

Supporting Information

The Influence of Monomer Ionization and Hydrolysis on the Radical Polymerization Kinetics of 2-(Dimethylamino)ethyl Methacrylate in Aqueous Solution

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Ionization

Degree of Ionization of DMAEMA and MAA versus pH

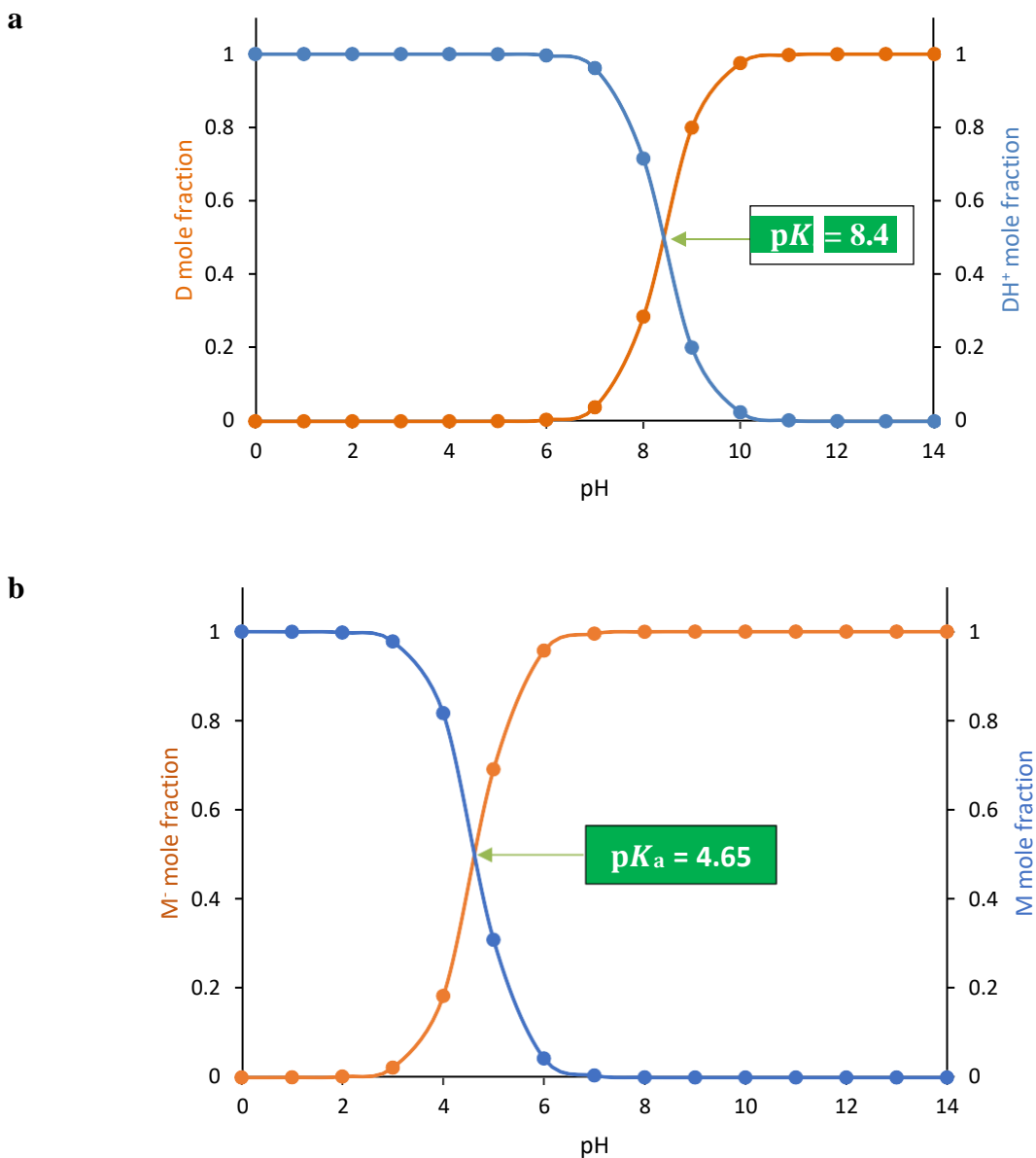


Figure S1. (a) D and DH⁺ mole fractions as a function of pH, calculated using a DMAEMA pK_a value of 8.4.¹ (b) Ionized (M⁻) and non-ionized (M) mole fractions for MAA as a function of pH, calculated using a pK_a of 4.65.²⁻⁴

