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**Synthesis, Structure and Optical Properties of Rare-Earth
Benzene Carboxylates**

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ELECTRONIC SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

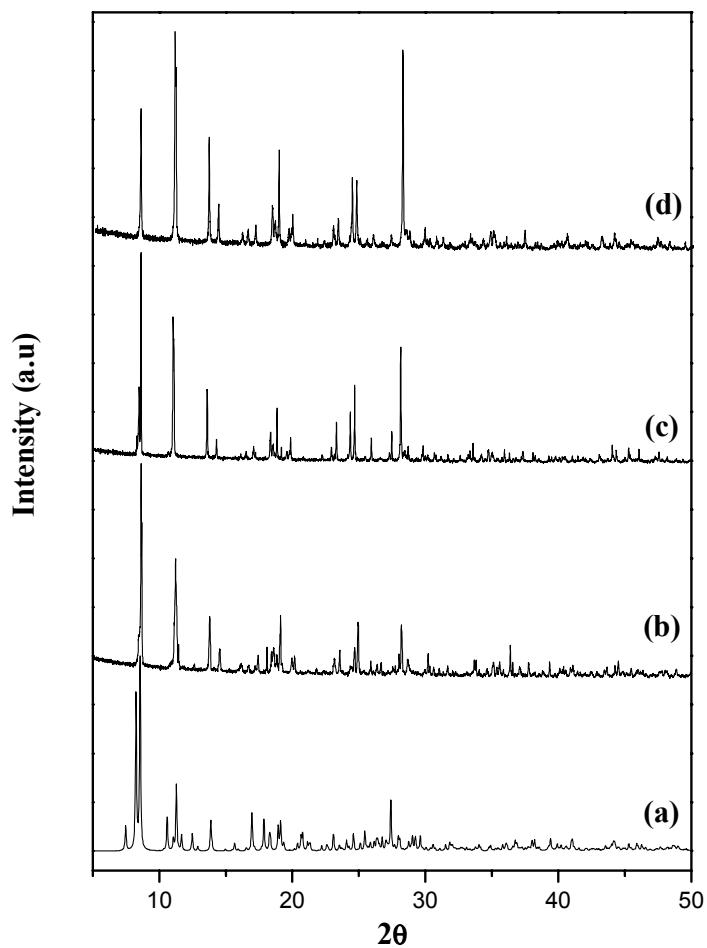


Fig. S1. Powder X-ray diffraction pattern (Cu K α) for $[M_2(H_2O)][\{C_6H_4(COO)_2\}_2\{C_6H_4(COOH)(COO)\}_2].H_2O$: (a) simulated of **I** ($M = La$), (b) experimental of **I** ($M = La$), (c) experimental of **Ia** (Pr) and (d) experimental of **Ib** (Nd)

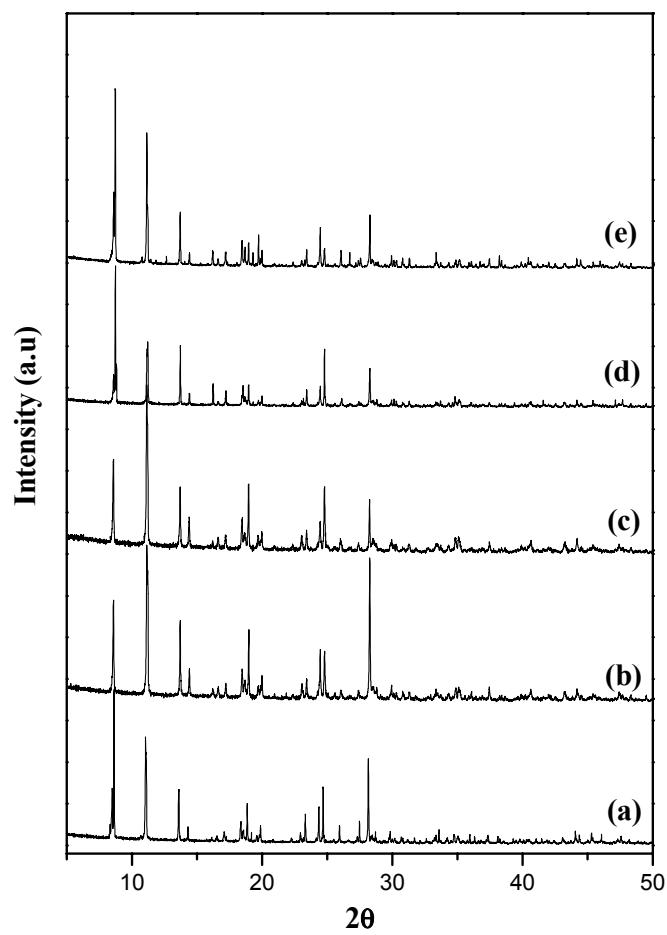


Fig. S2. Experimental Powder X-ray diffraction pattern (Cu K α) for $[M_2(H_2O)][\{C_6H_4(COO)_2\}_2\{C_6H_4(COOH)(COO)\}_2].H_2O$, (a) $M = La$ (**1**), (b) $M = La_{0.98}Eu_{0.02}$ (**1c**), (c) $M = La_{0.96}Eu_{0.04}$ (**1d**), (d) $M = La_{0.98}Tb_{0.02}$ (**1e**) and (e) $M = La_{0.96}Tb_{0.04}$ (**1f**)

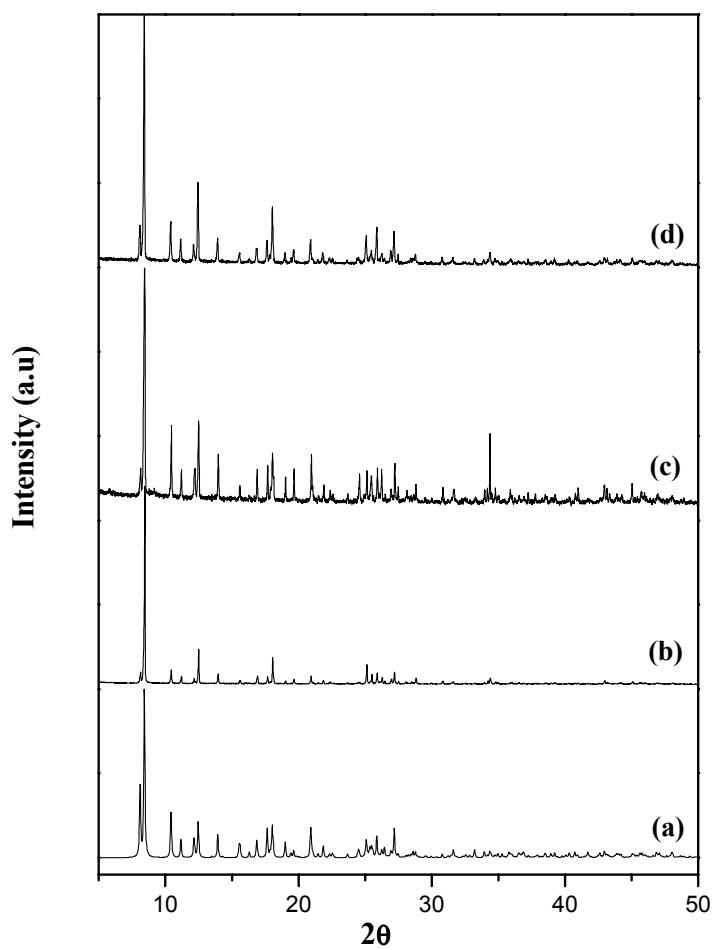


Fig. S3. Powder X-ray diffraction pattern ($\text{Cu K}\alpha$) for $[\text{M}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2][\{\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{COO})_2\}_3]\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$: (a) simulated of **II** ($\text{M} = \text{Y}$), (b) experimental of **II** ($\text{M} = \text{Y}$), (c) experimental of **IIa** (Gd) and (d) experimental of **IIb** (Dy)

