

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### Uncovering the Origins of Supramolecular Similarity in a Series of Benzimidazole Structures

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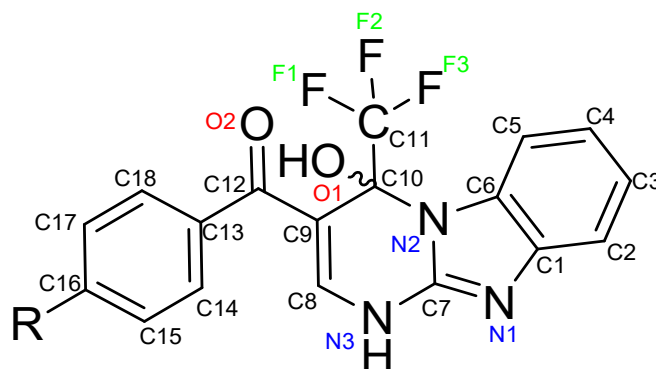
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## 1. Crystallographic data

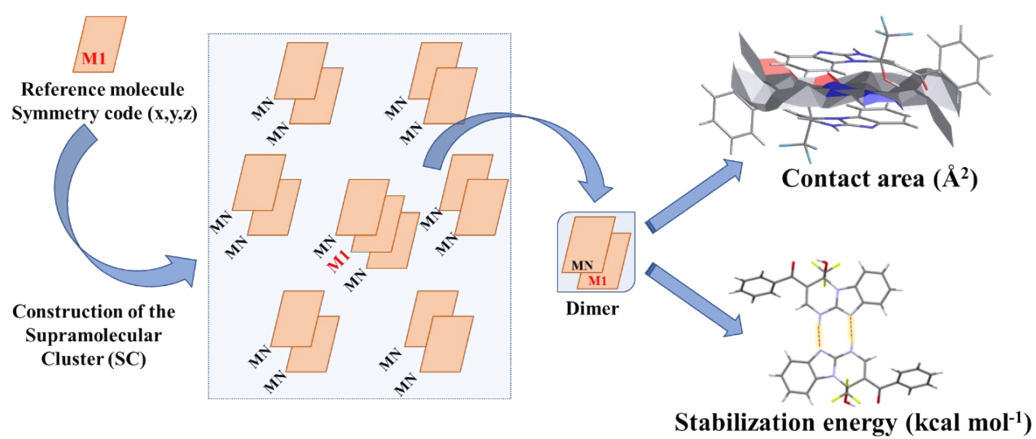


**Figure S1.** Numbering of atoms in crystalline structures of compounds **2** – **5**.

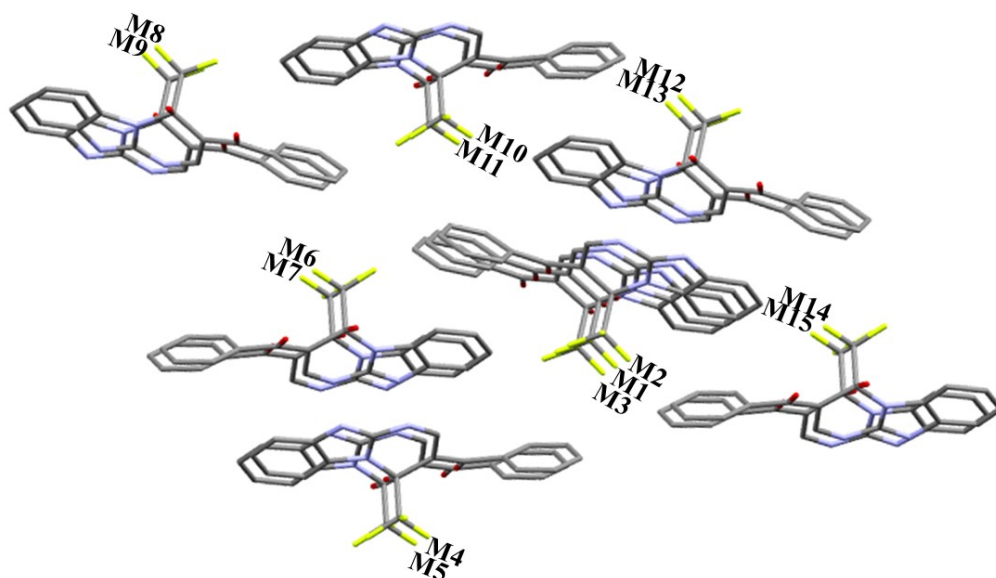
**Table S1.** Crystallographic data of compounds **2** - **5**.

Compound	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
Formula	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>14</sub> F <sub>3</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>14</sub> F <sub>3</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>11</sub> ClF <sub>3</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>11</sub> BrF <sub>3</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub>
Formula weight	373.337	389.337	393.755	438.206
Temperature (K)	100	110	293.15	100
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n
a (Å)	6.0391(2)	6.0869(3)	6.0309(11)	5.9853(2)
b (Å)	15.7043(6)	15.3931(8)	15.898(2)	15.8708(5)
c (Å)	17.1155(6)	17.5350(9)	17.1914(16)	17.1004(6)
α (°)	90	90	90	90
β (°)	91.874(1)	92.951(2)	90.932(7)	90.897(1)
γ (°)	90	90	90	90
Cell volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	1622.36(10)	1640.79(14)	1648.1(4)	1624.19(9)
Z	4	4	4	4
Calculated density (g cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.528	1.576	1.587	1.792
μ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.125	0.131	2.545	2.584
F(000)	768.6	800.7	804.6	871.9
Crystal size (mm <sup>3</sup> )	0.162 × 0.13 × 0.062	0.162 × 0.154 × 0.102	0.449 × 0.22 × 0.156	0.219 × 0.082 × 0.064
Radiation	Mo Kα (λ = 0.71073)	Mo Kα (λ = 0.71073)	Cu Kα (λ = 1.54178)	Mo Kα (λ = 0.71073)
2θ range for data collection (°)	4.76 to 54.3	4.66 to 54.4	11.14 to 145.26	4.76 to 54.26
Index ranges	-7 ≤ h ≤ 7, -20 ≤ k ≤ 20, -21 ≤ l ≤ 21	-7 ≤ h ≤ 7, -19 ≤ k ≤ 19, -22 ≤ l ≤ 22	-7 ≤ h ≤ 7, -19 ≤ k ≤ 19, -21 ≤ l ≤ 20	-7 ≤ h ≤ 7, -20 ≤ k ≤ 20, -21 ≤ l ≤ 20
Reflections collected	47272	45928	24123	29911
Independent reflections	3589 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0380, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0181]	3656 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0863, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0340]	3209 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0265, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0163]	3593 [R <sub>int</sub> = 0.0323, R <sub>sigma</sub> = 0.0193]
Data/ restraints/ parameters	3589/0/263	3656/0/255	3209/0/245	3593/0/245
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.056	1.068	1.047	1.034
Final R indexes [I >= 2σ (I)]	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0396, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.0950	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0459, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1111	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0388, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1071	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0260, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.0565
Final R indexes [all data]	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0502, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1009	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0593, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1199	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0419, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.1103	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0335, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.0594
Δ ρ <sub>max.</sub> , Δ ρ <sub>min.</sub> (e Å <sup>-3</sup> )	0.36, -0.31	0.61, -0.42	0.23, -0.35	0.51, -0.43

