

Structural Studies on the Rare Earth Carboxylates

12. The Crystal and Molecular Structure of Triclinic Trisodium Tris-(pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylato)neodymate(III) 15-Hydrate

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The crystal and molecular structure of $\text{Na}_3[\text{Nd}(\text{C}_7\text{H}_3\text{NO}_4)_3] \cdot 15\text{H}_2\text{O}$ has been determined from three-dimensional X-ray intensity data collected with the Weissenberg multi-film technique. The crystals are triclinic, space group $P\bar{1}$, with two formula units in a cell with the dimensions $a = 10.535(15)$ Å, $b = 11.019(12)$ Å, $c = 17.948(23)$ Å, $\alpha = 107.61(5)^\circ$, $\beta = 90.76(7)^\circ$, and $\gamma = 110.45(11)^\circ$. The elements Ce–Dy form isomorphous compounds. In the mononuclear tris(pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylato) complexes the lanthanoid ions are surrounded by six carboxylate oxygen atoms and three nitrogen atoms which form a distorted tri-capped trigonal prism. The Nd–O and Nd–N bond distances are in the ranges 2.37–2.61 Å and 2.57–2.59 Å, respectively. The structure is held together by a three-dimensional network of sodium-carboxylate oxygen bonds. Five of the fifteen water molecules have not been located but are assumed to be occluded in the fairly large cavities in the structure. The structure is compared with the previously investigated structures of sodium salts of the mononuclear tris(pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylato)- and tris(oxydiacetato)-lanthanoidate complexes.

The tridentate ligand pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylate (or dipicolinate) forms mononuclear complexes of the composition $[\text{ML}_3]^{3-}$ with the trivalent lanthanoid ions. The sodium salts of these complexes with the elements Ce–Dy have almost identical triclinic structures, but hexagonal, monoclinic, and orthorhombic phases have been prepared for the elements Ho–Lu. The crystal structures of the three ytterbium compounds have been published earlier.¹⁻³

This paper is a report of the crystal and molecular structure of the triclinic neodymium compound trisodium tris(dipicolinato)neodymate(III) 15-hydrate, $\text{Na}_3[\text{Nd}(\text{C}_7\text{H}_3\text{NO}_4)_3] \cdot 15\text{H}_2\text{O}$, here referred to as NDP. The variation of the unit cell dimensions in the isomorphous series of Ce–Dy compounds is also studied.

The tridentate ligand oxydiacetate is very similar to the dipicolinate ion. Like the latter ion, oxydiacetate forms mononuclear tris-complexes with the trivalent lanthanoid ions. The present series of investigations includes two reports dealing with the isostructural compounds $\text{Na}_3[\text{M}(\text{C}_4\text{H}_4\text{O}_5)_3] \cdot 2\text{NaClO}_4 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$, $\text{M} = \text{Ce} - \text{Lu}$.^{4,5} In this paper the different structures containing the tris(dipicolinato)- and tris(oxydiacetato)lanthanoidate complexes are compared.

EXPERIMENTAL

The triclinic lanthanoid dipicolinates $\text{Na}_3[\text{M}(\text{C}_7\text{H}_3\text{NO}_4)_3] \cdot 15\text{H}_2\text{O}$, $\text{M} = \text{Ce} - \text{Dy}$, were prepared by mixing water solutions of the lanthanoid nitrates or perchlorates and disodium dipicolinate in the molar ratio 1 : 3. The pH of the resulting solutions had values near 7. Slow evaporation at room temperature gave prismatic crystals, which were stored in the mother liquor to prevent efflorescing. NDP was analysed for Nd, Na, N, C, H, and H_2O as described before.¹ The relative amounts found are compared with those calculated for $\text{Na}_3[\text{Nd}(\text{C}_7\text{H}_3\text{NO}_4)_3] \cdot 15\text{H}_2\text{O}$, F.W. 978.8.

	Nd	Na	N	C	H	H_2O
Found	14.7	7.3	4.4	26.9	4.1	28.8 (%)
Calc.	14.7	7.3	4.3	25.8	4.0	27.6 (%)

In the structure determination only 10 H_2O per Nd were located.

The compounds prepared for the lanthanoids Ce - Dy gave the same powder pattern as NDP. The preparation method described for the orthorhombic ytterbium dipicolinate, denoted ORTYBDIPIC, using lanthanoid hydroxide, dipicolinic acid, and sodium hydroxide resulted in the NDP phase if $\text{M} = \text{Ce} - \text{Dy}$.

In the batch prepared using dysprosium perchlorate a crystal was found by chance to be an intergrowth in the *ac* plane of the triclinic NDP phase and the hexagonal HEXYBDIPIC phase.³ This latter phase is the stable one in the region Ho - Lu if perchlorate ions are present in the mother liquor. Lines from the hexagonal phase could not be detected in the powder photographs of the dysprosium compound.

Powder photographs were taken as described for ORTYBDIPIC in a Guinier-Hägg focusing camera using $\text{CuK}\alpha$ -radiation ($\lambda = 1.54178 \text{ \AA}$) for the cerium (CDP), neodymium (NDP), samarium (SDP), gadolinium (GDP), and dysprosium (DDP) compounds. These films were used for determination of unit cell dimensions.

A freshly prepared single crystal of NDP was mounted along the *a* axis in a capillary together with mother liquor. It had the approximate dimensions $0.25 \times 0.15 \times 0.10 \text{ mm}^3$ and was elongated in the *a* direction. The intensity data of $0kl - 5kl$ could be recorded before the crystal disintegrated. Another single crystal of the approximate dimensions $0.10 \times 0.10 \times 0.15 \text{ mm}^3$ elongated in the *c* direction could be used to record the intensity data of layers $hk0 - hk6$ before it disintegrated. The nonintegrated Weissenberg multi-film technique was used with Ni-filtered Cu-radiation. The intensities were measured visually by comparison with a calibrated scale. Since most reflexions with $l \neq 2n$ were absent or very weak it was not possible to index and thus to use the few reflexions in the layers $kh1$, $kh3$, and $kh5$. 2366 intensities were used in the refinement of the structure.

The intensity data were corrected for Lorentz, polarization, and spot shape effects. The linear absorption coefficient, μ , is 116 cm^{-1} . No absorption corrections were applied.

UNIT CELL AND SPACE GROUP

NDP, and thus the isomorphous Ce - Dy dipicolinates, crystallize in the Laue class $\bar{1}$. The possible space groups are $P1$ (No. 1) and $P\bar{1}$ (No. 2).⁶

The unit cell dimensions of CDP, NDP, SDP, GDP, and DDP were obtained as described before.² The observed powder patterns are given in Table 1.

Table 1. X-Ray powder data: observed and calculated values of $10^5 \times \sin^2 \theta$ for the compounds $\text{Na}_3[\text{M}(\text{C}_7\text{H}_3\text{NO}_4)_3] \cdot 1.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$, M = Ce, Nd, Sm, Gd, and Dy. The observed powder intensities of the neodymium compound are also given.

