Thiobarbiturate and barbiturate salts of Pefloxacin drug: growth,

structure, thermal stability and IR-spectra

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Abstract

Three new salts of pefloxacin (PefH) with thiobarbituric (H₂tba) and barbituric (H₂ba) acids, pefloxacinium 2-thiobarbiturate trihydrate, $PefH_2(Htba) \cdot 3H_2O$ (1), pefloxacinium 2thiobarbiturate, PefH₂(Htba) (2)and bis(pefloxacinium barbiturate) hydrate, (PefH₂)₂(Hba)₂·2.56H₂O (**3**) are synthesized and structurally characterized by the X-ray singlecrystal diffraction. The structures of 1-3 contain intramolecular hydrogen bonds C-H...F, O-H...O. Intermolecular hydrogen bonds N–H...O and O–H...O form a 2D plane network in 1. In 2 and 3, intermolecular hydrogen bonds N–H...O form the infinite chains. In 1-3, the Htba⁻ and Hba⁻ ions are connected with PefH₂⁺ only by one intermolecular hydrogen bond N–H...O. In 2 and 3, two Htba⁻ and Hba⁻ ions are connected by two hydrogen bonds N-H...O. These pairs form infinite chains. All three structures are stabilized by $\pi - \pi$ interactions of the head-to-tail type between $PefH_2^+$ ions. Compounds 2 and 3 have been characterized by powder XRD, TG-DSC and FT-IR.

Keywords Thiobarbituric acid; barbituric acid; pefloxacin; salts; X-ray diffraction; infrared spectroscopy; thermal stability

1. Introduction

Fluoroquinolones (FxH) are the broad spectrum bactericidal antibiotics and the compounds work against both Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria. Pefloxacin (PefH), widely used in clinical practice, is an important representative of this class (Fig. 1a) [1, 2]. It possesses moderate activity against anaerobes and Mycobactoria, to which the quinolone in general has low activity. Because of low solubility, PefH is commonly used in the form of a salt [3], for example, pefloxacinium methasulfonate, PefH₂(CH₃SO₃). Therefore, a further search for other pefloxacin salts with improved properties is of great practical interest.

Barbiturates are a class of drugs, which are used as anesthetics and sleeping agents, and they are utilized for the treatment of different psychiatric disorders [4]. Barbituric and thiobarbituric acids (Fig. 1b) are the key compounds, which are applied in the synthesis of their different derivatives having an important therapeutic value [5-8]. Barbituric acid (H₂ba) possesses specific, relatively weak acidic properties (pK_a ca. 4.03 [9]) resulting from the presence of two methylene hydrogen atoms. Thiobarbituric acid (H_2 tba) is a stronger acid (pK_{a1} ca. 1.87 [10]), which acidic properties also results from the presence of two methylene hydrogen atoms. The existence of three polymorphs of anhydrous H₂ba and dihydrate [11-13], and six polymorphs of anhydrous thiobarbituric acid and hydrate [14] make these molecules interesting from the viewpoint of crystal engineering. They can be used as building blocks in the construction of supramolecular assemblies with distinctive properties. The possibility of non-covalent interactions ensures the rich supramolecular chemistry of H₂tba and H₂ba compounds. On the other hand, the donor-acceptor features of these acids are important for the crystal design of pharmaceuticals, molecular recognition and catalytic activity [15]. It is particularly interesting to evaluate the structure and properties of the salts containing simultaneously two representatives of different pharmaceutically-active classes, namely, fluoroquinolones and barbituric acids. The fundamental aim of the present work is to explore the solid-state pefloxacinium thiobarbiturate and pefloxacinium barbiturate structures. The molecular and supramolecular structures of fluoroquinolones with barbituric acids [16], which are currently absent in CSD, are also useful. Here, we report on the synthesis data, IR spectra and thermal stability of three salts, pefloxacinium 2-thiobarbiturate trihydrate, $PefH_2(Htba) \cdot 3H_2O$ (1), pefloxacinium 2thiobarbiturate, PefH₂(Htba) bis(pefloxacinium 2-thiobarbiturate) hydrate. (2) and $(PefH_2)_2(Htba)_2 \cdot 2.56H_2O(3).$