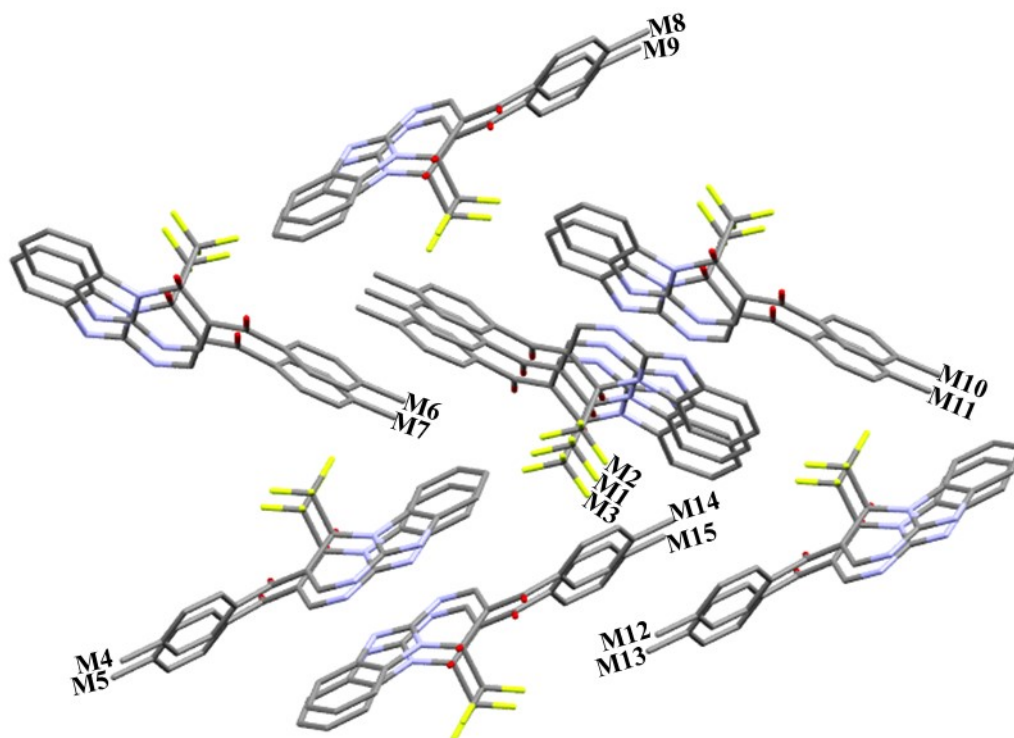
## 2. Supramolecular Cluster Data



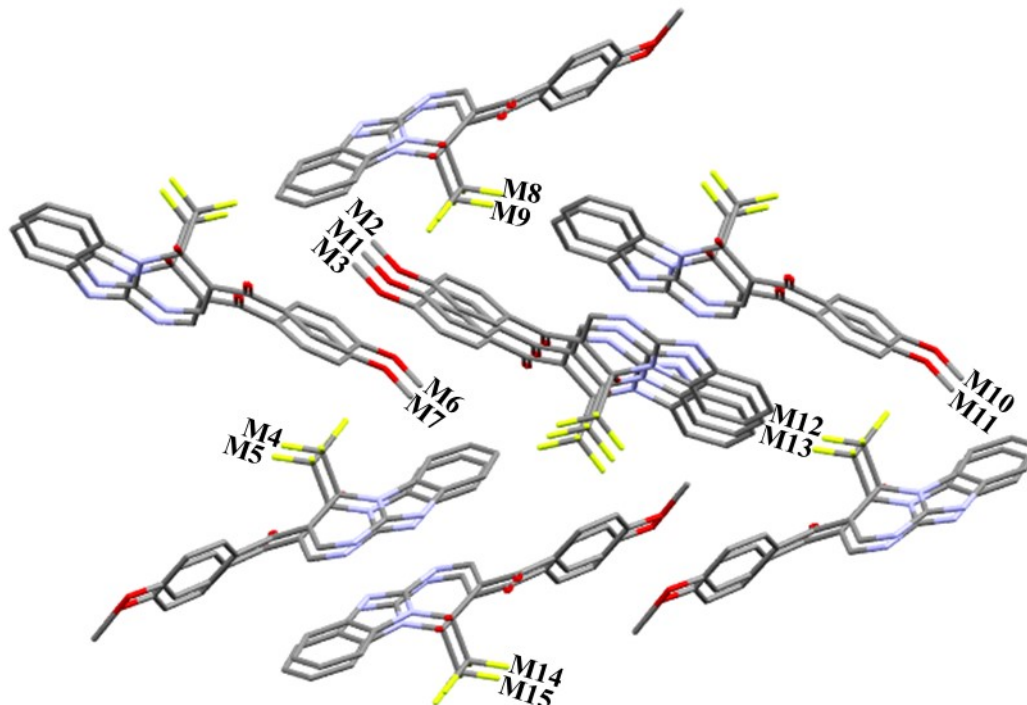
**Figure S2.** Construction of the supramolecular cluster (SC).



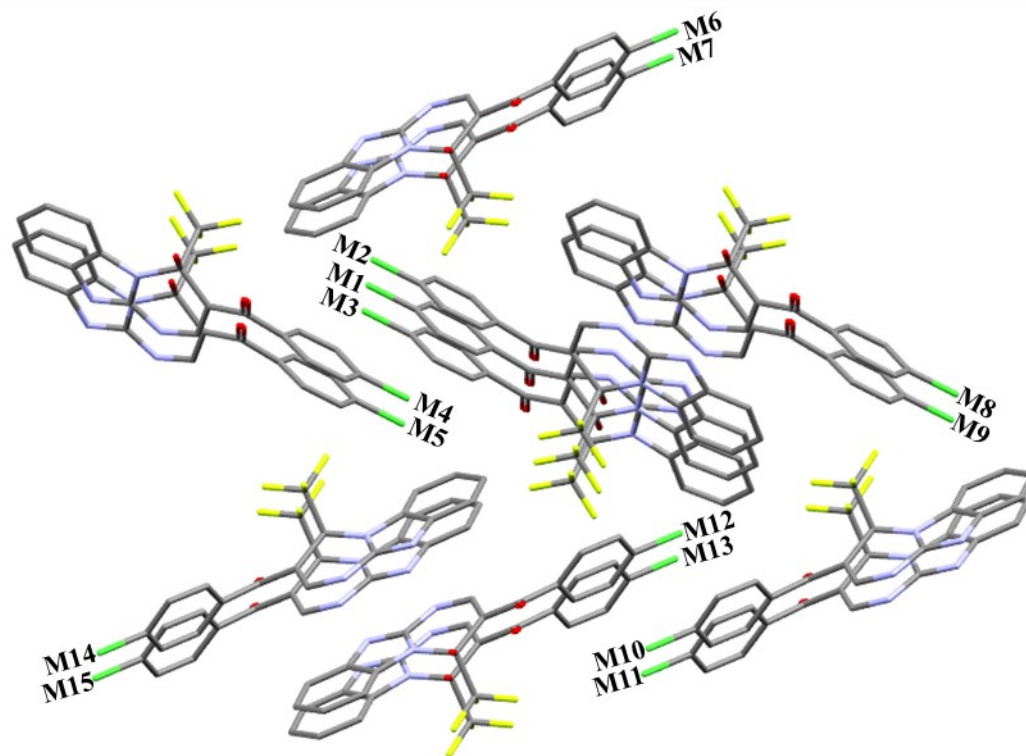
**Figure S3.** Supramolecular cluster of compound 1.



