# Supporting Information 

# Self-Assembly and Luminescence of Trinuclear Lanthanide <br> Circular Helicates 

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## EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

Materials. Unless otherwise specified, solvents of analytical grade were purchased directly from commercial sources and used without any further purification. Dialdehyde $\mathrm{H}_{2}$ pdd was prepared via our previously reported method. ${ }^{1}$

Experimental Methods. High resolution electrospray ionization mass spectrometry (HR-ESI-MS) was obtained using a Thermoscientific Q Exactive mass spectrometer. Powder X-ray diffraction (PXRD) measurements were performed on a Philips X'pert MPD Pro X-ray diffractometer using $\mathrm{Cu} K \alpha$ radiation ( $\lambda=0.15418 \mathrm{~nm}$ ), in which the X-ray tube was operated at 40 kV and 40 mA at R.T. UV-vis spectra were recorded with a Shimadzu UV-3150 double-beam spectrophotometer using a quartz glass cell with a path length of 10 mm , and 3D fluorescence spectrometer Horiba Fluorolog-3 was utilized to study emission spectra. Unless otherwise specified, all experiments have been carried out at room temperature ( 298 K ). Fluorescence quantum yields $\Phi$ of complexes $1-\mathrm{Sm}$ and 1 -Eu were measured using photometric integrating sphere, while $\Phi$ of complexes $1-\mathrm{Nd}$ and $1-\mathrm{Yb}$ were measured using the $\mathrm{Yb}^{\text {III }}$ complex of tropolone as the standard due to the limitation of our equipment. The fluorescence lifetimes were determined from time-resolved intensity decay by the method of time correlated single-photon counting (TCSPC) using a diode laser at 374 nm as the light source (Model: FL-1057), and analyzed using HORIBA Scientific DAS6 v6.8 software.

Synthesis of 1-Nd. $\mathrm{H}_{2}$ pdd $(0.046 \mathrm{~g}, 0.10 \mathrm{mmol}), \mathrm{NdCl}_{3} \cdot 6 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(0.018 \mathrm{~g}, 0.05 \mathrm{mmol})$ and 1,3-propanediamine ( $0.004 \mathrm{~g}, 0.05 \mathrm{mmol}$ ) were dissolved in acetonitrile ( 20 mL ) and refluxed under $90^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ in a 50 mL round-bottom flask. After being refluxed for 2 h , the reaction mixture was cooled to the R.T. and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated to obtain compound 1-Nd. Yield: 0.038 g (67.2 \%). HR-ESI-MS (positive mode, $m / z$ ): 1096.1247, $\left[\mathrm{Nd}_{3} \mathrm{~L}_{3}\right]^{3+}$.

Synthesis of 1-Sm. The synthetic process of 1-Sm is the same as that of $\mathbf{1}-\mathrm{Nd}$ except that $\mathrm{SmCl}_{3} \cdot 6 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(0.018 \mathrm{~g}, 0.05 \mathrm{mmol})$ was used. Yield: $72 \%$, $(0.041 \mathrm{~g})$. HR-ESI-MS (positive mode, $m / z$ ): 1103.1339, $\left[\mathrm{Sm}_{3} \mathrm{~L}_{3}\right]^{3+}$.

Synthesis of 1-Eu. The synthetic process of 1-Eu is the same as that of $\mathbf{1 - N d}$ except that $\mathrm{EuCl}_{3} \cdot 6 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(0.018 \mathrm{~g}, 0.05 \mathrm{mmol})$ was used. Yield: $67.6 \%$, $(0.039 \mathrm{~g})$. HR-ESIMS (positive mode, $m / z$ ): 1105.1338, $\left[\mathrm{Eu}_{3} \mathrm{~L}_{3}\right]^{3+}$. Light yellow crystals of complex 1Eu were obtained by slow evaporation of a mixture of ethanol/acetonitrile solution $(\mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v}=4: 1)$ in air at room temperature for two weeks.

Synthesis of 1-Gd. The synthetic process of $\mathbf{1 - G d}$ is the same as that of $\mathbf{1}-\mathrm{Nd}$ except that $\mathrm{GdCl}_{3} \cdot 6 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(0.019 \mathrm{~g}, 0.05 \mathrm{mmol})$ was used. Yield: $70 \%$, ( 0.041 g ). HR-ESI-MS (positive mode, $m / z$ ): 1110.1390, $\left[\mathrm{Gd}_{3} \mathrm{~L}_{3}\right]^{3+}$.

