

## Design, preparation and characterization of ionic liquid 1,3-disulfonic acid benzimidazolium chloride as an efficient and recyclable catalyst for the synthesis of tetrahydropyridine under solvent-free conditions

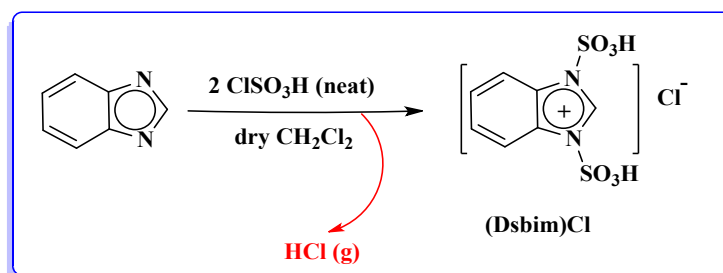
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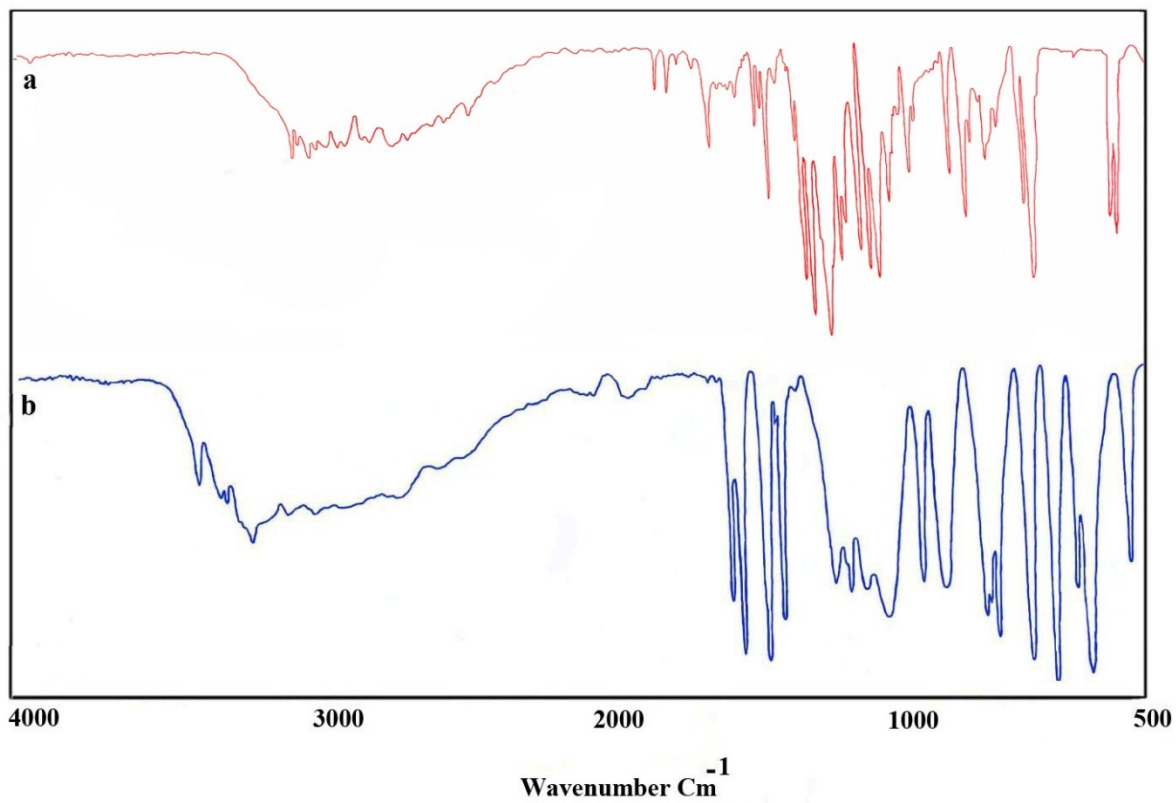
### Preparation of the ionic liquid

To a round-bottomed flask (50 mL) containing benzimidazole (0.708 g, 6.0 mmol) in dry  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (15 mL), was added chlorosulfonic acid (1.40 g, 12 mmol) dropwise over a period of 5 min at room temperature. After the addition was completed, the reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h under pressure of nitrogen (to remove the produced HCl), stand for 5 min, and the  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  was decanted. The residue was washed with dry  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  ( $3 \times 50$  mL) and dried under vacuum to give [Dsbim]Cl as a viscous pale yellow oil in (1.97 g, 98% yield).

