Высокотемпературные мономолекулярные магниты: современное состояние, проблемы и новые подходы

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Content:

- Single-molecule magnets (SMM): a short overview
- Spin-reversal barrier: the origin and limitations
- The problem of increasing the magnetization blocking temperature of SMM clusters
- New strategy of designing high-temperature SMMs
- Orbitally-degenerate 5d complexes as molecular building blocks for high-T SMM
- General principles of designing high-T SMMs
- Conclusion: Problems and perspectives



with the magnetic memory effect

Polynuclear complexes of *d* or *f* metals with organic ligands



Why single-molecule magnets (SMM) are interesting? Advantages:

- SMMs are the smallest magnetic nanoparticles (of the molecular-scale size, 1-5 nm)
- **SMMs** are absolutely monodisperse \rightarrow identical in the size, shape, and magnetic momentum
- **\Box** SMMs are quantum objects \rightarrow exhibit unique magnetic properties
- SMMs are constructed from molecular building blocks → provide a variety of synthetic approaches and flexibility in designing of the molecular structure
- SMMs are promising for designing hybrid functional molecular materials combining magnetic, optical, and conducting properties
- Advanced applications for the molecular electronics:
- □ Super high density magnetic memories

Single-molecule magnets are potentially capable to provide information storage density of 10⁵ - 10⁶ Gb/cm² (10³-10⁴ times higher than the current value)

Quantum computers

SMMs are promising qubits and memory elements for quantum computers

- M. N. Leuenberger, D. Loss, Quantum computing in molecular magnets, Nature 410, 789-793 (2001)
- Molecular spintronics

SMM-based molecular spin transistors

Source

Drain

Gate

L. Bogani, W.Wernsdorfer, Nature Mater. 7, 179 (2008)

Single-molecule magnet: Molecular spin cluster with a doublewell ground-state potential

Zero-field splitting of the ground-state spin S (the giant-spin splitting model):



At low temperature, such a cluster behaves as a molecular size magnet (single-molecule magnet, SMM)

Blocking of magnetization



Magnetization hysteresis in the single-molecule scale

This hysteresis is not related to the long-range magnetic order or with the domain structure – it is just a property of a single molecule !!!

















It takes an energy of $|D|S^2$ to reverse the spin.

Thermally-assisted tunneling of magnetization

The rate of through-barrier quantum tunneling between the $+M_s$ and $-M_s$ states rapidly increases for excited spin states



Fast relaxation of magnetization is due thermal population of low-lying spin levels

The rate of tunneling increases by a factor of $\sim 10^8$ (!!!) for the first excited spin state m = 9 The blocking temperature is generally much smaller than the spin-reversal barrier



 $kT_{\rm b} << |D|S^2$

For Mn₁₂Ac cluster:

 $U_{\rm eff} = |D|S^2 \approx 50 \ {\rm cm^{-1}}$ (70 K) $T_b \approx 3 \ {\rm K}.$

In fact, T_b is mainly measured by the energy gap ΔE_{01} between the ground spin state and first excited spin state

In Mn₁₂Ac:

 $\Delta E_{01}/kT_b \sim 5-10 \iff \Delta E_{01} = 9 \text{ cm}^{-1} (13 \text{ K}), T_b \approx 3 \text{ K}.$

The central problem: Increasing the blocking temperature T_b

Many hundreds of various SMM clusters were isolated and characterized (2013) The blocking temperature is still very low, $T_b < 5$ K



Large size and spin does not necessarily mean large U_{eff} and T_{b} !



No correlation between the size/spin of the cluster and its SMM characteristics

Very slow progress in increasing the blocking temperature of SMM clusters: It has taken about 15 years to increase T_b from 3K to 4.5 K !!!

Sources of the molecular magnetic anisotropy

Spin Hamiltonian of a SMM cluster:



Isotropic exchange interaction: forms the spin energy spectrum of a SMM, but does not contribute to the magnetic anisotropy Single-center magnetic anisotropy: zero-field splitting (ZFS) on separate magnetic centers Two-center magnetic anisotropy: anisotropic spin coupling between

magnetic centers

No contribution to the magnetic anisotropy

Contributions from individual magnetic centers Contributions from exchange-coupled pairs

Alternative approach for designing SMMs

 $H = \sum J_{ij} S_i S_j + \sum S_i D_i S_i + \sum S_i G_{ij} S_j + \sum A_{ij} [S_i \times S_j]$

Conventional approach:

Isotropic exchange interaction + onecenter contributions to the molecular magnetic anisotropy: zero-field splitting $S_i D_i S_i$ on separate magnetic centers



Two-center contributions to the molecular magnetic anisotropy: anisotropic exchange interactions



General idea: The use of strong exchange anisotropy of orbitally-degenerate magnetic sites for designing hightemperature SMM clusters

V.S. Mironov, L.F. Chibotaru, A. Ceulemans, *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.* **125**, 9750-9760 (2003).

