

## Supporting Information

# Aqueous solutions of associating poly(acrylamide-co-styrene) - a path to improve drag reduction?

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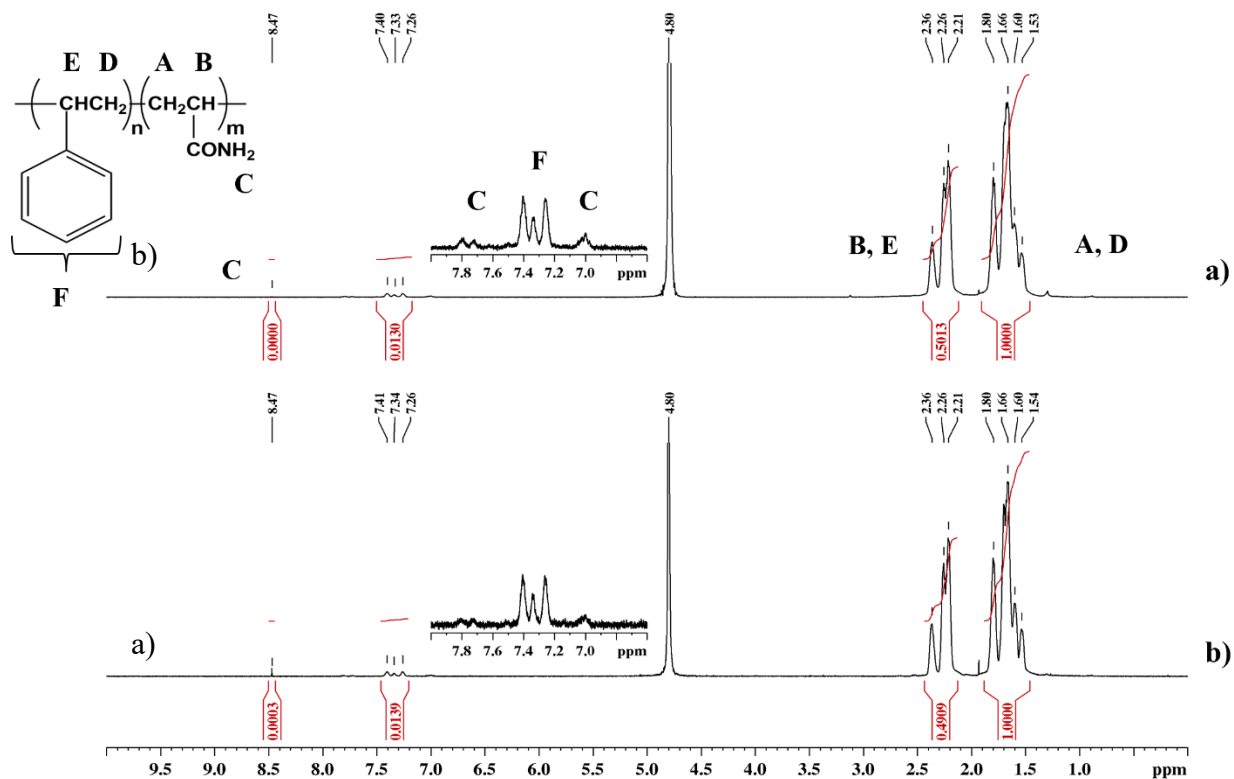
## EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

**Elemental analysis.** Elemental micro-analysis was performed at the faculty's Microanalysis Services department. Simultaneous determination of C, H, N and S was done by an automatic Elemental Analyser EA 3000 (Eurovector) using sample amounts between 1.0 and 1.5 mg. The instrument's operating procedure consists of a flash combustion combined with a Dumas-N-reduction and an on-line Gas Chromatography (GC) separation of the gaseous products N<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O and SO<sub>2</sub>. As a carrier gas high purity helium is used. A high temperature pyrolysis system HT 1500 (Hekatech) that operates at 1.480 °C was used for oxygen determination using similar sample amounts. Solid carbon acts as a reducing agent and high purity helium is used as a carrier gas. The analytical species detected is carbon monoxide. The instrument software CALLIDUS was used for data collection in both methods. Mineralisation of up to 5.0 mg of each sample in an AQF 100 (Mitsubishi) was performed to determine the halogene amount. Milli-Q-water was utilised as an absorbent for gaseous products. Using a 7100 CE (Agilent) and a conductivity detector (TraceDec) membrane filtration and capillary ion electrophoresis were employed to prepare and characterise the resulting solution. All instrument-data were evaluated using laboratory developed software (SCADA 5.99). A typical uncertainty for the results of main constituents is below 0.3 wt.%. The limit of quantification (LOQ) is 0.05 wt.% for N and 0.02 wt.% for S. Halogenes can be detected down to 0.01 wt.%.

SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURES AND TABLES

**Table S1.** Elemental composition of P(AAm-co-St) and the homopolymer obtained using CHNS-O analysis

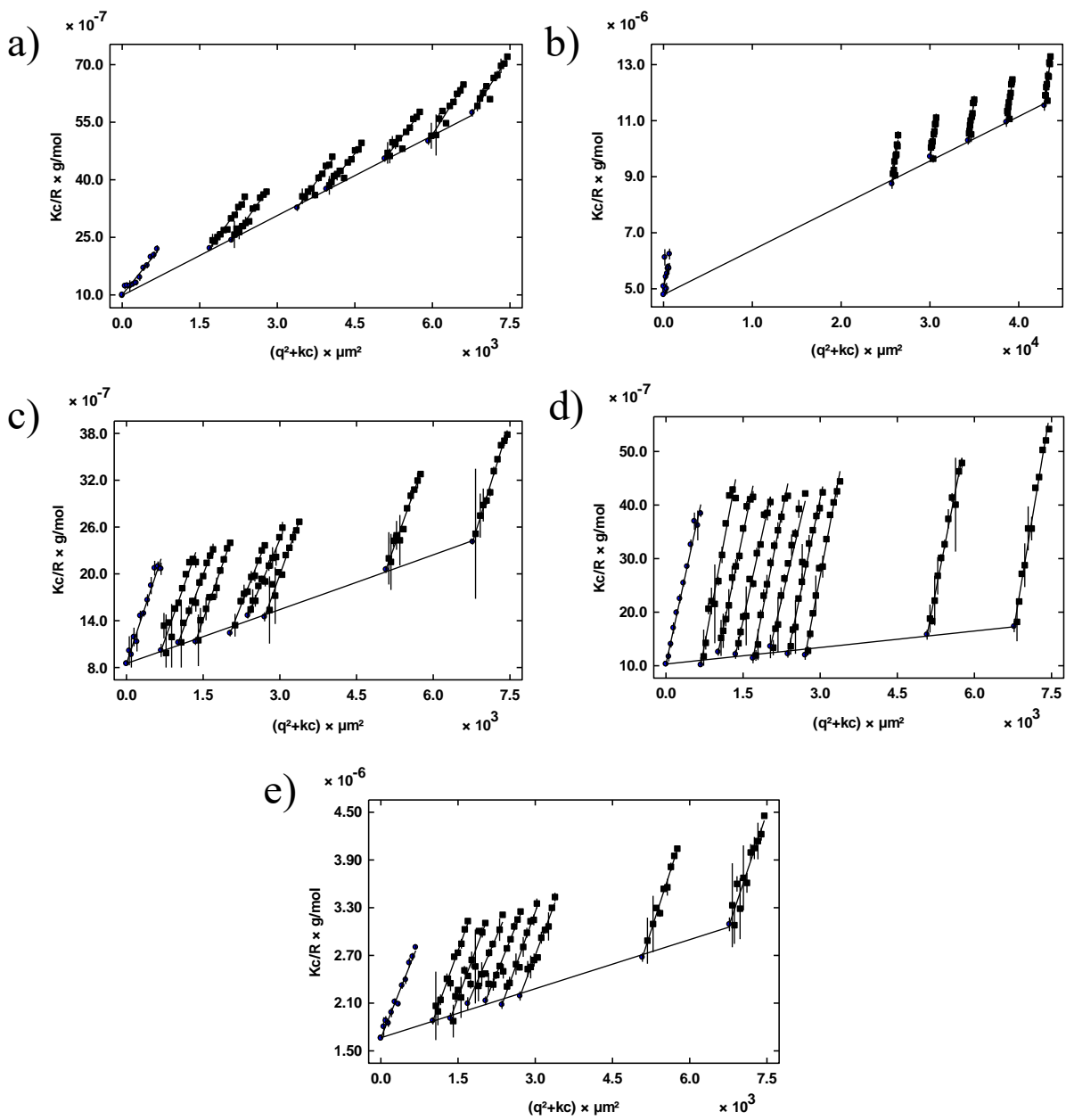
Sample	C (wt.%)	H (wt.%)	N (wt.%)	S (wt.%)	O (wt.%)	Br (wt.%)
Homopolymer	46.49 ± 0.01	7.23 ± 0.06	17.65 ± 0.05	< 0.02	26.67 ± 0.63	< 0.01
1P(AAm-co-1St)	46.55 ± 0.05	7.55 ± 0.05	17.62 ± 0.03	< 0.02	26.14 ± 0.30	< 0.01
0.7P(AAm-co-1St)	48.20 ± 0.88	7.35 ± 0.01	18.09 ± 0.32	< 0.02	25.26 ± 0.62	< 0.01
0.5P(AAm-co-2St)	46.42 ± 0.10	7.52 ± 0.09	17.21 ± 0.06	< 0.02	26.18 ± 0.02	< 0.01