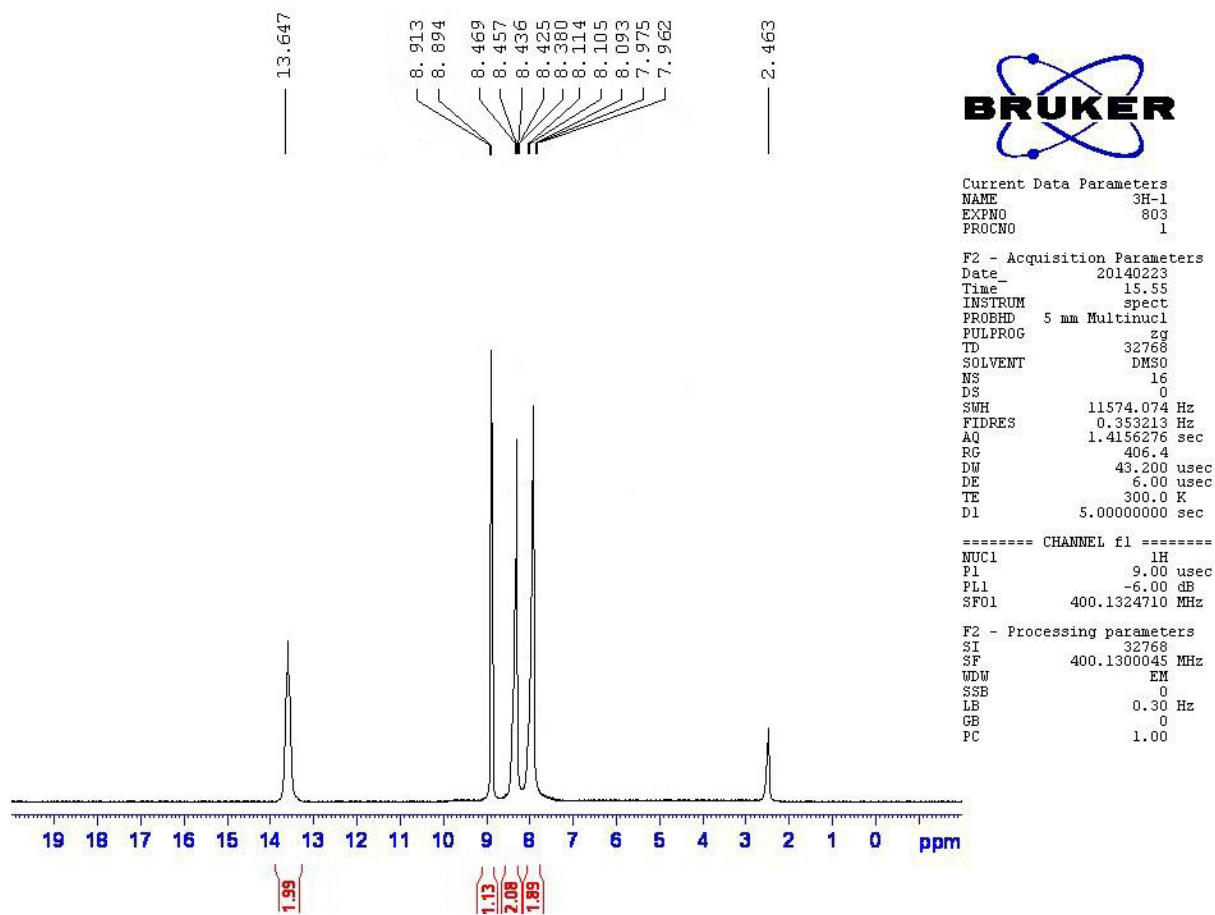
Spectral data: IR (Nujol):  $\nu$  574, 679, 750, 886, 1063, 1189, 1331, 1530, 1631, 2536-3432  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ ):  $\delta$  8.09 (t,  $J = 7.45$  Hz, 2H), 8.43 (t,  $J = 7.81$  Hz, 1H), 8.90 (d,  $J = 5.76$  Hz, 2H), 13.64 (s, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ ):  $\delta$  112.80, 125.61, 136.79, 143.24; MS:  $m/z = 315$  ( $\text{M}^+ + 1$ ), 314 ( $\text{M}^+$ ), 279 ( $\text{M}^+ - \text{Cl}$ ), 232 ( $\text{M}^+ - \text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ), 198 ( $\text{M}^+ - \text{SO}_3\text{H}$  and Cl), 162 ( $2\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ), 154 ( $\text{M}^+ - 2\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ), 118 ( $\text{M}^+ - 2\text{SO}_3\text{H}$  and Cl) and 81 ( $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ).



