

## Supporting Information

# High-performance extraction of alkaloids using aqueous two-phase systems with ionic liquids

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## Experimental Procedure

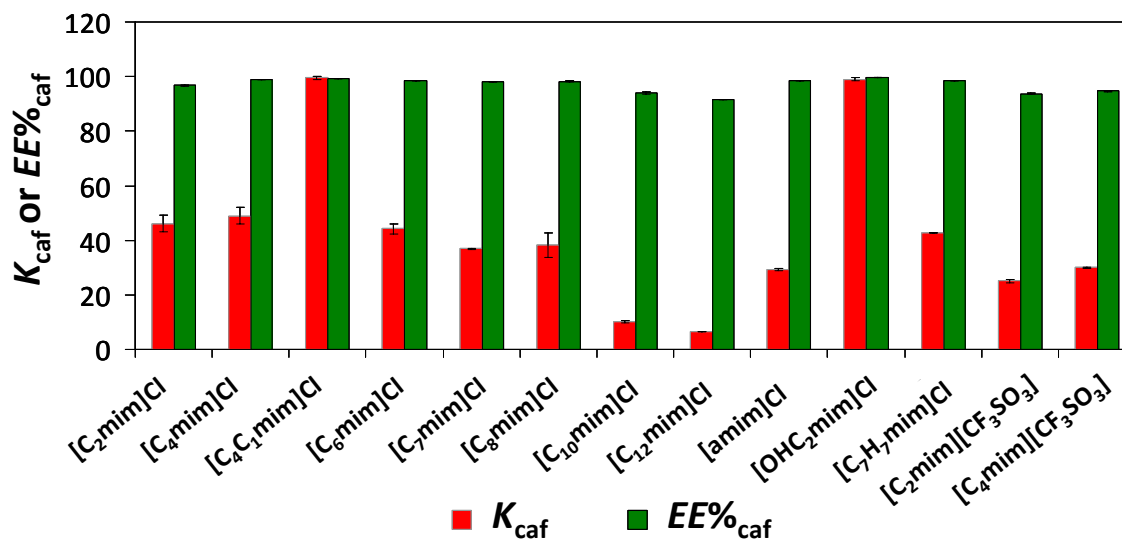
Nicotine, > 99 wt % pure, was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich while caffeine, > 98.5 wt % pure, was acquired at Marsing & Co. Ltd. A/S. All ionic liquids (ILs) were commercially acquired at Iolitec, with the exception of [C<sub>4</sub>mim][CF<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>] that was purchased from Solchemar. ILs individual samples were dried under constant conditions at moderate vacuum and temperature, for a minimum of 48 h, before use. The purity of each IL was further checked by <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra and found to be superior to 99 wt % for all samples. Urea, 99 wt % pure, was supplied by Panreac and used without further purification. K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, 98 wt % pure, and NaCl, 99.9 % wt % pure, were from Sigma and Normapur, respectively. In order to remove water, the inorganic salts were dried under vacuum for a minimum of 12 h before use. Water used was ultrapure water, double distilled, passed by a reverse osmosis system and finally treated with a Milli-Q plus 185 water purification equipment.

Synthetic human urine aqueous phases were prepared by dissolution of urea and NaCl, in pure water, at the concentrations of 1.2 g·dm<sup>-3</sup> and 4.0 g·dm<sup>-3</sup>, respectively. The alkaloids quantification, in both phases, was carried out by UV spectroscopy using a SHIMADZU UV-1700, Pharma-Spec spectrometer, at a wavelength of 274 nm or 261 nm for caffeine and nicotine, respectively, and using calibration curves previously established. Initial concentrations of caffeine and nicotine for phase distribution at the water ternary composition were, respectively, 2.6×10<sup>-2</sup> mol·dm<sup>-3</sup> and 2.5×10<sup>-2</sup> mol·dm<sup>-3</sup>. Possible interferences of both the inorganic salt and the IL with the analytical method were taken into account and blank controls were employed whenever necessary. The partition coefficients of caffeine (*K*<sub>caf</sub>) or nicotine (*K*<sub>nic</sub>) are defined as the ratio between the concentration of the alkaloids in the IL- and K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>-rich phases.

