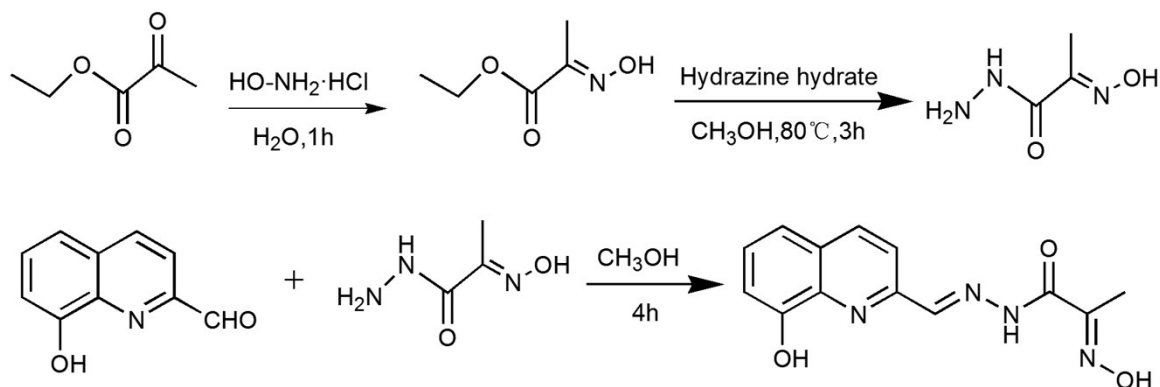


## Electronic Supplementary Information

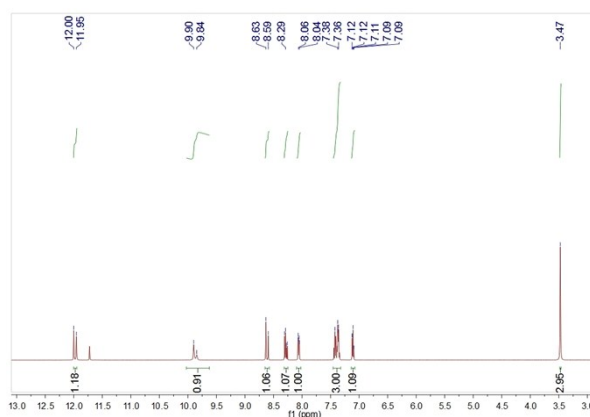
### Modulate the relaxation dynamics of linear-shaped tetranuclear rare-earth clusters through utilizing different solvents

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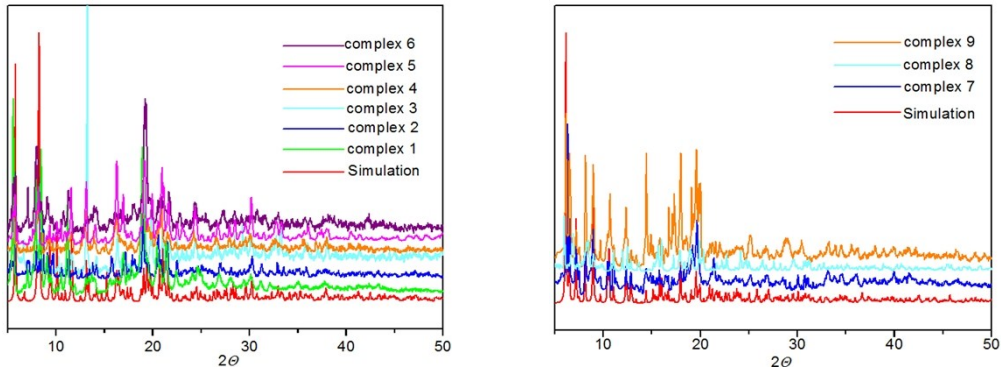
**Scheme S1.** The synthesis route for HL.



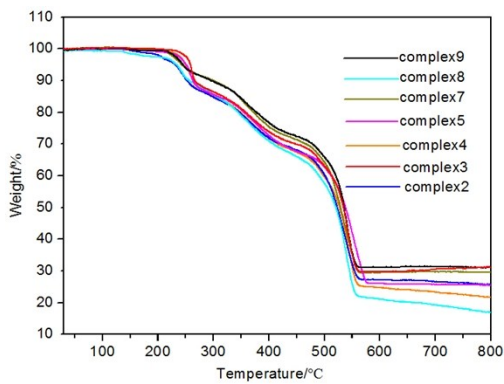
**Fig S1.** The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 2-[(2-(hydroxyimino)-propanehydrazide)methyl]-8-hydroxyquinoline.

