

# Thermoresponsive Block Copolymer Micelles with Tunable Pyrrolidone-based Polymer Cores Structure/Property Correlations and Their Application as Drug Carriers

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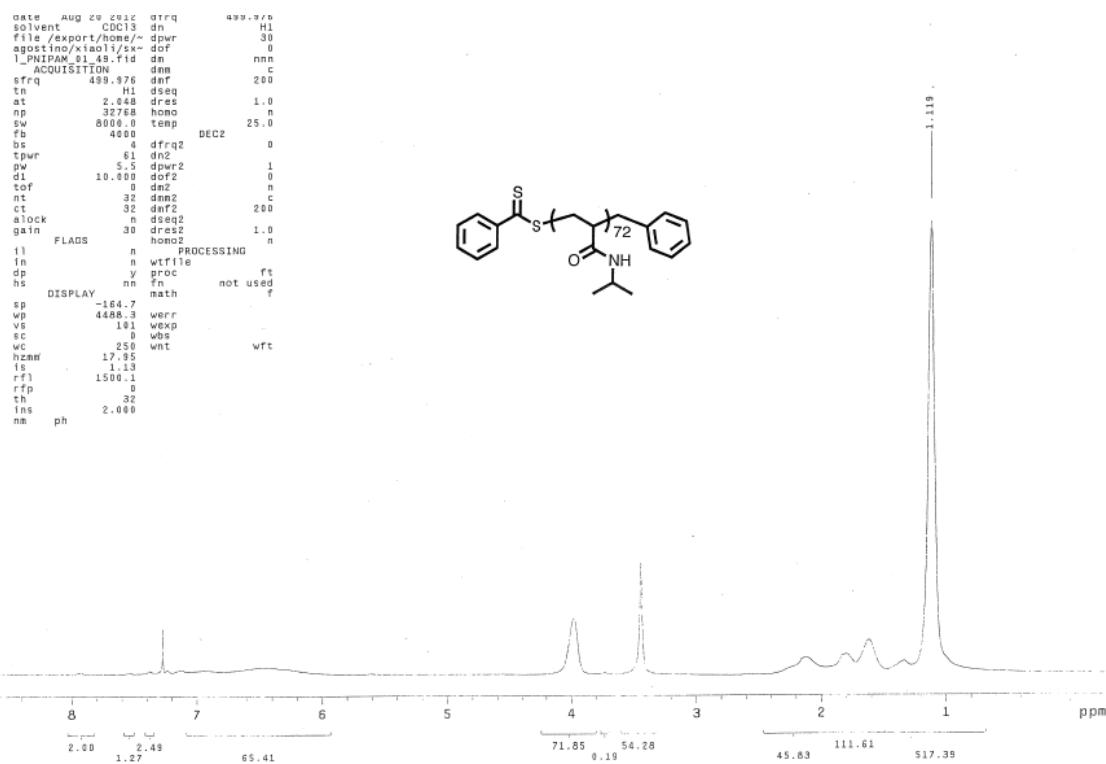


Figure S 1.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C) of PNIPAAm-CTA.

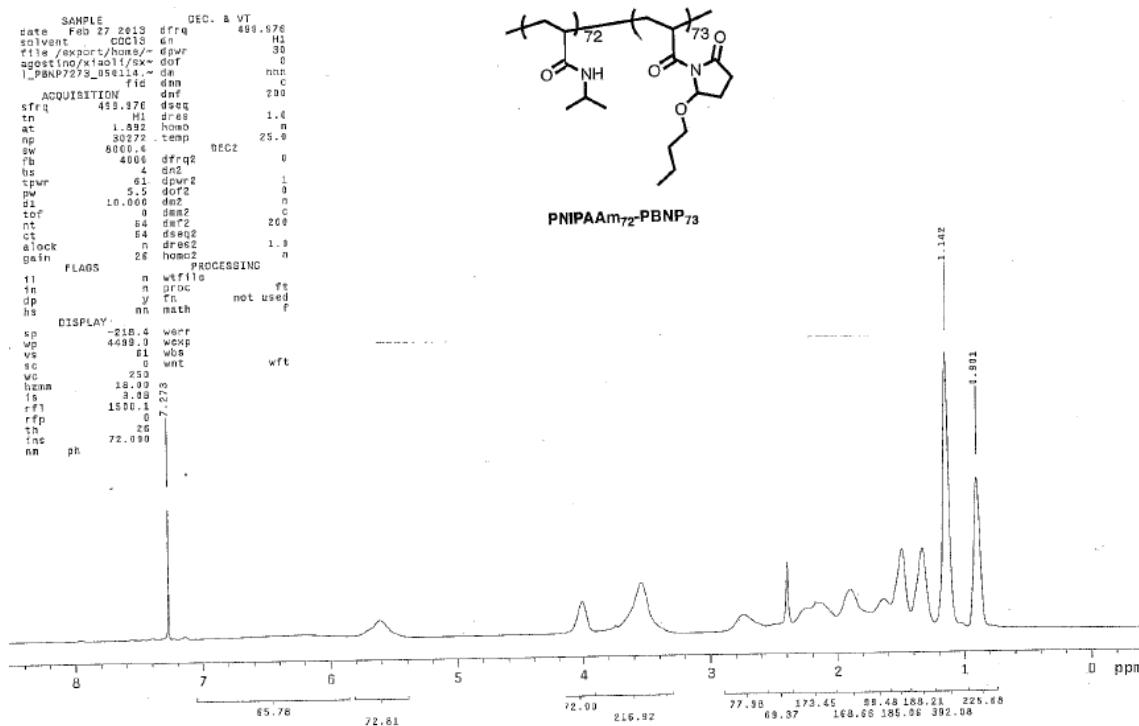


Figure S 2.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PBNP<sub>73</sub>.

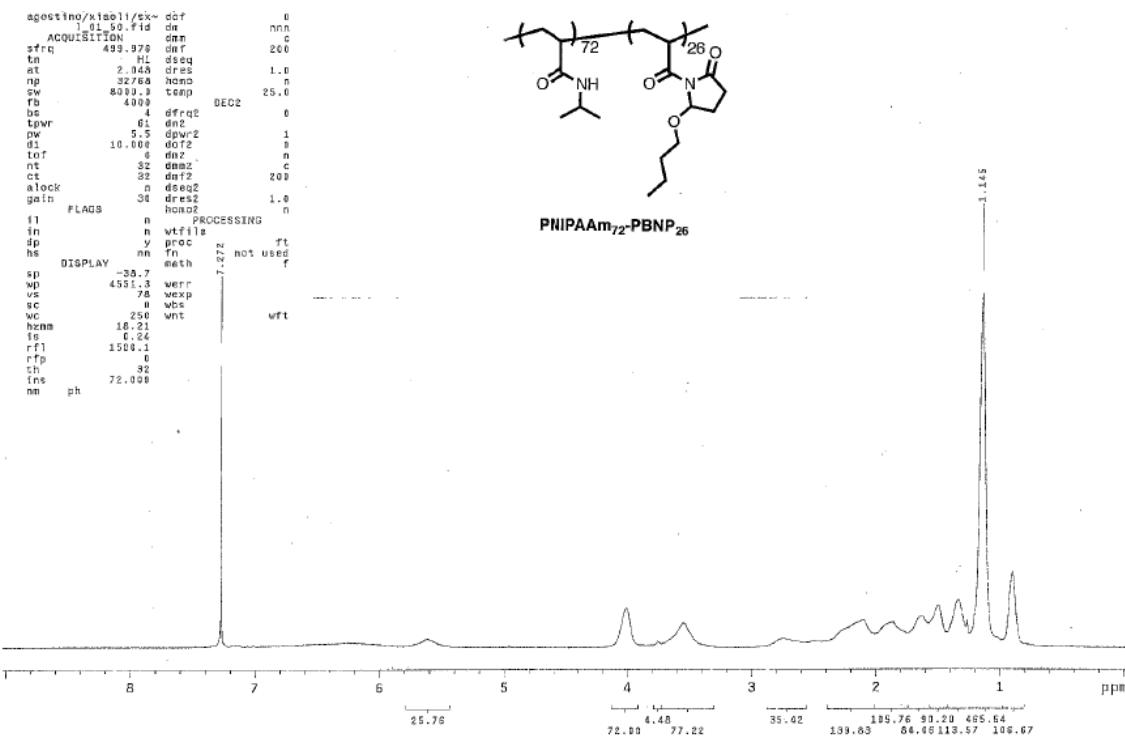


Figure S 3.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PBNP<sub>26</sub>.

