## **Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)**

## Field-induced slow relaxation of magnetization in pentacoordinate Co(II) compound [Co(phen)(DMSO)Cl<sub>2</sub>]

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**Table S1** Energy levels (cm<sup>-1</sup>) of ligand field multiplets in zero magnetic field derived from CASSCF/NEVPT2 calculations for **1** and for **I-V**.

	1	Ι	II	III	IV	V
0:	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
1:	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
2:	40.1000	94.6257	232.3152	244.7170	218.9037	86.6385
3:	40.1000	94.6257	232.3152	244.7170	218.9037	86.6385
4:	1863.5883	1446.7049	731.8815	565.5706	554.5198	2210.0992
5:	1863.5883	1446.7049	731.8815	565.5706	554.5198	2210.0992
6:	2056.1053	1577.1244	1017.2286	870.5264	823.8131	2605.8479
7:	2056.1053	1577.1244	1017.2286	870.5264	823.8131	2605.8479
8:	3285.8831	3342.5351	2708.4632	2639.5543	2456.9723	3191.6720
9:	3285.8831	3342.5351	2708.4632	2639.5543	2456.9723	3191.6720
10:	3533.7953	3427.1128	2767.8466	2704.9463	2501.9102	3453.9865
11:	3533.7953	3427.1128	2767.8466	2704.9463	2501.9102	3453.9865
12:	3891.9764	5895.7725	5079.4861	3863.9853	3951.1400	4736.3564
13:	3891.9764	5895.7725	5079.4861	3863.9853	3951.1400	4736.3564
14:	4076.5071	6002.1186	5186.9811	3996.7046	4073.7580	4787.1227
15:	4076.5071	6002.1186	5186.9811	3996.7046	4073.7580	4787.1227
16:	6104.9803	8525.1204	7238.5843	6953.0228	7339.6499	6028.6941
17:	6104.9803	8525.1204	7238.5843	6953.0228	7339.6499	6028.6941
18:	6194.0892	8587.3186	7312.1915	7030.3683	7405.1515	6083.6936
19:	6194.0892	8587.3186	7312.1915	7030.3683	7405.1515	6083.6936
20:	10258.0176	10284.5214	9205.2174	8363.1561	8473.9062	12357.7666
21:	10258.0176	10284.5214	9205.2174	8363.1561	8473.9062	12357.7666
22:	10431.3709	10351.7738	9312.3811	8486.9626	8599.5394	12624.6367
23:	10431.3709	10351.7738	9312.3811	8486.9626	8599.5394	12624.6367
24:	12047.0808	10619.9712	12225.4299	12107.8500	11826.1176	12907.8699
25:	12047.0808	10619.9712	12225.4299	12107.8500	11826.1176	12907.8699
26:	12143.6103	15248.8101	13420.3546	12132.1577	12807.4835	13551.8622
27:	12143.6103	15248.8101	13420.3546	12132.1577	12807.4835	13551.8622
28:	13266.1283	15381.1965	13441.4726	12765.8144	12825.4142	13816.4989
29:	13266.1283	15381.1965	13441.4726	12765.8144	12825.4142	13816.4989
30:	14942.8712	15538.0319	15245.8550	16128.3654	15774.4563	13911.5961
31:	14942.8712	15538.0319	15245.8550	16128.3654	15774.4563	13911.5961
32:	17973.8348	16046.2701	16387.9994	16428.8554	16354.0567	17268.1753
33:	17973.8348	16046.2701	16387.9994	16428.8554	16354.0568	17268.1753
34:	18746.4925	17281.8455	17901.2192	17357.4736	16762.0801	18117.3405
35:	18746.4925	17281.8455	17901.2192	17357.4736	16762.0801	18117.3405
36:	19103.3554	18770.5617	18518.8776	18588.3686	18759.3075	19922.9373

