

## Supplementary data

### Synthesis and characterization of homo and hetero-valent tetra-hexa- hepta- and decanuclear manganese clusters using pyridyl functionalized $\beta$ -diketone, carboxylate and triethanolamine ligands.

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- Experimental and Crystallographic information for 3a.2(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO.2MeOH, 3b.3CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.H<sub>2</sub>O and 4a.2Et<sub>2</sub>O.3MeOH.H<sub>2</sub>O.

#### [Mn<sub>7</sub>(pppd)<sub>6</sub>(tea)(OH)<sub>3</sub>][NO<sub>3</sub>]<sub>2</sub>. 2(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO.2MeOH (3a)

The method for **3** was followed but with Mn(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>.4H<sub>2</sub>O (0.25 g, 1 mmol) used instead of Mn(BF<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>.xH<sub>2</sub>O. Orange/red crystals of **3a** were grown following ether diffusion into a MeCN/acetone solution of product. Yield: 51 mg, 15.1 %. Anal. Calculated (found) for **3a**.2(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO.2MeOH : Mn<sub>7</sub>C<sub>98</sub>H<sub>95</sub>O<sub>28</sub>N<sub>9</sub> : C, 55.75 (55.56); H, 4.29 (4.19); N, 5.65 (5.34). IR data ATR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3235br, 2865w, 1584s, 1555m, 1512s, 1489w, 1465w, 1449s, 1439s, 1413s, 1335m, 1283s, 1225m, 1063w, 1044w, 942w, 767s, 715w, 623w.

#### [Mn<sub>7</sub>(dppd)<sub>6</sub>(tea)(OH)<sub>3</sub>][BF<sub>4</sub>]<sub>2</sub>.3CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.H<sub>2</sub>O (3b)

The method for **3** was followed but with 1,3-di(pyridine-2-yl)propane-1,3-dione (0.18 g, 1 mmol) used in place of 1-phenyl-3-(2-pyridyl)propane-1,-dione. Orange/red crystals of **3b** were grown from a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution that was layered with Et<sub>2</sub>O. Yield: 51 mg, 16.2 %. Anal. Calculated (found) for **3b** : Mn<sub>7</sub>C<sub>87</sub>H<sub>77</sub>O<sub>19</sub>N<sub>13</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>B<sub>2</sub>F<sub>8</sub> : C, 43.91 (43.76); H, 3.26 (3.22); N, 7.65 (7.34). IR data ATR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3235br, 2851m, 1585s, 1494w, 1410s, 1355m, 1310m, 1248w, 1224w, 1065s, 1044s, 944w, 768w, 715w, 624w.

#### [Mn<sub>7</sub>(paa)<sub>6</sub>(OMe)<sub>6</sub>][ClO<sub>4</sub>]<sub>2</sub>.2Et<sub>2</sub>O.3MeOH.H<sub>2</sub>O (4a)

The method for **4** was followed but with Mn(ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>.6H<sub>2</sub>O (0.36 g, 1 mmol) used instead of Mn(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>.4H<sub>2</sub>O. Yield: 170 mg, 58.6 %. Anal. Calculated (found) for

**4a.2Et<sub>2</sub>O.3MeOH.H<sub>2</sub>O** : Mn<sub>7</sub>C<sub>71</sub>H<sub>106</sub>O<sub>32</sub>N<sub>12</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> : C, 40.70 (40.81); H, 5.10 (5.14); N, 8.02 (8.25). Selected IR data ATR (cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3339w, 2821w, 1637w, 1591s, 1520m, 1456s, 1412s, 1337s, 1280w, 1261w, 1239w, 1204w, 1159w, 1102w, 1026w, 973w, 773w, 623w.

- Crystal data for **3a.2(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO.2MeOH** : C<sub>98</sub>H<sub>95</sub>N<sub>9</sub>O<sub>28</sub>Mn<sub>7</sub> (2231.44 g mol<sup>-1</sup>); triclinic,  $a = 13.638(3)$ ,  $b = 14.702(3)$ ,  $c = 15.223(3)$  Å,  $\alpha = 116.11(3)$ ,  $\beta = 91.34(3)$ ,  $\gamma = 90.92(3)$ ,  $V = 2738.9(9)$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $T = 100(2)$  K, *P-1*,  $Z = 1$ ,  $\mu(\text{Synchrotron}) = 0.855$  mm<sup>-1</sup>,  $F(000) = 1142$ , 2788 reflections with 7099 unique ( $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0346$ ), final  $wR_2 = 0.1629$ ,  $S = 1.077$  (all data),  $R_1$  [ $I \geq 2s(I)$ ] = 0.0576. CCDC **?????**.
- Crystal data for **3b.3CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>.H<sub>2</sub>O** : C<sub>87</sub>H<sub>77</sub>N<sub>13</sub>O<sub>19</sub>Mn<sub>7</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub> (2379.53 g mol<sup>-1</sup>); monoclinic,  $a = 14.3254(13)$ ,  $b = 25.518(2)$ ,  $c = 29.7632(3)$  Å,  $\beta = 99.014(4)$ ,  $V = 10745.73(17)$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $T = 123(2)$  K, *P21/c*,  $Z = 4$ ,  $\mu(\text{Mo-K}) = 1.026$  mm<sup>-1</sup>,  $F(000) = 4784$ , 75991 reflections with 11236 unique ( $R_{\text{int}} = 0.1238$ ), final  $wR_2 = 0.4813$ ,  $S = 1.050$  (all data),  $R_1$  [ $I \geq 2s(I)$ ] = 0.157. CCDC **?????**.
- Crystal data for **4a.2Et<sub>2</sub>O.3MeOH.H<sub>2</sub>O** : C<sub>71</sub>H<sub>106</sub>N<sub>12</sub>O<sub>32</sub>Mn<sub>7</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2095.15 g mol<sup>-1</sup>); triclinic,  $a = 13.041(5)$ ,  $b = 14.379(2)$ ,  $c = 14.732(3)$  Å,  $\alpha = 113.236(8)$ ,  $\beta = 97.854(12)$ ,  $\gamma = 97.756(12)$ ,  $V = 2459.8(11)$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $T = 123(2)$  K, *P-1*,  $Z = 1$ ,  $\mu(\text{Mo-K}) = 1.002$  mm<sup>-1</sup>,  $F(000) = 1079$ , 50047 reflections with 11672 unique ( $R_{\text{int}} = 0.0344$ ), final  $wR_2 = 0.2326$ ,  $S = 1.052$  (all data),  $R_1$  [ $I \geq 2s(I)$ ] = 0.0622. CCDC **?????**.

