

## ELECTRONIC SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

### The effect of the cation alkyl chain branching on the behaviour of ionic liquids: Mutual solubilities with water and toxicities

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**Table S1** Solubilities of water in the IL-rich phase ( $x_w$ ) and of IL in the water-rich phase ( $x_{IL}$ ), expressed in mole fractions, at temperatures from 288.15 to 318.15 K.<sup>a</sup>

	[i-C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> im][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	[i-C <sub>4</sub> -3-C <sub>1</sub> py][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	[i-C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> pyrr][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	[i-C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> pip][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	[C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> pip][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]
<i>T/K</i>	$x_w$				
288.15	0.216(9)	0.180(8)	0.135(4)	0.117(1)	0.158(1)
293.15	0.224(4)	0.196(3)	0.155(1)	0.134(1)	0.171(6)
298.15	0.241(9)	0.215(1)	0.178(2)	0.155(4)	0.189(3)
303.15	0.257(2)	0.238(5)	0.195(7)	0.173(8)	0.209(3)
308.15	0.277(1)	0.255(8)	0.214(7)	0.195(1)	0.228(1)
313.15	0.293(2)	0.275(1)	0.236(6)	0.213(7)	0.248(6)
318.15	0.310(6)	0.293(1)	0.254(5)	0.233(8)	0.265(4)
<i>T/K</i>	$10^4 \cdot x_{IL}$				
288.15	3.412(2)	2.564(5)	2.764(6)	2.468(6)	1.825(4)
293.15	3.561(1)	2.690(1)	2.890(2)	2.563(3)	1.992(1)
298.15	3.813(5)	2.838(9)	3.038(9)	2.683(1)	2.070(2)
303.15	4.267(3)	2.957(6)	3.227(7)	2.791(9)	2.304(9)
308.15	4.596(1)	3.137(7)	3.437(7)	2.971(6)	2.294(1)
313.15	4.968(1)	3.275(4)	3.675(2)	3.094(6)	2.385(1)
318.15	5.396(4)	3.395(6)	3.895(7)	3.171(7)	2.527(1)

<sup>a</sup>The values between parentheses represent the standard deviation associated with the last representative digit.

**Table S2** Fitted parameters from the correlation of the experimental data with equations 1 and 2.<sup>a</sup>

	[i-C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> im][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	[i-C <sub>4</sub> -3-C <sub>1</sub> py][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	[i-C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> pyrr][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	[i-C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> pip][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	[C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> pip][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]
<i>A</i>	2.42(2)	3.51(6)	4.68(6)	5.23(9)	3.79(3)
- <i>B/K</i>	1143(41)	1505(36)	1919(69)	2122(61)	1625(28)
- <i>C</i>	172(87)	-0.121(29)	146(22)	18(52)	407(260)
<i>D/K</i>	6177(3918)	-1106(1299)	5308(1010)	-259(2362)	17520(11731)
<i>E</i>	25(13)	-1(4)	21(3)	2(8)	60(39)

<sup>a</sup>The values between parentheses represent the standard deviation of each parameter.

**Table S3.** Standard thermodynamic molar properties of solution of ILs in water at 298.15 K.<sup>a</sup>

	$\Delta_{sol}G_m^0$ / (kJ · mol <sup>-1</sup> )	$\Delta_{sol}H_m^0$ / (kJ · mol <sup>-1</sup> )	$\Delta_{sol}S_m^0$ / (J · K <sup>-1</sup> · mol <sup>-1</sup> )
[i-C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> im][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	19.5(0.005)	11.2(1.5)	-28.0(5.0)
[C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> im][NTf <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>1</sup>	20.1(0.008)	7.1(1.5)	-43.4(5.1)
[i-C <sub>4</sub> -3-C <sub>1</sub> py][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	20.2(0.007)	7.3(1.5)	-43.4(5.0)
[C <sub>4</sub> -3-C <sub>1</sub> py][NTf <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>2</sup>	21.0(0.005)	5.3(1.5)	-52.7(5.2)
[i-C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> pyrr][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	20.1(0.006)	8.1(1.5)	-40.2(5.0)
[C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> pyrr][NTf <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>3</sup>	20.7(0.010)	5.2(1.5)	-51.9(5.1)
[i-C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> pip][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	20.4(0.009)	6.6(1.5)	-46.1(5.0)
[C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> pip][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	21.0(0.009)	2.3(1.5)	-62.8(5.0)

<sup>a</sup>The values between parentheses represent the standard deviation of each parameter.

