

Supporting Information for:

# Investigating anionic surfactant phase diagrams using Dissipative Particle Dynamics: development of a transferable model

Authors: Sarah J. Gray, Martin Walker, Rachel Hendrikse and Mark R. Wilson\*

*Department of Chemistry, Durham University, Lower Mountjoy, Stockton Road, Durham, DH1 3LE, United Kingdom.*

\* Author for correspondence. E-mail: mark.wilson@durham.ac.uk

## 1 Coarse graining for SDS and LAS

In this supporting information we detail the coarse graining, bonding, and bond angles used for the surfactant molecules.

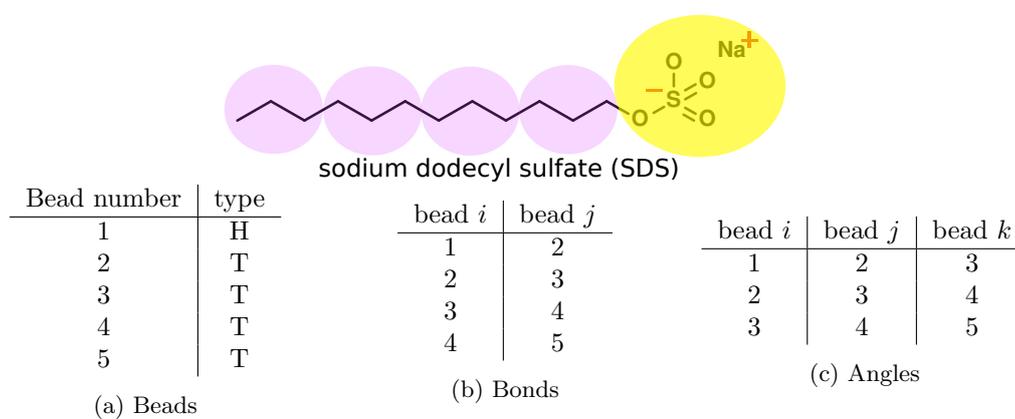


Table S.1: SDS

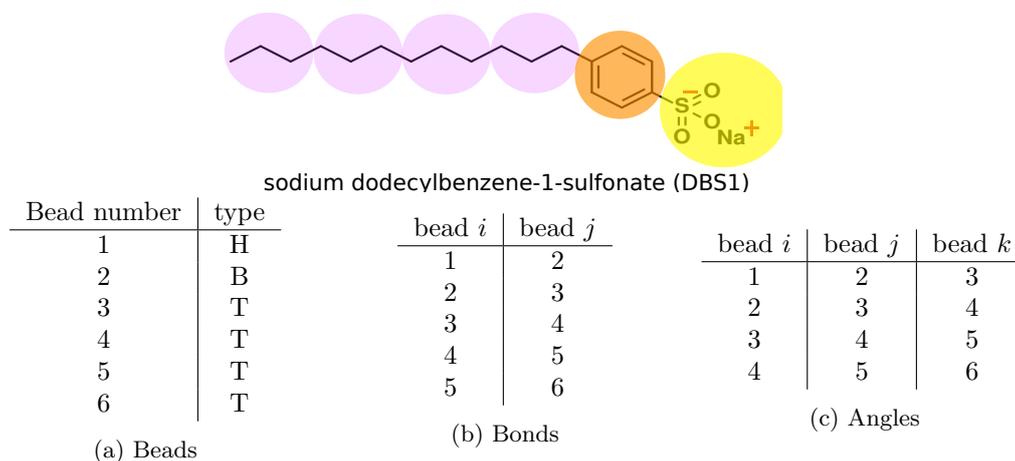
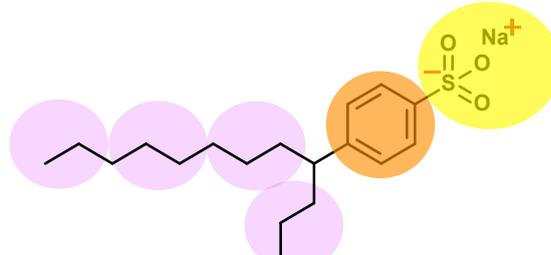


Table S.2: DBS1



sodium dodecylbenzene-4-sulfonate (DBS4)

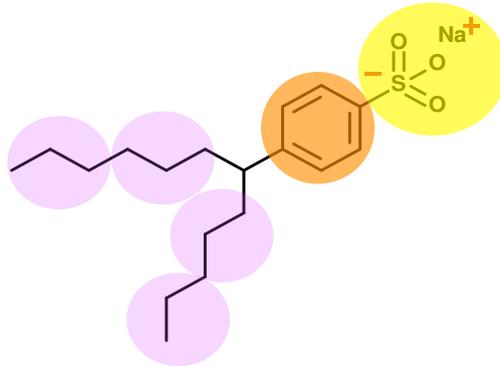
Bead number	type	bead $i$	bead $j$	bead $i$	bead $j$	bead $k$
1	H	1	2	1	2	3
2	B	2	3	1	2	4
3	T	2	4	2	4	5
4	T	4	5	4	5	6
5	T	5	6			
6	T					

