

## Electronic Supplementary Information

### $\pi$ - $\pi$ stacking Interactions between Polyaromatic Hydrocarbon Sheets beyond Dispersion

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**Table 1S.** Comparison of interaction energies  $\Delta E$ (kcal/mol) and inter monomer distances R of the optimized stacked dimers of benzene to pentacene using different methods and basis sets.

| Method <sup>a</sup> | Basis       | $\Delta E$ | R (Å)              |
|---------------------|-------------|------------|--------------------|
| Benzene dimer       |             |            |                    |
| MP2                 | SV(P)       | -2.848     | 3.800              |
| SOS-MP2             | SV(P)       | -1.281     | 3.808              |
| CCSD(T)             | SV(P)       | -1.543     | 3.931 <sup>b</sup> |
| DFT/B3LYP-D3        | SV(P)       | -2.280     | 3.807              |
| Naphthalene dimer   |             |            |                    |
| SOS-MP2             | SV(P)       | -3.794     | 3.800              |
| CCSD(T)             | SV(P)       | -4.183     | 3.800              |
| DFT/B3LYP-D3        | SV(P)       | -5.107     | 3.735              |
| Anthracene dimer    |             |            |                    |
| SOS-MP2             | SV(P)       | -6.730     | 3.721              |
| CCSD(T)             | SV(P)       | -7.264     | 3.651 <sup>c</sup> |
| DFT/B3LYP-D3        | SV(P)       | -8.051     | 3.710              |
| Tetracene dimer     |             |            |                    |
| SOS-MP2             | SV(P)       | -9.900     | 3.680              |
| SOS-MP2             | def2-TZVP   | -11.256    | 3.719              |
| SOS-MP2-F12         | cc-pVDZ-F12 | -9.410     | 3.719 <sup>b</sup> |
| DFT/B3LYP-D3        | SV(P)       | -11.022    | 3.703              |
| DFT/B3LYP-D3        | def2-TZVP   | -9.474     | 3.803              |
| Pentacene dimer     |             |            |                    |
| SOS-MP2             | SV(P)       | -13.186    | 3.657              |
| SOS-MP2             | def2-TZVP   | -14.908    | 3.696              |
| SOS-MP2-F12         | cc-pVDZ-F12 | -12.608    | 3.696 <sup>b</sup> |
| DFT/B3LYP-D3        | SV(P)       | -14.022    | 3.691              |
| DFT/B3LYP-D3        | def2-TZVP   | -12.122    | 3.803              |

<sup>a</sup> Geometries were optimized with the same method as used for the energy calculations unless specified differently.

<sup>b</sup> SOS-MP2/def2-TZVP geometry.

<sup>c</sup> From potential energy curve fitting of CCSD(T) data in the distance R. Remaining geometry fixed from SOS-MP2/def2-TZVP geometry.

**Table 2S.** BSSE corrected and uncorrected interaction energies and average for the acene dimer series using the SOS-MP2/SV(P) approach in comparison with SOS-MP2(F12)/cc-pVDZ-F12 results. All values are in kcal/mol.

| Dimer       | $\Delta E_{\text{uncorr.}}^{\text{a}}$ | $\Delta E_{\text{BSSE}}(\text{corr.})$ | $\Delta E(\text{aver.})$ | $\Delta E$ |
|-------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|
|             | SOS-MP2/SV(P)                          |                                        | SOS-MP2(F12)             |            |
| Benzene     | -1.281                                 | 0.792                                  | -0.245                   | -1.340     |
| Naphthalene | -3.794                                 | -0.370                                 | -2.082                   | -3.730     |
| Anthracene  | -6.730                                 | -1.354                                 | -4.042                   | -6.461     |
| Tetracene   | -9.900                                 | -2.520                                 | -6.210                   | -9.410     |
| Pentacene   | -13.186                                | -3.813                                 | -8.499                   | -12.608    |

<sup>a</sup> See Table 1S

**Table 3S.** BSSE corrected and uncorrected interaction energies for the acene dimer series using the DFT/B3LYP approach in combination with the SV(P) and def2-TZVP basis sets. All values are in kcal/mol.

