Pronounced Effects of Zero-Point Energy Difference on Intramolecular Electron Transfer in Asymmetric Mixed-Valence Biferrocenium Cations: Structural, EPR, and ⁵⁷Fe Mössbauer Characteristics

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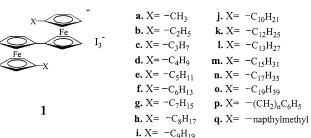
The X-ray structural determinations of a series of asymmetric mixed-valence biferrocenium cations have been determined. The observations of the structural characteristics of the series of mixed-valence biferrocenium cations are also consistent with our Mössbauer studies. The features in the Mössbauer spectra of the asymmetric biferrocenium salts include two doublets, one with a quadrupole splitting of 1.5-2.2 mms⁻¹ (Fe(II) site) and the other with a quadrupole splitting of 0.7–0.5 mms⁻¹ (Fe(III) site). This pattern of two doublets is expected for a mixedvalence biferrocenium cation, which is valence-trapped on the time scale of the Mössbauer technique. Our data indicate that the zero-point energy difference plays a crucial role in determining the nature of the intramolecular electron-transfer rate. The electrochemical measurements and the EPR data are also described.

Introduction

The electronic interaction and the electron-transfer process between the two iron centers in the series of mixed-valence biferrocenium salts (1) have been extensively studied to understand what factors influence the electronic structures of the iron sites. 1-19 The first

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Chart 1



strategy is the use of a series of mixed-valence biferrocenium cations with short alkyl substituents (1a-f). ¹⁻⁵ Compounds 1a, 1e, and 1f give valence-localized Mössbauer spectra. At temperatures below 300 K, the spectrum shows two doublets, one for the Fe(II) metallocene and the other for the Fe(III) metallocene (electrontransfer rate $< \sim 10^8 \text{ s}^{-1}$). However, compounds **1b**-**d** show temperature-dependent Mössbauer spectra. At temperatures below 77 K, they show localized Mössbauer spectra (two doublets).

In each case the two doublets move together with increasing temperature and eventually become a single "average-valence" doublet at temperatures of 275, 260, and 275 K, respectively. The single X-ray structural determinations revealed that the environment surrounding a cation is perhaps the most important factor in determining the rate of electron transfer. Hendrickson also suggested that the temperature dependence of

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the Mössbauer spectrum is due to the onset of lattice dynamics associated with the triiodide anion and alkyl substituents. 1-3 The second strategy is the use of the mixed-valence biferrocenium salts with long alkyl substituents (1g-o).^{20,21} It has been shown that there is an even-odd character in the number of carbon atoms of the substituents in the relationship between the crystal structure and the mixed-valence state. However, there is a problem in this even-odd character. That is, only the compounds with an 8- and 10-carbon alkyl substituent give a temperature-dependent detrapped-valence state. Therefore, it seems difficult to separate the contribution of the symmetry of the cation and the packing effect in the crystal. The third strategy is the use of the derivatives attached to a planar substituent (1p-q).²²⁻²⁴ The 2-phenylethyl and 4-phenylbutyl derivatives of **1p** show the valence detrapping electronic state at temperatures of 300 and 160 K. respectively. By comparison of the Mössbauer results of 1p with those of the corresponding dialkyl derivatives, the terminal benzene ring in 1p plays an important role in controlling the rate of electron transfer. A recent interesting finding is that the mixed-valence compound 1q has two distinct crystallographic phases that show the electron-transfer rates are extremely sensitive to changes in the crystal lattice.^{22,23} The crystal in the space group $P\bar{1}$ shows a Mössbauer spectrum characteristic of a valence-detrapped electronic state above 130 K. The crystal in the space group $P2_1/n$ shows a valencetrapped Mössbauer spectrum at 300 K. In 1p and 1q, there is a close connection between the mixed-valence state and the cation-cation interaction formed through the π - π interaction of the benzene rings.

Our strategy for systematic design is to use derivatives (2a-e) with terminal bromide in the alkyl substituents. If the symmetry of the cation and the intermolecular interactions (cation-cation and cation-anion interactions) are indeed important to the mixed-valence state, the terminal bromide in the alkyl substituent would then play an important role. The results of the X-ray structural determinations with the electrochemical measurements, variable-temperature Mössbauer data, and EPR measurements are presented in this paper.

Results and Discussion

Synthesis and Characterization. The biferrocenyl derivatives described in this paper were all prepared by a similar approach (Scheme 1). The sample of biferrocene was treated with acyl chloride and AlCl₃ and was converted into acylbiferrocene (3a-e). Reduction was carried out by stirring a mixture of corresponding acylbiferrocene with LiAlH₄/AlCl₃ or with Zn/Hg at ambient temperature under N2. The neutral substituted biferrocenes 4a-e were characterized by mass and ¹H NMR spectroscopies.

Molecular Structures of 1e, 2b, 2c, 2d, and 2e. X-ray crystallographic studies were undertaken to help elucidate the structures and the assignment of the oxidation state for a given ferrocenyl moiety. Figures 1−5 display the ORTEP drawing of the mixed-valence compounds **1e** and **2b**-**e**. They adopt the usual trans conformation as found for most biferrocenium cations. 1-19 Details of the X-ray crystal data collections and unit cell parameters are given in Table 1. Selected bond distances and angles are given in Tables 2 and 3, and complete tables of positional parameters, bond distances, and bond angles are given as Supporting Information. A comparison of 1e, 2b, 2c, 2d, and 2e with the series of biferrocenium salts was also made (Table 4).

