

*Article*



# **Crystal Structures of Antiarrhythmic Drug Disopyramide and Its Salt with Phthalic Acid**

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**Abstract:** Disopyramide (DPA) is as a class IA antiarrhythmic drug and its crystallization from cyclohexane at ambient condition yields lower melting form crystals which belong to the monoclinic centrosymmetric space group *P*21/*n*, having two molecules in an asymmetric unit. Crystal structure analysis of pure DPA revealed closely associated DPA molecules aggregates via amide–amide dimer synthon through the N–H···O hydrogen bond whereas the second amide hydrogen N–H engaged in an intramolecular N–H···N hydrogen bond with N-nitrogen of 2-pyridine moieties. Crystallization of DPA and phthalic acid (PA) in 1: 1 stoichiometric molar ratio from acetone at ambient condition yielded block shape crystals of 1:1 DPA\_PA salt. Its X-ray single crystal structure revealed the formation of salt by transfer of acidic proton from one of the carboxylic acidic groups of PA to the tertiary amino group of chain moiety (N3-nitrogen atom) of DPA molecules. DPA\_PA salt crystals belong to the monoclinic centrosymmetric space group *P*21/*n*, comprising one protonated DPA and one  $PA<sup>-</sup>$  anion (hydrogen phthalate counterion) in an asymmetric unit and linked by N–H···O and C–H···O hydrogen bonds. Pure DPA and DPA\_PA salt were further characterized by differential calorimetric analysis, thermal gravimetric analysis, powder x-ray diffraction and infrared spectroscopy.

**Keywords:** disopyramide; phthalic acid; salt; crystal structure; metastable

# **1. Introduction**

Recent past literature related to crystal engineering revealed that there is an intensification of interest in the preparation, crystallization, solid-state characterization and the studying of the X-ray single-crystal structure of active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) and their novel solid forms that includes polymorph [\[1](#page-16-0)[–5\]](#page-16-1), multi-component crystal such as cocrystals  $[6-8]$  $[6-8]$ , salt  $[9]$ , and solvate  $[10-14]$  $[10-14]$  due to their potential applications in the improvement of physicochemical properties of APIs such as solubility [\[15–](#page-17-1)[17\]](#page-17-2), stability [\[18](#page-17-3)[–20\]](#page-17-4), hygroscopicity [\[21\]](#page-17-5), bioavailability [\[22](#page-17-6)[–24\]](#page-17-7) and so on. Further, advancement in this research area directed towards the understanding crystal–structure, studying supramolecular synthons, hydrogen/halogen bonding interaction and other various non-covalent interactions within them [\[25](#page-17-8)[–27\]](#page-17-9) as well as correlating structure with the physicochemical properties [\[28](#page-17-10)[–32\]](#page-17-11). These structure-property relation studies are helpful and encourage many researchers towards designing and synthesis of new functional molecular solids, and multi-component complexes of APIs, and other molecular entities with desirable and specific chemical or physical properties [\[33](#page-17-12)[–38\]](#page-17-13).



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Disopyramide (2-diisopropylaminoethyl)-phenyl-2-pyridineacetamide (DPA) was de-<br>malened <sup>1991</sup> as a class 1A antienrhythmia drug with a phermacelogical profile of action veloped [\[39\]](#page-17-14) as a class IA antiarrhythmic drug with a pharmacological profile of action the particle process of the state and the measurement of the structure and process positive processes in the structure of the structure significant of that of quinidine and processional ein that targets sodium channels to conduction [40,41]. Currently, DPA and  $[C_{21}H_{30}N_3O]^+ [H_2PO_4]$ <sup>-</sup> disopyramide dihydrogen phosphate are intravenously and orally administrated for clinical use. DPA displaying<br>out with respect to creating the novel salt form of the novel salt for the literature of down of a polymorphism behavior and two solid forms were reported in the literature and named as a low-melting type crystal (85–87 °C) and a high-melting type crystal (95–98 °C) [42]. Of the two crystal forms, the high melting point type crystal is thermodynamically stable, and the low melting point type crystal is easily converted to the high melting point type crystal [\[42\]](#page-18-1).<br>Users we site also worth *Y* and dotted in facture formated for a second act and actual the Game However, single-crystal X-ray data of either of crystal form were not present in the Cambridge Structural Database *(CSD)*, whereas the crystal structure of  $[C_{21}H_{30}N_3O]^+ [H_2PO_4]^$ disopyramide dihydrogen phosphate has been reported by Kawamura and Hirayama in 2011 [\[43\]](#page-18-2). Furthermore, X-single crystal structure of (+)-disopyramide (2R,3R)-bitartrate salt was reported in 1980 for determining the absolute configuration of disopyramide by Burke and Nelson  $[44]$ , and the structure was not present in the CSD. Moreover, to the best knowledge of the authors, not much research has been carried out with respect to creating the novel salt form of DPA.

[C21H30N3O]**+**[H2PO4]**−** disopyramide dihydrogen phosphate has been reported by Kawa-

the novel salt form of DPA.<br>DPA has asymmetric carbon marked by a star that is connected to four different groups shown in Figure [1a](#page-1-0). It has a flexible molecular framework as well as the presence of a hydrogen bond donor and acceptor site, and hence there will be a high possibility to form multicomponent crystals. Thus, it could be the potential candidate in exploring<br> its different conformational modification by obtaining X-ray single crystal structures of different solid forms of DPA.

<span id="page-1-0"></span>

**Figure 1.** Structures of (**a**) racemic disopyramide (DPA) and (**b**) phthalic acid (PA). **Figure 1.** Structures of (**a**) racemic disopyramide (DPA) and (**b**) phthalic acid (PA).

