## Chapter

# Amino-Acids \& Proteins 

(Session -3)

## Topics Covered in this Lecture

1 Amino acids and Proteins
2 Classification of Amino Acids
3 Zwitter Ion and Isoelectric point
4 Peptide linkage and Sequencing
5 Structure of Proteins


Structures common to all amino acids

## Amino Acids

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Amino acidd A compound that contains both an amino group and a carboxyl group. $\alpha$-Amino acicls An amino acid in which the amino group is on the carbon adjacent to the carboxyl group.
although $\alpha$-amino acids are commonly written in the unionized form, they are more properly written in the ewitterion (internal salt) form.


$\alpha$-Amino Acid
Zwitterion
form

## Anatomy of an amino acid

General amino acid structure
Chemical anatomy of an amino acid



## Anatomy of an amino acid

20 different amino acids occur in living cells. 4 chemical groups (composition of the $\mathbf{R}$ group):

- Acidic (negatively charged), $(\boldsymbol{n}=2)$
- Basic (positively charged), ( $n=3$ )
- Neutral and polar, hydrophilic, ( $n=6$ )
- Neutral and non-polar, hydrophobic, ( $n=9$ )


## No. of Carbon

Glutamic 2 (Carboxylic)
Glutamine
Lysine
Arginine
Threonine
Methionine
Glycine
2 (Carboamide)
4 (Amine)
3 (Gua)
2 (OH)
2 (SMe)
All other
0
1.

## Glycine

## Acyclic HC.

Glycine<br>Gly G<br>1. Hydrogen

## Alanine



## Valine



Valine
Val V 1. Isopropyl

## Leucine



## Iso-Ieucine



## Proline

## PhenyIAlanine



Phenylalanine $\begin{array}{ll}\text { Phe F } & \begin{array}{l}\text { 1. Methyl } \\ \text { 2. Benzene }\end{array}\end{array}$

## Tyrosine



Tyrosine
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { Tyr } Y & \begin{array}{l}\text { 1. Methyl } \\ \text { 2. p-Phenol }\end{array}\end{array}$

## Tryptophan



## Aromatic

Tryptophan

Trp W 1. Methyl<br>2. 3-Indole

## Serine



# Serine 1. Methyl Ser S 

## Threonine



Threonine
Thr T $\begin{gathered}\text { 1. Ethyy } \\ \text { 2. } 1 \text {-Hydroxy }\end{gathered}$

## Cysteine



## Cysteine <br> Cys C

1. Methyl
2. Thiol

## Methionine



## Sulphur

## Methionine

 Met M1. Ethyl
2. Methylthio

## Aspartic acid



Acidic

Aspartic Acid
Asp D 1. Methyl
2. Carboxylic acid

## Glutamic acid



Glutamic Acid
Glu E $\quad \begin{aligned} & \text { 1. Ethyl } \\ & \text { 2. Carboxylic Acid }\end{aligned}$

## Asparagine



Asparagine ${ }^{\text {2. Carboxamide }}$
Asn N

## Glutamine



Glutamine Gln Q

1. Ethyl
2. Carboxamide

## Lysine



Basic

Lysine

1. Butyl

Lys K
2. Amine

## Arginine



Arginine 1. Propyl
Arg $R$
2. Guanadine

## Histidine



Basic

Histidine His H

1. Methyl
2. Imidazole

## No. of Carbon

Glutamic 2 (Carboxylic)
Glutamine
Lysine
Arginine
Threonine
Methionine
Glycine
2 (Carboamide)
4 (Amine)
3 (Gua)
2 (OH)
2 (SMe)
All other
0
1.

## Nonpolar, aliphatic R groups





Proline



Leucine
Isoleucine


Valine


Methionine

The 20 Amino Acids Polar, uncharged R groups


Serine


Threonine


Asparagine


Cysteine


Glutamine

The 20 Amino Acids Aromatic $\mathbf{R}$ groups


Phenylalanine Tyrosine
Tryptophan

## Negatively charged R groups




Aspartate
Glutamate

## The 20 Amino Acids

## Positively charged $\mathbf{R}$ groups



Lysine


Arginine


Histidine

## Essential amino acids <br> S.K.silina

Eight amino acids are generally regarded as essential for humans:
A good memonic device for remembering these is "Private Tim Hall", abbreviated as: PVT TIM HALL:
Phenylalanine, Valine,
Tryptophan, Threonine, Isoleucine, Methionine, Histidine, Arginine, Lysine, Leucine

## Essential amino acids <br> ง.K.silha

Eight amino acids are generally regarded as essential for humans:
A good memonic device for remembering these is "Private Tim Hall", abbreviated as: PVT TIM HALL:
Valine, Leucine Isoleucine,
Phenylalanine(Ph), Tryptophan(Ph),
Threonine(OH), Methionine(s),
Lysine(B), Arginine(B),
Histidine(B),

## Stereochemistry



## Stereoisomers


(a) L-Alanine

(b) L-Alanine

(c) L-Alanine


D-Alanine
$\mathrm{COO}^{-}$

d-Alanine


D-Alanine

All amino acids in proteins are L-amino acids, except for glycine, which is achiral.

