

Donald Voet • Judith G. Voet • Charlotte W. Pratt

# **Fundamentals of Biochemistry**

## **Second Edition**

### **Chapter 4:**

### **Amino Acids**



# $\alpha$ -amino acids

$\alpha$ -carbon

Carboxylic acid group

Amino group

R group

General structure

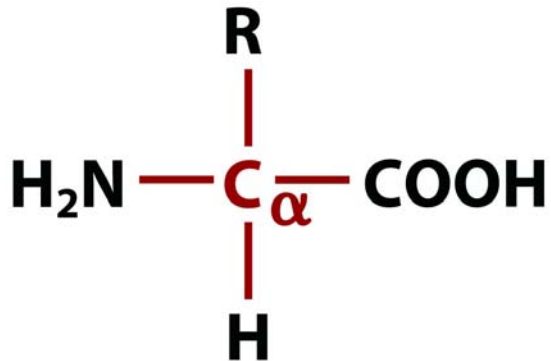


Figure 4-1 Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e  
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Zwitterionic (dipolar) form  
(at physiological pH)

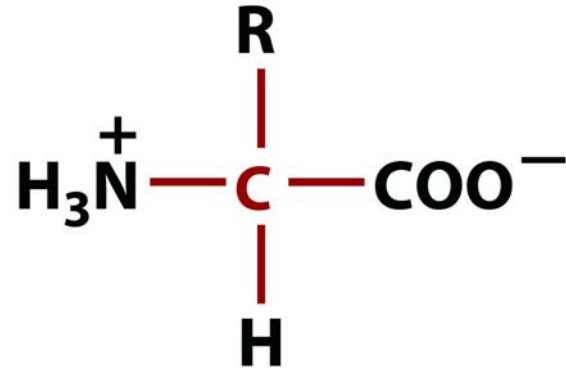


Figure 4-2 Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e  
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$\text{pK}_1$ ,  $\text{pK}_2$ ,  $\text{pK}_R$



**Table 4-1 Key to Structure.** Covalent Structures and Abbreviations of the “Standard” Amino Acids of Proteins, Their Occurrence, and the  $pK$  Values of Their Ionizable Groups

Name, Three-letter Symbol, and One-letter Symbol	Structural Formula <sup>a</sup>	Residue Mass (D) <sup>b</sup>	Average Occurrence in Proteins (%) <sup>c</sup>	$pK_1$ $\alpha$ -COOH <sup>d</sup>	$pK_2$ $\alpha$ -NH <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> <sup>d</sup>	$pK_R$ Side Chain <sup>d</sup>
<b><i>Amino acids with nonpolar side chains</i></b>						
Glycine Gly G	$  \begin{array}{c}  \text{COO}^- \\    \\  \text{H}-\text{C}-\text{H} \\    \\  \text{NH}_3^+  \end{array}  $	57.0	7.2	2.35	9.78	
Alanine Ala A	$  \begin{array}{c}  \text{COO}^- \\    \\  \text{H}-\text{C}-\text{CH}_3 \\    \\  \text{NH}_3^+  \end{array}  $	71.1	7.8	2.35	9.87	
Valine Val V	$  \begin{array}{c}  \text{COO}^- \\    \\  \text{H}-\text{C}-\text{CH} \\    \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\  \text{NH}_3^+ \quad \text{CH}_3 \quad \text{CH}_3  \end{array}  $	99.1	6.6	2.29	9.74	

<sup>a</sup>The ionic forms shown are those predominating at pH 7.0 (except for that of histidine<sup>f</sup>) although residue mass is given for the neutral compound. The C<sub>α</sub> atoms, as well as those atoms marked with an asterisk, are chiral centers with configurations as indicated according to Fischer projection formulas (Section 4-2). The standard organic numbering system is provided for heterocycles.

<sup>b</sup>The residue masses are given for the neutral residues. For the molecular masses of the parent amino acids, add 18.0 D, the molecular mass of H<sub>2</sub>O, to the residue masses. For side chain masses, subtract 56.0 D, the formula mass of a peptide group, from the residue masses.

<sup>c</sup>Calculated from a database of nonredundant proteins containing 300,688 residues as compiled by Doolittle, R.F. in Fasman, G.D. (Ed.), *Predictions of Protein Structure and the Principles of Protein Conformation*, Plenum Press (1989).

<sup>d</sup>Data from Dawson, R.M.C., Elliott, D.C., Elliott, W.H., and Jones, K.M., *Data for Biochemical Research* (3rd ed.), pp. 1–31, Oxford Science Publications (1986).

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<b><i>Amino acids with nonpolar side chains</i></b>						
Leucine Leu L	$  \begin{array}{c}  \text{COO}^- \\    \\  \text{H}-\text{C}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH} \\    \qquad \quad \diagup \quad \diagdown \\  \text{NH}_3^+ \qquad \text{CH}_3 \quad \text{CH}_3  \end{array}  $	113.2	9.1	2.33	9.74	
Isoleucine Ile I	$  \begin{array}{c}  \text{COO}^- \quad \text{CH}_3 \\    \qquad \quad   \\  \text{H}-\text{C}-\text{C}^*-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_3 \\    \qquad \quad   \\  \text{NH}_3^+ \quad \text{H}  \end{array}  $	113.2	5.3	2.32	9.76	
Methionine Met M	$  \begin{array}{c}  \text{COO}^- \\    \\  \text{H}-\text{C}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{S}-\text{CH}_3 \\    \\  \text{NH}_3^+  \end{array}  $	131.2	2.2	2.13	9.28	

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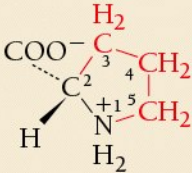
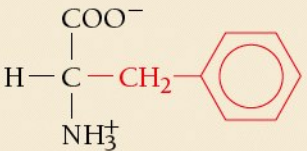
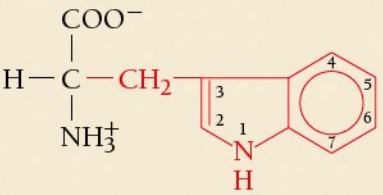
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<b><i>Amino acids with nonpolar side chains</i></b>						
Proline Pro P		97.1	5.2	1.95	10.64	
Phenylalanine Phe F		147.2	3.9	2.20	9.31	
Tryptophan Trp W		186.2	1.4	2.46	9.41	

<sup>a</sup>The ionic forms shown are those predominating at pH 7.0 (except for that of histidine<sup>f</sup>) although residue mass is given for the neutral compound. The C<sub>α</sub> atoms, as well as those atoms marked with an asterisk, are chiral centers with configurations as indicated according to Fischer projection formulas (Section 4-2). The standard organic numbering system is provided for heterocycles.