37:	19103.3554	18770.5617	18518.8776	18588.3686	18759.3075	19922.9373
38:	19181.6812	18957.4187	18955.8276	18856.7015	18978.1542	20237.4933
39:	19181.6812	18957.4187	18955.8276	18856.7015	18978.1542	20237.4933
40:	19318.1268	19017.5112	19026.3169	18907,1894	19023.5492	20283.6844
41.	19318 1268	19017 5112	19026 3169	18907 1894	19023 5492	20283 6844
42.	19919 6126	19847 7576	19293 5626	19200 6261	19086 7931	20325 4219
43.	19919 6127	19847 7576	19293 5626	19200.6261	19086 7931	20325.1219
$AA \cdot$	20180 6591	10080 1705	20020 0887	19200.0201	10500 3263	20323.4217
44.	20180.0591	19989.4795	20020.0887	19074.0870	19599.5205	20423.4207
45.	20160.0391	19969.4795	20020.0887	19074.0870	19399.3203	20425.4207
40.	20031.8750	20817.1203	20407.7489	20080.2220	19967.0363	20008.3882
4/:	20051.8750	20817.1205	20407.7489	20080.2220	1998/.0385	20008.5882
48:	20900.4766	22183.8439	21041.8889	20182.2744	20100.6273	20702.6932
49:	20900.4766	22183.8439	21041.8889	20182.2744	20100.6273	20/02.6932
50:	21015.3030	22/06.6200	21189.1678	20252.6416	20164.0252	20820.7667
51:	21015.3030	22706.6200	21189.1678	20252.6416	20164.0252	20820.7667
52:	21408.6226	227/4.4261	21449.0664	21295.0501	21489.1952	20986.3203
53:	21408.6226	22774.4261	21449.0664	21295.0501	21489.1952	20986.3203
54:	21716.6788	23016.9177	22100.3906	21635.5917	21852.3371	21550.9860
55:	21716.6788	23016.9177	22100.3906	21635.5917	21852.3371	21550.9860
56:	22396.5927	23290.0882	22426.3940	21752.2642	22339.0184	22196.1350
57:	22396.5927	23290.0882	22426.3940	21752.2642	22339.0184	22196.1350
58:	22631.6899	23933.2437	22520.8174	22114.1675	22748.7332	23125.7592
59:	22631.6899	23933.2437	22520.8174	22114.1675	22748.7332	23125.7592
60:	23111.8373	24902.2392	22889.8247	22526.1477	22836.5213	23180.4090
61:	23111.8373	24902.2392	22889.8247	22526.1477	22836.5213	23180.4090
62:	23474.3364	24977.9465	23498.7678	23348.3214	23136.9212	23514.3099
63:	23474.3364	24977.9465	23498.7678	23348.3214	23136.9212	23514.3099
64:	26011.9515	27082.7253	26271.2874	25500.5097	25626.6623	26082.8444
65:	26011.9515	27082.7253	26271.2874	25500.5097	25626.6623	26082.8444
66:	26130.4942	27380.8644	26424.1660	26258.2709	26496.9580	26186.3060
67:	26130.4942	27380.8644	26424.1660	26258.2709	26496.9580	26186.3060
68:	27955.3578	27905.8186	26933.0992	26662.9157	26849.6921	28931.5429
69:	27955.3578	27905.8186	26933.0992	26662.9157	26849.6921	28931.5429
70:	28529.2523	28637.7509	27653.3554	26939.3578	27202.2260	29438.6020
71.	28529 2523	28637 7509	27653 3554	26939 3578	27202 2260	29438 6020
72.	28847 9087	29605 3775	28387 8174	28041 9865	28441 1912	29687 6176
73.	28847 9087	29605.3775	28387 8174	28041 9865	28441 1912	29687.6176
7 <u>4</u> .	29318 9081	30440 7472	20132 2059	28495 4962	28794 0685	30528 5831
75.	29318 9081	30440 7472	29132.2959	28495 4962	28794.0685	30528 5831
76.	29620 6820	30757 1334	29603 2055	28862 3526	29320 9711	30839 8890
70.	29620.6820	30757 1334	29603 2055	28862 3526	29320.9711	30839 8890
78.	29020.0820	31202 5757	29005.2055	20361 5424	29320.9711	31166 0331
70.	30100.2387	31202.3737	29951.7100	29301.3424	29789.7357	21166 0221
79. 80.	30100.2387	31202.3737	29931.7100	29501.5424	29769.7337	31100.0331
00.	20200 4554	21421 4410	20280.1527	29015.9590	20100 4195	21490.0925
81:	30389.4334	31431.4410	30280.1527	29015.9390	30190.4195	31490.0925
82:	30696.1492	31/21.6542	30696.4942	29816.9491	30418.6470	31825.7400
83:	30696.1492	31/21.6542	30696.4942	29816.9491	30418.6470	31825.7400
84:	31026.5998	33048.2030	31459.9264	308/3.4314	31302.6394	32095.4441
85:	31026.5998	33048.2030	31459.9264	308/3.4314	31302.6394	32095.4441
86:	31542.1220	33318.2574	32042.9158	31170.5998	31766.5375	32/67.4625
87:	31542.1220	33318.2574	32042.9158	31170.5998	31766.5375	32/67.4625
88:	31766.4670	33864.7223	32510.7306	31464.0705	31995.3612	32989.6106
89:	31766.4670	33864.7223	32510.7306	31464.0705	31995.3612	32989.6106
90:	31999.1779	35458.6036	33123.1770	31859.8631	32195.0526	33263.4633
91:	31999.1779	35458.6036	33123.1770	31859.8631	32195.0526	33263.4633
92:	33155.3284	35915.7383	33612.0130	32189.1400	32668.5751	34382.7085
93:	33155.3284	35915.7383	33612.0130	32189.1400	32668.5751	34382.7085
94:	33761.9308	36418.3804	34059.8170	32871.8550	33405.2883	35208.5098
95:	33761.9308	36418.3804	34059.8170	32871.8550	33405.2883	35208.5098
96:	40703.4924	41092.4704	40005.9140	39782.4147	39917.8558	40979.7470