V.S. Mironov, *Dokl. Akad. Nauk* **397**, 155 (2004)



- Ordinary (spin-only) magnetic sites (Cr³; Mn²⁺, Fe³⁺)
- Orbitally-degenerate magnetic sites

Single-center contributions to the barrier U_{eff}: General limitations



Small ZFS energy $S_i D_i S_j$ makes problematic considerable increase of the magnetic anisotropy D in spin clusters with ordinary (spin-only) magnetic ions The spin Hamiltonian of the SMM cluster

$$H = \sum_{ij} J_{ij} S_i S_j + \sum_i S_i D_i S_i$$

The maximal value of the barrier U_{eff} is estimated by

$$U_{eff} = |D| S^2 < \sum_i S_i D_i S_i$$

For 3*d* ions ZFS energy is generally limited by $S_i D_i S_i < 15 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ $\text{Cr}^{3+} : S_i D_i S_i \sim 0.1 - 1 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ $\text{Mn}^{2+}, \text{Fe}^{3+} : S_i D_i S_i \sim 0.01 - 0.5 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ $\text{Mn}^{3+} : S_i D_i S_i \sim 10 - 15 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ $\text{Ni}^{2+} : S_i D_i S_i \sim 1 - 10 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ To obtain $|D|S^2 \sim 1000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ($T_b \sim 50-70 \text{ K}$), the spin cluster should involve many hundreds or thousands of magnetic ions:

$$|D|S^{2} << \sum_{i} S_{i} D_{i} S_{i}$$

 $D/S^{2} \sim 1000 \text{ cm}^{-1}, S_{i} D_{i} S_{i} < 15 \text{ cm}^{-1}, N >> 100$

General conclusion:



In medium-size spin clusters (N < 50) with ordinary (spin-only) 3d ions (such as Fe³⁺, Mn²⁺, Ni²⁺) the spin-reversal barrier |D| S^2 is probably limited to 100-200 cm⁻¹ ($T_{\rm b}$ < 10-15 K)

Single-center ZFS contributions of 3*d* ions are incapable to provide high barrier U_{eff} and blocking temperature T_b !

Alternative approach: Molecular spin clusters based on magnetic centers with unquenched orbital momentum as potential high-T SMMs



- Ordinary (spin-only) magnetic sites (Cr³⁺, Mn²⁺, Fe³⁺)
- Orbitally-degenerate magnetic sites



General features and conditions:

- Small or medium-size molecular spin cluster (N < 30-50) containing magnetic centers with unquenched orbital momentum (L ≠ 0) that create anisotropic exchange linkages;
- □ The ground spin level is doubly degenerate (±*M*) and is separated by *a large energy gap* ΔE_{01} from the first excited spin level. Large gap ΔE_{01} prevents thermal population of excited spin levels with fast tunneling of magnetization;
- The energy spin spectrum differs considerably from the usual DS² double-well pattern.
- The blocking temperature T_b is controlled by the energy gap ΔE_{01}

 $\Delta E_{01} / kT_b \sim 5-10$

 $\Delta E_{01} \sim 100 \text{ cm}^{-1} \text{ or more } \implies T_b > 10 \text{ K}$

Magnetic centers with unquenched orbital momentum: the difference from spin-only magnetic centers

Spin-only magnetic centers, *L* = 0

Magnetic centers with unquenched orbital momentum, $L \neq 0$



Examples: Cr³⁺, Mn²⁺, Fe³⁺ (high-spin), Ni²⁺, Mo³⁺ (high-spin)

- The ground-state orbital momentum is unquenched, $L \neq 0$
- Spin is not a good quantum number: it is strongly coupled with the unquenched orbital momentum
- g-tensor of the ground state is highly anisotropic; typically, g_z >> g_x, g_y



Examples: Rare-earth ions R³⁺ (except Gd³⁺), Co²⁺(high-spin), Fe(CN)₆³⁻, Re(CN)₇³⁻

Spin-only magnetic centers: dominant isotropic spin coupling

Spin-only center (i)

- Most of transition-metal ions Cr³⁺, Mn²⁺, Fe³⁺, Ni²⁺
- All stable organic radicals



