

Chem 352 - Fall 2018 - Exam I

Some potentially useful information:

pK_a values for ionizable groups in peptides and proteins: (α -carboxyl, 3.46; α -amino, 7.87; and the side chains of *Asp*, 4.03; *Glu*, 3.62; *His*, 6.71; *Cys*, 8.4; *Tyr*, 10.33; *Lys*, 10.21; *Arg*, 12.01)

$R = 8.314 \text{ J/(mol}\cdot\text{K)} = 0.08206 \text{ (L}\cdot\text{atm)/(mol}\cdot\text{K)}$

1. Match the following pioneers in the field of biochemistry with the contributions they each made:

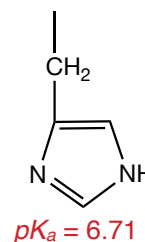
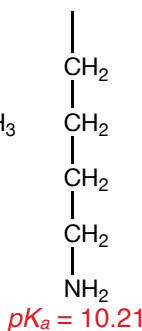
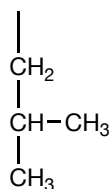
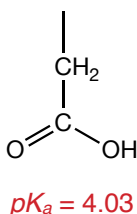
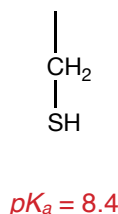
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2 each

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|-------------------------------|---|
| a. <u>C.</u> James Watson | A. Received a Nobel Prize for characterizing the chemical structures of simple sugars, and purines, which are components of nucleic acids. |
| b. <u>E.</u> Linus Pauling | B. Was one of the first people to determine the 3-D structure of a protein, for which he shared a Nobel Prize. |
| c. <u>D.</u> Frederick Sanger | C. Shared a Nobel Prize for proposing a structure for DNA. |
| d. <u>F.</u> Eduard Buchner | D. Received two Nobel Prizes in Chemistry, one for developing a method to sequence polypeptides and another for developing a method to sequence polynucleotides. |
| e. <u>A.</u> Emil Fischer | E. Was first to propose the α -helical and β -sheet secondary structures in proteins. He also received two Nobel Prizes for unrelated accomplishments. |
| f. <u>B.</u> Max Perutz | F. Demonstrated that living yeast cells were not required to carry out fermentation reactions. It could be accomplished with cell-free extracts from yeast. |

2. Using the three-letter abbreviations, identify each of the following amino acid side chains.

2 each

A. CysB. GlyC. AspD. LeuE. LysF. His

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- a. Which of these can hydrogen bond to water? (Circle all that apply.)
- b. Which of these is charged at pH 2? (Circle all that apply.)
- c. Which of these is charged at pH 9? (Circle all that apply.)
- d. Which of these is considered hydrophobic? (Circle all that apply.)
- e. Which of these can form disulfide bonds? (Circle all that apply.)

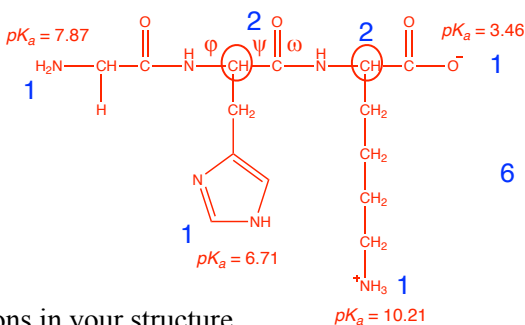
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2 each

3. GHK-Cu is a tripeptide with the sequence Gly-His-Lys that strongly binds copper(II) ions. GHK-Cu is proposed to have a range of different biological effects, including an ability to promote wound healing, attract immune cells, stimulate collagen and glycosaminoglycan synthesis in skin fibroblasts, and promote blood vessel growth.

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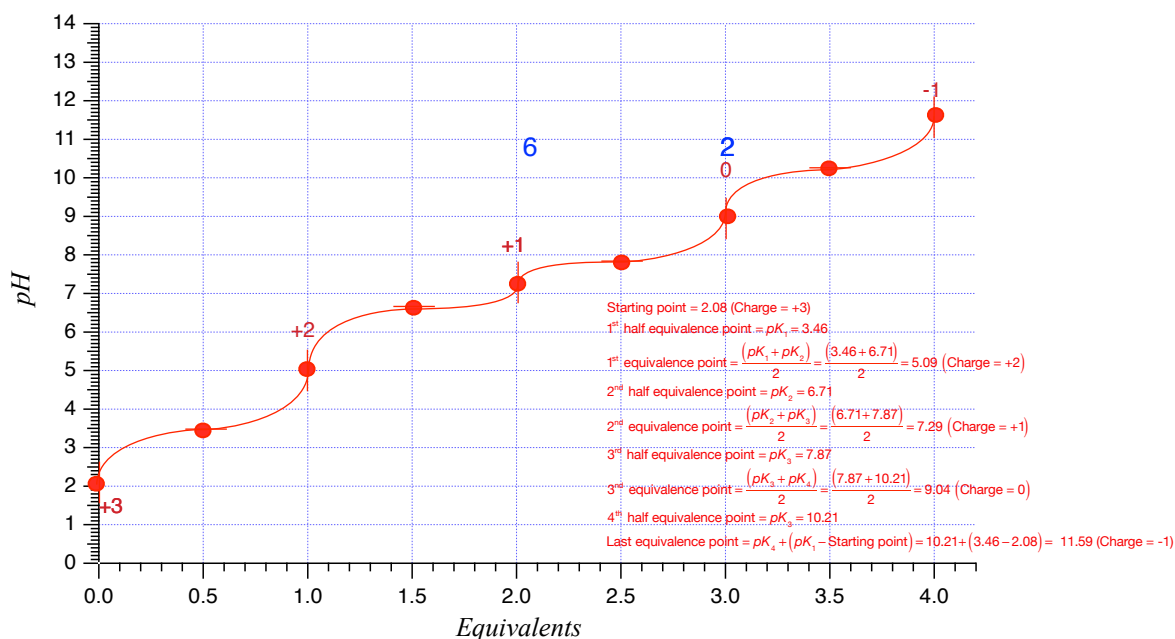
- a. Based on this description, draw the chemical structure for the isoelectric form of GHK-Cu in water. (The pK_a 's for the ionizable groups on amino acids can be found on p.1.)



