

# Part II: liquid- liquid extraction with ILs

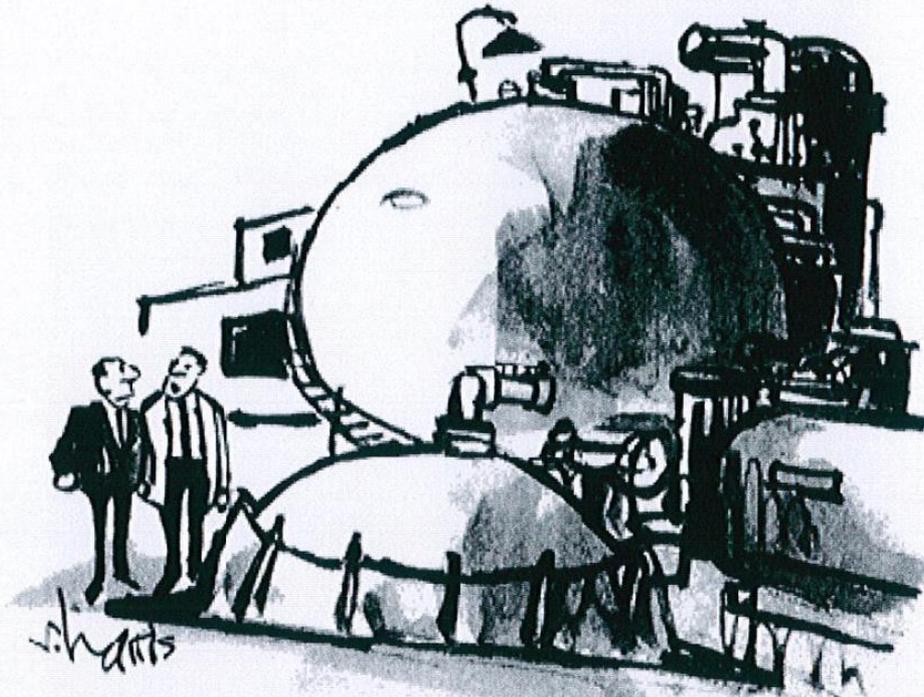
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# Do ILS bring something new ?



"OUR PLAN IS TO EXTRACT SULPHATES, BROMIDES,  
COPPER, SILVER AND GOLD FROM SEA WATER.  
ALL WE'VE MANAGED TO GET SO FAR, HOWEVER,  
IS SALT."

# General rules using molecular solvents

## First tips

- initial aqueous phase contains the metallic ion(s) and a mineral acid
- Water, acid and metallic ions are not soluble in the organic phase
- The organic phase is poorly soluble in the acidic aqueous phase

**An extractant is absolutely needed  
in the organic phase**

## Results

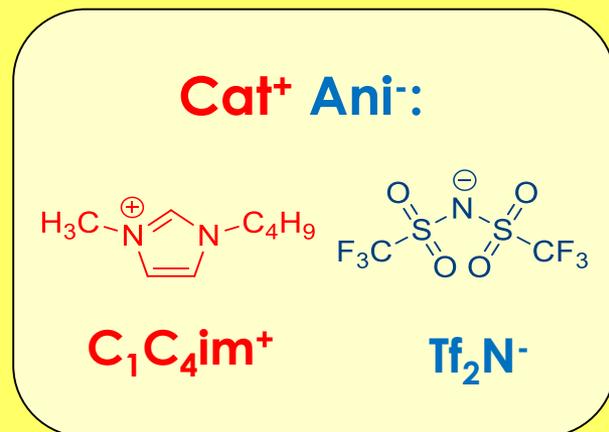
- The extractant is poorly soluble in the aqueous phase
- It extracts part of the acid and eventually water
- Extracted species are neutral

**Distribution coefficient D:**  $D_M = [M]_{\text{org}}/[M]_{\text{aq}}$

- $D < 0,1$  no significant extraction
- $0,1 < D < 1$  low extraction efficiency
- $D > 1$  significant extraction
- D should not be too large !

