

**Influence of weakly coordinating anions binding to the hexa-*tert*-butyl dysprosocenium
cation**

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Contents

1. Infrared Spectroscopy	S2
2. NMR Spectroscopy	S3
3. X-ray Crystallography	S7
4. Magnetic Measurements	S10
5. CASSCF-SO Calculations	S23

1. Infrared Spectroscopy

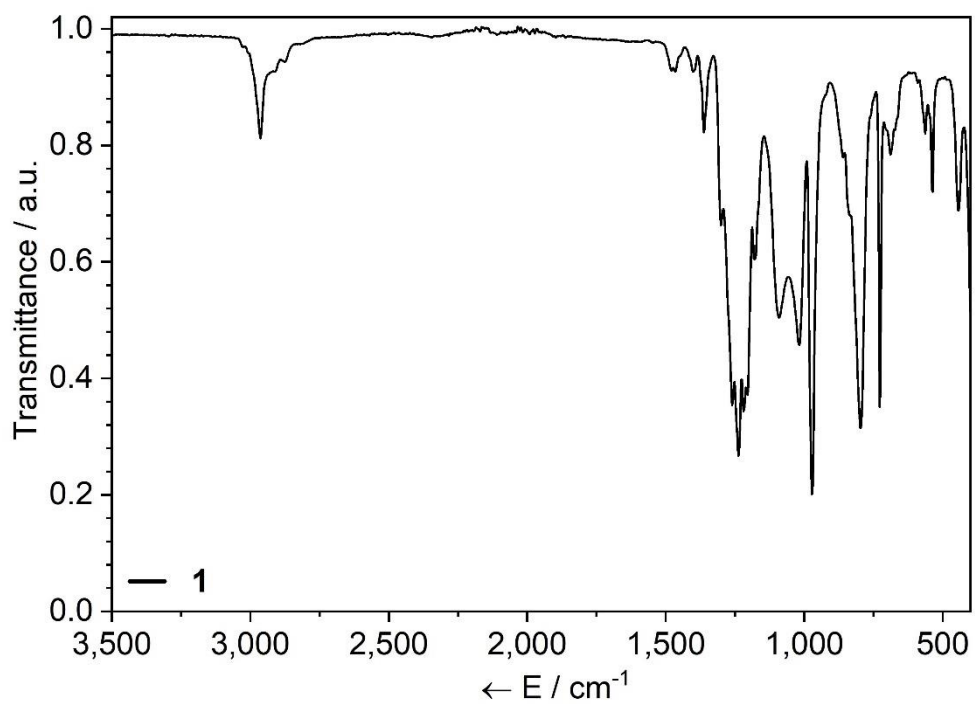


Figure S1. ATR-IR spectrum of **1**, recorded as a microcrystalline powder.

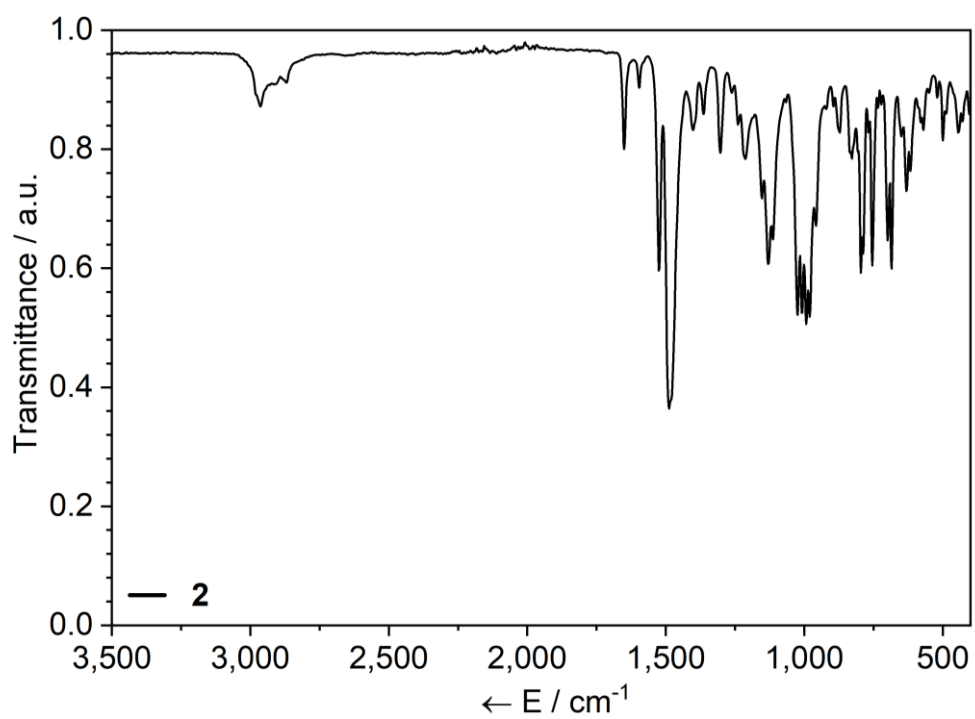


Figure S2. ATR-IR spectrum of **2**, recorded as a microcrystalline powder.

2. NMR Spectroscopy

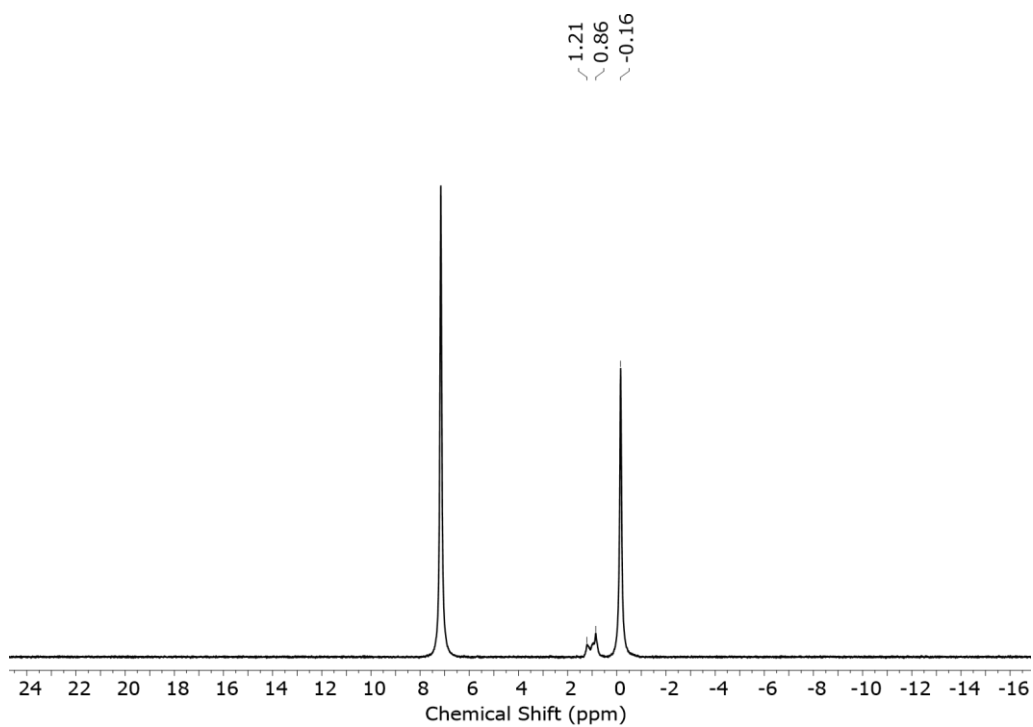


Figure S3. ^1H NMR spectrum of **1** (400 MHz) in $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{F}$; full spectral range 200 to -200 ppm.

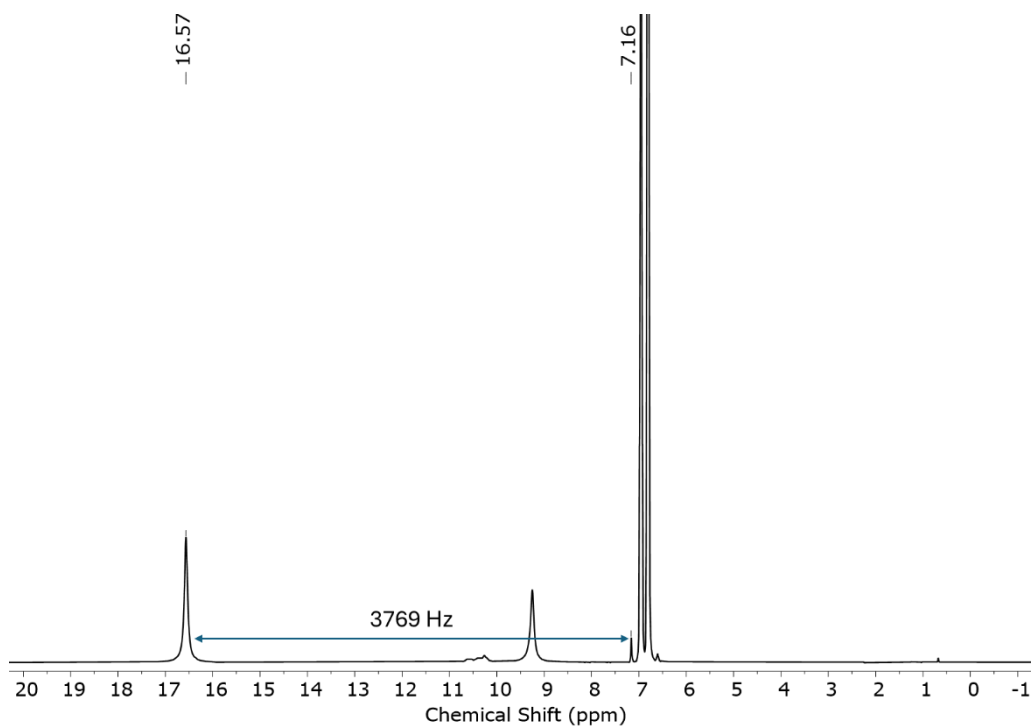


Figure S4. ^1H NMR spectrum of **1** (400 MHz) in $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{F}$ with a $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6/\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{F}$ insert; full spectral range 200 to -200 ppm.

