From Drugs to Bubbles: There and Back Again

Omar Mansour



Background

Egypt 2006-2011 BPharm/BSc Pharmaceutical Sciences

The UK 2012-present

MSc Formulation Science- UoG scholarship

PhD in Physical Chemistry- Vice Chancellor Studentship

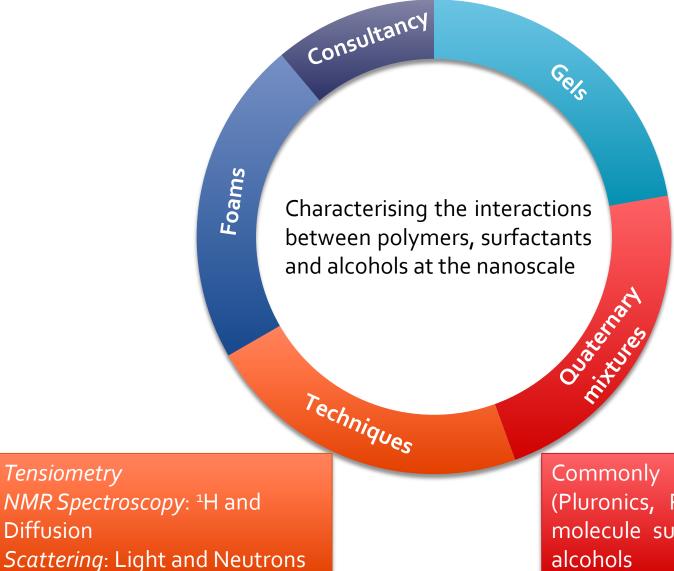
Post-Doctoral Research Fellow-Infineum, GSK, MSD and Unilever

Lecturer in Cosmetic Science-DMU



Background-PhD studies

Diffusion



Commonly used polymers (Pluronics, PVP, PEO..), small molecule surfactants, oils and alcohols

Background-PDRF



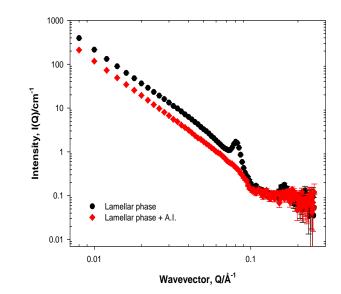
- Real life formulations have many challenges, interactions?
- Similar ingredients, different concentrations, different media = different functions
- Structured formulations are essential for good performance...

Seeing things at the nanoscale..









Seeing things at the nanoscale..

Small-Angle Neutron Scattering (SANS)

- Central facilities
- Access through a proposal/peer review process
- Several locations across Europe (ISIS in the UK, ILL in France and MLZ in Germany)

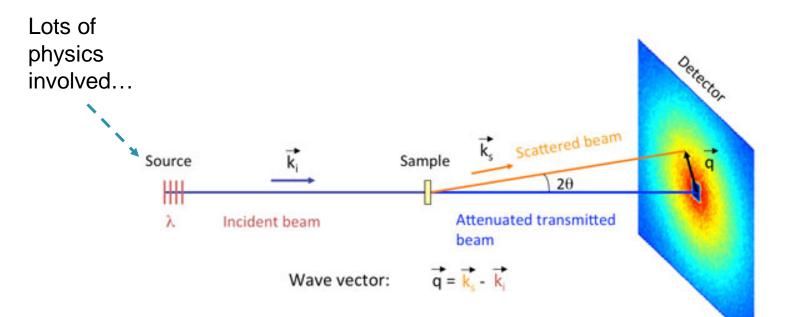




- Non-destructive
- Strong penetration in bulk (neutrons interact with nuclei)
- 0.25-300 nm
- Contrast match (H/D ratio)

Seeing things at the nanoscale..