# Notations

ILs and salts are noted:  $[\text{Cat}^+][\text{Ani}^-]$   
imidazolium ILs as:  $[\text{C}_n\text{C}_m\text{im}^+][\text{Ani}^-]$



**Biphasic systems noted:**



**Top phase on the left; compounds in their main initial phase (before extraction)**



# Ideas for ILs and extraction

- ➔ **ILs remplace the organic phase**
  - Simple idea, surprising results
- ➔ **ILs are additives to the organic phase**
  - Very original idea
  - **ILs act as new extractants**
    - Ideas of organic chemists
  - **ILs replace both phases**
    - Very recent idea, potential application ?
- ➔ **ILs as the ultimate solution (?)**
  - Delete the organic phase !

# Outline of presentation

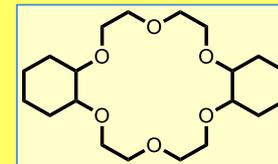
- **ILs as replacement of mol. solvents**
- **ILs as additives to organic phase**
- **Deleting the organic phase**
- **Conclusions and perspectives**

# Outline of presentation

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# IL is used as the organic solvent

Sr(II)/pH=4.1/H<sub>2</sub>O//DCH18C6/[Cat<sup>+</sup>][Ani<sup>-</sup>]

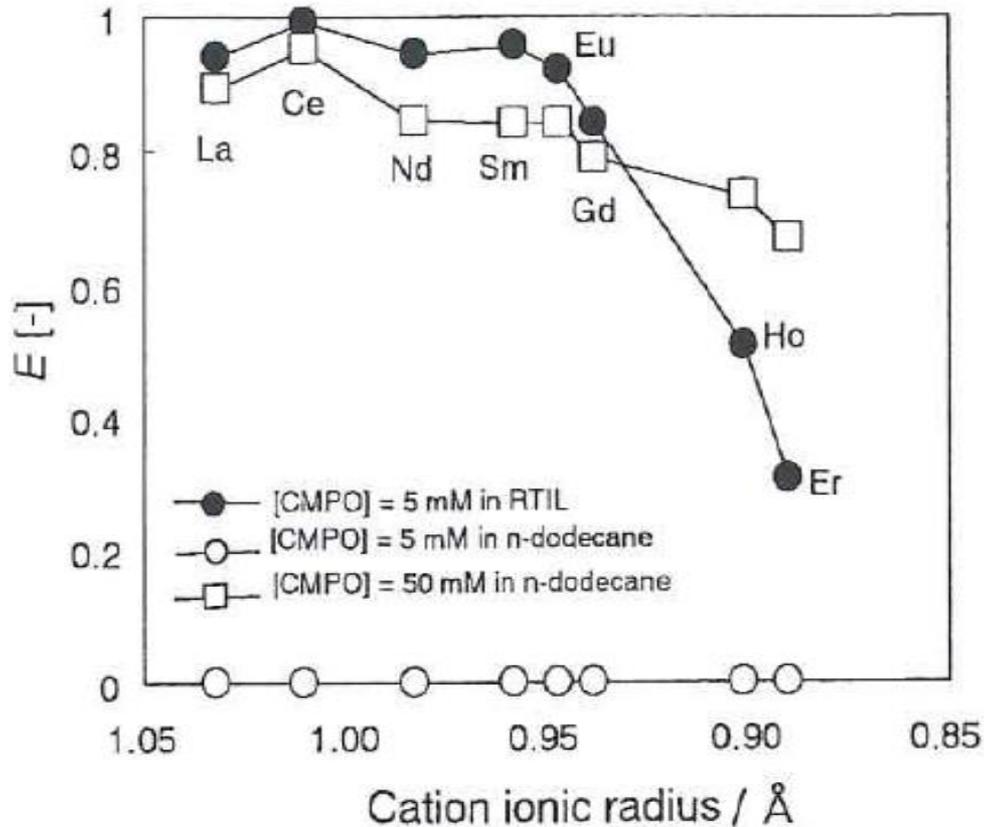


solvent	D without EC	D with EC
C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> C <sub>1</sub> imPF <sub>6</sub>	0.67	4.2
C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> imPF <sub>6</sub>	0.89	24
C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> C <sub>1</sub> imTf <sub>2</sub> N	0.81	4500
C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> imTf <sub>2</sub> N	0.64	11000
C <sub>3</sub> C <sub>1</sub> C <sub>1</sub> imTf <sub>2</sub> N	0.47	1800
C <sub>3</sub> C <sub>1</sub> imTf <sub>2</sub> N	0.35	5400
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	0	0.76
CHCl <sub>3</sub>	0	0.77

