## **Supplementary Information**

## Competitive effects of Salt and Surfactant on the Structure of Nanoparticles in the binary system of Nanoparticle and Protein

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Fig. S1 SANS data of the individual components of silica nanoparticles, BSA protein, and SDS surfactant in  $D_2O$  (1wt% each). Model fits from SASfit are overlayed on each as solid black lines.

**Table S1** Fitted structural parameters of 1 wt% HS40 nanoparticle, 1 wt% BSA and 1 wt% SDS in  $D_2O$ .

System (1	Semi-major axis (nm)	Semi-major axis (nm)	Charge	Model
HS40	8.0	8.0	_	Spherical
BSA	4.2	1.4	-	Oblate ellipsoidal
SDS	2.7	1.6	23	Prolate ellipsoidal





**Fig. S2** SANS data of 1wt% BSA protein + 0-2.0 wt% SDS at in presence of varying concentrations of NaCl (A) 0 M NaCl (B) 0.1 M NaCl (C) 0.3 M NaCl (D) 0.5 M NaCl. SANS data of BSA-SDS in the presence of salt shows clear signatures of beads-on-a-string model.



**Fig. S3** SANS data of the 1 wt% Hs40 + 1 wt% BSA+ 0.5 M NaCl in presence of varying concentrations of SDS.



**Fig. S4** (A) DLS and (B) SANS data of 1wt% HS40 silica nanoparticles + 1wt% BSA protein + 1.0 M NaCl in presence of varying concentrations of SDS.



**Fig. S5** SANS data of three-component system of 1wt% HS40 silica nanoparticles+1wt% BSA protein+ 0-1.0 M NaCl in presence of varying SDS concentrations (A) 5 mM SDS (B) 10 mM SDS (C) 20 mM SDS.