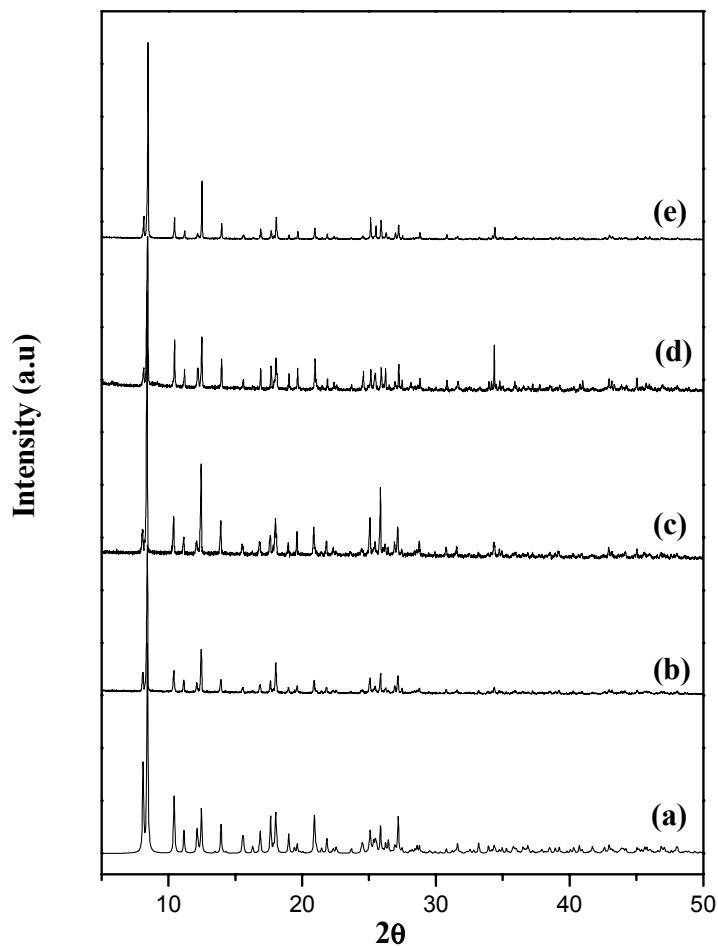


Fig. S4. Experimental Powder X-ray diffraction pattern (Cu K α) for $[M_2(H_2O)_2][\{C_6H_4(COO)_2\}_3].H_2O$, (a) M= Y (**1I**), (b) M = Y_{0.98}Eu_{0.02} (**1Ic**), (c) M = Y_{0.96}Eu_{0.04} (**1Id**), (d) M = Y_{0.98}Tb_{0.02} (**1Ie**) and (e) M = Y_{0.96}Tb_{0.04} (**1If**)

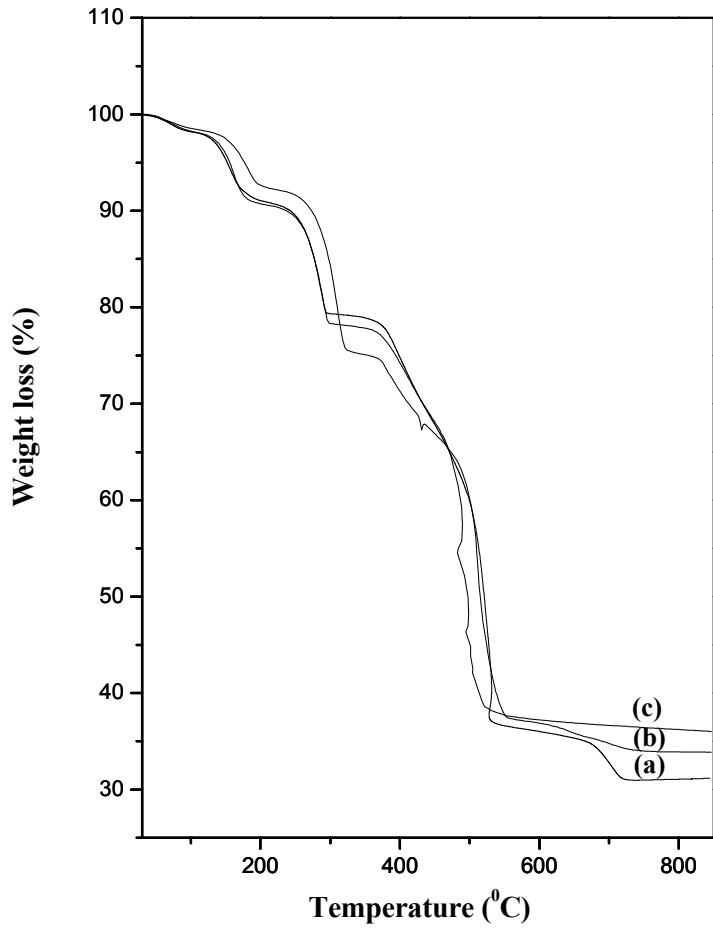


Fig. S5. TGA studies of $[M_2(H_2O)][\{C_6H_4(COO)_2\}_2\{C_6H_4(COOH)(COO)\}_2].H_2O$, (a) M = La (**I**), (b) M = Pr (**Ia**) and (c) M = Nd (**Ib**).

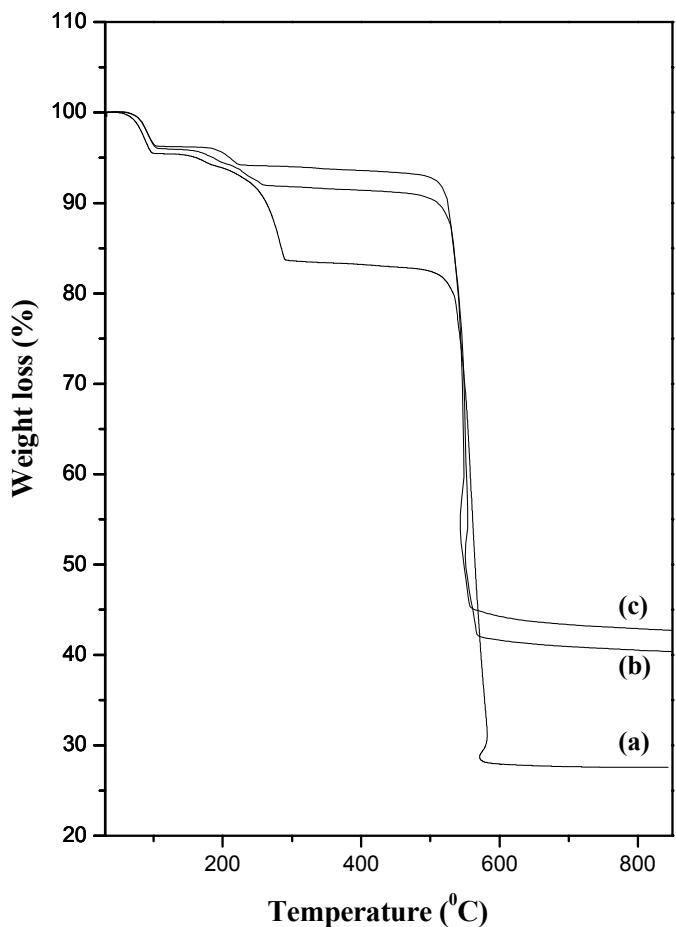


Fig. S6. TGA studies of $[\text{M}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2][\{\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{COO})_2\}_3]\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$, (a) $\text{M} = \text{Y}$ (**III**), (b) $\text{M} = \text{Gd}$ (**IIa**) and (c) $\text{M} = \text{Dy}$ (**IIb**).