Synthesis of 1-Dy. The synthetic process of 1-Dy is the same as that of 1-Nd except that $\mathrm{DyCl}_{3} \cdot 6 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(0.018 \mathrm{~g}, 0.05 \mathrm{mmol})$ was used. Yield: $80.6 \%$, $(0.047 \mathrm{~g})$. HR-ESIMS (positive mode, $m / z$ ): 1115.1425, $\left[\mathrm{Dy}_{3} \mathrm{~L}_{3}\right]^{3+}$. Light yellow crystals of complex 1Dy were obtained by slow evaporation of the methanol solution in air at room temperature for two weeks.

Synthesis of 1-Er. The synthetic process of $\mathbf{1}-\mathrm{Er}$ is the same as that of $\mathbf{1}-\mathrm{Nd}$ except that $\mathrm{ErCl}_{3} \cdot 6 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(0.019 \mathrm{~g}, 0.05 \mathrm{mmol})$ was used. Yield: 78 \%, ( 0.046 g ). ESI-MS (positive mode, $m / z$ ): 1120.1466, $\left[\mathrm{Er}_{3} \mathrm{~L}_{3}\right]^{3+}$. Light yellow crystals of complex 1-Er
were obtained by slow evaporation of a mixture of ethanol/acetonitrile solution ( $\mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v}=$ 4:1) in air at room temperature for two weeks.

Synthesis of $\mathbf{1 - Y b}$. The synthetic process of $\mathbf{1 - Y b}$ is the same as that of $\mathbf{1}-\mathrm{Nd}$ except that $\mathrm{YbCl}_{3} \cdot 6 \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}(0.019 \mathrm{~g}, 0.05 \mathrm{mmol})$ was used. Yield: $71.5 \%$, $(0.042 \mathrm{~g})$. HR-ESIMS (positive mode, $m / z$ ): 1136.1525, $\left[\mathrm{Yb}_{3} \mathrm{~L}_{3}\right]^{3+}$.

X-Ray Data Collection and Structural Determination. Single-crystal samples of three lanthanide helicates were covered with glue and mounted on glass fibers and then used for data collection. Crystallographic data were collected on a Bruker SMART 1K CCD diffractometer, using graphite mono-chromated $\mathrm{MoK} \alpha$ radiation ( $\lambda$ $=0.71073 \AA$ ). The crystal systems were determined by Laue symmetry and the space groups were assigned based on systematic absences using XPREP. Absorption corrections were performed to all data and the structures were solved by direct methods and refined by full-matrix least-squares method on $\mathrm{F}_{\text {obs }}{ }^{2}$ by using the SHELXTL-PC software package. ${ }^{2}$ All non-H atoms were anisotropically refined and all hydrogen atoms were inserted in the calculated positions assigned fixed isotropic thermal parameters and allowed to ride on their respective parent atoms. The summary of the crystal data, experimental details and refinement results for three compounds is listed in Table S1, whereas bond distances and angles are given in Table S2. In addition, hydrogen-bonding parameters are tabulated in Table S3.

## References

1. K. Zhang, C. Jin, H. Q. Chen, G. Yin and W. Huang, Chem Asian J, 2014, 9, 2534-2541.
2. Sheldrick, G. M. SHELXTL (Version 6.10). Software Reference Manual; Madison, Wisconsin (USA): Bruker AXS, Inc.: 2000.

Table S1. Crystal data and structural refinements for helicates 1-Eu, 1-Dy and 1-Er.