- b. Circle all of the chiral carbons in your structure.
- c. Label one example each of a ϕ , a ψ , and an ω bond in your structure.
- d. What is the isoelectric pH (pI) for GHK-Cu? $pI = \frac{7.87 + 10.21}{2} = 9.04$ 2
- e. Using the pK_a 's provided, calculate the pH of a 200 mM solution of the fully protonated form of GHK-Cu. (Show your calculation below.) $pH = 2.08$

(Using the pK_a for the most acid group) 2

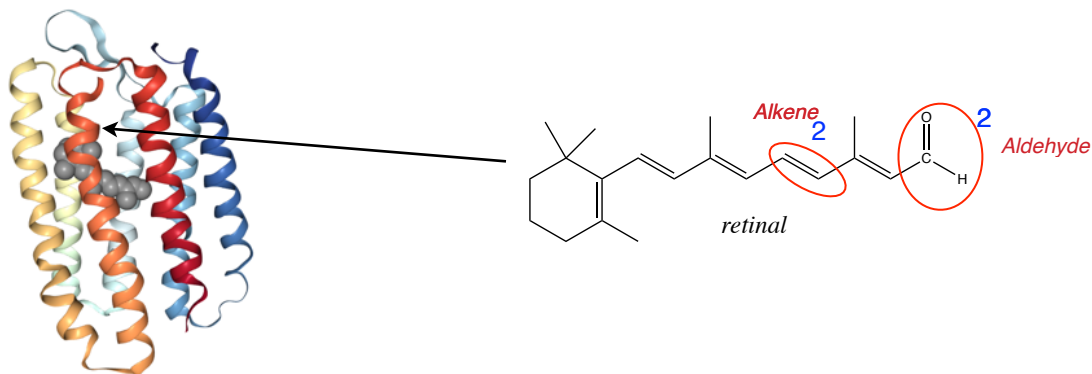
$$pH \approx \frac{1}{2}(pK_a - \log(C)) = \frac{1}{2}(3.46 - \log(0.200M)) = 2.08$$



- f. Using the graph provided above, draw the titration curve for a 200 mM solution of GHK-Cu. Label each of the endpoints with the net charge of the predominant species at that pH .
- g. Generally, the solubility of peptides in water will increase along with the *net charge* on a peptide. At what pH do you expect GHK-Cu to be *least soluble*? 2 $pI = 9.04$

- h. The GHK-Cu represents one out of how many possible tripeptide sequences that can be made from the standard set of 20 amino acids. (Show your calculation.) $n = \underline{20 \times 20 \times 20 = 8,000}$ 2
4. In 2002, bacteriorhodopsin was featured as the Protein Data Bank's *Molecule of the Month*. Bacteriorhodopsin is a compact molecular machine that pumps protons across a membrane and is powered by green sunlight. It is synthesized by halophilic (salt loving) bacteria found in high-temperature brine pools. They use sunlight to pump protons outwards across their cell membranes, making the inside 10,000-fold more alkaline than the outside. These protons are then allowed to flow back into the cell through another protein, ATP synthase, creating much of the ATP that powers the cell..

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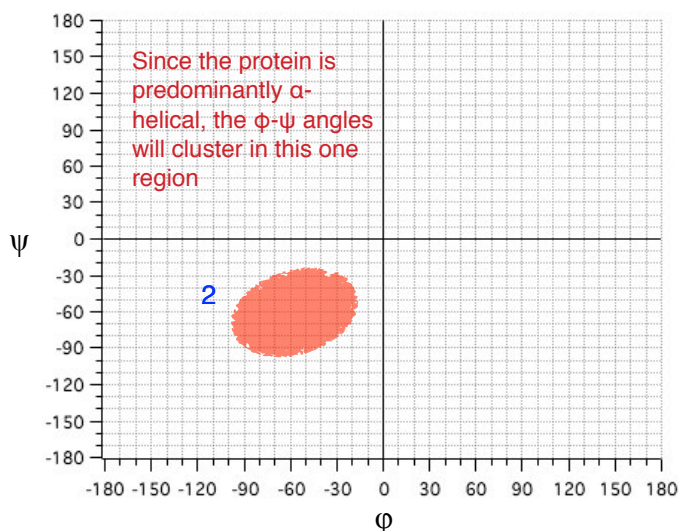


- a. In the 3-D model of the bacteriorhodopsin shown above as a cartoon model. Bound to this protein is the light-absorbing molecule *retinal*. It is shown as a spacefilling model, where the spheres have radii equal to each atom's van der Waals radius. Describe how the van der Waals radius is related to intermolecular interactions.

