

Supporting information:

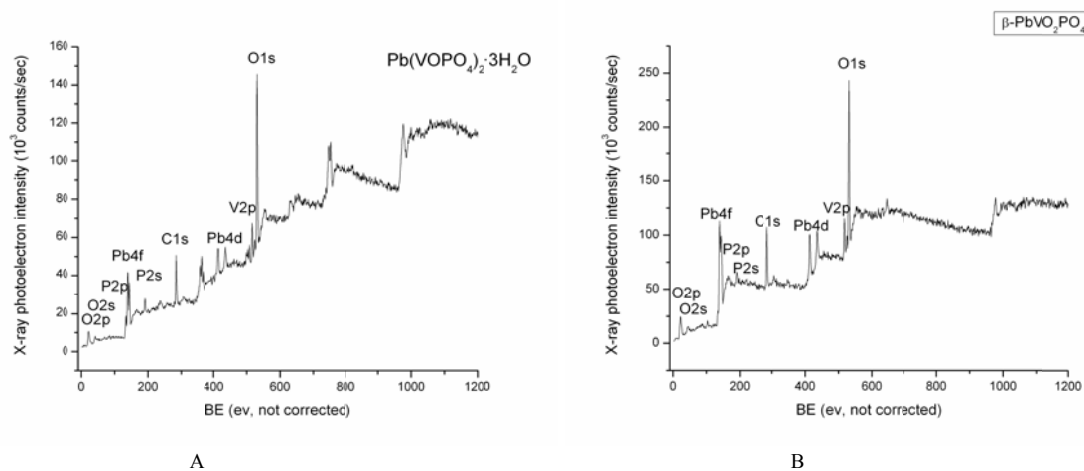
