

# Supporting Information

## **C<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>-templated cage-shaped Ln<sub>28</sub> (Ln=Gd, Eu) nanoclusters with magnetocaloric effect and luminescence**

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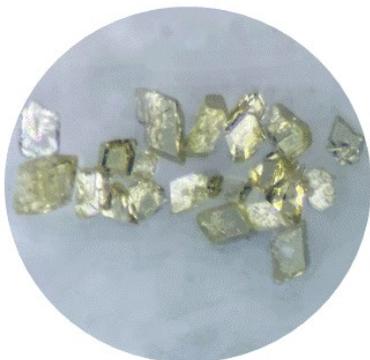
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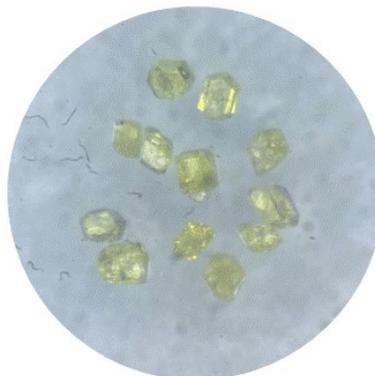
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## Experimental Section

(a)

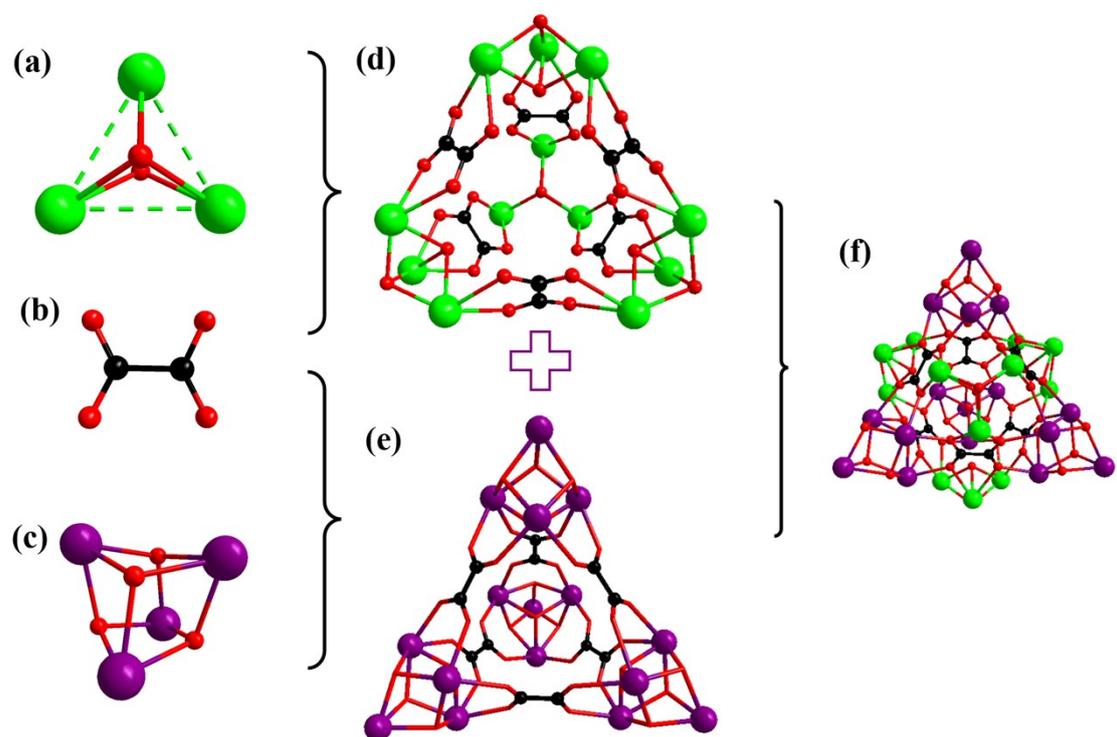


(b)