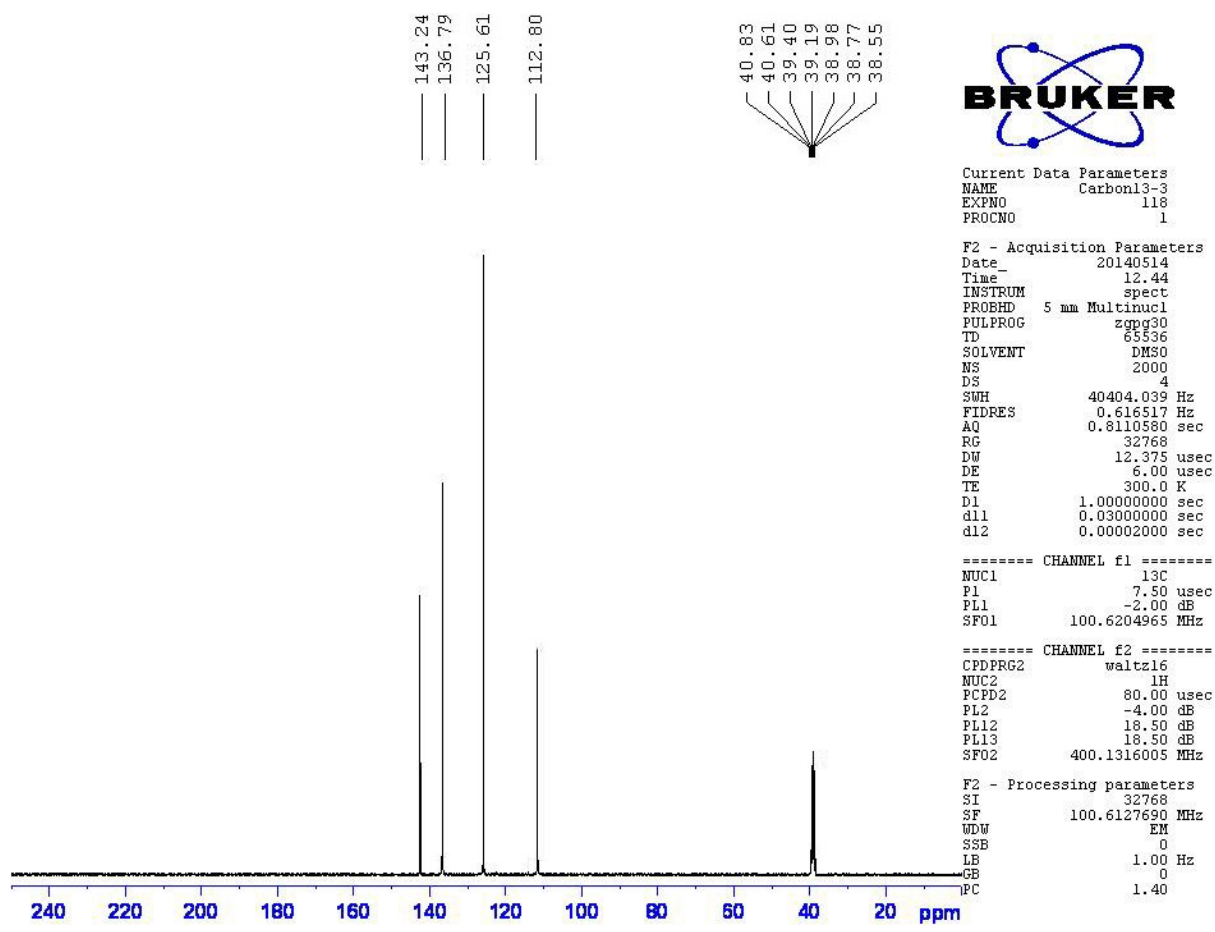
**Scheme 1** General formulation for the preparation of 1,3-disulfonic acid benzimidazolium chloride [Dsbim]Cl).



