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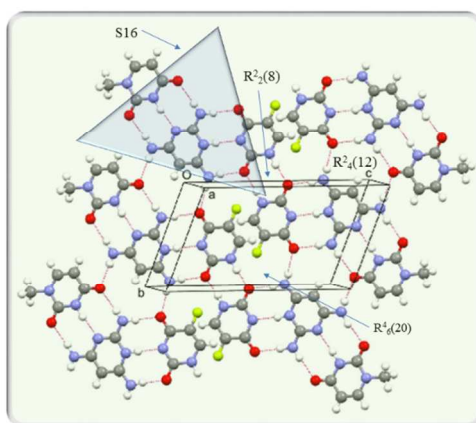
Multifacial Recognition in Binary and Ternary Cocrystals from 5-Halouracil and Aminoazine Derivatives

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ABSTRACT A systematic analysis using single crystal X-ray diffraction was performed to explore the role exerted by potential intercomponent proton-transfer reactions in the supramolecular structures of A-B cocrystals formed by 5-haloderivatives of uracil (A) coupled with 2-aminoadenine simulants (aminoazines, B). Twelve new heterodimers were synthesized in different stoichiometry and cocrystallized by solvent co-grinding followed by solution crystallization. In the binary cocrystals, uracil or 1-methyluracil with halide modification at the 5 position (F, Cl, Br, I) were coupled with aminoaromatic *N*-heterocycles (melamine, 2,4,6-triaminopyrimidine, 2,6-diaminopyridine) as multivalent site for pyrimidine nucleobase recognition. The crystallographic analysis showed that, next to the expected neutral three-point hydrogen bonds (TPI), ionized TPI, favored by A → B proton transfer, can be used for *WC* multifacial recognition. Noteworthy, the formation of the charged TPI, which depends on the acid/base properties of the components, takes always place between the more acidic site of the 5-halonucleobases (N3 atom) and the more basic site (imino N atom) of 2,4,6-triaminopyrimidine or 2,6-diaminopyridine, and melamine recognition unit results to be insufficiently basic to accept a proton. The general ability of pyrimidine nucleobases to provide electron donating groups to halogen bonding has been confirmed in seven cocrystals containing the 5-chloro, 5-bromo or 5-iododerivatives coupled with melamine or 2,4,6-triaminopyrimidine. Considerations of the relative acidities of cofomers A and of the relative basicities of cofomers B allowed us to design and characterize by single-crystal X-ray diffraction the first ternary pyrimidine nucleobase-containing cocrystal based on the *JANUS-WEDGE* concept: the nucleobase-*Janus*-nucleobase (1:1:1) triad showing a 2,4,6-triamino pyrimidine molecule wedged *via* neutral and ionized TPI between the 5-fluorouracil/1-methyluracil pair in reverse *WC* fashion.



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KEYWORDS: 5-haloluracils; non-canonical nucleobases; aminoazines; crystal engineering;
binary cocrystals; ternary cocrystals; *JANUS-WEDGE* cocrystal; halogen bonding; hydrogen
bonding.

ABSTRACT

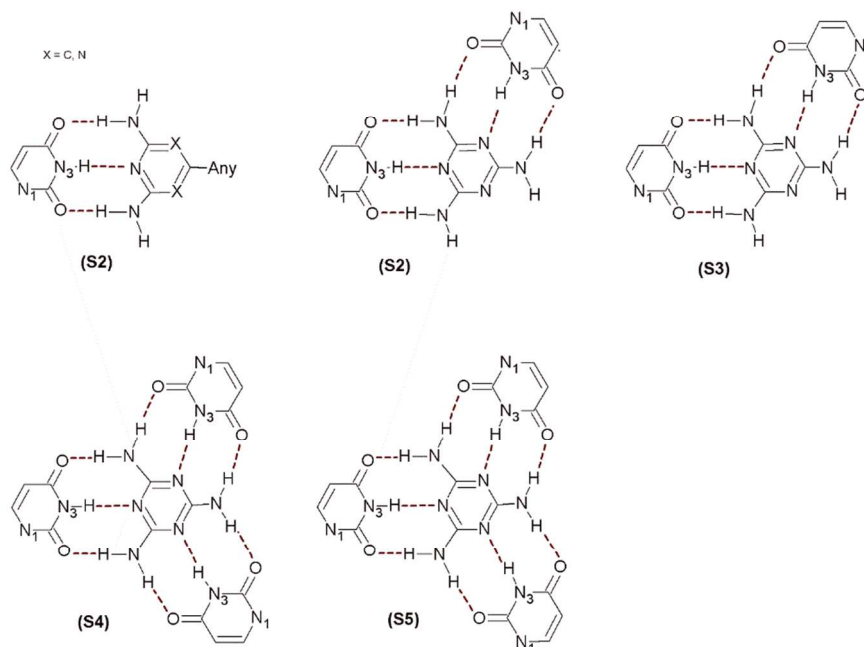
A systematic analysis using single crystal X-ray diffraction was performed to explore the role exerted by potential intercomponent proton-transfer reactions in the supramolecular structures of A-B cocrystals formed by 5-haloderivatives of uracil (A), coupled with 2-aminoadenine simulants (aminoazines, B). Twelve new heterodimers were synthesized in different stoichiometry and cocrystallized by solvent co-grinding followed by solution crystallization. In the binary cocrystals, uracil or 1-methyluracil with halide modification at the 5 position (F, Cl, Br, I) were coupled with amino-aromatic *N*-heterocycles (melamine, 2,4,6-triaminopyrimidine, 2,6-diaminopyridine) as multivalent site for pyrimidine nucleobase recognition. The crystallographic analysis showed that, next to the expected neutral three-point hydrogen bonds (TPI), ionized TPI, favored by A \rightarrow B proton transfer, can be used for *WC* multifacial recognition. Noteworthy, the formation of the charged TPI, which depends on the acid/base properties of the components, takes always place between the more acidic site of the 5-halonucleobases (N3 atom) and the more basic site (imino N atom) of 2,4,6-triaminopyrimidine or 2,6-diaminopyridine, and melamine recognition unit results to be insufficiently basic to accept a proton. The general ability of pyrimidine nucleobases to provide electron donating groups to halogen bonding has been confirmed in seven cocrystals containing the 5-chloro, 5-bromo or 5-iododerivatives coupled with melamine or 2,4,6-triaminopyrimidine. Considerations of the relative acidities of cofomers A and of the relative basicities of cofomers B allowed us to design and characterize by single-crystal X-ray diffraction the first ternary pyrimidine nucleobase-containing cocrystal based on the *JANUS-WEDGE* concept: the nucleobase-*Janus*-nucleobase (1:1:1) triad showing a 2,4,6-triamino pyrimidine molecule wedged *via* neutral and ionized TPI between the 5-fluorouracil/1-methyluracil pair in reverse *WC* fashion.

INTRODUCTION

Naturally occurring modified non-canonical nucleobases, next to the five canonical nucleobases, extend the chemical information content of DNA and RNA,¹ but their role in regulating the basic functions in a cell is still largely unexplored.² Among chemical variations of nucleic acids that allow chemists to harness and reprogram the cellular machinery, the diversification of nucleobase structure due to the halogen substitution in uracil and the amino substitution in adenine creates additional DNA/RNA base pairs, modifies the thermal stability, and increases the specificity of the hosting duplexes.³⁻⁶ Indeed, from one side recently several studies have been focused on the importance of halogen bonding (XB) in directing the conformation of DNA containing halonucleobases.⁷⁻¹⁰ From the other side, the ability of 2-aminosubstituted adenine to form *ADA/DAD* hydrogen bonding patterns (three-point interactions, TPI) significantly increases the base-pair stability retaining the structural integrity of the nucleic acid nanostructure.¹¹ Thus, it has been used for chemical fine-tuning of artificial DNA and RNA in synthetic biology.¹²⁻¹⁵

TPI heterosynthon (R^2_2 (12) graph-set motif)^{16,17} is very robust and reliable, and has been used in the construction of supramolecular assemblies since many years.¹⁸ Rods, tapes and cyclic hexamers (rosettes) have been prepared using this synthon in the *ADA/DAD* complexes of cyanuric acid and melamine with a (1:1) stoichiometry.¹⁹ It has been shown that the layered structure of hexamers of melamine-cyanuric acid complexes derives from the ability of three-fold symmetric heterocycles to polymerize *via* hydrogen bonding (HB) formation.^{20,21} Nevertheless, it is still unclear if *sym*-triaminotriazine coupled with molecules of lower symmetry as 5-halouracils would display a similar behavior.

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3 At the moment, although molecular complexes showing neutral TPI, *i.e.* not involving ionized
4 groups, as well as XB interactions have been described since many years, ionized TPI and
5 halogen bonding in cocrystals containing halouracils and amino-substituted aromatic *N*-
6 heterocycles (aminoazine) are not well studied in the solid state. This is somewhat surprising, as
7 pyrimidine halonucleobases are weak dibasic acids dissociating in water *via* $N_{\text{ring}}\text{-H}$ bonds and
8 are naturally rich in electronegative atoms (oxygens), which make them potential X-bond
9 donors/acceptors. A search with the Cambridge Structural Database (CSD, version 5.39 updated
10 to May 2018)²² for supramolecular systems showing Watson-Crick (*WC*) interfacial recognition
11 in crystal structures containing uracils coupled with aminoazine units having donor/acceptor sites
12 potentially available for single or multiple TPI returned 50 hits. Out of these hits, 34 contained
13 one TPI, and only cocrystals where the aminoazine unit was melamine showed bifacial (6 hits)
14 and trifacial TPI (2 hits) (Scheme 1).
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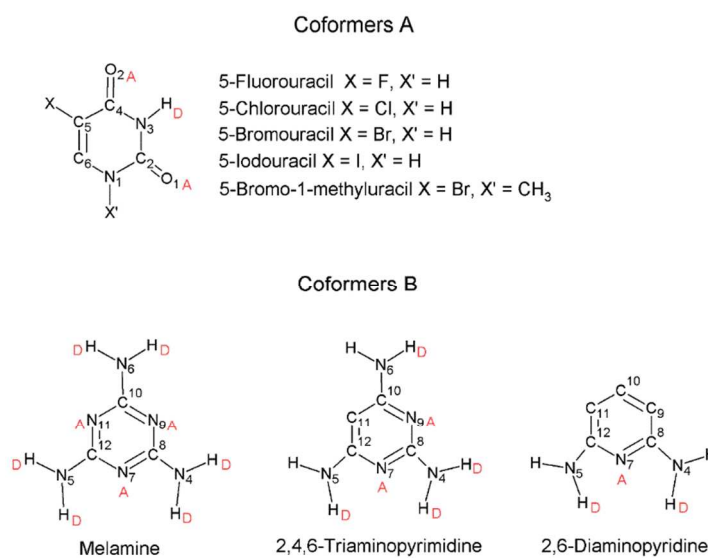


