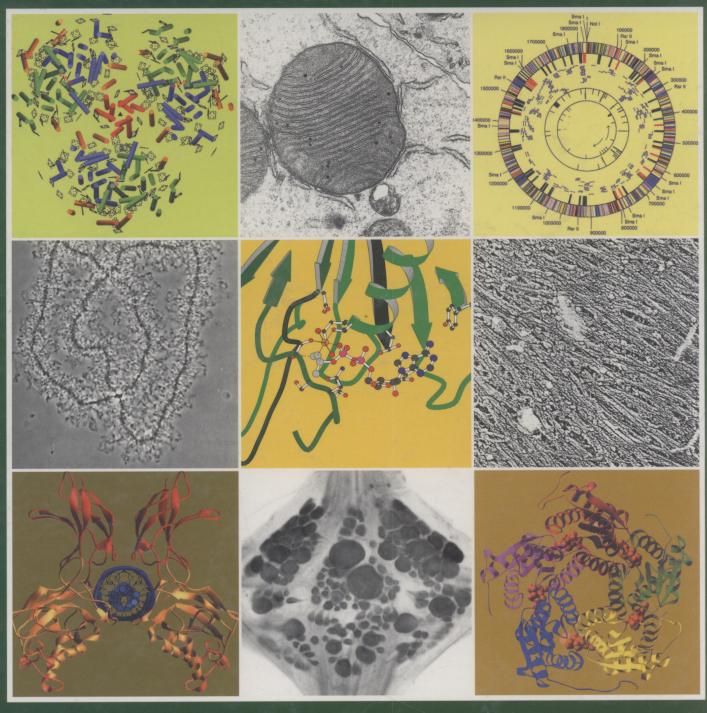
BIOCHEMISTRY

The Chemical Reactions of Living Cells

David E. Metzler



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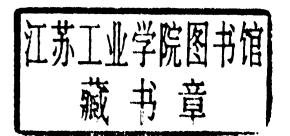
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Volume 2

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Preface

When Volume I was published early in 2001 I thought that Volume II would be ready by the end of the same year. However, updating the first edition to cover the major aspects of the rapidly expanding scope of Biochemistry was more difficult than I had imagined. This second volume brings many topics up-to-date. The first chapter (Chapter 17), which has been available on the Web, is an introduction to metabolism, more extensive than that in Chapter 10. This is followed by specialized chapters on oxidative metabolism, muscle chemistry, and on selected aspects of the metabolism of carbohydrates, lipids, and polyprenyl compounds. Chapter 23 deals with light, photochemistry, and photobiology. Chapter 24 describes metabolism of nitrogen fixation, amino acid synthesis and degradation and chemistry of other nitrogenous compounds. Chapter 25 provides a summary of biosynthesis and catabolism of aromatic compounds including the nucleic acid bases. Chapters 26-29 deal with molecular genetics and the biosynthesis and metabolism of DNA, RNA, and proteins. Chapters 30-32 are introductions to the chemistry of intercellular signaling, brain chemistry, immunochemistry, and development.

Volume II contains a huge amount of information. However, it represents only a tiny fraction of the biochemical knowledge presently available. The many references given may help the reader to get started in consulting this literature. However, the references provide neither a comprehensive review of literature nor an accurate historical record. I hope that my fellow biochemists will forgive me where I have failed to cite their favorite articles. The main purpose of the references is to document the material that I used in preparing the text. The coverage is limited. I used a selection of journals that I could scan quickly, hoping to provide a broad view. However, there are now hundreds of journals that contain biochemical information. An important entrance to this literature is via the World Wide Web, which by now may contain $\sim 10^{11}$ pages of information. (See D. Butler, *Nature*, **405**, 112-115, 2000). I especially recommend http://highwire.stanford.edu which provides free of charges both abstracts and full articles from many journals. I hope that you will read many original papers and not only reviews. Above all I hope that this book will help you to find excitement in the many scientific discoveries that are reported week after week. I am especially appreciative of the efforts made by our artist David J. Sauke, who died suddenly on November 6, 2002. He was designer, artist, compositor, and close friend. I am indebted to Robert R. Louden, Emily L. Osam, and Kim McDermott for taking over David's responsibilities and allowing us to complete the volume in a timely fashion.

David E. Metzler

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Fig. 19-21C,D, Fig. 19-22, Fig. 20-4A–E, Fig. 23-24C, Fig. 26-13A–F, Fig. 26-13A, Fig. 27-1, Fig. 27-5B, Fig. 27-23, Fig. 27-28, Fig. 28-6, Fig. 28-13B, Fig. 28-19A,B, Fig. 29-4B, Fig. 30-5, Fig. 30-7, Fig. 30-31, Fig. 31-5

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Fig. in Box 18C, Fig. 18-10A,B,D, Fig. 21-3, Fig. 23-15, Fig. 23-26A,B,C, Fig. 23-29A, Fig. 23-41D, Fig. 23-49, Fig. in Box 23-A, Fig. 26-4B, Fig. 26-5B, Fig. 27-5C, Fig. 27-18B, Fig. 27-26B, Fig. 27-34, Banner Chapter 28, Fig. 28-3B, Fig. 28-4, Table 28-2, Banner Chapter 29, Fig. 29-1E,F,LJ, Fig. 29-2C,G, Fig. 29-4A,B,G, Fig. 29-5, Fig. 29-6A,C, Fig. 29-14C,F,G,H, Fig. 31-7B, Fig. 32-1

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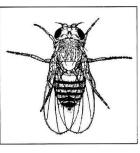
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A Brief Table of Contents *Volume 2*

	VOIMING Z
Chapter 17.	The Organization of Metabolism 938
Chapter 18.	Electron Transport, Oxidative Phosphorylation,
	and Hydroxylation 1012
Chapter 19.	The Chemistry of Movement 1088
Chapter 20.	Some Pathways of Carbohydrate Metabolism 1128
Chapter 21.	Specific Aspects of Lipid Metabolism 1180
Chapter 22.	Polyprenyl (Isoprenoid) Compounds 1226
Chapter 23.	Light and Life 1272
Chapter 24.	The Metabolism of Nitrogen and Amino Acids 1358
Chapter 25.	Metabolism of Aromatic Compounds and Nucleic
	Acid Bases 1420
Chapter 26.	Biochemical Genetics 1472
Chapter 27.	Organization, Replication, Transposition, and Repair
	of DNA 1528
Chapter 28.	The Transcription of Genes 1602
Chapter 29.	Ribosomes and the Synthesis of Proteins 1668
Chapter 30.	Chemical Communication Between Cells 1740

