

Contents

1. Introduction	3
2. Collective excitations in quasi-periodic molecular structures	5
2.1. Alpha-helical structure of proteins	5
2.2. Basic equations of collective excitations	8
2.3. Excitons in a molecular chain	12
2.4. Solitons in a molecular chain	14
2.5. Solitons in α -helical proteins	17
2.6. Solitons in discrete models	21
3. Soliton excitations in one-dimensional molecular systems	23
3.1. Study of the time evolution of an initial excitation	23
3.2. An initial excitation in the form of a hyperbolic secant	26
3.3. An initial excitation in the form of a rectangular step	27
4. Dynamical properties of solitons	34
4.1. The motion of solitons in the presence of friction forces	36
4.2. The motion of solitons affected by external fields	38
5. Solitons in molecular systems with a nonlinear interaction between molecules	40
5.1. Equations of soliton motion	40
5.2. Soliton solutions	43
5.3. Power anharmonicity	45
5.4. Potential with a repulsive core	47
References	49