53
54 **Scheme 1** Neutral TPI utilized for mono (S1), bi (S2 and S3) and trifacial (S4 and S5)
55 recognition in structures containing complexes of uracils with aminoazines.
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6 From this survey, only 8 hits contained halouracils. Three of these hits contained 5-halouracils as
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8 cocrystals: 1-methyl-5-iodouracil/9-ethyl-2,6-diaminopurine (1:1), MIUDAP10,²³ 5-
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10 fluorouracil/melamine (1:1), OPOVAS, and 5-fluorouracil/melamine pentahydrate (4:2),
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12 OPOTUK.²⁴ Interestingly, in the remaining 5 hits containing uracil ring with halogen substitution
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14 at the 6 position, three corresponded to molecular salts showing 6-chlorouracil deprotonated at
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16 the N1 position: 6-chlorouracil/2,4,6-triaminopyrimidine *N*-methylpyrrolidin-2-one solvate
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18 monohydrate (1:1), ZUDSEY, 6-chlorouracil/2,4-diamino-6-methyl-1,3,5-triazine (1:1) *N,N*-
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20 dimethyl acetamide solvate, ZUDSOI, and 6-chlorouracil/2,4-diamino-6-methyl-1,3,5-triazine
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22 (1:1) *N,N*-dimethylformamide solvate monohydrate, ZUDSUO.²⁵ All the 8 hits but ZUDSEY
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24 showed non-canonical base-pairing through neutral TPI. Adopting a cutoff value of 0.9 for the
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26 interaction ratio R_{XB} ,²⁶ the ratio between the $X \cdots A$ ($A =$ acceptor) contacts with linear $C-X \cdots A$
27
28 disposition (bond angle $> 155^\circ$) and the sum of van der Waals (vdW) radii,²⁷ of the 8 unique hits
29
30 only MIUDAP10, ZUDTAV and ZUDTAV01 (6-chlorouracil/2-chloro-4,6-diamino-1,3,5-
31
32 triazine (1:1) *N,N*-dimethyl formamide solvate and 6-chlorouracil/2-chloro-4,6-diamino-1,3,5-
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34 triazine (2:2) *N,N*-dimethyl formamide disolvate, respectively)²⁵ showed crystallographic
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36 evidence of the formation of weak XBs.
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44 In this context, because of our long-term interest in the potential of pyrimidine
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46 nucleobases for crystal engineering strategies underpinned by multiple hydrogen bonds,²⁸⁻³² and
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48 our earlier experience with binary systems showing XB *via* alternative donors (i.e. halogen atom
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50 not polarized by fluorine),³³⁻³⁶ we were interested to investigate the supramolecular architectures
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52 in biological systems, i. e. in cocrystals formed by haloderivatives of uracil coupled with amino-
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54 aromatic *N*-heterocycles, where the ability to distinguish between base pairing is offered by $A \rightarrow$
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B proton-transfer reactions. Consequently, we focused our attention on a systematic XRD analysis of A-B cocrystals containing in different stoichiometric ratios uracil or 1-methyluracil derivatives with halide modification at the 5 position (coformer A), coupled with an amino-derivative of aromatic *N*-heterocycles (coformer B) (Scheme 2).



Scheme 2 Coformers forming the A-B cocrystals investigated in this study and the adopted atom-labeling scheme. For both coformers, the donor/acceptor sites potentially available for TPI are shown in red.

In these binary cocrystals, aminoazines provide up to three sites for uracil recognition as *WC*-pairing should take place between the *ADA* face of coformer A and the *DAD* face(s) of coformer B through the formation of the neutral (*ADA/DAD*) TPI. Moreover, depending on the basicity of aminoazines and the acidity of halonucleobases, deprotonation at the N1 or N3 sites of halouracils can lead to the formation of ion-paired dimers. However, only the N3⁻ atom can interact with the imino N⁺ atom of aminoazines for the formation of the more effective ionized

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3 (AAA/DDD) TPI in ion-paired dimers.³⁷⁻³⁹ and the charged TPI formation should be a driving
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5 force for proton dissociation from the N3 atom.
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9 Apart from these considerations, the chosen systems should also offer the opportunity of
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11 studying the influence exerted by halogen atoms engaged in possible XB “lateral” to TPI. Out of
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13 15 possible combinations, 12 yielded new binary cocrystals. The design of these binary
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15 cocrystals was realized from consideration of the following points.
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19 Among pyrimidine halonucleobases, 5-haloderivatives deserve special attention, because
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21 their structure is like that of thymine (5-methyluracil) by exchanging the methyl group attached
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23 at the C5 atom with the halogen atom.^{40,41} Consequently, 5-halouracils may be incorporated into
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25 DNA in vivo, and this incorporation into DNA can lead to mutagenesis, cytotoxicity, and
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27 carcinogenesis.⁴²⁻⁴⁴ In recent years, as the substitution of thymine by 5-halouracil in DNA leads
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29 to greater sensitivity to ionizing radiation without changing the normal gene expression in the
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31 unirradiated cells, these non-canonical nucleobases have been proposed for the development of
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33 new therapeutic and biotechnological agents.^{45,46}
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39 The 5-halouracils are particularly attractive for *WC* interfacial recognition assisted by
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41 proton transfer reactions. It has been reported previously that pyrimidine halonucleobases are
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43 weak dibasic acids, and their dissociation in water is very important for nucleic acids, as it
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45 affects the base-pair stability.⁴⁷ Halogen substitution at the 5 position in uracil can change the
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47 electronic properties of pyrimidine bases, present as diketo tautomers under physiological
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49 conditions, and the pK_a in water decreases in the order $I > Br > Cl > F$ (8.13, 7.91, 7.92 and 7.93,
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51 respectively) compared to that of uracil (9.42).⁴⁸⁻⁵¹ Theoretical and experimental investigations
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53 have been used to distinguish in the heterocyclic ring the two sites (N1 and N3) for ionization in
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3 water. Indeed, the existence of a 5-substituted uracil ring with a negative charge on N3 is of great
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5 interest, because as already mentioned such species are implicated in the mechanism by which 5-
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7 halonucleosides are incorporated into DNA. From theoretical studies, it was shown that for 5-
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9 fluorouracil in the gas phase the enthalpy of deprotonation from N1 is 10-12 kcal/mol is more
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11 favorable than from N3. However, the enthalpy of solvation of the N1⁻ is 13-14 kcal/mol is less
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13 favorable than for the N3⁻, and the aqueous-phase dipole moments of the N1⁻ and the N3⁻ species
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15 are 3.95 and 12.15 D, respectively. Thus, in 5-fluorouracil and in 5-bromouracil the calculated
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17 pK_a value in water of the N3 site results lower than that for the N1 site by 1-2 units.^{52,54} The
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19 competition between the two sites for ionization in 5-halouracils has been analyzed by different
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21 experimental techniques in solution. The UV spectra of the monosodium salt of 5-fluorouracil
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23 showed that in water and in aqueous dioxane the ratio of the N1⁻/N3⁻ species is 1:2 and 3:1,
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25 respectively.⁵⁵ NMR spectra of 5-fluoro, 5-chloro and 5-bromouracil in alkaline medium in water
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27 and in DMSO confirmed that anion containing the N3⁻ species is predominant in water
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29 solvent.^{56,57} NMR spectra in buffer solution showed that the 5-chlorouracil-guanine base pair
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31 undergoes a pH-dependent structural change assuming an ionized base pair configuration, and
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33 the ionization of the N3 atom in 5-chlorouracil promotes mispair formation.⁵⁸ Concerning the
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35 solid state, a survey of the Cambridge Structural Database (CSD, version 5.39 updated to May
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37 2018)²² for crystal structures containing the uracil moiety (excluding metallic elements) gave
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39 1282 hits. Out of these hits, 19 showed the uracil moiety ionized at the N1 position and only one,
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41 IADXUR10, 5-iodo-5'-amino-2',5'-dideoxyuridine, which is present in the crystal in the
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43 zwitterionic form, showed the occurrence in the uracil ring of the N3 atom ionized.⁵⁹
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52 To decades ago, it was hypothesized that the availability of the imide carbonyl acceptor
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54 sites for hydrogen bonds affords a handle to control the stoichiometry and structure by increasing
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3 steric hindrance in TPI melamine-imide complexes.⁶⁰ It was shown that, for melamine engaged
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5 in TPI with imides, the stoichiometry is (1:1) for melamine-succinimide (all acceptor sites used),
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7 (1:2) for melamine-glutarimide (one acceptor site unused) and (1:3) for melamine-1-*N*-
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9 propylthymine (two acceptor sites unused). Thus, cofomers A offer the possibility to test the
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11 proposed hypothesis, having one of the two carbonyl acceptor sites of the imide moieties masked
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13 by substituents in the 5 position. This choice has been extended to 5-halo-1-methyluracils, which
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15 can be considered simple models of 5-halouridine, as they show both the carbonyl acceptor sites
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17 of the imide moieties masked by substituents in the 1-5 positions. In the ahead discussions, the
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19 following abbreviations Fura, Clura, Brura, Iura, Brmura and Mura are used for 5-fluorouracil, 5-
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21 chlorouracil, 5-bromouracil, 5-iodouracil, 5-bromo,1-methyluracil and 1-methyluracil,
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23 respectively.
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30 Cofomers B (2,4,6-triamino-1,3,5-triazine, melamine, Mel; 2,4,6-triaminopyrimidine,
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32 Tap; 2,6-diaminopyridine, Dap), are weak organic bases structurally related to 2-aminoadenine,
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34 and have been selected among shape-mimicking nucleobases which can realize, via interfacial
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36 recognition, specific supramolecular interactions in *WC* fashion. Cofomers B show different
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38 sites available for single or multiple protonation. A search for crystal structures containing the
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40 protonated form of Mel, Tap and Dap with the Cambridge Structural Database (CSD, version
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42 5.39 updated to May 2018)²² gave 317 hits. Out of these hits, 283 showed monoprotection at
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44 one of the N_{ring} atom, 26 diprotection at two N_{ring} atoms, and only 8 were protonated at the
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46 amino group. Thus, due to the delocalization of electrons from the N atom of the NH₂ moiety to
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48 the aminoazine aromatic ring, these weak bases can be typically protonated at one of the imino N
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50 atoms in medium/strong acidic media.⁶¹⁻⁶⁷ Interestingly, the basicity of cofomers B is
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52 significantly increased by replacing the pyridine ring nitrogen atoms with the CH moiety (first
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3 pK_a [conjugate acid of base] = 5.0, 6.8 and 7.3 in water for Mel, Tap and Dap, respectively).⁶⁸⁻⁷⁰

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5 Consequently, their abilities to act as hydrogen bond acceptors can vary, and can be used for
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7 selecting the intermolecular reactivity between the A and B cofomers.
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11 Among different synthetic strategies adopted in the design of ternary cocrystals,⁷¹⁻⁸⁴ it has
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13 been shown that stronger acidic sites interacts with the more basic hydrogen bond acceptor,
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15 while the weaker acid engages in hydrogen bonding with the less basic hydrogen bond
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17 acceptor.^{85,86} Following the aforementioned guidelines, considerations of the relative acidities of
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19 5-halouracils and of the relative basicities of aminoazines allowed us to choose the combination
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21 able to realize the first ternary cocrystal based on the JANUS-*WEDGE* concept:⁸⁷ one *Janus* base
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23 able for bifacial recognition (Tap) wedged between two DNA pyrimidine nucleobases differing
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25 in the acidic properties. This result gives important insight in the potential for recognition of
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27 mismatched nucleobase pairs as versatile tool in the emerging area of synthetic biology.⁸⁸⁻⁹²
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EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

Synthesis and crystallization

The 5-halouracils, 5-bromo-1-methyluracil and 1-methyluracil, Mel (melamine, 2,4,6-triamino-1,3,5-triazine), Tap (2,4,6-triaminopyrimidine) and Dap (2,6-diaminopyridine) were purchased from Aldrich (98-99+% purity) and were subjected to further purification by successive sublimation under reduced pressure. Reagent grade solvents and bidistilled water were used as received.

