

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

### **Assessing the hydrotropic effect in the presence of electrolytes: competition between solute salting-out and salt-induced hydrotrope aggregation**

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## TABLES

**Table S1.** Aqueous vanillin solubility as a function of the concentration (solute-free basis) of [C<sub>4</sub>mim]Cl in the absence of additional inorganic salts ( $T = 303.2$  K). The aqueous vanillin solubility of 13.1 g.L<sup>-1</sup> at 303.2 K was taken from Abranches et al [1].

<b>LiCl</b>		
<b>[LiCl] (mol.kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>[Vanillin] (g.L<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>± σ</b>
0.00	13.10	-
0.20	12.42	0.22
0.40	11.56	0.10
0.50	11.12	0.78
1.00	8.83	0.10
2.00	5.99	0.10
3.00	4.62	0.16
4.00	3.63	0.52
5.00	3.60	0.04
<b>NaCl</b>		
<b>[NaCl] (mol.kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>[Vanillin] (g.L<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>± σ</b>
0.00	13.10	-
0.50	10.25	0.18
1.00	7.96	0.32
2.00	5.29	0.33
3.00	3.81	0.24
4.00	3.28	0.04
<b>CaCl<sub>2</sub></b>		
<b>[CaCl<sub>2</sub>] (mol.kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>[Vanillin] (g.L<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>± σ</b>
0.00	13.10	-
0.50	9.81	0.37
1.00	7.19	0.29
2.00	4.81	0.58
3.00	3.25	0.27
4.00	2.86	0.37

**YCl<sub>3</sub>**

<b>[YCl<sub>3</sub>] (mol.kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>[Vanillin] (g.L<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>± σ</b>
0.00	13.10	-
0.30	10.10	0.23
0.60	8.11	0.11
0.90	7.11	0.18
1.20	6.44	0.29
1.50	5.79	0.11

**Table S2.** Aqueous vanillin solubility for a starting [C<sub>4</sub>mim]Cl concentrations of 0.5 mol.kg<sup>-1</sup> in the presence of individual salts (*T* = 303.2 K).

<b>LiCl</b>		
[LiCl] (mol.kg <sup>-1</sup> )	[Vanillin] (g.L <sup>-1</sup> )	± σ
0.000	43.23	-
0.502	38.02	2.08
1.060	33.17	2.49
1.960	25.21	0.67
4.050	17.76	0.35
6.030	15.20	0.37
6.950	13.78	0.19
7.930	15.08	0.12
8.940	12.85	0.16
<b>NaCl</b>		
[NaCl] (mol.kg <sup>-1</sup> )	[Vanillin] (g.L <sup>-1</sup> )	± σ
0.000	43.23	
0.482	35.47	0.44
1.017	30.19	1.11
1.490	28.93	0.61
1.985	26.15	0.89
2.451	24.42	0.51
2.978	23.44	0.48
3.320	21.01	0.21
<b>KCl</b>		
[KCl] (mol.kg <sup>-1</sup> )	[Vanillin] (g.L <sup>-1</sup> )	± σ
0.000	43.23	
0.496	40.76	2.26
1.000	39.03	0.32
1.521	33.11	0.25
2.006	32.18	0.08
2.623	28.35	0.54
<b>CaCl<sub>2</sub></b>		

<b>[CaCl<sub>2</sub>] (mol.kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>[Vanillin] (g.L<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>± σ</b>
0.000	43.23	
0.537	35.33	0.44
1.075	27.62	0.84
1.613	19.92	0.46
2.135	19.67	0.15
2.700	19.27	0.76

<b>YCl<sub>3</sub></b>		
<b>[YCl<sub>3</sub>] (mol.kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>[Vanillin] (g.L<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>± σ</b>
0.000	43.23	
0.506	30.04	1.11
1.015	21.33	0.45
1.504	18.17	0.42

**Table S3.** Aqueous vanillin solubility for a starting [C<sub>4</sub>mim]Cl concentrations of 1.5 mol.kg<sup>-1</sup> in the presence of individual salts (*T* = 303.2 K).

