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## Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study  
 $T = 292\text{ K}$   
Mean  $\sigma(\text{C}-\text{C}) = 0.004\text{ \AA}$   
Disorder in solvent or counterion  
 $R$  factor = 0.031  
 $wR$  factor = 0.073  
Data-to-parameter ratio = 14.9For details of how these key indicators were  
automatically derived from the article, see  
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.Tris(dimethylammonium) tris(pyridine-  
2,6-dicarboxylato- $\kappa^3\text{N},\text{O},\text{O}'$ )europate(III)  
dihydrate

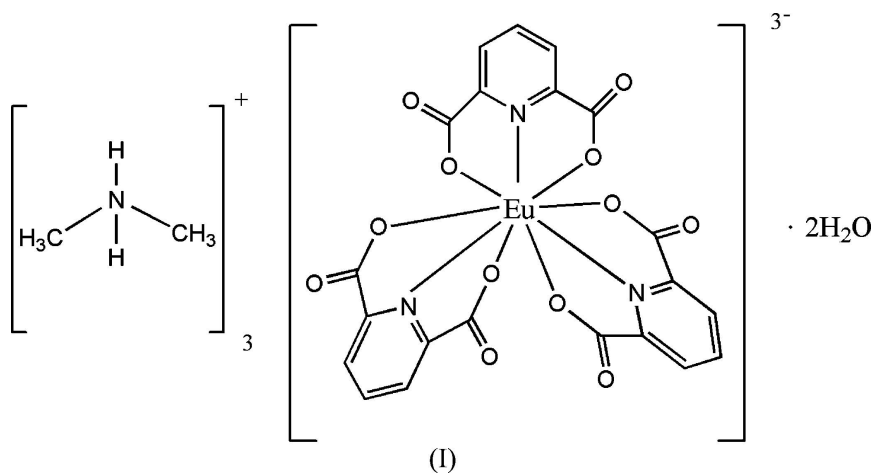
In the title compound,  $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_8\text{N})_3[\text{Eu}(\text{C}_7\text{H}_3\text{NO}_4)_3]\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , the complex anion lies on a crystallographic twofold rotation axis and the  $\text{Eu}^{\text{III}}$  atom is coordinated by three N and six O atoms from three pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylate ligands, forming a distorted tricapped trigonal prismatic geometry. Dimethylammonium cations and non-coordinated water molecules show positional disorder. The crystal structure is stabilized by intermolecular  $\text{N}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  and  $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  hydrogen bonds.

