

The Chemistry of Life

Living tissues: 70% water + 30% macromolecules

Carbohydrates
Lipids
 Nucleic Acids
 Proteins

Lipids-types and roles

1. Fats and oils

- Storage of energy
- Insulation and protection

2. Phospholipids

- structural role in cell membranes

3. Steroids

Lipids Mmmmmm.... Lard

- Hydrocarbons that are insoluble in water due to numerous nonpolar covalent bonds.
- Aggregate together, with weak *van der Waals* interactions holding individual molecules together.
- This forms a macromolecule of individual lipid molecules that are not covalently bonded

TABLE 2.1 Chemical Bonds and Interactions

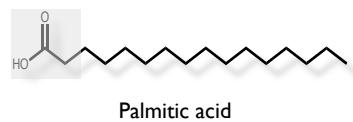
NAME	BASIS OF INTERACTION	STRUCTURE	BOND ENERGY*
Ionic attraction	Attraction of opposite charges		3-7
Covalent bond	Sharing of electron pairs		50-110
Hydrogen bond	Sharing of H atom		3-7
Hydrophobic interaction	Interaction of nonpolar substances in the presence of polar substances (especially water)		1-2
van der Waals interaction	Interaction of electrons of nonpolar substances		1

*Bond energy is the amount of energy (Kcal/mol) needed to separate two bonded or interacting atoms under physiological conditions.

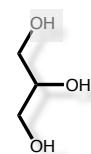
Triglycerides

- Most common unit of lipid is the triglyceride (simple lipid)
- If form solid at room temp = fat liquid = oil
- Composed of 3 fatty acids + 1 glycerol molecule

Fatty acid

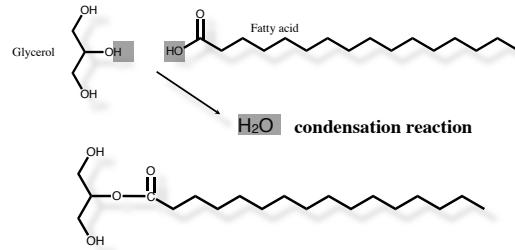


Glycerol



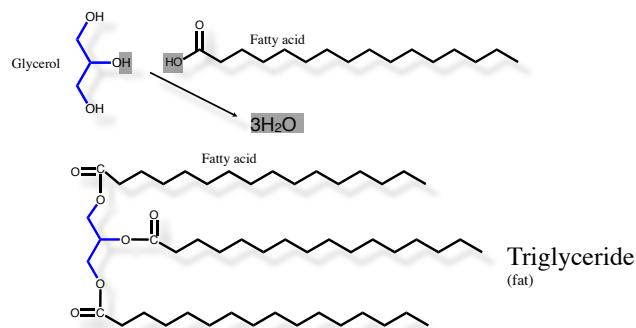
Triglyceride synthesis

Condensation (Dehydration) joins fatty acids to glycerol

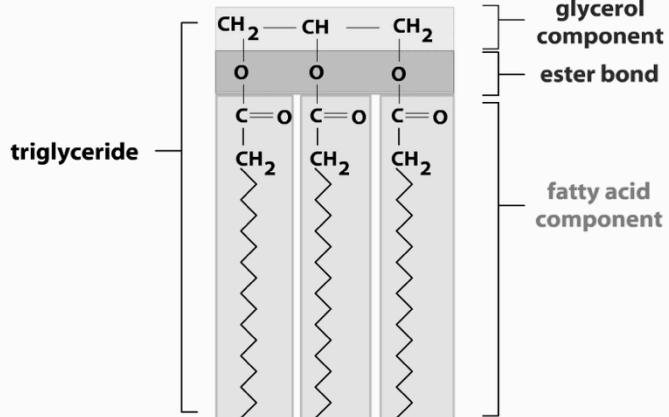


Triglyceride synthesis

3 Condensation (Dehydration) reactions join fatty acids to glycerol

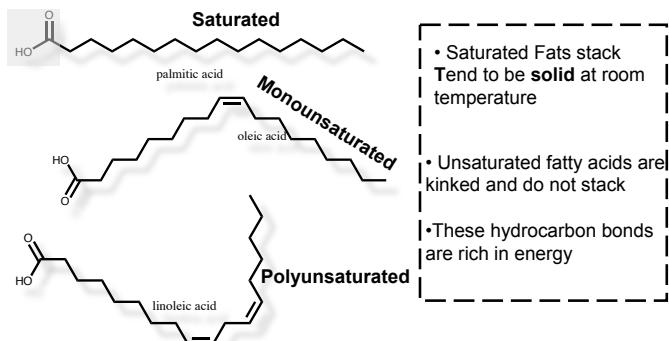


Building a Triglyceride



Fatty acids

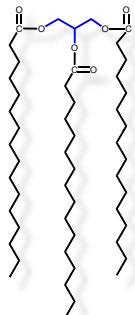
Fatty acids can be saturated or unsaturated



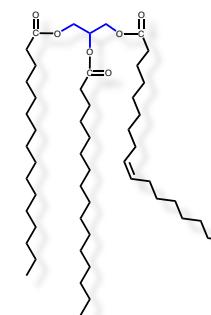
Triglycerides (fat)

Triglycerides can be a mixture of **saturated** and **unsaturated** fatty acids

Saturated fat



Unsaturated fat

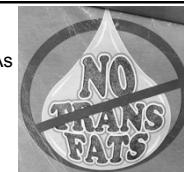


FAT - Is it your enemy??

- Fat supplies essential fatty acids (EFAs)
- Fat ferries vitamins A/D/E/K around the body
 - “fat-soluble vitamins”
- Necessary for maintaining healthy skin
- Plays a central role in promoting proper eyesight and brain development



- Trans fats: “hydrogenated” unsaturated fatty acids,
 - synthesized to improve stability of unsaturated FAs
 - No EFAs are derived from Trans fats
- Trans fats increase total and LDL cholesterol levels



- pick **unsaturated fat** over saturated or trans fat.
- Saturated fats stack tightly, requiring more energy to break apart
- Saturated fat examples: butter, bacon, lard, and the fats in meat, poultry, fish