

## **Valorization of heavy metal enriched phytoremediation biomass using deep eutectic solvent (DES)**

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### **Captions**

Total Number of pages: 6

Total Number of tables: 7

Total Number of figures: 6

**Table S1** Effects of DES pretreatment on chemical composition of untreated poplar and pulp

<b>Composition of untreated poplar or pulp based on the original sample before pretreatment (%)</b>					
		Pulp yield	Cellulose	Hemicellulose	Lignin
Poplar		N/A	48.1±0.6	16.0±1.5	28.2±1.0
120 °C	1 h	54.6±1.6	34.1±1.4	6.6±0.8	9.5±0.8
	3 h	43.8±1.5	31.1±1.6	4.4±0.5	4.1±0.3
	5 h	39.8±0.8	29.8±0.7	3.7±0.1	2.9±0.2
130 °C	1 h	44.6±1.6	33.0±1.5	4.9±0.4	4.9±1.1
	3 h	37.3±1.6	29.8±0.8	3.0±0.4	1.9±0.5
	5 h	36.1±1.2	29.5±0.6	2.0±0.4	2.0±0.1

**Table S2** Content of Cd in biomass samples and liquid phase after poplar pretreatment

		<b>Cd proportion (% of total)</b>			<b>Cd concentration (ppm)</b>			
		Pulp	Lignin	Liquid	Loss	Pulp	Lignin	Liquid
Poplar		100	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.3±0.4	N/A	N/A
120 °C	1 h	4.5±0.8	N/A	88.9±1.6	6.5±1.9	0.3±0.1	N/A	0.3±0.0
	3 h	3.0±0.6	N/A	90.2±2.8	6.7±3.3	0.2±0.1	N/A	0.3±0.0
	5 h	2.4±0.4	N/A	94.5±2.5	2.8±2.2	0.2±0.0	N/A	0.3±0.0
130 °C	1 h	3.0±1.0	N/A	93.5±0.8	2.9±0.2	0.2±0.1	N/A	0.3±0.0
	3 h	2.1±0.5	N/A	91.3±1.3	6.4±0.9	0.2±0.0	N/A	0.3±0.0
	5 h	1.7±0.6	N/A	92.0±1.1	6.2±2.2	0.1±0.0	N/A	0.3±0.0

N/A: Below the detection limit.

Note: The loss mainly comes from the detection error and the loss in the experiment.

**Table S3** Content of Cu in biomass samples and liquid phase after poplar pretreatment

		<b>Cu proportion (% of total)</b>			<b>Cu concentration (ppm)</b>			
		Pulp	Lignin	Liquid	Loss	Pulp	Lignin	Liquid
Poplar		100	N/A	N/A	N/A	9.5±0.72	N/A	N/A
120 °C	1 h	0.6±0.4	0.8±0.1	91.9±1.3	6.8±1.0	0.1±0.06	0.9±0.0	0.7±0.0
	3 h	0.5±0.7	2.2±0.1	89.5±2.1	8.0±1.7	0.1±0.05	1.3±0.0	0.7±0.0
	5 h	0.3±0.2	2.9±1.0	87.7±2.4	9.1±1.1	0.1±0.06	1.5±0.1	0.7±0.0
130 °C	1 h	0.4±0.4	1.2±0.3	88.3±1.4	10.2±1.2	0.1±0.11	0.8±0.0	0.7±0.0
	3 h	0.4±0.4	3.8±0.1	85.5±1.9	10.4±1.5	0.1±0.11	1.8±0.0	0.7±0.0
	5 h	0.4±0.2	6.0±0.2	82.9±1.0	10.4±0.6	0.1±0.05	2.4±0.0	0.6±0.0

N/A: Below the detection limit.

Note: The loss mainly comes from the detection error and the loss in the experiment.

