

Supporting Information

**Distinctive Formation of PEG-Lipid
Nanopatches onto Solid Polymer Surfaces
Interfacing Solvents from Atomistic
Simulation**

James Andrews and Estela Blaisten-Baroja*

*Center for Simulation and Modeling (formerly, Computational Materials Science Center)
and Department of Computational and Data Sciences, George Mason University, Fairfax,
Virginia 22030, United States*

E-mail: blaisten@gmu.edu

S1 The DSPE-PEG Macromolecule

The block copolymer DSPE-PEG(2000), 1, 2-Distearoyl-sn-glycero-3-phosphoethanolamine-poly(ethylene glycol)₄₅amine is shown in Fig. S1.

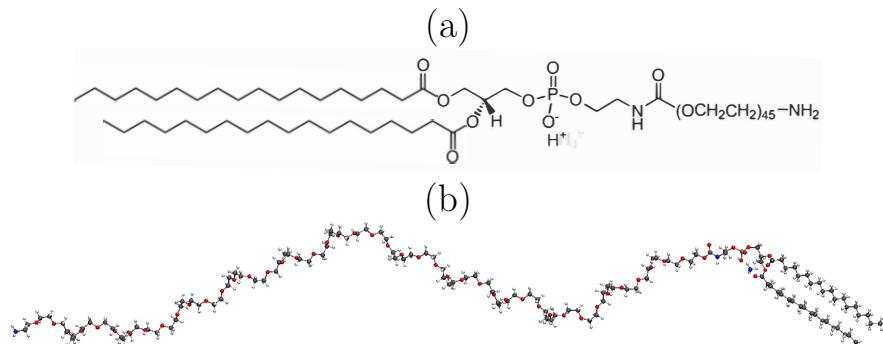


Figure S1: Illustration of the DSPE-PEG macromolecule. (a) Chemical representation, from <https://avantilipids.com/product/880128>; the PEG component has molecular weight 2000 u. (b) Rendering of the DFT-optimized structure.

This macromolecule was modeled with the GAFF force field for which the RESP atomic charges were calculated and are shown in Table S1. The atomic charges correspond to the DSPE-PEG structure depicted in Fig. S1b. Figure S2 shows the atomic charges values across the length of the macromolecule.

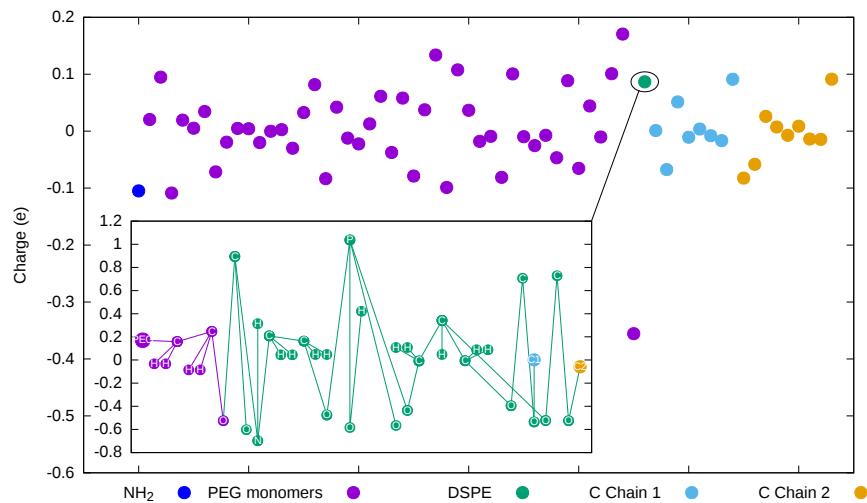


Figure S2: Atomic charges of the DSPE-PEG macromolecule summed over each PEG monomer, in full detail around the phosphorus atom (insert), and every two backbone carbons of each DSPE acyl chain.