**It's a miracle ?!**

# Is there a benefit ?

CMPO in  $[C_1C_4im^+][PF_6^-]$  is ca. 10 times more efficient than in dodecane



Costly extractants can be saved thanks to costly solvents...

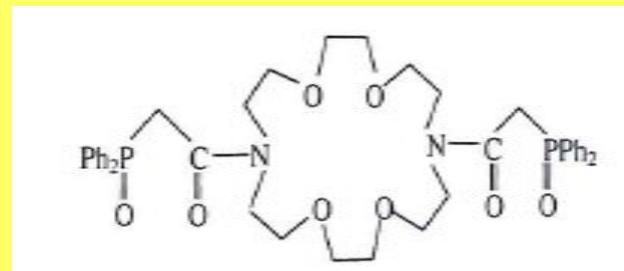
Ion exchange mechanism occurs, thus the IL amount needed is much lower than what is actually present !

Can we do better ?

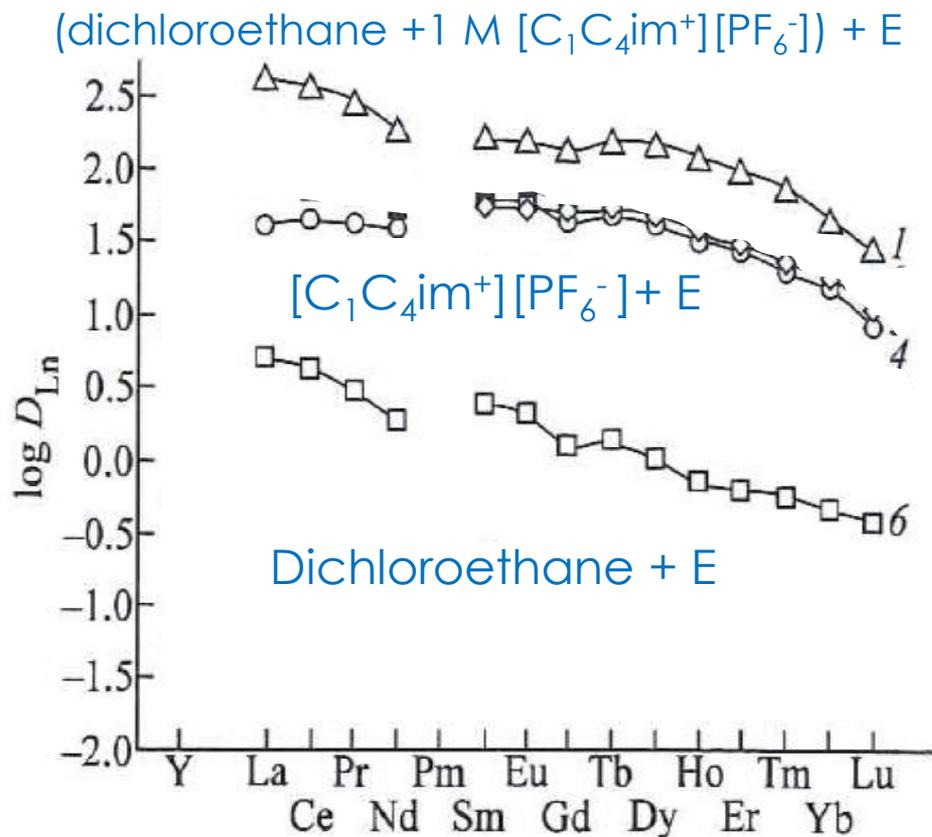
# Outline of presentation

- ILs as replacement of mol. solvents
- **ILs as additives to organic phase**
- Deleting the organic phase
- Conclusions and perspectives

# IL as an additive to a molecular solvent



The amount of costly IL is reduced but this system is complicated and not « green ». Can we do better ?



