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**Hydrophobic Radicals Embedded in Neutral Surfactants for
Dynamic Nuclear Polarization of Aqueous Environments at
9.4 Tesla.**

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Materials and Methods.

General Information. The surfactants Tween-80®, Brij® C10 (Brij-56), IGEPAL® CO-630, and sodium dodecyl sulphate (SDS) were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. L-Alanine was purchased from ACROS Organics, α -D-Glucose was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, Uniformly ^{13}C -labelled L-proline was purchased from Cambridge Isotope Laboratories. The radical BDPA was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, while bTbK,¹ bCTbK,² and TEKPol³ were prepared following the synthesis already reported in the literature.

DNP-NMR Methods. All DNP-enhanced NMR experiments were performed using a solid-state 400 MHz DNP-NMR spectrometer designed by Bruker-Biospin⁴. This system consists of a wide-bore 9.4 T magnet ($\omega_{\text{H}}/(2\pi) = 400.3$ MHz, $\omega_{\text{C}}/(2\pi) = 100.7$ MHz) with a Bruker Avance III spectrometer console, and is equipped with a double/triple resonance 3.2 mm low-temperature CP-MAS probe. DNP is achieved by irradiating the sample with high-power microwaves at a frequency of 263 GHz that are generated by a gyrotron and are delivered to the sample by a corrugated wave-guide (~ 5 W of power reaching the sample). The gyrotron operates continuously during the DNP-enhanced experiments (stability of better than $\pm 1\%$). Sapphire rotors (with ZrO_2 caps) were used for optimal microwave penetration. Spinning frequencies were regulated to $8.0 \text{ kHz} \pm 2 \text{ Hz}$. The sample temperatures were $\approx 105 \text{ K}$. The chemical shifts are referenced to TMS at 0 ppm. ^1H 1D direct excitation experiments were acquired with a rotor synchronized spin echo in order to suppress the background signals. The pulse sequence was: $\pi/2 - \tau - \pi - \tau - \text{acquisition}$, $\pi/2$ and π hard pulses were calibrated at $2.5 \mu\text{s}$ and $5.0 \mu\text{s}$ (100 kHz), respectively. The τ echo-delays were set to 1 rotor period. Experiments were acquired over a spectral window of 200 kHz , with an acquisition time of 5.12 ms , and a recycle delay of 3.0 s . Standard cross-polarization (CP) was used for the acquisition of 1D ^{13}C spectra, the recycle delay between scans was 2.0 s in all experiments. The ^1H $\pi/2$ pulse length was $2.5 \mu\text{s}$.

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($\nu_1 = 100$ kHz). A linear amplitude ramp (from 100% to 50% of the nominal RF field strength) was used for the ^1H channel, with a 2.0 ms contact time (τ_{CP}), and a nominal RF-field amplitude (ν_1) of 88.4 kHz for ^1H and 58.1 kHz for ^{13}C . SPINAL-64⁵ proton decoupling was applied during the acquisition of the ^{13}C signal with $\nu_1 = 100$ kHz. The 1D fid ^{13}C acquisition time was 25.3 ms for 1024 complex points. 1D spectra were processed using exponential window functions with a linebroadening of 200 Hz for ^{13}C and 400 Hz for ^1H spectra.

Solution-NMR Methods. Liquid state NMR spectra were acquired on a 600 MHz Bruker instrument (14.1 T) equipped with a $^1\text{H}/^{13}\text{C}/^{15}\text{N}$ cryoprobe and an Avance III Bruker console. The samples were prepared in aqueous environment using $\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{D}_2\text{O}$ 90/10 as solvent. The temperature was stabilized to 298 K.

The ^1H 1D spectra were acquired with an excitation sculpting water suppression sequence,⁶ with selective π pulses on water of 2000 μs , non-selective π pulses of 20.4 μs and a short $\pi/2$ excitation pulse of 1.0 μs . Each spectrum was recorded accumulating 128 scans with 852 ms of acquisition time and 1.15 s of recycle delay. The spectra were processed with an exponential windows function of 0.3 Hz.

The ^{13}C 1D spectra were acquired with a direct excitation double-echo experiment to suppress the probe background and to remove the baseline distortion. The sequence was $\pi/2 - \tau - \pi - 2\tau - \pi - \tau - \text{acquisition}$: the $\pi/2$ and π hard pulses were calibrated at 12.0 μs and 24.0 μs , respectively; the τ echo-delays were optimized to 50 μs each. Waltz-16 ^1H -decoupling at 3.12 kHz was applied during acquisition and a weaker ^1H -decoupling at ~ 2 kHz was kept during the recycle delay. Each experiment was acquired accumulating 128 scans with 865 ms of acquisition (64 k real points) and 2.0 s of recycle delay. The spectra were processed with an exponential windows function of 0.3 Hz.