|  | 1-Eu | 1-Dy | 1-Er |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Empirical formula | $\mathrm{C}_{153} \mathrm{H}_{138} \mathrm{Cl}_{15} \mathrm{~N}_{12} \mathrm{O}_{18} \mathrm{Eu}_{3}$ | $\mathrm{C}_{153} \mathrm{H}_{136} \mathrm{Cl}_{17} \mathrm{~N}_{12} \mathrm{O}_{18} \mathrm{Dy}_{3}$ | $\mathrm{C}_{153} \mathrm{H}_{136} \mathrm{Cl}_{17} \mathrm{~N}_{12} \mathrm{O}_{18} \mathrm{Er}_{3}$ |
| Formula weight | 3420.38 | 3520.88 | 3535.16 |
| Temperature / K | 150(2) | 150(2) | 150(2) |
| Wavelength / $\AA$ | 0.71073 | 0.71073 | 0.71073 |
| Crystal Size (mm) | $0.12 \times 0.10 \times 0.10$ | $0.12 \times 0.10 \times 0.10$ | $0.12 \times 0.10 \times 0.10$ |
| Crystal system | Triclinic | Monoclinic | Monoclinic |
| Space group | ${ }_{P} \overline{\mathbf{1}}$ | C2/c | C2/c |
| $a / \AA$ | 18.132(1) | 18.123(1) | 18.542(5) |
| $b / \AA$ | 21.885(1) | 30.545(2) | 30.471(9) |
| $c / \AA$ | 25.270(1) | 30.180(2) | 29.708(8) |
| $\alpha 1^{\circ}$ | 95.683(1) | 90 | 90 |
| $\beta 1^{\circ}$ | 101.870(1) | 90.089(1) | 90.151(7) |
| $\gamma 1{ }^{\circ}$ | 101.275(1) | 90 | 90 |
| $V / \AA^{3}$ | 9521.6(6) | 16706.2(18) | 16785(8) |
| $Z / D_{\text {calcd }}\left(\mathrm{g} / \mathrm{cm}^{3}\right)$ | 2 / 1.193 | 4 / 1.400 | 4 / 1.399 |
| $F(000)$ | 3456 | 7076 | 2936 |
| $\mu / \mathrm{mm}^{-1}$ | 1.240 | 1.661 | 7100 |
| $h_{\text {min }} / h_{\text {max }}$ | -21/21 | -21/21 | -22/20 |
| $k_{\text {min }} / k_{\text {max }}$ | -26/23 | -36/35 | -36/35 |
| $l_{\text {min }} / l_{\text {max }}$ | -30/30 | -25/35 | -35/35 |
| Data / parameters | 33324 / 1810 | 14710 / 910 | 14776 / 910 |
| $R_{1}, w R_{2}[I>2 \sigma(l)]$ | $\begin{aligned} & R_{1}=0.0626 \\ & w R_{2}=0.1698 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & R_{1}=0.0710 \\ & w R_{2}=0.1720 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & R_{1}=0.0600 \\ & w R_{2}=0.1538 \end{aligned}$ |
| $R_{1}, w R_{2}$ (all data) | $\begin{aligned} & R_{1}=0.0891 \\ & w R_{2}=0.1811 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & R_{1}=0.1259 \\ & w R_{2}=0.1943 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & R_{1}=0.0831 \\ & w R_{2}=0.1637 \end{aligned}$ |
| $S$ | 1.116 | 1.018 | 1.074 |
| Max $/$ min $\Delta \rho / \mathrm{e}^{-}{ }^{-3}$ | 2.885 / -2.510 | 1.983/-1.212 | $5.007 /-2.667$ |

$R_{1}=\Sigma| | F_{\mathrm{o}}\left|-\left|F_{\mathrm{c}}\right|\right| / \Sigma\left|F_{\mathrm{o}}\right|, w R_{2}=\left[\Sigma\left[w\left(F_{\mathrm{o}}^{2}-F_{\mathrm{c}}^{2}\right)^{2}\right] / \Sigma w\left(F_{\mathrm{o}}{ }^{2}\right)^{2}\right]^{1 / 2}$

Table S2. Selected bond distances $(\AA)$ and angles $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ in helicates $\mathbf{1}-\mathrm{Eu}, \mathbf{1}-\mathrm{Dy}$ and 1-Er.

