

Supporting information on:

# Dispersion forces in chirality recognition - a density functional and wave function theory study of diols

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# 1 DFT data

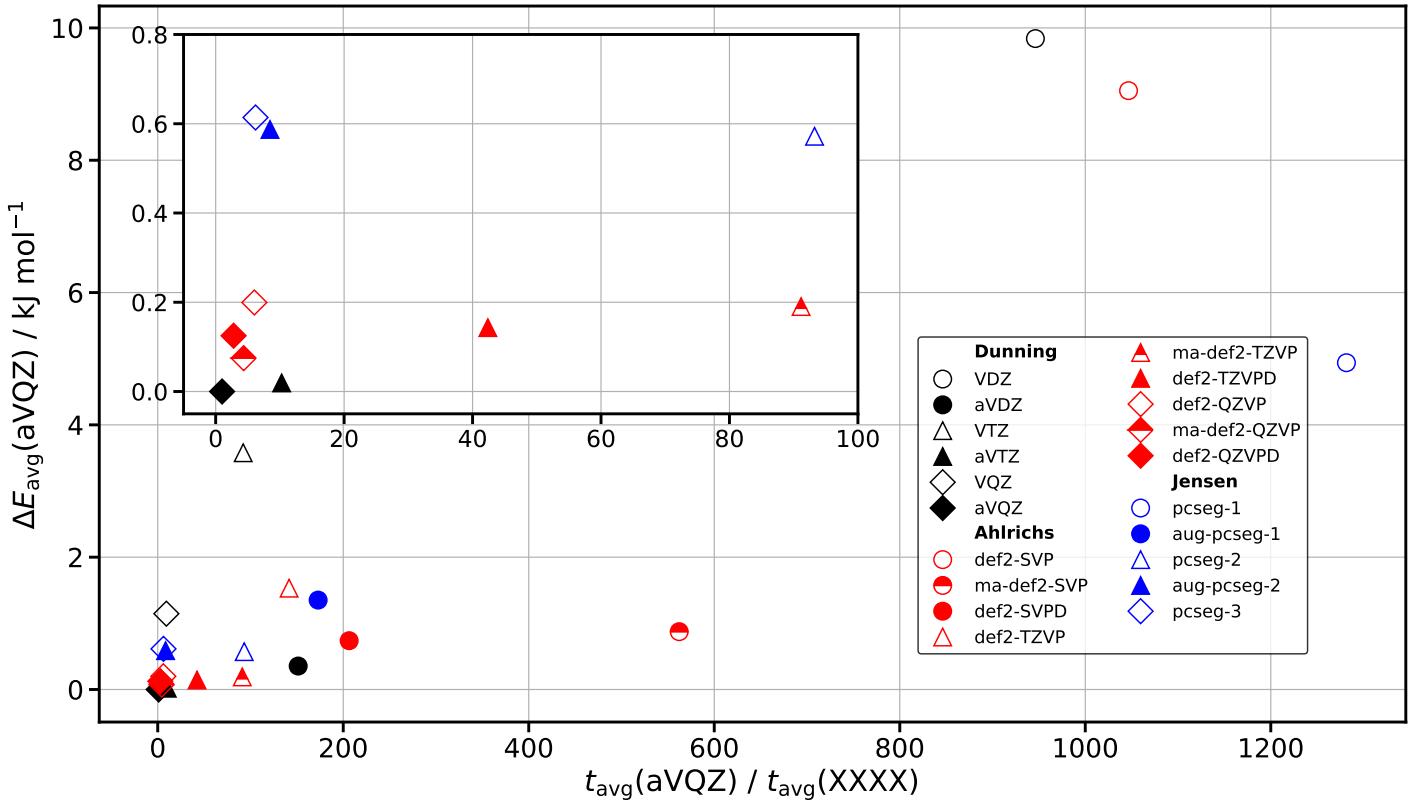


Fig. S1: Overview of the average energy difference relative to the Dunning aVQZ (aug-cc-pVQZ) basis set depending on the fraction of the computational time of aVQZ and each tested basis set. The fully augmented Dunning basis sets (aug-cc-pVXZ) as well as the non augmented variants (cc-pVXZ) were tested<sup>[1,2]</sup>. Furthermore the def2-XZVP Ahlrichs<sup>[3]</sup> family of basis sets were tested as well as the minimally augmented variants of Zheng et al.<sup>[4]</sup> and the property optimized heavily augmented variants of Rappoport et al.<sup>[5]</sup>. Additionally the augmented (aug-pcseg-X) and non augmented (pcseg-X) Jensen basis sets were tested<sup>[6]</sup>. The aug-pcseg-3 calculations did not converge. All calculations were made for a total of 8 different ethanediol dimers and then averaged. For comparable timings each calculation was done on the same node.

