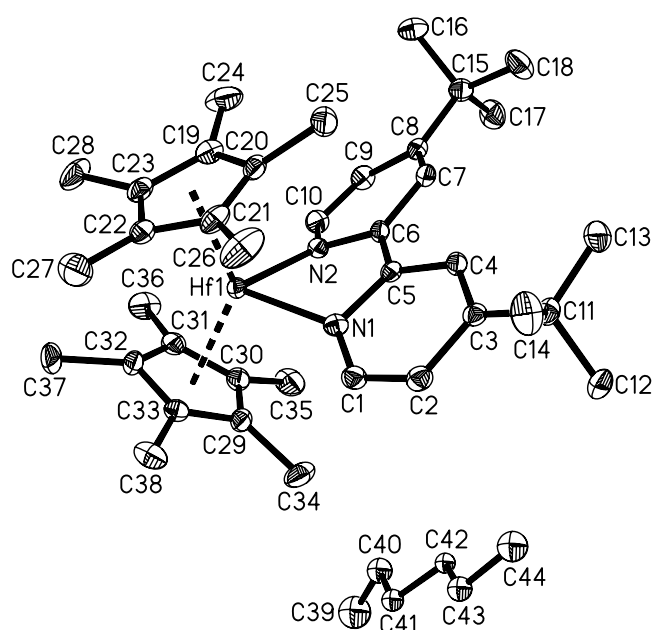


# Crystal structure of bis(pentamethylcyclopentadienyl)-(4,4'-di-*tert*-butylbipyridyl)hafnium(IV) — hexane (1:0.5), $\text{Hf}(\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{15})_2(\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2) \cdot 0.5\text{C}_6\text{H}_{14}$

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## Abstract

$\text{C}_{41}\text{H}_{61}\text{HfN}_2$ , monoclinic,  $P2_1/n$  (no. 14),  $a = 13.4410(4)$  Å,  $b = 13.9983(6)$  Å,  $c = 21.1996(8)$  Å,  $\beta = 98.144(3)^\circ$ ,  $V = 3948.5$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $Z = 4$ ,  $R_{\text{gt}}(F) = 0.051$ ,  $wR_{\text{ref}}(F^2) = 0.121$ ,  $T = 200$  K.

## Source of material

$\text{Cp}^*_2\text{HfCl}_2$  (1.198 g, 2.31 mmol), finely cut lithium (0.064 g, 9.22 mmol) and 4,4'-di-*tert*-butyl-2,2'-bipyridine (0.619 g, 2.31 mmol) were suspended in 20 mL toluene. The mixture was stirred at 60 °C for two days, resulting in a purple solution. The volatiles were removed in vacuum, followed by extraction of the residue with  $2 \times 10$  mL *n*-hexane. The dark blue filtrate was stored at  $-78$  °C, after 24 hours dark blue crystals had formed which were isolated, washed with cold *n*-hexane and dried in vacuum to give 0.748 g (45 %) of the title compound.

## Discussion

Recently we reported on the synthesis of hafnocene alkyne complexes and found the alkyne to be coordinated strongly to the metal resulting in a hafnacyclopropene structure [1]. We were interested to investigate the influence of the Lewis acidic metallocene center on other substrates such as THF [2] and bipyridines. Upon reaction of decamethylhafnocene dichloride

with lithium and 4,4'-di-*tert*-butyl-2,2'-bipyridine the deep blue, highly air- and moisture sensitive title compound is formed. The bipyridine coordinates the metal with both N atoms. Structural data suggest the existence of a  $\sigma, \sigma$  complex rather than a  $\pi, \pi$  coordination mode. The bond distance C5—C6 of 1.387(8) Å is indicative of a double bond, this value is at 1.494 Å in free 4,4'-di-*tert*-butylbipyridine [3]. This significantly shorter bond distance and the existence of a bent metallacycle (angle between the planes N1,Hf1,N2 and N1,C5,C6,N2:  $33.6(2)^\circ$ ) allow the interpretation of this complex as a 2,5-diazametallacyclopent-3-ene. The aromaticity of the ring system is reduced due to the donation of electron density from the hafnocene center into the antibonding  $\pi^*$  orbitals of the ligand. Additionally, half a molecule of *n*-hexane as a solvent molecule was found in the asymmetric unit of the title compound.

