## **Supporting Information**

## Competition between hydrogen and halogen bonding in the structures of 5,10-dihydroxy-5,10-dihydroboranthrenes

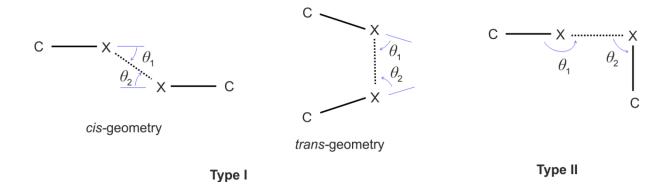
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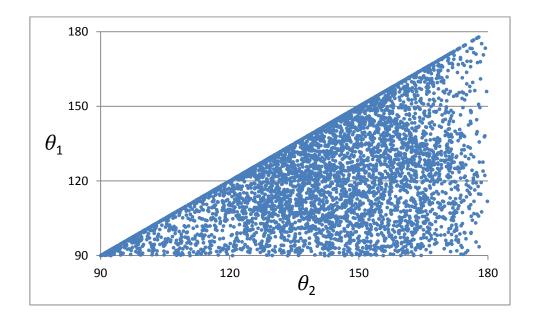
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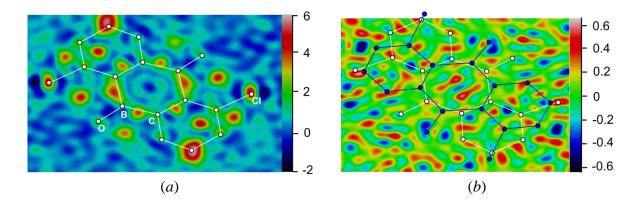
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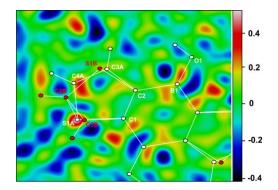
**Scheme S1.** Geometry classification of halogen-halogen interactions. Type I: both  $\theta$  angles are equal. Type II:  $\theta_1$  is close to  $180^\circ$  and  $\theta_2$  to  $90^\circ$ .



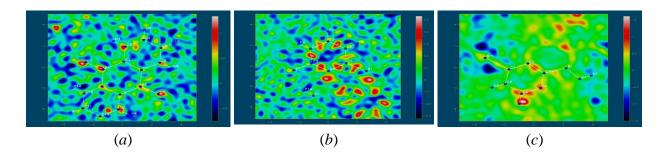
**Figure S1.** Diagram representing the distribution of  $\theta_1$  (C1–F1...F2) and  $\theta_2$  (C1–F1...F2) angles ( $\theta_1 \le \theta_2$ ) from the intermolecular C1–F1...F2–C2 contacts, shorter than the sum of the van der Waals radii ( $d_{\text{F...F}} < 2.95 \text{ Å}$ ) in the Cambridge Structural Database (Allen, 2002).



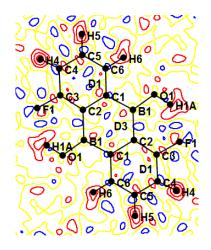
**Figure S2.** Difference Fourier density maps for the structure of (III) with disorder (*a*) excluded, (*b*) included in the refinement. Color coding: white (III)-A, blue (III)-B. Maps were produced using the *MAPVIEW* program within *WinGX* (Farrugia, 1999).



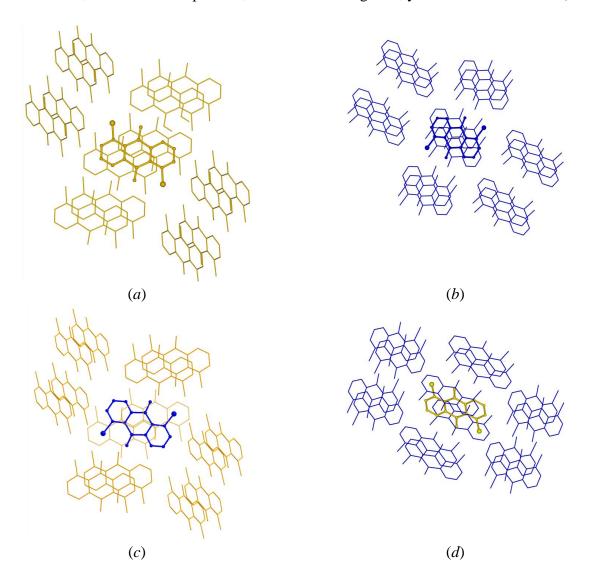
**Figure S3.** Difference Fourier density maps for the structure of (V) showing the disorder within the thiophene ring.



