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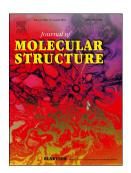
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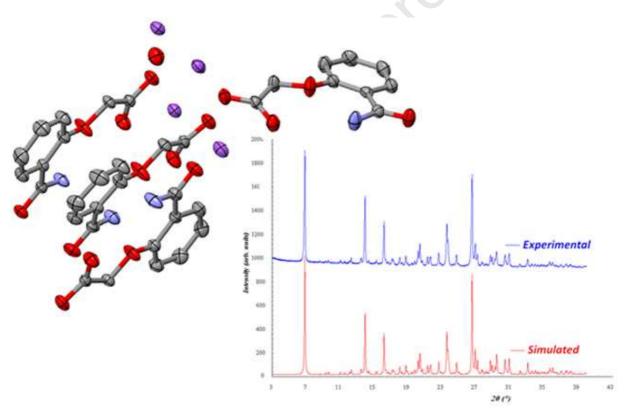
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# Structural, spectroscopic and theoretical studies of sodium (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate salt

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Sodium (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate salt crystal belongs to the P-1 space group of triclinic system, Z = 2. The asymmetric part of the unit cell consists of four (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate (CBA) molecules. Three Na<sup>+</sup> ions are surrounded by six O atoms and one Na<sup>+</sup> ion is surrounded by five O atoms. The mean Na1<sup>+</sup>...O and Na2<sup>+</sup>...O distance is 2.47 Å while Na3<sup>+</sup>...O is 2.43 Å and Na4<sup>+</sup>...O is 2.49 Å. The supramolecular self-assembly of the four (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate molecules is realized by hydrogen bonds, and a variety of intermolecular interactions. The interactions within the bulk of the crystal structure were highlighted with Hirshfeld surfaces. FT-IR and Raman spectra of the studied compound are reported for the first time. Assignments of the normal modes was done with the aid of density functional theory frequency calculations on the monomer and two dimers, at B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,p) level of theory.

**Keywords:** algamon, sodium (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate, crystal structure, density functional theory, raman, FT-IR

### **INTRODUCTION**

Sodium (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate salt, with the chemical formula  $C_9H_8NNaO_4$  (Scheme 1), produced by Microsin (Bucharest, Romania) under the name of algamon [1], is the salt of the active substance o-carbamoyl-phenoxyacetic acid, used for its analgesic activity [2]. To our knowledge, the crystal structure of the product, further denoted as AGM, is not contained in the CSD 2018 database yet. The compound is appearing as solid white powder at room temperature, with a 263° C melting point, and 419° C boiling point.

Scheme 1 – Molecular scheme of sodium (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate.

The pharmacokinetics of sodium (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate was studied in 9 healthy male subjects following a single intramuscular administration and the plasma concentration of ocarbamoylphenoxyacetic acid and metabolised salicylamide was analysed. The plasma concentration profiles (AUC) were also monitored. It has been shown that there are moderate rates of metabolic conversion and only small amounts of salicylamide appear in the circulatory system [3].

The literature shows a lack of studies referring to this compound. In this paper, we report for the first time its structural characterization by X-ray single crystals diffraction, XRPD, and the characterization of intermolecular interactions with the surfaces Hirshfeld [4-8]. Vibrational properties of AGM are also reported herein. Its FT-IR and Raman spectra were registered for the first time. A full assignment of both spectra is listed. This was achieved with the aid of frequency calculations, by using density functional theory (DFT) methods. The calculated spectra, both IR and Raman, were performed on AGM monomer and two dimers, as being present in the crystal packing. Dimer models, able to capture intermolecular interactions, bring supplementary useful information related to vibrational features of molecules [9, 10].

#### **EXPERIMENTAL**

Algamon was obtained from Microsin, a Romanian producer of active pharmaceutical ingredients, and was used without further purification.

A suitable single crystal (0.3 x 0.2 x 0.1 mm) was selected from the bulk of crystalline powder; it was coated in inert oil (Paratone N), and mounted on a fine nylon loop. X-ray single crystal data collection was acquired by a SuperNova diffractometer equipped with dual microsources, Eos CCD detector with the tube operating at 50 kV and a current of 0.8 mA using Cu K $\alpha$  radiation, the crystal being kept at room temperature during data acquisition.

Powder X-ray diffraction pattern was recorded on a Bruker D8 Advance diffractometer, equipped with a germanium (1 1 1) monochromator in the incident beam to get a monochromatic radiation (Cu  $K\alpha_1$ ). Data acquisition was made with DIFFRAC plus XRD Commander software, having a scan speed of  $0.02^{\circ}$  s<sup>-1</sup> in  $3-40^{\circ}$   $2\theta$  range.

Crystallographic data for the structure reported in this paper have been deposited with the Cambridge Structural Database as Supplementary Publication CCDC No 1909666.

Raman spectrum was collected with a Raman JASCO NRS 3300 spectrometer, equipped with a CCD detector (-69 °C), a diffraction grating of 600/mm, and a 100x Olympus objective. 785 nm laser line was used as an excitation source, its power being set at 137.6 mW. The resulted Raman spectrum is an addition of three acquisitions of 120 s each. It was recorded with a resolution of 6.45 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

FT-IR spectrum of AGM was collected with a JASCO 6100 spectrometer, with a resolution of 2 cm<sup>-1</sup>, using KBr pellet technique. The spectrum was recorded in the range of 350-4000 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

Influence of acidic media onto the sodium (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate: the salt was treated with 0.2 M hydrochloric acid, considering a 1: 1.1 molar ratio between salt and HCl. Thus, to 100 mg of salt, 2.53 mL solution of 0.2 M hydrochloric acid is added. In a very short time a white precipitate was obtained. It was analyzed by X-ray diffraction and the presence of NaCl was detected in the obtained mixture. Further, the precipitate was washed with double distilled water to remove the sodium chloride.

### **COMPUTATIONAL DETAILS**

Single crystal diffraction data were collected using CrysAlis PRO software and crystal structure was solved with Olex2 [11], by olex2.solve [12] structure solution program using Charge Flipping and refined with the ShelXL [13] refinement package by least Squares minimization. Absorption correction was made by multi-scan method in CrysAlis PRO software using spherical harmonics, implemented in SCALE3 ABSPACK scaling algorithm [14].

Hydrogen atoms attached to C, N and O atoms were positioned geometrically and refined as riding atoms, considering  $U_{iso}(H)=1.2U_{eq}(C,N)$  for all CH,  $CH_2$  and  $NH_2$  groups and  $1.5U_{eq}(O)$  for all  $OH_2$  groups. Water molecule was refined as rotating group with O-H=0.878 Å. Secondary  $CH_2$  were refined with riding coordinates, with C-H=0.97 Å, aromatic H atoms were refined as riding with C-H=0.93 Å, while primary amide with riding coordinates and N-H=0.86 Å.