2. Experimental section

2.1. Reagents and synthesis

Pefloxacin (CAS 70458-92-3), thiobarbituric acid (CAS 504-17-6), barbituric acid (CAS 67-52-7) with the a purity of $\geq 98\%$ and pefloxacin (CAS 70458-92-3) were obtained from Sigma-Aldrich and used as received. Acetone as a reagent analytical grade (Acros) was used without additional purification. Compounds 1-3 were prepared by the crystallization from the aqueous solution. For the synthesis of **2**, PefH (0.6 mmol) was dissolved in water (5 cm³) at 80 °C, then a solid H₂tba (0.6 mmol) was added to the resulting solution under stirring and the solution was kept at 80 °C up to the total dissolution of H₂tba. The pH of solution was equal 4.2 (a multitest IPL-103 pH meter, Semico, Russia). Then, the solution was slowly cooled firstly down to room temperature and then down to 4 °C. In 20 min, the pale orange precipitate formed as fine rectangular crystals was filtered off, washed with acetone and dried in the air to a constant mass. The yield of powder product 2. pale orange in color, was 53%. In the following, powder sample 2 was used for IR and TG-DSC measurements. The single crystal of 1 (golden-color prism) was occasionally grown by the continuous evaporation of the filtrate at 4 °C within 6 months. However, we could not get compound 1 at a rate sufficient for the thermal and spectroscopic measurements. The pale-yellow compound **3** was prepared with the yield of 43%, by a procedure analogous to that described for the preparation of 2, but H₂ba (pH=4.6) was used instead of H₂tba. The crystals of **2** and **3**, suitable for single crystal X-ray diffraction analysis, were grown by the corresponding filtrate evaporation at 4 °C. The optical microscopy images of crystals 2 and **3** were obtained using a Nikon Eclipse LV100 Microscope (фирма, страна ?) and they are presented in Fig. 1S. The attempts to obtain other hydrates of these compounds by the crystallization from an aqueous solution were unsuccessful.

Anal. Calc. for C₂₁H₃₀FN₅O₈S(**1**): C, 47.5; H, 5.69; N, 13.2; S, 6.03. Found: C, 48.0; H, 5.26; N, 13.6; S, 6.21%. Anal. Calc. for C₂₁H₂₄FN₅O₅S: C, 52.8; H, 5.07; N, 14.7; S, 6.72. Found: C, 52.5; H, 4.89; N, 14.3; S, 6.87% (**2**). Anal. Calc. for C₄₂H₅₀F₂N₁₀O_{14.56} (**3**): C, 52.2; H, 5.22; N, 14.5. Found: C, 51.8; H, 5.13; N, 14.7%.

2.2. X-ray diffraction analysis

The intensity patterns were collected from single crystals **1**, **2** and **3** using the SMART APEX II and D8 Venture X-ray single crystal diffractometers (Bruker AXS, Germany) equipped with a CCD-detector, graphite monochromator and a Mo K α radiation source. The absorption corrections were applied using the SADABS program. The structures were solved by the direct methods using package SHELXS and refined in the anisotropic approach to non-hydrogen atoms using the SHELXL program [17]. All hydrogen atoms were found via Fourier difference maps. Then, the hydrogen atoms, which are linked with C,N atoms in the Htba⁻, Hba⁻ and PefH⁺ ions, were positioned geometrically as riding on their parent atoms with d(C–H) = 0.93-0.98 Å, d(N–H)=0.86-0.89 Å depending on geometry and U_{iso}(H) = $1.2U_{eq}$ (C,N). All hydrogen atoms of the H₂O molecules and one H atom in the OH group of PefH⁺ ion were refined with bond length restraint d(O–H)=0.9 Å and U_{iso}(H) = $1.2U_{eq}$ (O). The structure test for the presence of missing symmetry elements and possible voids was produced using the PLATON program [18]. The DIAMOND program is used for the crystal structure plotting [19].

The powder X-ray diffraction data of **2** and **3** were obtained using a diffractometer D8 ADVANCE (Bruker, Germany) equipped by a VANTEC detector with a Ni filter. The measurements were made using Cu K α radiation. The structural parameters defined by a single crystal analysis were used as a base in the powder pattern Rietveld refinement. The refinement was produced using program TOPAS 4.2 [20]. The low *R*-factors and good refinement results shown in (Fig. 2S) indicate the phase purity of powder samples **2** and **3**.

