**Supporting Information** 

# Synthesis of an Arenide-Masked Scandium Complex Accompanied by Reductively Induced C-H Activation

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#### **General considerations**

All air- and moisture-sensitive operations were carried out in a MBraun glovebox under an atmosphere of ultra-high purity nitrogen. Toluene, hexanes, n-pentane, tetrahydrofuran (THF), diethyl ether (Et<sub>2</sub>O), and dimethoxyethane (DME) solvents were dried using a Pure Process Technology Solvent Purification System. Dioxane was distilled over sodium benzophenone ketyl. All solvents were subsequently stored under a dinitrogen atmosphere over activated 4 Å molecular sieves for at least 24 h prior to use. The deuterated solvents, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub> and THF-d<sub>8</sub>, were purchased from Cambridge Isotope Laboratories Inc., degassed via three freeze-pump-thaw cycles, and dried over activated 4 Å molecular sieves for over 24 h prior to use. Celite and 4 Å molecular sieves were heated under dynamic vacuum to 150 °C for over 72 h and then cooled under vacuum. Complexes ScCl<sub>2</sub>(NIm<sup>Dipp</sup>)(THF)<sub>3</sub><sup>1</sup> and Li(THF)<sub>2</sub>(<sup>ket</sup>guan)<sup>2</sup> were synthesized following reported procedures. 18-crown-6 was purchased from Oakwood Products, Inc. and made anhydrous using the Gokel method.<sup>3</sup> All other reagents were purchased from commercial sources and used as provided. NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker AVANCE III 400 MHz spectrometer. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra are referenced to SiMe<sub>4</sub> using the residual <sup>1</sup>H solvent peaks as internal standards or the characteristic <sup>13</sup>C signals of the solvent. In addition, resonance assignments in the <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra are based upon <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>13</sup>C HSQC 2D correlation spectra for Sc<sup>CI</sup>  $\cdot$  0.5C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub> and Sc<sup>naph</sup>, while the <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR signals for Sc<sup>C-H</sup>  $\cdot$  Et<sub>2</sub>O are based upon the <sup>13</sup>C DEPT-45, <sup>13</sup>C DEPT-90, and <sup>13</sup>C DEPT-135 polarization transfer methods. UV-vis spectra were recorded with a Cary 5000 UV-vis-NIR spectrophotometer in toluene or THF. Elemental analyses were performed by Midwest Microlabs, LLC.

#### X-ray crystallography

Data for Sc<sup>CI</sup>·0.5C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>, Sc<sup>C-H</sup>·Et<sub>2</sub>O, Sc<sup>C-H</sup>·THF, Sc<sup>naph</sup> and [(<sup>ket</sup>guan)(<sup>Dipp</sup>ImN)Sc(µ- $Cl_{2}K(DME)$  verture 4-axis diffractometer equipped with a PHOTON II CPAD detector and a IµS Mo K $\alpha$  X-ray source ( $\alpha$  = 0.71073 Å) fitted with a HELIOS MX monochromator. Crystals were mounted on a Mitigen Kapton loop, coated in NVH oil, and maintained at 100(2) K under a flow of nitrogen gas during data collection. Data collection and cell parameter determination were conducted using the SMART<sup>4</sup> program. Integration of the data and final cell parameter refinements were performed using SAINT<sup>5</sup> software with data absorption correction implemented through SADABS.<sup>6</sup> Structures were solved using intrinsic phasing methods and difference Fourier techniques. All hydrogen atom positions were idealized and rode on the atom of attachment. Structure solution, refinement, graphics, and creation of publication materials were performed using SHELXTL<sup>7</sup> or the Olex<sup>8</sup> crystallographic package. Relevant crystallographic data obtained for Sc<sup>CI</sup>, Sc<sup>C-H</sup>·Et<sub>2</sub>O, Sc<sup>C-H</sup>·THF, Sc<sup>Naph</sup>, and  $[(^{ket}guan)(^{Dipp}ImN)Sc(\mu-CI)_2K(DME)] \cdot C_6H_{14}$  is presented in Table S1, and complete crystallographic data for complexes Sc<sup>CI</sup>.0.5C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>, and Sc<sup>C-H</sup>.Et<sub>2</sub>O has been deposited in the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center under the following CCDC deposit numbers: 2176216 (Sc<sup>CI</sup>·0.5C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>), 2176217 (Sc<sup>C-H</sup>·Et<sub>2</sub>O), 2194112 (Sc<sup>C-H</sup>·THF), 2194113 (Sc<sup>naph</sup>), 2194416  $([(^{ket}guan)(^{Dipp}ImN)Sc(\mu-CI)_{2}K(DME)] \cdot C_{6}H_{14}).$ 

