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# Structure-property relationships in new LCST ionic liquids

Sanskrita Madhukailya

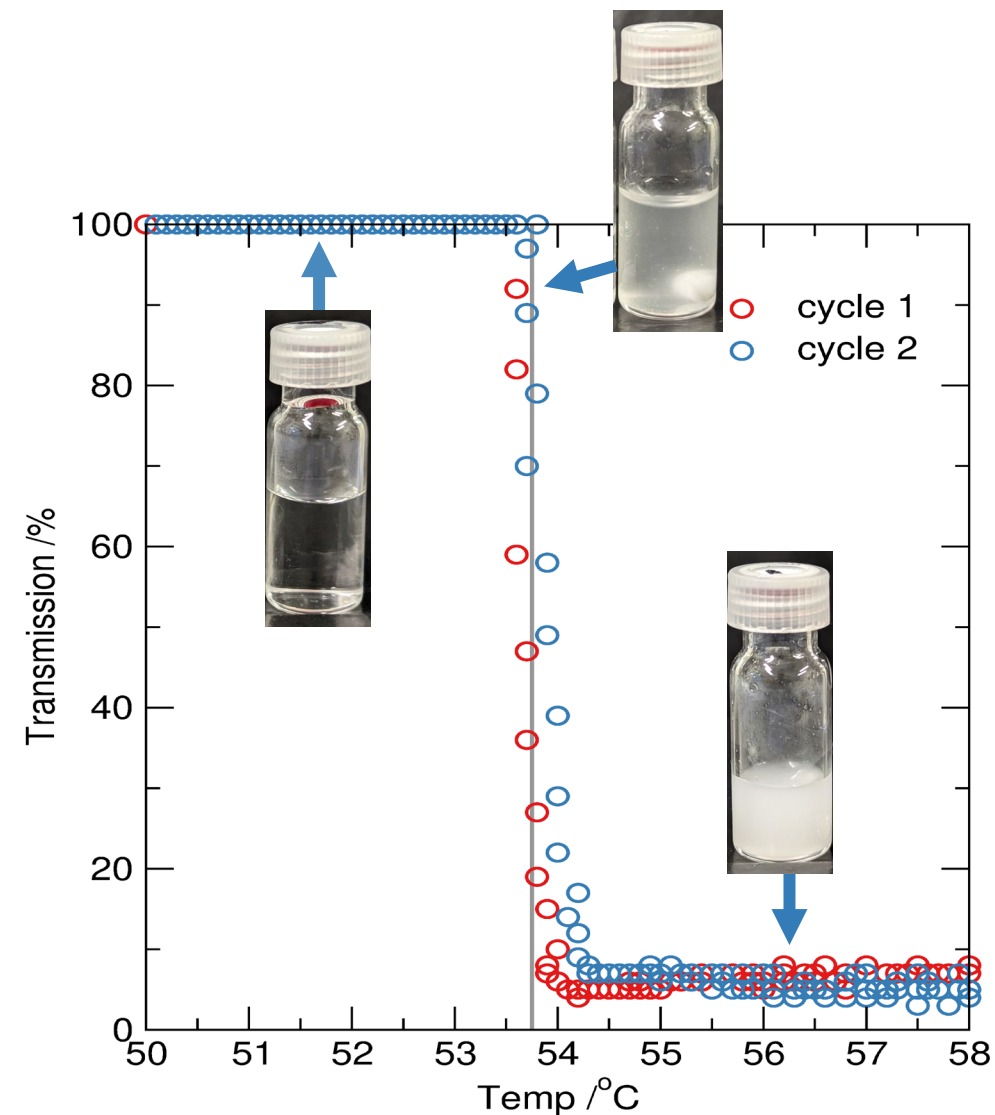
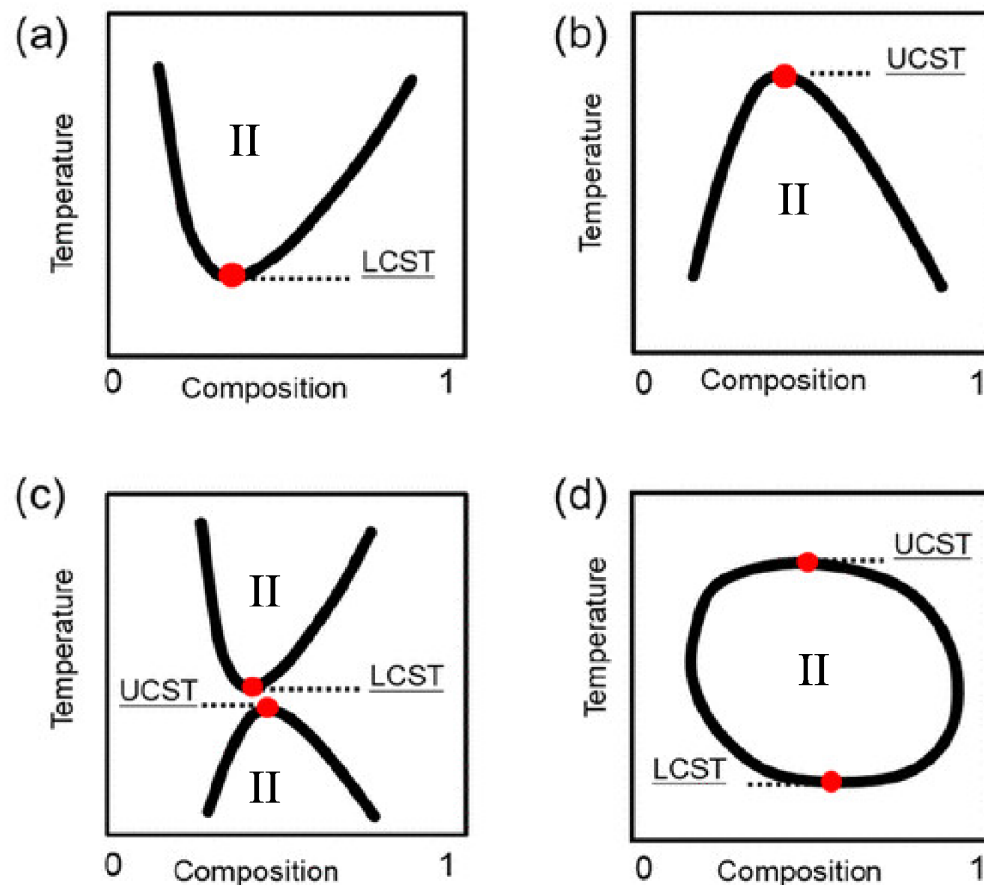
Confidential, QUILL Meet 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> March 2024

# Lower Critical Solubility Temperature (LCST)



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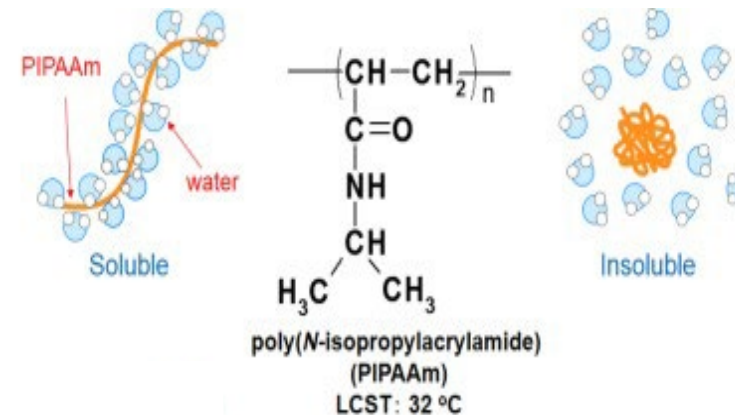
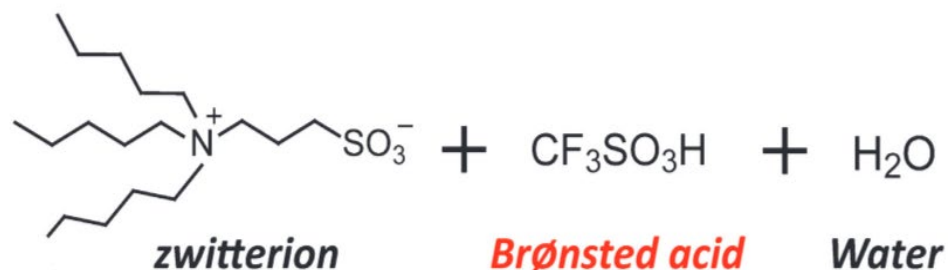
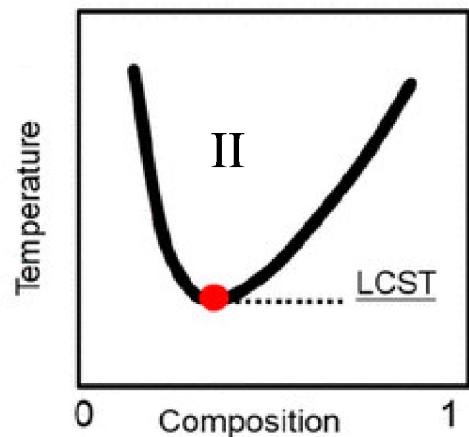


# LCST over the years..



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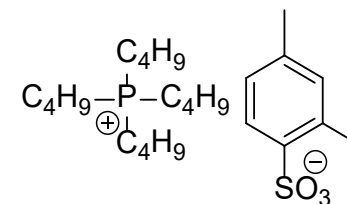
Cellulose  
Derivatives  
(1930s)

Polymers  
(late 1950s)

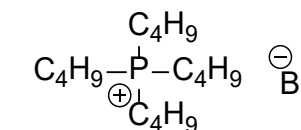
Ionic Liquids  
(2007)

Zwitterionic  
Ionic Liquids  
(2016)

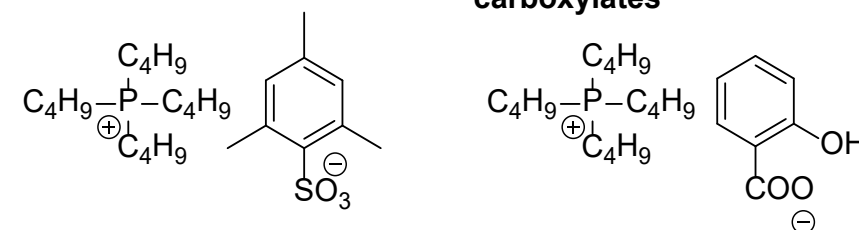
sulfonates



halides



carboxylates



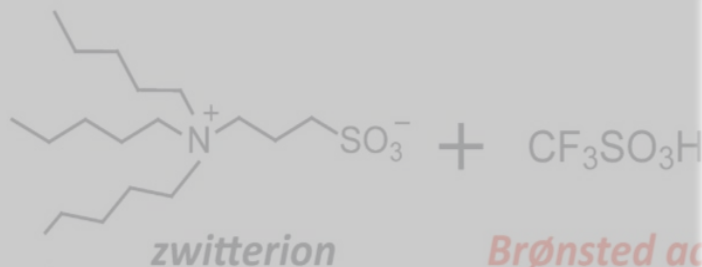
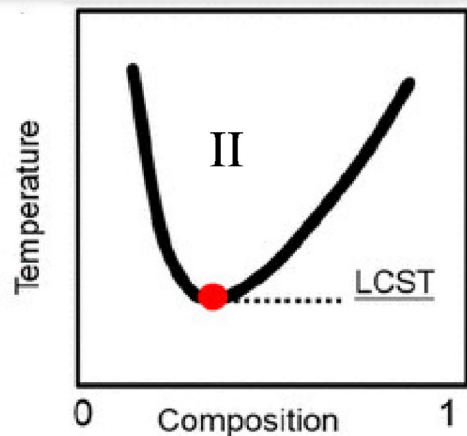


# LCST over the years..



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## Communications

### Ionic Liquids

DOI: 10.1002/anie.200604402

### LCST-Type Phase Changes of a Mixture of Water and Ionic Liquids Derived from Amino Acids\*\*

Kenta Fukumoto and Hiroyuki Ohno\*

Ionic liquids (ILs)<sup>[1]</sup> are organic salts designed to melt below 100°C, in particular at room temperature, which have characteristic properties such as negligible volatility<sup>[2]</sup> and nonflammability over a wide temperature range. There is increasing interest in ILs that have functional groups designed

diagram reported was only observed at high and limited IL content (60–65%). There was no direct demonstration of clear phase separation above the critical temperature. It is desirable to arrange similar LCST-type phase separation in water/IL mixtures, because the partition coefficient of



DOI: 10.1002/chem.201600973

CHEMISTRY  
A European Journal  
Communication

### Ionic Liquids

### Zwitterion/Brønsted Acid Mixtures Showing Controlled Lower Critical Solution Temperature-Type Phase Changes with Water

Yuki Mieno,<sup>[a, b]</sup> Yuki Kohno,<sup>[a, b]</sup> Shohei Saita,<sup>[a, b]</sup> and Hiroyuki Ohno<sup>\*[a, b]</sup>

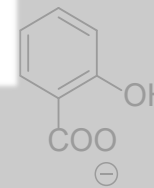
## scientific reports

OPEN

### Combinatorial discovery of small-molecule 1,2,3-triazolium ionic liquids exhibiting lower critical solution temperature phase transition

Yen-Ho Chu<sup>§</sup>, Mou-Fu Cheng & Yung-Hsin Chiang

Both lower and upper critical solution temperature (LCST and UCST) systems are two typical phase behaviors of thermoresponsive materials with solvents, in which LCST is far less common than UCST.

