

TITLE

“CO-CRYSTAL OF KETOPROFEN AND ITS PREPARATION,
PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITIONS COMPRISING THE SAME AND USES
THEREOF”

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DESCRIPTION

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

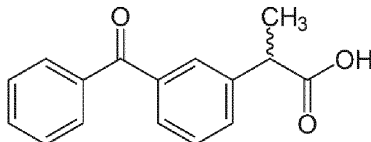
The present invention refers to a co-crystal of Ketoprofen Lysine named Form 4, to
a process for its preparation, to a pharmaceutical composition comprising said co-
crystal and to their medical use, in particular to their use in the treatment of pain and
inflammatory diseases.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Ketoprofen, ((RS)-2-(3-benzoylphenyl)-propionic acid, chemical formula $C_{16}H_{14}O_3$)
of formula

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is one of the propionic acid class of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAID)
with analgesic and antipyretic effects.

Because of its high tolerability, Ketoprofen is one of the non-steroidal anti-
inflammatory drugs of widespread use in clinics, both for the treatment of serious
inflammatory conditions and for its use in analgesic and antipyretic by inhibiting the
body's production of prostaglandin.

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Pharmaceutical compositions of current use containing Ketoprofen have a racemate as its active ingredient, where the two enantiomers S(+) and R(-) are present in equimolecular ratio.

The active ingredient is normally used as free acid, practically insoluble in water, in pharmaceutical compositions destined for oral use, while for alternative ways of administration, suitable Ketoprofen salts with organic and inorganic bases, such as for instance, Ketoprofen Sodium, or aminoacids, such as Ketoprofen Lysine Salt, have been used,

The salts of Ketoprofen are usefully employed in the treatment of those pathological symptoms of rheumatoid and chronic type, which require the drug to be administered at high dosage, continuously and for long time. It is important and desirable that for the treatment of acute and very painful manifestations there are pharmaceutical compositions suitable for immediate and manageable use, which rapidly release the active ingredient and are of high bio-availability. Typical examples of these compositions are those by parenteral administration and/or by oral administration, which allow a fine dispersion of the active ingredient.

The solubility and dissolution rate of drugs are decisive factors after oral administration for rate and extent of absorption.

These factors represent a key challenge for the development and formulation of effective drug in the pharmaceutical industry. The issue of poor drugs solubility – which is troublesome for synthesis and development as well – is known and is responsible for bioavailability problems.

Various strategies have been well documented to enhance solubility and dissolution of poorly soluble drugs such as salt formation, solid dispersion, microemulsion, co-solvency, inclusion complex formation with cyclodextrin etc.

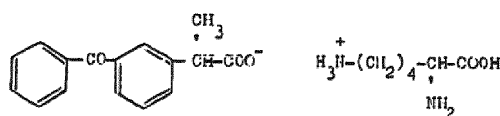
It is also possible to achieve desired properties of a particular active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) by forming a co-crystal of the API itself, or of a salt of the API. Pharmaceutical co-crystallization has attracted great amount of academic, industrial and therapeutic interests by co-crystallization of two or more pure compounds with
5 crystal engineering to create a new functional material.

Co-crystals can be defined as a stoichiometric multi-component system formed between two or more compounds, which are solid under ambient conditions, connected by non-covalent and non-ionic interactions.

Pharmaceutical co-crystals are non-ionic supramolecular complexes and can be
10 used to improve physicochemical property issues such as solubility, stability and bioavailability in pharmaceutical development without changing the chemical composition of the API.

Co-crystals containing API can be used to deliver API therapeutically. New drug formulations comprising co-crystals of API with pharmaceutically acceptable co-
15 formers may, in some cases, have superior properties over existing drug formulations. However, co-crystal formation is not predictable and, in fact, not always possible. Moreover, there is no way to predict the properties of a particular co-crystal of a compound until it is formed. As such, finding the right conditions to obtain a particular co-crystal of a compound, with pharmaceutically acceptable
20 properties, can take significant time, effort, and resources.

The documents GB1497044A and BE882889 describe the preparation of salts of Ketoprofen with Lysine of formula



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with a process in which non-saturated solutions of the components are used.

However, the known Ketoprofen Lysine Salt shows low crystallinity and rather high particle size, as shown herein in figure 12 and at Table 11. These properties of Ketoprofen Lysine Salt may not be ideal in terms of hygroscopicity and flowability of the powder or of dissolution profile and possibly in vivo bioavailability.

The European Patent Application n. EP18215336.1, filed on December 21, 2018, describes the preparation and the characterization of a co-crystal of Ketoprofen Lysine, named Form 1.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The Applicant has unexpectedly found that Ketoprofen and Lysine, under certain process conditions, can form a co-crystal (herein named Form 4) which is characterized by higher crystallinity, lower particle size and better taste than previous Ketoprofen Lysine Salt. Additionally, Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 shows a higher dissolution rate when compared to Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1.

Thus a first object of the present invention refers to a co-crystal of Ketoprofen Lysine (Form 4) characterized by having an X ray diffraction pattern with characteristic peaks at 13.6; 16.0; 16.5; 17.3; 19.1; 19.4; 20.5; 21.8; 22.9; 23.5; 24.9; 25.9; 27.6° 2theta, with a margin of error on the value indicated for each peak of ± 0.20 degrees (2 theta).

Another object of the present invention is a pharmaceutical composition comprising the co-crystal of Ketoprofen Lysine (Form 4) of the present invention and at least a physiologically acceptable excipient.

Another object of the present invention is a pharmaceutical composition comprising the co-crystal of Ketoprofen Lysine (Form 4) of the present invention in combination with at least another pharmaceutically active ingredient.

Another object of the present invention refers to the co-crystal of Ketoprofen Lysine (Form 4) and to the pharmaceutical composition comprising said co-crystal for use
5 as a medicament.

Another object of the present invention refers to the co-crystal of Ketoprofen Lysine (Form 4) and to the pharmaceutical composition comprising said co-crystal for the use in the treatment of pain and inflammatory diseases.

10 Another object of the present invention is a process for the preparation of the co-crystal of the present invention, wherein said process comprises the following steps:
a) preparing a non-saturated solution of Ketoprofen in a solvent selected from 2-methyl -1- propanol and ethyl acetate;
b) mixing the non-saturated solution of Ketoprofen with solid lysine to provide an
15 admixture.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1. XRPD spectra of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 (1A) and Ketoprofen Lysine Salt (1B).

Figure 2. XRPD spectrum of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 prepared
20 according to Example 1.

Figure 3. XRPD spectra of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 compared to Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1.

Figure 4. ^{13}C (100 MHz) CPMAS solid-state NMR spectra of Ketoprofen Lysine Salt (4A), Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 (4B) and, overlapped, of Ketoprofen

Lysine co-crystal Form 1, Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4, Ketoprofen and Lysine (details of the carboxylic region) (4C).

Figure 5. ^{15}N (40.56 MHz) CPMAS solid-state NMR spectra of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 (5A) and in admixture with Lysine (5B).

5 Figure 6. FT-IR spectra of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4.

Figure 7: FT-IR spectra of Ketoprofen Lysine Salt.

Figure 8. FT-Raman spectrum of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4.

Figure 9. TGA thermograms of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 (9A) and Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 (9B).

10 Figure 10. DSC thermograms of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 (10A), Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 (10B).

Figure 11. Principal Component Analysis (PCA) score plot of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 (variation over time) (11A), of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 (variation over time) (11B) and Partial Least Discriminant Analysis (PLS-DA) score plot of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 and Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 (11C).

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Figure 12. XRPD pattern of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 compared with Ketoprofen Lysine Salt.

Figure 13. DSC thermogram of Ketoprofen Lysine Salt.

