

# Atoms and Their Interactions

## Chapter 6, Sections 1-3

### I. Elements

#### A. Definition of an element

An element is a pure substance made of only 1 kind of atom & it can't be broken down into simpler substances.

#### B. Natural Elements in Living Things

1. 92 elements occur naturally on Earth. Of these, about 25 are essential to living organisms.
2. More than 96% of the mass of the human body is made of 4 elements: C, H, O, & N.
3. Abbreviations for elements

#### C. Trace Elements

1. Plants get these through the roots.
2. Animals get these through the foods they eat.

**Table 6.1 Some Elements That Make Up the Human Body**

| Element    | Symbol | Percent By Mass in Human Body | Element    | Symbol | Percent By Mass in Human Body |
|------------|--------|-------------------------------|------------|--------|-------------------------------|
| Oxygen     | O      | 65.0                          | Iron       | Fe     | trace                         |
| Carbon     | C      | 18.5                          | Zinc       | Zn     | trace                         |
| Hydrogen   | H      | 9.5                           | Copper     | Cu     | trace                         |
| Nitrogen   | N      | 3.3                           | Iodine     | I      | trace                         |
| Calcium    | Ca     | 1.5                           | Manganese  | Mn     | trace                         |
| Phosphorus | P      | 1.0                           | Boron      | B      | trace                         |
| Potassium  | K      | 0.4                           | Chromium   | Cr     | trace                         |
| Sulfur     | S      | 0.3                           | Molybdenum | Mo     | trace                         |
| Sodium     | Na     | 0.2                           | Cobalt     | Co     | trace                         |
| Chlorine   | Cl     | 0.2                           | Selenium   | Se     | trace                         |
| Magnesium  | Mg     | 0.1                           | Fluorine   | F      | trace                         |

#### D. The Periodic Table

1. The horizontal rows are called periods.
2. The vertical columns are called groups or families.

## II. Atoms: The building Blocks of Elements

### A. Definition of an atom

An atom is the smallest part of an element that still has all the properties of that element.

### B. The structure of an atom

| Name      | Charge | Location       | Symbol |
|-----------|--------|----------------|--------|
| Protons   | +      | Nucleus        | $p^+$  |
| Neutrons  | 0      | Nucleus        | $n^0$  |
| Electrons | -      | Electron cloud | $e^-$  |

### C. Electron energy Levels

1. Number of energy levels based on the period the element is in: the # of E levels in an atom is = to the period #

2. Maximum # of electrons per energy level

$$1^{\text{st}} \text{ energy level} = 2$$

$$2^{\text{nd}} \text{ energy level} = 8$$

$$3^{\text{rd}} \text{ energy level} = 18$$

\*\*\*In general, the number of electrons that an energy level can hold is  $2n^2$ , where n is the number of the energy level.

How many electrons can the 7<sup>th</sup> energy level hold?

If there were a level that could hold 288 electrons, what energy level would it be?

3. Atomic number

This is always the # of  $p^+$  in the nucleus of an atom.

4. Mass number

This is the TOTAL # of  $p^+$  and  $n^0$  in the nucleus of an atom.

5. In neutral atoms, the # of  $p^+$  = the # of  $e^-$ .

## 6. Ions

These are charged particles formed when a neutral atom gains or loses  $e^-$ .

Fluorine atom

Protons \_\_\_\_\_ Neutrons \_\_\_\_\_ Electrons \_\_\_\_\_

Fluoride ion ( $F^{-1}$ )

Protons \_\_\_\_\_ Neutrons \_\_\_\_\_ Electrons \_\_\_\_\_

Calcium atom

Protons \_\_\_\_\_ Neutrons \_\_\_\_\_ Electrons \_\_\_\_\_

Calcium ion ( $Ca^{+2}$ )

Protons \_\_\_\_\_ Neutrons \_\_\_\_\_ Electrons \_\_\_\_\_

### III. Isotopes of an Element

#### A. Definition of an isotope

Isotopes are atoms of the same element but with different #s of  $n^0$ .

