Novel Brønsted Acidic Ionic Liquids and Their Use as Dual Solvent-Catalysts

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Supporting Information

General Considerations. ¹H NMR (300 MHz) and ¹³C NMR (75 MHz) spectra were obtained as solutions in either CDCl₃ or D₂O. Chemical shifts were reported in parts per million (ppm, δ) and referenced to CHCl₃ (δ 7.27) or D₂O (δ 4.88). Infrared spectra were recorded as a thin film on sodium chloride and absorptions were reported in wavenumbers (cm⁻¹). Melting points are uncorrected. Distillations were performed using a Kugelrohr ball-tube distillation apparatus. Gas chromatographic analyses were performed using an Agilent 6850 system (FID). TLC analyses were performed on Whatman flexible polyester backed TLC plates with a fluorescent indicator. Detection was conducted by UV absorption (254 nm) and charring with 10% KMnO₄ in water. Baker silica gel (47-61 microns) was used for all chromatographic separations. Anhydrous organic solvents were dried and then distilled prior to use. Acetic acid, acetic anhydride, benzopinacole, ethanol, hexanoic acid, 1-octanol, pinacol and *p*-toluenesulfonic acid were not purified prior to use. All other chemicals used for synthetic procedures were reagent grade or better. Solutions were concentrated in vacuo with a rotary evaporator and the residue was purified using a silica gel column unless specified otherwise.



Benzopinacolone (2,2,2-triphenylacetophenone) To a 5 mL reaction conical vial equipped with stir bar and reflux condenser was added 882 mg triphenyl(propyl-3-sulphonyl)phosphonium toluenesulfonate. Next added in one portion was 58.8 mg benzopinacole. The reaction was allowed to warm to 140•C for a period of 2 hours. The resulting monophase was then allowed to cool to room temperature at which time the biphase was washed with EtOAc (3 x 2.0 mL) after addition of 1.0 mL water and 2.0 mL EtOAc. The combined organic phases were dried with anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The crude product (71.1 mg) revealed over a 99% conversion from benzopinacole to benzopinacolone via GC ((HP-1 methyl siloxane) 100°C (2 min), 10°C/min, 275°C (10 min)) 11.32 min (benzopinacole); 21.38 min (benzopinacolone). Purification by silica gel chromatography (EtOAc/Hex 1:8) afforded the desired material in 49.5 mg (88% isolated yield) as a white crystalline solid. Spectral data of this material matched that of commercially available material.



n-octyl ether To a 5 mL reaction conical vial equipped with stir bar and reflux condenser was added 1.0 g (1.91 mmol) triphenyl(propyl-3-sulphonyl)phosphonium toluenesulfonate. Next added in one portion was 1.0 mL (6.35 mmol) 1-octanol. The reaction was allowed to warm to 175 C over a period of 2 hours. The resulting monophase was then allowed to cool to room temperature at which time the biphase was washed with EtOAc (3 x 2.0 mL) after addition of 1.0 mL water and 2.0 mL EtOAc. The combined organic phases were dried with anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated in vacuo. Purification by bulb-to-bulb distillation (bp 130 °C/ 3 mm Hg (air bath temp)) afforded the desired material in 432 mg (56 % isolated yield) as a clear and colorless oil. The ratio of alcohol to IL did have a profound affect in overall yield of octyl ether formation. From the combination of approximately 300 mg (0.57 mmol) triphenyl(propyl-3-sulphonyl)phosphonium toluenesulfonate and 0.45 mL 1-octanol, afforded was 55 mg (16% isolated yield) whereas from the combination of 771 mg (1.47 mmol) triphenyl(propyl-3-sulphonyl)phosphonium toluenesulfonate and 0.5 mL (3.18 mmol) 1octanol, afforded was 96.8 mg (25% isolated yield). The products in each run were analyzed by GC ((HP-1 methyl siloxane) 100°C (2 min), 10°C/min, 275°C (10 min)) 4.83min (1-octanol); 12.03 min (octyl ether) and confirmed by NMR. Spectral data of this material matched that of commercially available material.

Control Reaction using PTSA From the combination of 1-octanol (0.5 mL, 3.17 mmol) and *p*-toluenesulfonic acid (280 mg, 1.47 mmol (using the monohydrate)) was obtained 187 mg *n*-octyl ether (49% isolated yield) based upon purification of the crude product by bulb-to-bulb distillation (bp 130 $^{\circ}$ C/ 3 mm Hg (air bath temp)).

Control Reaction using NAFION 117 From the combination of 0.5 mL 1-octanol (3.17 mmol) and 0.314 g NAFION 117 (0.28 meq (0.89 meq/g)) in 3.0 mL toluene (1.1M) as solvent was obtained 12.4 mg *n*-octyl ether (3% isolated yield) upon purification of the crude product (GC ratio of 90:10 (octanol:octyl ether)) by bulb-to-bulb distillation (bp 130 °C/ 3 mm Hg (air bath temp)).

