## **Supporting Information for**

Stoichiometric Control: 8- and 10-coordinate Ln(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(bpy) and Ln(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(bpy)<sub>2</sub> Complexes of the Early Lanthanides La – Sm

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# S1. 1:1 Mechanochemical Reaction of Ln(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub> and bpy

La(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub> and 1 eq. bpy: La(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub> was ground into a fine powder (0.2009 g, 0.2462 mmol) and added to 2,2'-bipyridine (0.0394 g, 0.252 mmol). The mixture was ground together in an agate mortar and pestle for approximately 30 minutes. The material was collected and analyzed by IR and DSC. DSC phase transitions: 58-69 °C. IR (KBr, Nujol) *v*/cm<sup>-1</sup>: **3510**(mw,br), 3407(mw,br), 1653(s), 1600(w), 1577(w), 1566(w,br), 1558(w) 1539(w,br), 1507(mw), 1494(mw,br), 1465(m,br), 1457(m), 1438(mw,sh), 1348(vw), 1320(w), 1318(vw), 1312(vw), 1253(s,br), 1205(s,br), 1199(s,br), 1150(s,sh), 1144(s,br), 1096(mw), 1064(w), 1046(vw), 1043(vw), 1025(w), 1012(w), 1008(mw), 1003(vw,sh), 977(vw), 952(vw), 949(vw), 807(ms), 804(ms), **797**(ms), **793**(ms), 766(m), 754(ms), 740(ms), 721(mw), 670(m,sh), 668(ms), 660(s), 653(mw), 644(w), 640(mw), 625(vw), 622(w).

Ce(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub> and 1 eq. bpy: Ce(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub> was ground into a fine powder (0.2516 g, 0.3086 mmol) and added to 2,2'-bipyridine (0.0504 g, 0.323 mmol). The mixture was ground together in an agate mortar and pestle for approximately 30 minutes. The material was collected and analyzed by IR and DSC. DSC phase transitions: broad centered at 70°C with two smaller transitions ranging from 88 – 100 °C. IR (KBr, Nujol)  $\nu$ /cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3630(mw), 3506(mw,br), 3405(mw,br), 3182(w), 3144(w), 1655(s), 1600(mw), 1579(mw), 1560(mw) 1532(m), 1510(m), 1494(m,sh), 1465(s,br), 1457(m), 1365(m), 1350(w), 1320(w),

1311(vw), 1254(s,br), 1207(s,br), 1140(s,br), 1097(ms), 1064(mw), 1046(w), 1024(w), 1012(mw), 1008(mw), 969(vw), 950(w), 918(vw), 889(vw), 805(m), **799**(ms), **793**(ms,sh), 766(mw), 761(ms), 740(ms), 721(mw), 670(m,sh), 670(mw), 660(s), 652(mw), 644(w), 640(w), 625(vw), 622(w).

**Pr(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub> and 1 eq. bpy:** Pr(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub> was ground into a fine powder (0.2513 g, 0.3086 mmol) and added to 2,2'-bipyridine (0.0506 g, 0.324 mmol). The mixture was ground together in an agate mortar and pestle for approximately 30 minutes. The material was collected and analyzed by IR and DSC. DSC phase transitions: broad centered at 70°C with three smaller transitions ranging from 80 – 88 °C, 95 – 99 °C, 107 – 118 °C. IR (KBr, Nujol)  $\nu$ /cm<sup>-1</sup>: **3506**(w,br), 3397(w,br), 3313(w,br), 3143(w), 1654(s), 1600(mw), 1578(mw), 1567(w), 1558(mw) 1533(m), 1496(m,br), 1476(ms), 1465(s,br), 1443(m), 1377(mw), 1348(w), 1321(w), 1311(vw), 1254(s,br), 1207(s), 1197(s), 1143(s,br), 1100(m), 1065(vw), 1044(vw), 1025(w), 1013(mw), 1008(mw), 969(vw), 951(vw), 908(vw), 807(m), **798**(m), 766(m), 760(m), 740(m), 722(w), 670(mw,sh), 661(ms), 653(w), 644(w), 640(w), 625(vw), 622(w).

