

# Bio-organic chemistry

## Lecture #14

Deoxyribonucleic acids (DNA). DNA organization levels. Physiological role. Nucleotides and DNA nucleosides, their structure, chemical properties. Pyrimidine and purine bases of nucleosides and nucleotides, their tautomeric transformations.

Lecturer:  
Dr. Gulnaz Seitimova  
Associate Professor

# Nucleotides

“Energy rich” compounds

Chemical signals

Enzyme co-factors

Nucleic Acids

DNA and RNA

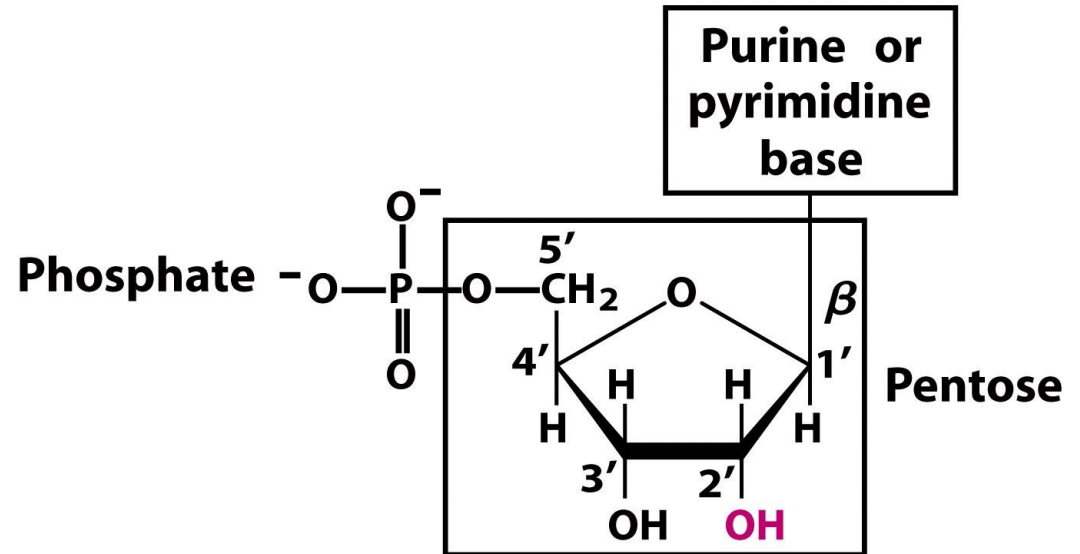
Polymers of nucleotides

3 components

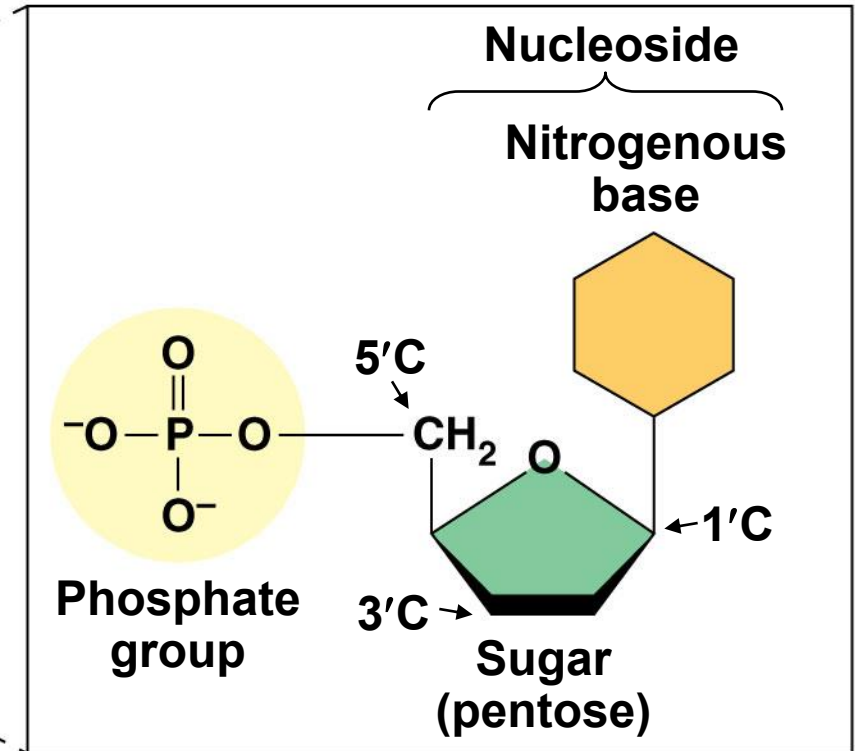
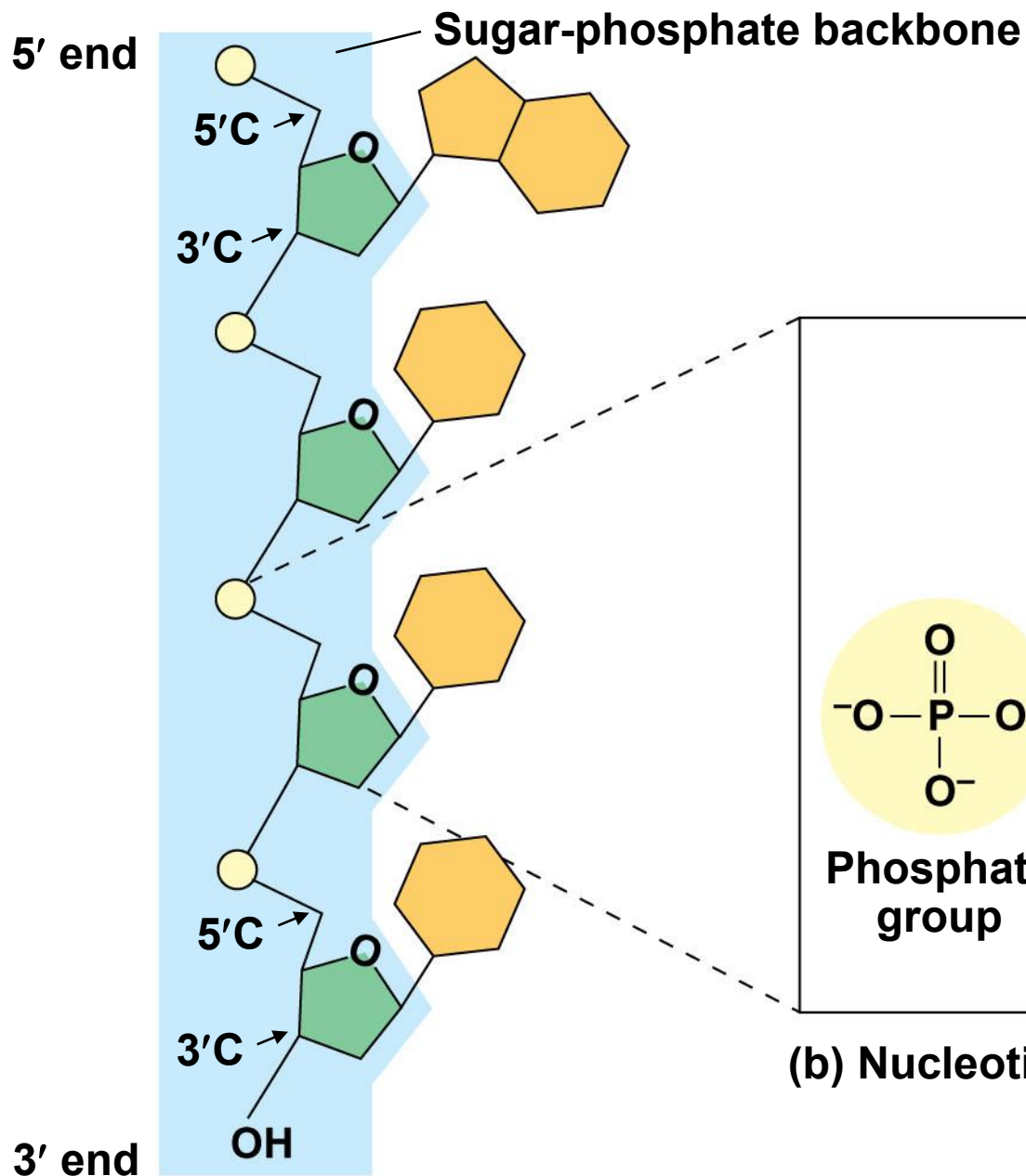
Nitrogenous “base”

