

## Extended dissolution studies of cellulose in imidazolium based ionic liquids

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## 1 Analytical data

$^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Mercury spectrometer (400 MHz) or on a Varian Gemini spectrometer (300 MHz). Chemical shifts are given in ppm downfield from TMS.

IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin Elmer 1600 FT-IR ATR spectrometer. Also a Bruker TENSOR 37<sup>TM</sup> equipped with a HTS-XT (High Throughput Screening eXTension) compartment and a HYPERION<sup>TM</sup> 3000 microscope was used.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR: chemical shift (multiplicity, number of protons, assignment, coupling constant).

**[C<sub>2</sub>MIM]F** 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium fluoride:

$^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta_{\text{H}}$ (300 MHz, DMSO) 1.37 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 3.81 (s, 3H), 4.14 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 7.65 (bs, 2H), 10.14 (bs, 1H).

**[C<sub>2</sub>MIM]Br** 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium bromide:

$^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta_{\text{H}}$ (300 MHz, DMSO) 1.39 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.4$  Hz), 3.83 (s, 3H), 4.18 (q, 2H,  $J = 7.4$  Hz), 7.69 (s, 1H), 7.78 (s, 1H), 9.15 (s, 1H). FT-IR:  $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3420 (H<sub>2</sub>O), 3144, 3071, 2983, 1628, 1570, 1452, 1336, 1167, 1089, 829, 753.

**[C<sub>3</sub>MIM]Br** 1-methyl-3-propylimidazolium bromide:

$^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta_{\text{H}}$ (300 MHz, DMSO) 0.84 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.4$  Hz), 1.79 (dd, 3H,  $J = 7.3, 14.4$  Hz), 3.86 (s, 3H), 4.14 (t, 2H,  $J = 7.1$  Hz), 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.81 (s, 1H), 9.23 (s, 1H). FT-IR:  $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3137, 3058, 2964, 2876, 1568, 1458, 1386, 1336, 1169, 1090, 753.

**[C<sub>4</sub>MIM]Br** 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium bromide:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta_{\text{H}}$ (300 MHz, DMSO) 0.89 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz), 1.25 (m, 2H), 1.76 (m, 2H), 3.86 (d, 3H,  $J = 1.7$  Hz), 4.18 (t, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 7.74 (s, 1H), 7.82 (s, 1H), 9.25 (s, 1H).

**[C<sub>5</sub>MIM]Br** 1-methyl-3-pentylimidazolium bromide:

$^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta_{\text{H}}$ (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.74 (bs, 3H), 1.20 (s, 4H), 1.78 (d, 2H,  $J = 6.8$  Hz), 4.00 (s, 3H), 4.20 (t, 2H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz), 7.47 (s, 1H), 7.62 (s, 1H), 10.18 (s, 1H).

**[C<sub>6</sub>MIM]Br** 1-hexyl-3-methylimidazolium bromide:

$^1\text{H}$  NMR:  $\delta_{\text{H}}$ (300 MHz, DMSO) 0.85 (s, 3H), 1.25 (s, 6H), 1.76 (s, 2H), 3.85 (d, 3H,  $J = 4.0$  Hz), 4.16 (s, 2H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.79 (s, 1H), 9.19 (s, 1H).

**[C<sub>7</sub>MIM]Br** 1-heptyl-3-methylimidazolium bromide:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ<sub>H</sub>(300 MHz, DMSO) 0.84 (bs, 3H), 1.24 (s, 8H), 1.77 (s, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 4.16 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 7.73 (s, 1H), 7.80 (s, 1H), 9.20 (s, 1H).

**[C<sub>8</sub>MIM]Br** 1-methyl-3-octylimidazolium bromide: <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ<sub>H</sub>(300 MHz, DMSO) 0.84 (t, 3H, *J* = 6.7 Hz), 1.24 (s, 10H), 1.76 (s, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 4.15 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 7.72 (d, 1H, *J* = 1.7 Hz), 7.78 (d, 1H, *J* = 1.7 Hz), 9.17 (s, 1H).

**[C<sub>9</sub>MIM]Br** 1-methyl-3-nonylimidazolium bromide:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ<sub>H</sub>(300 MHz, DMSO) 0.84 (t, 3H, *J* = 6.7 Hz), 1.23 (s, 12H), 1.76 (s, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 4.15 (t, 2H, *J* = 7.2 Hz), 7.72 (d, 1H, *J* = 1.7 Hz), 7.79 (t, 1H, *J* = 1.8 Hz), 9.19 (s, 1H).

**[C<sub>10</sub>MIM]Br** 1-decyl-3-methylimidazolium bromide:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ<sub>H</sub>(300 MHz, DMSO) 0.83 (s, 3H), 1.23 (s, 14H), 1.76 (s, 2H), 3.85 (s, 2H), 4.15 (s, 3H), 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.79 (s, 1H), 9.20 (s, 1H).

