Research on Rational Synthesis and Luminescence Properties of Oligo-Nuclear Complexes Using Linear Multidentate Ligands

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# Research on Rational Synthesis and Luminescence Properties of Oligo-Nuclear Complexes Using Linear Multidentate Ligands

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# **General Introduction**

### 1. Oligo-nuclear metal complex

### 1.1 Oligo-nuclear metal complex

Oligonuclear complexes contain multimetal ions. The distance between the metal ions is comparatively narrow. Hence, unique properties such as multi-electron transfer and large spin moment are expected due to strong metal to metal interactions. Oligonuclear complexes were first reported in the 1950s <sup>1, 2</sup> Eventually, this theme was developed by the report of metal-metal bonds<sup>3</sup> and the confirmed theory of mixed valence complexes. <sup>4</sup> Nowadays, the oligonuclear complexes are one of the most important research fields in coordination chemistry, and their magnetic properties have become a major research area. Manganese 12 nuclear complex bridged with a carboxylic acid is the first reported example of a single molecular magnet (SMM) by Novac<sup>5-7</sup> (Fig. 1) This compound has a large spin moment S=10 and long relaxation time. Therefore, it acts as an SMM. After this discovery, many oligonuclear complexes have been reported as SMMs.

In addition, oligonuclear complexes may act as catalysts for intricate reactions such as multi-electron transfers. For example, in nature, it is known that a tetranuclear cluster comprising three manganese ions and one calcium ion acts as an active center for the oxygen generation reaction during photosynthesis in plants. Other examples include the generation of ammonia from nitrogen in the air by certain rhizobia. They contain enzymes called nitrogenase, which is involved in the generation of ammonia. The active center of nitrogenase is a tetranuclear iron cluster.

Oligonuclear complexes are also expected to be luminescent materials. It is reported that they develop luminescent properties owing to the formation of metal-metal bonds, and exhibit multicolor emission because of changing interactions. Ma et al. reported a platinum binuclear complex (BFPtPZ) that showed dual-emission. (Fig. 2) BFPtPZ has two stable excited states, where the Pt-Pt distances were different owing to structural conversion. These excited states have different energy gaps due to changing Pt-Pt interactions. Hence, this compound shows dual-emission.

In recent years, oligonuclear complexes have been used as sub-building units (SBUs) in metal organic frameworks (MOFs). Zhou et al. reported various kinds of functional MOFs composed of hexa-nuclear zirconium clusters as SBUs. 9-13 Hexa-nuclear zirconium clusters have high stability. Furthermore, its bridged carboxylic acids

coordinate with regularity; therefore, it is easy to form rational structures and to add certain functions through ligand designs.

As described above, oligonuclear complexes are expected to be applicable in a variety of applications. Hence, this field has much scope for further development. Oligonuclear complexes can be grouped into two types based on the number of the kind of metal ions. A homo-oligonuclear complex is composed of only one kind of metal ion, while a hetero-oligonuclear complex is formed by two or more kinds of metal ions. Hetero-oligonuclear complexes are especially sought for various functional applications because each metal ions plays a different role in introducing specific properties such as electron transfer and photophysical properties.

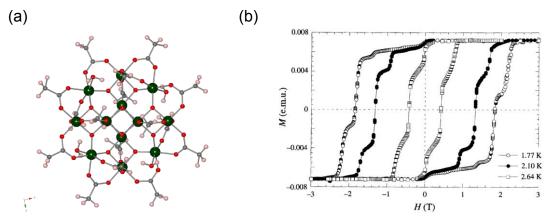
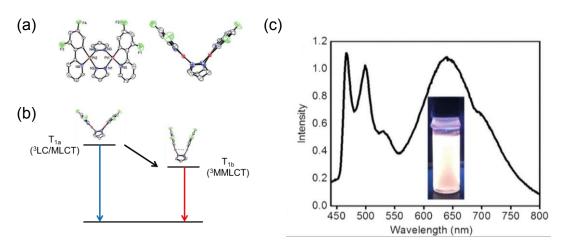


Fig. 1 (a) Crystal structure of  $[Mn_{12}(CH_3COO)_{16}(H_2O)_4O_{12}]$  (b) Magnetization hysteresis loops with a SQUID magnetometer<sup>5-7</sup>.



**Fig. 2 (a)** Molecular structure of BFPtPZ. **(b)** Potential-energy curves and transitions for the molecular butterfly BFPtPZ involving a photo-induced structural change owing to photo-induced Pt–Pt distance shortening, and the generation of dual emission. **(c)** The

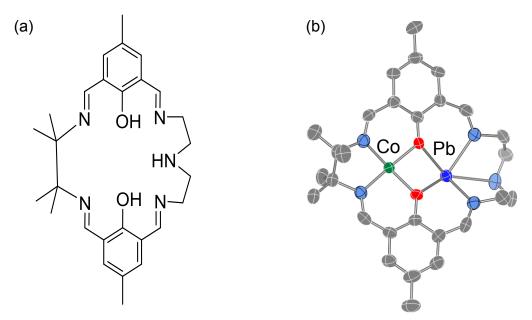
normalized emission spectrum of BFPtPZ in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at -77 °C. Inset: Photograph of the sample<sup>8</sup>.

In traditional research, oligonuclear complexes were synthesized by multidentate ligands that can form bridges. Their structure was then characterized by single crystal X-ray diffraction. This scheme was the general way for oligonuclear complexes research. However, developing functional oligonuclear complexes requires the formation of optional oligonuclear complex structures that enable the strict control of metal to metal distance. For creating rational structures of oligonuclear complexes, three kinds of methods have been reported. The first involves macrocyclic ligands. The second way is by using complex ligands. The third method is via bracket type ligands. These methods have been explained in detail in the subsequent sections.

### 1.2. Rational synthesis methods of oligonuclear complexes

### 1.2.1. Macrocyclic/macroacyclic ligand

Macrocyclic/macroacyclic ligand contains some circular multidentate sites. The macrocyclic ligand coordinates with metal ions in an enclosing manner and occupies almost all the coordination sites of the metal ions. Furthermore, macrocyclic ligands have some multidentate sites; hence, such ligands can encapsulate multimetal ions in one ligand. Rational synthesis of oligonuclear complexes is possible with this type of ligand. The reported macrocyclic ligands are usually Schiff-base frameworks such as salene derivatives<sup>14</sup> and binuclear complexes with salene derivative ligands. Macrocyclic ligands have been reported since the 1980s. Vigato et al. wrote an extensive review about macrocyclic/macroacyclic ligands and their complexes<sup>14</sup>. The advantage of a macrocyclic ligand is that it is easy to predict the structure of the oligonuclear complex based on the structure of the macrocyclic ligand. However, these ligands have disadvantages as well. It is difficult to form tri- or more nuclear complexes, and multistep synthesis for macrocyclic ligands is necessary.



**Fig. 3 (a)** Macrocyclic ligand and **(b)** structure of a heterobinuclear complex [CoPb(L)]<sup>2</sup>-

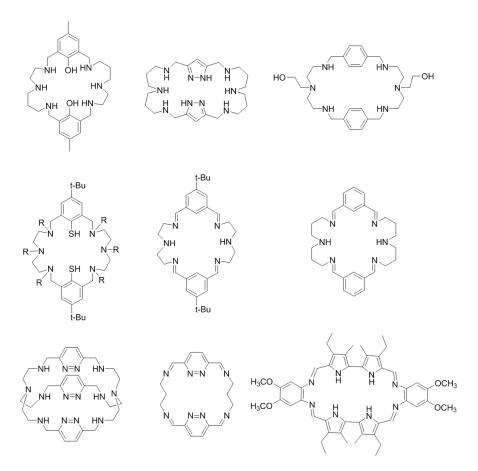


Fig. 4 Multinucleated macrocyclic Ligands<sup>14</sup>

### 1.2.2. Complex ligand

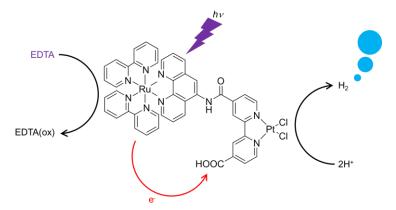
A complex ligand has extra coordination sites. Therefore, it can coordinate with other metal ions and form oligonuclear complexes. A copper complex was the first complex ligand to be reported, by Lippard in 1980.<sup>16</sup> This complex has an imidazole site as the extra coordination site and coordinates with other copper ions to form binuclear complexes. Matsumoto et al. reported the synthesis of a supramolecular structure with complex ligands<sup>17-19</sup> (Fig. 5). The synthesis of oligonuclear complexes with complex ligands is a multistep reaction. Therefore, it is easy to synthesize heterometal oligonuclear complexes. Sakai et al. reported platinum-ruthenium heterometal complexes and photohydrogen evolving reactions with single molecular structures <sup>20</sup> (Fig. 6). The ruthenium complex works as a photosensitizer and the platinum complex works as a hydrogen generation catalyst. Ruthenium and platinum complexes form a coupled photocatalyst system by connecting with each other.

The metal to metal distance in oligonuclear complexes formed with complex ligands is very large because this type of oligonuclear complex results from the gathering of mononuclear complexes rather than cluster complexes. Therefore, this type of oligonuclear complex tends to have weak metal to metal interactions.

Moreover, in this paper, complex ligands include all coordination compounds, not just metal ions, but also non-metal ions.

(a)
$$\begin{array}{c}
H_{2}O \\
N-C_{U}-N \\
N-C_{U}-N$$

**Fig. 5 (a) (b)** Reaction scheme of Cu(II) complexes as a ligand complex to form oligonuclear complexes<sup>18</sup>.



**Fig. 6** Scheme of catalytic hydrogen generating reaction with Pt-Ru binuclear complex<sup>20</sup>.

### 1.2.3. Bracket type ligand

A bracket type ligand has multicoordination sites and the angle between each coordination sites is fixed so as to form a bracket-like structure similar to those used for fixing between wooden frames in DIY models. This ligand coordinates with multiple metal ions because of multiple coordination sites. In addition, rational designs and the formulation of complicate structures is possible, such as a macroacyclic complex, cage type complex, grid type complex, and cluster type complex with apposite metal ions, on account of the fixed angle between each coordination site.

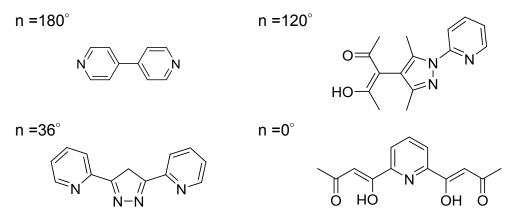


Fig. 7 Bracket type ligands<sup>25-30</sup>

Fijita et al. reported octahedron type palladium hexa-nuclear complex and its ability for guest encapsulation <sup>21</sup>. This complex was formed from palladium ion, the coordination site of which has square planar geometry and a tripyridyl ligand with a

triazine core. The angle between each pyridine site is fixed at 120°. Hence, they formed an octahedron structure. In addition to this, Fujita et al. also reported several kinds of polymorphic structures such as cage <sup>22</sup>, bowl,<sup>23</sup> and prism<sup>24</sup> with palladium ion and bracket type ligands.

Among the bracket type ligands, the ligand whose angle between each coordination site is fixed at 0° is called linear multidentate ligand. This type of ligand is expected to accommodate multiple metal ions spontaneously. Furthermore, one linear multidentate ligand cannot occupy the entire coordination site of the metal ions; consequently, one metal ion coordinates with two or more linear multidentate ligands. Therefore, it is easy to form bi- or multinuclear complexes with linear multidentate ligands.

Masaoka and Kawata et al. reported iron pentanuclear complex with 3,5-di(2-pyridyl) pyrazole and its oxygen revolution ability<sup>25</sup>.

Ohba et al. reported 3d-4f-3d heterotrinuclear complexes with linear multidentate ligands and its magnetic properties  $^{26-30}$  (Fig. 8). This ligand provides two kinds of metal binding sites, one is a central 2,6-diacetylpyridine site, one is two  $\beta$ -diketone sites at each end. This structure is available for arranging metal centers in difference coordination environments; therefore, 3d-4f-3d heterotrinuclear complexes were selectively prepared using different ionic radii.

In Chapter 1, we present the rational synthesis of 3d oligonuclear complexes with linear multidentate ligands and their structural conversion. Here, one linear multidentate ligand H<sub>2</sub>L was used. H<sub>2</sub>L was previously reported by Ohba et al. In addition to the above characteristics, b-diketone sites can control their coordination ability by protonating or deprotonating. Hence, the structure of complexes can be controlled by controlling the pH. In acidic conditions, binuclear complexes were produced. However, in basic conditions, octa-nuclear complexes were produced. In addition, binuclear complexes were transformed to octa-nuclear complex by adding the basic solution. In Chapter 1, we discuss the structure and structural conversion in detail.

In Chapter 2, we report the synthesis of lanthanide trinuclear complexes with ligand  $H_2L$  and its analogue and their luminescence properties. With respect to the lanthanide, we explain node 4 in detail.

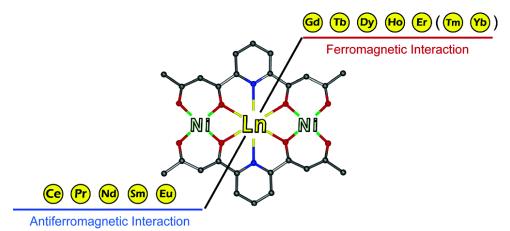


Fig. 8 Series of 3d-4f-3d heterotrinuclear complexes<sup>26-30</sup>.

### 2. Luminescence

Luminesce is a phenomenon where a material that is given energy irradiates that energy as the light. Luminescence is classified by the given energy, such as electro luminescence (electron), photoluminescence (light), chemiluminescence (chemical reaction), bioluminescence (enzyme reaction, one kind of chemiluminescence in biosis), and radio luminescence (radioactivity).

All luminescence mechanisms are explained as follow. First, matter is supplied with energy. The energy state of this matter changes from ground state to excited state by obtaining that energy. The excited state is unstable for matter; hence, the energy state of matter goes back to ground state. Thereby, a portion of the energy is irradiated as light. This is a physical phenomenon; therefore, luminescence is in accordance with the law of conservation of energy. This is why irradiation energy is lower than the supplied energy.

The luminescence mechanism is classified into three types by transition processes. When matter is given energy, and goes to its excited state, and then goes back to ground state directly, the direction of the excited spin is same as ground state. At this condition, the spin angular moment (S) is 0. This luminescence is a single transition process from singlet excited state to singlet ground state, called fluorescence. The characteristics of

fluorescence are high quantum yield because fluorescence is permitted transition, short emission lifetime (~nanosecond order) because this transition occurs quickly, and small Stokes shift, i.e., the difference between the positions of the peak top of absorption and emission spectra, because structural conversion by this transition is small.

Conversely, the other process is that the excited spin turns around, and then goes back to ground state. This transition process is a reaction, wherein a singlet excited state goes through triplet excited state by intersystem crossing, and then the electron goes back to the singlet ground state. This luminescence process is called phosphorescence. The quantum yield of phosphorescence is relatively low because the transition from the triplet excited state to the singlet ground state is a forbidden process. However, this tendency does not apply in the case of complexes or inorganic materials with heavy metal ions such as lanthanide, rhenium, and iridium. Therefore, it is difficult to turn the direction of the spin. Hence, the emission lifetime is long (~millisecond order). In addition to these characteristics, the Stokes shift is long as spin multiplicity is changed during the transition process, and structural conversion by this transition is large.

Finally, the third luminescence process is called delayed fluorescence. This process is the combination of fluorescence and phosphorescence. First, the electron is excited to singlet excited state, and then translated to triplet excited state by intersystem crossing as in phosphorescence. After this, electron goes back to the singlet excited state by thermal activation. Then, the electron returns to the singlet ground state. Superficially, the emission mechanism appears to be fluorescence, but this process goes through the triplet excited state once. Hence, this transition process is classified as the third emission process. The emission lifetime of delayed fluorescence is longer than that of fluorescence.

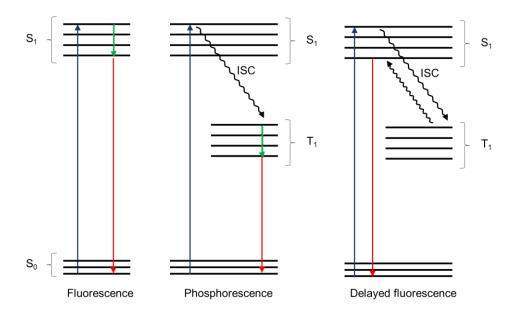


Fig. 9 Mechanism scheme of fluorescence, phosphorescence, and delayed fluorescence.

Not just humans, rather most species obtain much of the information through their eyes. The eye is a sensory apparatus that receives light. Specifically, light is the easiest stimulation for us. Hence, luminescence materials are applied in various fields. For example, for portraying information, liquid crystal displays or neon lights are applied in the information industry. In particular, owing to increased demand for smartphones in recent years, the development of a light emitting diode based on organic compound (OLED) has been initiated. Adachi et al. reported quite high efficiency Electro Luminescence (EL) materials with delayed fluorescence<sup>31</sup>. Moreover, for identifying the location of cancers or monitoring their growth, luminescence materials are applied in medicine or biotechnology. This technology was developed immensely via the research pertaining to green fluorescent protein (GFP) <sup>32-34</sup> by Shimomura, Chalfie, and Taisen et al. This research received a noble prize in 2008.

GFP was isolated from Aequorea Victoria. As evidenced by this example, several kinds of species apply luminescence in their lives. The well-known male firefly exhibits luminescence in its own body to communicate with the female. Some football fish keep luminous bacteria at the end of the illicium (like a fish rod). They use luminescence to get food such as fish. Some fish use luminescence to protect themselves. One fish demonstrated emission at the bottom of their bodies to simulate the light of the sun. Other fish used luminescence as a dazzler to escape. Thus, luminescence is important for animals as well.

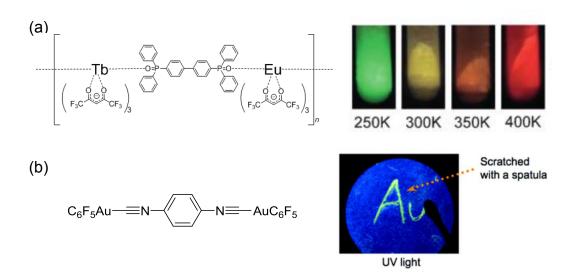
There are many kinds of luminescent material such as organic, inorganic compounds, coordination compounds (organic-inorganic hybrids), carbon materials (graphene, fullerene), quantum dots, proteins, and so on. In this paper, we focus on luminescent molecules like organic compounds, and molecularity coordination compounds. The advantage of luminescent molecular materials is availability in numerous states such as powder, thin film, and solution. Furthermore, its luminescent property is controllable by molecular design and modification.

### 3. Sensing with luminescence

### 3.1. Chromism

Chromism is a process by which photophysical properties (absorption wavelength, emission wavelength, and so on) are changed by some external stimuli. Chromism was classified based on external stimuli as photochromism (light)<sup>35</sup>, thermochromism (temperature, heat)<sup>36, 37</sup>, electrochromism (electron) <sup>38, 39</sup>, mechanochromism (mechanical force such as grinding, crushing and milling)<sup>40-42</sup>, solvatochromism (solvent molecular)<sup>43-45</sup>, piezochromism (pressure)<sup>46, 47</sup>, vapochromism (vapor of organic compounds or gas),<sup>48-50</sup> ionochromic (ions)<sup>51</sup>, and halochromism (pH)<sup>52</sup>.

Chromic materials change the appearance color or emission color by external stimuli. Hence, the change of external stimuli is institutively recognizable by observing the color change. Thus, chromic materials are applicable for sensing or imaging materials. For example, relating to luminous chromic materials, Hasegawa et al. reported lanthanide luminous thermochromic coordination polymer (CP)<sup>37</sup>. This lanthanide CP showed green emission below 250 K, yellow emission below 300 K, orange emission below 350 K, and red emission above 400 K (Fig. 10 (a)). Additionally, Ito et al. reported mechanochromic gold complexes<sup>40</sup>. This complex changed emission colors from blue to yellow by scratching or grinding (Fig. 10 (b)).



**Fig. 10 (a)** Lanthanide coordination polymer with thermochromic property. **(b)** Gold complex with mechanochromic property<sup>37,40</sup>.

### 3.2. Sensing with luminous materials

Sensing with luminous materials is applied in various fields, especially medicine and analysis. Nowadays, two types of luminous sensing are applied. One is the evaluation with emission intensity. The other is the evaluation with emission color showing luminous chromism. To evaluate using emission color change with chromic materials is much easier than to evaluate using the change of emission intensity. However, previously reported chromic materials mainly exhibited low color change. Therefore, chromic materials that can change their colors dramatically are desired

### 4. Luminous compounds

### 4.1. Lanthanide complexes

### 4.1.1. Lanthanide

Lanthanides are a series of the chemical elements that constitutes fifteen metallic chemical elements with atomic numbers between 57 through 71, i.e., from lanthanum to lutetium. Lanthanide has been labeled as group 3 element in the periodic table. The lanthanide ion is generally stable as a trivalent cation. The general electron configuration is expressed as below.

$$Ln^{3+} = [Kr](4d)^{10}(4f)^{n}(5s)^{2}(5p)^{6} (n = 0-14)$$

It is clear from the electron configuration of lanthanide trivalent ion that the

unoccupied 4f orbital is shielded by the occupied 5s and 5p orbitals. This is the most important characteristic which determines the physical properties of lanthanide ions. The radius of the 4f orbital is smaller than those of 5s and 5p orbitals. However, the energy of the 4f orbital is higher than the energies of the 5s and 5p orbitals. Therefore, the 5s and 5p orbitals are filled before the 4f orbital. Owing to this shielding effect by the occupied 5s, 5p orbitals, the 4f orbital is insulated from the influence of the surrounding environment such as ligands, solvents, and gases. Lanthanide ions have two physical properties due to the shielding effect. One is that the electronic interaction of the ligand is larger than the orbital interaction when lanthanide forms the coordination bonds. The other is that physical properties of lanthanide ions such as photophysical properties and magnetic properties are not changed by the surrounding environment.

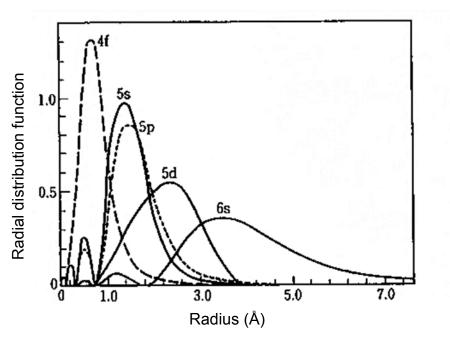


Fig. 11 Radius of 4f, 5s, 5p, 5d, and 6s orbital<sup>53</sup>

### 4.1.2. Luminescence property of lanthanide ion

The excitation process and electron transition related to the luminescent process of trivalent lanthanide ion is caused in the 4f orbital. In other words, this process is an f-f transition. The structural conversion between ground state and excited state is small because the f-f transition is caused in only the 4f orbital. Therefore, Stokes shift of the

f-f transition is quite small. In addition, the half width of the luminescence spectrum is very small, less than 10 nm, the shape of spectrum is sharp, and color purity is high. Furthermore, the 4f orbital is not split by changing the surrounding environment, such as the coordination fields, owing to the shielding effect. Hence, emission wavelength has a specific value for each kind of lanthanide ions. Dieke et al. reported about the energy terms of lanthanide ions<sup>54</sup>. They researched the energy levels of lanthanide chloride. The table below is called Dieke's diagram, which is one of the important sources of information to identify photophysical properties of lanthanide ions (Fig. 12).

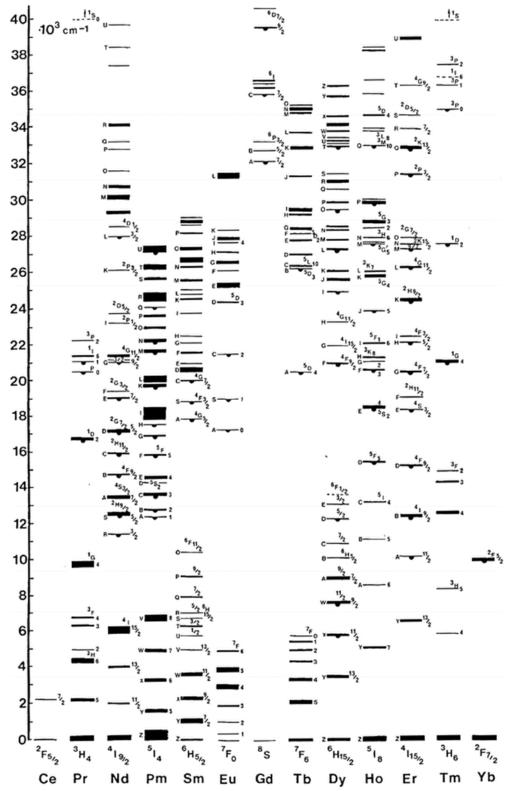


Fig. 12 Dieke's Diagram<sup>54</sup>

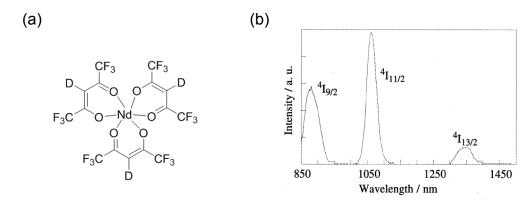
### 4.1.3 Luminescent properties of lanthanide complex

The emission wavelengths of lanthanide complexes have specific values for each kind of lanthanide ions due to the shielding effect. However, the luminescence efficiency of lanthanide complexes is generally much higher than that of lanthanide ions with photoluminescent properties. The reason behind the increased luminescence efficiency is due to the difference of absorption efficiency between lanthanide ions and organic compounds. The molar absorptivity of lanthanide ions is less than 10 M<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>. In contrast, the molar absorptivity of organic compound is 10<sup>3</sup>–10<sup>5</sup> M<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>. Organic ligands receive energy which gains with photon absorption by lanthanide ions by energy transfer in lanthanide complexes. Lanthanide complexes showed strong emission because the absorption efficiency of an organic ligand is higher and the excited energy is transferred from the organic ligand to the lanthanide ion. This effect is called antenna effect. Owing to antenna effect, the emission peak top of lanthanide complex is different from its absorption peak top. Therefore, unlike lanthanide ions, the Stokes shift of lanthanide complex is large.

The emission process of lanthanide complexes in photoluminescence is explained below. First, an organic ligand whose absorption efficiency is high is excited to its singlet excited state by photoabsorption. Then, the energy state transfers to the triplet excited state by intersystem crossing in energy level of the ligand. The transition rate of intersystem crossing is generally low because this transition is a forbidden process. However, this rate in lanthanide complexes is high owing to the heavy atom effect of lanthanide ions. After intersystem crossing, the energy is transferred from the triplet excited states of the ligand to the triplet excited states of lanthanide ion. At last, the excited energy goes back to the ground state, thereby the lanthanide complex displays luminescence. In this process, two non-radiative transitions are expected. One is from the excited states of the ligand. The organic compound has a lot of covalent bond. Some covalent bond, such as C-H and O-H vibrate at low energy. Therefore, excited energy is consumed by bond vibration. The other non-radiative transition is the energy transfer process from ligand to lanthanide. If the energy gap between triplet excited state of the ligand and that of the lanthanide ion is small, back energy transfer from lanthanide ion to ligand is caused. Therefore, the emission of lanthanide is quenched.

To inhibit these quenching mechanisms, the luminescence efficiency of lanthanide complex is controllable. Yanagita et al. reported Nd(III) complexes with rigid β-diketone ligands<sup>55</sup>. Nd(III) ion showed emission in infrared regions; therefore, Nd(III) complex had shown no emission in organic solvents. This rigid ligand was composed of low vibrational C-D and C-F bonds. Consequently, this Nd(III) complexes showed emissions

in organic solvent (Fig. 13 (b)).



**Fig. 13 (a)** Chemical structure of Nd(III) complex with rigid β-diketone ligands. **(b)** Emission spectra of Nd(III) complex in acetone-d6; excitation at 585 nm<sup>55</sup>.

In Chapter 2, we discussed the rational synthesis of the trinuclear lanthanide complexes and controlling their luminescent property by ligand design. We used the same ligand H2L as in Chapter 1 and synthesized tri-nuclear lanthanide complexes. Furthermore, we synthesized another ligand  $H_2L^F$  modified  $H_2L$  of  $CH_3$  moieties to  $CF_3$  moieties at the end of  $\beta$ -diketone sites. Similar trinuclear structure was formed with  $H_2L^F$  and trivalent europium ions. The emission efficiency of europium complex with  $H_2L^F$  is much higher than that of europium complex with  $H_2L$ , so as to inhibit the non-radiative transition in the ligand. In Chapter 2, we explained the detailed structure and luminescent properties of trinuclear lanthanide complexes.

### 4.2. Boron complex

### 4.2.1. Boron

Boron is a chemical element with atomic number 5, and is a group 3 element. The electronic configuration of boron atom is expressed as below.

$$B = [He](2s)^{1}(2p)^{1}$$

Boron atom has an unoccupied p orbital. Therefore, the covalent boron compounds called organoboron compounds have reported some interesting luminescence or electronic properties owing to the extension of the conjugated  $\pi$ -orbitals by unoccupied p orbitals. However, organoboron compounds have problem related to stability.

### 4.2.2. Boron complex

Trivalent boron ions form coordination bonds with bidentate ligands. This boron complex is reported to have high stability to moisture, oxygen, and photons. Furthermore,

the boron complex is also reported to show excellent optical properties owing to the extension of the  $\pi$  conjugated bonds and forming rigid  $\pi$  frameworks. A typical boron complex is BODIPY with a dipyrromethene framework and its analogs. BODIPY dyes have high quantum yields (normally between 60 and 90%), large molar absorptivity (typically being in the region of 40000–110000 M<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>), sharp bands in the absorption spectra, small Stokes shift, low solvatochromic property because of electric dipole moment and dipole transition are at right angles to each other, and excellent chemical and photochemical stability in any state. In addition, its optical properties are controllable by modifying dipyrromethene frameworks<sup>56-58</sup>.

BODIPY has been reported on applied research such as introduction into living cells as well as photophysical properties because of its excellent stabilities.<sup>59</sup>. Similarly, other type of boron complexes, i.e., boron complexes with β-diketonate analogs, such as b-diketonate, ketoiminate, and diiminate have been also reported<sup>60</sup>. These compounds demonstrated excellent optical properties. Furthermore, their frameworks are easier to synthesize than BODIPY frameworks. Thus, boron complexes with b-diketonate and its analogs have been extensively researched in recent years.