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**Table 4-1 (continued)**

Name, Three-letter Symbol, and One-letter Symbol	Structural Formula <sup>a</sup>	Residue Mass (D) <sup>b</sup>	Average Occurrence in Proteins (%) <sup>c</sup>	pK <sub>1</sub> α-COOH <sup>d</sup>	pK <sub>2</sub> α-NH <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> <sup>d</sup>	pK <sub>R</sub> Side Chain <sup>d</sup>
<i>Amino acids with uncharged polar side chains</i>						
Serine Ser S	$  \begin{array}{c}  \text{COO}^- \\    \\  \text{H}-\text{C}-\text{CH}_2-\text{OH} \\    \\  \text{NH}_3^+  \end{array}  $	87.1	6.8	2.19	9.21	
Threonine Thr T	$  \begin{array}{c}  \text{COO}^- \quad \text{H} \\    \quad \quad   \\  \text{H}-\text{C}-\text{C}^*-\text{CH}_3 \\    \quad \quad   \\  \text{NH}_3^+ \quad \text{OH}  \end{array}  $	101.1	5.9	2.09	9.10	
Asparagine <sup>e</sup> Asn N	$  \begin{array}{c}  \text{COO}^- \quad \quad \text{O} \\    \quad \quad \quad // \\  \text{H}-\text{C}-\text{CH}_2-\text{C} \\    \quad \quad \quad \backslash \\  \text{NH}_3^+ \quad \quad \text{NH}_2  \end{array}  $	114.1	4.3	2.14	8.72	

<sup>e</sup>The three- and one-letter symbols for asparagine *or* aspartic acid are Asx and B, whereas for glutamine *or* glutamic acid they are Glx and Z. The one-letter symbol for an undetermined or “nonstandard” amino acid is X.

<sup>f</sup>Both neutral and protonated forms of histidine are present at pH 7.0, since its pK<sub>R</sub> is close to 7.0.

**Table 4-1 (continued)**

Name, Three-letter Symbol, and One-letter Symbol	Structural Formula <sup>a</sup>	Residue Mass (D) <sup>b</sup>	Average Occurrence in Proteins (%) <sup>c</sup>	pK <sub>1</sub> α-COOH <sup>d</sup>	pK <sub>2</sub> α-NH <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> <sup>d</sup>	pK <sub>R</sub> Side Chain <sup>d</sup>
<i>Amino acids with uncharged polar side chains</i>						
Glutamine <sup>e</sup> Gln Q	$  \begin{array}{c}  \text{COO}^- \\    \\  \text{H}-\text{C}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{C} \begin{array}{l} \text{O} \\ \parallel \\ \text{NH}_2 \end{array} \\    \\  \text{NH}_3^+  \end{array}  $	128.1	4.3	2.17	9.13	
Tyrosine Tyr Y	$  \begin{array}{c}  \text{COO}^- \\    \\  \text{H}-\text{C}-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{OH} \\    \\  \text{NH}_3^+  \end{array}  $	163.2	3.2	2.20	9.21	10.46 (phenol)
Cysteine Cys C	$  \begin{array}{c}  \text{COO}^- \\    \\  \text{H}-\text{C}-\text{CH}_2-\text{SH} \\    \\  \text{NH}_3^+  \end{array}  $	103.1	1.9	1.92	10.70	8.37 (sulfhydryl)

<sup>e</sup>The three- and one-letter symbols for asparagine *or* aspartic acid are Asx and B, whereas for glutamine *or* glutamic acid they are Glx and Z. The one-letter symbol for an undetermined or “nonstandard” amino acid is X.

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<b><i>Amino acids with charged polar side chains</i></b>							
Lysine Lys K		$  \begin{array}{c}  \text{COO}^- \\    \\  \text{H}-\text{C}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{NH}_3^+ \\    \\  \text{NH}_3^+  \end{array}  $	128.2	5.9	2.16	9.06	10.54 (ε-NH <sub>3</sub> <sup>+</sup> )
Arginine Arg R		$  \begin{array}{c}  \text{COO}^- \\    \\  \text{H}-\text{C}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{NH}-\text{C} \begin{array}{l} \text{NH}_2 \\ \text{NH}_2^+ \end{array} \\    \\  \text{NH}_3^+  \end{array}  $	156.2	5.1	1.82	8.99	12.48 (guanidino)
Histidine <sup>f</sup> His H		$  \begin{array}{c}  \text{COO}^- \\    \\  \text{H}-\text{C}-\text{CH}_2-\text{Imidazole}^+ \\    \\  \text{NH}_3^+  \end{array}  $	137.1	2.3	1.80	9.33	6.04 (imidazole)
Aspartic acid <sup>e</sup> Asp D		$  \begin{array}{c}  \text{COO}^- \\    \\  \text{H}-\text{C}-\text{CH}_2-\text{C} \begin{array}{l} \text{O} \\ \text{O}^- \end{array} \\    \\  \text{NH}_3^+  \end{array}  $	115.1	5.3	1.99	9.90	3.90 (β-COOH)
Glutamic acid <sup>e</sup> Glu E		$  \begin{array}{c}  \text{COO}^- \\    \\  \text{H}-\text{C}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{C} \begin{array}{l} \text{O} \\ \text{O}^- \end{array} \\    \\  \text{NH}_3^+  \end{array}  $	129.1	6.3	2.10	9.47	4.07 (γ-COOH)

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# Amino acids in space filling model

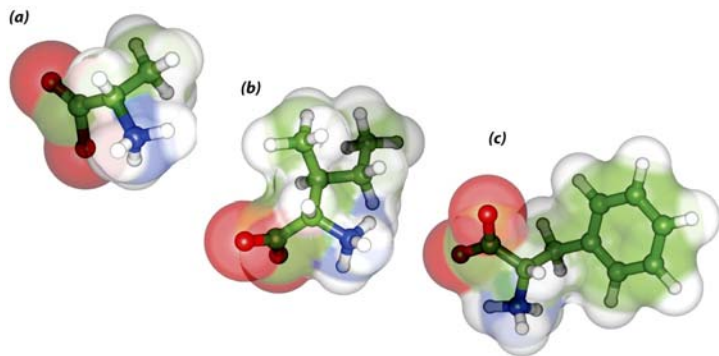


Figure 4-4 Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e  
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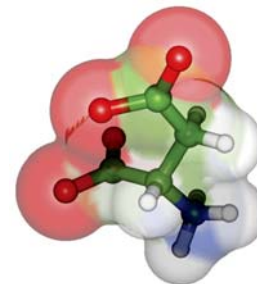


Figure 4-7a Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e  
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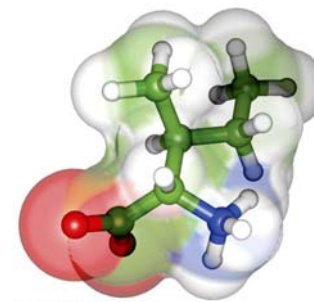


Figure 4-6b Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e  
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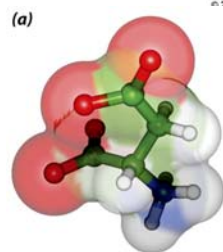


