

## Supplementary Information

# Assembly and Relaxation Behaviors of Phosphatidylethanolamine Monolayers Investigated by Polarization and Frequency Resolved SFG-VS

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### 1. Experimental details of $\pi$ -A isotherm and BAM detections

Three PE lipids: DMPE, D<sub>54</sub>-DMPE and DPPE (Avanti lipids, purity > 99%) were analyzed in this study. The lipid solutions for spreading were prepared using the mixing solute of CHCl<sub>3</sub>: Methanol = 4:1. For each isotherm experiments, about 35  $\mu$ l lipid solution (1 mM) were spread on the surface of deionize water (Milli-Q Academic). The Langmuir isotherm of DMPE and DPPE monolayers were collected by KSV Teflon mini Trough with a compression speed of 5mm/min. The same Langmuir trough was also used in SFG-VS detection to control the SP of monolayer. For SFG spectra collection at stabilized SP value ( $\pm 0.3$  mN/m), the compression speed of  $\pm 3$  mm/min was used. For the compression kinetics detection, the compression speed was 27 mm/min.

BAM images of the monolayers were collected simultaneously with  $\pi$ -A isotherms using a custom-built BAM. The laser source (Research Electro-Optics) emits 5 mW p-polarized light at 543 nm. The incident beam is first attenuated by a half-wave plate and then filtered by a Glan-Thompson polarizer before reaching the aqueous surface at the Brewster angle ( $\sim 53^\circ$ ). The reflected beam is collected by an infinity-corrected Nikon 10 $^\circ$  objective lens and is then focused by a tube lens. A back-illuminated electron multiplying CCD camera (Andor, model DV887-BV, 512  $\times$  512 pixels) was used to record BAM images. The inclined position of the imaging optics

results in images focused along a central narrow stripe. Final images taken were cropped from a  $800 \mu\text{m} \times 800 \mu\text{m}$  size to show the most resolved regions, which was typically the center of the image where the beam was the most intense.

## 2. SFG spectra of ODT monolayers

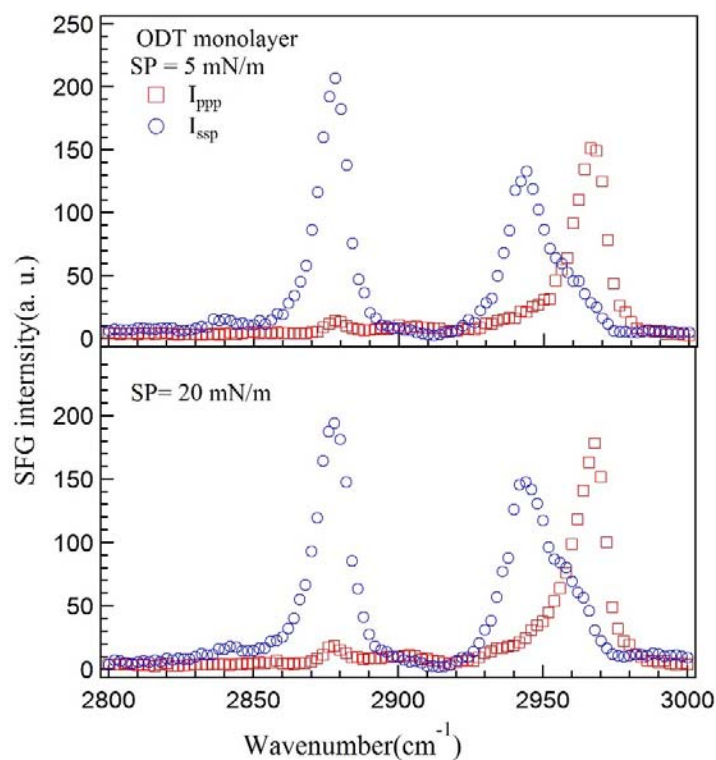


Figure S1. SFG spectra of ODT monolayer at SP = 5 mN/m and 20 mN/m in the wavenumber range of 2800-3000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