(a) 
$$R^3$$
  $R^4$   $R^3$  (b) (c) (d)  $R^2$   $R^1$   $R^2$   $R^1$   $R^2$   $R^3$   $R^4$   $R^4$   $R^4$ 

**Fig. 14** Chemical structure of **(a)** F-bodipy, **(b)** boron diketonate, **(c)** boron ketoiminate, and **(d)** boron diiminate frameworks<sup>56-60</sup>

### 4.2.3. Boron complex ligand

A boron complex which has extra coordination sites is known as a boron complex ligand. Already, certain BODIPY compounds with coordination sites have been reported. However, these BODIPY compounds were applied as ion sensors by changing the optical property of BODIPY with coordination. However, metal ions or complexes also have unique physical properties such as emission and redox. Therefore, the boron metal heteronuclear complex has potential for new luminescence materials. Unique optical properties such as multiemission and emission color change are anticipated by designing structures to combine both excellent optical properties of the boron complex and metal complex.

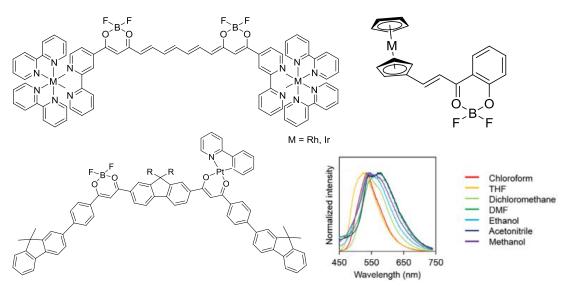
Some preceding examples of boron metal hetero-oligonuclear complexes with boron complex ligand were reported. Marder et al. reported Rh(III) or Ir(III) complexes with boron complex containing 2,2'-bipyridine moieties as coordination sites<sup>61</sup>. These chromophores exhibit large third-order polarisabilities at 1.55  $\mu$ m, while retaining good film-forming properties and linear optical transparency in the near infrared region.

Chujo et al. reported a platinum-boron heterobinuclear complex<sup>62</sup>. This complex was synthesized such that the platinum binuclear complex replaced one platinum ion with one boron ion. This heterobinuclear complex showed dual emission properties due to the platinum and boron complexes.

Furthermore, Neamati et al. reported that ferrocenyl chalcone difluoridoborates worked as an inhibitor for HIV-1 integrase<sup>63</sup>. Maeda et al. reported ion pairs with platinum complexes and boron complexes <sup>64</sup>.

As described above, boron metal heteronuclear complexes with boron complex ligands are new materials that are expected to provide unique properties.

In Chapter 3, we proposed new concepts of the boron metal heteronuclear complex. We chose lanthanide ions as the metal ions, and prepared boron lanthanide heteronuclear complexes. These complexes showed dual emission from lanthanide ions and boron complexes. Furthermore, these compounds showed concentration and solvent dependent luminescent properties. Boron lanthanide heteronuclear complexes are novel color tunable materials. In Chapter 3, we describe the synthesis, characteristics, and luminescence properties of boron lanthanide heteronuclear complexes.



**Fig. 15** Boron-metal hetero nuclear complexes and luminescence spectra of Boron-Pt hetero nuclear complex<sup>61-64</sup>

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## **Chapter 1**

Structural Conversion and Selective Synthesis of Di- and Octa-nuclear Mn(II), Co(II) and Zn(II) Complexes

### **Abstract**

A linear multidentate type ligand ( $H_2L$ ) was prepared two types of oligo-nuclear complexes, di-nuclear complexes ( $M_2(HL)_2$ ) and octa-nuclear complexes ( $M_8L_6$ ) with divalent 3d transition ions (M = Mn, Zn, and Co). These compounds were synthesized selectively by adjusting pH. Di-nuclear complex was obtained in acidic condition. Octanuclear complex was obtained in basic condition. The structure of  $M_2(HL)_2$  was consist of two metal ions, two half-deprotonated ligands ( $HL^-$ ), two nitrate anions, and two coordination solvents. The structure of  $M_8L_6$  was composed of eight metal ions and six full-deprotonated ligands ( $L^2$ -). All compounds were characterized by FT-IR spectrum, UV-vis spectrum, elemental analysis, and single X-ray diffraction.  $M_2(HL)_2$  was transformed to  $M_8L_6$  by adding the base in solution state. Moreover, irreversible conversion of  $M_2(HL)_2$  to  $M_8L_6$  in response to the base addition in solution state was confirmed with UV-vis spectra.

### **Introduction**

Oligo-nuclear complexes have attracted significant attention because of their catalytic<sup>1,2</sup>, magnetic<sup>3-6</sup>, and emission<sup>7</sup> properties. Oligo-nuclear complexes consist of multi metal ions, and each metal ions interact with other metal ions. Therefore, some of them exhibit interesting physical properties not found in mono-nuclear complexes, for example exchange interaction, multi electron transfer, generation of mixed valence complexes, and intermetallic energy transfer.

M.A. Novak et.al. reported Mn12 cluster complex had large spin angular moment (S=10) and showed SMM properties.<sup>3, 4, 8</sup> These unique properties of oligo-nuclear complexes are strongly correlated to their structures. However, structures of oligo-nuclear complexes are complicated; hence it is difficult to construct the desired structures.

To control the arrangement of metal ions, several rational synthetic methods have been reported that use macrocyclic ligands<sup>9</sup>, complex ligands<sup>10</sup>, and multidentate ligands<sup>11-14</sup>.

This paper suggests a new rational method for designing oligo-nuclear complexes and structural control. Using the linear multidentate ligands. This ligand has some multidentate sites linearly, so has an ability to coordinate with some metal ions Furthermore, metal ions which are coordinate with a linear multidentate ligand have some uncoordinated sites, then coordinate with another ligands and rational synthesis of oligo-nuclear complex are expected. In front of this paper, one kinds of linear multidentate ligand called  $H_2L$ , which has two  $\beta$ -diketone sites and one 2,6-diacethylpyridine site. There are two kinds of coordination sites in one ligand, therefor hetero oligo-nuclear complexes were reported. In addition, coordination ability of  $\beta$ -diketone was controllable with elimination-addition of proton. Selective structure control and interconversion were expected by control of  $\beta$ -di

Octa-nuclear complex ( $M_8L_6$ ) and di-nuclear complex ( $M_2(HL)_2$ ) were synthesized with divalent 3d metal ions (M = Mn, Co, and Zn) and  $H_2L$  in basic and acidic condition, respectively. Furthermore, bi nuclear complex was transformed to octa nuclear complex by adding the base.

### **Experiment**

### X-ray structure Determination.

All Single-crystal X-ray diffraction data were collected on a Bulker SMART APEX II ULTRA CCD-detector Diffractometer, a rotating-anode (Bruker Tourbo X-ray source) with graphite-monochromated MoK $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda$  = 0.71073 Å) was used. A single crystal was mounted on a polymer film with liquid paraffin and the temperature kept constant under flowing N<sub>2</sub>. All of the structures were solved by a standard direct method (XSHELL V6.3.1 crystallographic software package of the Bruker AXS) and expanded using Fourier techniques. Fullmatrixleast-squares refinements were carried out with anisotropic thermal parameters for all non-hydrogen atoms. All of the hydrogen atoms were placed in the measured positions and refined using a riding model.

### Elemental analysis and Spectroscopic Measurements.

Elemental analyses of carbon, hydrogen and nitrogen were carried out by the staff of technical support division graduate school of science, Kyushu University. X-ray fluorescence analysis was carried out on a Rigaku ZSX-100S. Infrared spectra were measured with a JASCO FT/IR-4200 using ATR method. UV-Vis absorption spectra were measured by JASCO V-630. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra were obtained with JEOL 600MHz.

### **Materials**

All chemicals were purchased of reagent grade and used without further purification.

### Preparation of compounds

### 2,6-Pyridinedicarboxylic acid, dimethyl ester (Pmm)

Sulfuric acid (0.99 g) was added slowly into methanol suspension of pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylic acid (1.67 g, 10 mmol). The mixture was refluxed for 2.5 hour, then the resulting colorless solution was cooled in the freezer to obtain white crystals of 2,6-Pyridinedicarboxylic acid dimethyl ester. The crystals were filtered, washed with cold MeOH and recrystallized from MeOH. Yield: 1.51 g (80.6 %)

 $^{1}$ H-NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>), δ: 8.57 ~ 8.68 ppm (3H; pyridine group), δ: 3.24 ppm (6H; CH<sub>3</sub> groups)

 $IR(v/cm^{-1})$ : 2964 b( $v_{C-H}$ ), 1614 s( $v_{C-O}$ ), 1559 s( $v_{C-C}$ )

### 2,6-di(acetoacetyl)pyridine (H<sub>2</sub>L)

The preparation of  $H_2L$  was carried out by a modification of a previously published method<sup>19</sup>. Pmm (7.70 g, 46 mmol) and sodium methoxide (14.3 g, 260 mmol) were mixed in diethyl ether. Acetone was added in this suspension and the resulting mixture was refluxed for 3 hours. Yellow powder was filtered, and dissolved in hydroxy chloride solution (2M). The mixture was stirred for 6 hours at room temperature. Yellow solid of  $H_2L$  was filtered, washed with water and cold MeOH, and recrystallized from MeOH. Yield: 4.92 g (56.0 %).

 $^{1}$ H-NM (CDCl<sub>3</sub>), δ: 7.97 ~ 8.19 ppm (3H; pyridine group), δ; 6.87 ppm (2H; CH<sub>2</sub> in β-diketone) δ: 2.29 ppm (6H; CH<sub>3</sub> group)

 $IR(v/cm^{-1})$ : 2964 b( $v_{C-H}$ ), 1614 s( $v_{C-O}$ ), 1559 s( $v_{C-C}$ )

### $[Mn_2(HL)_2(NO_3)_2(solv)_2]$ $(Mn_2(HL)_2)$

A methanolic solution of  $Mn(NO_3)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$  (285 mg, 1.0 mmol in 5 ml) was added to a solution of  $H_2L$  (245 mg, 1.0 mmol) in methanol (5 ml). The resulting solution was left to stand without addition of base. Yellow crystals were obtained by slow evaporation of the solution at room temperature. Yield: 92 mg (30.8 %).

 $IR(\nu/cm^{\text{-}1}): 2964 \ b(\nu_{\text{C-H}}), \ 1620 \ s(\nu_{\text{C=O}}), \ 1509 \ s(\nu_{\text{C=C}}), \ 1458 \ s \ (\nu_{\text{NO3}})$ 

Found (%): C, 41.37; H, 3.88; N, 6.96

Calcd (%): C, 41.77; H, 3.89; N, 7.22

### [Co<sub>2</sub>(HL)<sub>2</sub>(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(solv)<sub>2</sub>] (Co<sub>2</sub>(HL)<sub>2</sub>)

Orange crystals of  $Co_2(HL)_2$  were prepared by the same method as  $Mn_2(HL)_2$  with using  $Co(NO_3)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$  instead of  $Mn(NO_3)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$ . Yield: 90 mg (29.5 %).

 $IR(v/cm^{-1})$ : 2964  $b(v_{C-H})$ , 1629  $s(v_{C=O})$ , 1518  $s(v_{C=C})$ , 1455  $s(v_{NO3})$ 

Found (%): C, 40.28; H, 3.72; N, 6.98

Calcd (%): C, 40.54; H, 3.66; N, 7.27

### $[Zn_2(HL)_2(NO_3)_2(solv)_2]$ $(Zn_2(HL)_2)$

Yellow crystals of  $Zn_2(HL)_2$  were prepared by the same method as  $Mn_2(HL)_2$  with using  $Zn(NO_3)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$  instead of  $Mn(NO_3)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$ . Yield: 102 mg (34.2 %).

 $IR(v/cm^{-1})$ : 2964  $b(v_{C-H})$ , 1619  $s(v_{C-O})$ , 1509  $s(v_{C-C})$ , 1454  $s(v_{NO3})$ 

Found (%): C, 40.19; H, 3.21; N, 7.20

Calcd (%): C, 39.87; H, 3.60; N, 7.15

### $[Mn_8L_6(\mu_3-O)_2]$ $(Mn_8L_6)$

A methanolic solution of  $Mn(NO_3)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$  (582 mg, 2.0 mmol in 10 ml) was added to the solution of  $H_2L$  (382 mg, 1.5 mmol) in methanol (10 ml). Triethylamine was added to the resulting solution to adjust the pH to 8. Yellow crystals were obtained by slow evaporation of the solution at room temperature. Yield: 261 mg (53.0 %).

IR(v/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1615 s(v<sub>C=O</sub>), 1581 s(v<sub>C=C</sub>) Found (%): C, 48.58; H, 3.21; N, 4.56 Calcd (%): C, 48.22; H, 3.42; N, 4.33

### $[Co_8L_6(\mu_3-O)_2]$ (Co<sub>8</sub>L<sub>6</sub>)

Red crystals of Co<sub>8</sub>L<sub>6</sub> were prepared by the same method as Mn<sub>8</sub>L<sub>6</sub> with using Co(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O instead of Mn(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O. Yield: 301 mg (61.3 %). Yield: 301 mg (61.3 %).

IR( $v/cm^{-1}$ ): 1615 s( $v_{C=O}$ ), 1581 s( $v_{C=C}$ ) Found (%): C, 47.60; H, 3.59; N, 4.51 Calcd (%): C, 47.44; H, 3.37; N, 4.26

### $[Zn_8L_6(\mu_3-O)_2]$ $(Zn_8L_6)$

Yellow crystals of  $Zn_8L_6$  were prepared by the same method as  $Mn_8L_6$  with using  $Zn(NO_3)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$  instead of  $Mn(NO_3)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$ . Yield: 289 mg (57.5 %).

IR( $v/cm^{-1}$ ): 1615 s( $v_{C=O}$ ), 1581 s( $v_{C=C}$ ) Found (%): C, 45.11; H, 3.66; N, 4.37 Calcd (%): C, 46.23; H, 3.28; N, 4.15

### **Results and discussion**

### X-Ray Structural Characterization

X-ray crystallographic analysis reveals that  $\mathbf{Mn_2(HL)_2}$ ,  $\mathbf{Co_2(HL)_2}$ , and  $\mathbf{Zn_2(HL)_2}$  are isomorphic, respectively. Crystal parameters for complexes are summarized in Table 1. The selected bond lengths and angles for complexes are described in Table 2-4.  $\mathbf{Mn_2(HL)_2}$  crystallizes in monoclinic system with space group  $P2_1/n$ . The asymmetric unit consists of one  $\mathbf{M}^{2+}$  ion and one  $\mathbf{HL}^-$ . The  $\mathbf{HL}^-$  coordinated to two different  $\mathbf{M}^{2+}$  ions

with one 1,3-diketone and one 2,6-diacetylpyridine sites, and one 1,3-diketone site was protonated and coordination-free, forming the enolate-bridged dinuclear structure. M<sup>2+</sup> ions are in seven-coordinated pentagonal-bipyramidal geometry with one monodentate nitrate and one water molecule at the axial sites. Selected bond distances and angles are listed in Tables S2-4. In the equatorial pentagonal plane, the bond distances of M1-O1, M1-O2 and M1-O2# (#: symmetry operation 1-x, 1-y, 1-z) are in the range of 2.1558(16)-2.2178(16) Å for Mn, 2.062(2)-2.146(2) Å for Co, and 2.151(4)-2.213(3) Å for Zn. The other equatorial bonds, M1-N1 and M1-O3#, are elongated to 2.311(2) and 2.349(2) Å for Mn, 2.206(2) and 2.385(2) Å for Co, and 2.307(4) and 2.346(4) Å for Zn. The protonated enol oxygen O3 formed relatively weak bonds with metal ions. Two metal ions are linked by two enolate-bridges with the bridging angle of 105.52(6)° for Mn, 108.05(7)° for Co, and 105.7(1)° for Zn.

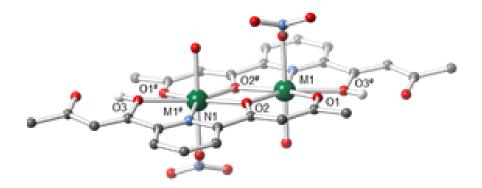


Fig. 1 Structure of M<sub>2</sub>(HL)<sub>2</sub>

Octa-nuclear complexes  $Mn_8L_6$ ,  $Co_8L_6$ , and  $Zn_8L_6$  are also isomorphous (Figure 2, Tables 5–8). The asymmetric unit consists of four  $M^{2+}$  and three  $L^{2-}$ , including a terminal mononuclear unit  $[M(L)_3]^{4-}$  with the 1,3-diketone site and an oxo-bridged trinuclear unit  $[M_3(\mu_3-O)]^{4+}$  with the 2,6-diacetylpyridine site, which forms a tetranuclear unit (Figure 3). Two tetrad units are interdigitated through the 1,3-diketone sites (blue color in Figure 3) and form an octa-nuclear cluster structure. Selected bond distances and angles are listed in Tables 6–8. The mononuclear unit fixed three  $L^{2-}$  like a tripod and formed a space to accommodate the trinuclear unit. In the trinuclear unit, all metal ions are in a distorted octahedral geometry with short  $M-\mu_3$ -O bonds (average bond length: 2.045 Å for Mn, 1.977 Å for Co, and 1.957 Å for Zn) and bonds with  $L^{2-}$  (bond length range: 2.140(7)–2.374(4) Å for Mn, 2.018(8)–2.352(8) Å for Co, and 2.068(3)–2.370(4) Å for Zn).

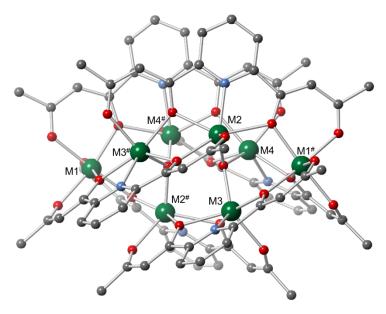


Fig. 2 Structure of M<sub>8</sub>L<sub>6</sub>

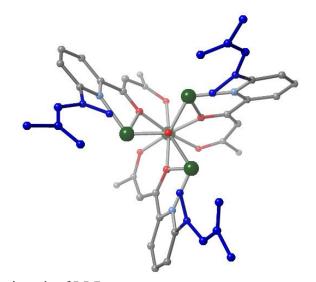


Fig. 3 The asymmetric unit of  $M_8L_6$ 

Table 1 Crystal parameter of M<sub>2</sub>(HL)<sub>2</sub>

Name	Mn <sub>2</sub> (HL) <sub>2</sub>	Co <sub>2</sub> (HL) <sub>2</sub>	Zn <sub>2</sub> (HL) <sub>2</sub>
Empirical formula	$C_{26}H_{28}O_{16}Mn_2N_4\\$	$C_{26}H_{22}Co_{2}N_{4}O_{16} \\$	$C_{26}H_{28}N_4O_{16}Zn_2\\$
Crystal system	monoclinic	monoclinic	monoclinic
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n	$P2_1/n$	P2 <sub>1</sub> /n
a/Å	9.925(3)	9.986(3)	9.921(4)
$b/ ext{Å}$	13.733(3)	13.577(4)	13.726(5)
c/Å	10.768(3)	10.653(3)	10.757(4)
$\alpha$ / $^{\circ}$	90	90	90
$\beta$ / $^{\circ}$	93.675(3)	94.118(4)	93.716(4)
γ/°	90	90	90
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	1464.7(6)	1440.6(7)	1461.7(9)
Z	2	2	2
GOF	0.828	1.035	1.041
R1	0.0355	0.0358	0.0668
wR	0.1183	0.0914	0.2166

Table 2 Selected bond distances and angles for Mn<sub>2</sub>(HL)<sub>2</sub>

Bond Distances(Å)		-( )-	
equatorial		axial	
Mn1-O1	2.1558(16)	Mn1-O5	2.2197(17)
Mn1-O2	2.2051(15)	Mn1-O8	2.1821(16)
Mn1-O2 <sup>#</sup>	2.2178(16)		
Mn1-O3 <sup>#</sup>	2.3491(16)		
Mn1-N1 <sup>#</sup>	2.3107(18)		
Bond Angles (°)			
O1-Mn1-O2	80.04(6)	O2 <sup>#</sup> -Mn1-O3 <sup>#</sup>	135.22(6)
O1-Mn1-O2#	154.51(6)	O2 <sup>#</sup> -Mn1-O5	89.26(6)
O1-Mn1-O3#	70.23(6)	O2 <sup>#</sup> -Mn1-O8	87.95(6)
O1-Mn1-O5	89.92(7)	O2 <sup>#</sup> -Mn1-N1 <sup>#</sup>	69.88(6)
O1-Mn1-O8	93.16(6)	O3 <sup>#</sup> -Mn1-O5	94.38(6)
O1-Mn1-N1#	135.28(6)	O3 <sup>#</sup> -Mn1-O8	86.68(6)
O2-Mn1-O2 <sup>#</sup>	74.48(6)	O3 <sup>#</sup> -Mn1-N1 <sup>#</sup>	66.22(6)
O2-Mn1-O3 <sup>#</sup>	149.85(6)	O5-Mn1-O8	176.92(6)
O2-Mn1-O5	90.41(6)	O5-Mn1-N1 <sup>#</sup>	83.78(6)

<sup>#:</sup> symmetry operation 1-x, 1-y, 1-z

Table 3 Selected bond distances and angles for Co<sub>2</sub>(HL)<sub>2</sub>

Bond Distances(Å)			
equatorial		axial	
Co1-O1	2.0621(17)	Co1-O5	2.1671(18)
Co1-O2	2.1458(17)	Co1-O8	2.0996(17)
Co1-O2 <sup>#</sup>	2.1243(17)		
Co1-O3 <sup>#</sup>	2.3854(18)		
Co1-N1 <sup>#</sup>	2.207(2)		
Bond Angles (°)			
O1-Co1-O2	81.74(7)	O2 <sup>#</sup> -Co1-O3 <sup>#</sup>	137.98(6)
O1-Co1-O2 <sup>#</sup>	153.63(7)	O2 <sup>#</sup> -Co1-O5	90.69
O1-Co1-O3 <sup>#</sup>	68.25(7)	O2 <sup>#</sup> -Co1-O8	87.39(7)
O1-Co1-O5	88.56(7)	O2 <sup>#</sup> -Co1-N1 <sup>#</sup>	73.28(7)
O1-Co1-O8	94.69(7)	O3 <sup>#</sup> -Co1-O5	95.92(7)
O1-Co1-N1 <sup>#</sup>	132.59(8)	O3 <sup>#</sup> -Co1-O8	83.26(7)
O2-Co1-O2 <sup>#</sup>	71.95(7)	O3 <sup>#</sup> -Co1-N1 <sup>#</sup>	66.61(7)
O2-Co1-O3 <sup>#</sup>	148.64(6)	O5-Co1-O8	176.07(7)
O2-Co1-O5	91.97	O5-Co1-N1#	82.47(7)

<sup>#:</sup> symmetry operation 1-x, 1-y, 1-z

Table 4 Selected bond distances and angles of  $\mathbf{Zn_2(HL)_2}$ 

		` '	
Bond Distances(Å)			
equatorial		axial	
Zn1-O1	2.151(4)	Zn1-O5	2.217(4)
Zn1-O2	2.203(4)	Zn1-O8	2.183(4)
Zn1-O2 <sup>#</sup>	2.213(4)		
Zn1-O3 <sup>#</sup>	2.346(4)		
Zn1-N1 <sup>#</sup>	2.307(4)		
Bond Angles (°)			
O1-Zn1-O2	80.13(14)	O2 <sup>#</sup> -Zn1-O3 <sup>#</sup>	135.30(13)
O1-Zn1-O2 <sup>#</sup>	154.45(14)	O2 <sup>#</sup> -Zn1-O5	89.34(14)
O1-Zn1-O3 <sup>#</sup>	70.19(14)	O2 <sup>#</sup> -Zn1-O8	87.75(14)
O1-Zn1-O5	90.10(15)	O2 <sup>#</sup> -Zn1-N1 <sup>#</sup>	70.02(13)
O1-Zn1-O8	93.06(15)	O3# -Zn1-O5	94.47(15)
O1-Zn1-N1 <sup>#</sup>	135.24(14)	O3# -Zn1-O8	86.75(15)
O2-Zn1-O2 <sup>#</sup>	74.33(15)	O3# -Zn1-N1#	66.20(13)
O2-Zn1-O3 <sup>#</sup>	149.90(13)	O5-Zn1-O8	176.84(14)
O2-Zn1-O5	90.38(14)	O5-Zn1-N1 <sup>#</sup>	83.77(14)

<sup>#:</sup> symmetry operation 1-x, 1-y, 1-z

Table 5 Crystal parameter of M<sub>8</sub>L<sub>6</sub>

Name	Mn <sub>8</sub> L <sub>6</sub>	Co <sub>8</sub> L <sub>6</sub>	Zn <sub>8</sub> L <sub>6</sub>
Empirical formula	$C_{78}H_{66}Mn_8N_6O_{26}\\$	$C_{78}H_{66}Co_{8}N_{6}O_{26} \\$	$C_{78}H_{66}\ Zn_{8}N_{6}O_{26}$
Crystal system	monoclinic	monoclinic	monoclinic
Space group	C2/c	C2/c	C2/c
a/Å	34.450(16)	33.98(3)	31.810(4)
$b/ ext{Å}$	12.581(6)	12.359(11)	12.4337(17)
c/Å	25.153(11)	25.07(2)	25.690(4)
α/°	90	90	90
$eta$ / $^{\circ}$	127.904(5)	127.564(13)	120.3410(10)
γ/°	90	90	90
Volume/ų	8602(7)	8345(12)	8769(2)
Z	4	4	4
GOF	1.044	0.989	1.117
<i>R1</i>	0.648	0.732	0.0542
wR	0.1716	0.1622	0.1353

Table 6 Selected bond distances and bridging angles for  $Mn_8L_6$ 

Bond Distances(Å)			
Mn1-O1	2.181(5)	Mn3-O2 <sup>#</sup>	2.273(4)
Mn1-O2	2.155(4)	Mn3-O3 <sup>#</sup>	2.265(4)
Mn1-O5	2.145(5)	Mn3-O7	2.167(4)
Mn1-O6	2.203(4)	Mn3-O8	2.168(5)
Mn1-O9	2.120(5)	Mn3-O13	2.051(4)
Mn1-O10	2.180(5)	Mn3-N1 <sup>#</sup>	2.204(5)
Mn2-O3	2.153(5)	Mn4-O10 <sup>#</sup>	2.164(5)
Mn2-O4	2.139(4)	Mn4-O11	2.212(5)
Mn2-O6 <sup>#</sup>	2.293(4)	Mn4-O11 <sup>#</sup>	2.035(4)
Mn2-O7 <sup>#</sup>	2.374(4)	Mn4-O12	2.309(4)
Mn2-O13	2.049(4)	Mn4-O13	2.304(5)
Mn2-N2 <sup>#</sup>	2.215(5)	Mn4-N3 <sup>#</sup>	2.216(6)
Bond Angles (°)			
Mn1-O6-Mn2 <sup>#</sup>	114.1(2)	Mn2-O13-Mn3	115.1(2)
Mn1-O2-Mn3 <sup>#</sup>	110.9(2)	Mn2-O13-Mn4	116.9(2)
$Mn1-O10-Mn4^{\#}$	113.7(2)	Mn3-O13-Mn4	115.1(2)
Mn2-O3-Mn3	105.1(2)	Mn4-O11-Mn4 <sup>#</sup>	104.5(2)
Mn2 <sup>#</sup> -O7-Mn3	101.1(2)		

<sup>#:</sup> symmetry operation 1-x, y, 3/2-z

Table 7 Selected bond distance and bridging angles for  $Co_8L_6$ 

Bond Distances(Å)			
Co1-O1	2.082(8)	Co3-O2 <sup>#</sup>	2.150(8)
Co1-O2	2.059(9)	Co3-O3 <sup>#</sup>	2.298(10)
Co1-O5	2.047(8)	Co3-O7	2.019(8)
Co1-O6	2.081(8)	Co3-O8	2.110(8)
Co1-O9	2.035(10)	Co3-O13	2.003(8)
Co1-O10	2.062(8)	Co3-N1 <sup>#</sup>	2.077(10)
Co2-O3	2.019(9)	Co4-O10 <sup>#</sup>	2.199(9)
Co2-O4	2.026(9)	Co4-O11	2.075(11)
Co2-O6 <sup>#</sup>	2.169(7)	Co4-O11 <sup>#</sup>	2.353(10)
Co2-O7 <sup>#</sup>	3.172	Co4-O12	2.108(9)
Co2-O13	1.983(8)	Co4-O13	1.950(7)
Co2-N2 <sup>#</sup>	2.088(9)	Co4-N3 <sup>#</sup>	2.107(11)
Bond Angles (°)			
Co1-O6-Co2 <sup>#</sup>	117.9(4)	Co2-O13-Co3	113.0(4)
Co1-O2-Co3#	114.7(4)	Co2-O13-Co4	115.3(4)
Co1-O10-Co4 <sup>#</sup>	117.7(4)	Co3-O13-Co4	114.6(4)
Co2-O3-Co3	110.9(4)	Co4-O11-Co4 <sup>#</sup>	108.2(5)
Co2 <sup>#</sup> -O7-Co3	101.9(3)		

<sup>#:</sup> symmetry operation 1-*x*, *y*, 3/2-*z* 

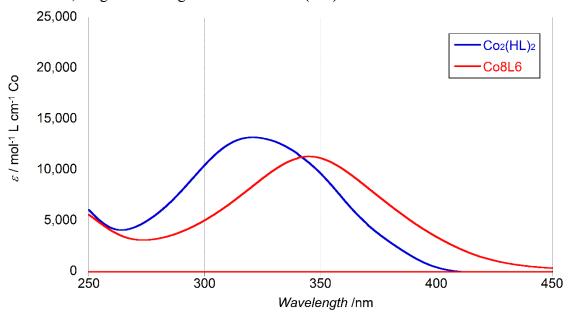
Table 8 Selected bond distances and bridging angles for  $Zn_8L_6$ 

Bond Distances(Å)			
Zn1-O1	2.089(3)	Zn3-O2 <sup>#</sup>	2.251(3)
Zn1-O2	2.064(3)	Zn3-O3 <sup>#</sup>	2.274(4)
Zn1-O5	2.074(3)	Zn3-O7	2.118(4)
Zn1-O6	2.079(3)	Zn3-O8	2.068(3)
Zn1-O9	2.079(3)	Zn3-O13	1.959(3)
Zn1-O10	2.085(3)	Zn3-N1 <sup>#</sup>	2.109(4)
Zn2-O3	2.107(4)	$Zn4-O10^{\#}$	2.243(3)
Zn2-O4	2.071(3)	Zn4-O11	2.140(4)
Zn2-O6 <sup>#</sup>	2.242(3)	Zn4-O11 <sup>#</sup>	2.278(5)
Zn2-O7 <sup>#</sup>	2.369(4)	Zn4-O12	2.076(4)
Zn2-O13	1.963(3)	Zn4-O13	1.949(3)
Zn2-N2 <sup>#</sup>	2.095(4)	Zn4-N3 <sup>#</sup>	2.103(4)
Bond Angles (°)			
$Zn1-O6-Zn2^{\#}$	118.6(1)	Zn2-O13-Zn3	114.4(2)
Zn1-O2-Zn3#	117.3(2)	Zn2-O13-Zn4	115.3(2)
Zn1-O10-Zn4#	117.3(2)	Zn3-O13-Zn4	116.0(2)
Zn2-O3-Zn3	107.2(2)	Zn4-O11-Zn4 <sup>#</sup>	106.9(2)
Zn2#-O7-Zn3	103.5(2)		

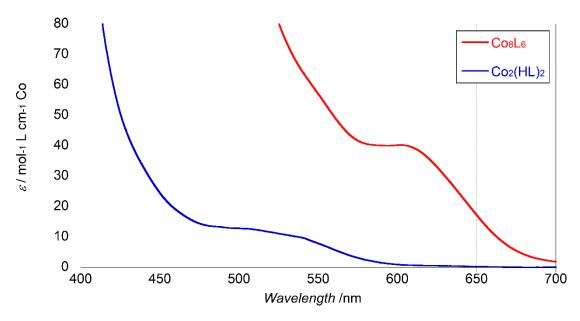
<sup>#:</sup> symmetry operation 1-x, y, 3/2-z

## **Absorption properties of Co complexes**

Fig. 4 shows UV-Vis spectra of  $Co_2(HL)_2$  and  $Co_8L_6$ . To make conditions equal, vertical scale is absorptivity of each Co(II) ion. The spectrum of  $Co_2(HL)_2$  had the peak around  $\lambda$ =330 nm which was  $\pi$ - $\pi$ \* transition from HL- ligands. On the other hand, the absorption peak of  $Co_8L_6$  was around  $\lambda$ =350 nm. This red shift was caused by deprotonation of the  $L^2$ - ligands. Fig. 5 shows UV-vis spectra expanded vertical scale of  $Co_2(HL)_2$  and  $Co_8L_6$ . Both spectra have broad band which assigned as d-d transitions. The band of  $Co_2(HL)_2$  located around  $\lambda$ =500 nm. The band of  $Co_8L_6$  located around  $\lambda$ =600 nm, longer wavelength than that of  $Co_2(HL)_2$ .



