Scheme 1

Here the PFLA drags H⁺A⁻ into the organic phase by binding A⁻ to form a larger anion that is weakly coordinating. H⁺[PFLA-A]⁻ is the same as H⁺WCA⁻ (i.e., superacid).

H+A- = Brønsted acid.

PFLA = Perfluoroarylated Lewis acid.

WCA- = Weakly coordinating anion.

M+WCA = Salt containing weakly coordinating anion.

H+WCA- = Hydrophobic superacid.

R = H, organo, etc.

In this instance there is exchange of cations and this ultimately leads to the geneartion of superacid inside the monomer droplet.