

## Supporting Information

### Proton-induced Switching of the Single Molecule Magnetic Properties of a Porphyrin Based Tb<sup>III</sup> Double-decker Complex

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#### **General Information.**

All chemicals and solvents were of reagent grade and used without further purification. Elemental analyses were performed by a Yanaco CHN CORDER MT-5. Infrared spectra were recorded as KBr pellets on a JASCO FT/IR-460 Plus. UV-visible absorption spectra were recorded with a Shimadzu UV-3150 double-beam spectrophotometer. Mass spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu AXIMA-CFR MALDI-TOF mass spectrometer. Cyclic voltammetric experiments were carried out using a BAS CV-50W voltammetric analyzer. All experiments were conducted in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> with 0.10 M tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate as the supporting electrolyte. Electrochemical experiments were conducted in a three-component cell consisting of a Pt auxiliary electrode, a non-aqueous reference electrode (Ag/AgNO<sub>3</sub>), and a Pt working electrode. All electrochemical measurements were referenced by the ferrocene/ferrocenium couple. The ac magnetic susceptibility and hysteresis loop measurements were carried out on a Quantum Design MPMS-XL7AC SQUID magnetometer.

### Synthesis of [Tb<sup>III</sup>H(TPP)<sub>2</sub>] (1)

Tetraphenylporphyrin (H<sub>2</sub>TPP) was prepared according to literature procedures.<sup>1</sup> The powder crystalline sample of **1** was prepared by treating Tb<sup>III</sup>(acac)<sub>3</sub>·xH<sub>2</sub>O (0.276 g), H<sub>2</sub>TPP (0.124 g) in 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene (DBU, 500 μL) at 350 °C for 1.5 h. The obtained residue was purified by passing it through an alumina column (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) to give a dark purple solid (0.174 g, 62.1%). The powder sample for magnetic measurements was obtained by the same procedure. Crystals suitable for single-crystal X-ray crystallography were obtained by recrystallization from CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH. MALDI-TOF MS (m/z): M<sup>+</sup> calcd for C<sub>88</sub>H<sub>57</sub>N<sub>8</sub>Tb, 1384.4960; found 1385.7; Anal. Calcd for [Tb<sup>III</sup>H(TPP)<sub>2</sub>(CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]: C, 69.50; H, 3.95; Cl, 9.12; N, 7.20; Tb, 10.22. Found C, 69.09; H, 4.02; N, 7.08.

### Synthesis of {[Tb<sup>III</sup>(TPP)<sub>2</sub>](H-DBU)} (2)

DBU (60 μL, 4x10<sup>-4</sup> mol) was added to a solution of **1** (9.5 mg, 6.9x10<sup>-6</sup> mol) in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (10 mL). Then, methanol was slowly added to the solution resulting in crystalline powder **2**. Crystals suitable for single-crystal X-ray crystallography and the powder sample for magnetic measurements were obtained by the same procedure. MALDI-TOF MS (m/z): M<sup>+</sup> C<sub>88</sub>H<sub>56</sub>N<sub>8</sub>Tb, 1383.39; found 1385.3; Anal. Calcd for {[Tb<sup>III</sup>(TPP)<sub>2</sub>](H-DBU)(CHCl<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>}: C, 66.94; H, 4.26; Cl, 11.97; N, 7.89; Tb, 8.95. Found C, 66.58; H, 4.32; N, 7.83.

### Synthesis of {[Tb<sup>III</sup>(TPP)<sub>2</sub>](*n*Bu<sub>4</sub>N)} (3).

A solution of **1** (32.6 mg, 2.4x10<sup>-5</sup> mol), *n*Bu<sub>4</sub>NBr (9.3 mg, 2.4x10<sup>-5</sup> mol) and triethylamine (1 mL, 7.2x10<sup>-3</sup> mol) in acetone (10 mL) was evaporated and the dark purple precipitate of **3** was recrystallized in Acetone/Methanol. MALDI-TOF MS (m/z): M<sup>+</sup> C<sub>88</sub>H<sub>56</sub>N<sub>8</sub>Tb, 1383.39; found 1385.3; Anal. Calcd for {[Tb<sup>III</sup>(TPP)<sub>2</sub>](*n*Bu<sub>4</sub>N)(H<sub>2</sub>O)}: C, 75.94; H, 5.76; Cl, 11.97; N, 7.66; Tb, 9.66. Found C, 75.82; H, 5.49; N, 7.79.

