













Co-Recovery of Lipids, **Fermentable** Sugars, and **Protein from Bio**oil Bearing **Biomass using** Ionic Liquid co-**Solvents**

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Introduction

• IL co-solvents



- Characterized by heterogeneous distribution of charge and hydrophobic – hydrophilic regions at molecular scale
- Emerging solvent platform
- US Patent <u>US20090234146</u>







- Mechanical pressing with a hydraulic or single expeller press¹.
- Generally achieves yields less than 80%. In the case of mechanical pressing the residual oil left in the oil cake may be anywhere from 6% to 14%
- The seedcake can be subjected to a different number of extractions through the expeller².
- The combination of these operations can produce oil extraction can yield up to 98% with residual oil content in cake meal of 0.5–1.5%³.
- There are problems, however. Screw presses induce friction, causing overheating, high energy consumption, and oil deterioration. Single-screw presses also provide insufficient crushing and mixing if they are not equipped with breaker bars, or other special equipment⁴.

Conventional



- The solvent extraction most commonly used today is percolation extraction with a countercurrent flow using hexane as a solvent⁵.
- The solvent extraction method recovers almost all the oils and leaves behind only 0.5% to 0.7% residual oil in the raw material.
- Solvent extraction is only economical at a large-scale production of more than 50 t bio-diesel per day.
- *n*-hexane solvent extraction possesses negative environmental impacts (generation of waste water, higher specific energy consumption and higher emissions of volatile organic compounds) and human health impacts (working with hazardous and inflammable chemicals)⁶.

Conventional



- New generation *n*-hexane extraction units are very efficient and produce far less environmental burdens than the older units,
- n-hexane extraction does not detoxify the seedcake, however.
- Due to its toxic nature, the seed cake must be used for animal feeding nor can be used in agricultural farming⁷.
- Seed cake can be used for energy production 93.8% total solid (TS) out of which 92.5% is volatile solid (VS). The cake is high in organic matter and has good potential for biogas generation⁸.

Conventional









Visualization of macroscale lipid aggregate formed in [EMIN] [MeSO₄]-methanol mixture.

Visualization of molecular-scale lipid aggregate formed in [EMIN] [MeSO₄]methanol mixture.



Bio-oil extraction



Yield of bio-oil from oil seeds as a function of IL/co-solvent ratio

Table 2. The effect of PCM on extraction

РСМ	Yield (wt %)*	Comments	
Dimethyl sulfoxide	6.0	Low yield, highly viscous product	
Acetic Acid	5.6	Low yield, highly viscous product Baseline PCM High yield, with a solid precipitate High yield, with a solid precipitate Product very similar to methanol	
Methanol	7.9		
Acetone	9.2		
Chloroform	8.4		
Isopropyl Alcohol	8.5		

Red = Lipid Green = Methanol White = IL



Phorbol Esters







Carbohydrate Hydrolysis



Jatropha shell before and after IL co-solvent treatment



Effect of ionic liquid concentration on hydrolysis kinetics of *safflower* whole seed, using pure and 70 wt% [C2mim][Ac] at 120°C.

Total fermentable sugars and bio-oil yields relative to weight of whole seed obtained from pretreated *jatropha* whole seed (kernel plus shell) at different concentrations of [C2mim][Ac].



Fementable sugars recycle



Biomass production and carbohydrate consumption by *R. toruloides*: batch one (open symbols) and batch two (closed symbols). Circles: xylose; Squares: glucose; triangles: cell mass.



Batch fermentation data

Batch	Cell mass	Cell mass fermentable sugars		Cell mass to lipid yield (Y _{P/X})	Substrate to lipid yield (Y _{P/S})
	(gdw/L)	Glucose % (w/w)1	Mannose % (w/w)1	% (w/w) ¹	(g/g)
1	9.1 (±0.2)	8.6 (±0.2)	0.9 (±0.1)	60.5 (±1.5)	0.12 (±0.07)
2	9.4 (±0.2)	9.8 (±0.2)	1.4 (±0.1)	57.4 (±0.3)	0.16 (±0.07) ²

Summary



- IL co-solvents offer unique opportunities to expand treatment of bio-oil seeds.
- Co-solvents expand the number of solvent properties achieved at the molecular scale.
- By changing the nature of the polar cosolvent molecule, or the identify of the cation or anion, co-solvent systems can be tailored for unique applications.

- The combination of methanol and hydrophilic IL's with a strong hydrogen bond disrupter provide a unique combination to extract and separate bio-oil as well as to pretreat biomass.
- The heterogeneous distribution of charge and hydrophobic/hydrophilic regions within the micro-scale solvent structure offers ability to extract and absorb polar molecules.
- IL co-solvents permit a novel platform to expand upon the products available from bio-oil bearing biomass



(Left) scattered light intensity as function of concentration of MEOH, (right) clustering analysis of the same *Courtesy: Ken Benjamin SDSM&T*

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Collaborators:

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QUESTIONS?

