

Supporting Information for:

## **Spin Canting and Slow Magnetic Relaxation in Mononuclear Cobalt(II) Sulfadiazine Ternary Complexes**

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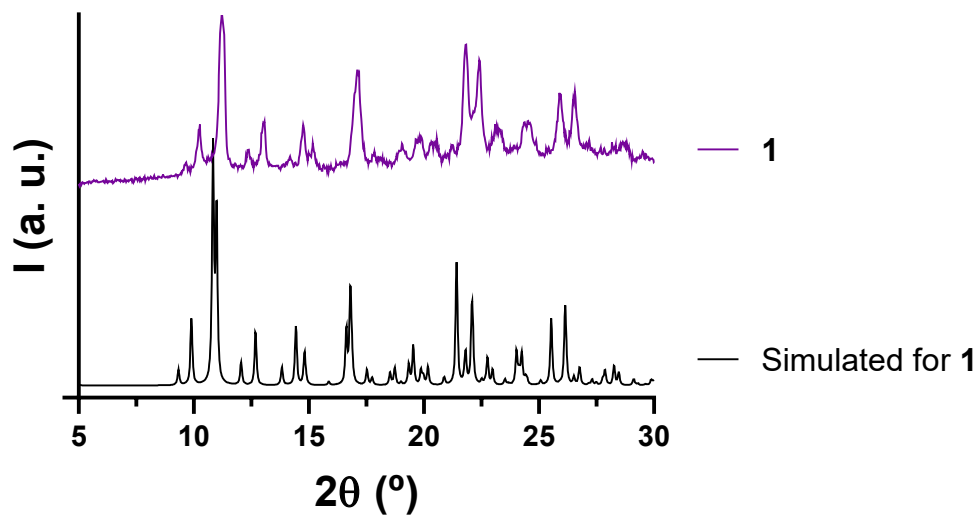
# S1. Crystallographic tables

Table S1.- Crystal data and structure refinement for the complexes.

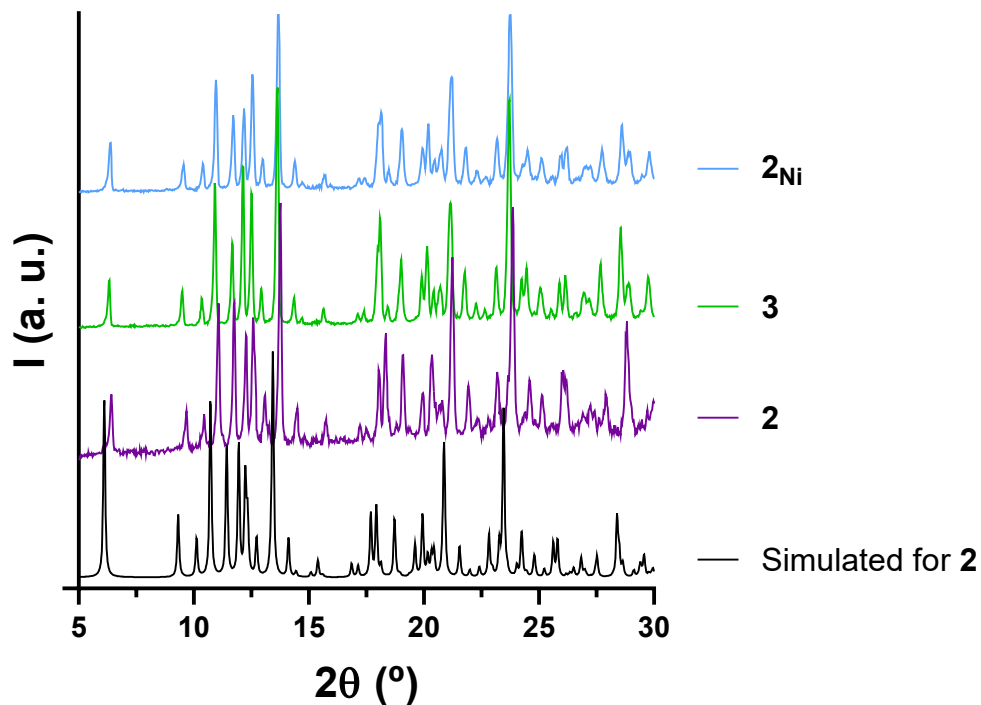
Complex	1	2	3
<b>Formula</b>	CoC <sub>32</sub> H <sub>26</sub> N <sub>10</sub> O <sub>4</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	CoC <sub>28</sub> H <sub>21</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub> SCl	NiC <sub>28</sub> H <sub>21</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub> SCl
<b>Molecular Weight</b> [g mol <sup>-1</sup> ]	737.68	599.96	599.73
<b>Temperature</b> [K]	298(2)	298(2)	232(2)
<b>Wavelength</b> $\lambda$ [Å]	0.71073 (Mo K $\alpha$ )	0.71073 (Mo K $\alpha$ )	0.71073 (Mo K $\alpha$ )
<b>Crystal system</b>	<i>P ca2</i> <sub>1</sub>	<i>P 2</i> <sub>1</sub> / <i>n</i>	<i>P 2</i> <sub>1</sub> / <i>n</i>
<b>Space group</b>	Orthorhombic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
<b>a</b> [Å]	11.1595(7)	9.2829(6)	9.1866(3)
<b>b</b> [Å]	17.8542(11)	28.894(2)	28.6498(10)
<b>c</b> [Å]	16.0849(8)	10.1698(9)	10.0473(4)
<b><math>\beta</math></b> [°]		99.487(7)	99.955(4)
<b>Volume</b> [Å <sup>3</sup> ]	3204.8(3)	2690.5(4)	2604.58(17)
<b>Z, Density (calculated)</b> [g cm <sup>-3</sup> ]	4, 1.5294	4, 1.4817	4, 1.529
<b>Absorption coefficient</b> $\mu$ [mm <sup>-1</sup> ]	0.722	0.853	0.967
<b>F (000)</b>	1516	1228	1232
<b><math>\theta</math> - range</b> [°]	3.185 - 28.824	2.93 - 26.00	2.177 - 30.009
<b>Index ranges</b>	-13 ≤ h ≤ 12 -13 ≤ k ≤ 23 -20 ≤ l ≤ 20	-11 ≤ h ≤ 11 -35 ≤ k ≤ 35 -8 ≤ l ≤ 12	-11 ≤ h ≤ 12 -38 ≤ k ≤ 38 -13 ≤ l ≤ 13
<b>Collected reflections/independent/R<sub>int</sub></b>	10260 / 6048 / 0.0403	13041 / 5288 / 0.0763	23391 / 6403 / 0.0535
<b>Completeness to <math>\theta_{\text{máx}}</math></b>	0.997 ( $\theta = 25.242$ )	0.998 ( $\theta = 25.242$ )	1 ( $\theta = 25.242$ )
<b>Absorption correction</b>		Semi-empirical from equivalents	
<b>Refinement model</b>		Full-matrix least squares on F <sup>2</sup>	
<b>Data/Restraints/Parameters</b>	6048 / 7 / 454	5288 / 3 / 358	6403 / 0 / 352
<b>Goodness on fit (F<sup>2</sup>)</b>	1.047	1.024	1.057
<b>R<sub>1</sub> indexes</b> <sup>1</sup>	0.0523 (0.0927)	0.0710 (0.1606)	0.0810 (0.0451)
<b>wR<sub>2</sub> indexes (I &gt; 2<math>\sigma</math> (I))</b> <sup>2</sup>	0.0884 (0.1054)	0.1236 (0.1576)	0.09654 (0.1068)
<b>Highest peak/hole difference</b> [e Å <sup>-3</sup> ]	0.328 / -0.266	0.793 / -0.320	0.368 / -0.423

$$^1R_1 = \Sigma ||F_0| - |F_c|| / \Sigma |F_0|. \quad ^2wR_2 = [\Sigma w(|F_0|^2 - |F_c|^2)^2 / \Sigma w(|F_0|^2)^2]^{1/2}.$$

## S2. Powder X-ray diffraction analysis



**Figure S1.-** For compound **1**, simulated pattern from single-crystal X-ray diffraction (black) and experimental XRPD (purple).



**Figure S2.-** For compound **2**, **3** and **2<sub>Ni</sub>**, simulated pattern from single-crystal X-ray diffraction (black) and experimental XRPD for **2** (purple), **3** (green) and **2<sub>Ni</sub>** (blue).

### S3. Continuous Shape Measurements (CShM)

The closer the values to zero, the better-defined geometry

**Table S2.-** Continuous Shape Measures Calculations for Complex 1.

HP-6	PPY-6	OC-6	TPR-6	JPPY-6
23.848	23.814	4.464	13.784	27.542

HP-6: Hexagon ( $D_{6h}$ ); PPY-6: Pentagonal pyramid ( $C_{5v}$ ); OC-6: Octahedron ( $O_h$ ); TPR-6: Trigonal prism ( $D_{3h}$ ); JPPY-6: Johnson pentagonal pyramid - J2 ( $C_{5v}$ ).

**Table S3.-** Continuous Shape Measures Calculations for Complex 2.

PP-5	vOC-5	TBPY-5	SPY-5	JTBPY-5
25.850	4.500	9.133	3.950	10.144

PP-5: Pentagon ( $D_{5h}$ ); vOC-5: Vacant octahedron ( $C_{4v}$ ); TBPY-5: Trigonal bipyramid ( $D_{3h}$ ); SPY-5: Square pyramid ( $C_{4v}$ ); JTBPY-5: Johnson trigonal bipyramid – J12 ( $D_{3h}$ ).