Hydrolysis

^1H -NMR Spectra and Peak Assignments of MAA and DMAE

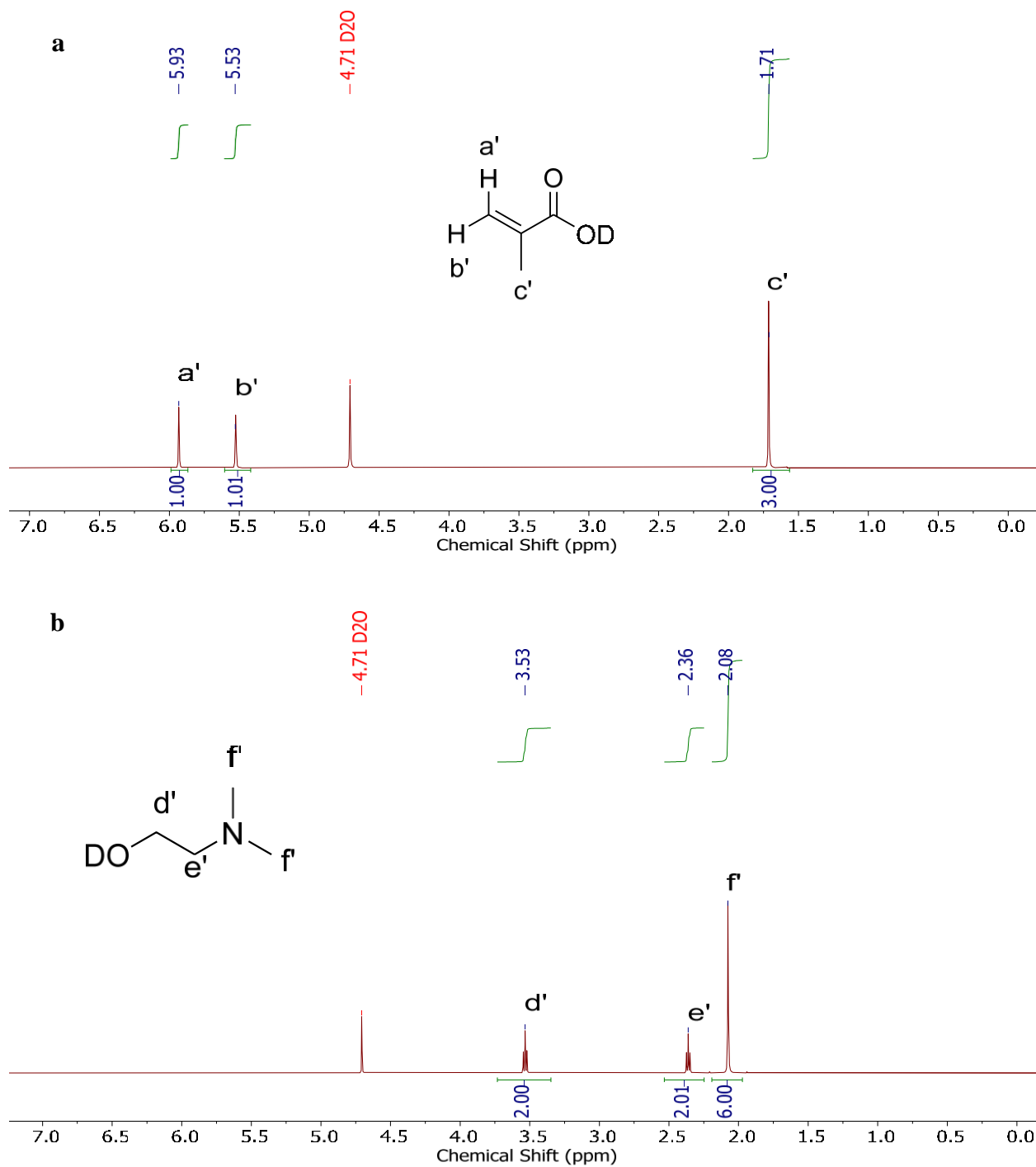


Figure S2. ^1H NMR (500 MHz) spectra of: (a) MAA in D_2O , with MAA signals at 5.71 ppm (s, 1H, $\text{CH}=\text{C}$ (cis, a')), 5.38 ppm (s, 1H, $\text{CH}=\text{C}$ (trans, b')) and 1.92 ppm (s, 3H, CH_3 -C (c')). (b) DMAE in D_2O with DMAE signals at 3.89 ppm (t, 2H, CH_2 -O (d')), 3.11 ppm (t, 2H, CH_2 -N (e')) and 2.77 ppm (s, 6H, $(\text{CH}_3)_2$ -N (f')).^{1,5}