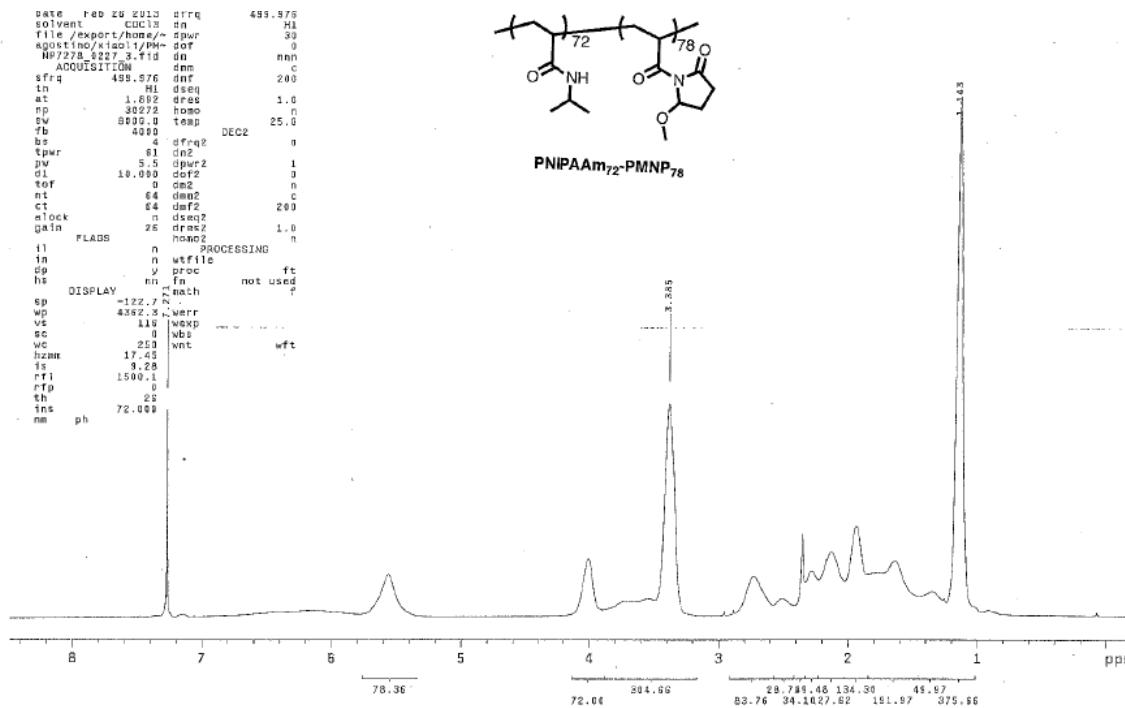


Figure S 4.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of (500 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 25 °C) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PMNP<sub>78</sub>.

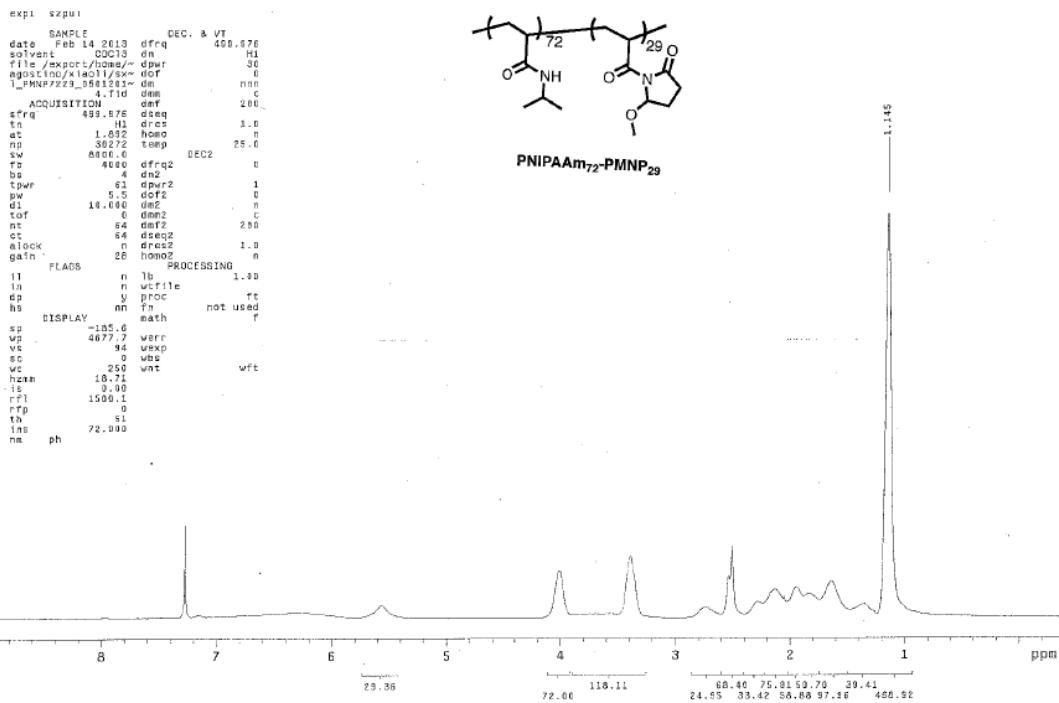


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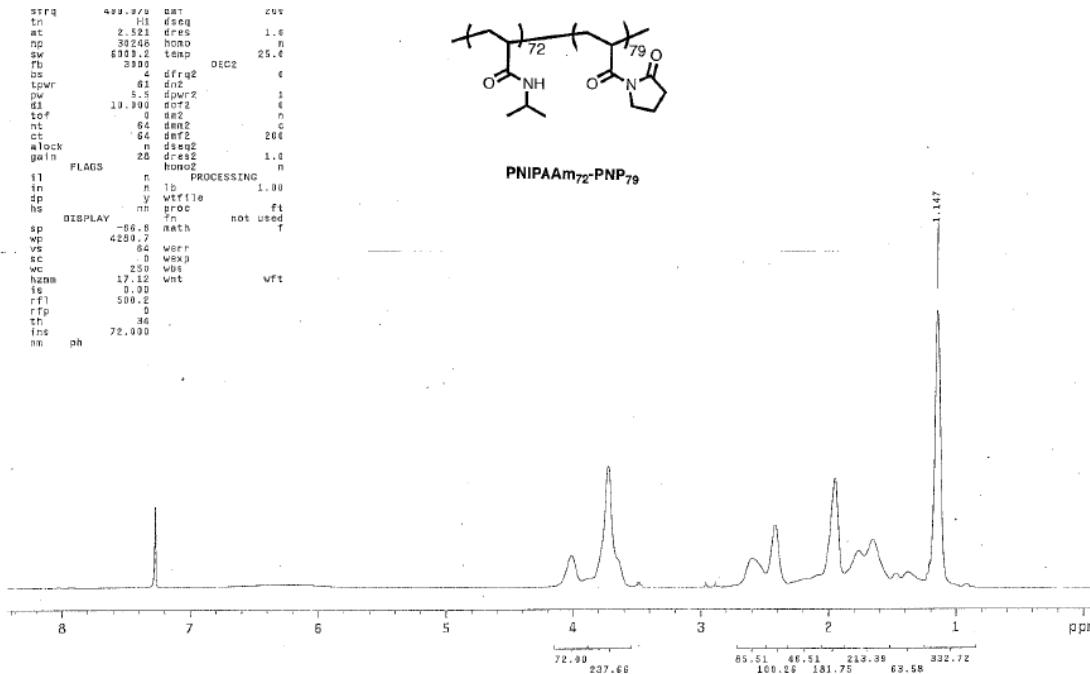


Figure S 6. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 25 °C) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PNP79.

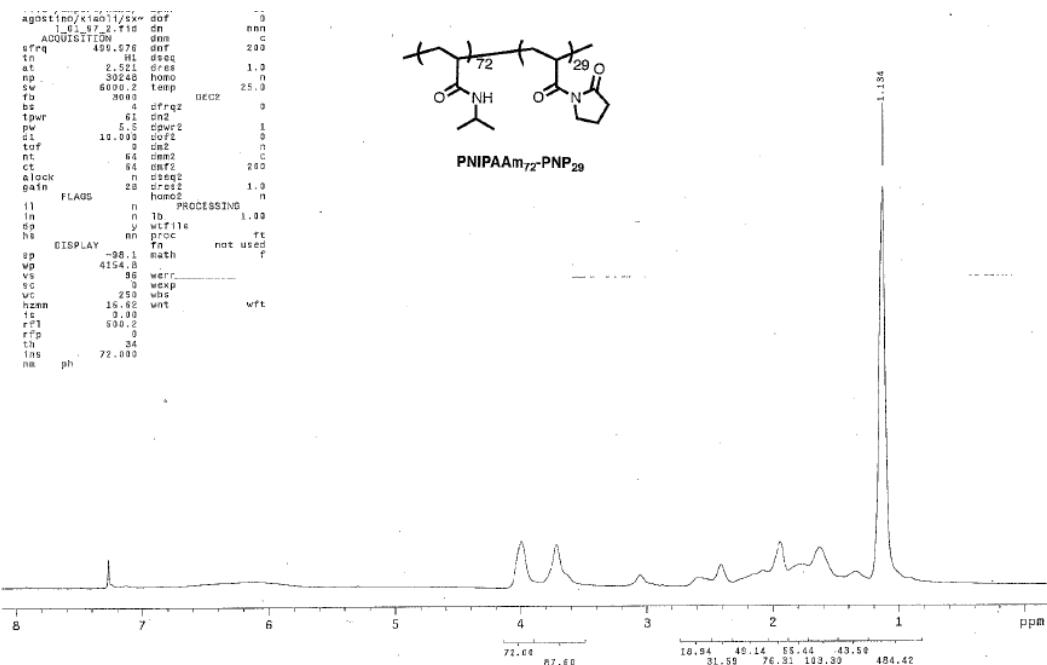


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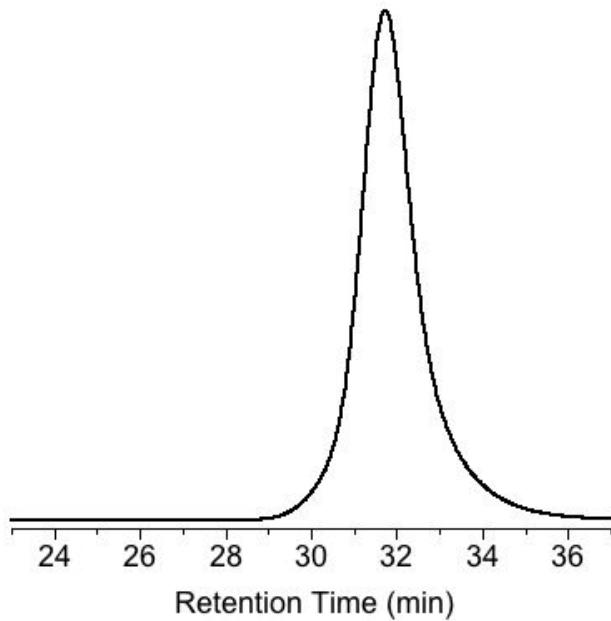


Figure S 8. GPC trace of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>.