The same crystallization method was used for all binary and ternary cocrystals. Equimolecular amounts (1:1 or 1:1:1, 0.1 mmol) of each pure compound were taken in an agate mortar and pestle and then liquid (H₂O or DMF) assisted co-grinding was performed on each mixture. Crystallization of ground powders were adjusted in a set of different solvents (or mixture of solvents). The resulting solutions (1-2 ml) were heated at 70°C, stirred for 6 h under reflux and then cooled to room temperature and filtered. The best crystals were obtained from slow room-temperature evaporation of water, DMF and DMF/H₂O (1:1) solutions after one-two weeks. Any attempts to produce satisfactory quality crystals of FuraTap and CluraDap, as well as A-B cocrystals containing 5-haloderivatives of 1-methyluracil other than 5-bromo-1-methyluracil, by repeating the crystallization conditions using different solvents, or mixtures of solvents in different ratios, were unsuccessful.

X-ray Crystallography

Crystals data, data collection and structure refinement details are summarized in Tables 1-4. The intensity data were collected using Oxford Diffraction Xcalibur S CCD diffractometer with graphite-monochromated Mo K α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71069 \text{ \AA}$) at room temperature. Data collection,

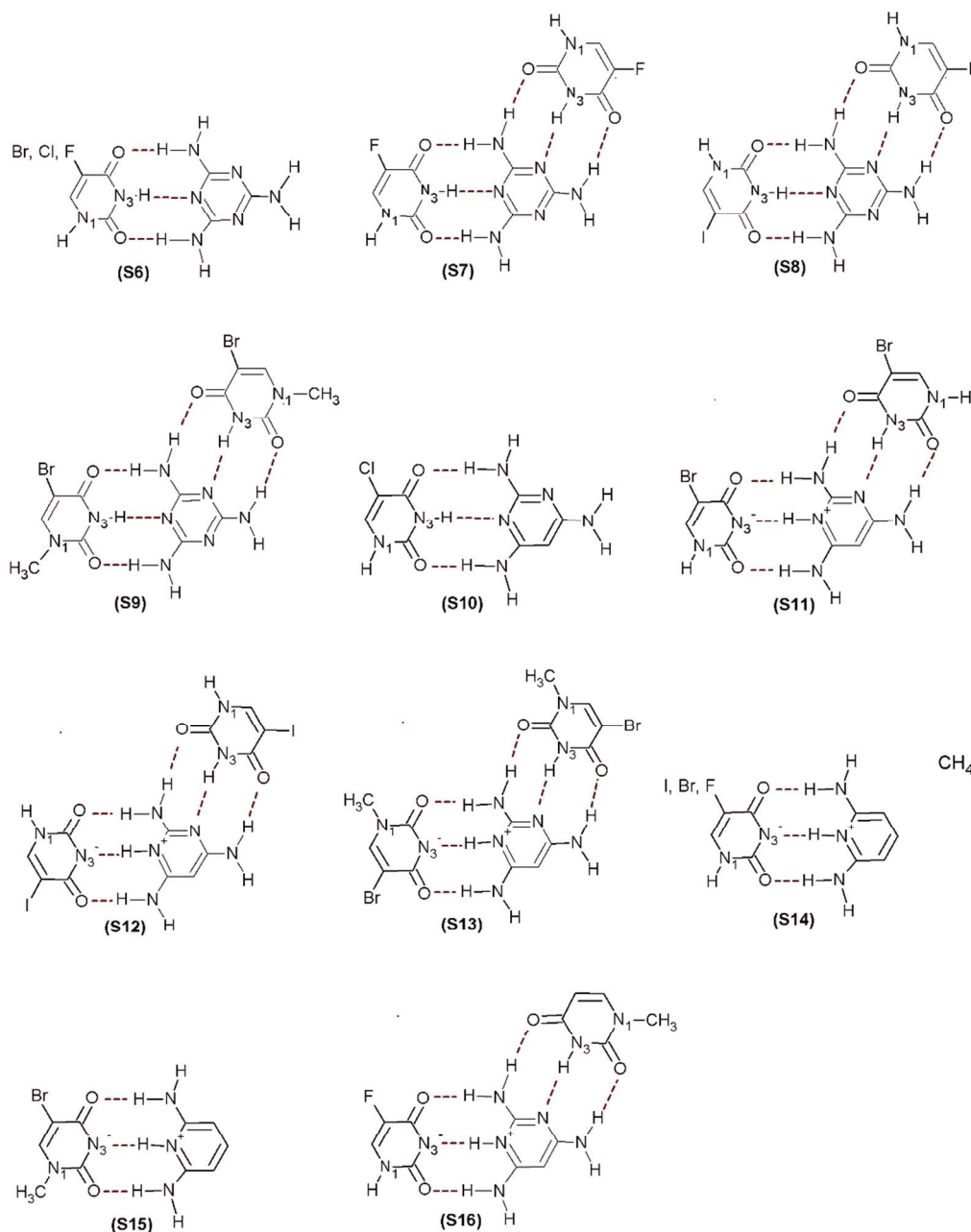
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3 integration and absorption corrections were performed using the CrysAlisPro software
4 package.⁹³ Solution, refinement and analysis of the structures were done using the programs
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6 integrated in the WinGX system.⁹⁴
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10 The crystal structures were solved by direct methods using SIR2004⁹⁵ and refined by the
11 full-matrix least-squares method based on F^2 using SHELXL-2014/7.⁹⁶ For all structures, non-
12 hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. The hydrogen atoms were found from the
13 difference Fourier map and refined freely. Carbon-bound H atoms were placed in calculated
14 positions [C-H = 0.97 Å, $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H})$ values equal to 1.2 $U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$ for aromatic or 1.5 $U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C})$ for methyl
15 H atoms] as riding atoms. Free rotation about the local threefold axis was then allowed for all
16 methyl groups. Geometrical calculations were performed using PLATON⁹⁷ within WINGX and
17 all figures were prepared with the Mercury 3.9 program package.⁹⁸ Difference Fourier maps
18 were computed using Platon. For cocrystals showing $\text{N}^+\cdots\text{H}\cdots\text{N}^-$ hydrogen bond, difference
19 Fourier maps were calculated without the hydrogen atoms involved. In BruraTap, our attempts to
20 localize the H atoms for O3_w failed as there were no significant peaks in the difference Fourier
21 maps.
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39 The IuraTap structure shows disordered iodine atom in two positions. BrmuraMel and
40 BrmuraTap structures exhibit cofomers A disordered over a pseudo-mirror along the N3 and C6
41 atoms perpendicular to the molecular plane. The disorder was modelled over two sites, with the
42 aid of constraints on occupancy factors, and the ratio between major-/minor-occupied site was
43 about 5:1, 3:1 and 6:1, respectively. In BrmuraMel, BruraTap, BrmuraTap, IuraDap and
44 BrmuraDap free refinement of positional coordinates of atoms of the amino groups resulted in
45 unsatisfactory wide range of N-H distances. Consequently, these bond lengths were restrained to
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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The schematic representations of the different types of ionized/neutral TPI observed in this work are summarised in Scheme 3.



Scheme 3 Depictions of ionized/neutral TPI used for mono and bifacial recognition in the binary and ternary cocrystals investigated in this study.

A-B cocrystals with 2,4,6-triamino-1,3,5-triazine (Melamine, Mel) as coformer B

Previous crystallographic studies have been reported for (1:1) anhydrous 5-fluorouracil/melamine (OPOVAS) and (4:2) pentahydrate 5-fluorouracil/melamine (OPOTUK) forms.²⁴ OPOVAS crystallizes in the monoclinic space group $C 2/c$, and the asymmetric unit consists of a coplanar WC pair formed by a molecule of Fura and another of Mel. In the crystal structure, Mel is engaged with Fura through TPI on one of its WC faces showing monofacial recognition *via* the S_6 synthon. Hydrogen-bonded heterodimeric synthons of $R^2_2(8)$ graph-set motif are formed by $N-H\cdots O$ interactions with the N 1,2-oxo face of a second Fura molecule. These alternating patterns of TPI interactions and heterodimeric synthons generate ribbons running approximately parallel to bc plane. Finally, homodimeric synthons of $R^2_2(8)$ graph-set motif formed by $N-H\cdots N$ interactions between adjacent Mel molecules and $N-H\cdots O$ interactions complete the 3D packing (Fig. 1a). OPOTUK crystallizes in the triclinic space group $P -1$ with four Furas, two Mels and five water molecules of crystallization in the asymmetric unit. Each Mel molecule is engaged in the bifacial recognition of two Fura molecules forming S_7 synthons. Two TPI coplanar WC pairs of Mel and Fura molecules, linked by $N-H\cdots O$ hydrogen bonds [graph set $R^2_4(8)$], alternate *via* ADA/DAD hydrogen bonds pairs of Fura molecules bonded through $N-H\cdots O$ interactions [graph set $R^2_2(8)$] to form ribbons along the direction of the c axis. (Fig. 1b). Water molecules play a crucial role in the crystal structure of OPOTUK. They serve as hydrogen-bond donor and acceptor to connect ribbons and prevent the hydrogen-bonding interface of Mel to form a third TPI. One of the water molecules shows an approximately trigonal coordination, hydrogen bonds to one Mel and one Fura molecule ($O_w-H\cdots N$, $N-H\cdots O_w$) [graph set $R^2_3(10)$], and to an adjacent water molecule ($O_w-H\cdots O_w$).

