

## Electronic Supplementary Information

### **Highly efficient CO<sub>2</sub> capture by carbonyl-containing ionic liquids through lewis acid-base and cooperative C-H ···O hydrogen bonding interaction strengthened by the anion**

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## Experimental Section

### Materials and general methods

<sup>1</sup>H-Imidazole-4-carbaldehyde (4-CHO-Im), 4-Hydroxyacetophenone (4-Kt-PhOH), 4-Hydroxybenzaldehyde (4-CHO-PhOH), and 4-Hydroxy-ethylbenzoate (4-EF-PhOH) were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. Lithium bis (trifluoromethane sulfonyl)imide (LiTf<sub>2</sub>N) was obtained from 3M company. N-methyl imidazole and Trihexyl(tetradecyl) phosphonium bromide ([P<sub>66614</sub>][Br]) were bought from Nanjing Chemlin company. An anion-exchange resin -711(Cl) was obtained from Shanghai Huazhen Sci. & Tech. Co., Ltd. All chemicals were obtained in the highest purity grade possible, and were used as received unless otherwise stated. All ionic liquids (ILs) samples were dried under vacuum at 60 °C for 24 h to reduce possible trace of water. <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker spectrometer (600MHz) in CDCl<sub>3</sub> or DMSO with tetramethylsilane as the standard. FT-IR spectra were obtained using a Bio-Rad Excalibur FTS-3000 spectrometer.

### Preparation of carbonyl-containing anion-functionalized ILs

These carbonyl-containing anion-functionalized ILs were prepared by the neutralizing between substituted phenols or substituted imidazole and a solution of phosphonium hydroxide ([P<sub>66614</sub>][OH]) in ethanol, which was obtained by the anion-exchange method from [P<sub>66614</sub>][Br].<sup>[1-3]</sup> In a typical synthesis of carbonyl-based IL [P<sub>66614</sub>][4-CHO-Im], equimolar 4-CHO-PhOH was added to the [P<sub>66614</sub>][OH] solution in ethanol. The mixture was then stirred at 30°C for 12 h. Subsequently, ethanol and water were distilled off at 60 °C under reduced pressure. The obtained IL [P<sub>66614</sub>][4-CHO-Im] was dried in high vacuum for 12 h at 60°C to remove possible trace of water. The structures of these carbonyl-based anion-functionalized ILs were confirmed by NMR and IR. No impurities were found by NMR spectroscopy. The water content of these ILs was determined with a Karl Fisher titration and found to be less than 0.1 wt%.

### Absorption and desorption of CO<sub>2</sub>

In a typical absorption of CO<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub> of atmospheric pressure was bubbled through about 1.0 g IL in a glass container with an inner diameter of 10 mm, and the flow rate was about 60 ml min<sup>-1</sup>. The glass container was partly immersed in a metal heating jacket of desirable temperature. The amount of CO<sub>2</sub> absorbed was determined at regular intervals by the electronic balance with an accuracy of ±0.1 mg. During the absorption

of CO<sub>2</sub> under reduced pressure, CO<sub>2</sub> was diluted with N<sub>2</sub> to reduce the partial pressure of CO<sub>2</sub> passing through the system. The CO<sub>2</sub> partial pressure was controlled by changing the flow rate ratio of CO<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>.

In a typical desorption of CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub> of atmospheric pressure was bubbled through about 1.0 g ILs containing captured CO<sub>2</sub> in a glass container, which was partly immersed in a metal heating jacket of desirable temperature, and the flow rate was about 60 ml min<sup>-1</sup>. The release of CO<sub>2</sub> was determined at regular intervals by the electronic balance with an accuracy of ±0.1 mg.

### Computational Section

All calculations were performed using the GAUSSIAN03 programs package. For each set of calculations, we calculated geometry optimization for each free anion, the free CO<sub>2</sub> molecule, the anion-CO<sub>2</sub> complex, and the anion-2CO<sub>2</sub> complex at the B3LYP/6-31G++(d,p) level.

