

Supporting Information for

## Air-stable chiral mono- and dinuclear dysprosium single-molecule magnets: steric hindrance of hexaazamacrocycles

Chen Zhao,<sup>a, b</sup> Zhenhua Zhu,<sup>\*a, c</sup> Xiao-Lei Li,<sup>a</sup> and Jinkui Tang<sup>a, b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> State Key Laboratory of Rare Earth Resource Utilization, Changchun Institute of Applied Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Changchun 130022, P. R. China.

<sup>b</sup> School of Applied Chemistry and Engineering, University of Science and Technology of China, Hefei 230026, P. R. China.

<sup>c</sup> University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100049, P. R. China.

\* Corresponding author

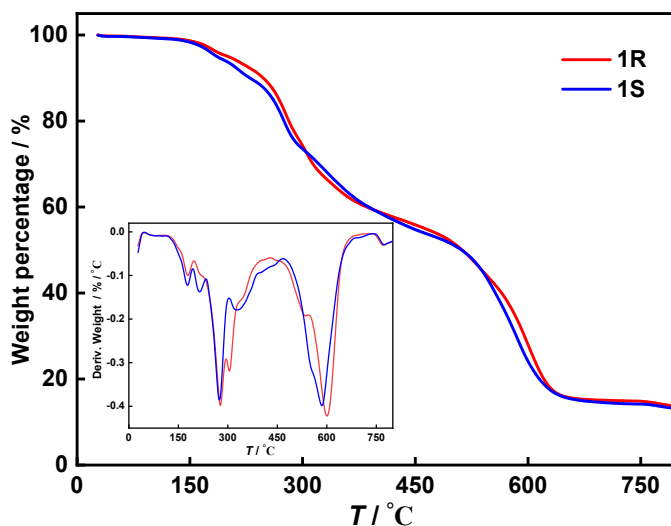


Figure S1. Thermogravimetric analyses of **1R** (red) and **1S** (blue).

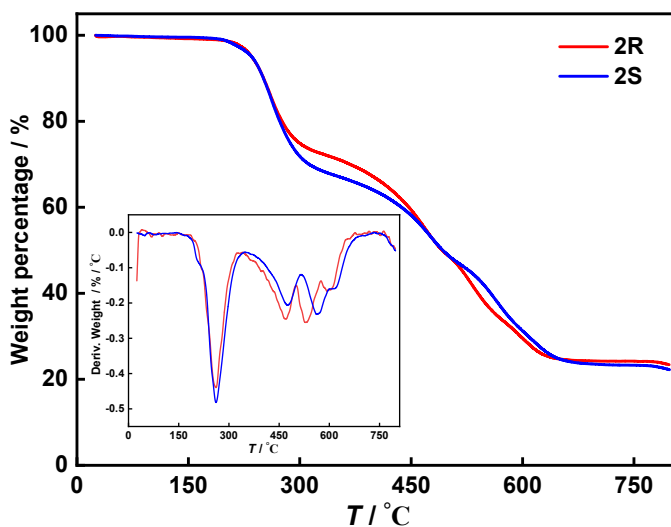


Figure S2. Thermogravimetric analyses of **2R** (red) and **2S** (blue).

**Table S1.** Crystal Data and Structure Refinement for **1R** and **1S**.

<b>Compound reference</b>	<b>1R</b>	<b>1S</b>
Chemical formula	C <sub>80</sub> H <sub>68</sub> BDyN <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>80</sub> H <sub>68</sub> BDyN <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>
Formula Mass	1318.71	1318.71
Temperature (K)	180.0	180.0
Crystal system	orthorhombic	orthorhombic
Space group	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub>	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub>
<i>a</i> (Å)	15.3455(2)	15.3363(3)
<i>b</i> (Å)	16.8624(3)	16.8363(4)
<i>c</i> (Å)	30.5926(5)	30.5645(5)
$\alpha$ (°)	90	90
$\beta$ (°)	90	90
$\gamma$ (°)	90	90
Unit cell volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	7908.4(2)	7892.0(3)
<i>Z</i>	4	4
$\rho_{\text{calc}}$ (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	1.108	1.110
$\mu$ / mm <sup>-1</sup>	0.989	0.991
<i>F</i> (000)	2708.0	2708.0
Radiation	MoK $\alpha$ ( $\lambda$ = 0.71073)	MoK $\alpha$ ( $\lambda$ = 0.71073)
Reflections collected	58068	58209
Independent reflections	13856	13819
<i>R</i> <sub>int</sub>	0.0236	0.0281
GOF on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	1.060	1.034
<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> ( <i>I</i> $\geq$ 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> ))	0.0327	0.0310
<i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub> (all data)	0.0962	0.0876
Flack parameter	0.032(3)	0.027(3)
<i>CCDC number</i>	2099516	2099517

**Table S2.** Crystal Data and Structure Refinement for **2R** and **2S**.

<b>Compound reference</b>	<b>2R</b>	<b>2S</b>
Chemical formula	C <sub>114</sub> H <sub>116</sub> B <sub>2</sub> Dy <sub>2</sub> N <sub>12</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>114</sub> H <sub>116</sub> B <sub>2</sub> Dy <sub>2</sub> N <sub>12</sub> O <sub>4</sub>
Formula Mass	2064.80	2064.80
Temperature (K)	180.0	180.0
Crystal system	monoclinic	monoclinic
Space group	C2	C2
<i>a</i> (Å)	24.4235(7)	24.4551(7)
<i>b</i> (Å)	16.4538(5)	16.4773(6)
<i>c</i> (Å)	25.1367(7)	25.1381(8)
$\alpha$ (°)	90	90
$\beta$ (°)	103.2100(10)	103.3770(10)
$\gamma$ (°)	90	90
Unit cell volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	9834.1(5)	9854.7(6)
<i>Z</i>	4	4
$\rho_{\text{calc}}$ (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	1.395	1.392
$\mu$ / mm <sup>-1</sup>	1.568	1.565
<i>F</i> (000)	4232.0	4232.0
Radiation	MoK $\alpha$ ( $\lambda$ = 0.71073)	MoK $\alpha$ ( $\lambda$ = 0.71073)
Reflections collected	50009	62940
Independent reflections	17293	17368
<i>R</i> <sub>int</sub>	0.0296	0.0407
GOF on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	1.044	1.067
<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> ( <i>I</i> $\geq$ 2 $\sigma$ ( <i>I</i> ))	0.0404	0.0510
<i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub> (all data)	0.1089	0.1461
Flack parameter	0.002(5)	0.006(6)
<i>CCDC number</i>	2078250	2078251