**Table S4** Semi-quantitative information for subunits and interunit linkage in lignin

		<b>β-O-4 %</b>	<b>β-β %</b>	<b>β-5 %</b>	<b>S/G</b>
MWL		50.1	8.4	4.7	0.9
120 °C	1 h	10.4	2.6	3.1	1.4
	3 h	3.0	2.0	1.0	1.6
	5 h	2.3	3.1	1.5	1.7
130 °C	1 h	2.4	1.0	N/A	1.9
	3 h	2.2	1.7	N/A	1.6
	5 h	1.7	2.5	N/A	1.8

N/A: Below the detection limit.

**Table S5** Functional group contents of lignin from different pretreatment conditions (mmol/g)

		Aliphatic OH	C <sub>5</sub> substituted OH	Guaiacyl OH	P-hydroxy OH	Carboxylic acid OH	Total phenolic OH
MWL		4.95	0.07	0.84	0.43	0.08	1.34
120 °C	1 h	2.21	1.13	0.73	0.20	0.50	2.06
	3 h	1.78	1.54	0.79	0.23	0.45	2.56
	5 h	1.40	1.72	0.86	0.19	0.57	2.76
130 °C	1 h	1.93	1.51	0.90	0.20	0.36	2.51
	3 h	1.75	1.75	0.90	0.24	0.75	2.90
	5 h	0.73	1.87	0.99	0.20	0.51	3.05

**Table S6** The influence of the water content on the electrochemical properties of DES

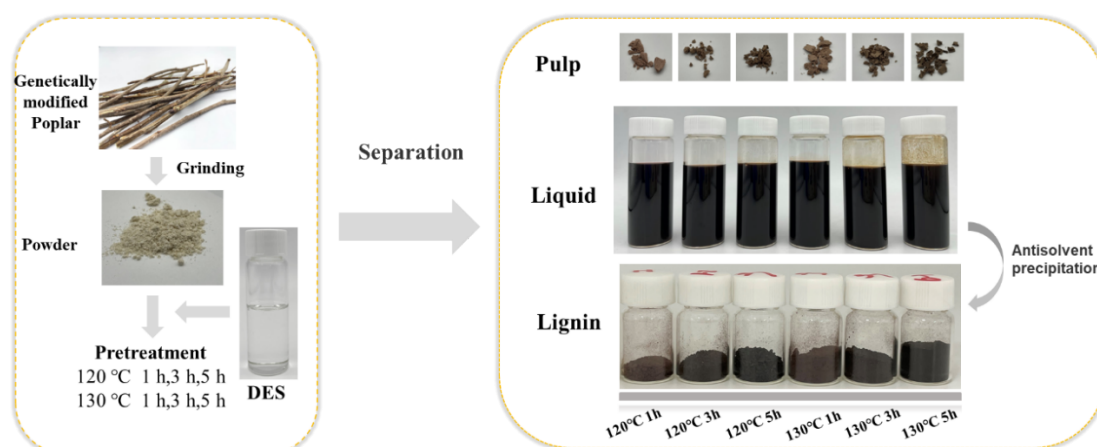
Water contents wt%	Conductivity (ms/cm)	Cathodic limiting potential (V)	Anodic limiting potential (V)	Electrochemical window
0	0.5	-1.91	1.64	3.53
10	1.8	-1.83	1.59	3.42
20	4.0	-1.76	1.56	3.32
30	4.9	-1.63	1.56	3.19