Figure 4-7 Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e  
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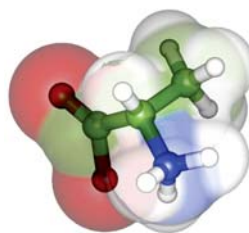
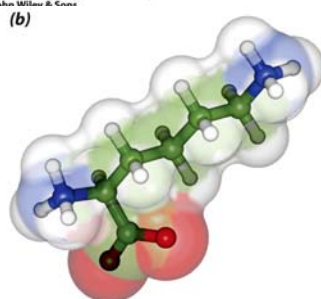


Figure 4-6a Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e  
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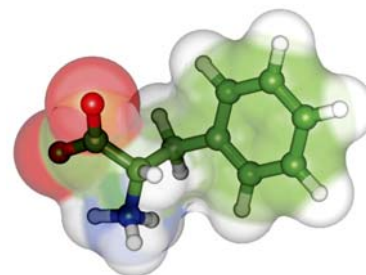


Figure 4-6c Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e  
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Figure 4-6c Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e  
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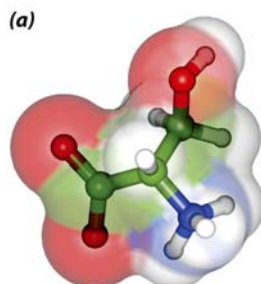


Figure 4-5 Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e  
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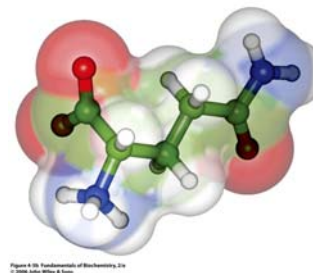
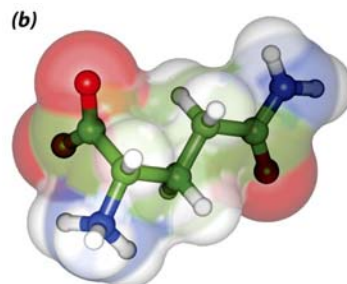


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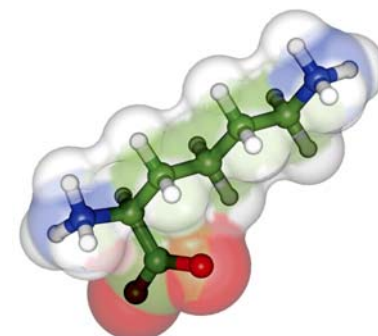


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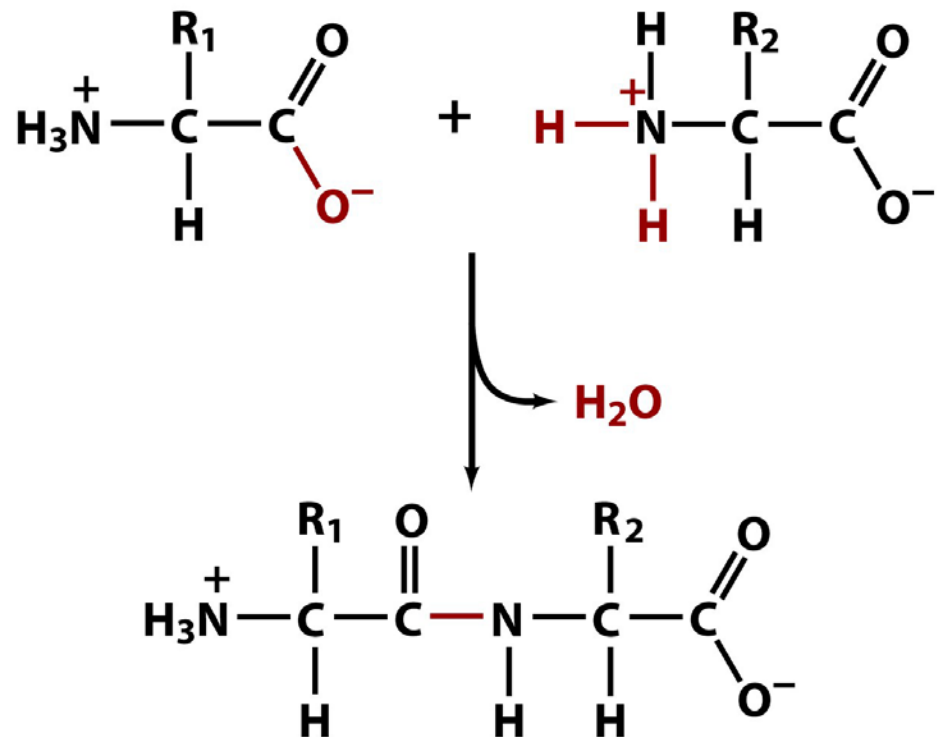
# Peptide bond

Condensation of the two amino acids

Amino acid residue

Amino terminus (N-terminus)

Carboxyl terminus (C-terminus)





