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# Tris[(1,2,3-η)-1-ethylindenyl]methylthorium(IV)

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## Abstract

The asymmetric unit contains two mononuclear molecules. The coordination around each Th atom is a slightly distorted tetrahedron with three  $\pi$ -bonded indenyl rings and one  $\sigma$ -bonded methyl ligand. Th-C(indenyl) distances range from 2.69 (2) to 3.04 (2) Å and indicate a trihapto mode of bonding of the indenyl rings (through the outer, non-bridging C atoms) as previously observed in other tris-(indenyl) complexes of thorium and uranium. The Th-C bonds to ethyl-substituted indenyl C atoms [2.83 (2)-2.94 (3) Å] are longer than the other Th-C(non-bridging) bonds [2.69 (2)-2.78 (2) Å]. Th-C(methyl) distances average 2.49 (3) Å. In one molecule each CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub> bond is approximately normal to the plane of the indenyl ring to which it is attached, while in the other molecule only two of the ethylindenyl ligands adopt this conformation; in the third ligand, the ethyl group lies in the plane of the indenyl ring. The crystal is stabilized by van der Waals interactions.

## Comment

The characterization and crystal-structure analysis of the title compound by single-crystal X-ray diffraction forms part of our investigations on the bonding and stereochemistry in organoactinide complexes of the indenyl ligand. Structural data for several tris(indenyl) and tris(methylindenyl) complexes of thorium-(IV) and uranium(IV) have been reported:  $[U(C_9H_7)_3Cl]$  (Burns & Laubereau, 1971),  $[U(C_9H_7)_3-Br]$  (Spirlet, Rebizant & Goffart, 1987),  $[U(C_9H_7)_3I]$ (Rebizant, Spirlet, Van den Bossche & Goffart,

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1988),  $[Th(C_{12}H_{13})_3Cl]$  (Spirlet, Rebizant & Goffart, 1982),  $[U(C_{12}H_{13})_3Cl]$  (Meunier-Piret & Van Meerssche, 1984); but only one (ethylindenyl) complex is known: the chloro complex  $[Th(C_{11}H_{11})_3Cl]$ (Spirlet, Rebizant, Bettonville & Goffart, 1990). The title complex,  $[Th(C_{11}H_{11})_3CH_3]$ , is the corresponding methyl derivative. It was prepared by reaction of chlorotris(ethylindenyl)thorium,  $[Th(C_{11}H_{11})_3Cl]$ , with methyllithium in tetrahydrofuran at 195 K with recrystallization from tetrahydrofuran. A selected single crystal was sealed in a thin-walled glass capillary under an inert atmosphere.



Fig. 1. The structures of the two independent molecular units with the atom-numbering scheme. Note the different orientation of one ethyl substituent in the Th2 molecule. Displacement ellipsoids enclose 30% probability.

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Fig. 2. The crystal packing; c is horizontal from left to right, b is vertical.

The structures of the two molecular units are illustrated in Fig. 1. The packing is illustrated in Fig. 2. The distortion of the coordination polyhedron is reflected by the angles subtended at the Th atom. The different orientations of the ethyl substituents with respect to the indenyl rings are shown by the torsion angles reported in Table 2.

## **Experimental**

 $\omega$ -2 $\theta$  scans

Crystal data	
[Th(C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>11</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> ] $M_r = 676.7$ Monoclinic $P2_1/c$ a = 9.914 (3) Å b = 30.95 (1) Å c = 18.145 (5) Å $\beta = 95.2139$ (4)° V = 5554 (6) Å <sup>3</sup> Z = 8 $D_x = 1.618$ Mg m <sup>-3</sup> Mo $K\alpha$ radiation	$\lambda = 0.71069 \text{ Å}$ Cell parameters from 25 reflections $\theta = 8-22^{\circ}$ $\mu = 5.570 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ $T = 298 \text{ K}$ Prismatic $0.4 \times 0.3 \times 0.3 \text{ mm}$ Brown Crystal source: [Th(C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>11</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> Cl] + MeLi in thf at 195 K
Data collection	
Enraf-Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer $\omega - 2\theta$ scans	3289 observed reflections $[I > 3\sigma(I)]$ $\theta_{\text{max}} = 22.5^{\circ}$

