

Supporting Information

What a Difference a Methyl Group Makes – Probing Choline-Urea Molecular Interactions Through Urea Structure Modification

Liliana P. Silva^{r,a}, Catarina F. Araújo^{r,a}, Dinis O. Abrantes^a, Manuel Melle-Franco^a, Mónia A. R. Martins^{a,b,c}, Mariela M. Nolasco^a, Paulo J. A. Ribeiro-Claro^a, Simão P. Pinho^{b,c} and João A. P. Coutinho^{a,*}

^a CICECO – Aveiro Institute of Materials, Department of Chemistry, University of Aveiro, 3810-193 Aveiro, Portugal

^b Associate Laboratory LSRE-LCM, Department of Chemical and Biological Technology, Polytechnic Institute of Bragança, 5300-253 Bragança, Portugal

^c Mountain Research Center – CIMO, Polytechnic Institute of Bragança, 5300-253 Bragança, Portugal

^r Equally contributing authors

*Corresponding author e-mail address: jcoutinho@ua.pt (João A. P. Coutinho)

Number of Pages: 7

Number of Tables: 1

Number of Figures: 5

Table S1. Experimental SLE data (choline chloride mole fraction- x_1 , temperature- T) and activity coefficients for cholinium chloride(ChCl)-based eutectic mixtures at atmospheric pressure^{a,b}.

x_1	T / K	γ_1	x_1	T / K	γ_2
ChCl (1) + Urea (2)					
0.890	539.6 ^b	1.03	0.391	294.6 ^a	0.313
0.796	475.6 ^b	1.01	0.307	321.3 ^a	0.451
0.698	438.7 ^b	1.05	0.200	355.5 ^b	0.660
0.596	380.4 ^b	1.03	0.101	381.8 ^b	0.826
0.493	331.8 ^a	1.02	0	408.2 ^b	1
ChCl (1) + Methylurea (2)					
0.893	526.7 ^b	0.997	0.329	317.9 ^a	0.597
0.797	478.4 ^b	1.01	0.298	324.3 ^a	0.645
0.700	439.9 ^b	1.05	0.200	335.7 ^a	0.698
0.589	398.7 ^b	1.10	0.100	352.9 ^b	0.830
0.499	365.1 ^b	1.16	0	372.2 ^b	1
0.400	341.4 ^a	1.31			
ChCl (1) + 1,1-Dimethylurea (2)					
0.894	552.5 ^b	1.04	0.402	392.3 ^b	0.509
0.777	521.4 ^b	1.14	0.297	408.6 ^b	0.619
0.695	488.5 ^b	1.19	0.191	416.6 ^b	0.634
0.601	467.0 ^b	1.31	0.100	434.3 ^b	0.803
0.490	434.7 ^b	1.48	0	452.5 ^b	1
ChCl (1) + 1,3-Dimethylurea (2)					
0.900	560.5 ^b	1.05	0.329	336.5 ^a	0.884
0.800	528.2 ^b	1.12	0.300	343.8 ^a	0.935
0.701	480.9 ^b	1.16	0.200	354.4 ^b	0.935
0.598	429.0 ^b	1.19	0.102	367.4 ^b	0.971
0.498	395.0 ^b	1.29	0	379.8 ^b	1
0.402	358.1 ^b	1.39			
ChCl (1) + Thiourea (2)					
0.896	529.5 ^b	1.00	0.400	324.7 ^a	0.440
0.799	474.1 ^b	1.00	0.332	342.3 ^a	0.503
0.696	419.5 ^b	0.995	0.302	348.6 ^a	0.521
0.601	368.1 ^b	0.971	0.192	380.9 ^b	0.650
0.503	313.9 ^a	0.910	0.100	410.7 ^b	0.778
			0	454.9 ^b	1.000

^a Data obtained using the oil bath method. ^b Data obtained using the melting points device.

Standard uncertainties are $u(T) = 1.4 \text{ K}$, $u_r(p) = 0.05$ and $u_r(x) = 0.002$.