Monitoring of DMAEMA Hydrolysis with ^1H -NMR Stacked Plot

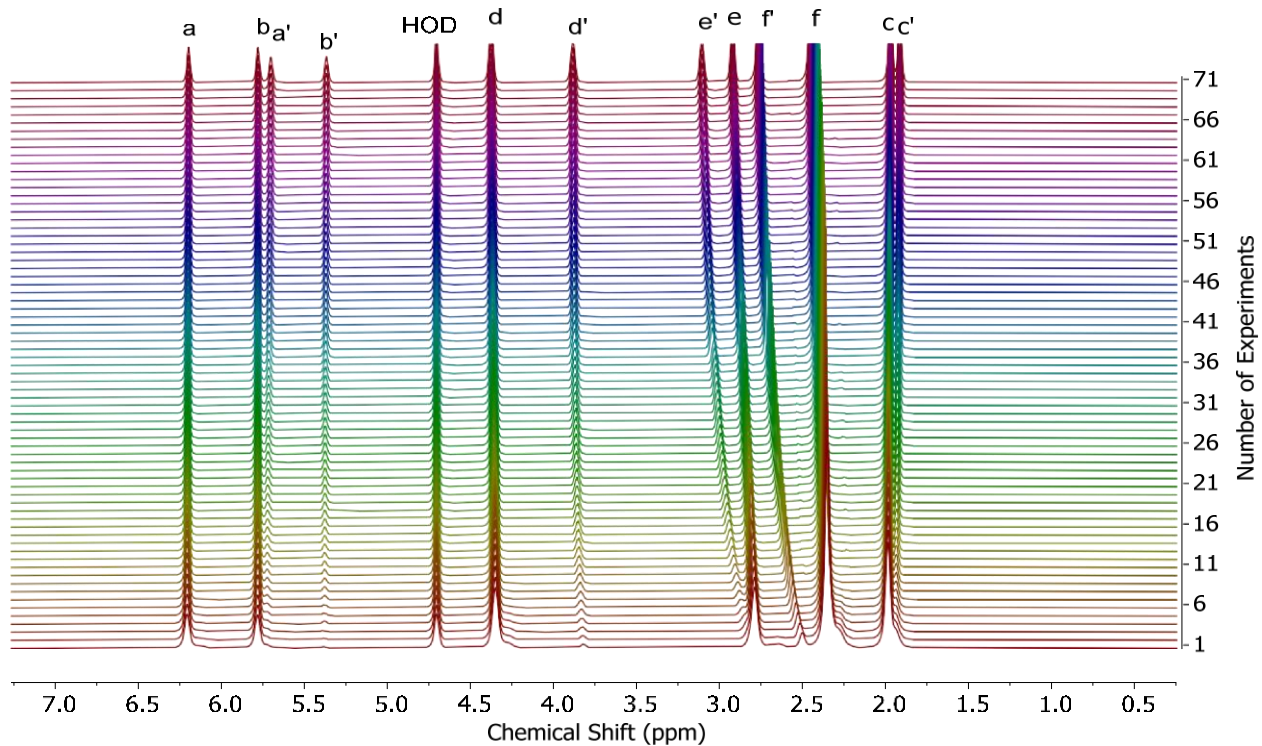


Figure S3. ^1H NMR stacked plot (500 MHz) following DMAEMA hydrolysis in D_2O at 40 °C and pH of 10.1. Spectra were acquired every 80 s (1.33 min).

DMAEMA Hydrolysis Rate Coefficients

Table S1. Hydrolysis rate coefficients (k_{obs}) of DMAEMA estimated from various ^1H NMR peaks a-f (see Figure 1) at pH 10.1.

Temperature (°C)	Peak	$k_{\text{obs}} \times 10^{-4}$ (s ⁻¹)
40	a	0.83
	b	-
	c	-
	d	0.83
	e	-
	f	-
50	a	2.2
	b	2.1
	c	-
	d	2.1
	e	-
	f	2.1
60	a	4.9
	b	4.8
	c	4.8
	d	-
	e	-
	f	-
70	a	9.9
	b	9.7
	c	9.6
	d	-
	e	-
	f	10.0

Variation of pH with Ternary DMAEMA-MAA-DMAE Mixtures

To understand the influence of degradation products (MAA and DMAE) on solution pH, equimolar amounts of MAA and DMAE with DMAEMA in H₂O were prepared and analyzed in the absence of reaction at room temperature. The measurements were conducted using an Orion™ ROSS Ultra™ Refillable pH/ATC Triode™ Combination Electrode, consisting of a glass electrode and reference electrode contained in a single probe and calibrated with buffer solutions of pH 1.68, 4.01, 7.00, 10.01 and 12.46. The electrode was dipped into the solutions and held until a stable pH measurement was achieved, with the probe rinsed with deionized water and soaked in the storage solution when not in use.

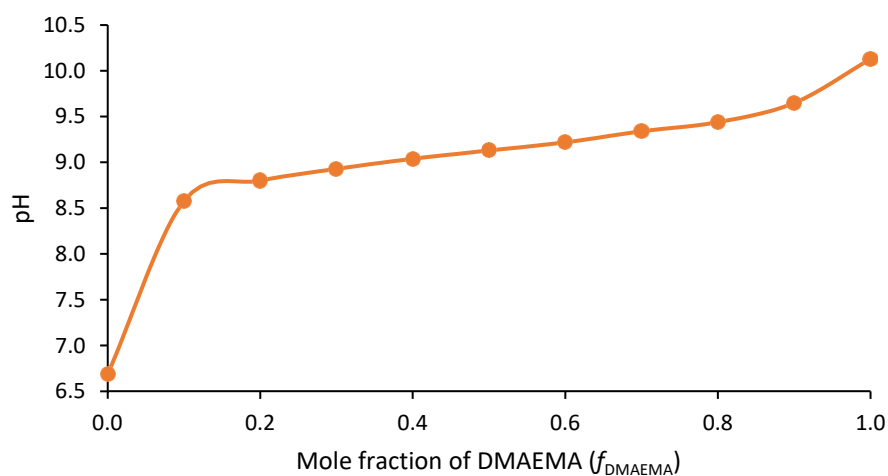


Figure S4. The variation of solution pH with composition of ternary DMAEMA-MAA-DMAE mixtures in H₂O at room temperature, adding MAA and DMAE in equimolar quantities while keeping total content at 10 wt%, where mole fraction of DMAEMA (f_{DMAEMA}) is given by

$$f_{\text{DMAEMA}} = \frac{\text{mol DMAEMA}}{\text{mol DMAEMA} + \text{mol MAA} + \text{mol DMAE}}$$