**Fig. 4** UV-vis absorption spectra of Co complexes. Absorptivity was normalized with Co(II) ion.



**Fig. 5** UV-vis absorption spectra of Co complexes. Absorptivity was normalized with Co(II) ion.

#### Structural conversion from di-nuclear to octa nuclear complex.

Because the dinuclear complexes M<sub>2</sub>(HL)<sub>2</sub> have two protonated and coordinationfree 1,3-diketone sites, structure change is expected by deprotonation. To confirm the structure change, UV-vis spectra of methanolic solution of Co<sub>2</sub>(HL)<sub>2</sub> was traced with changing pH

Fig. 6 and 7 show the UV-vis spectra of  $\mathbf{Co_2(HL)_2}$  with 0-3 equivalents of triethylamine added as a base. Methanolic solution of  $\mathbf{Co_2(HL)_2}$  exhibits a peak of  $\pi-\pi^*$  transition of  $\mathrm{HL^-}$  ( $\lambda_L$ ) near 320 nm and a broad peak of d-d transition of  $\mathrm{Co(II)}$  ( $\lambda_{Co}$ ) near 520 nm. After the addition of 0.1 eq. base,  $\lambda_L$  shifted to near 345 nm with increased absorption coefficient  $\varepsilon_L$ . With the increased amount of base,  $\varepsilon_L$  increased without a change of  $\lambda_L$ ; in contrast,  $\lambda_{Co}$  gradually shifted to 620 nm with increasing  $\varepsilon_{Co}$ . The resulting  $\lambda_L$  and  $\lambda_{Co}$  agreed with those of free  $L^{2-}$  and  $\mathbf{CosL_6}$ , but value of  $\varepsilon_L$  after adding base was much higher than that of  $\mathbf{CosL_6}$ . These results suggested the following reaction occurred by the addition of base:

In this reaction, four Co<sub>2</sub>(HL)<sub>2</sub> are transformed to one Co<sub>8</sub>L<sub>6</sub> with the release of two

deprotonated ligands,  $L^{2-}$ . The release of  $L^{2-}$  was supported by the increase of  $\varepsilon_L$  near 345 nm. According to the reaction scheme, UV-vis absorption spectra of the resulting solutions were well regenerated as a summation of spectra of  $\mathbf{Co_8L_6}$  and  $L^{2-}$  (Fig. 8)

To the contrary,  $\mathbf{Co_8L_6}$  was not converted by the addition of  $L^{2-}$  and nitric acid. Although the spectra showed a small blue-shift of  $\lambda_{Co}$  and decrease in  $\varepsilon_L$ , it did not recover the spectrum of  $\mathbf{Co_2(HL)_2}$  (Fig. 9). The irreversible conversion is related to the structural stability of  $\mathbf{Co_8L_6}$  interdigitated by six  $L^{2-}$ . The structure is clearly more stable than that of  $\mathbf{Co_2(HL)_2}$  including two pentahedral bipyramidal  $\mathbf{Co(II)}$  with two protonated  $\mathbf{HL^-}$ .  $\mathbf{Mn_8L_6}$  and  $\mathbf{Zn_8L_6}$  were also obtained from the basic methanolic solution of  $\mathbf{Mn_2(HL)_2}$  and  $\mathbf{Zn_2(HL)_2}$ , respectively.

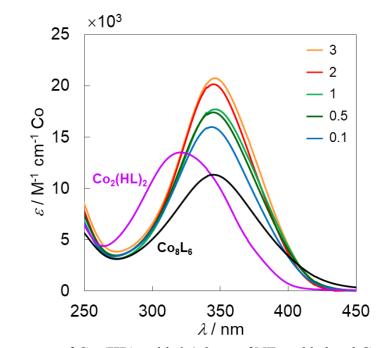


Fig. 6 UV-vis spectra of Co<sub>2</sub>(HL)<sub>2</sub> with 0.1-3 eq. of NEt<sub>3</sub> added and Co<sub>8</sub>L<sub>6</sub>.

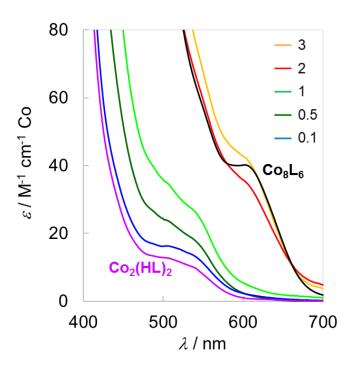
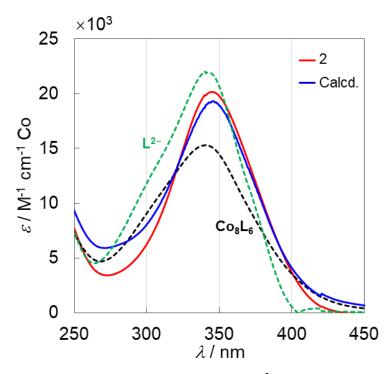


Fig. 7 UV-vis spectra of Co<sub>2</sub>(HL)<sub>2</sub> with 0.1-3 eq. of NEt<sub>3</sub> added and Co<sub>8</sub>L<sub>6</sub>.



**Fig. 8** Calculated UV-vis spectrum of  $Co_8L_6$  and  $L^{2-}$  (blue) and UV-vis spectra of  $Co_2(HL)_2$  and  $H_2L$  with 2 eq. of NEt<sub>3</sub> (red and dashed green lines, respectively) and  $Co_8L_6$  (dashed black).

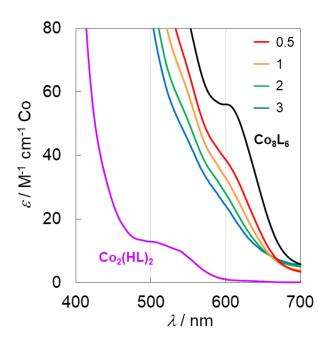


Fig. 9 UV-vis spectra of CosL<sub>6</sub> with 2 eq. of L<sup>2-</sup> and 0.1-3 eq. of nitric acid added.

#### **Magnetic properties**

 $\chi_M T$  vs. T plots of all compounds are shown in Figure 3. At room temperature, all compounds Co(II) (S=3/2) and Mn(II) (S=5/2) complexes showed antiferromagnetic behavior. In the case of Co<sub>2</sub>(HL)<sub>2</sub> and Co<sub>8</sub>L<sub>6</sub>, the magnetic behavior included the contribution of the spin-orbit coupling of single Co(II) ions. Detailed magnetic analysis was difficult for these compounds except for Mn<sub>2</sub>(HL)<sub>2</sub>. Magnetic simulation of Mn<sub>2</sub>(HL)<sub>2</sub> was carried out with a simple isotropic S=5/2+5/2 model with spin Hamiltonian  $H=-2JS_1\cdot S_2$ , and yielded J=-1.03 cm<sup>-1</sup> and g=2.00. Weak antiferromagnetic interaction operated between the two Mn(II) ions through two enolate-bridges. No signal was observed at 2 K in AC magnetization measurements for all compounds.

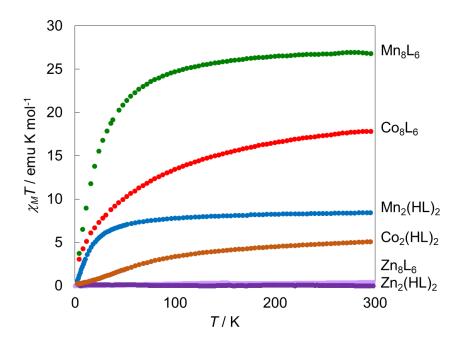


Fig. 10  $\chi_M T vs. T$  plots of M<sub>2</sub>(HL)<sub>2</sub> and M<sub>8</sub>L<sub>6</sub>.

#### **Conclusion**

In summary, di-nuclear complexes  $M_2(HL)$  and octa-nuclear complexes  $M_8L_6$  were selectively prepared by adjusting pH with a linear multidentate diprotic ligand  $H_2L$ .  $M_2(HL)$  having protonated 1,3-diketone sites were irreversibly transformed to  $M_8L_6$  by the addition of base. The unique structural conversion yields significant information about the formation process of the cluster structure in solution. The appropriate combination between metal ions and ligands and control of the assembled structure are useful for drawing out the performance of the catalytic reaction, magnetic properties, optical properties, and other aspects.

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# **Chapter 2**

# Synthesis and Luminescence Properties of Trinuclear Lanthanide Complexes with Linear Multidentate Ligands

#### **Abstract**

Novel trinuclear lanthanide complexes,  $[Ln_3L_2(NO_3)_5(MeOH)_4] \cdot nsolv (Ln_3L: Ln =$ La, Ce, Pr, Eu) and [Eu<sub>3</sub>L<sup>F</sup><sub>2</sub>(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>5</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub>(MeOH)]·3MeOH (Eu<sub>3</sub>L<sup>F</sup>) were obtained ligands, 2,6-di(acetoacetyl)pyridine triple-arch-type 2,6-di(1,1,1-trifluoro- acetoacetyl)pyridine (H<sub>2</sub>L<sup>F</sup>), having two β-diketone and one central 2,6-diacetylpyridine sites. They formed analogous structures, in which three Ln(III) ions were located between two ligands with coordinated nitrate anions and solvents. The central Ln(III) ion had different coordination environment from that on both sides. Eu<sub>3</sub>L showed red luminescence around 618 nm with quantum yield of 0.43% in solid state. Thermal vibration of C-H bonds of methyl groups in L<sup>2</sup>- was a one of the main factors for the low light emission quantum yield. In the case of Eu<sub>3</sub>L<sup>F</sup>, the methyl groups were substituted to the trifluoromethyl groups to compress the thermal vibration, which enhanced the quantum yield to 8.07%. We successfully established a rational synthesis method of trinuclear lanthanide complexes by using linear multidentate ligands, and improved their luminescent properties by suppressing vibrational relaxation.

#### **Introduction**

Photo luminescence is one of the luminous properties which occurs when a photo-irradiated matter returns from excited state to the ground state. Photo luminescence components are expected primitive mechanism, so it is expected to be applied as sensor<sup>1, 2</sup> and display. Especially, lanthanide compounds have been applied for a lot of photo luminescent materials. Some lanthanide ions such as europium and terbium, exhibit remarkable photo luminescent properties. Trivalent lanthanide ions have some electrons in the 4f orbitals and eight electrons in 5s<sup>2</sup> and 5p<sup>6</sup> orbitals. The 4f orbitals are shielded from surroundings by the 5s<sup>2</sup> and 5p<sup>6</sup> orbitals, so they are hardly affected by ligand fields. This is called "shielding effect", and the effect causes remarkable lanthanide-ion-specific luminescent properties (luminescent wavelength, Stokes shift, and color purity), e.g. Eu(III) and Sm(III) show red emission, 4,5 Tb(III) shows green emission, <sup>6</sup> Nd(III), Er(III) and Yb(III) show infrared emission. <sup>7</sup> Because of these property, lanthanide ions are expected to be applied as not only luminescence materials<sup>8</sup> but also solid laser<sup>9</sup> and luminescence probes.<sup>10, 11</sup> However, the luminescence efficiency of lanthanide ions is low, because of very low absorption coefficient ( $\varepsilon = 1 \sim 10 \text{ cm}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ dm}^3$ ). On the other hand, lanthanide complexes shows strong luminescence, because of energy transfer from ligands to metal center with high absorption coefficient ( $\varepsilon = 10^3 \sim 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1} \text{ dm}^3$ ) of  $\pi - \pi^*$  transition. The energy transfer through excited organic ligands is a key process to improve the luminescence efficiency of lanthanide complexes. 12 This is called "antenna effect", and this is a reason that lanthanide complexes are promising compounds as new luminescence materials.

Luminescence properties of lanthanide complexes have been extensively studied using mono-nuclear complexes so far, <sup>13, 14</sup> whereas poly- and oligo-nuclear lanthanide complexes are still rare. In particular, hetero-nuclear lanthanide complexes are expected to exhibit multi-color emission <sup>15, 16</sup> based on different lanthanide ions and highly-efficient luminescence due to metal to metal energy transfer. <sup>17-19</sup> However, rational design of oligo-nuclear lanthanide complexes is still challenging, because coordination number of lanthanide ions is too flexible. In this chapter, we aimed to establish a rational synthesis method of oligo-nuclear lanthanide complexes and to investigate their luminescence properties systematically.

To prepare tri-nuclear lanthanide complexes rationally, we designed multidentate ligands providing three linearly-arranged metal binding sites (Fig. 1). These ligands provide two kinds of metal binding sites, one central 2,6-diacetylpyridine site and two β-diketone sites at each sides, which are expected to accommodate three metal ions in

each metal binding sites. This structure is available for arranging metal ions in different coordination environment, e.g. 3d-4f-3d hetero trinuclear complexes arranging lanthanide ions at the 2,6-diacetylpyridine site and M(II) ions (M = Co, Ni, Cu, Zn) at  $\beta$ -diketone sites were selectively prepared using different ionic radius. In this chapter, we report the synthesis, identification and luminescence properties of trinuclear lanthanide complexes [Ln<sub>3</sub>L<sub>2</sub>(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>5</sub>(MeOH)<sub>4</sub>]·nMeOH (Ln<sub>3</sub>L: Ln = La, Ce, Pr, Eu), [Eu<sub>3</sub>L<sup>F</sup><sub>2</sub>(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>5</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>(MeOH)<sub>2</sub>]·3MeOH (Eu<sub>3</sub>L<sup>F</sup>).

$$F_3C \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow CF_3$$
 2,6-di(acetoacetyl)pyridine 
$$(H_2L) \longrightarrow (H_2L^F)$$
 2,6-di(1,1,1-trifluoro-acetoacetyl)pyridine 
$$(H_2L^F)$$

Fig. 1. Linear multidentate ligands

#### **Experiments**

#### **Physical Measurements**

Elemental analyses of carbon, hydrogen and nitrogen were carried out by the staff of technical support division graduate school of science, Kyushu University. All Single-crystal X-ray diffraction data were collected on a Bulker SMART APEX II ULTRA CCD-detector Diffractometer, a rotating-anode (Bruker Tourbo X-ray source) with graphite-monochromated MoK $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å) was used. A single crystal was mounted on a polymer film with liquid paraffin and the temperature kept constant under flowing N<sub>2</sub>. All of the structures were solved by a standard direct method (XSHELL V6.3.1 crystallographic software package of the Bruker AXS) and expanded using Fourier techniques. Fullmatrixleast-squares refinements were carried out with anisotropic thermal parameters for all non-hydrogen atoms. All of the hydrogen atoms were placed in the measured positions and refined using a riding model. X-ray fluorescence analysis was carried out on a Rigaku ZSX-100S. Infrared spectra were measured with a JASCO FT/IR-4200 using ATR method. UV-Vis absorption and emission spectra were measured by JASCO V-630 and FP-8200. HNMR spectra were obtained with JEOL 600MHz.

Photoluminescence quantum yield measurements were carried out on C9920-02; Absolute quantum yield measurement system made by Hamamatsu Photonics K.K. at room temperature. PL quantum yield was calculated with the following equation:

$$\Phi = \frac{\int I_{em} d\lambda}{\int (I_{ex}^{before} - I_{ex}^{after}) d\lambda}$$

 $I_{\rm em}$  is the amount of photon from emission,  $I^{\rm before}_{\rm ex}$  is amount of photon from excitation light that nothing absorbed, and  $I^{\rm after}_{\rm ex}$  is amount of photon from excitation light that something absorbed.

Emission lifetime measurements were carried out on C11200 / Picosecond fluorescence lifetime measurement system at room temperature. Theoretical value of emission lifetime was calculated with the following equation.

$$\sum_{i} A_{i} \exp(-\frac{t}{\tau_{i}})$$

 $A_i$  is a coefficient, t is current time,  $\tau_i$  is emission lifetime.  $A_i$  and  $\tau_i$  are given by fitting of luminescent lifetime measurement.

#### **Materials**

Europium nitrate hexahydrate was purchased from Kishida Chemical, Ltd. Pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylic acid was obtained by Merck, Ltd. 2,6-diacetylpyridine, Lanthanum nitrate hexahydrate and Cerium nitrate hexahydrate were purchased from Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd. Ethyl trifluoroacetate was bought from Tokyo Chemical Industry Co., Ltd. Praseodymium nitrate was got from Mitsuwa's pure chemicals, Ltd.

#### Preparation of compounds

#### 2,6-Pyridine dicarboxylic acid dimethyl ester (Pmm)

Sulfuric acid (0.99 g) was added slowly into methanol suspension of pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylic acid (1.67 g, 10 mmol), and the mixture was refluxed for 2.5 hour. The colorless solution was cooled in the freezer to obtain white crystals. Crude product of Pmm was filtered, washed with methanol and recrystallized from hot methanol. Yield: 1.51 g (80.6 %)

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>), δ: 8.15 ~ 8.24 ppm (3H; pyridine), δ: 3.88 ppm (6H; CH<sub>3</sub>) IR( $\nu$ /cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2964 b( $\nu$ <sub>C-H</sub>), 1614 s( $\nu$ <sub>C=O</sub>), 1559 s( $\nu$ <sub>C=C</sub>)

Fig. 2. Scheme of Pmm synthesis

#### 2,6-di(acetoacetyl)pyridine (H<sub>2</sub>L)

Preparation of  $H_2L$  was carried out by a modification of a previously published method.<sup>24</sup> Pmm (7.70 g, 46 mmol) and sodium methoxide (14.3 g, 260 mmol) were mixed in diethyl ether. Acetone was added in the suspension and the mixture was refluxed for 3 hours. Yellow powder was filtered and dissolved in distilled water. 2 mol/L hydroxy chloride solution was added to the yellow solution, and stirred for 6 hours at room temperature to give yellow solid of  $H^2L$ . Yield: 4.92 g (56.0 %).

 $IR(v/cm^{-1})$ : 2964 b( $v_{C-H}$ ), 1614 s( $v_{C=O}$ ), 1559 s( $v_{C=C}$ )

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>), δ: 7.97 ~ 8.19 ppm (3H; pyridine group), δ; 6.87 ppm (2H; CH<sub>2</sub> in  $\beta$ -diketone) δ: 2.29 ppm (6H; CH<sub>3</sub> group)

Fig. 3. Scheme of H<sub>2</sub>L synthesis

#### $[La_3L_2(NO_3)_5(MeOH)_4]\cdot (MeOH)(H_2O)_2 (La_3L)$

A methanol solution of  $La(NO_3)_3 \cdot 6H_2O$  (86 mg, 0.2 mmol in 2 ml) was added to a solution of  $H_2L$  (36 mg, 0.14 mmol) in 2 ml methanol. The reaction mixture was diffused with diethyl ether to obtain yellow crystals of  $La_3L$ .

 $IR(v/cm^{-1})$ : 2965  $b(v_{C-H})$ , 1618 s, 1509  $s(v_{C-Q})$ , 1459  $s(v_{C-C})$ , 1313 s, 1285 $s(v_{NO3})$ .

#### $[Ce_3L_2(NO_3)_5(MeOH)_4]\cdot(MeOH)(H_2O)$ (Ce<sub>3</sub>L)

Orange crystals of  $Ce_3L$  were obtained by the same method for  $La_3L$  except for using  $Ce(NO_3)_3 \cdot 6H_2O$  (86 mg, 0.2 mmol) instead of  $La(NO_3)_3 \cdot 6H_2O$ .

 $IR(v/cm^{-1})$ : 2965  $b(v_{C-H})$ , 1618 s, 1509  $s(v_{C-O})$ , 1459  $s(v_{C-C})$ , 1313 s, 1285 $s(v_{NO3})$ .

#### $[Pr_3L_2(NO_3)_5(MeOH)_4] \cdot (MeOH)(H_2O)_2 (Pr_3L)$

Light yellow crystals of **Pr<sub>3</sub>L** were obtained by the same method for **La<sub>3</sub>L** except for using Pr(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (87 mg, 0.2 mmol) instead of La(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O.

 $IR(v/cm^{-1})$ : 2965  $b(v_{C-H})$ , 1618 s, 1509  $s(v_{C-O})$ , 1459  $s(v_{C-C})$ , 1313 s, 1285 $s(v_{NO3})$ .

#### [Eu<sub>3</sub>L<sub>2</sub>(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>5</sub>(MeOH)<sub>4</sub>]·MeOH (Eu<sub>3</sub>L)

Yellow microcrystals of **Eu<sub>3</sub>L** were obtained by the same method for **La<sub>3</sub>L** except for using Eu(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (88 mg, 0.2 mmol) instead of La(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O.

 $IR(v/cm^{-1})$ : 2965  $b(v_{C-H})$ , 1509  $s(v_{C-O})$ , 1459  $s(v_{C-C})$ , 1313 s, 1285 $s(v_{NO3})$ .

## 2,6-di(1,1,1-trifluoro-acetoacetyl) pyridine (H<sub>2</sub>L<sup>F</sup>)

A mixture of sodium methoxide (1241 mg, 6 mmol) and ethyl trifluoroacetate (720  $\mu$ l, 6 mmol) in tetrahydrofuran (40 ml) was stirred for 10 min, followed by the addition of 2,6-diacethylpyridine (484 g, 3 mmol). Then, the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h. The resulting red solution was evaporated. 3% hydrochloric acid solution (50 ml) was added to red residue, and the resulting yellow precipitate was filtered off, washed with distilled water, and dried in a vacuum. Yield: 844 mg (79.5 %). IR(v/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1647 s, 1615 s, 1569 s, 1449 s, 1427 m ( $\nu$ <sub>O=C-C=C</sub>,  $\nu$ <sub>C=C</sub> of arom. system), 1265 s, 1200 s, 1137s, 1094 s( $\nu$ <sub>CF</sub>).

 $^{1}$ H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>), δ: 8.12 ~ 8.34 ppm (3H; pyridine group), δ; 7.28 ppm (2H; CH<sub>2</sub> in β-diketone)

Elemental Analysis: Calculated (%); C 43.96, H 1.99, N 3.94; Found (%); C 44.12, H 2.01, N 4.00

**Fig. 4.** Scheme of H<sub>2</sub>L<sup>F</sup> synthesis

#### $[Eu_3L^F_2(NO_3)_5(H_2O)_2(MeOH)_2] \cdot 3MeOH (Eu_3L^F)$

Methanolic solution of  $Eu(NO_3)_3 \cdot 6H_2O$  (27mg, 0.06 mmol in 0.5 ml) was added to a solution of  $H_2L^F$  (14 mg, 0.04 mmol) in 0.5 ml methanol. Chloroform 20 ml was poured into the resulted red solution. After stand for several days, red needle crystals were obtained.

IR( $v/cm^{-1}$ ): 1634 s, 1539 s, 1469 s, 1438 m ( $v_{O=C-C=C}$ ,  $v_{C=C}$  of arom. system), 1313 s, 1279 s( $v_{NO3-}$ ), 1203 m, 1145 m, 1126 s( $v_{CF}$ ).

Elemental Analysis: Calculated for C<sub>58</sub>H<sub>39</sub>N<sub>14</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>Eu<sub>6</sub>F<sub>24</sub>O<sub>59</sub> (%); C 23.36, H 2.26, N

5.78; Found (%); C 23.37, H 2.41, N 5.25

#### **Results and discussion**

#### Characterization of Ln<sub>3</sub>L

#### IR spectra

FT-IR spectrum of H<sub>2</sub>L and **Ln<sub>3</sub>L** (Ln = La ~ PR, Eu) were shown in Fig. 5. The four **Ln<sub>3</sub>L** showed same spectra each other (Fig. 5.). The FT-IR spectrum of free H<sub>2</sub>L shows enol bands of  $\beta$ -diketone at about 1620 cm<sup>-1</sup>. In the complexes, the bands shifted to low frequency, which suggested coordination of  $\beta$ -diketone sites to Ln(III) ions. In addition, **Ln<sub>3</sub>L** showed band for  $\nu(NO_3^-)$  at around 1280 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

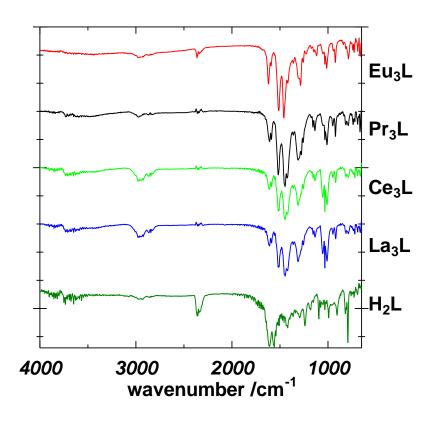


Fig. 5. FT-IR spectra of H<sub>2</sub>L and Ln<sub>3</sub>L (Ln= La, Ce, Pr and Eu)

#### X-Ray Structure Analysis

Structures of **Ln<sub>3</sub>L** are shown in Figs. 6-9, and and crystal parameters and selected bond distances and angles are given in Tables 1-6. Single crystal structural analysis revealed that **Ln<sub>3</sub>L** form a trinuclear structure with two deprotonated ligands

 $L^{2-}$ , three Ln(III) ions, five nitrate anions, and four coordinated MeOH. One central 2,6-diacylpyridine site and two side  $\beta$ -diketone sites coordinated to different Ln(III) ions, and central Ln(III) are linked with the side Ln(III) through enolate- and nitrate-bridges. Two nitrate anions bridged the Ln(III) ions in  $\mu$ - $\eta^1$ , $\eta^2$  mode. The side Ln(III) is in O<sub>9</sub> coordination environment with two  $\beta$ -diketone, one bidentate nitrate anions, two MeOH and one bridiged nitrate anion. On the other hand, the central Ln(III) is in N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>10</sub> coordination environment with two 2,6-diacetylpyridine sites, one bidentate nitrate anion and two bridged nitrate anions.

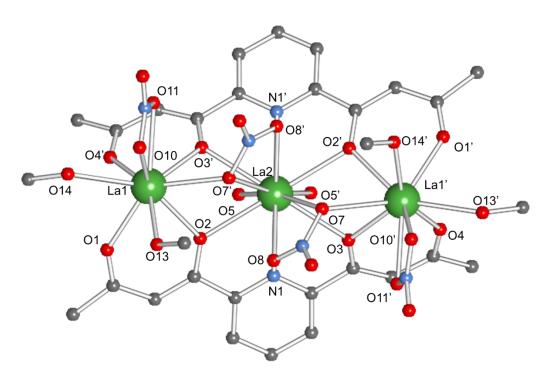


Fig. 6. Crystal structure of [La<sub>3</sub>L<sub>2</sub>(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>5</sub>(MeOH)<sub>4</sub>]·(MeOH)(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub> (La<sub>3</sub>L)

Table 1. Crystallographic data for La<sub>3</sub>L.

Chemical formula	C <sub>31</sub> H <sub>44</sub> La <sub>3</sub> N <sub>7</sub> O <sub>30</sub>
Formula weight	1403.40 g mol <sup>-1</sup>
Crystal size	$0.084 \times 0.127 \times 0.199 \text{ mm}^3$
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	<i>C</i> 2/c
a	30.348(5) Å
b	12.586(2) Å
c	14.889(3) Å
α	90°
β	111.7393(17) °
γ	90°
V	5282.5(15) Å <sup>3</sup>
Z	4
Density (calculated)	1.765 g/cm <sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	2.475 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F (000)	2728
Wavelength	0.71073 Å
Temperature	100(2) K
<i>R1</i>	0.0325
wR2	0.1316
Goodness-of-fitness	1.2
Largest diff. peak and hole	4.665 and -0.759 eÅ <sup>-3</sup>

Table 2. Bond length (Å) and angles (°) of La<sub>3</sub>L.