Isotropic exchange interaction dominates: |J| >> |A|, |G|

Anisotropic terms are small. For *d* metal ions anisotropic exchange parameters are estimated by the $\zeta/\Delta E_{CF}$ ratio

$$S_{i}G_{ij}S_{j} \rightarrow |G/J| \sim (\zeta/\Delta E_{CF})^{2} \qquad \zeta \text{ - spin-orbit coupling constant}$$

$$\Delta E_{CF} - \text{ crystal-field splitting energy}$$

$$A_{ij}[S_{i} \times S_{j}] \rightarrow |A/J| \sim \zeta/\Delta E_{CF} \qquad \zeta/\Delta E_{CF} \sim 0.01 - 0.1$$

Anisotropic terms of the spin coupling of spin-only 3*d* metal ions weakly contribute to the molecular magnetic anisotropy

Anisotropic spin coupling of magnetic centers with unquenched orbital momentum

Examples:

- f ions lanthanides and actinides Ce³⁺, Nd³⁺, Tb³⁺, Dy³⁺, Yb³⁺, U⁴⁺
- Orbitally degenerate d ions and complexes Co²⁺, [Mo^{III}(CN)₇]⁴⁻, [Fe(CN)₆]³⁻

Exchange interactions are strongly anisotropic

$$H_{ij} = JS_iS_j + S_iG_{ij}S_j + A_{ij}[S_i \times S_j]$$

 $|J| \sim |G| \sim |A|$

Isotropic and anisotropic exchange interactions are generally comparable in magnitude !!!

 $oldsymbol{S}_j$ True spin

Center (i) with $L \neq 0$

 S_i Effective spin 1/2

Spin-only center (j), L = 0

The resulting magnetic moment is strongly coupled with the molecular axis of the exchange-coupled pair (i, j)

Strong contribution of anisotropic spin coupling to the molecular magnetic anisotropy

Highly anisotropic 4*f*-3*d* exchange interaction in a mixed dimer YbCrBr₉³⁻



Experiment: M. A. Aebersold et al, Phys. Rev. B 48, 12723 (1993).

Theory : V.S. Mironov, L.F. Chibotaru, A. Ceulemans, Phys. Rev. B 67, 014424 (2003).

How to select proper orbitally-degenerate magnetic centers for designing SMM? A criterion

The efficiency of orbitally-degenerate magnetic centers for designing high-T SMM clusters can be measured by the Jr factor :

The Jr factor measures the

magnetic anisotropy and

contribution to the molecular

estimates maximal energy gap

 ΔE_{01} in a molecular spin cluster

where J is the absolute exchange parameter and 0 < r < 1 is a dimensionless factor describing the degree of the exchange anisotropy, i.e.

 $\Delta E_{01} \sim J \quad \longleftarrow$

Energy

$$H = J_0 S_i S_j + S_i G S_j + A[S_i \times S_j]$$

$$J = \left[|J_0|^2 + |G|^2 + |A|^2 \right]^{1/2}$$

$$r = \left[\frac{|G|^2 + |A|^2}{|J_0|^2 + |G|^2 + |A|^2} \right]^{1/2}$$

For the axial symmetry:

$$H = -J\left((1-r)S_1S_2 + rS_1^zS_2^z\right)$$

$$r=0 \rightarrow$$
 Heisenberg

 $r = 1 \rightarrow \text{Ising}$

Jr factor for various orbitally-degenerate magnetic building blocks: a comparison

Rare-earth ions (4f): Yb³⁺, Dy³⁺, Ce³⁺, Er³⁺, Tb³⁺ \Rightarrow Jr < 10 cm⁻¹

- high exchange anisotropy ($r \sim 1$), but weak exchange interactions ($J < 10 \text{ cm}^{-1}$)

Generally, 4f ions are poor candidates for designing high-T SMM

Orbitally-degenerate 3*d* ions and complexes: Co²⁺, Cr²⁺, V³⁺, [Fe^{III}(CN)₆]³⁻ \Rightarrow Jr ~ 10-50 cm⁻¹

- weak exchange anisotropy ($r \sim 0.1$ - 0.5), rather strong exchange interactions ($J \sim 10-100 \text{ cm}^{-1}$)

These systems are more suitable than 4f ions, but their potentialities are rather limited

Orbitally-degenerate 4d and 5d complexes: \Rightarrow Jr > 100 cm⁻¹

- high exchange anisotropy ($r \sim 1$), strong exchange interactions ($J \sim 100 - 300 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ and more)

These systems are the best candidates for designing high-T SMM !!!