| Bond distances |  | Bond angles |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1-Eu |  |  |  |
| Eu1-O1 | $2.318(4)$ | O11-Eu1-O2 | 140.8(2) |
| Eu1-O2 | $2.284(4)$ | O11-Eu1-O10 | 68.9(1) |
| Eu1-O10 | $2.318(5)$ | O2-Eu1-O10 | 131.5(2) |
| Eu1-O11 | $2.282(4)$ | O11-Eu1-O1 | 126.9(2) |
| Eu1-O13 | $2.515(5)$ | O2-Eu1-O1 | 69.0(1) |
| Eu1-O17 | 2.517(5) | O10-Eu1-O1 | 131.9(2) |
| Eu1-N2 | $2.599(5)$ | O11-Eu1-O13 | 78.3(2) |
| Eu1-N10 | $2.626(5)$ | O2-Eu1-O13 | 135.4(2) |
| Eu2-07 | 2.277(4) | O11-Eu1-O17 | 136.6(2) |
| Eu2-08 | $2.307(4)$ | O2-Eu1-O17 | 77.7(2) |
| Eu2-09 | 2.308(4) | O10-Eu1-O17 | 68.8(1) |
| Eu2-O12 | 2.320 (5) | O1-Eu1-O17 | 77.8(2) |
| Eu2-016 | 2.492 (5) | O13-Eu1-O17 | 80.6(2) |
| Eu2-O18 | 2.512(5) | O11-Eu1-N2 | 89.4(2) |
| Eu2-N7 | 2.604(5) | O2-Eu1-N2 | 68.2(2) |
| Eu2-N9 | 2.593(5) | O10-Eu1-N2 | 78.0(2) |
| Eu3-O3 | 2.268(4) | O1-Eu1-N2 | 137.1(2) |
| Eu3-O4 | 2.337(4) | O13-Eu1-N2 | 150.6(2) |
| Eu3-O5 | $2.316(4)$ | O17-Eu1-N2 | 90.8(2) |
| Eu3-O6 | $2.299(4)$ | O11-Eu1-N10 | 68.1(2) |
| Eu3-O14 | 2.520 (4) | O2-Eu1-N10 | 83.5(2) |
| Eu3-O15 | 2.507(4) | O10-Eu1-N10 | 136.9(2) |
| Eu3-N3 | $2.602(5)$ | O1-Eu1-N10 | 78.7(2) |
| Eu3-N6 | 2.594(6) | O13-Eu1-N10 | 101.0(2) |
|  |  | O17-Eu1-N10 | 153.9(2) |
|  |  | N2-Eu1-N10 | 99.0(1) |
|  |  | O7-Eu2-O8 | 68.9(2) |
|  |  | O7-Eu2-O9 | 139.7(2) |
|  |  | O8-Eu2-O9 | 130.1(2) |
|  |  | O7-Eu2-O12 | 129.9(2) |
|  |  | O8-Eu2-O12 | 130.2(2) |
|  |  | O9-Eu2-O12 | 69.9(2) |
|  |  | O7-Eu2-O16 | 137.4(2) |
|  |  | O8-Eu2-O16 | 69.3(2) |
|  |  | O9-Eu2-O16 | 76.5(2) |
|  |  | O12-Eu2-O16 | 75.1(2) |
|  |  | O7-Eu2-O18 | 78.0(1) |
|  |  | O8-Eu2-O18 | 73.4(2) |


| O9-Eu2-O18 | 137.3(2) |
| :---: | :---: |
| O12-Eu2-O18 | 68.7(2) |
| O16-Eu2-O18 | 83.2(2) |
| O7-Eu2-N9 | 85.0(2) |
| O8-Eu2-N9 | 78.6(2) |
| O9-Eu2-N9 | 68.6(2) |
| O12-Eu2-N9 | 138.5(1) |
| O16-Eu2-N9 | 94.1(2) |
| O18-Eu2-N9 | 151.0(2) |
| O7-Eu2-N7 | 67.9(2) |
| O8-Eu2-N7 | 136.8(2) |
| O9-Eu2-N7 | 85.1(2) |
| O12-Eu2-N7 | 80.7(1) |
| O16-Eu2-N7 | 153.4(2) |
| O18-Eu2-N7 | 98.1(2) |
| N9-Eu2-N7 | 97.0(2) |
| O3-Eu3-O6 | 140.3(2) |
| O3-Eu3-O5 | 130.1(2) |
| O6-Eu3-O5 | 68.0(2) |
| O3-Eu3-O4 | 69.0(2) |
| O6-Eu3-O4 | 129.8(2) |
| O5-Eu3-O4 | 131.9(2) |
| O3-Eu3-O15 | 135.4(2) |
| O6-Eu3-O15 | 79.4(2) |
| O5-Eu3-O15 | 74.7(2) |
| O4-Eu3-O15 | 68.1(1) |
| O3-Eu3-O14 | 78.5(2) |
| O6-Eu3-O14 | 135.4(2) |
| O5-Eu3-O14 | 68.5(2) |
| O4-Eu3-O14 | 75.8(2) |
| O15-Eu3-O14 | 79.9(2) |
| O3-Eu3-N6 | 84.1(1) |
| O6-Eu3-N6 | 67.9(2) |
| O5-Eu3-N6 | 135.7(2) |
| O4-Eu3-N6 | 81.9(2) |
| O15-Eu3-N6 | 101.3(2) |
| O14-Eu3-N6 | 155.5(2) |
| O3-Eu3-N3 | 68.3(1) |
| O6-Eu3-N3 | 85.9(2) |
| O5-Eu3-N3 | 78.2(2) |
| O4-Eu3-N3 | 137.3(2) |