Ribose (or deoxyribose)

Phosphate



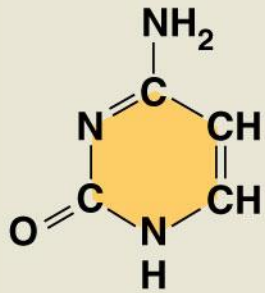
- Each nucleic acid is made of monomers called **nucleotides**
- Each nucleotide consists of a *nitrogenous base*, a *pentose sugar*, and *one or more phosphate groups*



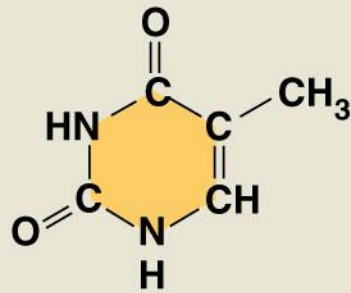
**(b) Nucleotide**

**(a) Polynucleotide, or nucleic acid**

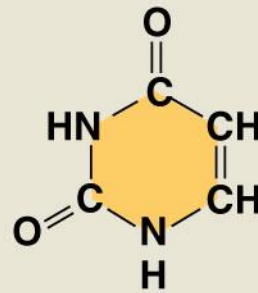
## Pyrimidines



## Cytosine (C)

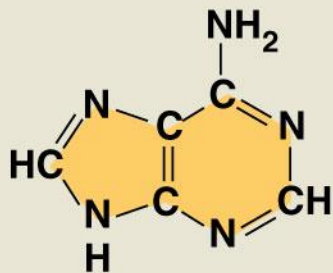


## Thymine (T, in DNA)

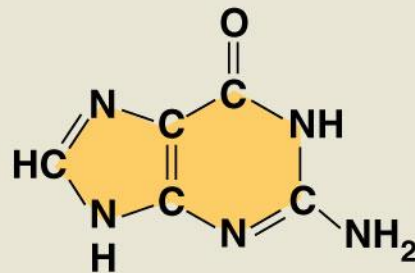


**Uracil**  
(U, in RNA)

## Purines

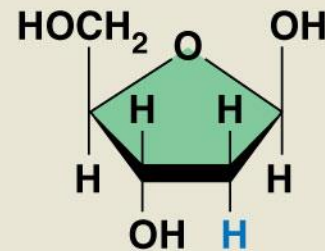


## Adenine (A)

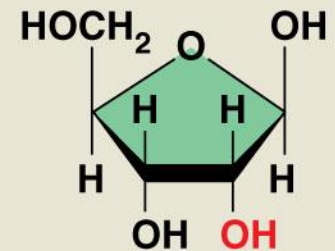


## Guanine (G)

# Sugars



## Deoxyribose (in DNA)

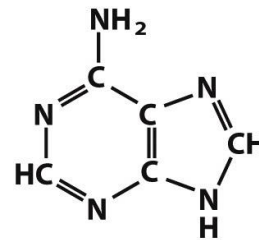


## Ribose (in RNA)

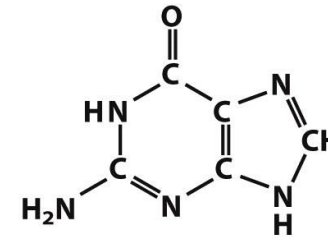
### (c) Nucleoside components

# "Bases"

- 2 purine bases
  - Adenine: A
  - Guanine: G



Adenine



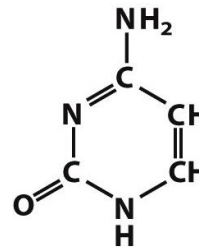
Guanine

## Purines

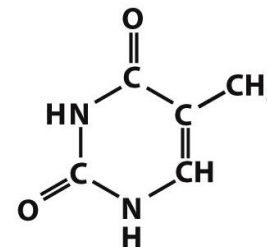
A

G

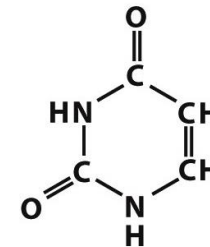
- Bases
  - Pyrimidines
  - Purines



Cytosine



Thymine  
(DNA)



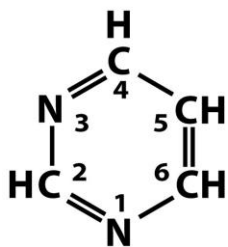
Uracil  
(RNA)

