

## Supporting Information

### **Effect of lanthanide contraction on crystal structures of lanthanide coordination polymers with 2,5-piperazinedione-1,4-diacetic acid**

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**Materials and methods.** All reagents were of commercial origin and were used as received. The hydrothermal syntheses were carried out in polytetrafluoroethylene lined stainless steel containers under autogenous pressure. The C, H, and N microanalyses were carried out with a CE instruments EA 1110 elemental analyzer. The infrared spectrum was recorded on a Nicolet AVATAR FT-IR360 Spectrophotometer with pressed KBr pellets. TGA curve was prepared on a SDT Q600 Thermal Analyzer.

**Synthesis of [La(PODC)<sub>1.5</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)]·2H<sub>2</sub>O (1).** 0.217 g (0.5 mmol) La(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O and 0.115 g (0.5 mmol) 2,5-piperazinedione-1,4-diacetic acid were solved in 10 mL of water. When the pH value of the mixture was adjusted to 4.0~6.0, the cloudy solution was found and subsequently sealed to 18 mL Teflon-lined Parr, heated to 150 °C for 3 days, then cooled to room temperature at a rate of 2 °C·h<sup>-1</sup>. Needle colourless crystals of **1** were obtained in about 48% yield (based on La(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>). Anal. Calcd (found) for **1**, C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>12</sub>N<sub>3</sub>La (%): C, 26.90 (27.11); H, 3.36 (3.19); N, 7.84 (7.67). IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 490(w), 711(m), 956(m), 1197(m), 1283(m), 1341(w), 1392(s), 1427(s), 1481(w), 1590(s), 1563(s), 2848(w), 2918(w), 2996(w).

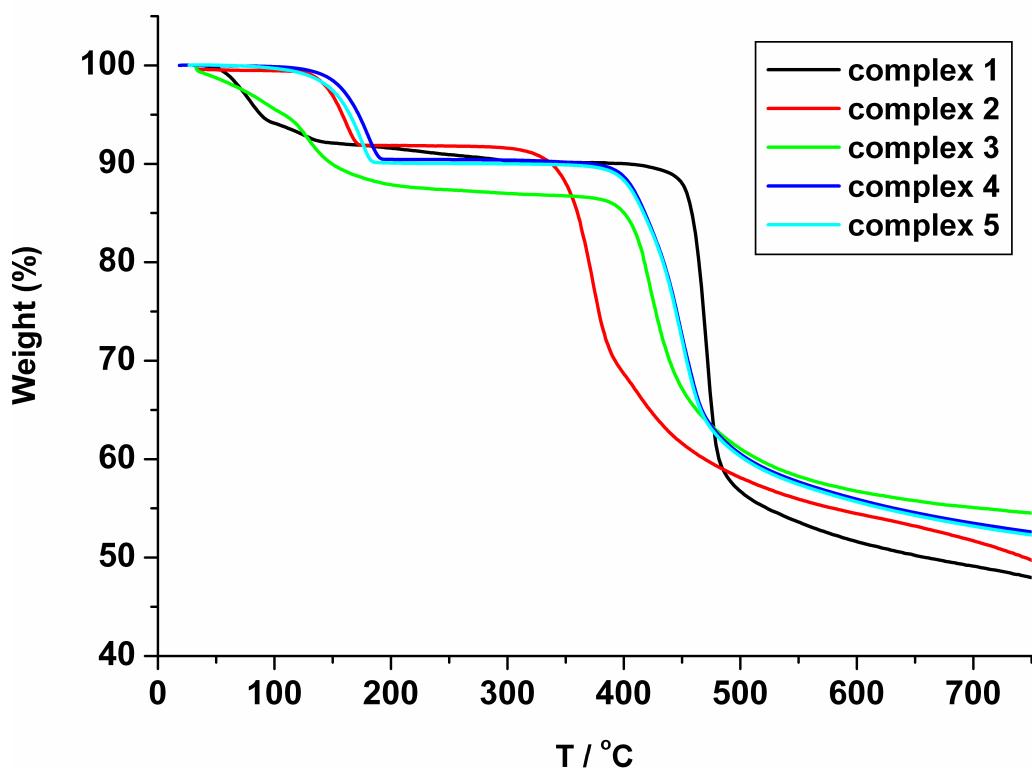
**Synthesis of [Pr(PODC)<sub>1.5</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)]·H<sub>2</sub>O (2)** This compound was prepared using the same procedure as described above for the synthesis of its La(III) cognate, but using 0.218 g (0.5 mmol) Pr(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O in place of La(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O. The product was obtained as block-shaped green crystals in about 51% yield (based on Pr(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>). Anal.

