

Protein Chemistry



Ph.D & Msc Students

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Lecture 4

Levels of protein structure

- Primary (1°)
- Secondary (2°)
- Tertiary (3°)

- Quaternary (4°)

organizes folding within a single polypeptide

interactions between two or more polypeptides that make a protein

Poly-Peptide



Levels of Protein Structure:

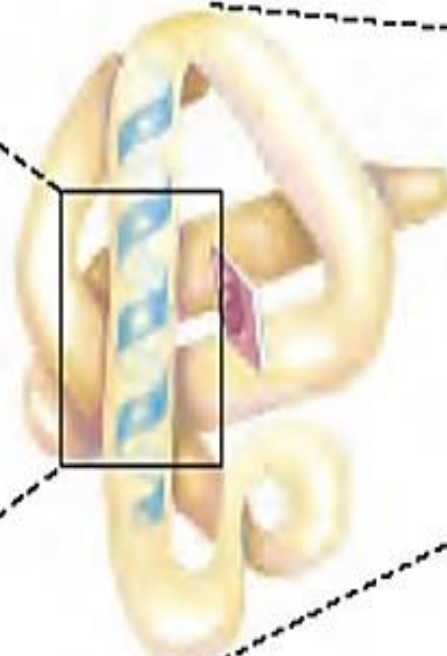
Primary structure



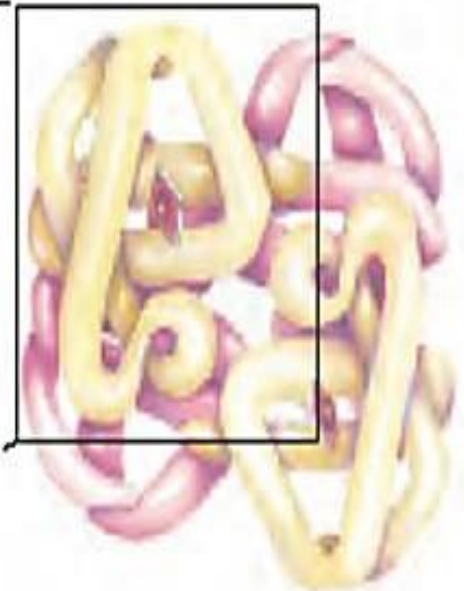
Secondary structure



Tertiary structure



Quaternary structure



Amino acid residues

α Helix

Polypeptide chain

Assembled subunits

Levels of protein structure

- Primary (1°)
- Secondary (2°)
- Tertiary (3°)

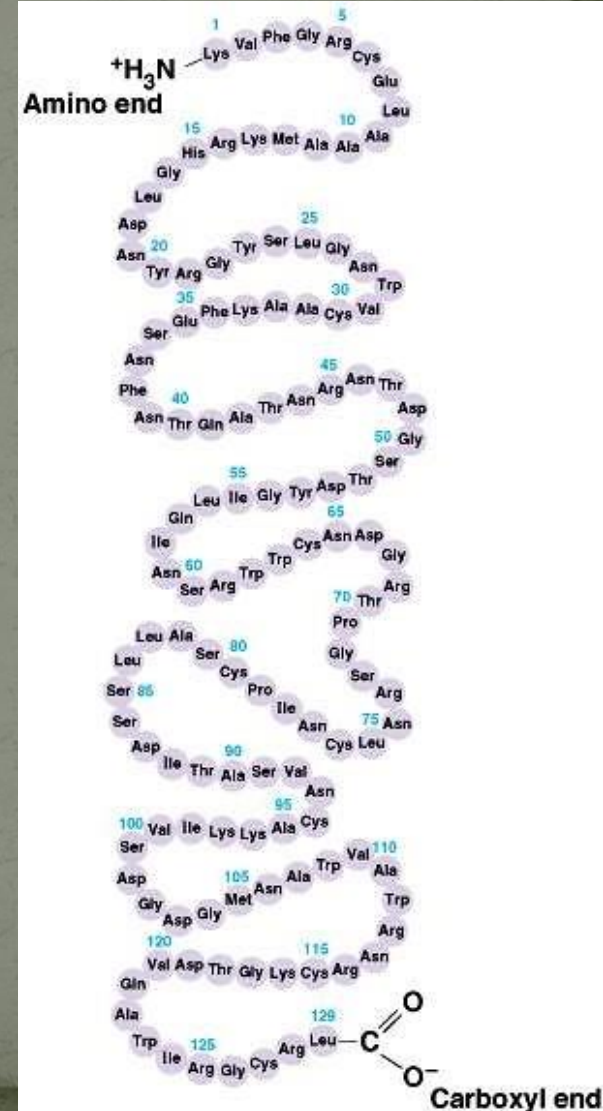
organizes folding within a single polypeptide

