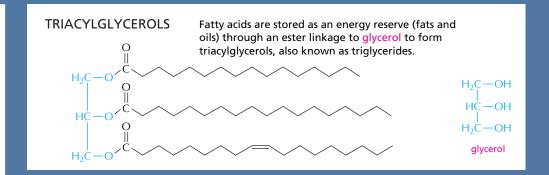
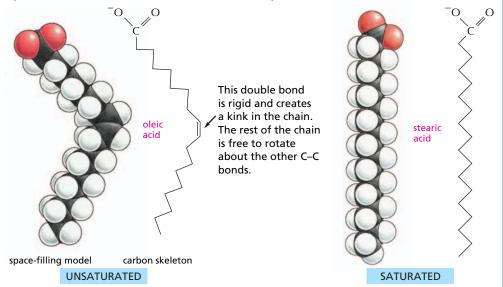
COMMON FATTY ACIDS

These are carboxylic acids with long hydrocarbon tails.



Hundreds of different kinds of fatty acids exist. Some have one or more double bonds in their hydrocarbon tail and are said to be unsaturated. Fatty acids with no double bonds are saturated.

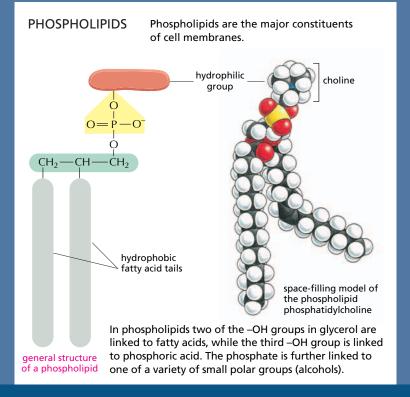


CARBOXYL GROUP

If free, the carboxyl group of a fatty acid will be ionized.

But more usually it is linked to other groups to form either esters

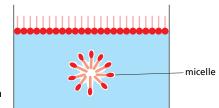
or amides.



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LIPID AGGREGATES

Fatty acids have a hydrophilic head and a hydrophobic tail.

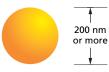


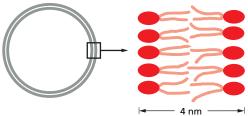
In water they can form a surface film or form small micelles.

Their derivatives can form larger aggregates held together by hydrophobic forces:

Triglycerides can form large spherical fat droplets in the cell cytoplasm.

form large spherical Phospholipids and glycolipids form self-sealing lipid bilayers that are the basis for all cell membranes.





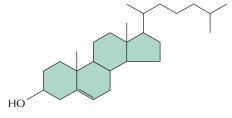
OTHER LIPIDS

Lipids are defined as the water-insoluble molecules in cells that are soluble in organic solvents. Two other common types of lipids are steroids and polyisoprenoids. Both are made from isoprene units.

$$CH_3$$
 $C-CH=CH_2$
 CH_2 isoprene

STEROIDS

Steroids have a common multiple-ring structure.

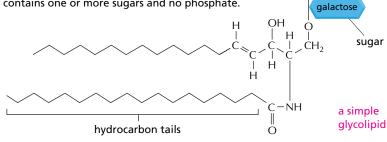


cholesterol—found in many membranes

testosterone—male steroid hormone

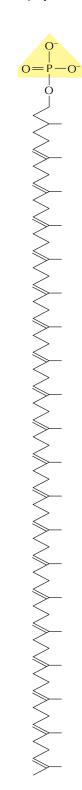
GLYCOLIPIDS

Like phospholipids, these compounds are composed of a hydrophobic region, containing two long hydrocarbon tails, and a polar region, which, however, contains one or more sugars and no phosphate.



POLYISOPRENOIDS

long-chain polymers of isoprene



dolichol phosphate—used to carry activated sugars in the membrane-associated synthesis of glycoproteins and some polysaccharides