

Carbohydrates

Function in providing structural support, as a source of energy and carbon, and as a way of storing energy and carbon



Carbohydrates

(Carbon skeletons with -OH & =O functional groups)

- Includes sugars and polymers of simple sugars

- Carbohydrates are composed of **C, H, O**

carbo - hydr - ate

- Function:

- provide energy
- energy storage
- raw building materials
- structural materials

- Ex: sugars, starches, glycogen, cellulose, chitin



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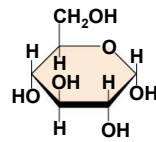
Simple & Complex Sugars

Monosaccharides

- Simple 1 monomer sugars

- Empirical Formula: CH_2O

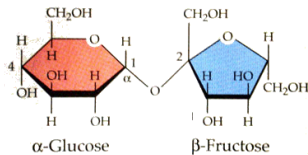
- Ex: Glucose $(\text{CH}_2\text{O})_x \rightarrow \text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6$



Disaccharides

- 2 monomers

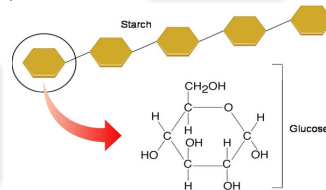
- Ex: Sucrose



Polysaccharides

- Large polymers

- Ex: Starch



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Monosaccharides:

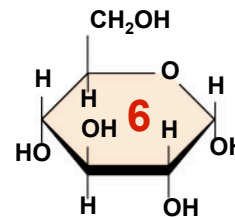
- * Provides energy for cells.
- * Raw material for construction of other organic molecules (ex: polysaccharides, fatty & amino acids).

- Most names for sugars end in **-ose**

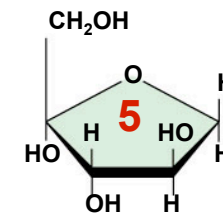
- Can be classified by number of carbons

(range from 3 to 7 C's long)

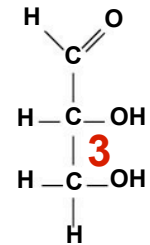
- 6C = hexose (glucose)
- 5C = pentose (ribose)
- 3C = triose (glyceraldehyde)



Glucose



Ribose



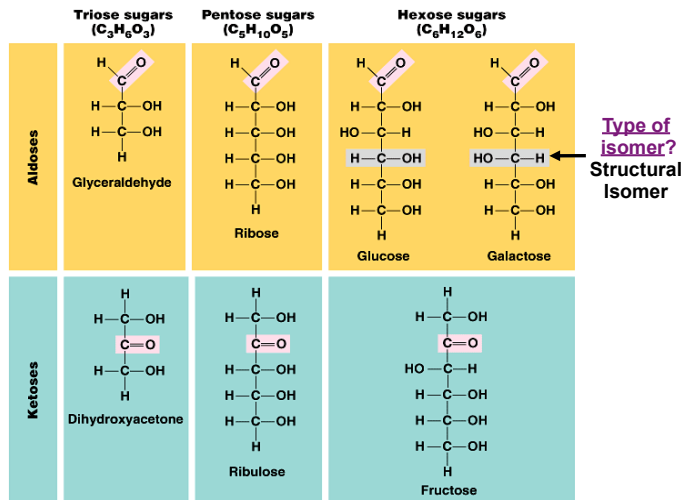
Glyceraldehyde

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Classifying sugars according to location of Carbonyl Group

Aldehyde
Sugar =
aldose

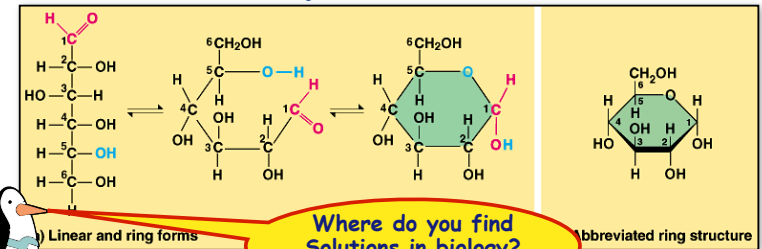
Ketone
sugar =
ketose



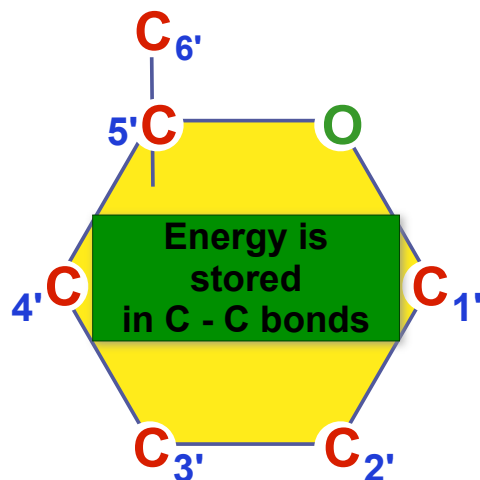
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Sugar Numbering & Structure