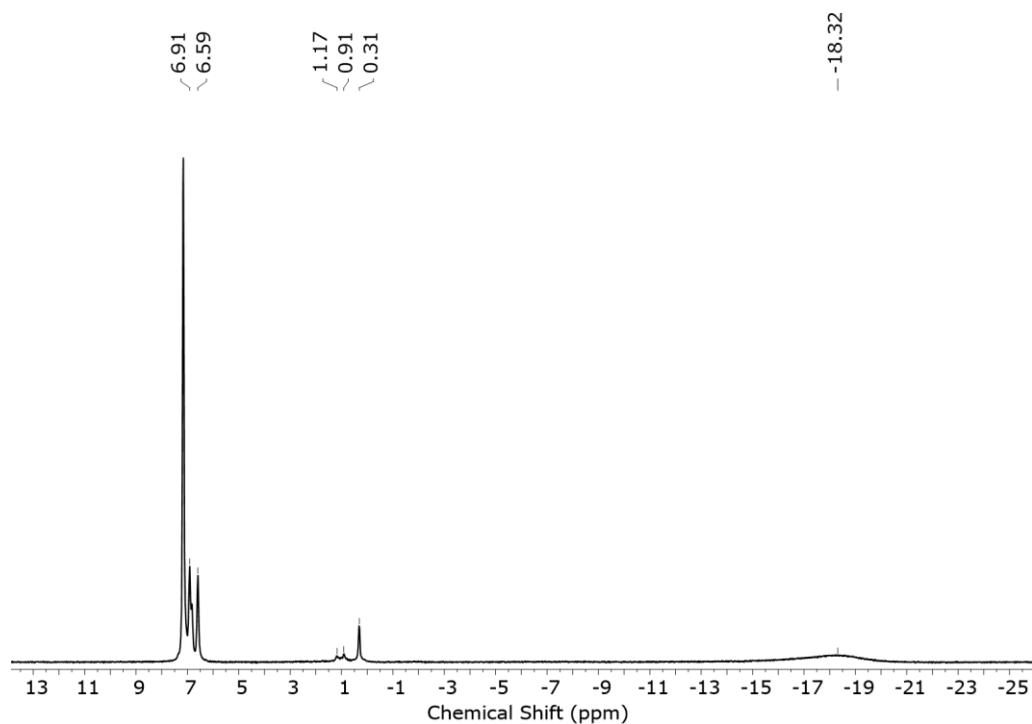


Figure S5. ^1H NMR spectrum of **2** (400 MHz) in $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{F}$; full spectral range 200 to -200 ppm.

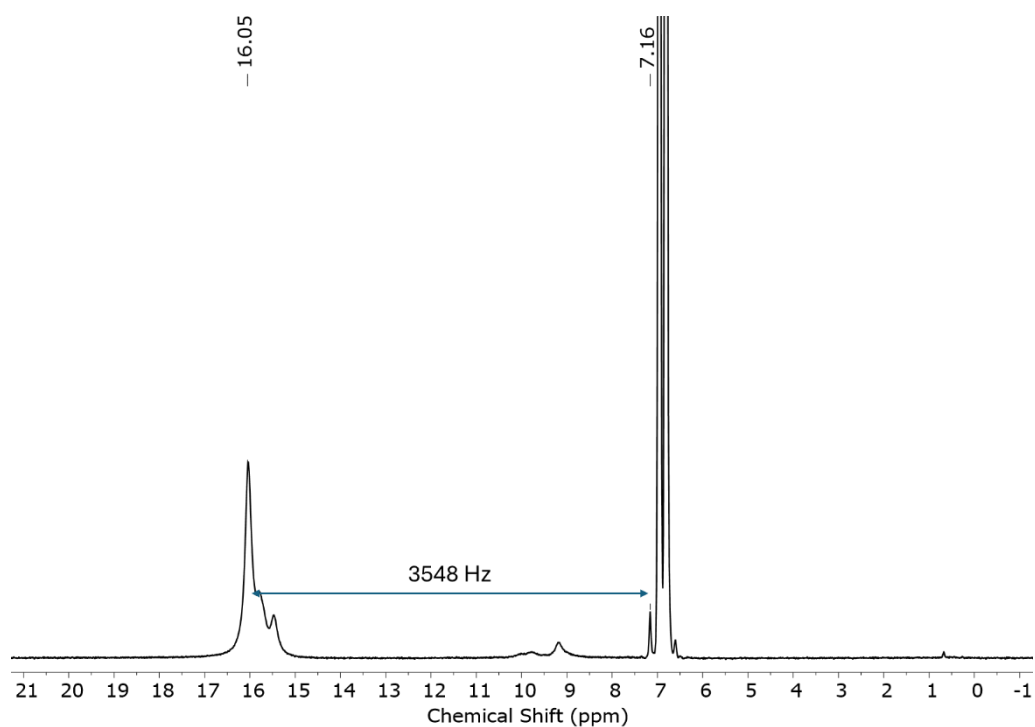


Figure S6. ^1H NMR spectrum of **2** (400 MHz) in $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{F}$ with a $\text{C}_6\text{D}_6/\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{F}$ insert; full spectral range 200 to -200 ppm.

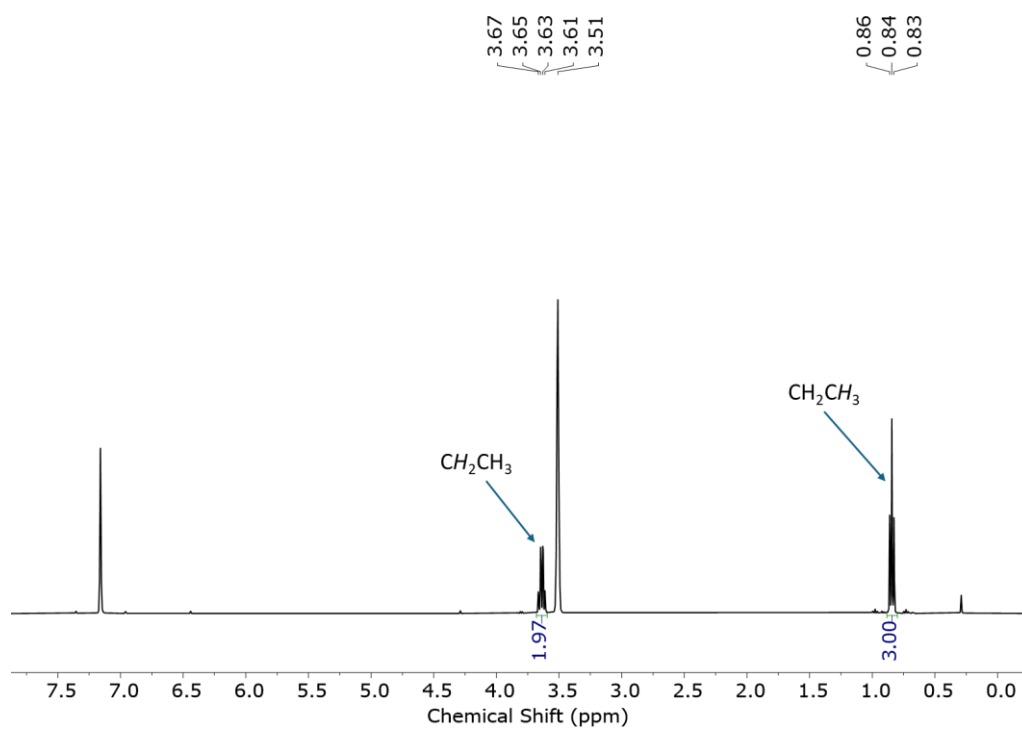


Figure S7. ¹H NMR spectrum of [Al(C₂H₅){OC(C₆F₅)₃}₂] (400 MHz) in C₆D₆.