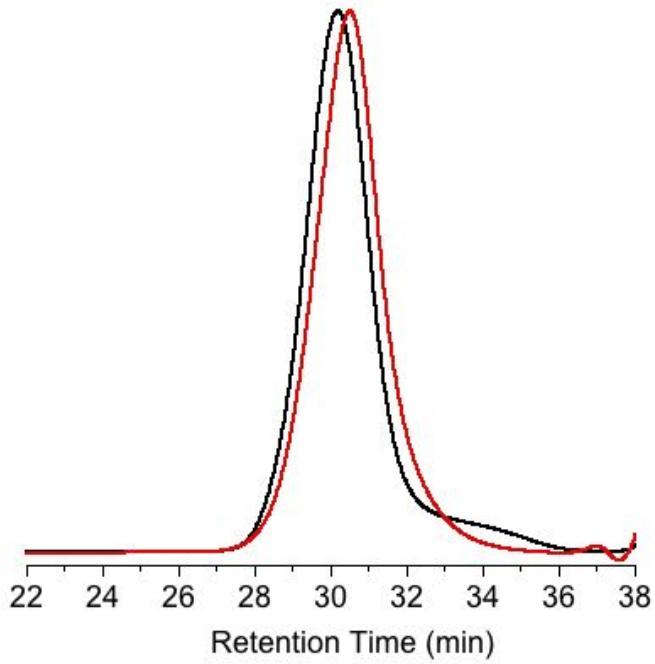


Figure S 9. GPC trace of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PBNP<sub>73</sub> (black) and PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PBNP<sub>26</sub> (red).

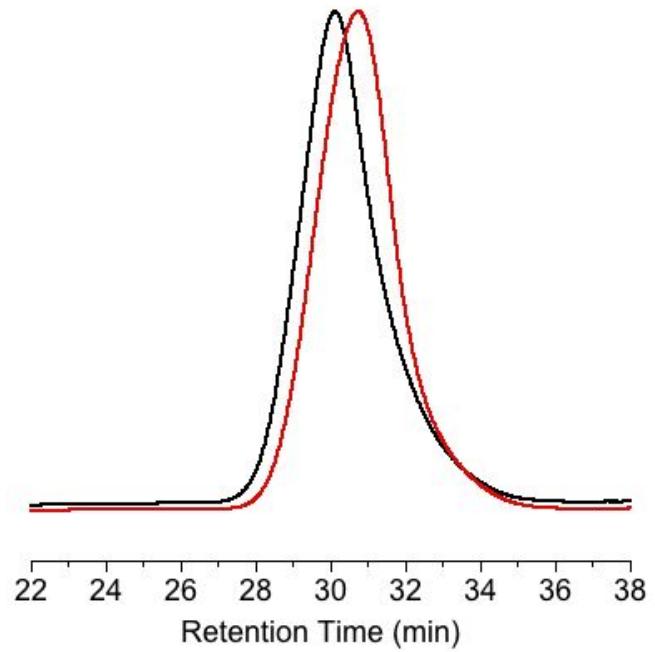


Figure S 10. GPC trace of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PMNP<sub>78</sub> (black) and PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PBNP<sub>29</sub> (red).

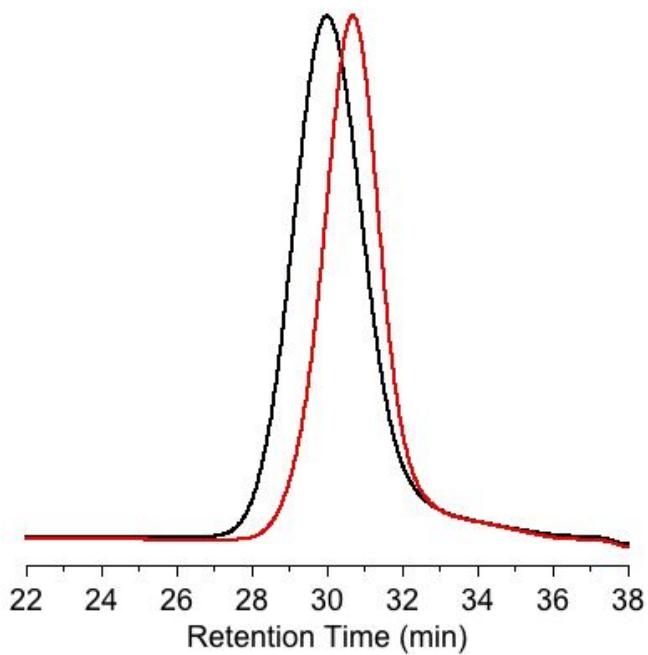


Figure S 11. GPC trace of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PNP<sub>79</sub> (black) and PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PNP<sub>29</sub> (red).

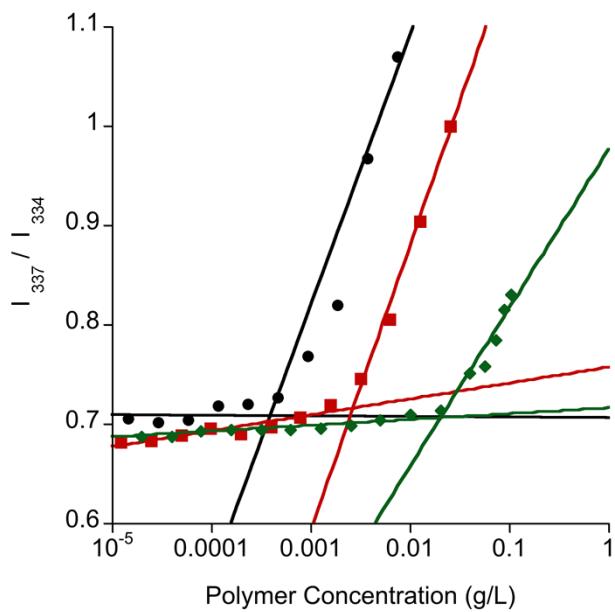


Figure S 12. The intensity ratio  $I_{337}/I_{334}$  obtained from pyrene excitation spectra of block copolymer solutions vs block copolymer concentration. PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PNP<sub>79</sub> (⊕), PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PMNP<sub>78</sub> (⊖), and PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PBNP<sub>73</sub> (●).

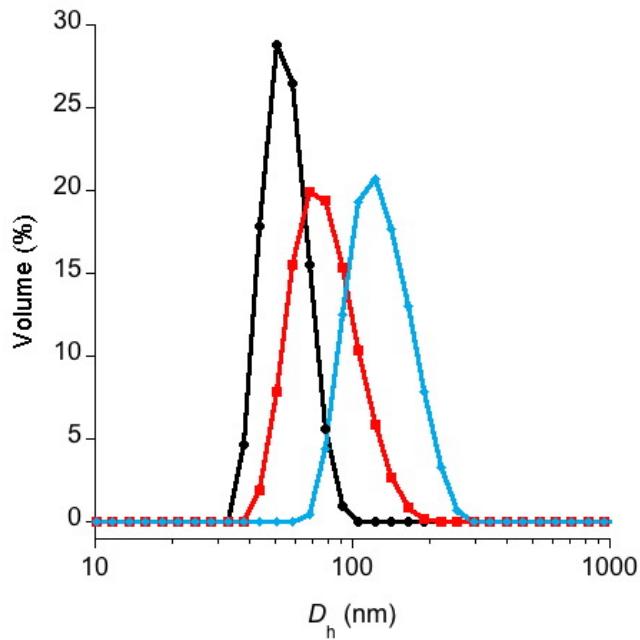


Figure S 13. Hydrodynamic diameter ( $D_h$ ) distribution (Volume (%)) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PBNP<sub>26</sub> (●), PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PMNP<sub>29</sub> (○), and PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PNP<sub>29</sub> (◆) micelles in water at 25 °C.

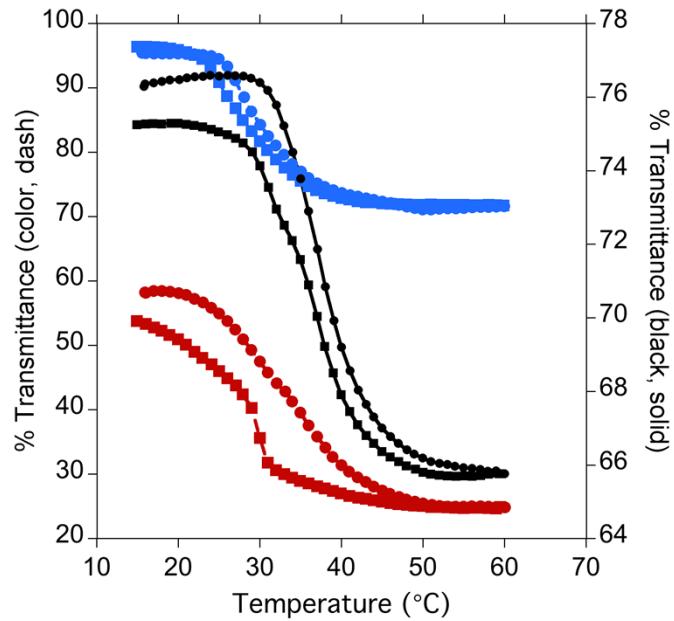


Figure S 14. Percentage transmittance versus temperature plot of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PNP<sub>79</sub> (blue circle, dash, forward scan, blue square, dash, reverse scan), PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PMNP<sub>78</sub> (red circle, dash, forward scan, red square dash, reverse scan), and PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PBNP<sub>73</sub> (black circle, solid, forward scan, black square, solid, reverse scan). (0.2 mg/mL, DI Water).

