

Supplementary Material

**The synthesis and structural characterization of peralkylated
triguanide superbases**

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General comments

Solvents and commercially available chemicals (supplied by Aldrich and Kemika) were purified by standard methods^[1] or used as purchased. Toluene, acetonitrile (predried using 3 Å mol. sieves) and dichloromethane were dried over calcium hydride by heating under reflux, distilled and kept over 3 Å or 4 Å molecular sieves (sodium in the case of toluene) under an argon atmosphere. Chloroform was predried with calcium chloride, dried over calcium sulphate and kept over 4 Å molecular sieves. Methanol was absolutized according to the Lund-Bjerrum method using activated magnesium turnings to yield a “cake”, followed by refluxing and distillation. Dry methanol was kept over 3 Å mol. sieves under an argon atmosphere. TBD and DBN were used as received and handled under argon. DIPEA was freshly distilled over 4 Å molecular sieves and kept under an argon atmosphere over 4 Å mol. sieves in a dark bottle. The monosubstituted guanidines **3a–b** were synthesized from benzotriazole-1-carboxamidinium tosylate and the corresponding amine according to the literature procedure.^[2] Deprotonation of the guanidinium tosylate salts was accomplished with freshly prepared sodium methoxide solution and afforded neutral guanidines **3a–b** in quantitative yield. All the ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker Avance (300 and 600 MHz) spectrometers with tetramethylsilane as an

internal standard. The chemical shifts are given in ppm. IR spectra were recorded using an ABB Bomem MB102 spectrophotometer (CsI optics, DTGS detector, KBr pellets technique). High resolution mass spectra were obtained with Waters Micromass Q-ToF micro and 4800 Plus Maldi TOF/ TOF Analyzer instruments. HPLC analyses were performed on a Varian ProStar Instrument supplied with a UV/Vis detector using a Restek UltraIBD C18 (reversed phase) 5 μm \times 250 mm \times 4.6 mm column operated at room temperature and a flow rate of 1 mL min⁻¹; gradient of 2 % acetic acid (solvent A) and methanol (solvent B): 95 % A + 5 % B, 0–5 min; 85 % A + 15 % B, 5–45min, 35 % A + 65 % B, 45–55min, 5 % A + 95 % B, after 55 min.

Details of data collection and crystal structure refinement are given in Table SM3. Selected bond distances and valence angles are listed in Table SM4. Data collection was performed on Oxford Diffraction Xcalibur CCD diffractometer with graphite-monochromated Cu $K\alpha$ radiation at 296 K using ω -scans at crystal to detector distance of 45 mm. Programs CrysAlis CCD and CrysAlis RED^[3] were used for data collection, cell refinement and data reduction. The structures was solved by direct methods. Refinement procedure by full-matrix least squares methods based on F^2 values against all reflections included anisotropic displacement parameters for all non-H atoms. The positions of hydrogen atoms, bonded to carbon and nitrogen atoms, were geometrically optimized applying the riding model. Calculations were performed with SHELXS97^[4] and SHELXL97^[4] (both operating under WinGX^[5] program package). The molecular graphics were done with PLATON98^[6] and Mercury.^[7] Supplementary crystallographic data set for the structure C₁₈H₃₂Cl₁N₇ is available through the Cambridge Structural Data base with the deposition number CCDC-995347. Copy of this information may be obtained free of charge from the director, CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge, CB2 1EZ, UK (fax: +44 1223 336 033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk or <http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk>).

The synthesis of Vilsmeier salt **2**

Tetramethylurea **1** (240 μL , 0.233 g, 2.0 mmol) was dissolved in dry toluene (3.0 mL) under an argon atmosphere in a three-necked round bottom flask, equipped with a condenser and a dropping funnel, immersed in an ice bath. Then oxalyl chloride (280 μL , 0.410 g, 3.23 mmol) was carefully added via a syringe. The flask was immersed in an oil bath and the light green reaction mixture was gently heated with stirring for 2 hours at 60–65°C, resulting in the precipitation of colourless crystalline product. The mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and the solvent was distilled off under reduced pressure using the apparatus shown in Figure SM1. After the solvent was removed, dry acetonitrile (2.0 mL) was added under vacuum using a syringe and the solution was cooled in an ice bath.



Figure SM1. The apparatus for toluene distillation under an argon atmosphere. Inset: a close-up view of the Vilsmeier salt **2** after removing toluene.

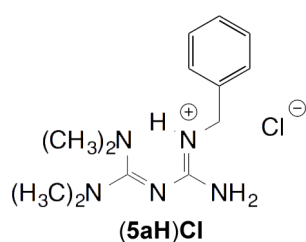
Triguanide synthesis

To a cold solution of Vilsmeier salt **2** (ice bath) in dry acetonitrile (2.0 mL), an acetonitrile solution of monosubstituted guanidine **3a–b** (0.5 mmol in 2.0 mL) was added via a syringe under vacuum. The apparatus was next filled with argon to prevent the hydrolysis of the Vilsmeier salt **2**. Finally, potassium fluoride (813 mg, 14.0 mmol) was added in one portion and the mixture was stirred at 60°C for 20 hours. Then *N,N*-diisopropylethylamine (345 μL , 0.258 g, 2.0 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture refluxed for another 24 hours.

Reaction mixture work up

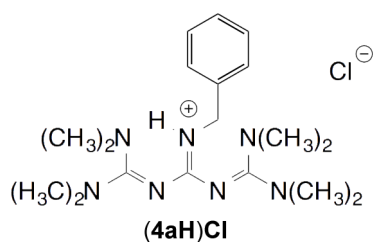
The solvent was removed in vacuo, and the red-brown oil was dissolved in saturated aqueous sodium carbonate solution (5 mL) and then extracted with diethylether (3×5 mL). The aqueous layer was again evaporated to dryness, the remaining solid was suspended in dry dichloromethane and the precipitated Na₂CO₃ was filtered off. Dichloromethane was removed in vacuo to afford a red-brown oil from which the product was precipitated out by trituration with ethylacetate. The crude product was separated by filtration and dried in air.

*N*⁴-Benzyl-*N*¹,*N*¹,*N*²,*N*²-tetramethylbiguanidium chloride ((5aH)Cl)



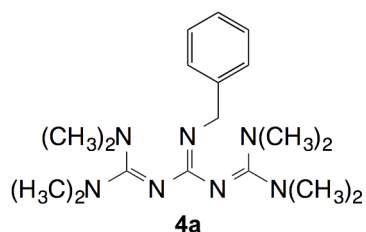
The title biguanide salt (0.038 g) was isolated as a white solid from the reaction of *N*-benzylguanidine and Vilsmeier salt in a 1:2 ratio by employing the above described work up procedure. mp 192–194 °C. ν_{\max} (KBr)/cm⁻¹ 3450, 3285, 3155, 2931, 1639, 1603, 1535, 1427, 1400, 1165, 727. δ_{H} (300 MHz, DMSO) 2.78 (s, 12H, CH₃), 4.38 (s, 2H, CH₂), 7.15–7.50 (overlapped signals, 7H, ArH + NH₂), 8.10–8.60 (brs, 1H, NH). δ_{C} (75 MHz, DMSO) 39.6, 44.2, 127.0, 127.3, 128.3, 138.8, 158.6, 163.7. HRMS-MALDI calc. for C₁₃H₂₂N₅ (MH⁺): 248.1870. Found: 248.1863.

*N*⁴-Benzyl-*N*¹,*N*¹,*N*²,*N*²,*N*⁶,*N*⁶,*N*⁷,*N*⁷-octamethyltriguanidium chloride ((4aH)Cl)



The title triguanide salt was precipitated out using ethylacetate from 0.198 g of oil remaining after the extraction work up (0.133 g, 69 %). Recrystallisation of the crude product from ethylacetate–ethanol mixture (1:1) afforded single crystals of triguanide chloride (**(4aH)Cl**) suitable for X-ray analysis. mp 189–192 °C. ν_{\max} (KBr)/cm⁻¹ 3221, 2921, 1561, 1515, 1473, 1399, 1355, 1304, 1230, 1160, 1110, 1064, 1029, 734. δ_{H} (600 MHz, DMSO) 2.79 (s, 24H, CH₃), 4.41 (d, *J* 4.2, 2H, CH₂), 7.23–7.40 (m, 5H, ArH), 8.21 (poorly resolved triplet, 1H, NH). δ_{C} (150 MHz, DMSO) 39.5, 45.3, 126.9, 127.8, 128.2, 139.3, 161.0. HRMS-MALDI calc. for C₁₈H₃₂N₇ (MH⁺): 346.2714. Found: 346.2712.

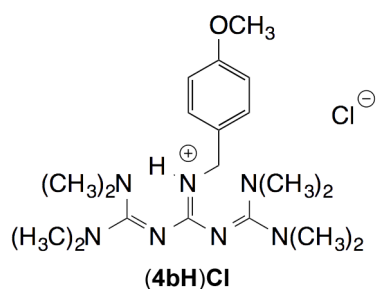
***N*⁴-Benzyl-*N*¹,*N*¹,*N*²,*N*²,*N*⁶,*N*⁶,*N*⁷,*N*⁷-octamethyltriguanide (4a)**



The triguanide chloride salt (**4aH**)Cl (100.0 mg, 0.26 mmol) was added in one portion to a freshly prepared sodium methoxide solution (6.2 mg Na in 5 mL of dry methanol) with stirring at room temperature under an argon atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred for 2 hours, then methanol was evaporated and the residue suspended in dry dichloromethane. The precipitated white solid was filtered over a sintered funnel and the filtrate evaporated to afford neutral triguanide **3** as a viscous pale yellow oil (90.1 mg, 99 %).

δ_{H} (300 MHz, DMSO) 2.72 (d, *J* 7.6 Hz, 24H, *CH*₃), 4.28 (s, 2H, *CH*₂), 7.10–7.40 (m, 5H, ArH). δ_{C} (75 MHz, DMSO) 39.1, 50.7, 125.6, 127.6, 127.7, 142.9, 160.2.

***N*⁴-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-*N*¹,*N*¹,*N*²,*N*²,*N*⁶,*N*⁶,*N*⁷,*N*⁷-octamethyltriguanidinium chloride ((4bH)Cl)**



The red-brown oil (0.226 g) remaining after work up was dissolved in chloroform (1.0 mL) and this solution was passed through a short silica column using chloroform as an eluent. Evaporation of the solvent afforded dark-yellow oil identified as the triguanide salt (**4bH**)Cl (0.128 g, 62 %). δ_{H} (600 MHz, DMSO) 2.70–2.86 (br s, 24H, *CH*₃), 3.72 (s, 3H, *OCH*₃), 4.34 (d, *J* 5.8 Hz, 2H, *CH*₂), 6.88 (d, *J* 8.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 7.27 (d, *J* 8.5 Hz, 2H, ArH), 8.04 (t, *J* 5.8 Hz, 1H, NH). δ_{C} (150 MHz, DMSO) 39.5, 44.8, 55.0, 113.6, 129.1, 131.1, 158.3, 161.0. HRMS-MALDI calc. for C₁₉H₃₄N₇O (MH⁺): 376.2819. Found: 376.2837.

