

# Protonation and Lanthanide(III) Complexation Equilibria of a New Tripodal Polyaza- Polycatechol-amine.

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## **Electronic Supplementary Information**

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**Table S1.** Acidity of STRENCAT secondary ammonium in  $\text{LnH}_n\text{L}^{(3+n)-}$  and  $\text{H}_n\text{L}^{(6-n)-}$  ( $n = 0-2$ ). Stability constants for the reported deprotonation reactions:

Acidity of secondary ammonium of STRENCAT

Reaction (4)	-log $K'_a$		
	La	Gd	Yb
$n = 0 \text{ LnL}^{3-} \rightleftharpoons \text{LnH}_1\text{L}^{4-} + \text{H}^+$	10.44	10.58	10.56
$n = 1 \text{ LnH}_1\text{L}^{4-} \rightleftharpoons \text{LnH}_2\text{L}^{5-} + \text{H}^+$	11.46	11.16	12.77
$n = 3 \text{ LnH}_2\text{L}^{5-} \rightleftharpoons \text{LnH}_3\text{L}^{6-} + \text{H}^+$	---	11.74	12.40

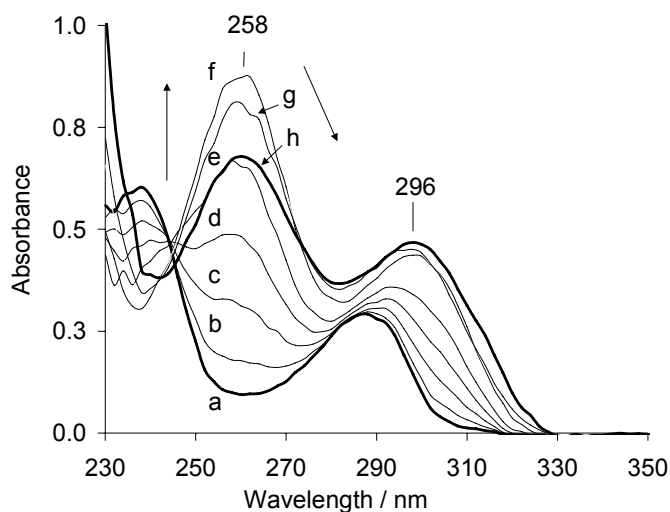
  

Reaction (5)	-log $K_a$
$n = 0 \text{ H}_3\text{L}^{3-} \rightleftharpoons \text{H}_2\text{L}^{4-} + \text{H}^+$	9.80
$n = 1 \text{ H}_2\text{L}^{4-} \rightleftharpoons \text{HL}^{5-} + \text{H}^+$	10.54
$n = 2 \text{ HL}^{5-} \rightleftharpoons \text{L}^{6-} + \text{H}^+$	11.42

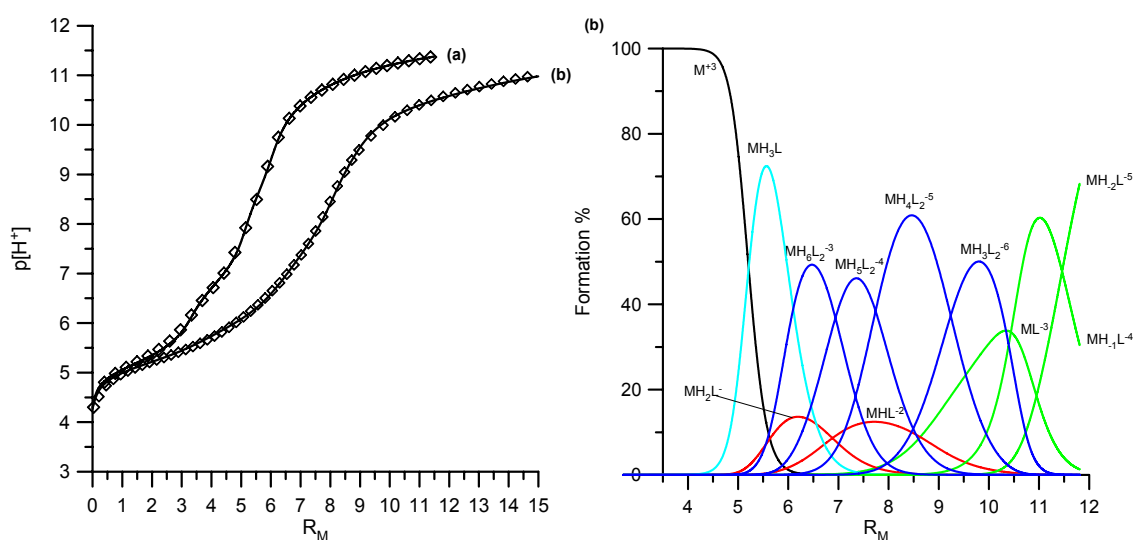
**Table S2.** Experimental conditions of potentiometry for Ln(III)/STRENCAT complexation at 25 °C.  $I = 0.100 \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  ( $\text{NaClO}_4$ ).  $C_L$ ,  $C_{\text{Ln}}$  and  $C_H$ : stoichiometric concentrations of STRENCAT ( $\text{L}^{6-}$ ), lanthanide(III) and proton.