h k l	CDP		NDP		SDP		GDP		DDP		I _{obs} NDP
	obs	calc	obs	calc	obs	calc	obs	calc	obs	calc	
0 -1 1	615	591	614	596	623	597	627	602	631	603	vs
0 1 0		618		625		625		630		630	m
0 0 2	828	822	833	827	841	828	852	834	852	839	m
1 -1 1	865	861	868	866	876	871	885	872	887	876	s
1 0 1	928	940	934	947	942	951	945	952	945	954	m
-1 0 2	1263	1270	1259	1276	1284	1280	1288	1287	1301	1293	w
1 -1 2	1349	1340	1363	1348	1373	1394	1379	1358	1384	1366	m
1 0 2	1628	1652	1659	1665	1669	1670	1676	1674	1683	1680	m
1 1 0	1700	1722	1704	1738	1718	1742	1733	1750	1742	1749	w
0 -1 3	1730	1767	1742	1779	1752	1783	1762	1797	1767	1808	m
1 -2 1	2035	2018	2058	2034	2068	2040	2083	2052	2104	2060	m
-2 1 0	2249	2246	2262	2257	2281	2271	2285	2269	2288	2278	s
1 1 1		2256		2277		2282		2292		2292	m
1 -2 2	2288	2284	2297	2281	2332	2288	2343	2302	2341	2312	m
0 2 0	2453	2474	2490	2450	2504	2501	2516	2520	2513	2521	m
-2 1 1	2482	2494		2505		2520		2521		2531	m
2 0 0						2586		2542		2549	m
1 -2 3	2897	2920	2917	2940	2939	2950	2941	2968	2952	2984	m
0 -2 3		2923		2946		2952		2978		2989	m
-2 0 2	3005	2986	3023	3010	3046	3025	3082	3034	3068	3042	w
1 1 2	3211	3201	3219	3231	3243	3236			3282	3254	vw
0 0 4	3280	3286	3326	3309			3363	3336	3378	3355	vs
2 -2 2	3471	3444	3464	3464	3511	3482	3500	3488	3540	3506	vw
1 -1 4	3529	3529	3535	3553		3563	3579	3580	3584	3602	m
-1 0 4		3543		3563		3570		3596		3616	m
-2 2 1	3665	3653	3676	3675	3679	3689	3705	3700	3728	3716	vw
-1 -2 1		3685		3720		3727		3753		3751	m
-1 -1 4		3693		3715		3724		3754		3771	m
-1 2 2		3747		3777		3782		3806		3818	m
2 0 2	3776	3761	3794	3788	3828	3805		3807	3855	3815	s
-2 0 3		3832		3850		3865		3883		3897	m
-2 -1 1		3885		3913		3929		3942		3942	m
0 -2 4	3890	3894	3939	3922	3925	3930	3937	3965	3945	3984	vw
2 -1 3	3963	3969	3998	3994	3981	4013	4010	4017	4021	4035	vw
1 -2 4		3987		4014		4026		4051		4076	m
1 -3 1		4417		4452		4461		4493		4503	w
1 -3 2		4464		4425		4463		4473		4519	m
-2 2 2				4513		4572		4586		4604	vs
2 1 1	4754	4734	4769	4774	4791	4790	4798	4802	4793	4802	w
0 1 4	4886	4838		4876							m
1 -3 3		4848		4887		4899		4936		4955	w
-3 1 0		4978		5002		5034		5028		5044	m
0 -3 2	4992	4988	5025	5035	5049	5042	5093	5088	5095	5092	vw
0 -3 1		5071		5122		5127		5170		5173	m
-2 0 4	5089	5078	5113	5103	5146	5120	5157	5149	5176	5171	vw
-1 -2 4		5080		5116		5128		5172		5186	m
-1 -1 5		5213		5243		5255		5297		5325	vs
3 -1 1	5214	5237	5233	5264	5288	5298		5291		5307	m
1 -1 5		5240		5275		5289		5317		5370	m
0 -2 5	5270	5277	5297	5312	5331	5323	5318	5369		5398	s
-1 0 5		5296		5327		5337		5376		5406	m
-3 2 0	5428	5439	5449	5466	5476	5498	5499	5498	5520	5521	w
0 3 0	5538	5566		5622	5622	5627	5659	5671	5665	5673	m
-1 3 1	5627	5621	5659	5672	5689	5679		5718		5730	vw
2 -3 3		5659		5697		5721		5720		5745	m
-3 0 1		5671		5702		5734		5738		5746	m
1 -3 4		5682		5725		5740		5783		5810	m
-2 1 4		5701		5725		5747		5777		5806	m
0 2 3		5721		5774		5778		5810		5806	m
3 0 0	5758	5753	5763	5787	5786	5819		5815		5827	m
2 1 2		5775		5824		5836		5871		5861	m
3 -2 2	5912	5902	5945	5933	5969	5970	5992	5967	5903	5994	s
3 -1 2		5906		5941		5976		5970		5989	m
-3 0 2		6001		6031		6063		6073		6085	m
1 2 2	6028	5987	6032	6046	6070	6053	6108	6087	6013	6089	w
-2 3 1		6049		6094		6110		6140		6162	m
3 0 1	6212	6245	6263	6285			6292	6318	6316	6326	vw
1 0 5		6252		6299		6446		6343		6373	m
-2 -2 2	6426	6395	6474	6446	6479	6465	6519	6503	6516	6501	vw
0 3 1		6471		6536		6540		6589		6592	m
2 -3 4	6582	6588	6632	6632	6662	6659		6688		6725	m
2 0 4		6608		6658		6680		6717		6718	m
0 -1 6		6614		6655		6668		6718		6760	m
-3 0 3		6741		6773		6804		6826		6844	m
3 -2 3		6749		6788		6827		6845		6859	m
-2 0 5	6763	6736		6770		6804		6832		6851	m
-2 -2 3		6764		6815		6834		6879		6883	vw
-1 -3 2		6829				6903		6905		6959	m
1 -3 2		6841				6909		6956		6972	m
-1 -1 4	6961	6953	6998	7007	7024	7014	7055	7060	7079	7088	w
-1 -3 1		7008				7087		7141		7137	m
-1 -3 3		7061				7136		7167		7201	m
0 -2 6	7061	7070			7147	7130		7190		7231	m
-3 3 0		7138		7179		7213		7228		7259	m
3 0 2		7148		7197		7233		7234		7246	w
2 -1 5		7171		7205		7220		7246		7257	m
-2 3 2	7187	7174		7227		7243		7281		7285	m
0 0 6	7416	7394	7442	7445	7474	7456	7499	7506			m

Table 1. Continued.

h	k	l	CDP		NDP		SDP		GDP		DDP		I _{Obs} NDP	
			obs	calc	obs	calc	obs	calc	obs	calc	obs	calc		
1	2	3	7588	7576	7637	7649		7657		7699		7708		
-2	1	5		7591		7633		7651		7697		7736	vw	
1	3	0	-	7598	-	7675	7673	7684	7724	7738	7748	7733		
0	2	4		7626		7693		7698		7748		7769		
0	3	2		7786		7864		7868		7923		7931		
3	1	0		7765		7822	7899	7855		-	7846	7870		
1	-4	2		7723	7869	7894		7908	7942	7970		7987	m	
-3	2	3	7817	7827	7866		7898		7923		7958	7958		
2	-4	1	8189	8199	8243		8266	8276	8287	8335	8335	8347	m	
2	-4	3		-				8450	8450	8498	8499		8534	
-1	3	3		8472		8546		8553				8611	8633	
3	0	3		8462	8503	8523		8561	8567	8566	8588	8584	8613	w
3	-1	4	8471	8478		8534	8541	8575		8580		8605	8607	
3	1	1		8490		8556		8591		8605		8672	8672	
-2	3	3		-		8774		8790	8852	8840	8886		8906	
-2	4	0		8735		8807		8827		8879				
0	-3	6		8762	8838	8824	8856	8843	-	-	-	-	-	m
-3	3	2	8789	8785		8837		8870		8900		8938		
0	-4	2		8850	8952	8937	8985	8948		9024		9031	9031	m
2	-2	6	8896	8916		8974		9006	9023	9042	9077	9042	9037	
-4	1	0		-	9053	9033		9090		9081		9104		w
-1	1	6		-		9073		9085		9147				
2	2	2		-		9110	9136	9129		9168				
2	-4	4		9055		9122		9153	9214	9205				m
2	1	4	9118	9088	9179		9166	9188		9219				vw
4	-1	1		-	9415	9393		-		-				
0	-4	4		-	9558	9533		-		9635				vw
-4	1	2		-		9554		9609		9614		9643		
1	2	4		9576		9665	9672	9676		9728				
4	-2	2	9618	9603	9672		9689	9750	9740	9739				w
3	-4	2			9667		9708	9708		9741				
-2	2	5		9683		9746		9764	9822	9822		9868		
-2	4	1		-	9758	9762		9781		9840		9868		w
3	-2	5	9700	-		9737	9798	9783		-				
2	-3	6		-		9743		9778		-		9886		
-1	4	1		9718		9811		9820	9907	9891	9898	9907		
-3	1	5	9812	9845	9859	9892		-	-	9973		-		w

The unit cell dimensions with estimated standard deviations are given in Table 2. For NDP the density 1.8 g/cm³ was estimated by flotation. With two formula units in the cell the calculated density is 1.79 g/cm³.

