

## Supporting Information

### **Deep Eutectic Solvent Aqueous Solutions as Efficient Media for the Solubilization of Hardwood Xylans**

Eduarda S. Morais,<sup>[a]</sup> Patrícia V. Mendonça,<sup>[b]</sup> Jorge F. J. Coelho,<sup>[b]</sup> Mara G. Freire,<sup>[a]</sup>  
Carmen S. R. Freire,<sup>[a]</sup> João A. P. Coutinho,<sup>[a]</sup> and Armando J. D. Silvestre<sup>\*[a]</sup>

cssc\_201702007\_sm\_miscellaneous\_information.pdf

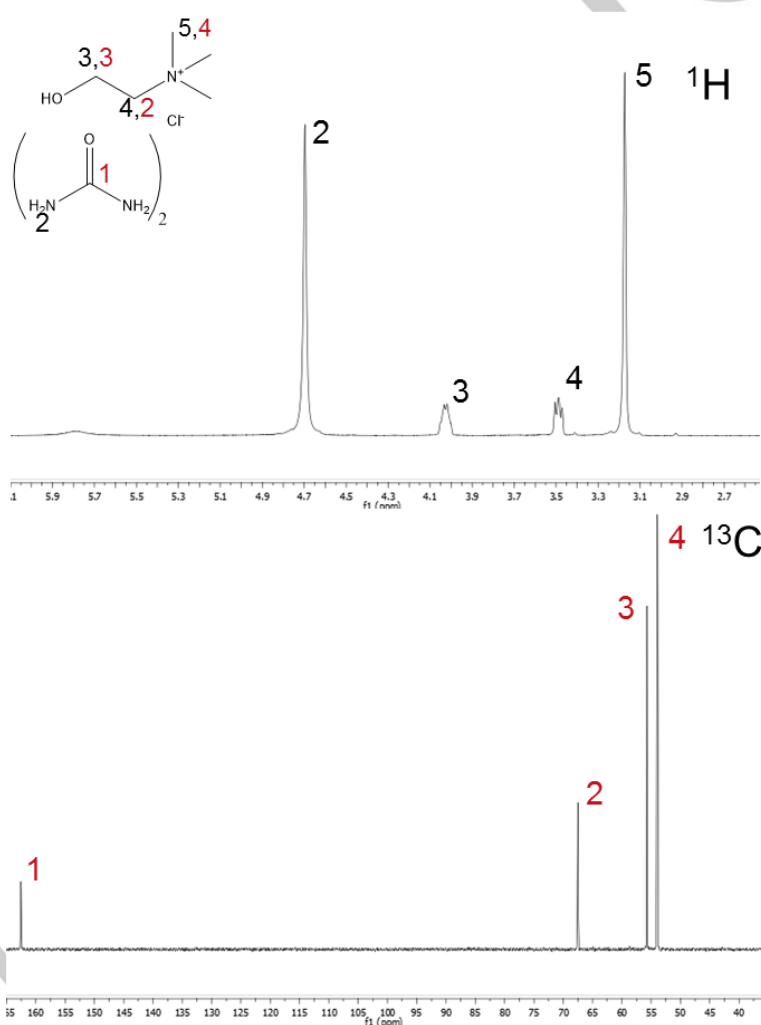
## **Author Contributions**

*J.C. Conceptualization: Lead; Formal analysis: Lead.*

**Table S1.** Compounds descriptions, CAS number, molecular weight, mass fraction purity, water content and supplier of the DES components investigated.

| Compound                             | Cas number | Mw (g.mol <sup>-1</sup> ) | Purity <sup>a</sup> /wt% | Water content/ wt% | Supplier          |
|--------------------------------------|------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Hydrogen Bond Acceptors (HBA)</b> |            |                           |                          |                    |                   |
| Choline Chloride (ChCl)              | 67-48-1    | 139.62                    | 99                       | 5.13 ± 0.18        | ACROS Organics    |
| <b>Hydrogen Bond Donors (HBD)</b>    |            |                           |                          |                    |                   |
| Urea (U)                             | 57-13-6    | 60.06                     | >99                      | 0.001 ± 0.00       | Panreac           |
| Acetic Acid (AA)                     | 64-19-7    | 60.05                     | 99                       | 0.01 ± 0.00        | Fisher Scientific |

<sup>a</sup> as reported by the supplier.

**Figure S1.** <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR of ChCl:U (1:2).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O, 300 MHz, [ppm]): δ 5.79 (s, 1H, N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH) δ 4.70 (s, 4H, 2x(NH<sub>2</sub>)), δ 4.03 (m, 2H, N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH), δ 3.47 (t, 2H, N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH), δ 3.17 (s, 9H, N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR, (D<sub>2</sub>O, 75.47 MHz, [ppm]): δ 162.54 (s, 2x(CO(NH<sub>2</sub>))), δ 67.50 (s, N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH), δ 55.72 (s, N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH), δ 53.97 (t, J<sub>CN</sub> = 4.0 Hz, N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH).