O15-Eu3-N3
O14-Eu3-N3
N6-Eu3-N3

| 1-Dy |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| Dy1-O7 | $2.252(6)$ |
| Dy1-O8 | $2.260(6)$ |
| Dy1-O9 | $2.496(8)$ |
| Dy1-N5 | $2.546(7)$ |
| Dy2-O1 | $2.304(6)$ |
| Dy2-O2 | $2.235(6)$ |
| Dy2-O3 | $2.274(6)$ |
| Dy2-O4 | $2.227(6)$ |
| Dy2-O5 | $2.506(6)$ |
| Dy2-O6 | $2.461(6)$ |
| Dy2-N2 | $2.512(8)$ |
| Dy2-N4 | $2.583(7)$ |

152.4(2)
94.9(2)
94.5(2)

|  |  | N2-Dy2-N4 | 91.9(2) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1-Er |  |  |  |
| Er1-O8 | 2.238(5) | O8-Er1-O8 | 133.5(3) |
| Er1-O7 | $2.241(4)$ | O8-Er1-O7 | 68.5(2) |
| Er1-O9 | 2.483(5) | O7-Er1-O7 | 141.2(2) |
| Er1-N5 | 2.526(6) | O8-Er1-09 | 77.2(2) |
| Er2-O1 | $2.279(5)$ | O7-Er1-O9 | 76.1(2) |
| Er2-O2 | 2.217(5) | O9-Er1-O9 | 85.9(3) |
| Er2-O3 | 2.253(5) | O8-Er1-N5 | 138.6(1) |
| Er2-O4 | $2.219(5)$ | O7-Er1-N5 | 70.1(2) |
| Er2-O5 | 2.458(5) | O9-Er1-N5 | 95.1(2) |
| Er2-O6 | $2.435(5)$ | N5-Er1-N5 | 97.0(3) |
| Er2-N2 | 2.516(6) | O2-Er2-O4 | 142.3(2) |
| Er2-N4 | 2.558(6) | O2-Er2-O3 | 127.5(2) |
|  |  | O4-Er2-O3 | 70.5(2) |
|  |  | O2-Er2-O1 | 70.8(1) |
|  |  | O4-Er2-O1 | 125.6(2) |
|  |  | O3-Er2-O1 | 131.8(2) |
|  |  | O2-Er2-O6 | 74.9(2) |
|  |  | O4-Er2-O6 | 139.1(2) |
|  |  | O3-Er2-O6 | 71.0(2) |
|  |  | O1-Er2-O6 | 73.7(1) |
|  |  | O2-Er2-O5 | 138.3(1) |
|  |  | O4-Er2-O5 | 74.9(2) |
|  |  | O3-Er2-O5 | 73.2(2) |
|  |  | O1-Er2-O5 | 69.9(2) |
|  |  | O6-Er2-O5 | 81.2(2) |
|  |  | O2-Er2-N2 | 70.4(2) |
|  |  | O4-Er2-N2 | 85.2(2) |
|  |  | O3-Er2-N2 | 77.0(1) |
|  |  | O1-Er2-N2 | 141.0(2) |
|  |  | O6-Er2-N2 | 99.2(2) |
|  |  | O5-Er2-N2 | 148.2(2) |
|  |  | O2-Er2-N4 | 82.7(2) |
|  |  | O4-Er2-N4 | 69.4(2) |
|  |  | O3-Er2-N4 | 139.1(2) |
|  |  | O1-Er2-N4 | 80.0(2) |
|  |  | O6-Er2-N4 | 149.8(2) |
|  |  | O5-Er2-N4 | 103.6(1) |
|  |  | N2-Er2-N4 | 91.9(2) |