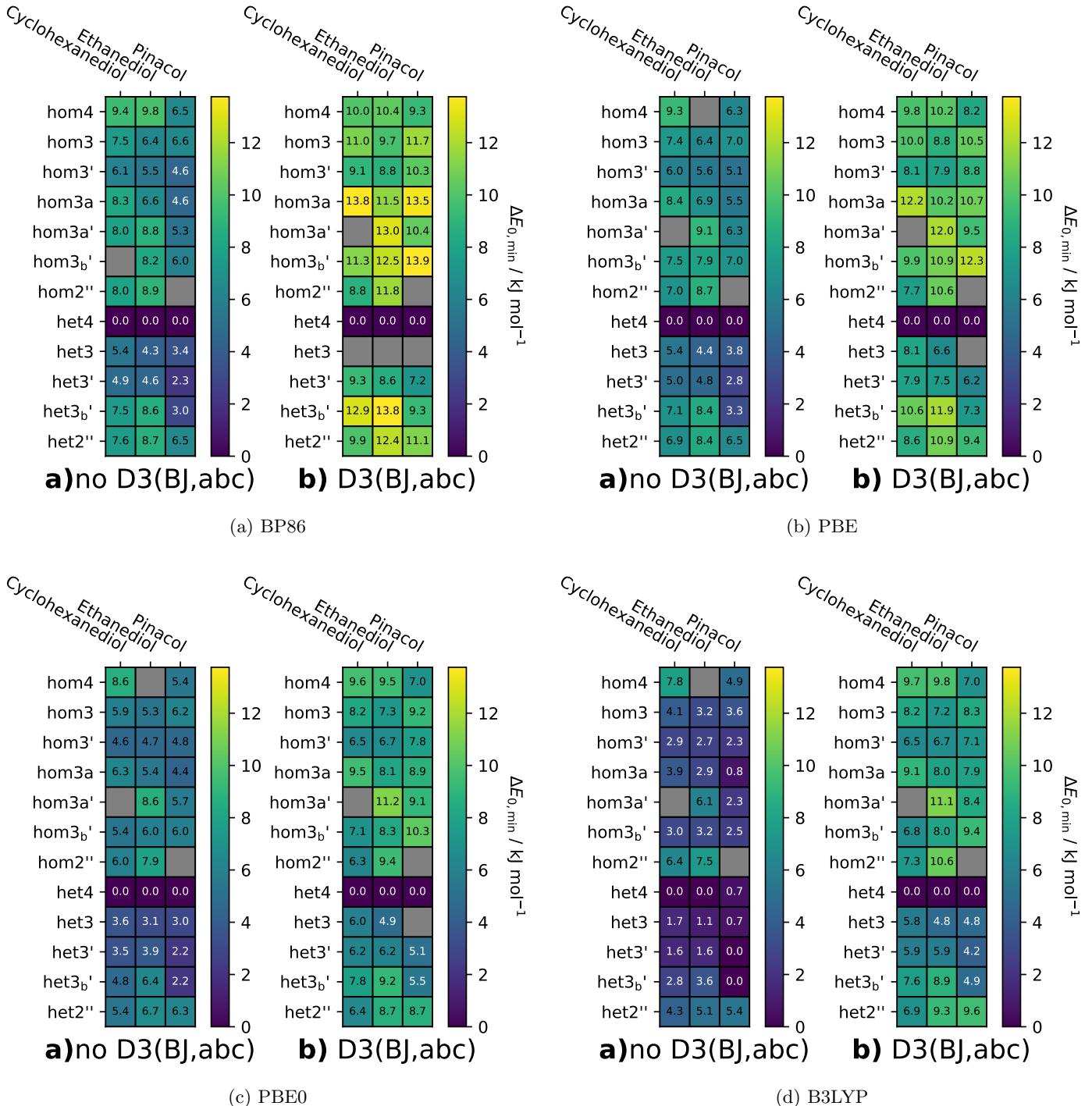
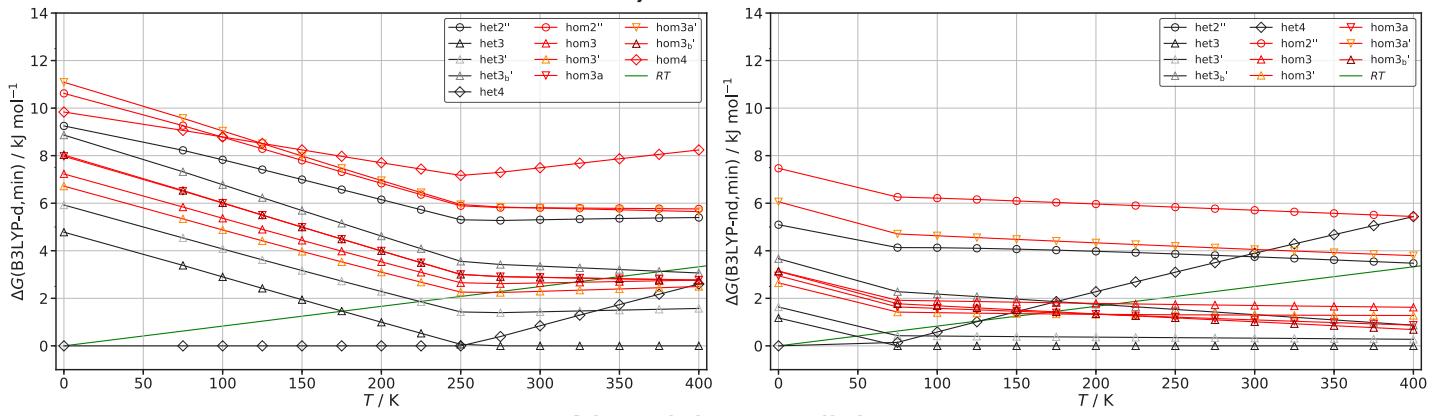
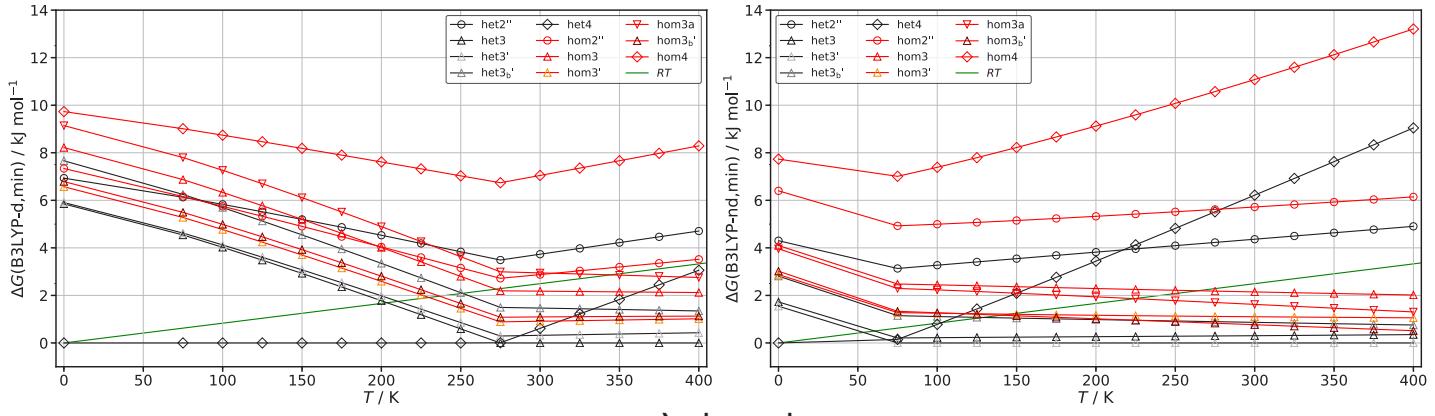


