

## Supplementary Material

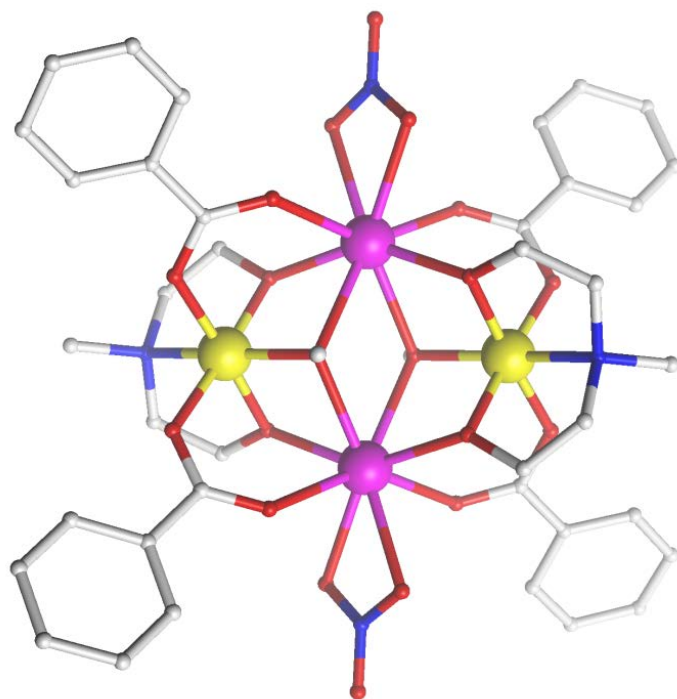
### **Magnetic exchange effects in $\{\text{Cr}^{\text{III}}_2\text{Dy}^{\text{III}}_2\}$ single molecule magnets containing alcoholamine ligands**

*Stuart K. Langley,<sup>A</sup> Daniel P. Wielechowski,<sup>A</sup> Boujemaa Moubaraki,<sup>A</sup> Brendan F. Abrahams<sup>B</sup> and Keith S. Murray<sup>A,C</sup>*

<sup>A</sup> School of Chemistry, Monash University, Clayton, Victoria 3800, Australia

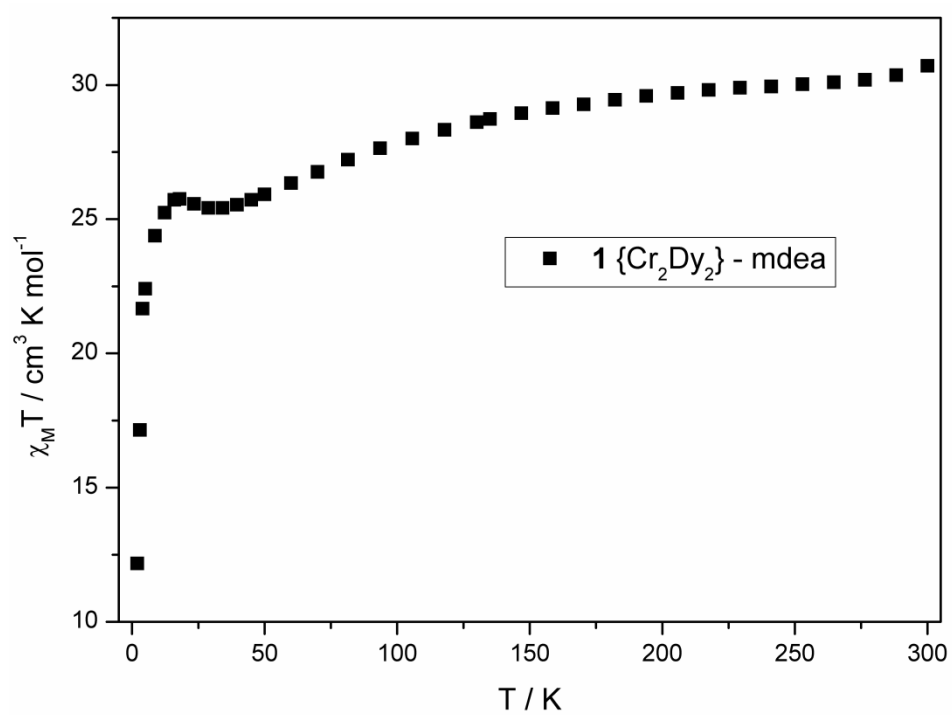
<sup>B</sup> School of Chemistry, The University of Melbourne Victoria 3010, Australia

<sup>C</sup> Corresponding author. email: [keith.murray@monash.edu](mailto:keith.murray@monash.edu)