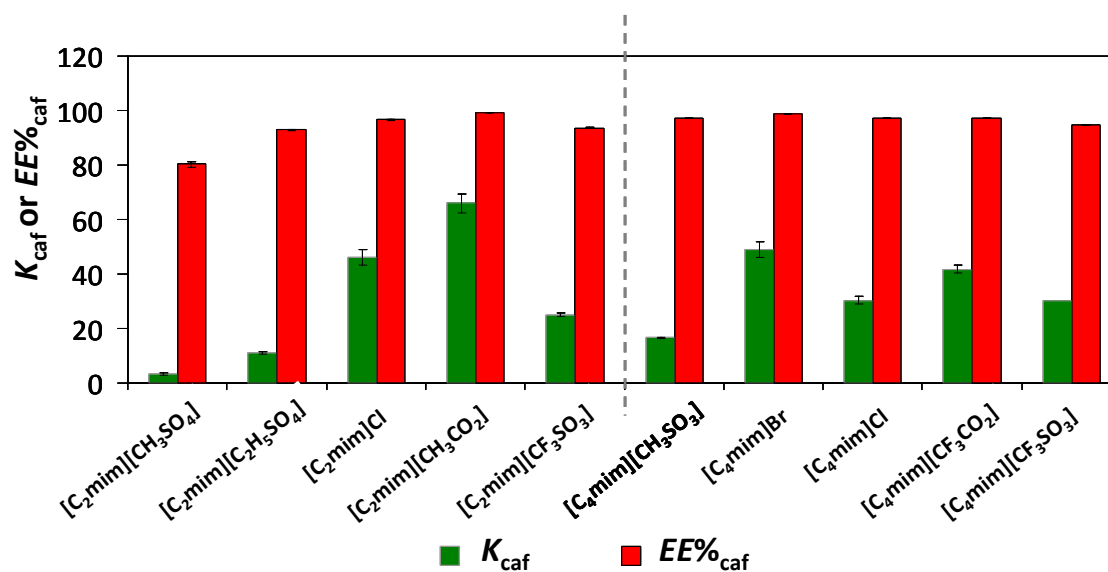
Supplementary Material (ESI) for Green Chemistry

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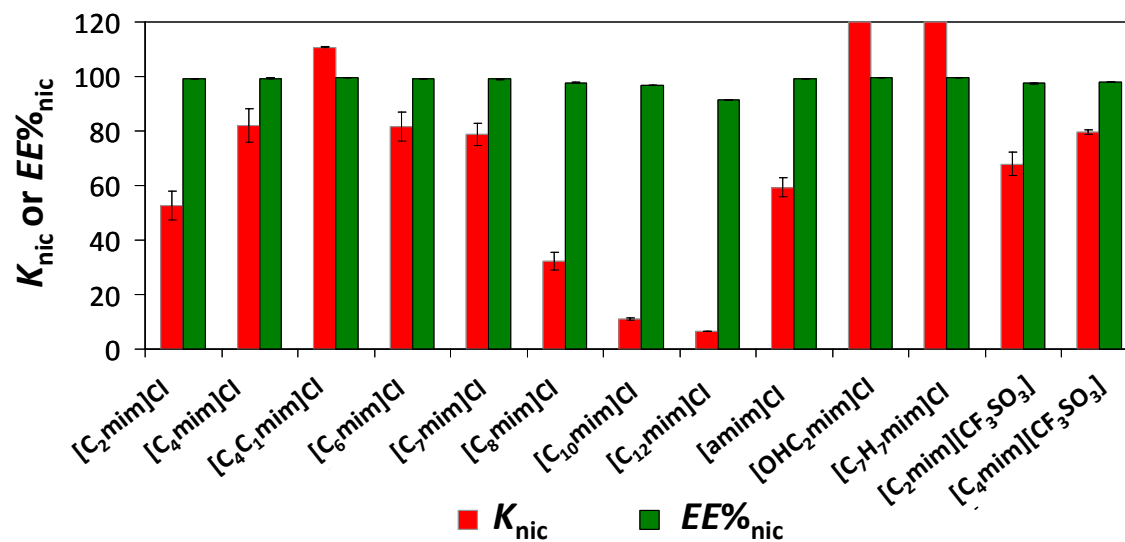
## Partition Coefficients and Extraction Efficiencies