Transesterification of vegetable oil

Purified vegetable oil (a mixture of sunflower, soybean and rapeseed oil), purchased from a supermarket, was used. According to Karl-Fischer titration analysis, the water content in the oil was found to be 0.0618% (wt%). Methanol was of *pro analysis* grade and was not dried before use (the specified max. water content 0.05 %). A screw-capped vial was charged with vegetable oil (4.0 g, 13.6 mmol) followed by a solution of the triguanide catalyst **4a** (0.5, 1.0 or 2.0 mol%) in methanol (1.0 g, 1.27 mL, 31.2 mmol). The mixture was vigorously stirred at 70 °C for 1 hour and then cooled down to room temperature to allow the two layers separate. The layer containing the fatty acid methyl esters was removed and excess methanol evaporated in vacuo. The crude mixture was analysed by ¹H NMR spectroscopy to calculate the conversion percentage based on the ratio of the methoxy group signal at 3.68 ppm and the α -methylene group of the fatty acid esters at 2.30 ppm.^[8]

NMR spectra

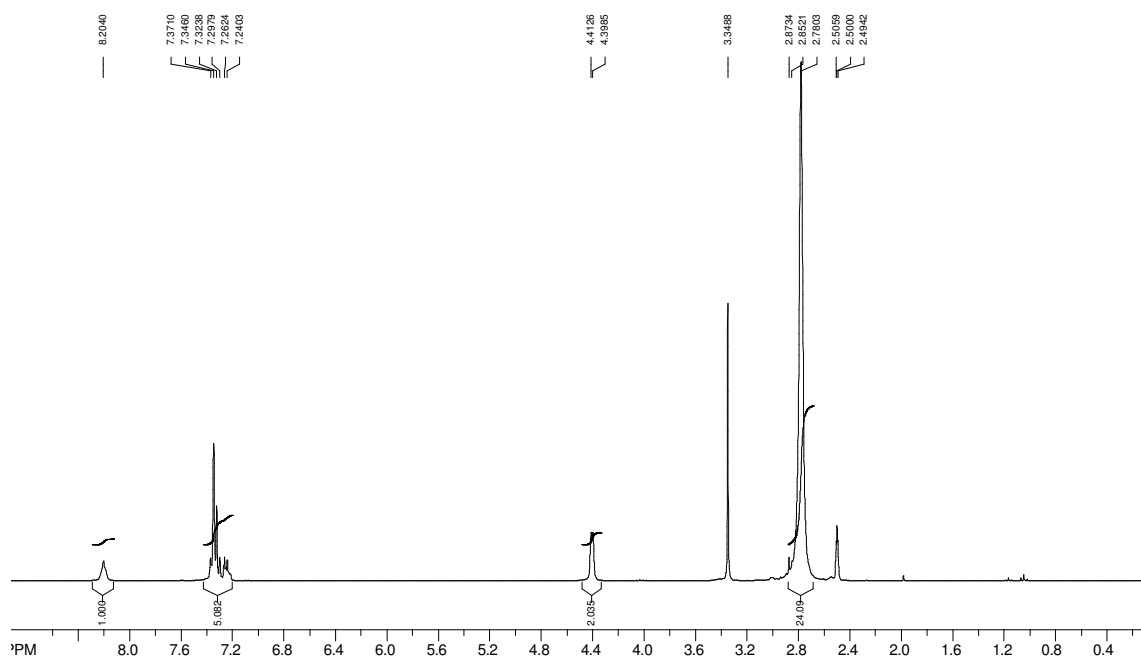


Figure SM2. ¹H NMR spectrum (DMSO, 600 MHz) of triguanide salt (**4aH**)Cl.

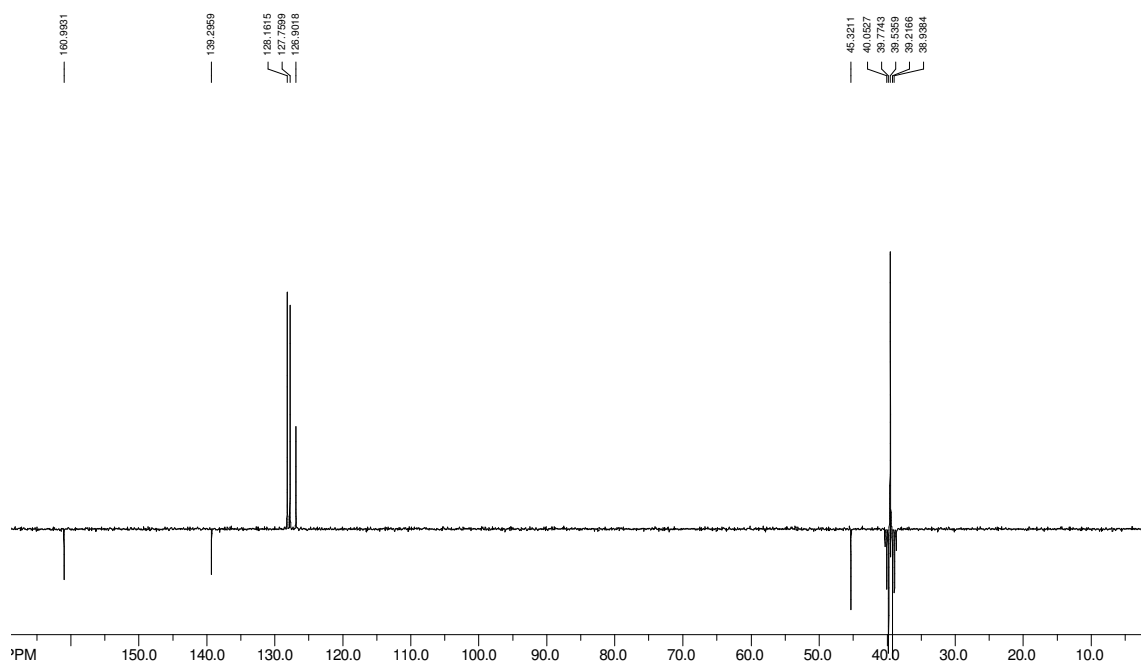


Figure SM3. ¹³C NMR spectrum (DMSO, 150 MHz) of triguanide salt (**4aH**)Cl.

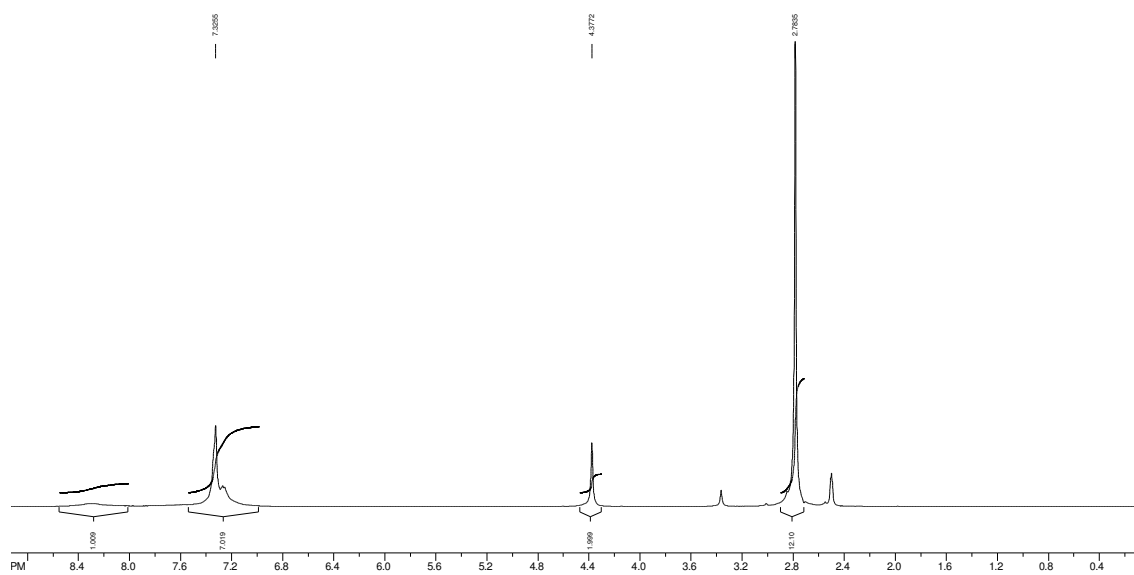


Figure SM6. ¹H NMR spectrum (DMSO, 600 MHz) of biguanide salt (**5aH**)Cl.

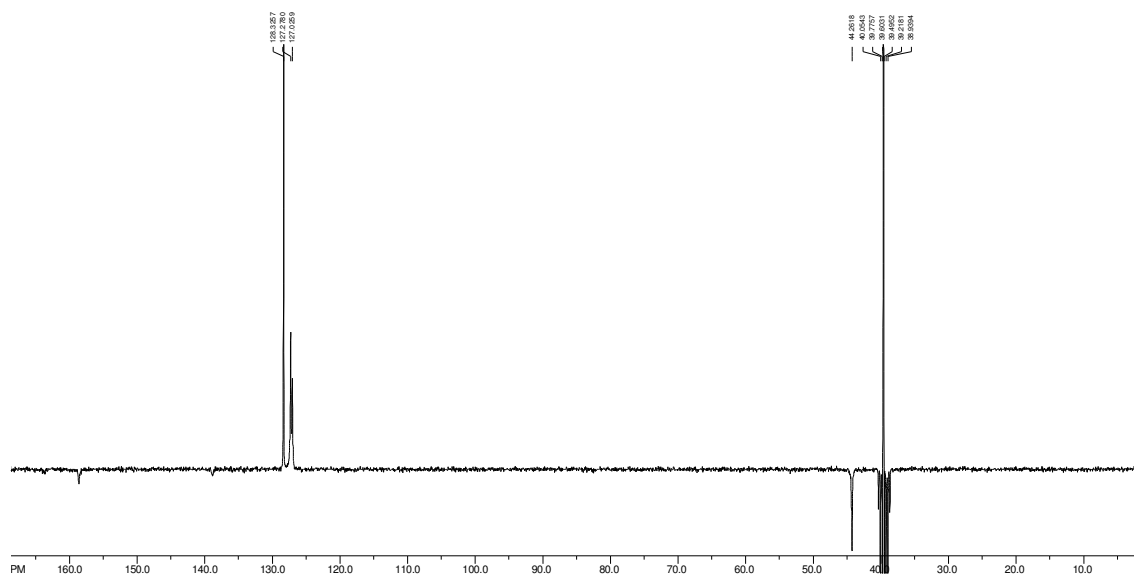


Figure SM7. ¹³C NMR spectrum (DMSO, 150 MHz) of biguanide salt (**5aH**)Cl.