S2 Energetics of the PLGA Solid Slab Interfacing Solutions with DSPE-PEG solute

The MD simulations of DSPE-PEG droplet formed on the PLGA surface were 100 ns long and 200 ns long in cases containing EA. These simulations allowed for the collection of significant statistical data showing how the macromolecules composing the droplet accommodate while anchored on the PLGA surface. Figure S3 shows the potential energy of the full PLGA+solvent+DSPE-PEG droplet along the last half of the full NVT trajectory for the three solvents considered in this work. Figure S4(a) shows the interaction energy of the

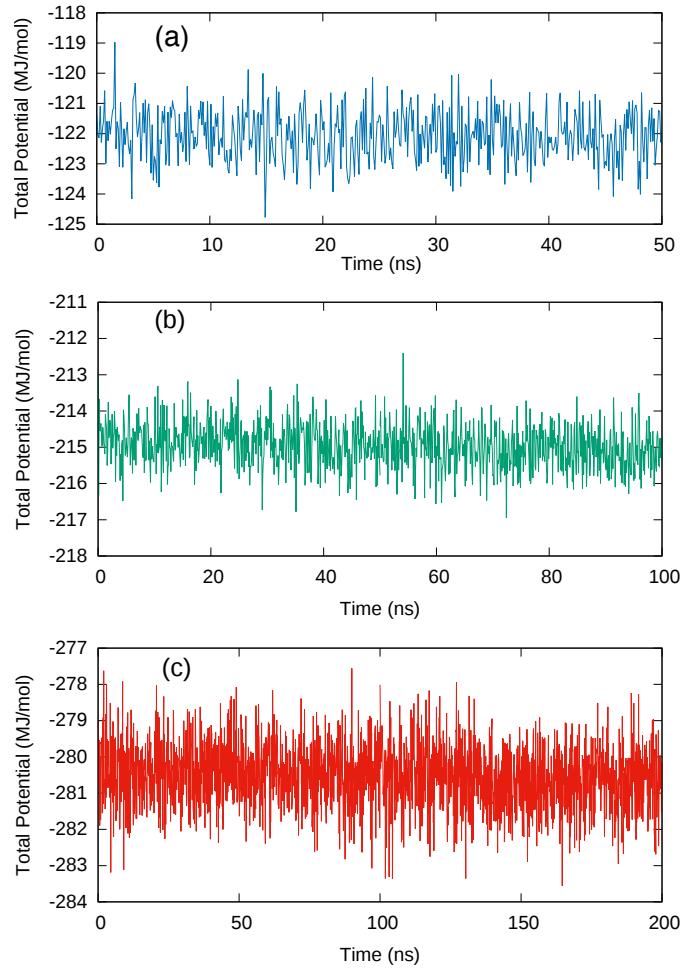


Figure S3: Total potential energy of the ternary systems PLGA+solvent+DSPE-PEG droplet along the NVT simulation at 300 K and at the corresponding equilibrated volume from previous Parrinello-Rahman NPT runs at 300 K and 101.325 kPa. (a) Solvent is water, with depicted last 50 ns of the 100 ns trajectory; (b) solvent is ethyl acetate, with depicted last 100 ns of a 200 ns trajectory; (c) solvent is ethyl acetate:water mixture along the full 200 ns trajectory.

DSPE-PEG droplet with the PLGA solid block split per contribution of the PEG portion

and the DSPE portion of the copolymer. Figure S4(b) shows the interaction energy of the DSPE-PEG droplet with the solvent split per contribution of the PEG portion and the DSPE portion of the lipid copolymer.