Received 14 June 2006

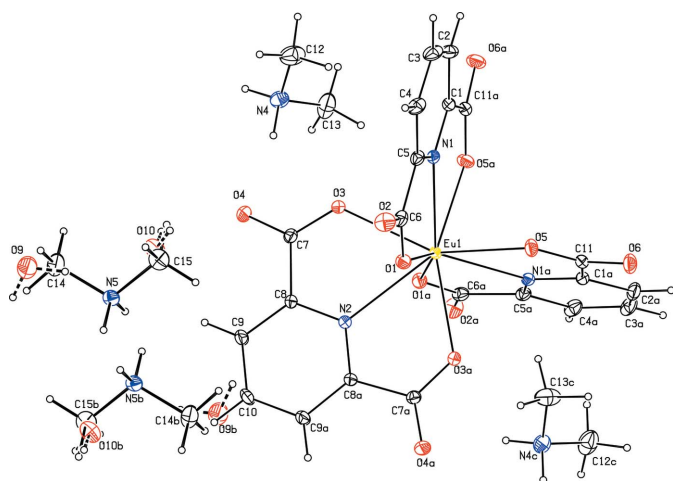
Accepted 4 July 2006

## Comment

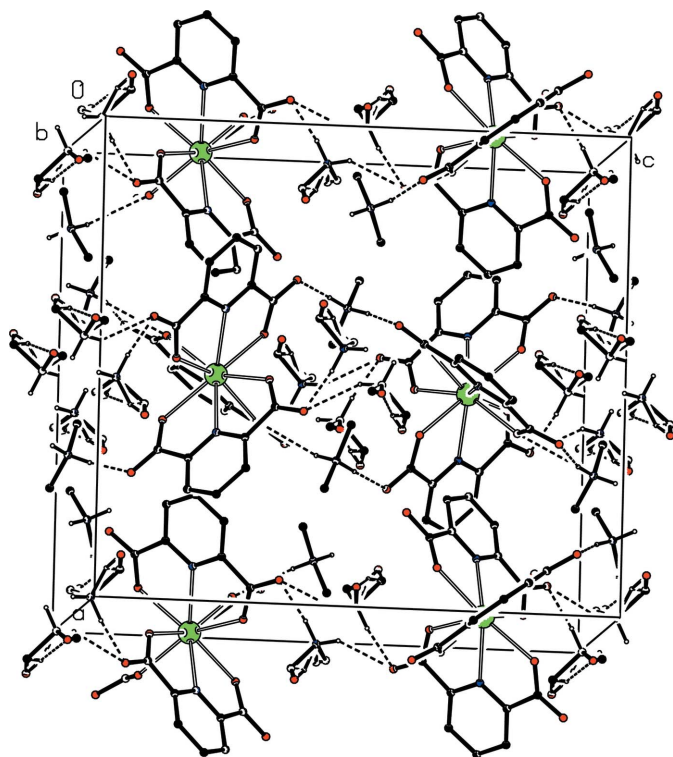
The crystal structure of complexes containing the pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylate (DPC)  $\text{Eu}^{\text{III}}$  anion, *viz.*  $\text{Na}_3[\text{Eu}(\text{DPC})_3]\cdot 14\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (Li *et al.*, 1993) and  $\text{Cs}_3[\text{Eu}(\text{DPC})_3]\cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (Brayshaw *et al.*, 1995), have been reported previously and its fluorescence has been studied (Yi *et al.*, 2002). We report here the structure of the title compound, (I), which was obtained unexpectedly by hydrothermal synthesis.



The molecular structure of (I) is shown in Fig. 1. There is a crystallographic twofold rotation axis passing through atoms Eu, N2 and C10. The  $\text{Eu}^{\text{III}}$  atom exists in a distorted tricapped trigonal prismatic coordination environment, defined by three N and six O atoms from three pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylate ligands. The  $\text{Eu}-\text{N}$  and  $\text{Eu}-\text{O}$  bond lengths (Table 1) are in good agreement with those reported for similar complexes (Li *et al.*, 1993; Brayshaw *et al.*, 1995). There are one and a half dimethylammonium cations in the asymmetric unit. The N5/C14/C15 cation is disordered over an inversion center, and the position is shared by two water molecules (O9 and O10), each with half-occupancy. Cations and anions are connected through  $\text{N}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  hydrogen bonds (Table 2). There are also  $\text{O}-\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$  hydrogen bonds involving the non-coordinated



**Figure 1**  
The structure of (I), showing the atom-numbering scheme. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 20% probability level. Water molecules and one of the cations are disordered and occupy the same position with an occupancy of 0.5. [Symmetry codes: (a)  $1 - x, y, \frac{3}{2} - z$ ; (b)  $1 - x, -y, 1 - z$ ; (c)  $1 - x, y, \frac{3}{2} - z$ ].



**Figure 2**  
A view of the hydrogen bonding (dashed lines) in (I). H atoms have been omitted unless they are involved in hydrogen bonds.

water molecules. Intermolecular hydrogen bonds give rise to a two-dimensional network (Fig. 2).

### Experimental

The title compound, (I), was obtained unexpectedly. A mixture of  $\text{Eu}(\text{NO}_3)_3$ , HL [HL is bis(salicylaldehyde) 2,6-dipicolinoyl-hydrazone],  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and dimethylformamide (DMF) in a 1:2.5:50:50

molar ratio was stirred for 2 h at 353 K, sealed in a 15 ml Teflon-lined stainless steel bomb, kept at 453 K for 96 h, and then cooled slowly to ambient temperature. Colorless block-shaped crystals formed by slow evaporation of the solvent at room temperature over approximately two weeks. X-ray crystal analysis of (I) revealed the unexpected structure, suggesting that pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylic acid and dimethylamine were produced by decomposition of HL and DMF, respectively.