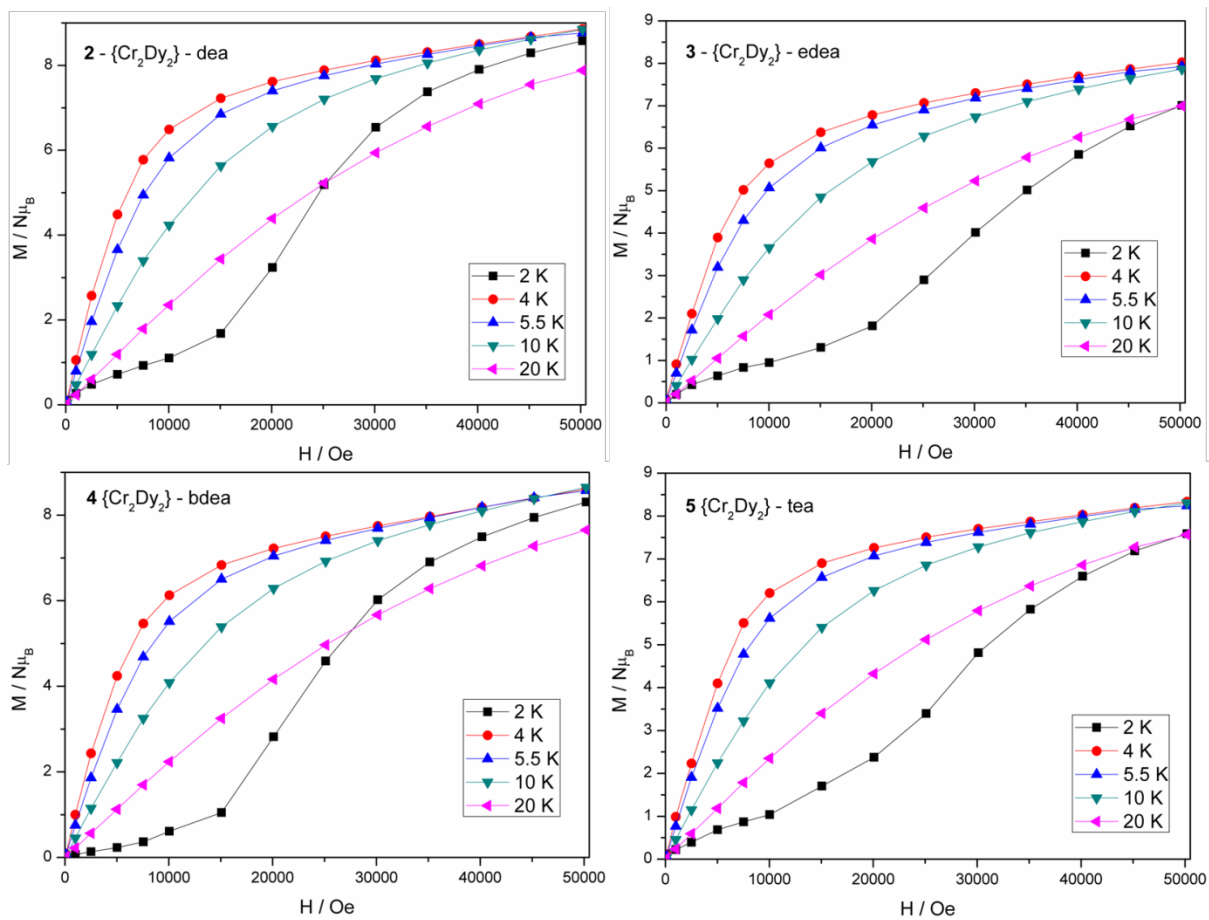


**Figure S1.** The molecular structures of **1**. The solvent and H atoms are omitted for clarity. Colour scheme; Cr<sup>III</sup>, yellow; Dy<sup>III</sup>, purple; O, red; N, blue; C, light grey. See ref. [9].

