# Molecular Baskets form Inclusion Complexes with Phenethylamine Drugs in Water 

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## Supporting Information

## General information:

All chemicals were purchased from commercial sources and used as received. All titrations were performed using $90 \% 30 \mathrm{mM}$ phosphate buffer solution with $10 \% \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}, \mathrm{pH}=7.0 \pm 0.1$ as the solvent. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra were recorded at 300 K by a Bruker 600 MHz spectrometer. Dimethylformamide solvent peaks were used as internal standard to calibrate chemical shift. Deuterated solvents $\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ were purchased from Cambridge Isotope Laboratories. High resolution mass spectrometry electrospray ionization (HRMSESI) spectra were recorded on a Bruker Micro-TOF ESI instrument using 25 mM ammonium bicarbonate in water, $\mathrm{pH}=7.0 \pm 0.1$ as the solvent.




Figure S1. (Top) ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra ( $600 \mathrm{MHz}, 300 \mathrm{~K}$ ) of 1.0 mM solution of basket 1 (i.e., $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ ), in 30 mM phosphate buffer solution at $\mathrm{pH}=7.0 \pm 0.1$ and containing $10 \% \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, obtained after incremental addition of 60.0 mM standard solution of $(1 R, 2 S)$-ephedrine $\mathbf{2}^{+}$; note that molar equivalents of guest $\mathbf{2}^{+}$are shown on right. (Bottom) Magnetic perturbation ( $\Delta \delta=\delta_{\text {observed }}-\delta_{\text {free }}$ ) of resonances from basket $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ (left) and ephedrine $\mathbf{2}^{+}$(right) obtained in supramolecular titration described on top. Note that we completed three titrations of which only one is shown here.


Figure S2. (Top) ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra ( $600 \mathrm{MHz}, 300 \mathrm{~K}$ ) of 1.0 mM solution of basket $\mathbf{1}$ (i.e., $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ ), in 30 mM phosphate buffer solution at $\mathrm{pH}=7.0 \pm 0.1$ and containing $10 \% \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, obtained after incremental addition of 60.0 mM standard solution of $(1 R, 2 R)$ pseudoephedrine $3^{+}$; note that molar equivalents of guest $3^{+}$are shown on right. (Bottom) Magnetic perturbation ( $\Delta \delta=\delta_{\text {observed }}$ $-\delta_{\text {free }}$ ) of resonances from basket $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ (left) and pseudoephedrine $\mathbf{3}^{+}$(right) obtained in supramolecular titration described on top. Note that we completed three titrations of which only one is shown here.



Figure S3. (Top) ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra $(600 \mathrm{MHz}, 300 \mathrm{~K})$ of 1.0 mM solution of basket $\mathbf{1}$ (i.e., $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ ), in 30 mM phosphate buffer solution at $\mathrm{pH}=7.0 \pm 0.1$ and containing $10 \% \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, obtained after incremental addition of 60.0 mM standard solution of $(1 S, 2 R)$ tranylcypromine $4^{+}$; note that molar equivalents of guest $4^{+}$are shown on right. (Bottom) Magnetic perturbation ( $\Delta \delta=\delta_{\text {observed }}$ $\left.-\delta_{\text {free }}\right)$ of resonances from basket $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ (left) and tranylcypromine $\mathbf{4}^{+}$(right) obtained in supramolecular titration described on top. Note that we completed three titrations of which only one is shown here.

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| Time to fit SSR <br> Fitted datapoints <br> Fitted params | $\begin{aligned} & 0.3823 \mathrm{~s} \\ & 2.4167 \mathrm{e}-4 \\ & 91 \\ & 15 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  |
| Parameters |  |  |  |  |  |
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| K ( $0 \rightarrow \infty$ ) |  | $3516.73$ | $\begin{aligned} & \pm 2.7403 \\ & \% \end{aligned}$ | $100.00$ |  |
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Figure S4. A change in ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR chemical shift of seven resonances from basket $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ as a function of increasing concentration of ephedrine $\mathbf{2}^{+}$(Figure S1) were subjected to nonlinear regression analysis using 1:1 (top), 1:2 (middle), and 2:1 (bottom) binding models; see: supramolecular.org for more information about these models and fitting procedures. Covariance of fits were 5.5371 . $10^{-4}(1: 1), 1.5179 \cdot 10^{-4}(1: 2)$, and $2.6449 \cdot 10^{-4}(2: 1)$. Note that for two additional titrations covariances were found to be: Titration $2=1.4517 \cdot 10^{-3}(1: 1), 2.6825 \cdot 10^{-4}(1: 2)$, and $3.9438 \cdot 10^{-4}(2: 1)$; Titration $3=1.6308 \cdot 10^{-3}(1: 1), 4.5012 \cdot 10^{-4}(1: 2)$, and 3.2895 $\cdot 10^{-4}(2: 1)$. For 1:2 binding model, we obtained the following values for binding constants: Titration $1-K_{1}=5261 \mathrm{M}^{-1}$ and $K_{2}=$ $66 \mathrm{M}^{-1}$; Titration $2-K_{1}=7815 \mathrm{M}^{-1}$ and $K_{2}=45 \mathrm{M}^{-1}$; Titration $3-K_{1}=7900 \mathrm{M}^{-1}$ and $K_{2}=50 \mathrm{M}^{-1}$. All data files are available from the corresponding author for further analysis. Please use badjic.1@osu.edu for submitting your request.