**Table S2.** pH of the different tested ILs, individual HBA and HBD, DES and aqueous DES solutions , water and conventional solvent media (NaOH 1.67 M).

| Solvent         | HBA:HBD | DES/IL content water (%) | pH    | Solvent | HBA:HBD | DES/IL content water (%) | pH    |      |
|-----------------|---------|--------------------------|-------|---------|---------|--------------------------|-------|------|
| NaOH 1.67 M     | -       | 0.0                      | 13.4  | ChCl:U  | 1:2     | 25                       | 8.13  |      |
| Choline acetate | -       | 83.3                     | 8.1   |         |         | 15.0                     | 8.04  |      |
| Water           | -       | 0.0                      | 5.95  |         |         | 5.0                      | 7.94  |      |
| ChCl            | -       | 50                       | 7.42  |         |         | 1:1                      | 100.0 | 10.4 |
| Urea            | -       | 50                       | 7.96  |         |         |                          | 83.3  | 9.91 |
| ChCl:AA         | 1:2     | 100.0                    | 1.01  |         | 80.0    |                          | 9.77  |      |
|                 |         | 83.3                     | 1.11  |         | 75.0    |                          | 9.56  |      |
|                 |         | 80.0                     | 1.13  |         | 50.0    |                          | 9.05  |      |
|                 |         | 75.0                     | 1.26  |         | 25.0    | 8.94                     |       |      |
|                 |         | 66.7                     | 1.37  |         | 15.0    | 8.85                     |       |      |
|                 |         | 50.0                     | 1.43  |         | 5.0     | 8.74                     |       |      |
|                 |         | 35.0                     | 1.98  |         | 2:1     | 100.0                    | 10.58 |      |
|                 |         | 25.0                     | 2.01  |         |         | 83.3                     | 10.18 |      |
| 15.0            | 2.51    | 80.0                     | 10.01 |         |         |                          |       |      |
| 5.0             | 2.7     | 75.0                     | 9.87  |         |         |                          |       |      |
| ChCl:U          | 1:2     | 100.0                    | 9.78  |         |         | 66.7                     | 9.71  |      |
|                 |         | 83.3                     | 9.12  |         | 50.0    | 9.63                     |       |      |
|                 |         | 80.0                     | 8.94  |         | 35.0    | 9.42                     |       |      |
|                 |         | 75.0                     | 8.9   |         | 25.0    | 8.98                     |       |      |
|                 |         | 66.7                     | 8.86  |         | 15.9    | 8.74                     |       |      |
|                 |         | 50.0                     | 8.3   |         | 5.0     | 8.5                      |       |      |
|                 |         | 35.0                     | 8.36  |         | 5.0     | 8.5                      |       |      |

**Table S3.** Xylan solubility results for the assays using water, aqueous 1.67 M NaOH, Choline Acetate and ChCl:U (1:2, 1:1, 2:1).

| Compound        | HBA:HBD | DES/IL content water (%) | Xylan concentration (mg/g) | ±deviation |
|-----------------|---------|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| NaOH 1.67 M     | -       | 0                        | 316.47                     | 1.94       |
| Choline acetate | -       | 83.3                     | 208.61                     | 5.70       |
| Water           | -       | 0                        | 15.48                      | 1.05       |
| ChCl:U          | 1:2     | 100                      | 260.40                     | 30.83      |
|                 |         | 83.3                     | 201.13                     | 11.19      |
|                 |         | 80                       | 189.21                     | 10.11      |
|                 |         | 75                       | 171.35                     | 13.70      |
|                 |         | 66.7                     | 247.74                     | 12.87      |
|                 |         | 50                       | 304.53                     | 8.71       |
|                 |         | 35                       | 101.25                     | 23.78      |
|                 |         | 25                       | 145.08                     | 23.59      |
|                 |         | 15                       | 91.27                      | 14.12      |
|                 | 5       | 34.74                    | 1.00                       |            |
|                 | 1:1     | 100                      | 172.38                     | 9.33       |
|                 |         | 83.3                     | 145.78                     | 16.71      |
|                 |         | 80                       | 150.10                     | 18.41      |
|                 |         | 75                       | 152.36                     | 15.62      |
|                 |         | 66.7                     | 121.57                     | 23.11      |
|                 |         | 50                       | 130.43                     | 6.17       |
|                 |         | 35                       | 125.00                     | 9.74       |
|                 |         | 25                       | 201.47                     | 24.12      |
|                 |         | 15                       | 113.92                     | 22.33      |
|                 | 5       | 165.34                   | 0.60                       |            |
|                 | 2:1     | 100                      | 148.48                     | 20.63      |
|                 |         | 83.3                     | 128.98                     | 10.13      |
|                 |         | 80                       | 141.45                     | 27.61      |
|                 |         | 75                       | 177.61                     | 8.29       |
|                 |         | 66.7                     | 174.06                     | 9.90       |
|                 |         | 50                       | 178.52                     | 28.72      |
|                 |         | 35                       | 134.98                     | 22.91      |
| 25              |         | 201.45                   | 11.17                      |            |
| 15              |         | 126.77                   | 28.32                      |            |
| 5               | 102.31  | 0.55                     |                            |            |

**Table S4.** Xylan solubility results in mg/mL for water, aqueous 1.67M NaOH and ChCl:U.

| Solvent     | HBA:HBD | DES/IL content water (%) | Xylan concentration (mg/mL) | ±deviation |
|-------------|---------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| NaOH 1.67 M | -       | 0                        | 306.30                      | 1.90       |
| Water       | -       | 0                        | 15.48                       | 1.05       |
| ChCl:U      | 1:2     | 100                      | 243.49                      | 23.66      |
|             |         | 83.3                     | 221.51                      | 20.86      |
|             |         | 80                       | 206.39                      | 14.11      |
|             |         | 75                       | 188.48                      | 20.10      |
|             |         | 66.7                     | 269.02                      | 20.95      |
|             |         | 50                       | 320.80                      | 18.35      |
|             |         | 35                       | 101.80                      | 23.91      |
|             |         | 25                       | 124.07                      | 21.44      |
|             |         | 15                       | 91.76                       | 14.20      |
|             | 5       | 34.93                    | 1.00                        |            |
|             | 1:1     | 100                      | 191.65                      | 10.37      |
|             |         | 83.3                     | 160.62                      | 18.41      |
|             |         | 80                       | 164.27                      | 20.14      |
|             |         | 75                       | 165.07                      | 16.92      |
|             |         | 66.7                     | 191.87                      | 18.40      |
|             |         | 50                       | 134.79                      | 6.37       |
|             |         | 35                       | 115.00                      | 9.80       |
|             |         | 25                       | 128.54                      | 23.30      |
| 15          |         | 130.41                   | 2.45                        |            |
| 5           | 166.66  | 0.67                     |                             |            |

