

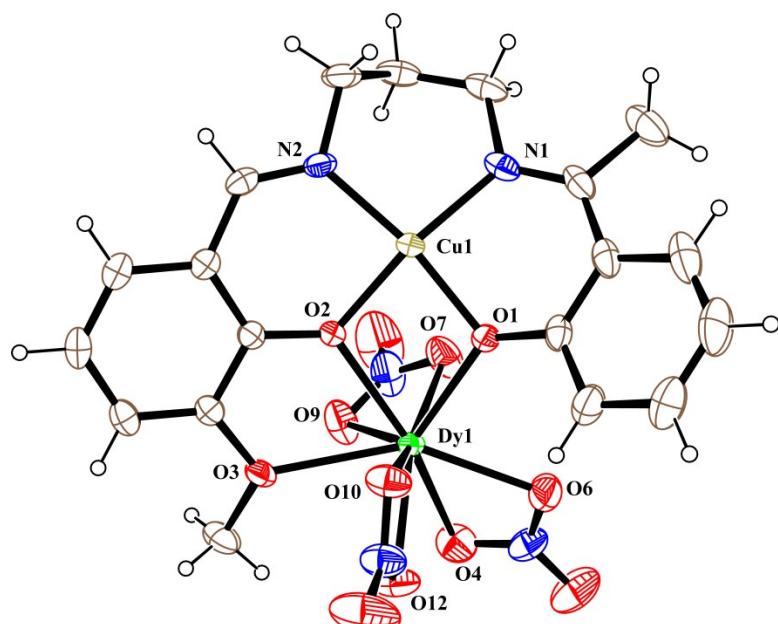
Supporting Information

**A series of Cu<sup>II</sup>–Ln<sup>III</sup> complexes of an N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> donor asymmetric ligand and a possible Cu<sup>II</sup>–Tb<sup>III</sup> SMM candidate in no bias field**

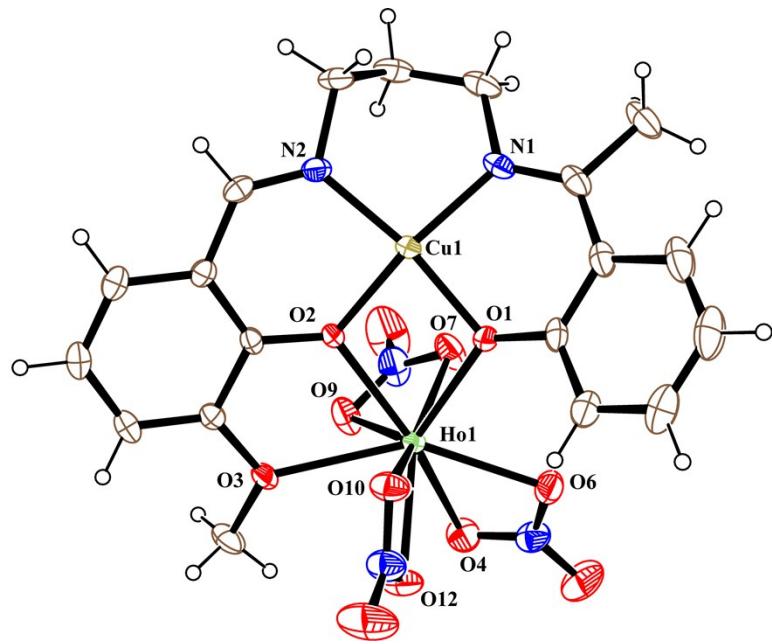
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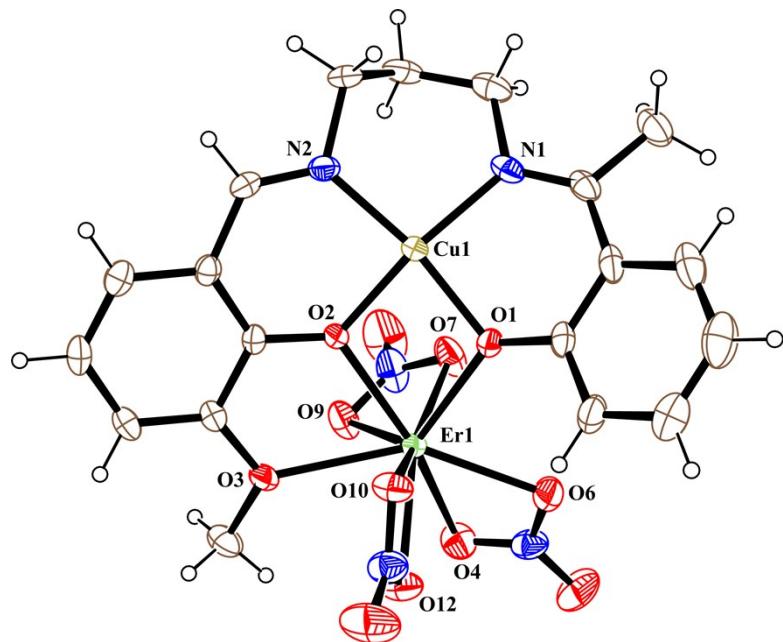
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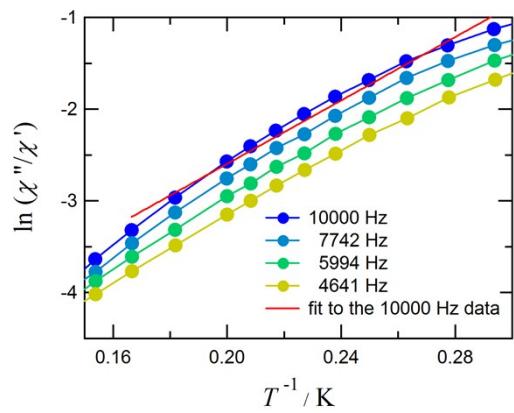
**Fig. S1.** Structure of complex **2Dy** with 30% thermal ellipsoid probability.