20 Figure 14. ^1H -NMR spectrum of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 (onset T 100.53°C).

Keys: KL1 Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1; KL4 Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4; KLS Ketoprofen Lysine Salt; KET Ketoprofen; LYS Lysine

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

25 Definitions

Unless otherwise defined, all terms of art, notations and other scientific terminology used herein are intended to have the meanings commonly understood by those of skill in the art to which this disclosure pertains. In some cases, terms with commonly understood meanings are defined herein for clarity and/or for ready reference; thus, 5 the inclusion of such definitions herein should not be construed to represent a substantial difference over what is generally understood in the art.

The term "physiologically acceptable excipient" herein refers to a substance devoid of any pharmacological effect of its own and which does not produce adverse reactions when administered to a mammal, preferably a human. Physiologically 10 acceptable excipients are well known in the art and are disclosed, for instance in the Handbook of Pharmaceutical Excipients, sixth edition 2009, herein incorporated by reference.

For the purpose of the present invention, the expression "room temperature" means a temperature range of 18 to 25°C.

15 For the purpose of the present invention the expression "co-crystal" means a stoichiometric multi-component system, in which the components are connected by non-covalent, non-ionic interactions and, individually, are solid under room conditions.

For the purpose of the present invention, the expression "pain" means pain caused 20 by disturbances of different nature and origin, such as, for example: headache or cephalalgia: both primary and therefore not related to other factors or diseases, and secondary and therefore dependent on trauma, injury and distinct diseases; toothache: in case of abscesses or caries that create pain in the dental pulp, with numerous blood vessels and nerves; menstrual pains: abdominal and lower 25 abdominal pain and headaches caused by hormonal changes typical of the period

of menstruation; neuralgia, or intense nerve pain due to strains, trauma and infections; pain in the muscles, or myalgia: pains located at the level of muscles when using or touching them, due to sudden contractions or traumas; osteoarticular pains, such as joint inflammations (to the bones, cartilages, ligaments and tendons) following traumas, old age, strains and injuries.

The terms "approximately" and "about" herein refers to the range of the experimental error, which may occur in a measurement.

The term "saturated solution" is to be construed as a chemical solution containing the maximum concentration of a solute dissolved in the solvent at a certain temperature. In the present context, if not otherwise stated, reference is made to room temperature.

The term "non-saturated solution" is to be construed as a chemical solution containing a concentration of a solute dissolved in the solvent at a certain temperature which is lower than the maximum concentration of the solute dissolved in that solvent at the same temperature. In the present context, if not otherwise stated, reference is made to room temperature.

A first object of the present invention refers to a co-crystal of Ketoprofen Lysine (Form 4) characterized by an X ray diffraction pattern with characteristic peaks at 13.6; 16.0; 16.5; 17.3; 19.1; 19.4; 20.5; 21.8; 22.9; 23.5; 24.9; 25.9; 27.6° 2theta, with a margin of error on the value indicated for each peak of ± 0.20 degrees (2 theta).

In Figure 1 XRPD patterns of previous Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 (1A) and Ketoprofen Lysine Salt (1B) are shown.

The typical XRPD pattern of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 is represented in Figure 2.

The Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 of the present invention is a polymorph of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1, as demonstrated by XRPD (Table 2) and ss-NMR (Table 7) analysis.

The comparison of the XRPD patterns of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 of the present invention and Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 is shown in Figure 3 and Table 2.

As reported in Table 2, the XRPD diffractogram shows relevant differences between the two polymorphs Form 1 and Form 4 of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal in the region from 15 to 28° 2theta, with the peaks showing a shift ≥ 0.2 degrees at 15.5; 16.0; 17.3, 19.2; 19.3; 19.4; 21.7; 24.5; 24.7; 25.9; 26.0; 26.5° 2theta and the peaks with a shift of 0.3 degrees at 25.9 vs 26.2, 26.5 vs 26.8, 26.5 vs 26.8 2theta.

In addition, the co-crystalline nature of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 of the present invention is shown in the ^{13}C (100 MHz) and ^{15}N (40.56 MHz) CPMAS solid-state NMR spectra, as depicted in Figures 4, 5 and in Table 7.

The Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 of the present invention is further characterized by TGA (Figure 9B), DSC (Figure 10A), FT-IR (Figure 6 and Table 4), FT-Raman (Figure 8 and Table 5), and liquid ^1H -NMR spectra (Figure 14).

Preferably, the molecular ratio between Ketoprofen and Lysine of the co-crystal Form 4 of the present invention is 1:1.

Preferably, the co-crystal of the present invention is co-crystal of (R)-2-(3-benzoylphenyl)-propionic acid D-Lysine.

Preferably, the co-crystal of the present invention is co-crystal of (R)-2-(3-benzoylphenyl)-propionic acid L-Lysine.

Preferably, the co-crystal of the present invention is co-crystal of (S)-2-(3-benzoylphenyl)-propionic acid D-Lysine.

Preferably, the co-crystal of the present invention is co-crystal of (S)-2-(3-benzoylphenyl)-propionic acid L-Lysine.

Advantageously, Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 of the present invention shows a high dissolution rate, higher than the dissolution rate of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 (Table 10).

Thus, the high dissolution rate of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 of the present invention is predictive of an advantageous use in the treatment of those pathological and chronic symptoms, which require the drug to be administered at high dosage, continuously and for long time.

Furthermore, Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 of the present invention is characterized by a better taste if compared with Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 of the present invention as resulted in the Electronic Tongue test (see Experimental part par. 8 and Figure 11).

Another object of the present invention refers to pharmaceutical compositions comprising the co-crystal of Ketoprofen Lysine Form 4 of the present invention and at least one physiologically acceptable excipient.

The pharmaceutical composition of the present invention is preferably suitable for immediate and handy use, and rapidly releases the API.

Preferably, said excipients are selected from the group consisting of: povidone, colloidal silica, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, eudragit EPO, sodium dodecyl sulfate, stearic acid, magnesium stearate, aspartame, mannitol, xylitol, talc, flavors.

Preferably, the pharmaceutical composition of the present invention is in a solid form, more preferably in solid granulate form.

Another object of the present invention is the co-crystal of Ketoprofen Lysine Form 4 and the pharmaceutical composition comprising said co-crystal for medical use, preferably for use in the treatment of pain and inflammation diseases.

Preferably, the co-crystal of Ketoprofen Lysine Form 4 and the pharmaceutical composition comprising said co-crystal are used in the treatment of pain, in which the pain is selected from the group consisting of: acute pain, headache, toothache, menstrual pain, muscle pain, osteoarticular pain.

Preferably, the co-crystal of Ketoprofen Lysine Form 4 and the pharmaceutical composition comprising said co-crystal are used in the treatment of inflammation diseases, in which the inflammation diseases are selected from the group consisting of rheumatic diseases.

Another object of the present invention is a pharmaceutical composition comprising the co-crystal of Ketoprofen Lysine (Form 4) of the present invention in combination with one or more pharmaceutically active ingredients.

Another object of the present invention is a process for the preparation of the co-crystal of the present invention, wherein said process comprises the following steps:

- a) preparing a non-saturated solution of Ketoprofen in a solvent selected from 2-methyl -1- propanol and ethyl acetate;
- b) mixing the non-saturated solution of Ketoprofen with solid lysine to provide an admixture.

The present process is characterized by one or more of the following features, taken alone or in combinations.

Preferably, the solvent of step a) is 2-methyl -1- propanol.

Preferably, the non-saturated solution of step a) has a concentration of Ketoprofen lower than 350 mg/ml, more preferably lower than 200 mg/ml, even more preferably lower than 100 mg/ml.

Preferably, the non-saturated solution of Ketoprofen of step a) has a concentration
5 of Ketoprofen from 50 to 150 mg/ml, more preferably from 70 to 120 mg/ml, even more preferably from 80 to 100 mg/ml.

Preferably, the non-saturated solution of Ketoprofen of step a) has a concentration of Ketoprofen lower than 200 mg/ml, preferably lower than 150 mg/ml, more preferably lower than 100 mg/ml.