# Disulfide bonded cysteine residues

## Oxidation and reduction

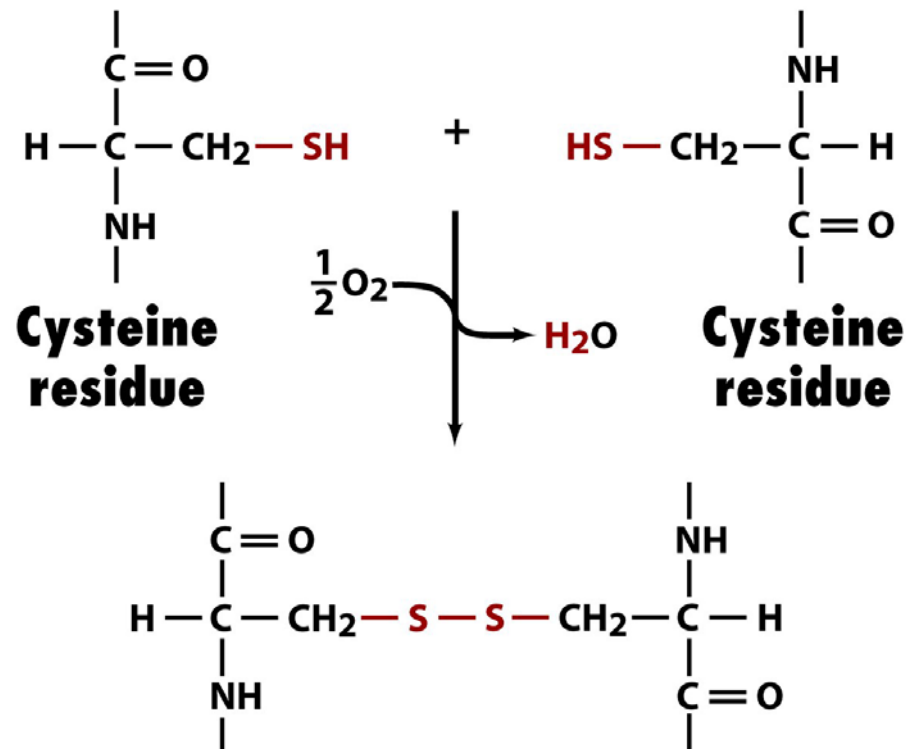


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# Acid-base properties

pI = isoelectric point

pK values depend on nearby groups

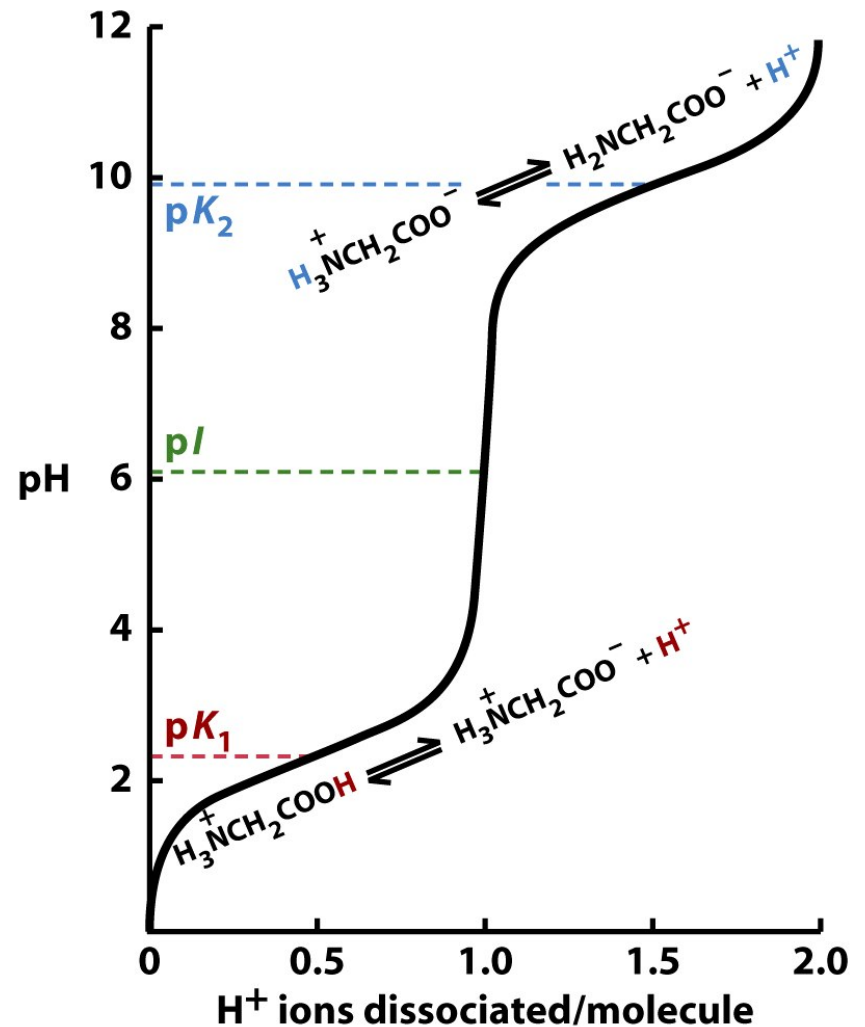


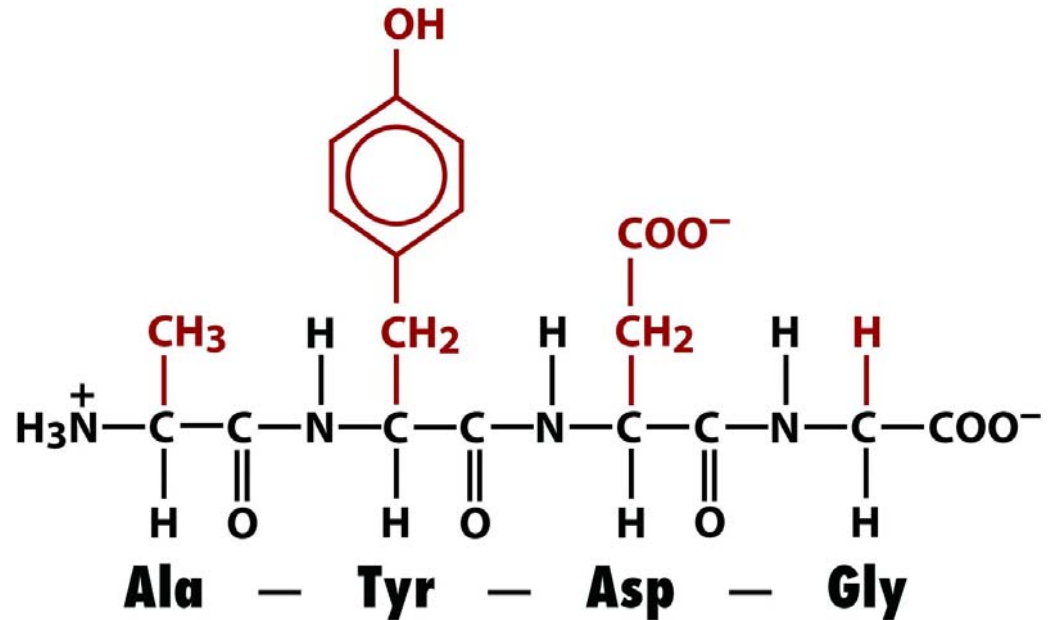
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# Nomenclature

Alanyltirosylaspartylglycine

Ala-Tyr-Asp-Gly

AYDG

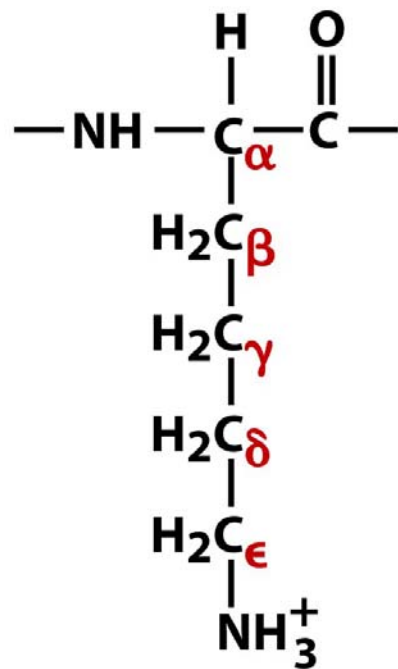


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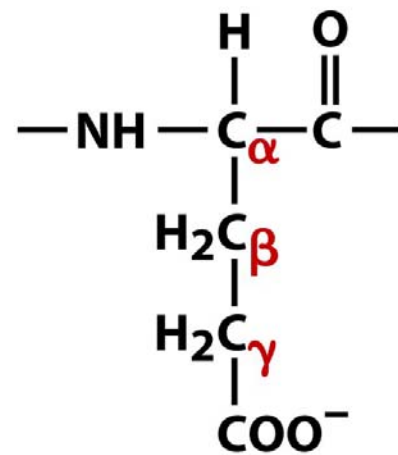
3-letter code

1-letter code





**Lys**



**Glu**

Figure 4-9 Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e  
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# Stereochemistry

