

## Linear 3d-4f compounds: Synthesis, structure, and determination of the d-f magnetic interaction

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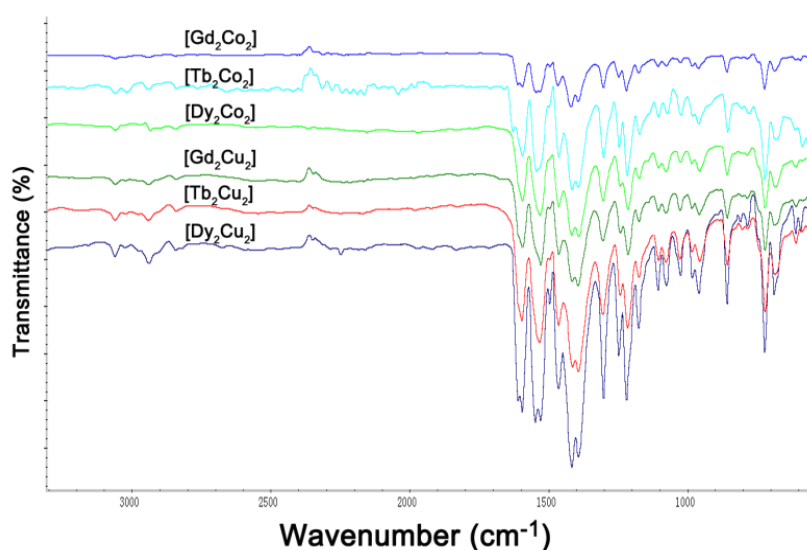


Fig. S1 IR spectra of compounds 1-3, 7-9.

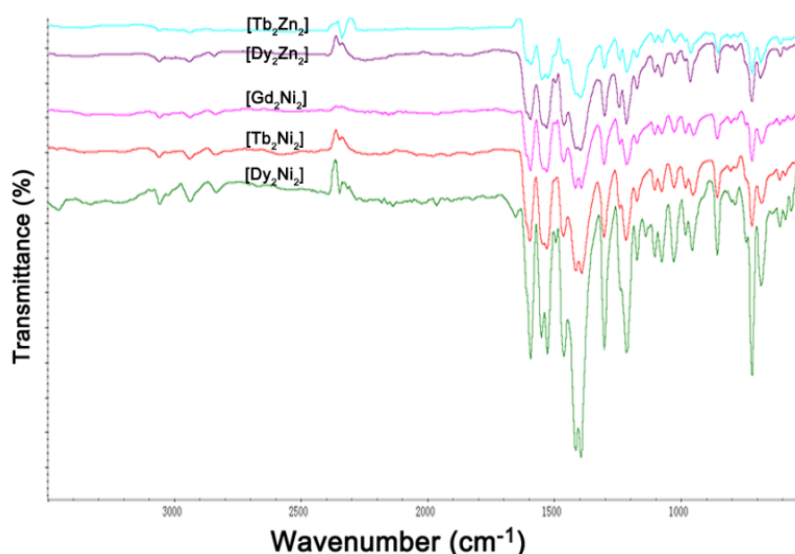


Fig. S2 IR spectra of compounds 4-6, 11 and 12.

Table S1 Elemental analysis and yield (%) for compounds **1-15**.