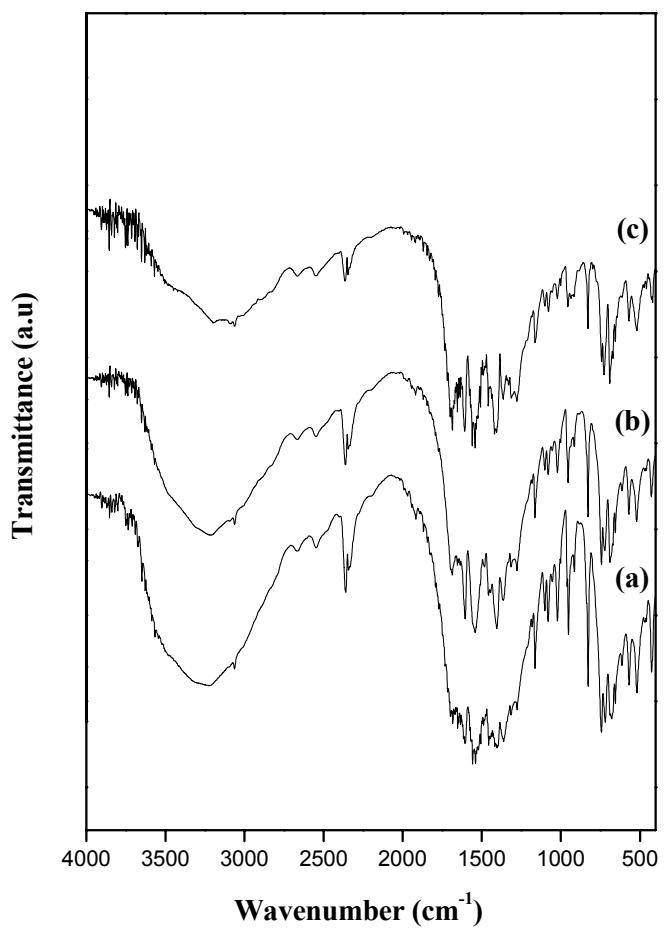


Fig. S7. IR spectra of $[\text{M}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})][\{\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{COO})_2\}_2\{\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{COOH})(\text{COO})\}_2]\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$, (a) $\text{M} = \text{La}$ (**I**), (b) $\text{M} = \text{Pr}$ (**Ia**) and (c) $\text{M} = \text{Nd}$ (**Ib**).

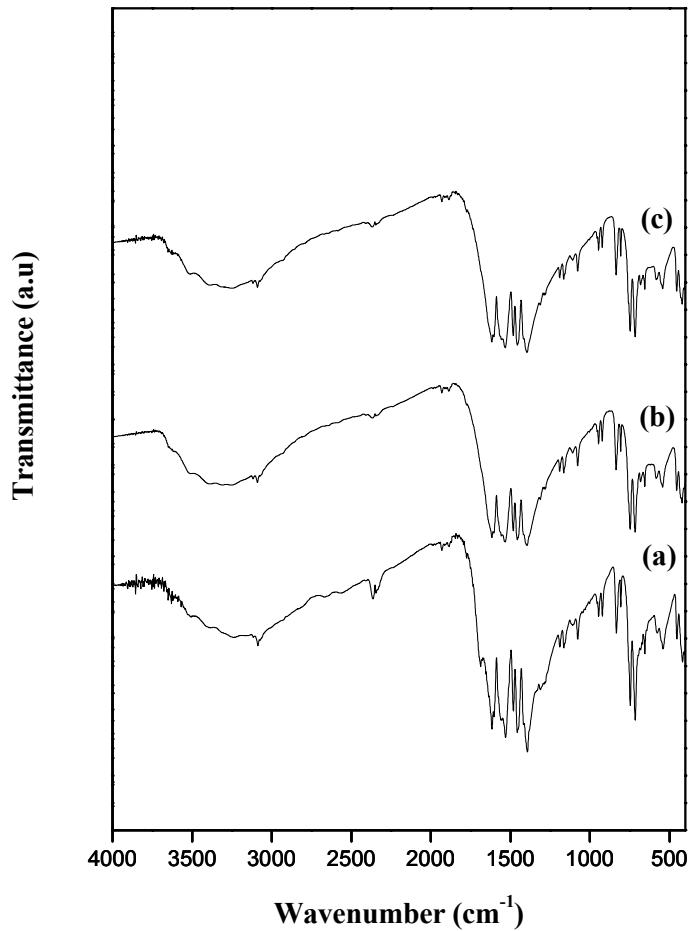


Fig. S8. IR spectra of $[M_2(H_2O)_2][\{C_6H_4(COO)_2\}_3].H_2O$, (a) $M = Y$ (**II**), (b) $M = Gd$ (**IIa**) and (c) $M = Dy$ (**IIb**).

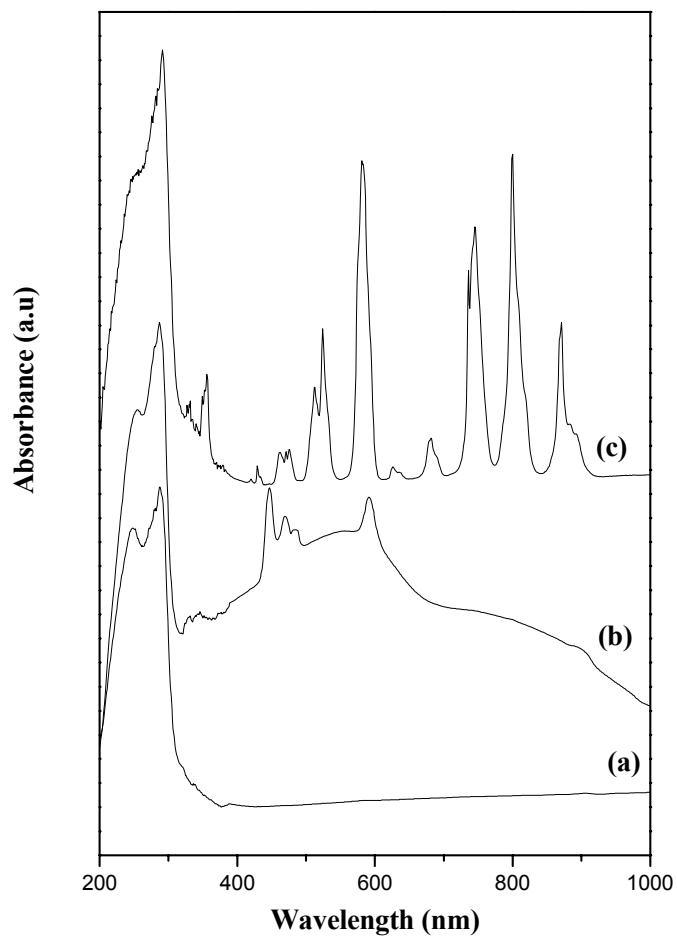


Fig. S9. UV-Vis spectra of $[M_2(H_2O)][\{C_6H_4(COO)_2\}_2\{C_6H_4(COOH)(COO)\}_2].H_2O$, (a) M = La (**I**), (b) M = Pr (**Ia**) and (c) M = Nd (**Ib**).