**Table S3.** Selected bond distances (Å) for complexes **1R** and **1S**.

<b>1R</b>		<b>1S</b>	
Dy1-O1	2.145(4)	Dy1-O1	2.149(4)
Dy1-O2	2.136(4)	Dy1-O2	2.129(4)
Dy1-N1	2.622(5)	Dy1-N1	2.623(4)
Dy1-N2	2.637(4)	Dy1-N2	2.635(4)
Dy1-N3	2.656(4)	Dy1-N3	2.671(4)
Dy1-N4	2.691(5)	Dy1-N4	2.646(4)
Dy1-N5	2.647(5)	Dy1-N5	2.655(4)
Dy1-N6	2.632(4)	Dy1-N6	2.662(5)

**Table S4.** Selected bond distances (Å) for complexes **2R** and **2S**.

<b>2R</b>		<b>2S</b>	
Dy1-O1	2.138(6)	Dy1-O4	2.2841(5)
Dy1-O2	2.2934(4)	Dy1-O5	2.152(7)
Dy1-O3	2.2825(4)	Dy1-O3	2.2967(5)
Dy1-N1	2.696(8)	Dy1-N7	2.649(11)
Dy1-N2	2.626(7)	Dy1-N8	2.617(9)
Dy1-N3	2.656(8)	Dy1-N9	2.683(10)
Dy1-N4	2.769(8)	Dy1-N10	2.619(9)
Dy1-N5	2.635(7)	Dy1-N11	2.625(9)
Dy1-N6	2.628(8)	Dy1-N12	2.760(11)
Dy2-O4	2.131(8)	Dy2-O1	2.2808(6)
Dy2-O5	2.2835(4)	Dy2-O2	2.135(12)
Dy2-O5 <sup>1</sup>	2.2819(4)	Dy2-O1 <sup>2</sup>	2.2897(6)
Dy2-N7	2.611(11)	Dy2-N1	2.616(14)
Dy2-N8	2.750(9)	Dy2-N2	2.625(9)
Dy2-N9	2.635(12)	Dy2-N3	2.753(13)
Dy2-N10	2.6604(10)	Dy2-N4	2.601(14)
Dy2-N11	2.745(9)	Dy2-N5	2.686(13)
Dy2-N12	2.687(10)	Dy2-N6	2.749(12)

<sup>1</sup>2-X, +Y, -Z; <sup>2</sup>1-X, +Y, -Z

**Table S5.** Selected bond angles (°) for complexes **1R** and **1S**.

	<b>1R</b>		<b>1S</b>
O1-Dy1-O2	170.45(17)	O1-Dy1-O2	170.05(16)
O1-Dy1-N1	85.59(16)	O1-Dy1-N1	85.82(15)
O1-Dy1-N2	82.70(15)	O1-Dy1-N2	82.88(14)
O1-Dy1-N3	87.22(16)	O1-Dy1-N3	87.61(15)
O1-Dy1-N4	81.59(16)	O1-Dy1-N4	92.19(15)
O1-Dy1-N5	103.09(16)	O1-Dy1-N5	103.40(15)
O1-Dy1-N6	92.55(16)	O1-Dy1-N6	81.25(15)
O2-Dy1-N1	98.57(17)	O2-Dy1-N1	98.44(16)
O2-Dy1-N2	93.13(16)	O2-Dy1-N2	92.79(14)
O2-Dy1-N3	98.31(17)	O2-Dy1-N3	98.21(16)
O2-Dy1-N4	92.84(17)	O2-Dy1-N4	77.90(15)
O2-Dy1-N5	86.42(16)	O2-Dy1-N5	86.50(15)
O2-Dy1-N6	77.94(17)	O2-Dy1-N6	92.99(16)
N1-Dy1-N2	168.26(15)	N1-Dy1-N2	168.69(14)
N1-Dy1-N3	117.67(14)	N1-Dy1-N3	117.76(13)
N1-Dy1-N4	61.12(14)	N1-Dy1-N4	120.88(14)
N1-Dy1-N5	61.02(14)	N1-Dy1-N5	60.91(13)
N1-Dy1-N6	121.15(15)	N1-Dy1-N6	60.47(13)
N2-Dy1-N3	61.06(13)	N2-Dy1-N3	61.36(12)
N2-Dy1-N4	117.55(14)	N2-Dy1-N4	60.29(13)
N2-Dy1-N5	121.11(14)	N2-Dy1-N5	121.46(13)
N2-Dy1-N6	60.41(14)	N2-Dy1-N6	117.91(13)
N3-Dy1-N4	168.80(15)	N3-Dy1-N4	121.17(13)
N3-Dy1-N5	60.80(14)	N3-Dy1-N5	60.89(13)
N3-Dy1-N6	120.98(14)	N3-Dy1-N6	168.80(14)
N4-Dy1-N5	121.29(14)	N4-Dy1-N5	164.40(15)
N4-Dy1-N6	60.45(14)	N4-Dy1-N6	60.86(13)
N5-Dy1-N6	164.36(15)	N5-Dy1-N6	120.58(13)