Atoms	Mn(II)	Mn(III)	Mn(IV)
Mn1	3.43	<b>3.15</b>	3.10
Mn2	3.35	<b>3.09</b>	3.03
Mn3	3.34	<b>3.11</b>	3.07
Mn4	4.49	4.15	<b>4.07</b>
Mn5	3.48	<b>3.20</b>	3.14
Mn6	3.33	<b>2.97</b>	2.91
Mn7	3.45	<b>3.18</b>	3.11
Mn8	<b>2.08</b>	1.93	1.88
Mn9	<b>2.13</b>	1.91	1.85
Mn10	<b>2.18</b>	2.01	1.95

**Table S1.** Bond valence sum calculations for **1**. The oxidation state for each metal is the whole number closest to the value in bold.

Atoms	Mn(II)	Mn(III)	Mn(IV)
Mn1	<b>2.18</b>	1.99	1.93
Mn2	<b>2.11</b>	1.93	1.87
Mn3	<b>1.70</b>	1.59	1.54

**Table S2.** Bond valence sum calculations for **2**. The oxidation state for each metal is the whole number closest to the value in bold.

Atoms	Mn(II)	Mn(III)	Mn(IV)
Mn1	<b>1.85</b>	1.72	1.68
Mn2	<b>2.18</b>	2.01	1.93
Mn3	<b>2.13</b>	1.96	1.90
Mn4	<b>2.14</b>	1.97	1.91
Mn2'	<b>2.12</b>	1.95	1.87
Mn3'	<b>2.12</b>	1.95	1.89
Mn4'	<b>2.05</b>	1.88	1.82

**Table S3.** Bond valence sum calculations for **3**. The oxidation state for each metal is the whole number closest to the value in bold.

Atoms	Mn(II)	Mn(III)	Mn(IV)
Mn1	<b>2.15</b>	2.00	1.93
Mn2	<b>1.88</b>	1.74	1.70

**Table S4.** Bond valence sum calculations for **4**. The oxidation state for each metal is the whole number closest to the value in bold.

Atoms	Mn(II)	Mn(III)	Mn(IV)
Mn1	<b>1.98</b>	1.84	1.77
Mn2	3.38	<b>3.22</b>	3.16

**Table S5.** Bond valence sum calculations for **5**. The oxidation state for each metal is the whole number closest to the value in bold.

Atoms	Mn(II)	Mn(III)	Mn(IV)
Mn1	<b>1.99</b>	1.83	1.80
Mn2	<b>1.98</b>	1.84	1.81

Mn3	3.55	<b>3.24</b>	3.18
Mn4	4.23	3.92	<b>3.90</b>
Mn5	<b>1.93</b>	1.81	1.76
Mn6	<b>1.89</b>	1.80	1.75

**Table S6.** Bond valence sum calculations for **6**. The oxidation state for each metal is the whole number closest to the value in bold.

Mn1-O1	1.898(2)	Mn3-O35	1.961(2)	Mn6-O17	1.845(3)	Mn8-O20	2.196(3)
Mn1-O6	1.916(2)	Mn3-O3	2.135(2)	Mn6-O10	1.899(2)	Mn8-N1	2.233(3)
Mn1-O11	1.921(2)	Mn3-O11	2.385(2)	Mn6-O34	1.954(3)	Mn9-O17	2.086(3)
Mn1-O4	1.932(3)	Mn4-O17	1.852(2)	Mn6-N3	2.062(3)	Mn9-O30	2.129(3)
Mn1-O2	2.120(3)	Mn4-O18	1.854(3)	Mn6-O23	2.216(3)	Mn9-O32	2.165(3)
Mn1-O8	2.432(3)	Mn4-O16	1.859(2)	Mn6-O13	2.227(3)	Mn9-N5	2.253(3)
Mn2-O1	1.885(2)	Mn4-O8	1.924(2)	Mn7-O16	1.839(2)	Mn9-O22	2.265(3)
Mn2-O12	1.925(3)	Mn4-O11	1.946(2)	Mn7-O11	1.907(2)	Mn9-O33	2.278(3)
Mn2-O8	1.933(2)	Mn4-O10	1.955(2)	Mn7-O19	1.952(3)	Mn10-O31	2.031(3)
Mn2-O9	1.963(3)	Mn5-O18	1.836(3)	Mn7-O27	1.976(3)	Mn10-O16	2.045(3)
Mn2-O5	2.120(3)	Mn5-O8	1.909(3)	Mn7-O15	2.209(3)	Mn10-O24	2.098(3)
Mn2-O10	2.390(3)	Mn5-O21	1.934(3)	Mn7-O20	2.230(3)	Mn10-O28	2.144(3)
Mn3-O1	1.879(3)	Mn5-O25	1.984(3)	Mn8-O18	2.030(2)	Mn10-O23	2.174(3)
Mn3-O14	1.908(3)	Mn5-O22	2.201(3)	Mn8-O29	2.062(3)		
Mn3-O10	1.944(2)	Mn5-O7	2.243(3)	Mn8-O26	2.121(3)		

