Supplementary Material (ESI) for PCCP This journal is © the Owner Societies 2009

## Supplementary Fig. 1



## Supplementary Fig. 1 legend

Effect of twist-stretch coupling on the location of the extension maximum σ<sub>z\_max</sub>. Values of σ<sub>z\_max</sub> have been numerically calculated from Equation (2) at three different forces: 1.9 pN (red), 7.7 pN (green) and 9.6 pN (blue).

Supplementary Material (ESI) for PCCP This journal is © the Owner Societies 2009

## Supplementary Fig. 2



## Supplementary Fig. 2 legend

A) Effect of twist-stretch coupling on torque. According to Marko (1998), complete expression for the free energy of the DNA is

$$\frac{F}{kTL_0} = \frac{1}{A} \sqrt{\frac{Af}{kT} - \frac{1}{4} \left( C\omega_0 \sigma + \frac{gf}{kT\gamma} \right)^2 + \frac{C}{2} \omega_0^2 \sigma^2 - \frac{f}{kT} - \frac{1}{2\gamma} \left( \frac{f}{kT} - g\omega_0 \sigma \right)^2}$$
(A)

Torque is equal to:

$$\tau = \frac{1}{\omega_0} \frac{\partial (F/L_0)}{\partial \sigma} \bigg|_f = kT\omega_0 \sigma \bigg( C - \frac{g^2}{\gamma} \bigg) + \frac{gf}{\gamma} - \frac{kTC}{4A} \cdot \frac{\bigg( C\omega_0 \sigma + \frac{gf}{kT\gamma} \bigg)}{\sqrt{\frac{Af}{kT} - \frac{1}{4} \bigg( C\omega_0 \sigma + \frac{gf}{kT\gamma} \bigg)^2}} \qquad (B)$$

The figure represents torque calculated using Equation (B) with same parameters as used elsewhere for 9.6 pN of force (highest force used in our experiments) and **g**=0 (black) and our measured value of **g**=-21 (red).

B) Calculated difference between torques expected in the presence and absence of twiststretch coupling (i.e., the difference between the red and black curves in A).