**2. Materials and Methods**  active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs), particularly on improving the physicochemical properties of drug molecules by undertaking polymorphic study [\[45\]](#page-18-4), making multireport, we discuss the X-ray single-crystal structure of the lower melting temperature form of DPA and novel DPA\_PA salt [Phthalic acid (PA), Figure 1b], detailed crystal structure analysis and its characterization.<br> We are going to focus on the crystallization and crystal engineering research on component crystals [\[46\]](#page-18-5), such as its solvates [\[47\]](#page-18-6), cocrystals [\[48\]](#page-18-7), and salts [\[49\]](#page-18-8). In this

## **2. Materials and Methods**

#### *2.1. Materials*

DPA and PA were purchased from Tokyo Chemical Industry Co. Ltd. (Tokyo, Japan). All other analytical-grade solvents and reagents were commercially obtained and used without further purification.

# *2.2. Crystallization*

# 2.2.1. DPA

The minimum amount of solvent cyclohexane was used to dissolve the DPA by sonication at 25 ◦C; it was then immediately filtered and the resulting solution was maintained at ambient temperature for 1–2 days, yielding a colorless block-shaped crystal.

#### 2.2.2. DPA\_PA Salt for Single X-ray Crystal Structure Analysis

DPA and PA were each taken in a molar ratio of 1:1, suspended in diethyl ether and stirred at 25 ◦C and 170 rpm (IKA Plate\_RCT 4, IKA, IKA® Japan K.K., Osaka, Japan) for 5 days. After that, the precipitated material was recrystallized in acetone*,* yielding a colorless block-shaped crystal.

#### 2.2.3. DPA\_PA Salt for Characterization (PXRD, DSC, IR, and TG)

DPA (0.5 mmole) and PA (0.5 mmole) in a 1:1 molar ratio was grinded in a mortar and pestle for about 10 min to become a fine powder, then a few drops of acetone were added to it, then again grinded for 10–15 min to obtain powder. From this grinded material, 150 mg was used for the crystallization experiment. Colorless crystals were obtained on the side wall of the vial by upon dissolving the 150 mg grinded material in 20 mL acetone under sonication at a temperature 30  $\degree$ C for 10 min; the resulting solution obtained after filtration was left for slow evaporation at ambient condition for 3–4 days.

## *2.3. Single-Crystal X-ray Diffraction*

The single-crystal X-ray diffraction data for DPA and DPA\_PA salt were collected at 93 K. The measurements were carried out in  $\omega$ -scan mode with an R-AXIS RAPID II (Rigaku Co., Tokyo, Japan) using the Cu-K $\alpha$  X-ray obtained from rotating the anode source with a graphite monochromator. The integrated and scaled data were empirically corrected for absorption effects using ABSCOR [\[50,](#page-18-9)[51\]](#page-18-10). The initial structure was solved using the direct method with SIR 2004 and refined on *F* <sup>2</sup> with SHELXL 2014 [\[52,](#page-18-11)[53\]](#page-18-12). All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. The hydrogen atom attached to the nitrogen N2 and N5 atom in pure DPA and the hydrogen atom attached to the nitrogen N2 as well as hydrogen H5A present in between the O3 and O5 oxygen in the DPA\_PA salt were located using the differential Fourier map and refined isotropically. All other hydrogen atom positions were calculated geometrically and included in the calculation using the riding atom model; the calculations were performed for all the hydrogen atoms. Moreover, in the DPA\_PA salt, protonated DPA molecules display disordered structure in which two molecules with opposite configuration share the same site. Their occupancies were fixed to 0.5.

The molecular graphics were produced using Mercury 4.1.0 software [\[54\]](#page-18-13). CCDC 2065231 contains the supplementary crystallographic data for the DPA and CCDC 2065230 contains the supplementary crystallographic data for the DPA\_PA salt, and can be obtained free of charge from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via [www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/](www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif) [data\\_request/cif](www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif) (accessed on 2 April 2021).

#### *2.4. Powder X-ray Diffraction (PXRD)*

The PXRD patterns of all samples were measured in the reflectance mode using a SmartLab diffractometer (Cu K $\alpha$  source (40 kV and 200 mA), D/teX ultra-high-speed position-sensitive detector, Rigaku). Diffraction patterns (20) were collected from  $5^{\circ}$  to  $40^{\circ}$ at 25 °C with a step of  $0.01^{\circ}$  and a scan speed of 20°/min.

#### *2.5. Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC) and Thermogravimetric (TG) Measurements*

DSC and TG measurements were carried out with the Thermo plus EVO2-DSC 8230 and the Thermo plus EVO2-TG8120 TG-DTA, respectively (Rigaku). The DSC sample  $(\sim$ 3 mg) was placed in an aluminum-crimped pan, measured at a speed of 5 °C/min from 25 to 250 °C under nitrogen gas (flow rate = 50 mL/min. The TG sample ( $\sim$ 10 mg) was placed into an aluminum-open pan, respectively, and measured at a speed of 5 °C/min from 25 to 250 °C under nitrogen gas (flow rate =  $50$  mL/min for DPA, PA and 100 mL/min for DPA\_PA salt).  $\text{I}$ Or  $\text{D} \text{I} \text{A}$   $\text{I}$  and  $\text{A}$ .

# 2.6. Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FT-IR)

The infrared spectra of samples were obtained using FT-IR (FT-IR-4200 spectrometer, JASCO Co., Tokyo, Japan) with an attenuated total reflection (ATR) unit (ATR-PRO 670H-S, JASCO Co.). The spectrum recorded represents an average of 64 scans obtained with a resolution of  $4 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  at room temperature. The spectra were collected in the wavenumber ranging from 4000 to 400 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The internal reflectance element used in this study was a diamond trapezoid having 45° entrance and exit faces.