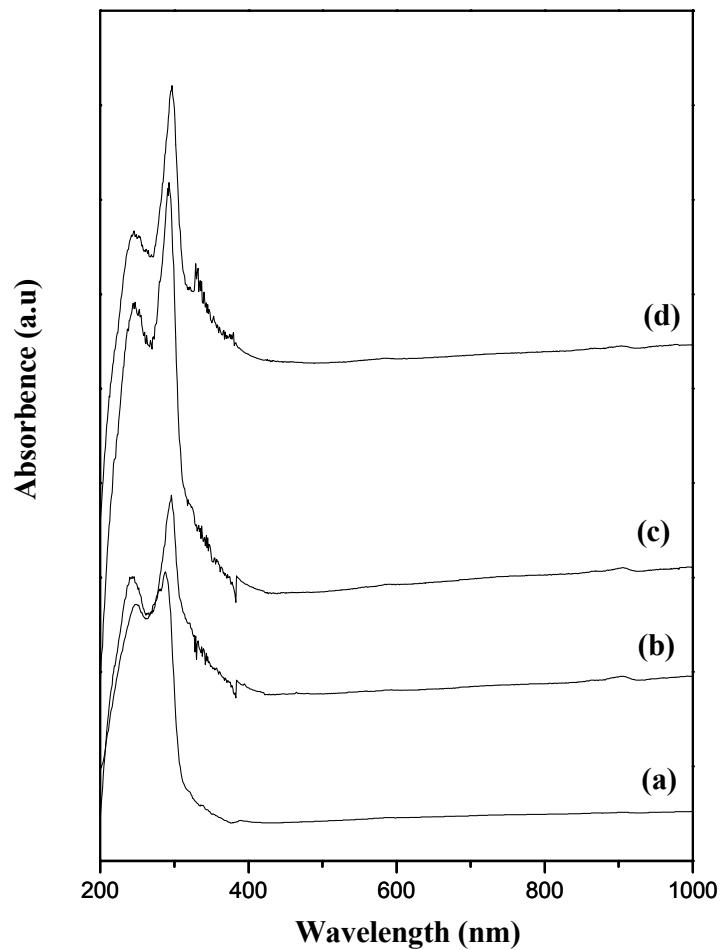


Fig. S10. UV-Vis spectra of $[M_2(H_2O)][\{C_6H_4(COO)_2\}_2\{C_6H_4(COOH)(COO)\}_2].H_2O$ (a) $M = La_{0.98}Eu_{0.02}$ (**1c**), (b) $M = La_{0.96}Eu_{0.04}$ (**1d**), (c) $M = La_{0.98}Tb_{0.02}$ (**1e**) and (d) $M = La_{0.96}Tb_{0.04}$ (**1f**)

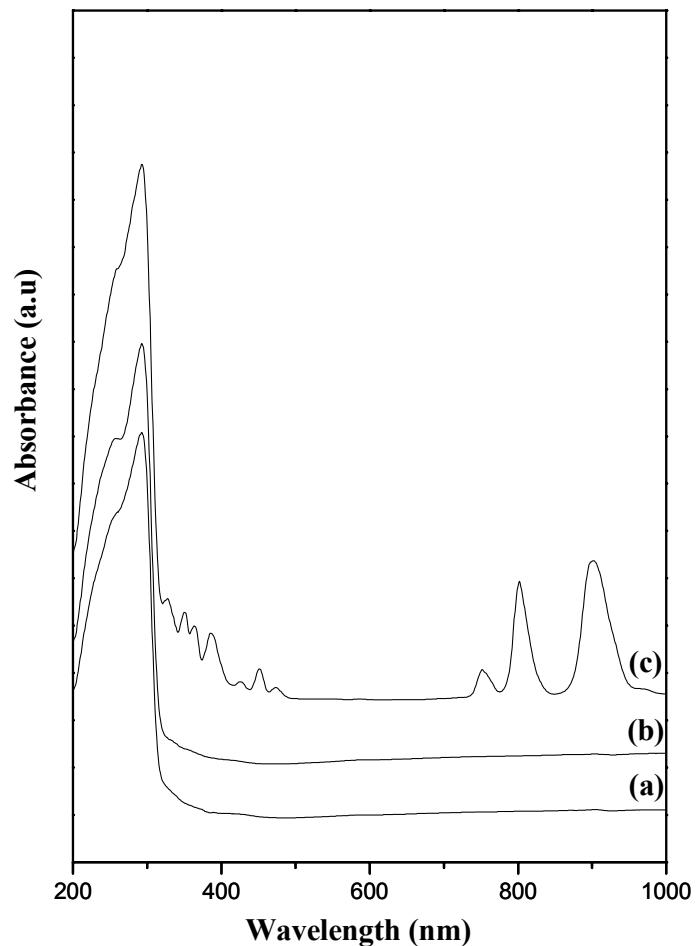


Fig. S11. UV-Vis spectra of $[M_2(H_2O)_2]\{C_6H_4(COO)_2\}_3 \cdot H_2O$, (a) $M = Y$ (**II**), (b) $M = Gd$ (**IIa**) and (c) $M = Dy$ (**IIb**).