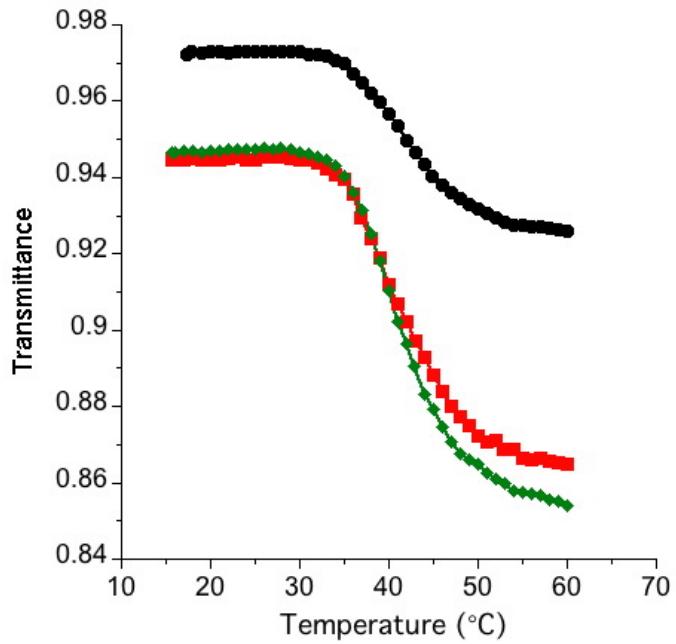


Figure S 15. Transmittance versus temperature plot of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PBNP<sub>26</sub>. Runs 1 (●), 2, (◐), and 3 (◑). (0.2 mg/mL, DI Water).

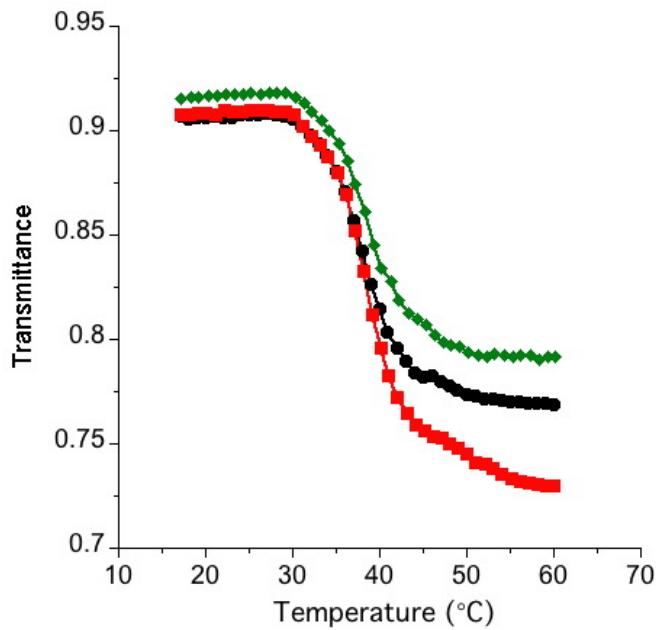


Figure S 16. Transmittance versus temperature plot of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PBNP<sub>73</sub>. Runs 1 (●), 2, (◐), and 3 (◑). (0.2 mg/mL, DI Water).

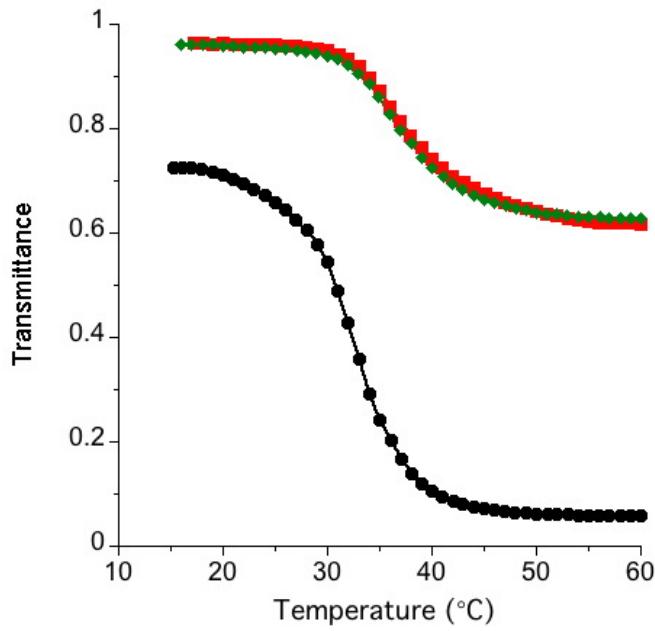


Figure S 17. Transmittance versus temperature plot of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PMNP<sub>29</sub>. Runs 1 (●), 2, (◑), and 3 (◑). (0.2 mg/mL, DI Water).

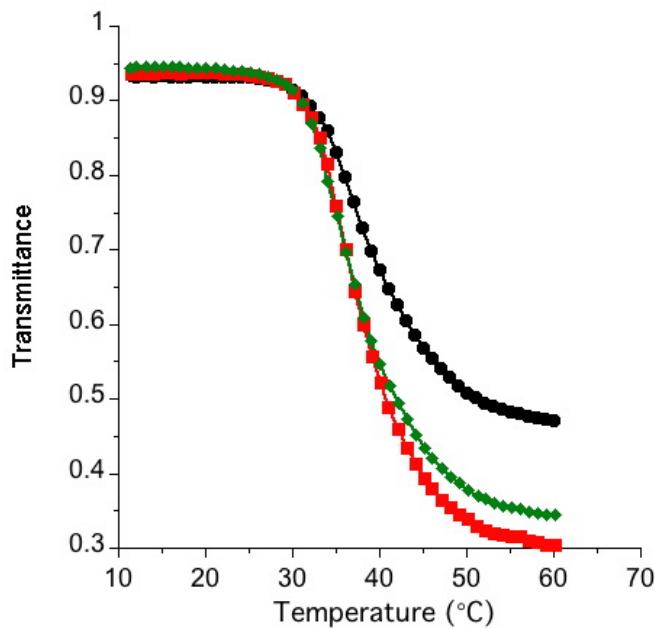


Figure S 18. Transmittance versus temperature plot of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PMNP<sub>78</sub>. Runs 1 (●), 2, (◑), and 3 (◑). (0.2 mg/mL, DI Water).

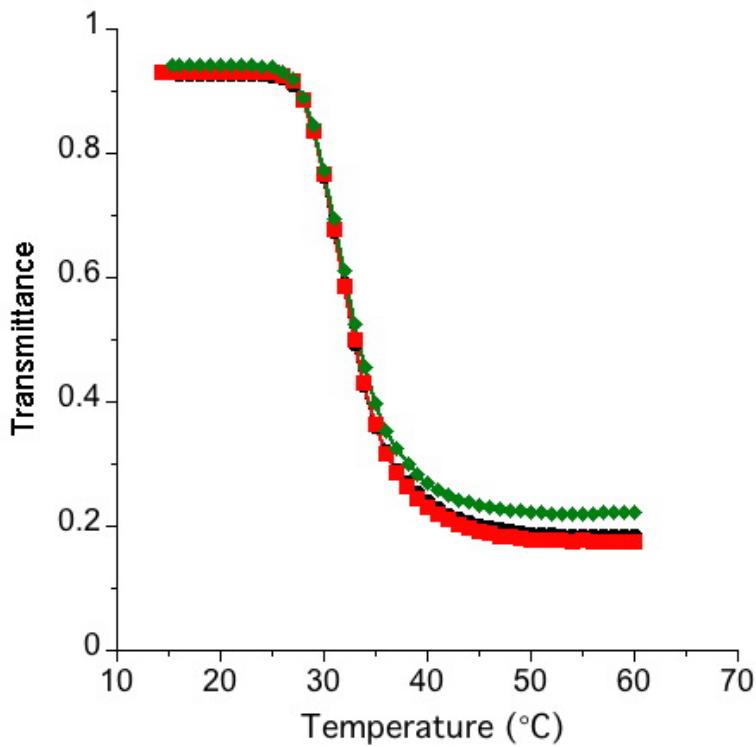


Figure S 19. Transmittance versus temperature plot of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PNP<sub>29</sub>. Runs 1 (●), 2, (◑), and 3 (◑). (0.2 mg/mL, DI Water).

