Record Nr.	UNINA9910765779103321
Titolo	Rare Earth and actinide complexes / / edited by Stephen Mansell, Steve Liddle
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Basel, Switzerland : , : MDPI - Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institute, , [2017] ©2017
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (264 pages)
Disciplina	546.42
Soggetti	Actinide elements
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	About the Guest Editors V Editorial to "Rare Earth and Actinide Complexes" Reprinted from: Inorganics 2016, 4(4), 31; doi:10.3390 /inorganics4040031 http://www.mdpi.com/2304-6740/4/4/31. VII Catalytic Organic Transformations Mediated by Actinide Complexes Reprinted from: Inorganics 2015, 3(4), 392-428; doi:10.3390 /inorganics3040392 http://www.mdpi.com/2304-6740/3/4/392. 1 Molecular Pnictogen Activation by Rare Earth and Actinide Complexes Reprinted from: Inorganics 2015, 3(4), 597-635; doi: 10.3390/inorganics3040597 http://www.mdpi.com/2304- 6740/3/4/597. 34 New Lanthanide Alkynylamidinates and Diiminophosphinates Reprinted from: Inorganics 2015, 3(4), 429- 447; doi:10.3390/inorganics3040429 http://www.mdpi.com/2304- 6740/3/4/429 66 Dinuclear Lanthanide (III) Coordination Polymers in a Domino Reaction Reprinted from: Inorganics 2015, 3(4), 448- 466; doi:10.3390/inorganics3040448 http://www.mdpi.com/2304- 6740/3/4/448 82 Luminescent Lanthanide Metal Organic Frameworks for cis-Selective Isoprene Polymerization Catalysis Reprinted from: Inorganics 2015, 3(4), 467-481; doi:10.3390 /inorganics3040467 http://www.mdpi.com/2304-6740/3/4/467 98 Assessing Covalency in Cerium and Uranium Hexachlorides: A Correlated Wavefunction and Density Functional Theory Study Reprinted from: Inorganics 2015, 3(4), 482-499; doi: 10.3390

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	/inorganics3040482 http://www.mdpi.com/2304-6740/3/4/82. 110 Holmium(III) Supermesityl-Imide Complexes Bearing Methylaluminato/Gallato Ligands Reprinted from: Inorganics 2015, 3 (4), 500-510; doi:10.3390/inorganics3040500 http://www.mdpi. com/2304-6740/3/4/500 125 Gadolinium(III)-DOTA Complex Functionalized with BODIPY as a Potential Bimodal Contrast Agent for MRI and Optical Imaging Reprinted from: Inorganics 2015, 3(4), 516-533; doi:10.3390/inorganics3040516 http://www.mdpi. com/2304-6740/3/4/516 133 Synthesis and Reactivity of a Cerium (III) Scorpionate Complex Containing a Redox Non-Innocent 2,2'- bipyridine Ligand Reprinted from: Inorganics 2015, 3(4), 534-553; doi:10.3390/inorganics3040534 http://www.mdpi.com/2304- 6740/3/4/534. 148 Magnetic and Photo-Physical Properties of Lanthanide Dinuclear Complexes Involving the 4,5-Bis(2-Pyridyl-N- Oxidemethylthio)-4',5'-Dicarboxylic Acid-Tetrathiafulvalene-, Dimethyl Ester Ligand Reprinted from: Inorganics 2015, 3(4), 554-572; doi: 10.3390/inorganics3040554 http://www.mdpi.com/2304- 6740/3/4/554. 165 On the Dehydrocoupling of Alkenylacetylenes Mediated by Various Samarocene Complexes: A Charming Story of Metal Cooperativity Revealing a Novel Dual Metal 0-Bond Metathesis Type of Mechanism (DMI-BM) Reprinted from: Inorganics 2015, 3(4), 573-588; doi:10.3390/inorganics3040557 http://www.mdpi. com/2304-6740/3/4/573 181 Synthesis and Characterization of Cerium(IV) Metallocenes Reprinted from: Inorganics 2015, 3(4), 573-588; doi:10.3390/inorganics3040573 http://www.mdpi. com/2304-6740/3/4/589 194 Expanding the Chemistry of Actinide Metallocene Bromides. Synthesis, Properties and Molecular Structures of the Tetravalent and Trivalent Uranium Bromide Complexes: (CSMe <r):ubr2, (csme<r)="" [k(thf)][(csme<br="" and="" u(o-2,6-pr2ch3)(br),="">(R):UBr2] (R = Me, Et) Reprinted from: Inorganics 2016, 4(1), 1; doi: 10.3390/inorganics4010001 http://www.mdpi.com/2304- 6740/4/1/1.200 Tuning of Hul</r):ubr2,>
Sommario/riassunto	235. As the fields of organometallic and coordination chemistry of the transition metals has grown more mature, the under-explored chemistry of the rare-earths and actinides has drawn the attention of research groups from across the globe looking for new fundamental discoveries and access to compounds with unique properties. The rare-earthsthe group 3 metals and the 4f lanthanide serieshave long shown many interesting properties in the solid state which exploit their unique electronic configurations. However, it is the molecular chemistry of these metals that has expanded dramatically in recent years as researchers identify the differences betweenand unique features oftheir molecular compounds. Recent highlights include the identification of new oxidation states and patterns of reactivity as well as applications in medical imaging and health care which represent new and exciting areas of research. The actinides show a wide range of different properties as a consequence of their radioactivity and radiochemistry, but this has not stopped recent rapid progress into the exploration of

their unique chemistry. Uranium, in particular, shows huge potential with its transition metal-like range of oxidation states (+2 to +6), and in specialised laboratories, the heavier actinides are also beginning to show their unique chemistry. This Special Issue aims to bring together these strands of research in an openly-accessible way to allow better communication of these advances to a wider audience. This is necessary as, despite these exciting advances, the rare-earths and actinides are still much neglected topics in both school and undergraduate curriculums. Contributions in the above-mentioned areas will allow new research in the rare-earths and actinides to inform and influence the next generation of scientists and keep the field as vibrant as it is today.