

Biochemistry 461, Summer I, 2015, 0101 Your Name: Key

University of Maryland, College Park Your SID #: \_\_\_\_\_

Biochemistry and Physiology

Prof. Jason Kahn

Exam I (100 points total)

June 12, 2015

You have 75 minutes for this exam.

Exams written in pencil or erasable ink will not be re-graded under any circumstances.

Explanations should be concise and clear. Use the extra space on the last page if you need more space.

You will need a calculator for this exam. No other study aids or materials are permitted.

Partial credit will be given, *i.e.*, if you don't know, guess.

$$\Delta S_{system} - \Delta H_{system}/T \geq 0$$

$$pH = -\log([H^+])$$

$$R = 8.314 \text{ J/mol K}$$

$$S = k \ln W$$

$$\Delta G = \Delta H - T \Delta S$$

$$pH = pK_a + \log([A^-]/[HA])$$

$$K_a = [H^+][A^-]/[HA]$$

$$\Delta G^{\circ'} = -RT \ln K'_{eq}$$

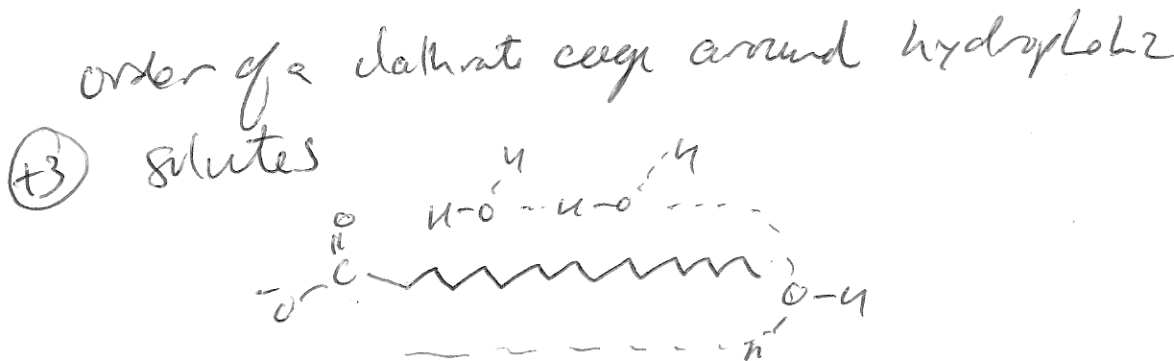
$$\Delta G = \Delta G^{\circ'} + RT \ln Q$$

Honor Pledge: At the end of the examination time, please write out the following sentence and sign it, or talk to me about it:

"I pledge on my honor that I have not given or received any unauthorized assistance on this examination."

**1. (15 pts) Thermodynamics**

(a; 5 pts) What is the origin of the hydrophobic effect (at least at room temperature and below)? What is the sign of  $\Delta S$  for dissolving a nonpolar solute like octane in water?



this means  $\Delta H \sim$  small or  $\ominus$  bc of stable cage  
But  $\Delta S < 0$   
(+2)

Score for the page 15

(b; 4 pts) The free energy change for a process is given by  $\Delta G = \Delta G^{\circ} + RT \ln Q$ . Why is it especially important for biochemists to be able to calculate  $\Delta G$ , whereas chemists are often content to just use the fact that  $\Delta G^{\circ} = -RT \ln K$ ?

+4 { Biochemical reactions in the cell are seldom at equilibrium - metabolite concentrations are at a steady state set by rates of irreversible rxns.

So we need the actual  $\Delta G = \Delta G^{\circ} + RT \ln Q$ , where  $Q \neq K$ .  
Chemist also looks at one rxn in isolation care more about K.

(c; 6 pts) Give an example of an endothermic disordering process, specify the signs of  $\Delta H$  and  $\Delta S$ , and describe the temperature dependence of the process.