**Table S5.** Xylan solubility results for the different temperatures studied.

| Compound | HBA:HBD | Temperature (°C) | DES/IL content water (%) | Xylan concentration (mg/mL) | ±deviation |
|----------|---------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| ChCl:U   | 1:2     | 70               | 100                      | 228.87                      | 6.43       |
|          |         |                  | 83.3                     | 253.46                      | 2.01       |
|          |         |                  | 80                       | 300.45                      | 14.23      |
|          |         |                  | 75                       | 267.95                      | 26.74      |
|          |         |                  | 66.7                     | 168.72                      | 29.80      |
|          |         |                  | 50                       | 140.89                      | 19.10      |
|          |         |                  | 35                       | 128.07                      | 17.22      |
|          |         |                  | 25                       | 68.10                       | 14.62      |
|          |         |                  | 15                       | 73.37                       | 0.19       |
|          |         | 5                | 127.40                   | 23.59                       |            |
|          |         | 80               | 100                      | 187.17                      | 11.94      |
|          |         |                  | 83.3                     | 232.92                      | 21.91      |
|          |         |                  | 80                       | 243.67                      | 19.85      |
|          |         |                  | 75                       | 242.91                      | 35.93      |
|          |         |                  | 66.7                     | 328.23                      | 28.87      |
|          |         |                  | 50                       | 171.74                      | 9.54       |
|          |         |                  | 35                       | 78.64                       | 8.02       |
|          |         |                  | 25                       | 99.25                       | 12.54      |
|          |         |                  | 15                       | 108.91                      | 16.59      |
|          |         | 5                | 129.81                   | 20.19                       |            |
|          |         | 90               | 100                      | 243.49                      | 23.66      |
|          |         |                  | 83.3                     | 221.51                      | 20.86      |
|          |         |                  | 80                       | 206.39                      | 14.11      |
|          |         |                  | 75                       | 188.48                      | 20.10      |
|          |         |                  | 66.7                     | 269.02                      | 20.95      |
|          |         |                  | 50                       | 320.80                      | 18.35      |
|          |         |                  | 35                       | 101.80                      | 23.91      |
| 25       | 124.07  |                  | 21.44                    |                             |            |
| 15       | 91.76   |                  | 14.20                    |                             |            |
| 5        | 34.93   | 1.00             |                          |                             |            |
| Water    | --      | 70               |                          | 20.17                       | 4.24       |
|          |         | 80               |                          | 27.01                       | 3.92       |
|          |         | 90               |                          | 15.48                       | 1.05       |

**Table S6.**  $2^3$  factorial planning.

| Experiment | $\chi_1$ | $\chi_2$ | $\chi_3$ |
|------------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1          | -1       | -1       | -1       |
| 2          | 1        | -1       | -1       |
| 3          | -1       | 1        | -1       |
| 4          | 1        | 1        | -1       |
| 5          | -1       | -1       | 1        |
| 6          | 1        | -1       | 1        |
| 7          | -1       | 1        | 1        |
| 8          | 1        | 1        | 1        |
| 9          | -1.68    | 0        | 0        |
| 10         | 1.68     | 0        | 0        |
| 11         | 0        | -1.68    | 0        |
| 12         | 0        | 1.68     | 0        |
| 13         | 0        | 0        | -1.68    |
| 14         | 0        | 0        | 1.68     |
| 15         | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| 16         | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| 17         | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| 18         | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| 19         | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| 20         | 0        | 0        | 0        |

**Table S7.** Coded levels of independents variables used in the first and second factorial planning.

| Studied parameters  | Symbol | Level          |                 |              |                |               |
|---------------------|--------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|
|                     |        | Axial<br>-1.68 | Factorial<br>-1 | Central<br>0 | Factorial<br>1 | Axial<br>1.68 |
| Concentration (wt%) | C      | 8.0            | 25.0            | 50.0         | 75.0           | 92.0          |
| Temperature (°C)    | T      | 63.2           | 70.0            | 80.0         | 90.0           | 96.8          |
| HBA:HBD Ratio       | R      | 21.9           | 33.3            | 50.0         | 66.7           | 78.1          |