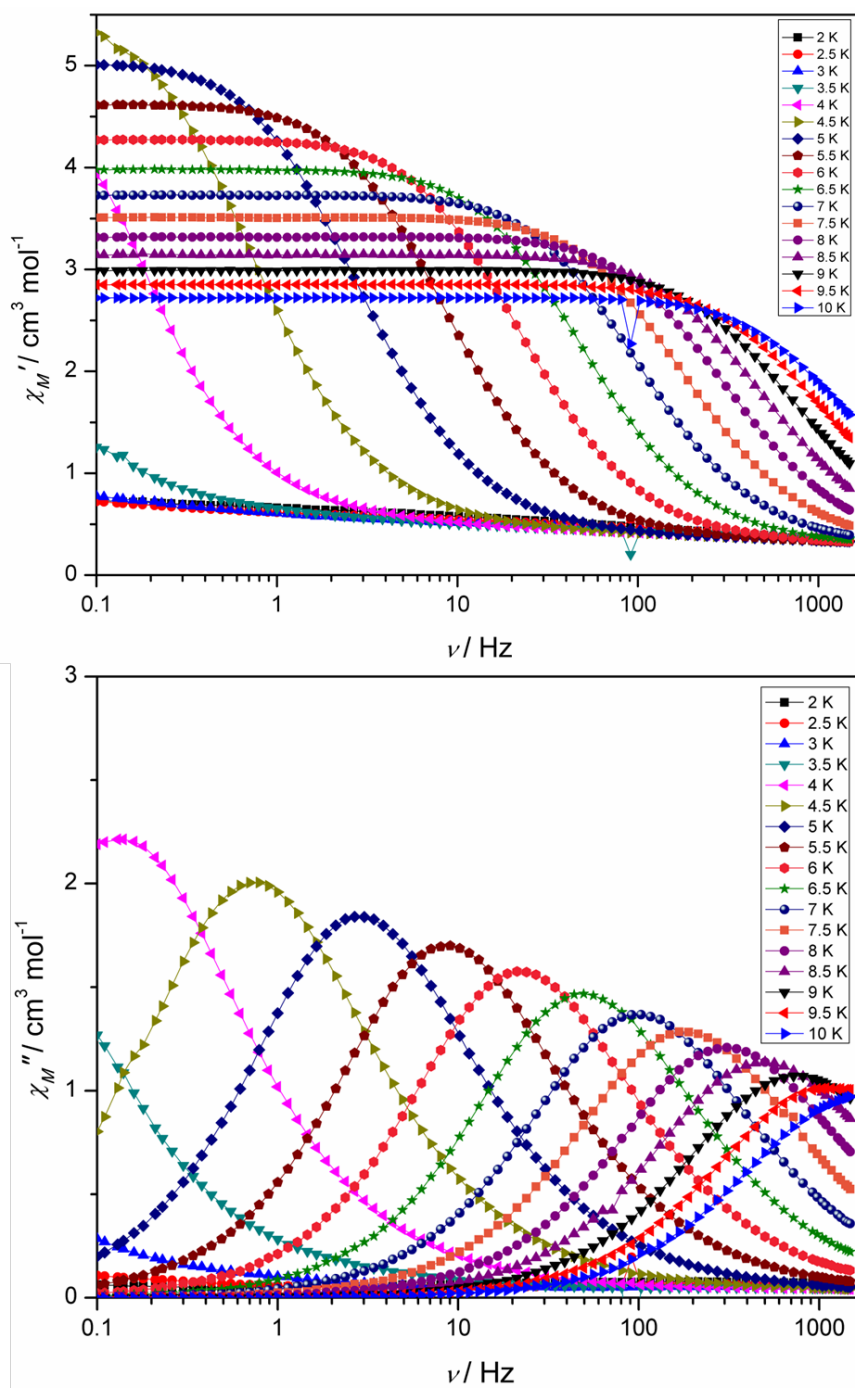
## Magnetic data



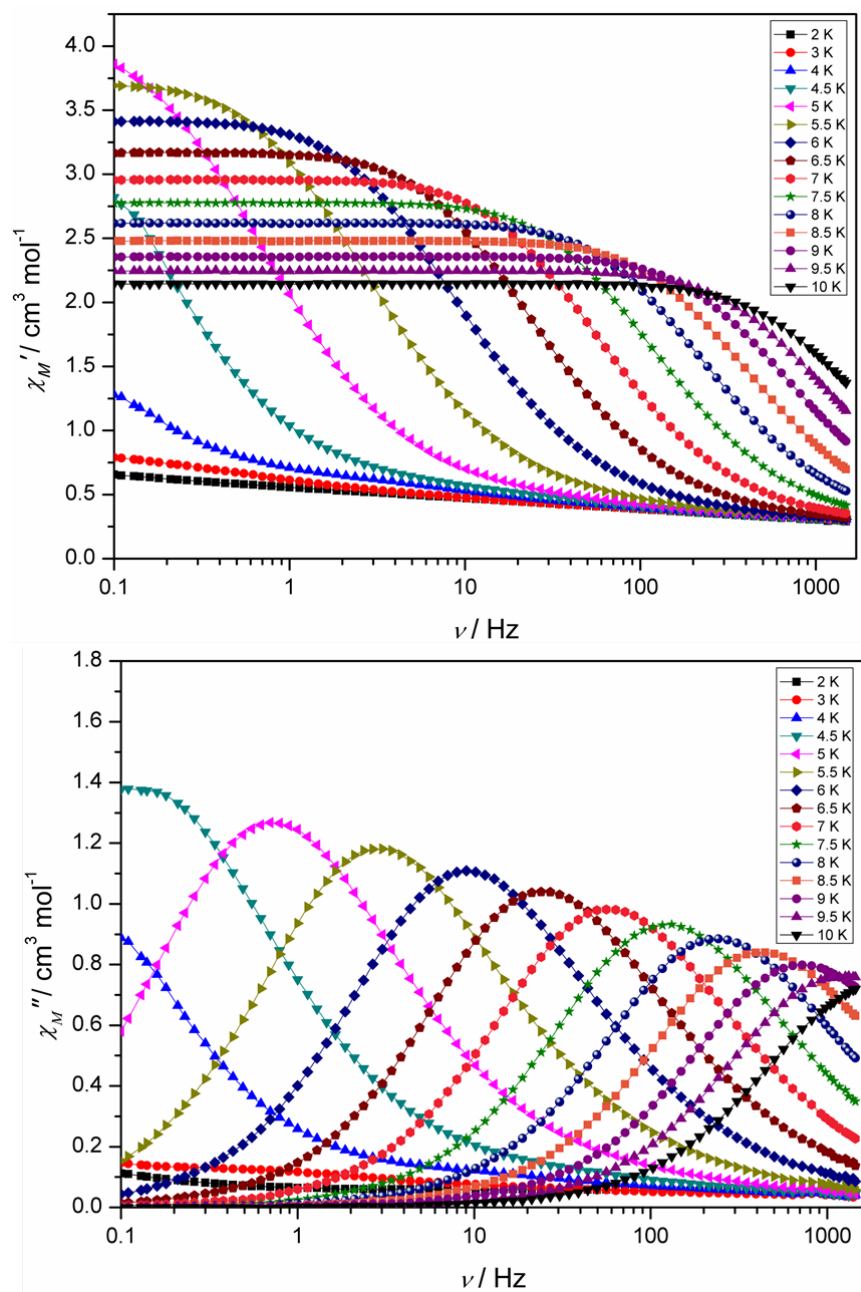
**Figure S2.** Plot of  $\chi_M T$  versus  $T$  for **1** measured under a 0.1 T dc field.