**Table S7.** Selected bond lengths (Å) for complex **1**.

Mn1-O2	2.121(6)	Mn1-N5	2.307(7)	Mn2-O4	2.254(5)	Mn3-O7	2.211(4)
Mn1-O1	2.170(4)	Mn1-O5 <sup>I</sup>	2.317(5)	Mn2-O5	2.258(4)	Mn3-O1 <sup>I</sup>	2.229(4)
Mn1-O4	2.200(5)	Mn2-O3	2.162(5)	Mn2-O6 <sup>I</sup>	2.302(4)	Mn3-N4 <sup>I</sup>	2.356(6)
Mn1-O6	2.236(5)	Mn2-O7	2.172(4)	Mn2-N3	2.309(6)	Mn3-N6	2.364(6)
Mn1-O3	2.291(5)	Mn2-N7	2.249(6)	Mn3-O8	2.174(4)	Mn3-N1 <sup>I</sup>	2.406(6)

**Table S8.** Selected bond lengths (Å) for complex **2**. Symmetry transformation: (I) 2 - x, 1 - y, z.

Mn1-O4 <sup>I</sup>	2.217(4)	Mn2-O8	2.105(2)	Mn3-O11	2.1554(19)	Mn4-N4 <sup>I</sup>	2.226(2)
Mn1-O5 <sup>I</sup>	2.226(4)	Mn2-O7	2.1422(17)	Mn3-O3	2.237(3)		
Mn1-O6 <sup>I</sup>	2.227(3)	Mn2-O9	2.1808(17)	Mn3-N3	2.250(2)		
Mn1-O2	2.228(4)	Mn2-O3	2.210(3)	Mn4-O4 <sup>I</sup>	2.076(3)		
Mn1-O1	2.230(4)	Mn2-N2	2.245(2)	Mn4-O12	2.116(2)		
Mn1-O3	2.233(4)	Mn3-O4 <sup>I</sup>	2.099(3)	Mn4-O11	2.1351(19)		
Mn1-N1	2.390(4)	Mn3-O10	2.1209(19)	Mn4-O2	2.160(3)		
Mn2-O5 <sup>I</sup>	2.071(3)	Mn3-O9	2.1309(18)	Mn4-O7 <sup>I</sup>	2.1827(18)		

**Table S9.** Selected bond lengths (Å) for complex **3**. Symmetry transformation: (I) 1 - x, -y, 1 - z.

Mn1-O3 <sup>I</sup>	2.091(4)	Mn1-O2	2.181(4)	Mn2-O1	2.216(4)	Mn2-O1 <sup>III</sup>	2.216(4)
Mn1-O1	2.154(4)	Mn1-O2 <sup>I</sup>	2.231(4)	Mn2-O1 <sup>I</sup>	2.216(4)	Mn2-O1 <sup>IV</sup>	2.216(4)
Mn1-O1 <sup>V</sup>	2.159(4)	Mn1-N1	2.242(5)	Mn2-O1 <sup>II</sup>	2.216(4)	Mn2-O1 <sup>V</sup>	2.216(4)

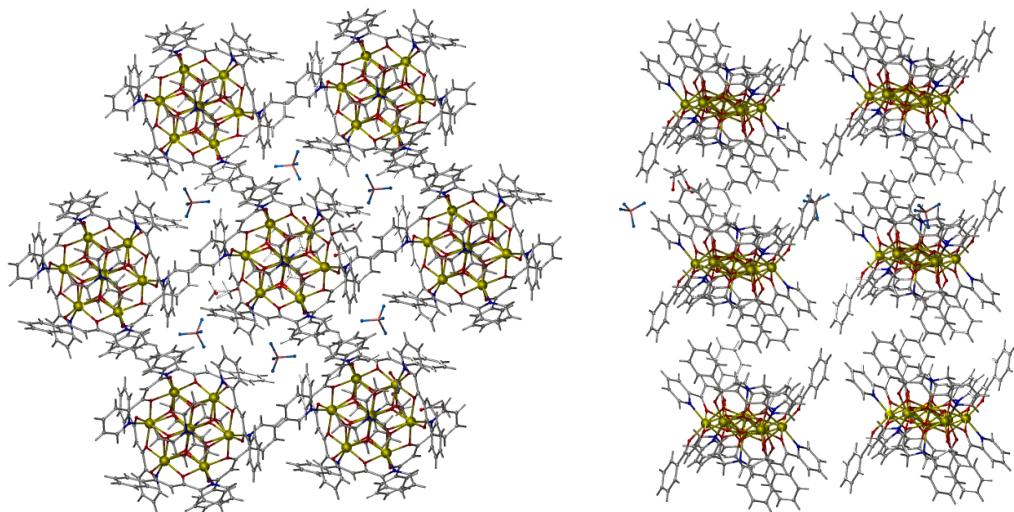
**Table S10.** Selected bond lengths (Å) for complex **4**. Symmetry transformation: (I)  $\frac{1}{2}$  + z, x,  $\frac{1}{2} - y$ . (II)  $1 - y$ ,  $\frac{1}{2} + z$ ,  $\frac{1}{2} - x$ . (III)  $1 - x$ ,  $1 - y$ , -z. (IV)  $\frac{1}{2} - z$ ,  $1 - x$ ,  $y - \frac{1}{2}$ . (V) y,  $\frac{1}{2} - z$ ,  $x - \frac{1}{2}$ .

