

## Supporting Information

### Slow magnetic relaxation in a trigonal-planar mononuclear Fe(II) complex

Yuzhu Li,<sup>a‡</sup> Jing Xi,<sup>a‡</sup> Jesús Ferrando-Soria,<sup>b</sup> Yi-Quan Zhang,<sup>c\*</sup> Wenyuan Wang,<sup>d</sup> You Song,<sup>e</sup> Yan Guo,<sup>a\*</sup> Emilio Pardo<sup>b</sup> and Xiangyu Liu<sup>a,e\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> State Key Laboratory of High-efficiency Utilization of Coal and Green Chemical Engineering, College of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Ningxia University, Yinchuan 750021, China.

<sup>b</sup> Departamento de Química Inorgánica, Instituto de Ciencia Molecular (ICMOL), Universidad de Valencia, Paterna 46980, Valencia, Spain.

<sup>c</sup> Jiangsu Key Laboratory for NSLSCS, School of Physical Science and Technology, Nanjing Normal University, Nanjing 210023, China.

<sup>d</sup> College of Chemistry and Materials Science, Northwest University, Xi'an, Shaanxi 710069, China.

<sup>e</sup> State Key Laboratory of Coordination Chemistry, Nanjing University, Nanjing 210046, China

‡ These authors contributed equally to this work.

#### \*Corresponding author

**Dr. Xiangyu Liu**

E-mail: [xiangyuliu432@126.com](mailto:xiangyuliu432@126.com)

#### \*Corresponding author

**Dr. Yan Guo**

E-mail: [452785231@qq.com](mailto:452785231@qq.com)

#### \*Corresponding author

**Prof. Yi-Quan Zhang**

E-mail: [zhangyiquan@njnu.edu.cn](mailto:zhangyiquan@njnu.edu.cn)

## Contents:

**Table S1.** Selected crystallographic data and structure refinement for complexes **1-2**.

**Table S2.** Selected Bond Lengths ( $\text{\AA}$ ) and Bond Angles ( $^\circ$ ) for **1**.

**Table S3.** Selected Bond Lengths ( $\text{\AA}$ ) and Bond Angles ( $^\circ$ ) for **2**.

**Table S4.** Relaxation fitting parameters from least-squares fitting of  $\chi(f)$  data under 1500 Oe dc field of **2**.

**Table S5.** Contributions of the excited states (with relative energy  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) to  $D$  value ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) for **2** using CASSCF/RASSI-SO with ORCA 4.2.

**Table S6.** Relative energies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) of ligand field one-electron states (in the basis of d-AOs) of **1a**, **1b**, and **2** from AILFT analysis using CASSCF/RASSI-SO with ORCA 4.2.

**Fig. S1**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **2** in benzene- $d_6$ .

**Fig. S2** Packing arrangement of **1** along the crystallographic  $b$  axis.

**Fig. S3** Packing arrangement of **2** along the crystallographic  $b$  axis.

**Fig. S4** PXRD patterns for complex **2**.

**Fig. S5** Plots of  $\chi_m T$  vs  $T$  for complex **1**.

**Fig. S6** Plots of  $M$  vs  $H$  curves for **2** at different temperatures.

**Fig. S7** Temperature dependence of  $\chi'_M$  and  $\chi''_M$  susceptibilities for **1** and **2** without static field.

**Fig. S8** The  $\chi''_M$  products for **2** at 2 K under different static fields.

**Fig. S9** Temperature dependence of  $\chi'_M$  and  $\chi''_M$  susceptibilities for complex **2** under a 1500 Oe dc field.

**Fig. S10** Frequency dependence of the  $\chi'_M$  susceptibility signals for complex **2** under a 1500 Oe dc field.

**Fig. S11** Orbital energies computed for the ground state of **2** using CASSCF/RASSI-SO with ORCA 4.2.

**Fig. S12** Calculated orientations of the local main magnetic axes (green:  $g_z$ ) on  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$

ions of complexes **1** in their ground spin-orbit states.

