

whereas the error propagated by an uncertainty of  $\pm 1.0$  Hz in  $\delta\nu$  is 6.0%. The activation energies shown in Table VII were calculated from the first-order rate constants by assuming that the frequency factor is equal to the value obtained for *cis*-(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>Si(acac).

From the above data it may be concluded that there is a general increase in the rate of acetylacetonate methyl group exchange with increasing polarity of the substituents on silicon. For the *cis*-R(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Si(acac) compounds, the rate increases in the order R = *n*-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub> < C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub> < CH<sub>3</sub> < CH<sub>2</sub>=CH, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub> < CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>, and the lability of *cis*-(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>)Si(acac) is comparable to that of (CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Si(acac). The dependence of the rates on the polarity of the silicon substituents is consistent with a mechanism involving formation of a five-coordinated silicon intermediate or transition state. Although several factors contribute to the energy required for such a bond-making activation process, as the electron-withdrawing ability of the substituents is increased, the

resulting increase in positive charge on silicon should facilitate the use of a metal d orbital in achieving the transition state.<sup>21</sup> Relative to the alkyl-substituted silicon derivatives, the phenylsilyl derivatives are less labile than might be expected on the basis of  $\sigma$  inductive effects alone. However, the phenyl group has a greater steric requirement than the other substituents studied and, also, may participate in ligand→metal  $\pi$  bonding. Both of these latter factors would tend to lower the rearrangement rate. Since *cis*-(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>)Si(acac) is more labile than *cis*-(C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>)(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Si(acac), however,  $\sigma$  inductive effects must play an important role in determining the relative labilities of these derivatives.

**Acknowledgment.** The support of this research by National Science Foundation Grant No. GP-9503 is gratefully acknowledged. We thank Mr. Ronald Robinson of the Dow Corning Corporation for providing the mass spectra.

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## Preparation and Vaporization Thermodynamics of Europium Oxide Bromides

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**Abstract:** Orthorhombic trieuropium tetraoxide monobromide, Eu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Br, ( $a = 11.98 \pm 0.03$ ,  $b = 10.36 \pm 0.02$ ,  $c = 5.92 \pm 0.01$  Å); tetragonal europium monoxide monobromide, EuOBr, ( $a = 3.926 \pm 0.003$ ,  $c = 8.019 \pm 0.008$  Å); and hexagonal trieuropium monoxide tetrabromide, Eu<sub>3</sub>OBr<sub>4</sub> ( $a = 9.825 \pm 0.004$ ,  $c = 7.510 \pm 0.003$  Å) have been prepared and their incongruent vaporization reactions investigated. Single-crystal X-ray diffraction data for Eu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Br are consistent with space group Pmmn or Pmn2<sub>1</sub>. Values of  $\Delta H_{1399}^\circ = 129.0 \pm 1.1$  kcal/gram formula weight and  $\Delta S_{1399}^\circ = 50.81 \pm 0.81$  eu were obtained from target-collection Knudsen effusion measurements of the equilibrium dibromide pressure according to the reaction  $3\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}(s) \rightarrow 4\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3(s, \text{monoclinic}) + \text{EuBr}_2(g) + \text{Br}(g)$ . For Eu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Br(s)  $\Delta H_f^\circ = -597.7 \pm 5.1$  kcal/gram formula weight,  $\Delta G_f^\circ = -565.0 \pm 5.1$  kcal/gram formula weight, and  $\Delta S_{298}^\circ = 64.5 \pm 3.1$  eu. Estimated thermodynamic data are presented for EuOBr ( $\Delta H_f^\circ = 203.3 \pm 6.5$  kcal/gram formula weight).

