## JOM 23444

# Synthesis and crystal structure of $[(Me_4C_2Cp_2SmCl \cdot MgCl_2 \cdot 3THF)THF]_2$

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## Abstract

 $[(Me_4C_2Cp_2SmCl \cdot MgCl_2 \cdot 3THF)THF]_2$  was prepared by the reaction of  $Me_4C_2Cp_2MgCl_2 \cdot 4THF$  (Cp = C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, THF = tetrahydrofuran) with SmCl<sub>3</sub> in THF. The crystals belong to triclinic space group  $P\overline{1}$  with a 12.149(3), b 13.187(4), c 13.810(5) Å,  $\alpha$  117.23(2),  $\beta$  94.07(2),  $\gamma$  62.86(2)°, V = 1723.9(1.0) Å<sup>3</sup>. In the molecular structure of the title compound there is a symmetrical centre and a quadrilateral formed by Sm, Mg, Cl<sub>1</sub>, Cl<sub>2</sub> atoms. Two centroids of the cyclopentadienyls, bridged by a tetramethylethano group form with three bridging chlorine atoms (Cl<sub>1</sub>, Cl<sub>2</sub>, Cl<sub>1a</sub>) a pseudo-trigonal bipyramid around Sm. Three oxygen atoms of THF and three chlorine atoms (Cl<sub>1</sub>, Cl<sub>2</sub>, Cl<sub>3</sub>) constitute a distorted octahedron around Mg.

#### 1. Introduction

In order to prevent the disproportionation of bis (cyclopentadienyl) lighter lanthanide chlorides the bridged bis(cyclopentadienyl) group is customarily used as a ligand [1–3]. However, a few crystal structures of lanthanide compounds bearing bridged bis(cyclopentadienyl) ligand such as  $(Me_2SiCp_2NdCl)_2Cl^-Li^+$  (thf)<sub>2</sub> [4],  $Me_2SiCp_2NdCH(SiMe_3)_2$  [4],  $(CH_2)_3Cp_2$ -Yb(thf)<sub>2</sub> [5],  $(Me_4C_2Cp_2YbCl_2)^-(Mg_2Cl_3 \cdot 6THF)^+$  [6],  $Me_4C_2Cp_2SmC_5H_5$  [7] and  $[IMe_4C_2Cp_2SmCl \cdot THF]_2$  [8] have been reported. Here we report the synthesis and crystal structure of a new type of tetramethyl-ethano-bridged bis(cyclopentadienyl)samarium chloride.

### 2. Experimental section

### 2.1. Preparation of the crystal

Solid SmCl<sub>3</sub> (0.9 g, 3.5 mmol) in a glass bottle was heated over a naked flame under reduced pressure for several minutes, the glass bottle cooled by filling it with nitrogen, and THF (40 ml) was added. The resulting solution was left to stand overnight. To the SmCl<sub>3</sub> solution was added  $Me_4C_2(C_5H_4MgCl)_2 \cdot (THF)_4$  (2.87

g, 5.25 mmol) and the mixture was allowed to react with stirring for two days. THF was removed and toluene (20 ml) was added to the residue with stirring for half an hour. The toluene solution was centrifuged to remove undissolved solids and the resulting clear solution was evaporated to dryness. The residue was dissolved in THF and to the resulting solution was added a suitable amount of hexane which was then left to stand overnight. At room temperature a yellow fragment of crystal was obtained in ca. 50% yield.

#### 2.2. Determination of crystal structure

A single crystal of dimensions  $0.24 \times 0.44 \times 0.55$  mm was selected for structure analysis. Diffraction data were collected on a Nicolet R3m/E four-circle diffractometer using a graphite monochromator, Mo K $\alpha$  radiation (0.71069 Å),  $\omega$  scan mode, scan speed of 7°/min and scan width of 1.2°. A total of 6566 reflections was measured within the range of  $3 < 2\theta < 54^\circ$ , of which 3529 reflections with  $I > 3\sigma(I)$  were considered observed. Intensities were corrected for Lp factors and absorption effect. The crystal data are listed in Table 1.

