



# Protein

## CHARACTERISTICS AND STRUCTURE

Debasrita Banerjee

# Characteristics of Proteins

- ▶ Contain carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, and sulfur
- ▶ Serve as structural components of animals
- ▶ Serve as control molecules (enzymes)
- ▶ Serve as transport and messenger molecules
- ▶ Basic building block is the amino acid

# Protein Functions

- ▶ **Structure:** Building structural components of organisms (collagen, elastin, keratin, microtubules, microfilaments)
- ▶ **Regulation of metabolic processes:** Hormones (insulin)
- ▶ **Carrying out of metabolic processes:** Enzymes
- ▶ **Membrane component:** Carrier proteins, Protein pumps, Transport of materials through membrane phospholipid layers
- ▶ **Self and non-self recognition:** Major histocompatibility complexes (Tissue rejection, immune responses).
- ▶ **Membrane receptors:** Hormone receptors and neurotransmitter receptors.

# Protein Provides Energy

- ▶ Can take the place of some fat and carbohydrate
- ▶ Excess protein converted to energy
- ▶ Stored as fat



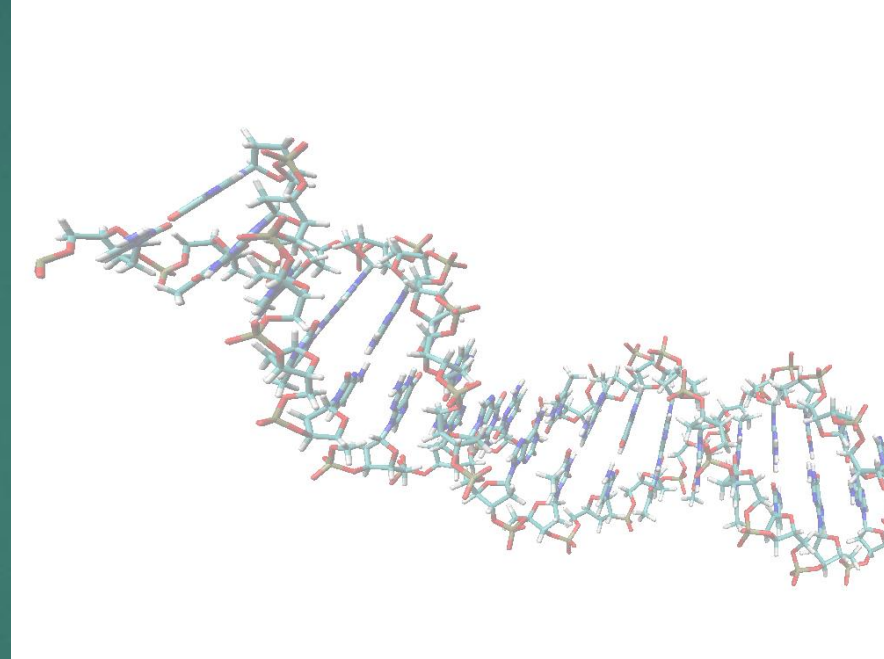
# The best sources of Protein



- ▶ Milk
- ▶ Eggs
- ▶ Fish
- ▶ Poultry
- ▶ Meat


# Complete Protein

- ▶ Any food that has all 9 essential amino acids.
- ▶ All animal proteins are classified as complete proteins.
- ▶ Support growth and maintenance of body tissue



# Protein needs influenced by:

- ▶ Age
- ▶ Body Size
- ▶ Quality of the proteins
- ▶ Physical state of the person
- ▶ 3-6 ounces per day or 2-3 “servings”



The infographic features a colorful food pyramid with a purple silhouette of a person climbing stairs on the left. The pyramid is divided into sections of orange, green, red, yellow, and blue. At the base of the pyramid are various food items: a fried egg, a piece of bread, a chicken drumstick, a can of beans, a piece of meat, and some nuts. To the right of the pyramid, the text 'Meat & Beans' is written in purple, followed by 'Go lean on protein' in a smaller font. Below this, there are three bullet points in purple text. At the bottom right, there is a purple button with the text 'Learn more »' in white.

## Meat & Beans

Go lean on protein

- Choose low-fat or lean meats and poultry
- Bake it, broil it, or grill it
- Vary your choices—with more fish, beans, peas, nuts, and seeds

[Learn more »](#)

# Lack Of Protein :

- ▶ Lower one's resistance to disease,
- ▶ Damage liver
- ▶ Death
- ▶ Tiredness
- ▶ Weight loss
- ▶ Lack of energy
- ▶ Stunt growth
- ▶ Not common in U.S.





# Proteins are Natural Polymers

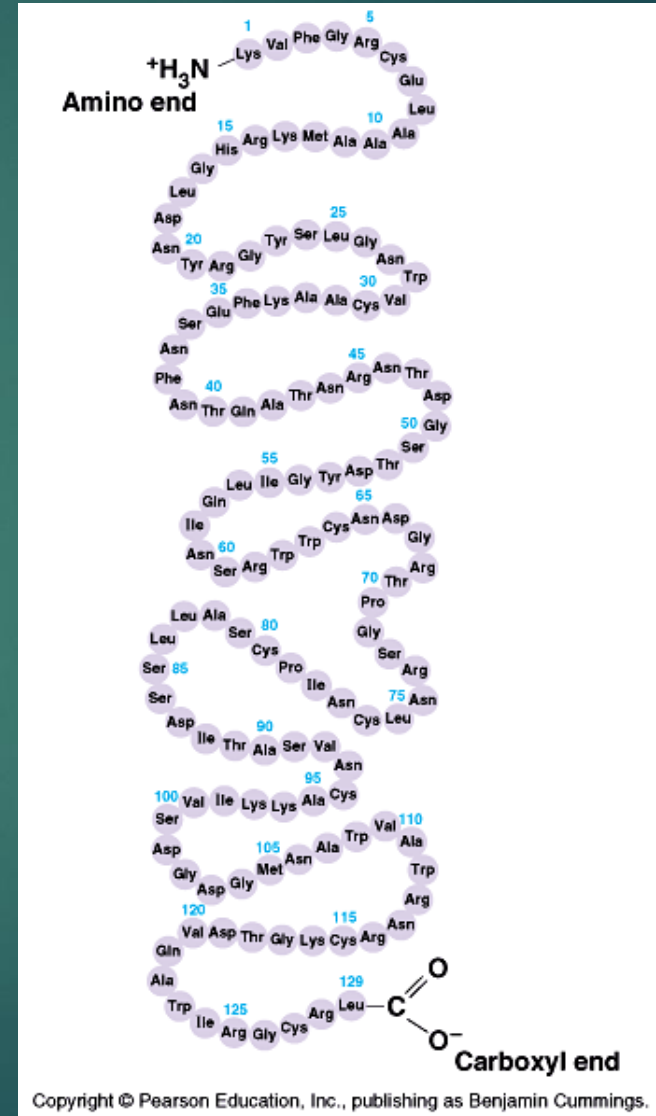
- ▶ Proteins are constructed in the body from many repeating units called amino acids
- ▶ Just like other polymers the amino acids (monomers) are joined together to make long chains (polymers) – but we call them proteins instead
- ▶ All of the polymer information applies to proteins – cross linking, rings, polarity etc.

