

**Electronic Supplementary Information**

***Polyhydroxyalkanoate derived hydrogen bond donors for  
synthesis of new Deep Eutectic Solvents***

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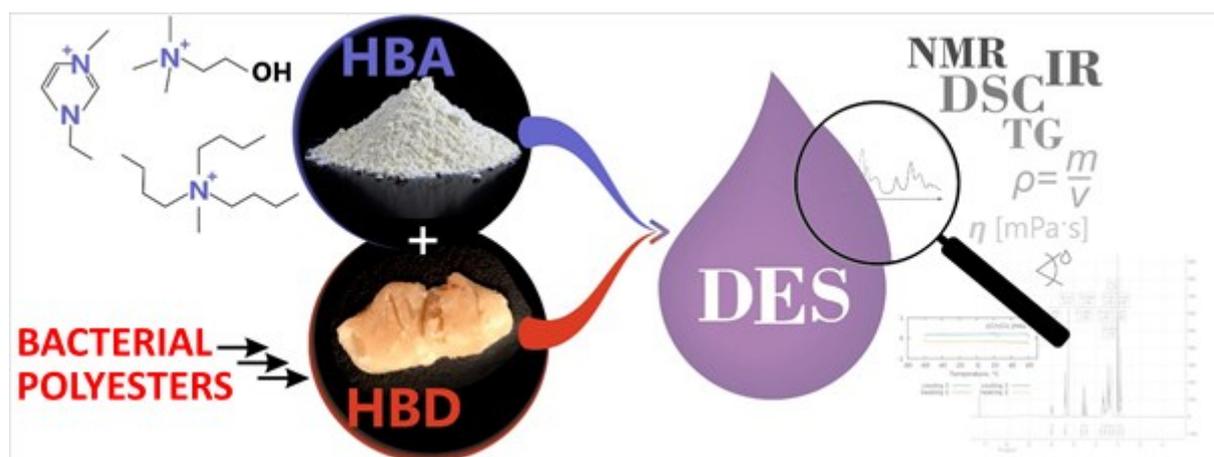
**Keywords**

Deep Eutectic Solvents; (*R*)-3-hydroxyacids; polyhydroxyalkanoate; choline chloride; 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazole chloride; tributylmethylammonium chloride

## Abstract

Bacterial polyesters are well known group of polymers with excellent biocompatibility and biodegradability properties. They are also renewable source of wide array of enantiopure (*R*)-3-hydroxycarboxylic acids. In this study, a series of ternary Deep Eutectic Solvents (DES) systems were prepared using mixture of microorganisms-derived (*R*)-3-hydroxynonanoic and (*R*)-3-hydroxyheptanoic acids in a molar ratio of 7:3 as hydrogen bonds donors (HBD) and selected quaternary ammonium salts as hydrogen bonds acceptors (HBA) namely, choline, 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium and tributylmethylammonium chlorides. For comparison, DESs based on aliphatic carboxylic acids analogues, i.e. nonanoic and heptanoic acids were also studied. The systems were characterized by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and FT-IR techniques and formation of hydrogen bonds between HBD and HBA was proved. The thermal properties including melting temperatures and thermal stabilities as well as polarity, wetting properties were determined by DSC, TGA, Nile Red method and dynamic contact angle methods, respectively. The viscosity and density were measured over a temperature range of 30-60 °C. Cytotoxicity and biodegradation studies were conducted revealing non-toxic character of choline based DES. The ability of the DESs to dissolve lignin was also evaluated. The results demonstrated new area of application of bacterial polyesters for synthesis of novel biobased solvents.

## Graphical abstract



## Supporting Information

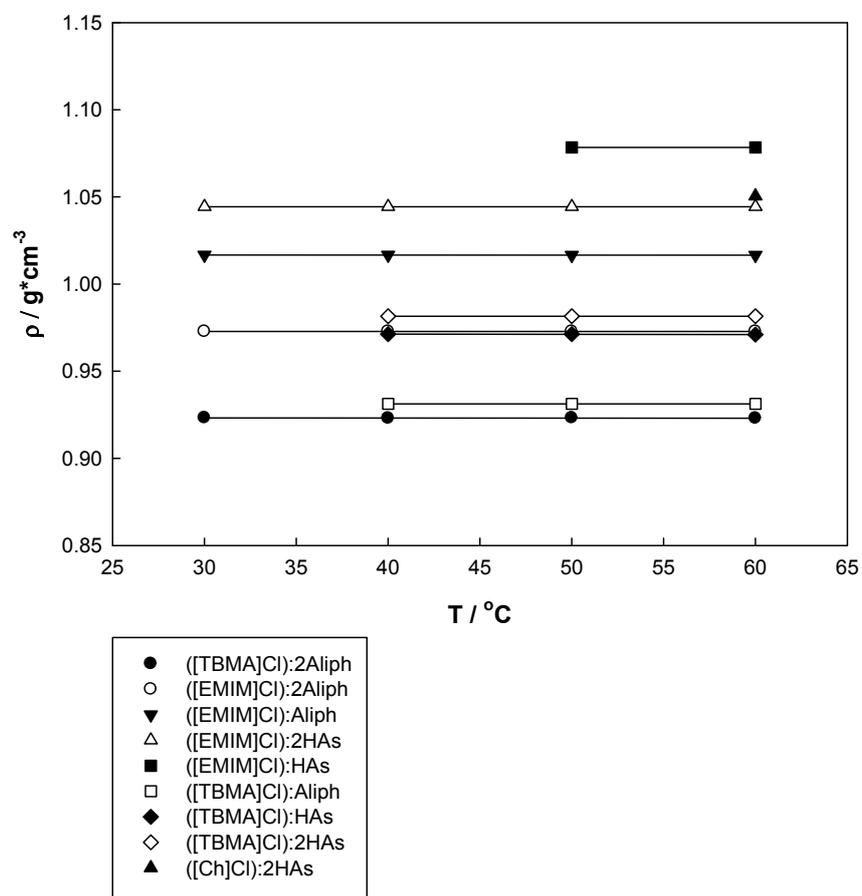
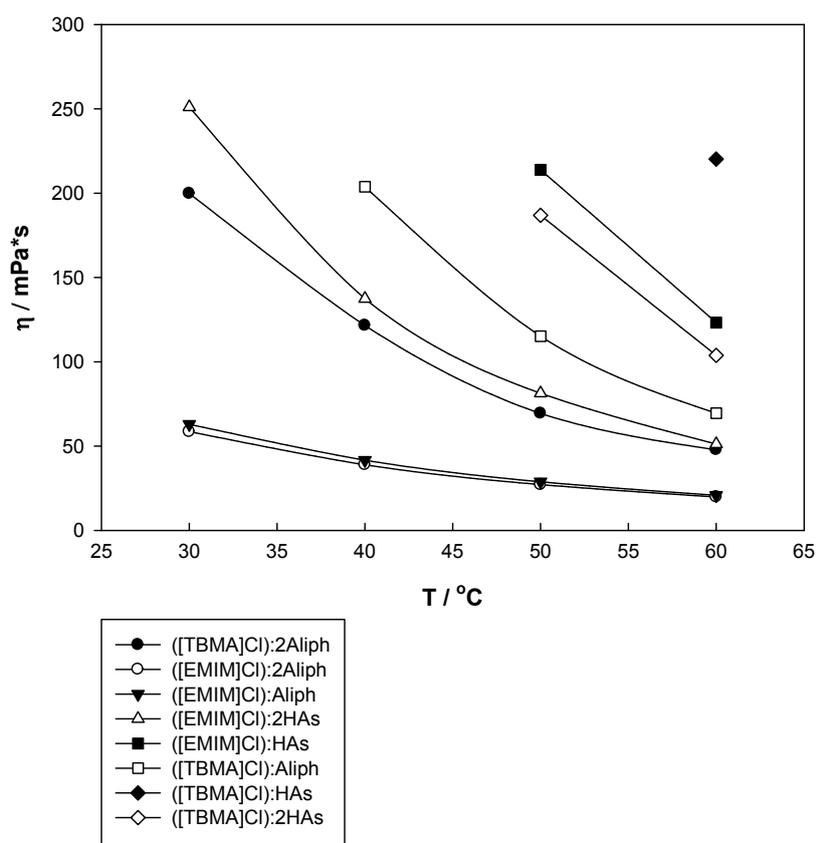
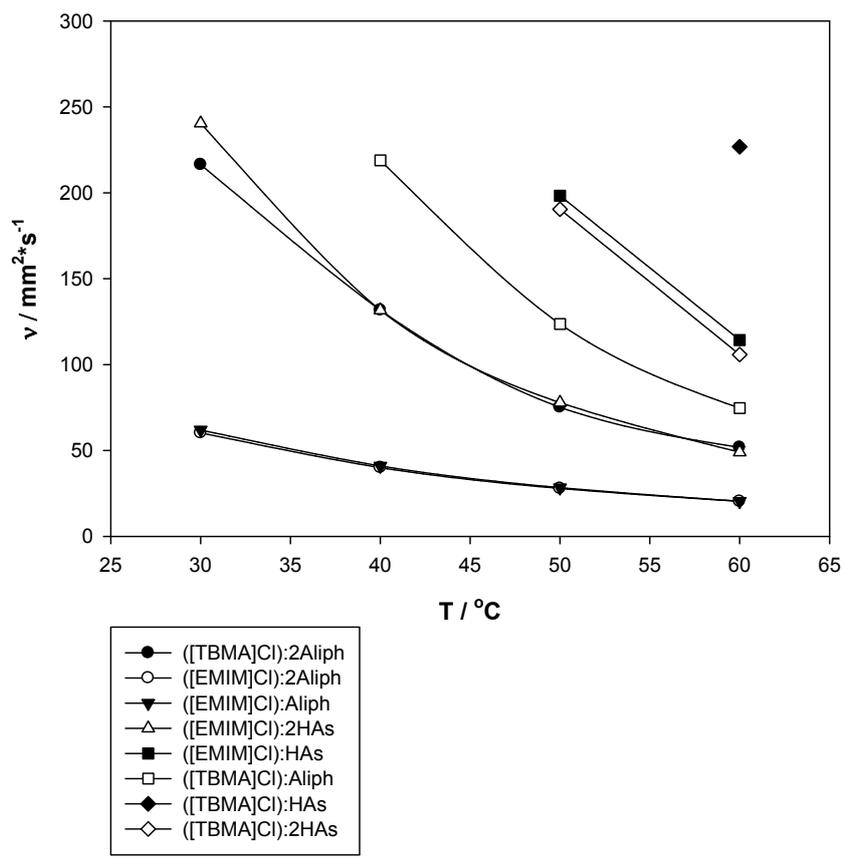


Figure S1. Density measurements obtained for DESs



**Figure S2. Kinetic viscosity measurements obtained for DESs**



**Figure S3. Dynamic viscosity measurements obtained for DESs**

# $^1\text{H}$ NMR spectra

## Choline chloride ([Ch]Cl)

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, Deuterium Oxide)  $\delta$  4.00 – 3.89 (m, 2H, c), 3.45 – 3.36 (m, 2H, b), 3.09 (s, 9H, a).

