

**Electronic Supplementary Information**

**Reactivity of hydroxylamine ionic liquid salts in direct synthesis of caprolactam from cyclohexanone under mild conditions**

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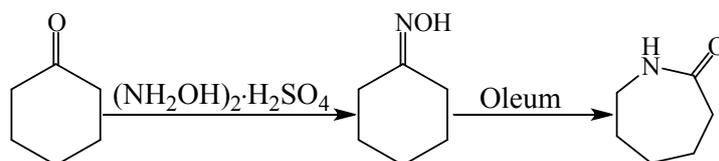
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## Schemes

**Scheme S1** Traditional process for synthesis of CPL



## Figures

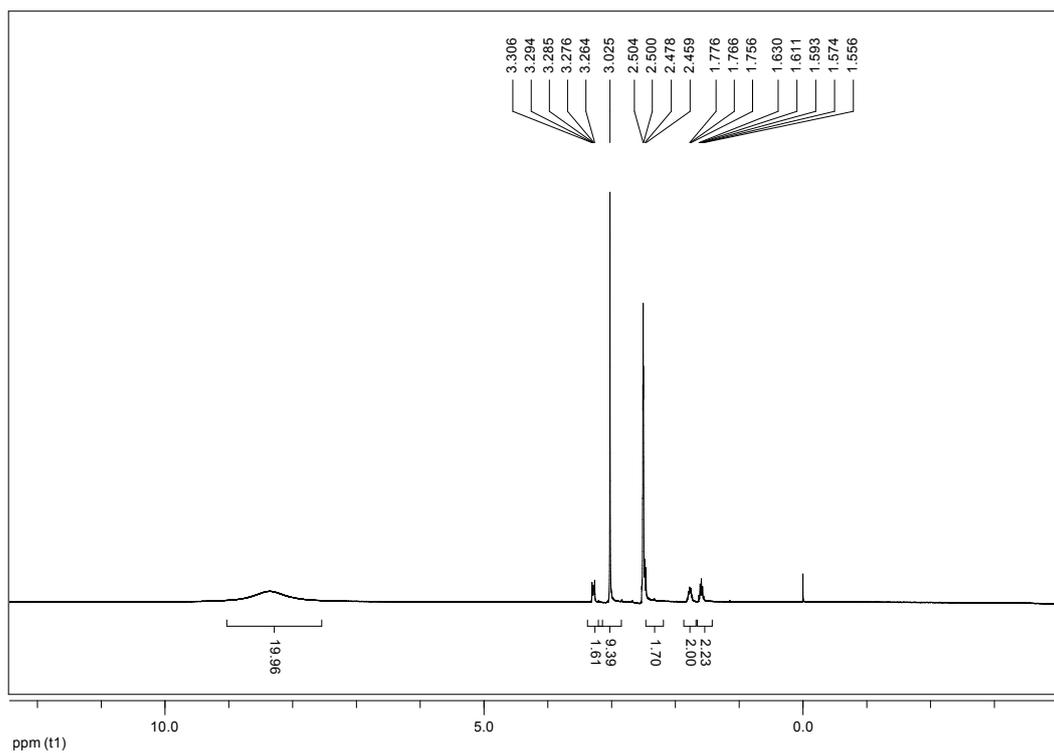
**Figure S1 (a-d)**  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of the two novel  $(\text{NH}_2\text{OH})_2$ -ILs

$(\text{NH}_2\text{OH})_2 \cdot [\text{HSO}_3\text{-b-N}(\text{CH}_3)_3] \cdot \text{HSO}_4$ :  $\delta\text{H}$  (400 MHz;  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ ) 1.593(m, 2H), 1.766(t, 2H), 2.489(m, 2H), 3.025(s, 9H), 3.285(m, 2H), 8~9(bs, 20H).