Fig. S2: Overview of the DFT results with (b)) and without D3(BJ,abc) (a)) for cyclohexanediol, ethanediol and pinacol. The energies given are always relative to the minimum energy conformer and zero point corrected. Grey squares indicate unstable conformers.

### a) ethanediol



### b) cyclohexanediol



### c) pinacol

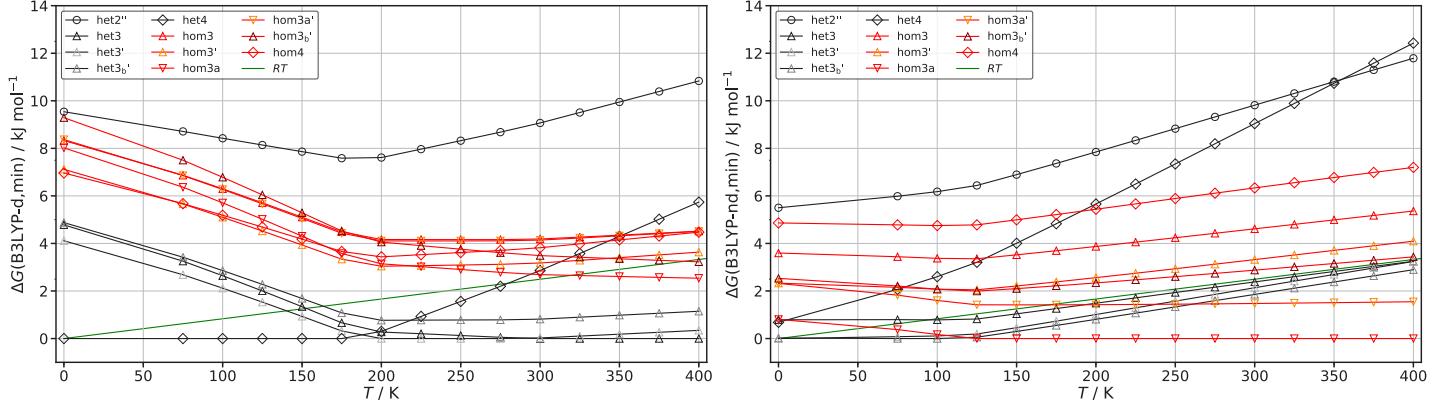


Fig. S3: Identical analysis as was done in Fig. 9 of the main text for ethanediol **a)**, cyclohexanediol **b)** and pinacol **c)** at the B3LYP level of computation.