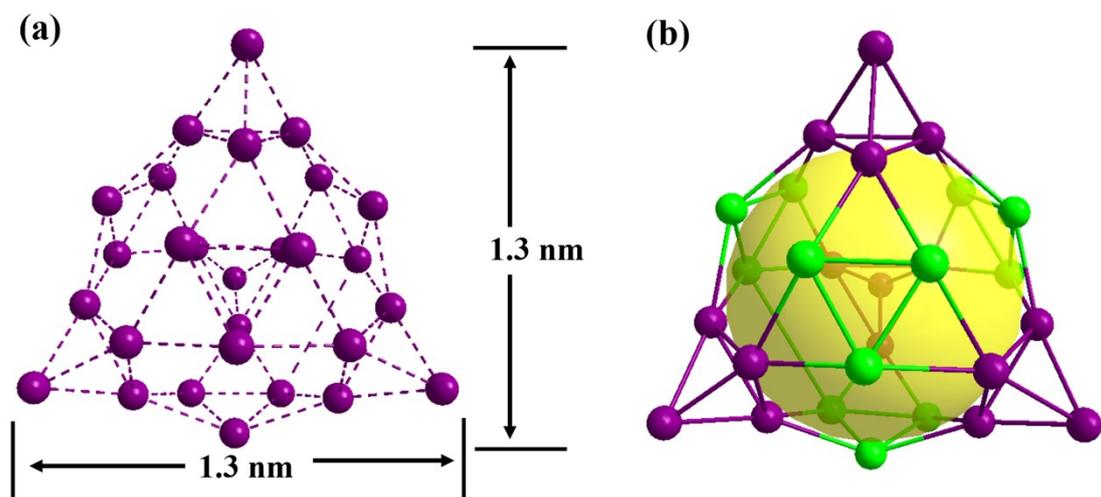


**Fig. S1** The images of (a)  $\text{Gd}_{28}$ , (b)  $\text{Eu}_{28}$  under optical microscope.

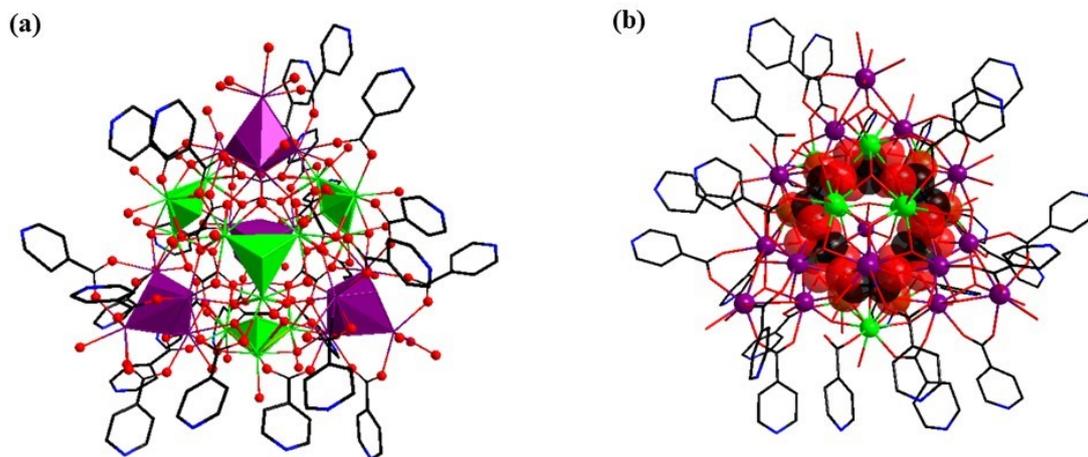
## Structure



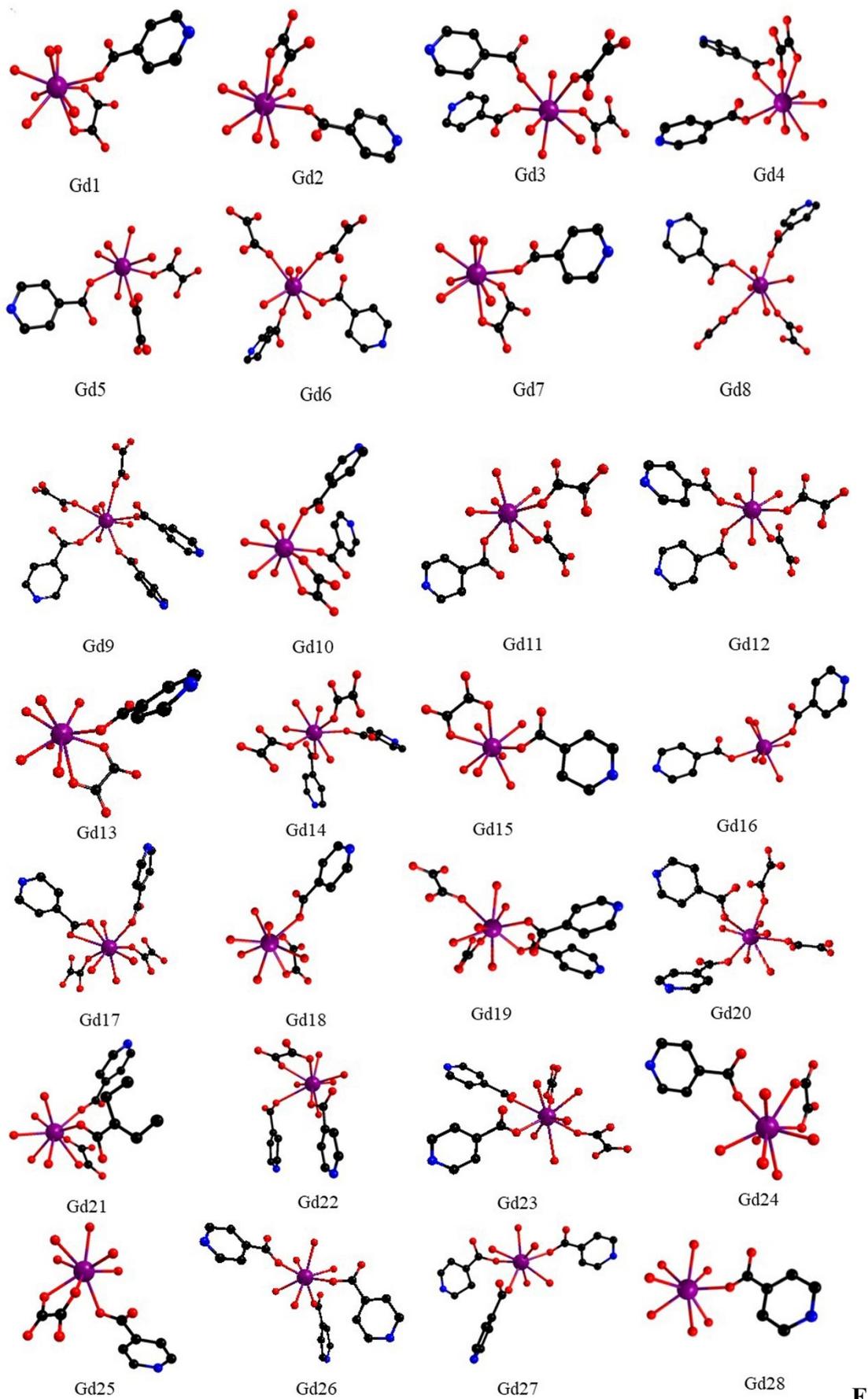
**Fig. S2** Ball-and-stick view of (a)  $[\text{Gd}_3(\mu_3\text{-OH})_2]^{7+}$  unit; (b)  $\text{C}_2\text{O}_4^{2-}$  anion; (c)  $[\text{Gd}_4(\mu_3\text{-OH})_4]^{8+}$  unit; (d)  $[\text{Gd}_{12}(\mu_3\text{-OH})_8(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_6]^{16+}$  subunit; (e)  $[\text{Gd}_{16}(\mu_3\text{-OH})_{16}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_6]^{20+}$  subunit; (f)  $[\text{Gd}_{28}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_4)_6(\mu_3\text{-OH})_{36}(\mu_2\text{-OH})_2]^{34+}$ .



**Fig. S3** The metal skeleton of  $\text{Gd}_{28}$ .



**Fig. S4** Representation of **Gd<sub>28</sub>** based on (a) **Gd<sub>3</sub>** and **Gd<sub>4</sub>** unit (b) **C<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>** anionic templates.



**F**

ig. S5 Coordination environments of 28 different Gd<sup>III</sup> ions.

**Table S1.** The CShM (Continuous Shape Measures) values of eight-coordination of Gd<sup>III</sup> ions in Gd<sub>28</sub>.

