

Disorder effects on the static scattering function of star branched polymers

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In scattering experiments on polymer systems, which are commonly used in investigations of the structure properties of macromolecules, of interest is the static structure function $S(k)$ as function of the wave vector \vec{k} . We evaluate quantitative estimate for the scattering intensity $I(k) \equiv S(k)/S(0)$ on the branched f -armed star polymers in solutions in d dimensions in presence of structural defects, correlated on large distances r according to a power law $\sim r^{-a}$. In particular, we are interested in the ratio $g(f)$ of scattering intensities of star and linear polymers of the same molecular weight, which is a universal experimentally measurable quantity. We apply the direct polymer renormalization approach and evaluate results applying double $\varepsilon = 4 - d$, $\delta = 4 - a$ -expansion. We found an increase of $g(f)$ with increasing the parameter δ . This can be interpreted as follows: the stronger are correlations of disorder, the smaller is the distinction between the size measure of a star and linear polymers of the same molecular weight.