

Carbohydrates



General characteristics

➤ The term came from the hydrate (H₂O) of carbon (C)

➤ It has the general formula (CH₂O)_n

➤ The most abundant compounds found in nature

➤ *primary (fed state)*

➤ Used as source of energy and energy storage

➤ Can be converted into fats and proteins

lipogenesis

pyruvate → Alanine

➤ Important in the formation of genes, vitamins and drugs

➤ Participate in biological transport

Intravenous infusion of fructose elevate the rate of lipogenesis caused by the enhanced production of acetyl CoA.

*Acetyl CoA ↑
lipogenesis =*

Classification of carbohydrates

Monosaccharides:

Trioses, tetroses, pentoses and hexoses
Examples: glucose, galactose, mannose, fructose

*Aldose
OH to right*

C₂ epimer of glucose

Disaccharides: 2 monosaccharides covalently linked (e.g. Sucrose, maltose, lactose)

*glucose - fructose
 α (1-2)*

*α (1-4)
glucose* *β (1-4)
glucose-galactose*

Oligosaccharides:

(3-10)

Tri, tetra, penta up to 9 or 10 units covalently linked

3 4 5

Polysaccharides or glycans

Simple polysaccharides (starch, glycogen, amylopectin)

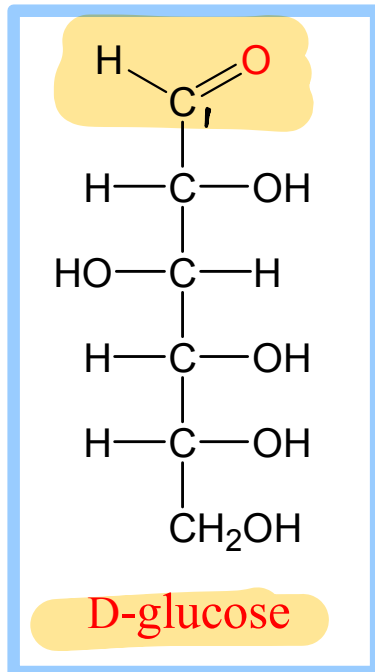
*noncrystal
form of
starch*

Complex carbohydrates (nucleic acid, glycoproteins, glycolipids, ...etc)

