

## Supplementary Material

### **Complexes of bifunctional DO3A-N-( $\alpha$ -amino)propionate ligands with Mg(II), Ca(II), Cu(II), Zn(II) and Lanthanide(III) ions: thermodynamic stability, formation and dissociation kinetics and solution NMR studies**

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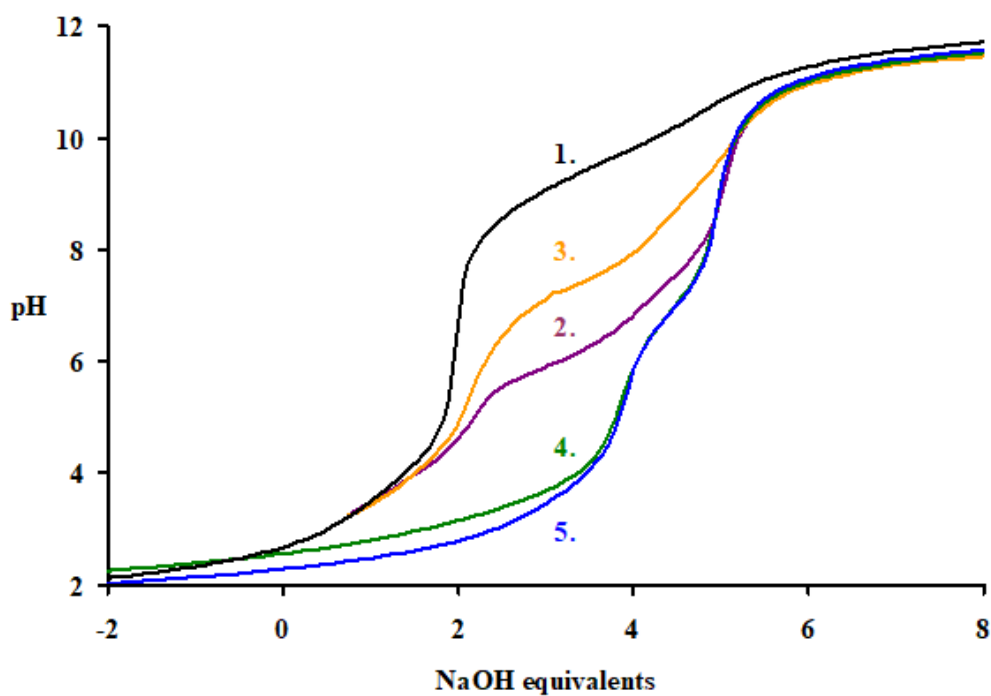
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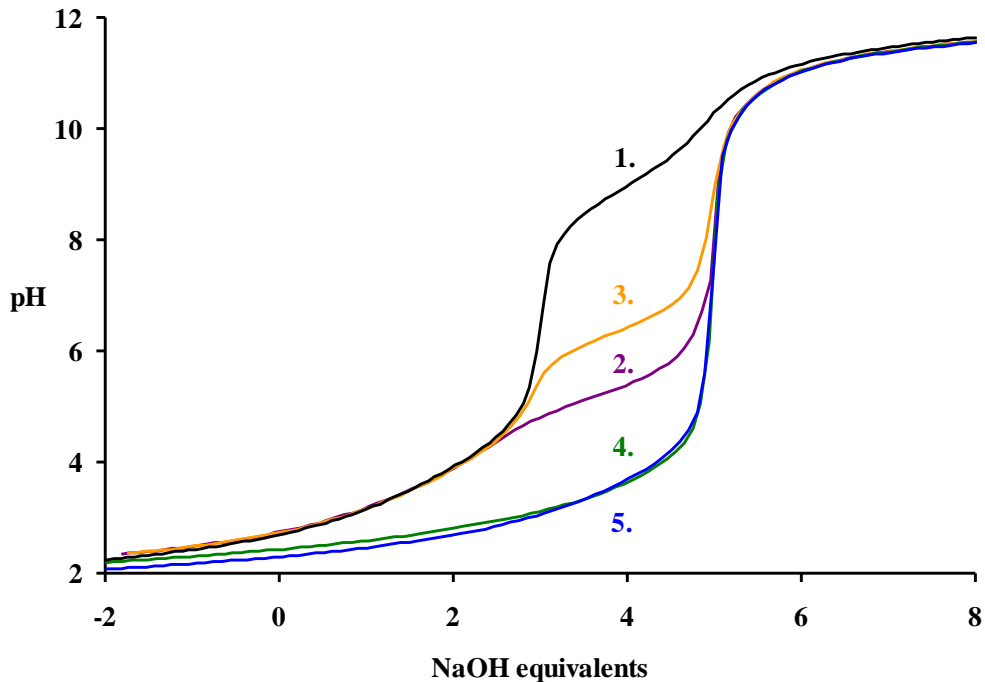
