

Lecture 24 (11/13/23)

Nucleic Acids

A. Nucleotides

1. parts
2. nomenclature
3. numbering
4. properties

B. Nucleic Acids

1. Polymer-bond
2. H-bonds
3. Roles
 - a. Nucleotides
 - b. Nucleic acids

C. The 4 S's

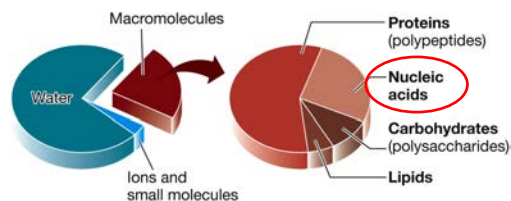
1. Size
 - a. genomes
 - b. RNAs
2. Solubility
- 3. Shape**
- 4. Stability**

- Reading: Ch8; 294-296
263-269; 269-274
Ch24; 885-890, 891-894
- Homework #23 & #24

NEXT

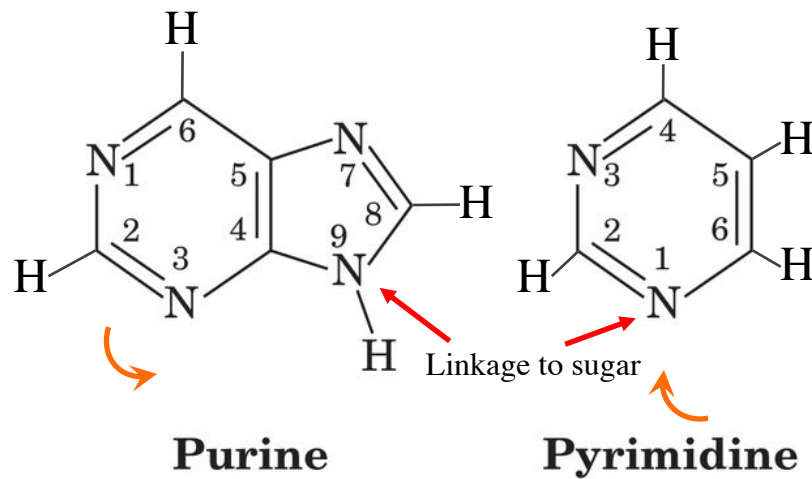
- Reading: Ch8; 278-283
Ch24; 895-897
- Homework #25 & #26

Nucleotides & Nucleic Acids

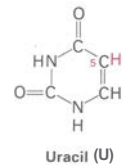
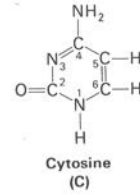
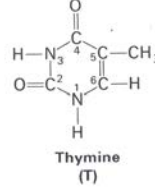
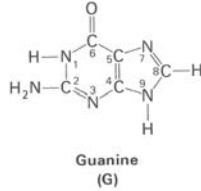
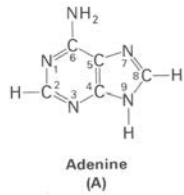


Definition of Nucleotides

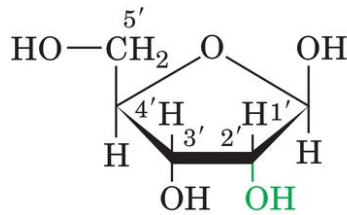
The Nitrogenous Bases of Nucleotides are Derivatives of Purine & Pyrimidine



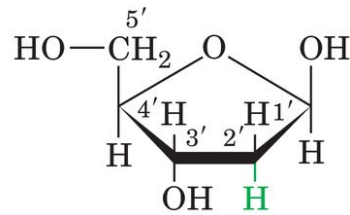
Chemical Structures of Nucleotide Bases



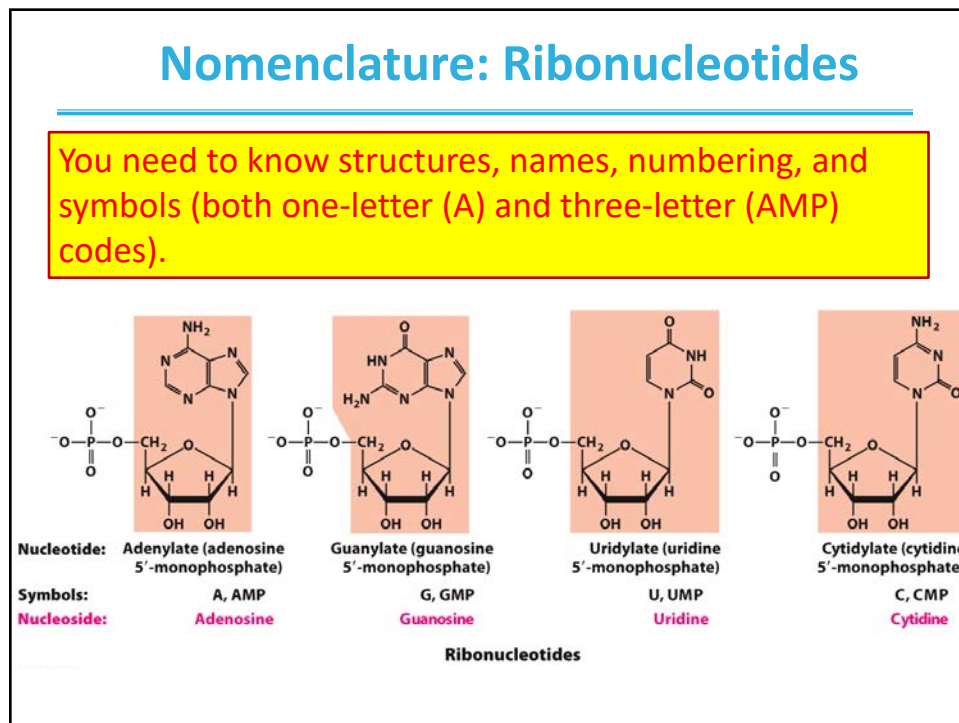
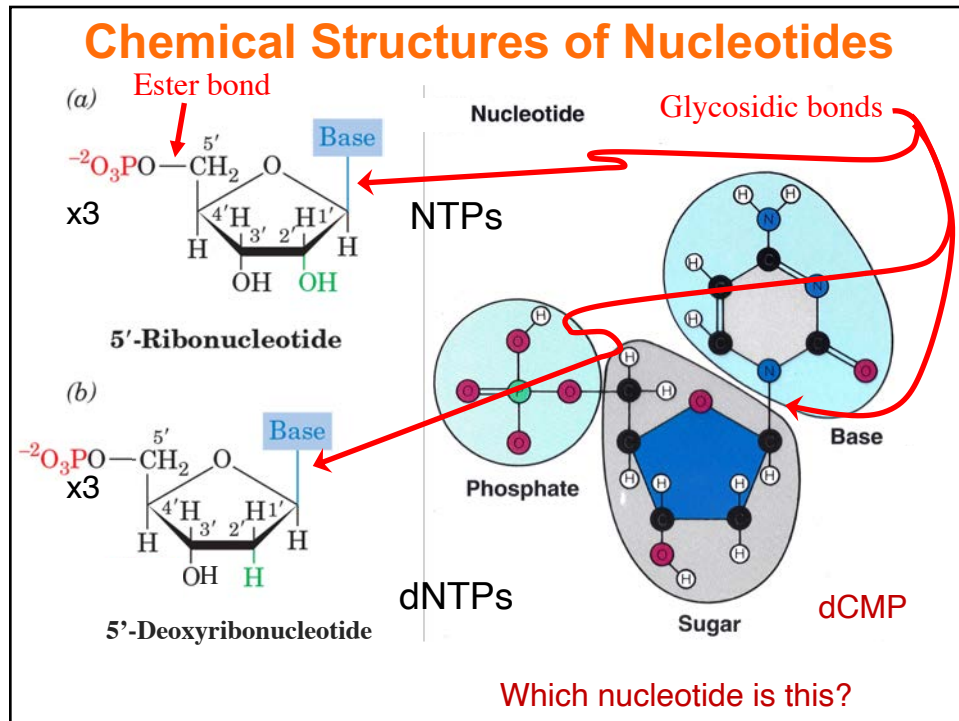
Sugars of Nucleotides are Either Ribose & Deoxyribose



Ribose
(β-D-ribose)

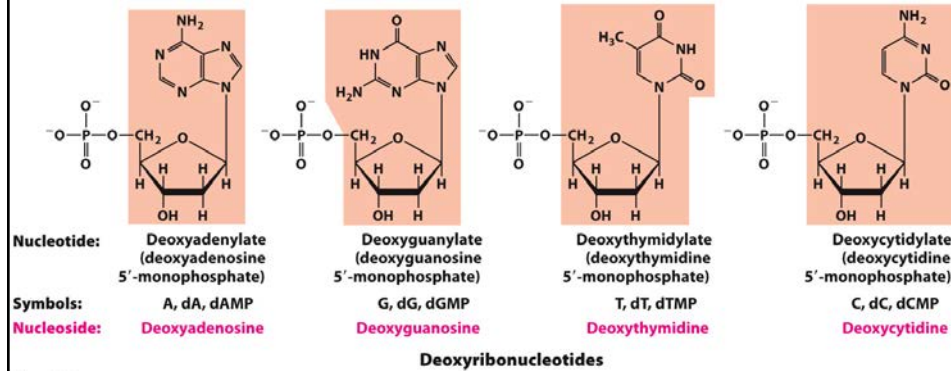


Deoxyribose
(β-D-2' deoxyribose)



Nomenclature: Deoxyribonucleotides

You need to know structures, names, numbering, and symbols (both one-letter (dA) and three-letter (dAMP) codes).

