Chem 452 - Lecture 1
Introduction to Biochemistry
110914

Even though biology presents to us an amazing diversity of life forms, there is an underlying uniformity that connects these forms at the cellular and molecular levels. Biochemistry embodies this uniformity. In this lecture we will examine the relationship between form and function at the molecular level and will look at how chemical and physical principles can be applied to biological molecules.

Acid and Base Chemistry

- Biological systems are typically 70% water.
  - Self ionization of water
  - Addition of acids and bases to water
    - Arrhenius acids and bases
    - Brønsted-Lowry acids and bases
- Buffers
  - Henderson-Hasselbalch Equation

Problem

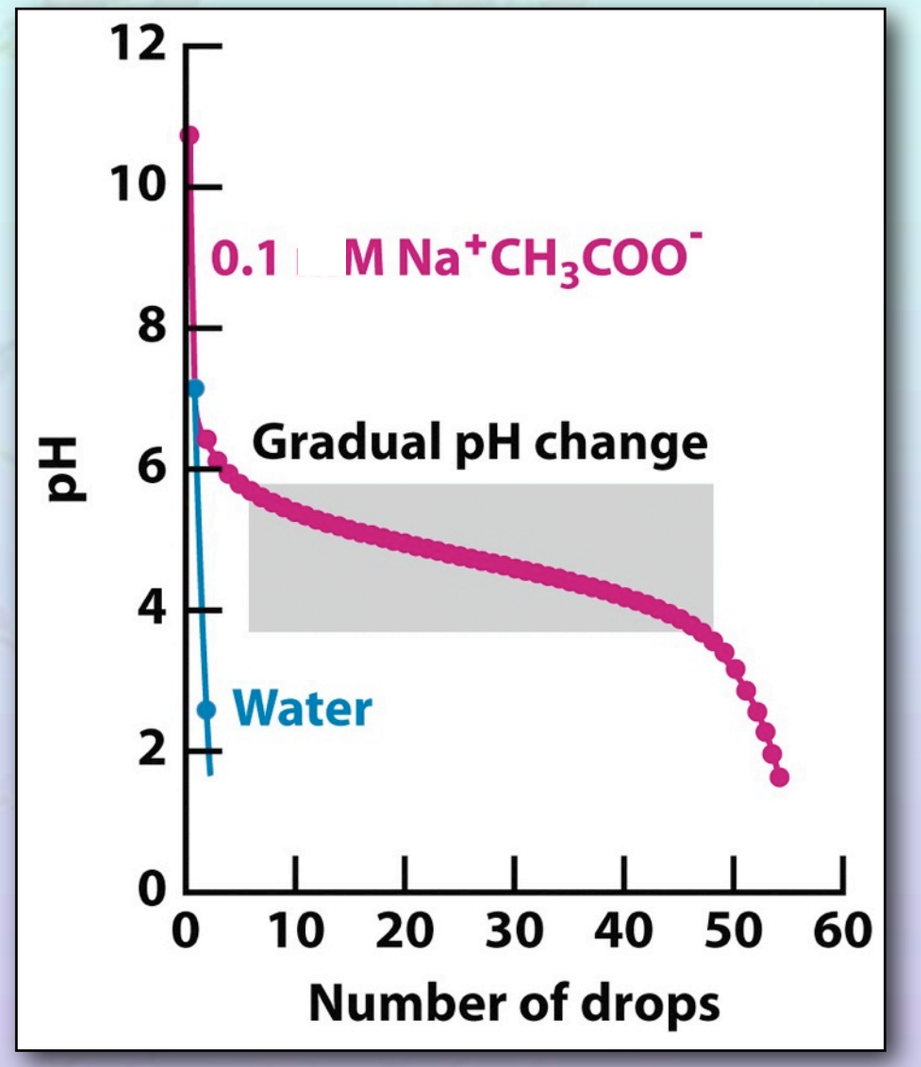
What is the *pH* of a 0.1 M solution of HCl?

Problem 1.7

What is the *pH* of a 0.1 M solution of acetic acid (pK_a = 4.75)?