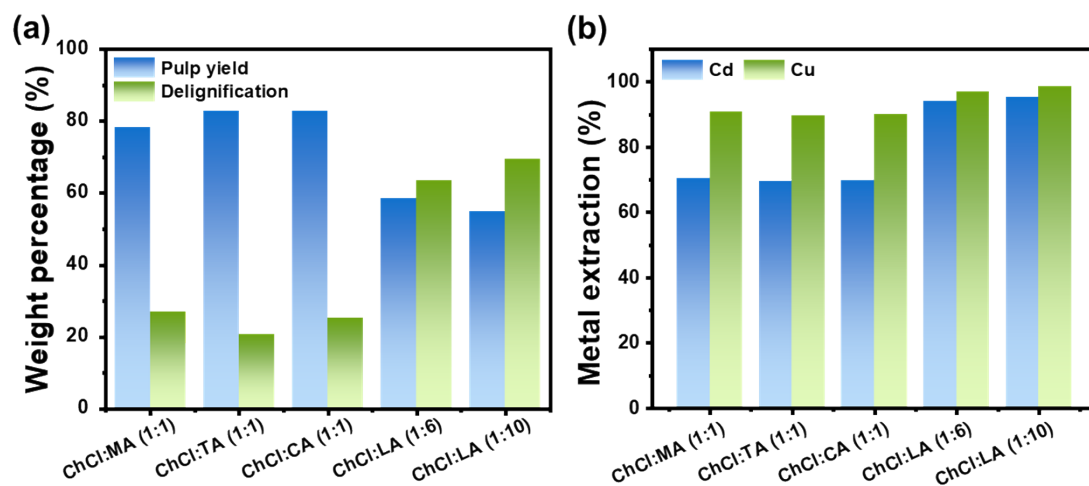
**Table S7** Content of HMs in biomass samples and liquid phase after *Sedum alfredii* pretreatment

	HMs proportion (% of total)			HMs concentration (ppm)		
	Cd	Pb	Cu	Cd	Pb	Cu
<i>Sedum alfredii</i>	100	100	100	599.2±0.9	166.1±2.4	5.3±0.1
Pulp	3.5±0.5	22.7±2.6	14.7±1.6	90.8±7.8	165.9±14.9	3.4±0.5
130 °C 3 h						
Lignin	N/A	0.2±0.0	55.8±2.5	N/A	3.8±0.4	28.2±2.9
Liquid	93.1±0.7	76.7±0.3	22.7±2.9	44.7±0.3	10.2±0.1	0.1±0.0
Loss	3.3±0.8	0.6±0.2	8.6±1.6	N/A	N/A	N/A

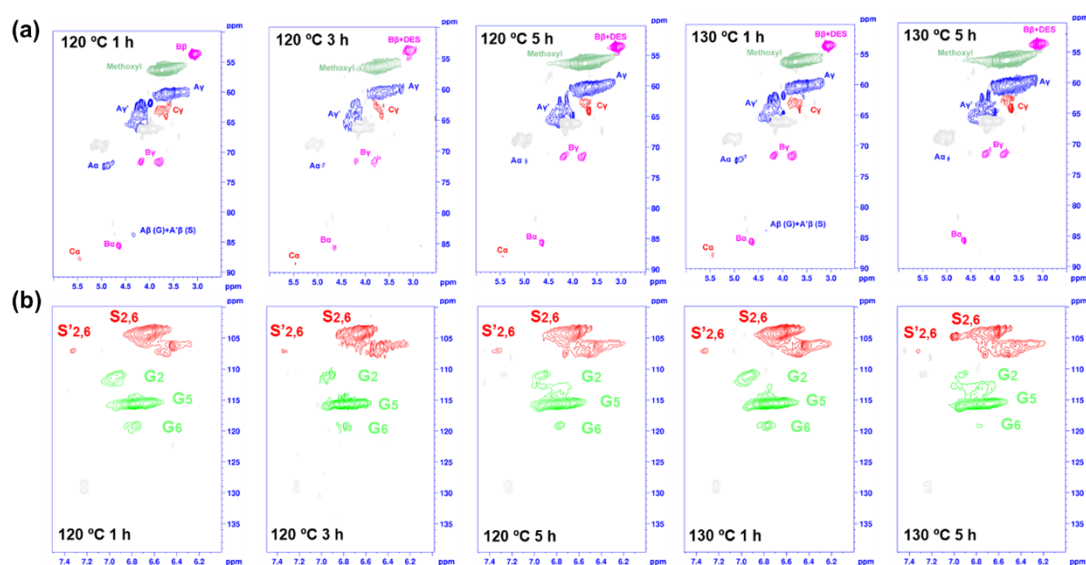
N/A: Below the detection limit.