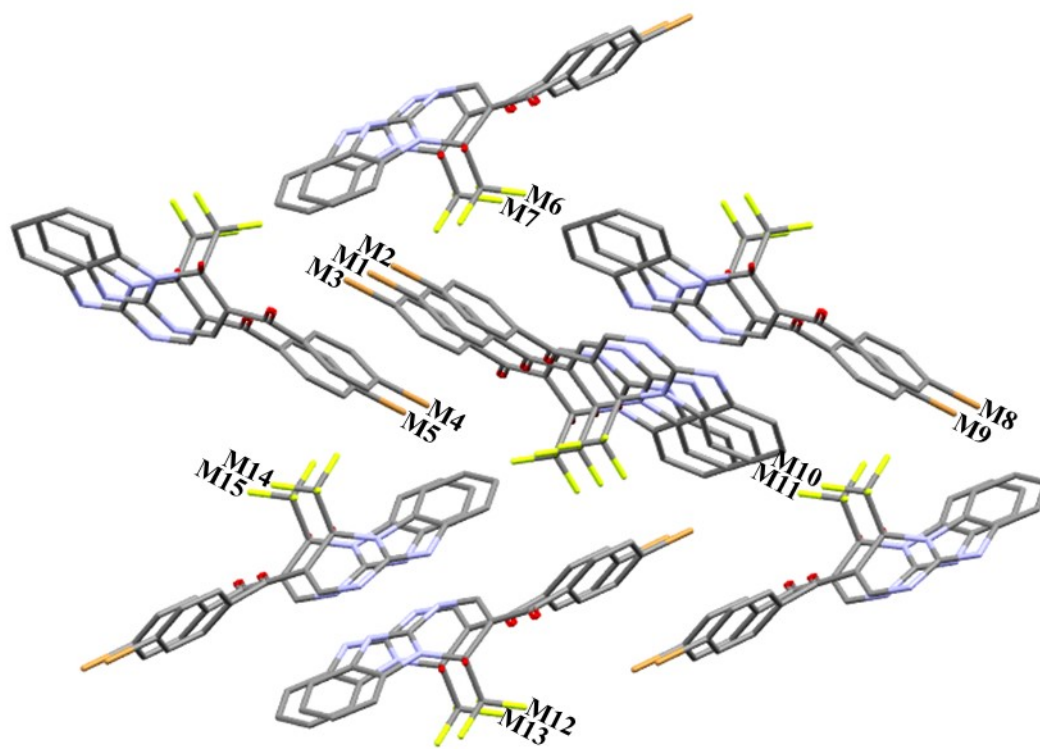
**Figure S4.** Supramolecular cluster of compound 2.



**Figure S5.** Supramolecular cluster of compound 3.



**Figure S6.** Supramolecular cluster of compound 4.



**Figure S7.** Supramolecular cluster of compound 5.

**Table S2.** Symmetry codes for the molecules of the supramolecular cluster of compounds **1-3**.

MN	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
M1	x,y,z	x,y,z	x,y,z
M2	1+x,y,z	1+x,y,z	1+x,y,z
M3	-1+x,y,z	-1+x,y,z	-1+x,y,z
M4	1/2+x,1.5-y,1/2+z	1/2+x,1/2-y,1/2+z	1/2+x,1.5-y,1/2+z
M5	-1/2+x,1.5-y,1/2+z	-1/2+x,1/2-y,1/2+z	-1/2+x,1.5-y,1/2+z
M6	1.5-x,1/2+y,1.5-z	2-x,1-y,2-z	5-x,2-y,3-z
M7	1/2-x,1/2+y,1.5-z	1-x,1-y,2-z	4-x,2-y,3-z
M8	1-x,2-y,1-z	1.5-x,1/2+y,1.5-z	4.5-x,1/2+y,2.5-z
M9	-x,2-y,1-z	1/2-x,1/2+y,1.5-z	3.5-x,1/2+y,2.5-z
M10	1/2+x,1.5-y,-1/2+z	2-x,1-y,1-z	5-x,2-y,2-z
M11	-1/2+x,1.5-y,-1/2+z	1-x,1-y,1-z	4-x,2-y,2-z
M12	2-x,1-y,1-z	1/2+x,1/2-y,-1/2+z	1/2+x,1.5-y,-1/2+z
M13	1-x,1-y,1-z	-1/2+x,1/2-y,-1/2+z	-1/2+x,1.5-y,-1/2+z
M14	1.5-x,-1/2+y,1.5-z	1.5-x,-1/2+y,1.5-z	4.5-x,-1/2+y,2.5-z
M15	1/2-x,-1/2+y,1.5-z	1/2-x,-1/2+y,1.5-z	3.5-x,-1/2+y,2.5-z

**Table S3.** Symmetry codes for the molecules of the supramolecular cluster of compounds **4 and 5**.

MN	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
M1	x,y,z	x,y,z
M2	1+x,y,z	1+x,y,z
M3	-1+x,y,z	-1+x,y,z
M4	2-x,1-y,2-z	1-x,-y,1-z
M5	1-x,1-y,2-z	-x,-y,1-z
M6	1.5-x,1/2+y,1.5-z	1/2-x,1/2+y,1/2-z
M7	1/2-x,1/2+y,1.5-z	-1/2-x,1/2+y,1/2-z
M8	2-x,1-y,1-z	1-x,-y,-z
M9	1-x,1-y,1-z	-x,-y,-z
M10	1/2+x,1/2-y,-1/2+z	1/2+x,-1/2-y,-1/2+z
M11	-1/2+x,1/2-y,-1/2+z	-1/2+x,-1/2-y,-1/2+z
M12	1.5-x,-1/2+y,1.5-z	1/2-x,-1/2+y,1/2-z
M13	1/2-x,-1/2+y,1.5-z	-1/2-x,-1/2+y,1/2-z
M14	1/2+x,1/2-y,1/2+z	1/2+x,-1/2-y,1/2+z
M15	-1/2+x,1/2-y,1/2+z	-1/2+x,-1/2-y,1/2+z

**Table S4.** Contact area ( $C_{M1...MN}$ ) and stabilization energy ( $G_{M1...MN}$ ) data from the dimers of the supramolecular cluster for compounds **1-3**.