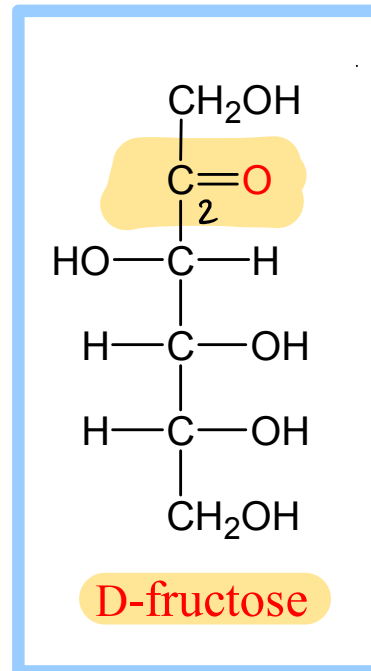
Monosaccharides

➤ Either **aldose** or **ketose**

Aldose C₁



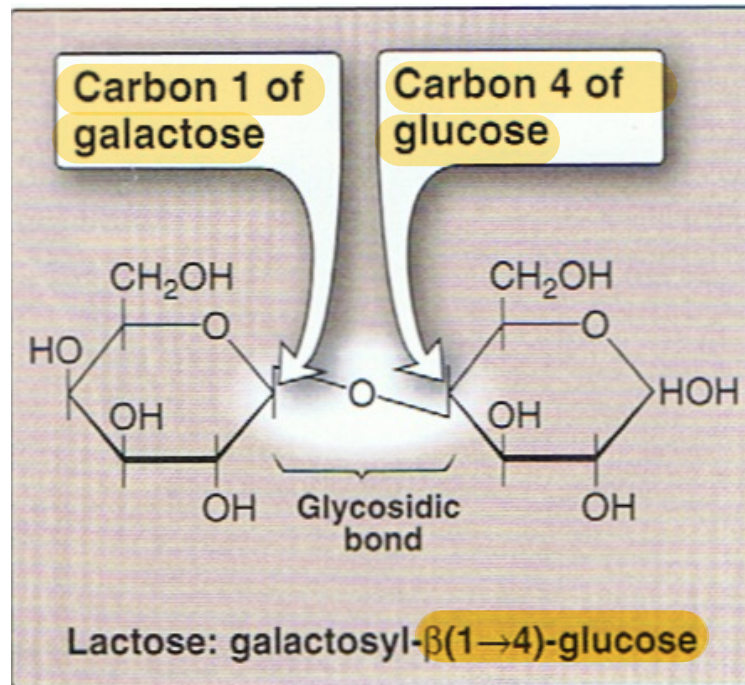
Ketose C₂



Glycosidic bond

For di- $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{maltose} \\ \text{sucrose} \\ \text{lactase} \end{array} \right.$

- For di- and polysaccharides
- Can form O- or N-glycosidic bond



maltose α

Disaccharides

α

➤ **Maltose**: is a disaccharide with an $\alpha(1 \rightarrow 4)$ glycosidic link between C1 - C4 OH of 2 glucoses.



➤ **Cellobiose**: is the otherwise equivalent **β** anomer (O on C1 points up) linked by $\beta(1 \rightarrow 4)$ glycosidic linkage

➤ **Sucrose**, common table sugar, has a glycosidic bond linking the anomeric hydroxyls of glucose & fructose. the linkage is $\alpha(1 \rightarrow 2)$

non reducing sugar

➤ **Lactose**, milk sugar, is composed of galactose & glucose, with $\beta(1 \rightarrow 4)$ linkage from the anomeric OH of galactose.

maltose $\alpha(1-4)$
sucrose $\alpha(1-2)$

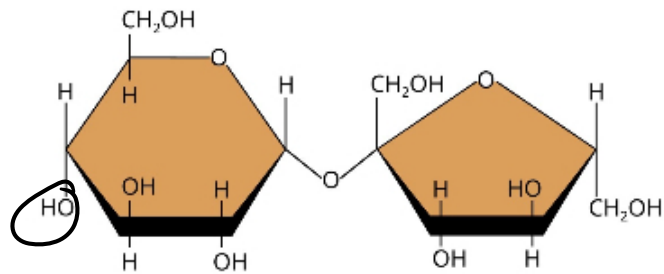
cellobiose $\beta(1,4)$
lactose $\beta(1,4)$

Disaccharide		Monosaccharide Components	Linkage Type	Common Source
<u>Maltose</u>	α	Glucose + Glucose C_1 C_4	$\alpha(1 \rightarrow 4)$ OH down	Malt sugar / <u>Starch breakdown</u>
<u>Cellobiose</u>	β	Glucose + Glucose C_1 C_4	$\beta(1 \rightarrow 4)$ OH up	<u>Cellulose breakdown</u>
<u>Sucrose</u>		Glucose + Fructose C_1 C_2	$\alpha(1 \rightarrow 2)$	Table sugar / Sugar cane
<u>Lactose</u>		Galactose + Glucose C_1 C_4	$\beta(1 \rightarrow 4)$	Milk sugar

