## Europium, Uranyl, and Thorium-Phenanthroline Amide Complexes in Acetonitrile Solution: An ESI-MS and DFT Combined Investigation

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# **Supplementary Information**



**Fig. S1** Experimental and simulated isotopic distribution of *m/z* 609 (A) and 777 (B) in Eu(III) complexes.



**Fig. S2** Experimental and simulated isotopic distribution of *m/z* 834 in U(VI) complexes.



Fig. S3 Experimental and simulated isotopic distribution of m/z 433 (A), 680 (B) and 920 (C) in Th(IV) complexes.

[Eu(III)]/[L] ratio	m/z	complexes
0	503	[LH] <sup>+</sup>
0.25	609	$[EuL_2(NO_3)]^{2+}$
0.5	609	$[EuL_2(NO_3)]^{2+}$
0.75	609	$[EuL_2(NO_3)]^{2+}$
1.0	609	$[EuL_2(NO_3)]^{2+}$
1.25	777	$[EuL(NO_3)_2]^+$

Table S1 Eu(III) Complexes with Et-Tol-DAPhen Ligand Detected by ESI-MS in Acetontrile Solution

### Table S2 MS/MS Results of Eu(III) Complexes

complexes	CID condition	m/z	assignments
		485	-CH <sub>4</sub> -H <sub>2</sub>
		475	$-C_{2}H_{5}+2H$
502	cut off: 250;	467	-2CH <sub>4</sub> -2H <sub>2</sub>
303	amplitude: 0.90	457	$-C_3H_7-H_2$
		322	$-2C_{7}H_{7}+2H$
		307	-2C7H7-CH3+2H
		579	$-2C_{2}H_{5}$
600	cut off: 150;	563	$-C_7H_7$
009	amplitude: 1.00	416	$-4C_{2}H_{5}-3C_{7}H_{7}$
		336	$-HNO_{3}-4C_{2}H_{5}-4C_{7}H_{7}$
777		717	$-2C_{2}H_{5}$
	aut off: 200.	704	-2C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> -CH <sub>3</sub>
	amplitude: 1.00	686	$-C_7H_7$
		535	$-2C_{2}H_{5}-2C_{7}H_{7}$
		509	-2C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> -2C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> -2N

Accionance Solution		
[U(VI)]/[L] ratio	m/z	complexes
0	503	$[LH]^{+}$
0.5	834	$[UO_2L(NO_3)]^+$
1.0	834	$[UO_2L(NO_3)]^+$
2.0	834	$[UO_2L(NO_3)]^+$

**Table S3** U(VI) Complexes with Et-Tol-DAPhen Ligand Detected by ESI-MS in Acetontrile Solution

### Table S4. MS/MS Results of U(VI) Complexes

Tuble 51. Mb/Mb Results of C(VI) Complexes				
complexes	CID condition	m/z	assignments	
834 cu amj		787	-2CH <sub>4</sub> -CH <sub>3</sub>	
	aut off: 200.	774	$-2C_2H_6$	
	cut 011. 200,	760	-2C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> -CH <sub>4</sub>	
	ampitude. 1.00	742	$-C_7H_8$	
		641	-2C7H7-CH3	

**Table S5** Changes of the Gibbs Free Energy (kcal/mol) Including Zero-Point Energy (ZPE) and Thermal Corrections for the Reactions Concerning  $Eu^{3+}$ ,  $UO_2^{2+}$  and  $Th^{4+}$  in Acetonitrile Solution

Reactions	ΔG
$[\operatorname{Eu}(\operatorname{CH}_3\operatorname{CN})_8]^{3+} + \operatorname{CH}_3\operatorname{CN} \rightarrow [\operatorname{Eu}(\operatorname{CH}_3\operatorname{CN})_9]^{3+}$	11.2
$[\operatorname{Eu}(\operatorname{CH}_3\operatorname{CN})_9]^{3+} + \operatorname{CH}_3\operatorname{CN} \rightarrow [\operatorname{Eu}(\operatorname{CH}_3\operatorname{CN})_{10}]^{3+}$	14.0
$[\mathrm{UO}_2(\mathrm{CH}_3\mathrm{CN})_5]^{2+} + \mathrm{CH}_3\mathrm{CN} \rightarrow [\mathrm{UO}_2(\mathrm{CH}_3\mathrm{CN})_6]^{2+}$	13.0
$[\mathrm{Th}(\mathrm{CH}_3\mathrm{CN})_9]^{4+} + \mathrm{CH}_3\mathrm{CN} \rightarrow [\mathrm{Th}(\mathrm{CH}_3\mathrm{CN})_{10}]^{4+}$	8.3
$[\mathrm{Th}(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\mathrm{CN})_{10}]^{4+} + \mathrm{CH}_{3}\mathrm{CN} \rightarrow [\mathrm{Th}(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\mathrm{CN})_{11}]^{4+}$	18.3
$[\mathrm{Th}(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\mathrm{CN})_{11}]^{4+} + \mathrm{CH}_{3}\mathrm{CN} \rightarrow [\mathrm{Th}(\mathrm{CH}_{3}\mathrm{CN})_{12}]^{4+}$	11.3

**Table S6** Average U-N and U-O Bond Distances (Å), Wiberg Bond Indices (WBIs) of U-N and U-O Bonds, and Natural Charges on the U, N, and O Atoms in  $[UO_2L(NO_3)]^+$  (L=Et-Tol-DAPhen)

Complexes —	Bond I	Length	Wiberg B	ond Index	N	atural Char	ge
	U-N(L)	U-O(L)	U-N(L)	U-O(L)	$Q_{\rm U}$	Q <sub>N(L)</sub>	Q <sub>O(L)</sub>
[UO <sub>2</sub> L(NO <sub>3</sub> )] <sup>+</sup>	2.644	2.417	0.386	0.511	1.439	-0.427	-0.591

**Table S7** Average Electron Density ( $\rho$ ), Laplacian ( $\nabla^2 \rho$ ), and Energy Density (H(r)) at

Bonds	ρ	$ abla^2  ho$	H(r)
U-N(L)	0.0452	0.1264	-0.0031
U-O(L)	0.0603	0.2281	-0.0032

U-N and U-O Bond Critical Points in [UO<sub>2</sub>L(NO<sub>3</sub>)]<sup>+</sup>(All values in a.u.).

