#### **Supplemental Material**

# Ionic strength effect on regulating the synthetic assemble of polyoxometalate clusters with slow magnetic relaxation behaviors

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Fig. S1. Powder X-ray diffraction patterns for compounds 1-3.

The PXRD patterns of compounds **1-3** were investigated, and the most peak positions of simulated were in good agreement with the experimental patterns, respectively, indicating the good phase purity of the products.



Fig. S2. Infrared spectra of compounds 1-3.

The IR spectra of **1-3** were measured in the range of  $4000 - 400 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The broad band around 3420 cm<sup>-1</sup> can be deemed as characteristic peaks of the lattice and coordinated water molecules, while **2** and **3** appear two peaks between 3100 and 3420 cm<sup>-1</sup> that are probably associated with the stretching vibration of N-H except for the

stretching vibration of O-H. Peaks at about 1630 cm<sup>-1</sup> may be ascribed to the in-plane bending vibration of water molecules. The feature peaks of 945, 870, 775, 701, 506, 445 cm<sup>-1</sup> for **1**, 947, 873, 773, 698, 512, 461 cm<sup>-1</sup> for **2** and 941, 828, 777, 669, 433 cm<sup>-1</sup> for **3** in the fingerprint region can be regarded as the stretching vibration of W- $O_d$ , W- $O_b$ -W, W- $O_c$ -W, and Sb- $O_a$  in polyoxoanion framework.



Fig. S3. TG analysis of compounds 1-3.

The TG curves of compounds **1-3** were shown in Figure S3, the weight loss of 6.3% from 20 to 200 °C for **1**, 8.5% from 20 to 500 °C for **2** and 9.2% from 20 to 400 °C

for **3** can be ascribed to the removal of the guest and coordinated water molecules. Among them, the weight loss of **1** and **2** are less than their theoretical values 9.7% and 10.6% possibly because that **1** and **2** are easy efflorescence to lose part of crystalline water molecules. The slow mass loss in the temperature range of 200-500 °C, 500-660 °C and 400-650 °C for **1-3** correspond to the slow decomposition of compounds. The unusual increase of TGA curves after 500, 660 and 650 °C for **1-3** can be attributed to the valence conversion from Sb<sup>III</sup> to Sb<sup>V</sup>. The final residue of **1** is 91.6%, which agrees with calculated value 90.0% based on Dy<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, NiO, Sb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>O and WO<sub>3</sub>. For **2**, the final residue is 91.1%, which agrees with calculated value 88.8% based on Dy<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, Sb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>O and WO<sub>3</sub>. For **3**, the final residue is 88.5%, which agrees with calculated value 87.2% based on NiO, Sb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>O and WO<sub>3</sub>.

Compound	1	2	3
Formeral	$H_{104}Na_{10}K_{10}Sb_3Dy_3$	$H_{134}N_5Na_8K_4Sb_4$	H <sub>96</sub> N <sub>9</sub> NaSb <sub>2</sub>
Formula	NiW <sub>30</sub> O <sub>162</sub>	$Dy_{3}W_{30}O_{167}$	Ni <sub>2</sub> W <sub>20</sub> O <sub>100</sub>
Mr	9744.28	9707.05	5883.46
Crystal system	triclinic	monoclinic	monoclinic
Space group	<i>P</i> -1	C2/c	<i>C</i> 2/ <i>m</i>
a/Å	18.2445(6)	35.159(3)	17.8033(14)
$b/{ m \AA}$	19.9956(7)	18.5597(7)	18.5672(16)
$c/{ m \AA}$	24.4742(6)	48.357(3)	14.1660(12)
$lpha/^{ m o}$	93.078(2)	90	90
eta/o	99.426(2)	114.193(9)	113.239(9)
$\gamma^{ m o}$	116.645(3)	90	90
<i>V</i> /Å <sup>3</sup>	7790.2(5)	28784(4)	4302.8(7)
Ζ	2	8	1
T/K	186	191	178
$\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$	3.829	4.168	4.203
$\mu/\mathrm{mm}^{-1}$	24.339	26.985	27.761
F(000)	7742.0	31039.0	4684.0
20/°	5.858-50	5.706-50	6.156-49.996
Observed reflections	18376	25278	3883
Data/parameters	27383/1784	25278/1789	3883/270
GOF	1.002	1.086	1.088
$R_1[I > 2\sigma(I)]$	0.0832	0.1059	0.0678
$wR_2$ (All data)	0.1928	0.2022	0.1689

 ${}^{a}R_{1} = \sum ||F_{O}| - |F_{C}|| / \sum |F_{O}|; {}^{b}wR_{2} = \{\sum [w(F_{O}^{2} - F_{C}^{2})^{2}] / \sum [w(F_{O}^{2})^{2}] \}^{1/2}$ 