Mn1-O1	2.1133(16)	Mn1-N2	2.333(2)	Mn2-O5 <sup>I</sup>	1.9106(17)	Mn2-O4 <sup>I</sup>	2.2251(16)
Mn1-O4	2.1832(16)	Mn1-N1	2.4097(19)	Mn2-O7	1.9203(15)		
Mn1-O3	2.2496(16)	Mn1-O3 <sup>I</sup>	2.4524(15)	Mn2-O3 <sup>I</sup>	1.9392(16)		
Mn1-O2	2.2825(17)	Mn2-O1	1.8941(15)	Mn2-O6	2.1536(16)		

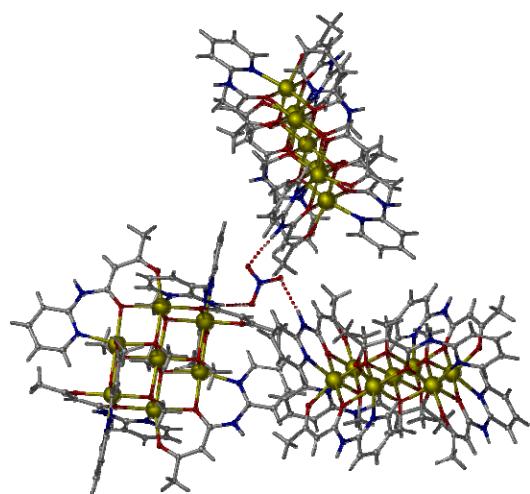
**Table S11.** Selected bond lengths (Å) for complex **5**. Symmetry transformation: (I) 1 - x, 2 - y, 1 - z.

Mn1-O4	2.165(5)	Mn2-O6	2.248(6)	Mn4-O11	1.845(5)	Mn5-O20	2.281(5)
Mn1-O3	2.178(5)	Mn2-O8	2.268(5)	Mn4-O12	1.846(5)	Mn5-O11	2.305(5)
Mn1-O1	2.208(5)	Mn2-O12	2.312(5)	Mn4-O20	1.965(6)	Mn5-N3	2.428(7)
Mn1-O2	2.235(6)	Mn2-N2	2.432(7)	Mn4-O15	1.965(5)	Mn6-O17	2.179(6)
Mn1-O11	2.285(5)	Mn3-O12	1.890(5)	Mn4-O8	1.966(5)	Mn6-O16	2.199(6)
Mn1-O8	2.385(5)	Mn3-O11	1.897(5)	Mn4-O5	1.969(5)	Mn6-O19	2.211(5)
Mn1-N1	2.411(7)	Mn3-O13	1.953(5)	Mn5-O14	2.179(5)	Mn6-O18	2.236(7)
Mn2-O9	2.167(6)	Mn3-O10	1.959(5)	Mn5-O21	2.199(6)	Mn6-O12	2.303(5)
Mn2-O7	2.207(6)	Mn3-O19	2.143(5)	Mn5-O19	2.255(5)	Mn6-O20	2.339(6)
Mn2-O3	2.234(5)	Mn3-O3	2.167(6)	Mn5-O22	2.259(6)	Mn6-N4	2.446(8)

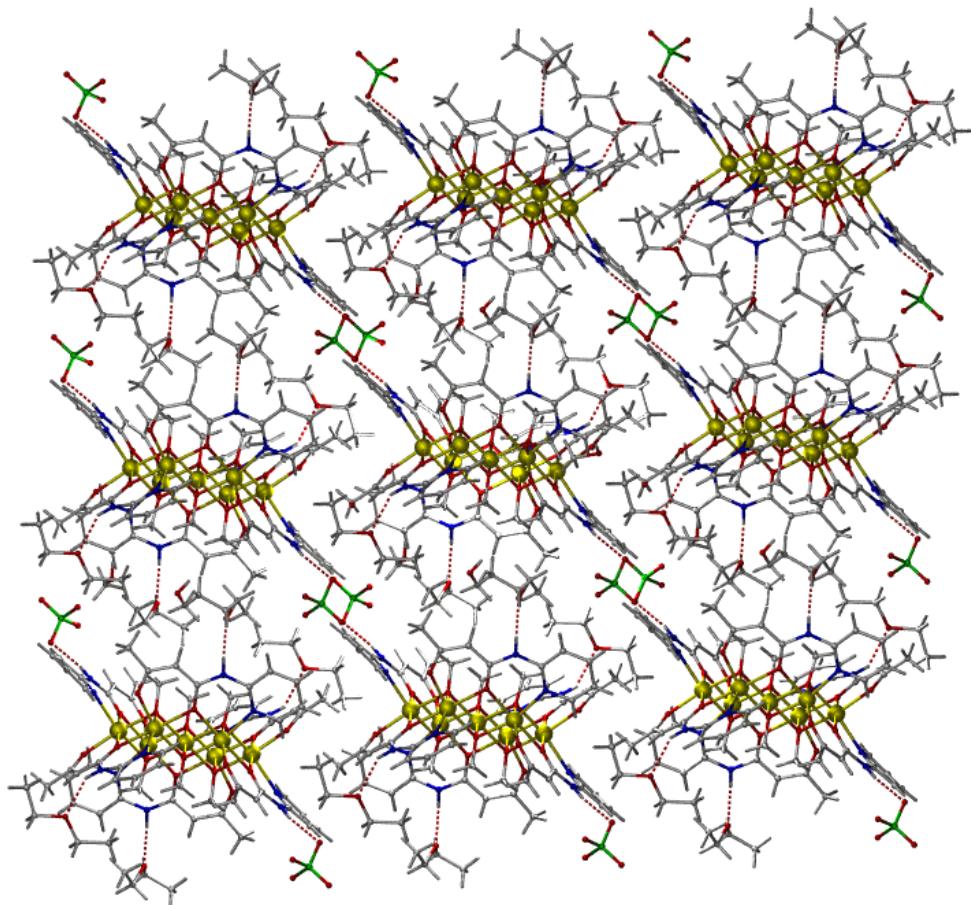
**Table S12.** Selected bond lengths (Å) for complex **6**.