2.3. Physical measurements

TGA was carried out on the simultaneous SDT-Q600 thermal analyzer (TA Instruments, USA) under the dynamic air atmosphere (50 ml/min flow rate) within 22–350 °C at the scan rate of 10 °C/min. The qualitative composition of the evolved gases was determined by the FT-IR

spectrometer Nicolet380 (Thermo Scientific, USA) combined with a thermal analyzer and with the TGA/FT-IR interface (attachment for the gas phase analysis). This set up allows a simultaneous accumulation of the DTA/TG data and the released gas composition. The sample weight was 5.603 mg for **2** and 6.302 mg for **3**. Platinum crucibles with perforated lids were used as containers. The IR absorption spectra of the compounds packed in KBr tablets were recorded over the range of 400–4000 cm⁻¹ at room temperature on an FT-IR spectrometer Nicolet 6700 (Thermo Scientific, USA, SFU CEJU).

3. Results and discussion

3.1. Crystal structure of (1)

The unit cell of pefloxacinium 2-thiobarbiturate trihydrate, $PefH_2^+(Htba^-)\cdot 3H_2O$ (1), corresponds to triclinic symmetry. Space group *P*-1 was determined from the statistical analysis of reflection intensities. The main structural data are enumerated in Table 1. The main bond lengths and valence angles are listed in Table 1S. Generally, they coincide with those given in the literature for the PefH₂⁺ ion [21-24] and Htba⁻ ion [25-29].

In crystal **1**, the independent part of the unit cell contains one $PefH_2^+$ ion, one $Htba^-$ ion and three H_2O molecules (Fig. 2a). There are two intramolecular hydrogen bonds C–H...F, O–H...O (Fig. 2a) and nine intermolecular hydrogen bonds N–H...O, O–H...O in the structure (Fig. 3a, Table 2S) which form a 2D plane network. This is the 5-nodal net with stoichiometry (3-c)(3-c)(4-c)(5-c) and with the vertex symbol ($3.5.6.8^2.9$)($3.5.6^2.7^2.8^3.9$)(3.5.6)(5.6^2)(5.8^2) which is new [30].

Similar to **1**, the structures of pefloxacinium methanesulfonate hydrates [22, 23] are also stabilized by hydrogen bonds involving the terminal piperazinyl N atom of the pefloxacinium and an O atom of the methanesulfonate ion with strong N—H…O interactions, and the carbonyl and carboxyl groups of PefH₂⁺ are also involved in a strong intramolecular O—H…O hydrogen bond. In **1**, two Htba ions are bound together with hydrogen bonds by means of two identical

chains, consisting of two water molecules, with the formation of synthon R_6^{-6} (20). Each Htba⁻ ion has two such ions in the nearest environment (Fig. 3a). PefH₂⁺ is connected with two H₂O molecules and two Htba⁻ ions. In **1**, two N atoms of the thiobarbiturate ion are the hydrogen bond donors and two O atoms from keto and carboxyl groups of the PefH₂⁺ cation are the acceptors. The most interesting motifs in this network are $R_3^{-3}(10)$, $R_6^{-4}(12)$, $R_6^{-5}(14)$ and $R_6^{-6}(20)$ (Fig. 3a). The π - π interactions between Htba⁻ and PefH₂⁺ ions, and between two PefH₂⁺ ions (in a head-to-tail manner) stabilize the structure. Earlier, a similar packing of PefH₂⁺ ions was observed in the structures of (PefH₂⁺)CH₃SO₃⁻⁻·2H₂O [23] (PefH₂⁺)CH₃SO₃⁻⁻·0.1H₂O [22] and (PefH₂⁺)₂PtCl₄²⁻⁻2H₂O [24]. The π - π interaction in **1** combines pefloxacinium cations into the pairs (Table 3S, Fig. 3Sa).

3.2. Crystal structure of (2)

The unit cell of PefH₂⁺(Htba⁻) (**2**) corresponds to monoclinic symmetry. The space group $P2_1/c$ was determined from the statistical analysis of the reflection intensities and extinction rules. The main crystal data are shown in Table 1. The main bond lengths and valence angles are listed in Table 1S. The structural characteristics of **2** are in a good relation with those found for **1** and those given in the literature for ions PefH₂⁺ [21-24] and Htba⁻ [25-29].

