# Amine–Boranes Reactions Promoted by Lanthanide(II) Ions

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#### General Procedures.

All manipulations were performed under a dry argon atmosphere using standard Schlenk techniques or in a nitrogen filled glovebox. Solvents (including deuterated solvents used for NMR) were dried over appropriate drying agent and distilled prior to use. FTIR spectra were measured on Nicolet iS50 FTIR spectrometer. NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance II 400 MHz and 600 MHz and Varian Inova FT-NMR 400 MHz spectrometers. <sup>1</sup>H chemical shifts are reported in parts per million (ppm) downfield to tetramethylsilane (TMS) and were calibrated against the residual solvent resonance, while <sup>11</sup>B signals were referenced to  $BF_3 \& t_2 O$ .

## X-ray diffraction.

Single crystals of 2\_Sm<sup>DMAB</sup>.TMEDA and 3\_Yb-DME were grown by slow diffusion of hexane into a solution of the 2\_Sm<sup>DMAB</sup>.TMEDA in a THF-TMEDA mixture or by direct crystallization from the reaction mixture for 3\_Yb-DME. X-ray diffraction data were collected at 120 K with a Bruker APEX2 DUO CCD diffractometer, using the graphite monochromated Mo-Ka radiation (I = 0.71073 Å). Using Olex2 [O. V. Dolomanov, L. J. Bourhis, R. J. Gildea, J. A. K. Howard and H. Puschmann, *J. Appl. Cryst.* 2009, *42*, 339-341], the structures were solved with the ShelXT structure solution program [G. M. Sheldrick, *Acta Cryst. A* 2015, *71*, 3-8] using Intrinsic Phasing and refined using Least-Squares minimisation. Hydrogen atoms of BH groups were located in difference Fourier synthesis. Positions of other hydrogen atoms were calculated, and they all were refined in the isotropic approximation in the riding model. Crystal data and structure refinement parameters are given in Table S1. Full crystallographic data have been deposited with the CCDC as 2117456 and 2117457 contain the supplementary crystallographic data for 2\_Sm<sup>DMAB</sup>.TMEDA and 3\_Yb-DME, respectively. These data can be obtained free of charge via http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/conts/retrieving.html.

	2_Sm <sup>dmab</sup> ·TMEDA	3_Yb·DME
Formula unit	$C_{28}H_{104}B_8N_{12}Sm_4$	$C_{12}H_{44}B_4N_4O_2Yb$
Formula weight	1297.11	492.79
Crystal system	Triclinic	Orthorhombic
Space group	P-1	Pccn
Z	1	4
a, Å	9.7159(17)	10.3781(4)
b, Å	13.065(2)	12.5474(4)
c, Å	13.542(2)	17.7027(6)
α, °	104.319(4)	90
b, °	107.514(4)	90
g, °	108.505(3)	90
V, Å <sup>3</sup>	1438.6(4)	2305.21(14)
$D_{\rm calc}$ (g cm <sup>-1</sup> )	1.497	1.420
Linear absorption, m(cm <sup>-1</sup> )	40.51	40.66
F(000)	644	1000
2Q <sub>max</sub> , °	52	58
Reflections measured	5650	26967
Independent reflections	5650	3063
Observed reflections [1 > 2s(1)]	3809	2129
Parameters	247	110
R1	0.0815	0.0164
wR2	0.2077	0.0418
GOF	1.062	1.066
∆r <sub>max</sub> /∆r <sub>min</sub> (e Å <sup>-3</sup> )	1.777/-1.465	0.595/-0.282

Table S1. Crystal data and structure refinement parameters for 2\_Sm<sup>DMAB</sup> and 3\_Yb<sup>DMAB</sup>·DME.

## Synthetic procedures.

Complexes 1·TMEDA have been synthesized as reported before [A. N. Selikhov, G. S. Plankin, A. V. Cherkasov, A. S. Shavyrin, E. Louyriac, L. Maron and A. A. Trifonov, *Inorg. Chem.*, 2019, 58, 5325-5334.], and 1\_Yb·DME was obtained similarly to the reported isostructural samarium complex.