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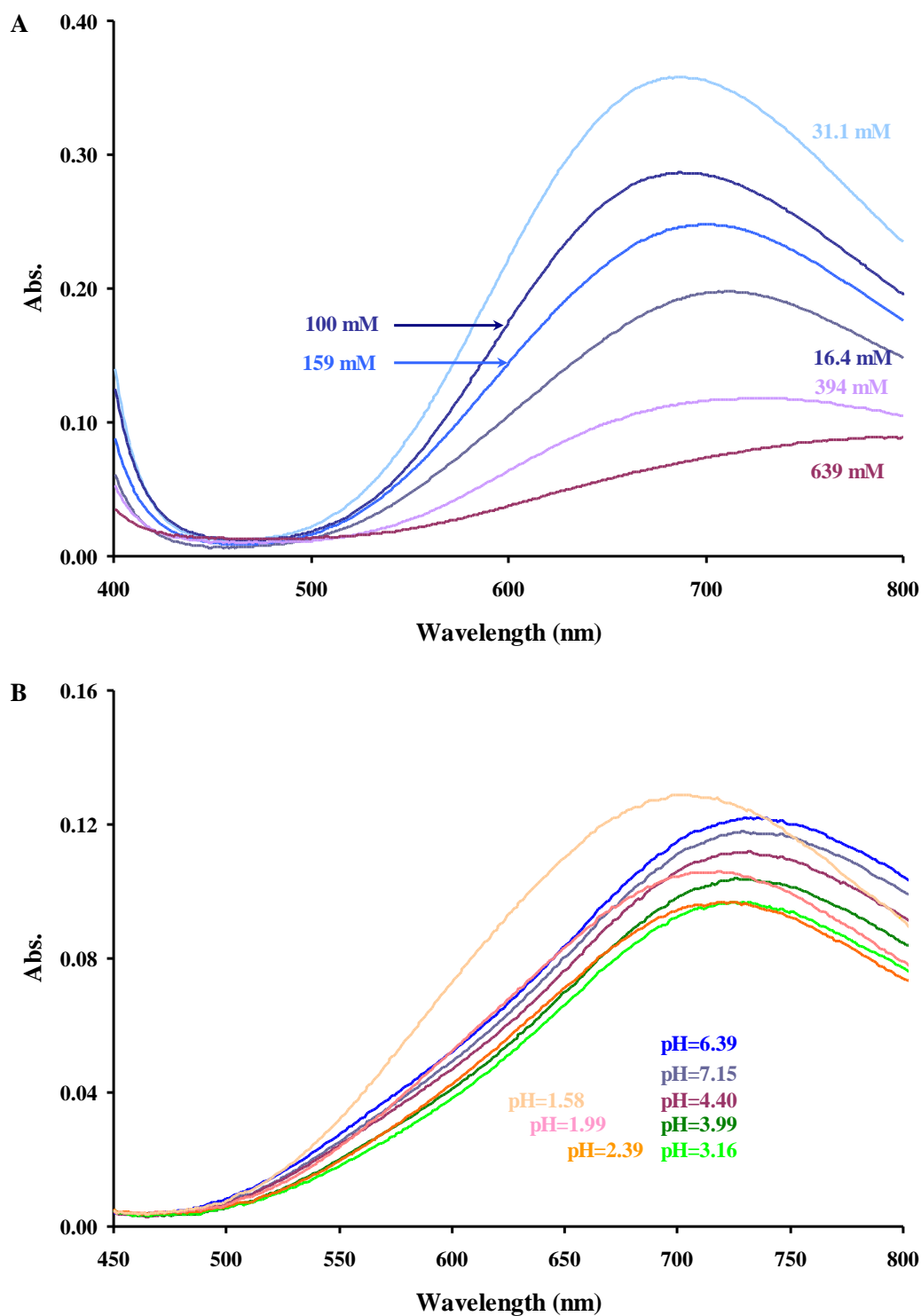
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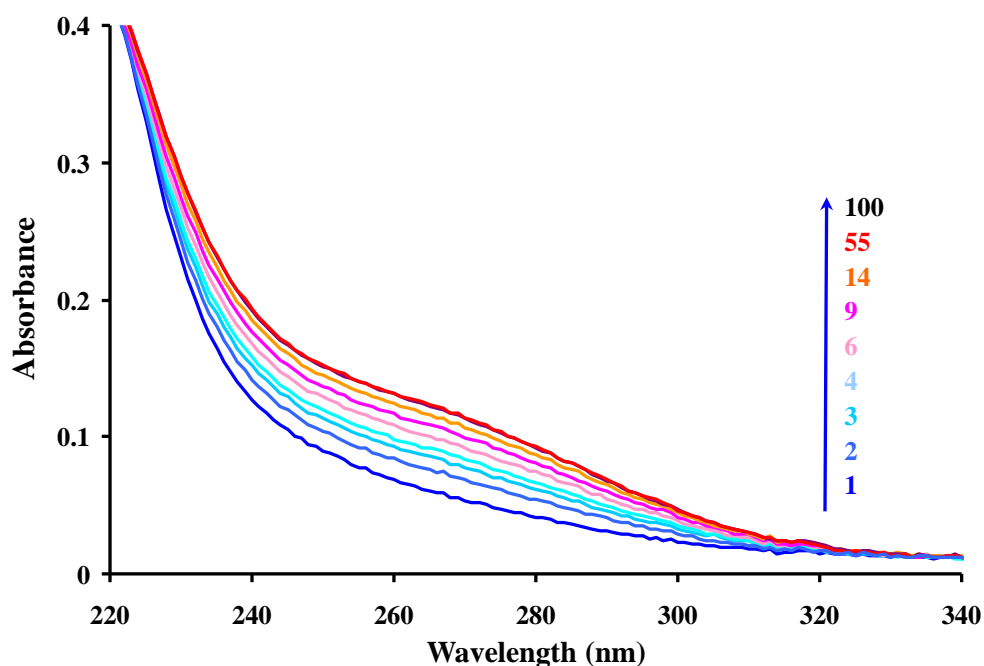
**Figure S1.** pH-potentiometric titration curve of the DO3A-ACE<sup>4-</sup> ligand (1) at 3.29 mM concentration and samples containing 1:1 equivalents of Ca<sup>2+</sup> (2), Mg<sup>2+</sup> (3), Zn<sup>2+</sup> (4) or Cu<sup>2+</sup> (5) ions and the (25 °C, I = 0.15 M NaCl).



