

Electronic Supplementary Material for

Enhancing switchable dielectric property for crystalline supramolecular rotor compounds by adding polar component

Rui-Kang Huang, Xiao-Xian Chen, Zhi-Feng Xiao, De-Xuan Liu, Wei-Xiong Zhang* and Xiao-Ming Chen

MOE Key Laboratory of Bioinorganic and Synthetic Chemistry, School of Chemistry, Sun Yat-Sen University, Guangzhou 510275, China

E-mail: zhangwx6@mail.sysu.edu.cn

Experimental details.

Materials and General Methods. Reagents and solvents were commercially available and used without further purification. Thermogravimetric analysis was performed using a TA-Q50 system.

Synthesis of [(HMNA)(18C6)]PF₆ (**1P**): Equivalent 68% HPF₆ aqueous solution was added to the mixed ethanol solution of 18C6 and MNA by drops. The mixed solution was evaporated in air. After 1 week, colourless block-like crystals of **1P** were filtered and washed by ethanol, then dried in air (yield: *ca.* 65%).

Synthesis of [(HMNA)(18C6)]SO₃CF₃ (**1S**): Equivalent HSO₃CF₃ was added to the mixed ethanol solution of 18C6 and MNA by drops. The mixed solution was evaporated in air. After 3 days, colourless block-like crystals of **1S** were filtered and washed by ethanol, then dried in air (yield: *ca.* 80%).

Crystal Structure Determination. Single-crystal diffraction data of **1P**-RT, **1P**-LT, **1S**-RT and **1S**-LT were collected on a Rigaku XtaLAB P300DS single-crystal diffractometer equipped with a graphite-monochromated Cu K α radiation ($\lambda = 1.54178 \text{ \AA}$), respectively. The structures were solved with the direct methods and refined with a full-matrix least-squares technique with the *SHELX* program package. Anisotropic thermal parameters were applied to all non-hydrogen atoms. The hydrogen atoms were positioned geometrically and included in the refinement. Crystallographic data and refinements for the complexes are summarized in **Table S1**. CCDC numbers: 1982636-1982639 for **1P**-RT, **1P**-LT, **1S**-RT and **1S**-LT, respectively.

Differential scanning calorimeter (DSC). The DSC measurements were performed by heating/cooling the powder sample sealed in aluminum crucibles at a rate of 10 K min⁻¹ on a TA DSC Q2000 instrument. The value of N is estimated by the Boltzmann equation, $\Delta S = R \ln N$, where R is the gas constant, N represents the ratio of the numbers of state. The value of ΔS calculated by its definition, $\Delta S = \Delta Q/T_c$, where the value of ΔQ is integrated from DSC results by TA *Universal Analysis* and the value of T_c is the phase-transition temperature.

Dielectric measurement. The dielectric measurements were carried on a TH2838 impedance analyzer at 10 different frequencies from 5 kHz to 200 kHz, with an amplitude of 1.0 V, and a temperature sweeping rate of *ca.* 3 K min⁻¹ in a Mercury iTC cryogenic environment controller of Oxford Instrument. Pellets with 5 mm in diameter and 0.2–0.9 mm thick were prepared by pressing microcrystal samples at 780 MPa. Silver conduction paste deposited on the surface of pressed-powder pellets was used as the electrodes.

Hirshfeld surfaces analysis. Hirshfeld surfaces and the related 2D-fingerprint plots were calculated with high resolution by *CrystalExplorer* with inputting structure file in CIF format. The Bond lengths related to hydrogen atoms were set to typical neutron values (C–H = 1.083 Å, N–H = 1.009 Å and O–H = 0.983 Å, respectively).

Table S1. Crystallographic parameters for **1P-RT**, **1P-LT**, **1S-RT** and **1S-LT**.