|           | Formula                                                                                        | Yielda % | Elemental analysis: Found (calculated) |             |             |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|           |                                                                                                |          | C                                      | H           | N           |
| <b>1</b>  | C <sub>78</sub> H <sub>74</sub> Co <sub>2</sub> Gd <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>25</sub> | 74       | 49.12 (49.27)                          | 4.21 (3.90) | 2.90 (2.95) |
| <b>2</b>  | C <sub>78</sub> H <sub>74</sub> Co <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>24</sub> Tb <sub>2</sub> | 67       | 49.43 (49.60)                          | 4.02 (3.92) | 2.85 (2.97) |
| <b>3</b>  | C <sub>78</sub> H <sub>74</sub> Co <sub>2</sub> Dy <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>24</sub> | 71       | 49.28 (49.41)                          | 3.79 (3.91) | 2.94 (2.96) |
| <b>4</b>  | C <sub>78</sub> H <sub>78</sub> Gd <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> Ni <sub>2</sub> O <sub>26</sub> | 65       | 48.92 (48.77)                          | 3.76 (4.06) | 2.93 (2.92) |
| <b>5</b>  | C <sub>78</sub> H <sub>72</sub> N <sub>4</sub> Ni <sub>2</sub> O <sub>25</sub> Tb <sub>2</sub> | 78       | 49.14 (49.25)                          | 3.89 (3.79) | 2.94 (2.95) |
| <b>6</b>  | C <sub>78</sub> H <sub>76</sub> Dy <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> Ni <sub>2</sub> O <sub>25</sub> | 69       | 48.91 (48.96)                          | 3.87 (3.96) | 2.93 (2.93) |
| <b>7</b>  | C <sub>74</sub> H <sub>66</sub> Cu <sub>2</sub> Gd <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>24</sub> | 74       | 48.34 (47.31)                          | 3.59 (3.52) | 3.05 (2.98) |
| <b>8</b>  | C <sub>74</sub> H <sub>62</sub> Cu <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>22</sub> Tb <sub>2</sub> | 72       | 48.81 (49.55)                          | 3.75 (3.69) | 3.00 (2.96) |
| <b>9</b>  | C <sub>76</sub> H <sub>70</sub> Cu <sub>2</sub> Dy <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>26</sub> | 80       | 47.19 (47.61)                          | 3.76 (3.65) | 2.90 (2.92) |
| <b>10</b> | C <sub>76</sub> H <sub>70</sub> Gd <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>24</sub> Zn <sub>2</sub> | 84       | 48.75 (48.80)                          | 3.68 (3.75) | 3.25 (3.00) |
| <b>11</b> | C <sub>76</sub> H <sub>70</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>24</sub> Tb <sub>2</sub> Zn <sub>2</sub> | 75       | 48.61 (47.62)                          | 3.68 (3.66) | 2.98 (2.92) |
| <b>12</b> | C <sub>76</sub> H <sub>70</sub> Dy <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>24</sub> Zn <sub>2</sub> | 83       | 47.78 (48.53)                          | 3.85 (3.73) | 2.98 (2.98) |
| <b>13</b> | C <sub>78</sub> H <sub>74</sub> Co <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>26</sub> Y <sub>2</sub>  | 54       | 52.33 (52.61)                          | 4.32 (4.16) | 3.02 (3.15) |
| <b>14</b> | C <sub>78</sub> H <sub>74</sub> N <sub>4</sub> Ni <sub>2</sub> O <sub>24</sub> Y <sub>2</sub>  | 62       | 53.58 (53.59)                          | 4.02 (4.24) | 3.28 (3.21) |
| <b>15</b> | C <sub>74</sub> H <sub>66</sub> Cu <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>24</sub> Y <sub>2</sub>  | 53       | 53.65 (52.22)                          | 4.13 (3.88) | 3.21 (3.29) |

Table S2 Crystallographic data for complexes **1-2, 4-5, 7-8, 10-11, 13-15**.

