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Session Title:	Membrane Structure I
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Abstract Title:	Lipid Area Refinement Based On A Simultaneous Analysis Of Neutron And X-ray Scattering Data And All- atom Molecular Dynamics Simulations.
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Author Block:	<b>Norbert Kučerka</b> <sup>1</sup> , John Nagle <sup>2</sup> , Jonathan Sachs <sup>3</sup> , Scott Feller <sup>4</sup> , Jeremy Pencer <sup>5</sup> , Andrew Jackson <sup>6</sup> , John Katsaras <sup>1</sup> . <sup>1</sup> National Research Council, Chalk River, ON, Canada, <sup>2</sup> Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, <sup>3</sup> University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, USA, <sup>4</sup> Wabash College, Crawfordville, IN, USA, <sup>5</sup> Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd., Chalk River, ON, Canada, <sup>6</sup> NIST Center for Neutron Research, Gaithersburg, MD, USA.
Page Number in Print Abstract Issue:	236

Quantitative structures were obtained for fully hydrated, fluid phase dioleoyl-phosphatidylcholine (DOPC at 30 °C) and dipalmitoylphosphatidylcholine (DPPC at 50 °C) bilayers. The structures were evaluated by the simultaneous analysis of x-ray and neutron scattering data using a new structural model for the bilayer scattering density profile (SDP). The model's design was guided by results from molecular dynamics simulations, and addresses features found in both electron and neutron scattering length density profiles of a lipid bilayer. After developing and testing the SDP model, using simulated data, it was applied to evaluating small-angle x-ray and neutron scattering data of DOPC collected under two different external contrast conditions. In the case of DPPC bilayers, additional contrast variation data were obtained through the use of specifically deuterated DPPC analogues (i.e. DPPC\_d62, DPPC\_d13 and DPPC\_d9). Analysis of the data yielded the lateral areas for liquid crystalline DPPC and DOPC bilayers. Although, the obtained area/DPPC molecule was not so different from previously published reports, this was not the case for DOPC bilayers whose area/lipid was found to be ~ 10 % smaller. This newly developed area refinement method will reconcile long-standing inconsistencies in lipid areas.

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9650 Rockville Pike Bethesda, MD 20814 Phone: 301.634.7114

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