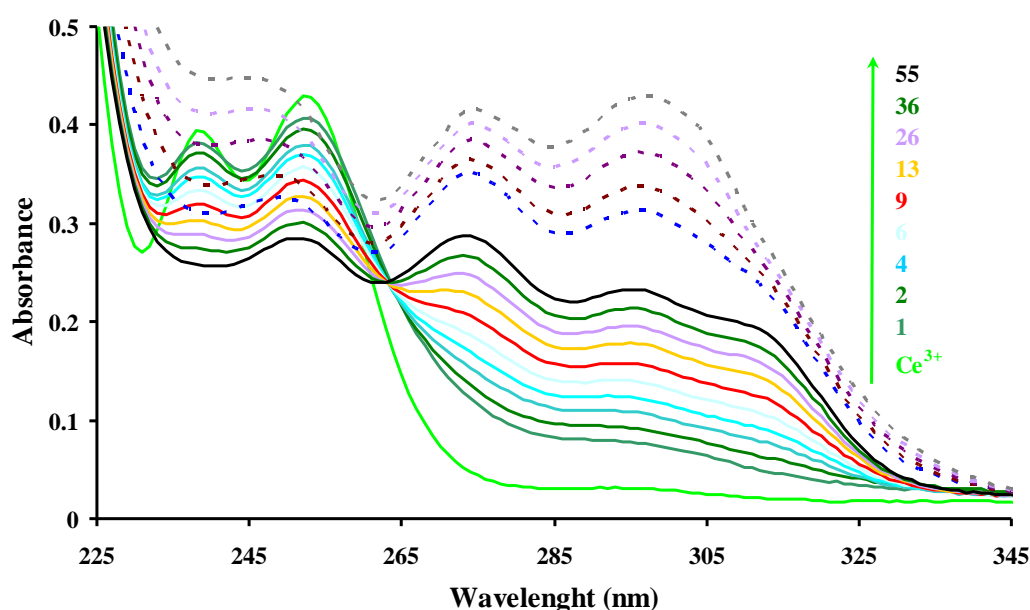
**Figure S2.** pH-potentiometric titration curve of the DO3A-BACE<sup>4-</sup> ligand (1) at 2.38 mM concentration and samples containing 1:1 equivalents of Ca<sup>2+</sup> (2), Mg<sup>2+</sup> (3), Zn<sup>2+</sup> (4) or Cu<sup>2+</sup> (5) ions and the (25 °C, I = 0.15 M NaCl).



