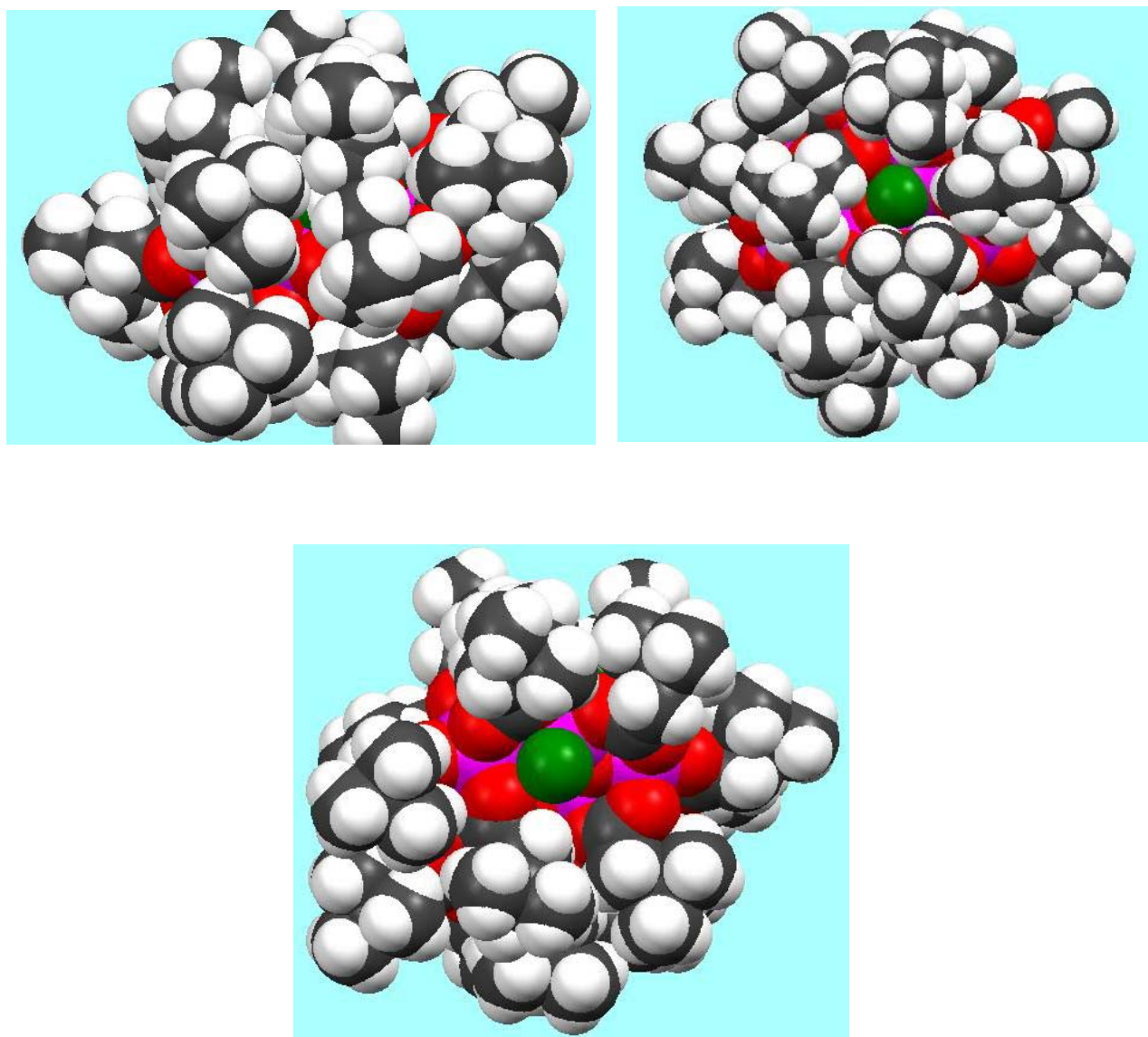


## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

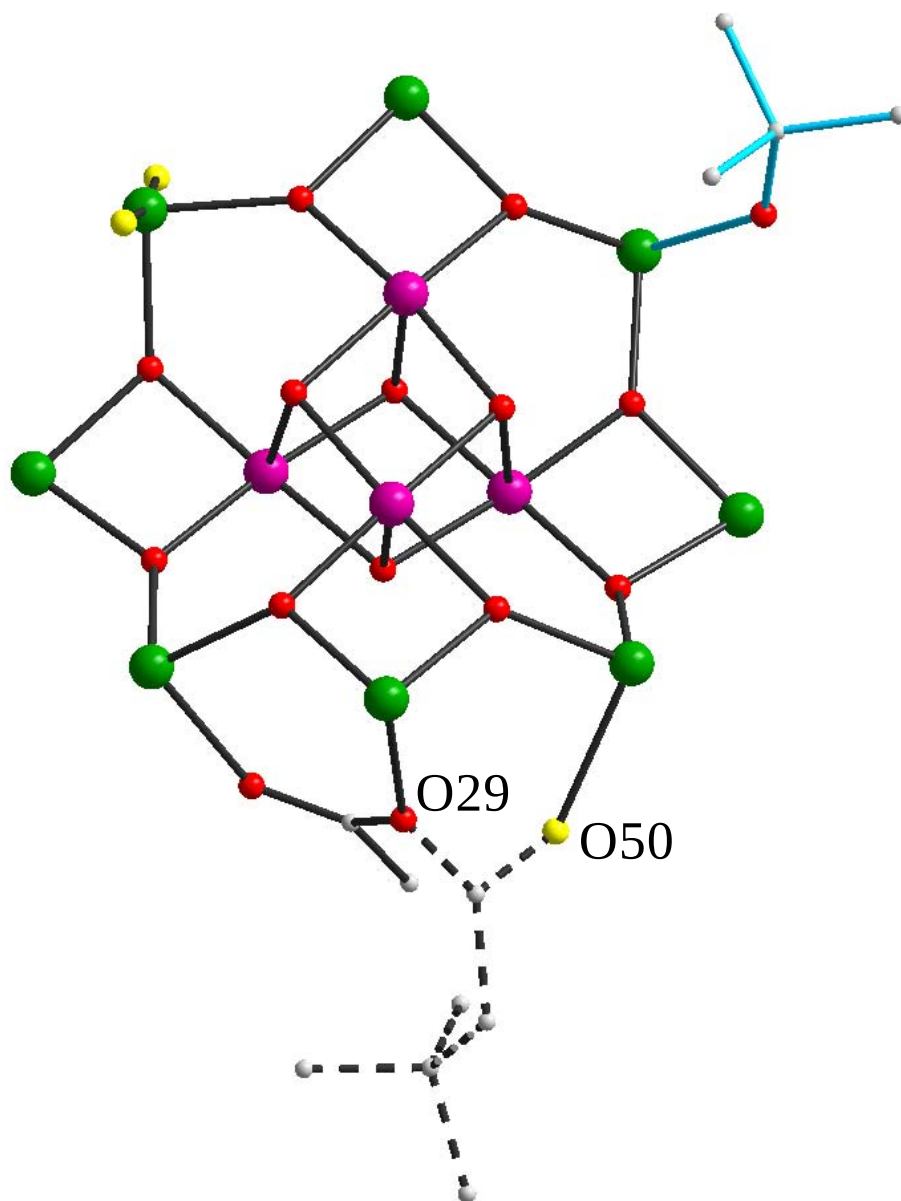
### **Binding of Higher Alcohols onto Mn<sub>12</sub> Single-Molecule Magnets: Access to the Highest Barrier Mn<sub>12</sub> SMM**

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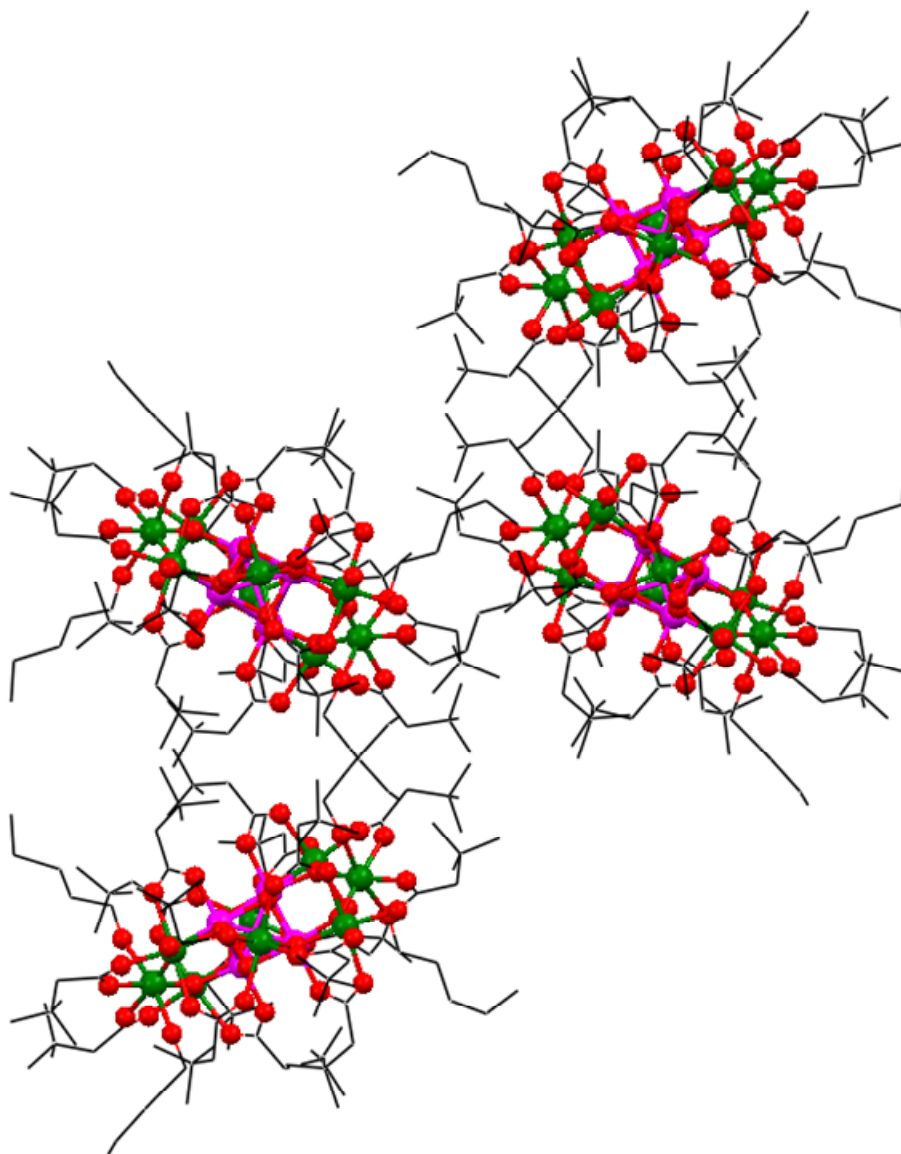
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**Figure S1.** Space-filling diagrams of complex **3** showing the water ligand O atoms (in green) and their degree of envelopment by the carboxylates: (top left) the most buried water molecule (O50), barely visible; (top right) more visible water molecule O40, but still too enveloped to form H-bonds with lattice ButOH molecules; and (bottom) most exposed water molecule O37, that can form two H-bonds with lattice ButOH molecules (see text): Mn violet; O red; C black; H white.