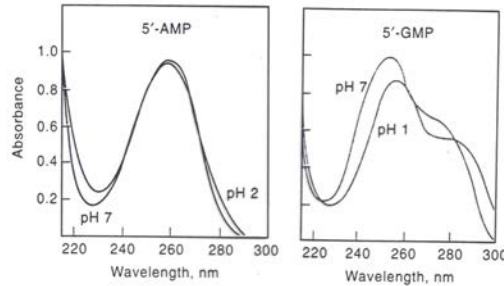


Nucleotides: Nomenclature

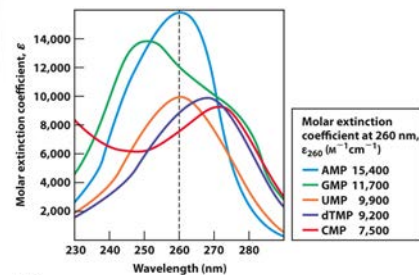
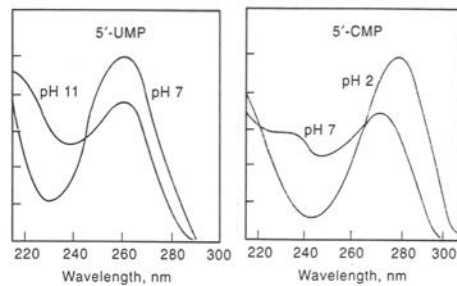
Nucleotide and nucleic acid nomenclature			
Base	Nucleoside*	Nucleotide*	Nucleic acid
<i>Purines</i>			
<i>-ine</i>	<i>-osine</i>	<i>-ylate</i>	
Adenine	Adenosine Deoxyadenosine	Adenylate Deoxyadenylate	RNA DNA
Guanine	Guanosine Deoxyguanosine	Guanylate Deoxyguanylate	RNA DNA
<i>Pyrimidines</i>			
<i>-idine</i>	<i>-idine</i>	<i>-idylate</i>	
Cytosine <i>Cytos!!</i>	Cytidine Deoxycytidine	Cytidylate Deoxycytidylate	RNA DNA
Thymine	Thymidine or deoxythymidine	Thymidylate or deoxythymidylate	DNA
Uracil <i>-acil!!</i>	Uridine	Uridylate	RNA

*Nucleoside and nucleotide are generic terms that include both ribo- and deoxyribo- forms. Note that here ribonucleosides and ribonucleotides are designated simply as nucleosides and nucleotides (e.g., riboadenosine as adenosine) and deoxyribonucleosides and deoxyribonucleotides as deoxynucleosides and deoxynucleotides (e.g., deoxyriboadenosine as deoxyadenosine). Both forms of naming are acceptable, but the shortened names are more commonly used.

Nucleic Acid Bases, Nucleosides, and Nucleotides



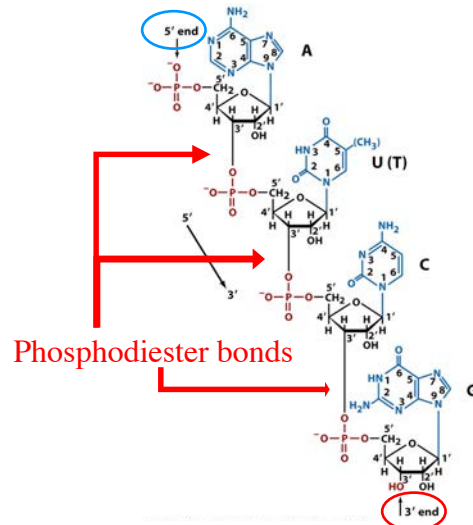
Nucleotide	Extinction Coefficient at pH 7.0 ($M^{-1}cm^{-1}$) $\times 10^3$	λ_{max} (nm)
AMP	15.4	260
GMP	11.7	248
CMP	7.5	280
dTMP	9.2	270
UMP	9.9	260



Definition of Nucleic Acids

Polymers of nucleotides

Nucleic acid – polymer of nucleotides – directionality 5'→3'



When you write a sequence:

ATCG

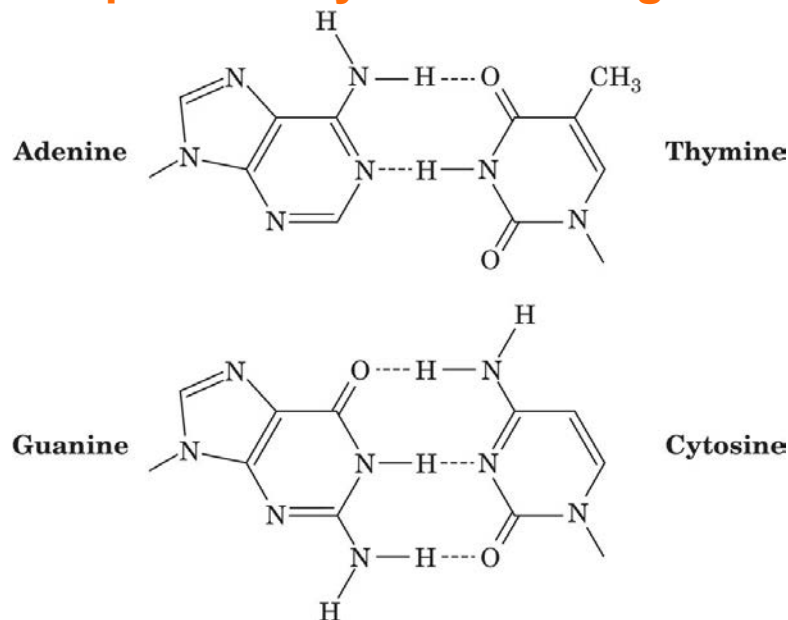
It is assumed that the 5'-end is on the left and the 3'-end is on the right, unless otherwise labeled.

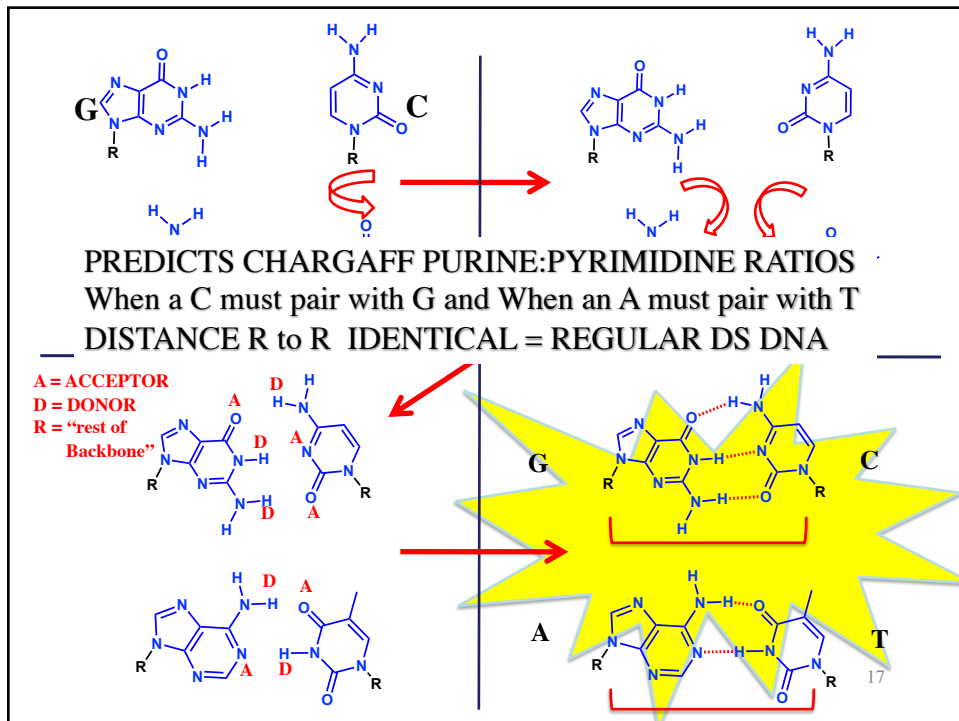
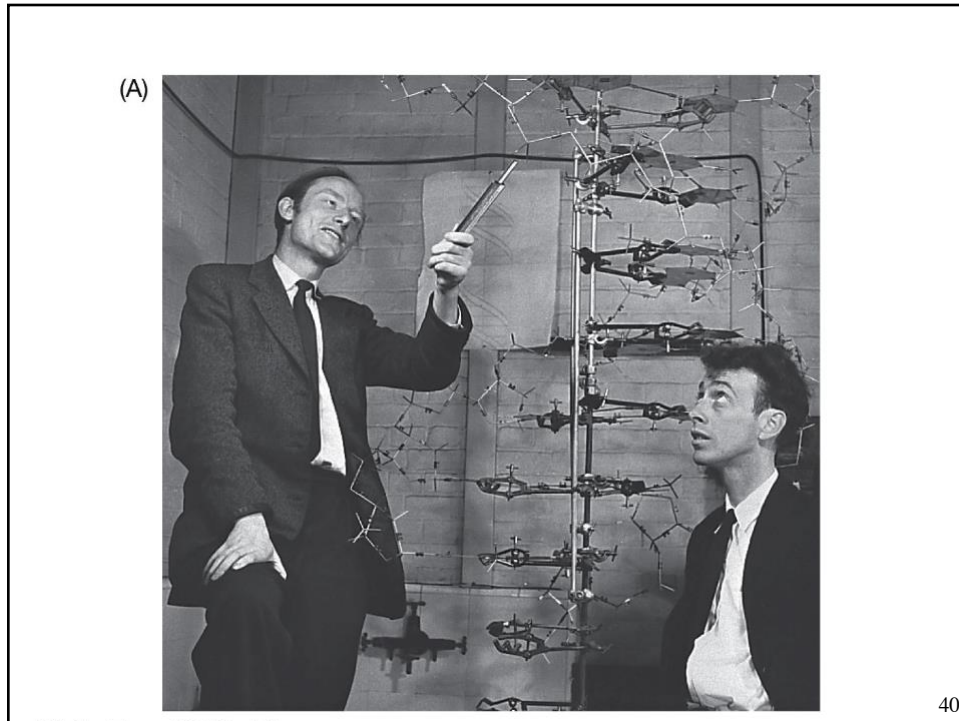
5'-ATCG-3'

3'-GCTA-5' same molecule

What is the bond that links the nucleotides?