### 1.NMR and IR data of carbonyl-containing anion-functionalized ILs

**[P<sub>66614</sub>][Im-4-CHO]:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 0.86 (m, 12H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.22-1.43 (m, 48H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.20 (m, 8H, PCH<sub>2</sub>), 7.65 (s, 1H, Im C5), 7.83 (s, 1H, Im C2), 9.68 (s, 1H, CHO); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 13.9, 14.1, 18.8, 19.1, 21.7, 22.3, 22.6, 28.9, 29.2, 29.3, 29.5, 29.6, 30.3, 30.4, 30.9, 31.8, 137.0, 141.8, 146.5, 183.2 ppm. IR: 2954, 2924, 2854, 2732, 2678, 1640, 1575, 1490, 1462, 1377, 1349, 1240, 1174, 1111, 984, 782, 762, 720, 655 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**[P<sub>66614</sub>][4-EF-PhO]:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO): 0.87 (m,12H,CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.30-1.34 (t,3H,CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.24-1.42 (m, 48H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.18 (m, 8H, PCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.22-4.28 (q, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.69-6.72 (d, 2H, Ph C3,5), 7.77-7.79 (d, 2H, Ph C2,6); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO): 13.8, 17.2, 17.7, 20.6, 21.8, 22.1, 28.1, 28.7, 29.0, 29.1, 29.7, 29.8, 30.4, 31.3, 57.9, 106.2, 118.6, 131.4, 166.5, 177.0 ppm. IR: 2954, 2924, 2854, 1670, 1580, 1511, 1462, 1366, 1302, 1266, 1147, 1103, 1086, 985, 847, 776, 713, 619 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**[P<sub>66614</sub>][4-CHO-PhO]:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 0.89 (m,12H,CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.26-1.44 (m,48H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.18(m, 8H, PCH<sub>2</sub>), 6.51-6.54 (d, 2H, Ph C3,5), 7.51-7.53 (d, 2H, Ph C2,6), 9.46 (s,1H,CHO); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 13.8, 14.0, 18.5, 19.0, 21.6, 22.2, 22.6, 28.8, 29.2,

29.3, 29.4, 29.5, 29.6, 30.2, 30.4, 30.9, 31.8, 119.6, 121.0, 133.1, 177.3, 188.3 ppm. IR: 2954, 2924, 2854, 1670, 1580, 1511, 1462, 1366, 1302, 1266, 1147, 1103, 1086, 985, 847, 776, 713, 619 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**[P<sub>66614</sub>][4-Kt-PhO]:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 0.89 (m, 12H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.26-1.43 (m, 48H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.18 (m, 8H, PCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.40 (s, 3H, COCH<sub>3</sub>), 6.51-6.53 (d, 2H, Ph C3,5), 7.69-7.71 (d, 2H, Ph C2,6); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 13.8, 14.0, 18.5, 19.0, 21.6, 21.7, 22.2, 22.6, 25.6, 28.8, 29.2, 29.3, 29.4, 29.6, 30.2, 30.4, 30.6, 30.7, 31.0, 31.8, 118.4, 130.5, 131.5, 174.8, 195.1 ppm. IR: 2954, 2924, 2854, 1634, 1568, 1513, 1462, 1438, 1360, 1281, 1155, 1104, 1065, 983, 948, 846, 719, 698 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

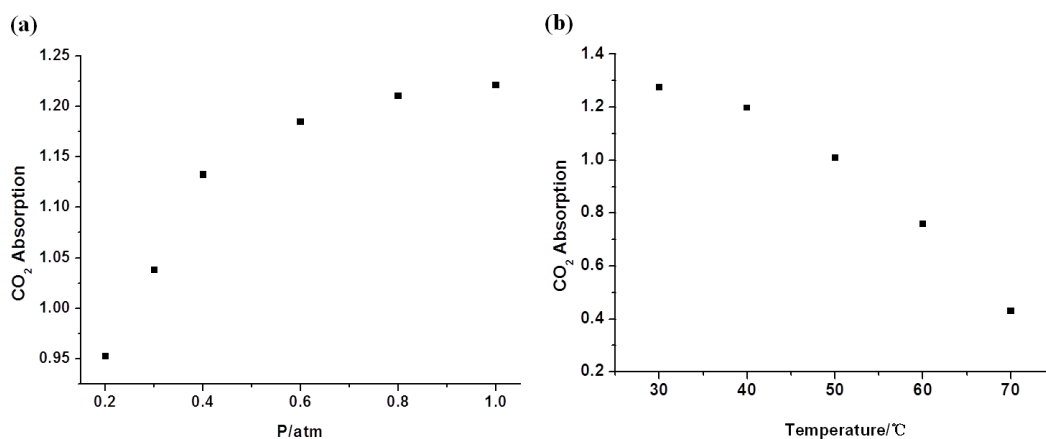
**[Im-EA][Tf<sub>2</sub>N]:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO): 1.25-1.29 (t, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.94 (s, 3H, NCH<sub>3</sub>), 4.21-4.26 (q, 2H, OCH<sub>2</sub>), 5.25 (s, 2H, COCH<sub>2</sub>), 7.73-7.74 (d, 2H, -CH=CH-), 9.09 (s, 1H, C2); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO): 13.8, 35.9, 49.5, 61.8, 123.3, 137.7, 166.8 ppm. IR: 3163, 1751, 1574, 1347, 1176, 1135, 1053, 975, 845, 790, 741, 710, 653 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**Table S1.** The comparison of CO<sub>2</sub> absorption by typical carbonyl-containing ILs with that by other functionalized ILs.