### Single Crystal X-ray Diffraction.

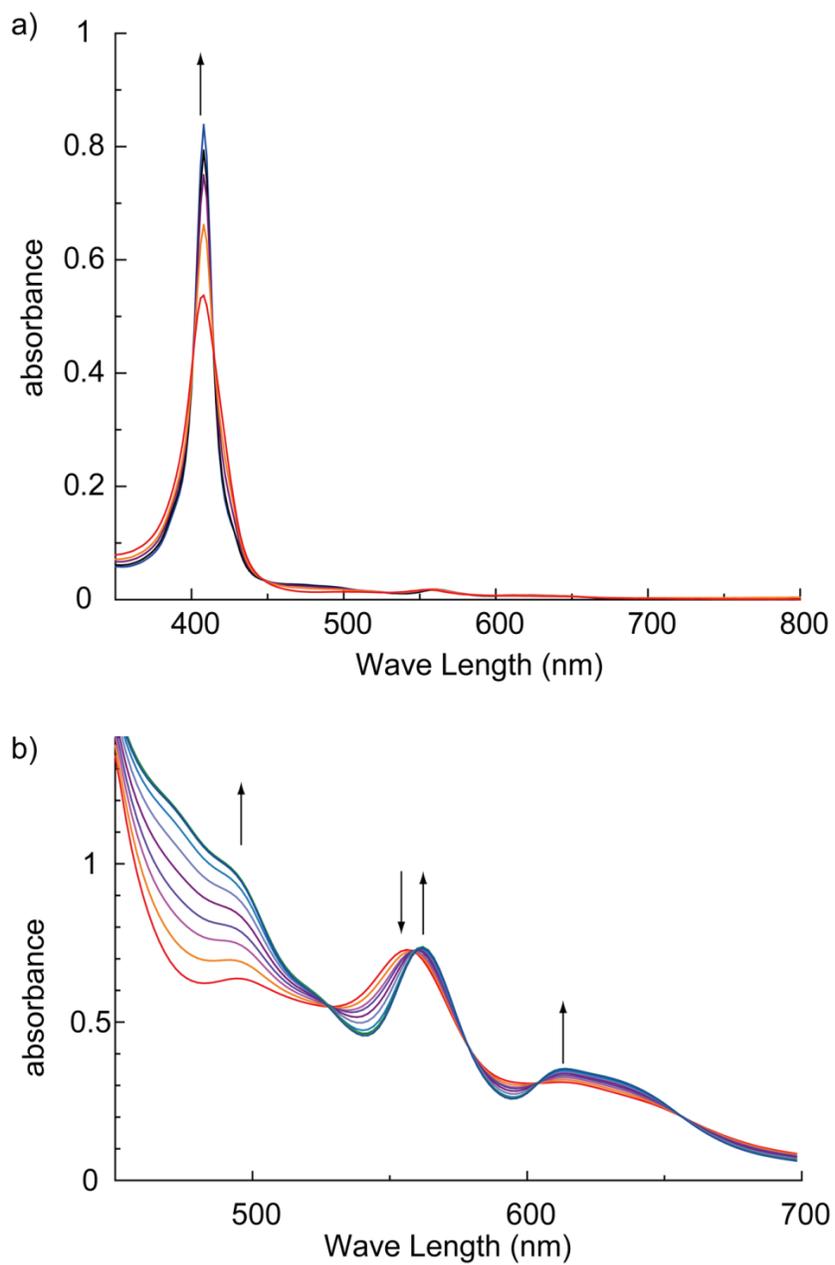
X-ray structure determination was conducted on a Rigaku VariMax RAPID / FR-E system with  $\text{MoK}\alpha$  radiation. In all cases, the structure was solved by direct methods (SHELXS-97)<sup>2</sup> and refined by full-matrix least-squares techniques on  $F^2$  (SHELXL-97).<sup>3</sup>