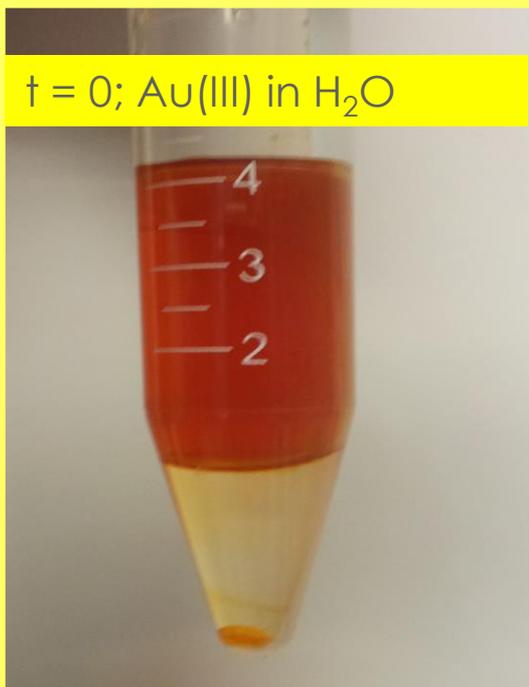
E: organophosphorus compound

# Outline of presentation

- ILs as replacement of mol. solvents
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# First, delete the extractant

Pure ILs do extract metallic ions. (cf. Dai et al.)



Other examples with Pt(IV), Ir(IV), Pd(II), Rh(III).

# Separation Co/Pt from real life sample

Proton Exchange Membrane Fuel Cells (PEMFC) are used for vehicles (and other applications). They contain two valuable metals: Pt and Co



PEMFC are dismantled



Active Co-Pt-C powder is collected



The powder is dissolved in HCl 12 M/H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>



**How to separate the two metals,  
without using an extractant ?**

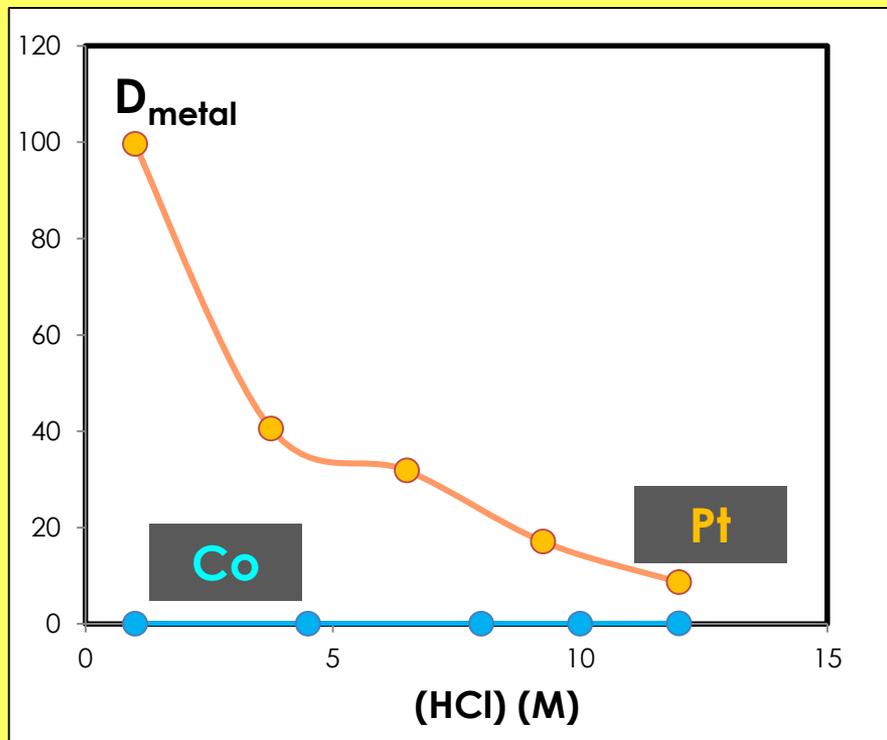
# Separation Co/Pt using $[C_{14}pyr][Tf_2N]$ , $T = 40\text{ }^{\circ}C$

## Step 1: individual extraction study

Co alone at  $9 \times 10^{-2}$  M in  $H_2O/HCl$  or Pt alone at  $10^{-2}$  M in  $H_2O/HCl$  12 M;  
Room T.

