

Review I: Chemistry & Biology Fundamentals

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Introduction

- ❑ What is biochemistry?
- ❑ Why study biochemistry?
- ❑ Ways to study biochemistry

Biochemistry

- "The science concerned with the chemical constituents of living cells and with the reactions and processes they undergo"

[Reference](#)

Life as we know it

- ❑ How did life arise?
- ❑ Classification of organisms
- ❑ The basic unit of life: the cell

([How did life arise?](#))

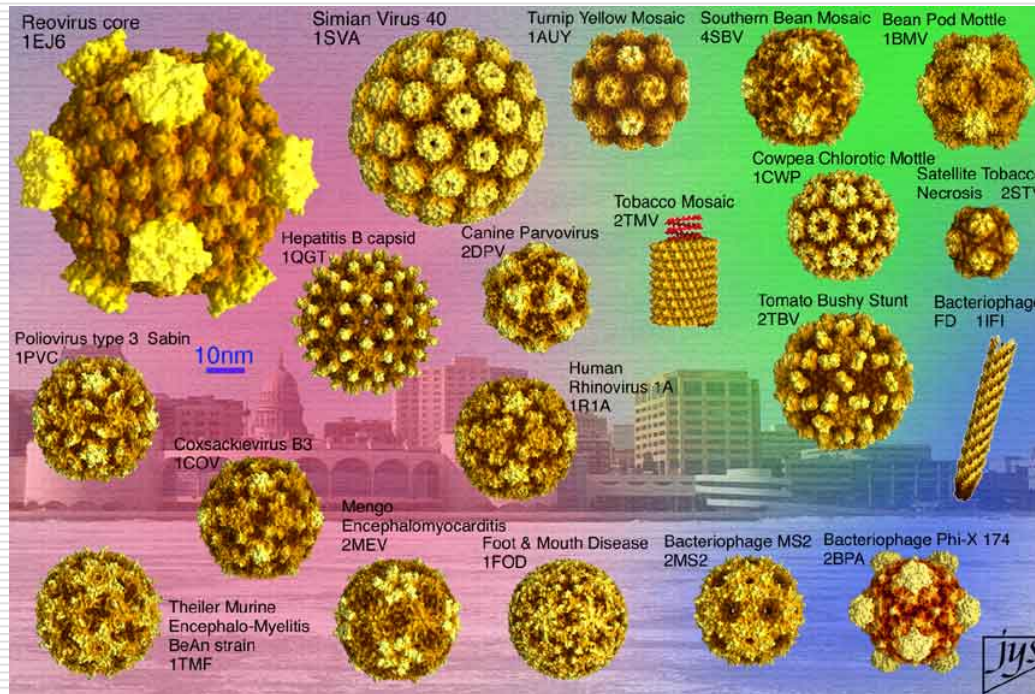
([The three domains](#))

Cells

- Prokaryotic vs. Eukaryotic
- Plant vs. Animal
- Organelles
- Viruses

([Cells Alive!](#))