In **Sc**<sup>CI</sup>•0.5C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>, positional disorder of the ketimine *tert*-butyl substituents was addressed by modeling carbon atoms C43, C44, C48, and C49 over two orientations with occupancies determined through data refinement. In addition, the non-coordinating half toluene molecule was found to exhibit positional disorder and was modeled over four positions with 0.25 occupancies and SADI (0.02) restraints applied to four unique carbon atoms within the ring (C62A, C64A, C65A, and C66A). For complex **Sc**<sup>C-H</sup>•**Et**<sub>2</sub>**O**, positional disorder was found in the K2-coordinated 18-crown-6 fragment (O10-O15, C139-C150), the Sc2-coordinated THF molecule (C159-C162),

and both the K1-, and K2-coordinated Et<sub>2</sub>O molecules (O8, C75-C77, C153, C154), as well as two isopropyl substituents (C89, C90, C94-C98, C104), all of which were modeled over two orientations with occupancies determined through data refinement. In compound [(<sup>ket</sup>guan)(<sup>Dipp</sup>ImN)Sc(µ-Cl)<sub>2</sub>K(DME)]·C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>14</sub>, reflections 4 0 8, and 0 6 0 were omitted as outliers. Moreover, atoms C47-C49 belonging to the ketimine-guanidinate ligand were modeled by splitting the electron density over two orientations with occupancies determined through data refinement. Similarly, positional disorder exhibited by the Sc1-coordinated THF molecule (O1, C62-C65), and one isopropyl substituent (C19, C20) in Sc<sup>C-H</sup>·THF as well as the *tert*-butyl (C69-C71) substituent, isopropyl atom C37, and 18-crown-6 fragment (O1-O6, C72-C83) in Sc<sup>naph</sup> was modeled over two orientations with occupancies determined through data refinement. Residual electron density corresponding to highly disordered THF/pentanes in compounds Sc<sup>C-H</sup>·THF and Sc<sup>naph</sup> could not be accurately modeled and instead the density was removed using the PLATON/SQUEEZE algorithm.<sup>9</sup> The solid-state molecular structures of complexes Sc<sup>C-H</sup>·THF and Sc<sup>naph</sup> is presented here for connectivity purposes only.

### Synthetic procedures

#### Dehydration of ScCl<sub>3</sub>-6H<sub>2</sub>O

A 100 mL Schlenk flask containing a medium magnetic stir bar was loaded with Me<sub>3</sub>SiCl (7.34 mL, 6.28 g, 57.83 mmol), dioxane (15 mL), and ScCl<sub>3</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (1.00 g, 3.85 mmol) under a positive nitrogen pressure. The heterogeneous reaction mixture was refluxed under dinitrogen for 2 d. After this time, the suspension was dried under reduced pressure yielding a white powder identified as ScCl<sub>3</sub>·1H<sub>2</sub>O·3THF. THF (15 mL) and Me<sub>3</sub>SiCl (2.45 mL, 2.09 g, 22.49 mmol) were added to dried ScCl<sub>3</sub>·1H<sub>2</sub>O·3THF under positive nitrogen pressure. The heterogeneous mixture was refluxed under dinitrogen for 16 h. The resulting suspension was dried under reduced pressure, suspended in fresh THF (10 mL), stirred at room temperature for 10 minutes, and filtered through a medium porosity glass frit affording ScCl<sub>3</sub>(THF)<sub>3</sub> as a white powder. Yield: 1.22 g, 86.1%.