# **3. Results and Discussion**

## **3.1. Crystal Structure of DPA**  $\blacksquare$

Suitable crystals of DPA were grown from the cyclohexane solvent by slow evaporation at ambient conditions. Its structure was determined by single crystal X-ray diffraction and showed that it crystalized in monoclinic centrosymmetric space group  $P2_1/n$ , containing two symmetry independent molecules (designated as A and B molecules) in the asymmetric unit and which have opposite configuration. The Oak Ridge Thermal Ellipsoid Plot<br>
COTED: CONFIGURATION (ORTEP) of DPA is shown in Figure [2a](#page-3-0). In the structural overlay studies two conformers which, having similar configuration, are used and reveal a minor conformational difference which, having similar configuration, are used and reveal a minor conformational difference more, and the amide group, phenyl and 2-pyridine moieties, whereas difference at *iso*-propyl moiety was found to be more as shown in Figure [2b](#page-3-0). Furthermore, interestingly in both molecules A and B of DPA, the phenyl ring moiety is nearly coplanar with the chain moiety (excluding the *iso-*propyl moiety) whereas the 2-pyridine moiety is oriented nearly perpendicular to the planar part as shown in Figure 2b. The crystallographic information and geometrical parameters for the hydrogen bonding interaction are summarized in Tables [1](#page-4-0) and [2.](#page-5-0)

<span id="page-3-0"></span>

Figure 2. (a) The Oak Ridge Thermal Ellipsoid Plot (ORTEP) diagram of Molecule A and Molecule B of DPA, showing the atom numbering scheme in. Thermal ellipsoid drawn at 50% probability level, and H-atoms are shown as small spheres with arbitrary radii. Both symmetry independent molecules A and B in the asymmetric unit display the N-H…N intramolecular hydrogen bond in  $S^1_{1(6)}$  motif; (b) Structural overlay of two conformers in DPA which, having similar configuration, reveal considerable conformational differences at the iso-propyl moiety present on the tertiary N-atom of chain moiety. Molecule B' is inversion symmetry related to Molecule B.

<span id="page-4-0"></span>

Parameters	<b>DPA</b>		
Empirical formula	$C_{21}H_{29}N_3O$	$C_{29}H_{35}N_3O_5$	
Formula weight	339.47	505.60	
Temperature [K]	93(2)	93(2)	
Wavelength [Å]	1.54187	1.54187	
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	
Space group	$P2_1/n$	$P2_1/n$	
Unit cell dimensions			
$a$ [Å]	17.2970 (3)	14.2741 (4)	
$b$ [Å]	10.7861(2)	7.8827 (2)	
$c[\AA]$	21.4831 (4)	23.5355(7)	
$\alpha$ [°]	90	90	
$\beta$ [°]	99.385 (7)	91.428(6)	
$\gamma$ [°]	90	90	
Volume[ $\AA^3$ ]	3954.39 (15)	2647.35 (13)	
$Z$ and $Z'$	4, 2	4, 1	
Density (calculated) $[g/cm3]$	1.140	1.269	
Absorption coefficient ${\rm [mm^{-1}]}$	0.552	0.705	
F(000)	1472	1080.0	
Crystal size [mm x mm x mm]	$0.247\times0.231\times0.221$	$0.49 \times 0.47 \times 0.23$	
Theta range for data collection [°]	3.048 to 68.192	3.582 to 68.188	
Index ranges	$-20 \le h \le 20$ , $-12 \le k \le 12$ ,	$-17$ <=h <= 17, $-9$ <= k <= 9,	
	$-25 \le l \le 25$	$-28 \le l \le 28$	
Reflections collected	44379	29013	
Independent reflections	7200 [ $R_{int} = 0.0215$ , $R_{sigma} = 0.0129$ ]	4847 [ $R_{int}$ = 0.0412, $R_{sigma}$ = 0.0326]	
Completeness to theta = $67.687^\circ$	99.9%	100%	
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents	Semi-empirical from equivalents	
Max. and min. transmission	0.873 and 0.711	0.850, 0.513	
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on $F^2$	Full-matrix least-squares on $F^2$	
Data/restraints/parameters	7200/0/475	4847/0/350	
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.052	1.079	
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	$R_1 = 0.0416$ , $wR_2 = 0.1024$	$R_1 = 0.0434$ , w $R_2 = 0.1123$	
R indices (all data)	$R_1 = 0.0435$ , $wR_2 = 0.1040$	$R_1 = 0.0489$ , $wR_2 = 0.11659$	
$\Delta \rho_{\text{max}}$ , $\Delta \rho_{\text{min}}$ (e·Å <sup>-3</sup> )	$0.424$ and $-0.215$	$0.265/-0.171$	

**Table 1.** Crystallographic data table for the DPA and DPA\_PA salt.

**Table 2.** Geometrical parameters of the hydrogen bond interaction in DPA and DPA\_PA salt.



<span id="page-5-0"></span>

$D-H \cdots A$	$D-H(\AA)$	$H \cdots A(A)$	$D \cdots A(A)$	$D-H \cdots A$ (°)	<b>Symmetry Codes</b>	
DPA_PA salt						
$N2-H2A\cdots O4$	0.88(2)	2.02(2)	2.895(2)	174 (19)	x, y, z	
$N2-H2B\cdots O1$	0.920(18)	2.071(18)	2.9910(17)	177.8 (18)	$-x$ , 2 – y, 1 – z	
$N3-H3A\cdots O2$	1.00	1.72	2.7159(16)	173	$-1/2 + x$ , $3/2 - y$ , $1/2 + z$	
$O5-H5A\cdots O3$	1.11(2)	1.30(2)	2.4047(19)	172(2)	Intramolecular	
$C2-H2\cdots O1$	0.95	2.52	3.4269(19)	159	$-x$ , 1 – y, 1 – z	
$C9-H9O4$	0.95	2.36	3.294(2)	167	x, y, z	
$C15-H15BN1$	0.99	2.57	3.078(2)	112	Intramolecular	
$C17-H17C \cdots O1$	0.98	2.54	3.4952(19)	166	Intramolecular	
$C22-H22\cdots O2$	0.95	2.33	2.674(2)	101	Intramolecular	
$C25-H25\cdots O4$	0.95	2.33	2.688(2)	101	Intramolecular	
$C17-H17A\cdots O2$	0.98	2.685	3.359(2)	126.23	$-1/2 + x$ , 3/2 – y, 1/2 + z	
$C14-H14B\cdots O2$	0.99	2.603	3.0812(18)	109.73	$-1/2 + x, 3/2 - y, 1/2 + z$	
$C11 - H11 \cdots O2$	0.95	2.711	3.519	143.35	$1 - x$ , $2 - y$ , $1 - z$	
C <sub>18</sub> -H <sub>18</sub> A $\cdots$ C <sub>g</sub> 5	0.98	2.93	3.6222(18)	129	$-x$ , 1 – y, 1 – z	
C <sub>29</sub> -O <sub>4</sub> $\cdots$ C <sub>e</sub> <sub>2</sub>		3.4808(16)		146.59 $(14)$	x, y, z	
$C29 - O4 \cdots C_g3$		3.4808(16)		146.59 (14)	x, y, z	
C <sub>g</sub> 2 centroid of the ring (C1-C3-C2-C1A-C6-C5), C <sub>g</sub> 3 centroid of the ring (N1-C2-C3-C1-C5-C6) of disordered protonated DPA, C <sub>g</sub> 5 centroid of the ring (C22-C23-C24-C25-C26-C27) of PA <sup>-</sup> anion in the DPA_PA salt						