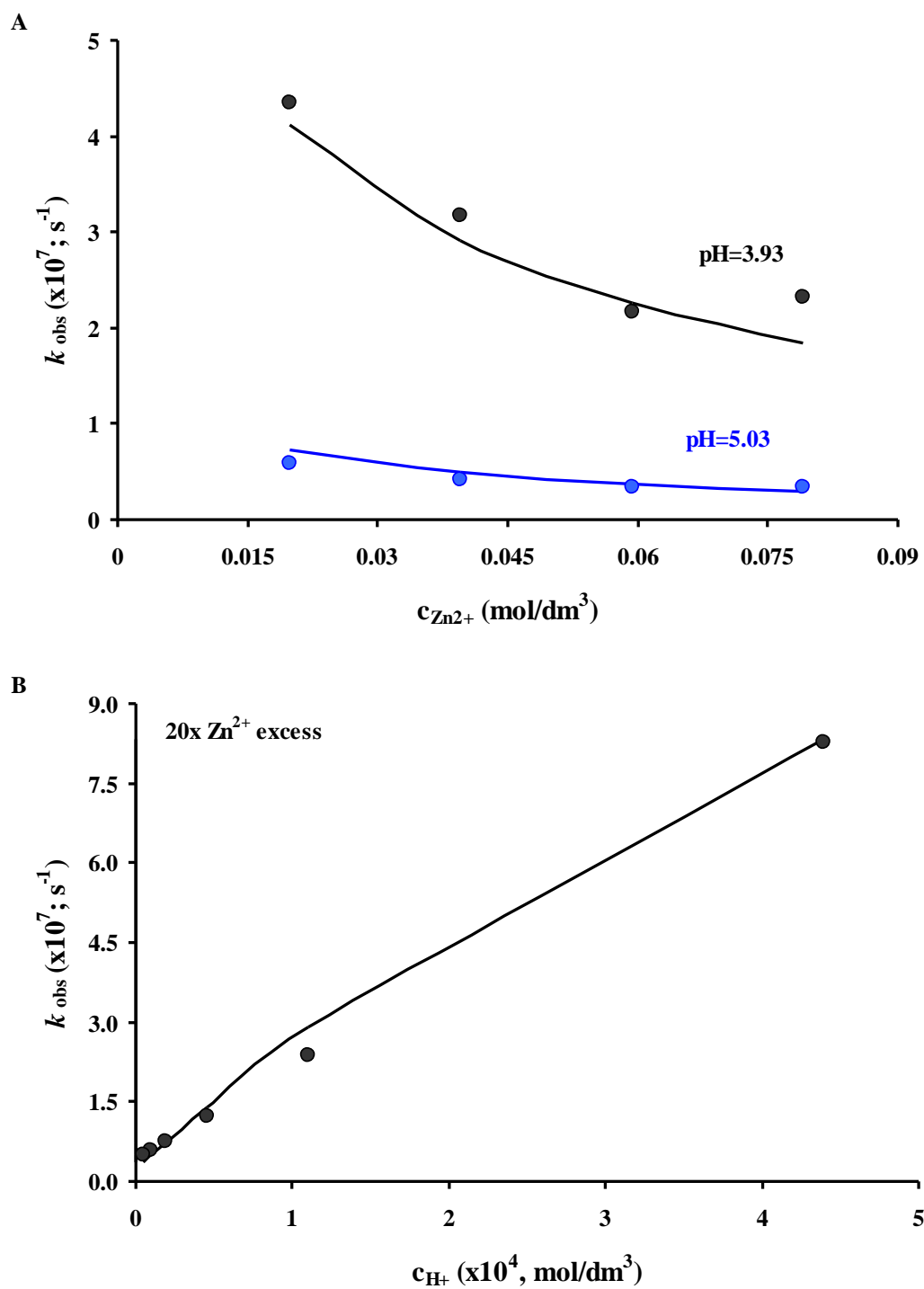
**Figure S3.** Absorption spectra of the  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ –DO3A-BACE<sup>4-</sup>–H<sup>+</sup> system ( $[\text{HCl}] + [\text{NaCl}] = 1.0$  M;  $[\text{Cu}^{2+}] = [\text{DO3A-BACE}] = 2.22$  mM,  $l = 1$  cm,  $25^\circ\text{C}$ ). Top figure shows the batch samples prepared in the acid concentration range of 16.4 to 639 mM; Lower figure shows the spectra obtained in the pH range of pH=1.58 to 7.15.



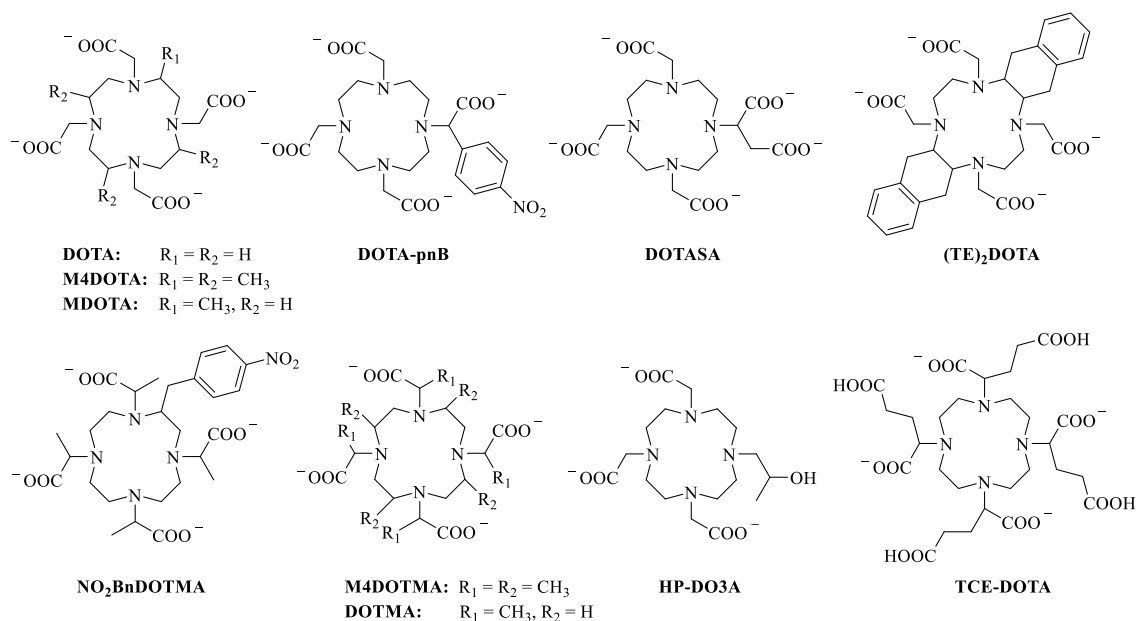
**Figure S4.** UV-Vis spectra recorded at different times  $t$  after mixing  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  and DO3A-ACE at pH = 5.30 (0.05 M N-methylpiperazine;  $c_{\text{Eu}^{3+}} = 2 \times c_{\text{DO3A-ACE}} = 4 \times 10^{-4}$  M; 0.15 M NaCl, 25 °C).  $t = 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 14, 55$  and 100 minutes after mixing (upward direction)



