Supporting Information

Surface tension measurements for seven imidazolium based dialkylphosphate ionic liquids and their binary mixtures with water (methanol or ethanol) at 298.15 K and 1 atm

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1. Experimental

1.1 NMR analysis of ILs

¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were performed in order to characterize the structure and confirm the purity of the ILs, namely 1,3-dimethylimidazolium dimethylphosphate ([MMIM][DMP]), 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium dimethylphosphate ([EMIM][DMP]), 1-n-butyl-3-methylimidazolium dimethylphosphate ([BMIM][DMP]),1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium diethylphosphate ([EMIM][DEP]), 1,3-diethylimidazolium diethylphosphate ([EEIM][DEP]), 1-n-butyl-3-ethylimidazolium diethylphosphate ([BEIM][DEP]), and 1-n-butyl-3-methylimidazolium dibutylphosphate ([BMIM][DBP]).

The ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were measured on an AV400 MHz spectrometer, using deuterated water (D₂O) as the external reference solvent at T = 300 K. Chemical shifts (δ) were reported in parts per million (ppm).

1.2 Water content determination

Water content was measured by the Karl Fisher titrator (type CBS-1A) for the above ILs, namely [MMIM][DMP], [EMIM][DMP], [EMIM][DMP], [EMIM][DEP], [EEIM][DEP], [BEIM][DEP], and [BMIM][DBP].

2. Results and Discussion

2.1 NMR analysis of ILs

The structures of the ILs were identified and no impurities were observed according to ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra which are presented in Figs. S1–S7 and Figs. S8–S14, respectively.

The purity of ILs can be quantitatively determined according to the ¹H NMR spectrum by the area normalization method, using the hydrogen numbers of IL divide the total hydrogen numbers.

For example (see **Fig. S2**), the purity of [EMIM][DMP] is, $100 \times (1.00 + 0.97 + 0.95 + 2.39 + 3.50 + 6.62 + 3.46)/(1.00 + 0.97 + 0.95 + 2.39 + 3.50 + 6.62 + 3.46 + 0.17) = 99.1\%$, which can also be qualitatively confirmed by the ¹³C NMR spectrum (see **Fig. S9**). It is obvious that no residual peaks of impurities are detected. Therefore, the purity determined by the NMR spectra actually represents the mole fraction of [EMIM][DMP], namely, $x \ge 99.1\%$.

The purity of the remaining ILs can be determined by the same method described above as well and the results are shown in **Tab. S1** below.

ILs	Purity (x%)
[MMIM][DMP]	99.7
[EMIM][DMP]	99.1
[BMIM][DMP]	99.9
[EMIM][DEP]	99.8
[EEIM][DEP]	99.7
[BEIM][DEP]	99.9
[BMIM][DBP]	99.8

Figure Captions

- **Fig. S1**. The chemical shifts of ¹H NMR spectra of [MMIM][DMP] with D₂O as the external reference solvent are recorded as follows: $\delta_H = 3.47$ (6H, d, P(OCH₃)₂), 3.80 (6H, s, H₃CNCHNCH₃), 7.32 (2H, m, NCHCHN), 8.55 (1H, s, NCHN). ($\delta_H = 4.70$, residual peak of D₂O)
- **Fig. S2**. The chemical shifts of ¹H NMR spectra of [EMIM][DMP] with D₂O as the external reference solvent are recorded as follows: $\delta_H = 1.42$ (3H, t, NCH₂CH₃), 3.48 (6H, d, P(OCH₃)₂), 3.81 (3H, s, NCH₃), 4.14 (2H, q, NCH₂CH₃), 7.34 (1H, s, NCHCHN), 7.41 (1H, s, NCHCHN), 8.63 (1H, s, NCHN). ($\delta_H = 4.70$, residual peak of D₂O)
- **Fig. S3**. The chemical shifts of ¹H NMR spectra of [BMIM][DMP] with D₂O as the external reference solvent are recorded as follows: $\delta_H = 0.84$ (3H, t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃), 1.23 (2H, sex, NCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃), 1.75 (2H, p, NCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃), 3.49 (6H, d, P(OCH₃)₂), 3.81 (3H, s, NCH₃), 4.12 (2H, t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃), 7.35 (1H, s, NCHCHN), 7.40 (1H, s, NCHCHN), 8.63 (1H, s, NCHN). ($\delta_H = 4.70$, residual peak of D₂O)
- **Fig. S4**. The chemical shifts of 1 H NMR spectra of [EMIM][DEP] with D₂O as the external reference solvent are recorded as follows: $\delta_{H} = 1.18$ (6H, t, (OCH₂CH₃)₂), 1.42 (3H, t, NCH₂CH₃), 3.81 (4H, m, (P(OCH₂CH₃)₂), 3.85 (3H, s, NCH₃), 4.16 (2H, m, NCH₂CH₃), 7.34 (1H, s, NCHCHN), 7.41 (1H, s, NCHCHN), 8.63 (1H, s, NCHN). ($\delta_{H} = 4.70$, residual peak of D₂O) **Fig. S5**. The chemical shifts of 1 H NMR spectra of [EEIM][DEP] with D₂O as the external reference solvent are recorded as follows: $\delta_{H} = 1.17$ (6H, t, P(OCH₂CH₃)₂), 1.42 (6H, t, CH₃CH₂NCHNCH₂CH₃), 4.14 (4H, p, P(OCH₂CH₃)₂), 4.15 (4H, q, CH₃CH₂NCHNCH₂CH₃), 7.42 (2H, s, NCHCHN), 8.69 (1H, s, NCHN). ($\delta_{H} = 4.70$, residual peak of D₂O)
- Fig. S6. The chemical shifts of ¹H NMR spectra of [BEIM][DEP] with D₂O as the external