# Levels of Organization

- ▶ **Primary** structure
  - ▶ Amino acid sequence of the protein
- ▶ **Secondary** structure
  - ▶ H bonds in the peptide chain backbone
    - ▶  $\alpha$ -helix and  $\beta$ -sheets
- ▶ **Tertiary** structure
  - ▶ Non-covalent interactions between the R groups within the protein
- ▶ **Quaternary** structure
  - ▶ Interaction between 2 polypeptide chains

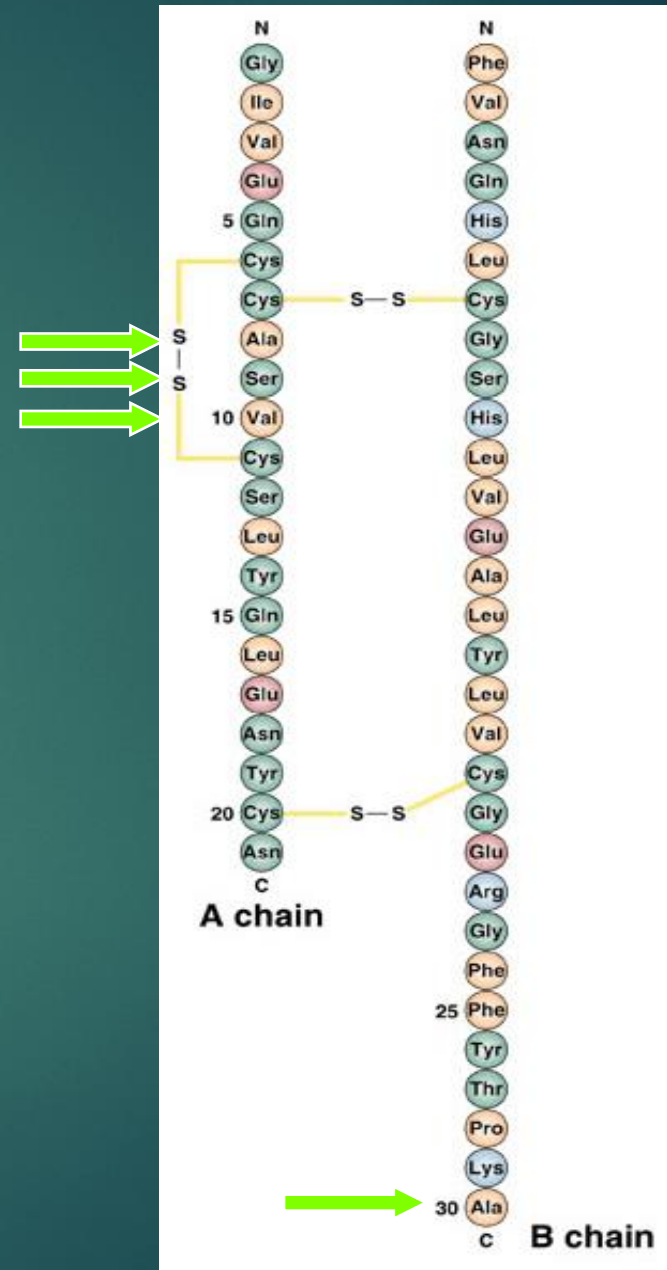
# Levels of Protein Structure

The Primary Level is determined by the number of amino acids, the type of amino acids, and the sequence of the amino acids in the polypeptide chain.



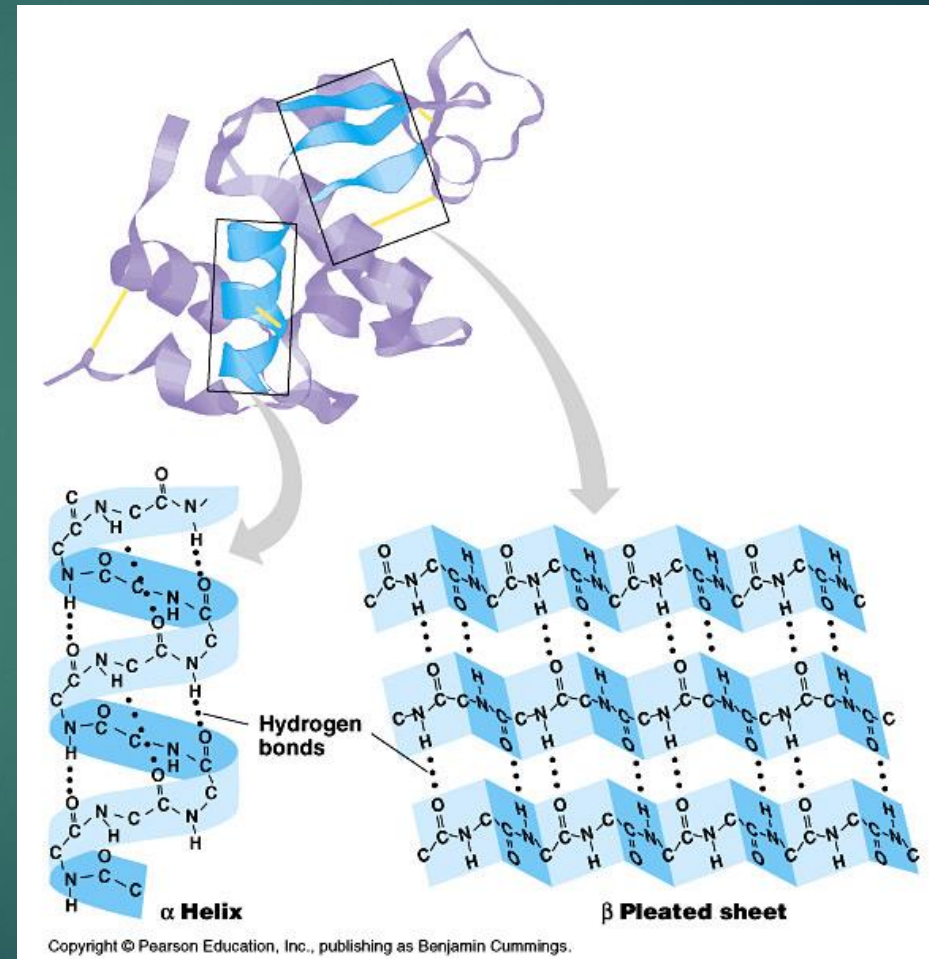
▶ Primary Structure

- ▶ Sometimes small changes in the 1° structure do not alter the biological function, sometimes they do.