Chapter 31. Biochemical Defense Mechanisms 1830

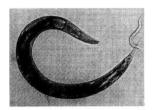
Chapter 32. Growth and Development 1878



A Brief Table of Contents *Volume 1*

Chapter 1.	The Scene of Action 1
Chapter 2.	Amino Acids, Peptides, and Proteins 39
Chapter 3.	Determining Structures and Analyzing Cells 95
Chapter 4.	Sugars, Polysaccharides, and Glycoproteins 161
Chapter 5.	The Nucleic Acids 199
Chapter 6.	Thermodynamics and Biochemical Equilibria 281
Chapter 7.	How Macromolecules Associate 325
Chapter 8.	Lipids, Membranes, and Cell Coats 379
Chapter 9.	Enzymes: The Catalysts of Cells 455
Chapter 10.	An Introduction to Metabolism 505
Chapter 11.	The Regulation of Enzymatic Activity and Metabolism 535
Chapter 12.	Transferring Groups by Displacement Reactions 589
Chapter 13.	Enzymatic Addition, Elimination, Condensation,
~	and Isomerization: Roles for Enolate and Carbocation
	Intermediates 677
Chapter 14.	Coenzymes: Nature's Special Reagents 719
Chapter 15	Coenzymes of Ovidation - Reduction Reactions 765

Chapter 16. Transition Metals in Catalysis and Electron Transport 837



Volume 1

Chapter 1 The Scene of Action

A. The Simplest Living Things 2

- 1. Escherichia coli 3
- 2. The Bacterial Genome 3
- 3. Ribonucleic Acids and the Transcription and Translation of Genetic Information 5
- 4. Membranes and Cell Walls 5
- 5. Flagella and Pili 6
- 6. Classification and Evolution of Bacteria 6
- 7. Nutrition and Growth of Bacteria 8
- 8. Photosynthetic and Nitrogen-Fixing Prokaryotes 9

B. Eukaryotic Cells 11

- 1. The Nucleus 11
- 2. The Plasma Membrane 11
- 3. Vacuoles, Endocytosis, and Lysosomes 12
- 4. The Endoplasmic Reticulum and Golgi Membranes 13
- 5. Mitochondria, Plastids, and Peroxisomes 14
- 6. Centrioles, Cilia, Flagella, and Microtubules 15
- 7. Cell Coats, Walls, and Shells 15

C. Inheritance, Metabolic Variation, and Evolution 15

- 1. The Changing Genome 17
- 2. Genetic Recombination, Sex, and Chromosomes 17
- 3. Haploid and Diploid Phases 18

D. Survey of the Protists 18

- 1. Protozoa 18
- 2. Fungi 20
- 3. Algae 20

E. The Variety of Animal Forms 23

- 1. The Major Groups of Multicellular Animals 23
- 2. Cell Types and Tissues 25
- 3. Communication 26

F. Higher Plants and Plant Tissues 29

G. The Chemical Composition of Cells 30

Chapter 2

Amino Acids, Peptides, and Proteins

A. Structural Principles for Small Molecules 39

- 1. Bond Angles 39
- 2. Bond Lengths 40
- 3. Contact Distances 40
- 4. Asymmetry: Right-Handed and Left-Handed Molecules 41
- 5. Conformations: The Shapes That Molecules Can Assume 43
- 6. Tautomerism and Resonance 45

B. Forces between Molecules and between Chemical Groups 46

- 1. Van der Waals Forces 46
- 2. Attraction between Charged Groups (Salt Linkages) 47
- 3. Hydrogen Bonds 47
- 4. The Structure and Properties of Water 49
- 5. Hydration of Polar Molecules and Ions 50
- 6. Hydrophobic Interactions 50

C. Amino Acids and Peptides 51

- 1. Properties of α-Amino Acids 51
- 2. Acidic and Basic Side Chains 55
- 3. The Peptide Unit 55
- 4. Polypeptides 56

D. The Architecture of Folded Proteins 59

- 1. Conformations of Polypeptide Chains 59
- 2. The Extended Chain β Structures 61
- 3. Helices 68
- 4. Polyglycine II and Collagen 72
- 5. Turns and Bends 72
- 6. Domains, Subunits, and Interfaces 74
- 7. Packing of Side Chains 75
- 8. The Network of Internal Hydrogen Bonds 75

E. Folding Patterns and Protein Families 76

- 1. Complex Folding Patterns 76
- 2. Symmetry 77
- 3. Effects of Sequence on Folding 78

F. Chemical Modification and Crosslinking 79

- 1. Disulfide Crosslinkages 80
- 2. Other Crosslinkages 80

G. Dynamic Properties of Proteins 81

- 1. Motion of Backbone and Side Chains 81
- 2. Conformational Changes 81
- 3. Denaturation and Refolding 82
- 4. Effects of pH and Solvent 83
- 5. Irreversible Damage to Proteins 84

H. Design and Engineering of Proteins 85

Chapter 3

Determining Structures and Analyzing Cells

A. Understanding pH and Electrical Charges on

Macromolecules 95

- 1. Strengths of Acids and Bases: the pK_a 's 95
- 2. Titration Curves 96
- 3. Buffers 97

B. Isolating Compounds 98

- 1. Fractionation of Cells and Tissues 98
- 2. Separations Based on Molecular Size, Shape, and Density 100
- 3. Separations Based on Solubility 101
- 4. Separation by Partition 102
- 5. Ion Exchange Chromatography 103
- 6. Affinity Chromatography 104
- 7. Electrophoresis and Isoelectric Focusing 106

C. Determining the Relative Molecular Mass, M_r 108

- 1. Ultracentrifugation 108
- 2. Gel Filtration and Gel Electrophoresis 112
- 3. Mass Spectrometry 112

D. Determining Amino Acid Composition and Sequence 115

- 1. Cleavage of Disulfide Bridges 115
- 2. Hydrolysis and Other Chain Cleavage Reactions 116
- 3. Determining Amino Acid Sequence 118
- 4. Locating Disulfide Bridges 119
- 5. Detecting Products 120
- 6. Absorption of Light 122

E. Quantitative Determinations and Modification Reactions of Side Chain Groups 123

- 1. Reactions of Amino Groups 123
- 2. Reactions of SH Groups 125
- 3. Reactions of Other Side Chains 126
- 4. Affinity Labeling 127

