## **Supplementary Material**

## Effect of single/mixed surfactant systems on orientations of liquid crystals and interaction of proteins with surfactants at fluid

## interfaces

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**Fig. S1.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of [C<sub>6</sub>mim][C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>25</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>]: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 9.49 (s, 1H), 7.41 (t, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (t, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 4.00(t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 3.99 (s, 3H), 2.52 (s, 2H), 1.89-1.81 (m, 2H), 1.68-1.60 (m, H), 1.23 (s, 22H), 0.86 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H).



**Fig. S2.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of  $[C_8 \text{mim}][C_{12}\text{H}_{25}\text{SO}_4]$ : <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ 9.68 (s, 1H), 7.30 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 4.05(t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 4.02 (s, 3H), 2.10 (s, 2H), 1.89-1.85 (m, 2H), 1.70-1.63 (m, 2H), 1.23 (s, 26H), 0.87 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.86 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H).



**Fig. S3.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of [C<sub>10</sub>mim][C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>25</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>]: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 9.55 (s, 1H), 7.38 (t, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.27 (t, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.22 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 4.02 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 4.00 (s, 3H), 2.38(s, 2H), 1.90-1.82 (m, 2H), 1.69-1.62 (m, 2H), 1.23 (s, 30H), 0.87 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H).



**Fig. S4.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of  $[C_{12}mim][C_{12}H_{25}SO_4]$ : <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ 9.41 (s, 1H), 7.50 (t, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.17 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 3.96 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 3,96 (s, 3H), 1.83-1.79 (m, 2H), 1.63-1.56 (m, 2H), 1.19 (s, 34H), 0.82 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 6H).



**Fig. S5.** Optical images of 5CB: the ALI was in contact with the  $12-3-12/[C_{12}mim]Br$  (a) and 12-3-12/DTAB (b), respectively for 0 min and 60 min.



**Fig. S6.** Optical images of 5CB: after addition of aqueous solutions of BSA at various concentrations to the ALI decorated with gemini surfactants with different spacer lengths (12-n-12, n = 2, 3, 4, 6).



Fig. S7. Optical images of 5CB: after addition of aqueous solutions of BSA at various concentrations to the ALI decorated with HF-SAILs with different asymmetries  $[C_nmim][C_{12}H_{25}SO_4]$ , (n = 6, 8, 10, 12).



**Fig. S8.** Optical images of 5CB: after addition of aqueous solutions of BSA at various concentrations to the ALI decorated with single-chained cationic surfactants ( $[C_{12}mim]Br$  and DTAB).



Fig. S9. The snapshot of initial configuration of  $12-3-12/[C_{12}mim]Br$  at air-water interface.