

NMRLipids IV: Headgroup & glycerol backbone structures, and cation binding in bilayers with PS lipids

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Primarily measured but also simulated NMR order parameters will be collected also for other than phosphatidylcholine (these are discussed in NMRLipids I) headgroup. The information will be used to understand structural differences between different lipid molecules in bilayers.

INTRODUCTION

Phosphatidylserine (PS) is the most common negatively charged lipid in eukaryotic membranes. PS lipids compose 8.5% of total lipid weight of erythrocytes, but the abundance varies between different organelles up to 25-35% in plasma membrane [1–3]. Despite of the relatively low abundance, PS lipids are important signaling molecules. They interact with signaling proteins [2], regulate surface charge and protein localization [4], and induce protein aggregation [5, 6]. Some domains specifically interact PS lipids, while others are attracted by general electrostatics and the binding can be regulated by calcium [2]. Therefore, the structural details of lipid headgroups and the details of cation binding are crucial for the PS mediated signaling processes.

Previous experimental studies have concluded that PS headgroups have more rigid conformation than phosphocholines (PC) due to hydrogen bonding or electrostatic interactions [7, 8]. Multivalent cations and Li^+ are able to form strong dehydrated molecular complexes with PS lipids, while monovalent ions interact more weakly with PS containing bilayers [9–16]. Dilution of bilayers with PC lipids makes PS headgroups less rigid and reduces propensity for the formation of strong complexes with multivalent ions [7, 8, 15, 16].

The structure of PS lipid headgroups and their interactions with ions have been studied with various experimental methods and theoretical techniques [15, 17?]. However, the consensus has not been reached due to the difficulties to interpret the experimental data [?] and the inaccuracies in simulation models at the headgroup region [18–20]. Some studies propose that the negatively charged lipids attract cations only due to the increase of local concentration in the vicinity of membranes and that the binding constant of cations is similar to zwitterionic and negatively charged lipids [21? , 22]. On the other hand, some studies propose specific binding of calcium directly to PS lipid headgroups [23? , 24]. The NMR data proposes that the PS headgroup is more rigid than PC, PE or PG headgroups, but more detailed interpretation has not been done.

Headgroup and glycerol backbone C-H bond order parameters calculated from MD simulations have been recently used to interpret the lipid structures in NMR experiments and to validate lipid structure and ion binding in simulations of PC

lipid bilayers [18–20, 25]. In this work we apply this approach to PS lipid headgroup in order to elucidate the structural details and ion binding to negatively charged lipids. The results are expected to elucidate also PS mediated signalling events because glycerol backbone and headgroup structure and behaviour are similar in model membranes and in bacteria [21, 26, 27].

METHODS

Solid state NMR experiments

The magnitude and signs of the C-H bond order parameters in headgroup and glycerol backbone were measured using natural abundance ^{13}C solid state NMR spectroscopy as described previously [25, 28]. Shortly, the absolute values of the order parameters were determined from the dipolar splittings given by the indirect dimension of 2D R-PDFL experiment [29] and the signs were measured using S-DROSS experiments [30].

²Details of the used spectrometer and maybe some other details should be given.

³Sample preparation should be described.

⁴How is the peak assignment done?

Molecular dynamics simulations

Molecular dynamics simulation data was collected using the Open Collaboration method [18]. The NMRLipids project blog (nmrlipids.blogspot.fi) and the GitHub repository (github.com/NMRLipids/NMRLipidsIVotherHGs) were used as the communication platforms. The simulated systems are listed in Table II and simulation details are given in the SI. The simulation data is also indexed in the searchable database (nmrlipids.fi), and in the NMRLipids/MATCH GitHub repository (https://github.com/NMRLipids/MATCH).

The C-H bond order parameters were calculated directly from the definition

$$S_{\text{CH}} = \frac{1}{2} \langle 3 \cos^2 \theta - 1 \rangle, \quad (1)$$

TABLE I: List of MD simulations without additional salt. CKPM refers to the version with Berger/Chiu NH_3 charges compatible with Berger (i.e. the NH_3 group having the same charges as in the $\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ group of the PC lipids; 'M' stands for Mukhopadhyay after the first published Berger-based PS simulation that used these charges) and CKP refers to the version with more Gromos compatible version (i.e. the charges for the NH_3 group taken from the lysine side-chain).

lipid/counter-ions	force field for lipids / ions	NaCl (mM)	CaCl_2 (mM)	$^a\text{N}_l$	$^b\text{N}_w$	$^c\text{N}_c$	^dT (K)	$^e\text{t}_{\text{sim}}$ (ns)	$^f\text{t}_{\text{anal}}$ (ns)	$^g\text{files}$
DOPS/ Na^+	CHARMM36 [31]	0	0	128	4480	0	303	500	100	[32]
DOPS/ Na^+	CHARMM36ua [?]] 6.	0	0	128	4480	0	303	500	100	[33]
DOPS/ Na^+	Slipids [34]	0	0	128	4480	0	303	500	100	[35]
DOPS/ Na^+	Slipids [34]	0	0	288	11232	0	303	200	100	[36]
DOPS/ Na^+	Berger [37]	0	0	128	4480	0	303	500	100	[38]
DOPS/ Na^+	GROMOS-CKP1 [?]] 7.	0	0	128	4480	0	303	500	100	[39]
DOPS/ Na^+	GROMOS-CKP2 [?]] 8.	0	0	128	4480	0	303	500	100	[40]
DOPS/ Na^+	lipid17 [41] / JC [42]	0	0	128	4480	0	303	600	100	[43]
DOPS/ Na^+	lipid17 [41] / ff99 [44]	0	0	128	4480	0	303	600	100	[45]
POPS/ Na^+	CHARMM36 [31]	0	0	128	4480	0	298	500	100	[46]
POPS/ K^+	CHARMM36 [31]	0	0	128	4480	0	298	500	100	[47]
POPS/ Na^+	CHARMM36ua [?]] 9.	0	0	128	4480	0	298	500	100	[48]
POPS/ Na^+	Slipids [34]	0	0	128	4480	0	298	500	100	[49]
POPS/ Na^+	Berger [?]]	0	0	128	4480	0	298	500	100	[50]
POPS/ Na^+	MacRog [51]	0	0	?	??	0	?	?	?	[?]] 10.
OPPS/ Na^+	MacRog [51]	0	0	128	5120	0	298	200	100	[52]
POPS/ Na^+	GROMOS-CKPM [?]] 11.	0	0	128	4480	0	298	500	100	[53]
POPS/ Na^+	GROMOS-CKP [?]] 12.	0	0	128	4480	0	298	500	100	[54]
POPS/ Na^+	lipid17 [41] / JC [42]	0	0	128	4480	0	298	600	100	[55]
POPS/ Na^+	lipid17 [41] / ff99 [44]	0	0	128	4480	0	298	600	100	[56]

^aNumber of lipid molecules with largest mole fraction

^bNumber of water molecules

^cNumber of additional cations

^dSimulation temperature

^eTotal simulation time

^fTime used for analysis

^gReference for simulation files

where θ is the angle between the C-H bond and the membrane normal. Angular brackets point to the average over all sampled configurations. 29. Error estimation should be discussed. The number density profiles were calculated using *gmx density* tool from Gromacs software package [63].

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Headgroup and glycerol backbone order parameters measured from POPS lipid bilayer

The INEPT and 2D R-PDLF experiments from POPS sample give well resolved spectras for all the carbons in headgroup and glycerol backbone region, except for g_3 for which the resolution was not sufficient to determine the numerical value of the order parameter (Fig. 1). Slices of the R-PDLF spectra (Fig. 1 C)) show a single splitting for the β -carbon with the order parameter value of 0.12, and a superposition of a large and a very small splitting for the α -carbon. The

larger splitting gives a order parameter value of 0.09, while the numerical value from the small splitting cannot resolved with the available resolution. Since only the absolute values of the PS headgroup order parameters were measured previously [7, 16], we used the S-DROSS experiment [?]] to determine the signs of the order parameters. The S-DROSS slice for the β -carbon (Fig. 1 D)) clearly shows that the order parameter is negative, which is confirmed by SIMPSON simulations. The beginning of the S-DROSS slice suggests that the higher order parameter of the α -carbon is positive and the deviation towards negative values with the longer T_1 times suggests that the smaller order parameter is negative. This is confirmed by a SIMPSON simulation where the value of -0.02 was taken from ^2H NMR experiment [16] for the smaller order parameter. The literature value was used because the resolution of our experiment was not sufficient to determine the small value of the order parameter. The S-DROSS curve from SIMPSON simulation with a positive value for the smaller order parameter (dashed grey in Fig. 1 D)) did not agree with the experiment, confirming the interpretation that the smaller order

TABLE II: List of MD simulations. The salt concentrations calculated as $[\text{salt}] = N_c \times [\text{water}] / N_w$, where $[\text{water}] = 55.5$ M. CKPM refers to the version with Berger/Chiu NH_3 charges compatible with Berger (i.e. the NH_3 group having the same charges as in the $\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_3$ group of the PC lipids; 'M' stands for Mukhopadhyay after the first published Berger-based PS simulation that used these charges [?]) and CKP refers to the version with more Gromos compatible version (i.e. the charges for the NH_3 group taken from the lysine side-chain).

lipid/counter-ions	force field for lipids / ions	NaCl (mM)	CaCl ₂ (mM)	^a N _l	^b N _w	^c N _c	^d T (K)	^e t _{sim} (ns)	^f
POPC:POPS (5:1)/K ⁺	CHARMM36 [31, 57]	0	0	110:22	4935	0	298	100	
POPC:POPS (5:1)/K ⁺	CHARMM36 [31, 57]	0	0	250:50	?	0	298	200	
POPC:POPS (5:1)/K ⁺	CHARMM36 [31, 57]	0	0	110:22	4620	0	298	500	
POPC:POPS (5:1)/Na ⁺	CHARMM36 [31, 57]	0	0	110:22	4620	0	298	500	
POPC:POPS (1:1)/K ⁺	CHARMM36 [31, 57]	0	0	150:150	?	0	298	200	
POPC:POPS (5:1)	CHARMM36 [31, 57, 61]	0	150 17.	250:50	?	?	298	200	
POPC:POPS (5:1)	CHARMM36 [31, 57, 61]	0	1000 19.	250:50	?	?	298	200	
POPC:POPS ^{21.} (5:1)/K ⁺	MacRog [51]	0	0	120:24	5760	0	298	200	
POPC:POPS (5:1)/K ⁺	MacRog [51]	0	100	120:24	5760	10	298	200	
POPC:POPS (5:1)/K ⁺	MacRog [51]	0	300	120:24	5760	31	298	200	
POPC:POPS (5:1)/K ⁺	MacRog [51]	0	1000	120:24	5760	104	298	200	
POPC:POPS (5:1)/K ⁺	MacRog [51]	0	3000	120:24	5760	311	298	200	

27. MacRog simulations with KCl to be added

28. Berger simulations with NaCl and CaCl to be added

^aNumber of lipid molecules with largest mole fraction

^bNumber of water molecules

^cNumber of additional cations

^dSimulation temperature

^eTotal simulation time

^fTime used for analysis

^gReference for simulation files

parameter is negative.