**[AllylMIM]Br** 1-allyl-3-methylimidazolium bromide:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR δ<sub>H</sub>(300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 4.08 (s, 3H), 4.98 (d, 2H, *J* = 6.3 Hz), 5.43 (t, 2H, *J* = 13.0 Hz), 5.99 (d, 1H, *J* = 6.5 Hz), 7.48 (s, 1H), 7.67 (s, 1H), 10.19 (s, 1H). FT-IR: ν<sub>max</sub>/cm<sup>-1</sup> 3050, 2959, 2934, 2874, 1568, 1465, 1382, 1253, 1170, 742, 657.

**[DiMIM]I** 1,3-dimethylimidazolium iodide: <sup>1</sup>H NMR δ<sub>H</sub>(400 MHz, DMSO) 3.84 (s, 6H), 7.66 (s, 2H), 9.02 (s, 1H).

**[C<sub>4</sub>MIM]I** 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium iodide:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ<sub>H</sub>(300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 0.91 (t, 3H, *J* = 8.2 Hz), 1.43–1.27 (m, 2H), 1.83–1.93 (m, 2H), 4.05 (s, 3H), 4.30 (pt, 2H, *J* = 7.4), 7.51 (pt, 1H, *J* = 1.7 Hz), 7.59 (pt, 1H, *J* = 1.7 Hz), 9.92 (s, 1H). FT-IR: ν<sub>max</sub>/cm<sup>-1</sup> 3468 (H<sub>2</sub>O), 3140, 3077, 2958, 2933, 2872, 1568, 1462, 1382, 1337, 1165, 820, 749.

**[DiMIM]Me<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>** 1,3-dimethylimidazolium dimethyl-phosphate: <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ<sub>H</sub>(400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 3.24 (s, 3H), 3.26 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 6H), 7.70 (d, 2H, *J* = 1.6 Hz), 9.31 (s, 1H). FT-IR: ν<sub>max</sub>/cm<sup>-1</sup> 3153, 3068, 2945, 2838, 1575, 1462, 1241, 1179, 1091, 1036, 850, 770, 731.

**[C<sub>2</sub>MIM]Et<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>** 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium diethyl-phosphate: <sup>1</sup>H NMR: δ<sub>H</sub>(400 MHz, DMSO) 1.04 (t, 6H, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 1.39 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 3.59 (p, 4H, *J* = 7.0 Hz), 3.84 (s, 3H), 4.18 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.80 (s, 1H), 9.38 (s, 1H). FT-IR:

$\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3375 (H<sub>2</sub>O), 3073, 2974, 2934, 2893, 1572, 1232, 1173, 1107, 1082, 1043, 935, 779, 733.

**[C<sub>4</sub>MIM]Bu<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>** 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium dibutyl-phosphate: <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta_{\text{H}}$ (400 MHz, DMSO) 0.85 (m, 9H), 1.18–1.50 (m, 10H), 1.69–1.82 (m, 2H), 3.54–3.67 (m, 4H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 4.15 (t, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 7.71 (s, 1H), 7.78 (s, 1H), 9.36 (s, 1H). FT-IR:  $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3387 (H<sub>2</sub>O), 3078, 2959, 2936, 2874, 1570, 1464, 1236, 1173, 1067, 1026, 1005, 974, 889, 820, 797, 733.

**[C<sub>2</sub>MIM]OAc** 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium acetate:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta_{\text{H}}$ (400 MHz, DMSO) 1.39 (t, 5H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz), 3.84 (s, 3H), 4.19 (q, 3H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz), 7.72 (d, 1H,  $J = 1.6$  Hz), 7.81 (s, 1H), 9.73–9.81 (m, 1H). FT-IR:  $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3362 (H<sub>2</sub>O), 3073, 2981, 1562, 1451, 1427, 1384, 1331, 1172, 907, 759, 701, 667.

**[C<sub>4</sub>MIM]OAc** 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium acetate:

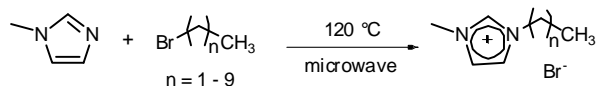
<sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta_{\text{H}}$ (400 MHz, DMSO) 0.87 (t, 3H,  $J = 8.4$  Hz), 1.23 (dq, 2H,  $J = 7.4, 14.7$  Hz), 1.56 (s, 3H), 1.74 (dt, 2H,  $J = 7.4, 14.8$  Hz), 3.85 (s, 4H), 4.11–4.23 (m, 2H), 7.73 (s, 1H), 7.79 (s, 1H), 9.72 (s, 1H).

**[C<sub>4</sub>MIM]NO<sub>3</sub>** 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium nitrate: <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta_{\text{H}}$ (300 MHz, DMSO) 0.90 (t, 3H,  $J = 7.3$  Hz), 1.26 (dq, 2H,  $J = 7.3, 14.6$  Hz), 1.66–1.84 (m, 2H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 4.16 (t, 2H,  $J = 7.2$  Hz), 7.71 (pt, 1H,  $J = 1.7$  Hz), 7.78 (pt, 1H,  $J = 1.8$  Hz), 9.13 (s, 1H).

