## Supporting Information

## Terminal solvent effects on the anisotropy barriers of Dy<sub>2</sub> systems

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	1	2	3
formula	$C_{34}H_{36}Cl_2Dy_2N_8O_8\\$	$C_{34}H_{38}Cl_2Dy_2N_6O_8$	$C_{30}H_{33}Cl_2Dy_2N_6O_{10}\\$
fw	1080.61	1052.59	1033.52
<i>T</i> /K	200(2)	200(2)	200(2)
crystal system	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
space group	$P2_1/n$	$P2_1/n$	$P2_{1}/c$
a/Å	9.2840(5)	9.2698(2)	9.4224(3)
<i>b</i> /Å	12.1401(6)	12.1313(3)	11.7141(4)
$c/{ m \AA}$	17.5090(8)	16.9364(4)	30.8652(10)
a/deg	90	90	90
$\beta$ /deg	98.4461(11)	101.2440(10)	96.162(2)
γ/deg	90	90	90
<i>Vol/</i> Å <sup>3</sup>	1952.01(17)	1868.02(8)	3387.06(19)
Ζ	2	2	4
$DC/Mg m^{-3}$	1.839	1.871	2.027
$\mu/\mathrm{mm}^{-1}$	3.994	4.170	4.602
Reflns collected	27137	11000	5747
GOF	1.017	1.093	1.244
<i>R1, wR</i> 2 ( > $2\sigma(I)$ ) <sup>a</sup>	0.0267, 0.0648	0.0413, 0.0896	0.0897, 0.1836
R1, wR2 (all data)	0.0388, 0.0716	0.0319, 0.0853	0.1031, 0.1883

 Table S1 Crystallographic data for dinuclear complexes 1–3.

 ${}^{a}R = R_{I} = ||F_{o}| - |F_{c}||/\Sigma|F_{o}|; wR_{2} = \{ [\Sigma w(F_{o}^{2} - F_{c}^{2})^{2}]/[w(F_{o}^{2})^{2}] \}^{1/2}; w= 1/[\sigma^{2}(F_{o}^{2}) + (ap)^{2} + bp], where p = [max(F_{o}^{2}, 0) + 2Fc^{2}]/3.$ 

	1	2
Dy1-Dy1a/Å	3.8937(3)	3.8538(3)
Dy1-O3/Å	2.337(2)	2.322(4)
Dy1-O3a/Å	2.316(2)	2.317(4)
Dy1-O4/Å	2.288(4)	2.381(3)
Dy1-Cl1/Å	2.613(1)	2.633(1)
Dy1-O3-Dy1a/°	113.60(9)	112.4(1)
O4-Dy1-Cl1/°	176.2(1)	163.41(9)
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Table S2 Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) for complexes 1 and 2.



**Fig. S1** Illustration of the packing arrangements of complexes **1** (left) and **2** (right). The shortest Dy-Dy distance for **1**: green-purple-9.42 Å, purple-blue-9.89 Å; for **4**: green-pink-9.31 Å, pink-blue-9.38 Å.

	3
Dy1-Dy2/Å	3.954(1)
Dy1-O3/Å	2.30(1)
Dy1-O6/Å	2.32(1)
Dy2-O3/Å	2.44(1)
Dy2-O6/Å	2.40(1)
Dy2-O10/Å	2.45(1)
Dy2-O7/Å	2.48(1)
Dy2-O8/Å	2.50(1)
Dy2-O9/Å	2.44(1)
Dy1-Cl1/Å	2.662(5)
Dy1-Cl2/Å	2.665(5)
C9-N2/Å	1.30(2)
C9-O3/Å	1.30(2)
C23-O6/Å	1.28(2)
C23-N5/Å	1.31(2)
Cl1-O9/Å	3.12(1)
Cl2-O10/Å	3.17(1)
Dy1-O3-Dy2/°	113.2(5)
Dy1-O6-Dy2/°	113.8(4)
Cl1-Dy1-Cl2/°	169.3(1)

Table S3 Selected bond distances (Å) and angles (°) for complex 3.

SHAPE code	Point group	Description	SHAPE constant
EP-9	$D_{9h}$	Enneagon	34.909
OPY-9	$C_{8v}$	Octagonal pyramid	23.177
HBPY-9	$D_{7h}$	Heptagonal bipyramid	18.619
JTC-9	$C_{3v}$	Johnson triangular cupola J3	13.944
JCCU-9	$C_{4v}$	Capped cube J8	10.742
CCU-9	$C_{4v}$	Spherical-relaxed capped cube	9.471
JCSAPR-9	$C_{4v}$	Capped square antiprism J10	2.002
CSAPR-9	$C_{4v}$	Spherical capped square antiprism	1.221
JTCTPR-9	$D_{3h}$	Tricapped trigonal prism J51	2.571
TCTPR-9	$D_{3h}$	Spherical tricapped trigonal prism	1.550
JTDIC-9	$C_{3v}$	Tridiminished icosahedron J63	12.072
HH-9	$C_{2v}$	Hula-hoop	9.515
MFF-9	$C_s$	Muffin	1.325

Table S4 SHAPE constants of  $Dy_2$  for complex 3.



**Fig. S2** Field dependence of the magnetization M at 1.8, 3, 5, and 7 K for complex 1 plotted as M vs. H (left) and M vs.  $HT^{-1}$  (right).



**Fig S3** Field dependence of the magnetization M at 1.8, 3, 5, and 7 K for complex **2** plotted as M vs. H (left) and M vs.  $HT^{-1}$  (right).



**Fig S4** Field dependence of the magnetization M at 2, 3, 5, and 7 K for complex **3** plotted as M vs. H (left) and M vs.  $HT^{-1}$  (right).



Fig. S5 Cole-Cole plot using the ac susceptibility data for complex 1 (left) and the obtained  $\alpha$  values from the fit using a generalized Debye model plotted as  $\alpha$  vs. T (right).



Fig. S6 Cole-Cole plot using the ac susceptibility data for complex 2 (left) and the obtained  $\alpha$  values from the fit using a generalized Debye model plotted as  $\alpha$  vs. T (right).