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UNIT 14: Biomolecules

Carbohydrates

Polyhydroxy aldehydes or polyhydroxy ketones or compounds on hydrolysis give carbohydrates.

Classification of carbohydrates

Monosaccharides

- (a) Simplest carbohydrates
- (b) It cannot be hydrolysed into simpler compounds
- (c) Examples Glucose, mannose

Oligosaccharides

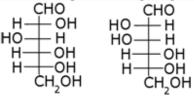
- (a) Carbohydrates which gives 2 to 10 monosaccharide units on hydrolysis
- (b) Examples Sucrose, Lactose, Maltose

Polysaccharides

- (a) Carbohydrates which on hydrolysis give large number of monosaccharide units.
- (b) Examples Cellulose, starch

Anomers: Pair of optical isomers which differ in configuration only around C1 atom are called anomers. Examples – α -D-glucopyranose and β -D-glucopyranose.

Epimers: Pair of optical isomers which differ in configuration around any other C atom other than C1 atom are called epimers. E.g. D-glucose and D- mannose are C2epimers.



D - Glucose D - Mannose

Preparation of glucose:

$$C_{12}H_{22}O_{11} + H_2O \xrightarrow{H^+} C_6H_{12}O_6 + C_6H_{12}O_6$$

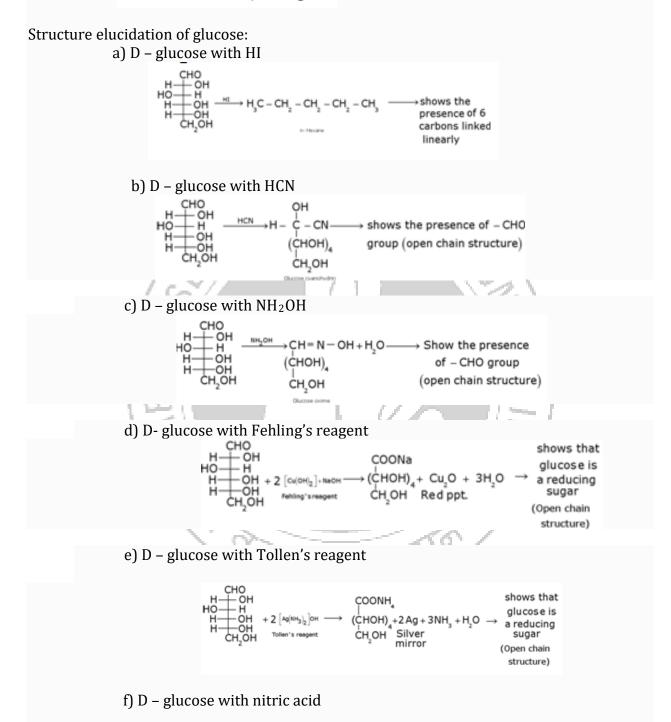
Surrose Fructose

$$(C_{12}H_{22}O_5)_n + H_2O \xrightarrow{H^+/393k; 2-3atm} nC_6H_{12}O_6$$
Sucrose
Or
Cellulose