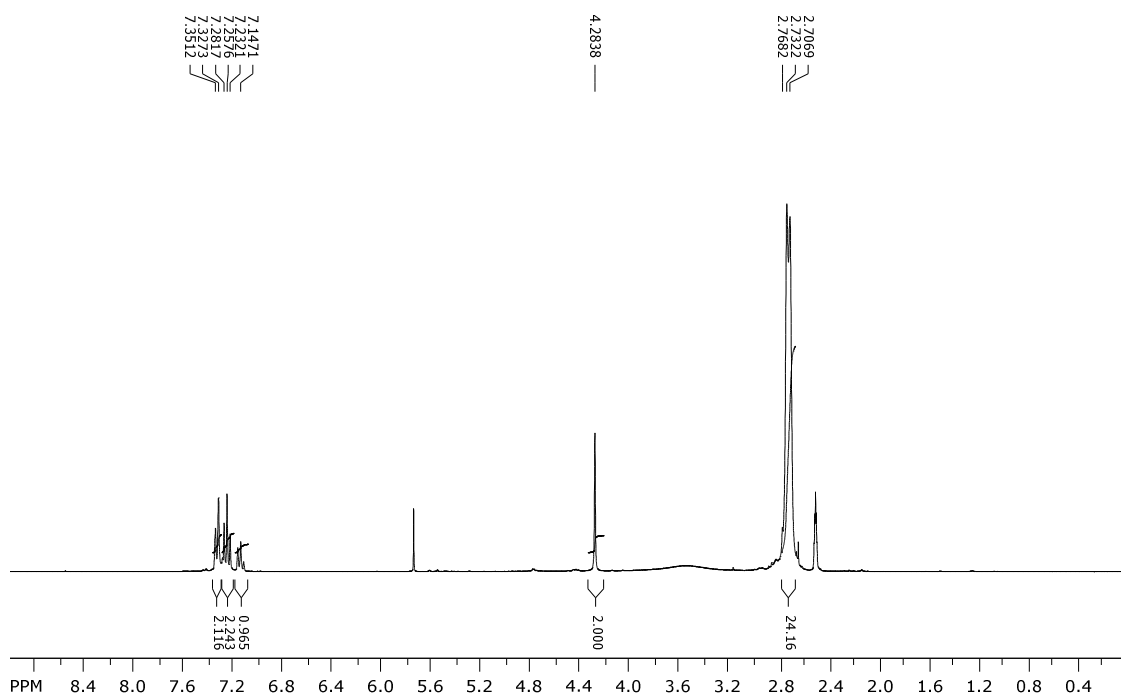


Figure SM8. ^1H NMR spectrum (DMSO, 600 MHz) of triguanide **4a**.

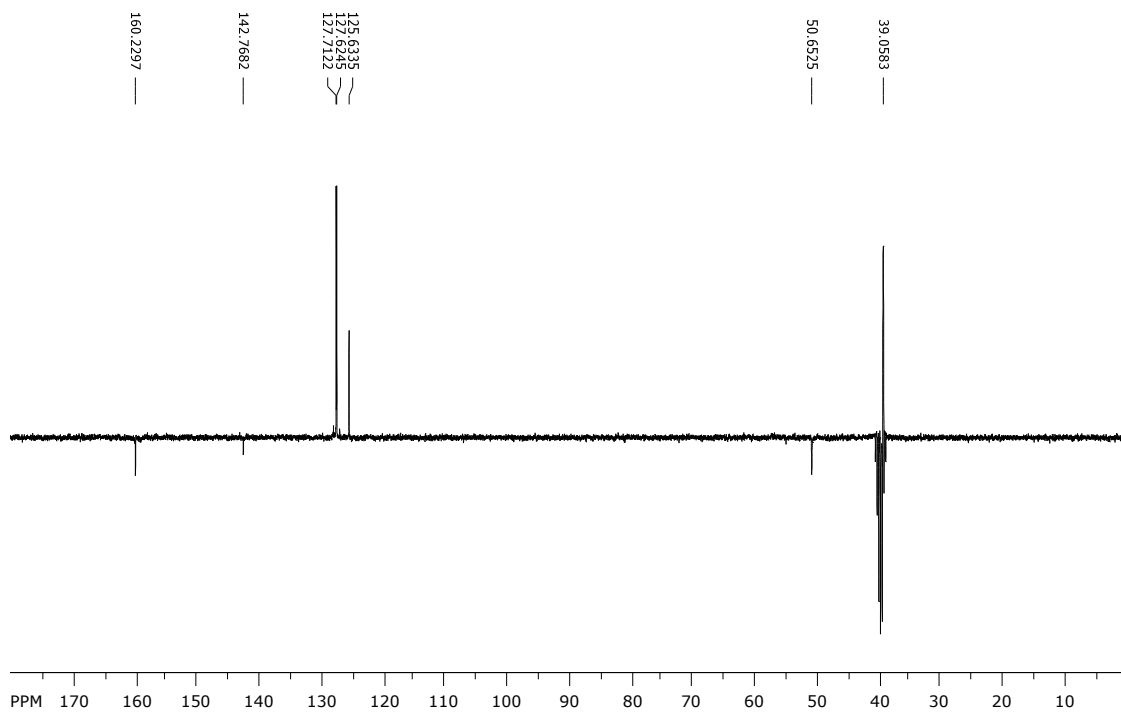


Figure SM9. ^{13}C NMR spectrum (DMSO, 150 MHz) of triguanide **4a**.

HPLC traces

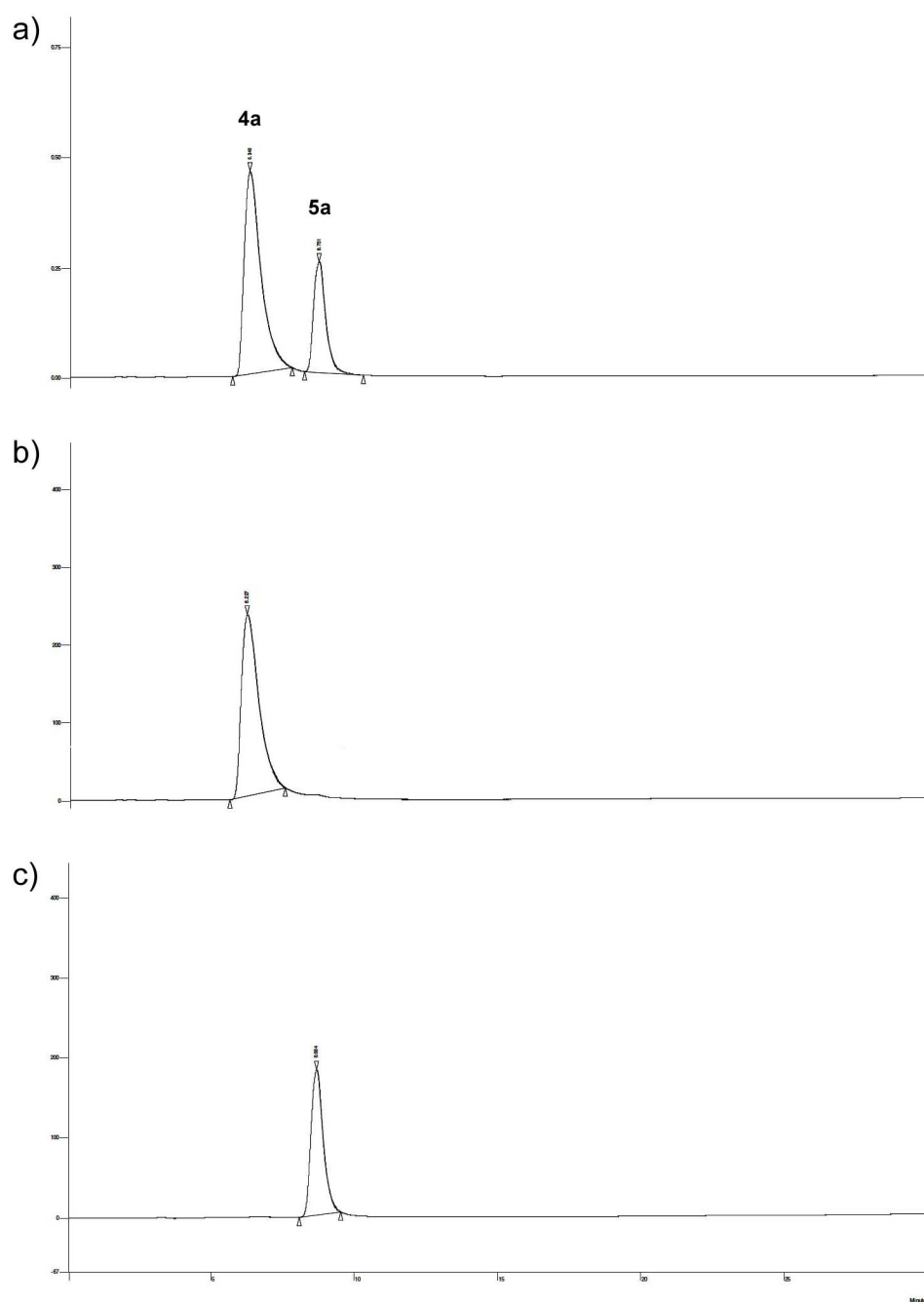


Figure SM10. HPLC chromatograms of a) the reaction mixture with the ratio of guanidine **3a** : Vilsmeier salt **2** = 1: 2, b) triguanide salt (**4aH**)Cl, c) biguanide salt (**5aH**)Cl. Eluted with 2% acetic acid:methanol (95:5) mixture, detector wavelength 254 nm.