**Nd(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub> and 1 eq. bpy:** Nd(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub> was ground into a fine powder (0.2510 g, 0.3132 mmol) and added to 2,2'-bipyridine (0.0497 g, 0.318 mmol). The mixture was ground together in an agate mortar and pestle for approximately 30 minutes. The material was collected and analyzed by IR and DSC. DSC phase transitions: broad centered at 70°C with two smaller transitions centered at approximately 80 and 87 °C. Two other transitions are noted from 98 – 105 °C and 117 – 124 °C. IR (KBr, Nujol)  $\nu$ /cm<sup>-1</sup>: **3502**(vw,br), 3387(w,br), 3298(w,br), 3141(vw), 1664(s), 1649(s), 1605(mw), 1599(mw), 1578(mw), 1560(mw) 1534(m), 1509(m), 1495(m,br), 1478(ms), 1462(ms,br), 1443(m), 1377(mw), 1366(w), 1351(w), 1321(w), 1311(vw), 1256(s,br), 1208(s), 1145(s,br), 1100(m), 1065(vw), 1044(vw), 1025(w), 1015(mw), 1008(w), 989(vw), 970(vw), 950(w), 909(w), 804(m), **799**(m), **797**(m), 765(m,sh), 763(m), 739(m), 721(w), 665(mw,sh), 660(ms), 653(w), 647(w), 633(vw,br), 628(vw).

## S2. IR, PXRD and DSC Data for Mechanochemical Reactions and Syntheses



**Figure S1.** FT-IR spectra following the mechanochemical synthesis of  $La(hfac)_3(bpy)_2$  from  $La(hfac)_3(H_2O)_3$ ; the absorption at 792 cm<sup>-1</sup> indicates formation of 10-coordinate complex.



**Figure S2**. DSC of La(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(bpy)<sub>2</sub> prepared from La(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub> by mechanochemical synthesis ( $T_i = 25$  °C heating 25 °C/min to 140 °C, heating 5 °C/min from 140 °C to 215 °C)



**Figure S3.** (top) PXRD simulation of La(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(bpy)<sub>2</sub> obtained from crystal structure (collected at 213(2) K) and (bottom) experimental PXRD of La(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(bpy)<sub>2</sub> from mechanochemical synthesis collected at 298 K



Figure S4. FT-IR spectra following the mechanochemical synthesis of  $Ce(hfac)_3(bpy)_2$  from  $Ce(hfac)_3(H_2O)_3$ 



**Figure S5.** DSC of Ce(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(bpy)<sub>2</sub> prepared from Ce(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub> by mechanochemical synthesis ( $T_i = 25 \text{ °C}$  heating 25 °C/min to 120 °C, heating 5 °C/min from 120 °C to 210 °C)



**Figure S6.** (top) PXRD simulation of Ce(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(bpy)<sub>2</sub> obtained from crystal structure (collected at 150(2) K) and (bottom) experimental PXRD of Ce(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(bpy)<sub>2</sub> from mechanochemical synthesis collected at 298 K



Figure S7. FT-IR spectra following the mechanochemical synthesis of  $Pr(hfac)_3(bpy)_2$  from  $Pr(hfac)_3(H_2O)_3$ 



**Figure S8.** (top) PXRD comparison from simulation of  $Pr(hfac)_3(bpy)_2$  obtained from crystal structure (collected at 150(2) K) and (bottom) experimental PXRD of  $Pr(hfac)_3(bpy)_2$  from mechanochemical synthesis collected at 298 K



**Figure S9.** DSC of  $Pr(hfac)_3(bpy)_2$  prepared from  $Pr(hfac)_3(H_2O)_3$  by mechanochemical synthesis ( $T_i = 25$  °C heating 25 °C/min to 120 °C, heating 5 °C/min from 120 °C to 215 °C)



Figure S10. FT-IR spectra following the mechanochemical synthesis of  $Nd(hfac)_3(bpy)_2$  from  $Nd(hfac)_3(H_2O)_3$ 



**Figure S11.** DSC of Nd(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(bpy)<sub>2</sub> prepared from Nd(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub> by mechanochemical synthesis ( $T_i = 25 \text{ °C}$  heating 25 °C/min to 110 °C, heating 5 °C/min from 110 °C to 225 °C, cooling 5 °C/min from 225 °C to 25 °C)



**Figure S12.** PXRD comparison from simulation of (top)  $[Nd(hfac)_3(bpy)(H_2O)] \cdot 0.5(bpy)$  obtained from crystal structure (collected at 150(2) K) and (middle)  $Nd(hfac)_3(bpy)_2$  obtained from crystal structure

collected at 150 K and (bottom) experimental PXRD of Nd(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(bpy)<sub>2</sub> from mechanochemical synthesis collected at 298 K.