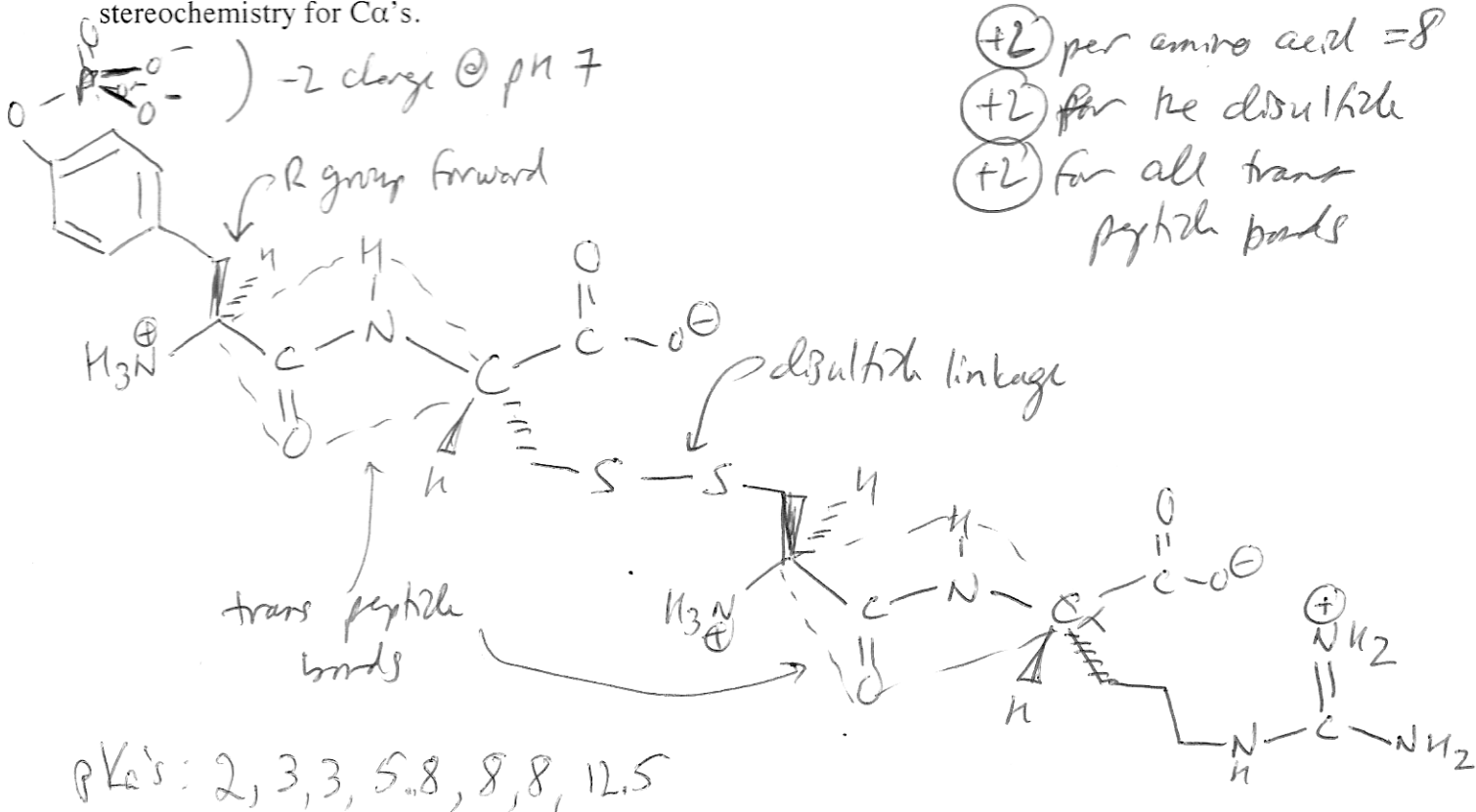
+2 ice melting or protein unfolding - ~~has~~  
energy input (endothermic) needed to break bonds,  
with a resulting loss of order (increase of entropy)

+2 {  $\Delta H > 0$   
 $\Delta S < 0$

+2 So  $\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S > 0$  at low T - structure is stable  
 $< 0$  at high T - structure is disrupted

**2. (24 pts) Peptide Structure**

(a; 12 pts) Draw the structure of the dipeptide (phospho-Y)C disulfide-linked to the dipeptide CR. Draw the predominant ionic form at pH 7. The pKa's of protonated phosphotyrosine are about 2 and 5.8. The pKa's for protonated C- and N-termini are about 3 and 8. Assume all *trans* peptide bonds, and give correct stereochemistry for C $\alpha$ 's.