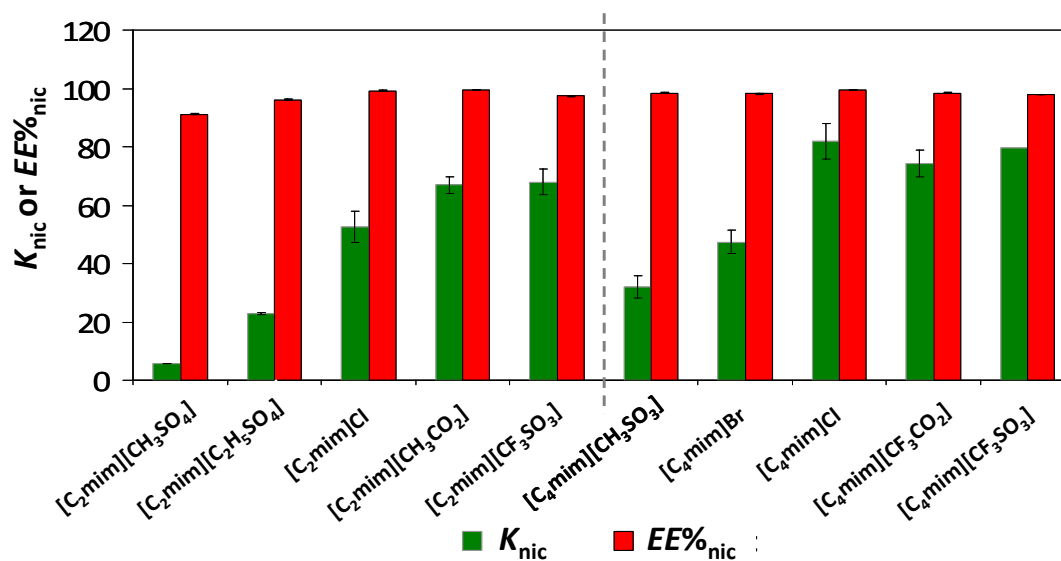
**Fig. S1.** Partition coefficients ( $K_{caf}$ ) and extraction efficiencies percentages ( $EE\%_{caf}$ ) of caffeine in chloride-based ILs/ $K_3PO_4$  ABS at 298 K (IL at 25 wt % and  $K_3PO_4$  at 15 wt %, except for [C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>7</sub>mim]Cl at 40 wt % and  $K_3PO_4$  at 15 wt %).



