

**Supporting Information**

**2.2.2-Cryptand as a Bidentate Ligand in Rare-Earth Metal Chemistry**

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### Crystallographic Details for:

$[(R_2N)_2Ce(\text{crypt}-\kappa^2-\text{O}_2\text{O}')]_2(\mu-\eta^2:\eta^2-\text{N}_2)$  ( $R = \text{SiMe}_3$ ), **1**

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(C <sub>5</sub> Me <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Yb(crypt- $\kappa^2$ -O <sub>2</sub> O'), <b>2</b>		
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X-ray Data Collection, Structure Solution and Refinement for **1**, [<{(R<sub>2</sub>N)<sub>2</sub>Ce(crypt-κ<sup>2</sup>-O,O')<sub>2</sub>(μ-η<sup>2</sup>:η<sup>2</sup>-N<sub>2</sub>)}] (R = SiMe<sub>3</sub>).

A yellow crystal of approximate dimensions 0.164 x 0.187 x 0.335 mm was mounted in a cryoloop 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 (120 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*<sup>̄</sup>1 was assigned and later determined to be correct.

The structure was solved by direct methods and refined on F<sup>2</sup> by full-matrix least-squares techniques. The analytical scattering factors<sup>5</sup> for neutral atoms were used throughout the analysis. Hydrogen atoms were included using a riding model. The molecule was located about an inversion center. There were two molecules of diethylether solvent present.

Least-squares analysis yielded wR2 = 0.0984 and Goof = 1.041 for 474 variables refined against 13437 data (0.72 Å), R1 = 0.0387 for those 11059 data with I > 2.0σ(I).

**Table S1.** Crystal data and structure refinement for **1**, [<{(R<sub>2</sub>N)<sub>2</sub>Ce(crypt-κ<sup>2</sup>-O,O')<sub>2</sub>(μ-η<sup>2</sup>:η<sup>2</sup>-N<sub>2</sub>)}]

Identification code	abc16 (Amanda Chung)		
Empirical formula	C <sub>60</sub> H <sub>144</sub> Ce <sub>2</sub> N <sub>10</sub> O <sub>12</sub> Si <sub>8</sub> • 2(C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O)		
Formula weight	1851.04		
Temperature	133(2) K		
Wavelength	0.71073 Å		
Crystal system	Triclinic		
Space group	<i>P</i> <sup>̄</sup> 1		
Unit cell dimensions	a = 12.8760(12) Å	b = 14.4999(14) Å	c = 15.4460(15) Å
	a = 113.0740(14)°.	b = 92.3513(15)°.	g = 110.9522(14)°.
Volume	2421.9(4) Å <sup>3</sup>		
Z	1		
Density (calculated)	1.269 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>		
Absorption coefficient	1.082 mm <sup>-1</sup>		
F(000)	982		
Crystal color	yellow		
Crystal size	0.335 x 0.187 x 0.164 mm <sup>3</sup>		
Theta range for data collection	1.466 to 29.575°		
Index ranges	-17 ≤ <i>h</i> ≤ 17, -20 ≤ <i>k</i> ≤ 18, -21 ≤ <i>l</i> ≤ 21		

Reflections collected	32715
Independent reflections	13437 [R(int) = 0.0347]
Completeness to theta = 25.500°	100.0 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.7462 and 0.6682
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F <sup>2</sup>
Data / restraints / parameters	13437 / 0 / 474
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.041
Final R indices [I>2sigma(I) = 11059 data]	R1 = 0.0387, wR2 = 0.0898
R indices (all data, 0.72 Å)	R1 = 0.0546, wR2 = 0.0984
Largest diff. peak and hole	1.927 and -0.450 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>

**Table S2.** Bond distances [Å] for **1**.

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Ce(1)-N(3)	2.409(2)
Ce(1)-N(2)	2.411(2)
Ce(1)-N(1)	2.451(2)
Ce(1)-N(1)#1	2.468(2)
Ce(1)-O(2)	2.5453(18)
Ce(1)-O(1)	2.7957(18)
Si(1)-N(2)	1.712(2)
Si(1)-C(1)	1.868(3)
Si(1)-C(2)	1.882(3)
Si(1)-C(3)	1.886(3)
Si(2)-N(2)	1.709(2)
Si(2)-C(4)	1.874(3)
Si(2)-C(5)	1.876(3)
Si(2)-C(6)	1.879(3)
Si(3)-N(3)	1.704(2)
Si(3)-C(9)	1.874(3)
Si(3)-C(7)	1.881(3)
Si(3)-C(8)	1.885(3)
Si(4)-N(3)	1.712(2)
Si(4)-C(11)	1.878(3)
Si(4)-C(12)	1.878(3)
Si(4)-C(10)	1.882(3)