Acid and Base Chemistry

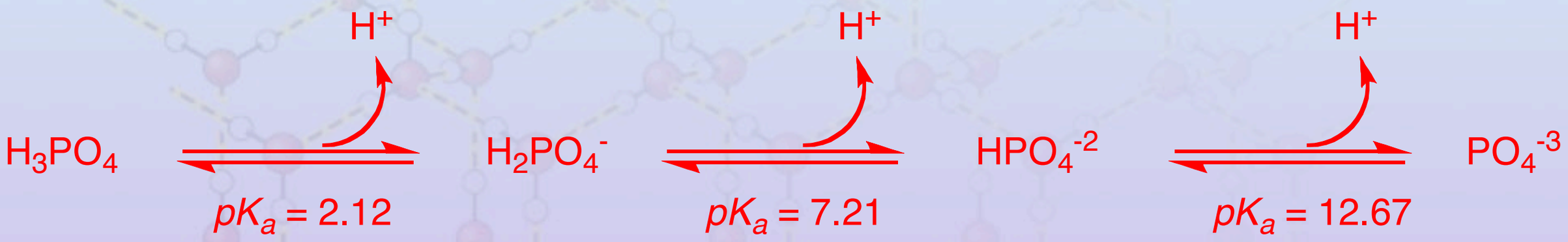
- Buffers
  - A mixture of a weak acid and its conjugate base
  - Henderson-Hasselbalch Equation