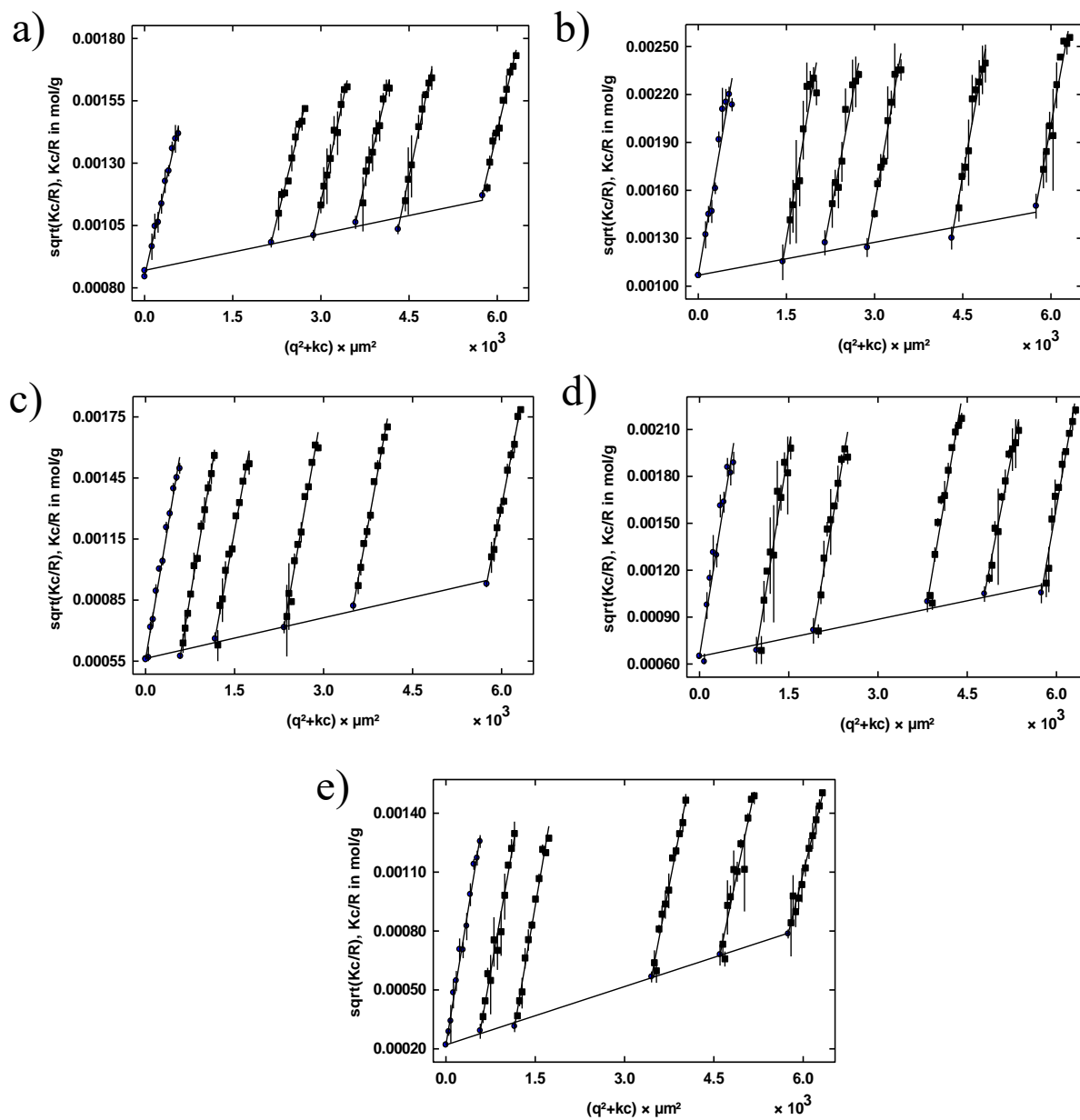
**Figure S1.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of a) 0.7P(AAm-co-1St) and b) 1P(AAm-co-1St) acquired in D<sub>2</sub>O

