

Table S1. Separation factors of  $M^{n+}$  metal ions extracted with  $HP=2 \times 10^{-2}$  mol/dm<sup>3</sup> ligand in  $[C_1C_4im^+][Tf_2N^-]$  applying **EtG** and **H<sub>2</sub>O**.

SF	Fe	H <sub>2</sub> O	Ni	Cu	H <sub>2</sub> O	Eu	H <sub>2</sub> O	Gd	H <sub>2</sub> O	Lu	H <sub>2</sub> O	Hg	H <sub>2</sub> O	Tl	H <sub>2</sub> O	Bi	H <sub>2</sub> O
Al	22.7	$3.3 \times 10^{-3}$	$9.3 \times 10^{-2}$	30.2	$2 \times 10^{-2}$	6.2	$3.8 \times 10^{-2}$	19.7	$8 \times 10^{-2}$	19.3	$3 \times 10^{-2}$	0.24	<b>1.74</b>	8.8	$4 \times 10^{-2}$	9.2	<b>0.3</b>
Fe		$4 \times 10^{-3}$	1.3	<b>5.9</b>	0.27	<b>11.53</b>	0.86	<b>24.6</b>	0.84	<b>9.75</b>	$1 \times 10^{-2}$	<b>525.6</b>	0.38	<b>12.5</b>	0.4	<b>92.3</b>	
Ni		—	324.2	—	66.3	—	211	—	207	—	2.55	—	94.5	—	98.8	—	
Cu					0.2	<b>1.9</b>	0.65	<b>4.11</b>	0.63	<b>1.63</b>	$7 \times 10^{-3}$	<b>87.8</b>	0.29	<b>2.08</b>	0.30	<b>15.4</b>	
Eu							3.2	<b>2.13</b>	3.12	<b>0.84</b>	$4 \times 10^{-2}$	<b>45.5</b>	1.42	<b>1.08</b>	1.48	<b>8.0</b>	
Gd								0.97	<b>0.39</b>	$1.2 \times 10^{-2}$	<b>21.35</b>	0.44	<b>0.5</b>	0.46	<b>3.75</b>		
Lu										$1.2 \times 10^{-2}$	<b>53.7</b>	0.45	<b>1.27</b>	0.47	<b>9.43</b>		
Hg												36.9	$2 \times 10^{-2}$	38.6	<b>0.17</b>		
Tl													1.04	<b>7.4</b>			

Table S2. Initial concentrations of metal ions used in competitive extraction after 7 and **6.3**-fold dilution.