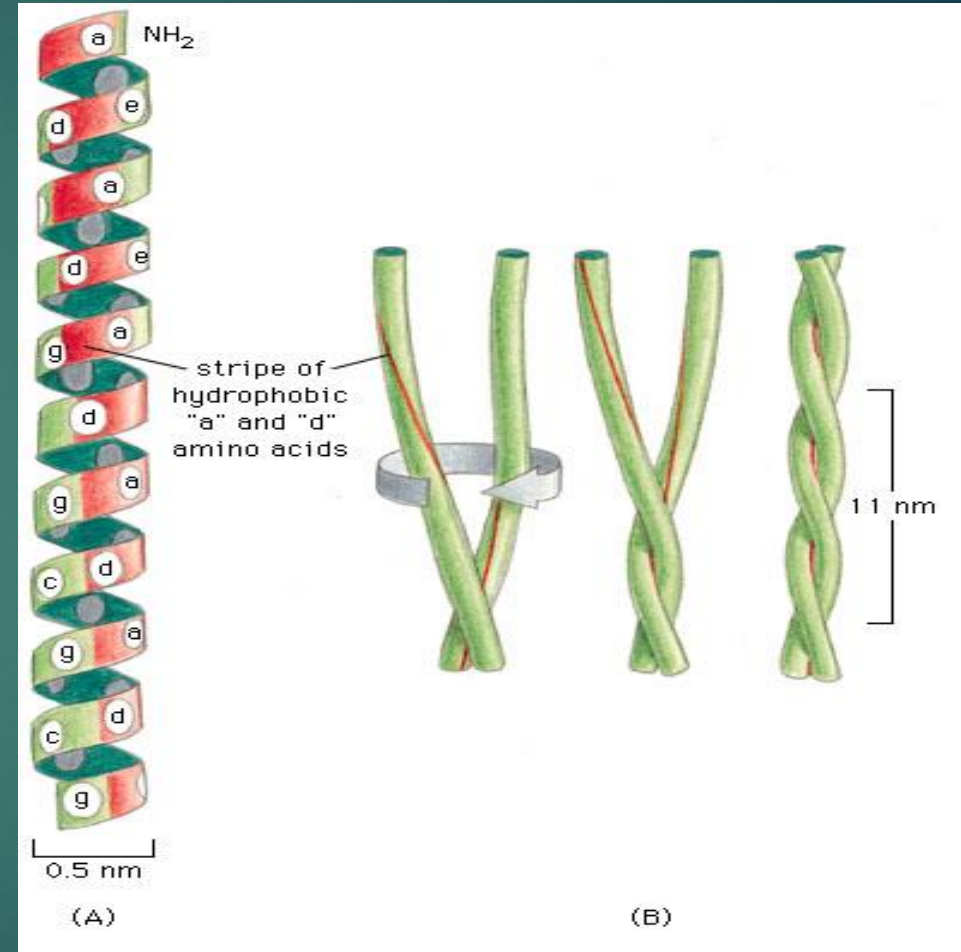
# Levels of Protein Structure

The **Secondary Level** is due to interactions between amino acids in the chain, usually due to hydrogen bonding between oxygen and hydrogen atoms in different amino acids. Two general forms are taken. Alpha helix, a spiral structure, common in globular proteins, or a Beta pleated sheet structure, common in structural proteins.



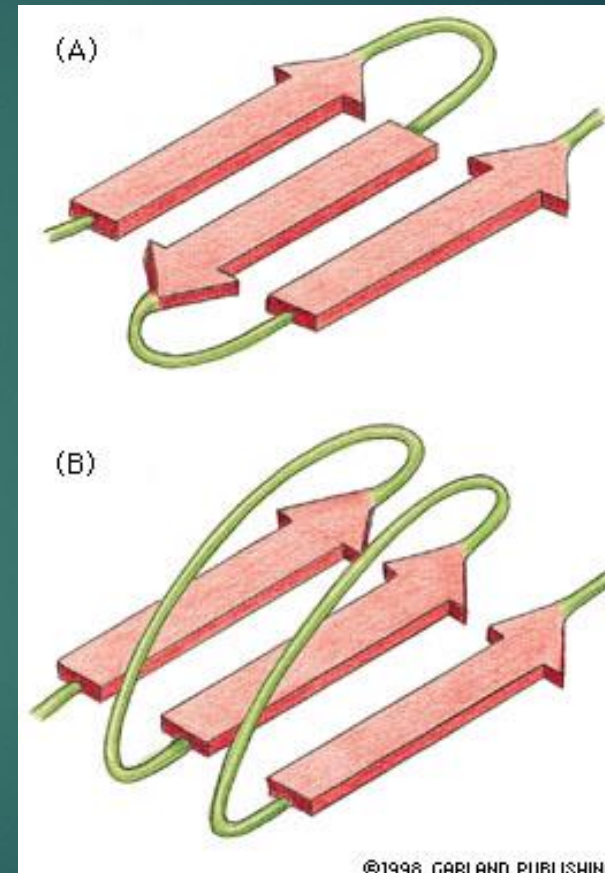
# $\alpha$ Helix

- ▶ Formed by a H-bond between every 4<sup>th</sup> peptide bond – C=O to N-H
- ▶ Usually in proteins that span a membrane
- ▶ The  $\alpha$  helix can either coil to the right or the left
- ▶ Can also coil around each other – coiled-coil shape – a framework for structural proteins such as nails and skin