- Quaternary (4°)

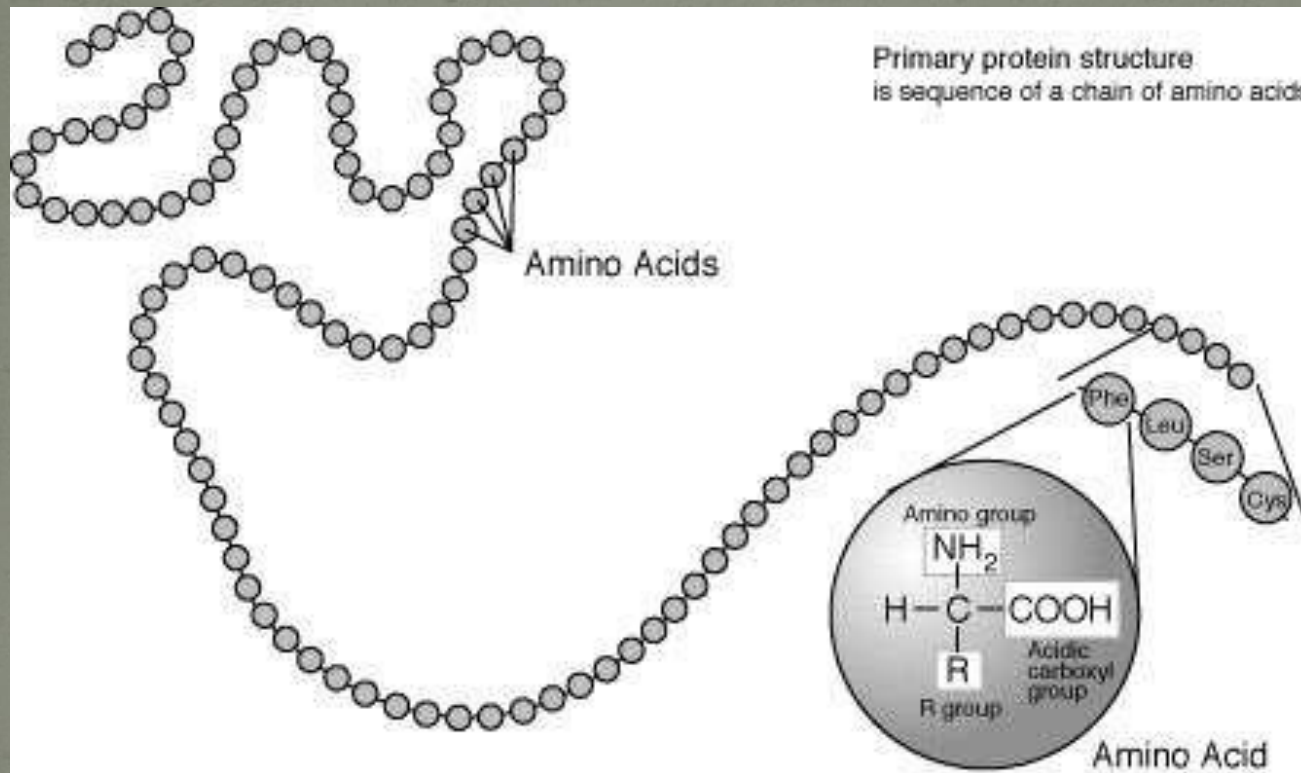
interactions between two or more polypeptides that make a protein