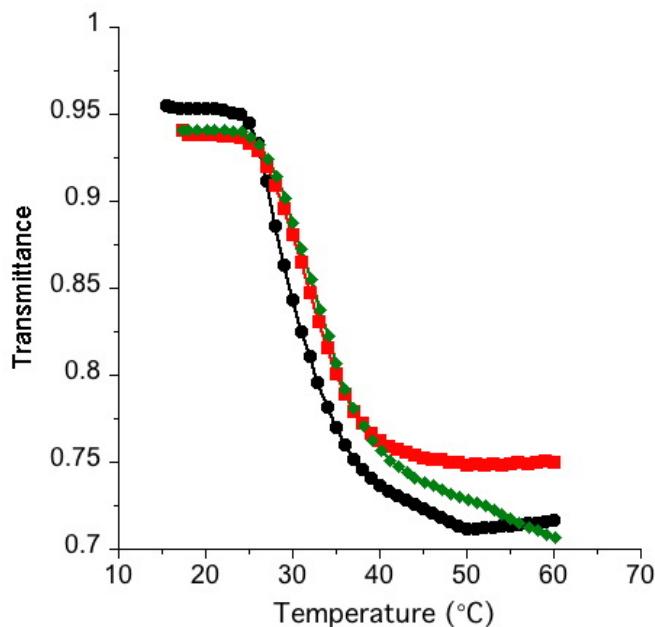


Figure S 20. Transmittance versus temperature plot of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PNP<sub>73</sub>. Runs 1 (●), 2, (◑), and 3 (◑). (0.2 mg/mL, DI Water).

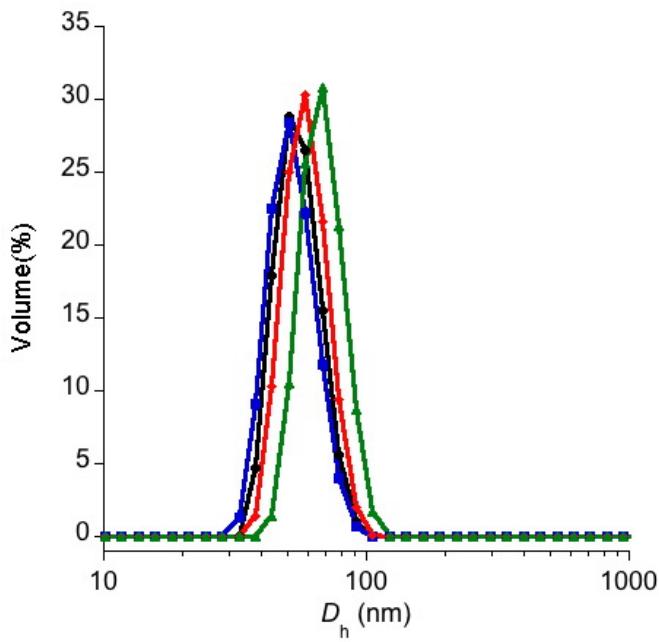


Figure S 21. Hydrodynamic diameter ( $D_h$ ) distribution (Volume (%)) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PBNP<sub>26</sub> micelles at 25 °C (●), 35 °C (■), 40 °C (◆), and 50 °C (○). Run 1.

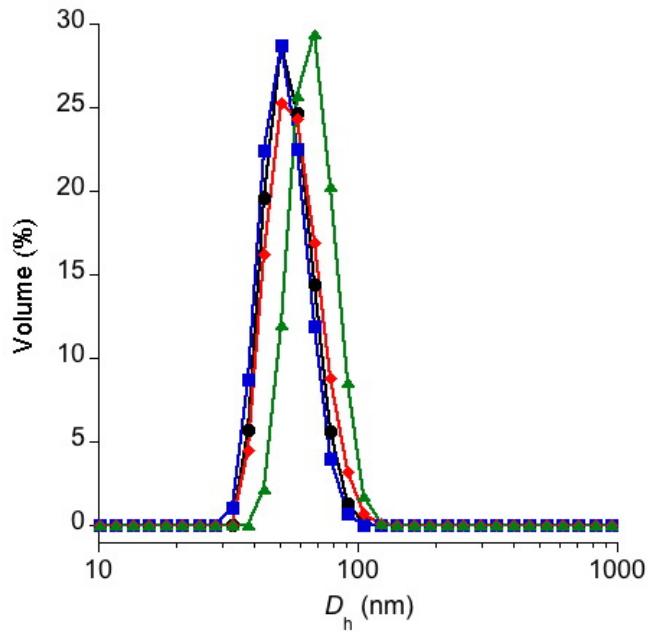


Figure S 22. Hydrodynamic diameter ( $D_h$ ) distribution (Volume (%)) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PBNP<sub>26</sub> micelles at 25 °C (●), 35 °C (■), 40 °C (◆), and 50 °C (○). Run 2.

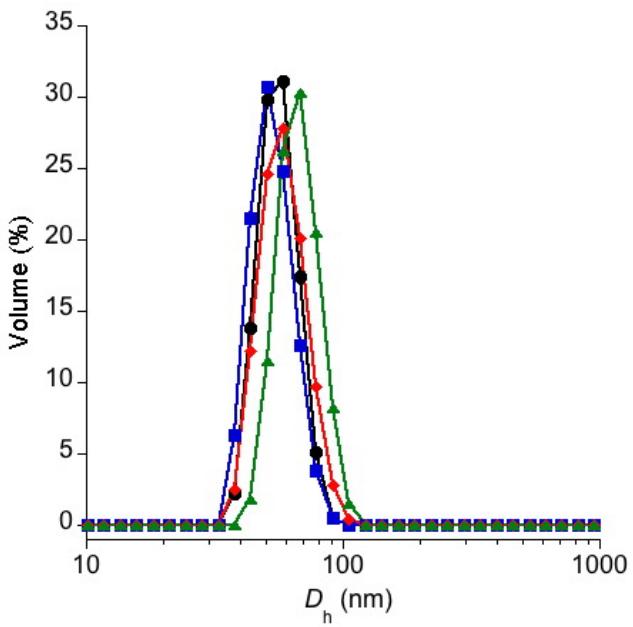


Figure S 23. Hydrodynamic diameter ( $D_h$ ) distribution (Volume (%)) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PBNP<sub>26</sub> micelles at 25 °C (●), 35 °C (■), 40 °C (◆), and 50 °C (○). Run 3.

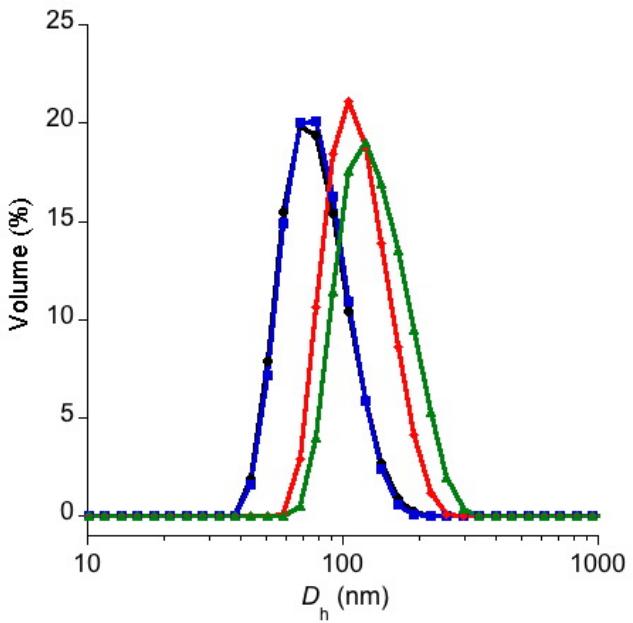


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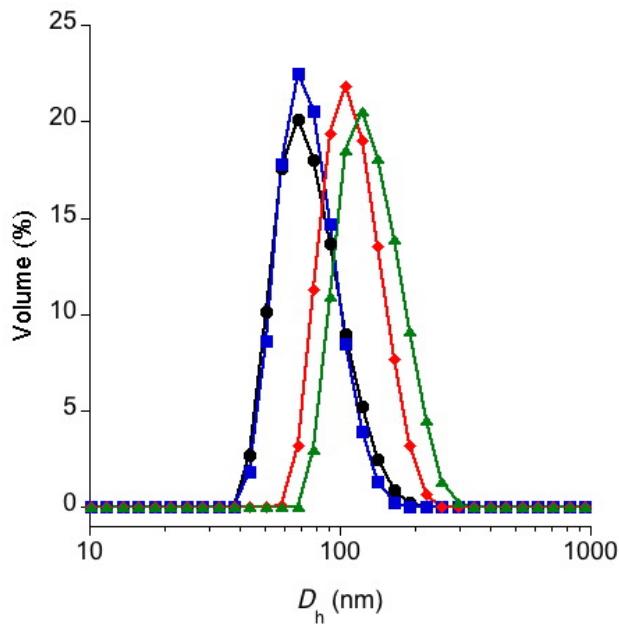


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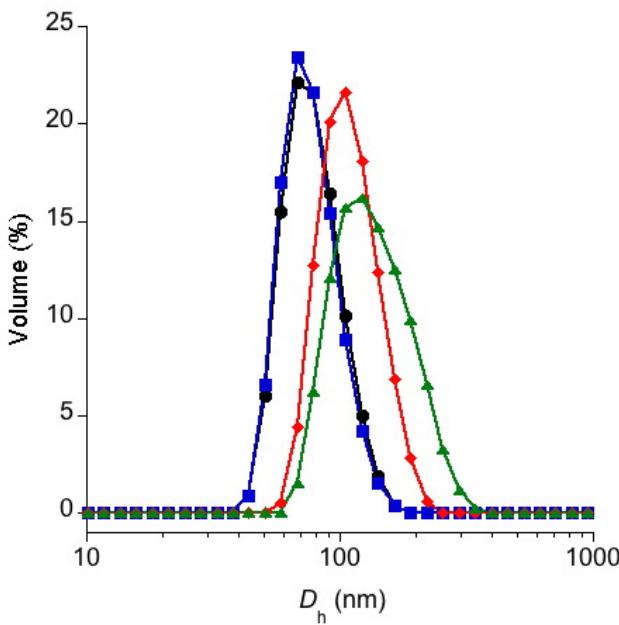