The coordinates of samarium atom derived from Patterson analysis and other non-hydrogen atoms were found by difference Fourier maps. The atomic coordinates and anisotropic temperature factors for all nonhydrogen atoms were refined by block-matrix leastsquares. The coordinates of hydrogen atoms were cal-

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TABLE 1. Crystal data

$[(Me_4C_2Cp_2SmCl \cdot MgCl_2 \cdot 3THF)THF]_2$	M.W. 1563.5
triclinic	Space group P1
a 12.149(3) Å	b 13.187(4) Å
c 13.810(5) Å	$\alpha 117.23(2)^{\circ}$
β 94.07(2)°	$\gamma$ 62.86(2)°
V 1723.9(1.02) Å <sup>3</sup>	Z = 1
F(000) = 802	$D_{\rm c}  1.51  {\rm g/cm^3}$
$\mu 20.2 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ (Mo K $\alpha$ , $\lambda = 0.71069 \text{ Å}$ )	

culated according to theoretical models. Further refinements led to final R = 0.0771,  $R_w = 0.0798$  ( $w = [\sigma^2 (F_o) + gF_o^2]^{-1}$ ). The calculations were performed on an Eclipse S/140 computer using SHELXTL programs.

Atomic coordinates and isotropic thermal parameters, selected bond lengths and bond angles are given in Tables 2, 3 and 4, respectively.

#### 3. Results and discussion

Figure 1a gives a view of the title complex. There is a symmetrical centre in the molecule of  $[(Me_4C_2Cp_2)^2]$  $SmCl \cdot MgCl_2 \cdot 3THF)THF]_2$ . Two centroids of cyclopentadienyl rings and three chlorine atoms (Cl<sub>1</sub>,  $Cl_2$ ,  $Cl_{1a}$ ) (Fig. 2a) form a distorted trigonal bipyramid around Sm. The coordination number of Sm is 9. Three THF oxygen atoms, two chlorine atoms (Cl1 and  $Cl_2$ ) and one chlorine atom form an octahedron around Mg. The coordination number of Mg is 6. The average value of  $Sm-C(\eta^{5}-Cp_{1})$  is 2.66(9) Å,  $Sm-C(\eta^{5}-Cp_{2})$ 2.68(5) Å;  $Sm-Cp_1$  (centroid) 2.38 Å,  $Sm-Cp_2$ (centroid) 2.40 Å. Angle Cp<sub>1</sub>-Sm-Cp<sub>2</sub> is 117.4° (Sm coordination number is 9). In (Me<sub>4</sub>C<sub>5</sub>Cp<sub>5</sub>YbCl<sub>5</sub>)<sup>-</sup>- $(Mg_2Cl_3 \cdot 6THF)^+$  [6] angle  $Cp_1$ -Yb- $Cp_2$  is 121.0 (Yb coordination number 8). In  $Me_4C_2Cp_5SmC_5H_5(THF)$ [7] angle  $Cp_1$ -Sm- $Cp_2$  is 111.5° (Sm coordination number 10). Angle  $Cp_1$ -Sm- $Cp_2$  in the title compound is intermediate between those of Cp<sub>1</sub>-Yb-Cp<sub>2</sub> and Cp<sub>1</sub>-Sm-Cp<sub>2</sub>(Me<sub>4</sub>C<sub>2</sub>Cp<sub>2</sub>SmC<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>). This is explained by the hypothesis that the size of the angle  $Cp_1$ -Ln- $Cp_2$  is related to the coordination number of Ln atom, which increases as angle Cp<sub>1</sub>-Ln-Cp<sub>2</sub> decreases. The coordination number of [Me<sub>4</sub>C<sub>2</sub>Cp<sub>2</sub>SmCl  $\cdot$  THF]<sub>2</sub> is equal to that in the title compound and angle  $Cp_1-Sm-Cp_2$  ( $[Me_4C_2Cp_2SmCl \cdot THF]_2$ ) is 115.4°, near to that for  $Cp_1$ -Sm- $Cp_2$  (title compound).