**Table 2.** *Cont.*

In the crystal structure of pure DPA, two closely associated DPA molecules, that is, molecules A and B aggregate via amide homodimer through N–H···O hydrogen bonds, molecules A and B aggregate via amide increduation and agency of the string and string.<br>mamely N2-H2A…O2, N5-H4A…O1 hydrogen bonds involving amide hydrogen N–H and amide C=O oxygen from both DPA molecules resulting  $R^2_2(8)$  ring motifs involving two donor and two acceptor atoms. Whereas second amide hydrogen N–H in both symmetry independent DPA molecules formed an intramolecular N-H $\cdot\cdot$ N hydrogen bond with the Nnitrogen atom of 2-pyridine moiety in  $S^1_{1(6)}$  motif, namely N2-H2B $\cdots$ N1 and N5-H4B $\cdots$ N4, and hence it controls orientation of 2-pyridine moiety of DPA molecules in the crystal structure as shown in the Figure [3.](#page-5-1)  $\frac{1}{2}$ 

<span id="page-5-1"></span>

**Figure 3.** Two closely associated molecules of DPA, that is, molecules A and B involved in ring **Figure 3.** Two closely associated molecules of DPA, that is, molecules A and B involved in ring formation (basic dimeric unit) through an N–H···O hydrogen bond and the resulting  $R^2_{2}(8)$  ring motifs. A second amide hydrogen N–H engaged in intramolecular hydrogen bonding with the N-atom of the 2-pyridine moiety in  $S^1_1(6)$  motif. Dotted lines indicate the non-covalent interaction (hydrogen atoms not involved in the hydrogen bonding were removed for clarity). (hydrogen atoms not involved in the hydrogen bonding were removed for clarity).

Packing of the dimeric unit down the *c*-axis, resulting in a 1-D chain of the dimeric Packing of the dimeric unit down the *c*-axis, resulting in a 1-D chain of the dimeric unit unit along the *ab*-diagonal, wherein dimeric units of DPA are linked through C-H∙∙∙O and C-H⋅⋅⋅π interaction, containing alternate arrangements of vertically and horizontally oriented dimeric units. In this association C10-H10, C11-H11 hydrogen of 2-pyridine moiety of molecule A and C32-H32 hydrogen of 2-pyridine moiety, and C42-H42A hydrogen of *iso*-propyl moiety of molecules B are involved in the alternate C10-H10⋅⋅⋅O2, C11-H11⋅⋅⋅C<sub>g</sub>4, and C32-H32⋅⋅⋅C<sub>g</sub>2, C42-H42A⋅⋅⋅C<sub>g</sub>4 interaction shown Figure 4a. The dimeric unit assembled helically along the *b*-axis to form a helical chain of the dimeric unit as shown in Figure [4b](#page-6-0) and dimeric unit along the *b*-axis linked through longer and roughly linear C<sub>2</sub> linear C2-H2···O2 (H2···O2, 2.67 Å, Angle 165.71◦ ) interaction. 2.67 Å, Angle 165.71°) interaction.

<span id="page-6-0"></span>

Figure 4. (a) Packing view of the dimeric unit down the *c*-axis, resulting in a 1-D chain of dimeric unit containing an alternate arrangement of vertically and horizontally oriented dimeric unit along the ab-diagonal; they are associated through through alternate C10-H10∙∙∙O2, C11-H11∙∙∙Cg4, and C32-H32∙∙∙Cg2, C42-H42A∙∙∙Cg4 interaction and (**b**) Packing of dimeric alternate C10-H10…O2, C11-H11…C<sub>g</sub>4, and C32-H32…C<sub>g</sub>2, C42-H42A…C<sub>g</sub>4 interaction and (b) Packing of dimeric unit along the *b*-axis resulting in a helical chain of the dimeric unit, linked through C2-H2···O2 interaction.

Combining the above mentioned packings resulted in the 2-D packing of the dimeric Combining the above mentioned packings resulted in the 2-D packing of the dimeric unit in the *ab*-plane, as shown Figure 5. In this packing, the neighboring helical chain of unit in the *ab*-plane, as shown Figure [5.](#page-7-0) In this packing, the neighboring helical chain of the dimeric unit packed in the *ab*-plane through the alternate C10-H10∙∙∙O2 C11-H11∙∙∙Cg4, the dimeric unit packed in the *ab*-plane through the alternate C10-H10···O2 C11-H11···Cg4, and C32-H32···C<sub>g</sub>2, C42-H42A···C<sub>g</sub>4 interaction generate the 2-D packing of the dimeric unit in the *ab*-plane, as shown in Figure 5. unit in the *ab*-plane, as shown in Figure [5.](#page-7-0)

Furthermore, such 2-dimensional structure of the dimeric unit assembled loosely due to the absence of strong interaction along the *c*-axis. In this direction, that is, along the *c*-axis, the 2-D network of dimeric units interact with each other by weak non-covalent interactions and hydrophobic forces between adjacent phenyl and *iso*-propyl groups and such packing of dimeric unit in the *ac*-plane creates a solvent assessable void of size 54.85  $\AA^3$  per unit cell and 1.4% of unit cell volume, calculated by using contact surface from Mercury 2020, 2.0 software [\[54\]](#page-18-13) shown in Figure [6.](#page-7-1) Crystal with assessable solvent void is recently reported in [\[55\]](#page-18-14).