F. Synthesis of Peptides 127

- 1. Solid-Phase Peptide Synthesis 127
- 2. Combinatorial Libraries 128

G. Microscopy 129

H. X-Ray and Neutron Diffraction 132

I. Nuclear Magnetic Resonance 137

- 1. Basic Principles of NMR Spectroscopy 137
- 2. Nuclei Other Than Hydrogen 140
- 3. Fourier Transform Spectrometers and Two-Dimensional NMR 141
- 4. Three-Dimensional Structures and Dynamics of Proteins $\ 145$
- 5. Other Information from NMR Spectra 147
- J. The Protein Data Bank, Three-Dimensional Structures, and Computation 149

Chapter 4

Sugars, Polysaccharides, and Glycoproteins

A. Structures and Properties of Simple Sugars 161

- 1. The Variety of Monosaccharides 162
- 2. Conformations of Five- and Six-Membered Ring Forms 166
- 3. Characteristic Reactions of Monosaccharides 167

B. Glycosides, Oligosaccharides, Glycosylamines, and Glycation 167

C. Polysaccharides (Glycans) 169

- 1. Conformations of Polysaccharide Chains 170
- 2. The Glucans 172
- 3. Other Homopolysaccharides 175
- 4. Heteropolysaccharides of the Animal Body 175
- 5. Plant Heteropolysaccharides 177
- 6. Polysaccharides of Bacterial Surfaces 179

D. Glycoproteins and Proteoglycans 180

- 1. O-Linked Glycosyl Groups 181
- 2. Asparagine-Linked Oligosaccharides 182
- 3. Glycoproteins in Biological Recognition 186

E. Some Special Methods 188

- 1. Release of Oligosaccharides from Glycoproteins 188
- 2. Hydrolysis 189
- 3. Methylation 189
- 4. Periodate Oxidation (Smith Degradation) 190
- 5. Nuclear Magnetic Resonance 190

Chapter 5

The Nucleic Acids

A. Structure and Chemistry of Nucleotides 203

- 1. Names and Abbreviations 203
- 2. Acid-Base Chemistry and Tautomerism 204
- 3. Absorption of Ultraviolet Light 205
- 4. Chemical Reactions of the Bases 207
- 5. Base Pairs, Triplets, and Quartets 207
- 6. Conformations of Nucleotides 211

B. Double Helices 213

- 1. The B Form of DNA 213
- 2. Other Double-Helical Forms of DNA 213
- 3. The Conformational Flexibility of Double Helices 216

C. The Topology and Dynamics of Nucleic Acids 218

- 1. Rings, Catenanes, and Knots 218
- 2. Supercoiled DNA 219
- 3. Intercalation 222
- 4. Polynucleotides with Three or Four Strands 226
- 5. Junctions 228

D. Ribonucleic Acids 230

- 1. RNA Loops and Turns 230
- 2. Transfer RNAs 231
- 3 . Properties and Structures of Some Other RNA Molecules $\,$ 232 $\,$
- 4. Modified Nucleotides 234
- 5. RNA Aptamers 234

E. The Genetic Code 235

- 1. The "Reading Frames" 236
- 2. Variations 237
- 3. Palindromes and Other Hidden Messages 238
- 4. The Base Composition of DNA and RNA 239

F. Interaction of Nucleic Acids with Proteins 239

- 1. The Helix-Turn-Helix Motif 239
- 2. Other DNA-Binding Motifs 241
- 3. RNA-Binding Proteins 243

G. Viruses 244

- 1. Viruses with Single-Stranded DNA 244
- 2. Viruses with Double-Stranded DNA 244
- 3. Viruses Containing RNA 247
- 4. Viruses without Nucleic Acid? 248
- 5. Life Cycles 248
- 6. Plasmids and Transposable Genetic Elements 248

H. Methods of Study 249

- 1. Isolation and Separation of Nucleic Acids 249
- 2. Hydrolysis and Analysis 249
- 3. Characteristic Reactions of the Bases and Backbone 251
- 4. Melting, Hybridization, and Polynucleotide Probes 255
- 5. Synthesis of Oligonucleotides and Polynucleotides 258
- 6. The Polymerase Chain Reaction 260
- 7. Sequence Determination 260
- 8. Protein DNA Interactions 266
- 9. Nuclear Magnetic Resonance 266

Chapter 6

Thermodynamics and Biochemical Equilibria

A. Thermodynamics 281

- 1. The First Law of Thermodynamics 282
- 2. Enthalpy Changes and Thermochemistry 282
- 3. The Second Law of Thermodynamics 284
- 4. A Criterion of Spontaneity: The Gibbs Energy 285
- 5. Practical Thermochemistry 286
- 6. Thermodynamics and Life Processes 289

B. Tables of ΔG° Values for Biochemical Compounds 292

- 1. Gibbs Energies of Formation 292
- 2. Gibbs Energies of Dissociation of Protons 292
- 3. Group Transfer Potentials 292
- 4. "Constants" That Vary with pH and Magnesium Ion Concentrations 293
- 5. A New Standard for Biochemical Thermodynamic? 297
- Bond Energies and Approximate Methods for Estimation of Thermodynamic Data 97
- 7. Gibbs Energies of Combustion by O₂ and by NAD+ 297

C. Electrode Potentials and Gibbs Energy Changes for Oxidation - Reduction Reactions 300

D. The Adenylate System 302

- 1. Storage and Utilization of Energy 302
- 2. Synthesis of ATP 303
- 3. Creatine Phosphate, an Energy Buffer 303
- 4. Phosphorus-31 NMR 303

E. Complex Biochemical Equilibria 304

- 1. Effects of pH on Equilbria 305
- 2. Microscopic Dissociation Constants and Tautomerization 305
- 3. The Binding of Metal Ions 307

Chapter 7

How Macromolecules Associate

A. Describing Binding Equilibria 325

- 1. Analyzing Data 325
- 2. Multiple Binding Sites on a Single Molecule 327
- 3. Cooperative Processes 330

B. Complementarity and the Packing of Macromolecules 332

- 1. Rings and Helices 332
- 2. Oligomers with Twofold (Dyad) Axes 337

C. Cooperative Changes in Conformation 349

- 1. Unequal Binding of Substrate and "Induced Fit" 349
- 2. Binding Equilibria for a Dimerizing Protein 350
- 3. Higher Oligomers 352

D. The Oxygen-Carrying Proteins 353

- 1. Myoglobin and Hemoglobin 353
- 2. Abnormal Human Hemoglobins 359
- 3. Comparative Biochemistry of Hemoglobin 362

E. Self-Assembly of Macromolecular Structures 362

- 1. Bacteriophages 362
- 2. "Kringles" and Other Recognition Domains and Motifs 367