In compounds 1e, 2b, 2c, and 2e, the two metallocene moieties in each cation are not crystallographically equivalent. In the case of 2d, the refinement of the structure imposed inversion centers on both the cation and the triiodide anion. Therefore, the two ferrocenyl moieties are crystallographically equivalent. It has been demonstrated that the iron to the Cp ligand bond length and the Fe-C bond distance give a diagnosis of the oxidation state of the iron center. In a localized biferrocenium cation, the Fe-Cp and Fe-C distances for an Fe(II) center are closer to the corresponding values of 1.65 and 2.045 Å found²⁵ for ferrocene, and the Fe-Cp and Fe-C distances for an Fe(III) center are closer to the corresponding values of 1.70 and 2.075 Å found²⁶ for ferrocenium ion. However, in a delocalized biferrocenium cation, both Fe-Cp and Fe-C distances are intermediate between the analogous values for ferrocene and ferrocenium ion. As shown in Table 4, the oxidation state of the Fe center in each ferrocenyl moiety of **1e**, **2b**, **2c**, and **2e** is assigned on the basis of the Fe-Cp and Fe-C distances. This indicates that the valence state of **1e**, **2b**, **2c**, and **2e** is in a trapped-valence state. In the case of **2d**, the mean Fe-C distance is 2.060(5) Å, between the values of 2.045 Å for ferrocene²⁵ and 2.075 Å for ferrocenium cation,²⁶ indicating that the valence state is in a detrapped-valence state at room temperature. This result is in accordance with the result of ⁵⁷Fe Mössbauer spectra. Furthermore, the dihedral angle between the two least-squares planes and the average staggering angle of the two Cp rings in each ferrocenyl moiety are also collected in Table 4. Furthermore, in the case of mixed-valence cation **2b**, the bromopentyl substituent is found to be rotationally disordered, with two sites in the population ratio of 80:20.

As shown in Table 2, the triiodide anion in 1e, 2b, 2c, and 2e shows an asymmetric structure. In the case of 2d, the triiodide anion is at the inversion center, showing a symmetric structure. The I-I distance in 2d is 2.916(1) Å.

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Scheme 1

$$\label{eq:branch} \begin{array}{ll} \textbf{b} \ R = -C_4 H_8 B r & \textbf{d} \ R = R' = -C_4 H_8 B r \\ \\ \textbf{e} \ R = R' = -C_5 H_{10} B r \end{array}$$

3b-e
$$\xrightarrow{Zn/Hg}$$
 \xrightarrow{Fe} $\xrightarrow{Fe$

4d
$$X=Y=-C_5H_{10}Br$$

4e
$$X=Y=-C_6H_{12}Br$$

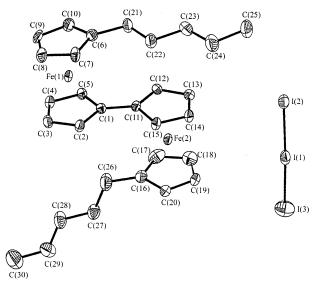


Figure 1. ORTEP drawing for 1e at 150 K.

Cyclic Voltammetric Studies. One of the interesting attributes of **2a**–**e** is the magnitude of the interaction between the two Fe sites. Cyclic voltammetry affords a simple and effective way for estimating this interaction.²⁷ Electrochemical data of the neutral compounds **4a**–**e** are shown in Table 5. The CV studies of **4a**–**e** show two successive one-electron oxidations that correspond to the oxidation of the biferrocenyl moiety.

As shown in Table 5, the first half-wave potential of 1',1'''-dipentylbiferrocene (-0.06 V) is less than those of $\bf 4a$ and $\bf 4b$ (-0.03 and -0.02 V, respectively). From the electron-donating effect of the alkyl substituent, we believe that the first oxidation in $\bf 4a$ and $\bf 4b$ occurs at the alkylferrocenyl moiety. This is also consistent with our X-ray structural study of $\bf 2b$. In the case of $\bf 4c$, it is difficult to predict which ferrocenyl moiety is oxidized first from the electrochemical data.

It has been demonstrated that the magnitude of the peak-to-peak separation ($\Delta E_{1/2}$) gives an indication of the interaction between the two Fe sites. ²⁷ A comparison of the magnitude of $\Delta E_{1/2}$ between 1',1"'-dipentylbiferrocene and $\bf 4c$ indicates that the magnitudes of interactions between the two Fe sites in symmetric and asymmetric biferrocenium cations are similar in the solution state. This indicates that the interactions between the two Fe sites are insensitive to the nature of the substituent. Thus, the zero-point energy difference between the two vibronic states for each asymmetric biferrocenium cation is rather small, which is reasonable in terms of the similar electronic effect between

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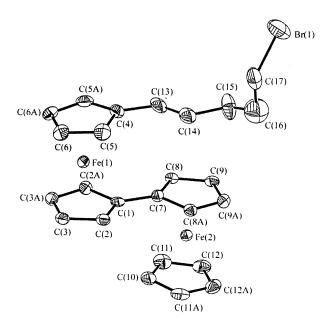


Figure 2. ORTEP drawing for 2b at 150 K.

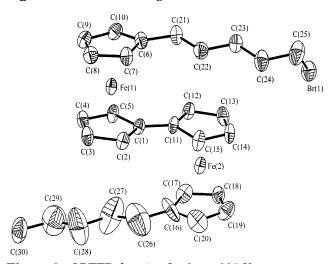


Figure 3. ORTEP drawing for 2c at 295 K.

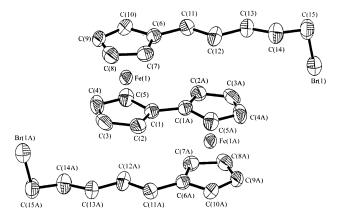


Figure 4. ORTEP drawing for **2d** at 295 K.

the pentyl substituent and the bromopentyl substituent on the biferrocenium cation in the solution state.

