

# 8. Surfactants and detergents



### **Jakub Wiener**



Detergent - a preparation whose composition is adapted for practical purposes to achieve the greatest possible application effect.

**Detergent - a mixture of surfactants and other substances.** 

Detergent contains: the active ingredient (surfactant) additional ingredients (additives)

Detergent is a product that has a great washing, cleaning and degreasing effect. It is usually composed of a mixture of substances. The basic component of a detergent is a surfactant (a tenside).



1. Surfactant (they wash) - 50%

2. Activating additives (help wash) Sequestrants (Polyphosphates...) Alkalis (Carbonates) Anti-redeposition agents Enzymes Foam regulators

3. Auxiliary additives (do not wash, but improve the final impression) Bleaches (Peroxoborates) OZP Antimicrobials Perfume compositions Fillers







Surfactant - substances that are able to accumulate at the phase interface and reduce the surface energy of the system

Phase interface between liquid and gas - interfacial tension is reduced.

Phase interface between liquid and solid - interfacial tension is reduced.



Surfactants have an asymmetric, dipolar character. Their molecule consists of two parts:

- a hydrophobic, i.e. non-polar part, which consists of a long carbon chain .

- a hydrophilic, i.e. polar part, which is an ionogenic or non-ionogenic group





### basic types of hydrophilic and hydrophobic groups

Hydrofob





Hydrofil —COONa —SO₃Na

 $-N^{\dagger}(CH_3)_4$  Cl<sup>-</sup>











Dosage of detergent: Little - unwashed fabric Too much - washing does not remove all

But also: too much detergent = more foam = water/foam penetrating the electronics of the washing machine = destroying the washing machine









Solubilization - dissolution of slightly water-soluble substances in aqueous solutions of Surfactants

Wettability - the ability of a liquid to disperse on the surface of a solid

Foaming ability - the formation of foam

Detergency - the ability to remove impurities from a solid substrate and convert them into a solution or dispersion

Emulsifying ability - formation of an emulsion - a dispersion system of two immiscible liquids



Solubilization - dissolution of slightly water-soluble substances in aqueous solutions of Surfactants

Solubilization - the ability to draw insoluble or sparingly soluble substances in water between hydrophobic chains and thus convert them into solution.

**Factors affecting solubilization:** 

\* Surfactant concentration - solubilization occurs only after the CMC value is reached

\* temperature - solubilization increases with increasing temperature

\* composition of the solubilized substance



The impurities are gradually packed and released from the surface. As they move into solution, the released impurity particles are stabilised by solubilising them into micelles, which have a hydrophilic surface and cannot attach back to the clean solid surface.



The process of removing dirt from a textile fibre by the action of a detergent

## DETERGENCE

And the second second second

### oriented adsorption - dirt removal

Charles Charles







Foam:

- dispersion of a gas in a liquid
- pure liquids do not form
   a stable foam
- Surfactant is needed



Preparation of perfluorocarbon emulsion - for oleophobic treatment





Oil-in-water emulsion



Water-in-oil emulsion



According to the ionic character, we divide **Surfactants** into ionogenic (ionic) and non-ionogenic (non-ionic). Ionogenicity is distinguished by the electric charge that remains on the organic (functional) part of the surfactant molecule after its dissociation in water.

If the hydrophobic ion has a negative charge, it is an anionic (anionic) preparation; if it has a positive charge, it is a cationic (cationic) preparation.

Ionogenicity determines:

\* the combinability of the preparations

\*interaction with fibres (they are anionic)





Classification of Surfactant - based on the ionogenicity of the polar group, i.e. according to their dissociation in water

Anion-active ( anionic ) Surfactants Cationactive ( cationic ) Surfactant s Ampholytic ( amphoteric ) Surfactants Non-ionogenic ( non-ionic ) Surfactants



Anion-active (anionic) Surfactants (65% of production)
 The surface activity carrier is the anionic part of the surfactant molecule, which has a negative charge.
 R - COONa salts of carboxylic acids
 Např. C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>35</sub>COONa C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>35</sub>COO<sup>-</sup> + Na<sup>+</sup>











Soap in hard water

Soap in acid water



Soap

Composition and properties of detergents soaps - sodium salts of higher fatty acids

- high washing power
- dissociate and hydrolyse in aqueous media
- completely biodegradable
- precipitate in hard water containing Ca2+ and Mg2+  $\rightarrow$  water must be softened:
  - : precipitation with Na2CO3 or Na3PO4 phosphate
  - : elimination by sequestering agents

other surfactants - soluble in hard water





### **SAPONIFICATION OF FATS AND WAXES**

Fats - esters of glycerol with higher fatty acids Waxes - esters of higher alcohols with higher fatty acids, more stable than fats

 $\begin{array}{cccc} CH_2 - OCOR & CH_2 - OH \\ CH - OCOR + 3 NaOH \rightarrow & CH - OH + 3 RCOONa \\ CH_2 - OCOR & CH_2 - OH \\ triacylglycerol & glycerol & mýdlo \end{array}$ 





R – SO<sub>3</sub>Na sulfonate

 $SO_3^{-}$  $\langle / \rangle / \rangle /$ 

hydrocarbon tail ionic head (sulphonate group)

 $R - O - SO_3Na$ Sulfates

hydrocarbon tail

ionic head (sulphate group)



(non-biodegradable)







2. Cationic surfactants (10% of production) The carrier of the surface activity is an organic cation.

$$\begin{bmatrix} R_1 & R_1 \\ I & R_2 \\ I \\ R_3 \end{bmatrix} C1^{-1}$$

quaternary ammonium salt

Use: microbial, softening and antistatic agents. Cationic surfactants do not have detergency.