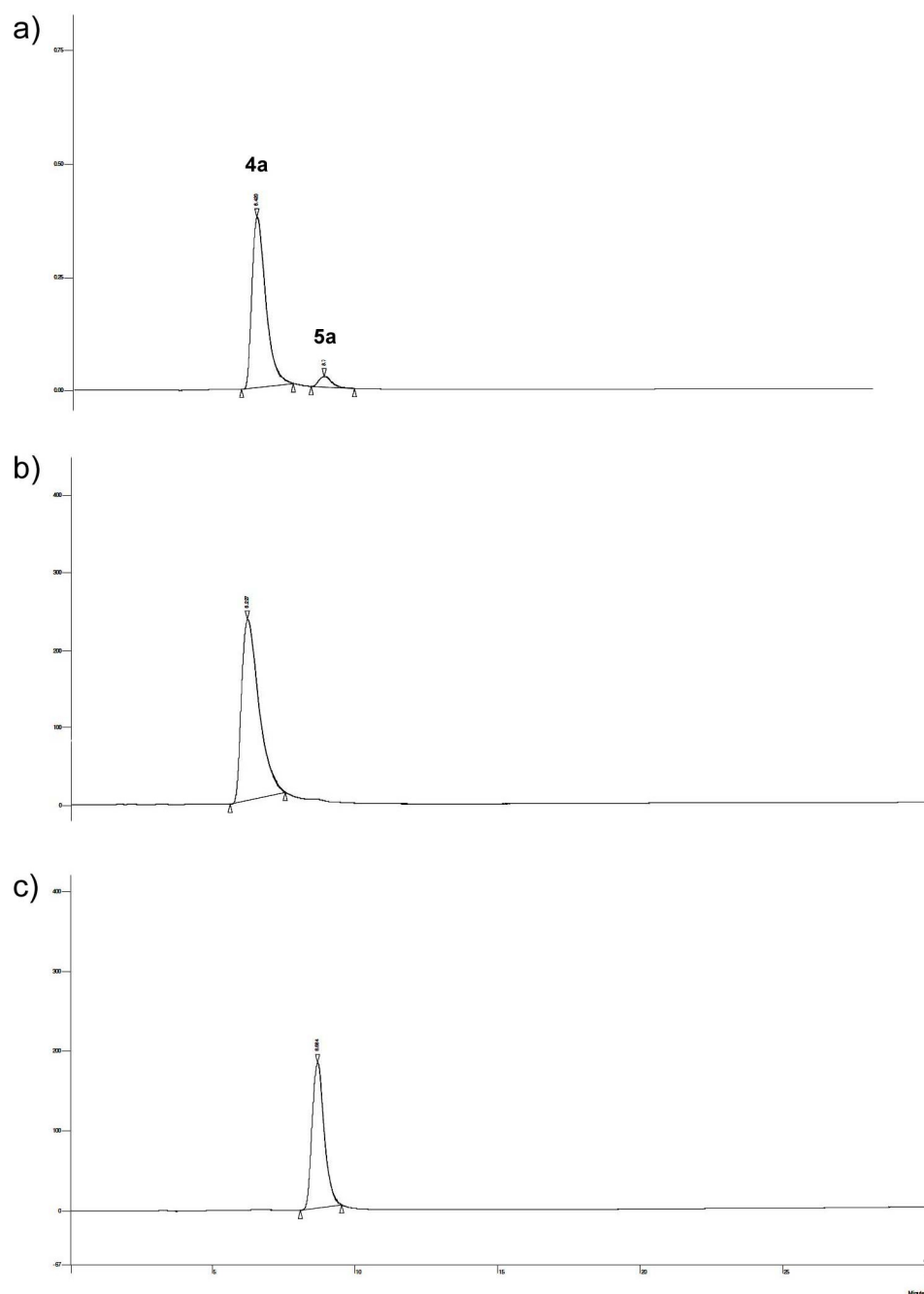


Figure SM11. HPLC chromatograms of a) the reaction mixture with the ratio of guanidine **3a** : Vilsmeier salt **2** = 1: 4, b) triguanide salt (**4aH**)Cl, c) biguanide salt (**5aH**)Cl. Eluted with 2% acetic acid:methanol (95:5) mixture, detector wavelength 254 nm.

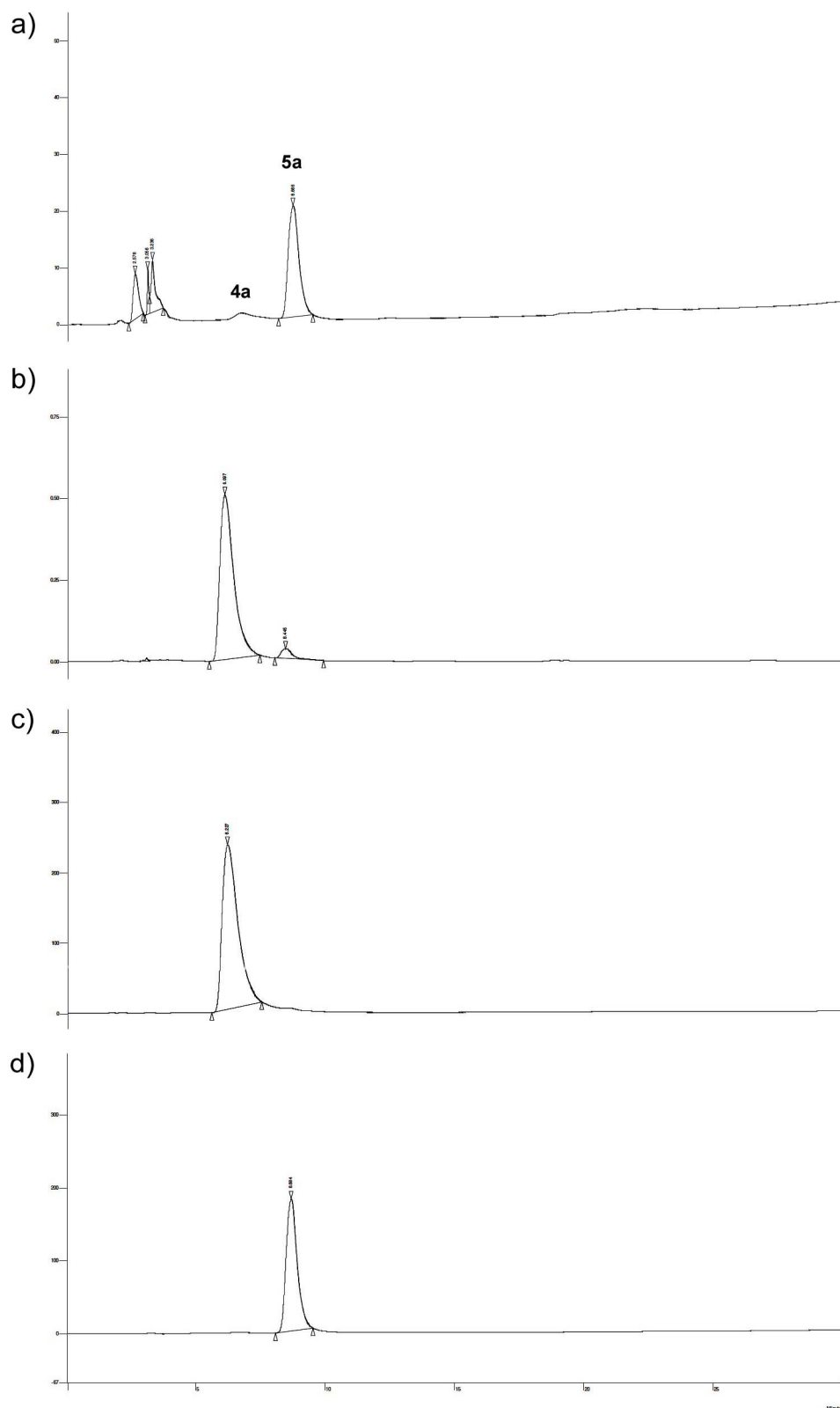


Figure SM12. HPLC chromatograms of a) the reaction mixture with the ratio of guanidine **3a** : Vilsmeier salt **2** = 1 : 4 using KF as a base after 20 h, b) the mixture under a) after the addition of DIPEA and reflux for 20 h, c) triguanide salt (**4aH**)Cl, d) biguanide salt (**5aH**)Cl. Eluted with 2% acetic acid:methanol (95:5) mixture, detector wavelength 254 nm.

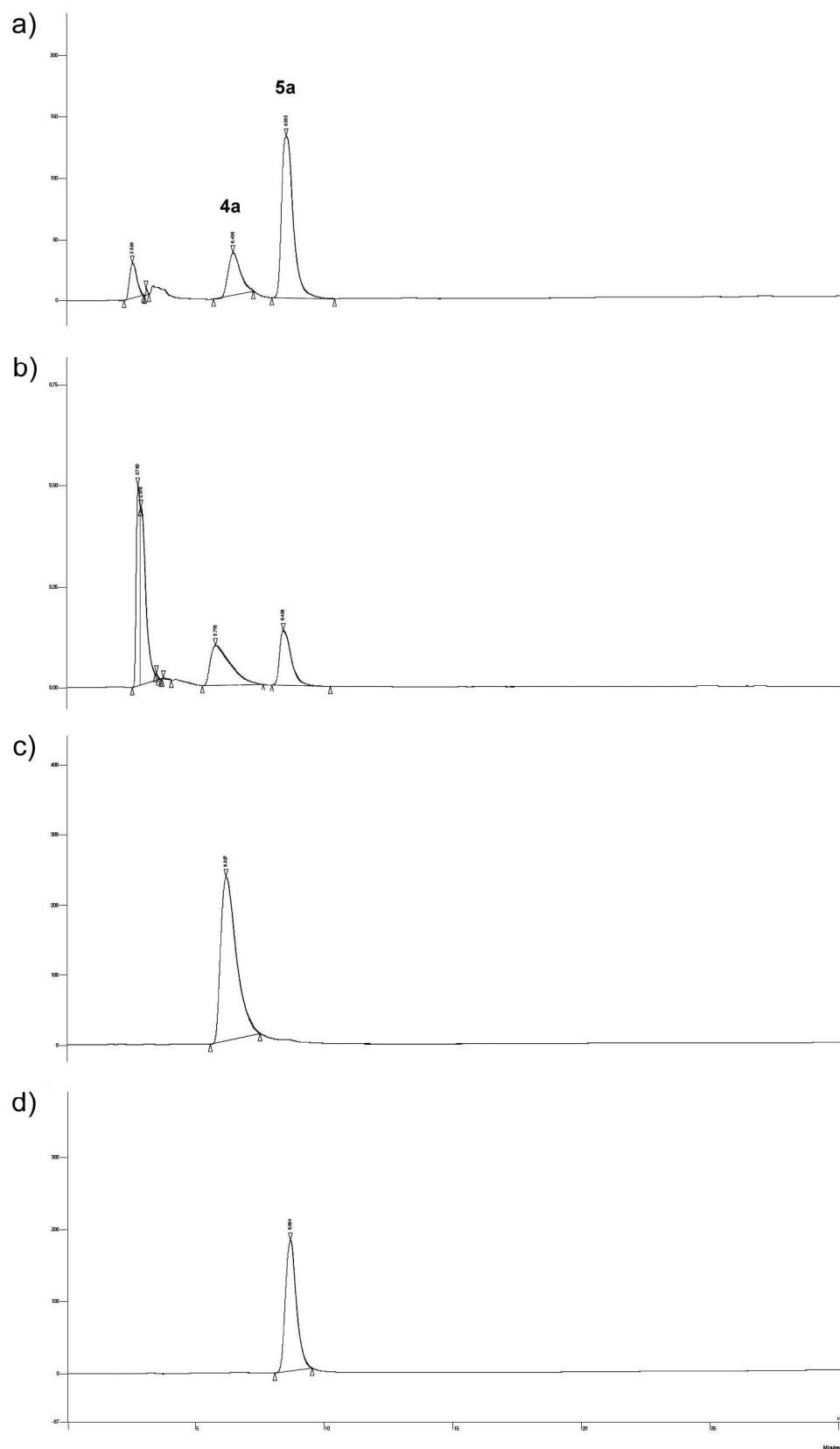


Figure SM13. HPLC chromatograms of a) the reaction mixture with the ratio of guanidine **3a** : Vilsmeier salt **2** = 1 : 4 in dichloromethane using DIPEA as a base after 2 h at 0 °C, b) the mixture under a) after 20 h stirring at room temp., c) triguanide salt (**4aH**)Cl, d) biguanide salt (**5aH**)Cl. Eluted with 2% acetic acid:methanol (95:5) mixture, detector wavelength 254 nm.