| compounds                                                  | <b>1</b>                                                                       | <b>2</b>                                                                       | <b>4</b>                                                                       | <b>5</b>                                                                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                            | C <sub>78</sub> H <sub>74</sub> Co <sub>2</sub> Gd <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> | C <sub>78</sub> H <sub>74</sub> Co <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>24</sub> | C <sub>78</sub> H <sub>78</sub> Gd <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> Ni <sub>2</sub> | C <sub>78</sub> H <sub>72</sub> N <sub>4</sub> Ni <sub>2</sub> O <sub>25</sub> |
| chemical formula                                           | O <sub>25</sub>                                                                | Tb <sub>2</sub>                                                                | O <sub>26</sub>                                                                | Tb <sub>2</sub>                                                                |
| FW, (g·mol <sup>-1</sup> )                                 | 1899.77                                                                        | 1887.11                                                                        | 1919.36                                                                        | 1900.65                                                                        |
| temperature (K)                                            | 293(2)                                                                         | 296(2)                                                                         | 293(2)                                                                         | 293(2)                                                                         |
| crystal system                                             | monoclinic                                                                     | monoclinic                                                                     | monoclinic                                                                     | monoclinic                                                                     |
| space group                                                | <i>C2/c</i>                                                                    | <i>C2/c</i>                                                                    | <i>C2/c</i>                                                                    | <i>C2/c</i>                                                                    |
| <i>Z</i>                                                   | 4                                                                              | 4                                                                              | 4                                                                              | 4                                                                              |
| <i>a</i> , Å                                               | 24.175(4)                                                                      | 24.168(3)                                                                      | 24.011(8)                                                                      | 24.177(7)                                                                      |
| <i>b</i> , Å                                               | 16.937(3)                                                                      | 16.9669(16)                                                                    | 16.677(6)                                                                      | 16.899(5)                                                                      |
| <i>c</i> , Å                                               | 22.730(5)                                                                      | 22.816(3)                                                                      | 22.589(10)                                                                     | 22.727(10)                                                                     |
| $\beta$ , °                                                | 121.179(3)                                                                     | 121.013(2)                                                                     | 121.27(2)                                                                      | 121.326(18)                                                                    |
| <i>V</i> , Å <sup>3</sup>                                  | 7963(3)                                                                        | 8018.3(16)                                                                     | 7731(5)                                                                        | 7932(5)                                                                        |
| $\mu$ , mm <sup>-1</sup>                                   | 0.71073                                                                        | 0.71073                                                                        | 0.71073                                                                        | 0.71073                                                                        |
| F(000)                                                     | 3808                                                                           | 3784                                                                           | 3840                                                                           | 3816                                                                           |
| $\rho_{\text{calcd}}$ , g·cm <sup>-3</sup>                 | 1.585                                                                          | 1.563                                                                          | 1.644                                                                          | 1.592                                                                          |
| $R_1^{a)}$ , $wR_2$ ( $I \geq 2 \sigma(I)$ ) <sup>b)</sup> | 0.0546, 0.1306                                                                 | 0.0541, 0.1493                                                                 | 0.0791 0.1785                                                                  | 0.0724, 0.1641                                                                 |
| $R_1$ , $wR_2$ (all data)                                  | 0.1092, 0.1597                                                                 | 0.1131, 0.1829                                                                 | 0.1964, 0.2344                                                                 | 0.1902, 0.2210                                                                 |
| GOF <sup>c)</sup>                                          | 1.01                                                                           | 1.019                                                                          | 0.988                                                                          | 0.963                                                                          |
| compounds                                                  | <b>7</b>                                                                       | <b>8</b>                                                                       | <b>10</b>                                                                      | <b>11</b>                                                                      |
|                                                            | C <sub>74</sub> H <sub>66</sub> Cu <sub>2</sub> Gd <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> | C <sub>74</sub> H <sub>62</sub> Cu <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>22</sub> | C <sub>76</sub> H <sub>70</sub> Gd <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>24</sub> | C <sub>76</sub> H <sub>70</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>24</sub> Tb <sub>2</sub> |
| chemical formula                                           | O <sub>24</sub>                                                                | Tb <sub>2</sub>                                                                | Zn <sub>2</sub>                                                                | Zn <sub>2</sub>                                                                |

