Polymers in Biology KIAS June 29, July 1 2015

- Universal relations in folding
- Stretching Again (Force Spectroscopy)
- Confinement Effects on folding (ribosomes)
  - **Crowding Effects**

Part I : Folding as a finite-size phase transition & consequences

- Polymer size as a function of solvent quality – via Edwards Model
- Order parameters for protein folding & finite size effects
- Scaling of cooperativity in folding with N – number of amino acids

#### **Coil-Globule** Transition



#### Minimum Energy Compact Structures MECS: Camacho & dt PRL (1993)





### Monomeric (spontaneous) folding Mechanisms





#### Lattice models 3d



Exact enumeration Lattice Models Camacho & dt PNAS (2003)



Total # of conformations 296,806

FIG. 3.  $\Delta \chi$  as a function of temperature for models A-C.

### Size (R<sub>g</sub>) of Proteins: Flory Laws

### <u>Unfolded state</u>

 $R_g \approx a_D N^v$  "good solvent"  $v \approx 3/(d + 2)$ 

### Folded and Collapsed Globule

 $R_g \approx a_N N^v$  "poor solvent" v = 1/dHow good are Flory Laws for proteins?

### Protein Collapse : R<sub>q</sub> follows Flory law



Folding reaction as a phase transition: A rationale N = number of amino acids

- Order Parameter Description  $\rho = N/R_g^3$ ;  $\chi = Overlap$  with NBA (O for NBA)
- Unfolded (U), Collapsed Globules (CG); Folded (NBA)
- U: ρ(small), χLarge ("vapor")

CG:  $\rho \approx O(1)$ ,  $\chi$  Large (Dense no order "Liquid")

NBA:  $\rho \approx O(1)$ ,  $\chi$  Small (Dense order "Solid")

Finite Size Effects on Folding Order parameters matter



### Scaling of $\Omega_c$ with N (number of aa)

Two points:

1)  $T_F = \max in \Delta \chi$  (suceptibility)

 $\Delta \chi = T(d < \chi > / dh; h = ordering field (analogy to mag system)$  $\Delta \chi$  is dimensionless  $\Rightarrow h \sim T$  (in proteins or [C])

2) Efficient folding  $T_F \approx T_{\theta}$  (collapse Temp; Camacho & dt PNAS (1993))  $\Rightarrow \Omega_C$  controlled by protein DSE at  $T \approx T_F \approx T_{\theta}$ 

 $R_g \sim (\Delta T/T_F)^{-v} \sim N^v$  (DSE a SAW & manget analogy)

 $\Delta T/T_F \sim 1/N$  (Result I)

### Finite-size effects on $T_F$



Scaling of  $\Omega_c$  with N Magnet-Polymer analogy

$$\begin{split} \Omega_{c} &= (T_{F} / \Delta T) \left[ T_{F} (d < \chi > / dT) \right] \\ & \checkmark \\ \text{"disp in } T_{F} \text{"} X \text{"suspectibility"} \quad \begin{array}{c} T \approx T_{F} \approx T_{\theta} \\ & \Delta \chi \approx N^{\gamma} \end{array} \end{split}$$

# $Ω_c ≈ N^{\zeta}$ ; ζ= 1 + γ(Universal); γ≈1.2 Result II

#### Universality in Cooperativity

Data from many labs: could be done more precisely



#### Residue-dependent melting T<sub>m</sub>-Holtzer Effect



$$f_{m}(T_{mi}) = 0.5$$

# Lattice Models Side Chains

Klimov & dt J. Comp. Chemistry (2002)

#### Is the melting temperature Unique? Finite-size effects!



#### Role of N in folding time estimates

 $\begin{aligned} k_F &\approx k_0 \exp(-\alpha N^{0.5}) \text{ dt J. de Physique I (1995)} \\ 1/k_0 &\approx 1 \mu \text{s}; \ \alpha &\approx O(1) \end{aligned}$ 



Dill PNAS (2011)

#### Part II – Stretching Again

- Polymer elasticity WLC and FJC
- Crossover from WLC to FJC
- Forcing globules to unfold (hydrophobic effects)
- Introduction to constant force pulling

# Entropic elasticity

- A random coil favors states with high entropy or more disorder.
- When no external force: (unstretched/equilibrium state), the average end-to-end distance is like L<sub>con</sub><sup>1/2</sup>, where L<sub>con</sub> is the total length → quite compact.
- To stretch it, an external force must be applied so that the work done gained by the coil compensates the loss of entropy (to stretch means to make the coil more ordered).



