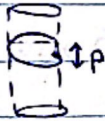


## Chapter 4

4.1) pitch(p) =  $5 \times 10^{-6}$  m  
radius(r) =  $0.5 \mu\text{m}$

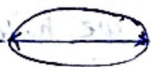
$$C = \frac{4\pi^2 r^4}{4\pi^2 r^2 + p^2} = 6.3 \times 10^{-5}$$

b)  $\alpha = \frac{\Phi}{L}$   
twist angle



The ribbon has deformed  $\Phi = 2\pi$  through length  $L = p \rightarrow \alpha = \frac{2\pi}{5} \times 10^6$

→ The deformation of  $\Phi = 2\pi$  has happened along a small length of order  $\mu\text{m}$ ,  
So our twist angle is much more than  $\frac{2\pi}{5}$ , around  $10^6$  times that amount.

4.2)   $a = 9 \times 10^{-9}$  m  
 $b = 5 \times 10^{-9}$  m

a)  $K_{\text{tor}} (\text{elliptical rod}) = \frac{\mu \pi a^3 b^3}{a^2 + b^2} = \frac{10 \pi \times 9^3 \times 5^3}{9^2 + 5^2} = 2.70 \times 10^{-25} \text{ J-m}$

b)  $p = 74 \text{ nm}$   $a = 9 \text{ nm} \rightarrow d_a = \sqrt{(2\pi a)^2 + p^2} = 93.13 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$

c)  $p = 74 \text{ nm}$   $b = 5 \text{ nm} \rightarrow d_b = \sqrt{(2\pi b)^2 + p^2} = 80.39 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$

4.3)  $\tau = 10^{-20} \text{ N-m}$   
 $L = 10^{-5} \text{ m}$

a)  $K_{\text{tor}} = \frac{\mu \pi R^4}{2} = 9.82 \times 10^{-26} \text{ J-m}$   
 $R = 5 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}$

b)  $\alpha = \frac{\tau}{K_{\text{tor}}} = \frac{10^{-20}}{9.82 \times 10^{-26}} = 101859 \frac{1}{\text{m}} = 10^5 \frac{1}{\text{m}}$

$$4.4) \langle \phi^2 \rangle^{1/2} = \left( \frac{k_B T L}{K_{\text{tor}}} \right)^{1/2}$$

Let's set  $K_{\text{tor}}^{\text{F-actin}} = 10^{-27} \text{ J}\cdot\text{m}$ , therefore  $K_{\text{tor}}^{\text{microtubule}} = 10^{-24} \text{ J}\cdot\text{m}$

$$L = \frac{K_{\text{tor}} \times \langle \phi^2 \rangle}{k_B T} = \frac{10^{-24} \times 9 \times \left( \frac{5 \times \pi}{180} \right)^2}{1.38 \times 10^{-23} \times 300} = 1,65 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}$$

The microtubule should have length equal to  $1,65 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}$  or  $16.5 \mu\text{m}$ .

$$4.5) \quad L = 14800 \text{ base pairs} = 14800 \times 0,34 \times 10^{-9} = 5,032 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m} \quad \left. \vphantom{L = 14800 \text{ base pairs}} \right\} \alpha \approx 30\pi \times 10^6$$

$$\phi = 75 \times 2\pi \text{ (75 turns)} = 150\pi$$

The drag torque experienced by the sphere is equal to the torque applied to the DNA to twist it 75 times. This torque is equal to:

$$\tau = K_{\text{tor}} \alpha \quad \xrightarrow{\text{So}} \quad K_{\text{tor}} = \frac{\tau}{\alpha} = \frac{14\pi R^3 \eta \omega}{30\pi \times 10^6} = 4.1 \times 10^{-28}$$