DISACCHARIDES

$\alpha(1-2)$

Sucrose

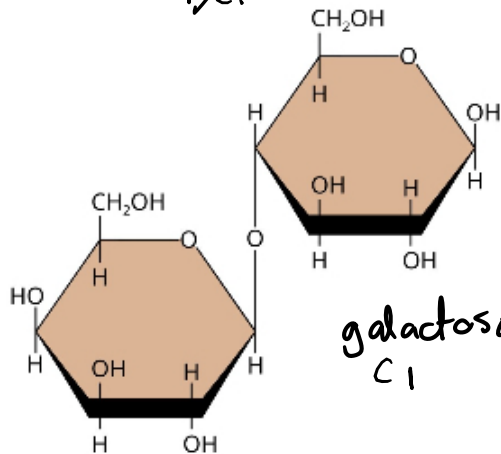


α glucose

fructose

Lactose

$\beta(1-4)$

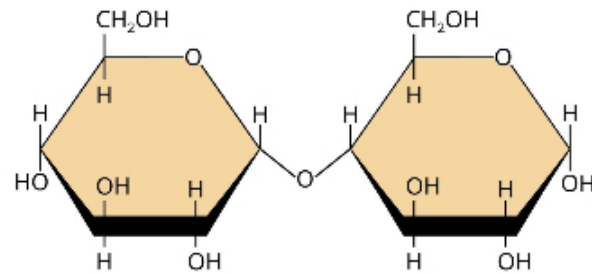


galactose
C1

β glucose C4

$\alpha(1-4)$

Maltose



α glucose

α glucose

glycogen in liver

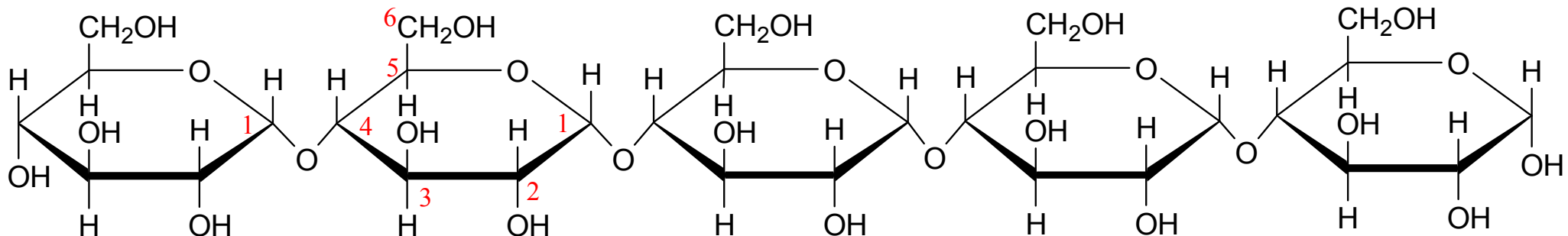
amylose in plants

Polysaccharides

non crystal
form of
starch

- **Plants** store glucose as **amylose** or **amylopectin**, glucose polymers collectively called **starch**.
- Glucose storage in **polymeric** form **minimizes osmotic effects**.
- **Amylose** is a glucose polymer with **$\alpha(1\rightarrow4)$** linkages.
- The end of the polysaccharide with an anomeric C1 not involved in a glycosidic bond is called the **reducing end**.

Amylose α



amylose

Key Biological Concepts

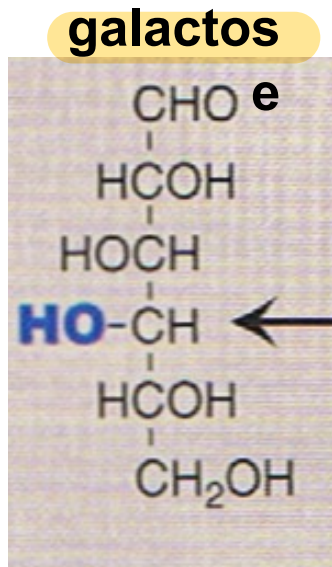
- **Osmotic Efficiency:** By storing glucose as a single large polymer (polysaccharide) rather than thousands of individual glucose molecules, the plant **minimizes osmotic pressure**. If stored as free glucose, the high concentration would cause the cell to take in too much water via osmosis, potentially leading to cell rupture.

★ **The Reducing End:** Every polysaccharide chain has a specific polarity. The **reducing end** is the terminal sugar that possesses a free anomeric carbon (C1) not currently tied up in a glycosidic bond. This end is chemically reactive and capable of acting as a **reducing agent**.