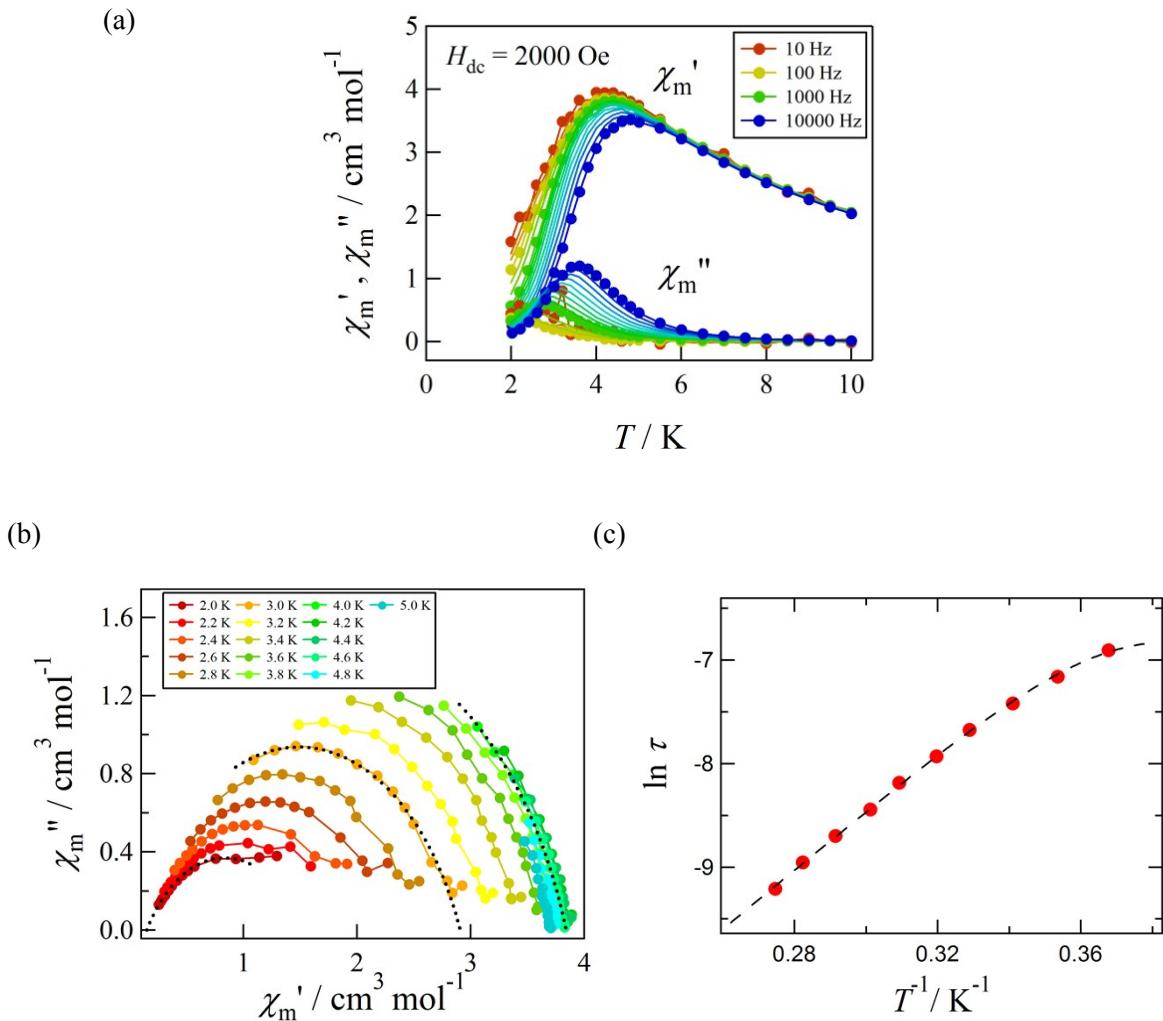
**Fig. S2.** Structure of complex **3Ho** with 30% thermal ellipsoid probability.