The headgroup and glycerol backbone order parameters of POPS measured in this work are in good agreement with the previously reported values from ²H NMR experiments of DOPS [7] (Fig. 2). The β -carbon order parameter is significantly more negative and α -carbon experiences a significant forking in PS headgroup when compared with the values previously measured for POPC [28] (Fig. 2). These features have been interpreted to arise from a rigid PS headgroup conformation, stabilized by hydrogen bonds or electrostatic interactions [7, 8], but detailed structural interpretation is not available.

Headgroup and glycerol backbone in simulations of PS lipid bilayers without additional ions

The headgroup order parameters of DOPS and POPS bilayers from different simulation models are compared with the experimental data in Fig. 3. Subjective ranking of the quality of the models is shown in Fig. 4. The tested models perform generally less well than in the previous study for PC headgroup [18] and none of the models reproduce the experimental order parameters within experimental error bars. Therefore, the models cannot be straightforwardly used to interpret the structure of PS headgroup. However, the differences between PC and PS headgroups are partially reproduced by some of the models.

The two best performing models for the α and β -carbons of PS, Slipids and CHARMM36, reproduce the large forking in the α -carbon and the Slipids model gives also a good agreement with experiments for the β -carbon order parameter in both PC and PS headgroups (Fig. 3 and Ref. 18). Interestingly, the dihedral angle distributions of CHARMM36 and Slipids in Fig. 17 share significant similarities in the headgroup region. However, the experimental order parameters in the glycerol backbone region are not well reproduced by the Slipids model, which was also the case in for PC lipids [18]. This difference probably arises from the differences in the dihedral angle distributions of C1-C2-C3-O31 and C2-C3-O31-C31 in Figure 16, which are also illustrated in Figure 5.

35. Also the discussion about POPS/OPPS issue with MacRog model should be added.

Counterion binding to lipid bilayers containing PS lipids

Membranes containing PS lipids are always accompanied with counterions, which modulate electrostatic interactions between lipids and other biomolecules. Counterions are also suggested screen the repulsion between charged lipid headgroups in MD simulations and reduce the area per lipid of PS bilayers to be smaller than in PC bilayers [37, 64, 65]. The counterion density profiles along membrane normal show significant differences between simulation models (Fig. 6).

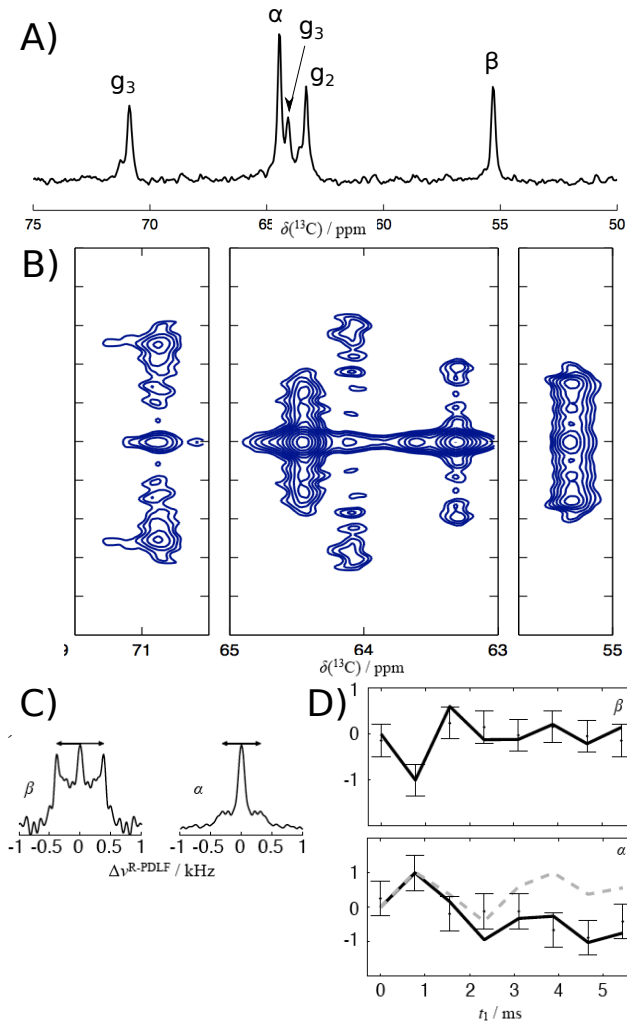


FIG. 1: (a) The headgroup region of the INEPT spectrum with headgroup and glycerol backbone carbons assigned. (b) 2D R-PDLF spectra for headgroup and glycerol backbone regions. (c) Slices for α and β carbons. (d) Experimental SDRSS data (points) and SIMPSON simulations (lines). Order parameter values of -0.12 for the β -carbon, and 0.09 and -0.02 for the larger and smaller α -carbon splittings were used in the SIMPSON calculations. The S-DROSS curve from SIMPSON simulation with positive value for the smaller order parameter (dashed grey).

30. This is preliminary figure, should be polished. 31. Should we show slices for all the analyzed carbons in (c)?

The strongest counterion binding, i.e., the lowest concentrations in bulk water, are observed in MacRog, Berger and Lipid17/JC simulations. CHARMM36, CHARMM36ua and Gromos-CKP models exhibit two local maxima in counterion density, while a single maxima is observed in the other models. 36. More detailed discussion may be possible after comparing monovalent ion binding to bilayers between CHARMM simulations and experiments. Area per lipid is in agreement with experiments [66] only in the Gromos-CKP models, while other models give significantly lower values (Fig. 6). The difference cannot be explained by the electrostatic screening of the headgroup repulsion due

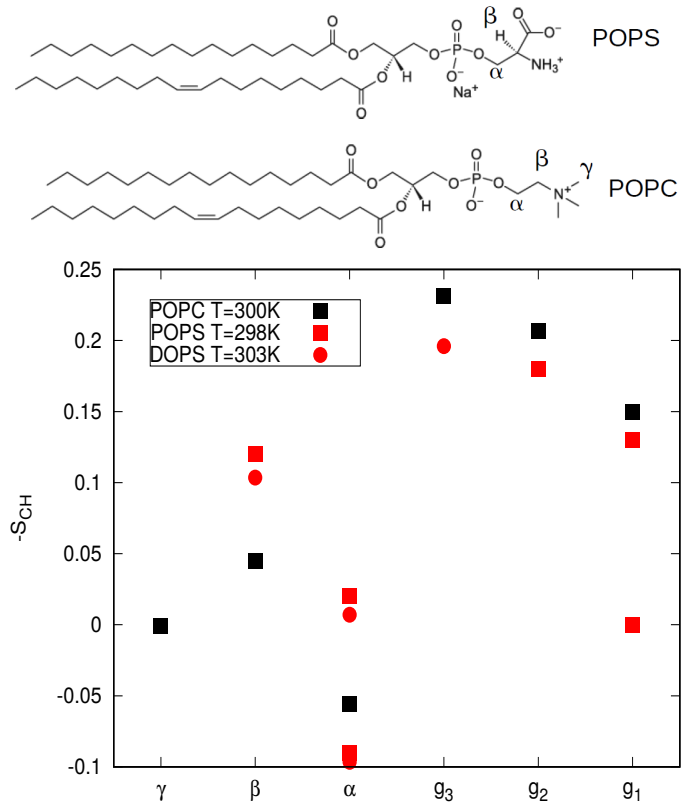


FIG. 2: Headgroup and glycerol backbone order parameters of POPS measured in this work compared with values for DOPS (^2H NMR, 0.1M of NaCl) [7] and POPC (^{13}C NMR) [28] from literature. Signs for PS order parameters as measured in this work and signs for PC as measured in Refs [25?].

32. There should be values in [15] which should be added.

to counterion binding because CHARMM36, CHARMM36ua and Slipid models give smaller area per lipid than Gromos-CKP models with similar counterion binding affinity.