Crystal data for **1**, C<sub>92</sub>H<sub>61</sub>Cl<sub>12</sub>N<sub>8</sub>Tb,  $M_r = 1862.81$ , monoclinic, space group  $P2_1/c$ , (#14),  $a = 16.0300(5)$  Å,  $b = 17.0927(5)$  Å,  $c = 30.0170(8)$  Å,  $\beta = 91.7771(8)$ ,  $V = 8220.6(4)$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $Z = 4$ ,  $T = 150$  K.  $\rho_{\text{calcd}} = 1.505$  g/cm<sup>3</sup>,  $\mu(\text{MoK}\alpha) = 1.304$  cm<sup>-1</sup>,  $2\theta_{\text{max}} = 50^\circ$ ,  $\lambda(\text{MoK}\alpha) = 0.71075$  Å, 62010 reflections measured, 14442 unique,  $9945 > 2\sigma(I)$  were used to refine 1010 parameters, 12 restraints,  $R(R_w) = 0.0800$  (0.2367), GOF = 1.034.

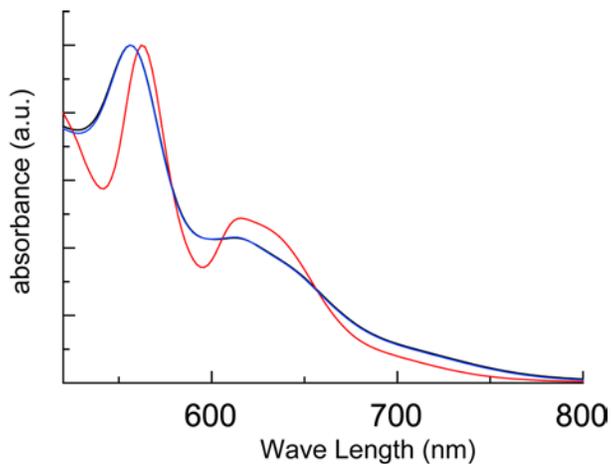
Crystal data for **2**, C<sub>99</sub>H<sub>75</sub>Cl<sub>6</sub>N<sub>10</sub>Tb,  $M_r = 1776.31$ , tetragonal, space group  $I4/mmm$ , (#139),  $a = 14.6111(12)$  Å,  $c = 19.3957(16)$  Å,  $V = 4140.7(6)$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $Z = 2$ ,  $T = 150$  K.  $\rho_{\text{calcd}} = 1.425$  g/cm<sup>3</sup>,  $\mu(\text{MoK}\alpha) = 1.104$  cm<sup>-1</sup>,  $2\theta_{\text{max}} = 55^\circ$ ,  $\lambda(\text{MoK}\alpha) = 0.71075$  Å, 20354 reflections measured, 1377 unique,  $1376 > 2\sigma(I)$  were used to refine 114 parameters, 6 restraints,  $R(R_w) = 0.0373$  (0.1074), GOF = 1.125.

We obtained a non-disordered model of **2** in the space group of  $I/422$ . However, in the non-disordered model, inter-molecular distance is too short and unreasonable inter-atom distance was found (H-H distance is 1.42Å). To avoid such unexplainable crowding, we employed the disordered model.

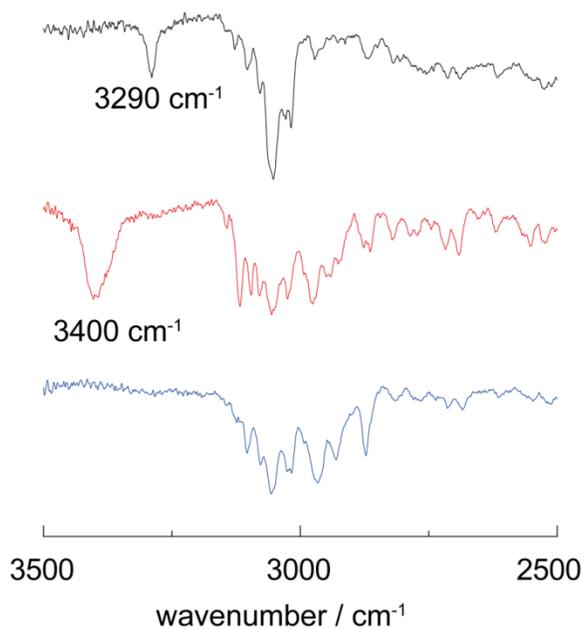
- (1) Lindsey, J. S.; Schreiman, I. C.; Hsu, H. C.; Kearney, P. C.; Marguerettaz, A. M. *J Org Chem* **1987**, *52*, 827.
- (2) Sheldrick, G. M. *SHELXS-97*, Universität-Göttingen, 1997
- (3) Sheldrick, G. M. *SHELXL-97*, Universität-Göttingen, 1997.