## 3. Fitting of SFG-VS Signals

As described in detail elsewhere, the intensity of the SFG light is proportional to the square of the sample's effective second-order nonlinear susceptibility ( $\chi_{\text{eff}}^{(2)}$ ), and the intensity of the two input fields  $I_1(\omega_{\text{vis}})$  and  $I_2(\omega_{\text{IR}})$ , see eq. (S1), which vanishes when a material has inversion symmetry.<sup>1-7</sup>

$$I(\omega_{SFG}) \propto |\chi_{eff}^{(2)}|^2 I_1(\omega_{vis}) I_2(\omega_{IR}) \quad (S1)$$

where  $\omega_{SFG} = \omega_{IR} + \omega_{vis}$ . As the IR beam frequency is tuned over the vibrational resonance of surface/interface molecules, the effective surface nonlinear susceptibility  $\chi_R^{(2)}$  can be enhanced.

The frequency dependence of  $\chi_{eff}^{(2)}$  is described by eq. (S2)

$$\chi_{eff}^{(2)}(\omega) = \chi_{NR}^{(2)} + \sum_{\nu} \frac{A_{\nu}}{\omega - \omega_{\nu} + i\Gamma_{\nu}} \quad (S2)$$

where  $A_{\nu}$ ,  $\omega_{\nu}$ , and  $\Gamma_{\nu}$  are the strength, resonant frequency, and damping coefficient of the vibrational mode( $\nu$ ), respectively.  $A_{\nu}$  could be either positive or negative depending on the phase of the vibrational mode. The plot of SFG signal vs. the IR input frequency shows a polarized vibrational spectrum of the molecules at surface or interface.  $A_{\nu}$ ,  $\omega_{\nu}$ , and  $\Gamma_{\nu}$  can be extracted by fitting the spectrum. The fitting parameters of SFG spectra of DMPE monolayer at 3mN/m and 20 mN/m are listed in table S1 for demonstration.

Table S1 Fitting parameters of SFG spectra of DMPE monolayer at 3mN/m and 20 mN/m

SP Polarization	3 mN/m		20 mN/m	
	PPP	SSP	PPP	SSP
$A_0$	$0.65 \pm 0.09$	$0.54 \pm 0.09$	$-0.39 \pm 0.07$	$-0.74 \pm 0.29$
Peak 1	$A$	$-32.07 \pm 16.23$	$10.29 \pm 7.66$	
	$\omega_0$	$2837.1 \pm 2.4$		
	$\Gamma$	$16.9 \pm 5.8$		
Peak 2	$A$	$-18.63 \pm 4.87$	$-33.24 \pm 2.19$	$14.87 \pm 1.22$
	$\omega_0$	$2855.0 \pm 0.4$		$2848.5 \pm 0.9$
	$\Gamma$	$7.6 \pm 0.4$		$8.4 \pm 0.6$
Peak 3	$A$	$9.79 \pm 1.51$	$-38.41 \pm 1.84$	$-18.92 \pm 2.09$
	$\omega_0$	$2882.1 \pm 0.2$		$2880.8 \pm 0.1$
	$\Gamma$	$4.9 \pm 0.2$		$6.2 \pm 0.1$
Peak 4	$A$	$-2.69 \pm 1.98$	$-5.34 \pm 2.45$	$-24.22 \pm 5.85$
	$\omega_0$	$2930.2 \pm 0.8$		$2901.6 \pm 0.7$

	$\Gamma$	$4.7 \pm 1.8$		$10.2 \pm 1.7$	
Peak 5	$A$	$2.44 \pm 2.04$	$-53.81 \pm 3.58$	$-25.10 \pm 2.73$	$120.95 \pm 3.79$
	$\omega_0$	$2947.1 \pm 0.4$		$2943.4 \pm 0.2$	
	$\Gamma$	$7.8 \pm 0.4$		$9.0 \pm 0.2$	
Peak 6	$A$	$5.50 \pm 1.70$	$-5.93 \pm 2.33$	$-18.36 \pm 5.16$	$7.09 \pm 2.89$
	$\omega_0$	$2957.8 \pm 0.3$		$2957.2 \pm 0.4$	
	$\Gamma$	$3.7 \pm 0.8$		$5.6 \pm 1.0$	
Peak 7	$A$	$-37.50 \pm 1.54$	$2.87 \pm 1.31$	$74.23 \pm 1.82$	$-15.83 \pm 1.91$
	$\omega_0$	$2970.4 \pm 0.2$		$2970.1 \pm 0.2$	
	$\Gamma$	$4.4 \pm 0.2$		$5.1 \pm 0.1$	
	$C_0$	$4.67 \pm 0.42$	$1.25 \pm 0.99$	$4.89 \pm 1.1$	$-4.85 \pm 1.21$