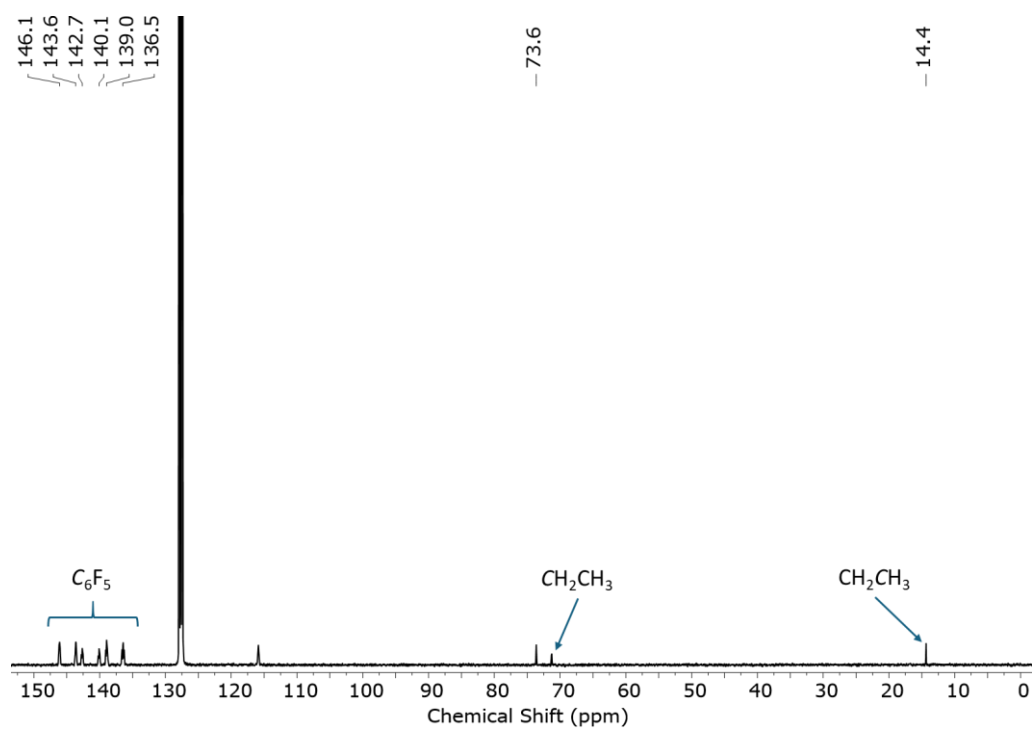


Figure S8. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectrum of [Al(C₂H₅){OC(C₆F₅)₃}₂] (126 MHz) in C₆D₆.

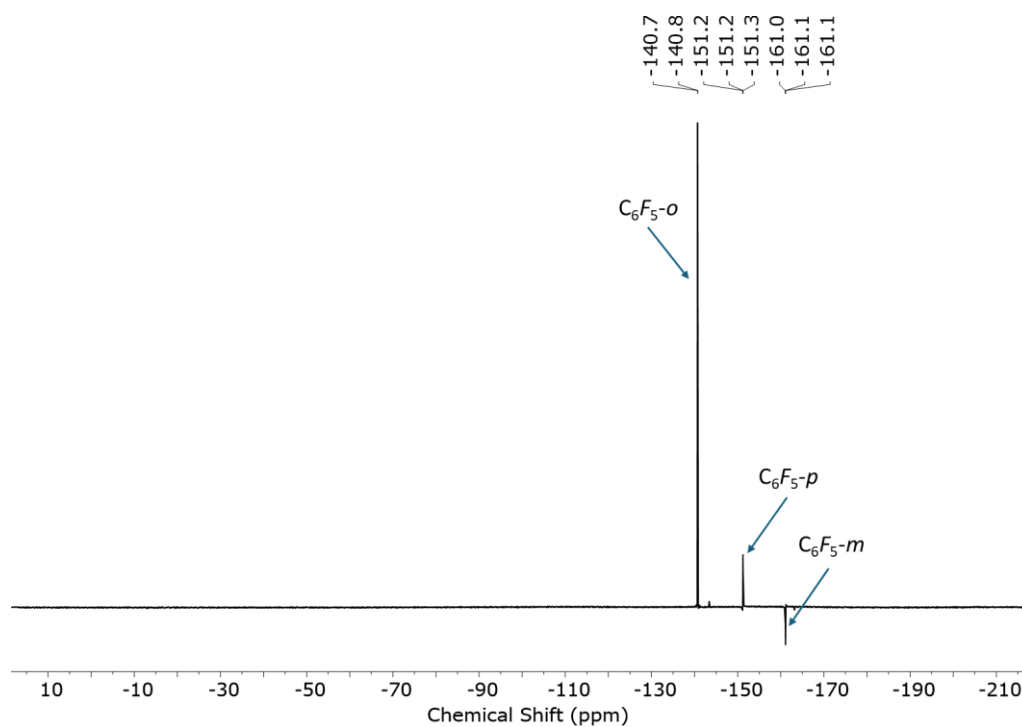


Figure S9. ^{19}F NMR spectrum of $[Al(C_2H_5)\{OC(C_6F_5)_3\}_2]$ (376 MHz) in C_6D_6 .

3. X-ray Crystallography

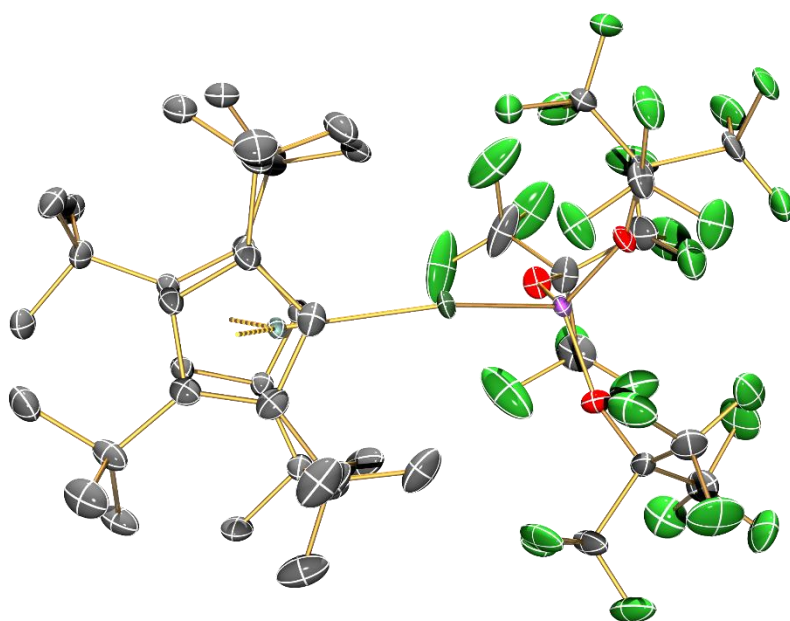


Figure S10. Top view of the single crystal XRD structure of **1** (Dy: cyan, C: grey, Al: purple, F: green, O: red). Displacement ellipsoids set at 30% probability levels; hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity.

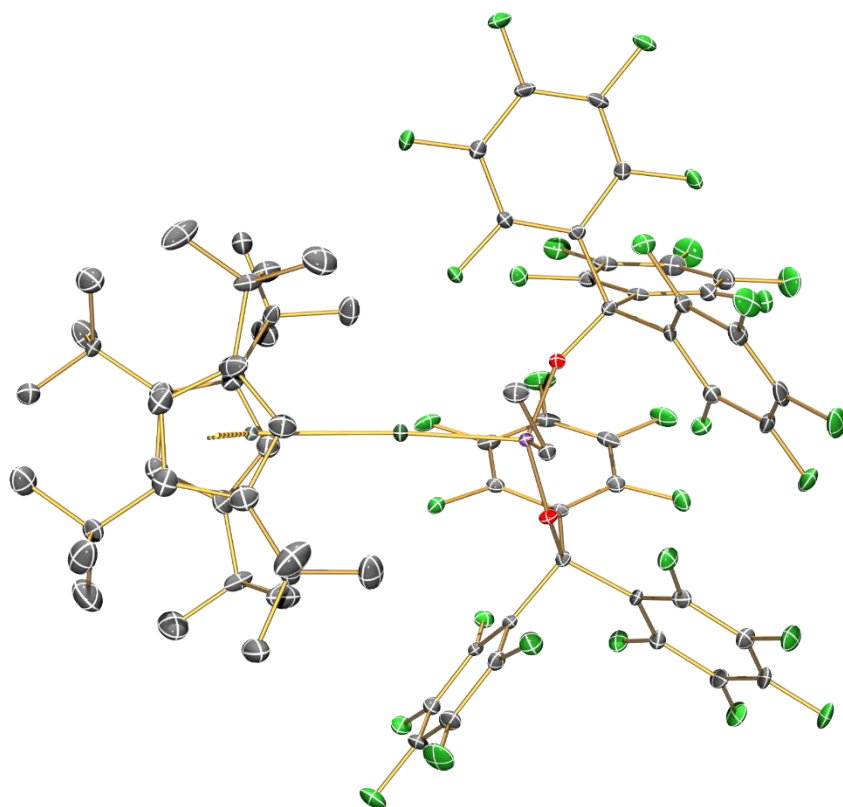


Figure S11. Top view of the single crystal XRD structure of **2** (Dy: cyan, C: grey, Al: purple, F: green, O: red). Displacement ellipsoids set at 30% probability levels; hydrogen atoms and the lattice fluorobenzene molecules have been omitted for clarity.

Table S1. Crystallographic data for **1** and **2**.

	1	2
Formula	C ₄₆ H ₅₈ AlClDyF ₂₇ O ₃	C ₈₆ H ₇₃ AlClDyF ₃₂ O ₂
molecular mass, g mol ⁻¹	1396.85	1971.37
cryst size, mm	0.236 × 0.191 × 0.103	0.464 × 0.249 × 0.167
cryst syst	orthorhombic	triclinic
space group	Pca2 ₁	P $\bar{1}$
collection temperature, K	99.97(10)	99.97(10)
a, Å	21.2423(2)	12.3345(3)
b, Å	14.24450(10)	16.0941(5)
c, Å	18.1335(2)	21.5697(7)
α, °	90	72.902(3)
β, °	90	78.936(2)
γ, °	90	85.763(2)
V, Å ³	5486.94(9)	4015.9(2)
Z	4	2
ρ _{calcd} , g cm ⁻³	1.691	1.630
μ, mm ⁻¹	9.090	1.098
no. of reflections made	38414	36237
no. of unique reflns, R _{int}	10820, 0.0303	18504, 0.0455
no. of reflns with F ² > 2σ(F ²)	10124	15087
transmn coeff range	0.524–1.000	0.609–1.000
R, R _w ^a (F ² > 2σ(F ²))	0.0451, 0.1287	0.0627, 0.1516
R, R _w ^a (all data)	0.0480, 0.1319	0.0807, 0.1623
S ^a	1.007	1.017
parameters, restraints	1101, 3151	1191, 1674
max., min. diff map, e Å ⁻³	0.597, -0.742	2.437, -1.094

^a Conventional R = $\sum||F_o| - |F_c||/\sum|F_o|$; R_w = $[\sum w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2/\sum w(F_o^2)^2]^{1/2}$; S = $[\sum w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2/\text{no. data} - \text{no. params}]^{1/2}$ for all data.