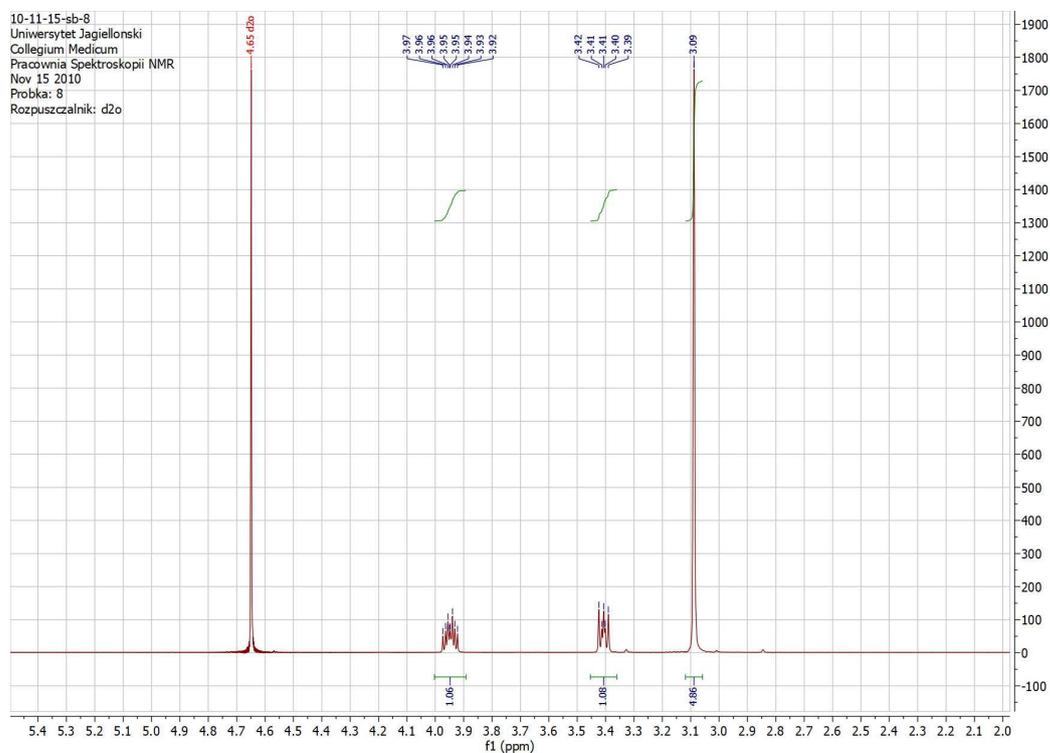
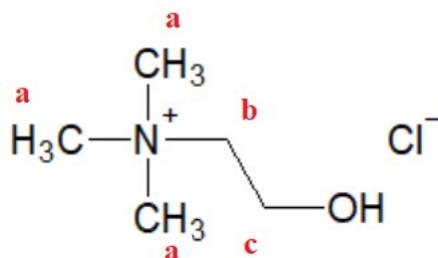


Figure S4. NMR spectrum of choline chloride ([Ch]Cl)

### Tributylmethylammonium chloride ([TBMA]Cl)

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  3.48 – 3.36 (m, 6H, d), 3.28 (s, 3H, e), 1.72 – 1.55 (m, 6H, c), 1.40 (h,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 6H, b), 0.96 (t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 9H, a).

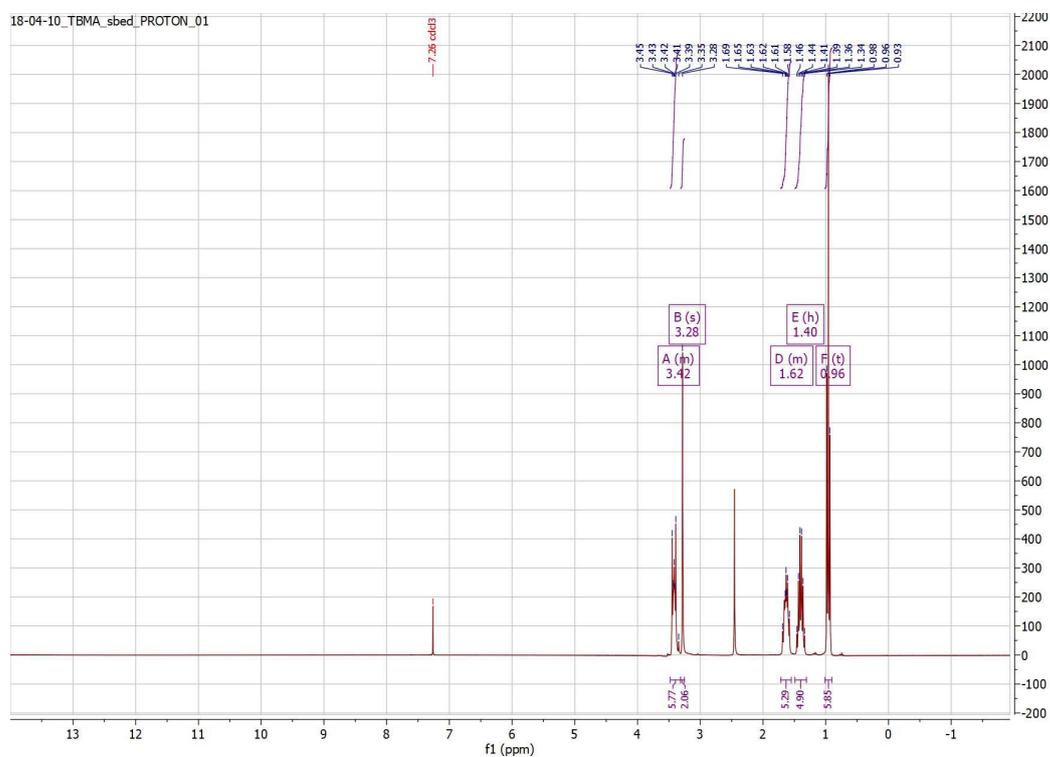
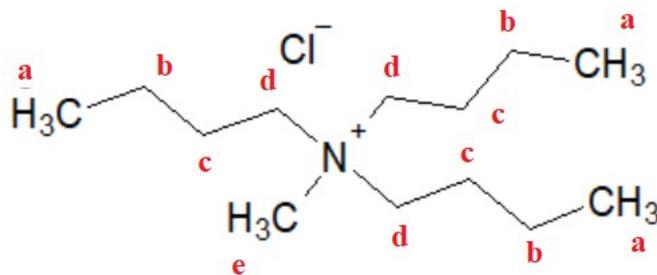


Figure S5. NMR spectrum of tributylmethylammonium chloride ([TBMA]Cl)

### 1-Ethyl-3-methylimidazolium chloride ([EMIm]Cl)

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  10.42 (s, 1H, f), 7.55 (dt,  $J = 7.2, 1.8$  Hz, 2H, d, e), 4.34 (q,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 2H, c), 4.04 (s, 3H, b), 1.52 (t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 3H, a).

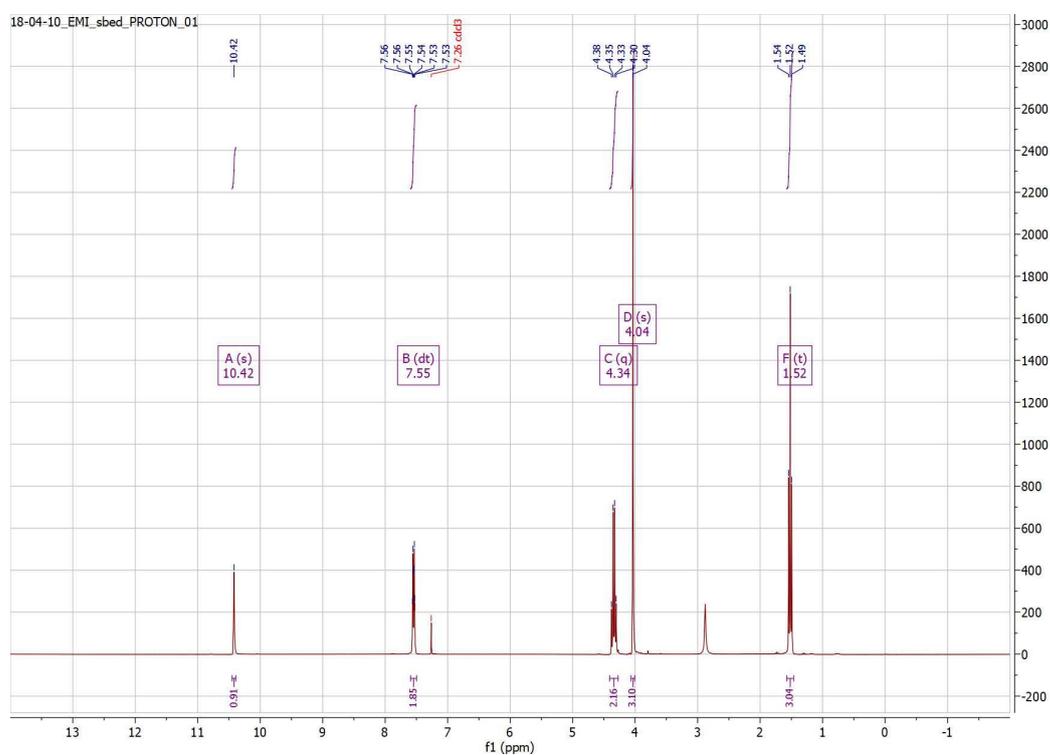
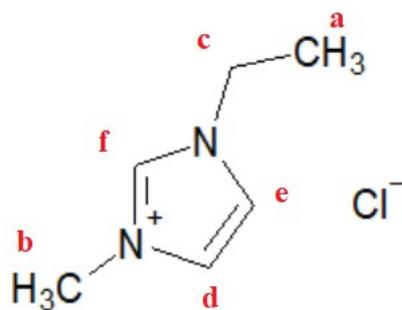
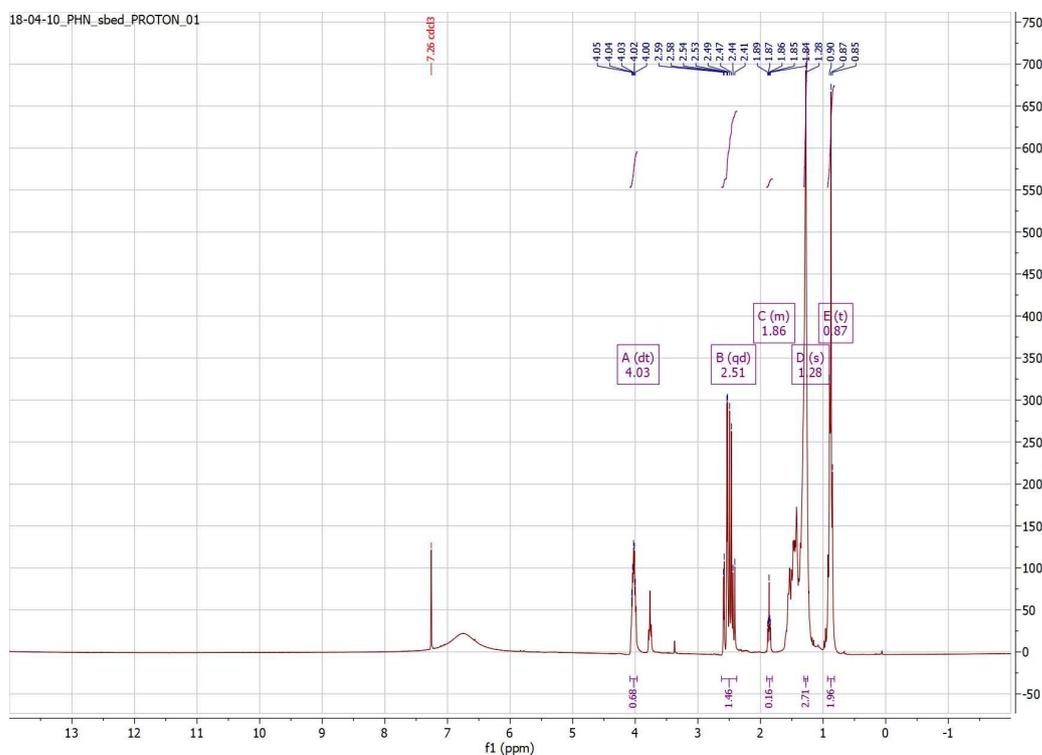
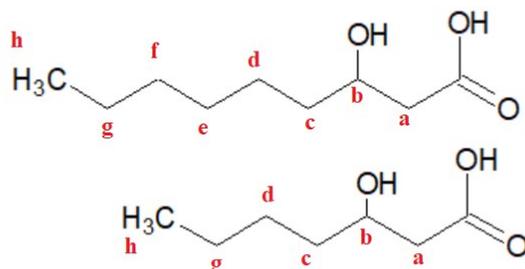


