

## Secondary Structure of proteins. {essay}

- Configurational relationship between residues, which are about 3-4 Ås apart in linear sequence.

- Secondary structure

### Forces stabilising protein structure

# protein structure is stabilized by 2 types of forces.

#### 1. Covalent Bonds.

- Includes peptide & disulphide bonds

#### 2. Non-covalent Bonds.

Individually weak, but numerous in number:

Hence contribute extensively to structural stability of proteins

## Non-covalent Bonds.

• Secondary and tertiary structures are preserved by non-covalent forces like;

- Hydrogen Bond
- Electrostatic bond (ionic bonds)
- Hydrophobic bonds
- -Vanderwaals force

### Hydrogen Bond.

• weak electrostatic attraction formed between H atom attached to peptide N, & O atom attached to peptide C.



Hydrogen Bonds are donated by.

- $-NH$  of heterocyclic amino acids His, Trp and peptide.
- $-OH$  of hydroxy amino acids like Ser, Thr.
- $-NH_2$  of Basic acids like Arg, Lys.

Hydrogen Bonds are accepted by.

- $-COO^-$  of acidic amino acids like Asp, Glu.
- $-S-S$  of disulphide.
- $-C=O$  of peptide.

## 2. Electrostatic bonds (ionic bonds)

- positive charges are donated by basic AA

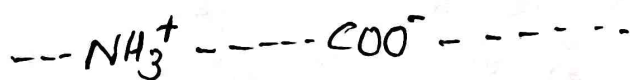
- Amino group of Lys

- Guanidinium group of Arg.

- Imidazole group of His.

- Negative charges are donated by acidic AA

- Beta & gamma  $-COOH$  group of Asp & Glu



## 3. Hydrophobic Bonds.

- Interaction between non-polar hydrophobic side chains by eliminating water molecules.
- Helps to hold lipophilic side chains together.

#### 4. Van der waal's force.

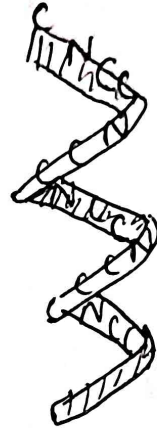
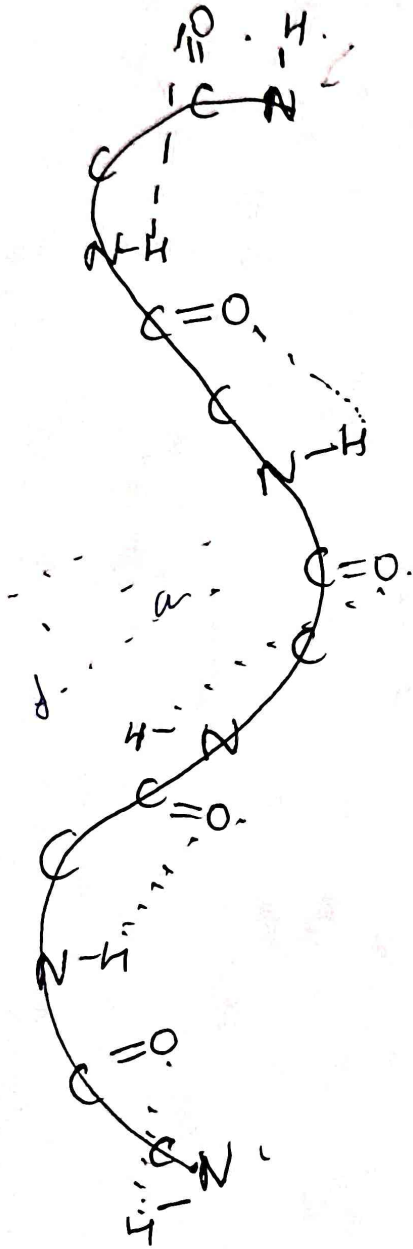
- weakest of all non-covalent forces.
- But collectively contribute maximum towards the stability of protein structure.

Protein conformation in secondary structure

Linus Pauling and Robert Corey made significant contributions in describing secondary structure of proteins

- $\alpha$  Helix
- $\beta$  - pleated sheet
- Collagen helix.





3.6 Å<sup>0</sup>  
1.5 Å<sup>2</sup>

α Helix molecule

- Hb & myoglobin.

absent :

hydroxy proline } not in  
proline . } α helix

- proline & hydroxy proline will not allow formation of  $\alpha$ -helix.

