# **Electronic Supplementary Information**

Assembly of single molecular magnets from dinuclear to 2D Dy-compounds with significant change of relaxation energy barriers

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#### Materials and physical techniques.

All reagents and solvents employed were commercially available and used as received without further purification. Analyses for C, H and N were carried out on a elementar vario EL elemental analyzer. The FT-IR spectra were measured with a Bruker Tensor 27 Spectrophotometer on KBr disks. Powder X-ray diffraction measurements were recorded on a D/Max-2500 X-ray diffractometer using Cu*Ka* radiation. The magnetic properties were measured on a Quantum Design MPMS-XL7 and a PPMS-9 ACMS magnetometer. Diamagnetic corrections were made with Pascal's constants for all the constituent atoms.

#### **Crystallographic studies**

Diffraction intensity data for single crystals of **1** and **2** were collected on a Bruker Smart CCD diffractometer and a Rigaku 007 CCD diffractometer respectively, equipped with graphitemonochromated MoK $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda$  = 0.71073 Å). The crystal was kept at 113.0 K during data collection. Using Olex2 [1], the structure was solved with the ShelXS [2] structure solution program using Direct Methods and refined with the ShelXL [3] refinement package using Least Squares minimisation.

The crystallographic data for **1** and **2** are listed in Table S1. CCDC 1407596 and 1407597 for **1** and **2** can be obtained free of charge from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre (www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\_request/cif).

- O. V. Dolomanov, L. J. Bourhis, R. J. Gildea, J. A. K. Howard and H. Puschmann, OLEX2: a complete structure solution, refinement and analysis program. J. Appl. Cryst. 2009, 42, 339-341.
- 2. SHELXS-97 (Sheldrick, 1990).
- 3. SHELXL, G.M. Sheldrick, Acta Cryst. 2008, A64, 112-122.

### Synthesis of Dy<sub>2</sub>(TA)<sub>6</sub>(bipy)<sub>2</sub> (1)

The mixture of HTA (0.3 mmol, 51.7 mg),  $Dy(NO_3)_3 \cdot 6H_2O$  (0.1 mmol, 45.7 mg), bipy (0.2 mmol, 31.2 mg), and 10 mL water heated in 25 mL teflon cup at 160°C for 3 days, and then cooled to room temperature at a rate of 2 °C h<sup>-1</sup>. The block colorless crystals of **1** were collected in 46% yield, based on Dy after washed by water. Elemental analysis for **1**, Calc(%):C, 42.89; H, 2.45; N, 4.00. Found(%): C, 42.68; H, 2.83; N, 3.99. IR (KBr): 3420 m, 3090 m, 1626 s, 1552 s, 1524 s, 1476 m,1423 s, 1392 s, 1344 m, 1223 m, 1176 w, 1156 m, 1126 m, 1063 w, 1034 m, 1014m, 859 m, 816 s, 794 s, 773 s, 738 m, 716 s, 654 m, 524 w, 425 s cm<sup>-1</sup>.

## Synthesis of [Dy<sub>2</sub>(TDA)<sub>3</sub>(bipy)<sub>2</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>]·bipy·2H<sub>2</sub>O (2)

The mixture of H<sub>2</sub>TDA (0.3 mmol, 51.7 mg),  $Dy_2O_3$  (0.1 mmol, 33.6 mg), bipy (0.2 mmol, 31.2 mg), and 10 mL water heated in 25 mL teflon cup at 160°C for 3 days, and then cooled to room temperature at a rate of 2 °C h<sup>-1</sup>. The block light brown crystals of **2** were collected in 37% yield, based on Dy after washed by water. Elemental analysis for **2**, Calc(%):C, 41.90; H, 2.78; N, 6.11. Found(%): C, 41.09; H, 3.05; N, 5.87. IR (KBr): 3161 s, 1650 s, 1563 s, 1524 s, 1478 m, 1461 w, 1439 m, 1374 s, 1177 w, 1157 m, 1062 w, 1014 m, 847 w, 773 s, 758 s, 738 m, 644 m, 472 s cm<sup>-1</sup>.