**Table S8.** Experimental data and response surface predicted values of the factorial planning.

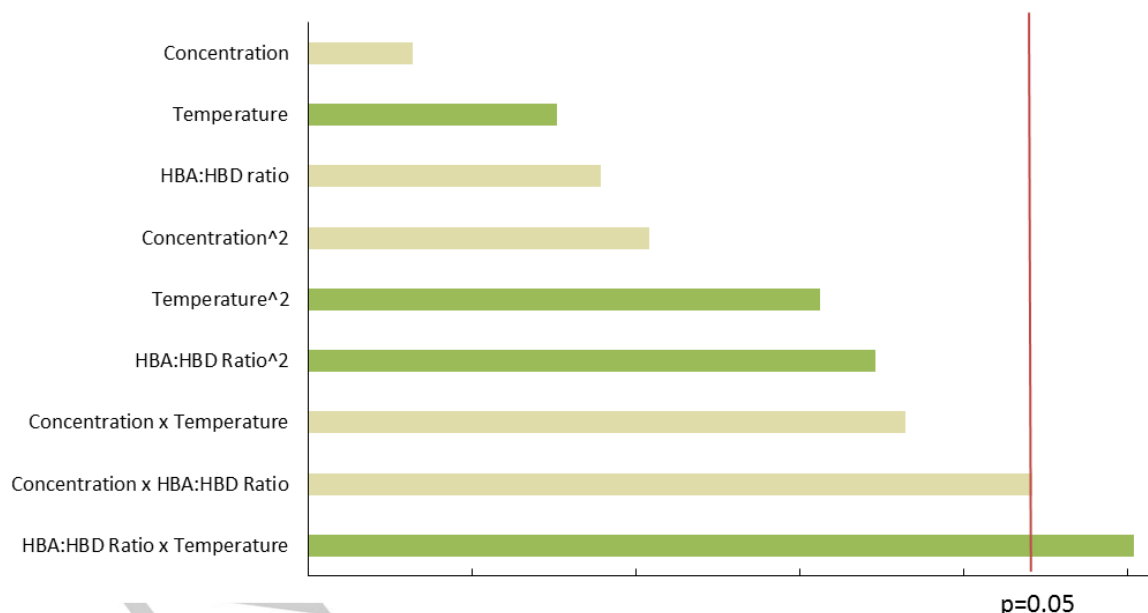
| Experiment | C (wt%) | T (°C) | Ratio S/L | Experimental xylan solubility (mg/g) | Predicted xylan solubility (mg/g) | Relative deviation (%) |
|------------|---------|--------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1          | 25.0    | 70.0   | 33.30     | 68.10                                | 94.68                             | -26.58                 |
| 2          | 75.0    | 70.0   | 33.30     | 267.95                               | 243.20                            | 24.75                  |
| 3          | 25.0    | 90.0   | 33.30     | 124.07                               | 108.52                            | 15.55                  |
| 4          | 75.0    | 90.0   | 33.30     | 188.48                               | 156.12                            | 32.36                  |
| 5          | 25.0    | 70.0   | 66.70     | 40.61                                | 64.36                             | -23.74                 |
| 6          | 75.0    | 70.0   | 66.70     | 83.18                                | 90.11                             | -6.93                  |
| 7          | 25.0    | 90.0   | 66.70     | 201.45                               | 217.58                            | -16.13                 |
| 8          | 75.0    | 90.0   | 66.70     | 177.61                               | 142.41                            | 35.20                  |
| 9          | 8.0     | 80.0   | 50.00     | 138.69                               | 104.24                            | 34.45                  |
| 10         | 92.0    | 80.0   | 50.00     | 119.19                               | 165.86                            | -46.67                 |
| 11         | 50.0    | 63.2   | 50.00     | 162.09                               | 138.59                            | 23.50                  |
| 12         | 50.0    | 96.8   | 50.00     | 158.42                               | 194.14                            | -35.72                 |
| 13         | 50.0    | 80.0   | 21.94     | 113.48                               | 136.77                            | -23.28                 |
| 14         | 50.0    | 80.0   | 78.06     | 110.85                               | 99.79                             | 11.06                  |
| 15         | 50.0    | 80.0   | 50.00     | 166.27                               | 144.25                            | 22.02                  |
| 16         | 50.0    | 80.0   | 50.00     | 149.72                               | 144.25                            | 5.47                   |
| 17         | 50.0    | 80.0   | 50.00     | 156.67                               | 144.25                            | 12.43                  |
| 18         | 50.0    | 80.0   | 50.00     | 180.49                               | 144.25                            | 36.24                  |
| 19         | 50.0    | 80.0   | 50.00     | 105.50                               | 144.25                            | -38.74                 |
| 20         | 50.0    | 80.0   | 50.00     | 109.00                               | 144.25                            | -35.25                 |

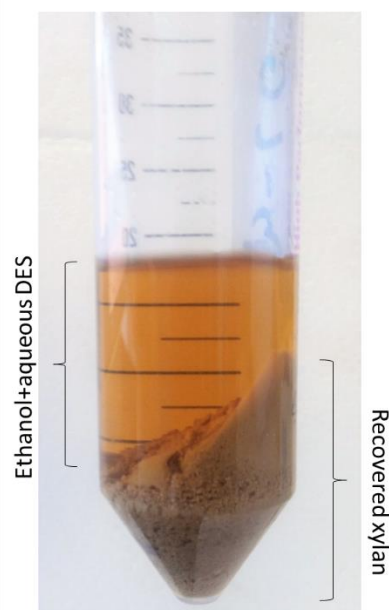
**Table S9.** Regression coefficients of the predicted second-order polynomial model from factorial planning.

|                                    | Regression coefficients | Standard deviation | t-student (10) | P-value |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------|---------|
| Interception                       | 2.8660                  | 1.0138             | 2.8268         | <0.05   |
| Time                               | 0.0105                  | 0.0054             | 1.9299         | 0.08244 |
| Concentration                      | 6.5025                  | 0.8912             | 7.2963         | <0.05   |
| Solid-liquid ratio                 | -20.5519                | 9.3240             | -2.2041        | 0.05207 |
| Time <sup>2</sup>                  | 0.0000                  | 0.00001            | -1.3810        | 0.19733 |
| Concentration <sup>2</sup>         | -2.2092                 | 0.2916             | -7.5758        | <0.05   |
| Solid-liquid ratio <sup>2</sup>    | 73.6479                 | 32.6225            | 2.2575         | <0.05   |
| Time × Concentration               | -0.0003                 | 0.0023             | -0.1192        | 0.90747 |
| Time × Solid-liquid ratio          | -0.0116                 | 0.0252             | -0.4575        | 0.65702 |
| Solid-liquid ratio × Concentration | 1.7420                  | 4.1330             | 0.4214         | 0.68231 |