## Light scattering

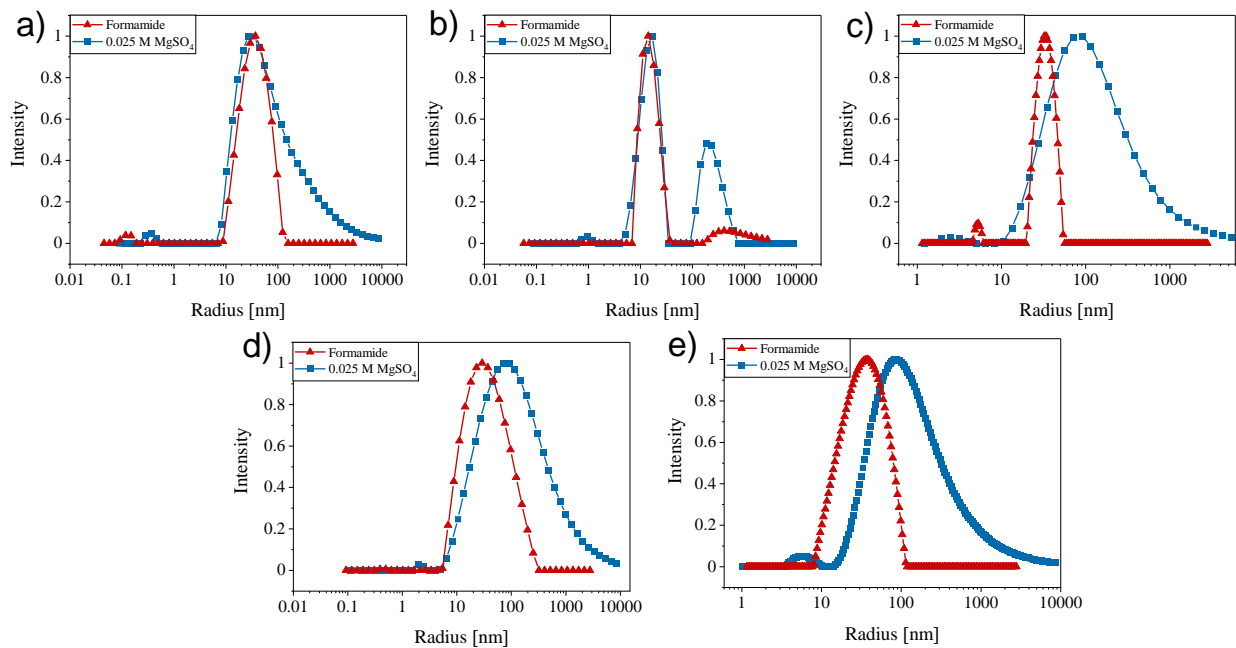
When analysing the SLS data the Zimm data reduction method provided negative intercept and consequently negative  $M_w$  for the 0.5P(AAm-co-2St) in aqueous  $MgSO_4$ . In fact, a reciprocal value for high  $M_w$  samples is very low and a little amount of signal noise can generate a negative extrapolated intercept.<sup>1</sup> We applied Berry's approach<sup>2</sup> which provides less curvature in the angular dependence for larger molecules. This way, linear extrapolation in the square-root of scattered light intensity  $((Kc/R\theta)^{1/2})$  against angles and concentrations  $q^2 + kc$  with  $k$  being a scaling factor yields a more reliable approximation. In order to ensure the consistency of the data, for all polymers acquired in aqueous  $MgSO_4$  the data were processed by the same method (Figure S3). However, for the polymers analysed in formamide the Zimm method was applied since  $1/M_w$  is sufficiently large (Figure S2).



**Figure S2.** Static light scattering SLS data obtained in formamide and analysed using Zimm method for: a) PAAm1 b) PAAm0.5 c) 1P(AAm-co-1St), d) 0.7P(AAm-co-1St), and e) 0.5P(AAm-co-2St).



**Figure S3.** Static light scattering SLS data obtained in aqueous 0.025 M  $\text{MgSO}_4$  and analysed using Berry method for: a) PAAm1 b) PAAm0.5 c) 1P(AAm-co-1St), d) 0.7P(AAm-co-1St), and e) 0.5P(AAm-co-2St).

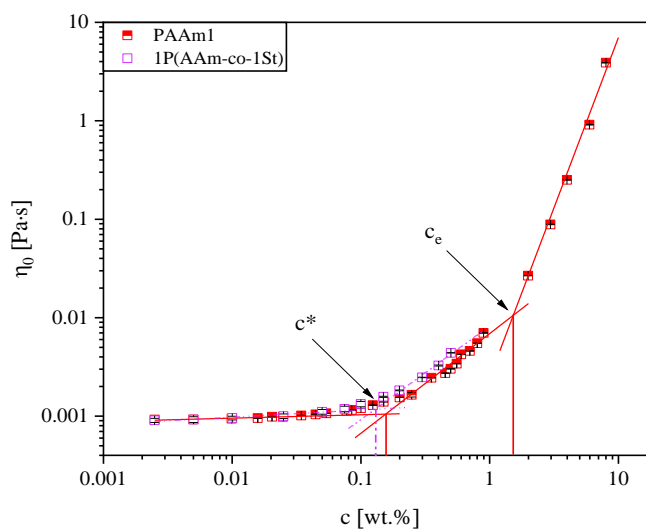


**Figure S4.** Dynamic light scattering DLS data obtained in formamide (red triangles) and aqueous 0.025 M MgSO<sub>4</sub> (blue squares) for: a) PAAm1 b) PAAm0.5 c) 1P(AAm-co-1St), d) 0.7P(AAm-co-1St) and e) 0.5P(AAm-co-2St).

## Zero shear viscosity

**Table S2.** Slopes of fit  $\ln(\eta_0) = \alpha \ln(c)$  for all polymers in three concentration regimes: dilute, semi-dilute unentangled and semi-dilute entangled regimes.