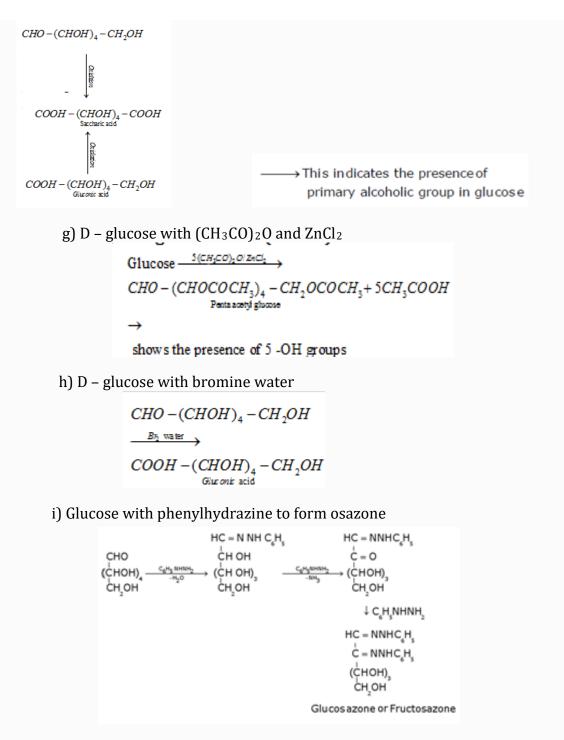
Structure of glucose



$CHO - (CHOH)_4 - CH_2OH$

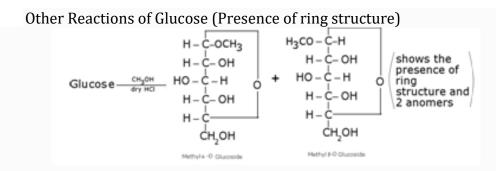




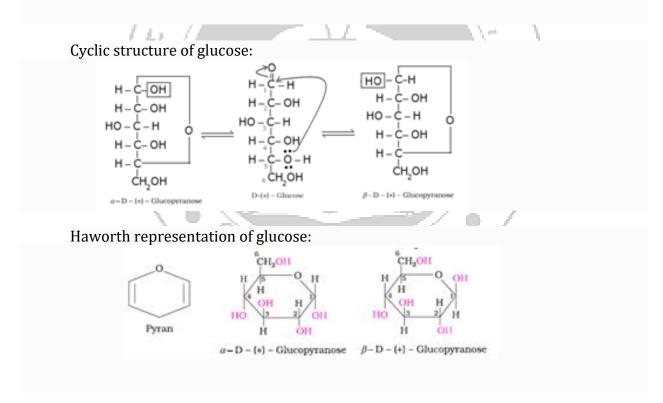


Glucose and fructose gives the same osazone because the reaction takes place at C1 and C2 only.

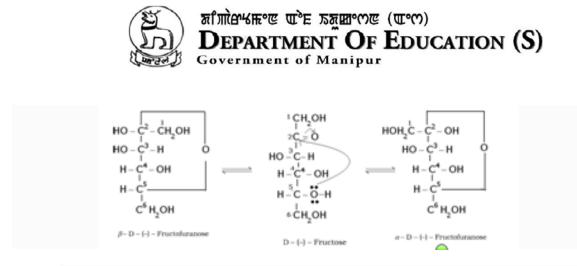




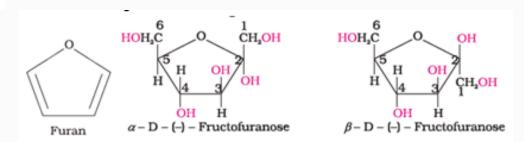
Glucose does not give Schiff's test and does not react with sodium bisulphite and NH3. Pentaacetyl glucose does not react with hydroxyl amine. This shows the absence of –CHO group and hence the presence of ring structure.



Cyclic structure of fructose:



Haworth representation of fructose



Glycosidic linkage:

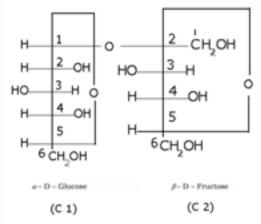
The oxide linkage formed by the loss of a water molecule when two monosaccharides are joined together through oxygen atom is called glycosidic linkage.

Sucrose (invert sugar):

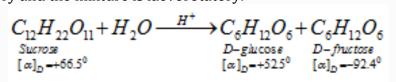
a) Sucrose is a non-reducing sugar because the two monosaccharide units are held together by a glycosidic linkage between C1 of α -glucose and C2 of β - fructose. Since the reducing groups of glucose and fructose are involved in glycosidic bond formation, sucrose



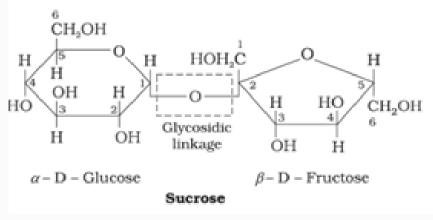
is a non-reducing sugar.



b) Sucrose is dextrorotatory but on hydrolysis it gives dextrorotatory & laevorotatory and the mixture is laevorotatory.



