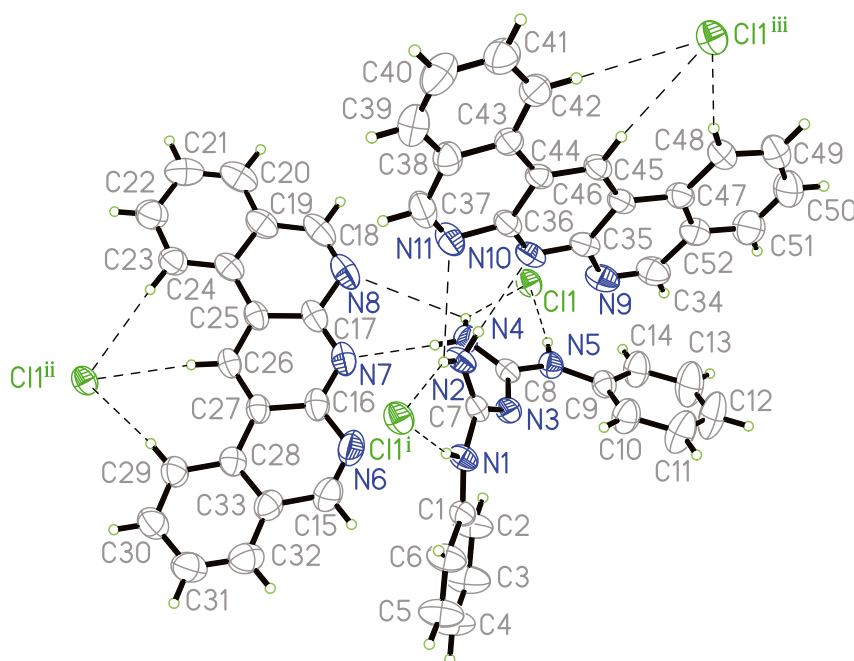


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# Crystal structure of *N*-((*Z*)-amino(((*E*)-amino(phenylamino)methylene) amino)methylene)benzenaminium chloride – benzo[*f*]isoquinolino[3,4-*b*][1,8]naphthyridine – tetrahydrofurane (1/2/2), C<sub>60</sub>H<sub>54</sub>ClN<sub>11</sub>O<sub>2</sub>



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## Abstract

C<sub>60</sub>H<sub>54</sub>ClN<sub>11</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, *P* $\bar{1}$  (no. 2), *a* = 9.6795(10) Å, *b* = 14.8391(12) Å, *c* = 18.0298(14) Å,  $\alpha$  = 90.710(3)°,  $\beta$  = 92.506(3)°,  $\gamma$  = 96.274(3)°, *V* = 2571.4(4) Å<sup>3</sup>, *Z* = 2, *R*<sub>gt</sub>(*F*) = 0.0856, *wR*<sub>ref</sub>(*F*<sup>2</sup>) = 0.2386, *T* = 296(2) K.

CCDC no.: 2183722.

**Table 1:** Data collection and handling.

|                                                                                                                     |                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Crystal:                                                                                                            | Orange prism                                                           |
| Size:                                                                                                               | 0.20 × 0.20 × 0.10 mm                                                  |
| Wavelength:                                                                                                         | Mo K $\alpha$ radiation (0.71073 Å)                                    |
| $\mu$ :                                                                                                             | 0.13 mm <sup>−1</sup>                                                  |
| Diffractometer, scan mode:                                                                                          | Bruker APEX3, $\varphi$ and $\omega$                                   |
| $\theta_{\max}$ , completeness:                                                                                     | 30.6°, 99%                                                             |
| <i>N</i> ( <i>hkl</i> ) <sub>measured</sub> , <i>N</i> ( <i>hkl</i> ) <sub>unique</sub> , <i>R</i> <sub>int</sub> : | 41,142, 15,536, 0.081                                                  |
| Criterion for <i>I</i> <sub>obs</sub> , <i>N</i> ( <i>hkl</i> ) <sub>gt</sub> :                                     | <i>I</i> <sub>obs</sub> > 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> <sub>obs</sub> ), 6655 |
| <i>N</i> ( <i>param</i> ) <sub>refined</sub> :                                                                      | 683                                                                    |
| Programs:                                                                                                           | Bruker [1], SHELX [2, 3]                                               |