DETERMINATION AND REFINEMENT OF THE STRUCTURE

Assuming the space group to be $P\bar{1}$ the neodymium atom were found in the position 2(*i*) with coordinates (0,0,0.25) from the vector map obtained in a three-dimensional Patterson synthesis. This location of the heavy atom is in accordance with the special condition $hkl: l=2n$, limiting the strong reflexions. The preliminary neodymium parameters and the inter-layer scale factors were improved by least-squares calculations. The non-hydrogen atoms of the ligands, the sodium ions and ten water oxygen atoms could then be located in the electron density maps obtained in a series of three-dimensional

Table 2. The unit cell parameters and volumes with estimated standard deviations of the triclinic compounds Na₃[M(C₇H₃NO₄)₃].15H₂O, M = Ce, Nd, Sm, Gd, and Dy.

Com- pound	a/Å	b/Å	c/Å	α/°	β/°	γ/°	V/Å ³
CDP	10.377(14)	11.067(14)	18.003(22)	107.60(5)	90.72(7)	110.38(12)	1831
NDP	10.353(15)	11.019(12)	17.948(23)	107.61(5)	90.76(7)	110.45(11)	1812
SDP	10.319(16)	11.007(12)	17.930(43)	107.57(7)	90.79(7)	110.39(10)	1804
GDP	10.324(13)	10.967(13)	17.860(25)	107.53(7)	90.70(7)	110.49(11)	1791
DDP	10.308(20)	10.953(15)	17.803(38)	107.49(9)	90.74(9)	110.35(15)	1782

difference syntheses. To locate the tris(dipicolinato) complex a model of the corresponding ytterbium complex found in ORTYBDIPIC was fitted to the peaks of the maps.

The coordinates and isotropic temperature factors of the 51 atoms found were improved together with the scale factors in a series of least-squares refinements. In the quantity minimized, $\sum w(|F_o| - |F_c|)^2$, the weights w were calculated according to the expression $w = 1/(a + |F_o| + c|F_o|^2 + d|F_o|^3)$. An analysis of the weighting scheme suggested suitable values for a , c , and d . In the last cycle of refinement the values $a = 50$, $c = 0.01$, and $d = 0.0005$ were used. Reflexions not obeying the condition $0.80 \leq |F_o|/|F_c| \leq 1.25$ were given zero weight. After a number of cycles the discrepancy indices $R = \sum ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \sum |F_o|$ and $wR = [\sum w(|F_o| - |F_c|)^2 / \sum w|F_o|^2]^{\frac{1}{2}}$ had converged to 0.126 and 0.097, respectively. 353 of the 2366 reflexions were given zero weight in the last cycle. The shifts in all parameters were less than 1/3 of their estimated standard deviations in this cycle. As the refinement of the structure was successful using space group $P\bar{1}$ the other possible choice, $P1$, was not considered, due to the very large number of parameters then necessary.

Table 3. Positional parameters and isotropic temperature factors in NDP with estimated standard deviations. The space group is $P\bar{1}$ (No. 2).^a

Atom	x	y	z	$B/\text{\AA}^2$
Nd	-0.0085(02)	0.0020(01)	0.2496(01)	0.8(0.1)
N(1)	-0.2614(27)	-0.0067(16)	0.2452(12)	1.5(0.4)
C(1)	-0.1509(27)	0.2104(19)	0.2260(12)	1.2(0.4)
C(2)	-0.2902(26)	0.0874(17)	0.2266(10)	1.4(0.3)
C(3)	-0.4326(36)	0.0805(28)	0.2249(16)	3.8(0.5)
C(4)	-0.5269(28)	-0.0121(27)	0.2437(15)	2.2(0.5)
C(5)	-0.4886(36)	-0.1165(27)	0.2522(16)	3.8(0.6)
C(6)	-0.3582(26)	-0.1138(18)	0.2502(10)	1.4(0.5)
C(7)	-0.2990(23)	-0.2233(15)	0.2613(09)	0.1(0.3)
O(1)	-0.0611(18)	0.1759(13)	0.2162(07)	1.6(0.2)
O(2)	-0.2041(19)	0.2931(16)	0.2086(10)	2.5(0.3)
O(3)	-0.1717(18)	-0.1920(13)	0.2723(08)	1.8(0.2)
O(4)	-0.3878(18)	-0.3313(15)	0.2622(09)	2.2(0.3)
N(2)	0.1079(23)	-0.0039(16)	0.3751(09)	2.1(0.3)
C(8)	0.1767(24)	-0.1877(18)	0.2922(11)	0.9(0.3)
C(9)	0.1736(22)	-0.0851(15)	0.3742(09)	0.6(0.2)
C(10)	0.2461(34)	-0.0892(27)	0.4367(15)	3.8(0.5)
C(11)	0.2566(31)	0.0162(26)	0.5091(15)	3.0(0.5)
C(12)	0.2032(30)	0.1185(23)	0.5221(13)	2.9(0.4)
C(13)	0.1211(25)	0.1011(18)	0.4498(10)	1.7(0.3)
C(14)	0.0466(23)	0.1963(17)	0.4465(10)	0.8(0.3)
O(5)	0.1115(15)	-0.1697(11)	0.2316(06)	1.1(0.2)
O(6)	0.1989(18)	-0.2962(15)	0.2741(09)	2.2(0.3)
O(7)	-0.0191(17)	0.1727(13)	0.3847(07)	1.7(0.2)
O(8)	0.0536(19)	0.2999(16)	0.5084(09)	2.4(0.3)
N(3)	0.1379(20)	0.0148(14)	0.1345(08)	1.5(0.2)
C(5)	0.3007(37)	0.2166(30)	0.2260(17)	3.8(0.7)
C(16)	0.2502(20)	0.1196(14)	0.1464(08)	0.5(0.2)

Table 3. Continued.

C(17)	0.3372(30)	0.1301(23)	0.0901(13)	2.7(0.4)
C(18)	0.3003(35)	0.0192(28)	0.0124(16)	3.4(0.5)
C(19)	0.1609(32)	-0.0929(26)	-0.0022(14)	3.2(0.4)
C(20)	0.0983(28)	-0.0835(21)	0.0644(12)	2.2(0.3)
C(21)	-0.0279(30)	-0.2054(26)	0.0569(15)	2.4(0.5)
O(9)	0.2151(18)	0.1986(14)	0.2837(08)	2.0(0.2)
O(10)	0.4096(21)	0.3266(17)	0.2537(10)	3.2(0.3)
O(11)	-0.1004(19)	-0.1709(15)	0.1141(08)	2.4(0.3)
O(12)	-0.0812(20)	-0.3119(18)	-0.0060(11)	3.4(0.4)
Na(1)	0	1/2	0	1.9(0.2)
Na(2)	0.0051(13)	0.4962(11)	0.2449(06)	2.5(0.1)
Na(3)	0	1/2	1/2	4.0(0.4)
Na(4)	-0.3526(12)	0.4609(09)	0.2591(05)	3.1(0.2)
O(13)	0.2115(22)	0.6562(19)	0.0919(11)	4.3(0.4)
O(14)	-0.0913(24)	0.5361(21)	0.1293(12)	4.1(0.5)
O(15)	0.1258(22)	0.3611(19)	0.1636(11)	3.8(0.4)
O(16)	-0.1187(17)	0.6241(14)	0.3210(08)	1.8(0.3)
O(17)	0.0688(19)	0.4484(16)	0.3647(09)	2.0(0.3)
O(18)	-0.2130(25)	0.3197(21)	0.4261(12)	4.9(0.4)
O(19)	-0.3222(33)	0.4380(31)	0.1358(17)	8.5(0.7)
O(20)	-0.3679(25)	0.4813(22)	0.3909(12)	5.1(0.4)
O(21)	-0.3546(35)	0.6329(33)	0.0512(18)	8.5(0.7)
O(22)	0.3806(23)	0.3391(19)	0.4364(11)	3.8(0.4)

Table 3 gives the final parameters with estimated standard deviations. A three-dimensional difference synthesis based upon these parameters showed only small spurious peaks above a slowly varying background. The highest peak, about $2 e/\text{\AA}^3$, is situated at the neodymium position.

The atomic scattering factors used in the calculations were taken from the *International Tables*⁷ (Na^+ , O, N, and C) and from Cromer *et al.*⁸ (Nd). Observed and calculated structure factors are compared in Table 4.