97:	40703.4924	41092.4704	40005.9140	39782.4147	39917.8558	40979.7470
98:	41217.1399	41783.9820	40660.4456	40399.5246	40655.7640	41123.0795
99:	41217.1399	41783.9820	40660.4456	40399.5246	40655.7640	41123.0795
100:	41469.2004	42281.3859	41544.4762	41100.7158	41215.3186	42484.0850
101:	41469.2004	42281.3859	41544.4762	41100.7158	41215.3186	42484.0850
102:	42598.9899	44133.9536	42142.3669	41712.2102	42259.3006	42658.4884
103:	42598.9899	44133.9536	42142.3669	41712.2102	42259.3006	42658.4884
104:	42891.2691	44319.4022	42421.5006	41901.2332	42443.0724	42883.4304
105:	42891.2691	44319.4022	42421.5006	41901.2332	42443.0724	42883.4304
106:	43115.8128	44871.3467	43038.2428	42240.3537	42788.3777	43057.6601
107:	43115.8128	44871.3467	43038.2428	42240.3537	42788.3777	43057.6601
108:	43489.7744	45017.2275	43142.4921	42601.0392	43066.1107	43532.4060
109:	43489.7744	45017.2275	43142.4921	42601.0392	43066.1107	43532.4060
110:	61058.3099	60759.5505	60405.1309	60128.5845	60365.1798	61169.4200
111:	61058.3099	60759.5505	60405.1309	60128.5845	60365.1798	61169.4200
112:	61390.0357	61854.7912	60663.4620	60414.5437	60563.0277	61530.5179
113:	61390.0357	61854.7912	60663.4620	60414.5437	60563.0277	61530.5179
114:	62665.5920	63602.0749	62119.1714	61682.8617	62240.0003	63393.1159
115:	62665.5920	63602.0749	62119.1714	61682.8617	62240.0003	63393.1159
116:	63951.5734	65608.0704	63504.9284	62632.1377	63020.0850	63648.2579
117:	63951.5734	65608.0704	63504.9284	62632.1377	63020.0850	63648.2580
118:	64284.6638	66432.6372	64269.6899	63358.5766	64108.0696	64203.2338
119:	64284.6638	66432.6372	64269.6899	63358.5766	64108.0696	64203.2338