Fitter: NMR 1:1 Fit Summary Save

| Details |  |
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| Time to fit | 0.2742 s |
| SSR | $7.1417 \mathrm{e}-4$ |
| Fitted datapoints | 91 |
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| Parameters |  |  |  |  |
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| $\mathbf{K}_{11}(0 \rightarrow \infty)$ | $\begin{aligned} & 5263.72 \\ & M^{-1} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \pm 9.8618 \\ & \% \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1000.0 \\ & M^{-1} \end{aligned}$ |  |
| $\mathrm{K}_{21}(0 \rightarrow \infty)$ | $\begin{aligned} & 1584.39 \\ & \mathrm{M}^{-1} \end{aligned}$ | $\pm 21.1337$ | $\begin{aligned} & 100.00 \\ & \mathrm{M}^{-1} \end{aligned}$ |  |
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Figure S5. A change in ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR chemical shift of seven resonances from basket $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ as a function of increasing concentration of pseudoephedrine $\mathbf{3}^{+}$(Figure S2) were subjected to nonlinear regression analysis using 1:1 (top), 1:2 (middle), and 2:1 (bottom) binding models; see: supramolecular.org for more information about these models and fitting procedures. Covariance of fits were $1.9522 \cdot 10^{-3}(1: 1), 3.0535 \cdot 10^{-4}(1: 2)$, and $5.8550 \cdot 10^{-4}(2: 1)$. Note that for two additional titrations covariances were found to be: Titration $2=2.2833 \cdot 10^{-3}(1: 1), 5.1843 \cdot 10^{-4}(1: 2)$, and $5.4900 \cdot 10^{-4}(2: 1)$; Titration $3=2.4308 \cdot 10^{-3}(1: 1), 1.1997 \cdot 10^{-3}$ (1:2), and $8.0538 \cdot 10^{-5}(2: 1)$. For 1:2 binding model, we obtained the following values for binding constants: Titration $1-K_{1}=$ $6329 \mathrm{M}^{-1}$ and $K_{2}=51 \mathrm{M}^{-1}$; Titration $2-K_{1}=7864 \mathrm{M}^{-1}$ and $K_{2}=52 \mathrm{M}^{-1}$; Titration $3-K_{1}=4631 \mathrm{M}^{-1}$ and $K_{2}=72 \mathrm{M}^{-1}$. All data files are available from the corresponding author for further analysis. Please use badjic.1@osu.edu for submitting your request.

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Figure S6. A change in ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR chemical shift of seven resonances from basket $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ as a function of increasing concentration of tranylcypromine $\mathbf{4}^{+}$(Figure S3) were subjected to nonlinear regression analysis using 1:1 (top), 1:2 (middle), and 2:1 (bottom) binding models; see: supramolecular.org for more information about these models and fitting procedures. Covariance of fits were $1.5076 \cdot 10^{-2}(1: 1), 2.9997 \cdot 10^{-3}(1: 2)$, and $1.9764 \cdot 10^{-3}(2: 1)$. Note that for two additional titrations covariances were found to be: Titration $2=8.1079 \cdot 10^{-3}(1: 1), 5.5525 \cdot 10^{-4}(1: 2)$, and $2.2728 \cdot 10^{-3}(2: 1)$; Titration $3=1.1419 \cdot 10^{-2}(1: 1), 1.3002 \cdot 10^{-3}$ (1:2), and $2.3828 \cdot 10^{-3}(2: 1)$. For 1:2 binding model, we obtained the following values for binding constants: Titration $1-K_{1}=$ $32056 \mathrm{M}^{-1}$ and $K_{2}=25 \mathrm{M}^{-1}$; Titration $2-K_{1}=10099 \mathrm{M}^{-1}$ and $K_{2}=37 \mathrm{M}^{-1}$; Titration $3-K_{1}=19451 \mathrm{M}^{-1}$ and $K_{2}=54 \mathrm{M}^{-1}$. All data files are available from the corresponding author for further analysis. Please use badjic.1@osu.edu for submitting your request.


Figure S7. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $600 \mathrm{MHz}, 298 \mathrm{~K}$ ) spectra of 0.05 to 50 mM ephedrine $\mathbf{2}^{+}$in 30 mM phosphate buffer solution at $\mathrm{pH} 7.0 \pm$ 0.1 .


Figure S8. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $600 \mathrm{MHz}, 298 \mathrm{~K}$ ) spectra of 0.05 to 50 mM pseudoephedrine $\mathbf{3}^{+}$in 30 mM phosphate buffer solution at pH $7.0 \pm 0.1$.


Figure S9. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $600 \mathrm{MHz}, 298 \mathrm{~K}$ ) spectra of 0.05 to 50 mM tranylcypromine $\mathbf{4}^{+}$in 30 mM phosphate buffer solution at pH $7.0 \pm 0.1$.

Table S1. Akaike information criterion (AIC) scores and Akaike weights ( $w_{\mathrm{i}}$ ) obtained for three independent titrations in which ephedrine $\mathbf{2}^{+}$was added to basket $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ (Figures S1 and S4). The data were fit to three models ( $1: 1,1: 2$, and $2: 1$ ) with AIC and $w_{\mathrm{i}}$ obtained using formulas from reference 24.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Model 1:1 | Model 1:2 | Model 2:1 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| AIC | Titration I | -1138.3305 | $\underline{-1240.0953}$ | -1189.5626 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $w_{i}$ |  | $6 \cdot 10^{-45}$ | $\underline{1}$ | $1 \cdot 10^{-22}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| AIC | Titration II | -1295.6355 | $\underline{-1468.7606}$ | -1425.5940 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $w_{i}$ |  | $7 \cdot 10^{-76}$ | $\underline{1}$ | $2 \cdot 10^{-19}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| AIC | Titration III | -1116.1261 | -1226.2845 | $\underline{-1257.0181}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $w_{i}$ |  | $7 \cdot 10^{-62}$ | $4 \cdot 10^{-14}$ | $\underline{1}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table S2. Akaike information criterion (AIC) scores and Akaike weights ( $w_{\mathrm{i}}$ ) obtained for three independent titrations in which tranylcypromine $\mathbf{4}^{+}$was added to basket $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ (Figures S3 and S6). The data were fit to three models ( $1: 1,1: 2$, and $2: 1$ ) with AIC and $w_{i}$ obtained using formulas from reference 24.