Selected interatomic distances and angles in the structure are given in Table 5. The standard deviations are calculated from the estimated standard deviations of the atomic coordinates and the unit cell dimensions.

The computations were performed on the computers CDC 3600 in Uppsala and UNIVAC 1108 in Lund using the programs PIRUM,⁹ CELSIUS, DRF, LALS, DISTAN, PLANE, and ORTEP.¹⁰

DESCRIPTION OF THE STRUCTURE

The superscripts (i)–(vii) are used to indicate the following symmetry-related sites in the structure

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 \text{(i)} & 1+x,y,z & \text{(ii)} \ x,1+y,z \quad \text{(iii)} \ x-1,y,z \\
 \text{(iv)} & x,y-1,z & \text{(v)} \ \bar{x},\bar{y},\bar{z} \quad \text{(vi)} \ \bar{x},\bar{y},1-z \\
 \text{(vii)} & \bar{x},1-y,1-z &
 \end{array}$$

where x,y,z are the coordinates of the "crystal-chemical" unit given in Table 3.

The mononuclear tris(dipicolinato)neodymate complex in NDP is located in layers around the plane $y=0$ as illustrated in Fig. 1. The ligand

Table 4. Continued.

h	k	l	F _o	F _c	h	k	l	F _o	F _c	h	k	l	F _o	F _c	h	k	l	F _o	F _c
5	-5	4	40	49	5	-10	14	37	57	7	3	3	60	64	-6	6	4	37	46
5	-4	4	35	106	5	-9	14	61	57	7	4	3	75	77	-6	-5	4	53	60
5	-3	4	36	36	5	-8	14	40	34	7	6	3	41	41	-6	-4	4	67	71
5	-2	4	103	112	5	-7	14	30	50	7	8	3	32	40	-6	-2	4	101	123
5	-1	4	30	44	5	-6	14	34	51	6	0	3	66	73	-6	0	4	131	145
5	0	4	62	89	5	-5	14	65	65	6	2	3	47	101	-6	1	4	95	69
5	-13	5	23	22	5	-4	14	65	66	6	3	3	76	59	-6	2	4	37	95
5	-7	5	37	34	5	-3	14	64	62	6	4	3	47	46	-6	4	4	66	62
5	-4	5	22	22	5	-2	14	61	56	6	6	3	46	49	-6	6	4	76	69
5	-3	5	27	27	5	-1	14	46	42	9	0	3	46	56	-6	7	4	59	65
5	-13	6	26	50	5	-8	15	42	36	9	2	3	46	56	-6	6	4	66	62
5	-12	6	39	28	5	-12	15	50	47	9	5	3	36	36	0	-3	4	50	53
5	-11	6	43	34	5	-11	15	29	26	10	0	3	36	36	0	-2	4	144	127
5	-10	6	40	36	5	-10	15	25	26	10	3	0	39	35	0	-1	4	75	65
5	-9	6	69	85	5	-9	15	41	42	10	4	0	39	39	0	0	4	13	60
5	-8	6	41	49	5	-7	15	35	34	11	0	0	62	46	0	2	4	63	66
5	-7	6	51	71	5	-6	15	43	46	11	2	0	39	47	0	4	4	66	50
5	-6	6	120	131	5	-5	15	40	40	-9	3	2	66	73	7	-3	4	56	27
5	-5	6	73	75	5	-4	15	39	42	-8	3	2	76	81	7	-2	4	114	99
5	-4	6	36	33	5	-3	15	42	46	-7	4	2	56	56	7	-1	4	69	56
5	-3	6	113	136	5	-2	15	37	35	-7	5	2	66	62	7	0	4	51	56
5	-2	6	46	54	5	-10	16	47	36	-7	-2	2	49	49	7	1	4	37	35
5	0	6	63	82	5	-9	16	36	39	-7	-1	2	56	66	7	2	4	75	67
5	-13	7	33	35	5	-8	16	39	39	-7	1	2	53	55	8	-2	4	59	64
5	-7	7	37	46	5	-7	16	37	36	-7	2	2	51	45	8	-1	4	55	56
5	-7	7	42	54	5	-6	16	38	41	-7	3	2	76	89	8	0	4	66	62
5	-5	7	47	35	5	-5	16	35	37	-7	5	2	46	67	8	0	4	66	62
5	-3	7	30	31	5	-4	16	37	36	-7	6	2	57	56	9	-2	4	66	64
5	-2	7	37	42	-3	4	0	34	41	-6	-4	2	66	69	9	0	4	76	59
5	-1	7	41	43	-12	2	0	51	51	-6	-1	2	76	71	-9	-2	4	65	56
5	-13	8	36	29	-12	6	0	39	40	-6	0	2	116	95	-9	-1	0	77	66
5	-12	8	47	43	-10	2	0	36	37	-6	1	2	67	61	-9	0	0	72	60
5	-11	8	33	35	-11	2	0	36	36	-6	2	2	61	70	-9	1	0	61	54
5	-10	8	62	59	-11	4	0	40	40	-6	3	2	114	100	-9	2	0	37	35
5	-8	8	46	41	-11	5	0	42	27	-6	4	2	66	76	-9	4	0	74	73
5	-8	8	35	36	-11	10	0	32	36	-6	5	2	76	86	-6	-1	9	65	64
5	-6	8	57	57	-10	2	0	49	49	-6	6	2	86	85	-6	0	6	74	76
5	-4	8	66	70	-10	3	0	34	51	-6	2	2	105	101	-6	1	6	37	61
5	-3	8	109	99	-10	6	0	76	69	0	-1	2	44	42	-6	2	6	55	52
5	-2	8	67	72	-9	2	0	32	73	0	0	2	72	70	-6	4	6	56	61
5	-1	8	46	46	-9	3	0	37	47	6	1	2	91	87	-6	5	6	51	61
5	0	8	49	47	-9	6	0	60	61	6	2	2	47	52	-6	6	6	66	65
5	-9	9	37	26	-9	6	0	60	61	7	-3	2	36	65	-6	7	6	79	81
5	-8	9	51	56	-9	8	0	59	73	7	-2	2	66	83	-7	-1	6	71	61
5	-6	9	31	29	-9	1	0	50	55	7	-1	2	54	45	-7	0	6	61	61
5	-3	9	47	52	-8	2	0	91	75	7	0	2	61	62	-7	1	6	76	79
5	-2	9	45	47	-8	4	0	71	75	7	1	2	77	84	-7	2	6	66	59
5	-13	10	34	32	-8	3	0	59	41	8	-5	2	37	47	-7	3	6	39	52
5	-12	10	56	35	-8	6	0	61	86	8	-2	2	63	72	-7	5	6	67	75
5	-10	10	66	57	-8	7	0	56	63	8	-1	2	34	65	-7	6	6	69	93
5	-9	10	56	54	-8	8	0	96	94	8	0	2	66	56	-6	-5	6	69	91
5	-8	10	37	59	-8	10	0	36	53	9	-3	2	56	54	-6	-4	6	66	76
5	-7	10	59	55	-8	12	0	41	45	9	-2	2	64	86	-6	-1	6	34	51
5	-6	10	72	66	-7	1	0	42	63	9	-1	2	56	47	-6	0	6	124	110
5	-5	10	67	79	-7	2	0	127	114	9	0	2	66	61	-6	1	6	73	65
5	-3	10	75	79	-7	3	0	46	36	-10	4	4	59	53	-6	2	6	52	54
5	-2	10	63	69	-7	4	0	66	66	-10	8	4	47	42	-6	4	6	66	77
5	-1	10	41	45	-7	6	0	34	67	-9	2	4	63	63	-6	5	6	24	56
5	0	10	47	44	-7	6	0	60	83	-9	4	4	75	84	-6	6	6	81	111
5	-8	11	36	35	-7	12	0	45	49	-9	8	4	59	64	0	-4	6	69	72
5	-4	11	53	49	-6	1	0	66	46	-8	-2	4	66	103	0	-3	6	101	97
5	-3	11	33	34	-6	2	0	191	115	-8	1	4	51	47	0	-2	6	79	61
5	-2	11	26	35	-6	4	0	164	94	-8	2	4	79	84	0	-1	6	66	55
5	-15	12	27	32	-6	6	0	40	50	-8	3	4	51	51	6	0	6	66	47
5	-12	12	59	44	-6	8	0	64	66	-8	4	4	59	56	6	1	6	66	56
5	-10	12	47	49	-6	8	0	61	65	-8	5	4	56	46	6	2	6	66	80
5	-9	12	57	52	-6	10	0	59	71	-8	7	4	56	55	7	-4	6	63	59
5	-8	12	66	82	-6	12	0	43	46	-8	8	4	64	62	7	-3	6	69	77
5	-7	12	47	44	6	0	0	162	84	-7	-4	4	72	77	7	-2	6	76	68
5	-6	12	56	63	6	1	0	59	57	-7	-2	4	51	49	7	-1	6	66	66
5	-5	12	34	35	6	3	0	44	26	-7	0	4	165	94	7	1	6	51	52
5	-4	12	63	61	6	4	0	66	73	-7	1	4	49	57	8	-4	6	67	66
5	-3	12	51	46	6	5	0	56	53	-7	2	4	117	120	8	-3	6	66	63
5	-2	12	86	86	6	8	0	36	52	-7	3	4	55	66	8	-2	6	68	45
5	-13	14	41	39	7	0	0	37	52	-7	5	4	48	46	6	-1	6	66	74
5	-12	14	54	32	7	1	0	129	42	-7	6	4	54	76	9	-3	6	57	54
5	-11	14	24	25	7	2	0	56	63	-7	8	4	54	56					