## 2 WFT data

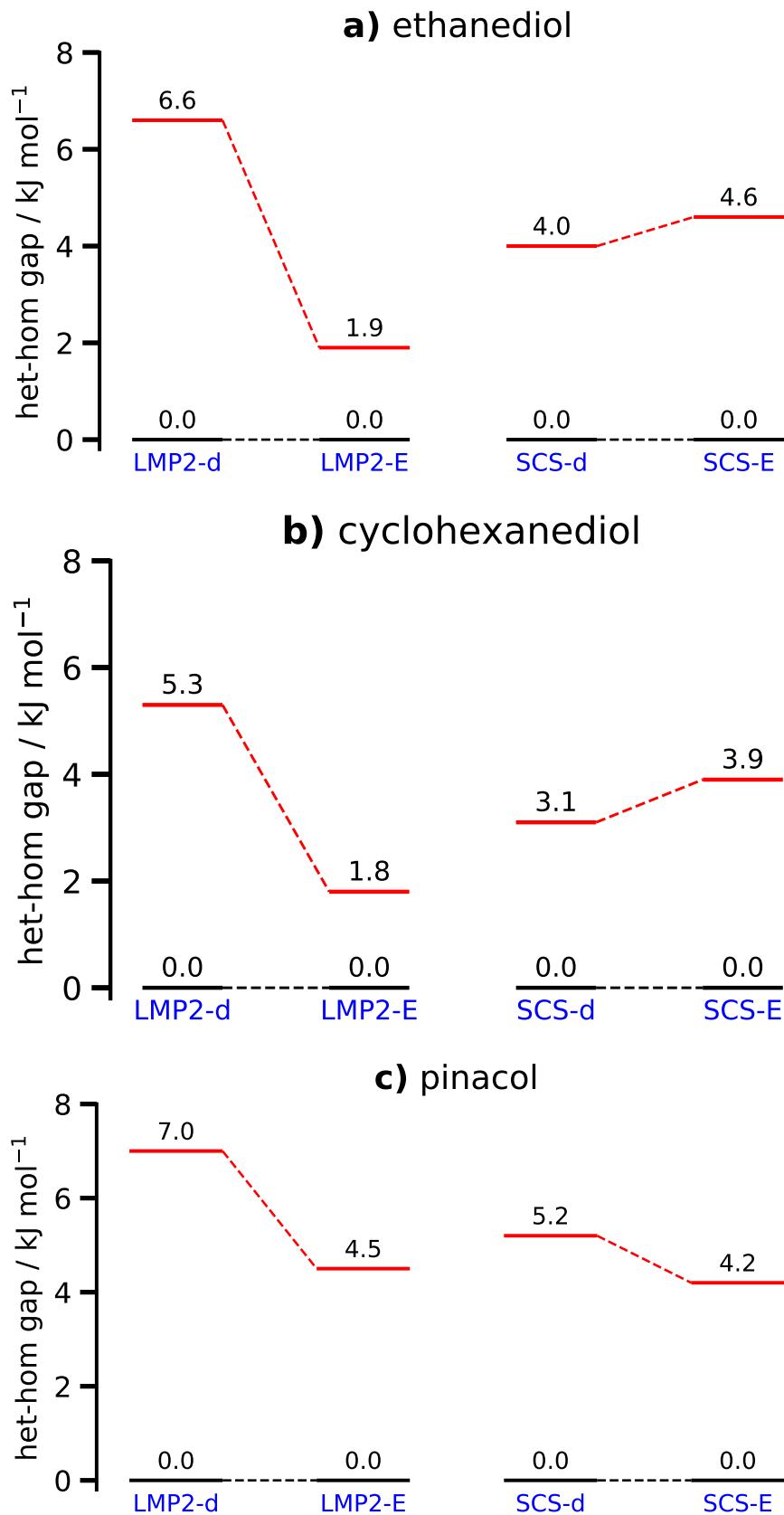


Fig. S4: Comparison of the LMP2-d and SCS-LMP2-d het-hom gap with the corresponding results purely based on the dispersion energy (LMP2-E and SCS-LMP2-E). The dispersion energy gap can also be inferred from Fig. 12 of the main text for SCS-LMP2 and figure S5 for LMP2.