| Dimer       | $\Delta E_{\text{uncorr.}}^{\text{a}}$ |           | $\Delta E_{\text{BSSE(corr.)}}$ |           |
|-------------|----------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|-----------|
|             | SV(P)                                  | def2-TZVP | SV(P)                           | def2-TZVP |
| Benzene     | -2.280                                 | -1.690    | -1.054                          | -1.462    |
| Naphthalene | -5.107                                 | -4.216    | -3.176                          | -3.909    |
| Anthracene  | 8.051                                  | -6.832    | -5.439                          | -6.449    |
| Tetracene   | -11.022                                | -9.474    | -7.754                          | -9.014    |
| Pentacene   | -14.022                                | -12.122   | -10.068                         | -11.584   |

<sup>a</sup>From Table 1, 2 and Table 1S

**Table 4S.** Interaction energies  $\Delta E$ , optimized inter monomer distances  $R$  for restricted and unrestricted calculations of the stacked dimers of heptacene and decacene.<sup>a</sup>

| Method <sup>b</sup> | Basis     | $\Delta E$ (kcal/mol) | $R$ (Å) |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------------------|---------|
| Heptacene dimer     |           |                       |         |
| SOS-RMP2            | SV(P)     | -20.663               | 3.297   |
|                     | def2-TZVP | -25.226               | 3.323   |
| SOS-UMP2            | SV(P)     | -12.830               | 3.707   |
|                     | def2-TZVP | -16.752               | 3.712   |
| RDFT/B3LYP-D3       | SV(P)     | -23.319               | 3.328   |
|                     | def2-TZVP | -18.651               | 3.374   |
| UDFT/B3LYP-D3       | SV(P)     | -25.64                | 3.459   |
|                     | def2-TZVP | -22.217               | 3.553   |
| Decacene dimer      |           |                       |         |
| SOS-RMP2            | SV(P)     | -48.639               | 3.359   |
|                     | def2-TZVP | -55.288               | 3.388   |
| SOS-UMP2            | SV(P)     | -19.515               | 3.666   |
| RDFT/B3LYP-D3       | SV(P)     | -50.771               | 3.410   |
|                     | def2-TZVP | -45.911               | 3.448   |
| UDFT/B3LYP-D3       | SV(P)     | -38.239               | 3.450   |
|                     | def2-TZVP | -33.564               | 3.526   |

<sup>a</sup> Geometries were optimized with the same method as used for the energy calculations.

<sup>b</sup> Restricted and spin unrestricted calculations are denoted by the prefix R and U, respectively.

**Table 5S.** BSSE uncorrected interaction energies  $\Delta E$  and displacement vectors  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and  $R_3$ <sup>a</sup> for the optimized slipped-parallel dimers in the series of benzene to pentacene using the SOS-MP2 and DFT/B3LYP-D3 methods and the def2-TZVP basis set.

| Dimer       | Method       | $\Delta E$ (kcal/mol) | $R_1$ (Å) | $R_2$ (Å) | $R_3$ (Å) |
|-------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| benzene     | SOS-MP2      | -2.490                | 3.626     | 1.564     | 0.977     |
|             | DFT/B3LYP-D3 | -2.699                | 3.614     | 1.570     | 0.979     |
| naphthalene | SOS-MP2      | -6.585                | 3.409     | 1.314     | 0.987     |
|             | DFT/B3LYP-D3 | -6.061                | 3.466     | 1.381     | 1.007     |
| anthracene  | SOS-MP2      | -11.347               | 3.359     | 1.266     | 1.179     |
|             | DFT/B3LYP-D3 | -9.590                | 3.426     | 1.348     | 1.061     |
| tetracene   | SOS-MP2      | -16.259               | 3.323     | 1.242     | 1.173     |
|             | DFT/B3LYP-D3 | -13.162               | 3.414     | 1.366     | 1.079     |
| pentacene   | SOS-MP2      | -21.492               | 3.300     | 1.231     | 1.191     |
|             | DFT/B3LYP-D3 | -16.832               | 3.399     | 1.320     | 1.204     |

<sup>a</sup> See Scheme 2 for the definition of the displacements.

