

Chapter 6: Energy, Enzymes, & Metabolism

I. **Metabolism** - Sum of all chemical reactions in a cell/organism

A. Organisms need a source of energy & a source of carbon: **Fig. 6.1**

II. **Energy** - A system's capacity to do work

A. **Can be converted between forms (ex. potential → kinetic)**

1. When energy changes forms, it's conserved but less is available for work because of loss to entropy (i.e. heat, usually)

B. **Molecules contain potential energy**

1. Electrons farther from the nucleus have more potential energy

2. Ex. ATP contains potential energy because of clustering of 3 negative O⁻ charges

III. **Chemical Reactions** – processes in which molecules are transformed

A. Reactions have **direction & rate**

1. Energy & concentration of reactants drive direction & rate

B. **H/G/T/S**

1. **H = G + TS**

a. *H* = enthalpy = total energy

b. *G* = free energy (FE) = usable energy for work

c. *T* = Temperature

d. *S* = entropy or unusable energy

2. **G = H - TS**

3. **ΔG = ΔH - TΔS**

C. **Exergonic vs. Endergonic Reactions**

1. **ΔG = ΔH - TΔS**

2. **ΔG < 0: exergonic** reaction (spontaneous, free energy released)

a. *Spontaneous* – reaction that occur without an input of free energy

i. May occur very slowly at a given temperature

ii. Reaction rate (kinetics) is independent of reaction spontaneity

b. ATP Hydrolysis (ATP → ADP + P) is exergonic

i. ΔG = -7kcal/mol

3. **ΔG > 0: endergonic** reaction, NOT spontaneous, requires input of free energy

4. Cells couple exergonic & endergonic reactions to “push” the endergonic reaction forward

a. Energy from the exergonic reaction is used to drive the endergonic one

D. **Catabolism/Anabolism**

1. **Catabolic** reactions/pathways: break down molecules & store energy in molecules (ex. ATP synthesis)

2. **Anabolic** reactions: use energy to build molecules

IV. Enzymes

- A.** Usually proteins
- B.** Big (compared to reactant molecules)
- C.** Catalyze reactions
- D.** Specific to substrates
- E.** Energy diagram: Reaction process vs. Free energy
 - 1.** Transition state: highest energy state (peak)
- F.** How enzymes decrease activation energy
 - 1.** Reactants change shape when they bind with enzyme, which strains bond energy
 - a.** Easier to remove molecules needed for reaction (*ex.* $\text{ATP} \rightarrow \text{ADP} + \text{P}$)
 - 2.** Reactants are close together
 - a.** Some enzymes bind to both reactants needed for a reaction, increasing the likelihood that the reactants will contact each other

V. Metabolic Pathway - a coordinated series of chemical reactions

- A.** Each step is typically catalyzed by a single enzyme