## Pyrimidines

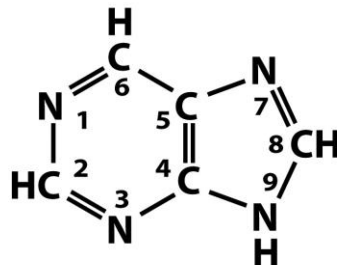
C

T

U



Pyrimidine



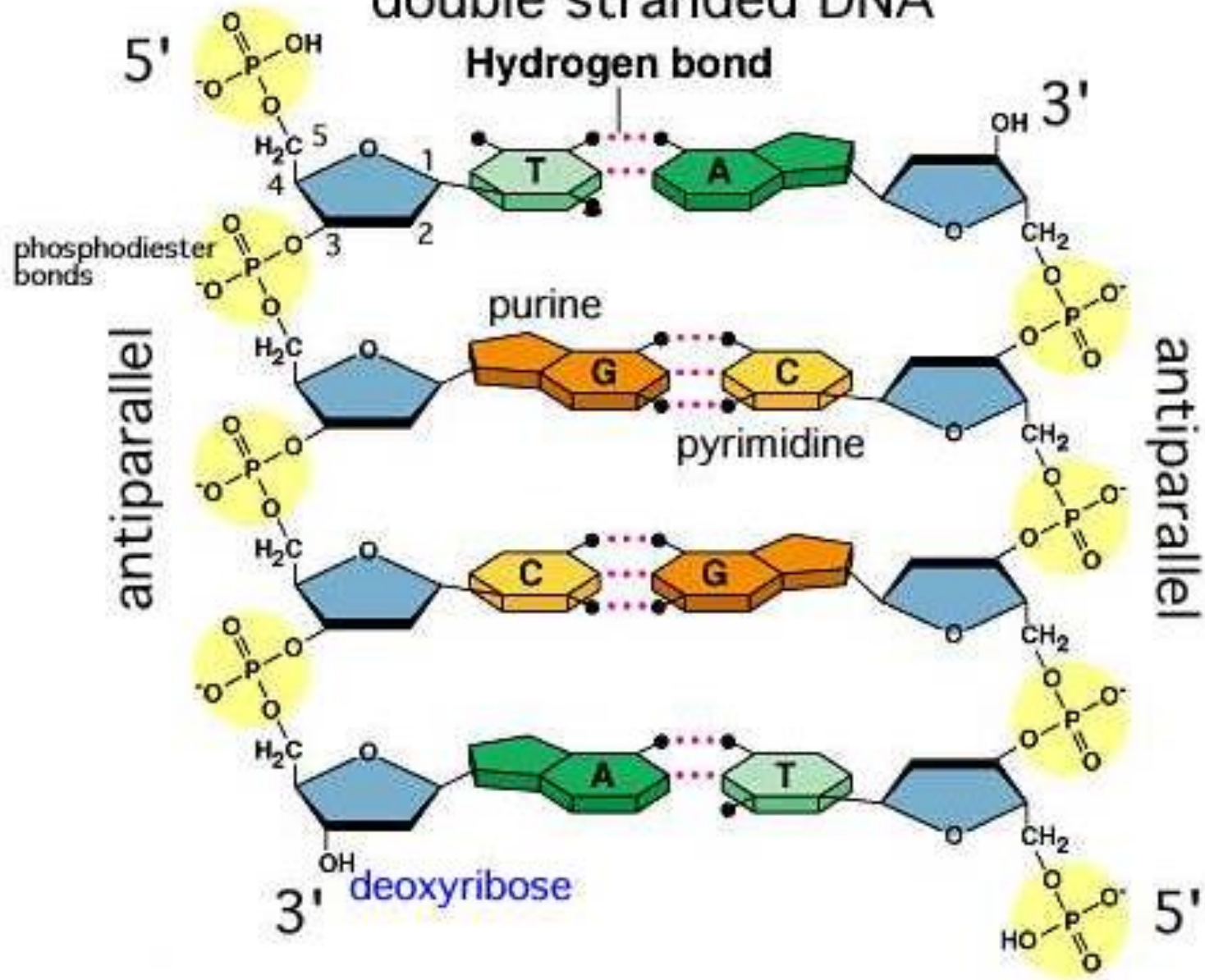
Purine

- 2 pyrimidine bases (in DNA)

- Cytosine: C
- Thymine: T

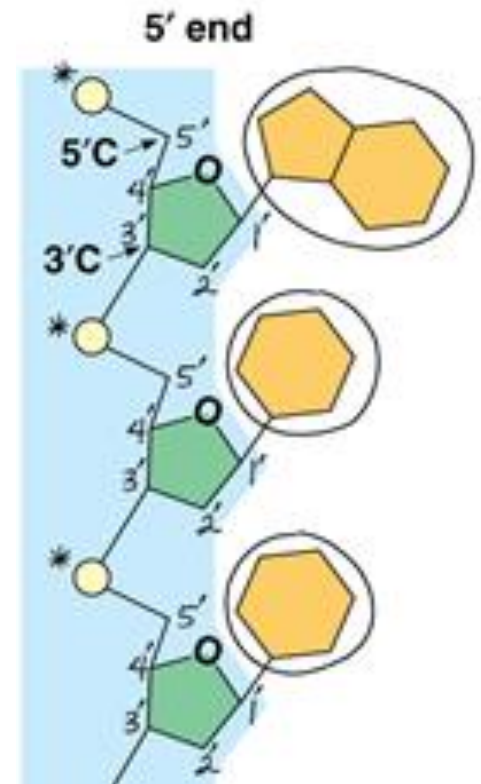
• or Uracil: U  
(in RNA, instead of Thymine)

# double stranded DNA

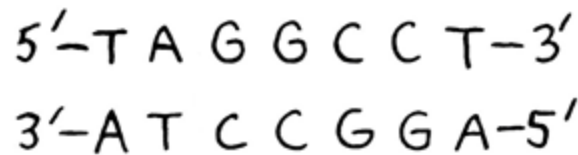


- There are two families of nitrogenous bases
  - **Pyrimidines** (cytosine, thymine, and uracil) have a single six-membered ring
  - **Purines** (adenine and guanine) have a six-membered ring fused to a five-membered ring
- In DNA, the sugar is **deoxyribose**; in RNA, the sugar is **ribose**

- Adjacent *nucleotides are joined by covalent bonds* that form between the —OH group on the 3' carbon of one nucleotide and the phosphate on the 5' carbon on the next
- These links create a backbone of sugar-phosphate units with nitrogenous bases as appendages
- The sequence of bases along a DNA or mRNA polymer is unique for each gene

