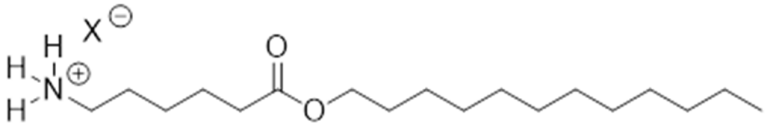
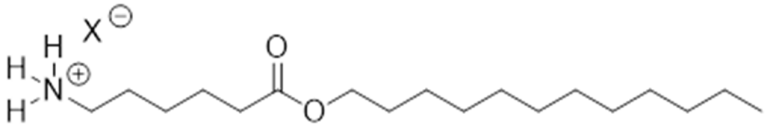
CLAIMS

1. A compound of the following formula:



wherein X is an anion chosen from bromide and iodide.

2. A method of synthesizing an amino acid surfactant of the following formula:



wherein X is an anion chosen from bromide and iodide,
comprising the steps of:

(1) opening caprolactam to yield 6-aminohexanoic acid;

(2) reacting the C-terminus of 6-aminohexanoic acid with dodecanol under acidic conditions to yield dodecyl 6-aminohexanoate; and

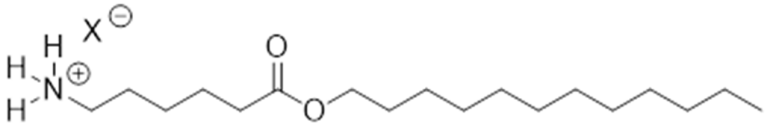
(3) reacting the N-terminus of dodecyl 6-aminohexanoate with an acid to yield the amino acid surfactant.

3. The method of Claim 2, wherein in step 2, the acid is *p*-toluene sulfonic acid.

4. A liquid composition comprising:

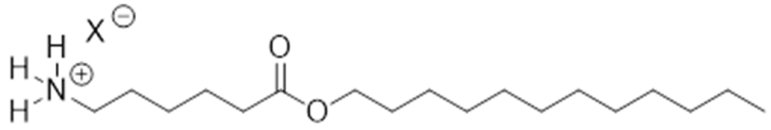
water; and

a surfactant of the following formula:



wherein X is an anion chosen from bromide and iodide.

5. Use as a surfactant of a compound of the following formula:



wherein X is an anion chosen from bromide and iodide.