4. Magnetic Measurements

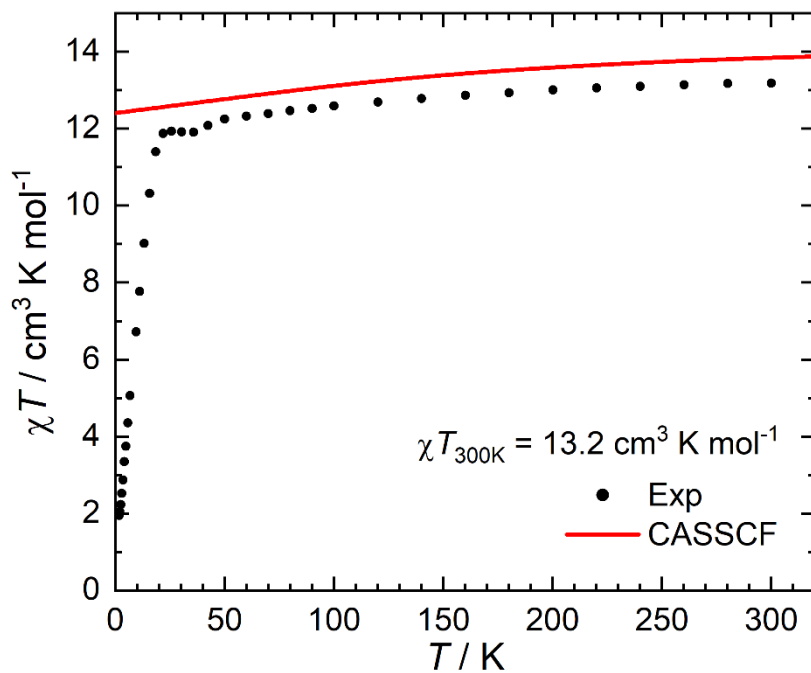


Figure S12. Temperature dependence of the molar magnetic susceptibility (χT) product for powdered **1** measured under a 0.1 T applied magnetic field (black circles) and CASSCF calculated curve (red line).

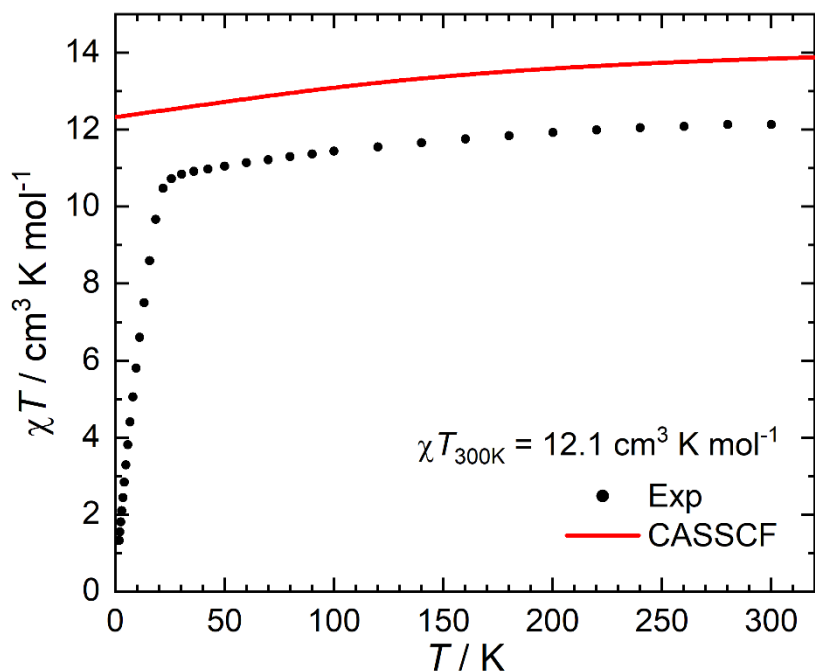


Figure S13. Temperature dependence of the molar magnetic susceptibility (χT) product for powdered **2** measured under a 0.1 T applied magnetic field (black circles) and CASSCF calculated curve (red line).

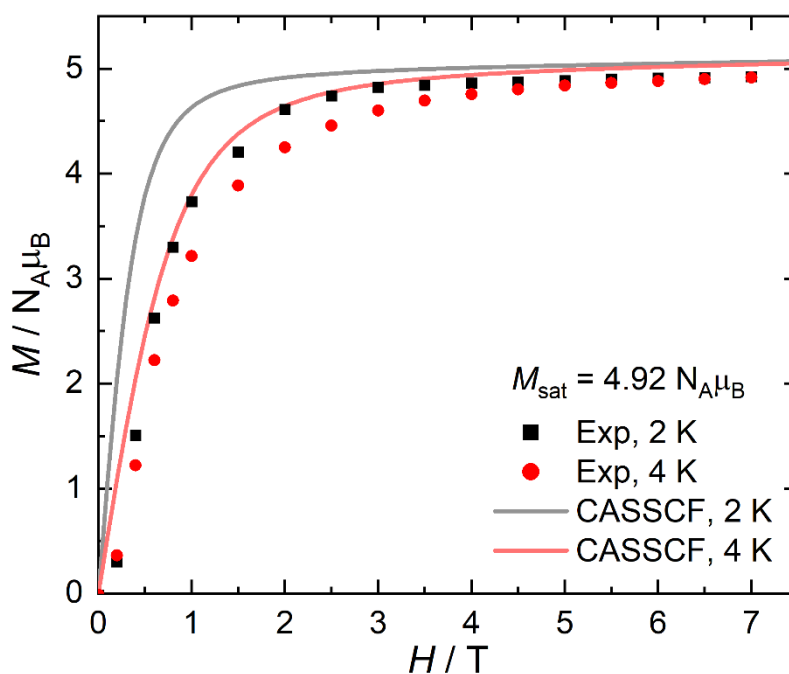


Figure S14. Isothermal magnetisation *versus* field for **1** at 2 (black squares) and 4 K (red circles), with CASSCF calculated curves (solid lines).

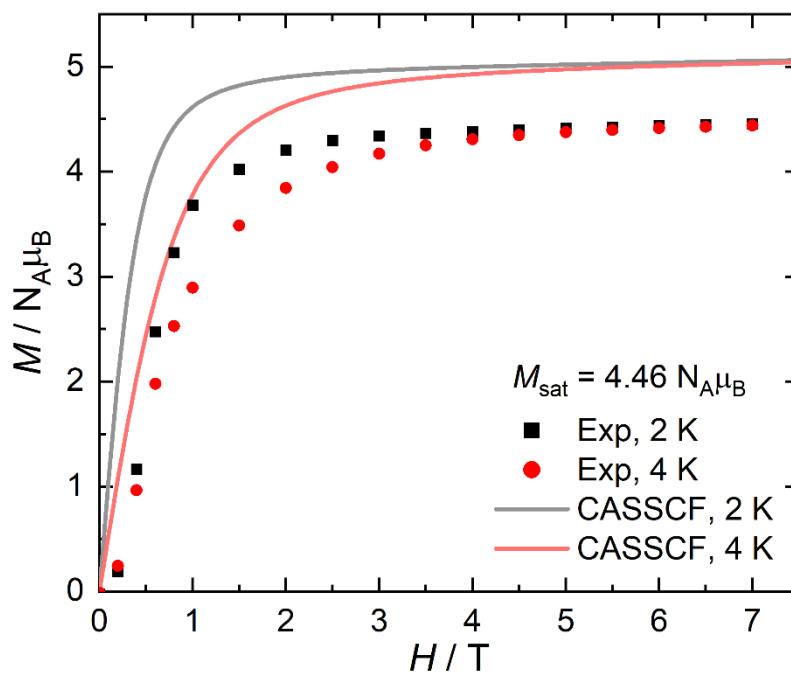


Figure S15. Isothermal magnetisation *versus* field for **2** at 2 (black squares) and 4 K (red circles), with CASSCF calculated curves (solid lines).