⁵⁷**Fe Mössbauer Characteristics.** It has been noted that the ⁵⁷**Fe Mössbauer spectral properties of 1',1'''-dialkylbiferrocenium triiodide cations are dependent on the sample history.** ^{2,3} **To examine this phenomenon more thoroughly, we prepared samples of 1e and 2a-e**

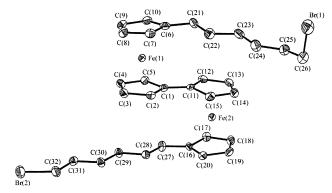


Figure 5. ORTEP drawing for 2e at 150 K.

by two different methods. Microcrystalline samples were prepared by adding a benzene/hexane (1:1) solution containing a stoichiometric amount of iodine to a benzene/hexane (1:1) solution of the corresponding neutral biferrocene at 0 °C. A crystalline sample can be prepared by slowly diffusing hexane into a CH_2Cl_2 solution containing the corresponding biferrocenium triiodide salt.

Mössbauer spectra were run for microcrystalline and crystalline samples of **1e** and **2a–e**. The various absorption peaks in each spectrum were fitted to Lorentzian lines, and the resulting fitting data are summarized in Table 6. The selected variable-temperature Mössbauer spectra are also shown in Figures 6–8.

The features in all 300 and 80 K Mössbauer spectra of asymmetric microcrystalline biferrocenium salts 2a, 2b, and 2c include two doublets, one with a quadrupole splitting (ΔE_Q) of 1.5–2.2 mm s⁻¹ (Fe(II) site) and the other with a ΔE_Q of 0.7–0.5 mm s⁻¹ (Fe(III) site). This pattern of two doublets is expected for a mixed-valence biferrocenium cation that is valence-trapped on the time scale of the Mössbauer technique (electron-transfer rate $< \sim 10^7 \text{ s}^{-1}$ in the solid state). In the cases of microcrystalline and crystalline samples of symmetric biferrocenium salts (1e, 2c, and 2e), two doublets can be seen at 300 and 80 K Mössbauer spectra, one characteristic of an Fe(II) metallocene and the other characteristic of an Fe(III) metallocene. As a typical example, the 300 and 80 K Mössbauer spectra of 2c are shown in Figure 6. However, it was curious to find that the two different preparations of symmetric biferrocenium salt 2d showed temperature-dependent Mössbauer spectra. Figures 7 and 8 illustrate the spectra obtained for the samples prepared by two different preparations. At 80 K, the two samples show two doublets in the Mössbauer spectra. An increase of temperature causes the two doublets to move together, resulting in an average-valence doublet at 150 and 120 K for both microcrystalline and crystalline samples, respectively.

In the case of localized mixed-valence biferrocenium salts **1e**, **2a**, **2b**, **2c**, and **2e**, the decrease of $\Delta E_{\rm Q}$ in the ferrocenyl doublet and the increase of $\Delta E_{\rm Q}$ in the ferrocenium doublet can be an indication of the magnitude of intramolecular electron-transfer rate in the mixed-valence cation. In the 300 K Mössbauer spectrum of **2c**, the value of $\Delta E_{\rm Q}$ (1.551 mm s⁻¹) for the ferrocenyl moiety is smaller than what is expected for an Fe(II) ferrocenyl moiety, and the Fe(III) ferrocenium moiety has a relatively large $\Delta E_{\rm Q}$ value (0.753 mm s⁻¹). This is a reflection of the mixing of Fe(II) and Fe(III) moieties

Table 1. Experimental and Crystal Data for the X-ray Structures

	1e	2b	2c	2d	2e
formula	$C_{30}H_{38}Fe_2I_3$	$C_{25}H_{27}BrFe_2I_3$	$C_{30}H_{37}BrFe_{2}I_{3}$	$C_{30}H_{36}Br_2Fe_2I_3$	$C_{32}H_{40}Br_2Fe_2I_3$
MW	891.00	899.78	969.91	1048.81	1076.86
<i>T</i> , K	150(1)	150(1)	295(2)	295(2)	150(1)
cryst syst	monoclinic	orthorhombic	triclinic	triclinic	triclinic
space group	$P2_1/c$	Pnma	ΡĪ	$P\overline{1}$	$P\overline{1}$
a, Å	23.5809(3)	20.6427(5)	9.720(3)	9.512(2)	9.8734(1)
b, Å	9.4328(1)	9.5825(2)	11.512(3)	9.882(2)	10.4073(1)
c, Å	14.0037(1)	13.5032(3)	15.030(4)	10.829(2)	18.4792(3)
α, deg	90	90	104.48(3)	110.05(2)	80.924(1)
β , deg	96.913(1)	90	97.98(3)	114.22(2)	77.663(1)
γ, deg	90	90	91.32(3)	98.98(2)	67.498(1)
V , A^3	3092.25(6)	2671.0(1)	1609.7(8)	818.0(3)	1707.68(4)
Z	4	4	2	1	2
$D_{ m calcd}$, gcm $^{-3}$	1.914	2.237	2.001	2.129	2.094
μ , mm ⁻¹	3.950	6.061	5.037	6.178	5.922
F(000)	1716	1692	926	497	1026
λ, Å	0.71073	0.71073	0.71073	0.71073	0.71073
θ limits, deg	27.50	27.50	24.97	27.50	27.50
R_1	0.0437	0.0531	0.0573	0.0377	0.0446
wR_2	0.0823	0.1218	0.1551	0.0927	0.1111