	Octagon	Heptagonal pyramid	Hexagonal bipyramid	Cube	Square antiprism	Triangular dodecahedron	Johnson- Gyrobifastigium J26	Johnson- Elongated triangular bipyramid J14	Johnson- Biaugmented trigonal prism J50	Biaugmented trigonal prism	Snub diphenoid J84	Triakis tetrahedron	Elongated trigonal bipyramid
Gd16	31.57244	23.29306	16.96220	10.17181	2.45775	<b>0.31430</b>	13.56307	29.40452	2.82168	2.18982	2.49707	11.00914	25.32895
Gd8	58.09215	51.99503	46.87071	45.98718	49.82011	48.36206	47.60483	<b>43.10357</b>	45.00656	46.39710	48.22951	46.33355	47.12274
Gd12	28.99820	23.67745	16.13101	10.46344	2.14151	<b>0.80577</b>	14.23738	28.22626	2.62350	1.80749	3.22529	11.25575	23.15551
Gd3	30.70519	23.31967	14.41076	9.57658	2.70619	<b>0.83199</b>	13.80598	28.11689	2.72063	1.93110	3.45059	10.33901	22.96524
Gd14	44.78659	38.57630	43.27928	43.26096	43.54551	43.14939	38.00744	<b>33.10107</b>	38.15059	38.84904	35.47430	39.42785	40.07003
Gd6	28.76705	24.16349	16.28630	9.85993	1.92066	<b>0.64540</b>	14.86619	28.79118	3.04664	2.11437	3.47886	10.46608	23.58522
Gd26	30.23454	24.08236	16.88696	9.88705	2.18320	<b>0.40640</b>	12.79257	29.24734	2.24312	1.81316	2.10115	10.41697	24.58076
Gd27	29.55541	23.61301	15.88942	10.15675	1.91876	<b>1.04234</b>	13.37332	27.23162	1.60927	1.19297	2.81509	10.74322	22.91530
Gd28	22.69508	23.43771	16.80728	11.34599	<b>1.11197</b>	3.14065	14.44132	25.21684	2.93171	2.48548	5.11699	12.05596	20.67076
Gd11	31.37728	22.82900	15.49588	9.77657	3.18784	<b>0.74079</b>	14.99344	28.79753	3.10827	1.98741	3.95448	10.22424	23.71704
Gd5	27.85828	23.95382	15.83208	9.41022	1.73981	<b>0.94513</b>	15.27388	28.08186	2.87018	1.81651	4.02845	9.96920	22.42156
Gd22	30.96602	22.64395	13.98008	11.60034	4.85064	3.66092	9.58619	24.59086	2.85437	<b>1.84665</b>	5.21051	12.40456	19.29079
Gd25	30.19222	23.35258	17.05882	13.34342	3.60991	2.32018	12.88298	25.75615	1.75428	<b>1.00856</b>	3.16702	13.47305	21.45386

**Table S2.** The CShM (Continuous Shape Measures) values of nine-coordination of Gd<sup>III</sup> ions in Gd<sub>28</sub>.

	Enneagon	Octagonal pyramid	Heptagonal bipyramid	Johnson triangular cupola J3	Capped cube J8	Spherical-relaxed capped cube	Capped square antiprism J10 J26	Spherical capped square antiprism J14	Tricapped trigonal prism J51 trigonal prism J50	Spherical tricapped trigonal prism	Tridiminished icosahedron J63	Hula-hoop T	Muffin
Gd23	36.67895	22.44078	19.19049	16.16553	9.69815	9.17781	1.36254	1.00447	1.78258	<b>0.99039</b>	12.83151	11.17741	1.30642
Gd20	36.06425	21.80207	18.99208	16.37753	9.12616	8.63518	1.40016	1.06496	2.37189	<b>0.85709</b>	12.19337	11.08981	1.60496
Gd9	37.03736	21.08640	17.69969	16.65952	10.21308	8.70924	2.57693	1.29014	3.16355	<b>0.62058</b>	11.90255	11.58504	1.55821
Gd4	35.94429	22.97067	17.11069	14.99922	7.84317	7.09962	1.72506	<b>1.27777</b>	2.95977	1.69789	10.92071	9.86830	1.78316
Gd19	36.67920	22.17129	17.42200	16.72087	8.69130	7.72734	2.30843	1.39112	2.80759	<b>0.99565</b>	13.26578	10.07724	1.41096
Gd21	43.02343	33.06960	31.79243	23.23462	25.04451	25.31343	<b>20.65182</b>	20.86608	20.96080	21.09692	26.97353	28.19029	21.35039
Gd13	63.28090	58.25949	56.63662	54.42950	49.61953	55.67917	<b>47.05175</b>	53.83618	48.30373	54.25396	54.55605	55.00210	53.06404
Gd24	33.82836	21.63958	16.69124	14.96467	8.84803	8.05750	1.70199	<b>1.06731</b>	3.08628	1.80431	12.69559	9.80164	1.50842
Gd10	36.17768	23.42041	17.23778	14.64841	7.58813	6.91348	1.38227	<b>0.97006</b>	3.32150	2.07949	10.70363	11.31211	1.70320
Gd7	33.55453	22.42499	18.09518	13.58033	9.77277	8.83270	1.76147	<b>0.91942</b>	1.77412	1.31445	12.61838	11.48950	1.43830
Gd15	34.84055	20.93221	17.16954	15.83306	10.65338	9.38573	2.11519	<b>1.21141</b>	3.34717	1.42565	11.05302	10.26849	1.26485
Gd18	35.39423	22.54196	19.69406	15.41679	11.25483	10.04386	1.65672	<b>0.70204</b>	3.11966	1.83977	11.70083	10.76745	1.34002
Gd2	34.73584	22.06043	17.43797	13.90846	10.02244	9.09152	1.82951	<b>1.14580</b>	1.97125	1.18065	12.01613	12.22453	1.50683
Gd1	34.34913	21.82234	17.31980	13.61914	9.42099	8.52795	1.52918	<b>0.89866</b>	1.93312	1.31582	11.98333	11.92160	1.50423
Gd17	34.25488	21.19019	16.73164	15.88556	8.48350	7.75421	2.97965	2.55570	3.43371	<b>2.14413</b>	12.77926	8.73959	2.30066