10 Preferably, in step b) of the present process, solid lysine is mixed with the non – saturated solution of step a) by direct addition of the solid powder to the solution, preferably under stirring, to provide the admixture.

In alternative, the solution of step a) can be added to solid lysine, preferably under stirring, to provide the admixture.

15 In alternative, solid lysine can be in form of a suspension in a suitable anti-solvent, namely in a solvent in which Lysine has a low solubility such as for instance Ethyl Acetate, Ethanol, Methanol, 2-Methyl-1-propanol, or their admixtures, preferably in 2-methyl-1-propanol. In this case, the anti-solvent is preferably used in a volume to weight ratio from 10 to 70 ml/g, more preferably from 30 to 50 ml/g of Lysine.

20 An indicative value of low solubility is for instance the solubility of Lysine in 2-Methyl-1-propanol, which is about 0.026 g/ml.

Preferably, the admixture obtained at step b) is stirred for 1 to 80 hours, more preferably from 3 to 70 hours, even more preferably from 5 to 60 hours.

Preferably, the admixture obtained at step b) is stirred at a temperature from 5°C to
25 70°C, more preferably from 25°C to 60°C, even more preferably from 50°C to 60°C.

Preferably, the admixture obtained at step b) has a water content from 0.3 to 1.5% (v/v), more preferably from 0.8% to 1.1% (v/v).

Preferably, in the present process, the molar ratio Ketoprofen : Lysine is from 1.5:1 to 3.5:1, more preferably from 2:1 to 3:1.

5 Preferably, the admixture obtained at step b), after having been stirred for a suitable time and at a certain temperature, is cooled down at a temperature from -5°C to 60°C, more preferably from 10°C to 50°C, even more preferably to room temperature.

In a preferred embodiment of the present process, the non-saturated solution of
10 Ketoprofen in 2-methyl -1- propanol of step a) has a concentration of Ketoprofen from 80 to 100 mg/ml and in a molar ratio Ketoprofen /Lysine from 2:1 to 3:1. In step b) solid lysine is mixed with the non-saturated solution of step a) by direct addition of the solid powder to the solution. The admixture obtained at step b) is stirred for 5 to 60 hours at a temperature from 50°C to 60°C and then cooled down at room
15 temperature.

Advantageously, the present process provides for Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 of the present invention in high yield as reported in Table 1.

EXPERIMENTAL PART

In the following, some-non limitative- examples are provided related to the
20 preparation process of the co-crystal of Ketoprofen Lysine Form 4, its yields, and its characterization by XRPD analysis, DSC/TGA analysis, NMR analyses, FT-IR analysis, RAMAN analysis, particle size distribution analysis, dissolution rate test, and taste assessment by electronic tongue.

1. PREPARATION OF KETOPROFEN LYSINE COMPOUNDS

25 Example 1

Preparation of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4

- Ketoprofen free acid (1.9 g, 7.5 mmol) was dissolved in 20 mL of 2-methyl -1-propanol (MPR) and left to stir at room temperature up to dissolution. Then solid Lysine (0.55 g, 3.75 mmol) was added and the resulting mixture was heated at 50°C for 3 hours. The mixture was then cooled at 5°C and filtered. A washing with MPR (6 mL x 2) was performed to recover the powder from the reactor's wall. The filtered cake was then washed with mother liquor under vacuum. The filtered cake was dried into the drying oven at 60°C and 50 mbar vacuum for 16 hours. The compound was obtained as a white powder in 63% yield.
- The compound was characterized by XRPD, TGA, DSC, FT-IR, FT-Raman, liquid state ¹H-NMR (see sections below).

Example 2

Preparation of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 (scale up)

- The process of Example 1 was repeated starting from 188 g of Ketoprofen.
- The main process parameters were studied according to the conditions and with the results collected in the following Table 1:

Table 1

Ex. n	Mol. ratio KET/LYS	Conc. KET mg/ml	Water cont. (% v/v)	Heating T step b)	Stirring time (h)	Cooling T (°C)	Product	Yield % w/w
2A	3/1	87	0.3	60	24	25	Form 4	80.9
2B	3/1	87	1	60	24	25	Form 4	89.7
2C	1.5/1	87	1	60	5	25	Form 4	84.4
2D	2/1	87	1	60	24	25	Form 4	88.0

Example 3

Preparation of Ketoprofen Lysine Form 1 (comparison)

- 650 mg of racemic Lysine were suspended in 0.5 mL of water, then the suspension was filtered and added to 87 mg (0.34 mmol) of Ketoprofen. The mixture was so

stirred for 24 hours at room temperature; after this time, no solid was recovered, so the solution was left to evaporate at high temperature until the formation of a sticky solid was observed. In order to get a solid suitable for XRPD analysis, the sticky solid was slurried in Isopropyl Ether (IPE) for 24 hours providing after filtration

5 Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1.

The XRPD spectra of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 is shown in Figure 1A.

Example 4

Preparation of Ketoprofen Lysine Salt (Comparison)

Ketoprofen 0.76 g and racemic Lysine 0.44 g (eq. ratio 1:1) were stirred in 20 mL of

10 methanol at 40°C for 1 hour. Ketoprofen was dissolved while the suspended Lysine was filtered off (filter 0.45 µm) directly in a Mettler Toledo Easymax 102 reactor. The solution was left under stirring for 5 minutes in the reactor, then 100mL of ethyl acetate was added and the solution was cooled down to -5°C without solid formation. Additional ethyl acetate (20 mL) was added through pipette in two

15 aliquots (10 mL and 10 mL) to trigger the nucleation. The system was left under stirring until the suspension became milky. Additional 30 minutes of stirring was applied. The precipitate was then filtered and characterized by XRPD (Figure 1B).

2. XRPD ANALYSIS

The XRPD analysis has been carried out with an instrument having the following characteristics: Instrument type: Rigaku MiniFlex600	
Application SW:	Miniflex Guidance
Measurement Details	
Measurement type: Single scan	
Sample mode:	Reflection
Scan	

Scan range:	3.000 – 40.000 ° (2 θ)
Step size:	0.01 ° (2 θ)
Speed:	10.0 °/min (2 θ)
Scan mode:	Continuous
Used wavelength	
Intended wavelength type:	K α 1
K α 1:	1.540598 Å
K α 2:	1.544426 Å
K α 2/K α 1 intensity ratio:	0.50
K α :	1.541874 Å
K α :	1.392250 Å
Instrument Details	
X-Ray Generator	
Tube output voltage:	40 kV
Tube output:	15 mA
High-voltage generation method: High-frequency Cockcroft-Walton method	
Stability: Within $\pm 0.05\%$ for both the tube voltage and tube current, with reference to $\pm 10\%$ of input power variation.	
X-ray tube	
Name:	Toshiba Analix type A-26L
Anode material:	Cu
Maximus output:	0.60 kW
Focus size:	1 x 10 mm
K β Filter	
Name:	Ni-filter

Thickness (mm):	0.015
Material:	Ni
Goniometer (Angle measuring device)	
Type:	Vertical $\theta/2\theta$
Goniometer radius: 150 mm	
Scanning axis:	$\theta/2\theta$ linked
2θ scanning range: +2 ° to +140 °	
$\theta/2\theta$ axis minimum step angle: 0.005 ° (2θ)	
Position speed:	500 °/min (2θ)
Scanning speed:	0.01 to 100 °/min
Datum angle:	$2\theta = 10^\circ$
X-ray take-off angle:	6 ° (fixed)
Slit	
DS:	1.25 °
IHS:	10.0 mm
SS:	none (open)
RS:	none (open)
Incident side Soller slit:	2.5 °
Receiving side Soller slit:	2.5 °
Detector	
Name:	D/teX Ultra High-speed 1D Detector

A sample of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 obtained with the process of Example 1 has been analysed by XRPD (Figure 2).