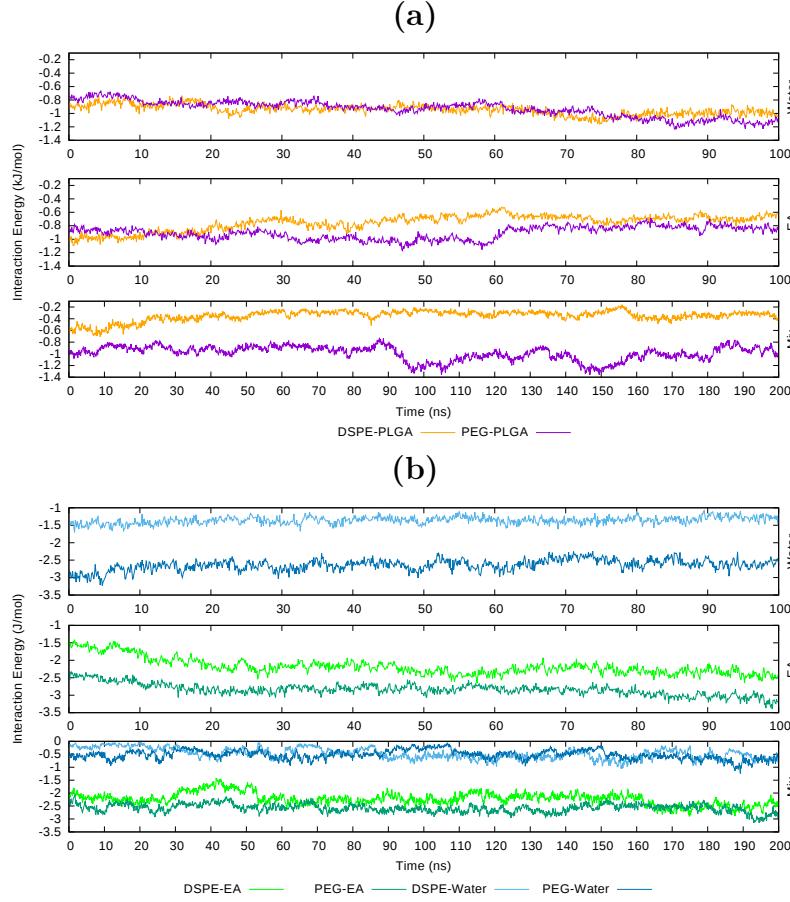


Figure S4: (a) DSPE-PEG droplet interaction energy with the PLGA solid split per contribution of the PEG and DSPE portions of the polymer; (b) DSPE-PEG droplet interaction energy with the solvent split per contribution of the PEG and DSPE portions of the polymer.

When analyzing the characteristics of the DSPE-PEG droplet formation, the height of each atom within the droplet with respect to the PLGA surface was evaluated. Figure S5 has histograms of the distribution of heights with respect to the surface of all the atoms in either the PEG or DSPE portions of the droplets. For visualization purposes, an idealized enveloping hemispherical cap was proposed to identify the wetting contact angle of the formed DSPE-PEG droplets on the PLGA surface. Figure S6 (left) depicts the idealized enveloping sphere cap. Two possible definitions of the contact angle are either θ_a the angle

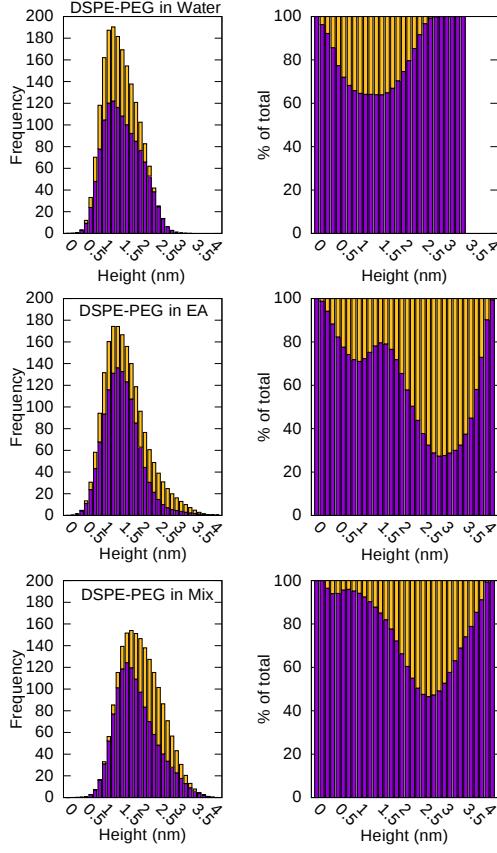


Figure S5: Distribution of DSPE and PEG atom heights with respect to the PLGA surface in the DSPE-PEG droplets formed within water (top), EA (middle), and mixed solvent (bottom). Left panels are stacked histograms where magenta is PEG and gold is DSPE; their sum represents the full droplet. Right panels are the corresponding percent distributions of DSPE and of PEG atomic heights within the droplet.

between the cup radius and the secant reaching the cup apex, or θ_b the angle between the sphere tangent with the horizontal axis along the surface, as illustrated in Fig. S6 (right).