Orbitally degenerate 5*d* complexes are especially promising Examples: [Re^{IV}(CN)₇]³⁻ and [Os^{III}(CN)₆]³⁻ cyanocomplexes



4*d* and 5*d* magnetic centers provide strong exchange interactions, $J > 100 \text{ cm}^{-1}$



General reason: 4*d* and 5*d* magnetic orbitals are more diffuse than 3*d* orbitals. They overlap much better with the valence orbitals of bridging groups thus providing much higher exchange parameters for a similar molecular geometry



 $[(NH_3)_5 Cr^{III} CN Cr^{III} (NH_3)_5]^{5+}$



J. Glerup *et al Acta Chem. Scand.* **1991**, *45*, 444.

 $Cr^{III}(3d^3), S = 3/2$ NH₃

Strong spin-orbit coupling is highly preferable

Low-symmetry distortions tend to quench orbital momentum \rightarrow negative influence Strong spin-orbit coupling favors for unquenched orbital momentum \rightarrow positive influence





In real molecular clusters orbitally-degenerate complexes are often distorted. Distortions lift the orbital degeneracy of ground level. The orbital splitting is typically 1000 – 3000 cm⁻¹

Relation between the orbital splitting energy and the spin-orbit splitting energy (yellow) in 3*d*, 4*d*, and 5*d* complexes:

Spin-orbit splitting must be larger than the orbital splitting !

In 3*d* orbitally-degenerate complexes distortions quench the orbital momentum, while in 5*d* complexes the orbital momentum remains unquenched. In 4*d* complexes the situation is intermediate

Orbitally-degenerate 4*d* and 5*d* cyanocomplexes : molecular building blocks with high magnetic anisotropy (large *Jr* factor)



Advantages:

- High exchange parameters J with attached high-spin 3d ions (Cr³⁺, Mn²⁺),
- Strong exchange anisotropy for apical M-CN linkages (Ising-like, r ~ 1)

Jr ~ 100 cm⁻¹

Disadvantages:

- Too large number of coordination positions is unfavorable for obtaining clusters; very often 3D or 2D polymer structures are formed;
- Weak exchange anisotropy for the equatorial M-CN linkages in Mo^{III}(CN)₇⁴⁻ and Re^{IV}(CN)₇³⁻;
- Mo^{III}(CN)₇⁴⁻ is strongly distorted this reduces the magnetic anisotropy (small *r* parameter);

Re^{IV}(CN)₇³⁻ and Os^{III}(CN)₆³⁻ are oxidizers; they are incompatible with many high-spin 3*d* ions (V²⁺, V³⁺, Cr²⁺, Fe²⁺) providing high exchange parameters *J*. Orbitally degenerate [Re^{IV}(CN)₇]³⁻ pentagonal-bipyramidal heptacyano complex: the electronic structure and magnetic properties



V.S. Mironov, Dokl. Akad. Nauk 408, 130 (2006)

5*d*-3*d* spin clusters with orbitally degenerate [Re^{IV}(CN)₇]³⁻ complexes: Potential high-T single-molecule magnets



In mixed $(\text{Re}_n\text{-}\text{Cr})_n$ (n = 2,3,4) cyanobridged clusters with orbitally-degenerate $[\text{Re}(\text{CN})_7]^{3-}$ building blocks the energy gap ΔE_{01} can reach a value of 200 cm⁻¹. This corresponds to the blocking temperature of $T_b \sim 25-50$ K:

 $\Delta E_{01} \approx 200 \text{ cm}^{-1}, T_b \approx 25-50 \text{ K}.$

 T_b is estimated from the ratio $\Delta E_{01}/kT_b \sim 5-10$

In Mn₁₂Ac: $\Delta E_{01} \approx 9 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ (13 K), $T_b \approx 3$ K.

V.S. Mironov, Dokl. Akad. Nauk 408, 130 (2006)

Experimentally characterized molecular spin clusters based on 4d and 5d orbitally-degenerate complexes Mo^{III}(CN)₇⁴⁻, Re^{IV}(CN)₇³⁻, and Os^{III}(CN)₆³⁻



K.R.Dunbar et. al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2010, 49, 5013.

Direct experimental evidence : the [(PY5Me₂)₄Mn₄Re(CN)₇]⁴⁺ cyano-bridged SMM cluster



 $[PY5Me_2)_4Mn_4Re(CN)_7]^{4+}$ cluster D.E. Fredman, D.M. Jenkins A.T. Iavarone, and J.R. Long, J. Am.Chem.Soc. **130**, 2884 (2008).

High spin-reversal barrier, $U_{eff} \sim 33 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ U_{eff} is the largest among small SMM clusters!

Important !!!