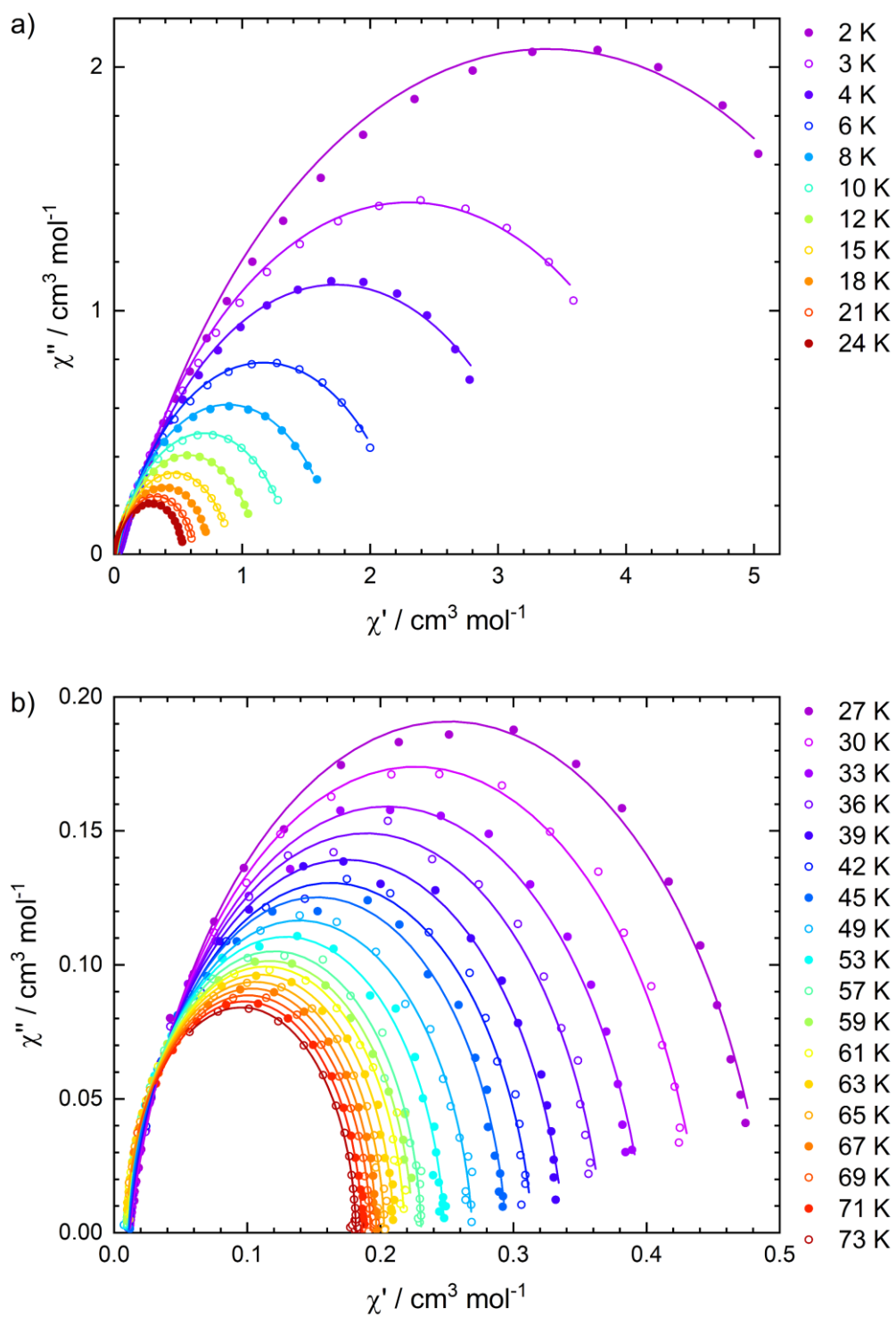


Figure S16. Cole-Cole plot for **1** at a) 2–24 K and b) 27–73 K. Solid lines are fits to the generalised Debye model, giving $0.014 \leq \alpha \leq 0.29$.

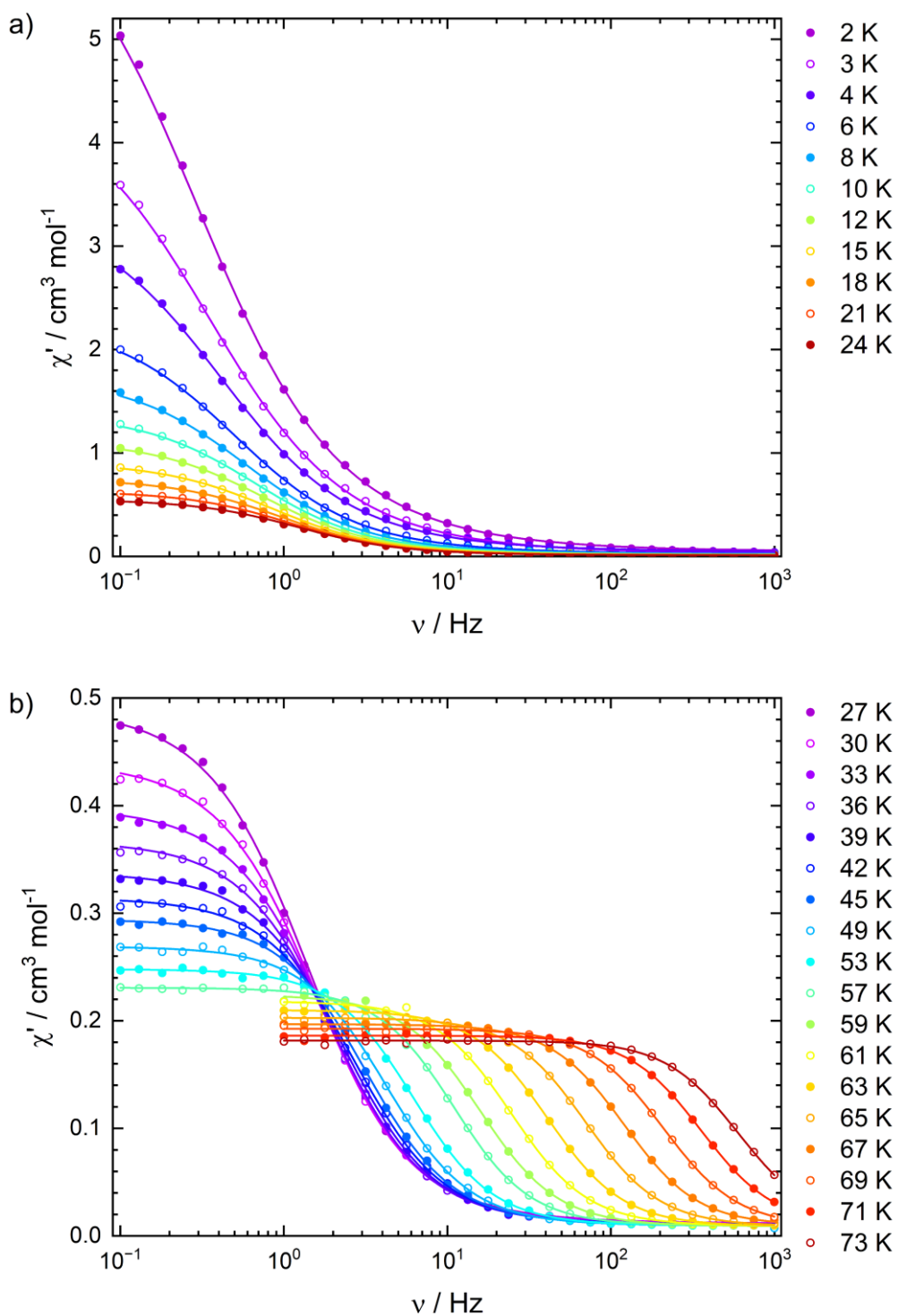


Figure S17. In-phase ac susceptibility (χ') of **1** in a zero field at a) 2–24 K and b) 27–73 K.

Solid lines are fits to the generalised Debye model, giving $0.014 \leq \alpha \leq 0.29$.