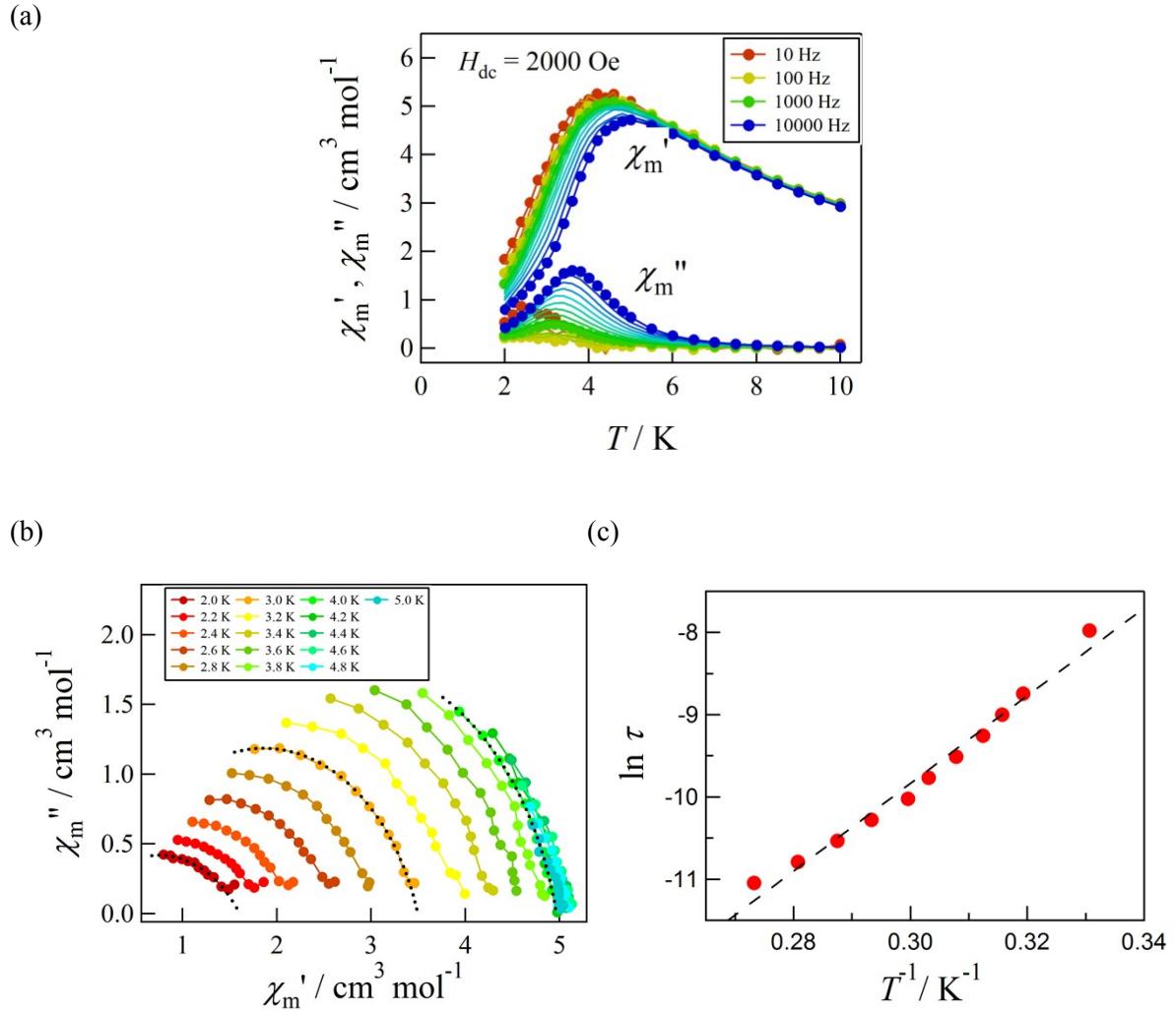
**Fig. S3.** Structure of complex **4Er** with 30% thermal ellipsoid probability.