Table S3. Hydrogen bonding parameters $\left(\AA,{ }^{\circ}\right)$ in helicates $\mathbf{1 - E u}, 1-\mathrm{Dy}$ and $\mathbf{1}-\mathrm{Er}$.

| D-H $\cdots \mathrm{A}$ | $\mathrm{D}-\mathrm{H}$ | $\mathrm{H} \cdots \mathrm{A}$ | $\mathrm{D} \cdots \mathrm{A}$ | CDHA |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1-Eu |  |  |  |  |
| O2-H2A $\cdots \mathrm{O} 1$ | 0.99 | 2.12 | $2.605(7)$ | 108 |
| O2-H2A $\cdots \mathrm{N} 1$ | 0.99 | 1.75 | $2.688(7)$ | 157 |
| O4-H4A $\cdots \mathrm{O} 3$ | 0.99 | 2.09 | $2.610(6)$ | 111 |
| O4-H4A $\cdots \mathrm{N} 4$ | 0.99 | 1.85 | $2.747(7)$ | 150 |
| O5-H5A $\cdots \mathrm{O} 6$ | 0.99 | 2.04 | $2.580(6)$ | 112 |
| O5-H5A $\cdots \mathrm{N} 5$ | 0.99 | 1.83 | $2.736(7)$ | 150 |
| O7-H7A $\cdots \mathrm{O} 8$ | 0.99 | 2.10 | $2.592(6)$ | 108 |
| O7-H7A $\cdots \mathrm{N} 8$ | 0.99 | 1.75 | $2.699(7)$ | 160 |
| O8-H8C $\cdots \mathrm{N} 9$ | 0.99 | 2.59 | $3.113(6)$ | 113 |
| O11-H11H $\cdots \mathrm{O} 10$ | 0.99 | 2.08 | $2.601(6)$ | 110 |
| O11-H11H $\cdots \mathrm{N} 11$ | 0.99 | 1.76 | $2.704(7)$ | 157 |
| 1-Dy |  |  |  |  |
| O2-H2A $\cdots \mathrm{O} 1$ | 0.97 | 2.12 | $2.618(8)$ | 110 |
| O2-H2A $\cdots \mathrm{N} 1$ | 0.97 | 1.77 | $2.704(8)$ | 160 |
| O4-H4A $\cdots \mathrm{O} 5$ | 0.97 | 2.40 | $2.923(8)$ | 113 |
| O4-H4A $\cdots \mathrm{N} 3$ | 0.97 | 1.84 | $2.651(9)$ | 139 |
| 1-Er |  |  |  | 108 |
| O2-H2A $\cdots \mathrm{O} 1$ | 0.97 | 2.14 | $2.604(8)$ | 109 |
| O2-H2A $\cdots \mathrm{N} 1$ | 0.97 | 1.75 | $2.681(8)$ | 160 |
| O4-H4A $\cdots \mathrm{O} 5$ | 0.97 | 2.37 | $2.851(7)$ | 110 |
| O4-H4A $\cdots \mathrm{N} 3$ | 1.79 | $2.629(8)$ | 143 |  |

Figures:


Fig. S1. (a) High-resolution ESI-mass spectrometry analysis of $\left[\mathrm{Nd}_{3} \mathrm{~L}_{3}\right]^{3+}$; (b) Experimental (black line) and calculated isotopic distribution (red line) for comparison.


Fig. S2. (a) High-resolution ESI-mass spectrometry analysis of $\left[\mathrm{Sm}_{3} \mathrm{~L}_{3}\right]^{3+}$; (b) Experimental (black line) and calculated isotopic distribution (red line) for comparison.


Fig. S3. (a) High-resolution ESI-mass spectrometry analysis of $\left[\mathrm{Eu}_{3} \mathrm{~L}_{3}\right]^{3+}$; (b) Experimental (black line) and calculated isotopic distribution (red line) for comparison.


Fig. S4. (a) High-resolution ESI-mass spectrometry analysis of $\left[\mathrm{Gd}_{3} \mathrm{~L}_{3}\right]^{3+}$; (b) Experimental (black line) and calculated isotopic distribution (red line) for comparison.