Synthesis of  $[(p-tBu-C_6H_4)_2CH]_2Yb(TMEDA)$  (1\_YbžTMEDA). (p-tBu-C\_6H\_4)\_2CH\_2 (1.18 g, 4.20 mmol) was dissolved in hexane (5 mL), the solution was cooled to 0°C and 1 mL of TMEDA (6.70 mmol) was added. n-BuNa (0.36 g, 4.4 mmol) was added to the

solution under vigorous stirring. The suspension was stirred at 0° C for 2 h, then brought to room temperature and stirred for an additional hour. A yellow precipitate of  $[(p-tBu-C_6H_4)_2CH]Na(TMEDA)$  was formed. Hexane was removed in vacuum, and toluene (10 mL) was added. The resulting suspension was slowly added to the suspension of Ybl<sub>2</sub> (0.90 g, 2.10 mmol) in TMEDA (3 mL) at room temperature and the resulting dark red solution which was stirred at 50 °C for 4 h and at room temperature for 24 h. The solution was centrifuged from the insoluble precipitate of Nal, the precipitate was once extracted with toluene (5 mL). The toluene extracts were combined, complex 3 was obtained as dark red crystals by cooling the solution of the complex in toluene to -35 °C. The yield was 1.27 g (71%). Melting point with decomposition 156-159 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 293 K): δ 1.33-1.40 (compl m, 52 H, CCH<sub>3</sub>, -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>- and NMe<sub>2</sub>, TMEDA), 4.10 (s, 2 H, CH), 7.01 (d, 8 H, o-CH, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 5.9$  Hz), 7.19 (d, 8 H, m-CH, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>,  ${}^{3}J_{HH} = 8.4$  Hz).  ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$  NMR (100 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 293 K):  $\delta$  31.8 (s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 34.0 (s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 45.7 (s, NMe<sub>2</sub>, TMEDA), 56.5 (s, -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-, TMEDA), 71.2 (s, CH), 117.8 (s, o-CH, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>), 127.9 (s, m-CH, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>), 136.9 (s, ipso-C), 143.1 (s, ipso-C). IR (KBr): 1790 (s), 1264 (m), 1175 (s), 1128 (w), 1030 (m), 811 (s), 661 (m), 623 (w), 547 (m). Anal. CalcTd. for C<sub>48</sub>H<sub>70</sub>N<sub>2</sub>Yb (848.16 g/mol): C 67.97; H 8.32; N 3.30; Yb 20.40. Found: C 67.69; H 8.06; N 3.00; Yb 21.25. Synthesis of [(p-tBu-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CH]<sub>2</sub>Sm(TMEDA) (1\_SmžTMEDA). (p-tBu-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub> (2.00 g, 7.10 mmol) was dissolved in hexane (15 mL), the solution was cooled to 0° and TMEDA (1.80 mL, 12.00 mmol) was added. n-BuNa (0.62, g 7.80 mmol) was added at 0°. The solution was stirred for 2 h, then was brought to room temperature and stirred for an additional hour. A yellow precipitate of [(p-tBu-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CH]Na(TMEDA) was formed. Hexane was removed in vacuum and toluene (10 mL) was added. A suspension of  $[(p-tBu-C_6H_4)_2CH]Na(TMEDA)$  in toluene was added to a green suspension of Sml<sub>2</sub>(THF)<sub>2</sub> (1.94 g. 3.55 mmol) in TMEDA (3 mL, 20 mmol) and a resulting dark brown solution was stirred at room temperature for 24 h. The solution was centrifuged from the insoluble precipitate of Nal and the precipitate was once extracted with toluene (15 mL). The toluene extracts were combined, the volatiles were removed in vacuum and black solid residue was dried in vacuum for 1 h and was recrystallized from fresh toluene (20 mL) by slow concentration of mother liquor. The yield of complex 2 was 1.60 g (55%). Melting point with decomposition 151-153 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (200 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 293 K): δ 2.05 (br s, 12 H, NMe<sub>2</sub>, TMEDA), 2.26 (br s, 4 H, -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>-, TMEDA), 3.52 (br s, 36 H, tBu), 6.13 (br s, 8 H, o-CH, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>), 10.14 (br s, 8 H, m-CH, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>), 14.10 (br s, 2 H, CH). IR (KBr): 1792 (s), 1260 (m), 1175 (s), 1130 (w), 1032 (m), 811 (s), 665 (m), 630 (w), 544 (m). Anal. CalcTd. for C48H70N2Sm (825.46 g/mol) : C 69.84; H 8.55; N 3.39; Sm 18.22. Found: C 69.59; H 8.23; N 3.07; Sm 19.11. Synthesis of  $[(p-tBu-C_6H_4)_2CH]_2Yb(DME)_2$  (1\_YbžDME). Complex  $[(p-tBu-C_6H_4)_2CH]_2Yb(TMEDA)$  (3) (0.579g, 0.69 mmol) was