N(1)-N(1)#1	1.233(4)
N(1)-Ce(1)#1	2.468(2)
N(4)-C(19)	1.463(3)
N(4)-C(25)	1.466(4)
N(4)-C(13)	1.472(3)
N(5)-C(24)	1.460(4)
N(5)-C(30)	1.461(4)
N(5)-C(18)	1.477(4)
O(1)-C(15)	1.437(3)
O(1)-C(14)	1.439(3)
O(2)-C(16)	1.438(3)
O(2)-C(17)	1.443(3)
O(3)-C(21)	1.418(4)
O(3)-C(20)	1.422(4)
O(4)-C(22)	1.413(4)
O(4)-C(23)	1.418(4)
O(5)-C(27)	1.417(4)
O(5)-C(26)	1.424(4)
O(6)-C(29)	1.399(4)
O(6)-C(28)	1.413(4)
C(13)-C(14)	1.525(4)
C(15)-C(16)	1.485(4)
C(17)-C(18)	1.512(4)
C(19)-C(20)	1.504(4)
C(21)-C(22)	1.489(5)
C(23)-C(24)	1.507(5)
C(25)-C(26)	1.510(4)
C(27)-C(28)	1.495(5)
C(29)-C(30)	1.525(5)
O(7)-C(33)	1.394(5)
O(7)-C(32)	1.413(5)
C(31)-C(32)	1.490(7)
C(33)-C(34)	1.454(7)

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**Table S3.** Bond angles [°] for **1**.

