# The Role of Neutral Donor Ligands in the Isoselective RingOpening Polymerization of rac- $\beta$-Butyrolactone 

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## 1. General Methods.

Instruments and measurements: Unless specified, all reactions were performed under inert conditions $\left(\mathrm{N}_{2}\right)$ using standard Schlenk techniques or in a MBraun drybox equipped with a standard catalyst purifier and solvent trap. Glassware was oven-dried for at least 2 h at $150^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ prior to use. Celite and $3 \AA$ molecular sieves were heated under reduced pressure at $300^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for at least 24 h and then cooled under vacuum prior to use. The following spectrometers were used for NMR characterization: Bruker Avance III HD Ascend ( ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}: 600 \mathrm{MHz},{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}: 152 \mathrm{MHz}$, ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}: 243 \mathrm{MHz}$ ) and a Bruker DRX ( $\left.{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}: 400 \mathrm{MHz},{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}: 101 \mathrm{MHz},{ }^{31} \mathrm{P}: 162 \mathrm{MHz}\right) .{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ - and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}-$ NMR shifts are referenced relative to the solvent signal ( $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}:{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}: 7.26 \mathrm{ppm},{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}: 77.16 \mathrm{ppm}$; $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}:{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}: 7.16 \mathrm{ppm},{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}: 128.06 \mathrm{ppm}$ ), while ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}-\mathrm{NMR}$ shifts are referenced relative to external solution standards ( $\mathrm{H}_{3} \mathrm{PO}_{4}, 0 \mathrm{ppm}$ ). Both instruments were equipped with Z-gradient BBFO probes. Probe temperatures were calibrated using ethylene glycol and methanol as previously described. ${ }^{1}$ Polymer tacticity ( $P_{\mathrm{m}}$, percentage of meso diads) was measured using a ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ inversegated pulse sequence, followed by integration of the $\underline{C}=\mathrm{O}$ resonances (Figure S21). The mechanism for stereocontrol was determined by statistical analysis of stereochemical triads in P3HB ( $r r, m m$, and $r m / m r$; integration of $\underline{C} \mathrm{H}_{2}$ resonances from ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$-NMR using an inversegated pulse sequence) as described by Thomas and Carpentier. ${ }^{2}$

Gel permeation chromatography (GPC) measurements were performed using an Agilent 1260 equipped with two Poroshell 120 EC-C18 columns heated at $35{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}(4.6 \times 100 \mathrm{~mm}, 2.7 \mu \mathrm{~m})$ and a UV-vis diode-array detector and refractive detector. The eluent was inhibitor-free THF, and the system was calibrated with standard polystyrene standards ranging from 580 to 1,500,000 Da. Reported molecular weights are those obtained from GPC corrected by a MarkHouwink factor of $0.54 .{ }^{3}$ Unless stated otherwise, all GPC samples were of the quenched crude reaction mixtures (not precipitated or purified polymers). P3HB samples ( $10 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{mL}$ in THF) using a DCTB/NaTFA matrix ( $\mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v}, 10: 1$ ) were analysed using MALDI TOF MS under positiveion reflectron mode on a Bruker Ultraflex III ToF/ToF mass spectrometer at the University of Akron. IR spectra were recorded on Jasco 4100 FTIR spectrometers using Nujol mulls sandwiched between KBr plates. Elemental analyses were performed by Robertson Microlit Laboratories (Ledgewood, NJ) and Midwest Microlab, LLC (Indianapolis, IN) for bench-stable $\left({ }^{1} \mathbf{L}\right)$ and air-sensitive compounds (1-RE and $\left.\mathbf{1}-\mathbf{R E}(\mathbf{T P P O})_{2}\right)$ respectively. Samples were shipped in a sealed 2 mL vial that was placed in a 20 mL scintillation vial and sealed, which were then placed in a vacuum-sealed plastic bag.

Materials: Tetrahydrofuran, diethyl ether, toluene, hexanes, and pentane were purchased from Fisher Scientific. Solvents were sparged for 20 min with dry Ar and dried using a commercial two-column solvent purification system (LC Technologies). Solvents were further dried by storing them over $3 \AA$ molecular sieves for at least 48 h prior to use. Ultrapure, deionized water ( $18.2 \mathrm{M} \Omega$ ) was obtained from a Millipore Direct-Q 3 UV Water Purification System. Deuterated solvents were purchased from Cambridge Isotope Laboratories, Inc. C6D6 was degassed with 3 freeze-pump-thaw cycles and stored over $3 \AA$ molecular sieves for at least 48 h prior to use. Qualitative assessment of moisture-content in these solvents was performed by adding 1 drop of a concentrated solution of a sodium benzophenone radical anion (purple) to 10 mL of solvent where maintenance of a dark blue color for at least 5 minutes was sufficient for use.

2,6-ditertbutyl phenol (Oakwood Chemical; 99\% purity), para-formaldehyde (Alfa Aesar; 97\% purity), benzylamine (TCI; 99\% purity), 2-methoxyethylamine (Sigma-Aldrich; 99\% purity), triphenylphosphine oxide (Acros; 99\% purity), trioctylphosphine oxide (Sigma-Aldrich; 99\% purity), hexamethylphosphoramide (TCI; 98\% purity), triphenylphosphate (Sigma-Aldrich; 99\% purity ), triphenyl phosphine (Sigma-Aldrich; 99\% purity), 4-dimethylaminopyridine (ChemImpex; 99\% purity), 1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane (Sigma-Aldrich; 99\% purity), potassium hexamethyldisilazide (Sigma-Aldrich; 95\% purity), 1,1,3,3-tetramethyldisilazane (TCI, 97\% purity), $\mathrm{RECl}_{3}$ (Strem; RE = La, Y; 99.9\% purity), (R)-methyl 3-hydroxybutanoate (Oakwood; 99\% purity), acetyl chloride (Acros; 99\% purity), 2-propanol (Alfa-Aesar, Anhydrous, 99.5\% purity), and pyridine (Sigma-Aldrich; 99\% purity) were purchased and used as received. Racemic butyrolactone (Sigma-Aldrich; 98\% purity) was freshly distilled from $\mathrm{CaH}_{2}$ under nitrogen and degassed by freeze-pump-thaw cycles prior to use. $\mathrm{RE}\left[\mathrm{N}\left(\mathrm{SiMe}_{3}\right)_{2}\right]_{3}(\mathrm{RE}=\mathrm{La}$ and $\mathrm{Y}),{ }^{4} \mathrm{RE}\left[\mathrm{N}\left(\mathrm{SiHMe}_{2}\right)_{2}\right]_{3}(\mathrm{THF})_{2}(\mathrm{RE}=\mathrm{La}$ and Y$),{ }^{5}$ 6,6'-(((2-methoxyethyl)azanediyl)bis-(methylene))bis(2,4-di-tert-butylphenol) $\left({ }^{2} \mathrm{~L}\right),{ }^{6} \mathrm{RE}\left({ }^{2} \mathrm{~L}\right)$ THF ( $\mathrm{RE}=\mathrm{La}^{6}$ and $\mathrm{Y}^{7}$ ) were prepared according to reported procedures.

X-ray Crystallography: Samples were collected in Paraton ${ }^{\mathrm{TM}}$ oil on a petri dish in a glovebox and then quickly evaluated and mounted with the assistance of an optical microcope. X-ray reflection intensity data were collected on a Bruker D8 Quest with a Photon 100 CMOS detector employing graphite-monochromated Mo-K $\alpha$ radiation $(\lambda=0.71073 \AA$ ) at a temperature of 173(1) K. Rotation frames were integrated using SAINT, ${ }^{8}$ producing a listing of unaveraged $\mathrm{F}^{2}$ and $\sigma\left(\mathrm{F}^{2}\right)$ values which were then passed to the SHELXT ${ }^{9}$ program package for further processing and structure solution. The intensity data were corrected for Lorentz and polarization effects and for absorption using SADABS. ${ }^{10}$ The structures were solved by direct methods (SHELXT). ${ }^{9}$ Refinement was by full-matrix least squares based on $\mathrm{F}^{2}$ using SHELXL. ${ }^{11}$ All reflections were used during refinements. Non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically and hydrogen atoms were refined using a riding model. Two tert-butyl groups and one of the $\mathrm{Si}\left(\mathrm{HMe}_{2}\right)$ groups were found to be disordered over two positions in $\left[\mathrm{La}\left({ }^{1} \mathrm{~L}\right)\left(\mathrm{N}\left(\mathrm{SiHMe}_{2}\right)_{2}\right)(\mathrm{TPPO})_{2}\right]\left(\mathbf{1}-\mathrm{La}(\mathbf{T P P O})_{2}\right)$. Two tert-butyl groups were found to be disordered over two positions in $\left[\mathrm{Y}\left({ }^{1} \mathrm{~L}\right)\left(\mathrm{N}\left(\mathrm{SiHMe}_{2}\right)_{2}\right)(\mathrm{TPPO})_{2}\right]\left(\mathbf{1 - Y}(\mathbf{T P P O})_{2}\right)$. Disorders were refined with the help of similarity restraints using standard/default values on 1,2 and 1,3 distances (SADI) and rigid bond restraints (RIGU) of the disordered groups. ${ }^{12,13}$ For the structures $\left.\left[\mathrm{La}\left({ }^{1} \mathrm{~L}\right)\left(\mathrm{N}\left(\mathrm{SiHMe}_{2}\right)_{2}\right)(\mathrm{TPPO})_{2}\right](\mathbf{1 - L a ( T P P O})_{2}\right)$ and $\left[\mathrm{Y}\left({ }^{1} \mathrm{~L}\right)\left(\mathrm{N}\left(\mathrm{SiHMe}_{2}\right)_{2}\right)(\mathrm{TPPO})_{2}\right]$ $\left(\mathbf{1 - Y}(\mathbf{T P P O})_{2}\right)$ there were areas of disordered solvent (toluene, 2 molecules in the asymmetric unit) for which reliable disorder models could not be devised; the X-ray data were corrected for the presence of disordered solvent using SQUEEZE. ${ }^{14}$ Crystallographic parameters are summarized in Table S5, bond distances and angles are summarized in Tables S6-S8, and thermal ellipsoid plots (50 \% probability) are shown in Figures S26-S28.

## 2. Synthetic Details and Characterization.



Scheme S1. Synthesis of benzyl-amino bisphenol and corresponding rare-earth complexes.

6,6'-((benzylazanediyl)bis(methylene))bis(2,4-di-tert-butylphenol), ( ${ }^{1} \mathrm{~L}$ )


A 250 mL round-bottomed flask was charged with benzyl amine ( $3.27 \mathrm{~g}, 30.5 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv.; MW: $107.16 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ), DI water ( 50 mL ), a Teflon-coated stir bar, and paraformaldehyde ( 1.83 $\mathrm{g} ; 30.5 \mathrm{mmol}$; 2.0 equiv.; MW: $30.03 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) paraformaldehyde, resulting in a colorless solution. To the stirring mixture, 2,6-ditertbutyl phenol ( $12.59 \mathrm{~g}, 30.5 \mathrm{mmol}, 2.0$ equiv.; MW: $206.33 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) was added and floated on the top of the solution. The reaction was heated in an oil bath at $110^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 20 h . The mixture became a yellow emulsion during heating. After cooling to RT, a solid was formed out of the cooled liquid. The aqueous layer was decanted. The residual solid was dissolved in $\mathrm{EtOH}(20 \mathrm{~mL})$ at $60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and then cooled to RT, affording a colorless crystalline solid after standing overnight. The solid was isolated by vacuum filtration over a course porosity fritted filter, washed with EtOH ( $2 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL}$ ), and dried under reduced pressure to furnish compound ${ }^{1} \mathrm{~L}$ as a white solid. Yield: 7.8 g ( $14.3 \mathrm{mmol}, 47 \%$ yield; MW: $543.84 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ).
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}, 298 \mathrm{~K}\right): ~ \delta=1.28$ (s, 18H; 2-'Bu), 1.42 (s, 18H; 4-'Bu), 3.60 (s, 2H; $\mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{Bn}$ ), $3.66\left(\mathrm{~s}, 4 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{ArOH}\right), 6.94\left(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; 5-\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{Ar}}\right), 7.22(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}$; $3-\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{Ar}}$ ), 7.30-7.42 ppm (m, 7H; Bn, OH);
 $(\underline{\mathrm{CMe}} 3), 57.0\left(\mathrm{~N} \underline{\mathrm{CH}_{2}} \mathrm{ArOH}\right), 58.6\left(\mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{Bn}\right), 121.5,123.7,125.3,128.0,129.1,129.7,136.1$, 137.6, 141.6, $152.3 \mathrm{ppm}\left(\underline{\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{Ar}}} \mathrm{OH}\right)$;
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}\right.$ ): $\delta=1.34$ (s, 18H; 2- ${ }^{\mathrm{t}} \mathrm{Bu}$ ), 1.62 (s, 18H; 4- ${ }^{-} \mathrm{Bu}$ ), 3.29 (s, 2H; $\mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{Bn}$ ), $3.39\left(\mathrm{~s}, 4 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{ArOH}\right), 6.96\left(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; 5-\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{Ar}}\right), 7.02(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}$;
$p-\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{nn}}$ ), $7.11(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; m-\mathrm{Hвn}), 7.26(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; o-\mathrm{Hвn}), 7.49(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $2 \mathrm{H} ; 3-\mathrm{Har}^{\text {r }}$ ), 7.69 ppm (m, 2H; OH);

Elemental Analysis calcd. (\%) for $\mathrm{C}_{3} 7 \mathrm{H}_{53} \mathrm{NO}_{2}$ : C 81.72, H 9.82, N 2.58; found: C 81.94, H 9.78, N 2.56.