**Table 1.** Data collection and handling.

Crystal:	dark-blue prism, size $0.2 \times 0.3 \times 0.3$ mm
Wavelength:	Mo $K_{\alpha}$ radiation (0.71073 Å)
$\mu$ :	$26.69 \text{ cm}^{-1}$
Diffractometer, scan mode:	STOE IPDS II, $\omega$
$2\theta_{\text{max}}$ :	$53.6^\circ$
$N(hkl)_{\text{measured}}$ , $N(hkl)_{\text{unique}}$ :	55798, 8368
Criterion for $I_{\text{obs}}$ , $N(hkl)_{\text{gt}}$ :	$I_{\text{obs}} > 2 \sigma(I_{\text{obs}})$ , 6265
$N(\text{param})_{\text{refined}}$ :	404
Programs:	SHELXS-97 [4], SHELXL-97 [5], SHELXTL [6]

**Table 2.** Atomic coordinates and displacement parameters (in Å<sup>2</sup>).

Atom	Site	Occ.	$x$	$y$	$z$	$U_{\text{iso}}$
H(1A)	4e		0.4688	0.5865	0.0881	0.040
H(2A)	4e		0.4308	0.4314	0.0721	0.041
H(4A)	4e		0.4999	0.3839	0.2620	0.033
H(7A)	4e		0.5816	0.4408	0.3506	0.036
H(9A)	4e		0.7817	0.6440	0.4186	0.042
H(10A)	4e		0.7280	0.7373	0.3337	0.041
H(12A)	4e		0.4820	0.2706	0.0732	0.075
H(12B)	4e		0.4577	0.1707	0.1043	0.075
H(12C)	4e		0.5527	0.2321	0.1351	0.075
H(13A)	4e		0.4885	0.2240	0.2390	0.066
H(13B)	4e		0.3911	0.1662	0.2079	0.066
H(13C)	4e		0.3787	0.2629	0.2463	0.066
H(14A)	4e		0.2662	0.3255	0.1492	0.083
H(14B)	4e		0.2821	0.2247	0.1166	0.083
H(14C)	4e		0.3051	0.3216	0.0814	0.083
H(16A)	4e		0.5983	0.5562	0.5016	0.085
H(16B)	4e		0.7078	0.6033	0.5139	0.085
H(16C)	4e		0.6837	0.5102	0.5529	0.085

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Table 3. Continued.

Atom	Site	x	y	z	U <sub>11</sub>	U <sub>22</sub>	U <sub>33</sub>	U <sub>12</sub>	U <sub>13</sub>	U <sub>23</sub>
C(36)	4e	0.6922(6)	0.9231(5)	0.2609(3)	0.064(5)	0.045(4)	0.056(4)	-0.030(4)	0.018(4)	-0.011(3)
C(37)	4e	0.5077(7)	0.9760(5)	0.1601(4)	0.085(6)	0.024(3)	0.084(6)	0.011(4)	0.041(5)	0.017(3)
C(38)	4e	0.4667(6)	0.8071(6)	0.0594(3)	0.057(5)	0.063(5)	0.039(3)	-0.002(4)	0.006(3)	0.014(3)
Hf(1)	4e	0.52011(2)	0.72528(2)	0.22075(1)	0.0275(1)	0.0212(1)	0.0289(1)	0.0008(1)	0.00834(8)	0.0011(1)
N(1)	4e	0.5147(4)	0.5848(4)	0.1815(2)	0.024(3)	0.032(3)	0.029(2)	-0.005(2)	0.006(2)	-0.001(2)
N(2)	4e	0.6247(4)	0.6497(3)	0.2873(2)	0.031(3)	0.025(2)	0.028(2)	-0.001(2)	0.008(2)	0.000(2)

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