Although structural data for lanthanide monoxide monobromides (LnOBr) were reported by Zachariasen<sup>2</sup> in 1949, lanthanide-oxygen-bromine systems have been examined only recently. The thermogravimetric study of Zolotov and Mayer<sup>3</sup> indicated that the monoxide monobromides (LnOBr) were the only phases observed when Ln = La–Eu, but that an additional phase, LnBr<sub>3</sub>·LnOBr, *i.e.*, Ln<sub>2</sub>OBr<sub>4</sub>, was present for the heavier analogs (Gd–Lu). Baernighausen, *et al.*,<sup>4</sup> confirmed the existence of the tetragonal, PbFCI-type monoxide monobromides and reported preparation of orthorhombic trivalent lanthanide tetraoxide monobromides, Ln<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Br (Ln = Sm, Eu, Yb). More recently Nd<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Br has been reported.<sup>5</sup>

(1) (a) Abstracted in part from the Ph.D. Thesis of John M. Haschke, Michigan State University, 1969; (b) to whom correspondence should be addressed.

(2) W. H. Zachariasen, *Acta Crystallogr.*, **2**, 388 (1949).

(3) I. Mayer and S. Zolotov, *J. Inorg. Nucl. Chem.*, **27**, 1905 (1965).

(4) H. Baernighausen, G. Brauer, and N. Schultz, *Z. Anorg. Allg. Chem.*, **338**, 250 (1965).

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Thermodynamic data are not available for any of the europium-oxygen-bromine phases—the phase diagram has not been examined thoroughly—even though this is the best characterized lanthanide system. The preparative and thermodynamic data for both europium monoxide<sup>6</sup> and europium dibromide<sup>7,8</sup> suggest also that oxide bromides of Eu(II) should be stable. This work was initiated to examine the decomposition behavior of selected Eu–O–Br phases, to determine their thermodynamic stability, and to characterize more completely the ternary phase diagram.

### Experimental Section

Samples of EuOBr were obtained only by direct bromination of the sesquioxide. A continuous helium flow which swept through a liquid bromine (technical grade, Dow Chemical Co., Midland, Mich.) reservoir carried the halogen vapor through a heated quartz

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tube in which a sample of  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$  was confined in a quartz boat. The 99.9% pure sesquioxide (American Potash and Chemical Corp., West Chicago, Ill.) contained, by spectrographic analysis, 0.05%  $\text{La}_2\text{O}_3$ , 0.02% Zn, and 0.01%  $\text{Nd}_2\text{O}_3$ ; other lanthanides were below detectable limits. The oxide was heated first to  $400^\circ$  under a purge of helium and then to  $750\text{--}800^\circ$  for 8 hr under a helium-bromine stream.

Samples of  $\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}$  were prepared by two procedures. Mixtures of  $\text{EuOBr}$  and  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$  in 1:1 stoichiometric ratios were sealed in evacuated quartz ampoules and heated at  $900\text{--}1050^\circ$  for 12–15 hr. Single crystals were obtained if the mixture was heated at  $1100\text{--}1200^\circ$ . The tetraoxide monobromide was also prepared by the bromination procedure described above if the system was not purged initially with helium, and a higher partial pressure of oxygen was maintained by using a lower flow rate of inert gas.

Additional regions of the ternary system were examined as follows. The preparation of an  $\text{Eu(III)}$  oxide bromide phase more bromine rich than  $\text{EuOBr}$  was attempted by reaction of a 4:1 molar ratio of  $\text{EuBr}_{3.00 \pm 0.01}$  and  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$  (" $\text{Eu}_2\text{OBr}_4$ " composition) in an evacuated quartz ampoule at  $425^\circ$  for 12 hr. Attempts to prepare  $\text{Eu(II)}$  oxide bromides were effected by heating mixtures of europium monoxide ( $\text{Eu}_{1.01 \pm 0.03}$ )<sup>6</sup> and europium dibromide ( $\text{EuBr}_{2.00 \pm 0.01}$ )<sup>7</sup> in the stoichiometric ratios of 1:3, 1:2, 2:2, and 1:1 in evacuated quartz ampoules at  $650\text{--}700^\circ$  for 5 hr. Some samples were annealed for 5–10 days at  $400^\circ$ .