Best Fit Arrhenius Parameters of DMAEMA Hydrolysis

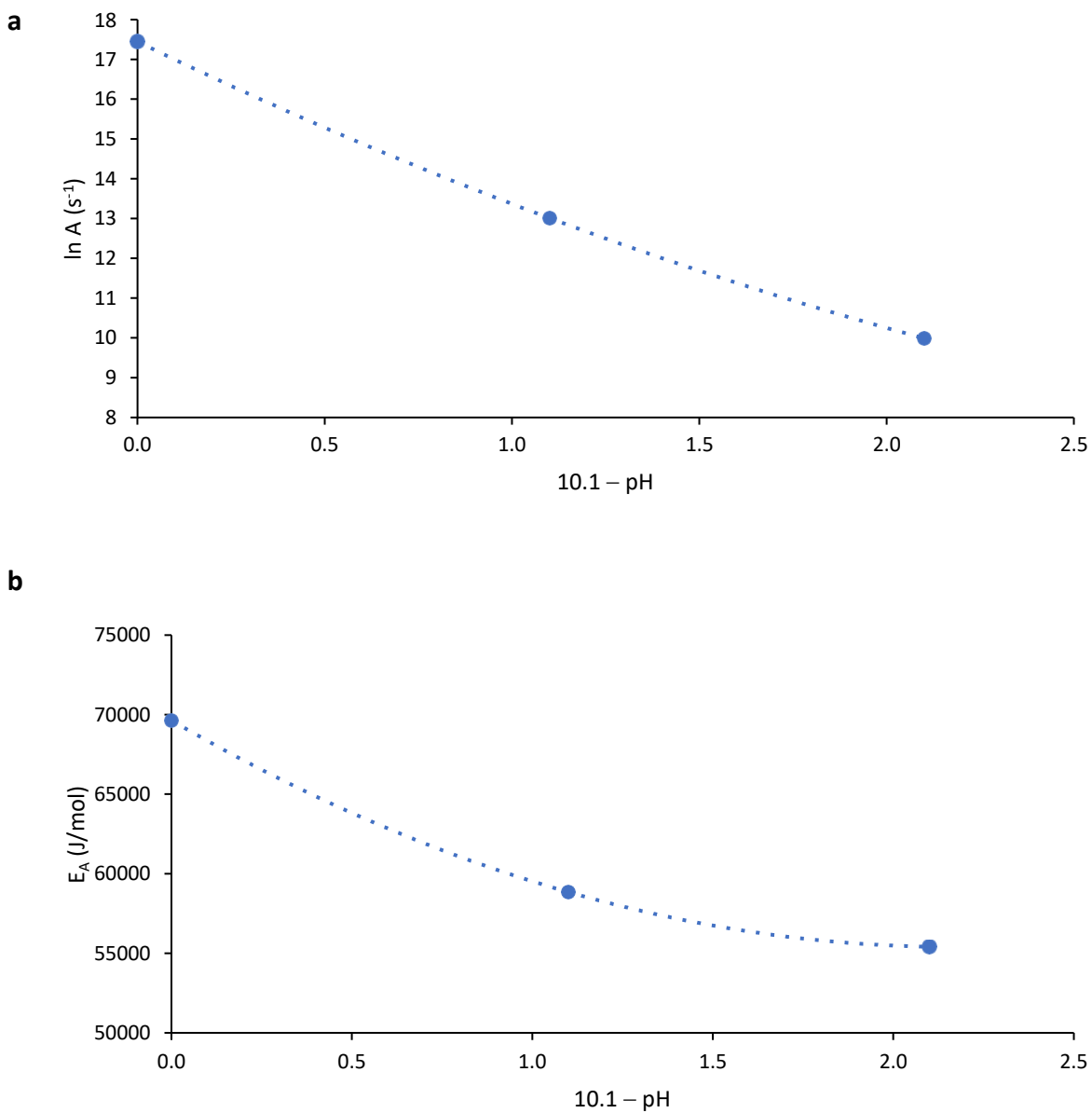


Figure S5. Best fit Arrhenius parameters (a) $\ln A$ and (b) E_A values (points, see Table 2) determined for DMAEMA hydrolysis, plotted as a function of $(10.1 - \text{pH})$. Lines show quadratic fits summarized by Eq. 7-9.