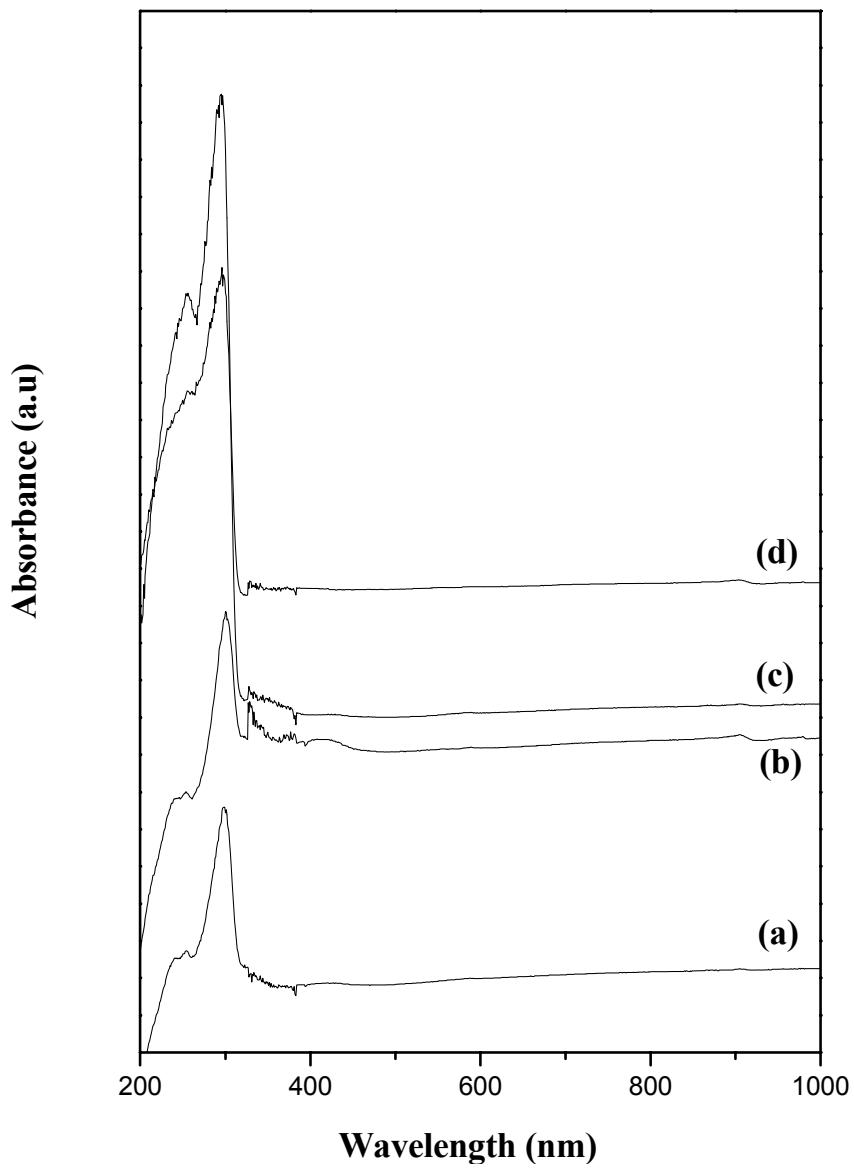


Fig. S12. UV-Vis spectra of $[M_2(H_2O)_2][\{C_6H_4(COO)_2\}_3].H_2O$, (a) $M = Y_{0.98}Eu_{0.02}$ (**1Ic**), (b) $M = Y_{0.96}Eu_{0.04}$ (**1Id**), (c) $M = Y_{0.98}Tb_{0.02}$ (**1Ie**) and (d) $M = Y_{0.96}Tb_{0.04}$ (**1If**)

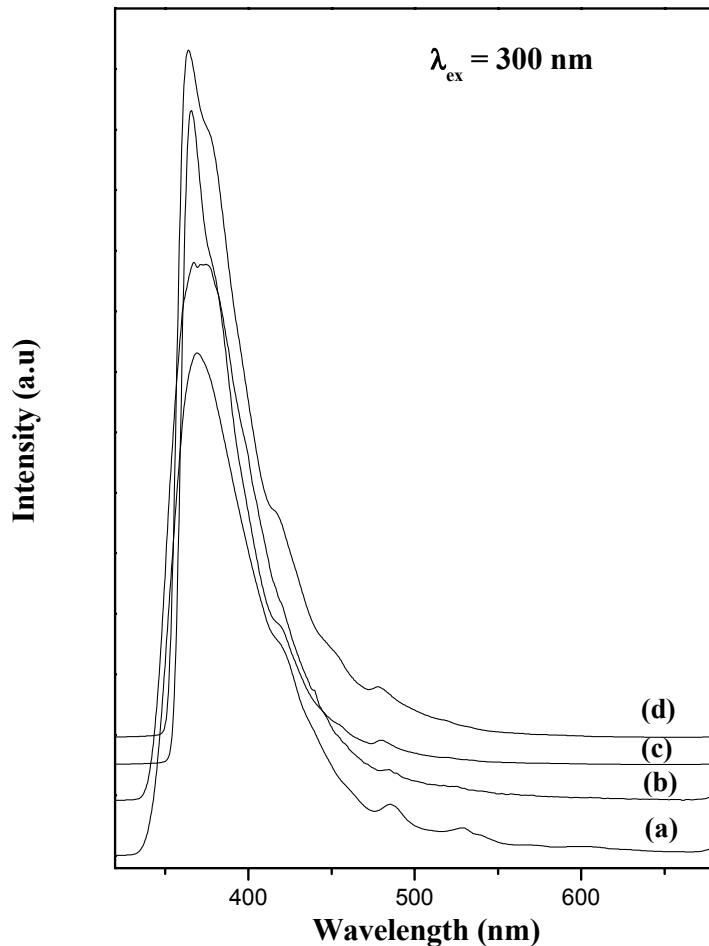


Fig. S13. Photoluminescence spectra of $[\text{M}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})][\{\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{COO})_2\}_2\{\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{COOH})(\text{COO})\}_2]\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$, (a) Sodium isophthalate, (b) $\text{M} = \text{La}$ (**I**), (c) $\text{M} = \text{Pr}$ (**Ia**) and (d) $\text{M} = \text{Nd}$ (**Ib**).

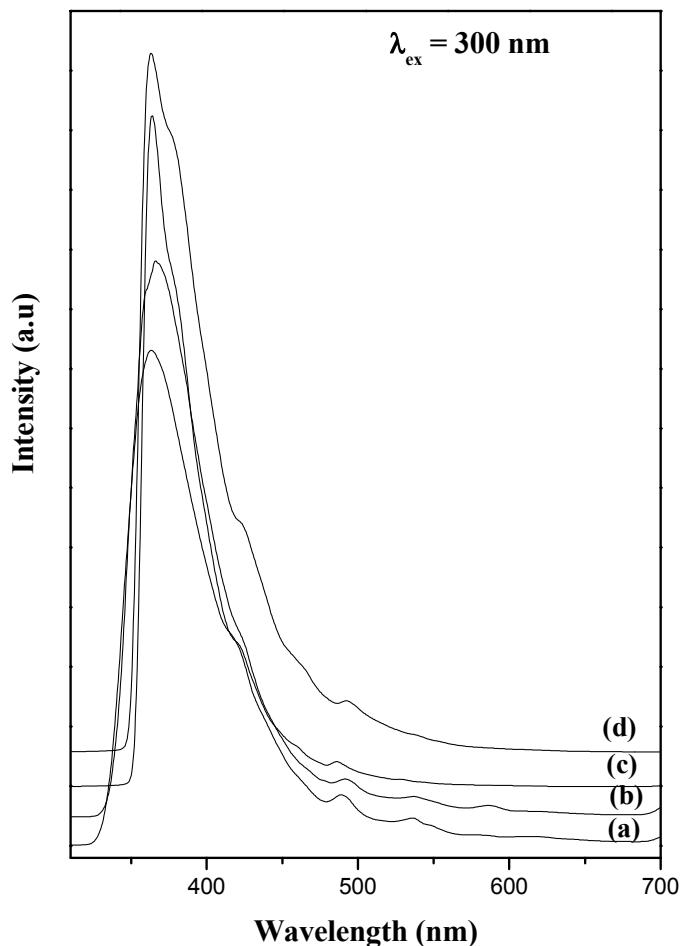


Fig. S14. Photoluminescence spectra of $[M_2(H_2O)_2][\{C_6H_4(COO)_2\}_3].H_2O$, (a) sodium isophthalate, (b) M = Y (**II**), (c) M = Gd (**IIa**) and (c) M= Dy (**IIb**).