- Linear sugars are drawn carbonyl end up
- Carbons are numbered starting from the carbonyl end
- 5C & 6C sugars form rings in solution (there exists a chemical equilibrium between the two shapes, linear and ringed. Ringed is favored in solution)
 - The O of the hydroxyl on the #5 C, covalently bonds to the #1 C of the carbonyl



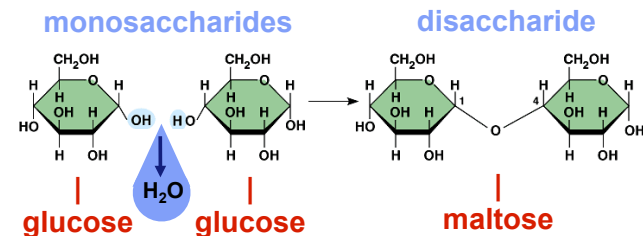
Position of Numbered Carbons



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Building double sugars

Dehydration synthesis



What is the name of the covalent bond joining two sugar monomers through a dehydration reaction?

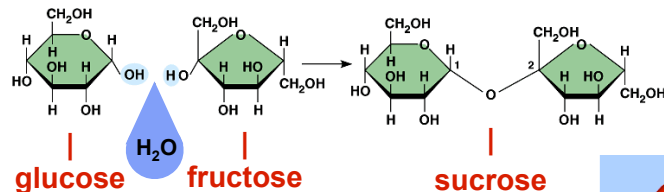
A Glycosidic Linkage



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Building double sugars

- Can make distinct sugars by combining different monosaccharides



Glucose + Glucose = Maltose
Glucose + Fructose = Sucrose
Glucose + Galactose = Lactose

sucrose
(table sugar,
plant sugars)



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Polysaccharides are MACROMOLECULES

- Polymers of sugars (100's to 1000's of monomers)
 - costs little energy to build
 - easily reversible, releasing energy when needed
- Function - determined by the types of sugar monomers and the positioning of glycosidic linkages.



- energy storage - can be hydrolyzed to release sugar for cells when needed
 - starch (plants)
 - glycogen (animals)
 - in liver & muscles



- structural
 - cellulose (plants)
 - chitin (arthropods exoskeleton & fungi cell wall)

Storage Polysaccharides: Linear vs. Branched

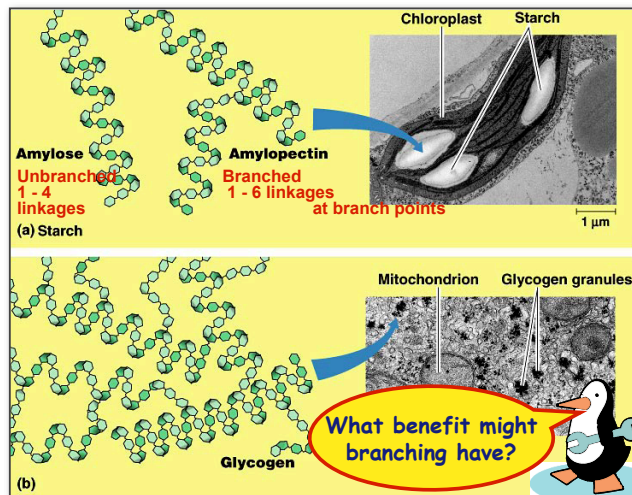
Purpose: Storing sugars for later use

Plants store starch in plastids.