F. The Cytoskeleton 368

- 1. Intermediate Filaments 369
- 2. Microfilaments 369
- 3. Microtubules 370

Chapter 8

Lipids, Membranes, and Cell Coats

A. Lipid Structures 380

- 1. Fatty Acids, Fatty Alcohols, and Hydrocarbons 380
- 2. Acylglycerols, Ether Lipids, and Waxes 382
- 3. Phospholipids 382
- 4. Glycolipids 387
- 5. Sphingolipids 389
- 6. Sterols and Other Isoprenoid Lipids 389

B. Membranes 390

- 1. The Structure of Membranes 390
- 2. Membrane Proteins 401
- 3. Enzymes and Membrane Metabolism 409

C. The Transport of Molecules through Membranes 410

- 1. Facilitated Diffusion and Active Transport 410
- 2. Pores, Channels, and Carriers 411
- 3. The 12-Helix Major Facilitator Superfamily 415
- 4. Active Transport Systems 417
- 5. Transport of Ions 420
- 6. Exocytosis, Endocytosis, and the Flow of Membrane Constituents 425

D. Communication 427

E. The Extracellular Matrix and Cell Walls 427

- 1. The Structure of Bacterial Cell Walls 427
- 2. The Surroundings of Animal Cells 431
- 3. Cell Walls of Fungi and Green Plants 443

Chapter 9

Enzymes: The Catalysts of Cells

A. Information from Kinetics 455

- 1. Measuring the Speed of an Enzymatic Reaction 455
- 2. Formation and Reaction of Enzyme-Substrate Complexes 458
- 3. Diffusion and the Rate of Encounter of an Enzyme with Substrate 461
- 4. Reversible Enzymatic Reactions 464
- 5. Kinetics of Rapid Reactions 468
- 6. Cryoenzymology 469
- 7. The Effect of pH on Enzymatic Action 469

B. Inhibition and Activation of Enzymes 471

- 1. Competitive Inhibitors 471
- 2. Noncompetitive Inhibition and Activation: Allosteric Sites 473
- 3. Inhibitors in the Study of Mechanisms 475
- Allosteric Effectors in the Regulation of Enzyme Activity 475
- 5. Irreversible Inhibition of Enzymes 477

C. The Specificity of Enzymatic Action 478

- 1. Complementarity of Substrate and Enzyme Surfaces 478
- 2. Stereospecificity and Prochiral Centers 478
- 3. Induced Fit and Conformational Changes 481
- 4. Specificity and k_{cat} 481
- 5. Proofreading 482

D. Mechanisms of Catalysis 482

- 1. The "Transition State" 482
- 2. Microscopic Reversibility 486
- 3. Acid and Base Catalysis 486
- 4. Hydrogen Bonding and the Transfer of Protons within Active Sites 491
- 5. Covalent Catalysis 494
- 6. Proximity and Orientation 494
- 7. The Microenvironment 495
- 8. Strain and Distortion 496
- 9. Why Oligomeric Enzymes? 497
- 10. Summary 497

E. Classification of Enzymes 497

Chapter 10

An Introduction to Metabolism

A. The Starting Materials 505

- 1. Digestion 505
- 2. Sources of Energy 507

B. Catabolism and the Synthesis of ATP 507

- 1. Priming or Activation of Metabolites 507
- 2. Interconversions of Sugar Phosphates 508
- 3. Glycolysis and Fermentation 508
- 4. Pyruvate Dehydrogenase 511
- 5. Beta Oxidation 511
- 6. The Electron Transport Chain, Oxidative Phosphorylation *512*
- 7. The Citric Acid Cycle 515

C. Biosynthesis 515

- 1. Reversing Catabolic Pathways 515
- 2. Photosynthesis 517

D. Synthesis and Turnover of Macromolecules 517

- 1. Folding and Maturation of Proteins 518
- 2. Transport of Proteins to Their Destinations within a Cell 519
- 3. Posttranslational Alterations 521
- 4. Intracellular Degradation of Proteins 523
- 5. Turnover of Nucleic Acids 527E. Classifying Enzymatic Reactions 530

Chapter 11

The Regulation of Enzymatic Activity and Metabolism

A. Pacemakers and the Control of Metabolic Flux 535

B. Genetic Control of Enzyme Synthesis 538

- 1. One Gene or Many? 538
- 2. Repression, Induction, and Turnover 538
- 3. Differences among Species 539

Contents Volume 1

C. Regulation of the Activity of Enzymes 539

- 1. Allosteric Control 541
- Covalent Modification by Phosphorylation and Dephosphorylation 541
- 3. Other Modification Reactions Involving Group Transfer 545
- 4. Thioldisulfide Equilibria 549
- 5. Regulatory Effects of H+, Ca2+, and Other Specific Ions 549
- 6. Compartments and Organized Assemblies 552

D. Hormones and Their Receptors 553

- Beta Adrenergic Receptors and Related Seven-Helix Proteins 553
- 2. Adenylate Cyclases (Adenylyl Cyclases) 556
- 3. Guanine Nucleotide-Binding Proteins (G Proteins) 557
- Guanylate Cyclase (Guanylyl Cyclase), Nitric Oxide, and the Sensing of Light 561
- 5. A Bacterial Receptor for Aspartate 561

E. Calcium, Inositol Polyphosphates, and Diacylglycerols 563

- 1. Alpha Adrenergic Receptors 563
- 2. Phosphatidylinositol and the Release of Calcium Ions 563

F. Regulatory Cascades 566

- 1. Advantages of Regulatory Cascades 566
- 2. Substrate Cycles 567

G. Insulin and Related Growth-Regulating Hormones 567

- 1. Metabolic Effects of Insulin 568
- 2. Insulin Receptors 568
- 3. A Second Messenger for Insulin? 569

H. Growth Factors, Oncogenes, and the Cell Cycle 571

- 1. Oncogenes and Protooncogenes 571
- 2. The MAP Kinase Cascade 578
- 3. The Cell Cycle and Control of Growth 580

Chapter 12

Transferring Groups by Displacment Reactions

A. Factors Affecting Rates of a Displacement Reaction 589

B. Nucleophilic Displacements on Singly Bonded Carbon Atoms 590

- 1. Inversion as a Criterion of Mechanism 590
- 2. Transmethylation 591
- 3. Kinetic Isotope Effects 592
- 4. Glycosyltransferases 593
- 5. Lysozymes and Chitinases 599
- 6. Cellulases and Other β-Glycosidases 602
- 7. Glycogen Phosphorylase 604
- 8. Starch-Hydrolyzing Enzymes 605