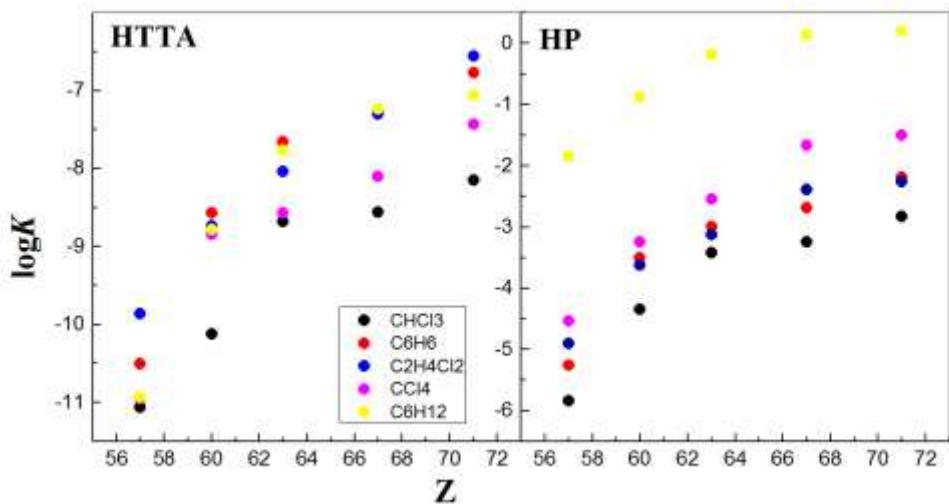
$M^{n+}$	Li <sup>+</sup>	Na <sup>+</sup>	K <sup>+</sup>	Ca <sup>2+</sup>	Ag <sup>+</sup>	Tl <sup>+</sup>	Sr <sup>2+</sup>	Ba <sup>2+</sup>	Co <sup>2+</sup>	Cu <sup>2+</sup>	Ni <sup>2+</sup>	Hg <sup>2+</sup>
[ $M^{n+}$ ] <sub>in</sub> mg/dm <sup>3</sup>	0.39±0.03 <b>0.23±0.01</b>	0.56±0.02 <b>0.79±0.02</b>	0.92±0.02 <b>1.14±0.01</b>	1.12±0.04 <b>1.79±0.06</b>	2.85±0.02 <b>3.94±0.04</b>	1.44±0.05 <b>2.44±0.26</b>	0.25±0.02 <b>2.11±0.01</b>	3.37±0.01 <b>5.23±0.04</b>	1.46±0.01 <b>2.32±0.01</b>	1.52±0.05 <b>2.82±0.02</b>	1.19±0.01 <b>1.89±0.02</b>	6.73±0.04 <b>13.22±2.4</b>
$M^{n+}$	Pb <sup>2+</sup>	Al <sup>3+</sup>	Bi <sup>3+</sup>	Fe <sup>3+</sup>	Cr <sup>3+</sup>	Mg <sup>2+</sup>	La <sup>3+</sup>	Ce <sup>3+</sup>	Eu <sup>3+</sup>	Gd <sup>3+</sup>	Lu <sup>3+</sup>	
[ $M^{n+}$ ] <sub>in</sub> mg/dm <sup>3</sup>	5.54±0.05 <b>9.85±0.18</b>	1.52±0.03 <b>2.74±0.06</b>	1.28±0.05 <b>2.96±0.32</b>	1.17±0.01 <b>2.06±0.16</b>	0.98±0.01 <b>1.53±0.04</b>	0.68±0.06 <b>0.98±0.01</b>	1.89±0.01 <b>2.55±0.02</b>	0.1±0.02 —	3.71±0.03 <b>6.01±0.04</b>	2.16±0.01 <b>3.08±0.04</b>	2.82±0.01 <b>4.39±0.02</b>	

Table S3. Separation factors of  $M^{n+}$  metal ions extracted with  $HP=2 \times 10^{-2}$  mol/dm<sup>3</sup> ligand in  $[C_1C_{10}im^+][Tf_2N^-]$  applying H<sub>2</sub>O and glycerol, 1:1.