## Synthesis of ScCl(<sup>ket</sup>guan)(NIm<sup>Dipp</sup>) • 0.5C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub> (Sc<sup>Cl</sup> • 0.5C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>)

A 50 mL Cajon flask containing a small magnetic stir bar was loaded with  $(Im^{Dipp}N)Sc(Cl_2)(THF)_3$  (1.00 g, 1.24 mmol),  $(^{DippKet}guan)Li(THF)_2$  (0.81g, 1.24 mmol), and  $C_7H_8$  (25 mL). The homogeneous light-yellow solution was stirred at 60 °C for 16 h, after which time the resulting suspension was allowed to cool down to room temperature. The resulting mixture was filtered through Celite supported on a medium porosity glass frit. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure affording a pale-yellow material that was redissolved in pentane (8-10 mL) and stored at -35 °C for 12 h to produce a crop of colorless crystals of **Sc**<sup>CI</sup> · 0.5C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>. Yield:

1.18 g, 88.4%. Note: compound  $\mathbf{Sc}^{cl} \cdot 0.5C_7H_8$  is highly soluble in ethereal (THF and Et<sub>2</sub>O), aromatic ( $C_7H_8$  and  $C_6H_6$ ), and non-polar solvents (hexanes and pentanes).

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (25 °C, 400 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  0.70 (s, 9H, C*M*e<sub>3</sub>), 0.76 (s, 9H, C*M*e<sub>3</sub>), 1.12 – 1.15 (m, 18H, two overlapping *M*e<sub>2</sub>CH), 1.20 (d, 6H, *M*e<sub>2</sub>CH, *J*<sub>HH</sub> = 6.2 Hz), 1.34 – 1.37 (m, 18H, two overlapping *M*e<sub>2</sub>CH), 1.41 (d, 6H, *M*e<sub>2</sub>CH, *J*<sub>HH</sub> = 6.3 Hz), 3.23 (sept, 4H, Me<sub>2</sub>C*H*, *J*<sub>HH</sub> = 6.8 Hz), 3.72 (sept, 2H, Me<sub>2</sub>C*H*, *J*<sub>HH</sub> = 6.7 Hz), 4.01 (sept, 2H, Me<sub>2</sub>C*H*, *J*<sub>HH</sub> = 6.7 Hz), 5.77 (s, 2H, Imid *H*C=C*H*), 7.06 – 7.10 (m, 8H, overlapping *aryl* signals), 7.18 (t, 4H, *aryl*). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (25 °C, 101 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  21.82 (*M*e<sub>2</sub>CH), 22.04 (Me<sub>2</sub>CH), 23.91 (*M*e<sub>2</sub>CH), 24.74 (*M*e<sub>2</sub>CH), 25.94 (*M*e<sub>2</sub>CH), 28.51 (Me<sub>2</sub>CH), 28.64 (Me<sub>2</sub>CH), 28.83 (Me<sub>2</sub>CH), 28.87 (C*M*e<sub>3</sub>), 29.32 (Me<sub>2</sub>CH), 30.59 (C*M*e<sub>3</sub>), 43.49 (CMe<sub>3</sub>), 43.87 (CMe<sub>3</sub>), 114.03 (Imid HC=CH), 122.40 (*aryl*), 123.47 (*aryl*), 124.36 (*aryl*), 125.04 (*aryl*), 135.33 (*aryl*), 141.52 (*aryl*), 143.42 (*aryl*), 144.41 (CN<sub>3</sub>), 147.43 (*aryl*), 164.33 ('Bu<sub>2</sub>C=N), 181.60 (CN<sub>3</sub>). UV-vis (C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>, 0.207 mM, 25 °C, nm,  $\varepsilon$  = L·mol<sup>-1</sup>·cm<sup>-1</sup>): 295 ( $\varepsilon$  = 17,778). Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>61</sub>ClH<sub>88</sub>N<sub>6</sub>Sc·0.5C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>: C, 75.13; H, 9.04; N, 8.09. Found: C, 71.87; H, 9.22; N, 8.06. Repeated combustion analyses consistently tested low in carbon content which may be a consequence of poor combustion properties.



Synthesis of  $[K(18-c-6)(Et_2O)][Sc{(DippN)[2-^{i}Pr-6-(CMe_2)C_6H_3N]C(NCH^{i}Bu_2)}(NIm^{Dipp})(THF)]\cdot 0.5Et_2O$ (Sc<sup>C-H</sup>·Et<sub>2</sub>O) and  $[(18-c-6)K(\mu-\eta^6:\eta^4-C_{10}H_8)Sc(^{ket}guan)(NIm^{Dipp})]$  (Sc<sup>Naph</sup>)