Optically active molecules are asymmetric

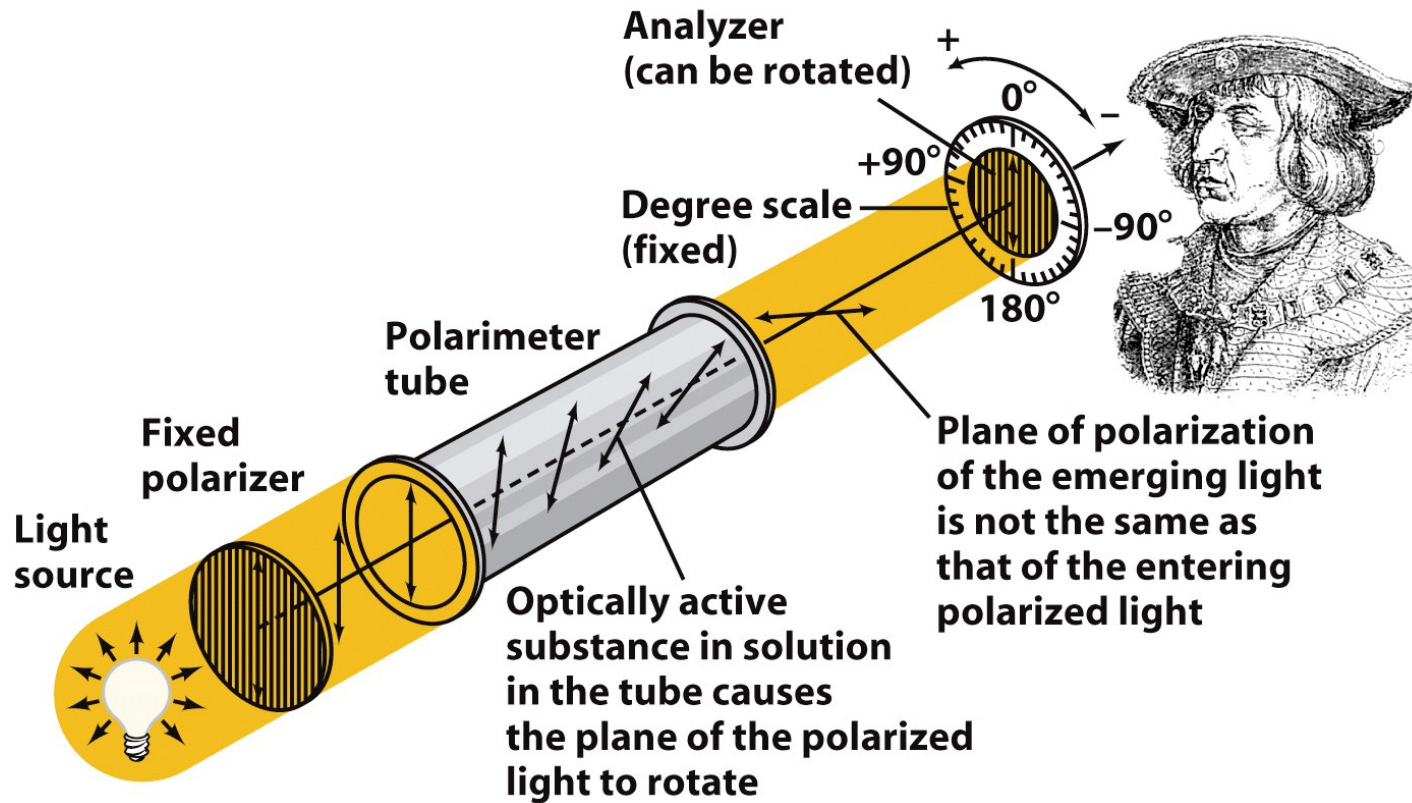


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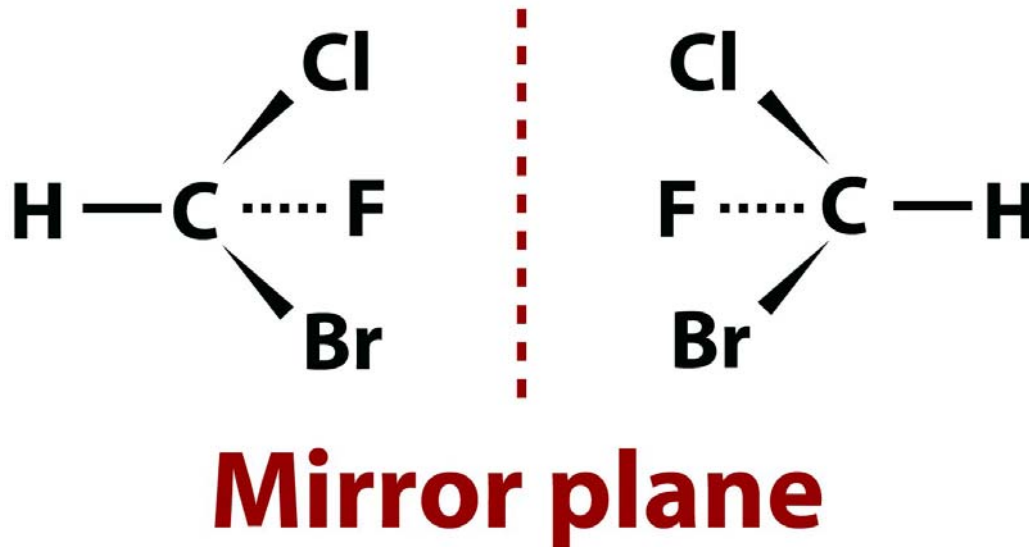
Asymmetric carbon

Asymmetric center

Chiral center

Chirality

Chiral centers give rise to enantiomers





이성질체: 분자식은 같으나 구조 (성질)가 다를 경우 이성질체 (isomer)라 부른다. 성질(물리/화학/광학)

구조이성질체 (constitutional isomer)- 원자가 다르게 연결되어 있을 때 (공유결합의 변형이 없는 동일한 구조를 가질 수 없다)  
ex. n-propanol, iso-propanol

형태이성질체 (이형태체, conformational isomer, conformer)- 형태 (conformation)란 단일결합을 축으로 회전할 때 원자의 배열이 달라지는 것을 말한다.  
ex. 에탄의 형태 (eclipsed, staggered)

입체이성질체 (stereoisomer: cis-trans isomer, enantiomer, diastereoisomer, epimer)- 삼차원적인 공간배향이 다른 화합물을 가리킨다.