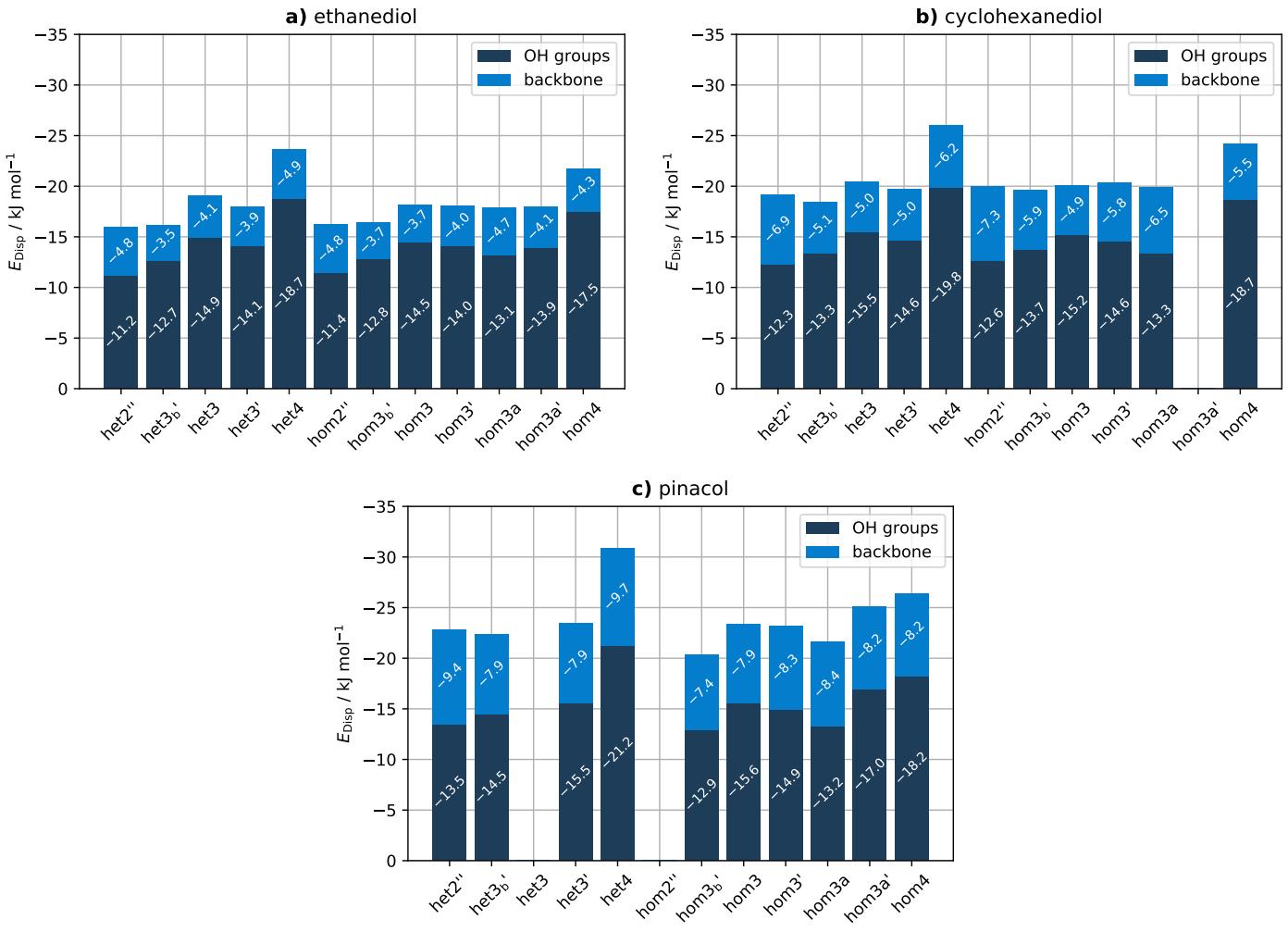


Fig. S5: Energy fragmentation of the dispersion energy at the LMP2-d level of computation for ethanediol (a)), cyclohexanediol (b)) and pinacol (c)). A zero energy value indicates that a conformer either converges to a different one or exhibits an imaginary frequency. The performed analysis is analogous to that of Fig. 12 of the main text.

### 3 Geometry analysis data

#### 3.1 Intermolecular hydrogen bond (Å), EDO

Tab. S1: Intermolecular H-bonding optimized at LMP2/aug-cc-pVTZ,H=cc-pVTZ.

Molecular System	with dispersion			without dispersion		
het2''	1.983	1.983		2.133	2.133	
het3 <sub>b</sub> '	2.188	2.031	1.892	2.532	2.112	2.000
het3	1.905	1.998	1.899	2.045	2.152	2.063
het3'	1.928	1.976	1.920	2.085	2.131	2.100
het4	1.959	1.959	1.959	1.959	2.111	2.111
hom2	1.926	1.973		2.081	2.145	
hom3a	1.841	1.972	2.065	1.956	2.215	2.244
hom3a'	1.822	1.961	2.021	2.034	3.390	2.046
hom3 <sub>b</sub> '	2.145	1.983	1.886	2.491	2.083	2.006
hom3	1.847	1.980	1.959	1.956	2.154	2.136
hom3'	1.876	1.971	1.961	2.004	2.159	2.135

Tab. S2: Intermolecular H-bonding optimized at B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ,H=cc-pVTZ.

Molecular System	with dispersion			without dispersion		
het2”	1.939	1.939		1.980	1.980	
het3 <sub>b</sub> ’	2.141	1.988	1.876	2.203	2.046	1.915
het3	1.881	1.973	1.865	1.925	2.008	1.911
het3’	1.885	1.943	1.877	1.913	2.000	1.935
het4	1.951	1.951	1.951	1.951	1.997	1.997
hom2”	1.898	1.932			1.957	1.977
hom3a	1.810	1.926	2.018		1.832	1.998
hom3a’	1.792	1.916	2.001		1.811	2.018
hom3 <sub>b</sub> ’	2.062	1.956	1.864		2.114	2.024
hom3	1.828	1.940	1.916		1.852	2.015
hom3’	1.841	1.935	1.921		1.870	2.019
						1.990

Tab. S3: Intermolecular H-bonding optimized at SCS-LMP2/aug-cc-pVTZ,H=cc-pVTZ.

Molecular System	with dispersion			without dispersion		
het2”	2.052	2.052		2.178	2.178	
het3 <sub>b</sub> ’	2.255	2.083	1.944	2.510	2.152	2.030
het3	1.968	2.059	1.964	2.079	2.181	2.096
het3’	1.997	2.038	1.992	2.119	2.161	2.133
het4	2.024	2.024	2.024	2.024	2.144	2.144
hom2”	1.992	2.051			2.116	2.196
hom3a	1.897	2.051	2.140		1.987	2.250
hom3a’	1.866	2.075	2.102		2.063	3.474
hom3 <sub>b</sub> ’	2.232	2.031	1.937		2.499	2.112
hom3	1.900	2.044	2.026		1.986	2.183
hom3’	1.936	2.039	2.025		2.035	2.188
						2.166

### 3.2 Intermolecular hydrogen bond (Å), CHexDO

Tab. S4: Intermolecular H-bonding optimized at LMP2/aug-cc-pVTZ,H=cc-pVTZ.