## Step 2: mixtures Co/Pt arising from real PEMFC lixiviation

- (Co, Pt) at ( $4.8 \times 10^{-3}$  M/  $1.16 \times 10^{-2}$  M )
- (Co, Pt) at ( $2.4 \times 10^{-3}$  M/  $5.8 \times 10^{-2}$  M )



before



after

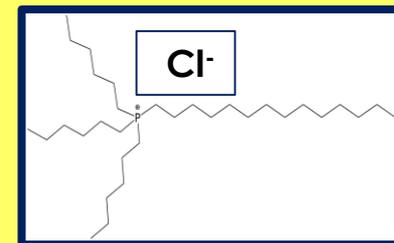


Dilution factor applied to the sample : 1 (i.e. HCl final value is 6 M)

# Separation Pd(II) vs. Rh(III)

$P_{66614}$  Cl //  $H_2O/HCl/Rh(III)/ Pd(II)$

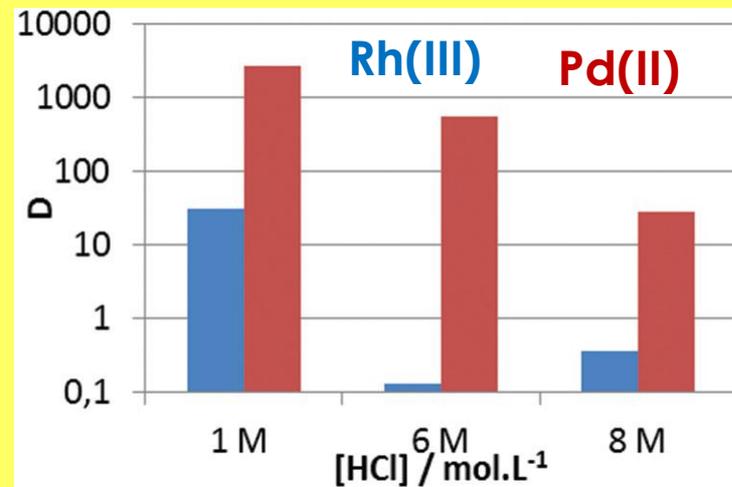
$[Rh] = 250 \text{ mgL}^{-1}$  ;  $[Pd] = 250 \text{ mgL}^{-1}$  ;  $V_{aq} / V_{IL} = 3,4$