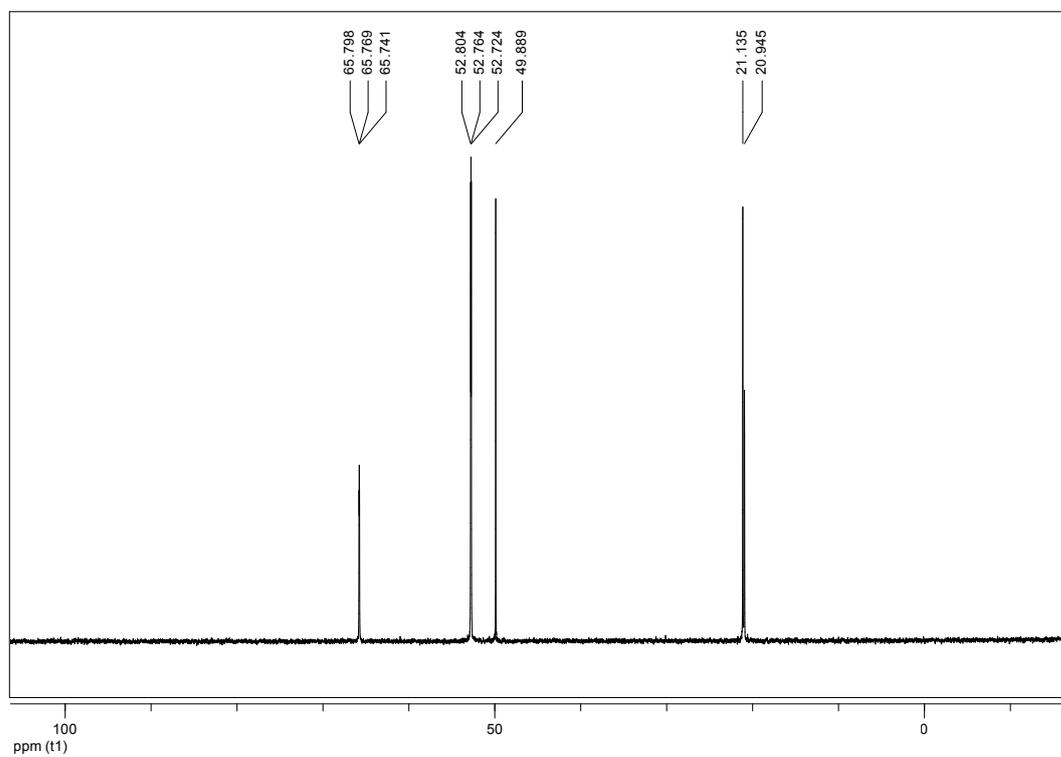
$(\text{NH}_2\text{OH})_2 \cdot [\text{HSO}_3\text{-b-N}(\text{CH}_3)_3] \cdot \text{HSO}_4$ :  $\delta\text{C}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ ) 20.945, 21.135, 49.889, 52.764, 65.769.

$(\text{NH}_2\text{OH})_2 \cdot [\text{HSO}_3\text{-b-Py}] \cdot \text{HSO}_4$ :  $\delta\text{H}$  (400 MHz;  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ ) 1.562(t, 2H), 2.011(t, 2H), 2.505(t, 2H), 4.631(t, 2H), 8.173(t, 2H), 8~9(bs, 7H), 8.610(t, 1H), 9.109(d, 2H).

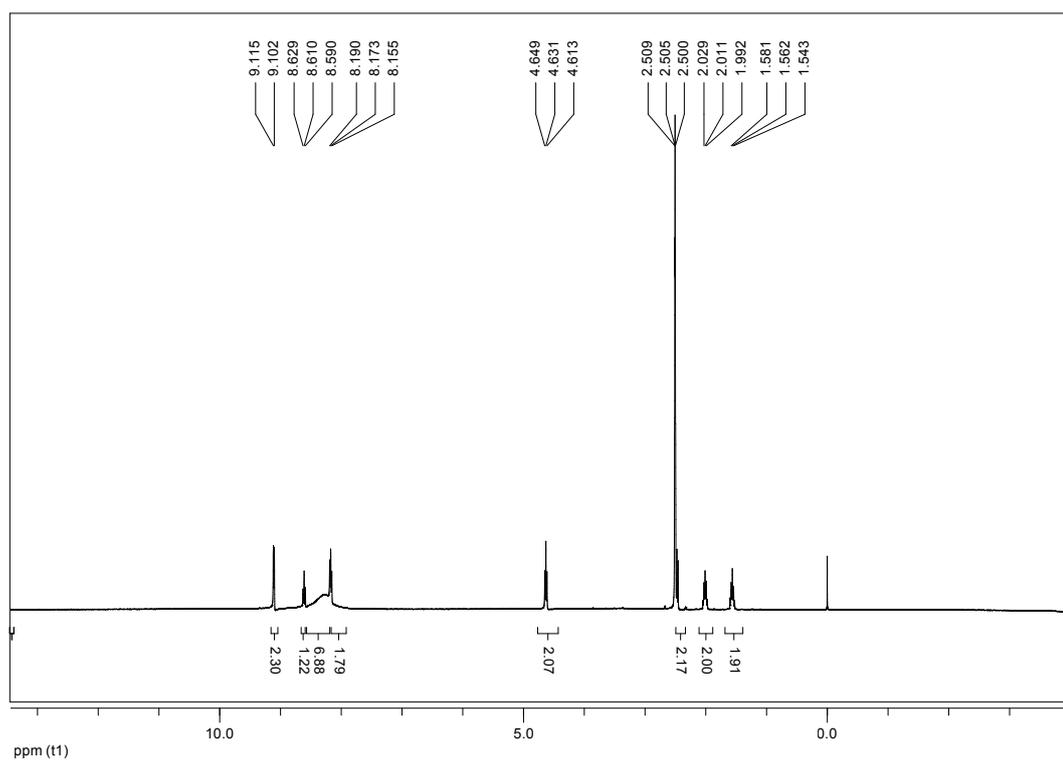
$(\text{NH}_2\text{OH})_2 \cdot [\text{HSO}_3\text{-b-Py}] \cdot \text{HSO}_4$ :  $\delta\text{C}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ ) 20.783, 29.236, 49.871, 61.101, 128.233, 144.173, 145.613.