Molecular System	with dispersion			without dispersion		
het2”	2.002	2.002		2.175	2.175	
het3 <sub>b</sub> ’	2.176	2.002	1.873	2.378	2.131	2.007
het3	1.910	1.988	1.898	2.089	2.139	2.077
het3’	1.960	1.956	1.921	2.140	2.122	2.106
het4	1.939	1.939	1.939	1.939	2.099	2.099
hom2”	2.013	1.947			2.196	2.142
hom3a	1.869	1.907	2.065		2.011	2.203
hom3 <sub>b</sub> ’	2.174	1.957	1.880		2.415	2.087
hom3	1.866	1.952	1.942		1.987	2.153
hom3’	1.923	1.959	1.948		2.055	2.172
						2.173

Tab. S5: Intermolecular H-bonding optimized at B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ,H=cc-pVTZ.

Molecular System	with dispersion			without dispersion			
het2”	1.959	1.959		2.007	2.007		
het3 <sub>b</sub> ,	2.137	1.961	1.853	2.175	2.036	1.908	
het3	1.877	1.950	1.849	1.921	2.005	1.926	
het3’	1.912	1.922	1.868	1.947	1.986	1.939	
het4	1.928	1.928	1.928	1.928	1.988	1.988	
hom2”	1.967	1.915		2.015	2.002		
hom3a	1.830	1.930	2.005		1.851	2.010	2.079
hom3 <sub>b</sub> ,	2.102	1.925	1.850		2.124	2.007	1.905
hom3	1.834	1.913	1.896		1.860	2.009	1.993
hom3’	1.860	1.917	1.907		1.898	2.017	2.003

Tab. S6: Intermolecular H-bonding optimized at SCS-LMP2/aug-cc-pVTZ,H=cc-pVTZ.

Molecular System	with dispersion			without dispersion			
het2”	2.071	2.071		2.215	2.215		
het3 <sub>b</sub> ,	2.232	2.060	1.928	2.386	2.166	2.035	
het3	1.976	2.050	1.965	2.120	2.167	2.109	
het3’	2.031	2.019	1.993	2.171	2.150	2.138	
het4	2.005	2.005	2.005	2.005	2.132	2.132	
hom2”	2.091	2.015		2.248	2.174		
hom3a	1.935	2.046	2.142		2.045	2.229	2.344
hom3 <sub>b</sub> ,	2.257	2.007	1.934		2.443	2.113	2.052
hom3	1.916	2.020	2.016		2.014	2.182	2.192
hom3’	1.985	2.028	2.019		2.085	2.197	2.204

### 3.3 Intermolecular hydrogen bond (Å), Pinacol

Tab. S7: Intermolecular H-bonding optimized at LMP2/aug-cc-pVTZ,H=cc-pVTZ.

Molecular System	with dispersion			without dispersion			
het2”	1.982	1.982		2.394	2.394		
het3 <sub>b</sub> ,	2.192	2.069	1.883	2.361	2.298	2.081	
het3’	1.975	1.980	1.995	2.223	2.207	2.256	
het4	1.963	1.963	1.963	1.963	2.185	2.185	
hom3 <sub>b</sub> ,	1.906	2.099	2.090		2.193	2.306	2.313
hom4	1.887	1.887	2.343	2.343	2.091	2.091	2.733

Tab. S8: Intermolecular H-bonding optimized at B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ,H=cc-pVTZ.

Molecular System	with dispersion			without dispersion			
het2”	1.965	1.964		2.066	2.066		
het3 <sub>b</sub> ,	2.173	2.014	1.853	2.226	2.138	1.937	
het3’	1.909	1.948	1.923	1.999	2.053	2.055	
het4	1.950	1.950	1.950	1.950	2.036	2.036	
hom3 <sub>b</sub> ,	1.916	1.986	2.094		2.014	2.055	2.234
hom4	1.864	1.878	2.462	2.181	1.966	1.975	2.788
							2.359

Tab. S9: Intermolecular H-bonding optimized at SCS-LMP2/aug-cc-pVTZ,H=cc-pVTZ.

Molecular System	with dispersion			without dispersion		
het2"	2.054	2.054		2.430	2.430	
het3 <sub>b</sub> '	2.232	2.144	1.948	2.364	2.331	2.109
het3'	2.056	2.048	2.075	2.243	2.235	2.277
het4	2.035	2.035	2.035	2.035	2.212	2.212
hom3 <sub>b</sub> '	2.029	2.155	2.159	2.220	2.322	2.335
hom4	1.953	1.953	2.473	2.475	2.113	2.758
						2.757

### 3.4 Generation of density plots in Figure 4 of the main text.

To illustrate how the intermolecular O–H bond distance is affected once dispersion contributions are neglected, a kernel density estimate (KDE) plot was employed. This allows a nice visualization of the distribution of the O–H values we have and is analogous to a histogram. The data in KDE are represented using a continuous probability density curve in one or more dimensions.

Since the values of the O–H bond distances in the previous tables are within 3 decimal places, the bin width chosen to represent the data was 0.001. This permits each value to be represented in each bin, so higher frequency indicated in the plots are representatives of several repeated O–H bond distances. In this section, the analogous histogram is reflected so as to show how the data looks like before employing the continuous probability density curve via KDE.