Gas phase and solution basicity calculations

All computational work was done using *Gaussian 03* package.^[9] The geometries were optimized at the B3LYP/6-31G(d) level of theory and were verified to be minima by the vibrational analysis at the same level of theory. The electronic energies and Gibbs energy corrections (E_{Gibbs}) were calculated by the B3LYP/6-311+G(d,p) and B3LYP/6-31G(d) methods, respectively. Zero point vibrational energies were used unscaled. Solvation energies ($\Delta G(X)_{\text{AN}}$) of the neutral ($X = \text{B}$) and protonated ($X = \text{BH}^+$) species were calculated using the IEF-PCM/HF/6-31G(d) approach with Klamt radii optimized for COSMO-RS.^[10]

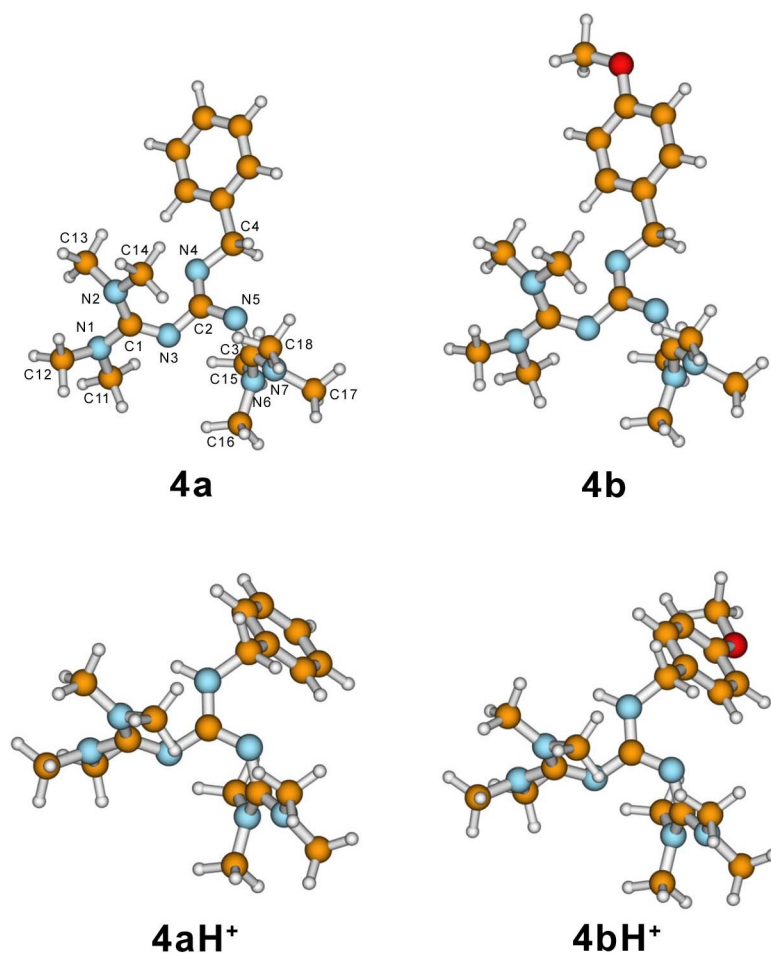


Figure SM14. Optimized geometries of neutral and protonated triguanides **4a–b** calculated at the B3LYP/6-31G(d) level of theory.

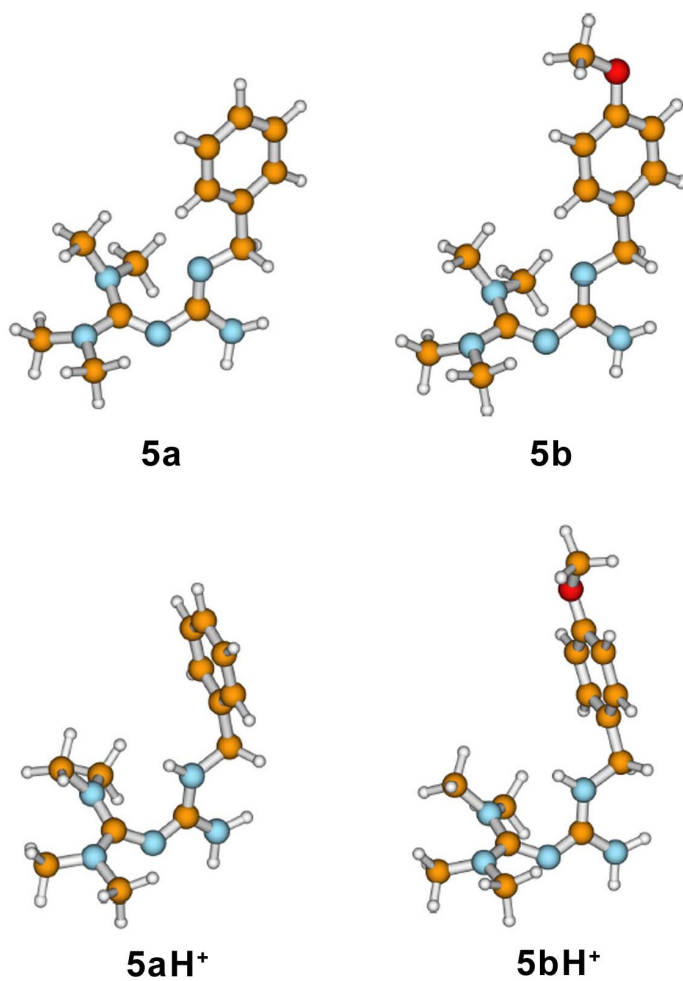


Figure SM15. Optimized geometries of neutral and protonated biguanides **5a–b** calculated at the B3LYP/6-31G(d) level of theory.

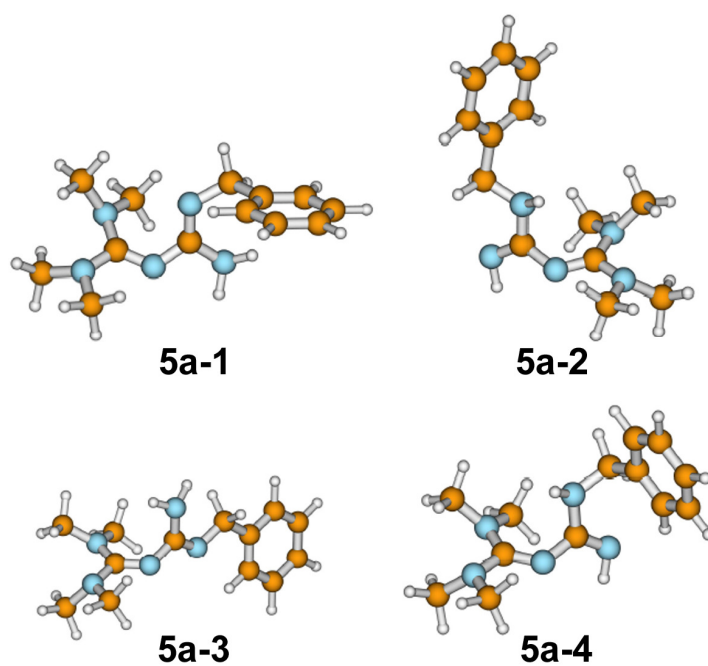


Figure SM16. Optimized geometries of biguanide **5a** tautomers calculated at the B3LYP/6-31G(d) level of theory.

Table SM1. Electronic energies, zero-point vibrational, enthalpy and Gibbs energy corrections for triguanides **4a–b** and biguanides **5a–b** calculated with B3LYP/6-311+G(d,p)//B3LYP/6-31G(d) method.

Molecule	$E_{\text{el}} / \text{a.u.}$	$E_{\text{ZPV}} / \text{a.u.}$	$E_{\text{rel}} / \text{kcal mol}^{-1}$	$E_{\text{Gibbs}} / \text{a.u.}$	$E_{\text{enth}} / \text{a.u.}$
4a	-1088.09260	0.48918	0.00	0.42668	0.51874
4aH⁺	-1088.53763	0.50483	-269.44	0.44384	0.53449
4b	-1202.64792	0.52211	0.00	0.45715	0.55419
4bH⁺	-1203.09519	0.53745	-271.04	0.47293	0.56974
5a	-781.98445	0.33774	0.00	0.28837	0.35793
5aH⁺	-782.41135	0.35198	-258.95	0.30200	0.37278
5b	-896.53997	0.37051	0.00	0.31798	0.39331
5bH⁺	-896.97000	0.38463	-260.98	0.33110	0.40803
5a-1	-781.98338	0.33831	1.03	0.28959	0.35838
5a-2	-781.98228	0.33815	1.62	0.28782	0.35845
5a-3	-781.97512	0.33688	5.31	0.28701	0.35745
5a-4	-781.98243	0.33868	1.85	0.28962	0.35876

Table SM2. Selected bond lengths and dihedral angles for **4a–b** and their protonated forms **4aH⁺–4bH⁺** calculated with B3LYP/6-31G(d) method. For numeration, see Figure SM14.