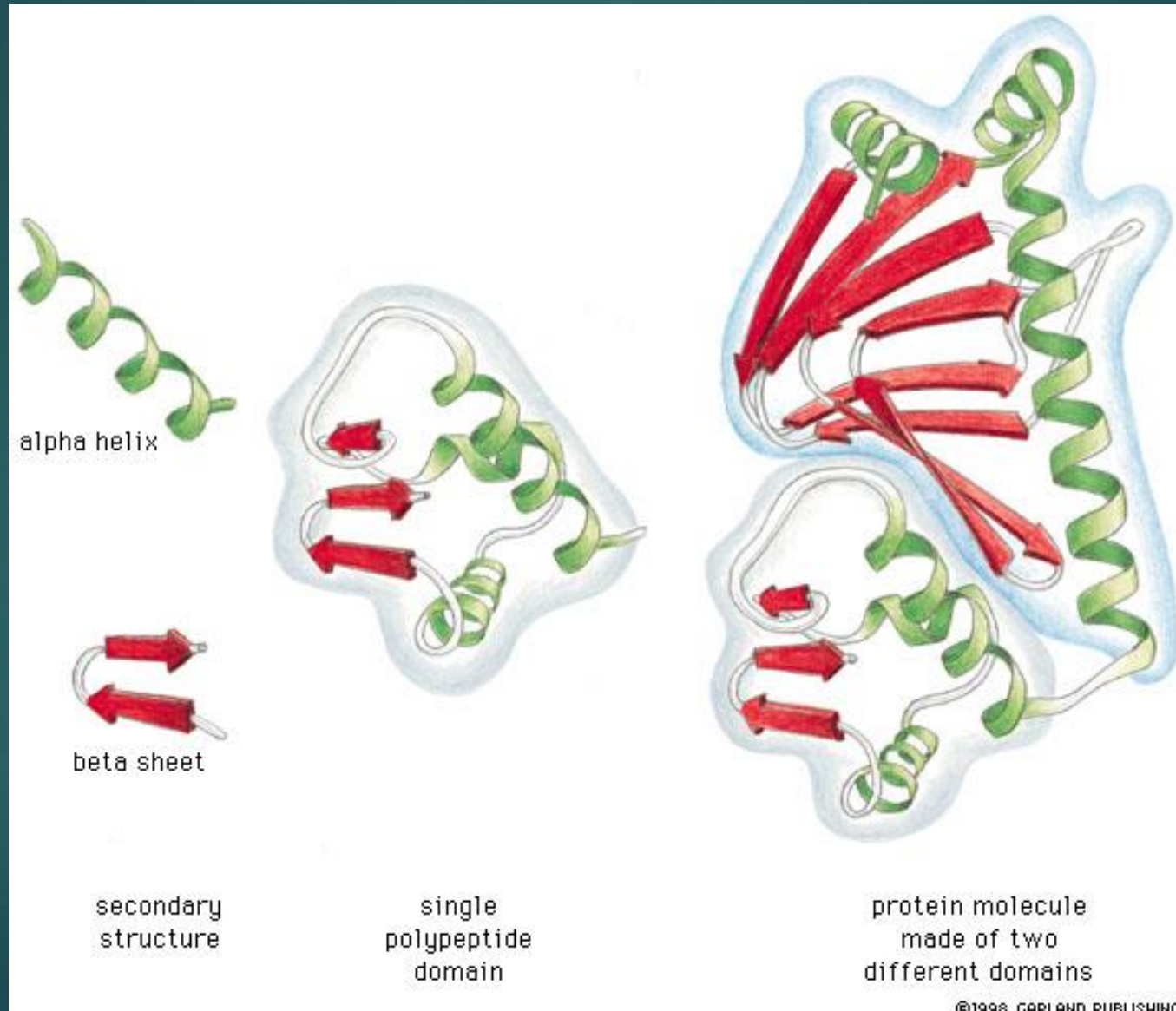


# $\beta$ Sheets

- ▶ Core of many proteins is the  $\beta$  sheet
- ▶ Form rigid structures with the H-bond
- ▶ Can be of 2 types
  - ▶ Anti-parallel – run in an opposite direction of its neighbor (A)
  - ▶ Parallel – run in the same direction with longer looping sections between them (B)



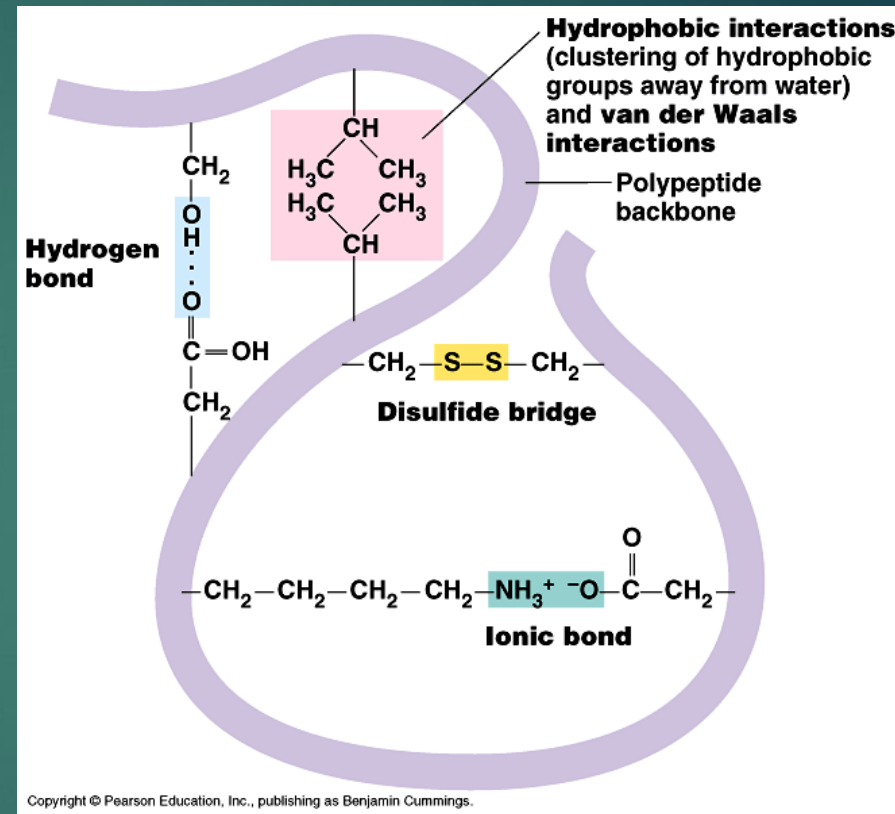
# Protein Structure





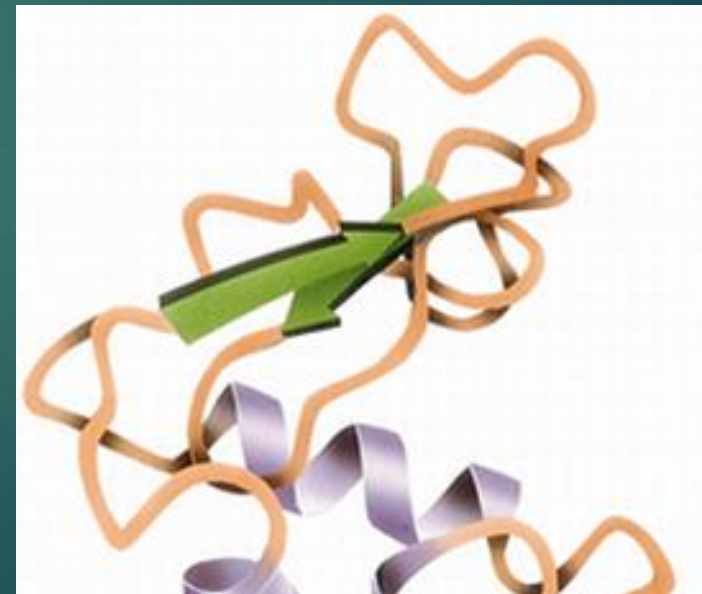
# Levels of Protein Structure

The **Tertiary Level** is due to the “folding over” of the alpha helical or beta pleated sheet structure on itself. This configuration is due again to hydrogen bonding, hydrophobic interactions, ionic bonding interactions, and the interaction of sulfur groups on the variable groups of some amino acids forming weak interactions called disulfide bridges.



