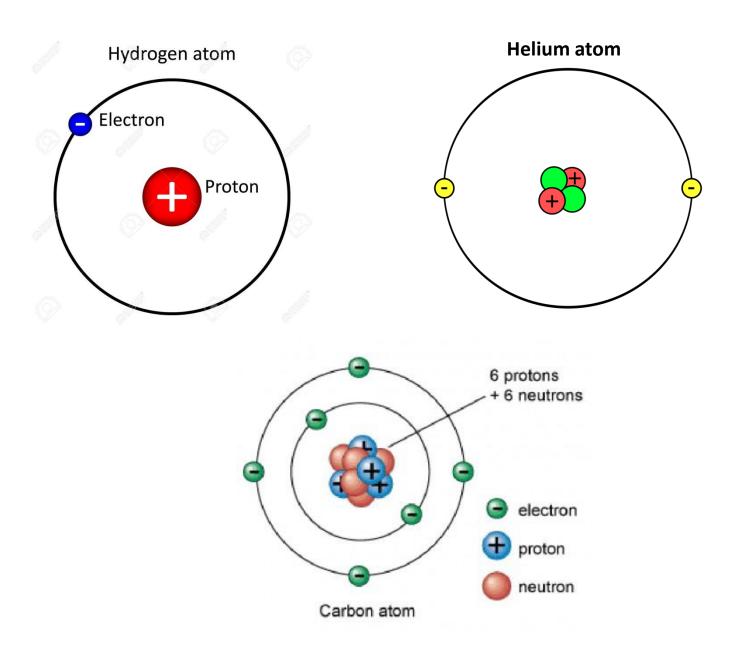
Molecules of life

Atoms

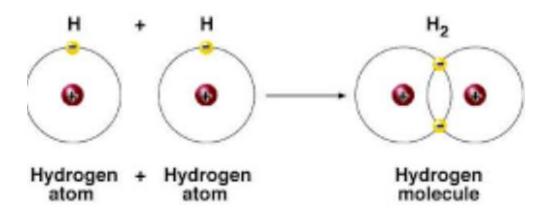
- Physical matter consists of atoms that can associate with each other and form molecules
- Every atom is composed of a nucleus and one or more electrons bound to the nucleus. Nucleus has positive electrostatic charge, electrons have negative electrostatic charge.
- Interactions between nucleus and electrons are governed by laws of quantum mechanics



Covalent bonds

 Sometimes when atoms come close together they can share electrons with each other. This creates a connection between atoms called a covalent bond.

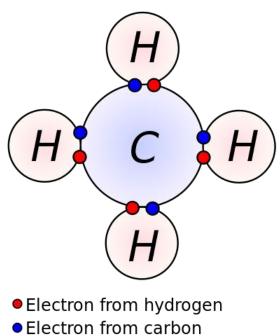
Covalent Bond



Molecules

 A group of two or more atoms connected by covalent bonds constitute a molecule.

Example: a molecule of methane



Non-covalent bonds

 A <u>non-covalent bond</u> is an interaction between atoms that does not involve the sharing of electron pairs. Non-covalent interactions can occur within a single molecule or between different molecules. Many interactions of biological molecules have non-covalent character.

Water

- Water is of major importance to all living things; in some organisms, up to 90% of their body weight comes from water.
- Water is an active matrix of life for cell and molecular biology
- Up to 60% of the human adult body is water.

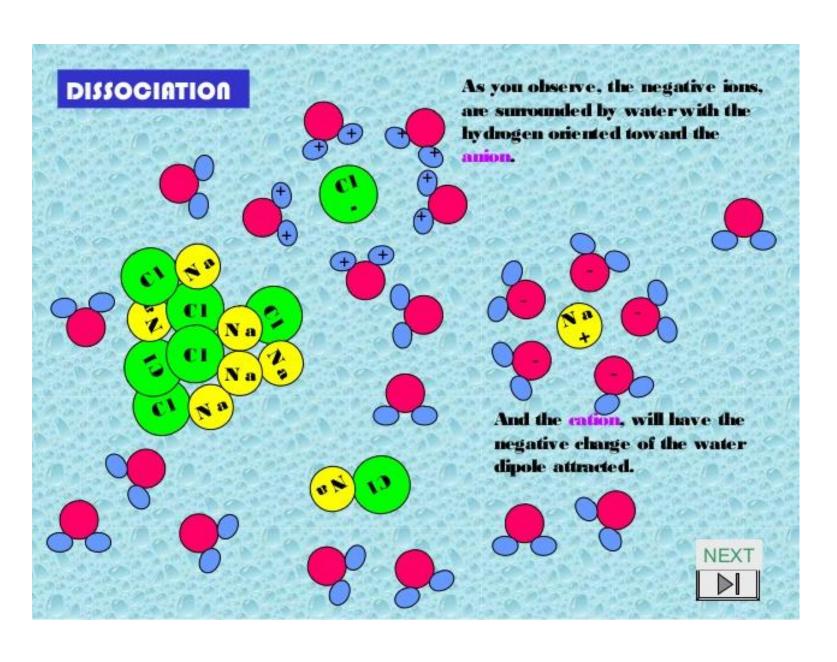
Water molecule

electrons are pulled towards the oxygen, creating a slighly negatively charged region. This overal unequal charge is represented by the Greek delta, for dipole