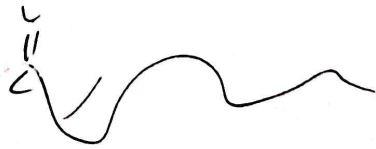
- $\alpha$  helix is seen in Hb & myoglobin.

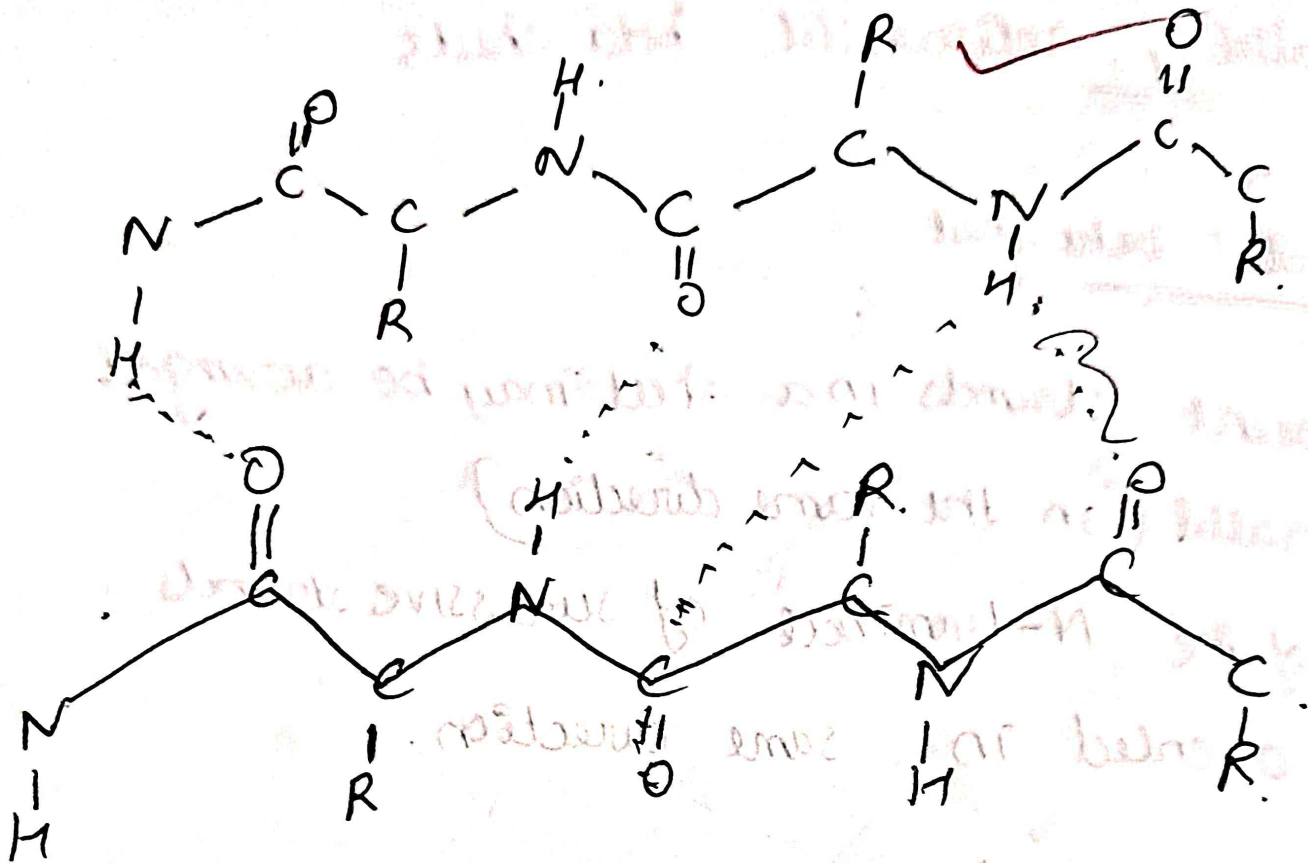
- $\alpha$  helix absent in chymotrypsin.

$\beta$  pleated sheet.

- polypeptide chains in beta pleated sheet is almost fully extended.
- Distance btwn adjacent A.A is  $3.5 \text{ \AA}$ .
- stabilised by hydrogen bonds btw.  
-NH & -C=O grps of neighbouring polypeptide segments.