**Table S1.** Selected crystallographic data and structure refinement for complexes **1-2**.

Complex	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Empirical formula	C <sub>45</sub> H <sub>49</sub> N <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> Fe	C <sub>45</sub> H <sub>49</sub> ClFeN <sub>2</sub>
Formula weight	744.61	709.16
Temperature	153.15	153.15
Crystal system	triclinic	orthorhombic
Space group	<i>P</i> 1	<i>Pnma</i>
<i>a</i> (Å)	12.604(2)	12.3687(7)
<i>b</i> (Å)	16.344(3)	22.9892(10)
<i>c</i> (Å)	20.239(4)	13.9721(6)
$\alpha$ (°)	94.765(7)	90
$\beta$ (°)	92.058(6)	90
$\gamma$ (°)	109.136(6)	90
<i>V</i> (Å <sup>3</sup> )	3916.2(12)	3972.9(3)
<i>Z</i>	4	4
<i>D</i> (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	1.263	1.186
<i>Mu</i> (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.555	0.479
<i>F</i> (0 0 0)	1572.0	1504.0
Completeness	99.4	99.9
Unique reflections	16093	4187
Observed reflections	47592	75142
<i>R</i> <sub>int</sub>	0.0421	0.1450
Final <i>R</i> indices[ <i>I</i> > 2σ( <i>I</i> )]	<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.0378	<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.0598
	<i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.0863	<i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.1777
<i>R</i> indices (all data)	<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.0567	<i>R</i> <sub>1</sub> = 0.0854
	<i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.0933	<i>wR</i> <sub>2</sub> = 0.1932
Goodness-of-fit on <i>F</i> <sup>2</sup>	1.016	1.044

**Table S2.** Selected Bond Lengths ( $\text{\AA}$ ) and Bond Angles ( $^\circ$ ) for **1**

<b>1</b>			
C(1)-N(2)	1.323(2)	C(1)-N(2)-Fe(1)	117.84(12)
C(3)-N(1)	1.351(2)	C(22)-N(2)-Fe(1)	120.46(12)
C(22)-N(2)	1.460(2)	N(4)-C(46)-C(47)	123.59(16)
C(34)-N(1)	1.457(2)	N(4)-C(46)-C(61)	118.52(16)
Cl(1)-Fe(1)	2.1970(7)	N(3)-C(48)-C(47)	123.64(17)
Cl(2)-Fe(1)	2.1825(7)	N(3)-C(48)-C(49)	118.90(16)
Fe(1)-N(1)	1.9432(17)	C(68)-C(67)-N(4)	119.92(17)
Fe(1)-N(2)	1.9837(16)	Cl(4)-Fe(2)-Cl(3)	115.31(3)
C(46)-N(4)	1.333(2)	N(3)-Fe(2)-Cl(3)	104.77(5)
C(48)-N(3)	1.350(2)	N(3)-Fe(2)-Cl(4)	117.96(5)
C(67)-N(4)	1.463(2)	N(3)-Fe(2)-N(4)	94.63(7)
C(79)-N(3)	1.457(2)	N(4)-Fe(2)-Cl(3)	108.50(5)
Cl(3)-Fe(2)	2.2052(7)	N(4)-Fe(2)-Cl(4)	113.43(5)
Cl(4)-Fe(2)	2.1810(7)	C(48)-N(3)-C(79)	119.74(15)
Fe(2)-N(3)	1.9511(16)	C(48)-N(3)-Fe(2)	113.79(13)
Fe(2)-N(4)	1.9832(16)	C(79)-N(3)-Fe(2)	125.64(12)
N(2)-C(1)-C(2)	123.78(17)	C(46)-N(4)-C(67)	119.53(15)
N(2)-C(1)-C(16)	120.66(17)	C(46)-N(4)-Fe(2)	115.76(12)
N(1)-C(3)-C(2)	122.98(17)	C(67)-N(4)-Fe(2)	122.89(11)
N(1)-C(3)-C(4)	119.59(16)	C(2)-C(1)-N(2)-Fe(1)	3.8(2)
C(23)-C(22)-N(2)	118.55(17)	C(2)-C(3)-N(1)-Fe(1)	32.9(2)
C(27)-C(22)-N(2)	120.18(18)	C(4)-C(3)-N(1)-Fe(1)	146.76(14)
C(35)-C(34)-N(1)	117.22(18)	C(16)-C(1)-N(2)-Fe(1)	178.58(13)
C(39)-C(34)-N(1)	120.61(18)	C(23)-C(22)-N(2)-Fe(1)	77.4(2)
Cl(2)-Fe(1)-Cl(1)	116.10(3)	C(27)-C(22)-N(2)-Fe(1)	99.18(19)
N(1)-Fe(1)-Cl(1)	107.32(5)	C(35)-C(34)-N(1)-Fe(1)	96.83(19)
N(1)-Fe(1)-Cl(2)	114.28(5)	C(39)-C(34)-N(1)-Fe(1)	83.5(2)
N(1)-Fe(1)-N(2)	94.63(7)	C(47)-C(46)-N(4)-Fe(2)	16.0(2)
N(2)-Fe(1)-Cl(1)	109.16(5)	C(49)-C(48)-N(3)-Fe(2)	148.75(14)
N(2)-Fe(1)-Cl(2)	113.18(5)	C(61)-C(46)-N(4)-Fe(2)	166.24(13)
C(3)-N(1)-C(34)	119.11(16)	C(68)-C(67)-N(4)-Fe(2)	97.06(19)
C(3)-N(1)-Fe(1)	114.86(13)	C(72)-C(67)-N(4)-Fe(2)	81.62(19)
C(34)-N(1)-Fe(1)	123.44(12)	C(80)-C(79)-N(3)-Fe(2)	112.05(18)
C(1)-N(2)-C(22)	121.69(16)	C(84)-C(79)-N(3)-Fe(2)	65.2(2)