## Table S2. Selected bond distances of 1

Dy1-019	2.401 (19)	Ni1—O127	2.024 (18)
Dy1036	2.263 (18)	Sb1—O107	1.987 (19)
Dy1—O35	2.417 (17)	Sb1—O101	1.963 (15)
Dy1—O22	2.20(2)	Sb1—O102	2.03 (2)
Dy1-0103	2.30 (2)	Sb2—O119	2.003 (18)
Dy1—O20	2.37 (3)	Sb2—O53	1.979 (16)
Dy1—O21	2.37 (3)	Sb2—O50	1.932 (17)
Dy2—O30	2.308 (18)	Sb3—O122	1.986 (17)
Dy2—O111	2.409 (19)	Sb3—O94	2.016 (16)
Dy2—O146	2.319 (16)	Sb3—O79	1.95 (2)
Dy2—O110	2.431 (16)	W1—O69	1.744 (18)
Dy2—O62	2.413 (19)	W1—O34	1.98 (2)
Dy2—O141	2.44 (2)	W1—O110	1.98 (2)
Dy2—O63	2.551 (19)	W1—O62	2.204 (17)
Dy2—O86	2.40 (2)	W1—O108	1.736 (18)
Dy2—O31	2.591 (18)	W1—O63	2.091 (16)
Dy3—O48	2.431 (18)	W2—O111	1.98 (2)
Dy3—O68	2.29 (2)	W2—O113	1.695 (16)
Dy3—O139	2.40 (2)	W2—O62	2.143 (18)
Dy3—O66	2.32 (2)	W2—O65	1.771 (19)
Dy3—O65	2.199 (19)	W2—O31	2.38 (2)
Dy3—O60	2.31 (2)	W2—O22	1.79 (2)
Dy3—O64	2.51 (3)	W3—O111	2.10 (2)
Dy3—O61	2.70 (3)	W3—O112	1.729 (17)
Ni1—O69	2.05 (2)	W3—O124	1.886 (19)
Ni1—O112	2.12 (2)	W3—O110	1.972 (19)
Ni1—0113	2.058 (15)	W3—O141	2.148 (17)
Ni1—O114	2.04 (2)	W3—O85	1.70 (2)
Ni1—O59	1.98 (2)		

Table S3. Selected bond distances of 2

Dy1—O102	2.46 (3)	Sb2—O88	1.99 (3)
Dy1—O96	2.64 (3)	Sb3—O116	2.00 (3)
Dy1051	2.42 (3)	Sb3—O117	1.99 (2)
Dy1—O50	2.43(2)	Sb3—O109	2.04 (3)
Dy1—O103	2.49 (3)	Sb4—O74	2.09 (3)
Dy1—O5	2.56 (3)	Sb4—O77	1.97 (2)
Dy1—O6	2.35 (3)	Sb4—O72	2.10 (3)
Dy1-0111	2.37 (3)	Sb4—O78	2.02 (3)
Dy1—O49	2.17 (3)	Sb4—O75	2.00 (3)
Dy2—087	2.46 (3)	Sb4—O79	1.95 (3)
Dy2—O32	2.40 (3)	W1—O102	2.08 (2)
Dy2—O36	2.41 (3)	W1—O51	1.95 (3)
Dy2—O94	2.14 (3)	W1—O142	1.73 (3)
Dy2—O160	2.30 (2)	W1—O75	1.81 (3)
Dy2—O34	2.46 (5)	W1—O5	2.16 (4)
Dy2—O35	2.53 (7)	W1—O25	1.96 (2)
Dy2—O33	2.40 (5)	W2—O96	2.13 (3)
Dy3—O143	2.35 (3)	W2—O97	1.87 (3)
Dy3—O90	2.36 (3)	W2—O51	2.00 (2)
Dy3—O99	2.42 (3)	W2—O50	2.15 (2)
Dy3—O56	2.35 (3)	W2—O77	1.81 (3)
Dy3—O91	2.37 (3)	W2—O52	1.81 (3)
Dy3—O76	2.16 (3)	W3—O102	1.94 (2)
Dy3—O89	2.41 (3)	W3—O50	2.03 (2)
Sb1—O81	1.93 (3)	W3—O74	1.83 (3)
Sb1—O83	1.98 (2)	W3—O76	1.79 (3)
Sb1—O82	1.96 (3)	W3—O94	1.90 (3)
Sb2—O105	1.96 (2)	W3—O103	2.24 (3)
Sb2—O23	2.02 (3)		

