

# Biochemical principles

- 1. Compare and contrast the major non-covalent forces: H-bonds, hydrophobic effect, ionic bonds, Van der Waals interactions**
  - a. H-bonds: O, N and OH, NH. 20kJ/mol Gibb's free energy
  - b. Hydrophobic effect: occurs between large, nonpolar molecules
  - c. Ionic: between charged molecules
  - d. Van der Waals: between large molecules
- 2. Define enthalpy and entropy and explain how the changes in both contribute to Gibbs energy**
  - a. Gibb's energy is enthalpy minus entropy.
  - b. In the hydrophobic effect, the separated state has more enthalpy, since there are more hydrogen bonds and they have a cage-like structure. The joined state has more entropy, since the water molecules are able to move more freely.
- 3. Compare and contrast delta G knot and delta G, and how they relate to Keq**
  - a.  $\Delta G = \Delta G_{\text{knot}} + RT \ln[B]/[A]$ . That is, Delta G tells you how far you are from Delta G which is equilibrium
  - b.  $\Delta G = 0$  means you are at equilibrium,  $\Delta G_{\text{knot}} = 0$  means 50/50 at equilibrium
- 4. Describe the properties of water that determine the conformation of a biological molecule and facilitate interactions between biological molecules**
  - a. Hydrogen bonds because of polarity. Hydrogen interactions are also directional.
- 5. Define pH**
  - a. Measures proton concentration
- 6. Estimate the proportion of protonated/deprotonated molecules at various pHs**
  - a. At pKa, 1:1. For each pH down 10x more protonated, and for each pH up, 10x more deprotonated. At a lower pH, excess H<sup>+</sup> in solution, so will get protonated. At a higher pH, donate proton to solution.
- 7. Estimate the ratio of acid/base forms of a molecule when given sufficient information, and explain how this ratio is related to pKa and pH**
  - a. How many magnitudes away from pKa? For each magnitude, 10-fold difference.
  - b. If below pKa, more protonated because more willing to take protons from environment. If above pKa, more deprotonated since more willing to share protons.
- 8. Draw and interpret panels of populations of molecules in reference to the equilibrium**
  - a.  $A \leftrightarrow B$ ,  $K_{\text{eq}} = [B]/[A]$
  - b. Favor products if  $K_{\text{eq}} > 1$ , favor reactants if  $K_{\text{eq}} < 1$
  - c. 10 fold difference in concentration corresponds with 5kJ/mol Gibb's
  - d. If more products, Gibb's is negative. If more reactants, Gibb's is positive.
- 9. Predict the behavior of polar, apolar, and amphoteric molecules in aqueous environments**
  - a. Amphoteric molecules, nonpolar will have hydrophobic effect