<span id="page-7-0"></span>

**Figure 5.** Helical 1-D chain of dimeric unit of DPA is assembled in the *ab*-plane resulting in 2-D **Figure 5.** Helical 1-D chain of dimeric unit of DPA is assembled in the *ab*-plane resulting in 2-D  $p_{\text{max}}$  in this packing, the central 1-D dimerical 1-D dimerical 1-D dimerical of DPA molecules is associated with  $p_{\text{max}}$  associated with  $p_{\text{max}}$  associated with  $p_{\text{max}}$  associated with  $p_{\text{max}}$  associated with packing. In this packing, the central 1-D dimeric unit chain of DPA molecules is associated with the neighboring dimeric chain via C-H···O and C-H···π interaction and the resulting tight packing in the *ab*-plane. The *ab*-contract solvent void is shown in Figure 6. Crystal with assessable solvent void is solvent void is a set of  $\alpha$ **Figure 5.** Helical 1-D chain of dimeric unit of DPA is assembled in the *it*-plane resultif

<span id="page-7-1"></span>

**Figure 6.** Neighboring 2-dimensional network of dimeric units of DPA assembled loosely via relatively weak non-covalent interaction and hydrophobic forces along the *c*-axis, resulting in 3 dimensional packing; such packing creates a solvent accessible void between them.

# *3.2. Crystal Structure of DPA\_PA Salt*

DPA and PA in the 1: 1 stoichiometric molar ratio were crystallized from acetone at ambient condition to obtain a colorless block shape crystal. The ∆pKa difference between DPA (pka: 8.36) and coformer PA (pKa: 2.94, 5.41) is more than 3 and salt formation was expected based on the basic rule of three [\[56\]](#page-18-15). The X-ray single-crystal structure confirmed the formation of DPA\_PA salt with approximately similar C–O bond lengths C28-O2, 1.2438 (18), C28-O3, 1.2676 (19) Å) of the  $(COO^-)$  carboxylate group of PA. These approximate

similarities in the bond length of C–O confirmed the transfer of an acidic proton from one of the carboxylic acidic group of PA to the N3-nitrogen atom of the tertiary amino group (chain moiety) of DPA. DPA\_PA salt crystalized in the monoclinic centrosymmetric  $P2_1/n$ space group comprising one protonated DPA and one PA<sup>-</sup> anion in an asymmetric unit, revealing the molecular salt in the 1:1 molar ratio. In the crystal structure of DPA\_PA salt, protonated DPA molecules displayed positional disorder and ratio fixed 0.5/0.5 for the two disordered components. DPA is a racemic compound consisting of R and S configurations. These two racemic components R and S are found to occupy the same site with 0.5 and 0.5 occupancy in DPA\_PA. In this disorder model, phenyl and pyridine ring were exchanged between R and S, and the other part of DPA molecule was completely overlapped in DPA\_PA salt. (Figure [7a](#page-8-0)).

<span id="page-8-0"></span>

Figure 7. (a) ORTEP diagram of DPA\_PA salt, showing the atom numbering scheme wherein C1, N4A and N1, and C1A share the same position. Thermal ellipsoid drawn at 50% probability level, and H-atoms are shown as small spheres with arbitrary radii. DPA\_PA salts, displaying intramolecular hydrogen bonds O5-H5A...O3, C17-H17C...O1, C22-H22...O2, C25-H25°⋅O4 C15-H25°⋅O4 C15-H15B°⋅O4 C15-H2A°⋅O4 and C9−H9−1 and C9−H9−1 and C9−H9−1 and C9−H9−1 and C9−+1 and C9−+ C25-H25 $\cdots$ O4 C15-H15B $\cdots$ N1 and intermolecular hydrogen bonds N2–H2A $\cdots$ O4 and C9–H9 $\cdots$ O4, C=O4 $\cdots$  $\pi$  between the salt pair. (**b**) The disordered DPA molecule in salt crystal. R and S configuration molecules occupied the same site with 0.5  $\,$ and 0.5 occupancy.

A similar phenomenon was also observed in the crystal structure of ketoconazole [\[57\]](#page-18-16). Interestingly, in the one configuration, the phenyl ring is roughly coplanar with chain moiety (excluding the *iso*-propyl moiety), whereas in other configuration, the 2-pyridine moiety is roughly coplanar with the chain moiety (excluding the *iso*-propyl moiety). (Figure [7b](#page-8-0)).

Both the component in the asymmetric unit, that is, protonated DPA and  $PA<sup>-</sup>$  anion linked by strong N2–H2A···O4 hydrogen bond and C9–H9···O4 hydrogen bonds and such assembly in salt facilitated the formation  $C=O \cdots \pi$  interaction between the carboxyl C=O4 of  $PA^-$  anion and phenyl ring Cg2 in one configuration/2-pyridine ring Cg3- in other configuration. In the crystal structure of salt,  $PA<sup>-</sup>$  displaying an intramolecular strong O5-H5A···O3 hydrogen bond in which hydroxyl (O5-H5A) of the carboxyl group of the PA¯ anion donates H5A hydrogen intramolecularly to an O3-oxygen atom of the carboxylate group of the  $PA^-$  anion and other C-H $\cdots$ O intramolecular hydrogen bonds namely, C22-H22 $\cdots$ O2, C25-H25 $\cdots$ O4 present in PA<sup> $-$ </sup> anion and C17-H17C $\cdots$ O1,  $C15-H15B...N1$  in protonated DPA which stabilize the conformation the salt as shown in Figure [7a](#page-8-0). The crystallographic information and geometrical parameters for the hydrogen bonding interaction are summarized in Tables [1](#page-4-0) and [2.](#page-5-0)