## S4. Crystal structure: selected bond lengths and angles and additional figures

**Table S4.-** Selected bond lengths [Å] and angles [°].

<b>Compound 1</b>			
Co – N <sub>16</sub>	2.1934(1)	N <sub>16</sub> – Co – N <sub>31</sub>	168.08(1)
Co – N <sub>17</sub>	2.1058(1)	N <sub>16</sub> – Co – N <sub>312</sub>	100.22(1)
Co – N <sub>26</sub>	2.0943(1)	N <sub>17</sub> – Co – N <sub>26</sub>	96.76(1)
Co – N <sub>27</sub>	2.2761(1)	N <sub>17</sub> – Co – N <sub>27</sub>	154.62(1)
Co – N <sub>31</sub>	2.1131(1)	N <sub>17</sub> – Co – N <sub>31</sub>	106.04(1)
Co – N <sub>312</sub>	2.1018(1)	N <sub>17</sub> – Co – N <sub>312</sub>	102.27(1)
N <sub>17</sub> – S <sub>18</sub>	1.5977(1)	N <sub>26</sub> – Co – N <sub>27</sub>	60.88(1)
N <sub>27</sub> – S <sub>28</sub>	1.6046(1)	N <sub>26</sub> – Co – N <sub>31</sub>	94.21(1)
		N <sub>26</sub> – Co – N <sub>312</sub>	160.83(1)
N <sub>16</sub> – Co – N <sub>17</sub>	62.48(1)	N <sub>27</sub> – Co – N <sub>31</sub>	88.57(1)
N <sub>16</sub> – Co – N <sub>26</sub>	90.55(1)	N <sub>27</sub> – Co – N <sub>312</sub>	100.92(1)
N <sub>16</sub> – Co – N <sub>27</sub>	103.28(1)	N <sub>31</sub> – Co – N <sub>312</sub>	78.41(1)
<b>Compound 2</b>			
Co – Cl <sub>1</sub>	2.2746(2)	Cl <sub>1</sub> – Co – N <sub>16</sub>	99.43(1)
Co – N <sub>16</sub>	2.1166(2)	Cl <sub>1</sub> – Co – N <sub>17</sub>	154.15(1)
Co – N <sub>17</sub>	2.14735(2)	Cl <sub>1</sub> – Co – N <sub>21</sub>	99.40(1)
Co – N <sub>21</sub>	2.0611(2)	Cl <sub>1</sub> – Co – N <sub>220</sub>	107.14(1)
Co – N <sub>220</sub>	2.0393(2)	N <sub>16</sub> – Co – N <sub>17</sub>	61.87(1)
N <sub>17</sub> – S <sub>18</sub>	1.6141(1)	N <sub>16</sub> – Co – N <sub>21</sub>	147.63(1)
		N <sub>16</sub> – Co – N <sub>220</sub>	119.01(1)
		N <sub>17</sub> – Co – N <sub>21</sub>	90.98(1)
		N <sub>17</sub> – Co – N <sub>220</sub>	97.95(1)
		N <sub>21</sub> – Co – N <sub>220</sub>	79.67(1)
<b>Compound 3</b>			
Ni – Cl <sub>03</sub>	2.2780(7)	Cl <sub>03</sub> – Ni – N <sub>21</sub>	98.33(6)
Ni – N <sub>21</sub>	1.999(2)	Cl <sub>03</sub> – Ni – N <sub>17</sub>	155.20(6)
Ni – N <sub>17</sub>	2.101(2)	Cl <sub>03</sub> – Ni – N <sub>22</sub>	103.35(6)
Ni – N <sub>22</sub>	1.999(2)	Cl <sub>03</sub> – Ni – N <sub>11</sub>	97.66(6)
Ni – N <sub>11</sub>	2.095(2)	N <sub>21</sub> – Ni – N <sub>17</sub>	93.92(8)
N <sub>17</sub> – S <sub>18</sub>	1.617(2)	N <sub>21</sub> – Ni – N <sub>22</sub>	81.25(9)
		N <sub>21</sub> – Ni – N <sub>11</sub>	152.67(8)
		N <sub>22</sub> – Ni – N <sub>17</sub>	99.76(8)
		N <sub>11</sub> – Ni – N <sub>11</sub>	116.20(9)
		N <sub>11</sub> – Ni – N <sub>17</sub>	63.63(8)

**Table S5.-** Intra and Intermolecular Hydrogen bonds in complexes **1-3** [ $\text{\AA}$ ,  $^\circ$ ].

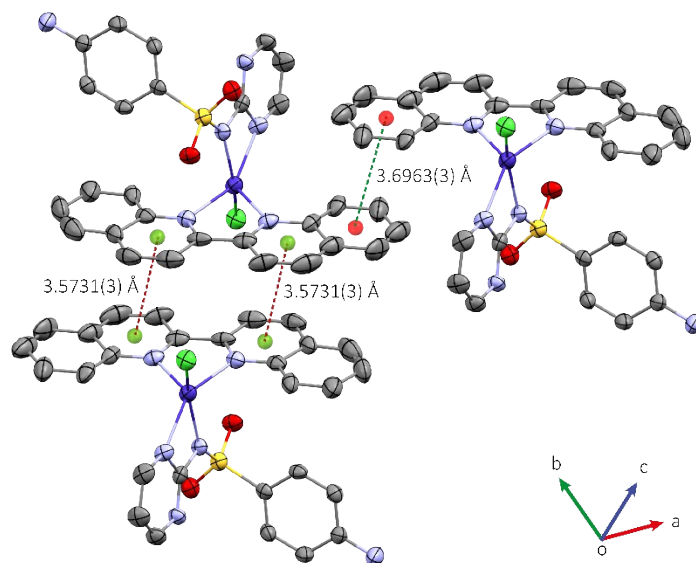
<b>D—H<math>\cdots</math>A</b>	<b>D—H</b>	<b>H<math>\cdots</math>A</b>	<b>D<math>\cdots</math>A</b>	<b><math>\angle</math> D—H<math>\cdots</math>A</b>
<b>Compound 1</b>				
N <sub>117</sub> —H <sub>117A</sub> $\cdots$ O <sub>19</sub> <sup>i</sup>	0.85	2.52	3.130(8)	130
N <sub>117</sub> —H <sub>117B</sub> $\cdots$ O <sub>110</sub> <sup>ii</sup>	0.85	2.23	3.054(8)	162
N <sub>217</sub> —H <sub>217A</sub> $\cdots$ O <sub>210</sub> <sup>iii</sup>	0.86	2.55	3.308(10)	147
N <sub>217</sub> —H <sub>217B</sub> $\cdots$ O <sub>29</sub> <sup>iv</sup>	0.86	2.19	3.039(9)	168
C <sub>112</sub> —H <sub>112</sub> $\cdots$ O <sub>110</sub> <sup>v</sup>	0.93	2.58	3.395(7)	147.2
C <sub>213</sub> —H <sub>213</sub> $\cdots$ N <sub>22</sub> <sup>iii</sup>	0.93	2.59	3.490(9)	163.5
<b>Compound 2</b>				
N <sub>117</sub> —H <sub>117A</sub> $\cdots$ O <sub>110</sub> <sup>vi</sup>	0.85	2.25	2.981(7)	143
N <sub>117</sub> —H <sub>117B</sub> $\cdots$ Cl <sub>1</sub> <sup>vii</sup>	0.86	2.53	3.375(6)	168
C <sub>29</sub> —H <sub>29</sub> $\cdots$ Cl <sub>1</sub> <sup>viii</sup>	0.93	2.88	3.641(8)	140
C <sub>28</sub> —H <sub>28</sub> $\cdots$ Cl <sub>1</sub> <sup>ix</sup>	0.93	2.71	3.566(8)	154
<b>Compound 3</b>				
N <sub>117</sub> —H <sub>11B</sub> $\cdots$ O <sub>110</sub> <sup>vi</sup>	0.85	2.15	2.984(3)	160
N <sub>117</sub> —H <sub>117B</sub> $\cdots$ Cl <sub>03</sub> <sup>vii</sup>	0.86	2.51	3.301(3)	150

**Symmetry codes:** (i) -x, -y+1, z-1/2; (ii) -x+1/2, y, z-1/2; (iii) -x+3/2, y, z-1/2; (iv) -x+1, -y+2, z-1/2; (v) x-1/2, -y+1, z; (vi) x-1/2, -y+1/2, z-1/2; (vii) x-1/2, -y+1/2, z+1/2; (viii) -x, -y, -z; (ix) x-1, y, z.

**Table S6.-** Structural parameters ( $\text{\AA}$ ,  $^\circ$ ) of  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions of compound **2**.<sup>a</sup>

Ring...Ring <sup>b</sup>	$\alpha$	DC	$\beta$	DZ	Dist.
1A-2A(i)	3.6(3)	3.573(4)	15.8	3.485(3)	3.53-3.69
2A-1A(i)	3.6(3)	3.574(4)	12.7	3.439(3)	3.51-3.63
3A-3A(ii)	0.0(4)	3.696(5)	21.4	3.441(3)	3.45-3.71

[a] Symmetry: (i)  $-x + 1, -y, -z$ ; (ii)  $-x + 1, -y, -z + 1$ .  $\alpha$ : dihedral angle between mean planes of the rings ( $^\circ$ ), DC: distance between ring centroids ( $\text{\AA}$ ),  $\beta$ : angle between DC vector and normal to plane(I) ( $^\circ$ ), DZ: perpendicular distance of the centroids of ring(I) on plane of ring(II) ( $\text{\AA}$ ), Dist.: shorter distances between non-hydrogen atoms of rings (I) and (II). [b] Rings: **1A**: N21, C118, C211, C212, C213, C218; **2A**: N22, C23, C28, C29, C119, C210; **3A**: C23, C24, C25, C26, C27, C28.

**Figure S3.-**  $\pi$ -Stacking motifs in complex **2**.

## S5. Theoretical calculations

**Table S7.** NEVPT2 results calculated on the H-optimized structures of compounds **1** and **2** showing the most significant contributions to  $D$ ,  $E/D$ ,  $g$ -tensor and energy-separation between Kramers (KD) doublets.

