# **Supporting Information**

# Improved single-chain-magnet behavior in a biradical-based

## nitronyl nitroxide-Cu-Dy chain

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### **Experimental section**

#### **1.** Materials and Physical Measurements

All reagents and solvents were purchased from commercial sources and used as received. The biradical ligand bisNITPhPy was prepared according to literature method.<sup>[S1]</sup> Elemental analysis (for C, H, and N) was implemented on a PerkinElmer 240 elemental analyzer. Infrared spectra were measured in the 4000–400 cm<sup>-1</sup> range on KBr pellets using a Bruker TENOR 27 spectrometer. Magnetic measurements were performed on a Quantum Design MPMS 5 SQUID magnetometer using crystalline powder samples mixed to grease. Magnetic susceptibility data were corrected for the diamagnetic contribution of all the constituent atoms with Pascal's constants and the sample holder.

#### 2. Synthesis

### [DyCu<sub>2</sub>(hfac)<sub>7</sub>(bisNITPhPy)] 1

A mixture of Dy(hfac)<sub>3</sub> 2H<sub>2</sub>O (0.01 mmol,0.0082g) and Cu(hfac)<sub>2</sub> (0.02 mmol, 0.009 g) was dissolved in 15 mL dry boiling *n*-hexane. The solution was maintained to reflux for 6 h, then cooled to 50 °C and bisNITPhPy ligand (0.01 mmol, 0.0047 g) in a CHCl<sub>3</sub> solution (6 mL) was added to the above solution. The resulting solution was heated for 15 min and then was cooled to room temperature, filtered, and stored at room temperature for slow evaporation. After a week, dark-green strip crystals were obtained for single crystal X-ray analysis. Yield: 65%. Calcd for C<sub>60</sub>H<sub>38</sub>Cu<sub>2</sub>F<sub>42</sub>DyN<sub>5</sub>O<sub>18</sub> (2204.56 g mol<sup>-1</sup>): C, 32.69; H, 1.72; N, 3.18. Found: C, 32.67; H, 2.05; N, 3.25. FT-IR (KBr): 3417(m), 2877(m), 2432(m), 1789(m), 1653(s), 1533(s), 1477(s), 1360(s) , 1154(s), 1074(s), 949(s), 860(s), 662(s), 588(m), 547(s)  $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ .

## **3.** X-ray crystallography

The crystal data were collected at 113 K on a Rigaku Saturn CCD diffractometer (Mo/K $\alpha$  radiation,  $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å). The multi-scan absorption corrections were conducted using the SADABS program.<sup>[S2]</sup> These structures were solved by direct methods and then refined by full-matrix least-squares on  $F^2$  using crystallographic software package program SHELXS-2014.<sup>[S3]</sup> Non-H atoms were refined anisotropically. All hydrogen atoms were set in calculated positions and refined as riding on the corresponding non-hydrogen atoms. Information concerning detailed crystallographic data collections and structure refinements parameters are provided in Table S1. Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) are shown in Table S2. Crystallographic data for the structural analyses have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, CCDC 1879743 contain the supplementary crystallographic data for complex **1**. These information can be obtained free of charge via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data\_request/cif.

Complex	1Dy	
Empirical formula	$C_{60}H_{38}Cu_2F_{42}DyN_5O_{18}$	
Mr	2204.53	
<i>T</i> (K)	113	
Crystal system	monoclinic	
Space group	$P2_{1}/c$	
a/Å	20.944(4)	
$b/ m \AA$	20.520(4)	
$c/ m \AA$	19.008(4)	
α/°	90.000	
eta/ °	95.45(3)	
$\gamma/\circ$	90.000	
$V/\text{\AA}^3$	8132(3)	
Ζ	4	
$D_{\rm calcd}/{ m g~cm}^{-3}$	1.801	
$\mu/\mathrm{mm}^{-1}$	1.590	
heta/ °	1.816to 25.009	
<i>F</i> (000)	4316	
Collected reflections	64162	
Independent reflections	14313	
<i>R</i> <sub>int</sub>	0.0749	
$GOF(F^2)$	1.069	
$R1/wR2$ (I > $2\sigma(I)$ )	0.0806/0.2053	
R1/wR2 (all data)	0.0997/0.2218	

 Table S1 Crystallographic data and structure refinement parameters for 1.