#### Various stretching regimes Toan & dt Macromolecules (2010)





Stretching DNA (WLC) Ha & dt JCP 97

$$\frac{z}{L} \approx \left(1 - \frac{3}{4} \sqrt{\frac{1}{l_p f}}\right).$$

$$F = -k_BT \ln Z,$$
  
where  
$$Z = \int \mathscr{D}[\mathbf{u}(s)] \delta(\mathbf{u}^2(s) - 1) e^{-\mathscr{H}/k_BT}$$
  
with  
$$\frac{\mathscr{H}}{k_BT} = \frac{l_p}{2} \int \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}(s)}{\partial s}\right)^2 ds - \int \mathbf{f}(s) \cdot \mathbf{u}(s) ds.$$

### Freely-Jcint chain m

- FJC: Succession of rigid bonds with random orientations
- How it is:
  - N rigid bonds (fixed length  $l_{\kappa}$ )
  - Non-self-avoiding
  - End-to-end distance

$$\vec{R} = \sum_{i} \vec{b}_{i}$$

Typical size (~ random walk)

$$\sqrt{\vec{R}^2} = \sqrt{N} l_K$$



Freely-jointed chain of N=100 segments



#### The Freely Jointed Chain Model



Where  $-F \times b \cos(\theta)$  is the potential energy acquired by a segment aligned along the direction  $\theta$  with an external force F. Integration leads to:

$$\langle b_F \rangle = b \left[ \coth(\frac{Fb}{k_B T}) - \frac{k_B T}{Fb} \right] = b \Im(\frac{Fb}{k_B T})$$

Langevin Function

And for a polymer made up of N statistical segments its ave. end-to-end distance is:

$$\langle R(F) \rangle = Nb\Im(\frac{Fb}{k_BT}) = L\Im(\frac{Fb}{k_BT})$$

### The Freely Jointed Chain Model

At low forces:

$$x/L = \coth(\frac{Fb}{k_BT}) - \frac{k_BT}{Fb}, \quad \text{for } Fb \ll k_BT:$$
  

$$\coth(a) = \frac{1}{a} + \frac{a}{3} + \dots, \text{ therefore }:$$
  

$$x/L = \frac{1}{a} + \frac{a}{3} - \frac{1}{a} + \dots = \frac{Fb}{3k_BT}$$
  

$$F = \frac{3k_BT}{b} \left(\frac{x}{L}\right)$$

Thus, at low forces, the chain behaves as a hookian spring with a spring constant,  $\kappa = \partial F / \partial x = 3k_BT/b$ 

### **Topics for Today**

WLC to FJC crossover; Non-linear elasticity?

Confinement Effects on folding (Folding in the ribosome tunnel)

Basic ideas of SMFS: Polymer theory in data analysis

#### Various stretching regimes Toan & dt Macromolecules (2010)



# FJC under stretch



# WLC for cellulose?

- Best-fit values:
  - $-\chi^2 \approx 5$  (FJC: 1.25)
  - $-\xi_p = 1.39 \text{ nm}$
- WLC is not appropriate to model the stretching response of cellulose!



# Cellulose as a FJC?

- Initial guess:
  - $I_{\kappa} = 5 \text{ nm}$
  - $L_c = 250 \text{ nm}$
  - $-\chi^2 = 405.3$
- Best-fit values:
  - $I_{\kappa} = 0.849 \text{ nm}$
  - $-L_c = 223.3 \text{ nm}$
  - $-\chi^2 = 1.25$
- Good χ<sup>2</sup> and I<sub>K</sub> (~ 0.6 nm by *ab initio* (B3LYP/ 6-31G) calculations) (Marszalek, PNAS 1999)



Data: Marszalek et al., Nature (2001)

# dsDNA as a FJC?

- FJC is not working to account for the stretching behavior of dsDNA
  - Bad fit quality ( $\chi^2$ )
  - *I<sub>K</sub>* much larger than base-pair separation (0.34 nm).



Data: Wang et al., Biophys. J. 1995

# dsDNA as a WLC?

- Best-fit values
  - $-\xi_{p} = 40.7 \text{ nm}$
  - L<sub>c</sub>= 1324 nm
  - χ<sup>2</sup>= 1.13
- Good fit quality!