La1-O1	2.502(2)	La2-O2	2.660(3)	
La1-O2	2.559(2)	La2-O3	2.696(2)	
La1-O3	2.607(3)	La2-O5	2.724(2)	
La1-O4	3.049(3)	La2-O10	2.615(2)	
La1-O7	2.652(3)	La2-O14	2.646(2)	
La1-O8	4.0320(5)	La2-N1	2.612(2)	
La1-O10	2.558(3)			
La1-O12	2.561(3)			
La1-O13	2.608(2)			

O1-La1-O2         70.53(8)         O2-La2-O3         109.77(7)           O1-La1-O3         119.49(9)         O2-La2-O2'         68.81(7)           O1-La1-O4         76.36(10)         O2-La2-O3'         66.04(7)           O1-La1-O7         151.43(9)         O2-La2-O5         112.80(7)           O1-La1-O8         126.09(9)         O2-La2-O5'         178.42(9)           O1-La1-O10         132.83(9)         O2-La2-O10         63.39(7)           O1-La1-O12         75.09(10)         O2-La2-O10'         116.76(7)           O1-La1-O13         73.88(9)         O2-La2-O14'         69.95(7)           O2-La1-O3         65.71(7)         O2-La2-O14'         69.95(7)           O2-La1-O4         96.08(9)         O2-La2-N1         60.84(8)           O2-La1-O7         133.73(8)         O2-La2-N1'         119.86(8)           O2-La1-O8         140.89(8)         O3-La2-O3'         170.37(10)           O2-La1-O10         71.43(7)         O3-La2-O5'         65.35(7)           O2-La1-O12         82.67(8)         O3-La2-O5'         105.30(7)           O2-La1-O13         144.41(8)         O3-La2-O10'         62.81(7)           O3-La1-O4         69.19(8)         O3-La2-O14'         71.20(7)
O1-La1-O4       76.36(10)       O2-La2-O3'       66.04(7)         O1-La1-O7       151.43(9)       O2-La2-O5       112.80(7)         O1-La1-O8       126.09(9)       O2-La2-O5'       178.42(9)         O1-La1-O10       132.83(9)       O2-La2-O10       63.39(7)         O1-La1-O12       75.09(10)       O2-La2-O10'       116.76(7)         O1-La1-O13       73.88(9)       O2-La2-O14       111.60(7)         O2-La1-O3       65.71(7)       O2-La2-O14'       69.95(7)         O2-La1-O4       96.08(9)       O2-La2-N1       60.84(8)         O2-La1-O7       133.73(8)       O2-La2-N1'       119.86(8)         O2-La1-O8       140.89(8)       O3-La2-O3'       170.37(10)         O2-La1-O10       71.43(7)       O3-La2-O5'       65.35(7)         O2-La1-O12       82.67(8)       O3-La2-O5'       105.30(7)         O2-La1-O13       144.41(8)       O3-La2-O10'       62.81(7)         O3-La1-O4       69.19(8)       O3-La2-O10'       62.81(7)         O3-La1-O7       71.75(8)       O3-La2-O14'       71.20(7)
O1-La1-O7       151.43(9)       O2-La2-O5       112.80(7)         O1-La1-O8       126.09(9)       O2-La2-O5'       178.42(9)         O1-La1-O10       132.83(9)       O2-La2-O10       63.39(7)         O1-La1-O12       75.09(10)       O2-La2-O10'       116.76(7)         O1-La1-O13       73.88(9)       O2-La2-O14       111.60(7)         O2-La1-O3       65.71(7)       O2-La2-O14'       69.95(7)         O2-La1-O4       96.08(9)       O2-La2-N1       60.84(8)         O2-La1-O7       133.73(8)       O2-La2-N1'       119.86(8)         O2-La1-O8       140.89(8)       O3-La2-O3'       170.37(10)         O2-La1-O10       71.43(7)       O3-La2-O5       65.35(7)         O2-La1-O12       82.67(8)       O3-La2-O5'       105.30(7)         O2-La1-O13       144.41(8)       O3-La2-O10       126.72(7)         O3-La1-O4       69.19(8)       O3-La2-O10'       62.81(7)         O3-La1-O7       71.75(8)       O3-La2-O14'       115.78(7)         O3-La1-O8       114.25(8)       O3-La2-O14'       71.20(7)
O1-La1-O8       126.09(9)       O2-La2-O5'       178.42(9)         O1-La1-O10       132.83(9)       O2-La2-O10       63.39(7)         O1-La1-O12       75.09(10)       O2-La2-O10'       116.76(7)         O1-La1-O13       73.88(9)       O2-La2-O14       111.60(7)         O2-La1-O3       65.71(7)       O2-La2-O14'       69.95(7)         O2-La1-O4       96.08(9)       O2-La2-N1       60.84(8)         O2-La1-O7       133.73(8)       O2-La2-N1'       119.86(8)         O2-La1-O8       140.89(8)       O3-La2-O3'       170.37(10)         O2-La1-O10       71.43(7)       O3-La2-O5'       65.35(7)         O2-La1-O12       82.67(8)       O3-La2-O5'       105.30(7)         O2-La1-O13       144.41(8)       O3-La2-O10       126.72(7)         O3-La1-O4       69.19(8)       O3-La2-O10'       62.81(7)         O3-La1-O7       71.75(8)       O3-La2-O14'       115.78(7)         O3-La1-O8       114.25(8)       O3-La2-O14'       71.20(7)
O1-La1-O10       132.83(9)       O2-La2-O10       63.39(7)         O1-La1-O12       75.09(10)       O2-La2-O10'       116.76(7)         O1-La1-O13       73.88(9)       O2-La2-O14       111.60(7)         O2-La1-O3       65.71(7)       O2-La2-O14'       69.95(7)         O2-La1-O4       96.08(9)       O2-La2-N1       60.84(8)         O2-La1-O7       133.73(8)       O2-La2-N1'       119.86(8)         O2-La1-O8       140.89(8)       O3-La2-O3'       170.37(10)         O2-La1-O10       71.43(7)       O3-La2-O5       65.35(7)         O2-La1-O12       82.67(8)       O3-La2-O5'       105.30(7)         O2-La1-O13       144.41(8)       O3-La2-O10       126.72(7)         O3-La1-O4       69.19(8)       O3-La2-O10'       62.81(7)         O3-La1-O7       71.75(8)       O3-La2-O14'       115.78(7)         O3-La1-O8       114.25(8)       O3-La2-O14'       71.20(7)
O1-La1-O12       75.09(10)       O2-La2-O10'       116.76(7)         O1-La1-O13       73.88(9)       O2-La2-O14       111.60(7)         O2-La1-O3       65.71(7)       O2-La2-O14'       69.95(7)         O2-La1-O4       96.08(9)       O2-La2-N1       60.84(8)         O2-La1-O7       133.73(8)       O2-La2-N1'       119.86(8)         O2-La1-O8       140.89(8)       O3-La2-O3'       170.37(10)         O2-La1-O10       71.43(7)       O3-La2-O5       65.35(7)         O2-La1-O12       82.67(8)       O3-La2-O5'       105.30(7)         O2-La1-O13       144.41(8)       O3-La2-O10       126.72(7)         O3-La1-O4       69.19(8)       O3-La2-O10'       62.81(7)         O3-La1-O7       71.75(8)       O3-La2-O14       115.78(7)         O3-La1-O8       114.25(8)       O3-La2-O14'       71.20(7)
O1-La1-O13       73.88(9)       O2-La2-O14       111.60(7)         O2-La1-O3       65.71(7)       O2-La2-O14'       69.95(7)         O2-La1-O4       96.08(9)       O2-La2-N1       60.84(8)         O2-La1-O7       133.73(8)       O2-La2-N1'       119.86(8)         O2-La1-O8       140.89(8)       O3-La2-O3'       170.37(10)         O2-La1-O10       71.43(7)       O3-La2-O5       65.35(7)         O2-La1-O12       82.67(8)       O3-La2-O5'       105.30(7)         O2-La1-O13       144.41(8)       O3-La2-O10       126.72(7)         O3-La1-O4       69.19(8)       O3-La2-O10'       62.81(7)         O3-La1-O7       71.75(8)       O3-La2-O14       115.78(7)         O3-La1-O8       114.25(8)       O3-La2-O14'       71.20(7)
O2-La1-O3       65.71(7)       O2-La2-O14'       69.95(7)         O2-La1-O4       96.08(9)       O2-La2-N1       60.84(8)         O2-La1-O7       133.73(8)       O2-La2-N1'       119.86(8)         O2-La1-O8       140.89(8)       O3-La2-O3'       170.37(10)         O2-La1-O10       71.43(7)       O3-La2-O5       65.35(7)         O2-La1-O12       82.67(8)       O3-La2-O5'       105.30(7)         O2-La1-O13       144.41(8)       O3-La2-O10       126.72(7)         O3-La1-O4       69.19(8)       O3-La2-O10'       62.81(7)         O3-La1-O7       71.75(8)       O3-La2-O14       115.78(7)         O3-La1-O8       114.25(8)       O3-La2-O14'       71.20(7)
O2-La1-O4       96.08(9)       O2-La2-N1       60.84(8)         O2-La1-O7       133.73(8)       O2-La2-N1'       119.86(8)         O2-La1-O8       140.89(8)       O3-La2-O3'       170.37(10)         O2-La1-O10       71.43(7)       O3-La2-O5       65.35(7)         O2-La1-O12       82.67(8)       O3-La2-O5'       105.30(7)         O2-La1-O13       144.41(8)       O3-La2-O10       126.72(7)         O3-La1-O4       69.19(8)       O3-La2-O10'       62.81(7)         O3-La1-O7       71.75(8)       O3-La2-O14       115.78(7)         O3-La1-O8       114.25(8)       O3-La2-O14'       71.20(7)
O2-La1-O7       133.73(8)       O2-La2-N1'       119.86(8)         O2-La1-O8       140.89(8)       O3-La2-O3'       170.37(10)         O2-La1-O10       71.43(7)       O3-La2-O5       65.35(7)         O2-La1-O12       82.67(8)       O3-La2-O5'       105.30(7)         O2-La1-O13       144.41(8)       O3-La2-O10       126.72(7)         O3-La1-O4       69.19(8)       O3-La2-O10'       62.81(7)         O3-La1-O7       71.75(8)       O3-La2-O14       115.78(7)         O3-La1-O8       114.25(8)       O3-La2-O14'       71.20(7)
O2-La1-O8       140.89(8)       O3-La2-O3'       170.37(10)         O2-La1-O10       71.43(7)       O3-La2-O5       65.35(7)         O2-La1-O12       82.67(8)       O3-La2-O5'       105.30(7)         O2-La1-O13       144.41(8)       O3-La2-O10       126.72(7)         O3-La1-O4       69.19(8)       O3-La2-O10'       62.81(7)         O3-La1-O7       71.75(8)       O3-La2-O14       115.78(7)         O3-La1-O8       114.25(8)       O3-La2-O14'       71.20(7)
O2-La1-O10       71.43(7)       O3-La2-O5       65.35(7)         O2-La1-O12       82.67(8)       O3-La2-O5'       105.30(7)         O2-La1-O13       144.41(8)       O3-La2-O10       126.72(7)         O3-La1-O4       69.19(8)       O3-La2-O10'       62.81(7)         O3-La1-O7       71.75(8)       O3-La2-O14       115.78(7)         O3-La1-O8       114.25(8)       O3-La2-O14'       71.20(7)
O2-La1-O12       82.67(8)       O3-La2-O5'       105.30(7)         O2-La1-O13       144.41(8)       O3-La2-O10       126.72(7)         O3-La1-O4       69.19(8)       O3-La2-O10'       62.81(7)         O3-La1-O7       71.75(8)       O3-La2-O14       115.78(7)         O3-La1-O8       114.25(8)       O3-La2-O14'       71.20(7)
O2-La1-O13       144.41(8)       O3-La2-O10       126.72(7)         O3-La1-O4       69.19(8)       O3-La2-O10'       62.81(7)         O3-La1-O7       71.75(8)       O3-La2-O14       115.78(7)         O3-La1-O8       114.25(8)       O3-La2-O14'       71.20(7)
O3-La1-O4 69.19(8) O3-La2-O10' 62.81(7) O3-La1-O7 71.75(8) O3-La2-O14 115.78(7) O3-La1-O8 114.25(8) O3-La2-O14' 71.20(7)
O3-La1-O7 71.75(8) O3-La2-O14 115.78(7) O3-La1-O8 114.25(8) O3-La2-O14' 71.20(7)
O3-La1-O8 114.25(8) O3-La2-O14' 71.20(7)
· · ·
O3-L 21-O10 65 97(7) O3-L 22-N1 59 71(8)
$O_3$ -La1- $O_1O_3$ $O_3$ - $O_3$ -La2- $O_1O_3$
O3-La1-O12 134.33(8) O3-La2-N1' 116.06(8)
O3-La1-O13 136.01(9) O5-La2-O5' 48.35(10)
O4-La1-O7 84.92(9) O5-La2-O10 167.07(8)
O4-La1-O8 121.18(9) O5-La2-O10' 123.82(7)
O4-La1-O10 134.67(8) O5-La2-O14 126.76(7)
O4-La1-O12 150.10(9) O5-La2-O14' 128.77(8)
O4-La1-O13 74.99(10) O5-La2-N1 70.32(8)
O7-La1-O8 48.70(9) O5-La2-N1' 68.26(8)
O7-La1-O10 75.42(8) O10-La2-O10' 65.88(10)
O7-La1-O12 117.42(9) O10-La2-O14 46.77(7)
O7-La1-O13 80.59(9) O10'-La2-O14 63.79(8)
O8-La1-O10 73.64(8) O10-La2-N1 118.50(8)
O8-La1-O12 70.88(9) O10'-La2-N1 99.98(8)
O8-La1-O13 64.91(9) O14-La2-O14' 95.68(11)
O10-La1-O12 73.36(8) O14-La2-N1 160.64(8)
O10-La1-O13 138.31(9) O14'-La2-N1 64.97(8)
O12-La1-O13 88.66(10) N1-La2-N1' 134.39(12)

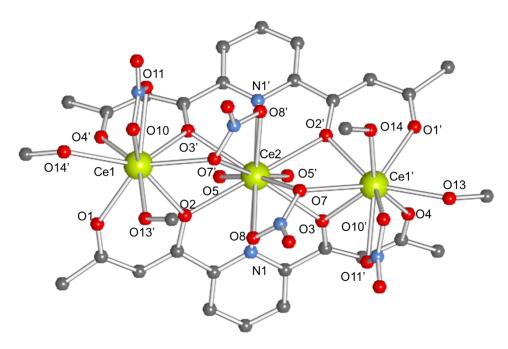


Fig. 7. Crystal structure of  $[Ce_3L_2(NO_3)_5(MeOH)_4] \cdot (MeOH)(H_2O)$  (Ce<sub>3</sub>L)

Table 3. Crystallographic data for Ce<sub>3</sub>L.

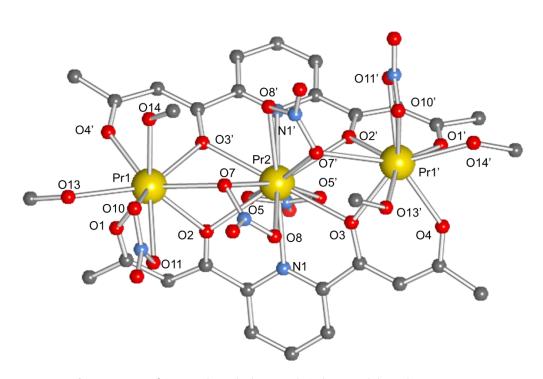
Chemical formula	$C_{32}H_{40}Ce_3N_7O_{29}$
Formula weight	1407.07 g mol <sup>-1</sup>
Crystal size	$0.03\times0.09\times0.16~mm^3$
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	C2/c
a	30.133(6) Å
b	12.694(2) Å
c	14.855(3) Å
α	90°
β	111.479(2) °
γ	90°
V	$5287.5(17) \text{ Å}^3$
Z	4
Density (calculated)	$1.768 \text{ g/cm}^3$
Absorption coefficient	2.631 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F (000)	2748
Wavelength	0.71073 Å
Temperature	100(2) K

<i>R1</i>	0.0686
wR2	0.2613
Goodness-of-fit on F2	1.2
Largest diff. peak and hole	8.167 and -3.125 eÅ <sup>-3</sup>

Table 4. Bond length (Å) and angles (°) of Ce<sub>3</sub>L.

Table 4. Bond length (A) and angles ( ) of Cest.				
	Ce1-O1	2.398(6)	Ce2-O2	2.585(5)
	Ce1-O2	2.533(5)	Ce2-O3	2.594(5)
	Ce1-O3	2.485(5)	Ce2-O5	2.621(5)
	Ce1-O4	2.399(6)	Ce2-O7	2.704(5)
	Ce1-O7	2.575(5)	Ce2-O8	2.690(6)
	Ce1-O10	2.573(6)	Ce2-N1	2.633(6)
	Ce1-O11	2.628(6)		
	Ce1-O13	2.546(5)		
	Ce1-O14	2.532(6)		
	O1-Ce1-O2	71.25(18)	O2-Ce2-O2'	177.9(2)
	O1-Ce1-O3	120.79(19)	O2-Ce2-O3	116.87(16)
	O1-Ce1-O4	77.6(2)	O2-Ce2-O3'	63.31(16)
	O1-Ce1-O7	132.30(18)	O2-Ce2-O5	69.83(15)
	O1-Ce1-O10	151.70(19)	O2-Ce2-O5'	112.21(15)
	O1-Ce1-O11	124.3(2)	O2-Ce2-O7	109.71(15)
	O1-Ce1-O13	73.23(19)	O2-Ce2-O7'	68.41(15)
	O1-Ce1-O14	74.3(2)	O2-Ce2-O8	65.45(16)
	O2-Ce1-O3	65.59(16)	O2-Ce2-O8'	113.04(16)
	O2-Ce1-O4	96.86(19)	O2-Ce2-N1	61.29(18)
	O2-Ce1-O7	71.23(16)	O2-Ce2-N1'	119.67(18)
	O2-Ce1-O10	133.34(18)	O3-Ce2-O3'	171.1(2)
	O2-Ce1-O11	140.82(17)	O3-Ce2-O5	105.65(16)
	O2-Ce1-O13	144.44(18)	O3-Ce2-O5'	65.76(16)
	O2-Ce1-O14	84.05(18)	O3-Ce2-O7	62.77(15)
	O3-Ce1-O4	69.70(18)	O3-Ce2-O7'	125.99(16)
	O3-Ce1-O7	66.10(16)	O3-Ce2-O8	70.74(16)
	O3-Ce1-O10	71.53(18)	O3-Ce2-O8'	115.59(16)
	O3-Ce1-O11	114.79(18)	O3-Ce2-N1	59.87(18)

O3-Ce1-O13	135.79(19)	O3-Ce2-N1'	116.13(18)
O3-Ce1-O14	135.24(17)	O5-Ce2-O5	48.8(2)
O4-Ce1-O7	135.24(17)	O5-Ce2-O7	167.32(16)
O4-Ce1-O10	84.5(2)	O5-Ce2-O7'	123.90(16)
O4-Ce1-O11	120.7(2)	O5-Ce2-O8	125.62(16)
O4-Ce1-O13	74.0(2)	O5-Ce2-O8'	128.45(17)
O4-Ce1-O14	149.94(19)	O5-Ce2-N1	70.06(17)
O7-Ce1-O10	75.41(17)	O5-Ce2-N1'	67.42(17)
O7-Ce1-O11	73.90(17)	O7-Ce2-O7'	65.4(2)
O7-Ce1-O13	138.59(18)	O7-Ce2-O8	63.90(16)
O7-Ce1-O14	73.57(17)	O7'-Ce2-O8	47.72(15)
O10-Ce1-O11	49.36(19)	O7-Ce2-N1	118.74(16)
O10-Ce1-O13	80.9(2)	O7'-Ce2-N1	100.91(17)
O10-Ce1-O14	116.53(19)	O8-Ce2-O8'	97.2(2)
O11-Ce1-O13	64.90(19)	O8-Ce2-N1	162.08(17)
O11-Ce1-O14	69.30(19)	O8'-Ce2-N1	64.84(16)
O13-Ce1-O14	87.8(2)	N1-Ce2-N1'	133.1(2)



 $\textbf{Fig. 8.} \ \text{Crystal structure of} \ [\text{Pr}_3\text{L}_2(\text{NO}_3)_5(\text{MeOH})_4] \cdot (\text{MeOH})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 \ \textbf{(Pr}_3\textbf{L)}$ 

Table 5. Crystallographic data for Pr<sub>3</sub>L.

Chemical formula	$C_{30}H_{27}N_7O_{28}Pr_3$
Formula weight	1356.3
Crystal size	$0.066 \times 0.044 \times 0.036 \ mm^3$
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	C2/c
a	30.354(7) Å
b	12.636(2) Å
c	14.836(3) Å
$\alpha$	90°
β	111.631(9) °
γ	90°
V	$5290(2) \text{ Å}^3$
Z	4
Density (calculated)	$1.703 \text{ g/cm}^3$
Absorption coefficient	2.7973 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F (000)	2628
Wavelength	0.71075 Å
Temperature	140(2) K
<i>R1</i>	0.047
wR2	0.1509
Goodness-of-fit on F2	1.109
Largest diff. peak and hole	$1.39, -1.16  e \mathring{A}^3$

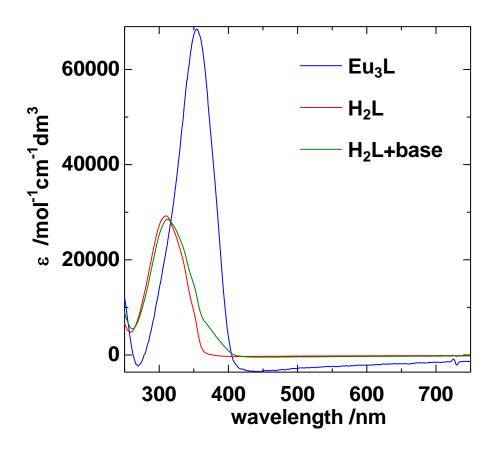
Table 6. Bond length (Å) and angles (°) of Pr<sub>3</sub>L.

Pr1-O1	2.383(5)	Pr2-O2	2.589	
Pr1-O2	2.513(4)	Pr2-O3	2.593	
Pr1-O3	2.467(4)	Pr2-O5	2.606	
Pr1-O4	2.392(5)	Pr2-O7	2.698	
Pr1-O7	2.578(4)	Pr2-O8	2.667	
Pr1-O10	2.622(4)	Pr2-N1	2.634	
Pr1-O12	2.571(5)			
Pr1-O13	2.516(5)			
Pr1-O14	2.551(4)			
O1-Pr1-O2	71.9(1)	O2-Pr2-O2'	177.1	

O1-Pr1-O3	120.6(1)	O2-Pr2-O3	62.7
O1-Pr1-O4	76.5(2)	O2-Pr2-O3'	117.5
O1-Pr1-O7	132.9(1)	O2-Pr2-O5	70.1
O1-Pr1-O10	124.7(1)	O2-Pr2-O5'	112.7
O1-Pr1-O12	150.4(2)	O2-Pr2-O7	67.6
O1-Pr1-O13	74.7(2)	O2-Pr2-O7'	109.8
O1-Pr1-O14	73.2(2)	O2-Pr2-O8	65.6
O2-Pr1-O3	65.5(1)	O2-Pr2-O8'	112.3
O2-Pr1-O4	97.2(1)	O2-Pr2-N1	61.5
O2-Pr1-O7	70.6(1)	O2-Pr2-N1	119.8
O2-Pr1-O10	140.2(1)	O3-Pr2-O3	171
O2-Pr1-O12	133.4(1)	O3-Pr2-O5	105.7
O2-Pr1-O13	83.2(1)	O3-Pr2-O7	62.6
O2-Pr1-O14	145.2(1)	O3-Pr2-O8	70.9
O3-Pr1-O4	70.1(1)	O3-Pr2-O8'	115.5
O3-Pr1-O7	66.0(1)	O3-Pr2-N1	60.1
O3-Pr1-O10	114.5(1)	O3-Pr2-N1'	115.9
O3-Pr1-O12	71.5(1)	O5-Pr2-O3	65.5
O3-Pr1-O13	134.8(1)	O5-Pr2-O5	48.9
O3-Pr1-O14	136.5(1)	O5-Pr2-O7	123.6
O4-Pr1-O7	135.6(1)	O5-Pr2-O7'	167.3
O4-Pr1-O10	120.9(1)	O5-Pr2-O8	125.8
O4-Pr1-O12	84.2(2)	O5-Pr2-O8'	128.4
O4-Pr1-O13	149.5(2)	O5-Pr2-N1	67.9
O4-Pr1-O14	74.7(2)	O5-Pr2-N1'	70.6
O7-Pr1-O10	73.8(1)	O7-Pr2-O3	126.3
O7-Pr1-O12	76.3(1)	O7-Pr2-O7	65.8
O7-Pr1-O13	73.4(1)	O7-Pr2-O8	47.8
O7-Pr1-O14	137.8(1)	O7-Pr2-O8'	63.9
O10-Pr1-O12	49.6(1)	O7-Pr2-N1	100.5
O10-Pr1-O13	69.9(1)	O7-Pr2-N1'	118
O10-Pr1-O14	64.3(1)	O8-Pr2-O8'	97
O12-Pr1-O13	117.6(1)	O8-Pr2-N1	64.4
O12-Pr1-O14	80.3(2)	O8-Pr2-N1	161.4
O13-Pr1-O14	87.6(1)	N1-Pr2-N1'	134.2

# UV-Vis spectra of H<sub>2</sub>L and complexes

UV-Vis spectra of  $H_2L$ , deprotonated ligand ( $L^{2-}$ ), and  $\mathbf{Eu_3L}$  in methanol are shown in Fig. 12. The absorption band at around 310 nm for  $H_2L$  is attributed to the  $\pi-\pi^*$  transition of  $\beta$ -diketonate. After addition of base to  $H_2L$ , the  $\pi-\pi^*$  band slightly changed. On the other hand, the band shifted to around 360 nm in  $\mathbf{Eu_3L}$ , which suggested the coordination of  $L^{2-}$  to  $\mathbf{Eu}(\mathbf{III})$  ions.



**Fig. 9.** Absorption spectra of **Eu<sub>3</sub>L** (blue),  $H_2L$  (red) and deprotonated  $L^{2-}$  (green) in MeOH at room temperature

#### Photo luminescence properties

Photoluminescence spectrum of **Eu3L** is shown in Fig. 13. The spectrum exhibited weak but very sharp peak, which is a characteristic signal of Eu(III) ion. The peak at 618 nm was attributed to the transition between the  $^5D_0$  excited state and the  $^7F_2$  ground state of Eu(III). However, the intensity of transition was very weak, which means that emission efficiency of **Eu3L** is very low. In fact, the result of photoluminescence (PL) quantum yield was only 0.43 %. (Table 7.)

PL lifetime measurement suggested existence of two kinds of emission source, which well agrees with the molecular structure including two kinds of Eu(III) ions in  $O_9$  and  $N_2O_{10}$  coordination environment.

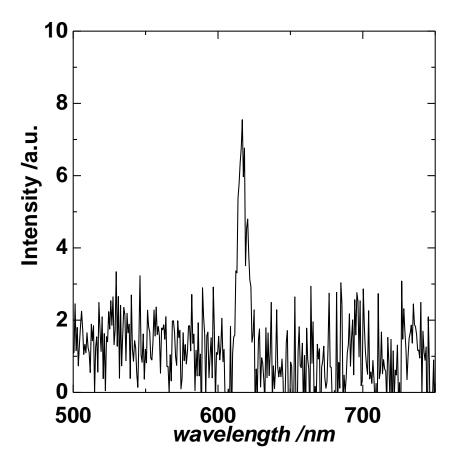


Fig. 10. Emission spectrum of Eu<sub>3</sub>L in solid state at room temperature upon excitation at 360 nm.

Table 7. Excitation and emission wavelength of Eu<sub>3</sub>L and identification of transition state.

λ <sub>ex</sub> [nm]	$\lambda_{em} [nm]$	transition
340	618	$^{5}\mathrm{D}_{0} \rightarrow {}^{7}\mathrm{F}_{2}$

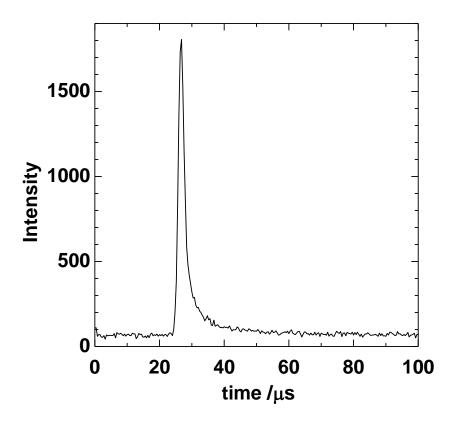


Fig. 11. PL lifetime spectrum of Eu<sub>3</sub>L.

Table 8. PL quantum yields and lifetime of Eu<sub>3</sub>L.

Compound	Φ [%]	$\tau_1$ [ms]	$\tau_2$ [ms]	$A_1$ [%]	$A_2$ [%]	$\chi^2$
Eu3L	0.43	$7.1 \times 10^{-4}$	$8.6 \times 10^{-3}$	91.39	8.61	0.94

# Discussion about low PL quantum yield of Eu<sub>3</sub>L

The low PL quantum yield of  $\mathbf{Eu}_3\mathbf{L}$  can be explained by two reasons: (i) metal to metal energy transfer, and (ii) vibrational relaxation of the excited state.

In the case of (i): three Eu(III) ions are closely arranged through enolate- and nitrate bridges (Table 8), in which excited energy transfer between Eu(III) ions occurs and the excited state is deactivated.