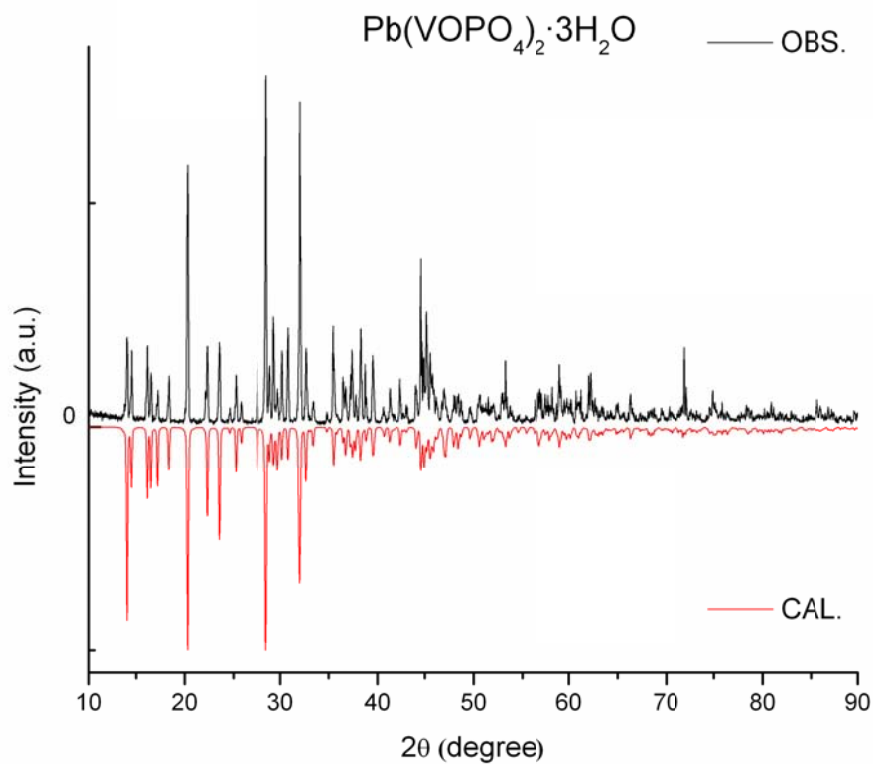
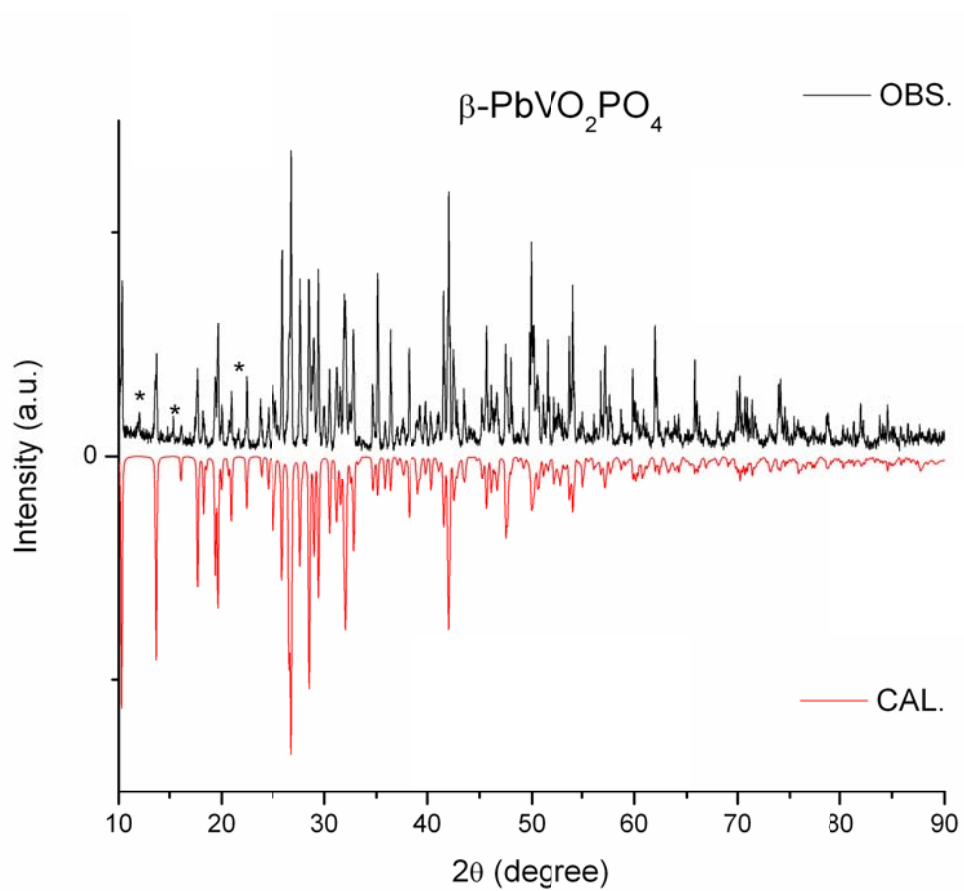