aqueous  
phases



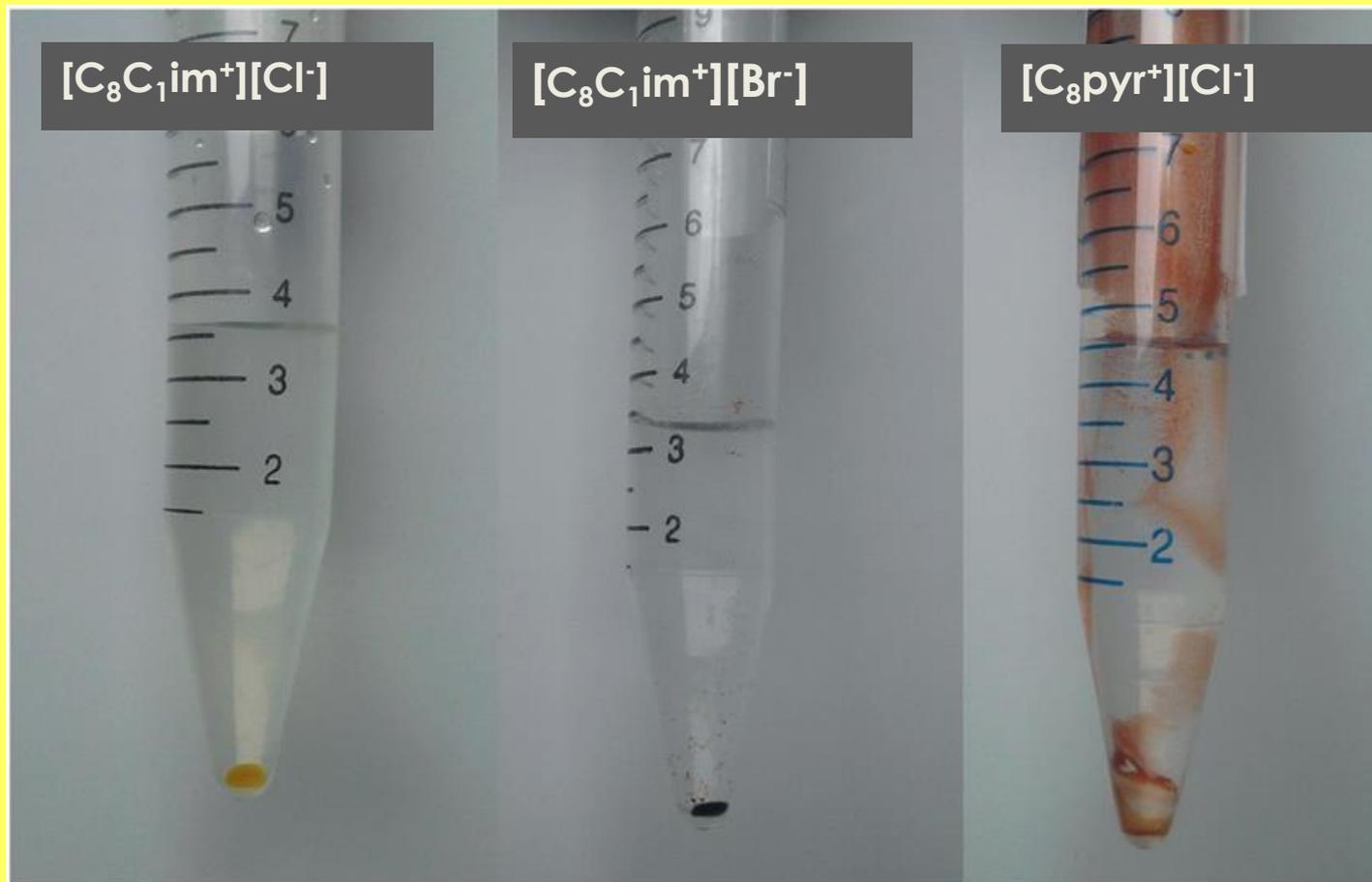
After  
extraction



**$HCl \geq 5 \text{ M}$ : Pd in IL, Rh remains in water**

Second, delete the organic phase (almost do it...)

$\text{Au(III)}/[\text{H}^+][\text{Cl}^-]/\text{H}_2\text{O} // [\text{Cat}^+][\text{Ani}^-]$   
 $[\text{Cat}^+][\text{AuX}_4^-]$  precipitates as a solid (or a liquid)