**Figure S13.** FT-IR spectra of mechanochemical attempt at making  $Sm(hfac)_3(bpy)_2$  in air compared to hydrated  $[Sm(hfac)_3(bpy)(H_2O)]$ ·bpy



Figure S14. FT-IR spectra of mechanochemical attempt at making Sm(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(bpy)<sub>2</sub> from Sm(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>



**Figure S15.** DSC of product from mechanochemical reaction of  $Sm(hfac)_3(H_2O)_2$  and 2 equivalents of bpy ( $T_i = 25 \text{ °C}$  heating 25 °C/min to 90 °C, heating 5 °C/min from 90 °C to 180 °C, cooling 5 °C/min to 40 °C)



**Figure S16.** PXRD comparison from simulation of (top)  $[Sm(hfac)_3(bpy)(H_2O)]$  bpy obtained from crystal structure (collected at 150(2) K) and (middle)  $Sm(hfac)_3(bpy)_2$  obtained from crystal structure collected at 150 K and (bottom) experimental PXRD of  $Sm(hfac)_3(H_2O)_2 + 2$  eq. bpy from mechanochemical reaction collected at 298 K



Figure S17. FT-IR spectra of mechanochemical reaction of La(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub> and 1 eq. of 2,2'-bipyridine



**Figure S18.** Simulated PXRD spectra of (top)  $La(hfac)_3(bpy)_2$  and (middle)  $La(hfac)_3(bpy)$  both obtained from single crystal data collected at 213 K and 150 K respectively and (bottom) PXRD spectrum of crude reaction of  $La(hfac)_3(H_2O)_3$  and 1 eq. of 2,2'-bipyridine



**Figure S19.** DSC of crude material from mechanochemical reaction of La(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub> and 1 eq. of 2,2'bipyridine ( $T_i = 25 \text{ °C}$  heating 25 °C/min to 70 °C, heating 5 °C/min from 70 °C to 180 °C, cooling 5 °C/min to 40 °C)



Figure S20. FT-IR spectra of mechanochemical reaction of Ce(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub> and 1 eq. of 2,2'-bipyridine



**Figure S21.** Simulated PXRD spectra of (top)  $Ce(hfac)_3(bpy)_2$  and (middle)  $Ce(hfac)_3(bpy)$  both obtained from single crystal data collected at 150 K and (bottom) PXRD spectrum of crude reaction of  $Ce(hfac)_3(H_2O)_3$  and 1 eq. of 2,2'-bipyridine



**Figure S22.** DSC of crude material from mechanochemical reaction of Ce(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub> and 1 eq. of 2,2'bipyridine ( $T_i = 25$  °C heating 25 °C/min to 70 °C, heating 5 °C/min from 70 °C to 200 °C)



Figure S23. FT-IR spectra of mechanochemical reaction of Pr(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub> and 1 eq. of 2,2'-bipyridine



**Figure S24.** Simulated PXRD spectra of (top)  $Pr(hfac)_3(bpy)_2$  and (middle)  $Pr(hfac)_3(bpy)$  both obtained from single crystal data collected at 150 K respectively and (bottom) PXRD spectrum of crude mechanochemical reaction of  $Pr(hfac)_3(H_2O)_3$  and 1 eq. of 2,2'-bipyridine



**Figure S25.** DSC of crude material from mechanochemical reaction of  $Pr(hfac)_3(H_2O)_3$  and 1 eq. of 2,2'bipyridine ( $T_i = 25$  °C heating 25 °C/min to 70 °C, heating 5 °C/min from 70 °C to 200 °C)



Figure S26. FT-IR spectra of mechanochemical reaction of Nd(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub> and 1 eq. of 2,2'-bipyridine

[Nd(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(bpy)(H<sub>2</sub>O)]·0.5 bpy simulation



**Figure S27.** Simulated PXRD spectra of (top)  $[Nd(hfac)_3(bpy)(H_2O)] \cdot 0.5$  bpy, (second from top)  $Nd(hfac)_3(bpy)_2$  and (third from top)  $Nd(hfac)_3(bpy)$  obtained from single crystal data collected at 150 K respectively, and (bottom) PXRD spectrum of crude reaction of  $Nd(hfac)_3(H_2O)_3$  and 1 eq. of 2,2'-bipyridine.



**Figure S28.** DSC of crude material from mechanochemical reaction of Nd(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub> and 1 eq. of 2,2'bipyridine ( $T_i = 25$  °C heating 25 °C/min to 70 °C, heating 5 °C/min from 70 °C to 200 °C)



Figure S29. FT-IR spectra of mechanochemical reaction of Sm(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub> and 1 eq. of 2,2'-bipyridine



**Figure S30.** Simulated PXRD spectra of (top)  $[Sm(hfac)_3(bpy)(H_2O)]$ ·bpy, (second from top)  $Sm(hfac)_3(bpy)_2$ , (third from top)  $Sm(hfac)_3(bpy)$  obtained from single crystal data collected at 150 K, and (bottom) the PXRD spectrum of crude reaction of  $Sm(hfac)_3(H_2O)_2$  and 1 eq. of 2,2'-bipyridine



**Figure S31.** Excerpt from FT-IR spectra of the reaction of (top)  $Sm(hfac)_3(H_2O)_2$  with 2 eq. bpy ground with KBr and aged 5 days, and (bottom)  $Sm(hfac)_3(H_2O)_2$  and 2 eq. bpy ground with KBr after 20 minutes.



