Supporting Information

Observation of Long-Range f-f Interactions between Two f-Electronic Systems in Quadruple-Decker Phthalocyanines

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Preparation of 2a diluted with the [Y-Y] complex

A mixture of either **1a** (100 mg) or **1d** (735 mg) and Cd(OAc)₂·2H₂O (50 or 366 mg, respectively) was refluxed individually in TCB (2 or 4 mL, respectively) for 2 h under argon. After cooling to room temperature, the reactants were mixed and the TCB was distilled off at 60 °C *in vacuo*. The residue was chromatographed (silica, CH₂Cl₂) to remove the first green fraction containing a neutral form of the double-decker Pc. The eluent was changed to CHCl₃, and the blue fraction was collected, which was added excess amounts of hydrazine monohydrate. After the rigorous stirring overnight, chromatography (silica, CHCl₃) followed by recrystallization from CHCl₃/toluene gave a desired sample as a blue powder. The molar ratio of the complexes was estimated to be [Y-Y] : [Tb-Tb] = 92.8 : 7.2 by the MALDI mass (Figure S1).



Figure S1 MALDI mass spectrum of the mixture of [Tb-Tb] and [Y-Y] complexes.

Measurements.

Mass spectra were obtained by using a Shimazu AXIMA-CFR MALDI-TOF-MS spectrometer using dithranol as a matrix. Magnetic susceptibility measurements were carried out on a Quantum Design MPMS LX7AC SQUID (superconducting quantum interference device) magnetometer. To correct for the diamagnetic susceptibility contributions, the data for metal-free H₂Pc were used.

Geometry optimization calculations.

The GAUSSIAN 09 program¹ was used to perform geometry optimizations by employing the combination of the B3LYP hybrid functional and LanL2DZ basis set.

Estimation of LF parameters.

The LF term for C_4 point group symmetry is written as:

$$\mathbf{F} = A_2^0 \langle r^2 \rangle \alpha \, \mathbf{O}_2^0 + A_4^0 \langle r^4 \rangle \beta \, \mathbf{O}_4^0 + A_4^4 \langle r^4 \rangle \beta \, \mathbf{O}_4^4 + A_6^0 \langle r^6 \rangle \gamma \, \mathbf{O}_6^0 + A_6^4 \langle r^6 \rangle \gamma \, \mathbf{O}_6^4$$

Although the five coefficients $A_k^q \langle r^k \rangle$ are the parameters to be determined, off-diagonal components (i.e. $A_4^4 \langle r^4 \rangle$ and $A_6^4 \langle r^6 \rangle$) arising from the lower cite symmetry of the quadruple deckers than D_{4d} were neglected due to the limited number of the experimental data. The \mathbf{O}_k^q matrices are polynomials of the total angular momentum matrices \mathbf{J}^2 , \mathbf{J}_z , \mathbf{J}_- , and \mathbf{J}_+ .² The α , β and γ coefficients are the constants tabulated by Stevens.³ Each parameter is assumed to be expressed as a linear function of the number of f-electron (*n*), and as a consequence, defined as

$$A_k^q \langle r^k \rangle (n) = a_k^q + b_k^q (n-8)$$

, where n = 8, 9 and 11 for Tb, Dy, and Er complexes, respectively. The estimated parameters are summarized in Table S1.

Table S1 Estimated LF parameters, a_k^0 and b_k^0 in cm⁻¹ by using the experimental data of **2a-2c**.

LF parameters	
a_2^0	140
b_2^0	-30
a_4^0	-135
b_4^0	30
a_6^0	14
b_{6}^{0}	7



Figure S2 Distance dependency of the calculated $\Delta \chi_M T$ values with the Ln-Ln distance ranging from 6.5–7.0 Å

Reference

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- 3. K. W. H. Stevens, Proc. Phys. Soc. A, 1952, 65, 209.