Hirshfeld analysis was used to provide data about interactions within the bulk of a crystal structure, which are mapped on a 3D surface [15, 16]. Based on the CIF file obtained by single crystal X-ray diffraction, Crystal Explorer software [17] was used to calculate the Hirshfeld surface and color mapping. During the computation, the X-H bond lenghts (where X = C, O, or N) were normalized at standard bond lenghts determined by neutron diffraction (C-H=1.083 Å, O-H=0.983 Å and N-H=1.009 Å). Fingerprints [18, 19] are 2D representations designed to visualize different interactions in a quantitative manner, as percentages. Every individual molecule has an unique Hirshfeld surface and fingerprint plot which are influenced by its environment. Fingerprint plot was done using  $d_{norm}$  function, where  $d_{norm}$  (Eq. (1)) is a ratio encompassing the distances of any surface point to the nearest interior ( $d_i$ ) and exterior ( $d_e$ ) nucleus, and the van der Waals radii of the atoms. For each point on the Hirsfeld surface,  $d_e$  and  $d_i$  are both determined, each point on the 2D fingerprint plot corresponding to a unique pair ( $d_e$  and  $d_i$ ).

Red spots on the Hirshfeld surface denote that  $d_{norm}$  has a negative value, thus the sum of  $d_i$  and  $d_e$  is less than the sum of the van der Waals radii. White spots indicate that the sum of  $d_i$  and  $d_e$  is equal to zero, and intermolecular connections are close to the sum of van der Waals radii. Finally, blue indicates a positive value for  $d_{norm}$  function, where the intermolecular contacts are longer compared to the sum of van der Waals radii.

$$d_{norm} = \frac{d_i - r_i^{\nu dW}}{r_i^{\nu dW}} + \frac{d_e - r_e^{\nu dW}}{r_e^{\nu dW}}$$
(1)

Density Functional Theory (DFT) methods, implemented in Gaussian 09, Revision E.01 software package [20], were employed on both geometry optimizations and frequency calculations. The level of theory used is a joining of B3LYP [21-24] hybrid exchange-correlation functional and 6-311+G(2d,p) triple-zeta basis set. Wavefunction convergence and geometry optimization were met using tight criteria and an ultrafine grid. Both geometry optimization and frequency calculations were performed on algamon monomer (Figure 1) and two of its dimers (Figure 2). There are two ways in which two algamon molecules can form hydrogen bonds in the crystallographic network, thus the two dimers. All starting geometries were taken from the crystallographic data. Frequency calculations confirmed that the geometries correspond to true minima on the potential energy surface. Calculated bond lenghts, angles and dihaedrals of AGM monomer, dimer I, and dimer II are listed in Table S3, S4, and S5. The calculated wavenumbers were scaled by the corresponding scaling factor of the used level of theory (0.967) as suggested by Andersson and Uvdal [25]. Normal modes assignment to their specific IR and Raman bands was made by observation of animated modes by using GaussView, Version 5 [26] software. We took into account both the relative intensities and peaks' position of the resulted calculated Raman and IR spectra. All calculations were performed in gaseous phase.

Molecular structures of AGM monomer and the dimers were pictured in Mercury [27], as well as crystal packing, hydrogen bonds and short range interactions.

All Raman and IR spectra, both calculated and experimental, were ploted in Origin (OriginLab, Northampton, MA).

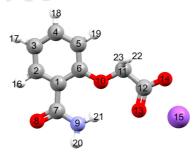


Figure 1 – Optimized geometry of AGM molecule at B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,p) level of theory, in gas phase.

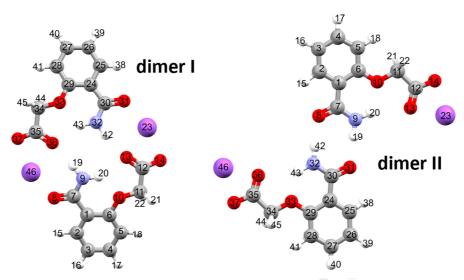


Figure 2 – Optimized geometry of AGM dimer I, and II at B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,p) level of theory, in gas phase. Labels from the monomer are kept the same for both dimers

# **RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS**

# 1. Crystal structure

## 1.1 Single crystal data and molecular configuration

Crystals of sodium (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate ( $C_9H_8NNaO_4$ ; M = 217.154 g/mol) are triclinic, belong to the space group P-1 and have the following unit cell parameters: a = 10.8538(4) = Å, b = 13.6231(6) Å, c = 13.8545(6) Å,  $\alpha$  = 103.770(4)°,  $\beta$  = 103.723(3)°,  $\gamma$  = 100.065(3)°. No restraints and constraints were used during refinement procedure. All information about crystal structure and refinement are displayed in Table 1.

Table 1 - Crystal data and structure refinement for sodium (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate.

Identification code	sodium (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate
Empirical formula	$C_{36}H_{34}N_4Na_4O_{17}$
Formula weight	886.63
Temperature/K	293(2)
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	P-1
a/Å	10.8538(4)
b/Å	13.6231(6)
c/Å	13.8545(6)
α/°	103.770(4)
<i>β</i> /°	103.723(3)
γ/°	100.065(3)
Volume/ų	1873.95(13)
Z	2
$\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.571
μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>	1.460
F(000)	916.0
Crystal size/mm³	$0.3\times0.2\times0.1$
Radiation	CuKα ( $λ = 1.54184$ )
2Θ range for data collection/°	6.89 to 142.896
Index ranges	-13 ≤ h ≤ 10, -16 ≤ k ≤ 16, -17 ≤ l ≤ 14

Reflections collected Independent reflections The parameters Touch Resignation Fit on F2 This Result Results Indexes [all data] Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å $^{-3}$  Indexes collected Touch Resignation Indexes [all data] Indexes [all data] Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å $^{-3}$  Indexes [all data] Indexes [all data] Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å $^{-3}$  Indexes [all data] Largest diff.

The four molecules in the asymmetric unit were overlapped (Figure 3) using Olex2 software in order to highlight the differences between their configurations. It can be observed that these differences are not very large. The most notable are present in the acetate group and the oxygen atoms (O11, O25, O39, and O53) between the acetate group and the carbamoylphenoxy benzene ring. Small configuration differences, but still noticeable, can be observed are in the amide group. Finally, in the unit cell, three of the four AGM molecules exhibit similar configuration, one of them being slightly different, as it can be seen in Figure 3. The O43, O39 oxygen atoms and C36 carbon belong to the same molecule, and all of them have different position, compared with the corresponding O atoms from the other three molecules.