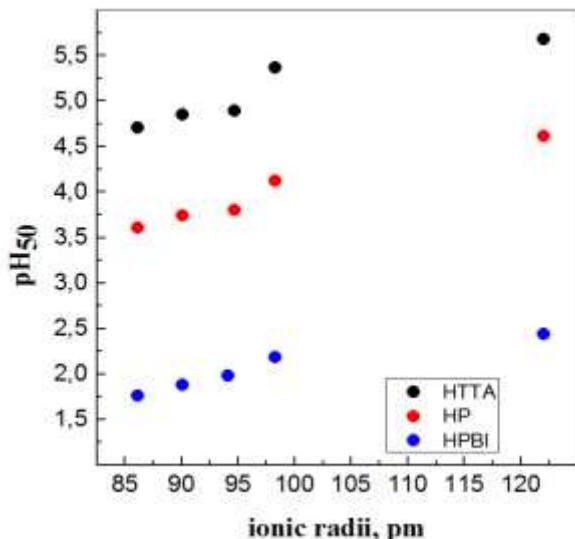
SF	Mg	Al	K	Ca	Cr	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Sr	Ag	Cd	Ba	La	Ce	Eu	Gd	Lu	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi
Li	1.7	0.7	0.5	2.3	1.2	$1 \times 10^{-3}$	0.3	1.3	$5 \times 10^{-3}$	4.4	21.7	1.04	1.5	1.03	0.9	0.87	1.6	0.7	0.35	1.52	0.05	0.98	0.1
Mg	0.4	0.3	1.3	0.7	$7 \times 10^{-4}$	0.14	0.75	$3 \times 10^{-3}$	2.5	12.6	0.6	1.5	0.6	0.53	0.5	0.92	0.42	0.2	0.88	$3 \times 10^{-2}$	0.6	$6 \times 10^{-2}$	
Al	0.72	3.3	1.72	$2 \times 10^{-3}$	0.35	0.54	$7 \times 10^{-3}$	6.2	30.6	1.47	2.17	1.46	1.3	1.2	2.23	1.02	0.5	2.15	$6 \times 10^{-2}$	1.4	0.14		
K	4.5	0.46	$2.4 \times 10^{-3}$	0.48	2.52	$1 \times 10^{-2}$	8.6	42.2	2.03	3.0	2.02	1.7	1.7	3.08	1.4	0.7	2.9	$9 \times 10^{-2}$	1.9	0.2			
Ca	0.52	$5 \times 10^{-4}$	0.1	0.55	$2 \times 10^{-2}$	1.9	9.3	0.44	0.66	0.44	0.39	0.37	0.68	0.31	0.15	0.65	$2 \times 10^{-2}$	0.42	$4 \times 10^{-2}$				
Cr			$1 \times 10^{-3}$	0.2	1.06	$4 \times 10^{-3}$	3.6	17.8	0.85	1.26	0.85	0.74	0.72	1.3	0.6	0.3	1.25	$4 \times 10^{-2}$	0.8	$8 \times 10^{-2}$			
Fe				199.8	$1 \times 10^{-3}$	4.4	$3 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.7 \times 10^{-4}$	832	$1 \times 10^{-3}$	826	723	693	$1 \times 10^{-3}$	576	282	$1 \times 10^{-3}$	38.6	784	82.7			
Co						5.2	$2 \times 10^{-2}$	17.6	86.4	4.2	6.1	4.1	3.6	3.4	6.3	2.8	1.4	6.07	0.2	3.9	0.4		
Ni							$4 \times 10^{-3}$	3.4	16.7	0.8	1.2	0.8	0.7	0.7	1.2	0.56	0.3	1.2	$3 \times 10^{-2}$	0.76	$8 \times 10^{-2}$		
Cu								792	$3 \times 10^{-4}$	187	274	184	161	155	281	132	63	271	8.63	175	18.5		
Zn									4.9	0.24	0.2	0.23	0.2	0.2	0.35	0.16	$8 \times 10^{-2}$	0.34	$1 \times 10^{-2}$	0.22	$2 \times 10^{-2}$		
Sr										$4 \times 10^{-2}$	$7 \times 10^{-2}$	$4 \times 10^{-2}$	$4 \times 10^{-2}$	$7 \times 10^{-2}$	$3 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.6 \times 10^{-2}$	$7 \times 10^{-2}$	$2 \times 10^{-3}$	$4 \times 10^{-2}$	$4 \times 10^{-3}$			
Ag											1.4	1	0.86	0.83	1.5	0.7	0.34	1.4	$4 \times 10^{-2}$	0.94	$9 \times 10^{-2}$		
Cd												0.67	0.58	0.56	1.02	0.46	0.23	0.98	$3 \times 10^{-2}$	0.63	$6 \times 10^{-2}$		
Ba													0.87	0.83	1.52	0.69	0.34	1.47	$4 \times 10^{-2}$	0.94	0.1		
La														0.95	1.7	0.8	0.4	1.6	$5 \times 10^{-2}$	1	0.1		
Ce														1.8	0.83	0.4	1.7	$5 \times 10^{-2}$	1.1	0.1			
Eu															0.45	0.22	0.96	$3 \times 10^{-2}$	0.6	$6 \times 10^{-2}$			
Gd															0.47	2.1	$6 \times 10^{-2}$	1.3	0.13				
Lu																4.3	0.13	2.77	0.3				
Hg																	$3 \times 10^{-3}$	0.64	$6 \times 10^{-2}$				
Tl																		20.3	2.2				
Pb																			0.1				

Table S4. Initial concentrations of metal ions used in competitive extraction test applying H<sub>2</sub>O and glycerol, 1:1.