|  |  | Model 1:1 | Model 1:2 | Model 2:1 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| AIC | Titration I | -975.0808 | -1128.6096 | $\underline{-1172.4171}$ |
| $w_{i}$ |  | $2 \cdot 10^{-86}$ | $\underline{1}$ |  |
| AIC | Titration II | -1036.4028 | $\underline{-1301.9258}$ | -1153.9447 |
| $w_{i}$ |  | $5 \cdot 10^{-116}$ | $\underline{1}$ | $5 \cdot 10^{-65}$ |
| AIC | Titration III | -1005.8523 | $\underline{-1217.9896}$ | -1154.3860 |
| $w_{i}$ | $8 \cdot 10^{-93}$ | $\underline{1}$ | $2 \cdot 10^{-28}$ |  |





Figure S10. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS - ESI) of three solutions ( 25 mM ammonium bicarbonate buffer at $\mathrm{pH} 7.0 \pm 0.1$ ) of ephedrine $\mathbf{2}^{+}$and basket $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ in various proportions: Top - $100 \mu \mathrm{M}$ of $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ and $100 \mu \mathrm{M}$ of ephedrine ( $\mathbf{2}^{+}: \mathbf{1}^{6-}=1: 1$ ); Middle - 10 $\mu \mathrm{M}$ of $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ and $100 \mu \mathrm{M}$ of ephedrine ( $\mathbf{2}^{+}: \mathbf{1}^{6-}=10: 1$ ); $100 \mu \mathrm{M}$ of $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ and $10 \mu \mathrm{M}$ of ephedrine ( $\mathbf{2}^{+}: \mathbf{1}^{6-}=1: 10$ ).


Figure S11. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS - ESI) of three solutions ( 25 mM ammonium bicarbonate buffer at $\mathrm{pH} 7.0 \pm 0.1$ ) of pseudoephedrine $\mathbf{3}^{+}$and basket $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ in various proportions: Top - $100 \mu \mathrm{M}$ of $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ and $100 \mu \mathrm{M}$ of pseudoephedrine ( $\mathbf{3}^{+}: \mathbf{1}^{6-}=1: 1$ ); Middle $-10 \mu \mathrm{M}$ of $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ and $100 \mu \mathrm{M}$ of pseudoephedrine ( $\mathbf{3}^{+}: \mathbf{1}^{6-}=10: 1$ ); $100 \mu \mathrm{M}$ of $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ and $10 \mu \mathrm{M}$ of pseudoephedrine $\left(\mathbf{3}^{+}: \mathbf{1}^{6-}=\right.$ 1:10).


Figure S12. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS - ESI) of three solutions ( 25 mM ammonium bicarbonate buffer at $\mathrm{pH} 7.0 \pm 0.1$ ) of tranylcypromine $\mathbf{4}^{+}$and basket $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ in various proportions: Top - $100 \mu \mathrm{M}$ of $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ and $100 \mu \mathrm{M}$ of tranylcypromine ( $\mathbf{4}^{+}: \mathbf{1}^{6-}=1: 1$ ); Middle $-10 \mu \mathrm{M}$ of $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ and $100 \mu \mathrm{M}$ of tranylcypromine $\left(\mathbf{4}^{+}: \mathbf{1}^{6-}=10: 1\right) ; 100 \mu \mathrm{M}$ of $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ and $10 \mu \mathrm{M}$ of tranylcypromine $\left(\mathbf{4}^{+}: \mathbf{1}^{6-}=\right.$ 1:10).



Figure S13. (Top) An incremental addition of 10.0 mM standard solution of tranylcypromine $\mathbf{4}^{+}$( 30 mM aqueous phosphate buffer at $\mathrm{pH}=7.0 \pm 0.1)$ to 1.0 mM of basket $\mathbf{1}^{6-}(30 \mathrm{mM}$ aqueous phosphate buffer at $\mathrm{pH}=7.0 \pm 0.1)$ was monitored with isothermal titration calorimeter (ITC) at 298.0 K . (Bottom) The data were fit to a consecutive binding model (i.e., multiple sites) to give binding constants $K_{1}$ and $K_{2}$ comparable to those obtained from ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR titration (Figure S6). The data would fit to 1:1 binding model as well although with the n value of circa 0.5 . With the assumption that the binding stoichiometry is indeed 1:2 (from ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR and MS measurements), the discrepancy in the n value (and the inflection point) could be due to weak binding and the concentration issues. In any case, the dominant complexation event has $\Delta H^{\circ}<0$.

## Computational Studies:

General Calculation Notes: To investigate host guest complexes of $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ with phenethylamines $\mathbf{2}^{+\boldsymbol{+}} \mathbf{4}^{+}$, a combination of conformational searches in Schrodinger's Macromodel ${ }^{1}$ were used in conjunction with a nucleus independent chemical shift (NICS) calculation carried out in Gaussian 16. ${ }^{2}$ All geometry optimizations, completed prior to NICS calculations for the two lowest energy conformers of the host, were completed at the B3LYP/6-31+G(d) level of theory with PCM water solvation. Frequency calculations were carried out for all optimized molecules, to confirm the structures were minima on the potential energy surface. In the following sections the NICS calculation is described, then the concept of combining the calculation of a NICS map with a docking calculation, followed by a more technical explanation of exactly how the two were combined for this study.

Conformational Study of $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ : In order to investigate the conformations of $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ a conformational search was carried out in Macromodel. For this search the host alone was built in a conformation with all three alpha carboxylates pointing toward the cavity (OPLS3 force field). The search was set up using the Monte Carlo Multiple Minimum (MCMM) method with water solvation. The number of steps was adjusted to 10000, and all other parameters were left at the default settings. Analysis of the conformations produced showed two main poses of the host (each corresponding to a group of conformers with close energy). The first pose was the lowest in energy and was referred to as $1^{6-}{ }_{A}$ and the second pose was higher in energy and was referred to as $\mathbf{1}^{6-}{ }_{\text {b }}$. The structural feature that sets the two poses (sets of conformers) apart is the number of alpha carboxylates they direct toward the center of the host. Specifically, the $\mathbf{1}^{66}{ }_{A}$ conformer was noted to insert all three alpha carboxylates into the center of the cavity while $\mathbf{1}^{6-\text { b }}$ had two alpha carboxylates and one gamma carboxylate pointed towards the center of the cavity. A table is given below which summarizes the energies of the conformers found as well as a designation, A or B, corresponding to the orientation of the glutamate carboxylates (Table S3). Since conformers $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ and $\mathbf{1}^{6-}{ }_{B}$ were the most found and were lower in energy, they were selected as representative conformers of the host and used in the following calculations.

