

Figure 4: Results of the bootstrap fit of pressure-extension curves of gels with $pK = 6.0$ and the same hydrophobicity $\epsilon = 0.5$ and at different salt concentration: (a) $c_s = 0.002$, (b) $c_s = 0.003$, (c) $c_s = 0.006$, (d) $c_s = 0.01$, (e) $c_s = 0.015$, (f) $c_s = 0.026$, (g) $c_s = 0.043$, (h) $c_s = 0.072$. The result of the fitting is an approximate value of χ parameter written in the legend.

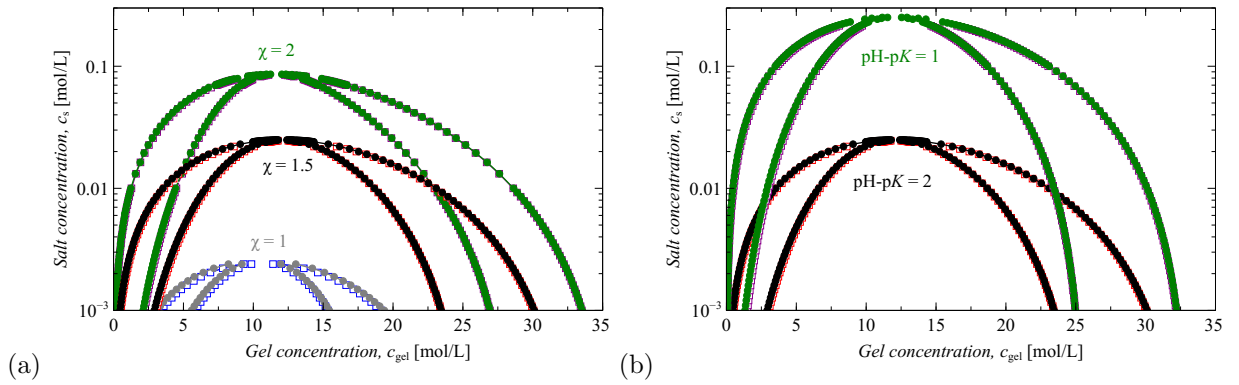


Figure 5: Phase diagrams of hydrophobic gel in salt concentration c_s – gel concentration c_{gel} coordinates obtained from the box-model (a) at constant $pH - pK = 2$ and different solvent quality χ , (b) at constant solvent quality $\chi = 1.5$ and different $pH - pK$. Blue, red and dark-magenta colors correspond to $b = 2$, while grey, black and green – $b = 1$.