

### What Are Fats?

- Fats are one type of lipid
- Lipids are a diverse class of organic substances that are insoluble in water
  - Lipids (fats) do not dissolve in water

#### • Note:

- Fats solid at room temperature
- Oils liquid at room temperature

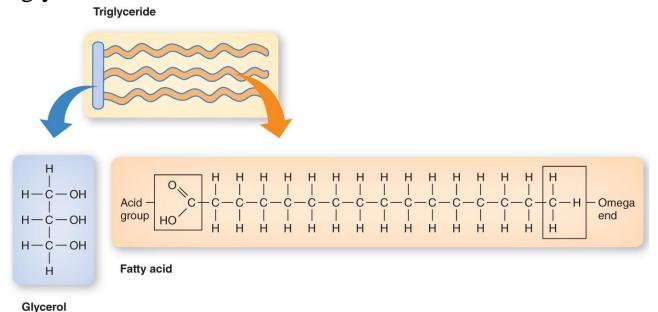






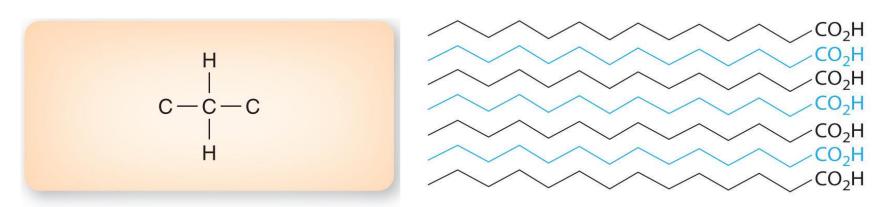
## Triglycerides

- **Triglycerides** are composed of three fatty acid molecules and one glycerol molecule
  - Fatty acids are long chains of carbon atoms surrounded by hydrogen atoms
  - A **Glycerol** molecule is a three-carbon alcohol that is the backbone of a triglyceride



## Saturated Fatty Acids

- Saturated fatty acids have hydrogen atoms surrounding every carbon in the chain; they have no double bonds
  - Saturated fatty acids can pack tightly together and are solid at room temperature
  - Coconut oil, palm oil, butter, lard cream, whole milk, animal fats are high in saturated fat



(a) Saturated fatty acid

## Saturated vs Unsaturated Fats

Saturated

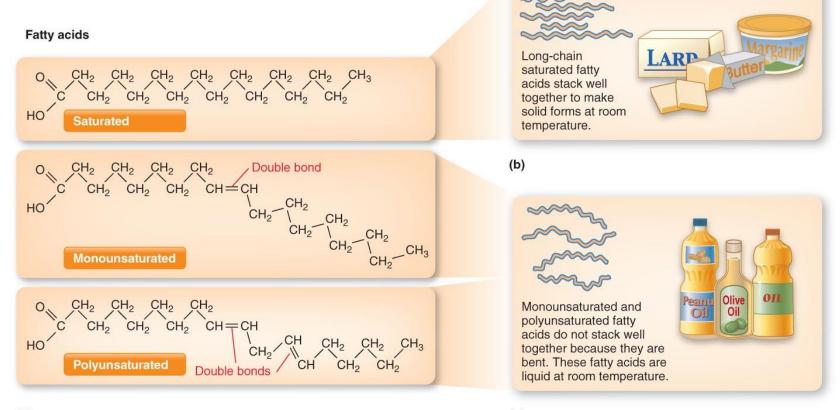
Unsaturated

## Unsaturated Fatty Acids

- Monounsaturated fatty acids lack hydrogen atoms in one region; they have one double bond
  - Olive oil, canola oil, cashew nuts are high in monounsaturated foods
- Polyunsaturated fatty acids lack hydrogen atoms in multiple locations; they have two or more double bonds
  - Cotton seed, canola, corn, safflower are high in polyunsaturated fat
- Unsaturated fatty acids do not stack together well and are liquid at room temperature
  - Predominantly found in plants (except in coconut and palm kernel oil)