- parallel & antiparallel beta sheets
- parallel beta sheet
- adjacent strands in a sheet may be arranged in parallel (in the same direction)
- All of the N-terminal of successive strands are oriented in same direction.
- Anti-parallel beta sheet
- adjacent strands in a beta sheet may be arranged in the opposite direction.
- The N-terminal of one strand is adjacent to the C-terminal of the next.

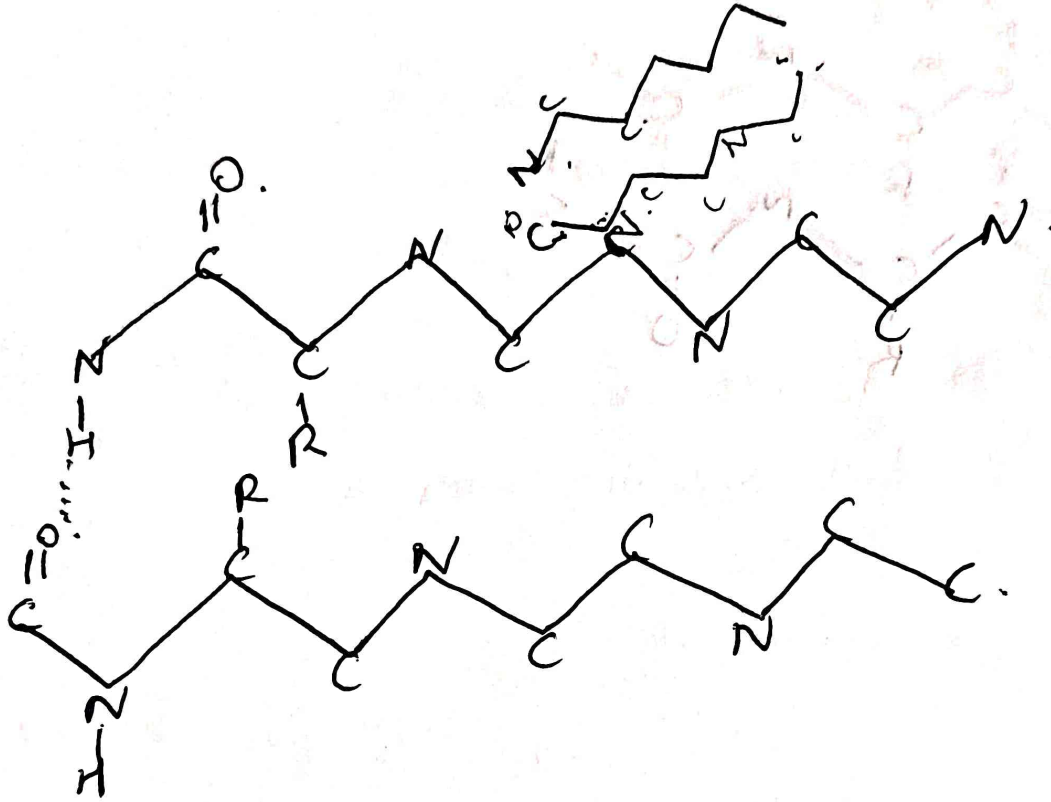




parallel.

Antiparallel

sto. must



Examples.

- Antiparallel  $\beta$  pleated sheet: in proteins like, silk fibroin.
- parallel  $\beta$  pleated sheet: Flavodoxin.
- Both types found in : Carbonic anhydrase.

loops and turns in secondary structures.

• some times loop-like structure or U-turns may act as a linking material btw regular  $\alpha$ -helix &  $\beta$ -pleated sheets.

• In some, reverse turns are seen in polypeptide chain as many proteins are globular in shape.

• peptide chains in anti-parallel direction, connected by small reverse-turn loops.

• parallel beta sheets require long loop-like links for cross connections.

## Secondary Structure - Triple Helix

- 3 polypeptide chains woven together.
- H bonding between -OH groups gives a strong structure
- major fibrous elements of tissues like bones, teeth, tendons, cartilage and blood vessels.

## Collagen - helix.

- collagen is a rod-like structure.
- The super helix is formed by winding 3 polypeptide chains.
- one turn has 3.3 amino acid residues
- Each turn is also separated by  $2.9 \text{ \AA}$ .
- collagen fibres are strung together by cross linking between lysine and hydroxy-lysine residues.
  - cross links are formed by LYSYL OXIDASE, a Cu containing enzyme, which converts these amino acids into aldehydes.

X — X  
end of secondary structure of proteins.