In Figure 3, XRPD spectra of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 and of Ketoprofen Lysine Form 1 are shown.

The characteristic peaks of the XRPD spectrum of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 according to the invention is reported in Table 2 with the pattern profile of Ketoprofen Lysine Form 1 for comparison.

The position and assigned hkl plane and intensity of the peaks of the two
5 polymorphs are also reported in Table 2.

Table 2

Peak List of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 and Form 1

Form 4						Form 1					
h	k	l	d(Å)	2θ(deg)	Intensity	h	k	l	d(Å)	2θ(deg)	Intensity
1	0	0	23.29	3.8	1592.1	1	0	0	23.2	3.8	1089.118
2	0	0	11.64	7.6	454.5	2	0	0	11.6	7.6	374.466
3	0	0	7.76	11.4	9.59	3	0	0	7.7	11.4	8.7
1	1	0	7.60	11.6	1212.2	1	1	0	7.6	11.6	1043.356
2	1	0	6.61	13.4	351.2	2	1	0	6.6	13.4	339.4742
0	1	1	6.51	13.6	1554.2	0	1	1	6.5	13.6	552.2654
1	-1	-1	6.50	13.6	921.8	1	-1	-1	6.5	13.6	1718.124
1	1	1	6.06	14.6	577.1	1	1	1	6.0	14.6	125.3324
2	-1	-1	6.05	14.6	181.4	2	-1	-1	6.0	14.7	614.0069
4	0	0	5.82	15.2	49.1	4	0	0	5.8	15.2	57.78102
1	0	-2	5.71	15.5	7.63710	1	0	-2	5.6	15.7	15.81796
3	1	0	5.58	15.9	406.6	3	1	0	5.6	15.9	280.511
0	0	2	5.55	16.0	133.6	0	0	2	5.5	16.1	435.8349
2	0	-2	5.54	16.0	389.5	2	0	-2	5.5	16.2	114.3189
2	1	1	5.38	16.5	1332.0	2	1	1	5.4	16.5	1002.419
3	-1	-1	5.36	16.5	1088.2	3	-1	-1	5.3	16.6	1037.016

Form 4						Form 1					
h	k	l	d(Å)	2θ(deg)	Intensity	h	k	l	d(Å)	2θ(deg)	Intensity
1	0	2	5.13	17.3	1250.7	1	0	2	5.1	17.4	1159.756
3	0	-2	5.12	17.3	1174.2	3	0	-2	5.1	17.5	1026.988
4	1	0	4.71	18.8	175.8	4	1	0	4.7	18.8	211.0233
3	1	1	4.68	18.9	4.89460	3	1	1	4.7	19.0	86.7
4	-1	-1	4.67	19.0	235.2	4	-1	-1	4.7	19.1	0.00000
5	0	0	4.66	19.0	0.00000	5	0	0	4.6	19.1	139.0242
1	-1	-2	4.65	19.1	844.8	1	-1	-2	4.6	19.2	717.5275
2	0	2	4.61	19.2	42.7	2	0	2	4.6	19.4	344.9359
4	0	-2	4.59	19.3	400.5	4	0	-2	4.5	19.5	1910.591
0	1	2	4.57	19.4	1361.3	0	1	2	4.5	19.6	193.0019
2	-1	-2	4.56	19.4	2611.8	2	-1	-2	4.5	19.6	1821.501
1	1	2	4.33	20.5	1435.0	1	1	2	4.3	20.6	586.1714
3	-1	-2	4.32	20.6	589.5	3	-1	-2	4.3	20.7	1477.621
3	0	2	4.08	21.7	61.4	4	1	1	4.1	21.9	0.00000
4	1	1	4.07	21.8	1908.8	3	0	2	4.1	21.9	442.9748
5	0	-2	4.07	21.8	918.3	5	-1	-1	4.0	21.9	2226.067
5	-1	-1	4.06	21.9	31.0	5	0	-2	4.0	22.0	0.00042
5	1	0	4.03	22.0	1274.5	0	2	0	4.0	22.1	111.8395
0	2	0	4.02	22.1	102.2	5	1	0	4.0	22.1	1149.957
2	1	2	4.00	22.2	159.7	2	1	2	4.0	22.3	14.31045
4	-1	-2	3.98	22.3	90.5	1	2	0	4.0	22.4	396.7589
1	2	0	3.96	22.4	372.0	4	-1	-2	4.0	22.5	61.90912
6	0	0	3.88	22.9	1165.3	6	0	0	3.9	23.0	976.6281

Form 4						Form 1					
h	k	l	d(Å)	2θ(deg)	Intensity	h	k	l	d(Å)	2θ(deg)	Intensity
2	2	0	3.80	23.4	0.00000	2	2	0	3.8	23.4	0.00000
0	2	1	3.78	23.5	1279.1	0	2	1	3.8	23.5	1225.846
1	-2	-1	3.78	23.5	12.6	1	-2	-1	3.8	23.5	0.00012
1	2	1	3.68	24.1	29.5	1	2	1	3.7	24.1	28.52559
2	-2	-1	3.68	24.2	48.6	2	-2	-1	3.7	24.2	5.65006
3	1	2	3.64	24.4	78.8	3	1	2	3.6	24.5	469.2507
5	-1	-2	3.63	24.5	478.4	5	-1	-2	3.6	24.7	1.84273
4	0	2	3.62	24.6	220.2	4	0	2	3.6	24.7	30.77004
6	0	-2	3.60	24.7	95.1	3	2	0	3.6	24.9	1293.778
3	2	0	3.57	24.9	1455.9	6	0	-2	3.6	24.9	86.76020
5	1	1	3.56	25.0	0.00000	5	1	1	3.6	25.0	24.81936
6	-1	-1	3.56	25.0	0.00000	6	-1	-1	3.5	25.1	18.50564
2	2	1	3.51	25.3	186.7	2	2	1	3.5	25.3	893.8421
3	-2	-1	3.51	25.4	625.9	3	-2	-1	3.5	25.4	1.49105
6	1	0	3.49	25.5	47.1	6	1	0	3.5	25.5	105.3335
1	-1	-3	3.43	25.9	620.0	1	-1	-3	3.4	26.2	641.4867
2	-1	-3	3.43	26.0	273.2	2	-1	-3	3.4	26.2	208.4548
0	1	3	3.36	26.5	64.1	0	1	3	3.3	26.8	60.35221
3	-1	-3	3.35	26.5	44.4	3	-1	-3	3.3	26.8	0.00000
7	0	0	3.33	26.8	102.2	7	0	0	3.3	26.9	146.0823
4	2	0	3.31	26.9	0.00000	4	2	0	3.3	26.9	0.00000
4	1	2	3.30	27.0	0.00000	3	2	1	3.3	27.0	132.7653
3	2	1	3.30	27.0	364.5	4	-2	-1	3.3	27.1	450.9335