Table 9. Metal to metal distance of Ln<sub>3</sub>L

	Distance / Å
La1-La2	4.032

La1-La1' 7.626 Ce1-Ce2 4.000 Ce1-Ce1' 7.547 Pr1-Pr2 4.003 Pr1-Pr1' 7.567

In the case of (ii), thermal vibration factor of ligand causes radiationless deactivation in excited state. Radiationless deactivation of lanthanide ion happens when electronic transition is occurred by superposition of wave function of ground state and that of excited state. The rate of electronic transition process is given by the following equation.<sup>25</sup>

$$W_{Radiationless\,Transition} = \frac{2\pi\rho}{h} J^2 F$$

 $\rho$ , J and F mean density of status, overlap constant and Frank-Condon factor, respectively. Furthermore, F is given as the following equation,

$$\mathbf{F} = \exp(-\gamma) \frac{\gamma^{\nu}}{\nu!}$$

 $\gamma$  means a variable that was used in approximate Hermite polynomials. N means vibrational quantum number. F is a function that depends on n, and the rate of vibrational deactivation is proportional to F. So, vibrational deactivation is inhibited by replacing easy vibrational group such as methyl group to hard vibrational groups such as trifluoromethyl group. According to the strategy, we designed another ligand  $H_2L^F$  for enhancing the quantum yield, and prepared analogous complex  $Eu_3L^F$ .

#### Characterization of Eu<sub>3</sub>L<sup>F</sup>

#### IR spectra of Eu<sub>3</sub>L<sup>F</sup>.

FT-IR spectrum of  $H_2L^F$  and  $\textbf{Eu}_3L^F$  were measured in solid state. The results show in Fig. 15.

The characteristic infrared absorption bands of the free  $H_2L$  and its lanthanide complexes which are useful for suggesting the mode of coordination of ligands. The FT-IR spectrum of the free  $H_2L^F$  shows bands at 1647, 1615, 1569, 1449, and 1427 cm<sup>-1</sup>

attributed to free  $\mu(O=C-C=C)$  and free  $\mu$  (C=C) of aromatic system. In **Eu3L**<sup>F</sup>, the bands for  $\mu$  (O=C-C=C) and  $\mu$  (C=C) show a shift to low or high frequency at 1634, 1539, 1469 and 1438 cm<sup>-1</sup> because of the coordination through metal-oxygen bond. In addition, the FT-IR spectrum of **Eu3L**<sup>F</sup> shows band at 1285 for  $\mu$  (NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>), but that of H<sub>2</sub>L<sup>F</sup> doesn't show. This result shows **Eu3L**<sup>F</sup> contains nitric acid anion.

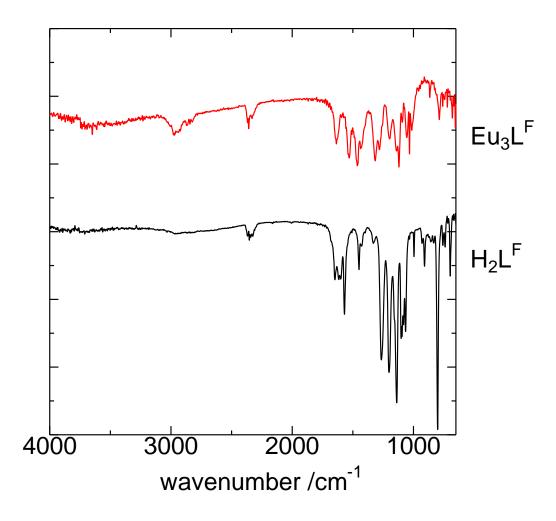


Fig. 12. FT-IR spectrum of  $H_2L^F$  and  $Eu_3L^F$ .

#### X-Ray Structural Characterization

Structure of  $\mathbf{Eu3L^F}$  and crystal parameter was showed in Fig. 16, and Table. 9.  $\mathbf{Eu3L^F}$  is Trinuclear complex, and has two ligands, three lanthanide metals, five nitrate anions, and four solvents. Side metals are coordinated two  $\beta$ -diketone sites of  $H_2L^F$ , two nitrate anions, and two solvents which were methanol and water. One nitrate anion coordinated as bidentate ligands, and another coordinated as bridge-ligand with central metal. So, side metals were  $O_9$ , 9 coordination. Central metal was coordinated two 2,

6-diacetyl pyridine sites of  $H_2L^F$ , and three nitrate anions. Two nitrate anions coordinated as bridge-ligand with side metals, and another coordinated as bidentate ligands. So, central metal was  $N_2O_{10}$ , 12 coordination

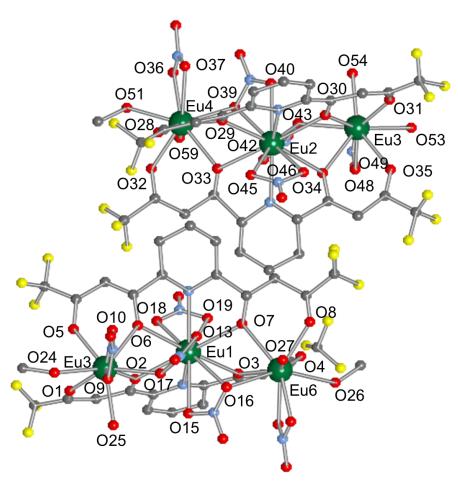


Fig. 13. Crystal structure of  $[Eu_3L^F_2(NO_3)_5(H_2O)_2(MeOH)_2]\cdot 3MeOH$  ( $Eu_3L^F$ )

Table 10. Crystallographic data for Eu<sub>3</sub>L<sup>F</sup>

<u> </u>	
Chemical formula	$C_{58}H_{39}Cl_{2}Eu_{6}F_{24}N_{14}O_{59} \\$
Formula weight	3314.69 g mol <sup>-1</sup>
Crystal system	Monoclinic
Space group	P2/c
a	30.133(6) Å
b	12.694(2) Å
c	14.855(3) Å
α	90°

β	111.479(2) °
γ	90°
V	$12456.(5) \text{ Å}^3$
Z	4
Density (calculated)	1.768 g cm <sup>-3</sup>
Absorption coefficient	3.143 mm <sup>-1</sup>
F (000)	6340
Wavelength	0.71073 Å
Temperature	100K
R1	0.2328
wR2	0.5427
Goodness-of-fit on F2	3.835
Largest diff. peak and hole	$9.496 \text{ and } -8.436 \text{ eÅ}^{-3}$

Table 11. Bond length	(Å) and ar	ngles (°)	of Eu <sub>3</sub> L <sup>F</sup>
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Eu1-O2	2.581(16)	Eu2-O29	2.59(3)	Eu3-O1	2.41(2)
Eu1-O3	2.548(16)	Eu2-O30	2.566(16)	Eu3-O2	2.494(19)
Eu1-O6	2.58(2)	Eu2-O33	2.588(15)	Eu3-O5	2.34(3)
Eu1-O7	2.549(17)	Eu2-O34	2.548(17)	Eu3-O6	2.398(19)
Eu1-O12	2.54(2)	Eu2-O39	2.642(16)	Eu3-O9	2.47(3)
Eu1-O13	2.648(18)	Eu2-O40	2.488(18)	Eu3-O10	2.50(2)
Eu1-O15	2.53(2)	Eu2-O42	2.58(2)	Eu3-O12	2.47(2)
Eu1-O16	2.62(2)	Eu2-O43	2.513(18)	Eu3-O24	2.42(3)
Eu1-O18	2.58(2)	Eu2-O45	2.61(2)	Eu3-O25	2.31(2)
Eu1-O19	2.582(16)	Eu2-O46	2.557(16)	Eu3-N3	2.90(3)
Eu1-N1	2.576(19)	Eu2-N8	2.54(2)		
Eu1-N2	2.64(2)	Eu2-N9	2.60(2)		
Eu4-O28	2.55(3)	Eu5-O30	2.453(18)	Eu6-O3	2.396(15)
Eu4-O29	2.51(2)	Eu5-O31	2.30(2)	Eu6-O4	2.32(2)
Eu4-O32	2.345(18)	Eu5-O34	2.412(17)	Eu6-O7	2.46(2)
Eu4-O33	2.468(16)	Eu5-O35	2.30(2)	Eu6-O8	2.31(2)
Eu4-O36	2.50(3)	Eu5-O42	2.494(19)	Eu6-O16	2.418(17)
Eu4-O37	2.54(2)	Eu5-O48	2.52(2)	Eu6-O21	2.485(19)
Eu4-O40	2.52(2)	Eu5-O49	2.57(3)	Eu6-O22	2.53(3)

Eu4-O51	2.51(2)	Eu5-O53	2.40(2)	Eu6-O26	2.39(2)
Eu4-O52	2.37(2)	Eu5-O54	2.47(2)	Eu6-O27	2.46(3)
Eu4-N10	2.90(3)	Eu5-N14	2.86(5)		
O2-Eu1-O12	67.1(6)	O29-Eu2-O30	118.1(6)	O1-Eu3-O2	71.5(6)
O2-Eu1-O13	114.4(6)	O29-Eu2-O33	62.5(6)	O1-Eu3-O5	73.6(8)
O2-Eu1-O16	112.9(6)	O29-Eu2-O34	168.3(7)	O1-Eu3-O6	121.9(7)
O2-Eu1-O18	68.6(6)	O29-Eu2-O39	73.2(6)	O1-Eu3-O9	125.9(8)
O2-Eu1-O19	111.5(6)	O29-Eu2-O40	63.8(8)	O1-Eu3-O10	146.9(8)
O2-Eu1-O6	62.1(5)	O29-Eu2-O42	129.3(7)	O1-Eu3-O12	132.5(7)
O2-Eu1-O7	178.5(7)	O29-Eu2-O43	117.0(6)	O1-Eu3-O24	71.6(8)
O2-Eu1-N1	61.8(6)	O29-Eu2-O45	62.7(6)	O1-Eu3-N3	144.3(8)
O2-Eu1-N2	117.9(7)	O29-Eu2-O46	103.3(6)	O2-Eu3-O5	93.3(8)
O3-Eu1-O12	128.0(7)	O29-Eu2-N8	59.3(7)	O2-Eu3-O6	65.9(5)
O3-Eu1-O13	112.8(6)	O29-Eu2-N9	113.4(7)	O2-Eu3-O9	143.4(9)
O3-Eu1-O15	70.9(5)	O30-Eu2-O33	177.7(6)	O2-Eu3-O10	133.6(9)
O3-Eu1-O16	60.2(5)	O30-Eu2-O34	61.4(5)	O2-Eu3-O12	69.5(7)
O3-Eu1-O18	107.0(5)	O30-Eu2-O39	64.9(5)	O2-Eu3-O24	142.6(7)
O3-Eu1-O19	65.9(5)	O30-Eu2-O40	111.2(6)	O2-Eu3-O25	84.4(7)
O3-Eu1-O2	118.4(5)	O30-Eu2-O42	66.7(6)	O2-Eu3-N3	143.0(8)
O3-Eu1-O6	172.8(7)	O30-Eu2-O43	112.9(5)	O5-Eu3-O10	82.5(9)
O3-Eu1-O7	61.4(5)	O30-Eu2-O45	113.6(5)	O5-Eu3-O12	133.9(8)
O3-Eu1-N1	60.9(6)	O30-Eu2-O46	69.4(5)	O5-Eu3-O24	70.4(12)
O3-Eu1-N2	116.5(7)	O30-Eu2-N8	62.0(6)	O5-Eu3-O25	144.3(9)
O6-Eu1-O7	118.3(6)	O30-Eu2-N9	119.6(6)	O5-Eu3-O6	71.5(9)
O6-Eu1-O12	59.1(8)	O33-Eu2-O34	118.6(5)	O5-Eu3-O9	121.5(10)
O6-Eu1-O13	71.9(7)	O33-Eu2-O39	113.6(5)	O5-Eu3-N3	105.0(11)
O6-Eu1-O15	114.4(7)	O33-Eu2-O40	66.9(6)	O6-Eu3-O10	69.0(9)
O6-Eu1-O16	126.8(7)	O33-Eu2-O42	111.2(6)	O6-Eu3-O12	62.4(9)
O6-Eu1-O18	66.2(7)	O33-Eu2-O43	65.4(5)	O6-Eu3-O24	132.7(12)
O6-Eu1-O19	107.0(7)	O33-Eu2-O45	68.7(6)	O6-Eu3-O25	136.7(9)
O6-Eu1-N1	116.3(6)	O33-Eu2-O46	112.8(5)	O6-Eu3-O9	111.8(8)
O6-Eu1-N2	59.9(7)	O33-Eu2-N8	119.2(6)	O6-Eu3-N3	89.5(8)
O7-Eu1-O12	111.8(6)	O33-Eu2-N9	61.2(5)	O9-Eu3-O10	51.0(10)
O7-Eu1-O13	64.8(6)	O34-Eu2-O39	114.5(6)	O9-Eu3-O12	77.4(9)

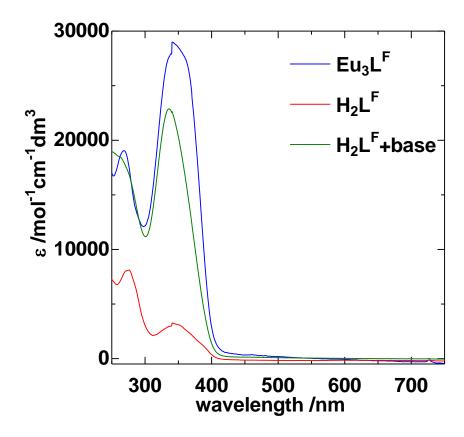
O7-Eu1-O15	112.9(7)	O34-Eu2-O40	127.8(7)	O9-Eu3-O25	73.8(9)
O7-Eu1-O16	65.6(6)	O34-Eu2-O42	62.1(6)	O9-Eu3-N3	24.9(9)
O7-Eu1-O18	112.9(6)	O34-Eu2-O43	71.6(5)	O10-Eu3-O12	80.6(8)
O7-Eu1-O19	69.9(5)	O34-Eu2-O45	106.3(5)	O10-Eu3-O24	79.1(10)
O7-Eu1-N1	118.6(6)	O34-Eu2-O46	65.2(5)	O10-Eu3-O25	123.9(9)
O7-Eu1-N2	63.0(7)	O34-Eu2-N8	115.0(7)	O10-Eu3-N3	26.4(9)
O12-Eu1-O13	49.4(6)	O34-Eu2-N9	61.8(6)	O12-Eu3-O24	145.2(10)
O12-Eu1-O15	65.8(6)	O39-Eu2-O40	49.6(5)	O12-Eu3-O25	78.3(9)
O12-Eu1-O16	70.3(7)	O39-Eu2-O42	64.1(6)	O12-Eu3-N3	74.7(9)
O12-Eu1-O18	120.7(7)	O39-Eu2-O43	98.8(6)	O24-Eu3-O9	67.8(10)
O12-Eu1-O19	165.6(7)	O39-Eu2-O46	124.1(5)	O24-Eu3-O25	90.1(13)
O12-Eu1-N1	119.0(6)	O39-Eu2-N8	63.9(8)	O24-Eu3-N3	74.4(9)
O12-Eu1-N2	99.4(7)	O39-Eu2-N9	163.8(7)	O25-Eu3-O1	72.0(8)
O13-Eu1-O15	97.5(6)	O40-Eu2-O42	67.9(7)	O25-Eu3-N3	97.6(10)
O13-Eu1-O16	62.9(6)	O40-Eu2-O43	65.0(6)		
O13-Eu1-O18	129.4(6)	O40-Eu2-O45	121.4(6)		
O13-Eu1-O19	125.5(6)	O40-Eu2-O46	166.2(6)		
O13-Eu1-N1	161.8(7)	O40-Eu2-N8	100.4(8)		
O13-Eu1-N2	65.4(7)	O40-Eu2-N9	118.6(6)		
O15-Eu1-O2	65.8(6)	O42-Eu2-O43	49.4(5)		
O15-Eu1-O16	50.2(6)	O42-Eu2-O45	167.2(5)		
O15-Eu1-O18	124.7(6)	O42-Eu2-O46	122.6(5)		
O15-Eu1-O19	127.7(5)	O42-Eu2-N8	117.8(7)		
O15-Eu1-N1	64.5(6)	O42-Eu2-N9	102.4(7)		
O15-Eu1-N2	162.7(6)	O43-Eu2-O45	124.1(5)		
O16-Eu1-O18	166.6(5)	O43-Eu2-O46	128.2(5)		
O16-Eu1-O19	121.4(5)	O43-Eu2-N8	162.7(8)		
O16-Eu1-N1	101.2(6)	O43-Eu2-N9	65.0(6)		
O16-Eu1-N2	118.1(7)	O45-Eu2-O39	128.2(6)		
O18-Eu1-N1	67.3(6)	O45-Eu2-O46	50.1(5)		
O18-Eu1-N2	69.7(6)	O45-Eu2-N8	70.8(7)		
O18-Eu1-O19	49.3(5)	O45-Eu2-N9	66.0(7)		
O19-Eu1-N1	69.3(6)	O46-Eu2-N8	67.2(8)		
O19-Eu1-N2	68.2(7)	O46-Eu2-N9	70.0(6)		
N1-Eu1-N2	132.7(7)	N8-Eu2-N9	132.3(9)		

# **Optical measurements**

# UV-Vis absorption of H<sub>2</sub>L<sup>F</sup> and complexes

UV-Vis absorption spectra of  $H_2L^F$ , deprotonated ligand ( $L^{F2-}$ ), and  $Eu_3L^F$  were measured with these methanol solutions. The results showed in Fig. 17.

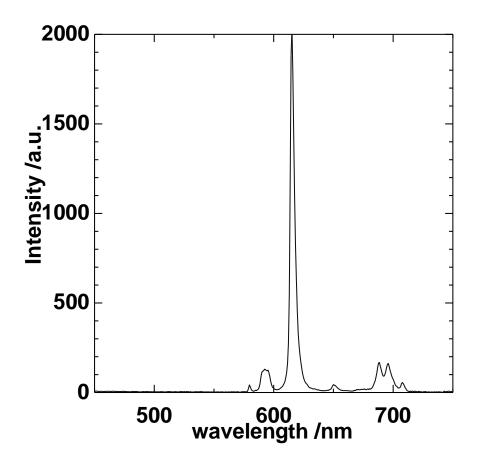
 $H_2L^F$  showed two absorption peaks at 275 nm and 345 nm. Deprotonated  $H_2L^F$  adding base (Triethylamine) showed absorption shoulder at 275nm, and absorption peak at 336 nm. The absorption peak at 336 nm of  $L^{F2-}$  was stronger than that of  $H_2L$  at 345 nm. The absorptions around 340 nm of  $H_2L^F$  and  $L^{F2-}$  were attributed to the singlet-singlet  $\pi$ - $\pi$ \* electronic transition of the aromatic rings in the bis-β-diketonate. From this result, the absorption peak at 345 nm was suggested to relate with proton at bis-β-diketone of  $H_2L^F$ . Compared with the ligand, the maximum absorption peaks were red-shifted for  $Eu_3L^F$  (350 nm), which was attributed to the perturbation induced by the coordination of the  $Eu_3^{-1}$  ion.



**Fig. 14.** Absorption spectrum of  $Eu_3L^F$  (blue),  $H_2L$  (red) and deprotonated  $L^{2-}$  (green) in MeOH at room temperature.

# **Photo luminescence properties**

Photoluminescence spectrum of  $Eu_3L^F$  show in Fig. 18 and Table. 12. The spectrum was very sharp, and this is one of characteristic of Eu(III) ion. So, this spectrum was suggested that this emission came from Eu(III) ion. The narrow bands observed in the emission spectrum at 578, 593, 614, 649, and 688 nm are transitions between the  $^5D_0$  excited state and the different J levels of the ground term  $^7F_J$  ( $J=0\sim4$  respectively) of the europium.



**Fig. 15.** Emission spectrum of **Eu**<sub>3</sub>**L**<sup>F</sup> in solid state at room temperature upon excitation at 340nm.

Table 12. Excitation and emission wavelength of  $Eu_3L^F$  and identification of transition state.

$\lambda_{ex} [nm]$	$\lambda_{em}$ [nm]	transition

340	578	$^5D_0 \rightarrow {}^7F_0$
	593	$^5D_0 \rightarrow {}^7F_1$
	614	$^{5}\mathrm{D}_{0} \rightarrow {}^{7}\mathrm{F}_{2}$
	649	$^{5}\mathrm{D}_{0} \rightarrow {}^{7}\mathrm{F}_{3}$
	688	$^5D_0 \rightarrow {}^7F_4$

Photoluminescence luminescent quantum yield and emission lifetime of  $Eu_3L^F$  showed on Table. 13. PL quantum yield of  $Eu_3L^F$  was higher than that of  $Eu_3L$ . This is suggested that thermal vibration of ligands have an effect on luminous efficiency of europium complex.  $H_2L$  have more C-H bonds that are easy to vibrate than  $H_2L^F$ .

PL lifetime measurement is expected two kinds of emission source, and this result agree with that there are two kinds of coordination environment,  $O_9$  and  $N_2O_{10}$ .

Table 13. PL quantum yields and lifetime of Eu<sub>3</sub>L<sup>F</sup>.

Compound	Φ [%]	τ <sub>1</sub> [ms]	τ <sub>2</sub> [ms]	A <sub>1</sub> [%]	A <sub>2</sub> [%]	$\chi^2$
Eu <sub>3</sub> L <sup>F</sup>	8.07	0.22	0.43	83.71	16.29	1.15

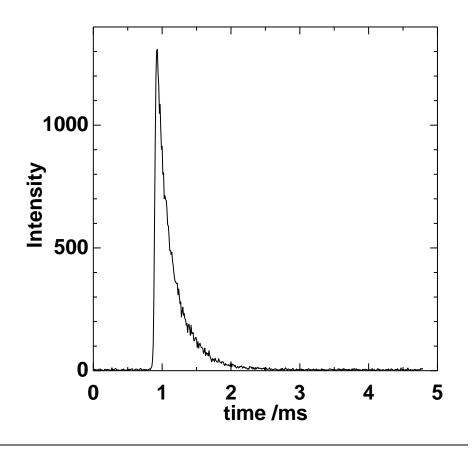


Fig. 16. PL lifetime spectrum of  $Eu_3L^F$ 

# **Conclusion**

Novel trinuclear complexes  $[Ln_3L_2(NO_3)_5(MeOH)_4] \cdot nsolv (Ln_3L)$  (Ln = La, Ce, Pr, Eu) and  $[Eu_3L^F_2(NO_3)_5(H_2O)_3(MeOH)] \cdot 3MeOH$  (Eu<sub>3</sub>L<sup>F</sup>) were successfully prepared by using linear multidentate ligands, 2,6-di(acetoacetyl)pyridine (H<sub>2</sub>L) and 2,6-di(1,1,1-trifluoroacetoacetyl) pyridine  $(H_2L^F)$ . In these structures, two kinds of Ln(III) ions: the central and side Ln(III) ions, were in N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>10</sub> and O<sub>9</sub> coordination environment, respectively. Eu<sub>3</sub>L and Eu<sub>3</sub>L<sup>F</sup> showed characteristic Eu(III) red emission with PL quantum yield (QY) of 0.43 % and 8.07 %, respectively. One of the main factors for the very low OY of Eu<sub>3</sub>L is supposed to be thermal vibration of L<sup>2</sup>, in particular of methyl groups. In the case of Eu<sub>3</sub>L<sup>F</sup>, the methyl groups of L<sup>2</sup> were substituted to the trifluoromethyl groups, which improved QY with suppressing the vivrational relaxation as expected. The ligand modification achieved a limited success in improving QY, but the QY was still low. Energy transfer between Eu(III) ions would be an additional suppressing factor of emission. In the tri-nuclear complexes, metal ions are located closely, which intrinsically include the energy transfer problem due to metal-to-metal interaction. To solve the problem, we are developping a rational synthetic method of hetero-lanthanide multinuclear complexes. Such compounds are expected to show high QY emission with utilizing the energy transfer between different Ln(III) ions or exhibit multicolor emission depending on combination of Ln(III) ions. In both cases, our approach would give significant insights for developing highly-effective light emission element materials.

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# **Chapter 3**

# Synthesis and Multi-Emission Properties of Lanthanide-Boron Hetero-Nuclear Complexes

#### **Abstract**

Novel lanthanide-boron complexes [Ln(LBF<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>(solv)n] (Ln(III) = La, Eu, Gd; Ln-LBF<sub>2</sub>) were prepared with boron complex ligand (HLBF<sub>2</sub>) derived from a multidentate ligand 3-(3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxopropanpyl) benzoic acid (H<sub>2</sub>L). Eu-LBF2 showed concentration and solvent dependent multi-emission based on B and Eu(III) centers. In the coordinating solvent such as acetone and DMF, Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub> showed blue emission originated from boron complexes with weak emission attributed to Eu(III). In the non-coordinating solvent such as CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and acetonitrile, Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub> showed red emission based on Eu(III) ion with weak emission of boron. The results suggested the coordination of solvent to Eu(III) suppressed energy transfer from boron to Eu(III). In the low concentration solution, Eu-LBF2 showed blue emission with weak emission of Eu(III). On the other hand, Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub> showed red emission in the high concentration solution expect for DMF, which suggested an effect of intermolecular energy transfer. Furthermore, emission color was changed by addition of ligands to non-coordination solvent solution. Especially, multidentate ligands induced more sensitive response than monodentate one. The multi-color luminescent Eu-LBF2 successfully exhibited guest-dependent color change with high visibility. Comparison of emission properties between Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub> and Gd-LBF<sub>2</sub> revealed the 3-(3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxopropanpyl) benzoic acid correlation between B and Eu(III); (i) Intersytem crossing between the excited S1 and T1 terms in B is enhanced by coordination to Ln(III) due to a heavy-atom effect, (ii) energy transfer occurs between the generated T1 term of B and excited T1 term of Eu(III). The mechanism allows to change the intensity of emissions from excited S1 term of B and T1 term of Eu(III) depending on the degree of energy transfer from B to Eu(III).

# **Introduction**

Multi-emission materials showing plural emission peaks are expected to apply for not only luminescent materials such as LED, 1-3 but also sensing materials. 4-7 Because the emission color is recognized by their wavelength and intensity, multi-emission materials having modulable intensity ratio of each emission bands are expected to apply for sensing and imaging. Hasegawa et al. reported Eu-Tb solid solution coordination polymer which exhibits wide thermal color change between green and red.<sup>8</sup> Hamachi et. al. developed dual emissive chemosensor based on FRET.<sup>9</sup> This chemosensor exhibited a dual-emission signal change upon binding with strong affinity to nucleoside polyphosphates such as ATP. However, dual emissive compounds especially organic dual emissive compounds<sup>10-12</sup> show broad emission bands. On the other hand, lanthanide complexes show sharp emission bands depending on kinds of lanthanide ions. 13,14 Consequently most of stimuli responsible dual-emission materials have been developed using lanthanide ions, e.g Tb-Eu heteronuclear compounds exhibit temperature responsive emission <sup>15, 16</sup> or lanthanide sensing complex whose emission intensity was changed by external stimuli such as ion.<sup>17-19</sup> To develop novel stimuli responsible material which show highly visible color change, we planned to create novel lanthanide-boron hetero-nuclear complexes. The complexes consisting of boron and lathanide complex modules are expected to show coupled dual emission and visible color change responding to external stimuli. Boron complexes show excellent optical properties due to extension of the  $\pi$  conjugation with rigid  $\pi$ -based structures.<sup>20-22</sup> Emission color of boron complex is tunable by molecular design, and some boron complexes show mechanochromic<sup>23</sup> and ion sensing properties.<sup>24</sup> On the other hand, emission color of lanthanide complexes is untenable and depends on kinds of lanthanide ion, and the emission intensity strongly depends on the energy transfer from ligands. The boron and lanthanide complex modules play different roles in the mulita-color emission, in which two modules show not "individual" emissions but "coupled" Intramolecular energy transfer between boron and lanthanide complex modules is expected to be a 3-(3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxopropanpyl) benzoic acid mechanism for deliver such multi-color emission and highly visible stimuli-responsivity at the same time.

Here, we prepared novel lanthanide-boron hetero-nuclear complex [Ln(LBF<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>(solv)n] (Ln(III) = La, Eu, Gd; Ln-LBF<sub>2</sub>) and examined their emission properties and guest responsivity. The mechanism of wide color change of Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub> was discussed based on the two processes, the intersystem crossing of excited state of

boron complex module and the energy transfer between excited states of boron and Eu(III) complex modules.

#### **Experiments**

#### **Physical Measurements**

Elemental analyses of carbon, hydrogen and nitrogen were carried out by the staff of technical support division graduate school of science, Kyushu University. All Single-crystal X-ray diffraction data were collected on a Bulker SMART APEX II ULTRA CCD-detector Diffractometer, a rotating-anode (Bruker Tourbo X-ray source) with graphite-monochromated MoK $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda$  = 0.71073 Å) was used. A single crystal was mounted on a polymer film with liquid paraffin and the temperature kept constant under flowing N<sub>2</sub>. All of the structures were solved by a standard direct method (XSHELL V6.3.1 crystallographic software package of the Bruker AXS) and expanded using Fourier techniques. Fullmatrixleast-squares refinements were carried out with anisotropic thermal parameters for all non-hydrogen atoms. All of the hydrogen atoms were placed in the measured positions and refined using a riding model. X-ray fluorescence analysis was carried out on a Rigaku ZSX-100S. Infrared spectra were measured with a JASCO FT/IR-4200 using ATR method. UV-Vis absorption and emission spectra were measured by JASCO V-630 and FP-8200. HNMR spectra were obtained with JEOL 600MHz.

Photoluminescence quantum yield measurements were carried out on C9920-02; Absolute quantum yield measurement system made by Hamamatsu Photonics K.K. at room temperature. PL quantum yield was calculated with the following equation:

$$\Phi = \frac{\int I_{em} d\lambda}{\int (I_{ex}^{before} - I_{ex}^{after}) d\lambda}$$

Iem is the amount of photon from emission, Ibeforeex is amount of photon from excitation light that nothing absorbed, and Iafterex is amount of photon from excitation light that something absorbed.

Emission lifetime measurements were carried out on C11200 / Picosecond fluorescence lifetime measurement system at room temperature. Theoretical value of emission lifetime was calculated with the following equation.

$$\sum_{i} A_{i} \exp(-\frac{t}{\tau_{i}})$$

Ai is a coefficient, t is current time, ti is emission lifetime. Ai and ti are given by

fitting of luminescent lifetime measurement.

#### **Materials**

All chemical resources are purchased and used without purification.

# Preparation of compounds

#### 3-(3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxopropanpyl) benzoic acid methyl ester (HBam)

Dimethyl isophthalate (29.2 g, 150 mmol) and sodium methoxide 30% methanol solution (30 ml, 150 mmol) were mixed in 100ml THF. 4'-Methoxyacetophenone (21.0 g, 140mmol) was added in this suspension and mixture was refluxed for 3 hours. Yellow powder was filtered and dissolved in distilled water. 2mol/L hydroxy chloride solution was added to yellow solution, and stirred for 6 hours at room temperature. HBam was given as light brown solid by recrystallization in methanol. Yield: 27.8 g (59.2 %).