**Table S6.** Selected bond angles (°) for complexes **2R** and **2S**.

<b>2R</b>		<b>2S</b>	
Dy1-O2-Dy1 <sup>1</sup>	113.051(17)	Dy1-O3-Dy1 <sup>1</sup>	112.91(2)
Dy1-O3-Dy1 <sup>1</sup>	113.884(17)	Dy1-O4-Dy1 <sup>3</sup>	113.872(2)
Dy2-O5-Dy2 <sup>2</sup>	113.749(12)	Dy2-O1-Dy2 <sup>4</sup>	113.710(16)
O1-Dy1-O2	145.7(3)	O5-Dy1-O3	145.6(3)
O1-Dy1-O3	147.7(3)	O5-Dy1-O4	147.7(3)
O4-Dy2-O5	145.76(19)	O2-Dy2-O1	147.7(3)
O4-Dy2-O5 <sup>2</sup>	147.96(19)	O2-Dy2-O1 <sup>4</sup>	146.0(3)
O1-Dy1-N1	79.9(3)	O5-Dy1-N7	78.0(4)
O1-Dy1-N2	94.5(2)	O5-Dy1-N8	94.5(3)
O1-Dy1-N3	78.1(3)	O5-Dy1-N9	79.6(4)
O1-Dy1-N4	78.2(3)	O5-Dy1-N10	76.7(4)
O1-Dy1-N5	93.5(2)	O5-Dy1-N11	93.8(3)
O1-Dy1-N6	76.5(3)	O5-Dy1-N12	78.5(4)
O4-Dy2-N7	93.0(4)	O2-Dy2-N1	94.3(5)
O4-Dy2-N8	78.4(3)	O2-Dy2-N2	77.4(4)
O4-Dy2-N9	77.6(4)	O2-Dy2-N3	78.4(4)
O4-Dy2-N10	94.4(4)	O2-Dy2-N4	93.0(5)
O4-Dy2-N11	79.6(3)	O2-Dy2-N5	76.6(4)
O4-Dy2-N12	76.7(3)	O2-Dy2-N6	79.6(4)
N1-Dy1-N2	60.6(2)	N1-Dy2-N2	62.1(4)
N2-Dy1-N3	60.9(2)	N2-Dy2-N3	61.3(5)
N3-Dy1-N4	60.3(2)	N3-Dy2-N4	59.8(5)
N4-Dy1-N5	59.9(2)	N4-Dy2-N5	60.9(4)
N5-Dy1-N6	61.7(2)	N5-Dy2-N6	59.3(4)
N6-Dy1-N1	61.0(2)	N6-Dy2-N1	60.4(4)
N7-Dy2-N8	59.6(3)	N7-Dy1-N8	60.9(3)
N8-Dy2-N9	61.4(4)	N8-Dy1-N9	60.6(3)
N9-Dy2-N10	62.0(4)	N9-Dy1-N10	61.1(3)
N10-Dy2-N11	60.4(3)	N10-Dy1-N11	61.6(3)
N11-Dy2-N12	59.8(3)	N11-Dy1-N12	59.9(3)
N12-Dy2-N7	60.6(3)	N12-Dy1-N7	60.2(3)

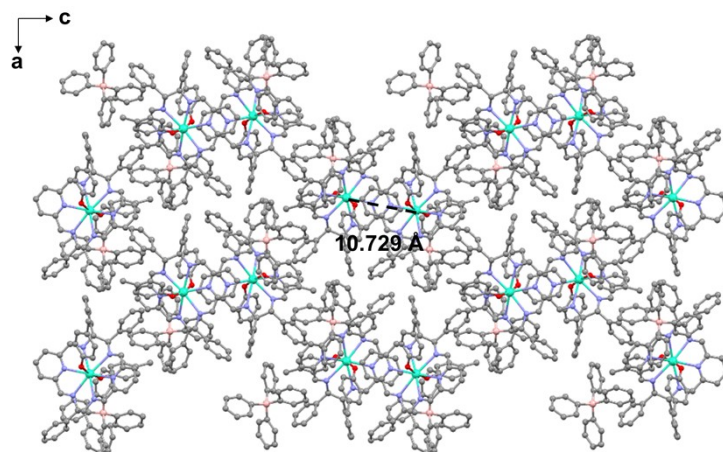
<sup>1</sup>2-X, +Y, 1-Z; <sup>2</sup>2-X, +Y, -Z; <sup>3</sup>1-X, +Y, -Z; <sup>4</sup>1-X, +Y, 1-Z

**Table S7.** The CShM values calculated by SHAPE 2.1 for **1R** and **2R**.<sup>1,2</sup>

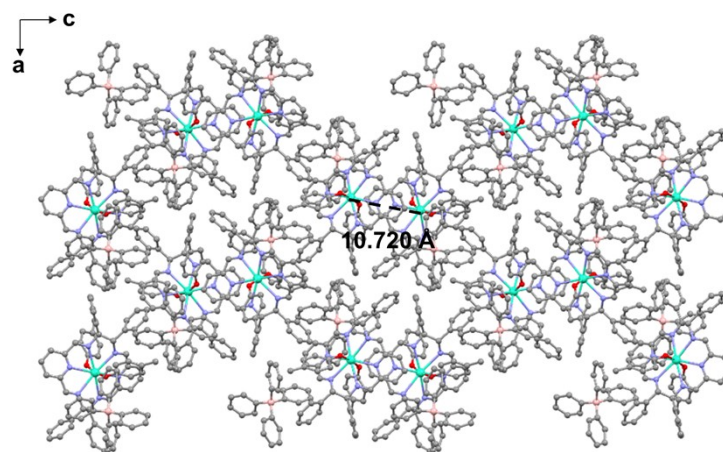
Central atom	Coordination Geometry	1R	1S
Dy	Octagon ( $D_{8h}$ )	31.332	31.270
	Heptagonal pyramid ( $C_{7v}$ )	21.137	20.983
	Hexagonal bipyramid ( $D_{6h}$ )	<b>1.860</b>	<b>1.858</b>
	Cube ( $O_h$ )	10.189	10.198
	Square antiprism ( $D_{4d}$ )	16.094	16.117
	Triangular dodecahedron ( $D_{2d}$ )	13.426	13.407
	Johnson gyrobifastigium J26 ( $D_{2d}$ )	6.568	6.590
	Johnson elongated triangular bipyramid J14 ( $D_{3h}$ )	23.392	23.461
	Biaugmented trigonal prism J50 ( $C_{2v}$ )	14.540	14.550
	Biaugmented trigonal prism ( $C_{2v}$ )	14.195	14.156
	Snub diphenoid J84 ( $D_{2d}$ )	14.967	15.013
	Triakis tetrahedron ( $T_d$ )	10.999	10.977
	Elongated trigonal bipyramid ( $D_{3h}$ )	20.999	21.000