C. Displacement Reactions on Carbonyl Groups 608

- 1. The Serine Proteases 609
- 2. The Cysteine Proteases (Thiol Proteases) 618
- 3. N-Terminal Nucleophile Hydrolases and Related Enzymes 620
- 4. The Aspartic Proteases 621
- 5. Metalloproteases 625
- 6. ATP-Dependent Proteases 627
- 7. The Many Functions of Proteases 628
- 8. Protease Inhibitors of Animals and Plants 629
- 9. Coagulation of Blood 631
- 10. Esterases and Lipases 634
- 11. Other Acyltransferases 637

D. Displacement on a Phosphorus Atom 637

- 1. Questions about Mechanisms 638
- 2. Magnetic Resonance Studies 639
- 3. Stereochemistry 642
- 4. Phosphatases 645
- 5. Ribonucleases 647
- 6. Ribonuclease P and Ribozymes 649
- 7. Deoxyribonucleases 652
- 8. Mutases 653
- 9. Molecular Properties of Kinases 654
- 10. Nucleotidyl Transferases 657

- E. The Adenylate Kinase Fold, the P Loop, and ATPases and GTPases 658
- F. Displacements on Sulfur Atoms 659

G. Multiple Displacement Reactions and the Coupling of ATP Cleavage to Endergonic Processes 660

- 1. Transfer of Phospho, Pyrophospho, and Adenylyl Groups from ATP $\,\,$ 660
- 2. Acyl Phosphates 660
- 3. General Mechanism of Formation of Thioesters, Esters, and Amides 661
- 4. Coenzyme A Transferases 662

Chapter 13

Enolate Anions in Enzymatic Addition, Elimination, Isomerization, and Condensation Reactions

A. Addition of R-OH, R-NH, amd R-SH to Polarized Double Bonds 677

- 1. Carbonic Anhydrase 677
- 2. Imines (Schiff Bases) 679
- 3. Stereochemistry of Addition to Trigonal Carbon Atoms 680
- 4. Addition of Carbon-Carbon Double Bonds, often Reversible Reactions 681
- 5. Addition to Double Bonds Adjacent to Carboxylate Groups 683
- 6. Aconitase and Related Iron-sulfur Proteins 686
- 7. Addition to or Formation of Isolated Double Bonds 688
- 8. Conjugative and Decarboxylative Elimination Reactions 689
- 9. Isomerization Assisted by Addition 690
- 10. Reversibility of Addition and Elimination Reactions 690

B. Enolic Intermediates in Enzymatic Reactions 691

- 1. Mandelate Racemase and Related Enzymes 691
- 2. Isomerases 692
- 3. Internal Oxidation-reduction by Dehydration of Dihydroxyacids 697
- Formation and Metabolism of Methylglyoxal (Pyruvaldehyde) 697

C. Beta Cleavage and Condensation 698

- 1. Displacement on a Carbonyl Group 698
- 2. Addition of an Enolate Anion to a Carbonyl Group or an Imine 699
- 3. Chiral Acetates and Their Use in Stereochemical Studies 704
- 4. Addition of an Enolate Ion to Carbon Dioxide and Decarboxylation 705
- 5. Incorporation of Bicarbonate into Carboxyl Groups 711
- D. Some Isomerization and Rearrangement Reactions 712

Chapter 14

Coenzymes: Nature's Special Reagents

- A. ATP and the Nucleotide "Handles" 719
- B. Coenzyme A and Phosphopantetheine 720
- C. Biotin and the Formation of Carboxyl Groups from Bicarbonate 723
 - 1. Biotin-Containing Enzymes 724
 - 2. The Mechanism of Biotin Action 725
 - 3. Control Mechanisms 729
 - 4. Pumping Ions with the Help of Biotin 729

D. Thiamin Diphosphate 730

- 1. Chemical Properties of Thiamin 730
- 2. Catalytic Mechanisms 731
- 3. Structures of Thiamin-Dependent Enzymes 733
- 4. The Variety of Enzymatic Reactions Involving Thiamin 734
- Oxidative Decarboxylation and 2-Acetylthiamin Diphosphate 736
- 6. Thiamin Coenzymes in Nerve Action 736

E. Pyridoxal Phosphate 737

- 1. Nonenzymatic Models 737
- 2. A General Mechanism of Action of PLP 740
- 3. The Variety of PLP-Dependent Reactions 741
- 4. Pyridoxamine Phophate as a Coenzyme 747
- 5. Stereochemistry of PLP-Requiring Enzymes 747
- Seeing Changes in the Optical Properties of the Coenzyme 749
- 7. Atomic Structures 750
- Constructing a Detailed Picture of the Action of a PLP Enzyme 751

F. Pyruvoyl Groups and Other Unusual Electrophilic Centers 753

- 1. Decarboxylases 754
- 2. Proline and Glycine Reductases 755
- Dehydroalanine, and Histidine and Phenylalanine Ammonia-Lyases 755

Chapter 15

Coenzymes of Oxidation-Reduction Reactions

A. Pyridine Nucleotide Coenzymes and Dehydrogenases 767

- 1. Three-Dimensional Structures of Dehydrogenases 768
- 2. Stereospecificity and Mechanism 768
- 3. Dehydrogenation of Amino Acids and Amines 775
- Glyceraldehyde-3-Phosphate Dehydrogenase and the Generation of ATP in Fermentation Reactions 775
- 5. Reduction of Carboxyl Groups 776
- 6. Reduction of Carbon-Carbon Double Bonds 777
- 7. Transient Carbonyl Groups in Catalysis 777
- ADP Ribosylation and Related Reactions of NAD+ and NADP+ 778
- 9. The Varied Chemistry of the Pyridine Nucleotides 779

B. The Flavin Coenzymes 780

- 1. Flavoproteins and Their Reduction Potentials 783
- 2. Typical Dehydrogenation Reactions Catalyzed by Flavoproteins 783
- 3. More Flavoproteins 788
- 4. Modified Flavin Coenzymes 788
- 5. Mechanisms of Flavin Dehydrogenase Action 789
- 6. Half-Reduced Flavins 792
- 7. Metal Complexes of Flavins and Metalloflavoproteins 794
- 8. Reactions of Reduced Flavins with Oxygen 794

C. Lipoic Acid and the Oxidative Decarboxylation of α-Oxoacids 795

- 1. Chemical Reactions of Lipoic Acid 795
- 2. Oxidative Decarboxylation of α-Oxoacids 796
- 3. Other Functions of Lipoic Acid 798
- 4. Additional Mechanisms of Oxidative Decarboxylation 799
- 5. Cleavage of α-Oxoacids and Substrate-Level Phosphorylation 802