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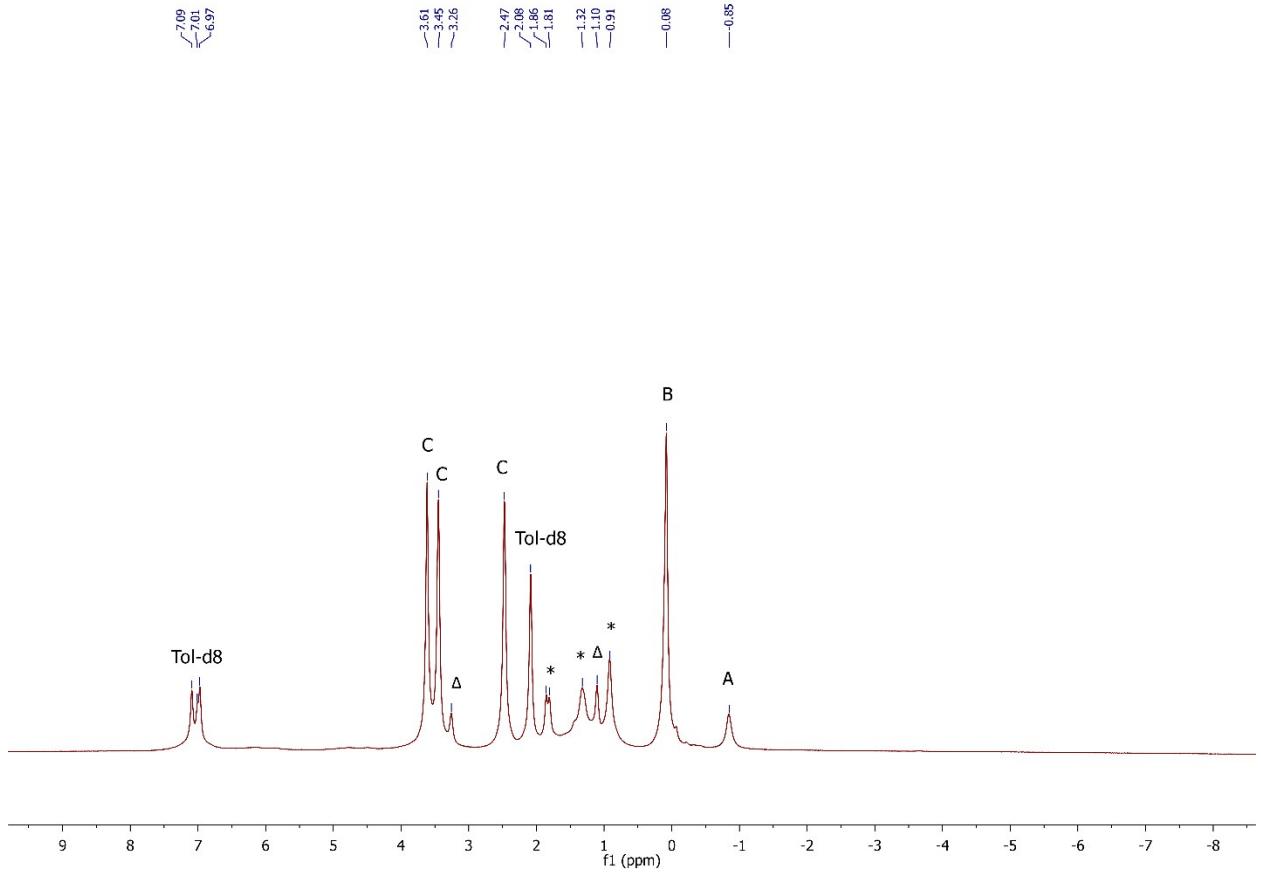
N(3)-Ce(1)-N(2)	123.09(7)
N(3)-Ce(1)-N(1)	104.41(7)
N(2)-Ce(1)-N(1)	116.01(7)
N(3)-Ce(1)-N(1)#1	102.44(7)
N(2)-Ce(1)-N(1)#1	95.60(7)
N(1)-Ce(1)-N(1)#1	29.04(9)
N(3)-Ce(1)-O(2)	129.31(7)
N(2)-Ce(1)-O(2)	99.09(7)
N(1)-Ce(1)-O(2)	76.30(6)
N(1)#1-Ce(1)-O(2)	99.65(7)
N(3)-Ce(1)-O(1)	92.74(6)
N(2)-Ce(1)-O(1)	84.78(6)
N(1)-Ce(1)-O(1)	136.28(6)
N(1)#1-Ce(1)-O(1)	161.42(6)
O(2)-Ce(1)-O(1)	62.08(6)
N(2)-Si(1)-C(1)	111.77(13)
N(2)-Si(1)-C(2)	109.60(12)
C(1)-Si(1)-C(2)	109.47(14)
N(2)-Si(1)-C(3)	115.90(13)
C(1)-Si(1)-C(3)	106.01(15)
C(2)-Si(1)-C(3)	103.66(14)
N(2)-Si(2)-C(4)	111.74(12)
N(2)-Si(2)-C(5)	113.80(13)
C(4)-Si(2)-C(5)	105.34(13)
N(2)-Si(2)-C(6)	113.00(13)
C(4)-Si(2)-C(6)	104.82(14)
C(5)-Si(2)-C(6)	107.46(16)
N(3)-Si(3)-C(9)	112.62(13)
N(3)-Si(3)-C(7)	114.88(12)
C(9)-Si(3)-C(7)	105.04(13)
N(3)-Si(3)-C(8)	110.00(12)
C(9)-Si(3)-C(8)	107.59(13)
C(7)-Si(3)-C(8)	106.24(13)
N(3)-Si(4)-C(11)	115.86(13)
N(3)-Si(4)-C(12)	107.83(12)

C(11)-Si(4)-C(12)	105.67(14)
N(3)-Si(4)-C(10)	114.97(13)
C(11)-Si(4)-C(10)	102.98(15)
C(12)-Si(4)-C(10)	109.01(15)
N(1)#1-N(1)-Ce(1)	76.3(2)
N(1)#1-N(1)-Ce(1)#1	74.7(2)
Ce(1)-N(1)-Ce(1)#1	150.96(9)
Si(2)-N(2)-Si(1)	119.82(12)
Si(2)-N(2)-Ce(1)	121.97(11)
Si(1)-N(2)-Ce(1)	118.10(11)
Si(3)-N(3)-Si(4)	123.54(13)
Si(3)-N(3)-Ce(1)	120.24(11)
Si(4)-N(3)-Ce(1)	116.21(11)
C(19)-N(4)-C(25)	110.4(2)
C(19)-N(4)-C(13)	112.7(2)
C(25)-N(4)-C(13)	109.1(2)
C(24)-N(5)-C(30)	112.0(2)
C(24)-N(5)-C(18)	112.4(3)
C(30)-N(5)-C(18)	111.0(3)
C(15)-O(1)-C(14)	112.0(2)
C(15)-O(1)-Ce(1)	113.58(15)
C(14)-O(1)-Ce(1)	127.71(14)
C(16)-O(2)-C(17)	115.2(2)
C(16)-O(2)-Ce(1)	108.25(15)
C(17)-O(2)-Ce(1)	131.86(16)
C(21)-O(3)-C(20)	112.0(3)
C(22)-O(4)-C(23)	112.2(3)
C(27)-O(5)-C(26)	110.8(2)
C(29)-O(6)-C(28)	113.0(2)
N(4)-C(13)-C(14)	111.2(2)
O(1)-C(14)-C(13)	113.3(2)
O(1)-C(15)-C(16)	107.2(2)
O(2)-C(16)-C(15)	109.1(2)
O(2)-C(17)-C(18)	112.8(2)
N(5)-C(18)-C(17)	114.2(3)
N(4)-C(19)-C(20)	114.5(2)

