# **Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)**

## Molecular insight into the microstructure and microscopic dynamics

### of pyridinium ionic liquids with different alkyl chains based on

#### temperature response

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#### 1. The snapshot of polar region and nonpolar region



*Fig. S1* The snapshot of the polar region and the nonpolar region of  $[BPy][BF_4]$  (Left) and  $[OPy][BF_4]$  (Right) at 373 K. The polar region was showed in red color including pyridinium ring and anion; the nonpolar region was showed in green color including alkyl chains.

#### 2. The center-of-mass radial distribution functions



*Fig. S2* The center-of-mass RDFs for anions around the pyridine ring of cations. (a). [BPy][BF<sub>4</sub>], (b). [HPy][BF<sub>4</sub>] and (c). [OPy][BF<sub>4</sub>].

3. The spatial distribution functions



*Fig. S3* Spatial distribution of anion around cation, isovalue=22.



4. The velocity autocorrelation functions of cation and anion

*Fig. S4* Velocity autocorrelation functions of cation (a) and anion (b) of  $[BPy][BF_4]$  and  $[OPy][BF_4]$  under different temperature.



Fig. S5 Velocity autocorrelation functions of anion of three ILs at 293 K.

#### 5. The association dynamics



Fig. S6 Time correlation functions of atoms HA1-B under different temperatures.



Fig. S7 Time correlation functions of atoms CTn-CTn (n=4, 8) under different temperatures



Fig. S8 Time correlation functions of CTn-CTn at 293 K (a) and 373 K (b) of three ILs.