Figure S6. NMR spectrum of 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium choline ([EMIm]Cl)

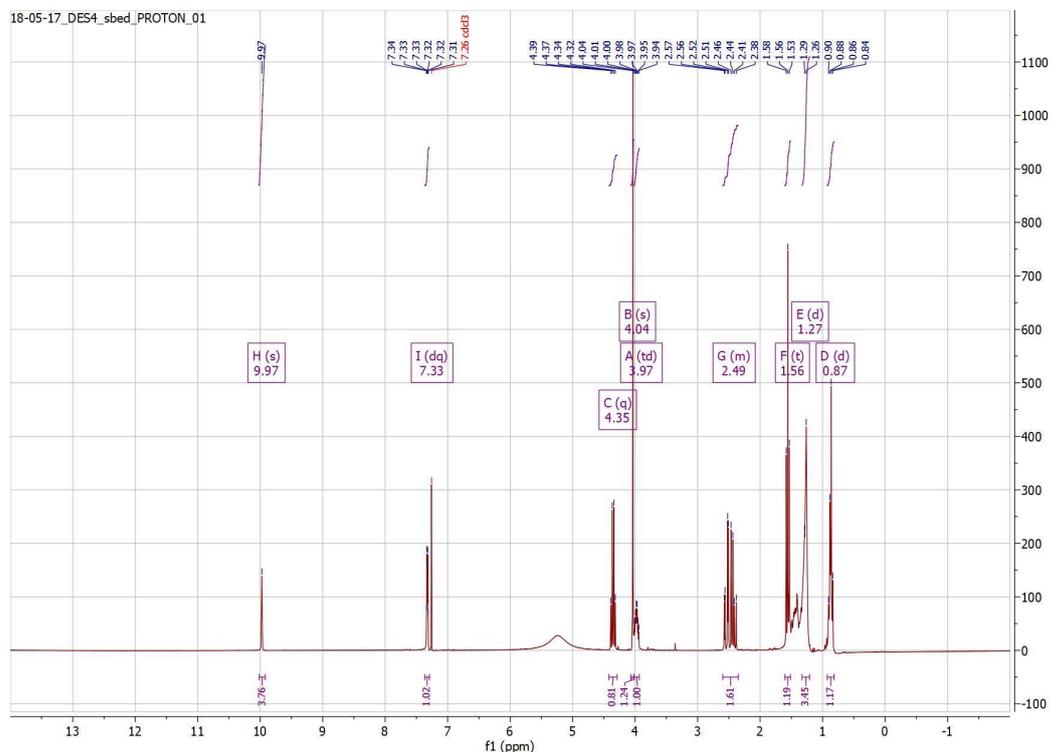
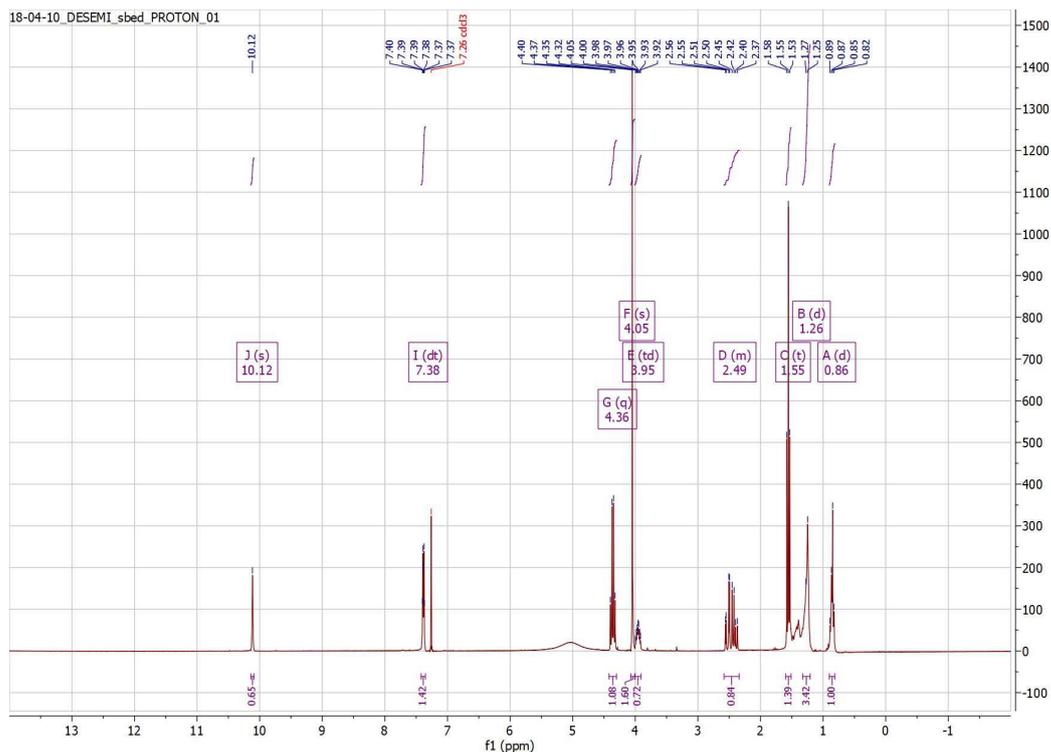
### Mixture of (R)-3-hydroxynonanoic and (R)-3-hydroxyheptanoic acids (HAs)

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$  6.75 (br, 1H, OH) 4.03 (CH, b), 2.51 (m,  $\text{CH}_2$ , a), 1.6-1.2 (m,  $\text{CH}_2$ , c-g), 0.87 (m,  $\text{CH}_3$ , h)