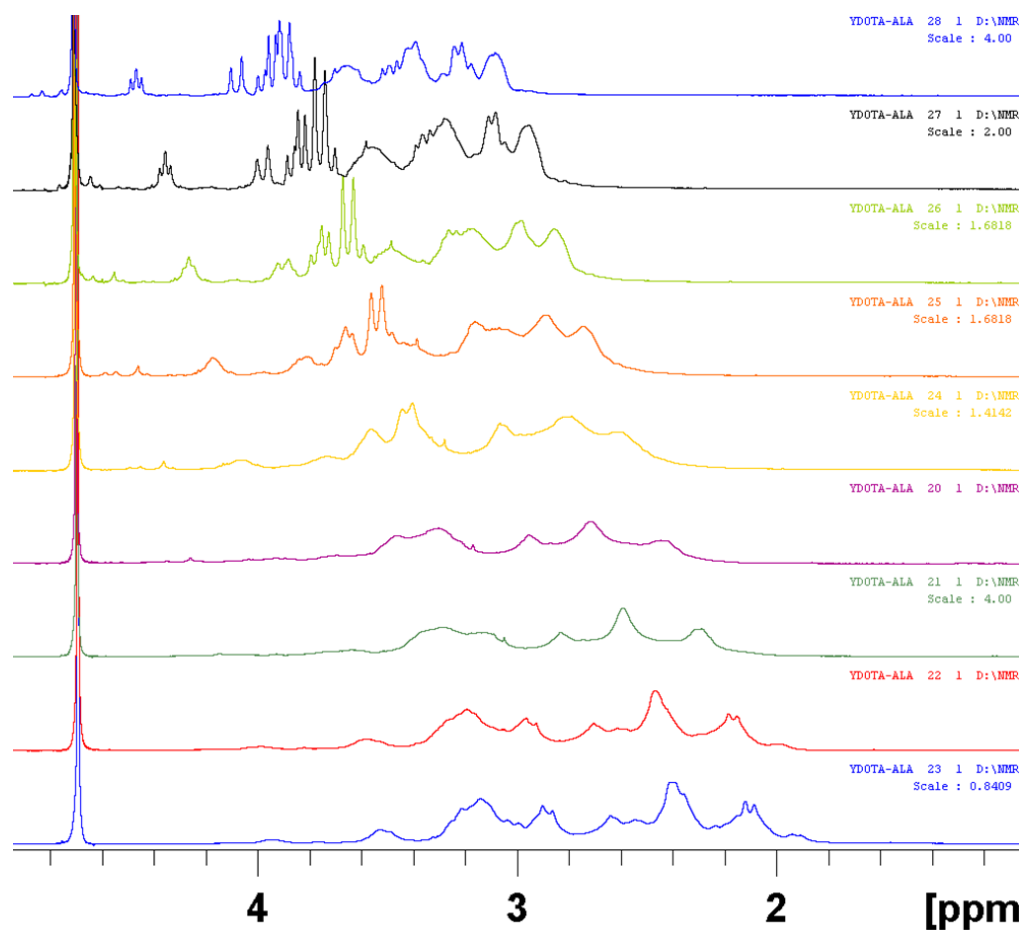
**Figure S5.** UV-Vis spectra recorded at different times  $t$  after mixing  $\text{Ce}^{3+}$  and DO3A-ACE at pH = 4.12 (0.05 M N,N'-dimethylpiperazine;  $c_{\text{Ce}} = 2 \times c_{\text{DO3A-ACE}} = 4 \times 10^{-4}$  M; 0.15 M NaCl, 25 °C).  $t = 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 13, 26, 36$ , and 55 minutes after mixing (upward direction). The spectra plotted with dotted lines were taken after 5 min heating at 80 °C (exposed to air) and the changes indicates slow oxidation of  $\text{Ce}^{3+}$  to  $\text{Ce}^{4+}$ .