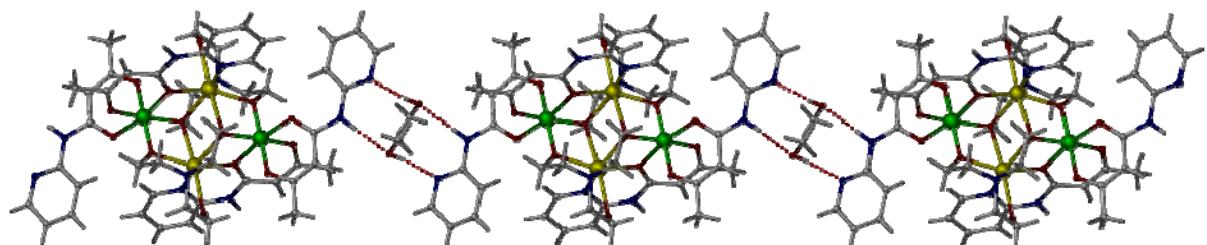
**Figure S1.** Hexagonal packing arrangement of **3** (left) and stacked layers (right).



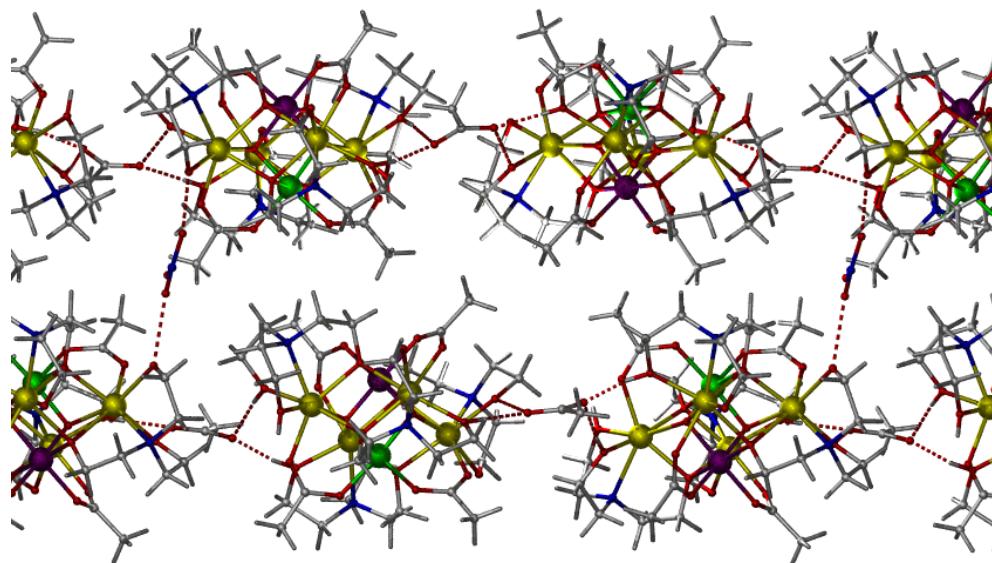
**Figure S2.** Crystal packing in **4**, displaying the triply H-bonded nitrate. H-bonds shown as dashed lines.



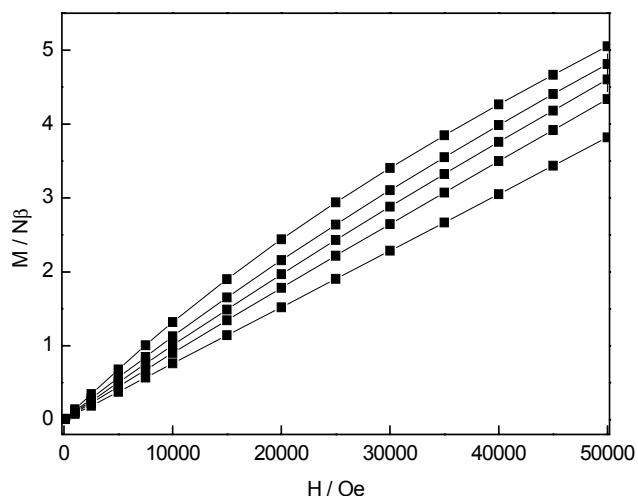
**Figure S3.** Crystal packing in **4a**. H-bonds shown as dashed lines.



