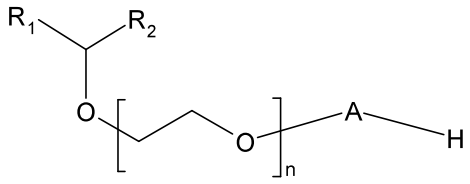
[0017] A subject of the present disclosure is also a process for preparing the compound of formula (I) according to the disclosure.

[0017a] In an aspect, there is provided a process for preparing a compound of formula (I)



(I)

in which:

- the group formed by R_1, R_2, and the carbon atom to which R_1 and R_2 are attached, is chosen from the 2-octyl radical and the 4-methyl-2-pentyl radical
- n is an integer between, limits inclusive, 1 and 100, preferably between 2 and 100, more preferably between 3 and 100, particularly between 4 and 100, more particularly between 5 and 100, preferably between 6 and 100, more preferably between 7 and 100, preferably between 8 and 100, more preferably between 9 and 100 and very preferably between 10 and 100,
- A represents a sequence of one or more units chosen from ethylene oxide, propylene oxide and butylene oxide units, and mixtures thereof,
- said process comprising the following successive steps:

(a) reacting a secondary alcohol of formula (II) chosen from 2-octanol and methylisobutylcarbinol, with n ethylene oxide(s), where n is as defined above, in the presence of at least one catalyst of dimetallic cyanide type;

(b) reacting the product obtained from step (a) with one or more oxides chosen from ethylene oxide, propylene oxide and butylene oxide, and mixtures thereof, in the presence of at least one catalyst of dimetallic cyanide type.

[0018] There is provided the use of a catalyst of dimetallic cyanide (DMC) type for performing the alkoxylation of 2-octanol.

[0019] A subject of the disclosure is also the use of the compound of formula (I) according to the disclosure , as nonionic surfactant, low-foaming surfactant, wetting agent, foaming agent, hydrotrope, detergent, solvent, reactive solvent, coalescer, compatibilizer, emulsifying agent, dispersant, chemical intermediary, corrosion inhibitor, demulcent, plasticizer, sequestrants, mineral deposition inhibitor, ionic liquid, stabilizer, lubricant, bitumen additive, deinking additive, oil gellant, ore flotation collector, processing aid in the manufacture of plastics, antistatic agent, fertilizer coating additive, for plant protection, for

treating textiles and for enhanced oil recovery, for the production of electrodes and electrolytes for batteries.

[0019a] There is provided a composition comprising at least one compound of formula (I) as defined above, and one or more aqueous, organic or aqueous-organic solvents, optionally with one or more additives and fillers.

[0020] Other advantages and characteristics of the disclosure will become more clearly apparent on examining the detailed description.

[0021] It is specified that the expression "from … to …" used in the present description should be understood as including each of the limits mentioned.

[0022] For the purposes of the present invention, the term "ethylene oxide unit" refers to a unit derived from ethylene oxide after opening of the oxirane ring. For the purposes of the present invention, the term "propylene oxide unit" refers to a unit derived from propylene oxide after opening of the oxirane ring. For the purposes of the present invention, the term "butylene oxide unit" refers to a unit derived from butylene oxide after opening of the oxirane ring.

[0023] The compound according to the invention is of formula (I) as mentioned above.

[0024] In other words, the groups R_1 and R_2, and the carbon atom to which they are attached, denote a C3-C8, preferably C4-C8, more particularly C5-C8, preferably C6-C8, secondary radical.

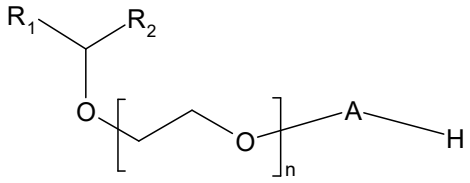
[0025] Preferably, the groups R_1 and R_2, which may be identical or different, represent, independently of each other, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, sec-butyl, pentyl or hexyl.

[0026] Preferably, the group formed by R_1, R_2 and the carbon atom to which R_1 and R_2 are attached is chosen from the 2-octyl radical and the 4-methyl-2-pentyl radical. More particularly, the group formed by R_1, R_2 and the carbon atom to which R_1 and R_2 are attached is the 2-octyl radical.

[0027] Advantageously, n is between, limits inclusive, 1 and 75, preferably between 2 and 75, more preferably between 3 and 75, particularly between 4 and 75, more

CLAIMS

1. A process for preparing a compound of formula (I)



(I)

in which:

- the group formed by R_1, R_2, and the carbon atom to which R_1 and R_2 are attached is chosen from the 2-octyl radical and the 4-methyl-2-pentyl radical
- n is an integer between, limits inclusive, 1 and 100, preferably between 2 and 100, more preferably between 3 and 100, particularly between 4 and 100, more particularly between 5 and 100, preferably between 6 and 100, more preferably between 7 and 100, preferably between 8 and 100, more preferably between 9 and 100 and very preferably between 10 and 100,
- A represents a sequence of one or more units chosen from ethylene oxide, propylene oxide and butylene oxide units, and mixtures thereof,
- said process comprising the following successive steps:

(a) reacting a secondary alcohol of formula (II) chosen from 2-octanol and methylisobutylcarbinol, with n ethylene oxide(s), where n is as defined above, in the presence of at least one catalyst of dimetallic cyanide type;

(b) reacting the product obtained from step (a) with one or more oxides chosen from ethylene oxide, propylene oxide and butylene oxide, and mixtures thereof, in the presence of at least one catalyst of dimetallic cyanide type.

2. The process as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the secondary alcohol of formula (II) is 2-octanol.

3. The process as claimed in any one of claims 1 or 2, characterized in that the catalyst of dimetallic cyanide type is zinc hexacyanocobaltate.

4. The process as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the content of catalyst of dimetallic cyanide type ranges from 1 to 1000 ppm relative to the

content of secondary alcohol of formula (II), preferably from 2 to 300 ppm, more preferentially from 5 to 200 ppm.

5. The process as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the ethylene oxide/secondary alcohol of formula (II) mole ratio ranges from 2 to 100, preferably from 3 to 100, more preferably from 4 to 100, particularly from 5 to 100, more particularly from 6 to 100, preferably from 7 to 100, even more preferably from 8 to 100, preferentially from 9 to 100 and preferably from 10 to 100.