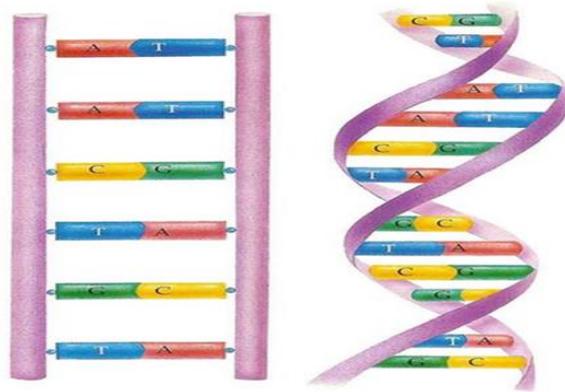


Molecular biology and bacterial genetics

البايولوجي الجزيئي ووراثة الاحياء المجهرية

Lec 2



مفردات المحاضرة الثانية:

- 1 primary structure of DNA
- 2- The Nucleic Acids
- 3- The Secondary Structures of DNA

primary structure of DNA:

The Primary Structure of DNA consists of a string of nucleotides joined together by phosphodiester linkages

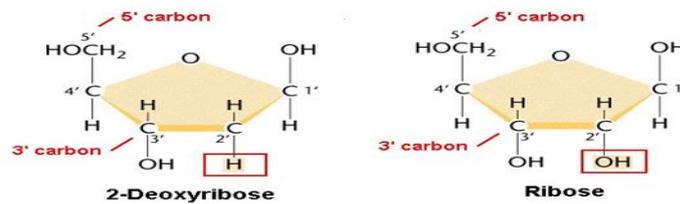
- **nucleotides**

it is a polymer, a chain made up of many repeating units linked together. As already mentioned, the repeating units of DNA are nucleotides, each comprising three parts: (1) a sugar, (2) a phosphate, and (3) a nitrogen-containing base.(table 1).

	Phosphate	Sugar	Base	
			Purines	Pyrimidines
DNA	Present	Deoxyribose	Guanine (G) Adenine (A)	Cytisine (C) Thymine (T)
RNA	Present	Ribose	Guanine (G) Adenine (A)	Cytosine (C) Uracil (U)

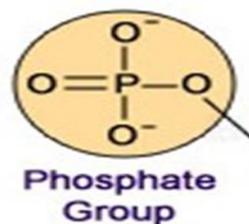
(Table 1): the components of nucleotides

1- The Pentose Sugars The sugars of nucleic acids—called pentose sugars—have five carbon atoms



The sugars of DNA and RNA are slightly different in structure. RNA's ribose sugar has a hydroxyl group attached to the 2'-carbon atom, whereas DNA's sugar, called deoxyribose, has a hydrogen atom at this position and contains one oxygen atom fewer overall. This difference gives rise to the names ribonucleic acid (RNA) and deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA).

2-The Phosphate Group The second component of a nucleotide is the phosphate group, which consists of a phosphorus atom bonded to four oxygen atoms. Phosphate groups are found in every nucleotide and frequently carry a negative charge, which makes DNA acidic. The phosphate is always bonded to the 5'-carbon atom of the sugar in a nucleotide.



3-The Nitrogenous Bases The third component of a nucleotide is its nitrogenous base, which may be of two types:

- a purine (. consists of a six-sided ring attached to a five-sided ring)
- a pyrimidine, (each pyrimidine consists of a six-sided ring only)

. DNA and RNA both contain two purines, adenine and guanine (A and G), which differ in the positions of their double bonds and in the groups attached to the six-sided ring. There are three pyrimidines found in nucleic acids: cytosine (C), thymine (T), and uracil (U). Cytosine is present in both DNA and RNA; however, thymine is restricted to DNA, and uracil is found only in RNA

The four bases in DNA are:

sugar is linked to the hydroxyl group attached to the 3' carbon of the next sugar in line.

Polarity القطبية

An important characteristic of the polynucleotide strand is its direction, or polarity. At one end of the strand a phosphate group is attached only to the 5'-carbon atom of the sugar in the nucleotide. This end of the strand is therefore referred to as the 5' end. The other end of the strand, referred to as the 3' end, has an OH group attached to the 3'-carbon atom of the sugar. RNA nucleotides also are connected by phosphodiester linkages to form similar polynucleotide strands.

