

MOLECULAR CONFORMATIONS AND ORIENTATIONS OF FATTY ACID AND PHOSPHOLIPID MONOLAYERS AT THE AIR/WATER INTERFACE-A VIBRATIONAL SUM FREQUENCY SPECTROSCOPIC STUDY

KANDICE L. HARPER, LAURA F. VOSS, GANG MA, and HEATHER C. ALLEN, *Department of Chemistry, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43210.*

Vibrational sum frequency spectroscopy is a surface-specific technique that provides conformational and orientational information of molecules at interfaces. Orientational information of the phase transitions of fatty acid monolayers at the air/water interface is obtained by coupling a Langmuir trough with a broadband sum frequency spectrometer. A comparison of the molecular conformations and orientations of pure and mixed fatty acid monolayers with monolayers of the corresponding phospholipids will be presented.