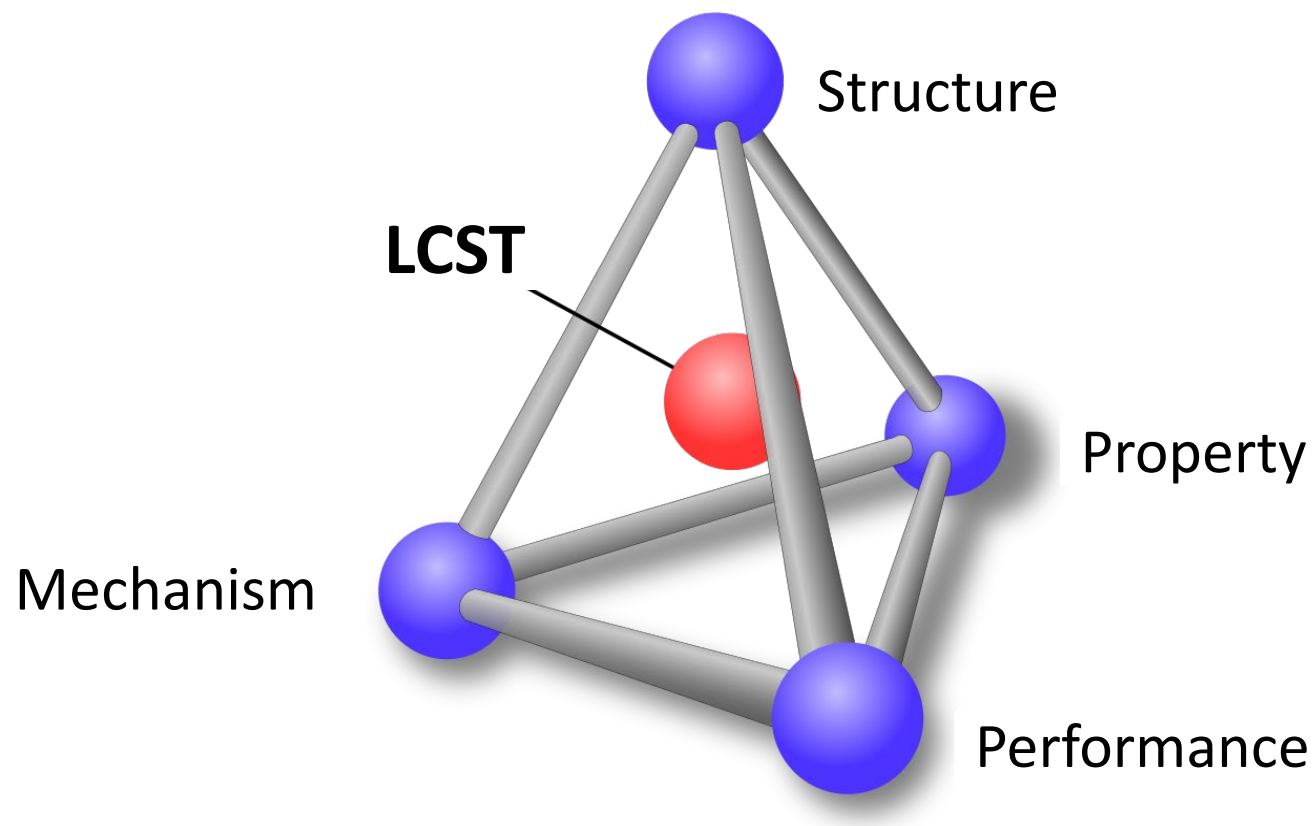


# Lower Critical Solubility Temperature (LCST)



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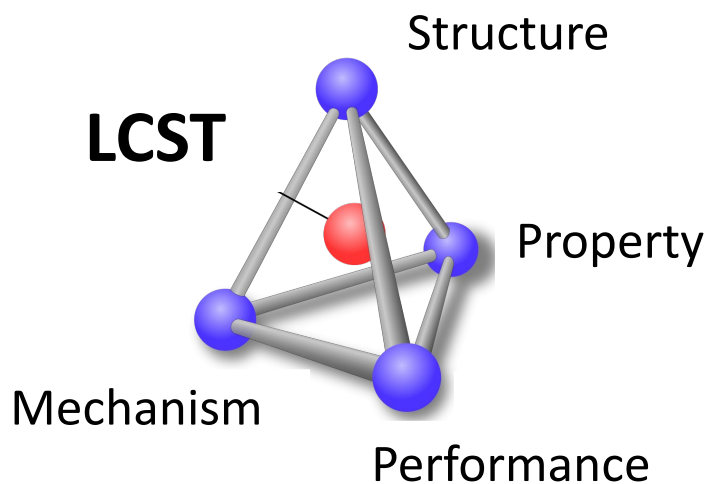


# Lower Critical Solubility Temperature (LCST)



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	$[P_{5555}]^+$	$[P_{4444}]^+$	$[N_{4444}]^+$
$[Tf_2N]^-$	×	×	×
$BF_4^-$	×	×	×
$CF_3SO_3^-$	×	×	×
$[TMBS]^-$	×	LCST	LCST
$CF_3COO^-$	×	LCST	○
$[DMBS]^-$	×	LCST	○
$[TsO]^-$	×	LCST	○
$[BzSO_3]^-$	×	○	○
$NO_3^-$	×	○	○
$Br^-$	×	○	○
$Cl^-$	×	○	○
$CH_3SO_3^-$	○	○	○

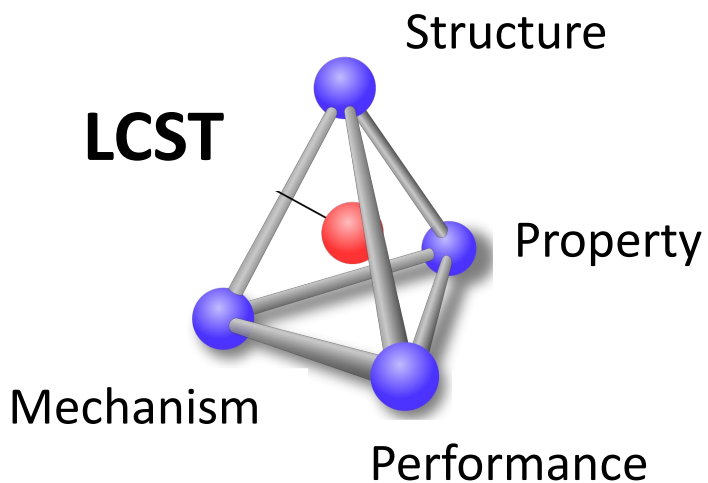
○: hydrophilic IL, ×: hydrophobic IL.

# Lower Critical Solubility Temperature (LCST)



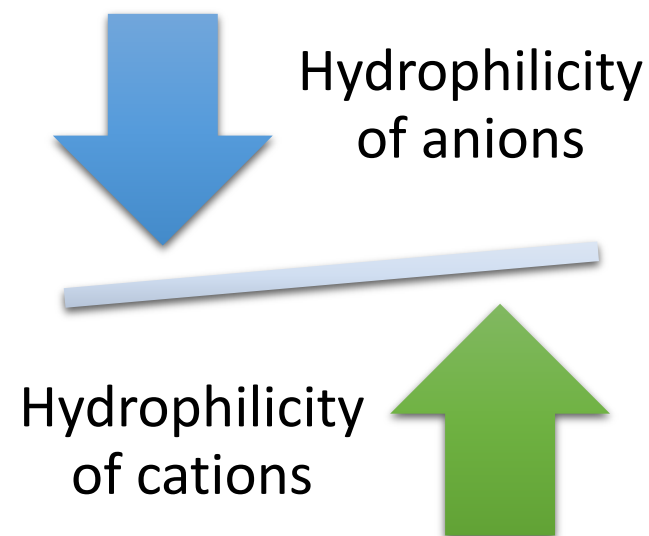
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	$[P_{5555}]^+$	$[P_{4444}]^+$	$[N_{4444}]^+$
$[Tf_2N]^-$	×	×	×
$BF_4^-$	×	×	×
$CF_3SO_3^-$	×	×	×
$[TMBS]^-$	×	LCST	LCST
$CF_3COO^-$	×	LCST	○
$[DMBS]^-$	×	LCST	○
$[TsO]^-$	×	LCST	○
$[BzSO_3]^-$	×	○	○
$NO_3^-$	×	○	○
$Br^-$	×	○	○
$Cl^-$	×	○	○
$CH_3SO_3^-$	○	○	○

○: hydrophilic IL, ×: hydrophobic IL.