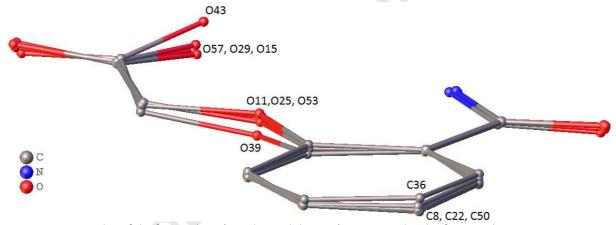


Figure 3 – Overlay of the four sodium (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate molecules forming the asymmetric unit

#### 1.2 Na cations coordination

In the crystal structure, the asymmetric unit for sodium (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate is composed of four such molecules, being coordinated to four Na atoms. The sodium cations are coordinated to oxygen atoms, coordination being five or six, as seen in Figure 4b, together with their geometries. All O-Na distances and O-Na-O angles are listed in Table S1 and S2, respectively. The Na-O coordination distances values are within a fairly narrow range 2.317 – 2.738 Å, the maximum difference being slightly over 0.4 Å. Three of the four Na atoms are coordinated by oxygen atoms belonging to the acetate fragment, while the last is linked by the oxygen from amide group. Mean Na-O bond lengths are comparable to those in similar compounds [28, 29].

Na cations are positioned on both sides of the crystallographic plane (0 0 1), in proximity of this plane, as seen in Figure S1. The atoms with the same label are connected one by one through inversion operation.

#### 1.3 Hydrogen bonds and short range interactions

Among the three (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate molecules from the asymmetric unit, for which the acetate fragments coordinates the sodium cations, one of them forms the N46-H...O45 intermolecular hydrogen bond with the amide group. The second molecule forms a hydrogen bond with the amide

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group N18-H...O15, while the last one does not interact at all with its neighbours by intermolecular hydrogen bonds. This is the AGM monomer for which the oxygen from amide coordinates one Na atom. Two intermolecular hydrogen bonds starting from the water molecule (O61), where O61 is the donor, form the O61-H61B ... O43 and O61-H61A ... O45 intermolecular bonds. There are also nine intramolecular hydrogen bonds bridging the nitrogen atoms of the amides with the acetate and amide oxygens of (2-carbamoylphenoxy) anions, which are presented in the second part of Table 2. All the above mentioned hydrogen bonds can be seen in Figure 4a.

Table 2 – Intermolecular (\* - red doted lines in Figure 4a) and intramolecular (^ - blue dotted lines in Figure 4a) hydrogen bond lengths, within the asymmetric unit of sodium (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate

D-HA	d(D-H)	d(HA)	d(DA)	<(DHA)
* <sub>(amide)</sub> N46-H46AO45	0.860	2.0982(17)	2.9455(17)	168.30(5)
* <sub>(water)</sub> O61-H61AO45	0.860	2.306(6)	3.0271(16)	139.4(8)
* <sub>(amide)</sub> N18-H18AO15	0.878	2.0878(15)	2.9208(15)	162.92(5)
* <sub>(water)</sub> O61-H61BO43	0.878	1.895(4)	2.7606(16)	168.3(16)
^N60-H60BO53	0.860	1.9637(16)	2.6282(16)	133.19(5)
^N60-H60BO57	0.860	2.5239(16)	3.3404(16)	158.85(4)
^N60-H60AO29	0.860	2.102(16)	2.9295(16)	161.25(5)
^N18-H18BO11	0.860	1.9433(15)	2.6105(15)	133.44(5)
^N18-H18BO15	0.860	2.5518(16)	3.3659(16)	158.29(3)
^N32-H32BO25	0.860	1.9362(16)	2.6077(16)	133.96(5)
^N32-H32AO57	0.860	2.1529(17)	2.9654(17)	157.42(5)
^N46-H46BO39	0.860	1.9296(17)	2.5981(17)	133.57(5)
^N46-H46BO43	0.860	2.4085(17)	3.2060(17)	154.47(4)

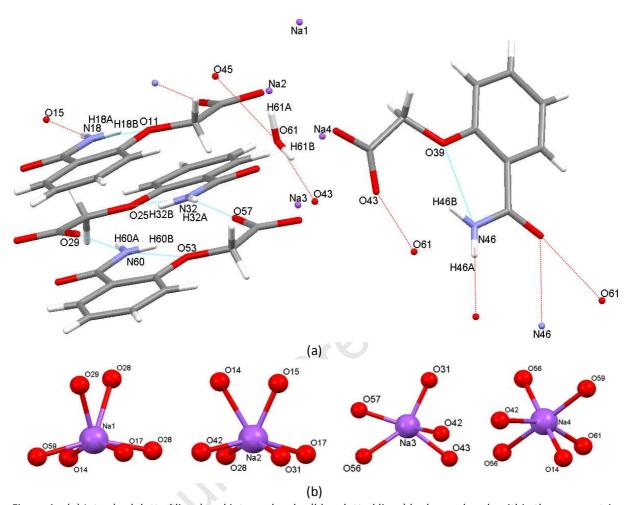


Figure 4 – (a) Inter (red dotted lines) and intramolecular (blue dotted lines) hydrogen bonds within the asymmetric unit of sodium (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate; (b) coordination of the four Na ions

By omitting the sodium cations within the structure it is observed that the crystal structure may be reduced to three synthons held by N-H...O and O-H...O hydrogen bonds between the (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate anions.

Two (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate anions are coupled by double N46-H46A...O45 hydrogen bond, characterized by a  $R_2^2(8)$  intermolecular descriptor. Also the two (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate (CBA) molecules are linked by bridged water molecules through the O61-H61B ... O43 bond with acetate group and O61-H61A ... O45 hydrogen bond from the amide group. The (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate anions and water molecules are related by an inversion operation, having the centroid coordinates at  $(0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$  and which is a special position and an inversion point of the P-1 space group (Figure S2 A).

A different supramolecular synthon, forming a  $R_2^2(18)$  motif is built via double N18-H18A...015 intermolecular hydrogen bonds. The synthon is generated by the inversion of a (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate anion, having the centroid positioned on the center of oa edge (½, 0, 0), which is an inversion point of the P-1 space group and a special position (Figure S2 B).

Another supramolecular synthon is generated by coupling two (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate anions from asymmetric unit via N32-H32A...O57, respectively N60-H60A...O29 hydrogen bonds. The

assembly is characterized by a  $R_2^2(18)$  descriptor having the anions related by pseudo-inversion with the centroid localized in general positions (0.576, 0.76, 0.063) (Figure S2 C).

Besides the hydrogen bonds, the crystal structure stability is also held by short range interactions, as given in Table 3.