To evaluate counterion binding in different simulation against experimental data [15], we plot the headgroup order parameters measured from POPC:POPS 5:1 mixture as a function of function of different monovalent ions added to the buffer (Fig. 7). In line with the trend observed for bilayers in the absence of negatively charged lipids [?], the POPC headgroup order parameter response to lithium ions is significantly larger than to potassium, indicating stronger binding of lithium ions to lipid bilayers. The unique nature of lithium is also evident in the response of PS headgroup order parameters to bound ions, which decrease with the addition of lithium or divalent cations but increase with the addition of sodium or potassium. The headgroup order parameter response to the added NaCl in the Berger model is similar to the experiments of LiCl, except for the α carbon of POPS for which the change is overestimated with the order of magnitude. The results suggest that the binding affinity of sodium is overestimated by the Berger model, in line with the previous results [19], and that the response of α carbon of POPS to the added sodium is significantly overestimated. The response of POPC to the

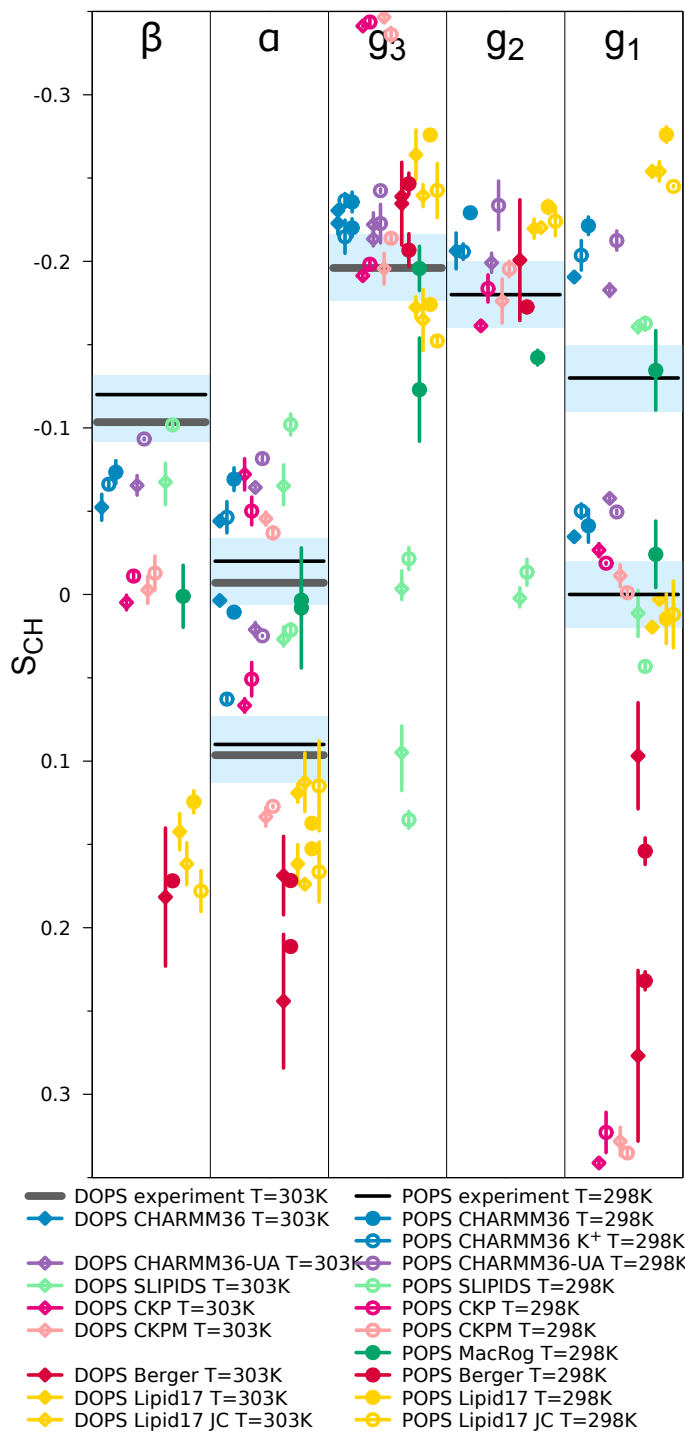


FIG. 3: Order parameters for PS headgroup and glycerol backbone from simulations with different models and experiments without CaCl_2 . All DOPS data at 303 K, POPS at 298 K. Experimental data from [7] contain 0.1 M of NaCl. Signs are taken from experiments for POPS described in Supplementary Information. The vertical bars shown are not error bars, but demonstrate that we had at least two data sets; the ends of the bars mark the extreme values from the sets, and the dot marks their measurement-time-weighted average.

	β	α	g_3	g_2	g_1	Σ
CHARMM 36	M	M F	M	M	M F	8
CHARMM 36-UA	M	M	M	M	M F	8
GROMOS-CKP1	M	M F	M F	M	M F	14
GROMOS-CKP2	M	M F	M F	M	M F	14
Slipid	M	M	M F	M	M F	14
Berger	M	M F	M F	M	M F	15

FIG. 4: Rough subjective ranking of force fields based on Figure 3. Here M indicates a magnitude problem, F a forking problem; letter size increases with problem severity. Color scheme: within experimental error (dark green), almost within experimental error (light green), clear deviation from experiments (light red), and major deviation from experiments (dark red). The Σ -column shows the total deviation of the force field, when individual carbons are given weights of 0 (matches experiment), 1, 2, and 4 (major deviation). For full details of the assessment, see Supplementary Information.

33.Issue about possible updates to this plot:

<https://github.com/NMRLipids/NMRLipidsIVotherHGs/issues/4>

34.Lipid17 and MacRog results should be added into this plot.

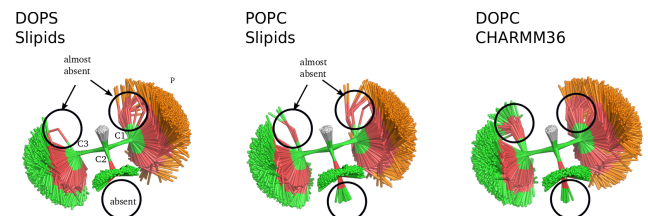


FIG. 5: Snapshots overlaid from different simulations for glycerol backbone region by Pavel Buslaev.

added potassium in MacRog model is only slightly overestimated, in contrast to the response of POPS where order of magnitude overestimations of response are observed. In conclusion, it seems that the response of PS headgroup to bound cations is not correctly captured in the tested models. 39.Finish the discussion when more models are available

Headgroup structure in PS and PC mixtures

Cellular membranes often compose of mixtures of zwitterionic and negatively charged lipids. The response of PC head-

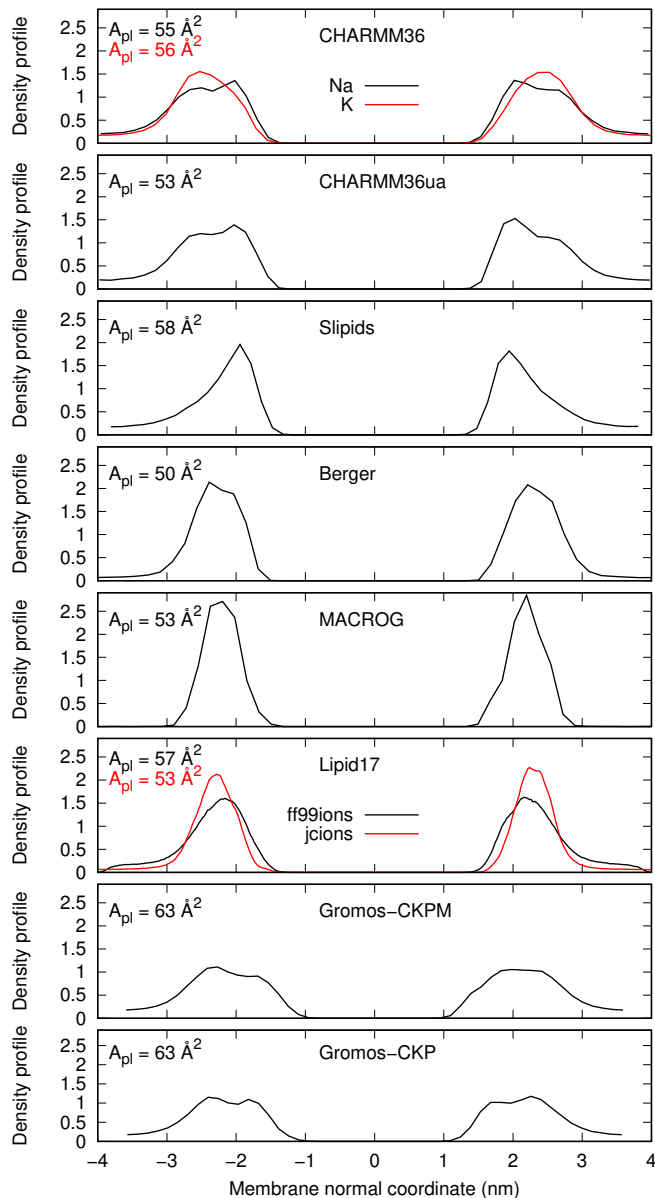


FIG. 6: Counterion densities of POPS lipid bilayer along the membrane normal from simulations with different force fields.

group to mixtures of differently charged lipids are collected from different experiments in Fig. 12. As expected from the electrometer concept [67], the headgroup order parameters increase with the addition of negatively charged PS and PG lipids, decrease when mixed with positively charged surfactants and are less affected by the addition of zwitterionic PE lipids or cholesterol. In addition to the results summarized in Fig. 12, also mixtures of PC with negatively charged PI, CL, PA, and zwitterionic SM follow the electrometer concept [27].

Fig. 9 shows the PC and PS headgroup order parameters from POPC:POPS mixtures with various mole fractions from

simulations and experiments [15, 27]. The experimentally observed increase of PC headgroup order parameters with the increasing amount of negatively charged PS lipid is reproduced in MacRog simulations with potassium counterions, but not in CHARMM36 simulations with potassium or sodium counterions. The results can be understood from the counterion density distributions shown in Fig. 8. Both counterions are more strongly bound to bilayers in CHARMM36 simulations than potassium in MacRog simulation. The cation binding probably neutralizes the effect of negatively charged lipids in CHARMM36 simulations, while the weaker binding of potassium in MacRog simulations enables the increase of order parameters with the added amount of PS. **41. This discussion will be finalized when we have the results for monovalent ions also from other simulations.**

Also the headgroup order parameters of POPS mixed with varying amounts of POPC from simulations and experiments [15, 68] are shown in Fig. 9. The β -carbon order parameter of POPS slightly decreases and positive order parameter of α -carbon slightly increases with increasing amount of PS lipids. This may indicate increasing order of the headgroup. **45. The existing literature about this should be mentioned/discussed.** It should be, however, noted that the experimental data for pure POPS and POPC/POPS mixture come from different experimental sets, ^{13}C NMR in this work and ^2H NMR from Ref. 15, respectively. Therefore the accuracy of the order parameter change is not as high as typically in the measurements of order parameter changes, see discussion about qualitative and quantitative accuracy in Ref. 20. The changes of PS headgroup order parameters are not reproduced by the tested simulation models. The β -carbon order parameter increase with increasing amount of PS in CHARMM36 and MacRog simulations in contrast to the experimental data. The smaller α -carbon order parameter increase in both simulation models with increasing amount of PS, while it is almost unchanged in experiments. The larger α -carbon order parameter increase in MacRog and decrease in CHARMM36 with increasing amount of PS, both model exhibiting a poor agreement with experiments. Significant improvement in the MD simulation models are needed to interpret the PS headgroup structures and mutual interactions with PC lipids. **46. This discussion should be updated.**

Ca^{2+} binding affinity in bilayers with negatively charged PS lipids

The headgroup order parameters of PC lipids decrease proportionally to the bound positive charge in to a bilayer [19, 67] and can be therefore used to measure the ion binding affinity. This molecular electrometer concept can be also applied to lipid bilayers with mixtures of PC and negatively charged lipids [15, 68, 69] (see Fig. 13).