## Non-polar amino acids

Glycine (Gly, G)


Proline (Pro, P)


Leucine (Leu, L)


Alanine (Ala, A)


Phenylalanine (Phe, F)
Methionine (Met, M)


Tryptophan (Trp, W)



Isoleucine (Ile, I)


## Polar, non-charged amino acids

Serine (Ser, S)


Cysteine (Cys, C)


Threonine (Thr, T)


Tyrosine (Tyr, Y)


Asparagine (Asn, N)


Glutamine (Gln, Q)


## Acidic amino acids

Aspartate (Asp, D)


Glutamate (Glu, E)


## Basic amino acids

Lysine (Lys, K)


Arginine (Arg, R)

Histidine (His, H)
(protonated form)


## Aromatic amino acids

To different degrees, all aromatic amino acids absorb ultraviolet light.
Tryptophan is responsible for most of the absorbance of ultraviolet light (ca. 280 nm) by proteins. Tyrosine and tryptophan absorb more than do phenylalanine; Tyrosine is the only one of the aromatic amino acids with an ionizable side chain. Tyrosine is one of three hydroxyl containing amino acids.

## Isoelectricspoint

Isoelectric point (pl): pH at which an amino acid, polypeptide, or protein has a total charge of zero.
The pl for glycine, for example, falls between the $\mathrm{p} K_{\mathrm{a}}$ values for the carboxyl and amino groups.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{pI} & =\frac{1}{2}\left(\mathrm{p} K_{\mathrm{a}} \alpha-\mathrm{COOH}+\mathrm{p} K_{\mathrm{a}} \alpha-\mathrm{NH}_{3}{ }^{+}\right) \\
& =\frac{1}{2}(2.35+9.78)=6.06
\end{aligned}
$$

## Isoelectric Point of glycine continued

Again

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{pI} & =\frac{1}{2}\left(\mathrm{p} K_{\mathrm{a}} \alpha-\mathrm{COOH}+\mathrm{p} K_{\mathrm{a}} \alpha-\mathrm{NH}_{3}{ }^{+}\right) \\
& =\frac{1}{2}(2.35+9.78)=6.06
\end{aligned}
$$

## Isoelectric ${ }^{\text {BV Point }}$

pH increases



$\mathrm{pK}_{\mathrm{a}} \quad 2.35$
9.78
$\underset{\substack{\left.\mathrm{pI} \\\left[A^{\prime}\right]\\\right]}}{ }=[\mathrm{c}-\mathrm{]}$

## Isoelectric ${ }^{\text {PP}}$ Point

$\left.\begin{array}{lcccc}\text { Acidic } & \mathrm{p} K_{\mathrm{a}} \text { of } & \mathrm{p} K_{\mathrm{a}} \text { of } \\ \text { Side Ch ains } & \alpha-\mathrm{COOH} & \alpha-\mathrm{NH}_{3}\end{array}{ }^{+} \begin{array}{l}\mathrm{p} K_{\mathrm{a}} \text { of } \\ \text { Side } \\ \text { Chain }\end{array}\right]$

## Isoelectric Point

| Amino acid | Abbrev. | pl | pK1 <br> $(\alpha-\mathrm{COOH})$ | pK2 <br> $(\alpha-+\mathrm{NH} 3)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :--- |
| Alanine | Ala | 6.01 | 2.35 | 9.87 |
| Cysteine | Cys | 5.05 | 1.92 | 10.7 |
| Aspartic acid | Asp | 2.85 | 1.99 | 9.9 |
| Glutamic acid | Glu | 3.15 | 2.1 | 9.47 |
| Phenylalanine | Phe | 5.49 | 2.2 | 9.31 |
| Glycine | Gly | 6.06 | 2.35 | 9.78 |
| Histidine | His | 7.6 | 1.8 | 9.33 |
| Isoleucine | Ile | 6.05 | 2.32 | 9.76 |

## Isoelectric Point

| Amino acid | Abbrev. | pl | pK1 <br> $(\alpha-\mathrm{COOH})$ | pK2 <br> $(\alpha-+\mathrm{NH} 3)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Lysine | Lys | 9.6 | 2.16 | 9.06 |
| Leucine | Leu | 6.01 | 2.33 | 9.74 |
| Methionine | Met | 5.74 | 2.13 | 9.28 |
| Asparagine | Asn | 5.41 | 2.14 | 8.72 |
| Proline | Pro | 6.3 | 1.95 | 10.64 |
| Glutamine | Gln | 5.65 | 2.17 | 9.13 |
| Arginine | Arg | 10.76 | 1.82 | 8.99 |