Angles  $C_{11}-C_{16}-C_{26}$  and  $C_{21}-C_{26}-C_{16}$  are 114.0(15)° and 110.6(12)°, respectively. In Me<sub>4</sub>C<sub>2</sub>Cp<sub>2</sub>-SmC<sub>5</sub>H<sub>5</sub>(THF) angles  $C_{11}-C_{16}-C_{26}$  and  $C_{21}-C_{26}-C_{16}$ are 111.8° and 110.3°, and in (Me<sub>4</sub>C<sub>2</sub>Cp<sub>2</sub>YbCl<sub>2</sub>)<sup>-</sup>(Mg<sub>2</sub>-Cl<sub>3</sub>·6THF)<sup>+</sup> (THF) these two angles are 114.6°. The conformation of the Cp rings (Fig. 1b) in the title

TABLE 2. Atomic coordinates ( $\times\,10^4)$  and thermal parameters  $({\AA}^2\times10^3)$ 

	X	y		U <sub>eq</sub>
Sm	4767(1)	6556(1)	- 485(1)	26(1)
CI(1)	3743(4)	6135(2)	998(2)	36(2)
Cl(2)	2883(4)	8977(2)	1108(2)	35(2)
Cl(3)	1134(4)	7777(3)	3240(2)	45(2)
Mg	1846(5)	8509(3)	2254(3)	33(3)
O(1)	679(11)	8210(7)	1085(7)	33(5)
O(2)	486(10)	10444(7)	3057(7)	38(4)
O(3)	2893(11)	9052(8)	3458(7)	47(5)
O(4)	7793(19)	7221(13)	3943(17)	132(13)
C(11)	6429(16)	6964(9)	-1254(9)	39(6)
C(12)	5747(16)	8093(10)	-238(10)	40(8)
C(13)	6068(17)	7759(11)	619(10)	39(8)
C(14)	6906(17)	6443(12)	137(11)	45(9)
C(15)	7121(15)	5952(10)	-993(11)	39(8)
C(16)	6395(18)	6887(11)	-2401(9)	49(9)
C(17)	6859(15)	7821(10)	- 2360(10)	42(7)
C(18)	7428(18)	5506(11)	-3214(10)	45(9)
C(21)	4424(15)	6690(10)	- 2374(8)	33(7)
C(22)	4770(15)	5379(10)	- 2683(8)	27(7)
C(23)	3911(18)	5295(12)	-2231(9)	43(9)
C(24)	2840(18)	6596(12)	1592(10)	40(9)
C(25)	3219(16)	7426(11)	~ 1707(10)	40(8)
C(26)	5088(17)	7231(10)	- 2745(8)	46(8)
C(27)	4241(21)	8714(10)	-2255(11)	58(9)
C(28)	5214(20)	6670(14)	-4008(10)	57(10)
C(31)	- 2(15)	9057(9)	612(10)	36(6)
C(32)	-764(20)	8531(14)	-111(12)	61(12)
C(33)	-1046(17)	7822(14)	397(12)	40(10)
C(34)	238(18)	7273(13)	736(11)	36(10)
C(41)	-748(16)	10895(11)	3634(11	45(7)
C(42)	-1543(16)	12347(11)	4074(11)	43(7)
C(43)	-486(18)	12678(11)	4274(11)	60(9)
C(44)	596(18)	11569(11)	3299(11)	42(9)
C(51)	2407(23)	9777(20)	4628(12)	71(14)
C(52)	3428(23)	9374(21)	5164(15)	99(15)
C(53)	4639(22)	8458(19)	4314(14)	72(13)
C(54)	4211(19)	8636(13)	3325(11)	59(10)
C(61)	8265(33)	6998(21)	2974(17)	146(23)
C(62)	9118(28)	5573(26)	2314(17)	141(20)
C(63)	9175(27)	5008(21)	3050(24)	107(19)
C(64)	8157(29)	6134(22)	4001(22)	107(21)

TABLE 3. Bond lengths (Å)