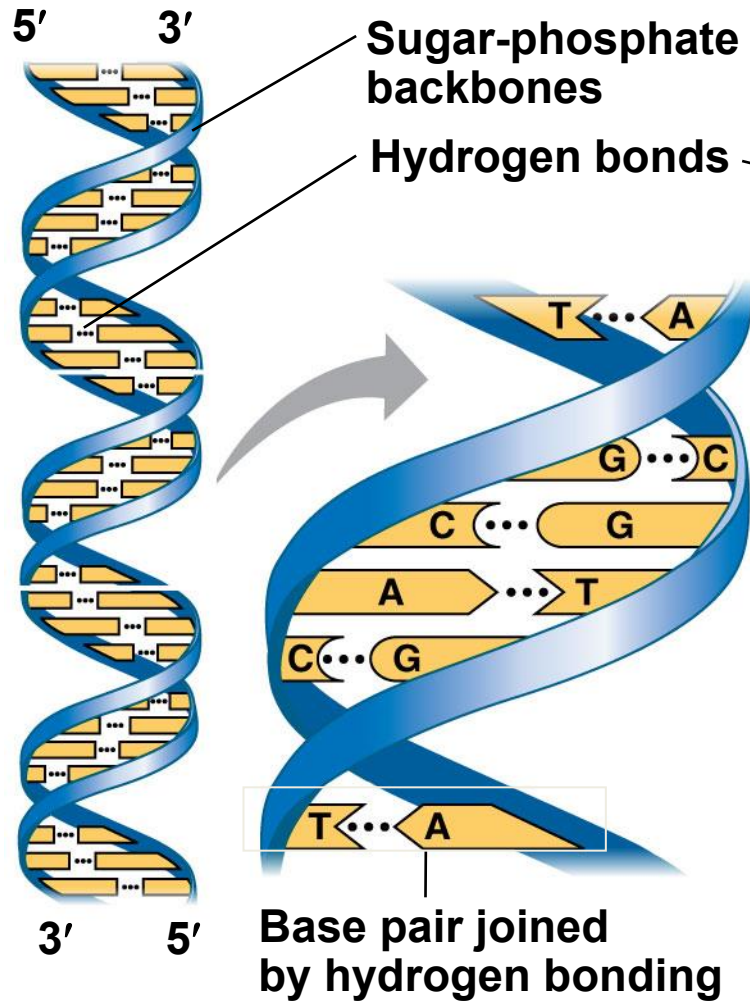


- RNA molecules usually exist as single polypeptide chains
- DNA molecules have two polynucleotides spiraling around an imaginary axis, forming a **double helix**
- In the DNA double helix, the two backbones run in opposite 5'→3' directions from each other, an arrangement referred to as **antiparallel**
- One DNA molecule includes many genes

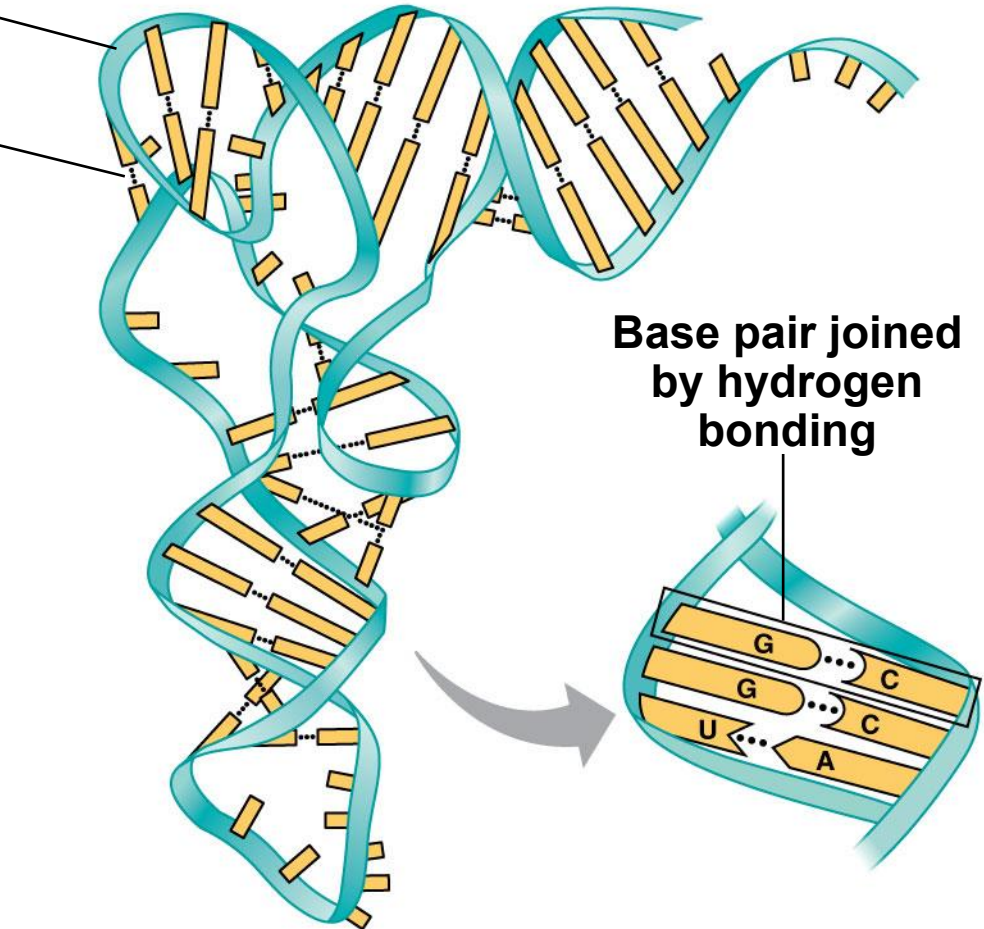




- The nitrogenous bases in DNA pair up and form hydrogen bonds: adenine (A) always with thymine (T), and guanine (G) always with cytosine (C)
- Called complementary base pairing
- Complementary pairing can also occur between two RNA molecules or between parts of the same molecule
- In RNA, thymine is replaced by uracil (U) so A and U pair



**(a) DNA**



**(b) Transfer RNA**

- The linear sequences of nucleotides in DNA molecules are passed from parents to offspring
- Two closely related species are more similar in DNA than are more distantly related species
- Molecular biology can be used to assess evolutionary kinship