**Table 2:** Fractional atomic coordinates and isotropic or equivalent isotropic displacement parameters (Å<sup>2</sup>).

| Atom | x           | y            | z            | <i>U</i> <sub>iso</sub> */ <i>U</i> <sub>eq</sub> |
|------|-------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Cl1  | 0.84264 (7) | 0.62811 (5)  | 0.75706 (4)  | 0.0460 (2)                                        |
| N1   | 0.1298 (3)  | 0.76108 (17) | 0.78522 (13) | 0.0400 (6)                                        |
| H1N  | 0.048 (3)   | 0.733 (2)    | 0.7809 (16)  | 0.053 (10)*                                       |
| N2   | 0.1876 (3)  | 0.62834 (18) | 0.73783 (14) | 0.0429 (6)                                        |
| H2B  | 0.233 (3)   | 0.605 (2)    | 0.7084 (17)  | 0.049 (9)*                                        |
| H2C  | 0.105 (4)   | 0.610 (2)    | 0.7382 (17)  | 0.051 (10)*                                       |
| N3   | 0.3582 (2)  | 0.75290 (15) | 0.75626 (12) | 0.0402 (5)                                        |
| N4   | 0.4797 (3)  | 0.63091 (18) | 0.79316 (15) | 0.0460 (6)                                        |
| H4B  | 0.552 (4)   | 0.606 (2)    | 0.7967 (17)  | 0.055 (10)*                                       |
| H4C  | 0.422 (3)   | 0.6104 (19)  | 0.8224 (16)  | 0.043 (9)*                                        |
| N5   | 0.5854 (3)  | 0.74384 (17) | 0.72597 (13) | 0.0408 (6)                                        |
| H5N  | 0.648 (3)   | 0.7145 (19)  | 0.7293 (16)  | 0.042 (9)*                                        |
| N6   | 0.2106 (3)  | 0.67792 (19) | 0.94614 (15) | 0.0663 (8)                                        |
| N7   | 0.3222 (3)  | 0.55316 (19) | 0.92495 (13) | 0.0539 (7)                                        |
| N8   | 0.4441 (3)  | 0.4353 (2)   | 0.89442 (15) | 0.0663 (8)                                        |
| N9   | 0.4405 (3)  | 0.63848 (18) | 0.56850 (14) | 0.0546 (7)                                        |
| N10  | 0.2579 (3)  | 0.53717 (16) | 0.59974 (12) | 0.0445 (6)                                        |
| N11  | 0.0755 (3)  | 0.44527 (19) | 0.64271 (13) | 0.0549 (7)                                        |
| C1   | 0.1418 (3)  | 0.84160 (19) | 0.82797 (15) | 0.0413 (7)                                        |
| C2   | 0.2646 (4)  | 0.8851 (2)   | 0.8580 (2)   | 0.0628 (9)                                        |
| H2A  | 0.348626    | 0.863166     | 0.848669     | 0.075*                                            |
| C3   | 0.2625 (5)  | 0.9617 (3)   | 0.9023 (2)   | 0.0803 (12)                                       |
| H3A  | 0.346038    | 0.991167     | 0.922008     | 0.096*                                            |
| C4   | 0.1413 (5)  | 0.9952 (3)   | 0.9176 (2)   | 0.0843 (13)                                       |
| H4A  | 0.141712    | 1.046815     | 0.947412     | 0.101*                                            |
| C5   | 0.0190 (5)  | 0.9515 (3)   | 0.8886 (2)   | 0.0840 (13)                                       |
| H5A  | −0.064676   | 0.973114     | 0.899206     | 0.101*                                            |
