



Exponent[®]
Engineering & Scientific Consulting

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Professional Profile

Dr. Worthen leverages chemistry, physics, and engineering principles to understand the behavior of material systems and the processes by which they are created. He has evaluated products and processes related to plastics, textiles, consumer electronics, building materials, adhesives, paints, inks, medical devices, foods, cosmetics, personal care products, oilfield operations, pipelines, and oil refineries. He also has extensive experience in contaminant identification and quantification in consumer goods and environmental releases. He regularly supports clients through research and development, failure analysis and root cause determination, intellectual property evaluation, and risk assessment.

Dr. Worthen's academic background and areas of focus include dispersions and colloidal systems. In these areas, he consults on topics such as formulation design, component compatibility, and product stability. Prior to joining Exponent, Dr. Worthen conducted his doctoral research in chemical engineering focused on formulating complex fluid mixtures containing polymers, surfactants, and nanomaterials. During his research, he developed customized methods to examine the impact of molecular-scale interactions on the bulk properties of dispersions, emulsions, and foams. These formulations were developed for use in the energy and environmental industries for applications such as enhanced oil recovery, hydraulic fracturing, and oil spill cleanup.

At Exponent, Dr. Worthen helps clients solve complex problems by utilizing fundamentals of chemical engineering, materials characterization, colloid science, and polymer physics. Specific projects include adhesives failure analysis and critical review of associated manufacturing processes, coating performance evaluation and formulation development, demulsifier formulation intellectual property support, particulate material characterization and surface analysis, stability assessment of building materials, root cause determination of pipe and tubing failures, plastic component accelerated aging and property loss measurement, injection molded fitting recall support, selection and evaluation of plastics additives, contaminant identification and quantification in flooring products, optical and thermal property measurement of textile materials, environmental emissions calculations, and quantification of chemical migration in consumer products.

Academic Credentials & Professional Honors

Ph.D., Chemical Engineering, University of Texas, Austin, 2015

B.S., Chemical Engineering, University of Toledo, *magna cum laude*, 2010

Licenses and Certifications

Licensed Professional Chemical Engineer, California, #6872

Licensed Professional Engineer, Texas, #133642

Prior Experience

Undergraduate Research Assistant, University of Toledo, 2009-2010

Technical Services Department Co-op, Marathon Petroleum Company, Spring 2010

Environmental Department Co-op, Marathon Petroleum Company, Spring 2008, Fall 2008, Summer 2009

Professional Affiliations

American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE)

American Chemical Society (ACS)

Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE)

Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE)

Publications

Worthen AJ, Murphy EB. Transition Metal-Catalyzed Degradation of Polymers: Review and Future Perspectives. Proceedings of the SPE Annual Technical Conference & Exhibition, ANTEC 2020.

Worthen AJ, Irving KS, Lapitsky Y. Supramolecular Strategy Effects on Chitosan Bead Stability in Acidic Media: A Comparative Study. Gels 2019. 5(1):11.

Worthen AJ, Schwartz JM, Lee DE, Robrock KR, Kalmes RM. Flame Retardants in Consumer Products: Overview and Perspective on the Proposed CPSC Ban. Proceedings of the SPE Annual Technical Conference & Exhibition, ANTEC 2018.

Mohammad L, Kim I, Beygi MR, Worthen AJ, Huh C, Johnston KP, Wheeler MF, DiCarlo DA. Foam Generation Hysteresis in Porous Media: Experiments and New Insights. Transport in Porous Media 2017. 116(2):687-703.

Qajar A, Xue Z, Worthen AJ, Johnston KP, Huh C, Bryant SL, Prodonavic M. Modeling fracture propagation and cleanup for dry nanoparticle-stabilized-foam fracturing fluids. Journal of Petroleum Science and Engineering 2016. 146:210-221.

Chen Y, Elhag AS, Worthen AJ, Reddy PP, Ou AM, Hirasaki GJ, Nguyen QP, Biswal SL, Johnston KP. High Temperature CO₂-in-Water Foams Stabilized with Cationic Quaternary Ammonium Surfactants. Journal of Chemical & Engineering Data 2016. 61(8): 2761-2770.