The headgroup order parameter changes of POPC and POPS from POPC:POPS (5:1) mixtures are shown in Fig. 10 as a function of Ca^{2+} concentration from different simulations and experiments [15]. The ion density distributions from the

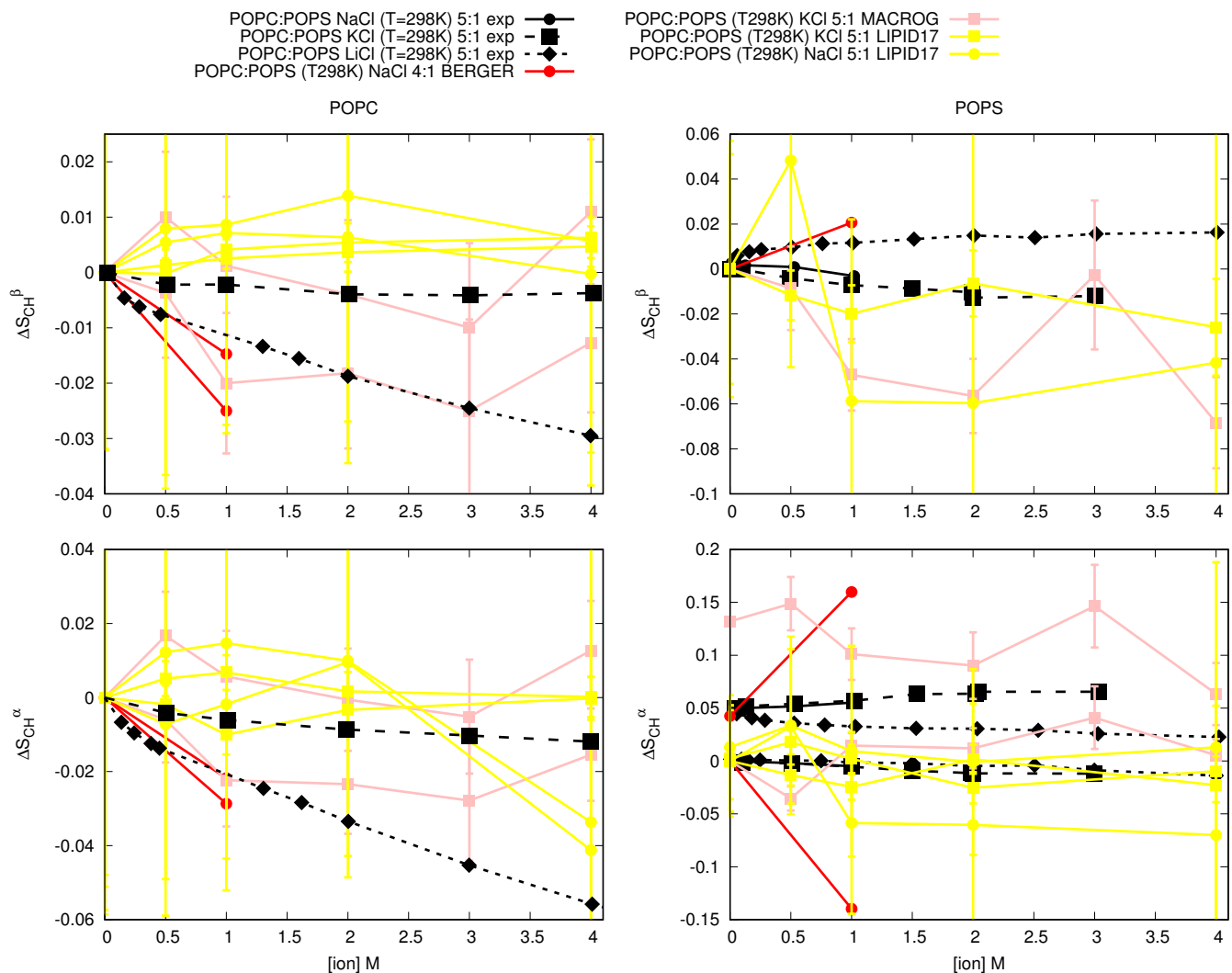


FIG. 7: Changes of the PC (left) and PS (right) headgroup order parameters as a function of added NaCl, KCl and LiCl from POPC:POPS (5:1) mixture. The experimental data is from Ref. 15. The values from counterion-only systems are set as a zero point of y-axis. To correctly illustrate the significant forking of the α -carbon order parameter in PS headgroup (bottom, right), the y-axis is transferred with the same value for both order parameters such that the lower order parameter value is at zero.

37.The upcoming results from Lipid17 have been mentioned in the blog:

<http://nmrlipids.blogspot.com/2017/12/nmrlipids-iv-current-status-and.html?showComment=1522151331118#c5876812436739342658>

38.CHARM36 results for this plot would be highly useful.

simulations are shown in Fig. 11. The results suggest that Ca^{2+} ions clearly overbind in simulations with MacRog and Berger models, as expected from previous results for PC lipid bilayers [19]. It should be noted, however, that the lowest concentration (100mM) gives a good agreement with experiments 47.Should be analyze/discuss this further? Binding with ~ 100 mM is saturated in both Berger and MacRog simulations. Maybe this is realistic? It should be noted that Berger simulation do not have counterions.. Surprisingly, the calcium binding seems to be too weak CHARM36 simulations. This is due to the NBfix interaction parameters from Ref. 61, incorporated in the parameters from CHARM36-GUI at the time of running the simulations (January 2018). The binding of calcium to pure POPC bilayer is also too weak with these param-

eters as shown in Figs. 19 and 20. 48.The discussion is to be finished when we have all the data in the plot.

Also the order parameters of PS headgroup from POPC:POPS (5:1) mixture are shown in Fig. 10 as a function of CaCl_2 concentration. In experiments the order parameters exhibit a strong dependence of CaCl_2 with small concentrations with a rapid saturation around 50 mM. The changes of PS headgroup order parameters with added CaCl_2 are overestimated in all tested simulation models. Furthermore, the changes of the headgroup order parameters do not qualitatively agree with experiments. This is in contrast to previous results for PC headgroup [19], where qualitatively correct response to bound ions was observed despite of significant dis-

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

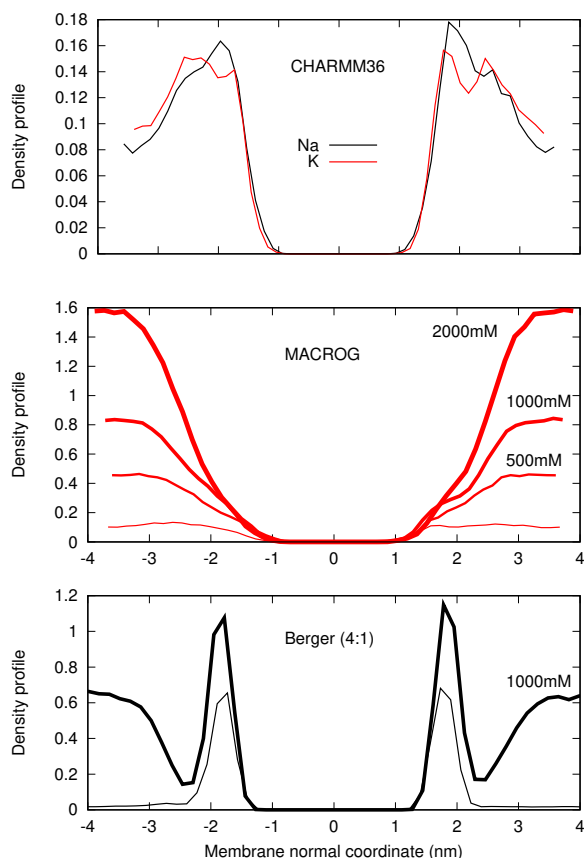


FIG. 8: Counterion density distributions from PC:PS mixtures.

40.Lipid 17 is to be added.

crepancies in the headgroup structure without additional ions.

CONCLUSIONS

Simulated systems

CHARMM36

55.To be written by Piggot, Madsen and Ollila

CHARMM36ua

56.To be written by Piggot

Slipids

57.To be written by Piggot and Favela

Berger

58.To be wiritten by Piggot and Ollila Simulations with sodium were taken directly from Ref. ? and simulations with calcium directly from 17. Simulation of POPC at 310 K was taken directly from Ref. 70.

GROMOS-CKP

59.To be written by Piggot

Lipid17

60.To be written by Kav and Miettinen

MacRog

61.To be written by Javanainen and Piggot

PC lipid headgroup response to different mixtures in experiments

As shown in Fig. 12, order parameters of PC headgroup behave in various lipid mixtures as expected from the electrometer concept [27, 67], i.e., order parameters increase when anionic lipids are mixed with PC and decrease with cationic surfactants. The changes with the addition of neutral lipids is significantly smaller.