Complementary Base Pairing in DNA







Watson-Crick Base Pairs

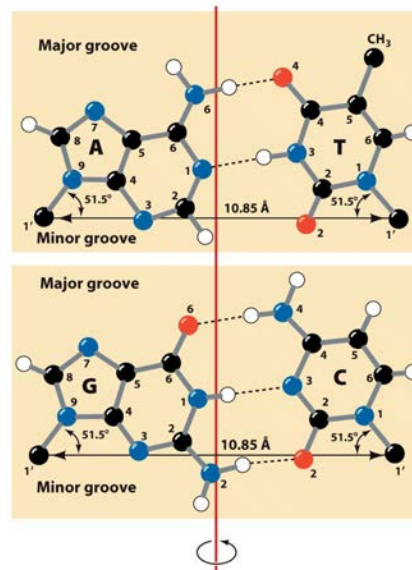
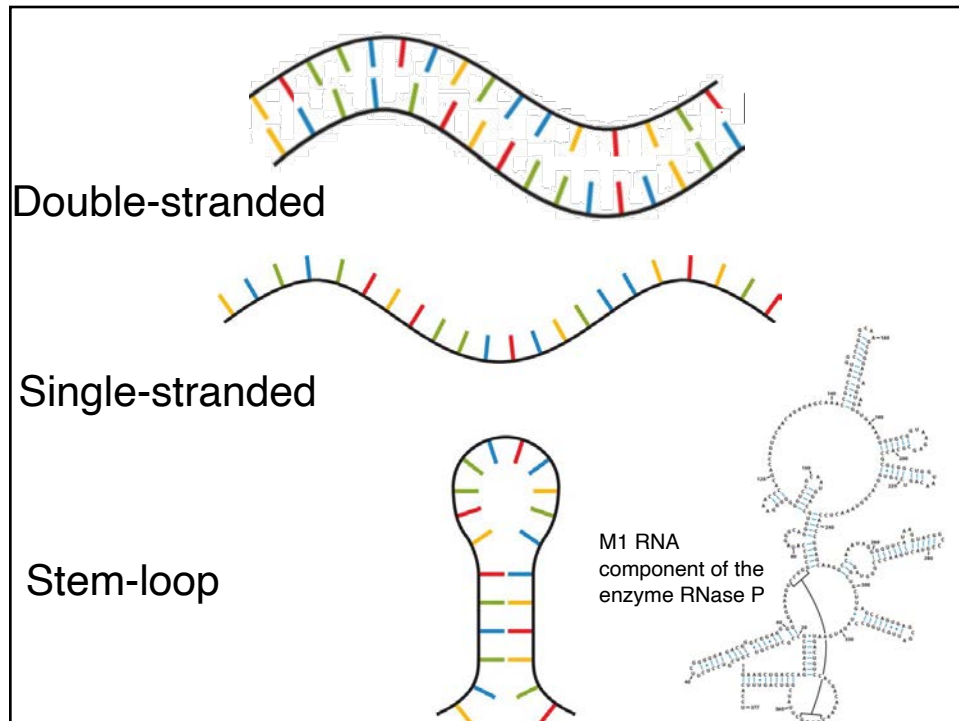


Figure 24-1
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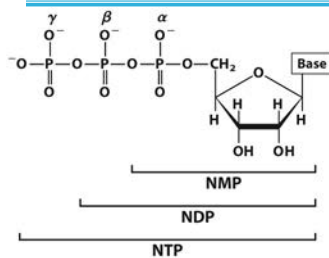
Roles of Nucleotides

The most well known is ATP:

Important roles of other nucleotides:

- Energy rich (high energies of hydrolysis, but kinetically stable)
besides ATP, includes: GTP, CTP, UTP
- Carrier molecule (key intermediates in metabolism)
UDP-sugars, CDP-lipids, NADH, FAD
- Secondary messengers (cAMP, cGMP)
- Other cofactors for enzymes

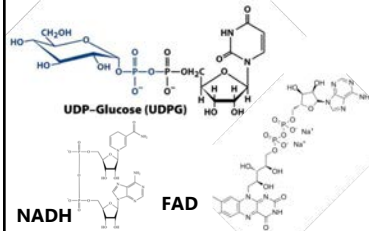
Other Functions of Nucleotides: Energy Source



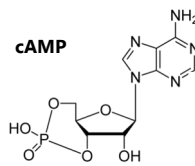
Abbreviations of ribonucleoside 5'-phosphates			
Base	Mono-	Di-	Tri-
Adenine	AMP	ADP	ATP
Guanine	GMP	GDP	GTP
Cytosine	CMP	CDP	CTP
Uracil	UMP	UDP	UTP

Abbreviations of deoxyribonucleoside 5'-phosphates			
Base	Mono-	Di-	Tri-
Adenine	dAMP	dADP	dATP
Guanine	dGMP	dGDP	dGTP
Cytosine	dCMP	dCDP	dCTP
Thymine	dTMP	dTDP	dTTP

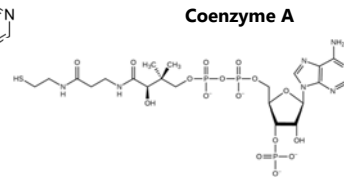
Carrier molecules



Secondary messengers



Other cofactors for enzymes



Roles of Nucleic Acids

- Information storage
- Information retrieval
- Information translation
- Information processing
- Information preservation

Key experiments by Griffiths, Avery, and Hershey & Chase*

*on website; not in textbook

The 4 S's
Size
Solubility
Shape
Stability

The 4 S's
Size
Solubility
Shape
Stability

Nucleic Acids: Size

Genome Sizes

TABLE 28-2. SIZES OF SOME DNA MOLECULES

Organism	Number of base pairs (kb) ^a	Contour length (μm)
Viruses		
Polyoma, SV40	5.1	1.7
λ Bacteriophage	48.6	17
T2, T4, T6 bacteriophage	166	55
Fowlpox	280	193
Bacteria		
<i>Mycoplasma hominis</i>	760	260
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	4,700	1,600
Eukaryotes		
Yeast (in 17 haploid chromosomes)	13,500	4,600
<i>Drosophila</i> (in 4 haploid chromosomes)	165,000	56,000
Human (in 23 haploid chromosomes)	2,900,000	990,000
Lungfish (in 19 haploid chromosomes)	102,000,000	34,700,000

^a kb = kilobase pair = 1000 base pairs (bp).

Source: Kornberg, A. and Baker, T.A., *DNA Replication* (2nd ed.), p. 20, Freeman (1992).

TABLE 3-3 Some Sequenced Genomes

Organism	Genome Size (kb)	Number of Chromosomes
<i>Mycoplasma genitalium</i> (human parasite)	580	1
<i>Rickettsia prowazekii</i> (putative relative of mitochondria)	1,112	1
<i>Haemophilus influenza</i> (human pathogen)	1,830	1
<i>Escherichia coli</i> (human symbiont)	4,639	1
<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> (baker's yeast)	12,070	16
<i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> (protozoan that causes malaria)	23,000	14
<i>Caenorhabditis elegans</i> (nematode)	97,000	6
<i>Arabidopsis thaliana</i> (dicotyledonous plant)	119,200	5
<i>Drosophila melanogaster</i> (fruit fly)	180,000	4
<i>Oryza sativa</i> (rice)	389,000	12
<i>Danio rerio</i> (zebra fish)	1,700,000	25
<i>Gallus gallus</i> (chicken)	1,200,000	40
<i>Mus musculus</i> (mouse)	2,500,000	20
<i>Homo sapiens</i>	3,038,000	23

Nucleic Acids: Size

Genome Sizes (from DNA sequence)

TABLE 24-2 DNA, Gene, and Chromosome Content in Some Genomes

	Total DNA (bp)	Number of chromosomes ^a	Approximate number of genes
<i>Escherichia coli</i> K12 (bacterium)	4,641,652	1	4,494 ^b
<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> (yeast)	12,157,105	16 ^c	6,340 ^b
<i>Caenorhabditis elegans</i> (nematode)	90,269,800	12 ^d	23,000
<i>Arabidopsis thaliana</i> (plant)	119,186,200	10	33,000
<i>Drosophila melanogaster</i> (fruit fly)	120,367,260	18	20,000
<i>Oryza sativa</i> (rice)	480,000,000	24	57,000
<i>Mus musculus</i> (mouse)	2,634,266,500	40	27,000
<i>Homo sapiens</i> (human)	3,070,128,600	46	20,000

Note: This information is constantly being refined. For the most current information, consult the websites for the individual genome projects.

