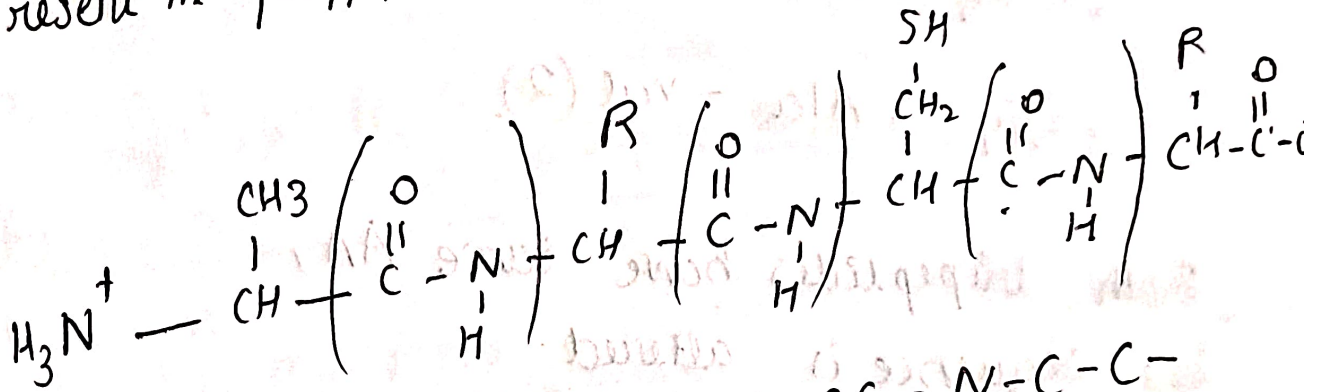


## Primary structure. (8 marks)

It refers to number and sequence of amino acid present in polypeptide chain.



This forms a  $\text{N}-\text{C}-\text{C}-\text{N}-\text{C}-\text{C}-\text{N}-\text{C}-\text{C}-$  terminal to the  $-\text{COOH}$  terminal.

① The primary structure is read from  $\text{NH}_2^-$  terminal to the  $-\text{COOH}$  terminal.

② Each amino acid is identified by its specific R-group.

③ The primary structure is held together by covalent bonds such as peptide bonds.

④ There are 20 different amino acids in living things.

⑤ It is therefore possible to have an  $\infty$  no. of primary structures.

## Sequence & numbering of amino acids.

• Gly - val - Ala (1)

• Gly - Ala - val (2)

Both tripeptides have same AA,  
but sequence is altered.

• when the sequence changes, peptide differs.

• each protein has a unique sequence of amino acids, decided by genes.

## N-terminal & C-terminal ends.

• The two ends of polypeptide chains are referred to as.

• The carboxyl terminal (C-terminal) end

end where free alpha carboxyl group is seen.

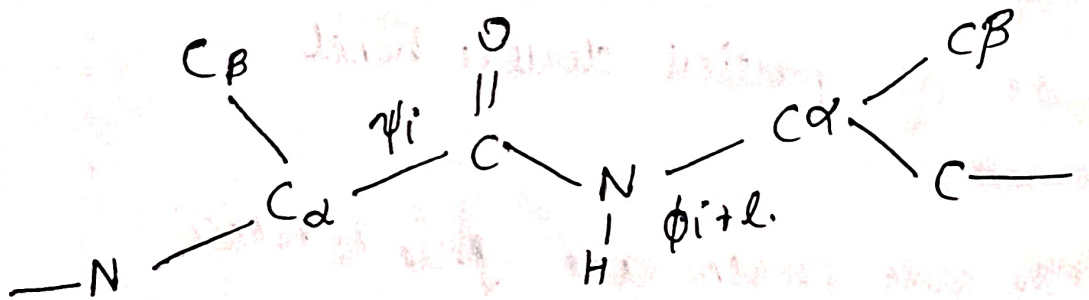
The Amino terminal (N-terminal) end.

- End where free alpha amino group is seen.

✓ V. Imp't - write 5 → full marks  
Characteristics of peptide Bond.