Compound	[(MNA)(18C6)]PF ₆ (1P)		[(MNA)(18C6)]SO ₃ CF ₃ (1S)	
Formula	C ₁₉ H ₃₃ F ₆ N ₂ O ₉ P		C ₂₀ H ₃₃ F ₃ N ₂ O ₁₂ S	
Formula weight	578.44		582.54	
Phase	1P-RT	1P-LT	1S-RT	1S-LT
<i>T</i> / K	298(2)	213(2)	298(2)	213(2)
Crystal system	Orthorhombic	Orthorhombic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
Space group	Pccn	Pccn	<i>P2₁/c</i>	<i>P2₁/c</i>
<i>a</i> / Å	17.7788(4)	16.774(3)	10.0129(3)	20.31807(19)
<i>b</i> / Å	19.7210(3)	20.000(3)	18.4433(5)	17.85897(16)
<i>c</i> / Å	15.0786(2)	15.122(3)	14.9448(3)	14.64020(12)
<i>β</i> / °	90	90	98.440(2)	96.2560(10)
<i>V</i> / Å ³	5286.79(16)	5073.0(15)	2729.98(13)	5280.70(8)
<i>Z</i>	8	8	4	8
<i>D_c</i> / g·cm ⁻³	1.453	1.515	1.417	1.465
<i>R</i> _{int}	0.0858	0.0422	0.0531	0.0228
<i>R</i> ₁ [<i>I</i> > 2σ(<i>I</i>)] ^a	0.0867	0.0536	0.0685	0.0448
<i>wR</i> ₂ [<i>I</i> > 2σ(<i>I</i>)] ^b	0.2941	0.1531	0.2038	0.1223
<i>R</i> ₁ (all data)	0.0988	0.0560	0.0741	0.0496
<i>wR</i> ₂ (all data)	0.3198	0.1568	0.2110	0.1282
GOF	1.009	1.098	1.081	1.032

$$^a R_1 = |F_o| - |F_c|/|F_o|, \quad ^b wR_2 = \{w[(F_o)^2 - (F_c)^2]/w[(F_o)^2]\}^{1/2}$$

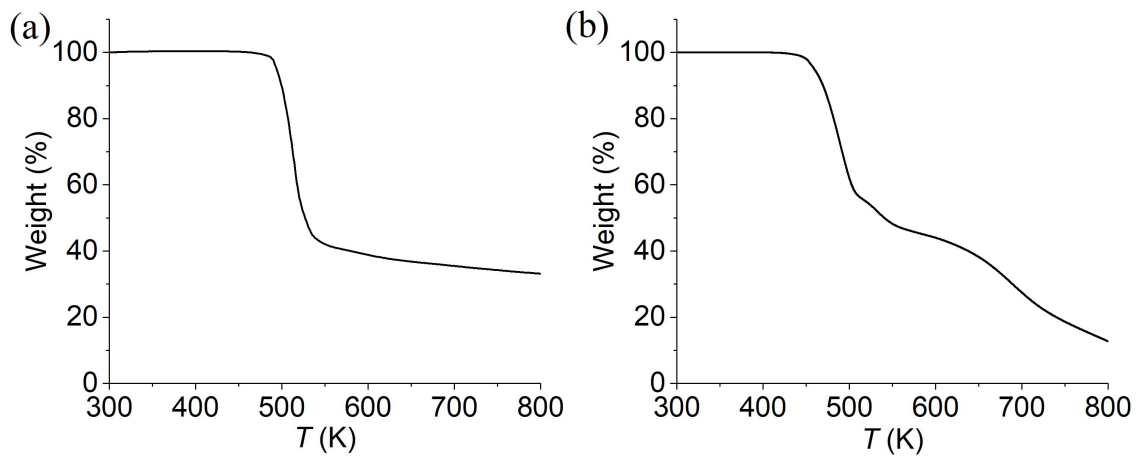


Figure S1. TG curves of **1P** (a) and **1S** (b).