reference solvent are recorded as follows: $\delta_H = 0.82$ (3H, t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃), 1.15 (6H, t, P(OCH₂CH₃)₂), 1.23 (2H, m, NCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃), 1.41 (3H, t, NCH₂CH₃), 1.75 (2H, m, NCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃) , 3.82 (4H , m , P(OCH₂CH₃)₂) , 4.10 (4H , m , CH₃CH₂NCHNCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃), 7.40 (2H, d, NCHCHN), 8.69 (1H, s, NCHN). ($\delta_H = 4.70$, residual peak of D₂O)

- **Fig. S7**. The chemical shifts of ¹H NMR spectra of [BMIM][DBP] with D₂O as the external reference solvent are recorded as follows: $\delta_H = 0.85$ (9H , m , NCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃ , P(OCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃)₂) , 1.74 (2H , p , NCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃) , 3.78 (4H , q , P(OCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃)₂), 3.82 (3H, s, NCH₃), 4.11 (2H, t, CH₃CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂N), 7.36 (1H, s, NCHCHN), 7.41 (1H, s, NCHCHN), 8.64 (1H, s, NCHN). ($\delta_H = 4.70$, residual peak of D₂O) **Fig. S8**. The chemical shifts of ¹³C NMR spectrum of [MMIM][DMP] with D₂O as the external reference solvent are recorded as follows: $\delta_C = 35.56$ (H₃CNCHNCH₃), 52.69 (P(OCH₃)₂), 123.37 (NCHCHN), 136.51 (NCHN).
- **Fig. S9**. The chemical shifts of 13 C NMR spectrum of [EMIM][DMP] with D₂O as the external reference solvent are recorded as follows: $\delta_C = 91.35$ (NCH₂CH₃), 97.47 (NCH₃), 100.13 (NCH₂CH₃), 102.46 (P(OCH₃)₂), 122.48 (NCHCHN), 122.94 (NCHCHN), 126.45 (NCHN).
- **Fig. S10**. The chemical shifts of ¹³C NMR spectrum of [BMIM][DMP] with D₂O as the external reference solvent are recorded as follows: $\delta_C = 12.58$ (NCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃), 18.71 (NCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃), 31.23 (NCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃), 35.58 (NCH₃), 49.25 (NCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃), 52.72 (P(OCH₃)₂), 122.20 (NCHCHN), 123.46 (NCHCHN), 135.82 (NCHN).
- **Fig. S11**. The chemical shifts of ¹³C NMR spectrum of [EMIM][DEP] with D₂O as the external reference solvent are recorded as follows: $\delta_C = 14.45$ (NCH₂CH₃), 15.62 (P(OCH₂CH₃)₂), 35.55 (NCH₃), 44.73 (NCH₂CH₃), 62.14 (P(OCH₂CH₃)₂), 121.85 (NCHCHN), 123.43 (NCHCHN), 135.52 (NCHN).
- **Fig. S12**. The chemical shifts of ¹³C NMR spectrum of [EEIM][DEP] with D₂O as the external reference solvent are recorded as follows: $\delta_C = 14.43$ (NCH₂CH₃), 15.57 (P(OCH₂CH₃)₂), 44.75 (NCH₂CH₃), 62.16 (P(OCH₂CH₃)₂), 121.93 (NCHCHN), 134.49 (NCHN).
- **Fig. S13**. The chemical shifts of 13 C NMR spectrum of [BEIM][DEP] with D₂O as the external reference solvent are recorded as follows: $\delta_C = 12.58$ (NCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃), 14.41 (NCH₂CH₃), 15.55 (P(OCH₂CH₃)₂), 18.73 (NCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃), 31.21 (NCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃), 44.75