**Table S3.** Selected Bond Lengths ( $\text{\AA}$ ) and Bond Angles ( $^\circ$ ) for **2**

2			
Fe(1)-Cl(1)	2.1860(15)	C1 <sup>1</sup> -C(2)-C(1)	125.7(3)
Fe(1)-N(1)	1.960(2)	C1-C(2)-C(25)	117.13(17)
Fe(1)-N(1) <sup>1</sup>	1.960(2)	C(1) <sup>1</sup> -C(2)-C(25)	117.13(13)
N(1)-C(1)	1.329(3)	Fe(1)-N(1)-C(1)-C2	-3.9(4)
N(1)-C(10)	1.449(3)	Fe(1)-N(1)-C(1)-C(19)	178.0(6)
C(1)-C(2)	1.413(3)	Fe(1)-N(1)-C(10)-C(11)	-86.1(3)
C(1)-C(19)	1.473(9)	Fe(1)-N(1)-C(10)-C(15)	89.9(3)
C(1)-C(19A)	1.547(10)	N(1)-C(1)-C2-C(1) <sup>1</sup>	-0.5(6)
C(2)-C(25)	1.513(5)	N(1)-C(1)-C2-C25	-179.8(3)
N(1)-Fe(1)-Cl(1)	133.60(7)	N(1)-C(1)-C(19)-C20	-103.3(8)
N(1)A <sup>1</sup> -Fe(1)-Cl(1)	133.60(7)	N(1)-C(1)-C(19)-C24	80.3(8)
N(1)A <sup>1</sup> -Fe(1)-N(1)	92.80(13)	N(1)-C(1)-C(19A)-C(24A)	89.1(9)
C(1)-N(1)-Fe(1)	126.46(18)	N(1)-C(1)-C(19A)-C(20A)	-91.9(8)
C(1)-N(1)-C(10)	120.4(2)	N(1)-C(10)-C(11)-C(8)	-0.8(4)
C(10)-N(1)-Fe(1)	113.02(17)	N(1)-C(10)-C(11)-C(12)	177.4(3)
N(1)-C(1)-C(2)	124.1(2)	N(1)-C(10)-C(15)-C(14)	-178.5(3)
N(1)-C(1)-C(19)	118.8(5)	N(1)-C(10)-C(15)-C(17)	-1.2(4)
N(1)-C(1)-C(19A)	118.5(7)	C(1)-N(1)-C(10)-C(11)	89.4(3)

<sup>1</sup>+X,1/2-Y,+Z

**Table S4.** Relaxation fitting parameters from least-squares fitting of  $\chi(f)$  data under 1500 Oe dc field of **2**.