B. Isotopes of a given element have the same number of  $p^+$  and therefore have the same atomic number. However, since they have different numbers of  $n^0$ , they have different mass numbers.

C. Compare the number of protons, neutrons, electrons, mass numbers, and atomic numbers for hydrogen-1, hydrogen-2, and hydrogen-3 by filling in the chart below.

| Isotope    | Protons | Neutrons | Electrons | Mass # | Atomic # |
|------------|---------|----------|-----------|--------|----------|
| Hydrogen-1 | 1       | 0        | 1         | 1      | 1        |
| Hydrogen-2 | 1       | 1        | 1         | 2      | 1        |
| Hydrogen-3 | 1       | 2        | 1         | 3      | 1        |

D. Practical Uses of Isotopes – See Fig. 5 on p. 150

1. Diagnosing diseases
2. Treating diseases

**IV. Compounds and Bonding**

A. Definition of a compound

A compound is a pure substance made of 2 or more elements.

B. Examples of compounds

NaCl, H<sub>2</sub>O, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>6</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>

C. Covalent Bonds –

1. How are covalent bonds formed?

These are formed when atoms share e<sup>-</sup>.

2. What types of elements form these bonds?

Nonmetals bonding with other nonmetals

3. What is a molecule?

This refers to a group of atoms bonded by covalent bonds.

4. Examples of covalently bonded substances?

H<sub>2</sub>O, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>6</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>

SEE FIGURE 9 on p. 152 & FIGURE 10 on p. 153

D. Ionic Bonds

1. How are ionic bonds formed?

These are formed by a transfer of e<sup>-</sup> from one atom to another. The oppositely charged particles are attracted to each other.

2. What types of elements form these bonds?

These are formed b/w a metal and a nonmetal.

## 3. Examples of ionically bonded substances

NaCl, KCl, CaCl<sub>2</sub>

SEE FIGURE 11 on p. 153

**Most compounds in organisms contain covalent bonds. These include sugars , fats , proteins , and water .**

## E. van der Waals Forces

These are forces of attraction b/w the oppositely charged regions of molecules. These oppositely charged regions are formed by the movement of the e<sup>-</sup> causing unequal distribution of the electrons in the e<sup>-</sup> cloud producing temporary regions of slightly + and - charges.

V. Chemical Reactions

## A. Metabolism

This refers to all the chem. rxns. that take place in an organism.

## B. Writing Chemical Equations

REACTANTS → PRODUCTS

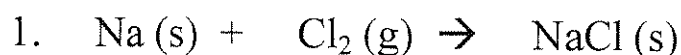


\* the 2 in front of the H<sub>2</sub> & in front of the H<sub>2</sub>O are called coefficients to balance the equation

## C. Why must chemical equations be balanced?

This shows that matter has been neither created nor destroyed (the Law of Conservation of Mass).

## D. Balance the following equations:



## VI. Mixtures and Solutions

### A. Definition of a Mixture

This is a combination of substances where each substance retains its own properties.

### B. Two types of mixtures

#### 1. Heterogeneous mixtures

These mixtures have substances that are NOT evenly distributed.

#### 2. Homogeneous mixtures (also known as solutions)

These mixtures have substances that ARE evenly distributed.

### C. Concentration of solutions & its importance to living things

Most organisms live in a watery environment or their cells are surrounded by water. So the solutions in their environment determine if they will maintain homeostasis.

### D. Acids & Bases

#### 1. Fill in the chart below regarding acids & bases

|                | <b>Ion concentration</b> | <b>Red litmus test</b> | <b>Blue litmus test</b> | <b>pH values</b>        |
|----------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Acidic</b>  | $H^+ > OH^-$             | Stays red              | Turns red               | $0 \leq \text{pH} < 7$  |
| <b>Basic</b>   | $OH^- > H^+$             | Turns blue             | Stays blue              | $7 < \text{pH} \leq 14$ |
| <b>Neutral</b> | $H^+ = OH^-$             | Stays red              | Stays blue              | 7                       |

#### 2. Importance of acids & bases to living things

Plants grow in certain soils based on the pH of the soil.