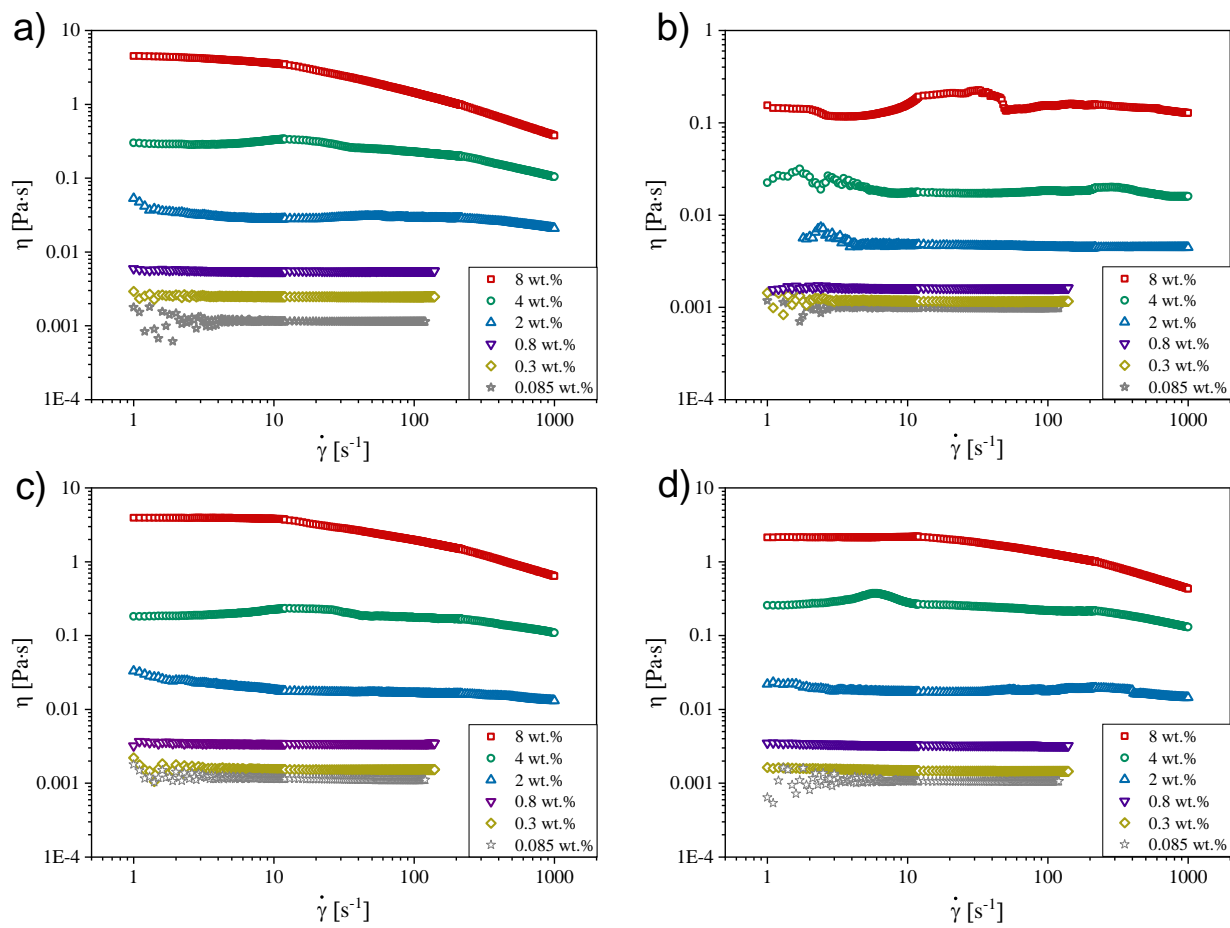
Sample	Dilute regime	Semi-dilute regime	
		unentangled	entangled
PAAm1	$0.0343 \pm 0.0069$	$1.0125 \pm 0.1097$	$3.4549 \pm 0.1111$
1P(AAm-co-1St)	$0.0727 \pm 0.0122$	$0.9503 \pm 0.0734$	-
PAAm0.5	$0.0132 \pm 0.0021$	$0.4087 \pm 0.0346$	$2.1416 \pm 0.1927$
0.7P(AAm-co-1St)	$0.0231 \pm 0.0037$	$0.7253 \pm 0.0467$	$3.8178 \pm 0.2364$
0.5P(AAm-co-2St)	$0.0181 \pm 0.0035$	$0.6723 \pm 0.0519$	$3.3978 \pm 0.1029$