## Isoelectric Point

| Amino acid | Abbrev. | pl | pK1 <br> $(\alpha-\mathrm{COOH})$ | pK2 <br> $(\alpha-+\mathrm{NH} 3)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Serine | Ser | 5.68 | 2.19 | 9.21 |
| Threonine | Thr | 5.6 | 2.09 | 9.1 |
| Valine | Val | 6 | 2.39 | 9.74 |
| Tryptophan | Trp | 5.89 | 2.46 | 9.41 |
| Tyrosine | Tyr | 5.64 | 2.2 | 9.21 |

## Asparticnacid


B

2.10

| $\mathbf{p K}_{\mathbf{a}}$ | 2.10 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{p H}=\mathbf{p K}_{\mathbf{a}}$ |  | 3.86 |
| $\left[A^{+}\right]=[B]$ |  |  |
|  |  |  |

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{pl}=(2.10+3.86) / 2 \\
& {\left[\mathrm{~A}^{+}\right]=[C-]} \\
& {\left[\mathrm{D}^{2-}\right] \text { approx } 0}
\end{aligned}
$$



D ${ }^{2-}$

9.82

Note species $B$ has zero net charge. $\mathrm{pK}_{\mathrm{a}} 1$ and $\mathrm{pK}_{\mathrm{a}} 2$ control [ $A^{+}$] and [C-] which should be equal.

$\mathrm{pl}=(9.04+12.48) / 2=10.76$
$\left[B^{+}\right]=\left[D^{-}\right] ; \quad\left[A^{2+}\right]$ about 0

Electrophoresis: The process of separating compounds on the basis of their electric charge. Electrophoresis of amino acids can be carried out using paper, starch, polyacrylamide and agarose gels, and cellulose acetate as solid supports.


## Ninhydrin

## The reagent commonly used to detect amino acid is ninhydrin.



## General protein pK' values

> Group
> $\alpha$-carboxyl (free)
> $\beta$-carboxyl (Asp)
> $\gamma$-carboxyl (Glu)
> imidazole (His)
> sulfhydryl (Cys)
> $1^{\circ} \alpha$-amino (free)
> $\varepsilon$-amino (Lys)
> hydroxyl (Tyr)
> $2^{\circ} \alpha$-amino (Pro)
> guanido (Arg)

Approximate pK'
In a "Typical" Protein
3 (C-terminal only)
4
4
6
8
8 (N-terminal only)
10
10
9 (N-terminal only) 12

## Levels of Protein Structure <br> s.K.Sinha

$\begin{array}{cc}\text { Primary } & \begin{array}{c}\text { Secondary } \\ \text { structure }\end{array} \\ \text { structure }\end{array}$


Amino acid residues
$\alpha$ Helix

Tertiary structure

## Quaternary structure

Polypeptide chain

## Levels of Protein Structure

Proteins show 4 levels of structural organisation:
1.Primary structure $=$ amino acid sequence

- Determined by the genetic code of the mRNA.

2. Secondary structure $=$ folding and twisting of a single polypeptide chain.

- Result of weak H-bond and electrostatic interactions.
- e.g., $\alpha$-helix (coiled) and $\beta$-pleated sheet (zig-zag).


## Levels of Protein Structure

3. Tertiary structure $=$ three dimensional shape (or conformation) of a polypeptide chain.

- Function of $\mathbf{R}$ groups contained in the polypeptide.

4. Quaternary structure $=$ association between polypeptides in multi-subunit proteins (e.g. hemoglobin).

- Occurs only with two or more polypeptides.


## Peptide Bonds

- $\alpha$-carboxyl of one amino acid is joined to $\alpha-$ amino of a second amino acid (with removal of water)
- only $\alpha$-carboxyl and $\alpha$-amino groups are used, not R-group carboxyl or amino groups.


## Peptide bond formation


$\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \xrightarrow{ } \xrightarrow{\longrightarrow} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$


## The peptide bond is planar



This resonance restricts the number of conformations in proteins -- main chain rotations are restricted to $\phi$ and $\psi$.

In 1902, Emil Fischer proposed that proteins are long chains of amino acids joined by amide bonds to which he gave the name peptide bonds. Peptide bonds The special name given to the amide bond between the $\alpha$ carboxyl group of one amino acid and the $\alpha$-amino group of another.

## Serinylalanine (Ser-Ala)



Serine (Ser, S)



Alanine
(Ala, A)


Serinylalanine
(Ser-Ala, (S-A)

Peptide: The name given to a short polymer of amino acids joined by peptide bonds; they are classified by the number of amino acids in the chain.
Dipeptide: A molecule containing two amino acids joined by a peptide bond.

Tripeptide: A molecule containing three amino acids joined by peptide bonds.

Polypeptide: A macromolecule containing many amino acids joined by peptide bonds.

Protein: A biological macromolecule of molecular weight $5000 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{mol}$ or greater, consisting of one or more polypeptide chains.

## Writing Peptides

By convention, peptides are written
from the left, beginning with the free -
$\mathrm{NH}_{3}{ }^{+}$group and ending with the free -
$\mathrm{COO}^{-}$group on the right.


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