In a 20 mL scintillation vial, potassium metal (0.28 g, 0.73 mmol) was suspended in THF (8 mL) to which naphthalene (0.09 mg, 0.73 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature until the metal was completely consumed. The resulting dark forest green solution was cooled to -35 °C prior to addition of  $1 \cdot 0.5C_7H_8$  (0.30 g, 0.29 mmol), which subsequently resulted in an immediate color change to dark red. The homogeneous solution was stirred at -35 °C for 16 h, time after which 18-crown-6 (0.768 g, 0.29 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was then concentrated to 4 mL under vacuum and layered with pentanes (3 mL). A mixture of colorless plates of  $Sc^{C-H} \cdot 2THF \cdot C_5H_{12}$  ( $Sc^{C-H} \cdot THF$ ) and dark red rhombohedral crystals of  $Sc^{naph}$  were obtained upon overnight storage at -35 °C. Colorless crystals of  $Sc^{C-H} \cdot THF$  grow rapidly from saturated solutions of THF/pentane (1:1), usually depositing crystals within an hour that are accompanied by small amounts of red  $Sc^{naph}$ . Repeated fractional crystallization of  $Sc^{C-H}$  in this fashion removes  $Sc^{naph}$ , that when obtained in reasonable purity, can be finally recrystallized from a concentrated  $Et_2O$ /pentanes (1:1) mixture. This mixture, when stored several days at -35 °C, produces  $Sc^{C-H} \cdot Et_2O$ . All attempts to isolate pure crystalline material of  $Sc^{naph}$ 

were unsuccessful due to the persistent presence of  $\mathbf{Sc}^{\text{C-H}}$ . Isolated yield: 115 mg ( $\mathbf{Sc}^{\text{C-H}} \cdot \mathbf{Et}_2\mathbf{O}$ , 27.0%), 148 mg ( $\mathbf{Sc}^{\text{naph}}$ , 35.8%). Compounds  $\mathbf{Sc}^{\text{C-H}}$  and  $\mathbf{Sc}^{\text{naph}}$  are highly soluble in ethereal solvents such as THF and  $\mathbf{Et}_2\mathbf{O}$ , partially soluble in aromatic solvents such as C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub> and C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, while insoluble in non-polar solvents like hexanes and pentanes. In all cases,  $\mathbf{Sc}^{\text{naph}}$  exhibits slightly higher solubility as compared to  $\mathbf{Sc}^{\text{C-H}}$ . In solution,  $\mathbf{Sc}^{\text{C-H}} \cdot \mathbf{Et}_2\mathbf{O}$  tautomerizes to [K(18-c-6)(Et<sub>2</sub>O)][Sc{(DippN)[2-*i*Pr-6-(CH<sub>3</sub>CH*CH*<sub>2</sub>)C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>3</sub>N]C(NC*H*<sup>f</sup>Bu<sub>2</sub>)}(NIm<sup>Dipp</sup>)(THF)] ( $\mathbf{Sc}^{\text{C-H}} \cdot \mathbf{taut}$ ).