Free Radical Polymerization

Poly(DMAEMA) ^1H -NMR Spectra in Acidic Water

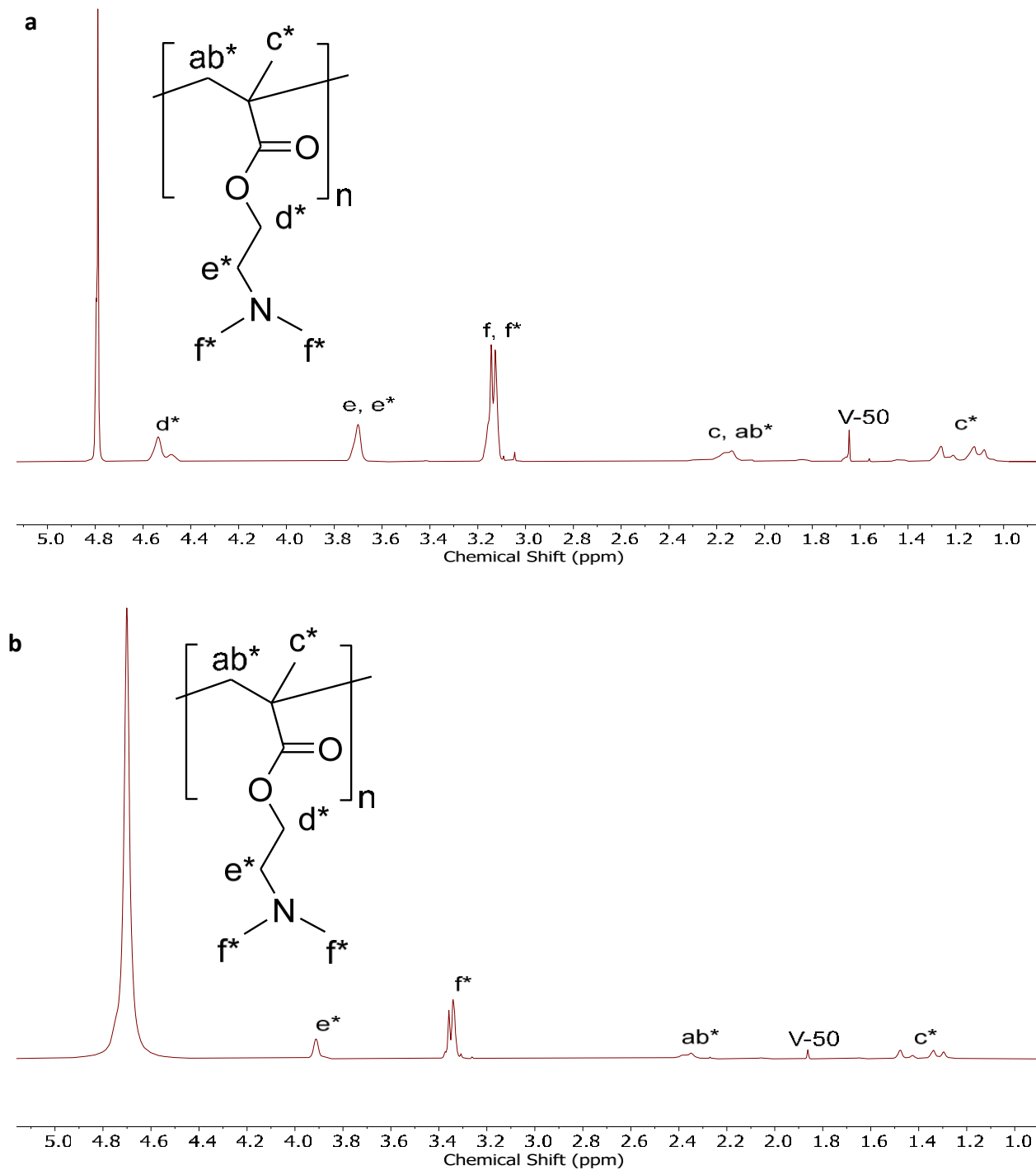


Figure S6. ^1H NMR (700 MHz) spectra of poly(DMAEMA) after aqueous polymerization of 5 wt% DMAEMA with 0.4 wt% V-50 to full conversion in D_2O at 60°C for 1 h at: (a) pH = 1.0 and (b) pH = 4.0

Calculations of DMAEMA Hydrolysis and Copolymerization Rates

The copolymerization calculation procedures for polymerizations conducted under conditions at which hydrolysis also occurs are given below (A.I. = integration area):

$$C_{\text{DMAEMA}_{\text{initial}}} = C_{\text{DMAEMA}|t} + C_{\text{DMAE}|t} + C_{\text{P-D}|t}$$

$$C_{\text{DMAEMA}_{\text{initial}}} = (A.I.)_{\text{DMAEMA}|t=0} + \frac{(A.I.)_{\text{DMAE}|t=0}}{2} + C_{\text{P-D}|t=0}$$

$$C_{\text{DMAE}|t} = C_{\text{MAA}|t} + C_{\text{P-MAA}|t}$$

$$C_{\text{DMAE}|t} = \frac{(A.I.)_{\text{DMAE}|t}}{2}$$

$$\text{Mole fraction of MAA in copolymer} = \frac{C_{\text{P-MAA}|t}}{C_{\text{P-MAA}|t} + C_{\text{P-D}|t}}$$

$$\text{Mole fraction of DMAEMA in copolymer} = \frac{C_{\text{P-D}|t}}{C_{\text{P-MAA}|t} + C_{\text{P-D}|t}}$$

$$\text{Fraction of DMAEMA lost to hydrolysis} = \frac{C_{\text{DMAE}|t}}{C_{\text{DMAEMA}_{\text{initial}}}}$$

$$\text{Fraction of DMAEMA converted to copolymer} = \frac{C_{\text{P-D}|t}}{C_{\text{DMAEMA}_{\text{initial}}}}$$

Fraction of unreacted DMAEMA

$$= 1 - \text{Fraction of DMAEMA lost to hydrolysis}$$

$$- \text{Fraction of DMAEMA converted to copolymer}$$

$$\text{Effective DMAEMA conversion} = \frac{\text{Fraction of DMAEMA converted to copolymer}}{1 - \text{Fraction of DMAEMA lost to hydrolysis}}$$

$$\text{MAA conversion} = \frac{C_{\text{P-MAA}|t}}{C_{\text{DMAE}|t}}$$

$$\text{Degree of hydrolysis} = \frac{C_{\text{DMAE}|t}}{C_{\text{DMAEMA}_{\text{initial}}}} \times 100$$

where C = concentration, $P-D$ = DMAEMA units in copolymer, $P-MAA$ = MAA units in copolymer

Plots of Polymerization Behaviour at Various pH, Temperature, and Initiator Levels