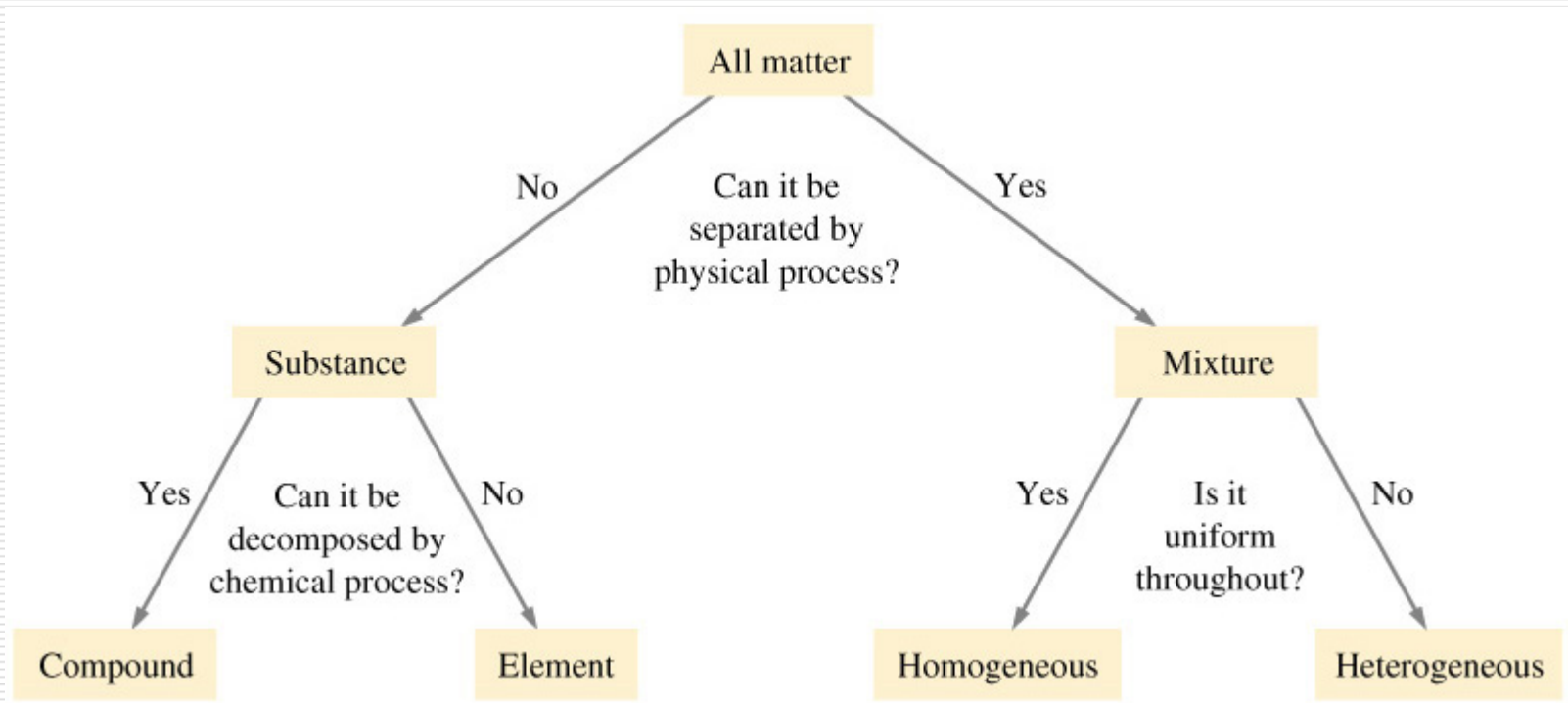
Viruses



Animal (red area), plant (green area) and bacteriophages (blue area) are depicted to scale (see 10nm bar) as GRASP surfaces from published X-ray crystallography coordinates. Virus names are followed by their PDB entry code (see www.rcsb.org or mmtsb.scripps.edu/viper/). For downloadable images see also www.bocklabs.wisc.edu. Background: Madison landscape seen from Monona lake. All Images by Dr. Jean-Yves Sgro, Institute for Molecular Virology, UW-Madison.

([Relative size of bacteria and viruses movie](#))