**Table 6S.** Interaction energies  $\Delta E$  and inter monomer distances  $R$  of the sandwich structures pyrene to coronene circum-2 using SOS-MP2 and DFT/PBE-D3 methods and selected basis sets.

| Method                  | Basis     | $\Delta E$<br>(kcal/mol) | $R$ (Å) <sup>a</sup> |
|-------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Pyrene dimer            |           |                          |                      |
| SOS-MP2                 | SV(P)     | -9.082                   | 3.657                |
| DFT/PBE-D3              | SV(P)     | -9.822                   | 3.735                |
| Coronene dimer          |           |                          |                      |
| SOS-MP2                 | SV (P)    | -17.603                  | 3.589                |
| SOS-MP2                 | def2-TZVP | -19.666                  | 3.633                |
| DFT/PBE-D3              | SV(P)     | -16.328                  | 3.713                |
| DFT/PBE-D3              | def2-TZVP | -14.331                  | 3.805                |
| HBC dimer               |           |                          |                      |
| SOS-MP2                 | SV(P)     | -40.118                  | 3.548                |
| SOS-MP2                 | def2-TZVP | -41.269                  | 3.586                |
| DFT/PBE-D3              | SV(P)     | -31.468                  | 3.686                |
| DFT/PBE-D3              | def2-TZVP | -27.928                  | 3.778                |
| Coronene circum-1 dimer |           |                          |                      |
| SOS-MP2 <sup>c</sup>    | SV(P)     | -63.373                  | 3.509                |
| SOS-MP2 <sup>c</sup>    | Def2-TZVP | -61.744                  | 3.551                |
| DFT/PBE-D3              | SV(P)     | -42.350                  | 3.677                |
| DFT/PBE-D3              | def-TZVP  | -37.500                  | 3.771                |
| Coronene circum-2 dimer |           |                          |                      |
| SOS-MP2                 | SV(P)     | -138.738                 | 3.475                |
| DFT/PBE-D3              | SV(P)     | -80.730                  | 3.66                 |
| DFT/PBE-D3              | def2-TZVP | -71.633                  | 3.754                |

<sup>a</sup> See Scheme 2.

**Table 7S.** BSSE uncorrected and corrected interaction energies and average for the sandwich dimer series from pyrene to coronene circum-2 using the SOS-MP2 and DFT/PBE-D3 approaches.

| Dimer                | $\Delta E_{\text{uncorr.}}^a$ | $\Delta E_{\text{BSSE}}(\text{corr.})$ | $\Delta E(\text{aver.})$ |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| SOS-MP2/SV(P)        |                               |                                        |                          |
| Pyrene               | -9.082                        | -2.339                                 | -5.711                   |
| Coronene             | -17.603                       | -6.221                                 | -11.912                  |
| HBC                  | -40.118                       | -18.313                                | -29.215                  |
| Coronene<br>circum-1 | -63.373                       | -33.299                                | -48.336                  |
| Coronene<br>circum-2 | -138.738                      | -81.270                                | -110.004                 |
| SOS-MP2/def2-TZVP    |                               |                                        |                          |
| Pyrene               | -10.471                       | -6.856                                 | -8.663                   |
| Coronene             | -19.666                       | -13.093                                | -16.380                  |
| HBC                  | -41.269                       | -26.835                                | -34.052                  |
| Coronene<br>circum-1 | -61.744                       | -42.064                                | -51.904                  |
| DFT/PBE-D3/SV(P)     |                               |                                        |                          |
| Pyrene               | -9.822                        | -7.182                                 | -                        |
| Coronene             | -16.328                       | -12.594                                | -                        |
| HBC                  | -31.468                       | -25.039                                | -                        |
| Coronene<br>circum-1 | -42.350                       | -34.4736                               | -                        |
| Coronene<br>circum-2 | -80.730                       | -67.093                                | -                        |
| DFT/PBE-D3/def2-TZVP |                               |                                        |                          |
| Pyrene               | -8.521                        | -8.046                                 | -                        |
| Coronene             | -14.331                       | -13.7174                               | -                        |
| HBC                  | -27.928                       | -26.899                                | -                        |
| Coronene<br>circum-1 | -37.500                       | -36.418                                | -                        |
| Coronene<br>circum-2 | -71.633                       | -69.976                                | -                        |

