



Remember

if $[\text{ACID}] = [\text{BASE}]$ then $\text{pH} = \text{pK}_a$

Also true

if $\text{pH} = \text{pK}_a$ then $[\text{ACID}] = [\text{BASE}]$

if $\text{pH} > \text{pK}_a$ then $[\text{BASE}] > [\text{ACID}]$

if $\text{pH} < \text{pK}_a$ then $[\text{ACID}] > [\text{BASE}]$

Structure of Proteins

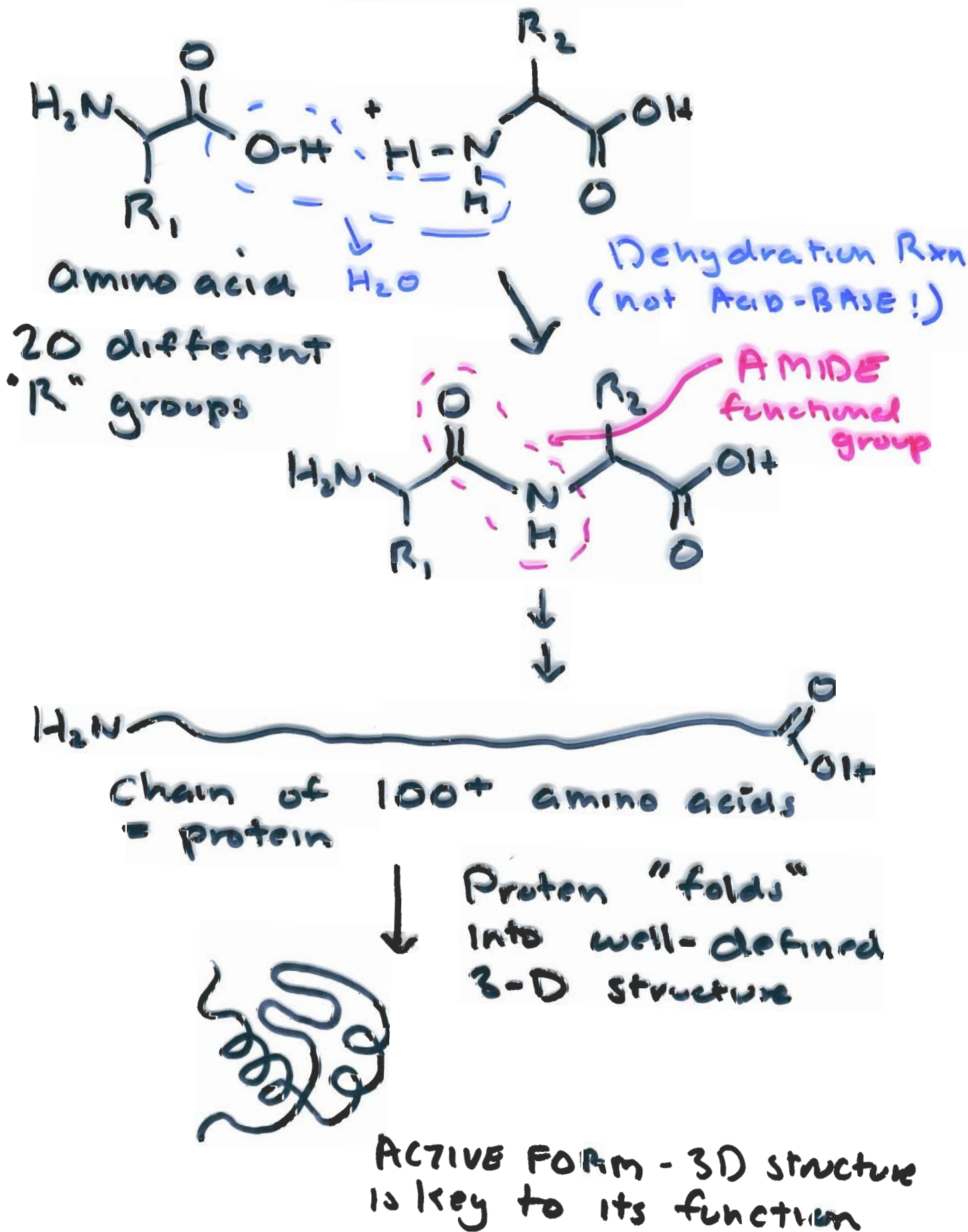


Table 2-1
pK values of ionizable groups in proteins

Form that predominates @ pH 7.4

Group	Acid \rightleftharpoons base + H^+	Typical pK _a
Terminal carboxyl	$-COOH \rightleftharpoons -COO^- + H^+$	3.1
Aspartic and glutamic acid	$-COOH \rightleftharpoons -COO^- + H^+$	4.4
Histidine	$-CH_2-\text{Imidazole}^+ \rightleftharpoons -CH_2-\text{Imidazole} + H^+$	6.5
Terminal amino	$-NH_3^+ \rightleftharpoons -NH_2 + H^+$	8.0
Cysteine	$-SH \rightleftharpoons -S^- + H^+$	8.5
Tyrosine	$\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{-OH} \rightleftharpoons \text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{-O}^- + H^+$	10.0
Lysine	$-NH_3^+ \rightleftharpoons -NH_2 + H^+$	10.0
Arginine	$\text{N}^+(\text{H}_2)\text{C}(\text{NH}_2)\text{NH}_2 \rightleftharpoons \text{N}(\text{H})\text{C}(\text{NH})\text{NH}_2 + H^+$	12.0

*pK values depend on temperature, ionic strength, and the microenvironment of the ionizable group.

Biological pH \sim 7.4

pH 7.4 is on the "basic" side of the pK_a so basic form of conj. acid/base pair predominates in soln.