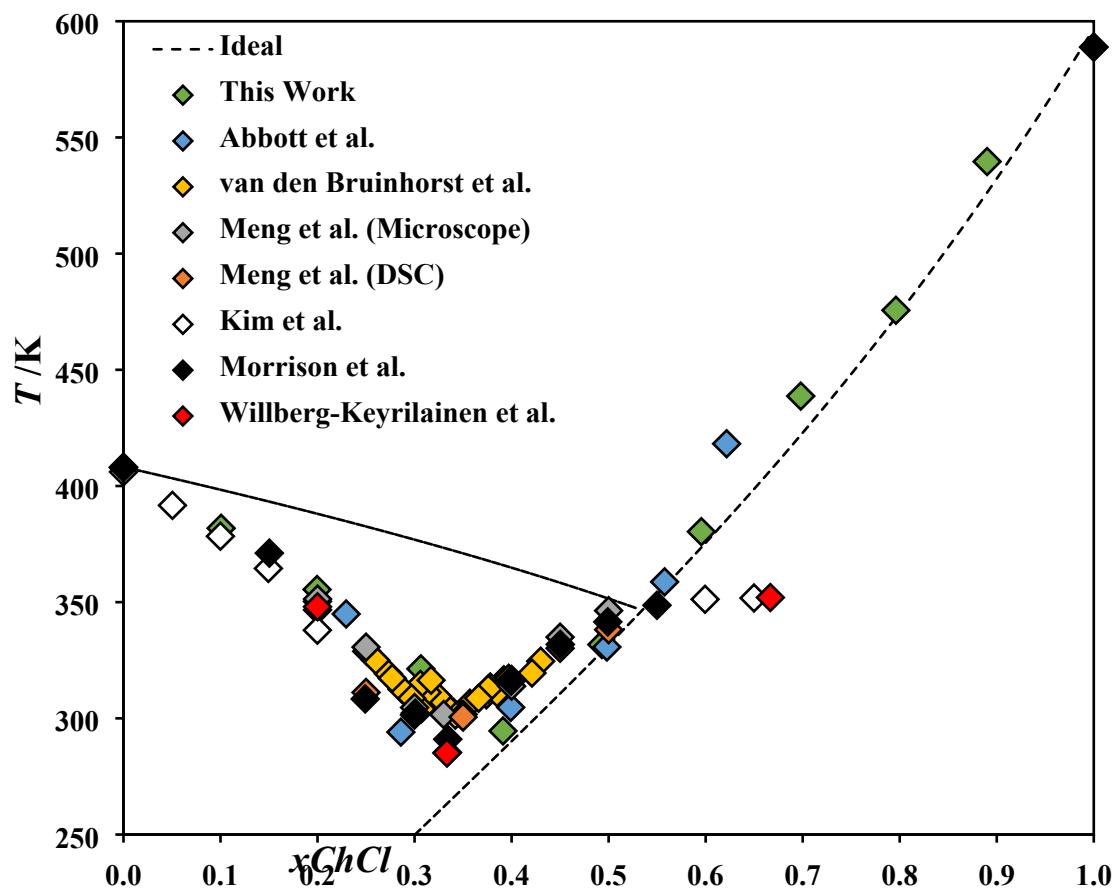


Figure S1. Compendium of solid-liquid equilibrium data for the system choline chloride/urea, measured by several authors^{1–6}. The ideal solid-liquid equilibrium lines for both components are also included.