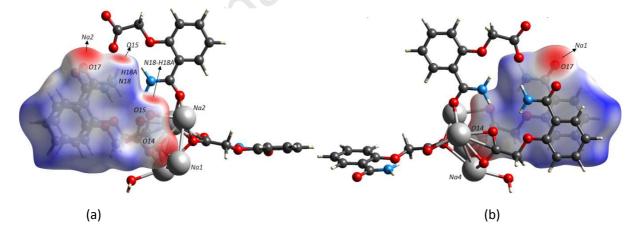
Table 3 – Distances (in Å) for the different types of short range interactions in the crystal packing

Interaction	Distances (Å)	No/asymm unit	
Na-Na	3.485-3.991	4	
Νа-π	3.140-3.821	4	
Na-C	2.871-3.498	8	
C-HNa	3.079-3.393	4	
N-HNa	3.046-3.240	3	

### 1.4 Hirshfeld analysis

The analysis was conducted individually for each fragment of (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate in the asymmetric unit and the water molecule as well. Hirshfeld surfaces were generated presenting front and back views, with the Na ions being always outside of the surfaces.

The Hirshfeld surface mapped with  $d_{norm}$  for (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate fragment (Figure 5a, 5b) which include the N18 atom shows two red spots which are included in the formation of  $R_2^2$ (18) supramolecular synthon via the N18-H18A...O15 hydrogen bond (Figure S2 B). These two hydrogen bonds are identified on the fingerprint plot by H...O and O...H interactions as two sharp spikes labeled by 1 and 2 (Figure 5c). Five deep red spots are present on the Hirshfeld surface and are associated with the coordinative interaction with Na1, Na2 and Na4 cations (Figures 5a, 5b). This feature is signaled on the fingerprint plot by an intense green area labeled by 4.



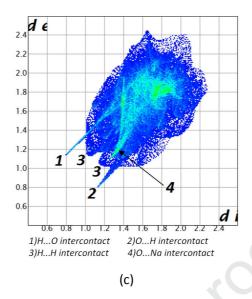
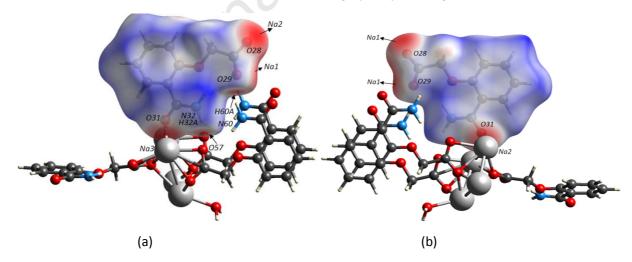


Figure 5 – Front view (a), back view (b) of the Hirshfeld surface mapped with d<sub>norm</sub> over the range -0.6842 to +1.1678 arbitrary units and fingerprint plot (c) for the CBA molecule including N18 atom.

The (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate fragment which include N32 atom exhibits two red spots mapped on the Hirshfeld surface (Figures 6a, 6b), indicating the formation of two intermolecular hydrogen bonds, namely N32-H32A...O57 (N32-H32 being inside the Hirshfeld surface) respectively N60-H60A...O29 (O29 being inside the Hirshfeld surface), which participate to the formation of the  $R_2^2$ (18) synthon (Figure S 2C). Six deep red spots are present on the surface and are characteristic to Na-O (Na1, Na2, and Na3) coordinative interactions (seen on the fingerprint plot in Figure 6c as label 4).



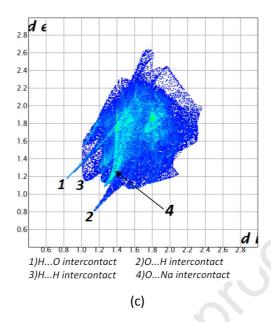
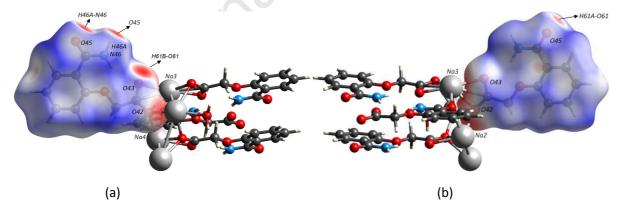


Figure 6 – Front view (a), back view (b) of the Hirshfeld surface mapped with d<sub>norm</sub> over the range -0.6903 to +1.1672 arbitrary units and fingerprint plot (c) for the CBA molecule including N32 atom.

The amide group of the (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate fragment, including the N46 atom, builds a  $R_2^2(8)$  graph set motif via the two N46-H46A...O45 hydrogen bonds (Figure S2 A), which are seen as two adjacent red spots on the Hirshfeld surface (Figures 7a, 7b). Additionally, two hydrogen bonds O61-H61B...N43 and O61-H61A...O45 are identified on the surface as red areas, O61 being the oxygen from water. Four coordinative interactions with the Na2, Na3 and Na4 cations are also seen on the surface.



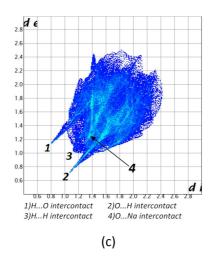
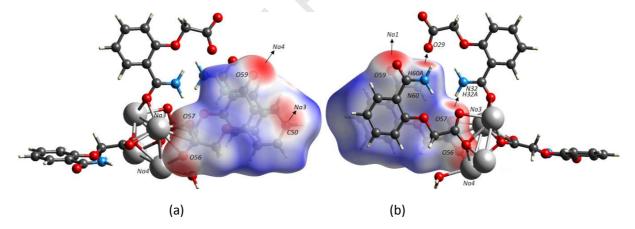


Figure 7 – Front view (a), back view (b) of the Hirshfeld surface mapped with d<sub>norm</sub> over the range -0.6595 to +1.2012 arbitrary units and fingerprint plot (c) for the CBA molecule including N46 atom.

The Hirshfeld surface mapped on the fragment containing the N60 atom shows two red spots as an indication of N32-H32A...O57 respectively N60-H60B...O29 hydrogen bonds formation (Figures 8a, 8b) which builds a  $R_2^2(18)$  graph set motif (Figure S 2C) between the two (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate anions. The coordination with five Na cations (Na1, Na3 and Na4) is represented as deep red spots on the surface.



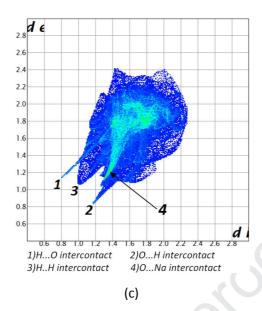
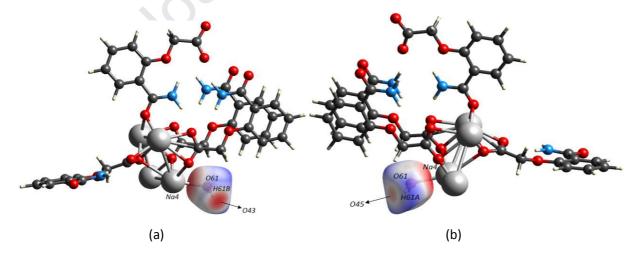


Figure 8 – Front view (a), back view (b) of the Hirshfeld surface mapped with d<sub>norm</sub> over the range -0.7055 to +1.2092 arbitrary units and fingerprint plot (c) for the CBA molecule including N60 atom.