60 °C, 0.4 wt% V-50, pH 8.0 – 10.1

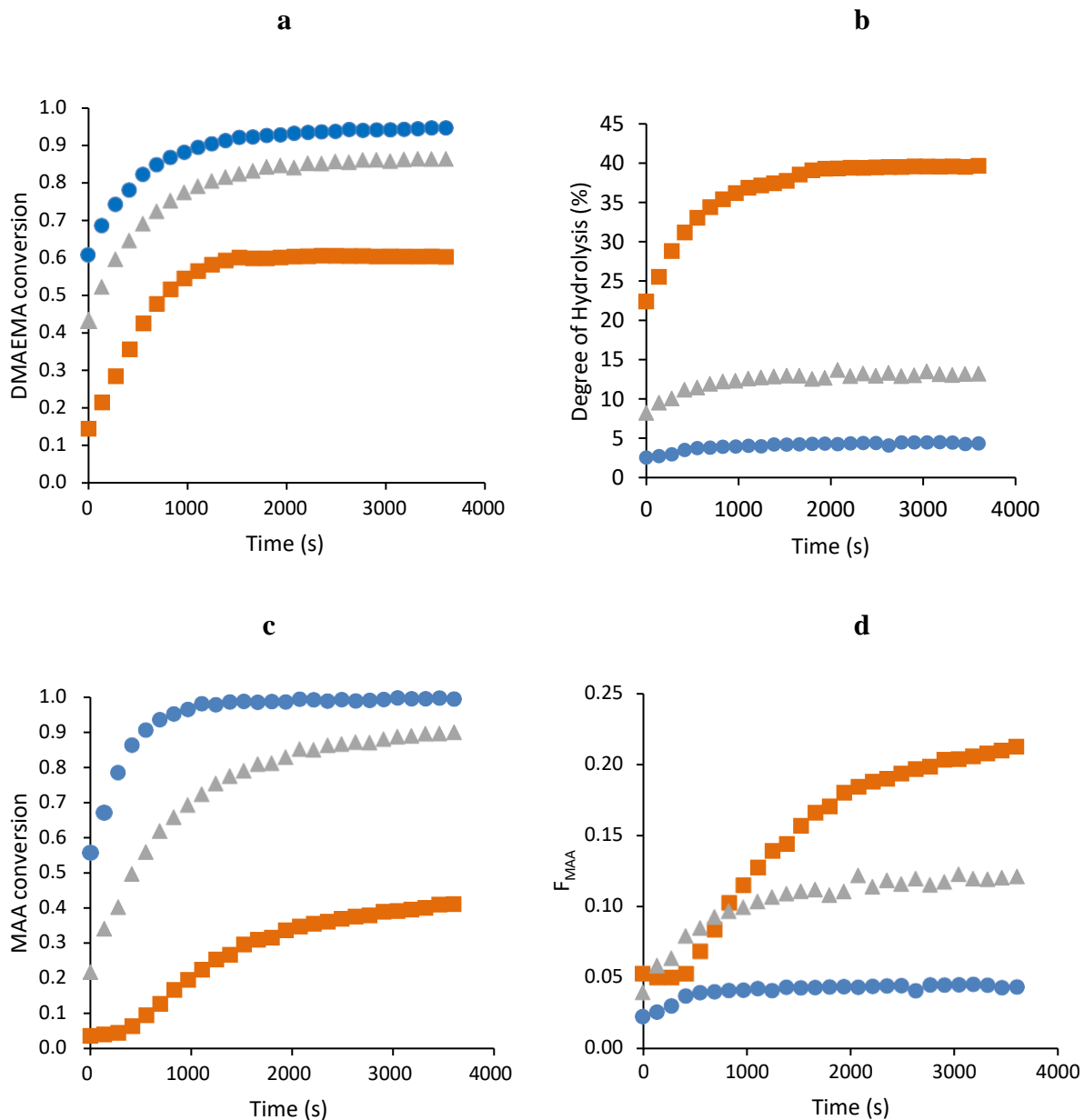


Figure S7. Polymerization of DMAEMA in water at 60 °C with initial $w_{\text{DMAEMA},0} = 0.05$ and $w_{\text{V-50}} = 0.004$ to form poly(DMAEMA-co-MAA) at pH 10.1 (orange squares), pH 9.0 (gray triangles) and pH 8.0 (blue circles): **(a)** Fractional conversion profiles of DMAEMA incorporated into polymer; **(b)** Degree of DMAEMA hydrolysis during polymerization; **(c)** Fractional MAA conversion profiles; **(d)** Mole fraction of MAA in the copolymer.