Calcd (found) for **2**, C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>11</sub>N<sub>3</sub>Pr (%): C, 27.74 (27.33); H, 3.08 (2.87); N, 8.09 (7.96). IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 556(w), 606(w), 718(m), 801(w), 878(w), 960(m), 1042(w), 1191(w), 1290(m), 1337(m), 1381(m), 1403(m), 1501(m), 1633(s), 1680(w), 2966(w), 3032(w).

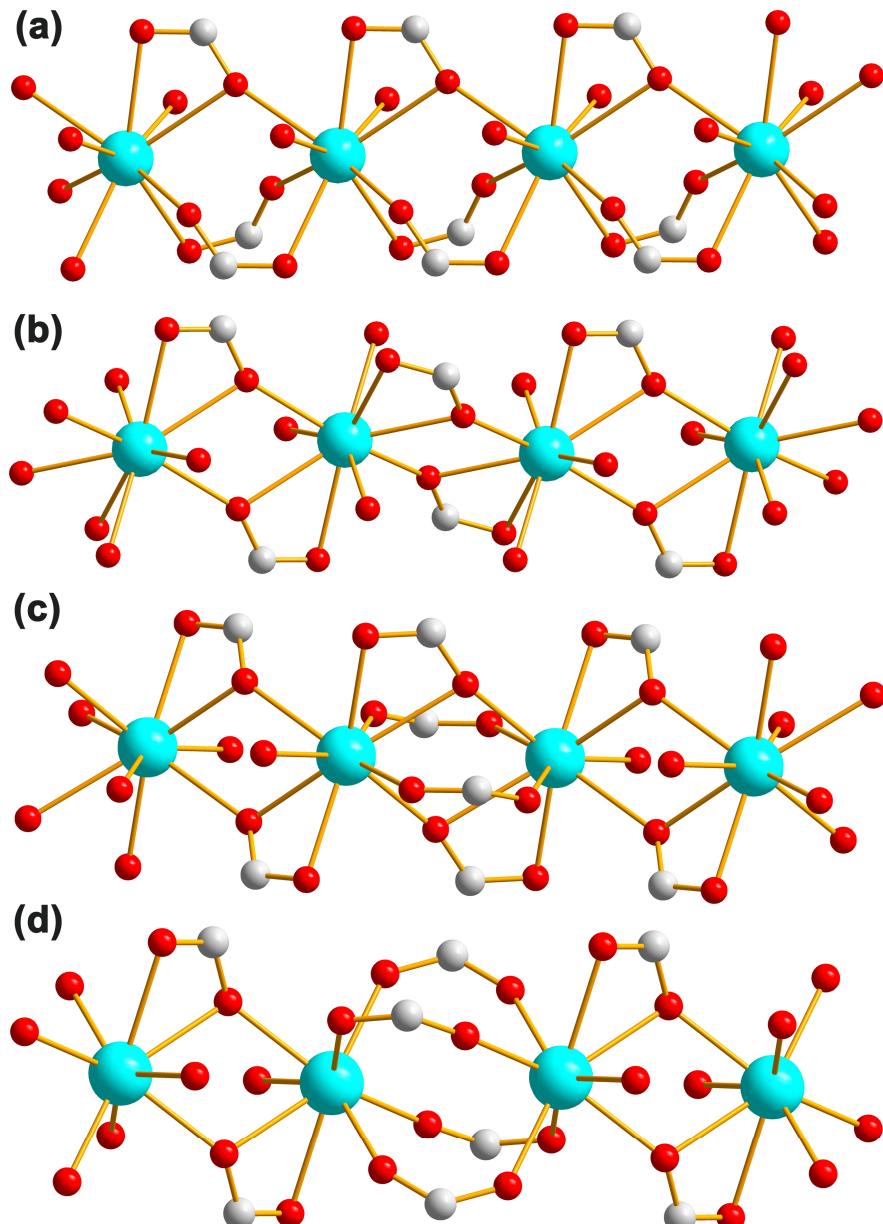
**Synthesis of [Sm(PODC)<sub>1.5</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)]·4H<sub>2</sub>O (3)** This compound was prepared using the same procedure as described above for the synthesis of its La(III) cognate, but using 0.222 g (0.5 mmol) Sm(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O in place of La(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O. The product was obtained as block-shaped light-yellow crystals in about 62% yield (based on Sm(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>). Anal. Calcd (found) for **3**, C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>14</sub>N<sub>3</sub>Sm (%): C, 24.71 (24.78); H, 3.78 (3.64); N, 7.20 (7.17). IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 501(w), 719(w), 882(m), 1050(s), 1090(m), 1201(m), 1298(m), 1396(m), 1435(m), 1568(w), 1644(s), 2928(w), 2975(w).