## $\mathbf{L a}\left({ }^{\mathbf{1}} \mathbf{L}\right)\left[\mathbf{N}\left(\mathrm{SiHMe}_{2}\right)_{2}\right](\mathrm{THF})_{2}(\mathbf{1 - L a})$



A 20 mL scintillation vial was charged with ${ }^{\mathbf{1}} \mathbf{L}$ ( $335 \mathrm{mg}, 0.62 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv.; MW: 543.84 $\mathrm{g} \cdot \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ ), a Teflon-coated stir-bar, and THF ( 2 mL ). To the stirring, clear, and colorless solution, $\mathrm{La}\left[\mathrm{N}\left(\mathrm{SiHMe}_{2}\right)_{2}\right]_{3}(\mathrm{THF})_{2}\left(419 \mathrm{mg}, 0.62 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0\right.$ equiv.; MW: $\left.680.12 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}\right)$ was added. The solution was heated at $60^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 2 h . All volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, affording 1-La as a white solid. Yield: $580 \mathrm{mg}\left(0.61 \mathrm{mmol}, 98 \%\right.$ yield; MW: $957.27 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ).
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D} 6,298 \mathrm{~K}\right.$ ): $\delta=0.42$ (d, ${ }^{3} \mathrm{~J}=3.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 12 \mathrm{H}$; SiHMe2), 1.23 (s, 8H; 3,4-
 (s, $8 \mathrm{H} ; 2,5-\mathrm{H}_{\text {THF }}$ ), 3.79 (s, $2 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{Bn}$ ), 4.00 (d, ${ }^{2} \mathrm{~J}=12.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{ArO}$ ), 5.21 (quint, $\left.{ }^{3} J=3.0 \mathrm{~Hz},{ }^{1} J_{S i(29)-H}=167 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{Si}-\mathrm{H}\right), 7.04\left(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} ; p-\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{Bn}}\right), 7.15(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $2 \mathrm{H} ; m-\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{Bn}}$ ), $7.19\left(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; o-\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{Bn}}\right), 7.20\left(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; 5-\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{ArO}}\right), 7.62 \mathrm{ppm}(\mathrm{d}, J$ $=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; 3-\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{ArO}}$ );
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$-NMR ( $152 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}$ ): $\delta=4.0$ ( $\mathrm{SiH} \underline{\text { Me2 }}$ ), 25.3 ( $\beta$-Стнғ), 30.5 ( С $_{\text {Ме }}^{3}$ ), 32.3
 $125.0,127.8,128.3,128.7,131.6,135.7,135.9,136.9,162.6 \mathrm{ppm}\left(\underline{\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{Ar}}}-\mathrm{O}\right)$;
IR (Nujol): 2075 [m, v(SiH)], 2011 [ $\mathrm{w}, \mathrm{v}(\mathrm{La}\llcorner\underline{H-S i})], 1774$ (w), 1602 (w), 1414 (m), 1305 ( s$)$, 1279 (s), 1241 (s), 1232 (s), 1201 (m), 1165 (m), 1133 (m), 1051 (m), 1030 (m), 962 (m), 899 (s), 883 (s), 835 (s), 802 (m), 787 (m), 762 (m), $700(\mathrm{~m}), 644(\mathrm{w}), 629(\mathrm{~m}), 598(\mathrm{~m}), 528(\mathrm{~m})$, 489 (w), 444 (m) cm ${ }^{-1}$;

Elemental Analysis calcd. (\%) for $\mathrm{C}_{49} \mathrm{H}_{81} \mathrm{LaN}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4} \mathrm{Si}_{2}$ : C 61.75, H 8.30, N 2.92; found: C 61.48, H 8.53, N 2.93.

## $\left\{\mathbf{Y}\left({ }^{\mathbf{1}} \mathbf{L}\right)\left[\mathbf{N}\left(\mathrm{SiHMe}_{2}\right)_{2}\right]\right\}_{\mathbf{2}}\left(\mathbf{1}-\mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{2}}\right)$



A 20 mL scintillation vial was charged with ${ }^{1} \mathbf{L}$ ( $253 \mathrm{mg}, 0.47 \mathrm{mmol}$, 1.0 equiv.; MW: 543.84 $\mathrm{g} \cdot \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ ), a Teflon-coated stir-bar, and hexanes ( 2 mL ). To the stirring, clear, and colorless solution, $\mathrm{Y}\left[\mathrm{N}\left(\mathrm{SiHMe}_{2}\right)_{2}\right]_{3}(\mathrm{THF})_{2}\left(294 \mathrm{mg}, 0.47 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0\right.$ equiv.; MW: $630.12 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) was added. The solution was stirred at ambient temperature for 24 h . All volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, affording 1-Y $\mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{2}}$ as a white solid. Yield: $345 \mathrm{mg}(0.23 \mathrm{mmol}, 97 \%$ yield; MW: $1526.12 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ).
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}\right): \delta=-0.09\left(\mathrm{~d},{ }^{3} \mathrm{~J}=2.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, 12 \mathrm{H}\right.$; SiHMe2 ), 0.18 (d, ${ }^{3} J=2.9$
 $18 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{C}^{-} \mathrm{Bu}$ ), 3.79 (d, ${ }^{2} J=13.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{ArO}$ ), 3.93 (d, ${ }^{2} J=14.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{ArO}$ ), $4.40\left(\mathrm{~d},{ }^{2} J=14.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}\right.$; $\mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{Bn}$ ), $4.55\left(\mathrm{~d},{ }^{2} \mathrm{~J}=14.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{NCH} 2 \mathrm{Bn}\right), 4.73\left(\mathrm{~d},{ }^{2} J=13.2\right.$ $\mathrm{Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{ArO}$ ), 4.94 (d, ${ }^{2} \mathrm{~J}=14.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}$; $\mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{ArO}$ ), $5.00-5.03$ (m, 4H; Si-H), 7.06 (d, $\left.J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; 5-\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{ArO}}\right), 7.17\left(\mathrm{t}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; p-\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{Bn}}\right.$ ), $7.22\left(\mathrm{~d}, J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; 5-\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{ArO}}\right), 7.27$ (t, $J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H} ; m-\mathrm{HBn}_{\text {n }}$ ), 7.38 (d, $J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H} ; 3-\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{ArO}}$ ), 7.47 (d, $J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H} ; 3-\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{ArO}}$ ), $7.60 \mathrm{ppm}\left(\mathrm{d}, J=7.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 4 \mathrm{H} ; o-\mathrm{H}_{\text {вп }}\right.$ );
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$-NMR ( $152 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}$ ): $\delta=2.6$ ( $\mathrm{SiHMe} \underline{2}_{2}$ ), 3.1 ( $\mathrm{SiHMe}_{2}$ ), 29.6 (CMe3), 31.6
 $52.1(\mathrm{~N} \underline{\mathrm{CH}} 2 \mathrm{Bn}), 59.3\left(\mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{ArO}\right), 62.1\left(\mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{ArO}\right), 123.3,123.8,125.5,126.7,128.29$, 128.31, 128.34, 129.4, 132.8, 133.4, 136.4, 137.7, 137.9, 142.6, 155.0 (С- $\underline{\text { Ar }}$ O), 161.1 ppm (d, $J_{Y-C}=3.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, \underline{\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{Ar}}}-\mathrm{O}$ );

IR (Nujol): 2096 [m, v(SiH)], 2054 [w, v(SiH)], 1936 [br, m, $v(\mathrm{Y}<\underline{H-S i)], ~} 1605$ (w), 1415 (m), 1307 (m), 1279 (m), 1248 (m), 1246 (m), 1225 (m), 1201 (m), 1165 (m), 1128 (m), 1086 (w), 1012 (s), 964 (m), 901 (s), 877 (s), 834 (s), 802 (m), 768 (m), 746 (m), 704 (m), 648 (w), 631 (m), 613 (m), 534 (m), 521 (w), 501 (w), 455 (m) cm ${ }^{-1}$;

Elemental Analysis calcd. (\%) for $\mathrm{C}_{82} \mathrm{H}_{130} \mathrm{~N}_{4} \mathrm{O}_{4} \mathrm{Si}_{4} \mathrm{Y}_{2}$ : C 64.76, H 8.63, N 3.63; found: C 64.54, H 8.59, N 3.67.

The assignment of the ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ - and ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$-NMR spectrum for $\mathbf{1}-\mathbf{Y}_{2}$ was made by heteronuclear multiple bond correlation (HMBC) spectroscopy. Assignment for the bridging versus terminal phenolate in the ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$-NMR was made based on comparison of the mononuclear 1-La. The bridging phenolate $\underline{C_{A r}-} \mathbf{O}$ is significantly shifted up-field ( 155.0 ppm ) in comparison to the corresponding terminal $\underline{\mathrm{C}}_{\mathrm{Ar}}-\mathrm{O}\left(\mathbf{1}-\mathbf{Y}_{2}: 161.1 \mathrm{ppm}\right.$; 1-La: 162.6 ppm$)$. The HMBC experiment was done at 600 MHz , with filtered ${ }^{1} J$ coupling constant (cnst2) $=145 \mathrm{~Hz}$, long rang ${ }^{\mathrm{n}} \mathrm{J}$ coupling constant $($ cnst13 $)=10 \mathrm{~Hz}$.

## $\left.\mathbf{L a}\left({ }^{1} \mathrm{~L}\right)\left[\mathrm{N}\left(\mathrm{SiHMe}_{2}\right)_{2}\right](\mathrm{TPPO})_{2}(\mathbf{1 - L a ( T P P O})_{2}\right)$



1-La(TPPO) ${ }_{2}$
A 20 mL scintillation vial was charged with 1-La ( $173 \mathrm{mg}, 0.18 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv.; MW: 957.27 $\mathrm{g} \cdot \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ ), TPPO ( $101 \mathrm{mg}, 0.36 \mathrm{mmol}, 2.0$ equiv.; MW: $278.29 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) and toluene ( 0.5 mL ). After all solids were dissolved, hexane ( 3 mL ) was layered on top of the toluene solution. After the two layers mixed ( $\sim 1 \mathrm{~h}$ ), the vial was cooled in the glovebox freezer at $-35^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 3 h , affording a white crystalline solid. The mother liquor was decanted and volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, affording 1-La(TPPO) ${ }_{2}$ as a white solid. Yield: $230 \mathrm{mg}(0.17 \mathrm{mmol}$, $93 \%$ yield; MW: $1369.64 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ). X-ray quality crystals were grown by layering hexane ( 2 mL ) on top of a solution of $1-\mathrm{La}(\mathbf{T P P O})_{2}(200 \mathrm{mg} / 0.5 \mathrm{~mL}$ toluene) and allowing the solution to stand and mix undisturbed at RT.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}\right): \delta=0.50\left(\mathrm{~d}, J_{3}=3.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 12 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{SiH} \underline{\mathrm{Me}_{2}}\right.$ ), 1.51 (s, 18H; 2-
 NCH 2 ArO ), 5.63 (quint, ${ }^{3} J=3.0 \mathrm{~Hz},{ }^{1} \mathrm{Jsi}_{\mathrm{i}(29)-\mathrm{H}}=174 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{Si}-\mathrm{H}$ ), $6.94(\mathrm{~d}, \mathrm{~J}=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; 5-$ $\mathrm{H}_{\text {Aro }}$ ), 6.96-7.04 (m, 19H; $\left.p-\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{Bn}}, m, p-\mathrm{H}_{\text {тPPo }}\right), 7.12\left(\mathrm{t}, J=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; m-\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{Bn}}\right.$ ), $7.19(\mathrm{~d}, J=7.5$ $\mathrm{Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; o-\mathrm{HBn}$ ), 7.63 (d, J = $2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; 3-\mathrm{H}_{\text {Aro }}$ ), 7.65 ppm (br, 12H; o-НтРро);
$\left.{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(152 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}\right): \delta=5.0(\mathrm{SiHMe} 2), 31.0(\mathrm{CMe})_{3}\right), 32.5(\mathrm{CMe}), 34.3$ (늘), 36.0 ( $\underline{C} \mathrm{CMe}_{3}$ ), 51.2 ( $\mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{Bn}$ ), 61.0 ( $\mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{ArO}$ ), 123.1, 125.5, 127.0, 127.3, 128.3, 128.5, 128.9 (d, $J_{P(31)-С(13)}=12.5 \mathrm{~Hz} ; m$-СтРро), 130.3 (d, $\left.J_{P(31)-С(13)}=107 \mathrm{~Hz} ; \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{P}\right), 132.5$ (pСтРpo $^{\text {) }} 133.0$ (d, $J_{P(31)-С(13)}=10.5 \mathrm{~Hz} ; o$-СтРро), 134.2, 135.5, 135.8, 164.3 ppm (САг-О);
${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(243 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}\right): \delta=33.3$ (br) ppm;
IR (Nujol): 2048 [m, v(Si-H)], 1959 (w), 1593(w), 1414 (m), 1331 (m), 1298 (m), 1259 (w), 1236 (m), 1200 (w), 1155 [s, v(P=O)], 1120 (m), 1089(m), 1074 (w), 1043 (m), 1024 (m), 999 (w), 937 (m), 883 (m), 741 (m), 694 (m), 673 (w), 648 (w), 625 (w), 606 (w), 542 [s, v(P-C)], 461 (w), 440 (w), 426 (w) cm ${ }^{-1}$;

Elemental Analysis calcd. (\%) for $\mathrm{C}_{77} \mathrm{H}_{95} \mathrm{LaN}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4} \mathrm{P}_{2} \mathrm{Si}_{2}$ : C 66.98, H 6.77, N 1.86; found: C 67.52, H 6.99, N 2.05.

## $\mathbf{Y}\left({ }^{1} \mathrm{~L}\right)\left[\mathrm{N}\left(\mathrm{SiHMe}_{2}\right)_{2}\right](\mathrm{TPPO})_{2}\left(\mathbf{1 - Y}(\mathrm{TPPO})_{2}\right)$



## 1-Y(TPPO) ${ }_{2}$

A 20 mL scintillation vial was charged with $\mathbf{1}-\mathbf{Y}_{2}(129 \mathrm{mg}, 0.085 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv.; MW: $1526.12{\mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}}^{-1}$ ), TPPO ( $94 \mathrm{mg}, 0.34 \mathrm{mmol}, 4.0$ equiv.; MW: $278.29 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) and toluene ( 0.5 mL ). After all solids were dissolved, hexane ( 3 mL ) was layered on top of the toluene solution. After the two layers mixed ( $\sim 1 \mathrm{~h}$ ), the vial was cooled in the glovebox freezer at $-35^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 3 h , affording a white crystalline solid. The mother liquor was decanted, and volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, affording 1-Y(TPPO) $)_{2}$ as a white solid. Yield: $192 \mathrm{mg}(0.15$ $\mathrm{mmol}, 86 \%$ yield; MW: $1319.64 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ). X-ray quality crystals were grown by layering hexanes ( 1 mL ) on top of a solution of $\mathbf{1 - Y ( T P P O})_{2}(100 \mathrm{mg} / 0.2 \mathrm{~mL}$ toluene) and allowing the solution to stand and mix undisturbed at RT.