Table S4. Selected bond distances of 3

Ni1—O4 <sup>3</sup>	2.17 (3)	W1—O4AA	1.86 (2)
Ni1—O2W	2.09 (3)	W1—O4AA <sup>2</sup>	1.86 (2)
Ni1—O2W <sup>1</sup>	2.09 (3)	W1—O2	1.981 (16)
Ni1—O1W	2.10 (4)	W1—O2 <sup>2</sup>	1.981 (16)
Ni1—O181	2.141 (19)	W4—O5	2.27 (2)
Ni1—O18	2.141 (19)	W4—O3	1.766 (17)
Sb1—O5	1.98 (2)	W4—O3 <sup>1</sup>	1.766 (17)
Sb1—O20 <sup>1</sup>	2.020 (16)	W4—O6 <sup>1</sup>	2.071 (18)
Sb1—O20	2.020 (16)	W4—O6	2.071 (18)
W1—O3	2.091 (17)	W4—O4	1.74 (2)
W1—O3 <sup>2</sup>	2.091 (17)		

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

-*x*+1, 1-*z*; #3 1-*y*, -*x*+1, 1-*z* 

Table S5. The valence state results of W atoms from  $\{W_3O_{11}\}$  unit, Sb, Dy and Ni for

# compound 1 based on BVS.

at	oms	length (Å)	BVS	
	O69	1.744		
	O34	1.98		
	O110	1.98	5 000	
W I	O62	2.204	- 3.999	
	O108	1.736		
	O63	2.091		
	O111	1.98		
	O113	1.695		
W2	O62	2.143	6 299	
W 2	O65	1.771	0.388	
	O31	2.38		
	O22	1.79		
	O111	2.10		
	O112	1.729		
W/2	O124	1.886	6.540	
W 3	O110	1.972	- 0.340	
	O141	2.148	_	
	O85	1.70		
	O69	2.05		
	O112	2.12		
Ni	O113	2.058	2.007	
INI	NO114	2.04	2.097	
	O59	1.98	_	
	O127	2.024		
	O107	1.987		
Sb1	O101	1.963	2.847	
	O102	2.03		
Sb2	O119	2.003	3.023	

		1	
	O53	1.979	
	O50	1.932	
	O122	1.986	
Sb3	O94	2.016	2.920
	O79	1.95	
	O19	2.401	
	O36	2.263	
	O35	2.417	
Dy1	O22	2.20	2.924
	O103	2.30	
	O20	2.37	
	O21	2.37	
	O30	2.308	
	0111	2.409	
	O146	2.319	
	O110	2.431	
Dy2	O62	2.413	2.901
	O141	2.44	
	O63	2.551	
	O86	2.40	
	O31	2.591	
	O48	2.431	
	O68	2.29	
	O139	2.40	
	O66	2.32	2.056
Dy3	O65	2.199	2.930
	O60	2.31	
	O64	2.51	
	O61	2.70	

at	toms	length (Å)	BVS
	O102	2.08	
	O51	1.95	
<b>X</b> 71	O142	1.73	5.060
vv 1	075	1.81	5.900
	O5	2.16	
	O25	1.96	
	O96	2.13	
	O97	1.87	
W2	O51	2.00	5 700
W2	O50	2.15	- 5.700
	077	1.81	_
	052	1.81	
	0111	2.10	
	0112	1.729	
W/2	O124	1.886	6.555
VV S	O110	1.972	0.555
	O141	2.148	
	085	1.70	
	O74	2.09	
	077	1.97	_
Sh 4	072	2.10	4 802
Sb4	O78	2.02	4.895
	075	2.00	
	079	1.95	
	081	1.93	
Sb1	083	1.98	3.140
	082	1.96	

**Table S6.** The valence state results of W atoms from  $\{W_3O_{11}\}$  unit, Sb and Dy for compound **2** based on BVS.

	O105	1.96	
Sb2	O23	2.02	2.872
	O88	1.99	
	O116	2.00	
Sb3	O117	1.99	2.719
	SO109	2.04	
	O102	2.46	
	O96	2.64	
	O51	2.42	
	O50	2.43	
Dy1	O103	2.49	2.982
	O5	2.56	
	O6	2.35	
	O111	2.37	
	O49	2.17	
	O87	2.46	
	032	2.40	
	O36	2.41	
Dy2	O94	2.14	2 962
Dyz	O160	2.30	2.902
	O34	2.46	
	O35	2.53	
	O33	2.40	
	O143	2.35	
	O90	2.36	
	O99	2.42	
Dy3	O56	2.35	2.831
	O91	2.37	
	076	2.16	
	089	2.41	



Fig. S4. The XPS spectra of W atoms for compounds 1 and 2.

As shown in Figure S4, the XPS results of W atoms for **1** and **2** exhibit similar behaviors. The peaks around 37.85 and 35.65 eV for **1** and around 37.95 and 35.80 eV for **2** correspond to the W  $4f_{5/2}$  and W  $4f_{7/2}$  of the W<sup>6+</sup> centers.<sup>1</sup>



Fig. S5. The XPS spectra of Sb atoms for compounds 1 and 2.