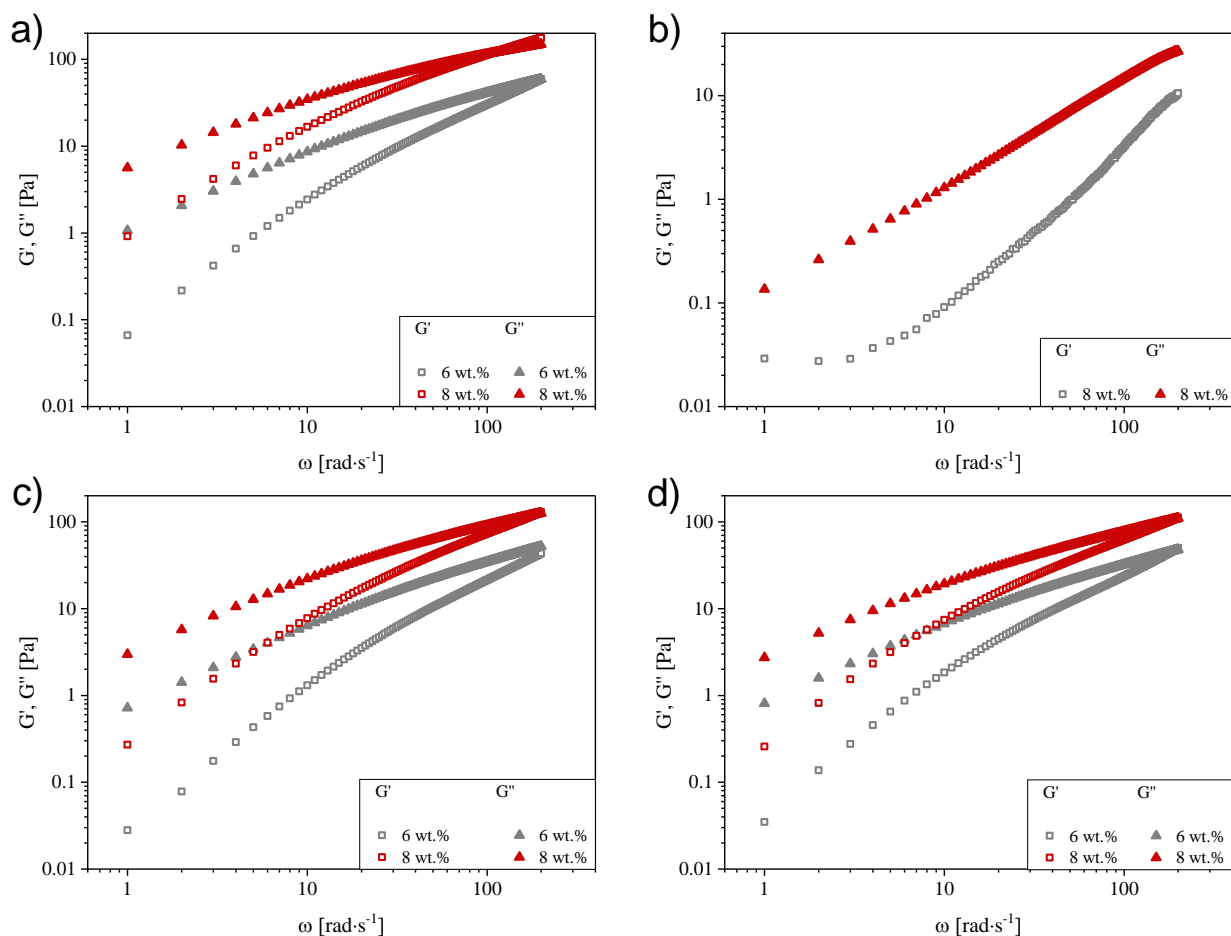
**Figure S5.** Concentration  $c$  dependence of the zero-shear viscosity  $\eta_0$  determined in aqueous 0.025 M  $\text{MgSO}_4$  for polymers with  $M_w \approx 1000$  kg/mol.



## Rheological characterisation in rheometer



**Figure S6.** Shear rate  $\dot{\gamma}$  dependence of viscosity  $\eta$  for: a) PAAM1, b) PAAM0.5, c) 0.7P(AAm-co-1St) and d) 0.5P(AAm-co-2St) obtained in aqueous 0.025 M MgSO<sub>4</sub> at different polymer concentrations.

