

**Molecular structure and interactions in the ionic liquid 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium bis(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)imide**

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**Table S1.** Selected vibrational frequencies (in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) of lowest energy conformer of 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium bis(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)imide in B3LYP B97D and MP2 framework. Intensities (in KM/Mole) are given in parentheses. In the experimental column, R and IR refer to Raman and infrared results.

Vibrations	EMIM	$\text{TF}_2\text{N}$	Experimental	B3LYP		B97D	MP2
				C1	C2	C3	C2
$\text{C}_4\text{-H}_{13}$ , $\text{C}_5\text{-H}_{12}$ stretch	3198 (16)		3185 (R), 3165 (IR) 3125 (R), 3126 (IR)	3198 (8)	3200 (6)	3141 (3)	3170 (1)
$\text{C}_8\text{-H}_{22}$ stretch			3107 (IR)	3073 (21)	3035 (15)		
$\text{C}_6\text{-H}_{17}$ stretch	3093 (0)			3072 (65)		3045 (17)	3044 (4)
asymm. $\text{H}_{18}\text{-C}_7\text{-H}_{19}$ stretch	3062 (9)			3060 (11)			3079(1)
asymm. $\text{H}_{20}\text{-C}_8\text{-H}_{21}$ stretch	3042 (1)			3040 (24)			
$\text{C}_7\text{-H}_{19}$ stretch			2991 (IR)	2991 (33)	2989 (19)	2919 (34)	3065 (4)
symm. $\text{H}_{15}\text{-C}_6\text{-H}_{17}$ stretch			2986 (R), 2980 (IR)	2973 (85)	2988 (29)		3028 (11)
asymm. $\text{H}_{20}\text{-C}_8\text{-H}_{21}$ stretch			2970 (R), 2958 (IR)	2968 (20)	2969 (16)	2981 (12)	
$\text{C}_2\text{-H}_{14}$ stretch	3202 (30)		2948 (R), 2914 (R)	2931 (735)	3155 (254)	3047 (268)	3155 (116)
$\text{H}_{16}\text{-C}_6\text{-H}_{17}$ sym stretch						2914 (20)	2964 (24)
$\text{H}_{20}\text{-C}_8\text{-H}_{21}$ sym stretch						2885 (27)	2958 (19)
$\text{N}_3\text{-C}_4\text{-H}_{13}$ rock	1570 (32)		1575 (R), 1574 (IR)	1571 (22)	1574 (34)	1526 (13)	1550 (71)
$\text{N}_1\text{-C}_2\text{-H}_{14}$ rock	1562 (54)			1562 (50)	1566 (48)	1511 (44)	1524 (9)
$\text{H}_{18}\text{-C}_7\text{-H}_{19}$ scissor	1473 (15)			1480 (9)	1476 (6)	1447 (13)	1453 (7)
$\text{H}_{15}\text{-C}_6\text{-H}_{17}$ scissor	1456 (9)		1471 (IR)	1473 (12)	1474 (17)	1430 (21)	1467 (9)
$\text{H}_{21}\text{-C}_8\text{-H}_{22}$ scissor	1460 (16)		1458 (R), 1464 (IR)	1466 (11)	1464 (14)	1418 (18)	1464 (8)
$\text{H}_{20}\text{-C}_8\text{-H}_{22}$ scissor							





**Table S2.** B3LYP results for electron density at BCP of different bonds in free cation<sup>a</sup>, anion<sup>b</sup> and 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium bis(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)imide conformers