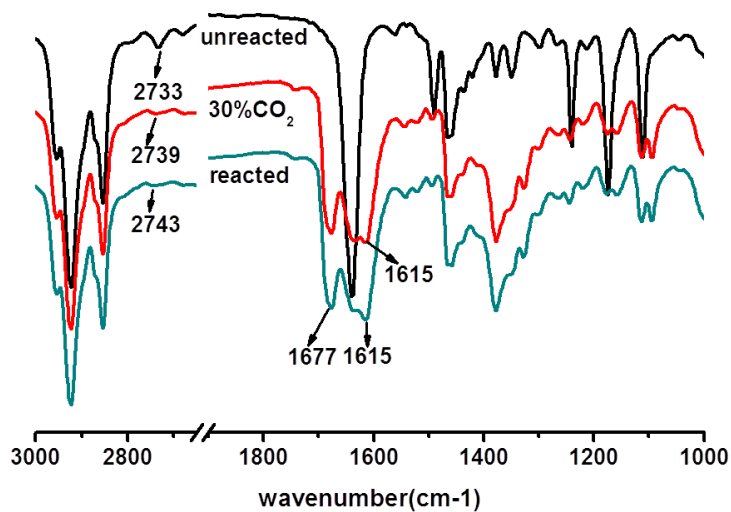
Ionic liquid <sup>a</sup>	Temperature ( °C)	CO <sub>2</sub> absorption <sup>b</sup>	Reference
[P <sub>66614</sub> ][4-CHO-Im]	30	1.24	This work
[P <sub>66614</sub> ][Triz]	23	0.97	Wang <sup>4</sup>
[P <sub>66614</sub> ][Pro]	25	0.91	Brennecke <sup>5</sup>
[P <sub>66614</sub> ][2-CNpyr]	25	0.90	Brennecke <sup>6</sup>
[MTBDH][Im]	30	1.03	Wang <sup>7</sup>
[APBim][BF <sub>4</sub> ]	25	~0.5	Davis <sup>8</sup>
[AP <sub>4443</sub> ][Gly]	45	~1.1 <sup>c</sup>	Zhang <sup>9</sup>
[Choline][Pro]	50	~0.5	Han <sup>10</sup>

<sup>a</sup>[P<sub>66614</sub>][Triz], trihexyl (tetradecyl)phosphonium trizolate; [P<sub>66614</sub>][Pro], trihexyl (tetradecyl)phosphonium proline; [P<sub>66614</sub>][2-CNpyr], trihexyl(tetradecyl) phosphonium 2-cyanopyrrolide; [P<sub>4444</sub>][Ala], tetrabutylphosphonium alanine; [APBim][BF<sub>4</sub>], 1-(3-aminopropyl)-3-butylimidazolium tetrafluoroborate;

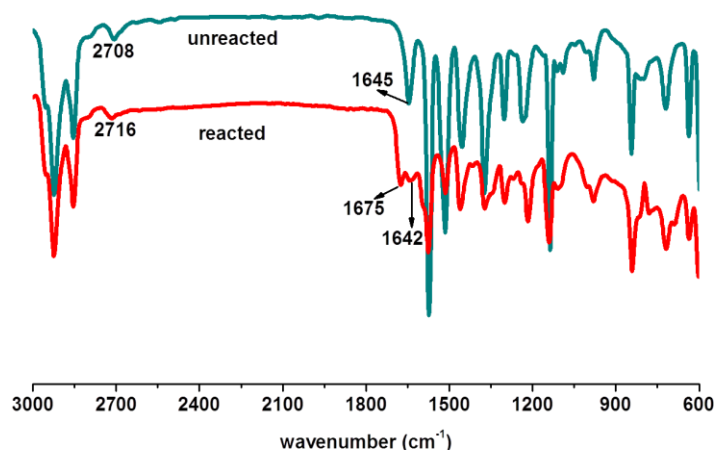
[AP<sub>4443</sub>][Gly], 3-(aminopropyl)tributylphosphonium glycinate; [Choline][Pro], 2-(hydroxyethyl)trimethylammonium proline; <sup>b</sup>Mole CO<sub>2</sub> per mole IL. <sup>c</sup>ILs on porous SiO<sub>2</sub>.



**Figure S1.** The effect of (a) pressure and (b) temperature on CO<sub>2</sub> absorption by [P<sub>66614</sub>][Im-4-CHO].



**Figure S2.** The IR spectra of before and after the capture of CO<sub>2</sub> capture under reduced pressure (30% CO<sub>2</sub>) and atmospheric pressure (100% CO<sub>2</sub>) by [P<sub>66614</sub>][4-CHO-Im].



**Figure S3.** The IR spectra before and after the capture of CO<sub>2</sub> by [P<sub>66614</sub>][4-CHO-PhO].

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