Matter



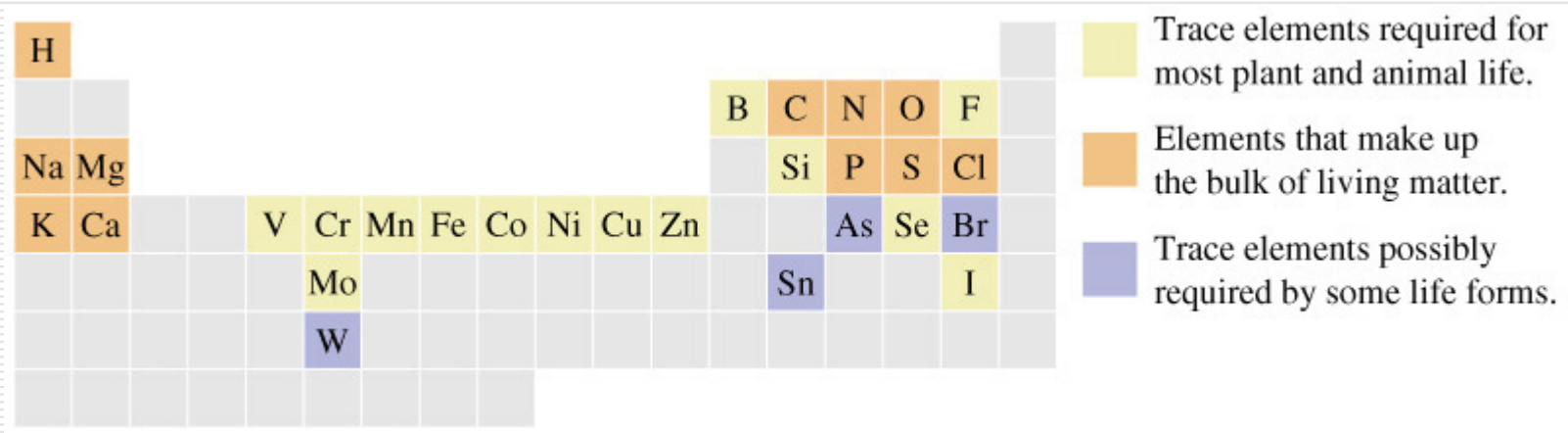
Atoms

- Composition
- Isotopes
- The periodic table

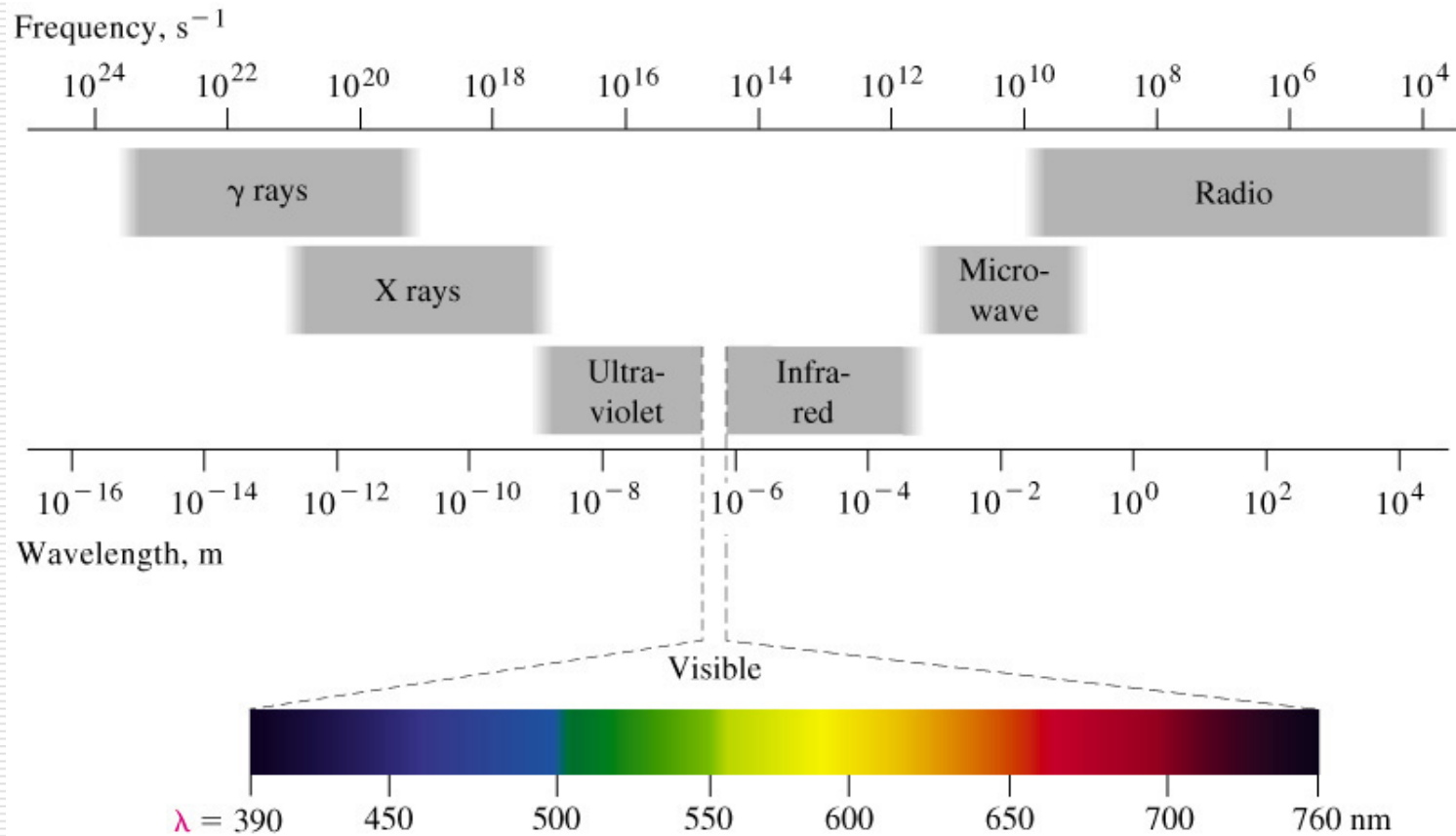
([Periodic properties movie](#))

