

Improved alignment of PEDOT:PSS induced by *in-situ* crystallization of “green” dimethylsulfone molecules to enhance the polymer thermoelectric performance

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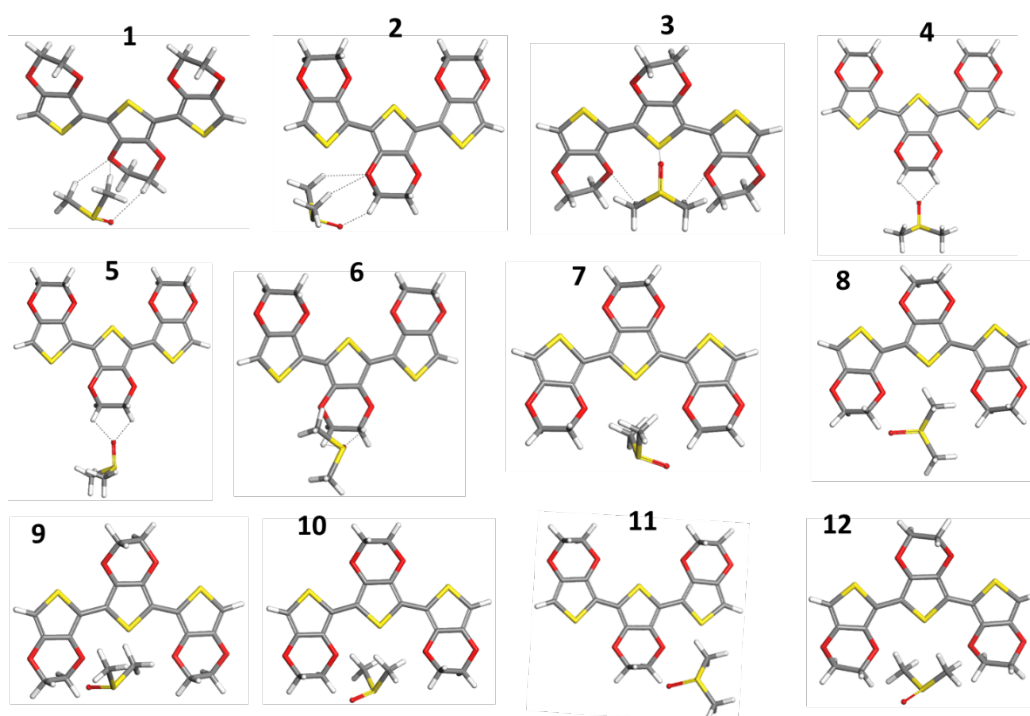


Fig. S1 PEDOT-DMSO initial structures for DFT calculations.