<b>LiCl</b>		
<b>[LiCl] (mol.kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>[Vanillin] (g.L<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>± σ</b>
0.000	279.77	
0.513	227.63	6.93
1.120	157.53	7.93
2.000	137.35	5.78
3.020	105.54	10.29
4.010	93.28	9.60
4.980	94.40	6.96
5.990	85.50	2.69
6.420	81.12	1.54
<b>NaCl</b>		
<b>[NaCl] (mol.kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>[Vanillin] (g.L<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>± σ</b>
0.000	279.77	
0.493	229.07	0.92
1.019	207.59	8.13
1.503	202.97	2.81
1.994	192.38	2.41
2.501	211.32	1.50
<b>KCl</b>		
<b>[KCl] (mol.kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>[Vanillin] (g.L<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>± σ</b>
0.000	279.77	
0.502	200.68	17.48
1.012	214.90	1.48
1.406	209.08	5.91
1.577	209.78	2.96
<b>CaCl<sub>2</sub></b>		
<b>[CaCl<sub>2</sub>] (mol.kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>[Vanillin] (g.L<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>± σ</b>
0.000	279.77	
0.489	145.55	10.91

0.996	126.31	2.70
1.424	107.57	3.45
1.697	100.81	4.88

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**YCl<sub>3</sub>**

<b>[YCl<sub>3</sub>] (mol.kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>[Vanillin] (g.L<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>± σ</b>
0.000	279.77	
0.484	147.57	0.74

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**Table S4.** Aqueous vanillin solubility as a function of the concentration (solute-free basis) of inorganic chloride salts ( $T = 303.2$  K).

<b>LiCl</b>		
<b>[LiCl] (mol.kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>[Vanillin] (g.L<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>± σ</b>
0.00	13.10	0.22
0.20	12.42	0.10
0.40	11.56	0.78
0.50	11.12	0.10
1.00	8.83	0.10
2.00	5.99	0.16
3.00	4.62	0.52
4.00	3.63	0.04
5.00	3.60	0.02
<b>NaCl</b>		
<b>[NaCl] (mol.kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>[Vanillin] (g.L<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>± σ</b>
0.00	13.10	0.22
0.50	10.25	0.18
1.00	7.96	0.32
2.00	5.29	0.33
3.00	3.81	0.24
4.00	3.28	0.04
<b>CaCl<sub>2</sub></b>		
<b>[CaCl<sub>2</sub>] (mol.kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>[Vanillin] (g.L<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>± σ</b>
0.00	13.10	0.22
0.50	9.81	0.37
1.00	7.19	0.29
2.00	4.81	0.58
3.00	3.25	0.27
4.00	2.86	0.37
<b>YCl<sub>3</sub></b>		
<b>[YCl<sub>3</sub>] (mol.kg<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>[Vanillin] (g.L<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	<b>± σ</b>
0.00	13.10	0.22