\* Department of Chemistry, Tianjin University, Tianjin 300072, P. R. China. E-mail: [cuijianzhong@tju.edu.cn](mailto:cuijianzhong@tju.edu.cn)

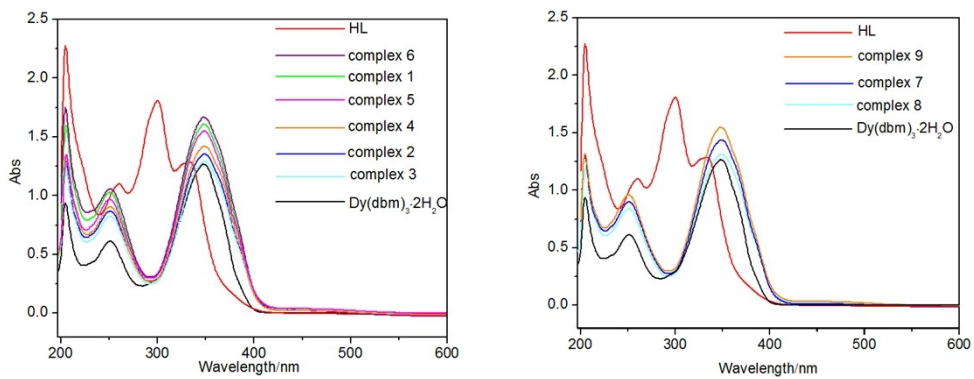
\* Department of Chemistry, Tianjin University, Tianjin 300072, P. R. China. E-mail: [ghl@tju.edu.cn](mailto:ghl@tju.edu.cn)



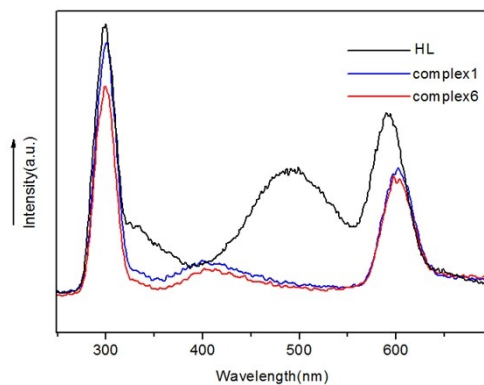
**Fig S2.** The experimental and simulated PXRD patterns of complexes 1–9.



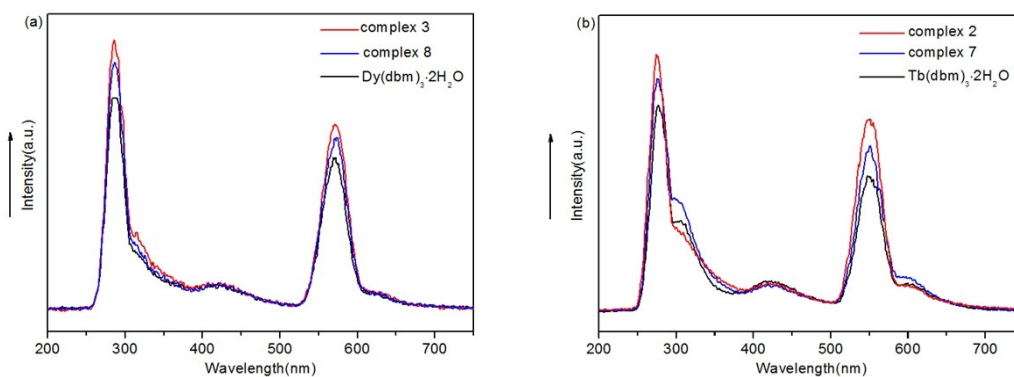
**Fig S3.** TG curves of complexes.



