

# Supplementary Information

## Polyelectrolyte and Non-Polyelectrolyte Polyacrylamide Copolymer Solutions: the Role of Salt on the Intra- and Intermolecular Interactions

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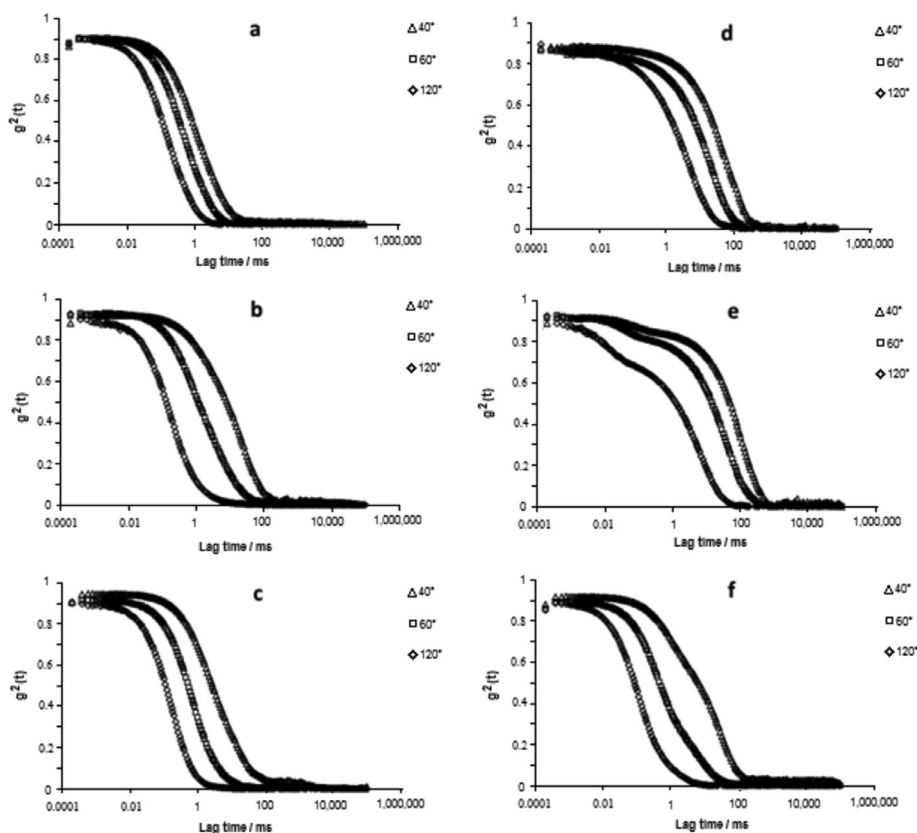
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The critical concentration ( $C^*$ ) was calculated using the following equation:

$$c_{R_g}^* = \frac{3M_w}{4\pi N_A R_g^3} \quad (\text{Equation S1})$$

where  $M_w$  is the molecular weight,  $N_A$  is the Avogadro number and  $R_g$  is the radius of gyration.

Representative examples of the normalized field autocorrelation functions:



**Figure S1.** Normalized autocorrelation functions for (a), (b) and (c) PAHM-0 and (d), (e) and (f) PAHM-21, at ionic strength of (a) and (d) 0; (b) and (e)  $2.7 \times 10^{-3}$  ( $9.0 \times 10^{-4}$  CaCl<sub>2</sub>); (c) and (f)  $2.0 \times 10^{-1}$  mol L<sup>-1</sup> ( $2.0 \times 10^{-1}$  NaCl). Polymer concentration: 2 g L<sup>-1</sup>.