Note: The loss mainly comes from the detection error and the loss in the experiment.

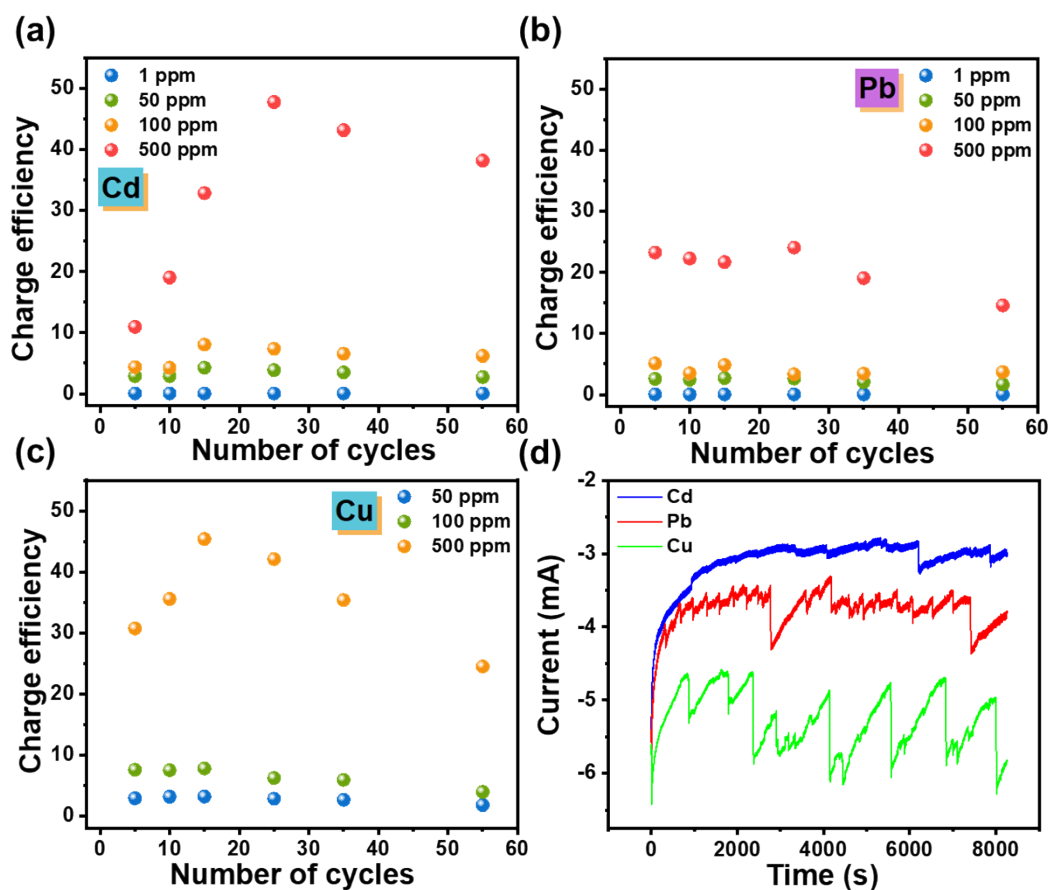
**Fig. S1** Procedure for the pretreated genetically modified poplar and extracted lignin.