**Figure S2.** PovRay representation of the extended core of complex **3**, emphasizing the static disorder (80:20) between the water molecule (O50), and a tert-butyl acetate ligand. The tert-butyl acetate groups which are not involved in the static disorder, as well as all hydrogen atoms have been omitted for clarity. The water oxygens are shown in yellow; the bonds of the Bu<sup>t</sup>OH ligand are denoted in sky-blue for emphasis. Color code: Mn<sup>IV</sup> purple; Mn<sup>III</sup> green; O red; C gray.



**Figure S3.** Packing diagram for complex **4**, showing the two orientations of symmetry-related Mn<sub>12</sub> complexes. Color code: Mn<sup>IV</sup> purple; Mn<sup>III</sup> green; O red; C gray.

**Table S1.** BVS Calculations for the Mn<sup>a</sup> atoms of complexes **3** and **4**.

| Atom | <b>3</b>         |                   |                  | <b>4</b>         |                   |                  |
|------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
|      | Mn <sup>II</sup> | Mn <sup>III</sup> | Mn <sup>IV</sup> | Mn <sup>II</sup> | Mn <sup>III</sup> | Mn <sup>IV</sup> |
| Mn1  | 3.23             | <u>2.96</u>       | 3.10             | 3.28             | <u>3.00</u>       | 3.15             |
| Mn2  | 4.23             | 3.87              | <u>4.06</u>      | 4.16             | 3.80              | <u>3.99</u>      |
| Mn3  | 4.19             | 3.83              | <u>4.02</u>      | 4.18             | 3.83              | <u>4.02</u>      |
| Mn4  | 3.25             | <u>2.97</u>       | 3.12             | 3.27             | <u>3.00</u>       | 3.15             |
| Mn5  | 3.24             | <u>2.97</u>       | 3.12             | 3.24             | <u>2.97</u>       | 3.12             |
| Mn6  | 4.18             | 3.82              | <u>4.01</u>      | 4.26             | 3.89              | <u>4.09</u>      |
| Mn7  | 4.15             | 3.80              | <u>3.99</u>      | 4.25             | 3.88              | <u>4.08</u>      |
| Mn8  | 3.29             | <u>3.01</u>       | 3.16             | 3.24             | <u>2.97</u>       | 3.11             |
| Mn9  | 3.24             | <u>2.96</u>       | 3.11             | 3.21             | <u>2.93</u>       | 3.08             |
| Mn10 | 3.22             | <u>2.95</u>       | 3.09             | 3.23             | <u>2.95</u>       | 3.10             |
| Mn11 | 3.25             | <u>2.97</u>       | 3.12             | 3.31             | <u>3.03</u>       | 3.18             |
| Mn12 | 3.39             | <u>3.10</u>       | 3.25             | 3.24             | <u>2.96</u>       | 3.11             |

<sup>a</sup> The underlined value is the one closest to the charge for which it was calculated. The oxidation state is the whole number nearest to the underlined value.