

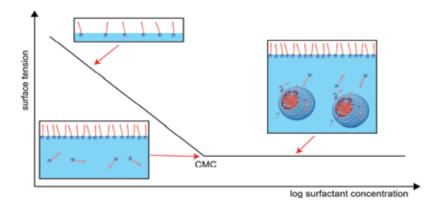
## CRITICAL MICELLE CONCENTRATION (CMC)

**Definition:** The critical micelle concentration (CMC) is the surfactant concentration in a continuous phase above which micelles are formed. When the concentration of surfactant molecules in a solution exceeds the CMC, the surfactant molecules aggregate to form micelles. This is a crucial property for surfactants.

## **Surface Tension Measurement:**

<u>Method:</u> Surface tension decreases as the surfactant concentration increases. At the CMC, the surface tension reaches a plateau.

<u>Display:</u> Plot of surface tension against the logarithm of surfactant concentration. The CMC is identified at the concentration where the curve levels off.



CMC Table	
ReNuva <sup>™</sup> SL-A70	10 mg/L
Polyglycerol-10 Laurate	30 mg/L
Alkyl Polyglucoside	61-87 mg/L
Sodium Lauryl Sulfate	2,300 mg/L
HCO-40	360 mg/L
Cocamidopropyl Betaine	330 mg/L

## Why Does ReNuva™ SL-A70 Have Such a Low CMC?

- (<u>HLB)</u>: Sophorolipids possess a balanced hydrophilic (water-attracting) and lipophilic (oil-attracting) nature, which allows them to reduce the surface tension of water effectively at lower concentrations.
- <u>Molecular Structure:</u> Sophorolipids consist of a sophorose sugar moiety linked to a fatty acid. The large hydrophilic head group increases the molecule's ability to interact with water, enhancing its solubility and surface activity.
- <u>Natural Origin and Biocompatibility:</u> Sophorolipids are biosurfactants produced by yeast. Their natural origin results in structures that are more efficient in forming micelles due to evolutionary optimization for specific functions.
- <u>Low Surface Tension Reduction:</u> Sophorolipids are highly effective at lowering the surface tension of water. This high efficiency means fewer molecules are needed to achieve significant surface activity, leading to a low CMC.

## Why Is A Low CMC Important?

- <u>Economic Efficiency:</u> Low CMC means that lower concentrations of sophorolipids are required to achieve desired surfactant effects, which can be cost-effective in industrial applications.
- <u>Environmental Benefits:</u> Using lower amounts of surfactants reduces the environmental impact, making sophorolipids more sustainable and eco-friendly.
- <u>Performance in Formulations:</u> Low CMC contributes to the stability and effectiveness of formulations in personal care, cleaning products, and other applications where surfactants are used.

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