^aThe diploid chromosomes number is given for all eukaryotes except yeast.

^bIncludes known RNA-coding genes.

^cHaploid chromosomes number. Wild yeast strains generally have eight (octoploid) or more sets of these chromosomes.

^dNumber for females, with two X chromosomes. Males have an X but no Y, thus 11 chromosomes in all.

Nucleic Acids: Size

RNA Sizes

Table 5-1
RNA molecules in *E. coli*

Type	Relative amount (%)	Sedimentation coefficient (S)	Mass (kd)	Number of nucleotides
Ribosomal RNA (rRNA)	80	23	1.2×10^3	3700
		16	0.55×10^3	1700
		5	3.6×10^1	120
Transfer RNA (tRNA)	15	4	2.5×10^1	75
Messenger RNA (mRNA)	5	Heterogeneous		

The 4 S's

Size

Solubility

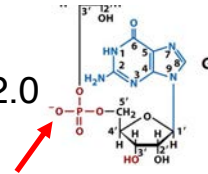
Shape

Stability

Nucleic Acids: Solubility

The polymer is a poly-anion

The pK_a of the phosphodiester is ~ 2.0



Consequences:

1) A counter ion:

required for solubility and stability.

usually Na^+ , K^+ , and/or Mg^{+2}

in cell, also use of polyamines; spermine & spermidine.

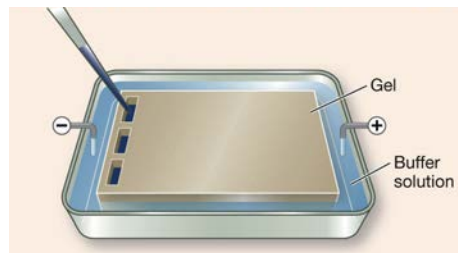
2) Easily separated by electrophoresis:

Every nucleotide has one (1) negative charge.

so charge/mass ratio is constant.

so can separate by size (similar in concept to SDS-PAGE).

Nucleic Acids: Solubility



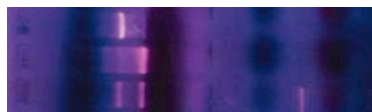
Nucleic acids can be separated by **gel electrophoresis**.

Polymers can be placed in a well in a semisolid gel and an electric field is applied across the gel.

Negatively charged Nucleic acids move towards positive end.

For polymers of the same shape, smaller polymers travel faster than larger polymers.

For polymers of the same size, more compact topologies travel faster than less compact ones.



The 4 S's

Size

Solubility

Shape

Stability

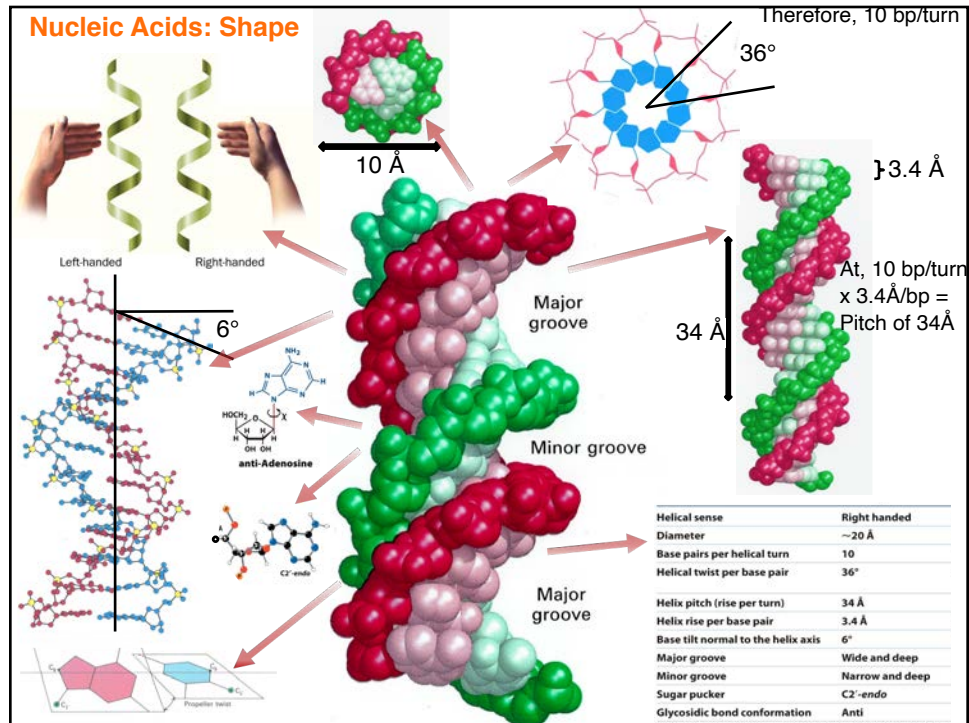
Nucleic Acids: Shape

ANTIPARALLEL dsDNA

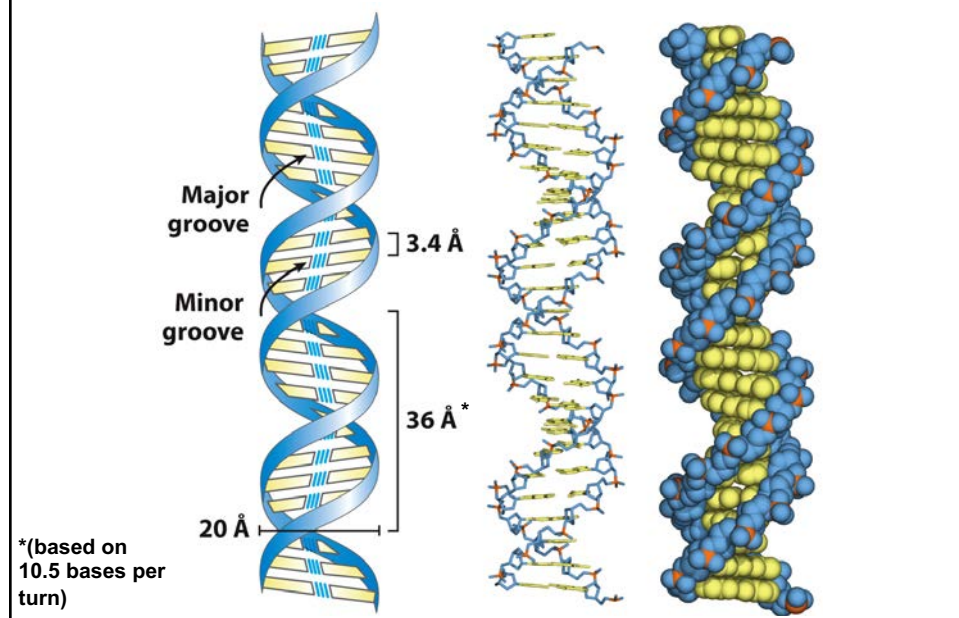


PARALLEL dsDNA



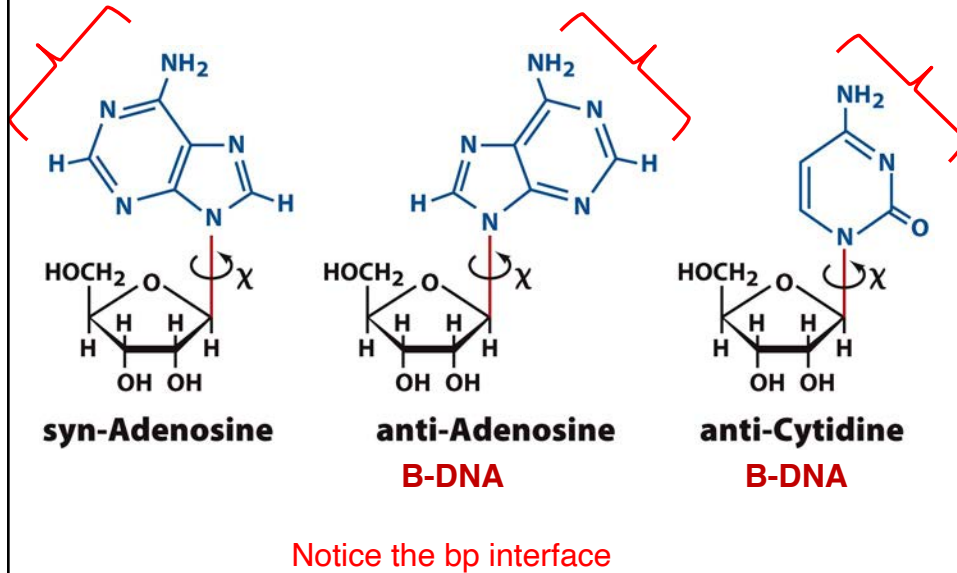


Watson-Crick Model of B-DNA



Nucleic Acids: Shape

Sterically Allowed Base Orientations

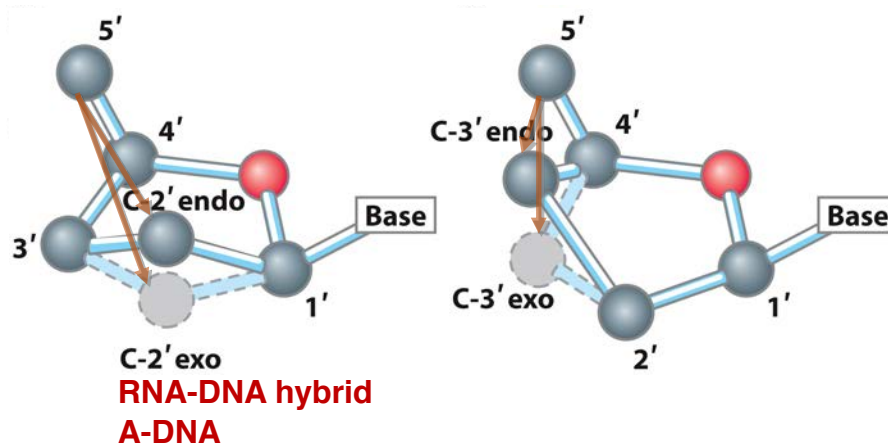


Nucleic Acids: Shape

Nucleotide Sugar Conformations

4 possible pucker conformations:

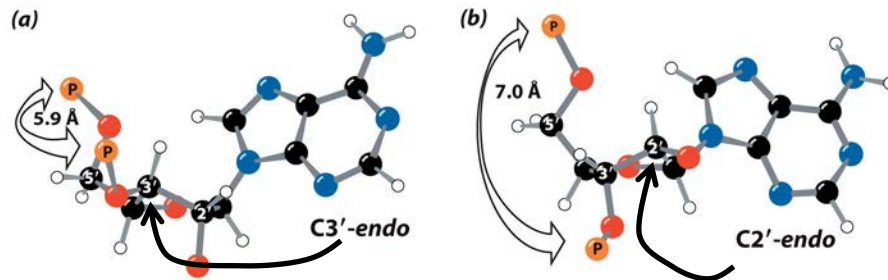
NUCLEIC ACIDS ARE ALWAYS *endo*



What is this "A-DNA"?

Nucleic Acids: Shape

Nucleotide Sugar Conformations

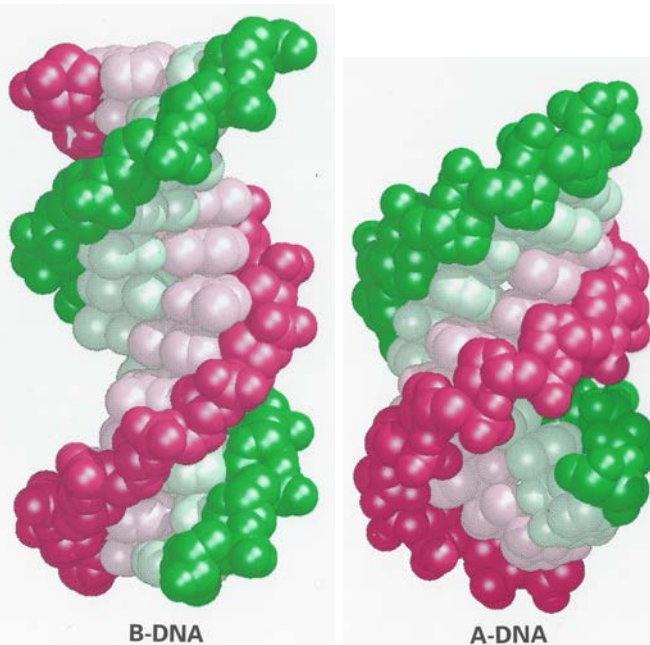


RNA
RNA-DNA hybrid
A-DNA

B-DNA

What is this “A-DNA”?

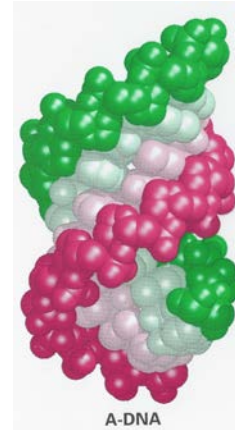
Nucleic Acids: Shape



Nucleic Acids: Shape

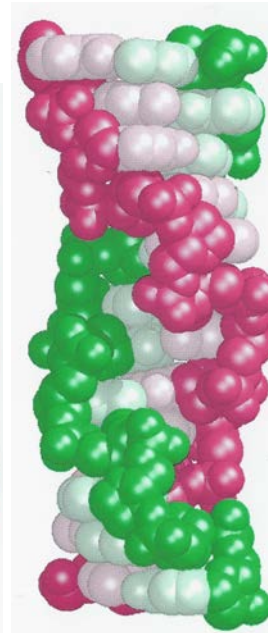
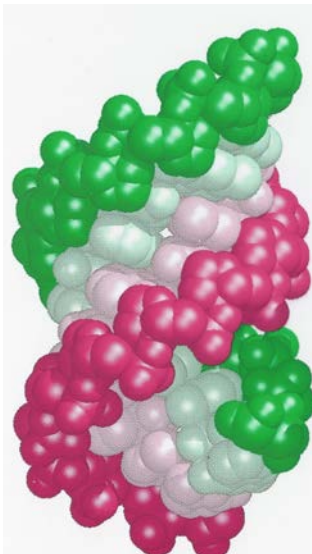
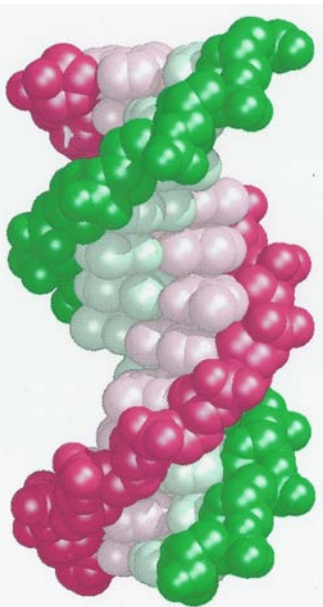
TABLE 24-1 Structural Features of Ideal B-DNA

	B
Helical sense	Right handed
Diameter	~20 Å
Base pairs per helical turn	10
Helical twist per base pair	36°
Helix pitch (rise per turn)	34 Å
Helix rise per base pair	3.4 Å
Base tilt normal to the helix axis	6°
Major groove	Wide and deep
Minor groove	Narrow and deep
Sugar pucker	C2'-endo
Glycosidic bond conformation	Anti



Are there other shapes of DNA?