Compound	1	2
$D$ ( $D_{\text{KD1-2}}$ , $D_{\text{KD1-3}}$ ) <sup>a</sup> $\text{cm}^{-1}$	+70.1 (+31.1, +25.4)	-59.4 (-78.5, +14.1)
$E/D$	0.08	0.21
$g_{xx}$ , $g_{yy}$ , $g_{zz}$	1.95, 2.52, 2.67	2.03, 2.29, 2.83
$g_{\text{iso}}$	2.38	2.39
$\Delta E$ (1-2), $\Delta E$ (1-3) $\text{cm}^{-1}$	170, 706	151, 878

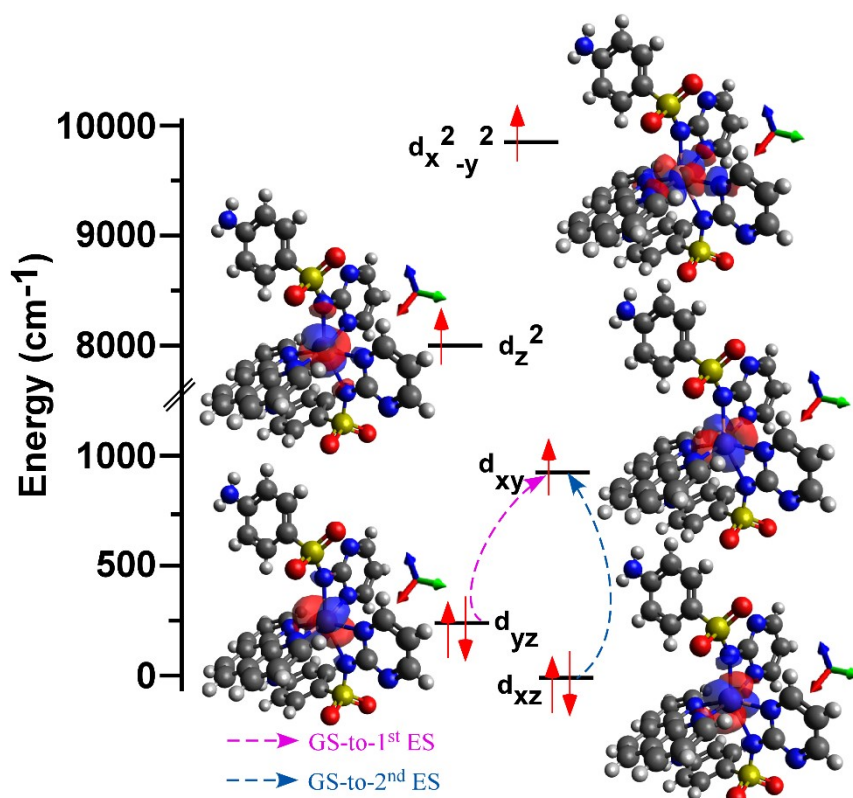
<sup>a</sup> The two values in the parentheses after  $D$  represent the contribution to  $D$  from the ground to first and ground to second excited state transitions, respectively.

**Table S8.** NEVPT2 results calculated on the H-optimized structure of compound **3**, showing the most significant contributions to  $D$ ,  $E/D$ , and  $g$ -tensor.

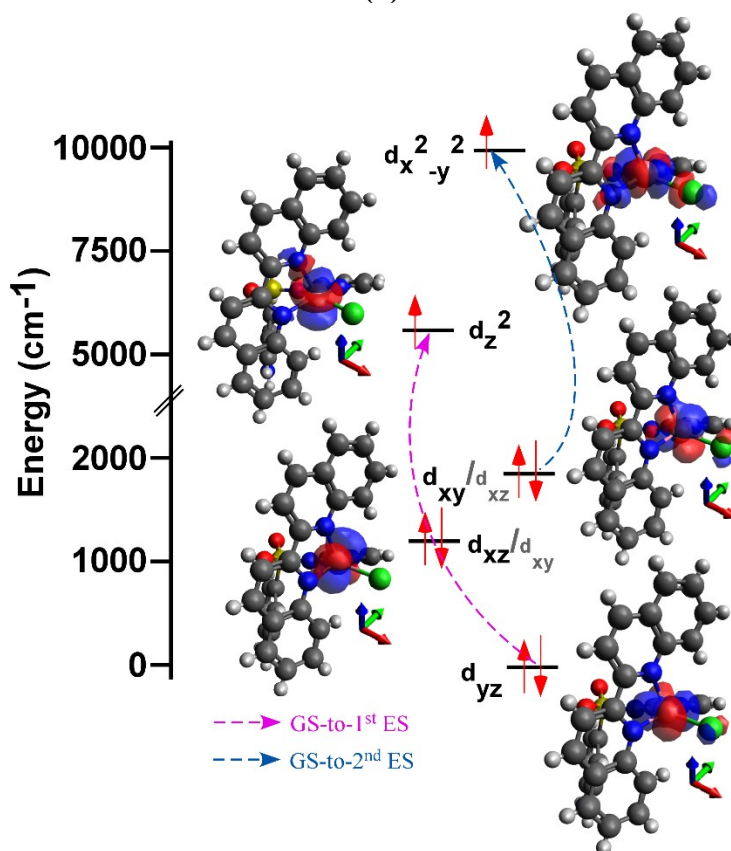
Compound	3
$D$ ( $D_{\text{1st transition}}$ , $D_{\text{2nd transition}}$ ) $\text{cm}^{-1}$	-21.5 (-60.4, +22.9)
$E/D$	0.22
$g_{xx}$ , $g_{yy}$ , $g_{zz}$	2.18, 2.26, 2.37
$g_{\text{iso}}$	2.27

<sup>a</sup> The two values in the parentheses after  $D$  represent the contribution to  $D$  from the ground to first and ground to second excited state transitions, respectively.





(a)



(b)

**Figure S4.-** NEVPT2-AILFT computed d-orbital splitting for compound (a) **1** and (b) **3**. Significant transitions affecting to *zfs* parameters are specified.

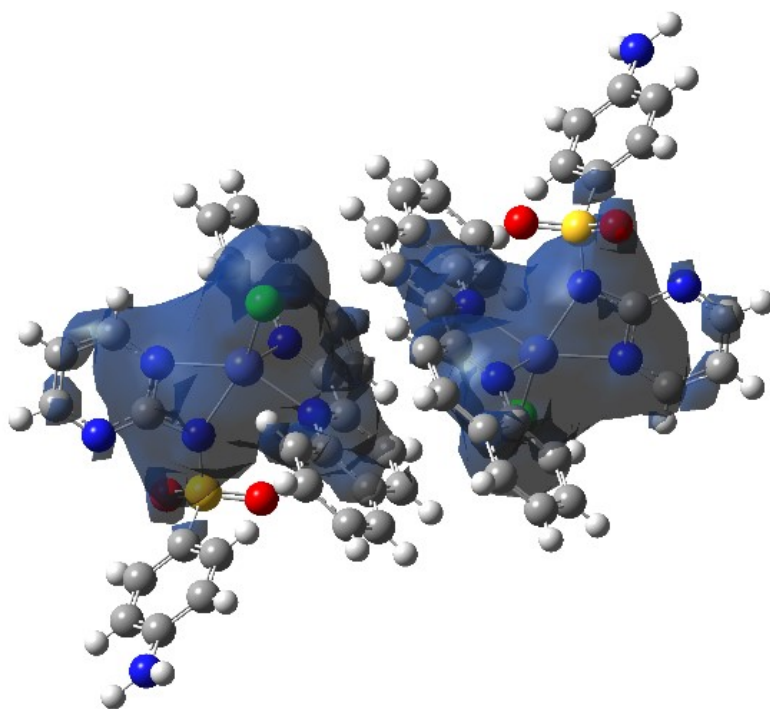
**Table S9.** The ligand field one electron eigenfunctions for compounds **1-3** from NEVPT2.

Compound 1							
Orbital	Energy (eV)	Energy (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	$d_z^2$	$d_{xz}$	$d_{yz}$	$d_{x^2-y^2}$	$d_{xy}$
1	0	0	-0.38656	-0.74310	-0.47033	-0.17081	0.21905
2	0.033	262.9	-0.47011	0.59752	-0.60925	-0.11012	-0.19661
3	0.112	902.4	-0.01538	-0.16647	-0.20768	0.90470	-0.33232
4	0.996	8034.0	0.71319	-0.60305	-0.24404	-0.21512	0.14782
5	1.223	9863.4	-0.24674	-0.10886	0.27239	-0.91387	-0.13386
Compound 2							
Orbital	Energy (eV)	Energy (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	$d_z^2$	$d_{xz}$	$d_{yz}$	$d_{x^2-y^2}$	$d_{xy}$
1	0	0	0.09380	-0.07109	-0.85873	0.37147	0.33278
2	0.156	1256.7	-0.40725	-0.59236	-0.20618	0.10071	-0.65621
3	0.242	1949.2	0.33728	0.59548	-0.29638	-0.06215	-0.66328
4	0.701	5656.1	-0.84002	0.50011	-0.14555	-0.11623	0.09776
5	1.236	9971.6	-0.07718	0.19835	0.33324	0.91351	-0.09566
Compound 3							
Orbital	Energy (eV)	Energy (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	$d_z^2$	$d_{xz}$	$d_{yz}$	$d_{x^2-y^2}$	$d_{xy}$
1	0	0	0.16725	-0.00564	0.94284	-0.16172	-0.23854
2	0.169	1367.0	-0.34389	-0.74721	-0.07256	0.07246	-0.55938
3	0.269	2167.3	-0.19203	-0.51020	0.25466	0.14545	0.78537
4	0.762	6148.3	0.90320	-0.39760	-0.15300	0.05230	0.00247
5	1.46	11773.4	0.03360	0.15251	0.13241	0.97196	-0.11565

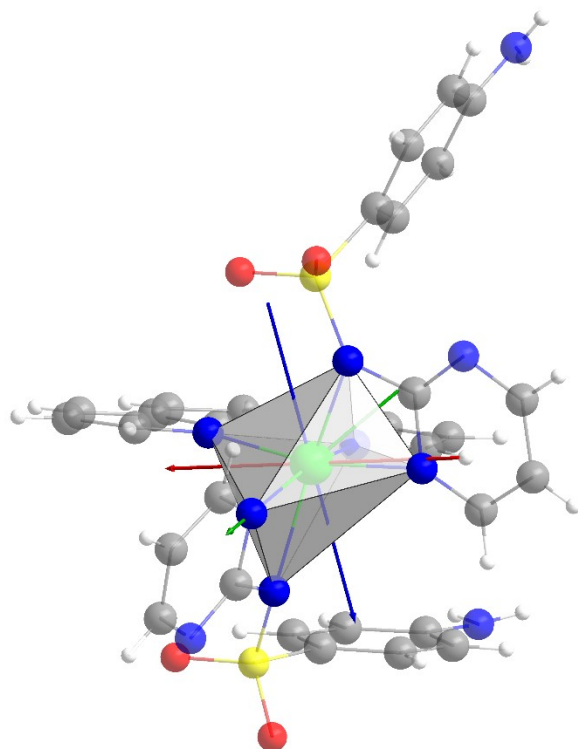
**Table S10.** NEVPT2 computed electronic states and their energies (cm<sup>-1</sup>), and the corresponding major electronic configurations. Note that minor contributions are not shown.