Bond distance			
Dy(1)-O(2)	2.367(5)	Cu(2)-O(1)	2.388(6)
Dy (1)-O(3)	2.385(5)	Cu(2)-O(1)#1	2.388(6)
Dy (1)-O(13)	2.347(6)	Cu(2)-O(9)	1.932(6)
Dy (1)-O(14)	2.368(6)	Cu(2)-O(10)	1.938(6)
Dy (1)-O(15)	2.298(5)	Cu(3)-O(4)	2.604(6)
Dy (1)-O(16)	2.374(5)	Cu(3)-O(4)#1	2.604(6)
Dy (1)-O(17)	2.306(6)	Cu(3)-O(11)	1.939(6)
Dy (1)-O(18)	2.374(5)	Cu(3)-O(12)	1.922(6)
Cu(1)-N(1)	2.038(7)	O(1)-N(2)	1.259(9)
Cu(1)-O(5)	1.995(7)	O(2)-N(3)	1.304(8)
Cu(1)-O(6)	1.935(6)	O(3)-N(4)	1.293(8)
Cu(1)-O(7)	2.129(6)	O(4)-N(5)	1.268(9)
Cu(1)-O(8)	1.943(6)		
Angle			
O(2)-Dy(1)-O(3)	82.4(7)	O(1)-Cu(2)-O(1)#1	180.0
O(13)-Dy(1)-O(2)	115.9(2)	O(9)#1-Cu(2)-O(9)	180.0
O(13)-Dy(1)-O(3)	71.3(1)	O(10)#1-Cu(2)-O(10)	180.0
O(15)-Dy(1)-O(2)	146.3(2)	O(10)-Cu(2)-O(1)	98.3(3)
O(15)-Dy(1)-O(3)	83.6(2)	O(10)-Cu(2)-O(1)#1	81.7(3)
O(17)-Dy(1)-O(2)	84.0(2)	O(4) Cu(3) O(4)#1	180.0
	64.0(2)	O(4)-Cu(3)-O(4)#1	100.0
O(17)-Dy(1)-O(3)	142.8(3)	O(11)-Cu(3)-O(11)#2	180.0
O(17)-Dy(1)-O(3) O(5)-Cu(1)-O(6)	84.0(2) 142.8(3) 90.9(3)	O(11)-Cu(3)-O(11)#2 O(12)-Cu(3)-O(12)#2	180.0 180.0
O(17)-Dy(1)-O(3) O(5)-Cu(1)-O(6) O(7)-Cu(1)-O(8)	84.0(2) 142.8(3) 90.9(3) 89.7(2)	O(11)-Cu(3)-O(11)#2 O(12)-Cu(3)-O(12)#2 N(3)-O(2)-Dy(1)	180.0 180.0 136.6(5)
O(17)-Dy(1)-O(3) O(5)-Cu(1)-O(6) O(7)-Cu(1)-O(8) O(5)-Cu(1)-N(1)	84.0(2) 142.8(3) 90.9(3) 89.7(2) 144.2(3)	O(11)-Cu(3)-O(11)#2 O(12)-Cu(3)-O(12)#2 N(3)-O(2)-Dy(1) N(4)-O(3)-Dy(1)	180.0 180.0 136.6(5) 138.7(4)
O(17)-Dy(1)-O(3) O(5)-Cu(1)-O(6) O(7)-Cu(1)-O(8) O(5)-Cu(1)-N(1) O(6)-Cu(1)-N(1)	84.0(2) 142.8(3) 90.9(3) 89.7(2) 144.2(3) 93.1(3)	O(11)-Cu(3)-O(1)#1 O(11)-Cu(3)-O(11)#2 O(12)-Cu(3)-O(12)#2 N(3)-O(2)-Dy(1) N(4)-O(3)-Dy(1) N(2)-O(1)-Cu(2)	180.0 180.0 136.6(5) 138.7(4) 147.3(7)
O(17)-Dy(1)-O(3) O(5)-Cu(1)-O(6) O(7)-Cu(1)-O(8) O(5)-Cu(1)-N(1) O(6)-Cu(1)-N(1) O(7)-Cu(1)-N(1)	84.0(2) 142.8(3) 90.9(3) 89.7(2) 144.2(3) 93.1(3) 108.4(3)	O(11)-Cu(3)-O(1)#1 O(11)-Cu(3)-O(11)#2 O(12)-Cu(3)-O(12)#2 N(3)-O(2)-Dy(1) N(4)-O(3)-Dy(1) N(2)-O(1)-Cu(2) N(5)-O(4)-Cu(3)	180.0 180.0 136.6(5) 138.7(4) 147.3(7) 144.4(5)

 Table S2 Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [ ] for 1.

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: #1 -x,y,-z+1/2 ;#2 -x+1, y, -z+ 1/2



Fig. S1 Packing diagram of complex 1. All H and F atoms are omitted for clarity.



**Fig. S2** Coordination polyhedrons of the  $Dy^{III}$ ,  $Cu^{II}$  1,  $Cu^{II}$ 2 and  $Cu^{II}$ 3 ions.

Compound	SAPR-8	TDD-8	JBTPR-8	BTPR-8	JSD-8
1Dy	2.074	1.879	1.489	0.743	3.658

 Table S3 Detailed geometry analysis results by Continuous Shape Measures.

SAPR-8: square antiprism. TDD-8: triangular dodecahedron. JBTPR-8 : Biaugmented trigonal prism J50. BTPR-8: biaugmented trigonal prism. JSD-8 : Snub diphenoid J84



**Fig. S3** Powder X-ray diffraction pattern of Dy complex at 293 K, together with the calculated pattern from the crystal structure data.

## 4. Magnetic measurements



**Fig. S4** Temperature dependence of  $\chi_M T$  with  $\chi_M$  (*top*) recorded in an applied field of 1 kOe, (*middle*) variation of  $\chi_M T$  below 100 K in an applied field of 50 Oe (in red) and 1 kOe (blue) revealing a saturation effect in larger field; and , (*bottom*)  $\ln(\chi_M'T) = f(T^1) (\chi_M')$ , the in-phase susceptibility measured with an AC field of 3 Oe ( $\nu = 100$  Hz) in the absence of a dc field), the solid red line is the best fit of the Glauber's expression to the linear part between 3 and 25 K.



Fig. S5 Field dependence of the magnetization at different temperature for 1.



**Fig. S6**  $\chi_M''=f(\chi_M')$ , i.e. Cole-Cole plots and best fits (solid lines) with a generalized Debye model, the fit parameters are gathered in the table.



**Fig S7.** Frequency-dependent in-phase signals ( $\chi$ ') for **1** under zero dc field with  $H_{AC}$  = 3 Oe.

## **5. References**

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