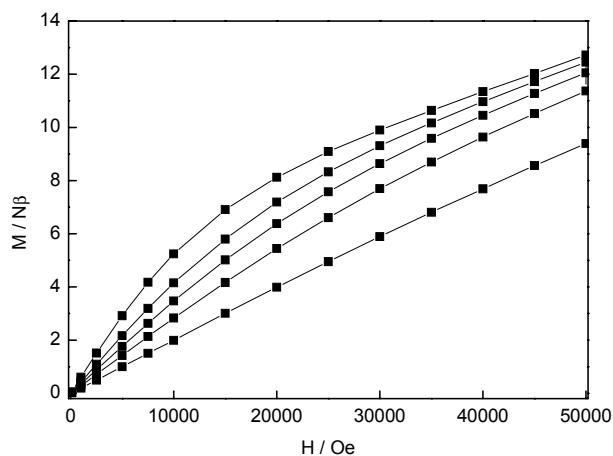
**Figure S4.** 1-D hydrogen bonded chains formed between the pyridyl ring, methanol solvent molecule and the NH group from the secondary amine, in **5**. Dashed lines indicate the H-bonds.



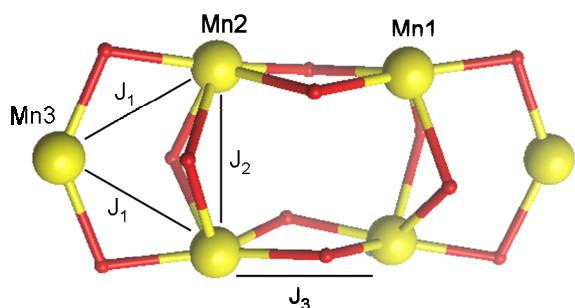
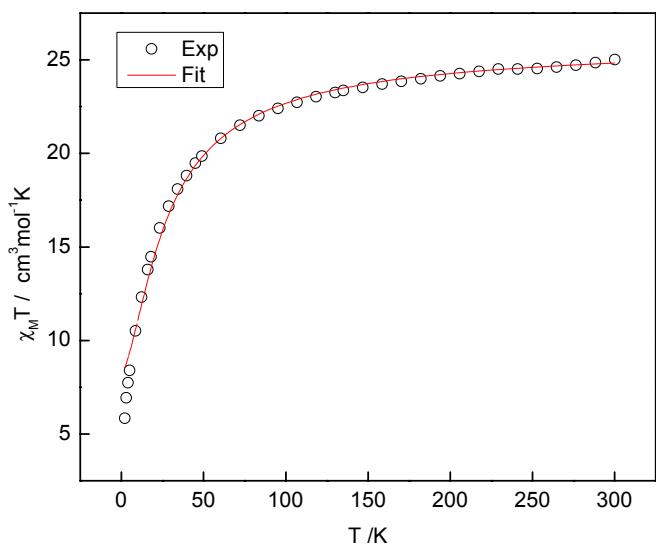
**Figure S5.** 2-D hydrogen bonded sheets formed between the  $\text{teaH}_2^-$ , acetate and the nitrate group, in **6**. Dashed lines indicate the H-bonds.



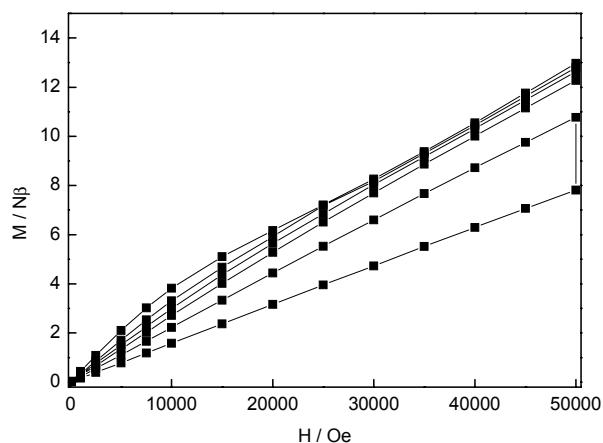
**Figure S6.**  $M$  vs  $H$  isothermal plots for **1** in the 2 (top) – 20 K (bottom) temperature range (right), the solid lines are guides for the eye.



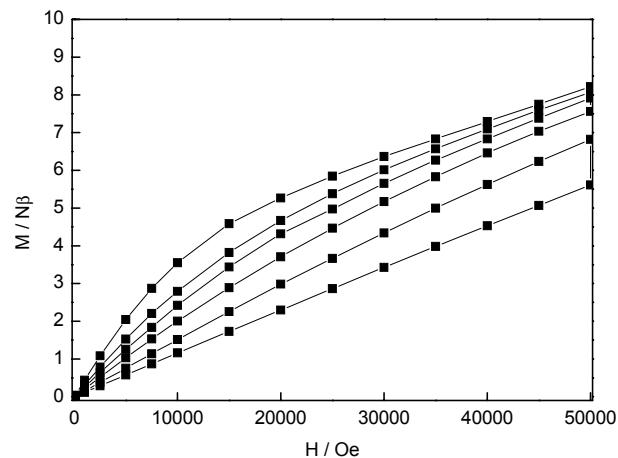
**Figure S7.**  $M$  vs  $H$  isothermal plots for **2** in the 2 (top) – 20 K (bottom) temperature range (right), the solid lines are guides for the eye.