Table 2. Selected Bond Distances and Angles of 1e. 2c. 2d. and 2e

1e, 2c, 2d, and 2e						
	1e	2c	2d	2e		
I1-I2	2.8721(5)	2.913(1)	2.916(1)	2.9305(5)		
I1-I3	2.9853(5)					
I3-I4		2.918(2)		2.9234(4)		
Fe1-C1	2.043(4)	2.065(9)	2.076(5)	2.060(5)		
Fe1-C2	2.050(5)	2.062(9)	2.052(6)	2.050(5)		
Fe1-C3	2.060(5)	2.04(1)	2.043(6)	2.059(6)		
Fe1-C4	2.056(5)	2.05(1)	2.052(6)	2.050(6)		
Fe1-C5	2.045(5)	2.05(1)	2.054(5)	2.047(6)		
Fe1-C6	2.093(5)	2.05(1)	2.107(5)	2.083(6)		
Fe1-C7	2.059(5)	2.04(1)	2.063(5)	2.062(6)		
Fe1-C8	2.037(5)	2.04(1)	2.037(5)	2.045(6)		
Fe1-C9	2.051(5)	2.06(1)	2.044(5)	2.041(6)		
Fe1-C10	2.066(5)	2.10(1)	2.074(6)	2.058(6)		
Fe2-C11	2.135(4)	2.122(9)	. ,	2.152(5)		
Fe2-C12	2.088(5)	2.08(1)		2.088(6)		
Fe2-C13	2.070(5)	2.07(1)		2.048(6)		
Fe2-C14	2.076(5)	2.05(1)		2.064(6)		
Fe2-C15	2.089(5)	2.08(1)		2.098(5)		
Fe2-C16	2.114(5)	2.08(2)		2.146(5)		
Fe2-C17	2.060(5)	2.03(1)		2.103(6)		
Fe2-C18	2.048(5)	2.03(1)		2.078(5)		
Fe2-C19	2.069(5)	2.08(1)		2.056(6)		
Fe2-C20	2.108(5)	2.10(1)		2.091(6)		
C1-C2	1.429(5)	1.45(1)	1.418(8)	1.444(8)		
C1-C5	1.435(6)	1.44(1)	1.434(8)	1.443(8)		
C2-C3	1.431(6)	1.39(1)	1.421(8)	1.432(8)		
C3-C4	1.421(6)	1.40(1)	1.41(1)	1.433(9)		
C4-C5	1.422(6)	1.44(1)	1.425(8)	1.433(8)		
C6-C7	1.425(6)	1.41(1)	1.411(8)	1.431(8)		
C6-C10	1.420(6)	1.40(1)	1.414(8)	1.419(9)		
C7-C8	1.417(7)	1.40(1)	1.434(8)	1.426(9)		
C8-C9	1.406(7)	1.43(1)	1.384(9)	1.430(9)		
C9-C10	1.416(6)	1.43(1)	1.412(8)	1.434(8)		
C11-C12	1.437(5)	1.42(1)	1.412(0)	1.430(8)		
C11-C15	1.438(6)	1.42(1)		1.436(8)		
C12-C13	1.421(6)	1.44(1)		1.429(9)		
C12 C13	1.421(6)	1.40(1)		1.41(1)		
C13-C14 C14-C15	1.421(6)	1.40(1)		1.430(8)		
C14-C13	1.422(0)	1.38(2)		1.425(7)		
C16-C17	1.416(7)	1.39(2)		1.425(7)		
C10-C20 C17-C18	1.437(8)	1.36(2)		1.420(8)		
C17-C18	1.413(8)	1.41(2)		1.418(9)		
C19-C20	1.413(8)	1.41(2)		1.416(9)		
I2-I1-I2	1.403(7)	1.40(2) $180.00(3)$	180.0	1.430(8)		
I2-I1-I2 I2-I1-I3	178.53(2)	100.00(3)	100.0	100.0		
I2-II-I3 I4-I3-I4	170.33(2)	180 00(2)		180.0		
14-13-14		180.00(3)		100.0		

into the ground state. At 300 K, the respective values of $\Delta\Delta E_Q$, which is the difference of ΔE_Q between Fe(II) and Fe(III) moieties, for **1e**, **2a**, **2b**, **2c**, and **2e** are 1.346, 1.833, 1.814, 0.798, and 1.454 mm s⁻¹. Thus, the order

Table 3. Selected Bond Distances and Angles of 2b

			0
I1-I2	2.998(1)	I1-I3	2.920(1)
Fe1-C1	2.16(1)	Fe1-C2	2.100(7)
Fe1-C3	2.066(7)	Fe1-C4	2.16(1)
Fe1-C5	2.100(8)	Fe1-C6	2.072(8)
Fe2-C7	2.04(1)	Fe2-C8	2.050(7)
Fe2-C9	2.065(7)	Fe2-C10	2.03(1)
Fe2-C11	2.055(8)	Fe2-C12	2.065(8)
C1-C2	1.43(1)	C2-C3	1.42(1)
$C3-C3^a$	1.44(2)	C4-C5	1.44(1)
C5-C6	1.42(1)	$C6-C6^a$	1.44(2)
C7-C8	1.449(9)	C8-C9	1.42(1)
$C9-C9^a$	1.44(2)	C10-C11	1.43(1)
C11-C12	1.41(1)	C12-C12 ^a	1.42(2)
I3-I1-I2	177.57(4)		

^a Symmetry transformation used to generate equivalent atom: x, -y + 1/2, z.

of the intramolecular electron-transfer rate appears to be $2c > 1e \approx 2e > 2b \approx 2a$. In general, the factors that are potentially important in controlling the intramolecular electron-transfer rate in a mixed-valence biferrocenium cation include (1) the electronic coupling between the two Fe centers and the vibronic coupling, which is a measure of the difference in bond lengths of the ferrocenyl moieties in the two different Fe(II) and Fe(III) oxidation states, (2) the zero-point energy difference between the two vibronic states, and (3) the intermolecular cation-cation and cation-anion interactions. The evidence of the studies of electrochemical measurements and single-crystal X-ray structural determinations indicates that the electronic and vibronic couplings in the series of mixed-valence biferrocenium salts are similar. The ligand field strength around the Fe center is similar. A change in valence in a mixedvalence biferrocenium cation is accompanied by a sizable coordination sphere reorganization. In the series of mixed-valence biferrocenium cations, the change of the distance between the Fe center and the Cp ring centroid from the Fe(II) ferrocenyl moiety (1.65 Å) to the Fe(III) ferrocenium moiety (1.70 Å) is also similar. Therefore, we believe that the difference in electron-transfer rates in **1e** and **2a-e** is the result of the magnitude of the zero-point energy difference and the intermolecular interactions.

