





### What is Self-assembly?

Self-assembly is the spontaneous association of molecules under equilibrium conditions into stable, structurally well-defined aggregates joined by noncovalent bonds

Self-assembled structures represent thermodynamic minima

### Kinetic vs Thermodinamic Control

In kinetically controlled reactions the relative magnitude of the transition states determines the product distribution

In thermodynamically controlled reactions the relative thermodynamic stabilities of the products are responsible for the product ratio under thermodynamic control

Interfaces at play **Functional Interfaces in Nature** ATPase

Artificial **Functional** Interfaces







# Self-assembled Monolayers (SAMs) on Surfaces









### Characterization: wettability

Water contact angle (WCA,  $\alpha$ )



SAMPLE	1 mm	5 mm	9 mm	Δ
G15C – G3MT(PEG) <sub>4</sub>	37.9 ± 0.3	40.6 ± 1.1	45.0 ± 1.4	7.1
G15C -G3C <sub>11</sub> OH	68.3 ± 0.7	58.5 ± 2.7	39.6 ± 1.0	-28.7
G15C – G3C <sub>8</sub>	48.7 ± 1.0	59.3 ± 0.7	71.2 ± 0.7	22.5
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## Outline



### The approach

- Multi-component: angular unit: control of the shape & linear unit: control of the size
- Pre-organization: fixed geometry of the molecules









According to Ernest Ernest L. Eliel and Samuel H. Wilen in *Stereochemistry of Organic Compounds* (1994, p. 20-19), "the most fundamental distinction one can make between configuration and conformation is to say that configurational differences imply differences in bond angles, whereas conformational differences involve differences in torsion angles (including in both case, differences, that are exclusively in sign)." Based on this distinction, isolable molecules of identical constitution but differing in bond angles under the chosen "instrumental conditions" can be thus discussed a configurational isomers.



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"If you think that education is expensive, try ignorance - D. Bok" IASOC - Ischia - D. Bonifazi