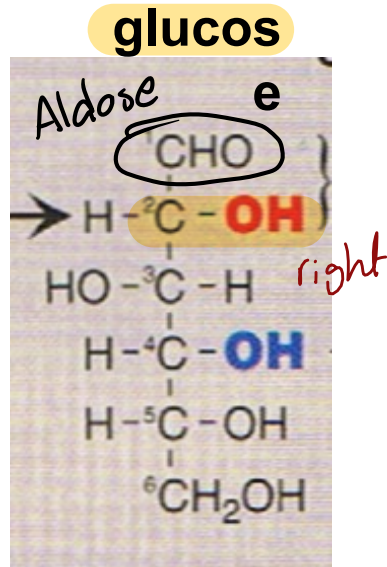
- **The Non-Reducing End:** Conversely, the other ends of the polymer (where C4 is free) are "non-reducing." Enzymes that break down starch for energy typically start working from these non-reducing ends.

Sugar isomers

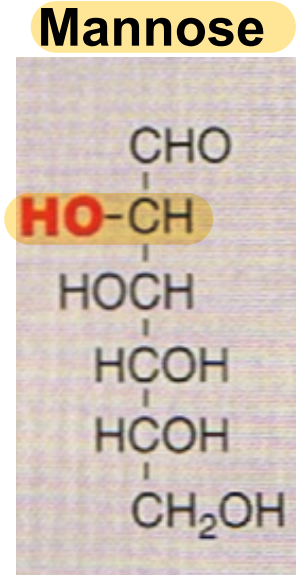
- Compounds with the same chemical formula are called isomers.
- **Epimers** If two monosaccharide isomers differ in configuration around one specific carbon atom (with the exception of the carbonyl carbon), they are defined as epimers of each other.
- If a pair of sugars are mirror images of each other (enantiomers), the two members of the pair are designated as D- and L-sugars.



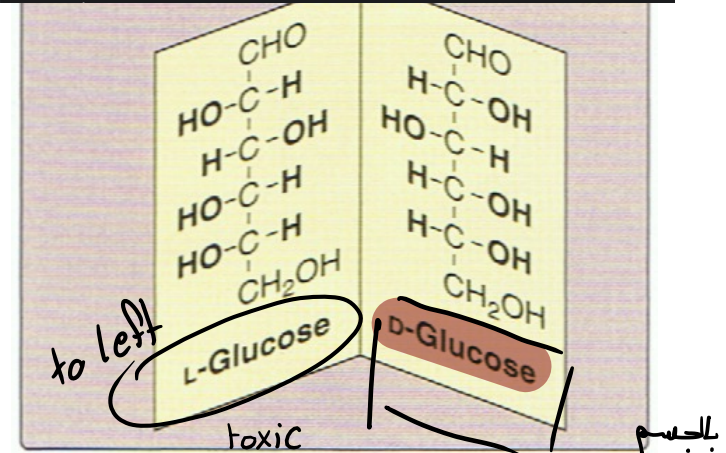
epimer



epimer



• Enantiomers (D- vs. L-Sugars):
 These are mirror images of each other. In biological systems, most naturally occurring sugars are **D-isomers** (the hydroxyl group on the asymmetric carbon farthest from the carbonyl group points to the right).