Sm-Cl(1)	2.842(4)	Sm-Cl(2)	2.809(2)
Sm-C(11)	2.705(20)	Sm-C(12)	2.675(20)
Sm-C(13)	2.660(19)	Sm-C(14)	2.638(20)
Sm-C(15)	2.647(19)	Sm-C(21)	2.685(13)
SmC(22)	2.703(11)	SmC(23)	2.685(17)
Sm-C(24)	2.696(19)	Sm-C(25)	2.657(16)
Sm-Cl(1a)	2.896(3)	Cl(1)-Mg	2.672(4)
Cl(1)-Sma	2.896(3)	Cl(2)-Mg	2.520(8)
Cl(3)-Mg	2.382(8)	Mg-O(1)	2.091(12)
MgO(2)	2.072(7)	Mg=O(3)	2.083(12)
C(16)-C(17)	1.551(29)	C(16) - C(18)	1.548(15)
C(16)-C(26)	1.545(27)	C(21) = C(26)	1.531(28)
C(26)-C(27)	1.547(15)	C(26)-C(28)	1.538(17)
C(11)-C(16)	1.538(19)		



Fig. 1. Structure of  $[(Me_4C_2Cp_2SmCl \cdot MgCl_2 \cdot 3THF)THF]_2$ .

compound is different from that of nonbridged Cp rings. The bridged Cp rings have an almost eclipsed conformation. The tetramethylethylene adopts a distorted staggered conformation with the torsion angles:

TABLE 4. Bond angles (°)



Fig. 2. Perspective drawing of atom space arrangement.

 $C(11)-C(16)-C(26)-C(21) = -38.6(1.2)^{\circ}$ ,  $C(17)-C(16)-C(26)-C(27) = -37.0(1.6)^{\circ}$ ,  $C(18)-C(16)-C(26)-C(28) = -38.0(2.1)^{\circ}$ , these three angles are almost equal. The average lengths of the C(16)-C(17) and C(26)-C(27) bonds is 1.549(22) Å; the average value of C(16)-C(18) and C(26)-C(28) is 1.543(16) Å. Both bond lengths are almost the same, which is not the case in  $(Me_4C_2Cp_2YbCl_2)^ (Mg_2Cl_3 \cdot 6THF)^+$ . (THF) [6].

In  $[(Me_4C_2Cp_2SmCl \cdot MgCl_2 \cdot 3THF)THF]_2$  there are three kinds of chlorine atoms. The Cl<sub>1</sub> atom links to Sm, Sm<sub>a</sub> and Mg with  $\mu_3$ -Cl; the Cl<sub>2</sub> links to Sm and Mg with  $\mu_2$ -Cl; the Cl<sub>3</sub> links to Mg with  $\mu_1$  – Cl. There are three kinds of Sm-Cl distances, Sm-Cl<sub>1</sub>( $\mu_3$ ) = 2.842(4) Å, Sm-Cl<sub>2</sub>( $\mu_2$ ) = 2.809(2) Å, Sm-Cl<sub>1a</sub>( $\mu_3$ )