Figure S1. The wide scan spectra of XPS for  $\text{Pb}(\text{VOPO}_4)_2 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (A) and  $\beta\text{-PbVO}_2\text{PO}_4$  (B)

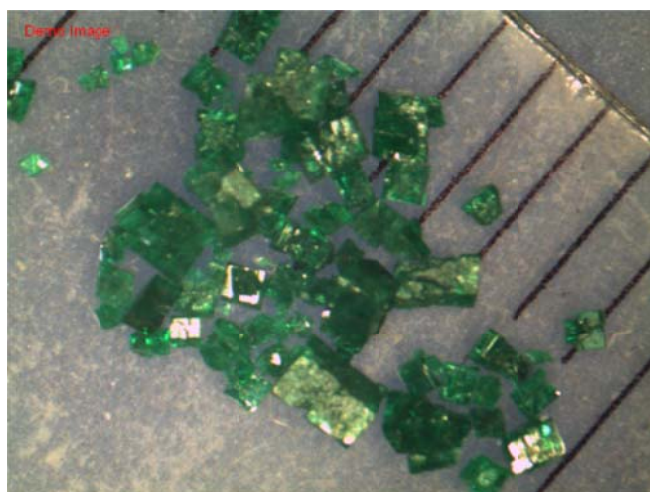


A

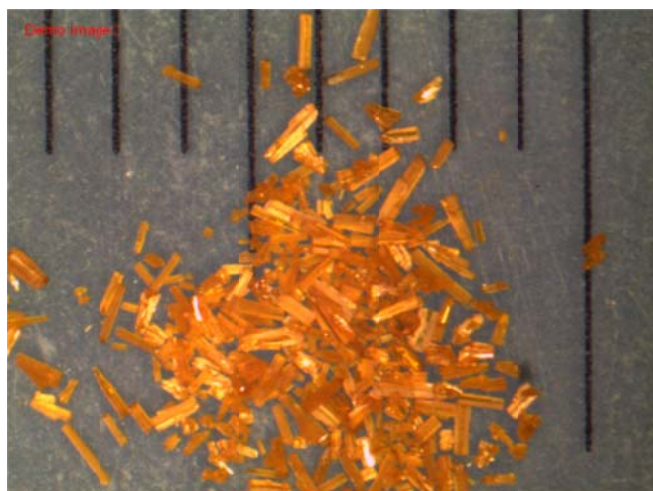


B

**Figure S2.** Powder XRD patterns for  $\text{Pb}(\text{VOPO}_4)_2 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (A) and  $\beta\text{-PbVO}_2\text{PO}_4$  (B). Small peaks from the impurity marked as was observed between 10-20 two theta of the powder XRD pattern for  $\beta\text{-PbVO}_2\text{PO}_4$ .



A



B

Figure S3. Microscope photos of  $\text{Pb}(\text{VOPO}_4)_2 \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (A) and  $\beta\text{-PbVO}_2\text{PO}_4$  (B) with the scale in mm.

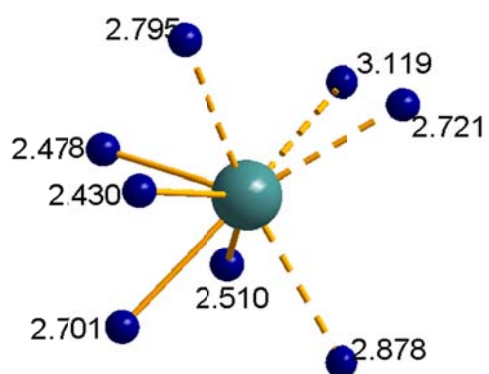
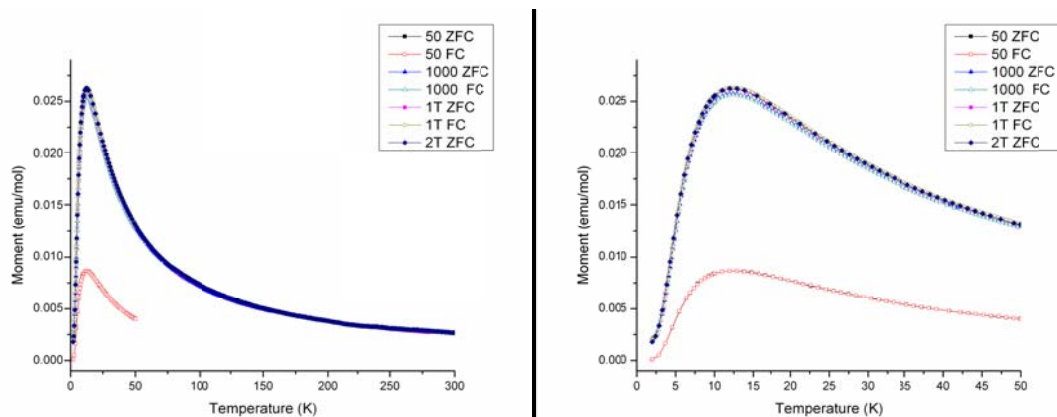


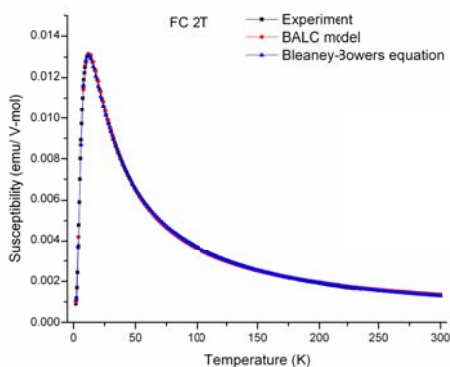
Figure S4. The coordination of oxygen atoms around Pb showing the stereoactivity of the lone pair.