#### 4. Tilt angle analysis

The molecular orientation information can be obtained by relating SFG susceptibility tensor elements  $\chi_{ijk}(i, j, k = x, y, z)$  to the SFG molecular hyperpolarizability tensor elements

$\beta_{lmn}(l, m, n = a, b, c)$ .<sup>4-6</sup> The components of  $\chi_{eff}^{(2)}$  of ssp, and ppp polarization combinations are given in equations (S5)-(S6) in the lab coordinate system which is defined as the z-axis being along the surface normal and the x-axis being in the incident plane.<sup>4-6</sup>

$$\chi_{eff,ssp}^{(2)} = L_{yy}(\omega_{SF})L_{yy}(\omega_{Vis})L_{zz}(\omega_{IR})\sin\beta_{IR}\chi_{yyz}^{(2)} \quad (S3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \chi_{eff,ppp}^{(2)} = & -L_{xx}(\omega_{SF})L_{xx}(\omega_{Vis})L_{zz}(\omega_{IR})\cos\beta_{SF}\cos\beta_{Vis}\sin\beta_{IR}\chi_{xxz}^{(2)} \\ & -L_{xx}(\omega_{SF})L_{zz}(\omega_{Vis})L_{xx}(\omega_{IR})\cos\beta_{SF}\sin\beta_{Vis}\cos\beta_{IR}\chi_{xzx}^{(2)} \\ & +L_{zz}(\omega_{SF})L_{xx}(\omega_{Vis})L_{xx}(\omega_{IR})\sin\beta_{SF}\cos\beta_{Vis}\cos\beta_{IR}\chi_{zxx}^{(2)} \\ & +L_{zz}(\omega_{SF})L_{zz}(\omega_{Vis})L_{zz}(\omega_{IR})\sin\beta_{SF}\sin\beta_{Vis}\sin\beta_{IR}\chi_{zzz}^{(2)} \end{aligned} \quad (S4)$$

where  $\beta_{SF}$ ,  $\beta_{Vis}$  and  $\beta_{IR}$  are the angles between the surface normal and the sum frequency beam, the input visible beam, and the input IR beam, respectively.  $L_{ii}$  ( $i = x, y$  or  $z$ ) denotes the Fresnel coefficients. Under current experimental geometry, after considering the Fresnel coefficient constants, eqs.(S5-S6) are then given by

#### CH<sub>3</sub> groups:

$$\chi_{eff,ssp}^{(2)} = 0.249\chi_{yyz}^{(2)} \quad (S5)$$

$$\chi_{eff,ppp}^{(2)} = -0.159\chi_{xxz}^{(2)} + 0.226\chi_{zzz}^{(2)} \quad (S6)$$

**PO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> groups:**

$$\chi_{eff,ssp}^{(2)} = 0.244\chi_{yyz}^{(2)} \quad (S7)$$

$$\chi_{eff,ppp}^{(2)} = -0.156\chi_{xxz}^{(2)} + 0.225\chi_{zzz}^{(2)} \quad (S8)$$

### 3.1. CH<sub>3</sub> groups.

Here we treated CH<sub>3</sub> groups as C<sub>3v</sub> symmetry. The SFG susceptibility tensor elements

$\chi_{ijk}$  ( $i, j, k = x, y, z$ ) of C<sub>∞v</sub> symmetry have following relationships.<sup>4-6</sup>

$$\chi_{xxz,ss}^{(2)} = \chi_{yyz,ss}^{(2)} = \frac{1}{2}N_s\beta_{ccc}[(1+R)\langle\cos\theta\rangle - (1-R)\langle\cos^3\theta\rangle] \quad (S9)$$

$$\chi_{zzz,ss}^{(2)} = N_s\beta_{ccc}[R\langle\cos\theta\rangle + (1-R)\langle\cos^3\theta\rangle] \quad (S10)$$