**Table S8.** The CShM values calculated by SHAPE 2.1 for **2R** and **2S**.<sup>1,2</sup>

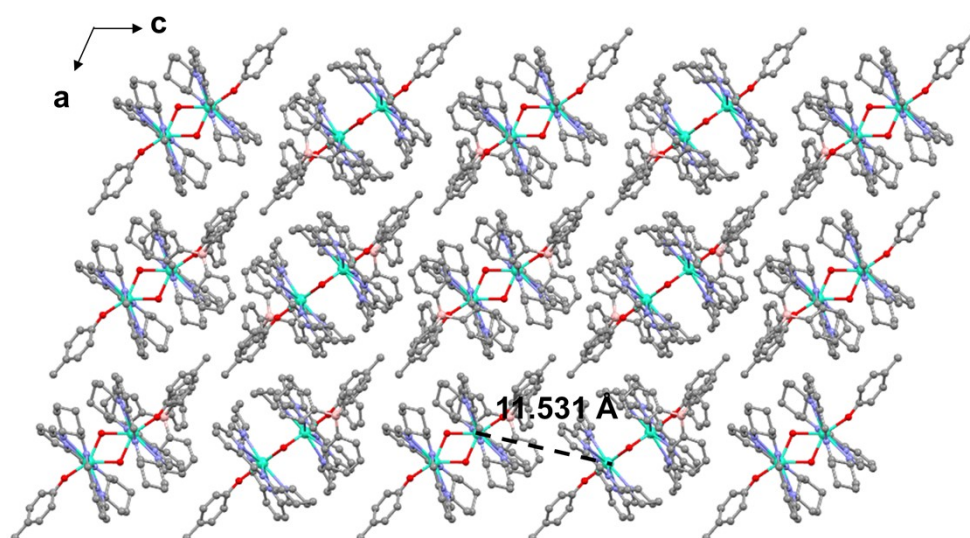
Coordination Geometry	2R		2S	
	Dy1	Dy2	Dy1	Dy2
Enneagon ( $D_{9h}$ )	32.298	32.244	32.242	32.179
Octagonal pyramid ( $C_{8v}$ )	22.067	22.002	22.016	22.105
Heptagonal bipyramid ( $D_{7h}$ )	15.106	14.517	15.053	14.599
Johnson triangular cupola J3 ( $C_{3v}$ )	14.438	14.559	14.485	14.541
Capped cube J8 ( $C_{4v}$ )	7.516	7.641	7.529	7.617
Spherical-relaxed capped cube ( $C_{4v}$ )	6.764	7.010	6.743	7.001
Capped square antiprism J10 ( $C_{4v}$ )	8.304	8.310	8.244	8.329
Spherical capped square antiprism ( $C_{4v}$ )	7.375	7.291	7.316	7.297
Tricapped trigonal prism J51 ( $D_{3h}$ )	7.709	7.627	7.671	7.633
Spherical tricapped trigonal prism ( $D_{3h}$ )	8.458	8.403	8.382	8.403
Tridiminished icosahedron J63 ( $C_{3v}$ )	9.352	9.705	9.373	9.645
Hula-hoop ( $C_{2v}$ )	<b>2.561</b>	<b>2.736</b>	<b>2.512</b>	<b>2.749</b>
Muffin ( $C_s$ )	5.654	5.580	5.591	5.578



**Figure S3.** The packing diagram for **1R** shown along the crystallographic *b* axis gives the shortest intermolecular Dy···Dy distance of 10.729 Å.

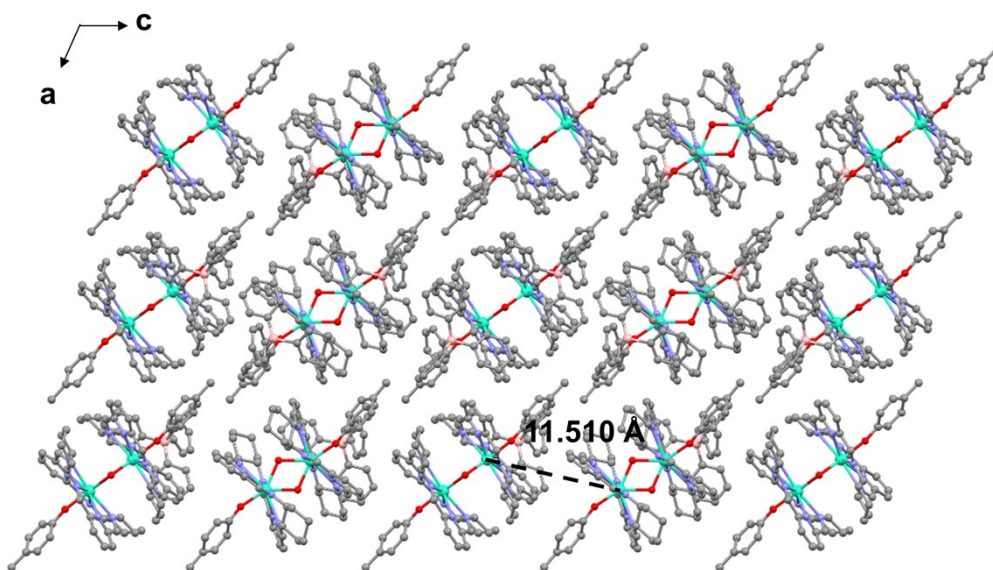


**Figure S4.** The packing diagram for **1S** shown along the crystallographic *b* axis gives the shortest intermolecular Dy···Dy distance of 10.720 Å.

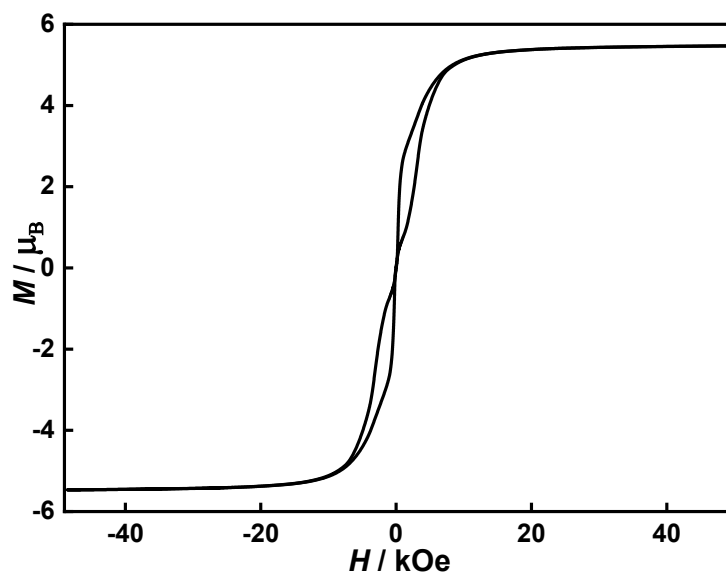


**Figure S5.** The packing diagram for **2R** shown along the crystallographic *b* axis gives the shortest intermolecular Dy···Dy distance of 11.531 Å.