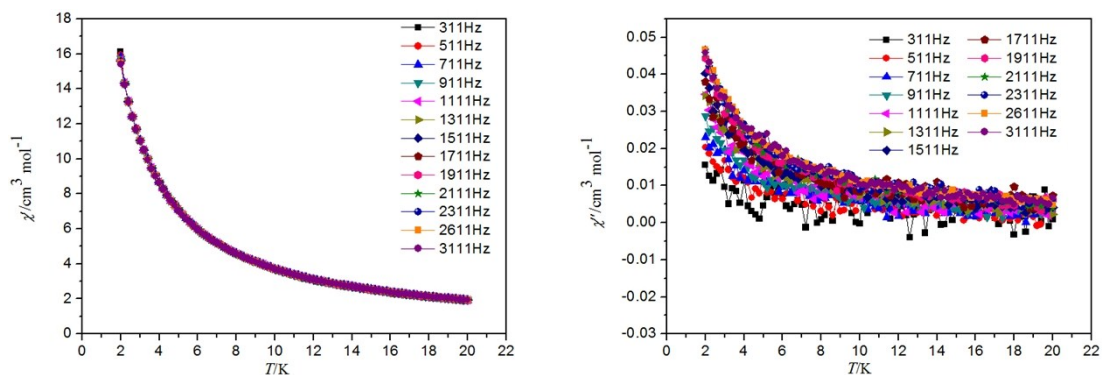
**Fig S4.** UV-vis absorption spectra of complexes 1–9, HL and Dy(dbm)<sub>3</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O.



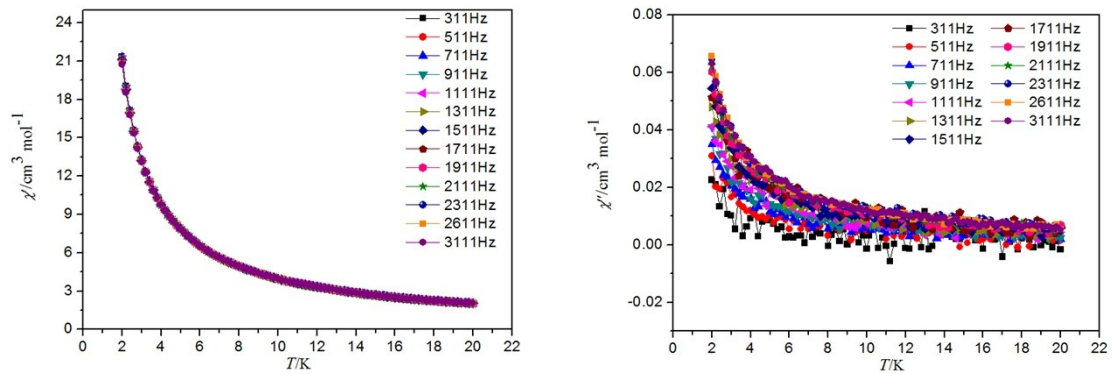
**Fig S5.** The luminescent spectra of HL, complexes **1** and **6**.



**Fig S6.** (a) The luminescent spectra of  $\text{Dy}(\text{dbm})_3 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , complexes **3** and **8**; (b) The luminescent spectra of  $\text{Tb}(\text{dbm})_3 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , complex **2** and **7**.



**Fig S7.** Temperature dependence of the *ac* susceptibility for complex **2** as a function of the temperature below 20 K under an oscillating *ac* field of 3 Oe.



**Fig S8.** Temperature dependence of the *ac* susceptibility for complex **7** as a function of the temperature below 20 K under an oscillating *ac* field of 3 Oe.