Adding 1M HCl to water and to a solution of 0.1M sodium acetate

Acid and Base Chemistry

- Buffers
  - Henderson-Hasselbalch Equation
  - Phosphate buffers

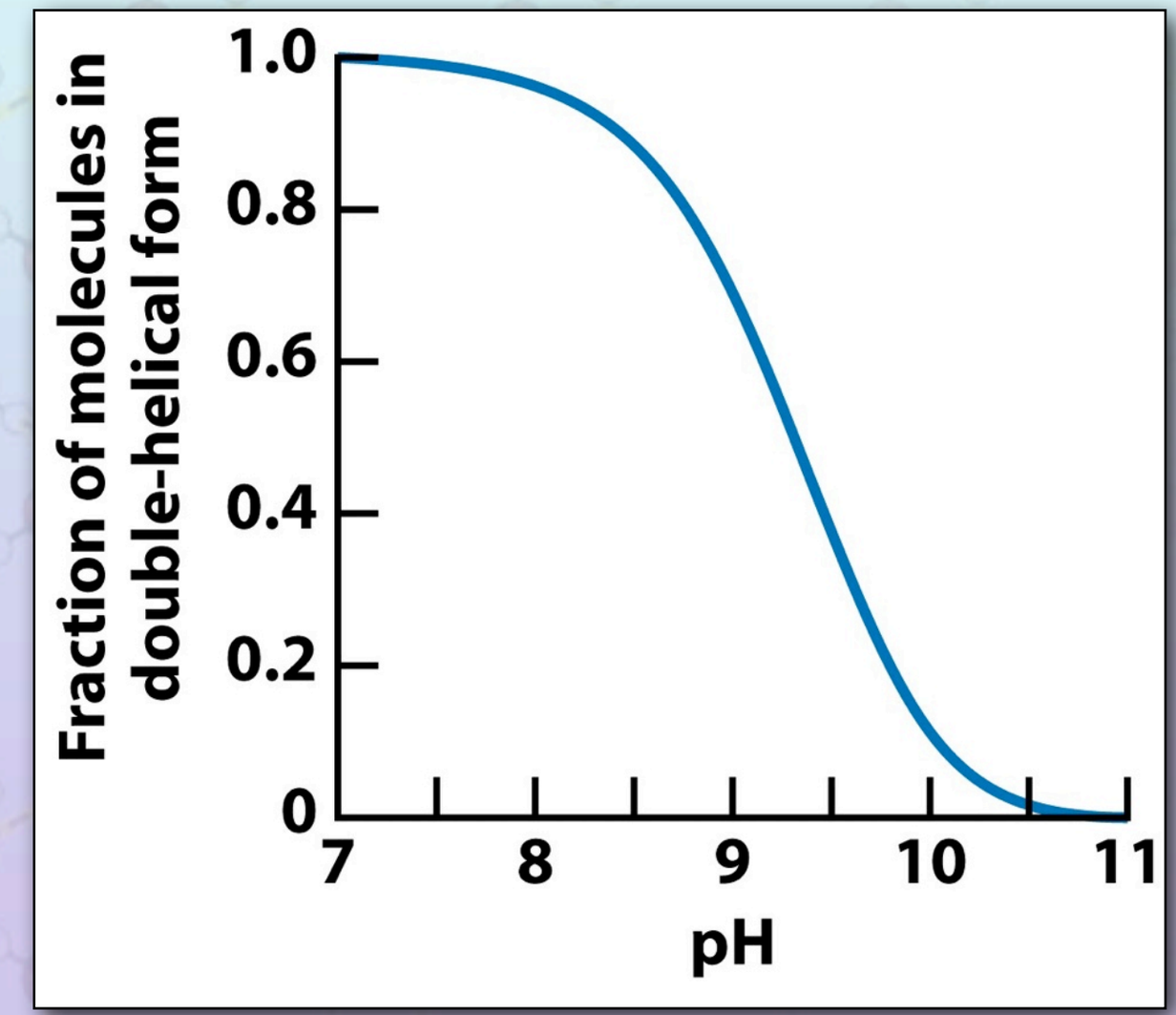


Problem 1.14

For an acid, HA, the concentrations of HA and A^- at *pH* 6.0 are 0.075 and 0.025, respectively. What is the pK_a value for the acid?

Acid and Base Chemistry

- Double-stranded DNA denatures at high pH values.



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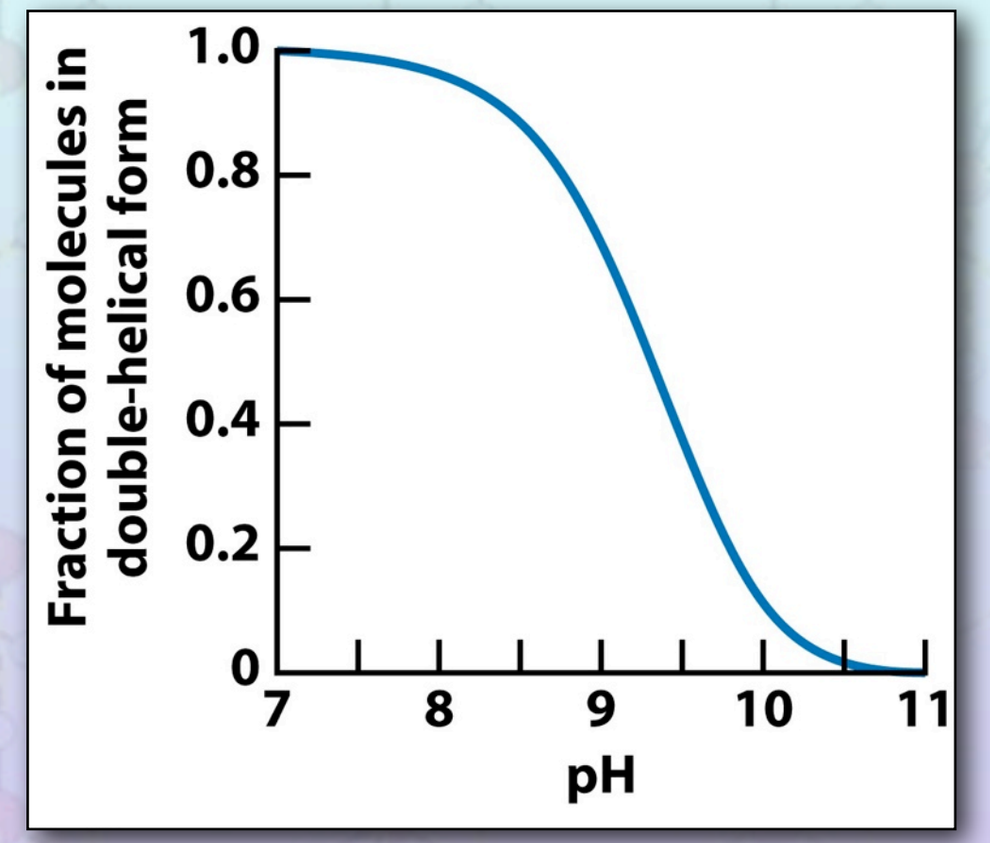