Compound	1	2
Empirical formula	$C_{50}H_{34}Dy_2N_4O_{12}S_6$	$C_{48}H_{38}Dy_2N_6O_{16}S_3$
Formula weight	1400.23	1376.02
Temperature/K	113	294.15
Crystal system	monoclinic	triclinic
Space group	$P2_{1}/c$	<i>P</i> -1
a/Å	13.905(4)	10.1980(11)
b/Å	15.277(5)	11.0008(12)
c/Å	26.166(6)	12.5285(14)
a /°	90	78.936(2)
β <b>/°</b>	111.889(12)	87.716(2)
γ/°	90	63.320(2)
Volume/ų	5158(3)	1230.8(2)
Ζ	4	1

	Table S1 Crystal	data and structure	refinement for	compound 1 and 2.
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$\rho_{\rm calc} {\rm g/cm^3}$	1.803	1.856
μ/mm <sup>-1</sup>	3.184	3.218
F(000)	2744.0	676.0
Radiation	$MoK\alpha (\lambda = 0.71075)$	$MoK\alpha \ (\lambda = 0.71073)$
2 $ heta$ range for data collection/°	3.65 to 50.018	3.316 to 50.014
Index ranges	$-16 \le h \le 16,$	$-12 \le h \le 9,$
	$-18 \le k \le 17,$	$-13 \le k \le 13,$
	$-31 \le l \le 31$	$-12 \le l \le 14$
Reflections collected	41908	6302
Independent reflections	9062 [ $R_{\rm int} = 0.0665$ ]	$4292 [R_{int} = 0.0190]$
Data/restraints/parameters	9062/62/699	4292/110/396
Goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	1.032	1.067
Final <i>R</i> indexes [ <i>I</i> >= 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> )]	$R_1 = 0.0377,$	$R_1 = 0.0257,$
	$wR_2 = 0.0904$	$wR_2 = 0.0581$
Final Q indexes [all dats]	$R_1 = \overline{0.0435},$	$R_1 = 0.0321,$
rillal A illuexes [all data]	$wR_2 = 0.0937$	$wR_2 = 0.0622$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup>	1.60/-1.21	0.62/-0.54



Fig. S1 The simulated and experimental PXRD patterns for 1.



Fig. S2 The simulated and experimental PXRD patterns for 2.



Fig. S3 *M* vs *H* plots at 2 K for complexes 1 and 2.



**Fig. S4** Frequency dependences of the in-phase ( $\chi_{M}$ ') and out-of-phase ( $\chi_{M}$ ") ac magnetic susceptibility for complexes **1** and **2** under zero dc field at 2-7 K.



Fig. S5 The distances of dinuclear Dy units in compound 2.



**Fig. S6** The cole-cole plots at different temperatures for complex **1**. Red solid lines represent the least-squares fitting results obtained with a Debye model.



**Fig. S7** The cole-cole plots at different temperatures for complex **2**. Red solid lines represent the least-squares fitting results obtained with a Debye model, with  $\alpha$  = 0.10 for all four fitting.



**Fig. S8** AC magnetic susceptibilities the in-phase ( $\chi_M$ ') and out-of-phase ( $\chi_M$ ") data under 500 Oe dc field for **2**.



**Fig. S9** AC magnetic susceptibilities the in-phase ( $\chi_M$ ') and out-of-phase ( $\chi_M$ ") data under 1000 Oe dc field for **2**.



**Fig. S10** AC magnetic susceptibilities the in-phase ( $\chi_M$ ') and out-of-phase ( $\chi_M$ ") data under 1500 Oe dc field for **2**.



**Fig. S11** AC magnetic susceptibilities the in-phase ( $\chi_M$ ') and out-of-phase ( $\chi_M$ ") data under 2000 Oe dc field for **2**.



**Fig. S12** Ac magnetic susceptibilities the in-phase ( $\chi_M$ ') and out-of-phase ( $\chi_M$ ") data under 5000 Oe dc field for **2**.