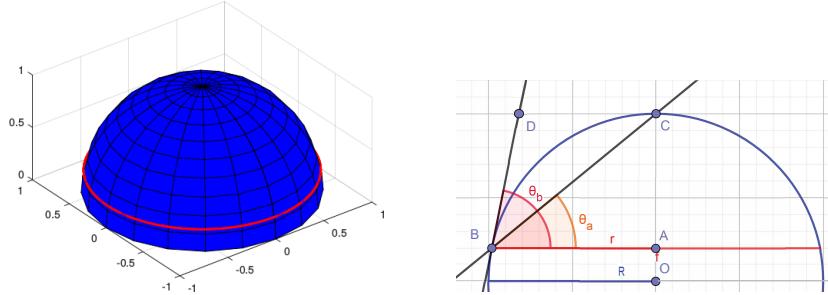


Figure S6: Diagram visualizing the variables leading to the wetting contact angle of an idealized spherical envelope of the DSPE-PEG droplet on the PLGA solid surface. AB is the radius r of the circle fitting the droplet footprint depicted in the main paper Fig. 6. ABC and ABD are two possible definitions of the wetting contact angle termed β_a and β_b , respectively.

S3 Table of the DSPE-PEG Macromolecule Atomic Charges.

Table S1: Atom number, type, name, and charge (e) for atoms belonging to the DSPE-PEG-amine macromolecule.

No.	Type	Name	Charge	No.	Type	Name	Charge
1	cA	C1	0.20796600	39	hL	H37	0.00721200
2	cA	C2	0.16302000	40	hL	H38	0.00721200
3	oS	O1	-0.47568600	41	hL	H35	-0.00709700
4	pA	P1	1.03785700	42	hL	H36	-0.00709700
5	oH	O2	-0.58357900	43	hL	H33	0.000938
6	hO	H5	0.42166800	44	hL	H34	0.000938
7	oC	O3	-0.56570700	45	hL	H31	0.002241
8	oS	O4	-0.43536100	46	hL	H32	0.002241
9	cA	C3	-0.00840100	47	hL	H29	-0.000573
10	cA	C4	0.34160000	48	hL	H30	-0.000573
11	cA	C5	-0.00689800	49	hL	H27	-0.001399
12	oS	O6	-0.39504400	50	hL	H28	-0.001399
13	cC	C6	0.70645200	51	hL	H25	0.002453
14	oC	O7	-0.53564800	52	hL	H26	0.002453
15	cD	C8	-0.30087000	53	hL	H23	0.001453
16	cD	C9	0.00797900	54	hL	H24	0.001453
17	cD	C10	0.04293000	55	hL	H21	-0.000445
18	cD	C11	-0.01950700	56	hL	H22	-0.000445
19	cD	C12	-0.00606800	57	hL	H19	0.001564
20	cD	C13	0.01107300	58	hL	H20	0.001564
21	cD	C14	-0.00401600	59	hL	H17	0.005030
22	cD	C15	-0.01097500	60	hL	H18	0.005030
23	cD	C16	0.00940700	61	hL	H15	-0.003753
24	cD	C17	0.00327300	62	hL	H16	-0.003753
25	cD	C18	-0.01351400	63	hL	H13	0.017335
26	cD	C19	0.00145000	64	hL	H14	0.017335
27	cD	C20	0.03604600	65	hL	H11	0.100012
28	cD	C21	-0.05057500	66	hL	H12	0.100012
29	cD	C22	-0.01992800	67	hE	H9	0.088537
30	cD	C23	0.12438000	68	hE	H10	0.088537
31	cD	C24	-0.23752800	69	oS	O5	-0.522604
32	hL	H43	0.05122600	70	cC	C7	0.728247
33	hL	H44	0.05122600	71	oC	O8	-0.524813
34	hL	H45	0.05122600	72	cD	C25	-0.215636
35	hL	H41	-0.01647100	73	cD	C26	0.172788
36	hL	H42	-0.01647100	74	cD	C27	-0.047623
37	hL	H39	0.00988200	75	cD	C28	-0.078516
38	hL	H40	0.00988200	76	cD	C29	0.087991