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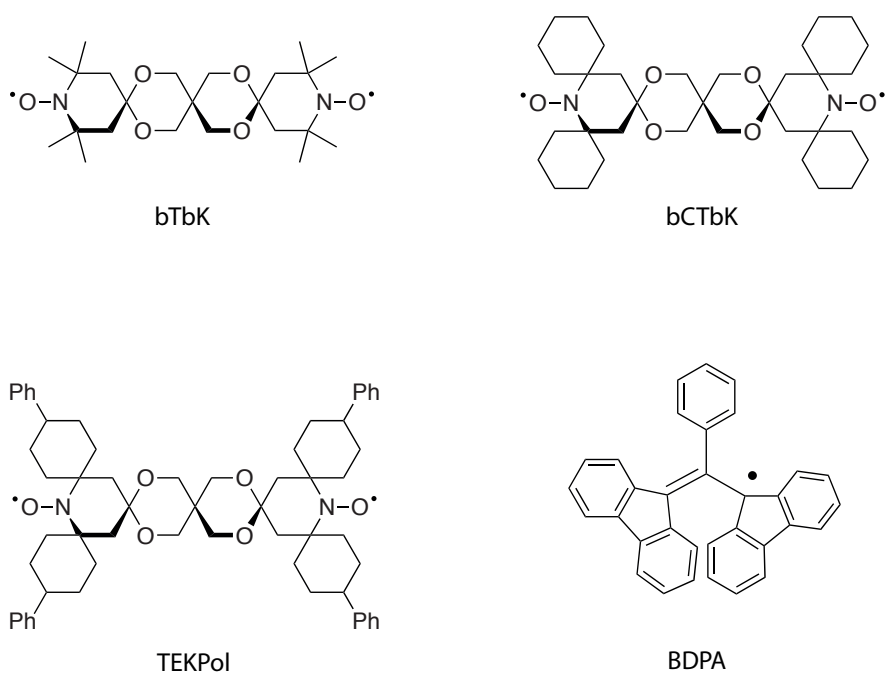
Sample Preparation.

bTbK dissolved in sodium dodecyl sulphate aqueous solutions. A solution of 100 mM sodium dodecyl sulphate (SDS) and 50 mM α -D-Glucose solution was prepared in H₂O/D₂O 90/10. The dissolution of bTbK was performed by directly stirring a weighted amount of bTbK powder with the previously prepared 100 mM SDS solution until complete dissolution.

bTbK dissolved in glycerol/water/SDS solution. A solution of 400 mM sodium dodecyl sulphate (SDS) and 50 mM L-alanine was prepared by dissolving the weighted powder in a *d*₈-Glycerol:D₂O:H₂O 60:30:10 mixture. bTbK was then dissolved by directly stirring the radical powder in the above prepared glycerol/water/SDS solution by gently heating the mixture at 40-50 °C.

Radicals dissolved in glycerol/water/surfactant solution. The used radical (bTbK, bCTbK, TEKPol, or BDPA) was first dissolved in the pure surfactant (Tween-80®, Brij® 56, IGEPAL® CO-630) by stirring the radical powder in the melted amphiphile gently heated at around 40-50 °C. Radical solution with a concentration of ~50 mM can thus be obtained in such a way. Then this solution was diluted up to the desired radical concentration by addition of the *d*₈-Glycerol:D₂O:H₂O 60:30:10 mixture. Uniformly ¹³C-labelled L-proline was added to the solution in order to have a final concentration of 12 mM in proline to monitor the ¹³C enhancement in CP experiments. For the case of Tween-80 and a radical concentration of 12 mM, a final surfactant concentration of ~190 mM was used.

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Scheme S1. Molecular structures of the radicals.

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Table S1. DNP Enhancements observed for several water-insoluble radicals solubilized in different surfactant solutions. The ^1H (ϵ_{H}) and the ^{13}C ($\epsilon_{\text{C,CP}}$) enhancements are measured comparing experiment with and without microwave irradiation in direct excitation and ^1H - ^{13}C CP experiments, respectively (the conditions are reported in the Materials and Methods section).

| Radical | Amphiphile | Conc. (mM) | ϵ_{H} | $\epsilon_{\text{C,CP}}$ |
|---------|---------------|------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| bTbK | SDS | 10 | 17 | 17 |
| bTbK | Tween-80 | 12 | 42 | 44 |
| bCTbK | Tween-80 | 12 | 22 | 24 |
| BDPA | Tween-80 | 14 | 4.8 | - |
| TEKPol | Tween-80 | 7.5 | 58 | 59 |
| TEKPol | Brij-56 | 10 | 8.9 | 10 |
| TEKPol | IGEPAL CO-630 | 10 | 15 | 16 |

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