(NCH₂CH₃), 49.26 (NCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃), 62.17 (P(OCH₂CH₃)₂), 121.93 (NCHCHN), 122.26 (NCHCHN), 134.76 (NCHN).

Fig. S14. The chemical shifts of 13 C NMR spectrum of [BMIM][DBP] with D₂O as the external reference solvent are recorded as follows: $δ_C = 12.59$ (NCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃), 12.99 (P(OCH₂CH₂CH₃)₂), 18.35 (NCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃), 18.71 (P(OCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃)₂), 31.24 (NCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃), 31.99 (P(OCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃)), 35.58 (NCH₃), 49.25 (NCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃), 65.98 (P(OCH₂CH₂CH₂CH₃)), 122.21 (NCHCHN), 123.47 (NCHCHN), 135.81 (NCHN).

Legends

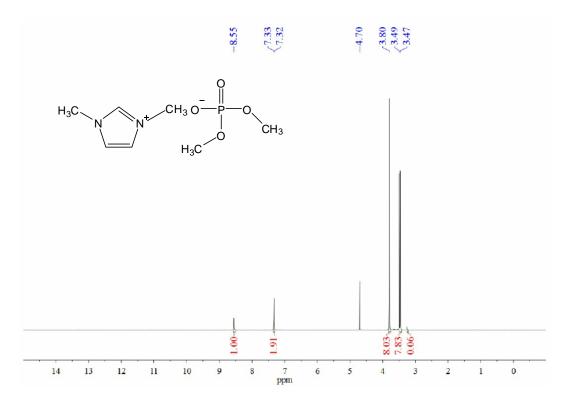


Fig. S1

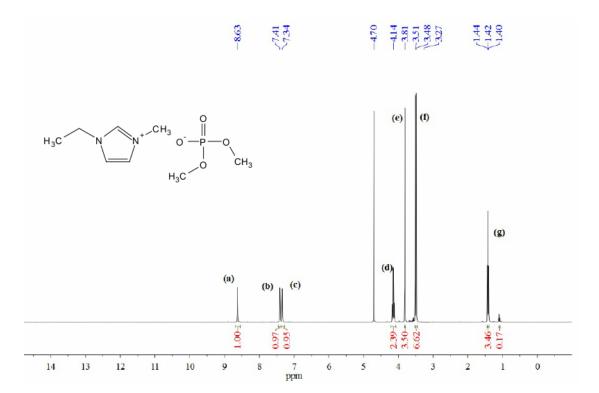


Fig. S2

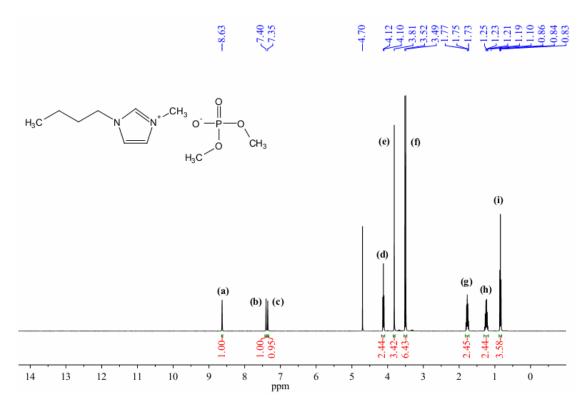


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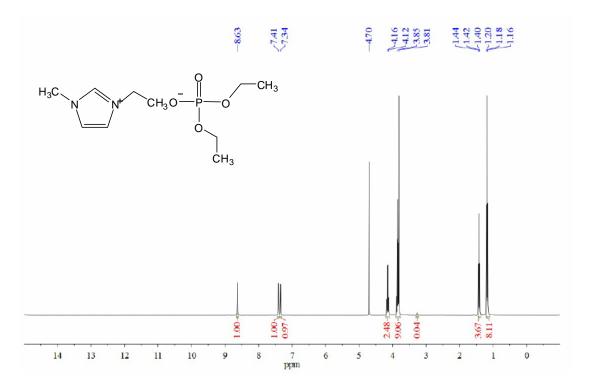