3. Ampholytic ( amphoteric ) surfactants (5% of production) They have a basic (amino) and an acidic (carboxy) group in the molecule.

B<sup>+</sup> - R - K<sup>-</sup>

In an acidic environment

 $B^{+} - R - K^{-} + H^{+} \longrightarrow B^{+} - R - K$ cationic In an alkaline environment  $B^{+} - R - K^{-} + OH^{-} \longrightarrow B - R - K^{-}$ anionic



# 4. Non-ionogenic ( neonic ) surfactants (30% of production)

do not dissociate in water

R – O (CH2 – CH2 – O)n H alkylpolyglycol ether have very good dispersing and emulsifying effects

$$R^{1}_{R^{2}}CH-CH_{2}-O-(CH_{2}-CH_{2}-O)H \qquad R-O-(CH_{2}-CH_{2}-O)H \qquad R^{1}+R^{2}=C_{8-16} \qquad n=2-4 \qquad R=C_{8-12} \qquad n=5-7$$
Alkyletoxyláty Alkylfenoletoxyláty

**AE** = alkyl ethoxylate

Ethoxylation: alcohol + ethylene oxide (oxirane) ROH + n C2H4O → RO(OC2H4)nH

# surfactant consumption

Tenzid	Spotřeba (Mt)
Mýdlo	9,0
Lineární alkylbenzensulfonáty (LAS)	2,9
Alkylétersulfáty (AES)	0,8
Alkylsulfáty (AS)	0,6
Celkem výše uvedené syntetické anionické	4,3
Alkyletoxyláty (AE)	1,1
Nonylfenoletoxyláty (NPE)	0,6
Celkem výše uvedené neionické	1,7
Kationické kvarterní amoniové sloučeniny	0,5
Amfoterní	0,1
Jiné*	2,4
Celkem	18,2



Anionic and neonic surfactants - most used in textile wet processes.

Nonionic surfactants have some advantages: stability in pH, stability in hard water, compatibility with anionic and cationic agents.

Cationic surfactants - relatively little use due to limited compatibility and cost, not suitable for washing

**Amphoteric surfactants - little use** 



### Anionic surfactants: LAS (linear alkyl benzene sulfonates) AS (alkyl sulphates) $R-C_6H_4-SO_3Na$ $R = C_{10-13}$ LAS $R-CH_2-O-SO_3Na$ $R = C_{11-17}$ AS

Neonic surfactants: EA (ethoxylated alcohols) R-  $(CH_2-CH_2-O)n - H$ n = 3 - 15 Reonic surfactants: EA (ethoxylated alcohols) R = C<sub>8 - 18</sub> n = 3 - 15



surfactants can be classified according to the HLB (hydrophilic-lipophilic balance) value. This auxiliary value characterises the ratio of the influence of the hydrophilic and lipophilic parts of the surfactant molecule on its properties. It is proportional to the ratio of the solubility of the surfactant in the aqueous and oil phase. The HLB value is expressed as a dimensionless number in the range 0-40, according to which surfactants can be divided into application groups.

HLB 1-3 defoamers HLB 3-6 emulsifiers V/O (water in oil) HLB 7-9 wetting agents HLB 8-18 O/V emulsifiers HLB 13-15 detergents (applies mostly to dispersion of dirt) HLB 15-40 solubilisers (mostly refers to general dispersion)

1 (oleic acid) and 40 (sodium lauryl sulfate).



HLB values can be calculated according to various empirical formulas and are expressed as numbers. The most commonly used relationship is based on the contributions of individual groups in the molecule:

HLB =  $7 + \Sigma$  (individual group contributions)

group	HLB	group	HLB	
–SO <sub>4</sub> Na	38,7	–CH–	-0,475	
–COOK	21,1	-CH <sub>2</sub> -	-0,475	
–COONa	19,1	-CH <sub>3</sub>	-0,475	
≡N	9,4	=CH-	-0,475	
-COOH	2,1	-CF <sub>2</sub> -	-0,87	
–OH	1,9	–CF <sub>3</sub>	-0,87	
-0-	1,3	–(CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> O)–	0,33	
		–(CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> O)–	-0,15	

Davies J.T., Rideal E.K.: Interfacial Phenomena. 2nd Ed. Academic Press, London 1963



="Cloud point"

The cloud point, the temperature at which turbidity forms in a solution of a non-ionogenic surfactant, is one of the important characteristics of a surfactant

Above the cloud point, surfactants precipitate out of solution - turbidity (micelles) is formed

thermal dehydration of the oxyethylene groups of the surfactant

As the amount of polyoxyethylene groups increases, it becomes more hydrophilic, more soluble in water and its cloud point increases.



#### Složení práškových pracích prostředků

	1907	1953	1970	1983	1987	2000	2007
Mýdlo - Na	32	44	4	3	2	2	2
LAS - Na			7	8	8	6	6
AE			2	3	5	7	7
Polymer - Na				1	4	4	4
STP		10	40	24	20	20	0
Zeolit A				18	24	20	20
Dikřemičitan Na							10
Uhličitan Na	24	12	0	5	10	15	15
Perboritan Na	9	6	27	22	20	20	
Peruhličitan Na							16
TAED				1	2	3	3
Enzymy			1	1	1	2	2
	Automatické pračky						

AE – Ethoxylated alcoholsTAED – peroxide activator,  $40^{\circ}C$  !LAS – linear alkyl benzene sulfonateSTP - Na<sub>5</sub>P<sub>3</sub>O<sub>10</sub>



## A little test...





Soap? AE - alkyl ethoxylate ? LAS - linear alkyl benzene sulfonate ?

![](_page_42_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Thank you for your attention!