# Ribose

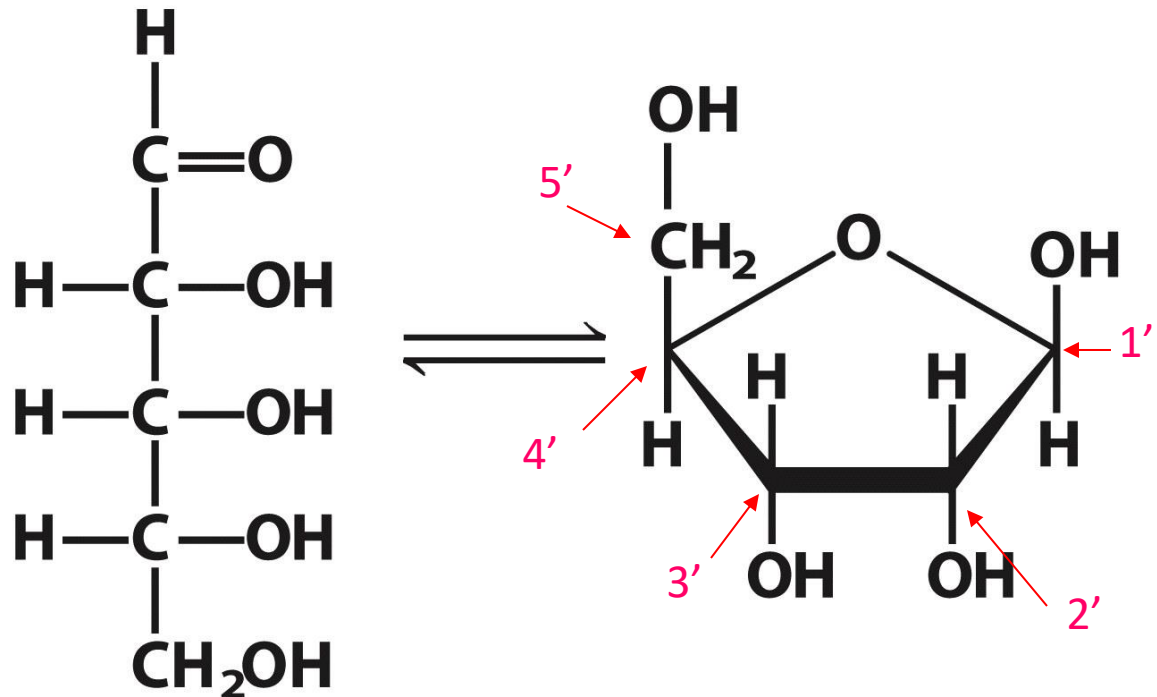
carbons numbered:

1',2',3',4',5'

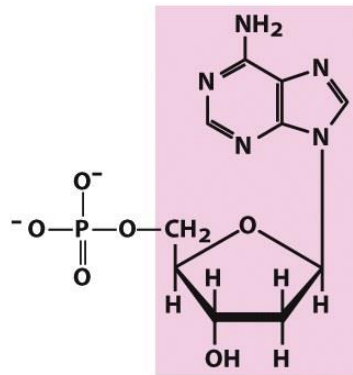
DNA:

2' Deoxyribose

or just deoxyribose



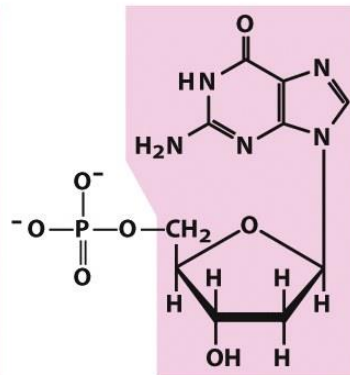
# Nucleotides



**Nucleotide:** Deoxyadenylate  
(deoxyadenosine  
5'-monophosphate)

**Symbols:** A, dA, dAMP

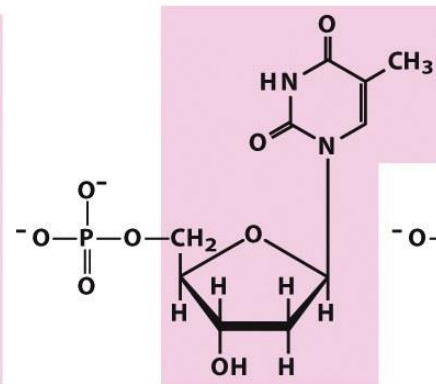
**Nucleoside:** Deoxyadenosine



**Nucleotide:** Deoxyguanylate  
(deoxyguanosine  
5'-monophosphate)

**Symbols:** G, dG, dGMP

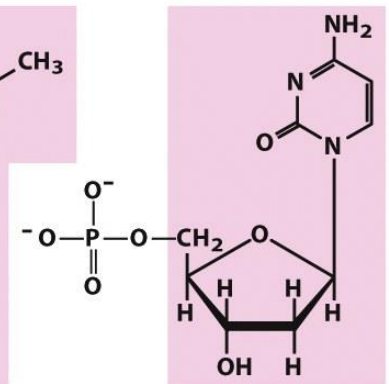
**Nucleoside:** Deoxyguanosine



**Nucleotide:** Deoxythymidylate  
(deoxythymidine  
5'-monophosphate)

**Symbols:** T, dT, dTMP

**Nucleoside:** Deoxythymidine



**Nucleotide:** Deoxycytidylate  
(deoxycytidine  
5'-monophosphate)

**Symbols:** C, dC, dCMP

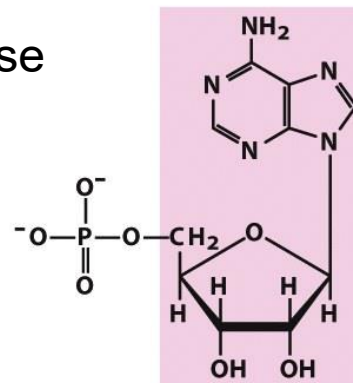
**Nucleoside:** Deoxycytidine

## Summary

DNA A,C,G,T  
deoxyribose

RNA A,C,G,U  
ribose

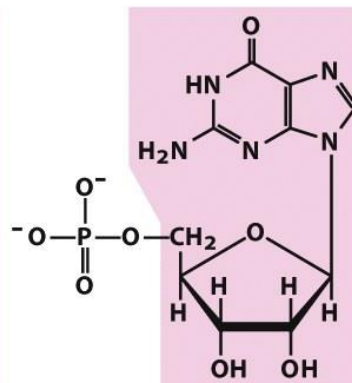
## Deoxyribonucleotides



**Nucleotide:** Adenylate (adenosine  
5'-monophosphate)

**Symbols:** A, AMP

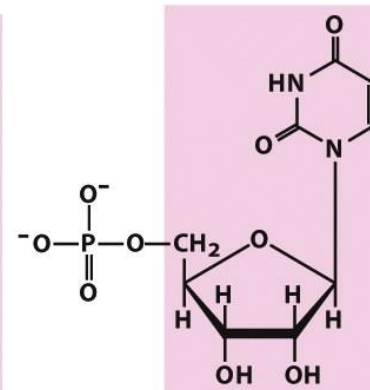
**Nucleoside:** Adenosine



**Nucleotide:** Guanylate (guanosine  
5'-monophosphate)

**Symbols:** G, GMP

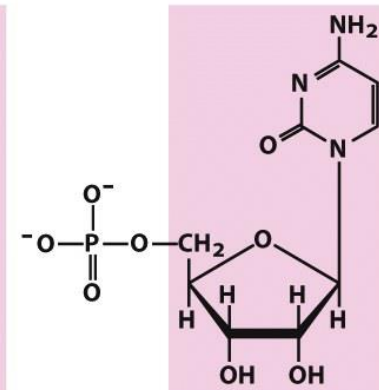
**Nucleoside:** Guanosine



**Nucleotide:** Uridylate (uridine  
5'-monophosphate)

**Symbols:** U, UMP

**Nucleoside:** Uridine



**Nucleotide:** Cytidylate (cytidine  
5'-monophosphate)

**Symbols:** C, CMP

**Nucleoside:** Cytidine

## Ribonucleotides

# Polymerise Nucleotides

nucleotides can be linked

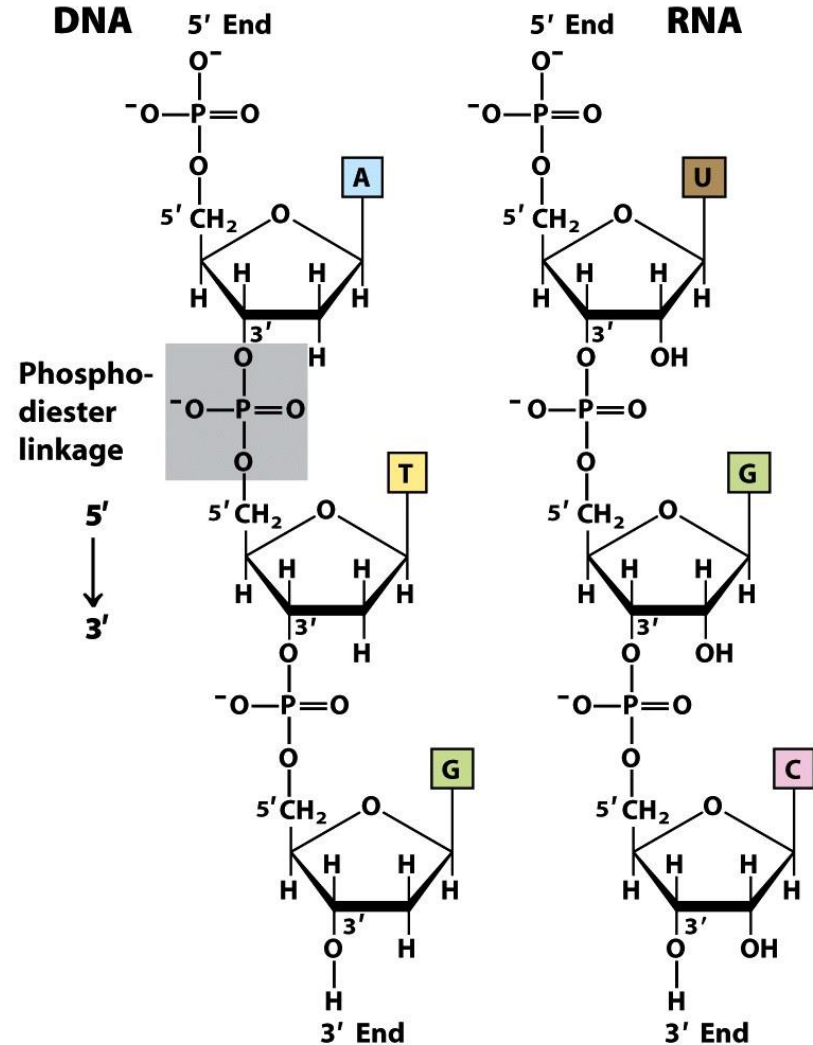
phosphates linked to 2 pentoses

phosphodiester linkages

Link  $\text{PO}_4$  at

5' end to 3' OH of next nucleotide

- chain has **POLARITY**
  - distinct ends
    - 5' end
    - 3' end
  - usually “read” 5' → 3'



**Figure 8-7**

*Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry, Fifth Edition*

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# Nucleotides as Energy Carriers

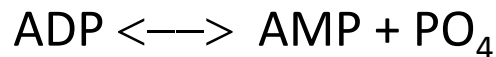
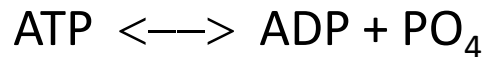
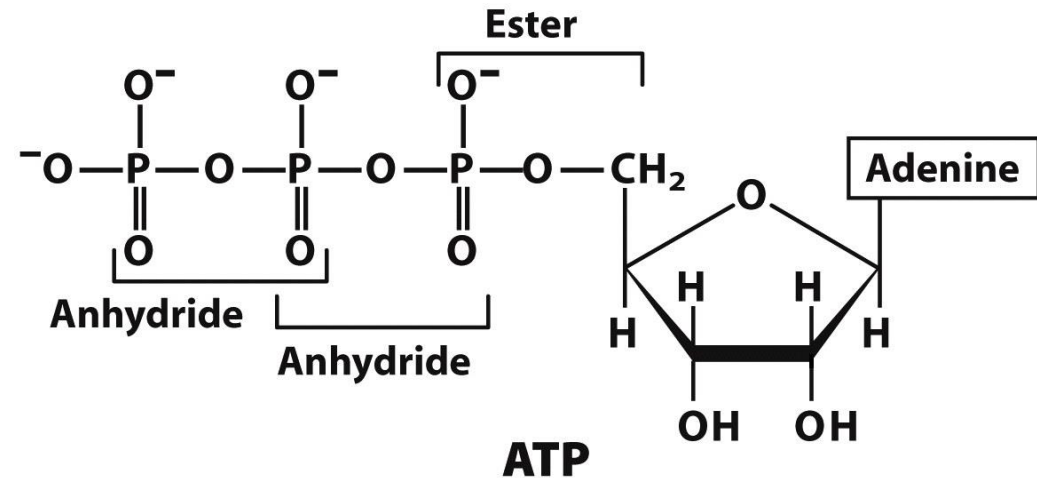
ATP

