Supporting information:

## Chloroalkylsulfonate ionic liquids by ring opening of sultones with organic chloride salts

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## 1) Kinetics: Reaction of [BMIM]Cl with 1,4 butane sultone

The reaction was carried out in nitroethane. To determine the reaction order and the rate coefficient of this ring opening reaction, we used conditions of a pseudo first order reaction (large excess of one reactant). The reaction rate was determined using <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of samples taken after different reaction times. Between sampling and NMR measurement all samples were kept at -10 °C. At this temperature all samples were solid as the applied NMR solvent d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO has a melting point of 18°C. In this way we prevented the samples from further reaction during storage times that would have falsified the kinetic studies.



Figure S1: Arrhenius type plot for the reaction of [BMIM]Cl with 1,4-butane sultone to determine the activation energy of the ring opening reaction.

Supplementary Material (ESI) for Chemical Communications This journal is The Royal Society of Chemistry 2008





Figure S2: DSC measurement for glass transition of 3a



Figure S3: DSC measurement for glass transition of **3b** 



Figure S4: DSC measurement for glass transition of 3c

3) TGA analyses of ILs **3a-c** 



Figure S5: TGA-measurment of **3a** and their first derivation (dotted lines).



Figure S6: TGA-measurment of **3b** and their first derivation (dotted lines).



Figure S7: TGA-measurment of **3c** and their first derivation (dotted lines).



4) NMR analyses after treating **3a** for 4h at 210°C in an open system

Figure S8: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of evaporated fraction after thermal decomposition of **3a**.



Figure S9: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of remaining fraction after thermal decomposition of **3a**.

## 5) XPS analysis and elevated temperature (330 K)



Figure S10: XP spectra of **3a** ([BMIM][ClC<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>]) in the Cl2p region taken at 70° emission angle at the beginning (red) and after several hours of XP measurements (green) at various temperatures (RT, 270 K and 330 K). The latter exhibit a growing shoulder at about 197 eV binding energy (see also inset) which is the typical position of chloride. The chloride spectrum of [EMIM]Cl (blue) is added for comparison.

## 6) Instruments:

NMR-Spectra were measured on a JEOL ECX 400 spectrometer.

XPS was performed with an ESCALAB 200 system with Al  $K_{\alpha}$  source (hv = 1486.6 eV) and overall energy resolution of 0.9 eV. The Au  $4f_{7/2}$  signal ( $E_B = 83.55$  eV) was used as a reference for the reported binding energies. The detection limit of XPS of the near surface composition is in the order of 0.5 - 5 atom% (depending on XPS cross sections of the probed core level).

Elemental analysis were measured on an Euro EA 3000 (Euro Vector) and EA 1108 (Carlo Erba)

MALDI ToF mass spectrometry

Mass spectrometrical analysis was performed on a MALDI CFR<sup>plus</sup> (AXIMA, Kratos Analytical, UK), equipped with a nitrogen laser (337 nm, 3 ns pulse, maximum pulse rate 10 Hz) at  $1.9 \mu$ J.