1. Peptide Bond is planar.

- all six atoms →  $\alpha$ -C (of first amino acid), C=O, NH,  $\alpha$ -C (of second amino acid) lie in the same plane.



## 2. Partial Double Bond.

- Normal Bond length between C-N single bond is  $1.49 \text{ \AA}$ .
- Normal Bond length between C=N double bond is  $1.27 \text{ \AA}$ .

Bond length of a peptide bond (C-N distance) is between these 2 values;  $1.32 \text{ \AA}$ , giving it a partial double bond character.

## 3. No. Freedom of Rotation

- peptide bond has no freedom of rotation because of partial double bond character.
- The side chains are free to rotate on either side of the peptide bond.

4. C-N bond is trans in nature

The two  $\alpha$ -C's are on opposite side of the double bond.

5. Ramachandran angles

• The angle of rotation is called Ramachandran angle.

→ The angle of rotation in regards to the bond between the nitrogen & the  $\alpha$ C is referred to as phi.

• while the  $\angle$  of rotation btwn  $\alpha$ C & (carbonyl) carbon is referred to as psi.

## Branched & Circular proteins

• Mostly, polypeptide chains are linear.

• Branched proteins are formed by

Interchain disulphide bridges.

Interchain disulphide bridges.

• Covalent disulphide bonds between different polypeptide chains in the same protein.

Intrachain disulphide bridges.

• Covalent disulphide bonds btwn some portions of the same polypeptide chain.

# Rarely, proteins may be in circular form  
eg: Gramicidin.

## Pseudopeptide.

Instead of alpha carboxyl group, gamma carboxyl group may enter into bond formation.

eg: glutathione.

(gamma glutamyl cysteinyl glycine).

## Primary structure of Insulin.

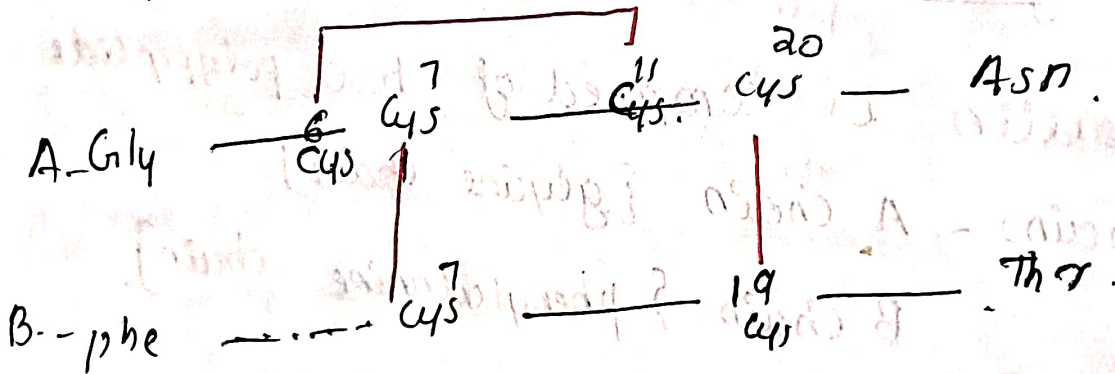
- Insulin is composed of two polypeptide chains - A chain {glycine chain} B chain {phenylalanine chain}.
- A & B chains are linked together by two disulphide bonds, and an additional disulphide is formed within the A chain.
- The A chain consists of 21 amino acids and B chain of 30 amino acids.

## Two Interchain disulphide Bonds.

- between A 7<sup>th</sup> cys and B 7<sup>th</sup> cys.
- btw A 20<sup>th</sup> cys & B 19<sup>th</sup> cys.

Connect A & B chains.

- One interchain disulphide bond is present between 6<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> residues of A chain.



A chain → glycine chain.

B chain → phenylalanine chain.

## Biologically active Insulin.

- Insulin is first synthesised as a single polypeptide chain called preproinsulin.
- It is then cleaved forming proinsulin  
86 AA.
- proinsulin undergoes maturation into active insulin (51 AAs) by the removal of central fragment called the C-peptide, and leaving 2 peptide chains, the B- & A- chains, linked by 2 disulfide bonds.
- C peptide is released into circulation.

X ————— X primary structure of proteins — 8 marks