Ref. Chem. Commun., 2011,47, 7812-7814



**Figure S7. NMR spectrum of mixture of hydroxyacids (HAs)**



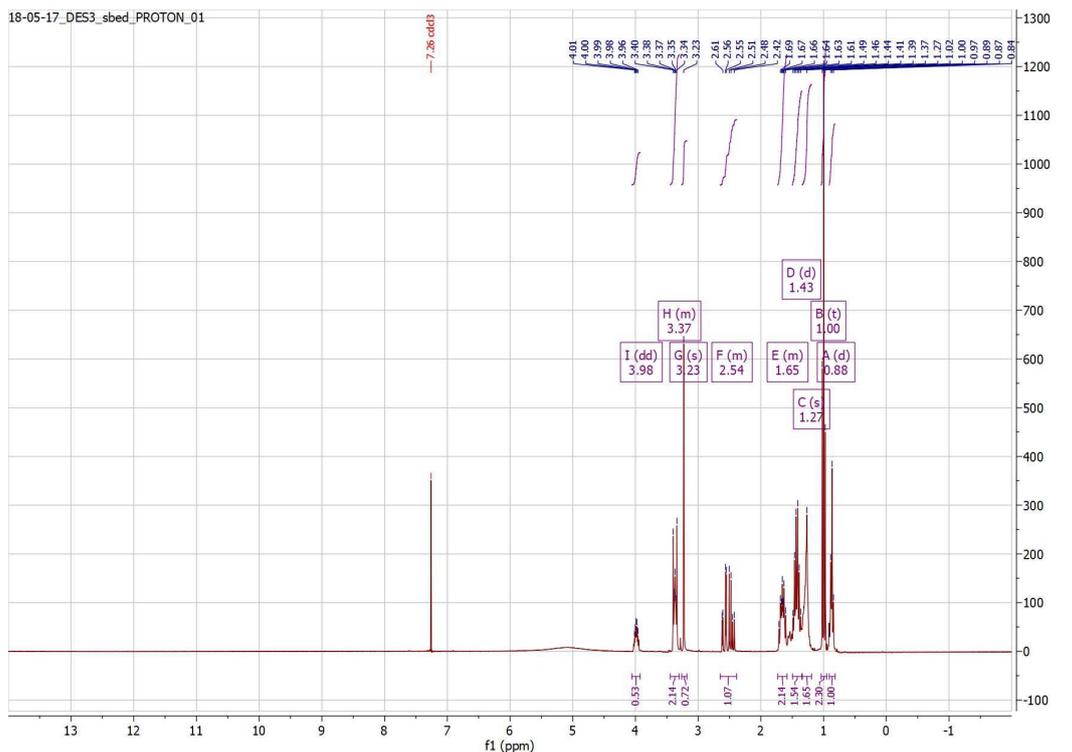


Figure S10. NMR spectrum of mixture of ([TBMA]Cl):Has

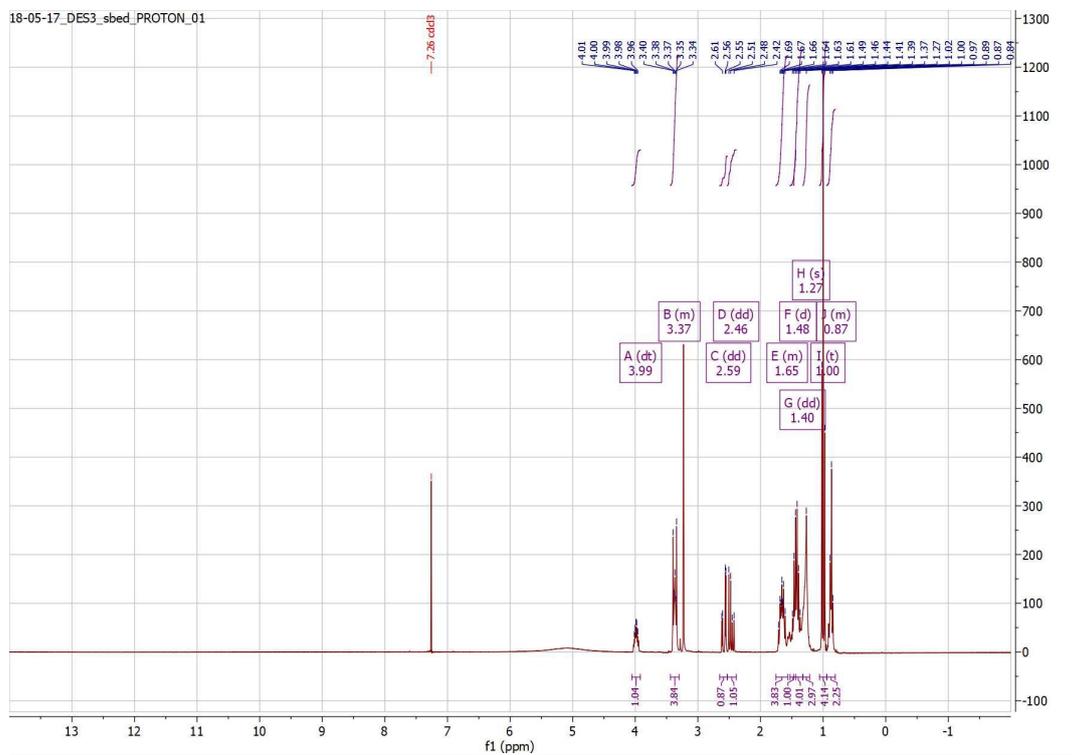
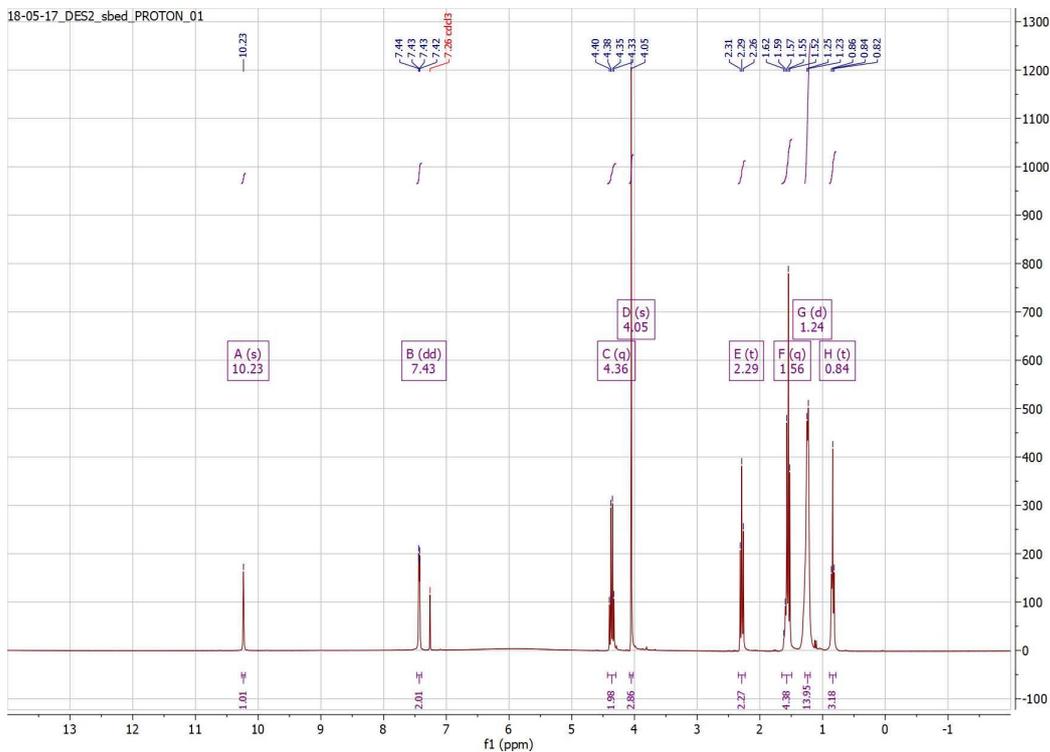
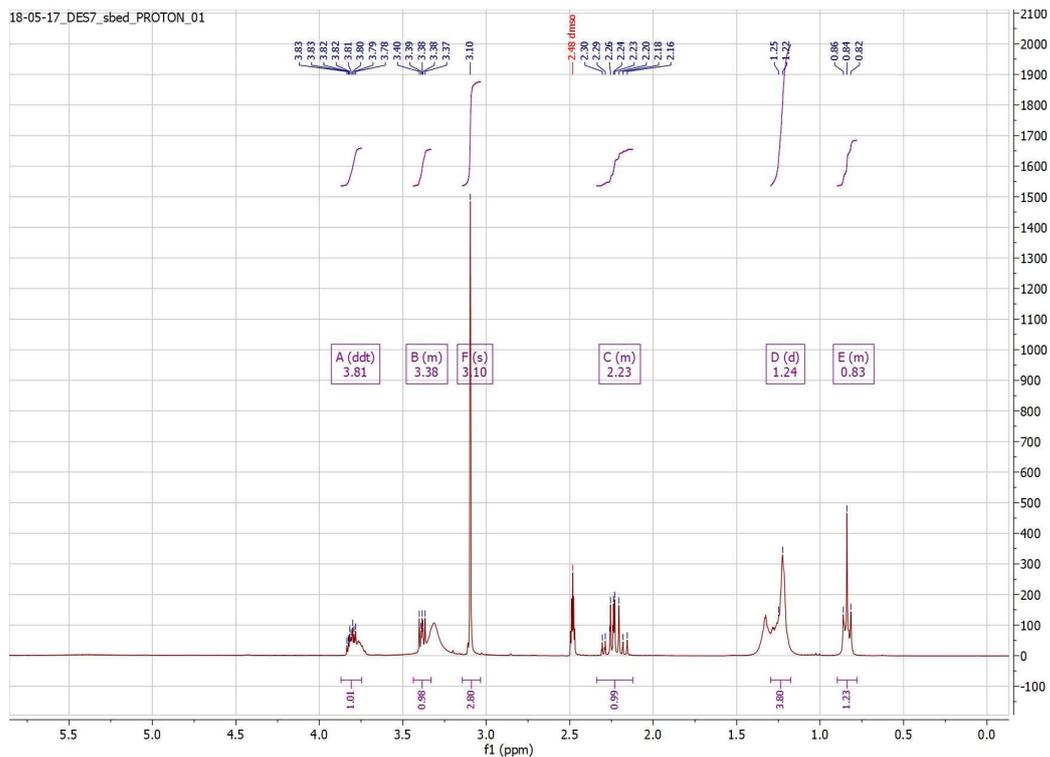


