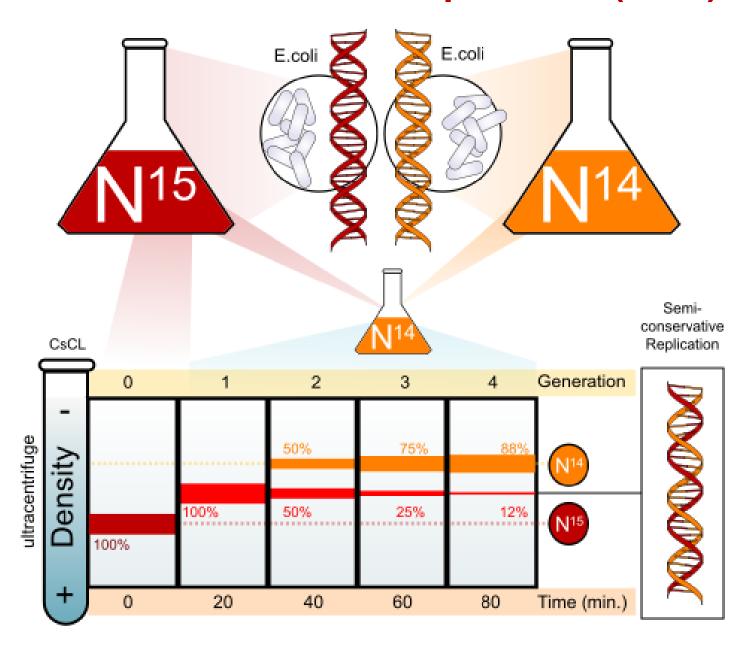
DNA with HIGHER density will move to the RIGHT i.e. BOTTOM of the tube.



DNA with LOWER density will stay at the LEFT i.e. TOP of the tube.

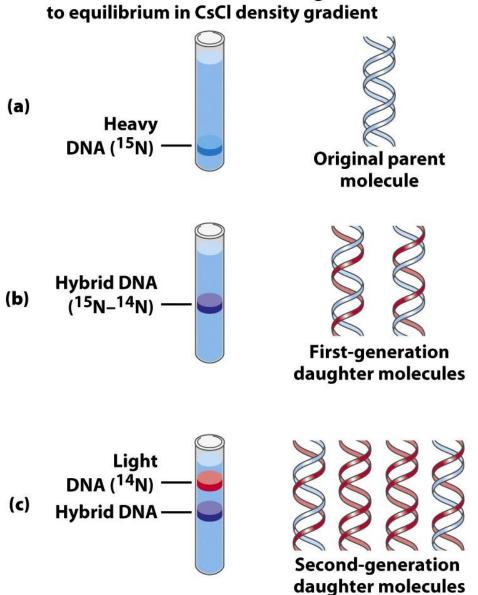


#### The Meselson-Stahl Experiment (1958)



#### The Meselson-Stahl Experiment Supports **Semiconservative Replication**

DNA extracted and centrifuged



- Meselson and Stahl grew a culture of *E.coli* for many generations in a medium that contained <sup>15</sup>N as the sole nitrogen source. (<sup>15</sup>NH4Cl).
- After many generations, all the *E.coli* cells had <sup>15</sup>N incorporated into the purine and pyrimidine bases of their DNA.
- Meselson and Stahl took a sample of these bacteria and switched the rest of the bacteria to a medium that contained only <sup>14</sup>N (washed them before transferring to remove the medium containing <sup>15</sup>N).
- They purified the DNA sample collected from the bacteria just before transfer to the <sup>14</sup>N containing medium.
- Meselson and Stahl collected some of the bacteria after each division and extracted DNA from the bacterial cells (Collected samples of bacteria over the next few cellular generations).
- Under the conditions they used, *E.coli* replicates its DNA every 20 minutes. They took samples at an interval of 20 minutes.

After extracting DNA from bacteria they checked for the density of DNA

#### Semiconservative