Fig. S5. (a) High-resolution ESI-mass spectrometry analysis of $\left[\mathrm{Dy}_{3} \mathrm{~L}_{3}\right]^{3+}$; (b) Experimental (black line) and calculated isotopic distribution (red line) for comparison.


Fig. S6. (a) High-resolution ESI-mass spectrometry analysis of $\left[\mathrm{Er}_{3} \mathrm{~L}_{3}\right]^{3+}$; (b) Experimental (black line) and calculated isotopic distribution (red line) for comparison.

a

b
Fig. S7. (a) High-resolution ESI-mass spectrometry analysis of $\left[\mathrm{Yb}_{3} \mathrm{~L}_{3}\right]^{3+}$; (b) Experimental (black line) and calculated isotopic distribution (red line) for comparison.

Ion Series

| $\Sigma 10$ | Formula：（C51H46C14N4O6）3Nd3CB |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Agent： $\mathrm{Cl}^{\text {l }}$ | Agent charge： | Polarity：Positive $\subset$ Negative |  |
| ion |  | monoisotopic mass | average mass |
| ［M］ |  | 3381.2812 | 3397.3051 |
| ［M－1Cl］1＋ |  | 3346.3118 | 3361.8520 |
| ［M－2Cl］2＋ |  | 1655.6712 | 1663.1995 |
| ［M－3Cl］3＋ |  | 1092.1243 | 1096.9819 |
| $\boldsymbol{\Sigma} 00$ 金 | Formula：${ }^{(\mathrm{C} 51 \mathrm{H} 46 \mathrm{Cl4N4O6)3Sm3CB}}$ |  |  |
| Agent：$\triangle \mathrm{Cl}$ | Agent charge： | Polarity：Positive $\subset$ Negative |  |
| ion |  | monoisotopic mass | average mass |
| ［M］ |  | 3411.3172 | 3415.6957 |
| ［M－1Cl］1＋ |  | 3376.3478 | 3380.2426 |
| ［M－2Cl］ $2+$ |  | 1670.6892 | 1672.3948 |
| ［M－3Cl］ $3+$ |  | 1102.1363 | 1103.1122 |
| 玉 $\because 1$ | Formula：${ }^{(C 51 H 46 C 14 N 4 O 6) 3 E u 3 C l 3}$ |  |  |
| Agent：$\triangle \mathrm{Cl}$ | Agent charge： | Polarity：Positive $\subset$ Negative |  |
| ion |  | monoisotopic mass | average mass |
| ［M］ |  | 3414.3217 | 3420.4898 |
| ［M－1Cl］ $1+$ |  | 3379.3523 | 3385.0367 |
| ［M－2Cl］2＋ |  | 1672.1914 | 1674.7918 |
| ［M－3Cl］3＋ |  | 1103.1378 | 1104.7102 |
| 玉 0 金 | Formula：${ }^{(C 51 H 46 C 14 N 4 O 6) 3 G d 3 C 13 ~}$ |  |  |
| Agent： $\mid \mathrm{Cl}$ | Agent charge： | Polarity：Positive $C$ Negative |  |
| ion |  | monoisotopic mass | average mass |
| ［M］ |  | 3429.3303 | 3436.3531 |
| ［M－1Cl］${ }^{1+}$ |  | 3394.3609 | 3400.9000 |
| ［M－2Cl］2＋ |  | 1679.6957 | 1682.7234 |
| ［M－3Cl］ $3+$ |  | 1108.1407 | 1109.9979 |
|  | Formula： $\mid$（C51H46C14N4O6）3Dy3Cl3 |  |  |
| Agent：$\widehat{C l}$ | Agent charge： | Polarity：Positive | $\bigcirc$ Negative |
| ion |  | monoisotopic mass | average mass |
| ［M］ |  | 3447.3455 | 3452.0878 |
| ［M－1Cl］1＋ |  | 3412.3761 | 3416.6347 |
| ［M－2Cl］2＋ |  | 1688.7034 | 1690.5908 |
| ［M－3Cl］3＋ |  | 1114.1458 | 1115.2428 |
| 之 00 止 | Formula：$(\mathrm{C} 51 \mathrm{H} 46 \mathrm{Cl4N4O6)3Er3CB}$ |  |  |
| Agent：$\widehat{\mathrm{Cl}}$ | Agent charge： | Polarity：Positive | $C$ Negative |
| ion |  | monoisotopic mass | average mass |
| ［M］ |  | 3453.3489 | 3466.3656 |
| ［M－1C］ $1+$ |  | 3418.3795 | 3430.9125 |
| ［M－2Cl］2＋ |  | 1691.7050 | 1697.7297 |
| ［M－3Cl］3＋ |  | 1116.1469 | 1120.0021 |
| 玉 0 上 | Formula：$(\mathrm{C} 51 \mathrm{H} 46 \mathrm{Cl4N4O6)3Yb3Cl3}$ |  |  |
| Agent：$\widehat{\mathrm{Cl}}$ | Agent charge： | Polarity：Positive | $\bigcirc$ Negative |
| ion | monoisotopic mass |  | average mass |
| ［M］ |  | 3477.3746 | 3483.7098 |
| ［M－1Cl］1＋ |  | 3442.4052 | 3448.2567 |
| ［M－2Cl］ $2+$ |  | 1703.7179 | 1706.4018 |
| ［M－3Cl］3＋ |  | 1124.1555 | 1125.7835 |