Form 4						Form 1					
h	k	l	d(Å)	2θ(deg)	Intensity	h	k	l	d(Å)	2θ(deg)	Intensity
4	-2	-1	3.29	27.1	226.0	4	1	2	3.3	27.1	0.00000
1	-2	-2	3.29	27.1	0.00000	1	-2	-2	3.3	27.2	0.00000
6	-1	-2	3.29	27.1	0.00000	6	-1	-2	3.3	27.3	12.30758
0	2	2	3.25	27.4	1086.9	0	2	2	3.2	27.5	1083.624
2	-2	-2	3.25	27.4	727.2	2	-2	-2	3.2	27.5	688.8038
1	1	3	3.23	27.6	309.7	1	1	3	3.2	27.8	192.3856
4	-1	-3	3.22	27.7	170.9	5	0	2	3.2	27.8	73.71219
5	0	2	3.22	27.7	23.5	4	-1	-3	3.2	27.9	289.2207
7	0	-2	3.20	27.8	35.9	7	0	-2	3.2	28.0	96.01039
1	2	2	3.16	28.2	25.2	1	2	2	3.2	28.2	38.54196
3	-2	-2	3.16	28.2	0.00000	3	-2	-2	3.2	28.3	0.00001
6	1	1	3.15	28.3	398.5	6	1	1	3.1	28.4	332.1199
7	-1	-1	3.14	28.4	231.4	7	-1	-1	3.1	28.5	347.4366
7	1	0	3.07	29.0	59.2	7	1	0	3.1	29.1	69.70481
2	1	3	3.06	29.2	149.5	4	2	1	3.1	29.2	21.12850
4	2	1	3.06	29.2	478.2	5	-2	-1	3.1	29.2	784.9
5	-2	-1	3.06	29.2	225.8	5	2	0	3.0	29.3	0.00000
5	-1	-3	3.05	29.3	0.00000	2	1	3	3.0	29.4	147.6632
5	2	0	3.04	29.3	0.00000	5	-1	-3	3.0	29.5	0.00000
2	2	2	3.03	29.5	140.4	2	2	2	3.0	29.5	467.9161
4	-2	-2	3.02	29.5	291.7	4	-2	-2	3.0	29.6	0.00006
5	1	2	2.99	29.9	53.6	5	1	2	3.0	30.0	64.18669
7	-1	-2	2.98	30.0	39.6	7	-1	-2	3.0	30.2	60.65774

Form 4						Form 1					
h	k	l	d(Å)	2θ(deg)	Intensity	h	k	l	d(Å)	2θ(deg)	Intensity
8	0	0	2.91	30.7	26.5	8	0	0	2.9	30.8	42.02372

The XRPD diffractograms showed some relevant differences in the region from 15 to 27° 2theta with the peaks showing similar relative intensity.

Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 showed the characteristic peaks at 15.7; 16.2; 17.5; 19.4; 19.5; 19.6; 21.9; 24.7; 24.9; 26.2; 26.8° 2theta, while Ketoprofen lysine co-crystal Form 4 showed the distinguishing peaks at 15.5; 16.0; 17.3, 19.2; 19.3; 19.4; 21.7; 24.5; 24.7; 25.9; 26.0; 26.5° 2theta: these peaks have a shift ≥ 0.2 deg.

The peaks of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 with a shift of 0.3 degrees were found at 25.9 vs 26.2, 26.5 vs 26.8, 26.5 vs 26.8.

As it is clearly visible from Figure 3, Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 XRPD pattern showed slight but not negligible differences when compared to the XRPD pattern observed for Form 1.

According to XRPD analysis, it appears that Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 represents a polymorph of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 with similar crystallinity.

The Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 of the present invention is distinguished from the previous Ketoprofen Lysine Salt, as resulted from the analysis reported herein below.

In particular, the XRPD spectra of Ketoprofen Lysine Salt is shown in Figure 1A.

The characteristic XRPD peaks of Ketoprofen Lysine Salt are reported in the following Table 3.

Table 3

XRPD Peak List of Ketoprofen Lysine Salt

Pos. [°2Th.]	Height [cts]	FWHM [°2Th.]	d-spacing [Å]	Rel. Int. [%]
3.9325	2846.60	0.1476	22.46912	100.00
7.8614	122.69	0.1181	11.24637	4.31
8.5371	92.20	0.1181	10.35764	3.24
9.1615	141.64	0.1968	9.65313	4.98
11.0605	527.66	0.1181	7.99966	18.54
11.8024	131.06	0.2362	7.49843	4.60
13.0204	1516.34	0.0689	6.79958	53.27
14.1357	181.38	0.1968	6.26551	6.37
15.0097	72.85	0.1968	5.90258	2.56
17.4211	652.89	0.1574	5.09063	22.94
18.8604	2197.33	0.0689	4.70525	77.19
19.4898	678.61	0.1181	4.55471	23.84
20.9970	1941.40	0.0787	4.23104	68.20
21.4845	2046.59	0.1378	4.13613	71.90
22.2596	1258.41	0.1771	3.99383	44.21
22.9984	616.52	0.0787	3.86717	21.66
23.6473	222.80	0.2362	3.76250	7.83
24.6845	207.27	0.3149	3.60672	7.28
25.8298	707.10	0.0787	3.44933	24.84
26.6005	977.38	0.0886	3.35111	34.34
28.3958	134.48	0.1574	3.14320	4.72
29.2001	419.42	0.1771	3.05843	14.73
30.7454	46.23	0.3149	2.90814	1.62
31.9837	376.56	0.1378	2.79832	13.23

Pos. [°2Th.]	Height [cts]	FWHM [°2Th.]	d-spacing [Å]	Rel. Int. [%]
32.7583	225.02	0.1574	2.73389	7.90
33.5545	173.12	0.2362	2.67082	6.08
35.3568	377.39	0.1378	2.53870	13.26
36.6756	185.11	0.2755	2.45038	6.50
38.3677	278.83	0.3149	2.34612	9.80

The XRPD diffractograms showed relevant signals in the region from 13 to 27° 2theta, in particular Ketoprofen Lysine salt showed the most intense peaks at 13.0, 17.4, 18.9, 19.5, 20.9, 21.5 and 26.6° 2theta, while Ketoprofen lysine co-crystal Form 4 showed the distinguishing peaks at 15.5; 16.0; 17.3, 19.2; 19.3; 19.4; 21.7; 24.5; 24.7; 25.9; 26.0; 26.5° 2theta.

3. TGA ANALYSIS

The analysis was carried out using the Mettler Toledo TGA/DSC1.

The sample was weighed in an aluminum pan hermetically sealed with an aluminum pierced cover. The analysis was performed heating the sample from 25°C to 320°C at 10 K/min.

Temperature data

Temperature range	25 °C to 320 °C
Temperature accuracy	± 1 K
Temperature precision	± 0.4 K
Heating rate	10 K/min
Cooling time	20 min (1100 ... 100 °C)
Sample volume	≤100 µL

Special modes

Automation	34 sample positions
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TGA-FTIR	coupled with Thermo Nicolet iS10 spectrometer
Balance data	XP5
Measurement range	≤5 g
Resolution	1.0 µg
Weighing accuracy	0.005%
Weighing precision	0.0025%
Internal ring weights	2
Blank curve reproducibility	better than ± 10 µg over the whole temperature range

Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 TGA thermogram is reported in Figure 9 in comparison with the thermogram of Form 1.

The thermogram of Form 4 showed multiple weight losses:

- 25-130°C (1.21% w/w) limited to EGA sensitivity no organic solvent evolution was observed (probable water traces evolution);
- 150-170°C MPR traces evolution concomitant with carbon dioxide evolution;
- 120-320°C (35.53% w/w) degradation gases evolution (mainly carbon dioxide followed by ammonia evolution).

The TGA curve profile of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 is slightly different from that of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 with the latter showing a weight loss of 34.40% due to degradation compared to 35.53% of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4.

4. DSC ANALYSIS

The analysis was carried out using a DSC Mettler Toledo DSC1.

The sample was weighed in an aluminum pan hermetically sealed with an aluminum cover. The analysis was performed heating the sample from 25°C to 320°C at 10 K/min.

Temperature data

Temperature range	25°C to 320 °C
Temperature accuracy	± 0.2 K
Temperature precision	± 0.02 K
Heating rate	10 K/min
Cooling time	5 min (100°C ... 0°C)

Calorimetric Data

Sensor type	FRS5
Sensor material	Ceramic
Number of thermocouples	56
Signal time constant	1.8 s
Indium peak (height to width)	17
TAWN resolution	0.12
Sensitivity	11.9
Resolution	0.04 µW
Digital resolution	16.8 million points

The DSC thermogram for Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 is reported in Figure 10 (10A) in comparison with Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 (10B). The DSC thermogram for Ketoprofen Lysine Salt is shown in Figure 13.

