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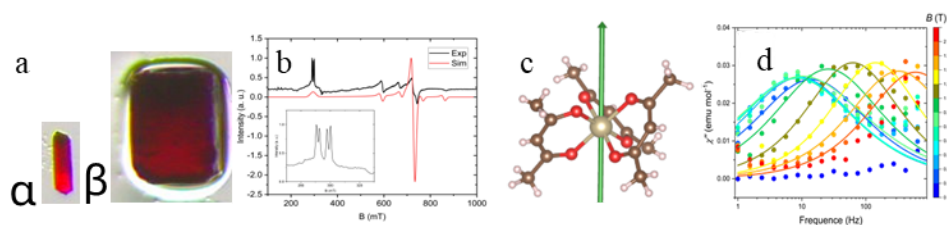
## Experimental demonstration of a second polymorph of Osmium acetylacetonate(III) by magnetometric technique.

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The magnetic properties of heavy transition metal complexes are poorly explored, even though they possess huge potential for different applications, including quantum information technology. We decided to study a simple but versatile system: Osmium(III) acetylacetonate, ( $[\text{Os}(\text{acac})_3]$ ). This complex has been reported in 1955[1] but its structure has only been solved in 1998[2]. We isolated crystals of two different shapes, which turned out to correspond to two polymorphs (Fig. 1a). X-ray single crystal diffraction at extremely low temperature (15 K) confirmed that the prisms correspond to the sole  $[\text{Os}(\text{acac})_3]$  reported structure ( $\alpha$  polymorph, monoclinic  $P2_1/c$ ), but failed in determining the space group of the rectangular blocks.

A full magnetic and spectroscopic characterization allowed to determine the space group of the second type of crystals ( $\beta$  polymorph, orthorhombic  $Pbca$ ), overcoming the limits imposed by X-ray characterization. The EPR study (Fig. 1b) has allowed to identify hyperfine coupling and g values in a 2% solid solution of  $[\text{Os}(\text{acac})_3]$  in  $[(\text{Ga}(\text{acac})_3)]$  ( $g_{\perp}=0.915$ ,  $g_{\parallel}=2.271$   $A_{\perp}=1150$  MHz). This is the first evidence of hyperfine coupling on an Osmium complex. Cantilever Torque Magnetometry reveals an easy axis anisotropy pointing along the pseudo- $C_3$  symmetry axis of the molecule (Fig. 1c). Slow relaxation of the magnetization was detected and modelled according to a combination of relaxation pathways (Fig. 1d).



**Figure 1.** a  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , b EPR of 2%  $[\text{Os}(\text{acac})_3]$ , c easy axis in  $[\text{Os}(\text{acac})_3]$ , d ac of 2%  $[\text{Os}(\text{acac})_3]$ .

[1] Dwyer, F. P., Sargeson, A., *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, (1955), 77, 1285.

[2] Dallmann, K., Preetz, W., *Zeit. Naturforsch. B.*, (1998), 53 (2), 232.

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