	<b>C1</b>	<b>S1</b>	<b>C2</b>	<b>S2</b>	<b>C3</b>	<b>S3</b>	<b>C4</b>	<b>S4</b>	<b>C5</b>	<b>S5</b>
	In gas	In solution	In gas	In solution	In gas	In solution	In gas	In solution	In gas	In solution
C <sub>2</sub> -H <sub>14</sub>	0.28629	0.29647	0.29672	0.29523	0.29359	0.29292	0.28669	0.29716	0.29501	0.29407
C <sub>6</sub> -H <sub>17</sub>	0.28931	0.28717	0.28825	0.28898	0.29025	0.28823	0.28891	0.28852	0.28842	0.28621
C <sub>7</sub> -H <sub>18</sub>	0.29129	0.28921	0.28995	0.28934	0.29219	0.28920	0.29174	0.28762	0.29136	0.28960
C <sub>8</sub> -H <sub>22</sub>	0.28121	0.28017	0.28252	0.27957	0.28106	0.27961	0.28220	0.28032	0.28239	0.27771
N-S	0.24008	0.24490	0.24871	0.24563	0.24791	0.24286	0.24100	0.27789	0.24747	0.24535
N-S	0.23987	0.24318	0.24373	0.24271	0.24386	0.24266	0.23876	0.24457	0.24377	0.24233
S-C	0.19175	0.19234	0.19429	0.19251	0.19274	0.19245	0.19178	0.19400	0.19250	0.19265
S-C	0.19076	0.19196	0.19217	0.19205	0.19071	0.19222	0.19140	0.19201	0.19174	0.18998
S-O	0.28482	0.27736	0.27606	0.28230	0.28707	0.28081	0.28513	0.27781	0.28726	0.28100
S-O	0.27816	0.28240	0.27422	0.27697	0.27328	0.28030	0.27860	0.27697	0.27268	0.27970
S-O	0.28549	0.28216	0.28615	0.28235	0.28651	0.28099	0.28528	0.28134	0.28668	0.28083
S-O	0.27999	0.27828	0.27506	0.27802	0.27255	0.28098	0.27877	0.27877	0.27497	0.27850
C-F	0.28566	0.28465	0.28564	0.28475	0.28470	0.28231	0.28293	0.28415	0.28716	0.28317
C-F	0.28221	0.28224	0.28491	0.27936	0.28056	0.28203	0.28171	0.28394	0.27898	0.28160
C-F	0.26812	0.27512	0.27998	0.27743	0.27932	0.28119	0.28071	0.28121	0.26543	0.27803
C-F	0.28485	0.28356	0.28405	0.28252	0.28704	0.28288	0.28262	0.28192	0.28618	0.28127
C-F	0.28151	0.28077	0.27934	0.28162	0.27320	0.28231	0.28185	0.28056	0.27672	0.28127
C-F	0.27963	0.27918	0.27680	0.28128	0.26928	0.27710	0.27266	0.28045	0.27334	0.28045
H <sub>14</sub> ---O		0.01461	0.02182	0.01142	0.01692			0.01070	0.02597	0.01683
H <sub>14</sub> ---O		0.00984		0.01058	0.1830			0.00958		
H <sub>14</sub> ---N	0.03064					0.01996	0.02908			
H <sub>14</sub> ---F		0.00359								
H <sub>15</sub> ---F					0.00342					
H <sub>17</sub> ---O	0.01882		0.00670	0.01160	0.01762	0.01168	0.01957	0.00755		
H <sub>17</sub> ---F		0.00594		0.00349					0.00895	
H <sub>18</sub> ---O	0.01480	0.00511	0.00842	0.00812	0.01482	0.00863	0.01001	0.00289	0.00864	0.00464
H <sub>18</sub> ---F		0.00477					0.00661		0.00445	0.00746
H <sub>20</sub> ---N										0.00529
H <sub>22</sub> ---O	0.00618	0.00541	0.00163			0.00538	0.00825		0.00727	
H <sub>22</sub> ---F		0.00347	0.00643	0.00316	0.00457			0.00550	0.00480	
H <sub>21</sub> ---F									0.00344	

<sup>a</sup>In free cation: C<sub>2</sub>-H<sub>14</sub> (0.29389), C<sub>4</sub>-H<sub>13</sub> (0.29161), C<sub>5</sub>-H<sub>12</sub> (0.29173), C<sub>6</sub>-H<sub>17</sub> (0.28648), C<sub>7</sub>-H<sub>18</sub> (0.28695), C<sub>8</sub>-H<sub>21</sub> (0.27899); <sup>b</sup>Free anion: S-O (~-0.282) S-N (0.24403)