The reaction products were analyzed chemically for europium by air ignition to the sesquioxide at  $1000^\circ$  and for bromine by either a gravimetric silver halide technique or by weight change during bromination. Oxygen content was determined by difference. Powder X-ray diffraction data were collected with a Guinier-Haegg camera using  $\text{KCl}$  ( $a = 6.2930 \pm 0.0000 \text{ \AA}$ ) and  $\text{Pt}$  ( $a = 3.9237 \pm 0.0003 \text{ \AA}$ ) as internal standards. Single-crystal X-ray diffraction data were collected using oscillation and equiinclination Weissenberg techniques. Air-sensitive samples were manipulated in the inert atmosphere glove box described previously.<sup>7</sup> Specimens prepared for X-ray analysis were coated with a thin layer of paraffin oil to prevent hydrolysis.

The decomposition reaction for  $\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}$  was characterized by a combination of X-ray, mass spectrometric, weight loss, and effusate collection experiments. Residues were analyzed by powder X-ray diffraction and the equilibrium vapor emanating from a quartz-lined effusion cell was not only analyzed with a Bendix time-of-flight Model 12-107 mass spectrometer using a 10–70-eV ionizing electron beam, but also collected in a quartz cup which was inverted over the orifice of the cell. The effusate was analyzed subsequently both chemically and by X-ray diffraction. Appearance potential measurements were made by the linear extrapolation technique with mercury as a reference. A sample of  $\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}$  confined in a quartz-lined graphite effusion cell was heated by induction to constant weight at  $1000\text{--}1200^\circ$ . The decomposition modes of  $\text{EuOBr}$  and  $\text{Eu}_3\text{OBr}_4$  were determined also.

Target-collection Knudsen effusion measurements for the incongruent vaporization of  $\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}$  were effected as described previously.<sup>6</sup> The effusates, which were condensed on copper targets, were analyzed for both europium and bromine by X-ray fluorescence. Symmetrical, quartz-lined, graphite effusion cells (knife edged orifice areas =  $8.6 \times 10^{-4}$  and  $59.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^2$ ) were employed in the temperature range  $925\text{--}1327^\circ$ . Cells were charged with 0.25–0.35 g of  $\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}$  and 0.05–0.10 g of  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$ , and experiments were conducted to 95% sample depletion.

## Results

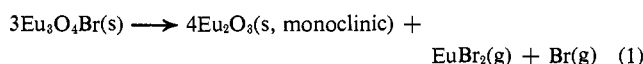
Bromination of the sesquioxide *via* the flow procedure produced the tetragonal monoxide monobromide ( $a = 3.926 \pm 0.003$ ,  $c = 8.019 \pm 0.008 \text{ \AA}$ ); static bromination and reaction of sesquioxide with monoxide monobromide yielded the orthorhombic tetraoxide monobromide ( $a = 11.98 \pm 0.03$ ,  $b = 10.36 \pm 0.02$ ,  $c = 5.92 \pm 0.01 \text{ \AA}$ ). For  $\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}$  the observed systematic extinctions,  $h0l$  ( $h00$ ,  $00l$ ), with  $h + l = 2n + 1$  absent, are consistent with space groups  $\text{Pmn}21$  and  $\text{Pmnm}$ <sup>9a</sup> (No. 31 and 59, respectively).<sup>9b</sup>

*Anal.* Calcd for  $\text{EuOBr}$ : Eu, 61.31; Br, 32.63. Found: Eu,  $61.37 \pm 0.15$ ; Br,  $32.73 \pm 0.30$ . Calcd

for  $\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}$ : Eu, 76.00; Br, 13.32. Found: Eu,  $75.96 \pm 0.10$ ; Br,  $13.38 \pm 0.15$ .

No evidence was found for a phase more bromine rich than  $\text{EuOBr}$ . The various stoichiometric ratios of  $\text{EuO}$  and  $\text{EuBr}_2$  produced a hexagonal phase ( $a = 9.825 \pm 0.004$ ,  $c = 7.510 \pm 0.003 \text{ \AA}$ ). X-Ray diffraction data showed, in addition to this hexagonal phase,  $\text{EuBr}_2$  in the products which resulted from the  $\text{EuO}:\text{EuBr}_2 < 1:2$  reactants, and a third phase of unknown composition and symmetry, X, from the  $> 1:2$  reactants. Annealing of the  $> 1:2$  reactant products yielded two distinct portions, dark green and light brown. The green-colored portion exhibited X-ray diffraction lines characteristic of the 1:2 hexagonal phase. Metal analysis of the green-colored portion was consistent with the  $\text{Eu}_3\text{OBr}_4$  stoichiometry (obsd wt % Eu, 57.42; calcd, 57.60). The identity of phase X was not determined. Although  $\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}$  was stable in air,  $\text{EuOBr}$  hydrolyzed slowly, and  $\text{Eu}_3\text{OBr}_4$  hydrolyzed rapidly.