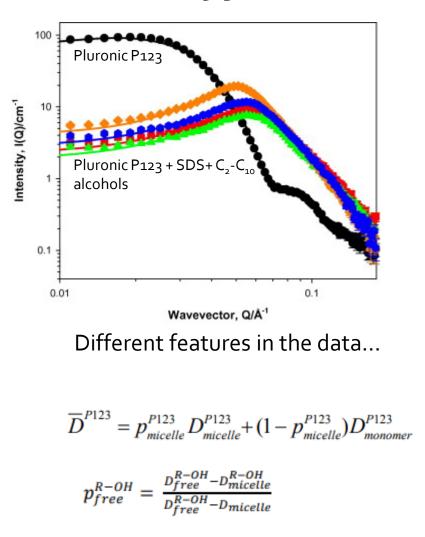




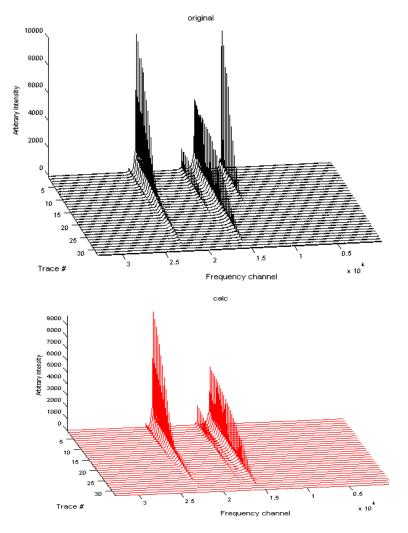
A simple experiment in principle. If the source is there and we are able to analyse the scattered beam on the detector!

SANS does not locate individual atoms, but rather looks at the larger structures they form, detailed info on size and shape..

Quaternary formulations

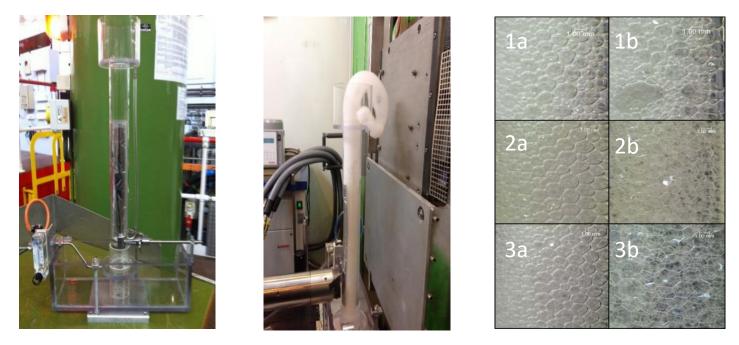


Partitioning of cosmetic agents?



Mansour et.al. Journal of Colloids and Interface Science, 2015, 454, 35

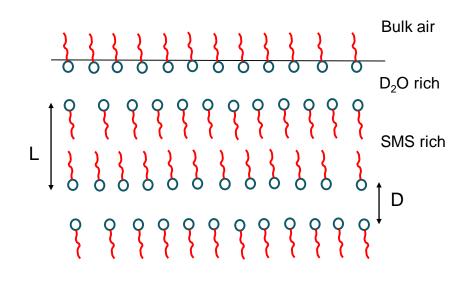
Foams stabilised by surfactants

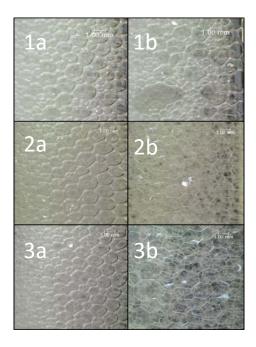


Scattering from polymer/surfactant structures at the foam air-water interface..

- Mansour *et.al*, Assembly of small molecule surfactants at highly dynamic air-water interfaces. *Soft Matter* **2017**, *13*, 8807–8815
- Mansour *et.al*, Segregation versus interdigitation in highly dynamic polymer/surfactant layers. *Polymers* **2019**, *11*, 109

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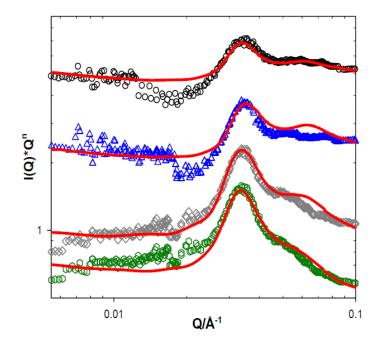




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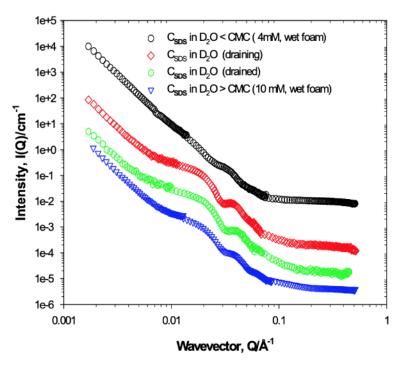
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Foams stabilised by surfactants





 Sensitive to surfactant structure (chainlength...)