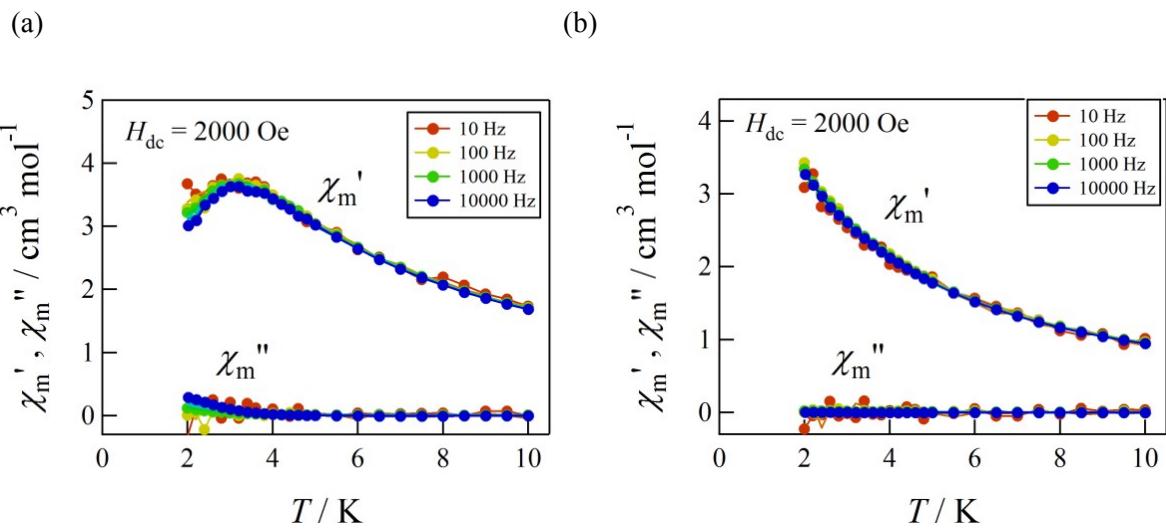
**Fig. S4.** The natural logarithm of the ratio of  $\chi''$  over  $\chi'$  vs  $1/T$  for the zero-bias data of **1Tb**. The Arrhenius parameters were estimated by fitting the experimental  $\chi''/\chi'$  data as  $U_{\text{eff}}/k_{\text{B}} = 17.3(7)$  K and  $\tau_0 = 3.7(6) \times 10^{-8}$  s.