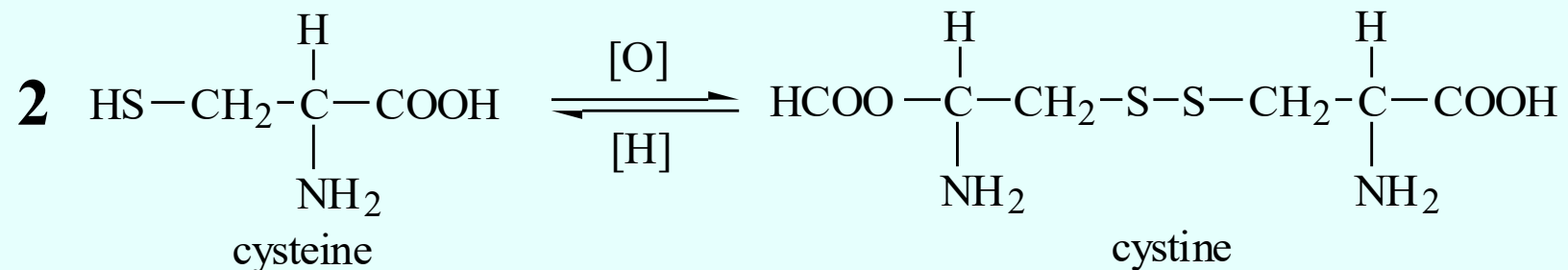
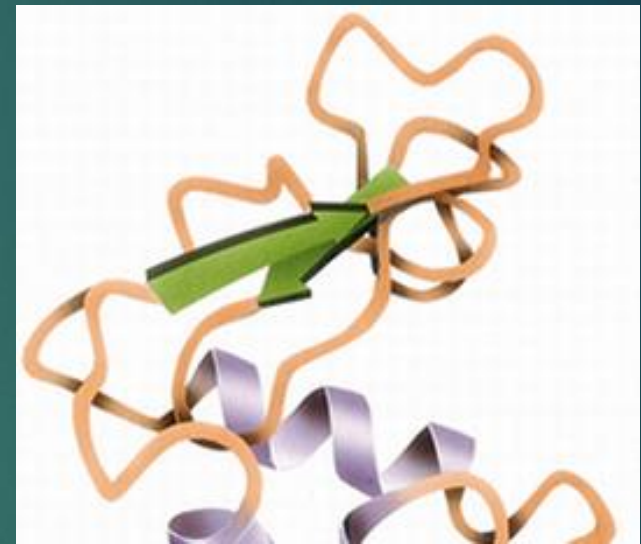
# Tertiary Structure

- ▶ The Three dimensional arrangement of every atom in the molecule
- ▶ Includes not just the peptide backbone but the side chains as well
- ▶ These interactions are responsible for the overall folding of the protein
- ▶ This folding defies its function and it's reactivity

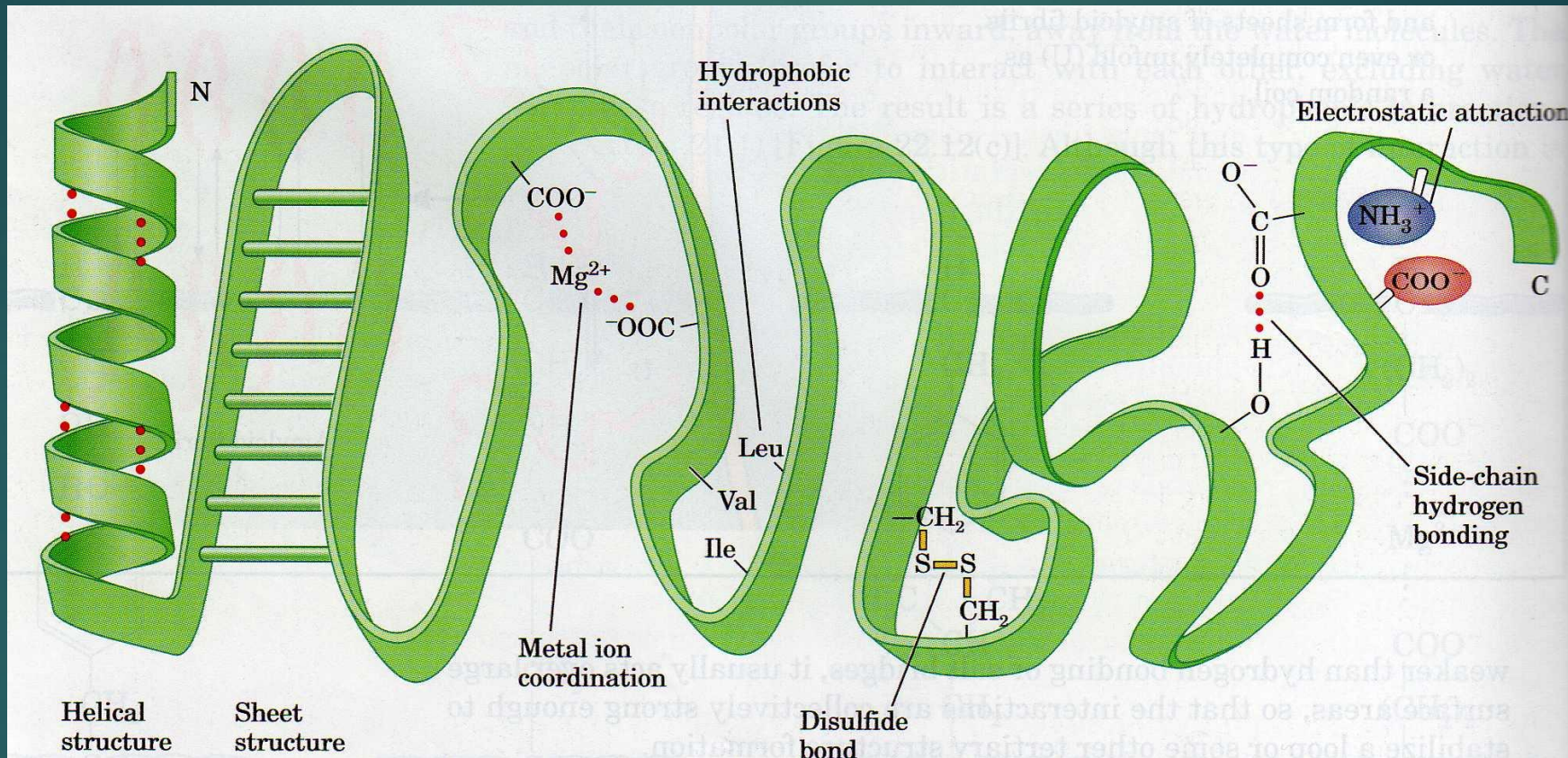


# Tertiary Structure – Covalent Bonding

- ▶ The most common covalent bond in forming the tertiary structure is the disulfide bond
- ▶ It is formed from the disulfide interaction of cysteine