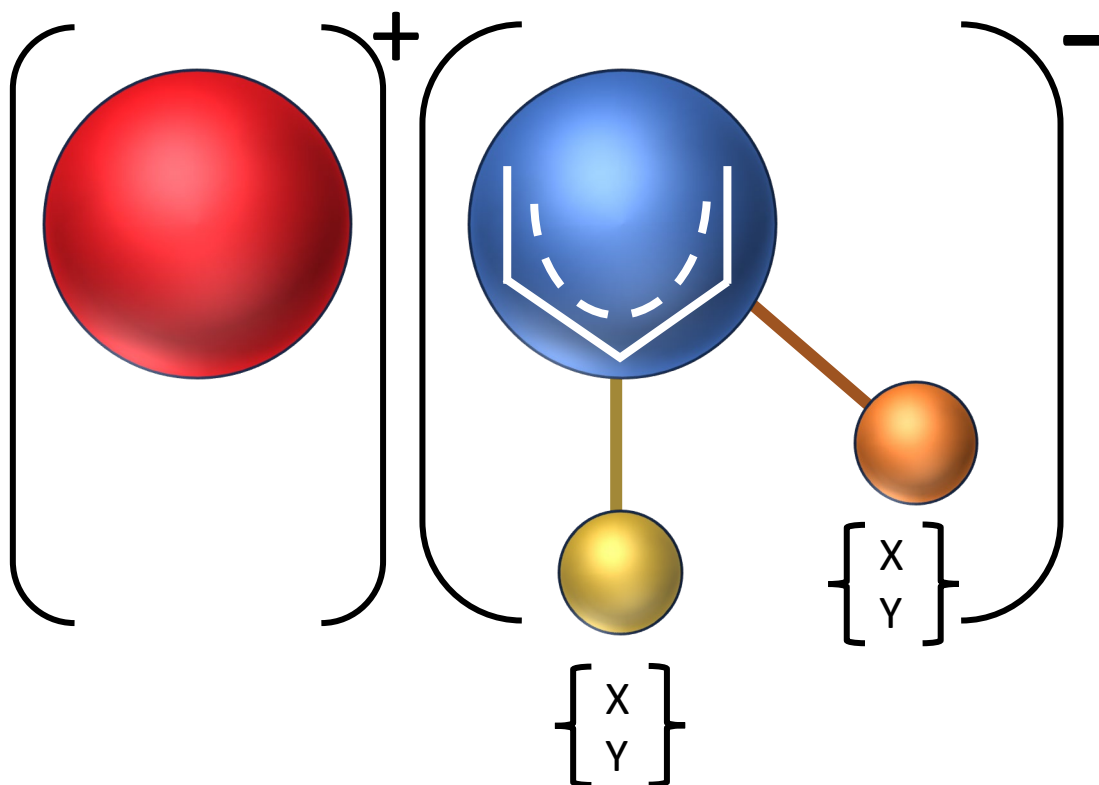


# Objectives

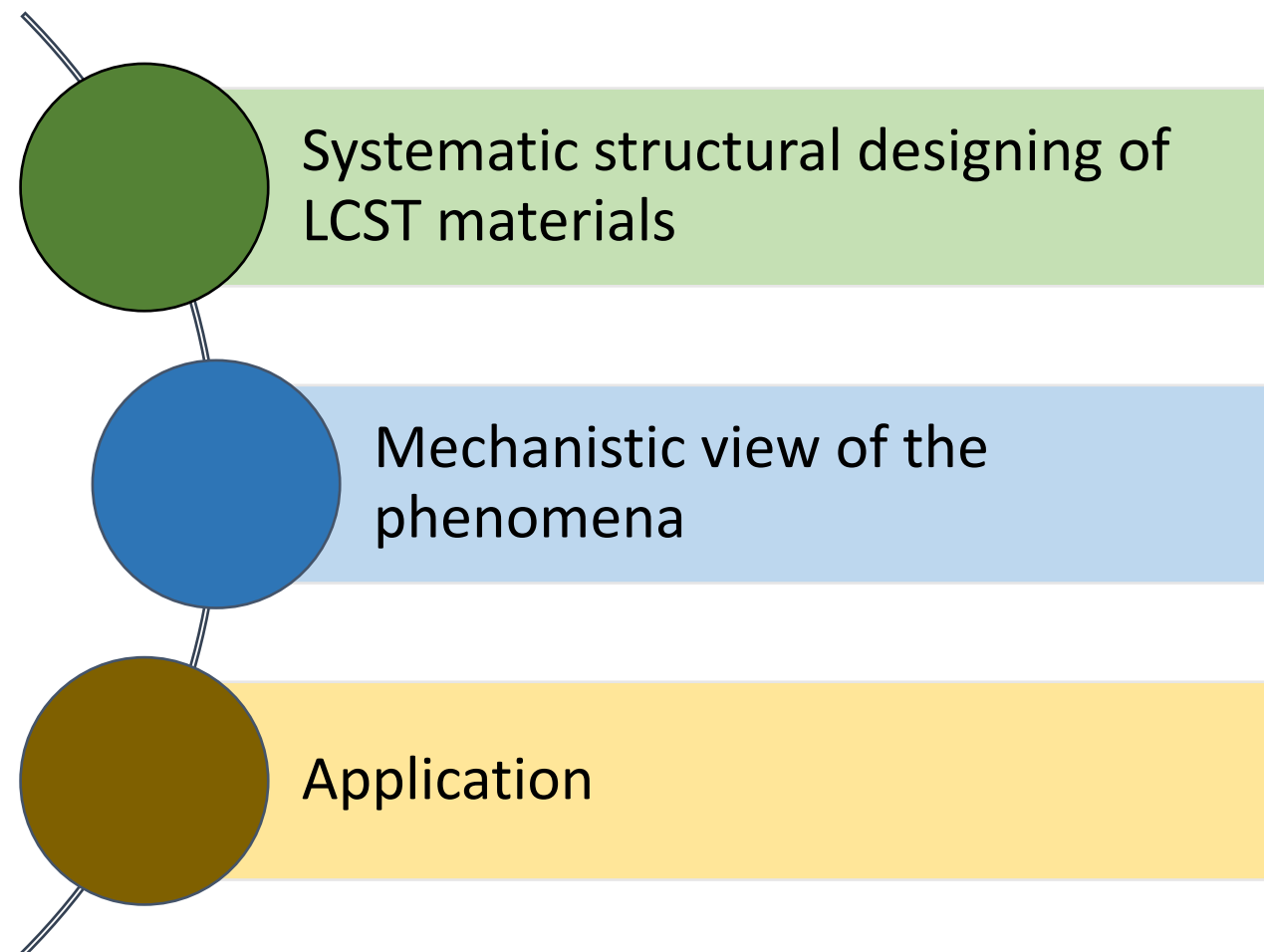


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Ionic Liquids from the same family :  
A result of structural modification



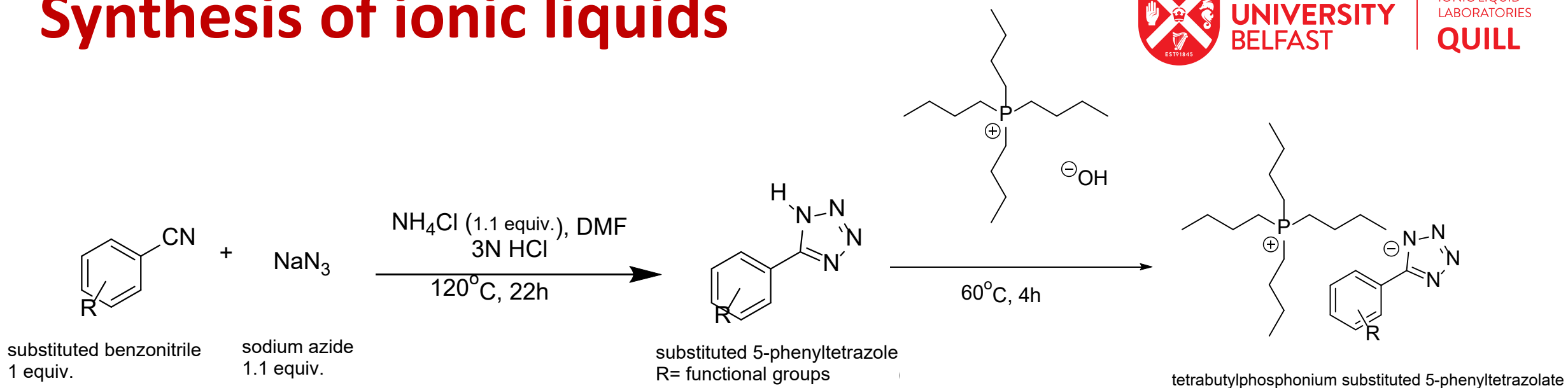


# Synthesis of ionic liquids



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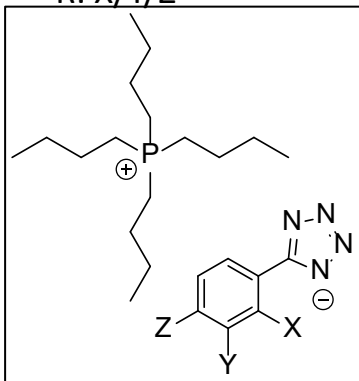
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## — Anion modification —

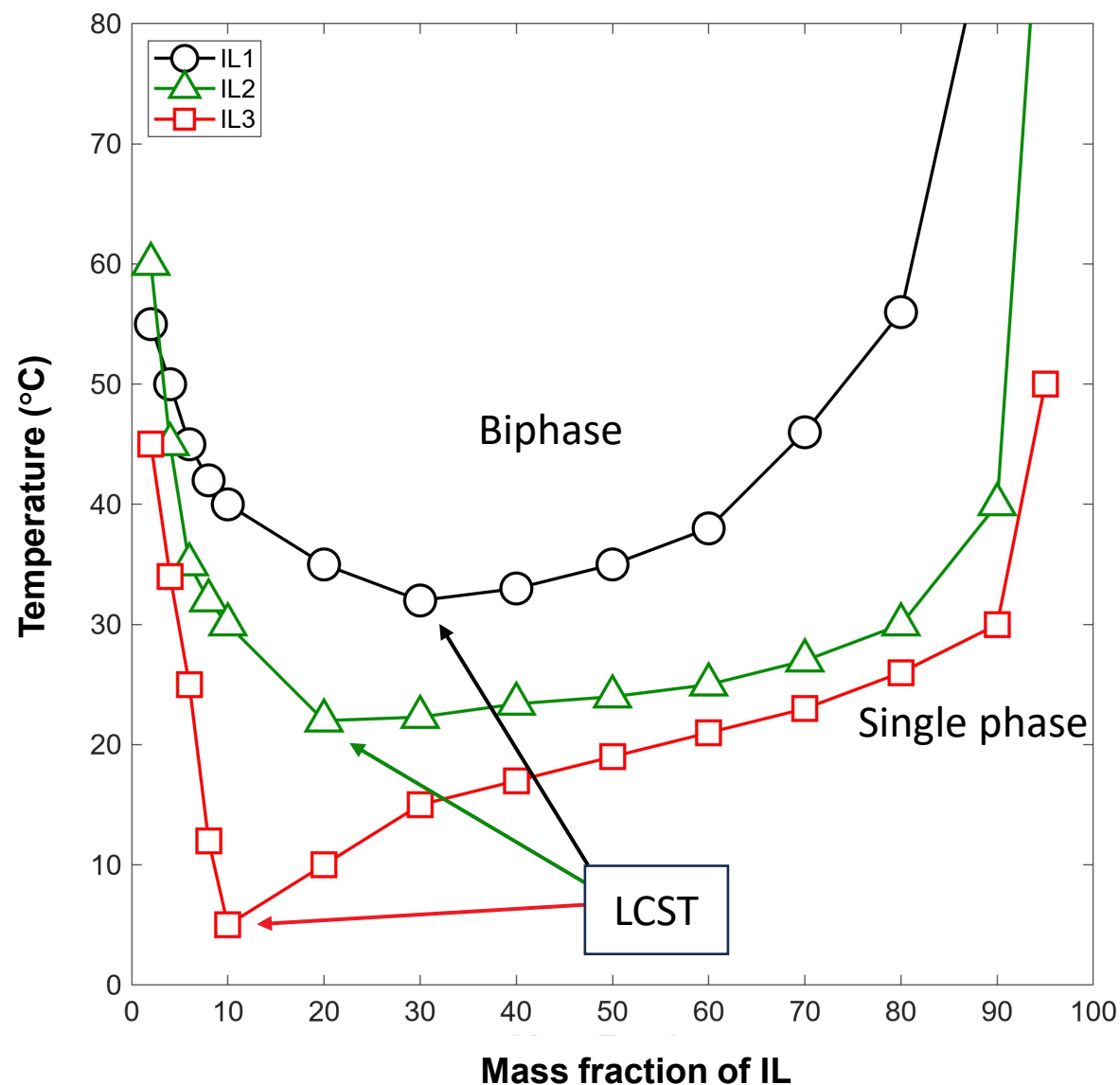
[P<sub>4444</sub>][R-PhTet]