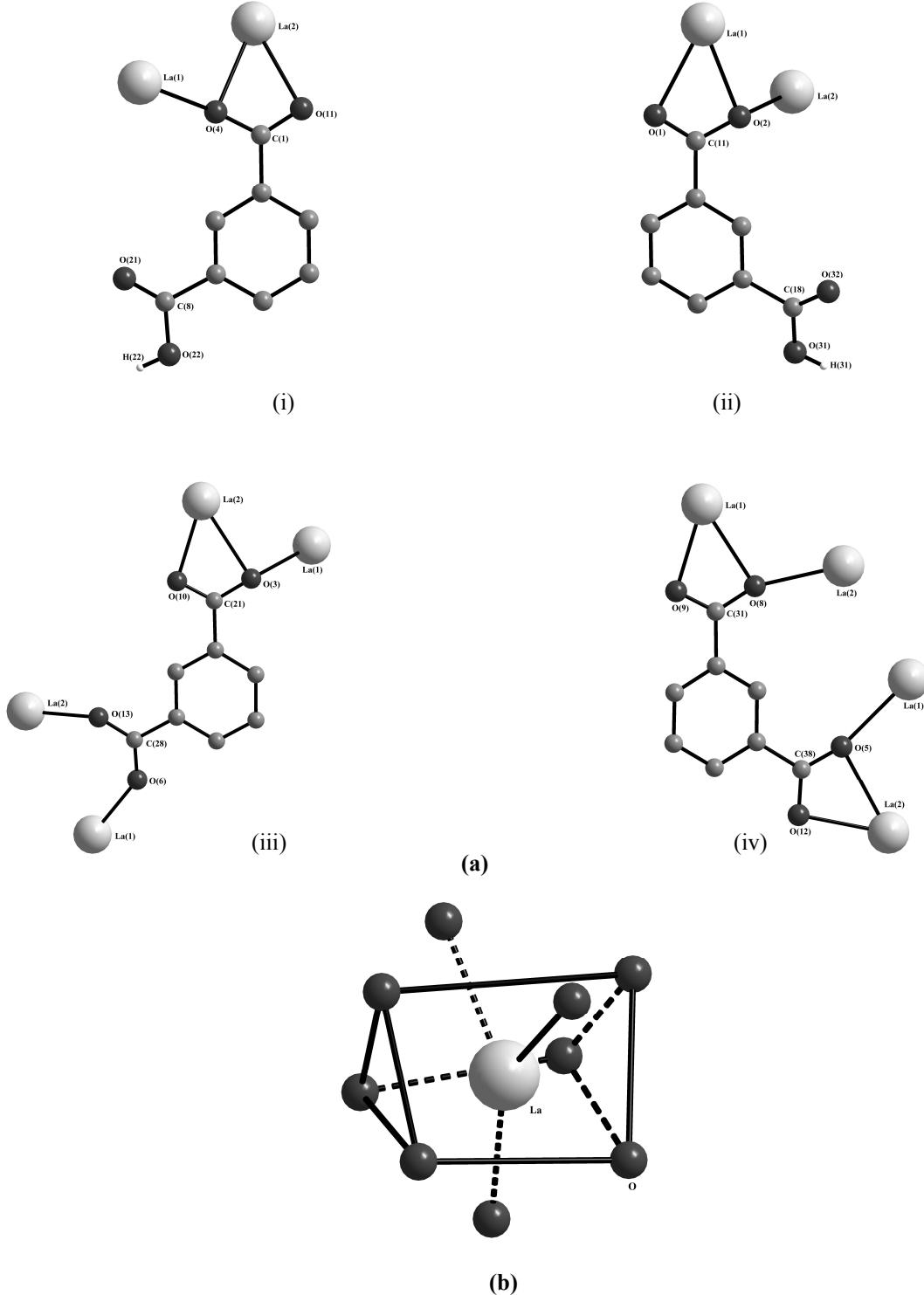


Fig. S15. (a) The various coordination modes of the isophthalate anions observed in $[\text{La}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})][\{\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{COO})_2\}_2\{\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{COOH})(\text{COO})\}_2]\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$, **I** (i) acid-1, (ii) acid-2, (iii) acid-3, and (iv) acid-4. (b) The tricapped trigonal prismatic geometry around the La^{3+} ions in **I**.

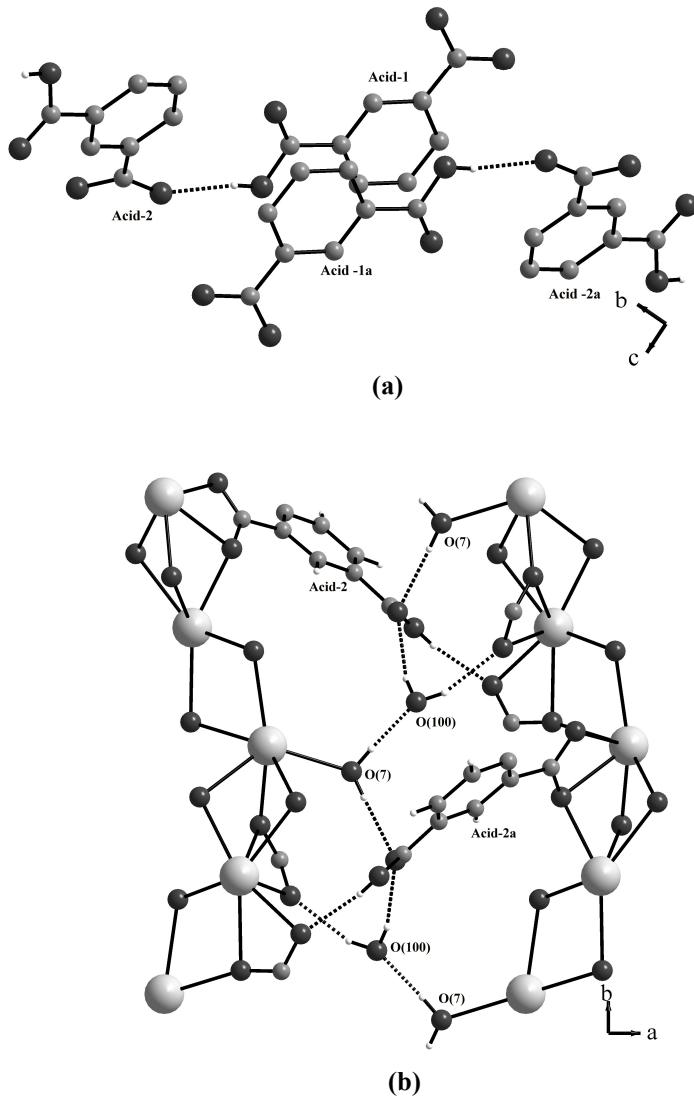


Fig. S16. (a) Figure showing the hydrogen bond interactions between the monoanionic isophthalate units (intra-layer). Note that the hydrogen bonds are formed between C-OH and bonded C-O units. The coordinating La³⁺ ions are not shown for clarity. Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent acids: Acid-1 -x, -y, 1-z; Acid-1a x, -1+y, 1+z; Acid-2 -x, -1/2 +y, 1/2 - z; Acid-2a x, -1/2-y, 1/2 +z.
 (b) View of the fragment of the structure of I showing the various inter-layer hydrogen bond interactions (see text).

