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Supporting Information

Epitope mapping of imidazolium cation in ionic liquid-protein interactions unveils the

balance between hydrophobicity and electrostatics towards protein destabilisation

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STD-NMR experiments



Figure S1 – Top – STD NMR spectrum of 5 mM [C₄dmim][Cl] with 50 μ M human HSA and relative STD NMR intensities in percentage; Bottom – Reference spectrum (off resonance) with resonance assignments.



Figure S2 – Top – STD NMR spectrum of 5 mM [C₃Omim][Cl] with 50 μ M human HSA and relative STD NMR intensities in percentage; Bottom – Reference spectrum (off resonance) with resonance assignments. H2 exchanges with D₂O over time and therefore its STD response can not be accurately determined.



Figure S3 – Top – STD NMR spectrum of 5 mM [C₂OHmim][Cl] with 50 μ M human HSA and relative STD NMR intensities in percentage; Bottom – Reference spectrum (off resonance) with resonance assignments.



Figure S4 – Top – STD NMR spectrum of 5 mM [C_4 mim][dca] with 50 μ M human HSA and relative STD NMR intensities in percentage; Bottom – Reference spectrum (off resonance) with resonance assignments. H2 exchanges with D₂O over time and therefore its STD response can not be accurately determined.



Figure S5 – Top – STD NMR spectrum of 5 mM [C_2 mim][dca] with 50 μ M human HSA and relative STD NMR intensities in percentage; Bottom – Reference spectrum (off resonance) with resonance assignments. H2 exchanges with D₂O over time and therefore its STD response can not be accurately determined.



Figure S6 – Top – STD NMR spectrum of 5 mM [C_3 Omim][Cl] with 50 μ M human HSA and relative STD NMR intensities in percentage; Bottom – Reference spectrum (off resonance) with resonance assignments.



Figure S7 – Top – STD NMR spectrum of 2.5 mM [C_2 mim][Cl] and [C_2 OHmim][Cl] with 50 μ M human HSA and relative STD NMR intensities in percentage; Bottom – Reference spectrum (off resonance) with resonance assignments.



Figure S8 – Top – STD NMR spectrum of 2.5 mM [C_2 mim][Cl] and [C_4 mim][Cl] with 50 μ M human HSA and relative STD NMR intensities in percentage; Bottom – Reference spectrum (off resonance) with resonance assignments.

Anion-protein interaction - IL titrations with HSA followed by ³⁵Cl NMR

[C₂mim][Cl]



Figure S9 – Effect of HSA addition on the ³⁵Cl resonance of a sample containing 5 mM [C₂mim][Cl] in D₂O (500 μ L). Increased HSA concentration was achieved through the addition of small volumes of 50 μ M HSA, 5 mM [C₂mim][Cl] to maintain the total concentration of chlorine constant. From bottom to top: volumes added in μ L (HSA concentration in μ M): 0 (0), 10 (0.98), 20 (1.92), 30 (2.83), 50 (4.55), 75 (6.52), 100 (8.33), 150 (11.54), 225 (15.52), 300 (18.75), and 360 (20.93). Top spectrum: 50 μ M HSA, 5 mM [C₂mim][Cl].



Figure S10 – Effect of HSA addition on the ³⁵Cl resonance of a sample containing 5 mM [C₄mim][Cl] in D₂O (500 µL). Increased HSA concentration was achieved through the addition of small volumes of 50 µM HSA, 5 mM [C₄mim][Cl] to maintain the total concentration of chlorine constant. From bottom to top: volumes added in µL (HSA concentration in µM): 0 (0), 10 (0.98), 20 (1.92), 30 (2.83), 50 (4.55), 100 (8.33), 150 (11.54), 225 (15.52), 300 (18.75), and 385 (21.75). Top spectrum: 50 µM HSA, 5 mM [C₄mim][Cl].



Figure S11 – Effect of HSA addition on the ³⁵Cl resonance of a sample containing 5 mM [C₄dmim][Cl] in D₂O (500 μ L). Increased HSA concentration was achieved through the addition of small volumes of 50 μ M HSA, 5 mM [C₄dmim][Cl] to maintain the total concentration of chlorine constant. From bottom to top: volumes added in μ L (HSA concentration in μ M): 0 (0), 10 (0.98), 20 (1.92), 30 (2.83), 50 (4.55), 75 (6.52), 100 (8.33), 150 (11.54), 225 (15.52), 300 (18.75), and 360 (20.93). Top spectrum: 50 μ M HSA, 5 mM [C₄dmim][Cl].



Figure S12 – Effect of HSA addition on the ³⁵Cl resonance of a sample containing 5 mM [C₃Omim][Cl] in D₂O (500 μ L). Increased HSA concentration was achieved through the addition of small volumes of 50 μ M HSA, 5 mM [C₃Omim][Cl] to maintain the total concentration of chlorine constant. From bottom to top: volumes added in μ L (HSA concentration in μ M): 0 (0), 10 (0.98), 20 (1.92), 30 (2.83), 50 (4.55), 75 (6.52), 100 (8.33), 150 (11.54), 225 (15.52), 300 (18.75), and 360 (20.93). Top spectrum: 50 μ M HSA, 5 mM [C₃Omim][Cl].



Figure S13 – Effect of HSA addition on the ³⁵Cl resonance of a sample containing 5 mM [C₂OHmim][Cl] in D₂O (500 μ L). Increased HSA concentration was achieved through the addition of small volumes of 50 μ M HSA, 5 mM [C₃Omim][Cl] to maintain the total concentration of chlorine constant. From bottom to top: volumes added in μ L (HSA concentration in μ M): 0 (0), 10 (0.98), 20 (1.92), 30 (2.83), 50 (4.55), 75 (6.52), 100 (8.33), 150 (11.54), 225 (15.52), 300 (18.75), and 360 (20.93). Top spectrum: 50 μ M HSA, 5 mM [C₂OHmim][Cl].

	$D(\times 10^{-9} m^2/s)$		
	0 µM HSA	21.75 µM	50 µM
[C ₄ mim][Cl]	1.68 ± 0.01	1.68 ± 0.01	1.67 ± 0.01
[C ₄ dmim][Cl]	1.67 ± 0.01	1.68 ± 0.01	1.67 ± 0.01
[C ₂ mim][Cl]	1.69 ± 0.01	1.68 ± 0.01	1.65 ± 0.01
[C ₃ Omim][Cl]	1.69 ± 0.01	1.68 ± 0.01	1.66 ± 0.01
[C ₂ OHmim][Cl]	1.69 ± 0.01	1.68 ± 0.01	1.68 ± 0.01

Table S1 - NMR determined self-diffusion coefficient of HDO in IL solutions with differentHSA concentrations