For water molecule, the Hirshfeld surface mapped with  $d_{norm}$  shows the coordinative contact as an intense red spot in the proximity of Na4 cation (Figures 9a, 9b). The O61-H61B...O43 and O61-H61A...O45 hydrogen bonds are illustrated as two red spots, O61 being the oxygen from water. The 2D representation of the Hirshfeld surface (the fingerprint plot,) shows a sharp spike characteristic to O-H...O hydrogen bonding (label 1, Figure 9c). The O61-Na4 coordination is represented on the Hirshfeld surface as a red spot and transposed on the fingerprint plot as label 4.

It can be noted that the fingerprint plots for the four molecules are quite similar; spike 1 and 2 represents the H...O and O...H contacts, label 3 indicates the H...H contacts while the O...Na contacts are shown by label 4.



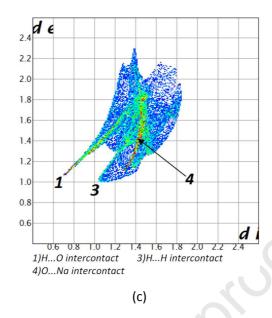


Figure 9 – Front view (a), back view (b) of the Hirshfeld surface mapped with d<sub>norm</sub> over the range -0.6566 to +1.0870 arbitrary units and fingerprint plot (c) for the water molecule.

Therefore, Hirshfeld analysis for all four CBA molecules and water revealed that the strongest interactions are hydrogen bonds that contribute to the formation of supramolecular synthons and the interactions between oxygen atoms and Na cations. However, the percentage contributions of interatomic contacts to the Hirshfeld surface shows that the highest number of interactions correspond to H...H contacts, followed by O...H/H...O, C...H/H...C and O...Na contacts, as shown in Figure 10. Yet, for the water molecule, the number of H...H and O...H/H...O interactions is almost equal.

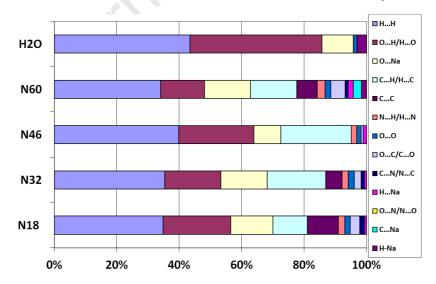


Figure 10- Percentage contributions to the Hirshfeld surface area for the various close intermolecular contacts for the different CBA fragments and water molecule. N60, N46, N31, N18 represents the molecules which include these atoms.

# 2. Vibrational spectroscopy. IR and Raman spectra

Vibrational (especially Raman) spectroscopy is an important tool for the pharmaceutical field, both in the development and manufacturing stages, proving significant information in the process of drug production [30]. Thus, a full description of both Raman and IR bands are very important for any pharmaceutical drug. The AGM Raman and IR bands are presented in Table 4, along with a full assignment of the normal modes. The observed bands (Figure 11 and 12) are classified by their intensities as very weak, weak, medium, strong, and very strong.

In the high wavenumber region (above 1800 cm<sup>-1</sup>) the vibrational spectrum has been recorded by using FT-IR spectroscopy, Figure 11. We assigned symmetric and asymmetric stretching of NH<sub>2</sub> group to the medium 3414 cm<sup>-1</sup> and small 3590 cm<sup>-1</sup> IR bands. They are very well approximated by frequency calculations on AGM monomer, at 3417 and 3565 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The very small IR bands above 2900 cm<sup>-1</sup> represent different stretches of CH and CH<sub>2</sub> units. Most of the corresponding calculated wavenumbers are in better agreement for dimer II. This fitting is in accordance with the one between the calculated and XRD geometrical parameters (bond lengths, angles and dihedrals) for dimer II, as seen in Table S3 –

There are several bands in the 1500 – 1700 cm<sup>-1</sup> range, which correspond mainly to NH<sub>2</sub> bending moiety, one of them being the 1560 cm<sup>-1</sup> frequency; it is of medium intensity in the Raman spectrum, Figure 12, and a weak shoulder, in the IR spectrum, slightly shifted to 1567 cm<sup>-1</sup>. In Table 4 we report a set of two wavenumbers for each mode, corresponding to both NH<sub>2</sub> groups, one for each molecule in a dimer. NH<sub>2</sub> chemical group is involved in both inter and intramolecular hydrogen bonds, what brings the differences in corresponding calculated bonds of the monomer and two dimers. The other one is one of the strongest Raman band, at 1591 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and has an IR correspondent shifted to 1600 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The calculated bands of both dimers perfectly match the experimental values (1591 and 1594 cm<sup>-1</sup> for dimer I; 1590 and 1596 cm<sup>-1</sup> for dimer II). In the IR spectrum, for the moieties grouped in a broad band with several peaks, all calculated correspondents are underestimated with a significant amount. 1625 cm<sup>-1</sup> is one of the strongest intensities in the whole spectrum, and does not have a Raman correspondent. Best calculated results were obtained in the case of the two dimers.

The bands between 1250 and 1500 cm<sup>-1</sup>, of complementary IR/Raman medium or weak intensity, are mainly due to either CC stretching, or CH<sub>2</sub> wagging.

The weak band at 1446 cm $^{-1}$  (Raman) or 1442 cm $^{-1}$  (IR) is due to the bending vibration of NH $_2$  unit.

CH<sub>2</sub> twisting is assigned to the weak Raman 1222 cm<sup>-1</sup>, or IR 1224 cm<sup>-1</sup> peak. It is best reproduced by the two dimers, with a difference of 17 and 19 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

The two strong Raman bands at 1153 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 1167 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and their IR correspondents, at 1152 and 1163 cm<sup>-1</sup>, are due to an in plane bending of CH groups.

NH<sub>2</sub> rocking is assigned to the strong Raman band at 1117 cm<sup>-1</sup>, with very weak IR intensity.

CN stretching is assigned to the medium Raman and weak IR band, observed at 1095 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and 1097 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. The calculated values are best reproduced for the two dimers, with shifts from experimental counterparts between 2 and 10 cm<sup>-1</sup>. We obtained a set of two values for each dimer. CO stretching is assigned to the weak Raman shoulder at 1054 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and weak IR band at 1053 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Moreover, this band represents an in plane deformation of benzene ring.

Benzene ring breathing can be observed as a strong Raman band at 1042 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and a weak IR, at 1044 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The results for all three systems present close values, 1030 cm<sup>-1</sup> being the best.

C11C12 stretching, coupled with O=C-O bending, can be observed as a strong Raman band at 935 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and a very weak IR band, at 934 cm<sup>-1</sup>. This band is best reproduced in the case of dimer I (937 cm<sup>-1</sup>), as expected, since the mentioned atoms are involved in hydrogen bonds between two AGM molecules, bonds that are always present in AGM crystal, as seen in Figure 4a.