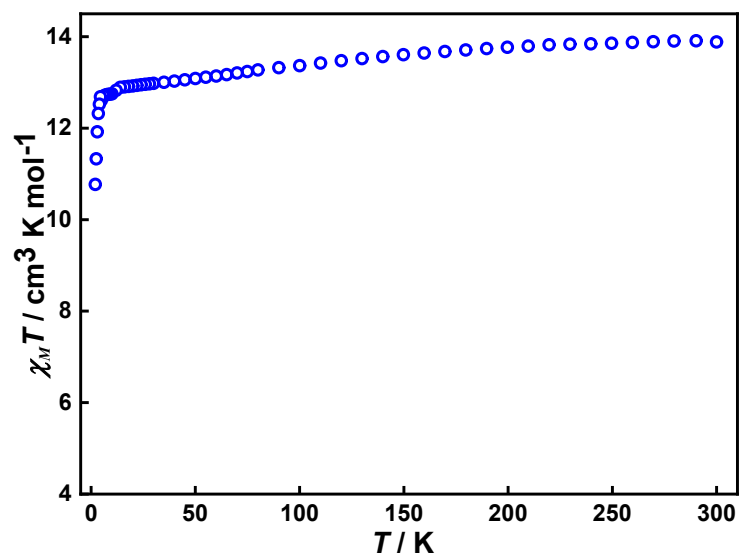




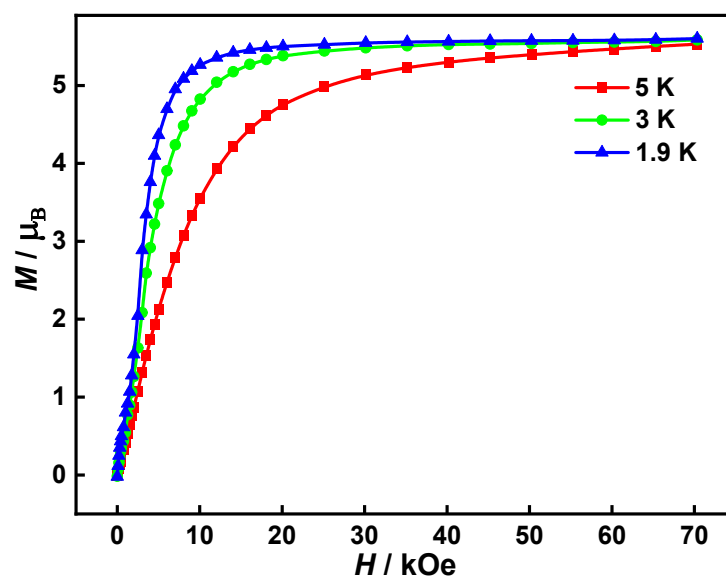
**Figure S6.** The packing diagram for **2S** shown along the crystallographic *b* axis gives the shortest intermolecular Dy...Dy distance of 11.510 Å.



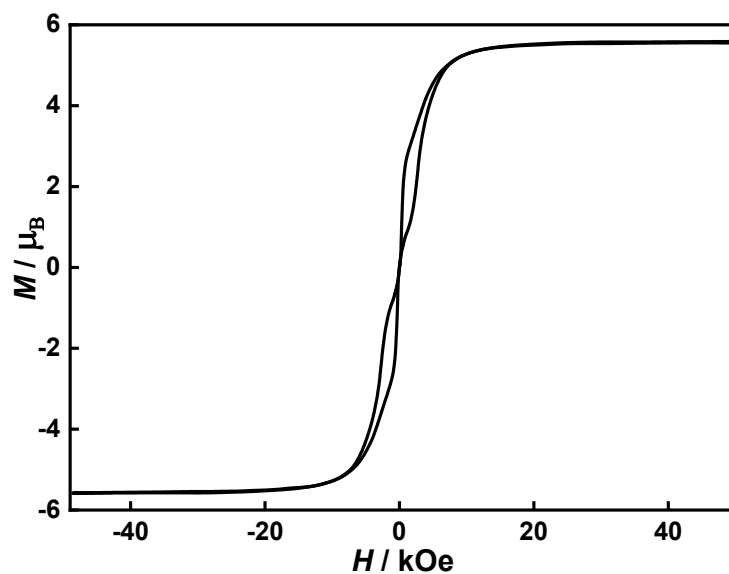
**Figure S7.** Magnetic hysteresis loop for **1R**. The data were collected at 1.9 K using an average field sweep speed of 31 Oe s<sup>-1</sup>.



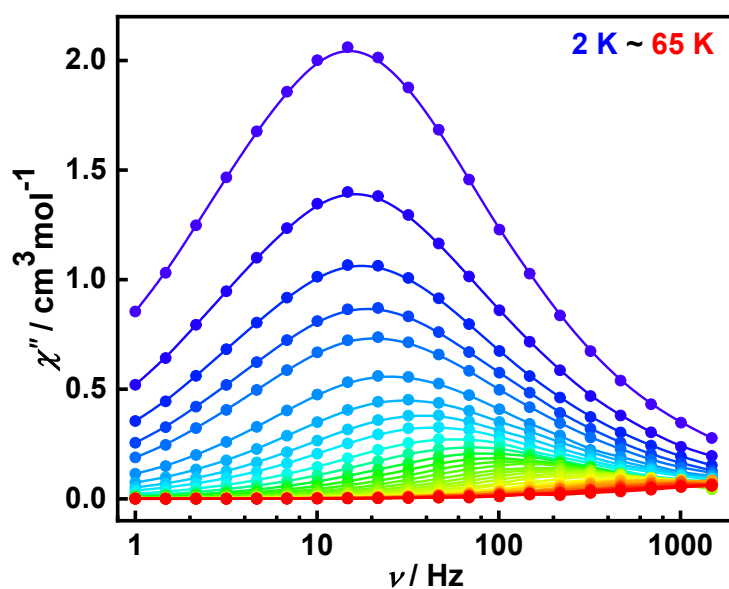
**Figure S8.** Plots of  $\chi_M T$  versus temperature for **1S** in an applied magnetic field of 1 kOe.  $\chi_M T$  (300 K) = 13.88 cm<sup>3</sup> K mol<sup>-1</sup>,  $\chi_M T$  (2 K) = 10.77 cm<sup>3</sup> K mol<sup>-1</sup>.