| C6   | 0.0186 (4)  | 0.8756 (2)   | 0.8435 (2)   | 0.0638 (9)                                        |
| H6A  | −0.065328   | 0.847079     | 0.823433     | 0.077*                                            |
| C7   | 0.2301 (3)  | 0.71271 (18) | 0.76098 (13) | 0.0362 (6)                                        |
| C8   | 0.4691 (3)  | 0.70751 (18) | 0.75753 (14) | 0.0369 (6)                                        |
| C9   | 0.6074 (3)  | 0.81463 (19) | 0.67556 (15) | 0.0419 (7)                                        |
| C10  | 0.5054 (4)  | 0.8643 (2)   | 0.64642 (19) | 0.0603 (9)                                        |
| H10A | 0.414133    | 0.852538     | 0.660677     | 0.072*                                            |
| C11  | 0.5404 (5)  | 0.9313 (3)   | 0.5960 (2)   | 0.0830 (12)                                       |
| H11A | 0.472070    | 0.965192     | 0.577067     | 0.100*                                            |
| C12  | 0.6738 (5)  | 0.9488 (3)   | 0.5735 (3)   | 0.0934 (14)                                       |
| H12A | 0.695621    | 0.993874     | 0.539194     | 0.112*                                            |
| C13  | 0.7744 (5)  | 0.8995 (3)   | 0.6017 (2)   | 0.0877 (13)                                       |
| H13A | 0.865082    | 0.910694     | 0.586336     | 0.105*                                            |
| C14  | 0.7417 (4)  | 0.8332 (2)   | 0.65279 (19) | 0.0616 (9)                                        |
| H14A | 0.811115    | 0.800426     | 0.672229     | 0.074*                                            |
| C15  | 0.1286 (4)  | 0.7193 (2)   | 0.9854 (2)   | 0.0704 (11)                                       |
| H15A | 0.112513    | 0.777245     | 0.970685     | 0.084*                                            |
| C16  | 0.2365 (3)  | 0.5924 (2)   | 0.96797 (15) | 0.0497 (8)                                        |
| C17  | 0.3535 (3)  | 0.4703 (2)   | 0.94175 (16) | 0.0505 (8)                                        |
| C18  | 0.4764 (4)  | 0.3553 (3)   | 0.90744 (19) | 0.0694 (10)                                       |
| H18A | 0.537603    | 0.332514     | 0.875533     | 0.083*                                            |
| C19  | 0.4278 (3)  | 0.2969 (2)   | 0.96631 (17) | 0.0564 (8)                                        |
| C20  | 0.4686 (4)  | 0.2103 (3)   | 0.9752 (2)   | 0.0723 (11)                                       |
| H20A | 0.529989    | 0.189016     | 0.942648     | 0.087*                                            |
| C21  | 0.4193 (4)  | 0.1563 (3)   | 1.0313 (2)   | 0.0705 (10)                                       |
| H21A | 0.444861    | 0.097978     | 1.036312     | 0.085*                                            |
| C22  | 0.3304 (4)  | 0.1899 (2)   | 1.08065 (19) | 0.0633 (9)                                        |
| H22A | 0.298405    | 0.154107     | 1.119668     | 0.076*                                            |
| C23  | 0.2891 (4)  | 0.2745 (2)   | 1.07293 (17) | 0.0541 (8)                                        |
| H23A | 0.228147    | 0.295068     | 1.106115     | 0.065*                                            |