Note: The solution behaviour of $\mathbf{1 - Y ( T P P O})_{2}$ and $\mathbf{1 - Y}+2$ TPPO is complex and concentrationdependent. Crystallized $\mathbf{1 - Y ( T P P O})_{2}$ has limited solubility in $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}$, and some TPPO dissociation was observed by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ - and ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}-\mathrm{NMR}$. The major species observed at low concentration ( $[\mathrm{Y}]=25 \mathrm{mM}$ ) correspond to monomeric and dimeric Y-TPPO adducts (1:2). Concentrated $([\mathrm{Y}]=75 \mathrm{mM}) \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}$ solutions of $\mathbf{1 - Y}(\mathbf{T P P O})_{2}$ were made by adding 4 equiv. TPPO to $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}$ solution of $\mathbf{1}-\mathbf{Y}_{2}$, in which $\left.\mathbf{1 - Y ( T P P O}\right)_{2},\left[\mathbf{1}-\mathbf{Y}(\mathbf{T P P O})_{2}\right]_{2}$ and $\mathbf{1}-\mathbf{Y}(\mathbf{T P P O})$ was observed. The speciation is readily seen from DOSY NMR spectra (Figures S13 and S14).
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}, 25 \mathrm{mM}\right): \delta=0.10\left(\mathrm{~d},{ }^{3} \mathrm{~J}=2.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, 12 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{SiHMe}_{2}\right.$ of [1$\left.\mathbf{Y}(\mathbf{T P P O})_{\mathbf{2}} \mathbf{l}_{2}\right), 1.37-1.85\left(\mathrm{~m} ;{ }^{t} \mathrm{Bu}\right), 2.72\left(\mathrm{~d}, J=13.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{ArO}\right.$ of $\left.\mathbf{1 - Y ( T P P O}\right)$ ), 2.95 (br), 3.22 (d, $J=13.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{ArO}$ of $\mathbf{1 - Y ( T P P O ) ) , ~} 3.50\left(\mathrm{~s}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{Bn}\right.$ of 1Y(TPPO)), 3.66 (br; 1-Y(TPPO) $)_{2}$ ), 3.76 (d, $J=15.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{ArO}$ ), 3.78 (d, $J=13.7 \mathrm{~Hz}$, 1H; NCH2 ${ }_{2}$ ArO), 4.04 (br; 1-Y(TPPO)2), 4.64 (d, $J=14.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{Bn}$ ), 4.70 (br; 1Y(TPPO) $)_{2}$ ), 4.77 (d, $J=14.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{Bn}$ ), 4.99 (quint, ${ }^{3} J=3.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{Si}-\mathrm{H}$ ), 5.16 (d, $J=15.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{ArO}$ ), 5.17 (d, $J=13.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{ArO}$ ), 5.49 (br; Si-H of 1Y(TPPO) $)_{2}$ ), 6.62-6.68 (m), 7.01-7.16 (m), 7.29-7.36 (m), 7.44-7.82 (m),;
${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$-NMR ( $162 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}, 15 \mathrm{mM}$ ): $\delta=25.2$ (br, free TPPO), 25.2 (br, 1Y(TPPO)2), 34.6 (d, $J_{Y-P(31)}=12.6 \mathrm{~Hz}$; 1-Y(TPPO)), 38.4 (d, $J_{Y-P(31)}=11.1 \mathrm{~Hz}$; [1$\left.\mathbf{Y}(\mathbf{T P P O})_{2} \mathbf{2}_{2}\right), 39.1\left(\mathrm{~d}, J_{Y-P(31)}=10.9 \mathrm{~Hz} ; \mathbf{1} \mathbf{- Y}(\mathbf{T P P O})\right) \mathbf{p p m} ;$

IR (Nujol): 2081 [m, v(SiH)], 2015 (w), 1959 (w), 1591(w), 1416 (m), 1331 (m), 1300 (m), 1259 (m), 1240 (m), 1201 (w), 1153 [s, v(P=O)], 1120 (m), 1090 (m), 1018 (m), 997 (m), 933 (m), 897 (m ), 885 (m), 835 (m), 802 (w), 789 (w), 744 (m), 694 (m), 671 (w), 646 (w), 629 (w), 540 [ $\mathrm{s}, \mathrm{v}(\mathrm{P}-\mathrm{C})], 464$ (m), 447 (m) $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$;

Elemental Analysis calcd. (\%) for $\mathrm{C}_{77} \mathrm{H}_{95} \mathrm{YN}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4} \mathrm{P}_{2} \mathrm{Si}_{2}$ : C 69.75, H 7.59, N 1.65; found: C 70.08, H 7.26, N 2.12.
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$ ( $600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}, 75 \mathrm{mM}$, prepared in-situ): $\delta=0.09$ (d, ${ }^{3} \mathrm{~J}=3.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 12 \mathrm{H}$; SiHMe2), 1.45 (s, 9H; 'Bu), 1.49 (s, 9H; 'Bu), 1.58 (s, 9H; 'Bu), 1.69 (s, 9H; ${ }^{〔} \mathrm{Bu}$ ), 3.76 (d, $J=$ $15.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}$; $\mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{ArO}$ ), 3.78 (d, $J=13.7 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{ArO}$ ), $4.64(\mathrm{~d}, J=14.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}$; $\mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{Bn}$ ), 4.77 (d, $J=14.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}$; NCH 2 Bn ), 4.99 (quint, ${ }^{3} J=3.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}$; Si-H), 5.16 (d, $J$
 $\mathrm{H}_{\text {тppo }}$ ), 6.99-7.09 (m, 12H), 7.13 (t, $J=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} ; p-\mathrm{H}_{\mathrm{Bn}}$ ), 7.17-7.22 (m, 10H), 7.33 (t, $J=$ $7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{m}-\mathrm{Hbn}$ ), 7.46 (d, $J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} ; 3-\mathrm{Haro}$ ), 7.50 (d, $J=2.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} ; 3-\mathrm{Haro}^{\text {) , }} 7.73$ (br, 4H), $7.79 \mathrm{ppm}(\mathrm{d}, J=7.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H} ; ~ o-\mathrm{Hbn}$ );
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$-NMR ( $152 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}, 75 \mathrm{mM}$, prepared in-situ): $\delta=3.7$ (SiHMe ), 30.6 (СМез), 30.8 (СМез), 32.6 (СМез), 32.7 (СМез), 34.2 (СМез), 34.3 (СМез), 35.6 (СМез), 35.7 (CMe3), 50.6 ( $\mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{Bn}$ ), 61.67 ( $\mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{ArO}$ ), 61.7 ( $\mathrm{NCH}_{2} \mathrm{ArO}$ ), 122.8, 122.9, 123.4, 124.3, 127.2, 127.3, 127.4, 127.6, 128.3 ( $p$-Стрро), 128.9 (d, $J_{P(31)-С(13)}=115 \mathrm{~Hz} ;$ P-C), 129.1 (d, $J_{P(31)-}$ $C(13)=12.6 \mathrm{~Hz} ;$ m-Стрро), $132.9\left(\mathrm{~d}, J_{P(31)-C(13)}=10.9 \mathrm{~Hz} ;\right.$ о-Стрро), 133.1, 133.4, 133.8, 135.7, 136.0, 136.4, 164.3 (O-C), 164.6 ppm (O-C);
${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$-NMR ( $243 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}, 75 \mathrm{mM}$, prepared in-situ): $\delta=25.0$ (br, free TPPO), $\left.34.6\left(\mathrm{~d}, J_{Y-P(31)}=10.4 \mathrm{~Hz} ; \mathbf{1 - Y}(\mathbf{T P P O})\right), 38.3\left(\mathrm{~d}, J_{Y-P(31)}=12.8 \mathrm{~Hz} ; \mathbf{[ 1 - Y ( T P P O}\right)_{2} \mathbf{1}_{2}\right), 38.9(\mathrm{~d}$, $\left.J_{Y-P(31)}=10.3 \mathrm{~Hz} ; \mathbf{1 - Y ( T P P O )}\right)$ ppm;
(R)-3-acetoxybutyric acid methylester [(R)-3-OAcB ${ }^{\text {Me }}$ ]


In a 50 mL flask, acetyl chloride ( $2.40 \mathrm{~g}, 30.6 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.2$ equiv.; $\mathrm{MW}=78.50$ ) was added to a solution of ( $R$ )-Methyl 3-hydroxybutanoate ( $3.01 \mathrm{~g}, 25.5 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv.) and pyridine ( 3.02 g , $38.2 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.5$ equiv.) in $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}(15 \mathrm{~mL})$. The reaction was stirred at ambient temperature for 6 h . Saturated $\mathrm{NH}_{4} \mathrm{Cl}$ solution ( 15 mL ) was added to the reaction, followed by deionized water ( 15 mL ) to dissolve all solids. The organic phase was isolated and washed with saturated $\mathrm{NH}_{4} \mathrm{Cl}$ solution ( $3 \times 10 \mathrm{~mL}$ ). The combined organic layer was evaporated under reduced pressure and redissolved with $\mathrm{Et}_{2} \mathrm{O}(20 \mathrm{~mL})$. The mixture was dried with $\mathrm{Na}_{2} \mathrm{SO}_{4}$, filtrated through activated carbon and Celite ${ }^{\circledR}$, and dried under reduced pressure to yield ( $\boldsymbol{R}$ )-3$\mathbf{O A c B}{ }^{\text {Me }}$ as a colorless oil. Yield: $3.25 \mathrm{~g}\left(20.3 \mathrm{mmol}, 80 \%\right.$ yield; MW: $\left.160.17 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}\right)$. The ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$-NMR spectrum is in agreement with the previous report. ${ }^{15}$
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}, 298 \mathrm{~K}\right): \delta=1.29$ (d, $J=6.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 3 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{CH} \underline{M e}$ ), 2.02 (s, 3H; COMe), 2.50 (dd, $J=15.6,5.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{COCH}_{2}$ ), 2.64 (dd, $J=15.6,7.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{COCH} \underline{H}_{2}$ ), 3.68 (s, 3H; OMe), 5.26 ppm (hex, $J=6.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{C} \underline{H}$ );
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}\right.$ ): $\delta=1.05$ (d, $J=6.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 3 \mathrm{H}$; CHMe), 1.64 (s, 3H; COMe), 2.14 (dd, $J=15.6,5.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{COCH}_{2}$ ), $2.40\left(\mathrm{dd}, J=15.6,7.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H} ; \mathrm{COC} \underline{H_{2}}\right.$ ), 3.30 (s, 3H; OMe), 5.33 ppm (hex, $J=6.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}$; C $\underline{H}$ ).

## 3. Experimental Procedures

## Typical polymerization procedures

## Reactions at ambient temperature:

In a glovebox, a 2 mL scintillation vial was charged with Rare-earth catalyst [e.g. 1-La(TPPO) ${ }_{2}$ ( $5.7 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0060 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv.; MW: $957.27 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ )], neutral ligand [if needed, e.g. TPPO ( $3.4 \mathrm{mg}, 0.012 \mathrm{mmol}, 2.0$ equiv.; MW: $278.29 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ )] and toluene ( 0.382 mL ). A toluene solution of ${ }^{i} \operatorname{PrOH}(2 \% \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{m}, 0.021 \mathrm{~mL}, \rho=0.867 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{mL} ; 0.36 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0060 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv.; MW: $60.10 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) was then added to the clear colorless solution. After approximately one minute, rac-BBL ( $103 \mathrm{mg}, 1.20 \mathrm{mmol}, 200$ equiv.; MW: $86.09 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) was added to the catalyst solution. After 1 h , the reaction was quenched by a methanol solution of $\mathrm{AcOH}(10 \%$ $\mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v}$, ca. 0.1 mL ), and volatiles were removed under reduced pressure.

## Analysis of reaction progress prior to quenching:

An aliquot of the reaction was removed and dissolved in $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ for NMR analysis without additional quenching. The $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ solution was evaporated in vacuo and the sample was redissolved in THF for GPC analysis.

Reactions at 0 and $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ :
In a glovebox, a J-Young NMR tube was charged with 1-La(TPPO) $\mathbf{2}_{2}(8.2 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0060 \mathrm{mmol}$, 1.0 equiv.; MW: $1369.64 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) and toluene ( 0.382 mL ). A toluene solution of ${ }^{i} \mathrm{PrOH}(2 \%$ $\mathrm{m} / \mathrm{m}, 0.021 \mathrm{~mL}, \rho=0.867 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{mL} ; 0.36 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0060 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv.; MW: $60.10 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) was then added to the clear colorless solution. After approximately one minute, the solution was then chilled to $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ in the glovebox freezer and pre-chilled $\left(-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$ rac-BBL $(103 \mathrm{mg}, 1.20$ mmol, 200 equiv.; MW: $86.09 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) was added to the catalyst solution. The tube was then immediately removed from the glovebox and reacted in a $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ or $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ bath. After 1 h , the reaction was quenched by a methanol solution of $\mathrm{AcOH}(10 \% \mathrm{v} / \mathrm{v}, \mathrm{ca} .0 .1 \mathrm{~mL})$, and all volatiles were removed under reduced pressure.

## NMR studies of relevant catalyst species in the ROP of rac-BBL

## Room Temperature (1-La + $1^{i} \mathrm{PrOH}+1$ or 2 equiv. TPPO)

A screw-capped NMR tube was charged with 1-La ( $5.7 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0060 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv.; MW: $957.27 \mathrm{~g}^{\mathrm{mol}}{ }^{-1}$ ), TPPO ( $1.7 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0060 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv.; $3.4 \mathrm{mg}, 0.012 \mathrm{mmol}, 2.0$ equiv.; MW: $\left.278.29 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}\right)$, toluene ( 0.382 mL ), and $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}(0.025 \mathrm{~mL})$. The sample was removed from the glovebox and NMR spectra were taken. A toluene solution of ${ }^{i} \mathrm{PrOH}(2 \% \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{m}, 0.021 \mathrm{~mL}, \rho=$ $0.867 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{mL}$; $0.36 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0060 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv.; MW: $60.10 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) was added inside the glovebox, and NMR spectra were recorded. rac-BBL ( $103 \mathrm{mg}, 1.20 \mathrm{mmol}, 200$ equiv.; MW: $86.09 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) was then added to catalyst solution and NMR spectra were recorded at varying time points. Reaction conversion was determined by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$-NMR taken immediately before and after the ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$-NMR spectra were taken. The ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$-NMR spectra are displayed as Figure S15a and S15b. The ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$-NMR of reaction of 2equiv. TPPO is displayed as Figure S15c.

A J-Young NMR tube was charged with 1-La(TPPO) $\mathbf{2}_{2}(12.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0088 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv.; MW: $1369.64 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) and toluene- $d_{8}(0.350 \mathrm{~mL})$. $\mathrm{PPh}_{3}(1.0 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0040 \mathrm{mmol}, 0.45$ equiv.; MW: $262.29 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) was also added to calibrate line width in the ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}$-NMR spectra. The sample was removed from the glovebox, cooled to $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ in the NMR spectrometer, and spectra were taken. The sample was then brought inside of the glovebox, and a toluene solution of ${ }^{i} \mathrm{PrOH}(2 \% \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{m}, 0.031 \mathrm{~mL}, \rho=0.867 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{mL} ; 0.53 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0088 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv; MW: 60.10 $\mathrm{g} \cdot \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ ) was added to the tube. The sample was cooled to $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ in the NMR spectrometer, and spectra were recorded. The sample was then brought inside of the glovebox and chilled in the glovebox freezer to $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. rac-BBL ( $75 \mathrm{mg}, 0.88 \mathrm{mmol}, 100$ equiv.; MW: $86.09 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) was chilled at $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and then added to the NMR tube. The tube was immediately removed from the glovebox and chilled to $-78^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ( ${ }^{( } \mathrm{PrOH}-\mathrm{dry}$ ice bath) for the brief period of time needed to transport the sample to the spectrometer. The sample was then loaded to the pre-cooled spectrometer ( $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ) and spectra were taken immediately. The ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ - and ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$-NMR spectra are displayed as Figure S16a and S16b.

After 25 min , the spectrometer was warmed to $-15^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and spectra were recorded after 5 min of thermal equilibration. The total warming process was 30 min , and corresponded to an increase in reaction conversion from 48 to $67 \%$ during this time. ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$-NMR are displayed as Figure S17.

## Sample for end-group analysis (MALDI-TOF and NMR)

In a glovebox, a 2 mL scintillation vial was charged with $\mathbf{1 - L a}$ ( $37 \mathrm{mg}, 0.031 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv.; MW: $1369.64 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) and toluene $(0.310 \mathrm{~mL})$. A toluene solution of ${ }^{i} \operatorname{PrOH}(2 \% \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{m}, 0.109$ $\mathrm{mL}, \rho=0.867 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{mL} ; 1.86 \mathrm{mg}, 0.031 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv.; MW: $60.10 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) was then added to the clear colorless solution. After approximately one minute, rac-BBL ( $108 \mathrm{mg}, 1.25 \mathrm{mmol}, 40$ equiv.; MW: $86.09 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) was added to the catalyst solution. After 1 h , the reaction reached full conversion, was quenched by a drop of acetic acid, and all volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. ${ }^{i} \mathrm{PrOH}(1 \mathrm{~mL})$ was added to the residual material precipitating the polymer and the liquid was decanted. The polymer was washed with ${ }^{i} \operatorname{PrOH}(1 \mathrm{~mL})$ and dried under reduced pressure. This material was used for NMR, GPC and MALDI analysis. The ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$ and MALDI-TOF spectra are displayed as Figure S22 and S23.