Compound 1		
Energy-CASCCF	Energy-NEVPT2	Electronic configurations from CASSCF
0	0	$d_{xz}^2 d_{yz}^2 d_{xy}^1 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (49%) $d_{xz}^2 d_{yz}^1 d_{xy}^2 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (25%)
578.7	778.2	$d_{xz}^2 d_{yz}^1 d_{xy}^2 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (50%) $d_{xz}^2 d_{yz}^2 d_{xy}^1 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (21%)
962.4	1272.2	$d_{xz}^1 d_{yz}^2 d_{xy}^2 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (35%) $d_{xz}^1 d_{yz}^2 d_{xy}^2 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (16%)
6237.4	8299.1	$d_{xz}^2 d_{yz}^1 d_{xy}^1 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (44%) $d_{xz}^1 d_{yz}^2 d_{xy}^1 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (26%)
7718.0	8344.3	$d_{xz}^1 d_{yz}^2 d_{xy}^1 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (40%) $d_{xz}^2 d_{yz}^1 d_{xy}^1 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^2$ (21%)
Compound 2		
Energy-CASCCF	Energy-NEVPT2	Electronic configurations from CASSCF
0	0	$d_{yz}^2 d_{xz}^2 d_{xy}^1 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (47%) $d_{yz}^2 d_{xz}^1 d_{xy}^2 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (13%) $d_{yz}^1 d_{xz}^2 d_{xy}^1 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^2$ (12%)
663.0	908.6	$d_{yz}^2 d_{xz}^1 d_{xy}^2 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (41%) $d_{yz}^1 d_{xz}^2 d_{xy}^1 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^2$ (27%)
1971.9	2649.9	$d_{yz}^1 d_{xz}^2 d_{xy}^2 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (59%) $d_{yz}^1 d_{xz}^1 d_{xy}^1 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^2$ (15%)
4635.3	6215.5	$d_{yz}^2 d_{xz}^1 d_{xy}^1 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (49%) $d_{yz}^1 d_{xz}^2 d_{xy}^1 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (21%)
6215.2	8314.3	$d_{yz}^1 d_{xz}^2 d_{xy}^1 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (51%) $d_{yz}^1 d_{xz}^2 d_{xy}^2 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (19%)
Compound 3		
Energy-CASCCF	Energy-NEVPT2	Electronic configurations from CASSCF
0	0	$d_{yz}^2 d_{xz}^2 d_{xy}^2 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (57%)

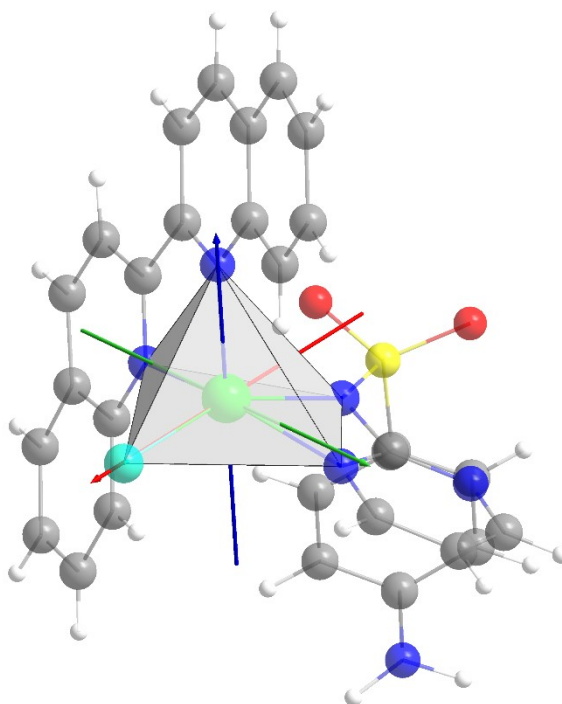
		$d_{yz}^1 d_{xz}^2 d_{xy}^2 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (24%)
4300.3	6065.6	$d_{yz}^1 d_{xz}^2 d_{xy}^2 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (51%)
		$d_{yz}^1 d_{xz}^2 d_{xy}^1 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^2$ (19%)
5756.7	8065.6	$d_{yz}^2 d_{xz}^2 d_{xy}^1 d_z^1 d_{x^2-y^2}^2$ (30%)
		$d_{yz}^1 d_{xz}^2 d_{xy}^2 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (28%)
		$d_{yz}^2 d_{xz}^2 d_{xy}^2 d_z^1 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (23%)
7879.9	11371.6	$d_{yz}^2 d_{xz}^1 d_{xy}^2 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^1$ (50%)
		$d_{yz}^1 d_{xz}^1 d_{xy}^2 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^2$ (17%)
9427.0	12753.2	$d_{yz}^1 d_{xz}^1 d_{xy}^2 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^2$ (45%)
		$d_{yz}^2 d_{xz}^1 d_{xy}^1 d_z^2 d_{x^2-y^2}^2$ (23%)



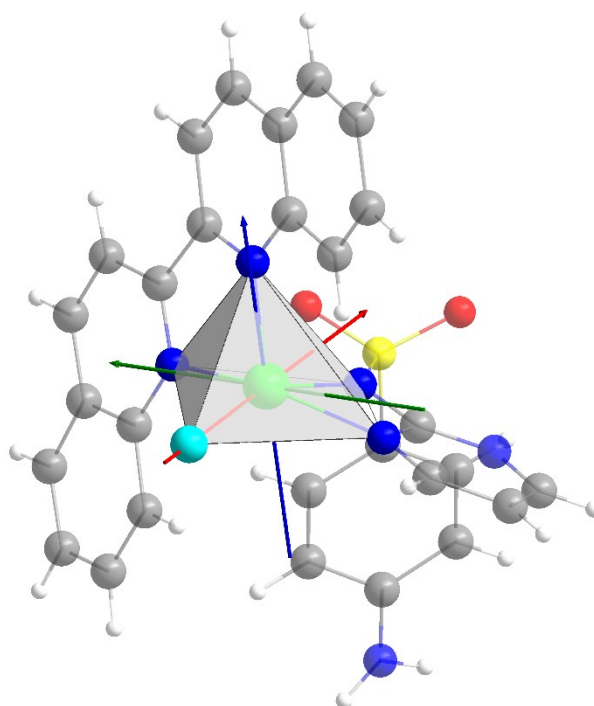
**Figure S5.-** View of the ground state spin density for compound **2**.



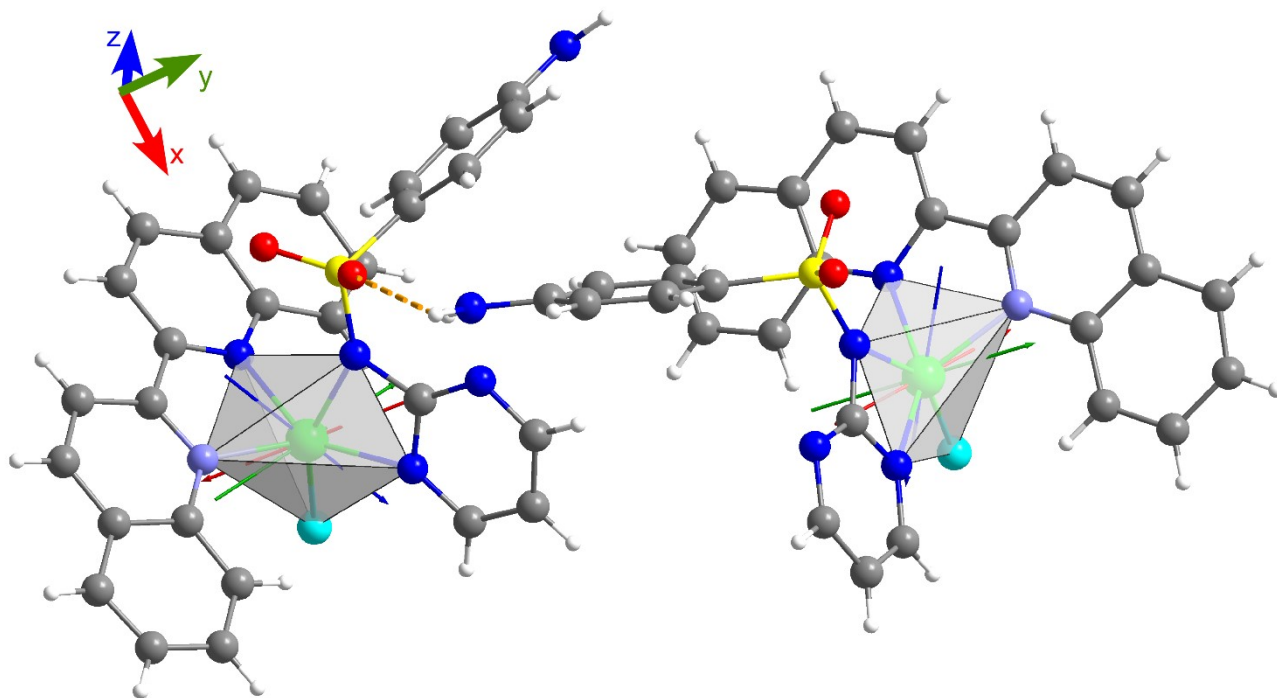
**Figure S6.-** Orientation of the D-tensor components in Co ion of compound **1** obtained from CASSCF/NEVPT2 calculations. The reference axis x, y and z of the *D*-tensor are displayed in red, green and blue, respectively.



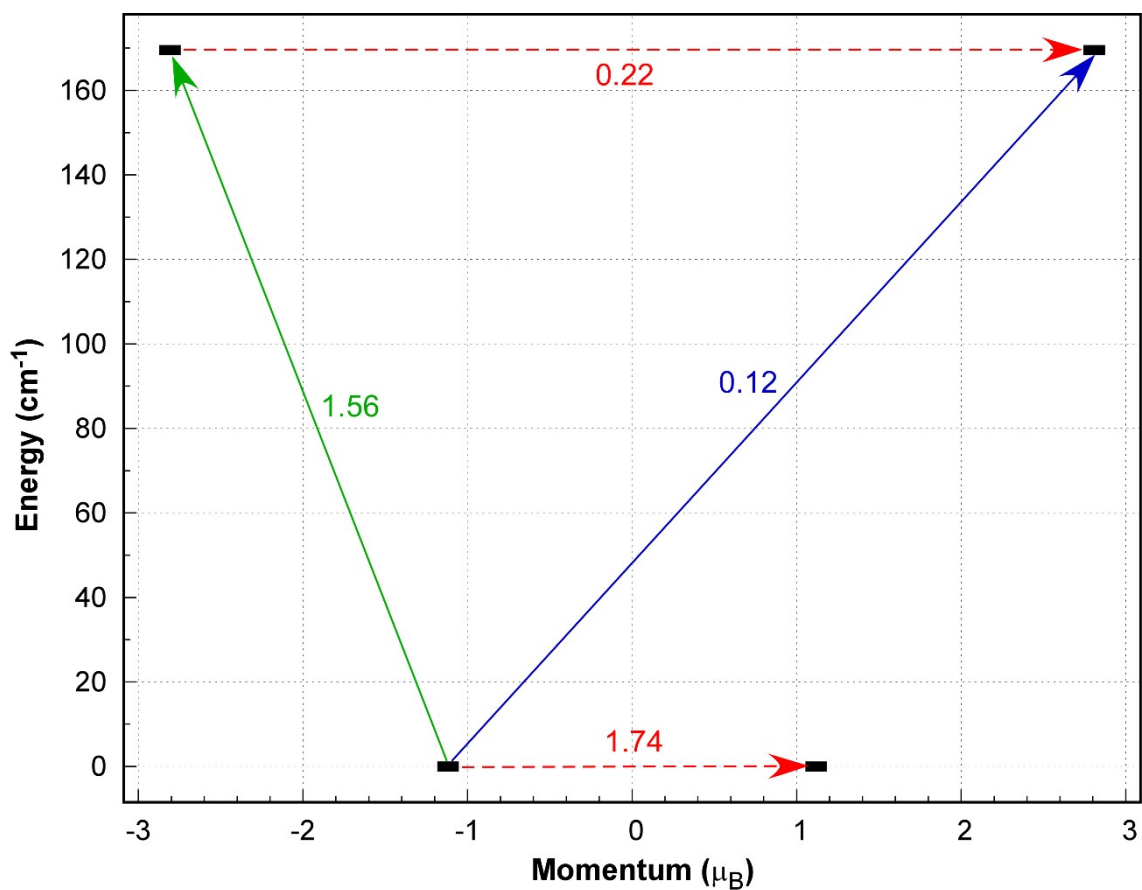
**Figure S7.-** Orientation of the D-tensor components in Co ion of compound **2** obtained from CASSCF/NEVPT2 calculations. The reference axis x, y and z of the *D*-tensor are displayed in red, green and blue, respectively.