Relationship

Carbon of Difference

Resulting Sugar

OH to right

Glucose + Epimer at C2

C2

Mannose

Glucose + Epimer at C4

C4

Galactose

No two letters

OH to left

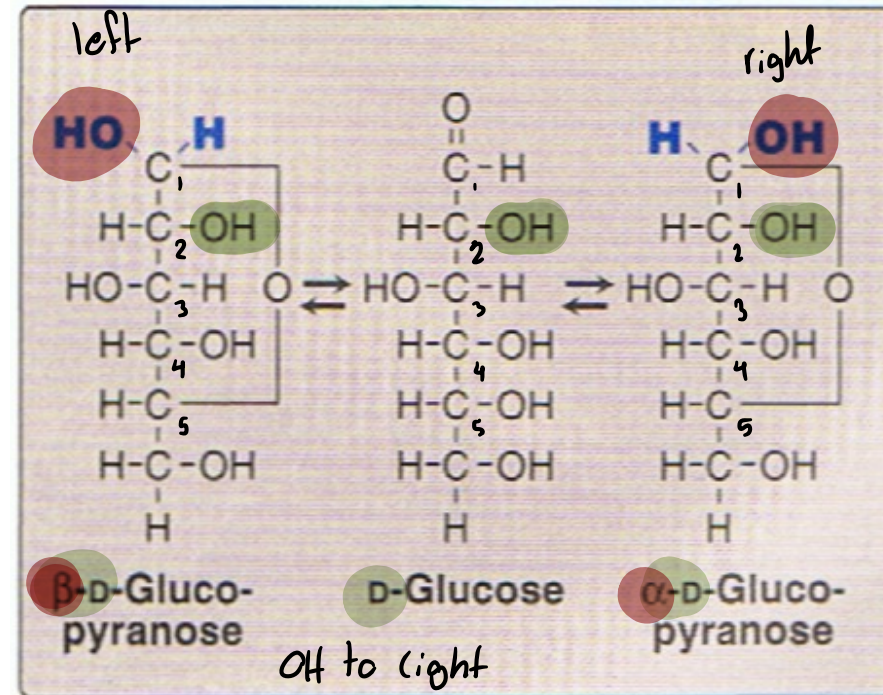
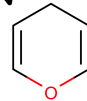
β is better bc its above the ring

α and β sugars

➤ When a sugar cyclizes, an **anomeric carbon** is created from the aldehyde group of an aldose or keto group of a ketose

• **Aldoses (like Glucose):** The C1 aldehyde reacts with the C5 hydroxyl (OH) group to form a **hemiacetal**.

➤ **Glucose** forms an intra-molecular hemiacetal, as the **C1 aldehyde** & **C5 OH react**, to form a 6-member **pyranose ring**, named after pyran

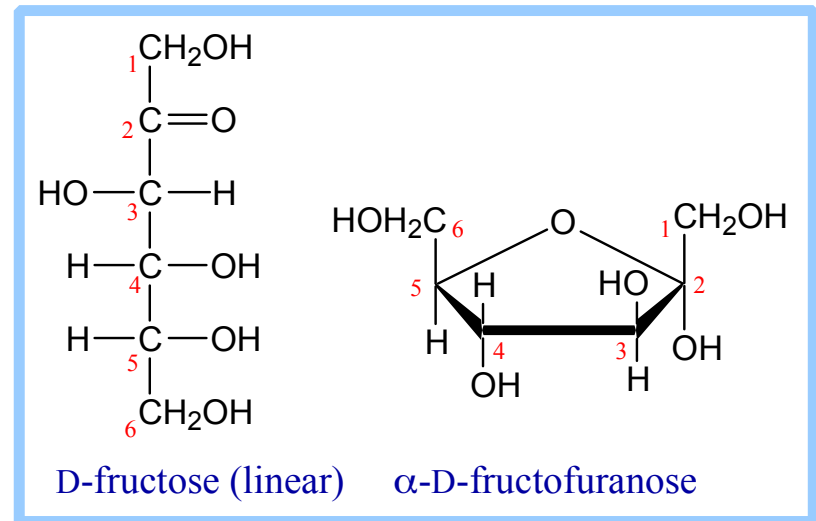


➤ This carbon can have two configuration, α or β . If the oxygen on the anomeric carbon is not attached to any other structure, that sugar is a reducing sugar

C₁ ↙

➤ a (OH **below** the ring)