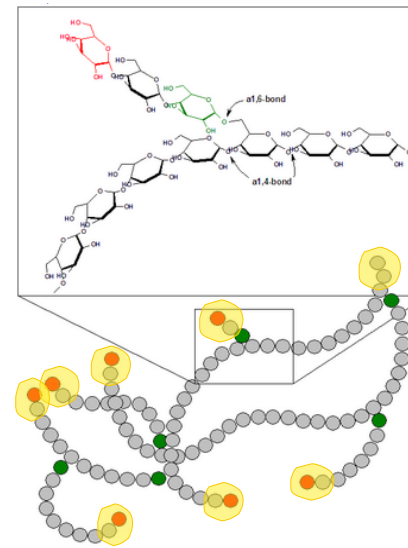
Starch = polymer of glucose monomers

Animals store glycogen in liver and muscles

Glycogen = **HIGHLY BRANCHED** polymer of glucose



Benefits of Branched Polysaccharides



Form Follows Function:

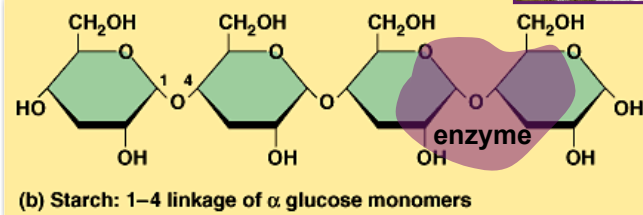
During times of shortage, enzymes attack one end of the polymer chain and cut off glucose molecules, one at a time.

The more branches, the more points at which enzymes attack the polysaccharide.

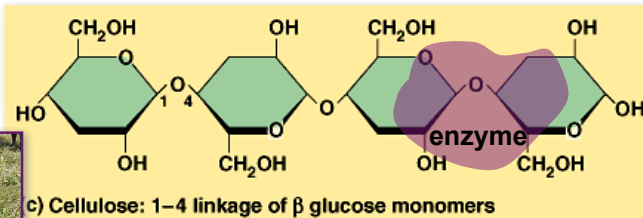
Thus, a **highly branched** polysaccharide is better suited for the rapid release of glucose than a linear polymer.

Digesting starch vs. cellulose

starch
easy to digest



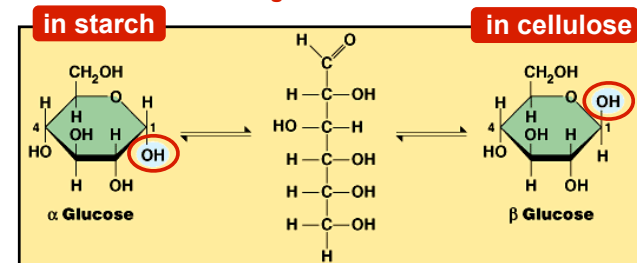
cellulose
hard to digest



Structural Polysaccharides: Cellulose & Chitin

■ Cellulose: Most abundant organic compound on Earth

- ◆ Component of cell walls in plant cells
- ◆ Polymer of glucose
 - Cellulose contains β glucose monomers
 - Starch contains α glucose monomers

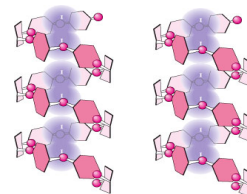
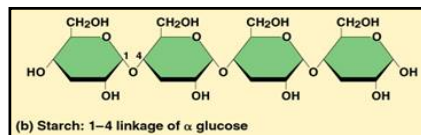


- ◆ Structural isomers of glucose
- ◆ Structure determines function...

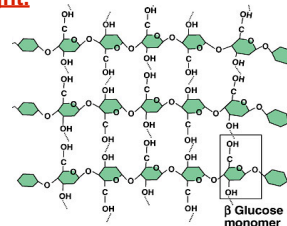
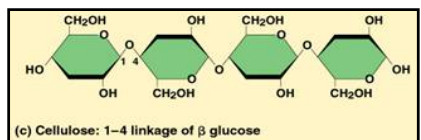
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Linkage determines shape of polymers

- In Starch glucose monomers are in the same orientation one after the other, but their glycosidic bond causes the entire chain to be helical.

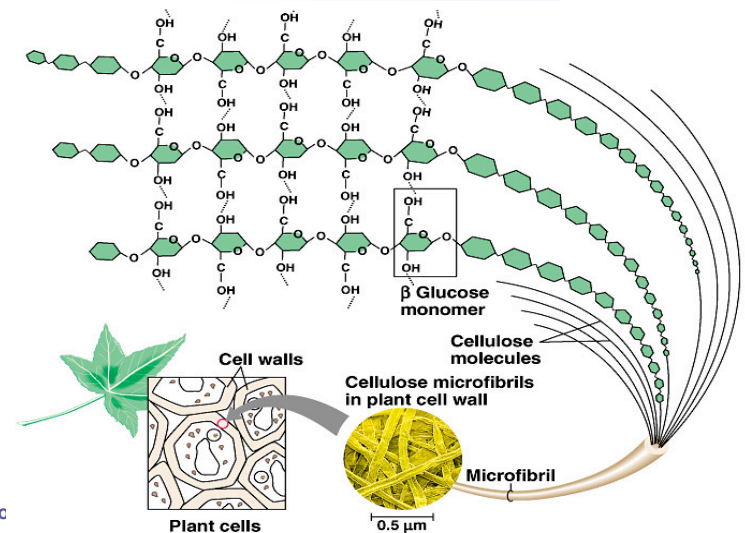


- In Cellulose every other glucose monomer is upside down compared to its neighbor and the chain remains straight.



