Electronic Supplementary Information

Highly Efficient SO₂ Capture through Tuning the Interaction between Anion-Functionalized Ionic Liquids and SO₂

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Experimental Section

Materials and general methods

[Emim][SCN] and [Emim][C(CN)3] were purchased from Chengjie Chemical Co., Ltd. N₂ (99.99%) and SO₂ (99.9%) were purchased from Hangzhou Jingong Special Gas Co., Ltd. All chemicals were used as received unless otherwise stated. ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker spectrometer (500 MHz) in DMSO-d6 with tetramethylsilane as the standard. FT-IR spectra were measured on a Nicolet 470 FT-IR spectrometer. Decomposition temperatures were measured with a TGA 2100 series of TA Instrument with a heating rate of 10 °C min⁻¹.

Absorption and desorption of SO₂

In a typical absorption of SO₂, SO₂ at atmospheric pressure was bubbled through about 1 g of IL in a glass container with an inner diameter of 10 mm at a flow rate of about 60 ml min⁻¹. The glass container was partly immersed in a water bath at 20 °C. The amount of SO₂ absorbed was determined at regular intervals by an electronic balance with an accuracy of ± 0.1 mg. During the absorption of SO₂ under reduced pressure, SO₂ was diluted with N₂ in order to reduce the partial pressure of SO₂ passing through the system. The SO₂ partial pressure was controlled by changing the flow of SO₂ and N₂.

The IL was regenerated by bubbling N₂ at 80 °C through the IL. In a typical desorption of SO₂, N₂ of atmospheric pressure was bubbled though about 1.0 g IL that captured SO₂ in a glass container, which was partly immersed in a circulated oil bath at 80 °C, and the flow rate was about 60 ml min⁻¹. The desorption of SO₂ was determined at regular intervals by an electronic balance with an accuracy of ± 0.1 mg.

| ILs ^{<i>a</i>} | Absorption temperature/°C | Desorption ^c temperature/ ^o C | Available SO ₂ absorption at 1 atm (g SO ₂ /g IL) | Reference |
|--|------------------------------|--|--|--|
| [Emim][SCN] | 20 | 80 | 1.13 | This work |
| [Emim][C(CN) ₃] | 20 | 80 | 0.74 | This work |
| [P ₆₆₆₁₄][Tetz] | 20 | 80 | 0.43 | Wang ¹ |
| [P ₆₆₆₁₄][Im] | 20 | 80 | 0.48 | Wang ¹ |
| [Bmim][BF ₄] | 20 | 20 ^e | 0.40 | Riisager ² |
| [Bmim][Tf ₂ N] | 20 | 20 ^e | 0.20 | Riisager ² |
| [TMGB ₂][Tf ₂ N] | 20 | 20 ^e | 0.20 | Riisager ² |
| [TMG][Lactate] | 40 | 100 | 0.42 | Han, ³ Kim ⁴ |
| [E ₁ mim][MeSO ₃] | 30 | 100 | 0.62 | Kim ⁴ |
| [Bmim][MeSO ₄] | 50 | 130 ^{<i>d</i>} | 0.25 | Jung ⁵ |
| [Bmim][OAc] | 25 | 130 ^{<i>d</i>} | 0.42 | Shiflett, ⁶ Jung ⁵ |
| [TMG][TE] | 20 | 100 ^e | 0.87 | Zhang ⁷ |
| [TMG][PhO] | 20 | 100 ^e | 0.55 | Zhang ⁷ |

Table S1 The comparison of SO2 absorption by nitrile-containing anion-functionalizedILs with that by other typical ILs.

1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium ^{*a*}[Emim][SCN], $[\text{Emim}][C(CN)_3],$ thiocyanate; 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium tricyanomethanide; [P₆₆₆₁₄][Tetz], trihexyl(tetradecyl)phosphonium tetrazolate; trihexyl(tetradecyl)phosphonium imidazolate; [Bmim][BF₄], [P₆₆₆₁₄][Im], 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium tetrafluoroborate; [Bmim][Tf₂N], 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium bis(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)imide; [TMGB₂][Tf₂N], tetramethydibutylguandinium bis(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)imide; [TMG][Lactate], 1,1,3,3-tetramethyguandinium lactate: 1-ethyl-3-methoxyimidazolium [E₁mim][MeSO₃], methyl sulfate; [Bmim][OAc], 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium acetate; [TMG][TE], 1,1,3,3-tetramethyguandinium trifluoroethoxylate; [TMG][PhO], 1,1,3,3-tetramethyguandinium phenolate. ^bDesorbed under bubbling N₂. ^cAt 1.2 bar.^e Desorbed under vacuum. ^dDesorbed by bubbling O₂.



Figure S1 Absorption of SO₂ in [Emim][SCN] (•) and [Emim][C(CN)₃] (•) at 20^oC and 1 atm.



Figure S2 SO₂ absorption/desorption cycles of [Emim][SCN] and [Emim][C(CN)₃]. In each cycle, SO₂ is absorbed at 20 °C and 1 atm, and desorbed at 80 °C under N₂. [Emim][SCN], absorption (\blacktriangle); desorption, (\bigtriangleup). [Emim][C(CN)3], absorption, (\blacksquare); desorption, (\square).



Figure S3 SO₂ absorption/desorption cycles of [Emim][SCN] under vacuum. In each cycle, SO₂ is absorbed at 20 $^{\circ}$ C and 1 atm, and desorbed at 80 $^{\circ}$ C under 0.1atm.



Figure S4 Variation in the natural logarithm equilibrium constant of [EMIM][SCN] with temperature.



Figure S5 Variation in the natural logarithm equilibrium constant of $[EMIM][C(CN)_3]$ with temperature.



Figure S6 Optimized structures of [SCN]-SO₂, [SCN]-2SO₂, [SCN]-3SO₂ complexes. (a), [SCN]-SO₂, \triangle H=-73.0 kJ mol⁻¹; (b) [SCN]-2SO₂, \triangle H=-45.7 kJ mol⁻¹; (c) [SCN]-3SO₂, \triangle H=-26.7 kJ mol⁻¹.



Figure S7 IR spectra of [Emim][SCN] and [Emim][C(CN)₃] before and after the absorption of SO₂.

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