Parameter	4a	4aH ⁺	4b	4bH ⁺
<i>Bond</i>		<i>d / Å</i>		<i>d / Å</i>
C1–N1	1.387	1.363	1.389	1.364
C1–N2	1.397	1.374	1.393	1.374
C1–N3	1.298	1.326	1.298	1.325
C2–N3	1.402	1.357	1.403	1.358
C2–N4	1.292	1.358	1.290	1.356
C2–N5	1.396	1.334	1.394	1.335
C3–N5	1.295	1.335	1.294	1.334
C3–N6	1.394	1.364	1.396	1.364
C3–N7	1.388	1.359	1.388	1.359
C4–N4	1.454	1.473	1.453	1.477
N1–C11	1.453	1.461	1.453	1.460
N1–C12	1.458	1.466	1.458	1.466
N2–C13	1.460	1.464	1.460	1.464
N2–C14	1.454	1.459	1.454	1.459
N6–C15	1.456	1.460	1.455	1.460
N6–C16	1.459	1.464	1.460	1.464
N7–C17	1.459	1.466	1.459	1.465
N7–C18	1.454	1.462	1.455	1.462
<i>Dihedral angle</i>		<i>θ / °</i>		<i>θ / °</i>
N1–C1–N3–C2	154.2	146.0	154.0	146.6
C2–N5–C3–N6	29.5	49.1	29.0	48.7

Cartesian coordinates:

4a

N	-1.111430	1.039670	-0.179173
N	-2.766647	-1.416061	-1.199474
N	-1.024845	-1.237863	0.451960
N	-2.995364	-2.344699	0.932418
N	-1.158851	3.343247	-0.389319
N	0.911706	-0.127438	-0.337698
N	0.226681	2.443146	1.254568
C	-1.535524	4.511564	0.397939
H	-2.630317	4.575624	0.502185
H	-1.186807	5.433897	-0.083673
H	-1.097269	4.443166	1.392961

C	-3.761371	-3.497195	0.470405
H	-3.851558	-3.470347	-0.614834
H	-4.764993	-3.498807	0.913945
H	-3.261903	-4.436313	0.755743
C	-4.093210	-0.815626	-1.301697
H	-4.659907	-1.005637	-0.389669
H	-4.639242	-1.239742	-2.153933
H	-4.014712	0.273063	-1.440929
C	-2.200781	-1.612885	0.061711
C	3.126720	-1.213211	-0.287546
C	-0.344719	-0.127010	-0.045120
C	-2.593342	-2.416629	2.328388
H	-1.811735	-3.172599	2.496355
H	-3.468909	-2.676363	2.934485
H	-2.203304	-1.450849	2.649508
C	-0.668070	2.194282	0.216165
C	1.617618	-1.393504	-0.251880
H	1.332299	-2.045491	-1.098306
H	1.333391	-1.962851	0.647451
C	-1.874935	3.212254	-1.646289
H	-1.402793	2.444375	-2.259248
H	-1.837544	4.171918	-2.175272
H	-2.930887	2.936487	-1.499630
C	3.963371	-2.237201	0.176024
H	3.520747	-3.140809	0.592210
C	5.929423	-0.955202	-0.408099
H	7.011005	-0.854173	-0.452966
C	5.351781	-2.113644	0.116383
H	5.982768	-2.919048	0.485018
C	0.440179	1.452990	2.297548
H	-0.459239	0.847360	2.422699
H	0.645814	1.976981	3.240117
H	1.280520	0.786051	2.068113
C	-1.900728	-1.143413	-2.336880
H	-1.660092	-0.077354	-2.436563
H	-2.409837	-1.481185	-3.247963
H	-0.969163	-1.703830	-2.233290
C	1.378890	3.309865	1.024795
H	1.188984	3.966663	0.175516
H	2.272097	2.705873	0.807226
H	1.579722	3.924688	1.911939
C	3.715591	-0.055793	-0.809780
H	3.063762	0.738277	-1.158568
C	5.104965	0.072316	-0.869607
H	5.545212	0.979209	-1.278354

4aH⁺

N	-1.344004	-0.166646	0.353242
N	0.173554	2.333243	1.304362
N	0.334002	1.107916	-0.727468

N	-0.013499	3.391044	-0.767133
N	-2.957961	-1.549513	1.267250
N	0.283070	-1.161567	-1.025363
N	-2.844612	-1.365079	-1.058356
C	-4.409678	-1.740016	1.337479
H	-4.810589	-1.134260	2.158882
H	-4.668046	-2.788192	1.524327
H	-4.880614	-1.413141	0.411188
C	0.522925	4.678317	-0.316478
H	1.105108	4.546689	0.595131
H	-0.272542	5.410042	-0.136560
H	1.185368	5.074326	-1.094451
C	-0.671388	3.261929	2.056652
H	-1.309985	3.828245	1.379872
H	-0.073790	3.956538	2.658012
H	-1.314486	2.683898	2.731379
C	0.127050	2.242301	-0.055462
C	2.760408	-1.446047	-0.801731
C	-0.256085	-0.056027	-0.450372
C	-0.340483	3.333551	-2.190806
H	0.568128	3.325293	-2.805966
H	-0.935336	4.214570	-2.450583
H	-0.916275	2.435772	-2.408413
C	-2.338267	-1.024428	0.172583
C	1.580213	-1.202737	-1.723145
H	1.686522	-0.254531	-2.251220
H	1.506482	-2.001343	-2.468653
C	-2.283477	-1.521995	2.562536
H	-1.207185	-1.623504	2.426348
H	-2.647519	-2.360354	3.164241
H	-2.485693	-0.587730	3.102608
C	3.557388	-0.380357	-0.363766
H	3.338996	0.626442	-0.710234
C	4.925668	-1.902472	0.926737
H	5.767416	-2.080043	1.589863
C	4.634429	-0.607000	0.495775
H	5.252868	0.225836	0.819070
C	-2.671416	-0.494920	-2.216649
H	-2.503769	0.530124	-1.883916
H	-3.587265	-0.521385	-2.816526
H	-1.830030	-0.809686	-2.846856
C	0.808328	1.295333	2.111254
H	0.073592	0.564314	2.466057
H	1.285620	1.771966	2.973774
H	1.575102	0.782180	1.529125
C	-3.398407	-2.687800	-1.352045
H	-3.268110	-3.350396	-0.496303
H	-2.863587	-3.117134	-2.208547
H	-4.463637	-2.637091	-1.606948
C	3.067420	-2.743330	-0.371077

H	2.473747	-3.585216	-0.723545
C	4.140719	-2.971941	0.490212
H	4.372195	-3.983996	0.809982
H	-0.098610	-2.048175	-0.727062

4b

N	-1.724068	1.029758	-0.190338
N	-3.301617	-1.446181	-1.275007
N	-1.635117	-1.245557	0.450033
N	-3.610164	-2.377274	0.846111
N	-1.794436	3.332271	-0.407285
N	0.319646	-0.109858	-0.255373
N	-0.472797	2.454298	1.300054
C	-2.225821	4.494633	0.360556
H	-3.325170	4.541800	0.413229
H	-1.869207	5.422282	-0.104827
H	-1.833910	4.433196	1.375245
C	-4.338643	-3.540911	0.352185
H	-4.388497	-3.511932	-0.735589
H	-5.358003	-3.560345	0.757714
H	-3.834847	-4.472759	0.653468
C	-4.629334	-0.860863	-1.434179
H	-5.234985	-1.064247	-0.550505
H	-5.130005	-1.285973	-2.313333
H	-4.558194	0.229656	-1.562922
C	-2.788213	-1.635466	0.009606
C	2.546333	-1.161276	-0.122815
C	-0.948028	-0.126511	-0.018762
C	-3.264011	-2.446073	2.257244
H	-2.476081	-3.188064	2.455126
H	-4.158724	-2.723570	2.826336
H	-2.905062	-1.474385	2.596398
C	-1.315758	2.190827	0.222368
C	1.040313	-1.365597	-0.136893
H	0.787985	-2.028418	-0.985330
H	0.733581	-1.930263	0.758349
C	-2.451429	3.188731	-1.694806
H	-1.939633	2.428624	-2.285210
H	-2.406555	4.148664	-2.222752
H	-3.508088	2.895262	-1.595120
C	3.392732	-2.184809	0.331341
H	2.959730	-3.111283	0.705042
C	5.353749	-0.855828	-0.150933
C	4.774882	-2.042948	0.319651
H	5.428131	-2.834318	0.675231
C	-0.292838	1.468345	2.353387
H	-1.188629	0.850555	2.438593
H	-0.137251	1.996253	3.303349
H	0.566069	0.812773	2.163302
C	-2.390566	-1.163177	-2.373959

H	-2.154932	-0.094977	-2.461053
H	-2.858099	-1.502915	-3.306320
H	-1.459612	-1.716158	-2.232185
C	0.676453	3.336290	1.120705
H	0.517084	3.987843	0.261117
H	1.587076	2.744043	0.946975
H	0.827718	3.956512	2.013952
C	3.138344	0.013974	-0.586147
H	2.490893	0.812958	-0.931996
C	4.528394	0.177122	-0.604171
H	4.948732	1.107219	-0.971475
O	6.724322	-0.808588	-0.120501
C	7.357501	0.368502	-0.585586
H	8.430770	0.196888	-0.478134
H	7.127370	0.564696	-1.642020
H	7.071284	1.247099	0.009224

4bH⁺

N	-1.725906	-0.517914	0.405830
N	-0.943121	2.286564	1.367755
N	-0.667683	1.252812	-0.757418
N	-1.695920	3.314203	-0.586100
N	-2.731409	-2.354947	1.387745
N	-0.055397	-0.909054	-1.203599
N	-2.955476	-2.072129	-0.919832
C	-4.045471	-2.969249	1.599670
H	-4.500616	-2.539199	2.499833
H	-3.964425	-4.053020	1.738663
H	-4.701903	-2.763320	0.754918
C	-1.533315	4.683647	-0.090834
H	-0.831738	4.702524	0.742679
H	-2.487777	5.117304	0.228033
H	-1.126818	5.303130	-0.898266
C	-1.941330	2.860635	2.271352
H	-2.798410	3.228355	1.708339
H	-1.522447	3.678279	2.868995
H	-2.291031	2.075700	2.953054
C	-1.125771	2.238362	0.016598
C	2.405545	-0.435587	-1.297483
C	-0.831203	-0.047051	-0.501021
C	-2.166099	3.218387	-1.966680
H	-1.390981	3.543000	-2.672322
H	-3.043142	3.862202	-2.085523
H	-2.440023	2.191001	-2.199564
C	-2.431903	-1.630545	0.271330
C	1.093974	-0.526143	-2.047715
H	0.839249	0.429363	-2.507900
H	1.156725	-1.278451	-2.840923
C	-1.945943	-2.162751	2.603940
H	-0.910404	-1.938335	2.349520

