

Quantum Entanglement Generation in Heterometallic $\text{Ni}^{2+}_4\text{Gd}^{3+}_4$ Complexes

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Molecular magnets with interacting spins [1] provide a powerful platform for advancing quantum science and technology. Their complex low-energy spectra make them promising candidates for quantum information storage and processing. We investigate various types of quantum entanglement [2] in the octanuclear heterometallic 3d/4f complexes denoted as $\text{Ni}^{2+}_4\text{Gd}^{3+}_4$ under an external magnetic field, using the exact diagonalization approach. These molecular magnets, which can be effectively described by Heisenberg spin models, consist of two identical $\{\text{Ni}^{2+}_2\text{Gd}^{3+}_2\}$ cubane subunits bridged by acetate and hydroxide ligands. Our analysis reveals that their magnetization exhibits intermediate plateaus at low temperatures, indicating distinct ground states characteristic of Ni-containing compounds. Using negativity as a measure of quantum entanglement, we examine the influence of single-ion anisotropy and magnetic field on tetrapartite, bipartite, 1–3 tangle, and 2–2 tangle entanglements in two families of $\text{Ni}^{2+}_4\text{Gd}^{3+}_4$ complexes: (1) without anisotropy [3] and (2) with anisotropy [4]. Complex (1) exhibits strong bipartite entanglement between Ni ions, which persists up to $T \approx 3.0\text{K}$ and $B \approx 4.0\text{T}$, but shows significantly weaker tetrapartite entanglement and vanishing bipartite entanglement between $\text{Gd}\cdots\text{Gd}$ and $\text{Ni}\cdots\text{Gd}$ pairs. In contrast, complex (2) displays nonzero and sizable values for all types of entanglement considered. These findings emphasize the crucial role of

single-ion anisotropy in generating and shaping the entanglement landscape of heterometallic $\text{Ni}^{2+}_4\text{Gd}^{3+}_4$ complexes. Notably, we find that the 1–3 tangle entanglement between a Ni ion and the remaining sites in a cubane unit serves as a reliable indicator of ground-state phase transitions, exhibiting distinct changes across phase boundaries irrespective of the presence of single-ion anisotropy.

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References

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Figures

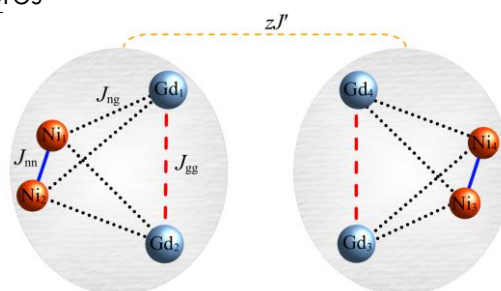


Figure 1: Schematic representation of the molecular structure of $\text{Ni}^{2+}_4\text{Gd}^{3+}_4$ complexes.