Hereafter, one conformer of disordered protonated DPA molecule used for discussion of crystal structure and packing of DPA\_PA salt. Crystal structure of DPA\_PA salt reveals the presence of a dimeric association between the protonated DPA molecule through the N–H···O hydrogen bond like DPA alone with different symmetry operation (Table [2](#page-5-0) and Figure [8a](#page-10-0)). There is no direct association between the  $PA^-$ - $PA^-$  anion observed in DPA\_PA salt. However the protonated DPA molecule linked  $PA<sup>-</sup>$  anions alternatively through N–H $\cdots$ O, and charge assisted the N<sup>+</sup>–H $\cdots$ O<sup>-</sup> hydrogen bond shown in Figure [8b](#page-10-0), in which one  $PA$ <sup> $-$ </sup> anion associated with the protonated DPA molecule by forming the N–H $\cdots$ O hydrogen bond involving carbonyl C=O4 oxygen of the carboxyl group of  $PA<sup>-</sup>$  anion and amide N-H2A hydrogen of protonated DPA. Whereas the other  $PA<sup>-</sup>$  anion associated by forming a charge assisted  $N^+$ –H $\cdots$ O $^-$  hydrogen bond by using carboxylate (COO $^-$ ) O2-oxygen of the PA anion and the protonated tertiary amino group N3<sup>+</sup>-H3A hydrogen of protonated DPA; both associations were supported by  $C-H\cdots O$  interaction as shown in Figure [8b](#page-10-0).

In the crystal structure of DPA\_PA salt, two inversion-symmetry related protonated DPA molecules form amide homodimer, via a pair of strong N2–H2B···O1 hydrogen bonds in  $R^2$ <sub>2</sub>(8) ring motif that involve two acceptor and two donor atoms. In this association, protonated DPA donates amide hydrogen N2–H2B to amide carbonyl (C=O1) oxygen of inversion-symmetry related protonated DPA molecules in dimeric N2–H2B···O1 hydrogen bonding interaction. Further, this amide homodimer of protonated DPA molecule linked to two PA anions through N2–H2A···O4 hydrogen bonding interaction between the second hydrogen of amide N2–H2A and carbonyl (C=O4) oxygen of the carboxyl group of the  $PA$ <sup> $-$ </sup> anion and further supported by C9–H9 $\cdots$ O4 interaction, between C9–H9 hydrogen of the phenyl ring of protonated DPA and carbonyl (C=O4) oxygen of the carboxyl group of the  $PA^-$  anion resulting basic dimeric unit shown in Figure [9.](#page-10-1)

The dimeric unit linked to four *n*-glide related neighboring dimeric units through charge assisted strong and linear  $N^+$ –H···O<sup>-</sup> hydrogen bonding interaction and supported by two longer and non-linear  $C-H \cdots O^{-}$  interactions, namely  $C17-H17A \cdots O2^{-}$ ,  $C14-$ H14B  $\cdot$ ··O2<sup> $-$ </sup> resulting 2-D packing. In this association, the carboxylate (COO $^-$ ) O2oxygen of  $PA^-$  anion is made hydrogen bond with  $N3^+$ –H3A (protonated tertiary amino nitrogen) hydrogen of protonated DPA via the charge assisted strong  $N3^+$ –H3A $\cdots$ O2<sup> $-$ </sup> hydrogen bond; such association was further supported by longer and non-linear C– H···O¯ interaction, namely C17–H17A···O2¯, C14–H14B···O2¯ interactions and resulting packing view down the *a*-axis is shown in Figure [10a](#page-12-0) (above). In this packing, the dimeric unit assembled along the *b*-axis through the short C2–H2···O1 hydrogen bond between amide carbonyl (C=O1) oxygen and C2–H2 hydrogen of 2-pyridine moieties of the next dimeric unit along the *b*-axis and supported by weak C18-H18A $\cdots$ C<sub>g</sub>5 interaction between the C18–H18A hydrogen of *iso*-propyl moieties of protonated DPA and the π cloud of the

aromatic ring (C22-C23-C24-C25-C26-C27) of  $PA^-$  anion; the resulting association is shown in Figure [10a](#page-12-0) (down). Similar packing views in the *ac*-plane, reveal that the neighboring dimeric unit assembled along the *ac-*diagonal through hydrogen bonding, wherein there is an alternate arrangement of protonated DPA amide dimer and PA<sup>-</sup> anion as shown in Figure [10b](#page-12-0).

<span id="page-10-0"></span>

**Figure 8.** (a) Association between protonated DPA molecules through a pair of strong N–H···O hydrogen bonds in  $R^2_2(8)$  ring motif; and(**b**) Association between the protonated DPA and PA<sup>−</sup> anions in DPA\_PA salt, hereby protonated DPA molecules engaging both carboxylate and carboxyl groups of the PA $^-$  anion alternatively through a strong N–H···O and charge assisted N<sup>+</sup>–H···O $^$ hydrogen bond and further supported by C–H···O interaction.

<span id="page-10-1"></span>

**Figure 9.** Dimeric unit of DPA\_PA salt in crystal. Dotted lines indicate the non-covalent interaction **Figure 9.** Dimeric unit of DPA\_PA salt in crystal. Dotted lines indicate the non-covalent interaction (hydrogen atoms not involved in the hydrogen bonding were removed for clarity).





(**a**)

**Figure 10.** *Cont.*

<span id="page-12-0"></span>

*Crystals* **2021**, *11*, x FOR PEER REVIEW 14 of 20

Figure 10. (a) Packing view down the  $a$ -axis, with each dimeric unit linked to four  $n$ -glide related neighboring dimeric units, resulting in 2-D packing (above). The inset shows the association between the neighboring dimeric unit shown in different colors through C2–H2…O1 interaction and supported by C18-H18A…C<sub>g</sub>5 along the b-axis. (down) (b) Similar packing in the *ac-*plane. view in the *ac-*plane.