Figure S11. NMR spectrum of mixture of ([TBMA]Cl):2Has



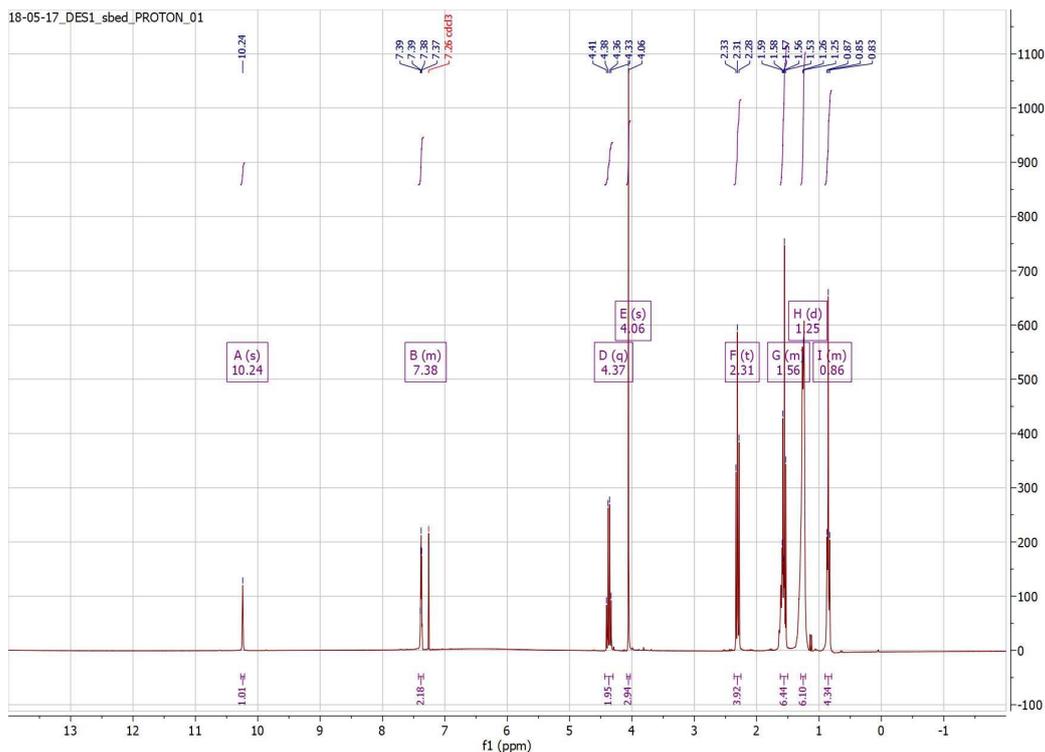


Figure S14. NMR spectrum of mixture of ([EMIm]Cl):2Aliph

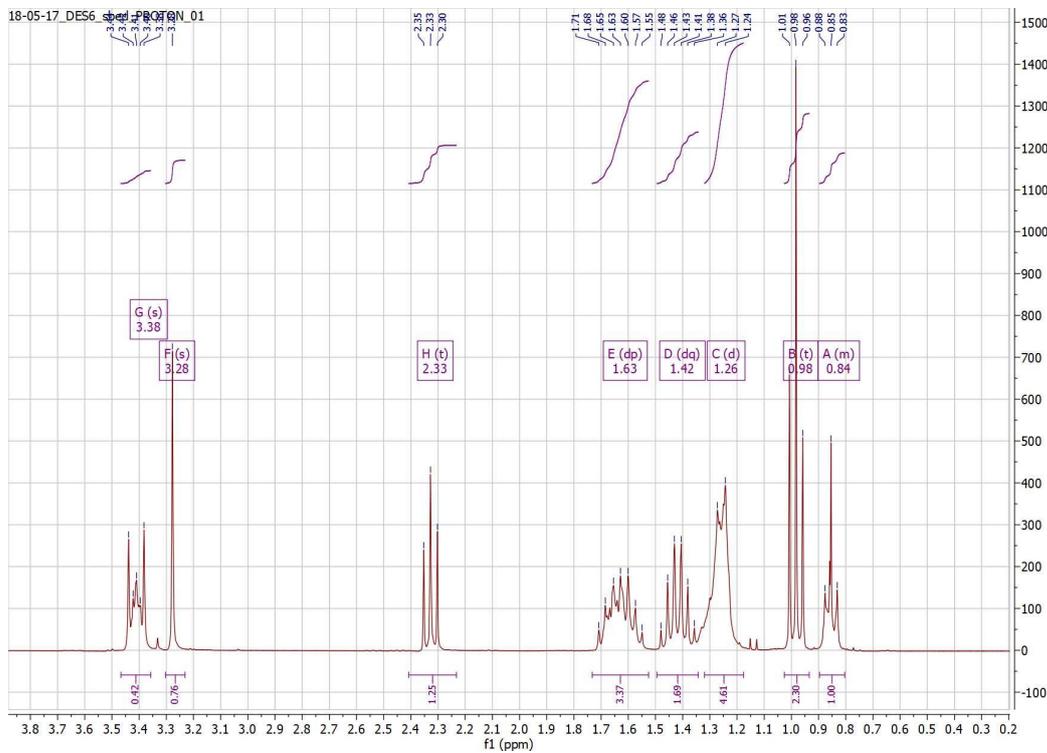


Figure S15. NMR spectrum of mixture of ([TBMA]Cl):Aliph

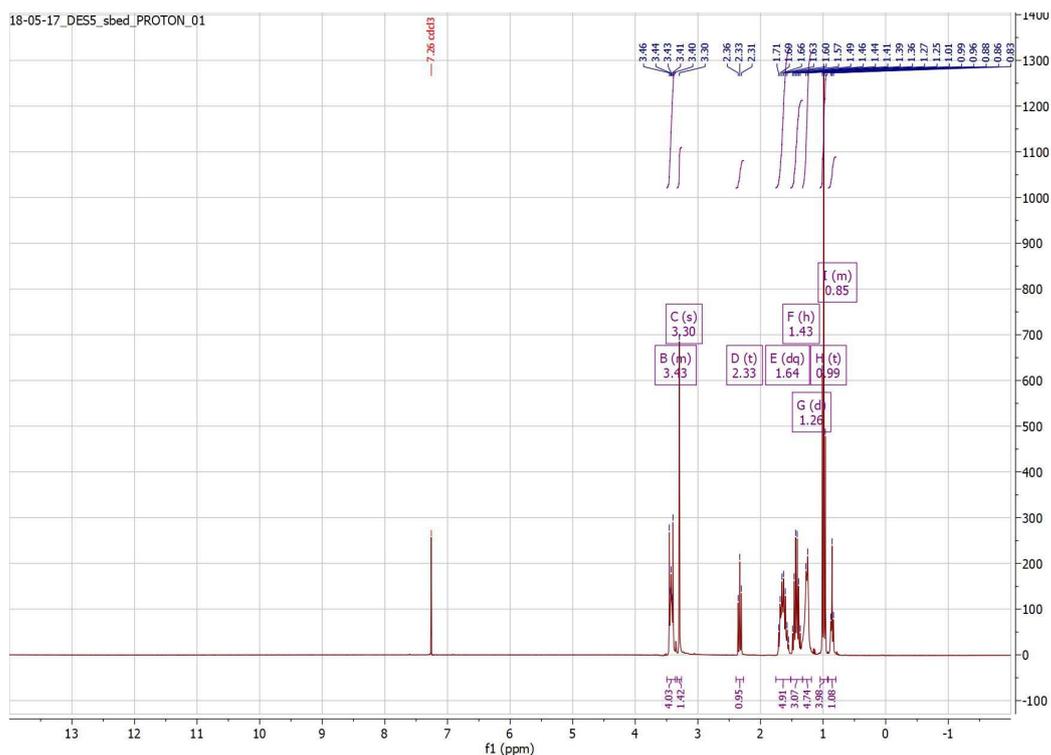
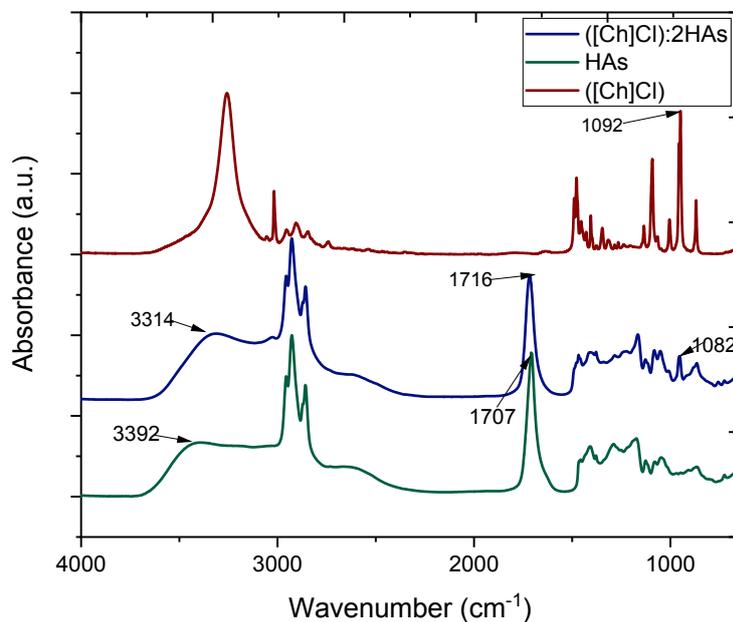
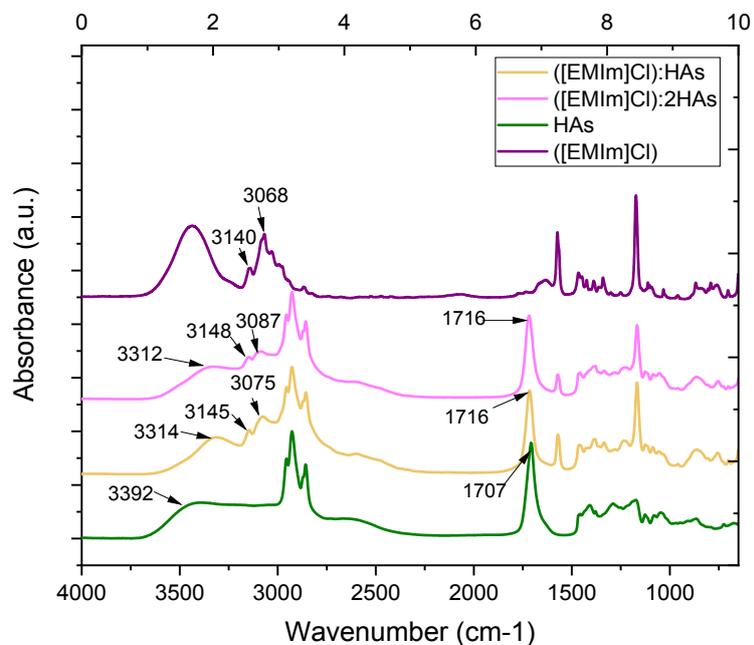


Figure S16. NMR spectrum of mixture of ([TBMA]Cl):2Aliph

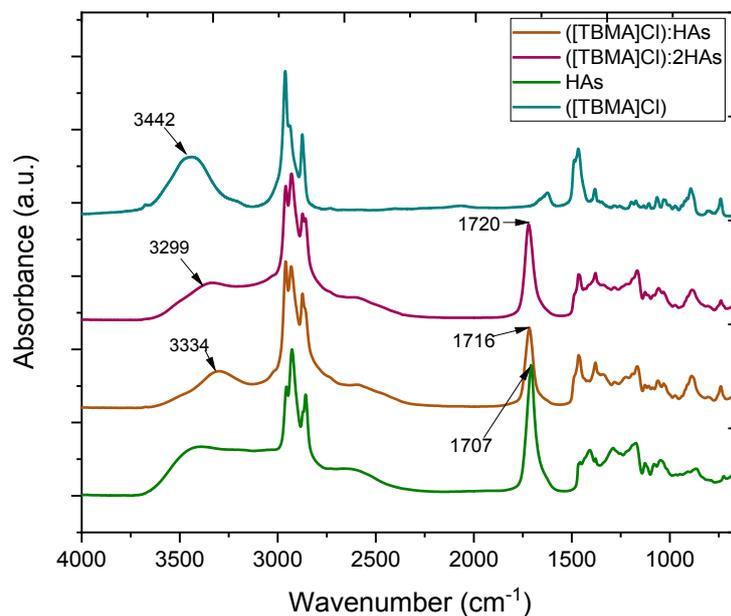
## IR spectra



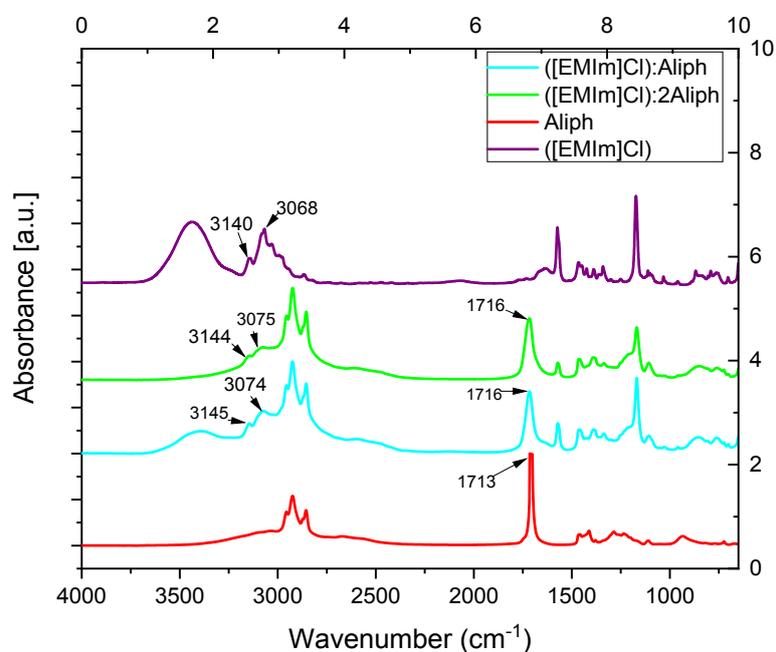
**Figure S17. IR spectra of choline chloride ([Ch]Cl), mixture of hydroxyacids (HAs) and ([TBMA]Cl):2HAs**