R: X/Y/Z



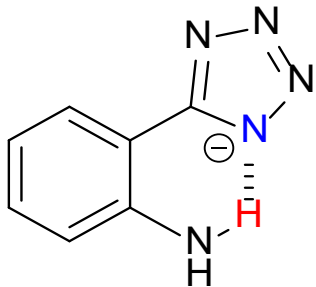
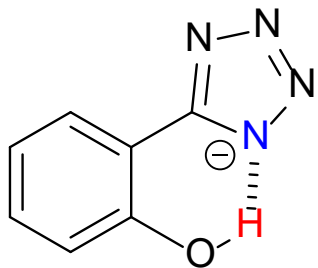
X	H	H	H	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	H	Br	H	H	Cl	H	NH <sub>2</sub>	H	H	OH	H
Y	H	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
Z	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	H	H	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	H	Br	Cl	H	CF <sub>3</sub>	H	NH <sub>2</sub>	OH	H	NO <sub>2</sub>

# What do we expect?

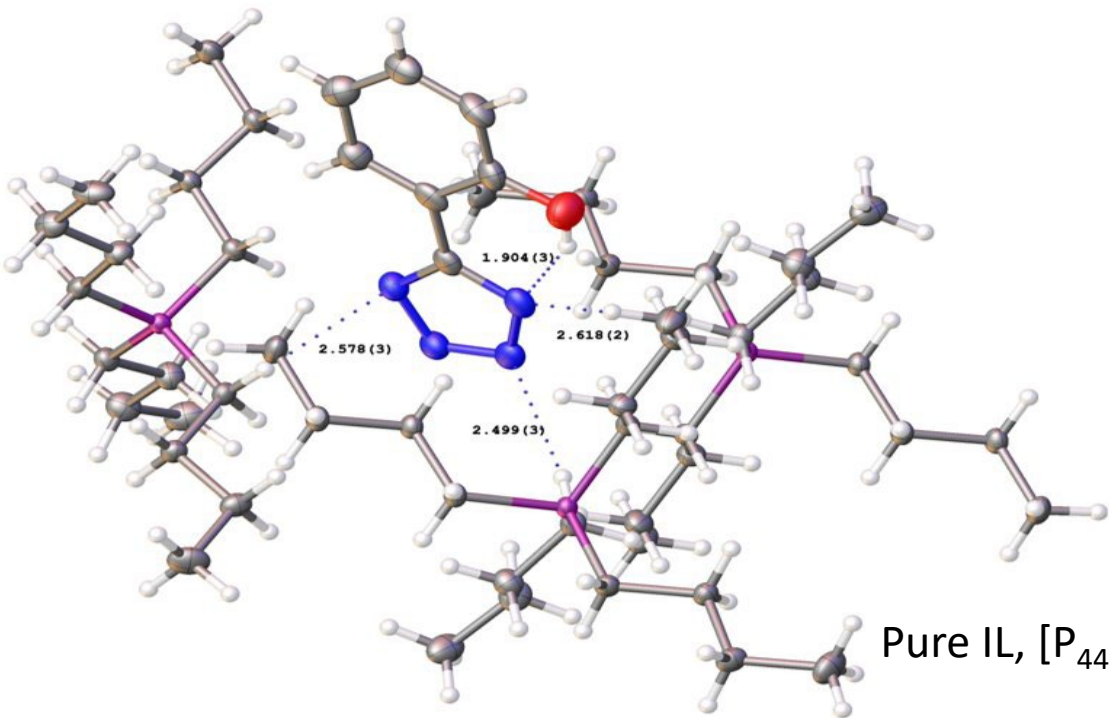


More partial hydrophobicity  
= Lower LCST (IL-3 > IL-2 > IL-1)  
= Stronger ion-pair interactions  
= Weaker H-bonding w/water

# Non-LCST behaviour

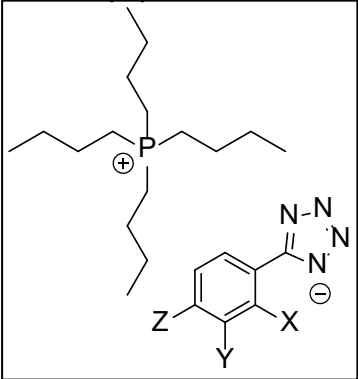


Intramolecular H-bond



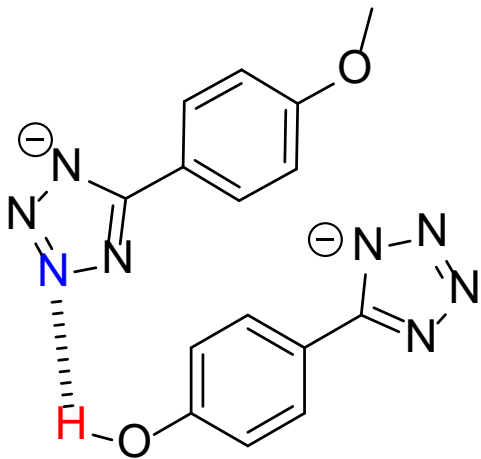
Pure IL, [P<sub>4444</sub>][2-OH-PhTet]

[P<sub>4444</sub>][R-PhTet]  
R: X/Y/Z

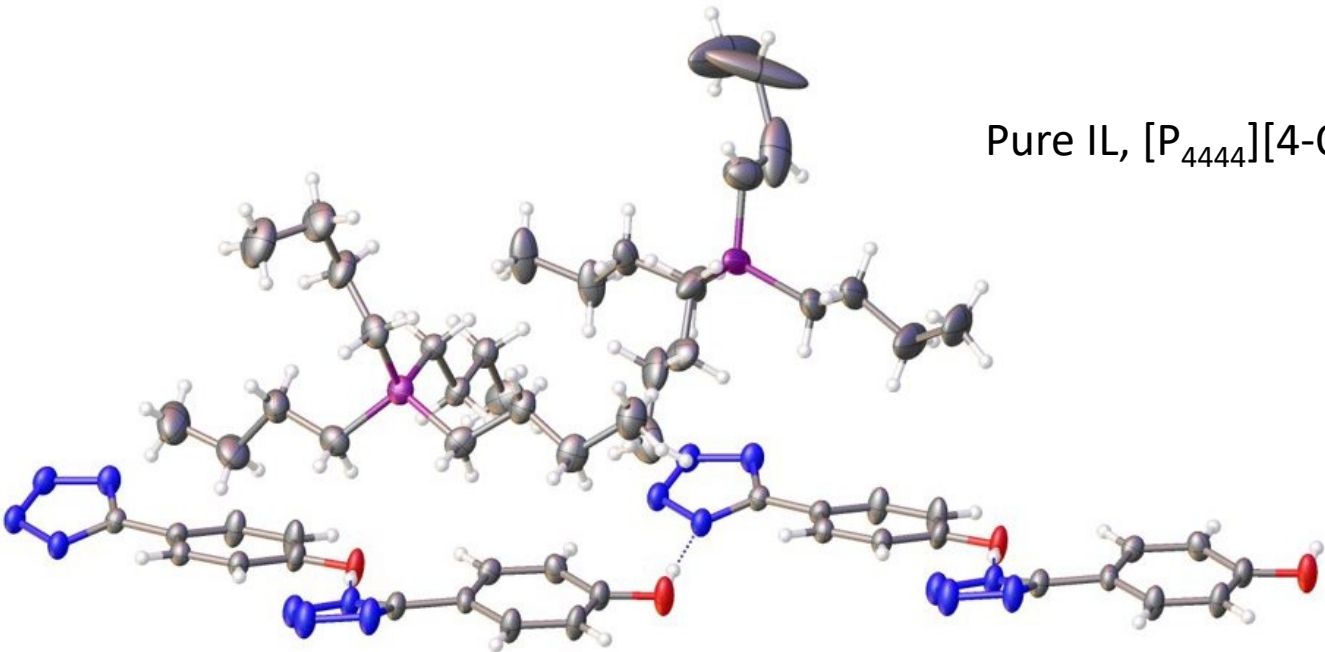


X	H	H	H	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	H	Br	H	H	Cl	H	NH <sub>2</sub>	H	OH	H
Y	H	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
Z	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	H	H	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	H	Br	Cl	H	CF <sub>3</sub>	H	OH	H	NO <sub>2</sub>

# Non-LCST behaviour

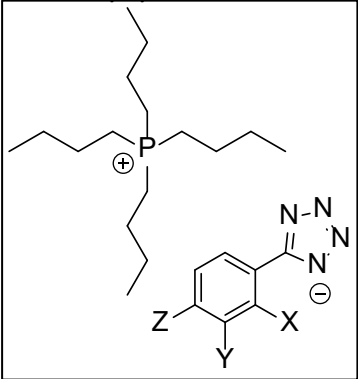


Strong anion network



Pure IL, [P<sub>4444</sub>][4-OH-PhTet]

[P<sub>4444</sub>][R-PhTet]  
R: X/Y/Z



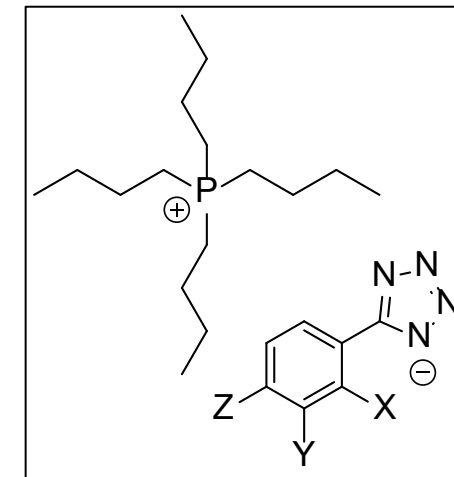
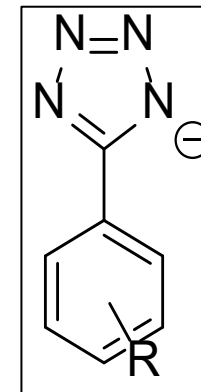
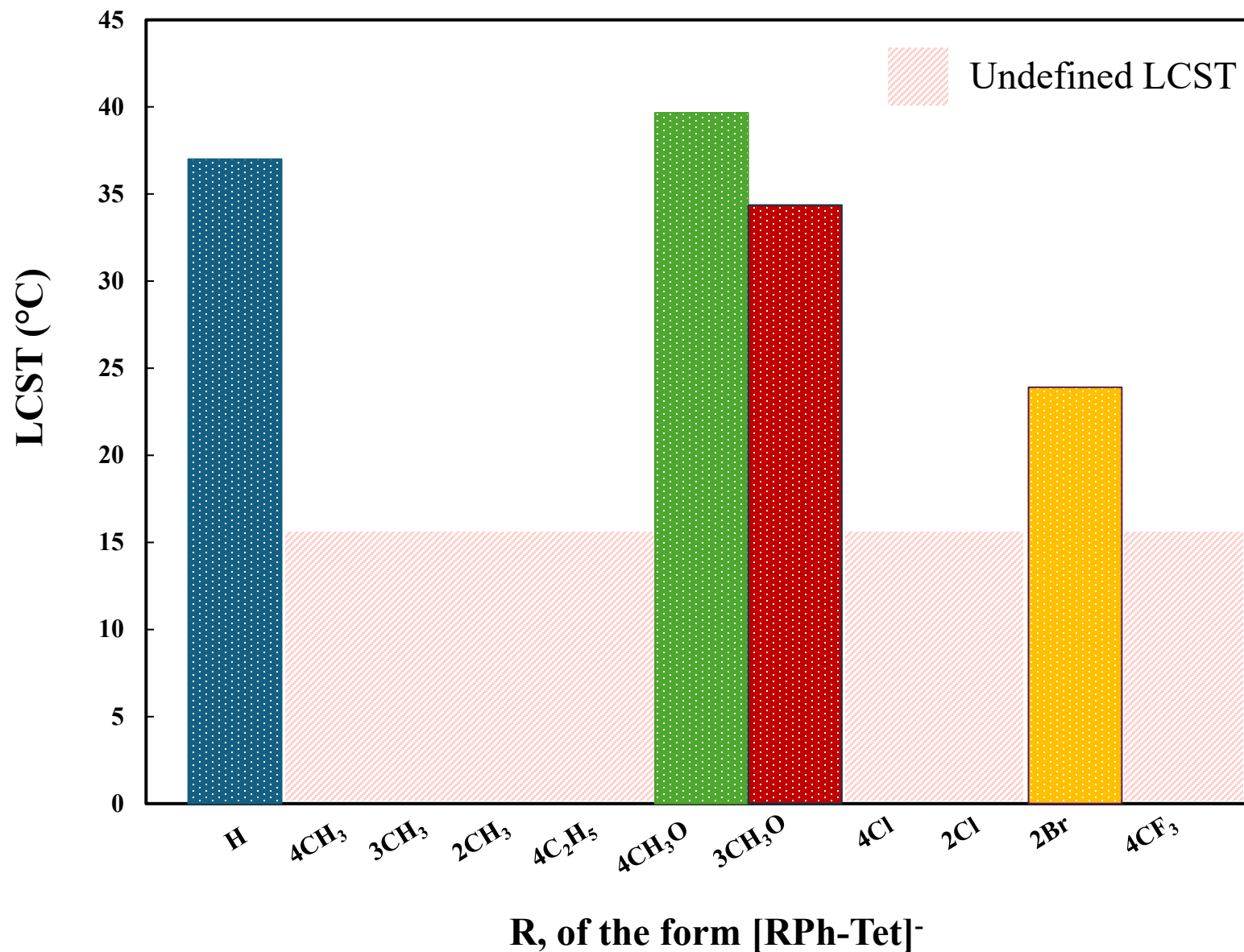
X	H	H	H	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	H	Br	H	H	Cl	H	NH <sub>2</sub>	H	OH	H
Y	H	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
Z	H	OCH <sub>3</sub>	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	H	H	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	H	Br	Cl	H	CF <sub>3</sub>	H	OH	H	NO <sub>2</sub>