**Figure S32.** DSC of crude material from mechanochemical reaction of  $Sm(hfac)_3(H_2O)_2$  and 1 eq. of 2,2'bipyridine ( $T_i = 25$  °C heating 25 °C/min to 70 °C, heating 5 °C/min from 70 °C to 200 °C)



**Figure S33.** Trend in melting points obtained for pure 8-coordinate  $Ln(hfac)_3(bpy)$  complexes and 10-coordinate  $Ln(hfac)_3(bpy)_2$  complexes

	Ln-N (Å)	Ln-N <sub>avg</sub> (Å)	N-Ln-N (°)	N-Ln-N <sub>avg</sub>
La	2.640	2.658	60.98	60.96
	2.653		60.93	
	2.659			
	2.680			
Ce	2.62	2.63	61.31	61.60
	2.644		61.89	
	2.627			
	2.629			
Pr	2.611	2.613	61.68	61.89
	2.627		62.10	
	2.608			
	2.606			
Nd	2.600	2.586	62.45	62.58
	2.575		62.70	
	2.577			
	2.592			
Sm	2.535	2.544	63.81	63.52
	2.545		63.22	
	2.562			
	2.544			

Table S1: Trends in Ln-N bond length and N-Ln-N bond angle of 8-coordinate Ln(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(bpy) complexes

Table	S2:	Assignment	of	Coordination	Geometries	of	8-coordinate	$Ln(hfac)_3(bpy)$	Complexes	from
Haight	's M	ethod <sup>1</sup> using	the	16 <sup>th</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> and 1	18 <sup>th</sup> smallest	ang	gles			

Selected angle	Angle (°)	Assigned	Selected Angle	Angle (°)	Assigned
		Geometry <sup>a</sup>			Geometry <sup>a</sup>
025-La1-031	84.10	Square antiprism	081-La2-091	85.68	Square antiprism
N1-La1-O45	104.86	(20.76°) <sup>b</sup>	N62-La2-O95	107.37	(21.69°)
N12-La1-O41	116.21		N51-La2-O91	112.64	
O25-Ce1-O31	84.20	Square antiprism	081-Ce2-O91	84.28	Square antiprism
N1-Ce1-O45	105.26	(21.06°)	N62-Ce2-O95	107.92	(23.64°)
N12-Ce1-O41	116.13	7	N51-Ce2-O91	114.19	
O25-Pr1-O31	82.44	Square antiprism	081-Pr2-091	84.45	Square antiprism
N1-Pr1-O45	106.24	(23.80°)	N62-Pr2-O95	107.94	(23.49°)
N12-Pr1-O41	116.36	7	N51-Pr2-O91	113.89	
O21-Nd1-O41	81.59	Square antiprism	075-Nd2-095	84.10	Square antiprism
N11-Nd1-O35	106.40	(24.81°)	N62-Nd2-O71	108.57	(24.47°)
N12-Nd1-O31	116.63	7	N51-Nd2-O75	114.1	
O25-Sm1-O35	83.10	Square antiprism	O75-Sm2-O91	80.76	Square antiprism
N1-Sm1-O31	108.88	(25.78°)	N62-Sm2-O85	107.47	(26.71°)
N12-Sm1-O35	115.06		N51-Sm2-O81	116.64	

<sup>a</sup> The geometry was assigned by the difference between the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> smallest angles as they are all > 20 ° (D<sub>4d</sub>), and did not fit the criteria for being assigned as bicapped trigonal prism (C<sub>2v</sub>) or dodecahedron (D<sub>2d</sub>).

<sup>b</sup> The difference between the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> angles is close to 20°, therefore, we could say it is slightly distorted towards bicapped trigonal prism geometry ( $C_{2v}$ ).