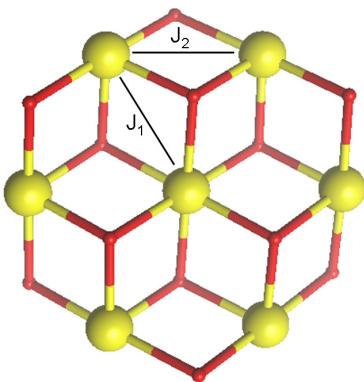
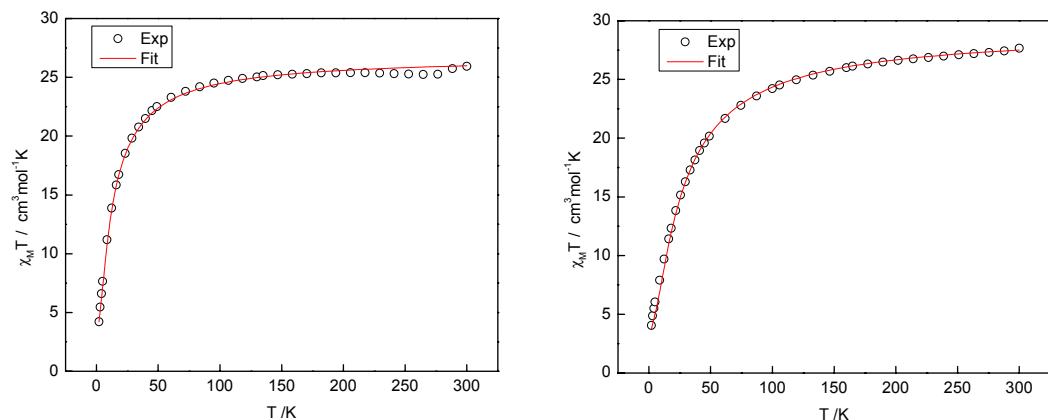
**Figure S8.** Fit for **2** (above) using the coupling scheme shown (below).



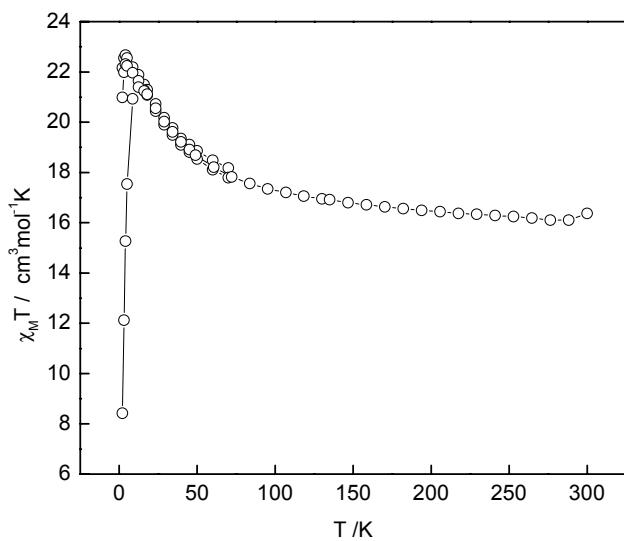
**Figure S9.**  $M$  vs  $H$  isothermal plots for **3** in the 2 (top) – 20 K (bottom) temperature range (right), the solid lines are guides for the eye.



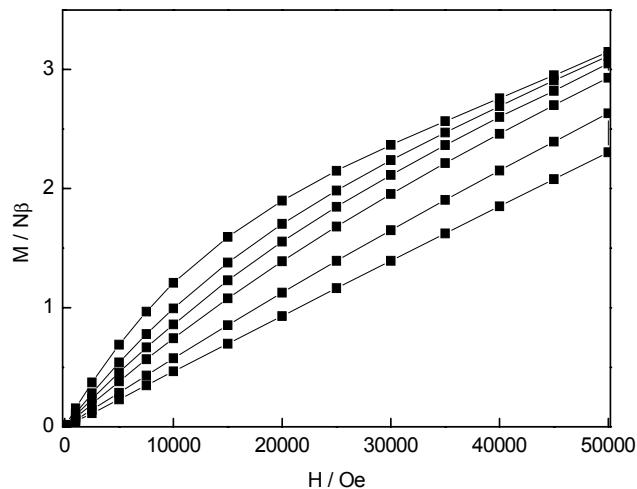
**Figure S10.**  $M$  vs  $H$  isothermal plots for **4** in the 2 (top) – 20 K (bottom) temperature range (right), the solid lines are guides for the eye.



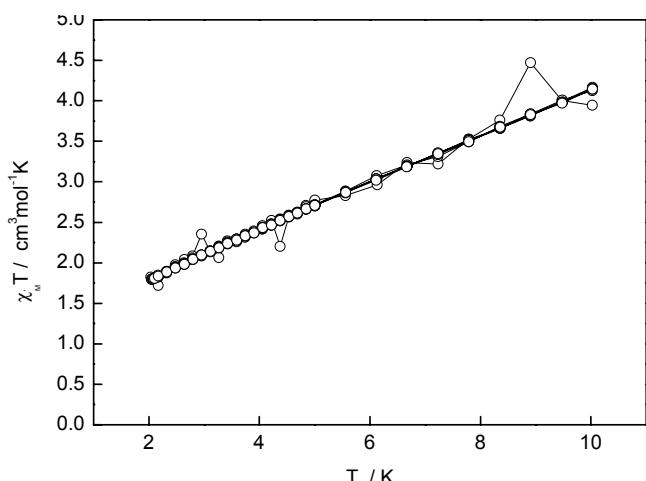
**Figure S11.** Fits for **3** (above left) and **4** (above right) using the coupling scheme shown (below). Each centre to ring ( $J_1$ ) and ring to ring ( $J_2$ ) interaction are assumed to be equal.