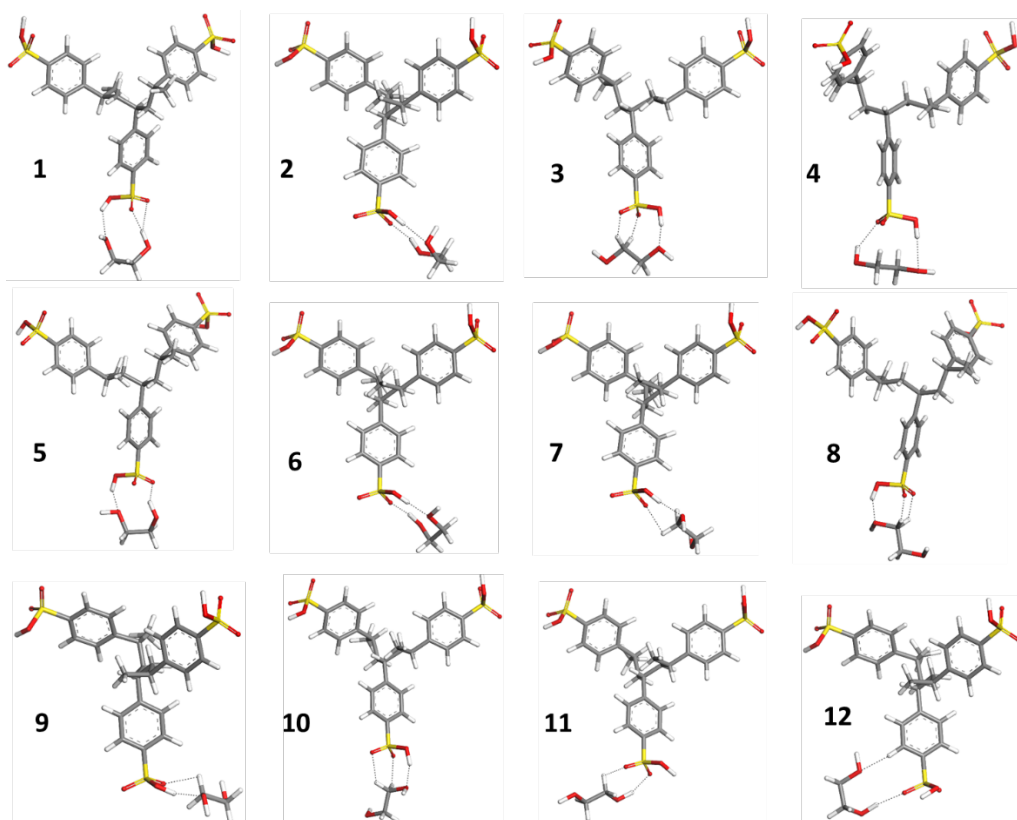


Fig. S2 PSSH-EG initial structures for DFT calculations.

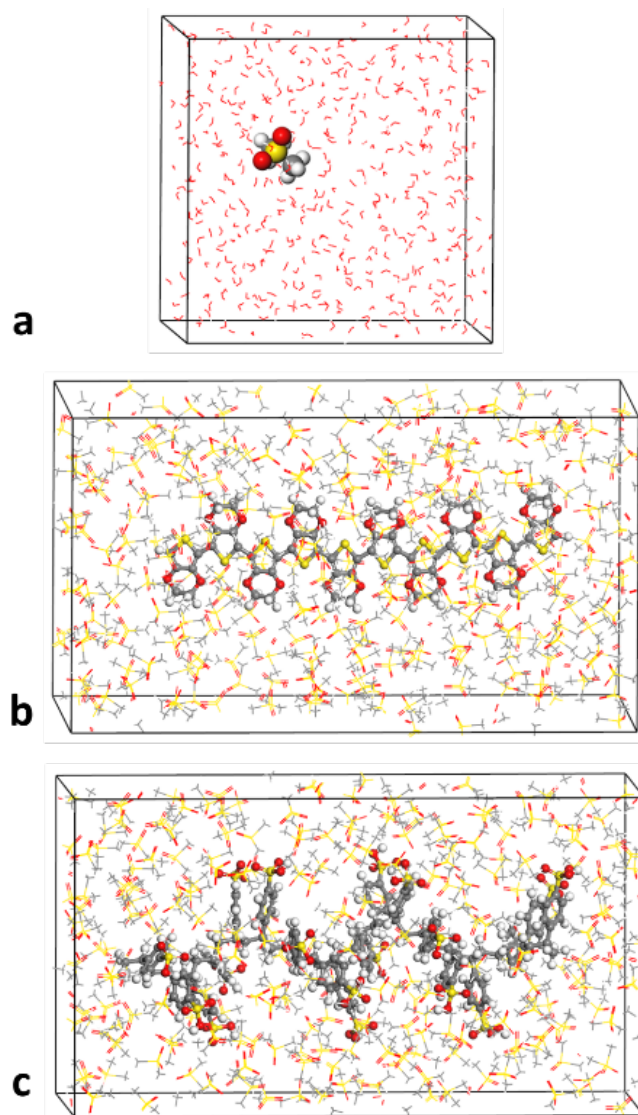


Fig. S3 Three periodic cells constructed to calculate free energy of solvation. A) DMSO₂ in water, b) EDOT₉ in DMSO₂ and c) SS₁₈ in DMSO₂.