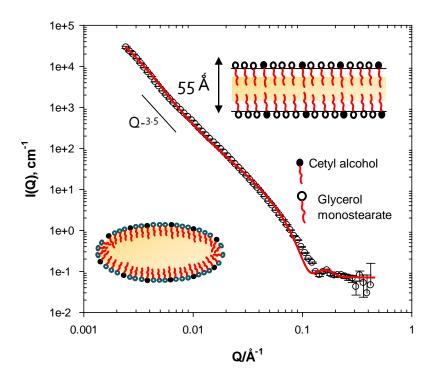


- Surfactant multilayers at the interface
- Sensitive to surfactant concentration
- Mansour *et.al*, Assembly of small molecule surfactants at highly dynamic airwater interfaces. *Soft Matter* **2017**, *13*, 8807–8815

Aqua, Homosalate, Octocrylene, Glycerin, Butyl Methoxydibenzoylmethane, Ethylhexyl Salicylate, Bis-Ethylhexyloxyphenol Methoxyphenyl Triazine, Alcohol Denat., Butylene Glycol Dicaprylate/Dicaprate, Sodium Phenylbenzimidazole Sulfonate, Panthenol, Ceteareth-20, VP/Hexadecene Copolymer, C18-36 Acid Triglyceride, Tocopheryl Acetate, Sodium Acrylates/C10-30 Alkyl Acrylate Crosspolymer, Trisodium EDTA, Phenoxyethanol, Methylparaben, Ethylparaben, Linalool, Limonene, Butylphenyl Methylpropional, Benzyl Alcohol, Alpha-Isomethyl Ionone, Citronellol, Eugenol, Coumarin, Parfum



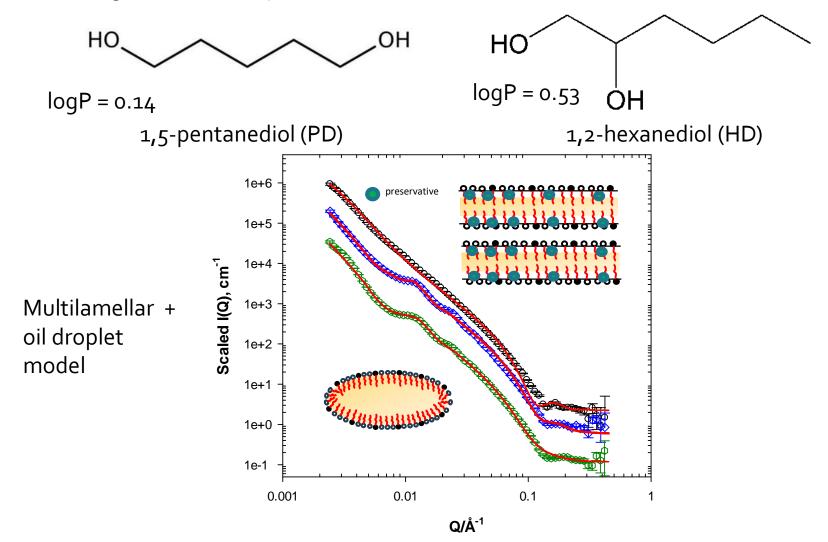
- Many ingredients = complex structure
- Interactions between the ingredients?
- Could this affect the performance ?

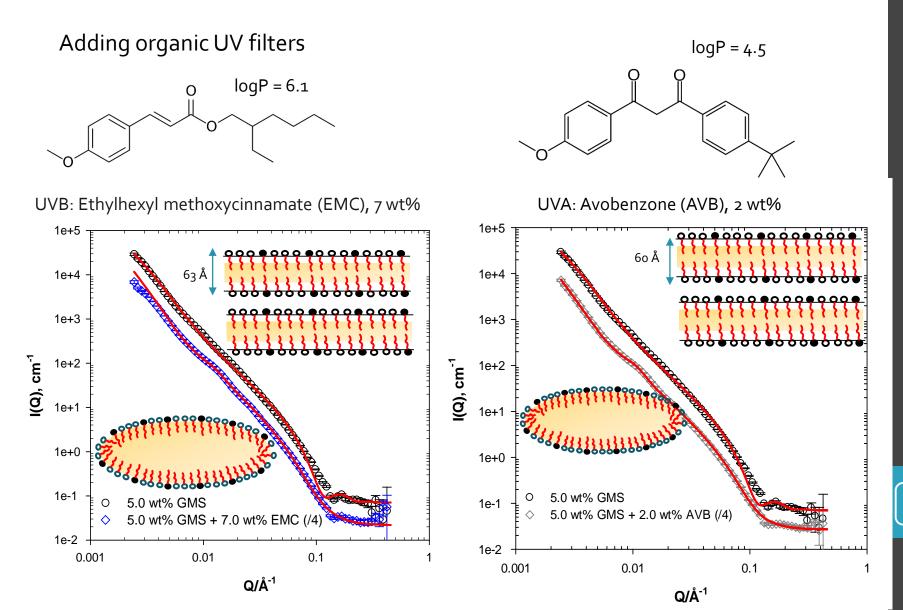


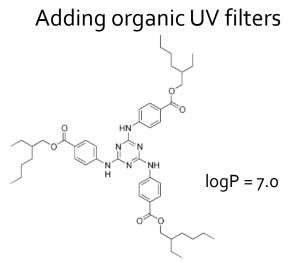


- Simpler formulation: Mineral oil, cetyl alcohol, glycerol, glycerol monostearate and water
- Large oil droplets coexisting with lamellar phases
- Mansour *et.al*, Insights into sunscreen lotions: A small-angle neutron scattering study. *RSC Advances* **2021**, *submitted*