# Saturated & Unsaturated Fatty Acids

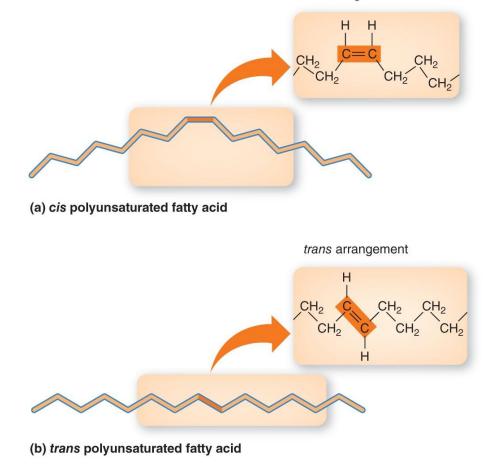
• The shape of a triglyceride is determined by the saturation of the carbon chains



(a)

# Cis & Trans Polyunsaturated Fatty Acids

- The hydrogen atoms at the unsaturated region can be arranged in different positions:
  - **Cis**: same side of the carbon chain
  - **Trans**: opposite sides of the carbon chain



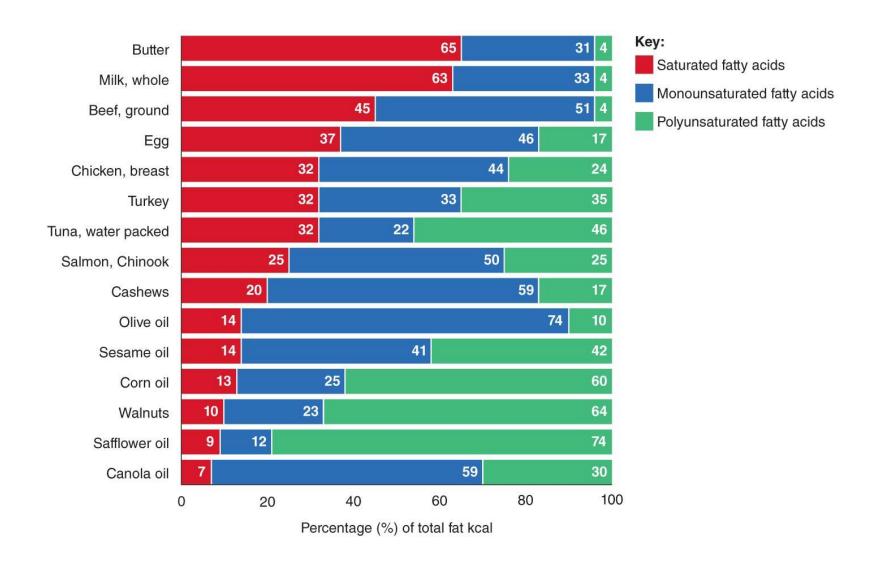
cis arrangement

## Cis & Trans Fatty Acids

#### cis-fatty acid

#### trans-fatty acid

# Major Sources of Dietary Fat

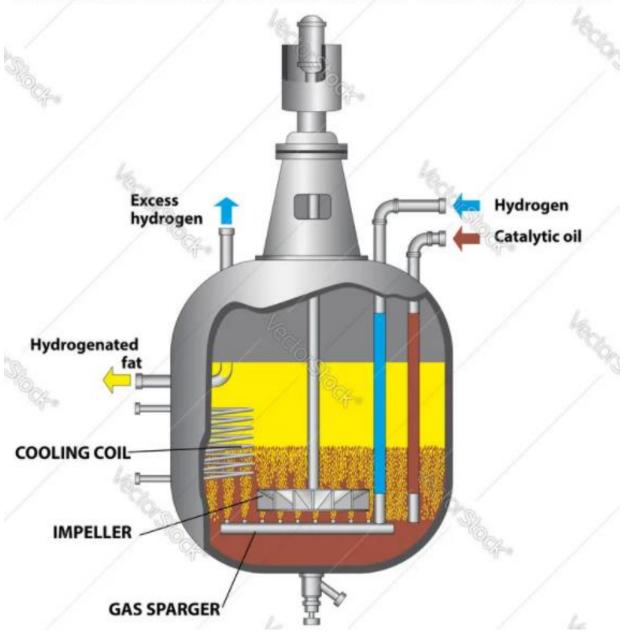


## Hydrogenation

- **Hydrogenation** is the artificial and forced addition of hydrogen atoms to unsaturated fatty acids
  - Converts liquid fats (oils) into a semisolid (spreadable) or solid form
  - Used to create margarine from plant oil
  - Often creates trans fatty acids
  - Listed on food labels as partially hydrogenated oil



#### **HYDROGENATION PROCESS OF FATS AND OILS**



### Trans Fats

• The majority of trans fats get into our foods during food processing (ex. frying).