# Anion modification & LCST



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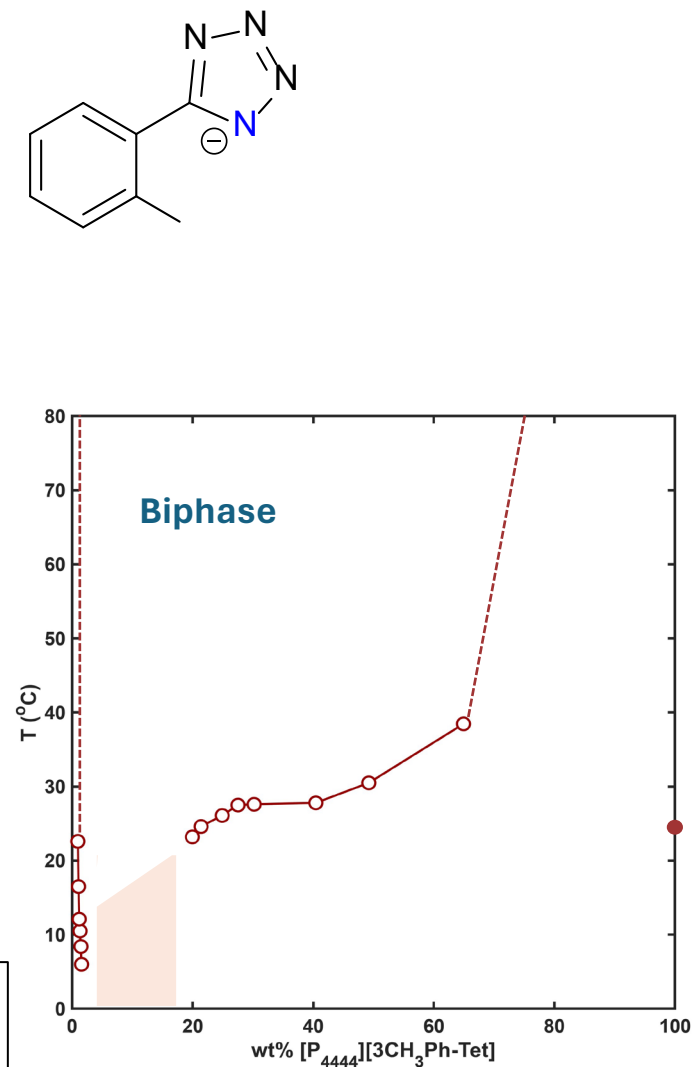
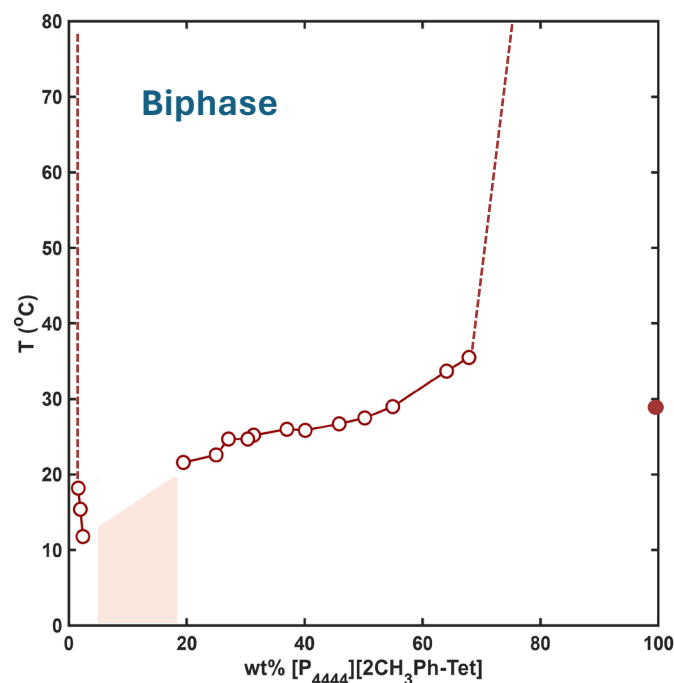
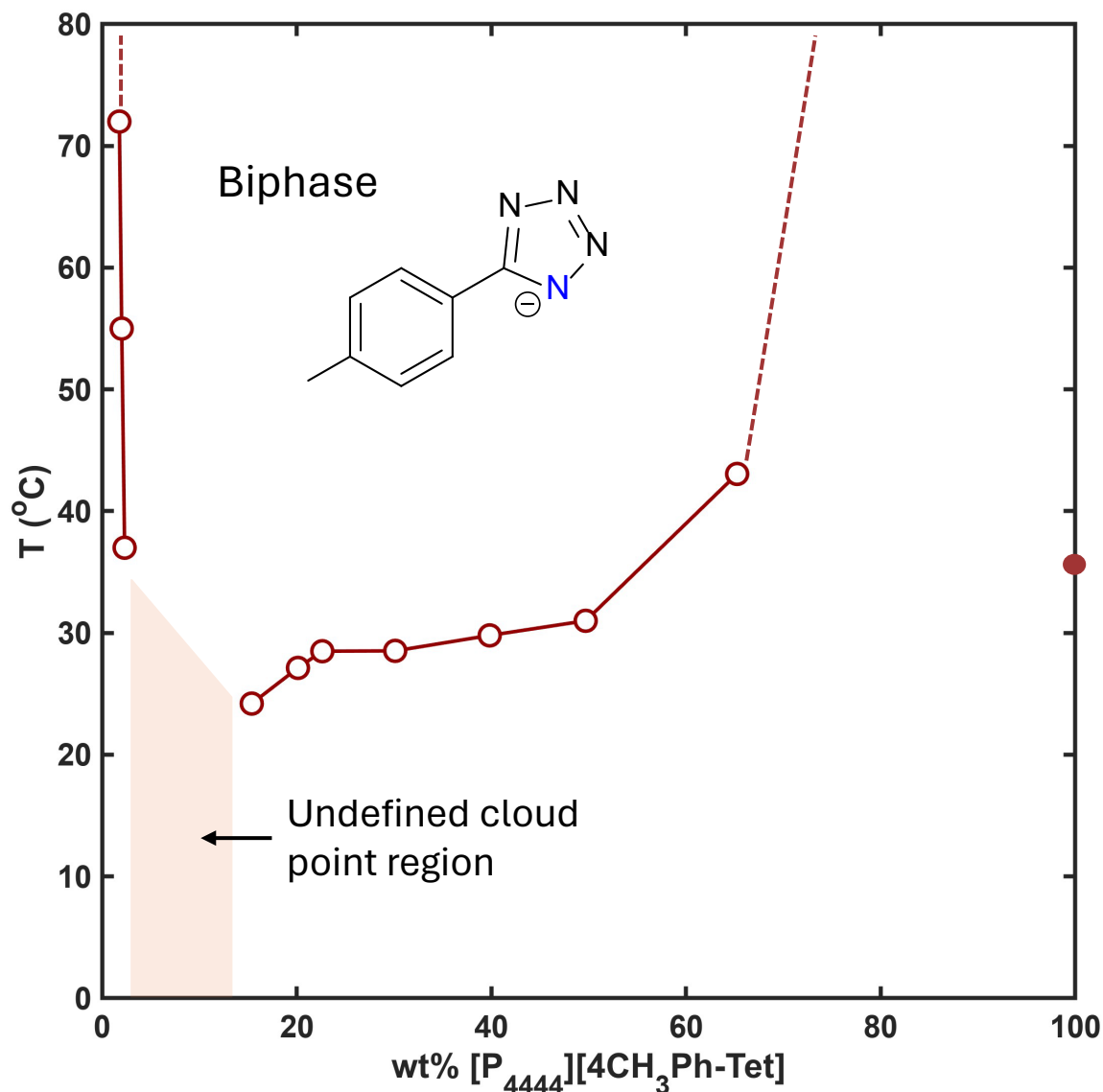
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[P<sub>4444</sub>][RPh-Tet]  
R: X/Y/Z