(b; 12 pts) Fill in the table for the charge of the peptide above, to the nearest integer or half-integer. You do not need a calculator.

pH	0	3	7	10	14
Charge on peptide	+3	+1	-1	-3	-4

From your table, without doing any more calculations, specify a range for the possible pI of the peptide and give your reasoning.

Between 3 and 7 the average charge must cross 0 - near 4.5 somewhere

Why is the pI important for protein separation procedures?

+2 When the pH is equal to the pI, net charge is zero and the amino acid/peptide/protein does not migrate in an electric field

Why does the cytoplasm have to be a reducing environment?

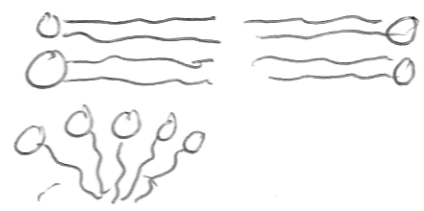
+2 - To maintain cysteines as -SH (thiols) so they can chelate metals or act as nucleophiles

And/or: the pH of minimum solubility

3. (15 pts) Lipids and Carbohydrates

(a; 5 pts) Sketch the structural aspect of a lipid molecule determines whether it will form a micelle vs. a lipid bilayer? How does *cis*-unsaturation in the lipid chain increase membrane fluidity (or cause lipids of the same molecular weight to be liquids rather than solid)?

(+3) { Two head groups like PE, PC → bilayer  
 One head group like SDS → micelles



(+2) vs. : the double bond does not pack as well - prevents membrane/oil from solidifying

(b; 4 pts) Give two reasons that fat packs more dietary calories per gram than carbohydrates.

- (+2) - more electrons per carbon atom (ox # -2 vs. 0)
- (+2) - more efficient packing because the fats don't carry non-calorie water around with them.

(c; 6 pts) What are the three functions of carbohydrates that we discussed? Name carbohydrate-containing molecules that carry out each of the three functions.

- information - blood group glycoproteins (+1)
- fuel - glucose / glycogen / starch (+1)
- structure - cellulose, proteoglycans (+1)

4. (36 pts) Secondary Structure in Proteins

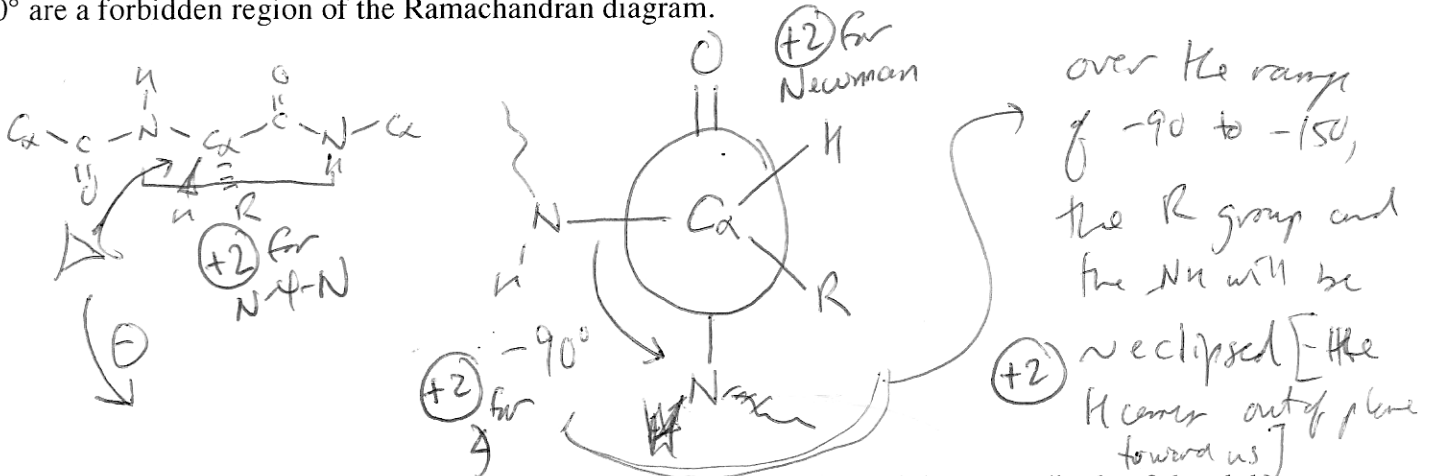
(a; 4 pts) What was the point of drawing the simple lattice models for the compaction of chains into small areas (volumes)?