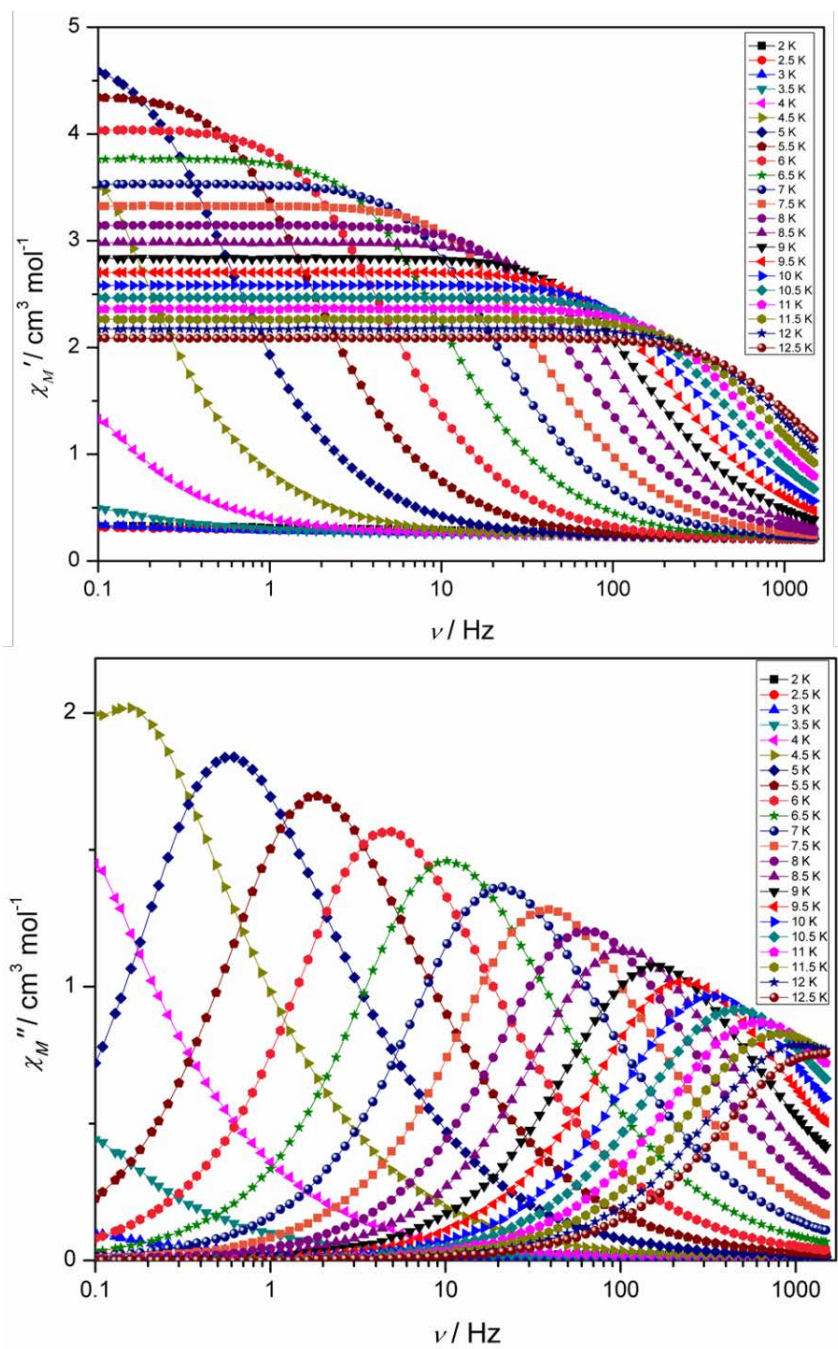
**Figure S3.** Isothermal  $M$  vs  $H$  plot for compound **2** (top left), **3** (top right), **4** (bottom left) and **5** (bottom right). The solid lines just join the points.



