

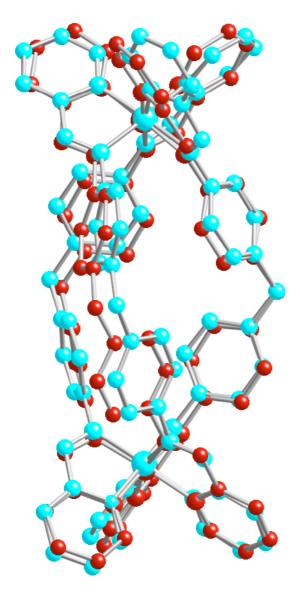


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## Molecular recognition of a three-way DNA junction by a metallo-supramolecular helicate

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**Fig. S1**: Supermimposition of the free (blue; F. Tuna, M.J. Hannon and G.J. Clarkson, unpublished) and DNA-bound (red) structures of the supramolecular helicate  $[Fe_2L_3]^{4+}$  (L=C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>4</sub>).

Table S1. Data collection, phasing and refinement statistics

Data collection:				
Data set	<u>Peak</u>	<u>Inflexion</u>	<u>Remote</u>	High resolution
λ (Å ) <sup>a</sup>	1.739	1.741	1.627	0.933
Space group	<i>P</i> 4₁32			
Unit cell parameters	$a = b = c = 71.20 \text{ Å}$ , $\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90^{\circ}$			
Resolution range (Å)	30-2.6	30-2.6	30-2.8	22.5-1.7 (1.8-1.7)
Number of reflections:				
total	73,467	54,690	42,532	91,621
unique	3399	3407	2865	7,134
Completeness (%) <sup>b</sup>	99.3 (97.8)	99.5 (98.3)	99.7 (100)	99.2 (99.7)
<i σ(i)=""> <sup>b</sup></i>	53.0 (11.4)	48.52 (9.3)	26.1 (5.5)	29.1 (8.8)
Average multiplicity	21.61	16.1	14.8	12.8
R <sub>sigma</sub> c,b	4.7 (24.3)	3.9 (26.6)	9.8 (55.1)	2.4 (11.8)
Phasing:				
Connectivity <sup>d</sup>	0.90			
Contrast <sup>e</sup>	0.35			
Pseudo free CC <sup>f</sup>	62.9			
Map CC <sup>g</sup>	94			
Refinement:				
h				2.2.02.0
R <sub>factor</sub> (free R <sub>factor</sub> )				24.9 (29.1)
r.m.s.deviation from target values				
Bond lengths (Å)				0.008
Bond angle distances (Å)				0.023
Average B-factors (Ų)				47.4
Fe <sup>2+</sup>				17.1
Drug				18.0
DNA				22.6
Solvent				41.5
Number of Fe <sup>2+ i</sup>				2
Number of Drug atoms				87
Number of DNA atoms				180
Number of solvent molecules <sup>1</sup>				45

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> The absorption peak dataset was taken as a reference.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Outermost resolution shell values in parenthesis.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup>  $R_{\text{sigma}} = (\Sigma[\sigma(F_o^2)] / \Sigma[F_o^2]) \times 100$ .

<sup>d</sup> The variance V of density on a spherical surface of radius 2.42 Å is calculated for each pixel in the map, and the pixels with the highest variances (V) are considered more likely to be atom positions. The connectivity is the fraction of adjacent pixels that are either both in the solvent or both in the macromolecular region(22).

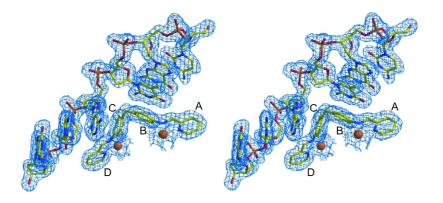
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>e</sup> Contrast= The variance of *V* over all pixels(22).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>f</sup> Pseudo free CC: CC (see g) calculated with 10% of the reflections omitted at random after performing

one cycle of density modification(22). <sup>g</sup> Map  $CC = [N\Sigma | E_H | | E_A | - \Sigma | | E_H | | \Sigma | | E_A |] / \{ [N\Sigma | E_H |^2 - (\Sigma | E_H |)^2] [N\Sigma | | E_A |^2 - (\Sigma | E_A |)^2] \}^{1/2} \times 100$  with  $E_H$ normalized structure factors derived from the calculated iron atom positions and E<sub>A</sub> from the observed MAD F<sub>A</sub> data(22).

 $R_{factor} = \{\Sigma_{hkl} \mid \mid F_o \mid -k \mid F_c \mid \mid / \Sigma_{hkl} \mid F_o \mid \} \text{ x100, with } F_o \text{ and } F_c \text{ as the observed and calculated structure factor}$ amplitudes; free R<sub>factor</sub>, same for a test set of reflections not used during refinement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>i</sup>Per asymmetric unit.



**Fig. S2**: Stereo plot of a  $\sigma_A$ -weighted Fourier map calculated with coefficients 2Fo-Fc and contoured at the  $1\sigma$  level showing part of the refined DNA and drug molecules fitted in the electron density. The two Fe<sup>2+</sup> ions are represented as spheres; pyridine rings: A, D; phenyl rings: B, C.