<sup>a</sup> From Table 6S

**Table 8S.** Interaction energies  $\Delta E$  and displacement vectors  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  and  $R_3$ <sup>a</sup> for the optimized slipped-parallel dimers in the series of pyrene to coronene circum-2 using the SOS-MP2 and DFT-D3 methods and the SV(P) basis set.

| Dimer    | Method     | $\Delta E$ (kcal/mol) | $R_1$ (Å) | $R_2$ (Å) |
|----------|------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Pyrene   | SOS-MP2    | -14.115               | 3.330     | 1.522     |
|          | DFT/PBE-D3 | -12.383               | 3.523     | 1.530     |
| Coronene | SOS-MP2    | -27.279               | 3.243     | 1.424     |
|          | DFT/PBE-D3 | -19.105               | 3.641     | 1.494     |
| HBC      | SOS-MP2    | -58.325               | 3.201     | 1.459     |
|          | DFT/PBE-D3 | -38.061               | 3.499     | 1.583     |
| Coronene | SOS-MP2    | -88.586               | 3.134     | 1.422     |
| circum-1 | DFT/PBE-D3 | -51.537               | 3.354     | 1.426     |
| Coronene | SOS-MP2    | -186.658              | 3.117     | 1.438     |
| circum-2 | DFT/PBE-D3 | -94.313               | 3.436     | 1.492     |

<sup>a</sup> See Scheme 2. Due to the use of  $C_{2h}$  symmetry  $R_3$  is always zero.

**Table 9S.** Interaction energies  $\Delta E$  and displacement vectors  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ <sup>a</sup> for the optimized slipped-parallel dimers in the series of pyrene to coronene circum-2 using the SOS-MP2 and DFT/PBE-D3 methods and the def2-TZVP basis set.

| Dimer    | Method     | $\Delta E$ (kcal/mol) | $R_1$ (Å) | $R_2$ (Å) |
|----------|------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Pyrene   | SOS-MP2    | -14.891               | 3.410     | 1.524     |
|          | DFT/PBE-D3 | -10.456               | 3.620     | 1.447     |
| Coronene | SOS-MP2    | -26.774               | 3.314     | 1.438     |
|          | DFT/PBE-D3 | -16.955               | 3.617     | 1.474     |
| HBC      | SOS-MP2    | -54.997               | 3.275     | 1.465     |
|          | DFT/PBE-D3 | -33.139               | 3.629     | 1.583     |
| Coronene | SOS-MP2    | -80.203               | 3.211     | 1.441     |
| circum-1 | DFT/PBE-D3 | -42.932               | 3.466     | 1.430     |
| Coronene | SOS-MP2    | -                     | -         | -         |
| circum-2 | DFT/PBE-D3 | -80.195               | 3.341     | 1.438     |

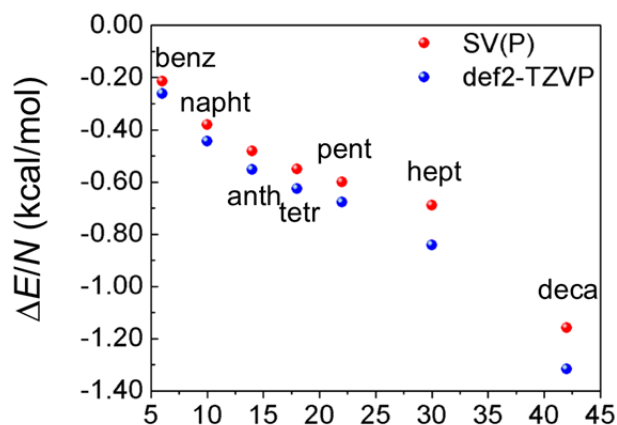
<sup>a</sup> See Scheme 2. Due to the use of  $C_{2h}$  symmetry  $R_3$  is always zero.