## <u>Sc<sup>C-H</sup>·Et<sub>2</sub>O (Sc<sup>C-H</sup>-taut)</u>:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (25 °C, 400 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>): δ 0.24 (m, 2H, overlapping Sc-CH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>3</sub>), 0.68 (d, 3H, *Me*CHMe, *J*<sub>HH</sub> = 6.5 Hz), 1.06 (s, 9H, C*Me*<sub>3</sub>), 1.12 (t, Et<sub>2</sub>O), 1.23 (d, 6H, *Me*<sub>2</sub>CH, *J*<sub>HH</sub> = 6.5 Hz), 1.34 – 1.38 (m, 25H, overlapping CMe<sub>3</sub>, Me<sub>2</sub>CH, and THF signals), 1.49 (d, 3H, MeCHMe,  $J_{HH} =$ 6.7 Hz), 1.57 (d, 6H, Me<sub>2</sub>CH, J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.4 Hz), 1.65 (d, 3H, MeCHMe, J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.6 Hz), 1.71 (m, 6H, overlapping MeCHMe and Sc-CH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>3</sub>), 1.79 (d, 3H, MeCHMe,  $J_{HH}$  = 6.1 Hz), 1.87 (d, 3H, *Me*CHMe,  $J_{HH} = 6.7$  Hz), 2.95 (s, 24H, 18-crown-6), 3.25 (q, Et<sub>2</sub>O), 3.44 (s, 1H, <sup>4</sup>Bu<sub>2</sub>CH), 3.56 (br m, 2H, Me<sub>2</sub>CH overlapping with THF signal), 3.60 (m, 4H, THF overlapping with Me<sub>2</sub>CH signal), 3.78 (sept, 2H, Me<sub>2</sub>CH, J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.3 Hz), 3.93 (sept, 1H, Me<sub>2</sub>CH, J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.7 Hz), 4.50 (br s, 1H, Sc-CH<sub>2</sub>C*H*CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.83 (sept, 1H, Me<sub>2</sub>C*H*, J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.7 Hz), 5.08 (sept, 1H, Me<sub>2</sub>CH, J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.3 Hz), 6.03 (s, 2H, Imid HC=CH), 7.04 (t, 1H, aryl, J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.4 Hz), 7.11 (t, 1H, aryl, J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.3 Hz), 7.22 - 7.34 (9H, overlapping aryl signals), 7.40 (d, 1H, aryl, J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.3 Hz). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (25 °C, 400 MHz, THFd<sub>8</sub>): δ -0.60 (d, 1H, Sc-CH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>3</sub>, J<sub>HH</sub> = 11.5 Hz), -0.50 (t, 1H, Sc-CH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>3</sub>, J<sub>HH</sub> = 12.2 Hz), -0.09 (d, 3H, Sc-CH<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>3</sub>, J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.6 Hz), 0.38 (s, 9H, CMe<sub>3</sub>), 0.69 – 0.71 (m, 12 H, overlapping CMe<sub>3</sub> and Me<sub>2</sub>CH), 0.81 (d, 3H, MeCHMe,  $J_{HH} = 6.7$  Hz), 0.94 (d, 3H, MeCHMe,  $J_{HH} = 6.3$  Hz), 0.98 - 1.03 (m, 9H, overlapping Me<sub>2</sub>CH), 1.11 (m, 9H, overlapping Me<sub>2</sub>CH) 1.17 (t, Et<sub>2</sub>O), 1.28 (m, 12H, overlapping  $Me_2$ CH), 1.31 (d, 3H, MeCHMe,  $J_{HH} = 6.9$  Hz), 1.68 (br s, coordinated THF), 2.80 (s, 1H, <sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>2</sub>CH), 3.20 (br sept, 2H, Me<sub>2</sub>CH), 3.27 (sept, 1H, Me<sub>2</sub>CH, J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.8 Hz), 3.42 (br s, Et<sub>2</sub>O) 3.44 (br s, 2H, Me<sub>2</sub>CH), 3.56 (s, 24H, 18-crown-6), 3.79 (m, 1H, Sc-CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>CH<sub>3</sub></sub>), 4.21 (sept, 1H, MeCHMe, J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.8 Hz), 4.55 (sept, 1H, MeCHMe, J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.7 Hz), 5.86 (s, 2H, Imid HC=CH), 6.49 (m, 2H, overlapping aryl signals), 6.56 (t, 2H, aryl, J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.9 Hz), 6.66 (d, 1H, aryl,  $J_{\rm HH}$  = 7.1 Hz), 6.78 (d, 1H, aryl,  $J_{\rm HH}$  = 7.2 Hz), 6.95 (d, 2H, aryl,  $J_{\rm HH}$  = 7.2 Hz), 7.06 (m, 4H, overlapping aryl signals). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (25 °C, 101 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, ppm): δ 15.23 (Et<sub>2</sub>O), 22.79 (isopropyl Me), 23.48 (isopropyl Me), 23.67 (isopropyl Me), 23.84 (isopropyl Me), 24.67 (isopropyl Me), 25.17 (THF), 25.37 (isopropyl Me), 25.65 (isopropyl Me), 25.70 (isopropyl Me), 26.72 (Me<sub>2</sub>CH), 27.18 (isopropyl Me), 27.22 (Me<sub>2</sub>CH), 27.88 (isopropyl Me), 28.26 (Me<sub>2</sub>CH), 28.68 (Me<sub>2</sub>CH), 31.09 (CMe<sub>3</sub>), 31.19 (CMe<sub>3</sub>), 38.23 (Me<sub>2</sub>CH), 65.55 (Et<sub>2</sub>O), 67.32 (<sup>t</sup>Bu<sub>2</sub>CH), 68.66 (THF), 69.56 (18-crown-6), 112.98 (Imid HC=CH), 119.18 (aryl), 120.05 (aryl), 120.85 (aryl), 121.06 (aryl), 121.36 (aryl), 123.06 (aryl), 123.42 (aryl), 127.57 (aryl), 127.98 (aryl), 143.93 (Sc- $CH_2CHCH_3$ ) Resonances corresponding to one isopropyl methyl along with Sc- $CH_2CHCH_3$ ,  $CN_3$ , CMe<sub>3</sub>, and *ipso* and *ortho* aryl carbons were not observed. UV-vis (C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>, 0.234 mM, 25 °C, nm,  $\epsilon = L \cdot mol^{-1} \cdot cm^{-1}$ : 287 ( $\epsilon = 12,142$ ). Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>81</sub>H<sub>120</sub>KN<sub>6</sub>O<sub>8</sub>Sc: C, 69.99; H, 8.70; N, 6.05. Found: C, 65.72; H, 8.25; N, 5.91. Repeated combustion analyses consistently tested low in carbon content which may be a consequence of poor combustion properties.

