

S006 The self assembly of 'gas phase' micelles and the controlled release of membrane complexes

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Using a series of non ionic detergents we have shown that the self assembly and solution-phase orientation of surfactants is preserved during electrospray mass spectrometry. The ability to maintain interactions and to preserve aspects of the micellar structure also enable us to tackle the notoriously difficult problem of studying membrane protein complexes in the gas phase of the mass spectrometer. Recent results have revealed that interactions between membrane and soluble subunits can be preserved in the gas phase giving us an exciting opportunity to explore their architecture in the mass spectrometer. Recent results will be presented