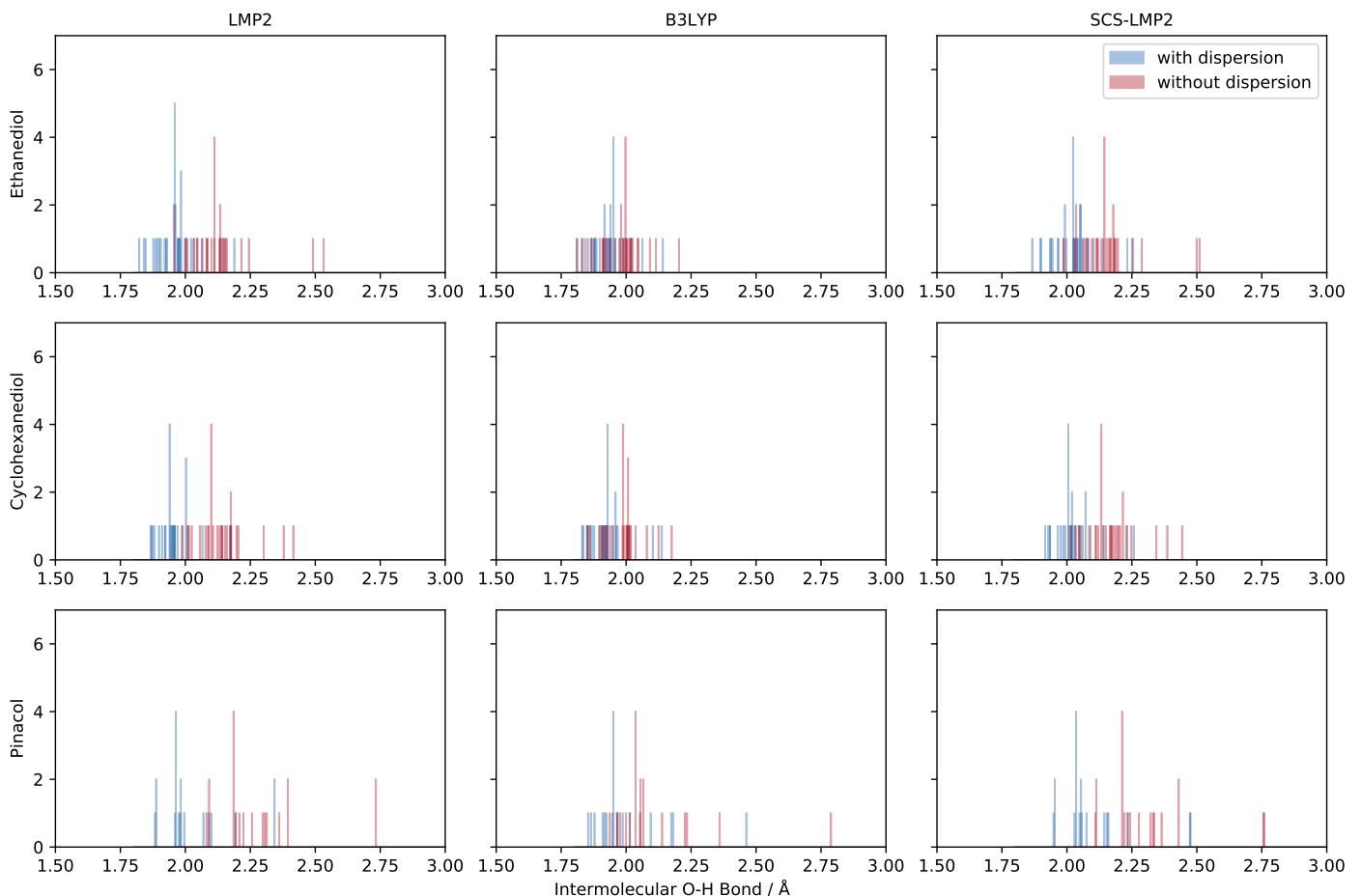


Fig. S6: Histogram counterpart of Figure 4 of the main text.