No.	Type	Name	Charge	No.	Type	Name	Charge
77	cD	C30	-0.008889	133	c	C42	0.894354
78	cD	C31	-0.018980	134	o	O10	-0.602550
79	cD	C32	0.007940	135	os	O9	-0.524511
80	cD	C33	0.013919	136	c3	C43	0.246681
81	cD	C34	-0.007079	137	h1	H82	-0.085219
82	cD	C35	-0.006007	138	h1	H83	-0.085219
83	cD	C36	0.004834	139	c3	C44	0.158824
84	cD	C37	0.034997	140	h1	H84	-0.033100
85	cD	C38	-0.050163	141	h1	H85	-0.033100
86	cD	C39	-0.015145	142	os	O2	-0.410000
87	cD	C40	0.121912	143	c3	C3	0.021600
88	cD	C41	-0.233669	144	h1	H6	0.096600
89	hL	H78	0.050410	145	h1	H7	0.096600
90	hL	H79	0.050410	146	c3	C4	0.142660
91	hL	H80	0.050410	147	h1	H8	0.111500
92	hL	H76	-0.016498	148	h1	H9	0.111500
93	hL	H77	-0.016498	149	os	O3	-0.190512
94	hL	H74	0.008730	150	c3	C5	-0.001530
95	hL	H75	0.008730	151	h1	H10	0.050150
96	hL	H72	0.006671	152	h1	H11	0.050150
97	hL	H73	0.006671	153	c3	C6	0.157500
98	hL	H70	-0.007408	154	h1	H12	0.017600
99	hL	H71	-0.007408	155	h1	H13	0.017600
100	hL	H68	-0.000163	156	os	O4	-0.400000
101	hL	H69	-0.000163	157	c3	C7	0.222579
102	hL	H66	0.000435	158	h1	H14	0.003450
103	hL	H67	0.000435	159	h1	H15	0.003450
104	hL	H64	0.000249	160	c3	C8	0.135370
105	hL	H65	0.000249	161	h1	H16	0.012440
106	hL	H62	-0.001802	162	h1	H17	0.012440
107	hL	H63	-0.001802	163	os	O5	-0.361000
108	hL	H60	-0.001790	164	c3	C9	-0.014461
109	hL	H61	-0.001790	165	h1	H18	0.100600
110	hL	H58	0.001976	166	h1	H19	0.100600
111	hL	H59	0.001976	167	c3	C10	0.139290
112	hL	H56	0.002634	168	h1	H20	0.039650
113	hL	H57	0.002634	169	h1	H21	0.039650
114	hL	H54	-0.016503	170	os	O6	-0.400000
115	hL	H55	-0.016503	171	c3	C11	0.065690
116	hL	H52	0.010216	172	h1	H22	0.058570
117	hL	H53	0.010216	173	h1	H23	0.058570
118	hL	H50	0.019149	174	c3	C12	0.045980
119	hL	H51	0.019149	175	h1	H24	0.052910
120	hL	H48	-0.029435	176	h1	H25	0.052910
121	hL	H49	-0.029435	177	os	O7	-0.280000
122	hL	H46	0.051454	178	c3	C13	-0.081739
123	hL	H47	0.051454	179	h1	H26	0.071700
124	hE	H8	0.047916	180	h1	H27	0.071700
125	hE	H6	0.107804	181	c3	C14	0.249790
126	hE	H7	0.107804	182	h1	H28	0.028560
127	hE	H1	0.047804	183	h1	H29	0.028560
128	hE	H2	0.047804	184	os	O8	-0.440000
129	hX	H3	0.044779	185	c3	C15	0.262235
130	hX	H4	0.044779	186	h1	H30	0.000880
131	nA	N1	-0.698150	187	h1	H31	0.000880
132	hN	H81	0.314190	188	c3	C16	0.012200