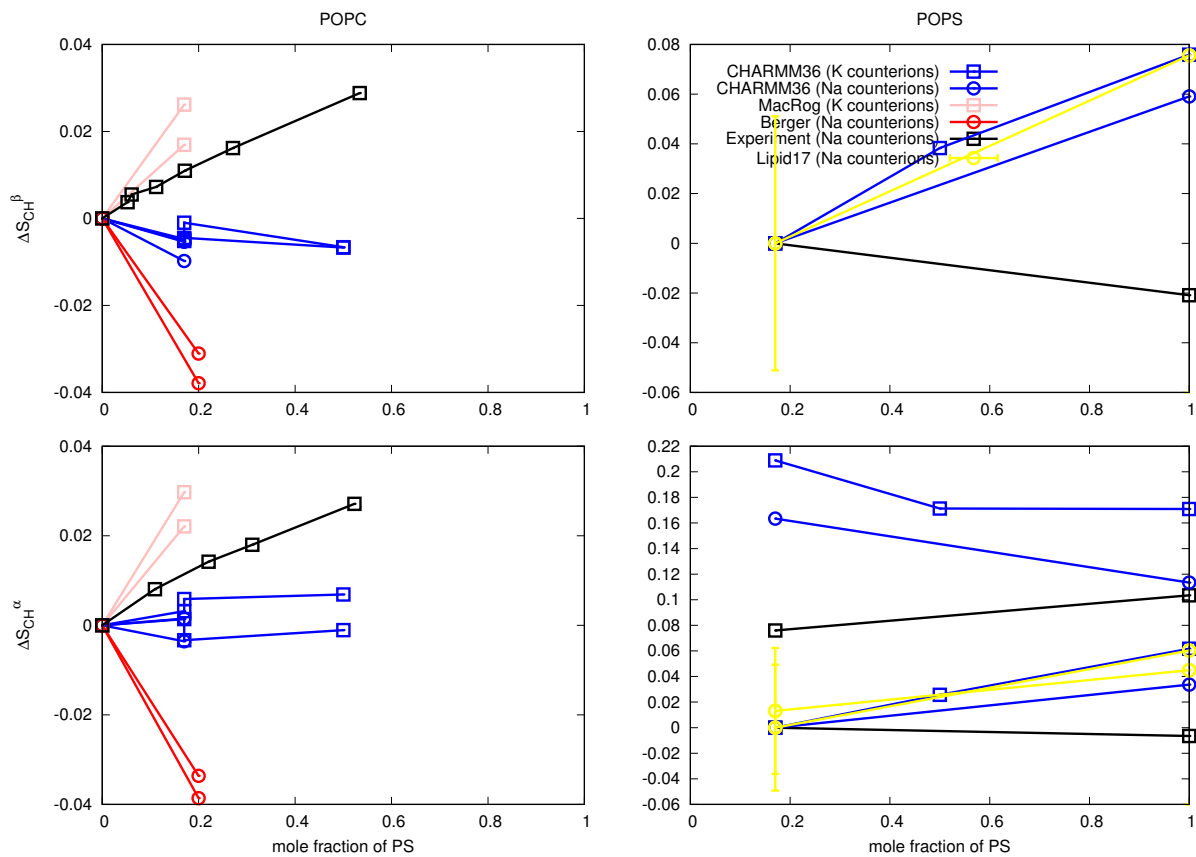


FIG. 9: Changes of PC (left panel) and PS (right panel) headgroup order parameters from POPC:POPS mixtures with increasing amount of POPS. Experimental results of POPC are taken from Ref. 27 (signs are determined as discussed in [18, 20]). Experimental values for POPS in pure bilayer and in mixture are measured in this work and in Ref. 15 at 298K, respectively. For POPC (left panel) the zero point of y-axis is set to the value of pure bilayer. For β -carbon of POPS (right panel, top) the zero point of y-axis is set to the value from POPC:POPS (5:1) mixture. For α -carbon of POPS (right panel, bottom) the y-axis is transferred with the same value for both order parameters such that the lower order parameter value from POPC:POPS (5:1) mixture is at zero to correctly illustrate the significant forking.

42.Simulation of CHARMM36 at 298K should be maybe rerun with Gromacs 5.

43.Simulation of pure POPC at 298K with Lipid14 would be useful for this plot (only at 303 K is available from NMRlipids I)

44.MacRog simulations of pure POPS with potassium counterions only would be useful for this and other plots.

Cation binding affinity to lipid bilayers with different amount of charge

Before using the headgroup order parameters to compare ion binding affinity between simulations and experiments, it is important to quantify the response of the order parameters to the bound charge in simulations. The response of headgroup order parameters in POPC bilayer is compared between simulations and experiments [71] In Fig. 15. The figure shows that the order parameters are too sensitive to bound charge in Lipid14 model, while CHARMM36 is in better agreement with experiments. This has to be taken into account when analysin the binding affinities.

Difference between POPC and OPPS in MacRog model

Dihedrals

Dihedrals

The experimental results show essentially no changes in the order parameters as a function of added NaCl, while significant changes are observed in simulations. However, the minimum buffer concentration of NaCl in the experimental was 100mM [74]. Therefore, we cannot exclude the possibility that the NaCl induced changes were already saturated with 100mM NaCl concentration, which was the case for CaCl_2 in Fig. 10.

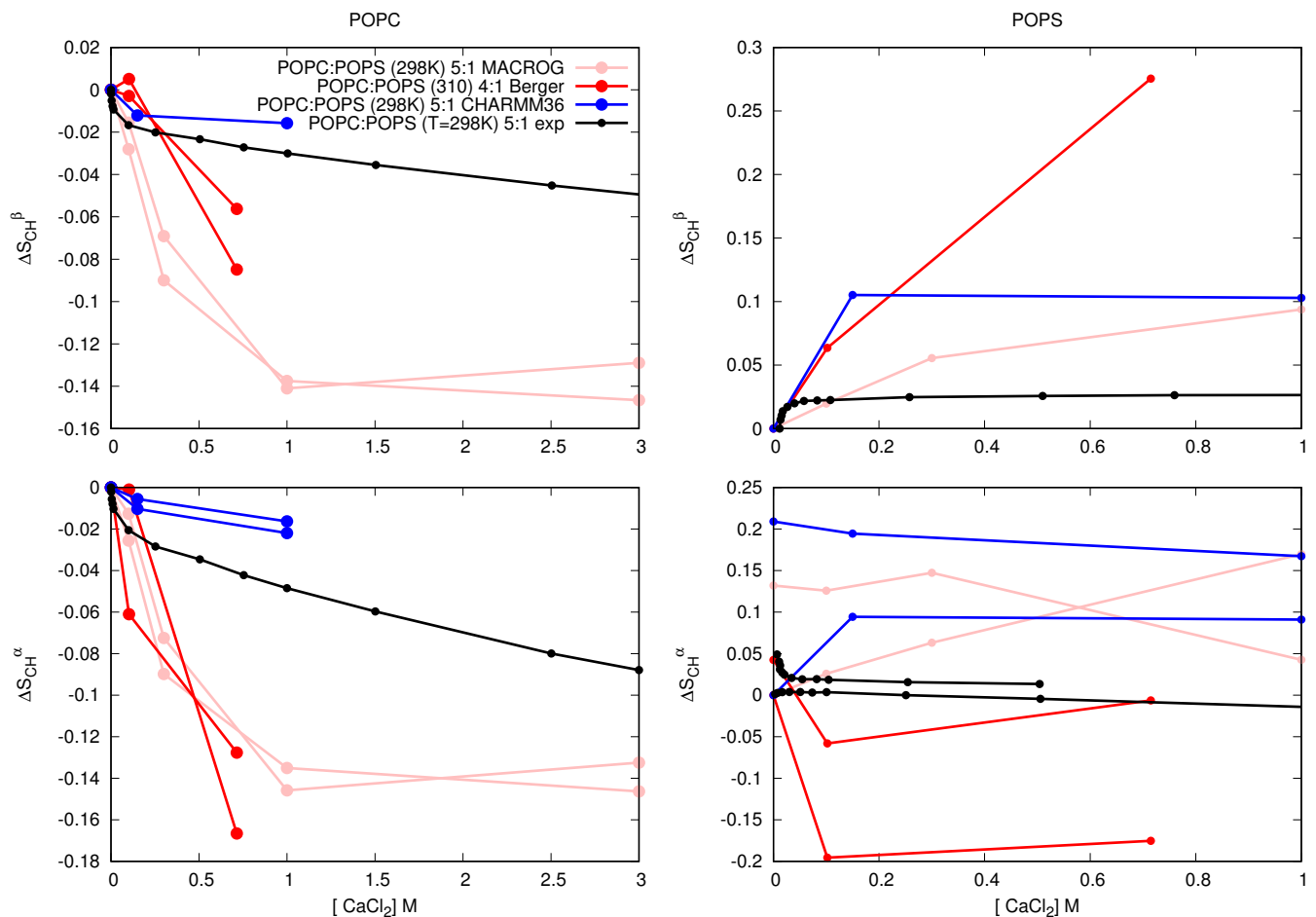


FIG. 10: Changes of POPC (left) and POPS (right) headgroup order parameters in POPC:POPS (5:1) mixture as a function CaCl_2 concentration. Experimental data is taken from 15. The values from counterion-only systems are set as a zero point of y-axis. To correctly illustrate the significant forking of the α -carbon order parameter in PS headgroup (bottom, right), the y-axis is transferred with the same value for both order parameters such that the lower order parameter value is at zero.

49. Information about the counterions in different simulations should be added

50. Upcoming simulations with original CHARMM36 have been mentioned in the blog:

<http://nmrlipids.blogspot.com/2017/12/nmrlipids-iv-current-status-and.html?showComment=1520090718976#c5569269391707740056>

51. Upcoming Lipid17 simulations have been mentioned in the blog

<http://nmrlipids.blogspot.com/2017/12/nmrlipids-iv-current-status-and.html?showComment=1515177306419#c994825612316235467>

Details of the rough subjective force field ranking (Fig. 4)

The assessment was based fully on the Fig. 3. First, for each carbon (the columns in Fig. 3) in each force field (the rows), we looked separately at deviations in magnitude and forking.