|                                                            |                |                |                |                |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| FW, (g·mol <sup>-1</sup> )                                 | 1836.88        | 1804.19        | 1868.60        | 1915.13        |
| temperature (K)                                            | 296(2)         | 296(2)         | 293(2)         | 293(2)         |
| crystal system                                             | monoclinic     | monoclinic     | monoclinic     | monoclinic     |
| space group                                                | <i>C2/c</i>    | <i>C2/c</i>    | <i>C2/c</i>    | <i>C2/c</i>    |
| <i>Z</i>                                                   | 4              | 4              | 4              | 4              |
| <i>a</i> , Å                                               | 23.668(18)     | 23.8031(14)    | 23.749(3)      | 23.874(3)      |
| <i>b</i> , Å                                               | 16.575(13)     | 16.5092(10)    | 16.590(2)      | 16.890(3)      |
| <i>c</i> , Å                                               | 23.13(2)       | 23.023(2)      | 22.922(3)      | 22.915(4)      |
| $\beta$ , °                                                | 119.671(14)    | 119.9340(10)   | 120.225(12)    | 120.515(12)    |
| <i>V</i> , Å <sup>3</sup>                                  | 7885(12)       | 7840.4(9)      | 7803.4(17)     | 7960(2)        |
| $\mu$ , mm <sup>-1</sup>                                   | 0.71073        | 0.71073        | 0.71073        | 0.71073        |
| F(000)                                                     | 3632           | 3720           | 3736           | 3832           |
| $\rho_{\text{calcd}}$ , g·cm <sup>-3</sup>                 | 1.541          | 1.579          | 1.591          | 1.598          |
| $R_1^{a)}$ , $wR_2$ ( $I \geq 2 \sigma(I)$ ) <sup>b)</sup> | 0.0861, 0.2397 | 0.0524, 0.1422 | 0.0739, 0.1938 | 0.0761, 0.2067 |
| $R_1$ , $wR_2$ (all data)                                  | 0.1720, 0.3070 | 0.0847, 0.1648 | 0.1497, 0.2481 | 0.1241, 0.2494 |
| GOF <sup>c)</sup>                                          | 1.029          | 1.05           | 1.006          | 1.059          |

| compounds                                                  | <b>13</b>                                                                                     | <b>14</b>                                                                                     | <b>15</b>                                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| chemical formula                                           | C <sub>78</sub> H <sub>74</sub> Co <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>26</sub> Y <sub>2</sub> | C <sub>78</sub> H <sub>74</sub> N <sub>4</sub> Ni <sub>2</sub> O <sub>24</sub> Y <sub>2</sub> | C <sub>74</sub> H <sub>66</sub> Cu <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>24</sub> Y <sub>2</sub> |
| FW, (g·mol <sup>-1</sup> )                                 | 1779.09                                                                                       | 1746.65                                                                                       | 1700.20                                                                                       |
| temperature (K)                                            | 293(2)                                                                                        | 293(2)                                                                                        | 293(2)                                                                                        |
| crystal system                                             | monoclinic                                                                                    | monoclinic                                                                                    | monoclinic                                                                                    |
| space group                                                | <i>C2/c</i>                                                                                   | <i>C2/c</i>                                                                                   | <i>C2/c</i>                                                                                   |
| <i>Z</i>                                                   | 4                                                                                             | 4                                                                                             | 4                                                                                             |
| <i>a</i> , Å                                               | 24.133(2)                                                                                     | 24.185(3)                                                                                     | 23.530(12)                                                                                    |
| <i>b</i> , Å                                               | 17.0815(15)                                                                                   | 17.062(2)                                                                                     | 16.641(8)                                                                                     |
| <i>c</i> , Å                                               | 22.658(3)                                                                                     | 22.656(4)                                                                                     | 23.044(16)                                                                                    |
| $\beta$ , °                                                | 121.2330(10)                                                                                  | 121.363(2)                                                                                    | 119.75(3)                                                                                     |
| <i>V</i> , Å <sup>3</sup>                                  | 7986.5(14)                                                                                    | 7983(2)                                                                                       | 7834(8)                                                                                       |
| $\mu$ , mm <sup>-1</sup>                                   | 0.71073                                                                                       | 0.71073                                                                                       | 0.71073                                                                                       |
| F(000)                                                     | 3640                                                                                          | 3576                                                                                          | 3432                                                                                          |
| $\rho_{\text{calcd}}$ , g·cm <sup>-3</sup>                 | 1.480                                                                                         | 1.452                                                                                         | 1.435                                                                                         |
| $R_1^{a)}$ , $wR_2$ ( $I \geq 2 \sigma(I)$ ) <sup>b)</sup> | 0.0604, 0.1212                                                                                | 0.0640, 0.1792                                                                                | 0.0927, 0.2581                                                                                |
| $R_1$ , $wR_2$ (all data)                                  | 0.1653, 0.1553                                                                                | 0.1423, 0.2176                                                                                | 0.2230, 0.3314                                                                                |
| GOF <sup>c)</sup>                                          | 0.978                                                                                         | 0.997                                                                                         | 0.995                                                                                         |

