Qualitative understanding of partition preferences

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Other cases IIc

For all remaining cases, i.e. partitioning of mono– and bipolar solutes into mono– and bipolar phases we cannot derive any simple rule because here H–bonds occur both in the cavity energy and in the interaction energy between solute and phase so that they partially cancel. It is not always a simple task to predict which ones dominate.

For an extreme case, however, we can still set up an additional, valuable rule (although this cannot be derived here):

Rule 4:

Almost all organic compounds prefer all organic phases over water due to the strong cavity effect in water. (Exceptions are small polar molecules and ionic organic molecules)