Nucleic Acids: Shape

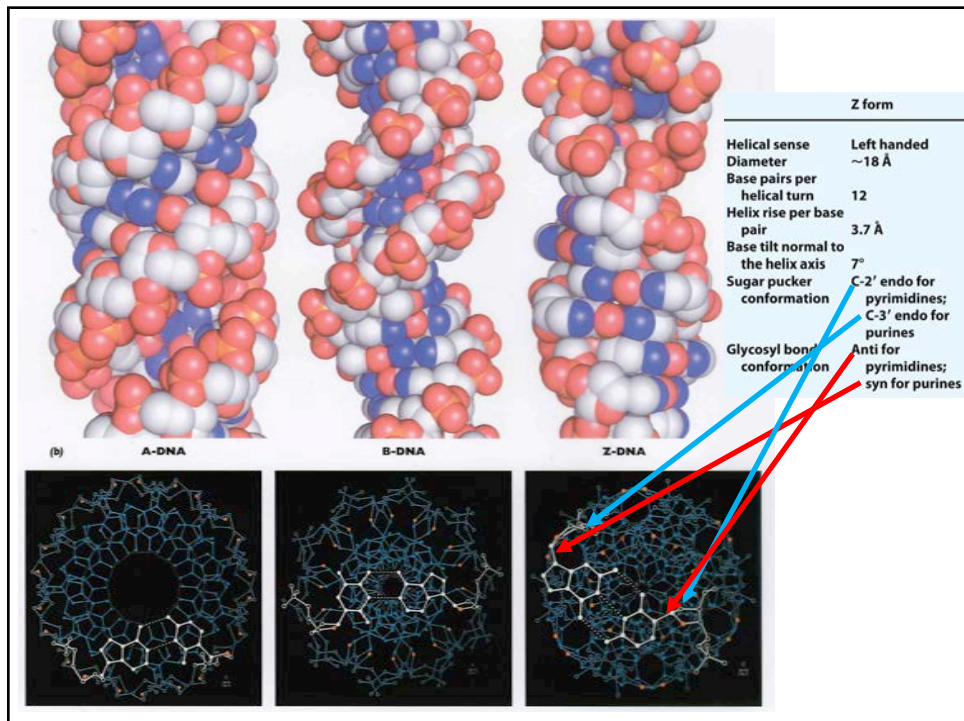


Nucleic Acids: Shape

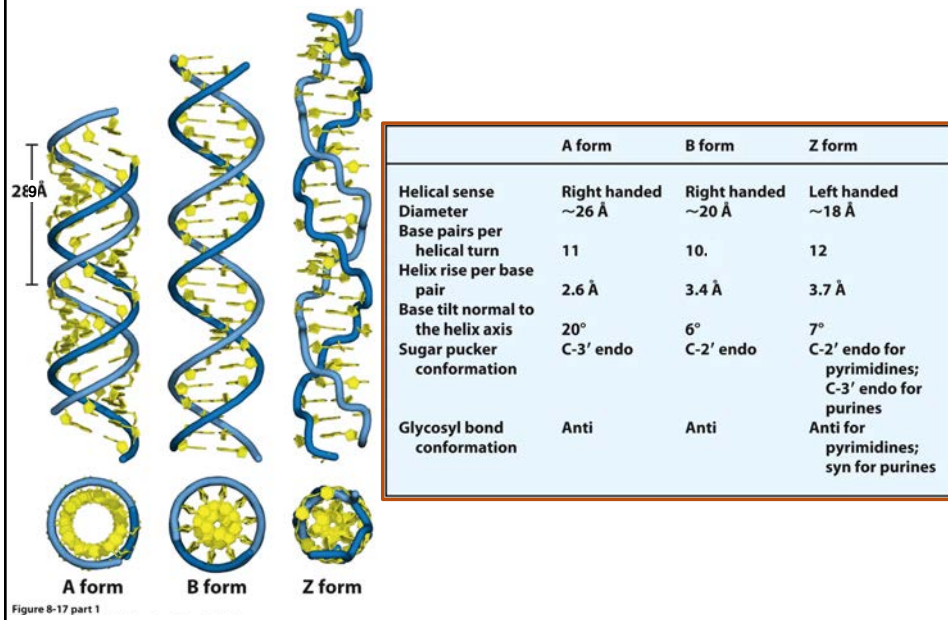
Structural Features of A-, B-, & Z-DNA

TABLE 24-1 Structural Features of Ideal A-, B-, and Z-DNA

	A	B	Z
Helical sense	Right handed	Right handed	Left handed
Diameter	~26 Å	~20 Å	~18 Å
Base pairs per helical turn	11	10	12 (6 dimers)
Helical twist per base pair	31°	36°	9° for pyrimidine-purine steps; 51° for purine-pyrimidine steps
Helix pitch (rise per turn)	29 Å	34 Å	44 Å
Helix rise per base pair	2.6 Å	3.4 Å	7.4 Å per dimer
Base tilt normal to the helix axis	20°	6°	7°
Major groove	Narrow and deep	Wide and deep	Flat
Minor groove	Wide and shallow	Narrow and deep	Narrow and deep
Sugar pucker	C3'-endo	C2'-endo	C2'-endo for pyrimidines; C3'-endo for purines
Glycosidic bond conformation	Anti	Anti	Anti for pyrimidines; syn for purines

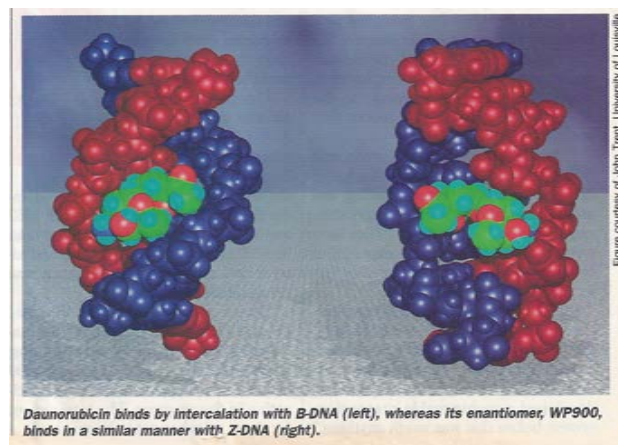


Other Forms of DNA



Nucleic Acids: Shape

Nucleotide Sugar Conformations



Nucleic Acids: Global Shape

Metaphase Chromosome

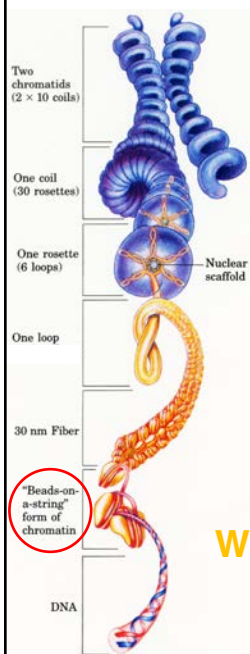
How do we get something that is 2-10 cm long into one of these, which is only 10 μm ?

This condensation is 10,000x.
Even interphase its 1000x

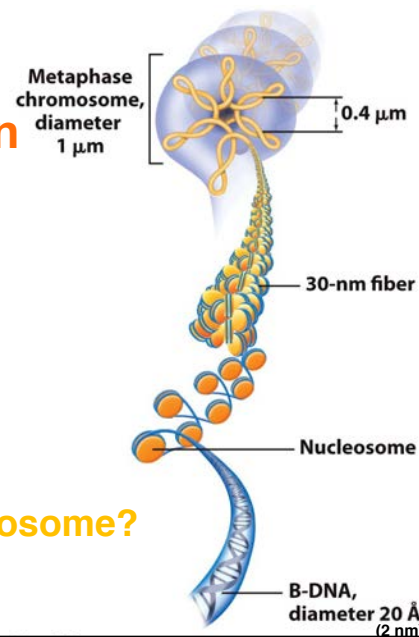


Nucleic Acids: Global Shape

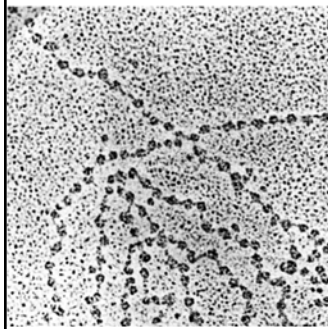
Metaphase Chromatin Organization



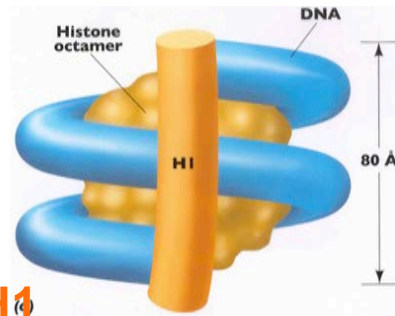
What is this nucleosome?



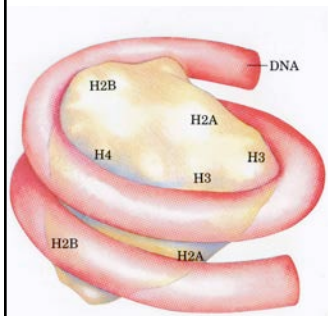
Nucleic Acids: Global Shape



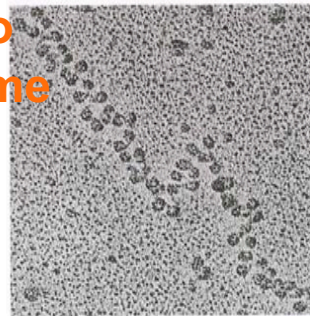
~240 bp
(816Å) is now
compacted to
80Å = 10x



**Histone H1
Bound to
Nucleosome**

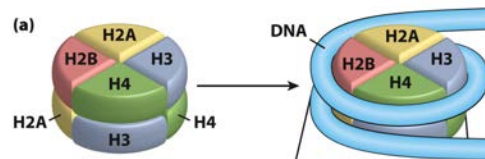


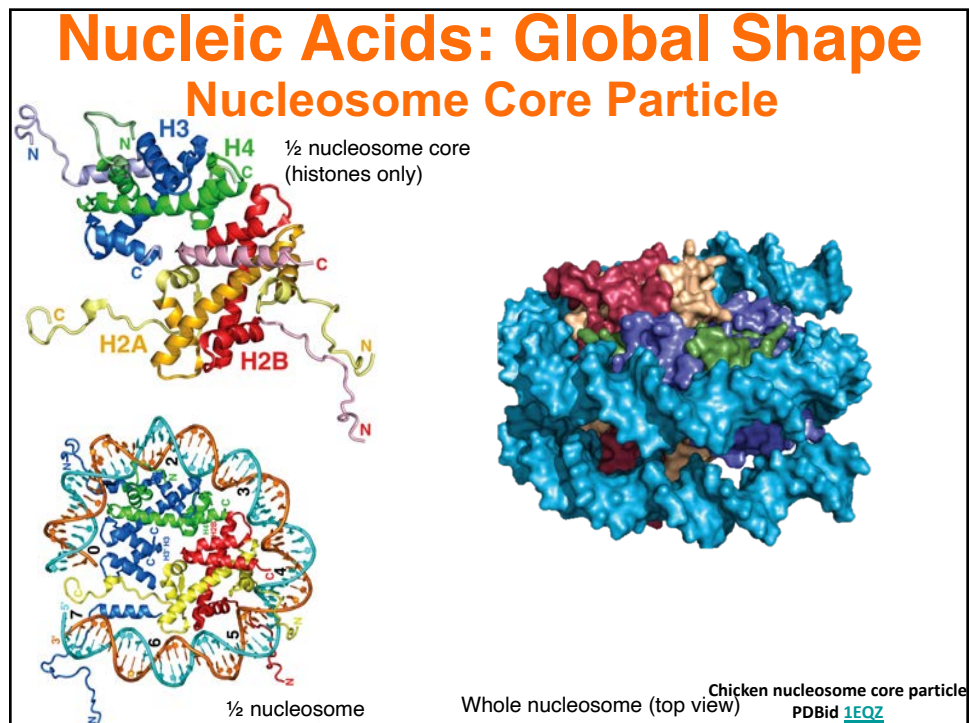
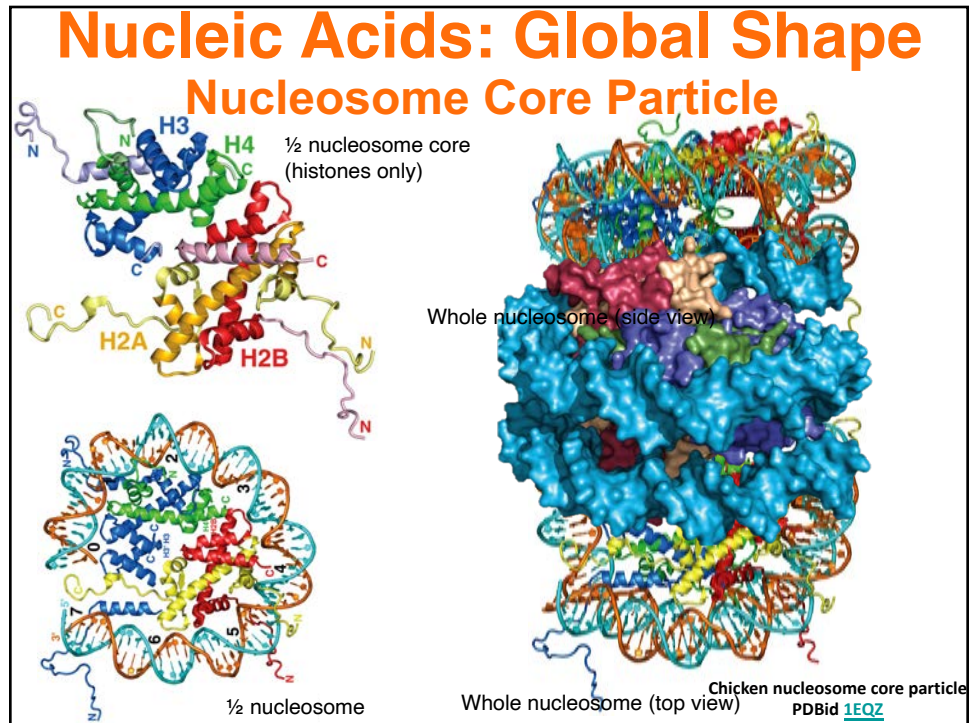
**8 Histones
make up the
core**