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3 The five independent water molecules are arranged in channels parallel to the *a* axis. In both
4 structures, no relevant intermolecular XBs involving the fluorine atom were observed.
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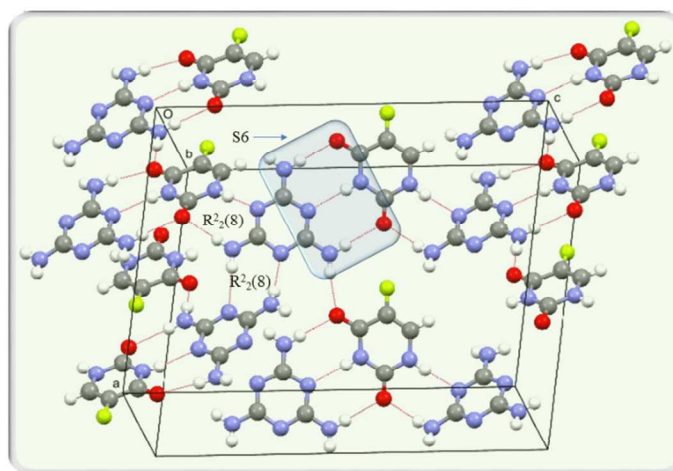
7
8 5-Chlorouracil/Melamine (2:1), CluraMel, takes the triclinic space group *P* -1. The asymmetric
9 unit exhibits Mel molecule *WC*-paired to Clura molecule showing monofacial recognition *via* the
10 S6 synthon. This *WC*-pair is then linked to a second Clura molecule through the insertion of a
11 water molecule, which prevents Mel to be involved in bifacial recognition, so forming a
12 tetrameric unit. In the crystal, a tetrameric unit is inserted between two inversion-symmetric
13 tetramers, forming from one side quintuple *DADAD* arrays *via* fused rings with graph-set motif
14 $R^3_3(10)$, $R^2_4(8)$, $R^3_3(10)$ and $R^3_3(10)$ based on N-H \cdots O, N-H \cdots O_w and O_w-H \cdots O interactions,
15 and from the opposite side quadruple *DADA* arrays *via* fused rings with graph set motif $R^2_3(8)$,
16 $R^2_2(8)$ and $R^2_3(8)$ through N-H \cdots O and N-H \cdots N interactions (Fig. 1c). These multiple arrays
17 generate supramolecular sheets *via* further N-H \cdots O (homosynthon) hydrogen bonds between
18 self-pairing centrosymmetric Clura molecules forming an $R^2_2(8)$ ring motif. One of the two
19 quadrupole *DADA* arrays is then reinforced by a C-Cl \cdots O XB (2.965 Å, 163.4°), “lateral” to the
20 *WC*-pair, with the remaining free imide-carbonyl acceptor site of one Clura molecule. The XB
21 ratio R_{XB} equal to 0.91.
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41 5-Bromouracil/Melamine (2:1), BruraMel, is isomorphic and isostructural with CluraMel (Fig.
42 1d). For this reason, the discussion of the crystal packing of BruraMel follows the above
43 description. The crystal structure (Fig. 1d) shows a short C-Br \cdots O XB (2.935 Å, 160.6°), and the
44 XB ratio R_{XB} is equal to 0.87.
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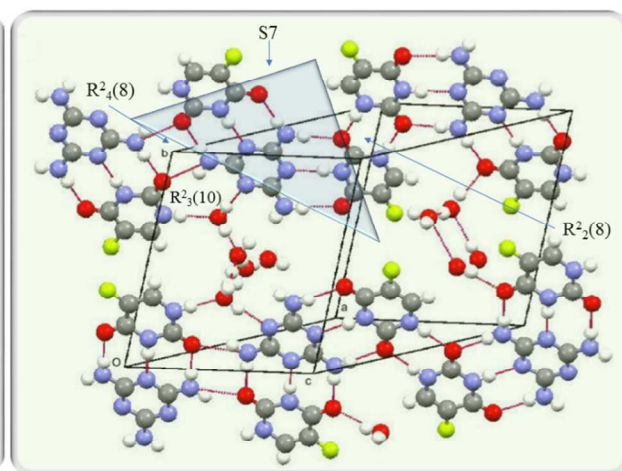
51 5-Iodouracil/Melamine (2:1), IuraMel, crystallizes in the monoclinic space group *C* 2/*c*, with one
52 Iura molecule, half a molecule of Mel and one water molecule of crystallization in the
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3 asymmetric unit. In the crystal, a crystallographic two-fold axis passing through the N4, C8, N11
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5 atoms of Mel generates the S8 heterotrimeric synthon utilized for bifacial recognition of two Iura
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7 molecules. Adjacent trimeric units form adjoining hydrogen-bonded rings of $R^3_4(10)$, $R^2_4(12)$
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9 and $R^3_4(10)$ motifs involving N–H \cdots O, N–H \cdots O_w and O_w–H \cdots O interactions and form
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11 supramolecular ribbons running along the direction of the *b* axis (Fig. 1e). As in OPOTUK,
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13 water molecules, hosted in channels parallel to the *a* axis, are linked to Mel by O_w–H \cdots N_{ring}
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15 interactions, and prevent the hydrogen-bonding interface of Mel to form a third TPI. Antiparallel
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17 ribbons are then connected by short C–I \cdots O_w (3.435 Å, 154.9°) interactions, thereby generating a
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19 two-dimensional network parallel to the *bc* plane, and the XB ratio R_{XB} equal to 0.85.
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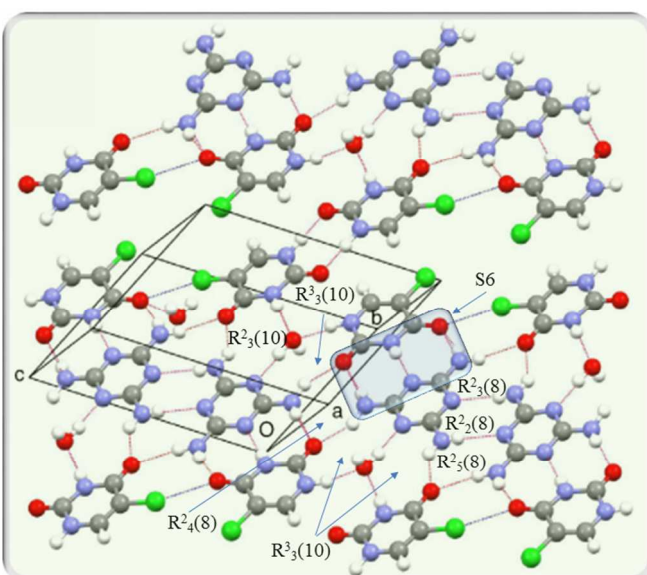
24
25 5-Bromo-1-methyluracil/Melamine (2:1), BrmuraMel, crystallizes in the monoclinic space group
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27 *C* 2/*c*, and the asymmetric unit consists of a TPI coplanar *WC* pair formed by a disordered
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29 molecule of Brmura and a half Mel molecule. In the crystal, the heterotrimeric S9 synthon is
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31 generated by a crystallographic two-fold axis passing through the N5, C12, N9 atoms of Mel.
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33 Each heterotrimeric synthon is linked to adjacent heterotrimeric synthons *via* $R^2_4(12)$ N–H \cdots O
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35 hydrogen bonds (Fig. 1f), leading to a one-dimensional hydrogen-bonded network running along
36
37 the *b* axis. This arrangement is then reinforced by a short “lateral” C–Br \cdots O (2.855 Å, 159.8°)
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39 interaction, and the XB ratio R_{XB} equal to 0.85.
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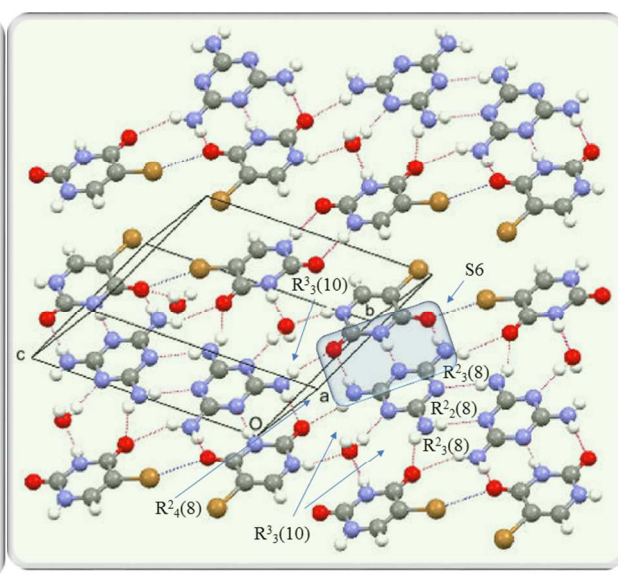
1a



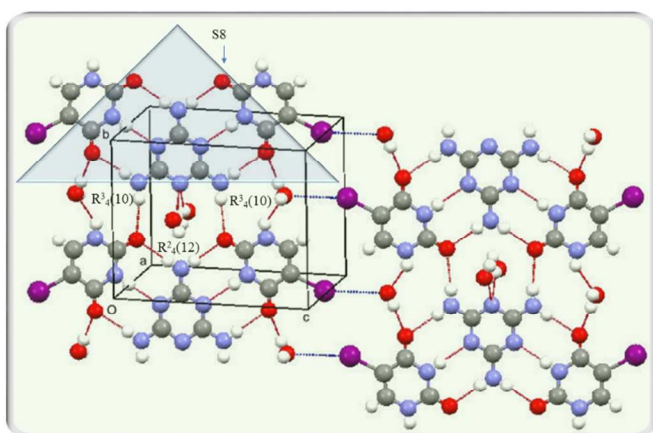
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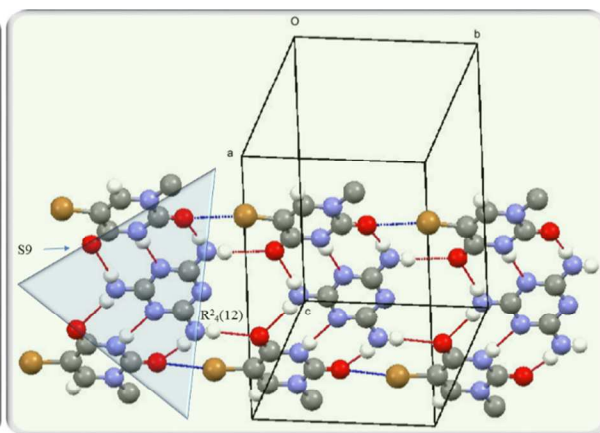
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1d



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1f

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3 **Figure 1.** Molecular aggregations formed in OPOVAS (1a), OPOTUK (1b), CluraMel (1c),
4 BruraMel (1d), IuraMel (1e) and BrmuraMel (1f). For the sake of clarity, in (1f) only the major-
5 occupied sites of the disordered Brmura molecule are shown. Hydrogen bonds are shown as red
6 dotted lines. Halogen bonds are shown as blue dotted lines.
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16 **A-B cocrystals with 2,4,6-Triaminopyrimidine (Tap) as cofomer B**