Absorption correction:	$h = 0 \rightarrow 10$
empirical, using a set of	$k = 0 \rightarrow 33$
reflections with $\chi$ values	$l = -19 \rightarrow 19$
close to 90°	3 standard reflections
$T_{\min} = 88.50, T_{\max} =$	frequency: 30 min
99.95%	intensity variation:
6980 measured reflections	<0.02%
6980 independent reflections	

#### Refinement

Refinement on F	$\Delta \rho_{\rm max}$ = 2.35 e Å <sup>-3</sup>
Final $R = 0.053$	$\Delta \rho_{\rm min} = -1.51 \ {\rm e} \ {\rm \AA}^{-3}$
wR = 0.068	Extinction correction: $F_c$ =
S = 1.595	$F_c/[1+g(F_c)^2 \text{Lp}]$
3289 reflections	Extinction coefficient: $g =$
292 parameters	$2.71 \times 10^{-5}$
H atoms not included	Atomic scattering factors
$w = 1/[\sigma(F_o)]^2 \left\{ \sigma(F_o) = \right\}$	for X-ray Crystallogra-
$\sigma(F_o^2)/2F_o; \ \sigma(F_o^2) =$	phy (1974, Vol. IV) (also
$[\sigma(l) - (0.07l)^2]^{1/2}/Lp\}$	for anomalous-dispersion
$(\Delta/\sigma)_{\rm max} = 0.01$	corrections)

## Table 1. Fractional atomic coordinates and isotropic or equivalent isotropic thermal parameters $(Å^2)$

Only the Th1 a	and Th2 atoms	were refined	anisotropically,	for which
	$U_{aa} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}$	$\sum \sum U_{i}a^*a^*$	a, a,	

$U_{eq} = \frac{1}{3} \sum_i \sum_j U_{ij} a_i^+ a_j^+ \mathbf{a}_i \cdot \mathbf{a}_j.$				
	x	y	z	$U/U_{ea}$
Thl	-0.17026 (9)	0.16406 (3)	0.74886 (5)	2.80 (2)
Th2	-0.29769 (9)	0.05920 (3)	0.21755 (5)	2.48 (2)
C1	-0.418 (3)	0.1363 (9)	0.660 (2)	5.0 (7)
C2	-0.307 (2)	0.1138 (9)	0.644 (1)	4.3 (6)
C3	-0.261 (2)	0.0849 (7)	0.706 (1)	2.7 (5)
C4	-0.372 (2)	0.0721 (8)	0.831(1)	3.5 (5)
C5	-0.480 (3)	0.0857 (9)	0.865 (2)	4.9 (6)
C6	-0.572 (3)	0.1138 (9)	0.840 (2)	5.4 (7)
C7	-0.560 (3)	0.137(1)	0.774 (2)	5.7 (7)
C8	-0.443 (2)	0.1237 (7)	0.733(1)	2.7 (5)
C9	-0.355 (2)	0.0915 (8)	0.761 (1)	3.7 (6)
C10	-0.245 (2)	0.2104 (8)	0.873 (1)	3.2 (5)
C11	-0.273 (2)	0.1659 (8)	0.886(1)	3.1 (5)
C12	-0.144 (2)	0.1453 (8)	0.898(1)	3.7 (6)
C13	0.108 (3)	0.173 (1)	0.919 (2)	6.0 (8)
C14	0.179 (3)	0.213(1)	0.920 (2)	7.1 (8)
C15	0.119 (3)	0.250(1)	0.902 (2)	5.4 (7)
C16	-0.009(3)	0.2551 (9)	0.882 (2)	5.1 (7)
C17	-0.107 (3)	0.2181 (9)	0.882(1)	5.2 (7)
C18	-0.039 (3)	0.1767 (8)	0.898 (1)	4.5 (6)
C19	0.043 (2)	0.2057 (8)	0.682 (1)	4.1 (6)
C20	0.102 (3)	0.1787 (8)	0.739(1)	4.4 (6)
C21	0.081 (2)	0.1358 (7)	0.730 (1)	3.1 (5)
C22	0.012 (3)	0.0925 (9)	0.608 (2)	5.5 (7)
C23	-0.041 (3)	0.098(1)	0.537 (2)	7.0 (9)
C24	-0.070(3)	0.141 (1)	0.505 (2)	6.1 (8)
C25	-0.055 (3)	0.1768 (9)	0.547 (7)	5.4 (7)
C26	0.001 (2)	0.1715 (8)	0.623 (1)	4.0 (6)
C27	0.034 (2)	0.1308 (8)	0.655 (1)	3.7 (6)
C28	-0.252 (2)	0.1085 (8)	0.087(1)	3.4 (5)
C29	-0.214 (2)	0.0651 (7)	0.078 (1)	3.1 (5)
C30	-0.326 (2)	0.0380 (8)	0.072 (1)	3.5 (5)
C31	-0.592 (3)	0.0553 (9)	0.057 (1)	4.7 (6)
C32	-0.669 (3)	0.0917 (9)	0.053 (2)	5.4 (7)
C33	-0.631 (2)	0.1342 (8)	0.066(1)	3.4 (5)
C34	-0.490 (3)	0.144 (1)	0.081 (2)	5.5 (7)
C35	-0.397(2)	0.1084 (8)	0.082 (1)	3.0 (5)
C36	-0.445 (2)	0.0663 (8)	0.071 (1)	4.0 (6)
C37	-0.041 (2)	0.0343 (7)	0.293 (1)	2.4 (5)
C38	-0.144 (2)	0.0114 (8)	0.319(1)	3.4 (5)
C39	-0.196 (2)	-0.0191 (8)	0.263 (1)	3.4 (5)