synthesis of [(p-18d- $c_6H_4$ )<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>12</sub> rb(DME)<sub>2</sub> (1\_Yb2DME). Complex [(p-18d- $c_6H_4$ )<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>12</sub> rb(TMEDA) (3) (0.379g, 0.69 mmol) was dissolved in toluene (10 mL) and excess of DME (1 mL) was added. Bright-yellow powder of 4 formed instantly. The suspension was stirred at room temperature for 20 min and then centrifuged. The bright yellow precipitate of complex 4 was separated by decantation from the mother liquor and dried in vacuum for 3 hours at 50 °C. The complex yield was 0.565 g (90%). IR (KBr): 1595 (s), 1511 (s), 1270 (w), 1189 (m), 1107 (s), 1057 (s), 1020 (s), 858 (s), 827 (s), 799 (s), 672 (m), 632 (m), 548 (s). Anal. CalcTd. for C<sub>50</sub>H<sub>74</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Yb (912.19 g/mol): C, 65.84; H, 8.18; Yb, 18.97. Found: C, 65.60; H, 8.25; Yb, 19.08.

Synthesis of  $[(Me_2NBH_3)Sm(TMEDA)]_2^{2+}{(Me_2NBH_3)_3Sm}_2^{2-}$  (2\_Sm<sup>DMAB</sup>žTMEDA). To a solution of  $[(p-tBu-C_6H_4)_2CH]_2Sm(TMEDA)$  (1.0 g, 1.2 mmol) in toluene (8 ml) was added DMAB (0.14 g, 2.4 mmol), instantly the solution turned black. After 2 hours at RT, all volatiles were removed in vacuo, the black residue was washed with hexane and dissolved in a TMEDA-THF (2:1) mixture. Black crystals suitable for X-ray structural analysis were obtained by slow diffusion of hexane into a solution of the complex in a THF-TMEDA mixture (1 ml) (0.263g, 67%). IR (KBr): 2761 (s), 2400-2000 (s, BH), 1244 (s), 1159 (s), 1098 (w), 1074 (w), 1040 (s), 976 (s), 935 (w), 920 (w), 879 (s) (see figure below). Anal. Calc. for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>104</sub>B<sub>8</sub>N<sub>12</sub>Sm<sub>4</sub> (1297.14 g/mol): C, 25.93; H, 8.08; N, 12.96; Sm, 46.37. Found: C, 26.14; H, 7.98; N, 13.10; Sm, 45.99.



IR spectrum (KBr pellets) of complex  $[(Me_2NBH_3)Sm(TMEDA)]_2^{2+}{(Me_2NBH_3)_3Sm}_2^{2-}$ .

Table S2. Selected <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>11</sup>B NMR parameters of complexes 1-4, their ligands and amine-boranes.

		δ <sub>H</sub> , ppm				$\delta_{\rm B}$ , ppm		
		L	TBDM/(TBDM)H					
	-CH <sub>3</sub>	-CH <sub>2</sub> -	- <i>t</i> Bu	-CH/CH <sub>2</sub> -	-C	$C_6H_4$ -	-BH <sub>3</sub>	-BH/BH <sub>2</sub> -
			T	HF				
$\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{DME}$	3.28	3.43						
$\mathbf{L} = \mathbf{TMEDA}$	2.15	2.30						
(TBDM)H			1.28	3.86	7.09	7.27		
DMAB							-13.5	
TBAB							-23.3	
AB							-22. <mark>34</mark>	
1_Yb·DME	- <sup>a</sup>	_ <sup>a</sup>	1.21	3.66	6.76	6.91		
1_Yb·TMEDA	_ <sup>a</sup>	_ <sup>a</sup>	1.21	5.00	0.70	0.91		
2_Yb <sup>DMAB</sup>							-13.5	
4 Yb <sup>TBAB</sup>							-23.0	
4_Yb <sup>AB</sup>							-18.9	
			tolı	iene				
DME	3.12	3.31						
TMEDA	2.12	2.33						
(TBDM)H			1.22	3.81	7.05	7.19		
DMAB	1.7						-12.7	
TBAB							-22.4	
1_Yb·DME	3.07	3.23	1.34	4.02	6.92	7.13		
1_Yb·TMEDA	1.39	b	1.34	4.02	0.92	7.15		
2'_Yb <sup>DMAB</sup>			1.29	3.90	7.25	7.50	10.6(.)	
2_10			1.31	3.94	7.27 7.	7.53	-10.6 (w)	
2'_Yb <sup>TBAB</sup>			1.10 ()	2.96 ()	b	7.37	7.07.()	
			1.19 (w)	3.86 (w)	7.27 7.46	-7.07 (w)		
2_Yb <sup>DMAB</sup>							-12.0	
2_Yb <sup>TBAB</sup>		1					-18.5	
3_Yb·DME							-10.2	1.7
3_Yb·TMEDA							-9.7	3.5