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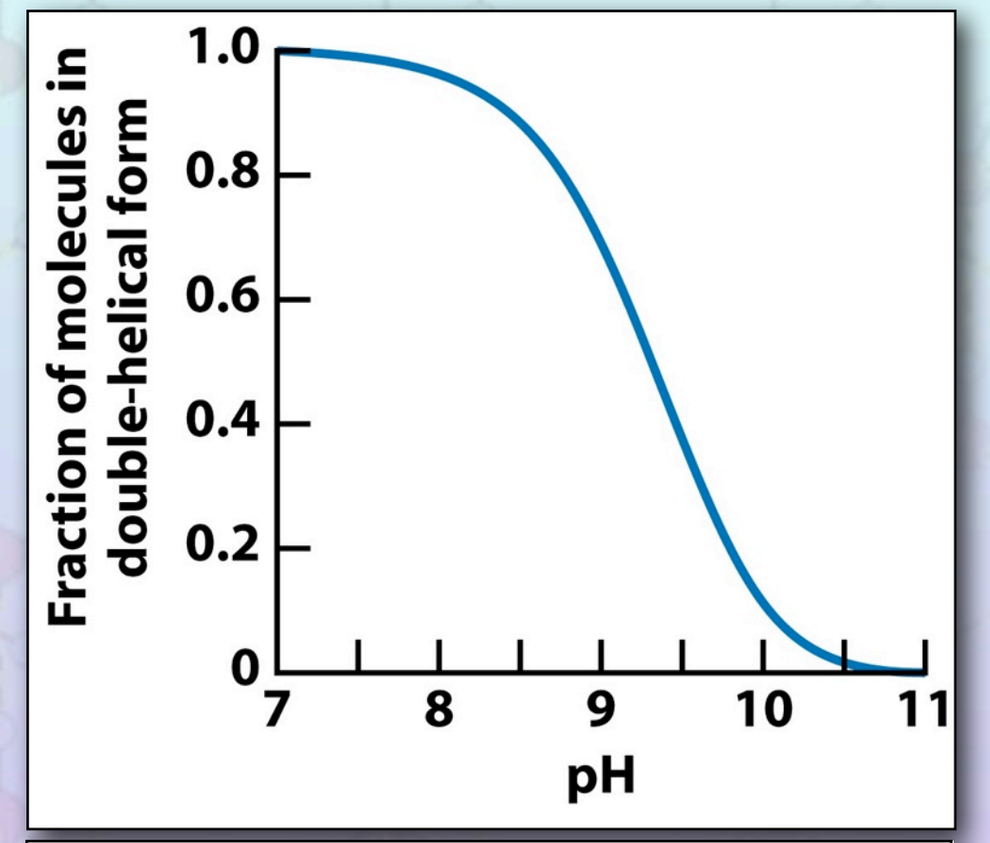