**[C<sub>4</sub>MIM]NTf<sub>2</sub>** 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium bis(trifluoro-methylsulfonyl)imide: <sup>1</sup>H NMR:  $\delta_{\text{H}}$ (400 MHz, DMSO) 0.78–0.96 (m, 3H), 1.23 (m, 2H), 1.75 (m, 2H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 4.14 (q, 2H,  $J = 3.6$  Hz), 7.68 (s, 1H), 7.75 (s, 1H), 9.08 (s, 1H). FT-IR:  $\nu_{\max}/\text{cm}^{-1}$  3457 (H<sub>2</sub>O), 3017, 2971, 2946, 1738, 1729, 1456, 1435, 1365, 1353, 1229, 1217, 1204, 1183, 1132, 1053, 741, 654.

## 2 Tables

**Table 1** Synthesized imidazolium based ionic liquids with different side chain lengths.



Ionic liquid	Reaction time (min)	Conversion (%)	$T_{\text{decomp}}^b$ (°C)	$T_m^c$ (°C)
[C <sub>2</sub> MIM]Br	20	>99 <sup>a</sup>	279	65
[C <sub>3</sub> MIM]Br	30	>99 <sup>a</sup>	277	- <sup>d</sup>
[C <sub>4</sub> MIM]Br	10	>99 <sup>a</sup>	269	- <sup>d</sup>
[C <sub>5</sub> MIM]Br	20	99	273	- <sup>d</sup>
[C <sub>6</sub> MIM]Br	10	>99 <sup>a</sup>	268	- <sup>d</sup>
[C <sub>7</sub> MIM]Br	10	>99 <sup>a</sup>	263	- <sup>d</sup>
[C <sub>8</sub> MIM]Br	10	>99 <sup>a</sup>	262	2
[C <sub>9</sub> MIM]Br	10	>99 <sup>a</sup>	259	1
[C <sub>10</sub> MIM]Br	10	>99 <sup>a</sup>	271	10

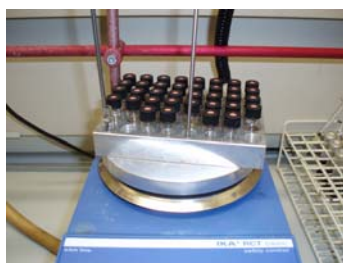
<sup>a</sup> No starting material detectable (determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR). <sup>b</sup> Temperature of thermal decomposition. <sup>c</sup> Melting point. <sup>d</sup> Melting point could not be determined by DSC.

**Table 2** DP of cellulose samples after processing in [C<sub>4</sub>MIM]Cl under microwave heating.

IL	Temperature (°C)	Time (min)	DP
Avicel PH-101	-	-	398 <sup>a</sup>
[C <sub>4</sub> MIM]Cl	100	30	172 <sup>b</sup>
	100	60	255 <sup>b</sup>
	100	90	300 <sup>b</sup>
	100	120	230 <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Before processing, <sup>b</sup> after regeneration.

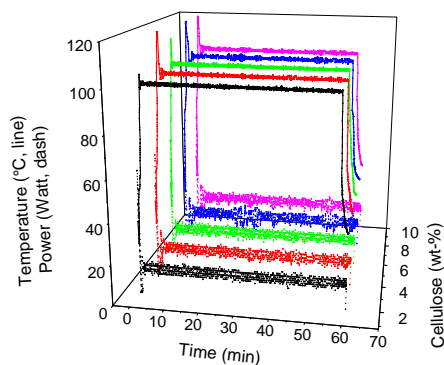
## 3 Figures



**Fig. 1** Parallel setup to study the dissolution of cellulose.

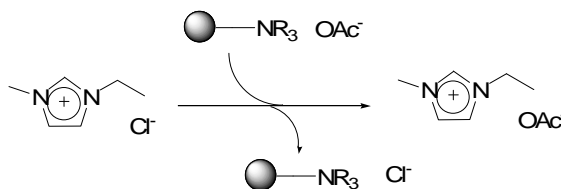


**Fig. 2** Dissolution of cellulose in  $[C_2MIM]Cl$  under microwave irradiation: a) 6 wt-% of cellulose, 100 °C, power between 60 and 140 W, b) 2 – 10 wt-% of cellulose, 140 °C, 80 W, 30 min, c) 2 – 10 wt-% of cellulose, 160 °C, 80 W, 30 min.

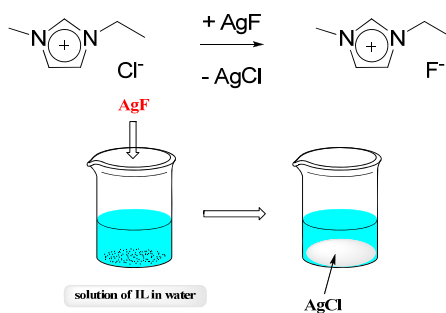


**Fig. 3** Heating and power profiles for the dissolution of cellulose in  $[C_2MIM]Cl$  at different concentrations under microwave irradiation.

## 4 Schemes



**Scheme 1** Schematic representation of the anion exchange with “Amberlite IRA-400”.



**Scheme 2** Schematic representation of the reaction scheme and schematic process of the anion exchange with AgF.