Chen Y, Elhag AS, Reddy PP, Chen H, Cui L, Worthen AJ, Kun M, Quintanilla H, Noguera JA, Hirasaki GJ, Nguyen QP, Biswal SL, Johnston KP. Phase behavior and interfacial properties of a switchable ethoxylated amine surfactant at high temperature and effects on CO₂-in-water foams. Journal of Colloid and Interface Science 2016. 470:80-91.

Kim I, Worthen AJ, Johnston KP, DiCarlo DA, Huh C. Size-dependent properties of silica nanoparticles for

Pickering stabilization of emulsions and foams. *Journal of Nanoparticle Research* 2016; 18(4):82.

Worthen AJ, Tran V, Cornell KA, Truskett TM, Johnston KP. Steric stabilization of nanoparticles with grafted low molecular weight ligands in highly concentrated brines including divalent ions. *Soft Matter* 2016; 12(7):2025-2039.

Xue Z, Worthen AJ, Qajar A, Robert I, Bryant SL, Huh C, Prodanović M, Johnston KP. Viscosity and stability of ultra-high internal phase CO₂-in-water foams stabilized with surfactants and nanoparticles with or without polyelectrolytes. *Journal of Colloid and Interface Science* 2016; 461:383-395.

Xue Z, Worthen AJ, Da C, Qajar A, Ketchum IR, Alzobaidi S, Huh C, Prodanović M, Johnston KP. Ultra-dry carbon dioxide-in-water foams with viscoelastic aqueous phases. *Langmuir* 2016; 32(1):28-37.

Chen Y, Elhag AS, Cui L, Worthen AJ, Reddy PP, Noguera JA, Ou AM, Ma K, Puerto M, Hirasaki GJ, Nguyen QP, Biswal SL, Johnston KP. CO₂-in-water foam at elevated temperature and salinity stabilized with a nonionic surfactant with a high degree of ethoxylation. *Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research* 2015; 54(16):4252-4263.

Prigiobbe V, Worthen AJ, Johnston KP, Huh C, Bryant SL. Transport of nanoparticle-stabilized CO₂-foam in porous media. *Transport in Porous Media* 2015; 111(1):265-285.

Foster LM*, Worthen AJ*, Foster EL, Dong J, Roach CM, Metaxas AE, Hardy CD, Larsen ES, Bollinger JA, Truskett TM, Bielawski CW, Johnston KP. High interfacial activity of polymers "grafted through" functionalized iron oxide nanoparticle clusters. *Langmuir* 2014; 30(34):10188-10196. (Note: * denotes equal author contribution).

Dong J, Worthen AJ, Foster LM, Chen Y, Cornell KA, Bryant SL, Truskett TM, Bielawski CW, Johnston KP. Modified montmorillonite clay microparticles for stable oil-in-seawater emulsions. *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces* 2014; 6(14):11502-11513.

Yu H, Yoon KY, Neilson BM, Bagaria HG, Worthen AJ, Lee JH, Cheng V, Bielawski CW, Johnston KP, Bryant SL, Huh C. Transport and retention of aqueous dispersions of superparamagnetic nanoparticles in sandstone. *Journal of Petroleum Science and Engineering* 2014; 116:115-123.

Chen Y, Elhag AS, Poon BM, Cui L, Ma K, Liao SY, Reddy PP, Worthen AJ, Hirasaki GJ, Nguyen QP, Biswal SL, Johnston KP. Switchable nonionic to cationic ethoxylated amine surfactants for CO₂ Enhanced Oil Recovery in high-temperature, high-salinity carbonate reservoirs. *SPE Journal* 2014; 19(02):249-259.

Worthen AJ, Foster LM, Dong J, Bollinger JA, Peterman AH, Pastora LE, Bryant SL, Truskett TM, Bielawski CW, Johnston KP. Synergistic formation and stabilization of oil-in-water emulsions by a weakly interacting mixture of zwitterionic surfactant and silica nanoparticles. *Langmuir* 2014; 30(4):984-994.

Worthen AJ, Bryant SL, Huh C, Johnston KP. Carbon dioxide- in- water foams stabilized with nanoparticles and surfactant acting in synergy. *AIChE Journal* 2013; 59(9):3490-3501.