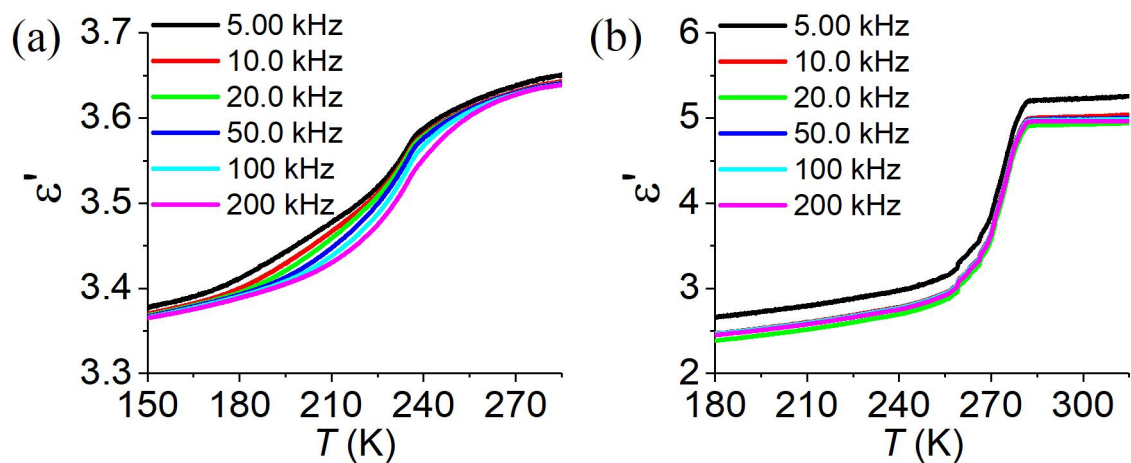


Figure S2. Temperature dependence of dielectric constant (ϵ') for **1P** (a) and **1S** (b).