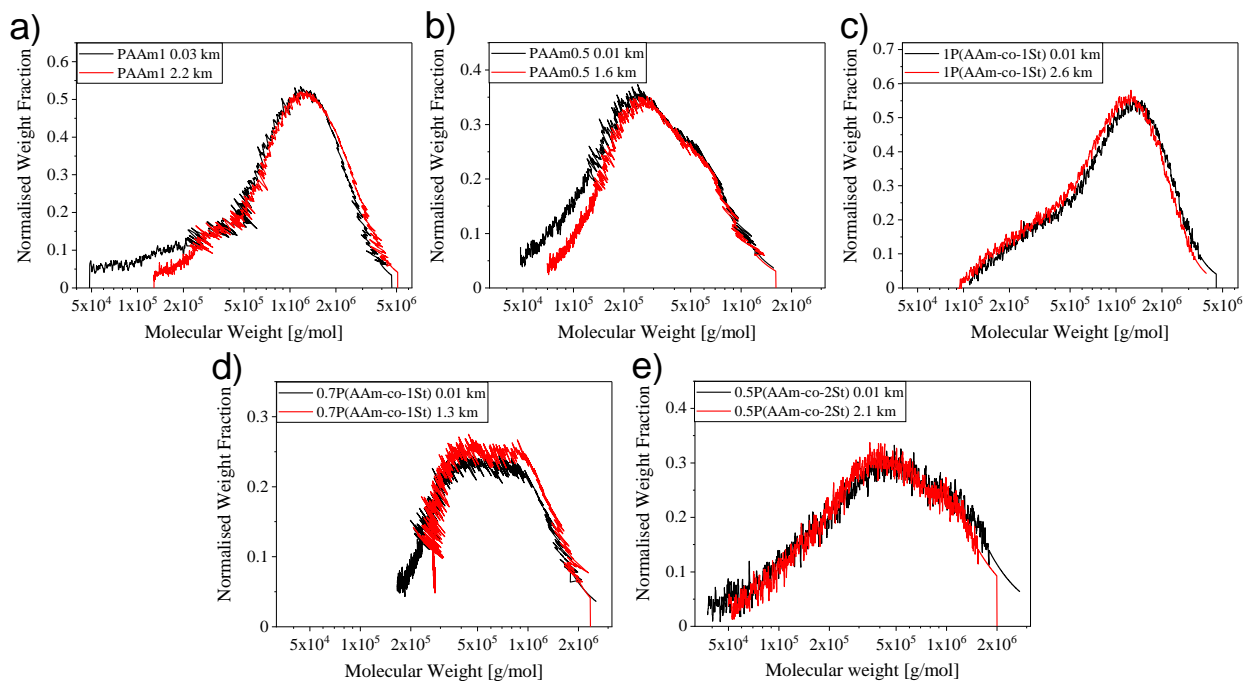


**Figure S7.** Frequency  $\omega$  dependences of the storage ( $G'$ ) and loss ( $G''$ ) moduli for: a) PAAm1, b) PAAm0.5, c) 0.7P(AAm-co-1St) and d) 0.5P(AAm-co-2St) obtained in aqueous 0.025 M MgSO<sub>4</sub> at polymer concentrations 6 and 8 wt.%.

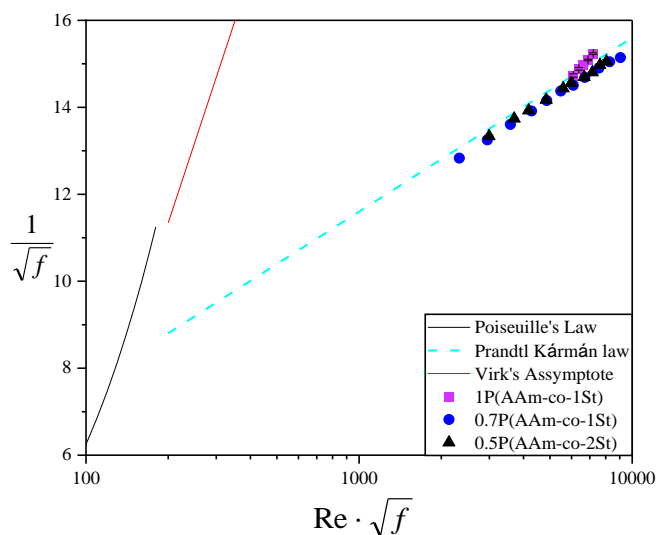
Hydrophobically modified polymers aggregating into micellar structures at quiescent conditions undergo thermal fluctuations corresponding to approximately  $1 k_B T$ .<sup>3</sup> The association network structure of end-functionalised telechelic polymers consists of “loops” formed by both polymer end groups being in a micelle, “dangling” chains having one of the ends without aggregation, and “bridging” chains that link two micelles.<sup>3</sup> In quiescent conditions the likelihood of hydrophobes associating into micelles is proportional to the probability of their detachment, while the attraction is significantly prominent when exposed to extensional deformation induced by increased

probability of the encounter of two hydrophobic ends.<sup>3</sup> Thus, telechelic polymers exhibit the steady shear viscosity profile that constitutes of a constant viscosity at low shear rates, shear thickening at intermediate shear rates, and pronounced shear thinning at high shear rates.<sup>3</sup> At low shear rates, thermal fluctuations govern the association processes.<sup>3</sup> The rates of aggregate formation and elongation-induced breakage rise nonlinearly as shear rates are enhanced.<sup>3</sup> This phenomenon first leads to increased number of “bridging” chains due to collision of hydrophobe ends (shear thickening), and later to lowered number of “bridging” chains caused by extensional deformation (shear thinning).<sup>3</sup> These shear and extensional deformation modes are in good agreement with the observations made by Sharma et al.<sup>4</sup> for multisticker associative polymers. Owing to concentration dependence of association processes, in dilute solutions very little number of “bridging” chains exists in the micelle network.<sup>3</sup> Martínez Narváez et al.<sup>5</sup> also examined the shear and extensional rheology response for associating hydrophobically modified hydroxyethyl cellulose ( $M_w = 300$  kg/mol) and compared it to the unmodified hydroxyethyl cellulose ( $M_w = 720$  kg/mol). The specific viscosity of the aqueous solutions of hydrophobically modified polymer was approximately the same as the one for the solutions of two times higher  $M_w$  of unmodified polymer.<sup>5</sup> Furthermore, a slight shear thickening in unentangled semidilute solutions of hydrophobically modified hydroxyethyl cellulose was observed, followed by more pronounced shear thinning when compared to the unmodified homopolymer.<sup>5</sup> These superior rheological properties of associative hydrophobically modified polymers are due to combination of associations and clustering.<sup>5</sup> The increased zero shear viscosity and relaxation time are caused by association–disassociation time and polymer chain-micelle dynamics.<sup>5</sup>

## DR in turbulent pipe flow



**Figure S8.** Molecular weight  $M_w$  distributions of the tested polymers after they travelled certain distances in ViEDRA: a) PAAm1, b) PAAm.05, c) 1P(AAm-co-1St), d) 0.7P(AAm-co-1St) and e) 0.5P(AAm-co-2St).



**Figure S9.** Prandtl-Kármán plot for hydrophobically modified polymers compared to Virk's asymptote representing maximum DR achieved and Poiseuille's law representing laminar flow.