Dimer	<b>1</b>		<b>2</b>		<b>3</b>	
	$C_{M1...MN}$	$G_{M1...MN}^a$	$C_{M1...MN}$	$G_{M1...MN}^a$	$C_{M1...MN}$	$G_{M1...MN}^a$
M1...M2	49.60	-7,01	42.82	-6.82	39.81	-6.93
M1...M3	49.60	-7,01	42.82	-6.82	39.81	-6.93
M1...M4	11.41	-1,64	20.45	-2.25	21.90	-2.87
M1...M5	3.97	-1,44	14.04	-1.34	12.23	-1.44
M1...M6	36.70	-6,30	16.98	-1.28	20.55	-2.14
M1...M7	37.14	-4,75	31.77	-7.53	35.75	-9.01
M1...M8	16.43	-0,45	28.54	-5.16	31.59	-5.88
M1...M9	1.04	-0,10	24.83	-2.74	25.51	-3.41
M1...M10	3.97	-1,44	24.63	-17.54	24.42	-17.89
M1...M11	11.41	-1,64	68.01	-20.15	68.30	-20.02
M1...M12	23.57	-1,69	14.04	-1.34	12.23	-1.44
M1...M13	73.08	-2,18	20.45	-2.25	21.90	-2.87
M1...M14	36.70	-6,30	28.54	-5.16	31.59	-5.88
M1...M15	37.14	-4,75	24.83	-2.74	25.51	-3.41
Total	391.76	-80,73	402.75	-83.13	411.10	-90.13

<sup>a</sup> Obtained through the equation  $G_{M1...MN} = G_{M1+MN} - (G_{M1} + G_{MN})$ .

**Table S5.** Contact area ( $C_{M1...MN}$ ) and stabilization energy ( $G_{M1...MN}$ ) data from the dimers of the supramolecular cluster for compounds **4** and **5**.

Dimer	<b>4</b>		<b>5</b>	
	$C_{M1...MN}$	$G_{M1...MN}^a$	$C_{M1...MN}$	$G_{M1...MN}^a$
M1...M2	46.65	-7.46	47.35	-7.99
M1...M3	46.65	-7.46	47.35	-7.99
M1...M4	15.59	-2.12	15.73	-2.62
M1...M5	27.61	-5.02	28.45	-6.31
M1...M6	22.91	-3.26	22.11	-3.85
M1...M7	24.53	-3.04	25.19	-3.27
M1...M8	25.73	-17.44	25.42	-17.78
M1...M9	65.92	-19.47	66.26	-19.78
M1...M10	14.22	-1.47	13.82	-1.38
M1...M11	22.54	-2.12	22.10	-1.96
M1...M12	22.91	-3.26	22.11	-3.85
M1...M13	24.53	-3.04	25.19	-3.27
M1...M14	22.54	-2.12	22.10	-1.96
M1...M15	14.22	-1.47	13.82	-1.38
Total	396.55	-78.75	397.00	-83.38

<sup>a</sup> Obtained through the equation  $G_{M1...MN} = G_{M1+MN} - (G_{M1} + G_{MN})$ .

**Table S6.** Normalized contact area ( $NC_{M1...MN}$ ) and stabilization energy ( $NG_{M1...MN}$ ) data from the dimers of the supramolecular cluster for compounds **1-3**.

Dimer	<b>1</b>		<b>2</b>		<b>3</b>	
	$NC_{M1...MN}^a$	$NG_{M1...MN}^b$	$NC_{M1...MN}^a$	$NG_{M1...MN}^b$	$NC_{M1...MN}^a$	$NG_{M1...MN}^b$
M1...M2	1.77	1.22	1.49	1.15	1.36	1.08
M1...M3	1.77	1.22	1.49	1.15	1.36	1.08
M1...M4	0.41	0.29	0.71	0.38	0.75	0.45
M1...M5	0.14	0.25	0.49	0.23	0.42	0.22
M1...M6	1.31	1.09	0.59	0.22	0.70	0.33
M1...M7	1.33	0.82	1.10	1.27	1.22	1.40
M1...M8	0.59	0.08	0.99	0.87	1.08	0.91
M1...M9	0.04	0.02	0.86	0.46	0.87	0.53
M1...M10	0.14	0.25	0.86	2.95	0.83	2.78
M1...M11	0.41	0.29	2.36	3.39	2.33	3.11
M1...M12	0.84	3.07	0.49	0.23	0.42	0.22
M1...M13	2.61	3.50	0.71	0.38	0.75	0.45
M1...M14	1.31	1.09	0.99	0.87	1.08	0.91
M1...M15	1.33	0.82	0.86	0.46	0.87	0.53
Total	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00

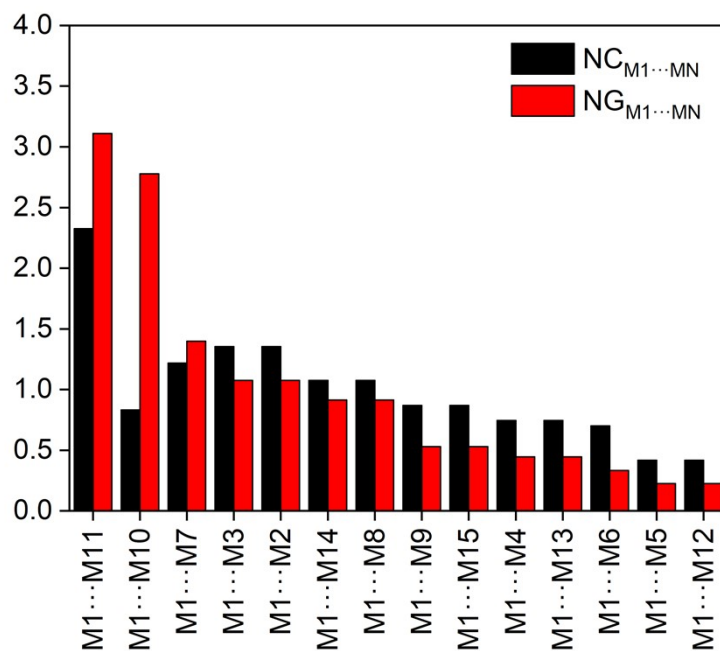
<sup>a</sup> Obtained through the equation  $NC_{M1...MN} = (C_{M1...MN} / \sum C_{M1...MN}) \times N$ ; <sup>b</sup> Obtained through the equation  $NG_{M1...MN} = (G_{M1...MN} / \sum G_{M1...MN}) \times N$ .

**Table S7.** Normalized contact area ( $NC_{M1...MN}$ ) and stabilization energy ( $NG_{M1...MN}$ ) data from the dimers of the supramolecular cluster for compounds **4 and 5**.