$$R = \frac{1+r-(1-r)\cos^2\tau}{2(r+(1-r)\cos^2\tau)} \quad (S11)$$

$$\chi_{xxz,as}^{(2)} = \chi_{yyz,as}^{(2)} = -N_sR'\beta_{ccc}(\langle\cos\theta\rangle - \langle\cos^3\theta\rangle) \quad (S11)$$

$$\chi_{zzz,ss}^{(2)} = 2N_sR'\beta_{ccc}[\langle\cos\theta\rangle - \langle\cos^3\theta\rangle] \quad (S12)$$

$$R' = \frac{\beta_{aca}}{\beta_{ccc}} = \frac{-(1-r)\sin^2\tau \frac{G_{as}}{\omega_{as}}}{2(r+(1-r)\cos^2\tau) \frac{G_{ss}}{\omega_{ss}}} \quad (S13)$$

The parameter  $R$  is estimated to be 3.338 when  $r = 0.03$  and  $\tau = 109.5^\circ$ , and the parameter  $R'$  is estimated to be 2.80.<sup>7</sup> By substitution of eqs. (S9)-(S10) in eqs.(S7)-(S8), the deduced susceptibility ratio  $\chi_{ssp,CH_3-ss}^{(2)} / \chi_{ssp,CH_3-as}^{(2)}$  can be plotted as a function of orientation angle ( $\theta$ ) (shown in Figure S2).

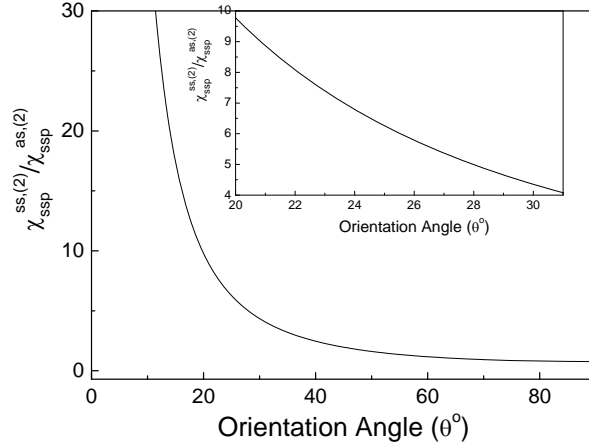


Figure S2 Deduced susceptibility ratio of  $\chi_{ssp,CH_3-ss}^{(2)} / \chi_{ssp,CH_3-as}^{(2)}$  is plotted as a function of orientation angle ( $\theta$ ) for the  $CH_3$  groups which was treated as having  $C_{3v}$  symmetry.

### 3.2. $PO_2^-$ groups.

The symmetry of  $PO_2^-$  group can be treated as  $C_{2v}$  symmetry. The peaks at  $\sim 1100\text{ cm}^{-1}$  can be assigned to  $A_1$  modes.<sup>8-10</sup> The susceptibility tensor elements of  $A_1$  mode in  $C_{2v}$  symmetry are described as following equations.<sup>4-6</sup>

$A_1$  mode:

$$\begin{aligned} \chi_{xxz}^{(2),A1} = \chi_{yyz}^{(2),A1} = & \frac{1}{2} N_s \beta_{ccc} [\langle \cos^2 \psi \rangle R_a + \langle \sin^2 \psi \rangle R_b + 1] \langle \cos \theta \rangle \\ & + \frac{1}{2} N_s \beta_{ccc} [\langle \sin^2 \psi \rangle R_a + \langle \cos^2 \psi \rangle R_b - 1] \langle \cos^3 \theta \rangle \end{aligned} \quad (S14)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \chi_{zzz}^{(2),A1} = & N_s \beta_{ccc} [\langle \sin^2 \psi \rangle R_a + \langle \cos^2 \psi \rangle R_b] \langle \cos \theta \rangle \\ & - N_s \beta_{ccc} [\langle \sin^2 \psi \rangle R_a + \langle \cos^2 \psi \rangle R_b - 1] \langle \cos^3 \theta \rangle \end{aligned} \quad (S15)$$

where  $\psi$  is the twisting angle of  $PO_2^-$  group. Using the bond polarizability derivative model, the polarization ratios of  $R_a$  and  $R_b$  of  $O \equiv P \equiv O$  stretch in pyridine ring is determined by taking  $r_{P-O} = 0.54$  (corresponding Raman depolarization ratio is 0.33) and  $\tau = 120^\circ$ .<sup>11</sup>

$$R_a = \frac{\beta_{aac}}{\beta_{ccc}} = \frac{1+r-(1-r)\cos\tau}{1+r+(1-r)\cos\tau} \quad (S16)$$

$$R_b = \frac{\beta_{bbc}}{\beta_{ccc}} = \frac{2r}{1+r+(1-r)\cos\tau} \quad (\text{S17})$$