## PXRD pattern

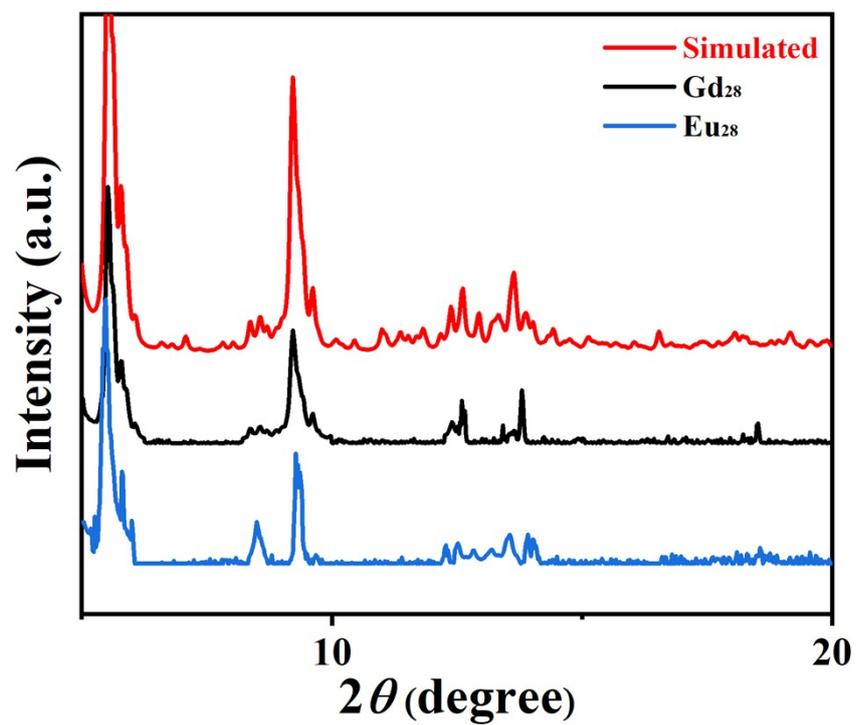


Fig. S6 The PXRD pattern of **Gd<sub>28</sub>** and **Eu<sub>28</sub>** at  $2\theta = 5\text{-}20^\circ$ .

## IR spectrum

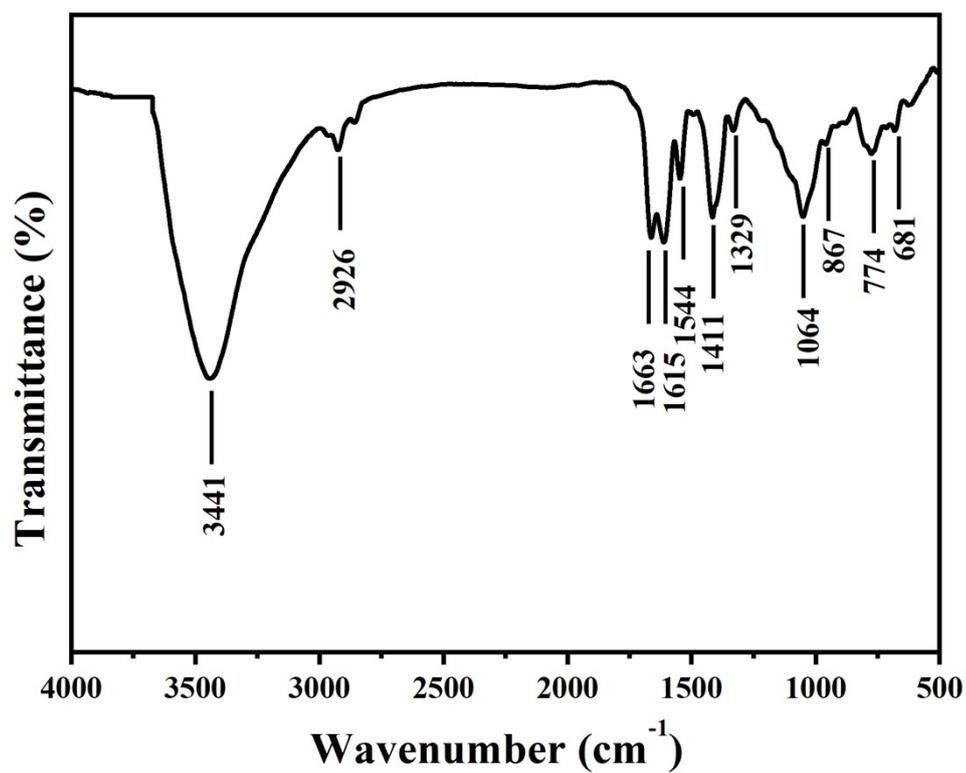


Fig. S7 The IR spectrum of Gd<sub>28</sub>.

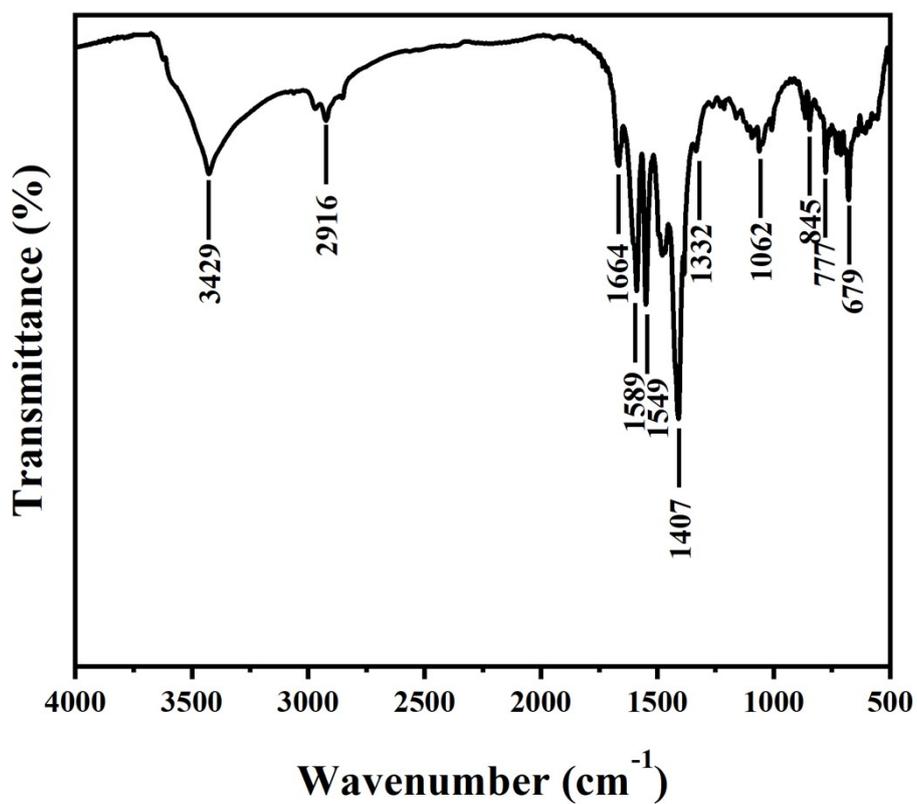


Fig. S8 The IR spectrum of Eu<sub>28</sub>.