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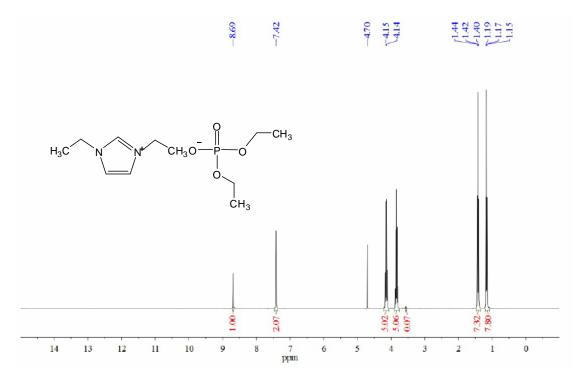


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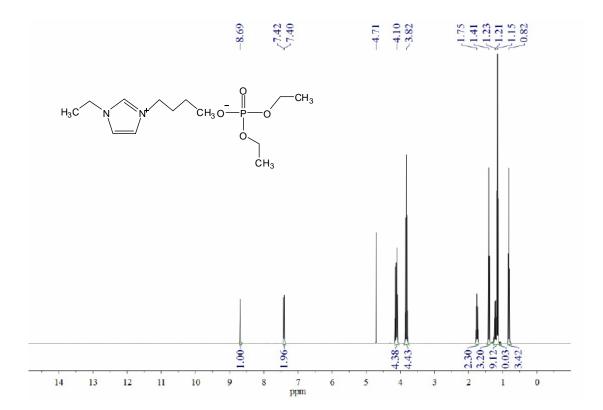


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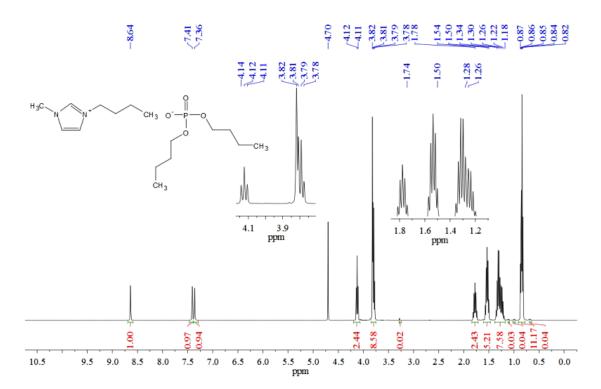


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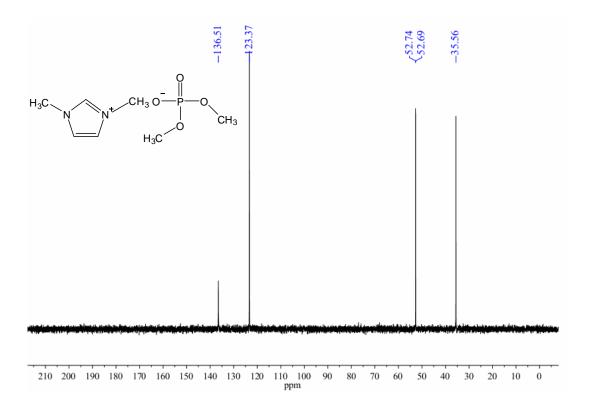


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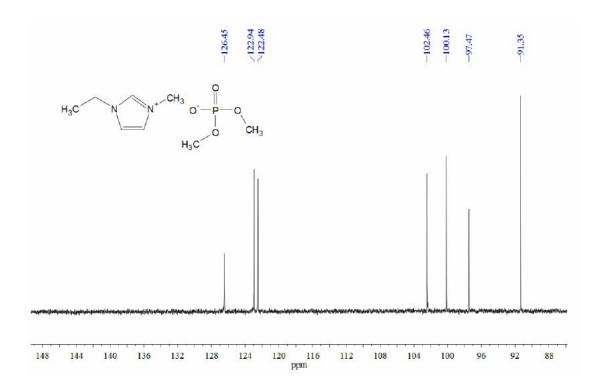