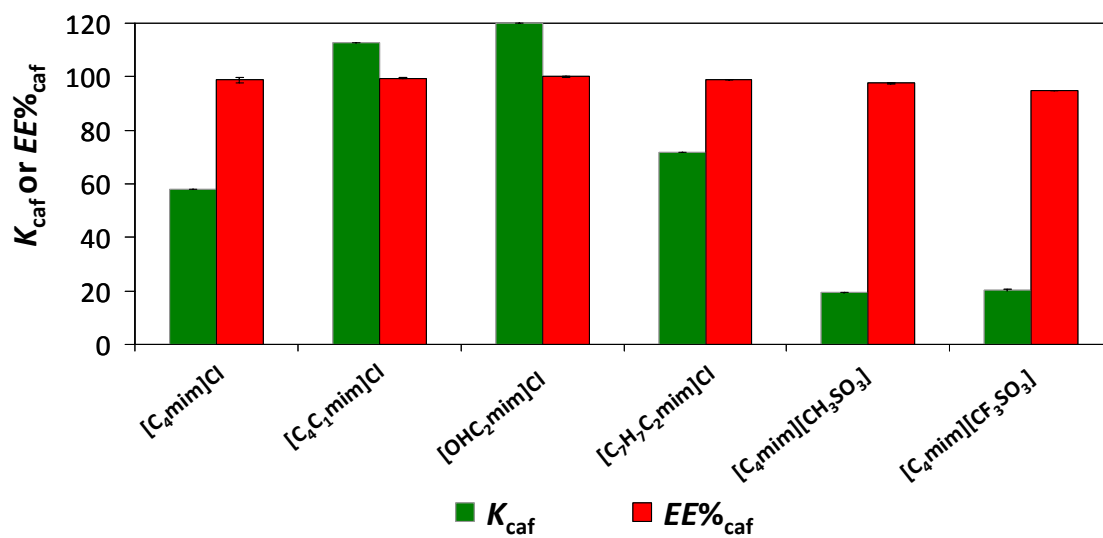
**Fig. S2.** Partition coefficients ( $K_{caf}$ ) and extraction efficiencies percentages ( $EE\%_{caf}$ ) of caffeine in [C<sub>2</sub>mim]- and [C<sub>4</sub>mim]-based ILs/ $K_3PO_4$  ABS at 298 K (IL at 25 wt % and  $K_3PO_4$ ).



**Fig. S3.** Partition coefficients ( $K_{\text{nic}}$ ) and extraction efficiencies percentages ( $EE\%_{\text{nic}}$ ) of nicotine in chloride-based ILs/ $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$  ABS at 298 K (IL at 25 wt % and  $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$  at 15 wt %, except for [C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>7</sub>mim]Cl at 40 wt % and  $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$  at 15 wt %).

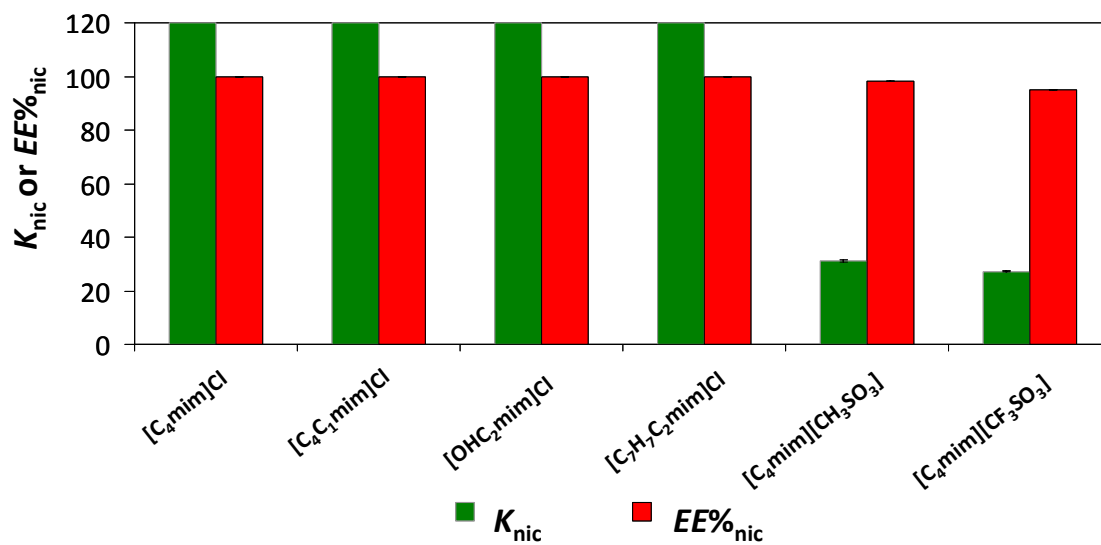


**Fig. S4.** Partition coefficients ( $K_{\text{nic}}$ ) and extraction efficiencies percentages ( $EE\%_{\text{nic}}$ ) of nicotine in [C<sub>2</sub>mim]- and [C<sub>4</sub>mim]-based ILs/K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> ABS at 298 K (IL at 25 wt % and K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>).