 Table 1. Analysis of Octyl Ether Formation.



Entry	Sulfonic Acid	Ratio of 1-octanol to	Ratio of 1-	Isolated
	Derivative	sulfonic acid derivative	octanol to octyl	Yield, %
			ether ^a	
1	2a	2.2:1.0	54:46	25
2	2a	3.3:1.0	20:80	56
3	2a	5.0:1.0	77:23	16
4	3	2.2:1.0	15:85	49
5	4	_ ^b	96:4	3

^aRatio based upon unreacted 1-octanol to isolated octyl ether (GC analysis of the distilled product). ^b0.28 meq which is based upon amount of 1-octanol (0.5 mL, 3.17 mmol) and NAFION (314 mg, 0.28 meq (0.89 meq/g)) used.



n-octvl hexanoate To a 5 mL reaction vial equipped with stir bar was added approximately 200 µL of 3-butyl-1-(butyl-4-sulfonyl)imidazolium trifluoromethanesulfonate (1.9 M). Added next via syringe was 1-octanol (60 µL, 0.38 mmol) followed by hexanoic acid (48 µL, 0.38 mmol). The resulting monophase was allowed to stir at room temperature for a period of 7 days at which time the oil was washed with toluene (5 x 2 mL). Shorter reaction times using higher reaction temperatures also afforded excellent conversion of acid to ester. Reaction of 1-octanol and acetic acid resulted in 89% conversion to *n*-octyl acetate at 40°C for a period of 72h whereas 83% conversion was observed at 40°C for 48h. The collected organic washes were concentrated in vacuo to afford 76 mg of *n*-octyl hexanoate. GC analysis of the crude product revealed only trace amounts of starting material in the organic washes. Purification of the crude colorless oil by bulb-to-bulb distillation afforded the desired compound in 72 mg (0.31 mmol, 82% yield) as a clear and colorless oil (bp 130 °C/ 3 mm Hg (air bath temp)). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₂); δ 4.04, J = 6.6, 2H), 2.27 (t, J = 7.4, 2H), 1.63 - 1.58 (m, 4H), 1.30 - 1.25 (m, 14H), 0.87 - 0.80 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl₂); δ 174.10, 64.47, 34.42, 31.84, 31.39, 29.26, 28.72, 26.00, 24.78, 22.70, 22.38, 14.13, 13.96. IR (thin film) 2956, 2929, 2858, 1739, 1466, 1173 cm⁻¹. GC ((HP-1 methyl siloxane; f = 1.0 mL/min) 100°C (2 min), 10°C/min, 275°C (10 min)) 11.05 min.



Pinacolone (3,3-dimethyl-2-butanone) A 5 mL reaction conical vial was equipped with stir bar and Hinkman-Hinkle still head. Attached onto the still head was a reflux condenser with drying tube. To the reaction conical vial was added approximately 1.0 g triphenyl(propyl-3-sulphonyl)phosphonium toluenesulfonate. Next added in one portion to the reaction vial was 290 mg pinacol. The reaction was allowed to warm to a maximum temperature of 180•C for a total period of 1 hour. The resulting monophase was then allowed to cool to room temperature at which time the distillate was transferred to another flask and analyzed by GC ((HP-1 methyl siloxane) 50°C (2 min), 10°C/min, 275°C (10 min)) 4.07 min (pinacolone); 6.17 min (pinacol) and NMR. Purification of the crude product via bulb-to-bulb distillation (bp 125 °C/ 3 mm Hg (air bath temp)) afforded the desired material in 86 mg (35% isolated yield) as a clear and colorless oil. Spectral data of this material matched that of commercially available material.

Reuse of IL in the Formation of Ethyl Acetate



The reaction setup used to illustrate the reuse of the IL in synthetic transformations consisted of a 5 mL reaction conical vial equipped with a magnetic spin vane. Attached to the conical vial was a Hinkman-Hinkle still head which itself was equipped with a Claisen adapter and reflux condenser. Proper alignment of one of the two inlet ports of the Claisen adapter is essential for the addition of reagents via a syringe pump. The setup was equipped with a drying tube packed with $CaCl_2$ and heated externally via a sand bath.

Representative Procedure To the 5 mL reaction conical vial charged with 2.1 g IL (4.0 mmol) was added via syringe acetic acid (1.0 mL, 17.5 mmol) and ethanol (1.0 mL, 17.5 mmol). The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to a maximum temperature of $175^{\circ}C$ (external temperature) over a period of 45 min. Although completion of reaction was observed prior to reaching the maximum temperature, reuse of the reaction setup/IL made it necessary to remove all volatile components via distillation prior to the next cycle. With each cycle, reaction completion was confirmed by GC analysis [GC ((HP-1 methyl siloxane; f = 1.0 mL/min) 50°C (2 min), 10°C/min, 275°C (10 min)) 3.21 min (EtOH), 3.37 min (EtOAc), 3.42 min (AcOH)] and documented via the mass of distillate obtained. Each cycle afforded pure ethyl acetate without any appreciable amounts of starting material (<7% assuming loss of EtOH due to an EtOH/EtOAc azeotrope (31% by weight and bp of 78°C)). Biphasic mixtures were separated and factored into product formation was maximum water content of 3.3%.