Nucleic Acids: Global Shape Histones Are Highly Conserved

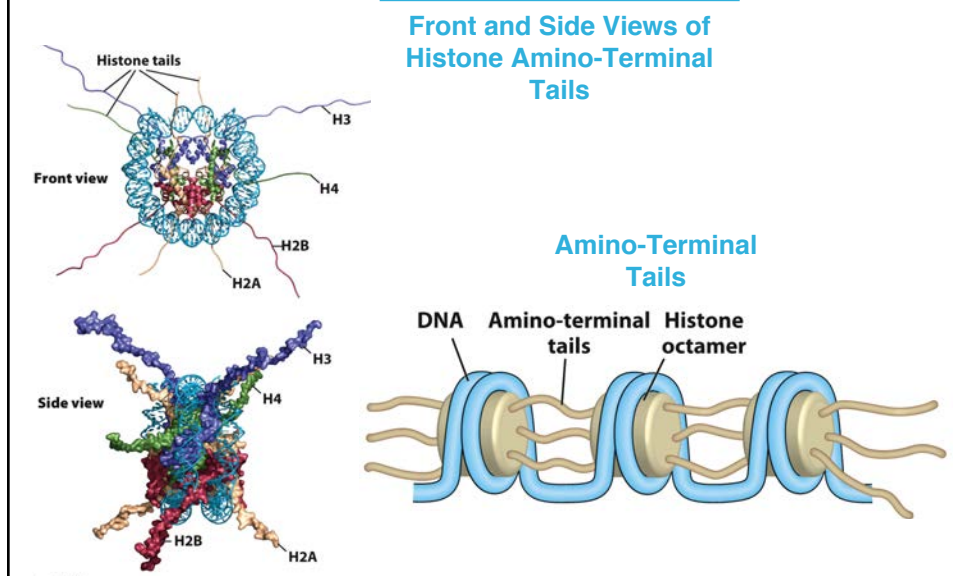
Histone	Number of Residues	Mass (kD)	% Arg	% Lys	Stoichiometry
H1	215	23.0	1	29	1
H2A	129	14.0	9	11	2
H2B	125	13.8	6	16	2
H3	135	15.3	13	10	2
H4	102	11.3	14	11	2





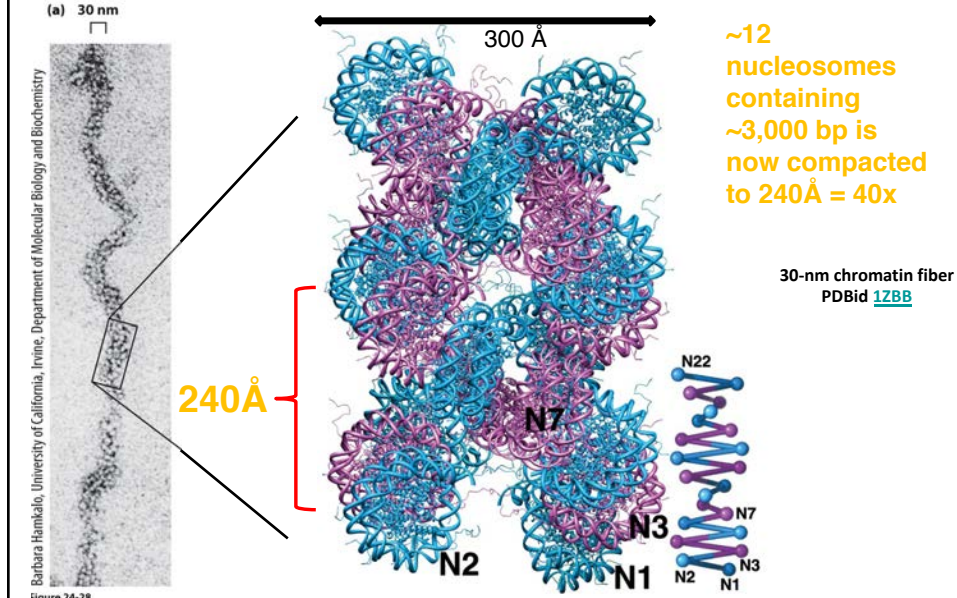
Nucleic Acids: Global Shape

Interactions between Nucleosomes



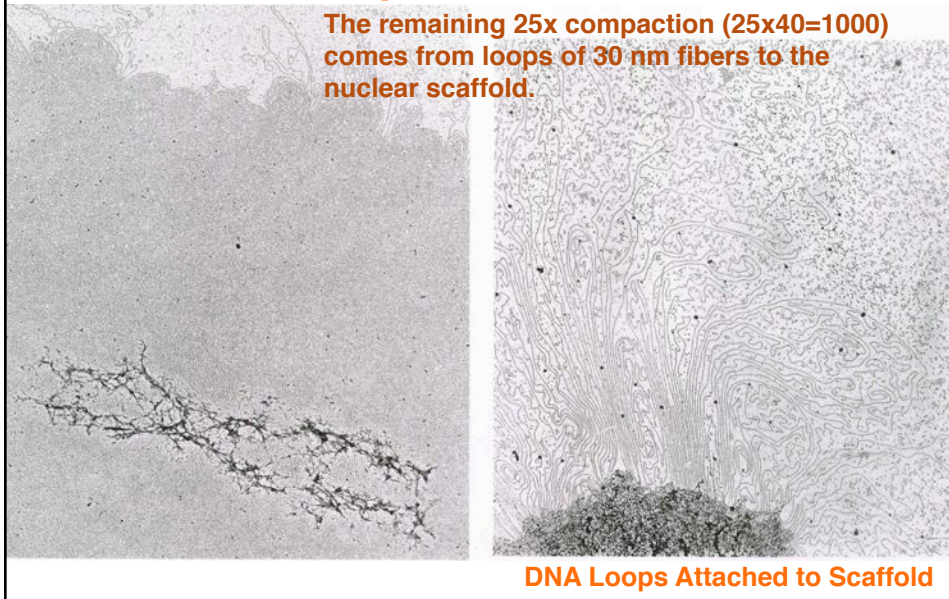
Nucleic Acids: Global Shape

30-nm Chromatin Fiber



Nucleic Acids: Global Shape

Histone-Depleted Chromosome



Nucleic Acids: Global Shape

All this looping leads
to a supertwist of the
DNA...

Nucleosomal DNA Is Underwound

- Wrapping DNA around the histone core requires removal of one helical turn.
 - The underwinding occurs without a strand break, so a compensatory (+) supercoil forms.
 - This (+) supercoil is relaxed by a topoisomerase, which puts in 2 negative supercoils, leaving DNA with **net (-1) negative supercoil**.

What is Supercoiling: the Coiling of a Coil

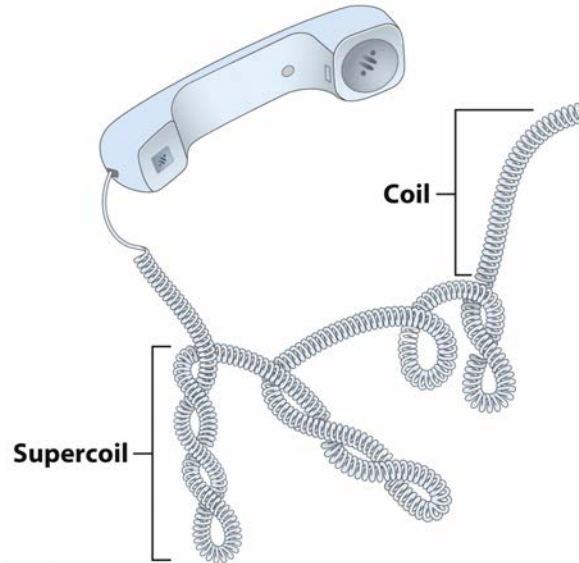


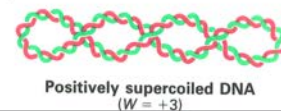
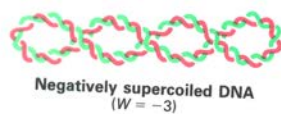
Figure 24-9

Nucleic Acids: Global Shape

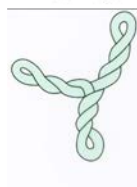
All this looping leads to a supertwist of the DNA...