D. Tetrahydrofolic Acid and Other Pterin Coenzymes 802

- 1. Structure of Pterins 802
- 2. Folate Coenzymes 803
- 3. Dihydrofolate Reductase 804
- 4. Single-Carbon Compounds and Groups in Metabolism 808

E. Specialized Coenzymes of Methanogenic Bacteria 813

F. Quinones, Hydroquinones, and Tocopherols 815

- 1. Pyrroloquinoline Quinone and the Copper Quinoproteins *815*
- 2. Copper Amine Oxidases 816
- 3. Ubiquinones, Plastoquinones, Tocopherols, and Vitamin K 818
- 4. Quinones as Electron Carriers 819
- 5. Vitamin K and γ-Carboxyglutamate Formation 820
- 6. Tocopherols (Vitamin E) as Antioxidants 822
- G. Selenium-Containing Enzymes 822

Chapter 16

Transition Metals in Catalysis and Electron Transport

A. Iron 837

- 1. Uptake by Living Cells 837
- 2. Storage of Iron 841
- 3. Heme Proteins 843
- 4. The Cytochromes 845
- 5. Mechanisms of Biological Electron Transfer 848
- 6. Reactions of Heme Proteins with Oxygen or Hydrogen Peroxide 850
- 7. The Iron-Sulfur Proteins 857
- 8. The (µ-oxo) Diiron Proteins 862
- 9. Ribonucleotide Reductases 863
- 10. Superoxide Dismutases 863

B. Cobalt and Vitamin B₁₂ 866

- 1. Coenzyme Forms 867
- 2. Reduction of Cyanocobalamin and Synthesis of Alkyl Cobalamins 869
- 3. Three Nonenzymatic Cleavage Reactions of Vitamin ${\bf B}_{{\bf 1}2}$ Coenzymes 870
- 4. Enzymatic Functions of B₁₂ Coenzymes 870

C. Nickel 877

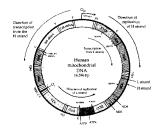
- 1. Urease 877
- 2. Hydrogenases 878
- 3. Cofactor F₄₃₀ and Methyl-Coenzyme M Reductase 879
- 4. Tunichlorins 881
- Carbon Monoxide Dehydrogenases and Carbon Monoxide Dehydrogenase/Acetyl-CoA Synthase 881

D. Copper 882

- 1. Electron-Transferring Copper Proteins 883
- 2. Copper, Zinc-Superoxide Dismutase 884
- 3. Nitrite and Nitrous Oxide Reductases 884
- 4. Hemocyanins 885
- 5. Copper Oxidases 885
- 6. Cytochrome c Oxidase 887

E. Manganese 887

- F. Chromium 888
- G. Vanadium 889
- H. Molybdenum 890
 - 1. Molybdenum Ions and Coenzyme Forms 890
 - 2. Enzymatic Mechanisms 892
 - 3. Nutritional Need for Mo 893
- I. Tungsten 893



Volume 2

Chapter 17

The Organization of Metabolism

A. The Oxidation of Fatty Acids 939

- 1. Beta Oxidation 939
- 2. Carnitine and Mitochondrial Permeability 944
- 3. Human Disorders of Fatty Acid Oxidation 944
- 4. Ketone Bodies 945

B. Catabolism of Propionyl Coenzyme A and Propionate 947

- 1. The Malonic Semialdehyde Pathways 947
- 2. The Methylmalonyl-CoA Pathway of Propionate Utilization 950

C. The Citric Acid Cycle 950

- 1. A Clever Way to Cleave a Reluctant Bond 950
- 2. Synthesis of the Regenerating Substrate Oxaloacetate 952
- 3. Common Features of Catalytic Cycles 952
- 4. Control of the Cycle 953
- Catabolism of Intermediates of the Citric Acid Cycle 957

D. Oxidative Pathways Related to the Citric Acid Cycle 958

- 1. The γ-Aminobutyrate Cycle 958
- 2. The Dicarboxylic Acid Cycle 958

E. Catabolism of Sugars 960

- 1. The Glycolysis Pathway 960
- 2. Generation of ATP by Substrate Oxidation 962
- 3. The Pentose Phosphate Pathways 963
- 4. The Entner-Doudoroff Pathway 965

F. Fermentation: "Life without Oxygen" 966

- Fermentations Based on the Embden–Meyerhof Pathway 966
- 2. The Mixed Acid Fermentation 968
- 3. The Propionic Acid Fermentation 970
- 4. Butyric Acid and Butanol-Forming Fermentations 971
- Fermentations Based on the Phosphogluconate and Pentose Phosphate Pathways 972

G. Biosynthesis 972

- 1. Metabolic Loops and Biosynthetic Families 973
- 2. Key Intermediates and Biosynthetic Families 973

H. Harnessing the Energy of ATP for Biosynthesis 973

- 1. Group Activation 974
- 2. Hydrolysis of Pyrophosphate 976
- Coupling by Phosphorylation and Subsequent Cleavage by a Phosphatase 977
- 4. Carboxylation and Decarboxylation: Synthesis of Fatty

I. Reducing Agents for Biosynthesis 978

- 1. Reversing an Oxidative Step with a Strong Reducing Agent 980
- Regulation of the State of Reduction of the NAD and NADP Systems 980
- 3. Reduced Ferredoxin in Reductive Biosynthesis 981

J. Constructing the Monomer Units 982

- 1. Carbonyl Groups in Chain Formation and Cleavage 982
- 2. Starting with CO₂ 982
- 3. Biosynthesis from Other Single-Carbon Compounds 985
- 4. The Glyoxylate Pathways 987
- 5. Biosynthesis of Glucose from Three-Carbon Compounds 989
- 6. Building Hydrocarbon Chains with Two-Carbon Units 990
- 7. The Oxoacid Chain Elongation Process 990
- 8. Decarboxylation as a Driving Force in Biosynthesis 992
- Stabilization and Termination of Chain Growth by Ring Formation 992
- 10. Branched Carbon Chains 992

K. Biosynthesis and Modification of Polymers 993

- 1. Peptides and Proteins 993
- 2. Polysaccharides 994
- Nucleic Acids 995
- 4. Phospholipids and Phosphate-Sugar Alcohol Polymers 995
- 5. Irreversible Modification and Catabolism of Polymers 995

L. Regulation of Biosynthesis 996

- 1. Glycogen and Blood Glucose 997
- 2. Phosphofructo-1-Kinase in the Regulation of Glycolysis 999
- 3. Gluconeogenesis 1000
- 4. Substrate Cycles 1000
- 5. Nuclear Magnetic Resonance, Isotopomer Analysis, and Modeling of Metabolism 1000
- 6. The Fasting State 1002
- 7. Lipogenesis 1003