$\overline{\text{Cl}(1)-\text{Sm}-\text{Cl}(2)}$	72.2(1)	Cl(2)-Sm-Cl(1a)	142.8(1)	
Cl(1)-Sm-Cl(1a)	71.3(1)	$Sm-Cl(1)-Sm_a$	108.7(1)	
Sm-Cl(1)-Mg	101.3(2)	Sm-Cl(2)-Mg	106.1(1)	
Mg-Cl(1)-Sm <sub>a</sub>	150.0(2)	Cl(1)-Mg-Cl(3)	92.3(2)	
Cl(1)-Mg-Cl(2)	79.7(2)	Cl(1)-Mg-O(1)	91.6(2)	
Cl(2)-Mg-Cl(3)	171.8(2)	Cl(3)-Mg-O(1)	92.7(4)	
Cl(2)-Mg-O(1)	89.5(4)	Cl(2)-Mg-O(2)	90.2(4)	
Cl(1)-Mg-O(2)	169.8(5)	O(1)-Mg-O(2)	87.4(4)	
Cl(3)-Mg-O(2)	97.9(4)	Cl(2)-Mg-O(3)	87.6(5)	
Cl(1)-Mg-O(3)	94.3(3)	O(1)-Mg-O(3)	172.7(4)	
Cl(3)-Mg-O(3)	91.1(4)	Mg-O(1)-C(31)	125.4(9)	
O(2) - Mg - O(3)	86.0(4)	C(11)-C(16)-C(17)	106.4(13)	
C(11)-C(16)-C(18)	105.9(11)	C(11)-C(16)-C(26)	114.0(15)	
C(17)-C(16)-C(26)	110.9(12)	C(18)-C(16)-C(26)	113.5(12)	
C(16)-C(26)-C(21)	110.6(12)	C(16)-C(26)-C(27)	112.0(14)	
C(21)-C(26)-C(27)	108.8(14)	C(16)-C(26)-C(28)	110.4(14)	
C(21)-C(26)-C(28)	109.1(15)			
C(21)-C(26)-C(28)	109.1(15)			

TABLE 5. Atom plane equations and dihedral angles of  $(Me_4C_2Cp_2SmCl \cdot MgCl_2 \cdot 3THF)THF]_2$ 

Plane	ane Equation, atoms and deviation of atoms 9.214x + 2.502v + 8.005z = 5.7130				Dihedral angles	
1						
	Sm	$Cl_1$	Cl <sub>2</sub>	Mg		
	-0.0684	0.0701	0.0769	-0.0786		
2	9.298x + 3.724y + 7.474z = 6.5111				5.8	
	$Cl_1$	Sm	Cl <sub>1a</sub>	Sm <sub>a</sub>		
	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		
3	9.214x + 2.502y + 8.005z = 6.0037			0.0	5.8	
	Sma	Cl <sub>1a</sub>	Cl <sub>2a</sub>	Mga		
	0.0684	-0.0701	- 0.0769	0.0786		

= 2.896(3) Å. Sm-Cl<sub>1</sub>( $\mu^3$ ) and Sm-Cl<sub>1a</sub>( $\mu_3$ ) distances are greater than that of Sm-Cl<sub>2</sub>( $\mu_2$ ).

In title complex there are three different kinds of Mg–Cl bond lengths: Mg–Cl<sub>3</sub>( $\mu_1$ ) = 2.362(6) Å, Mg–Cl<sub>2</sub>( $\mu_2$ ) = 2.520(8) Å, Mg–Cl<sub>1</sub>( $\mu_3$ ) = 2.672(4) Å. Length of the Mg–Cl<sub>2</sub>( $\mu_2$ ) bond is similar to the corresponding Mg–Cl( $\mu_2$ ) bond in (Me<sub>4</sub>C<sub>2</sub>Cp<sub>2</sub>YbCl<sub>2</sub>)<sup>-</sup> (Mg<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub>· 6THF)<sup>+</sup>THF[6]. The three Mg–O(THF) bond lengths (Mg–O(1) 2.091(12), Mg–O(2) 2.072(7), Mg–O(3) 2.083(12) Å) are almost equal. The average length of

Mg–O bonds is 2.08(2) Å. From Fig. 2b and Table 5 it can be seen that Sm. Cl and Mg form three planar quadrilaterals. Sm<sub>a</sub>, Cl<sub>1</sub>, Cl<sub>1a</sub>, Sm form a parallelogram. The nip angle between the planes formed by Mg<sub>1</sub>, Cl<sub>1</sub>, Cl<sub>2</sub>, Mg (or Mg<sub>a</sub>, Cl<sub>1a</sub>, Cl<sub>2a</sub>, Sm<sub>a</sub>) and Sm<sub>a</sub>, Cl<sub>4</sub>, Cl<sub>1a</sub>, Sm is 5.8°. The three quadrilaterals adopt a chair conformation. The Sm–Sm<sub>a</sub> distance is 4.66(3) Å, and for Mg–Sm 4.26(4) Å.

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