**Table S1.** Selected bond lengths and angles for complexes **1–9**

Complex	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
RE1–O4	2.288(4)	2.316(8)	2.280(2)	2.294(3)	2.261(2)	2.222(8)	2.303(5)	2.3165(16)	2.2754(15)
RE1–O5	2.299(4)	2.329(8)	2.307(2)	2.306(3)	2.289(2)	2.260(8)	2.304(5)	2.3272(15)	2.2843(15)
RE1–O2	2.300(4)	2.312(8)	2.338(2)	2.313(3)	2.318(2)	2.286(9)	2.352(5)	2.3082(15)	2.3348(15)
RE1–O12	2.336(4)	2.335(9)	2.356(2)	2.343(3)	2.344(2)	2.307(8)	2.460(5)	2.4215(16)	2.4328(16)
RE1–O1	2.341(3)	2.357(7)	2.386(2)	2.343(3)	2.367(2)	2.342(8)	2.400(5)	2.3573(15)	2.3704(15)
RE1–O1#1	2.367(3)	2.370(7)	2.3759(19)	2.366(3)	2.357(2)	2.341(8)	2.368(5)	2.4392(15)	2.3535(15)
RE1–N1	2.441(4)	2.467(9)	2.471(2)	2.448(4)	2.448(3)	2.435(10)	2.461(6)	2.4665(18)	2.4479(17)
RE1–N2	2.535(4)	2.569(9)	2.532(2)	2.527(4)	2.516(3)	2.506(9)	2.544(7)	2.5430(18)	2.5121(18)
RE1–RE1#1	3.8112(9)	3.8600(10)	3.8392(4)	3.8210(4)	3.8165(3)	3.7777(11)	3.8894(8)	3.8277(4)	3.8519(2)
RE2–O7	2.264(4)	2.293(9)	2.325(2)	2.275(3)	2.311(3)	2.270(10)	2.319(6)	2.3214(16)	2.2949(16)
RE2–O8	2.298(3)	2.310(8)	2.315(2)	2.311(3)	2.293(2)	2.258(8)	2.288(6)	2.2933(16)	2.2673(17)
RE2–O11	2.303(4)	2.311(8)	2.302(2)	2.303(3)	2.284(2)	2.242(8)	2.351(5)	2.3201(15)	2.3179(16)
RE2–O10	2.313(4)	2.336(9)	2.356(2)	2.316(3)	2.349(3)	2.298(9)	2.312(5)	2.2999(15)	2.2915(16)
RE2–O6	2.318(4)	2.349(8)	2.304(2)	2.329(3)	2.285(2)	2.274(9)	2.326(5)	2.2954(15)	2.3040(16)
RE2–O9	2.383(3)	2.413(8)	2.348(2)	2.396(3)	2.334(2)	2.300(9)	2.436(6)	2.3514(15)	2.4151(16)
RE2–N4	2.534(5)	2.555(10)	2.532(3)	2.529(4)	2.513(3)	2.477(10)	2.521(7)	2.5629(19)	2.5024(19)
RE2–N3	2.545(4)	2.575(9)	2.540(2)	2.539(4)	2.520(3)	2.479(10)	2.563(7)	2.5872(18)	2.5445(18)
O4–RE1–O5	71.94(13)	71.2(3)	72.58(7)	72.32(11)	73.37(8)	73.7(3)	72.69(19)	72.76(6)	73.08(6)
O4–RE1–O2	90.87(13)	89.7(3)	96.26(8)	90.59(11)	96.86(9)	96.0(3)	89.9(2)	89.11(6)	90.34(6)
O5–RE1–O2	79.85(13)	79.7(3)	82.58(7)	79.23(11)	81.64(8)	80.8(3)	84.92(19)	86.81(5)	83.94(6)
O4–RE1–O12	141.77(13)	142.8(3)	140.71(7)	142.03(12)	140.37(8)	140.4(3)	146.61(19)	143.76(5)	146.55(6)
O5–RE1–O12	144.57(13)	143.7(3)	145.83(7)	143.39(12)	145.36(8)	144.6(3)	138.02(19)	143.47(5)	137.69(6)
O2–RE1–O12	87.55(15)	86.7(3)	85.26(8)	86.75(13)	85.44(9)	85.2(3)	82.22(18)	93.10(6)	82.50(6)
O4–RE1–O1	93.16(12)	94.5(3)	88.89(7)	93.61(11)	88.67(9)	90.0(3)	91.58(19)	104.01(5)	91.82(6)
O5–RE1–O1	89.06(12)	90.6(3)	88.29(7)	89.59(10)	88.05(8)	87.9(3)	83.93(19)	89.04(5)	83.84(5)
O2–RE1–O1	166.40(12)	167.6(3)	167.65(7)	166.26(10)	166.34(8)	165.2(3)	167.75(18)	164.40(5)	166.39(5)
O12–RE1–O1	97.20(13)	96.8(3)	97.87(7)	97.83(12)	98.26(8)	98.8(3)	102.85(18)	81.37(5)	102.72(5)
O4–RE1–O1#1	141.97(12)	141.3(3)	142.13(7)	142.26(11)	142.17(8)	142.2(3)	144.14(18)	144.40(5)	144.39(6)
O5–RE1–O1#1	73.02(12)	73.4(3)	74.12(7)	73.07(10)	73.64(8)	72.4(3)	74.56(18)	71.67(5)	74.31(5)
O2–RE1–O1#1	97.13(12)	99.1(3)	96.85(7)	97.35(10)	96.17(8)	94.9(3)	101.38(18)	90.29(5)	100.11(5)