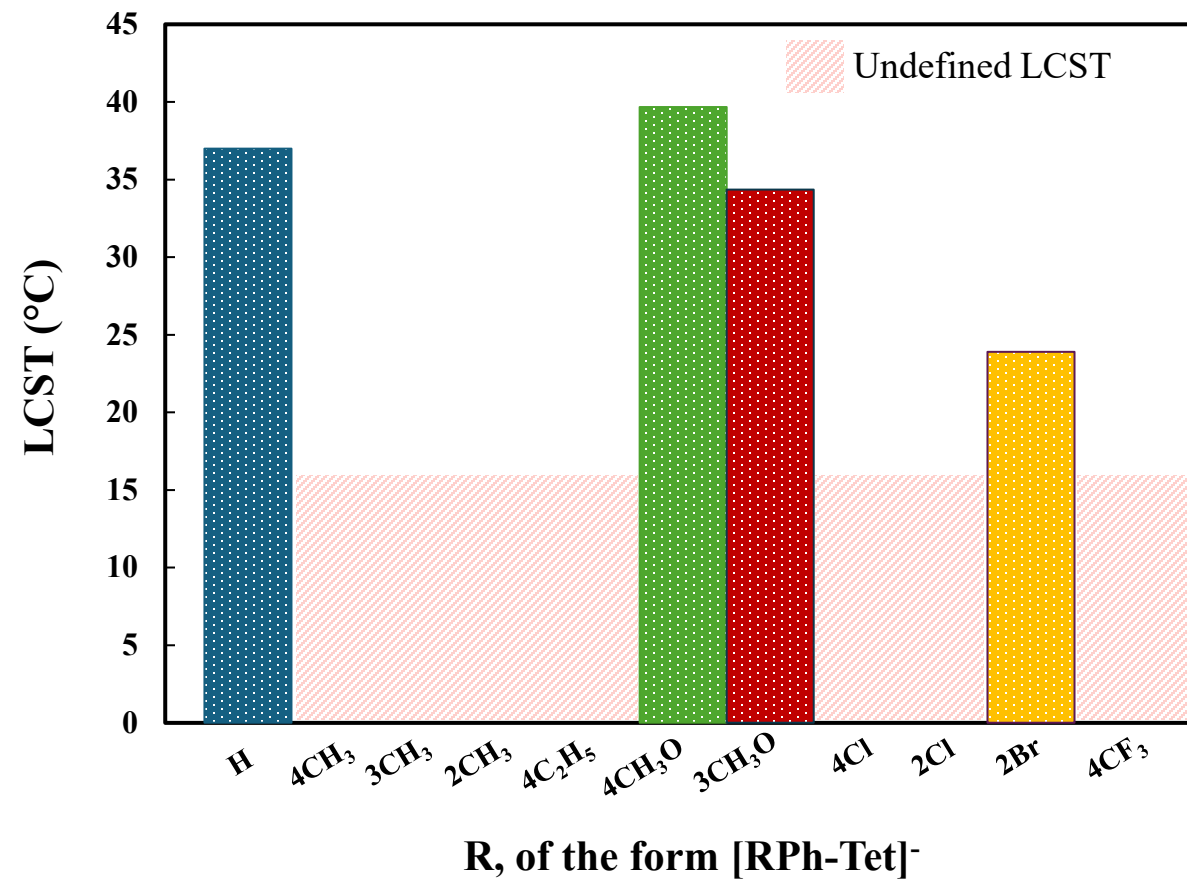
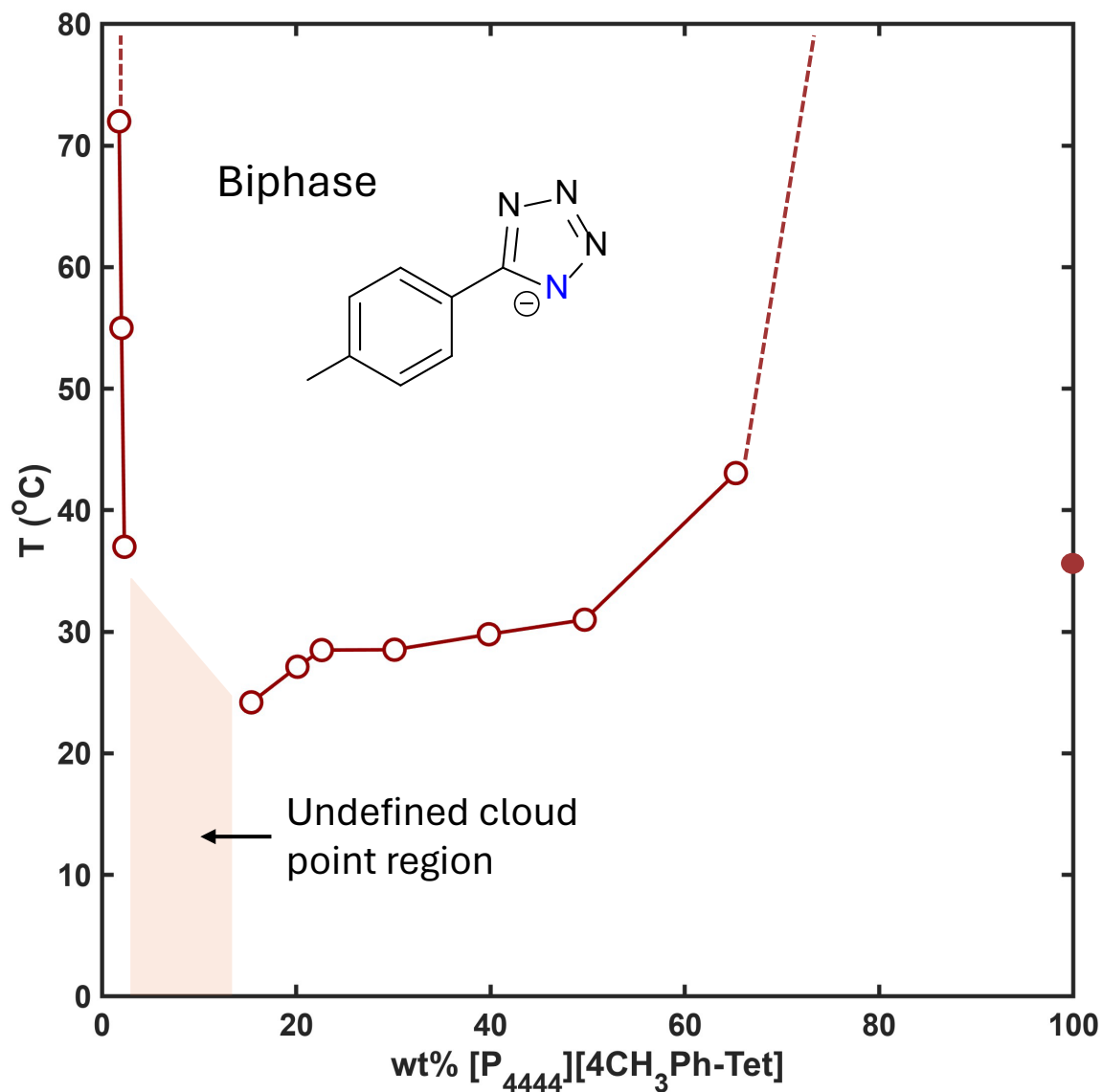


# Temperature-composition phase diagram for solutions of $[P_{4444}][CH_3PhTet] + H_2O$ as a function of the weight percentage of IL



Dotted lines indicate that samples were measured until 80°C, but no distinct phase separation (cloudiness) was observed

# Temperature-composition phase diagram for solutions of $[P_{4444}][CH_3PhTet] + H_2O$ as a function of the weight percentage of IL



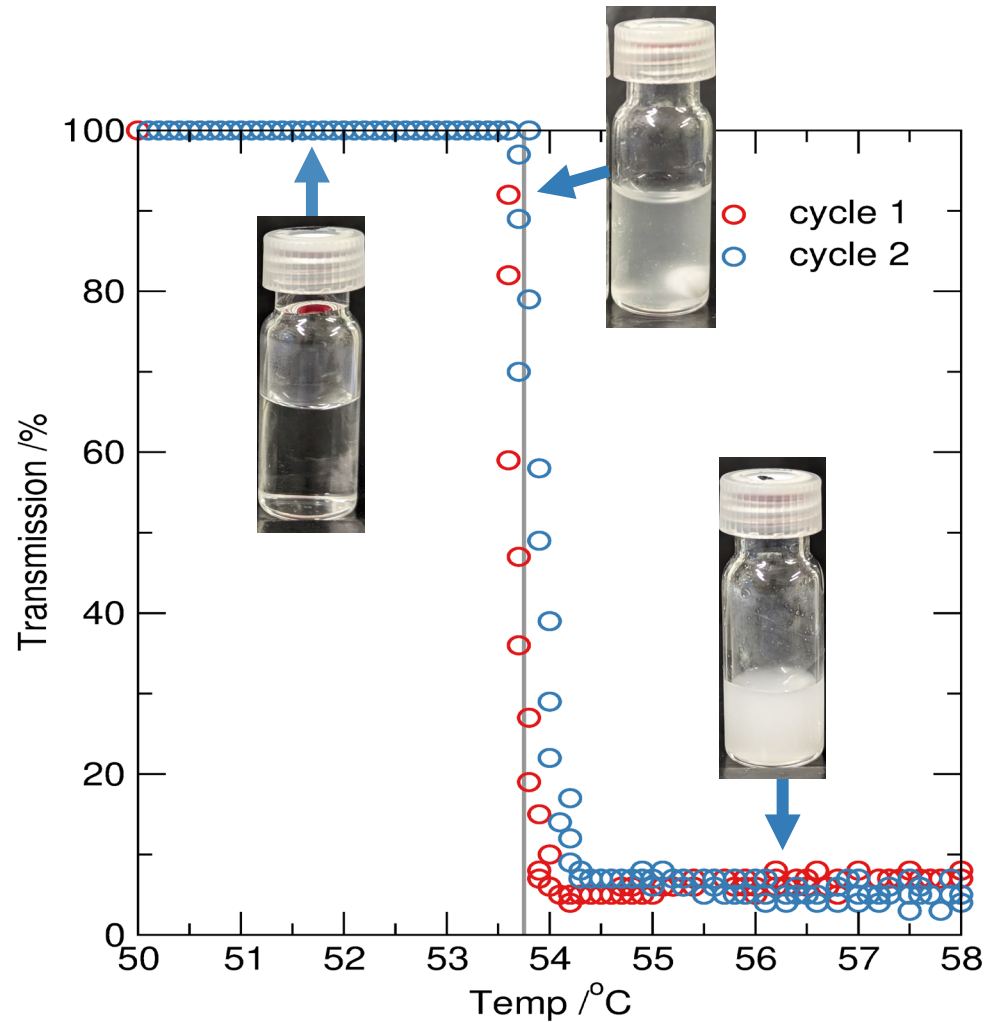
Dotted lines indicate that samples were measured until 80°C, but no distinct phase separation (cloudiness) was observed

# LCST- unstable or metastable?

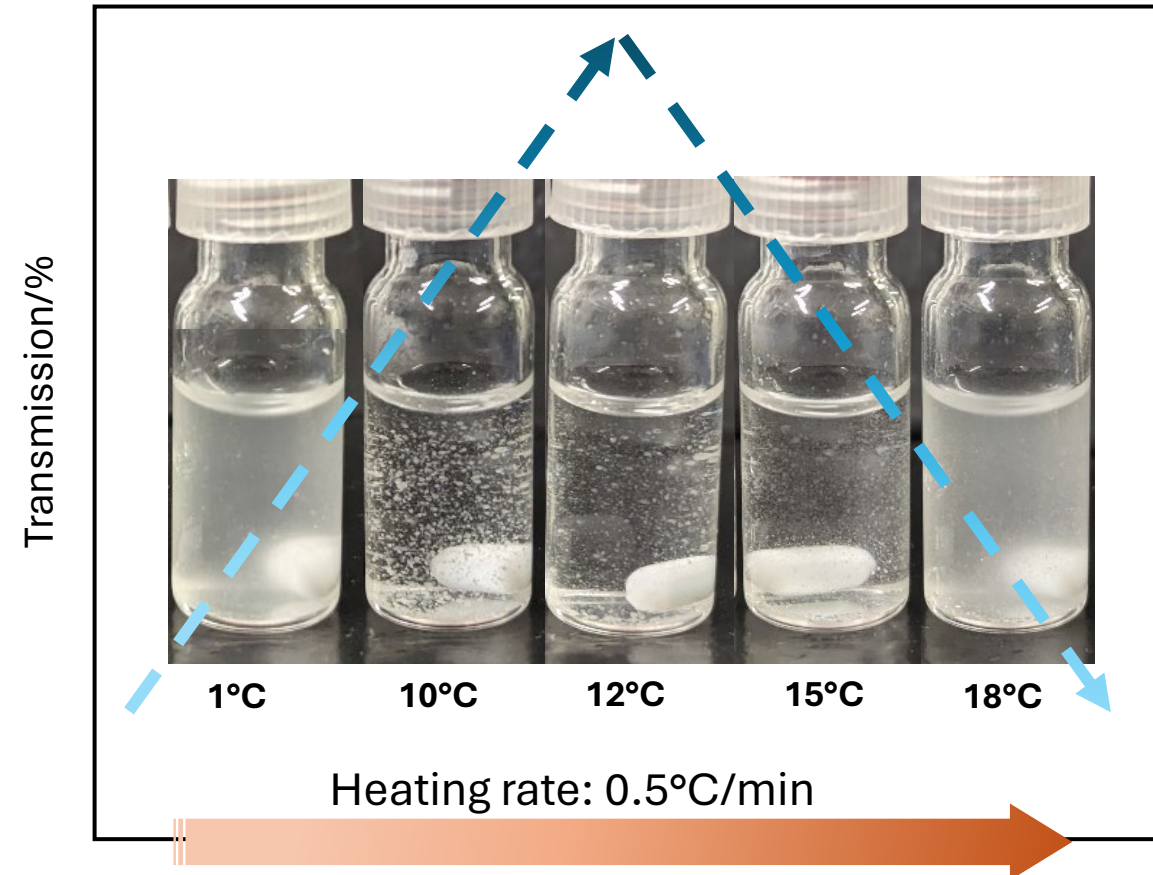


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Stable LCST transition in IL/H<sub>2</sub>O mixtures