The DSC curve of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 showed multiple endothermic peaks:

- 1st very broad endothermic peak (7.10J/g) onset 29.54°C, peak 70.81°C, endset 122.54°C;
- 2nd endothermic peak (270.93 J/g) onset 152.18°C, peak 158.82°C, endset 166.43°C due to melting process readily followed by degradation steps.

In conclusion, the DSC thermogram of KL Form 4 had a profile different from that of KL Form 1 with the latter showing the endothermic peak at a higher onset temperature (164.14 °C Form 1 vs 152.18 °C Form 4). Furthermore, both the polymorphs thermograms differ from the thermogram of the previous Ketoprofen Lysine Salt which showed the 1st endothermic peak at 110.92°C (54.67 J/g, onset 100.53°C, end-set 118.35°C) and above 120°C multiple partially overlapped endothermic peaks due to degradation steps.

Preferably, the present Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 is characterized by an endothermic peak at 158.8°C ± 2°C measured by DSC according to the method reported above.

5. FT-IR and FT-Raman ANALYSIS

FT-IR analysis was carried out using a Thermo Nicolet iS50 – ATR module Spectrometer equipped with:

- Smart Performer Diamond
- DTGS KBr Detector
- IR Source
- KBr Beam splitter

Data Collection Information

Number of sample scans	32
Number of background scans	32
Collection length	47.29 sec
Resolution	4.000
Levels of zero filling	2
Number of scan points	16672
Number of FFT points	65536

Laser frequency	15798.3 cm ⁻¹
Interferogram peak position	8192
Apodization	N-B strong
Phase correction	Mertz
Number of background scans	32
Background gain	1.0
Sample gain	8
Aperture	100
Optical velocity	0.6329

FT-Raman spectra were recorded with a Nicolet iS50 FT-IR Spectrometer. The excitation source was a Nd-YAG laser (1064 nm) in the backscattering (180°) configuration. The focused laser beam diameter was approximately 50 mm and the spectral resolution 4 cm⁻¹. The spectra were recorded with a laser power at the sample of approximately 100 mW.

FT-IR spectrum and FT-Raman spectrum of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 according to the invention and their peak lists are reported in the Figures 6 and 8 and in Tables 4 and 5, respectively.

Table 4

Peak list of the FT-IR spectrum of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4.

Position	Intensity	Position	Intensity
413.78	67.157	1070.62	78.202
486.69	52.203	1138.03	70.370
549.27	69.863	1175.55	71.146
619.37	59.317	1195.85	72.333
646.32	66.437	1246.58	56.277

664.47	69.634	1274.44	42.814
686.62	54.994	1284.79	44.134
695.94	62.593	1314.96	50.944
708.32	44.602	1352.19	52.273
715.08	44.879	1395.44	43.982
783.11	70.672	1447.92	62.117
796.95	71.172	1455.16	61.676
814.43	76.776	1486.37	63.923
825.28	76.814	1574.97	42.632
852.84	77.556	1630.50	57.448
881.61	61.448	1663.28	57.708
935.19	89.212	1980.26	94.860
971.30	75.020	2112.10	93.684
1002.80	76.495	2161.87	91.820
1020.87	79.134	2859.34	70.914

Table 5.

Peak list of FT-Raman spectrum of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4.

Position	Intensity	Position	Intensity
225.36	32.070	1284.54	14.979
303.37	12.889	1314.25	14.772
310.75	10.746	1330.10	11.031
489.13	11.052	1337.82	11.315
495.84	10.146	1351.50	9.284
619.22	13.629	1405.55	12.189
708.71	20.149	1439.59	13.481

876.20	10.836	1444.25	13.587
881.70	11.685	1452.37	11.869
1002.40	76.305	1461.24	11.838
1028.24	14.328	1596.48	65.524
1075.63	11.559	1662.39	53.474
1137.46	15.818	2864.71	21.377
1160.94	10.609	2873.96	22.155
1169.59	15.780	2922.56	47.154
1182.53	16.692	2966.38	33.240
1194.32	25.557	3026.18	15.698
1251.04	10.617	3064.22	60.520

FT-IR spectrum and the FT-IR peak list of Ketoprofen Lysine Salt are reported in Figures 7 and in Table 6 below.

Table 6.

Peak list of the FT-IR spectrum of Ketoprofen Lysine Salt

Position (cm ⁻¹)	Intensity	Position (cm ⁻¹)	Intensity
414	51.203	1160	79.502
437	69.203	1179	81.151
463	76.990	1201	81.656
475	76.368	1248	65.816
518	63.818	1281	53.933
539	60.253	1320	58.117
621	69.700	1358	59.706
645	61.177	1393	53.834
675	72.596	1420	69.095

689	66.858	1448	68.893
706	55.062	1479	72.920
713	56.968	1532	44.203
756	82.432	1538	43.543
779	73.315	1557	42.899
802	80.054	1615	73.015
821	87.571	1652	65.459
831	88.245	2050	95.210
871	69.950	2089	95.059
911	88.295	2112	94.226
929	90.674	2324	93.704
958	84.976	2650	84.309
967	88.368	2879	75.764
1007	80.471	2942	72.790
1072	84.876	3420	95.023
1138	77.764		

6. SOLID STATE NMR

Solid-state NMR (ss-NMR) spectra were acquired with a Bruker Avance II 400 Ultra Shield instrument, operating at 400.23, 100.63 and 40.56 MHz, respectively for ^1H , ^{13}C and ^{15}N nuclei. Powder samples were packed into cylindrical zirconia rotors with a 4 mm o.d. and an 80 μL volume. A certain amount of sample was collected and used without further preparations to fill the rotor.

^{13}C CPMAS (cross polarized magic angle spinning) spectra were acquired at a spinning speed of 12 kHz, using a ramp cross-polarization pulse sequence with ss-

NMR spectra were acquired with a Bruker Avance II 400 Ultra Shield instrument, operating at 400.23, 100.63 and 40.56 MHz, respectively for ^1H , ^{13}C and ^{15}N nuclei. Powder samples were packed into cylindrical zirconia rotors with a 4 mm o.d. and an 80 μL volume. A certain amount of sample was collected and used without further preparations to fill the rotor.

^{13}C CPMAS spectra were acquired at a spinning speed of 12 kHz, using a ramp cross-polarization pulse sequence with a 90° ^1H pulse of 3.60 μs , a contact time of 3 ms, optimized recycle delays between 1.5 and 3.5 s, a number of scans in the range 430-640, depending on the sample.

^{15}N CPMAS spectra were acquired at a spinning speed of 9 kHz using a ramp cross-polarization pulse sequence with a 90° ^1H pulse of 3.60 μs , a contact time between 1 and 4 ms, optimized recycle delays between 1.1 and 3.4 s, a number of scans in the range 14330-22770, depending on the sample.

For each spectrum, a two-pulse phase modulation (TPPM) decoupling scheme was used, with a radiofrequency field of 69.4 kHz.

^{13}C chemical shift scale was calibrated through the methylene signal of external standard glycine (at 43.7 ppm).

^{15}N chemical shift scale was calibrated through the signal of external standard glycine (at 33.4 ppm with reference to NH_3).

2D ^1H - ^{13}C on- and off-resonance (short and long-range, respectively) HETCOR spectra were measured with contact times of 0.1 and 7 ms, respectively, and FSLG t_1 decoupling and TPPM t_2 decoupling (rf fields of 82 kHz).

288 and 384 scans were averaged for 88 and 128 increments, respectively with 3.4s of relaxation delay. The indirect ^1H chemical shift scale in the HETCOR spectra was

experimentally corrected by a scaling factor of 1/3 because the ^1H chemical-shift dispersion is scaled by a factor of 1/3 during FSLG decoupling.