We believe that the most important factor in controlling the intramolecular electron-transfer rate is the

Table 4. Comparison of the Atomic Distances

compd	T(K) ^a	Fe-C	Fe-Cp ^b	$ \begin{array}{c} \text{tilt} \\ \text{angle}^c \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{c} {\rm stagger} \\ {\rm angle}^d \end{array}$	<i>T</i> _c (K) ^e	site
1b	300	2.06(1)	1.676(5)	4.8		275	
1c	300	2.06(1)	1.677(9)	6.6	1.2	245	
$1\mathbf{e}^{f,k}$	150(1)	2.056(5)	1.663	2.80	9.4	loc.g	Fe(II)
		2.086(5)	1.700	2.39	9.2		Fe(III)
$\mathbf{1g}^f$	300	2.08(2)	1.69	4.17		loc.g	Fe(III)
_		2.06(1)	1.66	2.97			Fe(II)
$1\mathbf{h}^{f,h}$	300	2.06(2)		2.43		\sim 210	
		2.06(2)		4.67			
		2.05(2)		4.06			
		2.05(2)		4.23			
1k	300	2.067				\sim 230	
1q	300^i	2.059(5)	1.672(2)	4.4	7.0	115	
-	300 ^j	2.052(4)	1.660(4)	2.1	3.0	loc.g	Fe(II)
		2.086(5)	1.693(4)	5.5	2.3		Fe(III)
$2\mathbf{b}^k$	150	2.100(8)	1.712	4.65	\sim 0	loc.g	Fe(III)
		2.054(8)	1.656	3.04	\sim 0		Fe(II)
$2\mathbf{c}^k$	295	2.06(1)	1.663	5.05	2.0	loc.g	Fe(II)
		2.07(1)	1.693	12.08	2.7		Fe(III)
$2\mathbf{d}^k$	295	2.060(5)	1.672	5.19	9.0	~ 115	
$2e^k$	150	2.056(6)	1.656	4.35	3.9	loc.g	Fe(II)
		2.092(6)	1.706	7.70	14.1		Fe(III)

^a Temperature for the single-crystal X-ray structural determination. ^b Average distance of the Fe to the least-squares planes of the Cp rings. ^c Dihedral angle between the two least-squares planes of the Cp rings. d Average staggering angle of the two Cp rings in each ferrocenyl moiety. e Temperature for the localization-delocalization transition on the Mössbauer technique. ^fThe two ferrocenyl moieties are not crystallographically equivalent. The data associated with Fe1 are listed first. g The electrontransfer rate is localized on the Mössbauer time scale. $^{\it h}$ There are two independent molecules. ¹ Compound 1q exhibits two crystalline morphologies at room temperature. The crystals in P1 phase were formed from CH_2Cl_2 solution. ^j Crystals in the $P2_1/n$ phase. k This work.

Table 5. Electrochemical Data of 4a-e

compound	$E_{1/2}$, a V	$\Delta E_{1/2}$, b V	$\Delta E_{ m p}$, c mV
dipentylbifc ^d	-0.06	0.39	86
	0.34		80
4a	-0.03	0.39	108
	0.36		98
4b	-0.02	0.38	112
	0.36		104
4c	-0.05	0.39	99
	0.34		85
4d	-0.04	0.38	101
	0.34		93

^a All half-wave potentials are referred to the nonaqueous Ag/AgCl electrode (CH3CN as solvent). Ferrocene shows a reversible one-electron oxidation wave at $E_{1/2} = 0.12$ V in 1:1 CH₃CN and CH₂Cl₂ solution. ^b Peak separation between two redox waves. ^c Peak to peak separation between the resolved reduction and oxidation wave maxima. d The electrochemical data of 1',1"'dipentylbiferrocene.

symmetry of the cation. For an asymmetric biferrocenium cation, the two irons are not in equivalent environments and this asymmetry results in a zeropoint energy difference for intramolecular electron transfer. In other words, one vibronic state²⁸ of the mixed-valence cation is energetically more stable than the other state. This explains why a delocalized state for an asymmetric biferrocenium cation has not been observed. Thus, the presence of a zero-point energy difference elucidates the order of the electron-transfer rate: $1e \approx 2e > 2b \approx 2a$. However, an interesting finding is that the electron-transfer rate in the asymmetric biferrocenium cation 2c is greater than that in the biferrocenium cation 2e. In the solid-state structure

Table 6. 57Fe Mössbauer Least-Squares-Fitting **Parameters**

1 at ameters					
compound	<i>T</i> , K	$\Delta E_{ m Q}{}^a$	δ^b	$\Gamma^{\rm c}$	
$\mathbf{1e}^d$	300	1.880	0.460	0.389, 0.389	
		0.534	0.408	0.256, 0.256	
		2.025	0.539	0.234, 0.237	
		0.526	0.529	0.356, 0.331	
$\mathbf{2a}^d$	300	2.180	0.437	0.258, 0.290	
		0.347	0.432	0.357, 0.386	
	80	2.167	0.525	0.273, 0.261	
		0.372	0.531	0.327, 0.360	
$\mathbf{2b}^d$	300	2.199	0.449	0.277, 0.272	
		0.385	0.434	0.299, 0.276	
	80	2.152	0.522	0.266, 0.277	
		0.458	0.516	0.326, 0.378	
$\mathbf{2c}^d$	300	1.551	0.461	0.416, 0.416	
		0.753	0.410	0.383, 0.383	
	80	1.807	0.534	0.391, 0.391	
		0.777	0.536	0.424,0.424	
$2c^e$	300	1.589	0.461	0.422,0.422	
		0.749	0.419	0.395, 0.395	
	80	1.792	0.528	0.403,0.372	
		0.781	0.536	0.437, 0.402	
$\mathbf{2d}^d$	300	1.187	0.439	0.384,0.414	
	150	1.232	0.515	0.558, 0.553	
	140	1.481	0.510	0.458, 0.459	
		1.005	0.524	0.448, 0.434	
	120	1.500	0.528	0.450, 0.486	
		1.015	0.523	0.443, 0.439	
	90	1.585	0.534	0.452, 0.472	
		0.960	0.536	0.441, 0.458	
	80	1.605	0.532	0.465, 0.470	
0.1.	000	0.933	0.550	0.451, 0.431	
$2\mathbf{d}^e$	300	1.135	0.442	0.380, 0.398	
	150	1.180	0.502	0.440, 0.454	
	140	1.191	0.505	0.447, 0.468	
	130	1.200	0.511	0.473, 0.465	
	120	1.196	0.509	0.477, 0.481	
	110	1.454	0.521	0.392, 0.385	
	100	0.967	0.514	0.363, 0.365	
	100	$1.479 \\ 0.956$	$0.519 \\ 0.519$	$0.385, 0.383 \\ 0.350, 0.382$	
	90	1.524	0.519	0.385, 0.393	
	90	0.941	0.521	0.360, 0.363	
	80	1.558	0.521	0.386, 0.394	
	00	0.898	0.520	0.377, 0.356	
$2\mathbf{e}^d$	300	1.946	0.321	0.344, 0.348	
A.C.	300	0.492	0.424	0.325, 0.284	
		0.436	0.400	0.323, 0.204	