**Synthesis of [Ho(PODC)<sub>1.5</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)]·2H<sub>2</sub>O (4)** This compound was prepared using the same procedure as described above for the synthesis of its La(III) cognate, but using 0.230 g (0.5 mmol) Ho(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O in place of La(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O. The product was obtained as block-shaped yellow crystals in about 56% yield (based on Ho(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>). Anal. Calcd (found) for **4**, C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>12</sub>N<sub>3</sub>Ho (%): C, 25.65 (26.26 ); H, 3.23 (3.18 ); N, 7.48 (7.45 ). IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 517(w), 575(w), 699(m), 727(w), 960(m), 1190(m), 1291(s), 1341(s), 1396(m), 1485(m), 1583(w), 1645(s), 2945(w), 2984(w).

**Synthesis of [Er(PODC)<sub>1.5</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)]·2H<sub>2</sub>O (5)** This compound was prepared using the same procedure as described above for the synthesis of its La(III) cognate, but using 0.231 g (0.5 mmol) Er(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O in place of La(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O. The product was obtained as block-shaped pink crystals in about 46% yield (based on Er(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>). Anal. Calcd (found) for **5**, C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>12</sub>N<sub>3</sub>Er (%): C, 25.55 (25.49 ); H, 3.19 (3.23 ); N, 7.45 (7.35 ). IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 519(w), 574(w), 695(m), 726(w), 800(w), 959(w), 1154(m), 1189(m), 1286(m), 1341(m), 1380(s), 1450(w), 1485(w), 1648(s), 2927(w), 2983(w).



**Fig.S1** TGA curves for complexes **1-5** over the temperature range of 25–800 °C.



**Fig.S2** Ball and stick view of (a) the  $\{\text{La}-(\text{COO})_3\}_n$  chain in **1**; (b)  $\{\text{Pr}-(\text{COO})_2\}_n$  chain in **2**; (c)  $\{\text{Sm}-(\text{COO})_4-\text{Sm}-(\text{COO})_2\}_n$  chain in **3** and (d)  $\{\text{Ln}-(\text{COO})_4-\text{Ln}-(\text{COO})_2\}_n$  ( $\text{Ln} = \text{Ho}$ , for **4** and  $\text{Ln} = \text{Er}$  for **5**) in **4** and **5**.