The independent part of the unit cell contains one $PefH_2^+$ ion and one $Htba^-$ ion (Fig. 2b). There are two intramolecular hydrogen bonds C–H...F, O–H...O (Fig. 2b) and three intermolecular hydrogen bonds N–H...O in the structure (Fig. 3b, Table 2S) which form a chain along the *a*axis. The Htba⁻ ion in **2** has the H-bond direct to $PefH_2^+$, like that in $PefH_2(Htba) \cdot 3H_2O$ (**1**). The number of intermolecular hydrogen bonds in compound **2** is much smaller than that in **1** due to the absence of water molecules in compound **2**, which can stabilize the crystal structures with an imbalance in the number of acceptors and donors [31]. $PefH_2^+$ has two hydrogen bond donors (carboxylic acid, O–H; (CH₃)NH⁺ group) and six potentially strong hydrogen bond acceptors (three N- and three O-atoms). Htba⁻ ion has potentially two hydrogen bond donors (two NH groups) and five acceptors (two O-, two N- and one S-atoms). In the structure of **2**, an imbalance in the number of donors and acceptors in PefH₂⁺ is partly compensated by the active participation in the hydrogen bonding of Htba⁻ ion (Fig. 3b). Structure **2** is stabilized by the intermolecular hydrogen bonds N–H...O between Htba⁻ ions forming a centrosymmetric homosynton $R_2^2(8)$ and $C_2^2(10)$. Besides, the Htba⁻ ions form infinite chains along the *a*-axis. Also, there are π - π interactions between two rings of PefH₂⁺ in the structure (Table 3S, Fig. 3Sb). Contrary to **1**, the Htba⁻ ions in compound **2** are not involved in the π - π interaction. However, the π - π interactions between two PefH₂ rings jointed them into the pairs in **2**.

3.3. Crystal structure of (3)

The unit cell of $(PefH_2)_2(Hba)_2 \cdot 2.56H_2O$ (**3**) corresponds to triclinic symmetry, and space group *P*-1 was identified for the structure. The main crystal data are shown in Table 1. The main bond lengths and valence angles are enumerated in Table 1S.

The independent part of the unit cell contains two PefH₂⁺ ions, two Hba⁻ ions, one ordered water molecule and two disordered H₂O molecules with partial occupations (Fig. 2c). The occupancy sum of all H₂O in the independent part of the unit cell is equal to 2.562(4). In structure **3**, the hydrogen bonding can not be analyzed in detail because the positions of H atoms of disordered water molecules were not found. Anyway, there are two intramolecular hydrogen bonds C–H...F, O–H...O (Fig. 2c) , six intermolecular hydrogen bonds N–H...O (Fig. 3c) and, at least, one O– H...O bond in the structure (Table 2S), which form a chain along the *a*-axis. The hydrogen bond pattern is similar to the pattern of **2** (Fig. 3b). The dominant hydrogen bonding in **3** is the N–H…O interaction, which leads to a centrosymmetric synthon $R_2^2(8)$ and to the formation of an infinite chain of Hba⁻ ions. The similar infinite chains from Htba⁻ ions were observed in **2**. There are several π - π interactions between two rings of PefH₂⁺ and Hba⁻ (Table 3S, Fig. 3S).

3.4. IR spectroscopy

The IR spectra of PefH₂(Htba) (**2**) and (PefH₂)₂(Hba)₂·2.56H₂O (**3**) are shown in Figure 6S. They are very difficult for the interpretation because of numerous bands in the wavenumber range

