

Characterization of the Isolated Y@C₈₂

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Although the first production of lanthanide-containing fullerenes was achieved just after the isolation of C₆₀, low yields, air-sensitivity, and difficulty of purification have prevented researchers from exploring the chemistry of these attractive molecules.^{1,2} Physical measurements, such as mass spectrometry,^{3,4} EPR,⁴ extended X-ray absorption fine structure (EXAFS),⁵ and X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS),^{4b} were done with the extracts containing the mixture of metallofullerenes and empty fullerenes. Recently, milligram quantities of La@C₈₂ have been isolated by two groups, allowing the researchers to measure the electronic absorption spectrum of the pure material.^{6,7} The cyclic voltammogram of the pure La@C₈₂ indicated that this compound is a good electron donor as well as a stronger electron acceptor than empty fullerenes.⁸ It was concluded that La@C₈₂ is a semiconductor in the solid state by ultraviolet photoelectron spectroscopy (UPS) and XPS.⁹ It is interesting to see how its electronic properties change with different lanthanide atoms whose ionization potentials steadily increase in the order La < Ce to Lu < Y < Sc. We report here the first isolation and characterization of Y@C₈₂ in comparison with La@C₈₂.

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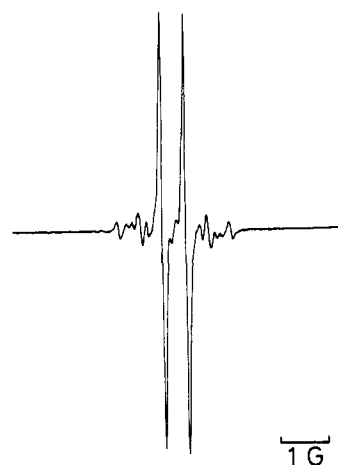
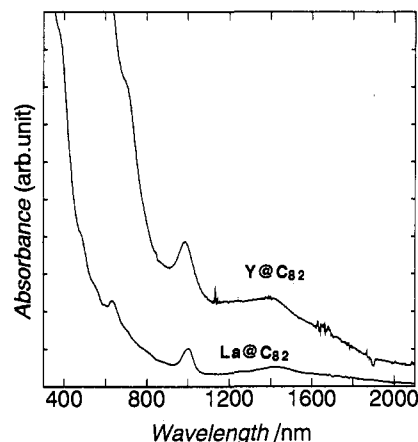
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Figure 1. EPR spectrum of the isolated Y@C₈₂ in toluene.Figure 2. Comparative UV-vis-near-IR absorption spectra of Y@C₈₂-A (top) and La@C₈₂-A (bottom) in toluene.

The production and purification of Y@C₈₂ were essentially the same as reported for La@C₈₂.^{6a} The soot containing Y@C₈₂ was prepared by an arc heating of the Y₂O₃ and graphite composite rods with the Y/C ratio 1:100. The polystyrene (JAIGEL Co., CS₂ eluant) and Buckyclucher I columns (Regis Co., toluene eluant) gave HPLC profiles similar to those of La@C₈₂.¹⁰ The time-of-flight (TOF) mass spectrum indicates that higher fullerenes, such as C₈₄, C₈₆, and C₈₈, were completely removed. The EPR spectrum in Figure 1 shows only one doublet ($g = 2.0006$; hyperfine coupling constant, 0.49 G) due to the major Y@C₈₂ isomer (Y@C₈₂-A) with weak ¹³C hyperfine lines. The minor doublet ($g = 2.0001$; hyperfine coupling constant, 0.32 G) due to the minor Y@C₈₂ isomer (Y@C₈₂-B) has not been detected after HPLC separation because of decomposition.^{4c,e} The UV-vis-near-IR absorption spectrum of Y@C₈₂-A in Figure 2 is strikingly similar to that of the major La@C₈₂ isomer (La@C₈₂-A).¹¹ Two characteristic peaks (990 and 1405 nm) are slightly shifted to the short wavelengths relative to those of La@C₈₂-A (1000 and 1420 nm).^{6a}

Cyclic voltammetry (CV) and differential pulse voltammetry (DPV) of Y@C₈₂-A were conducted, and the voltammograms were recorded on a BAS-100B/W with a three-electrode configuration. As seen in Figure 3a, one reversible oxidation and four reversible reductions were observed by CV. The second oxidation remained irreversible at faster scan rates up to 1000

(10) Retention times for Y@C₈₂: 482 (CS₂) and 9.4 min (toluene).

(11) The electronic absorption spectrum of the minor La@C₈₂ isomer (La@C₈₂-B) is quite different from that of La@C₈₂-A, probably due to the different cage structures. Yamamoto, K.; Funasaka, H.; Takahashi, T.; Akasaka, T.; Suzuki, T.; Maruyama, Y. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, submitted for publication.