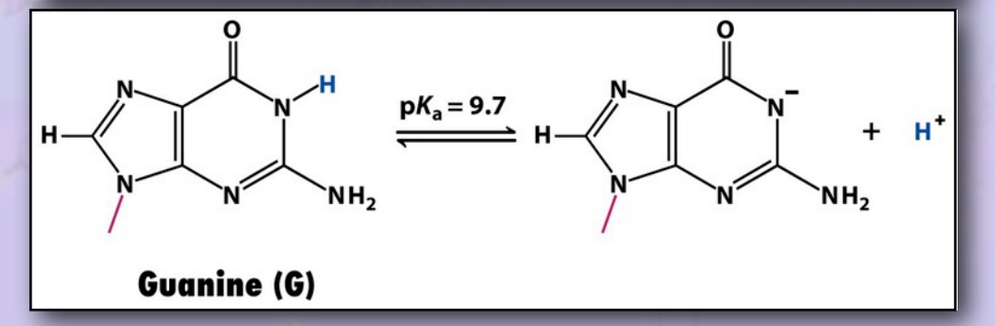

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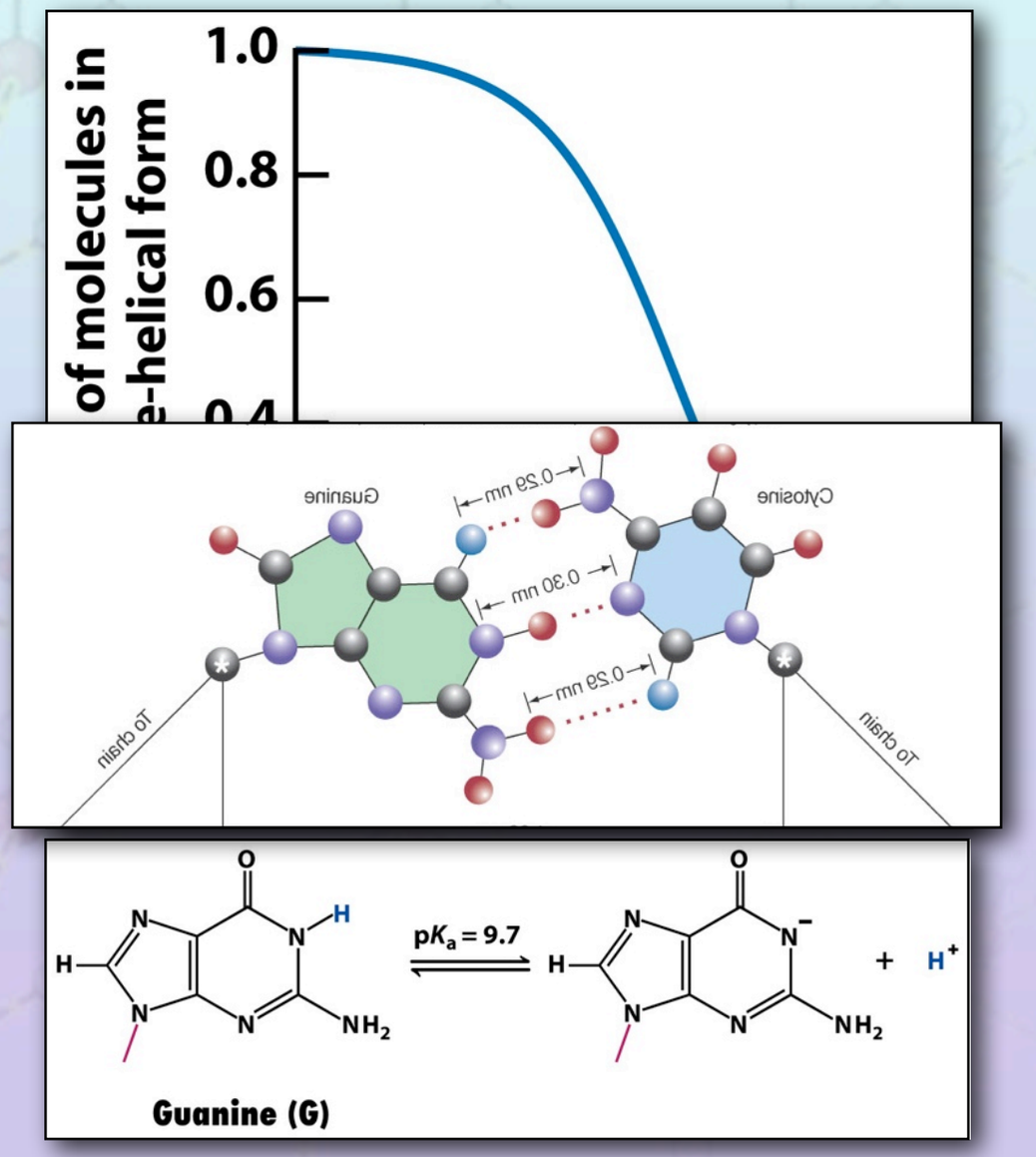