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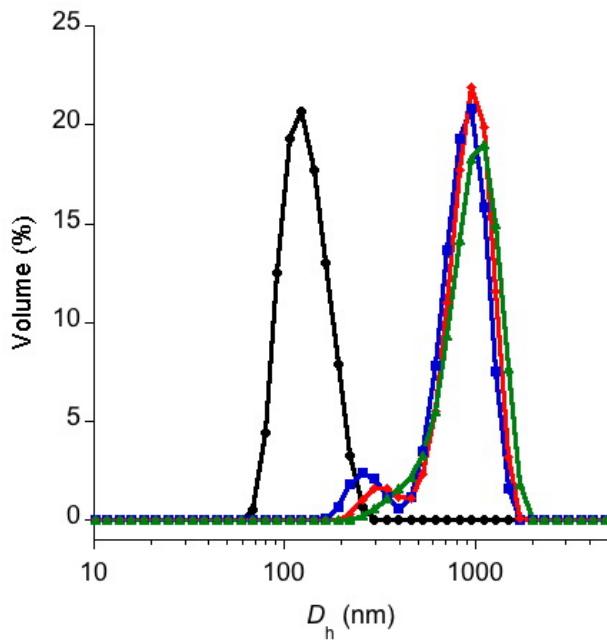


Figure S 27. Hydrodynamic diameter ( $D_h$ ) distribution (Volume (%)) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PNP<sub>29</sub> micelles at 25 °C (●), 35 °C (■), 40 °C (◆), and 50 °C (○). Run 1.

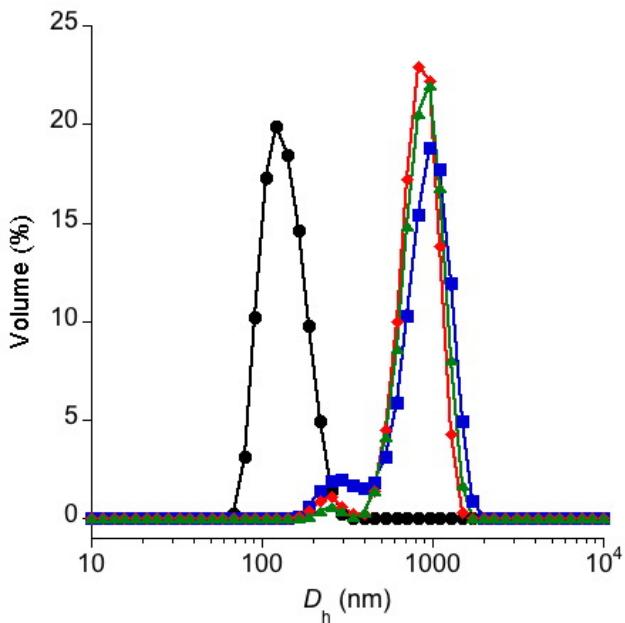


Figure S 28. Hydrodynamic diameter ( $D_h$ ) distribution (Volume (%)) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PNP<sub>29</sub> micelles at 25 °C (●), 35 °C (■), 40 °C (◆), and 50 °C (○). Run 2.

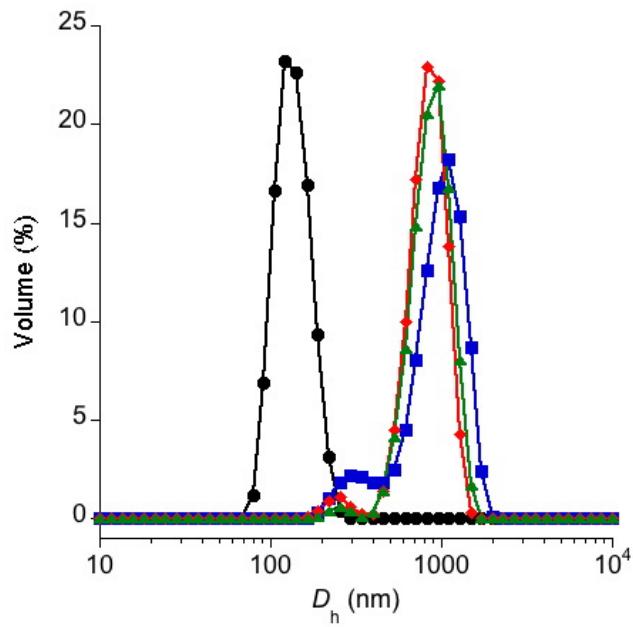


Figure S 29. Hydrodynamic diameter ( $D_h$ ) distribution (Volume (%)) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PNP<sub>29</sub> micelles at 25 °C (●), 35 °C (■), 40 °C (◆), and 50 °C (○). Run 3.

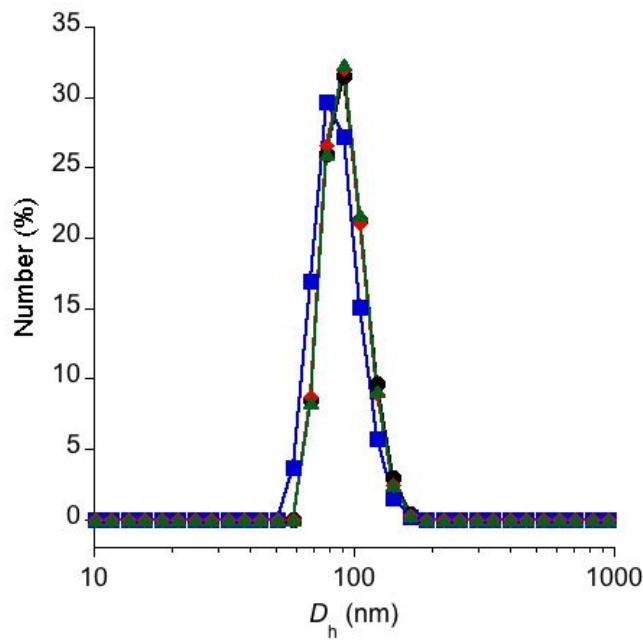


Figure S 30. Hydrodynamic diameter ( $D_h$ ) distribution (Number (%)) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PBNP<sub>73</sub> micelles at 25 °C (●), 35 °C (■), 40 °C (◆), and 50 °C (○).

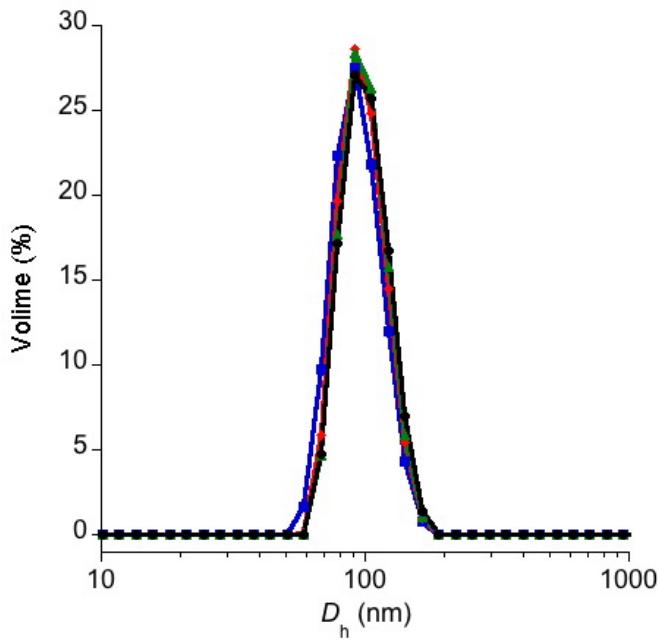


Figure S 31. Hydrodynamic diameter ( $D_h$ ) distribution (Volume (%)) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PBNP<sub>73</sub> micelles at 25 °C (●), 35 °C (■), 40 °C (◆), and 50 °C (○). Run 1.

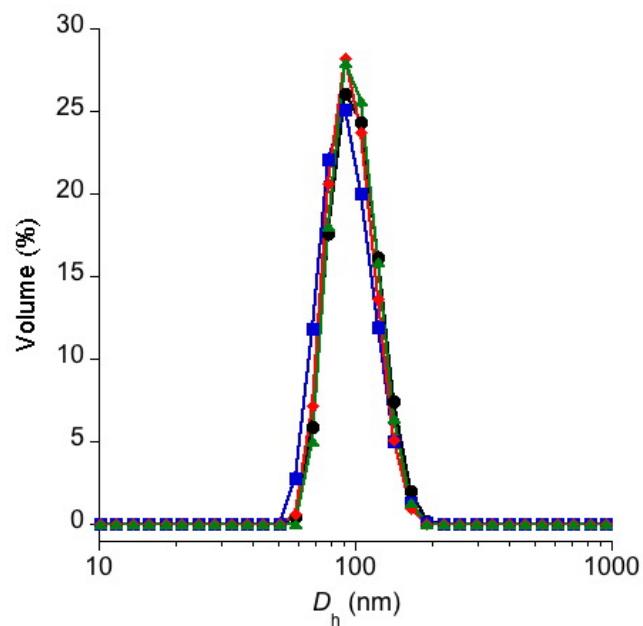


Figure S 32. Hydrodynamic diameter ( $D_h$ ) distribution (Volume (%)) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PBNP<sub>73</sub> micelles at 25 °C (●), 35 °C (■), 40 °C (◆), and 50 °C (○). Run 2.