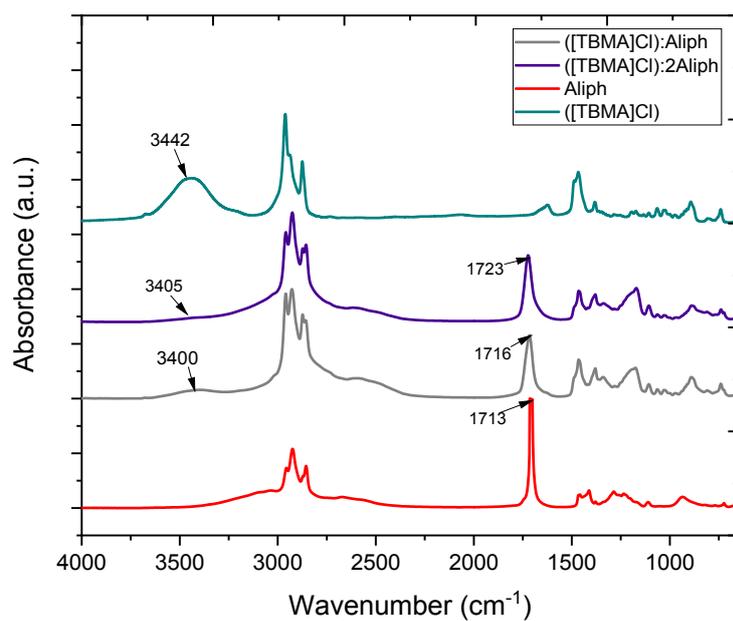
**Figure S18. IR spectra of 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium chloride ([EMIm]Cl), mixture of hydroxyacids (HAs) and prepared DESs: ([EMIm]Cl):HAs and ([EMIm]Cl):2HAs**



**Figure S19. IR spectra of tributylmethylammonium chloride ([TBMA]Cl), mixture of hydroxyacids (HAs) and prepared DESs: ([TBMA]Cl):HAs and ([TBMA]Cl):2HAs**

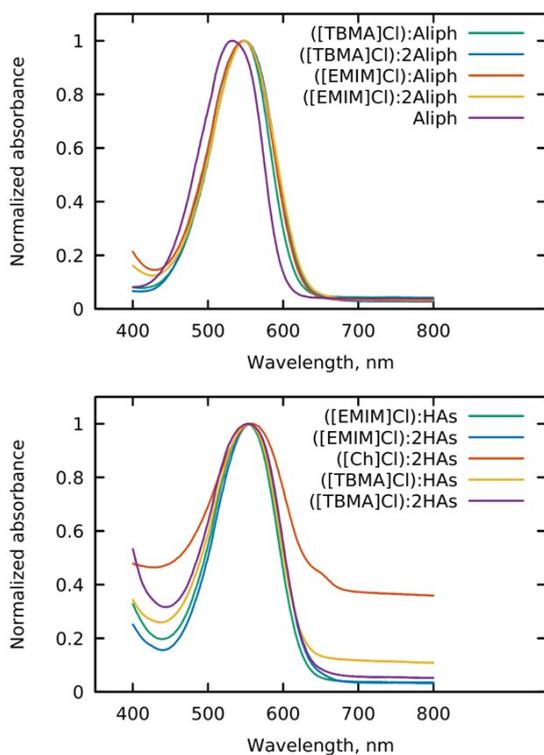


**Figure S20. IR spectra of 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium chloride ([EMIm]Cl), mixture of alkanolic acids (Aliph) and prepared DESs: ([EMIm]Cl):Aliph and ([EMIm]Cl):2Aliph**



**Figure S21. IR spectra of tributylmethylammonium chloride ([TBMA]Cl), mixture of alkanolic acids (Aliph) and prepared DESs: ([TBMA]Cl):Aliph and ([TBMA]Cl):2Aliph**

## Polarity of DESs

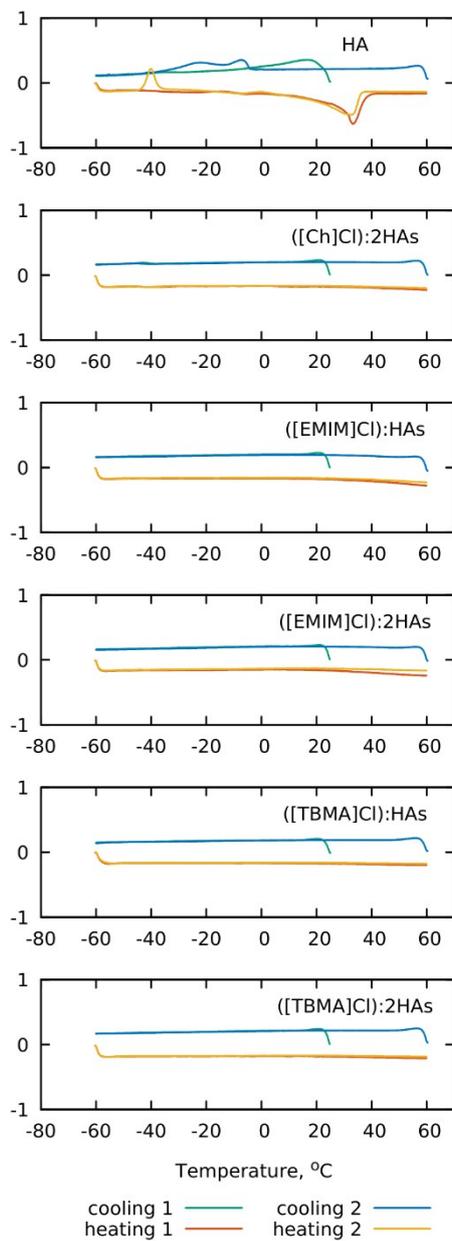


**Fig. S22.** UV-VIS spectra of Nile Red ( $\sim 0.05 \text{ mg mL}^{-1}$ ) dissolved in DESs

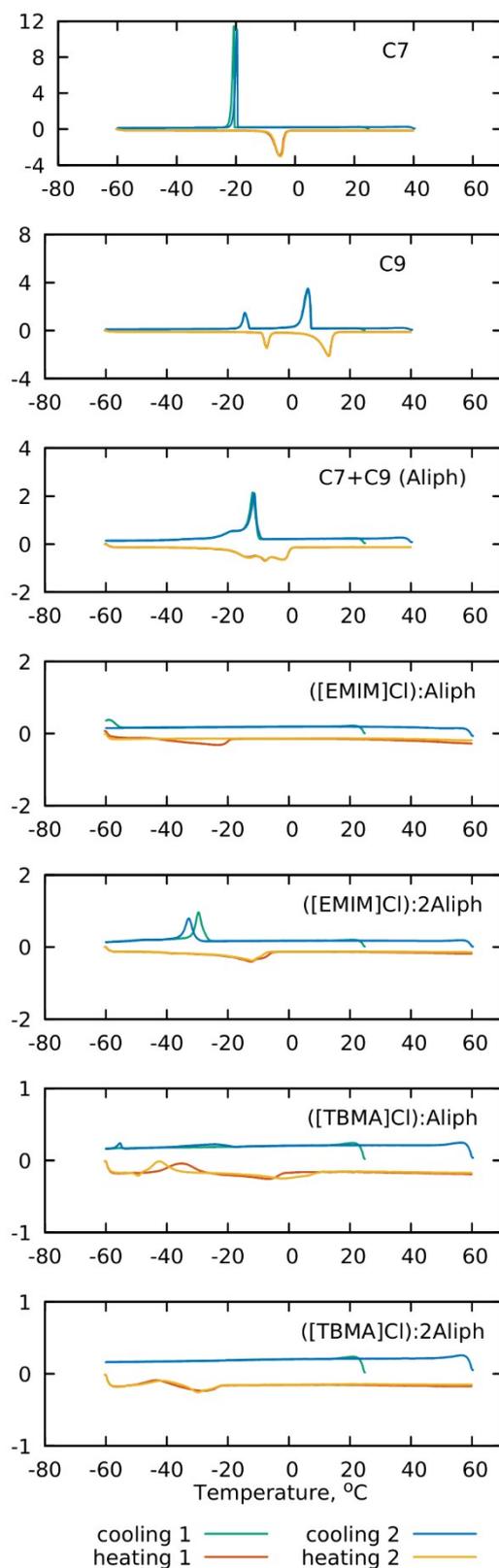
**Table S1.** Comparison of Nile Red Transition Energies ( $E_{T(\text{NR})}$ ) in DESs

DES	$\lambda_{\text{max}}$ , nm	$E_{T(\text{NR})}$ , kcal mol <sup>-1</sup>
([TBMA]Cl):Aliph	549	52.1
([TBMA]Cl):2Aliph	548	52.2
([EMIm]Cl):Aliph	547	52.3
([EMIm]Cl):2Aliph	549	52.1
Aliph	532	53.7
([EMIm]Cl):HAs	553	51.7
([EMIm]Cl):2HAs	553	51.7
([Ch]Cl):2HAs	558	51.2
([TBMA]Cl):HAs	553	51.7
([TBMA]Cl):2HAs	552	51.8