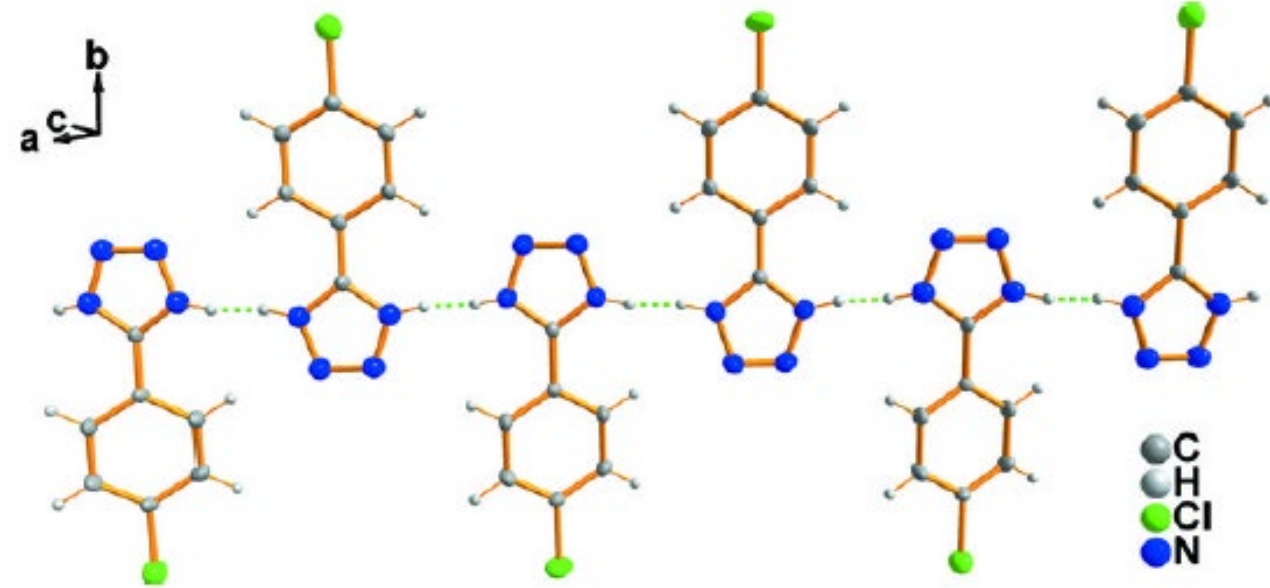
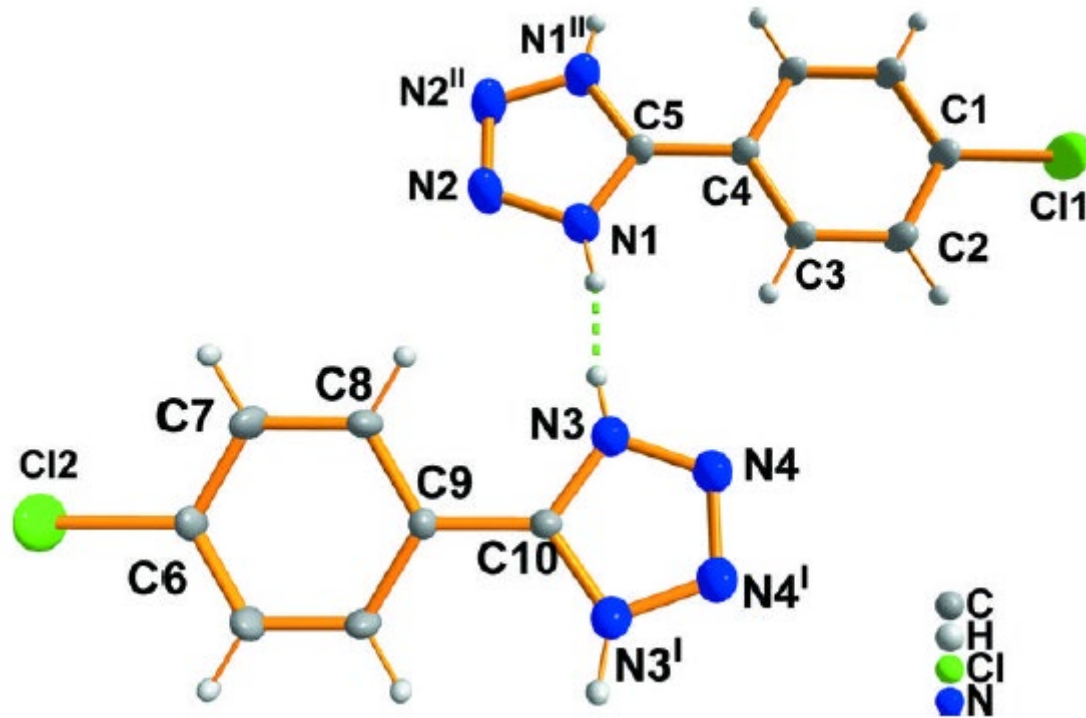


# LCST- unstable or metastable?



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The molecular structure of 5(4-chlorophenyl-1*H*-tetrazole), showing displacement ellipsoids at the 50% probability level for non-H atoms. *Dashed lines indicate the hydrogen bonds.*

A partial packing view, showing one-dimensional chain structure. *Dashed lines indicate the hydrogen bonds.*

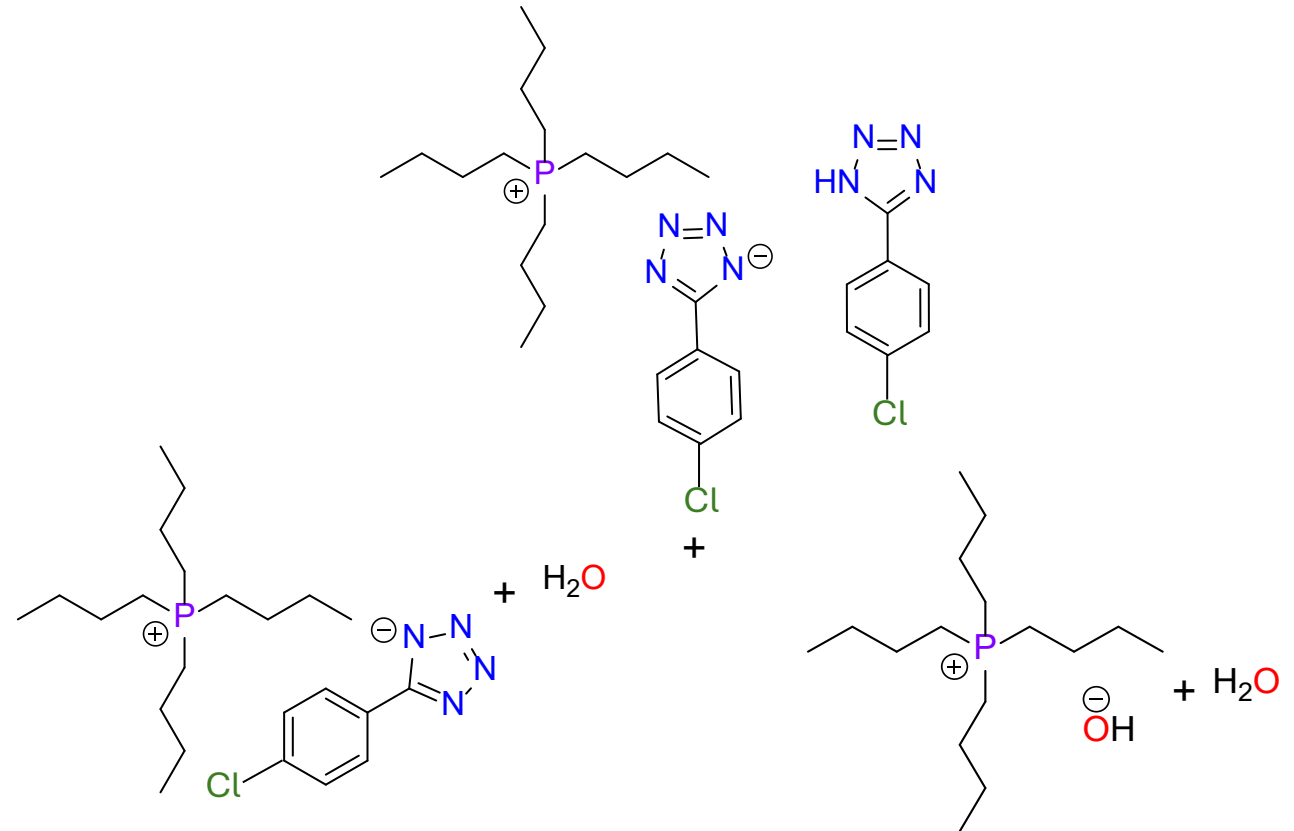
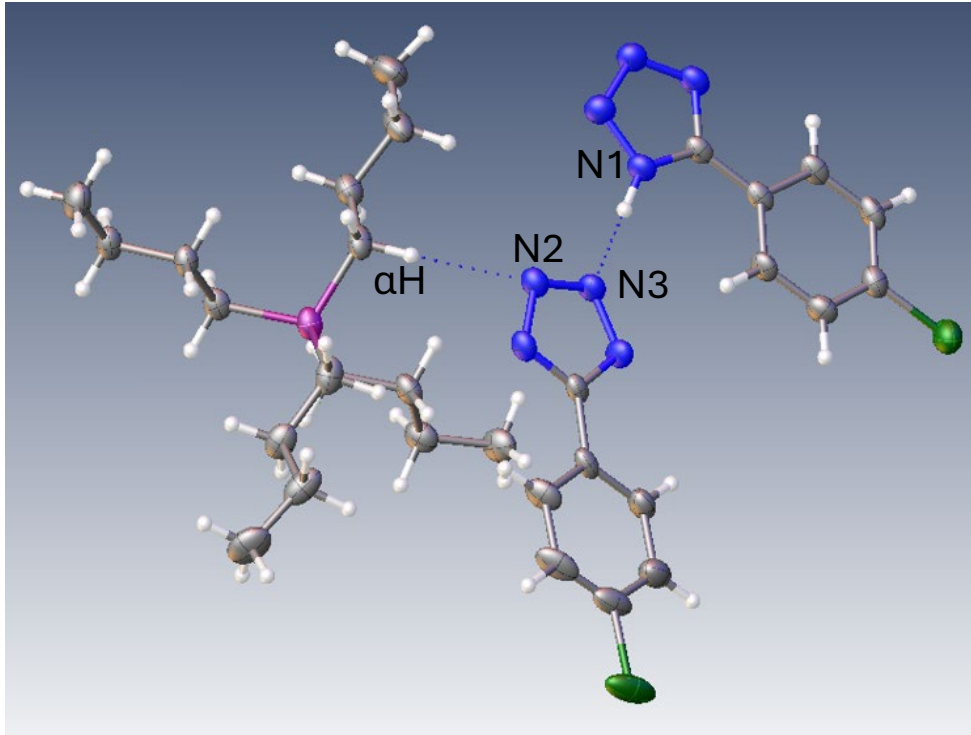
# LCST- unstable or metastable?