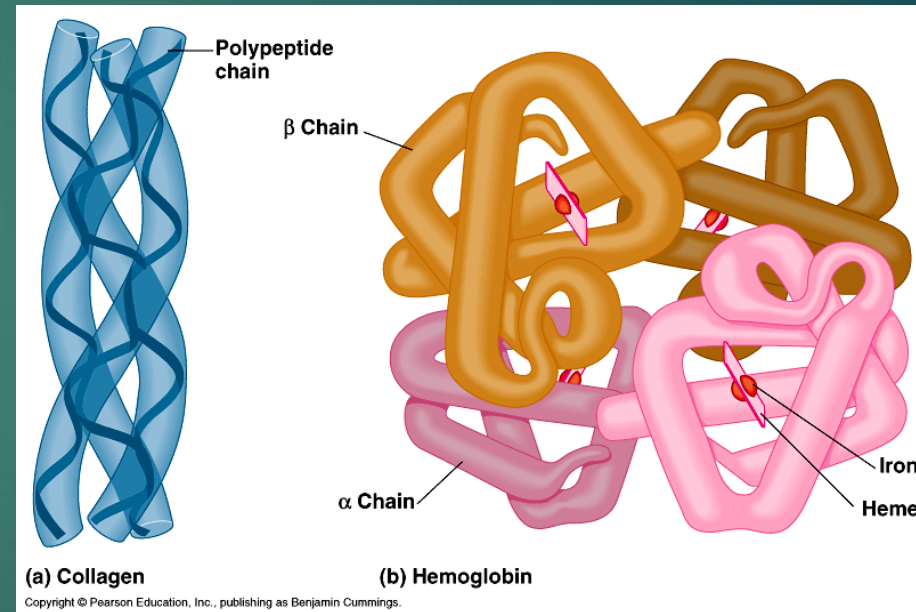


# Tertiary Structure



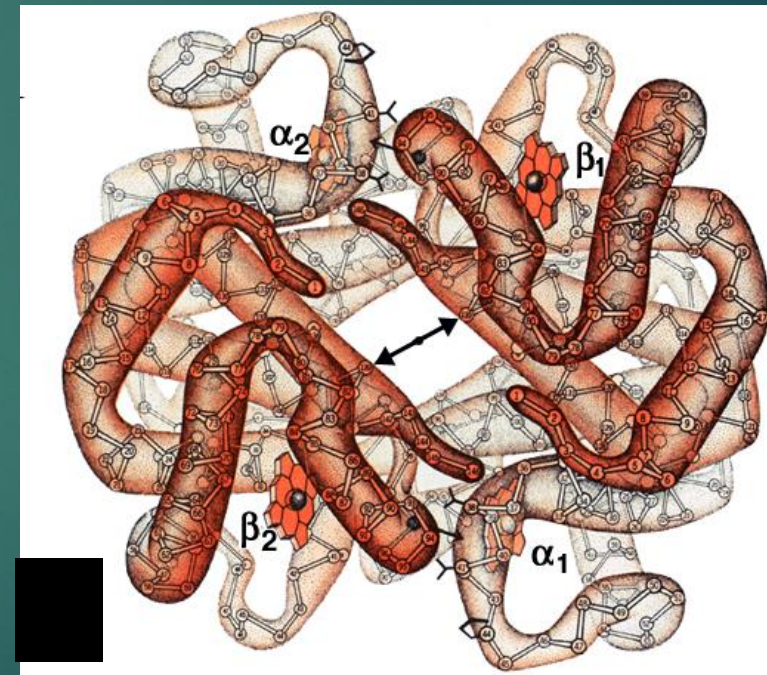
# Levels of Protein Structure

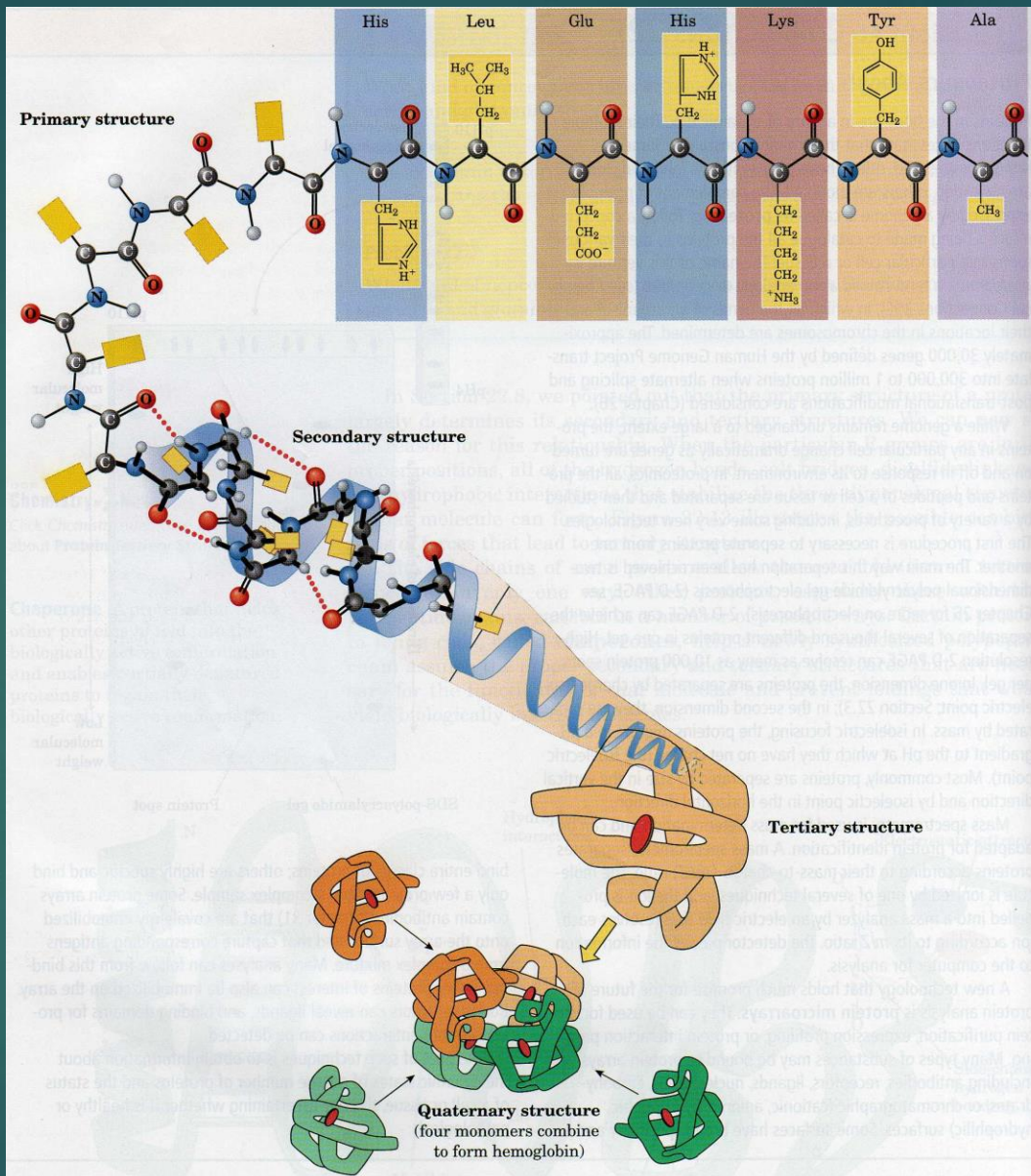
The **Quaternary Level** of structure is due to the interactions of more than one polypeptide chain to form the complete, functional protein. Hemoglobin and antibodies exhibit this level of structure.