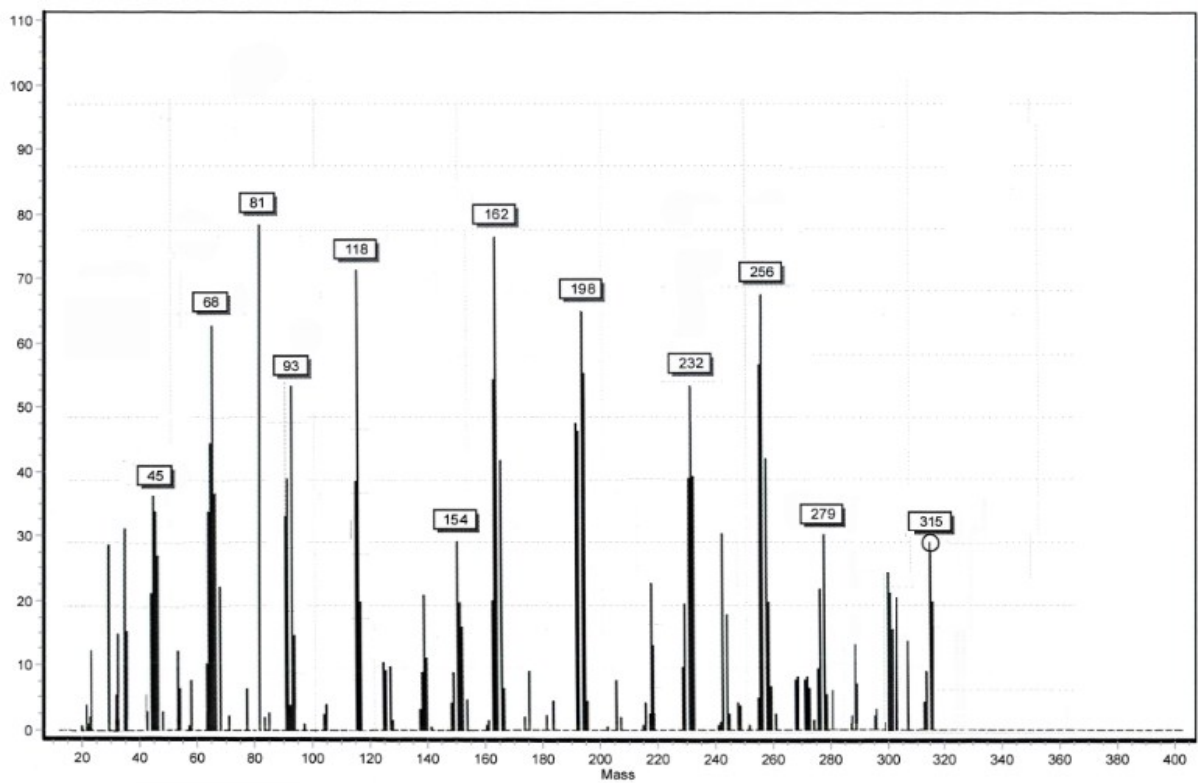
**Fig. 1** FT-IR spectra of benzimidazole (a) and 1,3-disulfonic acid benzimidazolium chloride ([Dsbim]Cl) (b)



**Fig. 2**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of 1,3-disulfonic acid benzimidazolium chloride ( $[\text{Dsbim}]\text{Cl}$ )



**Fig. 3** The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of 1,3-disulfonic acid benzimidazolium chloride ([Dsbim]Cl)



**Fig. 4** Mass spectra of 1,3-disulfonic acid benzimidazolium chloride ([Dsbim]Cl)