^a Quadrupole splitting (in mm s^{-1}). ^b Isomer shift (in mm s^{-1}). ^c Full width (in mm s⁻¹) at half-height taken from the leastsquares-fitting program. The width for the line at more positive velocity is listed first for the doublet. ^d Microcrystalline sample. ^e Crystalline sample.

of **2e**, the two metallocene moieties in each cation are not crystallographically equivalent and the two bromohexyl substituents on the Cp rings are situated differently. As shown in Figure 9, this asymmetry is caused mainly by the intermolecular interactions. The closest contact between cation and cation is Br1-Br2 (3.495 Å). There is also a cation—anion interaction between terminal Br and I_3 anions (Br1···I2 = 3.997 Å and $Br2\cdots I4 = 3.904 \text{ Å}$). We believe that these cation—cation and cation—anion interactions in **2e** play an important role in inducing the asymmetry between the two ferrocenyl moieties in 2e.

Electron Paramagnetic Resonance. X-band EPR spectra were run at 77 K for 1e and 2a-e. An axialtype spectrum was observed for the series of compounds. Samples that were prepared by two different preparations for a given cation gave essentially identical spectra. The g values evaluated from all of these spectra are collected in Table 7.

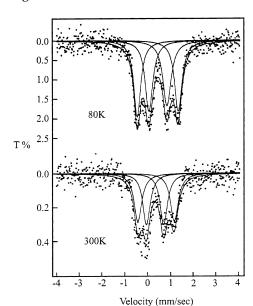


Figure 6. Variable-temperature Mössbauer spectra of a crystalline sample of **2c**.

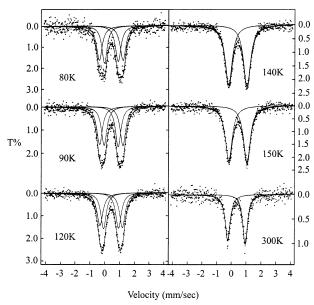


Figure 7. Variable-temperature Mössbauer spectra of a microcrystalline sample of **2d**.

In a biferrocenium cation, the value of the g tensor anisotropy ($\Delta g = g_{\parallel} - g_{\perp}$) is considerably reduced, and this is a reflection of a reduced orbital angular momentum in the ground state that results from admixture of Fe(II) electronic configuration into the Fe(III) electronic configuration. In general, if the Δg value for a given mixed-valence biferrocenium cation is smaller than 0.75, then the rate of electron transfer is greater than the EPR time scale ($\sim 10^{10} \text{ s}^{-1}$).²⁴ From Table 7, the Δg values of 1e and 2a-e suggest that the cations in these compounds are localized on the EPR time scale at 77 K. Hence, it is consistent with the Mössbauer data. As shown in Figure 10, it appears that there is a correlation between the values of Δg and $\Delta \Delta E_Q$ (the difference of quadrupole splitting between the Fe(II) site and the Fe(III) site). Thus, the value of Δg gives an indication of the magnitude of electron-transfer rate.

Concluding Comments. In this paper, we demonstrate that the relatively minor perturbations caused

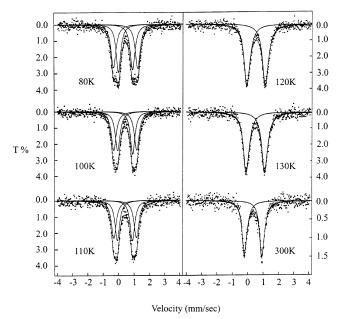


Figure 8. Variable-temperature Mössbauer spectra of a crystalline sample of **2d**.

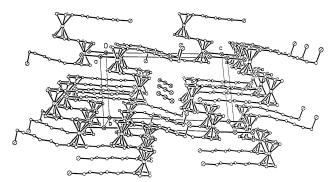


Figure 9. Packing arrangement of 2e.