The weak band at 850 cm<sup>-1</sup>, existing in both Raman and IR spectrum, is attributed to an in plane deformation of the benzene ring, more specifically, it consists of a CCC bending and an in plane bending

of CH groups. This band's shape is very well reproduced in the calculated Raman spectrum of both dimers, together with the very weak shoulder.

NH<sub>2</sub> twisting is assigned to the very strong Raman band at 763 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and the very weak shoulder, at 796 cm<sup>-1</sup>. In the IR spectrum, this band is of weak intensity. Again, the correspondent calculated on dimer I is in the best agreement (762 cm<sup>-1</sup>) with the experimental data, the NH<sub>2</sub> groups in this configuration being involved in inter and intramolecular hydrogen bonds.

In phase out of plane bending of CH group is assigned to the medium band at 750 cm<sup>-1</sup>. This band is present only in the IR spectrum.

O=C-O bending can be observed in the Raman spectrum with medium intensity (701 cm<sup>-1</sup>) and with weak intensity in the IR spectrum (699 cm<sup>-1</sup>). The calculated wavenumber corresponding to dimer I is in the best agreement with experimental data, hydrogen bonds which involve the above mentioned atoms being satisfied in this configuration.

The weak Raman and medium IR band observed at 623 cm<sup>-1</sup> is due to an in plane deformation of the benzene ring, a combination of NH<sub>2</sub> rocking and CCC bending. Its very weak Raman shoulder or the medium IR band, observed at 612 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and 617 cm<sup>-1</sup> respectively, are assigned to CH<sub>2</sub> rocking and O=C-O wagging.

The band at 474 cm $^{-1}$  presents medium intensity in the Raman spectrum and weak intensity in the IR spectrum. In the latter case, it can be observed slightly shifted, at 480 cm $^{-1}$ . This band is assigned to NH<sub>2</sub> rocking. The corresponding value calculated on the AGM monomer is in a closer proximity with the Raman value, while those calculated on dimers are in better agreement with the value in the IR spectrum.

Raman band observed at 412 cm<sup>-1</sup> is the strongest and is attributed to an in plane deformation of AGM molecule. In the IR spectrum, this band is of very weak intensity. Rocking of AGM molecule is attributed to the 358 cm<sup>-1</sup> band, with medium Raman and weak IR intensity. In both cases, the correspondent wavenumbers calculated on dimer II have the smallest difference relative to the experimental data. Both values are underestimated.

Another very strong band in the Raman spectrum is the one present at 269 cm<sup>-1</sup>. We assigned a twisting of the benzene ring to this band – an out of plane deformation of the ring.

The medium Raman band observed at 154 cm<sup>-1</sup> is broad. We assigned this band to a combination of CH<sub>2</sub> rocking and the same twisting of the benzene ring.

On a first glance, the overall shapes of the calculated IR and Raman spectra of AGM are not a facsimile of the experimental ones. Some of the FT-IR and Raman bands were very well reproduced by our calculations, such as 1591 cm<sup>-1</sup> (Raman) and 1600 cm-1 (IR), 1329/1326 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1278/1279 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 1095/1097 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 935/934 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 796/799 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 763/765 cm<sup>-1</sup>, etc (see Table 4). This made assigning their normal modes much easier. While for other bands, the differences in position/intensity are more notable, but not troubling, especially in the 1000 – 1700 cm<sup>-1</sup> range, because of the approximations we took on choosing the models and level of theory. The models for which one wants to perform frequency calculations by using DFT methods are limited to the number of atoms. When a monomer is used, the vibrations corresponding to functional groups involved in intermolecular interactions (such as hydrogen bonds) will differ significantly because these interactions are not taken into account. This is the reason why we chose to different models of dimmers (Figure 1 and 2). The four molecules of AGM from a unit cell are involved in three intermolecular hydrogen bonds – one between two of them, forming a dimer I, and the others, interacting with AGM molecules outside the unit cell, forming another dimer I, and a dimer II (Figure 4a). As a result, the vibrational spectra should be a combination of the two dimmers'. Models consisting AGM molecules which present  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking interactions (Figure 4a) were not considered either. On the other hand, we did not take into account the anharmonicity when we performed the frequency calculations. This usually comes with discrepancies between our results and experimental data.

Table 4 – Experimental Raman and FT-IR bands of AGM molecule, together with full assignments based on DFT calculations, performed on the monomer and the two considered dimers of the molecule of interest. All calculations were done in gas-phase, at B3I YP/6-311+G(2d.p.) level of theory.