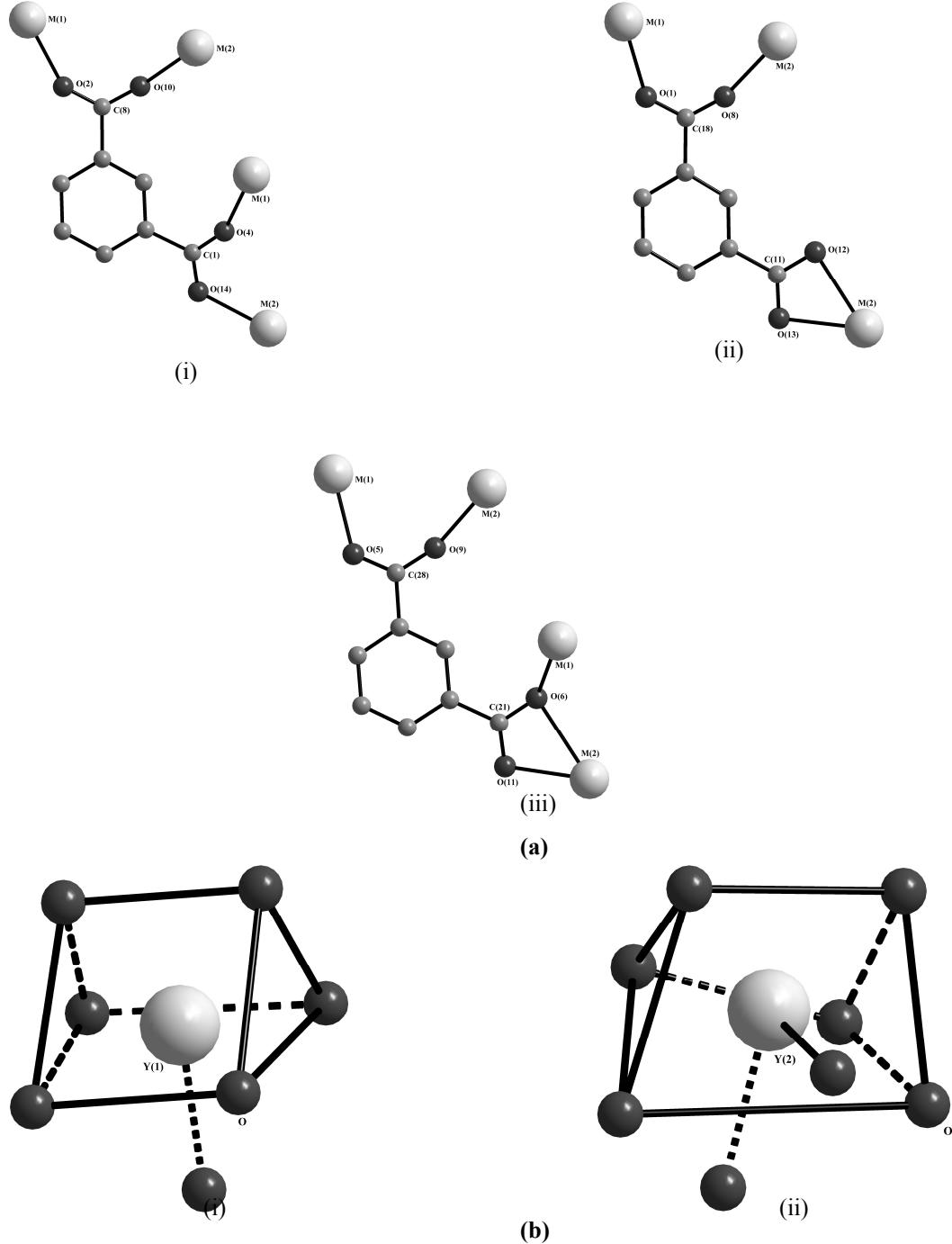


Fig. S17. (a) The various coordination modes of the isophthalate anions observed in $[Y_2(H_2O)_2][\{C_6H_4(COO)_2\}_3].H_2O$, **II** (i) acid-1, (ii) acid-2, and (iii) acid-3.
 (b) The coordination geometry around Y observed in **II** (i) monocapped trigonal prismatic, $Y(1)O_7$ and (ii) distorted bicapped trigonal prismatic, $Y(2)O_8$.

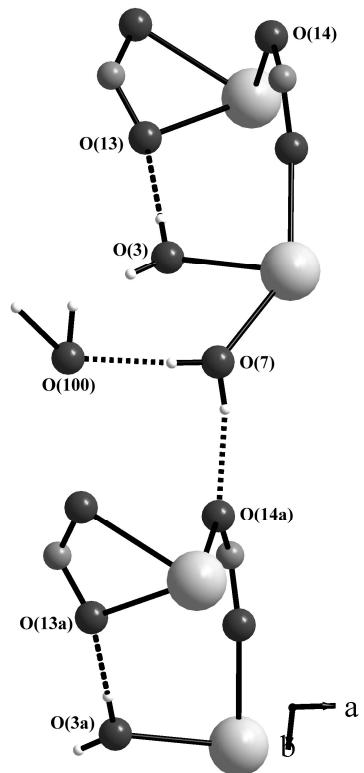


Fig. S18. Figure showing the hydrogen bond interactions between the coordinated and lattice water molecules in $[Y_2(H_2O)_2][\{C_6H_4(COO)_2\}_3] \cdot H_2O$ (see text). Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent acids: O(13) $-x, -1/2+y, 1/2-z$; O(14a) $x, 1/2-y, -1/2+z$; O(13a) $x, 1/2-y, 1-z$, O(3a) $x, 1.5-y, 1/2+z$.

Table S1: Selected bond angles observed in $[\text{La}_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})][\{\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{COO})_2\}_2\{\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{COOH})(\text{COO})\}_2]\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$, **I**.

| Angle | Amplitude | Angle | Amplitude |
|-----------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|
| O(6)-La(1)-O(4) | 90.11(8) | O(3)-La(1)-O(7) | 68.82(8) |
| O(6)-La(1)-O(9) | 87.82(9) | O(6)-La(1)-O(5) | 75.12(8) |
| O(4)-La(1)-O(9) | 148.25(7) | O(4)-La(1)-O(5) | 89.49(7) |
| O(6)-La(1)-O(3) | 139.22(8) | O(9)-La(1)-O(5) | 120.37(7) |
| O(4)-La(1)-O(3) | 73.65(7) | O(3)-La(1)-O(5) | 139.65(7) |
| O(9)-La(1)-O(3) | 87.55(7) | O(7)-La(1)-O(5) | 142.49(9) |
| O(6)-La(1)-O(7) | 70.94(9) | O(6)-La(1)-O(2) | 139.96(7) |
| O(4)-La(1)-O(7) | 75.24(9) | O(4)-La(1)-O(2) | 65.64(7) |
| O(9)-La(1)-O(7) | 74.15(9) | O(9)-La(1)-O(2) | 129.68(8) |
| O(3)-La(1)-O(2) | 66.24(7) | O(5)-La(1)-O(8) | 70.99(6) |
| O(7)-La(1)-O(2) | 126.54(8) | O(2)-La(1)-O(8) | 113.38(7) |
| O(5)-La(1)-O(2) | 73.41(7) | O(1)-La(1)-O(8) | 71.33(7) |
| O(6)-La(1)-O(1) | 146.07(7) | O(13)-La(2)-O(8)#1 | 78.22(8) |
| O(4)-La(1)-O(1) | 113.78(7) | O(13)-La(2)-O(10) | 75.51(8) |
| O(9)-La(1)-O(1) | 83.63(8) | O(8)#1-La(2)-O(10) | 149.40(8) |
| O(3)-La(1)-O(1) | 73.25(7) | O(13)-La(2)-O(2) | 86.40(8) |
| O(7)-La(1)-O(1) | 136.38(9) | O(8)#1-La(2)-O(2) | 84.60(7) |
| O(5)-La(1)-O(1) | 81.11(7) | O(10)-La(2)-O(2) | 78.41(8) |
| O(2)-La(1)-O(1) | 48.78(6) | O(13)-La(2)-O(12) | 98.18(8) |
| O(6)-La(1)-O(8) | 78.16(7) | O(8)#1-La(2)-O(12) | 121.03(7) |
| O(4)-La(1)-O(8) | 159.18(7) | O(10)-La(2)-O(12) | 78.39(8) |
| O(9)-La(1)-O(8) | 49.52(7) | O(2)-La(2)-O(12) | 154.38(7) |
| O(3)-La(1)-O(8) | 126.09(7) | O(13)-La(2)-O(11) | 146.81(8) |