As presented in Fig. S7-8, the IR spectra patterns of **Gd**<sub>28</sub> and **Eu**<sub>28</sub> at 4000-400 cm<sup>-1</sup> are almost the same. So only the infrared spectrum of **Gd**<sub>28</sub> is discussed in detail. The broad and strong absorption peak in the field of 3441 cm<sup>-1</sup> ascribes to the -OH of H<sub>2</sub>O molecules and the characteristic peak at 2926 cm<sup>-1</sup> belongs to the signature of  $\nu(\text{C-H})$ , while the stretching vibration peak at 1663 cm<sup>-1</sup> reveal the presence of the pyridine ring. In addition, the characteristic peaks of symmetric and antisymmetric stretching vibration on -COO<sup>-</sup> groups appear at 1411 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 1544 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The peak at 867-681 cm<sup>-1</sup> corresponds to the characteristic peak of the  $\nu(\text{Gd-O})$ . The mentioned infrared peaks above are consistent with those of lanthanide clusters previously reported in the literature.

TG

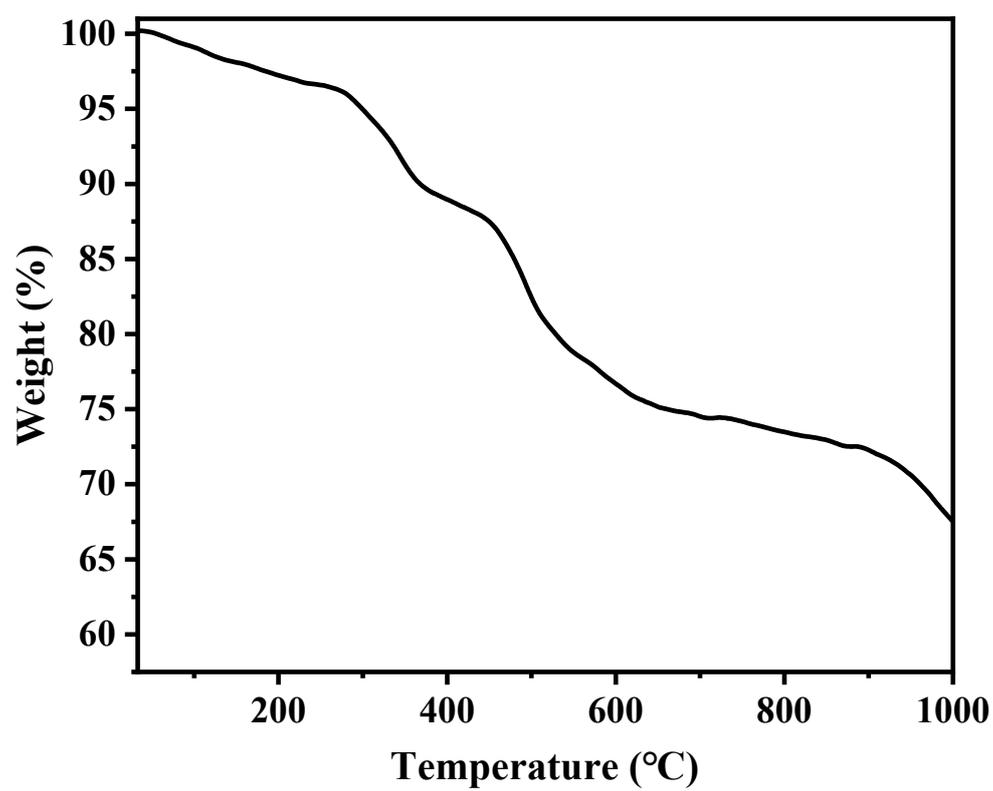


Fig. S9 TGA curve of Gd<sub>28</sub>.