C40	-0.121 (2)	-0.0411 (9)	0.136(1)	4.3 (6)
C41	-0.016 (3)	-0.0302 (8)	0.093 (1)	4.3 (6)
C42	0.082 (2)	0.0013 (8)	0.109(1)	3.6 (6)
C43	0.088 (2)	0.0266 (8)	0.171 (1)	3.9 (6)
C44	-0.018 (2)	0.0189 (8)	0.221 (1)	3.6 (5)
C45	-0.118 (2)	-0.0156 (7)	0.202 (1)	3.1 (5)
C46	-0.494 (2)	0.1011 (8)	0.297(1)	3.5 (5)
C47	-0.563 (2)	0.0801 (8)	0.236 (1)	3.8 (6)
C48	-0.552 (2)	0.0345 (7)	0.248 (1)	2.6 (5)
C49	-0.449 (2)	-0.0103 (8)	0.365 (1)	3.9 (6)
C50	-0.392 (2)	-0.0054 (8)	0.438 (1)	3.3 (5)
C51	-0.353 (2)	0.0361 (9)	0.464 (1)	4.2 (6)
C52	-0.380 (2)	0.0747 (8)	0.425 (1)	3.3 (5)
C53	-0.447 (2)	0.0716 (8)	0.349 (1)	3.6 (5)
C54	-0.485 (2)	0.0249 (8)	0.320(1)	3.7 (6)
C55	-0.276 (3)	0.231 (1)	0.694 (2)	5.6 (7)
C56	-0.190 (3)	0.1277 (9)	0.266 (1)	4.6 (6)
C1′	-0.497 (3)	0.1693 (9)	0.610 (2)	5.4 (7)
C1″	-0.624 (3)	0.140 (1)	0.569 (2)	8.0 (9)
C10′	-0.349 (3)	0.246 (1)	0.869 (2)	5.3 (7)
C10″	-0.392 (3)	0.258 (1)	0.946 (2)	8.2 (9)
C19′	0.054 (3)	0.252 (1)	0.664 (2)	5.5 (7)
C19″	0.201 (4)	0.263 (1)	0.645 (2)	11 (1)
C28′	-0.159 (2)	0.1467 (8)	0.087 (1)	3.6 (5)
C28″	-0.014 (3)	0.137 (1)	0.094 (2)	5.8 (7)
C37′	0.054 (3)	0.0620 (9)	0.336 (2)	5.0 (6)
C37″	0.175 (3)	0.040(1)	0.382 (2)	6.7 (8)
C46′	-0.502 (3)	0.150(1)	0.305 (2)	6.3 (8)
C46″	-0.636 (4)	0.166 (1)	0.331 (2)	9 (1)

