### **Stable Localized Biradicals**



Whereas cyclobutane-1,3-diyl **A** is quite reactive even at low temperatures, the heavier congener **B** exhibits considerable thermal stability (Niecke 1995) due to "phosphorus trick" leading to singlet ground state. We found that suitable positioning of the substituents effectively stabilize the exotic open-shell P-heterocycle **B** even in air (*ANIE* 2003). The high stability has promoted further investigations in relation to applications based on electronic functionalities. So far studies on the air-stable **B** have revealed high electron-donating properties as well as considerable stability of the resulting cationic species. The procedures for **B** are suitable to install various substituents on the phosphorus, and the electronic properties of **B** can be widely tuned. Furthermore, the synthetic protocol of the air stable **B** can be appropriable for synthesis of air-tolerant P-heterocyclic monoradicals. Quite recently, we established procedures for exchanging the RP moiety of the biradical system.

S. Ito, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2018**, *59*, 1–13. *Link* S. Ito, *Chem. Rec.* **2018**, *18*, 445–458. *Link* 

## Ambident Character of Cyclobutenylanion (CBA)



CB: S. Ito, H. Sugiyama, M. Yoshifuji, *Chem. Commun.* 2002, 1744.
S. Ito, T. T. Ngo, K. Mikami, *Chem. Asian J.* 2013, *8*, 1976.
BR: H. Sugiyama, S. Ito, M. Yoshifuji, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2003, *42*, 3802. (R = Me) M. Yoshifuji, H. Sugiyama, S. Ito, *J. Organomet. Chem.* 2005, *690*, 2515. (R = benzyl)

#### **Molecular Orbital: Tunable**



See also: https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.joc.0c00512

## **Electron Density Analysis**

#### **Localized Radicalic Electrons**







Cross section of the PCPC plane



## Stable Monoradical (Rad) from Cyclobutenylanion (CBA)



X-ray Characterization

## Biradical Bites H<sub>2</sub>



 $\delta_{\rm P} = -11.3$  (MeP), 55.9 (*t*-BuP)  $^{2}J_{\rm PP} = 362.8$  Hz  $\delta_{\rm P}$  = -37.1 (MeP), 143.8 (*t*-BuP)  ${}^{2}J_{\rm PP}$  = 49.6 Hz  ${}^{1}J_{\rm PH}$  = 321.1 Hz,  ${}^{2}J_{\rm PH}$  = 9.9 Hz

 $\delta_{\rm P}$  = 3.3 (MeP), 47.1 (*t*-BuP)  $^{2}J_{\rm PP}$  = 91.7 Hz



Inorg. Chem. 2009, 48, 8063.



# **BR for Electronics**



The air-stable phosphorus congener of cyclobutane-1,3-diyl shows highly electron-donating property (= low oxidation potential) and considerable stability of the corresponding radical cation (*Chem. Lett.* 2006). Therefore, the open-shell singlet P-heterocycle would be available as a p-type organic semiconductor. As predicted, several stable derivatives worked as Field-Effect Transistors (FETs) via hole transfer under the relatively low gate (threshold) voltage. The facile generation holes would correspond to the open-shell character.

#### Biradicals (BR) as Electron-Donors



## **p-Type OFET Property**



 $\mu = 1.67 \times 10^{-7} \text{ cm}^2 \text{V}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$ on/off = 70 $V_{\rm th} = -0.1 \, {\rm V}$ 





Transfer



Energy / eV

## **Hole Transfer: Hopping Model**



 $\mu_{\rm est}$  = 1.5 x 10<sup>-4</sup> cm<sup>2</sup> V<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>



Dimer	V/meV	W/s <sup>-1</sup>	r/Å
$T_1$	1.44	24.8 x 10 <sup>8</sup>	11.371
<i>T</i> <sub>2</sub>	0.69	5.7 x 10 <sup>8</sup>	9.552
$T_3$	1.48	26.2 x 10 <sup>8</sup>	10.740
$T_4$	1.09	14.2 x 10 <sup>8</sup>	10.831
Р	0.84	8.5 x 10 <sup>8</sup>	10.908
$L_1$	0.41	2.0 x 10 <sup>8</sup>	15.209
L <sub>2</sub>	0.32	1.2 x 10 <sup>8</sup>	10.573