**Figure S8.-** Orientation of the D-tensor components in Co ion of compound **3** obtained from CASSCF/NEVPT2 calculations. The reference axis x, y and z of the *D*-tensor are displayed in red, green and blue, respectively.



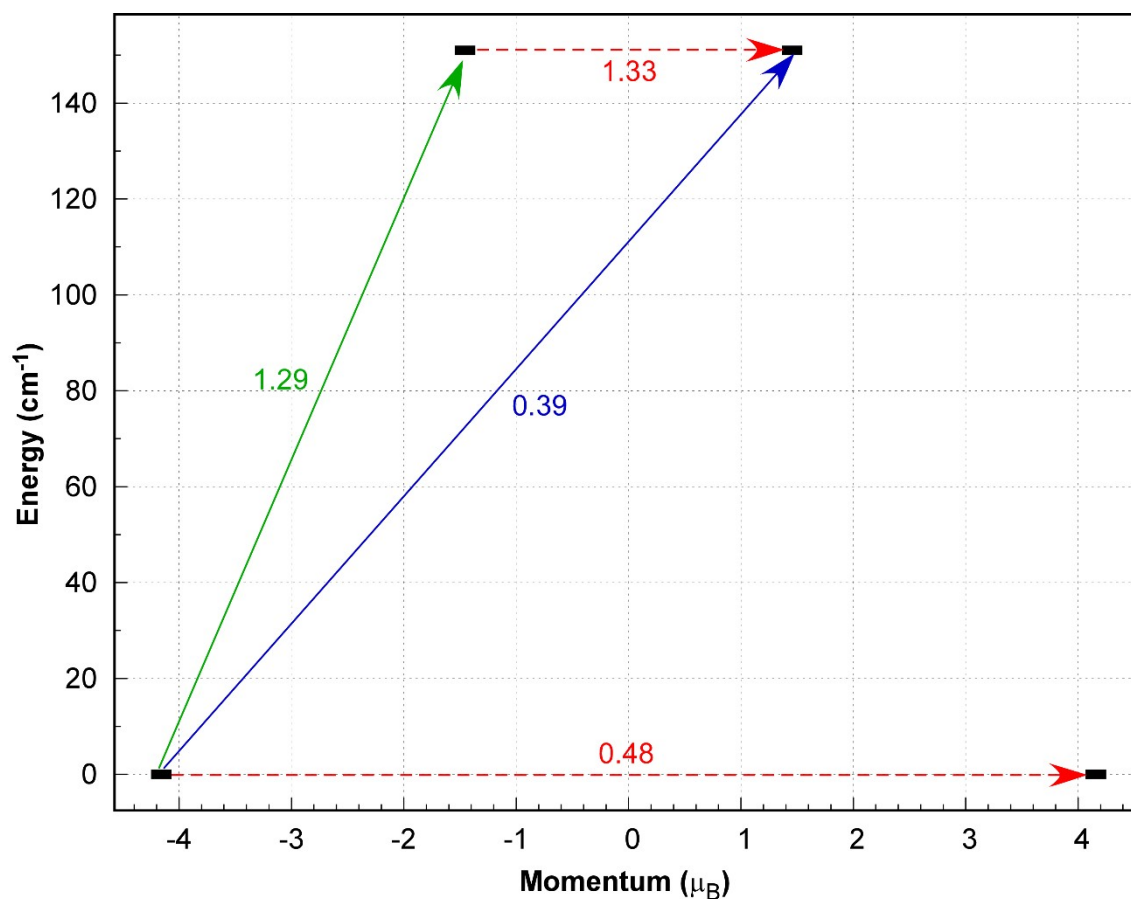
**Figure S9.**- View of the non-symmetric superexchange magnetic pathway showing the  $D$ -tensor for both Co centres for compound **2**. Note also that the N atom occupying the apical position of the distorted square pyramid is shown in purple to help visualizing the non-fully antiparallel orientation between both environments.



**Figure S10.-** Ab initio computed relaxation mechanism with the two lowest KDs of compound **1**.

Blue and green lines indicate the probable relaxation pathways for magnetization reversal mechanism through excited states. The dotted red lines represents the ground state QTM and TA-QTM (thermally assisted-QTM) via first and second excited KDs. The numbers close to each arrow designate matrix elements of transition magnetic moments.

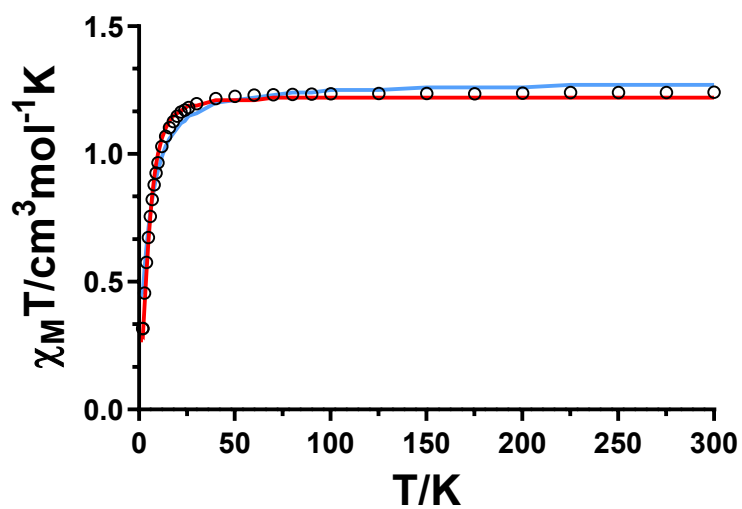




**Figure S11.-** Ab initio computed relaxation mechanism with the two lowest KDs of compound **2**.

Blue and green lines indicate the probable relaxation pathways for magnetization reversal mechanism through excited states. The dotted red lines represents the ground state QTM and TA-QTM (thermally assisted-QTM) via first and second excited KDs. The numbers close to each arrow designate matrix elements of transition magnetic moments.

## S6. Static magnetic properties of **3**



**Figure S12.-** Variable-temperature dc magnetic susceptibility data for **3** collected under a 1 kOe applied dc field. The red fit was obtained by using the positive  $D$  value mentioned in the text, while the blue one corresponds to a negative value in addition to antiferromagnetic intermolecular interactions.

## S7. Dynamic magnetic properties

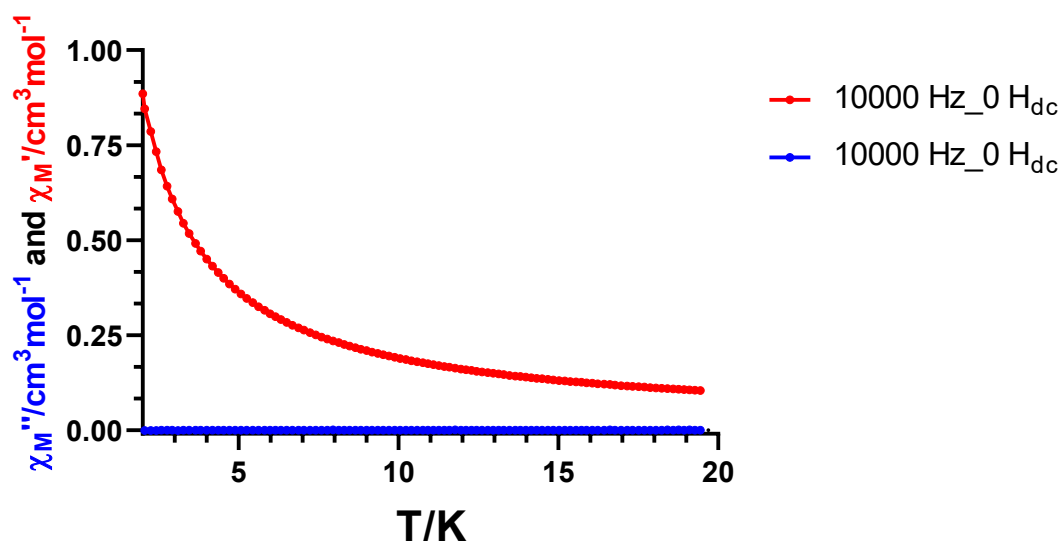


Figure S13.- Temperature dependence of the in phase (red) and out-of-phase (blue) components of the *ac* susceptibility in a zero *dc* applied field for **1**.