Topology

Supercoiling is called W (writhing number)

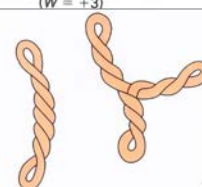


A



$$L = T + W$$

(for B-DNA: $T = \#bp/10$)



L (Linking)
T (Twist)

Does this occur in biology?

Nucleic Acids: Global Shape

Topology

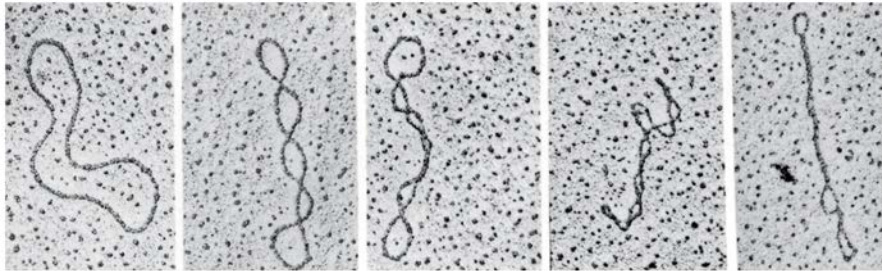


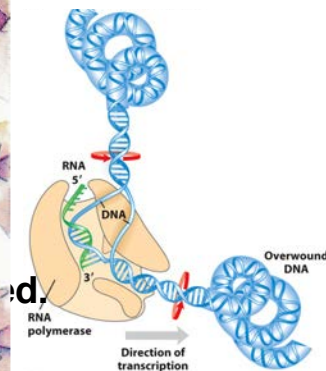
Figure 24-8
Electron micrographs by Laurien Polder. From Kornberg, A. and Baker, T.A., *DNA Replication* (2nd ed.), p. 36, W.H. Freeman (1992). Permission provided courtesy of Roger Kornberg.

Is supercoiling only possible with circular DNA?
Eukaryotic chromosomes are linear.....

Supercoiling of Circular Duplex DNA from the adenovirus, SV40

Nucleic Acids: Global Shape

Topology



- Many linear DNAs bound to proteins are supercoiled.
- Supercoiling has great influence on transcription and replication of DNA.
- Supercoiling can be highly regulated.

Nucleic Acids: Global Shape

Consequences of supercoiling:

- 1) Required for information retrieval; must be negative
- 2) All circular extra-chromosomal DNAs are negatively supercoiled
- 3) Can be used for isolation of these DNAs in the laboratory

Nucleic Acids: Global Shape

Techniques to Detect Topology

Separate DNAs with different topology based on density

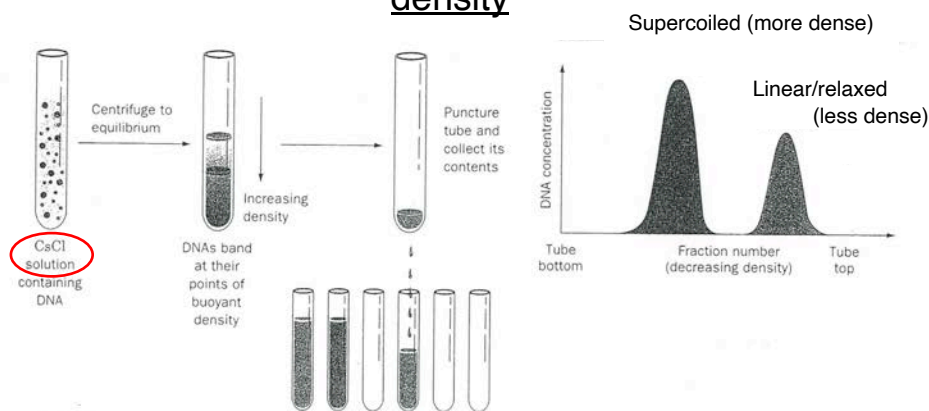


Figure 23-31 The separation of DNAs by equilibrium density gradient ultracentrifugation in CsCl solution. An initially 8 M CsCl solution forms a density gradient that varies linearly from $\sim 1.80 \text{ g} \cdot \text{cm}^{-3}$ at the bottom of the

centrifuge tube to $\sim 1.55 \text{ g} \cdot \text{cm}^{-3}$ at the top. The sedimentation rates of the DNAs depend on their base composition. The amount of DNA in each fraction is estimated from its UV absorbance, usually at 260 nm.

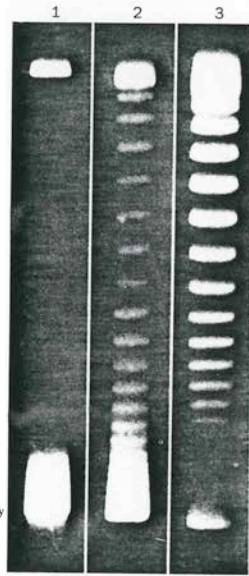
Nucleic Acids: Global Shape

Techniques to Detect Topology

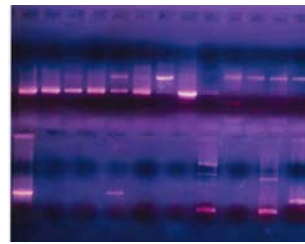
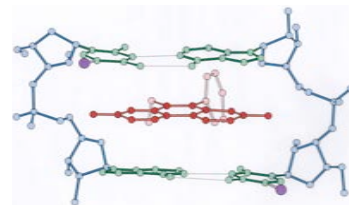
Modify topology
with
topoisomerase I

What is Topo I?

FIGURE 28-40. The agarose gel electrophoresis pattern of SV40 DNA. Lane 1 contains the negatively supercoiled native DNA (lower band; the DNA was applied to the top of the gel). In lanes 2 and 3, the DNA has been exposed for 5 and 30 min, respectively, to an enzyme, known as a Type I topoisomerase (Section 28-5C), that relaxes negative supercoils one at a time by increasing the linking number (L). The DNAs in consecutively higher bands of a given gel have successively increasing linking numbers ($\Delta L = +1$). [From Keller, W., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* 72, 2553 (1975).]



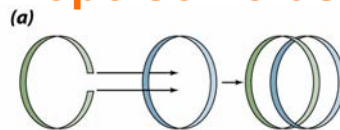
Gel Electrophoresis/Ethidium-Bromide Staining



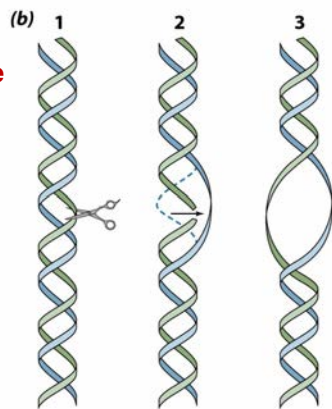
Nucleic Acids: Global Shape

Type IA Topoisomerase Activity

Type I Topoisomerase
also called “nicking-
closing” enzyme



Can generate concatemers
of circular ss-DNAs



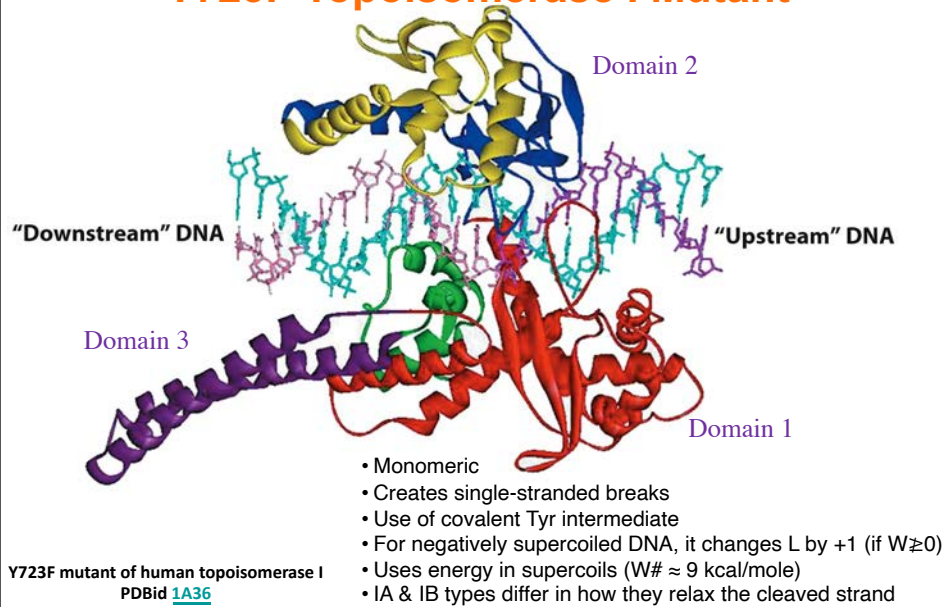
Can take supercoiled DNA
and make it less
supercoiled; usually less
negative ($L = +1$)

Duplex DNA
(n turns)

Duplex DNA
($n - 1$ turns)

Topoisomerase

Y723F Topoisomerase I Mutant



Topoisomerase

Covalent Topoisomerase-DNA Adduct