**Fig. S5.** Partition coefficients ( $K_{\text{caf}}$ ) and extraction efficiencies percentages ( $EE\%_{\text{caf}}$ ) of caffeine in human urine-based ILs/ $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$  ABS at 298 K (IL at 25 wt % and  $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$  at 15 wt %, except for  $[\text{C}_7\text{H}_7\text{mim}]\text{Cl}$  at 40 wt % and  $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$  at 15 wt %).





**Fig. S6.** Partition coefficients ( $K_{\text{nic}}$ ) and extraction efficiencies percentages ( $EE\%_{\text{nic}}$ ) of nicotine in human urine-based ILs/ $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$  ABS at 298 K (IL at 25 wt % and  $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$  at 15 wt %, except for [C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>7</sub>mim]Cl at 40 wt % and  $\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$  at 15 wt %).

**Table S1.** Weight fraction composition, partition coefficients and extraction efficiencies of caffeine in IL-based ABS and respective tie-lines (TLs) and tie-line lengths (TLLs)

| IL   | wt %   |                                | TL equation                                     |          | TLL    | $K_{\text{caf}} \pm \sigma^a$ | $EE\%_{\text{caf}} \pm \sigma^a$ |
|--|--------|--------------------------------|---|----------|--------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|  | IL     | K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> | IL (wt %) = $a + b \cdot K_3\text{PO}_4$ (wt %) |          |        |                               |                                  |
|  |        |                                | <i>a</i>  | <i>b</i> |        |                               |                                  |
| [C <sub>2</sub> mim]Cl   | 25.185 | 14.962                         | 42.205  | -1.138   | 43.386 | 46.1 ± 2.9                    | 96.70 ± 0.20                     |
| [C <sub>2</sub> mim]Cl   | 40.093 | 15.129                         | 58.722  | -1.231   | 73.811 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim]Cl   | 24.361 | 14.923                         | 42.269  | -1.200   | 44.493 | 49.0 ± 2.9                    | 98.89 ± 0.07                     |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim]Cl   | 30.320 | 14.760                         | 49.407  | -1.293   | 57.788 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim]Cl   | 34.989 | 15.479                         | 55.708  | -1.339   | 67.523 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim]Cl   | 39.855 | 15.004                         | 59.968  | -1.341   | 73.856 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim]Cl   | 44.853 | 15.040                         | 66.399  | -1.433   | 80.650 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> mim]Cl                                | 25.127 | 15.080                         | 44.154  | -1.262   | 47.966 | 99.6 ± 0.6                    | 99.41 ± 0.03                     |
| [C <sub>6</sub> mim]Cl   | 24.921 | 14.856                         | 46.455  | -1.450   | 45.907 | 44.1 ± 1.8                    | 98.53 ± 0.06                     |
| [C <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl   | 25.066 | 15.166                         | 49.496  | -1.611   | 44.417 | 37.0 ± 0.2                    | 97.96 ± 0.01                     |
| [C <sub>8</sub> mim]Cl   | 25.068 | 15.073                         | 50.675  | -1.699   | 36.784 | 38.2 ± 4.6                    | 98.16 ± 0.22                     |
| [C <sub>10</sub> mim]Cl  | 25.046 | 15.207                         | 53.181  | -1.850   | 24.853 | 10.1 ± 0.5                    | 94.01 ± 0.26                     |
| [C <sub>12</sub> mim]Cl  | 25.038 | 15.014                         | 51.344  | -1.752   | 27.518 | 6.65 ± 0.01                   | 91.61 ± 0.01                     |
| [amim]Cl   | 24.262 | 15.293                         | 42.449  | -1.189   | 42.842 | 29.4 ± 0.3                    | 98.32 ± 0.02                     |