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19 5-Chlorouracil/2,4,6-Triaminopyrimidine (1:1), CluraTap, crystallizes in the monoclinic space
20 group $P2_1/n$. The asymmetric unit contains a TPI coplanar reversed WC -pair of Clura molecule
21 forming the S10 synthon. A N,N -dimethylformamide (DMF) solvent molecule is linked to Tap
22 by $N-H\cdots O$ hydrogen bonds and prevents Tap to be involved in bifacial recognition. In the
23 crystal, these heterotrimeric units are interconnected through $R^2_2(8)$ $N-H\cdots O/N-H\cdots N$ and
24 $R^2_4(12)$ $N-H\cdots O$ hydrogen bonds, generating a two-dimensional network on the ac plane (Fig.
25 2a). No relevant intermolecular XBs involving the chlorine atom were observed.
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36 5-Bromouracil/2,4,6-Triaminopyrimidine (2:1), BruraTap, crystallizes in the monoclinic space
37 group $P2_1/n$. In the asymmetric unit, a Tap molecule showing bifacial recognition is protonated
38 at an imino atom and inserted between a Brura molecule deprotonated at the N3 position and a
39 neutral Brura molecule, so forming two reversed WC -pairs *via* charged and uncharged TPI (S11
40 synthon). The asymmetric unit is then completed by one N,N -dimethylformamide (DMF) solvent
41 molecule and one water molecule linked to the heterotrimeric synthon through $N-H\cdots O$
42 hydrogen bonds. In the crystal, heterotrimeric S11 synthons alternate with centrosymmetric
43 synthons through $R^2_2(8)$ $N-H\cdots O$ HB to form *zigzag* chains running along the a axis (Fig. 2b).
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3 Water molecules act as a bridge between lateral sides of parallel chains *via* N–H \cdots O_w and weak
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5 C–Br \cdots O_w (3.604 Å, 160.7°) interactions (XB ratio R_{XB} equal to 0.92).
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9 5-Iodouracil/2,4,6-Triaminopyrimidine (2:1), IuraTap, crystallizes in the monoclinic space group
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11 $C 2/c$. The asymmetric unit contains one Iura molecule sharing a hydrogen atom with a half Tap
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13 molecule *via* charged TPI, and one water molecule of crystallization. Bifacial recognition is
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15 obtained through the formation of the heterotrimeric S12 synthons, which are generated by a
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17 crystallographic two-fold axis passing through the N4, C8, N11 atoms of Mel. The molecular
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19 aggregation is similar to that of IuraMel (Fig. 2c). Adjacent trimeric synthons are interlinked by
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21 $R^3_4(10)$, $R^2_4(12)$ and $R^3_4(10)$ motifs involving N–H \cdots O, N–H \cdots O_w and O_w–H \cdots O interactions
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23 to form supramolecular ribbons running along the *b* direction. Additional O_w–H \cdots O hydrogen
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25 bonds link Iura to water molecules disposed in channels parallel to the *a* axis. As in IuraMel,
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27 antiparallel ribbons are then connected by short C–I \cdots O_w (3.456 Å, 158.9°) interactions,
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29 generating a two-dimensional network parallel to the *bc* plane and the XB ratio R_{XB} equal to
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34 0.85.
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38 5-Bromo-1-methyluracil/2,4,6-Triaminopyrimidine (2:1), BrmuraTap, crystallizes in the
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40 monoclinic space group $P 2_1/c$, and in the asymmetric unit one Tap molecule is involved in
41
42 bifacial recognition. Each Tap molecule, protonated at an imino atom, is inserted between a
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44 disordered neutral Brmura molecule and a disordered Brura molecule deprotonated at the N3
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46 position, to form the S13 heterotrimeric synthon. In the crystal, adjacent trimeric synthons are
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48 connected by N–H \cdots O hydrogen bonds, leading to a one-dimensional network running along the
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50 *c* axis (Fig. 2d). Depending on the orientation of the disordered neutral Brmura molecule, this
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52 arrangement is reinforced by a short “lateral” C–Br \cdots O (2.821 Å, 138.4°) interaction, and the XB
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54 ratio R_{XB} equal to 0.84.
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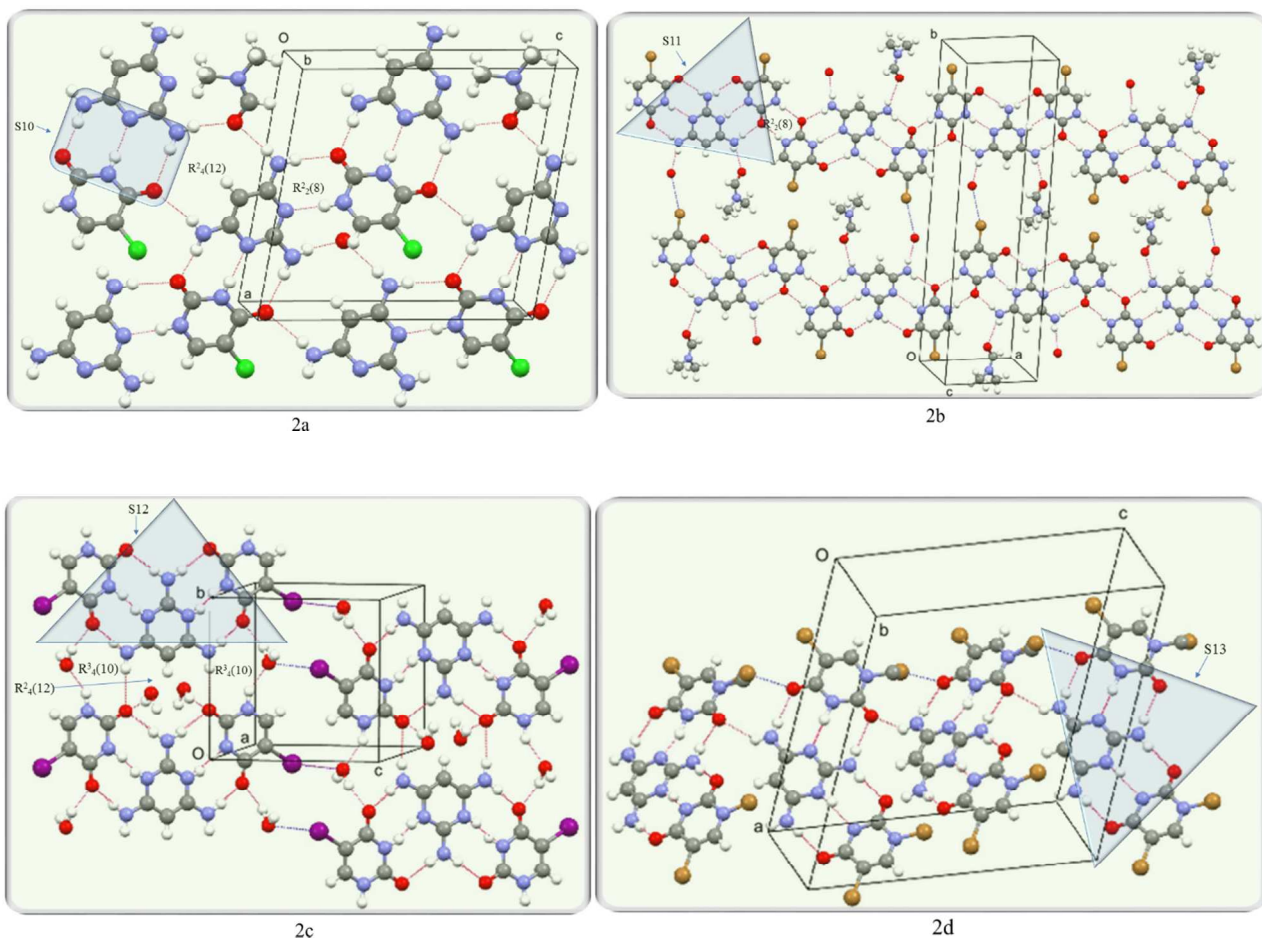


Figure 2. Molecular aggregations formed in CluraTap (2a), BruraTap (2b), IuraTap (2c) and BrmuraTap (2d). For the sake of clarity, only the major-occupied sites of the disordered Iura molecule are shown in (2c). Both disordered Brura components are shown in (2d). Hydrogen bonds are shown as red dotted lines. Halogen bonds are shown as blue dotted lines.

A-B cocrystals with 2,6-diaminopyridine (Dap) as cofomer B

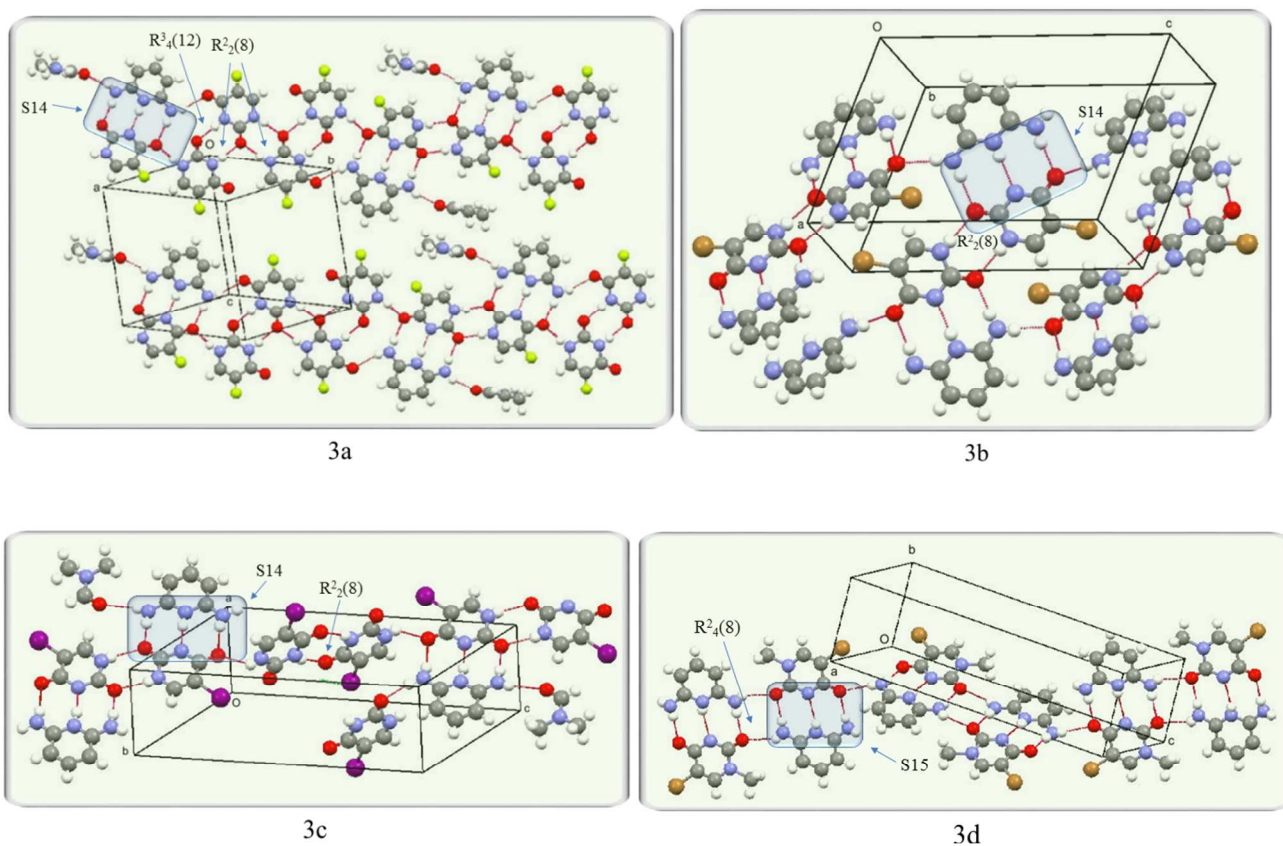
5-Fluorouracil/2,6-Diaminopyridine (3:1), FuraDap, which crystallizes in the triclinic space group $P-1$, contains five different entities in the asymmetric unit to form a pentameric unit. One Dap cation, linked to one DMF and to two neutral Fura molecules forming $R^2_2(8)$ interactions, is