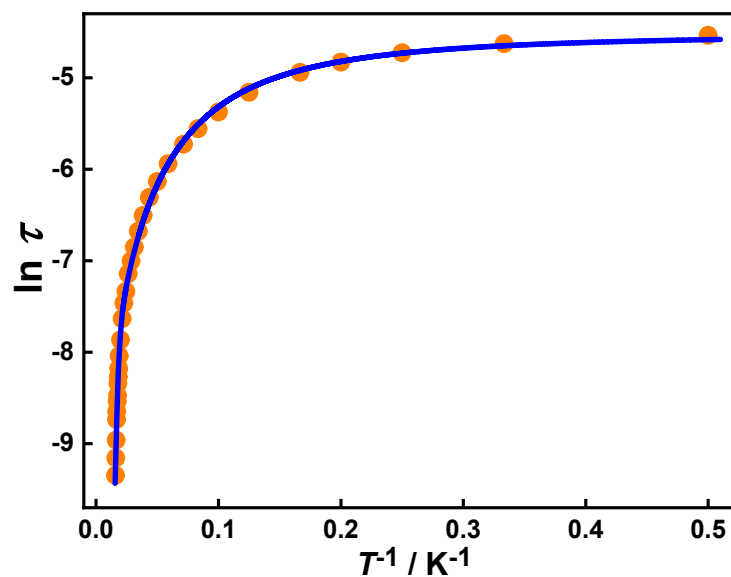
**Figure S9.** Field dependence of the magnetization at 1.9 K, 3 K and 5 K for **1S**.  $M = 5.60 \mu_B$  at 1.9 K and 70 kOe.



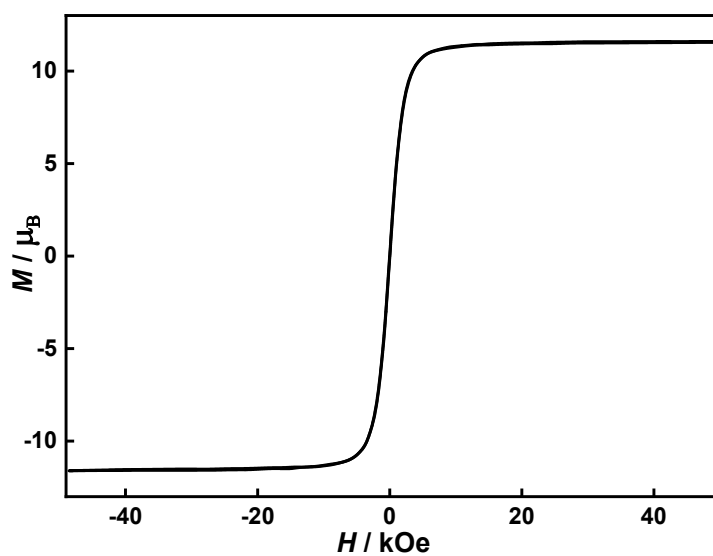
**Figure S10.** Magnetic hysteresis loop for **1S**. The data were collected at 1.9 K using an average field sweep speed of 31 Oe s<sup>-1</sup>.



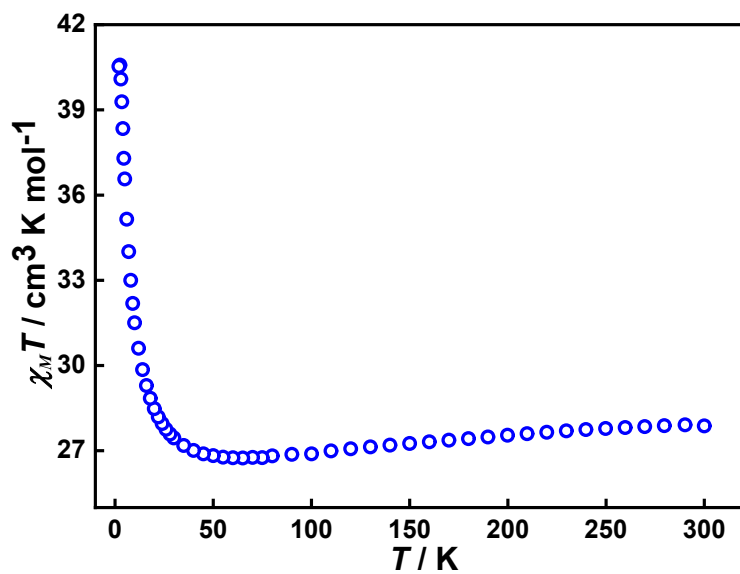
**Figure S11.** Frequency dependence of the out-of-phase susceptibility ( $\chi''$ ) for **1S** in zero DC field at AC frequencies of 1-1488 Hz in the temperature range of 2 to 65 K.



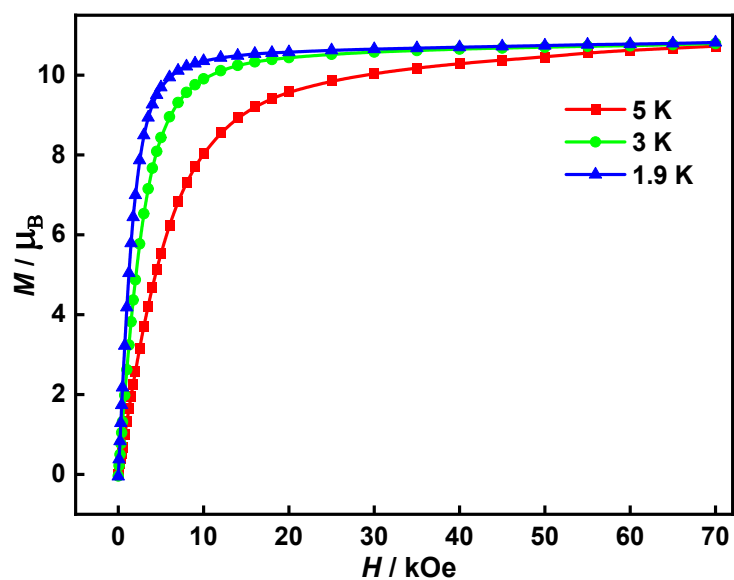
**Figure S12.** Temperature dependence of the relaxation time in the form of natural logarithm for **1S**. The blue line represents the fitting. The fitting equation is  $\ln(\tau) = -\ln[CT^n + \tau_0^{-1} \exp(-U_{\text{eff}}/k_B T) + 1/\tau_{\text{QTM}}]$ , giving  $U_{\text{eff}} = 533(11) \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\tau_0 = 6.8(3) \times 10^{-10} \text{ s}$ ,  $C = 1.9(2) \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-n}$ ,  $n = 1.78(4)$ ,  $\tau_{\text{QTM}} = 1.09(4) \times 10^{-2} \text{ s}$ .