The $[(PY5Me_2)_4Mn_4Re(CN)_7]^{4+}$ cluster has no one-center (ZFS) contribution to the molecular magnetic anisotropy since the ZFS energies on Re and Mn sites are too small:

SDS = 0 for $\text{Re}(\text{CN})_7^{3-}$, S = 1/2 **SDS** < 1 cm⁻¹ for Mn²⁺, S = 5/2

Conclusion:

The spin-reversal barrier of U_{eff} ~ 33 cm⁻¹ is entirely due to anisotropic exchange interactions of the Re^{IV}-CN-Mn^{II} linkages Anisotropic exchange parameters are sensitive to the bending of the CN bridging groups

 $[\text{Re}^{IV}(\text{CN})_7^{3-}]$ – Mn³⁺ anisotropic exchange interaction



V.S. Mironov, JACS., submitted

Modeling magnetic and SMM properties of the [(PY5Me₂)₄Mn₄Re(CN)₇]⁴⁺ cluster

Formally, magnetic behavior looks as weakly ferromagnetic, J = +4.6 cm⁻¹



Actually, Re^{IV}-CN-Mn^{II} exchange interactions are highly anisotropic

$$H = -J_z S_{\text{Re}}^z S_{Mn}^z - J_{xy} (S_{\text{Re}}^x S_{Mn}^x + S_{\text{Re}}^y S_{Mn}^y)$$

Anisotropic exchange parameters J_z , J_{xy} are all antiferromagnetic !!!

 $J_z = -32, J_{xy} = -11 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ apical Re-CN-Mn pairs $J_z = -6.5, J_{xy} = -9.0 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ equatorial Re-CN-Mn pairs V.S. Mironov, JACS., submitted

Trinuclear SMMs [Mn^{III}₂(5-Brsalen)₂(MeOH)₂M^{III}(CN)₆] (M=Ru, Os)



Two novel trinuclear Mn-Ru-Mn and Mn-Os-Mn SMM clusters based on orbitally degenerate $Ru^{III}(CN)_6^{3-}$ and $Os^{III}(CN)_6^{3-}$ complexes are obtained and characterized:

Three-Axis Anisotropic Exchange Coupling in the Single-Molecule Magnets (NEt₄)[Mn^{III}₂(5-Brsalen)₂(MeOH)₂M^{III}(CN)₆], M = Ru, Os

Jan Dreiser,*^[a,b] Kasper S. Pedersen,^[c] Alexander Schnegg,^[d] Karsten Holldack,^[e] Joscha Nehrkorn,^[a] Marc Sigrist^[f], Philip Tregenna-Piggott,^{[g]†} Hannu Mutka,^[f] Høgni Weihe,^[c] Vladimir S. Mironov,^[h] Jesper Bendix,^[c] and Oliver Waldmann*^[a]

Chem. Eur. J., 19, 3693 (2013)

- Magnetic susceptibility
- Field-dependent magnetization
- INS spectroscopy

Ru^Ⅲ. Os^Ⅲ

Mn^{III}

н

- □ THz EPR spectroscopy
- Relaxation AC measurements





14.2 cm⁻¹ (Os)





Extremely anisotropic three-axis spin coupling in Ru^{III}-CN-Mn^{III} and Os^{III}-CN-Mn^{III} pairs

$$H = -J_{x}S_{Os}^{x}S_{Mn}^{x} - J_{y}S_{Os}^{y}S_{Mn}^{y} - J_{z}S_{Os}^{z}S_{Mn}^{z}$$

Exchange parameters J_x , J_z and J_y have opposite signs!

35

30

25

20

15

10

5

Energy, cm⁻¹

Os^{III}-CN-Mn^{III}

 $J_x = -20 \text{ cm}^{-1} \text{ AF}$ $J_y = +25 \text{ cm}^{-1} \text{ Ferro}$ $J_z = -26 \text{ cm}^{-1} \text{ AF}$

Ru^{III}-CN-Mn^{III}





The spin-reversal barrier U_{eff} is very close to the energy position ΔE_{01} of the first excited spin state

 $\Delta E_{01} \longleftarrow U_{eff} = 11.8 \text{ cm}^{-1} \text{ MnRuMn}$ $U_{eff} = 14.2 \text{ cm}^{-1} \text{ MnOsMn}$

The spin energy spectrum differs drastically from the usual *DS*² pattern

Three-axis exchange anisotropy is due to bending of the Os-CN-Mn group

The key reason: a very efficient superexchange pathway of mixed $\sigma\pi$ -type opens up in the bent Os-CN-Mn group



Orbitally-dependent exchange spin Hamiltonian for the ground ${}^{2}T_{2a}(5a^{5})$ orbital triplet of $Os(CN)_{6}^{3-}$ Uniaxial Ising-like spin Hamiltonian transforms to a three-axis spin Hamiltonian upon bending the Os-CN-Mn bridging group



