

Reading:

Biophysical Chemistry
Part III: The behavior biological macromolecules
Cantor and Schimmel
Pages 979-994 (Sections: 18-1 through 18-4)
Pages 1012-1014 (Section 18-10)

Copies of the selected pages are available in the library

Questions:

- 1) What is the definition of end-to-end distance and radius of gyration for a flexible polymer chain?

- 2) What is the mean-squared end-to-end distance of a polymer having n segments of length ℓ assuming a freely-jointed chain model?

- 3) What is the difference between the freely-jointed chain and the freely rotating chain models?

- 4) What is the characteristic ratio?

- 5) What is the persistence length?