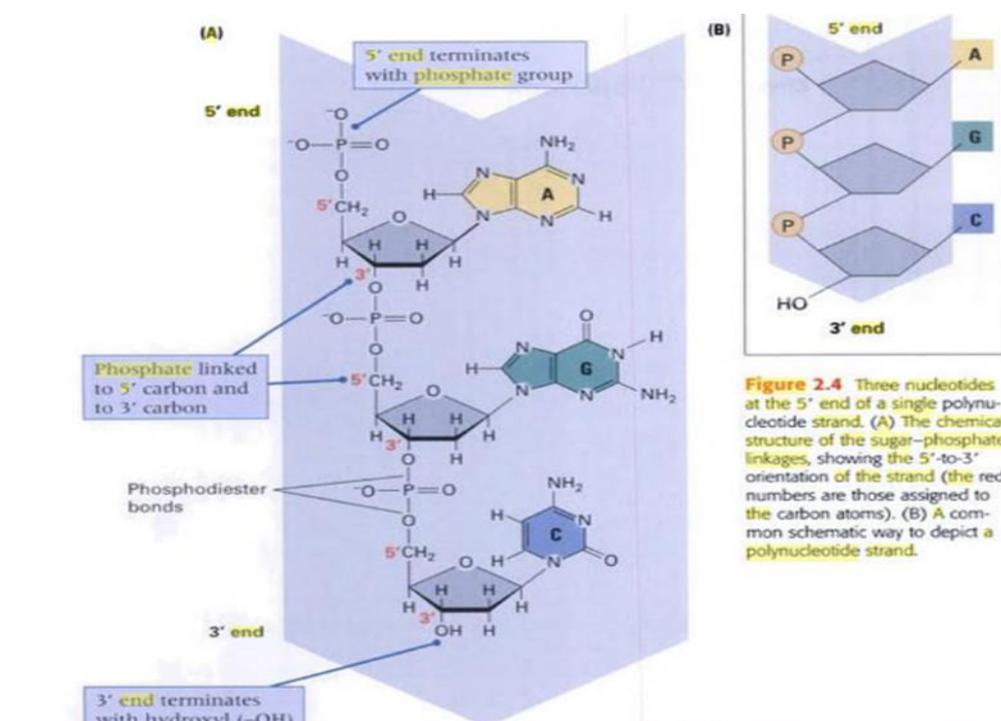


Figure 2.4 Three nucleotides at the 5' end of a single polynucleotide strand. (A) The chemical structure of the sugar-phosphate linkages, showing the 5'-to-3' orientation of the strand (the red numbers are those assigned to the carbon atoms). (B) A common schematic way to depict a polynucleotide strand.

Figure 4: Three nucleotides at the 5' end of a single polynucleotides strand. (A) the chemical structure of the sugar phosphate linkages, showing the 5' to 3' orientation of the strand. (B) a common schematic way to depict a polynucleotide strand.

The nomenclature of the nucleoside and nucleotide derivatives of the DNA bases is summarized in following table.

TABLE
2.1 DNA nomenclature

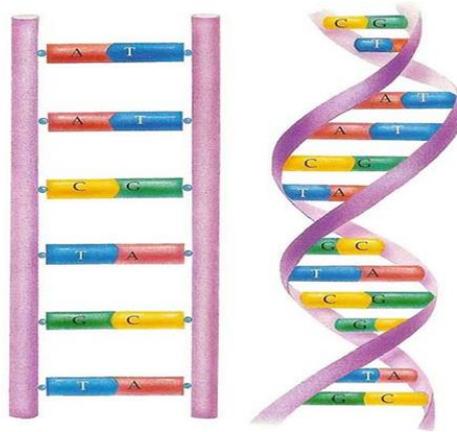
Base	Nucleoside	Nucleotide
Adenine (A)	Deoxyadenosine	Deoxyadenosine-5' monophosphate (dAMP) diphosphate (dADP) triphosphate (dATP)
Guanine (G)	Deoxyguanosine	Deoxyguanosine-5' monophosphate (dGMP) diphosphate (dGDP) triphosphate (dGTP)
Thymine (T)	Deoxythymidine	Deoxythymidine-5' monophosphate (dTMP) diphosphate (dTDP) triphosphate (dTTP)
Cytosine (C)	Deoxycytidine	Deoxycytidine-5' monophosphate (dCMP) diphosphate (dCDP) triphosphate (dCTP)

The Secondary Structures of DNA

The secondary structure of DNA refers to its three-dimensional configuration—its fundamental helical structure. DNA's secondary structure can assume a variety of configurations, depending on its base sequence and the conditions in which it is placed.