Magnitude deviations, i.e., how close to the experimentally obtained C–H order parameters (OPs) the force-field-produced OPs were. For each carbon, the following 5-step scale was used:

0 (): More than half of all the calculated OPs (that is, of all different hydrogens in all different lipids) were within the *subjective sweet spots* (SSP, blue-shaded areas in Fig. 3).

1 (u): All the calculated OPs were < 0.03 units away from the SSP.

2 (M): All the calculated OPs were < 0.05 units away from the SSP.

3 (M): All the calculated OPs were < 0.10 units away from the SSP.

4 (M): Some of the calculated OPs were > 0.10 units away from the SSP.

Forking deviations, i.e., how well the difference in order parameters of two hydrogens attached to a given carbon matched that obtained experimentally. Note that this is not relevant for β and g_2 , which have only one hydrogen. For the

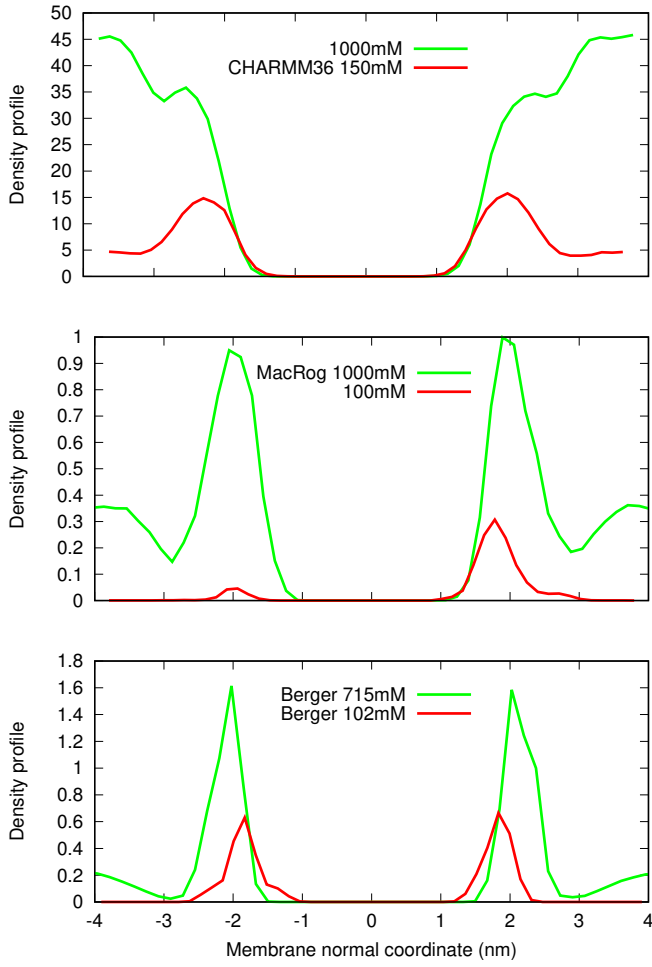


FIG. 11: Ca²⁺ density profiles from simulations.

52. The CHARMM results are mass densities, numbers should be used.

53. Should we include also counterions into the plot?

54. Not all the data from MacRog is included.

α carbon, for which a considerable forking of 0.105 is experimentally seen, the following 5-step scale was used:

- 0 ():** The distance D between the dots (that mark the measurement-time-weighted averages in Fig. 3) was $0.08 < D < 0.13$ units for all the calculated OPs (that is, for all different lipids).
- 1 (F):** $(0.06 < D < 0.08)$ OR $(0.13 < D < 0.15)$.
- 2 (F):** $(0.04 < D < 0.06)$ OR $(0.15 < D < 0.17)$.
- 3 (F):** $(0.02 < D < 0.04)$ OR $(0.17 < D < 0.19)$.
- 4 (F):** $(D < 0.02)$ OR $(0.19 < D)$.

For the g_3 carbon, for which no forking is indicated by experiments, the following 5-step scale was used:

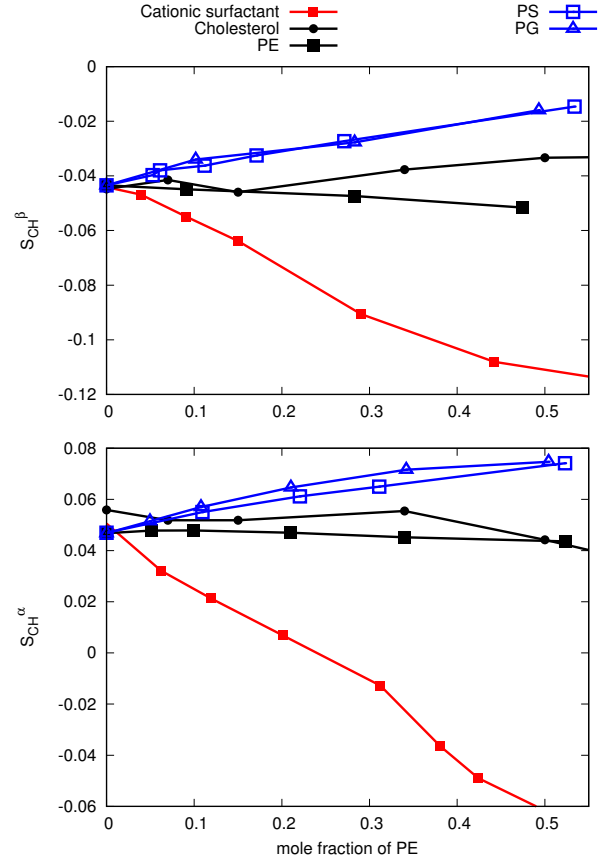


FIG. 12: PC headgroup order parameters from experiments of mixtures with PE, PS, PG and cholesterol [27, 28, 71]. Signs are determined as discussed in [18, 20].

- 0 ():** $D < 0.02$.
- 1 (F):** $0.02 < D < 0.04$.
- 2 (F):** $0.04 < D < 0.06$.
- 3 (F):** $0.06 < D < 0.08$.
- 4 (F):** $0.08 < D$.

For the g_1 carbon, for which a considerable forking of 0.13 is experimentally seen, the following 5-step scale was used:

- 0 ():** $0.11 < D < 0.15$.
- 1 (F):** $(0.09 < D < 0.11)$ OR $(0.15 < D < 0.17)$.
- 2 (F):** $(0.07 < D < 0.09)$ OR $(0.17 < D < 0.19)$.
- 3 (F):** $(0.05 < D < 0.07)$ OR $(0.19 < D < 0.21)$.
- 4 (F):** $(D < 0.05)$ OR $(0.21 < D)$.

Based on these assessments of magnitude and forking deviations, each carbon was then assigned to one of the following groups: "within experimental error" (magnitude and forking deviations both on step 0 of the scales described above), "almost within experimental error" (sum of the magnitude and

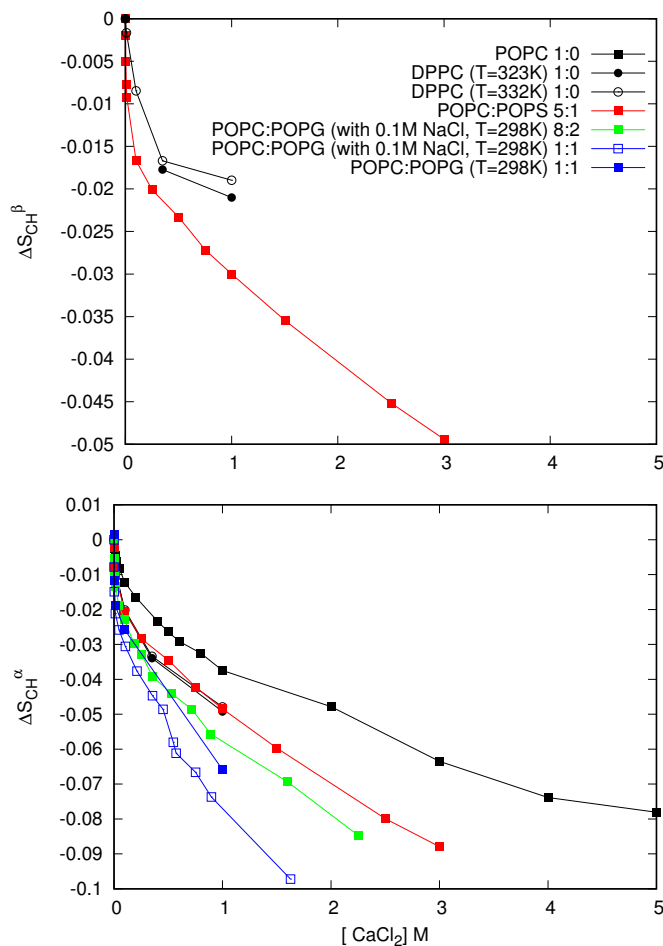


FIG. 13: The change of PC headgroup order parameters as a function of $CaCl_2$ measured from bilayers containing different amount of negatively charged lipids. The values are taken from 2H NMR experiments reported in the literature (DPPC [72], POPC [73], POPC:POPS (5:1) [15], POPC:POPG mixtures with 0.1M NaCl [69] and POPC:POPG (1:1) without NaCl [68]). As expected, the decrease of order parameters with the added $CaCl_2$ is more pronounced for systems with larger fraction of negatively charged lipids, indicating larger amount of bound cations.

forking deviation steps 1 or 2), "clear deviation from experiments" (sum of magnitude and forking deviation steps from 3 to 5), and "major deviation from experiments" (sum of magnitude and forking deviation steps from 6 to 8). These groups are indicated by colors in Fig. 4. (Note that for β and g_2 , for which there can be no forking, the corresponding group assignment limits were: 0, 1, 2, and 3.)