# Quaternary Structure

- ▶ Highest level of organization
- ▶ Determines how subunit fit together
- ▶ Example Hemoglobin (4 sub chains)
  - ▶ 2 chains 141 AA
  - ▶ 2 chains 146 AA
- Example - Collagen





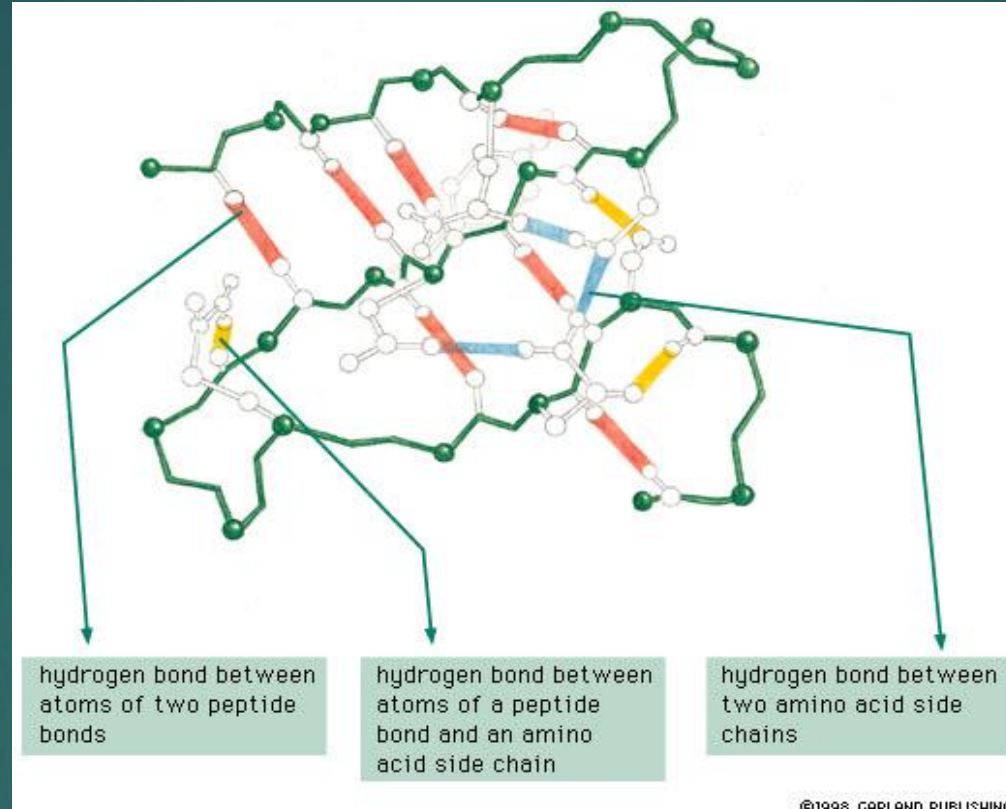
**Figure 22.14** Primary, secondary, tertiary, and quaternary structures of a protein.

# BONDS RESPONSIBLE FOR PROTEIN STRUCTURE

- ▶ **Non covalent bonds :**
- ▶ Hydrophobic interactions
- ▶ Electrostatic bonds
- ▶ Hydrogen bonds
- ▶ Vander Waals forces
- ▶ **Covalent bonds** – peptide bonds and disulphide bonds