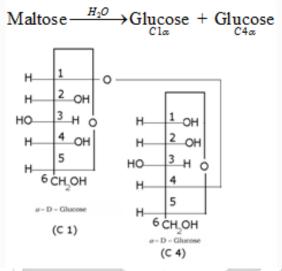
Haworth Projection of Sucrose:



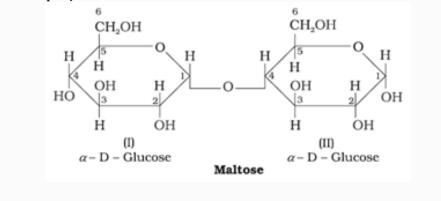


Maltose:

- 1. Maltose is composed of two α -D-glucose units in which C1 of one glucose (I) is linked to C4 of another glucose unit (II).
- 2. The free aldehyde group can be produced at C1 of second glucose in solution and it shows reducing properties so it is a reducing sugar.

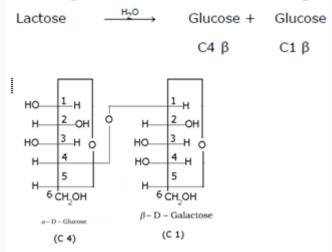


Haworth projection of maltose:

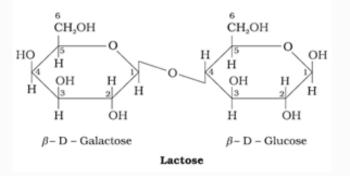




Lactose (Milk sugar): It is composed of β -D-galactose and β -D-glucose. The linkage is between C1 of galactose and C4 of glucose. Hence it is also a reducing sugar.



Haworth projection of lactose:



Starch: It is a polymer of -glucose and consists of two components — Amylose and Amylopectin.

(A)Amylose:

- 1. It is a water soluble component
- 2. It is a long unbranched chain polymer
- 3. It contains 200 1000 α -D-(+)- glucose units held by α glycosidic linkages involving C1 C4glycosidic linkage

5 C3

4. It constitutes about 15-20% of starch

(B)Amylopectin

- 1. It is a water insoluble component
- 2. It is branched chain polymer



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- 3. It forms chain by C1 C4glycosidic linkage whereas branching occurs by C1 C6glycosidic linkage
- 4. It constitutes about 80-85% of starch

Cellulose:

- 1. It occurs exclusively in plants.
- 2. It is a straight chain polysaccharide composed only of β -D-glucose units which are joined by glycosidic linkage between C1 of one glucose unit and C4 of the next glucose unit.

Glycogen:

- 1. The carbohydrates are stored in animal body as glycogen.
- 2. It is also known as animal starch because its structure is similar to Amylopectin.
- 3. It is present in liver, muscles and brain.
- 4. When the body needs glucose, enzymes break the glycogen down to glucose.

Amino acids:

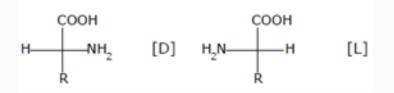
Amino acids contain amino (-NH2) and carboxyl (-COOH) functional groups.

$$R - CH - COOH$$

 $_{NH_2}^{VH_2}$

Where R – Any side chain

Most naturally occurring amino acids have L – Config.



Types of amino acids:

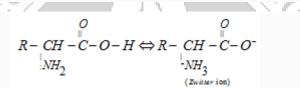


a). Essential amino acids: The amino acids which cannot be synthesised in the body and must be obtained through diet, are known as essential amino acids. Examples: Valine, Leucine

b). Non-essential amino acids: The amino acids, which can be synthesised in the body, are known as non-essential amino acids. Examples: Glycine, Alanine

Zwitterion form of amino acids:

- 1. Amino acids behave like salts rather than simple amines or carboxylic acids. This behaviour is due to the presence of both acidic (carboxyl group) and basic (amino group) groups in the same molecule. In aqueous solution, the carboxyl group can lose a proton and amino group can accept a proton, giving rise to a dipolar ion known as zwitter ion. This is neutral but contains both positive and negative charges.
- 2. In zwitterionic form, amino acids show amphoteric behaviour as they react both with acids and bases.



Isoelectronic point: The pH at which the dipolar ion exists as neutral ion and does not migrate to either electrode cathode or anode is called isoelectronic point.

Proteins: Proteins are the polymers of α -amino acids and they are connected to each other by peptide bond or peptide linkage. A polypeptide with more than hundred amino acid residues, having molecular mass higher than 10,000u is called a protein.