Table 7. Electron Paramagnetic Resonance Data at 77 K

		· -	
compound ^a	g ii	$g_{\!\perp}$	Δg
1e	3.30	1.87	1.42
2a	3.40	1.86	1.54
2b	3.36	1.85	1.50
2 c	3.00	1.95	1.05
2d	2.97	1.96	1.01
2e	3.21	1.90	1.31

^a Powder sample. ^b $\Delta g = g_{\parallel} - g_{\perp}$.

by the substituents have pronounced effects on the electron structure and the rate of electron transfer. Our data indicate that the zero-point energy difference plays a crucial role in determining the nature of the intramolecular electron-transfer rate in biferrocenium cation. The terminal Br in the alkyl substituent on the Cp ring in biferrocenium cation modifies the packing arrangement of biferrocenium cation in the solid state. Furthermore, our results are different from the observation found by Nakashima.^{20,21} Nakashima reported an even-odd character in the number of carbon atoms of substituents in the relationship between the crystal structure and the mixed-valence state. Compounds with a 6-, 8-, 10-, 12-, 14-, and 16-carbon alkyl substituent give a temperature-dependent detrapped-valence state. In our results, the dibromopentylbiferrocenium triiodide has a detrapped-valence state and the dibro-

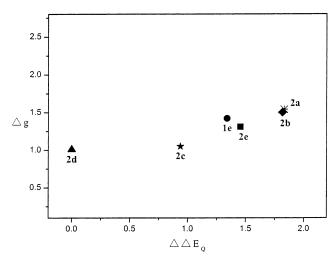


Figure 10. Correlation between Δg and $\Delta \Delta E_0$.

mohexylbiferrocenium triiodide has a trapped-valence state.

Experiment Section

General Information. All manipulations involving airsensitive materials were carried out by standard Schlenk techniques under an atmosphere of N₂. Chromatography was performed on neutral alumina (Merck, act. II). The sample of biferrocene was prepared according to the literature procedure.29

Acylation of Biferrocene. The acylating reagent was made up according to the Friedel-Crafts synthesis by mixing acyl chloride and excess AlCl₃ in dried CH₂Cl₂ for 20 min at 0 °C under N₂. The excess AlCl₃ was filtered out with glass wool. The acylating reagent was added by means of a dropping funnel over a period of about 1 h to a solution of biferrocene in dried CH₂Cl₂ at −78 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 6 h at −78 °C. The resulting mixture was separated after the reduction of ferrocenium ion with aqueous Na₂S₂O₃. The organic layer was washed with saturated aqueous $NaHCO_3$ and water, and it was then dried over MgSO₄. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The red residue was chromatographed.

The physical properties of 3a are as follows: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.93 (t, 3H, -CH₃), 1.32 (m, 4H, -CH₂-), 1.56 $(m, 2H, -CH_2-), 2.46 (t, 2H, -CH_2-), 3.97 (s, 5H, Cp), 4.21$ (t, 4H, Cp), 4.30 (t, 2H, Cp), 4.35 (t, 4H, Cp), 4.58 (t, 2H, Cp); mp 86-88 °C; M⁺ at m/z 454. Anal. calcd for $C_{25}H_{26}Fe_2O$: C, 66.11, H, 5.77. Found: C, 66.03, H, 5.80. For 3b: ¹H NMR $(500 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3) \delta 1.70 \text{ (m, 2H, -CH}_2-), 1.87 \text{ (m, 2H, -CH}_2-)$), 2.44 (t, 2H, -CH₂-), 3.42 (t, 2H, -CH₂-), 3.98 (s, 5H, Cp), 4.22 (t, 4H, Cp), 4.33 (t, 2H, Cp), 4.36 (t, 4H, Cp), 4.59 (t, 2H, Cp); mp 80.0-80.5 °C; M⁺ at m/z 532, 534. Anal. calcd for C₂₅H₂₅BrFe₂O: C, 56.29, H, 4.69. Found: C, 56.58, H, 4.85. For **3c**: 1 H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.93 (t, 3H, -CH₃), 1.33 $(m, 2H, -CH_2-), 1.57 (m, 2H, -CH_2-), 1.71 (m, 2H, -CH_2-),$ 1.87 (m, 2H, -CH₂-), 2.44 (t, 4H, -CH₂-), 3.42 (t, 2H, -CH₂-), 4.26 (m, 4H, Cp), 4.30 (t, 2H, Cp), 4.32 (t, 2H, Cp), 4.35 (m, 4H, Cp), 4.57 (m, 4H, Cp); mp 104-105 °C; M⁺ at m/z 616, 618. Anal. Calcd for C₃₀H₃₃BrFe₂O₂: C, 58.39, H, 5.39. Found: C, 58.08, H, 5.54. For 3d: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.71 (m, 4H, -CH₂-), 1.87 (m, 4H, -CH₂-), 2.44 (m, 4H, -CH₂-), 3.42 (t, 4H, -CH₂-), 4.27 (t, 4H, Cp), 4.32 (t, 4H, Cp), 4.35 (t, 4H, Cp), 4.58 (t, 4H, Cp); mp 106–107 °C; M⁺ at m/z 694, 696, 698. Anal. Calcd for C₃₀H₃₂Br₂Fe₂O₂: C, 51.76, H, 4.63. Found: C, 51.38, H, 4.60.

General Reduction of Acylbiferrocene. The reduction reaction was carried out by carefully adding, with stirring, small portions of AlCl3 to a mixture of acylbiferrocene and LiAlH₄ in dried ether. After 40 min, an excess of H₂O was added to it, and the ether layer was separated. The ether layer was washed with water and dried over MgSO₄. After the evaporation of the solvent the crude product was chromatographed. All new compounds gave satisfactory spectroscopic and analytical data. Selected physical data for neutral 2a: mp 81.5–82 °C; M⁺ m/z 440; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.88 (t, 3H, CH₃), 1.21 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.27 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.39 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.11 (t, 2H, CH₂), 3.85 (t, 2H, Cp), 3.89 (t, 2H, Cp), 3.99 (s, 5H, Cp), 4.12 (t, 2H, Cp), 4.17 (t, 2H, Cp), 4.26 (t, 2H, Cp), 4.35 (t, 2H, Cp). For neutral **2b**: mp 94.5–95.5 °C; M^+ m/z518, 520; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.38 (m, 4H, CH₂), 1.82 (t, 2H, CH₂), 2.11 (t, 2H, CH₂), 3.38 (t, 2H, CH₂), 3.84 (t, 2H, Cp), 3.89 (t, 2H, Cp), 3.98 (s, 5H, Cp), 4.12 (t, 2H, Cp), 4.18 (t, 2H, Cp), 4.26 (t, 2H, Cp), 4.34 (t, 2H, Cp). For neutral 2c: mp 34-36 °C; M⁺ m/z 588, 590; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.87 (t, 3H, CH₃), 1.26 (m, 4H, CH₂), 1.38 (M, 4H, CH₂), 1.81 (t, 4H, CH₂), 2.09 (t, 4H, CH₂), 3.38 (t, 2H, CH₂), 3.83 (s, 4H, Cp), 3.88 (t, 4H, Cp), 4.12 (s, 4H, Cp), 4.24 (s, 4H, Cp). For neutral **2d**: mp 68.5–69.5 °C; M⁺ m/z 666, 668, 670; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.37 (m, 8H, CH₂), 1.81 (t, 4H, CH₂), 2.09 (t, 4H, CH₂), 3.38 (t, 4H, CH₂), 3.83 (t, 4H, Cp), 3.89 (t, 4H, Cp), 4.13 (t, 4H, Cp), 4.24 (t, 4H, Cp). For neutral **2e**: mp 59.5–61 °C; M⁺ m/z 695, 697, 699; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.24 (m, 4H, CH₂), 1.38 (m, 8H, CH₂), 1.83 (m, 4H, CH₂), 2.08 (t, 4H, CH₂), 3.40 (t, 4H, CH₂), 3.83 (t, 4H, Cp), 3.88 (t, 4H, Cp), 4.12 (t, 4H, Cp), 4.24 (t, 4H, Cp).