$M^{n+}$	Li <sup>+</sup>	Na <sup>+</sup>	K <sup>+</sup>	Ca <sup>2+</sup>	Ag <sup>+</sup>	Tl <sup>+</sup>	Sr <sup>2+</sup>	Ba <sup>2+</sup>	Co <sup>2+</sup>	Cu <sup>2+</sup>	Ni <sup>2+</sup>	Hg <sup>2+</sup>	
$[M^{n+}]_{in}$ mg/dm <sup>3</sup>	$0.50 \pm 0.01$	$2.55 \pm 0.02$	$3.10 \pm 0.02$	$4.37 \pm 0.02$	$7.21 \pm 0.10$	$5.16 \pm 0.16$	$12.67 \pm 0.89$	$10.45 \pm 0.06$	$4.37 \pm 0.14$	$5.08 \pm 0.01$	$3.40 \pm 0.02$	$26.69 \pm 0.88$	
$M^{n+}$	Pb <sup>2+</sup>	Al <sup>3+</sup>	Bi <sup>3+</sup>	Fe <sup>3+</sup>	Cr <sup>3+</sup>	Mg <sup>2+</sup>	La <sup>3+</sup>	Ce <sup>3+</sup>	Eu <sup>3+</sup>	Gd <sup>3+</sup>	Lu <sup>3+</sup>	Zn <sup>2+</sup>	Cd <sup>2+</sup>
$[M^{n+}]_{in}$ mg/dm <sup>3</sup>	$17.95 \pm 0.10$	$5.99 \pm 0.01$	$12.48 \pm 0.30$	$4.48 \pm 0.20$	$2.85 \pm 0.01$	$1.87 \pm 0.01$	$10.21 \pm 0.01$	$12.39 \pm 0.04$	$8.20 \pm 0.02$	$7.26 \pm 0.01$	$11.41 \pm 0.04$	$4.42 \pm 0.02$	$9.63 \pm 0.04$



**Figure S1.** LogK vs. Z.



**Figure S2.** pH<sub>50</sub> in the solvent extraction of lanthanoids with HL in CHCl<sub>3</sub> as a function of the ionic radius.

Table S5. Concentrations of the investigated Gd<sup>3+</sup> ions using the SpinCount program, part of the Bruker Xenon software.

Sample	Concentration [mol/dm <sup>3</sup> ] found in frozen solutions, 120 K
c	9.1×10 <sup>-3</sup>
a	1.05×10 <sup>-6</sup>
b	1.7×10 <sup>-7</sup>
1	2.6×10 <sup>-4</sup>
2	4.6×10 <sup>-4</sup>
3	2.5×10 <sup>-4</sup>

Notes: <sup>1</sup>For the calculation of the molar concentrations in the SpinCount program, a spin number S=1/2 was used for solutions 1, 2 and 3, with a single transition  $-1/2 \leftrightarrow +1/2$ . A spin number S=7/2 is used for solutions a, b and c, where multiple allowed transitions are observed.

<sup>2</sup>The investigated volume of the extracting phase is small, i.e. no 100% LP phase.