Further, such a two-dimensional network of dimeric unit assembled centrosymmetrithe *a*-axis (parallel to the *ac*-diagonal) through longer and weak C11–H11∙∙∙O2¯ interaction between cally along the *a*-axis (parallel to the *ac*-diagonal) through longer and weak C11–H11···O2¯ interaction between C11-H11 hydrogen of the phenyl ring of protonated DPA and carboxylate (COO<sup>-</sup>) O2-oxygen of PA<sup>-</sup> anions resulting in three-dimensional packing of the dimeric unit in the *ac*-plane, as shown in Figure [11.](#page-13-0)

<span id="page-13-0"></span>

Figure 11. 2-Dimentonal network of dimeric unit assembled centrosymmetric fashion through weak and longer C11-H11∙∙∙O2¯ interaction resulting in 3-D packing of dimeric unit in the *ac*-plane. H11···O2¯ interaction resulting in 3-D packing of dimeric unit in the *ac*-plane.

# *3.3. Structural Overlay 3.3. Structural Overlay*

DPA (Figure 12a), has freely rotatable groups connected to asymmetric carbon DPA (Figure [12a](#page-14-0)), has freely rotatable groups connected to asymmetric carbon marked by a star and anticipated to display conformational or orientational changes in its solid forms. The structural overlay of the DPA molecule by overlapping the (C-C-C-N) backbone chain, shown in Figure [12b](#page-14-0), reveals conformational and orientational differences owing to rotational freedom around the C−C, C-N bonds. Conformational difference in both solid forms could be characterized by torsion angles  $\tau_1$ ,  $\tau_2$ ,  $\tau_3$  and  $\tau_4$  as shown in Figure [12a](#page-14-0), and the dihedral angle between the phenyl and 2-pyridine moieties and values listed in Table 3. In pure DPA crystal structure, both conformers in the pure DPA crystal display slight difference in torsion angles  $\tau_1$  (−179.78, −171.37), while values of  $\tau_2$  (177.67, 177.17) and  $\tau_3$  (−1.01, 3.01) are comparable and indicate that the (C-C-C-N) backbone chain moiety connecting to the phenyl ring are nearly coplanar in molecule A, while there is a slight deviation observed in coplanarity in B molecules. On the other hand, the 2-pyridine ring is roughly perpendicular to the planar part of A and B molecules. The dihedral angle between the phenyl and 2-pyridine rings is  $87.16^{\circ}$  and  $79.83^{\circ}$  in molecules A and B, respectively. In DPA\_PA salt crystal structure, the torsion angles  $τ_1$  and  $τ_2$  are  $-177.58°$ ,  $-175.47°$  suggesting coplanarity in the backbone chain as pure DPA, whereas torsion angles  $\tau_3$  −16.81° indicate deviation in coplanarity in backbone chain moiety and the phenyl ring. Further, the dihedral angle between the phenyl and 2-pyridine moiety is<br>tion of the amide group brings 2-pyridine is existent to a interview of 2-pyridine and all small significantly changed to 59.43° and such deviation in orientation of 2-pyridine and phenyl moiety could be due to the association of salt former  $(PA)$  with drug  $(DPA)$  through hydrogen bond in this direction. However, the torsional value  $\tau_4$  is for the orientation of the amide group with a planar part; it is nearly similar for both conformers in pure DPA, and such orientation of the amide group brings 2-pyridine moiety close enough to facilitate an intramolecular hydrogen bond between amide N-H hydrogen and N-atom of 2-pyridine moiety. Whereas in the DPA\_PA salt a conformational twist is observed at amide group as shown in Figure 12b to facilitate the intermolecular hydrogen bond between amide N-H hydrogen of protonated DPA and carbonyl oxygen (C=O) of the carboxyl group  $PA$ anion. Moreover, *iso-propyl* moiety present on tertiary nitrogen in all molecules shows conformational/orientational difference.

<span id="page-14-0"></span>

Figure 12. (a) Chemical structure of DPA, in which the (C-C-C-N) backbone chain is marked by a red color bond and (b) Structural overlay of DPA molecules in both solid forms showing showing significant conformation;  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{r})$ Structural overlay of DPA molecules in both solid forms showing significant conformational variation; Green-Molecule A, Red-Molecule B' in DPA, Light green-DPA molecules from DPA\_PA salt.

<span id="page-14-1"></span>



from Salt: τ<sub>1</sub>—C7-C14-C15-N3, τ<sub>2</sub>—C8-C7-C14-C15, τ<sub>3</sub>—C4-C8-C7-C14, τ<sub>4</sub>—C13-C7-C14-C15. The dihedral angle is the angle between planes of the phenyl and 2-pyridine ring in DPA. Molecule Β': τ<sub>1</sub> - C28-C35-C36-N6, τ<sub>2</sub> - C27-C28-C35-C36, τ<sub>3</sub> - C22-C27-C28-C35, τ<sub>4</sub> - C34-C28-C35-C36; DPA

 $C_3$  from Salt:  $T_3$  from Salt:  $T_4$  from Salt:  $T_4$  C14-C15, t2–C14, t2–C14, t2–C14, t2–C14, t3–C14, t3– Crystal structure analysis showed that the drug–drug amide homosynthon retained<br> $\frac{1}{2}$ in salt as in pure DPA (differed in symmetry operation). Further, the density of DPA alone and its salt DPA\_PA calculated from single crystal X-ray diffraction were found to increase from 1.140 g/cm $^3$  in DPA to 1.269 g/cm $^3$  in the salt, indicating denser packing in salt.

# *3.4. Characterization of DPA and DPA\_PA Salt*

## 3.4.1. PXRD

The PXRD pattern recorded for commercially available DPA, DPA crystals, DPA\_PA salt and PA. The PXRD pattern of the commercially available DPA and DPA crystal is matched to reveal that both are in the same crystalline phase. Further PXRD patterns of the salt are different from individual components, suggesting formation of a new crystalline phase in the solid-state. (Figure S1). Furthermore, the overlapping of the experimental PXRD pattern of these crystals matched well the simulated PXRD pattern obtained from the single-crystal X-ray data, confirming the homogeneity of the sample.