The Double Helix:

- 2- A fundamental characteristic of DNA's secondary structure is that it consists of two polynucleotide strands wound around each other—it's a double helix
- 3- The bases in double helix are paired complementary. At any position on the parried strands of a DNA molecule, the complement of A is T , and the complement of G is C. The complementary pairing means that each base along one strand of the DNA is matched with a base in the opposite position on the other strand.
- 4- The two polynucleotide strands run in opposite directions—they are antiparallel, which means that the 5' end of one strand is opposite the 3' end of the second
- 5- The strands are held together by two types of molecular forces. Hydrogen bonds link the bases on opposite strands (Figure 4.18). These bonds are relatively weak compared with the covalent phosphodiester bonds that connect the sugar and phosphate groups of adjoining nucleotides



Chargaff's rules:

Erwin Chargaff developed a chemical technique to measure the amount of each base present in DNA.,

observed certain regular relationships among the molar concentrations of the different bases. These relationships are now called Chargaff's rules:

- The amount of adenine equals that of thymine: $[A]=[T]$.
- The amount of guanine equals that of cytosine: $[G]=[C]$.
- The amount of the purine bases equals that of the pyrimidine bases:

$$[A]+[G]=[T]+[C].$$

ازدواج القاعد وتراصها Base pairing and base stacking

In the standard structure (Watson and Crick), which is called the Bform of DNA,

- each chain make one complete turn every 34\AA

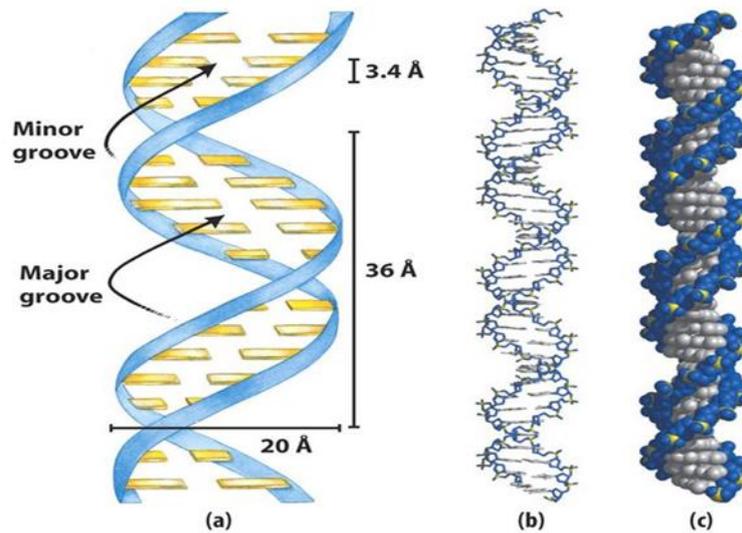
-the helix is right handed.

The diameter of the helix is 2 nm, spiralling of the nucleotide strands

- ✓ creates major and minor grooves in the helix, features that are important for the binding of some DNA-binding proteins that regulate the expression of genetic information.

- ✓ The two grooves spiralling along outside of the double helix are not symmetrical; one groove, called the major groove, is larger than the other, which is called the minor

The double helix has minor and major grooves

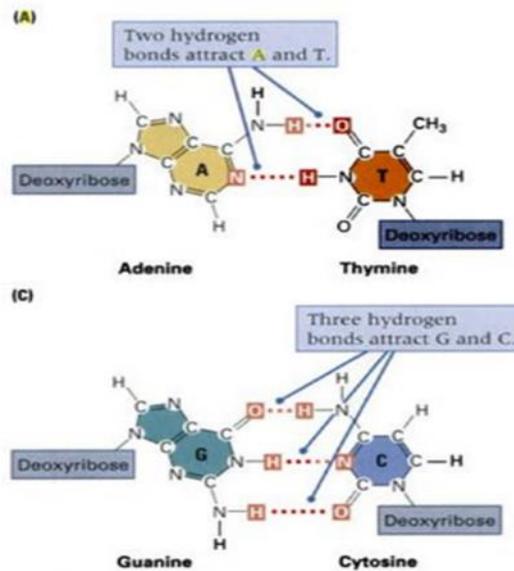


groov

figure 5:major and minor grooves of DNA.

The strand feature base pairing, in which each base is paired to a complementary base in the other strand by hydrogen bonds which provide one type of force holding the strands together.(figure 6).

Figure6: base pairing hydrogen bonds



- The three-dimensional structure of DNA that Watson and Crick described is termed the **B-DNA** structure
 - Another secondary structure that DNA can assume is the **A-DNA** structure. Like B-DNA, A-DNA is an alpha (right-handed) helix, but it is shorter and wider than B-DNA and its bases are tilted away from the main axis of the molecule.
 - A radically different secondary structure called **Z-DNA** forms a left-handed helix. In this form, the sugar phosphate backbones zigzag back and forth, giving rise to the name Z-DNA (for zigzag). Some regions can even form helices in which the strands twist to the left. Z-DNA structures can arise under physiological conditions when particular base sequences are present, such as stretches of alternating C and G sequences. Parts of some active genes form Z-DNA, suggesting that Z-DNA may play a role in regulating gene transcription.