As shown in Figure S4a, the signals at 529.7 and 538.9 eV for **1** are ascribed to the Sb  $3d_{5/2}$  and Sb  $3d_{3/2}$  of the Sb<sup>3+</sup> cations. As for **2**, both the Sb  $3d_{3/2}$  and Sb  $3d_{5/2}$  spectra can be divided into two characteristic peaks. And four deconvoluted peaks were observed in the Sb 3d region at 540.2, 530.9, 539.4 and 529.65 eV, confirming the Sb valence states as Sb<sup>5+</sup> and Sb<sup>3+</sup>.<sup>2</sup>



Fig. S6. Plots of  $1/\chi_m vs$ . T to a Curie-Weiss law for compounds 1 and 2 in the range of 2-300 K.



**Fig. S7.** Temperature dependence of in-phase  $(\chi')$  (a), (c) and out-of-phase  $(\chi'')$  (b), (d) of ac susceptibility signals at different frequencies under a zero dc feld for 1 and 2.



Fig. S8. Field dependence of in-phase  $(\chi')$  of ac susceptibility signals at 2 K for 1 (a) and 2 (b).



Fig. S9. Temperature dependence of in-phase  $(\chi')$  of ac susceptibility signals at 2 K for 1 (a) and 2 (b).



**Fig. S10.** Cole-Cole diagrams of **1** (a) and **2** (b) with the solid lines represent the best fits to the experimental data.



**Fig. S11.** Plots of  $ln(\tau)$  versus  $T^{-1}$  for **2** fitted by the generalized Debye model for a one-relaxation process.

Temperature	Xτ	χs	τ	α
2.0	55.28092	-0.76679	6.70733	0.7485
2.2	38.58582	-0.39122	0.9593	0.72029
2.4	32.79391	-0.25704	0.52695	0.71194
2.6	27.81003	-0.14482	0.29797	0.70434
2.8	23.45952	0.07014	0.15772	0.68601
3.0	20.57123	0.16644	0.09979	0.67653
3.3	17.76428	0.25563	0.06196	0.6666
3.6	15.48172	0.44067	0.03709	0.64436
4.0	13.36129	0.48576	0.02163	0.63773
4.5	11.1166	0.57024	0.01145	0.62262

 Table S7. Best fitted parameters of the Cole-Cole plots for 2.

Compound	$U_{\rm eff}/k_{\rm B}({\rm K})$	ref
$[Dy(H_2O)(Hpic)_3][Dy(Hpic)_2(\alpha_2-P_2W_{17}O_{61})]^{4-1}$	119.38	3
[N(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> ] <sub>5</sub> H <sub>4</sub> [Dy(α-PW <sub>11</sub> O <sub>39</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>2-</sup>	55	
$[N-(CH_3)_4]_4H_2[\{Dy(\alpha-PW_{11}O_{39})(H_2O)_3\}_2]^{2-1}$	57	
[(DyOH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> (CO <sub>3</sub> )(α-PW <sub>9</sub> O <sub>34</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>11-</sup>	37	4
$[Dy_8(PW_{10}O_{38})_4(OH)_4(H_2O)_2(W_3O_{14})]^{26}$	64	
${Dy[Mo_5O_{13}(OMe)_4(NO)]_2}^{3-}$	50	5
$[Dy_9(CO_3)_3(ampH)_2(H_2O)_{12}(PW_{10}O_{37})_6]^{35-}$	56	6
[(PW <sub>11</sub> O <sub>39</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Dy <sub>2</sub> (OH) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>10-</sup>	141	
$[(PW_{11}O_{39})_2Dy_2F_2(H_2O)_2]^{10}$	106	7
$[\{(AsW_9O_{33})_3Dy_2(H_2O)_4W_4O_9(H_2O)\}_2(NH_2(CH_2PO_3)_2)]^{33-}$	99	8
${[Dy_4As_5W_{40}O_{144}(H_2O)_{10}(gly)_2]_3}^{21}$	3.9	9
$[Dy(\mu_2-OH)_2Eu(\gamma-SiW_{10}O_{36})_2]^{12-}$	73	10
$[K \subset \{(AsW_9O_{33})Dy(H_2O_2)_6\}^{35}$	69	11
$[Dy_2(\mu_2-OH)_2(\gamma-SiW_{10}O_{36})_2]^{12}$	66	12
$[Dy_4(Sb_3O_2)_2(SbW_{10}O_{37})_2(SbW_8O_{31})_2(H_2O)_6]^{18}$	58.2	13
$[Dy_3(H_2O)_6Sb^{V}(H_2O)(W_3O_{11})(B-a-SbW_9O_{33})_3]^{17-}$	20.1	This work

**Table S8.** The energy barriers for this work and the previously reported Dy-containing POM-based SMMs.

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