### Hydrogen Bonding Interactions between a Representative Pyridinium-Based Ionic Liquid [BuPy][BF4] and Water/Dimethyl Sulfoxide

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Infrared spectroscopy and density functional theory calculations have been applied to elucidate the hydrogen bonding interactions between water/dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) and a representative pyridinium-based ionic liquid, 1-butylpyridinium tetrafluoroborate ([BuPy][BF4]). It has been found that both solvents can interact with the BuPy+cation through the aromatic C-H. The strength of the H-bonds involving the aromatic C-H in water is similar to that in pure [BuPy][BF4], but is much stronger in DMSO. For DMSO, when it forms H-bonds with the BuPy+ cation through its S=O group, its back-side methyl groups act as electron donors, while the butyl group of the cation acts as an electron acceptor. For water, when it forms the strong anion-HOH-anion complex, it can also form H-bonds with the aromatic C-H on the BuPy+ cation. This is different from the imidazolium-based ionic liquid, where the strong anion-cation interaction and steric hindrance from the alkyls prevent water molecules from H-bonding with the aromatic C-H other than with the anion.

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## **Important Facts**

- ➢ HB shows significant changes on density, viscosity, surface tension, electrical conductivity, heat capacity, and solubility of IL.
- Addition of water destroy the.....

i) 3 D network structure
ii) ionic clusters
iii) then into ionic pairs surrounded by water
iv) ultimately into fully hydrated separated ions

- Complete dissociation in ion pairs in BMIM[BF4] only at 0.0015
- ➤ At higher concentration (0.5, 0.6), ILs form clusters and W molecules interact with the clusters without forming an H-bond network among W

#### What is excess IR spectroscopy ?

SCHEME 1: Chemical Structures of 1-Butylpyridinium Tetrafluoroborate ([BuPy][BF<sub>4</sub>]), H<sub>2</sub>O, and DMSO



Difference between the spectrum of a real solution and that of the respective ideal solution under identical conditions

$$\varepsilon^{\mathrm{E}} = \frac{A}{d(C_1 + C_2)} - (x_1 \varepsilon_1^* + x_2 \varepsilon_2^*)$$

A - absorbance of the mixture
d - light path length
C1,C2- molarities of the two components
x1 and x2- mole fractions of components 1 &2.
ε1\*ε2\*- molar absorption coefficients of the two components in their pure states.

# ([BuPy][BF4]) + Water







- In the presence of IL...2 or 3 new band originates
  - Decrease in lower wavenumber absorption....decrease number of H-bonded D2O
- Higher wavenumber new peak....single or more weakly interacting D2O embedded in IL environment

Number of positive and negative bands occurs shows the appearance and disappearance of W structure in IL





1. First, at low concentrations, single water molecules are isolated from each other and embedded in the IL environment

- 2. Then, as the water content increases, the water clusters form. When the size of the clusters is big enough (x(D2O) > 0.4), some tetrahedral H-bonded D2O molecules appear.
- 3. Finally, the self-associated D2O clusters but not tetrahedral H-bonded D2O become dominant at highest water concentrate

TABLE 1: Assignments of the Absorption Bands in theO-D Stretching Vibrational Region Based on PublishedStudies13,24,27and Our DFT Calculations

wavenumber (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	assignment	abbreviation
$\sim 2704$	$v_{\rm as}$ of D <sub>2</sub> O doubly H-bonded to BF <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	$v_{\rm as}$
2680 - 2660	terminal OD of self-associated D <sub>2</sub> O clusters,	$v_{ m tc}$
	H-bonded to $BF_4^-$	
$\sim 2650$	HDO formed by H/D isotope exchange	$v_{\rm i}$
$\sim 2604$	$v_{\rm s}$ of D <sub>2</sub> O doubly H-bonded to BF <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	$v_{\rm s}$
2540 - 2440	self-associated D <sub>2</sub> O clusters	$v_{\rm c}$
2400 - 2370	tetrahedrally H-bonded D <sub>2</sub> O	$v_{\mathrm{t}}$



- H-bonds can exist between C2,6-H, C3,5-H, or C4-H on the pyridinium ring and the O atom of H2O
- > first conformer is the most stable
- Energy difference 7 KJ/mol
- > all the C-H on ring can form H-bonds with W

Result is distinct from the interactions between imidazolium ring and water

Thermal energy = KT 2.48 kJ/mol 0.60 kcal/mol







- ring C-H, the significant increase in molar absorptivity Agreement to red shift
- no spectroscopic evidence shows the alkyl C-H acts as preferential interaction sites



- The directions of their band shifts are also opposite
- roles played by these alkyl groups are different



**Figure 10.** Possible positions and corresponding interaction energies for a DMSO molecule interacting with  $BuPy^+$  cation (A and B) and  $[BuPy][BF_4]$  (C and D). H-bonds involving DMSO molecules are denoted by dashed lines, those between the anions and cations are denoted by dotted lines, and the corresponding H····O and H····F distances are labeled in angstroms.

TABLE 2: Natural Population Analysis Charges (q, in e) of
the Methyl and Butyl Groups in the Monomers and Their
Changes ( $\Delta q$ ) upon Formation of BuPy <sup>+</sup> –DMSO (Figure
10A,B) and [BuPy][BF <sub>4</sub> ]-DMSO (Figure 10C,D) Complexes

		$\Delta q$			
	q(monomer)	Figure 10A	Figure 10B	Figure 10C	Figure 10D
2CH <sub>3</sub> (DMSO)	-0.238	0.091	0.071	0.068	0.072
$C_4H_9$ (BuPy <sup>+</sup> )	0.354	-0.008	-0.013		
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub> ([BuPy] [BF <sub>4</sub> ])	0.346			-0.011	-0.006

SCHEME 2: Charge Transfer Model of the Alkyl Groups upon H-Bonding between DMSO and BuPy<sup>+</sup> Cation<sup>*a*</sup>



## Conclusions

- (1) Water molecules preferentially interact with the BF4 anion, while DMSO can also interact with the anion through weak H-bonds of its methyl groups. Both water and DMSO can interact with the BuPy+ cation, and the favorable sites are the aromatic C-H with slight differences based on their specific positions on the ring.
- (2) A charge transfer model of the alkyl groups upon H-bonding between DMSO and BuPy+ cation has been proposed. The alkyl groups linked to the H-bond acceptor are electron-donating, while those connected to the H-bond donor are electron-withdrawing, both making positive contributions to the stability of the H-bond.
- (3) The strong anion-HOH-anion interaction can be accompanied by the H-bond between the O atom of water molecule and the aromatic C-H of the cation in [BuPy][BF4].