**Table S4** Molar volume of the studied ionic liquids<sup>a</sup>

Ionic Liquids	$V_m/\text{cm}^3 \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$
[C4C1im][NTf2]	292.7539
[i-C4C1im][NTf2]	291.7637
[C4C1py][NTf2]	304.3470
[i-C4C1py][NTf2]	303.1992
[C4C1pyrr][NTf2]	301.3513
[i-C4C1pyrr][NTf2]	301.6945
[C4C1Pip][NTf2]	315.6823
[i-C4C1Pip][NTf2]	312.3848

<sup>a</sup> Molar volume is equal to molecular weight per density of ILs. The density of ILs was measured using SVM-3000 Anton Paar Stabinger viscometer-densimeter

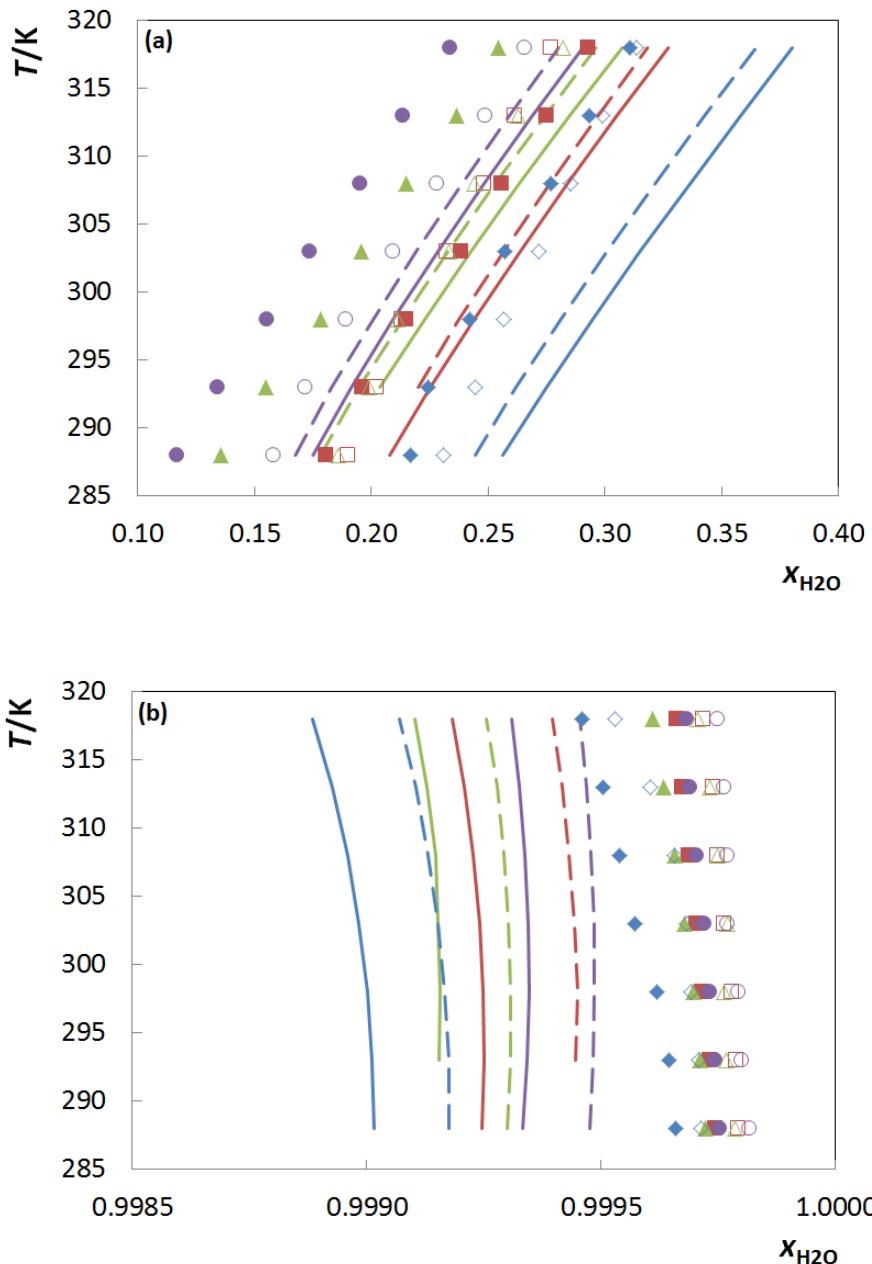
**Table S5** Microtox® EC<sub>50</sub> values (mg.L<sup>-1</sup>) of the studied ILs after 5, 15 and 30 min of exposure to the luminescent marine bacteria *V. fischeri*, with the respective 95 % confidence limits (in brackets).