## Sc<sup>naph</sup>:

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (25 °C, 400 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, ppm): δ 0.85 (br s, 9H, C*Me*<sub>3</sub>), 1.02 (br s, 9H, C*Me*<sub>3</sub>), 1.26 (m, 12H, overlapping *Me*<sub>2</sub>CH), 1.51 (d, 12H, *Me*<sub>2</sub>CH), 1.63 (m, 24H, overlapping *Me*<sub>2</sub>CH), 3.13 (s, 24H, 18-crown-6), 3.74 (br s, 2H, Me<sub>2</sub>C*H*), 3.82 (br s, 2H, Me<sub>2</sub>C*H*), 4.26 (br s, 4H, Me<sub>2</sub>C*H*), 5.74 (m, 2H, C<sub>10</sub>*H*<sub>8</sub>), 6.08 (m, 4H, overlapping Imid *H*C=C*H* and C<sub>10</sub>*H*<sub>8</sub> signals), 6.99 (d, 2H, C<sub>10</sub>*H*<sub>8</sub>, *J*<sub>HH</sub> = 7.2 Hz), 7.07-7.12 (m, 6H, overlapping *aryl*), 7.22 (m, 6H, overlapping C<sub>10</sub>*H*<sub>8</sub> and four *aryl* signals), 7.31 (d, 2H, *aryl*). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (25 °C, 101 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, ppm): δ 23.96 (*Me*<sub>2</sub>CH), 25.66 (*Me*<sub>2</sub>CH), 26.24 (*Me*<sub>2</sub>CH), 26.52 (Me<sub>2</sub>CH), 26.71 (Me<sub>2</sub>CH), 28.45 (Me<sub>2</sub>CH), 29.19 (C*Me*<sub>3</sub>), 29.45

 $(Me_2CH)$ , 30.14  $(Me_2CH)$ , 31.34  $(CMe_3)$ , 43.00  $(CMe_3)$ , 44.92  $(CMe_3)$ , 70.11 (18-crown-6), 75.36  $(Me_2CH)$ , 112.01  $(C_{10}H_8)$ , 114.34 (Imid HC=CH), 118.85  $(C_{10}H_8)$ , 122.36  $(C_{10}H_8)$ , 122.91 (aryl), 123.84 (aryl), 124.09  $(C_{10}H_8)$ , 124.18 (aryl), 127.32 (aryl), 134.77 (aryl), 139.37 (aryl), 144.63 (aryl), 146.43 (aryl), 146.81 (aryl), 148.44 (aryl), 150.68  $(CN_3)$ , 165.93  $({}^{t}Bu_2CN)$ , 174.21  $(CN_3)$ . UV-vis  $(C_7H_8, 25 \ ^{\circ}C, nm)$ : 284, 480.



presence of co-crystallized toluene and residual pentanes, respectively.



presence of co-crystallized toluene and residual pentane, respectively.







**Figure S5.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of **Sc**<sup>C-H</sup>•**Et**<sub>2</sub>**O** (**Sc**<sup>C-H</sup>-**taut**) (25 °C, 400 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>). \*, † denote the presence of coordinated THF and Et<sub>2</sub>O, while  $\overset{*}{*}$  denotes the presence of residual hexanes. • and • diamonds correspond to the respective color-labeled protons shown in the line drawing.







Figure S8. TOCSY NMR spectrum of  $Sc^{C-H}$ ·Et<sub>2</sub>O ( $Sc^{C-H}$ -taut) (25 °C, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>).