H	-1.976763	-3.086668	3.189504
H	-2.345162	-1.344154	3.217185
C	2.867928	0.792310	-0.794891
H	2.288510	1.694276	-0.974196
C	4.832894	-0.278299	0.130955
C	4.061081	0.874853	-0.089970
H	4.430186	1.822875	0.288507
C	-3.185423	-1.159122	-2.034218
H	-3.281211	-0.139174	-1.660147
H	-4.121191	-1.437923	-2.530274
H	-2.372942	-1.195956	-2.770795
C	0.074875	1.472086	2.024544
H	-0.348358	0.532751	2.396962
H	0.481529	2.041232	2.866915
H	0.886851	1.251067	1.330402
C	-3.128513	-3.491052	-1.233897
H	-2.709622	-4.107196	-0.438248
H	-2.597287	-3.718663	-2.166615
H	-4.184451	-3.752581	-1.371372
C	3.188544	-1.572196	-1.079762
H	2.869325	-2.533434	-1.479275
C	4.391002	-1.509465	-0.372147
H	4.975384	-2.411306	-0.231794
H	-0.108095	-1.879311	-0.926273
O	5.981463	-0.092169	0.829177
C	6.834852	-1.209535	1.051462
H	7.689005	-0.823563	1.609069
H	6.333580	-1.984876	1.644676
H	7.182789	-1.641036	0.104755

5a

C	0.543307	0.222328	0.101157
N	0.918160	1.502540	0.485683
N	1.478061	-0.731051	0.502136
N	-0.530811	-0.027960	-0.571794
C	0.038366	2.411934	0.799205
N	-1.193002	2.210613	1.410410
N	0.362592	3.736274	0.580127
C	0.001226	4.789092	1.520929
H	0.898086	5.165577	2.035496
H	-0.472970	5.634055	1.005119
H	-0.687916	4.397041	2.268181
C	1.498545	4.047047	-0.273875
H	2.445045	4.052966	0.286762
H	1.576080	3.301970	-1.064943
H	1.348644	5.039189	-0.715748
C	-2.395577	2.813444	0.842300
H	-3.067257	3.157646	1.639240
H	-2.129166	3.663648	0.213681
H	-2.929914	2.077496	0.224049

C	-1.447166	0.990812	2.160797
H	-1.898412	0.211934	1.533979
H	-0.510697	0.609123	2.572376
H	-2.125623	1.226916	2.990499
C	-0.770993	-1.399610	-0.973373
H	0.046197	-1.775402	-1.623639
H	-0.788488	-2.085444	-0.106913
C	-2.074157	-1.559200	-1.740952
C	-2.660363	-2.824955	-1.868345
C	-2.692976	-0.468239	-2.359890
C	-3.835240	-3.000439	-2.599614
H	-2.193953	-3.682418	-1.385573
C	-3.869993	-0.640180	-3.091654
H	-2.239186	0.510791	-2.248138
C	-4.445693	-1.905595	-3.215711
H	-4.277287	-3.990348	-2.683535
H	-4.339377	0.218616	-3.566131
H	-5.363178	-2.038358	-3.783511
H	2.373592	-0.330582	0.750767
H	1.550126	-1.561567	-0.071464

5aH⁺

C	-0.775861	1.759301	-0.198495
N	-2.002767	1.237227	-0.157569
N	-0.690606	3.104645	-0.118661
N	0.363413	1.056511	-0.346898
C	-2.294631	-0.022546	0.184243
N	-1.676059	-0.688982	1.207199
N	-3.304901	-0.633336	-0.476655
C	-4.249841	-1.548155	0.174724
H	-5.265111	-1.172756	0.008522
H	-4.183082	-2.560368	-0.237778
H	-4.071767	-1.579888	1.248863
C	-3.758241	-0.100319	-1.764941
H	-4.541818	0.653505	-1.624748
H	-2.925152	0.354130	-2.298605
H	-4.159324	-0.926621	-2.358528
C	-1.518020	-2.145878	1.239381
H	-2.133532	-2.610291	2.018176
H	-1.777638	-2.574702	0.271531
H	-0.467859	-2.377649	1.451697
C	-1.060601	0.026581	2.325475
H	0.033673	0.024088	2.252165
H	-1.418110	1.056273	2.353259
H	-1.347719	-0.466712	3.260015
C	1.723878	1.620050	-0.465436
H	1.801314	2.191493	-1.400112
H	1.887828	2.308625	0.371913
C	2.748698	0.510020	-0.441557
C	3.305471	0.085584	0.772032

C	3.126667	-0.127213	-1.630505
C	4.227298	-0.961180	0.796472
H	3.031339	0.587383	1.697668
C	4.046991	-1.175817	-1.605885
H	2.711818	0.206197	-2.579290
C	4.597076	-1.593860	-0.392508
H	4.663891	-1.275319	1.739979
H	4.341813	-1.657676	-2.533381
H	5.320177	-2.403946	-0.374507
H	-1.562498	3.614633	-0.093391
H	0.141701	3.608451	-0.385795
H	0.279261	0.055763	-0.457867

5a-1

C	-0.745371	1.637694	-0.427649
N	-1.864166	2.088887	-1.115858
N	-1.094099	0.930666	0.721964
N	0.465716	1.886873	-0.816185
C	-1.868342	2.217333	-2.412998
N	-1.194787	1.425990	-3.339223
N	-2.676311	3.187118	-2.969391
C	-3.391854	2.983341	-4.221848
H	-4.474833	2.925566	-4.036496
H	-3.212108	3.811312	-4.920103
H	-3.067466	2.051471	-4.683970
C	-3.229805	4.221498	-2.109578
H	-4.185159	3.912884	-1.659948
H	-2.529605	4.440350	-1.304293
H	-3.401300	5.125410	-2.706058
C	-0.331340	2.064858	-4.329028
H	-0.350148	1.502050	-5.270794
H	-0.668119	3.084171	-4.521303
H	0.702565	2.105402	-3.956798
C	-0.769065	0.084761	-2.970654
H	0.243874	0.076341	-2.549944
H	-1.456813	-0.328872	-2.230252
H	-0.795188	-0.547819	-3.867098
C	1.548902	1.401946	0.031432
H	1.419544	0.340682	0.307564
H	2.469661	1.446870	-0.566944
C	1.779483	2.207293	1.308747
C	1.593905	3.597189	1.321250
C	2.216065	1.581179	2.483743
C	1.845974	4.338759	2.474918
H	1.240579	4.084109	0.417137
C	2.469464	2.321581	3.641538
H	2.363340	0.502444	2.490974
C	2.285966	3.704432	3.639998
H	1.697958	5.416018	2.466463
H	2.805330	1.816015	4.543654

H	2.479915	4.283551	4.539178
H	-2.062784	1.065924	0.982725
H	-0.457460	1.021079	1.504709

5a-2

C	-1.937388	-0.961297	-1.932300
N	-1.830138	0.102869	-1.030081
N	-2.413966	-0.879411	-3.124184
N	-1.408415	-2.174587	-1.481103
C	-2.264337	0.068098	0.191649
N	-3.249392	-0.764447	0.716516
N	-1.741788	0.979156	1.104334
C	-0.555891	1.725824	0.707332
H	-0.798267	2.562932	0.036315
H	-0.075093	2.122903	1.608442
H	0.138512	1.068238	0.184276
C	-2.628032	1.719876	1.998891
H	-2.852795	2.717517	1.589831
H	-3.567293	1.183204	2.126970
H	-2.156599	1.852570	2.980026
C	-3.056216	-1.436326	1.995828
H	-2.839343	-2.504101	1.838010
H	-2.218301	-0.987909	2.529725
H	-3.957004	-1.360596	2.619574
C	-4.241348	-1.387717	-0.145723
H	-5.194041	-1.440864	0.396671
H	-4.383830	-0.791206	-1.046758
H	-3.950047	-2.402502	-0.448112
C	-1.131329	-3.224050	-2.463715
H	-2.064546	-3.408859	-3.004730
H	-0.406397	-2.886415	-3.219547
C	-0.634404	-4.483143	-1.785639
C	0.619205	-5.018691	-2.101151
C	-1.422332	-5.142125	-0.830177
C	1.076763	-6.186453	-1.485251
H	1.241894	-4.517215	-2.838785
C	-0.969029	-6.305749	-0.211057
H	-2.397485	-4.734226	-0.575996
C	0.283818	-6.832827	-0.537528
H	2.052970	-6.587528	-1.745512
H	-1.594409	-6.806196	0.524149
H	0.636690	-7.741178	-0.056202
H	-2.786395	0.062943	-3.256492
H	-0.675651	-2.057439	-0.791162

5a-3

C	-0.356367	1.544673	0.736773
N	-1.625466	1.623187	0.159171
N	0.373004	0.423588	0.342873
N	0.107212	2.513124	1.443004

C	-2.646396	0.921852	0.525058
N	-3.725421	0.809566	-0.354639
N	-2.814882	0.242724	1.727435
C	-2.131932	0.656680	2.943782
H	-2.828462	0.572311	3.788621
H	-1.256989	0.025479	3.163792
H	-1.795889	1.689220	2.856362
C	-3.463024	-1.058854	1.793716
H	-4.315537	-1.051857	2.488134
H	-3.817328	-1.347747	0.803991
H	-2.751122	-1.819351	2.149335
C	-5.073393	1.095699	0.135878
H	-5.809040	0.504415	-0.421390
H	-5.154933	0.850041	1.194243
H	-5.322442	2.161409	0.010486
C	-3.507095	1.266913	-1.722177
H	-3.511977	2.363717	-1.799793
H	-2.541444	0.911250	-2.082373
H	-4.304557	0.861441	-2.354812
C	1.483122	2.430446	1.886037
H	1.658551	1.541496	2.525987
H	2.169185	2.309113	1.026844
C	1.916388	3.657514	2.674369
C	3.151059	3.656445	3.336901
C	1.119982	4.804170	2.738943
C	3.584321	4.776083	4.045905
H	3.780327	2.768110	3.298055
C	1.551170	5.927073	3.449650
H	0.162977	4.793155	2.228779
C	2.783037	5.919267	4.104663
H	4.545114	4.755959	4.554770
H	0.919886	6.811730	3.490845
H	3.116948	6.793649	4.657688
H	-0.153792	-0.355889	-0.024221
H	1.173501	0.167737	0.904424

5a-4

C	-0.273147	1.013378	-0.107185
N	-1.397463	0.343475	-0.597205
N	0.024074	2.238503	-0.372226
N	0.578429	0.230781	0.676251
C	-2.247288	-0.303029	0.139910
N	-2.491501	-0.130164	1.498267
N	-3.055495	-1.258198	-0.470354
C	-4.493529	-1.278766	-0.210443
H	-5.041114	-0.737631	-0.998059
H	-4.862628	-2.311030	-0.186860
H	-4.711595	-0.802916	0.744889
C	-2.703839	-1.668171	-1.823687
H	-3.022663	-0.931876	-2.575830