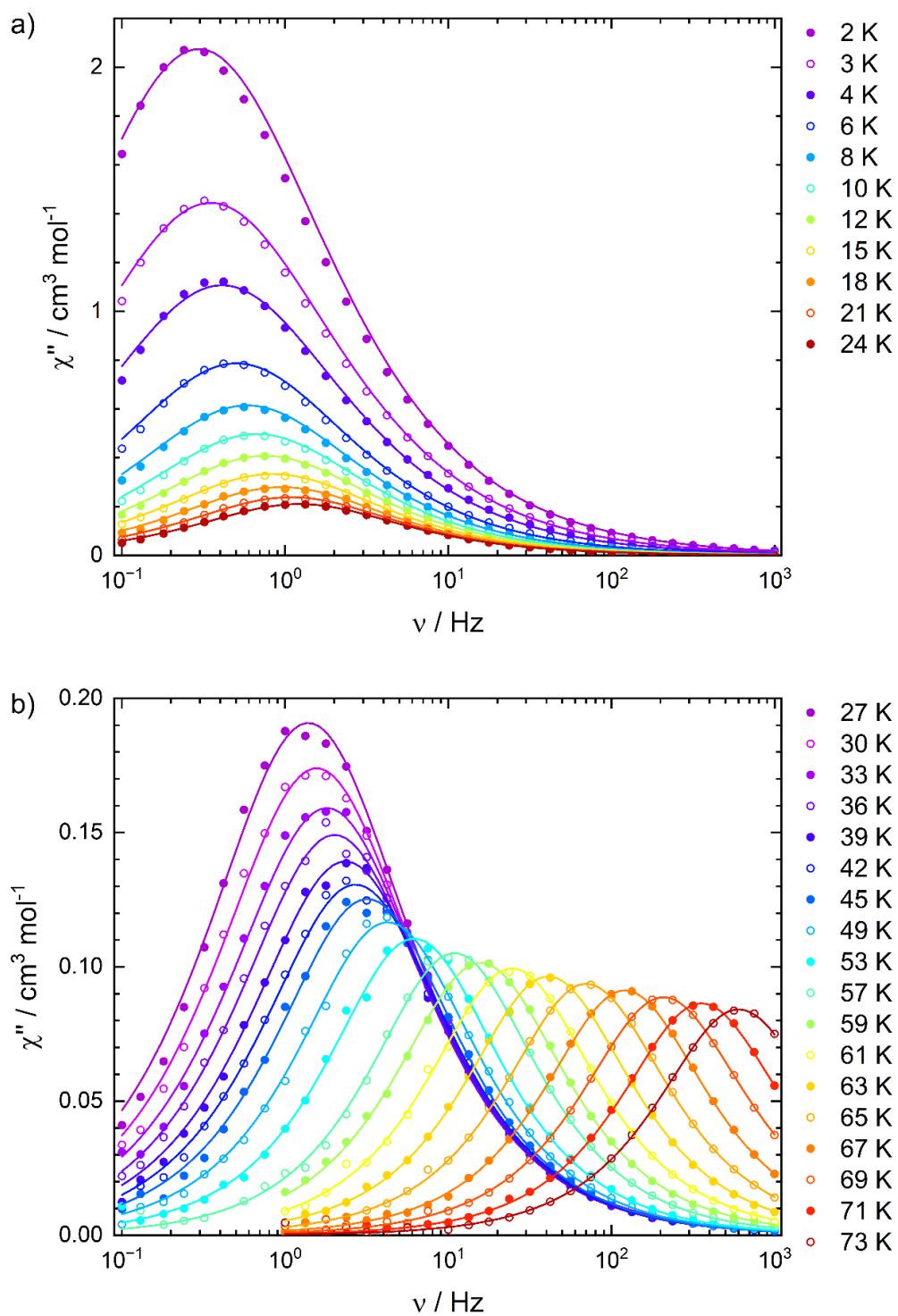


Figure S18. Out-of-phase ac susceptibility (χ'') of **1** in a zero field at a) 2–24 K and b) 27–73 K. Solid lines are fits to the generalised Debye model, giving $0.014 \leq \alpha \leq 0.29$.

Table S2. Best fit parameters to the generalised Debye model for **1**.

T	τ_{debye}	$\tau_{\text{Debye}}^{\text{err}}$	χ_S	χ_S^{err}	χ_T	χ_T^{err}	α	α^{err}	$\langle \ln \tau \rangle$	$\sigma_{(\ln \tau)}$
(K)	(s)		(cm ³ /mol)		(cm ³ /mol)					ln (s)
2	5.38E-1	1.02E-2	5.10E-2	8.64E-3	6.72	5.42E-2	2.92E-1	4.81E-3	-0.621	1.807
3	4.55E-1	6.06E-3	2.90E-2	4.80E-3	4.58	2.63E-2	2.79E-1	3.72E-3	-0.788	1.745
4	3.88E-1	4.70E-3	4.77E-2	3.78E-3	3.42	1.81E-2	2.60E-1	3.77E-3	-0.947	1.649
6	3.16E-1	3.66E-3	2.61E-2	2.97E-3	2.30	1.20E-2	2.30E-1	4.14E-3	-1.151	1.504
8	2.72E-1	2.79E-3	2.25E-2	2.25E-3	1.75	8.11E-3	2.14E-1	3.96E-3	-1.302	1.429
10	2.37E-1	1.95E-3	1.95E-2	1.57E-3	1.39	5.13E-3	2.02E-1	3.35E-3	-1.439	1.370
12	2.12E-1	1.36E-3	1.64E-2	1.06E-3	1.13	3.21E-3	1.96E-1	2.70E-3	-1.553	1.343
15	1.90E-1	1.11E-3	1.40E-2	8.26E-4	9.19E-1	2.35E-3	1.91E-1	2.53E-3	-1.663	1.319
18	1.67E-1	1.17E-3	1.33E-2	8.69E-4	7.57E-1	2.28E-3	1.80E-1	3.14E-3	-1.789	1.264
21	1.46E-1	1.07E-3	1.25E-2	8.07E-4	6.36E-1	1.96E-3	1.69E-1	3.38E-3	-1.924	1.216
24	1.30E-1	8.13E-4	1.19E-2	6.32E-4	5.55E-1	1.44E-3	1.61E-1	2.97E-3	-2.039	1.176
27	1.15E-1	9.53E-4	1.16E-2	7.93E-4	4.92E-1	1.68E-3	1.44E-1	4.10E-3	-2.166	1.097
30	1.02E-1	7.19E-4	1.15E-2	6.32E-4	4.42E-1	1.26E-3	1.34E-1	3.57E-3	-2.283	1.047
33	8.83E-2	6.52E-4	1.10E-2	6.25E-4	3.99E-1	1.16E-3	1.26E-1	3.80E-3	-2.428	1.007
36	7.93E-2	5.29E-4	1.09E-2	5.41E-4	3.68E-1	9.57E-4	1.13E-1	3.52E-3	-2.535	0.947
39	6.79E-2	5.54E-4	1.06E-2	6.35E-4	3.38E-1	1.05E-3	1.03E-1	4.37E-3	-2.689	0.893
42	5.90E-2	4.48E-4	1.05E-2	5.69E-4	3.15E-1	8.90E-4	9.68E-2	4.12E-3	-2.831	0.862
45	4.99E-2	3.64E-4	1.04E-2	5.38E-4	2.95E-1	7.86E-4	8.05E-2	4.05E-3	-2.997	0.775
49	3.76E-2	2.24E-4	9.31E-3	4.28E-4	2.69E-1	5.64E-4	6.91E-2	3.37E-3	-3.282	0.712
53	2.58E-2	1.71E-4	9.39E-3	4.75E-4	2.48E-1	5.51E-4	4.90E-2	3.85E-3	-3.658	0.590

57	1.46E-2	1.09E-4	9.52E-3	5.50E-4	2.31E-1	5.58E-4	3.24E-2	4.45E-3	-4.227	0.473
59	1.01E-2	6.28E-5	8.90E-3	4.48E-4	2.24E-1	6.11E-4	3.83E-2	3.87E-3	-4.597	0.517
61	6.46E-3	5.30E-5	9.30E-3	6.35E-4	2.18E-1	7.08E-4	3.17E-2	5.14E-3	-5.042	0.468
63	3.88E-3	1.41E-5	8.83E-3	3.05E-4	2.10E-1	2.72E-4	2.73E-2	2.29E-3	-5.552	0.432
65	2.27E-3	1.50E-5	9.00E-3	6.08E-4	2.03E-1	4.28E-4	2.18E-2	4.20E-3	-6.087	0.385
67	1.32E-3	6.81E-6	9.68E-3	5.31E-4	1.97E-1	2.87E-4	1.63E-2	3.30E-3	-6.632	0.332
69	7.63E-4	6.15E-6	8.47E-3	9.32E-4	1.93E-1	3.79E-4	2.42E-2	4.98E-3	-7.178	0.406
71	4.47E-4	4.36E-6	9.81E-3	1.24E-3	1.86E-1	3.31E-4	1.35E-2	5.61E-3	-7.714	0.301
73	2.65E-4	4.12E-6	9.49E-3	2.05E-3	1.82E-1	3.39E-4	1.42E-2	7.32E-3	-8.237	0.309

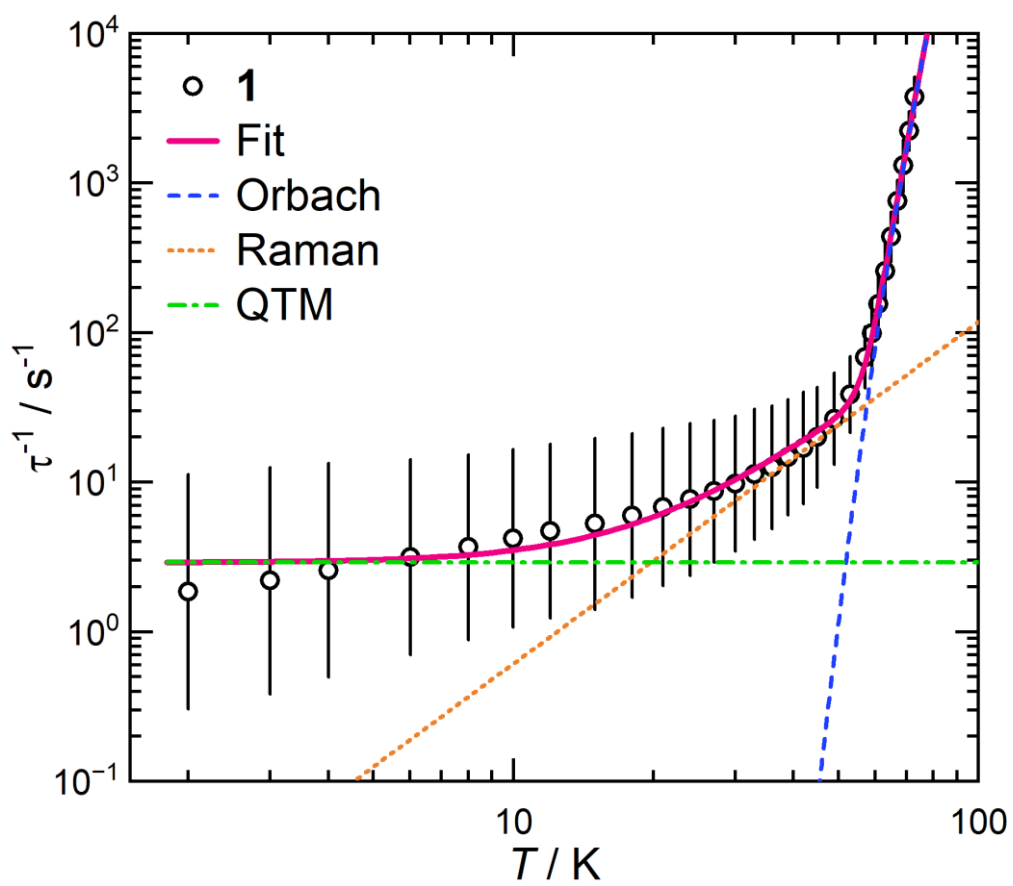


Figure S19. Relaxation profile for **1** showing contributions from Orbach, Raman and QTM processes.