**Table 10S.** BSSE uncorrected and corrected interaction energies and average for the slipped parallel dimer series from pyrene to coronene circum-2 using the SOS-MP2 and DFT/PBE-D3 approaches.

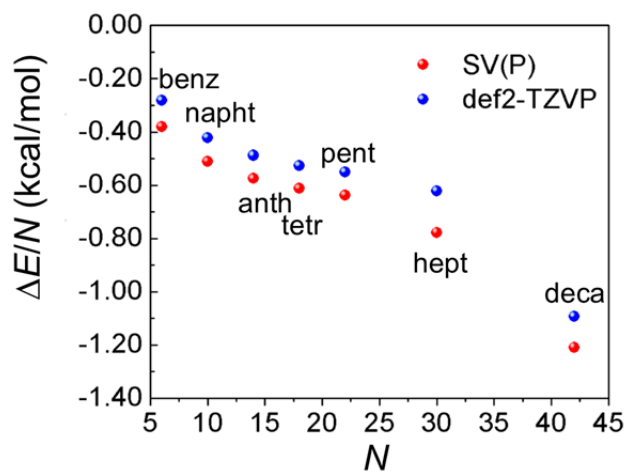
| Dimer                | $\Delta E_{\text{uncorr.}}^a$ | $\Delta E_{\text{BSSE}}(\text{corr.})$ | $\Delta E(\text{aver.})$ |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| SOS-MP2/SV(P)        |                               |                                        |                          |
| Pyrene               | -14.115                       | -3.228                                 | -8.672                   |
| Coronene             | -27.279                       | -9.631                                 | -18.455                  |
| HBC                  | -58.325                       | -26.140                                | -42.232                  |
| Coronene circum-1    | -88.586                       | -43.243                                | -65.915                  |
| Coronene circum-2    | -186.658                      | -101.155                               | -143.906                 |
| SOS-MP2/def2-TZVP    |                               |                                        |                          |
| Pyrene               | -14.891                       | -9.663                                 | -12.277                  |
| Coronene             | -26.774                       | -17.796                                | -22.285                  |
| HBC                  | -54.997                       | -37.089                                | -46.043                  |
| Coronene circum-1    | -80.203                       | -55.719                                | -67.961                  |
| DFT/PBE-D3/SV(P)     |                               |                                        |                          |
| Pyrene               | -12.383                       | -9.232                                 | -                        |
| Coronene             | -19.105                       | -15.500                                | -                        |
| HBC                  | -38.061                       | -30.350                                | -                        |
| Coronene circum-1    | -51.289                       | -40.155                                | -                        |
| Coronene circum-2    | -95.177                       | -78.630                                | -                        |
| DFT/PBE-D3/def2-TZVP |                               |                                        |                          |
| Pyrene               | -10.456                       | -9.833                                 | -                        |
| Coronene             | -16.955                       | -16.164                                | -                        |
| HBC                  | -33.139                       | -31.777                                | -                        |
| Coronene circum-1    | -42.932                       | -41.328                                | -                        |
| Coronene circum-2    | -80.195                       | -76.985                                | -                        |