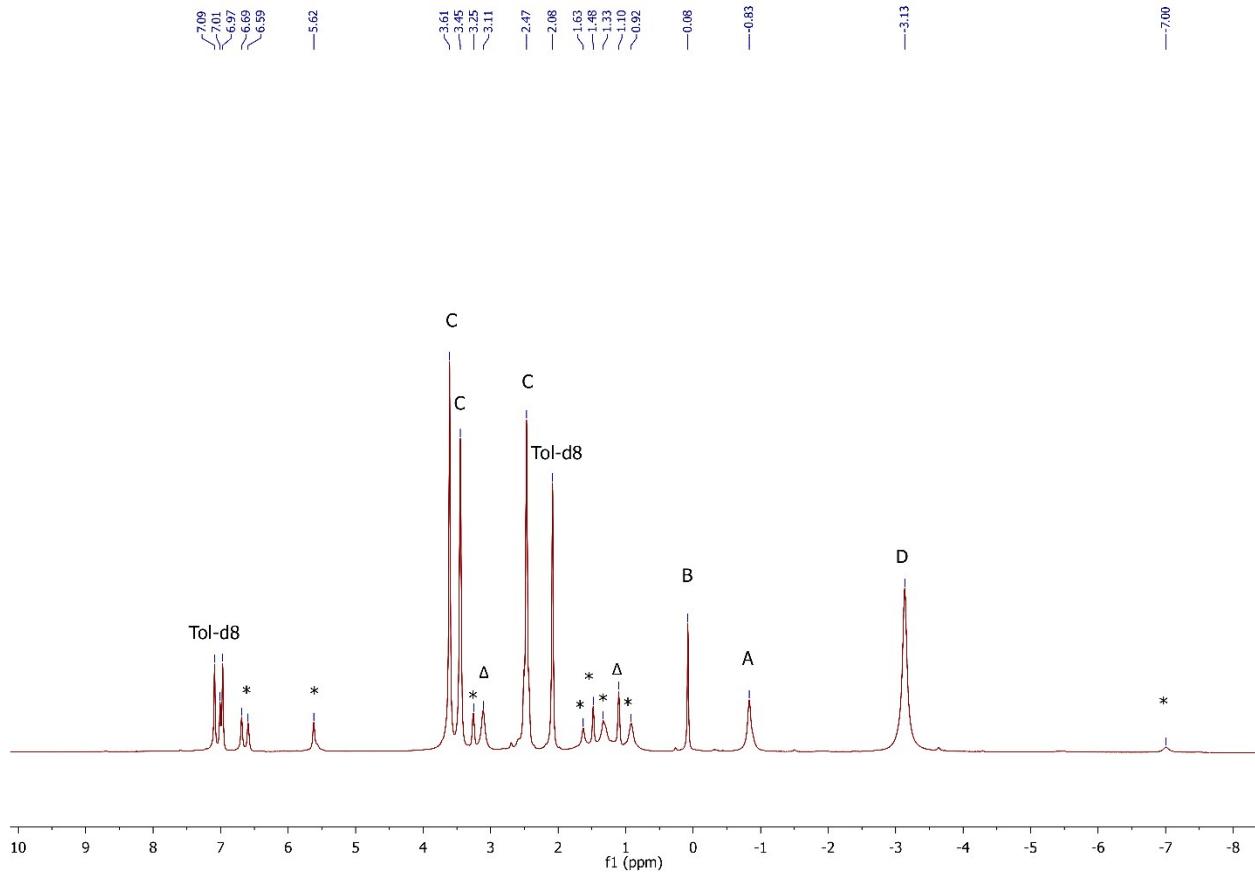
O(3)-C(20)-C(19)	110.2(2)
O(3)-C(21)-C(22)	110.6(3)
O(4)-C(22)-C(21)	110.9(3)
O(4)-C(23)-C(24)	109.9(2)
N(5)-C(24)-C(23)	113.1(3)
N(4)-C(25)-C(26)	113.1(2)
O(5)-C(26)-C(25)	109.3(2)
O(5)-C(27)-C(28)	111.2(3)
O(6)-C(28)-C(27)	115.4(3)
O(6)-C(29)-C(30)	107.5(2)
N(5)-C(30)-C(29)	110.0(3)
C(33)-O(7)-C(32)	115.1(4)
O(7)-C(32)-C(31)	109.5(4)
O(7)-C(33)-C(34)	111.8(4)