(a) Beads

(b) Bonds

(c) Angles

Table S.3: DBS4



sodium dodecylbenzene-6-sulfonate (DBS6)

Bead number	type	bead $i$	bead $j$	bead $i$	bead $j$	bead $k$
1	H	1	2	1	2	3
2	B	2	3	2	3	4
3	T	3	4	1	2	5
4	T	2	5	2	5	6
5	T	5	6			
6	T					

(a) Beads

(b) Bonds

(c) Angles

Table S.4: DBS6

## 2 SDS Phase Diagram

In order to simulate the systems of interest, that is lyotropic phases, we choose to model at 80°C. Figure S1 presents a simplified representation of the phase diagram, as a function of SDS concentration and temperature. At 80° we are able to model lyotropic liquid phases without the presence of hydrated crystalline structures.

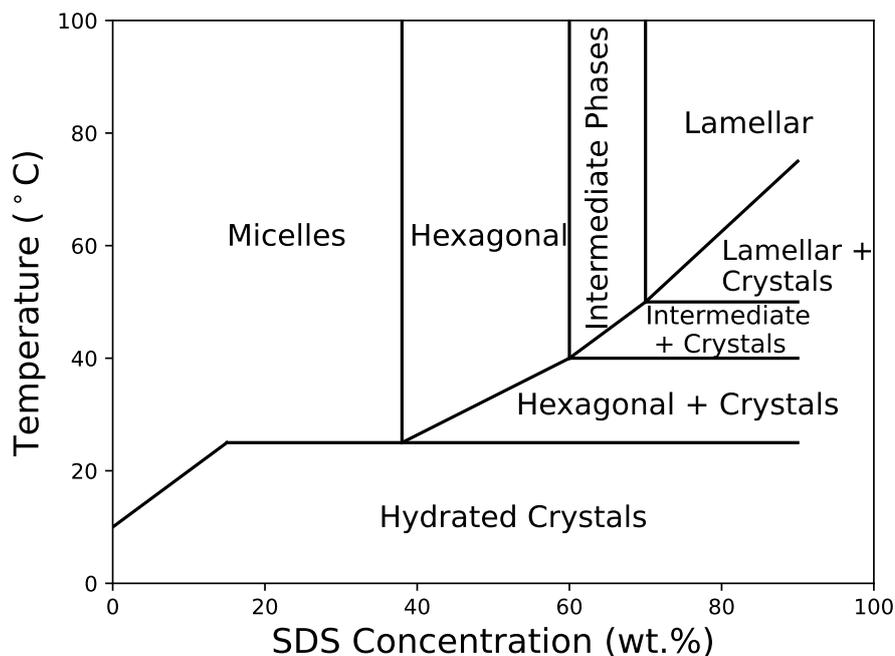


Fig. S1: Simplified schematic phase diagram for SDS aqueous solutions, adapted from Kékicheff *et al.*<sup>1</sup>.

### 3 Lamellar layer spacing for LAS

Fig. S2 shows a plot of the lamellar layer spacings (presented in Table 5 in the main text) in order to highlight the change in spacing as a function of concentration. There is generally a decrease in spacing with concentration. One exception to this is the spacing calculated at 50% for DBS6, which experimentally is close to the region of the phase diagram in which two lamellar phases coexist.

