# Chapter 4



- Today objectives
  - Be familiar with the structure of bases, nucleosides and nucleotides
  - Understand forces which stabilize
     DNA/RNA structures

## Small quiz





#### Bases:







Pyrimidine

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#### **Adenine and Guanine**

Thymine, Cytosine and Uracyl







Adenine (6-aminopurine)







**Thymine** (2-oxy-4-oxy-5-methyl pyrimidine)

## Minor bases found in nucleic acids:

- methylated bases
- in RNA,
- in small amount
- methylation occurs after RNA syntheses

2-methyladenine; 1-metylguanine, 5-methylcytosine, and 5-hydroxymethylcytosine



May occur in DNA, product of oxidative deamination of DNA

## Properties of pyridines and purines

#### All bases exist in tautomeric forms

a) uracyl



keto or lactam enol form or lactim keto form enol form

5'-CMP pKa = 4.3 (N-3) 5' - UMP pKa = 9.5 (N-3)

5' –AMP pKa = 3.8 (N-1) 5'-GMP pKa = 9.4 (N-1) 5' –GMP pKa = 9.5 (N-3)

## Nucleosides – glycosilated bases

-base covalently bound via a N-glycosidic bond to an aldopentose



**RNA:** adenosine guanosine cytidine uridine

#### **DNA**:

deoxyadenosine deoxyguanosine deoxycytidine deoxythymidine Conformation of  $\beta$  N-glycosidic bond

Purin bases syn conformation – bicyclic purine is over the sugar anti conformation – H8 is over the sugar pyrimidine only in anti conformation

(O<sub>2</sub> represents a steric hindrance)



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## Conformation of pentose

Pentose sugar is not planar Atom in position C'2 or C'3 is out of plane – sugar puckering



(north conformation)

## Nucleotides

- nucleoside having a phosphoryl group linked to a hydroxyl group on the pentose



-phosphate group usually in the position C5' – nucleoside-5'-phosphate

- phosphate group: monophosphate, diphosphate or triphosphate
- nucleotides are anionic in the cell associated with Mg<sup>2</sup>



2'-deoxy Thymidine triphosphate (nucleotide)

-phosphoryl group:  $\alpha,\,\beta,\,\text{and}\,\gamma$ 

- -Nucleotides (nucleosides and bases) are soluble in water
- first pKa of phosphate group ~ 1
  Second pKa of phosphate group 6.5

## Nucleotides functions

- A) polynucleotides
- Building block of nucleic acids ribose and deoxy ribose
   B) mononucleotides majority have ribose,

phosphate group is attached to C5'

- Regulators of cellular metabolism (cAMP, cGMP) – ribose as a sugar
- Prime source of chemical energy
- ATP for majority of metabolic processes
- GTP in protein synthesis

base and sugar part do not transmit energy

Base part seems to be a signaling part



3',5' cyclic AMP

#### ATP – energy carrier or storage molecule

ATP synthesized from ADP during photosynthesis and in respiratory chain

Concentration of cellular ATP ~ 5 mM



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## Purines and pyrimidines with physiological activity

Caffeine: trimethyl derivate of 2,6,-oxy-purine stimulant effect block interaction of adenosine with neuronal receptors

6-mercaptopurine: block syntheses of nucleic acids use for leukemia treatment by blocking uncontrolled cell division





## Nucleosides with physiological activity

Treatment of HIV

3'-azidodeoxythymidine 2',3'-dideoxyinosine



Inhibitor of reverse transcriptase

Antiviral activity

## Nucleic Acids – single strain<sup>5' end</sup>

✓ polymers of nucleotides or deoxynucleotides

 ✓ nucleotides are linked via phosphodiester bond; phosphate bridge between 5'and 3' position on two ribose units

✓ convention: sequence of bases is written from
 5' end (left) to 3' end (right)
 5' end C5' end is free
 3' end C3' end is free

-sugar –phospho-diester bond is uniform, diversity arises from bases

Single strain and double strain DNA



G

Figure 3-3a Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e © 2006 John Wiley & Sons



Image adapted from: National Human Genome Research Institute.

#### Schematic presentation



#### pApUpCpG or pAUCG in case of deoxytetranucleotide: d(pApTpCpG) or d(pATCG)

The sequence in written in 5' to 3' direction, complementary sequence

## DNA

Occurs in prokaryote cells and in eukaryote cells in nucleus, also in mitochondria and in chloroplast

Circular DNA-bacteria and viruses Linear DNA – Eukaryotes and adenovirus

Size and composition depends on the species of origin

*E. coli* –  $9x10^6$  nucleotides; 4.65x10<sup>6</sup> bp, 1400  $\mu$ m length

Human DNA – 3x109 bp, 1-2 x106  $\mu$ m length



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## **DNA** composition

#### 1951 Erwin. Chargaff:

```
isolated DNA from various species and determined base composition
Regardless species, adenine : thymine 1:1
    cytosine : guanine 1:1
Chargaffs rules: [A] = [T]
    [C] = [G]
    [purine] = [pyrimidines]
```

DNA base composition varies between organisms: 25% to 75% of C+G in different species of bacteria

In related species amount is similar; 39% to 46% of G+C in mammals

For a human DNA, Chaffards results yielded following molar ratios:

#### <u>1950's R.E. Franklin</u>

X-ray diffraction studies of DNA, two or more chains must coil around each other to form a helix.

