#### Supplementary Information (SI) for CrystEngComm. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2025

Supplementary Information

#### Yellow and Red Polymorphic Co-crystals of Phenyl-Substituted Pyrazinacene and Naphthalene via π-

### Hole $\cdots \pi$ Interactions

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### S1. Preparation and TG studies of 1 with napthalene (2)

#### S1-1 Preparation of $1 \cdot 2$ (Y and R)

A chloroform solution (6 mL) of **1** (3.0 mg, 9.0  $\mu$ mol) and **2** (11 mg, 90  $\mu$ mol) was prepared in a vial. The solvent was allowed to evaporate naturally over one day, resulting in the precipitation of the yellow co-crystal of **1**•2 (**Y**) along with transparent crystals of **2**. Using the same method, a chloroform solution of **1** (3.0 mg, 9.0  $\mu$ mol) and **2** (1.1 mg, 9.0  $\mu$ mol) was evaporated, yielding the red co-crystal of **1**•2 (**R**).

When slow evaporation of chloroform with isopropanol was performed in a test tube, both 1•2 (Y and R) formed larger crystals. However, no selective formation was observed due to the volatilization of naphthalene.

#### S1-2. Thermogravimetric (TG) results

TG results indicate that the guest release process is consistent with 1:1 cocrystal for a)  $1 \cdot 2$  (**Y**) and b)  $1 \cdot 2$  (**R**), as shown in **Figure S1**. For both crystals, it was found that the removal process proceeds in two steps.

For 1.2 (Y), during the first step, heating up to around 90 °C resulted in the release of excess naphthalene adhered to the surface of the powder. A second-step reduction was observed between 90 °C and 105 °C. The measured mass loss at 105 °C was 27.9%, which is close to the calculated value of 27.7%.

For 1.2 (**R**), during the first step, naphthalene adhered to the surface of the powder was released up to around 70 °C. A second-step reduction was observed between 70 °C and 90 °C. The measured mass loss at 90 °C was 23.7%, which is close to the calculated value of 27.7%.

Because napthalene (2) can easily evaporate from the crystals at room temperature, it was not possible to easily distinguish napthalene (2) on the surface of the crystals from napthalene inside the crystals.



**Figure S1.** TG of a) **1-2** (**Y**) and b) **1-2** (**R**). The scan rate was 5.0 °C min<sup>-1</sup>.

# S2. Crystal data and Hirshfeld surface analysis of 1•2

# S2-1. Crystal data of $1 \cdot 2(Y)$ and $1 \cdot 2(R)$

The crystal data of two structures are shown in Table S1, and each structure was shown in Figures S2-3.

	1•2 (Y)	1•2 (R)
Chemical formula	$C_{20}H_{10}N_6 \bullet C_{10}H_8$	$C_{20}H_{10}N_6\bullet C_{10}H_8$
Description, color	Prismatic, yellow	Plate, red
Crystal size	$0.33 \times 0.25 \times 0.07$	$0.28 \times 0.21 \times 0.16$
Formula weight	462.50	462.50
<i>T</i> [K]	160	160
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
Space group	$P2_{1}/c$	$P2_{1}/c$
a [Å]	14.0115 (15)	12.312 (6)
<i>b</i> [Å]	7.1139 (7)	7.042 (4)
<i>c</i> [Å]	24.401 (3)	26.902 (13)
<i>α</i> [°]	90	90
β[°]	102.624 (4)	98.740 (17)
γ[°]	90	90
V[Å <sup>3</sup> ]	2373.4 (4)	2306 (2)
Ζ	4	4
$D_{\rm c} [{\rm g}~{\rm cm}^{-3}]$	1.294	1.332
F(000)	960	960
R <sub>int</sub>	0.063	0.072

Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinements for 1•2 (Y) and 1•2 (R)

Reflections measured	25961	22427
Reflections independent	4199	4065
GOF	1.041	1.076
$R\left[(I) > 2\sigma(I)\right]$	0.048	0.065
$wR(F_o^2)$	0.128	0.149
CCDC No.	2419629	2419630

### S2-2. X-ray crystal structure of $1 \cdot 2$ (Y)

In the crystal structure (**Figure S2**), whole structures of **1** and napthalene (**2**) were observed in the asymmetric unit. H atoms attached to C atoms were refined as riding on their idealized positions, with C-H = 0.95 Å for aromatic atoms.



Figure S2. The molecular structure of 1.2 (Y) drawing by PLATON from checkCIF.

### S2-3. X-ray crystal structure of $1 \cdot 2(\mathbf{R})$

In the crystal structure (**Figure S3**), whole structures of **1** and napthalene (**2**) were observed in the asymmetric unit. H atoms attached to C atoms were refined as riding on their idealized positions, with C-H = 0.95 Å for aromatic atoms.