**Table 2:** (continued)

| Atom              | x           | y            | z            | <i>U</i> <sub>iso</sub> */ <i>U</i> <sub>eq</sub> |
|-------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| C24               | 0.3373 (3)  | 0.3303 (2)   | 1.01572 (15) | 0.0457 (7)                                        |
| C25               | 0.2988 (3)  | 0.4208 (2)   | 1.00322 (14) | 0.0422 (7)                                        |
| C26               | 0.2112 (3)  | 0.4637 (2)   | 1.04717 (14) | 0.0435 (7)                                        |
| H26A              | 0.174330    | 0.434025     | 1.088214     | 0.052*                                            |
| C27               | 0.1774 (3)  | 0.54951 (19) | 1.03123 (14) | 0.0414 (7)                                        |
| C28               | 0.0851 (3)  | 0.59818 (19) | 1.07370 (15) | 0.0433 (7)                                        |
| C29               | 0.0166 (3)  | 0.5638 (2)   | 1.13616 (16) | 0.0523 (8)                                        |
| H29A              | 0.032053    | 0.506809     | 1.153408     | 0.063*                                            |
| C30               | −0.0727 (4) | 0.6133 (2)   | 1.17203 (18) | 0.0608 (9)                                        |
| H30A              | −0.117802   | 0.589495     | 1.213102     | 0.073*                                            |
| C31               | −0.0961 (4) | 0.6992 (2)   | 1.14713 (19) | 0.0663 (10)                                       |
| H31A              | −0.156808   | 0.732387     | 1.171691     | 0.080*                                            |
| C32               | −0.0311 (4) | 0.7343 (2)   | 1.08754 (19) | 0.0657 (10)                                       |
| H32A              | −0.046795   | 0.791824     | 1.071629     | 0.079*                                            |
| C33               | 0.0597 (4)  | 0.6848 (2)   | 1.04940 (16) | 0.0519 (8)                                        |
| C34               | 0.5200 (4)  | 0.6734 (2)   | 0.51832 (18) | 0.0568 (8)                                        |
| H34A              | 0.587601    | 0.720183     | 0.533328     | 0.068*                                            |
| C35               | 0.3393 (3)  | 0.56916 (19) | 0.54623 (15) | 0.0421 (7)                                        |
| C36               | 0.1572 (3)  | 0.4708 (2)   | 0.58368 (14) | 0.0420 (7)                                        |
| C37               | −0.0231 (4) | 0.3810 (2)   | 0.63096 (17) | 0.0590 (9)                                        |
| H37A              | −0.078014   | 0.364880     | 0.670781     | 0.071*                                            |
| C38               | −0.0575 (3) | 0.3312 (2)   | 0.56224 (16) | 0.0488 (7)                                        |
| C39               | −0.1662 (4) | 0.2616 (2)   | 0.5546 (2)   | 0.0642 (9)                                        |
| H39A              | −0.219080   | 0.245937     | 0.595268     | 0.077*                                            |
| C40               | −0.1966 (4) | 0.2161 (2)   | 0.4889 (2)   | 0.0717 (11)                                       |
| H40A              | −0.269932   | 0.170013     | 0.484523     | 0.086*                                            |
| C41               | −0.1161 (4) | 0.2395 (2)   | 0.4279 (2)   | 0.0657 (10)                                       |
| H41A              | −0.134883   | 0.207744     | 0.383177     | 0.079*                                            |