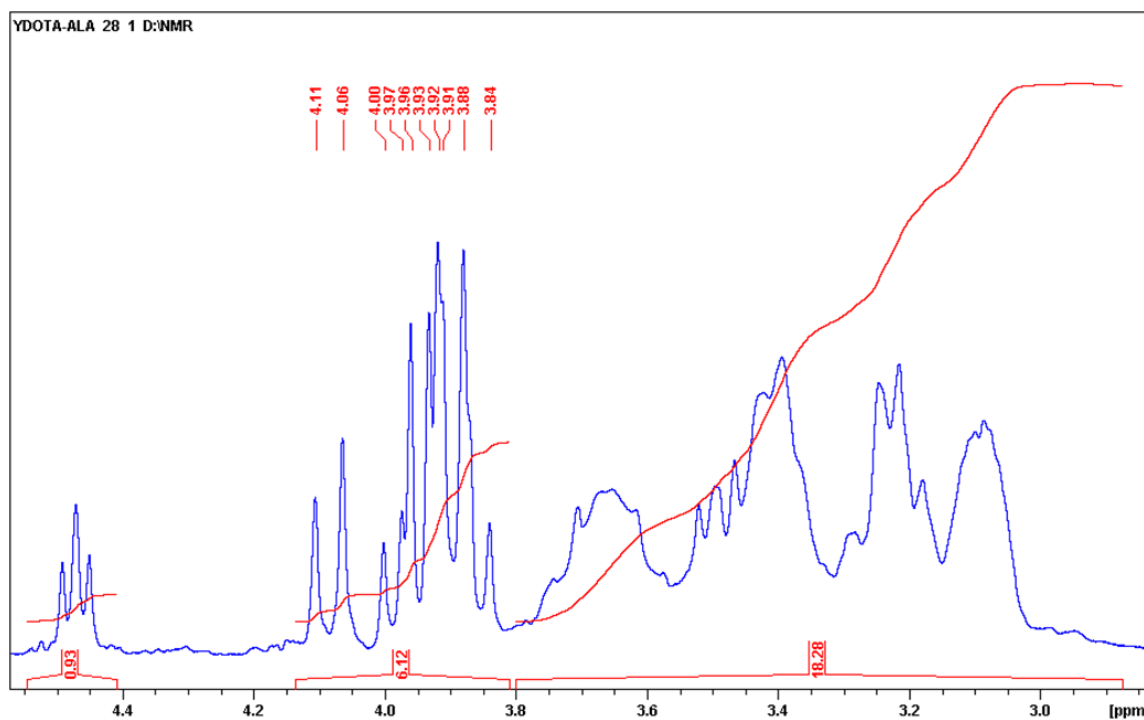
**Figure S6.** Dependence of pseudo-first-order rate constants ( $k_{\text{obs}}$ ) A). on  $[\text{Zn}^{2+}]$  and B). on  $[\text{H}^+]$  concentration at  $[\text{Zn}^{2+}] = 40 \text{ mM}$  for the exchange reaction of  $\text{Gd}(\text{DO3A-ACE})^-$  with  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  at  $\text{pH} = 3.93$  ( $\blacklozenge$ ) and  $\text{pH} = 5.03$  ( $\blacklozenge$ ) ( $25^\circ \text{C}$ ).



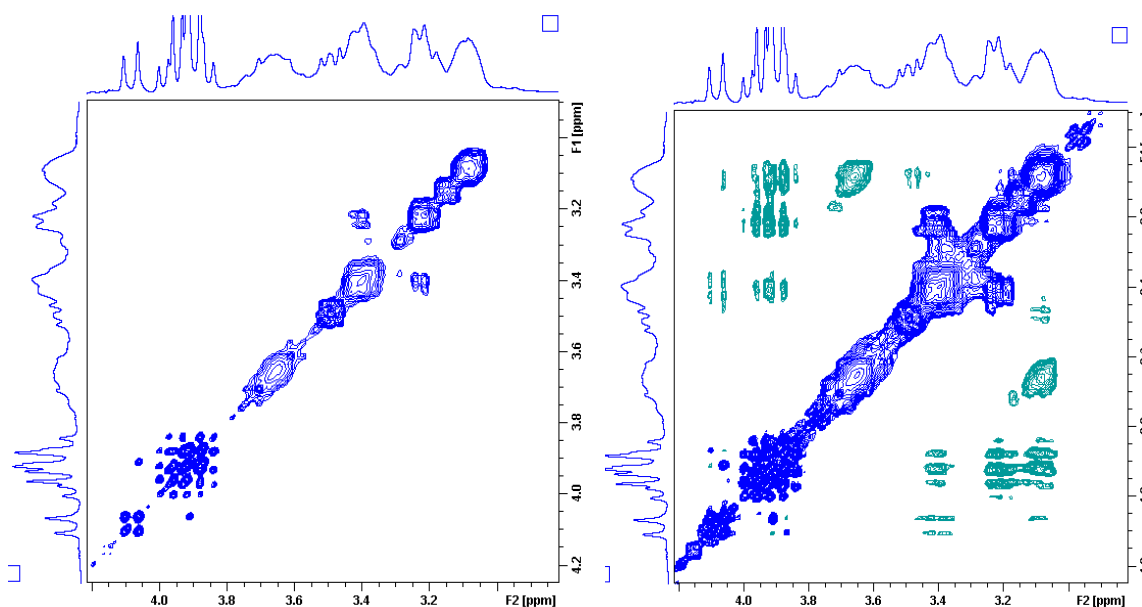
**Figure S7.** Formulae of the ligands mentioned in the NMR part.



