### **Supporting Information**

# Harnessing fluorine-sulfur contacts and multipolar interactions for the design of p53 mutant Y220C rescue drugs

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#### Coordinates used for quantum chemical calculations

The XYZ atom coordinates for the optimized complex of the truncated p53-Y220C binding pocket and an *N*-ethyl-pyrrole ligand are provided here. Row 1 describes the atom type and rows 2, 3, and 4 states the respective X, Y, and Z coordinate. A "f" in position 5 labels the atom as being frozen for the DFT-D3 calculations.

Truncated model of the p53-Y220C binding pocket:

| С | 132.84599 | 101.56000 | -39.92800 f |
|---|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Н | 133.30679 | 102.33800 | -40.51860   |
| С | 131.47000 | 101.38200 | -39.95600 f |
| Н | 130.86230 | 102.02610 | -40.57430   |
| С | 133.62700 | 100.72700 | -39.13200 f |
| Н | 134.69839 | 100.86020 | -39.10380   |
| С | 130.85300 | 100.37000 | -39.18700 f |
| Н | 129.78081 | 100.24320 | -39.21450   |
| С | 133.02400 | 99.70700  | -38.36000 f |
| Н | 133.63300 | 99.06030  | -37.74580   |
| С | 131.63600 | 99.53900  | -38.39500 f |
| Н | 131.17200 | 98.76210  | -37.80550   |
| С | 127.05600 | 102.00900 | -37.06300 f |
| Н | 128.05380 | 101.84840 | -36.65470   |
| Н | 126.33750 | 101.94520 | -36.24580   |
| С | 126.89400 | 103.38700 | -37.69700 f |
| 0 | 125.79600 | 103.74700 | -38.12100 f |
| С | 126.81200 | 100.94200 | -38.12900 f |
| Н | 127.68330 | 100.91310 | -38.78330   |
| Н | 125.93440 | 101.23500 | -38.70530   |
| С | 126.57600 | 99.53000  | -37.59200 f |
| Н | 125.73880 | 99.53830  | -36.89410   |
| С | 126.25000 | 98.59600  | -38.76200 f |
| Н | 127.08540 | 98.58540  | -39.46210   |
| Н | 125.35380 | 98.95060  | -39.27110   |
| Н | 126.07890 | 97.58760  | -38.38520   |
| С | 127.80500 | 99.04400  | -36.85700 f |
| Н | 128.65440 | 99.02880  | -37.53990   |
| Н | 127.62670 | 98.03830  | -36.47640   |
| н | 128 01970 | 99 71460  | -36 02500   |

| Ν | 127.99300 | 104.13700 | -37.73500 f |
|---|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Н | 128.84830 | 103.75720 | -37.35520   |
| С | 128.02000 | 105.48300 | -38.30000 f |
| Н | 127.02170 | 105.70850 | -38.67500   |
| Н | 128.30670 | 106.20870 | -37.53890   |
| С | 129.04700 | 105.56200 | -39.42800 f |
| 0 | 130.13300 | 104.99100 | -39.31100 f |
| N | 128.70500 | 106.27000 | -40.51000 f |
| Н | 127.77170 | 106.65030 | -40.57660   |
| С | 129.65800 | 106.50700 | -41.60500 f |
| Н | 130.65131 | 106.31540 | -41.19910   |
| Н | 129.51640 | 107.52670 | -41.96300   |
| С | 129.45100 | 105.56900 | -42.83100 f |
| Н | 130.05650 | 105.93390 | -43.66060   |
| С | 129.89799 | 104.14100 | -42.48300 f |
| Н | 129.29900 | 103.76480 | -41.65370   |
| Н | 130.94980 | 104.14900 | -42.19720   |
| Н | 129.76230 | 103.49610 | -43.35120   |
| С | 128.00999 | 105.57500 | -43.24900 f |
| Н | 127.39200 | 105.21200 | -42.42780   |
| Н | 127.88030 | 104.92660 | -44.11550   |
| Н | 127.71080 | 106.59080 | -43.50730   |
| N | 128.29601 | 103.52200 | -48.04700 f |
| Н | 128.05330 | 104.37760 | -48.52570   |
| С | 129.06200 | 102.42800 | -48.65000 f |
| Н | 129.96590 | 102.72240 | -49.18330   |
| Н | 128.47250 | 101.94520 | -49.42940   |
| С | 129.40700 | 101.54400 | -47.45800 f |
| Н | 130.32950 | 101.87240 | -46.97930   |
| Н | 129.50481 | 100.50070 | -47.75790   |
| С | 128.23700 | 101.73600 | -46.55700 f |
| Н | 128.48990 | 101.46250 | -45.53260   |
| Н | 127.38890 | 101.13960 | -46.89340   |
| С | 127.92500 | 103.21700 | -46.65600 f |
| Н | 126.86720 | 103.41060 | -46.47780   |
| Н | 128.52370 | 103.79470 | -45.95180   |
| С | 128.31799 | 95.11500  | -40.22200 f |
| Н | 127.42910 | 94.56780  | -39.90820   |
| Н | 129.00250 | 94.47530  | -40.77900   |
| Н | 128.84351 | 95.47780  | -39.33870   |
| С | 127.87400 | 96.26500  | -41.10800 f |
| Н | 128.74710 | 96.82920  | -41.43580   |
| Н | 127.20790 | 96.92010  | -40.54650   |