- When a chain is forced into a small volume, there aren't many ways to pack it - regular secondary structure emerges (+2)

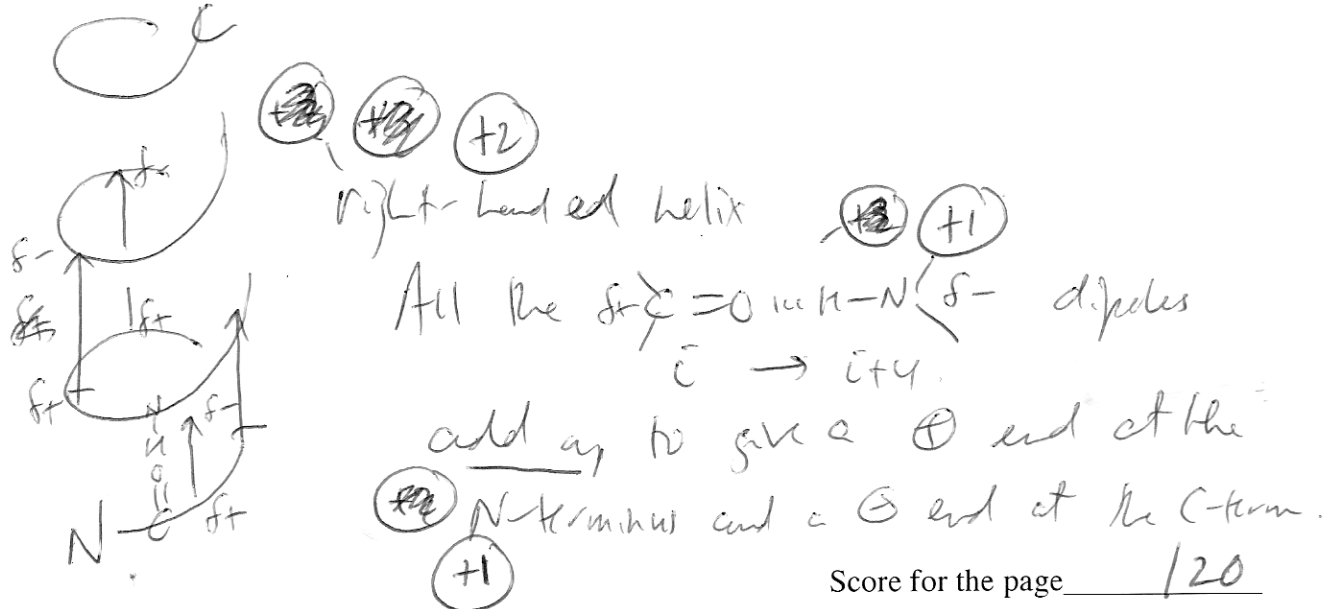
(b; 4 pts) List the two essential structural characteristics of stable secondary structures discussed in class.