50 °C, 0.1 wt% V-50, pH 8.0 – 10.1

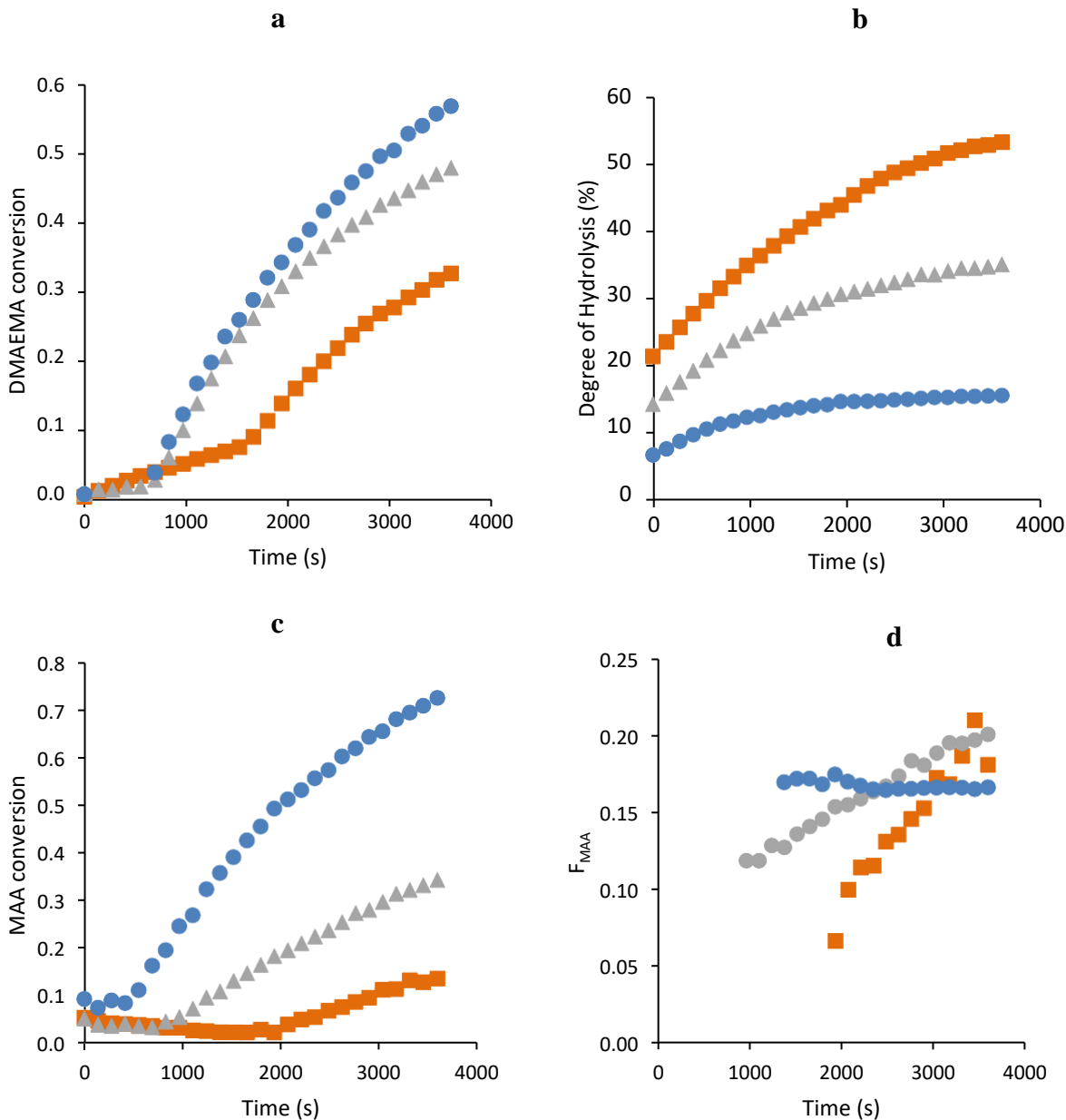


Figure S8. Polymerization of DMAEMA in water at 50 °C with initial $w_{DMAEMA,0} = 0.05$ and $w_{V-50} = 0.001$ to form poly(DMAEMA-co-MAA) at pH 10.1 (orange squares), pH 9.0 (gray triangles) and pH 8.0 (blue circles): **(a)** Fractional conversion profiles of DMAEMA incorporated into polymer; **(b)** Degree of DMAEMA hydrolysis during polymerization; **(c)** Fractional MAA conversion profiles; **(d)** Mole fraction of MAA in the copolymer.