## DSC measurements

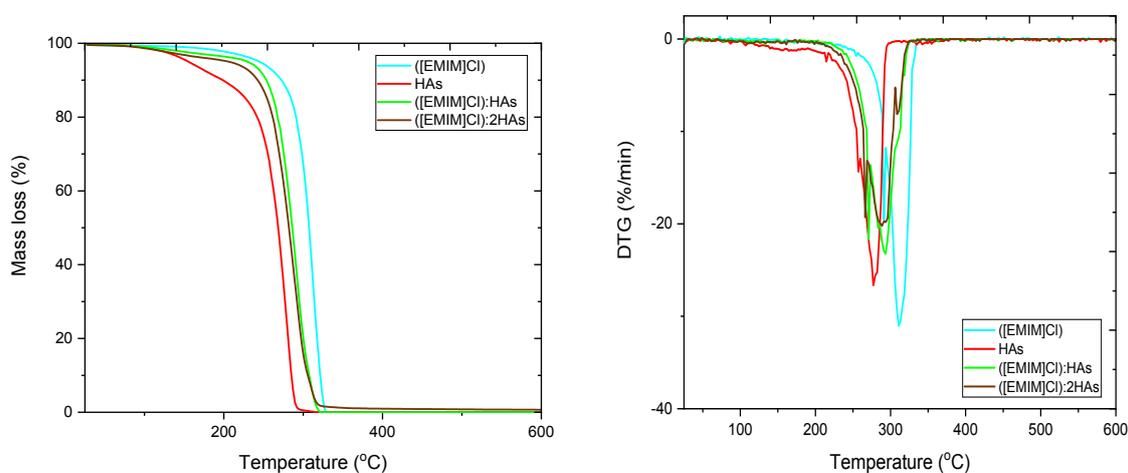


**Figure S23. DSC thermograms showing the variation of the heat flow (mW/mg) with temperature (first and second run) for aliphatic and HAs based DESs (scan rate of 5°C/min, exo up).**

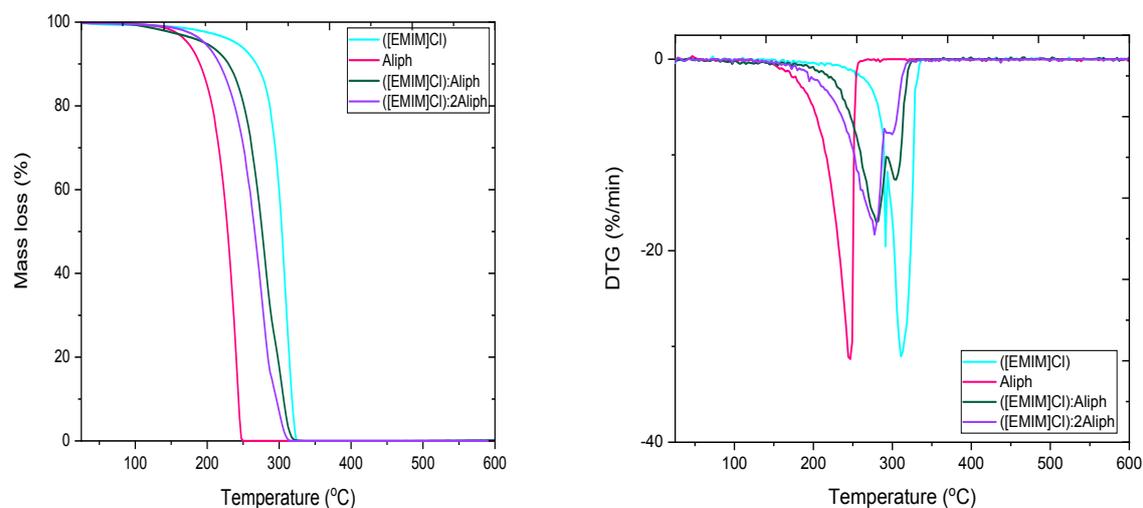


**Figure S24. DSC thermograms showing the variation of the heat flow (mW/mg) with temperature (first and second run) for hydroxylic acids and carboxylic acids based DESs (scan rate of 5°C/min, exo up).**

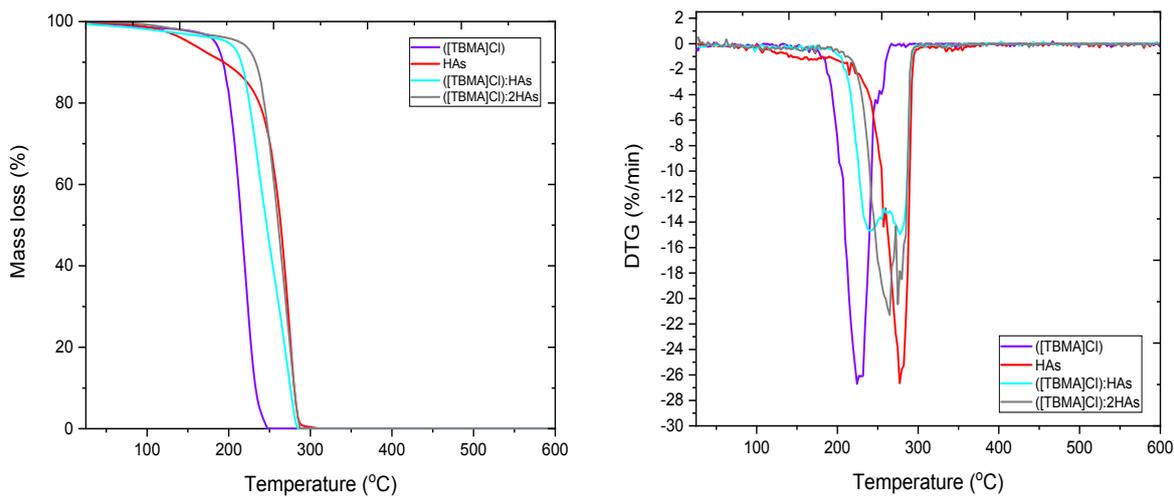
## TGA/DTG results



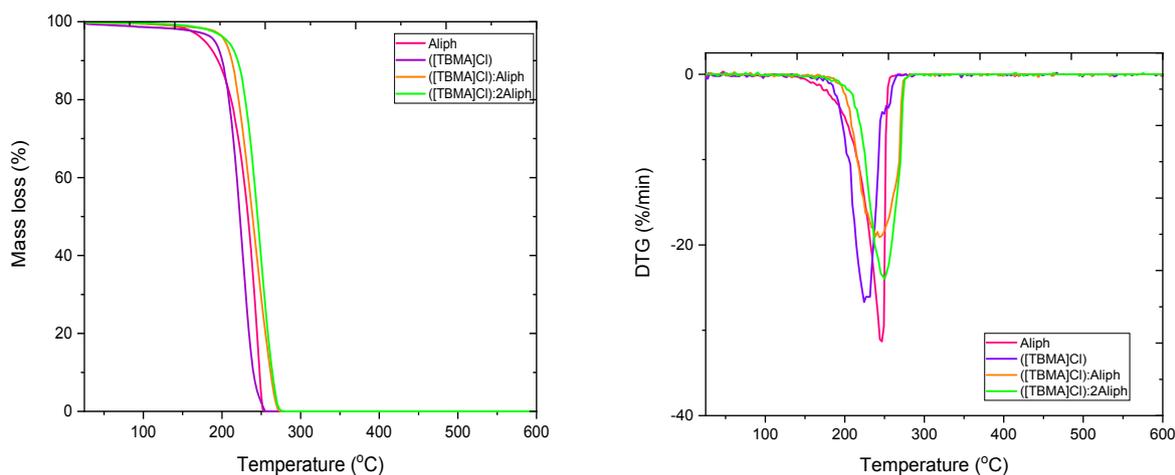
**Figure S25. Thermal degradation (on the left) and DTG (on the right) curves of constructed 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium chloride based DESs – ([EMIm]Cl):HAs; ([EMIm]Cl):2HAs and its components: ([EMIm]Cl) and HAs**



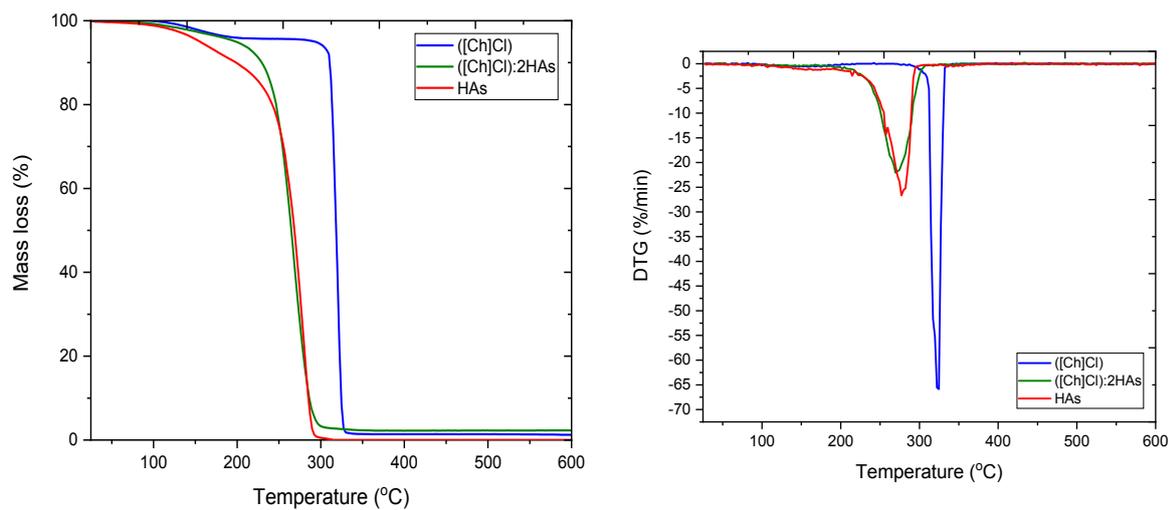
**Figure S26. Thermal degradation (on the left) and DTG (on the right) curves of constructed 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium chloride based DESs – ([EMIm]Cl):Aliph; ([EMIm]Cl):2Aliph and its components: ([EMIm]Cl) and Aliph**



**Figure S27. Thermal degradation (on the left) and DTG (on the right) curves of constructed tributylmethylammonium chloride based DESs – ([TBMA]Cl):HAS; ([TBMA]Cl):2HAS and its components: ([TBMA]Cl) and HAS**