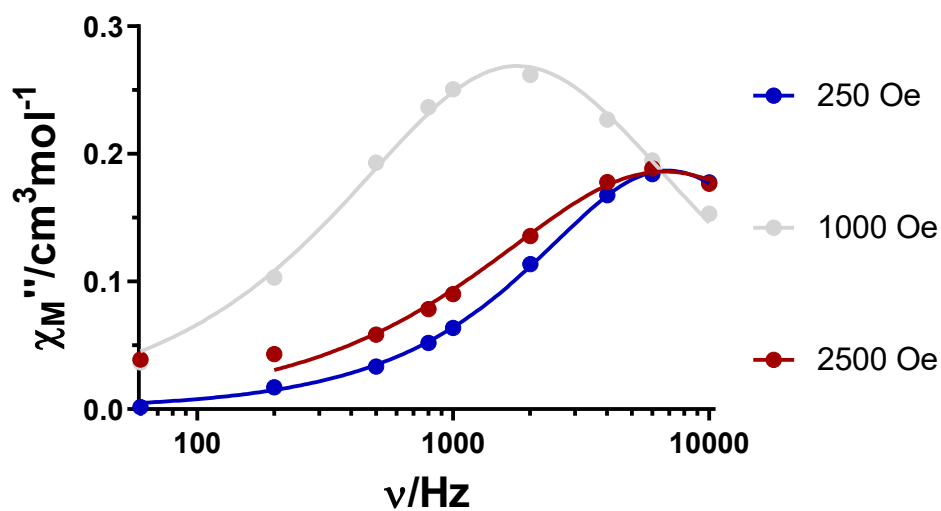
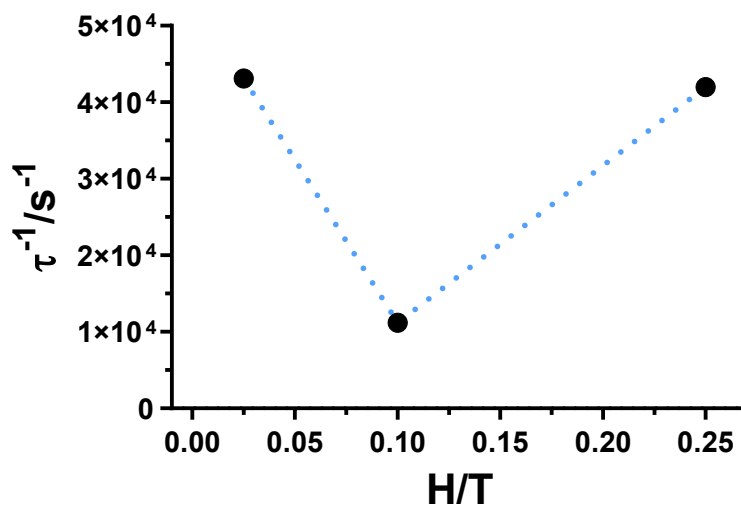
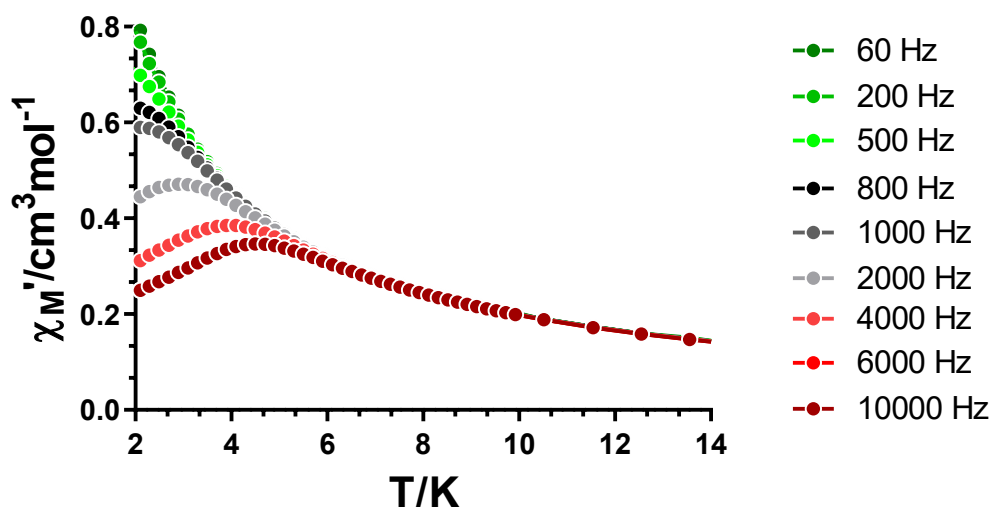


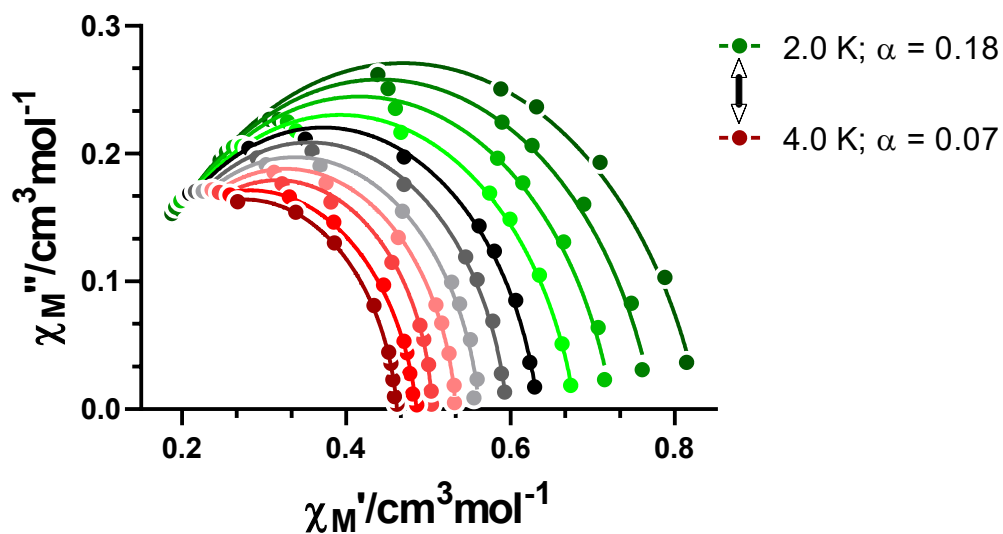
Figure S14.- Field dependence of the out-of-phase signal vs frequency at 2.0 K for **1**.



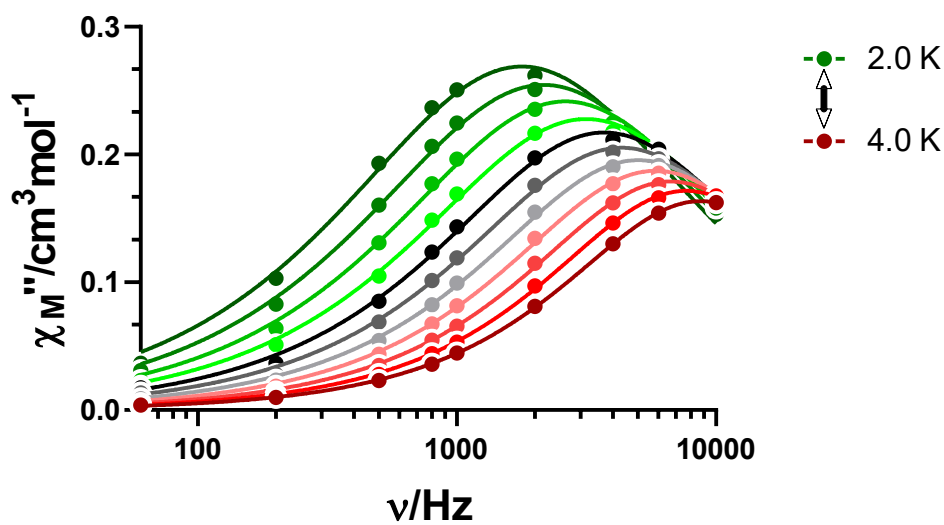
**Figure S15.-** The inverse of the relaxation times obtained at different magnetic fields at 2.0 K for **1**.  
The dashed black is a guide to the eye.



**Figure S16.-** Temperature dependence of the in phase components of the *ac* susceptibility in a *dc* applied field of 1 kOe for **1**.



**Figure S17.-** Cole-Cole plots under 1 kOe field for 1. Solid lines represent the best fit to the generalized Debye model.



**Figure S18.-** Variable-temperature frequency dependence of the  $\chi_M''$  signal under 1 kOe applied field for 1. Solid lines represent the best fitting of the experimental data to the Debye model.

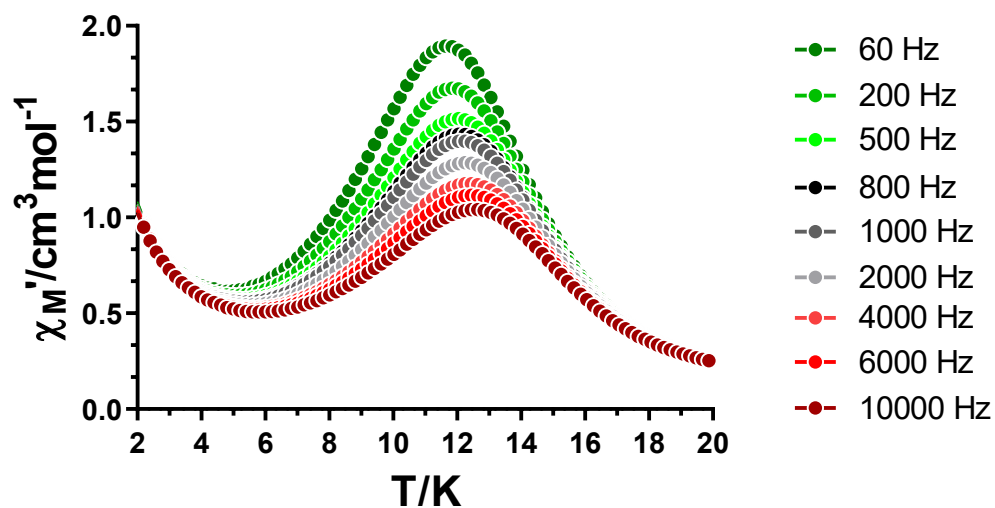


Figure S19.- Temperature dependence of the in phase components of the *ac* susceptibility in a zero applied field for **2**.