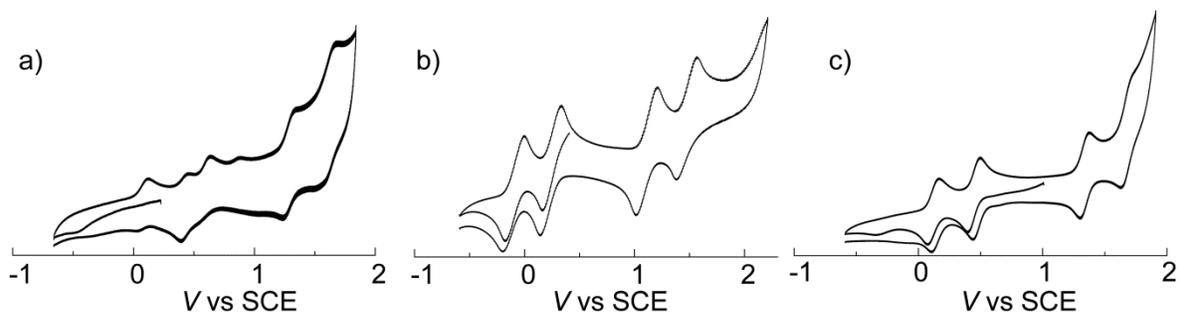
**Figure S1.** UV-visible spectral changes of **1** during a titration with DBU in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . The original concentration of **1** is (a)  $1.87 \times 10^{-6}$  M, and (b)  $8.26 \times 10^{-5}$  M.



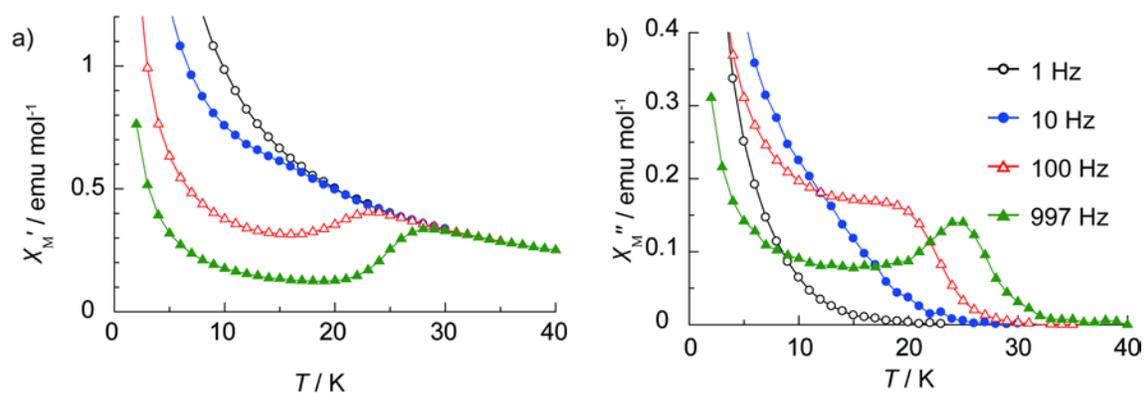
**Figure S2.** UV-visible spectra of **1** (black), **2** (red) and **2** re-protonated with acetic acid (blue) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . The absorbances are normalized to the maximum peaks. The original absorption peak of **1** reappears upon adding acetic acid to the solution of anion complex, **2**.