atoms are designated in Fig. 2. The sodium coordination polyhedra, which are composed of carboxylate and water oxygen atoms, form infinite chains around the lines $x=0$, $y=1/2$ (Fig. 3). The six carboxylate oxygen atoms of each tris(dipicolinato) complex not coordinated to neodymium are coordinated to seven sodium ions. The complex around the neodymium ion at $(-0.01, 0.00, 0.25)$ thus takes part in the bonds Na(1^{IV})—O(12), Na(2)—O(2), Na(2^{IV})—O(6), Na(3)—O(8), Na(4)—O(2), Na(4^{IV})—O(10), and Na(4^{IV})—O(4).

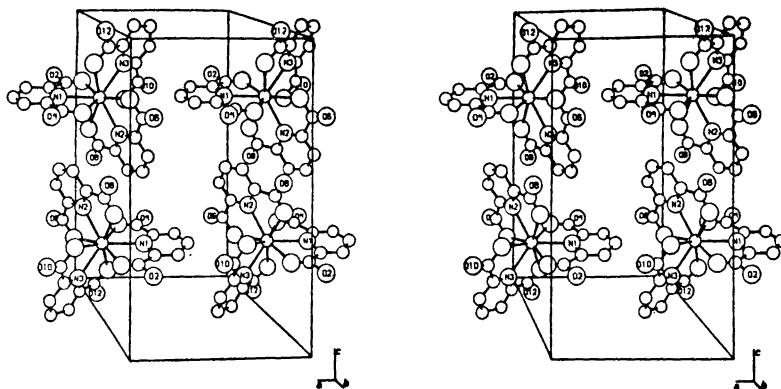


Fig. 1. A stereoscopic pair of drawing showing the layer around $y=0$ in NDP containing the tris(dipicolinato) complexes (the box is drawn between $y = -1/2$ and $y = 1/2$). Figs. 1, 3, and 4 were drawn with the program ORTEP, written by C. K. Johnson, Oak Ridge.

In this way NDP is held together by a three-dimensional network of sodium-carboxylate oxygen bonds.

The neodymium coordination polyhedron. The structure of the tris(dipicolinato)neodymiumate ion in NDP is, as expected, a distorted version of the structure of the corresponding ytterbium complex in HEXYBDIPIC.³ The tri-capped trigonal prism has the carboxylate oxygen atoms O(1), O(3), O(5), O(7), O(9), and O(11) at the corners of the prism and the nitrogen atoms N(1), N(2), and N(3) in the equatorial plane. Selected distances in the coordination polyhedron are given in Table 5 A. The metal-oxygen bond distances are in the range 2.37–2.61 Å, with an average of 2.49 Å. The metal-nitrogen bond distances are almost equal, their average being 2.58 Å.

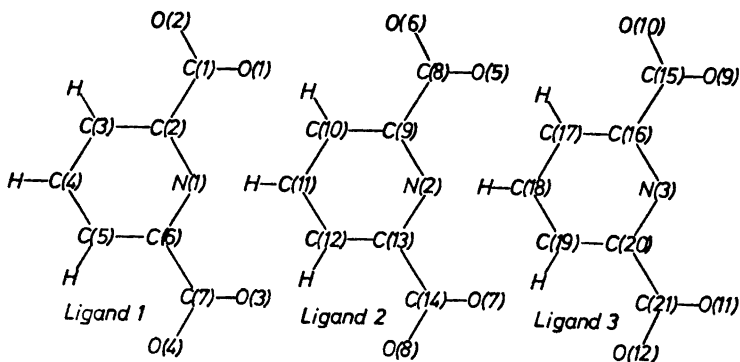


Fig. 2. Designation of the atoms in the three different dipicolinate ligands in NDP.

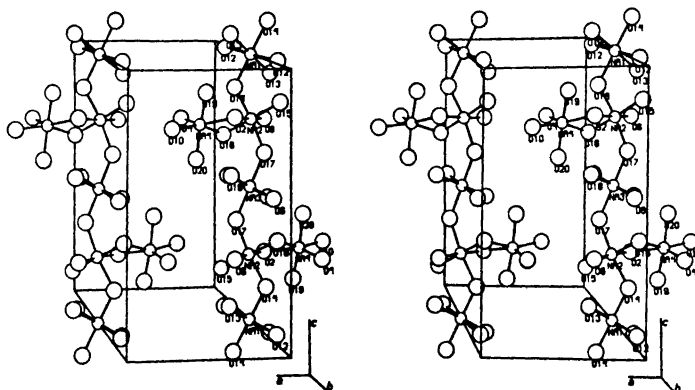


Fig. 3. A stereoscopic pair of drawings of the layer around $y=1/2$ in NDP showing the sodium coordination (the box is drawn between $y=0$ and $y=1$).

The neodymium ion is located only 0.01 Å from the plane formed by the equatorial nitrogen atoms. The two triangular faces of the prism are slightly tilted; the perpendicular distances from O(3), O(5), and O(11) to the plane through O(1), O(7), and O(9) are 3.55, 3.60, and 3.47 Å, respectively. Within the limits of error the triangles O(1)O(7)O(9) and O(3)O(5)O(11) are equilateral

Table 5. Selected interatomic distances (Å) and angles (°) with estimated standard deviations in NDP.

A. The ytterbium coordination polyhedron

Distance		Distance	
Nd—O(1)	2.40(1)	O(3)—N(1)	2.68(2)
Nd—O(3)	2.37(2)	O(3)—N(2)	3.07(3)
Nd—O(5)	2.55(1)	O(5)—O(9)	3.62(2)
Nd—O(7)	2.61(1)	O(5)—O(11)	3.02(2)
Nd—O(9)	2.47(2)	O(5)—N(2)	2.68(2)
Nd—O(11)	2.51(2)	O(5)—N(3)	3.00(2)
Nd—N(1)	2.59(3)	O(7)—O(9)	3.03(2)
Nd—N(2)	2.57(2)	O(7)—N(1)	3.14(3)
Nd—N(3)	2.58(2)	O(7)—N(2)	2.67(2)
O(1)—O(7)	3.06(2)	O(9)—N(2)	3.07(2)
O(1)—O(9)	2.99(2)	O(9)—N(3)	2.73(2)
O(1)—O(11)	3.58(2)	O(11)—N(1)	3.35(3)
O(1)—N(1)	2.52(3)	O(11)—N(3)	2.53(2)
O(1)—N(3)	3.26(2)	N(1)—N(2)	4.03(2)
O(3)—O(5)	2.98(2)	N(1)—N(3)	4.10(2)
O(3)—O(7)	3.65(2)	M(2)—N(3)	4.39(2)
O(3)—O(11)	3.00(2)		

Table 5. Continued.