## Measurement of $\mathbf{M}_{\mathbf{n}}$ and $\boldsymbol{D}$ as a function of conversion

In a glovebox, a 20 mL scintillation vial was charged with 1-La(TPPO) $\mathbf{2}_{2}(16.4 \mathrm{mg}, 0.012 \mathrm{mmol}$, 1.0 equiv.; MW: $1369.64 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ), a Teflon-coated stirbar, and toluene ( 0.763 mL ). A toluene solution of ${ }^{i} \mathrm{PrOH}(2 \% \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{m}, 0.042 \mathrm{~mL}, \rho=0.867 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{mL} ; 0.72 \mathrm{mg}, 0.012 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv.; MW: $60.10 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) was added to the clear colorless solution. After approximately one minute, racBBL ( $207 \mathrm{mg}, 2.40 \mathrm{mmol}, 200$ equiv.; MW: $86.09 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) was added to the stirring catalyst solution. After various time, 0.050 mL reaction solution was added to $0.050 \mathrm{~mL} 5 \%(\mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{m})$ benzoic acid solution in toluene to quench. The quenched mixture was dissolved in 0.5 mL $\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ for NMR analysis. The NMR sample was evaporated under reduced pressure and dissolved in 1 mL THF for GPC analysis. The conversions, $\mathrm{M}_{\mathrm{n}}$ and $Đ$ are displayed as Table S4 and Figure S24.

## Reactivity studies of 1-La and 1-La(TPPO) $)_{2}$ in the presence of 1 equiv ${ }^{i}{ }^{\mathbf{P}}{ }^{\prime} \mathrm{OH}$ and 15 equiv. (R)-3-acetoxybutyric acid methylester [(R)-3-OAcB $\left.{ }^{\text {Me }}\right]$

A screw-capped NMR tube was charged with 1-La ( $6.9 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0072 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv.; MW: $957.27 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) or $\left.\mathbf{1 - L a ( T P P O}\right)_{2}\left(9.9 \mathrm{mg}, 0.0072 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0\right.$ equiv.; MW: $1369.64 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) and $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}(0.558 \mathrm{~mL})$. A toluene solution of ${ }^{i} \mathrm{PrOH}(2 \% \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{m}, 0.025 \mathrm{~mL}, \rho=0.867 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{mL} ; 0.43$ $\mathrm{mg}, 0.0072 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv.; MW: $60.10 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) and $(\boldsymbol{R})-\mathbf{3 - O A c B}{ }^{\text {Me }}(17.3 \mathrm{mg}, 0.105 \mathrm{mmol}$, 15 equiv.; MW: $160.17 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) were added. NMR spectra were taken recorded at 0.5 h and 7 h. The ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$-NMR spectra are displayed as Figure S25.

## 4. Supporting Data and Spectra

Table S1. Additional reaction optimization results (solvent screening, ligand equivalents, inclusion of alcohol) for the ROP of rac-BBL catalyzed by 1-La and $\mathbf{1 - Y} \mathbf{Y}_{2}$.


| Entry | Cat. | [BBL]/[RE]/ <br> [TPPO]/['PrOH] | Solvent | Time $(h)^{a}$ | Conv. $(\%)^{b}$ | $M_{\mathrm{n}, \text { calc }^{\mathrm{c}}}$ (kg/mol) | $M_{\mathrm{n}, \exp { }^{d}}$ (kg/mol) | $\boxplus^{d, e}$ | $P_{\mathrm{m}}{ }^{f}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 1-Y2 | 200/1/0/0 | Tol | 1 | 0 | -- | n.d. | n.d. | n.d. |
| 2 | 1- $Y_{2}$ | 200/1/0/1 | Tol | 1 | 5 | 0.9 | n.d. | n.d. | n.d. |
| 3 | 1-Y ${ }_{2}$ | 200/1/2/0 | Tol | 7 | 97 | 16.6 | 29.8 | 1.33 | 0.50 |
| 4 | 1-Y ${ }_{2}$ | 200/1/2/1 | Tol | 3 | 95 | 16.4 | 14.0 | 1.18 | 0.51 |
| 5 | 1-La | 200/1/0/0 | Tol | 48 | 35 | 5.9 | 2.1 | 1.46 | 0.54 |
| 6 | 1-La | 200/1/0/1 | Tol | 1 | 21 | 3.6 | 2.9 | 1.04 | 0.57 |
| 7 | 1-La | 200/1/1/1 | Tol | 6 | 71 | 12.2 | 4.7 | 1.04 | 0.67 |
| 8 | 1-La | 200/1/2/1 | Tol | 1 | 97 | 16.7 | 9.6 | 1.18 | 0.71 |
| 9 | 1-La | 200/1/3/1 | Tol | 1 | 97 | 16.7 | 9.1 | 1.27 | 0.71 |
| 10 | 1-La | 200/1/2/0 | THF | 3 | 75 | 12.9 | 12.2 | 1.64 | 0.65 |
| 11 | 1-La | 200/1/2/1 | THF | 3 | 84 | 14.5 | 8.7 | 1.10 | 0.68 |
| 12 | 1-La | 200/1/2/0 | $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ | 3 | 53 | 9.1 | 8.2 | 1.76 | 0.64 |
| 13 | 1-La | 200/1/2/1 | $\mathrm{CH}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ | 3 | 82 | 14.1 | 8.2 | 1.17 | 0.64 |

$a$ - Reaction times not optimized. $b$ - Determined by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$ integration of BBL and PHB methine resonances in the crude reaction mixture. $c-[\mathrm{BBL}] /[\mathrm{RE}] /[\mathrm{PrOH}] \times$ Conv. $\times 0.08609 \mathrm{~kg}^{\mathrm{P}} \cdot \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$. When $\left.{ }^{i} \mathrm{PrOH}\right]=0,[\mathrm{BBL}] /[\mathrm{La}]$ $\times$ Conv. $\times 0.08609 \mathrm{~kg}^{\circ} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$. $\quad d$ - Determined by gel permeation chromatography (GPC) at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ in THF using polystyrene standards and corrected by Mark-Houwink factor of $0.54 .{ }^{16} e-M_{w} / M_{n} . f$ - Probability of mesolinkages between repeat units. Determined by integration of P3HB $\underline{C}=0$ resonances using inverse gated (IG)
${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{NMR}$.

Table S2. Impact of alcohol equivalents on the ROP of rac-BBL catalyzed by 1-La(TPPO) $\mathbf{2}_{\mathbf{2}}$.


| Entry | iPrOH <br> (equiv) | Time (h) $^{a}$ | Conv. <br> $(\%)^{b}$ | $M_{\mathrm{n}, \text { calc }}{ }^{c}$ <br> $(\mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{mol})$ | $M_{\mathrm{n}, \text { exp }}{ }^{d}$ <br> $(\mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{mol})$ | $\mathrm{O}^{d, \mathrm{e}}$ | $P_{\mathrm{m}}{ }^{f}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 0 | 5 | 87 | 15.0 | 13.5 | 1.45 | 0.71 |
| 2 | 1 | 1 | 93 | 16.0 | 9.4 | 1.16 | 0.71 |
| 3 | 2 | 1 | 95 | 8.2 | 6.6 | 1.14 | n.d. |
| 4 | 4 | 1 | 93 | 4.0 | 3.3 | 1.07 | 0.70 |

$a$ - Reaction times not optimized. $b$ - Determined by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$ integration of BBL and PHB methine resonances in the crude reaction mixture. $c-[\mathrm{BBL}] /[\mathrm{La}] /[\mathrm{P} \mathrm{PrOH}] \times$ Conv. $\times 0.08609$ $\mathrm{kg} \cdot \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$. When $[\mathrm{PrOH}]=0,[\mathrm{BBL}][\mathrm{La}] \times$ Conv. $\times 0.08609{\mathrm{~kg} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1} . d \text { - Determined by gel }}^{2}$ permeation chromatography (GPC) at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ in THF using polystyrene standards and corrected by Mark-Houwink factor of $0.54 .{ }^{16} e-M_{w} / M_{n} . f$ - Probability of meso-linkages between repeat units. Determined by integration of $\mathrm{P} 3 \mathrm{HB} \underline{\mathrm{C}}=\mathrm{O}$ resonances using inverse gated (IG) ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{NMR}$.

## Discussion of stereocontrol mechanism (statistical analysis)

As described by Thomas and Carpentier, ${ }^{2}$ diad and triad distribution can provide insight into the mechanism of stereocontrol for the ROP of rac-BBL. Two types of stereocontrol may contribute to the tacticity of BBL polymerization:
(1) enantiomorphic site control, under which the selectivity of incoming monomer is determined by the asymmetric environment of catalyst, and (2) chain-end control, in which the asymmetric nature of the active end of growing polymer differentiates the two enantiomers of the monomer.

In the context that the isotactic diad (meso diad) is dominant, one can consider a mis-insertion (e.g. ...RRRRS, where $\underline{S}$ is the mis-insertion) is immediately corrected and followed by insertions that are favored. For site control, error correction leads to propagation with the favored enantiomer (e.g., ...RRRSRRR, where $\underline{S}$ is the mis-insertion). For chain-end control, it will continue to propagate the meso diad and propagate the enantiomer that was mis-inserted (e.g. ...RRRSSSS). Therefore, the resulting minor triads for site control are $1 \mathrm{mr}, 1 \mathrm{rr}$ and 1 $r m$, while the minor triads for chain-end control are 1 mr and 1 rm . Therefore, the two methods of stereocontrol can be differentiated by their triad distribution.

The triad distribution was obtained from the $\underline{C} H_{2}$ signals of P3HB using IG- ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{NMR}$. We fit the signals in the form of a Cauchy-Lorentz distribution. The result contains 4 components, each of which represents a triad ratio with its area (Figure S1). A representative example is P3HB obtained from Table 1, entry 6 (1-La +2 TPPO $+1^{i} \mathrm{PrOH} ; P_{\mathrm{m}}=0.71$ ).

For chain-end control, the triad distribution obeys a binominal distribution, i.e.: $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{mm})=P_{m}{ }^{2}$, $\mathrm{P}(r r)=\left(1-P_{m}\right)^{2}, \mathrm{P}(m r)=\mathrm{P}(r m)=P_{m}\left(1-P_{m}\right)$. Applying the Bernoulli model triad test, $\mathrm{B}=$ $4 \mathrm{P}(m m) \mathrm{P}(r r) /[\mathrm{P}(m r)+\mathrm{P}(r m)]^{2}$, where $\mathrm{B}=1$ for a purely chain-end controlled process. For

P3HB obtained from entry 6 in Table 1, $\mathrm{B}=(4 * 51.01 * 8.46) /(20.38+20.15)^{2}=1.05$. This is close to the theoretical value and confirms chain-end control as the mechanism for stereocontrol.

| triad | $\delta_{0}$, Chemical Shift/ppm | $\gamma$, Width/ppm | I 0 , Intensity | rel. Area (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $r m$ | $40.864(1)$ | $0.025(4)$ | $0.59(6)$ | 20.38 |
| $m m$ | $40.809(1)$ | $0.026(2)$ | $1.38(6)$ | 51.01 |
| $r r$ | $40.727(2)$ | $0.019(6)$ | $0.32(7)$ | 8.46 |
| $m r$ | $40.662(1)$ | $0.021(3)$ | $0.68(7)$ | 20.15 |



Figure S1. Experimental and fitted IG- ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(152 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$ signal of P3HB (Table 1, entry 6; 1-La + 2 TPPO $+1^{i}$ PrOH, $P_{\mathrm{m}}=0.71$ )


Figure S2a. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}, 400 \mathrm{MHz}\right)$ spectra of $\mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{2}}{ }^{\mathbf{L}} \mathbf{L}$.


Figure S2b. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$-NMR $\left(\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}, 101 \mathrm{MHz}\right)$ spectra of $\mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{2}}{ }^{1} \mathbf{L}$.


Figure S2c. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 400 \mathrm{MHz}\right)$ spectra of $\mathbf{H}_{2}{ }^{1} \mathbf{L}$.


Figure S3a. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 600 \mathrm{MHz}\right)$ spectra of 1-La.


Figure S3b. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$-NMR ( $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 152 \mathrm{MHz}$ ) spectra of 1-La.


Figure S3c. IR (Nujol) spectra of 1-La. (*: Nujol).


Figure S4a. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 600 \mathrm{MHz}\right)$ spectra of 1-Y $\mathbf{2}^{\mathbf{2}}$ (*: $\left.\mathrm{HN}\left(\mathrm{SiHMe}_{2}\right)_{2}\right)$.


Figure S4b. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 152 \mathrm{MHz}\right)$ spectra of $\mathbf{1 - Y} \mathbf{Y}_{2}$ ( ${ }^{*}$ : $\mathrm{HN}\left(\mathrm{SiHMe}_{2}\right)_{2}$, ${ }^{* *}$ : toluene $)$.


Figure S4c. Selected regions of ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}$ HMBC $\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}\right.$ for ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ in $\left.\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}\right)$ of $\mathbf{1 -} \mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{2}}$


Figure S4d. IR (Nujol) spectra of 1-Y $\mathbf{2 . ~}^{\text {. }}$ : Nujol).


Figure S5a. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 600 \mathrm{MHz}\right)$ spectra of 1-La(TPPO) ${ }_{2}$.


Figure S5b. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 152 \mathrm{MHz}\right)$ spectra of $\mathbf{1}-\mathrm{La}(\mathbf{T P P O})_{2}$.


Figure S5c. ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$-NMR $\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 243 \mathrm{MHz}\right)$ spectra of 1-La(TPPO) $\mathbf{2}$.


Figure S5d. IR (Nujol) spectra of 1-La(TPPO)2. (*: Nujol).


Figure S6. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}\right.$, toluene- $\left.d_{8}\right)$ and ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(243 \mathrm{MHz}\right.$, toluene- $d_{8}$ ) of $\mathbf{1 -}$ $\mathbf{L a ( T P P O})_{2}$ at $-30,-15,0,15$ and $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$.


Figure S7. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}\right)$ and ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(162 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}\right)$ of 1-La ( 27 mM ) in the presence of 0 (blue, bottom), 1 (red), 2 (green) and 3 (magenta, top) equiv of TPPO.


Figure S8a. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 400 \mathrm{MHz}, 25 \mathrm{mM}\right)$ spectra of crystallized $\left.\mathbf{1 - Y ( T P P O}\right)_{\mathbf{2}}$. (*: 1$\mathbf{Y}(\mathbf{T P P O})_{2} ;{ }^{* *}$ : $\left.\left[1-\mathrm{Y}(\mathbf{T P P O})_{2}\right]_{2} ; ~ \#: ~ 1-Y(T P P O)\right) . ~$


| 90 | 80 | 70 | 60 | 50 | 40 | 30 | 20 | 10 | 0 | -10 | -20 | -30 | -40 | -50 | -60 | -70 | -80 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

Figure S8b. ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$-NMR $\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 162 \mathrm{MHz}, 25 \mathrm{mM}\right)$ spectra of crystallized $\left.\mathbf{1 - Y ( T P P O}\right)_{2}$. (*: 1-Y(TPPO) $)_{2}$; **: [1-Y(TPPO) $\left.)_{2}\right]_{2}$; \#: 1-Y(TPPO)).