Adenosine triphosphate

ADP, AMP

Adenosine diphosphate

Adenosine monophosphate



- Main energy exchange reactions in cells



# Structure of DNA?

The Genetic Material

Crick and Watson

Race with Linus Pauling to predict structure

**Chargaff's** rules:

Chemical analysis:

$$[A] = [T]$$

$$[G] = [C]$$

Constant

for each organism

over time

across all tissues



**James D. Watson**



**Francis Crick,  
1916–2004**

# X-Ray Diffraction

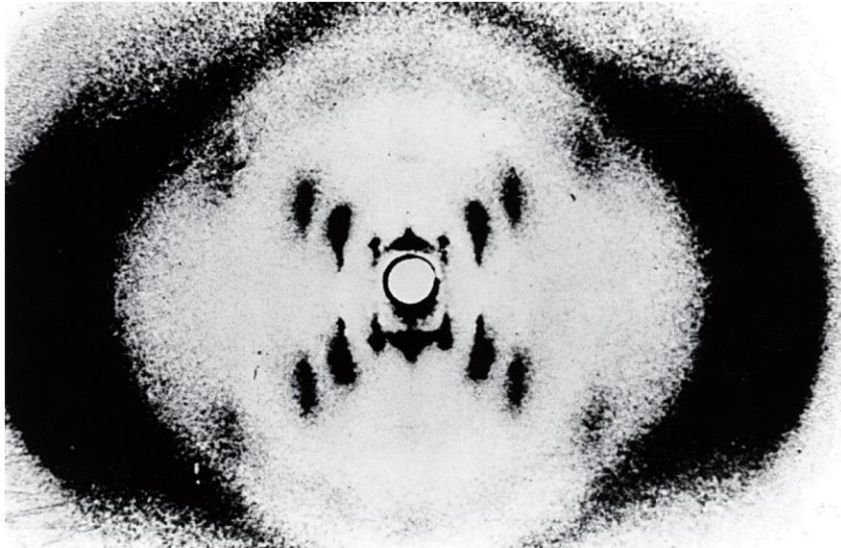
Predict

Double helix

2 periodicities

3.4Å

34Å



**Rosalind Franklin,  
1920–1958**

Unnumbered 8 p278  
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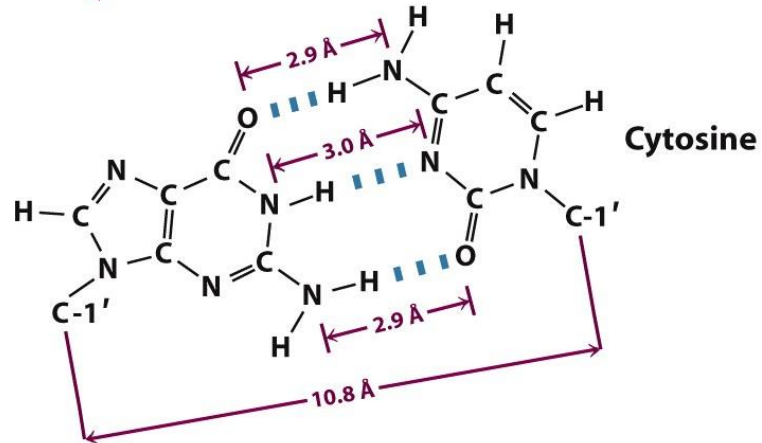
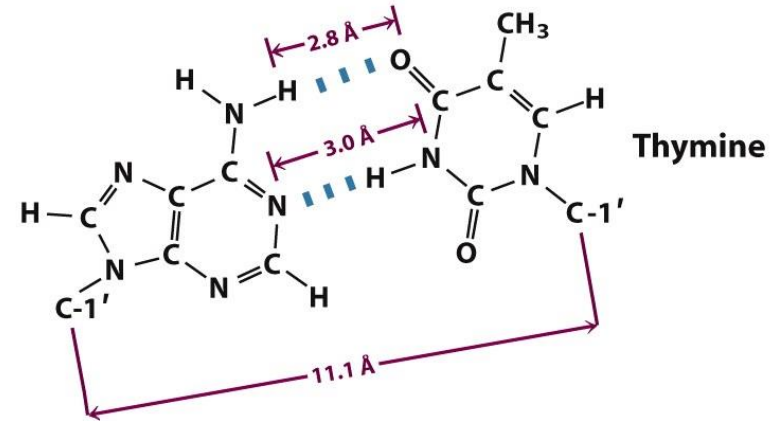
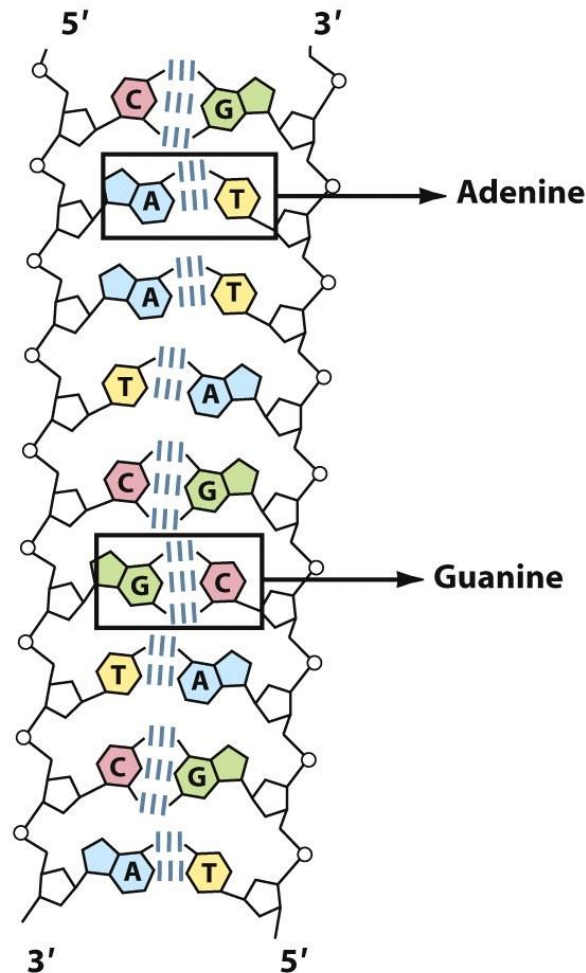
**Maurice Wilkins,  
1916–2004**



# Base Pairing

A – T basepair  
2 h-bonds  
G – C basepair  
3 h-bonds

2 anti-parallel  
DNA strands



**Figure 8-11**  
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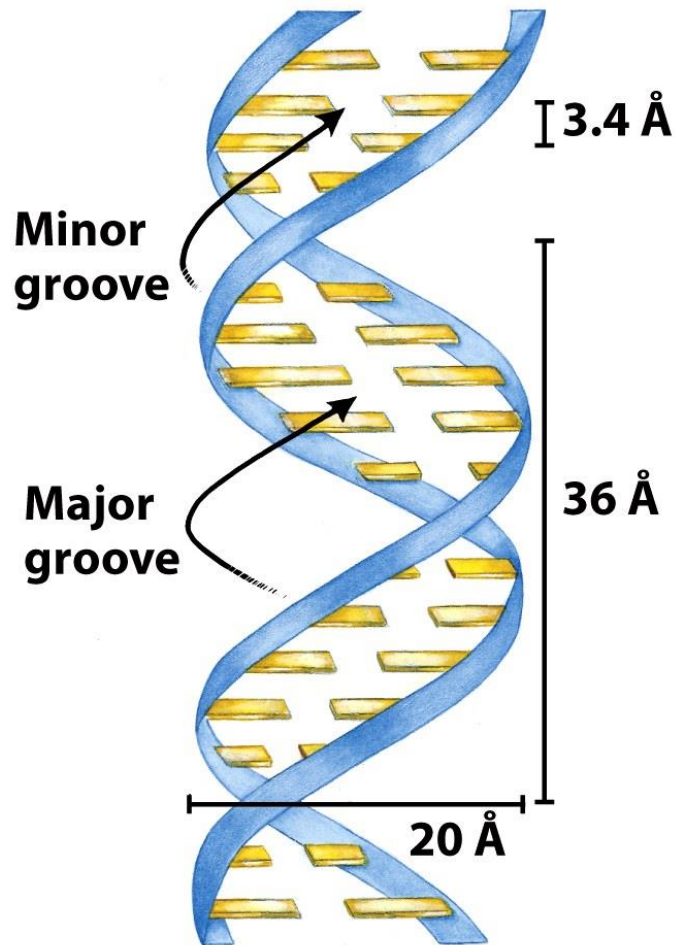
# The Double Helix