Primary (1°) Structure

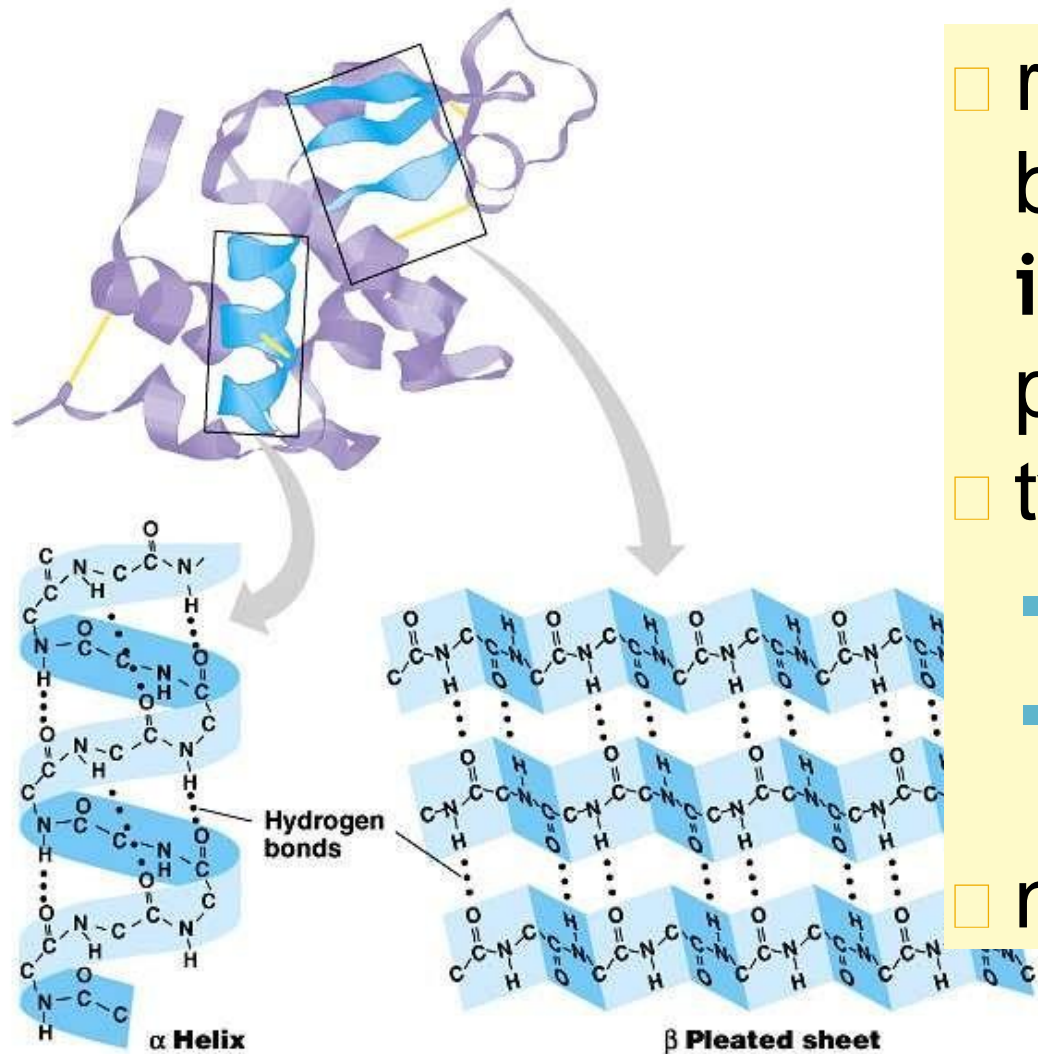
- unique sequence of amino acid
- sequence determined by DNA
- a slight change in primary structure can affect a protein's conformation and ability to function