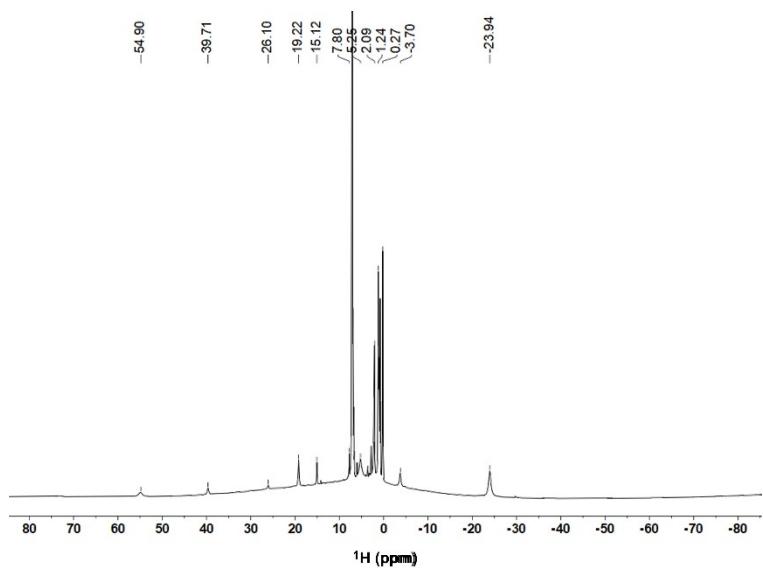
T(K)	$\chi_T$	$\chi_s$	$\alpha$
3	0.435	$1.95 \times 10^{-2}$	0.193
3.5	0.403	$2.10 \times 10^{-2}$	0.185
4	0.363	$2.22 \times 10^{-2}$	0.171
4.5	0.331	$2.24 \times 10^{-2}$	0.162
5	0.302	$2.36 \times 10^{-2}$	0.143
5.2	0.291	$2.41 \times 10^{-2}$	0.134
5.5	0.276	$2.44 \times 10^{-2}$	0.122
5.8	0.263	$2.42 \times 10^{-2}$	0.112
6	0.254	$2.51 \times 10^{-2}$	0.100
6.2	0.247	$2.41 \times 10^{-2}$	$9.73 \times 10^{-2}$
6.5	0.236	$2.43 \times 10^{-2}$	$8.45 \times 10^{-2}$
6.8	0.226	$2.30 \times 10^{-2}$	$7.68 \times 10^{-2}$
7	0.220	$2.32 \times 10^{-2}$	$6.82 \times 10^{-2}$
7.2	0.214	$2.33 \times 10^{-2}$	$5.92 \times 10^{-2}$
7.5	0.206	$2.15 \times 10^{-2}$	$5.12 \times 10^{-2}$
7.8	0.198	$1.87 \times 10^{-2}$	$4.48 \times 10^{-2}$
8	0.194	$1.62 \times 10^{-2}$	$4.59 \times 10^{-2}$
8.5	0.183	$1.48 \times 10^{-2}$	$4.61 \times 10^{-2}$
9	0.174	$1.44 \times 10^{-2}$	$4.31 \times 10^{-2}$
9.5	0.165	$1.05 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.79 \times 10^{-2}$
10	0.156	$8.85 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.67 \times 10^{-2}$
11	0.143	$7.58 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.11 \times 10^{-2}$
12	0.132	$6.35 \times 10^{-3}$	$4.25 \times 10^{-2}$

**Table S5.** Contributions of the excited states (with relative energy  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) to  $D$  value ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) for **2** using CASSCF/RASSI-SO with ORCA 4.2.

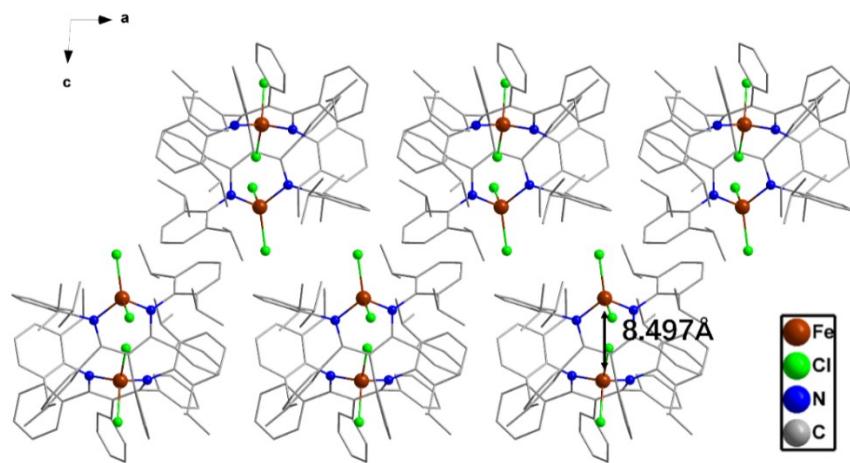
State No.	Mult	Energy, $\text{cm}^{-1}$	Contribution, $\text{cm}^{-1}$
			$D$
<b>2</b>	1	238.9	-61.8
	2	2708.3	4.3