Control Reaction A 5 mL reaction conical vial was charged with acetic acid (1.0 mL, 17.5 mmol) and ethanol (1.0 mL, 17.5 mmol). The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to a maximum temperature of 175°C (external temperature) over a period of 45 min. Observed were no appreciable amounts of distillate even after continuous heating 30 min after the 45 min window. The distillate that was collected consisted of EtOH (97%) and EtOAc (7%). Remaining in the reaction conical vial was AcOH.

Regeneration and Subsequent Reuse of Ionic Liquid The system after multiple cycles retained a significant amount of mass, primarily water, which correlated to a rise in mass percentage of over 151%. Based upon the mass balance of reaction cycles and product yields, the rise in mass consists of water and acetic acid. Removal of the VOCs using heat (<175°C) at atmospheric pressure was unsuccessful. However, when the setup was evacuated (10 Torr) and warmed to 65°C over a period of 5 hours, observed was the loss in volume contained in the reaction vial. The resulting ionic liquid still contained AcOH (42%) based upon ¹H NMR analysis. Using the results from cycle 2, 0.441 mL of water was added prior to the addition of ethanol and acetic acid in an effort to mimic the water:IL ratio. This control experiment afforded 1.3 g ethyl acetate (87% isolated yield).

Table 2. Reuse of Ionic Liquid in the Formation of Ethyl Acetate.

$$H_{3}C + H_{3}C + H_{3}C + H_{2}O + H_{3}C + H_{2}O + H$$

^aIsolated yield. ^bIsolated yield using regenerated ionic liquid (addition of 0.441

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mL water prior to run).



3-butyl-1-(butyl-4-sulfonyl)imidazolium trifluoromethanesulfonate From the combination of 1-butylimidazole and 1,4-butane sultone was formed in excellent yield. After washing the salt with diethyl ether and toluene to remove any unreacted starting materials, the solid was dried in vacuo. Then, a stoichiometric amount of trifluoromethanesulfonic acid was added and the mixture stirred for two hours at 40°C during which time the solid zwitterion dissolved/liquefied, resulted in the formation of 3-butyl-1-(butyl-4-sulfonyl)imidazolium trifluoromethanesulfonate. The IL phase was then washed repeatedly with toluene and ether to remove non-ionic residues, and dried in vacuo. The product was formed quantitatively and in high purity as assessed by mass balance and NMR spectroscopy. Spectral data: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, D₂O); δ 8.68 (s, 1H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 1.6, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 1.6, 1 H), 4.13 (t, *J* = 6.9, 2H), 4.08 (t, *J* = 7.1, 2H), 2.82 (t, *J* = 7.4, 2H), 1.91 (quint, *J* = 8.0, 2H), 1.73 (q, *J* = 7.7, 2H), 1.68 - 1.57 (m, 2H), 1.19 (dt, *J* = 7.7, 7.7, 2H), 0.79 (t, *J* = 7.4, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, D₂O) δ 135.26, 122.64, 122.42, 119.80 (q, *J_{cr}* = 317.0, CF₃), 50.22, 49.49, 49.10, 31.31, 28.26, 21.11, 18.88, 12.75.



triphenyl(propyl-3-sulphonyl)phosphonium toluenesulfonate Triphenylphosphine and 1,3-propane sultone are combined in equimolar quantities in toluene and brought to reflux. Overnight, a white precipitate forms which is isolated by filtration and dried. Analysis of the solid revealed it to be the desired zwitterion, formed in quantitative yield. The desired zwitterion was of sufficient purity to be used without any further purification. Convestion to the ionic liquid is accomplished by combining equimolar quantities of pTSA hydrate and the zwitterion and heating to 70°C for 24h, during which time the solids liquefy, resulting in the formation of triphenyl(propyl-3-sulfonyl)phosphonium toluenesulfonate. The IL phase was then washed repeatedly with toluene and ether to remove non-ionic residues, and dried in vacuo. The product was formed quantitatively and in high purity as assessed by mass balance and NMR spectroscopy. Spectral data:¹H NMR (300 MHz, D₂O); δ 7.66 - 7.60 (m, 3H), 7.53 - 7.44 (m, 14H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 8.0, 2H), 3.31 - 3.21 (m, 2H), 2.89 (t, *J* = 6.9, 2H), 2.11 (s, 3H), 1.97 - 1.80 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (75.5 MHz, D₂O); δ 142.21, 139.75, 135.29, 135.25, 133.47, 133.34, 130.40, 130.23, 129.42, 125.44, 118.13, 116.98, 50.55, 50.33, 20.58, 20.04, 17.94.