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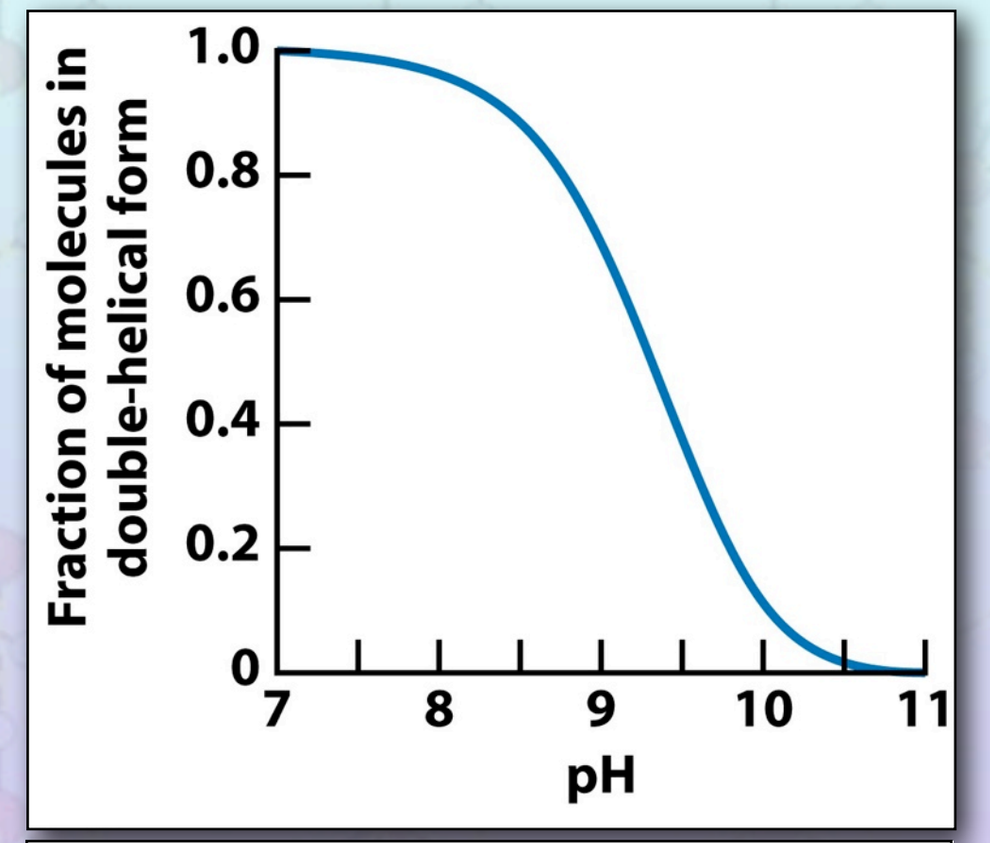

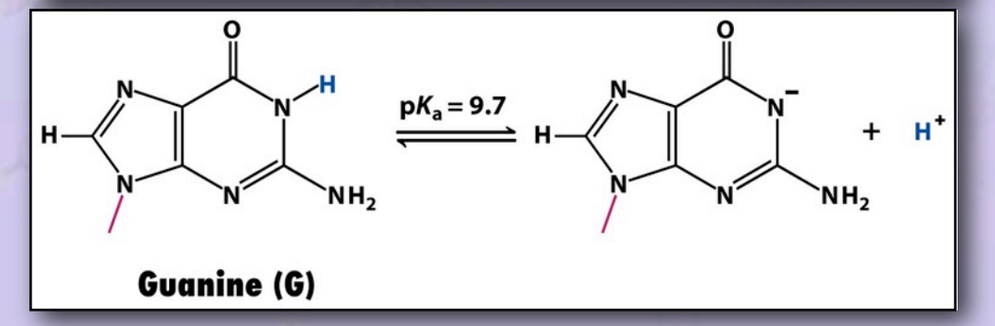

Genomics

ge•no•mics |jēˈnōmiks; -ˈnäm-|,

plural noun [treated as sing.]
the branch of molecular biology concerned with the structure, function, evolution, and mapping of genomes.

ORIGIN 1980s: from *genome* [the complete set of genes present in an organism] + *-ics*.

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Click here for timeline

Genomics

- The genetic code (1960's)

DNA: A G T C

↓ transcription

mRNA: U C A G

↓ translation

Protein: A C D E F G H I K L M N P Q R S T V W Y

Genomics

- The "Central Dogma"

  - Concept was initially proposed by Francis Crick.
  - What is shown above is not what Crick proposed.
  - Crick tried to clear this up in a 1970 letter in Nature

Genomics

- The "Central Dogma"

DNA —transcription→ mRNA —translation→ Protein

  - Concept was initially proposed by Francis Crick.