Table S3: Trends in Ln-N bond length and N-Ln-N bond angle for 10-coordinate  $Ln(hfac)_3(bpy)_2$  complexes

	Ln-N (Å)	Ln-N <sub>avg</sub> (Å)	N-Ln-N (°)
La <sup>a</sup>	2.7741	2.7725	57.95
	2.7709		
Ce	2.744	2.750	58.33
	2.756		
Pr	2.737	2.741	58.89
	2.745		
Nd	2.728	2.731	58.99
	2.733		
Sm	2.713	2.718	59.32
	2.722		

<sup>a</sup> Refcode: EBUXUU<sup>2</sup>

	Ln-O <sub>DME</sub> <sup>3</sup>	Ln-N <sub>bpy</sub>	
	(Å)	(Å)	
La	2.574	2.658	
Ce	2.549	2.63	
Pr	2.534	2.613	
Nd	N/A	2.586	
Sm	2.497	2.544	

**Table S4**: Comparison of Average Bond Lengths of the  $Ln-O_{DME}^3$  and  $Ln-N_{bpy}$  bonds in the 8-coordinate  $Ln(hfac)_3(DME)$  and  $Ln(hfac)_3(bpy)$  Complexes

#### **S3.** Crystallography

Data for all La, Ce, Pr 8-coordinate and 10-coordinate complexes and Sm(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(bpy)<sub>2</sub> were collected at low temperature (150 K) on a Bruker-Nonius Kappa-CCD diffractometer using monochromated Mo-K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å) and were measured using a combination of  $\phi$  scans and  $\omega$  scans with  $\kappa$  offsets, to fill the Ewald sphere.<sup>4</sup> The Sm(hfac)<sub>3</sub>(bpy) structure was collected at low temperature (150 K) on a Bruker APEX2 area detector diffractometer using APEX2 software using monochromated Mo-K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å). For the Nd complexes, data were collected at low temperature (150 K) on a SuperNova Agilent diffractometer equipped with a microfocus Mo K $\alpha$ radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å) source and Atlas CCD detector. The unit cell refinement and data reduction were carried out using CrysAlisPro software.

The structures were solved (direct methods) and refined using the programs listed in Table S5 for full-matrix least-squares refinement on  $F^2$  against all reflections. H atoms were included in calculated positions and allowed to refine as riding on their respective carbon atoms.

	Collection	Absorption Correction	Cell Refinement and Reduction	Solution	Refinement
La(hfac) <sub>3</sub> (bpy)	Bruker Nonius	SORTAV <sup>5</sup>	DENZO-SMN <sup>4</sup>	SIR-92 <sup>6</sup>	SHELXL- 2016/6 <sup>7</sup>
Ce(hfac) <sub>3</sub> (bpy)	Bruker Nonius	SORTAV <sup>5</sup>	DENZO-SMN <sup>4</sup>	SHELXTL V6.1 <sup>8</sup>	SHELXL- 2016/67
Pr(hfac) <sub>3</sub> (bpy)	Bruker Nonius	SORTAV <sup>5</sup>	DENZO-SMN <sup>4</sup>	SHELXS-97 <sup>8</sup>	SHELXL- 2016/6 <sup>7</sup>
Nd(hfac) <sub>3</sub> (bpy)	Agilent Supernova	SCALE3 ABSPACK <sup>9</sup>	CrysAlisPro Version 1.171.35.8 <sup>10</sup>	SHELXS-97 <sup>8</sup>	SHELXL- 2016/6 <sup>7</sup>
Sm(hfac) <sub>3</sub> (bpy)	Bruker APEX2	SADABS <sup>11</sup>	Bruker SMART and Bruker SAINT	SHELXS-97 <sup>8</sup>	SHELXL- 2016/6 <sup>7</sup>
Ce(hfac) <sub>3</sub> (bpy) <sub>2</sub>	Bruker Nonius	SORTAV <sup>5</sup>	DENZO-SMN <sup>4</sup>	SHELXTL V6.1 <sup>8</sup>	SHELXL- 2016/6 <sup>7</sup>
Pr(hfac) <sub>3</sub> (bpy) <sub>2</sub>	Bruker Nonius	SORTAV <sup>5</sup>	DENZO-SMN <sup>4</sup>	SHELXTL V6.1 <sup>8</sup>	SHELXL- 2016/6 <sup>7</sup>
Nd(hfac) <sub>3</sub> (bpy) <sub>2</sub>	Agilent Supernova	SCALE3 ABSPACK <sup>9</sup>	CrysAlisPro Version 1.171.35.8 <sup>10</sup>	SHELXS-97 <sup>8</sup>	SHELXL-2013 <sup>7,</sup> 12
Sm(hfac) <sub>3</sub> (bpy) <sub>2</sub>	Bruker Nonius	SORTAV <sup>5</sup>	DENZO-SMN <sup>4</sup>	SHELXTL V6.1 <sup>8</sup>	SHELXL- 2016/67

# Table S5. Details of Crystallographic Solutions and Refinement

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