### Crystal data

$(\text{C}_2\text{H}_8\text{N})[\text{Eu}(\text{C}_7\text{H}_3\text{NO}_4)_3] \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$   
 $M_r = 821.59$   
 Orthorhombic, *Pbcn*  
 $a = 16.9780$  (13) Å  
 $b = 10.7099$  (8) Å  
 $c = 18.6170$  (14) Å  
 $V = 3385.2$  (4) Å<sup>3</sup>

$Z = 4$   
 $D_x = 1.612$  Mg m<sup>-3</sup>  
 Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 $\mu = 1.93$  mm<sup>-1</sup>  
 $T = 292$  (2) K  
 Block, colorless  
 $0.30 \times 0.20 \times 0.20$  mm

### Data collection

Bruker SMART CCD area-detector diffractometer  
 $\varphi$  and  $\omega$  scans  
 Absorption correction: multi-scan (SHELXTL; Bruker, 2001)  
 $T_{\min} = 0.596, T_{\max} = 0.699$   
 19609 measured reflections  
 3695 independent reflections  
 2746 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.070$   
 $\theta_{\text{max}} = 27.0^\circ$

### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.031$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.073$   
 $S = 0.99$   
 3695 reflections  
 248 parameters  
 H-atom parameters constrained  
 $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0383P)^2]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\text{max}} = 0.003$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.40$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>  
 $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -1.18$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>

**Table 1**

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

Eu1—O5	2.442 (2)	Eu1—N1	2.535 (2)
Eu1—O3	2.4456 (18)	Eu1—N2	2.540 (3)
Eu1—O1	2.4667 (19)		
O5—Eu1—O5 <sup>i</sup>	87.08 (11)	O5—Eu1—O1 <sup>i</sup>	126.71 (6)
O5—Eu1—O3	148.78 (6)	O3—Eu1—O1 <sup>i</sup>	77.35 (7)
O5 <sup>i</sup> —Eu1—O3	78.27 (7)	O5—Eu1—O1	78.36 (7)
O3—Eu1—O3 <sup>i</sup>	126.56 (8)	O3—Eu1—O1	88.48 (7)

Symmetry code: (i)  $-x + 1, y, -z + \frac{3}{2}$ .

**Table 2**

Hydrogen-bond geometry (Å, °).

<i>D</i> —H... <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> —H	H... <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> ... <i>A</i>	<i>D</i> —H... <i>A</i>
N4—H4A...O3	0.90	2.43	3.118 (3)	134
N4—H4A...O4	0.90	1.91	2.785 (3)	163
N4—H4B...O2 <sup>ii</sup>	0.90	1.82	2.710 (4)	170
N5—H5A...O6 <sup>ii</sup>	0.90	1.73	2.625 (5)	172
N5—H5B...O6 <sup>iii</sup>	0.90	2.20	2.949 (5)	140
O9—H9B...O10	0.86	2.08	2.90 (1)	161
O10—H10A...O5 <sup>ii</sup>	0.83	2.22	2.97 (2)	151
O10—H10B...O4	0.82	2.39	3.15 (1)	153

Symmetry codes: (ii)  $x, -y + 1, z - \frac{1}{2}$ ; (iii)  $-x + 1, y - 1, -z + \frac{3}{2}$ .

Two water molecules (O9 and O10) and two methyl groups of one of the cations (N5/C14/C15) occupy nearly the same positions, and are disordered with an occupancy of 0.5, close to an inversion center. H atoms attached to C and N atoms were refined using a riding

model, with C–H = 0.93–0.96 Å, N–H = 0.90 Å and  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.2U_{\text{eq}}(\text{C,N})$  or  $1.5U_{\text{eq}}(\text{methyl C})$ . The H atoms of water molecules were located in difference maps, and refined with the constraints O–H = 0.82–0.86 Å, H··H = 1.35 Å and  $U_{\text{iso}}(\text{H}) = 1.5U_{\text{eq}}(\text{O})$ . The deepest hole is located near atom Eu1.

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 2001); cell refinement: *SAINTPlus* (Bruker, 2001); data reduction: *SAINTPlus*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXS97* (Sheldrick, 1997); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL97* (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *SHELXTL* (Bruker, 2001); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXTL*.

We thank Dr Yunfeng Chen (Central China Normal University) for helpful discussions. This work was supported

by the Hubei Education Government of China (grant No. 20040131).

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