Chapter 18

Electron Transport, Oxidative Phosphorylation, and Hydroxylation

A. The Architecture of the Mitochondrion 1013

- 1. The Mitochondrial Membranes and Compartments 1014
- 2. The Chemical Activities of Mitochondria 1015
- 3. The Mitochondrial Genome 1016
- 4. Growth and Development 1018

B. Electron Transport Chains 1019

- 1. The Composition of the Mitochondrial Electron Transport System 1019
- 2. The Sequence of Electron Carriers 1019
- 3. Structures and Functions of the Individual
 Complexes I IV and Related Bacterial Assemblies 1026

C. Oxidative Phosphorylation 1032

- The Stoichiometry (P/O Ratio) and Sites of Oxidative Phosphorylation 1033
- 2. Thermodynamics and Reverse Electron Flow 1034
- 3. The Mechanism of Oxidative Phosphorylation 1036
- 4. ATP Synthase 1041
- 5. ATP-driven Proton Pumps 1045
- 6. Uncouplers and Energy-linked Processes in Mitochondria 1046

D. Transport and Exchange across Mitochondrial Membranes 1047

E. Energy from Inorganic Reactions 1050

- 1. Reduced Inorganic Compounds as Substrates for Respiration 1051
- 2. Anaerobic Respiration 1054

F. Oxygenases and Hydroxylases 1057

- 1. Dioxygenases 1057
- 2. Monooxygenases 1059

G. Biological Effects of Reduced Oxygen Compounds 1072

- 1. The Respiratory Burst of Neutrophils 1072
- 2. Oxidative Damage to Tissues 1074

Chapter 19

The Chemistry of Movement

A. Motility of Bacteria 1089

- 1. The Structure and Properties of Bacterial Flagella 1089
- 2. Rotation of Flagella 1091
- 3. Chemotaxis 1093

B. Muscle 1096

- 1. The Structural Organization of Striated Muscle 1096
- 2. Muscle Proteins and Their Structures 1096
- 3. Actomyosin and Muscle Contraction 1104
- 4. Control of Muscle Contraction 1114
- 5. The Phosphagens 1117

C. Motion in Nonmuscle Cells 1118

- 1. Actin-Based Motility 1118
- 2. Transport along Microtubules by Kinesin and Dynein 1119
- 3. Eukaryotic Cilia and Flagella 1121
- 4. Chemotaxis 1122
- 5. Other Forms of Movement 1122

Chapter 20

Some Pathways of Carbohydrate Metabolism

A. Interconversions of Monosaccharides 1129

- 1. The Metabolism of Galactose 1130
- 2. Inositol 1131
- 3. p-Glucuronic Acid, Ascorbic Acid, and Xylitol 1132
- 4. Transformations of Fructose 6-Phosphate 1135
- Extending a Sugar Chain with Phosphoenolpyruvate (PEP) 1136
- 6. Synthesis of Deoxy Sugars 1137

B. Synthesis and Utilization of Oligosaccharides 1140

C. Synthesis and Degradation of Polysaccharides 1143

- 1. Glycogen and Starch 1143
- 2. Cellulose, Chitin, and Related Glycans 1146
- 3. Patterns in Polysaccharide Structures 1150

D. Proteoglycans and Glycoproteins 1153

- 1. Glycosaminoglycans 1153
- 2. O-Linked Oligosaccharides 1155
- 3. Assembly of \tilde{N} -linked Oligosaccharides on Glycosyl Carrier Lipids 1155
- E. Biosynthesis of Bacterial Cell Walls 1160

F. Biosynthesis of Eukaryotic Glycolipids 1168

- 1. Glycophosphatidylinositol (GPI) Anchors 1168
- 2. Cerebrosides and Gangliosides 1168

G. The Intracellular Breakdown of Polysaccharides and Glycolipids 1169

- 1. Mucopolysaccharidoses 1169
- 2. Sphingolipidoses 1170
- 3. Causes of Lysosomal Diseases 1170
- 4. Can Lysosomal Diseases Be Treated? 1172

Chapter 21

Specific Aspects of Lipid Metabolism

A. Digestion, Synthesis, and Distribution of Triacylglycerols in the Human Body 1181

- 1. Plasma Lipoproteins 1181
- 2. Movement of Lipid Materials Between Cells 1184

B. The Biosynthesis of Fatty Acids and their Esters 1185

- 1. Fatty Acid Synthases 1185
- 2. Control of Chain Length 1188
- 3. Starter Pieces and Branches 1189
- 4. Synthesis by the Oxoacid Chain Elongation Process 1189
- 5. Unsaturated Fatty Acids 1191
- 6. Cyclopropane Fatty Acids and Mycolic Acids 1193
- 7. The Lipids of Skin and Other Surfaces 1195

C. Synthesis of Triacylglycerols, Glycolipids, and Phospholipids 1196

- 1. Phospholipids 1197
- 2. The Ether-linked Lipids 1201
- 3. Sphingolipids 1202
- 4. Complex Lipids in Signaling 1202
- 5. Peroxidation of Lipids and Rancidity 1204
- 5. Some Nutritional Questions 1205

D. Prostaglandins and Related Prostanoid Compounds 1206

- 1. Metabolism of the Prostaglandins 1207
- 2. Thromboxanes and Prostacyclins 1208
- 3. Lipoxygenases 1208
- 4. Leukotrienes, Lipoxins, and Related Compounds 1210
- 5. Physiological Effects of the Prostanoids 1210
- 6. Inflammation 1211
- 7. Plant Lipoxygenases and Jasmonic Acid 1212
- E. The Polyketides 1212

Chapter 22

Polyprenyl (Isoprenoid) Compounds

A. Isoprenyl Diphosphate and Polyprenyl Synthases 1227

- 1. An Alternative Pathway for Isoprenoid Synthesis 1229
- 2. Isomerization and Isoprene Formation 1230
- 3. Polyprenyl Compounds 1230
- 4. Prenylation of Proteins and Other Compounds 1231

B. Terpenes 1232

- 1. Biosynthesis of Monoterpenes 1232
- 2. Sesquiterpenes and Diterpenes 1234
- 3. Formation of the Symmetric Terpenes, Squalene and Phytoene 1236

C. Carotenes and Their Derivatives 1237

- 1. Xanthophylls and Other Oxidized Carotenes 1240
- 2. Properties and Functions of Carotenes 1243

D. Steroid Compounds 1243

- 1. Biosynthesis of Sterols 1244
- 2. Metabolism of Cholesterol in the Human Body 1247