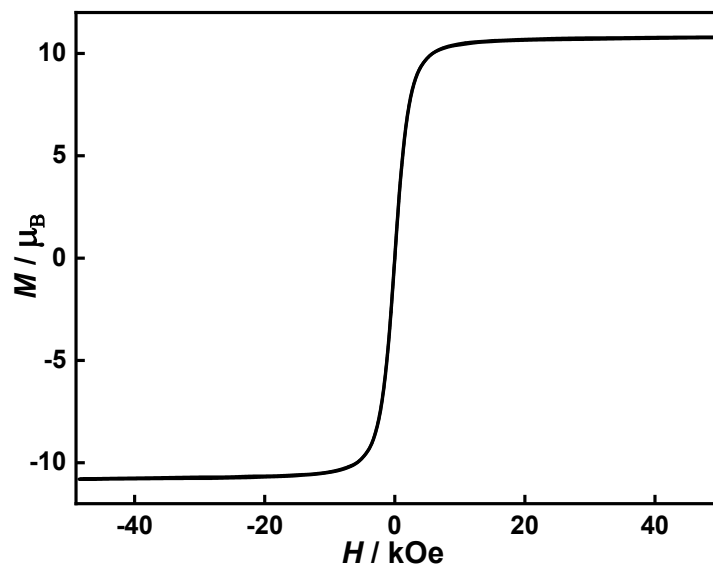
**Figure S13.** Magnetic hysteresis loop for **2R**. The data were collected at 1.9 K using an average field sweep speed of  $31 \text{ Oe s}^{-1}$ .



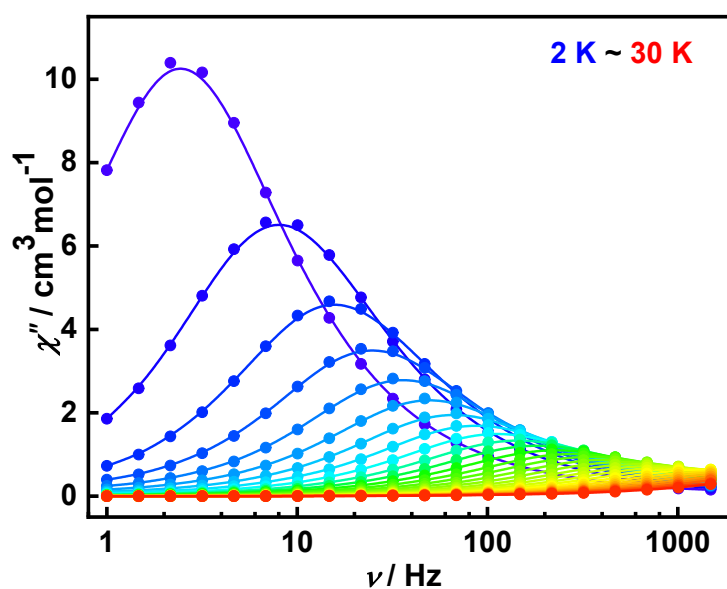
**Figure S14.** Plots of  $\chi_M T$  versus  $T$  for **2S** in an applied magnetic field of 1 kOe.  $\chi_M T$  (300 K) = 24.61 cm<sup>3</sup> K mol<sup>-1</sup>,  $\chi_M T$  (75 K) = 27.87 cm<sup>3</sup> K mol<sup>-1</sup>,  $\chi_M T$  (2 K) = 40.53 cm<sup>3</sup> K mol<sup>-1</sup>.



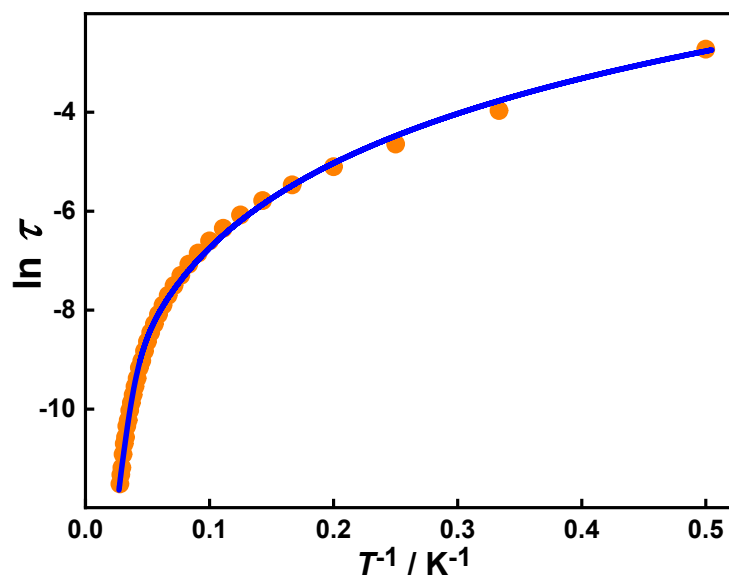
**Figure S15.** Field dependence of the magnetization at 1.9 K, 3 K and 5 K for **2S**.  $M = 10.82 \mu_B$  at 1.9 K and 70 kOe.