Table S3. Energies of conformers found in the MCMM (OPLS3) conformation search for $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ with designations of $A$ or $B$ for each conformer, $\mathbf{1}^{6-}{ }_{A}$ and $\mathbf{1}^{6-}{ }^{-}$. Additionally, designations of $C$ and $D$ were given for two or three beta carboxylates pointed toward the cavity, respectively.

| Conformer Number | OPLS3e Energy (kJ/mol) | Relative Energy (kcal/mol) | Designation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | -1353.80 | 0.00 | A |
| 2 | -1353.50 | 0.07 | A |
| 3 | -1350.09 | 0.89 | B |
| 4 | -1349.79 | 0.96 | B |
| 5 | -1349.22 | 1.10 | B |
| 6 | -1346.73 | 1.69 | A |
| 7 | -1346.43 | 1.76 | A |
| 8 | -1346.43 | 1.76 | A |
| 9 | -1346.36 | 1.78 | C |
| 10 | -1346.05 | 1.85 | C |
| 11 | -1344.32 | 2.27 | B |
| 12 | -1343.11 | 2.56 | B |
| 13 | -1343.11 | 2.56 | B |
| 14 | -1343.04 | 2.57 | D |
| 15 | -1342.80 | 2.63 | B |
| 16 | -1342.79 | 2.63 | B |
| 17 | -1341.50 | 2.94 | A |
| 18 | -1341.20 | 3.01 | A |
| 19 | -1341.20 | 3.01 | A |
| 20 | -1340.55 | 3.17 | C |
| 21 | -1339.70 | 3.37 | A |
| 22 | -1339.51 | 3.42 | C |
| 23 | -1339.38 | 3.45 | A |
| 24 | -1339.14 | 3.51 | C |
| 25 | -1338.83 | 3.58 | C |
| 26 | -1337.82 | 3.82 | B |
| 27 | -1337.76 | 3.83 | B |
| 28 | -1337.59 | 3.88 | B |
| 29 | -1337.54 | 3.89 | B |
| 30 | -1337.23 | 3.96 | B |
| 31 | -1337.05 | 4.00 | B |
| 32 | -1336.80 | 4.06 | B |
| 33 | -1336.16 | 4.22 | B |
| 34 | -1335.16 | 4.46 | D |
| 35 | -1335.10 | 4.47 | B |
| 36 | -1334.79 | 4.54 | B |
| 37 | -1334.62 | 4.59 | C |
| 38 | -1334.43 | 4.63 | A |
| 39 | -1334.40 | 4.64 | A |
| 40 | -1334.13 | 4.70 | A |
| 41 | -1334.04 | 4.72 | C |
| 42 | -1333.39 | 4.88 | C |

NICS Calculations: A NICS calculation was carried out by calculating magnetic shielding values for a box of ghost atoms with lengths $20 \AA \times 20 \AA \times 15 \AA$ centered on the bottom of the host and a $0.1 \AA$ distance between of ghost atoms. The two conformers of basket, $1^{6-}$ A and $1^{6-}$ B, had NICS maps calculated. To generate the ghost atom coordinates, a MATLAB ${ }^{3}$ script was written which can determine a $Z$ axis via the selection of 3 co-planar atoms at the bottom of the host. A grid was then created aligned with the $Z$ axis of the host to form the map. Magnetic shielding values were computed at each of the ghost atom coordinates with B3LYP/6-31+G(d) level of theory with PCM water solvation using the GIAO method. ${ }^{4-5}$ The resulting data were analyzed and plotted using MATLAB resulting in shielding maps of the two hosts (Figure S14 and S15).

Magnetic Perturbation of Nuclei - Concept: In NMR titrations for host-guest complexes, one generally observes a steady shift in the chemical shift of resonances corresponding to the host or guest which are then fit to complexation equilibria models to obtain binding constants. Intrinsic to this process is the generation of a parameter, $\Delta \delta$, which describes the change in chemical shift between the bound and free guest:

$$
\Delta \delta=\delta_{\text {bound }}-\delta_{\text {free }}
$$

Contributing to the observed chemical shift can be many equilibria. For instance, the $\delta_{\text {free }}$ state is the Boltzmann weighted average of the chemical shifts of all exchanging conformations of the molecule in solution. The bound state's chemical shift, $\delta_{\text {bound }}$, is likewise comprised of the Boltzmann weighted average of the chemical shifts of all exchanging conformations of the host-guest complex. To compute the experimentally observable parameter $\Delta \delta$, the combination of two calculations was used: a Monte-Carlo Molecular Mechanics (MCMM) search with the host frozen (docking) and the previously explained NICS calculation. In this workflow, the NICS calculation provides a map which estimates the "shielding" effect which is typically considered the main contribution to the change in chemical shift upon binding, $\Delta \delta$. With this map, one can take docked poses of the guest molecule in the host and assign a shielding value to each proton based on the closest surrounding points in the NICS map (<0.1 Å). After each proton in each pose has been assigned an estimate of the $\Delta \delta$ value, one can calculate the ensemble average of all docked poses by weighing the estimated $\Delta \delta$ values by the energies found in the MCMM conformational search. After Boltzmann weighting the contributions to the ensemble average one can then compare the assigned estimates to the observed $\Delta \delta$ values (e.g., Figure 4 in the main text). As described in the main text, we also used an RMSE criterium to identify single pose which best reflects the host-guest complex.


Figure S14. Depictions of the shielding environment for $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ A (a) with host atoms shown (b) without host atoms shown.


Figure S15. Depictions of the shielding environment for $\mathbf{1}^{6-\mathrm{B}}$ (a) with host atoms shown (b) without host atoms shown.