Ln(III)	Cup solution				Titrant NaOH
	$V^0$ mL	$C_L$ mmol $\text{dm}^{-3}$	$C_{\text{Ln}}$ mmol $\text{dm}^{-3}$	$C_H$ mmol $\text{dm}^{-3}$	$C_{\text{OH}}$ mmol $\text{dm}^{-3}$
La	20.13	1.270	1.232	8.480	100.8
La	20.13	1.238	0.618	9.399	100.8
Gd	20.13	1.627	1.503	10.12	101.0
Gd	20.13	1.609	0.805	9.866	101.0
Yb	20.13	1.671	1.666	10.09	101.0
Yb	20.13	1.606	0.799	9.826	101.0

**FIGURE S1.** Electronic spectra of a solution of STRENCAT  $4.1 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$  at different  $p[\text{H}^+]$ : a)  $p[\text{H}^+] = 4.03$ ; b)  $p[\text{H}^+] = 5.46$ ; c)  $p[\text{H}^+] = 6.07$ ; d)  $p[\text{H}^+] = 6.65$ ; e)  $p[\text{H}^+] = 7.17$  f)  $p[\text{H}^+] = 9.43$ ; g)  $p[\text{H}^+] = 10.23$ ; h)  $p[\text{H}^+] = 11.8$  .



**Figures S2, S3 and S4.** Potentiometric titration curves of STRENCAT and lanthanides(III) in 1:1 (curve a) and 2:1 (curve b) molar ratios. Full lines: calculated with concentrations given in Table S2 and stability constants of Tables 1 and 2. Symbols represent only some experimental values.