| Н | 127.34820 | 95.87140  | -41.97790   |
|---|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| С | 125.09800 | 96.70500  | -43.76200 f |
| Н | 124.86020 | 96.65030  | -42.69970   |
| Н | 125.06260 | 95.70790  | -44.20090   |
| С | 124.09200 | 97.55300  | -44.51800 f |
| 0 | 124.35100 | 97.96900  | -45.65300 f |
| С | 126.49400 | 97.31600  | -43.87900 f |
| Н | 126.64610 | 97.65700  | -44.90310   |
| Н | 127.23490 | 96.55440  | -43.63590   |
| S | 126.70500 | 98.72500  | -42.75100   |
| Н | 127.93640 | 99.22480  | -42.88830   |
| Ν | 122.94100 | 97.78100  | -43.89600 f |
| Н | 122.80800 | 97.42340  | -42.96080   |
| С | 121.86600 | 98.53300  | -44.52700 f |
| Н | 122.07370 | 98.50770  | -45.59670   |
| Н | 120.91310 | 98.08600  | -44.24380   |
| С | 121.81100 | 99.98800  | -44.09800 f |
| 0 | 122.28100 | 100.36100 | -43.02300 f |
| Ν | 121.23000 | 100.83600 | -44.95500 f |
| Н | 120.86850 | 100.48900 | -45.83190   |
| С | 121.11200 | 102.25800 | -44.63800 f |
| Н | 122.05360 | 102.72710 | -44.35260   |
| Н | 120.74590 | 102.72100 | -45.55430   |
| Н | 120.45430 | 102.38520 | -43.77820   |
| С | 121.74700 | 104.32100 | -38.14600 f |
| Н | 122.21350 | 105.29350 | -38.09020   |
| 0 | 120.52500 | 104.25300 | -38.03300 f |
| Ν | 122.52200 | 103.26100 | -38.33300 f |
| Н | 123.51800 | 103.39400 | -38.43470   |
| С | 121.98000 | 101.91300 | -38.39600 f |
| Н | 120.89930 | 101.94410 | -38.53450   |
| Н | 122.21450 | 101.40760 | -37.45910   |
| С | 122.59400 | 101.16200 | -39.55800 f |
| Н | 123.67740 | 101.13070 | -39.44250   |
| 0 | 122.23200 | 101.84400 | -40.76900 f |
| Н | 122.63650 | 101.37150 | -41.50030   |
| С | 122.08500 | 99.72300  | -39.60400 f |
| Н | 122.36220 | 99.21000  | -38.68310   |
| Н | 122.52970 | 99.20730  | -40.45520   |
| Н | 120.99980 | 99.72450  | -39.70660   |
| С | 132.81000 | 98.36900  | -42.31900 f |
| Н | 133.80569 | 98.72130  | -42.58830   |
| Н | 132.51469 | 98.80800  | -41.36600   |

| Н | 132.81090 | 97.28180 | -42.24090   |
|---|-----------|----------|-------------|
| С | 131.82100 | 98.84000 | -43.39700 f |
| Н | 131.97321 | 98.24990 | -44.30070   |
| Н | 131.99480 | 99.89950 | -43.58520   |
| С | 130.37000 | 98.63600 | -42.93300 f |
| Н | 130.19270 | 99.21760 | -42.02830   |
| Н | 130.20020 | 97.57960 | -42.72500   |
| Н | 129.68810 | 98.96620 | -43.71670   |