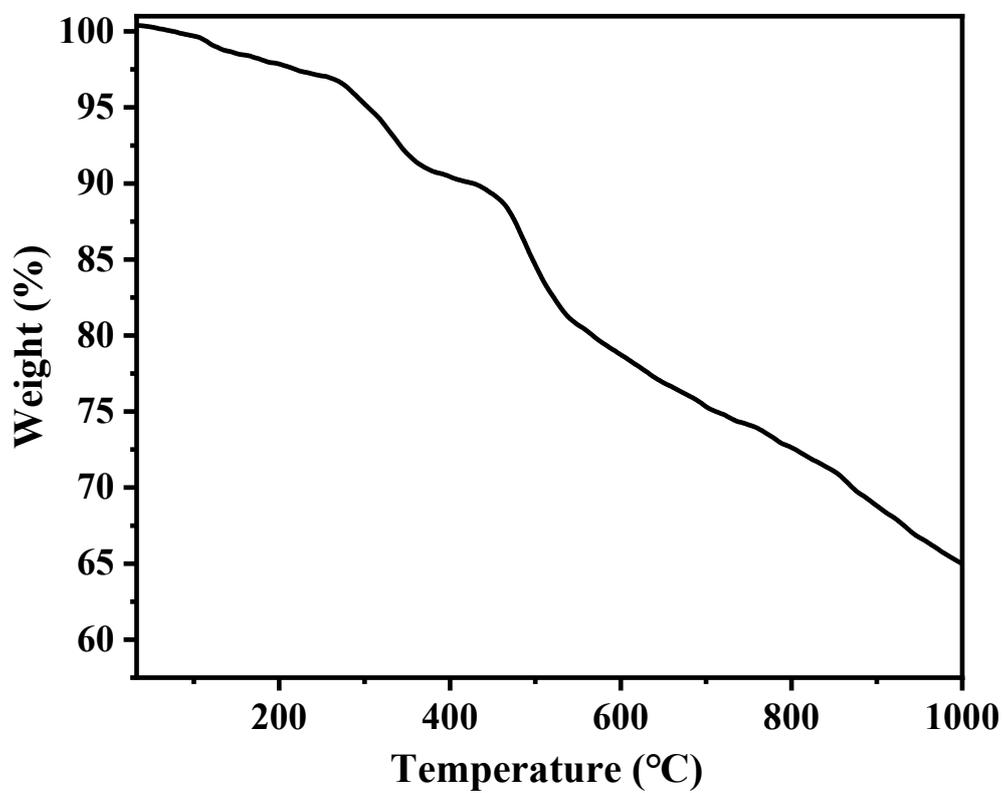
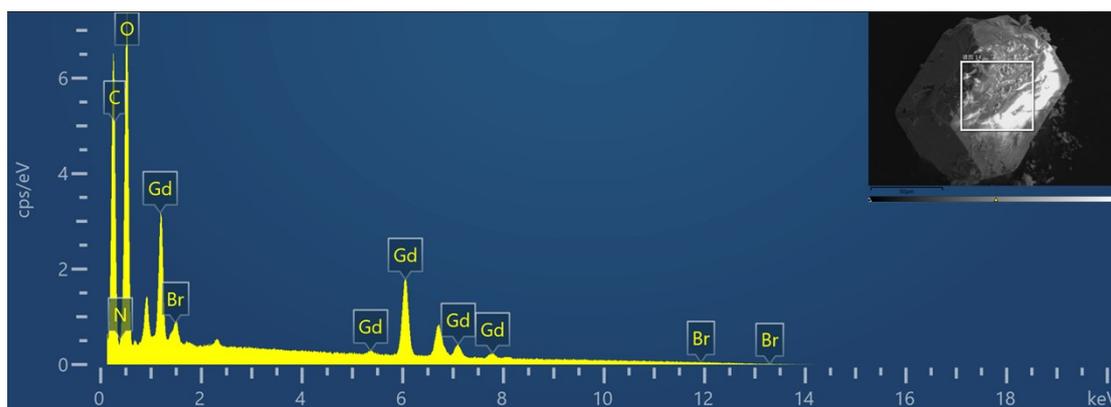
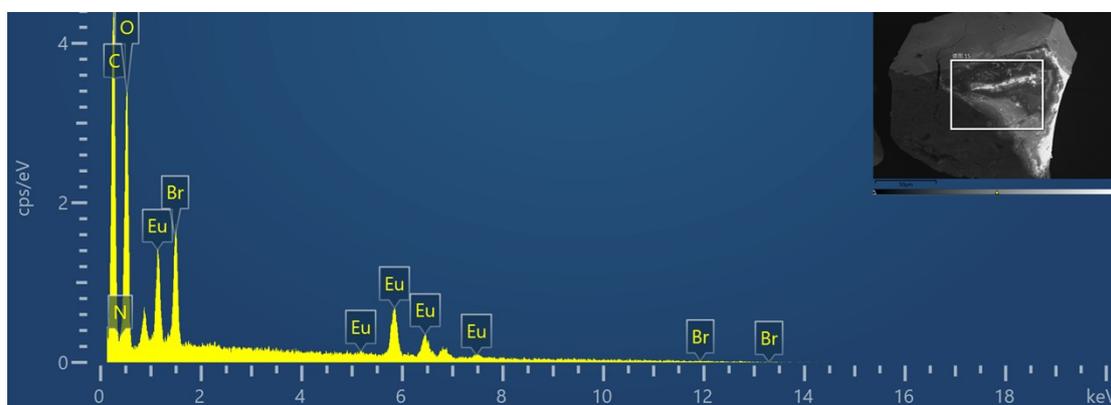


Fig. S10 TGA curve of Eu<sub>28</sub>.

