## 研究会報告

(YITP-W-08-08)

# 結び目とソフトマター物理学:

## 高分子のトポロジー、そして物理学、数学 および生物学における関連する話題

(2009年3月9日受理)

日時:2008年8月26日(火)-8月29日(金)

場所:〒606-8502 京都市左京区北白川追分町 京都大学基礎物理学研究所・パナソニックホール

内容:環状高分子とは、ひも状の高分子鎖の両端が閉じて輪形になったものである。そのトポロジーは結び目で表わされる。環状高分子が形成された後にはそのトポロジーは変化せず、熱揺らぎの中で一定に保たれる。トポロジーの効果は例えば高分子溶液のマクロな物性に出現し、最近、実験的にも詳細に解析可能な状況となってきた。結び目の高分子はDNAやタンパク質さらには合成高分子など様々な分野で研究されており、また、結び目の数学や統計物理学など関連する理論分野の発展も著しい。数学と生物学の境界領域における発展も興味深く、自然科学の複数の分野が結合して全体が発展する様相を示している。環状高分子におけるトポロジー効果の研究は、まさにこれからピークを迎えつつあると言える。このような時期に京都大学基礎物理学研究所において「結び目とソフトマター物理」の国際会議が開催されたことにより、基礎物理学および関連する自然科学分野に幅広い視点が導かれ、さらには国際的な研究交流が分野横断的に行われた。

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# Knots and soft-matter physics:

## Topology of polymers and related topics in physics, mathematics and biology

Date: Aug. 26 - Aug. 29, 2009

Place: Panasonic Auditorium, Yukawa Hall, YITP, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan.

#### Outline:

Recently, topological effects of ring polymers have attracted much attention in various fields of science such as physics, biology and chemistry. DNA knots, knots in proteins, and synthetic ring polymers have been extensively studied not only theoretically but also experimentally. Furthermore, their properties are described in terms of their topology. The topology of a ring polymer is described by its knot type, and it does not change under thermal fluctuations. The topology of polymers may affect the macroscopic properties of the system, and it is particularly interesting in soft matter physics.

In the workshop "Knots and soft matter physics: topology of polymers and related topics in physics, mathematics and biology", participants exchanged their knowledge and ideas with many researchers of various different backgrounds, and thus contributed to the development of this interdisciplinary branch of science.

Organizers Tetsuo Deguchi (Ochanomizu University), Masayuki Imai (Ochanomizu University), Hiroshi Takano (Keio University), Koya Shimokawa (Saitama University), Kyoichi Tsurusaki (Kanagawa Industrial Technology Institute), Andrzej Stasiak (Universite de Lausanne)

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