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3 *WC*-paired *via* charged TPI to one Fura anion (S14 synthon). In the crystal, a supramolecular
4 one-dimensional array is formed by the self-assembly of pentameric synthons *via* fused rings
5 [graph set notation $R^3_4(12)$, $R^2_2(8)$, and $R^2_2(8)$] through N–H \cdots O interactions. (Fig. 3a). As with
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8 OPOVAS and OPOTUK structures, no relevant intermolecular XBs involving the fluorine atom
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12 were observed.
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15 5-Bromouracil/2,6-Diaminopyridine (1:1), BruraDap, crystallizes in the monoclinic space group
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17 *P* 2 $_1$ /*c*. The asymmetric unit contains a Dap molecule protonated at imino N atom and a Brura
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19 molecule deprotonated at the N3 position, linked to form the S14 synthon. In the crystal,
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21 tetrameric units are formed by centrosymmetric heterodimers linked *via* $R^2_2(8)$ N–H \cdots O
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23 hydrogen bonds. These tetrameric units are then connected to neighboring molecular adducts
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25 through N–H \cdots O hydrogen bonds (Fig. 3b). At variance with BrmuraMel and BrmuraTap, no
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27 relevant intermolecular XBs involving the bromine atom were observed.
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32 5-Iodouracil/2,6-Diaminopyridine (2:1), IuraDap, crystallizes in the triclinic space group *P* -1.
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34 The asymmetric unit includes a heterotetrameric unit. A Dap molecule protonated at the imino N
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36 atom forms the S14 synthon with one Iura molecule deprotonated at the N3 position. The dimer
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38 is then linked to a second neutral iura molecule and to one *N,N*-dimethylformamide (DMF)
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40 solvent molecule through N–H \cdots O hydrogen bonds. In the crystal, heterotetrameric units are
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42 connected in chains to symmetry-related neighbors through N–H \cdots O hydrogen bonds between
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44 neutral Iura molecules forming an $R^2_2(8)$ heterodimeric synthon (Fig. 3c). These units are
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46 further connected by N–H \cdots O hydrogen bonds to adjacent neutral Iura molecules yielding a
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48 three-dimensional network. At variance with IuraMel and IuraTap structures, no intermolecular
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51 XBs involving the iodine atom were observed.
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3 5-Bromo-1-methyluracil/2,6-Diaminopyridine (1:1), BrmuraDap, crystallizes in the monoclinic
4 space group $P 2_1/c$. The asymmetric unit contains a Dap molecule, protonated at imino N atom,
5 linked to a Brmura molecule, deprotonated at the N3 position, to form the S15 synthon.
6 In the crystal, adjacent tetrameric units, formed by centrosymmetric WC -pairs through $N-H\cdots O$
7 hydrogen bonds [graph set notation $R^2_4(8)$], generate a one-dimensional network by additional
8 $N-H\cdots O$ interactions (Fig. 3d). As in BruraDap, no relevant intermolecular XBs involving the
9 bromine atom were observed.



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51 **Figure 3.** Molecular aggregations formed in FuraDap (3a), BruraDap (3b), IuraDap (3c) and
52 BrmuraDap (3d). Hydrogen bonds are shown as red dotted lines.

A-B-A' cocrystals with 2,4,6-triaminopyrimidine (Tap) as cofomer B

5-Fluorouracil/2,4,6-Triaminopyrimidine/1-Methyluracil (1:1:1), FuraTapMura, crystallizes in the triclinic space group $P-1$. A *Janus* Tap molecule, one Mura molecule and one Fura molecule constitute the asymmetric unit (S16 synthon). In this triad, a protonated Tap molecule realizes bifacial recognition of two different nucleobases. From one side, a protonated Tap molecule interacts in reversed coplanar *WC*-fashion with the more acidic Fura molecule (pK_a in water = 7.93), deprotonated at the N3 position, through ionized TPI in the *AAA/DDD* sense. The opposite nitrogen-rich side of Tap forms a reversed coplanar *WC*-pair with the less acidic Mura molecule (pK_a in water = 9.77)⁹⁹ through TPI in the traditional alternate *ADA/DAD* sense.

In the crystal, adjacent triads are linked to form R^2_4 (12) rings based on N-H \cdots O hydrogen bonds (Fig. 4). These interactions propagate to form ribbons along the c axis. These ribbons are then connected to antiparallel ribbons by further N-H \cdots O hydrogen bonds which form hydrogen-bonded rings of R^4_6 (20) motif. No appreciable intermolecular XBs are present in the structure.

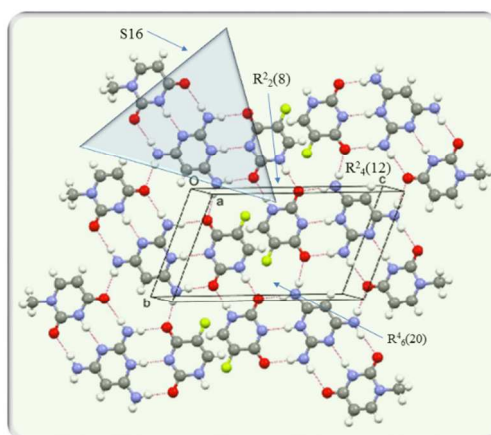
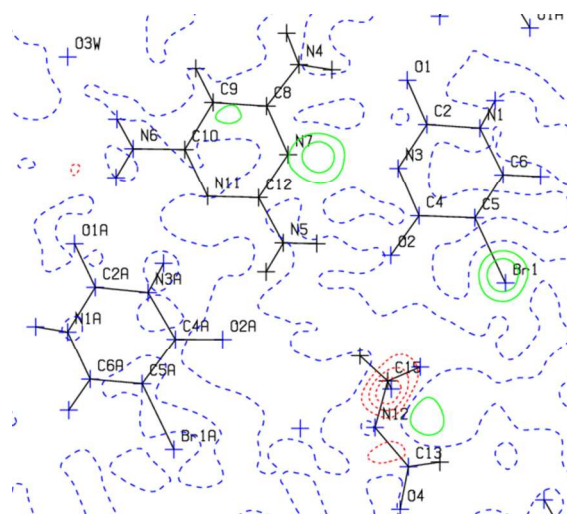


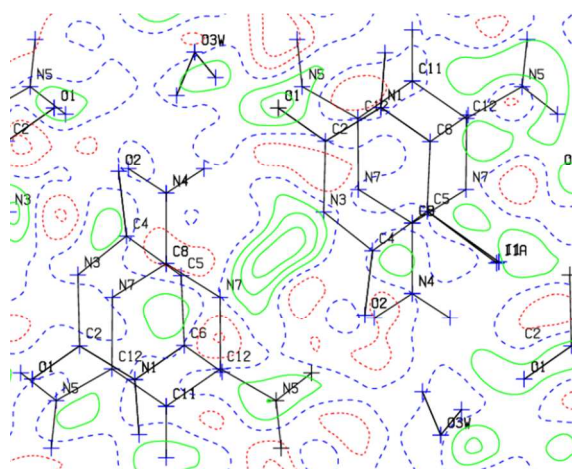
Figure 4. Molecular aggregations formed in FuraTapMura. Hydrogen bonds are shown as red dotted lines.

Crystallographic evidences of intercomponent proton transfer in cocrystals 6-13

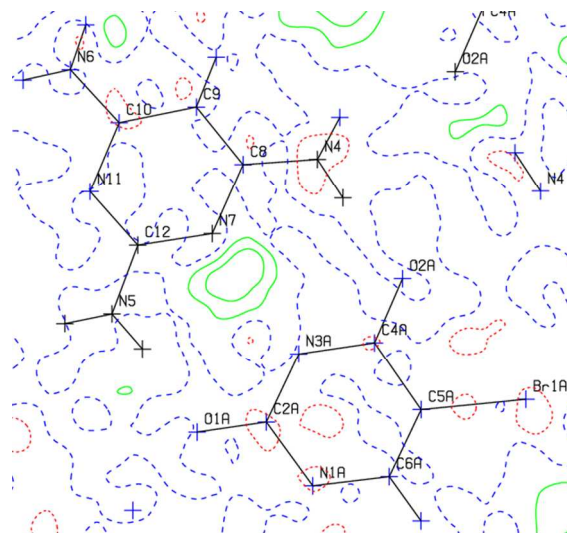
In the crystal structures of cocrystals 6-13, cofomers B (Tap and Dap) are protonated at the N7 position by proton transfer from the N3 atom of cofomers A. This is evidenced by the location of the proton in difference Fourier maps (Fig. 5).



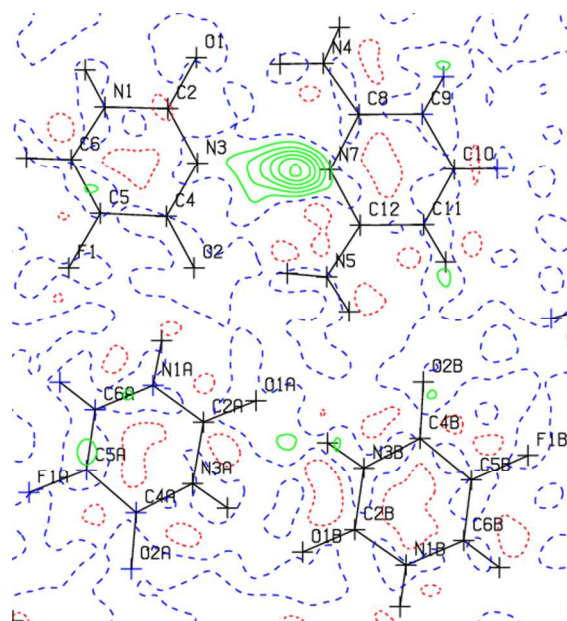
5a



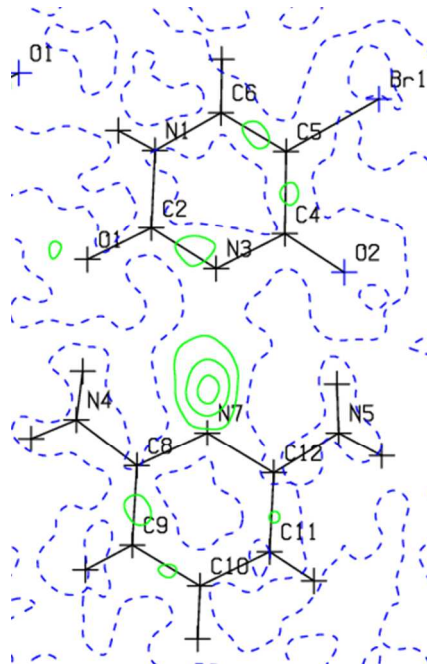
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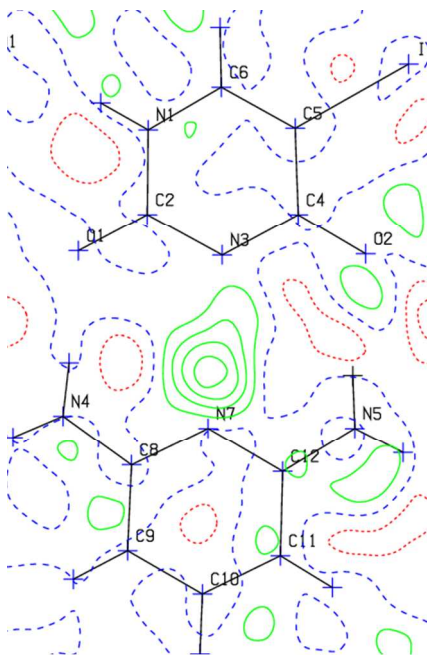
5c



