Ferromagnetic Ordering in the Thallide EuPdTl₂

Rainer Kraft, Sudhindra Rayaprol, C. Peter Sebastian, and Rainer Pöttgen

Institut für Anorganische und Analytische Chemie and NRW Graduate School of Chemistry, Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster, Corrensstraße 30, D-48149 Münster, Germany

Reprint requests to R. Pöttgen. E-mail: pottgen@uni-muenster.de

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The new thallide EuPdTl₂, synthesized from the elements in a sealed tantalum tube in a high-frequency furnace, was investigated by X-ray diffraction on powders and single crystals: MgCuAl₂ type, Cmcm, Z = 4, a = 446.6(1), b = 1076.7(2), c = 812.0(2) pm, wR2 = 0.0632, 336 F² values, 16 variables. The structure can be considered as an orthorhombically distorted, palladium-filled variant of the binary Zintl phase EuTl₂. The palladium and thallium atoms build up a three-dimensional [PdTl₂] polyanion with significant Pd–Tl (286–287 pm) and Tl–Tl (323–329 pm) interactions. The europium atoms fill distorted hexagonal channels of the [PdTl₂] polyanion. Susceptibility measurements show a magnetic moment of 7.46(5) μ_B /Eu atom, indicative of divalent europium. EuPdTl₂ is a soft ferromagnet with a Curie temperature of T_C = 12.5(5) K.

Key words: Thallide, Europium, Intermetallics, Crystal Chemistry, Magnetochemistry