### Why are trans fats so harmful?

The enzymes in our bodies cannot effectively break down these fats.

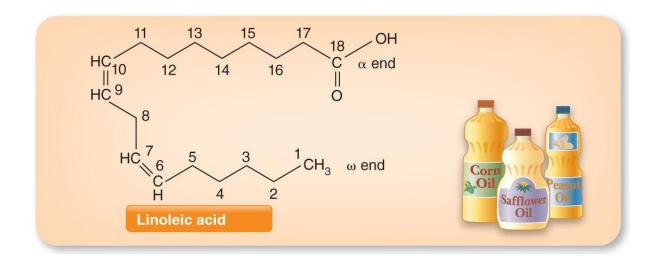






## **Essential Fatty Acids**

- Essential fatty acids cannot be synthesized in the body and must be obtained in the diet.
  - Omega-6 is a fatty acid that has its double bond six carbons from the end. Important for skin, hair, bone health.
    - Found in vegetable and nut oils, such as sunflower oil, safflower oil, corn, soy, and peanut oil
    - Daily intake: 14 17g (men); 11 12g (women)



## **Essential Fatty Acids**

- Omega-3 is a fatty acid that has its double bond three carbons from the end. These are important for overall health, particularly brain and heart health.
  - Found in various fish (especially salmon, sardines, cod liver oil), flax, hemp and chia seeds, walnuts, soybeans, eggs, avocado, almonds, cashews, beans, and dark-green leafy vegetables.
  - Daily intake: 1.6 g (men); 1.1 g (women)
  - Note: it is important to consume more Omega-3 than Omega-6

## Sterols

- Sterols are lipids containing multiple rings of carbon atoms
  - Essential components of cell membranes and many hormones
  - Manufactured in our bodies and therefore not an essential component of our diet
  - Cholesterol is the major sterol found in the body

$$H_3$$
C  $CH_3$   $CH_3$ 

## Dietary Cholesterol

#### Is it good or bad for us?

• Both.

HDL - higher levels are generally healthy. LDL – lower levels are generally desired (can accumulate in coronary arteries).

#### Where is it found?

• Found in animal products such as butter, egg yolks, whole milk, red meats, and poultry.

#### Do we need to consume it?

• We do not need to consume cholesterol, as our bodies will synthesize it.

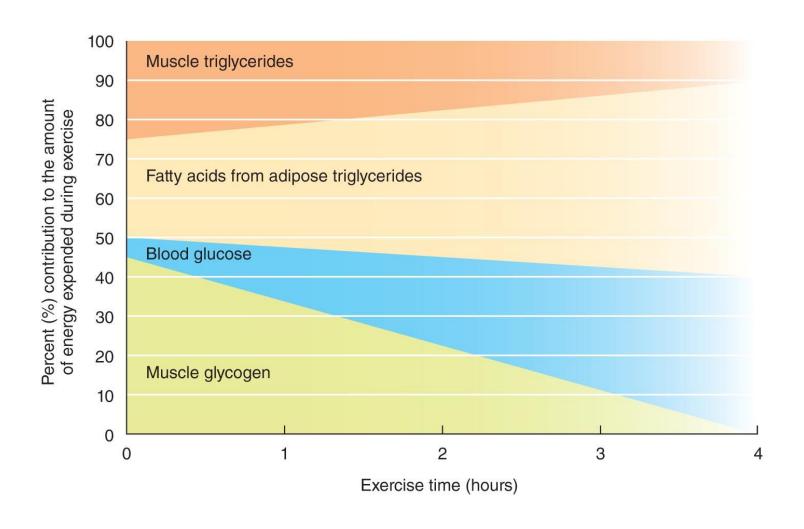
#### Why do we need it?