H	-1.623333	-1.785349	-1.907031
H	-3.192704	-2.625579	-2.036042
C	-2.670139	-1.275318	2.382630
H	-3.550012	-1.143773	3.026841
H	-2.794909	-2.185066	1.795285
H	-1.789507	-1.395288	3.032075
C	-2.123662	1.102500	2.178861
H	-1.141760	1.028216	2.664403
H	-2.091071	1.927801	1.468059
H	-2.881607	1.322366	2.941498
C	1.944325	0.682944	0.966328
H	1.890467	1.769869	1.053574
H	2.232702	0.274974	1.942918
C	2.971142	0.276898	-0.075794
C	3.855963	-0.779688	0.171174
C	3.037041	0.937052	-1.313213
C	4.786162	-1.177203	-0.792280
H	3.821345	-1.293283	1.130577
C	3.964019	0.540351	-2.276315
H	2.351845	1.757865	-1.504206
C	4.840942	-0.517672	-2.020157
H	5.467643	-1.997771	-0.581663
H	4.007040	1.062089	-3.229265
H	5.564959	-0.821840	-2.771847
H	-0.743748	2.644532	-0.909171
H	0.504351	-0.757938	0.468394

5b

C	-0.491970	2.029485	-0.827126
N	-1.551074	1.961055	-1.722885
N	-0.681864	3.034735	0.119753
N	0.546077	1.264331	-0.901716
C	-1.941130	0.829939	-2.238861
N	-1.908240	-0.422803	-1.635834
N	-2.522434	0.848751	-3.491187
C	-3.657536	0.001023	-3.832665
H	-4.566834	0.609535	-3.949823
H	-3.483233	-0.531812	-4.776478
H	-3.826751	-0.726493	-3.039480
C	-2.385962	2.043105	-4.310092
H	-3.173643	2.780551	-4.095441
H	-1.420717	2.510140	-4.117560
H	-2.453821	1.758625	-5.366837
C	-1.304832	-1.550019	-2.341609
H	-1.856853	-2.474745	-2.130056
H	-1.316393	-1.370761	-3.417244
H	-0.260728	-1.680207	-2.021559
C	-1.834145	-0.533123	-0.187061
H	-0.797649	-0.595428	0.166449
H	-2.308714	0.335579	0.273637

H	-2.376718	-1.435656	0.122040
C	1.618740	1.487319	0.048295
H	2.015776	2.520750	-0.033731
H	1.266416	1.396556	1.092084
C	2.779962	0.528317	-0.156382
C	3.722513	0.330907	0.864026
C	2.968507	-0.149346	-1.360259
C	4.815026	-0.508764	0.687839
H	3.597331	0.841991	1.817315
C	4.061581	-1.000936	-1.556429
H	2.237708	-0.008313	-2.149734
C	4.992320	-1.182401	-0.529200
H	5.542118	-0.665026	1.479107
H	4.172611	-1.511634	-2.506862
H	-1.385777	3.709367	-0.151475
H	0.154233	3.453519	0.506461
O	6.096917	-1.989935	-0.605922
C	6.321767	-2.695518	-1.812560
H	6.457406	-2.013598	-2.663344
H	7.239660	-3.267465	-1.660983
H	5.498486	-3.387215	-2.038609

5bH⁺

C	0.756378	1.990679	0.429826
N	1.855358	1.651272	1.107841
N	0.866952	3.047111	-0.404754
N	-0.442111	1.389809	0.542820
C	2.090115	0.445892	1.636654
N	1.770022	-0.728815	1.010931
N	2.742777	0.396868	2.821200
C	3.730155	-0.637931	3.149214
H	4.673036	-0.146424	3.411792
H	3.409376	-1.247935	4.000314
H	3.910654	-1.280518	2.288432
C	2.804478	1.591359	3.668420
H	3.681843	2.201751	3.424129
H	1.908509	2.195016	3.533744
H	2.871354	1.271698	4.712263
C	1.451746	-1.964569	1.731828
H	2.224413	-2.730216	1.597670
H	1.328564	-1.759977	2.795265
H	0.506992	-2.361868	1.342652
C	1.655909	-0.815027	-0.445138
H	0.608853	-0.887135	-0.763257
H	2.114924	0.058404	-0.908948
H	2.185776	-1.710114	-0.787904
C	-1.687599	1.778563	-0.155855
H	-2.033812	2.746377	0.230580
H	-1.455978	1.899607	-1.221023
C	-2.748259	0.724717	0.036622

C	-2.797658	-0.403448	-0.800792
C	-3.687763	0.830769	1.065790
C	-3.751073	-1.391272	-0.610831
H	-2.092114	-0.497901	-1.623932
C	-4.656173	-0.153634	1.270233
H	-3.678826	1.701013	1.718602
C	-4.691785	-1.275017	0.429064
H	-3.804908	-2.258157	-1.261311
H	-5.376342	-0.033893	2.070831
H	1.752730	3.533209	-0.405856
H	0.059856	3.540109	-0.756145
H	-0.520692	0.632894	1.207650
O	-5.582201	-2.288279	0.526975
C	-6.594864	-2.221726	1.528625
H	-7.190798	-3.126343	1.405366
H	-6.159089	-2.205945	2.535172
H	-7.233736	-1.341344	1.389616

The crystal and molecular structure of triguanide chloride salt (4aH)Cl

Table SM3. Crystallographic data for (4aH)Cl.

Formula	C ₁₈ H ₃₂ Cl ₁ N ₇
Molecular weight	381.95
Crystal system, space group	Orthorhombic, <i>Pbca</i>
Colour, crystal dimensions (mm ³)	colourless prism, 0.2 × 0.2 × 0.1
Unit cell dimensions <i>a</i> , <i>b</i> , <i>c</i> (Å)	15.9304(4), 14.0589(3), 19.0244(4)
<i>α</i> , <i>β</i> , <i>γ</i> (°)	90.0, 90.0, 90.0
Volume, <i>V</i> (Å ³)	4260.78(17)
<i>Z</i>	8
<i>D</i> _{calc} (g cm ⁻³)	1.191
Radiation, Co <i>Kα</i> , <i>λ</i> (Å)	1.54184
<i>θ</i> range	4.65 – 72.47
Temperature, (K)	296(2)
Reflections collected	17247
Independent reflections	4221
Observed reflections	3536
Absorption coefficient, <i>μ</i> , (mm ⁻¹)	1.707
Refinement on <i>F</i> ²	
<i>R</i> (<i>F</i> ² (2σ <i>F</i> ²)) ^A	0.0427
<i>wR</i> (<i>F</i> ² all reflections) ^B	0.1322
Goodness-of-fit, <i>S</i>	1.044
Residual electron density, e Å ⁻³	0.272, -0.151

$$^A R = \frac{\sum ||F_o| - |F_c||}{\sum F_o}$$

$$^B w = 1/[\sigma(F_o^2) + (0.0823P)^2 + 0.4379P] \text{ where } P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3.$$

Table SM4. Selected bond lengths (Å) and valence angles (°) for (4aH)Cl.

<i>Bond length / Å</i>		<i>Angle / °</i>	
C1–N1	1.3510(2)	C1–N1–C11	119.15(1)
C1–N2	1.3584(2)	C1–N1–C12	122.79(2)
C1–N3	1.3204(2)	C11–N1–C12	113.48(2)
C2–N3	1.3520(2)	C1–N2–C13	122.56(2)
C2–N4	1.3386(2)	C1–N2–C14	122.01(2)
C2–N5	1.3318(2)	C13–N2–C14	114.97(2)
C3–N5	1.3397(2)	N1–C1–N2	117.32(1)
C3–N6	1.3464(2)	N1–C1–N3	118.00(1)
C3–N7	1.3381(2)	N2–C1–N3	124.52(2)
C4–N4	1.4511(2)	C1–N3–C2	126.27(1)
N1–C11	1.4546(2)	N3–C2–N4	122.32(1)
N1–C12	1.4647(2)	N3–C2–N5	120.16(1)
N2–C13	1.4649(2)	N4–C2–N5	117.50(1)
N2–C14	1.4442(3)	C2–N4–C4	123.28(1)
N6–C15	1.4512(3)	C2–N5–C3	120.59(1)
N6–C16	1.4586(3)	N5–C3–N6	121.69(2)
N7–C17	1.4673(2)	N5–C3–N7	118.66(2)
N7–C18	1.4568(2)	N6–C3–N7	119.19(1)
		C3–N6–C15	119.75(1)
		C3–N6–C16	123.10(2)
		C15–N6–C16	113.45(2)
		C3–N7–C17	123.98(2)
		C3–N7–C18	120.20(2)
		C17–N7–C18	114.91(2)

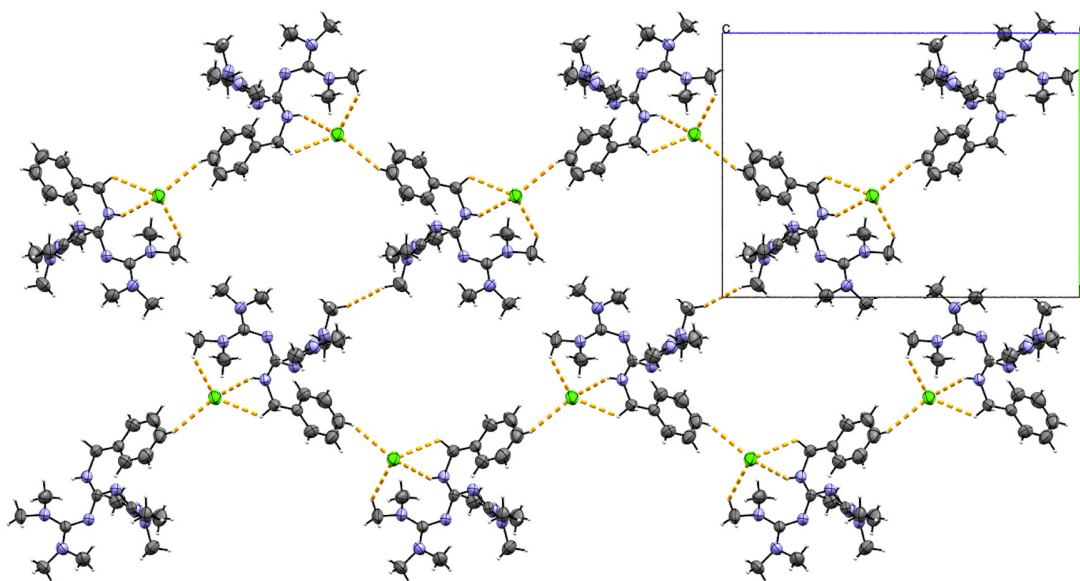


Figure SM17. An array of triguanide cations bridged by chloride anions in the crystal structure of (4aH)Cl. The interactions between ions are displayed as yellow dashed lines. View along the *a* axis.

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