Many of the foods we eat contain acids (like oranges)

## VII. Water and Its Importance (see handout)

# Life Substances

## Chapter 6, Section 4

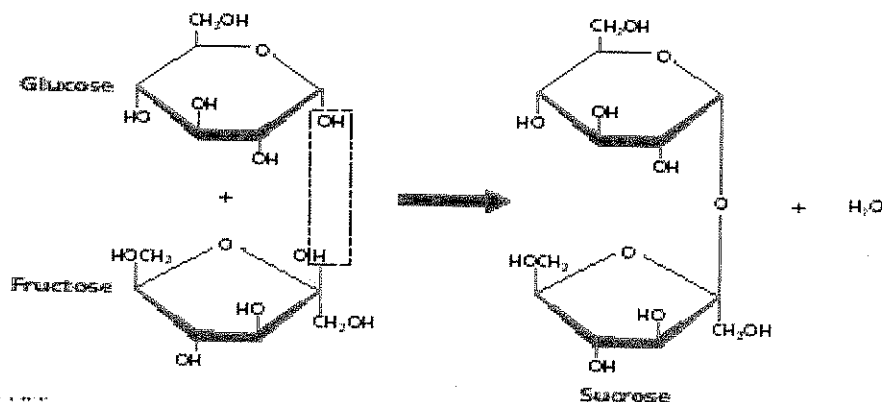
### I. The Role of Carbon in Organisms

- A. Each carbon atom has 4 electrons for bonding and thus can form 4 bonds that are covalent bonds.
- B. So many carbon structures are possible because:
1. **Carbon can bond with other carbon atoms in straight chains, branched chains, or rings.**
  2. **Carbon can bond with atoms of other elements.**

See Fig. 25 on p. 166

- C. In addition, some elements combine so they have the same simple formula but different 3-D formulas. Such compounds are called isomers.

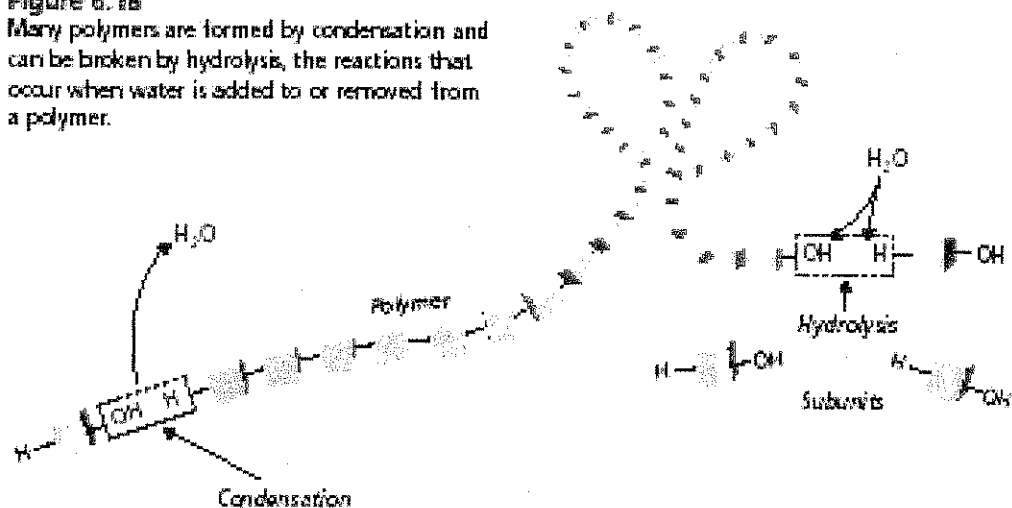
Examples: glucose and fructose have the same simple formula of  $C_6H_{12}O_6$  but the 3-D structures of these differ.