<sup>a</sup> From Table 8S and Table 9S

a) SOS-RMP2

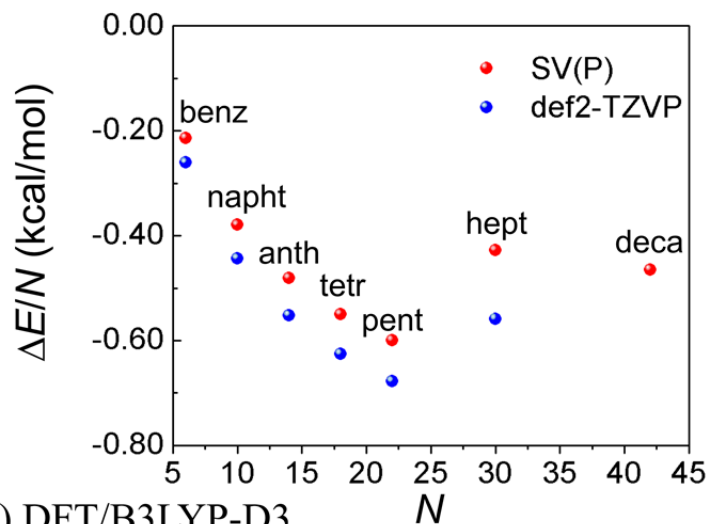


b) RDFT/B3LYP-D3

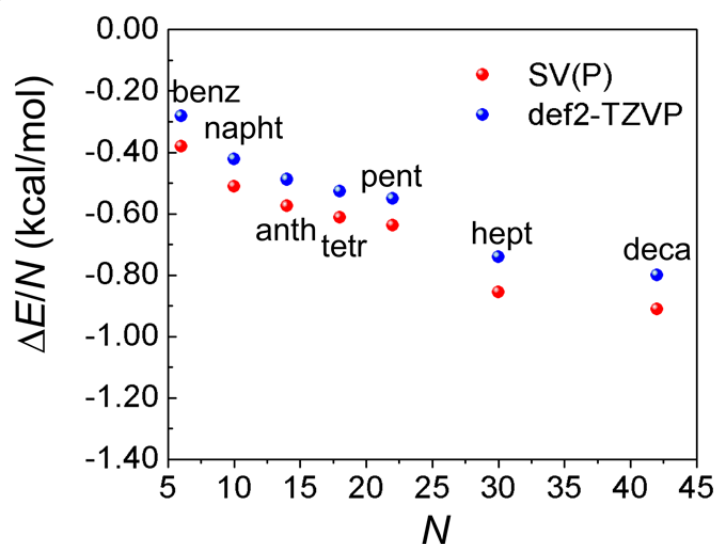


**Figure 1S:** Interaction energies  $\Delta E/N$  ( $N$  is the numbers of C atoms in the monomer) for the series of benzene to decacene sandwich dimers in dependence of  $N$  for the a) SOS-RMP2 and b) the RDFT/B3LYP-D3 methods using the SV(P) and def2-TZVP basis sets.

