Spectroscopic Characterization of Lanthanum-Mediated Dehydrogenation and C-C bond Coupling of Ethylene

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| | | LaC ₂ H ₂ | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Parameters | ${}^{2}A_{1}$ | $^{1}A_{1}$ | ${}^{4}\mathrm{B}_{1}$ | ${}^{3}\mathrm{B}_{1}$ | |
| C1-C2 | 1.345 | 1.347 | 1.265 | 1.260 | |
| La-C1 | 2.306 | 2.253 | 2.542 | 2.511 | |
| H3-C1-C2 | 126.7 | 128.3 | 149.1 | 150.7 | |
| C1-La-C2 | 33.91 | 34.79 | 28.81 | 29.06 | |
| | $La(C_4H_6)$ | | | | |
| | ² A' | ¹ A' | ⁴ A" | ³ A" | |
| C1-C2 | 1.449 | 1.451 | 1.391 | 1.392 | |
| C2-C3 | 1.385 | 1.389 | 1.435 | 1.426 | |
| C1-La | 2.510 | 2.437 | 2.804 | 2.720 | |
| C2-La | 2.671 | 2.617 | 2.728 | 2.670 | |
| H5-C1-C2 | 117.0 | 116.4 | 122.1 | 120.3 | |
| Н5-С1-Н6 | 111.7 | 111.4 | 115.5 | 114.8 | |
| Н5-С1-С2-С3 | -43.09 | -46.20 | -19.94 | -22.8 | |
| Н6-С1-С2-С3 | -179.2 | -178.9 | -176.7 | -178.8 | |
| | | | | | |

Table S1. Bond lengths (Å) and bond angles (°) of $La(C_2H_2)$ and $La(C_4H_6)$ complexes in various electronic states from DFT/B3LYP calculations. Doublet and quartet states are for neutral species and singlet and triplets for cations. Atomic labels are shown in Figure S1.

Table S2. Relative energies of stationary points and the imaginary frequencies of transition states along the reaction coordinates of $La(C_2H_2)$ and $La(C_4H_6)$ from CCSD(T)//B3LYP calculations.

| Species | Energy (kcal/mol) | Frequency (cm ⁻¹) |
|---|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| La(C ₂ H ₂) formation | | |
| $La + C_2H_4$ | 0.00 | |
| IM1 | -32.4 | |
| TS1 | -2.56 | 887 <i>i</i> |
| IM2 | -26.8 | |
| IM2A | -15.1 | |
| TS2 | 7.81 | 936 <i>i</i> |
| IM3 | -7.19 | |
| $La(C_2H_2) + H_2$ | -4.69 | |
| La(C ₄ H ₆) formation ^a | | |
| $C_2H_4 + IM2$ | -26.8 | |
| Adduct | -47.7 | |
| TS3 | 8.0 | 238 <i>i</i> |
| IM4 | 5.8 | |
| TS4 | 8.1 | 346 <i>i</i> |
| IM5 | -27.2 | |
| $IM6 + H_2$ | -24.6 | |
| $TS5 + H_2$ | 8.6 | 537 <i>i</i> |
| $La(C_4H_6) + H_2$ | -49.9 | |
| | | |

^a Energies of the stationary points for the formation of $La(C_4H_6)$ are referenced to that of La + 2 C_2H_4 .



Figure S1. Structures of $La(C_2H_2)$ and $La(C_4H_6)$.



Figure S2. MATI spectrum of La(C₂H₂) (a) and simulations of H-La-CCH ($^{1}A' \leftarrow ^{2}A'$, 300 K) (b) and La-[η^{1} -(CCH₂)] (($^{1}A_{1} \leftarrow ^{2}A_{1}$, 300 K) (c).



Figure S3. MATI spectrum of $La(C_4H_6)$ (a) and simulation of $La-[\eta^2-$

(trans-H₂CCHCHCH₂) ($^{1}A \leftarrow ^{2}A$, 300 K) (b).



Figure S4. Geometries (Å or degree) of the stationary points along the coordinates of the La + ethylene reaction from DFT/B3LYP calculations. IMn: intermediates, TSn: transitions states.



Figure S5. Bond lengths (Å) of the stationary points along the coordinates of the $HLa(C_2H_3)$ (IM2 in Figure S4) + ethylene reaction from DFT/B3LYP calculations. IMn: intermediates, TSn: transitions states.