Magnetic Perturbation of Nuclei - Computational Procedure: After generation of the NICS maps for the two hosts, a MCMM search was carried out for [2-4 $\left.\subset \mathbf{1}_{\mathrm{A} / \mathrm{B}}\right]^{5-}$ complexes using MacroModel (OPLS3e, water solvation). The MCMM search was prepared such that coordinates of $\mathbf{1}^{6-}{ }_{\text {A }}$ and $\mathbf{1}^{6-\text { B }}$ basket hosts were frozen while guests $\mathbf{2}^{+}-\mathbf{4}^{+}$were allowed to freely move, rotate, and go through dihedral changes within the pocket of the host. This was done by performing manual set-up for the MCMM search (OPLS3) within the MacroModel GUI as explained in MacroModel's manual. ${ }^{6}$ From this calculation, essentially docking, many poses were generated for each host-guest pair. Importantly, the hosts' coordinates were fixed in the same position as for the previous NICS calculation to allow the direct comparison of the coordinates of the hydrogens on the guest molecule to the coordinates of ghost atoms in the NICS map. By using a distance criterium, ghost atom coordinates within $0.1 \AA$ A of each proton were found and the average of all points within that distance was assigned to that proton as its $\Delta \delta_{\text {comp }}$ value. After each pose had all resonances assigned $\Delta \delta_{\text {comp }}$ values, the ensemble average $<\Delta \delta_{\text {comp }}>$ for each resonance was computed by Boltzmann weighting $\Delta \delta_{\text {comp }}$ from each pose using its steric energy (see Tables $S 4-S 9$ ):

$$
\left\langle\Delta \delta_{H_{i}}\right\rangle=\frac{\sum_{j=1}^{n}\left[e^{-E_{j} / k_{B} T} \Delta \delta_{(c o m p) j H_{i}}\right]}{\sum_{j=1}^{n} e^{-E_{j} / k_{B} T}}
$$

In the formula, $\left\langle\Delta \delta_{H_{i}}\right\rangle$ is the ensemble averaged $\Delta \delta_{\text {comp }}$ for proton $\mathrm{i}, E_{j}$ is the energy of pose $\mathrm{j}, \Delta \delta_{j, H_{i}}$ is the assigned $\Delta \delta_{\text {comp }}$ for proton $i$ in pose $j$, and $n$ is equal to the number of poses found in the MCMM search. After calculation of the ensemble averages $\left\langle\Delta \delta_{\text {comp }}>\right.$ for each proton, they were compared with the $\Delta \delta_{\text {exp }}$ values from the NMR titrations. Calculated $<\Delta \delta_{\text {comp }}>$ against $\Delta \delta_{\text {exp }}$ values are shown in Figures S16-S18. As discussed in the main text, we used the following approach to identify the binding pose of drugs within baskets. Each computed pose of $[\mathbf{2}-\mathbf{4} \subset \mathbf{1}]^{5-}$ had assigned $\Delta \delta_{\text {comp }}$ value for each proton from $\mathbf{2}^{+}-\mathbf{4}^{+}$. For each pose, we then compared these values to $\Delta \delta_{\text {exp }}$ values using an RMSE method:

$$
R M S E=\sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N}\left(\Delta \delta_{\text {comp }, i}-\Delta \delta_{\text {exp }, i}\right)^{2}}
$$

Where above $N$ is the number of observable protons in each guest molecule. After RMSE analysis, the pose with the lowest RMSE was taken as the representative structure for the host guest complex (Figures S19-S21).

Table S4. Energies of conformers found in the MCMM (OPLS3) conformation search for $\mathbf{1}^{6-}{ }_{A}$ with ephedrine $\mathbf{2}^{+}$.

| Conformer | Energy OPLS3e (kJ/mol) | Conformer | Energy OPLS3e (kJ/mol) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | -3888.857 | 20 | -3873.081 |
| 2 | -3888.208 | 21 | -3873.057 |
| 3 | -3887.955 | 22 | -3872.558 |
| 4 | -3884.369 | 23 | -3872.304 |
| 5 | -3884.018 | 24 | -3871.888 |
| 6 | -3883.788 | 25 | -3871.693 |
| 7 | -3883.119 | 26 | -3871.668 |
| 8 | -3879.516 | 27 | -3871.271 |
| 9 | -3878.947 | 28 | -3871.161 |
| 10 | -3878.539 | 29 | -3870.798 |
| 11 | -3877.853 | 30 | -3870.745 |
| 12 | -3876.667 | 31 | -3870.695 |
| 13 | -3874.891 | 32 | -3870.512 |
| 14 | -3874.658 | 33 | -3869.733 |
| 15 | -3874.317 | 34 | -3869.343 |
| 16 | -3874.199 | 35 | -3869.299 |
| 17 | -3873.881 | 36 | -3869.104 |
| 18 | -3873.393 | 37 | -3868.459 |
| 19 | -3873.16 | 38 | -3868.378 |

Table S5. Energies of conformers found in the MCMM conformation search (OPLS3) for $\mathbf{1}^{6-}{ }_{A}$ with pseudoephedrine $\mathbf{3}^{+}$.

| Conformer | Energy OPLS3e (kJ/mol) | Conformer | Energy OPLS3e (kJ/mol) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | -3873.083 | 27 | -3858.165 |
| 2 | -3871.267 | 28 | -3857.601 |
| 3 | -3871.021 | 29 | -3857.291 |
| 4 | -3869.941 | 30 | -3856.864 |
| 5 | -3869.915 | 31 | -3856.271 |
| 6 | -3869.092 | 32 | -3855.425 |
| 7 | -3868.764 | 33 | -3855.232 |
| 8 | -3868.542 | 34 | -3855.147 |
| 9 | -3868.397 | 35 | -3854.886 |
| 10 | -3865.416 | 36 | -3854.801 |
| 11 | -3864.906 | 37 | -3854.665 |
| 12 | -3864.271 | 38 | -3854.593 |
| 13 | -3864.167 | 39 | -3854.517 |
| 14 | -3863.66 | 40 | -3854.374 |
| 15 | -3862.932 | 41 | -3853.993 |
| 16 | -3861.849 | 42 | -3853.941 |
| 17 | -3860.684 | 43 | -3853.939 |
| 18 | -3860.664 | 44 | -3853.599 |
| 19 | -3860.18 | 45 | -3853.38 |
| 20 | -3860.08 | 46 | -3853.205 |
| 21 | -3859.446 | 47 | -3852.976 |
| 22 | -3859.201 | 48 | -3852.796 |
| 23 | -3859.02 | 49 | -3852.736 |
| 24 | -3858.641 | 50 | -3852.685 |
| 25 | -3858.455 | 51 | -3852.528 |
| 26 | -3858.219 | 52 | -3852.36 |
|  |  | 53 | -3852.128 |