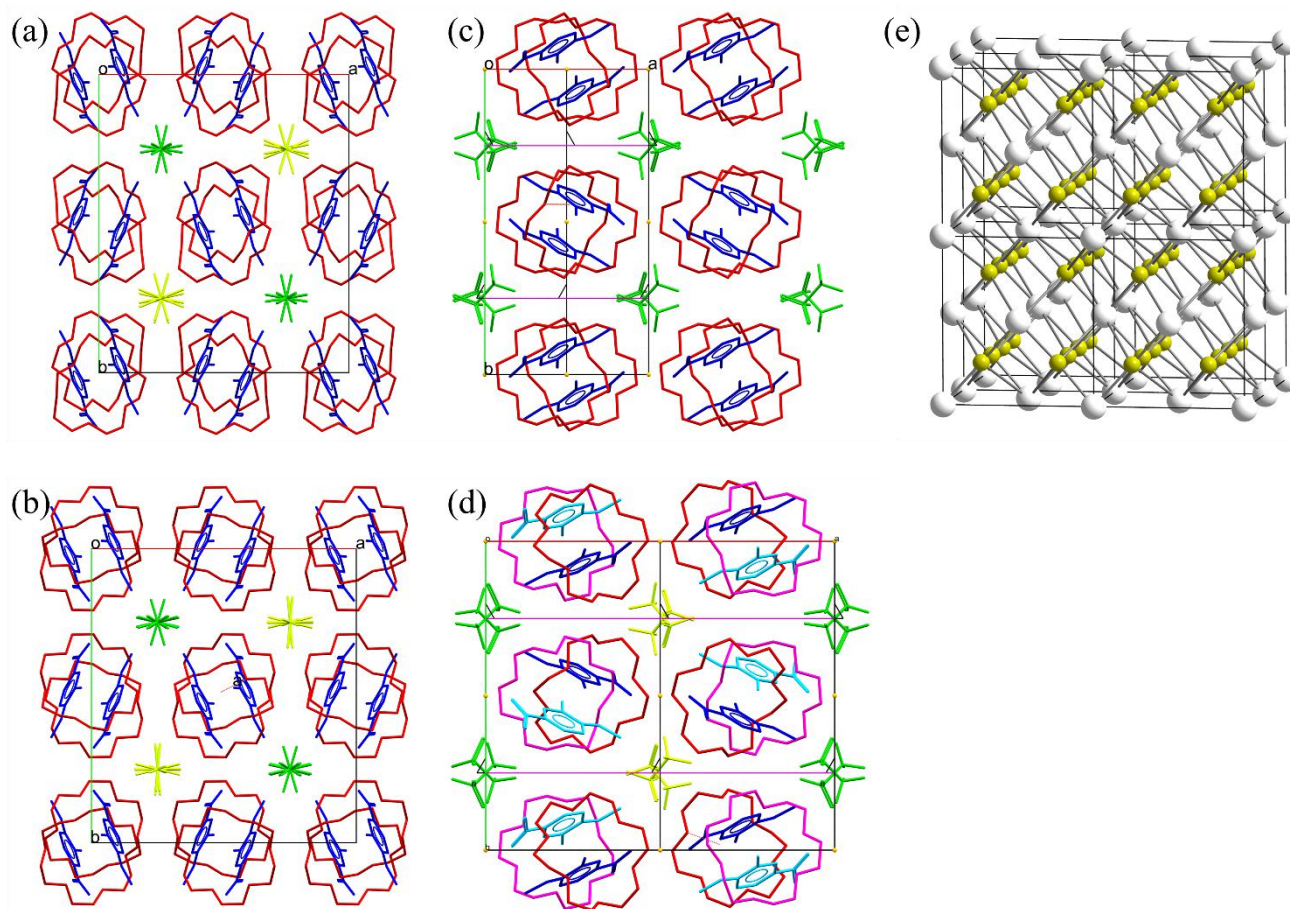


Figure S3. The packing modes of **1P-RT** (a), **1P-LT** (b), **1S-RT** (c) and **1S-LT** (d), and the topological connectivity (e) of dimer units (white spheres) and PF_6^- anions (yellow spheres). Different symmetry equivalences are distinguished with different colour: HMNA^+ mapped with blue or cyan, $18\text{C}6$ mapped with red or pink, counter anion mapped with green or yellow.

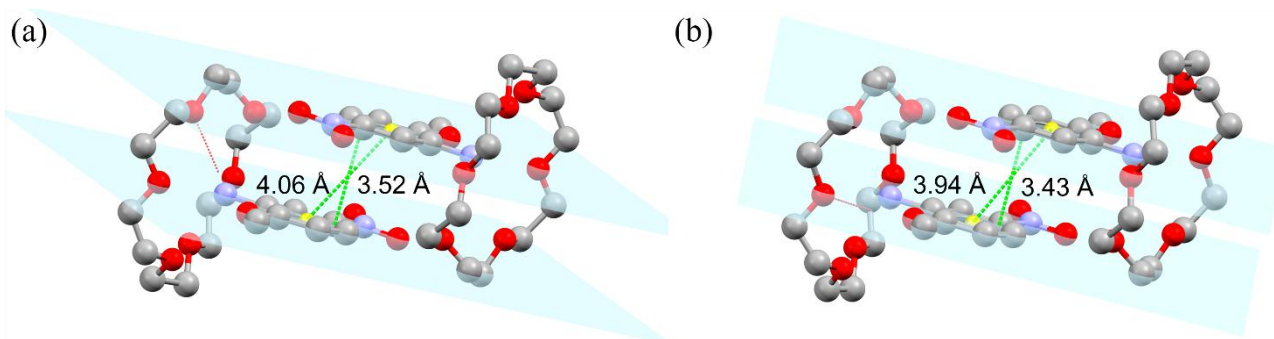


Figure S4. The supramolecular interactions between two $[(\text{HMNA})(18\text{C}6)]^+$ cations in **1P-RT** (a) and **1S-RT** (b).

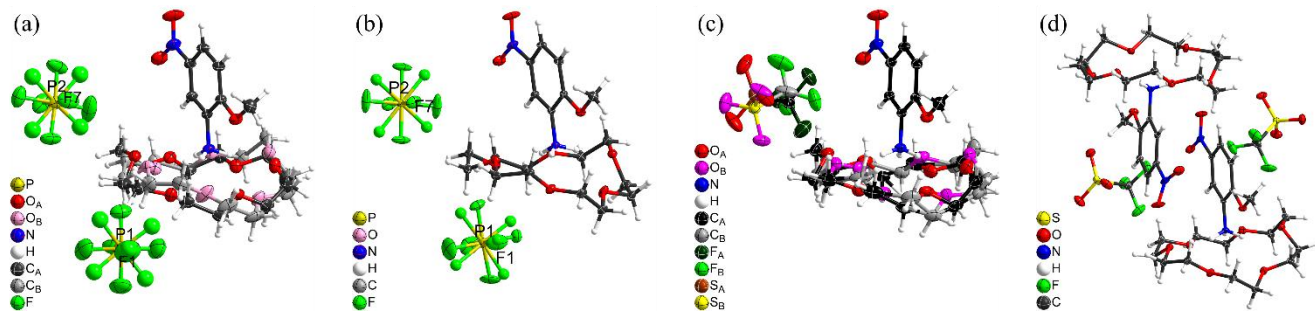


Figure S5. The asymmetry units of **1P-RT** (a), **1S-RT** (b), **1P-LT** (c), and **1S-LT** (d).