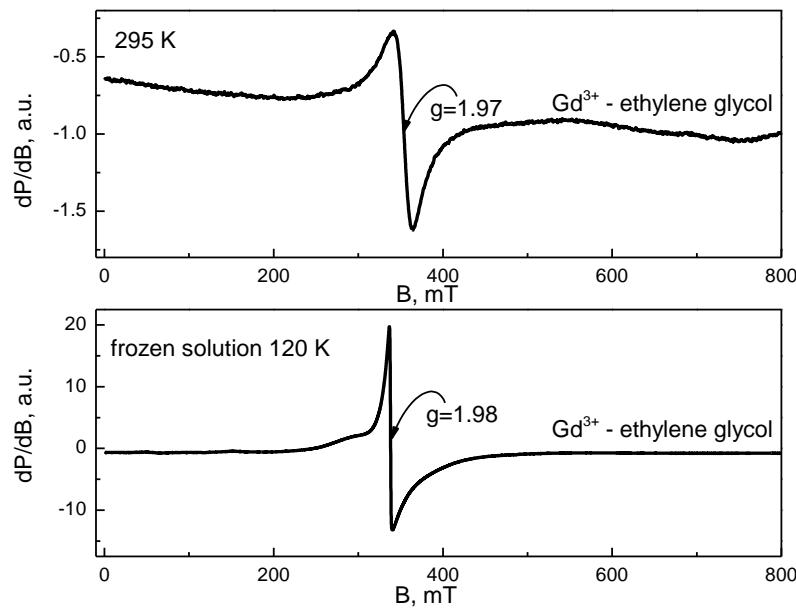


Fig. S3. EPR spectra of Gd<sup>3+</sup> ion in ethylene glycol at room temperature and in the frozen state at 120 K: [Gd<sup>3+</sup>]=3×10<sup>-3</sup> mol/dm<sup>3</sup>.

Table S6. Concentrations of the investigated Gd<sup>3+</sup> ions using the SpinCount program, part of the Bruker Xenon software.

Sample	Concentration [mol/dm <sup>3</sup> ] found in frozen solutions, 120 K
C	Background spectrum
A	4.115 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>
B	4.075 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>
1	2.239 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>
2	3.93 × 10 <sup>-8</sup>
3 *	Background spectrum
ZERO	1.4 × 10 <sup>-2</sup>

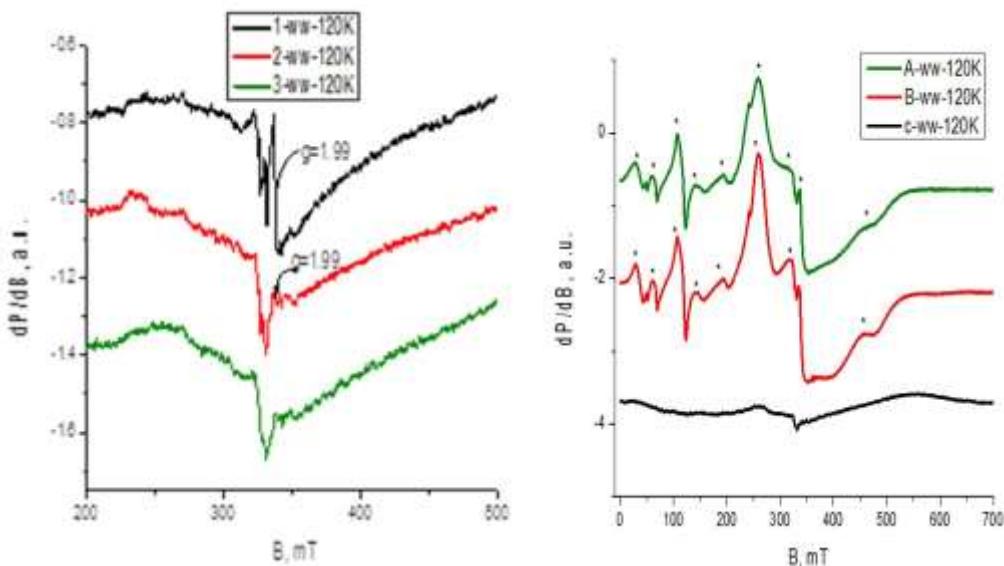


Fig. S4. EPR spectra of frozen solutions of complexes of Gd<sup>3+</sup> ([Gd<sup>3+</sup>]<sub>in</sub>=6×10<sup>-4</sup> mol/dm<sup>3</sup>) with ligands [HP]=2.5×10<sup>-2</sup> mol/dm<sup>3</sup> (A, B and C) and [HTTA]=3×10<sup>-2</sup> mol/dm<sup>3</sup> (1, 2 and 3) obtained after solvent

extraction from EtG, respectively, in the following diluents  $[C_1C_4im^+][Tf_2N^-]$  (A:  $pH_{eq}=1.98$  and 1:  $pH_{eq}=2.60$ ), ( $[C_1C_{10}im^+][Tf_2N^-]$  (B:  $pH_{eq}=2.02$  and 2:  $pH_{eq}=2.57$ ),  $CHCl_3$ , (C:  $pH_{eq}=1.98$  and 3:  $pH_{eq}=2.21$ ). On the left: range of the magnetic field 0–700 mT, on the right: range of the magnetic field 300–360 mT.