- (+2) - All H-bonding valences along the backbone are satisfied
- (+2) - Any side chain can be accepted in ~~each~~ either helix or sheet (except Pro), [but preferences from eg. Clou-Fasman]

(c; 8 pts) Draw a Newman projection for  $\psi(\text{Psi}) = -90^\circ$ , with the  $\text{C}\alpha$  being the forward end of the bond that is going straight into the page for the Newman projection. Explain why  $\psi$  values between about  $-90^\circ$  and  $-150^\circ$  are a forbidden region of the Ramachandran diagram.



(d; 4 pts) Sketch a picture explaining the direction and structural origin of the macrodipole of the alpha helix.



(e; 8 pts) We emphasized the idea of "sidedness" of alpha helices and beta sheets. **Why is this important in protein folding?**

- (+1) = Hydrophobic tends to face out toward the surface -
- (+1) - AA's on one side of a sheet often back to form the hydrophobic core

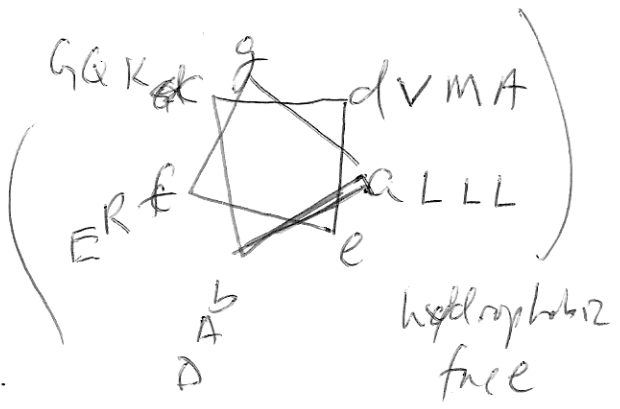
For the two sequences below, identify which one is more likely to be two strands of a beta sheet:

sheet: 2 (+1) and which one is more likely to be an alpha helix: 1 (+1)

Sketch how each one exhibits sidedness - either draw a picture or add labeling to make your point.

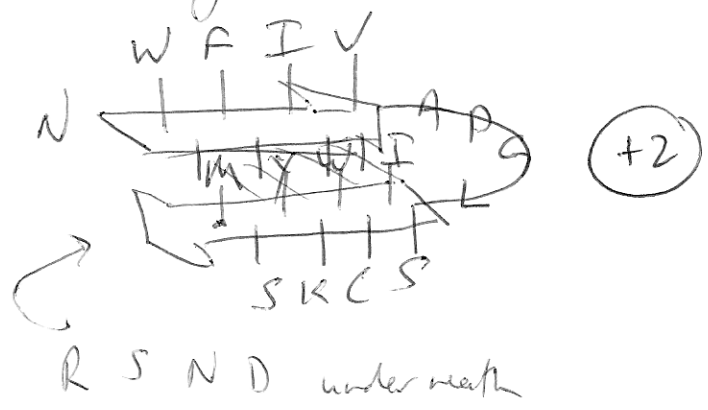
(1) fgabcdefgabcdefgabcd  
**P**ELAKVARTLDQML**E**NLAGA  
 (+2)