| C42               | −0.0104 (4) | 0.3083 (2)   | 0.43350 (17) | 0.0528 (8)                                        |
| H42A              | 0.040473    | 0.323802     | 0.392076     | 0.063*                                            |
| C43               | 0.0230 (3)  | 0.35629 (18) | 0.50097 (15) | 0.0413 (7)                                        |
| C44               | 0.1328 (3)  | 0.42902 (18) | 0.51176 (14) | 0.0370 (6)                                        |
| C45               | 0.2181 (3)  | 0.46372 (18) | 0.45685 (14) | 0.0394 (6)                                        |
| H45A              | 0.205377    | 0.439093     | 0.409036     | 0.047*                                            |
| C46               | 0.3216 (3)  | 0.53412 (18) | 0.47161 (14) | 0.0392 (6)                                        |
| C47               | 0.4129 (3)  | 0.57585 (19) | 0.41702 (15) | 0.0439 (7)                                        |
| C48               | 0.4064 (4)  | 0.5487 (2)   | 0.34172 (16) | 0.0570 (9)                                        |
| H48A              | 0.340018    | 0.502365     | 0.324331     | 0.068*                                            |
| C49               | 0.4984 (4)  | 0.5910 (2)   | 0.29414 (19) | 0.0712 (11)                                       |
| H49A              | 0.493804    | 0.572582     | 0.244525     | 0.085*                                            |
| C50               | 0.5984 (4)  | 0.6609 (3)   | 0.3184 (2)   | 0.0740 (11)                                       |
| H50A              | 0.660367    | 0.688632     | 0.285456     | 0.089*                                            |
| C51               | 0.6046 (4)  | 0.6883 (2)   | 0.3911 (2)   | 0.0680 (10)                                       |
| H51A              | 0.670467    | 0.735485     | 0.407478     | 0.082*                                            |
| C52               | 0.5133 (3)  | 0.6463 (2)   | 0.44113 (17) | 0.0499 (7)                                        |
| O1 <sup>a</sup>   | 0.8600 (8)  | 0.9901 (5)   | 0.4013 (4)   | 0.121 (3)*                                        |
| C53 <sup>a</sup>  | 0.776 (2)   | 0.9786 (12)  | 0.3276 (8)   | 0.203 (7)*                                        |
| H53A <sup>a</sup> | 0.677453    | 0.969956     | 0.337297     | 0.243*                                            |
| H53B <sup>a</sup> | 0.792830    | 1.033435     | 0.299177     | 0.243*                                            |
| C54 <sup>a</sup>  | 0.8103 (16) | 0.9037 (8)   | 0.2852 (6)   | 0.149 (4)*                                        |
| H54A <sup>a</sup> | 0.725995    | 0.865788     | 0.269080     | 0.179*                                            |
| H54B <sup>a</sup> | 0.857483    | 0.925262     | 0.241376     | 0.179*                                            |
| C55 <sup>a</sup>  | 0.8978 (13) | 0.8523 (7)   | 0.3286 (5)   | 0.111 (3)*                                        |
| H55A <sup>a</sup> | 0.985218    | 0.848284     | 0.305096     | 0.133*                                            |
| H55B <sup>a</sup> | 0.853049    | 0.791455     | 0.335726     | 0.133*                                            |
| C56 <sup>a</sup>  | 0.920 (2)   | 0.9004 (10)  | 0.3974 (8)   | 0.162 (7)*                                        |
| H56A <sup>a</sup> | 1.019465    | 0.911270     | 0.408520     | 0.195*                                            |
| H56B <sup>a</sup> | 0.880392    | 0.861948     | 0.435987     | 0.195*                                            |