# Delete the organic phase frankly



**PATENT SUBMITTED**

T = 0 min 0 sec

**ciceco**  
aveiro institute of materials

**LEPMI**  
Grenoble - Chambéry

## Another example

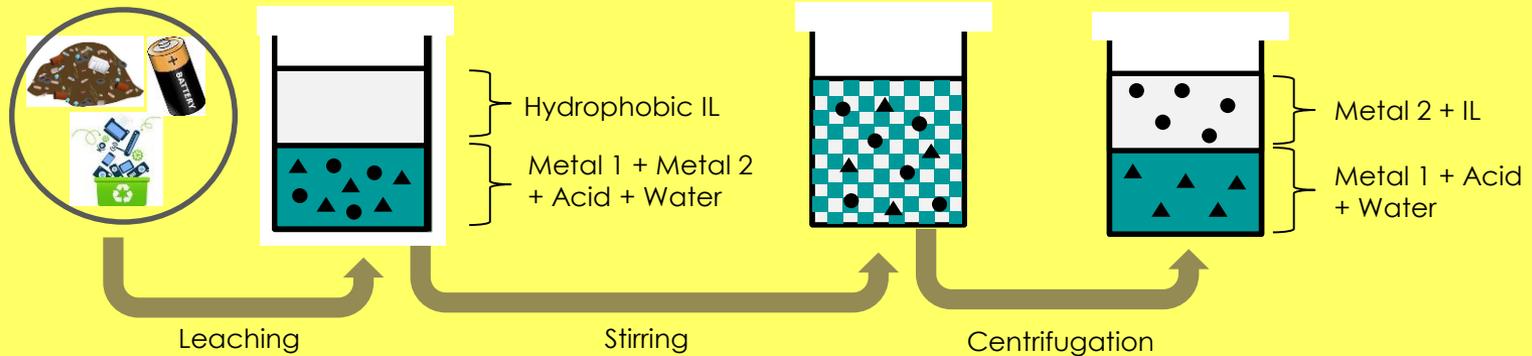


The system is composed of : mineral acid, metallic ion, water, an hydrophilic IL highly soluble in water.

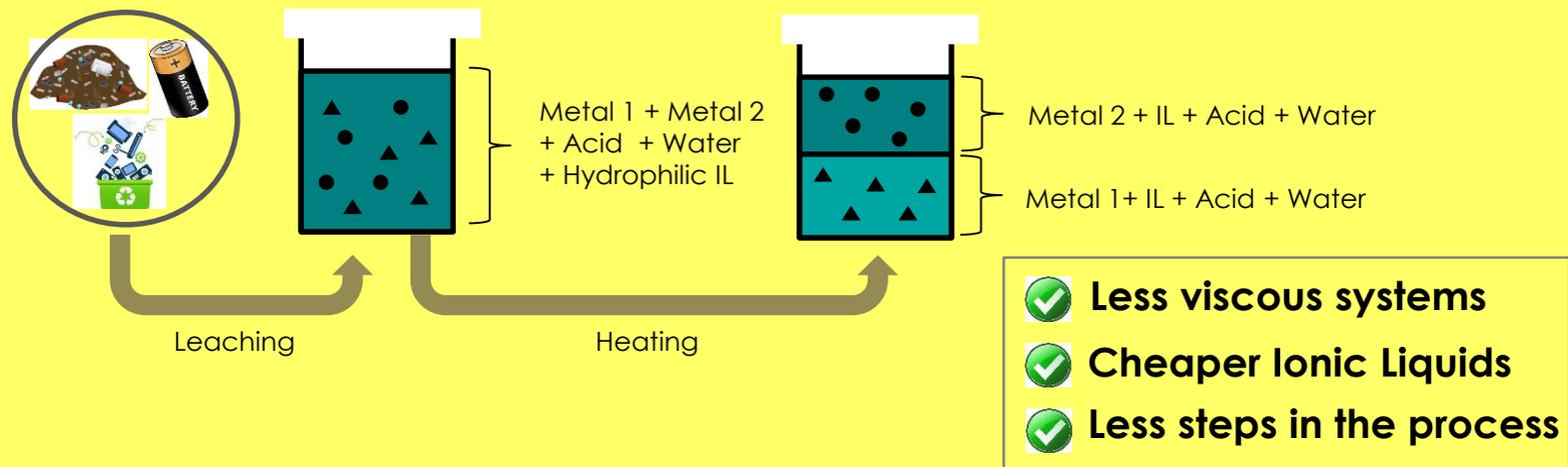
Temperature makes the system change from monophasic to biphasic

# AQUEOUS BIPHASIC SYSTEMS FOR METAL RECOVERY

## Conventional liquid-liquid extraction



## Aqueous Biphasic Systems



# Conclusions, perspectives

- ILs impulse a new definition of solvent, solutes and biphasic systems for extraction
- ILs allow different extractions, which benefit has to be estimated
- Their unique solvation properties make them the best playground ever

# Thanks for your attention