Figure S8c. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 600 \mathrm{MHz}, 75 \mathrm{mM}\right)$ spectra of in-situ prepared $\left.\mathbf{1 - Y ( T P P O}\right)_{\mathbf{2}}$. (**: [1-Y(TPPO) $\left.\mathbf{2}_{2}\right]_{2}$; \#: 1-Y(TPPO)).


Figure S8d. ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 152 \mathrm{MHz}, 75 \mathrm{mM}\right)$ spectra of in-situ prepared $\left.\mathbf{1 - Y ( T P P O}\right)_{2 .}$. ${ }^{*}$ : THF; **: toluene; ***: HN(SiHMe2)2).


Figure S8e. ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$-NMR $\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 243 \mathrm{MHz}, 75 \mathrm{mM}\right)$ spectra of in-situ prepared 1Y(TPPO) $\mathbf{2}_{2}$ (**: [1-Y(TPPO) $\mathbf{2}_{2} \mathbf{1}_{2}$; \#: 1-Y(TPPO)).


Figure S8f. IR (Nujol) spectra of 1-Y(TPPO)2. (*: Nujol).


Figure S9a. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D} 6,298 \mathrm{~K}\right)$ of $\left.\mathbf{1 - Y ( T P P O}\right)_{2}$ prepared in-situ from $\mathbf{1 -} \mathbf{Y}_{2}$ and TPPO ( 75 mM [Y], 2 equiv TPPO / [Y]; red, top) and re-dissolved crystalline $\mathbf{1 - Y ( T P P O )})_{2}(25$ mM, blue, bottom).


Figure S9b. ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$-NMR ( $243 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}$ ) of 1-Y(TPPO) ${ }_{2}$ prepared in-situ from $\mathbf{1}-\mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{2}}$ and TPPO ( 75 mM [Y], 2 equiv TPPO / [Y]; red, top) and re-dissolved crystalline 1$\mathbf{Y}(\mathbf{T P P O})_{2}(25 \mathrm{mM}$, blue, bottom).

Table S3. Diffusion coefficients, $D$, and estimated hydrodynamic radii, $\mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{H}}$, measured by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ DOSY NMR of 1-RE complexes (1-La, 1-La(TPPO) $\mathbf{2}_{2}$ 1- $\left.\mathbf{Y}_{2}, \mathbf{1 - Y ( T P P O}\right)_{2}$ and [1$\left.\mathbf{Y}(\mathbf{T P P O})_{2} \mathbf{1}_{2}\right)$
$\left.\begin{array}{cccccc}\hline \text { Species } & \begin{array}{c}D_{\mathrm{Fc}} \\ \left(10^{-10} \mathrm{~m}^{2} / \mathrm{s}\right)^{a}\end{array} & \begin{array}{c}D \\ \left(10^{-10} \mathrm{~m}^{2} / \mathrm{s}\right)\end{array} & D_{\mathrm{Fc}} / D & \mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{H}}(\mathrm{DOSY})^{b} \\ (\AA)\end{array} \begin{array}{c}\mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{H}}(\mathrm{theo.})^{c} \\ (\AA)\end{array}\right]$
a - DOSY measured diffusion coefficient of ferrocene (Fc) in the experiment of the corresponding complex. DOSY measured diffusion coefficient of the sample $b-r_{H}=D_{\mathrm{Fc}} / D_{\text {sample }} \cdot \mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{H}}\left(\mathrm{Fc}\right.$, theo.). $c-\mathrm{r}_{\mathrm{H}}$ (theo.) is the average of half lengths of the principal axes of the homogeneous ellipsoid with the same principal moments of inertia of the molecule, which are determined from the crystal structure. $d$ - Fc was added to each sample as an internal standard to cancel the fluctuation of temperature and viscosity, of which the diffusion coefficient varies. e Estimated according to structure of $\mathbf{S 1},{ }^{17}$ due to the lack of X -ray structure of $\mathbf{1 - Y _ { 2 } . f - P r e p a r e d ~ i n - s i t u ~ w i t h ~} \mathbf{1 - Y} \mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{2}}$ and addition of TPPO (2 equiv).



Figure S10. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ DOSY NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}$ ) of a mixture of 1-La and ferrocene ( Fc ). In 0.5 mL C 6 D , 1-La ( $10 \mathrm{mg}, 0.010 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv; MW: $957.27 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) and Fc ( $3.2 \mathrm{mg}, 0.017$ mmol, 1.7 equiv; MW: $186.04 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) were dissolved. Diffusion time was ( $\Delta$, d20) 100 ms , and the rectangular gradient pulse duration ( $\delta, \mathrm{p} 30$ ) was $1200 \mu \mathrm{~s}$.


Figure S11. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ DOSY NMR ( $600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}$ ) of a mixture of $\mathbf{1}-\mathbf{Y}_{2}$ and Fc. In $0.5 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}$, $\mathbf{1}-\mathbf{Y}_{2}\left(10 \mathrm{mg}, 0.007 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0\right.$ equiv; MW: $1526.12 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) and Fc ( $0.4 \mathrm{mg}, 0.002 \mathrm{mmol}, 0.34$ equiv; MW: $186.04 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) were dissolved. Diffusion time was ( $\Delta, \mathrm{d} 20$ ) 100 ms , and the rectangular gradient pulse duration ( $\delta$, p30) was $1000 \mu \mathrm{~s}$.


Figure S12. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ DOSY NMR ( $400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}$ ) of a mixture of $\left.\mathbf{1 - L a ( T P P O}\right)_{2}$ and Fc. In 0.5 mL C ${ }_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}$, 1-La ( $10 \mathrm{mg}, 0.007 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0$ equiv; MW: $1369.64 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) and Fc $(0.5 \mathrm{mg}, 0.003$ mmol, 0.37 equiv; MW: $186.04 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) were dissolved. Diffusion time was ( $\Delta$, d20) 100 ms , and the rectangular gradient pulse duration ( $\delta, \mathrm{p} 30$ ) was $1200 \mu \mathrm{~s}$.


Figure S13. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ DOSY NMR $\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}\right)$ of a mixture of $\mathbf{1 - Y}(\mathbf{T P P O})_{2}$, Fc , and TPPO. In $0.5 \mathrm{~mL} \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, \mathbf{1}-\mathbf{Y}(\mathbf{T P P O})_{2}\left(16 \mathrm{mg}, 0.012 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0\right.$ equiv; MW: $\left.1319.64 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}\right)$, and Fc ( $0.4 \mathrm{mg}, 0.002 \mathrm{mmol}, 0.17$ equiv; MW: $186.04 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) were dissolved. 1 h later, DOSY was taken. Diffusion time was ( $\Delta, \mathrm{d} 20$ ) 100 ms , and the rectangular gradient pulse duration $(\delta, \mathrm{p} 30)$ was $1400 \mu \mathrm{~s}$.


Figure S14. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ DOSY NMR ( $600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}$ ) of a mixture of $\mathbf{1 - \mathbf { Y } _ { 2 }}$, Fc, and TPPO. In 0.5 mL $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, \mathbf{1}-\mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{2}}\left(10 \mathrm{mg}, 0.007 \mathrm{mmol}, 1.0\right.$ equiv; MW: $1526.12 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ), Fc ( $0.4 \mathrm{mg}, 0.002 \mathrm{mmol}$, 0.34 equiv; MW: $186.04 \mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}$ ) and TPPO ( $7.3 \mathrm{mg}, 0.007 \mathrm{mmol}, 4.0$ equiv; MW: 278.29 $\mathrm{g} \cdot \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ ) were dissolved. 7 h later, DOSY was taken. Diffusion time was ( $\Delta$, d20) 100 ms , and the rectangular gradient pulse duration ( $\delta, \mathrm{p} 30$ ) was $1400 \mu \mathrm{~s}$. Note: Spectrum was nearly identical to authentic $\mathbf{1 - Y ( T P P O})_{2}$ (Figure S13, nearly the same [Y] concentration).


Figure S15a. ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}-\mathrm{NMR}(243 \mathrm{MHz}$, toluene, 298 K ) of: 1-La + 1 TPPO (bottom, blue), 1$\mathbf{L a}+\mathrm{TPPO}+{ }^{i} \mathrm{PrOH}$ (middle, red), and 1-La + TPPO + ${ }^{i} \mathrm{PrOH}+200$ BBL (top, green).


Figure S15b. ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}-\mathrm{NMR}(243 \mathrm{MHz}$, toluene, 298 K ) of: 1-La + 2 TPPO (bottom, blue), 1$\mathbf{L a}+2$ TPPO $+{ }^{i} \mathrm{PrOH}$ (middle, red), and 1-La +2 TPPO $+{ }^{i} \mathrm{PrOH}+200$ BBL (top, green).


Figure S15c. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}\right.$, toluene, 298 K ) of: 1-La + 2 TPPO $+{ }^{i} \mathrm{PrOH}+200 \mathrm{BBL}$ $(2.4 \mathrm{M})$. The NMR was taken after 40 min of reaction without quenching. The conversion of BBL was $91 \%$. (The toluene as the solvent of reaction and NMR contained circa $0.05 \%$ DCM due to weak but endure vapor diffusion in the glovebox.)


Figure S16a. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}\right.$, toluene- $\left.\mathrm{d}_{8},-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$ of $\left.\mathbf{1 - L a ( T P P O}\right)_{2}(25 \mathrm{mM}$, blue, bottom), $\mathbf{1 - L a ( T P P O})_{2}+{ }^{i} \mathrm{PrOH}$ (red, middle), and $\left.\mathbf{1 - L a ( T P P O}\right)_{2}+{ }^{i} \mathrm{PrOH}+100 \mathrm{BBL}$ at 4 min (green, top).

## 1-La(TPPO) ${ }_{2}$

+1 iPrOH ( $2 \%$ in toluene) + $100 \mathrm{BBL}, 4 \mathrm{~min}$, Conv. $=38 \%$


1-La(TPPO) La-OPPh
species
$\mathrm{La}-\left(\mathrm{OPPh}_{3}\right)_{2} \quad \mathrm{OPPh}_{3}$ species +1 eq. iPrOH ( $2 \%$ in toluene)


Figure S16b. ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(600 \mathrm{MHz}\right.$, toluene- $\left.\mathrm{d}_{8},-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$ of 1-La(TPPO) $)_{2}(25 \mathrm{mM}$, blue, bottom), $\mathbf{1 - L a ( T P P O})_{2}+{ }^{i} \mathrm{PrOH}$ (red, middle), and $\left.\mathbf{1 - L a ( T P P O}\right)_{2}+{ }^{i} \mathrm{PrOH}+100 \mathrm{BBL}$ at 4 min (green, top).


Figure S17. ${ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$-NMR ( 600 MHz , toluene- $\mathrm{d}_{8},-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}-0{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ) of the ROP of BBL by $\mathbf{1 -}$ $\mathbf{L a ( T P P O})_{2}$ and ${ }^{i} \mathrm{PrOH}$ initially performed at $-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}(38 \%$ conversion), followed by warming to $-15{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ ( $55 \%$ conversion) and $0^{\circ} \mathrm{C}(67 \%$ conversion).


Figure S18. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}\right),{ }^{31} \mathrm{P}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(162 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}, 298 \mathrm{~K}\right)$ of adding 0,1 and 2 equiv. of $\mathrm{OPPh}_{3}$ to $\mathbf{2 - Y}$.
a

 $R$


$i-\operatorname{Pr}$ or H


Figure S19. (a) ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}$ ( $600 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}$ ), (b) ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(152 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right.$ ) spectra of P3HB (Table 1, entry 6). Reaction was performed in toluene at ambient temperature with $[\mathrm{BBL}] /[1-\mathrm{La}] /[\mathrm{TPPO}] /[\mathrm{PrOH}]=200 / 1 / 2 / 1$ and $[\mathrm{BBL}]=2.4 \mathrm{M}$ within 1 h . Conversion $=97 \%$, $\mathrm{M}_{\mathrm{n}}=9.6 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{mol}$ (corrected by Mark-Houwink factor of 0.54 ), $Đ=1.18$.


Figure S20. GPC calibration curve using polystyrene standards (orange) and GPC trace (blue) of Table 1, entry 6. Reaction was performed in toluene at ambient temperature with $[\mathrm{BBL}] /[\mathbf{1}-$ $\mathbf{L a}] /[\mathrm{TPPO}] /\left[{ }^{[ } \mathrm{PrOH}\right]=200 / 1 / 2 / 1$ and $[\mathrm{BBL}]=2.4 \mathrm{M}$ within 1 h . Conversion $=97 \%, \mathrm{M}_{\mathrm{n}}=9.6$ $\mathrm{kg} / \mathrm{mol}$ (corrected by Mark-Houwink factor of 0.54 ), $D=1.18$


Figure S21. Carbonyl region of $\mathrm{IG}^{13} \mathrm{C}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(152 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)$ of P3HB with different Pm . (a) Table 1, entry 15 (1-La +2 TPPO $\left.+{ }^{i} \operatorname{PrOH},-30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$, (b) Table 2, entry $7(\mathbf{1 - Y ( T P P O})_{2}+$ $\left.{ }^{i} \mathrm{PrOH}\right)$, (c) Table 2, entry 8 (2-Y $\left.+{ }^{i} \mathrm{PrOH}\right)$.


Figure S22. MALDI-TOF spectrum of P 3 HB , produced in toluene at ambient temperature with $[\mathrm{BBL}] /[1-\mathrm{La}] /[\mathrm{TPPO}] /[\mathrm{PrOH}]=40 / 1 / 2 / 1$ and $[\mathrm{BBL}]=2.4 \mathrm{M}$ within 1 h . Conversion $=99 \%$. $\mathrm{M}_{\mathrm{n}}=3.8 \mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{mol}$ (corrected by Mark-Houwink factor of 0.54 ), $D=1.30$.


Figure S23. ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-\mathrm{NMR}\left(400 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right.$ ) of the P3HB for MALDI analysis.
Note: The ${ }^{i} \mathrm{Pr}$ methine of 2-isopropoxyl butyrate should appear at $\sim 3.6 \mathrm{ppm}$, analogous to that of 4-isopropoxypentan-2-one (3.60-3.66, m, $\left.\mathrm{CDCl}_{3}\right)^{18}$. No isopropyl ether (i.e. product of OAlkyl cleavage) is formed as there is no multiplet present in this range.

Table S4. ROP of $r a c$-BBL with $\mathbf{1 - L a ( T P P O})_{2}+{ }^{i} P r O H$ quenched at different time points.


| Entry | Time (min) | Conv. (\%) | $M_{\mathrm{n}, \text { calc }}{ }^{\mathrm{c}}$ <br> $(\mathrm{kg} / \mathrm{mol})$ | $M_{\mathrm{n}, \exp ^{c}}$ <br> $(\mathrm{~kg} / \mathrm{mol})$ | $\mathrm{\Xi}^{\mathrm{c}, \mathrm{d}}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 0.25 | 22 | 3.9 | 3.2 | 1.054 |
| 2 | 0.50 | 28 | 4.9 | 4.0 | 1.042 |
| 3 | 0.75 | 34 | 5.9 | 4.6 | 1.050 |
| 4 | 1.0 | 39 | 6.7 | 5.1 | 1.050 |
| 5 | 1.5 | 46 | 7.9 | 5.8 | 1.056 |
| 6 | 2.0 | 50 | 8.7 | 6.3 | 1.069 |
| 7 | 5.0 | 62 | 10.6 | 7.6 | 1.056 |
| 8 | 15 | 74 | 12.7 | 8.7 | 1.074 |
| 9 | 30 | 82 | 14.1 | 8.9 | 1.116 |
| 10 | 60 | 88 | 15.1 | 9.2 | 1.145 |

a - Determined by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}-$ NMR integration of BBL and PHB methine resonances in the crude reaction mixture. $b-[\mathrm{BBL}] /[\mathrm{La}] /[\mathrm{PrOH}] \times$ Conv. $\times 0.08609 \mathrm{~kg} \cdot \mathrm{~mol}^{-1} . c-$ Determined by gel permeation chromatography (GPC) at $30{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ in THF using polystyrene standards and corrected by Mark-Houwink factor of $0.54 .{ }^{16} \mathrm{~d}-M_{\mathrm{w}} / M_{\mathrm{n}}$.