hydrophilic

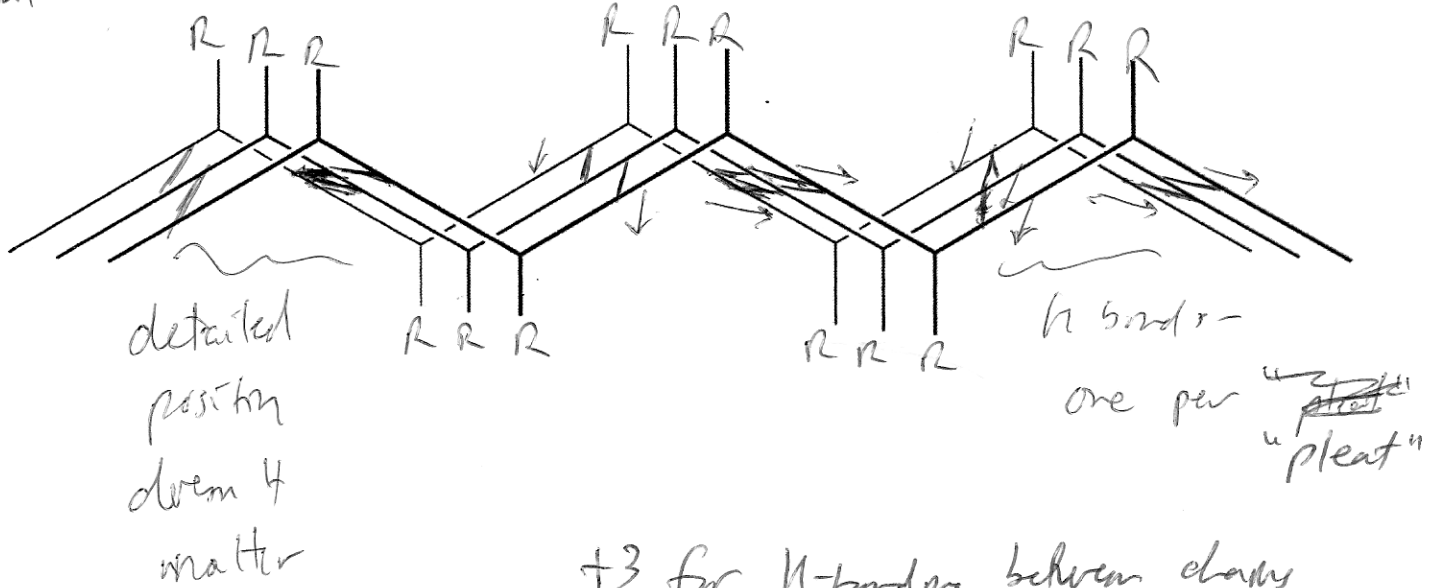
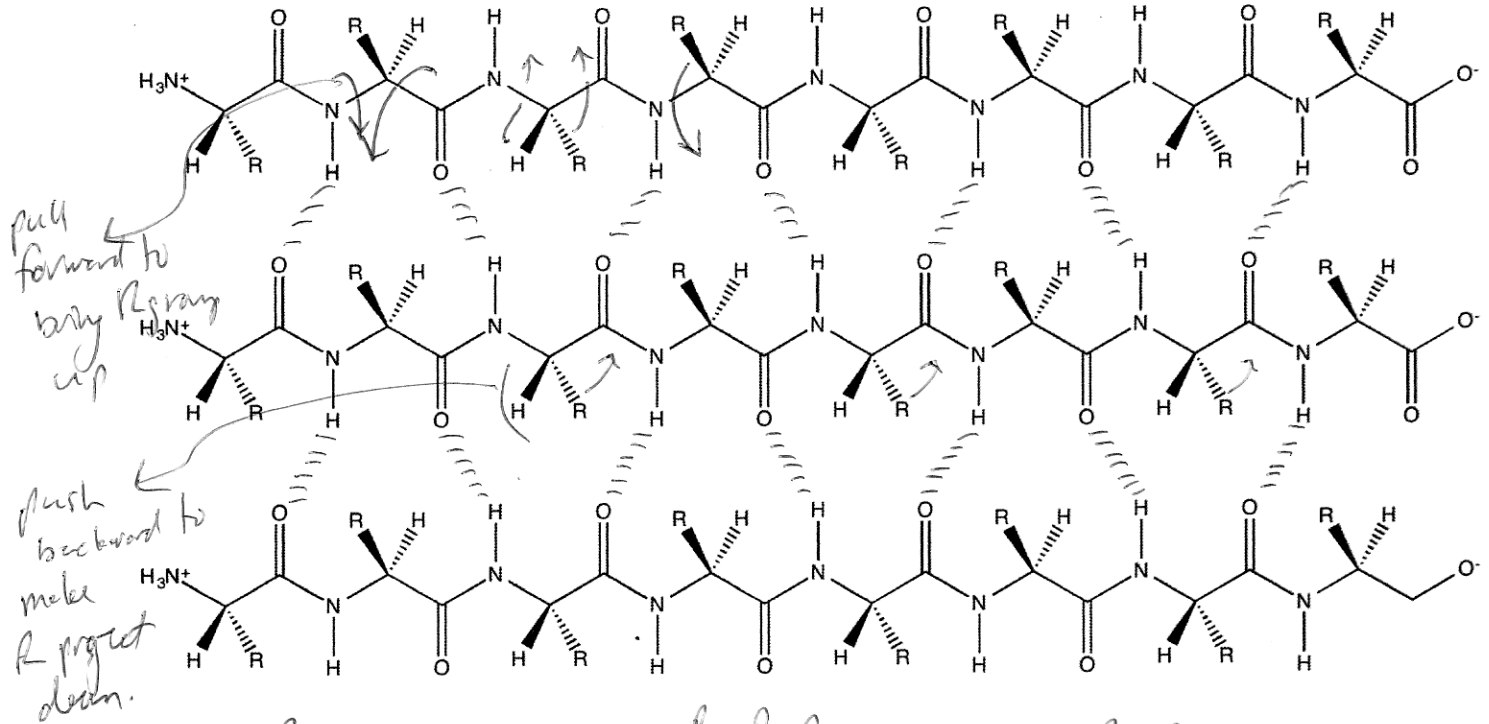