cal	culations we	ere done in	gas-phase,	at B3LYP/6-311+G(	(2d,p) level of theory.
Experimental					Assignments
Raman	IR	monomer	dimer I	dimer II	
154 m	-	152	145	156	ρ(CH <sub>2</sub> ), τ(benzene ring)
	_		160	-	$\rho(CH_2)$ , $\tau(benzene ring)$ in phase monomers
	-	181	173; 181	183; 188	$\rho(\text{benzene ring})$ , $\beta(\text{side chains})$ ( $v_{\text{HB}}(\text{O10H20})$ )
	_	214	234; 244	214; 216	$\rho(\text{benzene ring}), \beta(\text{side chains}) (v_{HB}(\text{O13H2O}))$
269 vs	_	252	270	258	τ(benzene ring)
203 13	_	286	284	294	ρ(benzene ring), ρ(formamide), ν(O14Na15), ρ(O13C12O14)
358 m	354 w	338	306	349; 350	$\rho(AGM) - \rho(NH_2)$ , $\rho(benzene ring)$ , $\rho(O13C12O14)$
550 111	364 w	359	371; 380	364; 376	$\rho(AGM) - \omega(CH_2), \beta(C1C7N9), \rho(NH_2)$
412 vs	408 vw	401	427	402; 421	in plan def. of AGM – $\nu$ (C1C7), $\rho$ (NH <sub>2</sub> ), $\beta$ (O8C7N9), $\delta$ (CH), $\omega$ (CH <sub>2</sub> )
412 V3	400 VW	412	-	402, 421	$\omega(NH_2)$
	428 vw	448	446	-	$\omega(NH_2)$ , $\tau(CH)$ out of phase
474 m	420 vw 480 w			401, 400	$\rho(NH_2)$ , $\rho(O13C12O14)$ , $\omega(CH_2)$ , $\delta(CH)$
474 m		477	481; 485	481; 488	
526 vw	529 vw	539	543	542; 543	$\tau(CH)$ out of phase, $\tau(NH_2)$
580 w	567 w	580	582	581; 585	$\beta(C6010C11)$ , $\delta(CH)$ , $\rho(NH_2)$ , $\omega(CH_2)$
591 sh w	-	606	599	609; 610	$\beta$ (C1C6C5), $\beta$ (C2C3C4) – in plane deformation of benzene ring, $\nu$ (C11C12), $\rho$ (NH <sub>2</sub> ),
640.1	c.=	500	64-	500	β(O13C12O14), β(O8C7N9)
612 sh vw	617 m	623	617	622	ρ(CH <sub>2</sub> ), ω(C12O13O14)
623 w	623 sh m	625	642	645	$\rho(NH_2)$ , $\beta(C1C2C3)$ , $\beta(C4C5C6)$ – in plane deformation of benzene ring
		-	655	640	ω(NH <sub>2</sub> )
681 sh vw	675 w	656	694		$\tau(NH_2)$ , $\tau(CH)$ out of phase
701 m	699 w	714	708	719; 722	$\beta$ (O13C12O14), $\rho$ (NH <sub>2</sub> ), $\beta$ (C2C1C6), $\beta$ (C3C4C5) – in plane deformation of benzene
					ring
		-	721	-	$\omega(NH_2)$
-	750 m	767	773	766	τ(CH) in phase
763 s	765 sh w	764	762; 786	774; 778	$\tau(NH_2)$ , $\nu(C1C7)$ , $\beta(C2C1C6)$ , $\beta(C3C4C5)$ , $\delta(CH)$ – in plane deformation of benzene
					ring, β(O13C12O14), β(C6O10C11)
796 vw	798 vw	805	819	799; 800	$\tau(NH_2)$ , $\tau(CH)$ out of phase, $\omega(C1C7O8)$
850 w	850 sh w	862	861	864	$\beta$ (C2C3C4), $\delta$ (CH) – in plane deformation of benzene ring, $\beta$ (C5C6O10), $\rho$ (NH <sub>2</sub> )
		868	877	874	τ(CH) out of phase – out of lane deformation of benzene ring
935 s	934 vw	945	937	945	v(C11C12), β(O13C12O14), ω(CH <sub>2</sub> )
1042 s	1044 w	1029	1030	1030	benzene ring breathing, $\delta(CH)$
1054 sh w	1053 w	1042	1016	1041	v(O10C11), β(C3C4C5), δ(CH) – in plane deformation of benzene ring
1095 m	1097 w	1083	1093; 1103	1101; 1105	v(C7N9), $ρ(NH2)$ , $δ(CH)$ , $v(C11O10)$
1117 s	1117 vw	1060	1075; 1079	1075; 1076	$\rho$ (NH <sub>2</sub> ), $\beta$ (C1C6C5), $\delta$ (CH)
1153 s	1152 w	1125	1130	1130; 1132	$\delta$ (CH), $\rho$ (NH <sub>2</sub> )
1167 s	1163 w	1147	1147	1146	δ(CH)
1222 w	1224 w	1208	1205	1205	τ(CH <sub>2</sub> )
1252 m	1252 m	1227	1227; 1230	1229; 1230	$v$ (C6O10), $v$ (C1C2), $v$ (C4C5), $δ$ (CH), $ω$ (CH $_2$ )
		1252	1256; 1257	1256; 1257	β(C5C1C7), $δ$ (CH), $ρ$ (NH <sub>2</sub> ), $ω$ (CH <sub>2</sub> )
1278 w	1279 m	1280	1279	1279; 1280	v(C1C2), v(C3C4), v(C5C6), $\delta$ (CH) – in plane deformation of benzene ring, $\beta$ (NH <sub>2</sub> )
1301 w	1301 sh w	1312	1311	1311	$\omega(CH_2)$ , $\delta(C5H9)$
1329 w	1326 w	1329	1374	1361; 1375	ν(C1C7), β(C7N9H2O), δ(CH)
1406 sh m	1390 sh w	1392	1388; 1392	1393	ν(C11C12), ω(CH <sub>2</sub> ), ν <sub>sym</sub> (O13C12O14)
1423 m	1421 m				, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
1446 w	1442 w	1432	1429	1431	$\beta(NH_2)$ , $\delta(CH)$
1463 m	1461 m	1438	1441; 1442	1436; 1438	$v(C1C2)$ , $v(C5C6)$ , $\delta(CH)$ , $\beta(CH_2)$
1482 w	1483 m	1467	1464	1467	$v(C1C6), v(C3C4), \delta(CH), \beta(CH_2)$
1560 m	1567 sh w	1557	1532; 1536	1553 (R); 1554 (IR)	$\beta(NH_2)$ , $\nu(C1C2)$ , $\nu(C3C4)$ , $\delta(CH)$ , $\nu(C7=O8)$ , $\nu_{as}(O13C12O14)$
1591 vs	1600 vs	1584	1591; 1594	1590 (R); 1596 (IR)	$\beta(NH_2)$ , $\nu(C2C3)$ , $\nu(C5C6)$ , $\delta(CH)$
1600sh m		1563	1565	1567 (R); 1572 (IR)	$\beta(NH_2)$ , $\nu(C1C6)$ , $\nu(C3C4)$ , $\delta(CH)$
1631sh vw	1625 vs	1541	1594	1541 (R); 1549 (IR)	β(NH <sub>2</sub> ), ν <sub>as</sub> (O13C12O14), ω(CH <sub>2</sub> )
1653sh vw	1654 s		1617	1642	$\beta(NH_2)$ , $\nu(C7=O8)$ , $\nu(C1C2)$ , $\nu(C4C5)$ , $\delta(CH)$
1684 w	1685sh w	1650	1653	1563	$\beta(NH_2)$ , $\nu(C7=O8)$ , $\nu(C1C2)$ , $\nu(C4C5)$ , $\delta(CH)$
	2917	2921	2936	2920	V <sub>sym</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> )
_	2946	2961	2982	2960	V <sub>as</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> )
-	2979		-	-	
-	3051	3060	3063	3058	v <sub>as</sub> (CH) out of phase
J	3031	1 3300	1 3303	5556	1 - 93/ /   Prings

-	3079	3078	3080	3075	v <sub>sym</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) out of phase
-		3095	3091	3095	v <sub>as</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) in phase
-		3099	3099	3098	v <sub>sym</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) out of phase
-	3199	-	-	-	-
-	3254	-	-	-	-
-	3301	-	-	-	-
-	3356	-	-	-	-
-	3386	-	-	-	-
-	3414	3416	3318	3251	$v_{sym}(NH_2)$
	3590	3565	3444	3475	v <sub>as</sub> (NH <sub>2</sub> )

v – stretching;  $\beta$  – bending;  $\delta$  – in plane bending;  $\rho$  – rocking;  $\tau$  – twisting;  $\omega$  – wagging; as – asymmetric; sym – symmetrics; vw – very weak; w – weak; m – medium; s – strong; vs – very strong; IR – only IR active; R – only Raman active;

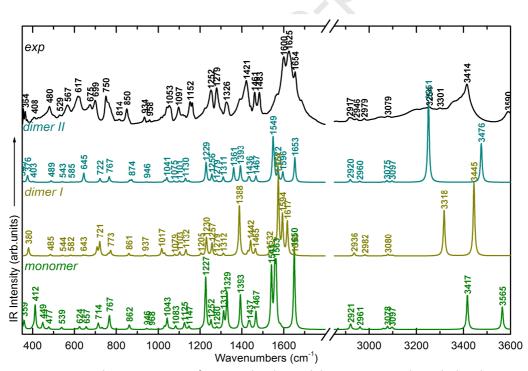


Figure 11 – Experimental FT-IR spectrum of AGM molecule in solid state, compared to calculated IR spectra on AGM monomer, dimer I, and dimer II. All calculations were performed at B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,p) level of theory, in gas-phase.