Table S6. Energies of conformers found in the MCMM conformation search (OPLS3) for $\mathbf{1}^{6-}{ }_{A}$ with tranylcypromine $\mathbf{4}^{+}$.

| Conformer | Energy OPLS3e (kJ/mol) |
| :---: | :---: |
| 1 | -3902.989 |
| 2 | -3902.941 |
| 3 | -3902.65 |
| 4 | -3902.208 |
| 5 | -3901.936 |
| 6 | -3901.524 |
| 7 | -3900.746 |
| 8 | -3899.852 |
| 9 | -3899.317 |
| 10 | -3898.197 |
| 11 | -3893.906 |
| 12 | -3892.924 |
| 13 | -3890.053 |
| 14 | -3889.979 |
| 15 | -3889.114 |

Table S7. Energies of conformers found in the MCMM conformation search (OPLS3) for $\mathbf{1}^{6-}{ }_{\mathrm{B}}$ with ephedrine $\mathbf{2}^{+}$.

| Conformer | Energy OPLS3e (kJ/mol) |
| :---: | :---: |
| 1 | -3985.49 |
| 2 | -3983.412 |
| 3 | -3982.227 |
| 4 | -3975.632 |
| 5 | -3973.047 |
| 6 | -3972.781 |
| 7 | -3971.389 |
| 8 | -3969.826 |
| 9 | -3969.351 |
| 10 | -3968.989 |
| 11 | -3967.426 |
| 12 | -3967.164 |
| 13 | -3966.206 |
| 14 | -3965.75 |
| 15 | -3965.117 |

Table S8. Energies of conformers found in the MCMM conformation search (OPLS3) for $\mathbf{1}^{6-{ }_{B}}$ with pseudoephedrine $\mathbf{3}^{+}$.

| Conformer | Energy OPLS3e (kJ/mol) | Conformer | Energy OPLS3e (kJ/mol) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | -3967.762 | 24 | -3953.788 |
| 2 | -3965.665 | 25 | -3952.553 |
| 3 | -3965.152 | 26 | -3952.353 |
| 4 | -3964.09 | 27 | -3952.055 |
| 5 | -3963.893 | 28 | -3951.892 |
| 6 | -3963.309 | 29 | -3950.857 |
| 7 | -3962.989 | 30 | -3950.72 |
| 8 | -3960.152 | 31 | -3949.885 |
| 9 | -3960.042 | 32 | -3949.798 |
| 10 | -3959.121 | 33 | -3949.775 |
| 11 | -3958.988 | 34 | -3949.719 |
| 12 | -3957.821 | 35 | -3949.707 |
| 13 | -3957.534 | 36 | -3949.387 |
| 14 | -3957.414 | 37 | -3948.869 |
| 15 | -3956.785 | 38 | -3948.851 |
| 16 | -3956.646 | 39 | -3948.344 |
| 17 | -3956.31 | 40 | -3948.079 |
| 18 | -3956.061 | 41 | -3947.833 |
| 19 | -3955.825 | 42 | -3947.457 |
| 20 | -3954.516 | 43 | -3947.254 |
| 21 | -3954.499 | 44 | -3947.038 |
| 22 | -3954.259 | 45 | -3946.931 |
| 23 | -3954.083 |  |  |

Table S9. Energies of conformers found in the MCMM conformation search (OPLS3) for $\mathbf{1}^{6-{ }_{B}}$ with tranylcypromine $\mathbf{4}^{+}$.

| Conformer | Energy OPLS3e (kJ/mol) |
| :---: | :---: |
| 1 | -4009.645 |
| 2 | -4005.702 |
| 3 | -4002.858 |
| 4 | -4002.211 |
| 5 | -4001.441 |
| 6 | -4001.023 |
| 7 | -3999.733 |
| 8 | -3997.431 |
| 9 | -3996.416 |
| 10 | -3995.733 |
| 11 | -3993.74 |
| 12 | -3993.445 |
| 13 | -3991.671 |
| 14 | -3990.883 |
| 15 | -3990.795 |
| 16 | -3988.729 |


(a)

Experimental vs. Computed $\Delta \delta$ - Ephedrine

(b)


Figure S16. (a) Bar graph showing the ensemble averaged $<\Delta \delta_{\text {comp }}>$ and experimental $\Delta \delta_{\text {exp }}$ values for ephedrine $\mathbf{2}^{+}$docked inside basket $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ A. (b) Bar graph showing the ensemble averaged $<\Delta \delta_{\text {comp }}>$ and experimental $\Delta \delta_{\text {exp }}$ for ephedrine $\mathbf{2}^{+}$docked inside basket $\mathbf{1}^{6-}{ }_{\mathrm{B}}$.

(a)

(b)


Figure S17. (a) Bar graph showing the ensemble averaged $<\Delta \delta_{\text {comp }}>$ and experimental $\Delta \delta_{\text {exp }}$ values for pseudoephedrine $\mathbf{3}^{+}$docked inside basket $\mathbf{1}^{6-}$ A. (b) Bar graph showing the ensemble averaged $<\Delta \delta_{\text {comp }}>$ and experimental $\Delta \delta_{\text {exp }}$ values for pseudoephedrine $\mathbf{3}^{+}$docked inside basket $\mathbf{1}^{6-}{ }_{\text {B. }}$.