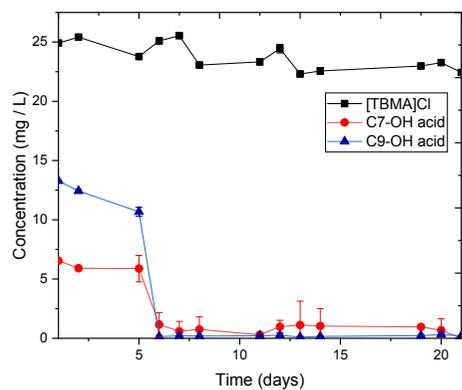
**Figure S28. Thermal degradation (on the left) and DTG (on the right) curves of constructed tributylmethylammonium chloride based DESs – ([TBMA]Cl):Aliph; ([TBMA]Cl):2Aliph and its components: ([TBMA]Cl) and Aliph**



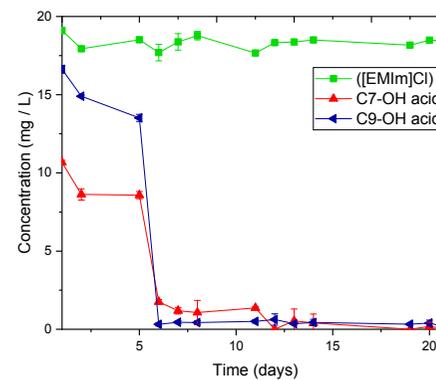
**Figure S29. Thermal degradation (on the left) and DTG (on the right) curves of constructed choline chloride based DES – ([Ch]Cl):2HAs and its components: ([Ch]Cl) and HAs**

## Biodegradability of DESs

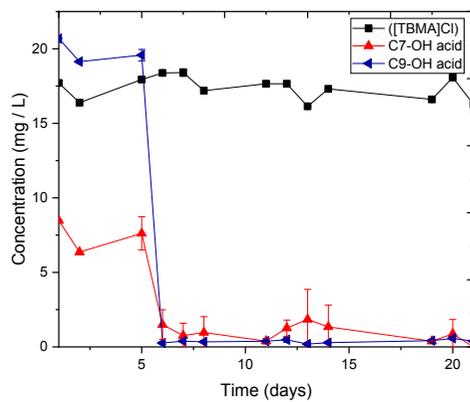
### ([TBMA]Cl):HAs



### ([EMIm]Cl):HAs



### ([TBMA]Cl):2HAs



### ([EMIm]Cl):2HAs

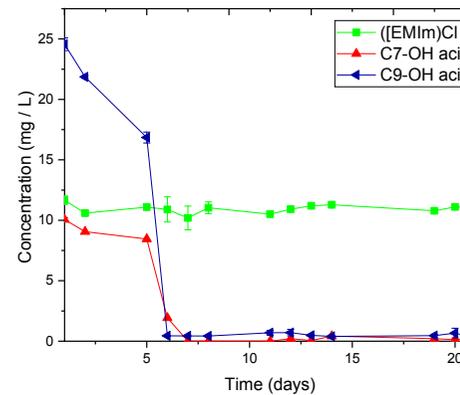
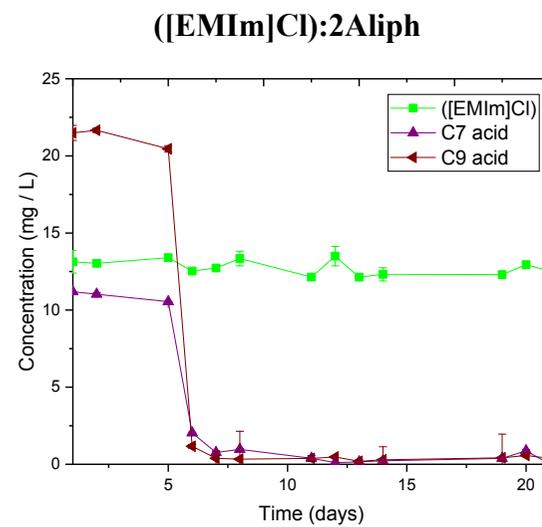
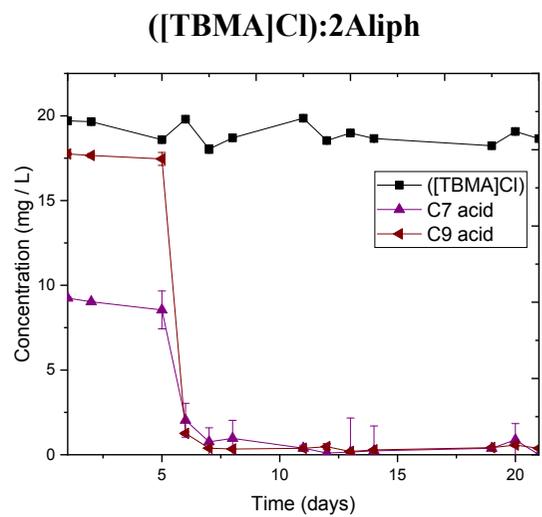
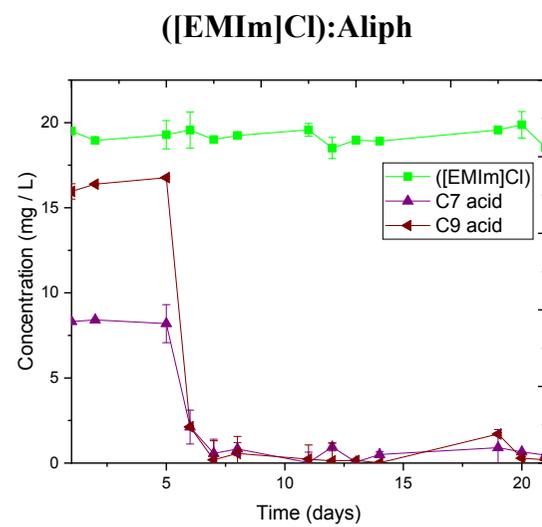
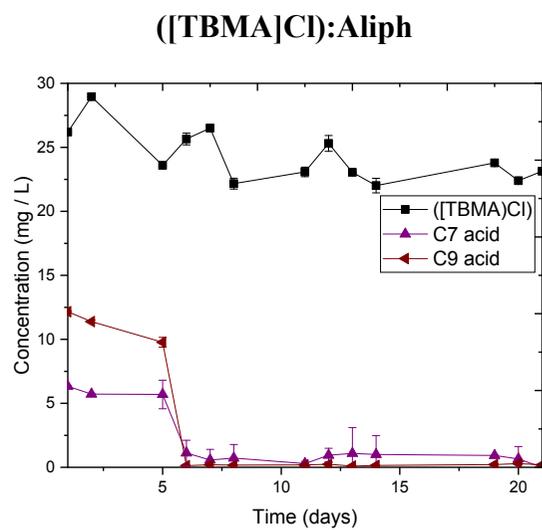
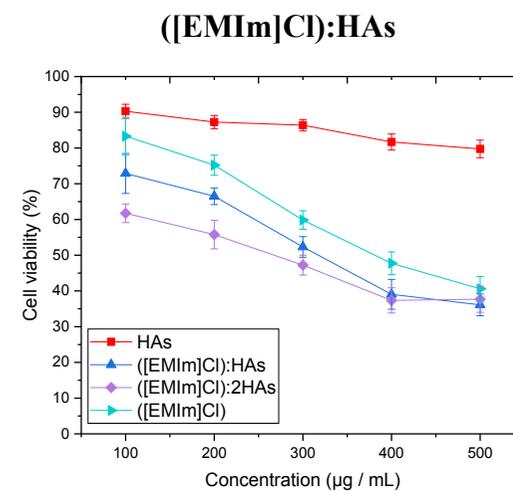
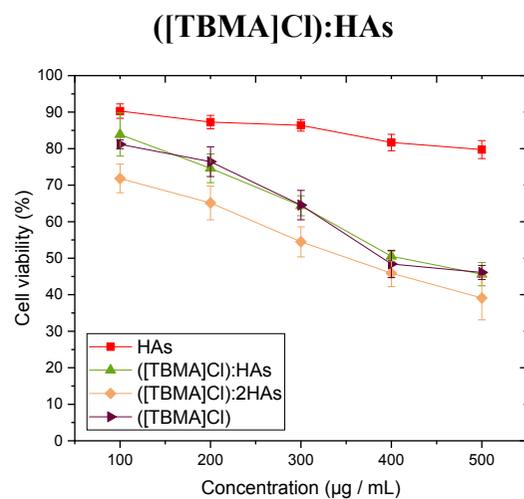
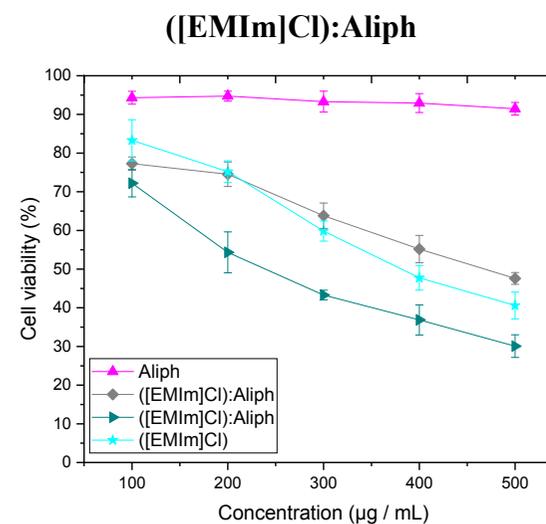
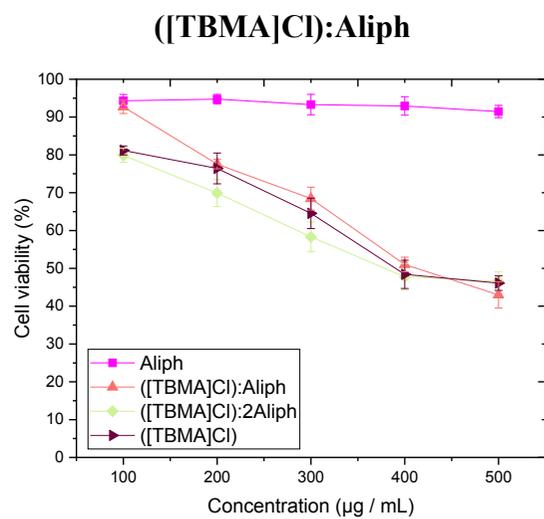


Figure S30. Biodegradation test of prepared hydroxyacids based DESs



**Figure S31. Biodegradation test of prepared aliphatic based DESs**



**Figure S32. Cell viability of MEF 3T3 after 24h exposure to prepared aliphatic and hydroxyacid based DESs**