 $IR(v/cm^{-1})$ : 1605 s(vC=O)

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>),  $\delta$ ; 8.60 ppm (s, 1H; aromatic ring),  $\delta$ ; 8.47 ppm (d, 1H; aromatic ring)  $\delta$ ; 8.21(d, 2H; aromatic ring in PhOCH<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta$ ; 8.18 (d, 1H; aromatic ring),  $\delta$ ; 7.72 (t, 1H; aromatic ring),  $\delta$ ; 7.43 ppm (s, 1H; CH in β-diketone),  $\delta$ : 7.19 ppm (d, 2H; aromatic ring in PhOMe),  $\delta$ : 3.91 ppm (s, 3H; CH<sub>3</sub> group in COOCH<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta$ : 3.87 ppm (s, 3H; CH<sub>3</sub> group in PhOCH<sub>3</sub>)

#### 3-(3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxopropanpyl) benzoic acid (H<sub>2</sub>L)

HBam (12.1 g, 40 mmol) was dissolved in 300 ml acetone. Solution of sodium hydroxide (4.0 g, 100 mmol) in 20 ml water was added to acetone solution, and mixture was stirred for overnight at room temperature. Yellow powder was filtered, and dissolved in distilled water. 2mol/L hydroxy chloride solution was added to yellow solution, and stirred for 6 hours at room temperature. H<sub>2</sub>L was given as white solid by recrystallization in methanol. Yield: 8.3 g (71.8 %).

IR( $\nu$ /cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1692 s ( $\nu$ C=O in COOH), 1507 s ( $\nu$ C=O in  $\beta$ -diketone)

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>), δ: 17.30 ppm (s, 1H; OH in β-diketone), δ: 13.29 ppm (s, 1H; OH in COOH), δ; 8.60 ppm (s, 1H; aromatic ring), δ; 8.41ppm (d, 1H; aromatic ring) δ; 8.20 ppm (d, 2H; aromatic ring in PhOCH<sub>3</sub>), δ; 8.16 ppm (d, 1H; aromatic ring), δ; 7.70 ppm (t, 1H; aromatic ring), δ; 7.33 ppm (s, 1H; CH in β-diketone), δ: 7.10 ppm (d, 2H; aromatic ring in PhOCH<sub>3</sub>), δ: 3.86 ppm (s, 3H; CH<sub>3</sub> group in PhOCH<sub>3</sub>)

#### HLBF<sub>2</sub>

 $H_2L$  (3.08 g, 10.7 mmol) was suspended in 50 ml dichloromethane. Triethylamine (4ml, 28.5 mmol) was added to this suspension, and mixture was stirred for 2 hours. Boron trifluoride - ethyl ether complex (5 ml) was added to the mixture and stirring overnight. Dark yellow powder was filtered, and washed with chloroform. Yield: 3.41 g (95.4 %).

IR(v/cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1681 s (vC=O in COOH), 1540 s (vC=O in β-diketone), 1035 s(vB-F)  $^{1}$ H-NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>), δ: 13.46 ppm (s, 1H; OH in COOH), δ; 8.76 ppm (s, 1H; aromatic ring), δ; 8.62ppm (d, 1H; aromatic ring) δ; 8.46 ppm (d, 2H; aromatic ring in PhOCH<sub>3</sub>), δ; 8.30 ppm (d, 1H; aromatic ring), δ; 7.94 ppm (s, 1H; CH in β-diketone), δ; 7.80 ppm (t, 1H; aromatic ring), δ: 7.22 ppm (d, 2H; aromatic ring in PhOCH<sub>3</sub>), δ: 3.95 ppm (s, 3H; CH<sub>3</sub> group in PhOCH<sub>3</sub>)

#### Eu(LBF2)3(H2O)8(MeCN)2 (Eu-LBF2)

**HLBF**<sub>2</sub> (816 mg, 2.4 mmol) was suspended in 50 ml acetonitrile. Triethylamine (656 μl, 4.8 mmol) was added to this suspension to dissolve **HLBF**<sub>2</sub>. Eu(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (356 mg, 0.8 mmol) was added to the mixture and stirred for overnight. Yellow precipitate was removed by filtration, filtrate was evaporated. The residue was washed with methanol, and filtered. Yellow precipitate was dissolved in dichloromethane. This solution was filtrated with celite, and filtrate was evaporated. **Eu-LBF**<sub>2</sub> was obtained as yellow powder. The yield was 981 mg (86.6 %).

IR( $\nu$ /cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1541 s ( $\nu$ C=O in  $\beta$ -diketone), 1038 s( $\nu$ B-F) Calcd. (%) C, 46.67; H, 4.27; N, 1.98 (Calcd. for Eu(**LBF**<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>8</sub>(MeCN)<sub>2</sub>) Found (%) C, 46.85; H, 3.88; N, 1.79

#### La(LBF2)3(H2O)2(MeCN)(MeOH) (La-LBF2)

Yellow powder of **La-LBF**<sub>2</sub> was obtained by the same method for **Eu-LBF**<sub>2</sub> except for using La (NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6 H<sub>2</sub>O (346 mg, 0.8 mmol) instead of Eu(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O. Yield: 364 mg (32.4 %).

IR( $\nu$ /cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1541 s ( $\nu$ C=O in β-diketone), 1038 s( $\nu$ B-F)

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>),  $\delta$ ; 8.72 ppm (s, 1H; aromatic ring),  $\delta$ ; 8.45ppm (broad, 1H; aromatic ring)  $\delta$ ; 8.39 ppm (d, 2H; aromatic ring in PhOCH<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta$ ; 8.26 ppm (d, 1H; aromatic ring),  $\delta$ ; 7.84 ppm (s, 1H; CH in  $\beta$ -diketone),  $\delta$ ; 7.63 ppm (t, 1H; aromatic ring),  $\delta$ : 7.16 ppm (d, 2H; aromatic ring in PhOCH<sub>3</sub>),  $\delta$ : 3.90 ppm (s, 3H; CH<sub>3</sub> group in

#### PhOCH<sub>3</sub>)

Calcd. (%) C, 50.46; H, 3.84; N, 1.09

(Calcd. for La(LBF<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>(MeCN)(MeOH))

Found (%) C, 50.42; H, 3.49; N, 0.78

#### Gd(LBF<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)(MeCN)(MeOH)<sub>3</sub> (Gd-LBF<sub>2</sub>)

Yellow powder of **Gd-LBF<sub>2</sub>** was obtained by the same method for **Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub>** except for using Gd (NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6 H<sub>2</sub>O (362 mg, 0.8 mmol) instead of Eu(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O. Yield: 364 mg (32.4 %).

IR( $\nu$ /cm<sup>-1</sup>): 1541 s ( $\nu$ C=O in  $\beta$ -diketone), 1038 s( $\nu$ B-F)

Calcd. (%) C, 49.75; H, 3.79; N, 1.07

(Calcd. for Gd(LBF<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)(MeCN)(MeOH)<sub>3</sub>)

Found (%) C, 49.23; H, 3.41; N, 0.62

Fig. 1. Synthesis scheme of ligands and boron complex

#### Characterization

# Crystal Structure of HLBF2

Structure of **HLBF**<sub>2</sub> is shown Fig. 2. BF<sub>2</sub> moiety coordinated with  $\beta$ -diketone site. This compound is planar structure. Hydrogen bonds were formed at each carboxylate moieties. From packing structure, **HLBF**<sub>2</sub> was stacked with face to face  $\pi$ - $\pi$ 

interaction.

Fig. 2 Crystal structure of HLBF2

Fig. 3 Crystal structure of HLBF<sub>2</sub>. Dashed lines mean hydrogen bonds.

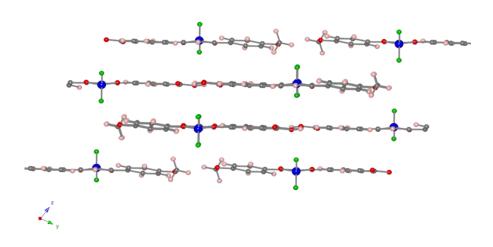


Fig. 4 Packing structure of HLBF<sub>2</sub>.

Table 1 Cell parameters of  $HLBF_2$ 

Name	HLBF <sub>2</sub>
Empirical formula	$C_{17}H_{12}BF_2O_5$
Crystal system	triclinic
Space group	$P\overline{1}$
a/Å	7.109(8)
b/Å	8.606(11)
c/Å	13.182(15)
α/°	72.715(14)
$eta$ / $^{\circ}$	78.053(14)
γ/°	76.294(9)
$V$ /Å $^3$	739.9(15)
Z	2
GOF	1.113
R1	0.1066
wR	0.2602

Table 2 Bond distance and length of  $HLBF_2$ 

Bond Distances(Å)			
F001-B00P	1.364(6)	O003-C00B	1.304(5)
F002-B00P	1.380(7)	O003-B00P	1.490(6)
Bond Angles (°)			
F001-B00P-F002	110.9(4)	F002-B00P-O003	109.0(4)
F001-B00P-O003	109.3(4)	F002-B00P-O005	108.6(4)
F001-B00P-O005	108.7(4)	O003-B00P-O005	110.4(4)

# IR Spectra of Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub>

IR spectrum of **HLBF<sub>2</sub>** showed peak of B-F bond near 1034cm<sup>-1</sup>, and peak shift of C=O bonds characterized β-diketone from 1500 cm<sup>-1</sup> to 1540 cm<sup>-1</sup>. This peak shift of C=O bonds was suggested that BF2 moiety coordinated with C=O of the b-diketone site.

IR spectrum (Fig. 5) of **Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub>** showed peak of B-F bond near 1038 cm<sup>-1</sup> and C=O bond near 1541 cm<sup>-1</sup>. This peak was suggested that BF<sub>2</sub> moiety exist after coordination with Eu3+ ion. In addition, peak of C=O bonds characterized carboxylic acid disappeared. This peak disappearance was suggested Eu<sup>3+</sup> ion coordinated with -COO- moiety of **LBF<sub>2</sub>**. From these results, Eu<sup>3+</sup> formed coordination bonds with boron complex.

Other lanthanide complexes, La-LBF<sub>2</sub> and Gd-LBF<sub>2</sub> showed same IR spectra as Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub>. This result suggests that other lanthanide complex form same conformation with Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub>. (Fig. 6)

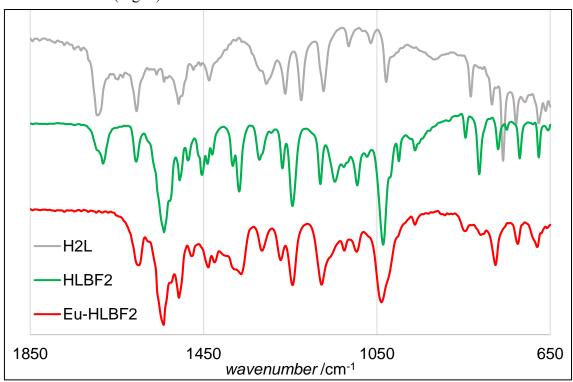


Fig. 5 IR spectra of H<sub>2</sub>L (gray), HLBF<sub>2</sub> (green), and Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub> (red).

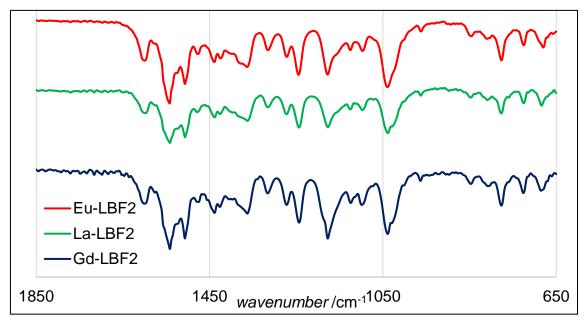


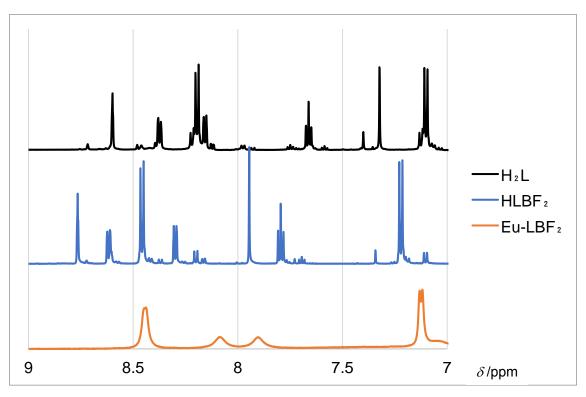
Fig. 6 IR spectra of Eu-LBF2 (red), La-LBF2 (green), and Gd-LBF2 (blue).

#### NMR spectra

NMR spectra of H<sub>2</sub>L, **HLBF<sub>2</sub>**, **La-LBF<sub>2</sub>** and **Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub>** was showed in Fig. 7 and Fig. 8. The spectrum of **Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub>** showed mainly broad peaks. Metal complexes whose metal ion have lone pair electron usually show broad NMR spectra. So this result suggests that boron complex coordinate with Eu<sup>3+</sup> ion.

On the other hand, NMR spectrum of La-LBF<sub>2</sub> showed sharp peaks because La<sup>3+</sup> ion have no lone pair electrons at any state. Compared with HLBF<sub>2</sub>, Whole peaks shifted to high magnetic field. These peak shifts indicate that whole electron densities of boron complex were changed by forming coordination bonds with lanthanide ion. From these results, lanthanide ion coordinates with boron complex and keep the structure in the solvent.

From NMR, IR, and elemental analysis, the chemical formula of  $Ln-LBF_2$  was suggested  $[Ln(LBF_2)_3(H_2O)_2]$  (solv.)<sub>n</sub> (Ln = La, Gd, and Eu).



 $\textbf{Fig. 7} \ NMR \ spectra \ of \ H_2L \ (black), \ \textbf{HLBF2} \ (blue), \ and \ \textbf{Eu-LBF2} \ (orange).$ 

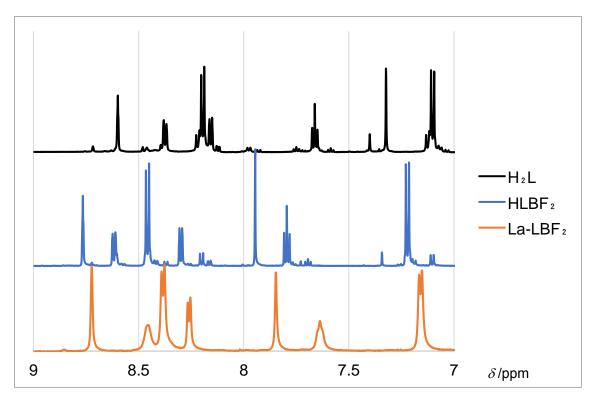


Fig. 8 NMR spectra of H<sub>2</sub>L (black), HLBF<sub>2</sub> (blue), and Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub> (orange).

# **Discussion**

#### Luminescence properties of HLBF<sub>2</sub>

HLBF<sub>2</sub> showed blue emission in solution state (Figs. 9 and 10). In high polarity solvent, emission peak top was red shifted. Emission quantum yield in the low polarity solvent was much higher than that in high polarity solvent. This result suggests that the emission mechanism of HLBF<sub>2</sub> is based on charge transfer (CT). In solid state, HLBF<sub>2</sub> showed yellow emission. The emission peak top of solid HLBF<sub>2</sub> is bathochromic shift to more than 100 nm. Emission lifetime of the solid state is much longer than that of the solution state. These results reflect the intermolecular interaction and packing structure of HLBF<sub>2</sub> in the solid state (Fig. 4). This aggregation state is probably showed in high concentration solutions (Figs. 13-24, and Tables. 4-7).

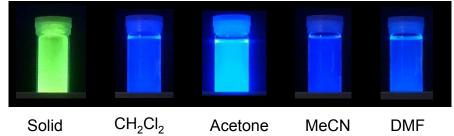
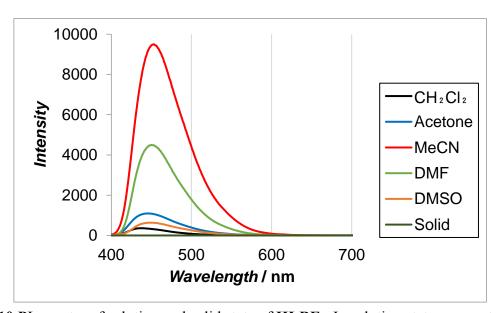
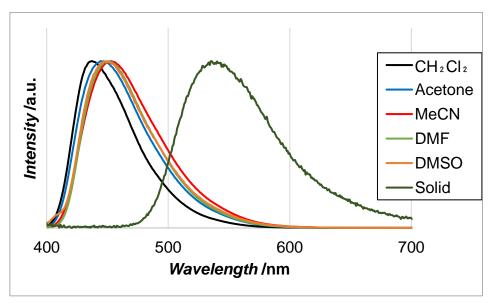


Fig. 9 Under UV irradiation of 20 µmol/L MeCN solution of HBF<sub>2</sub>.



**Fig. 10 P**L spectra of solution and solid state of **HLBF**<sub>2</sub>. In solution state, concentration is 20 µmol/L.



**Fig. 11** Normalized PL spectra of solution and solid state of **HLBF2**. In solution state, concentration is 20 µmol/L.

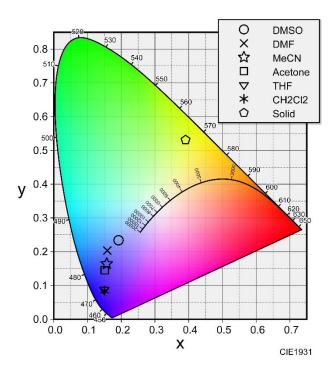


Fig. 12 Color diagram of solution and solid state of HLBF2. In solution state, concentration is  $20 \ \mu mol/L$ .

Table 3 Optical properties of 20 µmol/L HLBF2 solutions.

<u> </u>					
	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	Acetone	MeCN	DMF	Solid
$\lambda_{BF2}$ /nm	437	444.5	453	450	554.3
Φ	< 0.99	0.912	0.493	0.198	0.215
$\tau_1$ /ns	2.3	2.5	1.4	1.6	1.5
$\tau_2$ /ns	0.0	0.0	6.1	0.0	8.7
$A_1$	0.366	0.386	0.325	0.221	0.258
$A_2$	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.054
$\chi^2$	1.501	1.487	1.299	1.438	1.055

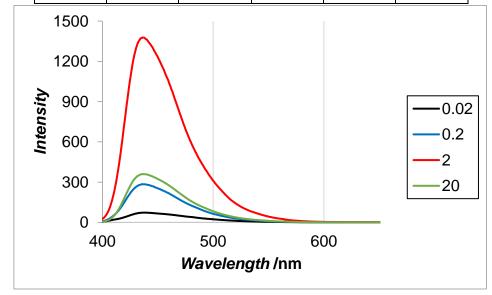
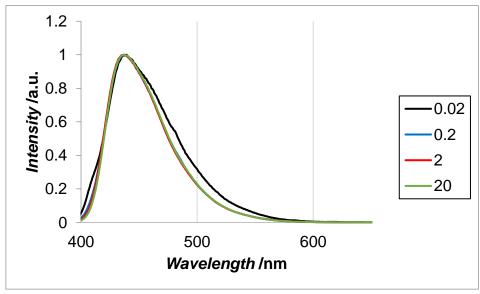
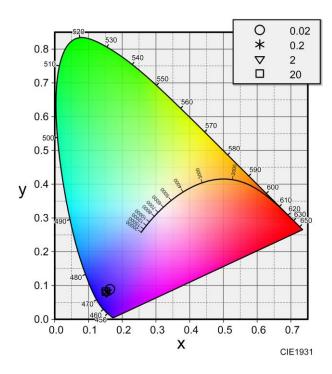


Fig. 13 PL spectra of  $CH_2Cl_2$  solution of HLBF2. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 20  $\mu$ mol/L.



**Fig. 14** Normalized PL spectra of  $CH_2Cl_2$  solution of **HLBF2**. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 20  $\mu$ mol/L.



**Fig. 15** Color diagram of  $CH_2Cl_2$  solution of **HLBF2**. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 20  $\mu$ mol/L.

Table 4 Optical properties of 0.02-20 µmol/L HLBF2 acetone solutions.

Conc. (µmol/L)	0.02	0.2	2	20
$\lambda_{BF2}$ /nm	439	436.5	437	437
Φ	0.377	0.549	< 0.99	< 0.99
$\tau_1$ /ns	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.3
$A_1$	0.215	0.289	0.281	0.366
$\chi^2$	1.537	1.182	1.483	1.501

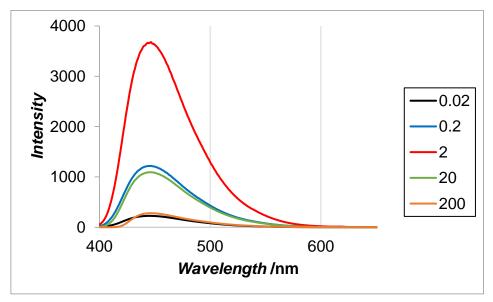


Fig. 16 PL spectra of acetone solution of HLBF2. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 20  $\mu$ mol/L.

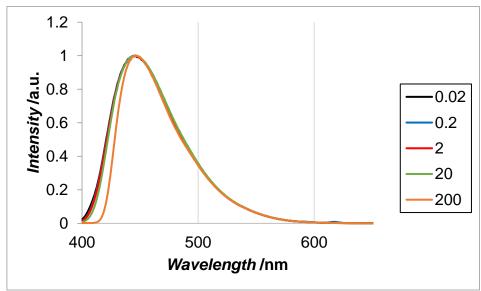
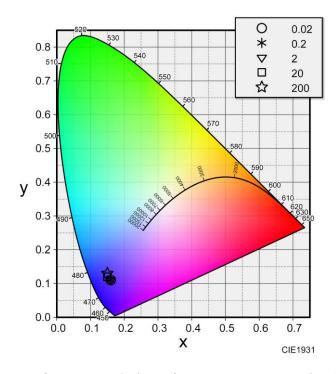


Fig. 17 Normalized PL spectra of acetone solution of HLBF2. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 20  $\mu$ mol/L.



**Fig. 18** Color diagram of acetone solution of **HLBF2**. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 20  $\mu$ mol/L.

Table 5 Optical properties of 0.02-200 µmol/L HLBF2 acetone solutions.

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Conc. (µmol/L)	0.02	0.2	2	20	200		
$\lambda_{\mathrm{BF2}}$ /nm	445.5	446	446.5	444.5	447		
Φ	0.727	0.762	0.838	0.912	0.908		
$\tau_1$ /ns	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.9		
$A_1$	0.284	0.282	0.207	0.386	0.266		
$\chi^2$	1.52	1.44	1.43	1.49	1.44		

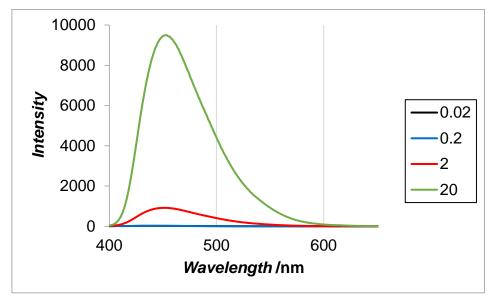


Fig. 19 PL spectra of MeCN solution of HLBF2. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 20  $\mu$ mol/L.

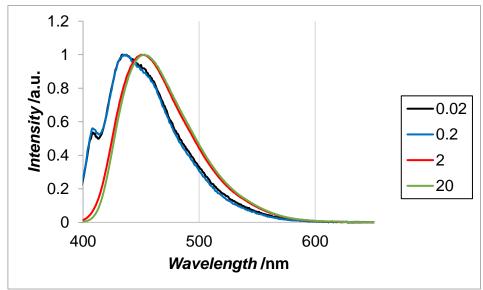
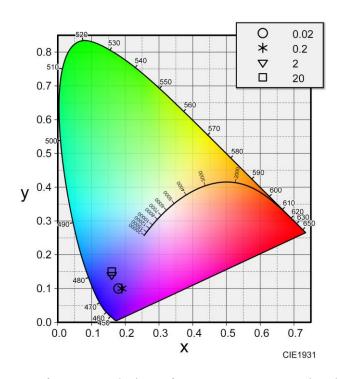


Fig. 20 Normalized PL spectra of MeCN solution of HLBF2. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 20  $\mu$ mol/L.



**Fig. 21** Color diagram of MeCN solution of **HLBF<sub>2</sub>**. Concentration is 0.02 µmol/L to 20 µmol/L.

**Table 6** Optical properties of 0.02-20 µmol/L **HLBF<sub>2</sub>** MeCN solutions.

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Conc. (µmol/L)	0.02	0.2	2	20
$\lambda_{BF2}$ /nm	434	437.5	450	453
Φ	0.259	0.187	0.378	0.493
$\tau_1$ /ns	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.4
$\tau_2$ /ns	0.0	0.0	10.3	6.1
$A_1$	0.338	0.222	0.262	0.325
$A_2$	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.002
$\chi^2$	1.606	1.650	1.322	1.299

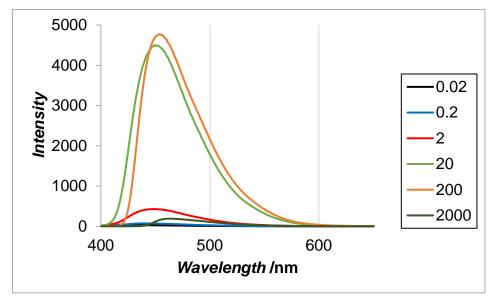
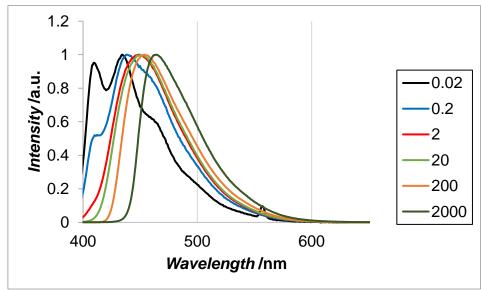
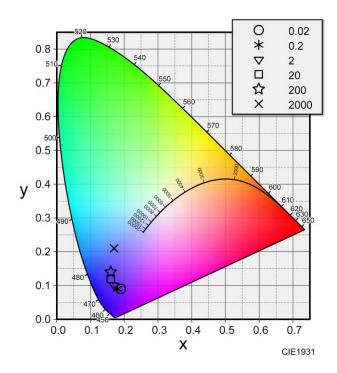


Fig. 22 PL spectra of DMF solution of HLBF2. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 2000  $\mu$ mol/L.



**Fig. 23** Normalized PL spectra of DMF solution of **HLBF2**. Concentration is  $0.02 \, \mu mol/L$  to  $2000 \, \mu mol/L$ .



**Fig. 24** Color diagram of DMF solution of **HLBF<sub>2</sub>**. Concentration is 0.02 μmol/L to 2000 μmol/L.

Table 7 Optical properties of 0.02-2000 µmol/L HLBF2 DMF solutions.

Conc. (µmol/L)	0.02	0.2	2	20	200	2000
$\lambda_{BF2}$ /nm	434.5	438	449	450	453.5	464.5
Φ	0.046	0.086	0.108	0.198	0.225	0.077
$\tau_1 / ns$	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.2
$\tau_2$ /ns	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	18.9	13.3
$A_1$	0.148	0.258	0.194	0.221	0.327	0.278
$A_2$	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.007
$\chi^2$	1.124	1.456	1.237	1.438	1.295	1.090

# Solvent dependence about luminescence properties of Ln-LBF2

**Eu-LBF**<sub>2</sub> also showed two emission bands below 500 nm and around 600 nm (Fig. 29). The formar and the latter were attributed to the emission band of boron complex (Em<sup>B</sup>) and Eu(III) ion (Em<sup>Eu</sup>), respectively In the solid state, **Eu-LBF**<sub>2</sub> showed yellow emission with weak Em<sup>B</sup> and strong Em<sup>Eu</sup>. In the solution state, **Eu-LBF**<sub>2</sub> showed solvent dependent luminescence properties with changing the intensition of

Em<sup>B</sup> and Em<sup>Eu</sup>. In acetone and DMF, **Eu-LBF**<sub>2</sub> showed blue emission with stronger Em<sup>B</sup> than Em<sup>Eu</sup>. On the other hand, in dichloromethane and acetonitrile, **Eu-LBF**<sub>2</sub> showed red emission with stronger Em<sup>Eu</sup> than Em<sup>B</sup>. All spectra were summarized in Fig. 27.

Emission properties of **Eu-LBF**<sub>2</sub> in each solvent were summarized in Table 9. Low polarity solvent dichloromethane showed red emission, on the other hand, high polarity solvent acetone showed blue emission, which is opposite trend in the boron complex **HLBF**<sub>2</sub>. The solvent dependet emission color is explained not by polarity but by coordination ability of solvent. Acetone and DMF have C=O site having high affinity to lanthanide ion. Because lanthanide complex has flexible coordination number (6~12), Eu(III) ion can accept more ligand in **Eu-LBF**<sub>2</sub>. Furthermore, lanthanide ion is hard acid from HSAB theory, the hard basic solvents coordinate to Eu(III) in **Eu-LBF**<sub>2</sub>. Finally, the coordination of solvent suppressed the intramolecular energy transfer efficiency from **LBF**<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> to Eu(III).

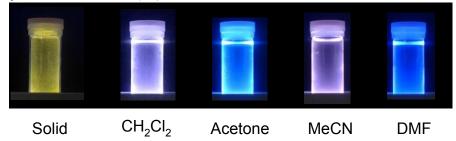
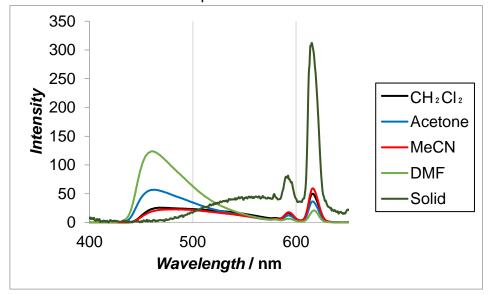
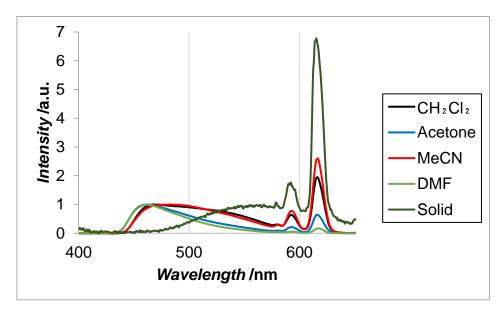


Fig. 25 Under UV irradiation of 200 µmol/L solution of Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub>.