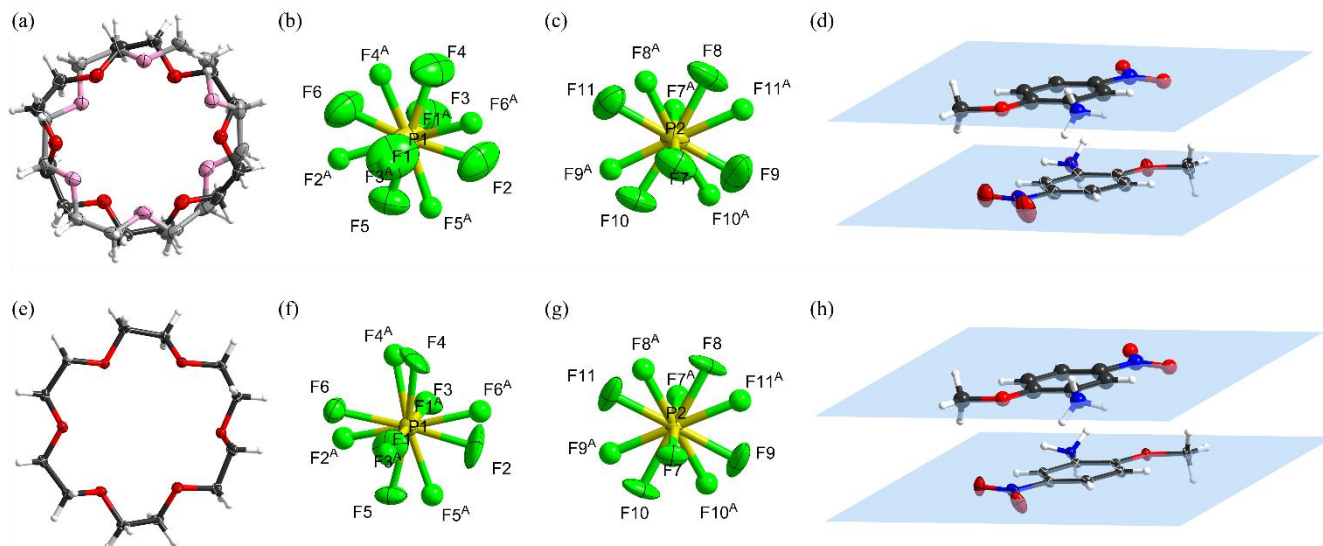


Figure S6. The structure details of **18C6** (a, e), PF_6^- anion (b, c, f and g), and HMNA^+ cation (d, h) in **1P-RT** (up row) and **1P-LT** (down row).