No.	Type	Name	Charge	No.	Type	Name	Charge
189	h1	H32	0.058570	256	h1	H70	0.007690
190	h1	H33	0.058570	257	h1	H71	0.007690
191	os	O9	-0.412400	258	c3	C36	-0.009025
192	c3	C17	0.193110	259	h1	H72	0.050100
193	h1	H34	0.026370	260	h1	H73	0.050100
194	h1	H35	0.026370	261	os	O19	-0.290000
195	c3	C18	0.107400	262	c3	C37	0.101100
196	h1	H36	0.025970	263	h1	H74	0.047070
197	h1	H37	0.025970	264	h1	H75	0.047070
198	os	O10	-0.390006	265	c3	C38	0.046490
199	c3	C19	0.120190	266	h1	H76	0.091000
200	h1	H38	0.042280	267	h1	H77	0.091000
201	h1	H39	0.042280	268	os	O20	-0.342100
202	c3	C20	0.068800	269	c3	C39	0.117400
203	h1	H40	0.045590	270	h1	H78	0.026750
204	h1	H41	0.045590	271	h1	H79	0.026750
205	os	O11	-0.360000	272	c3	C40	0.208000
206	c3	C21	0.053000	273	h1	H80	0.000400
207	h1	H42	0.058800	274	h1	H81	0.000400
208	h1	H43	0.058800	275	os	O21	-0.402000
209	c3	C22	0.011060	276	c3	C41	0.087700
210	h1	H44	0.084270	277	h1	H82	0.031700
211	h1	H45	0.084270	278	h1	H83	0.031700
212	os	O12	-0.370000	279	c3	C42	0.135700
213	c3	C23	0.077300	280	h1	H84	0.018190
214	h1	H46	0.060800	281	h1	H85	0.018190
215	h1	H47	0.060800	282	os	O22	-0.310300
216	c3	C24	0.330000	283	c3	C43	-0.011060
217	h1	H48	-0.029140	284	h1	H86	0.120200
218	h1	H49	-0.029140	285	h1	H87	0.120200
219	os	O13	-0.466633	286	c3	C44	-0.111540
220	c3	C25	0.240000	287	h1	H88	0.125300
221	h1	H50	-0.011644	288	h1	H89	0.125300
222	h1	H51	-0.011644	289	os	O23	-0.307000
223	c3	C26	0.085420	290	c3	C45	-0.128600
224	h1	H52	0.041690	291	h1	H90	0.131700
225	h1	H53	0.041690	292	h1	H91	0.131700
226	os	O14	-0.380300	293	c3	C46	-0.128600
227	c3	C27	0.160550	294	h1	H92	0.131700
228	h1	H54	0.014000	295	h1	H93	0.131700
229	h1	H55	0.014000	296	os	O24	-0.307000
230	c3	C28	0.080800	297	c3	C47	-0.111540
231	h1	H56	0.050950	298	h1	H94	0.125300
232	h1	H57	0.050950	299	h1	H95	0.125300
233	os	O15	-0.400943	300	c3	C48	-0.011100
234	c3	C29	0.241400	301	h1	H96	0.120200
235	h1	H58	0.004750	302	h1	H97	0.120200
236	h1	H59	0.004750	303	os	O25	-0.310300
237	c3	C30	0.019870	304	c3	C49	0.135700
238	h1	H60	0.056100	305	h1	H98	0.018190
239	h1	H61	0.056100	306	h1	H99	0.018190
240	os	O16	-0.350000	307	c3	C50	0.087700
241	c3	C31	0.161660	308	h1	H100	0.031700
242	h1	H62	0.041870	309	h1	H101	0.031700
243	h1	H63	0.041870	310	os	O26	-0.402000
244	c3	C32	0.032280	311	c3	C51	0.208030
245	h1	H64	0.054450	312	h1	H102	0.000400
246	h1	H65	0.054450	313	h1	H103	0.000400
247	os	O17	-0.240000	314	c3	C52	0.117440
248	c3	C33	0.009930	315	h1	H104	0.026700
249	h1	H66	0.059870	316	h1	H105	0.026700
250	h1	H67	0.059870	317	os	O27	-0.343000
251	c3	C34	0.198660	318	c3	C53	-0.046499
252	h1	H68	0.009670	319	h1	H106	0.091000
253	h1	H69	0.009670	320	h1	H107	0.091000
254	os	O18	-0.431000	321	c3	C54	0.101100
255	c3	C35	0.225570	322	h1	H108	0.047070