# Table 2. Selected distances (Å), angles (°) and torsion angles (°)

Ind. denotes the centroid of the five-membered indenyl ring

Molecule Th1-C55	Th1 2.48 (3)			
Ind. I Th1C1 Th1C2 Th1C3 Th1C8 Th1C9	2.94 (3) 2.73 (2) 2.70 (2) 2.97 (2) 2.92 (2)	Ind. II Th1C10 Th1C11 Th1C12 Th1C17 Th1C18	2.83 (2) 2.78 (2) 2.77 (2) 2.96 (3) 2.92 (3)	Ind. III Th1C19 2.84 (3) Th1C20 2.76 (3) Th1C21 2.69 (2) Th1C26 2.98 (3) Th1C27 2.95 (2)
Thl—Ind. I	2.59 (3)	Th-Ind. II	2.58 (3)	Th—Ind. III 2.58 (3)
C55—Th1—I C55—Th1—I C55—Th1—I	nd. I nd. II nd. III	98.0 (8) 100.1 (8) 99.4 (8)	Ind. I—Th1—Ind Ind. I—Th1—Ind Ind. II—Th1—Ind	d. II 116.0 (7) d. III 118.0 (7) nd. III 118.6 (7)
Ind. I C8—C1—C1 C2—C1—C1	′—C1″ ′—C1″	- 85 (3) 96 (3)		
Ind. II C17—C10—C C11—C10—C	C10′—C10″ C10′—C10″	90 (3) 75 (3)		
Ind. III C26—C19—( C20—C19—(	C19'—C19'' C19'—C19''	- 90 (3) 65 (4)		
Molecule	Th2			
Th2	2.50 (3)			
Ind. I Th2C28 Th2C29 Th2C30 Th2C35 Th2C36	2.89 (2) 2.74 (2) 2.72 (2) 2.98 (2) 2.92 (2)	Ind. II Th2—C37 Th2—C38 Th2—C39 Th2—C44 Th2—C45	2.89 (2) 2.72 (2) 2.72 (2) 3.04 (2) 2.95 (2)	Ind. III Th2—C46 2.84 (2) Th2—C47 2.76 (2) Th2—C48 2.73 (2) Th2—C53 2.96 (3) Th2—C54 2.95 (2)
Th2-Ind. I	2.58 (2)	Th2—Ind. I	1 2.60 (2)	Th2—Ind. III 2.57 (3)
C56—Th2—1 C56—Th2—1 C56—Th2—1	Ind. I Ind. II Ind. III	99.7 (8) 98.8 (7) 97.3 (8)	Ind. I—Th2—In Ind. I—Th2—In Ind. II—Th2—I	d. II 116.1 (6) d. III 118.1 (7) nd. III 119.3 (6)
Ind. I C35—C28— C29—C28—	C28'—C28'' C28'—C28''	179 (3) - 13 (3)		•
Ind. II C44—C37—4 C38—C37—4	C37'—C37'' C37'—C37''	- 83 (3) 81 (3)		

Ind. III C53-C46-C46'-C46'' - 88 (3) C47-C46-C46'-C46'' 77 (3)

Space group  $P2_1/c$  was indicated by the systematic absences. Data were corrected for Lp effects. The structure was solved by direct methods and subsequent  $\Delta \rho$  maps. The maximum and minimum excursions of density in the final difference map were close to the Th atom. Refinement was performed by full-matrix least-squares techniques. Only the thermal motions of the Th atoms were refined. H atoms were not included in the refinement. Computer programs used were from the Enraf-Nonius (1986) *SDP*, including *ORTEPII* (Johnson, 1976).

Lists of structure factors, anisotropic thermal parameters and complete geometry have been deposited with the British Library Document Supply Centre as Supplementary Publication No. SUP 55908 (28 pp.). Copies may be obtained through The Technical Editor, International Union of Crystallography, 5 Abbey Square, Chester CH1 2HU, England. [CIF reference: MU1017]

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# Structure of [Cu<sub>2</sub>(dmpe)<sub>3</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>]<sub>n</sub>.2CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>

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## Abstract

Recrystallization of the product obtained from the reaction of copper(I) acetate and 1,2-bis(dimethylphosphino)ethane (dmpe) from methylene chloride and hexane resulted in the formation of the air-stable colorless polymeric compound *catena*-poly[(chlorocopper)-bis- $\mu$ -{1,2-

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