- D. Carbon atoms can bond to form compounds with tens, hundreds, or even thousands of carbon atoms. The large molecules are called macromolecules. Proteins are one example of these.
- E. These large molecules are formed when many smaller molecules are bonded together to form long chains called polymers. (*Poly – means “many”, -mers means “parts”*)
- F. To form these polymers, a process called condensation occurs. This occurs when one of the smaller molecules contains a  $-H$  and the other contains an  $-OH$  group. This removes  $H-OH$  or water from the substance. To break polymers apart, water is added to the polymer in a process called hydrolysis. The prefix hydro- means water; the suffix lysis means to break apart. Thus, hydrolysis literally means to “break something apart by using water”.

Figure 6.16

Many polymers are formed by condensation and can be broken by hydrolysis, the reactions that occur when water is added to or removed from a polymer.





## II. The Structure of Carbohydrates.

- A. Carbohydrates contain C, H, and O in a ratio of 1C:2H:1O.
- B. Carbohydrates are used by cells to store and release energy.
- C. Monosaccharides – “Mono-“ means one
1. Definition – These are the simplest carbohydrates made of only 1 sugar unit.
  2. Examples: glucose and fructose
- D. Disaccharides – “Di-“ means two
1. Definition – These are carbohydrates made of 2 monosaccharides.
  2. Examples: sucrose
- E. Polysaccharides – “Poly-“ means many
1. Definition – These are carbohydrates made of many monosaccharides.
  2. Examples:
    - a. Starch – This is a highly branched chain of glucose units used for food storage by plants.
    - b. Glycogen – This is a more highly branched chain of glucose units than starch. It is the way animals store food.

- c. **Cellulose** – This is made of many glucose units hooked together like a chain link fence. It is used by plants to form cell walls & to give structural support.

### III. The Structure of Lipids

- A. Lipids are commonly called **fats** and **oils**. They contain **less** oxygen than carbohydrates. Because these molecules are **nonpolar**, they are **insoluble** in water.
- B. Functions of Lipids
1. **long term energy storage**
  2. **provide a layer of insulation**
  3. **to form protective coverings as in the membranes surrounding a cell**
- C. Saturated vs. Unsaturated fats
1. **Saturated** fats contain only single bonds and thus have the max. amount of H bonded to the tail.
  2. **Unsaturated** fats have double bonds and thus have room for at least one more H atom.
- D. Phospholipids
- Phospholipids** form the structure of **cell membranes**. Lipids are **hydrophobic** which means they do NOT dissolve in water. This allows them to form barriers in biological membranes.

**See Figure 28 on p. 169**

## E. Steroids

**Steroids** include **cholesterol** and **hormones**.

Cholesterol is often considered “bad” but it forms the basis for forming other lipids, including **vitamin D** and the hormones **estrogen** and **testosterone**.

## IV. The Structure of Proteins

A. Proteins are composed of **C**, **H**, **O**, **N**, and sometimes **S**. The smaller subunits of proteins are called **amino acids** of which there are about **20**. These subunits are bonded **covalently** by bonds called **peptide** bonds. The kind of protein formed is determined by the **number** and **order** in which these amino acids are connected.

B. Functions of proteins

1. **build structures**
2. **help to carry out metabolism**
3. **muscle contraction**
4. **transport O<sub>2</sub> in the bloodstream**
5. **provide immunity**
6. **carry out chemical reactions**

C. Proteins that speed up chemical reactions are called **enzymes**. These are used to speed up reactions in **digestion** of food, **synthesis** of molecules, and **storage** and **release** of energy.

**See Figures 29 & 30 on p. 170.**

## V. The Structure of Nucleic Acids

A. Nucleic acids are biomolecules that are made of smaller subunits called nucleotides. Nucleic acids are made of C, H, O, N, and P. The 3 groups that make up a nucleotide are a 1) a base, 2) a simple sugar, and 3) a phosphate group. **See Figure 31 on p. 171.**

### B. DNA

This stands for deoxyribonucleic acid. It is the master copy of an organism's genetic code and carries all the information to form all an organism's enzymes and structural proteins. It determines how the organism looks and acts. It is passed on every time a cell divides and is also passed on from generation to generation.

### C. RNA

This stands for ribonucleic acid. It is used to form a copy of DNA for use in protein synthesis.