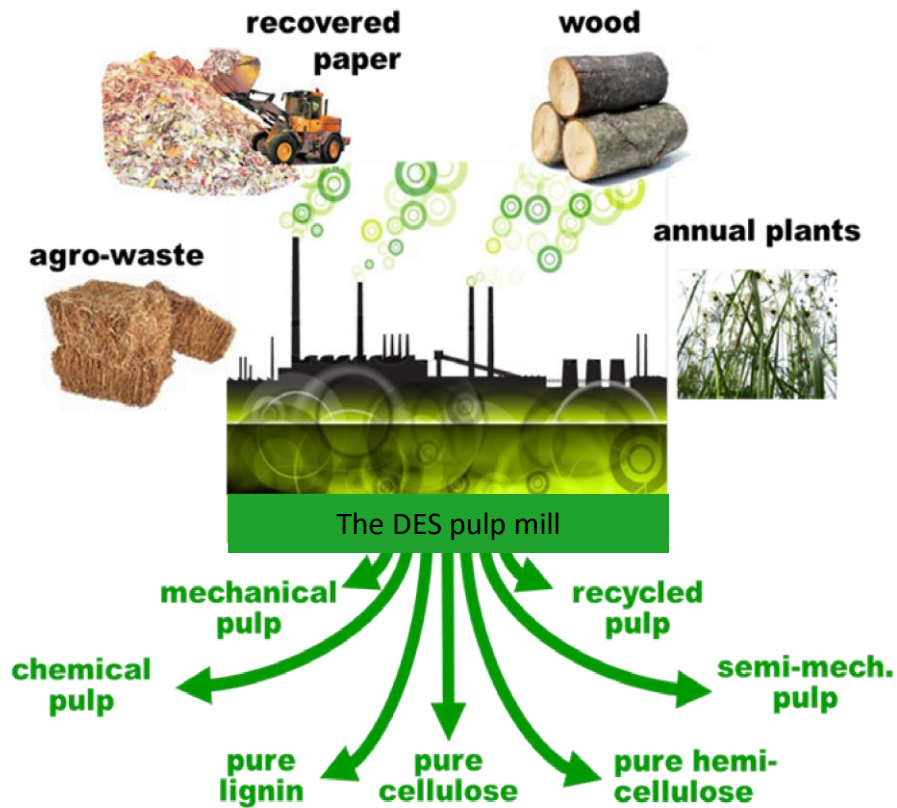




Carbon reduction in the paper industry by Deep Eutectic Solvents

Finance for Innovation: Towards the ETS Innovation Fund
23 March 2017, Brussels
A Westenbroek

The dream



Any lignocellulosic raw material
from any source
with a very low energy and
environmental impact

Can be converted to

Fibers

Lignin

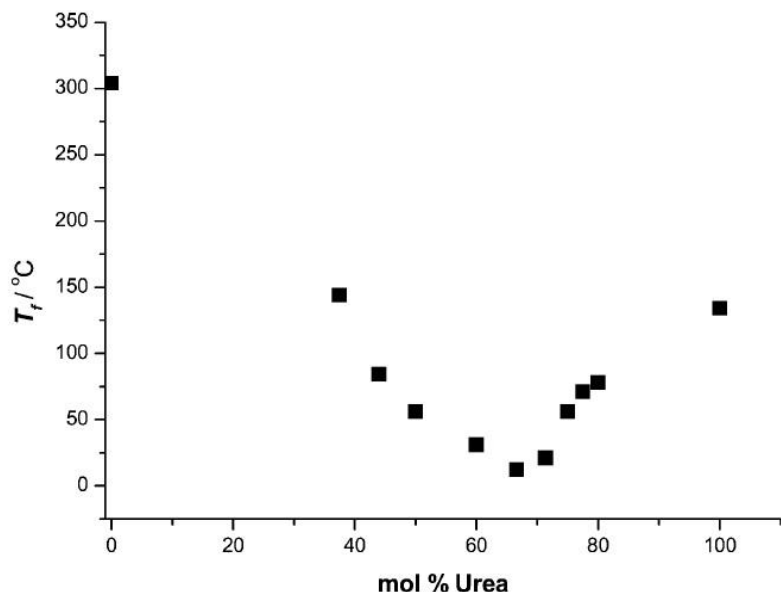
Chemicals

Approaching 80% CO₂ emission reduction by the application of Deep Eutectic Solvents (DESs)