Symmetry transformations used to generate equivalent atoms:

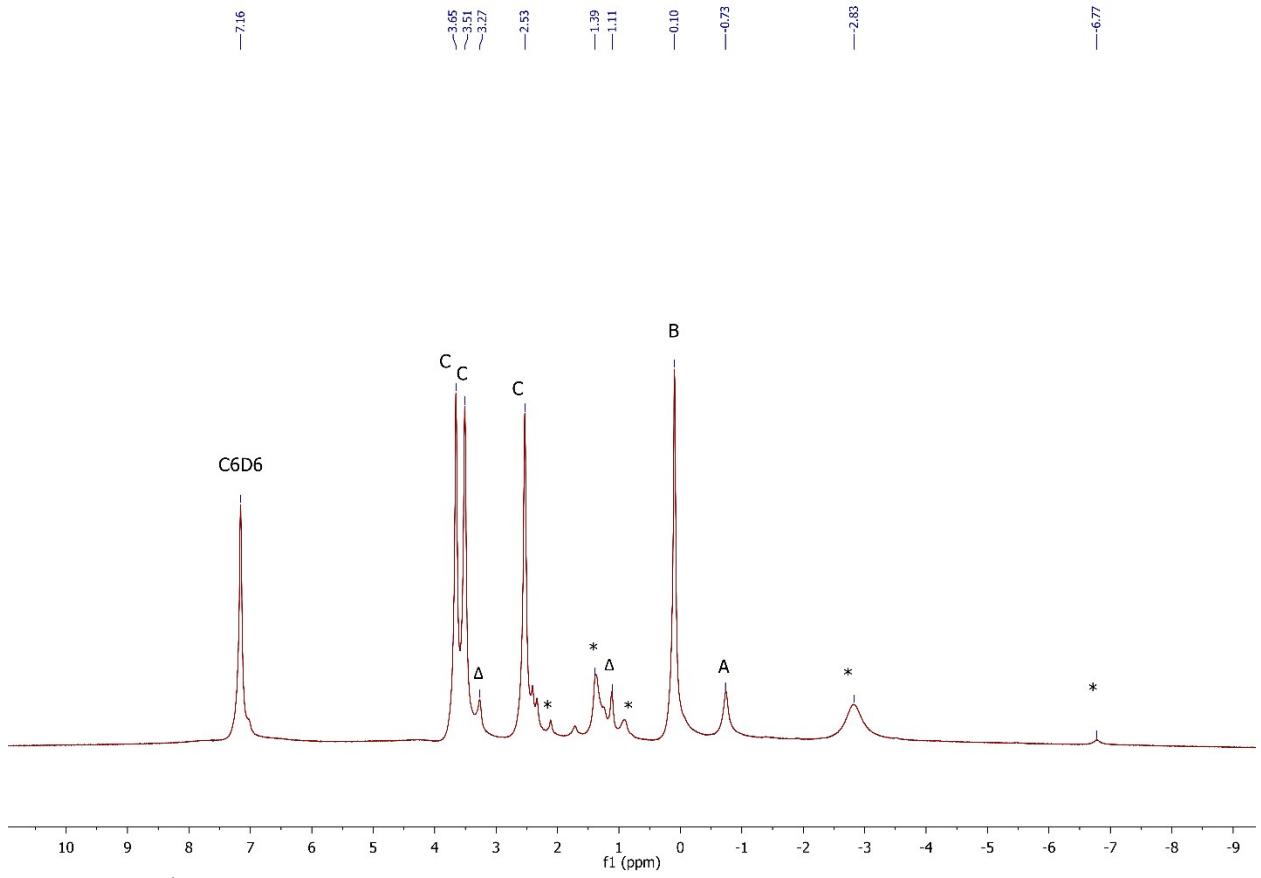
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**Figure S1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **1** in toluene-d<sub>8</sub>. A: SiMe<sub>3</sub> of **1**; B: HN\*; C: crypt; Δ: diethyl ether; \*unidentified.