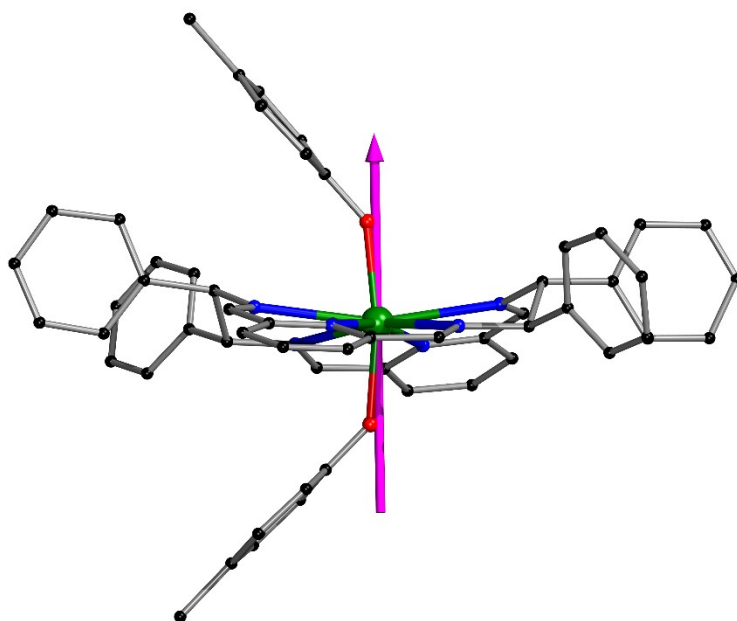
**Figure S16.** Magnetic hysteresis loop for **2S**. The data were collected at 1.9 K using an average field sweep speed of 31 Oe s<sup>-1</sup>.



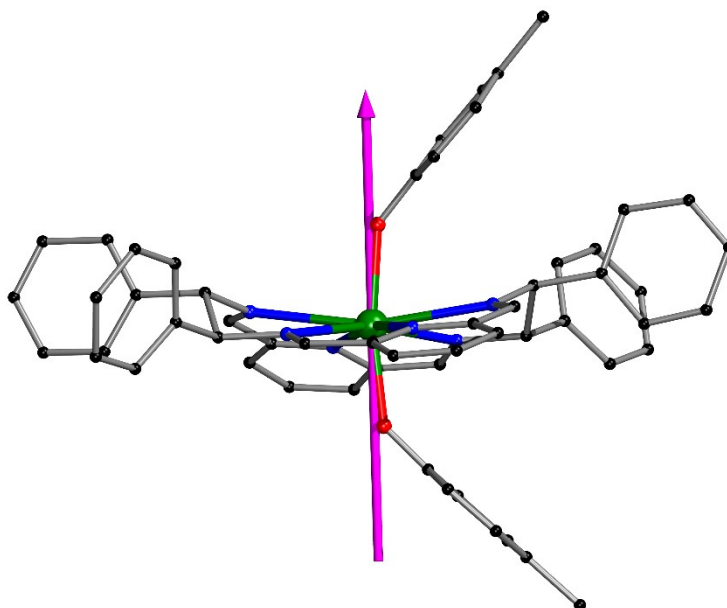
**Figure S17.** Frequency dependence of the out-of-phase susceptibility ( $\chi''$ ) for **2S** in zero DC field at AC frequencies of 1-1488 Hz in the temperature range of 2 to 30 K.



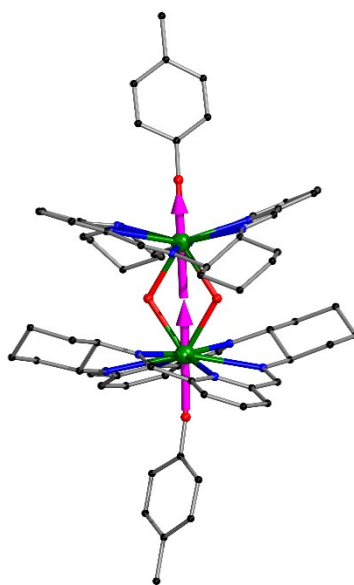
**Figure S18.** Temperature dependence of the relaxation time in the form of natural logarithm for **2S**. The blue line represents the fitting. The fitting equation is  $\ln(\tau) = -\ln[CT^n + \tau_0^{-1}\exp(-U_{\text{eff}}/k_B T)]$ , giving  $U_{\text{eff}} = 160(13) \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\tau_0 = 2.1(1) \times 10^{-8} \text{ s}$ ,  $C = 2.9(2) \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-n}$ ,  $n = 2.47(3)$ .



**Figure S19.** Ground-state magnetic anisotropy of complex **1R**. The pink line represents the orientation of the anisotropy axis for  $\text{Dy}^{\text{III}}$  ion.<sup>3</sup>

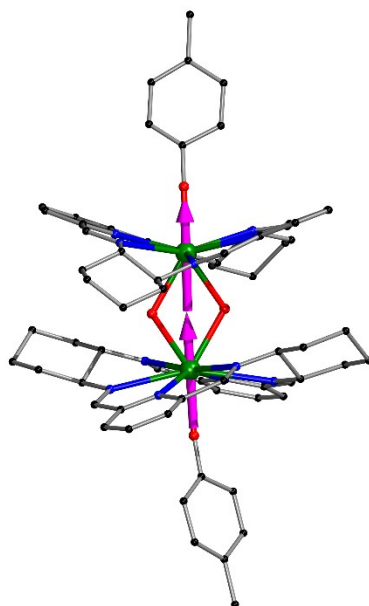


**Figure S20.** Ground-state magnetic anisotropy of complex **1S**. The pink line represents the orientation of the anisotropy axis for Dy<sup>III</sup> ion.<sup>3</sup>



**Figure S21.** Ground-state magnetic anisotropy of complex **2R**. The pink lines represent the orientations of the anisotropy axes for Dy<sup>III</sup> ions.<sup>3</sup>





**Figure S22.** Ground-state magnetic anisotropy of complex **2S**. The pink lines represent the orientations of the anisotropy axes for Dy<sup>III</sup> ions.<sup>3</sup>

#### Reference

1. M. Pinsky and D. Avnir, Continuous Symmetry Measures. 5. The Classical Polyhedra, *Inorg. Chem.*, 1998, **37**, 5575-5582.
2. D. Casanova, J. Cirera, M. Llunell, P. Alemany, D. Avnir and S. Alvarez, Minimal Distortion Pathways in Polyhedral Rearrangements, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2004, **126**, 1755-1763.
3. N. F. Chilton, D. Collison, E. J. L. McInnes, R. E. P. Winpenny and A. Soncini, An electrostatic model for the determination of magnetic anisotropy in dysprosium complexes, *Nat. Commun.*, 2013, **4**, 2551.