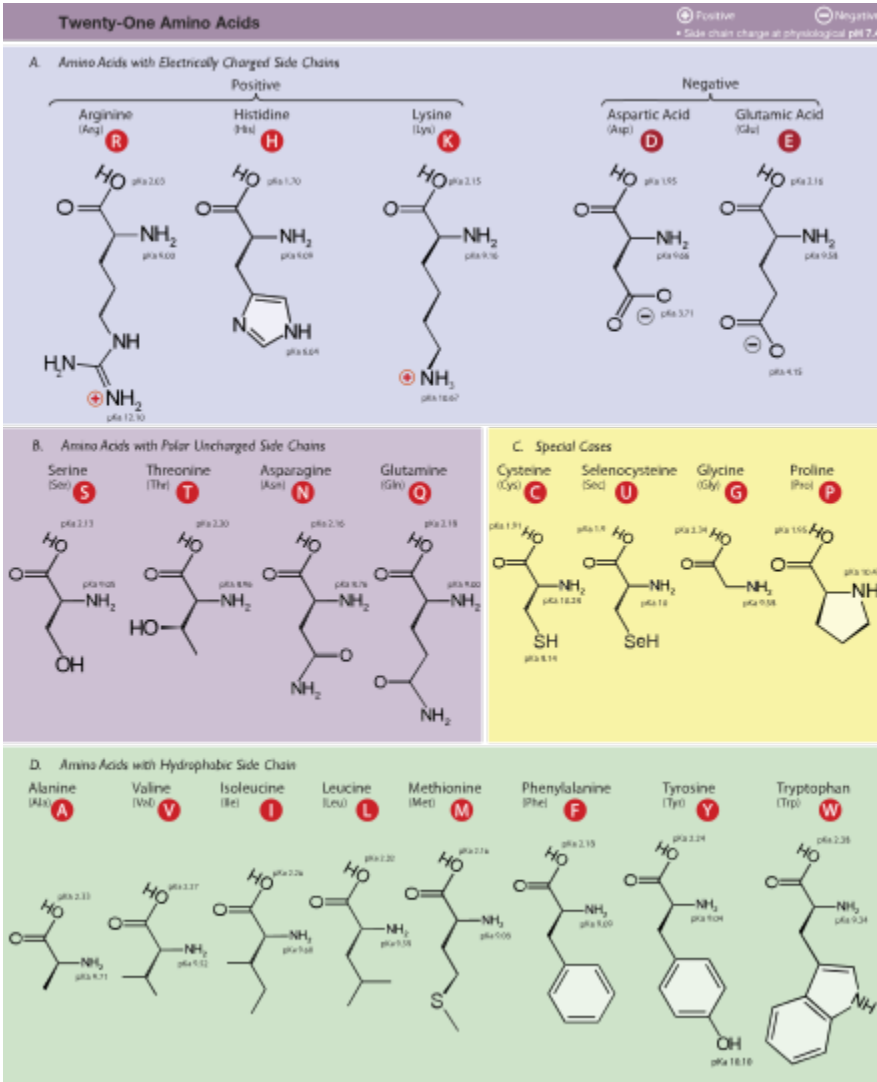
## Protein Structure

- 1. Given the full name, three letter code, one letter code, or structure of an amino acid, list or draw the other three**

**Table 2.2** Abbreviations for amino acids

Amino acid	Three-letter abbreviation	One-letter abbreviation	Amino acid	Three-letter abbreviation	One-letter abbreviation
Alanine	Ala	A	Methionine	Met	M
Arginine	Arg	R	Phenylalanine	Phe	F
Asparagine	Asn	N	Proline	Pro	P
Aspartic acid	Asp	D	Serine	Ser	S
Cysteine	Cys	C	Threonine	Thr	T
Glutamine	Gln	Q	Tryptophan	Trp	W
Glutamic acid	Glu	E	Tyrosine	Tyr	Y
Glycine	Gly	G	Valine	Val	V
Histidine	His	H	Asparagine or aspartic acid	Asx	B
Isoleucine	Ile	I	Glutamine or glutamic acid	Glx	Z
Leucine	Leu	L			
Lysine	Lys	K			

a.



b.

- Identify amino acids (structure, pKa) and apply knowledge of their characteristics (hydrophobicity, size, shape)

**Table 2.1** Typical  $pK_a$  values of ionizable groups in proteins

Group	Acid $\rightleftharpoons$ Base	Typical $pK_a^*$
Terminal $\alpha$ -carboxyl group		3.1
Aspartic acid Glutamic acid		4.1
Histidine		6.0
Terminal $\alpha$ -amino group		8.0
Cysteine		8.3
Tyrosine		10.9
Lysine		10.8
Arginine		12.5

\* $pK_a$  values depend on temperature, ionic strength, and the microenvironment of the ionizable group.

Know these

Our Values

2.0

4.0

6.0

9.0

8.5

11.0

11.0

12.5

a.

### 3. Describe the properties of a peptide bond

- Formation removes a water
- Double bond resonates, preventing rotation
- 9B identify

4. .