([Web Elements™ Periodic Table](#))

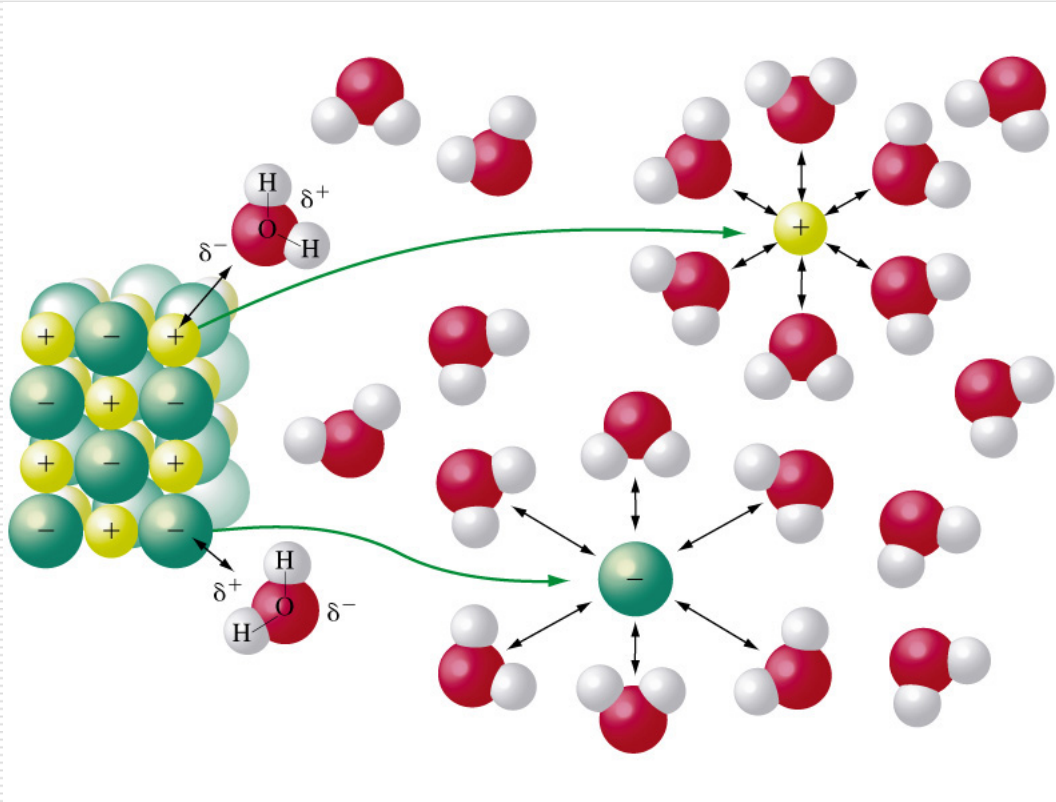
Elements of Life



Electromagnetic Spectrum



Ions



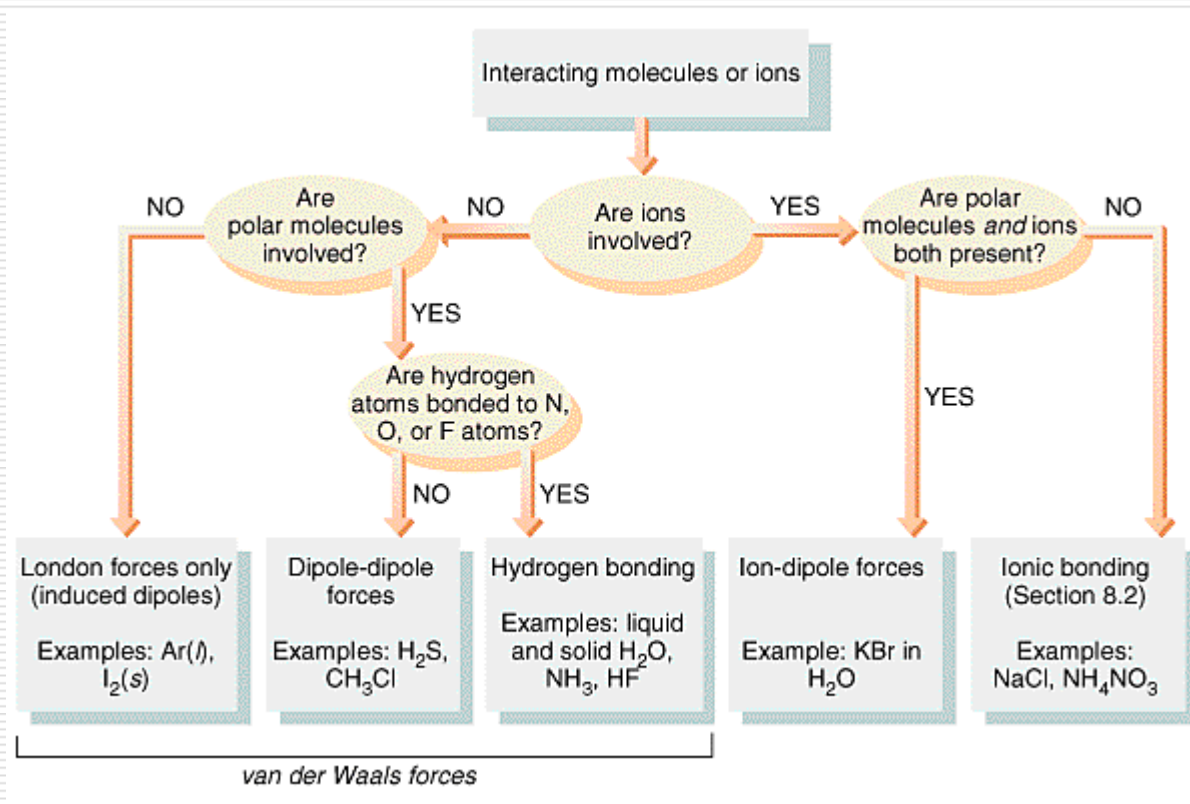
Molecules

- Bonds
- Molecular structure
- Types of compounds
- Water
- Organic chemicals
- Isomerism

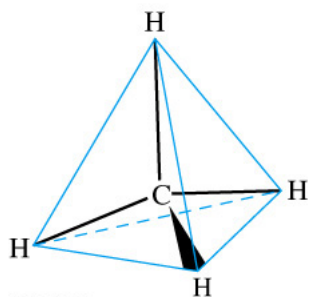
([Representing chemical structures movie](#))

([Intermolecular forces](#))

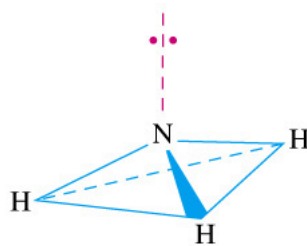
Intermolecular Forces



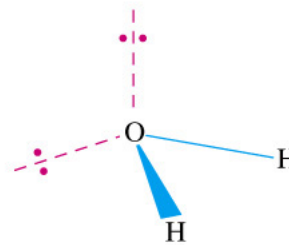
Chemical Structures



VSEPR
notation: AX_4
(a)

