

An aerial photograph of the EPFL campus in Lausanne, Switzerland. The image shows a large, modern building with a white, undulating roof and several circular openings. The building is surrounded by green spaces and other campus buildings. In the background, a large lake (Lake Geneva) is visible, with mountains in the distance under a dramatic, cloudy sky at sunset or sunrise.

Coordination Chemistry and Reactivity of f Elements

TD4

EPFL

Question 1

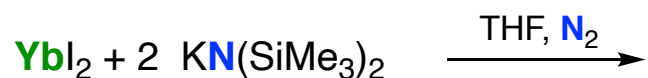
- 1) Indicate the three possible routes for the synthesis of neutral lanthanide alkoxides ($[\text{Ln}(\text{OR})_3]$).
- 2) Draw the reaction schemes for each case.
- 3) What are the advantages and disadvantages of each ?

Question 2:

- a) Explain in what case alkoxide ligands tend to form polynuclear complexes drawing some examples
- b) In alkoxide clusters of TM metal-metal bond can be present. Explain why metal-metal bond formation is not observed in alkoxide clusters of lanthanides.
- c) Give an example for a mononuclear and a polynuclear alkoxide complex.
- d) Explain why complexes Ln(III) complexes of CO are not known (in contrast to TM)

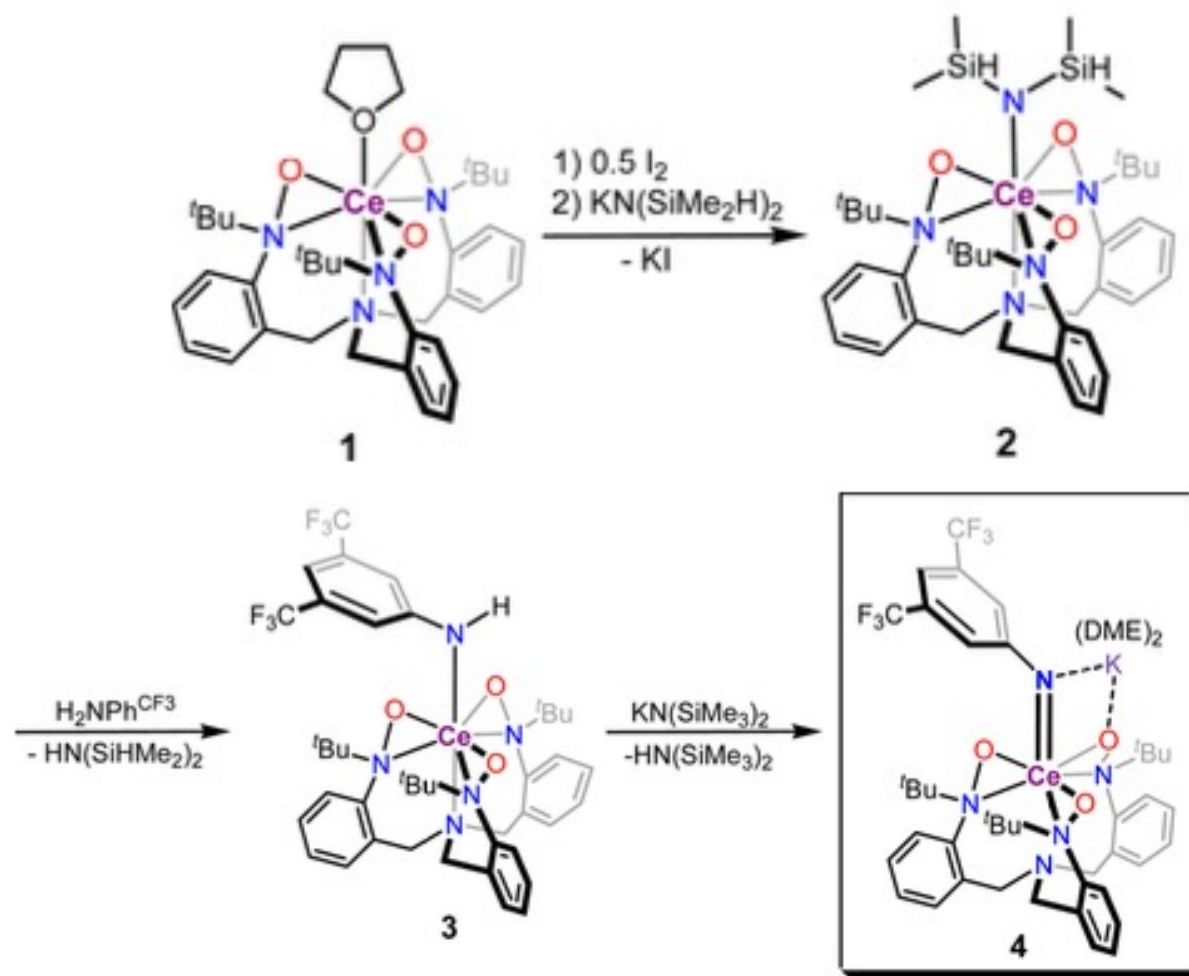
Question 3

- A)** Complete the following reaction scheme giving the structure of the final products.
- B)** Explain the observed differences in the structure of final products and reactivity.
- C)** Give the name of the reactions and the oxidation state of the metal ions.