0.30	10.10	0.23
0.60	8.11	0.11
0.90	7.11	0.18
1.20	6.44	0.29
1.50	5.79	0.11

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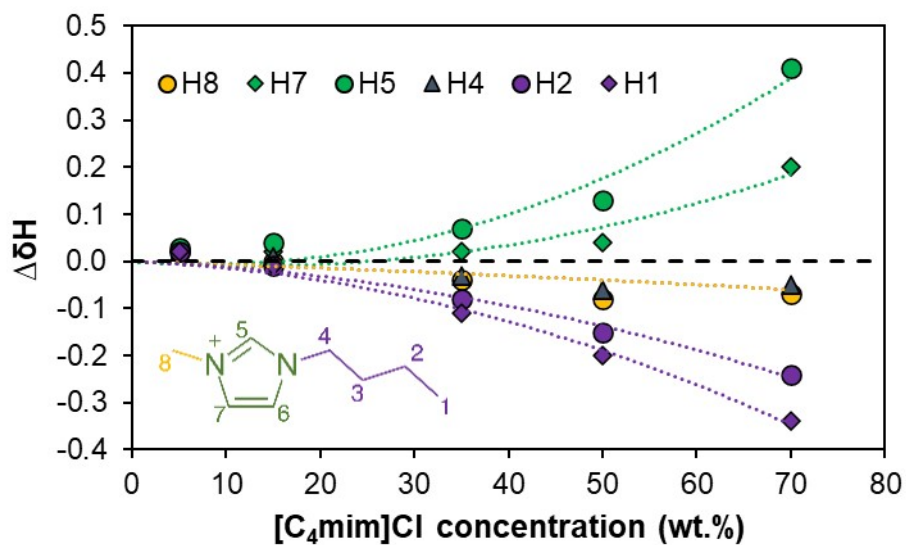
**Table S5.**  $\delta_H$  of the  $[C_4mim]^+$  cationic hydrogens in the various studied systems. A constant IL and salt concentrations of  $1.5 \text{ mol.kg}^{-1}$  and  $1.0 \text{ mol.kg}^{-1}$  were used respectively and vanillin was added to saturation in the indicated systems. Peak labelling corresponds to that in **Figure 3** of the manuscript or **Figure S1** of the ESI.

System	Peak label							
	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
$[C_4mim]Cl$	4.04	7.34	7.29	8.60	3.74	1.67	1.15	0.73
$[C_4mim]Cl + LiCl$	3.99	7.32	7.27	8.59	3.70	1.61	1.08	0.66
$[C_4mim]Cl + NaCl$	3.96	7.3	7.25	8.57	3.67	1.57	1.04	0.62
$[C_4mim]Cl + CaCl_2$	3.90	7.25	7.2	8.52	3.62	1.54	0.97	0.55
$[C_4mim]Cl + YCl_3$	3.75	7.13	7.09	8.41	3.48	1.33	0.78	0.36
$[C_4mim]Cl + \text{vanillin}$	3.82	7.19	7.18	8.49	3.45	1.40	0.92	0.48
$[C_4mim]Cl + \text{vanillin} + NaCl$	3.89	7.22	7.20	8.50	3.52	1.51	1.01	0.60
$[C_4mim]Cl + \text{vanillin} + CaCl_2$	3.76	7.14	7.12	8.44	3.38	1.33	0.82	0.40
$[C_4mim]Cl + \text{vanillin} + YCl_3$	3.67	7.07	7.06	8.37	3.30	1.23	0.67	0.27

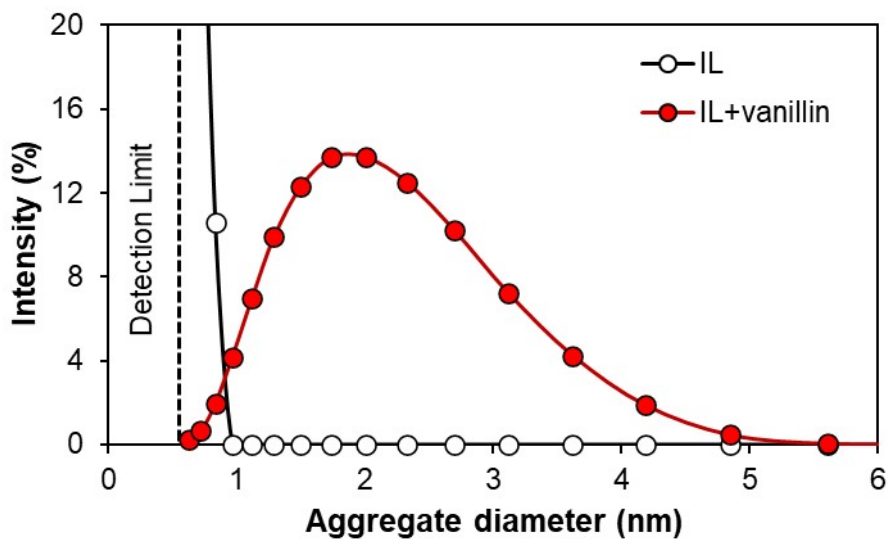
**Table S6.**  $\delta_H$  of the vanillin hydrogens in the various studied systems. A constant IL and salt concentrations of  $1.5 \text{ mol.kg}^{-1}$  and  $1.0 \text{ mol.kg}^{-1}$  were used respectively and vanillin was added to saturation. Peak labelling corresponds to that in **Figure 3** of the manuscript.