In the temperature range investigated, trieuropium tetraoxide monobromide was found to vaporize incongruently according to reaction 1. Powder X-ray



diffraction analysis of the vaporization residues indicated the presence of only  $\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}$  and  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$ . Traces of the cubic modification of the sesquioxide were observed. The mass spectrometric analysis of the effusate indicated  $\text{Br}^+$ ,  $\text{EuBr}^+$ ,  $\text{Eu}^+$ ,  $\text{EuBr}_2^+$ , and  $\text{Br}_2^+$  in the respective ratio 1000:100:50:15:5. The fragmentation pattern of europium-containing species and the appearance potential of  $\text{EuBr}^+$  (10.4 eV) agree with those reported for the dibromide.<sup>8</sup> The weight-loss experiment indicated 99.4% of theoretical according to reaction 1. Refractory metal (Mo, W) and thoria-lined cells yielded weight losses of 105–120% of the theoretical, and produced crucible or liner material oxide contamination. The quartz liners appeared satisfactory even though they acquired a greenish color at the highest temperatures ( $1300^\circ$ ). Chemical and X-ray analysis of the samples obtained in the effusate collection experiments confirmed that  $\text{EuBr}_2$  was a vapor species.

The experimental data showed that the vapor contained both  $\text{EuBr}_2\text{(g)}$  and an  $\text{Eu}:\text{Br}$  ratio of 1:3, but did not indicate whether the equilibrium bromine species was the monatomic or diatomic gas. By consideration of reaction 2,  $\text{Br(g)}$  can be proven the vapor



species. Use of the Knudsen equation and the two possible vaporization reactions yields in one case  $P_{\text{Br}} = 0.506(P_{\text{EuBr}_2})$ , and in the other,  $P_{\text{Br}_2} = 0.358(P_{\text{EuBr}_2})$ . In either case,  $P_t$ , the total bromine pressure, is of the order of magnitude of the europium dibromide pressure. If experimental values for  $P_{\text{EuBr}_2}$  for reaction 2 at the maximum and minimum experimental temperatures are substituted for  $P_t$  in the equilibrium expression  $K(2) = 2\alpha[P_t/(1 - \alpha^2)]^{1/2}$  ( $1600^\circ\text{K}$ ,  $P_{\text{EuBr}_2} = 6 \times 10^{-4} \text{ atm}$ ,  $K(2) = 0.496$ ;<sup>10</sup>  $1200^\circ\text{K}$ ,  $P_{\text{EuBr}_2} = 8 \times 10^{-7} \text{ atm}$ ,  $K(2) = 0.042$ <sup>10</sup>), the degree of dissociation