| [amim]Cl   | 30.023 | 14.813                         | 47.901  | -1.207   | 56.670 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [amim]Cl   | 35.148 | 14.956                         | 54.115  | -1.268   | 66.449 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [amim]Cl   | 40.132 | 14.871                         | 60.586  | -1.375   | 73.839 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [amim]Cl   | 44.817 | 15.193                         | 64.543  | -1.298   | 81.148 | 32.3 ± 0.3                    | 98.47 ± 0.04                     |
| [OHC <sub>2</sub> mim]Cl   | 39.963 | 15.049                         | 85.826  | -3.048   | 63.673 | 98.9 ± 0.6                    | 99.69 ± 0.02                     |
| [C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl                                | 25.123 | 14.925                         | 50.512  | -1.701   | 43.036 | 42.62 ± 0.06                  | 98.26 ± 0.02                     |
| [C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl                                | 30.105 | 14.962                         | 55.816  | -1.718   | 56.054 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl                                | 34.893 | 15.001                         | 60.784  | -1.726   | 65.219 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl                                | 40.057 | 14.930                         | 66.055  | -1.741   | 73.246 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl                                | 44.996 | 14.930                         | 69.071  | -1.613   | 79.476 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl                                | 49.962 | 14.883                         | 75.540  | -1.719   | 86.458 | 90.0 ± 5.7                    | 99.51 ± 0.04                     |
| [C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl                                | 25.152 | 19.997                         | 59.596  | -1.723   | 63.229 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl                                | 25.053 | 25.067                         | 66.647  | -1.659   | 75.361 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl                                | 25.130 | 29.832                         | 71.663  | -1.560   | 83.829 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>2</sub> mim][CF <sub>3</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> ]               | 24.996 | 14.891                         | 69.540  | -2.991   | 61.973 | 25.1 ± 0.8                    | 93.59 ± 0.18                     |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim][CF <sub>3</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> ]               | 24.996 | 15.352                         | 70.967  | -2.995   | 70.428 | 30.0 ± 0.2                    | 94.70 ± 0.04                     |
| [C <sub>2</sub> mim][CH <sub>3</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> ]               | 25.007 | 15.178                         | 51.644  | -1.755   | 31.551 | 3.3 ± 0.5                     | 80.27 ± 1.05                     |
| [C <sub>2</sub> mim][C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> ] | 24.853 | 15.648                         | 54.162  | -1.873   | 44.687 | 11.1 ± 0.3                    | 92.86 ± 0.18                     |
| [C <sub>2</sub> mim][CH <sub>3</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> ]               | 25.172 | 14.931                         | 39.995  | -0.993   | 48.132 | 66.0 ± 3.6                    | 99.34 ± 0.04                     |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim]Br   | 24.822 | 15.085                         | 50.345  | -1.692   | 45.396 | 30.4 ± 1.3                    | 97.18 ± 0.11                     |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim][CH <sub>3</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> ]               | 24.917 | 15.090                         | 44.622  | -1.306   | 38.919 | 16.6 ± 0.2                    | 96.98 ± 0.04                     |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim][CF <sub>3</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> ]               | 24.785 | 15.475                         | 58.626  | -2.187   | 56.984 | 41.8 ± 1.6                    | 97.09 ± 0.14                     |