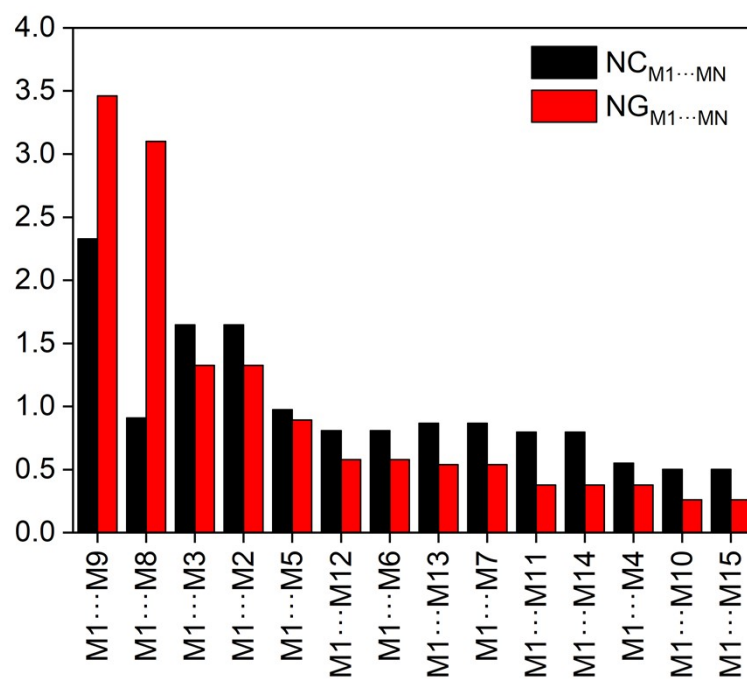
Dimer	<b>4</b>		<b>5</b>	
	$NC_{M1...MN}^a$	$NG_{M1...MN}^b$	$NC_{M1...MN}^a$	$NG_{M1...MN}^b$
M1...M2	1.65	1.33	1.67	1.34
M1...M3	1.65	1.33	1.67	1.34
M1...M4	0.55	0.38	0.55	0.44
M1...M5	0.97	0.89	1.00	1.06
M1...M6	0.81	0.58	0.78	0.65
M1...M7	0.87	0.54	0.89	0.55
M1...M8	0.91	3.10	0.90	2.99
M1...M9	2.33	3.46	2.34	3.32
M1...M10	0.50	0.26	0.49	0.23
M1...M11	0.80	0.38	0.78	0.33
M1...M12	0.81	0.58	0.78	0.65
M1...M13	0.87	0.54	0.89	0.55
M1...M14	0.80	0.38	0.78	0.33
M1...M15	0.50	0.26	0.49	0.23
Total	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00

<sup>a</sup> Obtained through the equation  $NC_{M1...MN} = (C_{M1...MN} / \sum C_{M1...MN}) \times N$ ; <sup>b</sup> Obtained through the equation  $NG_{M1...MN} = (G_{M1...MN} / \sum G_{M1...MN}) \times N$ .

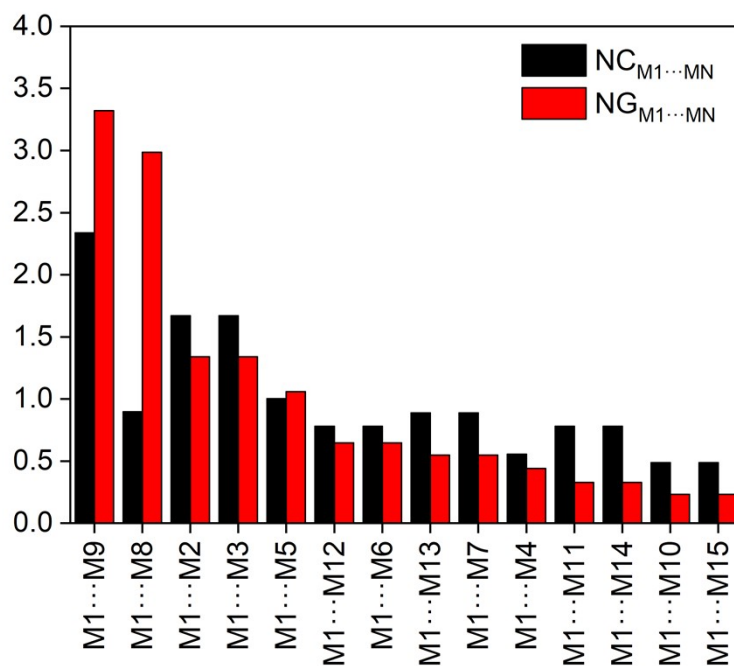




**Figure S8.** Normalized contact area and stabilization energy data ( $NC_{M1...MN}$  and  $NG_{M1...MN}$ ) for compound 3.



**Figure S9.** Normalized contact area and stabilization energy data ( $NC_{M1...MN}$  and  $NG_{M1...MN}$ ) for compound 4.

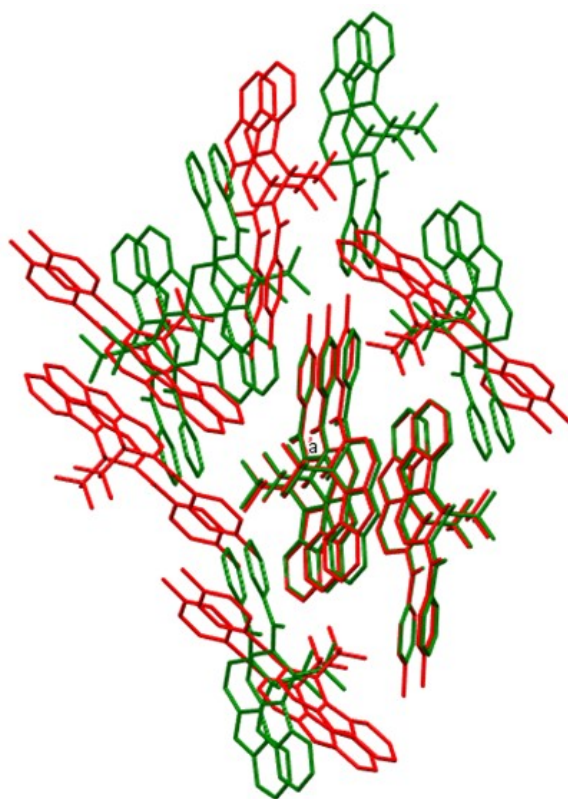


**Figure S10.** Normalized contact area and stabilization energy data ( $NC_{M1...MN}$  and  $NG_{M1...MN}$ ) for compound **5**.

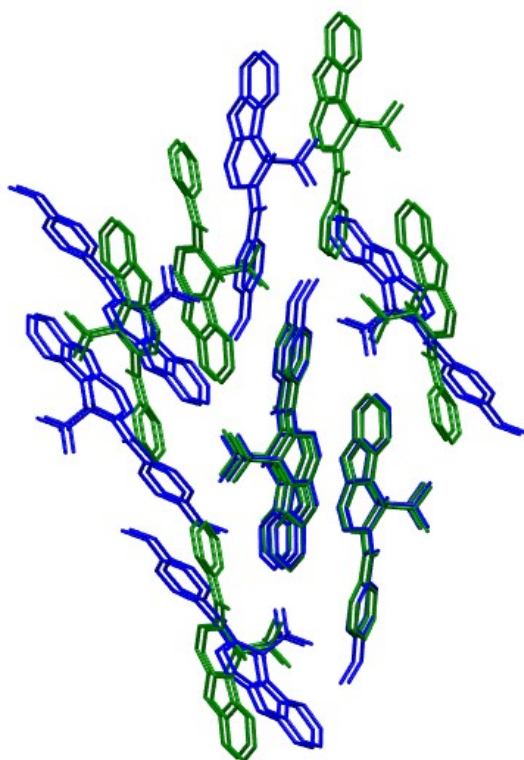
### 3. Similarity Indices

**Table S8.** Similarity indices data ( $I^D$ ,  $I^C$ ,  $I^G$ , and  $I^{DCG}$ ) for all comparisons between compound **1-5**.