(a)

(b)


Figure S18. (a) Bar graph showing the ensemble averaged $<\Delta \delta_{\text {comp }}>$ and experimental $\Delta \delta_{\text {exp }}$ values for tranylcypromine $\mathbf{4}^{+}$docked inside basket $1^{6-}$ A. (b) Bar graph showing the ensemble averaged $<\Delta \delta_{\text {comp }}>$ and experimental $\Delta \delta_{\text {exp }}$ values for tranylcypromine $\mathbf{4}^{+}$docked inside basket $1^{6-}{ }_{\text {A. }}$.


Figure S19. (a/b) Two views of $\left[\mathbf{2} \subset \mathbf{1}_{A}\right]^{5-}$ having the lowest RMSE (Table 3 from main text). (c/d) Two views of $\left[\mathbf{2} \subset \mathbf{1}_{B}\right]^{5-}$ having the lowest RMSE (Table 3 from main text).


Figure S20. (a/b) Two views of $\left[\mathbf{3} \subset \mathbf{1}_{A}\right]^{5-}$ having the lowest RMSE (Table 3 from main text). (c/d) Two views of $\left[\mathbf{3} \subset \mathbf{1}_{B}\right]^{5-}$ having the lowest RMSE (Table 3 from main text).


Figure S21. ( $a / b$ ) Two views of $\left[4 \subset \mathbf{1}_{A}\right]^{5-}$ having the lowest RMSE (Table 3 from main text). (c/d) Two views of $\left[\mathbf{4} \subset \mathbf{1}_{B}\right]^{5-}$ having the lowest RMSE (Table 3 from main text).

## Optimized Coordinates from DFT Calculations:

$1^{6-}{ }_{A}$
$E($ RB3LYP $)=-3597.146467$
Number of Imaginary Frequencies $=0$

## Cartesian Coordinates:

O 14.79349500-7.65289700 15.70683800
O $15.07238500-4.0447570018 .55293400$

O 18.10629700-6.81330000 19.27538200

O 15.88292900-7.13091700 19.51543300
N 15.30023300-5.89842100 17.15370800

C 14.45296800-6.66520700 16.34552400
C 13.10317400-6.04125500 16.42368300
C 13.18648300-4.95693700 17.29840500
C 14.59531900-4.86420700 17.78023900
C 11.91826600-6.37956000 15.76592800

H 11.86733200-7.22058600 15.08001500
C 10.82177500-5.56256300 16.02722100
C $10.90278200-4.4689890016 .92380100$

C 12.08662500-4.14365800 17.58057300
H 12.16057800-3.30023600 18.26143900

C 9.38782200-5.58581000 15.49486300

H 9.23018300-6.15574400 14.57856500
C 9.12392600-4.04428100 15.45262400
H $9.78289000-3.5155600014 .75566300$
H 8.07844900 -3.79590900 15.24375000
C 9.51612100-3.82425600 16.95120300
H 9.47158700 -2.80886200 17.34655700
C 8.49338200 -5.94698100 16.68508200
C 7.68224800-7.01974300 16.97048800
C 16.69988700-6.24701800 17.41334100
H 16.88131300-7.11865800 16.77299600

H 10.86628400-15.34704100 17.65883200

O 8.87618200-17.17345000 16.44065100

O 8.87124600-18.40455700 18.33217000

C 8.99592200 -16.01046700 18.53901400

H 8.58950300 -16.19272800 19.54152700

H 8.38921700 -15.23133500 18.06165200
C 8.89752600 -17.30348600 17.70246200
O $11.49096600-4.1504220024 .24033500$
O $8.76616400-7.7401020025 .18182700$
O 12.08104100-8.04091400 24.80107900
O 12.47268500-8.12013200 27.02450900
N 10.30291700-5.98957700 25.03649700