E. The Steroid Hormones 1252

- 1. Progestins 1253
- 2. Adrenal Cortical Steroids 1253
- 3. Androgens 1254
- 4. Estrogens 1260
- 5. The Steroid Receptor Family 1263
- F. Other Steroids 1265

Chapter 23 Light and Life

A. Properties of Light 1273

B. Absorption of Light 1275

- 1. Quantitative Measurement of Light Absorption, Spectroscopy 1275
- 2. The Energy Levels of Molecules 1276
- 3. Infrared (IR) and Raman Spectra 1276
- 4. Electronic Spectra 1280
- 5. Circular Dichroism and Optical Rotatory Dispersion 1286
- 6. Photoacoustic Spectroscopy 1287
- 7. X-Ray Absorption and Mössbauer Spectroscopies 1288

xiv

C. Fluorescence and Phosphorescence 1288

- 1. Excitation and Emission Spectra 1288
- 2. Fluorescence Resonance Energy Transfer (FRET) 1291
- 3. Energy-selective Spectroscopic Methods 1293
- 4. Analytical Applications of Fluorescence 1293

D. Photochemistry 1294

- 1. Chemical Equilibria in the Excited State 1295
- 2. Photoreactions of Nucleic Acid Bases 1296
- 3. Sunburn, Cancer, and Phototherapy 1297
- 4. Photoaffinity Labels 1297
- 5. Microphotolysis and Ultrafast Light-induced Reactions 1297
- 6. Optical Tweezers, Light-Directed Synthesis, and Imaging 1298

E. Photosynthesis 1298

- 1. Two Photosystems, the Z Scheme, and Reaction Centers 1299
- 2. Chloroplast Structure 1301
- 3. The Light-Receiving Complexes 1305
- 4. The Reaction Centers and Their Photochemistry 1310
- 5. Control of Photosynthesis 1319
- 6. Photorespiration; C₃ and C₄ Plants 1321
- 7. Photosynthetic Formation of Hydrogen 1324

Vision 1324

- 1. Visual Pigments 1324
- 2. The Light-Induced Transformation 1329
- 3. The Nerve Impulse 1330
- 4. Regeneration of Visual Pigments; the Retinal Cycle 1332
- 5. Diseases of the Retina 1332
- 6. Proteins of the Lens 1333

G. Bacteriorhodopsin and Related Ion Pumps and Sensors 1333

H. Phytochrome 1337

- I. Some Blue Light Responses 1338
 - 1. Cryptochromes 1339
 - 2. Photolyases 1339
- Bioluminescence 1340

Chapter 24

The Metabolism of Nitrogen and Amino Acids

A. Fixation of N, and the Nitrogen Cycle 1359

- 1. Reduction of Elemental Nitrogen 1359
- 2. Nitrogenases 1360
- 3. Interconversion of Nitrate, Nitrite, and Ammonium Ions 1366

B. Incorporation of NH₃ into Amino Acids and Proteins 1367

- 1. Uptake of Amino Acids by Cells 1369
- 2. Glutamate Dehydrogenase and Glutamate Synthase 1369
- 3. Glutamine Synthetase 1370
- 4. Catabolism of Glutamine, Glutamate, and Other Amino Acids 1371

C. Synthesis and Catabolism of Proline, Ornithine, Arginine, and Polyamines 1374

- 1. Synthesis and Catabolism of Proline 1374
- 2. Synthesis of Arginine and Ornithine and the Urea Cycle 1374
- 3. Amidino Transfer and Creatine Synthesis 1379
- 4. The Polyamines 1380

D. Compounds Derived from Aspartate 1383

- 1. Control of Biosynthetic Reactions of Aspartate 1383
- 2. Lysine Diaminopimelate, Dipicolinic Acid, and Carnitine 1383
- 3. The Catabolism of Lysine 1386
- 4. Metabolism of Homocysteine and Methionine 1388
- 5. Metabolism of Threonine 1391

E. Alanine and the Branched-Chain Amino Acids 1391

- 1. Catabolism 1393
- 2. Ketogenic and Glucogenic Amino Acids 1397

F. Serine and Glycine 1397

- 1. Biosynthetic Pathways from Serine 1397
- 2. Metabolism of Glycine 1398
- 3. Porphobilinogen, Porphyrins, and Related Substances 1399

G. Cysteine and Sulfur Metabolism 1406

- 1. Synthesis and Catabolism of Cysteine 1407
- 2. Cysteine Sulfinate and Taurine 1407
- 3. Mercaptopyruvate, Thiosulfate, and Assembly of Iron-Sulfur Centers 1408

Chapter 25

Metabolism of Aromatic Compounds and **Nucleic Acid Bases**

A. The Shikimate Pathway of Biosynthesis 1421

- 1. The Enzymes 1423
- 2. From Chorismate to Phenylalanine and Tyrosine 1424
- Anthranilate, Tryptophan, para-Aminobenzoate, and Dihydroxybenzoate 1425
- 4. Ubiquinones, Plastoquinones, Vitamin K, and Tocopherols 1427

B. Metabolism of Phenylalanine and Tyrosine 1428

- 1. Catabolism of Tyrosine in Animals 1428
- 2. The Thyroid Hormones 1430
- 3. The Catecholamines 1432
- 4. The Melanins 1434
- 5. Microbial Catabolism of Phenylalanine, Tyrosine, and Other Aromatic Compounds 1434
- 6. Quinic and Gallic Acids 1438
- 7. The Metabolism of Phenylalanine and Tyrosine in Plants 1438
- 8. Alkaloids 1443

C. Metabolism of Tryptophan and Histidine 1443

- 1. The Catabolism of Tryptophan 1443
- 2. The Metabolism of Histidine 1449

D. Biosynthesis and Catabolism of Pyrimidines 1450

- 1. Synthesis of Pyrimidine Nucleotides 1451
- 2. Catabolism of Pyrimidine Nucleotides and Nucleosides 1452
- 3. Reuse or Salvage of Nucleic Acid Bases 1453

E. Biosynthesis and Metabolism of Purines 1454

- 1. The Enzymatic Reactions of Purine Synthesis 1454
- 2. The Purine Nucleotide Cycle and Salvage Pathways for
- 3. Oxidative Metabolism of Purines 1459
- F. Pterins, Flavins, Dimethylbenzimidazole, Thiamin, and Vitamin B₂ 1460

Chapter 26

Biochemical Genetics

A. Historical Sketch 1473

- 1. DNA as the Genetic Material 1473
- 2. The Double Helix 1474
- 3. Ribonucleic Acids and Proteins 1474
- 4. Deciphering the Genetic Code 1475