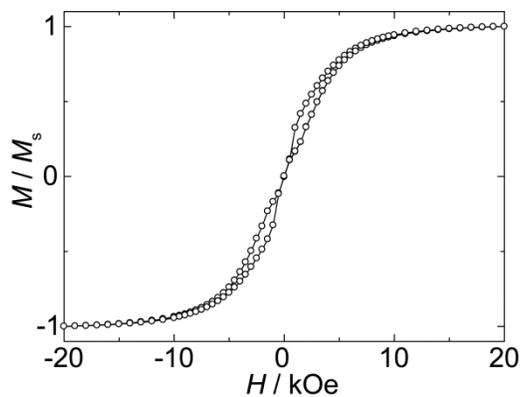
**Figure S3.** IR spectra of **1** (black), **2** (red), and **3** (blue). The peaks between 2900 and 3150  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  are due to C-H stretching of TPP and organic cation. The peaks at 3290  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and 3400  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  are from N-H stretching of TPP and  $[\text{H-DBU}]^+$ , respectively.



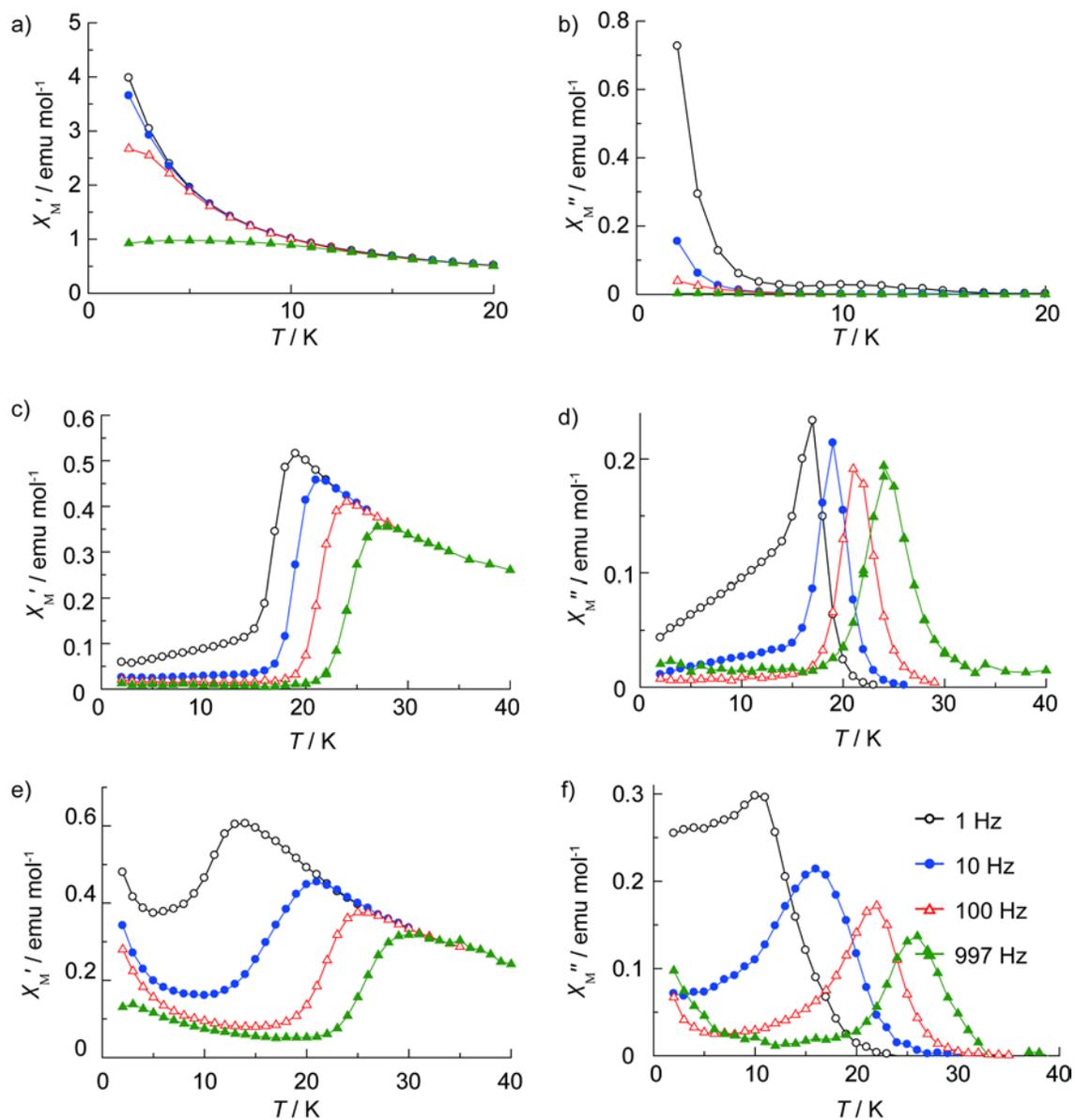
**Figure S4.** Cyclic voltammograms of (a) **1** in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , (b) **2** in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , and (c) **3** in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  recorded at room temperature ( $0.10 \text{ M } n\text{-Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6$ , scan rate =  $0.10 \text{ V/s}$ ).