<u>1953 J.D. Watson and F.H.C. Crick</u> – identified hydrogen bonding and proposed double helix structure

- ✓ two polynucleotide chains wind around a common axes
- ✓ two chains run in opposite direction, are antiparallel;
- ✓ sugar phosphate backbones run on the periphery
- ✓ Bases are located in the middle
- ✓ Minor and major groove located on the surface, exposure of the edges of bp
- ✓A base is hydrogen bound to a complementary base from the opposite chain



Figure 3-6 Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e



#### **B** conformation

most common

-right handed

- -20 Å diameter
- 10.5 bp per turn
- helical pitch 34Å

Miesfeld / Applied Molecular Genetics Fig. 01.03. DNA Structure.





Adenine (A)

Thymine (T)

# DNA absorption spectra and denaturation



Melting temperature is proportional to GC containt

# **DNA** synthesis



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Requires:

nucleotides

primer (new DNA strand complementary to parent DNA) DNA polymerase (coming nucleotides are attached to free 3" OH group) synthesis is rppfreaded by DNA polymerase  DNA replication (prokaryotes and eukaryotes): complex process ~ 20 proteins catalyzed by DNA polymerase (DNA)<sub>n</sub> + dNTP ↔ (DNA)<sub>n+1</sub>

nucleotides DNA template Primer (free 3' OH group) High fidelity reaction

DNA synthesis is semiconservative



#### M. S. Meselson and F. W. Stahl. experiment



#### RNA molecules

- <u>mRNA:</u> template for protein synthesis
- <u>t-RNA</u> carries AA residues in a sequence order of mRNA (codon complementarity)
- <u>rRNA</u> ribosomes, catalytic site for protein synthesis
- Small nuclear RNA participate in exon splicing
- microRNA complementary to mRNA and inhibit protein synthesis
- Small interfering RNA (binds to mRNA and facilitate its degradation
- RNA- part of telomerase (maintain the length of chromosome)
- RNA molecules part of signal-recognition particles involved in intracellular protein distribution

# **RNA** synthesis

- $(RNA)_n + dNTP \leftrightarrow (RNA)_{n+1}$
- DNA template
- Nucleotides triphosphates (ATP, GTP, UTP, CTP)
- Divalent metals
- <u>RNA polymerase</u>
- No need of primer
- 5' -> 3' direction
- no proofreading

5'- GCGGCGACGC 3' –CGCCGCTGCG 5'-GCGGCGACGC

mRNA template coding strand

# Promoters

 Promotor sites are recognize by RNA polymerase and indicate the position of first nucleotide to be transcribed

Prokaryotes			+1	
	TTGACA -35 region	TATAAT Pribnov box -10		mRNA
Eukaryotes			+1	
	GGNCAATCT	ΤΑΤΑΑΑ		
	-75 region	TATA box Hogness box		mRNA
	(CAAT) box	-25		

- Termination of RNA synthesis:
  - In bacteria:
  - Rho protein- facilitates RNA polymerase dissociation
  - Base pair hairpin:

RNA polymerase dissociate from the DNA when hairpin is formed on syntesized RNA



#### t-RNA structure

## pseudoknot - RNA structure

that is minimally composed of two helical segments connected by single-stranded regions or loops

HDV



-3' (76)

А

P1.1 G

PLoS Biol. 2005 June; 3(6): e213. Published online 2005 June 14. doi: 10.1371/journal.pbio.0030213.

#### **Modifications of mRNA**



#### rRNA folding pattern



#### Structure of ribosome



AGCACGAGGGGAAAUCUGAUGGAACGCUAC E. coli trpA UUUGGAUGGAGUGAAACGAUGGCGAUUGCA E. coli araB GGUAACCAGGUAACAACCAUGCGAGUGUUG E. coli thrA CAAUUCAGGGUGGUGAAUGUGAAACCAGUA E. coli lacl A AUCUUGGAGGCUUUUUUAUGGUUCGUUCU 6X174 phage A protein UAACUAAGGAUGAAAUGCAUGUCUAAGACA QB phage replicase UCCUAGGAGGUUUGACCUAUGCGAGCUUUU R17 phage A protein AUGUACUAAGGAGGUUGUAUGGAACAACGC & phage cro

Pairs with

165 rRNA



Sequences of mRNA initiation sites for protein synthesis in some bacterial and viral mRNA molecules. Comparison of these sequences reveals some recurring features.

Pairs with

initiator tRNA



Peptide-Bond Formation. The amino group of the aminoacyl-tRNA attacks the carbonyl group of the ester linkage of the peptidyl-tRNA to form a tetrahedral intermediate. This intermediate collapses to form the peptide bond and release the deacylated tRNA

- Genetic code table
- 3 nucleotides encode 1 AA
- Genetic code is nonoverlaping
- Genetic code has no punctuation
- Genetic code is degenerated (64 triplets and 20 AA)
- Trp and Met only one codon
- Number of codons correlates with frequency of AA residues in proteins
- Codon is nearly universal (variations in mitochondria and some organisms).
- AUG start codon (identical for Met), in prokaryotes additional information about the start codon is provided by Shine Dalgarno sequence, in eukaryotes AUG close to 5' end of mRNA is the start codon
- UAA, UAG, UGA stop codons recognized by release factors

Second position



First position