**Magnetic data part:**



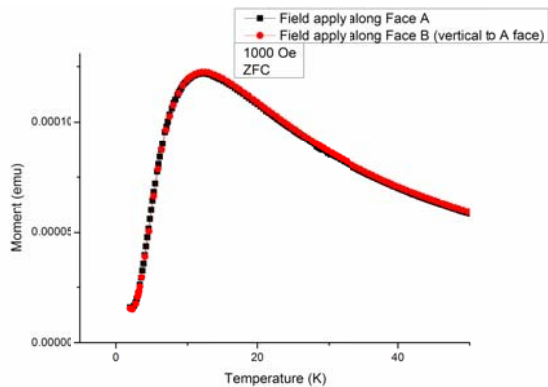
**Figure S5.** ZFC/FC curves recorded under different applied magnetic field.

The obvious difference between the ZFC/FC curves under 50 Oe with other ZFC/FC curves under higher field is due to the strong diamagnetic contribution (from the capsule and sample) at low field. The same reason for the slight lower of the ZFC/FC curves under 1000 Oe than curves under 1T and 2T. The Curves recorded at 1T and 2T was totally overlapped.

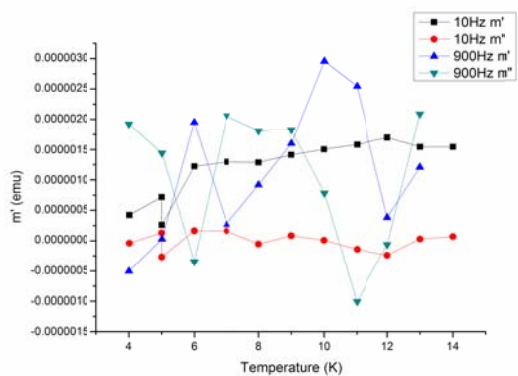


**Figure S6.** FC data recorded under the applied magnetic field 2T and was fit with BALC model and Bleaney-Bowers equation.