<sup>a</sup>associated standard deviation

**Table S2.** Weight fraction composition, partition coefficients and extraction efficiencies of nicotine in IL-based ABS and respective tie-lines (TLs) and tie-line lengths (TLLs)

| IL   | wt %   |                                | TL equation                                     |          | TLL    | $K_{\text{nic}} \pm \sigma^a$ | $EE\%_{\text{nic}} \pm \sigma^a$ |
|--|--------|--------------------------------|---|----------|--------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|  | IL     | K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> | IL (wt %) = $a + b \cdot K_3\text{PO}_4$ (wt %) |          |        |                               |                                  |
|  |        |                                | <i>a</i>  | <i>b</i> |        |                               |                                  |
| [C <sub>2</sub> mim]Cl   | 25.292 | 14.778                         | 41.527  | -1.099   | 43.583 | 52.7 ± 5.3                    | 99.18 ± 0.08                     |
| [C <sub>2</sub> mim]Cl   | 40.093 | 15.129                         | 51.916  | -1.237   | 73.950 | 58.7 ± 2.7                    | 99.31 ± 0.03                     |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim]Cl   | 25.569 | 14.882                         | 43.662  | -1.216   | 47.673 | 82.1 ± 6.1                    | 99.34 ± 0.05                     |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim]Cl   | 29.990 | 16.281                         | 51.758  | -1.337   | 60.914 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim]Cl   | 35.005 | 15.271                         | 56.611  | -1.415   | 67.114 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim]Cl   | 39.832 | 14.876                         | 60.539  | -1.392   | 73.521 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim]Cl   | 45.014 | 15.279                         | 66.739  | -1.422   | 81.312 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim]Cl   | 49.957 | 15.159                         | 71.248  | -1.405   | 87.410 | 95.5 ± 1.3                    | 99.51 ± 0.03                     |
| [C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> mim]Cl                                | 25.007 | 15.170                         | 44.057  | -1.256   | 47.953 | 110.7 ± 0.2                   | 99.47 ± 0.01                     |
| [C <sub>6</sub> mim]Cl   | 25.125 | 14.891                         | 47.112  | -1.477   | 46.634 | 81.7 ± 5.4                    | 99.17 ± 0.05                     |
| [C <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl   | 25.014 | 15.263                         | 49.737  | -1.620   | 44.798 | 78.8 ± 4.0                    | 99.01 ± 0.05                     |
| [C <sub>8</sub> mim]Cl   | 25.010 | 15.079                         | 50.901  | -1.717   | 36.597 | 32.1 ± 3.3                    | 97.71 ± 0.23                     |
| [C <sub>10</sub> mim]Cl  | 24.992 | 15.146                         | 53.162  | -1.860   | 23.302 | 11.0 ± 0.3                    | 96.72 ± 0.09                     |
| [C <sub>12</sub> mim]Cl  | 25.000 | 15.010                         | 51.576  | -1.771   | 27.095 | 6.5 ± 0.1                     | 91.49 ± 0.10                     |
| [amim]Cl   | 24.945 | 15.198                         | 43.838  | -1.773   | 44.833 | 59.3 ± 3.6                    | 99.17 ± 0.05                     |
| [amim]Cl   | 29.895 | 14.931                         | 47.853  | -1.203   | 56.717 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [amim]Cl   | 34.916 | 15.013                         | 53.812  | -1.259   | 66.201 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [amim]Cl   | 39.761 | 15.222                         | 53.383  | -1.223   | 74.348 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [amim]Cl   | 45.146 | 15.093                         | 63.720  | -1.231   | 81.772 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [OHC <sub>2</sub> mim]Cl   | 40.072 | 14.915                         | 86.128  | -3.088   | 63.369 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl                                | 25.081 | 14.807                         | 50.444  | -1.691   | 43.240 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl                                | 30.100 | 15.043                         | 47.689  | -1.169   | 54.397 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl                                | 35.183 | 15.013                         | 60.969  | -1.718   | 65.685 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl                                | 40.873 | 15.017                         | 65.921  | -1.668   | 74.182 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl                                | 45.070 | 14.987                         | 69.977  | -1.662   | 79.952 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl                                | 49.923 | 15.001                         | 73.733  | -1.554   | 86.007 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl                                | 25.081 | 14.807                         | 50.444  | -1.691   | 43.241 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl                                | 24.991 | 20.053                         | 59.757  | -1.734   | 63.292 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl                                | 25.047 | 25.021                         | 66.908  | -1.673   | 75.522 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl                                | 25.222 | 30.159                         | 74.701  | -1.641   | 86.515 | 120                           | 100                              |
| [C <sub>2</sub> mim][CF <sub>3</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> ]               | 24.983 | 15.124                         | 70.755  | -3.027   | 63.646 | 67.9 ± 4.4                    | 97.46 ± 0.16                     |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim][CF <sub>3</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> ]               | 25.080 | 14.957                         | 67.901  | -2.863   | 65.409 | 79.6 ± 0.9                    | 97.89 ± 0.02                     |
| [C <sub>2</sub> mim][CH <sub>3</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> ]               | 24.846 | 14.670                         | 49.547  | -1.684   | 24.412 | 5.7 ± 0.2                     | 91.17 ± 0.22                     |
| [C <sub>2</sub> mim][C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> ] | 24.185 | 16.381                         | 52.733  | -1.743   | 45.780 | 22.8 ± 0.5                    | 96.12 ± 0.08                     |
| [C <sub>2</sub> mim][CH <sub>3</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> ]               | 24.933 | 15.571                         | 39.046  | -0.936   | 48.787 | 66.9 ± 2.9                    | 99.28 ± 0.03                     |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim]Br   | 25.046 | 14.937                         | 50.237  | -1.686   | 45.300 | 47.3 ± 4.0                    | 98.24 ± 0.15                     |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim][CH <sub>3</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> ]               | 24.998 | 14.979                         | 44.769  | -1.320   | 38.511 | 32.1 ± 3.8                    | 98.38 ± 0.19                     |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim][CF <sub>3</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> ]               | 24.933 | 14.779                         | 56.326  | -2.124   | 53.478 | 74.2 ± 4.7                    | 98.47 ± 0.10                     |