**Table S6.** Relative energies ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) of ligand field one-electron states (in the basis of d-AOs) of **1a**, **1b** and **2** from AILFT analysis using CASSCF/RASSI-SO with ORCA 4.2.

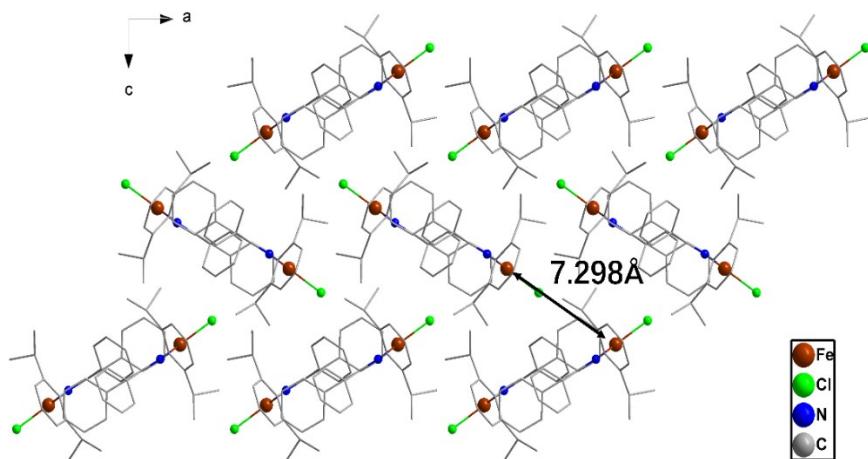
	No.	LF one-electron state	Energy, $\text{cm}^{-1}$
<b>1a</b>	1	$0.85 \text{d}_{xz} + 0.48 \text{d}_{x2-y2} + 0.14 \text{d}_{xy}$	0.0
	2	$-0.81 \text{d}_{x2-y2} + 0.51 \text{d}_{xz} - 0.26 \text{d}_{yz}$	307.6
	3	$-0.82 \text{d}_{z2} + 0.57 \text{d}_{yz}$	5381.5
	4	$-0.76 \text{d}_{yz} - 0.55 \text{d}_{z2} + 0.32 \text{d}_{x2-y2}$	6720.5
	5	$-0.98 \text{d}_{xy} + 0.14 \text{d}_{z2}$	9540.5
<b>1b</b>	1	$-0.69 \text{d}_{xy} - 0.62 \text{d}_{xz} - 0.24 \text{d}_{yz}$	0.0
	2	$-0.56 \text{d}_{xz} + 0.55 \text{d}_{yz} + 0.55 \text{d}_{x2-y2}$	781.9
	3	$-0.91 \text{d}_{z2} - 0.34 \text{d}_{yz} - 0.13 \text{d}_{xz}$	5161.3
	4	$0.76 \text{d}_{x2-y2} - 0.62 \text{d}_{yz}$	6724.8
	5	$-0.69 \text{d}_{xy} + 0.51 \text{d}_{xz} + 0.37 \text{d}_{yz}$	9505.8
<b>2</b>	1	$-0.99 \text{d}_{yz}$	0.0
	2	$0.98 \text{d}_{z2} + 0.20 \text{d}_{x2-y2}$	44.5
	3	$-0.99 \text{d}_{xz}$	2398.1
	4	$0.98 \text{d}_{x2-y2} - 0.20 \text{d}_{z2}$	4255.2
	5	$-0.99 \text{d}_{xy}$	11310.9