**Figure S2.**  $M = \text{La}$ . Plot on the right was calculated for 2:1 ligand-metal ratio.

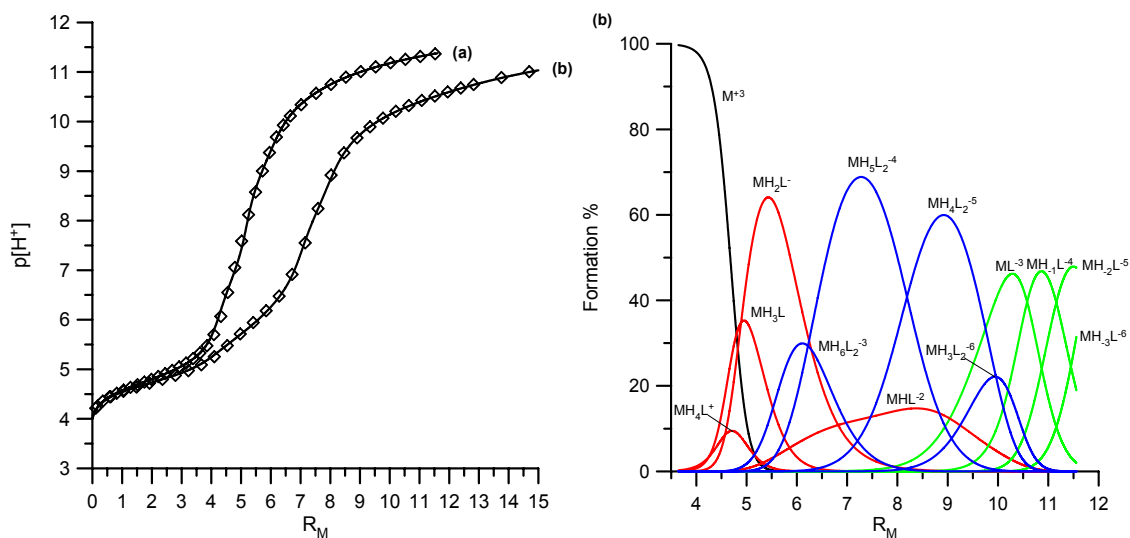


Figure S3. M = Gd. Plot on the right was calculated for 2:1 ligand-metal ratio.

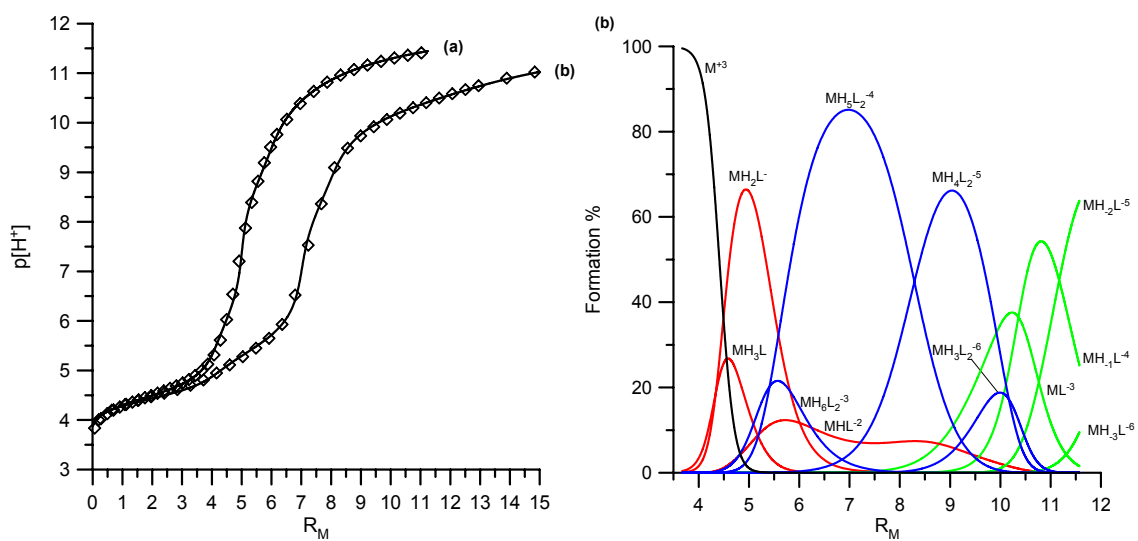
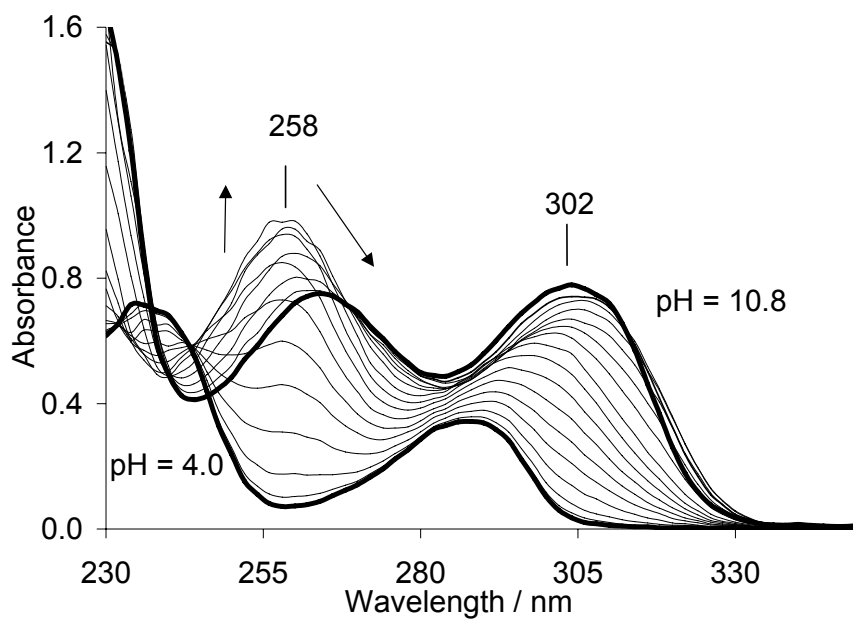