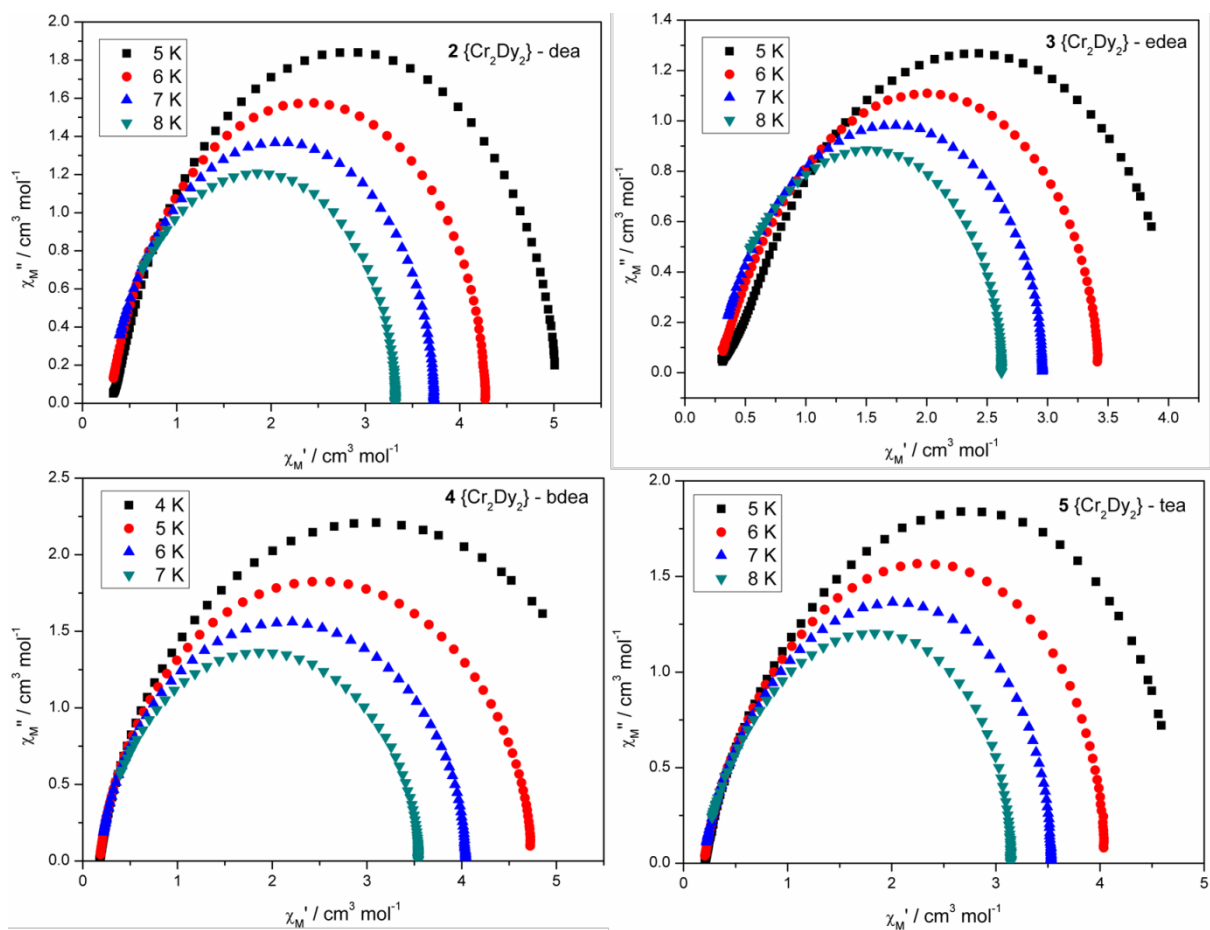
**Figure S4.** Frequency dependence of the in-phase  $\chi_M'$  (top) and out-of-phase  $\chi_M''$  (bottom) susceptibility for **2** in a zero applied dc field, with an ac field of 3.5 Oe.



**Figure S5.** Frequency dependence of the in-phase  $\chi_M'$  (top) and out-of-phase  $\chi_M''$  (bottom) susceptibility for **3** in a zero applied dc field, with an ac field of 3.5 Oe.

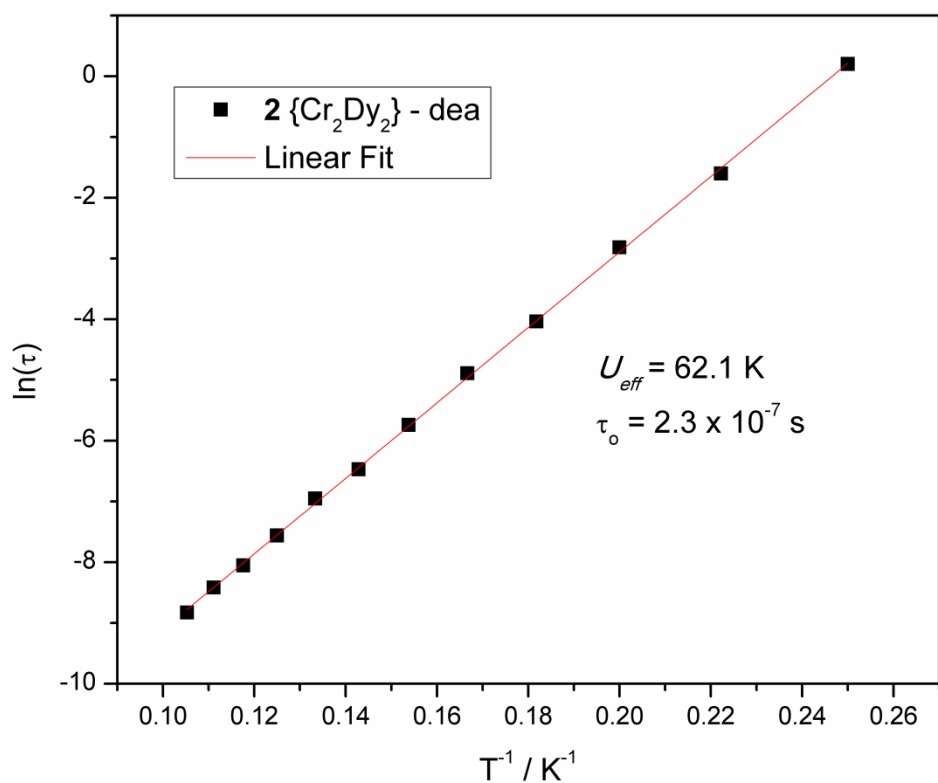


**Figure S6.** Frequency dependence of the in-phase  $\chi_M'$  (top) and out-of-phase  $\chi_M''$  (bottom) susceptibility for **5** in a zero applied dc field, with an ac field of 3.5 Oe.