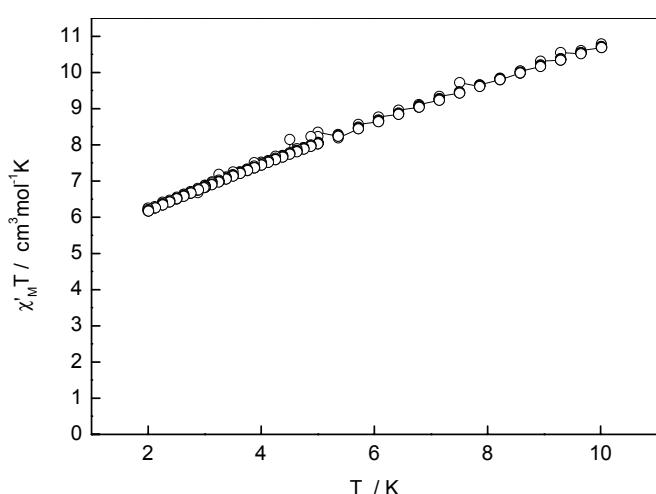
**Figure S12.**  $\chi_M T$  versus  $T$  plot for **5** in DC fields of 1 (bottom; range 2 – 300 K) and 0.1 and 0.01 T (top) in the range of 2 – 70 K.



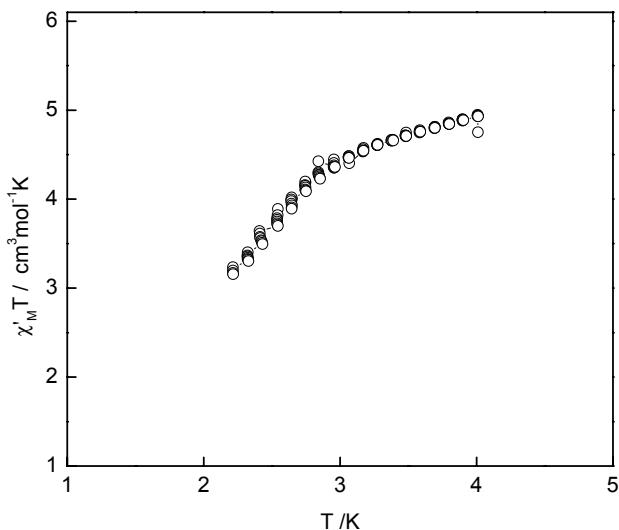
**Figure S13.**  $M$  vs  $H$  isothermal plots for **6** in the 2 (top) – 20 K (bottom) temperature range (right), the solid lines are guides for the eye.



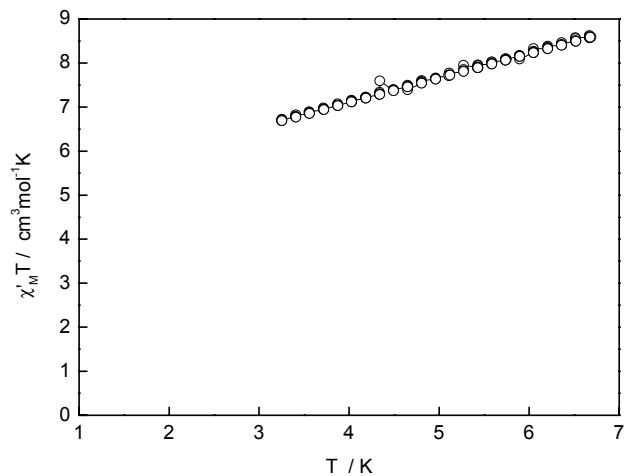
**Figure S14.** Plot of  $\chi_M T$  vs.  $T$  for **1** in AC frequencies 2000 - 250 Hz.



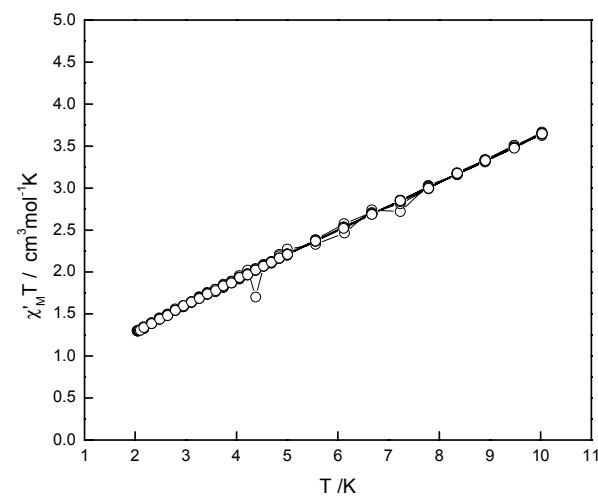
**Figure S15.** Plot of  $\chi'_M T$  vs.  $T$  for **2** in AC frequencies 2000 - 250 Hz.



**Figure S16.** Plot of  $\chi'_M T$  vs.  $T$  for **3** in AC frequencies 2000 - 250 Hz.



**Figure S17.** Plot of  $\chi'_M T$  vs.  $T$  for **4** in AC frequencies 2000 - 250 Hz.



**Figure S18.** Plot of  $\chi'_M T$  vs.  $T$  for **6** in AC frequencies 2000 - 250 Hz.