Three-Dimensional topological analysis of the experimental and theoretical electron density of a 5-Fluorocytosine/Isoniazid cocrystal

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Drug-drug cocrystals involve the combination of two or more active pharmaceutical ingredients (API) with their original chemical characteristics maintained without breaking or forming new covalent bonds, thus ensuring its effectiveness.[1] Its pharmaceutical properties are determined by the polarity of functional groups, the electrostatic potential and the available intermolecular interactions, which in turn are characterized by the three-dimensional arrangement and governed by its molecular electronic structure.[2] These molecular electron properties and their relationship with the charge density topology can be analysed by experimental and theoretical studies.

In this manner, the experimental charge density analysis of the pharmaceutical drug-drug cocrystal involving the antimetabolite prodrug 5-Fluorocytosine (5-FC) and the tuberculostatic drug Isoniazid (INH), named 5FC-INH, [3] has been carried out based on the *Hansen & Coppens* aspherical multipolar model refinement,[4] using low temperature high resolution X-ray diffraction data $((\sin(\theta_{max})/\lambda=1.15 \text{ Å}^{-1}, 150\text{ K})$. The experimental model was compared with those derived from corresponding theoretical calculations for solid-state and gas-phase conditions using density functional theory (DFT) methods at the B3LYP\6-311++G** level of theory.[5] The detailed study of the molecular electron density, its corresponding topology and charge distribution were based on the quantum theory of atom in molecules (QTAIM).[6] The charge density distribution and analysis of topological properties revealed that the C—F bond may have a transit closed-shell configuration (Fig. 1). This analysis also allowed to verify the charge delocalization due to resonance-assisted hydrogen bond (RAHB) in the formation of the heterosynthon that stabilizes the crystal packing.[7]



Figure 1. (a) Molecular graph and (b) Contour map of the Laplacian of the electron density of 5FC-INH cocrystal (red lines are positive, violet dotted lines are negative contours)

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