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Supporting Information for

The pretreatment of softwood chips and pellets by alkali sulfonation and thermomechanical pulping and its influence on lignin redistribution and the enzyme mediated hydrolysis of the cellulose component

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Table S1 Elemental analysis of alkaline sulfonated and steam (ST) and hot water (LHW) pretreated softwood chips and pellets

| Sample | | Elemental composition (%) | | | | |
|--------|-----|---------------------------|------|-------|------|------|
| | | С | Н | O | N | S |
| Chips | ST | 46.39 | 6.08 | 44.28 | 0.00 | 0.30 |
| | LHW | 47.07 | 6.07 | 44.23 | 0.10 | 0.19 |
| Pellet | ST | 46.51 | 6.15 | 44.58 | 0.05 | 0.12 |
| | LHW | 46.15 | 6.19 | 45.41 | 0.00 | 0.30 |

Table S2 Internal linkages of EMAL obtained from softwood chips and pellets, detected by 2D-HSQC NMR.

| Sample | Interlinkages | | | | | |
|-------------|--------------------------|-----|-----|--|--|--|
| | (per 100 aromatic rings) | | | | | |
| | β-Ο-4 | β-5 | β-β | | | |
| Chips | 39.5 | 3.2 | 0.0 | | | |
| EMAL | 39.3 | 3.2 | 0.0 | | | |
| Pellet | 34.0 | 2.8 | 0.9 | | | |
| EMAL | 34.0 | 2.0 | 0.9 | | | |