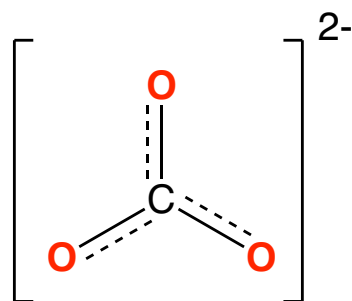


Question 4

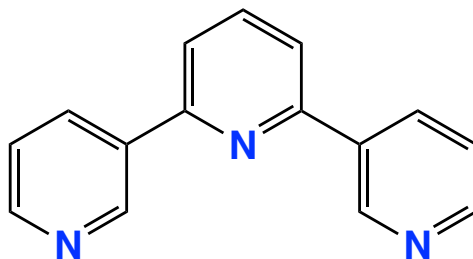
- 1) Explain why Ln-X (X=N, O, P) multiple bond is not common in Ln chemistry.
- 2) Describe the different steps of the following method for the formation of a Ce imide.



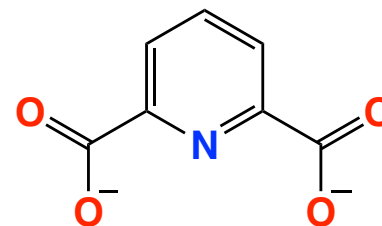
Question 5



carbonate



terpy

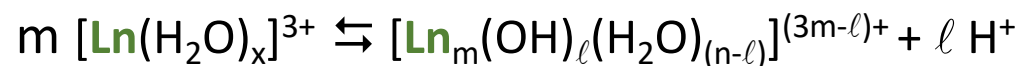


dpa $^{2-}$

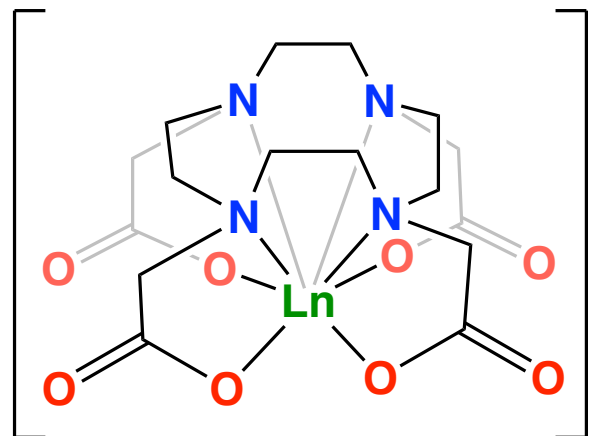
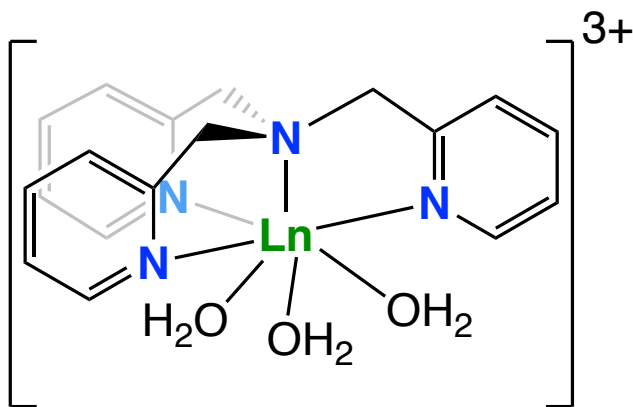
- 1) Draw the structure of the complexes 1:3 (Ln:L) for the ligands above
- 2) Indicate how you would prepare them (type of Ln salt, solvent)
- 3) Indicate the order of stability in water and the species formed in the decomposition

Question 6

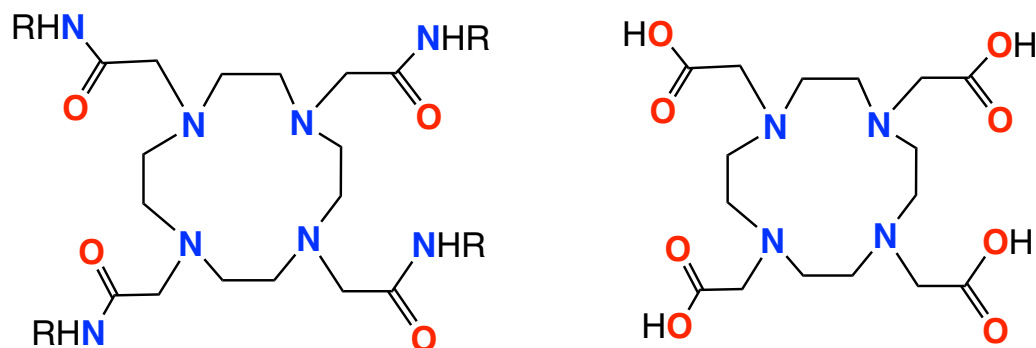
Considering the following reaction of hydrolysis



- 1) Indicate how the acidity of the lanthanide aqua complex vary along the series and why
- 2) Indicate how the binding of a polydentate ligand affects the acidity
- 3) Considering the following complexes: Which complex will form more easily hydroxides and why



Question 7



- 1) Indicate which ligand form the most thermodynamically stable complex
- 2) Indicate how the kinetic stability of the two complexes vary
- 3) Indicate a possible route for the synthesis of these two complexes
- 4) Indicate how their stability in water vary