Multiplicity	Root	D	Ε
4	0	0.000	0.000
4	1	-21.647	-3.526
4	2	-0.019	-0.211
4	3	-5.303	-8.866
4	4	7.957	6.140
4	5	-0.189	-0.113
4	6	0.340	0.244
4	7	0.001	-0.000
4	8	0.047	0.015
4	9	-0.045	-0.012
2	0	-0 153	0 375
$\frac{1}{2}$	1	0.554	0.055
	2	-0 292	-0.183
2	3	0.410	0.165
2		0.073	-0.001
$\frac{2}{2}$	5	0.100	0.001
$\frac{2}{2}$	6	3 647	0.047
$\begin{vmatrix} 2\\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	7	-1 710	1.620
$\begin{vmatrix} 2\\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	8	-2 591	-1 886
$\begin{vmatrix} 2\\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	0	-0.015	-0.007
$\begin{vmatrix} 2\\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	10	-0.013	-0.007
$\begin{bmatrix} 2\\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$	10	0.003	0.019
$\begin{bmatrix} 2\\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$	11	0.003	0.005
$\begin{bmatrix} 2\\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$	12	-0.008	-0.000
$\begin{bmatrix} 2\\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$	13	0.034	0.020
$\begin{bmatrix} 2\\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$	14	0.240	0.008
	15	-0.023	0.122
$\begin{bmatrix} 2\\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$	10	0.112	0.085
$\begin{bmatrix} 2\\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$	1/	0.000	0.002
$\begin{bmatrix} 2\\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$	18	-0.001	0.002
$\begin{bmatrix} 2\\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$	19	0.030	-0.003
$\begin{bmatrix} 2\\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$	20	-0.204	-0.24/
$\begin{bmatrix} 2\\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$	21	-0.063	-0.081
2	22	-0.546	-0.54/
$\begin{bmatrix} 2\\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$	23	-0.188	0.046
$\begin{bmatrix} 2\\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$	24	-0.550	0.397
2	25	0.687	-0.001
2	26	0.032	0.042
2	27	-0.037	-0.075
2	28	0.143	0.070
$ $ $\frac{2}{2}$	29	0.116	-0.009
2	30	-0.037	0.026
2	31	-0.073	-0.055
2	32	-0.011	0.015
2	33	-0.008	0.004
2	34	0.001	0.004
2	35	0.001	0.000
2	36	-0.036	-0.022
2	37	-0.007	0.010
2	38	0.012	0.002
2	39	0.014	0.008

**Table S2.** Individual contributions to *D*-tensor for 1 calculated by CASSCF/NEVPT2.

			I	II		II	III		IV		V	
Multiplicity	Root	D	E	D	E	D	E	D	E	D	E	
4	0	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	0.000	-0.000	0.000	-0.000	0.000	-0.000	
4	1	-65.702	0.093	-113.846	-0.131	-123.541	-0.267	-128.718	-0.077	9.009	9.009	
4	2	10.128	-10.123	2.132	-3.223	-0.203	-1.171	18.705	-15.975	-0.042	-0.136	
4	3	3.032	-3.019	-9.905	-4.074	-11.920	-5.665	0.371	2.422	13.570	13.570	
4	4	5.194	5.864	3.595	-6.822	2.760	-6.677	1.314	1.967	13.050	-13.056	
4	5	1.308	-1.312	0.017	0.017	0.078	-0.087	4.981	2.850	-0.015	-0.000	
4	6	0.159	0.198	0.017	0.017	0.082	-0.009	0.211	0.034	0.005	0.005	
4	7	0.004	-0.004	0.089	-0.097	0.076	-0.092	0.021	0.014	0.012	0.012	
4	8	0.009	0.037	0.000	0.000	-0.001	-0.001	-0.003	0.012	0.146	-0.147	
4	9	0.035	-0.035	-0.090	-0.003	-0.066	-0.008	-0.004	-0.017	0.094	0.094	
2	0	0.694	-1.378	-1.211	-1.211	-1.034	-1.038	2.214	0.498	-0.000	-0.000	
2	1	-0.217	0.226	-2.322	-2.322	-0.071	-0.163	0.731	-0.041	0.514	0.008	
2	2	1.486	-0.135	-0.179	-0.179	-1.695	-1.744	0.036	-0.040	2.960	0.000	
2	3	1.781	-0.048	0.269	0.022	0.274	0.058	0.574	0.579	-0.000	-0.000	
2	4	-0.115	0.116	-0.000	-0.000	0.009	0.000	0.317	0.123	-0.513	-0.513	
2	5	-0.030	0.032	3.114	0.004	3.225	0.018	2.325	-0.119	-1.197	-1.197	
2	6	1.847	-0.142	-0.075	0.170	-0.171	0.124	-0.267	0.002	-0.213	0.214	
2	7	-1.626	1.619	-1.032	1.087	-1.247	1.272	-1.414	1.446	-0.721	1.223	
2	8	-0.091	-0.955	-2.654	-2.654	-2.588	-2.586	-1.027	-1.242	8.750	0.080	
2	9	-0.370	-0.370	-0.019	-0.019	0.033	0.002	-0.011	0.089	0.016	0.002	
2	10	-0.280	0.282	0.058	0.004	0.029	-0.012	-0.124	0.046	-0.002	-0.002	
2	11	-0.039	0.039	0.001	0.017	-0.026	0.030	-0.025	0.025	-0.001	-0.001	
2	12	-0.158	0.157	-0.215	0.215	-0.072	0.077	-0.024	0.007	-0.051	0.051	
2	13	0.431	0.000	0.295	0.063	0.149	0.009	-0.008	0.078	-0.018	-0.018	
2	14	-0.278	0.279	-0.184	0.211	-0.081	-0.028	0.102	-0.007	-0.118	0.127	
2	15	-0.089	0.088	-0.050	-0.050	-0.093	0.113	-0.188	0.007	-0.110	-0.110	
2	16	-0.014	-0.014	0.029	0.000	-0.134	-0.272	0.257	0.173	-0.055	0.095	
2	17	0.143	-0.145	-0.085	-0.085	-0.145	-0.094	0.252	-0.076	-0.001	-0.001	
2	18	-0.138	0.134	-0.410	-0.410	0.009	-0.021	-0.028	0.010	0.010	0.049	
2	19	0.274	-0.339	-0.002	-0.002	-0.008	0.002	-0.013	-0.071	-0.034	-0.034	
2	20	-0.382	0.377	-0.137	0.152	-0.061	0.057	-1.192	-0.057	0.125	0.035	
2	21	-1.004	-0.998	-0.560	-0.560	-0.745	-0.615	-0.151	0.139	-0.062	-0.062	
2	22	-0.013	0.012	0.327	0.000	0.168	0.002	-0.053	-0.043	1.058	0.000	
2	23	0.390	-0.003	-0.001	-0.001	-0.004	0.039	0.383	0.016	-0.007	-0.007	
2	24	-0.056	0.056	-0.757	0.855	-0.053	0.028	0.380	-0.160	-0.003	-0.003	