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Crystal structure from 55.33wt%  
[P<sub>4444</sub>][4ClPhTet]/H<sub>2</sub>O



- 1 Cation-anion pair : H-bond between  $\alpha\text{H}$ -N2
- 1 protonated 5-phenyltetrazole : H-bond between NH of the tetrazole and N3 of the tetrazolate anion



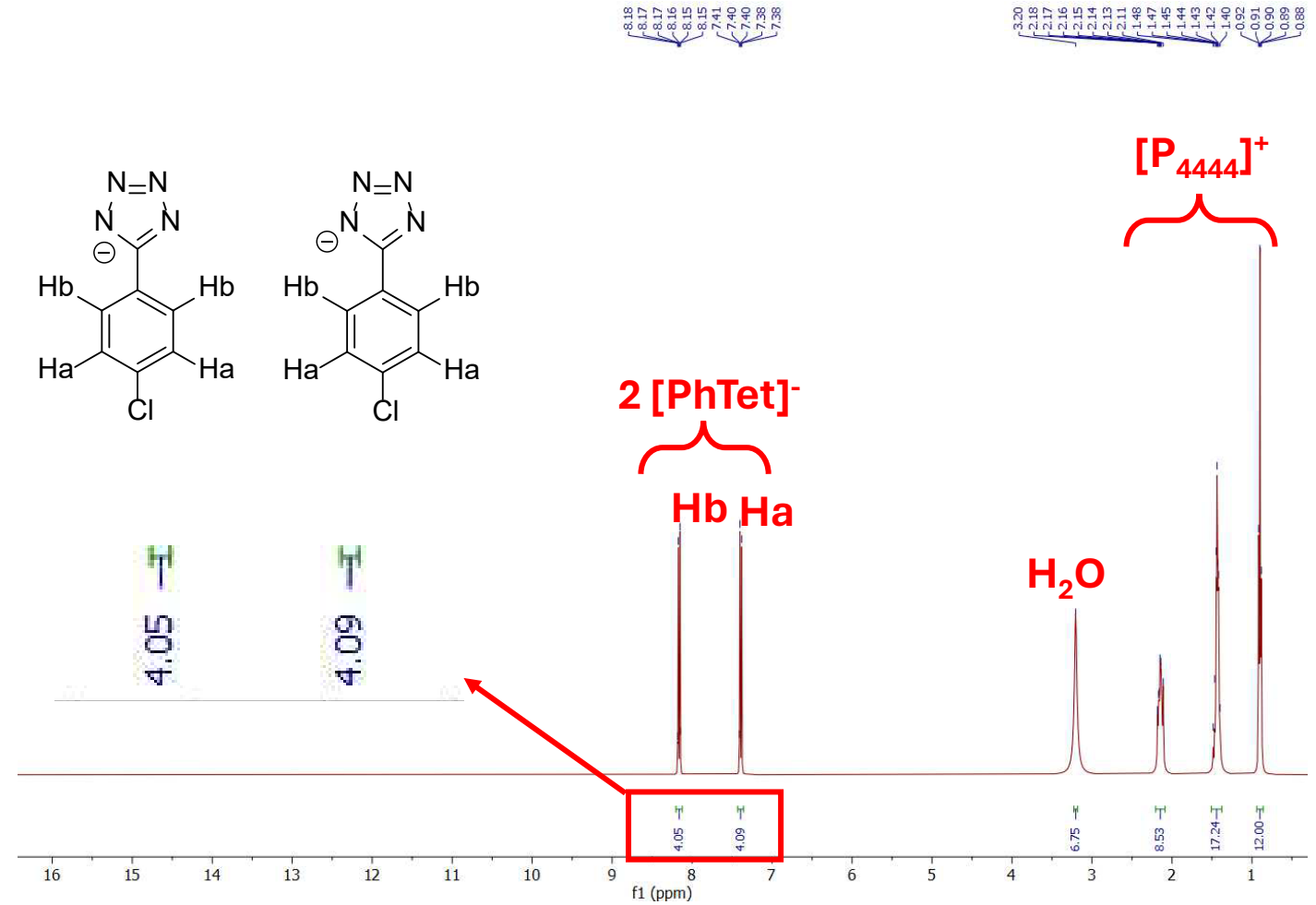
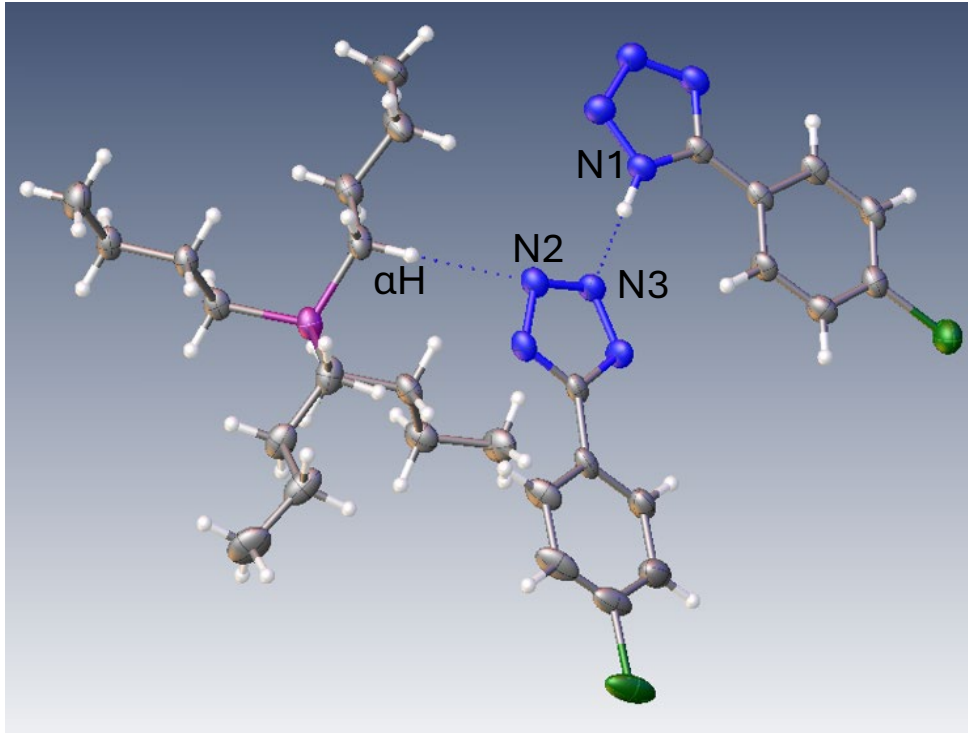
# LCST- unstable or metastable?



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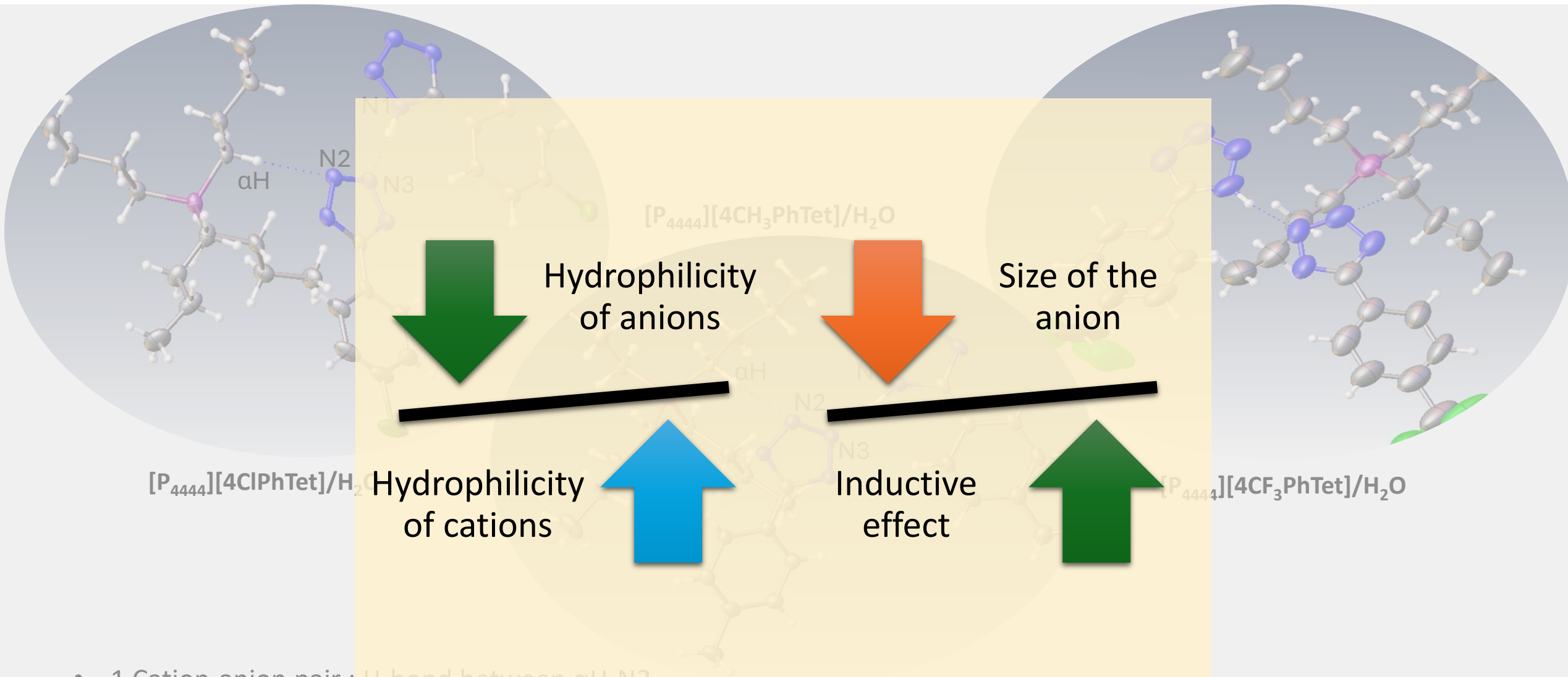
- 1 Cation-anion pair : H-bond between αH-N2
- 1 protonated 5-phenyltetrazole : H-bond between NH of the tetrazole and N3 of the tetrazolate anion

# LCST- unstable or metastable?



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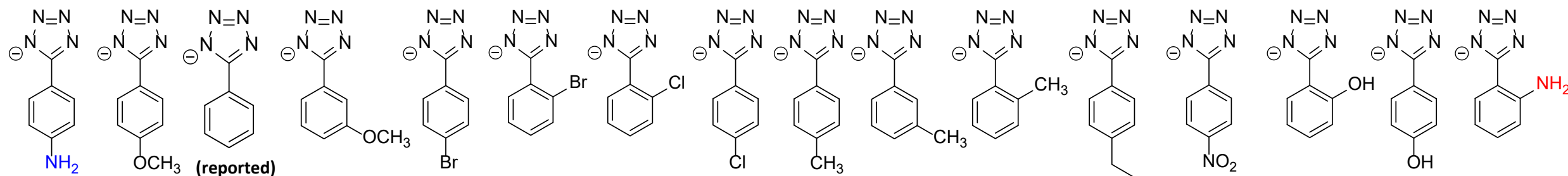
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# Fine tuning LCST



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MISCIBLE

LCST

IMMISCIBLE



# Conclusion & future works



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1. Methodical synthesis approach has been employed, generating ILs to understand their structure-property relationship to the LCST behaviour.
2. Tunability of LCST behaviour through structural modification and its enormous potential in industrial applications.
3. Comparative study on Dicationic Ionic liquids,
4. Calculate Hydrogen-bond basicity/ $pK_a/\beta$ -values for the anions,
5. Thermo-responsive hydrogels and their prospectives in FO processes.

# Acknowledgements



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- Professor John Holbrey
- Dr. Leila Moura
- Professor Peter Nockemann
- Everybody else in the QUILL lab, QUB