<sup>a)</sup>  $R_1 = \sum ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \sum |F_o|$ , <sup>b)</sup>  $wR_2 = [\sum w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2 / \sum w(F_o^2)^2]^{1/2}$ , <sup>c)</sup> goodness of fit on  $F^2$

Table S3 Selected bond distances (Å), angles (°) for complexes **3**, **6**, **9** and **12**.

|                          | <b>3</b>   | <b>6</b>   | <b>9</b>   | <b>12</b>  |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| M(1) <sup>d</sup> -Dy(1) | 3.428(2)   | 3.4073(13) | 3.3988(16) | 3.420(16)  |
| M(1)-M(1')               | 3.8164(29) | 3.8249(19) | 3.8268(22) | 3.8228(20) |
| Dy(1)-O(2)               | 2.307(9)   | 2.372(6)   | 2.383(8)   | 2.326(7)   |
| Dy(1)-O(9)               | 2.339(9)   | 2.316(6)   | 2.341(7)   | 2.370(7)   |
| Dy(1)-O(4)               | 2.363(9)   | 2.663(7)   | 2.322(7)   | 2.350(8)   |
| Dy(1)-O(5)               | 2.393(10)  | 2.440(6)   | 2.451(9)   | 2.364(9)   |
| Dy(1)-O(8)               | 2.428(10)  | 2.376(7)   | 2.437(11)  | 2.449(8)   |
| Dy(1)-O(6)               | 2.432(11)  | 2.434(7)   | 2.413(8)   | 2.434(11)  |
| Dy(1)-O(7)               | 2.433(10)  | 2.426(8)   | 2.376(9)   | 2.405(9)   |
| Dy(1)-O(3)               | 2.491(11)  | 2.283(5)   | 2.690(8)   | 2.503(11)  |
| Dy(1)-O(1)               | 2.698(11)  | 2.493(7)   | 2.491(10)  | 2.676(9)   |
| M(1)-O(4)                | 2.008(9)   | 2.013(6)   | 1.971(7)   | 2.014(7)   |
| M(1)-O(2)                | 2.016(9)   | 1.992(6)   | 1.908(7)   | 2.047(7)   |
| M(1)-N(2)                | 2.029(12)  | 2.031(7)   | 1.937(8)   | 2.023(9)   |
| M(1)-N(1)                | 2.069(11)  | 2.007(6)   | 1.993(9)   | 2.078(9)   |
| M(1)-O(10)               | 2.095(9)   | 2.058(5)   | 2.235(7)   | 2.037(8)   |
| M(1)-O(11)               | 2.177(11)  | 2.148(6)   | --         | --         |
| M(1)-O(2)-Dy(1)          | 104.7(4)   | 102.3(3)   | 104.2(4)   | 102.7(3)   |
| M(1)-O(4)-Dy(1)          | 103.0(4)   | 104.8(2)   | 104.4(3)   | 102.9(3)   |

<sup>d</sup> M represents Co, Ni, Cu and Zn for **3**, **6**, **9** and **12**, respectively.

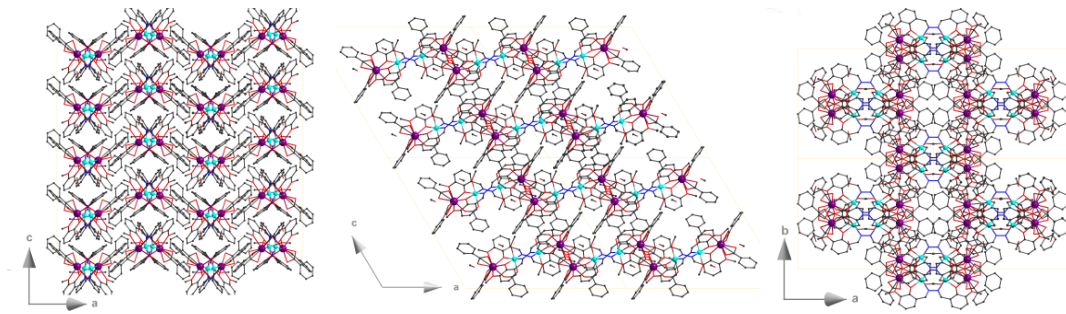


Fig. S3 Packing model of compound 3.