below 1500 cm⁻¹. In the analysis of the IR spectra, the results of earlier studies were used for comparison [32-35]. The IR spectra of 2 (Fig. 4S, curve 1) and 3 (Fig. 4S, curve 2) are significantly different from the spectra of initial reagents (PefH, H₂tba or H₂ba) and this indicates the formation of new compounds. The very broad bands in the range of $3600-3400 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ can be assigned to the stretching modes of NH and OH in the PefH₂⁺, Htba⁻ and Hba⁻ ions. In the region of stretching vibrations C=O in IR spectra of Hba⁻ ions, the band with the highest frequency lies at 1688 cm⁻¹ [34]. In the alkaline and alkali earth metals (M) thiobarbiturates, the M–O bond is weak and predominantly ion-dipole by nature and, therefore, one can assume that the stretching vibrations C=O, which were found in the IR spectra of these compounds, can be attributed to the uncoordinated Htba⁻ ions. The highest frequency band v(C=O) in sodium thiobarbiturate is located at 1645 cm^{-1} [27] and it is located at 1630 cm^{-1} in potassium thiobarbiturate [36]. The band associated with v(C=O) of Htba⁻ and Hba⁻ ions is located noticeably below 1700 cm⁻¹. Thus, the bands at 1716 cm^{-1} in 2 and at 1706 cm^{-1} in 3 correspond to the stretching vibration v(C=O) in COOH groups [35]. This proves the protonation of carboxyl group PefH and it is in agreement with X-ray single crystal structural results. The low frequency of another very strong absorption band v(C=O) at 1629 cm⁻¹, obtained in the IR spectra of 2 and 3, can be explained by the participation of the O2 atom of PefH₂⁺ in an intramolecular hydrogen bond O2–H...O1 (Figure 1b,c) and/or it is assigned to v(C=O) in Htba⁻ and Hba⁻ ions, respectively.

3.5. Thermal decomposition

According to TG curves, the mass of sample 2 remains unchanged up to ~270 °C (Fig. 5S), and there are no peaks in the DSC curve below this temperature. This confirms the anhydrous nature of the compound. Compound 2 melts with the decomposition at T>270 °C. The decomposition is accompanied by an endo effect at 275.3 °C. As it is known, H₂tba melts with decomposition at 250.6 °C [37], i.e. compound 2 is more thermally stable than H₂tba. According to the IR spectroscopic analysis of the gases evolved during thermolysis, H₂O, CO₂, SO₂ and NH₃ are formed.

Both TG and DSC curves of **3** show the two-step dehydration which is accompanied by two endo effects at 124.7 °C and 244.1 °C (Fig. 6S). This is confirmed by the results of IR spectroscopic analysis of evolved gases, according to which, when the sample is heated to 260 °C, only the two-step dehydration takes place. The first stage of dehydration proceeded in the range of 60-150 °C and showed the weight loss (Δ m) equal to 4.1%. The second dehydration stage in the range of 235-260 °C showed Δ m=1.8%. The total weight loss (5.9%) is bigger than the weight loss calculated under the assumption of the total dehydration (-2.5H₂O, Δ m_{theor}=4.66%). The detected difference can be explained by the partial overlap of the second stage of dehydration with the oxidative decomposition of compound **3**. Pure H₂ba melts with the decomposition at 245.0 °C [38] and, respectively, the thermal stability of compound **3** is higher than that of H₂ba. The oxidative decomposition products are H₂O, CO₂, NH₃.

4. Conclusions

The crystallization of PefH with 2-thiobarbituric and barbituric acids resulted in the isolation of three new salts. Two intramolecular hydrogen bonds C–H...F, O–H...O and intermolecular hydrogen bonds N–H...O, O–H...O stabilize the structures of **1-3**. The Htba[–] and Hba[–] ions are connected with PefH₂⁺ only by intermolecular hydrogen bond N–H...O. In **1**, two N atoms of thiobarbiturate ion are the hydrogen bond donors and two O atoms of keto and carboxyl groups of the PefH₂⁺ cation are the acceptors. However, in **2-3**, the positively charged piperazinium N atom in PefH₂⁺ is the H-bond donor and the O atom from the keto group of Htba[–] or Hba[–] ions is the acceptor. The dominant hydrogen bonding in **2-3** appeared due to the N–H···O interaction, which leads to a centrosymmetric synthon R₂²(8) and the formation of infinite chains of Htba[–] or Hba[–] ions. Commonly, fluoroquinolones have potentially two strong hydrogen bond donors and 6-7 potentially strong hydrogen bond acceptors [39]. An imbalance in the donor/acceptor number in the fluoroquinolone salts can be compensated by the incorporation of water molecules into crystal lattices, as it appears in **1**. The water molecules stabilize the crystal structures by forming a diverse arrangement of supramolecular heterosynthons [40]. Another way of the compensation

