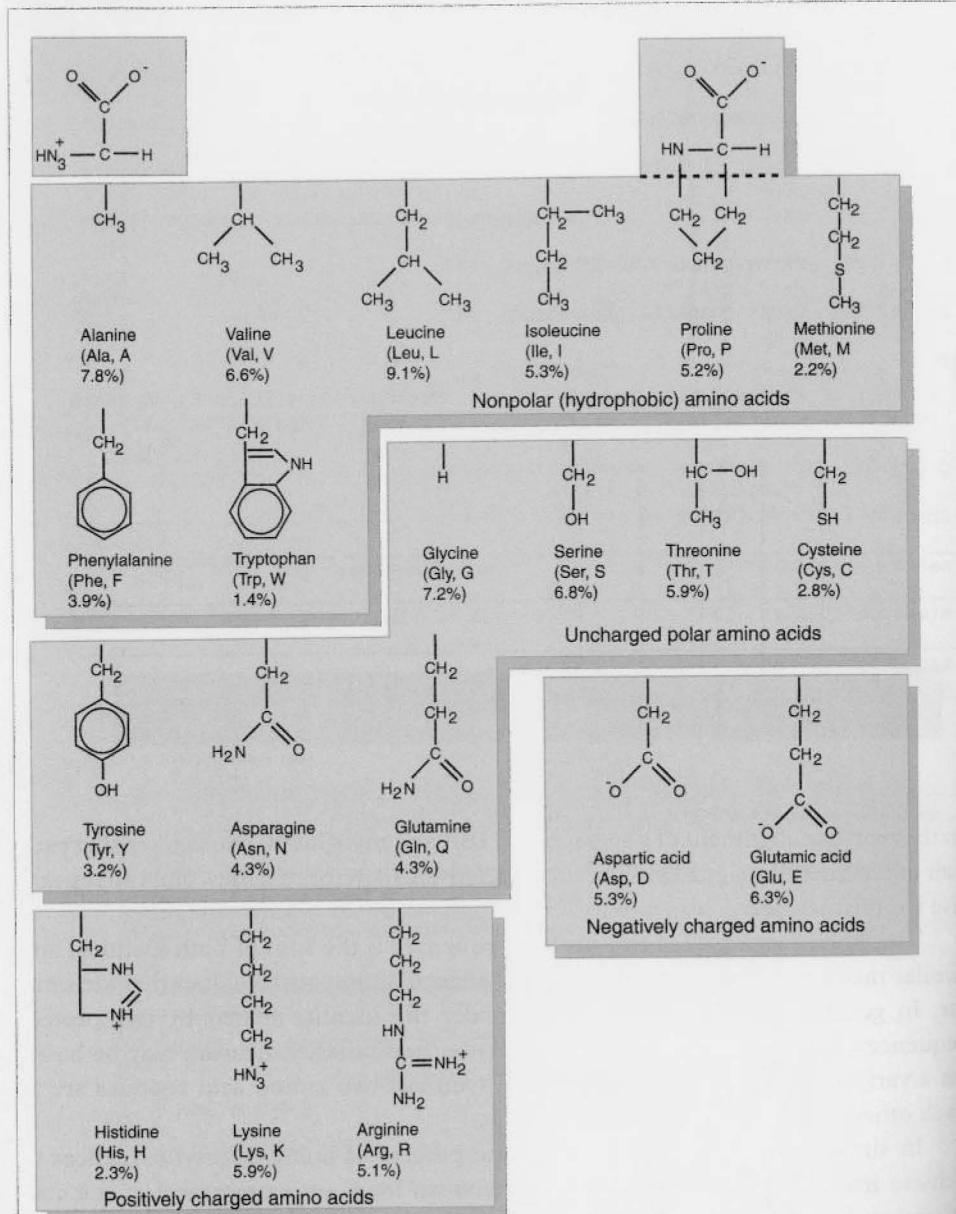


Biophysical Chemistry – CH 4404

Amino Acid Structures

Box 3.1

Structures and One- and Three-Letter Abbreviations of Twenty Common Amino Acids



It is very helpful to memorize these abbreviations and to become familiar with the physical properties of the amino acids. The percentages refer to the relative abundance of each amino acid in proteins.

Note that, on an exam, you may draw these structures in any orientation you like; however, keep in mind that you may be required to identify the bases in alternate orientations (e.g. flipped). Taken from *Bioinformatics and Functional Genomics* by Jonathan Pevsner.