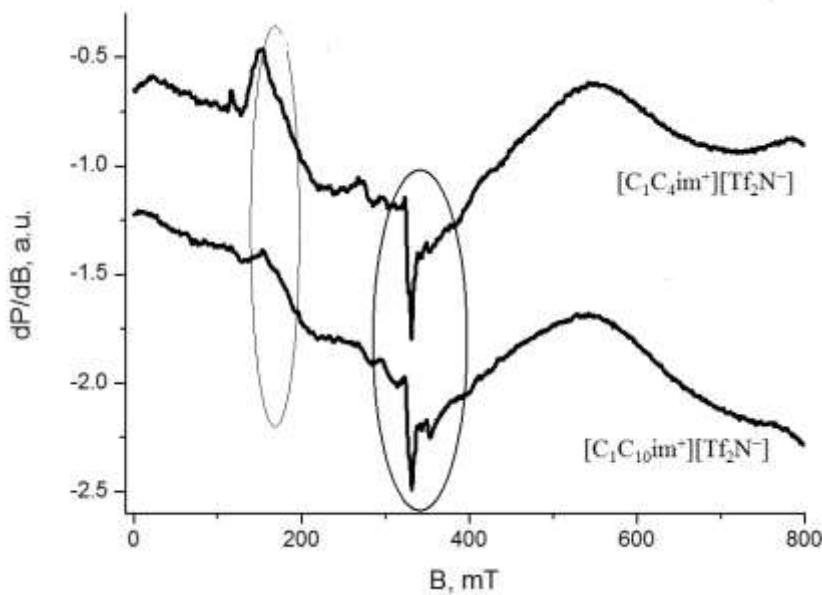


Fig. S5. EPR spectra of  $Cr^{3+}$  obtained after solvent extraction with  $HP=2 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol}/\text{dm}^3$  in  $[C_1C_4im^+][Tf_2N^-]$  and  $[C_1C_{10}im^+][Tf_2N^-]$  recorded in frozen solutions: MP phase –  $[Cr^{3+}]_{in}=6 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol}/\text{dm}^3$  and 0.1 MES in EtG. Calculated % E is 71.23% and 54.60% – ICP-OES based on an average of three parallel determinations.

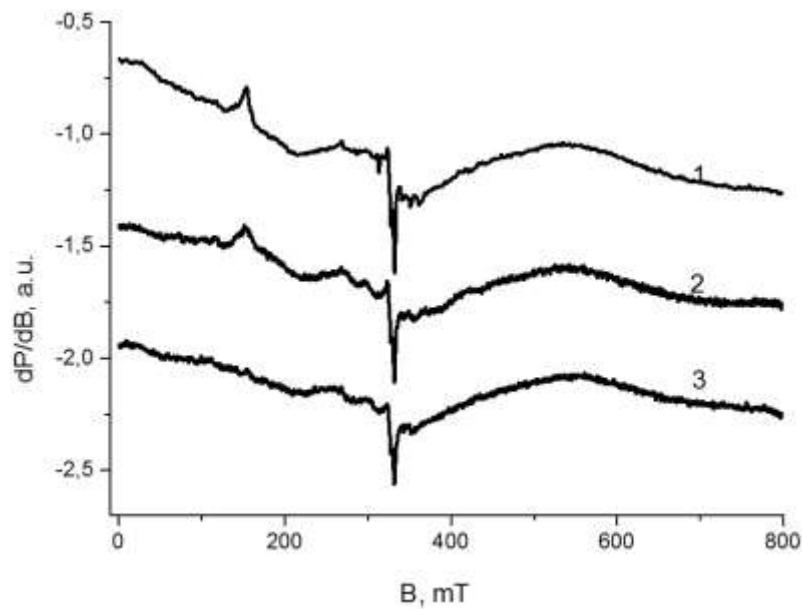


Fig. S6. EPR spectra of  $Cr^{3+}$  obtained after solvent extraction with  $HP=2 \times 10^{-2} \text{ mol}/\text{dm}^3$  in  $[C_1C_{10}im^+][Tf_2N^-]/EtG$  (1),  $[C_1C_4im^+][Tf_2N^-]/EtG$  (2) and  $[C_1C_4im^+][Tf_2N^-]/H_2O$  (3) recorded in frozen solutions: MP phase –  $[Cr^{3+}]_{in}=1 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mol}/\text{dm}^3$  and 0.1 MES in EtG. Calculated % E is 99.04% (1) and 99.57% (2) and below 0.5% (3) – ICP-OES based on an average of three parallel determinations.