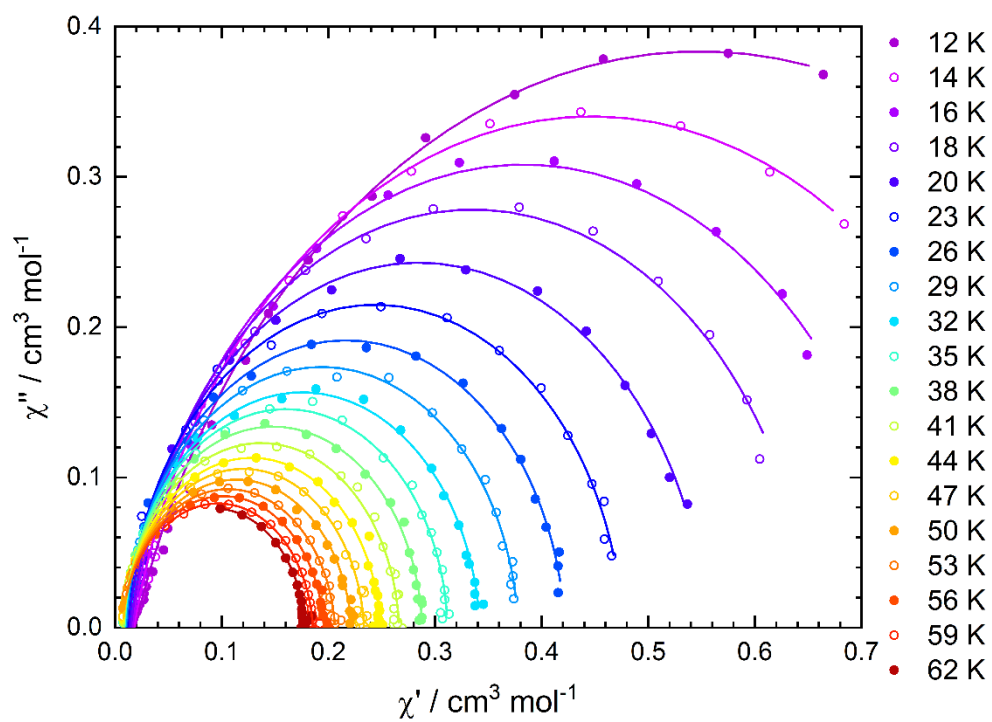


Figure S20. Cole-Cole plot for **2** at 12–62 K. Solid lines are fits to the generalised Debye model, giving $0.025 \leq \alpha \leq 0.20$.

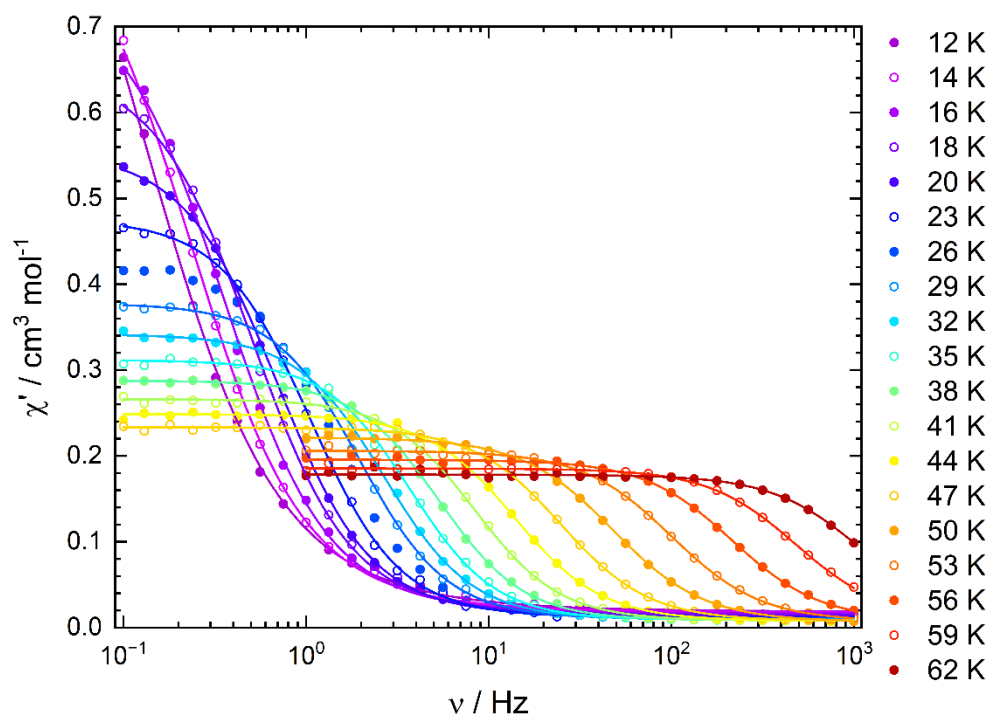


Figure S21. In-phase (χ') ac susceptibility of **2** in a zero field at 12–62 K. Solid lines are fits to the generalised Debye model, giving $0.025 \leq \alpha \leq 0.20$.

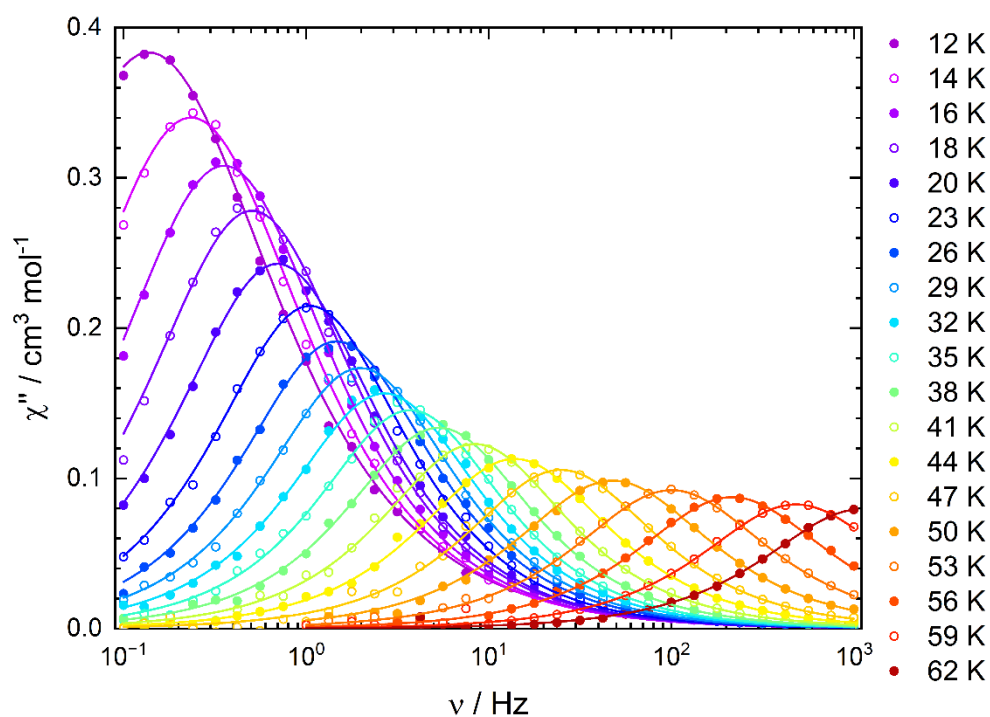


Figure S22. Out-of-phase (χ'') ac susceptibilities of **2** in a zero field at 12–62 K. Solid lines are fits to the generalised Debye model, giving $0.025 \leq \alpha \leq 0.20$.

Table S3. Best fit parameters to the generalised Debye model for **2**.