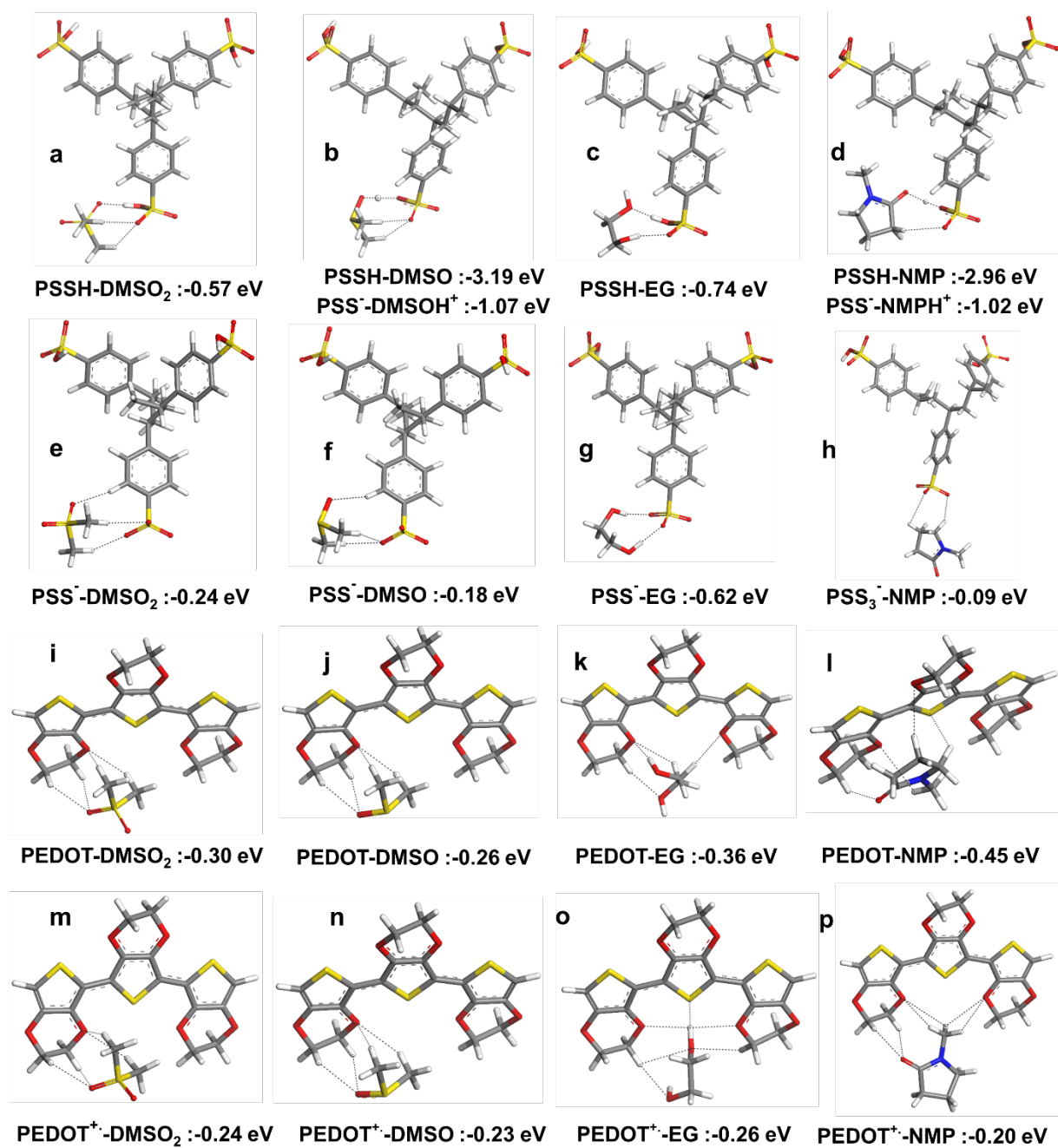


Fig. S4 Optimized lowest energy structures and interaction energies *in water solvation* for a-d) PSSH trimer with DMSO₂, DMSO, EG and NMP e-h) PSS⁻ trimer with DMSO₂, DMSO, EG and NMP, i-l) PEDOT trimer with DMSO₂, DMSO, EG and NMP, m-p) PEDOT⁺ trimer with DMSO, DMSO₂, EG and NMP.