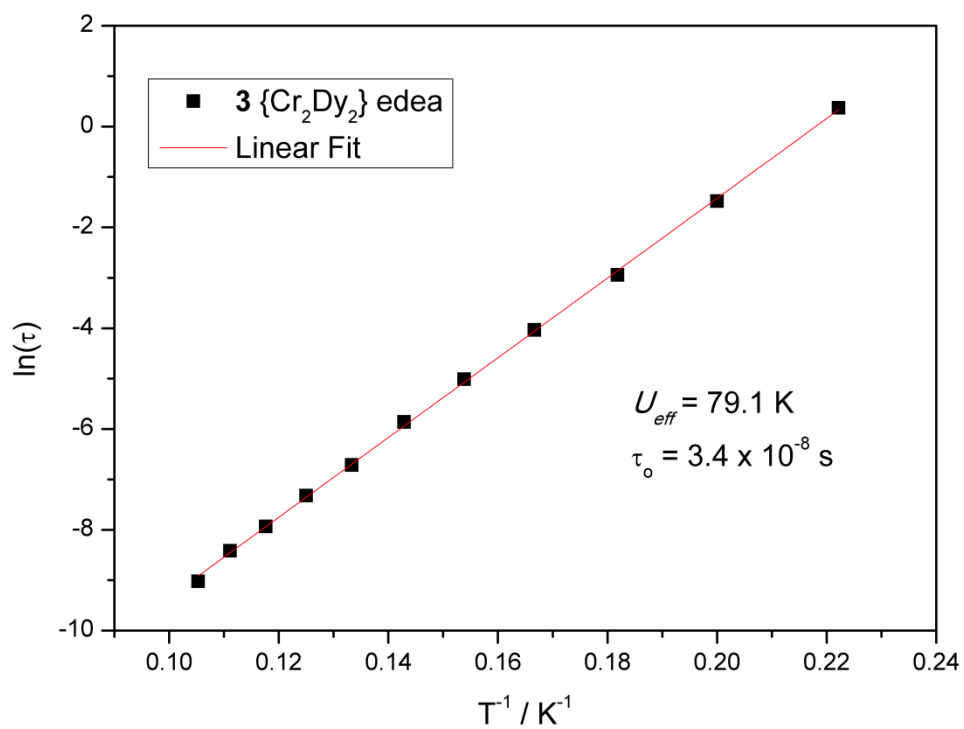


**Figure S7.** Cole-Cole plots for **2** (top left), **3** (top right), **4** (bottom left) and **5** (bottom right), between 4 and 8 K.

