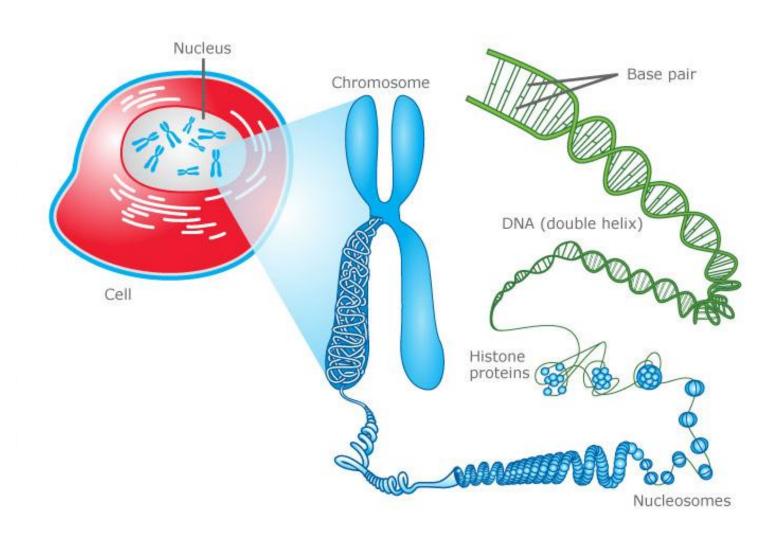
# SPECTRAL CHARACTERIZATION OF DNA

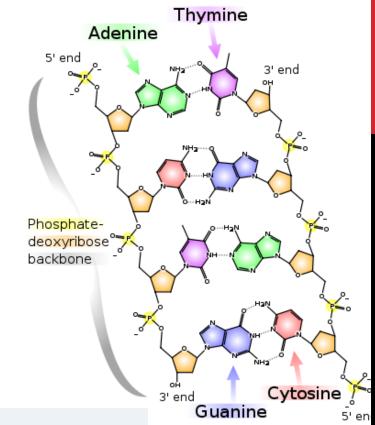
#### **DNA**

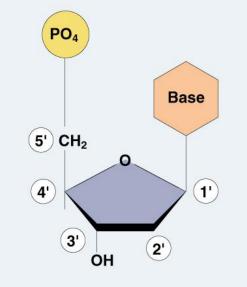
#### 'DEOXY RIBONUCLEIC ACID'



#### **DEOXY RIBONUCLEIC ACID (DNA)**

- DNA is made of 2 polynucleotide chains which run in opposite direction.
- DNA has a double helical structure.
- Each polynucleotide chain of DNA consists of monomer units called Nucleotide.
- A <u>Nucleotide</u> consists of 3 main components that are:
  - 1. sugar,
  - 2. phosphate,
  - 3. anitrogenous base.





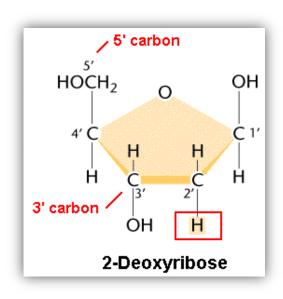
#### 1. Deoxyribose sugar:

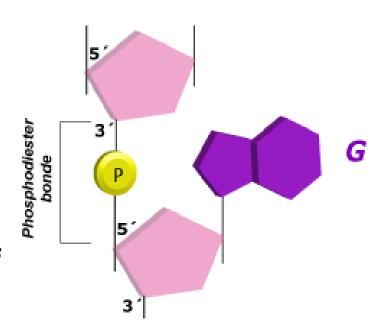
Is a monosaccharide 5-Carbon
 Sugar, Its name indicates that it is a deoxy sugar, meaning that ->

[ it is derived from the sugar ribose by loss of an oxygen atom ].

#### 2. Phosphate Group:

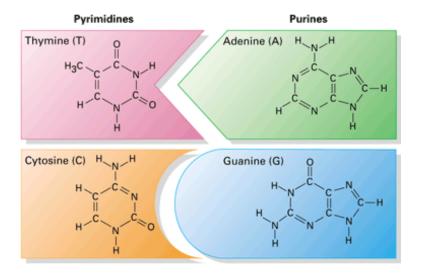
 The sugars are joined together by phosphate groups that form phosphodiester bonds between the third and fifth carbon atoms of adjacent sugar rings.





