

**Biochemistry 463, Fall, 2014, 0101**  
**University of Maryland, College Park**  
**Biochemistry and Physiology**  
**Exam I (100 points total)**

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Your SID #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Prof. Jason Kahn**  
**October 1, 2014**

You have 53 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.

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

$$S = k \ln W$$

$$K_a = [\text{H}^+][\text{A}^-]/[\text{HA}]$$

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

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

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

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

$$\text{pH} = \text{p}K_a + \log([\text{A}^-]/[\text{HA}])$$

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

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. (20 pts) Thermodynamics**

(a; 5 pts) Starting from two of the equations above, show that  $\Delta G < 0$  when  $Q < K$  for a reaction.

Score for the page \_\_\_\_\_

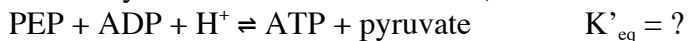
(b; 5 pts) Circle all of the true statements below (i)-(ii)-(iii). Explain your reasoning.

- (i)  $\Delta G^{\circ'}$  for each step of an operational biochemical pathway must be negative.
- (ii)  $\Delta G$  for each step of an operational biochemical pathway must be negative.
- (iii)  $K_{eq}$  for each step of an operational biochemical pathway must be  $< 1$ .

(c; 10 pts) The biochemical standard state free energy changes for phosphoenolpyruvate (PEP) hydrolysis and ATP hydrolysis are as follows:



Calculate  $K'_{eq}$  at 298 K for the phosphorylation of ADP by PEP to give ATP + pyruvate. Remember that because we are assuming pH 7, the concentration (formally, the activity) of  $\text{H}^+$  relative to its standard state is 1. (The activity of water is also taken as 1.)



**2. (20 pts) Protein Structure**

The sequence KSTG is found within the solvent-exposed N-terminal tail of the DNA packaging protein Histone H3, and it is frequently modified during gene regulation.

- Draw the structure of (OAc-K)(P-S)TG, which is KSTG with the Lysine being acetylated at the  $\epsilon$ -amino group and the Serine being phosphorylated.
- Assume all *trans* peptide bonds, give correct stereochemistry for C- $\alpha$ 's, and identify the chiral side chain carbon; you don't need to draw the correct stereochemistry at that carbon.
- The  $pK_a$ 's of the phosphate in P-Ser are about 2 and 6. The  $pK_a$  of the N-terminal  $-\text{NH}_3^+$  is 8. In your diagram, show the P-Ser in its predominant form at pH 8.
- 
- Estimate the average total charge on the peptide at pH 8:\_\_\_\_\_
- 
- Estimate the charge of the unmodified KSTG peptide at pH 8:\_\_\_\_\_

**3. (20 pts) Carbohydrates**

The disaccharide trehalose, ***O*- $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranosyl-(1 $\rightarrow$ 1)- $\alpha$ -D-glucopyranose**, has a variety of biological functions in different organisms. For example, trehalose is used for energy storage in insect flight muscle, which have the highest power output (energy produced per unit time) of any tissue. The glycosidic linkage is hydrolyzed by the enzyme trehalase.

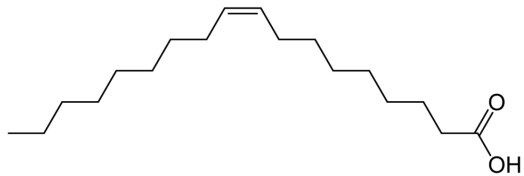
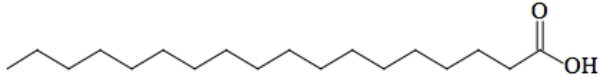
- Draw a Haworth projection and a physically reasonable chair structure for trehalose. Number the carbons.
- Speculate on why trehalose might be used in preference to glycogen in insect flight muscle.
- List two other essential functions of carbohydrates besides their use as fuel.

**4. (25 pts) Secondary Structure in Proteins**

- List the two essential structural characteristics of stable secondary structures discussed in class.
- Sketch the hydrogen bonding pattern in a parallel  $\beta$  sheet, showing five residues of each of two strands. Show  $\alpha$  carbon stereochemistry. Represent side chains as R. Don't write too large!
- On your diagram, circle the four atoms that define the Phi ( $\Phi$ ) torsion angle for any one residue and the four atoms that define Psi ( $\Psi$ ) for another residue.
- Based on your picture, explain why  $\beta$  sheet structures are found in the upper left of the Ramachandran diagram (one sentence will do, not a trick question).
- Name a program used for 3-D visualization of biomolecules.

### 5. (15 pts) Lipids and Redox

Consider oleic acid vs. stearic acid. The table gives their structures, densities, and standard enthalpies of combustion,  $\Delta H^\circ_c$ , essentially a measure of caloric content.

	Oleic Acid, $C_{18}H_{34}O_2$	Stearic Acid, $C_{18}H_{36}O_2$
Structure		
Density	0.895 g/ml	0.941 g/ml
$\Delta H^\circ_c$	-11161 kJ/mol	-11291 kJ/mol

- Explain why oleic acid has a lower density than stearic acid.
- Explain why oleic acid has a lower heat of combustion than stearic acid, and why both of them have larger heats of combustion per carbon atom than glucose ( $\Delta H^\circ_c = -2805$  kJ/mol).

Page	Score
1	/5
2	/15
3	/20
4	/20
5	/25
6	/15
<b>Total</b>	<b>/100</b>

Score for the page \_\_\_\_\_