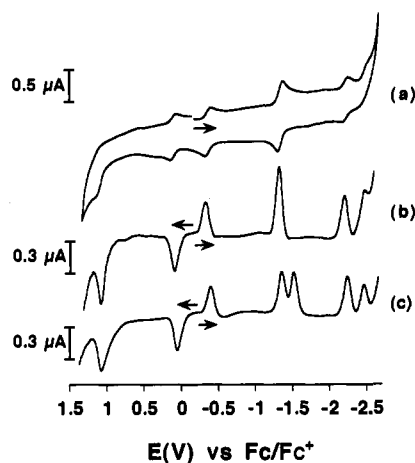


Figure 3. CV (a) and DPV (b) of Y@C₈₂-A at 20 mV/s in 1,2-dichlorobenzene containing 0.1 M (*n*-Bu)₄NPF₆. The rest potential is -0.07 V. (c) DPV of La@C₈₂-A under the same conditions.

mV/s. By DPV (Figure 3b), the peak current intensity of the second reduction is twice that of each of the other redox peaks; the shape of the current voltage curve suggests a simultaneous two-electron transfer, not an overlap of two one-electron transfers.

In comparison with the electrochemistry of the major (A) and minor (B) isomers of La@C₈₂ (Table 1),^{8,11} we would like to point out the following. (1) Each of the metallofullerenes has a remarkably small potential difference between the first oxidation and the first reduction (Y@C₈₂-A, 0.44 V; La@C₈₂-A, 0.49 V; La@C₈₂-B, 0.40 V).¹² This may suggest that the HOMO of Y@C₈₂, originally the LUMO+ of the C₈₂, is singly occupied (i.e., SOMO), as proposed for La@C₈₂.¹³ Therefore, the oxidation state of the yttrium is close to that of the lanthanum, likely 3+.¹⁴ (2) Although the second reduction of La@C₈₂-B is also a two-

(12) Such ease of both oxidation and reduction has been observed for metallophthalocyanine radicals such as bis(phthalocyaninato)lutetium ($\Delta E = 0.48$ V in CH₂Cl₂). Turek, P.; Petit, P.; André, J.-J.; Simon, J.; Even, R.; Boudjema, B.; Guillaud, G.; Maitrot, M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1987**, *109*, 5119.

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(14) The ab initio calculations predict that the charges on the lanthanum, yttrium, and scandium metals are 2.92+, 2.59+, and 2.16+, respectively. Nagase, S.; Kobayashi, K. *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* **1994**, 1837.

Table 1. Redox Potentials of the Isolated Metallofullerenes^a

compd	oxE2	oxE1	redE1	redE2	redE3	redE4	redE5
Y@C ₈₂ -A	+1.07 ^{b,c}	+0.10	-0.34	-1.34 ^d		-2.22	-2.47 ^c
La@C ₈₂ -A	+1.07 ^{b,c}	+0.07	-0.42	-1.37	-1.53	-2.26	-2.46 ^c
La@C ₈₂ -B	+1.08 ^{b,c}	-0.07	-0.47	-1.40 ^d		-2.01	-2.40 ^c

^a Half-cell potentials unless otherwise stated. Values are in volts relative to ferrocene/ferrocenium couple. Conditions: 0.1 M (*n*-Bu)₄NPF₆ in 1,2-dichlorobenzene; working electrode, Pt disk (1-mm diameter); counter electrode, Pt wire; reference electrode, Ag/0.01 M AgNO₃ and 0.1 M (*n*-Bu)₄NClO₄ in CH₃CN. CV: scan rate, 20 mV/s. ^b Irreversible. ^c Values were obtained by DPV: pulse amplitude, 50 mV; pulse width, 50 ms; pulse period, 200 ms; scan rate, 20 mV/s. ^d Two-electron process.

electron process, the redox potentials of Y@C₈₂-A are rather close to those of La@C₈₂-A (Table 1 and Figure 3). (3) The first oxidation and reduction potentials of Y@C₈₂-A are anodically shifted by 30 and 80 mV, respectively, relative to those of La@C₈₂-A (Table 1). These relatively small shifts are in agreement with the ab initio calculations, which predict that the ionization potential and the electron affinity of Y@C₈₂ (6.22 and 3.20 eV, respectively) are almost the same as those of La@C₈₂ (6.19 and 3.22 eV, respectively).¹⁴

In conclusion, the electronic structure of the major Y@C₈₂ isomer, examined by the electronic absorption spectra and the electrochemistry, is almost identical to that of the major La@C₈₂ isomer, although the ionization potentials and ionic radii of the metals are different. This indicates that Y@C₈₂-A would have a cage structure and an oxidation state of the metal similar to those of La@C₈₂-A. These "fullerenolanthanides" are new kinds of organolanthanide compounds stabilized by the delocalization of the negative charges on the fullerene cages and the protection of the lanthanide metals by spherical carbon ligands.¹⁵ We are currently producing and separating other fullerenolanthanides, such as Sc@C₈₂ and Ce@C₈₂, to expand this new field between fullerene chemistry and organometallic chemistry.

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