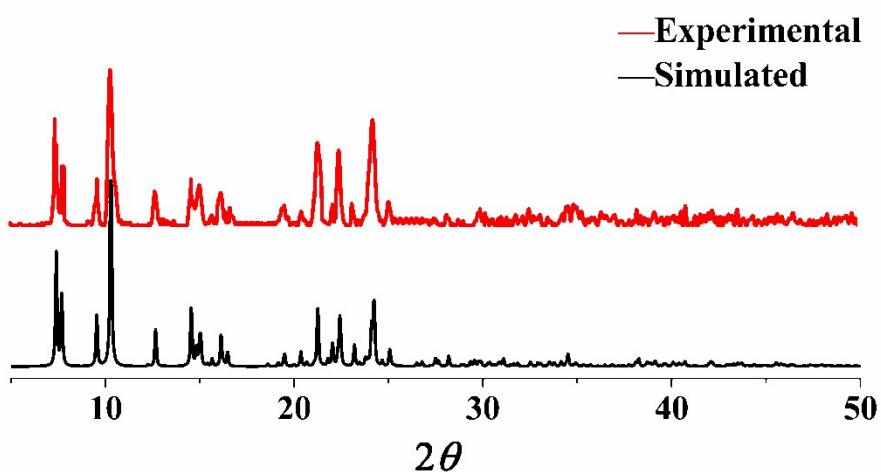
**Fig. S1**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **2** in benzene- $d_6$ .



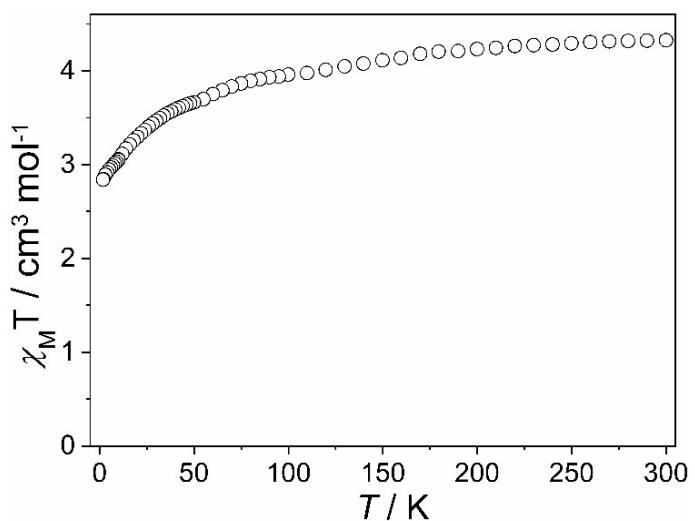
**Fig. S2** Packing arrangement of **1** along the crystallographic *b* axis.



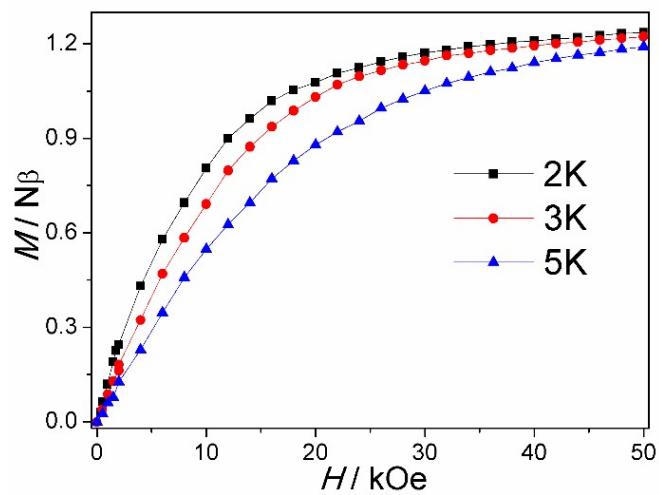
**Fig. S3** Packing arrangement of **2** along the crystallographic *b* axis.