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Central Dogma of Molecular Biology

by
FRANCIS CRICK
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Hills Road,
Cambridge CB2 2QH

The central dogma of molecular biology deals with the detailed residue-by-residue transfer of sequential information. It states that such information cannot be transferred from protein to either protein or nucleic acid.

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	U	C	A	G	
U	Phe	Ser	Tyr	Cys	**U**
	Phe	Ser	Tyr	Cys	**C**
	Leu	Ser	STOP	STOP	**A**
	Leu	Ser	STOP	Trp	**G**
C	Leu	Pro	His	Arg	**U**
	Leu	Pro	His	Arg	**C**
	Leu	Pro	Gln	Arg	**A**
	Leu	Pro	Gln	Arg	**G**
A	Ile	Thr	Asn	Ser	**U**
	Ile	Thr	Asn	Ser	**C**
	Ile	Thr	Lys	Arg	**A**
	Met	Thr	Lys	Arg	**G**
G	Val	Ala	Asp	Gly	**U**
	Val	Ala	Asp	Gly	**C**
	Val	Ala	Glu	Gly	**A**
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Genomics

- Sickle cell anemia
  - Due to a 1 base pair change in the gene for the β subunit of hemoglobin

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Genomics

- Recombinant DNA technologies
  - Breakthroughs in the 1970's led to the ability to cut & paste and to sequence DNA.

Click here for timeline

Genomics

- The 1990's saw the sequencing of complete genomes.

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Genomics

- Human Genome Project completed in 2003
  - The Sequencing and mapping of the human genome
  - Human genome contains 3 billion base pairs(bp)
  - Codes for ≈25,000 proteins
  - Coding regions only account for 3% of the total DNA in the genome.

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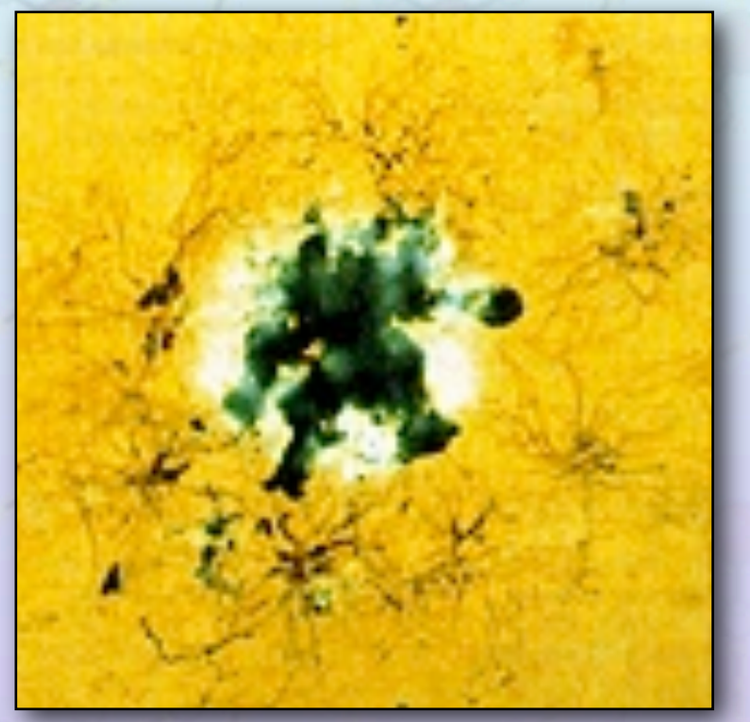
Genomics

- Pinpointing the locations of genetic lesions.
  - e.g. Alzheimer's Disease



Human Genome Map http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/SCIENCE96/

Genomics

- Tracking human migration

Genomics

- Comparative genomics
  - Tracking evolution

Genomics

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Click here for timeline

Proteomics

proteomics |ˌprōtēˈämiks|

plural noun [treated as singular]
the branch of molecular biology concerned with determining the proteome.

