

techniques for imaging interfaces, and cryogenic TEM. Optical techniques includes surface properties through surface waves and light scattering, fluorescence and ESR, surface force apparatus, and non-linear techniques. The non-optical techniques covered are X-ray scattering, neutron reflectivity, quartz crystal microbalances, electroacoustics and ultrasonics. This is a good deal of ground to cover, even in 600 pages, but the chapter authors generally do a creditable job of explaining the theoretical basis of the techniques. Some of the chapters are a little short on practical details, although in most cases these are readily found elsewhere. The book is particularly strong on applications, and clearly explains what can be achieved by the methods discussed, although perhaps not exactly how to achieve it! This probably reflects the specialized nature of many of these techniques; anyone newly entering the field would seek the fine detail from existing practitioners rather than from the literature.

I found the book most useful to provide an insight into techniques other than those I used regularly, and suggest alternative ways of solving problems through novel techniques. I suspect that many people working in this area, particularly in academic research departments, could find much of value in this book, and would certainly recommend it for those whose daily lives are spend trying to understand the behaviour of surfactants at interfaces.

C. Washington
Department of Pharmaceutics,
School of Pharmaceutical Sciences,
University of Nottingham,
Nottingham,
UK

PII: S0939-6411(00)00073-4