Enantiomer: nonsuperimposable mirror image

Diastereomer: partial enantiomer

Epimer: isomer that differs at a single chiral center

## Configuration & conformation

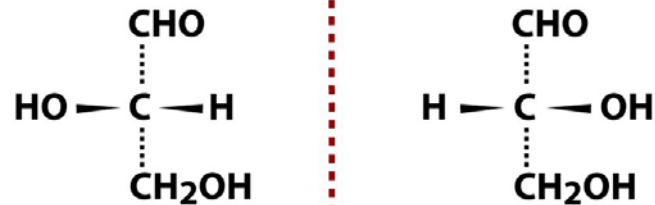
Relative configuration: D/L configuration

Absolute configuration: R/S configuration

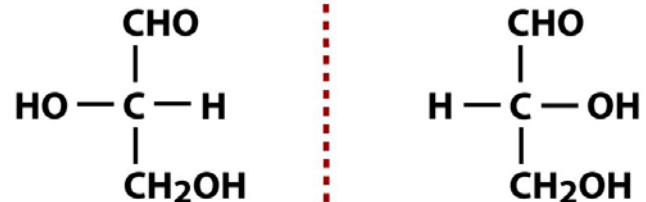


# The enantiomers of glyceraldehyde

## Geometric formulas



## Fischer projection



## Mirror plane

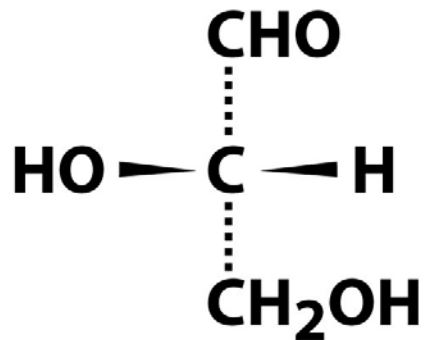
**L-Glyceraldehyde**

**D-Glyceraldehyde**

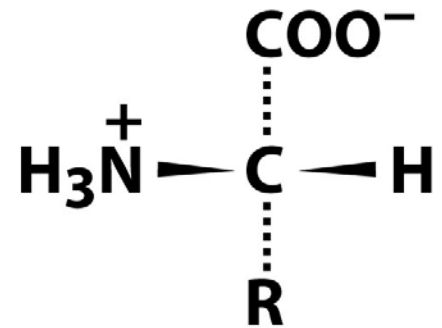
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Levorotatory (left)

Dextrorotatory (right)



**L-Glyceraldehyde**

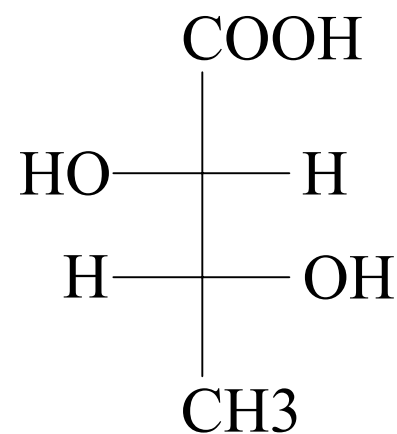
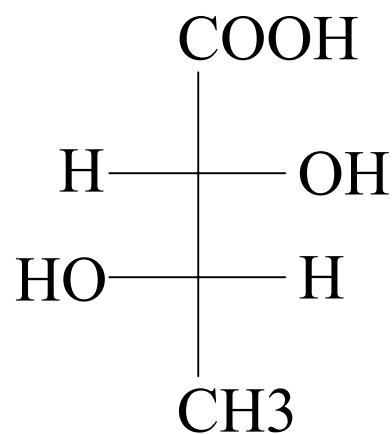
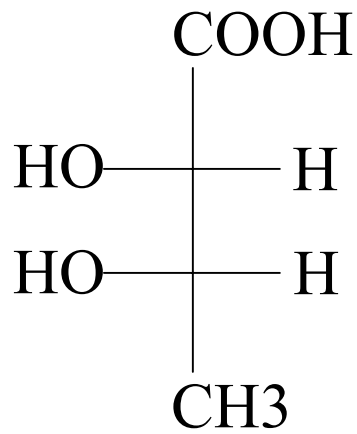
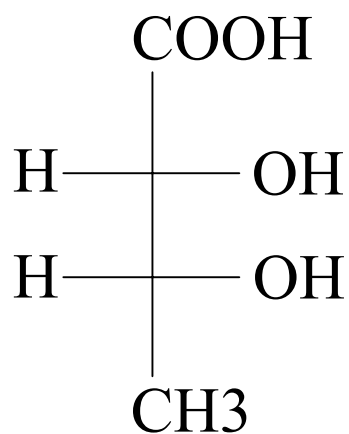


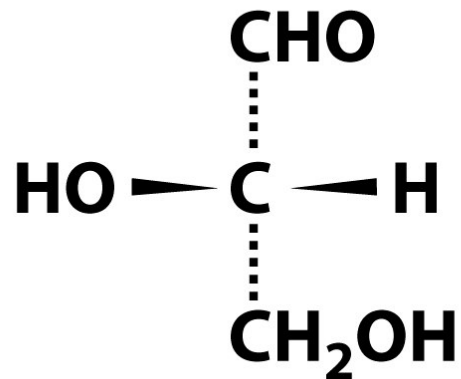
**L- $\alpha$ -Amino acid**

Unnumbered figure pg 87 Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e  
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D- and L- in amino acids do not indicate its ability to rotate the plane of polarized light

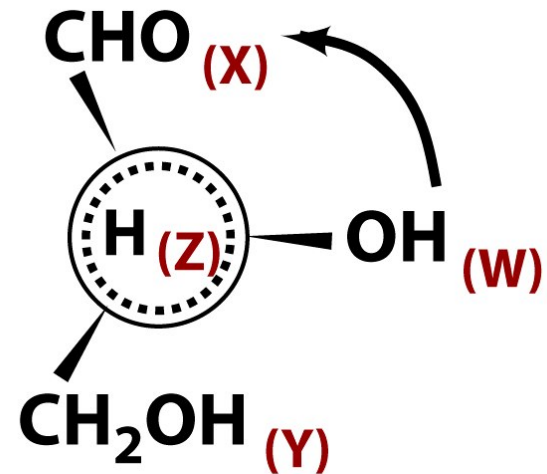
## Absolute configuration: R/S configuration