## EDS

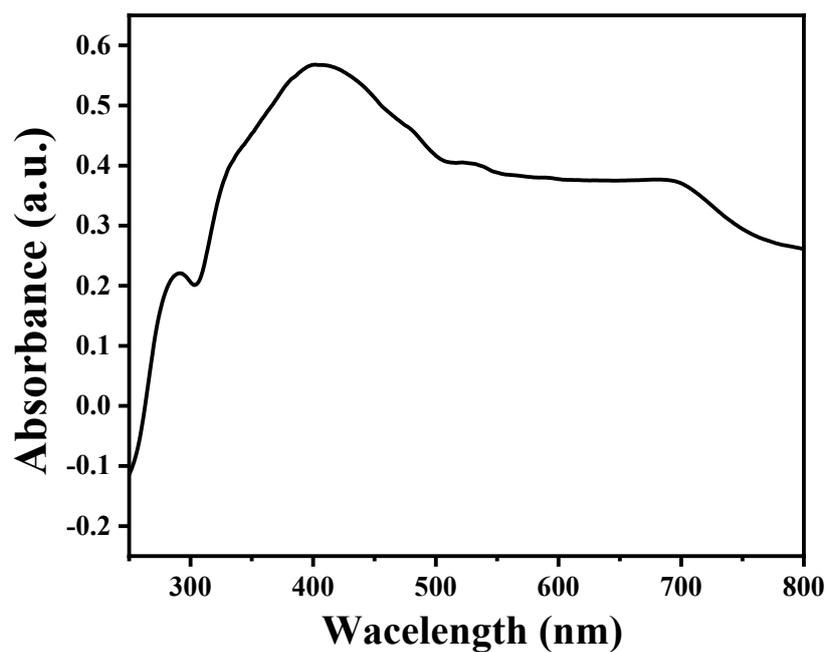


**Fig. S11** The EDS measurement of compound  $Gd_{28}$ .

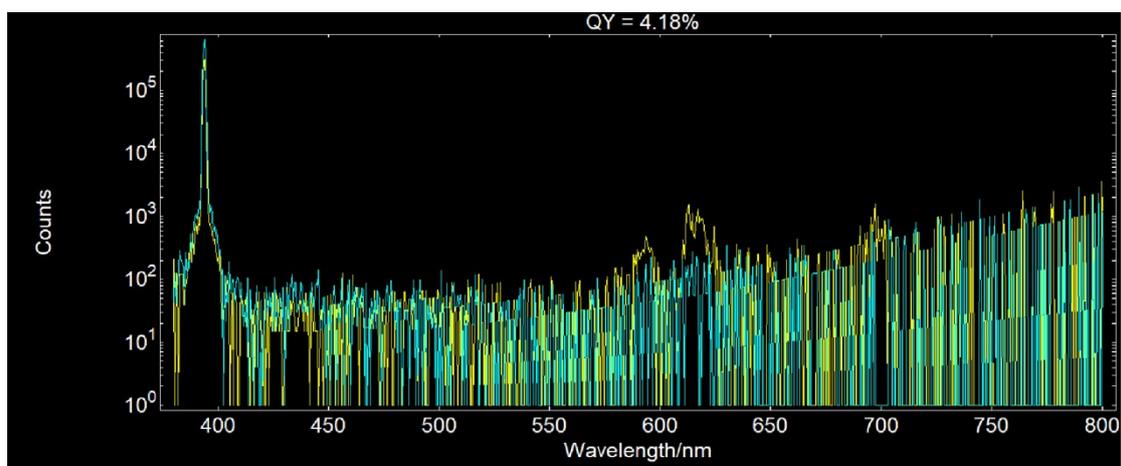


**Fig. S12** The EDS measurement of compound  $Eu_{28}$ .

## Luminescence of $\text{Eu}_{28}$



**Fig. S13** The solid-state UV-absorption spectra in the wavelength range 250-800 nm for  $\text{Eu}_{28}$ .



**Fig. S14** The solid-state photoluminescence quantum yield for  $\text{Eu}_{28}$ .

## Magnetic property of Gd<sub>28</sub>

**Table S3** Summary  $-\Delta S_m$  for some reported 4f and 3d-4f clusters

Compound	$-\Delta S_m^{\max}$ (J kg <sup>-1</sup> K <sup>-1</sup> )	$T$ (K)	$\Delta H$ (T)	Ref.
<b>{Gd<sub>28</sub>}</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>This work</b>
{Gd <sub>27</sub> }	41.8	2.0	7.0	1
{Gd <sub>32</sub> }	43.0	2.0	7.0	2
{Gd <sub>36</sub> }	39.7	2.5	7.0	3
{Gd <sub>37</sub> }	38.7	2.0	7.0	4
{Gd <sub>38</sub> }	37.9	1.8	7.0	5
{Gd <sub>60</sub> }	48.0	2.0	7.0	6
{Gd <sub>104</sub> }	46.9	2.0	7.0	7
{Gd <sub>140</sub> }	38.0	2.0	7.0	8
{Gd <sub>23</sub> Ni <sub>20</sub> }	38.1	2.0	7.0	9
{Gd <sub>36</sub> Ni <sub>12</sub> }	36.3	3.0	7.0	10
{Co <sup>II</sup> <sub>9</sub> Co <sup>III</sup> Gd <sub>42</sub> }	41.26	2.0	7.0	11
{Co <sup>II</sup> Co <sup>III</sup> <sub>6</sub> Gd <sub>18</sub> }	36.90	2.0	7.0	12

**Table S4** Summary of the reported lanthanide clusters with isonicotinic ligand

Compound	Formula	Dimensionality	Ref.
Ln	[Ln(IN)(CO <sub>3</sub> )(H <sub>2</sub> O)] (Ln = La, Eu)	2D	13
Ln	[Ln(IN) <sub>2</sub> L] (Ln = Eu, Tb, Er, Dy, Ho, Gd, La, L = OCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH)	1D	14
Ln	<sub>L-/D-</sub> {Ln[IN][HIN][CH <sub>2</sub> OCH <sub>2</sub> O]} <sub>n</sub> (Ln = Gd, Dy)	1D	15
Ln <sub>3</sub>	[Ln <sub>3</sub> (IN) <sub>2</sub> (bdc) <sub>3.5</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> ]·0.5H <sub>2</sub> O (Ln = Er, Ho)	3D	16
Ln <sub>3</sub>	[Ln <sub>3</sub> (IN) <sub>3</sub> (μ <sub>3</sub> -OH)(HIDA)(IDA) <sub>2</sub> ] <sub>n</sub> (Ln = Eu, Sm)	2D	17
Ln <sub>4</sub>	{[Nd <sub>4</sub> (ox) <sub>4</sub> (NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> (OH) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> ]·5H <sub>2</sub> O} <sub>n</sub>	3D	18
Ln <sub>8</sub>	[Ln <sub>8</sub> (IN) <sub>14</sub> (μ <sub>3</sub> -OH) <sub>8</sub> (μ <sub>2</sub> -OH) <sub>2</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>8</sub> ]·xH <sub>2</sub> O (Ln = 1-Gd, Ln = 2-Dy, Ln = 3-Eu).	0D	19
Ln <sub>18</sub>	{[Gd <sub>18</sub> (IN) <sub>20</sub> (HCOO) <sub>8</sub> (μ <sub>6</sub> -O)(μ <sub>3</sub> -OH) <sub>24</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub> ]·4H <sub>2</sub> O} <sub>n</sub> {[Eu <sub>18</sub> (IN) <sub>16</sub> (HCOO) <sub>8</sub> (CH <sub>3</sub> COO) <sub>4</sub> (μ <sub>6</sub> -O)(μ <sub>3</sub> -OH) <sub>24</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>4</sub> ]·5H <sub>2</sub> O} <sub>n</sub>	3D	20
Ln <sub>26</sub>	[Ho <sub>26</sub> (IN) <sub>28</sub> (CH <sub>3</sub> COO) <sub>4</sub> (CO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>10</sub> (OH) <sub>26</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>18</sub> ]·20H <sub>2</sub> O [Er <sub>26</sub> (IN) <sub>29</sub> (CH <sub>3</sub> COO) <sub>3</sub> (CO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>10</sub> (OH) <sub>26</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>19</sub> ]·26H <sub>2</sub> O	0D	21
Ho <sub>48</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> [Ho <sub>48</sub> (IN) <sub>46</sub> (μ <sub>3</sub> -OH) <sub>84</sub> (μ <sub>4</sub> -OH) <sub>4</sub> (μ <sub>5</sub> -O) <sub>2</sub> (OAc) <sub>4</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>14</sub> (CO <sub>3</sub> )Br <sub>2</sub> ]·2HIN·20H <sub>2</sub> O	2D	22
Dy <sub>30</sub>	Dy <sub>30</sub> I(IN) <sub>41</sub> (μ <sub>3</sub> -OH) <sub>24</sub> (μ <sub>3</sub> -O) <sub>6</sub> (NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>9</sub> (OH) <sub>3</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>38</sub>	0D	23
Dy <sub>104</sub>	Dy <sub>104</sub> I <sub>4</sub> (IN) <sub>125</sub> (μ <sub>3</sub> -OH) <sub>80</sub> (μ <sub>3</sub> -O) <sub>24</sub> (NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>36</sub> (OH) <sub>19</sub> ·(H <sub>2</sub> O) <sub>167</sub>		