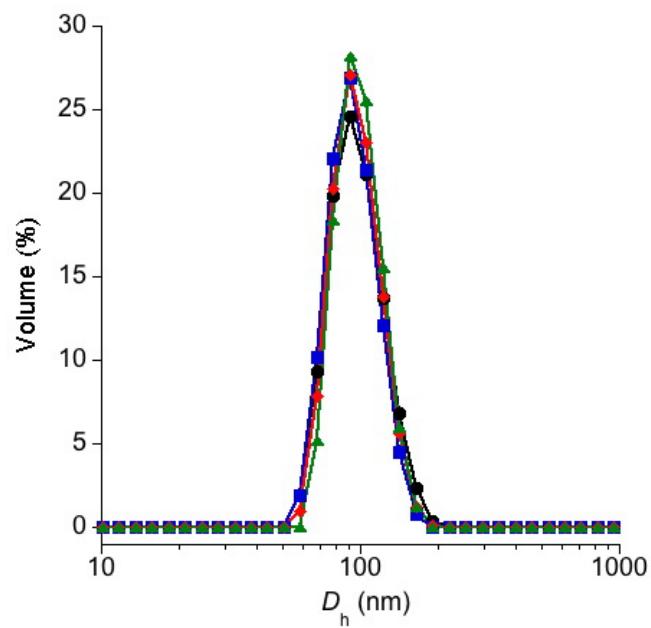


Figure S 33. Hydrodynamic diameter ( $D_h$ ) distribution (Volume (%)) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PBNP<sub>73</sub> micelles at 25 °C (●), 35 °C (■), 40 °C (◆), and 50 °C (○). Run 3.

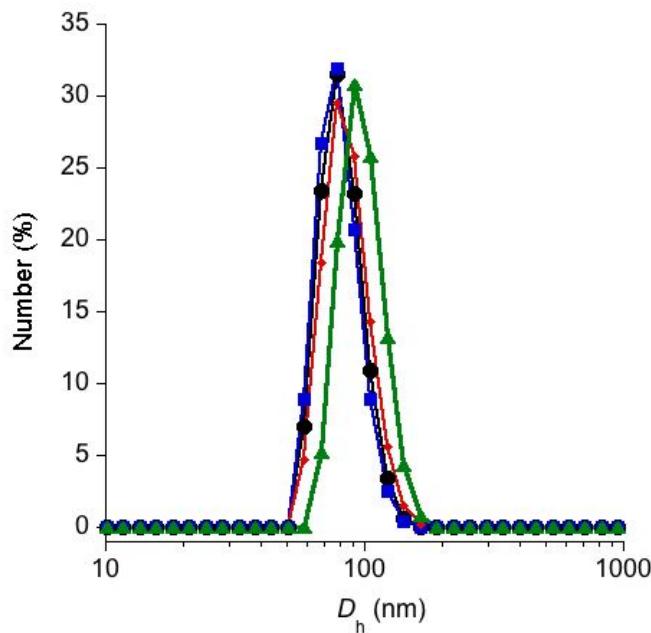


Figure S 34. Hydrodynamic diameter ( $D_h$ ) distribution (Number (%)) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PMNP<sub>78</sub> micelles at 25 °C (●), 35 °C (■), 40 °C (◆), and 50 °C (○).

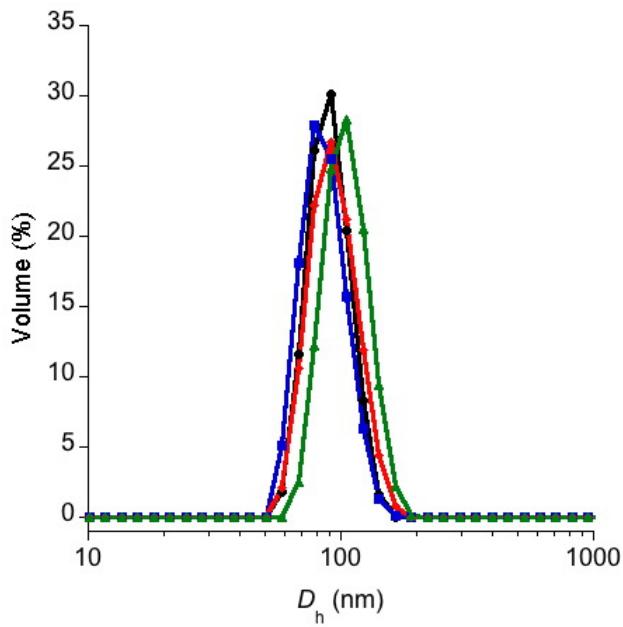


Figure S 35. Hydrodynamic diameter ( $D_h$ ) distribution (Volume (%)) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PMNP<sub>78</sub> micelles at 25 °C (●), 35 °C (■), 40 °C (◆), and 50 °C (○). Run 1.

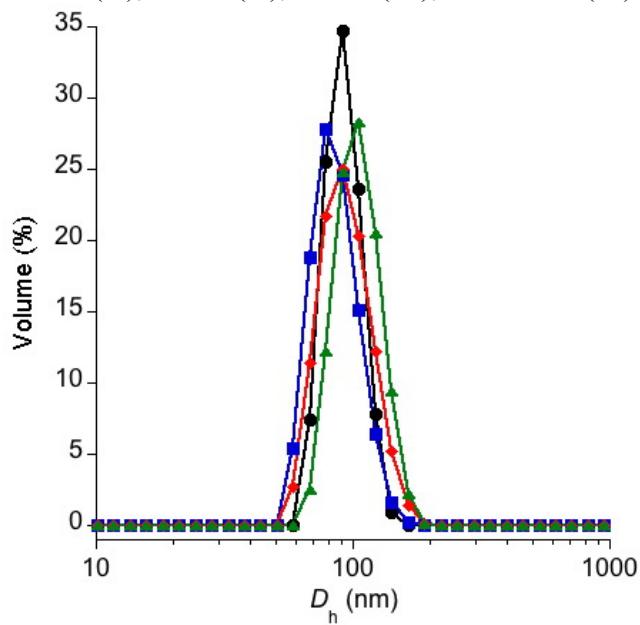


Figure S 36. Hydrodynamic diameter ( $D_h$ ) distribution (Volume (%)) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PMNP<sub>78</sub> micelles at 25 °C (●), 35 °C (■), 40 °C (◆), and 50 °C (○). Run 2.

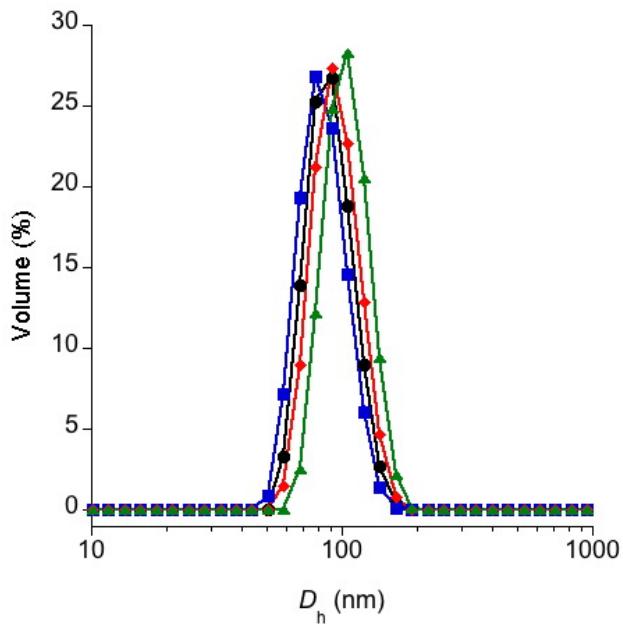


Figure S 37. Hydrodynamic diameter ( $D_h$ ) distribution (Volume (%)) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PMNP<sub>78</sub> micelles at 25 °C (●), 35 °C (■), 40 °C (◆), and 50 °C (○). Run 3.

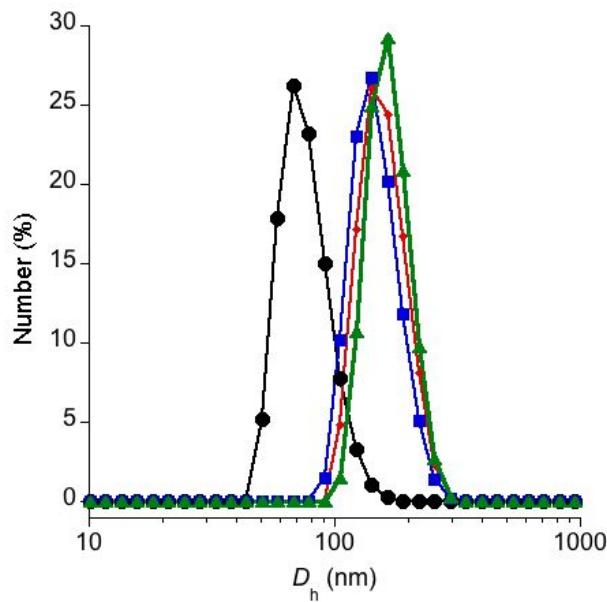


Figure S 38. Hydrodynamic diameter ( $D_h$ ) distribution (Number (%)) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PNP<sub>79</sub> micelles at 25 °C (●), 35 °C (■), 40 °C (◆), and 50 °C (○).