DERIVATIVES
proteomic adjective

Proteomics

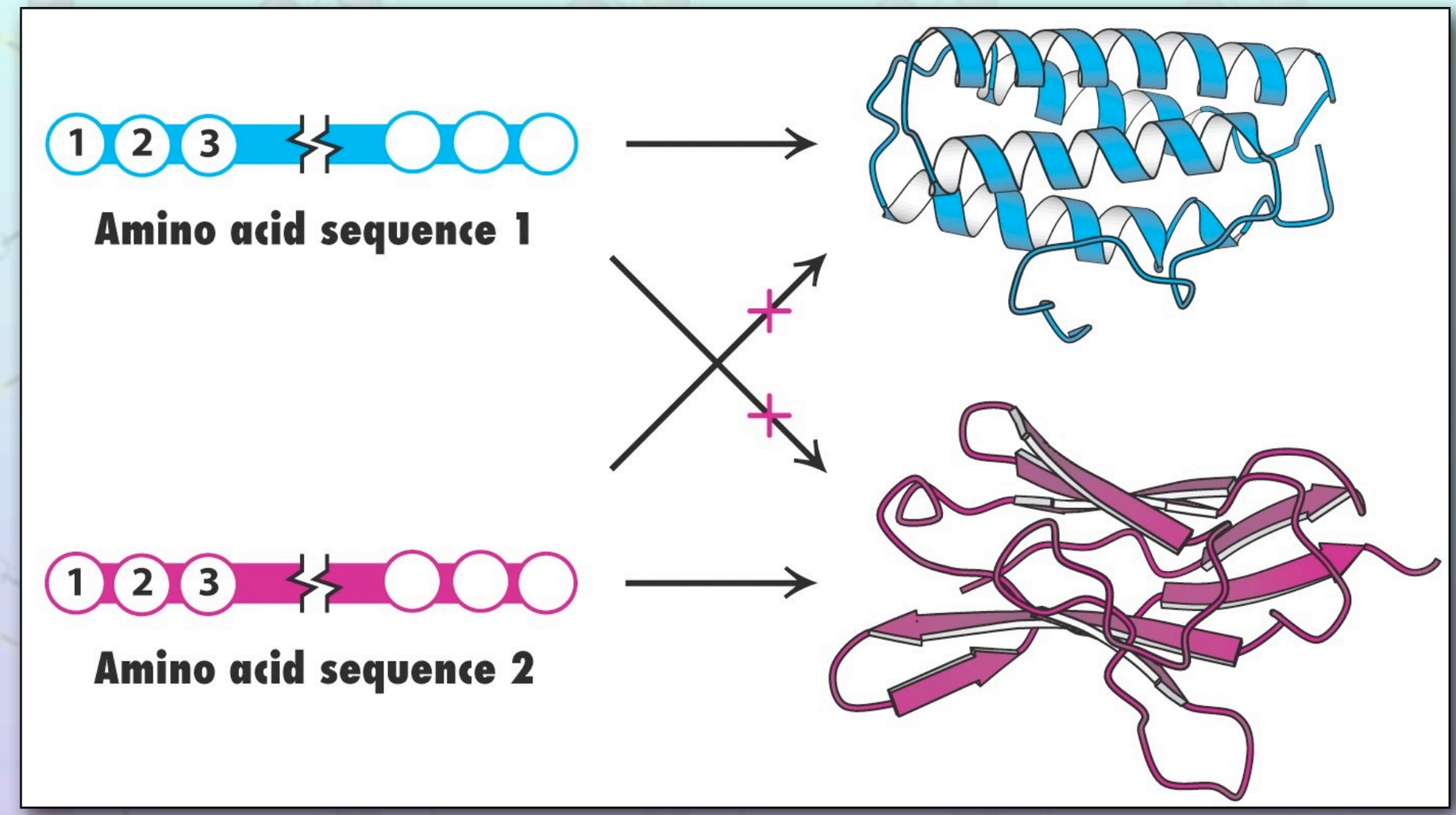
proteome |ˈprōtēˌōm|

noun Genetics

the entire complement of proteins that is or can be expressed by a cell, tissue, or organism : *now that the human genome has been deciphered, much of the fanfare surrounding it has transferred to the proteome.*

ORIGIN 1990s: a blend of *protein* and *genome*.

Proteomics



Next up

- Protein Structure