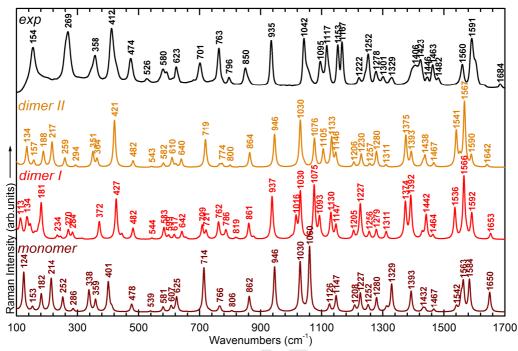
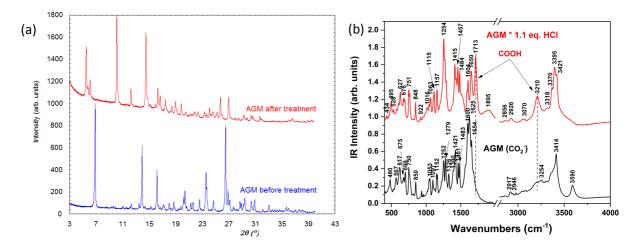


Figure 12 – Experimental Raman spectrum of AGM molecule in solid state (excitation laser line: 785 nm), compared to the calculated Raman spectra on AGM monomer, dimer I, and dimer II. All calculations were performed at B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,p) level of theory, in gas-phase.

# 3. Influence of acidic media onto the sodium (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate salt

Being the salt of an active substance from the group of the salicylic acid derivatives, namely o-carbamoyl-phenoxyacetic acid, it is interesting to investigate the influence of slight amounts of hydrochloric acid onto the sodium salt structure.

Thus, the salt was treated with 0.2 M hydrochloric acid, considering a 1: 1.1 molar ratio between salt and HCl. The X-ray diffraction pattern, FT-IR and Raman spectra of the final compound are presented in Figure 14 (for comparison and a better understanding of the changes, the spectra of the initial structure are also presented).



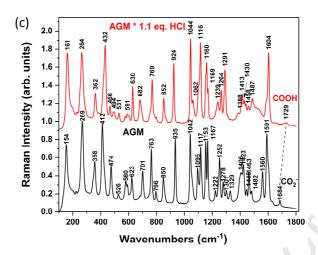


Figure 13 – X-ray diffraction (XRD) (a), FT-IR (b) and Raman (c) spectra of AGM before and after the treatment with 1.1 equivalents of 0.2 M hydrochloric acid

From Figure 14, it can be observed that after treatment, a new structure was obtained and there are not at all traces of the starting material. The new compound was indexed by several indexing methods: TREOR90 [31], DICVOL96 [32] and X-Cell [33] using the Reflex module incorporated in the Biovia Materials Studio software [34]. Through all three indexing techniques, a monoclinic common solution (a= 17.5567 Å, b= 4.8948 Å, c= 16.7413 Å,  $\beta$ =114.68°) with a relatively high figure of merit (F.O.M.) was obtained

The vibrational data (both FT-IR and Raman) indicate the transformation of sodium salt in the corresponding acid: the appearing of new bands in the IR spectra, at 1713 and 3210 cm<sup>-1</sup>, assigned to C=O and O-H stretching vibrations from the –COOH group, Figure 14b, and the shift of the asymmetric stretching vibration of CO<sub>2</sub> to higher frequency after the COOH formation (from 1684 to 1729 cm<sup>-1</sup>), Figure 14c [35].

#### **CONCLUSIONS**

The sodium (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate salt (denoted as AGM) crystallizes in triclinic system, and belongs to the P-1 space group, having four molecules in the asymmetric unit. The crystal structure of AGM shows that the compound comprises (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate (CBA) anions, sodium cations and one water molecule. Three cations of Na from the asymmetric unit are coordinated with six O atoms, while one Na cation with five oxygen atoms. The (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate anions and water molecules are held in the crystal structure also by N-H...O, O-H...O hydrogen bonds, four being intermolecular and nine intramolecular hydrogen bonds.

From the Hirshfeld analysis conducted on the four molecules of CBA and water, it appears that the strongest interactions which aggregate the structure are the coordination bonds between  $O^--Na^+$  and the hydrogen bonds that contribute to the formation of the synthons. Fingerprint breakdown shows that the most numerous interactions are van der Waals (H...H, O...H/H...O, C...H/H...C) and coordinative (O...Na).

Two of (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate molecules from the asymmetric unit are coupled by inversion with neighbouring equivalent molecules, forming  $R_2^2(8)$  and  $R_2^2(18)$  supramolecular assemblies and the other two molecules of the asymmetric unit are coupled to each other by pseudo inversion forming a  $R_2^2(18)$  synthon. If only the sodium cations are considered, they lay on both sides of the crystallographic plane (0 0 1), in the proximity of it.

FT-IR and Raman spectra of AGM are reported for the first time. We used calculated vibrational spectra on AGM monomer and two configurations of dimers for assigning the normal modes. In general, calculated modes on the two dimers are in better agreement with experimental data, especially for the normal modes belonging to the functional groups involved in hydrogen bonds. Dimer II provides better computational results above 1300 cm<sup>-1</sup>, while dimer I performs a better fit for the modes below 1000 cm<sup>-1</sup>. In between, both dimers present similar results. This emphasizes the importance of choosing a starting geometry that mimics as much as possible the real molecular interactions when calculating vibrational properties of molecules.

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#### **Declarations of interest:** none

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# Journal Pre-proof

# Structural, spectroscopic and theoretical studies of sodium (2carbamoylphenoxy) acetate salt

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- Crystal structure of sodium (2-carbamoylphenoxy) acetate has been reported.
- The Hirshfeld analysis shows that the strongest interactions are due to the coordination of Na...O and the hydrogen bonds involved in the formation of  $R_2^2(8)$  and  $R_2^2(18)$  synthons.
- FT-IR and Raman spectra are reported for the first time, together with a full assignment of vibrational bands.
- Two possible dimer conformations are chosen for calculating the vibrational spectra by DFT methods.

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