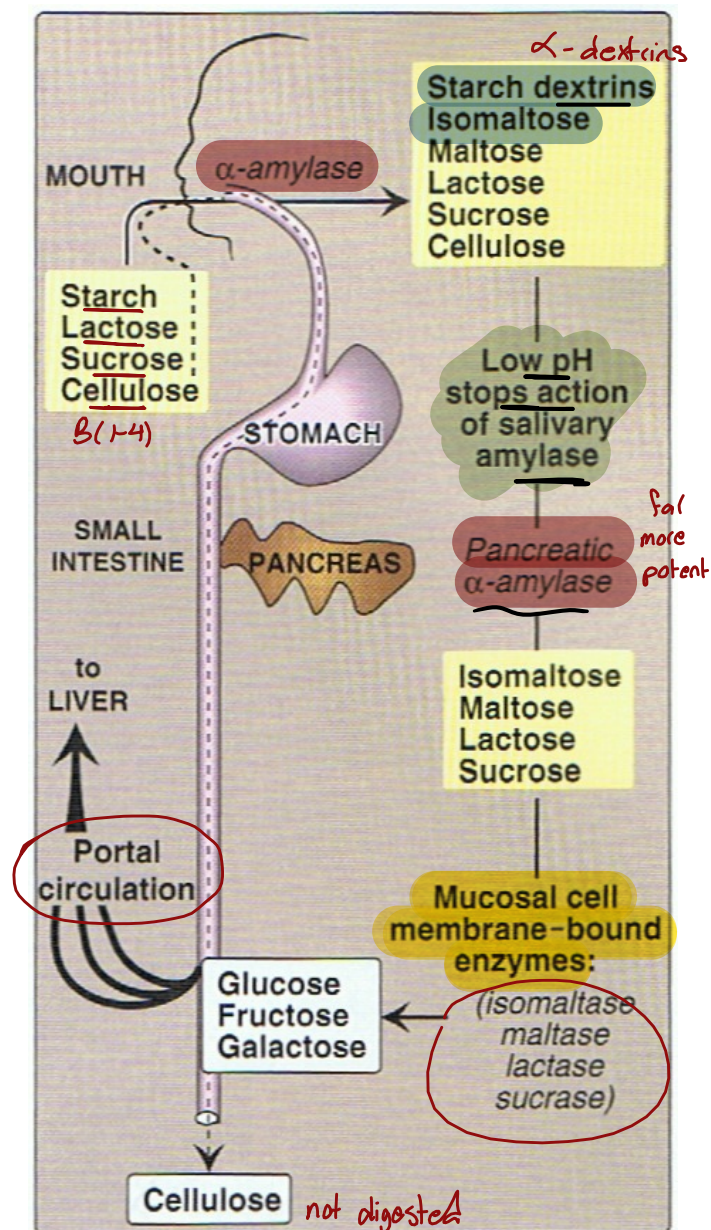
➤ b (OH **above** the ring).





Digestion of carbohydrates

- Digestion of carbohydrates begins in the mouth by **salivary α -amylase** enzyme which breaks α -1,4 glycosidic bond
- The digestion stops in the stomach because the amylase is inactivated by the high acidity
- further digestion of carbohydrates by **pancreatic enzymes** occurs in the small intestine by pancreatic amylase *more potent*



Absorption of monosaccharides

➤ The duodenum and upper jejunum absorb the bulk of the sugars.

➤ Insulin is not required for the uptake of glucose by intestinal cells.

➤ galactose and glucose are transported to the mucosal cells by an active, energy-requiring process that involves a specific transport protein and requires a concurrent uptake of sodium ions.

➤ Fructose uptake requires a sodium-independent monosaccharide transporter (GLUT-5) for its absorption

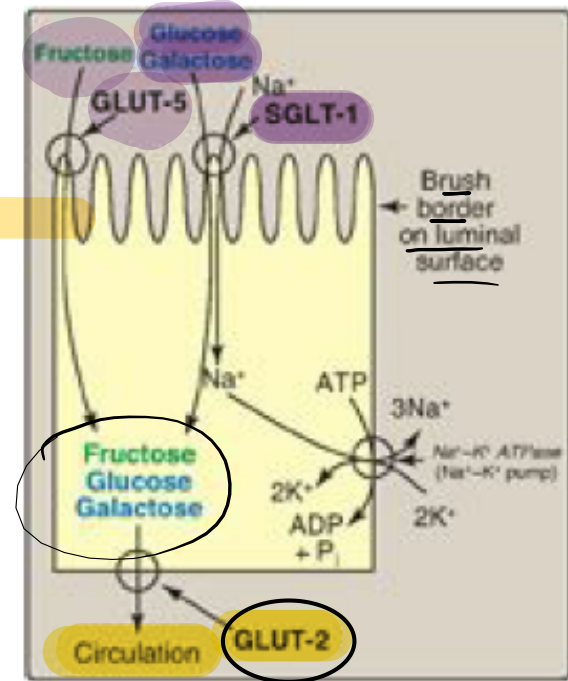
Fructose = glut 5 glucose } SGLT for absorption
galactose }