**Fig. 26** PL spectra of **Eu-LBF**<sub>2</sub> solution states (concentration is 200 μmol/L) and solid state.



**Fig. 27** Normalized PL spectra of **Eu-LBF**<sub>2</sub> solution states (concentration is 200 µmol/L) and solid state.

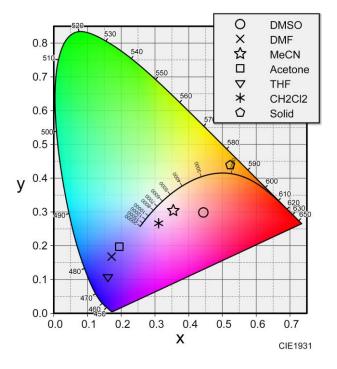


Fig. 28 Color diagram of  $Eu\text{-}LBF_2$  solution states (concentration is 200  $\mu$ mol/L) and solid state.

Table 8 Optical properties of 200 µmol/L Eu-LBF2 solutions.

	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	Acetone	MeCN	DMF	Solid
$\lambda_{BF2}$ /nm	472	462.5	483.5	461	578.9

$\lambda_{Eu}$ /nm	616.5	615.5	616.5	617.5	615.5
Int <sub>Eu</sub> /Int <sub>LBF2</sub>	1.945	0.640	2.603	0.170	6.800
$\Phi_{ ext{total}}$	0.301	0.379	0.412	0.301	0.071
$\Phi_{\mathrm{LBF2}}$	0.099	0.206	0.094	0.245	0.020
$\Phi_{\mathrm{Eu}}$	0.193	0.164	0.30	0.052	0.051
$\tau_1$ /ns	2.2	2.1	2.2	1.4	2.3
$\tau_2$ /ns	9.7	6.8	9.2	12.0	10.0
$A_1$	0.271	0.388	0.211	0.460	0.252
$A_2$	0.099	0.009	0.044	0.003	0.055
$\chi^2$	1.390	1.298	1.458	1.507	1.196

To clearify the mechanism of solvent dependent luminescence of **Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub>**, photophysical properties of **Gd-LBF<sub>2</sub>** was examined. Gd(III) ion has high energy gap between the ground state and the excited state (about 310 nm). Because of the energy gad, Gd(III) ion shows no emission in the region of visible light. However, Gd(III) complexes exhibit an internal heavy atom. Therefore, Gd(III) complex is available for understanding photophysical properties of lanthanide complex. PL spectra of **Gd-LBF<sub>2</sub>** were shown in Figs. 32-34. **Gd-LBF<sub>2</sub>** also showed solvent dependent luminescent properties. In the non-coordinating solvent; dichloromethane or acetonitrile, **Gd-LBF<sub>2</sub>** showed green color. PL spectra showed new broad emission band around 525 nm in addition to Em<sup>B</sup>. On the other hand, in the coordinating solvent; acetone or DMF, **Gd-LBF<sub>2</sub>** showed blue color with Em<sup>B</sup> similar to **HLBF<sub>2</sub>**. Luminescent lifetime values in each solvent were summarized in Table. 10. The long lifetime emission species (~30 ns) was detected around 525 nm in dichloromethane or acetonitrile solution, which suggested that the emission peak around 525 nm originated from the phosphorescent of boron complex.

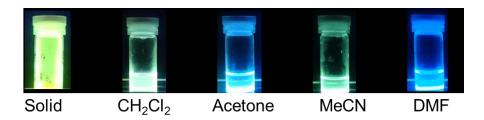


Fig. 29 Under UV irradiation of 200 µmol/L solution of Gd-LBF<sub>2</sub>.

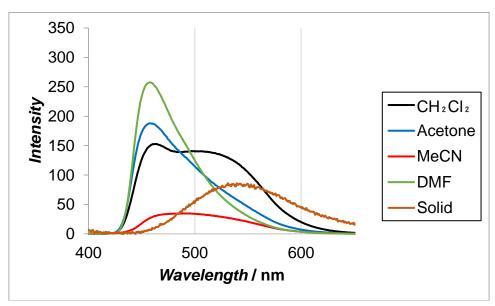


Fig. 30 PL spectra of Gd-LBF2 solution states (concentration is 200  $\mu$ mol/L) and solid state.

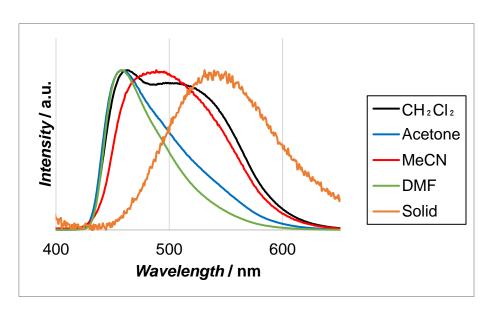


Fig. 31 Normalized PL spectra of  $Gd\text{-}LBF_2$  solution states (concentration is 200  $\mu mol/L$ ) and solid state.

Table 9 Optical properties of 200 µmol/L Gd-LBF2 solutions.

Conc. (µmol/L)	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	Acetone	MeCN	DMF	Solid
$\lambda_{BF2}$ /nm	463	457.5	488.5	458	578.9
Φ	0.333	0.465	0.278	0.306	0.054
${\tau_1}^{*1}$	2.4	2.4	1.6	1.6	-
$\tau_2^{*1}$	17.0	11.9	10.1	7.4	-

$A_1^{*1}$	0.285	0.205	0.192	0.184	-
$A_2^{*1}$	0.062	0.013	0.042	0.002	-
$\chi^{2*1}$	1.10	1.064	1.15	1.48	-
τ <sub>3</sub> *2	4.3	3.34	8.1	1.6	-
τ <sub>4</sub> *2	24.9	20.88	26.1	11.1	-
A <sub>3</sub> *2	2.381	0.43449	0.294	0.398	-
A4*2	0.137	0.033765	0.073	0.004	-
$\chi^{2*2}$	1.52	1.502527	1.62	1.32	-

<sup>\*1</sup> Emission wavelength is 450 nm

From results of emission properties of Eu-LBF2 and Gd-LBF2, mechanism of the color change in Ln-LBF2 was considered (Fig. 32). In non-coordining solvent, Ln-LBF<sub>2</sub> is excited and electrons go up to S<sub>1</sub> state by UV irradiation. Some electrons go back to ground state So and show blue emission around 450 nm as fluorescent (Em<sup>BS1</sup>). A part of electrons transfer to T<sub>1</sub> state via intersystem crossing (ISC) and show green emission around 525 nm as phosphorescent (Em<sup>BT1</sup>). Although the  $S_1 \rightarrow T_1$ transition is spin forbidden trprocess, lanthanide ion relaxed the forbidden transition by internal heavy-atom effect. In Eu-LBF2, a part of T1 state electrons in boron complex transfer to T<sub>1</sub> state of Eu(III) ion as intra-molecular energy transfer. Then, red emission of Eu(III), Em<sup>Eu</sup>, around 600 nm is observed. This is a proposed emission mechanism of Ln-LBF2 in non-coordinating solvent. In the case of coordinating solvent, the additional coordination to lanthanide ion weakens the interaction among lanthanide ion and other ligands which means weakens the inernal heavy atom effect and the  $S_1 \rightarrow T_1$ process in the boron complex is supressed. As a result, Eu-LBF2 shows strong fluorescent from S<sub>1</sub> state of boron (Em<sup>BS1</sup>), and weak Em<sup>Eu</sup> with the suppressed energy transfer from boron complex to Eu(III) ion.

<sup>\*2</sup> Emission wavelength is 525 nm

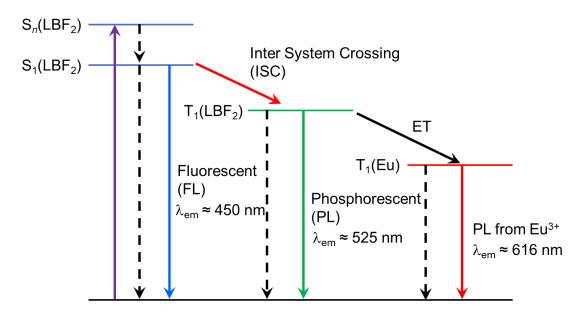
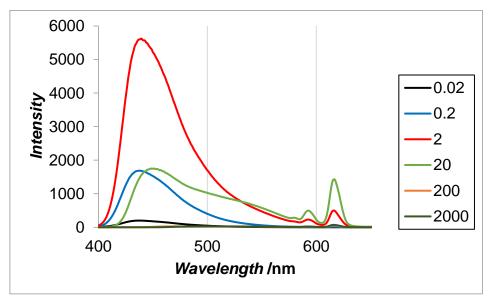


Fig. 32 Energy Diagram of Eu-LBF2

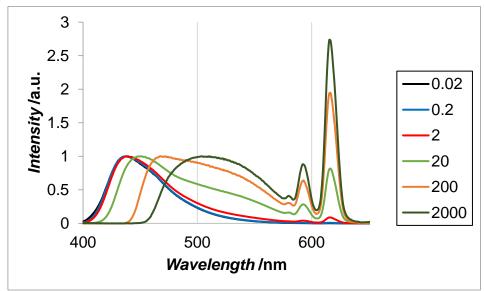
#### Concentration dependence of Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub>

In 200  $\mu$ mol/L dichloromethane and acetonitrile solution, **Eu-LBF**<sub>2</sub> showed red emission. On the other hand, in their diluted solution, **Eu-LBF**<sub>2</sub> showed blue emission. Fig. 34 shows normalized PL spectra of dichloromethane solution in difference concentration. In the dilute solution lower than 2  $\mu$ mol/L, major emission band was Em<sup>BS1</sup>. On the other hand, in the concentrated solution higher than 20  $\mu$ mol/L, major emission band changed to Em<sup>Eu</sup>. Furthermore, the concentration gets higher, the emission peak top of boron complex shifted to longer wavelength.

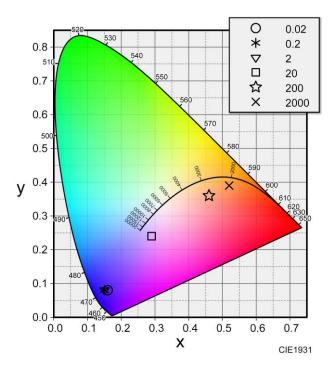
Change of emission intensity ratio of  $\rm Em^{Eu}/\rm Em^{B}$  was also measured using other solvents (Tables. 11-14). Except for DMF solution, all solution exhibited similar trend. Only DMF solution showed blue emission in all concentration range from 2  $\mu$ mol/L to 2000 mmol/L. These color changes suggest that intermolecular energy transfer from  $\rm LBF_2$  to  $\rm Eu(III)$  ion.



**Fig. 33** PL spectra of  $CH_2Cl_2$  solution of **Eu-LBF2**. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 2000  $\mu$ mol/L.



**Fig. 34** Normalized PL spectra of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution of **Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub>**. Concentration is 0.02 µmol/L to 2000 µmol/L.



**Fig. 35** Color diagram of  $CH_2Cl_2$  solution of **Eu-LBF2**. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 2000  $\mu$ mol/L.

**Table 10** Optical properties of 0.02-2000 µmol/L **Eu-LBF2** CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solutions.

Conc. (µmol/L)	0.02	0.2	2	20	200	2000
$\lambda_{BF2}$ /nm	437.5	437.5	439.5	448.5	472	504
$\lambda_{Eu}$ /nm	614.5	616	616	616.5	616.5	615.5
Int <sub>Eu</sub> /Int <sub>LBF2</sub>	0.003	0.009	0.088	0.818	1.945	2.738
$\Phi_{ ext{total}}$	0.879	1.011	0.820	0.409	0.301	0.317
$\Phi_{\mathrm{LBF2}}$	0.860	0.993	0.804	0.243	0.099	0.075
$\Phi_{\mathrm{Eu}}$	0.017	0.015	0.014	0.159	0.193	0.231
$\tau_1$ /ns	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.6	2.2	2.4
$\tau_2$ /ns	0.0	11.1	4.1	9.9	9.7	0.0
$A_1$	0.395	0.402	1.620	0.193	0.271	0.308
$A_2$	0.000	0.011	0.037	0.068	0.099	0.000
$\chi^2$	1.440	1.180	1.586	1.337	1.390	1.273

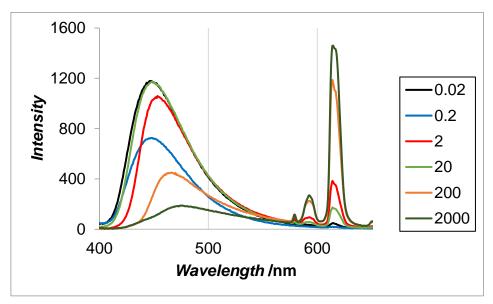


Fig. 36 PL spectra of acetone solution of Eu-LBF2. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 2000  $\mu$ mol/L.

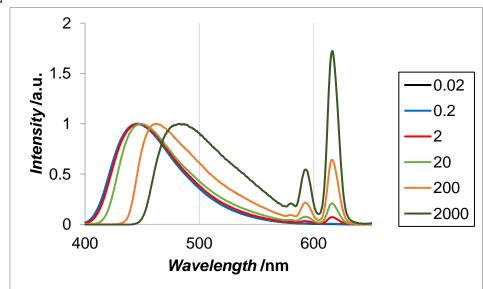
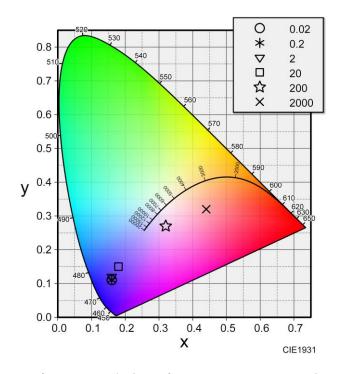


Fig. 37 Normalized PL spectra of acetone solution of Eu-LBF2. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 2000  $\mu$ mol/L.



**Fig. 38** Color diagram of acetone solution of **Eu-LBF2**. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 2000  $\mu$ mol/L.

**Table 11** Optical properties of 0.02-2000 µmol/L **Eu-LBF2** acetone solutions.

Conc. (µmol/L)	0.02	0.2	2	20	200	2000
$\lambda_{BF2}$ /nm	447	446	446	449.5	462.5	483.5
$\lambda_{Eu}$ /nm	605	614.5	615.5	616	615.5	616.5
Int <sub>Eu</sub> /Int <sub>LBF2</sub>	0.004	0.007	0.072	0.208	0.640	1.723
$\Phi_{ ext{total}}$	0.934	0.912	0.671	0.512	0.379	0.348
$\Phi_{\mathrm{LBF2}}$	0.901	0.888	0.627	0.443	0.206	0.113
$\Phi_{\mathrm{Eu}}$	0.030	0.021	0.040	0.063	0.164	0.224
$\tau_1$ /ns	2.4	2.4	2.6	2.5	2.1	1.4
$\tau_2$ /ns	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.2	6.8	4.0
$A_1$	0.286	0.307	0.334	1.344	0.388	0.539
$A_2$	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.018	0.009	0.010
$\chi^2$	1.564	1.548	1.540	1.131	1.298	1.183

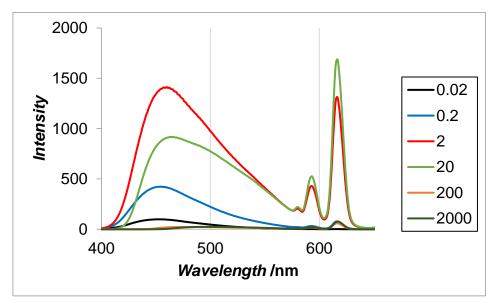
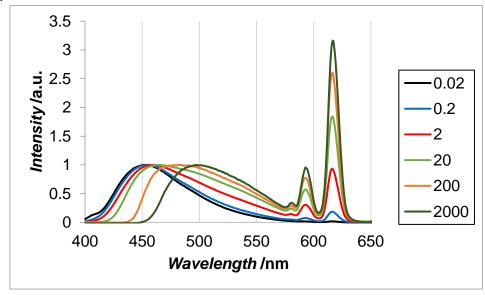
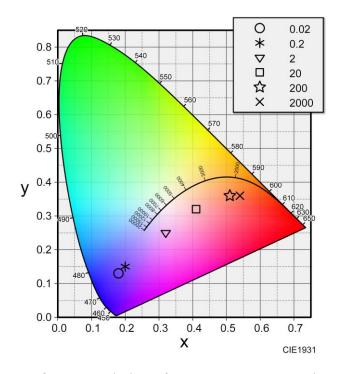


Fig. 39 PL spectra of MeCN solution of Eu-LBF2. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 2000  $\mu$ mol/L.



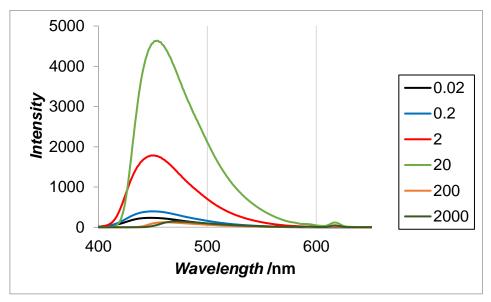
**Fig. 40** Normalized PL spectra of MeCN solution of **Eu-LBF**<sub>2</sub>. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 2000  $\mu$ mol/L.



**Fig. 41** Color diagram of MeCN solution of **Eu-LBF2**. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 2000  $\mu$ mol/L.

Table 12 Optical properties of 0.02-2000 µmol/L Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub> MeCN solutions.

Conc. (µmol/L)	0.02	0.2	2	20	200	2000
$\lambda_{BF2}$ /nm	454.5	454.5	460	462.5	483.5	497.5
$\lambda_{Eu}$ /nm	616.5	616.5	616.5	616.5	616.5	617
Int <sub>Eu</sub> /Int <sub>LBF2</sub>	0.018	0.185	0.931	1.840	2.603	3.160
$\Phi_{ ext{total}}$	0.415	0.359	0.360	0.325	0.412	0.440
$\Phi_{\mathrm{LBF2}}$	0.395	0.299	0.191	0.122	0.094	0.081
$\Phi_{\mathrm{Eu}}$	0.02	0.06	0.16	0.19	0.30	0.34
$\tau_1$ /ns	1.5	1.7	2.0	2.1	2.2	0.9
$\tau_2/ns$	7.8	9.4	9.0	8.3	9.2	2.6
$A_1$	0.347	0.361	0.224	0.339	0.211	17.516
$A_2$	0.006	0.010	0.022	0.041	0.044	1.115
$\chi^2$	1.147	1.560	1.513	1.390	1.458	1.688



**Fig. 42** PL spectra of DMF solution of **Eu-LBF2**. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 2000  $\mu$ mol/L.

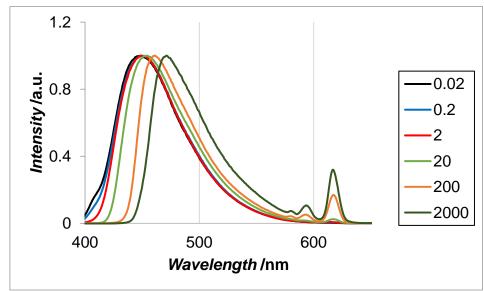
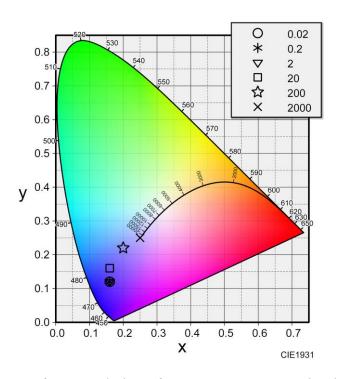


Fig. 43 Normalized PL spectra of DMF solution of Eu-LBF2. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 2000  $\mu$ mol/L.

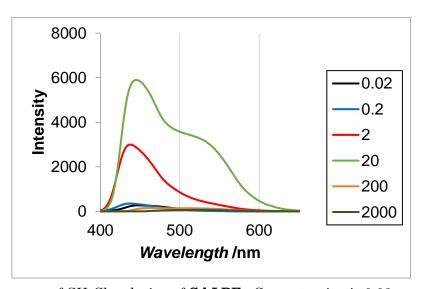


**Fig. 44** Color diagram of DMF solution of **Eu-LBF2**. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 2000  $\mu$ mol/L.

Table 13 Optical properties of 0.02-2000 µmol/L Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub> DMF solutions.

Conc. (µmol/L)	0.02	0.2	2	20	200	2000
$\lambda_{BF2}$ /nm	448.5	449.5	449.5	454	461	471.5
$\lambda_{Eu}$ /nm	605	615	614.5	617	617.5	617
Int <sub>Eu</sub> /Int <sub>LBF2</sub>	0.004	0.005	0.008	0.025	0.170	0.320
$\Phi_{ ext{total}}$	0.216	0.207	0.138	0.294	0.301	0.280
$\Phi_{\mathrm{LBF2}}$	0.209	0.200	0.132	0.277	0.245	0.193
$\Phi_{\mathrm{Eu}}$	0.007	0.007	0.005	0.016	0.052	0.082
$\tau_1$ /ns	1.4	1.0	1.4	1.3	1.4	0.2
$\tau_2/ns$	6.4	5.0	7.5	4.0	12.0	4.6
$A_1$	0.344	0.652	0.316	6.931	0.460	0.905
$A_2$	0.006	0.012	0.003	0.039	0.003	0.004
$\chi^2$	0.908	1.596	1.292	0.996	1.507	1.642

Concentration dependence of photophysical properties of  $Gd\text{-}LBF_2$  was also measured. Fig. 46 showed normalized PL spectra of dichloromethane solution in difference concentration. In the the diluted solution lower than  $2\mu$ mol/L, the fluorescent band  $Em^{BS1}$  was obserbed around 450 nm. On the other hand, in the concentrated solution higher than  $20\mu$ mol/L, the emission band shifted to longer wavelength. Finally, the shift reached over 80 nm. The shifted band is attributed to phosphorescent of boron complex,  $Em^{BT1}$ . Especially, in the high concentration, the emission intensity ratio of phosphorescent shows stronger than that of florescent (Fig. 51).



**Fig. 45** PL spectra of  $CH_2Cl_2$  solution of **Gd-LBF<sub>2</sub>**. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 2000  $\mu$ mol/L.

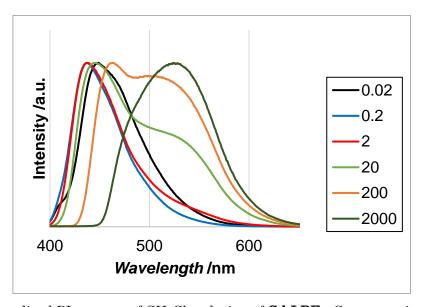


Fig. 46 Normalized PL spectra of  $CH_2Cl_2$  solution of Gd-LBF2. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 2000  $\mu$ mol/L.

Table 14 Optical properties of  $0.02\text{-}2000~\mu\text{mol/L}$  Gd-LBF<sub>2</sub> CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solutions.

Conc. (µmol/L)	0.02	0.2	2	20	200	2000
$\lambda_{BF2}$ /nm	448.5	436.5	437.5	446.5	463	524
Φ	0.352	0.279	0.759	0.519	0.333	0.254
${\tau_1}^{*1}$	2.9	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.0
${\tau_2}^{*1}$	0	0	0	16.1	17.0	10.1
$A_1^{*1}$	0.206	0.318	0.199	0.243	0.285	0.234
$A_2^{*1}$	0	0	0	0.034	0.062	0.044
$\chi^{2*1}$	1.03	1.46	1.54	1.18	1.10	1.52
τ <sub>3</sub> *2	3.7	2.4	2.4	3.4	4.3	7.6
τ4*2	0	23.2	23.7	29.4	24.9	31.5
A3*2	0.253	2.134	0.342	3.722	2.381	0.523
$A_4^{*2}$	0	0.002	0.006	0.072	0.137	0.106
$\chi^{2*2}$	1.28	1.23	1.02	1.46	1.52	1.49
X	0.18	0.18	0.16	0.21	0.31	0.32
у	0.09	0.08	0.09	0.22	0.44	0.48

<sup>\*1</sup> Emission wavelength is 450 nm

<sup>\*2</sup> Emission wavelength is 525 nm

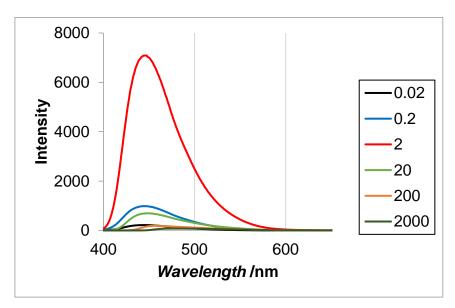


Fig. 47 PL spectra of Acetone solution of Gd-LBF2. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 2000  $\mu$ mol/L.

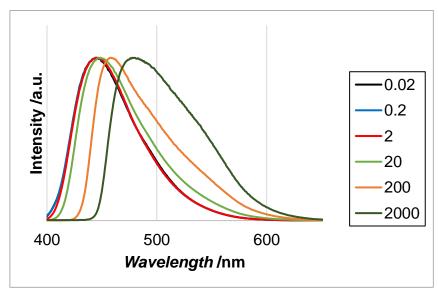


Fig. 48 Normalized PL spectra of Acetone solution of Gd-LBF2. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 2000  $\mu$ mol/L.

Table 15 Optical properties of  $0.02\text{-}2000~\mu\text{mol/L}$  Gd-LBF<sub>2</sub> Acetone solutions.

Conc. (µmol/L)	0.02	0.2	2	20	200	2000
$\lambda_{BF2}$ /nm	445	444.5	446.5	449	457.5	477.5
Φ	<0.99	<0.99	<0.99	0.711	0.465	0.289
${\tau_1}^{*1}$	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.0	2.4	2.1
${ au_2}^{*1}$	0	0	0	4.2	11.9	10.3
A <sub>1</sub> *1	0.255	0.168	0.223	0.159	0.205	0.234
A <sub>2</sub> *1	0	0	0	0.041	0.013	0.033
$\chi^{2*1}$	1.09	1.19	1.59	1.34	1.06	1.36
$\tau_3^{*2}$	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.6	3.3	8.0
τ <sub>4</sub> *2	0.0	16.8	0	13.5	20.9	29.4
A <sub>3</sub> *2	0.267	1.541	0.295	0.249	0.434	0.706
A4*2	0	0.009	0	0.016	0.034	0.058
$\chi^{2*2}$	1.25	1.29	1.11	1.01	1.50	2.00
X	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.18	0.24
y	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.14	0.22	0.36

<sup>\*1</sup> Emission wavelength is 450 nm

<sup>\*2</sup> Emission wavelength is 525 nm

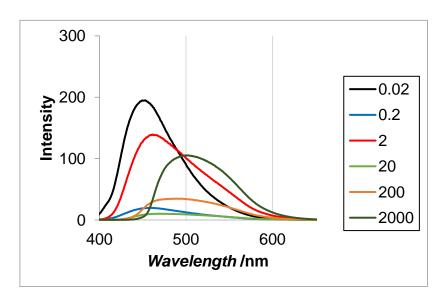


Fig. 49 PL spectra of MeCN solution of Gd-LBF2. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 2000  $\mu$ mol/L.

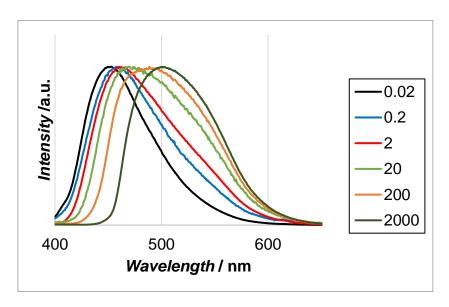


Fig. 50 Normalized PL spectra of MeCN solution of Gd-LBF2. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu mol/L$  to 2000  $\mu mol/L$  .

Table 16 Optical properties of 0.02-2000  $\mu$ mol/L Gd-LBF2 MeCN solutions.

Conc. (µmol/L)	0.02	0.2	2	20	200	2000
$\lambda_{BF2}$ /nm	453	458	461	469	488.5	501
Φ	0.307	0.330	0.396	0.263	0.278	0.270
${\tau_1}^{*1}$	1.5	1.7	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.6
τ2*1	0	0	7.9	9.8	10.1	10.6
$A_1^{*1}$	0.204	0.204	0.232	0.168	0.192	0.219
A <sub>2</sub> *1	0	0	0.009	0.024	0.042	0.064
$\chi^{2*1}$	1.47	1.78	1.05	1.13	1.15	1.25
τ <sub>3</sub> *2	1.8	1.6	1.8	2.1	8.1	8.4
τ4*2	12.5	13.6	13.8	12.0	26.1	28.2
A <sub>3</sub> *2	0.212	0.289	0.234	18.864	0.294	0.320
A <sub>4</sub> *2	0.012	0.003	0.013	0.179	0.073	0.083
$\chi^{2*2}$	1.56	1.32	1.28	1.48	1.62	1.38
X	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.22	0.26	0.29
у	0.15	0.15	0.18	0.28	0.37	0.45

<sup>\*1</sup> Emission wavelength is 450 nm

<sup>\*2</sup> Emission wavelength is 525 nm

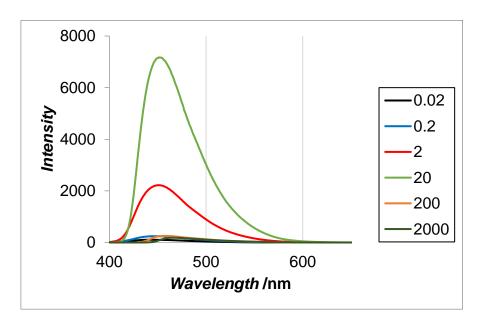


Fig. 51 PL spectra of DMF solution of Gd-LBF<sub>2</sub>. Concentration is  $0.02~\mu mol/L$  to  $2000~\mu mol/L$ .