<sup>a</sup> In THF both DME and TMEDA are dissociated

<sup>b</sup> These resonances are overlapped with free (TBDM)H resonances



Scheme S1. Synthesis of 3\_Yb·DME.

Volumetric studies of amine boranes dehydrogenation.

Hydrogen evolution during dehydrogenation of amine-boranes was monitored using the *Man on the Moon X103* kit developed for monitoring the progress of reactions that evolve gases by measuring the pressure variation *vs.* time in closed reaction systems. More information about the features of the kit can be found at the following link: <u>http://www.manonthemoontech.com/x102-gas-evolution.html</u>. The systems' volumes were 19 and 32 ml (two-necked round-bottom flask – 17 or 30 ml, three-way valve – 2 ml).

The monitored solutions were prepared via two methods:

<u>Method I</u>: in the nitrogen filled glovebox the toluene or toluene- $d_8$  solution of complex 1 (c = 0.01 M) was put in the flask of the device connected to a three-way valve. The valve was opened to the pressure sensor. The chosen amount of amine-borane solution in toluene or toluene- $d_8$  (c = 0.5-1 M) was quickly added to the flask. Then the flask was tightly closed with a septum cap.

<u>Method II</u>: complex 2 (c = 0.01 M) was generated *in situ* by mixing the solutions of complex 1 in toluene or toluene- $d_8$  (c = 0.01 M, 1 equiv) and 2 equiv. amine-borane (stock solution with c = 0.5-1 M was used). Resulting solution was put in the flask of the device connected to a three-way valve. The valve was opened to the pressure sensor. The chosen amount of amine-borane solution in toluene or toluene- $d_8$  (c = 0.5-1 M) was quickly added to the flask. Then the flask was tightly closed with a septum cap.

The resulting mixture was stirred at 295-300 K. Data from a pressure sensor connected via a wireless network to a computer were recorded as a function of pressure versus time for 3–120 hours. The values accumulated were referenced by the pressure of toluene in a blank experiment at 295-300 K and used for calculations of the H<sub>2</sub> equivalents evolved. The calculations were performed in the ideal gas approximation (pV = nRT).



Figure S1. <sup>11</sup>B NMR spectrum of the reaction mixture for 3\_Yb (c = 0.01 M) and 30 equiv. of Me<sub>2</sub>NHBH<sub>3</sub> (DMAB) after 14 days in toluene- $d_{8_1}$  128.34 MHz, 290 K



Figure S2. IR spectra in the  $v_{NH}$  region of amine-boranes (blue - NH<sub>3</sub>BH<sub>3</sub> 0.01 M, green – *t*BuNH<sub>2</sub>BH<sub>3</sub> 0.01 M, red – Me<sub>2</sub>NHBH<sub>3</sub> 0.02 M) in THF and of complexes 2<sup>DMAB</sup> (bold red line), 4<sup>TBAB</sup> (bold green line) and 4<sup>AB</sup> (bold blue line) as the products of the amine-boranes reaction with (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Yb(DME)<sub>2</sub> (1\_Yb·DME, 0.01 M). Dashed lines – addition of one more equivalent of amine-borane (two more in case of DMAB) to the corresponding reaction mixture. I = 0.2 cm, 298 K.