<sup>a</sup>associated standard deviation**Table S3.** Weight fraction composition, partition coefficients and extraction efficiencies, of caffeine and nicotine, in human urine-based ILs/K<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> ABS at 298 K

| IL   | wt %   |                                | $K_{caf} \pm \sigma^a$ | $EE\%_{caf} \pm \sigma^a$ | wt %   |                                | $K_{nic} \pm \sigma^a$ | $EE\%_{nic} \pm \sigma^a$ |
|--|--------|--------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|--------|--------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
|  | IL     | K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> |                        |                           | IL     | K <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub> |                        |                           |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim]Cl                                 | 25.117 | 14.997                         | 57.8 ± 0.1             | 98.80 ± 0.01              | 24.844 | 14.937                         | 120                    | 100                       |
| [C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> mim]Cl                  | 24.896 | 15.119                         | 112.7 ± 0.5            | 99.45 ± 0.07              | 24.889 | 15.275                         | 120                    | 100                       |
| [OHC <sub>2</sub> mim]Cl                               | 40.224 | 14.891                         | 120                    | 100                       | 40.235 | 15.046                         | 120                    | 100                       |
| [C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> mim]Cl                  | 24.952 | 15.096                         | 71.8 ± 0.2             | 98.88 ± 0.01              | 24.891 | 15.057                         | 120                    | 100                       |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim][CH <sub>3</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> ] | 25.050 | 14.982                         | 19.3 ± 0.5             | 97.51 ± 0.07              | 24.837 | 15.513                         | 31.1 ± 0.3             | 98.27 ± 0.02              |
| [C <sub>4</sub> mim][CF <sub>3</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> ] | 24.959 | 15.078                         | 20.2 ± 1.7             | 94.97 ± 0.41              | 24.902 | 15.281                         | 27.2 ± 0.2             | 94.95 ± 0.03              |

<sup>a</sup>associated standard deviation