**Figure S9.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of **Sc**<sup>C-H</sup>·**Et**<sub>2</sub>**O** (**Sc**<sup>C-H</sup>-**taut**) (400 MHz, THF-*d*<sub>8</sub>). † denote the presence of coordinated Et<sub>2</sub>O, while  $_{*,}^{*}$  and  $\bullet$  denote the presence of residual hexanes and toluene.





of co-crystallized THF and pentane, while + denotes the presence of residual hexane.





**Figure S13.**  ${}^{3}C{}^{1}H}$ -NMR spectrum of **Sc**<sup>naph</sup> (25 °C, 101 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>). †, and \*, denote presence of co-crystallized pentane and residual hexane, respectively.





**Figure S15.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectral array following the room temperature decomposition of **Sc**<sup>naph</sup> to form **Sc**<sup>C-H</sup>•**THF** and naphthalene (25 °C, 400 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>). (a) 0 d, (b) 1.5 d, (c) 4d. Resonances marked with  $\downarrow$  denote **Sc**<sup>naph</sup> and resonances marked with  $\uparrow$  denote formation of **Sc**<sup>C-H</sup>•**Et**<sub>2</sub>**O** (**Sc**<sup>C-H</sup>•**Et**<sub>2</sub>**O** (**Sc**<sup>C-H</sup>•**Et**<sub>2</sub>**C** (**Sc**<sup>C-H</sup>•**C**) (**Sc**<sup>C-H</sup>•**C**)



**Figure S16.** Solid-state molecular structure of  $Sc^{C1} \cdot 0.5C_7H_8$  with 30% probability ellipsoids. Hydrogen atoms and co-crystallized toluene molecule are omitted for clarity. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (deg): Sc1-N1 = 1.932(1), N1-C1 = 1.279(2), N4-C40 = 1.348(2), N5-C40 = 1.368(2), N6-C40 = 1.347(2), N5-C41 = 1.274(2), Sc1-N1-C1 = 160.3(1), C40-N5-C41 = 139.0(2).



**Figure S17.** Solid-state molecular structure of **Sc<sup>C-H</sup>.THF** with 30% probability ellipsoids. Hydrogen atoms and co-crystallized solvent molecules are omitted for clarity.



**Figure S18.** Solid-state molecular structure of  $Sc^{C-H}$ -Et<sub>2</sub>O with 30% probability ellipsoids. Crowncoordinated and co-crystallized Et<sub>2</sub>O molecules and hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (deg) in molecule 1: Sc1-N1 = 2.043(2), Sc1-C59 = 2.315(3), N1-C1 = 1.249(4), N4-C40 = 1.390(4), N5-C40 = 1.295(4), N5-C41 = 1.453(4), N6-C40 = 1.413(4), Sc1-N1-C1 = 162.4(2), Sc1-C59-C58 = 102.8(2), C40-N5-C41 = 122.6(3). Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (deg) in molecule 2 (not shown): Sc2-N7 = 2.037(3), Sc2-C136 = 2.298(3), N7-C78 = 1.246(4), N10-C117 = 1.390(4), N11-C117 = 1.299(4), N11-C118 = 1.452(4), N12-C117 = 1.412(4), Sc2-N7-C78 = 173.8(2), Sc2-C136-C135 = 101.0(2), C117-N11-C118 = 123.1(3).



**Figure S19.** Solid-state molecular structure of **Sc**<sup>naph</sup> with 30% probability ellipsoids. Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Structure presented for connectivity only.



**Figure S20.** Solid-state molecular structure of  $[(^{ket}guan)(^{Dipp}ImN)Sc(\mu-CI)_2K(DME)]\cdot C_6H_{14}$  with 30% probability ellipsoids. Hydrogen atoms and non-coordinated hexanes molecule are omitted for clarity. Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (deg): Sc1-Cl1 = 2.4843(5), Sc1-Cl2 = 2.4427(5), Sc1-N1 = 1.968(1), Sc1-N4 = 2.202(1), Sc1-N6 = 2.257(1), N1-C1 = 1.261(2), K1-Cl1 = 2.9932(6), K1-Cl2 = 3.052(5), Sc1-N1-C1 = 170.0(1).

