

SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR
THE EFFECT OF SURFACE SEGREGATION OF IONIC END GROUPS ON
POLYSTYRENE LATEX EARLY-TIME INTERDIFFUSION

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The Calculation of the Free Energy for Surface Segregation

The adsorption free energy is composed of many factors. Among them, two factors are considered for the first approximation:

- (1) The interaction between ionic end-groups and water at a surface.
- (2) The interaction between a mer and water at a surface.

Based on the above assumptions, calculations were performed to estimate the surface concentration of carboxyl end-groups in latex particles used for this study.

First, the free energy change due to the interaction between ionic end-groups and water at a surface can be estimated by using the heat of solution of water and carboxyl end-groups. The heat of solution of water and acetic acid³⁶ is listed as -1.5 kJ/mol, was used to estimate the heat of the solution of water and carboxyl-end-group of polystyrene.

Secondly, the free energy change due to the interaction between a mer and water at a surface was estimated by using interfacial energy. The interfacial energy of water and a styrene mer, γ_{sw} , can be expressed by using the surface energy of water, γ_w , and styrene, γ_s .

$$\gamma_{sw} = \gamma_s + \gamma_w - 2\phi(\gamma_s\gamma_w)^{0.5} \quad (11)$$

where $\phi = 4(V_s V_w)^{1/3} / (V_s^{1/3} + V_w^{1/3})^2$ and V is a molar volume.

The surface energies of styrene and water³⁷ are $40.7 \times 10^{-3} \text{ J/m}^2$ and $72.8 \times 10^{-3} \text{ J/m}^2$, respectively, leading to $\gamma_{sw} = 13 \times 10^{-3} \text{ J/m}^2$. To convert this value to a free energy change per mole, the styrene mer was assumed to be confined in a unit cubic cell. If monomer and an end-group are assumed to fit in the same unit cubic cell, the adsorption free energy per mole is (interfacial energy) \times (a surface area of a unit cubic cell) \times (Avogadro's number). The length, l , of unit cubic cell of styrene mer was calculated to 0.55 nm by the following formulation.

$$l^3 \times \text{density} = \text{mass of a mer} \quad (12)$$

Therefore, when a mer is replaced by a carboxyl end-group, the free energy change due to the interfacial energy of water and polystyrene mer was -2.4 kJ/mole. Combining this free energy

change with the free energy change due to the heat of solution of water and acetic acid, the total free energy change was estimated to be -3.9 kJ/mole.

References

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