T	τ_{debye}	$\tau_{\text{Debye}}^{\text{err}}$	χ_S	χ_S^{err}	χ_T	χ_T^{err}	α	α^{err}	$\langle \ln \tau \rangle$	$\sigma_{(\ln \tau)}$
(K)	(s)		(cm ³ /mol)		(cm ³ /mol)					ln (s)
12	1.15	2.32E-2	1.86E-2	1.01E-3	1.08	1.14E-2	2.02E-1	4.97E-3	0.142	1.370
14	6.78E-1	8.18E-3	1.78E-2	9.27E-4	8.76E-1	5.93E-3	1.46E-1	4.42E-3	-0.389	1.106
16	4.49E-1	4.39E-3	1.63E-2	9.49E-4	7.50E-1	4.17E-3	1.10E-1	4.50E-3	-0.801	0.929
18	3.14E-1	2.82E-3	1.48E-2	9.59E-4	6.56E-1	3.24E-3	8.96E-2	4.64E-3	-1.159	0.824
20	2.29E-1	1.31E-3	1.28E-2	6.06E-4	5.56E-1	1.67E-3	7.14E-2	3.17E-3	-1.476	0.725
23	1.52E-1	1.00E-3	1.14E-2	6.95E-4	4.76E-1	1.54E-3	5.03E-2	3.86E-3	-1.885	0.598
26	1.08E-1	6.55E-4	1.09E-2	6.02E-4	4.22E-1	1.15E-3	4.61E-2	3.55E-3	-2.222	0.571
29	8.05E-2	4.49E-4	1.02E-2	5.31E-4	3.78E-1	9.00E-4	3.70E-2	3.32E-3	-2.520	0.508
32	5.94E-2	3.71E-4	9.21E-3	5.62E-4	3.42E-1	8.55E-4	3.85E-2	3.71E-3	-2.824	0.518
35	4.28E-2	3.30E-4	9.05E-3	6.76E-4	3.12E-1	9.17E-4	2.52E-2	4.66E-3	-3.152	0.415
38	2.98E-2	1.72E-4	8.42E-3	4.88E-4	2.88E-1	5.91E-4	2.76E-2	3.45E-3	-3.512	0.435
41	1.90E-2	1.63E-4	8.01E-3	7.16E-4	2.66E-1	7.56E-4	3.14E-2	5.13E-3	-3.963	0.465
44	1.15E-2	8.31E-5	7.47E-3	6.00E-4	2.49E-1	5.42E-4	4.19E-2	4.25E-3	-4.466	0.542
47	6.41E-3	7.13E-5	7.40E-3	9.55E-4	2.33E-1	7.18E-4	4.25E-2	6.55E-3	-5.051	0.546
50	3.33E-3	2.72E-5	6.36E-3	7.32E-4	2.22E-1	6.08E-4	5.66E-2	4.94E-3	-5.704	0.638
53	1.59E-3	1.55E-5	6.77E-3	9.76E-4	2.06E-1	5.69E-4	5.02E-2	5.92E-3	-6.444	0.597
56	7.39E-4	9.98E-6	7.39E-3	1.56E-3	1.96E-1	5.85E-4	4.64E-2	7.91E-3	-7.210	0.573
59	3.31E-4	8.92E-6	8.23E-3	3.39E-3	1.85E-1	6.87E-4	4.43E-2	1.31E-2	-8.014	0.559
62	1.46E-4	1.02E-5	6.58E-3	8.59E-3	1.78E-1	6.92E-4	4.98E-2	2.07E-2	-8.829	0.595

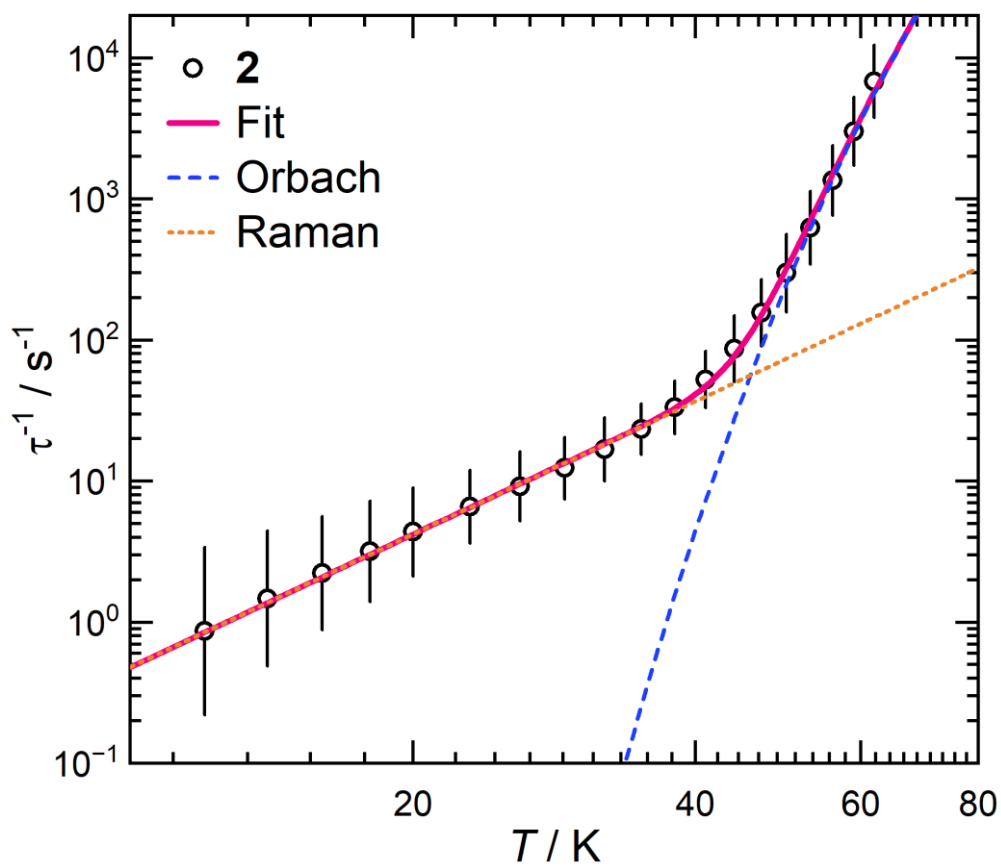


Figure S23. Relaxation profile for **2** showing contributions from Orbach and Raman processes.

5. CASSCF-SO Calculations

Table S4. Electronic structure of **1** calculated with the crystal field parameters obtained from CASSCF-SO using the solid-state geometry of **1** in zero-field. Each row corresponds to a Kramers doublet.

Energy (cm ⁻¹)	Energy (K)	g _x	g _y	g _z	Angle ^a (deg)	Wavefunction	$\langle J_z \rangle$
0.00	0.00	0.0002	0.0002	19.92	--	98% $ \pm 15/2\rangle$	± 7.469
357.76	514.81	0.005	0.005	17.0	2.2	98% $ \pm 13/2\rangle$	± 6.452
608.55	875.69	0.04	0.04	14.3	4.4	94% $ \pm 11/2\rangle$ + 2% $ \pm 7/2\rangle$	± 5.454
778.57	1120.34	0.2	0.3	11.5	3.3	88% $ \pm 9/2\rangle$ + 6% $ \pm 5/2\rangle$ + 2% $ \pm 13/2\rangle$ + 2% $ \pm 7/2\rangle$	± 4.375
892.47	1284.25	3.8	5.3	7.4	14.1	68% $ \pm 7/2\rangle$ + 18% $ \pm 3/2\rangle$ + 6% $ \mp 1/2\rangle$ + 3% $ \pm 11/2\rangle$	± 2.800
970.47	1396.49	2.4	5.0	10.9	84.0	45% $ \pm 5/2\rangle$ + 26% $ \pm 1/2\rangle$ + 13% $ \mp 7/2\rangle$ + 6% $ \mp 3/2\rangle$ + 5% $ \pm 9/2\rangle$ + 3% $ \pm 7/2\rangle$	± 1.007
1105.25	1590.43	0.09	0.2	16.0	88.3	28% $ \pm 3/2\rangle$ + 20% $ \mp 5/2\rangle$ + 16% $ \pm 5/2\rangle$ + 15% $ \mp 3/2\rangle$ + 6% $ \pm 7/2\rangle$ + 5% $ \pm 1/2\rangle$ + 4% $ \mp 1/2\rangle$ + 4% $ \mp 7/2\rangle$	± 0.157
1321.33	1901.36	0.008	0.02	19.4	88.8	29% $ \pm 1/2\rangle$ + 28% $ \mp 1/2\rangle$ + 18% $ \pm 3/2\rangle$ + 14% $ \mp 3/2\rangle$ + 6% $ \pm 5/2\rangle$ + 4% $ \mp 5/2\rangle$	± 0.143

^a The angle between the g_z value of the excited Kramers doublet and the ground Kramers doublet.

Table S5. Electronic structure of **2** calculated with the crystal field parameters obtained from CASSCF-SO using the solid-state geometry of **2** in zero-field. Each row corresponds to a Kramers doublet.

Energy (cm ⁻¹)	Energy (K)	g _x	g _y	g _z	Angle ^a (deg)	Wavefunction	<J _z >
0.00	0.00	0.0001	0.0002	19.86	--	97% ± 15/2> + 3% ± 11/2>	±7.446
340.89	490.53	0.004	0.005	16.9	2.8	95% ± 13/2> + 4% ± 9/2>	±6.404
584.20	840.65	0.2	0.2	14.2	5.9	90% ± 11/2> + 5% ± 7/2> + 3% ± 9/2> + 2% ± 15/2>	±5.365
736.51	1059.82	2.4	3.4	10.2	4.4	70% ± 9/2> + 13% ± 5/2> + 4% ± 1/2> + 4% ± 13/2> + 4% ± 7/2> + 2% ± 3/2>	±3.916
820.75	1181.04	3.9	7.0	8.1	80.2	39% ± 7/2> + 25% ± 3/2> + 14% ∓ 1/2> + 8% ∓ 9/2> + 6% ± 11/2> + 3% ∓ 5/2> + 2% ± 5/2> + 2% ± 9/2>	±1.664
917.08	1319.65	0.03	0.3	13.5	82.8	19% ± 7/2> + 18% ± 5/2> + 15% ∓ 7/2> + 13% ± 1/2> + 13% ∓ 5/2> + 8% ± 9/2> + 7% ∓ 1/2> + 3% ∓ 9/2>	±0.584
1073.12	1544.19	0.1	0.2	16.5	88.0	24% ± 5/2> + 19% ∓ 3/2> + 18% ± 3/2> + 15% ∓ 5/2> + 8 ∓ 7/2> + 6% ± 7/2> + 5% ± 1/2> + 2 ∓ 1/2>	±0.189
1317.98	1896.55	0.005	0.006	19.5	88.5	28% ± 1/2> + 26% ∓ 1/2> + 19% ± 3/2> + 14% ∓ 3/2> + 7% ± 5/2> + 4% ∓ 5/2>	±0.178

^a The angle between the g_z value of the excited Kramers doublet and the ground Kramers doublet.