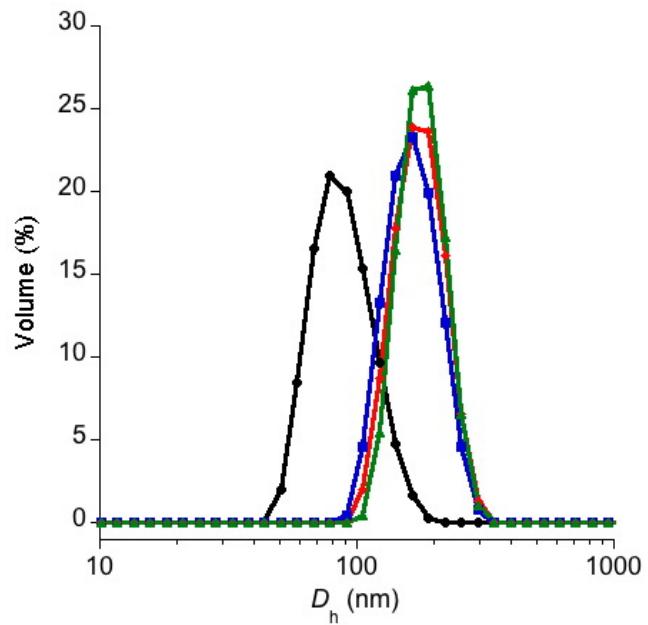


Figure S 39. Hydrodynamic diameter ( $D_h$ ) distribution (Volume (%)) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PNP<sub>79</sub> micelles at 25 °C (●), 35 °C (■), 40 °C (◆), and 50 °C (○). Run 1.

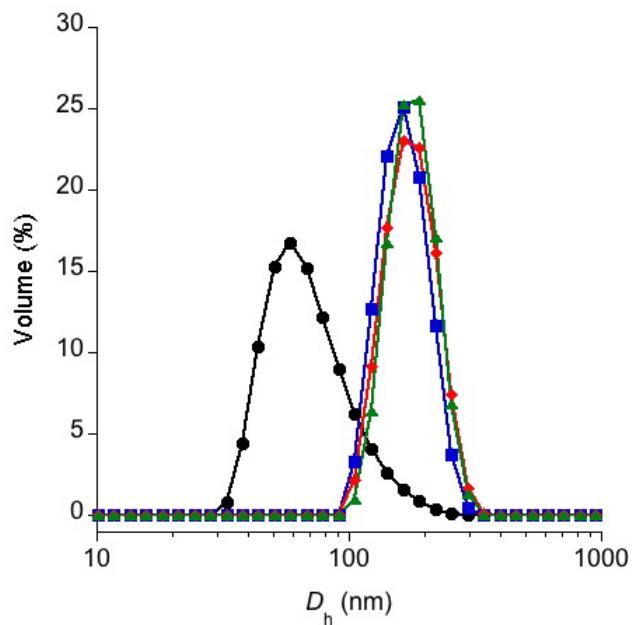


Figure S 40. Hydrodynamic diameter ( $D_h$ ) distribution (Volume (%)) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PNP<sub>79</sub> micelles at 25 °C (●), 35 °C (■), 40 °C (◆), and 50 °C (○). Run 2.

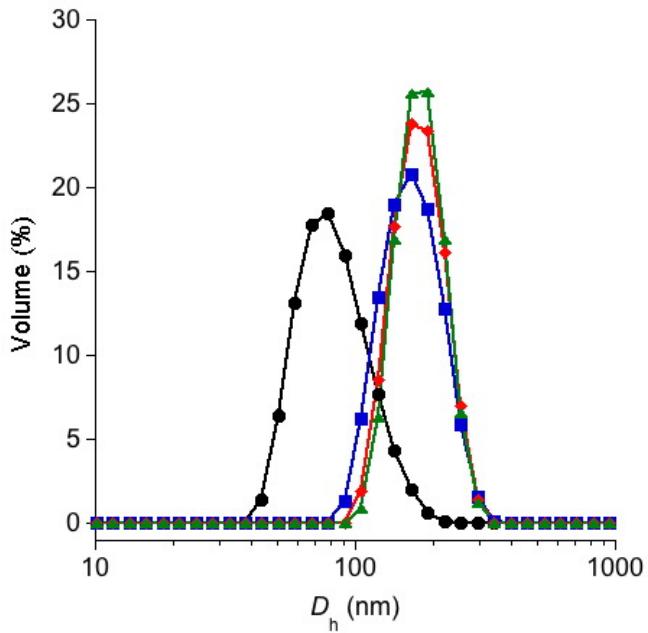


Figure S 41. Hydrodynamic diameter ( $D_h$ ) distribution (Volume (%)) of PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PNP<sub>79</sub> micelles at 25 °C (●), 35 °C (■), 40 °C (◆), and 50 °C (○). Run 3.

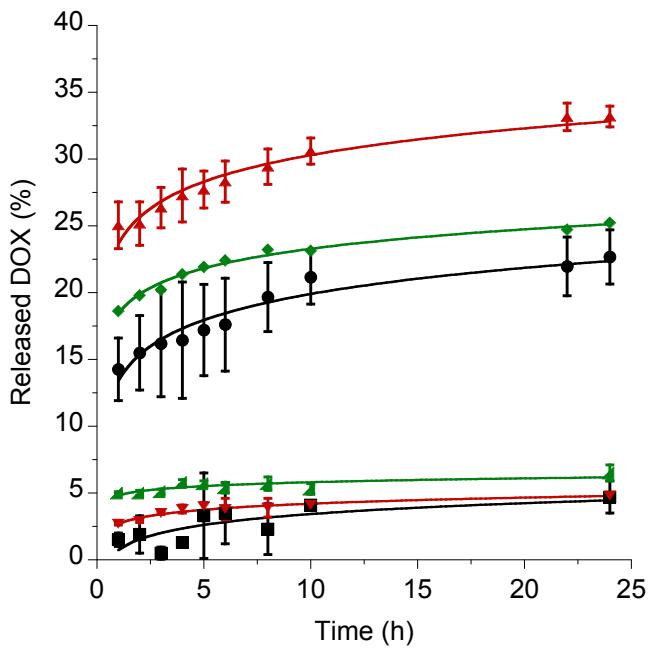


Figure S 42. DOX release from a) PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PNP<sub>79</sub> at 37°C (①) and 20°C (②), PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PMNP<sub>78</sub> at 37°C (◆) and 20°C (□), and PNIPAAm<sub>72</sub>-PBNP<sub>73</sub> 37°C (●) and 20°C (○). Data points are plotted as a mean with standard deviation (n = 3).

Table S1. LCST (°C) of block copolymers in deionized water.

Polymer	Run 1	Run 2	Run 3
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PBNP <sub>73</sub>	34.9	37.9	39.9
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PBNP <sub>26</sub>	41.9	40.9	40.9
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PMNP <sub>78</sub>	39.0	38.0	38.9
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PMNP <sub>29</sub>	37.9	37.0	39.9
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PNP <sub>79</sub>	32.0	34.1	32.2
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PNP <sub>29</sub>	32.9	32.9	31.9

Table S2. LCST (°C) of block copolymers in PBS solution.

Polymer	Run 1	Run 2	Run 3	mean ± S.D.
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PBNP <sub>73</sub>	34.0	33.0	34.0	33.6 ± 0.6
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PBNP <sub>26</sub>	31.9	32.9	32.1	32.3 ± 0.5
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PMNP <sub>78</sub>	33.1	33.2	32.1	32.8 ± 0.6
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PMNP <sub>29</sub>	33.1	33.0	33.1	33.1 ± 0.0
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PNP <sub>79</sub>	25.0	28.1	26.3	26.5 ± 1.6
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PNP <sub>29</sub>	28.0	28.1	28.0	28.0 ± 0.0

Table S3.  $D_h$  of micelles (Volume (%)) with PDI in parentheses.

Polymer	Run 1	Run 2	Run 3	mean ± S.D.
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PBNP <sub>73</sub>	101.5 (0.019)	101.5 (0.025)	98.9 (0.050)	100.6 ± 1.5
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PBNP <sub>26</sub>	55.7 (0.027)	55.3 (0.043)	56.7 (0.034)	55.9 ± 0.7
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PMNP <sub>78</sub>	91.1 (0.041)	92.7 (0.002)	90.9 (0.038)	91.6 ± 1.0
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PMNP <sub>29</sub>	80.7 (0.098)	78.4 (0.074)	79.9 (0.068)	79.7 ± 1.2
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PNP <sub>29</sub>	131.3 (0.125)	138.2 (0.077)	138.2 (0.057)	135.9 ± 4.0
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PNP <sub>79</sub>	90.4 (0.119)	73.2 (0.131)	85.8 (0.121)	83.1 ± 8.9

Table S4.  $D_h$  of drug-loaded micelles (Volume (%)) with PDI in parentheses.

Polymer	Run 1	Run 2	Run 3	mean ± S.D.
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PBNP <sub>73</sub>	56.6 (0.253)	52.2 (0.256)	58.3 (0.252)	55.7 ± 3.1
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PBNP <sub>26</sub>	36.0 (0.172)	37.4 (0.156)	35.9 (0.159)	36.5 ± 0.8
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PMNP <sub>78</sub>	45.4 (0.240)	57.7 (0.236)	56.4 (0.265)	53.0 ± 6.6
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PMNP <sub>29</sub>	55.0 (0.199)	47.5 (0.201)	65.4 (0.191)	55.9 ± 9.0
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PNP <sub>29</sub>	78.3 (0.243)	75.3 (0.226)	80.8 (0.108)	78.1 ± 2.8
PNIPAAm <sub>72</sub> -PNP <sub>79</sub>	143.4 (0.141)	141.2 (0.135)	144.7 (0.145)	143.1 ± 1.8