Primary (1°) Structure



Secondary (2°) Structure

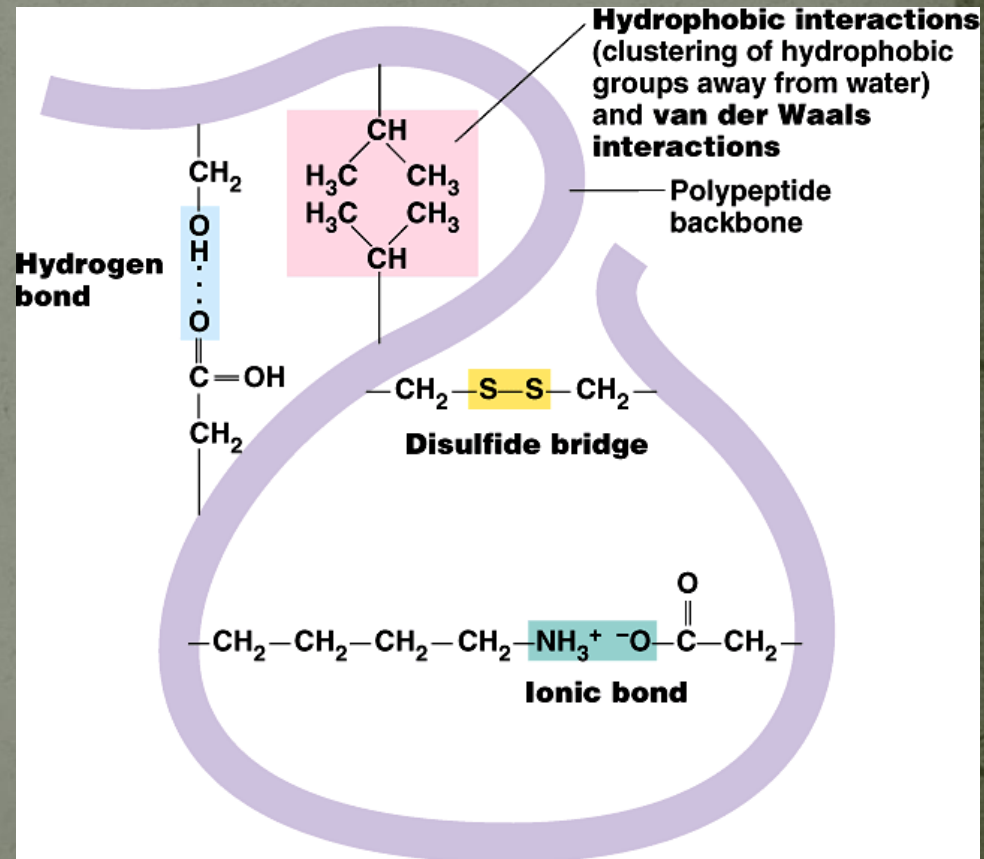


- results from **hydrogen bonds** at **regular intervals** along the polypeptide **backbone**
- typical shapes:
 - alpha helix (coils)
 - beta pleated sheets (folds)
- not found in all proteins

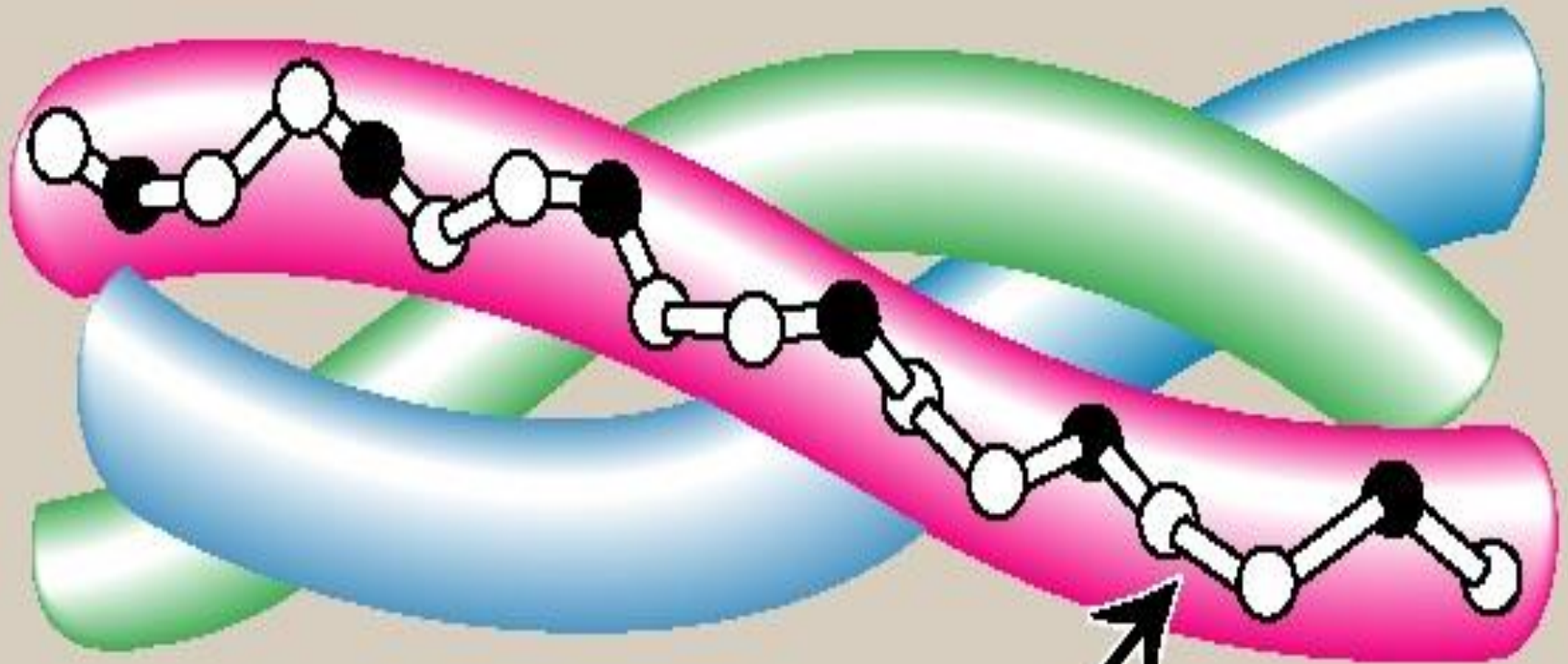
Tertiary (3°) Structure

Interactions between:

- R groups and R groups
- R groups and backbone



Triple-Stranded Helix of Collagen



Collagen α -chain