The van der Waals radius is the distance between two atoms where they are most attracted to one another. At greater distances the atoms are attracted to one another by induced dipole interactions, and at smaller distances they are repelled from one another by electron-electron repulsions.

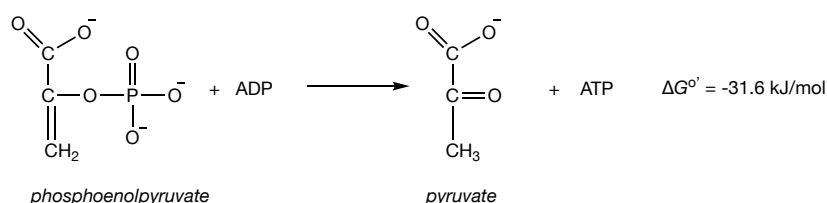
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- b. On the ϕ/ψ plot provided, shade the region where you expect the majority of the ϕ/ψ angle pairs to be found for the bacteriorhodopsin protein.
- c. What is the name used to describe this type of plot?

Ramachandran Plot 2

- d. What role does secondary structure play in the folding of the bacteriorhodopsin protein? When a protein folds into its tertiary structure, it must bury regions of the polypeptide backbone. The polypeptide backbone, with its many amide groups, is quite polar and forms numerous hydrogen bonds to water when the polypeptide is unfolded. When buried, the polypeptide will no longer be exposed to water. The elements of secondary structure therefore provide hydrogen bonding opportunities for the backbone when buried thereby replace the ones that were formed with water lost.
- e. Retinal is a member of a group of molecules called isoprenoids and is related to the visual pigments found in your eye. Retinal contains two functional groups. On the structure of retinal shown above, circle and label an example of each of these functional groups.
5. In class we look at the structure of the enzyme *pyruvate kinase*, as an example of a protein that has multiple domains. The reaction catalyzed by this enzyme is shown below. It is the last reaction in the glycolytic pathway and transfers a phosphate group from *phosphoenolpyruvate* to ADP to produce *pyruvate* and ATP. (ADP and ATP are abbreviations for the ribonucleotides adenosine diphosphate and adenosine triphosphate, respectively.)

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- a. Determine the equilibrium constant for this reaction under standard state conditions at 37°C.
 $K_{eq} = 2.11 \times 10^5$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Delta G &= \Delta G^\circ + RT \ln \left(\frac{[\text{products}]}{[\text{reactants}]} \right) & \Delta G^\circ &= -RT \ln(K_{eq}) \\
 \text{at equilibrium, } \Delta G &= 0 & \ln(K_{eq}) &= \frac{-\Delta G^\circ}{RT} \\
 \Delta G^\circ &= -RT \ln \left(\frac{[\text{products}]}{[\text{reactants}]} \right)_{eq} & K_{eq} &= e^{\frac{-\Delta G^\circ}{RT}} \\
 & & K_{eq} &= e^{\left(\frac{-(-31.6 \text{ kJ/mol})}{8.314 \times 10^{-3} \text{ kJ/mol} \cdot \text{K} (37+273 \text{ K})} \right)} \\
 & & K_{eq} &= 2.11 \times 10^5
 \end{aligned}$$

- b. Is this reaction favorable (spontaneous) under standard state conditions? (Y/N?) Y
 Explain:

2 At standard state conditions, $\Delta G = \Delta G^\circ = -31.6 \text{ kJ/mol}$. Since $\Delta G < 0$ under these conditions, the reaction is favorable as written.

- c. If the cellular concentrations of reactants and products for this reaction are $[\text{phosphoenolpyruvate}] = 23 \mu\text{M}$, $[\text{pyruvate}] = 51 \mu\text{M}$, $[\text{ADP}] = 0.10 \text{ mM}$, and $[\text{ATP}] = 1.0 \text{ mM}$, is this reaction favorable under cellular conditions (Y/N) Y
 What is your evidence for this claim?:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Delta G &= \Delta G^\circ + RT \ln \left(\frac{[\text{products}]}{[\text{reactants}]} \right) \\
 &= -31.6 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{mol}} + \left(8.314 \times 10^{-3} \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{mol} \cdot \text{K}} \right) (37 + 273 \text{ K}) \ln \left(\frac{(51 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M})(1.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M})}{(23 \times 10^{-6} \text{ M})(0.1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M})} \right) \\
 \Delta G &= -23.5 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{mol}}
 \end{aligned}$$

Since ΔG is still less than 0, the reaction is favorable under these conditions.