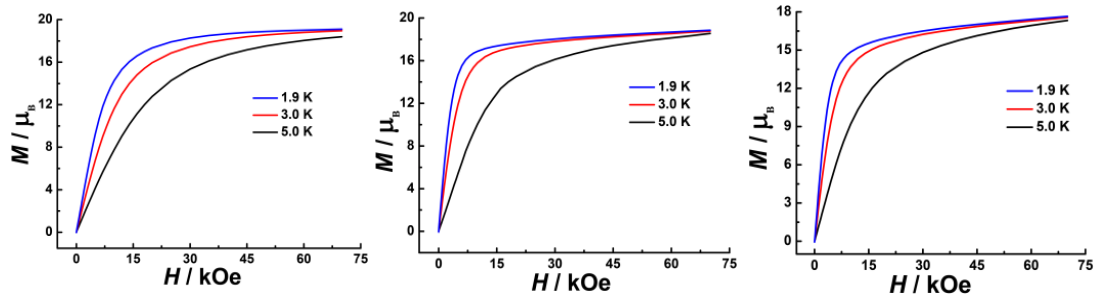


Fig. S4 Molar magnetization ( $M$ ) vs magnetic field ( $H$ ) for compounds  $[\text{Gd}_2\text{Co}_2]$  (left),  $[\text{Tb}_2\text{Co}_2]$  (middle),  $[\text{Dy}_2\text{Co}_2]$  (right) at 1.9, 3.0, and 5.0 K.

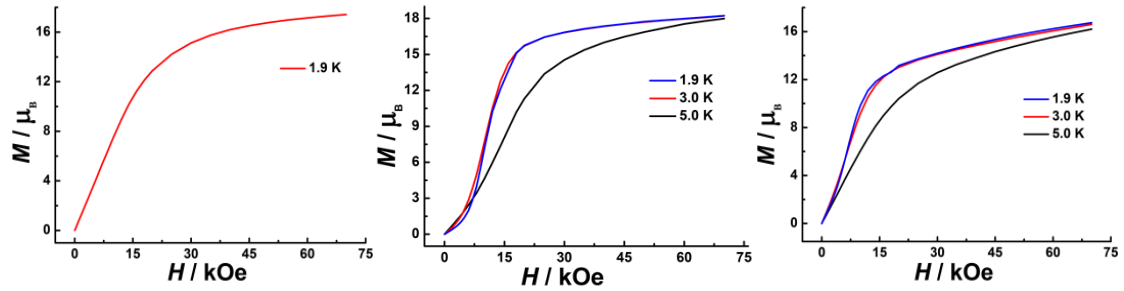


Fig. S5 Molar magnetization ( $M$ ) vs magnetic field ( $H$ ) for compounds  $[\text{Gd}_2\text{Ni}_2]$  (left),  $[\text{Tb}_2\text{Ni}_2]$  (middle),  $[\text{Dy}_2\text{Ni}_2]$  (right) at 1.9, 3.0, and 5.0 K.

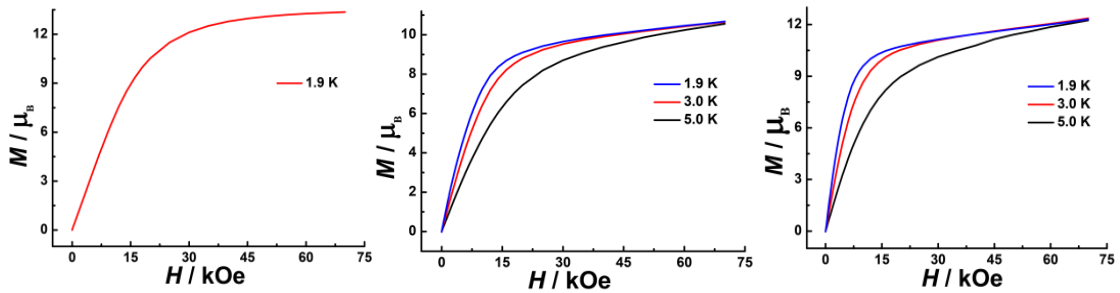


Fig. S6 Molar magnetization ( $M$ ) vs magnetic field ( $H$ ) for compounds  $[\text{Gd}_2\text{Cu}_2]$  (left),  $[\text{Tb}_2\text{Cu}_2]$  (middle),  $[\text{Dy}_2\text{Cu}_2]$  (right) at 1.9, 3.0, and 5.0 K.