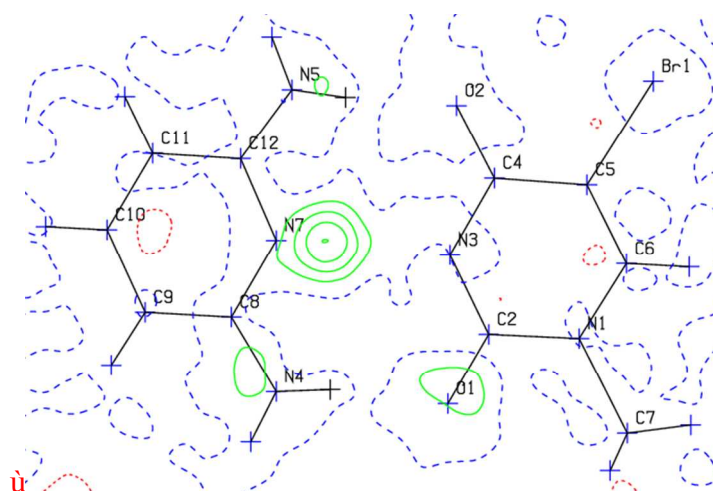
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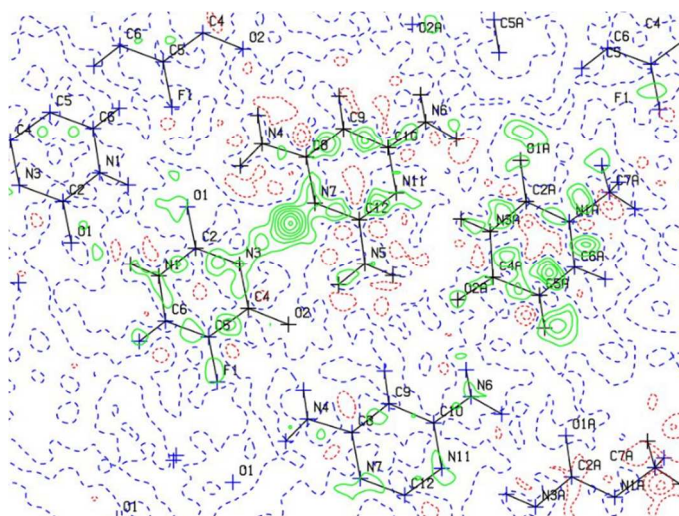
5e



5f



5g



5h

Figure 5. Difference Fourier map through N4, N5 and N7 of cocrystals 6 (5a), 7 (5b), 8 (5c), 9 (5d), 10 (5e), 11 (5f), 12 (5g) and 13 (5h), illustrating the hydrogen atom position within the N3...N7 hydrogen bond.

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3 As regards the protonation at the N7 site of cofomers B, some general features emerge
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5 by comparing the molecular geometry of the planar N4-C8-N7-C12-N5 neutral fragment of Mel
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7 and Tap cofomers in cocrystals 1-5 with the corresponding ionized fragment of Tap and Dap
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9 molecules in cocrystals 6-13. The range of values of the C8-N7 and C12-N7 bond distances in
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11 the protonated fragment is 1.348(6) - 1.380(2) Å, slightly above the corresponding range in the
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13 non-protonated fragment, 1.339(2) - 1.361(2) Å. No appreciable conjugation has been found
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15 within the fragment, as the range of C8-N4 and C12-N5 bond distances in the protonated
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17 [1.319(6) - 1.351(2) Å] and non-protonated [1.325(2) - 1.358(7) Å] forms are apparently equal
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19 within experimental error. More persuading evidence of the protonation at the N7 position comes
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21 from the values of the internal C8-N7-C12 bond angle, which fall in the interval 113.5(2) -
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23 115.6(1)° in cocrystals exhibiting neutral Mel cofomer, and differ significantly from those of
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25 similar angles, 120.3(6) - 124.1(3)°, in protonated Tap and Dap cofomers. These differences
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27 agree with the VSEPR model, according to which the lone pair on deprotonated aza nitrogen
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29 atom requires a wider region than the covalent bond N⁺-H, causing the internal angle on the
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31 former to be smaller than that on the protonated N atom.
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38 By analogy, in cofomers A proton migration from the N3 position shows opposite
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40 variations in the ring structure and the exocyclic bond lengths, and formal negative charge at the
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42 N3 atom is expected to increase the delocalization of electrons from the N atom to the adjacent
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44 O1 and O2 carbonyl atoms. Choosing as a probe the planar O1-C2-N3-C4-O2 fragment, the
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46 range of values of the C-N bond distances of the ionized moiety, 1.339(7) - 1.368(6) Å, is below
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48 the corresponding range in the same fragment of neutral cofomers A, 1.363(3) - 1.388(8) Å.
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50 Within the same fragment, the C-O bond distances fall in the range 1.238(6) - 1.258(2) Å in the
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52 ionized moieties, significantly above the corresponding range (1.207(7) - 1.240(2) Å) in the
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3 neutral moieties. Concerning the angle at N3, the increase of 4-6° observed in passing from the
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5 ionized to the neutral moiety is highly significant and in agreement with the VSEPR model.
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9 As expected, the hydrogen bonding interactions which take place between the opposite
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11 faces in A-B cocrystals are more effective in the ion-paired cocrystals, where the effect of the
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13 opposing charges is manifested in the shortening of the N-H...O and N-H...N distances. Indeed,
14
15 the values of the N4...O1, N5...O2 and N3...N7 hydrogen bond distances, which fall in the range
16
17 2.768(4) - 2.872(2), 2.814(6) - 2.884(5) and 2.845(2) - 2.887(5) Å in the ionized (*AAA/DDD*)
18
19 TPI, are significantly shorter than the corresponding distances in the neutral (*ADA/DAD*) TPI by
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21 0.096(3) - 0.097(4), 0.0147(6) - 0.2180(5) and 0.044(2) - 0.071(5) Å, respectively.
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Conclusion

The structural analysis reveals that at least one neutral or ionized TPI heterosynthon is maintained in all the cocrystals examined and is the primary synthon in all crystal structures examined, thus confirming the robustness of the triple hydrogen-bond interaction for facial recognition. In the seven cocrystals forming neutral TPI, five show mono and bifacial recognition as the presence of solvent molecules of crystallization prevents the hydrogen-bonding interface of aminoazines to be completely closed by competing with hydrogen-bonding groups to the formation of TPI. The ionized acid-base interactions reinforce *WC*-pairing in the remaining seven binary cocrystals containing Tap or Dap as coformer B, and the melamine recognition unit results to be insufficiently basic to accept a proton. In these cocrystals, at variance with all the previously reported structures of complexes containing ionized halouracils, the proton transfer reaction takes always place between the more acidic site of the 5-halonucleobases (N3 atom) and the more basic N_{ring} atom of Tap or Dap. Consequently, proton transfer reaction favors bifacial recognition of nucleobase in the binary cocrystals in which multiple recognition is possible.

Hydrogen bonds may be considered the partially activated precursors to proton-transfer reactions.¹⁰⁰ Although proton transfer occurring from acid to base can be qualitatively evaluated from looking at the $\Delta pK_a = [pK_a(\text{conjugate acid of the base}) - pK_a(\text{acid})]$,¹⁰¹ the pK_a value of a molecule refers to a molecule in a water solution, and the environment of the molecules in the crystal structure may not be comparable. Nevertheless, ΔpK_a can be a useful guideline for selecting the more effective for hydrogen bonding among competing cofomers in the design of cocrystals of nucleobases.^{53, 102, 103} Here, ionized acid-base *WC*-pairs are observed for $\Delta pK_a > \sim -1$ (Dap as coformer B), and neutral *WC*-pairs are observed for $\Delta pK_a < \sim -3$ (Mel as coformer B).

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3 In the domain of ΔpK_a between ~ -1 and ~ -3 , i. e. when Tap is coformer B, proton transfer may
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5 (BruraTap, IuraTap and BrmuraTap) or may not occur (CluraTap).
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8 The neutral complexes formed by melamine with 5-halouracils show variable
9 stoichiometry (1:1 or 1:2) with the pyrimidine nucleobase, and do not form three-fold symmetric
10 adducts neither show 1:3 stoichiometry. Thus, the bulky substituents in the 1 or 1-5 positions do
11 not influence the stoichiometry of the complexes and do not prevent coformers A from using all
12 the carbonyl acceptor sites available for hydrogen and halogen bonding.
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21 Of the fifteen crystal structures examined, halogen bonding is present only in the seven
22 cocrystals containing molecular complexes of Mel or Tap with 5-chloro, 5-bromo or 5-
23 iodinated uracils. In three (CluraMel, BruraMel and BrmuraTap) the carbonyl O2 atom and
24 in one (BrmuraMel) the carbonyl O1 act as the acceptor. Consequently, steric hindrance plays no
25 role in the choice of carbonyl atoms in halogen bond formation. The halogen bonds in the seven
26 cocrystals are characterized by weak interaction strength, as witnessed by the observed reduction
27 from the sum of vdW radii of the contact atoms (from 8% to 16%). Nevertheless, although the
28 crystal packing is primarily stabilized *via* N-H \cdots O, N-H \cdots N, and N⁺-H \cdots N⁻ hydrogen bonds, in
29 four complexes neighboring dimeric supermolecules are linked laterally by halogen bonds,
30 reinforcing conventional hydrogen bonds. In pure Iura and Brura, in the absence of halogen
31 bonding interactions, the crystal packing is dominated by conventional hydrogen bonds.^{104,105}
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47 A nearly linear X \cdots O=C disposition has been found in MIUDAP10, ZUDTAV and
48 ZUDTAV01, as well as in the crystal structures of 5-bromo-*N,N*-1,3-dimethyluracil, 5-iodo-*N,N*-
49 1,3-dimethyluracil and of their mixed (1:1) cocrystal.³⁸ In CluraMel, BruraMel, BrmuraMel and
50 BrmuraTap, showing weak “lateral” halogen interaction ($R_{XB} = 0.84 \div 0.92$), the X \cdots O=C angles
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3 are 158.1 (1)°, 154.5 (1)°, 160.1 (1)° and 144.0(2)°, respectively. These values exemplify
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5 significant deviations from the value commonly found for this angle, close to 120°. ^{106,107} The
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7 examples above could suggest that strong XB with carbonyl oxygen atoms favors a X···O=C
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9 angle of 120°, corresponding to the alignment with the sp^2 orbitals on carbonyl oxygen atoms. In
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11 the presence of weak XB, this angle becomes more sensitive to additional interactions present in
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13 the structure.
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18 The first ternary A-B-A' cocrystal, FuraTapMura, has been realized in which two target
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20 nucleobases (A, Fura and A', Mura), differing in acidity by ~ 2 pK_a units, link a third basic probe
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22 (B, Tap) capable of bifacial recognition *via* TPI for the *WC* faces of the two A, A' target
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24 molecules. In this triad, the *Janus* Tap unit forms from one side (B-A) a reversed *WC* base-pair
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26 through proton-transfer reaction from the more acidic site of 5-fluorouracil (coformer A) to the
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28 more basic site of TAP, which favors the DDD recognition face synthetically complementary to
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30 the AAA face of 5-fluorouracil. Tap molecule then uses the opposite side to form a neutral
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32 reversed *WC* base-pair (B-A') through the DAD recognition face inherently complementary to
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34 the ADA face of the less acidic 1-methyluracil (coformer A'). Insertion of Tap into the two
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36 nucleobases should provide higher affinity and specificity, due to the increasing of the number of
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38 hydrogen bonds with respect to the canonical *WC* pairing, and to the simultaneous presence of
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40 neutral and ionized TPI hydrogen bonds.
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Table 1. Crystal Data of binary cocrystals 1-4

