# Molecules of Metabolism



#### **Molecular Biology**

Molecular biology explains living processes in terms of the chemical substances involved.

DNA (a nucleic acid) - Watson and Crick's discovery of structure lead to a Revolution in Biology to study biological molecule.

Biochemical molecules are largely **CARBON** based

- Carbohydrates made of carbon and water (building blocks :sugars)
- Lipids made of C and H2O mostly (building blocks: fatty acids)
- Proteins made of C, H, N, O, (S) (Amino acids)
- Nucleic acids made C, H, O, N, P (Sugar in nitrogenous bases)

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Carbons atoms forms 4 covalent bonds (molecular compounds)

- sharing electrons
- the strongest bonds in biological systems

Carbon compounds are diverse in nature







## Molecular common molecular groups to know



## Biochemical molecules are largely CARBON based

- Carbohydrates made of carbon and H2O (C,H,O) (building blocks :sugars)
- Lipids made of C and H mostly and some O (building blocks: fatty acids)
- Proteins made of C, H, N, O, (S) (Amino acids)
- Nucleic acids made C, H, O, N, P (Sugar in nitrogenous bases)









Which of the four biological moles is it?



#### Metabolism

Is the web of all biological pathways and reactions in living things.



- enzyme driven reactions eg. digestion (extracellular)
  cellular respiration (intercellular)
- multi-stepped processes ie hundreds to thousands of reactions.

#### Anabolism

The synthesis of complex molecules from simpler molecules



eg. Building protein (ribsomes)

Photosynthesis in chloroplasts ( $CO_2 + H_2O -> C_6H_{12}O_6$ ) DNA replication (making copies during mitosis) Build of complex carbohydrates from simple sugars

# Catabolism

The breakdown of complex molecules into simpler molecules



eg. Digestion of food in the mouth, stomach and small intestine Cellular respiration ( $C_6H_{12}O_6 \rightarrow CO_2 + H_2O$ )