Peptide linkage: Peptide linkage is an amide linkage formed by condensation reaction between –COOH group of one amino acid and –NH2 group of another amino acid.



$$\begin{array}{c} H_2N - CH - COOH + H_2N - CH - COOH \\ & \downarrow \\ R_1 \\ H_2N - CH - \begin{vmatrix} O \\ C - NH \\ R_1 \end{vmatrix} - CH - COOH \\ R_2 \\ \end{array}$$

Structure of Protein

(I)Primary structure of proteins: The sequence of amino acids is said to be the primary structure of a protein.

(II) Secondary structure of proteins: It refers to the shape in which long polypeptide chain can exist. Two different types of structures:

<u>α− Helix:</u>

- 1. It was given by Linus Pauling in 1951
- 2. It exists when R- group is large.
- 3. Right handed screw with the NH group of each amino acid residue H bonded to C = 0 of adjacent turn of the helix.
- 4. Also known as 3.613 helix since each turn of the helix hasapproximately 3.6 amino acids and a 13 membered ring is formed by H bonding.
- 5. C = O and N H group of the peptide bonds are trans to each other.
- 6. Ramchandran angles (Φ and Ψ) Φ angle which C_{α} makes with N H and Ψ angle which C_{α} makes with C = 0.

 β - pleated sheet:

- 1. It exists when R group is small.
- 2. In this conformation, all peptide chains are stretched out to nearly maximum extension and then laid side by side which are held together by hydrogen bonds.

(III) Tertiary structure of proteins: It represents the overall folding of the polypeptide chain i.e., further folding of the 2° structure.

Types of bonding which stabilize the 3° structure:

- 1. Disulphide bridge (-S S-)
- 2. H bonding (C = 0 ... H N)
- 3. Salt bridge (COO- ... + *NH*₃)



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- 4. Hydrophobic interactions
- 5. van der Waals forces

Two shapes of proteins:

Fibrous proteins

a) When the polypeptide chains run parallel and are held together by hydrogen and disulphide bonds, then fibre– like structure is formed.

b) These proteins are generally insoluble in water

c) Examples: keratin (present in hair, wool, silk) and myosin (present in muscles),

etc

Globular proteins

a) This structure results when the chains of polypeptides coil around to give a spherical shape.

b) These are usually soluble in water.

c) Examples: Insulin and albumins

Quaternary structure of proteins:

1. Some of the proteins are composed of two or more polypeptide chains referred to as sub-units.

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2. The spatial arrangement of these subunits with respect to each other is known as quaternary structure of proteins.

Denaturation of proteins:

- 1. The loss of biological activity of proteins when a protein in its native form, is subjected to physical change like change in temperature or chemical change like change in pH. This is called denaturation of protein.
- 2. Example: coagulation of egg white on boiling, curdling of milk.

Enzyme: It is a substance that acts as a catalyst in living organisms, regulating the rate at which chemical reactions proceed without itself being altered in the process.

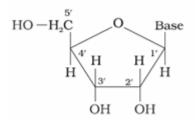
Mechanism of Enzyme action:

- There is a lock and key arrangement between the an enzyme and a substrate.
- Substrates bind at active site, temporarily forming an enzyme-substrate (E-S) complex.
- The E-S complex undergoes internal rearrangements that form the product.
- The enzyme gets regenerated for the next molecule of the substrate.

Nucleoside:

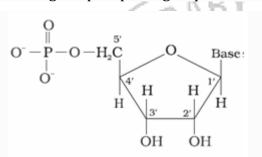


1. Base + sugar



Nucleotide:

1. Base + sugar + phosphate group



Nucleic acids (or polynucletides):

- 1. Long chain polymers of nucleotides.
- Nucleotides are joined by phosphodiester linkage between 5' and 3' C atoms of a pentose sugar.

Two types of nucleic acids:

DNA

- 1. It has a double stranded α -helix structure in which two strands are coiled spirally in opposite directions.
- 2. Sugar present is β -D-2-deoxyribose
- 3. Bases:
 - i) Purine bases: Adenine (A) and Guanine (G)ii) Pyrimidine bases: Thymine (T) and cytosine (C)
- 4. It occurs mainly in the nucleus of the cell.
- 5. It is responsible for transmission for heredity character.

RNA

- 1. It has a single stranded α -helix structure.
- 2. Sugar present is β -D-ribose



Bases:i) Purine bases: Adenine (A) and Guanine (G)ii) Pyrimidine bases: Uracil (U) and cytosine (C)

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- 4. It occurs mainly in the cytoplasm of the cell.
- 5. It helps in protein synthesis.