No.	Type	Name	Charge	No.	Type	Name	Charge
323	h1	H109	0.047070	388	c3	C73	0.107400
324	os	O28	-0.290000	389	h1	H146	0.025900
325	c3	C55	-0.009025	390	h1	H147	0.025900
326	h1	H110	0.050100	391	c3	C74	0.193100
327	h1	H111	0.050100	392	h1	H148	0.026300
328	c3	C56	0.225570	393	h1	H149	0.026300
329	h1	H112	0.007690	394	os	O38	-0.412400
330	h1	H113	0.007690	395	c3	C75	0.012200
331	os	O29	-0.431000	396	h1	H150	0.058500
332	c3	C57	0.198660	397	h1	H151	0.058500
333	h1	H114	0.009670	398	c3	C76	0.262200
334	h1	H115	0.009670	399	h1	H152	0.000800
335	c3	C58	0.009900	400	h1	H153	0.000800
336	h1	H116	0.059800	401	os	O39	-0.440000
337	h1	H117	0.059800	402	c3	C77	0.249700
338	os	O30	-0.240000	403	h1	H154	0.028500
339	c3	C59	-0.032300	404	h1	H155	0.028500
340	h1	H118	0.054400	405	c3	C78	-0.081700
341	h1	H119	0.054400	406	h1	H156	0.071700
342	c3	C60	0.161600	407	h1	H157	0.071700
343	h1	H120	0.041800	408	os	O40	-0.300000
344	h1	H121	0.041800	409	c3	C79	0.045980
345	os	O31	-0.350000	410	h1	H158	0.052900
346	c3	C61	0.019800	411	h1	H159	0.052900
347	h1	H122	0.056100	412	c3	C80	0.065700
348	h1	H123	0.056100	413	h1	H160	0.058500
349	c3	C62	0.241400	414	h1	H161	0.058500
350	h1	H124	0.004700	415	os	O41	-0.400000
351	h1	H125	0.004700	416	c3	C81	0.139300
352	os	O32	-0.401000	417	h1	H162	0.039600
353	c3	C63	0.080800	418	h1	H163	0.039600
354	h1	H126	0.050900	419	c3	C82	-0.014500
355	h1	H127	0.050900	420	h1	H164	0.100600
356	c3	C64	0.160500	421	h1	H165	0.100600
357	h1	H128	0.014000	422	os	O42	-0.370000
358	h1	H129	0.014000	423	c3	C83	0.135300
359	os	O33	-0.380000	424	h1	H166	0.012400
360	c3	C65	0.085400	425	h1	H167	0.012400
361	h1	H130	0.041600	426	c3	C84	0.222500
362	h1	H131	0.041600	427	h1	H168	0.003400
363	c3	C66	0.237300	428	h1	H169	0.003400
364	h1	H132	-0.011600	429	os	O43	-0.400000
365	h1	H133	-0.011600	430	c3	C85	0.157500
366	os	O34	-0.470000	431	h1	H170	0.017600
367	c3	C67	0.329150	432	h1	H171	0.017600
368	h1	H134	-0.029100	433	c3	C86	-0.001500
369	h1	H135	-0.029100	434	h1	H172	0.050100
370	c3	C68	0.077300	435	h1	H173	0.050100
371	h1	H136	0.060800	436	os	O44	-0.200000
372	h1	H137	0.060800	437	c3	C87	-0.142700
373	os	O35	-0.370000	438	h1	H174	0.111500
374	c3	C69	0.011060	439	h1	H175	0.111500
375	h1	H138	0.084200	440	c3	C88	0.021500
376	h1	H139	0.084200	441	h1	H176	0.096500
377	c3	C70	0.053000	442	h1	H177	0.096500
378	h1	H140	0.058800	443	os	O2	-0.531522
379	h1	H141	0.058800	444	c3	C3	0.215604
380	os	O36	-0.360000	445	h1	H6	-0.033074
381	c3	C71	0.068800	446	c3	C4	0.437179
382	h1	H142	0.045500	447	h1	H8	-0.017355
383	h1	H143	0.045500	448	n3	N1	-0.925440
384	c3	C72	0.120100	449	hn	H10	0.410259
385	h1	H144	0.042200	450	hn	H11	0.410259
386	h1	H145	0.042200	451	h1	H9	-0.017355
387	os	O37	-0.400000	452	h1	H7	-0.033074