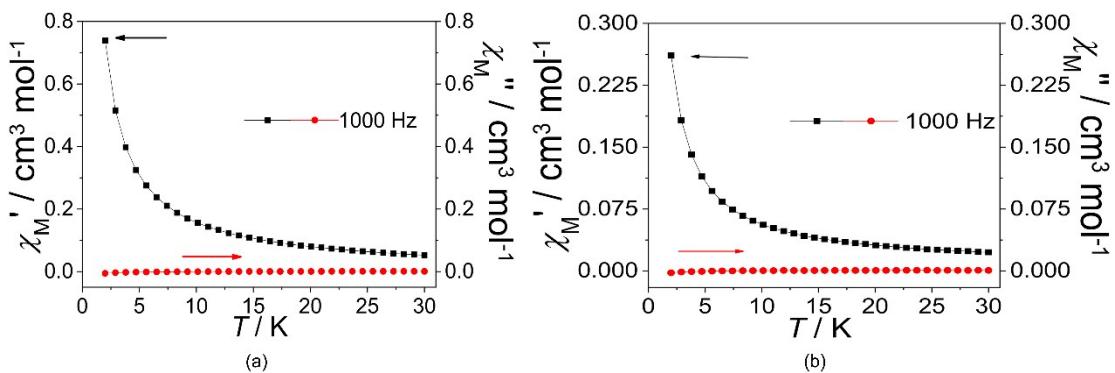
**Fig. S4** PXRD patterns for complex **2**.



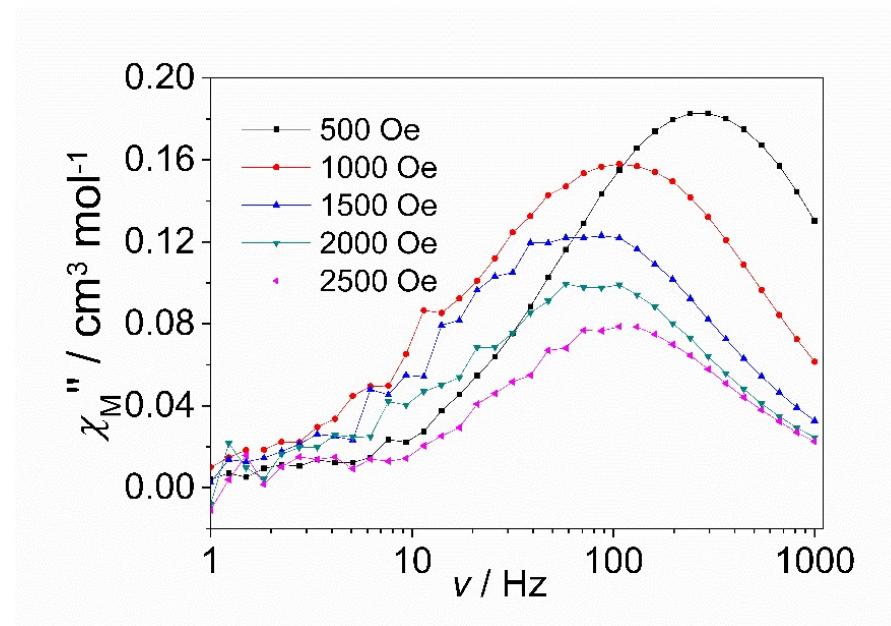
**Fig. S5** Plots of  $\chi_m T$  versus  $T$  for complex **1**.



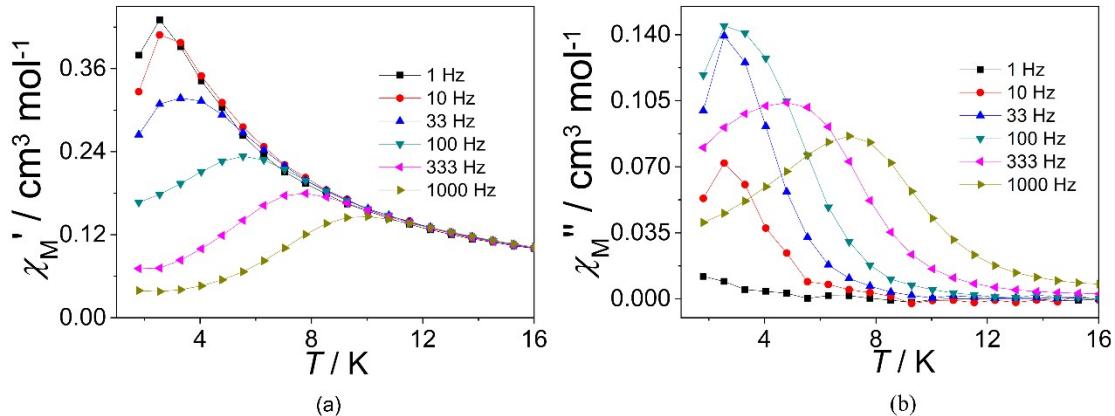
**Fig. S6** Plots of  $M$  vs  $H$  curves for **2** at different temperatures. The solid lines represent fits to the data.