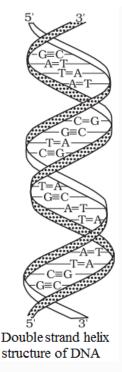
Double helix structure of DNA:

- It is composed of two right handed helical polynucleotide chains coiled spirally in opposite directions around the same central axis.
- 2. Two strands are anti-parallel i.e., their phosphodiester linkage runs in opposite directions.
- 3. Bases are stacked inside the helix in planes \perp to the helical axis.
- 4. Two strands are held together by H bonds (A = T, G \equiv C).
- 5. The two strands are complementary to each other because the hydrogen bonds are formed between specific pairs of bases.



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- 6. Adenine forms hydrogen bonds with thymine whereas cytosine forms hydrogen bonds with guanine.
- 7. Diameter of double helix is 2 nm.
- 8. Double helix repeats at intervals of 3.4 nm. (One complete turn)
- 9. Total amount of purine (A + G) = Total amount of pyramidine (C + T)



Vitamins: Vitamins are organic compounds required in the diet in small amounts to perform specific biological functions for normal maintenance of optimum growth and health of the organism.

Classification of vitamins: Vitamins are classified into two groups depending upon their solubility in water or fat.

1. Water soluble vitamins

i) These vitamins are soluble in water.

ii) Water soluble vitamins must be supplied regularly in diet because they are readily excreted in urine and cannot be stored (except vitamin B12) in our body.iii) Example: Vitamin C, B group vitamins.

2. Fat soluble vitamins

i) These vitamins are soluble in fat and oils but insoluble in water.

ii) They are stored in liver and adipose (fat storing) tissues.

iii) Example: Vitamin A, D, E and K



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Important vitamins, their sources and their deficiency diseases:

Name of vitamins	Sources	Deficiency diseases
Vitamin A	Fish liver oil, carrots, butter and milk	xerophthalmia (hardening of cornea of eye) Night blindness
Vitamin B1 (Thiamine)	Yeast, milk, green vegetables and cereals	Beriberi (loss of appetite, retarded growth)
Vitamin B2 (Riboflavin)	Milk, egg white, liver, kidney	Cheilosis (fissuring at corners of mouth and lips), digestive disorders and burning sensation of the skin.
Vitamin B6 (Pyridoxine)	Yeast, milk, egg yolk, cereals and grams	Convulsions
Vitamin B12	Meat, fish, egg and curd	Pernicious anaemia (RBC deficient in haemoglobin)
Vitamin C (Ascorbic acid)	Citrus fruits, amla and green leafy vegetables	Scurvy (bleeding gums)
Vitamin D	Exposure to sunlight, fish and egg yolk	Rickets (bone deformities in children) and osteomalacia (soft bones and joint pain in adults)
Vitamin E	Vegetable oils like wheat germ oil, sunflower oil, etc.	Increased fragility of RBCs and muscular weakness
Vitamin K	Green leafy vegetables	Increased blood clotting time



Hormones: They are chemicals released by the body to control and regulate the activity of certain cells and organs. Special glands known as endocrine glands secrete these hormones.

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List of Important Hormones

- 1. **Estrogen**-This is the main sex hormone present in women which bring about puberty, prepares the uterus and body for pregnancy and even regulates the menstrual cycle. Estrogen level changes during menopause because of which women experience many uncomfortable symptoms.
- 2. **Progesterone** It is a female sex hormone also responsible for menstrual cycle, pregnancy and embryo genesis.
- 3. **Cortisol** It has been named as the "stress hormone" as it helps the body in responding to stress. This is done by increasing the heart rate, elevating blood sugar levels etc.
- 4. **Melatonin** It primarily controls the circadian rhythm or sleep cycles.
- 5. **Testosterone** This is the main sex hormone present in men which cause puberty, muscle mass growth, and strength, increases bone density and handles facial hair growth.

Functions of Hormones

Following are some of the important functions of hormones:

- Food metabolism.
- Growth and development.
- Controlling thirst and hunger.
- Maintaining body temperature.
- Regulating mood and cognitive functions.
- Initiating and maintaining sexual development and reproduction.