**Table S5** Selected bond lengths (Å) and bond angles (°) of main metal atoms for **Gd<sub>28</sub>**.

Gd(1)-O(39)	2.345(9)	Gd(15)-O(13)	2.377(9)
Gd(1)-O(27)	2.599(10)	Gd(15)-O(28)	2.376(10)
Gd(2)-O(91)	2.388(10)	Gd(16)-O(44)	2.384(9)
Gd(2)-O(3)	2.393(10)	Gd(16)-O(94)	2.392(11)
Gd(3)-O(4)	2.339(9)	Gd(17)-O(54)	2.366(10)
Gd(3)-O(16)	2.351(9)	Gd(17)-O(77)	2.767(17)
Gd(4)-O(6)	2.374(9)	Gd(18)-O(62)	2.375(9)
Gd(4)-O(32)	2.402(10)	Gd(18)-O(19)	2.580(10)
Gd(5)-O(46)	2.345(9)	Gd(19)-O(67)	2.352(10)
Gd(5)-O(16)	2.353(9)	Gd(19)-O(5W)	2.628(12)
Gd(6)-O(50)	2.333(10)	Gd(20)-O(6)	2.345(9)
Gd(6)-O(8)	2.357(9)	Gd(20)-O(87)	2.353(11)
Gd(7)-O(10W)	2.360(16)	Gd(21)-O(93)	2.362(13)
Gd(7)-O(63)	2.370(11)	Gd(21)-O(37)	2.371(9)
Gd(8)-O(33)	2.321(9)	Gd(22)-O(77)	2.905(19)
Gd(8)-O(10)	2.330(9)	Gd(22)-O(13)	2.341(10)
Gd(9)-O(45)	2.403(9)	Gd(23)-O(65)	2.354(10)
Gd(9)-O(31)	2.410(9)	Gd(23)-O(11)	2.354(10)
Gd(10)-O(5)	2.379(9)	Gd(24)-O(111)	2.317(12)
Gd(10)-O(107)	2.384(13)	Gd(24)-O(37)	2.395(10)
Gd(11)-O(46)	2.346(9)	Gd(25)-O(65)	2.312(11)
Gd(11)-O(25W)	2.367(11)	Gd(25)-O(67)	2.357(11)
Gd(12)-O(31)	2.342(10)	Gd(26)-O(75)	2.331(11)
Gd(12)-O(99)	2.367(11)	Gd(26)-O(104)	2.334(12)
Gd(13)-O(6)	2.362(9)	Gd(27)-O(103)	2.322(15)
Gd(13)-O(45)	2.363(9)	Gd(27)-O(112)	2.331(15)
Gd(14)-O(102)	2.330(13)	Gd(28)-O(95)	2.317(18)
Gd(14)-O(8)	2.357(9)	Gd(28)-O(46)	2.385(9)
O(39)-Gd(1)-O(79)	87.0(4)	O(13)-Gd(15)-O(28)	139.9(3)
O(39)-Gd(1)-O(3)	140.5(3)	O(13)-Gd(15)-O(109)	75.3(4)
O(91)-Gd(2)-O(3)	84.2(4)	O(94)-Gd(16)-O(83)	144.6(4)
O(91)-Gd(2)-O(12)	141.7(4)	O(11)-Gd(16)-O(83)	97.6(4)
O(4)-Gd(3)-O(16)	74.2(3)	O(73)-Gd(17)-O(43)	121.2(4)
O(4)-Gd(3)-O(5)	143.8(3)	O(13)-Gd(17)-O(43)	141.7(3)
O(6)-Gd(4)-O(32)	90.3(3)	O(62)-Gd(18)-O(11W)	69.9(4)
O(6)-Gd(4)-O(5)	139.4(3)	O(62)-Gd(18)-O(72)	128.7(5)
O(46)-Gd(5)-O(16)	71.1(3)	O(67)-Gd(19)-O(49)	125.4(3)
O(46)-Gd(5)-O(39)	143.6(3)	O(71)-Gd(19)-O(49)	145.9(4)
O(50)-Gd(6)-O(8)	72.0(3)	O(6)-Gd(20)-O(87)	87.2(4)
O(50)-Gd(6)-O(85)	68.8(4)	O(6)-Gd(20)-O(54)	130.2(3)
O(63)-Gd(7)-O(35)	144.7(4)	O(37)-Gd(21)-O(67)	137.1(3)
O(1)-Gd(7)-O(35)	77.2(3)	O(66)-Gd(21)-O(67)	70.0(4)

O(33)-Gd(8)-O(10)	73.3(3)	O(97)-Gd(22)-O(40)	82.9(5)
O(33)-Gd(8)-O(1)	145.0(3)	O(13)-Gd(22)-O(40)	140.9(3)
O(45)-Gd(9)-O(31)	145.2(3)	O(11)-Gd(23)-O(43)	74.0(3)
O(45)-Gd(9)-O(33)	144.4(3)	O(65)-Gd(23)-O(92)	84.9(4)
O(5)-Gd(10)-O(29W)	75.0(3)	O(111)-Gd(24)-O(37)	82.0(4)
O(107)-Gd(10)-O(29W)	77.8(4)	O(111)-Gd(24)-O(65)	134.5(4)
O(25W)-Gd(11)-O(4)	123.0(3)	O(65)-Gd(25)-O(67)	141.5(4)
O(28)-Gd(11)-O(4)	139.1(3)	O(65)-Gd(25)-O(81)	95.1(4)
O(31)-Gd(12)-O(99)	95.2(4)	O(75)-Gd(26)-O(104)	143.5(4)
O(31)-Gd(12)-O(37)	143.5(3)	O(75)-Gd(26)-O(31)	91.4(4)
O(6)-Gd(13)-O(59)	128.9(3)	O(50)-Gd(27)-O(8)	68.7(3)
O(45)-Gd(13)-O(59)	67.6(3)	O(114)-Gd(27)-O(8)	141.7(4)
O(102)-Gd(14)-O(49)	144.9(4)	O(46)-Gd(28)-O(16)	68.8(3)
O(8)-Gd(14)-O(49)	68.9(3)	O(8W)-Gd(28)-O(16)	140.8(8)

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