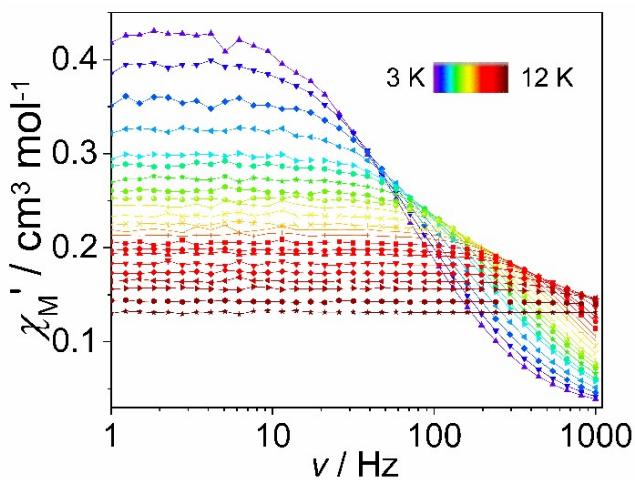
**Fig. S7** Temperature dependence of  $\chi'_{M'}$  and  $\chi''_{M''}$  susceptibilities for **1** and **2** without static field.



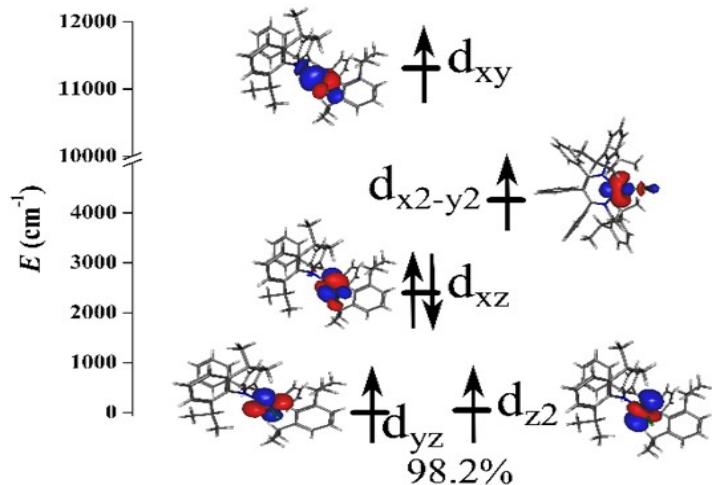
**Fig. S8** The  $\chi''_{M''}$  for **2** at 2 K under different static fields.



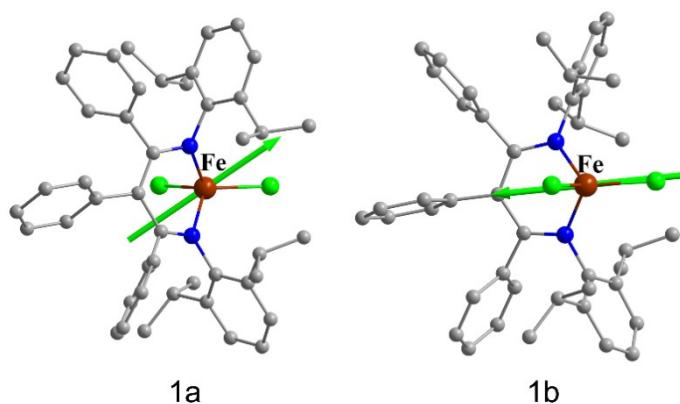
**Fig. S9** Temperature dependence of  $\chi'_{M'}$  and  $\chi''_{M''}$  susceptibilities for complex **2** under a 1500 Oe dc field.



**Fig. S10** Frequency dependence of the  $\chi'_M$  susceptibility signals for complex **2** under a 1500 Oe dc field.



**Fig. S11** Orbital energies computed for the ground state of **2** using CASSCF/RASSI-SO with ORCA 4.2. The percentage mention reveals the percent of the corresponding configuration mixing.



**Fig. S12** Calculated orientations of the local main magnetic axes (green:  $g_z$ ) on  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  ions of complexes **1** in their ground spin-orbit states.