50 °C, 0.4 wt% V-50, pH 8.0 – 10.1

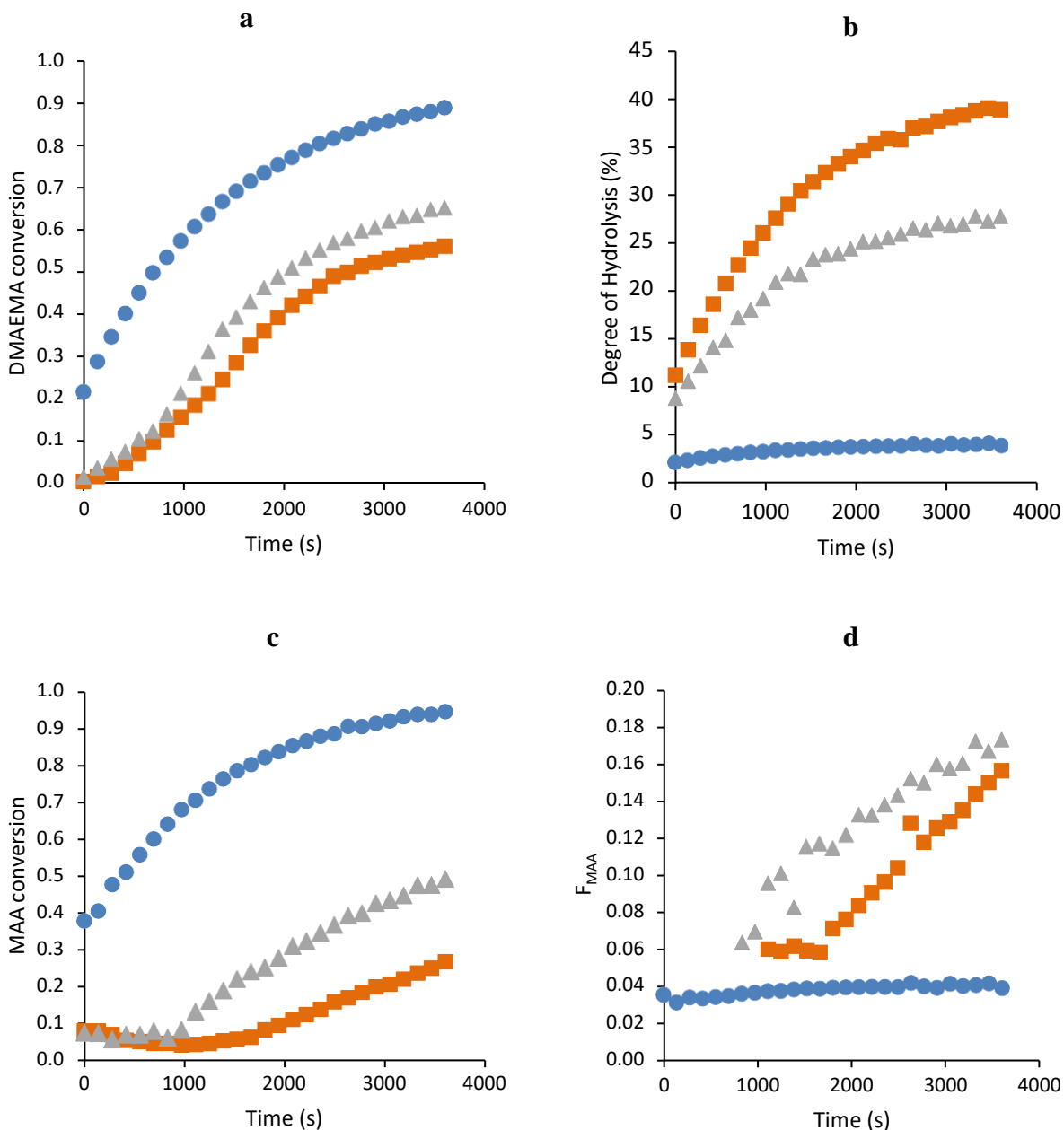


Figure S9. Polymerization of DMAEMA in water at 50 °C with initial $w_{\text{DMAEMA},0} = 0.05$ and $w_{\text{V-50}} = 0.004$ to form poly(DMAEMA-co-MAA) at pH 10.1 (orange squares), pH 9.0 (gray triangles) and pH 8.0 (blue circles): **(a)** Fractional conversion profiles of DMAEMA incorporated into polymer; **(b)** Degree of DMAEMA hydrolysis during polymerization; **(c)** Fractional MAA conversion profiles; **(d)** Mole fraction of MAA in the copolymer.

Molar Mass Distributions of Poly(DMAEMA-co-MAA)

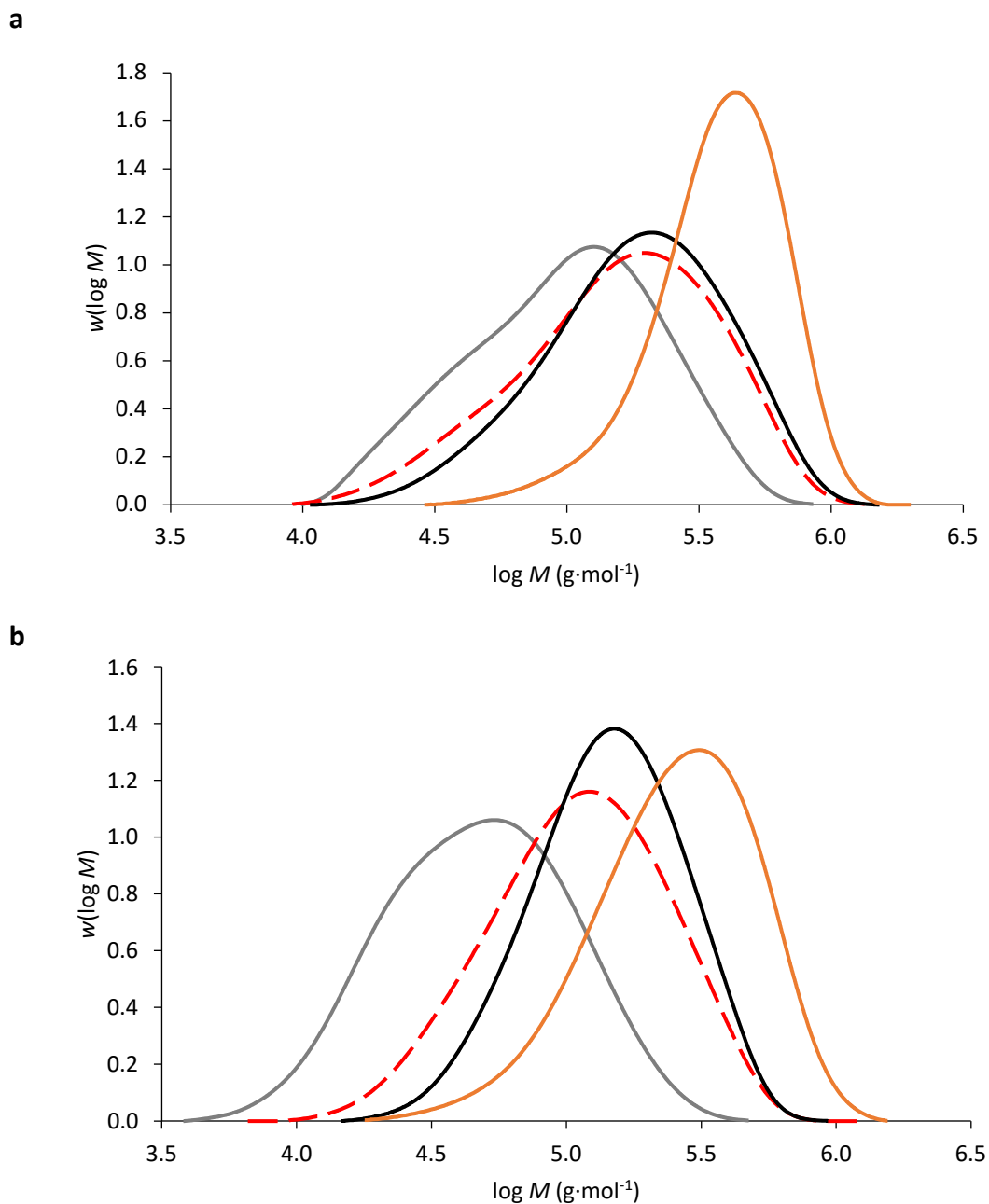


Figure S10. Molar mass distributions of poly(DMAEMA-co-MAA) formed from DMAEMA by radical polymerization in aqueous solutions: $w_{\text{DMAEMA},0} = 0.05$ (60 °C, $w_{V-50} = 0.004$ (gray); 60 °C, $w_{V-50} = 0.001$ (red dashes); 50 °C, $w_{V-50} = 0.004$ (black); 50 °C, $w_{V-50} = 0.001$ (orange)) at **(a)** pH = 8.0 **(b)** pH = 10.1

References

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