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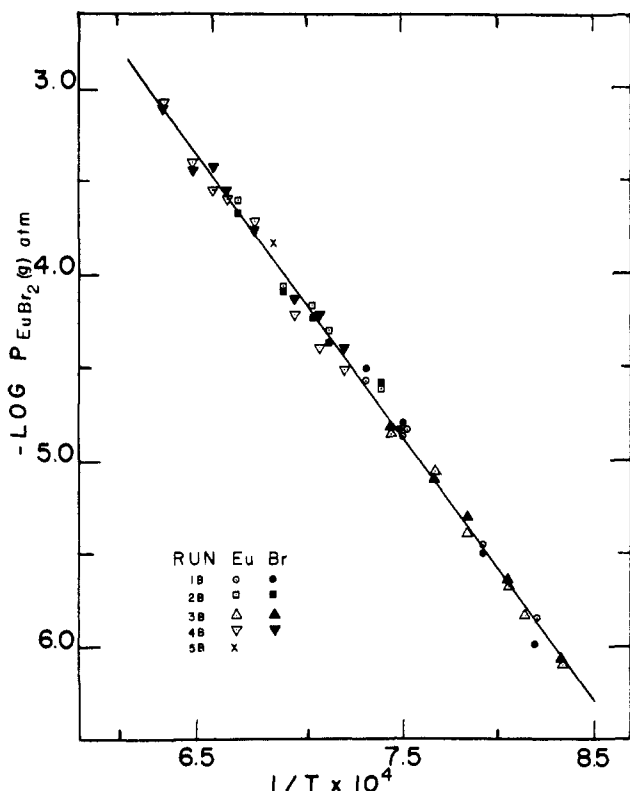
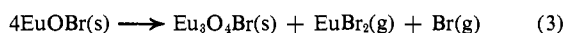


Figure 1. Graph of the logarithm of the pressure of gaseous  $\text{EuBr}_2$  in equilibrium with condensed  $\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}$  and  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3$  and gaseous  $\text{Br}$ .

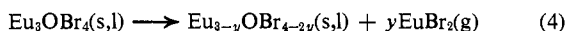
tion,  $\alpha_{1600}$ , is 0.995, and  $\alpha_{1200}$  is 0.999. The diatomic bromine observed in the mass spectrum apparently resulted from recombination of the monatomic gas in the cooler portions of the heater assembly outside the Knudsen cell.

X-Ray diffraction analysis of the residue ( $\text{EuOBr} + \text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}$ ) and the collected effusate ( $\text{EuBr}_2$ ) indicates that  $\text{EuOBr}$  vaporizes incongruently according to reaction 3. The presence of monatomic bromine is as-



sumed by analogy.

The collected effusate from  $\text{Eu}_3\text{OBr}_4$  was also identified as the dibromide, and the phase therefore must vaporize incongruently according to reaction 4.



A value was not determined for  $y$ , but X-ray analysis of the fused, brown-colored residue gave a complex pattern whose lines were not assignable to condensed  $\text{Eu}_3\text{OBr}_4$ , phase X, or  $\text{EuO}$ . The results suggest that during the collection experiment the bulk composition shifted to a stoichiometry more oxygen rich than that of phase X, and that additional oxide bromides of  $\text{Eu(II)}$  exist.

**$\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br(s)}$ .** The  $\log P_{\text{EuBr}_2}$  vs.  $1/T$  ( $1198 < T < 1600^\circ\text{K}$ ) results presented in Figure 1 for reaction 1 are described by the least-squares equation

$$\log P_{\text{EuBr}_2} = -[(1.410 \pm 0.017) \times 10^4/T] + (5.70 \pm 0.12) \quad (5)$$

The sticking coefficient of the dibromide on copper has been shown to be unity<sup>8</sup> within experimental error.

Combination of the equilibrium constant expressed in terms of the dibromide pressure with eq 5 yields

$$\log K(1) = -[(2.819 \pm 0.024) \times 10^4/T] + (11.10 \pm 0.18) \quad (6)$$

At the median temperature,  $\Delta H_{1399}^\circ = 129.0 \pm 1.1$  kcal/gram formula weight and  $\Delta S_{1399}^\circ = 50.81 \pm 0.81$  eu.

The second-law vaporization results, when reduced to  $298^\circ\text{K}$  with published data for the sesquioxide<sup>11</sup> and bromine<sup>10</sup> and estimated values for the dibromide<sup>8</sup> and tetraoxide monobromide,<sup>12</sup> yield  $\Delta H_{298}^\circ = 137.6 \pm 2.0$  kcal/gram formula weight,  $\Delta S_{298}^\circ = 64.7 \pm 2.9$  eu, and  $\Delta G_{298}^\circ = 118.3 \pm 2.0$  kcal/gram formula weight. The reported errors include an estimated  $\pm 20\%$  error in the data reduction.