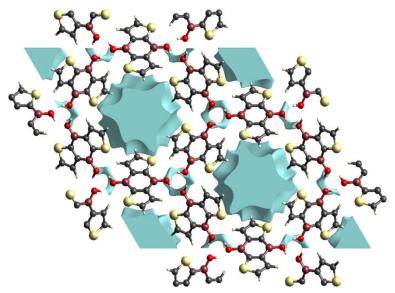
**Figure S4.** Difference Fourier density maps for the structures of (a) (I), (b) (II) and (c) (IV).



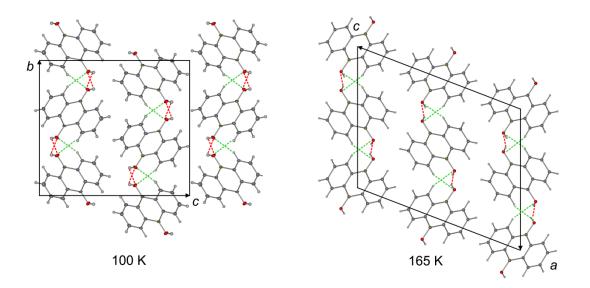
**Figure S5.** Residual electron density map for (II) after UBDB2011 parameters transfer (0.05  $e \cdot Å^{-3}$  contours; blue solid lines positive, red solid lines negative, yellow dashed lines zero).



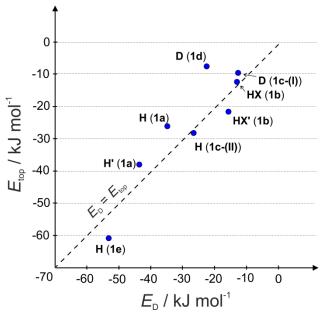
**Figure S6.** Molecular clusters built by molecules (III) – central molecule (a, d) (III)-A, (b, c) (III)-B, surrounding (a, c) (III)-A, (b, d) (III)-B. Each central molecule is surrounded by 14 molecules. H atoms are omitted for clarity.



**Figure S7**. Unit-cell packing diagram for (V) with 0.0003 au. void surface generated in *CrystalExplorer* (Turner *et al.*, 2011).



**Figure S8.** Crystal structure views showing the differences in the layered arrangements in two polymorphic forms of (I).



**Figure S9.** Correlation plot of  $E_{top}$  (sum of the interaction energies obtained *via* the Espinosa-Lecomte approach) vs  $E_D$  (*PIXEL*-computed dimer interaction energy).

**Table S1.** Comparison between cohesive energies calculated in *PIXEL* with the X-ray crystal geometries ( $E_{\text{coh}}^{\text{X-ray}}$ , after X-H bonds standardization) and geometries optimized with *CRYSTAL09* ( $E_{\text{coh}}^{\text{opt}}$ ). The energy values obtained from *CRYSTAL09* are given in parentheses. Lattice energies breakdown into the electrostatic ( $E_{\text{elstat}}$ ), polarization ( $E_{\text{pol}}$ ), dispersion ( $E_{\text{disp}}$ ) and repulsion ( $E_{\text{rep}}$ ) terms is shown for the optimized geometries.

	<b>(I)</b>	(II)	(III)-A	(III)-B	(IV)	<b>(V)</b>
$E_{\rm coh}^{\rm X-ray} / {\rm kJ \cdot mol^{-1}}$	-106.1	-115.2	-101.4	-94.0	-113.9	-122.4
$E_{\rm coh}^{\rm opt}$ / kJ·mol <sup>-1</sup>	-129.5	-123.3	-104.9	-101.8	-122.7	-133.4
	(-133.5)	(-120.3)	(-106.0)	(-103.7)	(-118.6)	(-128.8)
$E_{ m elstat}$ / kJ·mol <sup>-1</sup>	-119.9	-60.1	-56.2	-62.8	-62.9	-148.0
$E_{ m disp}$ / ${ m kJ \cdot mol^{-1}}$	-152.8	-131.8	-162.0	-162.5	-173.6	-136.6
$E_{ m pol}$ / ${ m kJ \cdot mol^{-1}}$	-44.8	-19.6	-23.1	-20.0	-19.2	-79.7
$E_{\text{rep}} / \text{kJ} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$	131.4	91.2	92.7	87.6	97.8	230.8