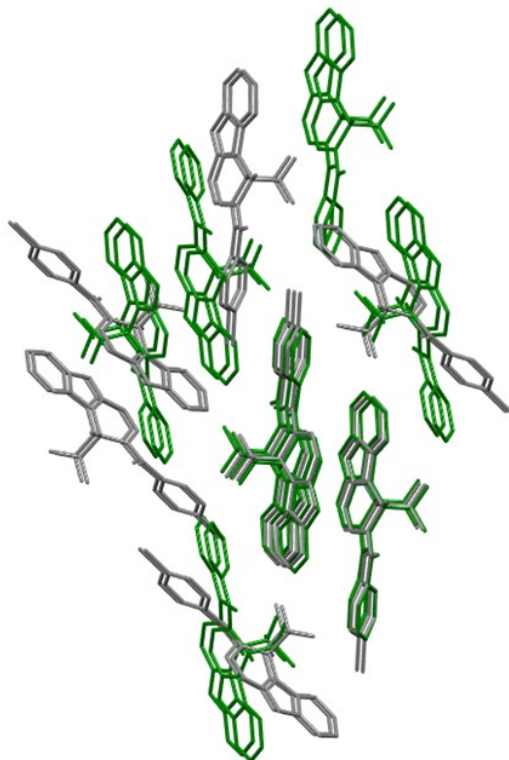
Comparison	$I^D$	$I^C$	$I^G$	$I^{DCG}$
<b>1 vs 2</b>	0.54	0.59	0.57	0.57
<b>1 vs 3</b>	0.53	0.58	0.58	0.56
<b>1 vs 4</b>	0.54	0.59	0.63	0.58
<b>1 vs 5</b>	0.54	0.60	0.63	0.59
<b>2 vs 3</b>	0.86	0.92	0.93	0.90
<b>2 vs 4</b>	0.98	0.90	0.83	0.89
<b>2 vs 5</b>	0.98	0.89	0.86	0.90
<b>3 vs 4</b>	0.85	0.83	0.76	0.81
<b>3 vs 5</b>	0.92	0.82	0.82	0.85
<b>4 vs 5</b>	0.99	0.95	0.92	0.94



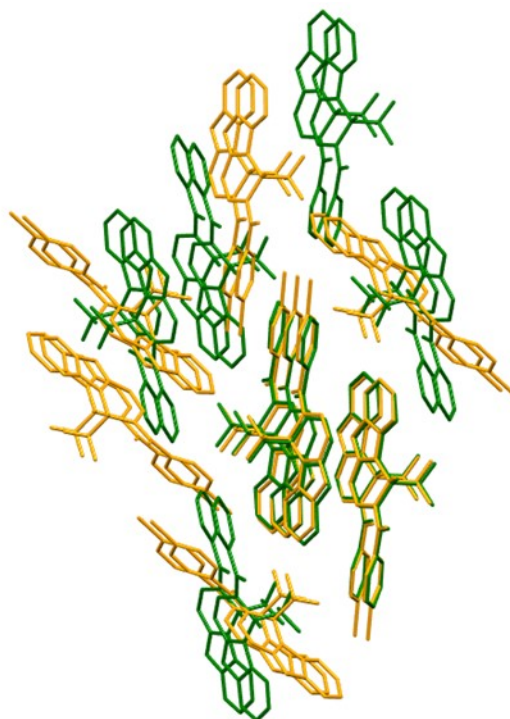
**Figure S11.** Supramolecular cluster overlay of **1** (green) vs. **2** (red).



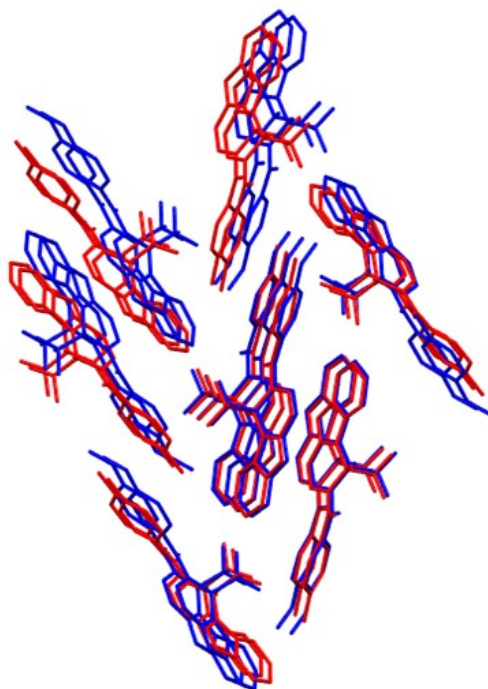
**Figure S12.** Supramolecular cluster overlay of **1** (green) vs. **3** (blue).



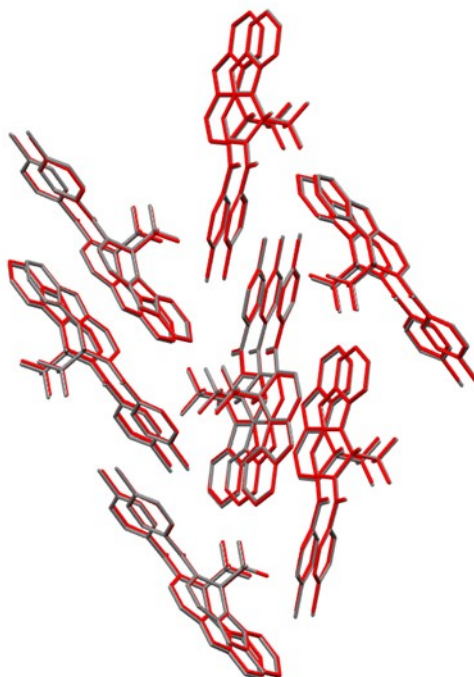
**Figure S13.** Supramolecular cluster overlay of **1** (green) vs. **4** (grey).



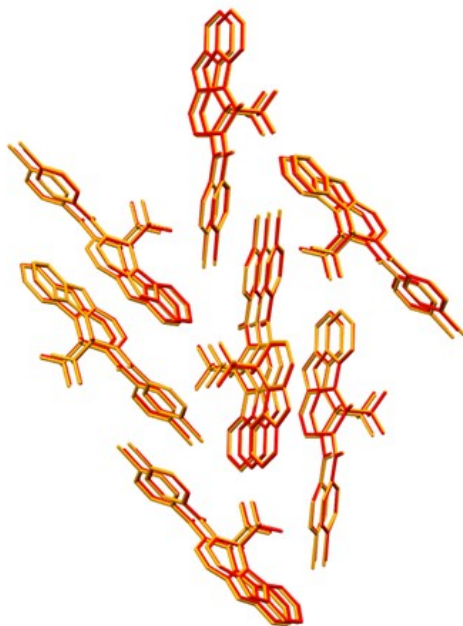
**Figure S14.** Supramolecular cluster overlay of **1** (green) vs. **5** (orange).