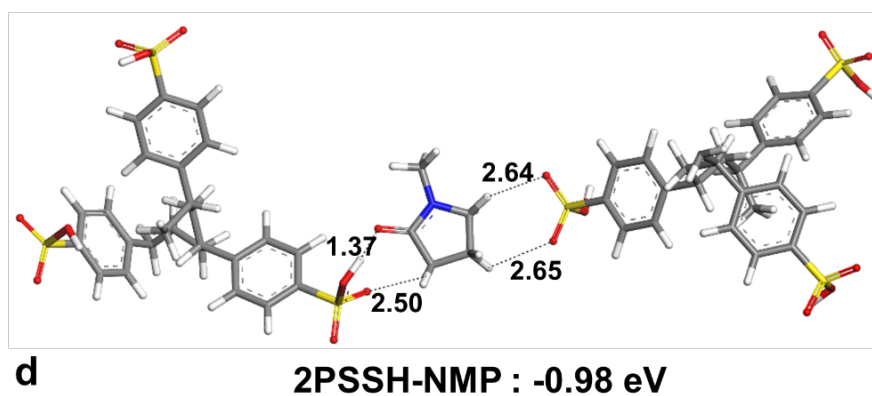
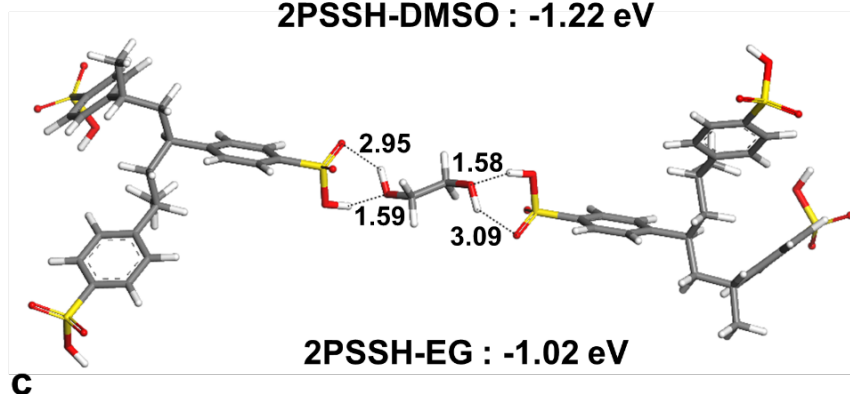
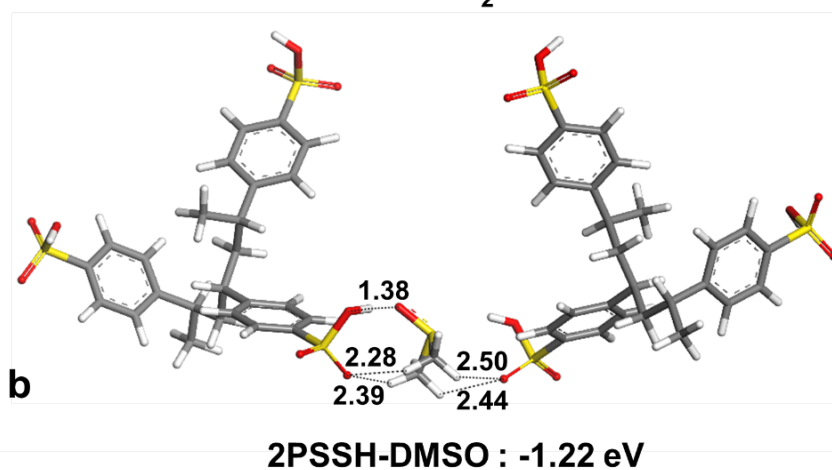
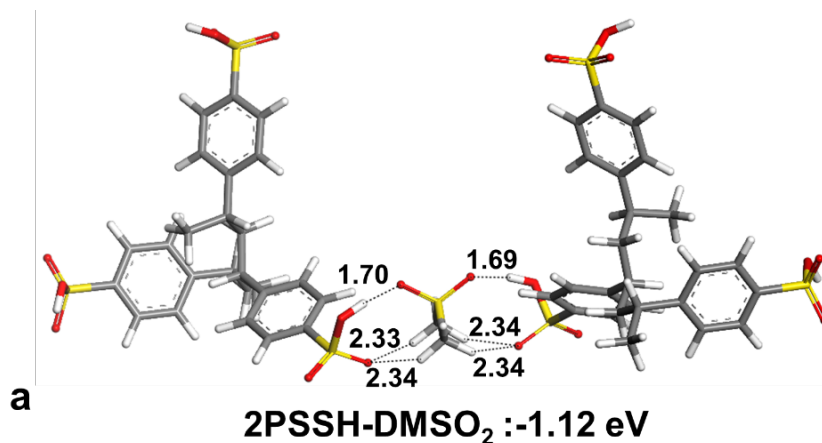


Fig. S5 Optimized lowest energy structures and interaction energies *in water solvation effect* for a) two PSSH trimers with DMSO₂, b) two PSSH trimers with DMSO, b) two PSSH trimers with EG, b) two PSSH trimers with NMP. Interaction energies calculated with water solvation effect are given in parenthesis.

