

*Supporting Information for*

**Structural Complexity in the Rare Earth Metallocene Hydride Complexes, [(C<sub>5</sub>Me<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>LnH]<sub>2</sub>**

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### **X-ray Data Collection, Structure Solution and Refinement for $(C_5Me_5)_2Gd(\mu-H)_2Gd(C_5Me_5)_2$ , 1.**

A yellow crystal of approximate dimensions 0.144 x 0.226 x 0.363 mm was mounted on a glass fiber and transferred to a Bruker SMART APEX II diffractometer. The APEX2<sup>1</sup> program package was used to determine the unit-cell parameters and for data collection (20 sec/frame scan time for a sphere of diffraction data). The raw frame data was processed using SAINT<sup>2</sup> and SADABS<sup>3</sup> to yield the reflection data file. Subsequent calculations were carried out using the SHELXTL<sup>4</sup> program. The diffraction symmetry was  $2/m$  and the systematic absences were consistent with the monoclinic space groups  $Cc$  and  $C2/c$ . It was later determined that space group  $C2/c$  was correct.

The structure was solved using the coordinates of the terbium analogue and refined on  $F^2$  by full-matrix least-squares techniques<sup>5</sup>. The analytical scattering factors<sup>6</sup> for neutral atoms were used throughout the analysis. The molecule was located on a two-fold rotation axis. The bridging hydrides could not be located and were not included in the refinement. The remaining hydrogen atoms were included using a riding model.

At convergence,  $wR_2 = 0.0677$  and  $Goof = 1.106$  for 201 variables refined against 4429 data ( $0.75\text{\AA}$ ),  $R_1 = 0.0269$  for those 4071 data with  $I > 2.0\sigma(I)$ .

### **X-ray Data Collection, Structure Solution and Refinement for $(C_5Me_5)_2Tb(\mu-H)_2Tb(C_5Me_5)_2$ , 2.**

A yellow crystal of approximate dimensions 0.11 x 0.29 x 0.30 mm was mounted on a glass fiber and transferred to a Bruker SMART APEX II diffractometer. The APEX2<sup>1</sup> program package was used to determine the unit-cell parameters and for data collection (10 sec/frame scan time for a sphere of diffraction data). The raw frame data was processed using SAINT<sup>2</sup> and SADABS<sup>3</sup> to yield the reflection data file. Subsequent calculations were carried out using the SHELXTL<sup>4</sup> program. The diffraction symmetry was  $2/m$  and the systematic absences were consistent with the monoclinic space groups  $Cc$  and  $C2/c$ . It was later determined that space group  $C2/c$  was correct.

The structure was solved by direct methods and refined<sup>5</sup> on  $F^2$  by full-matrix least-squares techniques. The analytical scattering factors<sup>6</sup> for neutral atoms were used throughout the analysis. The molecule was located on a two-fold rotation axis. Hydrogen atom H(1) was located from a difference-Fourier map and refined ( $x, y, z$  and  $U_{iso}$ ). The remaining hydrogen atoms were included using a riding model.

At convergence,  $wR_2 = 0.0550$  and  $Goof = 1.043$  for 205 variables refined against 4334 data ( $0.74\text{\AA}$ ),  $R_1 = 0.0209$  for those 3905 data with  $I > 2.0\sigma(I)$ .

### **X-ray Data Collection, Structure Solution and Refinement for $(C_5Me_5)_2Dy(\mu-H)DyH(C_5Me_5)_2 \cdot toluene$ , 3B.**

A yellow crystal of approximate dimensions 0.192 x 0.338 x 0.495 mm was mounted on a glass fiber and transferred to a Bruker SMART APEX II diffractometer. The APEX2<sup>1</sup> program package was used to determine the unit-cell parameters and for data collection (15 sec/frame scan time for a sphere of diffraction data). The raw frame data was processed using SAINT<sup>2</sup> and SADABS<sup>3</sup> to yield the reflection data file. Subsequent calculations were carried out using the SHELXTL<sup>4</sup> program. The diffraction symmetry was  $2/m$  and the systematic absences were consistent with the monoclinic space group  $P2_1/n$  that was later determined to be correct.

The structure was solved using the coordinates of the yttrium analogue and refined on  $F^2$  by full-matrix least-squares techniques<sup>5</sup>. The analytical scattering factors<sup>6</sup> for neutral atoms were used throughout the analysis. The hydride atoms were located from a difference-Fourier map and refined ( $x,y,z$  and  $U_{iso}$ ). The remaining hydrogen atoms were included using a riding model. There was one molecule of toluene solvent present per formula-unit.

At convergence,  $wR_2 = 0.0440$  and  $Goof = 1.202$  for 471 variables refined against 10376 data ( $0.75\text{\AA}$ ),  $R_1 = 0.0216$  for those 9889 data with  $I > 2.0\sigma(I)$ .

### **X-ray Data Collection, Structure Solution and Refinement for $(C_5Me_5)_2Dy(\mu-H)DyH(C_5Me_5)_2$ , 3C.**

A pale pink crystal of approximate dimensions 0.232 x 0.275 x 0.333 mm was mounted on a glass fiber and transferred to a Bruker SMART APEX II diffractometer. The APEX2<sup>1</sup> program package was used to determine the unit-cell parameters and for data collection (10 sec/frame scan time for a sphere of diffraction data). The raw frame data was processed using SAINT<sup>2</sup> and SADABS<sup>3</sup> to yield the reflection data file. Subsequent calculations were carried out using the SHELXTL<sup>4</sup> program. There were no systematic absences nor any diffraction symmetry other than the Friedel condition. The centrosymmetric triclinic space group  $P\bar{1}$  was assigned and later determined to be correct.

The structure was solved by direct methods and refined on  $F^2$  by full-matrix least-squares techniques<sup>5</sup>. The analytical scattering factors<sup>6</sup> for neutral atoms were used throughout the analysis. Hydride atoms H(1) and H(2) atoms were located from a difference-Fourier map and refined ( $x,y,z$  and  $U_{iso}$ ). The remaining hydrogen atoms were included using a riding model. The pentamethylcyclopentadienyl ligand defined by atoms C(31)-C(40) was disordered and included using multiple components, partial site-occupancy-factors and isotropic thermal parameters.

At convergence,  $wR_2 = 0.0484$  and  $Goof = 1.017$  for 403 variables refined against 8455 data ( $0.74\text{\AA}$ ),  $R_1 = 0.0200$  for those 7765 data with  $I > 2.0\sigma(I)$ .

## References

1. APEX2 Version 2011.4-1, Bruker AXS, Inc.; Madison, WI 2011.
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  5. Sheldrick, G. M. SHELXTL, Version 2013/3, Bruker AXS, Inc.; Madison, WI 2013
  6. International Tables for X-Ray Crystallography 1992, Vol. C., Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic Publishers.
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Definitions:

$$wR_2 = [\Sigma[w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2] / \Sigma[w(F_o^2)^2]]^{1/2}$$

$$R_1 = \Sigma||F_o| - |F_c|| / \Sigma|F_o|$$

Goof =  $S = [\Sigma[w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2] / (n-p)]^{1/2}$  where n is the number of reflections and p is the total number of parameters refined.