In Figure 4, the ^{13}C -NMR spectra of Ketoprofen Lysine Salt (4A), of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 (4B) and an enlargement of the overlapped spectra of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1, Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4, Ketoprofen and Lysine (4C), acquired at room temperature with a spinning speed of 12 kHz, are shown.

The ^{13}C CPMAS solid-state NMR spectra of comparative Ketoprofen Lysine Salt is also reported in Figure 4A.

As appears from the spectra of Figure 4, the resonances of Ketoprofen Lysine Salt are distinguished from those of the present Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 and both differ from the characteristic signals of the starting materials Ketoprofen and Lysine.

Characteristic ^{13}C ss-NMR resonances for Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 are shown in Table 7 below:

Table 7

^{13}C ss-NMR resonances for Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4

δC (ppm)	
197.2	133.0
196.1	128.6
179.4	126.8
177.6	55.1
174.5	50.2
147.4	38.8
145.8	32.2

141.0	29.6
136.4	24.7
134.8	22.3

The signals in the spectrum (4B) of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 exhibit an average full width at half maximum (FWHM) value of 143 Hz. All resonances fall at the same chemical shift of those of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1, some further broad shoulders appear in the carboxylic region (170-200 ppm), as well as

5 in the aromatic (120-150 ppm) and aliphatic (20-60 ppm) ones.

Table 8

¹³C CPMAS solid-state NMR peak list of Ketoprofen Lysine Salt.

Ketoprofen Lysine Salt	
¹³ C δ (ppm)	¹³ C δ (ppm)
199.8	127.2
197.8	125.9
182.2	564
181.1	55.5
180.0	20.8
176.6	49.4
175.7	48.2
174.3	38.6
144.5	38.2
143.8	32.3
142.7	31.7
138.2	26.4
134.6	25.7

131.8	22.5
129.5	22.0
128.6	

Table 8 shows the peak list of the characteristic signals of Ketoprofen Lysine Salt. The average full width at half-maximum value (133 Hz) is consistent with a moderately crystalline phase. The carboxylic signals infer a 1:1 ratio between Ketoprofen and Lysine.

5 Possibly six independent molecules in the unit cell are evaluable by ^{13}C CPMAS solid-state NMR spectra: the carboxylic signals infer the presence of 3 carboxylate moieties for both Ketoprofen and Lysine.

Figure 4C shows the carboxylic region of the ^{13}C – ss-NMR overlapped spectra of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4, Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1,
10 Ketoprofen and Lysine.

As can be seen, the signals of the polymorphs Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 and Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 are both distinguishable from the signals of Ketoprofen and Lysine. The ketone C=O signal of Ketoprofen falls at about 197.5 ppm and corresponds to a single carboxylic moiety (at about 180 ppm) in the
15 aromatic region – being the 120-150 ppm region populated only by Ketoprofen signals – and to the methyl signal of pure Ketoprofen (at about 20 ppm).

A ^{13}C T1-1H experiment (not shown) was performed, in order to assess the presence of different heterogeneous phases inside the analyser sample, through their T1-1H relaxation time. The analysis revealed very similar T1-1H values for all
20 resonances, including the broad shoulders, between 1.8 and 1.9 s; thus, Ketoprofen lysine form 4 can be defined as a homogeneous phase.

Figure 5A displays the ^{15}N CPMAS solid-state NMR spectra of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4, acquired at room temperature with a spinning speed of 9 kHz, with the characteristic ^{15}N resonances of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4, in particular with the signal at about 43 ppm.

5 Figure 5B shows an overlap of the ^{15}N CPMAS solid-state NMR spectra of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 and Lysine.

From the spectra it can be clearly seen that no pure Lysine is contained in Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4.

In conclusion, according the ^{13}C -CPMAS and ^{15}N CPMAS spectra discussed above
10 it appears that:

- A new homogeneous crystalline phase of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal was found: in the ^{13}C CPMAS all resonances are different from the characteristic signals of pure Ketoprofen and pure Lysine. ^1H T1 measurements account for the homogeneity of the adduct.
- 15 • The stoichiometric ratio Ketoprofen : Lysine was found to be 1:1 from ^{13}C and ^{15}N CPMAS spectra: one set of ^{13}C signals for both Ketoprofen and Lysine; only one set of ^{15}N signals for Lysine (Ketoprofen does not contain nitrogen atoms).
- Two independent molecules were found per unit cell based on ^{13}C and ^{15}N CPMAS spectra: one set of ^{13}C signals for both Ketoprofen and Lysine; only one set
20 of ^{15}N signals for Lysine (Ketoprofen does not contain nitrogen atoms).
- The adduct is a co-crystal based on ^{13}C and ^{15}N CPMAS:
 - the ^{13}C carboxylic signal of Ketoprofen falls at 177.6 ppm, consistent with the typical chemical shift of a neutral carboxylic group involved in a hydrogen bond interaction (for instance COO^- in Ketoprofen Sodium salt falls at higher chemical
25 shifts – 181.4/180.5 ppm);

- as for ^{15}N signals, the $\epsilon\text{-NH}_2$ of Lysine resonates at 32.8 ppm, a characteristic chemical shift for neutral amino groups involved in hydrogen bond interactions (the protonate NH_3^+ group would fall above 35 ppm).

• Lysine is in its zwitterionic form based on ^{13}C and ^{15}N CPMAS spectra: the ^{13}C signal of the carboxylate group of Lysine resonates at 174.5 ppm, in accordance with the ionic nature of the moiety; the ^{15}N signal of the $\alpha\text{-NH}_3^+$ moiety of Lysine falls at 43.0 ppm, consistent with the protonated state of an ammonium group ($\alpha\text{-NH}_2$ group of Lysine falls below 35 ppm).

• The phase is very similar to Ketoprofen lysine Form 1 with extra peaks associated to disorder/defects; the extra resonances associated to the defects present an intermediate salt/co-crystal character (from ^{13}C CPMAS spectra); in the ^{13}C CPMAS ss-NMR spectrum (Figure 4C) this is clearly visible with broad extra peaks at about 196 and 180 ppm.

7. DISSOLUTION RATE AND SOLUBILITY IN SIMULATED GASTRIC FLUID (SGF)

The dissolution rate and solubility of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 and Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 was performed in simulated gastric fluid (SGF) and simulated salivary fluid (SSF).

Methods

Solubility in gastric simulated fluid (GSF) without pepsin (USP41) at 25°C

An excess of solid was allowed to equilibrate under magnetic stirring. At predetermined time points an aliquot of supernatant was withdrawn, filtered, and assayed by HPLC for Ketoprofen concentration.

Intrinsic dissolution rate: 150 mg powder sample were compacted by means of a hydraulic press in a round diameter =11 mm matrix, under 3 tons force for 3 min.

The obtained compacts were maintained inside the matrix and tested in a USP41 Apparatus 2 (Distek Dissolution System 2100B) under the following conditions: 500 ml of gastric simulated fluid (GSF) without pepsin, or USP phosphate buffer pH 6.5 (PB6.5) at 37°C and 30 rpm paddle rotation speed. The amount of solid dissolved at each time point was determined spectrophotometrically at 260 nm or by HPLC. The test was performed in 6 replicates in SGF and 3 replicates in phosphate buffer pH=6.5

Statistical analysis of the data was performed with Excel.

Solubility

The solubility of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 in SGF, compared with the solubility of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1, is shown in the following Table 9.

Table 9

Solubility of Ketoprofen from in Ketoprofen-containing Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 and Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 at 25°C (mean $\pm$ SD, n=3)

	Solubility (mg/ml)
Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1	0.243 $\pm$ 0.078
Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4	0.253 $\pm$ 0.089

The solubility of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 was similar to Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1.

