





















Nonpolar Substances Are Insoluble in Water

- Hydrophobic (water-fearing) molecules are nonpolar
- **Hydrophobic effect** the exclusion of nonpolar substances by water (critical for protein folding and self-assembly of biological membranes)
- Amphipathic molecules have hydrophobic chains and ionic or polar ends. Detergents (surfactants) are examples.





Noncovalent Interactions in Biomolecules

Weak noncovalent interactions are important in:

- Stabilization of proteins and nucleic acids
- Recognition of one biopolymer by another
- Binding of reactants to enzymes

Noncovalent forces

There are four major types of noncovalent forces:

- (1) Charge-charge interactions
- (2) Hydrogen bonds
- (3) Van der Waals forces
- (4) Hydrophobic interactions

A. Charge-Charge Interactions (Ion Pairing)

- <u>Electrostatic interactions</u> between two charged particles
- Can be the strongest type of noncovalent forces
- Can extend over greater distances than other forces
- <u>Charge repulsion</u> occurs between similarly charged groups

Types of attractive charged interactions

- Salt bridges attractions between oppositelycharged functional groups in proteins
- **Ion pairing** a salt bridge buried in the hydrophobic interior of a protein is stronger than one on the surface

B. Hydrogen Bonds

- Among the strongest of noncovalent interactions
- H atom bonded to N, O, S can hydrogen bond to another electronegative atom (~0.2 nm distance)
- Total distance between the two electronegative atoms is ~ 0.27 to 0.30 nm
- In aqueous solution, water can H-bond to exposed functional groups on biological molecules









- Strongly repulsive at short internuclear distances, very weak at long internuclear distances
- Van der Waals attraction is maximal when two atoms are separated by their van der Waals radii



Van der Waals radii of several atoms			
TABLE 2.2 several ato	Van der Waals radii of oms		
Atom	Radius (nm)		
Hydrogen	0.12		
Oxygen	0.14		
Nitrogen	0.15		
Carbon	0.17		
Sulfur	0.18		
Dhoonhomio	0.19		

D. Hydrophobic Interactions

- Association of a relatively <u>nonpolar molecule</u> or group with other nonpolar molecules
- Depends upon the <u>increased entropy</u> $(+\Delta S)$ which occurs when water molecules surrounding a nonpolar molecule are freed to interact with each other in solution
- The cumulative effects of many hydrophobic interactions can have a significant effect on the stability of a macromolecule







TABLE [OH [⊖]]	TABLE 2.3 Relation of $[H^{\oplus}]$ and $[OH^{\bigcirc}]$ to pH		
	[H⊕]	[OH [⊖]]	
рН	(M)	(M)	
0	1	10^{-14}	
1	10^{-1}	10^{-13}	
2	10^{-2}	10^{-12}	
3	10^{-3}	10^{-11}	
4	10^{-4}	10^{-10}	
5	10^{-5}	10^{-9}	
6	10^{-6}	10^{-8}	
7	10^{-7}	10^{-7}	
8	10^{-8}	10^{-6}	
9	10^{-9}	10^{-5}	
10	10^{-10}	10^{-4}	
11	10^{-11}	10^{-3}	
12	10^{-12}	10^{-2}	
13	10^{-13}	10^{-1}	
14	10^{-14}	1	



Acid Dissociation Constants of Weak Acids

• Strong acids and bases dissociate completely in water

$$HCI + H_2O \longrightarrow CI^- + H_3O^+$$

- Cl⁻ is the **conjugate base** of HCl
- H₃O⁺ is the **conjugate acid** of H₂O



The Henderson-Hasselbalch Equation

- Defines the pH of a solution in terms of:
 - (1) The pK_a of the weak acid

(2) Concentrations of the weak acid (HA) and conjugate base (A⁻)

$$pH = pK_a + \log \frac{[A^{\bigcirc}]}{[HA]}$$

TABLE 2.4 Dissociation constants and $p\textit{K}_a$ values of weak acids in aqueous solutions at 25° C					
HCOOH (Formic acid)	1.77×10^{-4}	3.8			
CH ₃ COOH (Acetic acid)	1.76×10^{-5}	4.8			
CH ₃ CHOHCOOH (Lactic acid)	1.37×10^{-4}	3.9			
H_3PO_4 (Phosphoric acid)	7.52×10^{-3}	2.2			
$H_2PO_4^{\bigoplus}$ (Dihydrogen phosphate ion)	6.23×10^{-8}	7.2			
HPO ₄ ⁽²⁾ (Monohydrogen phosphate ion)	2.20×10^{-13}	12.7			
H_2CO_3 (Carbonic acid)	4.30×10^{-7}	6.4			
$HCO_3^{\bigcirc}(Bicarbonate ion)$	5.61×10^{-11}	10.2			
NH₄ [⊕] (Ammonium ion)	5.62×10^{-10}	9.2			
CH ₂ NH ₂ [⊕] (Methylammonium ion)	2.70×10^{-11}	10.7			







Buffered Solutions Resist Changes in pH

- <u>Buffer capacity</u> is the ability of a solution to resist changes in pH
- <u>Most effective buffering</u> occurs where: solution $pH = buffer pK_a$
- At this point: [weak acid] = [conjugate base]
- Effective <u>buffering range</u> is usually at pH values equal to the pKa ± 1 pH unit

Regulation of pH in the blood of animals

- Blood plasma of mammals has a <u>constant pH</u> which is regulated by a buffer system of: carbon dioxide /carbonic acid /bicarbonate
- <u>Buffer capacity</u> depends upon equilibria between:
 - (1) Gaseous CO₂ (air spaces of the lungs)
 - (2) Aqueous CO_2 (dissolved in the blood)
 - (3) Carbonic acid
 - (4) Bicarbonate