System	Peak label				
	5	4	3	2	1
Vanillin	9.48	7.21	7.31	6.85	3.73
$[C_4mim]Cl + \text{vanillin}$	9.21	6.80	6.95	6.57	3.63
$[C_4mim]Cl + \text{vanillin} + NaCl$	9.27	6.87	7.02	6.61	3.68
$[C_4mim]Cl + \text{vanillin} + CaCl_2$	9.15	6.73	6.88	6.52	3.58
$[C_4mim]Cl + \text{vanillin} + YCl_3$	9.12	6.71	6.84	6.45	3.48

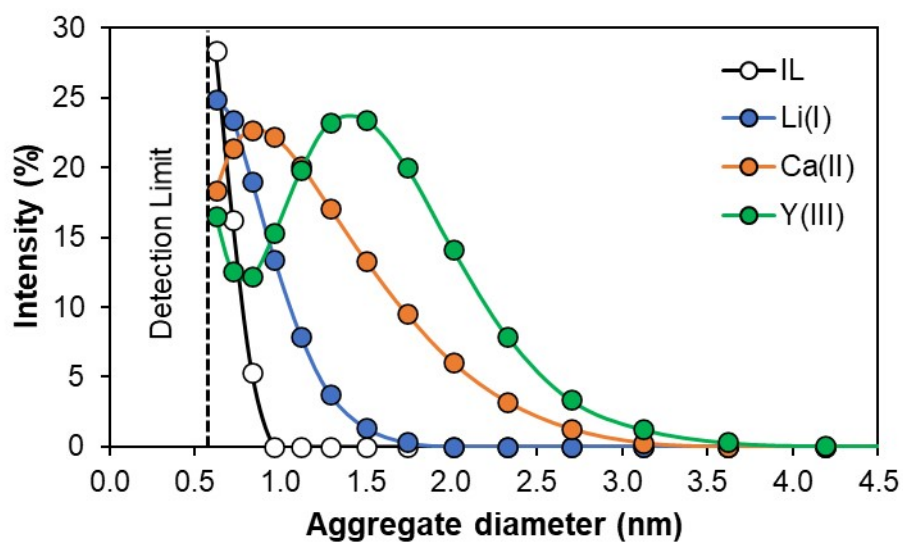
## FIGURES



**Figure S1.** Proton chemical shifts ( $\Delta\delta_H$ ) of the  $[C_4mim]^+$  cation as a function of its aqueous concentration relative to a 2.0 wt.% IL solution.



**Figure S2.** Aggregate size distribution by intensity obtained by DLS in an 1.5 M  $[C_4mim]Cl$  aqueous solution and the same solution saturated with vanillin ( $T = 298$  K).



**Figure S3.** Aggregate size distribution by intensity obtained by DLS in 1.5 mol.kg<sup>-1</sup> [C<sub>4</sub>mim]Cl aqueous solutions with 1.0 mol.kg<sup>-1</sup> of inorganic chloride salts and no vanillin.

## REFERENCE

[1] D. O. Abranches, J. Benfica, B. P. Soares, A. M. Ferreira, T. E. Sintra, S. Shimizu and J. A. P. Coutinho, The impact of the counterion in the performance of ionic hydrotropes. *Chem. Commun.*, 2021, **57**, 2951–2954.