Figure S3. IR spectra in the  $v_{NH}$  region of 0.02 M amine-boranes (green –  $tBuNH_2BH_3$ , red – Me<sub>2</sub>NHBH<sub>3</sub>) and of complexes 2\_Yb<sup>TBAB</sup> (bold green line) and 2\_Yb<sup>DMAB</sup> (bold red line) as the products of their reaction with (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Yb(TMEDA) (1\_Yb·TMEDA, 0.01 M). Dashed lines – addition of two more equivalent of amine-borane to the corresponding reaction mixture. Toluene, I = 0.2 cm, 298 K.



Figure S4. IR spectra in the  $v_{NH}$  region of Me<sub>2</sub>NHBH<sub>3</sub> (c = 0.02 M, thin solid line) and of complex (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Sm(TMEDA) (2\_Sm<sup>DMAB</sup>, bold line) as the product of its reaction with (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Sm(TMEDA) (0.01 M). Dashed line – addition of two more equivalents of DMAB to the corresponding reaction mixture. Toluene, I = 0.2 cm, 298 K.



Figure S5. IR spectra in the  $v_{BH}$  region of amine-boranes (blue - NH<sub>3</sub>BH<sub>3</sub> 0.01 M, green - <sup>t</sup>BuNH<sub>2</sub>BH<sub>3</sub> 0.01 M, red - Me<sub>2</sub>NHBH<sub>3</sub> 0.02 M) in THF and the products of their interaction with 0.01 M (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Yb(DME)<sub>2</sub> (bold lines), I = 0.2 cm, 298 K. Region of terminal  $v_{BH}$  - left box, noncovalently bonded  $v_{BH}$  - right box



Figure S6. IR spectra in the  $v_{BH}$  region of complexes 2'\_Yb<sup>TBAB</sup> (dotted green line), 2'\_Yb<sup>DMAB</sup> (dotted red line), 2\_Yb<sup>TBAB</sup> (bold green line), and 2\_Yb<sup>DMAB</sup> (bold red line) measured for the reaction mixtures of 0.01 M (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Yb(TMEDA) (1\_Yb·TMEDA) with 0.01 M (dotted lines) and 0.02 M (bold lines) of the corresponding amine-borane. Toluene, I = 0.2 cm, 298 K. IR spectra of amine-boranes in toluene (c = 0.02 M; thin solid lines; green –  $tBuNH_2BH_3$ , red – Me<sub>2</sub>NHBH<sub>3</sub>) are given for comparison.



Figure S7. IR spectra in the  $v_{BH}$  region of complexes 2'\_Sm<sup>DMAB</sup> (dotted line), and 2\_Sm<sup>DMAB</sup> (bold line) measured for the reaction mixtures of 0.01 M (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Sm(TMEDA) (1\_Sm·TMEDA) with 0.01 M (dotted lines) and 0.02 M (bold lines) in toluene. I = 0.2 cm, 298 K. IR spectrum of Me<sub>2</sub>NHBH<sub>3</sub> (c = 0.02 M; thin solid line) and after addition of two more equivalents of DMAB to 2\_Sm<sup>DMAB</sup> (dashed lines) are given for comparison. Region of terminal  $v_{BH}$  – left box, noncovalently bonded  $v_{BH}$  – right one.



Figure S8. <sup>11</sup>B(<sup>1</sup>H) NMR spectra of  $tBuNH_2BH_3$  (TBAB, c = 0.02 M) and its 1:2 reaction mixture with (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Yb(TMEDA) (1\_Yb-TMEDA, c = 0.01 M) showing the formation of complex 2\_Yb in toluene- $d_8$ , 128.34 MHz, 290 K



Figure S9. <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra of Me<sub>2</sub>NHBH<sub>3</sub> (DMAB, c = 0.02 M) and its 1:2 reaction mixture with (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Yb(DME)<sub>2</sub> (1\_Yb•DME, c = 0.01 M) in THF- $d_{g_1}$  128.34 MHz, 290 K



Figure S10. <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra of  $tBuNH_2BH_3$  (TBAB, c = 0.01 M) and its 1:1 reaction mixture with (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Yb(DME)<sub>2</sub> (1\_Yb-DME, c = 0.01 M) in THF- $d_{g_1}$  128.34 MHz, 290 K



Figure S11. <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra of NH<sub>3</sub>BH<sub>3</sub> (AB, c = 0.01 M) and its 1:1 reaction mixture with (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Yb(DME)<sub>2</sub> (1\_Yb•DME, c = 0.01 M) in THF- $d_8$ , 128.34 MHz, 290 K