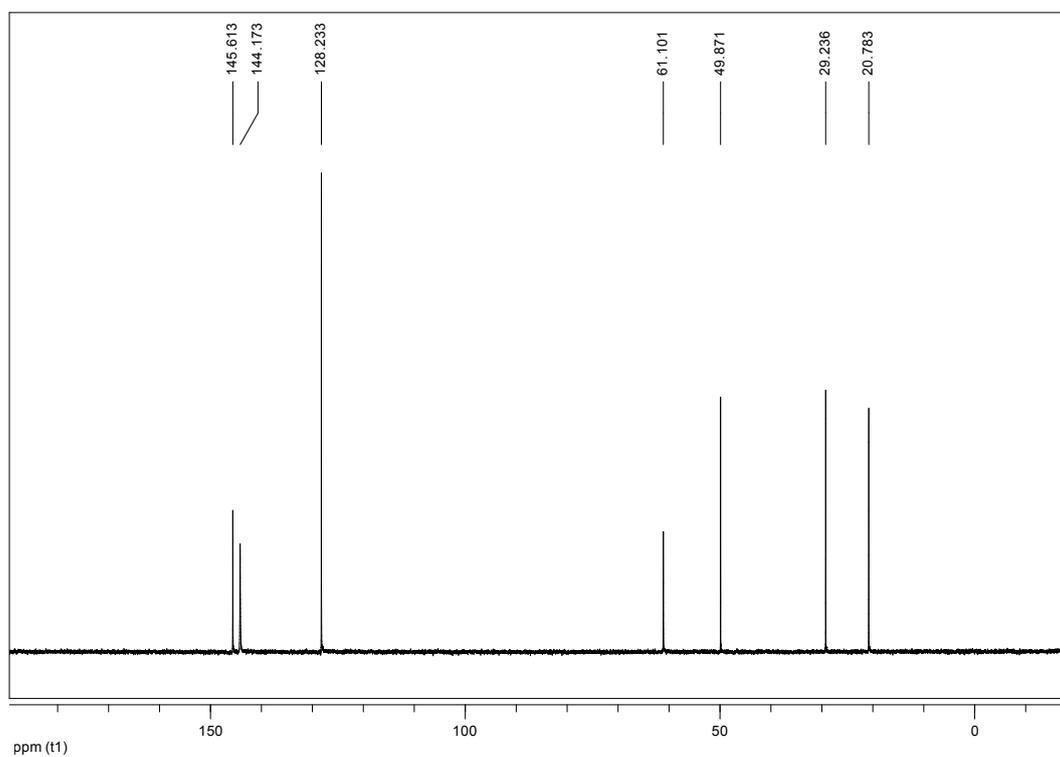
**Figure S1 (a)**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of  $(\text{NH}_2\text{OH})_2 \cdot [\text{HSO}_3\text{-b-N}(\text{CH}_3)_3] \cdot \text{HSO}_4$  ( $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ )



**Figure S1 (b)**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of  $(\text{NH}_2\text{OH})_2 \cdot [\text{HSO}_3\text{-b-N}(\text{CH}_3)_3] \cdot \text{HSO}_4$  ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )



**Figure S1 (c)**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of  $(\text{NH}_2\text{OH})_2 \cdot [\text{HSO}_3\text{-b-Py}] \cdot \text{HSO}_4$  ( $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ )



**Figure S1 (d)**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra of  $(\text{NH}_2\text{OH})_2 \cdot [\text{HSO}_3\text{-b-Py}] \cdot \text{HSO}_4$  ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )

## Tables

**Table S1** Species and corresponding frequency values of the two  $(\text{NH}_2\text{OH})_2\cdot\text{ILs}$  (Raman spectra)

Species	Freequency ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )
N-OH stretch	1011
OH bend, $\text{NH}_3$ rock	1190
$\text{NH}_3$ deformation	1617
$\text{NH}_3$ stretch	2973

**Table S2** Beckmann rearrangement of COX to CPL under different conditions

No	$[\text{HSO}_3\text{-b-(CH}_3)_3]\cdot\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$ (mmol)	$\text{ZnCl}_2$ (mmol)	$X_{\text{COX}}$ (%)	$S_{\text{CPL}}$ (%)	$S_{\text{CYC}}$ (%)
1	0	0	3.4	0	100
2	0.25	0	20.6	19.2	80.8
3	0	0.75	64.6	91.2	8.8
4	0.25	0.75	98.4	96.9	3.7

Reaction conditions: COX 5 mmol,  $[\text{HSO}_3\text{-b-(CH}_3)_3]\cdot\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  2.5 mmol, acetonitrile 10 mL, 80 °C, 4 h.