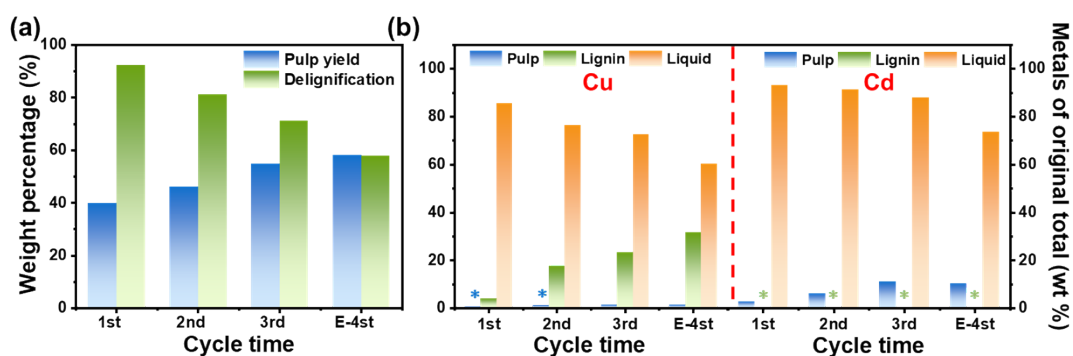
**Fig. S2** Pretreatment of genetically modified poplar with different DES at 120 °C for 1 h. (a) Pulp yield and lignin removal efficiency; (b) Effect of different DES on heavy metal extraction efficiency in the gene modified poplar.



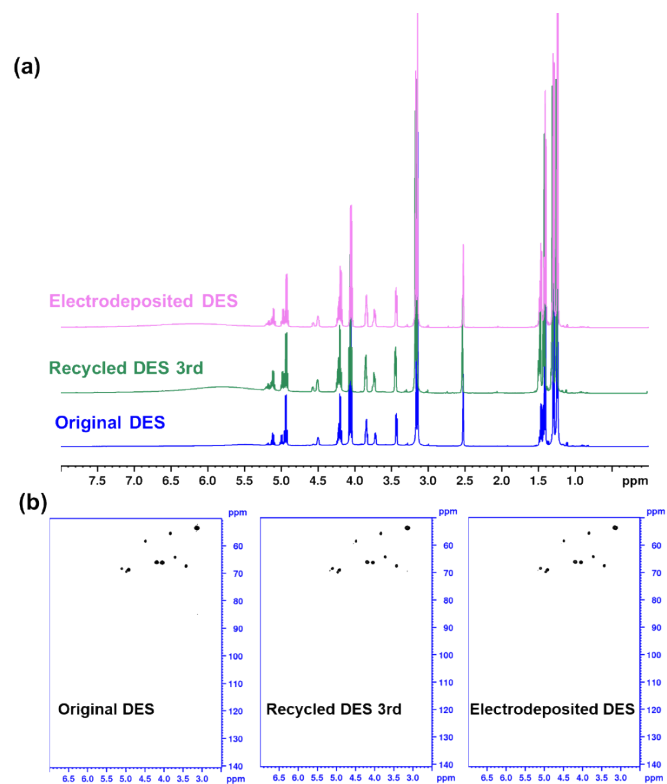
**Fig. S3** 2D HSQC NMR characterization of lignin obtained with different pretreatment conditions: (a) Side-chain regions; (b) Aromatic regions.



**Fig. S4** (a-c) The charge efficiency of Cd, Pb and Cu from DES (20 wt% H<sub>2</sub>O) with different content pollution by electrochemical deposition. All three solutions only contain a single contaminant. Potential applied -1.4 V vs Ag/AgCl; (d) Current curve of Cd, Pb and Cu of 100 ppm initially from DES (20 wt% H<sub>2</sub>O) using electrodeposition method.



**Fig. S5**(a) Pulp yield and delignification efficiency after various cycles of DES treatment at 130 °C for 3 h; (b) Distribution of heavy metals in various components of poplar after DES pretreatment. \*: not detected. E-4st refers to the DES treatment of poplar at 130 °C for 3 h using electrodeposited DES (Electrodeposited DES was obtained from the 3<sup>rd</sup> DES after electrodeposition).



**Fig. S6** (a)  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of original, the recycled DES and electrodeposited DES. (b) 2D-HSQC NMR spectra of the original, recycled DES after three cycles and electrodeposited DES.