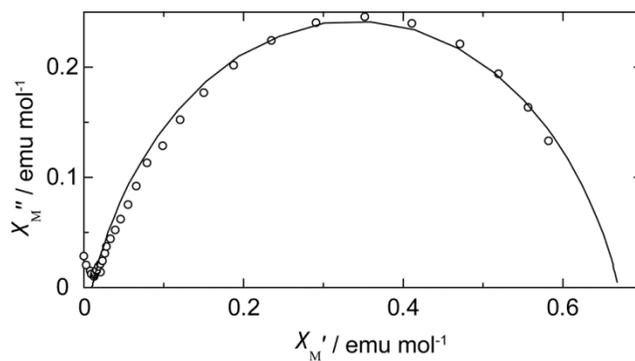
**Figure S5.** AC susceptibility of **3** measured in zero dc magnetic field with a  $3.9 \text{ G}$  ac field oscillating at the indicated frequencies. Plots of (a) in-phase ( $\chi_M'$ ) and (b) out-of-phase ( $\chi_M''$ ) against temperature.



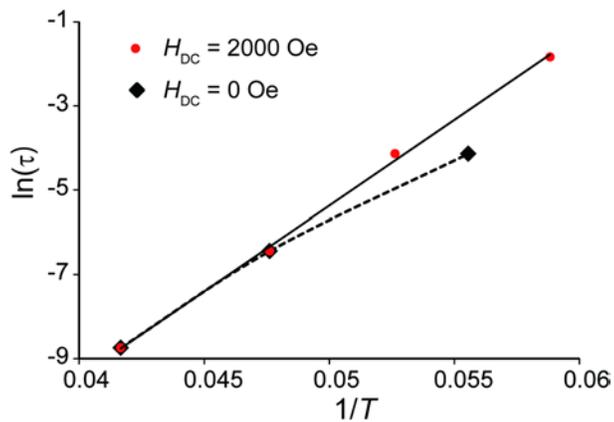
**Figure S6.** Hysteresis loop for **2** at  $1.8 \text{ K}$ .



**Figure S7.** ACsusceptibility measured in 2000 Oe dc magnetic field with a 3.9 G ac field oscillating at the indicated frequencies. Plots of (a) in-phase ( $\chi_M'$ ) and (b) out-of-phase ( $\chi_M''$ ) against temperature  $T$  for a powder sample of **1**, plots of (c)  $\chi_M'$  and (d)  $\chi_M''$  against  $T$  for a powder sample of **2**, and plots of (e)  $\chi_M'$  and (f)  $\chi_M''$  against  $T$  for a powder sample of **3**.



**Figure S8.** The Argand diagram at 16 K under 2000 Oe for **2**. The solid line represents the least-squares fit obtained with a generalized Debye model with  $\alpha = 0.19$ .



**Figure S9.** The relaxation time ( $\tau$ ) of **2** under represented dc magnetic field. Black line represents the least-square fit of the data under 2000 Oe dc field to Arrhenius equation.