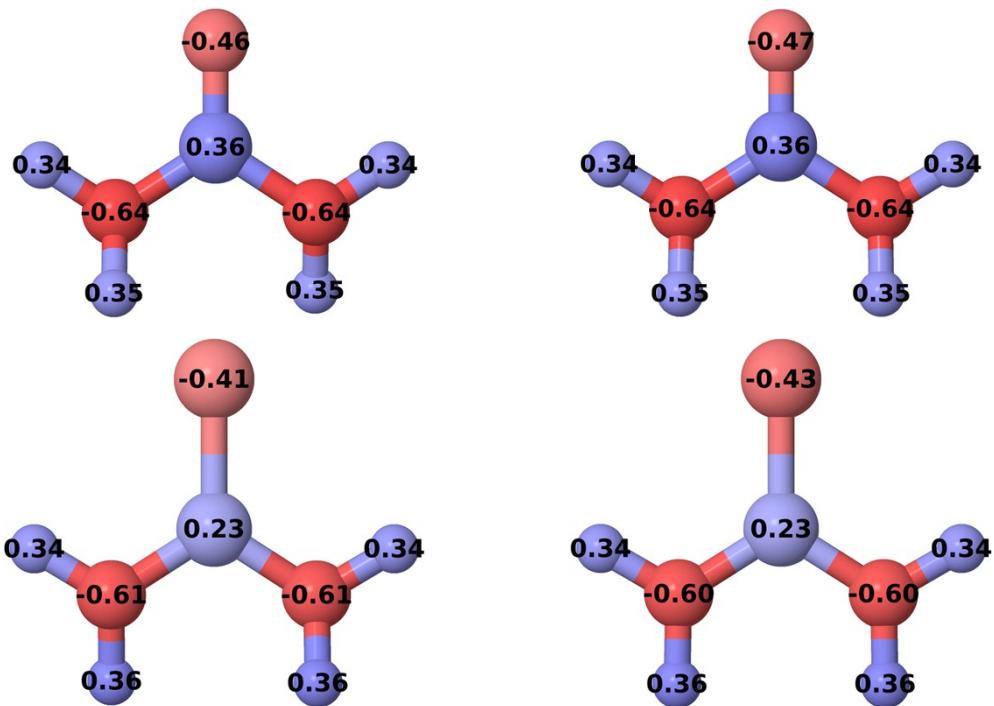


Figure S2. Partial charges at the M06-2X-GIL-6-31+g(d,p)/M06-2X-6-31+g(d,p) level of theory for urea (top) and thiourea (bottom), for the C_2 (left) and D_{2h} (right) conformations. Red represents negative charges, blue represents positive charges while white is neutral.