Figure S3. The molecular structure of 1.2 (R) drawing by PLATON from checkCIF.

# S2-4. Fingerprint plots of 1 in 1-2 (Y)

HS analysis shows the contribution of intermolecular interactions of 1.2 (Y) (Figure S4).



C (in)…All (out) 24.3% C (in)…C (out) 6.7%







## C (in)…N (out) 2.8%



### C (in)…H (out) 14.9%





**Figure S4.** Fingerprint plots for **1** in **1**•**2** (**Y**) showing  $d_e$  and  $d_i$  of 0.4–2.6 Å for all atoms.

# S2-5. Fingerprint plots of 2 in 1.2 (Y)

HS analysis shows the contribution of intermolecular interactions of 1.2 (Y) (Figure S5).



C (in)…All (out) 26.4% C (in)…C (out) 7.0%







C (in)…N (out) 5.6%



C (in)…H (out) 13.8%





**Figure S5.** Fingerprint plots for 2 in 1-2 (Y) showing  $d_e$  and  $d_i$  of 0.4–2.6 Å for all atoms.

# S2-6. Fingerprint plots of 1 in 1-2 (R)

HS analysis shows the contribution of intermolecular interactions of 1.2 (R) (Figure S6).



C (in)…All (out) 25.0% C (in)…C (out) 5.9%



N (in)…All (out) 29.5% N (in)…C (out) 6.4%







# C (in)…N (out) 4.7%



C (in)···H (out) 14.5%

# N (in)…N (out) 1.1%



N (in)····H (out) 22.0%





**Figure S6.** Fingerprint plots for 1 in 1-2 (**R**) showing  $d_e$  and  $d_i$  of 0.4–2.6 Å for all atoms.

## S2-7. Fingerprint plots of 2 in 1.2 (R)

HS analysis shows the contribution of intermolecular interactions of 1.2 (R) (Figure S7).



**C** (**in**)····**All** (**out**) **25.5%** C (**in**)····C (**out**) 14.2%







d i

C (in)…H (out) 3.1%

**H** (in)…All (out) 74.5% H (in)…C (out) 14.4%





H (in)…N (out) 24.0%

H (in)…H (out) 36.1%



**Figure S7.** Fingerprint plots for 2 in 1•2 (**R**) showing  $d_e$  and  $d_i$  of 0.4–2.6 Å for all atoms.

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### S3. pXRD studies of 1 with napthalene (2)

#### S3-1. pXRD studies

Powder X-ray diffraction (pXRD) pattern shows that the obtained powder matches the sum of the peaks calculated from the co-crystal and those of pure naphthalene (**Figure S8-9**).



**Figure S8.** pXRD patterns: a) powder sample of **1**•**2** (**Y**), b) simulation from the single crystal of **1**•**2** (**Y**) and c) powder sample of **2**.



**Figure S9.** pXRD patterns: a) powder sample of **1**•**2** (**R**), b) simulation from the single crystal of **1**•**2** (**R**) and c) powder sample of **2**.

#### S4. DFT calculations of co-crystal 1•2

Electrostatic potential (ESP) maps and molecular orbital energies were calculated for the crystal structure, which consists of two molecules of **1** and two molecules of naphthalene (**2**), using DFT with B3LYP 6-311+G (2df, 2p) sets, which clearly support the spectroscopic studies (**Figure S10-11**). The calculation results were in qualitatively good agreement with the spectroscopic results of **Figure 5b** and **Figure 5c**.



**Figure S10.** The energy potential maps of front and back views of a)  $1 \cdot 2$  (**Y**) and b)  $1 \cdot 2$  (**R**) from the crystal structures: the color of the potential is shown between  $-100 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  (red) to  $+100 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$  (blue).



Figure S11. Molecular orbital energy level diagrams of a) 1•2 (Y) and b) 1•2 (R).

Predicted UV/vis absorption spectra of 1 and the model structures of  $1 \cdot 2$  (**Y**) and  $1 \cdot 2$  (**R**) were obtained using TDDFT with the cam-B3LYP/6-311G<sup>\*\*</sup> method, based on the crystal structure containing two molecules of 1 and two molecules of naphthalene (2). The broad peaks, attributed to charge-transfer absorption bands, were observed experimentally for both  $1 \cdot 2$  (**Y**) and  $1 \cdot 2$  (**R**). These peaks were also confirmed by spectra predicted based on their structures. Although the predicted spectra are blue shifted compared to the experimental data, the absorption band of  $1 \cdot 2$  (**R**) appears at a longer wavelength than that of  $1 \cdot 2$  (**Y**), which is consistent with the experimental results (**Figure S12**).



Figure S12. Predicted UV/vis absorption spectra of 1, 1•2 (Y) and 1•2 (R) calculated using TDDFT cam-B3LYP 6-311G\*\* method.