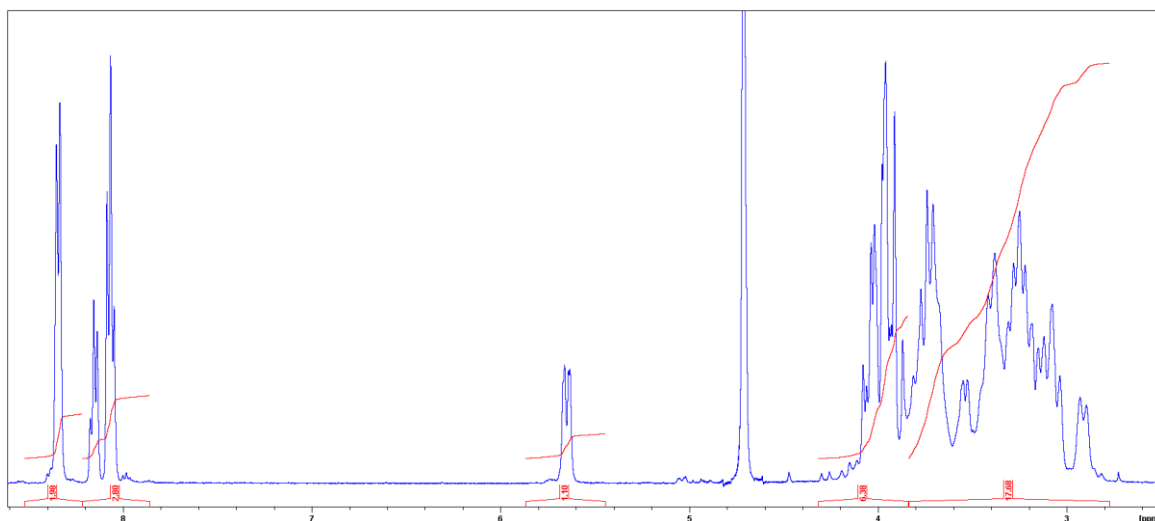
**Figure S8.** Temperature dependence of the  $^1H$  NMR spectra of  $Y(DO3A-ACE)^-$  in  $D_2O$  at 0, 7, 17, 27, 37, 47, 57, 67 and 80 °C, from the bottom. (400 MHz, 20 mM, pD = 9.80).



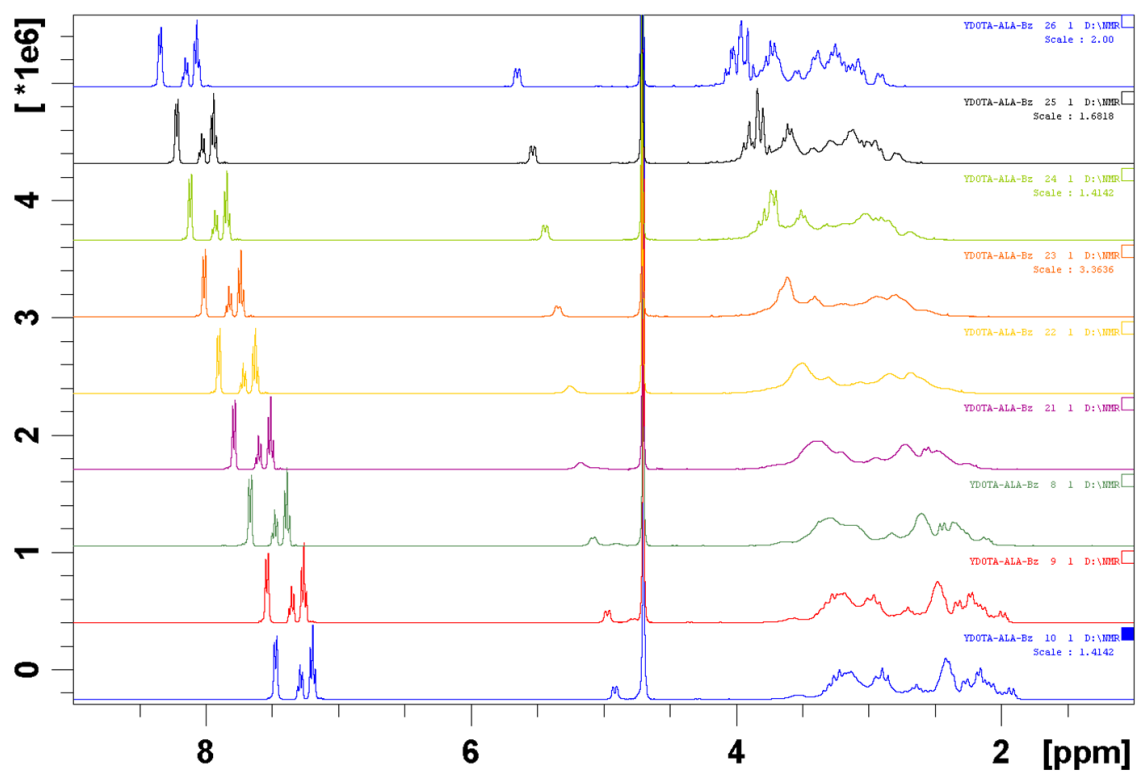
**Figure S9.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum and its integral for  $\text{Y}(\text{DO3A-ACE})^-$  in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  at  $80^\circ\text{C}$  (400 MHz, 20 mM,  $\text{pD} = 9.80$ ).