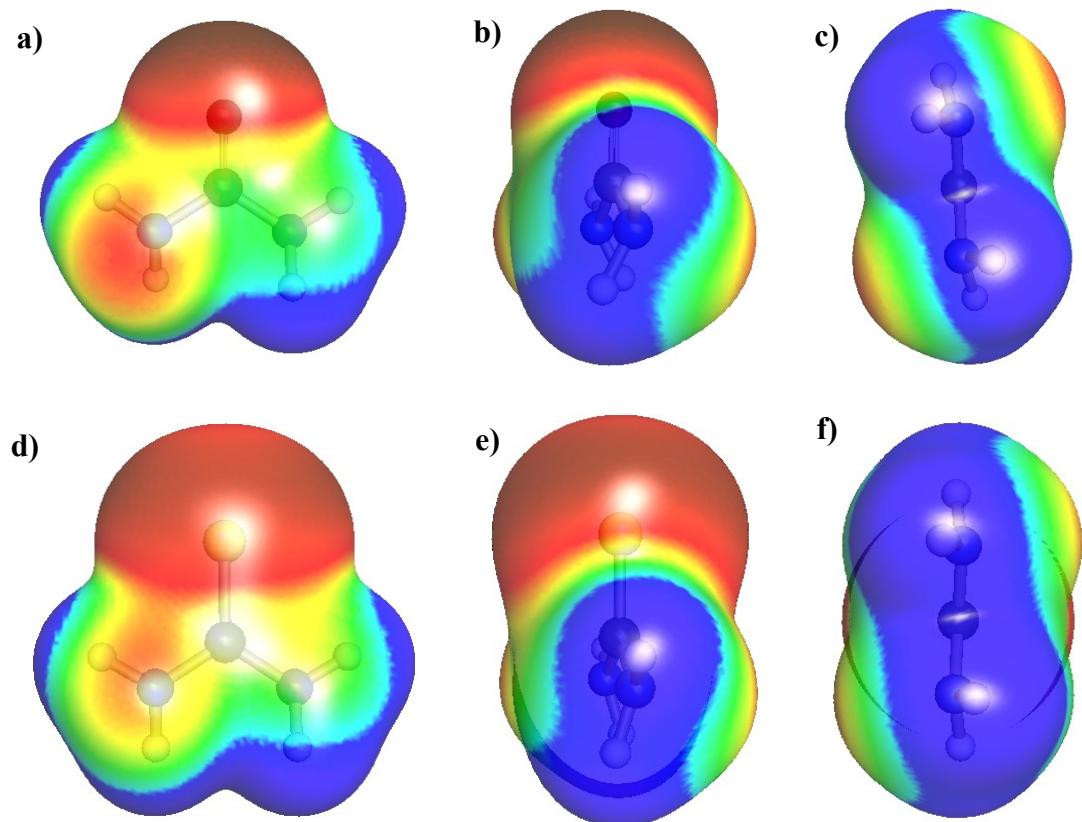


Figure S3. Electrostatic potential color-coded (red = negative, green = neutral and blue = positive) on density isosurface of urea (front view **a**, side view **b** and bottom view **c**) and of thiourea (front view **d**, side view **e** and bottom view **f**), obtained using TURBOMOLE (gas phase, 6-311++G(d,p) basis set, M06-2X DFT and a isovalue of 0.002).