of an imbalance in the donor/acceptor ratio is the inclusion of the anions capable of selfassociation in the composition of fluoroquinolone salts, for example, the Htba⁻ or Hba⁻ ions, as it is observed in **2** and **3**. Structures **1-3** are stabilized by the π - π interactions between the PefH₂⁺ ions of the head-to-tail type. These interactions connect PefH₂⁺ ions in pairs in **1-2** or in the infinite chains in **3** (Table 3S, Fig. 2S). Also, there are the π - π interactions between Htba⁻ and PefH₂⁺ ions in **1**. The IR spectral data are in agreement with the X-ray single crystal diffraction analysis. The thermal stability of compounds **2** and **3** is evidently higher than that of H₂tba and H₂ba acids.

Supplementary data

The crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structural analysis have been deposited with Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre ((1) - CCDC 1537391; (2) - CCDC 1537392; (3) - CCDC 1537393). The information may be obtained free of charge from The Director, CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK (Fax: +44(1223)336-033, E-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk, or www: www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

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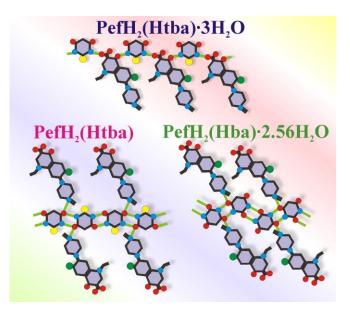
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Graphical Abstract



Single crystal	$PefH_2(Htba)\cdot 3H_2O(1)$	$PefH_2(Htba)$ (2)	$(PefH_2)_2(Hba)_2 \cdot 2.56H_2O$ (3)
Moiety formula	$C_{21}H_{30}FN_5O_8S$	$C_{21}H_{24}FN_5O_5S$	$C_{42}H_{50}F_2N_{10}O_{14.56}$
Dimension (mm)	0.2×0.16×0.05	0.20×0.30×0.35	0.43×0.20×0.17
Color	Pale orange	Pale yellow	Pale yellow
Molecular weight	531.56	477.51	965.88
Temperature (K)	150	150	296
Space group, Z	<i>P</i> -1, 2	$P2_{1}/c$	<i>P</i> -1, 2
<i>a</i> (Å)	8.4651 (6)	12.0768 (9)	10.3252 (3)
<i>b</i> (Å)	9.3753 (6)	14.7120 (11)	13.8631 (4)
<i>c</i> (Å)	15.8077 (9)	12.2222 (9)	16.9586 (3)
α (°)	89.484 (2)	90	101.243 (1)
β (°)	88.735 (2)	95.109 (3)	92.514 (1)
γ (°)	78.147 (2)	90	109.471 (1)
$V(\text{\AA}^3)$	1227.48 (14)	2162.9 (3)	2229.1 (1)
ρ_{calc} (g/cm ³)	1.438	1.466	1.439
μ (mm ⁻¹)	0.196	0.204	0.115
Reflections measured	11838	105889	24769
Reflections independent	5647	6337	10127
Reflections with $F > 4\sigma(F)$	3139	4737	7257
$2\theta_{max}$ (°)	55.27	60.16	55.02
	$-10 \le h \le 10;$	$-17 \le h \le 17;$	$-13 \le h \le 13;$
<i>h</i> , <i>k</i> , <i>l</i> - limits	$-12 \le k \le 12;$	$-20 \le k \le 20;$	$-17 \le k \le 17;$
P	$-20 \le l \le 18$ 0.0473	$-17 \le l \le 17$ 0.0869	$-15 \le l \le 22$ 0.0278
$R_{\rm int}$			
The weighed refinement of F^2	$w=1/[\sigma^2(F_0^2)+(0.0628 P)^2]$	$w=1/[\sigma^2(F_0^2)+(0.0570P)^2+1.4849P]$	$w=1/[\sigma^2(F_0^2)+(0.1137P)^2+0.$ 3971P]
Number of refinement parameters	346	303	637
$R1 [F_o > 4\sigma(F_o)]$	0.0523	0.0468	0.0550
wR2	0.1060	0.1116	0.1704
Goof	0.905	1.060	1.039
$\Delta \rho_{\rm max} (e/{\rm \AA}^3)$	0.416	0.893	0.626
$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} \ (e/{\rm \AA}^3)$	-0.287	-0.328	-0.373
$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max}$	0.001	0.001	0.001