### 5. Draw the molecular structure of a peptide. Identify the correct ionization states and calculate the charge at a given pH

- At  $pK_a$ ,  $\pm 0.5$  depending on whether the molecule goes from (neutral to negative) or (positive to neutral)

### 6. Compare and contrast protein purification techniques discussed in class, and propose, interpret or predict results of protein purification techniques

- Isoelectric focusing: negatively charged molecules need many protons to be neutral, so will go to low pH. Positively charged molecules few protons to be neutral, so high pH.
- Ion chromatography: cation has negative beads that attract positive, anion has positive beads that attract negative. Choose a pH between pIs.
- SDS-Page: small molecules move faster, smaller elute first. Denatures protein, gives it uniform negative charge.
- Size exclusion/gel filtration: small molecules get stuck in matrix/beads, bigger elute first. Does not prevent molecules sticking together.

### 7. Explain how identical protein molecules reliably adopt the same structure

- Anfinsen experiment
- Hydrophobic effect, determined by primary structure, helps determine native state
- Allowing cysteine to form bridges first ends up with scrambled state

### 8. Identify covalent and non-covalent interactions between amino acids that affect the conformation of a protein

- Primary structure - amino acid chain
- Secondary structure - alpha helices and beta sheets
  - Beta: R groups alternate face up and down. NPNPNP

- ii. Alpha: R groups face away from center of helix NPPNPPN
  - iii. Turns - small molecules in turns
  - iv. Loops
  - v. In beta and alpha, R groups hydrogen bond together, but beta more likely to aggregate because they are non-specific, they do not a particular primary structure to aggregate
- c. Tertiary structure - protein folding
  - i. Cysteines can form disulfide bonds
  - ii. Hydrophobic can get pushed to the inside
- d. Quaternary structure - protein subunit interactions
- 9. Predict hydrogen bonding interactions that occur in alpha helices and beta sheets**
  - a. Alpha: Hydrogen bonds between the backbone (between  $i$  and  $i+4$ ) bind the helix together, with CO's pointing towards the C terminus and NH's pointing towards the N terminus.
  - b. Beta: Hydrogen bonds between the backbone bind multiple sheets together. Antiparallel is more stable than parallel.
- 10. Represent protein folding as an equilibrium and describe the relative contributions of different forces on the overall equilibrium constant**
  - a.
- 11. List factors that favor protein folding or unfolding (enthalpy, entropy, temperature, pH). Predict the effect of changing those factors on protein folding, interactions, and binding**
  - a.
- 12. Describe possible outcomes of protein misfolding**
  - a. No active binding site, lose its function
- 13. Describe the mechanism of how specific molecules (detergents, reducing agents, or proteins) affect folding**
  - a. Detergents: cover hydrophobic regions
  - b. Reducing agents: denatures, e.g. mercaptoethanol and disulfide

## Protein function

- 1. Explain how changes in protein sequence might affect protein structure and function**
  - a. Proline can break secondary structure
  - b. Nonpolar versus polar can affect hydrophobic effect
- 2. Define binding affinity and  $K_d$** 
  - a. Binding affinity: strength of two molecules binding together. High binding affinity means that a molecule will stick to it, e.g. R state binds O<sub>2</sub> well
  - b.  $K_d$ : dissociation constant. high dissociation means that molecules do not stick easily, e.g. T state's high  $K_d$  means that O<sub>2</sub> will not stick easily to it.
- 3. Draw and interpret a binding plot and label the  $K_d$** 
  - a.  $K_d$  is 50% fractional saturation
  - b. Shift to the right means higher dissociation and lower binding affinity, while shift to the left means lower dissociation and higher binding affinity
- 4. Apply principles of equilibrium to protein function**
  - a.  $K_d = [P][L]/[PL]$ . This can be useful, since you can move [L] to the other side, and this tells you the relative concentration of P and PL.
- 5. Compare and contrast myoglobin and hemoglobin**
  - a. Myoglobin is a monomer with no allosterics, hemoglobin a tetramer with cooperative binding
  - b. Myoglobin curve is rectangular hyperbola, while hemoglobin is more S shape.
- 6. Explain the role of allostery, cooperativity, and conformational change in hemoglobin function**
- 7. List ways proteins can be regulated and describe specific examples**

8. Predict the impact of a ligand on a given equilibrium and on protein function
9. Predict the effects of molecules (BPG, proton, CO<sub>2</sub>) on hemoglobin cooperativity and describe the physiological importance of each