B. Ligand No. 1

Distance		Angle	
N(1)–C(2)	1.30(3)	C(2)–N(1)–C(6)	121(3)
C(2)–C(3)	1.45(4)	N(1)–C(2)–C(3)	118(2)
C(3)–C(4)	1.28(4)	C(2)–C(3)–C(4)	121(3)
C(4)–C(5)	1.39(4)	C(3)–C(4)–C(5)	115(3)
C(5)–C(6)	1.34(4)	C(4)–C(5)–C(6)	123(3)
C(6)–N(1)	1.28(3)	C(5)–C(6)–N(1)	119(2)
C(1)–C(2)	1.60(3)	N(1)–C(2)–C(1)	111(2)
C(6)–C(7)	1.59(3)	C(3)–C(2)–C(1)	130(2)
C(1)–O(1)	1.12(3)	C(2)–C(1)–O(1)	111(2)
C(1)–O(2)	1.32(3)	C(2)–C(1)–O(2)	100(2)
C(7)–O(3)	1.24(3)	O(1)–C(1)–O(2)	141(2)
C(7)–O(4)	1.23(2)	N(1)–C(6)–C(7)	112(2)
N(1)–C(4)	2.73(4)	C(5)–C(6)–C(7)	129(2)
O(1)–O(2)	2.31(2)	C(6)–C(7)–O(3)	119(2)
O(3)–O(4)	2.19(2)	C(6)–C(7)–O(4)	115(2)
		O(3)–C(7)–O(4)	126(2)

C. Ligand No. 2

Distance		Angle	
N(2)–C(9)	1.30(3)	C(9)–N(2)–C(13)	117(2)
C(9)–C(10)	1.36(3)	N(2)–C(9)–C(10)	127(2)
C(10)–C(11)	1.43(4)	C(9)–C(10)–C(11)	114(2)
C(11)–C(12)	1.38(4)	C(10)–C(11)–C(12)	128(2)
C(12)–C(13)	1.46(3)	C(11)–C(12)–C(13)	140(2)
C(13)–N(2)	1.45(2)	C(12)–C(13)–N(2)	124(2)
C(8)–C(9)	1.57(2)	N(2)–C(9)–C(8)	118(2)
C(13)–C(14)	1.52(3)	C(10)–C(9)–C(8)	115(2)
C(8)–O(5)	1.37(2)	C(9)–C(8)–O(5)	111(2)
C(8)–O(6)	1.24(2)	C(9)–C(8)–O(6)	132(2)
C(14)–O(7)	1.20(2)	O(5)–C(8)–O(6)	115(2)
C(14)–O(8)	1.31(2)	N(2)–C(13)–C(14)	114(2)
N(2)–C(11)	2.75(3)	C(12)–C(13)–C(14)	122(2)
O(5)–O(6)	2.20(2)	C(13)–C(14)–O(7)	117(2)
O(7)–O(8)	2.19(2)	C(13)–C(14)–O(8)	121(2)
		O(7)–C(14)–O(8)	121(2)

Table 5. Continued.

D. Ligand No. 3

Distance		Angle	
N(3) - C(16)	1.28(2)	C(16) - N(3) - C(20)	120(2)
C(16) - C(17)	1.37(3)	N(3) - C(16) - C(17)	122(2)
C(17) - C(18)	1.49(3)	C(16) - C(17) - C(18)	120(2)
C(18) - C(19)	1.49(4)	C(17) - C(18) - C(19)	117(2)
C(19) - C(20)	1.36(3)	C(18) - C(19) - C(20)	111(2)
C(20) - N(3)	1.33(2)	C(19) - C(20) - N(3)	129(2)
C(15) - C(16)	1.46(3)	N(3) - C(16) - C(15)	119(2)
C(20) - C(21)	1.48(4)	C(17) - C(16) - C(15)	118(2)
C(15) - O(9)	1.39(4)	C(16) - C(15) - O(9)	117(3)
C(15) - O(10)	1.29(4)	C(16) - C(15) - O(10)	131(3)
C(21) - O(11)	1.32(3)	O(9) - C(15) - O(10)	111(2)
C(21) - O(12)	1.30(3)	N(3) - C(20) - C(21)	117(2)
N(3) - C(18)	2.78(3)	C(19) - C(20) - C(21)	113(2)
O(9) - O(10)	2.20(3)	C(20) - C(21) - O(11)	108(2)
O(11) - O(12)	2.30(2)	C(20) - C(21) - O(12)	126(2)
		O(11) - C(21) - O(12)	123(2)

E. The sodium coordination

Distance		Distance	
Na(1) - O(12 ^v)	2.52(2)	Na(3) - O(18)	2.42(2)
Na(1) - O(13)	2.46(2)	Na(4) - O(2)	2.76(2)
Na(1) - O(14)	2.49(2)	Na(4) - O(4 ⁱ)	2.43(2)
Na(2) - O(2)	2.41(2)	Na(4) - O(10 ⁱⁱⁱ)	2.37(2)
Na(2) - O(6 ⁱⁱ)	2.36(2)	Na(4) - O(16)	2.45(2)
Na(2) - O(14)	2.51(2)	Na(4) - O(19)	2.18(3)
Na(2) - O(15)	2.44(2)	Na(4) - O(20)	2.32(2)
Na(2) - O(16)	2.37(2)	Na(1) - Na(2)	4.40(2)
Na(2) - O(17)	2.49(2)	Na(2) - Na(3)	4.56(2)
Na(3) - O(8)	2.50(2)	Na(2) - Na(4)	3.61(2)
Na(3) - O(17)	2.49(2)		

F. Possible hydrogen bond distances

Distance		Distance	
O(13) - O(5 ⁱⁱ)	3.09(2)	O(17) - O(7)	2.99(2)
O(13) - O(6 ⁱⁱ)	3.16(2)	O(18) - O(7)	2.97(3)
O(14) - O(5 ⁱⁱ)	3.13(2)	O(18) - O(20)	2.97(3)
O(14) - O(19)	2.29(4)	O(18) - O(21)	3.08(4)
O(15) - O(1)	2.69(2)	O(20) - O(22 ⁱⁱⁱ)	2.81(3)
O(15) - O(12 ^v)	2.71(3)	O(20) - O(22 ^{vii})	3.16(3)
O(16) - O(3 ⁱⁱ)	2.65(2)	O(21) - O(11 ⁱⁱ)	2.71(4)
O(16) - O(8 ^{vii})	2.92(2)	O(21) - O(12)	2.95(4)
O(17) - O(1)	3.19(2)	O(22) - O(9)	2.88(2)

Table 6. The deviations (in Å) from the least-squares planes through the seven carbon atoms and the nitrogen atom of each ligand.

Atom	Distance	Atom	Distance	Atom	Distance
N(1)	-0.05	N(2)	-0.06	N(3)	0.05
C(1)	-0.07	C(8)	0.09	C(15)	-0.08
C(2)	0.09	C(9)	-0.04	C(16)	0.08
C(3)	0.10	C(10)	0.06	C(17)	0.01
C(4)	-0.08	C(11)	0.00	C(18)	-0.08
C(5)	-0.04	C(12)	0.07	C(19)	0.05
C(6)	0.02	C(13)	-0.01	C(20)	0.04
C(7)	0.03	C(14)	0.01	C(21)	-0.08
O(1)	0.16	O(5)	0.21	O(9)	-0.10
O(2)	0.07	O(6)	-0.19	O(10)	-0.11
O(3)	-0.17	O(7)	-0.07	O(11)	0.29
O(4)	0.17	O(8)	0.11	O(12)	-0.13
Nd	-0.08	Nd	0.16	Nd	0.05

but the triangle N(1)N(2)N(3) is not. The twelve independent distances in the coordination polyhedron between adjacent atoms not belonging to the same ligand lie in the interval 2.98–3.35 Å, with an average of 3.08 Å.

The ligands. Each dipicolinate ion in NDP acts as a tridentate ligand forming two five-membered rings with the neodymium ion. The bond angles Nd–O–C and Nd–N–C lie in the intervals 120–132° and 118–123°, respectively. The bond distances and angles in the ligand are given in Table 5, B–D. The least-squares planes through the seven carbon atoms and the nitrogen atom of each ligand have been calculated. As shown in Table 6 these atoms are coplanar within 0.10, 0.09, and 0.08 Å for ligands 1, 2, and 3. The carboxylate groups appear to be more or less twisted out of the ligand planes. The neodymium ion is located rather near the ligand planes.