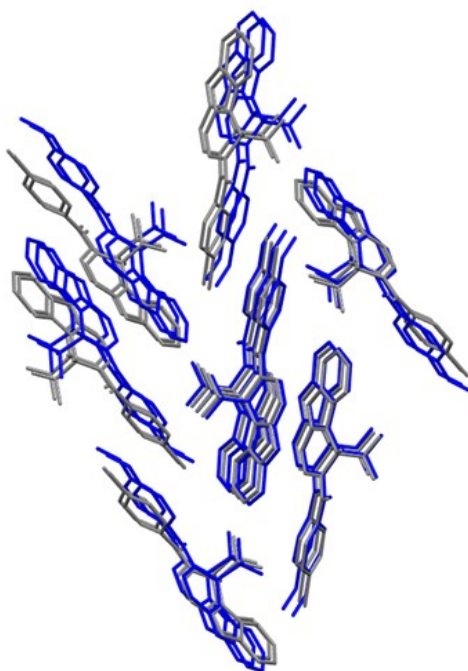
**Figure S15.** Supramolecular cluster overlay of **2** (red) vs. **3** (blue).



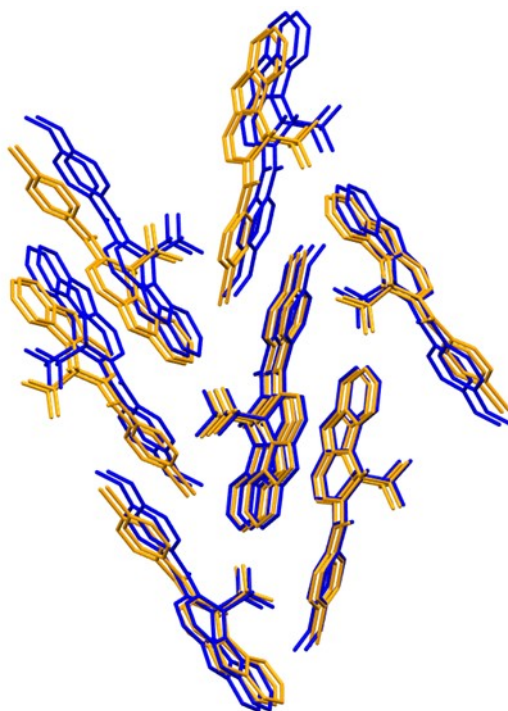
**Figure S16.** Supramolecular cluster overlay of **2** (red) vs. **4** (grey).



**Figure S17.** Supramolecular cluster overlay of **2** (red) vs. **5** (orange).



**Figure S18.** Supramolecular cluster overlay of **3** (blue) vs. **4** (grey).



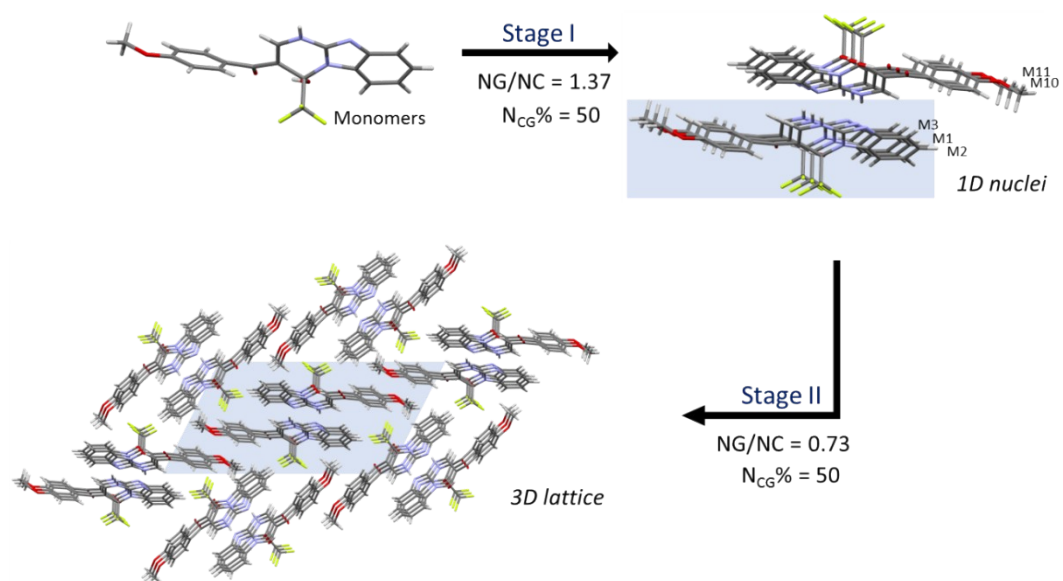
**Figure S19.** Supramolecular cluster overlay of **3** (blue) vs. **5** (yellow).



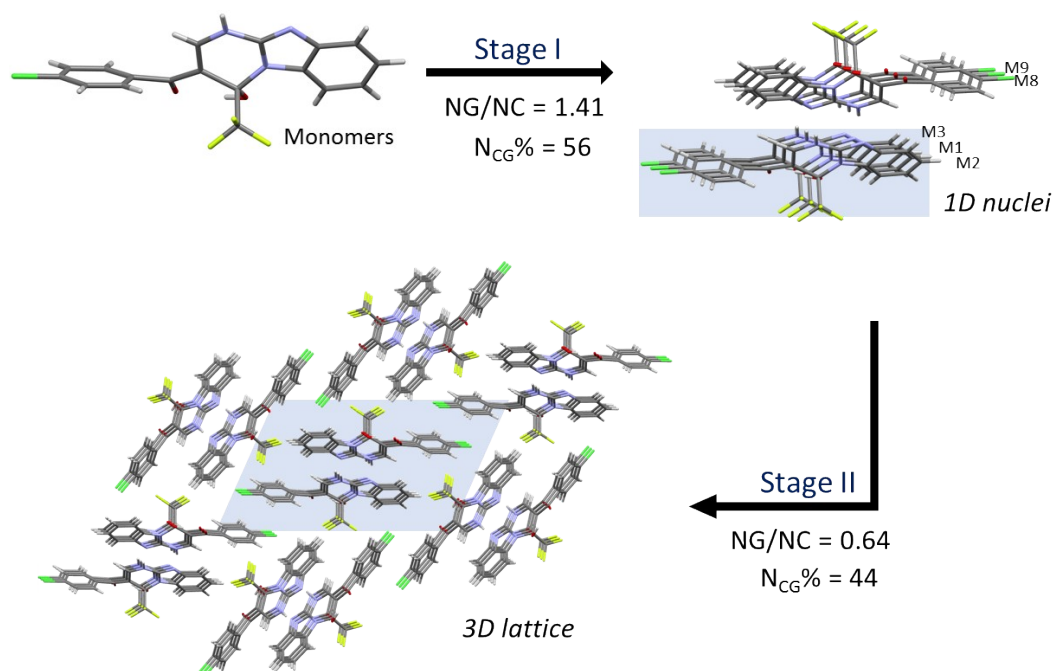
**Figure S20.** Supramolecular cluster overlay of **4** (grey) vs. **5** (yellow).