- Common development of the technology
- Europe-wide application

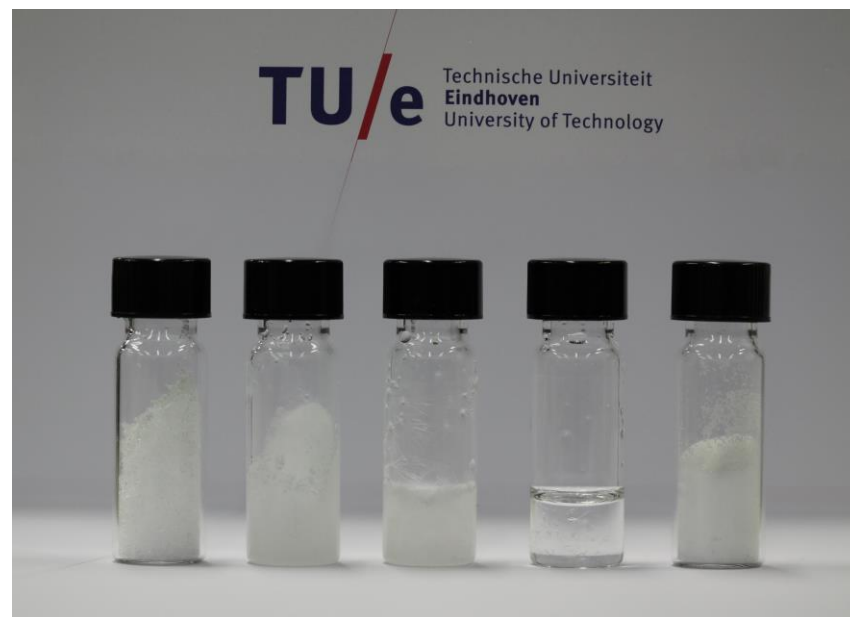
About Deep Eutectic Solvents (DESSs)

Deep Eutectic Solvents (DESSs) are low transition temperature mixtures (LTTMs) consisting of at least one hydrogen bond donor (HBD) and one hydrogen bond acceptor (HBA) counterparts that result on a liquid mixture showing unusual low freezing point



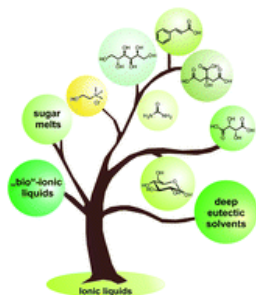
Freezing point of choline chloride / urea mixtures as a function of composition.

A.P. Abbott et al. Chem. Comm., 2003, 70-71



Visual representation of choline chloride / urea mixtures as a function of composition.

Mimicking Nature



Hypothesis:
DESs are used by plants to operate
even during drought or frost periods.