Bagaria HG, Neilson BM, Worthen AJ, Xue Z, Yoon KY, Cheng V, Lee JH, Velagala S, Huh C, Bryant SL, Bielawski CW, Johnston KP. Adsorption of iron oxide nanoclusters stabilized with sulfonated copolymers on silica in concentrated NaCl and CaCl₂ brine. *Journal of Colloid and Interface Science* 2013; 398:217-226.

Bagaria HG, Yoon KY, Neilson BM, Cheng V, Lee JH, Worthen AJ, Xue Z, Huh C, Bryant SL, Bielawski CW, Johnston KP. Stabilization of iron oxide nanoparticles in high sodium and calcium brine at high temperatures with adsorbed sulfonated copolymers. *Langmuir* 2013; 29(10):3195-3206.

Worthen AJ, Bagaria HG, Chen Y, Bryant SL, Huh C, Johnston KP. Nanoparticle-stabilized carbon dioxide-in-water foams with fine texture. *Journal of Colloid and Interface Science* 2013; 391:142-151.

Bagaria HG, Xue Z, Neilson BM, Worthen AJ, Yoon KY, Nayak S, Cheng V, Lee JH, Bielawski CW, Johnston KP. Iron oxide nanoparticles grafted with sulfonated copolymers are stable in concentrated brine at elevated temperatures and weakly adsorb on silica. *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces* 2013; 5(8):3329-3339.

Worthen AJ, Lapitsky Y. Stabilization of bioderived surfactant/polyelectrolyte complexes through surfactant conjugation to the biopolymer. *Colloid and Polymer Science* 2011; 289(14):1589-1596.

Selected Presentations

Worthen AJ, Murphy EB. Transition Metal-Catalyzed Degradation of Polymers: Review and Future Perspectives. SPE Annual Technical Conference & Exhibition, ANTEC 2020, Virtual, March 30-May 5, 2020.

Worthen AJ, Schwartz JM, Lee DE, Robrock KR, Kalmes RM. Flame Retardants in Consumer Products: Overview and Perspective on the Proposed CPSC Ban. SPE Annual Technical Conference & Exhibition, ANTEC 2018, Orlando, FL, May 7-10, 2018.

Worthen AJ, Taghavy A, Aroonsri A, Kim I, Johnston KP, Huh C, Bryant SL, DiCarlo DA. SPE 175065, Multi-scale evaluation of nanoparticle-stabilized CO₂-in-water foams: From the benchtop to the field. SPE Annual Tech. Conf. and Expo., Houston, TX, September 28-30, 2015.

Worthen AJ, Xue Z, Parikh PS, Dickey TR, Cornell KA, Quintanilla H, Huh C, Bryant SL, Johnston KP. Salt-tolerant and interfacially active nanoparticles which generate viscous and stable CO₂-in-brine foams. 5th International Colloids Conf., Amsterdam, Netherlands, June 21-24, 2015.

Worthen AJ, Foster LM, Dong J, Yu G, Bollinger JA, Truskett TM, Bryant SL, Bielawski CW, Johnston KP. Emulsions of oil in seawater stabilized with particles and surfactants. American Institute of Chemical Engineers Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, November 16-21, 2014.

Worthen AJ, Parikh PS, Chen Y, Bryant SL, Huh C, Johnston KP. Carbon dioxide-in-water foams stabilized with a mixture of nanoparticles and surfactant for CO₂ storage and utilization applications. GHGT-12, Austin, TX, October 5-9, 2014.

Worthen AJ, Johnston KP, Hirasaki GJ, Nguyen QP, Bryant SL, Huh C, Chen Y, Elhag AS. Design of surfactants and nanoparticles for CO₂ sequestration, Enhanced Oil Recovery, and electromagnetic imaging. 247th American Chemical Society National Meeting & Expo, Dallas, TX, March 16-20, 2014.

Worthen AJ, Bagaria HG, Chen Y, Bryant SL, Huh C, Johnston KP. Carbon dioxide-in-water foams stabilized with nanoparticle and surfactant amphiphiles. 245th American Chemical Society National Meeting & Expo, New Orleans, LA, April 7-11, 2013.

Worthen AJ, Bagaria HG, Chen Y, Bryant SL, Huh C, Johnston KP. SPE 154285, Nanoparticle stabilized carbon dioxide in water foams for Enhanced Oil Recovery. SPE Improved Oil Recovery Symposium, Tulsa, OK, April 14-18, 2012.