## 4 Structures

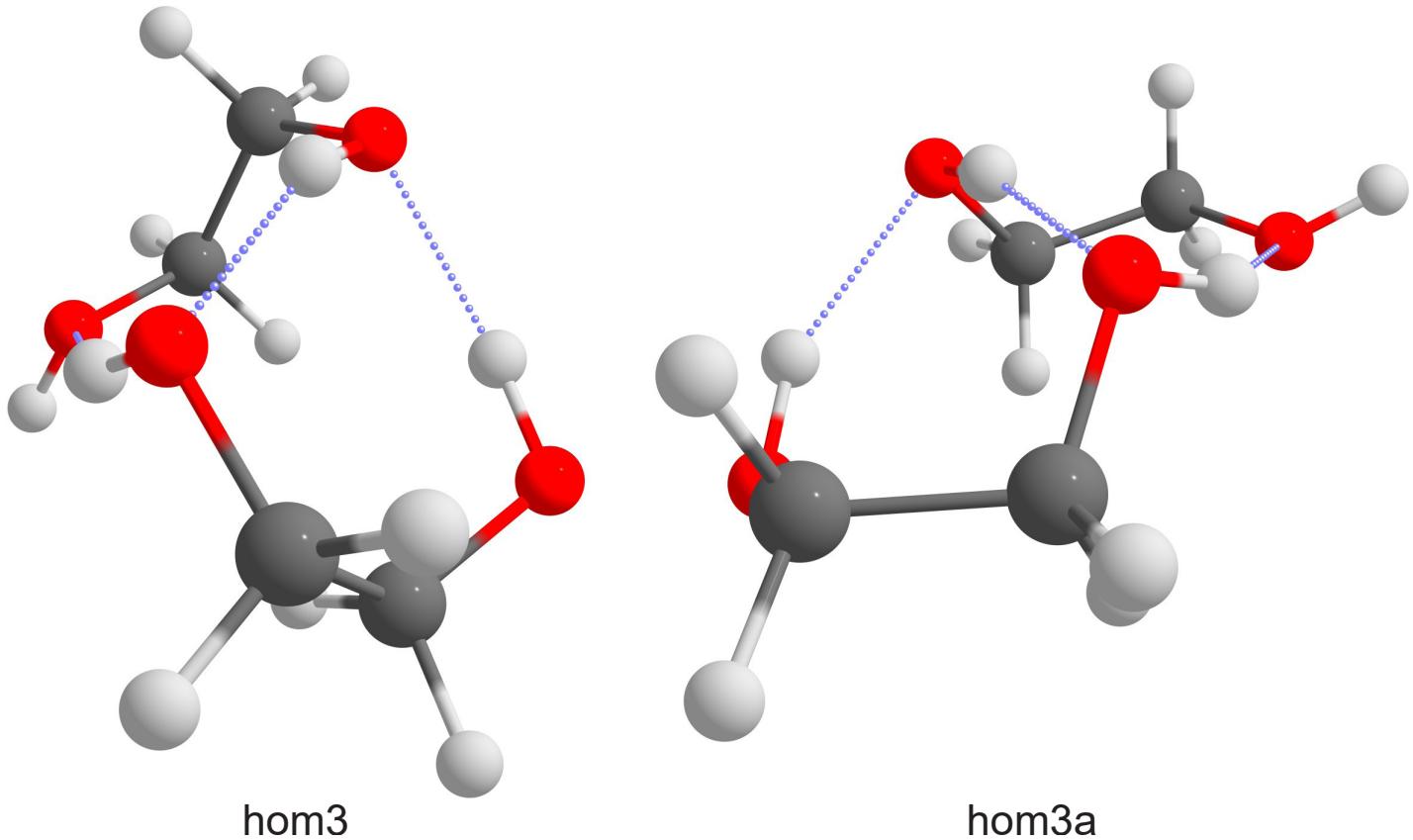


Fig. S7: Comparison of the more orthogonal arrangement of the C-C backbone of hom3 and the more parallel one of hom3a.

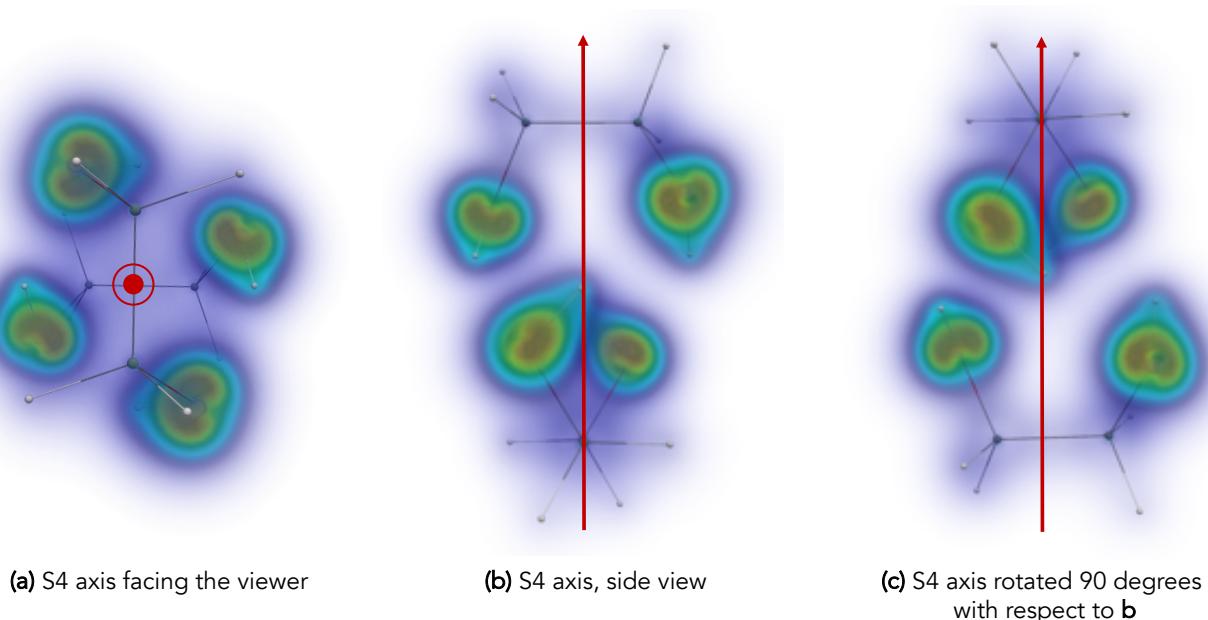


Fig. S8: Dispersion interaction density of het4 EDO viewed in different perspectives of its  $S_4$  symmetry.

## References

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