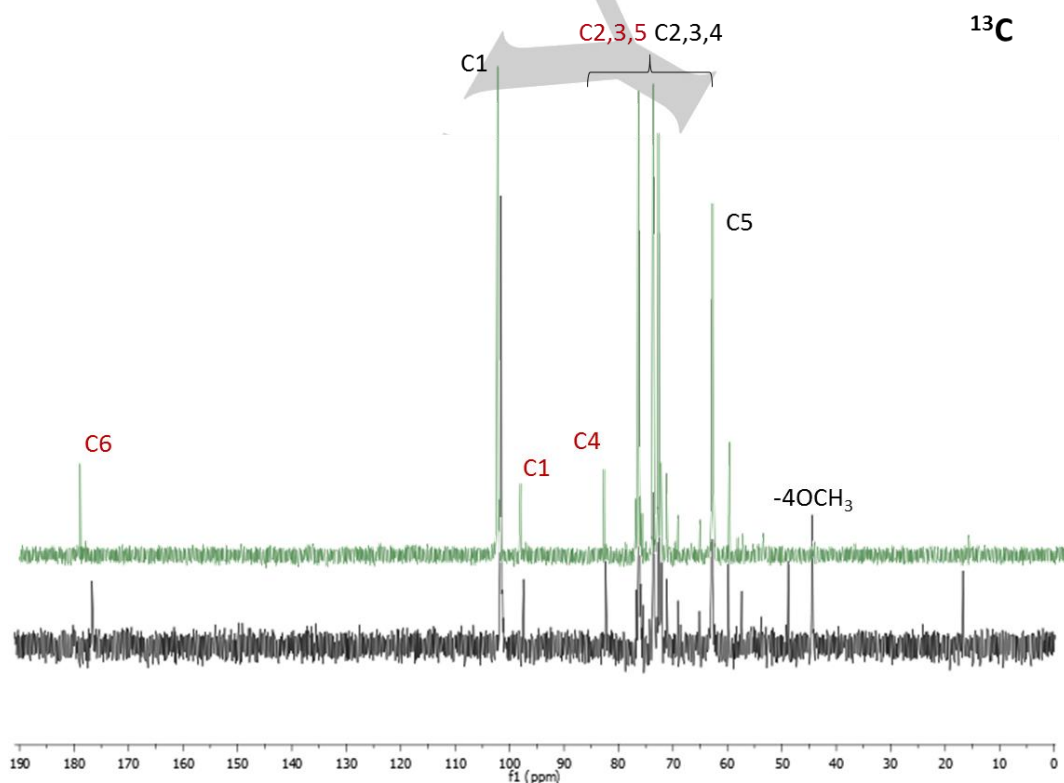
**Table S10.** ANOVA data for the xylan solubility obtained from the RSM design.

|            | Sum of squares | Degrees of freedom | Mean square | F-value  | P-value  |
|------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------|----------|----------|
| Regression | 34783.05       | 9                  | 3864.783    | 2.525512 | 0.082590 |
| Residuals  | 15302.97       | 10                 | 1530.297    |          |          |
| Total      | 50086.01       |                    |             |          |          |

**Figure S2.** Pareto chart for the standardized main effects (positive (■) and negative (■)) in the factorial planning for xylan solubility. Vertical line indicates the statistical significance of the effects.



**Figure S3.** Photo of the recovered xylan after precipitation with ethanol.



**Figure S4.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR juxtaposed spectra for original xylan (—) and recovered xylan (—) after dissolution in  $\text{CHCl}_3$ :Urea (1:2) at  $90^\circ\text{C}$ . The carbons corresponding to  $\text{X}^a$  are in black and the carbons corresponding to  $\text{U}^b$  are in red.

**Table S11.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR peak identification of the original and recovered xylans.<sup>[1]</sup>

| (D <sub>2</sub> O, 75.47<br>MHz,<br>[ppm]) | Assignments |      |      |      |                 |                 |       |                   |
|--|-------------|------|------|------|-----------------|-----------------|-------|-------------------|
|  | 1           | 2    | 3    | 4    | 5 <sub>eq</sub> | 5 <sub>ax</sub> | 6     | -OCH <sub>3</sub> |
| X <sup>a</sup>                             | 101.6       | 73.6 | 74.3 | 75.9 | 62.9            | 62.9            |       |                   |
| U <sup>b</sup>                             | 97.5        | 72.2 | 72.2 | 82.4 | 72.2            |                 | 176.7 | 59.8              |

X<sup>a</sup> – (1→4)-β-D-Xylp, U<sup>b</sup> – 4-O-Methy-α-D-GlcpA.