Intrinsic dissolution rate

The intrinsic dissolution rates (IDR) of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 and Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 in simulated gastric fluid (SGF) at pH 1.2 and in simulated salivary fluid (pH 6.5) are shown in the following Table 10:

Table 10

Intrinsic dissolution rates of Ketoprofen lysine co-crystals Form 1 and Form 4

Sample	GSF (pH 1.2)	
	IDR ($\text{mg}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$)	Confidence limit (95%)
KL Form 1 (n=6)	0.94	0.7843-1.1000
KL Form 4 (n=6)	1.16	0.9871-1.3310

Sample	Simulated Salivary Fluid pH 6.5	
	IDR ($\text{mg}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$)	Confidence limit (95%)
KL Form 1 (n=3)	4.23	3.5956 – 4.8655
KL Form 4 (n=3)	5.16	4.8175 – 5.4955

- 5 From the data above, it resulted that the release of Ketoprofen at pH 1.2 (SGF) from Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 was faster than Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 (1.16 vs 0.94). At pH 6.5 (salivary pH) this difference was more marked (5.16 vs 4.23).

8. ELECTRONIC TONGUE

- 10 The assay was performed by using technologically advanced taste sensors equipped with ions selective potentiometric electrodes (ISPE) sensing system that provides results with high correlation to sensory scores. This system enables the comprehensive and objective taste evaluation of foods and pharmaceuticals with high accuracy and reliability.
- 15 The response of sensor arrays has been treated using pattern recognition methods: Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and Partial Least Discriminant Analysis (PLS-

DA), with the aim to 1) compare the sample solutions with reference solutions of salty, sweet and bitter taste; 2) detect the similarities or differences from time t0 (freshly prepared) at time t48h (2 days after preparation).

In Figures 11A and 11B, the comparison of the sensory analysis at different post-solubilisation times of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 and Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 samples are reported in the form of PCA scores.

In these Figures, we observed the different trend over time for the two samples. The greatest variation over time was at 6h which is predictive of a different taste of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 compared to Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4. Minor variations were noted at the other time points.

In order to highlight the different behaviour in this test observed for Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4, a PLS-DA model was created and plotted (11C).

From the plot of Figure 11C it appears that Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 data are closer to the sweet taste zone than the data obtained with Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1, thus supporting the expectation of a better taste of the present Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4.

9. PARTICLE SIZE DISTRIBUTION

Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 and Ketoprofen Lysine Salt were analysed by Mastersizer laser diffraction. Particle size analysis is related to the rheological behaviour of the powder and to the dissolution rate of the product.

Instrument

Instrument Brand: Malvern

Instrument type: Morphology G3S

Application SW: Morphology Software 8.20

Microscope

Light source: White light, brightfield diascope and episcopic polarizer/analyser and DIC contrast enhancement options

Detector: 5M pixel 2592 x 1944 colour CCD array

Pixel width: 2.78 μm x 2.78 μm

5 Optical system: Nikon CFI 60 brightfield/darkfield system

Lens: 2.5x: 13 μm – 1000 μm (nominal)

5x: 6.5 μm – 420 μm (nominal)

10x: 3.5 μm – 210 μm (nominal)

20x: 1.75 μm – 100 μm (nominal)

10 50x: 0.5 μm – 40 μm (nominal)

A significant variation of the particle size between Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 and Ketoprofen Lysine Salt was observed, as reported in the following Table 11:

Table 11

Comparison between the PSD of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 and

15 Ketoprofen Lysine Salt

PSD	Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4	Ketoprofen Lysine Salt
D10 (μm)	33.68	83.82
D50 (μm)	84.26	130.78
D90 (μm)	142.94	347.74

As shown in Table 11, a significant difference in particle size distribution between Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 and Ketoprofen Lysine Salt was observed, with the latter showing a PSD D90 2.43-fold greater than Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4.

Preferably, the present Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 is characterized by a particle size distribution in which D90 is lower than 220 μm , preferably lower than 150 μm .

The particle size of the present Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4, lower than the particle size of the previous Ketoprofen Lysine Salt, can provide for many advantages. In fact, particle size distribution plays an important role in the preparation process (quality control) and in the development of suitable manufacturing methods. Smaller final mean particle sizes can improve content uniformity, solubility, dissolution, absorption rates and bioavailability.

A further advantage of the present Ketoprofen Lysine Co-Crystal Form 4 compared with the previous Ketoprofen Lysine Salt, is that it can be obtained directly from the crystallization step in the desired smaller particle size, thus minimizing or even avoiding downstream micronization of the powder in order to get the desired PSD, with a potential reduction of process steps, time and, in the end, manufacturing costs.

10. CRYSTALLINITY

As demonstrated by the XRPD analysis, Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 has a crystallinity significantly higher than Ketoprofen Lysine Salt where the presence of amorphous phase is evident (Figure 12). This property is typically related with a better stability of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 especially in terms of lower hygroscopicity if compared with Ketoprofen Lysine Salt.

The lower Particle Size Distribution combined with the higher crystallinity of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 is advantageous over the previous Ketoprofen Lysine Salt both in relation to the setting of fluid-dynamic parameters in the formulation process and for the preparation and formulation of the coated granulate

of Ketoprofen Lysine. The evaluation of the dynamic flow and the shear properties as well as stability of the powder through tests such as basic stability energy, stability index, specific energy and conditioned bulk density show greater friction phenomena in the powder bed for Ketoprofen Lysine Salt compared to Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4. The phenomenon could be derived from the greater amorphous degree, the irregular shape and the higher hygroscopicity of Ketoprofen Lysine Salt compared to Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4.

Furthermore, Ketoprofen oral formulations are designed for a systemic effect by absorption through the gastrointestinal tract. Both drug dissolution and permeability through the gastrointestinal tract need to be sufficiently good to reach the bloodstream. The lower particle size of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4, compared to Ketoprofen Lysine Salt, may be predictive of improved dissolution-rate and bioavailability (study ongoing).

Reducing the particle size increases the particle surface area in contact with the juices of the gastrointestinal tract favouring dissolution, improving safety and efficacy, as well as providing better compliance and enhanced dose tolerance.

In conclusion, Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 was synthesized, isolated and characterized by XRPD, TGA, DSC, FT-IR, FT-Raman and NMR.

As discussed above, XRPD pattern showed slight but not negligible differences with respect to that observed for Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1. Moreover, based also on the rest of the analysis it resulted that Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 represents a polymorph of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 with similar crystallinity (according to XRPD analysis) and comparable but distinguished thermal properties (similar degradation profile – TGA/EGA, and melting point at slight lower temperature – DSC analysis).

Solid-state NMR showed the presence of a homogeneous system characterized by a short-range structure almost identical with that of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 featuring a site-specific disorder. Moreover, Ketoprofen and Lysine were found to be present with a stoichiometric ratio 1:1, in agreement with thermal analysis results.

This outcome confirmed that different end crystallization temperature did not influence either the crystalline phase or the resulting Ketoprofen:Lysine stoichiometric ratio in solid state. Accordingly, Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 and Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 appears as polymorphs of the same co-crystal.

Furthermore, the present Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 clearly differs from the previous Ketoprofen Lysine Salt as confirmed by XRPD, ^{13}C -ss-NMR, FT-IR, FT-Raman and DSC analyses.

Regarding the intrinsic dissolution rate (IDR), the release of Ketoprofen at pH 1.2 (SGF) from Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 was faster than the release form Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 (1.16 vs 0.94 $\text{mg}\cdot\text{cm}^{-2}\cdot\text{min}^{-1}$). At pH 6.5 (salivary pH) this difference was more marked (5.16 vs 4.23).

The solubility of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 was similar to that of Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1.

Regarding the particle size distribution, the present Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 interestingly shows smaller particle size than Ketoprofen Lysine Salt predictive of improved applications particularly in oral dosage formulations.

Finally, in the Electronic Tongue test, Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 4 resulted to have a better taste (i.e. close to sweet) compared to Ketoprofen Lysine co-crystal Form 1 taste.