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Dependence of  $\Gamma$  on  $q^2$  for PAHM-0 in absence of salt. (a) fast mode and (b) slow mode. Full symbols indicate the data used to calculate the  $D_{q \rightarrow 0}$ :

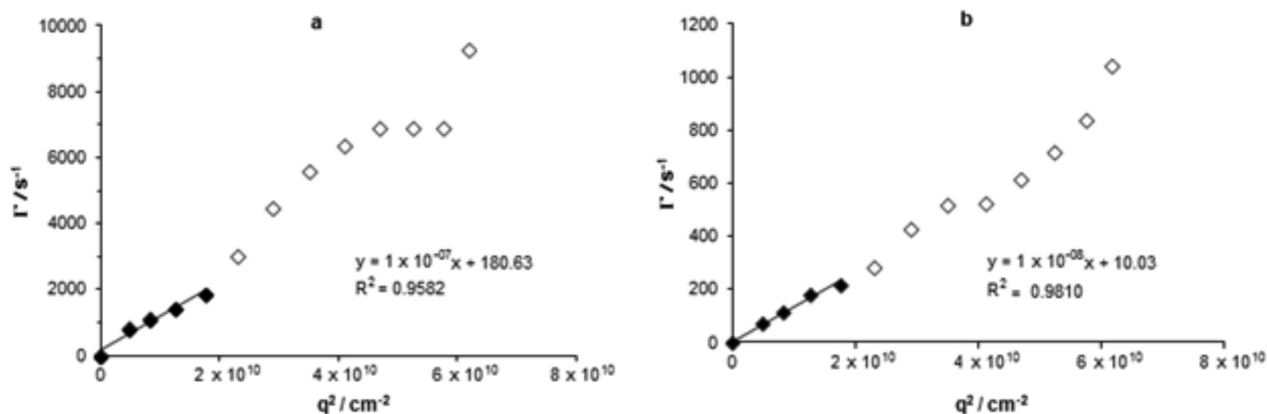


Figure S2. Dependence of  $G$  on  $q^2$  for PAHM-0 at  $2 \text{ g L}^{-1}$  in distilled water: (a) fast mode and (b) slow mode.

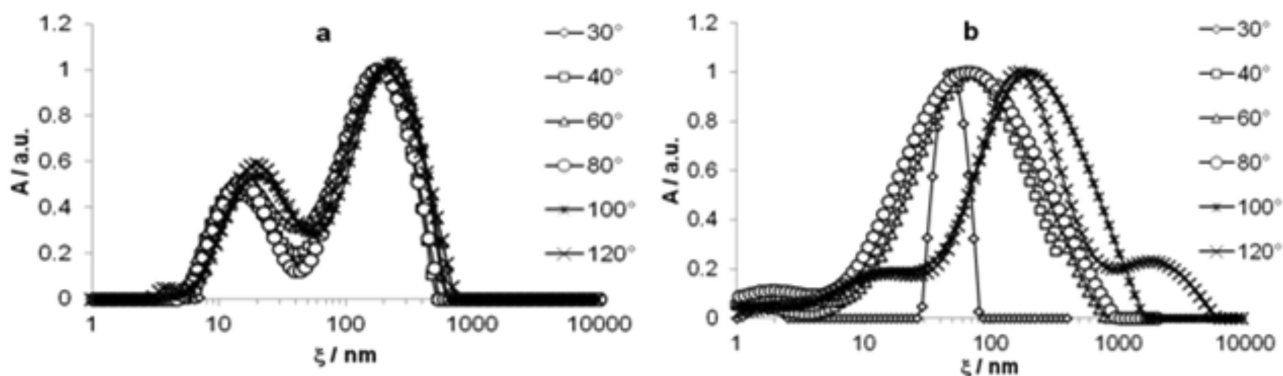


Figure S3. Correlation length distributions as a function of the scattering angle for (a) PAHM-0 and (b) PAHM-21, at  $2 \text{ g L}^{-1}$  in distilled water.

The nominal wall shear rate in capillary viscometers may be calculated using the following equation:

$$\dot{\gamma}_{wn} = \frac{32Q}{\pi D^3} \quad (\text{Equation S2})$$

where  $Q$  is the flow rate and  $D$  is the capillary diameter. The values calculated to the solutions analyzed in this work are between  $1259 \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $2269 \text{ s}^{-1}$ .