Anisotropic exchange spin Hamiltonian H_{eff} for the ground Kramers doublet $\Gamma_7(\pm 1/2)$ of Os(CN)₆³⁻

$$H = -\begin{pmatrix} J_{1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & J_{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & J_{3} \end{pmatrix} S_{Os}S_{Mn} \longrightarrow H_{eff} = -J_{x}\tau_{Os}^{x}S_{Mn}^{x} - J_{y}\tau_{Os}^{y}S_{Mn}^{y} - J_{z}\tau_{Os}^{z}S_{Mn}^{z} \\ J_{x} = (-J_{1}+J_{2}+J_{3})/3, \ J_{y} = (J_{1}+J_{2}-J_{3})/3, \ J_{z} = (J_{1}+J_{2}+J_{3})/3$$

Linear Os-CN-Mn group $\rightarrow J_1=J_3$, $J_2\approx 0 \rightarrow J_z = 2J_1/3$, $J_x = J_y \approx 0 \rightarrow AF$ Ising-like exchange Bent Os-CN-Mn group $\rightarrow J_3 >> J_1$, $J_2 \rightarrow J_x \approx J_z = J_3/3 < 0$, $J_y \approx -J_3/3 > 0 \rightarrow$ Three-axis exchange

These results are in perfect agreement with the experimental data

Complete experimental evidence of the high-T SMM concept: Trinuclear [Mn^{II}(L5)-Mo^{III}(CN)₇- Mn^{II}(L5)] clusters

Three novel trinuclear Mn^{II}-Mo^{III}-Mn^{II} cyano-bridged clusters based on the orbitally degenerate $Mo^{III}(CN)_7^{4-}$ bipyramidal complex are recently obtained and characterized:

> Xin-Yi Wang, Kun Qian, Xing-Cai Huang, Chun Zhou, Xiao-Zeng You, Vladimir S. Mironov, and Kim R. Dunbar, Nature Chem., submitted

> > same molecular

building blocks !!!

a L5 =

b

L5 =

Mo1

LN302

Only isomer (a) with two Mn^{II}(L5) centers attached to the central Mo^{III}(CN)₇⁴⁻ complex via two apical positions exhibits SMM behavior with $U_{\rm eff}$ = 40.5 cm⁻¹ and $T_{\rm b}$ = 3.2 K.





L5 =

LDAPSC

Anisotropic spin coupling in Mo^{III}-CN-Mn^{II} linkages



For the regular Mo^{III}(CN)₇⁴⁻ bipyramid the symmetry of the spin Hamiltonian is higher than the actual local symmetry of Mo-CN-Mn groups !

The difference in the SMM behavior of Mn-Mo-Mn isomers (a), (b), and (c) is due to different relation between J_z and J_{xv} exchange parameters $\hat{H} = -\sum \left(J_{xy} (S_{Mn(i)}^x S_{Mo}^x + S_{Mn(i)}^y S_{Mo}^y) + J_z S_{Mn(i)}^z S_{Mo}^z \right) - J_{Mn-Mn} S_{Mn(1)} S_{Mn(2)}$

 $+ \mu_B g_{\mathrm{Mn}} (\boldsymbol{S}_{\mathrm{Mn}(1)} + \boldsymbol{S}_{\mathrm{Mn}(2)}) \boldsymbol{H} + \mu_B (g_x S_{\mathrm{Mo}}^x H_x + g_y S_{\mathrm{Mo}}^y H_y + g_z S_{\mathrm{Mo}}^z H_z)$



Calculated and experimental energy barrier U_{eff} and resonance magnetic field values in Mn-Mo-Mn isomer (a)



47 cm⁻¹ (calculated)

Xin-Yi Wang, Kun Qian, Xing-Cai Huang, Chun Zhou, Xiao-Zeng You, Vladimir S. Mironov, and Kim R. Dunbar, *Nature Chem.*, *submitted*

1.99 and 2.32 T (calculated)

Efficiency of anisotropic spin coupling in enhancing U_{eff} and T_{B} values: A comparison with conventional 3d-metal based SMMs



Small trinuclear Mn-Mo-Mn cluster with S=9/2 has nearly the same U_{eff} and T_{B} values as those of a large Mn₁₂Ac cluster with S=10. In fact, SMM characteristics of Mn-Mo-Mn are even comparable with the record U_{eff} and T_{B} values for the Mn₆ cluster



No single-ion ZFS contributions to the molecular magnetic anisotropy! The spin-reversal barrier $U_{eff} \sim 40 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ is entirely due to anisotropic spin coupling of the Mo^{III}-CN-Mn^{II} linkages