Fig．S8．Calculated mass－spectrometry data of helicates 1.


Fig. S9. Packing structure for 1-Eu.


Fig. S10. Powder XRD patterns of complex 1-Nd.


Fig. S11. Powder XRD patterns of complex 1-Sm.


Fig. S12. Powder XRD patterns of complex 1-Eu.


Fig. S13. Powder XRD patterns of complex 1-Gd.


Fig. S14. Powder XRD patterns of complex 1-Dy.


Fig. S15. Powder XRD patterns of complex 1-Er.


Fig. S16. Powder XRD patterns of complex 1-Yb.


Fig. S17. (a) UV-vis absorption spectrum of complex $1-\mathrm{Gd}$ in $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OH}(3.5 \mu \mathrm{M})$ at 298 K . (b) Phosphorescence emission of complex 1-Gd based on the circular helical ligand in the solid state at 77 K .


Fig. S18. Fluorescence emission spectra of helicates $1-\mathrm{Sm}, 1-\mathrm{Eu}, 1-\mathrm{Nd}$ and $1-\mathrm{Yb}$ in solid at room temperature $\left(\lambda_{\mathrm{ex}}=363 \mathrm{~nm}\right)$.


Fig. S19. UV-vis absorption spectrum of complex $1-\mathrm{Sm}, \mathbf{1}-\mathrm{Eu}, \mathbf{1}-\mathrm{Nd}$ and $\mathbf{1}-\mathrm{Yb}$ in a) $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OH}([\mathrm{M}]$ $=3.5 \mu \mathrm{M}) ; \mathbf{b})$ in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}([\mathrm{M}]=3.5 \mu \mathrm{M})$ at 298 K .


Fig. S20. Lifetimes of fluorescence measured by monitoring the emission at $\lambda_{\mathrm{em}}=644 \mathrm{~nm}$. a) complex 1-Sm in $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OH}([\mathrm{M}]=3.5 \mu \mathrm{M})$; b$)$ in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}([\mathrm{M}]=3.5 \mu \mathrm{M})$.


Fig. S21. Lifetimes of fluorescence measured by monitoring the emission at $\lambda_{\mathrm{em}}=614 \mathrm{~nm}$. a) complex 1-Eu in $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OH}([\mathrm{M}]=3.5 \mu \mathrm{M})$; b$)$ in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}([\mathrm{M}]=3.5 \mu \mathrm{M})$.


Fig. S22. Lifetimes of fluorescence measured by monitoring the emission at $\lambda_{\mathrm{em}}=1066 \mathrm{~nm}$. a) complex 1-Nd in $\left.\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OH}([\mathrm{M}]=3.5 \mu \mathrm{M}) ; \mathbf{b}\right)$ in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}([\mathrm{M}]=3.5 \mu \mathrm{M})$.


Fig. S23. Lifetimes of fluorescence measured by monitoring the emission at $\lambda_{\mathrm{em}}=983 \mathrm{~nm}$. a) complex $1-\mathrm{Yb}$ in $\left.\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{OH}([\mathrm{M}]=3.5 \mu \mathrm{M}) ; \mathbf{b}\right)$ in $\mathrm{CD}_{3} \mathrm{OD}([\mathrm{M}]=3.5 \mu \mathrm{M})$.