**Table S1.** X-ray crystallographic data for complexes  $Sc^{CI}$ ,  $Sc^{C-H} \cdot Et_2O$ ,  $Sc^{C-H} \cdot THF$ ,  $Sc^{Naph}$ , and  $[(^{ket}guan)(^{Dipp}ImN)Sc(\mu-CI)_2K(DME)] \cdot C_6H_{14}$ 

	<b>Sc<sup>сı</sup> ·</b> 0.5С <sub>7</sub> Н <sub>8</sub>	Sc <sup>C-H</sup> ⋅Et₂O	Sc <sup>c-H</sup> · THF
Empirical formula	C <sub>61</sub> ClH <sub>88</sub> N <sub>6</sub> Sc ∙ 0.5C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>8</sub>	C <sub>81</sub> H <sub>120</sub> KN <sub>6</sub> O <sub>8</sub> Sc⋅ 0.5C₄H <sub>10</sub> O	C <sub>85</sub> H <sub>135</sub> KN <sub>6</sub> O <sub>9</sub> Sc
Formula weight (g/mol)	1039.05	1427.19	1469.04
Crystal habit, color	thick needle, colorless	plate, colorless	plate, colorless
Crystal size (mm)	0.21 × 0.06 × 0.04	0.15 × 0.13 × 0.05	0.12 × 0.08 × 0.04
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Triclinic
Space group	P2₁/c	P21/c	$P\overline{1}$
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	6041.1(3)	16683.7(15)	4928.0(4)
a (Å)	25.6178(8)	18.7947(10)	12.7099(6)
b (Å)	12.2477(3)	22.7491(12)	17.8534(9)
c (Å)	19.3231(5)	39.275(2)	23.1786(13)
a°	90	90	105.198(2)
β°	94.8450(10)	96.525(2)	100.704(2)
γ°	90	90	95.573(2)
Z	4	12	2
Absorption coefficient (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.209	0.194	0.166
<b>F</b> 000	2220.0	6240.0	1598.0
Total number of			
reflections collected	160463	529246	219773
Unique reflections	13320	31738	18635
R₁ and wR₂ indices [I ≥2ơ(I)]	0.0406; 0.1040	0.0730; 0.1792	0.0756; 0.2151
R1 and wR2 indices [all data]	0.0477; 0.1097	0.1020; 0.2006	0.0859; 0.2255
Largest diff. peak and hole (eÅ <sup>-3</sup> )	0.56/-0.31	0.69/-0.72	1.05/-0.93
GoF	1.021	1.040	1.062

	Sc <sup>Naph</sup>	[( <sup>ket</sup> guan)( <sup>Dipp</sup> ImN) Sc(µ-CI) <sub>2</sub> K(DME)] ·C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>14</sub>
Empirical formula	C <sub>83</sub> H <sub>120</sub> KN <sub>6</sub> O <sub>6</sub> Sc	C <sub>65</sub> Cl₂H <sub>98</sub> KN <sub>6</sub> O₂Sc⋅ C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>14</sub>
Formula weight (g/mol)	1381.93	1236.64
Crystal habit, color	rhombohedral, dark red	Block, colorless
Crystal size (mm)	0.11 × 0.09 × 0.07	0.06 × 0.09 × 0.10
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
Space group	P2₁/c	P21/n
Volume (ų)	10926.3(1)	7297.0(4)
a (Å)	22.1007(14)	22.5754(7)
b (Å)	20.4848(11)	13.3421(4)
c (Å)	26.1601(16)	25.6446(8)
α°	90	90
β°	112.696(2)	109.1460(10)
γ°	90	90
Z	6	6
Absorption coefficient (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.145	0.276
F <sub>000</sub>	2991.0	2680.0
reflections collected	183081	198110
Unique reflections	13766	13851
R₁ and wR₂ indices [I ≥2σ(I)]	0.0723; 0.2359	0.0349; 0.0844
<i>R</i> ₁ and w <i>R</i> ₂ indices [all data]	0.0910; 0.2481	0.0445; 0.0902
Largest diff. peak and hole (eÅ <sup>-3</sup> )	0.30/-0.28	0.92/-0.42
GoF	1.166	1.023



Figure S21. Room temperature electronic absorption spectrum of  $Sc^{CI} \cdot 0.5C_7H_8$  (C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>, 0.207 mM).



Figure S22. Room temperature electronic absorption spectrum of  $Sc^{C-H}$ - $Et_2O$  ( $Sc^{C-H}$ -taut) ( $C_7H_8$ , 0.234 mM).



**Figure S23.** Room temperature electronic absorption spectrum of  $Sc^{naph}$  (C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>) with absorption presented in arbitrary units.

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