C 10.57468700-4.95563500 24.13324300

C 9.54347800-5.03854300 23.06168000

C 8.72010700-6.12825500 23.34866900

C 9.21453200-6.75774900 24.60706600

C 9.32876300 -4.21333000 21.95513000 H 9.97269200 -3.36411400 21.74402400

C 8.23115000 -4.53270800 21.16033500

C 7.39458000 -5.63756100 21.45298300
C $7.62556500-6.4642670022 .54911900$
H 6.98608700-7.31039900 22.78469800

C 7.65506600 -3.86868500 19.90817800
H 7.98231500 -2.84556200 19.71990600

C 6.13515400-4.11075200 20.19078700

H 5.78134300-3.60344600 21.09466300

H 5.49628500-3.85287100 19.34008500

C 6.30352900-5.65464500 20.38190300

H 5.41409400 -6.23938200 20.61926600

C $7.84389000-4.8671860018 .76052700$

C 8.57547800 -4.84933700 17.59621900

C 11.14814400-6.29526500 26.19430000

H 11.89879900 -5.49572100 26.19768000

C 11.95958800 -7.62398500 25.98350600

| C 10.36771400-6.22203900 27.51957300 | C-7.30298700-7.80391900-0.08067600 |
| :---: | :---: |
| H 11.07707900-6.47093000 28.31408500 | C -5.45714000-8.35187500 2.06703100 |
| H 9.58779300-6.99091800 27.52986700 | C -6.97115900-6.84510200 0.87990700 |
| O 7.78736800-5.21446600 29.13900900 | H -8.00416400-7.58905000-0.88233600 |
| O 9.64505500-4.44864200 30.16649600 | C -6.07903300-7.11005900 1.91921300 |
| C 9.74379100-4.84062900 27.79487600 | H -4.76801700-8.55092800 2.88306000 |
| H 10.53551600-4.08091000 27.80834900 | C -3.24179200-11.15660600-0.60841100 |
| H 9.03946300-4.58518000 26.99412300 | C -2.79402800-11.19819900-1.96453300 |
| C 8.99475700-4.82471200 29.14424100 | C -2.03514300-11.54188300 0.25472000 |
| H 18.67994200-5.50391400 17.19182700 | H-2.24963500-11.84806100 1.27919800 |
| H 17.51873300-4.24612300 17.60652600 | C -1.31902600-11.61192800-1.91856100 |
| C 17.56105900-4.75248400 15.49430500 | H-0.88970900-11.98130600-2.85055800 |
| H 16.57091600-4.32672600 15.29169800 | C -1.38137200-12.59380000-0.70169500 |
| H 17.67720500-5.65380300 14.87949600 | H -0.39213000-12.92216300-0.36533900 |
|  | H-2.02348200-13.46121000-0.88521600 |
| $1^{6-}$ | C -1.01001600-10.41731000 0.09600000 |
|  | C - 0.51073600-9.48583300 1.00245700 |
| RB3LYP) $=-3597.145754$ | C -0.56680900-10.46158000-1.24850800 |
| Number of Imaginary Frequencies = 0 | C 0.46138400-8.61225400 0.50884000 |
|  | H -0.83862600-9.44814500 2.03758300 |
| Cartesian Coordinates: | C 0.39199300-9.57738500-1.73555400 |
| C -5.46942500-10.58765400-1.39060700 | C 0.89843800-8.65679000-0.81568300 |
| C -5.03841200-10.62807300-2.69575100 | H 0.74358600-9.60909400-2.76309900 |
| C -3.67404900-10.93560000-2.98768200 | C -5.73809000-10.44886000-4.04812700 |
| C -4.55394200-10.85687300-0.32701800 | H -6.82720600-10.50441300-4.04207700 |
| C -5.36648600-10.77920800 0.97027000 | C -3.55017600-10.93405200-4.51505100 |
| C -6.71755500-11.36849700 0.44524300 | H -2.66970400-11.42479700-4.93125800 |
| H -4.91793700-11.23849500 1.85184800 | C -4.95464300-11.52416400-4.87154500 |
| C -6.83278100-10.34587300-0.73350500 | H -5.17564300-11.48700200-5.94360300 |
| H-7.53373000-11.28036300 1.17025700 | H -5.09891100-12.54103300-4.49269800 |
| H -6.62760000-12.40482900 0.10416300 | C -5.13835900-9.19214400-4.67979100 |
| H -7.70437000-10.41474600-1.38530000 | C -5.69705000-7.95298800-4.98045200 |
| C-6.70235400-9.05073200 0.07030100 | C -3.78327600-9.49010800-4.96473100 |
| C-5.79560800-9.31944000 1.12493900 | C -4.84334900-7.02773300-5.58469800 |


| H -6.73770300-7.71860500-4.77414600 | C -7.19012500-3.63843900 2.77528300 |
| :---: | :---: |
| C -2.93474700-8.55552600-5.55222800 | H -7.81639100-3.16077100 2.01277400 |
| C - $3.50613300-7.31784700-5.85815600$ | C-5.98187700-2.72085200 3.04178400 |
| H -1.89453500 -8.77468000-5.77653500 | H -5.33151200-3.16789200 3.79809400 |
| C 1.23469200-7.54575200 1.20435100 | H-6.38579300-1.80217200 3.47591300 |
| C 1.95952700-7.62194800-0.98350600 | C-5.17563600-2.38529500 1.78371400 |
| C-7.46364800-5.45077600 1.05281300 | H -5.83604300-1.98138700 1.00436200 |
| C -5.98947900-5.88816500 2.77045000 | H -4.73765400-3.29868900 1.35495900 |
| C -2.90995900-6.12157500-6.51583200 | C -3.75969100-2.75712900-5.98610200 |
| C -5.12316100-5.64716900-6.07501100 | O-3.69841800-3.18712900-4.80362100 |
| O -6.18133600-5.03557800-6.02297800 | O-3.79562400-1.55084900-6.35740900 |
| O -1.75498400-5.96248000-6.89080100 | C -5.25452700-4.07579400-10.80663000 |
| O $2.58690500-7.35000100-1.99787200$ | O-5.18338600-4.91842000-11.75418300 |
| O 1.13794000-7.17959000 2.36902700 | O-5.91908600-2.99930500-10.82701200 |
| O-5.32609300-5.73456700 3.78646600 | C 2.52760200-4.57855400-0.17791100 |
| O-8.28391700-4.85040300 0.36976500 | C 6.50837600-7.70614900 1.02912700 |
| N -3.93397900-5.17586800-6.64255000 | C -4.01208000-1.38389400 1.98139500 |
| N -6.81353200-4.92425600 2.17605300 | C-8.12538000-3.83700700 4.02112200 |
| N 2.13044700-7.01871400 0.26743700 | O-8.41292000-2.77994300 4.64940800 |
| C -3.71540300-3.81523800-7.14576600 | O 3.35016800-3.62067500-0.17964900 |
| H -2.67512600-3.82264400-7.49300200 | O $1.35498400-4.57535900-0.63783600$ |
| C-4.61787300-3.47689200-8.34710600 | O-3.53277800-0.87610700 0.92138900 |
| H -5.66570300-3.46954000-8.03076500 | O -3.60520500-1.15440500 3.15806600 |
| H -4.37336200-2.45479400-8.64377300 | O 6.85099300-8.92750700 1.07958700 |
| C -4.43412400-4.41978300-9.53931100 | O 7.29993100-6.72417300 0.91294200 |
| H -3.37535700-4.44261600-9.83945700 | O-8.54502800-5.00106200 4.26028400 |
| H -4.68106200-5.45320600-9.26219900 | H $2.87334100-5.690530001 .61768700$ |
| C 3.01545300-5.88283600 0.54723200 |  |
| C 4.49978400-6.22350100 0.31885400 |  |
| H 4.67059700-6.42671900-0.74468600 |  |
| H 5.07361800-5.32850200 0.56571600 |  |
| C 4.99701600-7.40239600 1.16488500 |  |
| H 4.43915900-8.31570800 0.93076200 |  |
| H 4.80910000-7.18848000 2.22936500 |  |

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