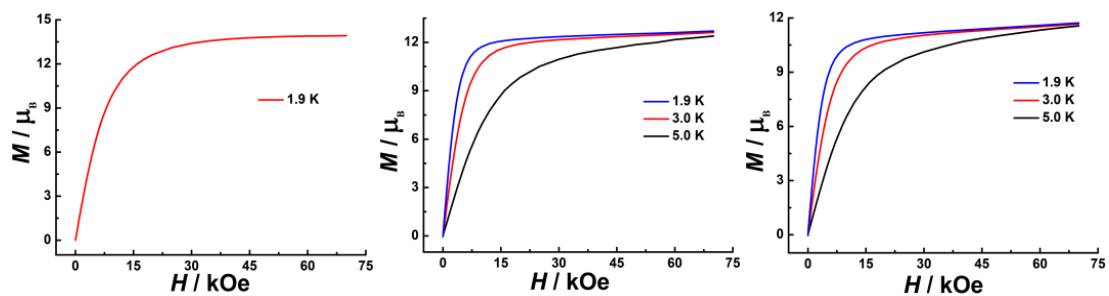


Fig. S7 Molar magnetization ( $M$ ) vs magnetic field ( $H$ ) for compounds  $[\text{Gd}_2\text{Zn}_2]$  (left),  $[\text{Tb}_2\text{Zn}_2]$  (middle),  $[\text{Dy}_2\text{Zn}_2]$  (right) at 1.9, 3.0, and 5.0 K.

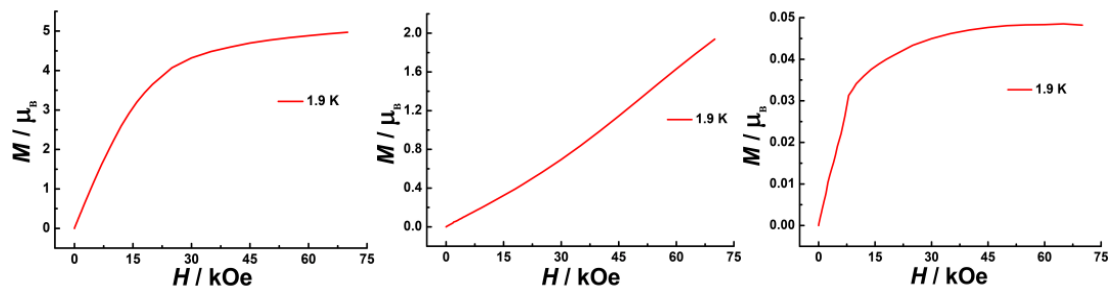


Fig. S8 Molar magnetization ( $M$ ) vs magnetic field ( $H$ ) for compounds  $[\text{Y}_2\text{Co}_2]$  (left),  $[\text{Y}_2\text{Ni}_2]$  (middle),  $[\text{Y}_2\text{Cu}_2]$  (right) at 1.9 K.