Figure S24. Calculated $M_{n}$ (blue circle), Experimental $M_{n}$ (blue dot) and $Đ$ (orange squares) as functions of conversion of BBL. Reaction was performed in toluene at ambient temperature with $[\mathrm{BBL}] /\left[\mathbf{1 - L a}(\mathbf{T P P O})_{2}\right] /\left[{ }^{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{PrOH}\right]=200 / 1 / 1$ and $[\mathrm{BBL}]=2.4 \mathrm{M}$.



Figure S25. Reactivity studies of (a) 1-La and (b) 1-La(TPPO) $\mathbf{2}_{2}$ in the presence of 1 equiv ${ }^{i} \mathrm{PrOH}$ and 15 equiv ( $\boldsymbol{R}$ )-3-OAcB ${ }^{\mathrm{Me}}$ in $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}$ followed by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$-NMR after $0.5 \mathrm{~h}, 7 \mathrm{~h}$. Dashed lines provided to help track the formation of $\mathbf{H}_{\mathbf{2}}{ }^{1} \mathbf{L}$ during the reaction time course.
Note:

1. MeOAc is assigned according to previously reported NMR data (3.34 ppm in $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}$ ). ${ }^{19}$
2. There are minor singlets, other than ( $\boldsymbol{R}) \mathbf{- 3 - 0 A c B}{ }^{\mathrm{Me}}$ and $(\boldsymbol{R}) \mathbf{- 3} \mathbf{- O A c B}{ }^{\mathbf{i P r}}$, from $1.6-1.7 \mathrm{ppm}$, representing La acetate species and other transesterification products, but cannot be unambiguously assigned.

Table S5. Crystallographic parameters for compounds 1-La, 1-La(TPPO) ${ }_{2}$, and 1-Y(TPPO) ${ }_{2}$

|  | 1-La | 1-La(TPPO) ${ }_{2}$ | 1-Y(TPPO)2 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Empirical formula | $\mathrm{C}_{49} \mathrm{H}_{83} \mathrm{LaN}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4} \mathrm{Si}_{2}$ | $\mathrm{C}_{91} \mathrm{H}_{111} \mathrm{LaN}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4} \mathrm{P}_{2} \mathrm{Si}_{2}$ | $\mathrm{C}_{11} \mathrm{H}_{111} \mathrm{~N}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4} \mathrm{P}_{2} \mathrm{Si}_{2} \mathrm{Y}$ |
| Formula weight | 959.26 | 1553.84 | 1503.84 |
| Temperature/K | 173.2 | 173.21 | 173.19 |
| Crystal system | monoclinic | monoclinic | monoclinic |
| Space group | P21/c | P2 $1_{1 / n}$ | P2 $1^{\prime}$ n |
| a/Å | 17.0458(16) | 15.355(2) | 15.2210(16) |
| b/Å | 16.5877(16) | 15.378(2) | 15.3725(15) |
| c/Å | 19.5942(17) | 35.734(5) | 35.552(4) |
| $\alpha /{ }^{\circ}$ | 90 | 90 | 90 |
| $\beta /{ }^{\circ}$ | 112.851(3) | 94.563(5) | 93.759(3) |
| $\gamma^{\circ}$ | 90 | 90 | 90 |
| Volume/ $\AA^{3}$ | 5105.5(8) | 8411(2) | 8300.7(15) |
| Z | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| $\rho_{\text {calcg }} / \mathrm{cm}^{3}$ | 1.248 | 1.227 | 1.203 |
| $\mu / \mathrm{mm}^{-1}$ | 0.925 | 0.624 | 0.820 |
| F(000) | 2032.0 | 3272.0 | 3200.0 |
| Crystal size/mm ${ }^{3}$ | $0.25 \times 0.25 \times 0.2$ | $0.14 \times 0.12 \times 0.1$ | $0.3 \times 0.2 \times 0.1$ |
| Radiation | $\mathrm{MoK} \alpha(\lambda=0.71073)$ | $\mathrm{MoK} \alpha(\lambda=0.71073)$ | $\mathrm{MoK} \alpha(\lambda=0.71073)$ |
| $2 \Theta$ range for data collection/ ${ }^{\circ}$ | 3.57 to 55.872 | 3.862 to 55.2 | 3.992 to 55.156 |
| Index ranges | $\begin{aligned} & -22 \leq \mathrm{h} \leq 22,-21 \leq \mathrm{k} \leq \\ & 21,-25 \leq 1 \leq 25 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & -19 \leq \mathrm{h} \leq 20,-20 \leq \mathrm{k} \leq \\ & 19,-46 \leq 1 \leq 44 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & -19 \leq \mathrm{h} \leq 19,-19 \leq \mathrm{k} \\ & \leq 19,-46 \leq 1 \leq 46 \end{aligned}$ |
| Reflections collected | 192582 | 152196 | 166733 |
| Independent reflections | $\begin{aligned} & 11709\left[\mathrm{R}_{\text {int }}=0.1329,\right. \\ & \left.\mathrm{R}_{\text {sigma }}=0.0585\right] \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 19424\left[\mathrm{R}_{\text {int }}=0.1040,\right. \\ & \left.\mathrm{R}_{\text {sigma }}=0.0594\right] \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 19123\left[\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{int}}=0.0829,\right. \\ & \left.\mathrm{R}_{\text {sigma }}=0.0489\right] \end{aligned}$ |
| Data/restraints/para meters | 11709/0/549 | 19424/175/886 | 19123/164/875 |
| Goodness-of-fit on $\mathrm{F}^{2}$ | 1.022 | 1.046 | 1.018 |
| Final R indexes $[\mathrm{I}>=2 \sigma(\mathrm{I})]$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{R}_{1}=0.0527, \mathrm{wR}_{2}= \\ & 0.0906 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{R}_{1}=0.0528, \mathrm{wR}_{2}= \\ & 0.1315 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{R}_{1}=0.0477, \mathrm{wR}_{2}= \\ & 0.1238 \end{aligned}$ |
| Final R indexes [all data] | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{R}_{1}=0.0847, \mathrm{wR}_{2}= \\ & 0.1021 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{R}_{1}=0.0659, \mathrm{wR}_{2}= \\ & 0.1399 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{R}_{1}=0.0615, \mathrm{wR}_{2}= \\ & 0.1332 \end{aligned}$ |
| Largest diff. peak/hole / e $\AA^{-3}$ | 1.17/-0.83 | 0.48/-0.89 | 0.94/-0.81 |
| CCDC Dep. \# | 1980000 | 1980001 | 1980002 |

Table S6a. Bond distances for 1-La.

| La1 | Si1 | $3.3497(13)$ | C1 | C2 | $1.414(5)$ | C23 | C24 | $1.503(5)$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| La1 | O1 | $2.258(3)$ | C1 | C14 | $1.405(5)$ | C24 | C25 | $1.386(5)$ |
| La1 | O2 | $2.263(2)$ | C2 | C3 | $1.544(5)$ | C24 | C37 | $1.406(5)$ |
| La1 | O3 | $2.703(3)$ | C2 | C7 | $1.392(5)$ | C25 | C26 | $1.386(5)$ |
| La1 | O4 | $2.650(3)$ | C3 | C4 | $1.537(6)$ | C26 | C27 | $1.530(5)$ |
| La1 | N1 | $2.712(3)$ | C3 | C5 | $1.536(6)$ | C26 | C31 | $1.396(5)$ |
| La1 | N2 | $2.429(3)$ | C3 | C6 | $1.529(6)$ | C27 | C28 | $1.517(6)$ |
| Si1 | N2 | $1.681(4)$ | C7 | C8 | $1.395(5)$ | C27 | C29 | $1.525(7)$ |
| Si1 | C38 | $1.872(5)$ | C8 | C9 | $1.532(5)$ | C27 | C30 | $1.516(6)$ |
| Si1 | C39 | $1.864(6)$ | C8 | C13 | $1.398(5)$ | C31 | C32 | $1.390(5)$ |
| Si2 | N2 | $1.708(3)$ | C9 | C10 | $1.529(6)$ | C32 | C33 | $1.533(5)$ |
| Si2 | C40 | $1.873(5)$ | C9 | C11 | $1.527(6)$ | C32 | C37 | $1.424(5)$ |
| Si2 | C41 | $1.865(5)$ | C9 | C12 | $1.526(6)$ | C33 | C34 | $1.539(6)$ |
| O1 | C1 | $1.344(4)$ | C13 | C14 | $1.386(5)$ | C33 | C35 | $1.539(5)$ |
| O2 | C37 | $1.333(4)$ | C14 | C15 | $1.508(5)$ | C33 | C36 | $1.531(6)$ |
| O3 | C42 | $1.434(5)$ | C16 | C17 | $1.524(5)$ | C42 | C43 | $1.506(7)$ |
| O3 | C45 | $1.442(5)$ | C17 | C18 | $1.378(5)$ | C43 | C44 | $1.503(7)$ |
| O4 | C47 | $1.507(6)$ | C17 | C22 | $1.391(5)$ | C44 | C45 | $1.527(6)$ |
| O4 | C48 | $1.388(6)$ | C18 | C19 | $1.385(6)$ | C46 | C47 | $1.405(8)$ |
| N1 | C15 | $1.488(4)$ | C19 | C20 | $1.373(6)$ | C48 | C49 | $1.465(9)$ |
| N1 | C16 | $1.486(4)$ | C20 | C21 | $1.377(7)$ |  |  |  |
| N1 | C23 | $1.488(5)$ | C21 | C22 | $1.387(6)$ |  |  |  |

Table S6b. Bond angles for 1-La.

| O1 | La1 | Si1 | $130.53(7)$ | C6 | C3 | C5 | $107.5(4)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| O1 | La1 | O2 | $123.05(10)$ | C2 | C7 | C8 | $123.9(3)$ |
| O1 | La1 | O3 | $82.31(10)$ | C7 | C8 | C9 | $122.7(3)$ |
| O1 | La1 | O4 | $118.24(10)$ | C7 | C8 | C13 | $116.4(4)$ |
| O1 | La1 | N1 | $74.84(9)$ | C13 | C8 | C9 | $120.8(3)$ |
| O1 | La1 | N2 | $102.24(11)$ | C10 | C9 | C8 | $109.0(3)$ |
| O2 | La1 | Si1 | $96.16(7)$ | C11 | C9 | C8 | $112.0(3)$ |
| O2 | La1 | O3 | $75.49(9)$ | C11 | C9 | C10 | $108.2(4)$ |
| O2 | La1 | O4 | $101.62(10)$ | C12 | C9 | C8 | $111.2(4)$ |
| O2 | La1 | N1 | $70.39(9)$ | C12 | C9 | C10 | $109.1(4)$ |
| O2 | La1 | N2 | $121.18(11)$ | C12 | C9 | C11 | $107.4(4)$ |
| O3 | La1 | Si1 | $141.03(7)$ | C14 | C13 | C8 | $121.9(3)$ |
| O3 | La1 | N1 | $117.10(9)$ | C1 | C14 | C15 | $120.5(3)$ |
| O4 | La1 | Si1 | $75.62(8)$ | C13 | C14 | C1 | $120.1(3)$ |
| O4 | La1 | O3 | $69.23(10)$ | C13 | C14 | C15 | $119.3(3)$ |
| O4 | La1 | N1 | $166.75(10)$ | N1 | C15 | C14 | $115.8(3)$ |
| N1 | La1 | Si1 | $94.39(7)$ | N1 | C16 | C17 | $119.2(3)$ |
| N2 | La1 | Si1 | $28.53(8)$ | C18 | C17 | C16 | $122.3(3)$ |
| N2 | La1 | O3 | $152.34(10)$ | C18 | C17 | C22 | $117.8(4)$ |


| N2 | La1 | O4 | 85.01(11) | C22 | C17 | C16 | 119.7(4) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| N2 | La1 | N1 | 90.22(10) | C17 | C18 | C19 | 121.3(4) |
| N2 | Si1 | La1 | 43.67(11) | C20 | C19 | C18 | 120.6(4) |
| N2 | Si1 | C38 | 116.2(3) | C19 | C20 | C21 | 118.8(4) |
| N2 | Si1 | C39 | 116.6(2) | C20 | C21 | C22 | 120.8(4) |
| C38 | Si1 | La1 | 123.4(2) | C21 | C22 | C17 | 120.6(4) |
| C39 | Si1 | La1 | 129.54(19) | N1 | C23 | C24 | 116.8(3) |
| C39 | Si1 | C38 | 107.1(3) | C25 | C24 | C23 | 117.9(3) |
| N2 | Si2 | C40 | 113.5(2) | C25 | C24 | C37 | 120.4(3) |
| N2 | Si2 | C41 | 114.5(2) | C37 | C24 | C23 | 121.6(3) |
| C41 | Si2 | C40 | 107.8(2) | C26 | C25 | C24 | 122.2(3) |
| C1 | O1 | La1 | 141.0(2) | C25 | C26 | C27 | 122.2(3) |
| C37 | O2 | La1 | 148.1(2) | C25 | C26 | C31 | 116.7(3) |
| C42 | O3 | La1 | 138.7(3) | C31 | C26 | C27 | 121.1(3) |
| C42 | O3 | C45 | 108.2(3) | C28 | C27 | C26 | 112.4(3) |
| C45 | O3 | La1 | 112.7(2) | C28 | C27 | C29 | 107.1(4) |
| C47 | O4 | La1 | 118.0(3) | C29 | C27 | C26 | 108.5(4) |
| C48 | O4 | La1 | 127.4(4) | C30 | C27 | C26 | 110.3(4) |
| C48 | O4 | C47 | 114.5(4) | C30 | C27 | C28 | 108.0(4) |
| C15 | N1 | La1 | 108.4(2) | C30 | C27 | C29 | 110.5(5) |
| C16 | N1 | La1 | 104.9(2) | C32 | C31 | C26 | 123.9(3) |
| C16 | N1 | C15 | 110.3(3) | C31 | C32 | C33 | 121.4(3) |
| C16 | N1 | C23 | 114.1(3) | C31 | C32 | C37 | 117.9(3) |
| C23 | N1 | La1 | 110.4(2) | C37 | C32 | C33 | 120.7(3) |
| C23 | N1 | C15 | 108.6(3) | C32 | C33 | C34 | 110.4(3) |
| Si1 | N2 | La1 | 107.80(16) | C32 | C33 | C35 | 112.7(3) |
| Si1 | N2 | Si2 | 129.1(2) | C34 | C33 | C35 | 106.6(3) |
| Si2 | N2 | La1 | 122.81(18) | C36 | C33 | C32 | 109.1(3) |
| O1 | C1 | C2 | 122.4(3) | C36 | C33 | C34 | 110.4(3) |
| O1 | C1 | C14 | 118.4(3) | C36 | C33 | C35 | 107.5(3) |
| C14 | C1 | C2 | 119.2(3) | O2 | C37 | C24 | 119.6(3) |
| C1 | C2 | C3 | 121.2(3) | O2 | C37 | C32 | 121.6(3) |
| C7 | C2 | C1 | 117.8(3) | C24 | C37 | C32 | 118.9(3) |
| C7 | C2 | C3 | 121.0(3) | O3 | C42 | C43 | 105.7(4) |
| C4 | C3 | C2 | 108.6(3) | C44 | C43 | C42 | 102.0(4) |
| C5 | C3 | C2 | 110.7(3) | C43 | C44 | C45 | 104.6(4) |
| C5 | C3 | C4 | 110.2(4) | O3 | C45 | C44 | 106.6(4) |
| C6 | C3 | C2 | 112.1(3) | C46 | C47 | O4 | 115.1(5) |
| C6 | C3 | C4 | 107.7(4) | O4 | C48 | C49 | 108.8(5) |