The packing of the complex ions. The large mononuclear tris(dipicolinato) complexes are well separated in NDP, all carbon–carbon packing distances except C(4)–C(8ⁱⁱⁱ) and C(5)–C(8ⁱⁱⁱ) being longer than 3.50 Å. C(4)–C(8ⁱⁱⁱ) is 3.30 ± 0.04 Å and C(5)–C(8ⁱⁱⁱ) is 3.40 ± 0.04 Å. The separation distance along the *b* axis between the layers of complex ions is about 3.8 Å. All neodymium–neodymium distances are very long. The shortest distances are Nd–Nd^v and Nd–Nd^{vi} along the *c* axis. They are 8.94 Å and 8.99 Å, respectively.

The coordination around the sodium ions. The sodium ions Na(1), Na(2), and Na(3) are located on or very near the line $x=0$, $y=1/2$. The octahedra of oxygen atoms around them form an infinite chain by sharing corners (Fig. 3). Na(1) and Na(2) are bridged by O(14), Na(2) and Na(3) by O(17). The sodium ions Na(4) are connected to this infinite chain by sharing the edges O(2)O(16) with Na(2). The sodium–oxygen bond distances and the sodium–sodium distances are given in Table 5 E. The bond distances except Na(4)–O(2) and Na(4)–O(19) are in the range 2.32–2.52 Å. Na(4)–O(2) is 2.76 Å and Na(4)–O(19) is 2.18 Å. The average sodium–oxygen bond distance in NDP is 2.45 Å.

The 36 different oxygen – oxygen “contact” distances along the edges of the octahedra are in the interval 2.89–4.21 Å. Three of these distances are less than 3.20 Å, *viz.*, O(2)–O(19) (2.89 ± 0.04 Å), O(13)–O(14) (3.12 ± 0.03 Å), and O(17)–O(18) (3.14 ± 0.03 Å). The O–Na–O bond angles with adjacent oxygen atoms have values between 71 and 110°.

Possible hydrogen bonds. According to the chemical analyses the asymmetric unit of NDP contains fifteen water molecules. As five out of these are not located in the structure determination only some of the possibilities of hydrogen bonding in NDP could be outlined. In Table 5 F the possible hydrogen bond distances less than 3.20 Å are given, and the most probable bond scheme among the known oxygen atoms is shown in Fig. 4. This choice is based upon considerations similar to those made in Ref. 2. Donor angles $O \cdots O(H_2O) \cdots O$ between 84 and 115° with an average of 102° are accepted in this structure. The acceptor angles $C-O \cdots O(H_2O)$ are in the range 99–137°. The hydrogen bond distance O(14)–O(19) is extremely short, 2.29 Å. As the bond length Na(4)–O(19) and contact distance O(2)–O(19) also are short it seems reasonable to conclude that the coordinates obtained for the oxygen atom O(19) in the refinement of the structure most probably are erroneous. All the carboxylate oxygen atoms coordinated to the neodymium ion are also hydrogen bonded to a water molecule. The carboxylate oxygen O(7) which is coordinated to Nd is perhaps even bonded to two water oxygen atoms, *viz.*, O(17) and O(18). The angle O(17)–O(7)–O(18) is $64 \pm 1^\circ$. In this connection one may observe that Nd–O(7) is the longest neodymiumoxygen bond distance in NDP (*cf.* Table 5 A).

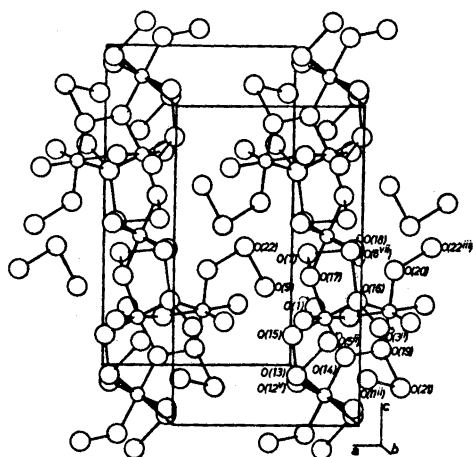


Fig. 4. A projection of NDP along b^* showing the layer around $y=1/2$. The sodium–oxygen bonds are filled, hydrogen bonds are open. Only the most probable hydrogen bonds among those listed in Table 5 F are included.

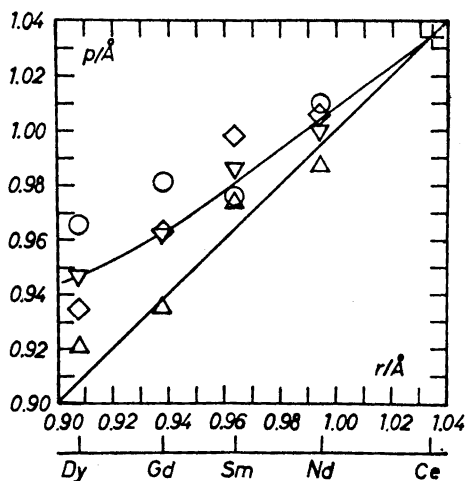


Fig. 5. Values of p of eqn. (1) with $q=a$ (\odot), b (\triangle), $c/2$ (\diamond), and $(V/2)^{1/3}$ (\triangle) plotted versus the crystal radius r of the trivalent lanthanoid ions. The curves $p=(V/2)^{1/3}$ and $p=r$ are drawn.

The structure of NDP contains fairly large cavities around the lines $x = 1/2$, $z = 0$, and $x = 1/2$, $z = 1/2$ (Figs. 1, 3, and 4). In these cavities at least some of the ten missing water molecules per unit cell might be occluded. As the 2366 measured intensities should suffice to determine even their positions if they were ordered, they are assumed to be disordered.^{11,2,3} These disordered water molecules most probably interact *via* hydrogen bonds with the rest of the structure.

The variation of the unit cell dimensions. In each unit cell of the triclinic Ce–Dy compounds there are two tris(dipicolinato) complexes stacked along the c axis. Hence, the decrease in the cell edges a and b between cerium and dysprosium may be compared with the decrease in $c/2$. This is done in Fig. 5 where the quantities

$$p(M) = r(\text{Ce}) + q(M) - q(\text{Ce}) \quad (1)$$

for the different triclinic lanthanoid dipicolinates represented by M are plotted *versus* the crystal radii for the lanthanoid ions.¹² In eqn. (1) q represents a , b , $c/2$, or $(V/Z)^{1/3}$. Due to the approximately parallel decrease in a , b , and $c/2$ it should be possible to use $(V/Z)^{1/3}$ as a "mean parameter" when the shrinking dimensions of the unit cell are compared with the lanthanoid contraction. Z is the number of lanthanoid ions per unit cell.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS WORK

In this section the result of the present investigation of NDP are compared with those previously reported for the ytterbium dipicolinate compounds $\text{Na}_3[\text{Yb}(\text{C}_7\text{H}_2\text{NO}_4)_3] \cdot 14\text{H}_2\text{O}$, ORTYBDIPIC,¹ $\text{Na}_3[\text{Yb}(\text{C}_7\text{H}_3\text{NO}_4)_3] \cdot 13\text{H}_2\text{O}$, MONYBDIPIC,² and $\text{Na}_3[\text{Yb}(\text{C}_7\text{H}_3\text{NO}_4)_3] \cdot \text{NaClO}_4 \cdot 10\text{H}_2\text{O}$, HEXYBDIPIC.³ Due to the above mentioned similarity between the dipicolinate and oxydiacetate (or diglycolate) ions, it is convenient to include the lanthanoid oxydiacetate compounds $\text{Na}_3[\text{M}(\text{C}_4\text{H}_4\text{O}_5)_3] \cdot 2\text{NaClO}_4 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$, $M = \text{Nd}$ (NDG) and Yb (YDG), in the comparison.⁵ The structures of the latter two compounds have been investigated using a single crystal diffractometer while the structures of the four dipicolinates are based on photographic intensity data.