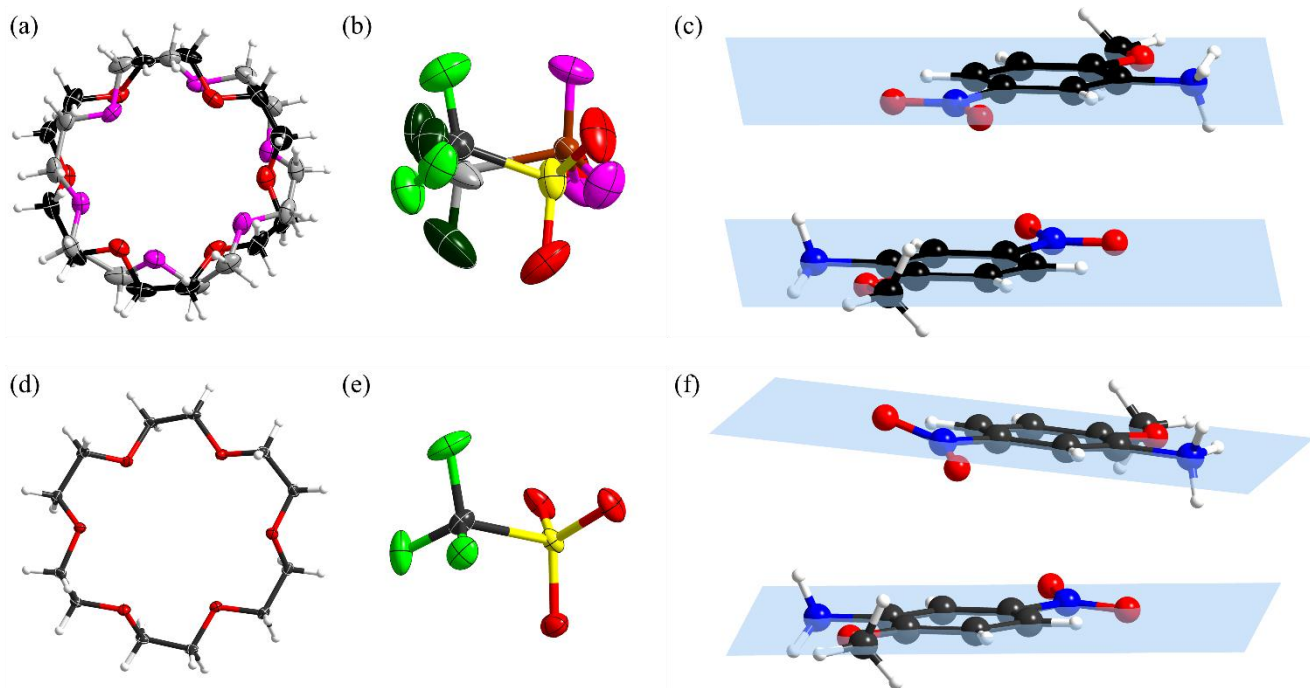


Figure S7. The structure details of 18C6 molecule (a, d), SO₃CF₃⁻ anion (b, e), and HMNA⁺ cation (c, f) in 1S-RT (up row) and 1S-LT (down row).