Figure S12. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Yb(DME)<sub>2</sub> (1\_Yb-DME, c = 0.01 M, blue) and its reaction mixture with amineboranes (NH<sub>3</sub>BH<sub>3</sub> (AB, c = 0.01 M) – green, tBuNH<sub>2</sub>BH<sub>3</sub> (TBAB, c = 0.01 M) – red, Me<sub>2</sub>NHBH<sub>3</sub> (DMAB, c = 0.02 M) – purple) in THF-d<sub>8</sub>. Highlighted signals: • – (p-tBu-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>, • – 1\_Yb-DME. 400 MHz, 290 K.



Figure S13. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Yb(TMEDA) (1\_Yb-TMEDA, c = 0.01 M, blue) and its 1:2 (c = 0.02 M) reaction mixture with amine-boranes ( $tBuNH_2BH_3$  (TBAB) – red, Me<sub>2</sub>NHBH<sub>3</sub> (DMAB) – purple) in toluene- $d_8$ . Highlighted signals: • – (p-tBu-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>, • – 1\_Yb-TMEDA, 400 MHz, 290 K



Figure S14. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the 1:1 mixture of 0.01 M complex (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Yb(TMEDA) and 0.01 M amine-borane (Me<sub>2</sub>NHBH<sub>3</sub> –bottom,  $tBuNH_2BH_3$  –top). Highlighted signals: • – (p-tBu-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>, • – 2'\_Yb<sup>DMAB</sup>, • – 2'\_Yb<sup>TBAB</sup>. 400 MHz, toluene- $d_{8}$ , 290 K





Figure S15. <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra of 0.01 M Me<sub>2</sub>NHBH<sub>3</sub> (blue) and its 2:1 mixture with 0.01 M (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Sm(TMEDA) (after 30 min – green, after 24 h – red). 128.34 MHz, toluene-*d*<sub>8</sub>, 290 K



Figure S16. General view of a fragment of the crystal packing in 2\_Sm<sup>DMAB</sup> obtained from the mixture of 1\_Sm-TMEDA and 2 equiv. DMAB in toluene. Hydrogen atoms except those of BH groups are omitted for clarity, and only labels for symmetry-independent heteroatoms are given. Selected distances (Å): Sm(1)-N(1) 2.643(15), Sm(1)-N(5) 2.821(14), Sm(1)-N(6) 2.843(14), Sm(2)-N(2) 2.621(14), Sm(2)-N(3) 2.566(14), Sm(2)-N(4) 2.622(14), Sm(1)-B(1) 2.925(17) and 2.934(18), Sm(1)-B(2) 3.045(18), Sm(2)-B(2) 2.89(2), Sm(2)-B(3) 2.920(18), Sm(2)-B(4) 2.851(17) and 2.974(19), N(1)-B(1) 1.53(2), N(2)-B(2) 1.60(2), N(3)-B(3) 1.53(2), N(4)-B(4) 1.54(2), B(1)-H 1.20 – 1.23, B(2)-H 1.06 – 1.15, B(3)-H 1.04 – 1.23, B(4)-H 1.19 – 1.22.



Figure S17. <sup>11</sup>B NMR spectrum of the reaction mixture of DMAB (0.04 M) with (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Yb(DME)<sub>2</sub> (0.01 M) after 24 h. Toluene- $d_{8}$ , 128.34 MHz, 290 K



Figure S18. <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra (128.34 MHz) of DMAB (0.01 M, blue) and its 4:1 mixture with (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Yb(DME)<sub>2</sub> (red). Toluene- $d_{a}$ , 290 K



Figure S19. The plot of  $H_2$  pressure changes measured by Man on the Moon kit for the 1 : 2 mixture of 2\_Yb<sup>DMAB</sup> with DMAB in toluene, 295 K



Figure S20. Time-evolution of IR spectra in the  $v_{BH}$  region for the mixture of DMAB (0.02 M) and 2\_Yb<sup>DMAB</sup> (0.01 M) in toluene; t = 0 (blue) -20 h (green). Spectra of DMAB (0.02 M; black) and 2\_Yb<sup>DMAB</sup> (0.01 M; red) are given for the reference. 298 K, I = 0.2 cm.