Table S7a. Bond distances for 1-La(TPPO) $\mathbf{2}_{2}$.

| La1 | Si1 | 3.3964(10) | C8 | C13 | 1.391(4) | C43 | C44 | 1.388(5) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| La1 | O1 | 2.276(2) | C9 | C10 | 1.504(10) | C44 | C45 | 1.379(6) |
| La1 | O2 | 2.267(2) | C9 | C11 | 1.501(10) | C45 | C46 | 1.351(6) |
| La1 | O3 | 2.4821(19) | C9 | C12 | 1.519(10) | C46 | C47 | 1.377(5) |
| La1 | O4 | 2.456(2) | C9 | C10A | 1.506(10) | C48 | C49 | 1.378(4) |
| La1 | N1 | 2.828(2) | C9 | C11A | 1.507(10) | C48 | C53 | 1.388(4) |
| La1 | N2 | 2.459(3) | C9 | C12A | 1.546(10) | C49 | C50 | 1.386(5) |
| P1 | O3 | 1.502(2) | C13 | C14 | 1.392(4) | C50 | C51 | 1.358(6) |
| P1 | C42 | 1.792(3) | C14 | C15 | 1.511(4) | C51 | C52 | 1.378(6) |
| P1 | C48 | 1.808(3) | C16 | C17 | 1.516(4) | C52 | C53 | 1.377(5) |
| P1 | C54 | 1.805(3) | C17 | C18 | $1.385(5)$ | C54 | C55 | 1.383(4) |
| P2 | O4 | 1.502(2) | C17 | C22 | 1.391(5) | C54 | C59 | 1.397(4) |
| P2 | C60 | 1.797(3) | C18 | C19 | 1.382(5) | C55 | C56 | 1.374(5) |
| P2 | C66 | 1.795(3) | C19 | C20 | 1.387(7) | C56 | C57 | 1.389(5) |
| P2 | C72 | 1.792(3) | C20 | C21 | 1.359(6) | C57 | C58 | 1.374(5) |
| Si1 | N2 | 1.681(3) | C21 | C22 | 1.380(5) | C58 | C59 | 1.379(5) |
| Si1 | C38 | 1.853(4) | C23 | C24 | 1.513(4) | C60 | C61 | 1.382(5) |
| Si1 | C39 | 1.865(4) | C24 | C25 | 1.384(4) | C60 | C65 | 1.381(5) |
| Si2 | N2 | 1.686(3) | C24 | C37 | 1.407(4) | C61 | C62 | 1.379(5) |
| Si2 | C40 | 1.851(4) | C25 | C26 | 1.388(4) | C62 | C63 | 1.378(6) |
| Si2 | C41 | 1.728(8) | C26 | C27 | 1.526(5) | C63 | C64 | 1.357(6) |
| Si2 | C41A | 1.685(8) | C26 | C31 | 1.390(5) | C64 | C65 | 1.387(5) |
| O1 | C1 | $1.329(4)$ | C27 | C28 | 1.614(9) | C66 | C67 | 1.389(4) |
| O2 | C37 | 1.325(4) | C27 | C29 | 1.557(10) | C66 | C71 | 1.388(4) |
| N1 | C15 | $1.494(3)$ | C27 | C30 | 1.468(11) | C67 | C68 | 1.378(4) |
| N1 | C16 | 1.477(4) | C27 | C28A | 1.541(9) | C68 | C69 | 1.380(5) |
| N1 | C23 | 1.491(3) | C27 | C29A | 1.485(8) | C69 | C70 | 1.369(5) |
| C1 | C2 | 1.420(4) | C27 | C30A | 1.487(10) | C70 | C71 | 1.371(5) |
| C1 | C14 | 1.403(4) | C31 | C32 | 1.398(5) | C72 | C73 | 1.392(5) |
| C2 | C3 | 1.527(5) | C32 | C33 | 1.534(5) | C72 | C77 | 1.386(5) |
| C2 | C7 | 1.401(5) | C32 | C37 | 1.423(4) | C73 | C74 | 1.384(5) |
| C3 | C4 | 1.528(5) | C33 | C34 | 1.529(5) | C74 | C75 | 1.359(7) |
| C3 | C5 | 1.534(5) | C33 | C35 | 1.526(6) | C75 | C76 | 1.364(6) |
| C3 | C6 | 1.539(5) | C33 | C36 | 1.538(5) | C76 | C77 | 1.382(5) |
| C7 | C8 | 1.382(5) | C42 | C43 | 1.387(5) |  |  |  |
| C8 | C9 | 1.535(4) | C42 | C47 | 1.371(5) |  |  |  |

Table S7b. Bond angles for 1-La(TPPO) ${ }_{2}$.

| O1 | La1 | Si1 | $89.35(5)$ | N1 | C16 | C17 | $119.8(2)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| O1 | La1 | O3 | $96.73(7)$ | C18 | C17 | C16 | $121.8(3)$ |
| O1 | La1 | O4 | $84.03(8)$ | C18 | C17 | C22 | $117.5(3)$ |
| O1 | La1 | N1 | $71.33(7)$ | C22 | C17 | C16 | $120.6(3)$ |
| O1 | La1 | N2 | $109.07(9)$ | C19 | C18 | C17 | $121.4(4)$ |
| O2 | La1 | Si1 | $125.22(5)$ | C18 | C19 | C20 | $119.8(4)$ |


| O2 | La1 | O1 | 144.91(7) | C21 | C20 | C19 | 119.4(4) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| O2 | La1 | O3 | 85.42(7) | C20 | C21 | C22 | 120.9(4) |
| O2 | La1 | O4 | 87.84(8) | C21 | C22 | C17 | 121.0(4) |
| O2 | La1 | N1 | 73.91(7) | N1 | C23 | C24 | 117.9(2) |
| O2 | La1 | N2 | 105.42(9) | C25 | C24 | C23 | 118.6(3) |
| O3 | La1 | Si1 | 79.42(5) | C25 | C24 | C37 | 120.5(3) |
| O3 | La1 | N1 | 85.96(7) | C37 | C24 | C23 | 120.2(3) |
| O4 | La1 | Si1 | 111.34(5) | C24 | C25 | C26 | 122.6(3) |
| O4 | La1 | O3 | 169.24(7) | C25 | C26 | C27 | 122.2(3) |
| O4 | La1 | N1 | 84.11(7) | C25 | C26 | C31 | 116.0(3) |
| O4 | La1 | N2 | 93.24(8) | C31 | C26 | C27 | 121.8(3) |
| N1 | La1 | Si1 | 154.26(5) | C26 | C27 | C28 | 114.3(5) |
| N2 | La1 | Si1 | 27.94(7) | C26 | C27 | C29 | 109.7(5) |
| N2 | La1 | O3 | 96.63(8) | C26 | C27 | C28A | 106.3(4) |
| N2 | La1 | N1 | 177.28(7) | C29 | C27 | C28 | 104.3(8) |
| O3 | P1 | C42 | 114.42(14) | C30 | C27 | C26 | 111.7(8) |
| O3 | P1 | C48 | 109.78(13) | C30 | C27 | C28 | 107.2(9) |
| O3 | P1 | C54 | 110.62(13) | C30 | C27 | C29 | 109.3(10) |
| C42 | P1 | C48 | 107.67(15) | C29A | C27 | C26 | 106.8(4) |
| C42 | P1 | C54 | 105.69(14) | C29A | C27 | C28A | 107.0(7) |
| C54 | P1 | C48 | 108.43(14) | C29A | C27 | C30A | 116.7(8) |
| O4 | P2 | C60 | 111.28(13) | C30A | C27 | C26 | 110.7(7) |
| O4 | P2 | C66 | 112.55(13) | C30A | C27 | C28A | 108.7(9) |
| O4 | P2 | C72 | 110.65(15) | C26 | C31 | C32 | 124.8(3) |
| C66 | P2 | C60 | 107.45(15) | C31 | C32 | C33 | 121.5(3) |
| C72 | P2 | C60 | 108.17(15) | C31 | C32 | C37 | 117.3(3) |
| C72 | P2 | C66 | 106.51(14) | C37 | C32 | C33 | 121.1(3) |
| N2 | Si1 | La1 | 43.26(9) | C32 | C33 | C36 | 110.2(3) |
| N2 | Si1 | C38 | 116.0(2) | C34 | C33 | C32 | 112.8(3) |
| N2 | Si1 | C39 | 115.45(17) | C34 | C33 | C36 | 106.4(3) |
| C38 | Si1 | La1 | 129.53(17) | C35 | C33 | C32 | 108.8(3) |
| C38 | Si1 | C39 | 106.3(2) | C35 | C33 | C34 | 107.1(3) |
| C39 | Si1 | La1 | 124.18(15) | C35 | C33 | C36 | 111.5(4) |
| N2 | Si2 | C40 | 112.26(17) | O2 | C37 | C24 | 119.3(3) |
| N2 | Si2 | C41 | 120.1(4) | O2 | C37 | C32 | 121.9(3) |
| C41 | Si2 | C40 | 112.0(4) | C24 | C37 | C32 | 118.9(3) |
| C41A | Si2 | N2 | 124.4(5) | C43 | C42 | P1 | 118.6(3) |
| C41A | Si2 | C40 | 111.8(4) | C47 | C42 | P1 | 122.1(3) |
| C1 | O1 | La1 | 148.58(18) | C47 | C42 | C43 | 119.3(3) |
| C37 | O2 | La1 | 141.29(18) | C42 | C43 | C44 | 119.5(4) |
| P1 | O3 | La1 | 167.60(13) | C45 | C44 | C43 | 119.9(4) |
| P2 | O4 | La1 | 162.97(14) | C46 | C45 | C44 | 120.2(4) |
| C15 | N1 | La1 | 106.97(16) | C45 | C46 | C47 | 120.4(4) |
| C16 | N1 | La1 | 112.18(16) | C42 | C47 | C46 | 120.7(4) |
| C16 | N1 | C15 | 112.5(2) | C49 | C48 | P1 | 118.2(2) |


| C16 | N1 | C23 | 113.7(2) | C49 | C48 | C53 | 119.1(3) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| C23 | N1 | La1 | 106.23(15) | C53 | C48 | P1 | 122.7(3) |
| C23 | N1 | C15 | 104.7(2) | C48 | C49 | C50 | 120.1(3) |
| Si1 | N2 | La1 | 108.81(13) | C51 | C50 | C49 | 120.8(4) |
| Si1 | N2 | Si2 | 123.12(16) | C50 | C51 | C52 | 119.4(4) |
| Si2 | N2 | La1 | 126.39(15) | C53 | C52 | C51 | 120.7(4) |
| O1 | C1 | C2 | 121.3(3) | C52 | C53 | C48 | 119.9(4) |
| O1 | C1 | C14 | 119.7(3) | C55 | C54 | P1 | 119.3(2) |
| C14 | C1 | C2 | 118.9(3) | C55 | C54 | C59 | 119.1(3) |
| C1 | C2 | C3 | 121.6(3) | C59 | C54 | P1 | 121.6(2) |
| C7 | C2 | C1 | 117.8(3) | C56 | C55 | C54 | 120.4(3) |
| C7 | C2 | C3 | 120.4(3) | C55 | C56 | C57 | 120.4(3) |
| C2 | C3 | C4 | 111.4(3) | C58 | C57 | C56 | 119.5(3) |
| C2 | C3 | C5 | 109.1(3) | C57 | C58 | C59 | 120.6(3) |
| C2 | C3 | C6 | 112.1(3) | C58 | C59 | C54 | 120.0(3) |
| C4 | C3 | C5 | 109.6(3) | C61 | C60 | P2 | 122.3(3) |
| C4 | C3 | C6 | 106.8(3) | C65 | C60 | P2 | 117.9(2) |
| C5 | C3 | C6 | 107.7(3) | C65 | C60 | C61 | 119.7(3) |
| C8 | C7 | C2 | 124.0(3) | C62 | C61 | C60 | 119.6(3) |
| C7 | C8 | C9 | 121.4(3) | C63 | C62 | C61 | 120.5(4) |
| C7 | C8 | C13 | 116.6(3) | C64 | C63 | C62 | 120.1(4) |
| C13 | C8 | C9 | 121.9(3) | C63 | C64 | C65 | 120.3(4) |
| C8 | C9 | C12A | 109.6(7) | C60 | C65 | C64 | 119.9(3) |
| C10 | C9 | C8 | 108.7(7) | C67 | C66 | P2 | 121.9(2) |
| C10 | C9 | C12 | 110.2(10) | C67 | C66 | C71 | 119.1(3) |
| C11 | C9 | C8 | 108.5(6) | C71 | C66 | P2 | 118.9(2) |
| C11 | C9 | C10 | 110.0(9) | C68 | C67 | C66 | 120.7(3) |
| C11 | C9 | C12 | 108.9(9) | C67 | C68 | C69 | 119.4(3) |
| C12 | C9 | C8 | 110.6(6) | C70 | C69 | C68 | 120.3(3) |
| C10A | C9 | C8 | 113.7(6) | C69 | C70 | C71 | 120.8(3) |
| C10A | C9 | C11A | 111.7(8) | C70 | C71 | C66 | 119.9(3) |
| C10A | C9 | C12A | 104.8(7) | C73 | C72 | P2 | 121.9(3) |
| C11A | C9 | C8 | 110.3(6) | C77 | C72 | P2 | 118.8(3) |
| C11A | C9 | C12A | 106.2(8) | C77 | C72 | C73 | 119.3(3) |
| C8 | C13 | C14 | 122.3(3) | C74 | C73 | C72 | 119.7(4) |
| C1 | C14 | C15 | 122.4(2) | C75 | C74 | C73 | 120.2(4) |
| C13 | C14 | C1 | 120.1(3) | C74 | C75 | C76 | 120.8(4) |
| C13 | C14 | C15 | 116.5(3) | C75 | C76 | C77 | 120.2(4) |
| N1 | C15 | C14 | 119.9(2) | C76 | C77 | C72 | 119.8(4) |

Table S8a. Bond distances for 1-Y(TPPO) ${ }_{2}$.