(2) WRFSINVDAPGLSICWKYSM  
 turn

Alternating hydrophilic + hydrophobic



(f; 8 pts) On the extended polypeptides below, sketch in the H-bonding pattern of the parallel beta sheet. Sketch on the picture how and why the backbone is deformed out of the plane to make the pleated sheet conformation. Label the R groups and draw in H bonds on the pleated picture at the bottom.



- +3 for H-bonding between chains
- +2 for idea of projecting R groups to be  $\perp$  to the plane of the sheet
- +2 for R groups labeling
- +1 for H-bond labeling

**5. (10 pts) Buffers**

(a; 2 pts) Calculate the pH for a solution of acetic acid/Na acetate composed of 50 mM HOAc and 50 mM NaOAc. The pKa of acetic acid (HOAc) is 4.75.

$$\text{pH} = \text{pKa} + \log \frac{[\text{A}^-]}{[\text{HA}]} = 4.75 + \log \frac{50}{50} = 4.75$$

(b; 3 pts) Adding 10 mM HCl will give 60 mM HOAc and 40 mM OAc<sup>-</sup>. What is the new pH?

$$\text{pH} = 4.75 + \log \frac{40}{60} = 4.57 \quad (\Delta = -0.18)$$

↑ mm, but if decm + matter one both are → [u<sup>+</sup>]

(c; 2 pts) Adding an additional 31 mM HCl will give 91 mM HOAc and 9 mM NaOAc. What is the new pH?

$$\text{pH} = 4.75 + \log \frac{9}{91} = 4.75 - 1.0048 = 3.75 \quad (\Delta = -0.82 \text{ for } 3 \times \text{ more acid})$$

(d; 3 pts) What will the pH after the addition of a further 10 mM HCl? [Hint: HCl will be in excess, which we assume will completely suppress the dissociation of HOAc.]

Net concentration of excess HCl = 1 mM

Acetic acid is ~ fully protonated so does not buffer much (or contribute to additional [u<sup>+</sup>])

$$\text{pH} = -\log(10^{-3} \text{ M}) = 3 \quad (\Delta = -0.75 \text{ vs. } -0.18 \text{ above})$$

Page	Score
1	/5
2	/10
3	/24
4	/15
5	/20
6	/8
7	/8
8	/10
<b>Total</b>	<b>/100</b>

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