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Cellulose: Hydroxyls of adjacent strands hydrogen bond forming strong microfibrils



AP Bic

Cellulose

- Herbivores have evolved a mechanism to digest cellulose

- Most carnivores have not

- That's why they eat meat to get their energy & nutrients
- For us, omnivores, cellulose = undigestible roughage but still a necessary component of a healthy diet

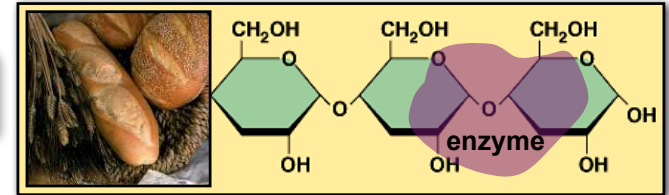


But it tastes like hay!
Who can live on this stuff?!



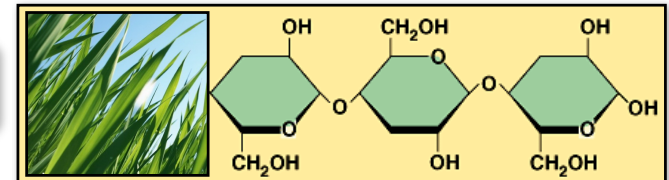
For us humans for example:

Starch =
easy to digest



We have enzymes that can hydrolyze α glycosidic bonds and lack those that hydrolyze β glycosidic bonds.

Cellulose =
hard to digest



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Cow:

can digest cellulose well;
no need to eat other sugars

Gorilla:

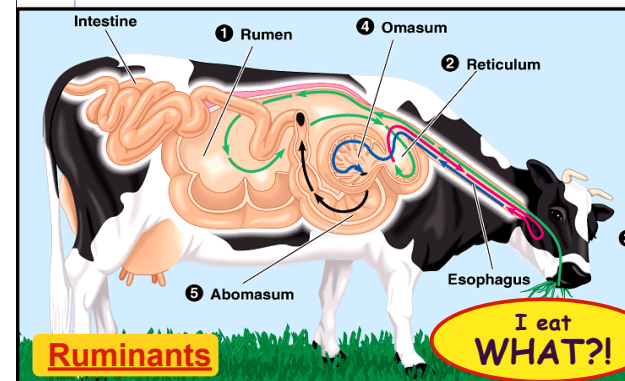
can't digest cellulose well;
must add another sugar source, like fruit to diet



Helpful bacteria

- How can herbivores digest cellulose so well?

- BACTERIA** live in their digestive systems & help digest cellulose-rich (grass) meals (These prokaryotes have the right enzyme)
- Some will pass the food through the digestive system twice to help soak up more nutrients

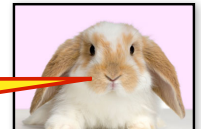


Ruminants

I eat
WHAT?!

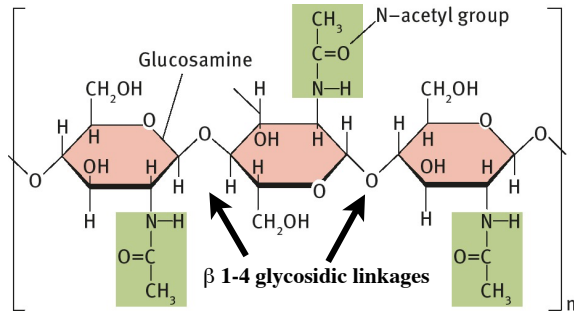


Rabbits practice
Coprophagia
(consuming feces).



Chitin

- Same structure as cellulose polysaccharide but hydroxyl on the 2' Carbon is replaced with nitrogen-containing group of atoms.
 - ◆ Forms the exoskeleton of arthropods (insects, spiders, lobsters, shrimp)
 - ◆ Also forms the cell walls of fungal cells



EAT
Let's build some
Carbohydrates!