Ionic liquids		EC <sub>50</sub> (mg.L <sup>-1</sup> ) (lower limit; upper limit)		
		5 min	15 min	30 min
Non-aromatic ILs	[C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> pyrr][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	532.51 (430.35; 634.68)	436.03 (365.94; 506.12)	416.59 (370.34; 462.84)
	[i-C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> pyrr][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	442.22 (259.88; 624.56)	384.80 (164.44; 605.15)	350.39 (252.79; 447.99)
	[C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> pip][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	352.57 (156.74; 548.40)	311.42 (284.85; 337.99)	304.50 (297.19; 311.82)
	[i-C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> pip][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	193.17 (164.79; 221.56)	175.67 (158.06; 193.29)	214.88 (159.25; 270.52)
Aromatic ILs	[C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> im][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	141.99 <sup>a</sup> (70.99; 425.96)	141.99 <sup>a</sup> (70.99; 141.99)	---
	[i-C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> im][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	442.93 <sup>a</sup> (223.57; 585.99)	283.81 <sup>a</sup> (210.95; 381.88)	---
	[C <sub>4</sub> -3-C <sub>1</sub> py][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	42.21 (34.76; 49.67)	38.34 (32.12; 44.57)	43.54 (32.60; 54.48)
	[i-C <sub>4</sub> -3-C <sub>1</sub> py][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	137.00 (123.27; 150.73)	113.02 (102.41; 123.63)	134.73 (105.62; 163.83)

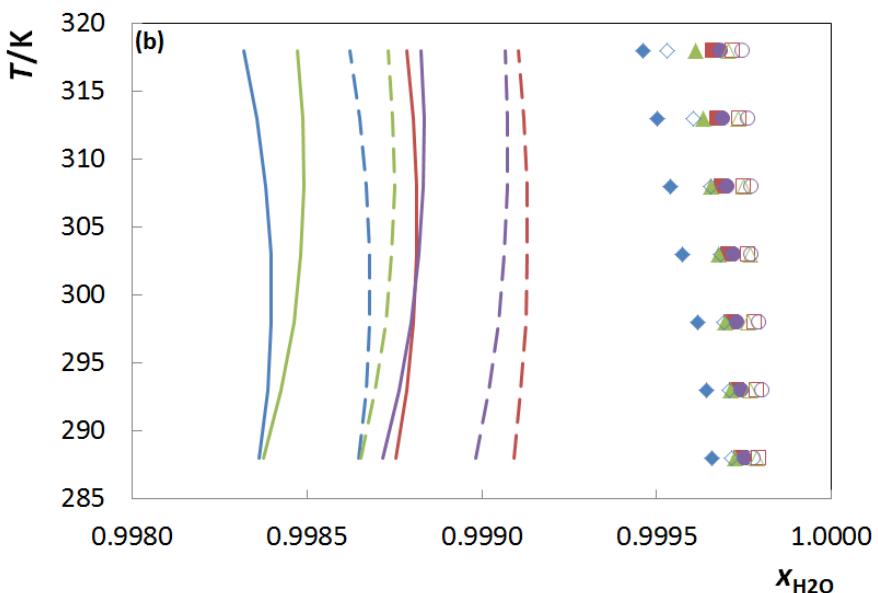
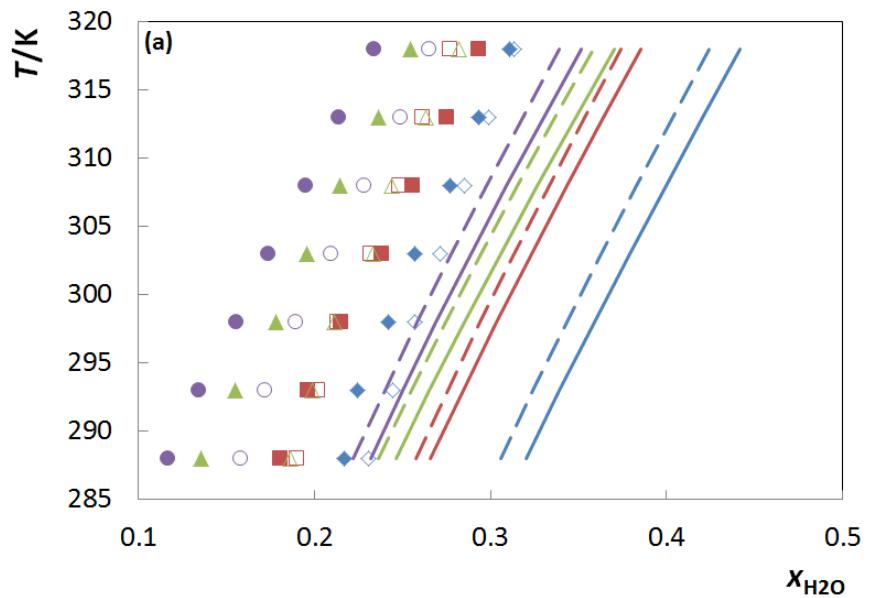
<sup>a</sup>Data from reference <sup>4</sup>