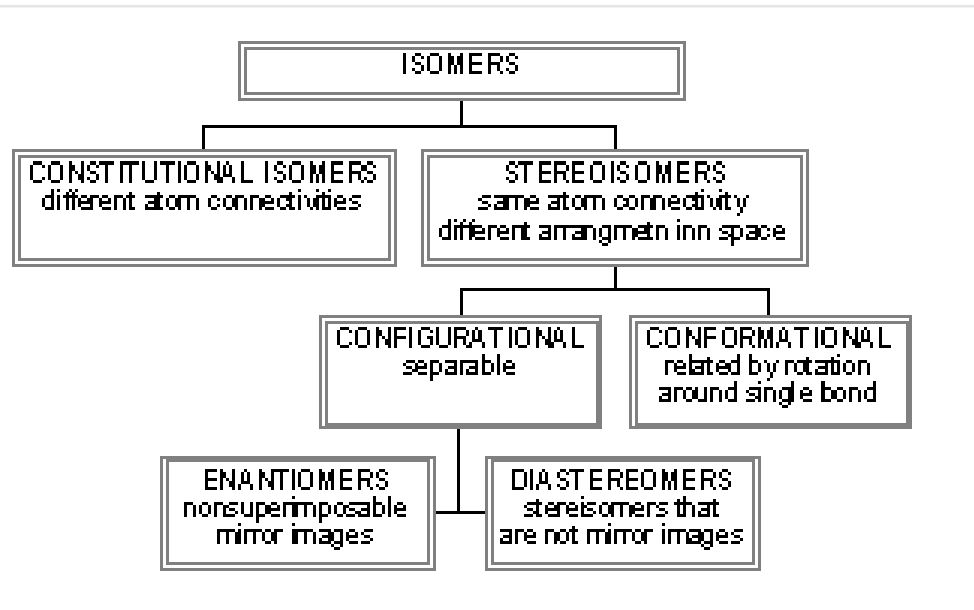


AX_3E
(b)

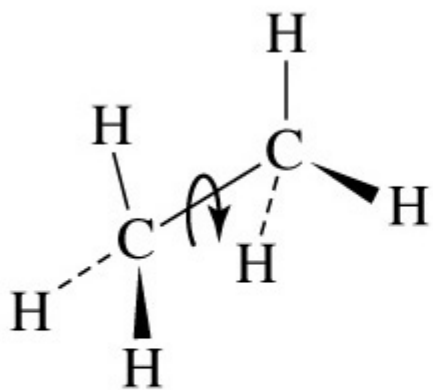


AX_2E_2
(c)

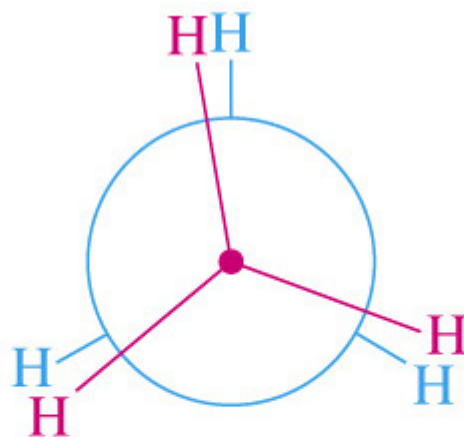
Isomers



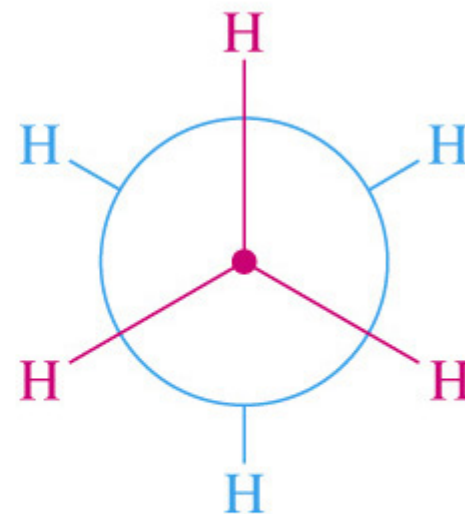
Ethane Conformations



(a)