Table 2: (continued)

| Atom              | <i>x</i>    | <i>y</i>    | <i>z</i>    | <i>U</i> <sub>iso</sub> <sup>*</sup> / <i>U</i> <sub>eq</sub> |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| O1A <sup>b</sup>  | 0.8489 (16) | 1.0102 (8)  | 0.3281 (7)  | 0.154 (6)*                                                    |
| C53A <sup>b</sup> | 0.899 (2)   | 0.9330 (11) | 0.2862 (7)  | 0.119 (6)*                                                    |
| H53C <sup>b</sup> | 0.822799    | 0.896754    | 0.259719    | 0.143*                                                        |
| H53D <sup>b</sup> | 0.967856    | 0.954870    | 0.251082    | 0.143*                                                        |
| C54A <sup>b</sup> | 0.9607 (19) | 0.8814 (11) | 0.3443 (8)  | 0.105 (5)*                                                    |
| H54C <sup>b</sup> | 1.061262    | 0.894439    | 0.346601    | 0.126*                                                        |
| H54D <sup>b</sup> | 0.936858    | 0.816877    | 0.335363    | 0.126*                                                        |
| C55A <sup>b</sup> | 0.901 (2)   | 0.9105 (14) | 0.4155 (8)  | 0.117 (7)*                                                    |
| H55C <sup>b</sup> | 0.874376    | 0.858908    | 0.446130    | 0.141*                                                        |
| H55D <sup>b</sup> | 0.967498    | 0.953159    | 0.443577    | 0.141*                                                        |
| C56A <sup>b</sup> | 0.786 (2)   | 0.9516 (14) | 0.3899 (11) | 0.153 (7)*                                                    |
| H56C <sup>b</sup> | 0.751199    | 0.988164    | 0.428441    | 0.184*                                                        |
| H56D <sup>b</sup> | 0.711436    | 0.907224    | 0.370705    | 0.184*                                                        |
| O2 <sup>c</sup>   | 0.3367 (10) | 0.9454 (6)  | 0.1448 (4)  | 0.148 (3)*                                                    |
| C57 <sup>c</sup>  | 0.4119 (19) | 0.9521 (10) | 0.2184 (9)  | 0.200 (7)*                                                    |
| H57A <sup>c</sup> | 0.510958    | 0.954579    | 0.211308    | 0.240*                                                        |
| H57B <sup>c</sup> | 0.395070    | 1.008199    | 0.242866    | 0.240*                                                        |
| C58 <sup>c</sup>  | 0.3699 (18) | 0.8753 (11) | 0.2674 (7)  | 0.193 (6)*                                                    |
| H58A <sup>c</sup> | 0.319176    | 0.894256    | 0.309020    | 0.231*                                                        |
| H58B <sup>c</sup> | 0.449332    | 0.846135    | 0.285613    | 0.231*                                                        |
| C59 <sup>c</sup>  | 0.2763 (16) | 0.8143 (8)  | 0.2126 (7)  | 0.148 (5)*                                                    |
| H59A <sup>c</sup> | 0.323476    | 0.764040    | 0.195530    | 0.178*                                                        |
| H59B <sup>c</sup> | 0.190845    | 0.790622    | 0.235067    | 0.178*                                                        |
| C60 <sup>c</sup>  | 0.2500 (12) | 0.8715 (7)  | 0.1550 (6)  | 0.144 (4)*                                                    |
| H60A <sup>c</sup> | 0.243875    | 0.835788    | 0.109385    | 0.172*                                                        |
| H60D <sup>c</sup> | 0.158603    | 0.890806    | 0.161577    | 0.172*                                                        |
| O2A <sup>d</sup>  | 0.349 (2)   | 0.8073 (12) | 0.2464 (12) | 0.233 (8)*                                                    |
| C57A <sup>d</sup> | 0.4670 (18) | 0.8702 (14) | 0.2211 (12) | 0.177 (8)*                                                    |
| H57C <sup>d</sup> | 0.514391    | 0.903178    | 0.263318    | 0.212*                                                        |
| H57D <sup>d</sup> | 0.533198    | 0.836123    | 0.197210    | 0.212*                                                        |
| C58A <sup>d</sup> | 0.414 (3)   | 0.9333 (16) | 0.1691 (14) | 0.202 (11)*                                                   |
| H58C <sup>d</sup> | 0.387354    | 0.905034    | 0.120962    | 0.242*                                                        |
| H58D <sup>d</sup> | 0.479010    | 0.986740    | 0.163096    | 0.242*                                                        |
| C59A <sup>d</sup> | 0.289 (2)   | 0.9541 (12) | 0.2105 (12) | 0.172 (8)*                                                    |
| H59C <sup>d</sup> | 0.314680    | 1.001042    | 0.248053    | 0.206*                                                        |
| H59D <sup>d</sup> | 0.217470    | 0.973568    | 0.176886    | 0.206*                                                        |
| C60A <sup>d</sup> | 0.245 (2)   | 0.8729 (17) | 0.2423 (17) | 0.229 (12)*                                                   |
| H60B <sup>d</sup> | 0.162912    | 0.845287    | 0.214087    | 0.275*                                                        |
| H60C <sup>d</sup> | 0.216803    | 0.884981    | 0.292167    | 0.275*                                                        |

<sup>a</sup>Occupancy: 0.609 (12). <sup>b</sup>Occupancy: 0.391 (12). <sup>c</sup>Occupancy: 0.599 (9). <sup>d</sup>Occupancy: 0.401 (9).

The molecular structure is shown in the figure (symmetry code i)  $x-1, y, z$ ; ii)  $-x+1, -y+1, -z+2$ ; iii)  $-x+1, -y+1, -z+1$ ). The disordered THF molecule is not shown in the figure. Table 1 contains crystallographic data and Table 2 contains the list of the atoms including atomic coordinates and displacement parameters.