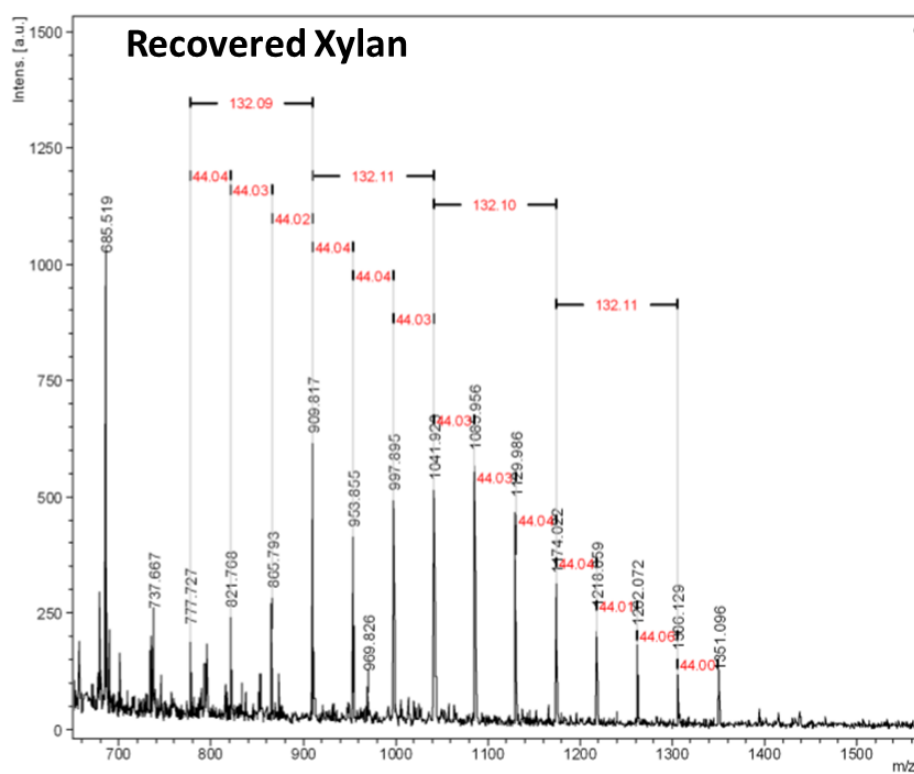
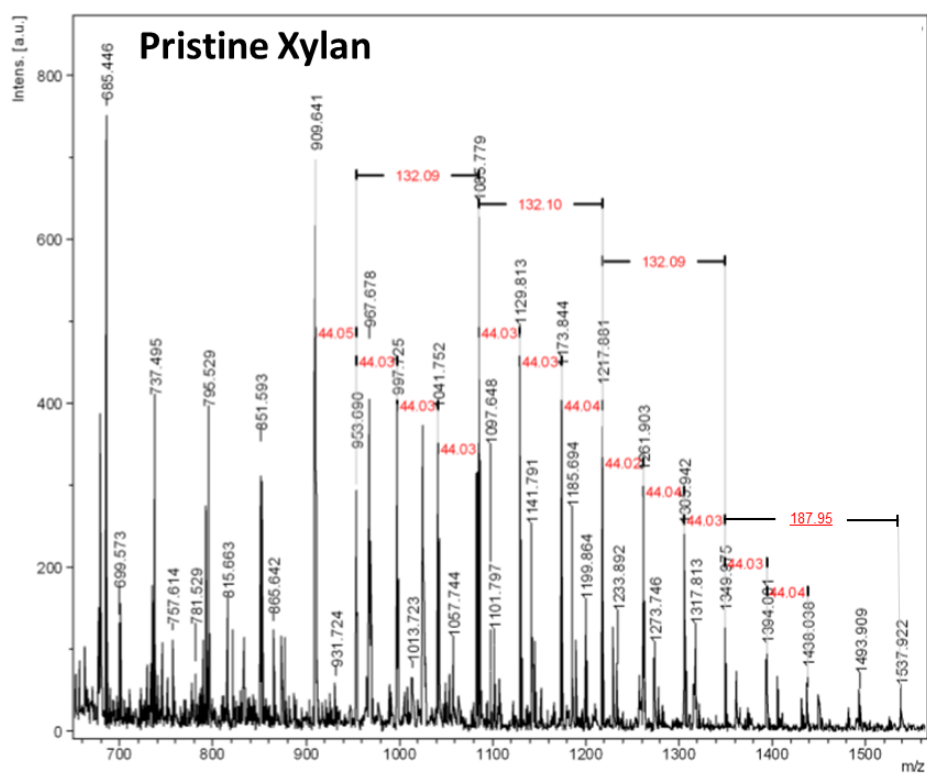
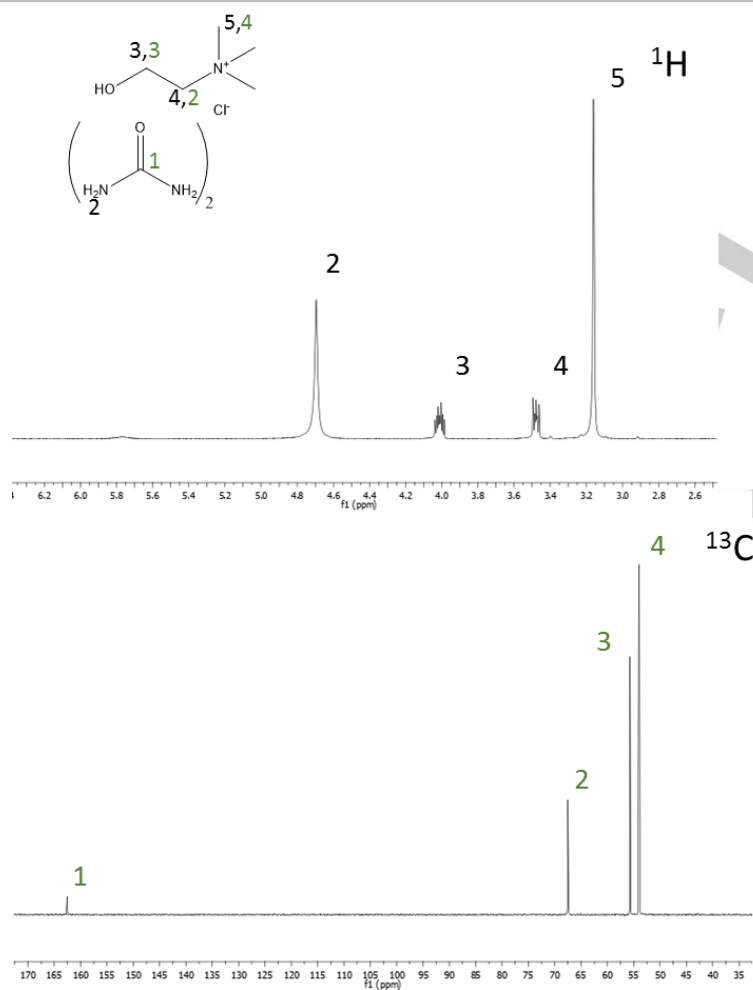
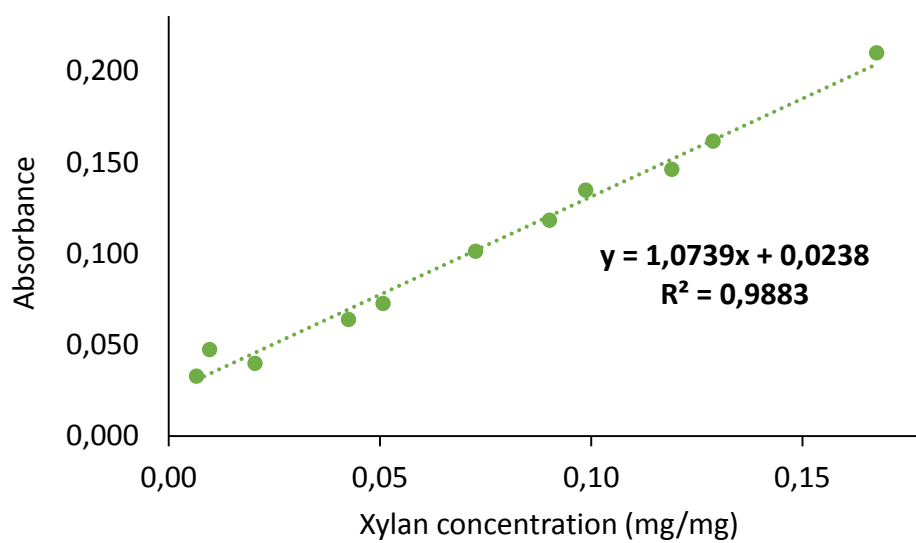