Fig. S9

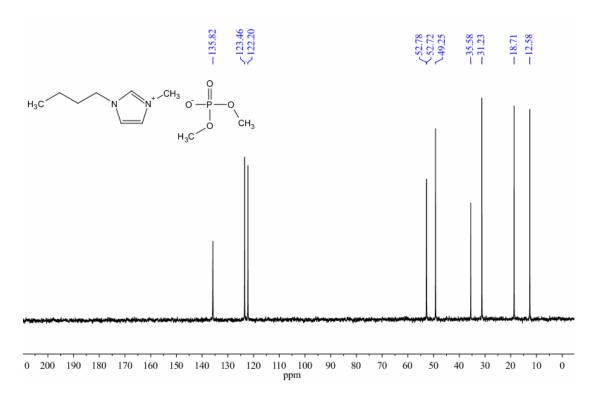


Fig. S10

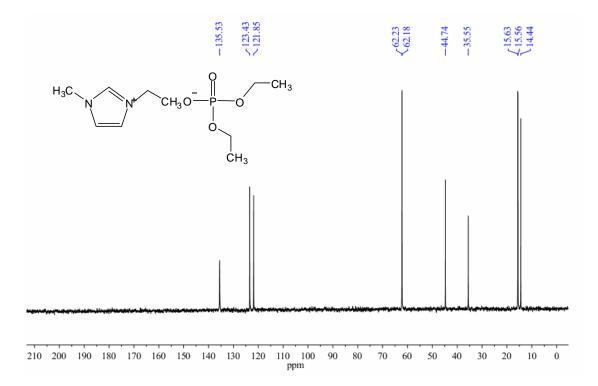


Fig. S11

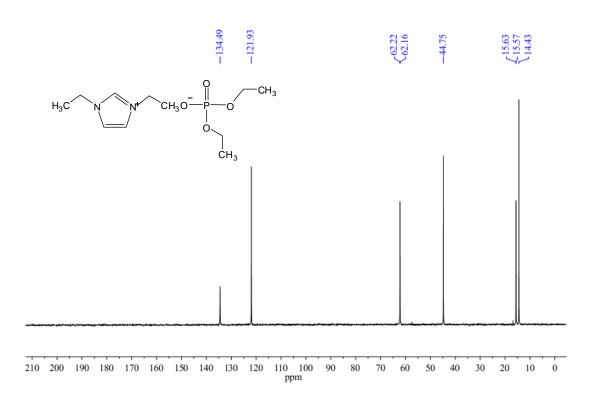


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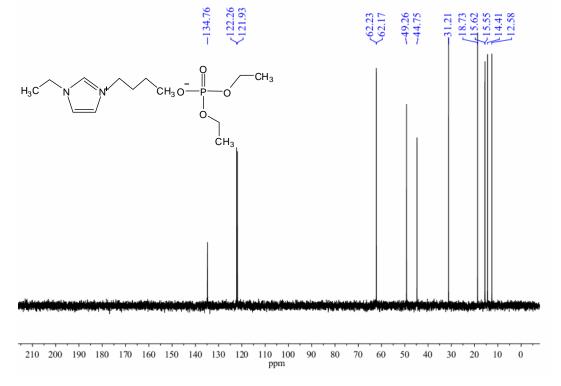


Fig. S13

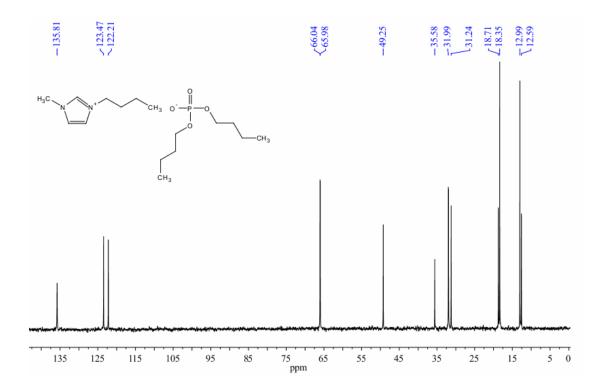


Fig. S14

2.2 Water content determination

Water content for the ILs is shown in **Tab. S2**.

Tab. S2. Water content of phosphate ionic liquids investigated

ILs	Water content /(ppm)
[MMIM][DMP]	252
[EMIM][DMP]	334
[BMIM][DMP]	206
[EMIM][DEP]	328
[EEIM][DEP]	243
[BEIM][DEP]	281
[BMIM][DBP]	265

From **Tab. S2**, we can see there is trace amounts of water contained in any IL, and the results again indicate that the ILs have high purities.