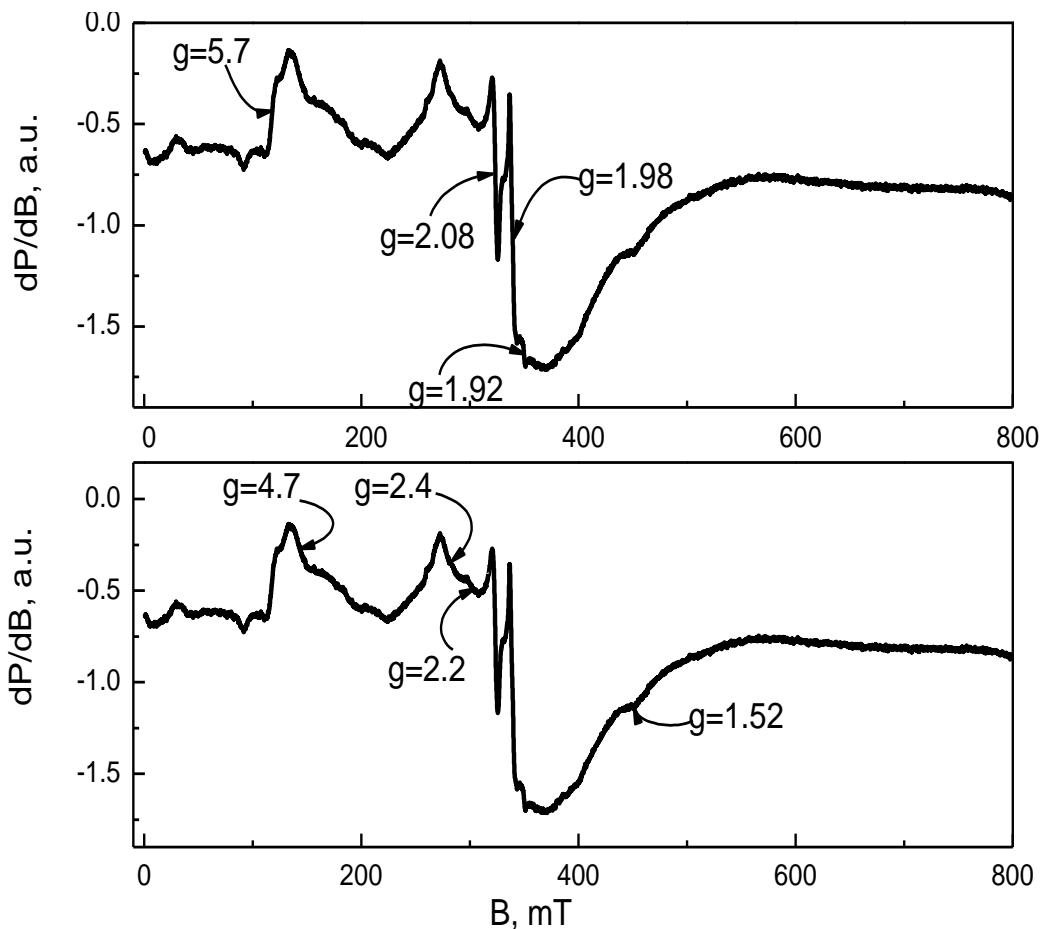


Fig. S7. EPR spectra of  $\text{Cr}^{3+}$  ion in ethylene glycol at room temperature and in the frozen state at 120 K:  $[\text{Cr}^{3+}] = 3 \times 10^{-3} \text{ mol}/\text{dm}^3$ . The  $\text{Cr}^{3+}$  concentration in the so called “standard sample” was found to be about  $4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol}/\text{dm}^3$  (the spectra was integrated from 0 to 500 mT.)