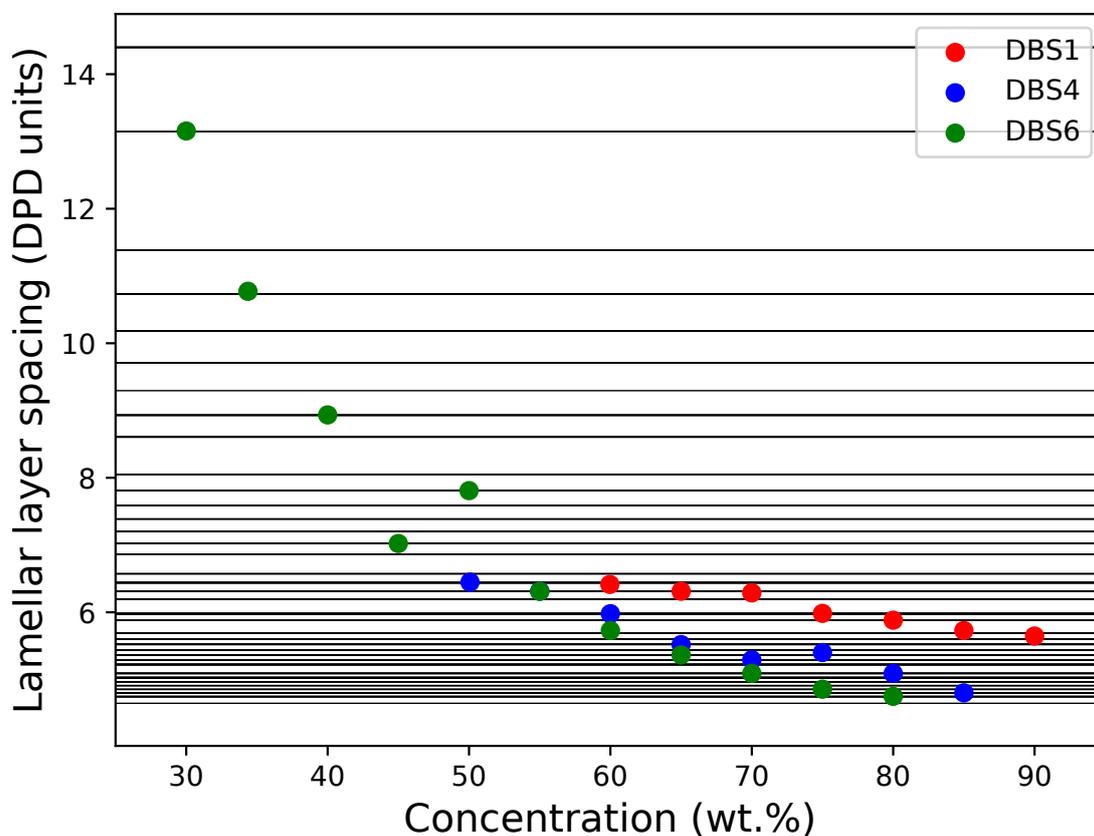


Fig. S2: Lamellar layer spacing of LAS isomers. Also shown are horizontal lines indicating the available spacings, obtained from Eq. 11 in the main article.

## 4 Extension to LAS - $a_{ij}$ parameters

bead	molecule	$\delta^D$	$\delta^P$	$\delta^H$	$V_m$ (cm <sup>3</sup> /mol)
H	dimethyl sulphate	17.7	17.0	9.7	94.7
T	propane	13.4	0	0	89.5
W	water	15.5	16.0	42.3	54.0
B	benzene	18.4	0.0	2.0	89.4

Table S.5: Hansen solubility parameters (units MPa<sup>1/2</sup>)<sup>2</sup> used in calculation of benzene bead interactions.

Equation 7 (see main article) can be used along with the values in Table S.5 in order to calculate the Flory-Huggins parameters  $\chi$  (see Table 4 in main article). The bead with greater abundance is taken as bead  $i$  in any bead pairing.

### 4.1 $a_{BW}$

The interaction between benzene and water ( $a_{BW}$ ) is determined via a comparison with the interaction of tail and head beads with water ( $a_{TW}$  and  $a_{HW}$ ). This is calculated using the following relation:

$$\frac{a_{TW} - a_{BW}}{a_{TW} - a_{HW}} = \frac{\chi_{TW} - \chi_{BW}}{\chi_{TW} - \chi_{HW}}. \quad (1)$$

This produces a value of  $a_{BW} = 40.4$  which we round to the nearest integer as  $a_{BW} = 40$ .

### 4.2 $a_{BH}$

For the interaction of benzene with the head groups, we compare with the  $a_{HT}$  interaction and self-interaction value of  $a_{ii} = 25$ , calculating as

$$\frac{a_{BH} - a_{ii}}{a_{TH} - a_{ii}} = \frac{\chi_{BH} - \chi_{ii}}{\chi_{TH} - \chi_{ii}}. \quad (2)$$

Using that  $\chi_{ii} = 0$ , we find a value of  $a_{BH} = 44.18$ , which is approximated to  $a_{BH} = 45$  for simplicity.

### 4.3 $a_{BT}$

The Flory-Huggins parameter for benzene-tail interactions is calculated to be very small ( $\chi_{ii} = 0.792$ ), as expected because benzene is very soluble in hydrocarbon solvents. Hence we have approximated the benzene-tail interaction to be comparable to the (tail-tail) self-interaction, i.e.  $a_{BT} = a_{ii} = 25$ .

## References

- [1] P. Kékicheff, C. Grabielle-Madelmont and M. Ollivon, *Journal of colloid and interface science*, 1989, **131**, 112–132.
- [2] C. M. Hansen, *Hansen solubility parameters: A user's handbook.*, CRC Press, 6000 Broken Sound Parkway NW, Suite 300, Boca Raton, FL 33487-2742, 2007.