Wang et al., Biophys. J. 1995

# Persistence length $\xi_p$

 Tangent-tangent correlation of a non-selfavoiding polymer

 $\langle \cos(\theta(s)) \rangle \sim \exp\left(-\frac{s}{\xi_p}\right)$ 

ξ<sub>p</sub> is related to the stiffness of polymer

• 
$$\xi_p = \frac{1}{2} l_K$$
  
 $\sqrt{\vec{R}^2} = \sqrt{N} l_K$ 





Diagram explaining the concept of persistence length.

A. Rosa (2003)

Biopolymers	$\xi_p(nm)$
dsDNA	~ 50
ssDNA/RNA	~ 1.0
Protein	~ 0.7

# Persistence length and end-to-end distance

$$\vec{R}^{2} \rangle = \langle \vec{R} \cdot \vec{R} \rangle$$

$$= \left\langle \int_{0}^{L_{c}} \hat{t}(s) ds \cdot \int_{0}^{L_{c}} \hat{t}(s') ds' \right\rangle$$

$$= \int_{0}^{L_{c}} ds \int_{0}^{L_{c}} \langle \hat{t}(s) \cdot \hat{t}(s') \rangle ds'$$

$$= \int_{0}^{L_{c}} ds \int_{0}^{L_{c}} e^{-|s-s'|/\xi_{p}} ds'$$

$$= 2L_{c} \xi_{p} \left[ 1 - \frac{\xi_{p}}{L_{c}} \left( 1 - e^{-L_{c}/\xi_{p}} \right) \right]$$

$$\left\langle \vec{R}^{2} \right\rangle = 2L_{c}\xi_{p} \left[ 1 - \frac{\xi_{p}}{L_{c}} \left( 1 - e^{-L_{c}/\xi_{p}} \right) \right]$$
  

$$\approx 2L_{c}\xi_{p}$$
  
when  $L_{c} \gg \xi_{p}$ 

## FJC regime is universal

in all discrete chains at high forces (Toan & dt Macro, (2012)

• The crossover force to FJC regime

As long as a > 0, regardless of intrachain interaction, the chain behaves as a FJC under high force and the stretching equation is that of the FJC at high force:

$$\mathcal{F}_h = c \frac{k_B T \xi_p}{a^2},$$

c in the range from 
$$\frac{4+\pi}{2}$$
 to 4

$$x = 1 - \frac{\xi_t}{a}.$$
  
$$\xi_t \equiv k_B T / f.$$


# The WLC regime or the effective FJC regime



WLC can also be *statistically* viewed as a FJC with discreteness and free bending, in certain force range

The view is true for any semiflexible chain.

Lower bound of force for the WLC regime

$$\lambda = l_K \Rightarrow \xi_t \approx \xi_p \Rightarrow \mathcal{F}_l \approx \frac{k_B T}{\xi_p}$$

### Why the varying performances of the models: Cellulose/Polysaccharides

• Range of force!

 $l \approx a \approx 0.6$  nm

 Persistence length on the order of or smaller than monomer length

$$\Rightarrow F_l = 2\frac{k_B T}{l_K} \approx F_h = c\frac{k_B T l_K}{2a^2} \approx 15pN$$

– →No WLC regime!



### Why the varying performances of the models: dsDNA

• Range of force:

a = 0.34nm,  $\xi_p = 50$ nm  $\Rightarrow F_l \approx 10^{-1}$ pN &  $F_h \approx 6.5 \times 10^3$ pN Even if a = 3.4nm,  $F_h \approx 65$ pN

- But dsDNA undergoes overstretching transition at 65 pN→Not possible to observe the FJC regime.
- →Entire portion of the FEC lays comfortably within the WLC regime and that's why WLC model itself is very good for the dsDNA stretching data.