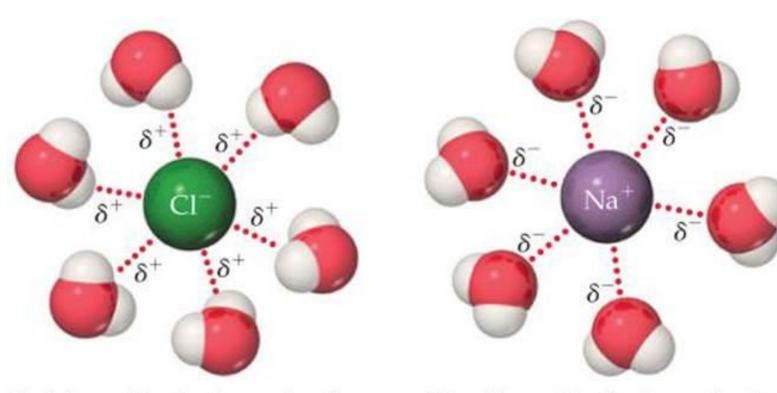
electrons are pulled away from the hydrogen towards the oxygen, creating a slighly positively charged region

Electrolytic Dissociation

- Many substances will undergo an event called dissociation when dissolved in water.
- In electrolytic, or ionic, dissociation, the addition of a water causes molecules or crystals of the substance to break up into *ions* (electrically charged particles).
- The salt can be recovered by evaporation of the solvent.
- Positively charged ions are called cations, negatively charged – anions.



Ions in water

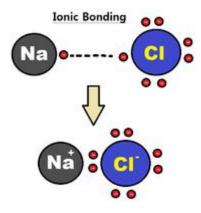


Positive ends of polar molecules are oriented toward negatively charged anion

Negative ends of polar molecules are oriented toward positively charged cation

Non-covalent bonds

<u>lonic bonding</u> - the electrostatic attraction between oppositely charged ions.

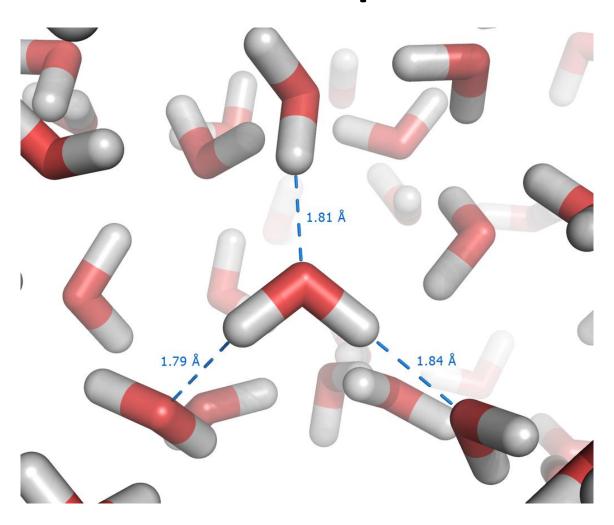


Non-covalent bonds

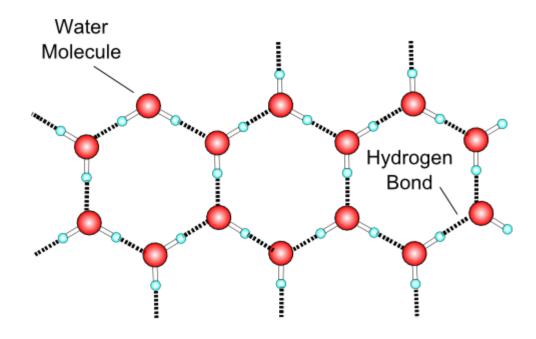
<u>Hydrogen bond</u> - electrostatic attraction between two polar groups. It involves hydrogen (H) atom covalently bound to a highly electronegative atom such as nitrogen (N), oxygen (O), or fluorine (F).

$$H^{\delta+}$$
 O
 O
 δ
 δ
 δ
 δ
 δ
 δ
 δ

Dynamic hydrogen bonds between molecules of liquid water



Ice



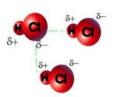
When temperature of water is decreased more water molecules stick together with hydrogen bonds. At 0°C they form a regular pattern, as shown here.

Intermolecular Forces

- <u>Intramolecular force</u> forces that act within a molecule (ie.
 Ionic, covalent and metallic bonding).
- <u>Intermolecular force</u> forces that act between stable molecules.
 Differences in physical properties are the direct result of intermolecular forces.

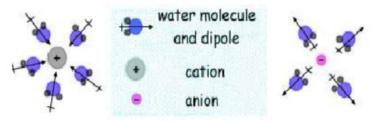
Types of Intermolecular forces

- 1. Dipole-Dipole Force
 - Attractions between opposite charges in polar molecules



2. Ion-Dipole Force

- Force of attraction between an ion and a polar molecule
- Ie. NaCl dissolves in water because of these forces



3. Hydrogen Bonding

- A strong type of dipole-dipole attraction that occurs in one of these types of bonds:
 - H-O
 - H-N
 - H-F