#### 3.4.2. FT-IR Spectrum

Considered as a reasonable and reliable technique to detect the formation of the multicomponent crystal, Fourier transform infrared (FT-IR) spectroscopy is a very important tool to determine typical carboxylate anion and confirm the proton transfer when carboxylic acid is used as a coformer.

FT-IR spectra were obtained for commercial DPA, prepared DPA crystal, PA and DPA\_PA salt (Figure S2). FT-IR spectrum of commercial DPA and prepared DPA crystal showed same characteristic peaks, which were observed as amide N-H stretching at 3263 cm $^{-1}$ , amide C=O stretching and NH<sub>2</sub> deformation overlap peak at 1664 cm $^{-1}$ , whereas in DPA\_PA amide N-H stretching was observed at 3354.57 cm<sup>-1</sup>, amide C=O stretch and NH<sub>2</sub> deformation at 1680, 1625 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively [\[58\]](#page-18-17). The blue shift of amide-derived peaks suggests the possible changes in the hydrogen bonding interaction between molecules due to the formation of a new solid form [\[59](#page-18-18)[,60\]](#page-18-19). In general, for tertiary amine salts, a broad band at 2300–2700 cm<sup>-1</sup> was due to the NH<sup>+</sup> stretching, which was also observed in DPA-PA salt, revealing the protonation of tertiary amine in DPA [\[60](#page-18-19)[,61\]](#page-18-20). In addition, the peaks at 1590 and 1568 cm<sup>-1</sup> in DPA were probably attributed to benzene and pyridine rings. It was observed that similar peaks appeared with minor differences in DPA\_PA salt. Hence, it appears there is no chemical interaction on benzene and pyridine rings.

Due to the hydrogen bond of the PA dimer, pure PA existed over a broad band around 2800 cm<sup>-1</sup>, attributed to the OH group, which shifts to 3191 cm<sup>-1</sup> in DPA\_PA salt. The carbonyl stretches of two carboxylic acid groups of PA were observed at 1666 and 1583 cm<sup>-1</sup>, which appeared at 1679 cm<sup>-1</sup> for the COOH group and 1556 cm<sup>-1</sup> for the COO¯ group in DPA-PA salt [\[62\]](#page-18-21).

In short, the appearance of a broad band at 2300–2700 cm $^{-1}$  and a peak at 1556 cm $^{-1}$ , where the ionized tertiary amine and carboxylate group could be observed, respectively, indicate a proton transfer from the salt former PA to DPA, confirming the salt formation between DPA and PA.

#### 3.4.3. Thermal Properties

The thermal properties of the DPA and DPA\_PA salt were evaluated by DSC and TG measurements. DSC revealed a single sharp endotherm at 84 ◦C in agreement with a reported metastable form at 85 ◦C. In the DSC curve of the DPA\_PA salt, the endothermic peak at around 161  $\degree$ C is the melting point of salt, which is significantly different from DPA (84  $\degree$ C) and PA (216  $\degree$ C) (Figure S3). TG data of the DPA single crystal revealed that no weight loss before melting confirmed the absence of any solvent or hydrate in the crystal lattice as same as that of DPA commercial. Also, the thermal stability and decomposition processes of DPA\_PA salt have been shown, measured by simultaneous TG in flowing air. The DPA\_PA salt is stable until 160  $°C$  (Figure S4). There are no thermal moments for all crystals before the melting process, indicating that these crystals are unsolvated.

#### **4. Conclusions**

Pure DPA and its 1:1 DPA\_PA salt crystals have been obtained from the slow solvent evaporation method and both belong to the centrosymmetric monoclinic crystal system having a *P*21/*n* space group. The asymmetric unit of pure DPA contains two molecules while 1:1 DPA\_ PA salt contains one protonated DPA and one  $PA<sup>-</sup>$  anion.

Crystal structure analysis of pure DPA showed two closely associated molecules formed amide–amide dimer through an N-H $\cdots$ O hydrogen bond and resulting in the  $\mathsf{R}^2{}_{2}(8)$  ring motifs. Dimeric units were assembled in the *ab*-plane through C-H···O and C-H···π interaction, whereas it packed loosely along the *c*-axis via weak non-covalent interaction. Crystal structure analysis of 1: 1 DPA\_ PA salt showed a strong association between the drug and the salt former leading to compact molecular packing, with an increase in crystal density compared to DPA alone. In salt, two inversion symmetry related protonated DPA molecules formed amide homodimer through an N-H $\cdots$ O hydrogen bond in  $\mathsf{R}^2{}_{2}(8)$  ring motifs and such dimer is hydrogen bonded to two PA<sup>-</sup> anions through N-H $\cdots$ O and C-H···O hydrogen bonds to form the basic dimeric unit comprising two protonated DPA and two PA¯ anion. Furthermore, dimeric units linked to four *n*-glide related neighboring dimeric units through a strong  $N^+$ –H $\cdots$ O $^-$  hydrogen bond resulted in a 2-Dimentional packing network. Such a 2-D network assembled in centrosymmetric fashion along the *a*-axis through weak C-H···O interaction resulting 3-D packing in the *ac*-plane.

**Supplementary Materials:** The following are available online at [https://www.mdpi.com/article/](https://www.mdpi.com/article/10.3390/cryst11040379/s1) [10.3390/cryst11040379/s1,](https://www.mdpi.com/article/10.3390/cryst11040379/s1) Figure S1. PXRD patterns of (**a**) commercial DPA; (**b**) DPA crystal, (**c**) simulated DPA, (**d**) PA, (**e**) DPA\_PA salt and (**f**) simulated DPA\_PA salt, Figure S2. FT-IR spectra of (**a**) commercial DPA; (**b**) DPA crystal, (**c**) PA, (**d**) DPA\_PA salt, Figure S3. DSC profiles of (**a**) commercial DPA, (**b**) DPA crystal, (**c**) PA, (**d**) DPA\_PA, Figure S4. TG curves of commercial DPA (yellow), DPA crystal (gray), PA (orange), DPA\_PA salt (blue).

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