Finally, the total ability of the force field to describe the headgroup and glycerol structure was estimated. To this end, the groups were given the following weights: 0 (within experimental error), 1 (almost within experimental error), 2 (clear deviation from experiments), 4 (major deviation from experiments), and the weights of the five carbons were summed up. The sum, given in the Σ -column of Fig. 3, was then used to

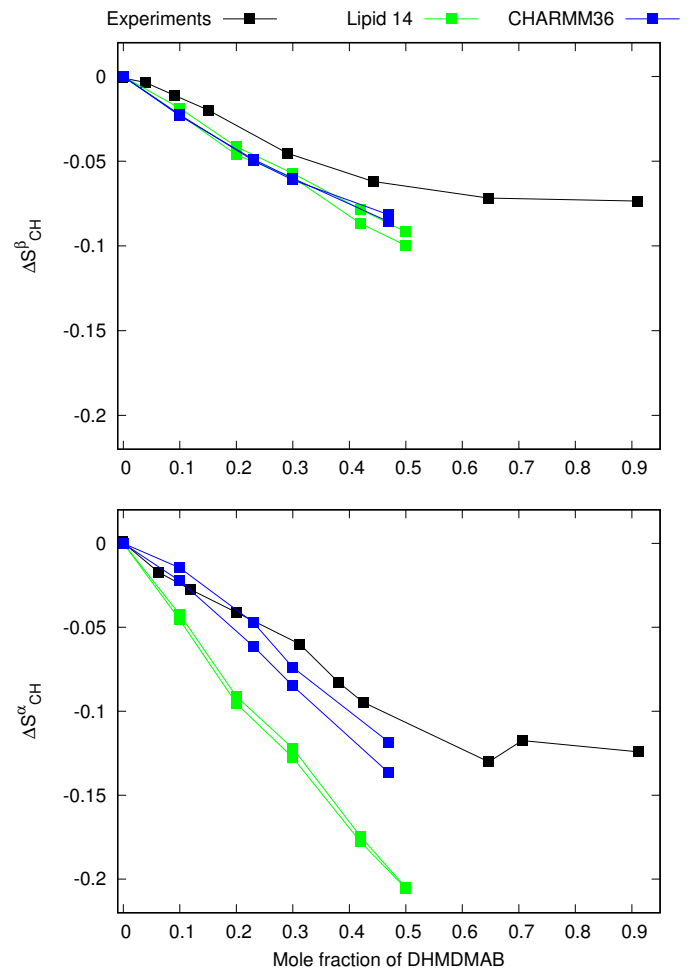


FIG. 14: The response of headgroup order parameters to the fixed amount of cationic surfactants in POPC bilayer is compared between simulations and experiments [71].

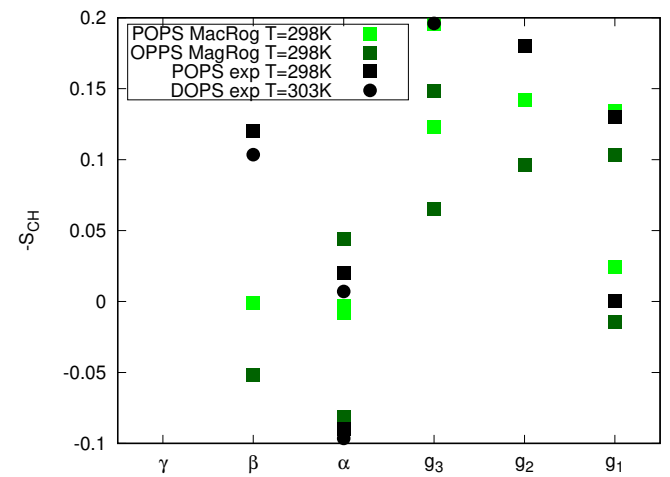


FIG. 15: Headgroup order parameters from POPS and OPPS simulations with MacRog model.

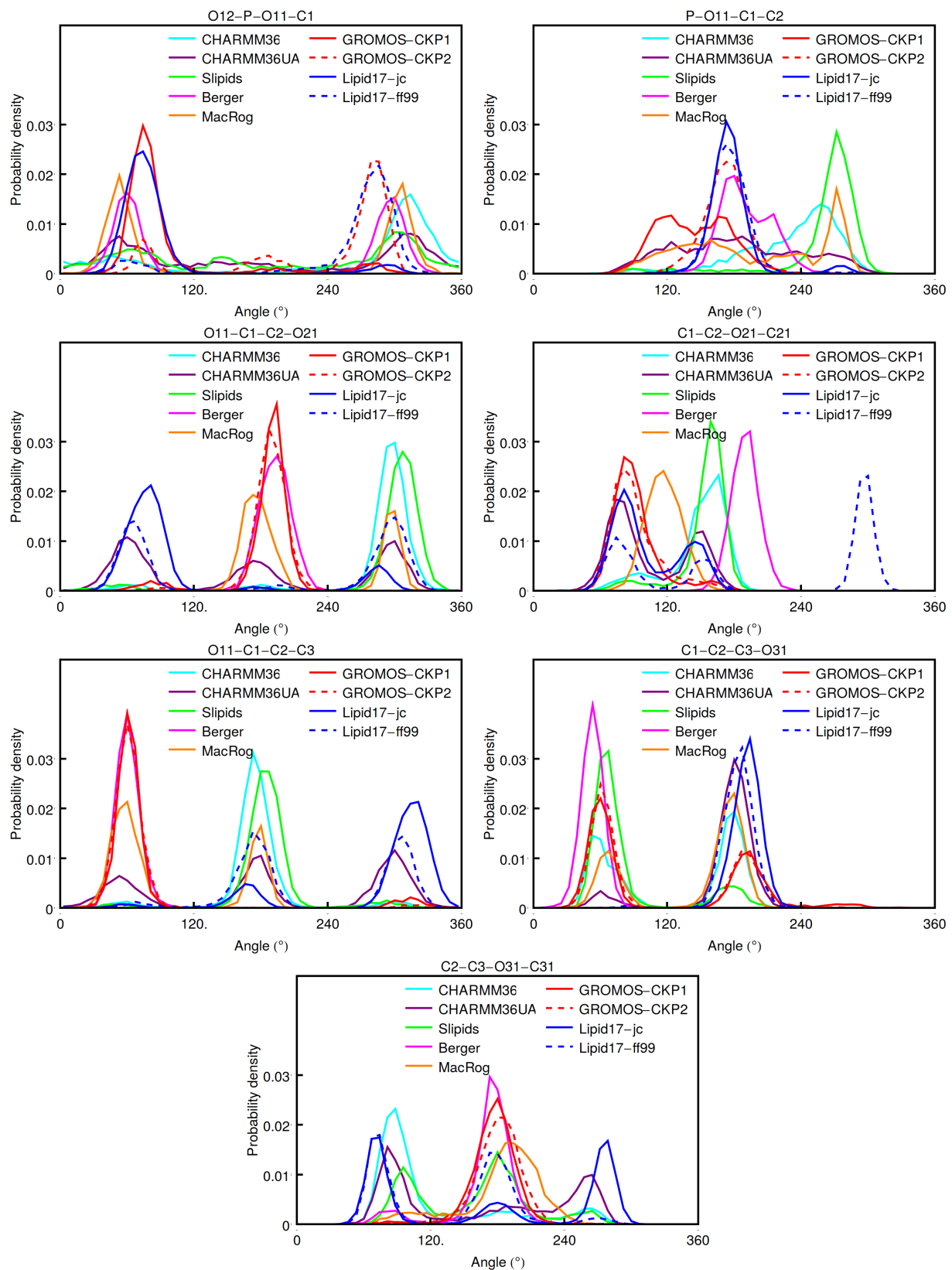


FIG. 16: Dihedral angle distributions of bonds from phosphate to acyl chain carbonyls from different simulation models.

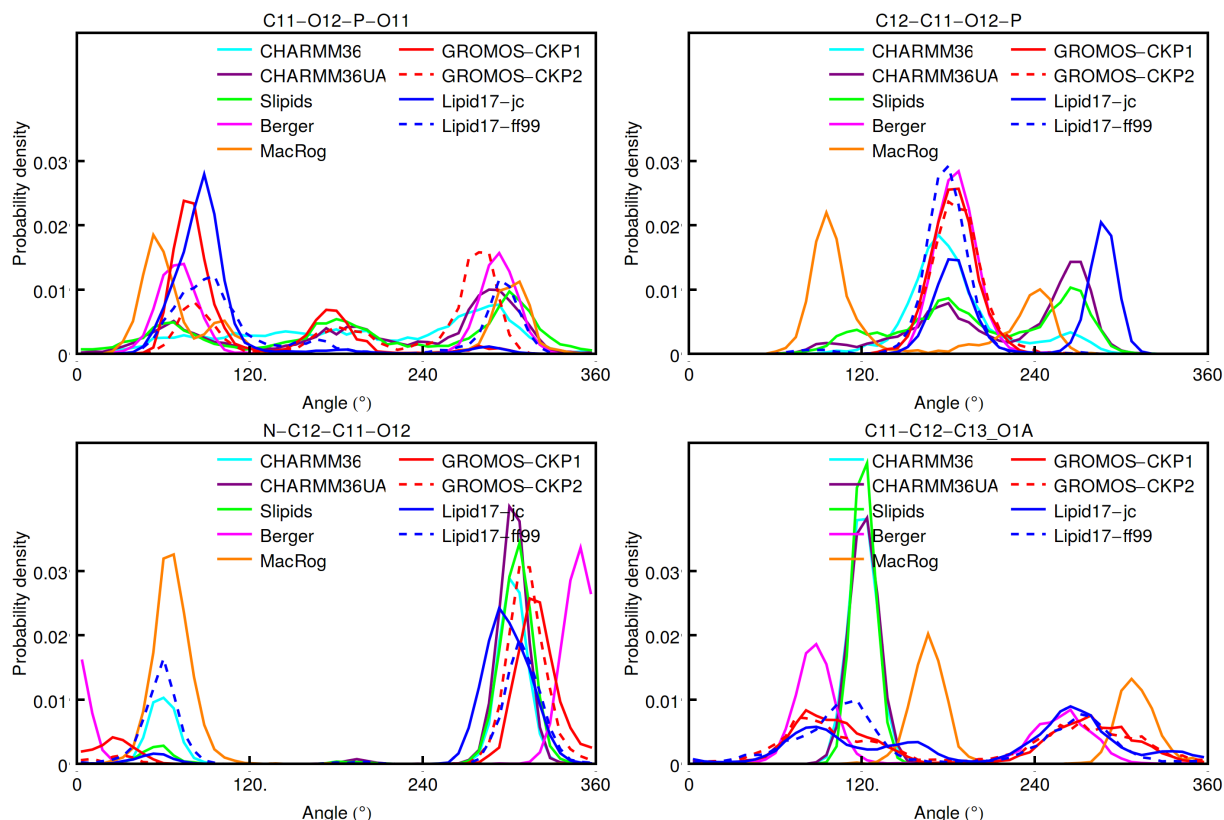


FIG. 17: Dihedral angle distributions of bonds from phosphate to headgroup from different simulation models.