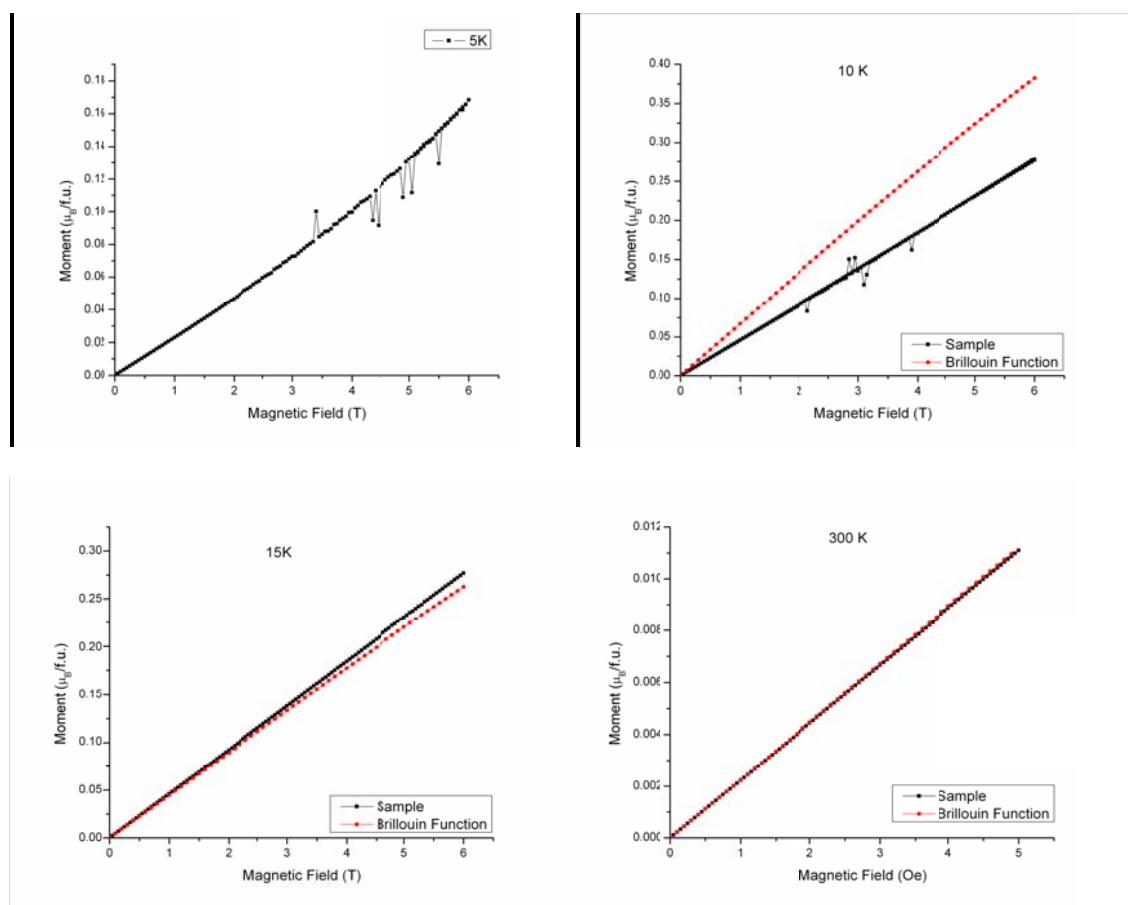
Use the FC data measured at 2T field with sweep mode. With BALC model, we were able to get a good fit yielding the alternating exchange coupling constant  $J_1 = -6.63 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $\alpha = 0.49$ ,  $g = 2.00$ ,  $\chi_0 = 9.34 \times 10^{-5} \text{ emu/V-mol}$ ,  $C_{\text{imp}} = 0.007 \text{ emu K/V-mol}$  and  $\Theta_{\text{imp}} = 0.74 \text{ K}$  with  $R^2 = 0.9998$ . Bleaney-Bowers equation provides a good fit yielding  $J = -6.95 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $g = 2.06$ , and  $J' = -5.55 \text{ K}$ ,  $\chi_0 = -8.19 \times 10^{-5} \text{ emu/V-mol}$ ,  $C_{\text{imp}} = 0.03 \text{ emu K/V-mol}$  and  $\Theta_{\text{imp}} = -25.5 \text{ K}$  with  $R^2 = 0.99974$ . Using equation (2) in the manuscript, the best refined  $n$  value was 1.38 and get the  $\Delta = 8.6 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  at final fitting with  $n = 1$ . The results are consistent well with the fit using data measured under 5000 Oe with step mode.



**Figure S7.** ZFC magnetic measurement (sweep model, 1K/min) applied on a single crystal along various direction A and B (B vertical to A). No mismatch was found, which implies the isotropic magnetic property.



**Figure S8.** AC magnetic moment with 10Hz and 900Hz. The signal is weak with big noise. This measurement confirms the lack of long range order in the system.



**Figure S9.** Isothermal magnetization measured between 0-6T applied field at 2K, 5K, 10K, 15K and 300K(0-5T).

**Table S1.** Exponents  $\zeta_i$  and Valence Shell Ionization Potentials  $H_{ii}$  of Slater-Type Orbitals  $\chi_i$  Used for Extended Hückel Tight-Binding Calculation<sup>a</sup>

atom	$\chi_i$	$H_{ii}(\text{eV})$	$\zeta_i$	$C^b$	$\zeta_i'$	$C'^b$
O	2s	-32.299999	2.275000	1.00000		
	2p	-14.800000	2.275000	1.00000		
V	4s	-8.810000	1.300000	1.00000		
	4p	-5.520000	1.300000	1.00000		
	3d	-11.000000	4.750000	0.475500	1.700000	0.705200
P	2s	-18.600000	1.750000	1.00000		
	2p	-14.000000	1.300000	1.00000		

<sup>a</sup>  $H_{ii}$ 's are the diagonal matrix elements  $\langle \chi_i | H^{\text{eff}} | \chi_i \rangle$ , where  $H^{\text{eff}}$  is the effective Hamiltonian. In our calculations of the off-diagonal matrix elements  $H^{\text{eff}} = \langle \chi_i | H^{\text{eff}} | \chi_j \rangle$ , the weighted formula was used. Contraction coefficients used in the double- $\zeta$  Slater-type orbital.