#### 4. Crystallization mechanism proposals

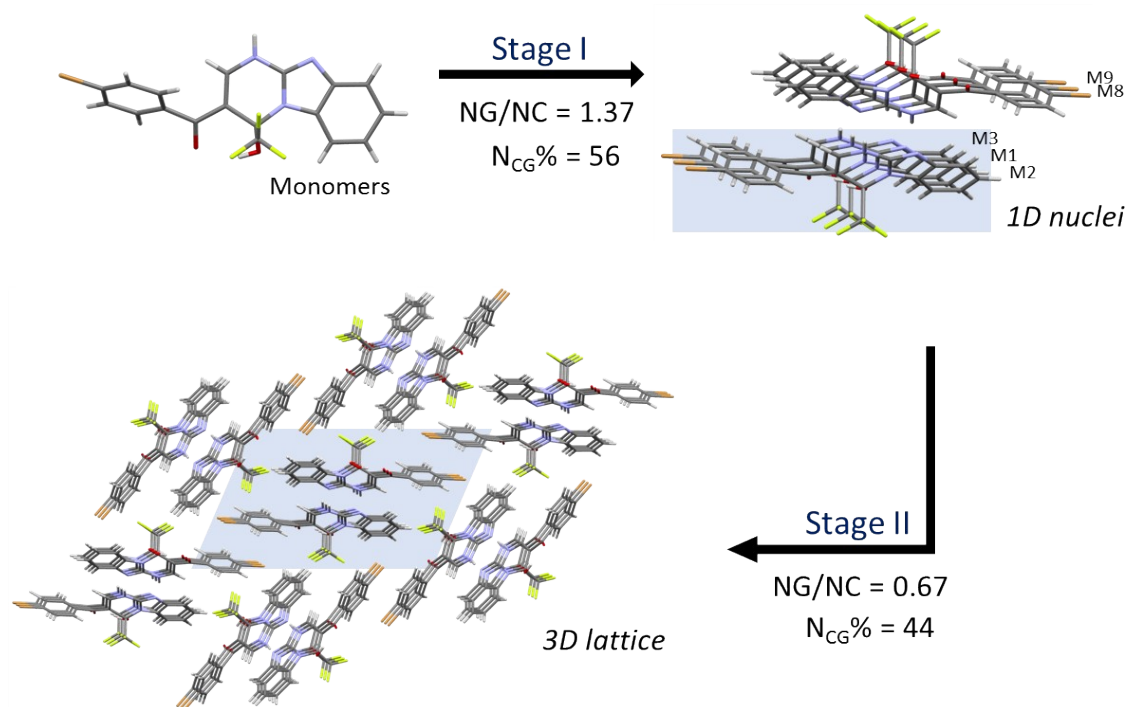


**Figure S21.** The proposed crystallization mechanism for compound 3.



**Figure S22.** The proposed crystallization mechanism for compound 4.





**Figure S23.** The proposed crystallization mechanism for compound 5.

## 5. QTAIM data

**Table S9.** The QTAIM data of dimers M1...M12 and M1...M13 from the supramolecular cluster of compound 1.

Dimer	Interaction	Atoms	$\rho_{\text{BCP}}$	$\nabla^2\rho$	$\varepsilon$	K	V	G	BPL	$G_{\text{AI}}^{\text{a}}$
M1...M13	$\pi\cdots\pi$	C10...C1	0.0063000	0.0162500	0.6179420	-0.0006430	-0.0027760	0.0034190	7.0427900	-3.58
	$\pi\cdots\pi$	C10...C1	0.0063000	0.0162500	0.6179420	-0.0006430	-0.0027760	0.0034190	7.0427900	-3.58
	$\pi\cdots\pi$	N13...C5	0.0050360	0.0149300	483.4944770	-0.0005670	-0.0025990	0.0031660	6.9665090	-2.86
	$\pi\cdots\pi$	N13...C5	0.0050360	0.0149300	483.2179390	-0.0005670	-0.0025990	0.0031660	6.9665070	-2.86
	O...N	O3...N11	0.0029800	0.0120880	0.7384650	-0.0006060	-0.0018100	0.0024160	6.7725000	-1.69
	O...N	O3...N11	0.0029800	0.0120880	0.7384650	-0.0006060	-0.0018100	0.0024160	6.7725000	-1.69
	$\pi\cdots\pi$	N4...C12	0.0034350	0.0120160	0.7663740	-0.0005250	-0.0019540	0.0024790	6.7636720	-1.95
	$\pi\cdots\pi$	N4...C12	0.0034350	0.0120160	0.7663740	-0.0005250	-0.0019540	0.0024790	6.7636720	-1.95
M1...M12	N-H...N	N13H13...N11	0.02757400	0.09255800	0.07656100	-0.00228300	-0.01857300	0.02085600	3.88554100	-8.85
	N-H...N	N13H13...N11	0.02757400	0.09255800	0.07656100	-0.00228300	-0.01857300	0.02085600	3.88554200	-8.85

<sup>a</sup> Obtained by the equation  $G_{\text{AI}(X\cdots Y)} = (\rho_{\text{BCP}}/\Sigma\rho_{\text{BCP}}) \times G_{\text{M1}\cdots\text{MN}}$ .

## 6. Abbreviation List

**Table S9.** Abbreviations used for supramolecular cluster and similarity indices calculations.

Abbreviation	Definition
SC	Supramolecular Cluster
M1	Reference molecule of the Supramolecular Cluster
MN	Molecule that composes the Supramolecular Cluster
M1⋯MN	Dimer formed between the M1 and MN molecules
G	Stabilization Energy
C	Contact Area
G <sub>M1</sub>	Stabilization Energy of the M1 molecule
G <sub>MN</sub>	Stabilization Energy of the MN molecule
G <sub>M1+MN</sub>	Total stabilization energy value of the considered dimer
G <sub>M1⋯MN</sub>	Intermolecular stabilization energy value of the considered dimer
C <sub>M1⋯MN</sub>	Contact area value of the considered dimer
N	Molecular Coordination Number
I <sup>X</sup>	Similarity Index
I <sup>D</sup>	Geometric Similarity Index
I <sup>C</sup>	Contact Area Similarity Index
I <sup>G</sup>	Stabilization Energy Similarity Index
I <sup>mp</sup>	Multiparameter Similarity Index
I <sup>DCG</sup>	Multiparameter Similarity Index considering Geometric, Contact Area, and Stabilization Energy Parameters
ND <sub>i</sub>	Normalized geometric data
i	Value used to normalize the geometric parameter ( $i = m \times N$ )
m	Number of atom-atom distances between the monomers of the considered dimer
NG	Normalized Stabilization Energy data
NC	Normalized Contact Area data
NG <sub>predict</sub>	Predicted Normalized Stabilization Energy data
NC <sub>predict</sub>	Predicted Normalized Contact Area data
N <sub>CG</sub> %	Contribution of the considered crystallization mechanism stage in relation to the total crystallization process in terms of stabilization energy and contact area
NG/NC	Parameter that drives the considered crystallization mechanism stage