## Source of material

*N*-((*Z*)-amino(((*E*)-amino(phenylamino)methylene)amino)methylene)benzenaminium chloride (diphenylbiguanide

chloride, HL<sup>+</sup>Cl<sup>−</sup>) and benzo[*f*]isoquinolino[3,4-*b*][1,8]naphthyridine (anthridine, DBA) was synthesized by following the literature procedures [4, 5]. The title compound, i.e., the cocrystal of between HL<sup>+</sup>Cl<sup>−</sup> and DBA was prepared by dissolving the two compounds in THF solution in a molar ratio of 1:2. The solution was filtered to obtain a yellow clear filtrate, which was kept in a glass vial sealed with parafilm. Prism crystals with orange color were obtained with a few days.

## Experimental details

A crystal of a size 0.20 × 0.20 × 0.10 mm was mounted on a glass fiber with epoxy glue. Data collection was performed on a Bruker D8 VENTURE Photon II diffractometer. Data were processed on a PC using the Bruker AXS Crystal Structure Analysis Package [1]. Data collection: Bruker APEX3; cell refinement: Bruker SAINT; Data reduction: Bruker SAINT; Structure solution: SHELXT 2014/5 [2]; Structure refinement: SHELXL-2018/3 [3]; Molecular graphics: Bruker SHELXTL [2]; Publication materials: Bruker SHELXTL [2].

The H-atoms on N-atoms were located from the difference-Fourier maps, and refined without any constraints. All other H-atoms were placed geometrically and refined using a riding model with common isotropic displacement factors  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2 U_{\text{eq}}(\text{parent C-atom})$ . The two THF molecules were disordered.

## Comment

The simplest biguanide, 2-carbamimidoylguanidine, was synthesized by Rathke in 1879 [6]. 50 years later, some biguanide derivatives, including metformin (3-(diaminomethylene)-1,1-dimethylguanidine) were found to be able to lower the blood glucose in animals [7, 8]. However, due to their side effects and the availability of insulin, metformin did not receive too much attention until its introduction into USA by FDA in 1995 [9]. Currently, metformin is the first-line therapy for treatment of type 2 diabetes. In addition, metformin and its analogues have found a variety of therapeutic applications, such as, polycystic ovary syndrome [10], cardiovascular disease [11], anti-aging [12] and even COVID-19 [13]. Meanwhile, biguanides also have demonstrated potential applications in the development of highly efficient solar cells recently, due to its capability for hydrogen bonding formation [14, 15].

Crystal engineering is the science to build crystalline materials of specific characteristics or physicochemical

properties through intermolecular interactions. Hydrogen bonding, especially multi-hydrogen bonding, is very important for crystal engineering and plays important roles on structure stability, directionality and physicochemical properties [16–18].

With a structure characterized with multiple –NH, it is reasonable to assume that HL<sup>+</sup>Cl<sup>−</sup> can behave as an multi-hydrogen bond donor, which can form multi-hydrogen bonds with hydrogen bond acceptors to form multi-hydrogen bond pairs, such as DD...AA or DDD...AAA. DBA, as we can see from its structure, is a planar hydrogen bond acceptor, *i.e.*, AAA. We have found that the packing of DBA molecules in a crystal can be tuned through crystal engineering, which alters the way of the  $\pi$ – $\pi$  stacking of the DBA molecules and leads to the change of electroconductivity of the crystals. Here we report the structure of a novel co-crystal between HL<sup>+</sup>Cl<sup>−</sup> and two DBA, with the one HL<sup>+</sup> hydrogen bonded to two DBA through two sets of DD...AA and each Cl<sup>−</sup> is hydrogen bonded to two DBA through two triple C–H...Cl<sup>−</sup> hydrogen bonds and to two HL<sup>+</sup> through two double N–H...Cl<sup>−</sup> hydrogen bonds. All nitrogen containing species are connected to each other or form a hydrogen bond to the chloride anion. The disordered THF molecules fill the gaps between the hydrogen bonded molecules and ions. Bond lengths are all in the expected ranges [19, 20].

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