	1, CluraMel	2, BruraMel	3, IuraMel	4, BrmuraMel
Emp. Form.	2(C ₄ H ₃ ClN ₂ O ₂)·C ₃ H ₆ N ₆ ·H ₂ O	2(C ₄ H ₃ BrN ₂ O ₂)·C ₃ H ₆ N ₆ ·H ₂ O	2(C ₄ H ₃ IN ₂ O ₂)·C ₃ H ₆ N ₆ ·2(H ₂ O)	2(C ₃ H ₂ BrN ₂ O ₂)·C ₃ H ₆ N ₆
<i>M_r</i>	437.22	526.14	638.14	530.13
Cryst. syst. s. g.	Triclinic <i>P</i> -1	Triclinic <i>P</i> -1	Monoclinic <i>C</i> 2/ <i>c</i>	Monoclinic <i>C</i> 2/ <i>c</i>
<i>a</i> , <i>b</i> , <i>c</i> (Å)	9.3297 (5), 10.5008 (7), 10.9691 (7)	9.4624 (7), 10.5340 (8), 10.9591 (9)	19.902 (2), 8.6519 (5), 13.5924 (14)	15.9600 (18), 8.6006 (8), 13.6776 (16)
α , β , γ (°)	113.305 (6), 94.775 (5), 114.103 (6)	113.132 (7), 94.764 (6), 113.787 (7)	90, 122.895 (15), 90	90, 96.371 (12), 90
<i>V</i> (Å ³)	861.64 (12)	880.54 (14)	1965.2 (4)	1865.9 (4)
<i>Z</i>	2	2	4	4
μ (mm ⁻¹)	0.43	4.66	3.25	4.39
<i>Data collection</i>				
<i>T</i> _{min}	0.847	0.574	0.331	0.540
<i>T</i> _{max}	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
Meas., indep., obs. refs.	29003 5481 4329	19240 5584 4108	32998 3134 2719	16366 2241 1895
<i>R</i> _{int}	0.040	0.050	0.044	0.052
(<i>sin</i> θ / λ) _{max} (Å ⁻¹)	0.725	0.725	0.725	0.660
<i>Refinement</i>				
<i>R</i> _{<i>I</i>}	0.039	0.042	0.023	0.050
<i>wR</i> ₂	0.116	0.105	0.054	0.106
<i>S</i>	1.03	1.02	1.10	1.25
N. of pars.	301	301	161	144
$\Delta\rho_{\max}$, $\Delta\rho_{\min}$ (e Å ⁻³)	0.40, -0.30	1.06, -0.55	0.41, -0.66	0.49, -0.33

Table 2. Crystal Data of binary cocrystals 5-8

	5, CluraTap	6, BruraTap	7, IuraTap	8, BrmuraTap
Emp. form.	$C_4H_3ClN_2O_2 \cdot C_4H_7N_5 \cdot C_3H_7NO$	$C_4H_2BrN_2O_2 \cdot C_4H_3BrN_2O_2 \cdot C_4H_8N_5 \cdot C_3H_7NO \cdot O$	$2(C_4H_{2.50}IN_2O_2) \cdot C_4H_8N_5 \cdot 2(H_2O)$	$C_5H_2BrN_2O_2 \cdot C_4HBrN_2O_2 \cdot C_4H_8N_5$
M_r	344.77	596.23	637.14	517.13
Cryst. syst.	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
s. g.	$P2_1/n$	$P2_1/n$	$C2/c$	$P2_1/c$
a, b, c (Å)	11.8918 (9), 10.4962 (11), 12.8427 (9)	8.9251 (11), 28.028 (2), 9.7122 (16)	24.695 (3), 8.7205 (9), 9.5372 (10)	16.5900 (18), 7.0442 (6), 16.3854 (17)
α, β, γ (°)	90, 99.938 (7), 90	90, 105.507 (15), 90	90, 101.336 (11), 90	90, 100.424 (10), 90
V (Å ³)	1579.0 (2)	2341.1 (5)	2013.8 (4)	1883.2 (3)
Z	4	4	4	4
μ (mm ⁻¹)	0.27	3.52	3.17	4.35
<i>Data collection</i>				
T_{min}	0.699	0.726	0.269	0.616
T_{max}	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
Meas., indep., obs. refns.	35206 5015 3669	25065 4844 2880	24326 2434 2011	24376 3697 3093
R_{int}	0.046	0.061	0.110	0.072
($\sin \theta/\lambda$) _{max} (Å ⁻¹)	0.725	0.628	0.660	0.617
<i>Refinement</i>				
R_1	0.044	0.083	0.044	0.067
wR_2	0.122	0.224	0.123	0.177
S	1.03	1.05	1.11	1.13
N. of pars.	246	298	169	265
$\Delta\rho_{max}$	0.28	1.13	1.15	0.98
$\Delta\rho_{min}$ (e Å ⁻³)	-0.30	-0.96	-1.19	-0.42

Table 3. Crystal Data of binary cocrystals 9-12

	9, FuraDap	10, BruraDap	11, IuraDap	12, BrmuraDap
Emp. form.	$C_4H_2FN_2O_2 \cdot 2(C_4H_3FN_2O_2) \cdot C_3H_8N_3 \cdot C_3H_6NO$	$C_4H_2BrN_2O_2 \cdot C_3H_8N_3$	$C_4H_2IN_2O_2 \cdot C_4H_3IN_2O_2 \cdot C_3H_8N_3 \cdot C_3H_7NO$	$C_5H_4BrN_2O_2 \cdot C_5H_8N_3$
M_r	571.48	300.13	658.20	314.16
Cryst. syst.	Triclinic	Monoclinic	Triclinic	Monoclinic
s. g.	<i>P</i> -1	<i>P</i> ₂ / <i>c</i>	<i>P</i> -1	<i>P</i> ₂ / <i>c</i>
<i>a</i> , <i>b</i> , <i>c</i> (Å)	10.4374 (10), 10.5556 (9), 13.5933 (11)	10.4503 (10), 7.1957 (9), 15.7838 (16)	5.2878 (4), 12.1407 (11), 18.4965 (13)	9.4010 (13), 6.0669 (6), 21.367 (3)
α , β , γ (°)	93.408 (7), 103.393 (8), 117.109 (9)	90, 105.424 (11), 90	102.322 (7), 94.418 (6), 101.693 (7)	90, 90.926 (14), 90
<i>V</i> (Å ³)	1273.1 (2)	1144.1 (2)	1126.99 (16)	1218.5 (3)
<i>Z</i>	2	4	2	4
μ (mm ⁻¹)	0.13	3.59	2.84	3.38
<i>Data collection</i>				
<i>T</i> _{min}	0.833	0.467	0.958	0.572
<i>T</i> _{max}	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
Meas., indep., obs. reflns.	16624, 4501, 3188	18543, 2634, 2063	17375, 4891, 3260	5703, 2112, 1748
<i>R</i> _{int}	0.035	0.048	0.058	0.034
(sin θ / λ) _{max} (Å ⁻¹)	0.596	0.650	0.639	0.597
<i>Refinement</i>				
<i>R</i> ₁	0.065	0.037	0.047	0.054
<i>wR</i> ₂	0.198	0.096	0.095	0.164
<i>S</i>	1.04	1.03	1.03	1.08
N. of pars.	395	162	294	164
$\Delta\rho$ _{max} , $\Delta\rho$ _{min} (e Å ⁻³)	0.79, -0.48	0.74, -0.65	0.54, -0.76	1.06, -0.57

Table 4. Crystal Data of ternary cocrystal 13

13, FuraTapMura	
Chemical formula	$C_4H_2FN_2O_2 \cdot C_5H_6N_2O_2 \cdot C_4H_8N_5$
M_r	381.35
Crystal system, s. g.	Triclinic <i>P</i> -1
a, b, c (Å)	7.8375 (2), 8.2668 (3), 13.9941 (4)
α, β, γ (°)	105.251 (2), 96.4619 (11), 105.002 (2)
V (Å ³)	828.92 (5)
Z	2
μ (mm ⁻¹)	0.13
<i>Data collection</i>	
T_{\min}	0.898
T_{\max}	1.000
Meas., indep., obs.reflns.	69900 4620 3105
R_{int}	0.035
$(\sin \theta/\lambda)_{\max}$ (Å ⁻¹)	0.693
<i>Refinement</i>	
R_1	0.057
wR_2	0.168
S	1.10
N. of pars.	281
$\Delta\rho_{\max}$	0.40
$\Delta\rho_{\min}$ (e Å ⁻³)	-0.29

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

Ortep diagrams; difference Fourier maps for cocrystals 1-5; selected geometrical parameters in Opozas, Opotuk and cocrystals 1-13; geometrical parameters of hydrogen bonds in cocrystals 1-13. This material is available free of charge as the ACS publication website at DOI:

Accession codes

Full crystallographic data has been deposited to the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre (CCDC 1839826-1839838). These data can be obtained free of charge via c.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif, or by emailing data_request@ccdc.cam.ac.uk, or by contacting The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK; fax: +44 1223 336033.

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The manuscript was written through contributions of both authors. Both authors have given approval to the final version of the manuscript.

Notes

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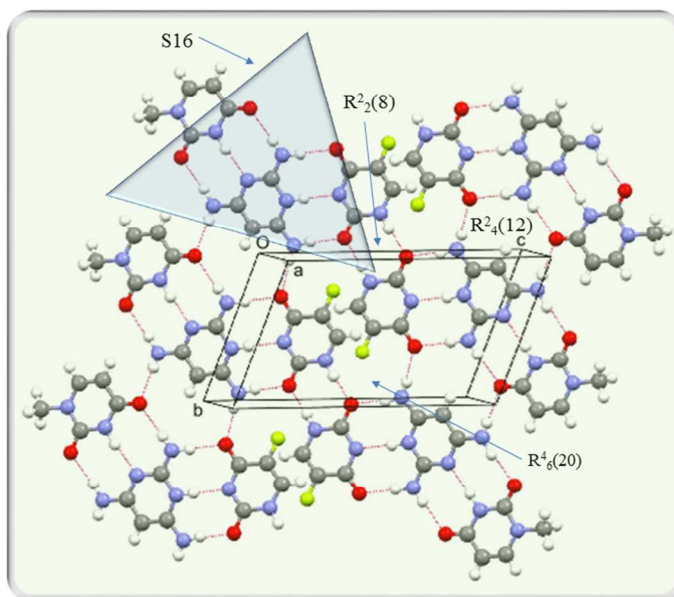
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Multifacial Recognition in Binary and Ternary Cocrystals from 5-Halouracil and Aminoazine Derivatives

Gustavo Portalone and Kari Rissanen



Twelve new binary cocrystals containing uracil or 1-methyluracil with halide modification at the 5 position, coupled with a 2-aminoadenine simulants (aminoazines), have been studied by X-ray diffraction. Moreover, the first single crystal X-ray diffraction study of a ternary cocrystal based on the *JANUS-WEDGE* concept and containing the 5-fluorouracil/2,4,6-triamino pyrimidine/1-methyluracil (1:1:1) triad has been reported.