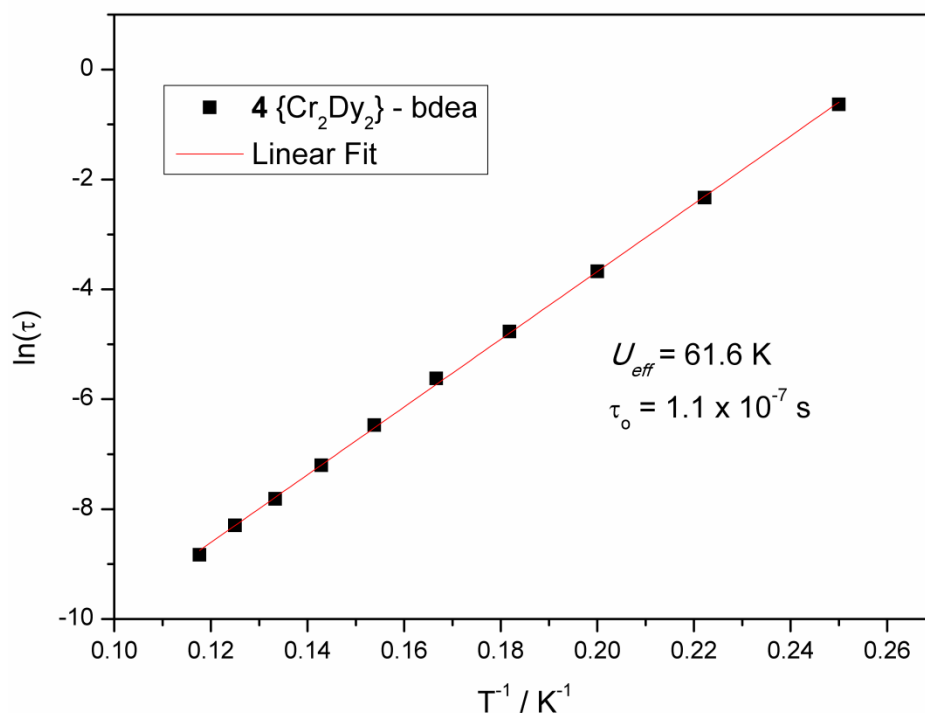




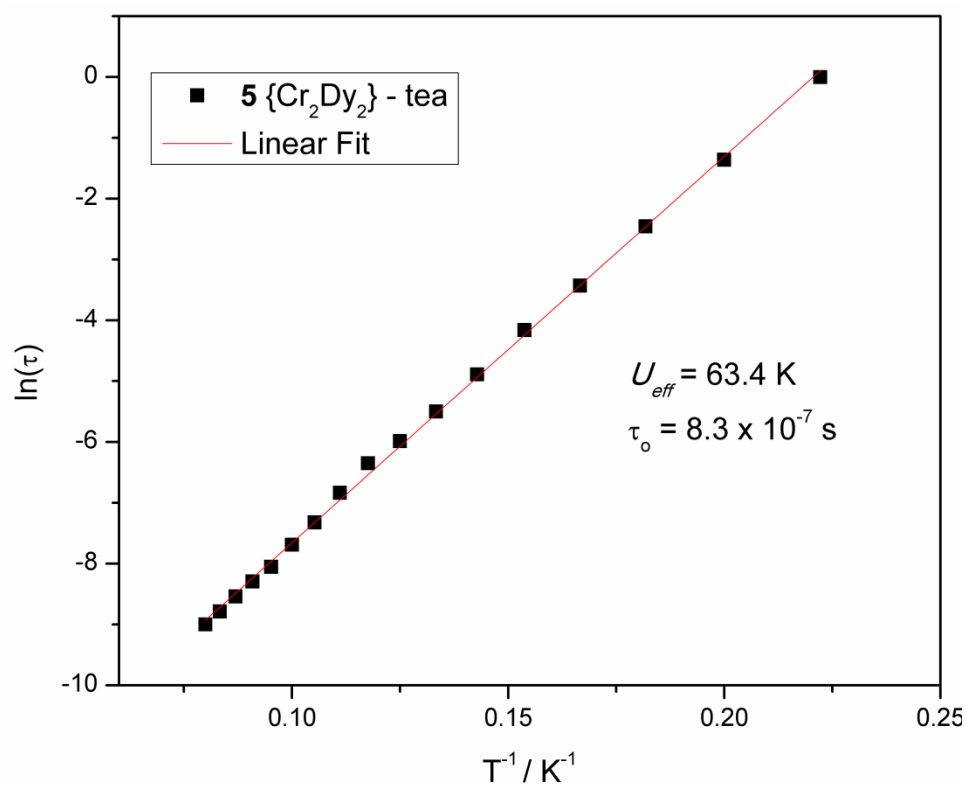
**Figure 8.** Magnetization relaxation time ( $\tau$ ) plotted as  $\ln(\tau)$  versus  $T^{-1}$  for compound 2. The solid red line represents a fit to the Arrhenius law in the thermally activated regime.



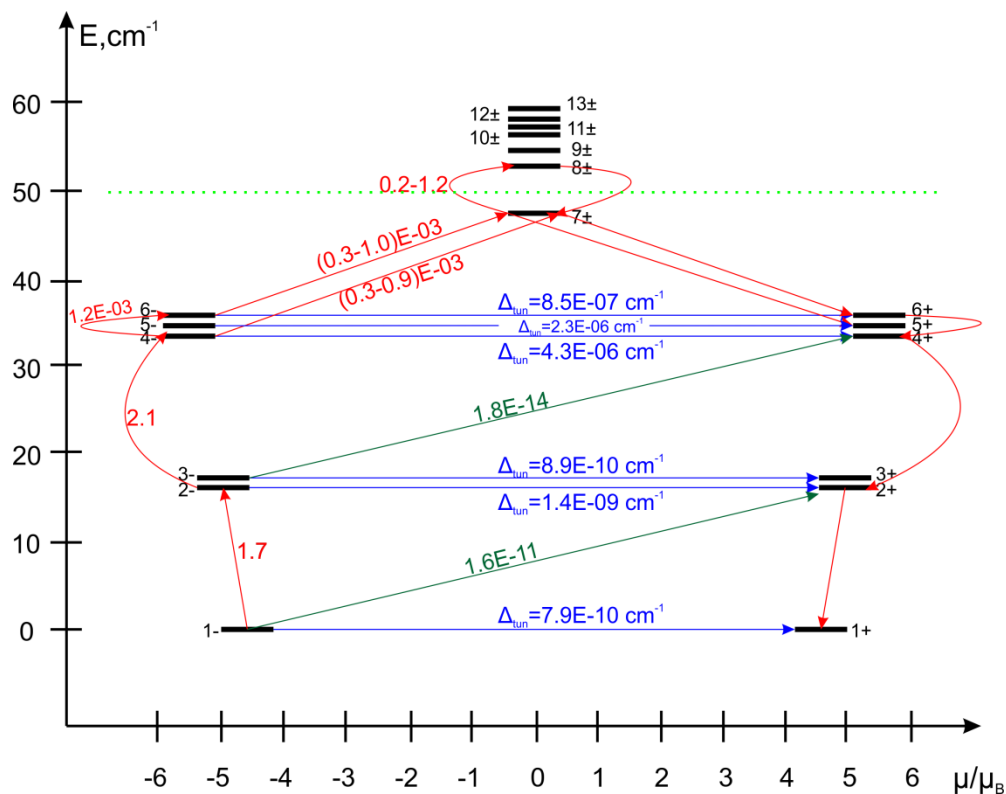
**Figure 9.** Magnetization relaxation time ( $\tau$ ) plotted as  $\ln(\tau)$  versus  $T^{-1}$  for compound 3. The solid red line represents a fit to the Arrhenius law in the thermally activated regime.