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|
| O(7)-La(1)-O(8) | 115.91(8) | O(8)#1-La(2)-O(11) | 79.06(8) |
| O(10)-La(2)-O(11) | 131.26(8) | O(2)-La(2)-O(11) | 115.12(7) |
| O(12)-La(2)-O(11) | 73.59(7) | O(10)-La(2)-O(3) | 49.47(7) |
| O(13)-La(2)-O(4) | 144.16(8) | O(2)-La(2)-O(3) | 65.34(7) |
| O(8)#1-La(2)-O(4) | 77.43(7) | O(12)-La(2)-O(3) | 91.15(7) |
| O(10)-La(2)-O(4) | 116.91(7) | O(11)-La(2)-O(3) | 91.82(7) |
| O(2)-La(2)-O(4) | 65.50(7) | O(13)-La(2)-O(3) | 120.84(7) |
| O(12)-La(2)-O(4) | 116.87(7) | O(8)#1-La(2)-O(3) | 141.36(7) |
| O(11)-La(2)-O(4) | 49.73(7) | O(4)-La(2)-O(3) | 68.47(6) |
| O(13)-La(2)-O(5)#1 | 76.05(8) | O(5)#1-La(2)-O(3) | 140.59(6) |
| O(8)#1-La(2)-O(5)#1 | 73.07(7) | La(2)-O(2)-La(1) | 100.27(7) |
| O(10)-La(2)-O(5)#1 | 114.68(7) | La(1)-O(3)-La(2) | 97.28(7) |
| O(2)-La(2)-O(5)#1 | 153.86(7) | La(1)-O(4)-La(2) | 102.69(8) |
| O(12)-La(2)-O(5)#1 | 49.73(6) | La(1)-O(5)-La(2)#2 | 105.72(7) |
| O(11)-La(2)-O(5)#1 | 74.38(7) | La(2)#2-O(8)-La(1) | 106.95(7) |
| O(4)-La(2)-O(5)#1 | 120.49(7) | O(4)-La(2)-O(3) | 68.47(6) |
| O(13)-La(2)-O(3) | 120.84(7) | O(5)#1-La(2)-O(3) | 140.59(6) |
| O(8)#1-La(2)-O(3) | 141.36(7) | | |

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: #1 -x,y+1/2,-z+1/2 #2 -x,y-1/2,-z+1/2

Table S2: Selected bond angles observed in $[M_2(H_2O)_2][\{C_6H_4(COO)_2\}_3].H_2O$, M = Y(**II**), Gd(**IIa**)

| Angle | M = Y(II) | M = Gd(IIa) |
|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| O(2)-M(1)-O(5) | 157.66(13) | 153.44(11) |
| O(2)-M(1)-O(1) | 80.83(13) | 79.24(10) |
| O(5)-M(1)-O(1) | 120.90(13) | 126.30(11) |
| O(2)-M(1)-O(7) | 111.00(15) | 113.18(12) |
| O(5)-M(1)-O(7) | 74.88(15) | 74.02(11) |
| O(1)-M(1)-O(7) | 71.41(14) | 71.72(11) |
| O(2)-M(1)-O(4) | 81.46(12) | 80.37(10) |
| O(5)-M(1)-O(4) | 82.52(12) | 81.10(10) |
| O(1)-M(1)-O(4) | 143.52(12) | 142.44(10) |
| O(7)-M(1)-O(4) | 145.03(13) | 145.77(11) |
| O(2)-M(1)-O(3) | 81.21(14) | 80.10(11) |
| O(5)-M(1)-O(3) | 80.18(14) | 77.76(12) |
| O(1)-M(1)-O(3) | 130.37(14) | 127.56(11) |
| O(7)-M(1)-O(3) | 72.74(16) | 73.30(13) |
| O(4)-M(1)-O(3) | 77.42(13) | 78.79(11) |
| O(5)-M(1)-O(6) | 88.85(12) | 92.16(10) |
| O(1)-M(1)-O(6) | 73.75(11) | 74.58(10) |
| O(7)-M(1)-O(6) | 125.24(15) | 123.60(12) |
| O(4)-M(1)-O(6) | 79.76(11) | 79.79(9) |
| O(3)-M(1)-O(6) | 155.75(13) | 157.48(11) |
| O(8)-M(2)-O(10)#1 | 150.81(12) | 151.20(10) |
| O(8)-M(2)-O(9) | 86.04(12) | 86.31(10) |
| O(10)#1-M(2)-O(9) | 78.99(12) | 79.04(11) |
| O(8)-M(2)-O(14)#1 | 86.82(12) | 83.93(10) |
| O(10)#1-M(2)-O(14)#1 | 115.48(12) | 118.79(10) |

| | | |
|--------------------|------------|------------|
| O(9)-M(2)-O(14)#1 | 82.51(13) | 84.81(11) |
| O(8)-M(2)-O(11) | 80.64(12) | 79.86(10) |
| O(10)#1-M(2)-O(11) | 88.93(12) | 88.82(10) |
| O(9)-M(2)-O(11) | 127.86(12) | 125.93(10) |
| O(14)#1-M(2)-O(11) | 145.63(11) | 143.65(9) |
| O(8)-M(2)-O(13) | 129.09(11) | 128.08(9) |
| O(10)#1-M(2)-O(13) | 76.64(11) | 76.87(9) |
| O(9)-M(2)-O(13) | 137.46(12) | 138.80(10) |
| O(14)#1-M(2)-O(13) | 77.34(12) | 78.30(11) |
| O(11)-M(2)-O(13) | 86.03(12) | 86.50(10) |
| O(8)-M(2)-O(12) | 76.33(12) | 76.34(10) |
| O(10)#1-M(2)-O(12) | 126.36(12) | 125.14(10) |
| O(9)-M(2)-O(12) | 150.70(13) | 152.82(11) |
| O(14)#1-M(2)-O(12) | 73.42(11) | 72.83(10) |
| O(11)-M(2)-O(12) | 72.56(11) | 71.82(9) |
| O(13)-M(2)-O(12) | 52.82(11) | 51.86(9) |
| O(8)-M(2)-O(6) | 72.12(11) | 72.32(9) |
| O(10)#1-M(2)-O(6) | 80.04(11) | 79.96(9) |
| O(9)-M(2)-O(6) | 76.50(11) | 75.00(9) |
| O(14)#1-M(2)-O(6) | 151.00(11) | 149.48(10) |
| O(11)-M(2)-O(6) | 51.41(10) | 50.96(8) |
| O(13)-M(2)-O(6) | 131.47(11) | 131.58(9) |
| O(12)-M(2)-O(6) | 118.53(10) | 117.90(9) |
| M(1)-O(6)-M(2) | 117.65(12) | 115.35(10) |

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms: #1 -x,y+1/2,-z+1/2