**Fig. S5.** (a) Ac magnetic susceptibilities of **1Tb**, measured at an applied dc field of 2000 Oe. (b) The Cole-Cole plot for **1Tb**. Dotted lines stand for calculation curves based on the Debye model. The optimized  $\alpha$  values are 0.22(3), 0.26(2), and 0.370(3) at 4.0, 3.0, and 2.0 K, respectively. The equation  $\chi(\omega) = \chi_s + (\chi_T - \chi_s)/(1 + (i\omega\tau)^{1-\alpha})$  was applied, where  $\chi_T$  and  $\chi_s$  are the isothermal and adiabatic magnetic susceptibilities, respectively.<sup>1</sup> Note that the relatively small  $\alpha$  values support a narrow distribution of relaxation times. (c) The Arrhenius plot for **1Tb**. A broken line stands for calculation based on a modified Arrhenius equation,  $\tau^{-1} = CT^n + \tau_0^{-1} \exp(-U_{\text{eff}}/k_B T)$ , where the first and second terms imply the Raman and Orbach mechanisms, respectively.<sup>2</sup> The optimized parameters are:  $U_{\text{eff}} = 28.5(5)$  K and  $\tau_0 = 4.1(6) \times 10^{-8}$  s.



**Fig. S6.** (a) Ac magnetic susceptibilities of **2Dy**, measured at an applied dc field of 2000 Oe. (b) The Cole-Cole plot for **2Dy**. Dotted lines stand for calculation curves based on the Debye model. The optimized  $\alpha$  values are 0.15(2), 0.20(1), and 0.42(3) at 4.0, 3.0, and 2.0 K, respectively. For details, see the caption of Fig. S5. (c) The Arrhenius plot for **2Dy**. A broken line stands for calculation based on the Arrhenius analysis,  $\tau^{-1} = \tau_0^{-1} \exp(-U_{\text{eff}}/k_B T)$ .<sup>3</sup> The optimized parameters are:  $U_{\text{eff}} = 53(2)$  K and  $\tau_0 = 6(5) \times 10^{-9}$  s.



**Fig. S7.** Ac magnetic susceptibilities as a function of temperature for (a) **3Ho** and (b) **4Er**, measured at an applied dc field of 2000 Oe.

