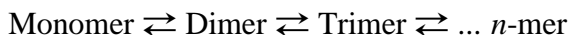


inverted micelle

The reversible formation of association colloids from surfactants in non-polar solvents leads to aggregates termed inverted (or inverse, reverse or reversed) *micelles*. Such association is often of the type:



and the phenomenon of *critical micelle concentration* (or an analogous effect) is consequently not observed.

In an inverted micelle the polar groups of the surfactants are concentrated in the interior and the *lipophilic* groups extend towards and into the non-polar solvent.

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