O12-RE1-O1#1	75.92(12)	75.7(3)	75.81(7)	75.47(11)	76.00(8)	76.6(3)	69.17(18)	71.80(5)	68.99(5)	
O1-RE1-O1#1	71.90(13)	70.5(3)	72.54(8)	71.52(11)	72.21(9)	72.5(3)	70.70(19)	74.13(6)	70.75(6)	
O7-RE2-O8	91.27(14)	88.6(3)	82.70(8)	90.14(12)	83.51(9)	83.5(3)	97.0(2)	85.58(6)	96.55(6)	
O7-RE2-O11	147.93(14)	147.1(3)	143.53(8)	147.62(12)	144.37(9)	143.6(3)	152.46(19)	142.83(5)	152.21(6)	
O8-RE2-O11	83.70(13)	84.5(3)	77.00(8)	83.76(11)	76.39(8)	76.4(3)	76.2(2)	75.98(6)	75.84(6)	
O7-RE2-O10	139.39(14)	140.6(3)	143.37(9)	139.63(12)	142.17(9)	142.3(4)	135.6(2)	145.12(5)	135.34(6)	
O8-RE2-O10	103.46(14)	105.6(3)	100.96(8)	104.08(12)	102.11(9)	102.2(3)	93.0(2)	107.13(6)	93.94(6)	
O11-RE2-O10	72.17(13)	71.9(3)	71.08(8)	72.39(11)	71.75(9)	72.5(3)	71.88(19)	71.93(5)	72.35(6)	
O7-RE2-O6	73.02(14)	72.8(3)	71.92(8)	73.07(12)	72.55(9)	72.7(4)	71.74(19)	71.71(5)	72.38(6)	
O8-RE2-O6	74.81(13)	73.8(3)	79.57(8)	74.50(11)	78.37(9)	79.2(3)	85.3(2)	82.03(6)	83.92(6)	
O11-RE2-O6	75.10(13)	74.4(3)	74.80(8)	74.66(12)	74.75(9)	73.9(3)	81.04(18)	73.93(6)	80.19(6)	
O10-RE2-O6	147.20(14)	146.2(3)	144.72(8)	146.95(11)	145.27(9)	145.0(3)	152.45(19)	140.96(5)	152.09(6)	
O7-RE2-O9	75.73(14)	75.6(3)	74.29(9)	75.41(12)	73.77(10)	74.5(4)	70.81(19)	75.02(6)	70.72(6)	
O8-RE2-O9	71.04(13)	71.0(3)	72.11(8)	71.37(11)	72.67(8)	72.8(3)	71.5(2)	72.47(6)	72.01(6)	
O11-RE2-O9	130.94(13)	131.1(3)	125.67(8)	131.14(11)	125.59(9)	125.8(3)	129.18(18)	127.03(6)	129.09(6)	
O10-RE2-O9	73.86(13)	74.9(3)	72.38(9)	73.91(11)	72.48(9)	71.9(4)	71.76(19)	78.15(5)	71.67(6)	
O6-RE2-O9	132.50(13)	132.5(3)	138.05(8)	132.81(11)	137.44(9)	138.7(3)	132.50(19)	139.22(6)	132.63(6)	
symmetry	transformations	used	to	generate	equivalent	atoms:	#1	-x+1,	-y+1,	-z+1.

**Table S2.** The parameters obtained from Cole-Cole plots using the Debye model.

Slow Relaxation (SR)			
<i>T</i> / K	$\chi_1$	$\chi_2$	$\alpha$
2	3.11053	11.38135	0.39272
3	2.95191	8.15161	0.32036
4	2.63245	6.56515	0.28281
5	2.30308	5.54867	0.27096
6	2.04253	4.65953	0.24435
7	1.88189	4.02818	0.21125
8	1.74185	3.67406	0.18438
9	1.66481	3.21445	0.11875
10	1.49129	2.94716	0.15951
11	1.42416	2.68253	0.12803

<sup>a</sup>Fitting function

$$y = 0.5 * (\chi_1 - \chi_2) / \tan((1 - \alpha) * 1.5707) + \sqrt{((x - \chi_1) * (\chi_2 - x) + 0.25 * (\chi_2 - \chi_1)^2 / (\tan((1 - \alpha) * 1.5707))^2)}$$