

Ribonucleic acid (RNA)

It forms about 1% part of nucleus & is generally present in cytoplasm as well.

Like DNA molecule it consists of phosphoric acid, sugar which is ribose and bases. These bases are like those of DNA.

Nucleic acid compositions

	Nucleoside		Nucleotide	
	RNA	DNA	RNA	DNA
1. Base				
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A. <u>Purines</u>				
(i) Adenine	Adenosine	Deoxyadenosine	Adenylic acid	Deoxyribo-adenylic
(ii) Guanine	Guanosine	Deoxyguanosine	Guanylic acid	Deoxyribo-guanylic acid
B. <u>Pyrimidines</u>				
(i) Thymine	—	Deoxythymidine	—	—
(ii) Uracil	Uridine	—	Uridylic acid	Deoxyribo-thymidylic acid

(iii) Cytosine	Cytidine	Deoxycytidine	Cytidylic acid	Deoxyribo-cytidylic acid
2. Acid	Phosphoric acid		Phosphoric acid	
3. Sugar	Ribose		Deoxyribose	

Except the thymine which is absent in RNA and instead, uracil is found.

Thus, nucleic acids consists of a molecule of sugar, a base and a phosphoric acid. A single nucleic acid contains a large no. of nucleotide units consisting of high molecular weight (about 8,000,000)

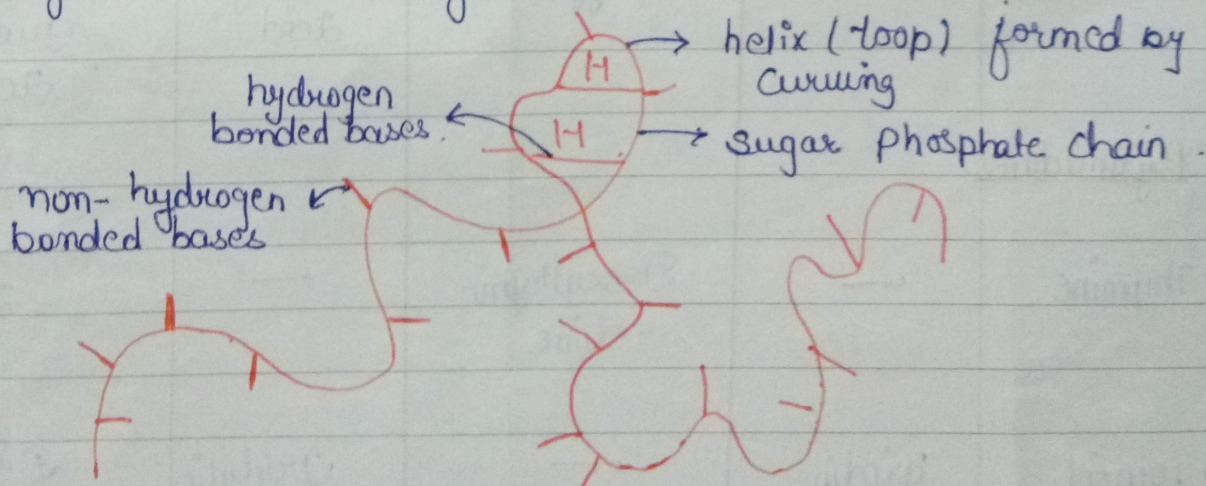


fig: Structure of RNA showing loop.