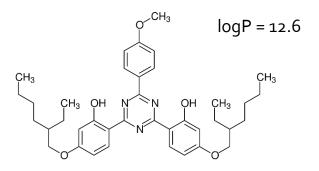
Adding water soluble preservatives



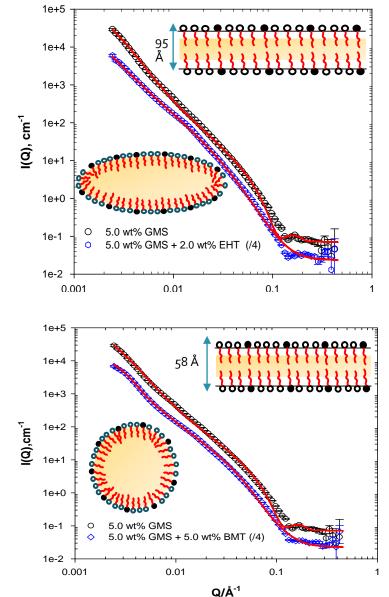




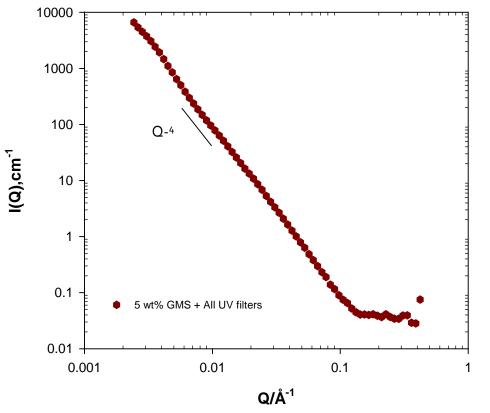
UVB: Ethylhexyl triazone (EHT), 2 wt%



UVA/B: Bemotrizinol (BMT), 5 wt%

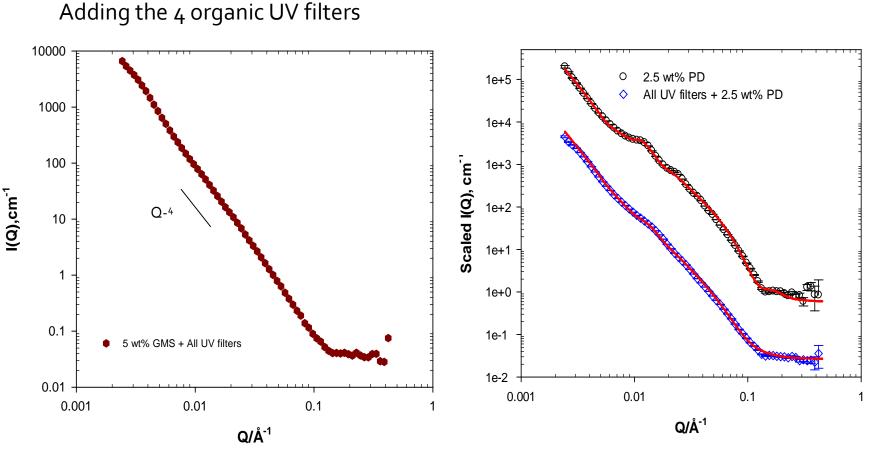


Adding the 4 organic UV filters



- Strong Q⁻⁴ dependence
- Large smooth/spherical surface
- Strongly suggesting that all UV filters have partitioned in the oil droplet...

Mansour *et.al*, Insights into sunscreen lotions: A small-angle neutron scattering study. *RSC Advances* **2021**, *submitted*



Accessibility variations, and lotions' traditional structure could be actually compromised

• Mansour *et.al*, Insights into sunscreen lotions: A small-angle neutron scattering study. *RSC Advances* **2021**, *submitted*

Conclusions

- It is not dark art
- Cosmetic formulations are far more complex than widely understood..
- Unknown complexities affect the performance of the formulation (sunscreen lotions)
- NMR and SANS data analysis from lotions/foams offers valuable new information to our understanding of the microstructure

Acknowledgements















Thank you