## DR experiments in rheometer

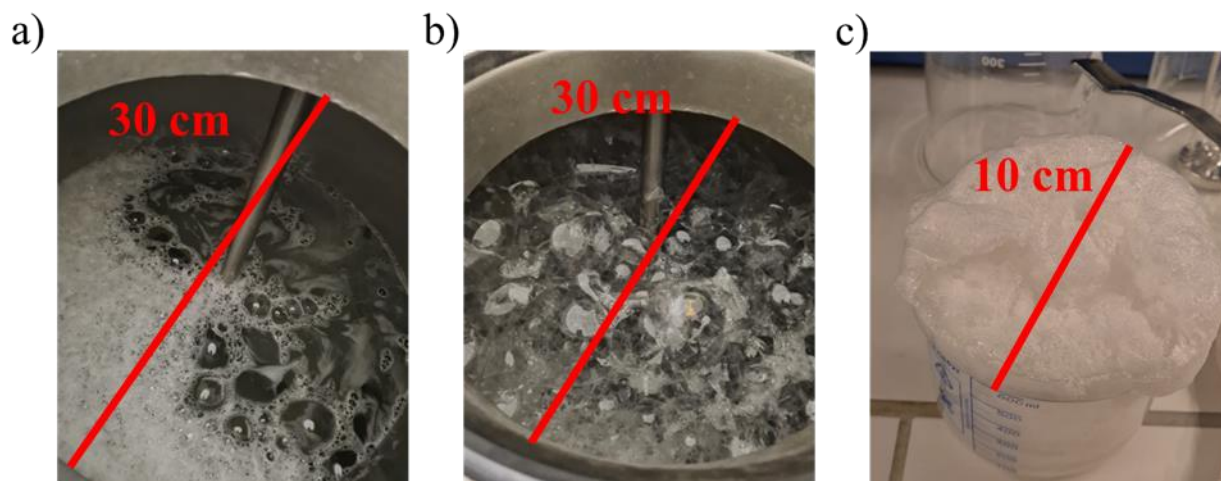
Drag reduction determined from the rheometer measurements at polymer  $c > 0.1$  wt.%. Shown is the maximum DR that was achieved at the given experimental conditions and, in the case of hydrophobically modified polymers before excessive foaming started. These DR values were obtained at different Reynolds numbers  $Re$ .  $Re$  values for tested polymers were following: PAAm1 reached  $Re_{c=0.35 \text{ wt.}\%} = 980$ ,  $Re_{c=0.55 \text{ wt.}\%} = 700$ , and  $Re_{c=0.9 \text{ wt.}\%} = 370$ ; 1P(AAm-co-1St)  $Re_{c=0.35 \text{ wt.}\%} = 1000$ ,  $Re_{c=0.55 \text{ wt.}\%} = 680$ ,  $Re_{c=0.9 \text{ wt.}\%} = 520$ ; PAAm0.5  $Re_{c=0.35 \text{ wt.}\%} = 2000$ ,  $Re_{c=0.55 \text{ wt.}\%} = 1700$ ,  $Re_{c=0.9 \text{ wt.}\%} = 1300$ ; 0.7P(AAm-co-1St)  $Re_{c=0.35 \text{ wt.}\%} = 1100$ ,  $Re_{c=0.55 \text{ wt.}\%} = 690$ ,  $Re_{c=0.9 \text{ wt.}\%} = 390$ ; 0.5P(AAm-co-2St)  $Re_{c=0.35 \text{ wt.}\%} = 1100$ ,  $Re_{c=0.55 \text{ wt.}\%} = 700$ ,  $Re_{c=0.9 \text{ wt.}\%} = 400$ . Beyond these  $Re$  excessive foaming or splashing occurred falsifying the measurement.

**Table S3.** Maximum drag reduction DR values obtained for tested polymers in the rheometer

Parameter	PAAm1	1P(AAm-co-1St)	PAAm0.5	0.7P(AAm-co-1St)	0.5P(AAm-co-2St)
$DR_{c=0.35 \text{ wt.}\%}$ (%)	17	7	0	5	4
$Re$	980	1000	2000	1100	1100
$DR_{c=0.55 \text{ wt.}\%}$ (%)	18	9	2	7	5
$Re$	700	680	1700	690	700
$DR_{c=0.9 \text{ wt.}\%}$ (%)	22	10	5	10	9
$Re$	370	520	1300	390	400



**Figure S10.** Foam formation for hydrophobically modified polymers during DR experiments in the rheometer.



**Figure S11.** Foam obtained during DR experiments for hydrophobically modified polymers in ViEDRA: a) foam of 1P(AAm-co-1St) in mixing tank, b) foam of 0.5P(AAm-co-2St) in mixing tank, c) foam of 0.5P(AAm-co-2St) taken from the mixing tank and air dried

## REFERENCES

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4. Sharma, V.; Haward, S. J.; Serdy, J.; Keshavarz, B.; Soderlund, A.; Threlfall-Holmes, P.; McKinley, G. H. The Rheology of Aqueous Solutions of Ethyl Hydroxy-Ethyl Cellulose (EHEC) and its Hydrophobically Modified Analogue (hmEHEC): Extensional Flow Response in Capillary Break Up, Jetting (ROJER) and in a Cross-Slot Extensional Rheometer. *Soft Matter* **2015**, 11, 3251.
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