All the six compounds contain mononuclear tris-complexes. These complexes are located in parallel layers alternating with layers containing the sodium ions and water molecules. The lanthanoid coordination polyhedra are distorted versions of the tri-capped trigonal prism, *i.e.*, the idealised ground geometry for nine-coordination.¹³ The lanthanoid ions in HEXYBDIPIC, NDG, and YDG have the point symmetry $\bar{3}2$ (D_3). The distortion from the idealised geometry of the complexes is, in these cases, a rotation of the triangular faces of the prism relative each other. The point symmetry of the lanthanoid ions in NDP, ORTYBDIPIC, and MONYBDIPIC is approximately $\bar{3}2$. Besides the rotation, the triangular faces of the prism are slightly tilted in these latter compounds. The lanthanoid ion is in or very near the equatorial plane of all the six coordination polyhedra. Both ligands are approximately planar. The lanthanoid ion is also in or very near these planes except in MONYBDIPIC in which case the ytterbium ion deviates up to 0.6 Å from them.

Table 7 gives a survey of the coordination and "contact" distances in the six lanthanoid coordination polyhedra. The average decrease in both the M–O and M–N bond lengths between the neodymium and ytterbium dipicolinates is 0.14 Å. The corresponding decrease in the crystal radius of the lanthanoid ions is 0.137 Å. On the other hand the decrease in the M–O bond distances between NDG and YDG is 0.090 Å. The structures of the oxydiacetate compounds are more accurately determined than those of the dipicolinates. There is also a large spread in the M–O and M–N bond distances in the latter compounds. In view of these facts one should not yet rule out the possibility that the contraction of the lanthanoid coordination polyhedra in the dipicolinates is similar to the corresponding contraction in the oxydiacetates.

The coordination polyhedra in the ytterbium dipicolinate complexes appear to be not much affected by the different surroundings of the complex in the three structures. This corroborates further the assumption that the mononuclear tris(dipicolinato)- as well as the tris(oxydiacetato)lanthanoidate complexes are exposed only to weak interactions in their solid sodium salts and have almost the same structure there as in solution. The O–O and N–O distances in the ytterbium coordination polyhedra indicate van der Waals

Table 7. Coordination and "contact" distances (Å) in the lanthanoid coordination polyhedra in some sodium salts formed with the tris(dipicolinato)- and tris(oxydiacetato)lanthanoidate complexes.

Compound	M–O		M–N		O–O		O–N	
	range	average	range	average	range	average	range	average
NDP	2.37–2.61	2.49	2.57–2.59	2.58	2.99–3.06	3.01	3.00–3.35	3.15
ORTYBDIPIC ¹	2.33–2.34	2.33	2.33–2.41	2.38	2.87–2.92	2.89	2.76–2.84	2.80
MONYBDIPIC ²	2.34–2.43	2.36	2.50–2.53	2.51	2.88–3.01	2.94	2.72–3.14	2.90
HEXYBDIPIC ³	2.38	2.38	2.43	2.43	2.96	2.96	2.88	2.88
NDG ⁵	2.428–2.523	2.476	—	—	3.026	3.026	—	—
YDG ⁵	2.339–2.431	2.385	—	—	2.851–2.924	2.888	—	—

Table 8. A comparison of the bond distances (Å) in the dipicolinate ion obtained from some of its metal complexes.

Compound	C–N		C–C (pyridine)		C–C (carboxylate)		C–O	
	range	average	range	average	range	average	range	average
Ca(C ₇ H ₃ NO ₄) ₃ ·3H ₂ O ¹⁶	1.33–1.34	1.33	1.37–1.40	1.39	1.50–1.51	1.50	1.24–1.26	1.25
VO(C ₇ H ₃ NO ₄) ₄ ·4H ₂ O ¹⁷	1.29	1.29	1.39–1.42	1.40	1.53	1.53	1.24–1.26	1.25
Ag(C ₇ H ₄ NO ₄) ₂ ·H ₂ O ¹⁸	1.32–1.36	1.34	1.37–1.39	1.38	1.49–1.53	1.51	1.18–1.32	1.26
ORTYBDIPIC ¹	1.35–1.42	1.39	1.30–1.47	1.36	1.51–1.63	1.58	1.20–1.28	1.25
MONYBDIPIC ²	1.23–1.41	1.32	1.32–1.52	1.41	1.44–1.57	1.53	1.23–1.32	1.28
HEXYBDIPIC ³	1.34	1.34	1.37–1.40	1.39	1.49	1.49	1.23–1.25	1.24
NDP	1.28–1.45	1.32	1.28–1.49	1.40	1.48–1.60	1.54	1.12–1.39	1.27

contacts between these atoms.¹⁴ As discussed before,^{1,5} such contacts should impose a steric hindrance for the formation of the third dipicolinate and oxydiacetate complexes with the heaviest lanthanoid ions. In solution such an increasing difficulty has been observed for the elements dysprosium through lutetium.¹⁵

In view of the composition of the dipicolinate ion, it would be expected to behave as a rigid body in its various compounds. In Table 8 the interatomic distances obtained for the dipicolinate ion in the investigated lanthanoid compounds are compared with those reported in the literature. Even if the variations between the individual "lanthanoid" distances are fairly large, the average values are in good agreement with the literature data.

It is the angles including the carboxylate atoms in the dipicolinate ion that may be changed. Small differences of the ligand conformation are actually found between the investigated compounds. The carboxylate groups are sometimes slightly twisted out of the plane of the pyridine ring and in some cases the C-COO groups are bent. Strahs and Dickerson¹⁶ and Bersted *et al.*¹⁷ report that the angles N-C-C(carboxylate) are significantly less than 120° due to attraction of the carboxylate group to the central ions of the complexes,¹⁶ but in the lanthanoid compounds, with the possible exception of ORTYB-DIPIC, no clear-cut evidence for this is obtained. The carboxylate C-O distances are reported as equal within the limits of error with a value near 1.25 Å, except in Ag(C₇H₄NO₄)₂·H₂O where the carboxylic acid hydrogens seem to cause a disparity of the C-O bond lengths.¹⁸

The N-O distances between the coordinated atoms in each dipicolinate ion (*i.e.*, the ligand bites) are not appreciably different in the four lanthanoid compounds. The average value is 2.60 Å. Due to the small changes of the ligand conformation the distances between the two coordinated carboxylate oxygens in each dipicolinate ion, on the other hand, seem to decrease somewhat between the neodymium and ytterbium compounds. The average distance is 4.41 Å in NDP and 4.28 Å in the ytterbium dipicolinates. A similar behaviour is found for the ligand in the oxydiacetate compounds. The O-O bites decrease only from 2.582 to 2.546 Å between NDG and YDG, while the distance between the two carboxylate oxygen atoms decreases from 4.320 to 4.222 Å.

The variation of the unit cell dimensions of the triclinic lanthanoid dipicolinates is illustrated in Fig. 5. The contraction between the cerium and dysprosium compounds described by the parameter $(V/Z)^{1/3}$ may be compared with the corresponding quantity for the lanthanoid oxydiacetates (*cf.* Ref. 5). Both series of compounds show the same decrease in $(V/Z)^{1/3}$, slightly less than the decrease in crystal radius. The oxydiacetates are isostructural for all lanthanoid ions. For the heaviest ions the decrease in $(V/Z)^{1/3}$ is appreciably smaller than the decrease in crystal radius. In Ref. 5 this trend in $(V/Z)^{1/3}$ through the lanthanoid series is given the following interpretation. The sodium coordination and hydrogen bonding in the oxydiacetates obstruct the contraction imposed on the structure by the shrinking complex ion. These counteracting forces are increased for the heaviest central ions by van der Waals repulsions between the oxygen atoms coordinated to the lanthanoid ions.

In the case of the lanthanoid dipicolinates there is a phase change at dysprosium. If sodium perchlorate is present in the mother liquor the hexagonal

HEXYBDIPIC phase is formed for the lanthanoids Ho–Lu. In absence of sodium perchlorate the monoclinic MONYBDIPIC phase is formed for the elements Ho–Yb and the orthorhombic ORTYBDIPIC phase for Yb and Lu. Within the limits of error, no contraction of the monoclinic unit cell is found between Ho and Tm, while the hexagonal unit cell dimensions decrease from Ho to Lu. Most probably there are van der Waals repulsions between the atoms coordinated to the lanthanoid ions in the tris(dipicolinato) complexes formed with the heaviest lanthanoids (*cf.* Refs. 1–3). In spite of this the actual contractions of the unit cells seem essentially to depend upon the sodium coordination and hydrogen bonding (including bonds with disordered water molecules) in the structures.

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