> Basic idea of high-T SMM concept based on anisotropic spin coupling was suggested in 2003. It has taken a decade to prove it experimentally

The barrier U_{eff} is directly proportional to the exchange parameter J_z . This approach has high potentialities since J_z can easily be scaled to very high values :

Mo^{III}-CN-Mn^{II}:

$$|J_z| = 34 \text{ cm}^{-1} \rightarrow U_{\text{eff}} = 40 \text{ cm}^{-1}, T_{\text{B}} = 3.2 \text{ K}$$

Mo^{III}-CN-V^{II} :

 $|J_z| > 200 \text{ cm}^{-1} \rightarrow U_{\text{eff}} > 200 \text{ cm}^{-1}, T_{\text{B}} > 10 \text{ K}$



Mechanism of a Strongly Anisotropic Mo^{III}–CN–Mn^{II} Spin–Spin Coupling in Molecular Magnets Based on the [Mo(CN)₇]^{4–} Heptacyanometalate: A New Strategy for Single-Molecule Magnets with High Blocking Temperatures

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Abstract: Unusual spin coupling between Mo^{III} and Mn^{II} cyano-bridged ions in bimetallic molecular magnets based on the [Mo^{III}(CN)₇]^{4–} heptacyanometalate is analyzed in terms of the superexchange theory. Due to the orbital degeneracy and strong spin–orbit coupling on Mo^{III}, the ground state of the pentagonal-bipyramidal [Mo^{III}(CN)₇]^{4–} complex corresponds to an anisotropic Kramers doublet. Using a specially adapted kinetic exchange model we have shown that the Mo^{III–}CN–Mn^{II} superexchange interaction is extremely anisotropic: it is described by an Ising-like spin Hamiltonian $JS_{Mo}^x S_{Mn}^x$ for the apical pairs and by the $J_z S_{Mo}^z$ $S_{Mn}^z + J_{xy}(S_{Mo}^x S_{Mn}^x + S_{Mo}^x S_{Mn}^y)$ spin Hamiltonian for the equatorial pairs (in the latter case J_z and J_{xy} can have opposite signs). This anisotropy resulted from an interplay of several Ising-like ($S_{Mo}^z S_{Mn}^z$) and

General strategy for designing high-T single-molecule magnets

- Search for new orbitally degenerate 4d and 5d molecular building blocks with a high Jr factor Conditions:
- Unquenched orbital momentum ($L \neq 0$)
- Strong exchange interactions
- Searching favorable combinations of magnetically anisotropic 4d (5d) complexes and attached high-spin 3d ions
 Conditions:
- Strong exchange anisotropy, preferably of the Ising-type
- Large exchange parameters
- Molecular design and tuning of the SMM structure Key factors controlling and tuning SMM characteristics T_b and U_{eff}:
- Chemical composition
- Structure, nuclearity, and symmetry of the SMM cluster
- Topology of anisotropic and isotropic exchange linkages
- Orientation of principal magnetic axes

Theory

Development of the theory of SMMs with highly anisotropic spin couplings and elaboration of computational approaches are crucially important for designing high-T SMMs

Prospects for designing high-T SMM based on orbitally-degenerate 4d and 5d complexes



Isotropic exchange interactions $J_{ij}S_iS_j$ (AF or F) between high-spin 3*d* centers form high ground-state magnetic moment of a SMM cluster

Anisotropic (Ising-like) exchange interactions $J_{ij}S_i^zS_j^z$ between 5*d* and 3*d* centers form high molecular magnetic anisotropy. The local magnetic anisotropy axes must be parallel

- Ordinary (spin-only) magnetic sites (Cr³; Mn²⁺, Fe³⁺)
- Orbitally-degenerate magnetic sites [Os(CN)₆]³⁻, [Re(CN)₇]³⁻

In specially organized SMM clusters with orbitally-degenerate 5*d* centers the energy barrier U_{eff} can reach a value of $U_{eff} \sim 1.5J - 2J$



Anisotropic 5*d*-3*d* exchange interactions may be as strong as $J \sim 200-400 \text{ cm}^{-1}$: Therefore, $U_{eff} \sim 500 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ (700 K) and $T_b \sim 30-50$ K are potentially feasible! Search for new 4*d* and 5*d* molecular building blocks for high-T single-molecule magnets

New molecular building blocks with an extremely high *Jr* factor are required for designing high-T SMMs

$$T_b \sim 30-50 \text{ K}$$
 $Jr > 400 \text{ cm}^{-1}$
 $T_b > 100 \text{ K}$ $Jr > 1000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

General conditions:

- Ising-like $(JS_1^z S_2^z)$ exchange anisotropy is highly preferable
- Very high 4(5)d 3d exchange parameters (J > 300 cm⁻¹) in combination with suitable high-spin 3d ions

Examples of paramagnetic 4d and 5d molecular building blocks



Most of them are spin-only complexes with L = 0

Orbitally-degenerate trigonal-pyramidal 4d and 5d complexes with macrocyclic ligands

A variety of trigonal-pyramidal 4*d* and 5*d* complexes with triamidoamine macrocyclic ligands are reported in the literature. Many of them are very promising for designing high-T SMMs



Advantages:

- The ground state of d¹ and d³ complexes is an orbital doublet with unquenched angular momentum;
- Strong spin-orbit coupling keeps the orbital momentum unquenched upon distortions; Jahn-Teller distortions are small;
- All unwanted equatorial coordination positions are blocked;
- Apical coordination positions provide highly anisotropic spin coupling with attached high-spin; ions;
- Molecular spin clusters and spin chains are easily obtained;
- A variety of promising metal-ligand combinations are available.

Ising-like spin coupling between trigonal-pyramidal 4d and 5d complexes and attached high-spin 3d ions



These 4*d*-3*d* and 5*d*-3*d* combinations provide a very high *Jr* factor, up to *Jr* ~ 300 cm⁻¹ !

Orbitally-degenerate pentagonal-pyramidal 5d complexes with macrocyclic ligands

Very interesting are pentagonal-pyramidal 4*d* and 5*d* complexes pentadentate macrocyclic ligands L5. They are most promising molecular building blocks for designing high-T SMMs





Advantages:

- The ground state of d¹ and d³ complexes is an orbital doublet with unquenched angular momentum;
- Strong spin-orbit coupling keeps the orbital momentum unquenched upon distortions; Jahn-Teller distortions are small;
- All unwanted equatorial coordination positions are blocked;
- Apical coordination positions provide highly anisotropic spin coupling with attached high-spin; ions;
- Molecular spin clusters and spin chains are easily obtained;
- A variety of promising metal-ligand combinations are available.

Pentadentate macrocyclic ligands and related pentagonal-bipyramidal complexes



Spin coupling between M(L5) complexes and attached high-spin transition-metal ions is highly anisotropic



These complexes provide a very high Jr factor $Jr \sim 600 \text{ cm}^{-1} \implies T_b \approx 50-70 \text{ K}$ A prototype of high-T single-molecule magnet based on 4d and 5d complexes M(L5) with planar pentadentate macrocyclic ligands L5

Ising-like 4d/5d - 3d spin coupling with very large J_z

$$H = -J_{z}S_{5d}^{z}S_{3d}^{z} - J_{xy}(S_{5d}^{x}S_{3d}^{x} + S_{5d}^{y}S_{3d}^{y}) \implies J_{z} \sim 400 \text{ cm}^{-1}, J_{xy} << J_{z}$$



Expected SMM characteristics:

S = 7/2 $U_{eff} \approx 400 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ $T_{B} > 15 \text{ K}$



Lanthanide-based SMMs

Numerous lanthanide-based SMMs were obtained and characterized in recent years

Several lanthanide-radical SMMs with record characteristics were reported

Tb₂(N₂³⁻) SMM cluster with record U_{eff} and T_b

Bridging anion-radical N_2^{3-} (S = 1/2) enters the coordination sphere of two Tb³⁺ ions resulting in high exchange parameters (J ~ 30 cm⁻¹)!





 $U_{\rm eff}$ = 326 K $T_{\rm b}$ = 14 K

J.D. Rinehart et al, JACS, 133, 14236 (2011)

Summary and Conclusions

- All presently known SMM clusters based on 3*d* ions have a low blocking temperature (*T_b* ~3-5 K) - little progress for the past decade;
- In molecular SMM clusters with ordinary (spin-only) 3*d* ions the blocking temperature T_b is limited by ~10-15 K due to fundamental factors;
- Strong exchange anisotropy of orbitally-degenerate magnetic centers represents a very efficient tool to increase the molecular magnetic anisotropy of SMM clusters;
- In clusters with orbitally-degenerate 5*d* complexes, the blocking temperature T_b can be raised by an order of magnitude, from $T_b = 3 5$ K to ~30-50 K;
- General selection rules for molecular magnetic building blocks are formulated;
- Specific magnetically anisotropic molecular building blocks are selected and explored. Orbitally degenerate 4d and 5d complexes with macrocyclic ligands are found to be especially promising;
- Geometry factors are extremely important in designing SMM clusters. Right angles between Ising axes of anisotropic spin couplings and bent bridging groups must be strictly avoided.