The third-law enthalpy of vaporization was calculated using published Gibbs free-energy functions for  $\text{Br(g)}$ <sup>10</sup> and those estimated for  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3\text{(s)}$ ,<sup>13</sup>  $\text{EuBr}_2\text{(g)}$ ,<sup>8</sup> and  $\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br(s)}$ . Values for the oxide bromide were obtained from the approximated heat capacity and an estimated  $S_{298}^\circ$  (63.8 eu) calculated by the scheme of Latimer<sup>14</sup> with the magnetic contribution of  $\text{Eu(III)}$  proposed by Westrum.<sup>15</sup> A temperature-independent  $\Delta H_{298}^\circ = 139.47 \pm 0.92$  kcal/gram formula weight was obtained.

The second-law enthalpy of vaporization and the enthalpies of formation of  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3\text{(s)}$ ,<sup>16</sup>  $\text{EuBr}_2\text{(g)}$ ,<sup>8</sup> and  $\text{Br(g)}$ <sup>10</sup> were combined to give  $\Delta H_f^\circ[\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br(s)}] = -597.7 \pm 5.1$  kcal/gram formula weight. From the Gibbs energies of formation of  $\text{Eu}_2\text{O}_3\text{(s)}$  ( $-370.9$  kcal/gram formula weight, calculated from published data<sup>10,15-17</sup>),  $\text{EuBr}_2\text{(g)}$ ,<sup>8</sup> and  $\text{Br(g)}$ <sup>10</sup> and those of vaporization,  $\Delta G_f^\circ[\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br(s)}] = 565.0 \pm 5.1$  kcal/gram formula weight. Similarly,  $S_{298}^\circ[\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br(s)}] = 64.5 \pm 3.1$  eu was obtained.

**$\text{EuOBr(s)}$ .** Decomposition of  $\text{EuOBr}$  according to reaction 3 requires that the dibromide pressure be greater than that in equilibrium with  $\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br(s)}$ , but less than that in equilibrium with  $\text{EuBr}_2\text{(l)}$ , and therefore permits estimation of the vaporization thermodynamics. If the  $S_{298}^\circ$  data for  $\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br(s)}$ ,  $\text{EuBr}_2\text{(g)}$ ,<sup>8</sup> and  $\text{Br(g)}$ <sup>10</sup> are combined with that estimated for  $\text{EuOBr}$  (29.0 eu), a  $\Delta S_{298}^\circ$  (65.9 eu) may be approximated for reaction 3. An entropy correction employing estimated heat capacities gives  $\Delta S_{1400}^\circ = 56.7$  eu at the median temperature of the  $\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}$  and  $\text{EuBr}_2$ <sup>8</sup> equilibrium measurements. Combination of this entropy with the median pressure of  $\text{EuBr}_2\text{(g)}$  in equilibrium with  $\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br(s)}$  and  $\text{EuBr}_2\text{(l)}$  at  $1400^\circ$  yields, for reaction 3,  $\Delta H_{1400}^\circ = 128.5$  kcal/gram formula weight ( $\Delta H_{298}^\circ = 135.5$  kcal/gram formula weight); and from this value, for  $\text{EuOBr(s)}$ ,  $\Delta H_f^\circ = -203.3 \pm 6.5$  kcal/gram formula weight and  $\Delta G_f^\circ = -193.4 \pm 6.5$  kcal/gram formula weight. The estimated error was calculated with the equilibrium

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(17) R. Hultgren, private communication.

dibromide pressures for condensed  $\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}$  and  $\text{EuBr}_2$  as limiting parameters for the enthalpy of vaporization.