• Sex hormones, production of bile, adrenal hormones, and production of vitamin D, cell membrane production and maintenance

## **Energy From Fats**

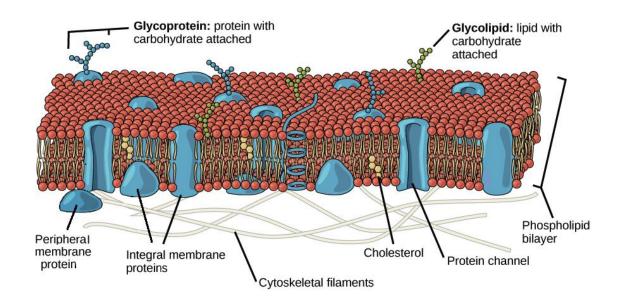
- One gram of fat contains 9 calories = 9 kcal/g
- Energy from fats are used for
  - Fueling daily activity and metabolic function at rest
  - Exercise especially after glycogen is depleted
- Fat is also used for energy storage

# **Energy From Fats**



## Why Do We Need Fats?

- Fat is essential to many body functions
  - Cell membrane structure
  - Nerve cell transmissions
  - Protection of internal organs
  - Insulation to retain body heat



## How Much Fat Should We Eat?

• The Acceptable Macronutrient Distribution Range (AMDR) indicates that fats should make up 20%–35% of daily calorie intake

• Athletes and highly active people may need more energy from carbohydrates and can reduce their fat intake to 20–25% of total calories







## Recognize the Fat in Foods

- Visible fats are those we can see in foods or can easily see have been added to foods, such as dressing or chicken skin
- Hidden fats are those added to processed or prepared foods to improve texture or taste, which we may not be aware of, or that occur naturally
- Read the Nutrition Facts Panel on foods carefully
  - Fat-free: less than 0.5 g fat
  - Low-fat: 3 g or less fat
  - Reduced fat: 25% less fat than standard product
  - Light: 1/3 less calories or 50% less fat than standard product
- Lower-fat versions of foods may not always be lower in Calories

# Comparison of Foods

**TABLE 5.2** Comparison of Full-Fat, Reduced-Fat, and Low-Fat Foods

Product and Serving Size	Version	Energy (kcal)	Protein (g)	Carbohydrate (g)	Fat (g)
Milk, 8 oz	Whole, 3.3% fat	150	8.0	11.4	8.2
	2% fat	121	8.1	11.7	4.7
	Skim (nonfat)	86	8.4	11.9	0.5
Mayonnaise, 1 tbsp.	Regular	100	0.0	0.0	11.0
	Light	50	0.0	1.0	5.0
Margarine, corn oil, 1 tbsp.	Regular	100	0.0	0.0	11.0
	Reduced-fat	60	0.0	0.0	7.0
Peanut butter, 1 tbsp.	Regular	95	4.1	3.1	8.2
	Reduced-fat	81	4.4	5.2	5.4
Wheat Thins, 18 crackers	Regular	158	2.3	21.4	6.8
	Reduced- fat	120	2.0	21.0	4.0
Cookies, Oreo, 3 cookies	Regular	160	2.0	23.0	7.0
	Reduced- fat	130	2.0	25.0	3.5
Cookies, Fig Newton, 3 cookies	Regular	210	3.0	30.0	4.5
	Fat-free	204	2.4	26.8	0.0

Data from: Food Processor-SQL, Version 9.9, ESHA Research, Salem, OR.

### Limit Saturated and Trans Fats

- Reduce your intake of saturated fats (7-10% of total calories)
- Foods that are high in saturated fats:
  - Animal products: beef pork, and lamb
  - Grain products: Pastries, cookies, muffins, tortilla chips, popcorn, and crackers
  - Vegetable products: Fried veggies, breaded veggies, or vegetables drenched in sauces
- Note: Avoid trans fatty acids entirely!

## Role of Fats in Chronic Disease

Chronic diseases most closely associated with diets high in saturated fat are cardiovascular disease and hypertension (high blood pressure).

**Note**: Saturated fats are made by animals. We are animals. We make saturated fats out of **ANY** excess calories we consume. This includes carbs. We tend to burn a higher percentage of saturated fats we **CONSUME** as compared to storing a higher percentage of saturated fats we **MAKE**.

For many the problem is the bread and not the butter on the bread.

Modifiable risk factors for cardiovascular disease include:

- Being overweight
- Physical inactivity
- Smoking
- Type 2 diabetes
- Inflammation in the body
- Abnormal blood lipids

## Cardiovascular Disease