Figure S21. The second-order kinetic curve built on the base of IR-spectra analysis (v<sub>NH</sub>) for 1:2 mixture 2\_Yb<sup>DMAB</sup>/ DMAB in toluene, 295 K



Figure S22. The second-order kinetic curve built on the base of volumetric data for 1:2 mixture 2\_Yb<sup>DMAB</sup>/ DMAB in toluene, 295 K



Figure S23. Top: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of 4:1 mixture of Me<sub>2</sub>NHBH<sub>3</sub> (0.04 M) and 0.01 M (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Sm(TMEDA) (1\_Sm·TMEDA, 0.01 M). 300 MHz, toluene- $d_{g_1}$  190 K. Bottom: enlarged spectrum showing the BH- signals of 3\_Sm<sup>DMAB</sup>.



Figure S24. <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra of 4:1 mixture of Me<sub>2</sub>NHBH<sub>3</sub> (0.04 M) and (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Sm(TMEDA) (0.01 M). 128.34 MHz, toluene- $d_{g_i}$  290 K. \* - signal of DMAB influenced by paramagnetic Sm(II)



Figure S25. <sup>11</sup>B NMR spectra of 2:1 (blue) and 4:1 (green, red) mixtures of  $tBuNH_2BH_3$  and (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Yb(TMEDA) (0.01 M) after 5 h (blue, green) and after 30 h (red) of the reaction. 128.34 MHz, toluene- $d_8$ , 290 K.



Figure S26. <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra of 4:1 (blue), 6:1 (green) and 8:1 (red) mixture of  $tBuNH_2BH_3$  and (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Sm(TMEDA) (c = 0.01 M) after 1 h of the reaction. 128.34 MHz, toluene- $d_{g_1}$  290 K.



Figure S27. <sup>11</sup>B NMR spectra of 6:1 mixture of  $tBuNH_2BH_3$  (0.06 M) and (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Sm(TMEDA) (0.01 M) in 1h and 22 h after mixing. 128.34 MHz, toluene- $d_8$ , 290 K.



Figure S28. <sup>11</sup>B(<sup>1</sup>H) NMR spectra of 4:1 (blue), 6:1 (green) and 8:1 (red) mixture of  $tBuNH_2BH_3$  and (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Yb(TMEDA) (c =0.01 M) after 30 h. 128.34 MHz, toluene- $d_{8}$ , 290 K.



Figure S29. <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra of 8:1 mixture of  $tBuNH_2BH_3$  (0.08 M) and (TBDM)<sub>2</sub>Yb(TMEDA) (0.01 M) in 75 h after mixing. 128.34 MHz, toluene- $d_{a}$ , 290 K.

	Addition of 2 eq. of TBAB to 2_Yb <sup>TBAB</sup>	Addition of 4 eq. of TBAB to 1_Yb-TMEDA
Reaction time, h	20	23
$H_2\uparrow$ , equiv	2.8	2.9
υ <sub>0</sub> (H <sub>2</sub> ), bar s <sup>-1</sup>	0.73·10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.55·10 <sup>-5</sup>
υ <sub>0</sub> (TBAB), M s <sup>-1</sup>	-1.7·10 <sup>-6</sup>	-1.3·10 <sup>-6</sup>
τ <sub>1/2</sub> , <b>h</b>	6.5	6

Table S3. Comparison of 2\_Yb<sup>TBAB</sup>/2TBAB and 1\_Yb-TMEDA/4TBAB systems kinetic parameters.



Figure S30. The plot of  $H_2$  pressure changes measured by Man on the Moon kit for 1 : 2 mixture of 2\_Yb<sup>TBAB</sup> with TBAB (blue) and 1 : 4 mixture of 1\_Yb-TMEDA with TBAB (red) in toluene, 295 K



Figure S31. <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra of 1:1 (blue), 2:1 (green) and 4:1 (red) mixture of  $tBuNH_2BH_3$  and  $(TBDM)_2Sm(TMEDA)$  (0.01 M) after 1 h of the reaction. 128.34 MHz, toluene- $d_8$ , 290 K



Figure S32. <sup>11</sup>B{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra of 1:1 (blue), 2:1 (green) and 4:1 (red) mixture of  $tBuNH_2BH_3$  and  $(TBDM)_2Sm(TMEDA)$  (0.01 M) after 22 h of the reaction. 128.34 MHz, toluene- $d_{a}$ , 290 K