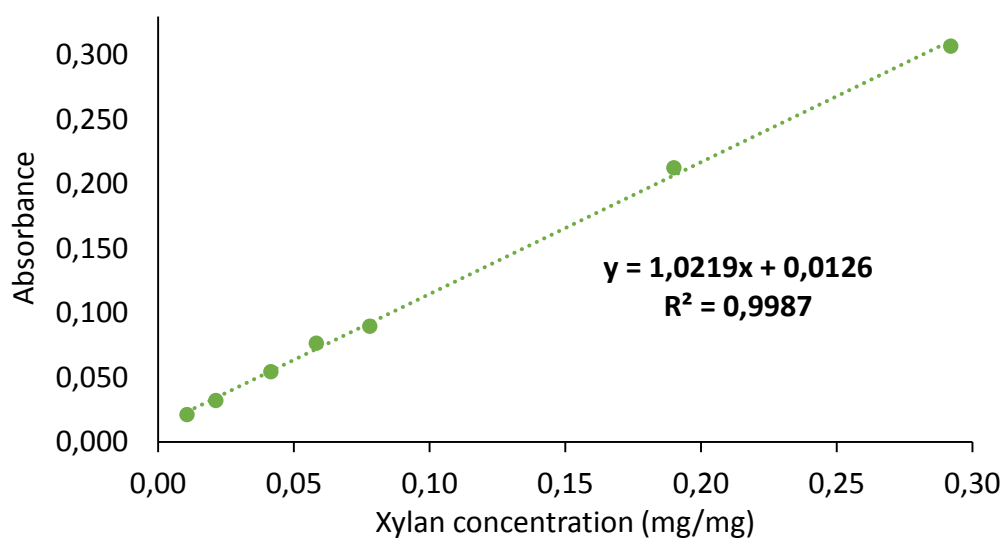
Figure S5. MALDI-ToF/GC spectra for pristine and recovered xylan.<sup>[2]</sup>



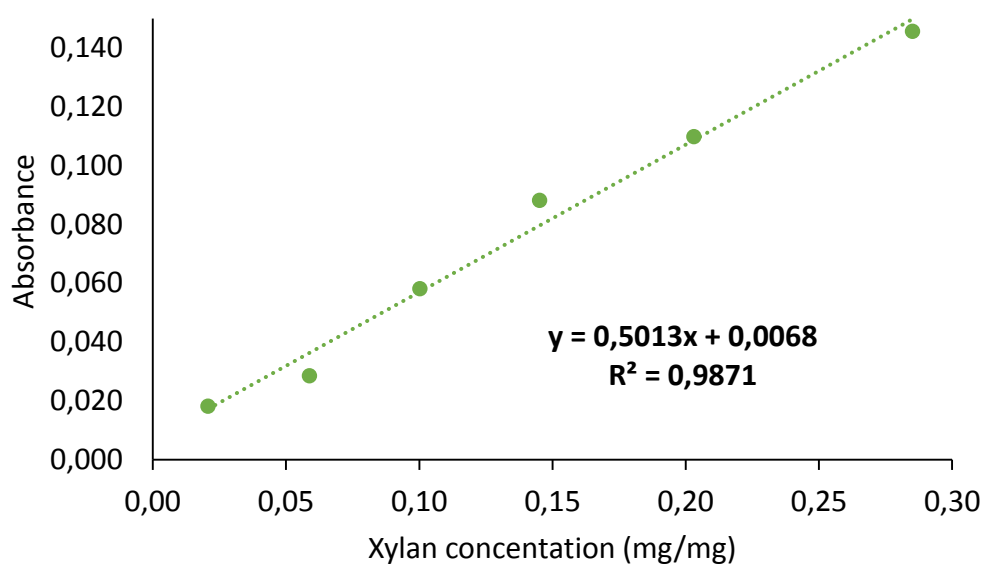
**Figure S6.**  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra for the recycled ChCl:U (1:2).