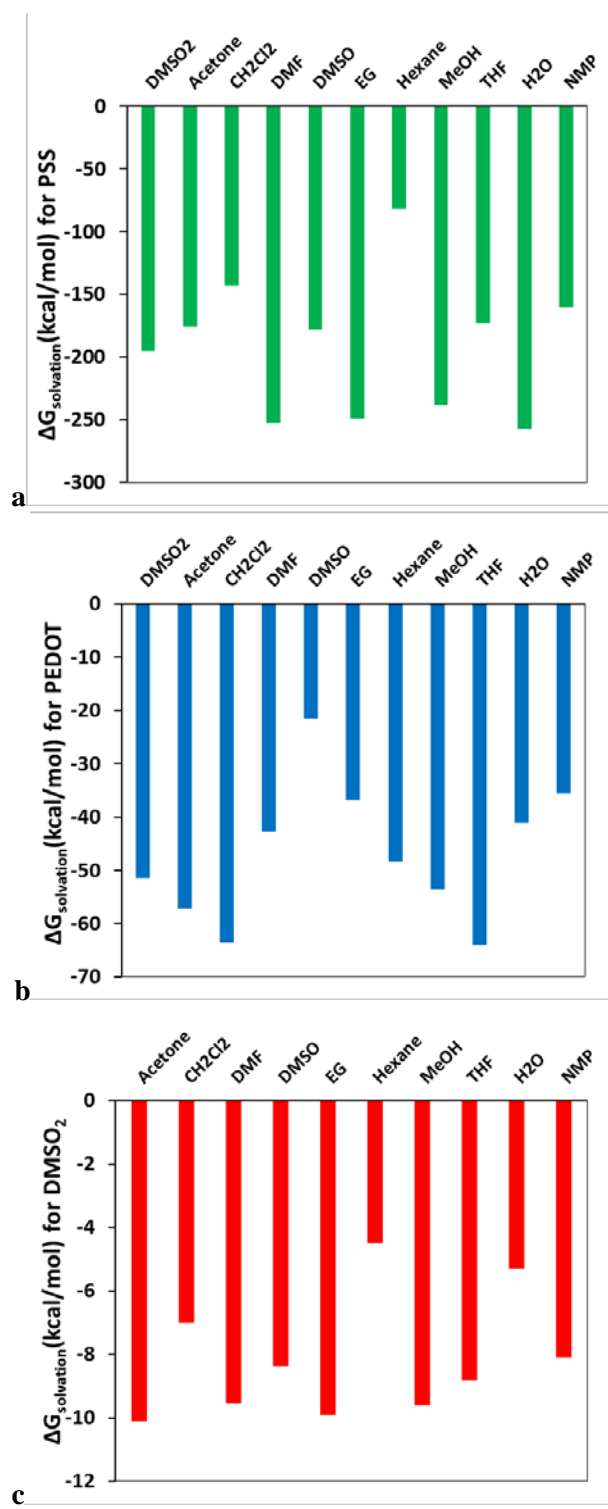


Fig. S6 Free energy of solvation (ΔG_{sol}) for a) SS_{18}^{-3} b) EDOT_9^{+3} c) DMSO_2 in different solvents.

Table S1. Comparison of this work with some reported thermoelectric properties of PEDOT films treated with different chemicals.

| Reference | Process | σ (S/cm) | S ($\mu\text{V}/\text{K}$) | PF ($\mu\text{W}/\text{mK}^2$) | κ (W/mK) | ZT |
|-----------|---|--------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|------|
| This work | PEDOT:PSS treated with DMSO ₂ | 1080 | 17.1 | 32 | 0.54 | 0.02 |
| 1 | PEDOT:PSS treated with DMSO, then DMSO and hydrazine | 677 | 41 | 115 | 0.17 | 0.2 |
| 2 | PEDOT:PSS treated with a mixture of DMSO and hydrazine | 578 | 67 | 112 | - | |
| 3 | PEDOT:PSS treated with p-toluenesulfonic acid monohydrate, then hydrazine/DMSO solution | ~1300 | ~50 | 318 | 0.30 | 0.31 |
| 4 | Addition of DMSO in to PEDOT:PSS and then treated with poly(ethylene oxide) | 1061 | 38.4 | 157 | - | - |
| 5 | PEDOT:PSS treated with DMSO/NaBH ₄ | ~580 | ~40 | 98 | 0.45 | 0.06 |

References

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