 Table S3. Individual contributions to D-tensor for I-V calculated by CASSCF/NEVPT2.

2	25	0.019	-0.034	-0.001	-0.001	-0.008	0.583	-0.024	-0.040	0.013	0.074
2	26	-0.006	0.006	-0.044	-0.044	-0.043	0.294	-0.076	-0.119	-0.706	0.706
2	27	0.051	0.000	0.565	0.021	-0.077	-0.077	-0.042	-0.065	-0.480	-0.480
2	28	-0.144	0.144	-0.045	0.073	0.105	0.042	-0.096	0.025	-0.137	0.138
2	29	-0.013	0.013	0.273	0.007	0.147	0.049	0.004	-0.024	-0.226	-0.226
2	30	-0.056	-0.111	-0.002	-0.002	0.007	0.000	0.096	-0.037	-0.011	-0.011
2	31	0.132	-0.008	0.195	0.001	0.159	-0.002	0.007	0.011	-0.071	0.072
2	32	0.034	0.005	-0.003	-0.003	-0.006	0.014	0.001	-0.033	-0.042	-0.042
2	33	-0.015	0.016	-0.070	0.087	-0.073	0.077	-0.023	0.024	0.004	0.004
2	34	0.005	-0.003	-0.003	-0.003	-0.001	-0.003	0.012	0.000	-0.001	-0.001
2	35	0.036	-0.005	-0.031	-0.031	-0.004	-0.006	0.009	0.011	0.087	0.000
2	36	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.000	-0.029	-0.025	0.001	-0.000	-0.001	-0.001
2	37	0.013	-0.005	-0.000	-0.000	0.004	-0.000	0.015	0.002	0.026	0.003
2	38	-0.012	0.012	-0.006	0.007	-0.009	-0.000	-0.008	-0.002	-0.000	-0.000
2	39	0.005	-0.019	-0.062	-0.062	-0.043	-0.042	0.033	0.012	0.066	0.001

T/K	$\chi_{\rm S}/(10^{-6} {\rm m^3 mol^{-1}})$	$\chi_{\rm T}/(10^{-6} {\rm m}^{3}{\rm mol}^{-1})$	α	τ/(10 <sup>-6</sup> s)
1.9	6.030	9.109	0.359	0.8878
2.2	5.375	8.100	0.343	0.6204
2.5	4.730	7.327	0.304	0.3797
2.8	4.182	6.703	0.300	0.2245

 Table S4. Parameters of one-component Debye model for 1 derived according Eq.8 in main text.



Fig S1 In-phase  $\chi_{real}$  and out-of-phase  $\chi_{imag}$  molar susceptibilities for 1 at zero static magnetic field (left) and in non-zero static field (right). Lines serve as guides for the eyes.



Fig S2 Powder diffraction pattern for 1. Experimental data are shown as a red line, while calculated ones as a blue line.



Fig S3 HFEPR spectra recorded on pressed powder pellets of 1 at 5 K and different frequencies as indicated.