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Cylinder to sphere transition in reverse microemulsions: The effect of hydrotropes

Marios Hopkins Hatzopoulos, Julian Eastoe, Peter J. Dowding, Isabelle Grillo

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- **Cylinder to sphere transition in reverse microemulsions: The effect**
- 2 of hydrotropes
- 3 Marios Hopkins Hatzopoulos¹
- 4 Julian Eastoe^{*1}
- 5 Peter J. Dowding²
- 6 Isabelle Grillo³
- 7
- 8 1 School of Chemistry, University of Bristol, Cantock's Close, Bristol, BS8
 9 1TS, UK
- 2 Infineum UK Ltd., Milton Hill Business & Technology Centre, Abingdon,
 Oxfordshire OX13 6BB, UK
- 12 3 ILL, BP 156-X, F-38042 Grenoble Cedex, France
- 13 * Corresponding author
- 14

15 Abstract

The effect of hydrotropes on the geometry of reverse water-in-oil AOT-16 microemulsions is investigated as a function of water content, and hydrotrope 17 additive architecture. SANS reveals that hydrotropes induce cylindrical morphologies 18 19 which transition to ellipsoidal and then spherical geometries with increasing water content (w). The length of the elongated particles appeared to show some 20 dependence on the hydrotrope-AOT tail compatibility, which is also reflected in the 21 22 phase behaviour of these systems. This is the first report of hydrotrope-induced axial 23 elongation of water microemulsions in the oil phase.

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