**L-Glyceraldehyde**

≡



**(S)-Glyceraldehyde**

Priority order

## The importance of stereochemistry

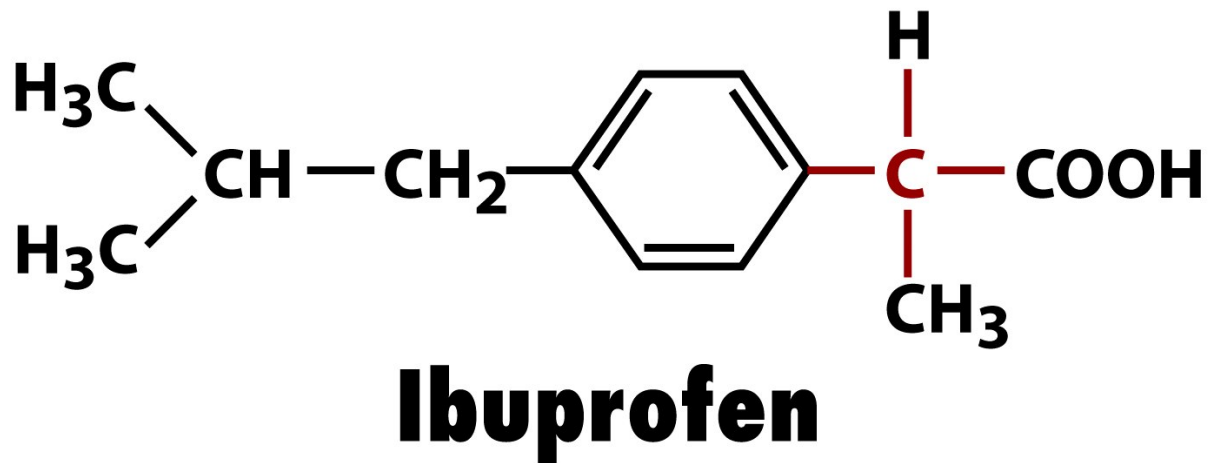
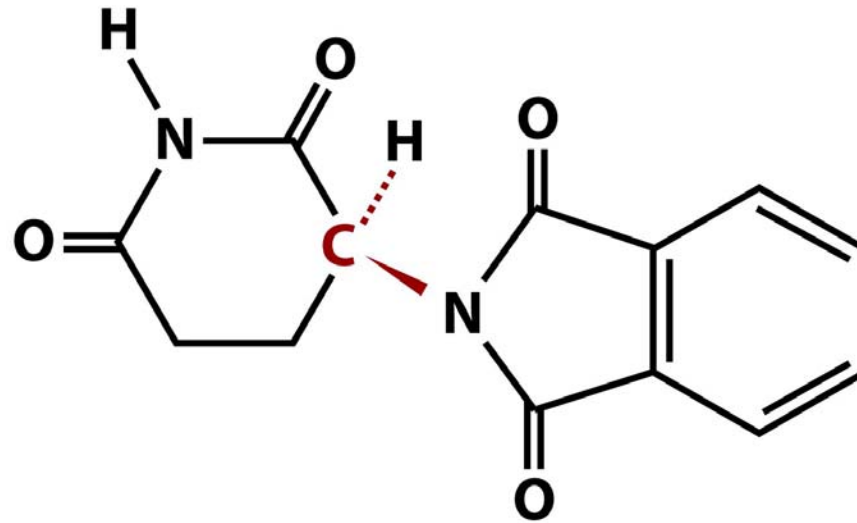


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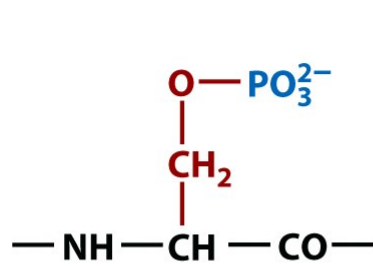




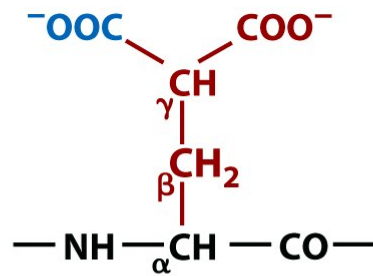
## Thalidomide

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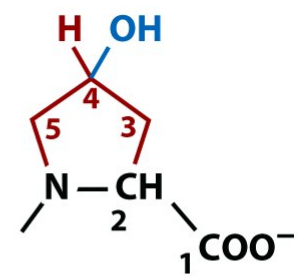
Its enantiomer causes severe birth defects in human



