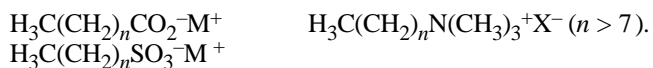


amphiphilic

A term used to describe a compound containing a large organic cation or anion which possesses a long unbranched hydrocarbon chain, e.g.



The existence of distinct polar (hydrophilic) and non polar (hydrophobic) regions in the molecule promotes the formation of *micelles* in dilute aqueous solution.

See also *amphipathic*.

1994, 66, 1083