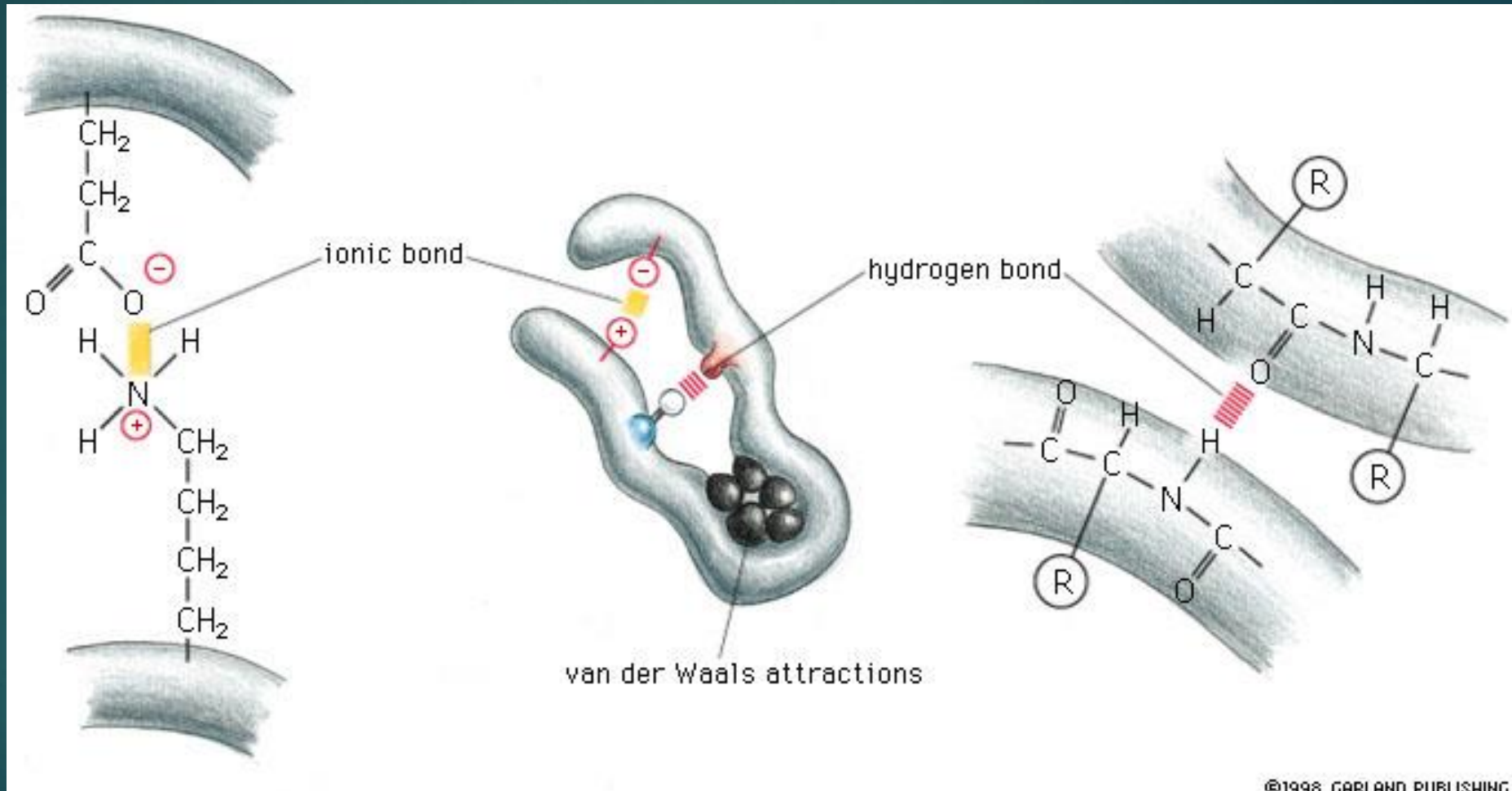
# Hydrogen Bonds in Proteins



H-bonds form between:

- ▶ 1) atoms involved in the peptide bond;
- ▶ 2) peptide bond atoms and R groups;
- ▶ 3) R groups

# Non-covalent Bonds in Proteins



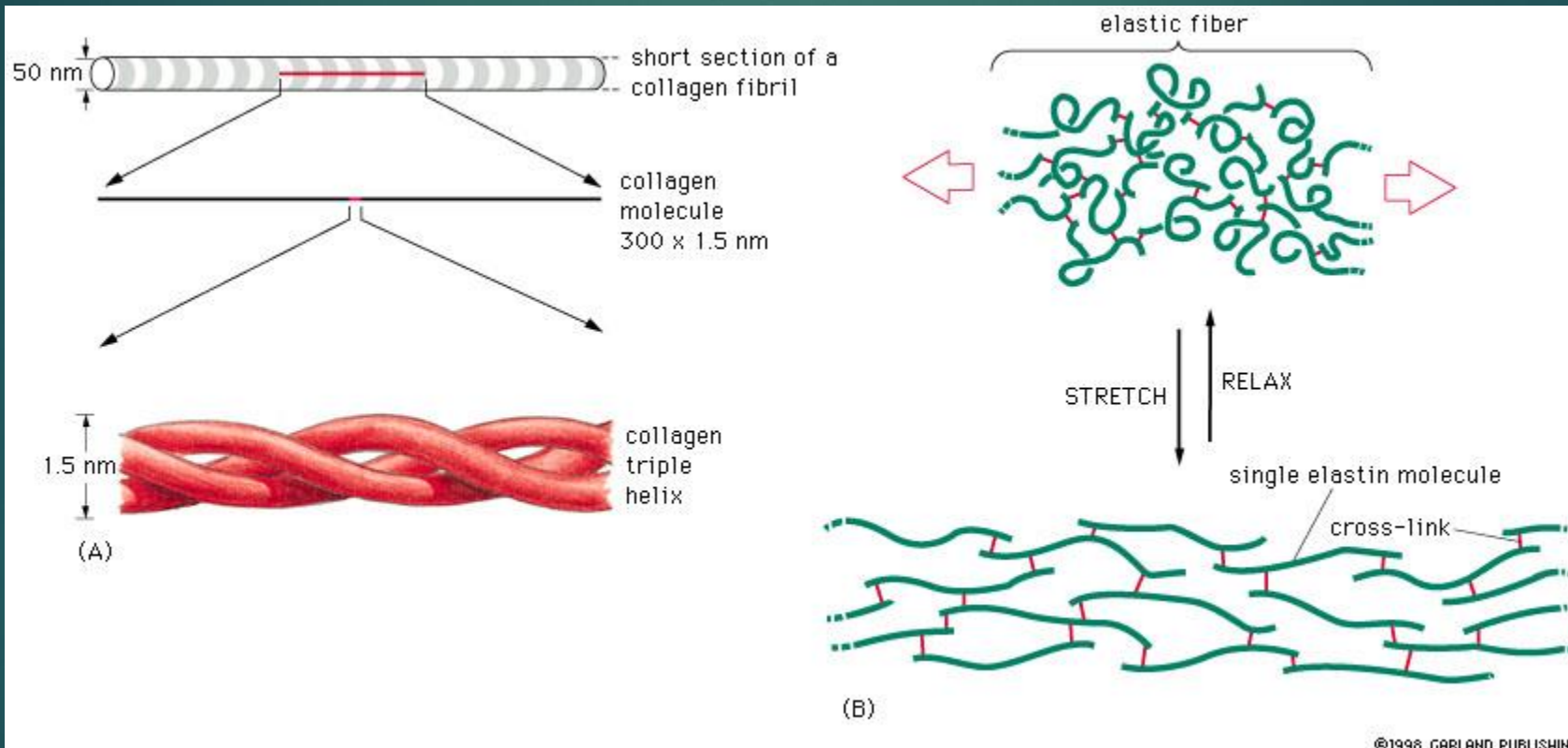
# Types of Proteins

- ▶ **Globular Proteins** – most of what we have dealt with so far
  - ▶ Compact shape like a ball with irregular surfaces
  - ▶ Enzymes are globular
- ▶ **Fibrous Proteins** – usually span a long distance in the cell
  - ▶ 3-D structure is usually long and rod shaped

# Important Fibrous Proteins

- ▶ Intermediate filaments of the cytoskeleton
  - ▶ Structural scaffold inside the cell
    - ▶ Keratin in hair, horns and nails
- ▶ Extracellular matrix
  - ▶ Bind cells together to make tissues
  - ▶ Secreted from cells and assemble in long fibers
    - ▶ Collagen – fiber with a glycine every third amino acid in the protein
    - ▶ Elastin – unstructured fibers that gives tissue an elastic characteristic

# Collagen and Elastin



Thank You