

Macromolecular Complexes in Chemistry and Biology

By Paul Dubin

Springer-Verlag Gmbh Mai 1994, 1994. Buch. Condition: Neu. Neuware - Throughout most of this century, progress in Polymer Science took place by way of studies of dilute polymer solutions and of the solid state. More recently, attention has been focused on the semi-dilute regime. The elucidation of transi ent network and temporal gel states under conditions of moderate concentra tion by numerous hydrodynamic and optical techniques is now well established and a solid theoretical underpinning for these phenomena is in place. However, in most of the systems studied, interpolymer interactions are relatively weak forces, because in solutions of ypical polymers, strong interpolymer interactions lead to bulk phase separation. However, polymers that form highly associating structures in equilibrium solution now constitute an important class of synthetic macromolecules, and it is evident that strong intermacromolecular interactions - without accompanying phase separation - are prevalent in biopolymer sys tems as well. This behavior is generally characteristic of amphiphilic polymers, which contain both hydrophilic and hydrophobic repeat units. It is also charac teristic of systems in which two macromolecular species are complementary, such as hydrogen-bond-donating and hydrogen-bond-accepting polymers, or polycations and polyanions. Interest in associating polymer systems currently derives from both applied and fundamental questions....



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