# *N*-Ethyl-pyrrole ligand:

| С | 124.65300 | 105.29500 | -43.42700 f |
|---|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| Н | 124.51890 | 106.36530 | -43.47990   |
| С | 124.51500 | 104.37300 | -44.51100   |
| Н | 124.25360 | 104.62240 | -45.52880   |
| С | 124.78300 | 103.07000 | -44.01100   |
| Н | 124.76580 | 102.14890 | -44.57460   |
| N | 125.07300 | 103.20800 | -42.65100 f |
| С | 125.00000 | 104.54600 | -42.26200   |
| Н | 125.17260 | 104.93920 | -41.27100   |
| С | 125.41800 | 102.08600 | -41.76600   |
| Н | 124.99680 | 101.16750 | -42.17470   |
| Н | 124.99760 | 102.27000 | -40.77730   |
| С | 126.93500 | 101.92900 | -41.64300   |
| Н | 127.36230 | 101.74470 | -42.62870   |
| Н | 127.16130 | 101.08920 | -40.98610   |
| Н | 127.36210 | 102.84130 | -41.22660   |



**Figure S1**. DFT-D3 optimized snapshots of the PhiKan083 *N*-ethyl group and its difluorinated analog in different conformations (orange sticks). Ineraction energies of each ligand model were compared to the *N*-ethyl reference interaction energy  $\Delta E$  to calculate relative interaction energies ( $\Delta \Delta E = \Delta E_{Ligand} - \Delta E_{N-ethyl}$ ). For the DFT-D optimizations truncated models of PhiKan083 (*N*-ethylpyrrole) and the p53-Y220C pocket (as depicted) were used (only non-hydrogen atoms and polar protons are shown). Pictures were rendered using pymol (www.pymol.org).



**Figure S2**. Binding of **2**, **3**, and **5** to p53-Y220C as characterized by isothermal titration calorimetry (ITC).





*N*-Ethyl

N-2.2.2-Trifluoroethvl

N-2,2-Difluoroethyl

conf. 2



N-2,2-Difluoroethyl conf. 1



| N-2-Fluoroethyl conf. 1           |         | N-2-Fluoroethyl conf. 2    |                                    |                                    |                                |                                |
|-----------------------------------|---------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|                                   | N-Ethyl | N-2,2,2-<br>Trifluoroethyl | N-2,2-<br>Difluoroethyl<br>conf. 1 | N-2,2-<br>Difluoroethyl<br>conf. 2 | N-2-<br>Fluoroethyl<br>conf. 1 | N-2-<br>Fluoroethyl<br>conf. 2 |
| solvation<br>energy<br>(kcal/mol) | -3.1    | -3.1                       | -4.1                               | -4.1                               | -5.9                           | -5.9                           |

**Figure S3**. DFT-D3 optimized structures and calculated solvation energies of fluorinated and nonfluorinated *N*-ethylcarbazoles. The global minimum conformations (two equivalent conformers *N*-2fluoroethyl and *N*-2,2-difluoroethyl carbazoles) were determined by DFT-D3 calculations with TURBOMOLE 6.4 and used as input structures for solvent energy calculations with Jaguar 8.9 using

the SM8 water model. *N*-Ethyl and *N*-2,2,2-trifluoroethyl substituted carbazoles showed significantly smaller solvation energies than the *N*-2-fluoroethyl and *N*-2,2-difluoroethyl analogs.

## <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR Spectra





6.65

230 220 210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 f1 (ppm) \_

-20 -15 -10

-5 -0

--5

1.88-≝

40 30 20 10 0 -10

60 50



















0.45 - ±

40

30 20

60 50

-14000 12000 -10000 -8000 -6000 -4000 -2000

-0

0 -10

10

-2000

ł

-

190 180 170 160 150

1.00-

140 130 120 110 100 f1 (ppm)





LC-MS