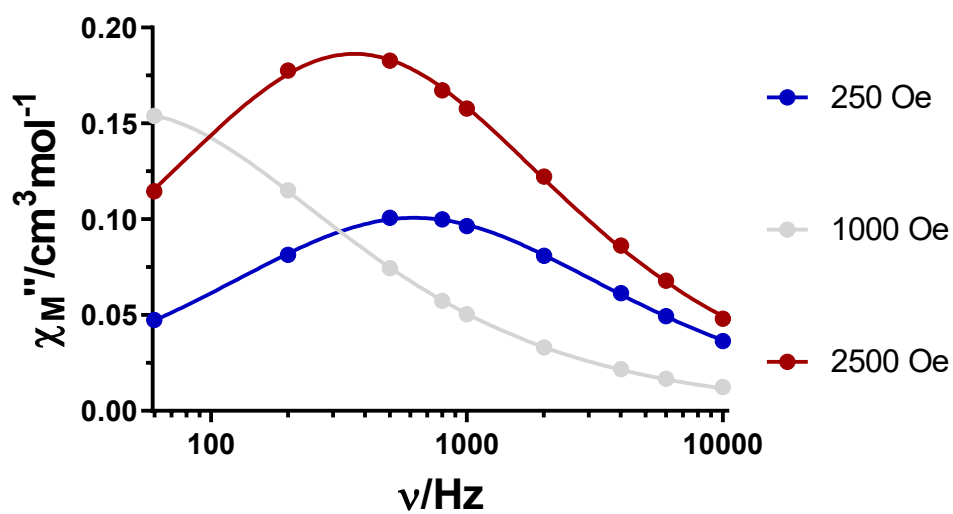
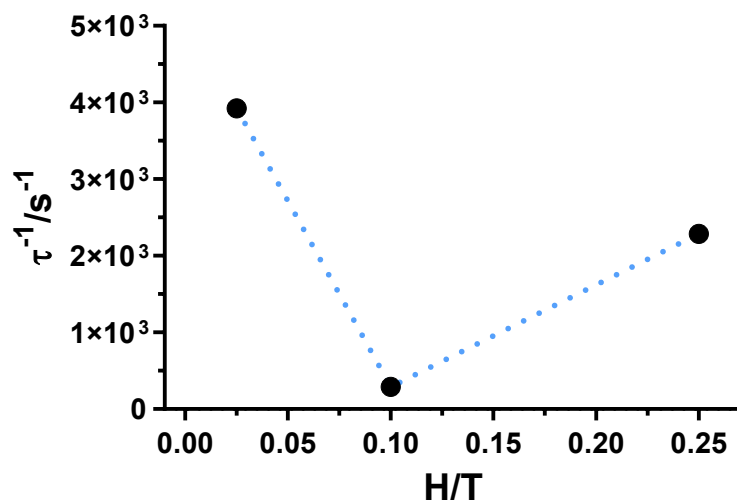
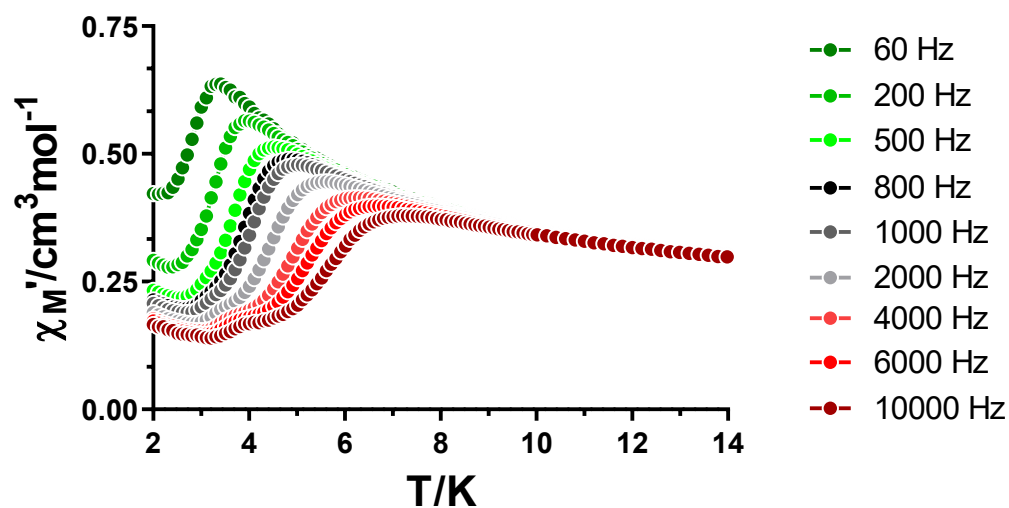


Figure S20.- Field dependence of the out-of-phase signal vs frequency at 2.8 K for **2**.



**Figure S21.-** The inverse of the relaxation times obtained at different magnetic fields at 2.8 K for **2**.  
The dashed black is a guide to the eye.



**Figure S22.-** Temperature dependence of the in phase components of the *ac* susceptibility in a *dc* applied field of 1 kOe for **2**.

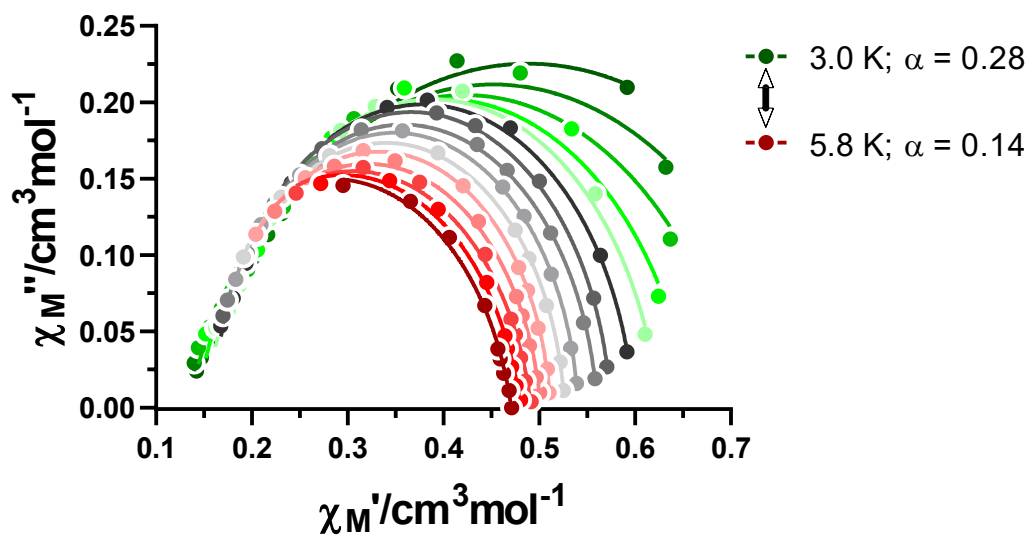


Figure S23.- Cole-Cole plots under 1 kOe field for **2**. Solid lines represent the best fit to the generalized Debye model.

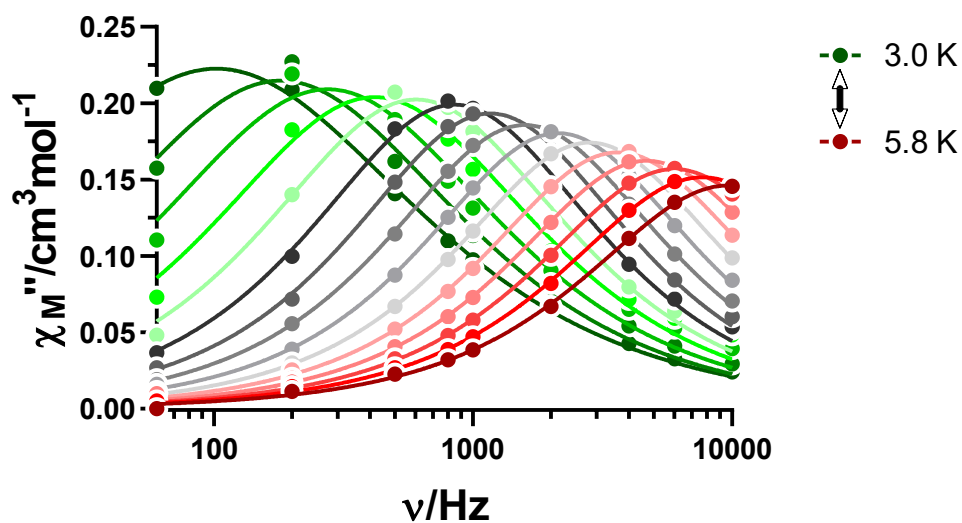
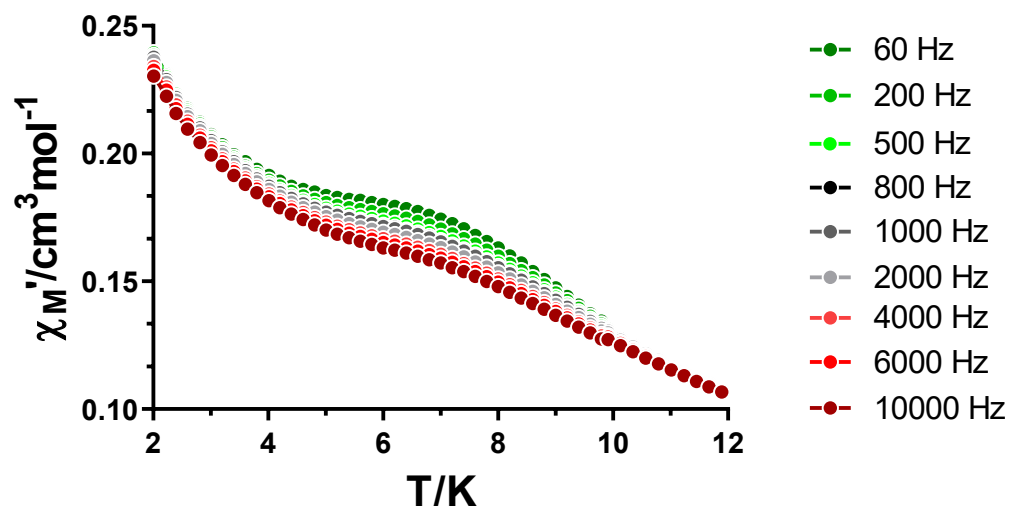
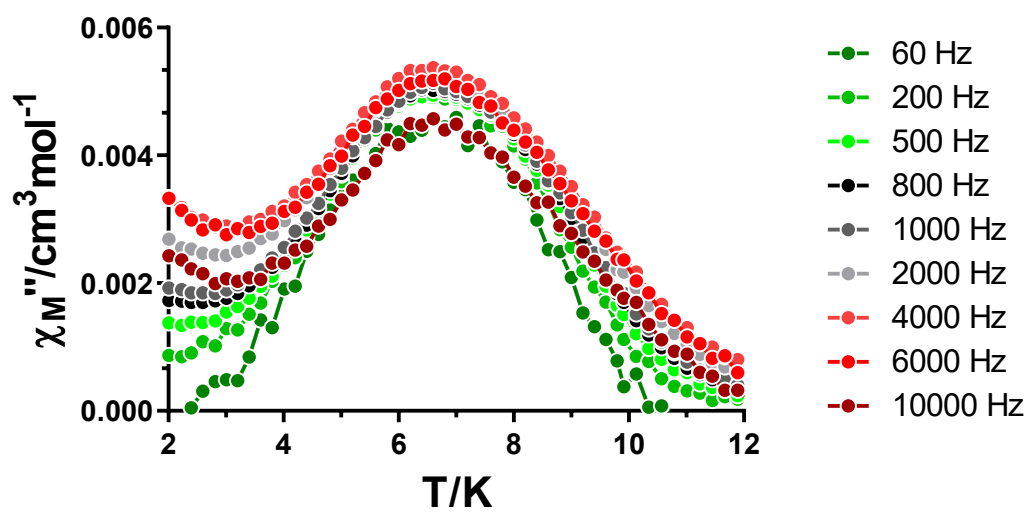


Figure S24.- Variable-temperature frequency dependence of the  $\chi_M''$  signal under 1 kOe applied field for **2**. Solid lines represent the best fitting of the experimental data to the Debye model.