Table 1. Crystal structure parameters of 1-3

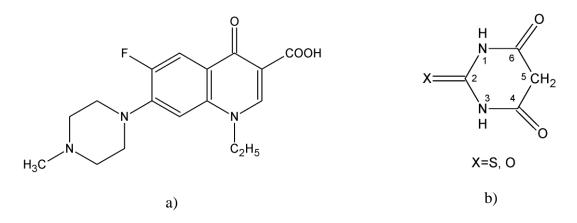


Figure 1. Schemes of pefloxacin (a) and barbituric acids (b): X=O in H₂ba and X=S in H₂tba.

PefH ₂ (Htba)·3H ₂ O (1) PefH ₂ (Htba) (2) (PefH ₂) ₂ (Hba) ₂ ·2.56H ₂ O (3)	
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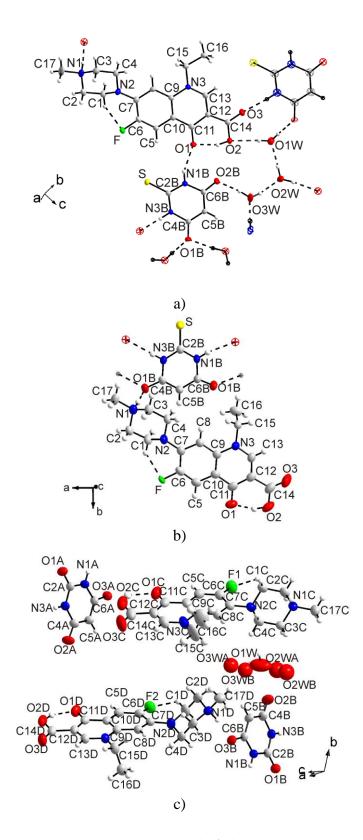
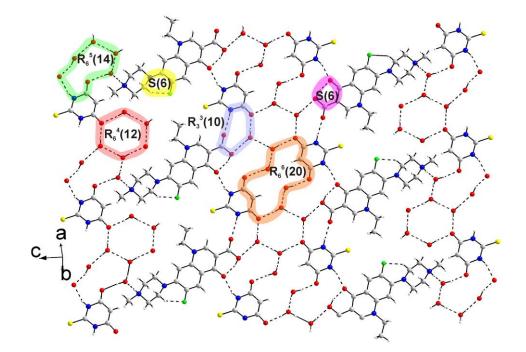
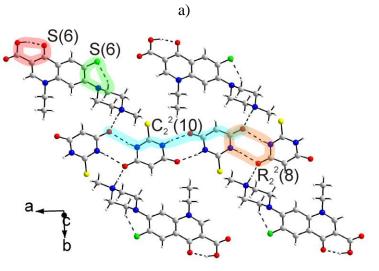


Figure 2. The asymmetric unit of the $PefH_2(Htba)\cdot 3H_2O$ (1) (a), $PefH_2(Htba)$ (b) and $(PefH_2)_2(Hba)_2\cdot 2.56H_2O$ (3) (c) unit cell. All atoms in the asymmetric unit are labeled. The neighboring symmetry-generated atoms are represented by principal ellipses with an individual color. The bonds linking asymmetric unit atoms with the symmetry-generated atoms and intermolecular hydrogen bonds are represented by dashed lines. The ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level, except for the hydrogen atoms represented by spheres.





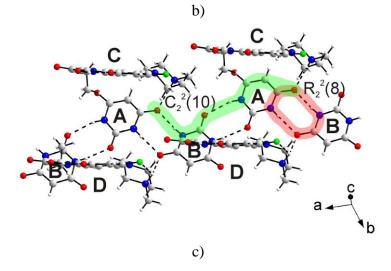


Figure 3. Hydrogen bonding in **1** (a), **2** (b) and **3** (c). The H-bonds are marked by dashed lines, the H-bond motifs are marked by circles. Different Hba⁻ ions are marked by A, B labels and PefH₂⁺ ions are marked by C, D labels in (**3**) (c).