**Table S1.** Bond distances ( $\text{\AA}$ ) and angles ( $^\circ$ ) for complexes **1Tb–4Er**.

	<b>1Tb</b>	<b>2Dy</b>	<b>3Ho</b>	<b>4Er</b>
M(1)–O(1)	2.340(6)	2.326(3)	2.319(3)	2.301(3)
M(1)–O(2)	2.308(5)	2.303(3)	2.285(3)	2.276(4)
M(1)–O(3)	2.510(5)	2.518(3)	2.507(3)	2.493(5)
M(1)–O(4)	2.447(7)	2.438(5)	2.427(3)	2.413(5)
M(1)–O(6)	2.383(6)	2.385(5)	2.375(3)	2.356(5)
M(1)–O(7)	2.416(7)	2.405(5)	2.388(3)	2.378(5)
M(1)–O(9)	2.443(7)	2.444(4)	2.433(3)	2.414(4)
M(1)–O(10)	2.435(6)	2.426(3)	2.419(3)	2.395(4)
M(1)–O(12)	2.431(6)	2.429(4)	2.417(3)	2.401(5)
Cu(1)–O(1)	1.919(5)	1.930(3)	1.919(3)	1.913(3)
Cu(1)–O(2)	1.933(5)	1.937(3)	1.920(2)	1.914(4)
Cu(1)–N(1)	1.966(7)	1.974(4)	1.963(3)	1.957(5)
Cu(1)–N(2)	1.932(7)	1.944(3)	1.926(3)	1.925(5)
O(1)–M(1)–O(2)	65.17(17)	65.46(10)	65.60(8)	65.61(12)
O(1)–M(1)–O(3)	126.23(17)	126.76(10)	127.17(8)	127.36(12)
O(1)–M(1)–O(4)	128.6(2)	128.74(13)	128.36(9)	128.74(13)
O(1)–M(1)–O(6)	79.2(2)	79.21(13)	78.64(10)	78.71(15)
O(2)–M(1)–O(3)	64.78(16)	64.94(11)	65.46(8)	65.79(13)
O(2)–M(1)–O(4)	155.9(2)	154.85(13)	155.24(9)	154.66(15)
O(2)–M(1)–O(6)	144.1(2)	144.29(13)	143.97(10)	143.99(16)
O(3)–M(1)–O(4)	105.2(2)	104.48(13)	104.48(9)	103.91(15)
O(3)–M(1)–O(6)	149.7(2)	149.63(14)	149.02(10)	148.77(17)
O(4)–M(1)–O(6)	52.4(2)	52.70(15)	52.98(10)	53.31(16)
O(7)–M(1)–O(9)	51.8(2)	51.94(15)	52.64(10)	52.86(16)
O(7)–M(1)–O(10)	154.3(2)	153.55(14)	154.06(10)	153.69(17)
O(7)–M(1)–O(12)	152.1(2)	152.80(15)	151.40(10)	151.15(17)
O(9)–M(1)–O(10)	142.6(2)	142.30(15)	142.44(9)	142.42(15)
O(9)–M(1)–O(12)	116.6(3)	115.83(15)	116.32(10)	115.96(17)
O(10)–M(1)–O(12)	51.8(2)	52.31(13)	52.32(9)	52.92(15)
O(1)–Cu(1)–O(2)	81.1(2)	80.68(13)	81.01(10)	80.76(14)
O(1)–Cu(1)–N(1)	91.8(2)	91.88(15)	91.62(12)	91.96(17)
O(1)–Cu(1)–N(2)	167.8(3)	167.68(14)	167.92(12)	167.42(17)
O(2)–Cu(1)–N(1)	162.8(3)	162.86(15)	163.14(12)	163.05(18)
O(2)–Cu(1)–N(2)	91.0(2)	90.88(13)	91.07(12)	90.81(17)
N(1)–Cu(1)–N(2)	98.3(3)	98.59(16)	98.34(14)	98.6(2)
M(1)–O(1)–Cu(1)	104.7(2)	104.85(12)	104.32(10)	104.61(13)
M(1)–O(2)–Cu(1)	105.4(2)	105.43(12)	105.57(9)	105.50(14)

**Table S2.** Continuous SHAPE measures (CShM)<sup>4</sup> for **1Tb–4Er**.

Ideal structure <sup>a</sup>	<b>1Tb</b>	<b>2Dy</b>	<b>3Ho</b>	<b>4Er</b>
TCTPR-9	3.24	3.23	2.99	2.91
CSAPR-9	3.32	3.28	3.10	3.01
MFF-9	3.63	3.59	3.42	3.30
JCSAPR-9	4.56	4.53	4.34	4.26

a:  
JTCTPR-9: tricapped trigonal prism.  
CSAPR-9:spherical capped square antiprism.  
MFF-9:muffin.  
JCSAPR-9:capped square antiprism.

## References

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- 3 R. Sessoli, H.-L. Tsai, A. R. Schake, S. Wang, J. B. Vincent, K. Folting, D. Gatteschi, G. Christou and D. N. Hendrickson, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 1993, **115**, 1804–1816.
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