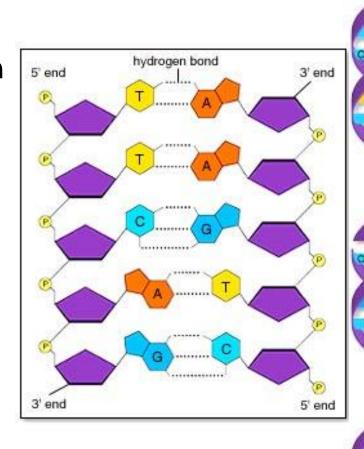
#### 3. Nitrogenous bases:

- is a nitrogen-containing organic molecule having the chemical properties of a base
- They are classified as the derivatives of two parent compounds,
  - 1. Purine.
    - [ Adenine, Guanine ]
  - 2. Pyrimidine.
    - [ Cytosine, Thymine ]



#### 4. Hydrogen bond:

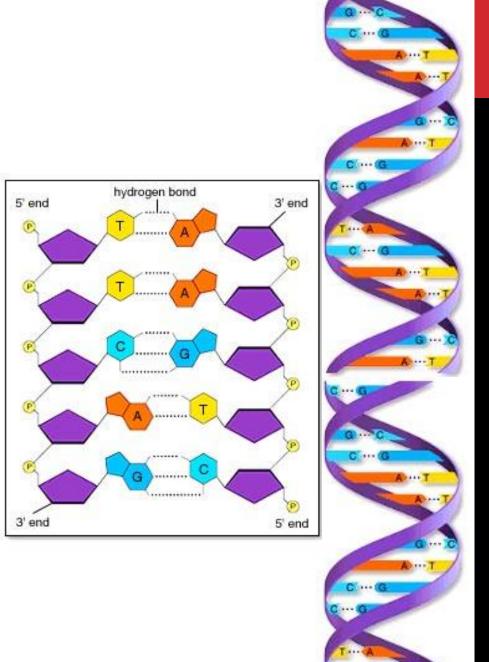
- The <u>H-bonds</u> form between base pairs of the antiparallel strands.
- The base in the first strand forms an H-bond only with a complementary base in the second strand.
- Those two bases form a base-pair (H-bond interaction that keeps strands together and form double helical structure).



The base –pairs are:

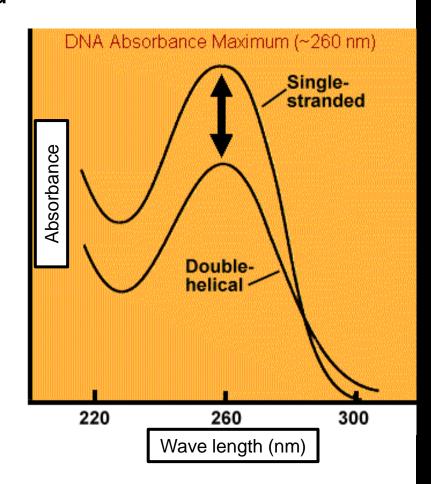
$$(A-T),(C-G).$$

- Such interaction gives us the hint that nitrogen-containing bases are located inside of the DNA double helical structure,
- The hydrophobic bases are inside the double helix of DNA, give the hydrophobic effect to stabilizes the double helix.
- while sugars and phosphates are located outside of the double helical structure.



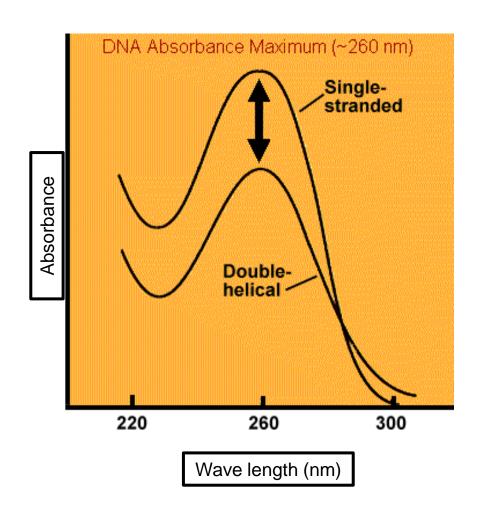
## **OPTICAL DENSITY OF DNA**

- Nucleic acid would be expected to have maximum absorbance at 260.
- In a spectrophotometer, a sample is exposed to ultraviolet light at 260 nm, and a photodetector measures the light that passes through the sample.
- The <u>more light absorbed</u> by the sample, the <u>higher the nucleic</u> acid concentration in the sample.(Nitrogenous bases)