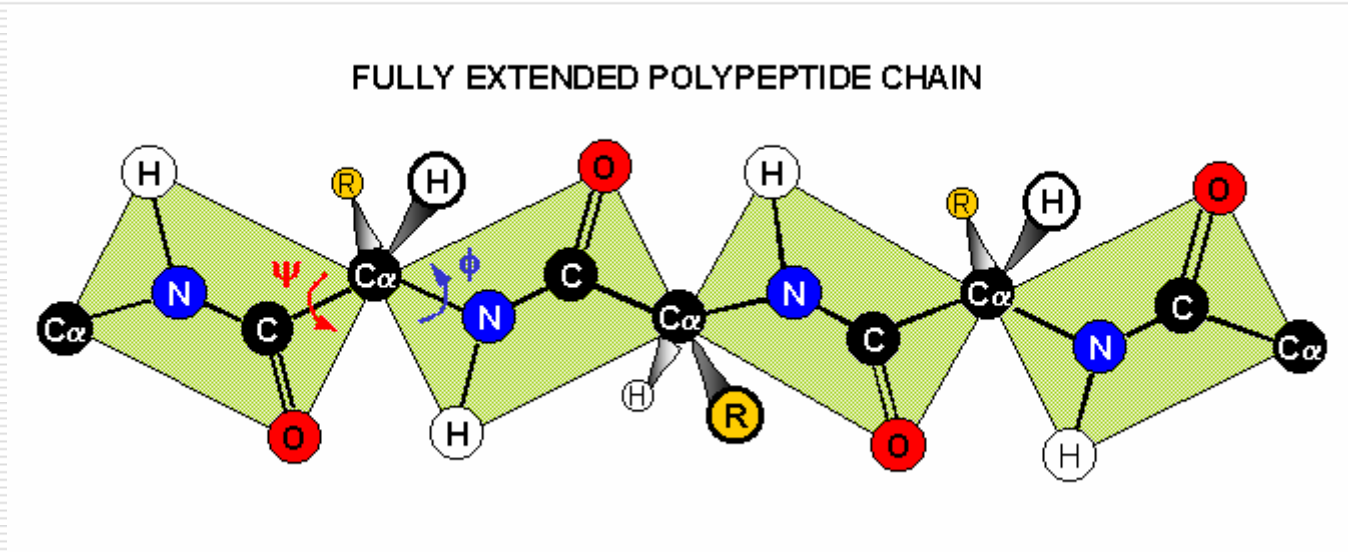
Eclipsed



Staggered

(b)

Polypeptide Chain



Organic Chemicals

TABLE 27.1 Some Common Alkyl Groups

Name	Structural Formula
Methyl	—CH_3
Ethyl	$\text{—CH}_2\text{CH}_3$
Propyl ^a	$\text{—CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$
Isopropyl	$\begin{array}{c} \text{CH}_3\text{CHCH}_3 \\ \end{array}$
Butyl ^a	$\text{—CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$
Isobutyl	$\begin{array}{c} \text{CH}_3 \\ \\ \text{—CH}_2\text{CHCH}_3 \end{array}$
<i>s</i> -Butyl ^b	$\begin{array}{c} \text{CH}_3\text{CHCH}_2\text{CH}_3 \\ \end{array}$
<i>t</i> -Butyl ^c	$\begin{array}{c} \text{CH}_3 \\ \\ \text{CH}_3\text{CCH}_3 \\ \end{array}$

^aIn the past, the prefix *normal* or *n*- was used for a straight-chain alkyl group, such as *n*-propyl or *n*-butyl.

^b*s* = secondary.

^c*t* = tertiary.

Bond Lengths

TABLE 11.2 Some Average Bond Lengths^a

Bond	Bond Length, pm	Bond	Bond Length, pm	Bond	Bond Length, pm
H—H	74.14	C—C	154	N—N	145
H—C	110	C=C	134	N=N	123
H—N	100	C≡C	120	N≡N	109.8
H—O	97	C—N	147	N—O	136
H—S	132	C=N	128	N=O	120
H—F	91.7	C≡N	116	O—O	145
H—Cl	127.4	C—O	143	O=O	121
H—Br	141.4	C=O	120	F—F	143
H—I	160.9	C—Cl	178	Cl—Cl	199
				Br—Br	228
				I—I	266

^aMost values (C—H, N—H, C—H, ...) are averaged over a number of species containing the indicated bond and may vary by a few picometers. Where a diatomic molecule exists, the value given is the actual bond length in that molecule (H₂, N₂, HF, ...) and is known more precisely.