**Table S6** Studied systems and simulation conditions (equilibrated boxes).

	$N_{\text{ion pairs}}$	$N_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$	$V_{\text{box}}/\text{nm}^3$	$l_{\text{box}}/\text{nm}$
[C <sub>3</sub> C <sub>1</sub> im][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	320	-	139.8	5.19
[C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> im][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	300	-	147.2	5.28
[i-C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> im][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	300	-	140.6	5.20
[C <sub>3</sub> C <sub>1</sub> im][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	300	130	137.4	5.16
[C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> im][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	300	130	144.7	5.25
[i-C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> im][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	300	130	144.7	5.25
[C <sub>3</sub> C <sub>1</sub> im][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	1	600	19.9	2.71
[C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> im][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	1	600	19.0	2.67
[i-C <sub>4</sub> C <sub>1</sub> im][NTf <sub>2</sub> ]	1	600	19.5	2.69



**Fig. S1** Liquid-liquid phase diagrams of water and ionic liquids: (a) ionic-liquid-rich phase; and (b) water-rich phase. Symbols (experimental) : ( $\blacklozenge$ ,  $\lozenge$ )  $[\text{C}_4\text{C}_1\text{im}][\text{NTf}_2]$ ; ( $\blacksquare$ ,  $\square$ )  $[\text{C}_4\text{-3-C}_1\text{py}][\text{NTf}_2]$ ; ( $\blacktriangle$ ,  $\triangle$ )  $[\text{C}_4\text{C}_1\text{pyrr}][\text{NTf}_2]$ ; and ( $\bullet$ ,  $\circ$ )  $[\text{C}_4\text{C}_1\text{pip}][\text{NTf}_2]$ . The closed and open symbols represent *i*-butyl and *n*-butyl, respectively. The matching colour full and dashed lines represent, respectively, the COSMO-RS predictions for the ILs *i*-butyl and *n*-butyl using parameterization BP\_TZVP\_C20\_0111.



**Fig. S2** Liquid-liquid phase diagrams of water and ionic liquids: (a) ionic-liquid-rich phase; and (b) water-rich phase. Symbols (experimental) : ( $\blacklozenge$ ,  $\lozenge$ )  $[\text{C}_4\text{C}_1\text{im}][\text{NTf}_2]$ ; ( $\blacksquare$ ,  $\square$ )  $[\text{C}_4\text{-3-C}_1\text{py}][\text{NTf}_2]$ ; ( $\blacktriangle$ ,  $\triangle$ )  $[\text{C}_4\text{C}_1\text{pyrr}][\text{NTf}_2]$ ; and ( $\bullet$ ,  $\circ$ )  $[\text{C}_4\text{C}_1\text{pip}][\text{NTf}_2]$ . The closed and open symbols represent *i*-butyl and *n*-butyl, respectively. The matching colour full and dashed lines represent, respectively, the COSMO-RS predictions for the ILs *i*-butyl and *n*-butyl using parameterization BP\_TZVP\_C30\_1401.

## References

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