(roughly and subjectively, as should be clear from the above description) rank the force fields.

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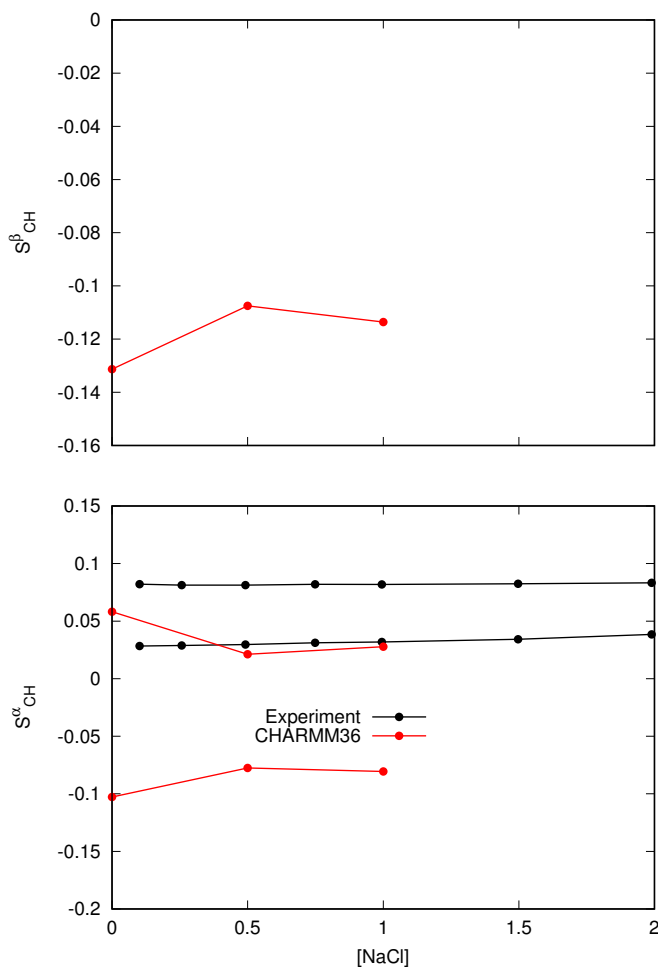


FIG. 18: Order parameters of PS headgroup as a function of added NaCl measured from DMPC:DMPS (3:1) mixture [74].

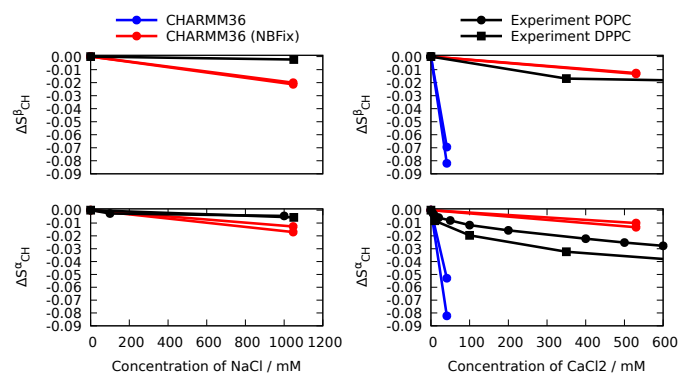


FIG. 19: The response of headgroup order parameters to the fixed amount of cationic surfactants in POPC bilayer is compared between simulations and experiments [71].

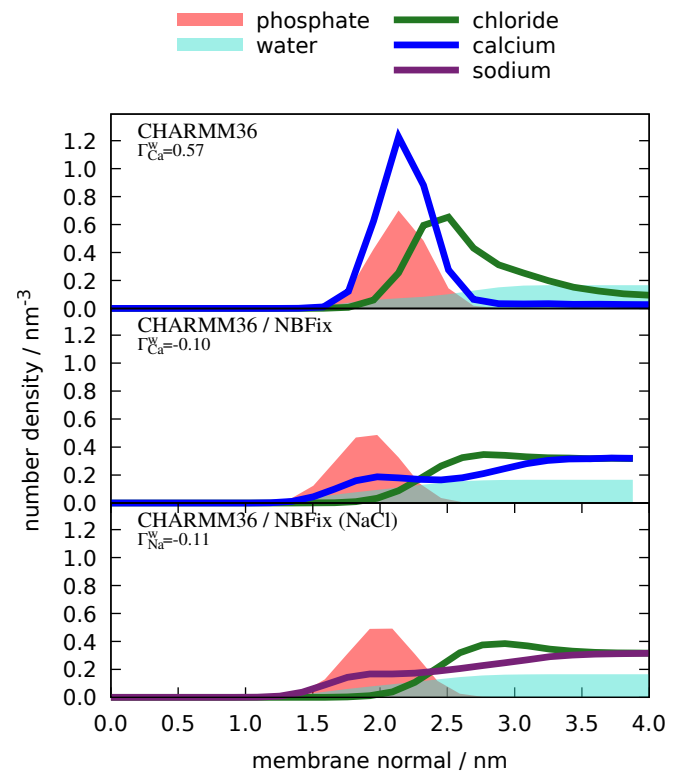


FIG. 20: The response of headgroup order parameters to the fixed amount of cationic surfactants in POPC bilayer is compared between simulations and experiments [71].

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ToDo

1. Authorship query to be sent soon. 1
 2. Details of the used spectrometer and maybe some other details should be given. 1
 3. Sample preparation should be described. 1
 4. How is the peak assignment done? 1
 5. Should confirm that the amounts of water in experiments matched those in simulations. 2
 6. Correct citation for CHARMMua DOPS 2
 7. Correct citation(s) for CKP. 2
 8. Correct citation(s) for CKP. 2
 9. Correct citation for CHARMMua DOPS 2
 10. Data to be added by Piggot 2
 11. Correct citation(s) for CKP. 2
 12. Correct citation(s) for CKP. 2
 29. Error estimation should be discussed. 2
 13. Should confirm that the amounts of water in experiments matched those in simulations. 3
 14. Equilibration? 3
 15. Trajectories and further details to be added by J. Madsen 3
 16. Trajectories and further details to be added by J. Madsen 3
 17. Concentration to be checked 3
 18. Trajectories and further details to be added by J. Madsen 3
 19. Concentration to be checked 3
 20. Trajectories and further details to be added by J. Madsen 3
 21. This is also probably OPPS? These should be corrected in this table as well. 3
 22. Equilibration? 3
 23. Equilibration? 3
 24. Equilibration? 3
 25. Equilibration? 3
 26. Equilibration? 3
 27. MacRog simulations with KCl to be added 3
 28. Berger simulations with NaCl and CaCl to be added 3
 35. Also the discussion about POPS/OPPS issue with MacRog model should be added. 3
 30. This is preliminary figure, should be polished. 4

P.

31. Should we show slices for all the analyzed carbons in (c)? 4
 36. More detailed discussion may be possible after comparing monovalent ion binding to bilayers between CHARMM simulations and experiments. 4
 32. There should be values in [15] which should be added. 4
 33. Issue about possible updates to this plot: <https://github.com/NMRLipids/NMRLipidsIVOtherHGs/issues/4> 5
 34. Lipid17 and MacRog results should be added into this plot. 5
 39. Finish the discussion when more models are available 5
 41. This discussion will be finalized when we have the results for monovalent ions also from other simulations. 6
 45. The existing literature about this should be mentioned/discussed. 6
 46. This discussion should be updated. 6
 37. The upcoming results from Lipid17 have been mentioned in the blog: <http://nmrlipids.blogspot.com/2017/12/nmrlipids-iv-current-status-and.html?showComment=1522151331118#c58768124>.
 38. CHARMM36 results for this plot would be highly useful. 7
 47. Should be analyze/discuss this further? Binding with ~100 mM is saturated in both Berger and MacRog simulations. Maybe this is realistic? It should be noted that Berger simulation do not have counterions. 7
 48. The discussion is to be finished when we have all the data in the plot. 7
 40. Lipid 17 is to be added. 8
 55. To be written by Piggot, Madsen and Ollila 8
 56. To be written by Piggot 8
 57. To be written by Piggot and Favela 8
 58. To be written by Piggot and Ollila 8
 59. To be written by Piggot 8
 60. To be written by Kav and Miettinen 8
 61. To be written by Javanainen and Piggot 8
 42. Simulation of CHARMM36 at 298K should be maybe rerun with Gromacs 5. 9
 43. Simulation of pure POPC at 298K with Lipid14 would be useful for this plot (only at 303 K is available from NMRLipids I) 9
 44. MacRog simulations of pure POPS with potassium counterions only would be useful for this and other plots. 9
 49. Information about the counterions in different simulations should be added 10
 50. Upcoming simulations with original CHARMM36 have been mentioned in the blog: <http://nmrlipids.blogspot.com/2017/12/nmrlipids-iv-current-status-and.html?showComment=1520090718976#c55692693>.
 51. Upcoming Lipid17 simulations have been mentioned in the blog <http://nmrlipids.blogspot.com/2017/12/nmrlipids-iv-current-status-and.html?showComment=1515177306419#c99482561>.
 52. The CHARMM results are mass densities, numbers should be used. 11
 53. Should we include also counterions into the plot? . 11

54. Not all the data from MacRog is included. 11