Types of Compounds

TABLE 13.7 Characteristics of Crystalline Solids

Type	Structural Particles	Intermolecular Forces	Typical Properties	Examples
Metallic	Cations and delocalized electrons	Metallic bonds	Hardness varies from soft to very hard; melting point varies from low to very high; lustrous; ductile; malleable; very good conductors of heat and electricity	Na, Mg, Al, Fe, Sn, Cu, Ag, W
Ionic	Cations and anions	Electrostatic attractions	Hard; moderate to very high melting points; nonconductors as solids, but good electric conductors as liquids; many are soluble in polar solvents like water.	NaCl, MgO, NaNO ₃
Network covalent	Atoms	Covalent bonds	Most are very hard and either sublime or melt at very high temperatures; most are nonconductors of electricity	C (diamond), C (graphite), SiC, AlN, SiO ₂
Molecular <i>Nonpolar</i>	Atoms or nonpolar molecules	Dispersion forces	Soft; extremely low to moderate melting points (depending on molar mass); sublime in some cases; soluble in some nonpolar solvents	He, Ar, H ₂ , CO ₂ , CCl ₄ , CH ₄ , I ₂
<i>Polar</i>	Polar molecules	Dispersion forces and dipole-dipole attractions	Low to moderate melting points; soluble in some polar and some nonpolar solvents	(CH ₃) ₂ O, CHCl ₃ , HCl
<i>Hydrogen-Bonded</i>	Molecules with H bonded to N, O, or F	Hydrogen bonds	Low to moderate melting points; soluble in some hydrogen-bonded solvents and some polar solvents	H ₂ O, NH ₃

Relative Sizes of Atoms, Molecules, Organelles, and Cells

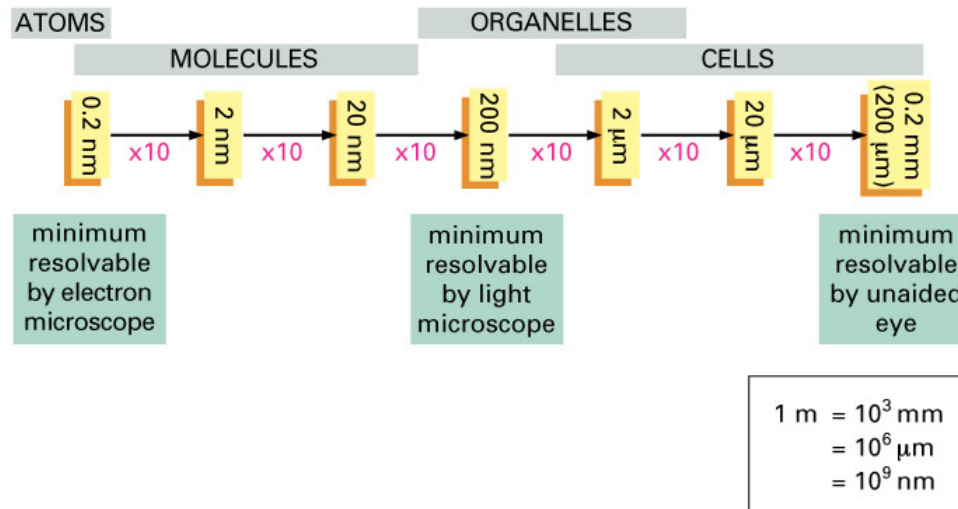


Figure 1-6 Essential Cell Biology, 2/e. (© 2004 Garland Science)

Chemical Reactions

- Types of reactions
- Mechanisms
- Balancing

Thermodynamics

- Free energy, enthalpy, entropy
- Equilibrium constant
- Spontaneity

Spontaneity

TABLE 20.1 Criteria for Spontaneous Change: $\Delta G = \Delta H - T \Delta S$

Case	ΔH	ΔS	ΔG	Result	Example
1	-	+	-	spontaneous at all temp	$2 \text{ N}_2\text{O}(\text{g}) \longrightarrow 2 \text{ N}_2(\text{g}) + \text{ O}_2(\text{g})$
2	-	-	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} - \\ + \end{array} \right.$	$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{spontaneous at low temp} \\ \text{nonspontaneous at high temp} \end{array} \right\}$	$\text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l}) \longrightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{s})$
3	+	+	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} + \\ - \end{array} \right.$	$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{nonspontaneous at low temp} \\ \text{spontaneous at high temp} \end{array} \right\}$	$2 \text{ NH}_3(\text{g}) \longrightarrow \text{N}_2(\text{g}) + 3 \text{ H}_2(\text{g})$
4	+	-	+	nonspontaneous at all temp	$3 \text{ O}_2(\text{g}) \longrightarrow 2 \text{ O}_3(\text{g})$

Kinetics

- Rate equations
- Activation energy
- Catalysis

(Catalysis)