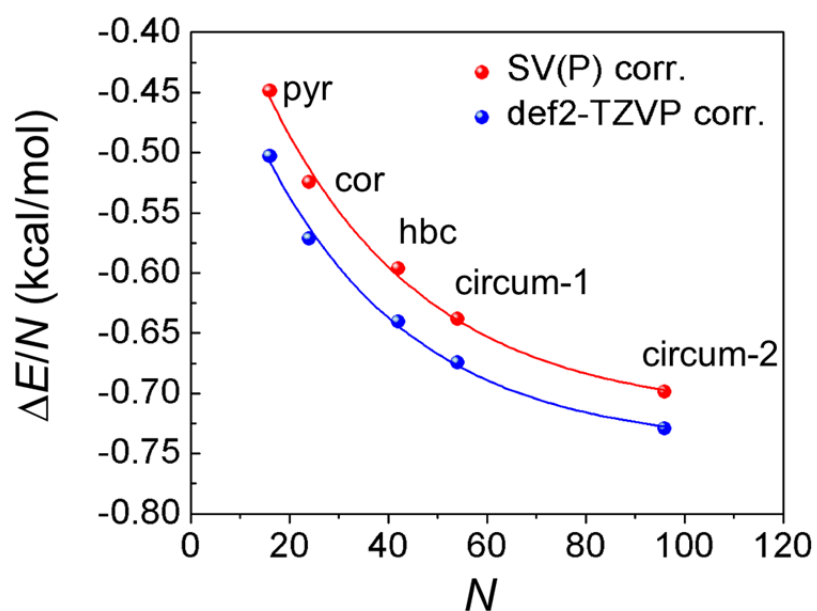
a) SOS-MP2



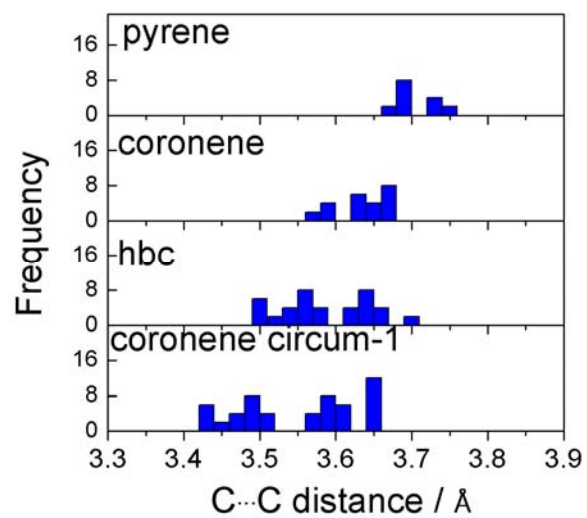
b) DFT/B3LYP-D3



**Figure 2S:** Interaction energies  $\Delta E/N$  ( $N$  is the numbers of C atoms in the dimer) for the series of benzene to decacene sandwich dimers in dependence of  $N$  for the a) SOS-MP2 and b) the DFT/B3LYP-D3 methods using the SV(P) and def2-TZVP basis sets. Restricted (SOS-RMP2 and RDFT) results are shown up to pentacene, unrestricted calculations (SOS-UMP2 and UDFT/B3LYP) have been used for the heptacene and decacene dimers.

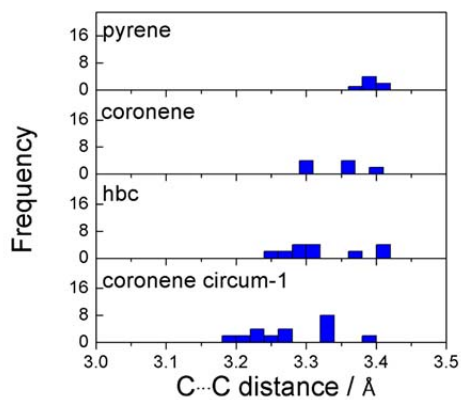


**Figure 3S:** DFT/PBE-D3 interaction energies  $\Delta E/N$  ( $N$  is the numbers of C atoms in the monomer) for the sandwich dimers of pyrene to coronene circum-2 in dependence of  $N$  using the SV(P) and def2-TZVP basis sets.

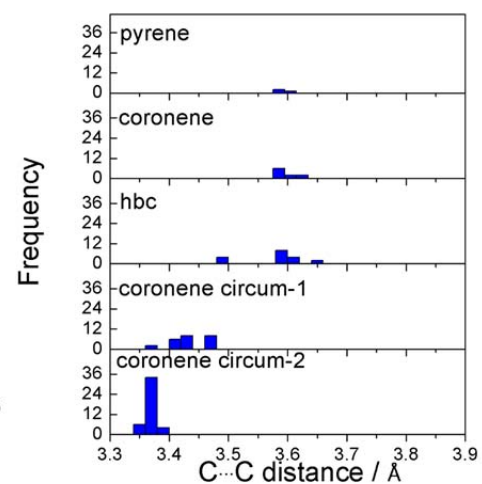


**Figure 4S.** Histograms of perpendicular interring distances for different sandwich structures computed using the SOS-MP2/def2-TZVP approach.

a) SOS-MP2/def2-TZVP



b) DFT/PBE-D3/def2-TZVP



**Figure 5S.** Histograms of perpendicular interring distances for different slipped parallel structures in  $C_{2h}$  symmetry using a) the SOS-MP2/def2-TZVP and b) the DFT/PBE-D3/def2-TZVP method.