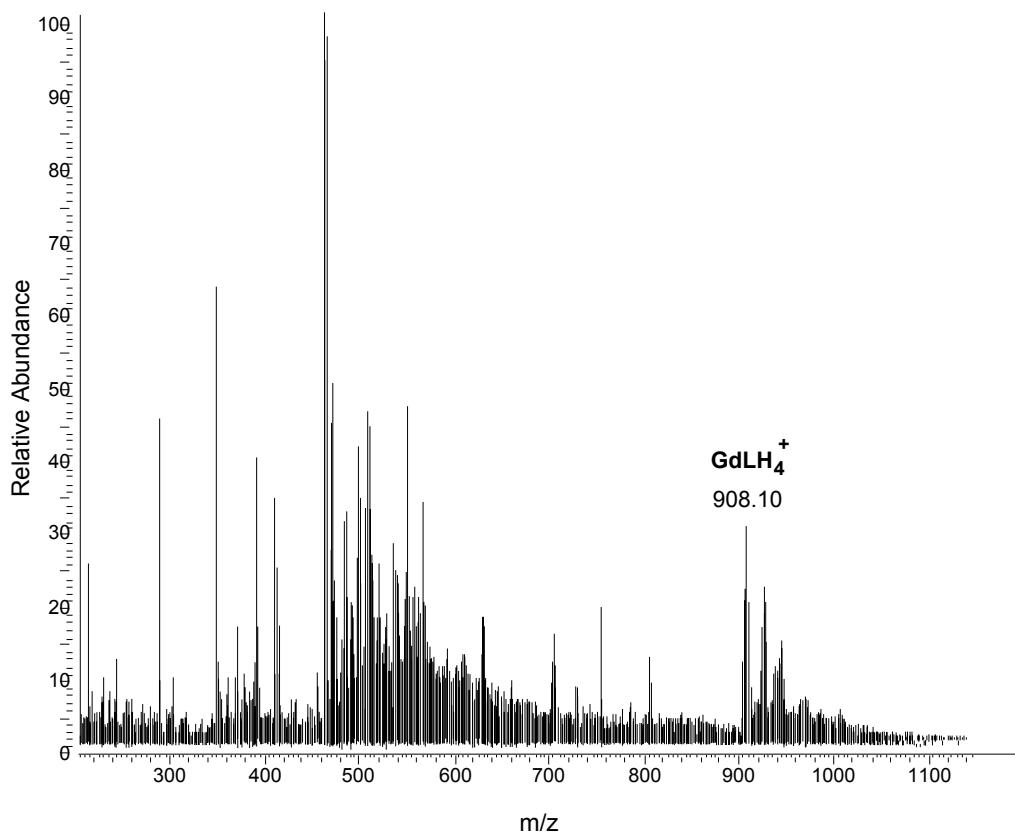
Figure S4. M = Yb. Plot on the right was calculated for 2:1 ligand-metal ratio.

**Figure S5.** Electronic spectra changes during titration of  $\text{Gd}^{3+}$ /STRENCAT. ( $L =$  STRENCAT,  $C_L = 4.0 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$ ,  $C_L/C_{\text{Gd}} = 1$ ).



**Figure S6.** ESI-MS spectra of Gd(III)/STRENCAT solution prepared at pH = 6.1.  $C_{\text{Gd}} = 4 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ mol dm}^{-3}$ ,  $C_{\text{Gd}}/C_{\text{L}} = 1$ : a) positive mode ; b) negative mode.

a)



b)

