

Seminar

Recent Developments in Redox Transmetallation Chemistry Involving Rare Earth Metals

Peter C Junk

JCU Townsville, Australia

Redox transmetallation has been a very versatile synthetic approach to organolanthanoid complexes. We have developed a very high yielding and simple approach using lanthanoid metals as starting materials and treating them with organomercury reagents such as $\text{Hg}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_2$. These reactions generate $\text{Ln}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_x$ ($x=2,3$ depending on the lanthanoid metal) and can be used to produce many other metal organic complexes of the lanthanoids by treatment with protic reagents such as acidic organics, amines and alcohols. Alternatively, the chemistry can be performed in a one-pot synthesis as a redox transmetallation/protolysis reaction where lanthanoid metal, $\text{Hg}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_2$ and LH (protic reagent) can be added to produce LnL_x ($x = 2, 3$);

E.g. $\text{Ln} + \text{Hg}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_2 + 2\text{LH} \rightarrow \text{LnL}_2 + \text{Hg} + 2\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{H}$ (for lanthanoid divalent metals)

While this chemistry works beautifully, as may be expected, it has attracted criticism for its involvement with the toxic mercury reagents, so more recently we have developed greener approaches in this synthetic endeavour. We have replaced the mercury reagents with organobismuth(III) and Ag(I) reagents in similar chemical pathways to synthesise the lanthanoid organometallics. The chemistry has required new approaches to organosilver reagents and has uncovered some unusual Bi chemistry. Most recent findings in this story will be covered in this presentation.

Wednesday, Jul 10th 2024

16:00 Hrs (Tea / Coffee 15:45 Hrs)

Auditorium, TIFR-H