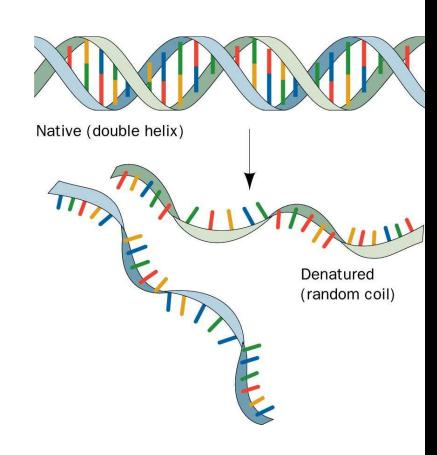
## **HYPERCHROMICITY**

- The increase of absorbance (optical density) of a material.
- The most famous example is the hyperchromicity of DNA that occurs when the DNA duplex is denatured.
- The opposite, a decrease of absorbance is called hypochromicity.



## **DENATURATION OF DNA**

- Many different substances or environmental conditions can denature DNA, such as:
  - strong acids, organic solvent
  - heating
  - Exposure to Radiation/ UV light



#### **Objective:**

- To establish the wave length that represent the maximum absorbance for DNA.
- To establish the hyperchromic effect on DNA.

#### **Principle:**

- The double helix of DNA are bound together mainly by the stacking interactions, hydrogen bonds and hydrophobic\_effect between the complementary bases.
- ➤ When DNA in solution is heated above its melting temperature (usually more than 80 °C), the double-stranded DNA unwinds to form single-stranded DNA.

#### **Principle:**

- ➤ In single stranded DNA the bases become unstacked and can thus absorb more light.
- ➤ In their native state, the bases of DNA absorb light in the 260-nm wavelength region.
- ➤ When the bases become unstacked, the wavelength of maximum absorbance does not change, but the amount absorbed increases by 30-40%.
- > a double strand DNA dissociating to single strands produces a sharp cooperative transition.

#### **Materials:**

- DNA concentrated sample( extracted from yeast).
- 1X saline solution (NaCl with Tri Sodium Citrate).
- Quartz Cuvtte.
- Spectrophotometer.

#### **Method:**

- Set and lable 6 test tube : D1, D2, D3,D4,D5,D6
  - √1. In D1 pipette 0.5 ml of isolated DNA (extracted from Yeast) and add to it 4.5ml of 1X saline-citrate. Mix it very will.
- Measure the absorbance of D1 at 260nm if it is > 3:
  - ✓2. In D2 pipette 0.5 ml of D1 ,add to it 4.5ml of 1X saline-citrate. Mix it very will.
- Measure the absorbance of D2 (if the absorbance is greater than 1, dilute the solution until you obtain A260 of 1 or slightly less).

#### **Method:**

 When the absorbance of solution (A260≈1.0) is obtained read the absorbance of the solution at the following wave lengths:

(240,245,250,255,260,265,270,275,280)

using 1X saline as a blank.

#### **Method:**

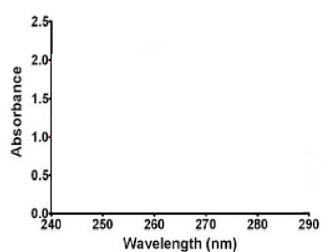
- Now take the dilution tube which give an absorbance=1, cover the tube and put it in boiling water bath for 15 min
- Immediately measure the absorbance at the following wave lengths:

(240,245,250,255,260,265,270,275,280)

using 1X saline as a blank.

#### **Results:**

- ✓ Plot The absorption spectra of the native DNA solution and the denatured DNA against wave lengths.
- ✓ Record Your result and write your comment in the discussion.



Wave length (nm)	Absorbance of isolated DNA	Absorbance of heated DNA
240		
245		
250		
255		
260		
265		
270		
275		
280		

#### .. Now ..

## 'Wear your gloves and lab coat And Act Like a biochemist'

**Thank You** 