**Figure S2.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of **1** reaction mixture in toluene-d<sub>8</sub>. A: SiMe<sub>3</sub> of **1**; B: HN\*; C: crypt; D: SiMe<sub>3</sub> of Ce(NR<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>; Δ: diethyl ether; \*unidentified.



**Figure S3.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **1** reaction mixture in  $C_6D_6$ . A:  $SiMe_3$  of **1**; B:  $HN^*$ ; C: crypt; Δ: diethyl ether; \*unidentified.

X-ray Data Collection, Structure Solution and Refinement for **2**,  $(C_5Me_5)_2Yb(\text{crypt}-\kappa^2-\text{O},\text{O}')$ .

A green crystal of approximate dimensions  $0.051 \times 0.072 \times 0.149$  mm was mounted in a cryoloop 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 (90 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 *mmm* and the systematic absences were consistent with the orthorhombic space groups *Pbcm* and *Pca2*<sub>1</sub>. It was later determined that space group *Pca2*<sub>1</sub> was correct.

The structure was solved by direct methods and refined on  $F^2$  by full-matrix least-squares techniques. The analytical scattering factors<sup>5</sup> for neutral atoms were used throughout the analysis.

Hydrogen atoms were included using a riding model. There were two molecules of the formula-unit present.

Least-squares analysis yielded  $wR2 = 0.1128$  and  $\text{Goof} = 1.059$  for 488 variables refined against 14833 data ( $0.80$  Å),  $R1 = 0.0649$  for those 10306 data with  $I > 2.0\sigma(I)$ . The structure was refined as a two-component twin, however, it appeared that non-merohedral twinning may have been present. Unfortunately, the frame data was not available to investigate this further.

**Table S4.** Crystal data and structure refinement for **2**,  $(C_5Me_5)_2Yb(\text{crypt}-\kappa^2-\text{O},\text{O}')$ .

Identification code	dnh29 (Dan Huh)		
Empirical formula	$C_{38}H_{66}N_2O_6Yb$		
Formula weight	819.96		
Temperature	133(2) K		
Wavelength	0.71073 Å		
Crystal system	Orthorhombic		
Space group	<i>Pca2</i> <sub>1</sub>		
Unit cell dimensions	$a = 26.384(4)$ Å	$a = 90^\circ$ .	
	$b = 9.3048(14)$ Å	$b = 90^\circ$ .	
	$c = 31.544(5)$ Å	$g = 90^\circ$ .	
Volume	$7744(2)$ Å <sup>3</sup>		
Z	8		
Density (calculated)	1.407 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>		
Absorption coefficient	2.460 mm <sup>-1</sup>		
F(000)	3408		
Crystal color	green		
Crystal size	$0.149 \times 0.072 \times 0.051$ mm <sup>3</sup>		
Theta range for data collection	1.291 to 26.408°		

Index ranges	$-32 \leq h \leq 33, -11 \leq k \leq 11, -39 \leq l \leq 39$
Reflections collected	70551
Independent reflections	14833 [ $R(\text{int}) = 0.1518$ ]
Completeness to theta = 25.500°	94.6 %
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from equivalents
Max. and min. transmission	0.7454 and 0.3742
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on $F^2$
Data / restraints / parameters	14833 / 1 / 488
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.059
Final R indices [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ = 10306 data]	$R_1 = 0.0649, wR_2 = 0.1017$
R indices (all data, 0.80 Å)	$R_1 = 0.1059, wR_2 = 0.1128$
Largest diff. peak and hole	1.230 and -1.329 e.Å <sup>-3</sup>

## References.

1. APEX2 Version 2014.11-0, Bruker AXS, Inc.; Madison, WI 2014.
  2. SAINT Version 8.34a, Bruker AXS, Inc.; Madison, WI 2013.
  3. Sheldrick, G. M. SADABS, Version 2014/5, Bruker AXS, Inc.; Madison, WI 2014.
  4. Sheldrick, G. M. SHELXTL, Version 2014/7, Bruker AXS, Inc.; Madison, WI 2014.
  5. International Tables for Crystallography 1992, Vol. C., Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic Publishers.
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## Definitions:

$$wR2 = [\sum[w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2] / \sum[w(F_o^2)^2]]^{1/2}$$

$$R1 = \sum|F_o| - |F_c| / \sum|F_o|$$

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

The thermal ellipsoid plot is shown at the 50% probability level.