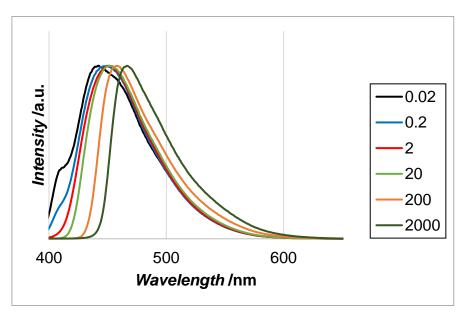


Fig. 52 Normalized PL spectra of DMF solution of Gd-LBF<sub>2</sub>. Concentration is 0.02  $\mu$ mol/L to 2000  $\mu$ mol/L.

Table 17 Optical properties of 0.02-2000  $\mu$ mol/L Gd-LBF<sub>2</sub> DMF solutions.

Conc. (µmol/L)	0.02	0.2	2	20	200	2000
$\lambda_{BF2}$ /nm	442.5	449.5	451	451.5	458	466.5
Φ	0.216	0.184	0.264	0.292	0.306	0.245

$\tau_1^{*1}$	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.4
$\tau_2^{*1}$	0	0	0	0	7.4	6.4
A <sub>1</sub> *1	0.199	0.240	0.179	0.149	0.184	0.266
A <sub>2</sub> *1	0	0	0	0	0.002	0.008
$\chi^{2*1}$	1.46	1.43	1.33	1.50	1.48	1.37
${\tau_3}^{*2}$	1.5	1.7	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.8
τ4*2	0.0	0.0	5.1	0.0	11.1	12.3
A <sub>3</sub> *2	0.326	0.440	0.277	0.325	0.398	0.306
A <sub>4</sub> *2	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.004	0.013
$\chi^{2*2}$	1.25	1.72	1.17	2.06	1.32	1.56
X	0.16	0.17	0.16	0.15	0.16	0.16
у	0.11	0.11	0.12	0.13	0.16	0.23

<sup>\*1</sup> Emission wavelength is 450 nm

The results of concentration dependent luminescent properties of Ln-LBF2 suggeted inter-molecular energy transfer. The inter-molecular energy transfer is occurred by two independent processes, Förster and Dexter processes. Förster process is a fluorescence resonance energy transfer between molecules,. Therefore, energy gap and distance between donor and acceptor and overlap integral between emission spectrum of donor and absorption spectrum of donor are important for this process. In high concentration solution, Ln-LBF2 forms aggregation state. As the energy level of S1 state in the aggregation state becomes lower compared to that of isolated state, the energy gap between S1 and T1 becomes smaller (Fig. 53). Therefore, the Förster process is enhanced in the high concentration condition. In the Dexter process, energy transfer is occurred by electron exchange through non-radioactive path. Because the electron exchange is caused by molecular collision, intermolecular distance between donor and acceptor is important. Therefore, the Dexter process is also enhanced with increasing collision probability in the high concentration solution,

From both energy transfer processesy; Forster and Dexter processes, the probability of energy transfer is increased in high concentration solution. Hence, **Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub>** showed red emission with Em<sup>BT1</sup> and Em<sup>Eu</sup>, and **Gd-LBF<sub>2</sub>** showed green emission based on Em<sup>BT1</sup> in high concentration solvent.

<sup>\*2</sup> Emission wavelength is 525 nm

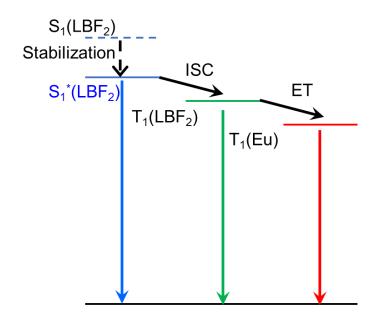


Fig. 53 Energy Diagram of Eu-LBF2 in high concentration state.

#### Guest molecular dependence luminescence of Eu-LBF2

Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub> showed solvent-dependence luminescence properties due to coordination with solvents. From this result, Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub> should show visible response to guest molecule having metal binding site.

Dichloromethane solution of 200 µmol/L **Eu-LBF2** was prepared, then 0.1ml guest molecule was added to 1 ml **Eu-LBF2** solution. Results of color change were summarized in Table 18. In the cases of alcohol molecules, longer chains enhanced Em<sup>Eu</sup>. This result investigates that short alcohol form stronger coordination bonds with Eu<sup>3+</sup> than long alcohol because of steric hindrance.

When phenol substitute was added, Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub> showed specific emission. Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub> showed yellow emission. This result suggests that after forming coordination bond, phenol interacts with boron complex, and formed excimer. In fact, solid state of HLBF<sub>2</sub> also showed yellow emission.

When large steric hindrance molecules such as 2-propanol, or multidentate molecular such as acetylacetone and catechol was added, emission wavelength near 616nm derived from Eu<sup>3+</sup> ion was completely disappeared. Furthermore, emission peak derived from LBF<sub>2</sub> was blue shift. These results indicate that LBF<sub>2</sub> was removed from Eu<sup>3+</sup> ion by forming coordination bonds with multidentate or bulky compounds. NMR spectrum of Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub> in CDCl<sub>3</sub> with 100µl 2-propanol showed peaks characterized free HLBF<sub>2</sub>.

Table 18 Guest molecule dependence luminescence of Eu-LBF2

Guest molecules	$\lambda_{LBF2}$ /nm	$\lambda_{Eu}$ /nm	Int <sub>Eu</sub> /Int <sub>LBF2</sub>
1-heptanol	456	615	0.13
1-hexadecanol	466	616	1.06
1-hexanol	459	616	0.22
1-octanol	456	615	0.20
2-chlorophenol	529	616	0.70
2-fluorophenol	528	616	0.59
2-octyl-1-dodecan	461	616	0.44
ol	445	(00	0.00
2-propanol	445	600	0.00
2-propin-1-ol	449	600	0.01
acetic acid	445	600	0.00
acetophenone	461	616	0.51
acetylacetone	450	601	0.00
arylalchol	456	616	0.08
benzaldehyde	443	616	0.03
benzilalchol	461	616	0.42
valeraldehyde	440	615	0.05
dichloromethane	446	616	1.96
Dioxane	461	616	0.55
DMF	457	616	0.20
DMF-dietylacetal	445	615	0.28
ethanol	458	616	0.21
Furan	473	616	1.48
methanol	455	616	0.05
pentanol	458	615	0.19
phenol	527	616	0.63
p-methoxy	467	616	1.11
acetophenone			
pyrazol	458	616	0.43
catechol	449	601	0.01

pyrogarol	440	600	0.00
Styrene Oxide	463	616	0.65
THF	461	616	0.38
γ-Resorcylic Acid	441	600	0.01

Next, to investigate the detection limit, 1-10000 equivalents of guest molecules were added to 20µmol/L acetonitrile solution of Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub>. The results showed in Fig. 54-69. When 10000 equivalents of EtOH, DMF, and phenol was added, clear color change was observed. On the other hand, Eu-LBF2 showed emission color change when only 1 equivalents of catechol were added. After adding 10000 equivalents of catechol, emission derived from Eu3+ was quenched completely. The reason why catechol showed high responsibility color change is coordination ability. Ethanol DMF, and phenol is changed emission color of Eu-LBF2 by coordination. Catechol also forms stronger coordination bond with Eu<sup>3+</sup> than EtOH and DMF because catechol has a bidentate coordination site. Therefore, color change was occurred with small amount of catechol. In addition, when excess amount of catechol was added to Eu-LBF2 solution, LBF<sub>2</sub> was removed from europium ion. By decomposition, Eu<sup>3+</sup> is quenched due to no antenna effect, but LBF2 showed emission in isolation state. Therefore, catechol showed high sensitively emission color change. MeCN solution of Gd-LBF2 also showed emission color change from green to blue by adding coordinating guest molecules (Fig. 70-81). From this result, color change with coordinating guest molecules is caused by weakening interaction between lanthanide ion and boron complex, going back ISC forbitten transition.

This color change was achieved by affected each other, Eu<sup>3+</sup> and boron complexes due to forming coordination bonds. Therefore, this optical property is distinctive features of lanthanide-boron hetero-nuclear complex.



0 eq. 1 eq. 10 eq. 1000 eq. 10000 eq. 100000 eq.

Fig. 54 Under UV irradiation of 20 µmol/L MeCN solution of Eu-LBF2 added

### 0-100000 equivalent of EtOH

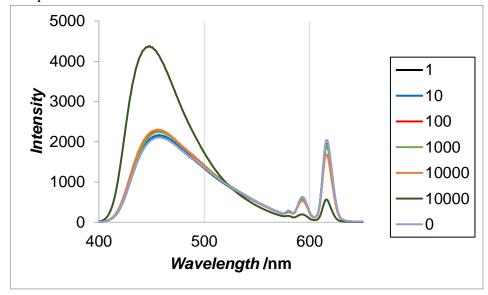


Fig. 55 PL spectra of Eu-LBF2 added 0-100000 equivalent of EtOH.

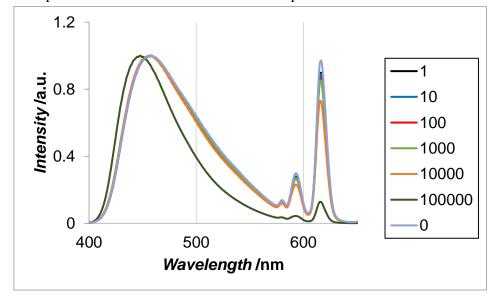


Fig. 56 Normalized PL spectra of Eu-LBF2 added 0-100000 equivalent of EtOH.

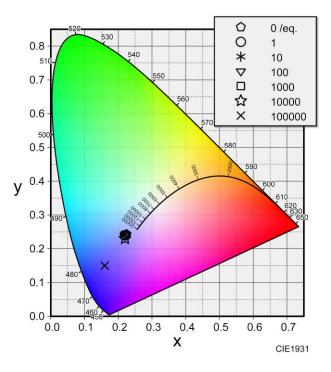


Fig. 57 Color diagram of Eu-LBF2 added 0-100000 equivalent of EtOH.

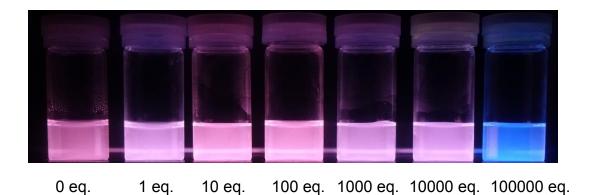


Fig. 58 Under UV irradiation of 20  $\mu$ mol/L MeCN solution of Eu-LBF2 added 0-100000 equivalent of DMF

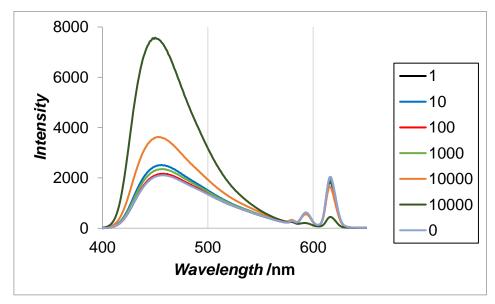


Fig. 59 PL spectra of Eu-LBF2 added 0-100000 equivalent of DMF

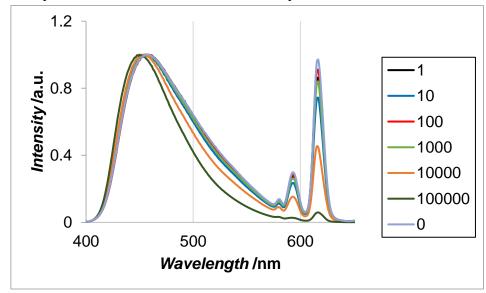


Fig. 60 Normalized PL spectra of Eu-LBF2 added 0-100000 equivalent of DMF

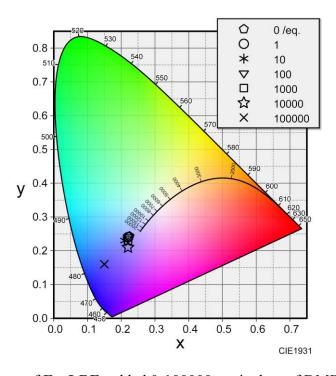
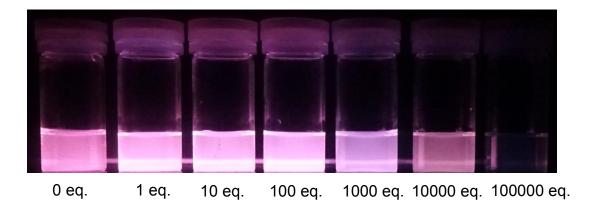


Fig. 61 Color diagram of Eu-LBF2 added 0-100000 equivalent of DMF



**Fig. 62** Under UV irradiation of 20  $\mu$ mol/L MeCN solution of **Eu-LBF2** added 0-100000 equivalent of PhOH.

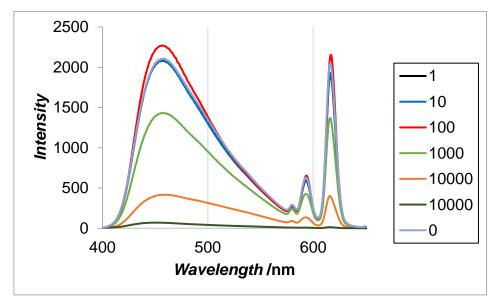


Fig. 63 PL spectra of Eu-LBF2 added 0-100000 equivalent of PhOH.

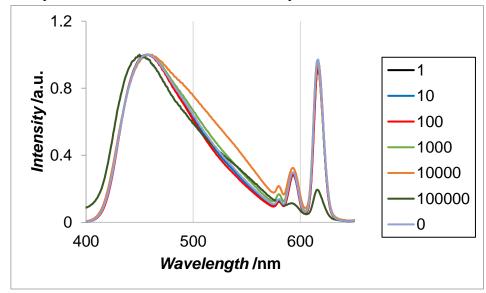


Fig. 64 Normalized PL spectra of Eu-LBF2 added 0-100000 equivalent of PhOH.

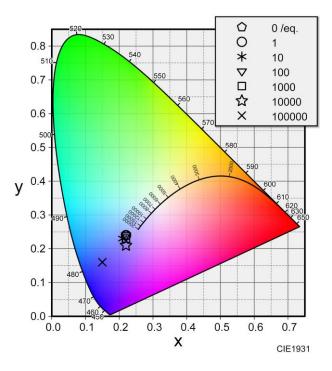


Fig. 65 Color diagram of Eu-LBF2 added 0-100000 equivalent of PhOH.

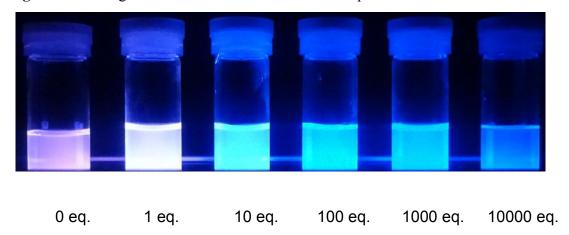


Fig. 66 Under UV irradiation of 20  $\mu$ mol/L MeCN solution of Eu-LBF2 added 0-10000 equivalent of catechol.

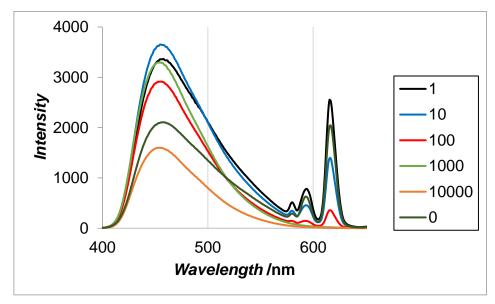


Fig. 67 PL spectra of Eu-LBF2 added 0-100000 equivalent of catechol.

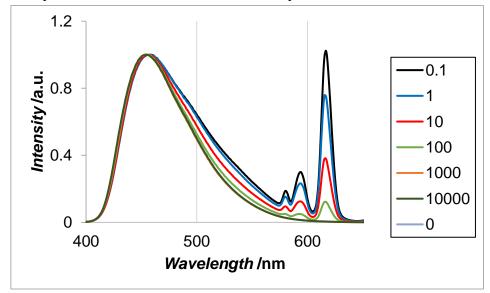


Fig. 68 Normalized PL spectra of Eu-LBF2 added 0-100000 equivalent of catechol.

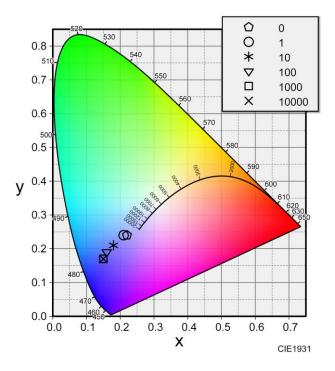


Fig. 69 Color diagram of Eu-LBF2 added 0-100000 equivalent of catechol.

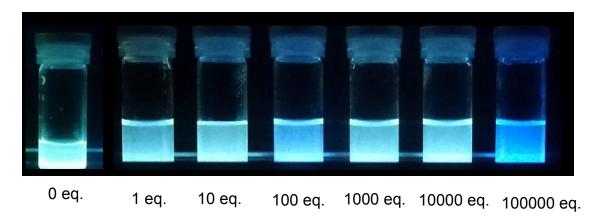


Fig. 70 Under UV irradiation of 20  $\mu$ mol/L MeCN solution of Gd-LBF2 added 0-100000 equivalent of EtOH.

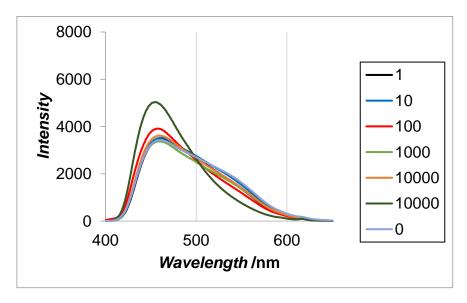


Fig. 71 PL spectra of Gd-LBF2 added 0-100000 equivalent of EtOH.

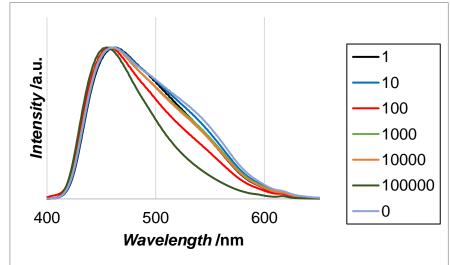


Fig. 72 Normalized PL spectra of Gd-LBF2 added 0-100000 equivalent of EtOH.

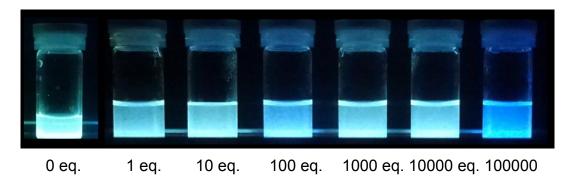


Fig. 73 Under UV irradiation of 20  $\mu mol/L$  MeCN solution of  $Gd\text{-}LBF_2$  added 0-100000 equivalent of DMF.

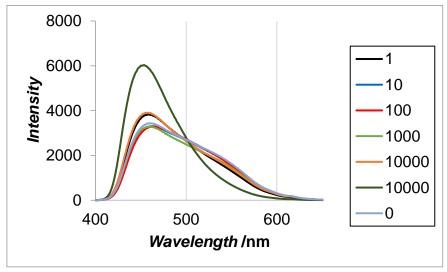


Fig. 74 PL spectra of Gd-LBF2 added 0-100000 equivalent of PhOH.

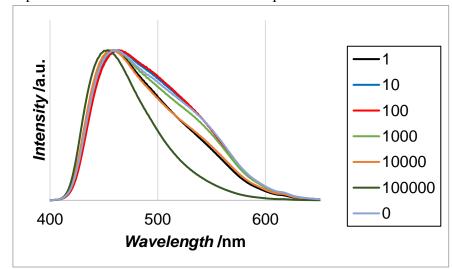


Fig. 75 Normalized PL spectra of Gd-LBF2 added 0-100000 equivalent of PhOH.

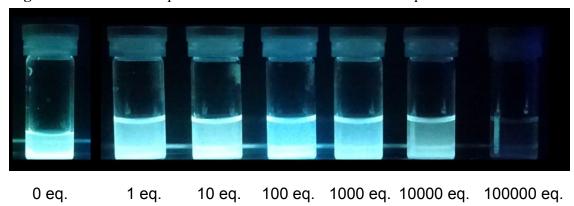


Fig. 76 Under UV irradiation of 20  $\mu mol/L$  MeCN solution of  $Gd\text{-}LBF_2$  added 0-100000 equivalent of PhOH.

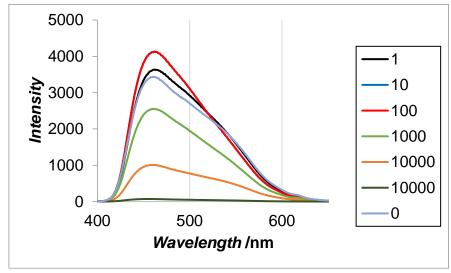


Fig. 77 PL spectra of Gd-LBF2 added 0-100000 equivalent of PhOH.

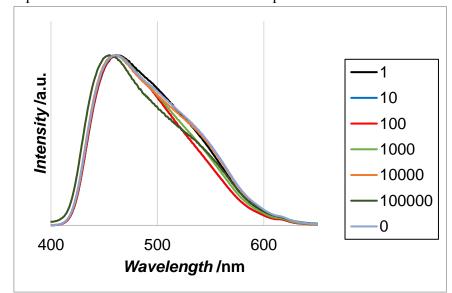


Fig. 78 Normalized PL spectra of Gd-LBF2 added 0-100000 equivalent of PhOH.

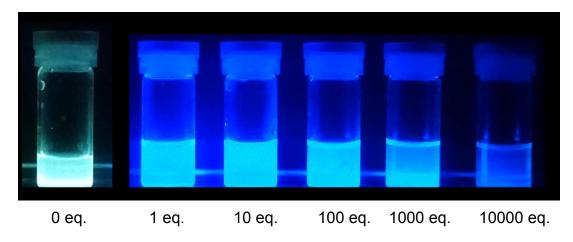


Fig. 79 Under UV irradiation of 20 μmol/L MeCN solution of Gd-LBF2 added 0-10000

equivalent of catechol.

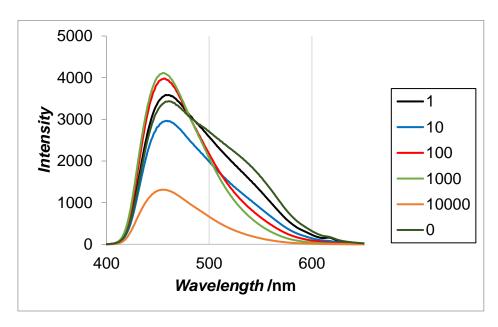


Fig. 80 PL spectra of Gd-LBF2 added 0-10000 equivalent of catechol.

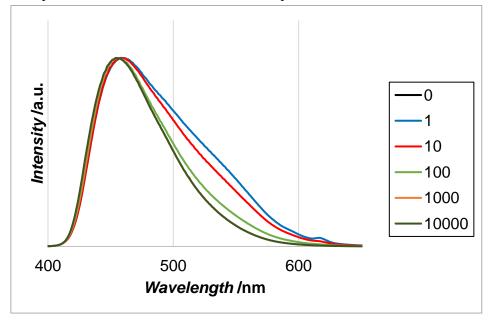


Fig. 81 Normalized PL spectra of Gd-LBF<sub>2</sub> added 0-10000 equivalent of catechol.

In summary, Coordinative guests interact with **Eu-LBF2** and change its luminescence properties. To change luminescence properties, effective factors are steric hindrance, strong of coordination ability, and interaction with boron complex.

#### **Conclusion**

In summary, novel lanthanide-boron hetero-nuclear complex (Ln-LBF2) was successfully prepared by using boron-complex-ligand HLBF2. Eu-LBF2 showed multi-emission originated from Eu(III) ion and boron complex. Furthermore, Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub> showed solvent dependent luminescent properties based on the coordination ability of solvent. In the cases of non-coordinating solvents, Eu-LBF2 showed red emission of Em<sup>Eu</sup> as a main component. On the other hand, in the cases of coordinating solvents, Eu-LBF<sub>2</sub> showed blue emission of Em<sup>BS1</sup> as a main component. The mechanism of solvent dependencey was considered with Gd-LBF2 as a reference analog. Gd-LBF2 showed a new emission band around 525 nm in the non-coordinating solvent. The emission band is attributed tp phosphorescent of boron complex (EmBT1). The interaction between boron complex and lanthanide ion relaxed the inter system crossing, which promoted the intra-molecular energy transfer from T1 state of boron complex to T1 state of Eu(III) and enhanced the red emission of Em<sup>Eu</sup>. This solvent dependence emission was also observed with coordinatable guest molecule in the non-coordinating solution of Eu-LBF2. Eu-LBF2 changed emission color from red to blue by addition of guest molecules. Especially, Eu-LBF2 sensitively responded to the multi-dentate molecule having strong coordination ability.

The emission color change with high visibility is achieved by the hetero-nuclear complex having different luminescent centers. The emission intensities of each luminescent centers correlate to each other through intermolecular energy transfer, which allows markable emission color change with mixing two emission colors. This concept of multi-emission response is expected to show more interesting stimuli responsible luminescent such as mechanochromism and vapochromism. This is the first trial for construction of the multi-emission hetero-nuculear complex system. To achieve more sensitive sensing with higher visibility, more sophisticated molecular design especially for chromophore, guest interactive site, energy transfer pathway and molecular arrangement are necessary.

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# **Concluding Remarks**

In this thesis, the author studied on rational synthesis of oligo-nuclear complexes and their magnetic and photophysical properties. Although numerous oligo-nuclear complexes which showed interesting magnetic, electronic, and luminescent properties have been reported by other groups so far, we developed new method to form oligo-nuclear structure with luminescent properties rationally.

In chapter 1, binuclear complexes  $[M_2(HL)_2(NO_3)_2(H_2O)_2]$  ( $M_2(HL)_2$ ;  $M^{II} = Mn$ , Co, Zn) and octa-nuclear complexes  $[M_8(L)_6(\mu_3-O)_2]$  ( $M_8L_6$ ;  $M^{II} = Mn$ , Co, Zn) were prepared selectively by controlling pH with a linear multidentate type ligand 2,6-di(acetoacetyl)pyridine ( $H_2L$ ). The binuclear complexes  $M_2(HL)_2$  were irreversibly transformed to the octa-nuclear ones  $M_8L_6$  with liberation extra  $L^{2-}$  by addition of base. The unique structural conversion yields significant information about the formation process of the cluster structure in solution, which is expected to apply rational design and property control for oligo-nuclear complexes. Such well-designed oligo-nuclear complexes would be a good secondary building units (SBUs) of functional metal-organic frameworks (MOFs).

In chapter 2, new trinuclear lanthanide complexes [Ln<sub>3</sub>L<sub>2</sub>(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>5</sub>(MeOH)<sub>4</sub>]·nsolv (Ln<sub>3</sub>L; Ln = La, Ce, Pr, Eu) were prepared by using the linear multidentate ligand H<sub>2</sub>L systematically. Ln<sub>3</sub>L formed a trinuclear sturucture in V-shaped arrangement, in which the central Ln(III) has a different coordination environment from the side ones. Eu<sub>3</sub>L showed quite weak emission, because of deactivation by by molecular vibration e.g. C-H oscillators in the ligand. Analogous compound [Eu<sub>3</sub>L<sup>F</sup><sub>2</sub>(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>5</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub>(MeOH)] ·3MeOH (Eu<sub>3</sub>L<sup>F</sup>) using 2,6-di(1,1,1-trifluoroacetoacetyl) pyridine (H<sub>2</sub>L<sup>F</sup>) showed much stronger emission than Eu<sub>3</sub>L, in which the C-F bonds contributed to suppress the oscillation. In addition, energy transfer between Eu(III) ions would be another suppressing factor of emission. In the trinuclear complexes, metal ions are located closely, which intrinsically include the energy transfer problem due to metal-to-metal interaction. Hetero-lanthanide complexes would be one of the proposed candidates to solve the energy transfer problem and to withdraw unique luminescent properties of oligo-nuclear system.

In chapter 3, novel lanthanide-boron hetero-nuclear complex  $[Ln(LBF_2)_3(solv)n]$  (Ln(III) = La, Eu, Gd; **Ln-LBF2**) were prepared by a new linear multidentate ligand 3-(3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxopropanpyl)benzoic acid (H<sub>2</sub>L). H<sub>2</sub>L formed a boron complex (HLBF<sub>2</sub>), which was used as a luminescent complex-ligand. **Eu-LBF2** 

provided two luminescent mopdules, Eu(III) and boron complexes, and showed multi emission property based on the modules. The emission color of Eu-LBF2 was changed depending on solvent, concentration, and guest molecules in solution state. The multicolor luminescent Eu-LBF2 successfully exhibited guest-dependent color change with high visibility. Comparative studies of emission properties using Eu-LBF2 and Gd-LBF2 revealed that the well-linked multi-color emission is based on the energy transfer from the excited T1 term of B generated by intersystem crossing to the excited T1 term of Eu(III). The mechanism allows to change the luminescent color with modulating intensity of emissions from excited S1 term of B and T1 term of Eu(III) through the energy transfer from B to Eu(III). The lanthanide-boron heteronuclear complex successfully presented a new concept for multi emission material. This series of compounds are expected to apply for sensing and imaging materials superior in visibility.

These works highlighted rational strate is for controllin structure, increasing luminescent efficiency, and delivering multi-emission with oligo-nuclear complexes, which would give useful information for designing functional, in particular luminescent, oligo-nuclear complexes and significant insight how to link the properties of individual functional modules.

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### **List of Publications**

1. Structural Conversion and Selective Synthesis of Di- and Octa-nuclear Mn(II), Co(II) and Zn(II) Complexes

T. Togo, T. Koshiyama, M. Ohba (accepted to *Chemistry Letters*)

2. Synthesis and Luminescence Properties of Lanthanide Trinuclear Complexes with Linear Multidentate Ligands

<u>T. Togo</u>, T. Koshiyama, M. Ohba (to be submitted)

3. Synthesis and Multi Emission Properties of Lanthanide-Boron Hetero Complex.

<u>T. Togo</u>, T. Koshiyama, M. Ohba (*to be submitted*)

## **Other Publication**

1. Ultra-Small Face-Centered-Cubic Ru Nanoparticles Confined within an Anionic Porous Coordination Cage for Catalytic Dehydrogenation of Ammonia Borane (Submitted to *Chem*)

(Yu Fang, Jialuo Li, <u>Tatsuo Togo</u>, Fang-Ying Jin, Zhifeng Xiao, LuJia Liu, Hannah Drake, Xizhen Lian, Hong-Cai Zhou)