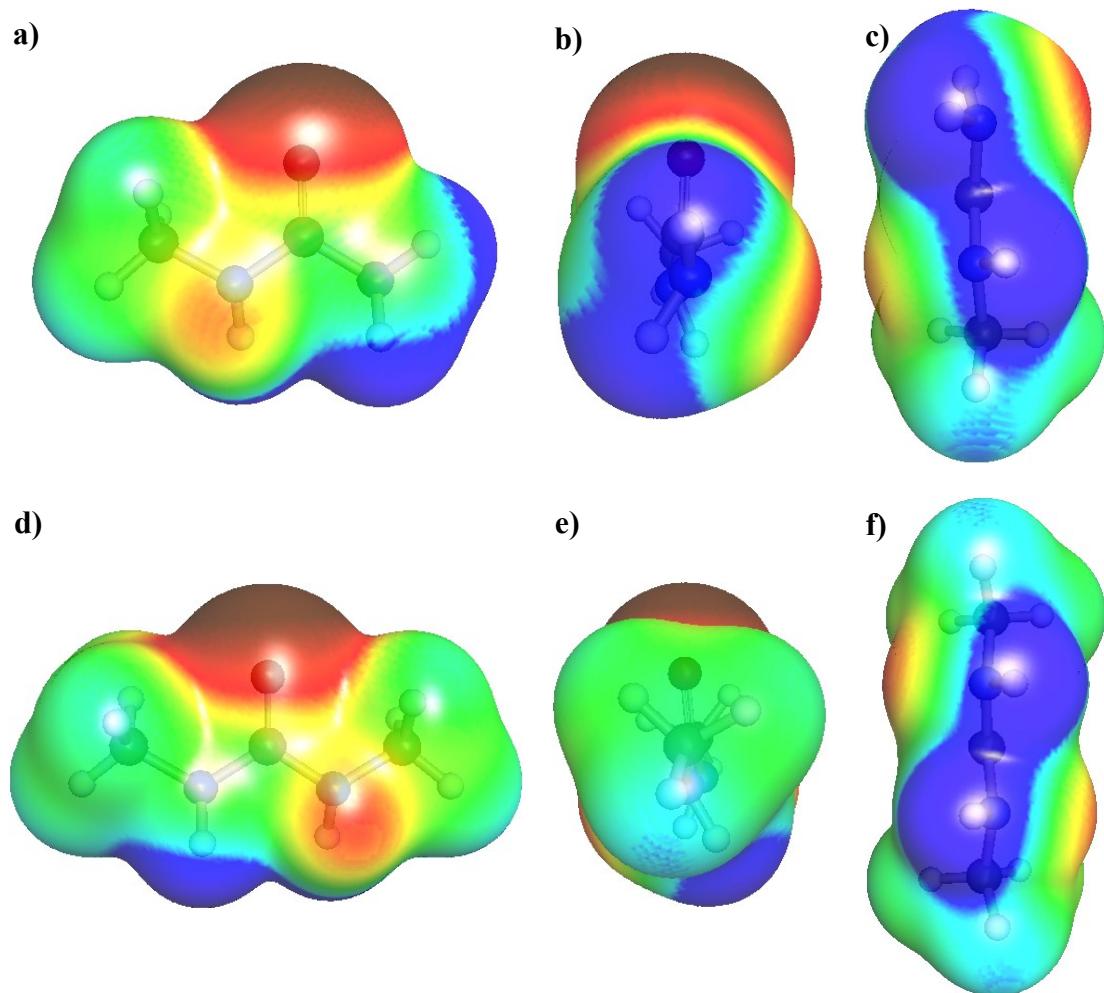


Figure S4. Electrostatic potential color-coded (red = negative, green = neutral and blue = positive) on density isosurface of methylurea (front view **a**, side view **b** and bottom view **c**) and of 1,3-dimethylurea (front view **d**, side view **e** and bottom view **f**), obtained using TURBOMOLE (gas phase, 6-311++G(d,p) basis set, M06-2X DFT and a isovalue of 0.002).

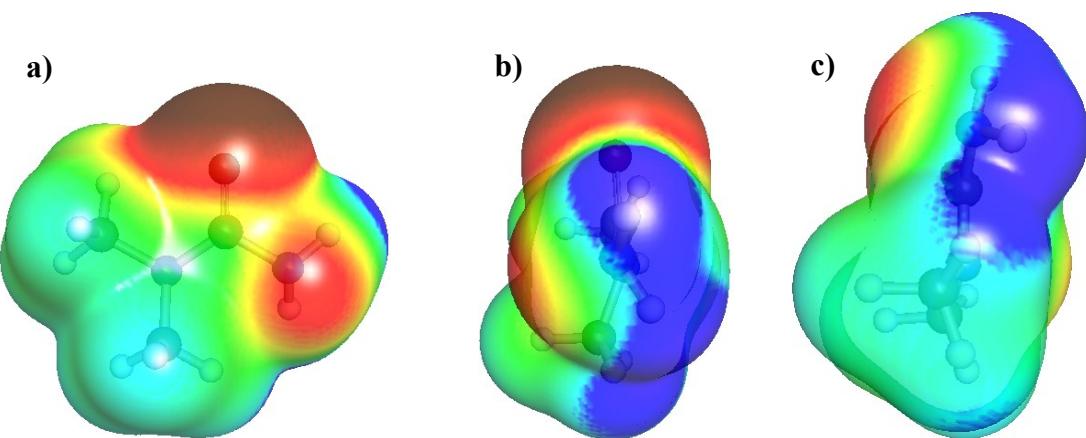


Figure S5. Electrostatic potential color-coded (red = negative, green = neutral and blue = positive) on density isosurface of 1,1-dimethylurea (front view **a**, side view **b** and bottom view **c**), obtained TURBOMOLE (gas phase, 6-311++G(d,p) basis set, M06-2X DFT and a iso value of 0.002).

References

- 1 A. P. Abbott, G. Capper, D. L. Davies, R. K. Rasheed and V. Tambyrajah, Novel solvent properties of choline chloride/urea mixtures, *Chem. Commun.*, 2003, 70–71.
- 2 A. van den Bruinhorst, L. J. B. M. Kollau, M. C. Kroon, J. Meuldijk, R. Tuinier and A. C. C. Esteves, A centrifuge method to determine the solid–liquid phase behavior of eutectic mixtures, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 2018, **149**, 224505.
- 3 X. Meng, K. Ballerat-Busserolles, P. Husson and J.-M. Andanson, Impact of water on the melting temperature of urea + choline chloride deep eutectic solvent, *New J. Chem.*, 2016, **40**, 4492–4499.
- 4 K.-S. Kim and B. H. Park, Differential Scanning Calorimetric Study on Binary Mixtures of Choline Chloride with Urea or 1,3-Dimethylurea, *J. Chem. Eng. Japan*, 2015, **48**, 881–884.
- 5 H. G. Morrison, C. C. Sun and S. Neervannan, Characterization of thermal behavior of deep eutectic solvents and their potential as drug solubilization vehicles, *Int. J. Pharm.*, 2009, **378**, 136–139.
- 6 P. Willberg-Keyriläinen, J. Hiltunen and J. Ropponen, Production of cellulose carbamate using urea-based deep eutectic solvents, *Cellulose*, 2018, **25**, 195–204.