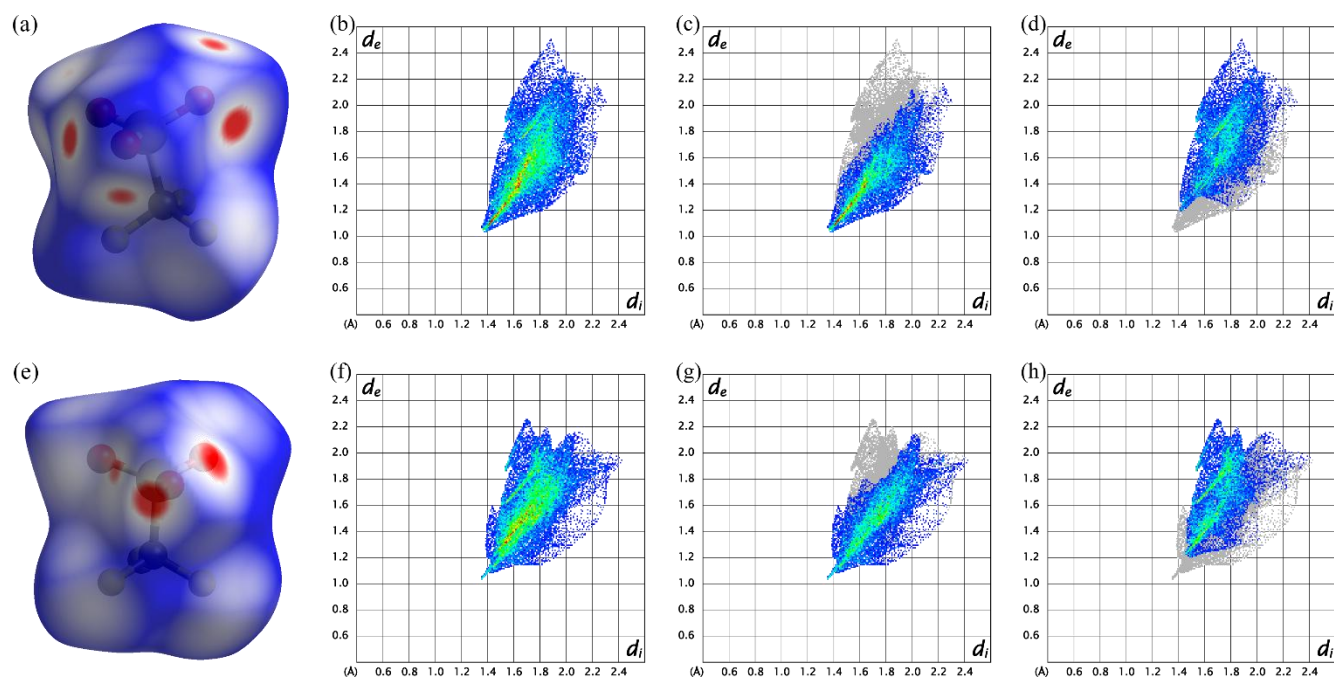


Figure S8. The Hirshfeld surfaces of SO₃CF₃⁻ anions (a, e). The 2D-fingerprint plots of SO₃CF₃⁻ anions for contacts between all interior atoms (b, f), O atoms (c, g) and F atoms (d, h) to all exterior atoms of the Hirshfeld surfaces.

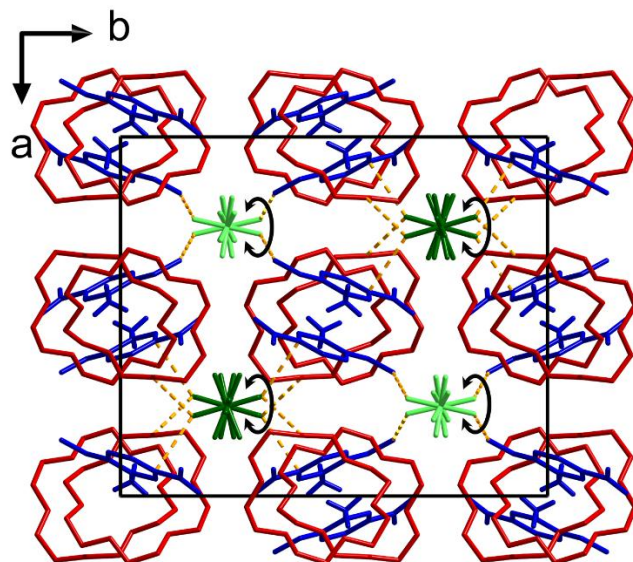


Figure S9. The supramolecular interactions between rotate axis of the PF_6^- anion and the dimer unit.

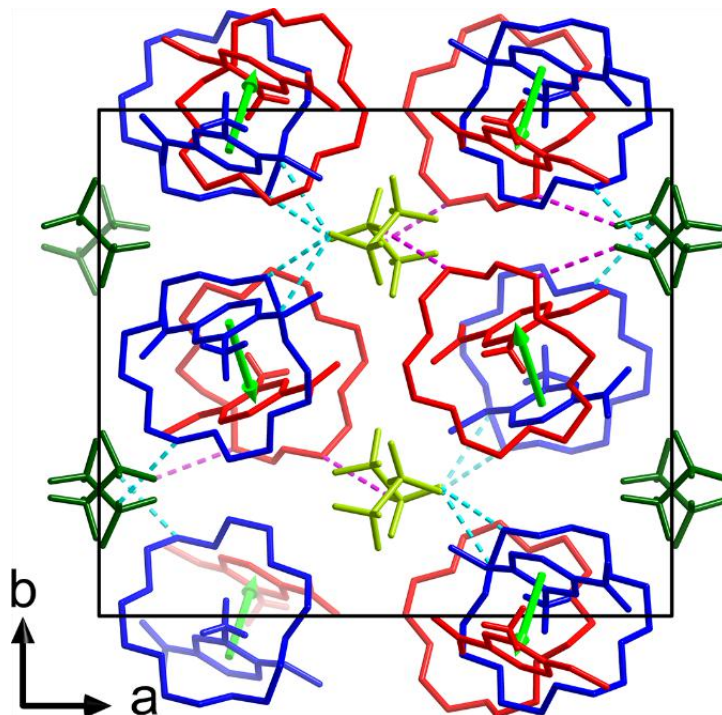


Figure S10. The direction and packing of asymmetry dimer unit.