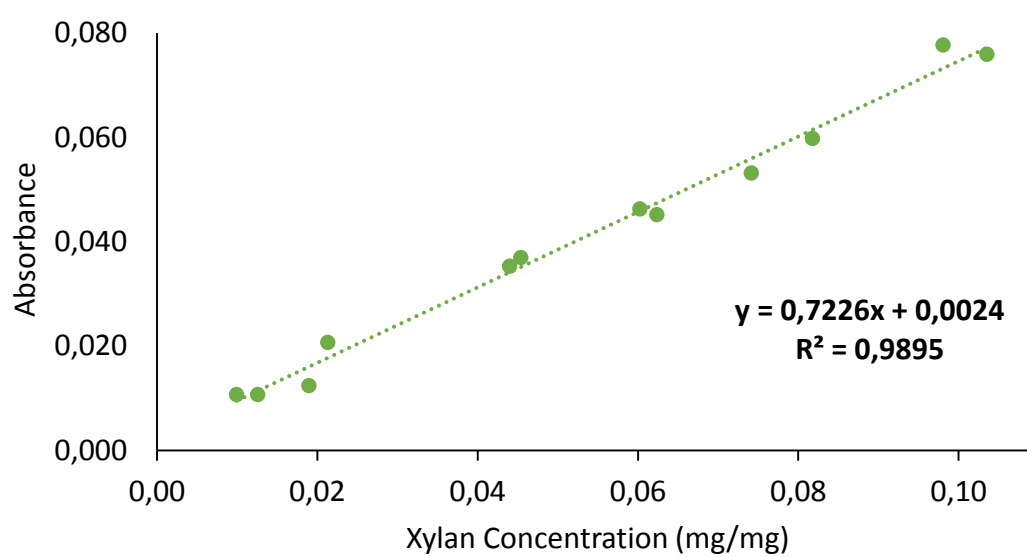
**Figure S8.** Calibration curve for xylan dissolved in Choline Acetate.



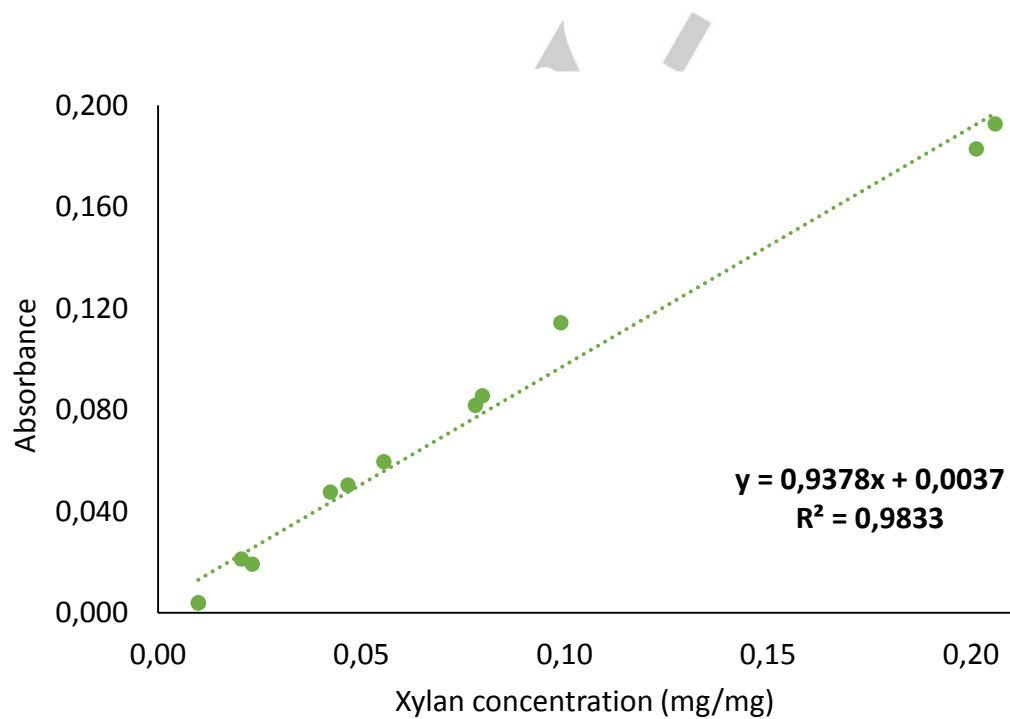
**Figure S9.** Calibration Curve for xylan dissolved in ChCl:U.



**Figure S10.** Calibration curve for xylan dissolved in aqueous 1.67M NaOH.



**Figure S11.** Calibration curve for xylan dissolved in aqueous ChCl.



**Figure S12.** Calibration curve for xylan dissolved in aqueous Urea.



**Table S12.** Values for the statistic test using confidence interval of 95% for the calibration curves calculated.

| Solvent         | Slope | standard deviation (error) of the gradient, $S_m$ | Confidence interval of the gradient, $C_m$ | Correlation coefficient, $R$ | Correlation coefficient square, $R^2$ | t Stat | P-value  |
|-----------------|-------|---|--|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Choline Acetate | 1.074 | 0.069   | 0.046                                      | 0.982                        | 0.964                                 | 21.804 | 4.23E-09 |
| ChCl:U          | 0.977 | 0.016   | 0.016                                      | 0.999                        | 0.999                                 | 61.983 | 2.07E-08 |
| NaOH            | 0.502 | 0.029   | 0.032                                      | 0.993                        | 0.987                                 | 17.385 | 6.43E-05 |
| ChCl only       | 0.718 | 0.023   | 0.011                                      | 0.995                        | 0.989                                 | 30.777 | 3.08E-11 |
| Urea only       | 0.937 | 0.039   | 0.028                                      | 0.991                        | 0.983                                 | 24.286 | 3.19E-10 |

## References

- [1] S. N. Sun, T. Q. Yuan, M. F. Li, X. F. Cao, F. Xu, Q. Y. Liu, *Cellul. Chem. Technol.* **2012**, *46*, 165–176.
- [2] Y. Nakahara and K. Yamauchi, *J Wood Sci* **2014**, *60*, 225–231.

WILEY-VCH

---