SGLT

- سائل -

Na⁺

not insulin dependent



Abnormal degradation of disaccharides

في الغالب

➤ Because predominantly monosaccharides are absorbed, any defect in a specific disaccharidase activity of the intestinal mucosa causes the passage of undigested carbohydrates into the large intestine.

they pull water

✓ ➤ As a consequence of the presence of this osmotically active material, water is drawn from the mucosa into the large intestine, causing osmotic diarrhea.

➤ This is reinforced by the bacterial fermentation of the remaining carbohydrate to two- and three-carbon compounds (which are also osmotically active) producing large volumes of CO₂ and H₂ gas, causing abdominal cramps, diarrhea, and flatulence,

- 1- abdominal cramps
- 2- diarrhea water
- 3- flatulence CO₂ / H₂ gas

انتفاخ
بطن

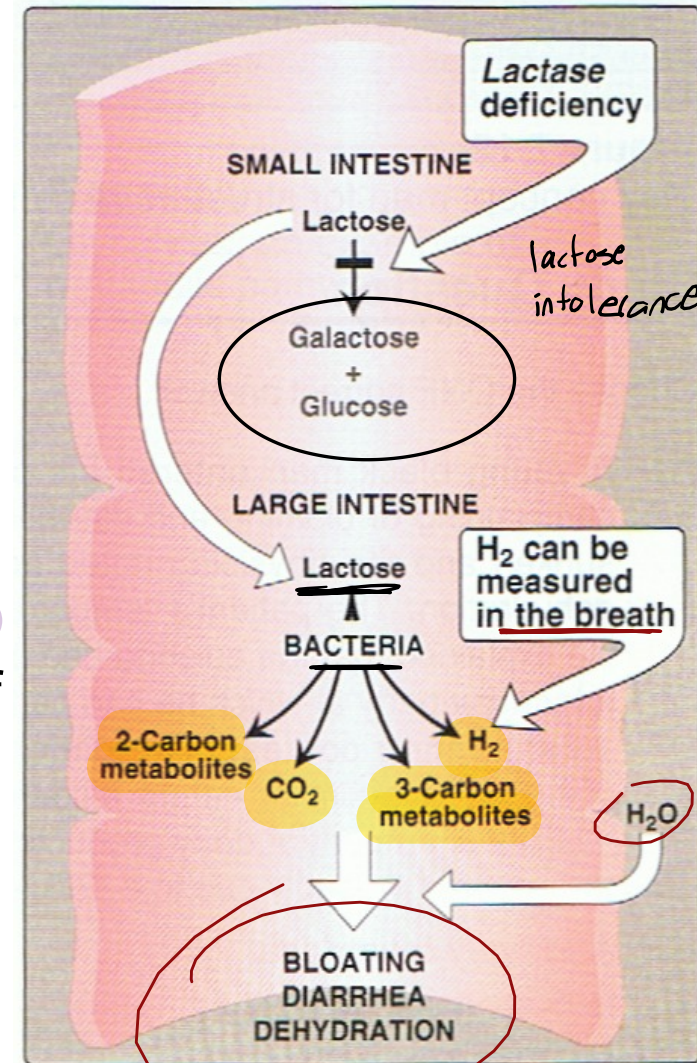
Abnormal degradation of disaccharides

➤ Digestive enzyme deficiency

➤ Lactose intolerance: lactase deficiency

➤ Isomaltase-sucrase deficiency: defect in sucrose degradation (10% of eskimos)

➤ Measurement of hydrogen gas in the breath is a reliable test for determining the amount of ingested carbohydrate not absorbed by the body



flatulence