| Y1 | Si1 | 3.3926(8) | C8 | C13 | 1.393(3) | C42 | C47 | 1.392(3) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Y1 | O1 | 2.1610 (15) | C9 | C10 | 1.546(8) | C43 | C44 | 1.385(4) |
| Y1 | O2 | 2.1557(15) | C9 | C11 | 1.513(9) | C44 | C45 | 1.375(4) |
| Y1 | O3 | 2.3160 (15) | C9 | C12 | 1.513(9) | C45 | C46 | 1.377(5) |
| Y1 | O4 | 2.2948(15) | C9 | C10A | 1.511(9) | C46 | C47 | 1.376(4) |
| Y1 | N1 | 2.6578(18) | C9 | C11A | 1.509(8) | C48 | C49 | 1.381(3) |
| Y1 | N2 | 2.301(2) | C9 | C12A | 1.494(9) | C48 | C53 | 1.399(3) |
| P1 | O3 | 1.5060(15) | C13 | C14 | 1.396(3) | C49 | C50 | 1.389(4) |
| P1 | C42 | 1.806(2) | C14 | C15 | 1.507(3) | C50 | C51 | 1.375(4) |
| P1 | C48 | 1.807(2) | C16 | C17 | 1.517(3) | C51 | C52 | 1.386(4) |
| P1 | C54 | 1.796(2) | C17 | C18 | 1.390 (4) | C52 | C53 | 1.374(4) |
| P2 | O4 | 1.5019(16) | C17 | C22 | 1.392(4) | C54 | C55 | 1.395(4) |
| P2 | C60 | 1.797(2) | C18 | C19 | 1.389(4) | C54 | C59 | 1.377(4) |
| P2 | C66 | 1.796(2) | C19 | C20 | 1.377(5) | C55 | C56 | 1.384(4) |
| P2 | C72 | 1.798(2) | C20 | C21 | 1.366(5) | C56 | C57 | 1.380(5) |
| Si1 | N2 | 1.696(2) | C21 | C22 | 1.388(4) | C57 | C58 | 1.360 (5) |
| Si1 | C38 | 1.868(3) | C23 | C24 | 1.507(3) | C58 | C59 | 1.383(4) |
| Si1 | C39 | 1.873(3) | C24 | C25 | 1.389(3) | C60 | C61 | 1.396(3) |
| Si2 | N2 | 1.723(2) | C24 | C37 | 1.415 (3) | C60 | C65 | 1.389(3) |
| Si2 | C40 | 1.865(3) | C25 | C26 | 1.388(3) | C61 | C62 | 1.384(3) |
| Si2 | C41 | 1.816(4) | C26 | C27 | 1.534(3) | C62 | C63 | 1.375(4) |
| O1 | C1 | 1.332(3) | C26 | C31 | 1.388(4) | C63 | C64 | 1.385(4) |
| O2 | C37 | 1.320(3) | C27 | C28 | 1.599(7) | C64 | C65 | 1.376(4) |
| N1 | C15 | 1.491 (3) | C27 | C29 | 1.495(6) | C66 | C67 | 1.390(3) |
| N1 | C16 | 1.493(3) | C27 | C30 | 1.495(7) | C66 | C71 | 1.390(4) |
| N1 | C23 | 1.496 (3) | C27 | C28A | 1.546(9) | C67 | C68 | 1.379(4) |
| C1 | C2 | 1.423(3) | C27 | C29A | 1.537(9) | C68 | C69 | 1.359(5) |
| C1 | C14 | 1.411(3) | C27 | C30A | 1.450(10) | C69 | C70 | 1.371(5) |
| C2 | C3 | 1.538(4) | C31 | C32 | 1.394(3) | C70 | C71 | 1.389(4) |
| C2 | C7 | 1.390(3) | C32 | C33 | 1.538(3) | C72 | C73 | 1.385(3) |
| C3 | C4 | 1.536(4) | C32 | C37 | 1.421(3) | C72 | C77 | 1.387(3) |
| C3 | C5 | 1.536(4) | C33 | C34 | 1.532(4) | C73 | C74 | 1.386(4) |
| C3 | C6 | 1.527(4) | C33 | C35 | 1.524(4) | C74 | C75 | 1.371(4) |
| C7 | C8 | 1.390(4) | C33 | C36 | 1.537(4) | C75 | C76 | 1.365(4) |
| C8 | C9 | 1.533(3) | C42 | C43 | 1.382(3) | C76 | C77 | 1.382(4) |

Table S8b. Bond angles for 1-Y(TPPO) 2 .

| O1 | Y1 | Si1 | $86.00(4)$ | C18 | C17 | C16 | $121.4(2)$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| O1 | Y1 | O3 | $95.21(6)$ | C18 | C17 | C22 | $117.9(2)$ |
| O1 | Y1 | O4 | $85.47(6)$ | C22 | C17 | C16 | $120.4(2)$ |
| O1 | Y1 | N1 | $75.57(6)$ | C19 | C18 | C17 | $120.5(3)$ |
| O1 | Y1 | N2 | $104.91(7)$ | C20 | C19 | C18 | $120.7(3)$ |
| O2 | Y1 | Si1 | $120.94(4)$ | C21 | C20 | C19 | $119.3(3)$ |
| O2 | Y1 | O1 | $152.65(6)$ | C20 | C21 | C22 | $120.6(3)$ |


| O2 | Y1 | O3 | 87.44(6) | C21 | C22 | C17 | 120.9(3) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| O2 | Y1 | O4 | 88.30(6) | N1 | C23 | C24 | 117.15(17) |
| O2 | Y1 | N1 | 77.39(5) | C25 | C24 | C23 | 118.76(19) |
| O2 | Y1 | N2 | 102.06(7) | C25 | C24 | C37 | 120.6(2) |
| O3 | Y1 | Si1 | 76.52(4) | C37 | C24 | C23 | 120.00(19) |
| O3 | Y1 | N1 | 87.15(5) | C26 | C25 | C24 | 122.2(2) |
| O4 | Y1 | Si1 | 111.55(4) | C25 | C26 | C27 | 121.6(2) |
| O4 | Y1 | O3 | 171.93(5) | C25 | C26 | C31 | 116.5(2) |
| O4 | Y1 | N1 | 85.23(5) | C31 | C26 | C27 | 121.9(2) |
| O4 | Y1 | N2 | 93.84(6) | C26 | C27 | C28 | 107.1(3) |
| N1 | Y1 | Si1 | 154.17(4) | C26 | C27 | C28A | 113.2(4) |
| N2 | Y1 | Si1 | 26.86(5) | C26 | C27 | C29A | 109.7(5) |
| N2 | Y1 | O3 | 93.75(6) | C29 | C27 | C26 | 108.7(3) |
| N2 | Y1 | N1 | 178.93(6) | C29 | C27 | C28 | 106.7(4) |
| O3 | P1 | C42 | 110.02(10) | C29 | C27 | C30 | 112.7(6) |
| O3 | P1 | C48 | 110.76(10) | C30 | C27 | C26 | 112.6(4) |
| O3 | P1 | C54 | 115.22(10) | C30 | C27 | C28 | 108.8(6) |
| C42 | P1 | C48 | 108.54(11) | C29A | C27 | C28A | 102.3(8) |
| C54 | P1 | C42 | 107.20(12) | C30A | C27 | C26 | 111.0(5) |
| C54 | P1 | C48 | 104.79(11) | C30A | C27 | C28A | 107.8(9) |
| O4 | P2 | C60 | 112.55(10) | C30A | C27 | C29A | 112.7(9) |
| O4 | P2 | C66 | 110.68(10) | C26 | C31 | C32 | 124.3(2) |
| O4 | P2 | C72 | 111.87(10) | C31 | C32 | C33 | 120.9(2) |
| C60 | P2 | C72 | 107.27(11) | C31 | C32 | C37 | 118.2(2) |
| C66 | P2 | C60 | 105.99(10) | C37 | C32 | C33 | 120.8(2) |
| C66 | P2 | C72 | 108.20(11) | C34 | C33 | C32 | 112.6(2) |
| N2 | Si1 | Y1 | 37.81(7) | C34 | C33 | C36 | 106.2(2) |
| N2 | Si1 | C38 | 115.11(16) | C35 | C33 | C32 | 108.9(2) |
| N2 | Si1 | C39 | 115.60(13) | C35 | C33 | C34 | 107.4(2) |
| C38 | Si1 | Y1 | 129.97(13) | C35 | C33 | C36 | 111.4(2) |
| C38 | Si1 | C39 | 105.17(17) | C36 | C33 | C32 | 110.3(2) |
| C39 | Si1 | Y1 | 124.12(12) | O2 | C37 | C24 | 119.05(18) |
| N2 | Si2 | C40 | 112.96(12) | O2 | C37 | C32 | 122.8(2) |
| N2 | Si2 | C41 | 116.6(2) | C24 | C37 | C32 | 118.2(2) |
| C41 | Si2 | C40 | 106.16(19) | C43 | C42 | P1 | 118.05(19) |
| C1 | O1 | Y1 | 146.10(14) | C43 | C42 | C47 | 118.8(2) |
| C37 | O2 | Y1 | 140.54(13) | C47 | C42 | P1 | 123.1(2) |
| P1 | O3 | Y1 | 169.93(10) | C42 | C43 | C44 | 120.5(3) |
| P2 | O4 | Y1 | 164.03(10) | C45 | C44 | C43 | 120.0(3) |
| C15 | N1 | Y1 | 107.66(12) | C44 | C45 | C46 | 120.0(3) |
| C15 | N1 | C16 | 111.60(16) | C47 | C46 | C45 | 120.2(3) |
| C15 | N1 | C23 | 104.54(15) | C46 | C47 | C42 | 120.4(3) |
| C16 | N1 | Y1 | 112.60(12) | C49 | C48 | P1 | 119.58(17) |
| C16 | N1 | C23 | 112.88(17) | C49 | C48 | C53 | 118.9(2) |
| C23 | N1 | Y1 | 107.07(12) | C53 | C48 | P1 | 121.48(18) |


| Si1 | N2 | Y1 | $115.33(11)$ | C48 | C49 | C50 | $120.3(2)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Si1 | N2 | Si2 | $117.77(12)$ | C51 | C50 | C49 | $120.3(2)$ |
| Si2 | N2 | Y1 | $124.71(11)$ | C50 | C51 | C52 | $119.7(2)$ |
| O1 | C1 | C2 | $122.0(2)$ | C53 | C52 | C51 | $120.2(2)$ |
| O1 | C1 | C14 | $119.35(19)$ | C52 | C53 | C48 | $120.4(2)$ |
| C14 | C1 | C2 | $118.6(2)$ | C55 | C54 | P1 | $119.03(19)$ |
| C1 | C2 | C3 | $121.8(2)$ | C59 | C54 | P1 | $121.9(2)$ |
| C7 | C2 | C1 | $118.2(2)$ | C59 | C54 | C55 | $119.1(2)$ |
| C7 | C2 | C3 | $119.8(2)$ | C56 | C55 | C54 | $119.4(3)$ |
| C4 | C3 | C2 | $111.1(2)$ | C57 | C56 | C55 | $120.6(3)$ |
| C4 | C3 | C5 | $109.8(2)$ | C58 | C57 | C56 | $120.0(3)$ |
| C5 | C3 | C2 | $108.6(2)$ | C57 | C58 | C59 | $120.1(3)$ |
| C6 | C3 | C2 | $112.5(2)$ | C54 | C59 | C58 | $120.9(3)$ |
| C6 | C3 | C4 | $107.5(2)$ | C61 | C60 | P2 | $121.39(17)$ |
| C6 | C3 | C5 | $107.4(2)$ | C65 | C60 | P2 | $119.37(18)$ |
| C8 | C7 | C2 | $124.1(2)$ | C65 | C60 | C61 | $119.2(2)$ |
| C7 | C8 | C9 | $121.5(2)$ | C62 | C61 | C60 | $120.3(2)$ |
| C7 | C8 | C13 | $116.5(2)$ | C63 | C62 | C61 | $119.7(2)$ |
| C13 | C8 | C9 | $121.9(2)$ | C62 | C63 | C64 | $120.3(2)$ |
| C8 | C9 | C10 | $110.0(6)$ | C65 | C64 | C63 | $120.3(2)$ |
| C11 | C9 | C8 | $111.0(5)$ | C64 | C65 | C60 | $120.2(2)$ |
| C11 | C9 | C10 | $107.3(7)$ | C67 | C66 | P2 | $121.6(2)$ |
| C11 | C9 | C12 | $109.2(7)$ | C71 | C66 | P2 | $119.01(19)$ |
| C12 | C9 | C8 | $114.4(5)$ | C71 | C66 | C67 | $119.3(2)$ |
| C12 | C9 | C10 | $104.4(7)$ | C68 | C67 | C66 | $120.1(3)$ |
| C10A | C9 | C8 | $111.9(5)$ | C69 | C68 | C67 | $120.5(3)$ |
| C11A | C9 | C8 | $108.2(4)$ | C68 | C69 | C70 | $120.3(3)$ |
| C11A | C9 | C10A | $109.4(7)$ | C69 | C70 | C71 | $120.5(3)$ |
| C12A | C9 | C8 | $107.8(5)$ | C70 | C71 | C66 | $119.3(3)$ |
| C12A | C9 | C10A | $110.0(9)$ | C73 | C72 | P2 | $122.31(19)$ |
| C12A | C9 | C11A | $109.4(7)$ | C73 | C72 | C77 | $119.3(2)$ |
| C8 | C13 | C14 | $122.2(2)$ | C77 | C72 | P2 | $118.37(19)$ |
| N1 | C14 | C15 | C1 | C15 | $122.54(19)$ | C72 | C73 |
| N1 | C16 | C17 | $119.8(3)$ |  |  |  |  |




Figure S26. Thermal ellipsoid plot of $\left.\mathbf{1 - L a}\left(\left[\operatorname{La}\left({ }^{1} \mathbf{L}\right)\left(\mathrm{N}^{\left(\mathrm{SiHMe}_{2}\right)}\right)_{2}\right)\left(\mathrm{Et}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)(\mathrm{THF})\right]\right)$ shown at $50 \%$ probability. Hydrogen atoms other than those attached to $\operatorname{Si}(1)$ and $\operatorname{Si}(2)$ have been removed for clarity.


Figure S27. Thermal ellipsoid plot of 1-La(TPPO) $)_{2}\left(\left[\mathrm{La}\left({ }^{\mathbf{1}} \mathbf{L}\right)\left(\mathrm{N}\left(\mathrm{SiHMe}_{2}\right)_{2}\right)(\mathrm{TPPO})_{2}\right]\right)$ shown at $50 \%$ probability. Second components of the two disordered tert-butyl groups and the $\left(\mathrm{Me}_{2} \mathrm{H}\right)$ unit on $\mathrm{Si}(2)$ have been removed for clarity. Hydrogen atoms other than those attached to $\mathrm{Si}(1)$ and $\operatorname{Si}(2)$ have been removed for clarity.


Figure S28. Thermal ellipsoid plot of $\mathbf{1 - Y}(\mathbf{T P P O})_{2}\left(\left[\mathrm{Y}\left({ }^{1} \mathbf{L}\right)\left(\mathrm{N}\left(\mathrm{SiHMe}_{2}\right)_{2}\right)(\mathrm{TPPO})_{2}\right]\right)$ shown at $50 \%$ probability. Second components of the two disordered tert-butyl groups have been removed for clarity. Hydrogen atoms other than those attached to $\operatorname{Si}(1)$ and $\operatorname{Si}(2)$ have been removed for clarity.

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