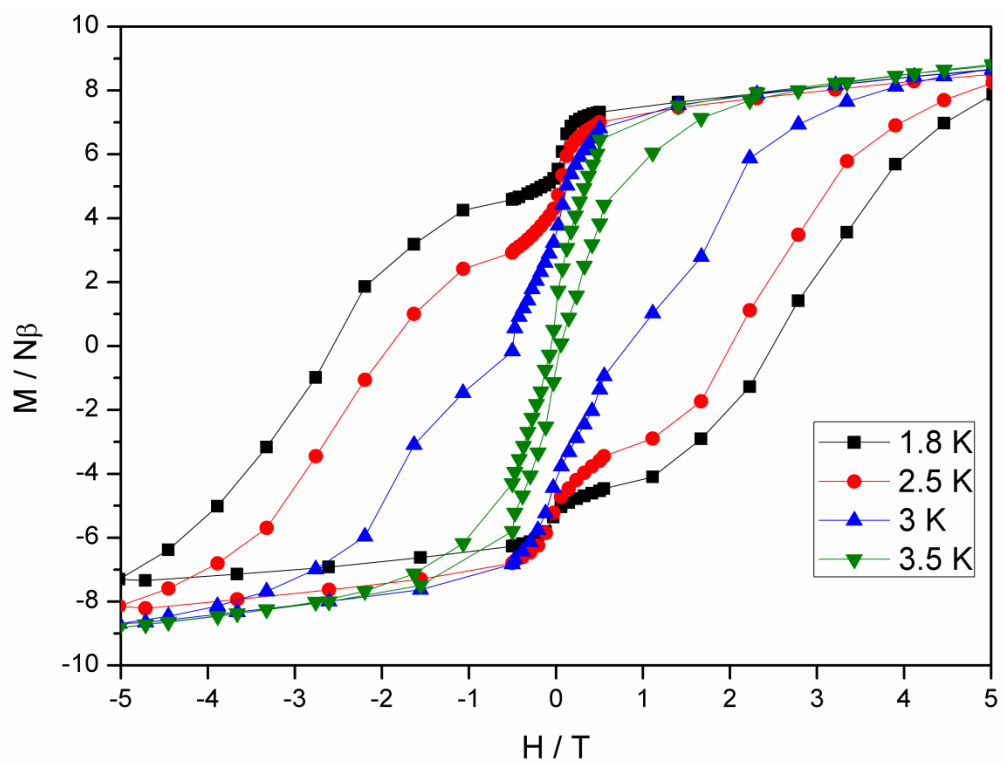
**Figure 10.** Magnetization relaxation time ( $\tau$ ) plotted as  $\ln(\tau)$  versus  $T^{-1}$  for compound **4**. The solid red line represents a fit to the Arrhenius law in the thermally activated regime.



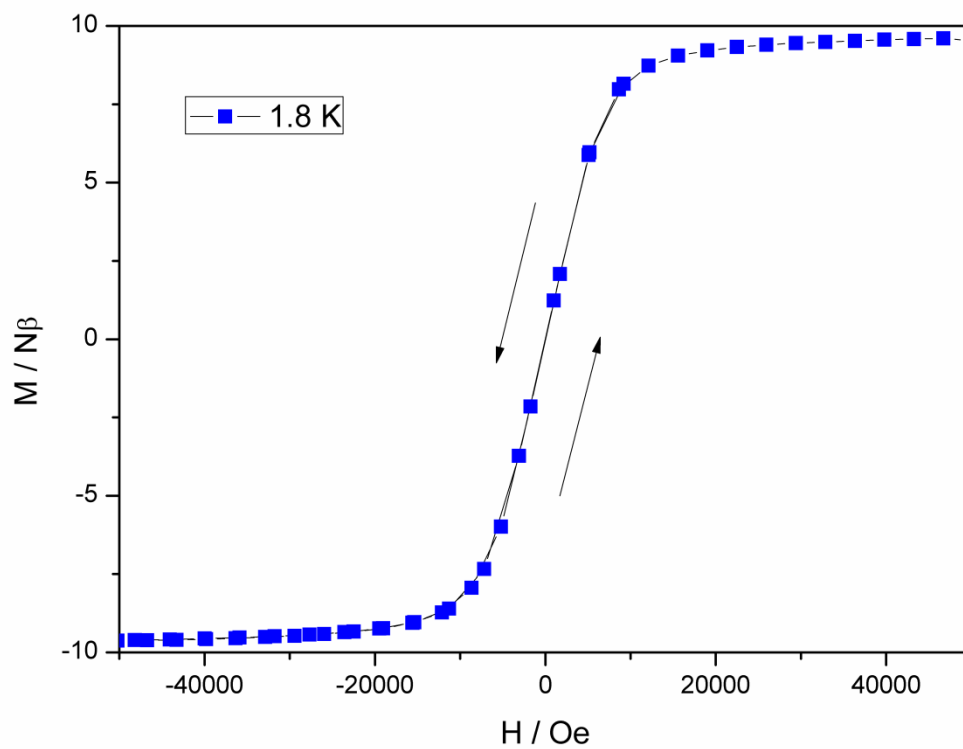
**Figure 11.** Magnetization relaxation time ( $\tau$ ) plotted as  $\ln(\tau)$  versus  $T^{-1}$  for compound **5**. The solid red line represents a fit to the Arrhenius law in the thermally activated regime.



**Figure S12.** Low-lying exchange spectrum and the position of magnetization blocking barrier (dashed green line) in **1**. Each exchange state is placed in accordance with the value of its magnetic moment (bold black lines). The horizontal blue arrows show the tunnelling transitions within each doublet state ( $\Delta_{tun}$  are corresponding tunnelling gaps), while vertical arrows (red and dark-green) show the spin-phonon transitions (the numbers are averaged transition moments in  $\mu_B$  connecting the corresponding states). See ref. [9].



**Figure S13.** Plot of magnetization ( $M$ ) versus field ( $H$ ) for **1**, sweeping the field with an average sweep rate of 0.003 T/s, at the temperatures indicated. See ref. [9].



**Figure S14.** Plot of magnetization ( $M$ ) versus field ( $H$ ) for a  $\{\text{Co}^{\text{III}}_2\text{Dy}^{\text{III}}_2\}$  complex, sweeping the field with an average sweep rate of 0.003 T/s, at the temperatures indicated.