Composed of natural products

- Amides
- Sugars
- Alcohols
- (amino) acids

Chemical characteristics

- Biodegradable
- Miscible with H₂O
- Non toxic

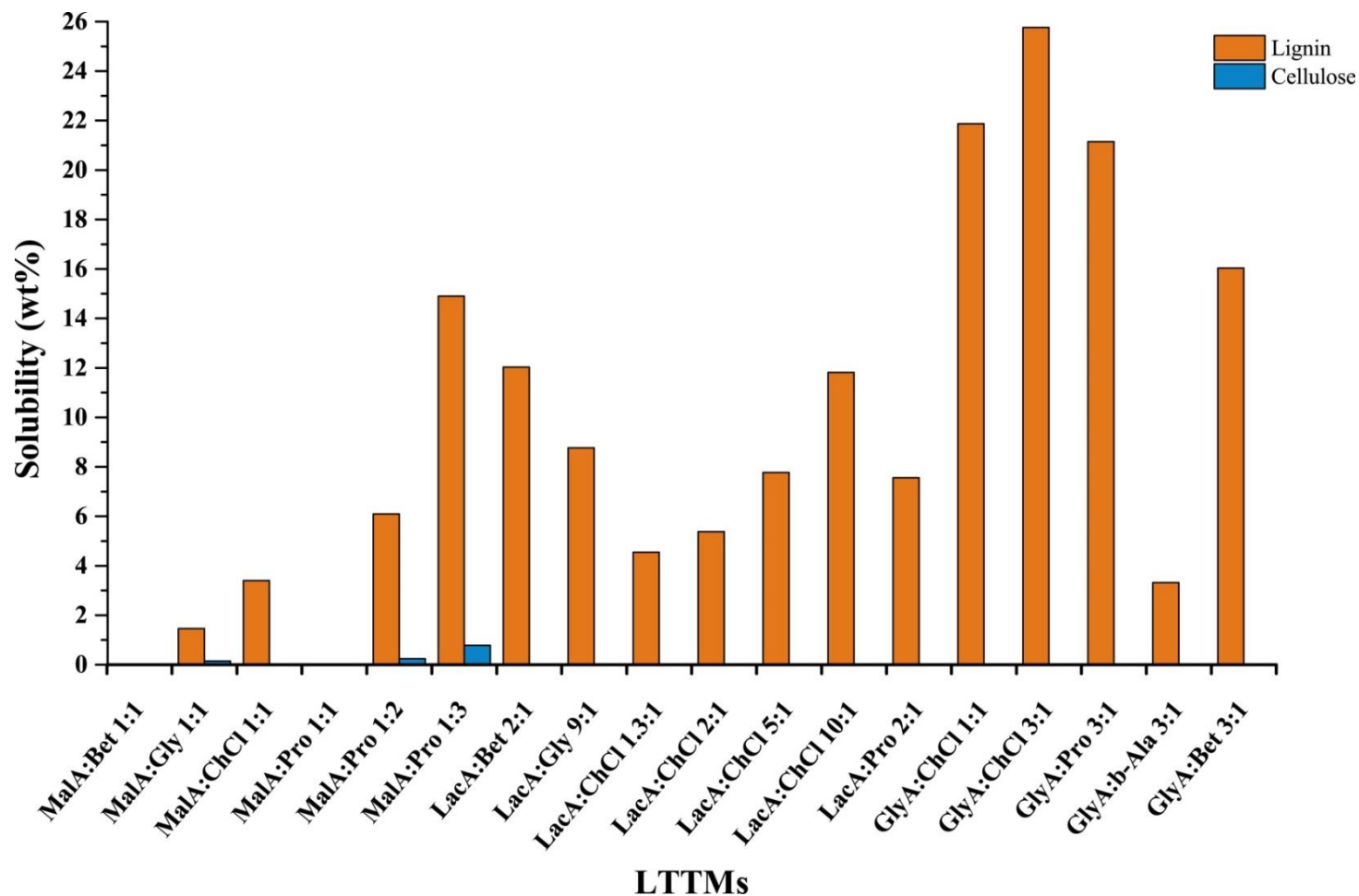
Physical characteristics

- Low vapour pressure
- Low flammability
- Non-volatile



DESs are a sustainable and cheap alternative
to far more cumbersome solvents used today.

Why for paper industry?



Scope



Dissolving lignin

- Pure cellulose, lignin and hemicellulose
- Low cost
- From different sources (wood, straw)
 - Tailor made fibres depending on DES mixtures

Dissolving cellulose

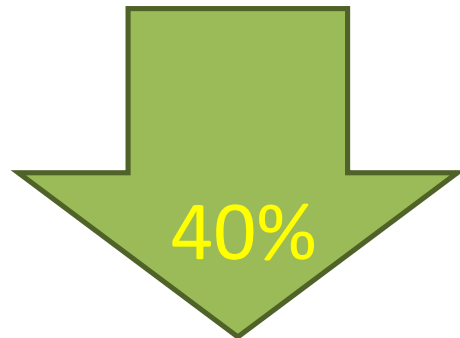
- Recovery of pure cellulose from papermaking residues
- Low cost
 - Clean dissolved pulp or building block for bio chemicals, materials or fuels

Dissolving ink and other contaminants

Savings

- DES replaces traditional pulping processes.
- DES produces high quality cellulose, hemicellulose and sulphur-free / unchanged lignin.

Energy reduction



CO₂ reduction



The true savings lie outside the mill boundaries:
If lignin replaces aromatics in the chemical industry
→ up to – **90% overall energy and CO₂ savings**

Further added value

- Biomass logistics → – 1 to – 2 Mt CO₂ emissions related to transport
- Lower investment costs → up to – 50%

Participants



Acknowledgement



This project has received funding from the Bio-Based Industries Joint Undertaking under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 668970.



Horizon 2020
European Union Funding
for Research & Innovation



Bio-based Industries
Consortium