3.4Å per basepair

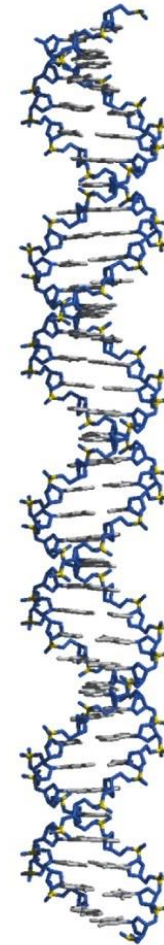
10 basepairs per turn

10-11 in aqueous solution

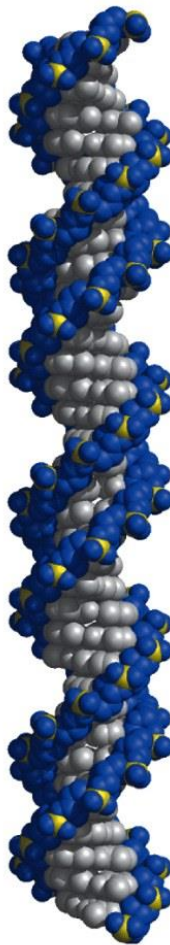
2 anti-parallel strands



(a)



(b)

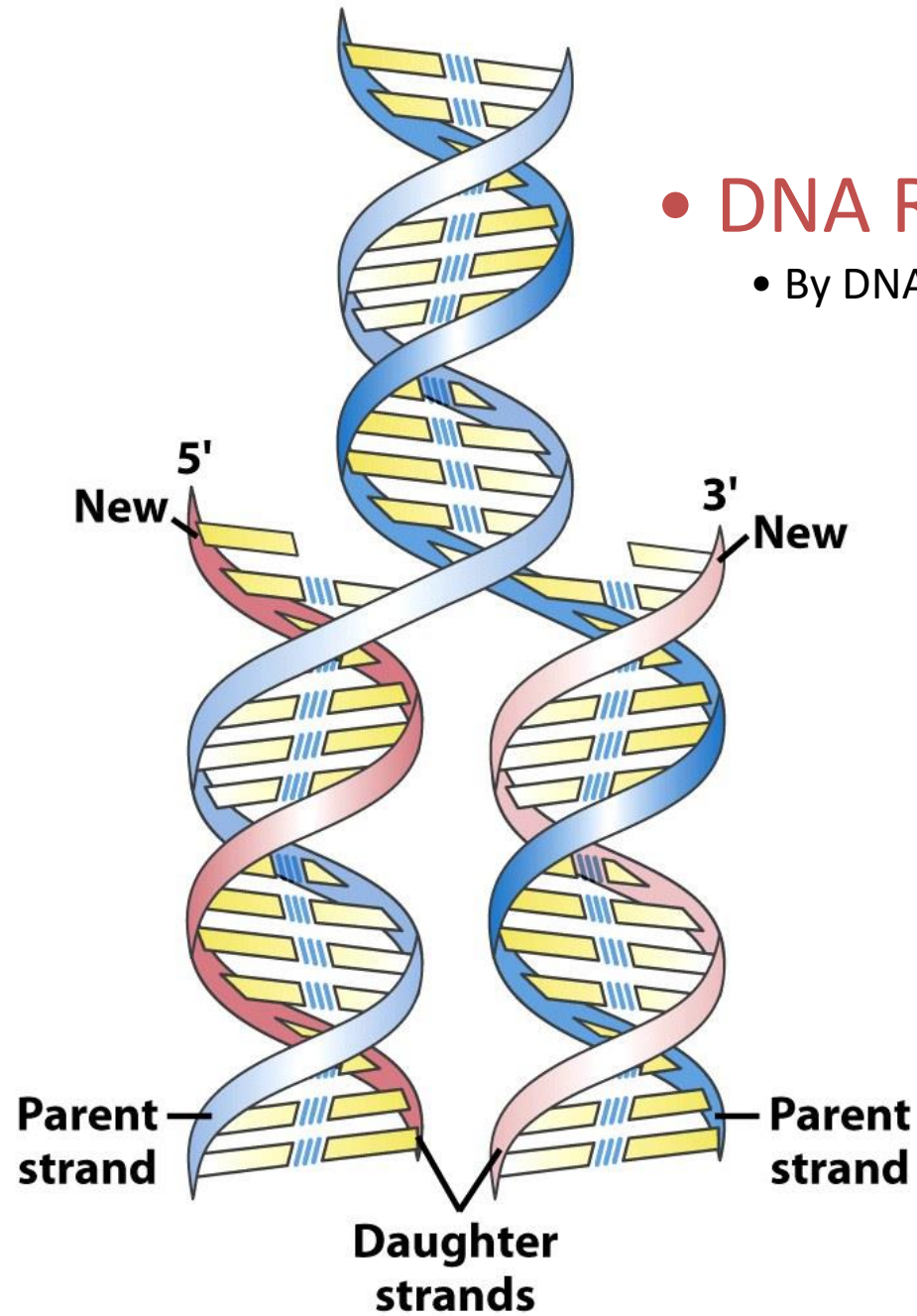


(c)

**Figure 8-13**

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**Figure 8-15**  
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	Monomers of components	Polymer or larger molecule	Type of linkage
Carbohydrates			
Lipids			
Proteins			
Nucleic acids			

	Monomers or Components	Polymer or larger molecule	Type of linkage
Carbohydrates	Monosaccharides	Polysaccharides	Glycosidic linkages
Lipids	Fatty acids	Triacylglycerols	Ester linkages
Proteins	Amino acids	Polypeptides	Peptide bonds
Nucleic acids	Nucleotides	Polynucleotides	Phosphodiester linkages