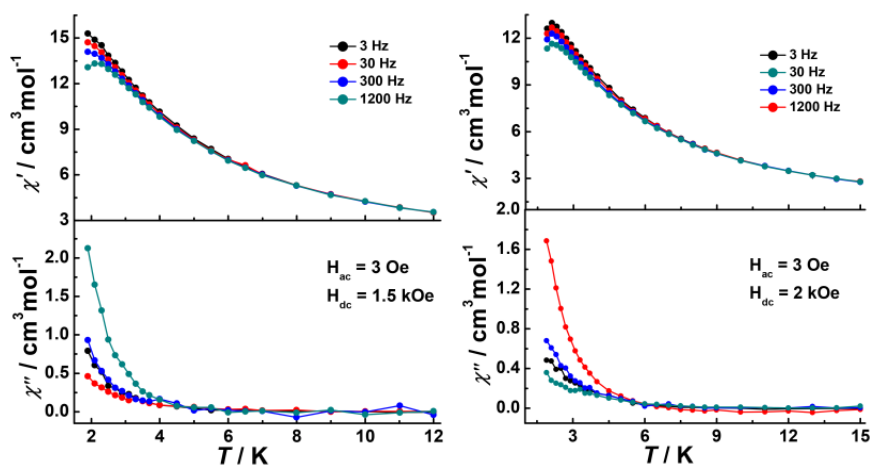


Fig. S9 Temperature-dependent ac susceptibility for  $[\text{Tb}_2\text{Co}_2]$  (left),  $[\text{Dy}_2\text{Co}_2]$  (right).

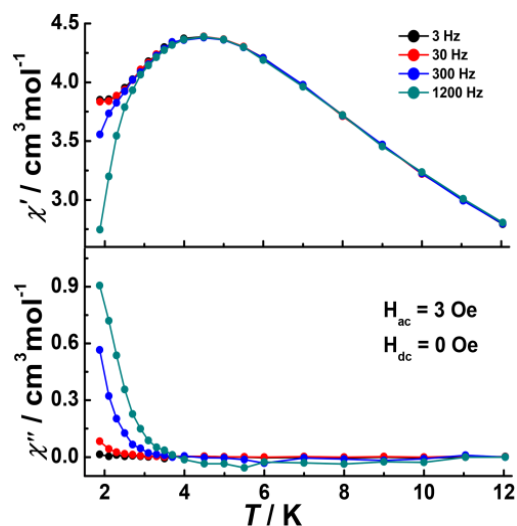


Fig. S10 Temperature-dependent ac susceptibility for  $[\text{Dy}_2\text{Ni}_2]$ .

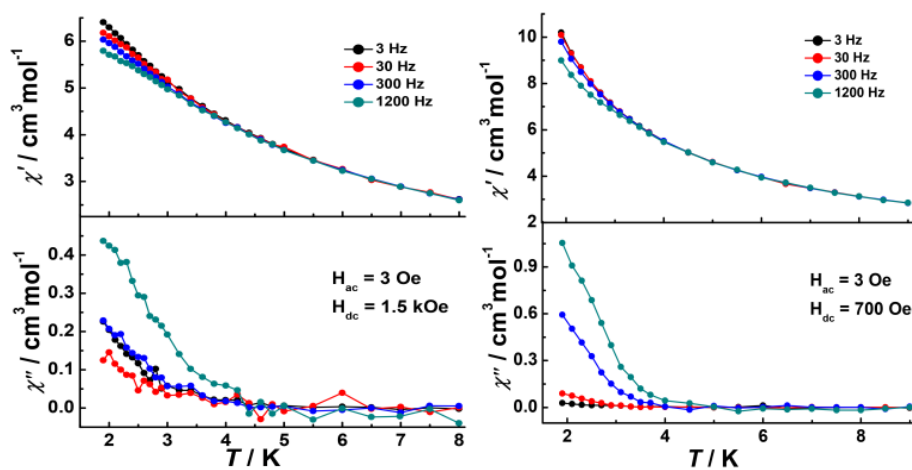


Fig. S11 Temperature-dependent ac susceptibility for  $[\text{Tb}_2\text{Cu}_2]$  (left),  $[\text{Dy}_2\text{Cu}_2]$  (right).

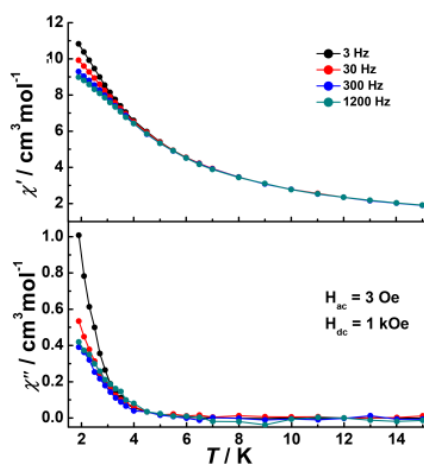


Fig. S12 Temperature-dependent ac susceptibility for  $[\text{Tb}_2\text{Zn}_2]$