#### Dessinges Bensimon, Croquette PRL (2002)



## WLC models

#### TABLE 1 DNA elasticity models

Model	Formula	Comments
Marko-Siggia (1995) WLC	$F = \left(\frac{k_{\rm B}T}{L_{\rm p}}\right) \left[\frac{1}{4(1-x/L_{\rm o})^2} - \frac{1}{4} + \frac{x}{L_{\rm o}}\right]$	Entropic theory. Interpolation formula of exact solution when $[salt] \ge 10 \text{ mM}$ . Applicable when $F \ll \frac{1}{4} (k_B T K_0^2 / L_p)^{1/3}$ . Differs from exact solution by up to ~10% near $F \approx 0.1 \text{ pN}$ . Approaches exact solution at lower and higher forces.
Odijk (1995) WLC	$x = L_{\rm o} \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{k_{\rm B}T}{FL_{\rm P}} \right)^{1/2} + \frac{F}{K} \right]$	Entropic/enthalpic theory. Applicable for $ x - L_0 /L_0 \ll 1$ (high-force regime).
Smith et al. (1995) FJC	$x = L_{o} \left[ \coth\left(\frac{2FL_{P}}{k_{B}T}\right) - \frac{k_{B}T}{2FL_{P}} \right] \left(1 + \frac{F}{K_{o}}\right)$	Entropic/enthalpic theory. Applicable to polymers that approximate a FJC. Note that the Kuhn length = $2L_p$ , and Langevin function $L(\alpha) = \operatorname{coth}(\alpha) - 1/\alpha$ .
Modified Marko-Siggia WLC	$T = \left(\frac{k_{B}T}{L_{P}}\right) \left[\frac{1}{4(1 - x/L_{o} + F/K_{o})^{2}} - \frac{1}{4} + \frac{x}{L_{o}} - \frac{F}{K_{o}}\right]$	Entropic/enthalpic theory. Modification of Marko-siggia formula to incorporate enthalpic stretching. Has limitations similar to Marko-Siggia near $F \approx 0.1$ pN.

WLC, Wormlike chain; FJC, freely jointed chain; F, force; x, extension (end-to-end distance);  $L_p$ , persistence length;  $L_o$ , contour length;  $K_o$ , elastic modulus;  $k_BT$ , Boltzmann's constant times absolute temperature.

Biophysical Journal Volume 72 March 1997 1335-1346

### Stretching Polymer in Poor Solvent: Force Plateau Morrison, Hyeon, Toan, Ha, dt *Macromolecules* (2007)



Single molecule pulling experiments are used to obtain the hydration free energy of a hydrophobic polymer as it transitions from a collapsed to an extended state.



#### Isaac T. S. Li, and Gilbert C. Walker PNAS 2011;108:16527-16532



### Confinement Effects : Motivation from Biology



R" (ATP hydrolyzed) state (machine)



### **GroEL** hemicycle



### Rescue of Substrate Proteins by Iterative Annealing Mechanism

- Todd, Lorimer, dt PNAS (1996)
- Hyeon, Lorimer, dt PNAS (2006)
- GroEL allostery Amnon Horovitz
- Review: dt & Lorimer Ann. Rev. Biophys (2001)

### Substrate Protein in a GroEL cavity



#### Ribosome Tunnel accommodates α-Helix (some regions)



Cheryl Woolhead & A. Johnson *Cell* 2004

Protein exit tunnel: About 100 Å long, 10-20 Å in diameter; not uniform

Helix formation in different Sequences possible Wilson and R. Beckman *Curr .Opin Struct. Biol.* 2011

#### Proteosome degrades proteins: Nat. Struct. Mol. Biol Bob Sauer (2012)







Free energy cost of confining SAW in a slit or cylinder  $\Delta F \approx k_B T (a/D)^{1/\nu} \approx (const)D^{-5/3}$ 

For a long Gaussian chain  $\Delta F \approx k_B T (a/D)^2$ 

Analogy to particle in a box ground state energy



#### Model of a peptide in the Ribosome exit tunnel



 $\alpha$ -helix in a cylinder





COIL



### Helix stabilization in a cylindrical pore

#### Guy Ziv, Gilad Haran, & dt PNAS 2005

Helix content

Melting temperature



# Confinement effects on conformational entropy of a polypeptide chain



 $\Delta\Delta F \approx a_1 D^{-(2/3)} - a_2 D^{-(5/3)} = \Delta F(\text{helix}) - \Delta F(\text{coil})$ 

D < D<sup>\*</sup> confinement destabilizes  $\alpha$ -helices

#### Ziv, Guy et al. (2005) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 102, 18956-18961



Encapsulation of 16-mer C-terminal  $\beta$ -hairpin from the protein G in a spherical pore of the radius Rs is sketched.





**Folding Rates in Confined Spaces** 



 $k_F/k_F$ (bulk) can be computed analytically. Cheung & dt JMB (2006)