**Figure S25.-** Temperature dependence of the in phase components of the *ac* susceptibility in a zero applied field for  $2\text{Ni}$ .



**Figure S26.-** Temperature dependence of the out of phase components of the *ac* susceptibility in a zero applied field for  $2\text{Ni}$ .

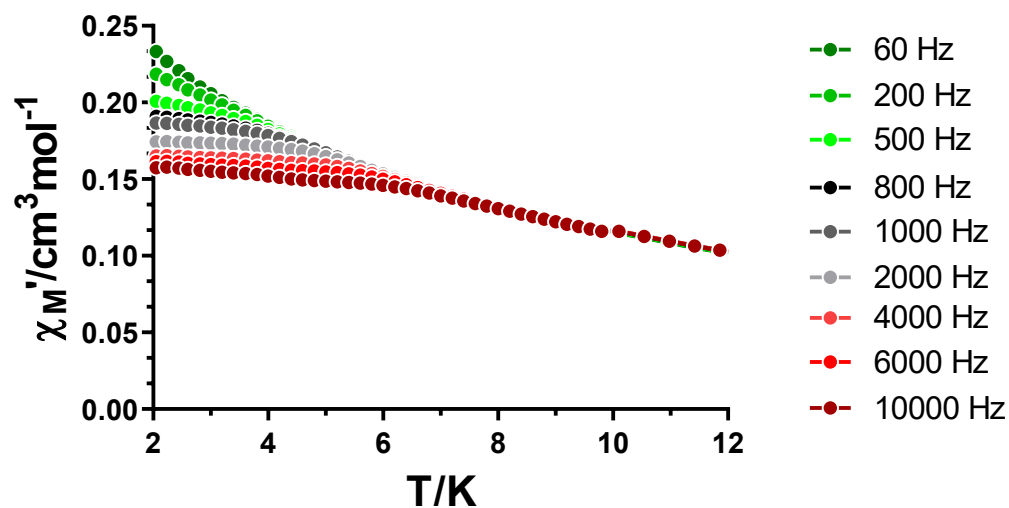


Figure S27.- Temperature dependence of the in phase components of the *ac* susceptibility in a *dc* applied field of 1 kOe for  $2_{\text{Ni}}$ .

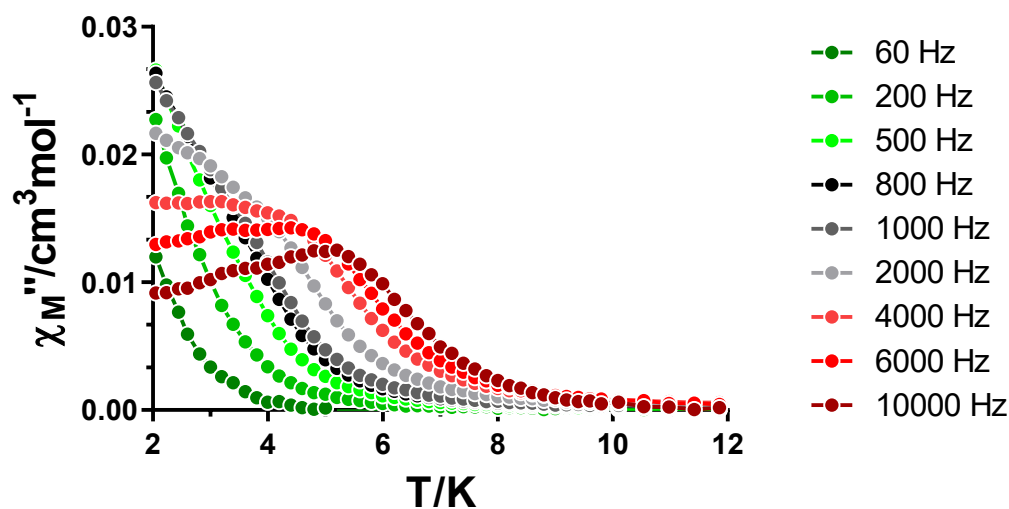
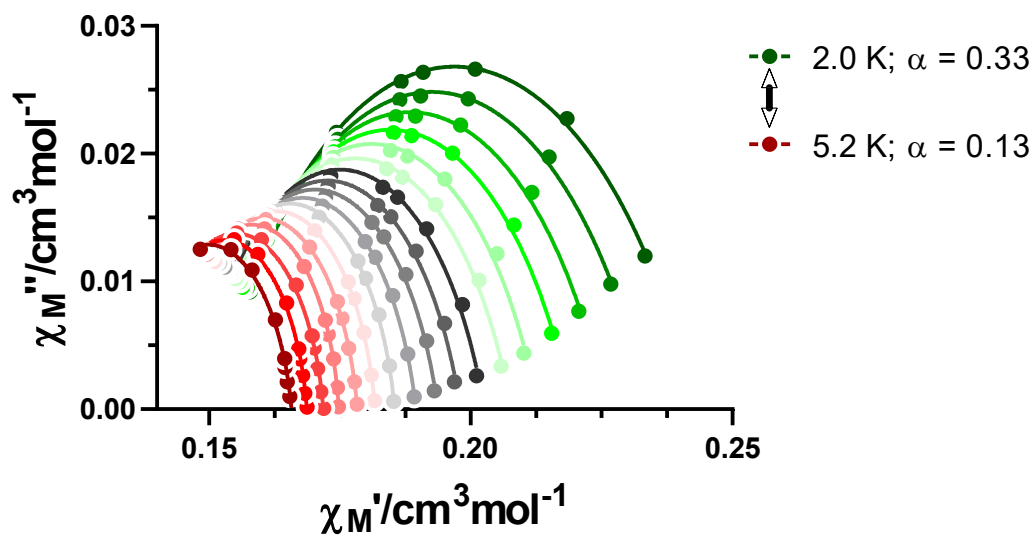
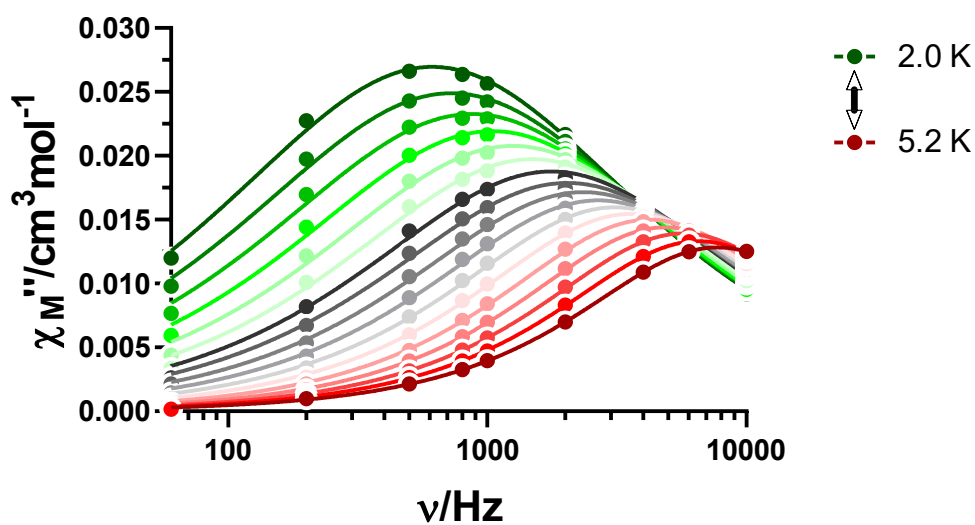


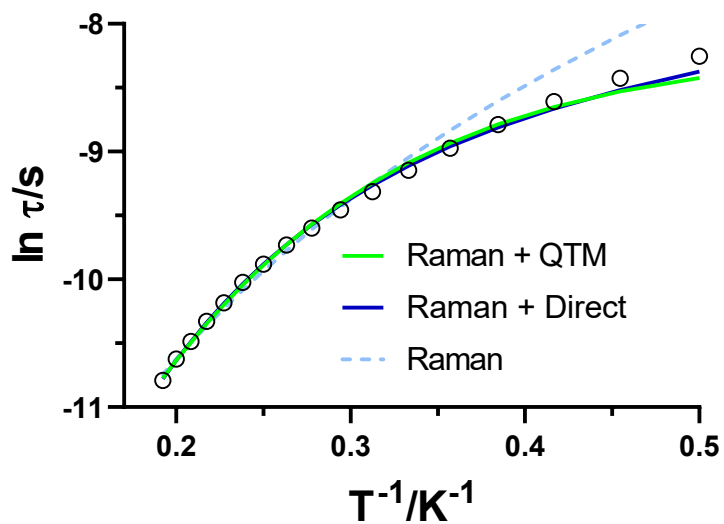
Figure S28.- Temperature dependence of the out of phase components of the *ac* susceptibility in a *dc* applied field of 1 kOe for  $2_{\text{Ni}}$ .



**Figure S29.-** Cole-Cole plots under 1 kOe field for  $2_{\text{Ni}}$ . Solid lines represent the best fit to the generalized Debye model.



**Figure S30.-** Variable-temperature frequency dependence of the  $\chi_M''$  signal under 1 kOe applied field for  $2_{\text{Ni}}$ . Solid lines represent the best fitting of the experimental data to the Debye model.



**Figure S31.-** Alternative fit of the relaxation times for  $2_{Ni}$  considering Raman and QTM mechanisms:  $B = 83(15) \text{ s}^{-1} \cdot \text{K}^{-n}$ ;  $n = 3.8(1)$  and  $\tau_{QTM} = 2.9(3) \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ s}$  ( $\tau^l = BT^n + \tau_{QTM}^{-1}$ )