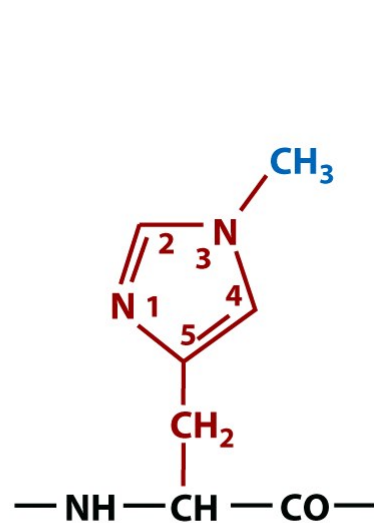
**O-Phosphoserine**



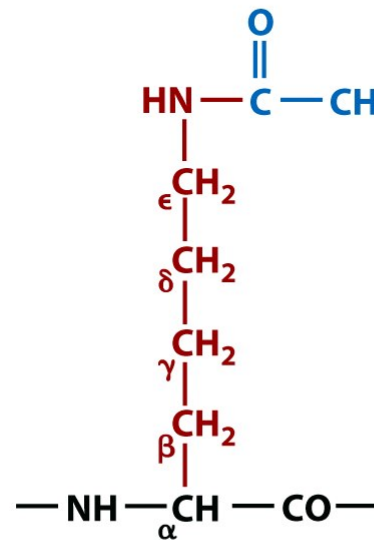
**$\gamma$ -Carboxyglutamate**



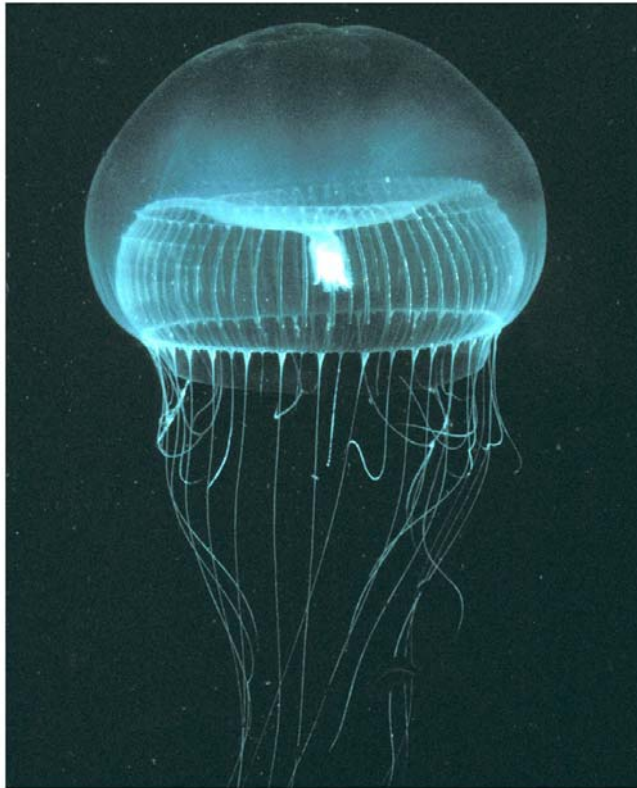
**4-Hydroxyproline**



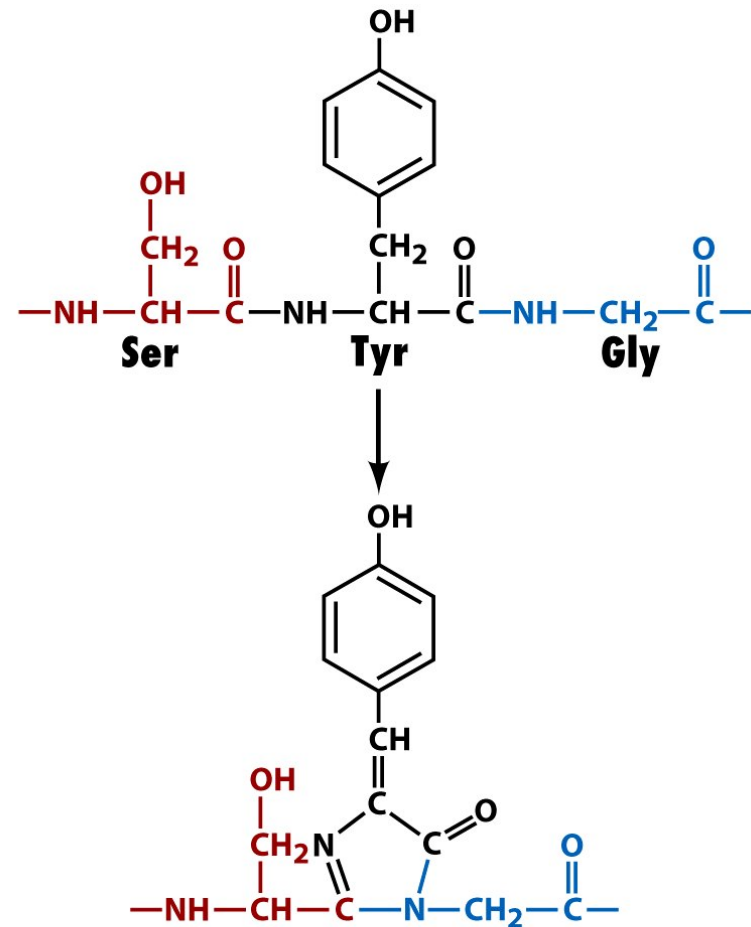
**3-Methylhistidine**



**$\epsilon$ -N-Acetyllysine**



Box 4-3 figure 1 Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e



Box 4-3 figure 2 Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e  
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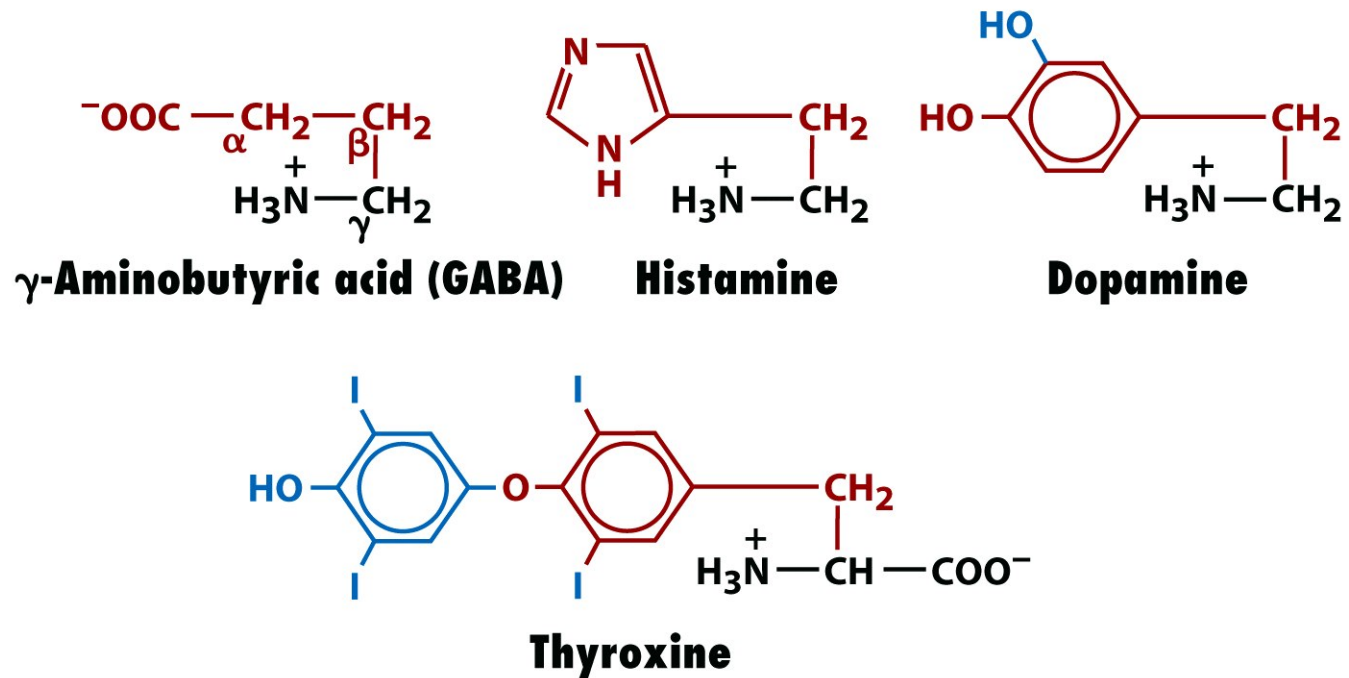
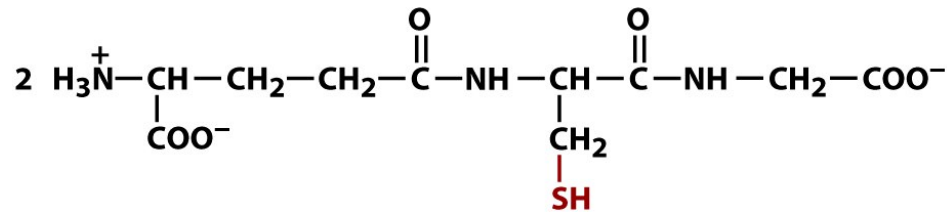
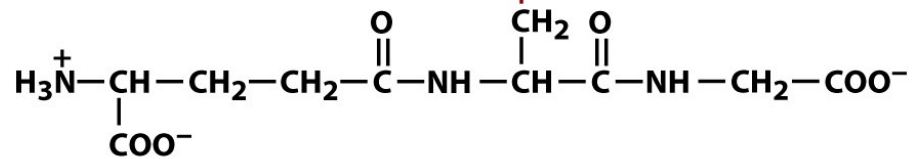
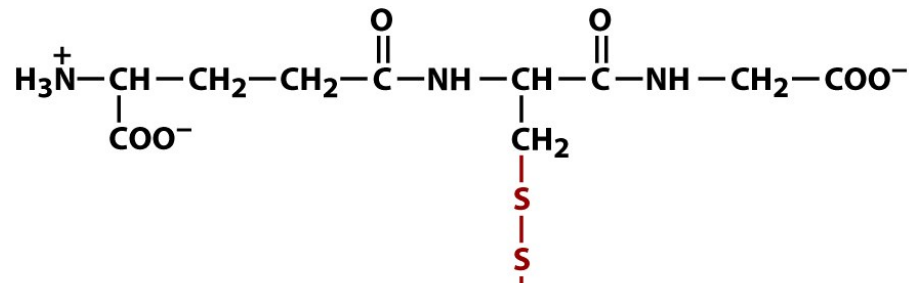
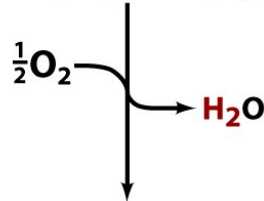


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**Glutathione (GSH)**  
( $\gamma$ -Glutamylcysteinylglycine)



**Glutathione disulfide (GSSG)**