### Discussion

The high-temperature europium oxide bromide phases which we observed are consistent with those reported formerly,<sup>4</sup> but the phase diagram is more complex than previous work has indicated. The single-crystal results show that the face-centered orthorhombic structure and space groups proposed previously for the  $\text{Ln}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}$  phases<sup>4</sup> are incorrect. Lattice parameters recalculated for these phases<sup>4,5</sup> from the published data are presented in Table I. Al-

**Table I.** Recalculated Lattice Parameters of Orthorhombic  $\text{Ln}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}$  Phases<sup>a</sup>

Phases	$a$ , Å	$b$ , Å	$c$ , Å
$\text{Nd}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}$	$12.31 \pm 0.05$	$10.55 \pm 0.03$	$6.03 \pm 0.02$
$\text{Sm}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}$	$12.04 \pm 0.03$	$10.46 \pm 0.02$	$5.94 \pm 0.01$
$\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}$	$11.98 \pm 0.03$	$10.38 \pm 0.02$	$5.92 \pm 0.01$
$\text{Yb}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}$	$11.56 \pm 0.03$	$9.98 \pm 0.02$	$5.72 \pm 0.01$

<sup>a</sup> See ref 4 and 5.

though the powder diffraction data can be explained on the basis of orthorhombic symmetry, the preparations contained a few single crystals which exhibited only triclinic symmetry. No evidence for additional oxide bromide phases of trivalent europium has been observed, but one phase of the divalent metal has been characterized, and the existence of additional phases has been indicated. The hexagonal monoxide tetrabromide appears to be isostructural with the phases reported recently for the oxide halides of strontium and barium.<sup>18,19</sup> The lattice parameters of  $\text{Eu}_3\text{OBr}_4$  are almost identical with those of the strontium phase ( $a = 9.82 \pm 0.01$ ,  $c = 7.51 \pm 0.01$  Å), for which the composition  $\text{Sr}_4\text{OBr}_6$  is reported. Since this value is apparently based only on miscibility observations and X-ray data, the composition of the alkaline earth phases is probably  $\text{M}_3\text{OX}_4$  instead of  $\text{M}_4\text{OX}_6$ .

The decomposition reactions of the oxide bromides are consistent with the trends observed previously for condensed  $\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4$ ,<sup>13</sup>  $\text{EuO}$ ,<sup>6</sup> and  $\text{EuBr}_2$ .<sup>8</sup> The flow of reaction observed for all oxygen-containing europium phases is toward a more oxygen-rich condensed phase,

ultimately the congruently vaporizing sesquioxide. In the europium-bromine system, the composition shifts to the congruently vaporizing dibromide; thus, gaseous dibromide is an anticipated oxide bromide decomposition product. The stoichiometry of the vapor is fixed by the composition change of the solid phases, and the vapor species are determined by the instability of the tribromide at elevated temperatures.<sup>7</sup> The same general behavior is expected for the oxide halides of all lanthanides. They should vaporize incongruently to give a more oxygen-rich condensed phase plus the gaseous trihalide. This behavior, which has been observed for  $\text{NdOF}$ ,<sup>20</sup> however, may not occur for the oxide halides of europium and ytterbium, since the dihalides of these species may be the most stable gases. The stabilities of the lanthanide oxides and the relatively high volatilities of the halides prevent the appearance of gaseous lanthanide oxide halides analogous to those reported recently for other transition metals.<sup>21</sup>

Since no previous thermochemical measurement has been described for any of the lanthanide oxide bromides, evaluation of these results is difficult, but they may be compared with those obtained for the  $\text{LnOCl}$  phases.<sup>22</sup> The estimated enthalpy of formation of  $\text{EuOBr}$  ( $-203$  kcal/gram formula weight) is consistent with the more negative values ( $-230$  to  $-245$  kcal/gram formula weight) observed for the oxide chlorides. The enthalpy of bromination of a divalent europium phase should be essentially constant; the differences between the enthalpies of formation of  $\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4(\text{s})$ <sup>13</sup> and  $\text{Eu}_3\text{O}_4\text{Br}(\text{s})$  and those of  $\text{EuO}(\text{s})$ <sup>6</sup> and  $\text{EuOBr}(\text{s})$  are 55.1 and 58.1 kcal/gram formula weight, respectively.

Although the  $\text{Eu}(\text{II})$  and mixed  $\text{Eu}(\text{II})$ - $\text{Eu}(\text{III})$  oxide bromides have not been characterized completely, the complexity of the europium-oxygen-bromine phase diagram is evident. The results for this system should be helpful in the elucidation of the phase diagrams and vaporization reactions of other lanthanide oxide halides.

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