According to eqs.(S16) and (S17), the deduced susceptibility ratio  $\chi_{\text{ppp,PO}_2^-}^{(2)} / \chi_{\text{ssp,PO}_2^-}^{(2)}$  at  $\psi = 0^\circ$  can be plotted as a function of the tilt angle (shown in Figure S3).

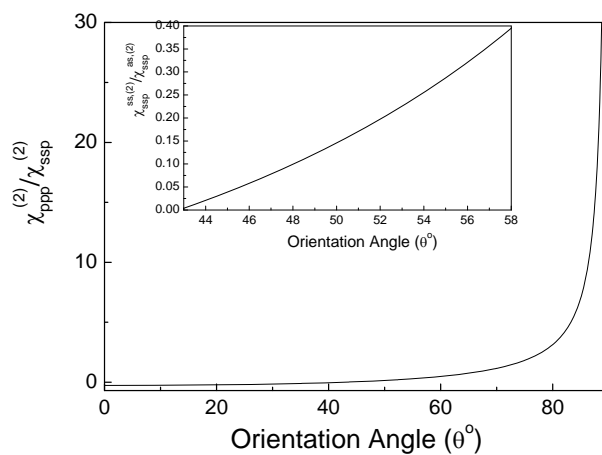


Figure S3 The deduced susceptibility ratio  $\chi_{\text{ppp,PO}_2^-}^{(2)} / \chi_{\text{ssp,PO}_2^-}^{(2)}$  is plotted as a function of the tilt angles of  $\text{PO}_2^-$  group treating  $O \cdots P \cdots O$  bond as having  $C_{2v}$  symmetry.

## 5. $R^{1105\text{cm}^{-1}}$ and $R^{2970\text{cm}^{-1}}$ of DMPE and DPPE monolayers

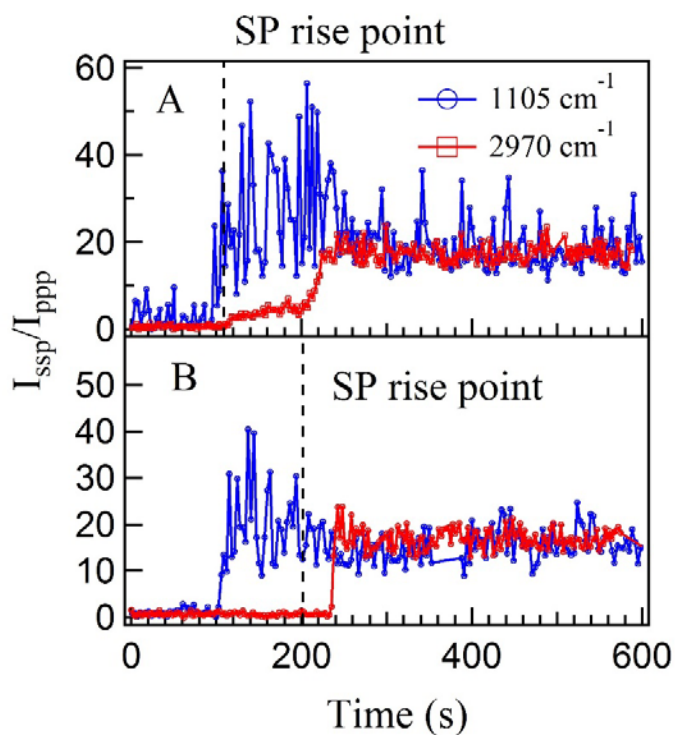


Figure S4.  $R^{1105\text{cm}^{-1}}$  and  $R^{2970\text{cm}^{-1}}$  of A). DMPE and B). DPPE monolayers during the compression

## References

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