[Th(IV)]/[L] ratio	m/z	complexes
0	503	[LH] <sup>+</sup>
0.25	503, 525, 541, 680	[LH] <sup>+</sup> , [L+Na] <sup>+</sup> , [L+K] <sup>+</sup> , [ThL <sub>2</sub> (NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>2+</sup>
0.5	503, 525, 680	[LH] <sup>+</sup> , [L+Na] <sup>+</sup> , [ThL <sub>2</sub> (NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>2+</sup>
0.75	680	$[ThL_2(NO_3)_2]^{2+}$
1.0	680	$[ThL_2(NO_3)_2]^{2+}$
1.25	433, 680, 920	[ThL <sub>2</sub> (NO <sub>3</sub> )] <sup>3+</sup> , [ThL <sub>2</sub> (NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>2+</sup> , [ThL(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>
1.5	433, 680, 920	[ThL <sub>2</sub> (NO <sub>3</sub> )] <sup>3+</sup> , [ThL <sub>2</sub> (NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>2+</sup> , [ThL(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>
2.0	433, 680, 920	[ThL <sub>2</sub> (NO <sub>3</sub> )] <sup>3+</sup> , [ThL <sub>2</sub> (NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>2+</sup> , [ThL(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> ] <sup>+</sup>

Table S8 Th(IV) Complexes with Et-Tol-DAPhen Ligand Detected by ESI-MS in Acetontrile Solution

Table S9 MS/MS Results of Th(IV) Complexes

complexes	CID condition	m/z	assignments
	aut off: 115.	412	-HNO <sub>3</sub>
433	cut 011. 115,	402	-HNO <sub>3</sub> -CH <sub>3</sub> +2H
	ampiltude. 0.30	373	$-C_7H_7+2H$
		648	-HNO <sub>3</sub>
	aut off: 165:	635	-HNO <sub>3</sub> -2CH <sub>3</sub> +2H
680	$\begin{array}{c} \text{cut off. 105,} \\ \text{amplitude: 1.00} \end{array}$	612	-HNO <sub>3</sub> -4CH <sub>3</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub>
	ampiltude. 1.00	590	$-2C_{7}H_{7}$
		544	$-2C_{7}H_{7}-2C_{2}H_{5}-2CH_{3}$
		873	-2CH <sub>4</sub> -CH <sub>3</sub>
		846	-2C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> -CH <sub>4</sub>
920	aut off: 250:	829	$-C_7H_7$
	$\operatorname{cut} \operatorname{off} 250,$	800	$-C_7H_7-CH_3+H$
	ampiltude. 1.00	737	$-2C_{7}H_{7}$
		667	-2C7H7-2C2H5-N
		622	-2C7H7-2C2H5-2NO

#### S1. ESI-MS experiments after solvent extraction

1 mM of Et-Tol-DAPhen in 1 mL of cyclohexanone was contacted with 1 mL of 1 M HNO<sub>3</sub> solution containing 1 mM of Eu(III) or U(VI) or Th(IV). After shaking for 60 min, the organic phase was separated and diluted with HPLC grade acetonitrile in 1000 times for ESI-MS measurements.

![](_page_10_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### S1.1 ESI-MS of Eu(III) complexes

Fig. S4 ESI-MS of Eu(III) complexes after solvent extraction.

With respect to Eu(III), Et-Tol-DAPhen shows nearly no extraction as previously reported. If the ESI-MS sample of Eu(III) complex was prepared through a liquid-liquid extraction step and further diluted in acetonitrile solution, it is found that the signal of Eu(III) complex in ESI-MS was not detected from **Fig. S4**.

![](_page_11_Figure_1.jpeg)

Fig. S5 ESI-MS of U(VI) complexes after solvent extraction.

ESI-MS of U(VI) complexes was shown in **Fig. S5**. The MS peaks at m/z between 502 and 525 are attributed to the hydrogen and sodium ion adducts of the ligand ( $[L+H]^+$ ,  $[L+Na]^+$ ), respectively. The peak at m/z 535 and 604 can be due to  $[2L+2H+HNO_3]^{2+}$  and  $[L+HNO_3+K]^+$ , respectively. Only 1:1 U(VI) complex ( $[UO_2L(NO_3)]^+$ ) at m/z 834 is observed in this experimental conditions, which is quite consistent with the results obtained in acetonitrile solution.

![](_page_12_Figure_1.jpeg)

Fig. S6 ESI-MS of Th(IV) complexes after solvent extraction.

ESI-MS of Th(IV) complexes was shown in **Fig. S6**. The MS peaks at m/z between 500 and 540 are similar to those of U(VI) complexes which has no relationship with Th(IV). One Th(VI) complex observed at m/z 680 can be attributed to  $[2L+Th+2NO_3]^{2+}$ , which is the main species regardless of the ratio of metal-to-ligand in acetonitrile solution.