**Figure S10.**  $^1\text{H}$  2D NOESY spectra of the  $\text{Y}(\text{DO3A-ACE})^-$  complex at  $80^\circ\text{C}$ . At left only the strong peaks are shown, while at the right side the peaks are enlarged. Blue cross peaks are in same phase as the diagonal while the green ones are in opposite phase. Mixing time is 1 sec.

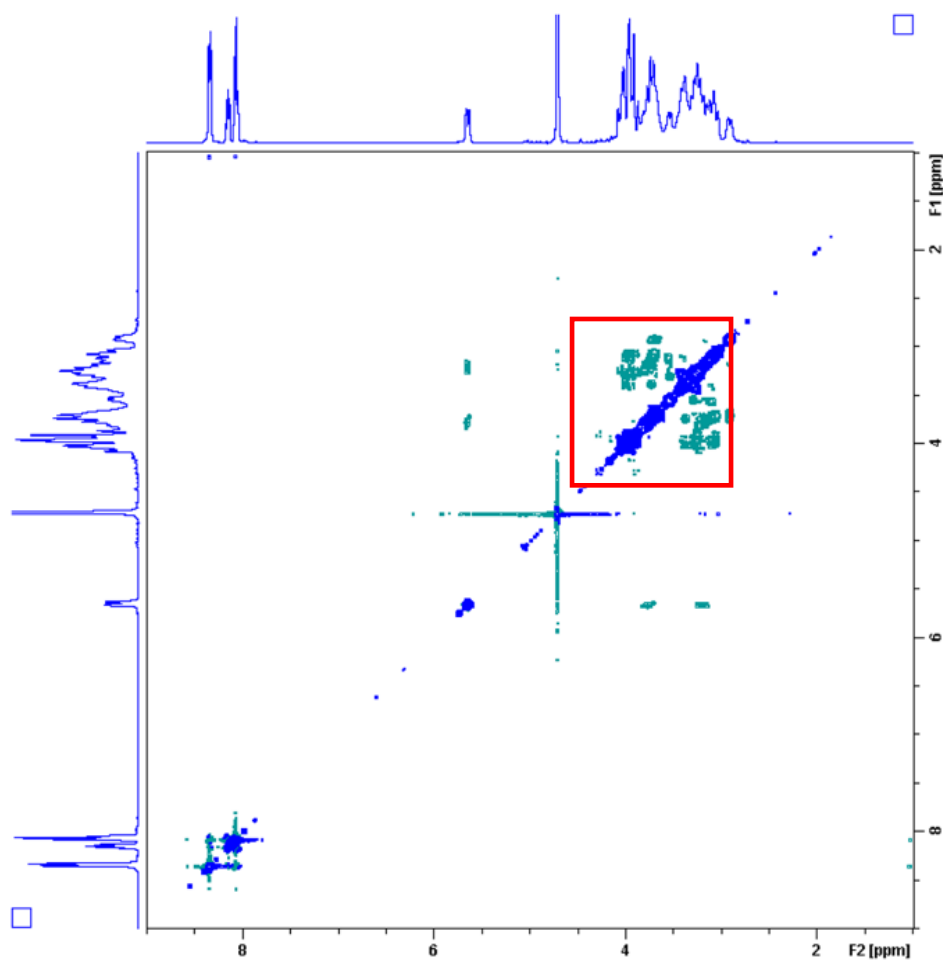


**Figure S11.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum and its integral for  $\text{Y}(\text{DO3A-BACE})^-$  in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  at 80 °C (400 MHz, 20 mM, pD = 9.80).



**Figure S12.** Temperature dependence of the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of  $\text{Y}(\text{DO3A-BACE})^-$  in  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  at 2, 7, 17, 27, 37, 47, 57, 67 and 80 °C, from the bottom. (400 MHz, 20 mM, pD = 9.80).





**Figure S13.**  $^1\text{H}$  2D NOESY spectrum of the  $\text{Y}(\text{DO3A-BACE})^-$  complex at 80 °C. The red box shows the area enlarged in Figure 9. Blue cross peaks are in same phase as the diagonal while the green ones are in opposite phase.