Mixed-Valence Compounds. Compounds were prepared according to the simple procedure previously reported for biferrocenium triiodide.^{2–4} Microcrystalline samples were prepared by adding a benzene/hexane (1:1) solution containing a stoichiometric amount of I2 to a benzene/hexane (1:1) solution of the corresponding neutral biferrocene at 0 °C. A crystalline sample can be prepared by slowly diffusing hexane into a CH₂Cl₂ solution containing the corresponding biferrocenium salt. Microanalyses of the two different preparations were identical within experimental error. Anal. Calcd for 1e (C₃₀H₃₈-Fe₂I₃): C, 40.44; H, 4.30. Found: C, 40.44; H, 4.34. Anal. Calcd for **2a** (C₂₅H₂₈Fe₂I₃): C, 36.58; H, 3.44. Found: C, 36.63; H, 3.47. Anal. Calcd for **2b** (C₂₅H₂₇BrFe₂I₃): C, 33.37; H, 3.02. Found: C, 33.44; H, 3.10. Anal. Calcd for **2c** (C₃₀H₃₇BrFe₂I₃): C, 37.15; H, 3.84. Found: C, 36.84; H, 3.88. Anal. Calcd for 2d (C₃₀H₃₆Br₂Fe₂I₃): C, 34.36; H, 3.46. Found: C, 34.27; H, 3.44. Anal. Calcd for 2e ($C_{32}H_{40}Br_2Fe_2I_3$): C, 35.69; H, 3.74. Found: C, 35.78; H, 3.52.

Physical Methods. The ⁵⁷Fe Mössbauer spectra were run on a constant-acceleration instrument, which has been previously described.²³ Velocity calibration was made using a 99.99% pure 10 μ m iron foil. Typical line widths for all three pairs of iron foil lines fell in the range 0.24-0.27 mm s⁻¹. Isomer shifts are reported relative to iron foil at 300 K but are uncorrected for temperature-dependent Doppler effects. It should be noted that the isomer shifts illustrated in the figures are plotted as experimentally obtained. Tabulated data are provided. ¹H NMR spectra were run on a Varian UNITY-INOVA-500 spectrometer. Mass spectra were obtained with a VG-BLOTECH-QUATTRO 5022 system. Electrochemical measurements were carried out with a BAS 100W system. Cyclic voltammetry was performed with a stationary Pt working electrode. These experiments were carried out with a $1\times 10^{-3}\,$ M solution of biferrocene in CH₂Cl₂/CH₃CN (1:1) containing 0.1 M of (n-C₄H₉)₄NPF₆ as supporting electrolyte. The potentials quoted in this work are relative to a Ag/AgCl electrode at 25 °C.

The single-crystal X-ray determinations of compounds 2c and 2d were carried out on an Enraf Nonius CAD4 diffractometer and on a Siemens CCD diffractometer for 1e, 2b, and **2e**. Absorption corrections were made with empirical φ rotation. The structures were solved from heavy-atom electron density maps and refined by full-matrix least-squares analysis. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically. During the final cycles of refinement fixed hydrogen contributions with C–H bond lengths fixed at 0.98 Å were applied. Complete tables of bond distances and angles and thermal parameters of these compounds are given in the Supporting Information.

Structure Determination of 1e. A dark green crystal $(0.52 \times 0.10 \times 0.06 \text{ mm})$ was grown when a layer of hexane was allowed to slowly diffuse into a CH₂Cl₂ solution of **1e**. Data were collected with θ in the range $0.87-27.50^{\circ}$. Of the 18 973 reflections collected, there were 6929 with $F_0^2 > 2.0\sigma(F_0^2)$.

Structure Determination of 2b. A dark green crystal $(0.12 \times 0.12 \times 0.02 \text{ mm})$ was grown when a layer of hexane was allowed to slowly diffuse into a CH₂Cl₂ solution of **2b**. Data were collected with θ in the range 1.80–27.50°. Of the 14 087 reflections collected, there were 3240 with $F_0^2 > 2.0\sigma(F_0^2)$.

Structure Determination of 2c. A dark green crystal $(0.60 \times 0.20 \times 0.10$ mm) was grown when a layer of hexane was allowed to slowly diffuse into a CH₂Cl₂ solution of **2c**. Data were collected with θ in the range $1.83-24.97^{\circ}$. Of the 5656 reflections collected, there were 5656 with $F_0^2 > 2.0\sigma(F_0^2)$.

Structure Determination of 2d. A dark green crystal $(0.60 \times 0.05 \times 0.01 \text{ mm})$ was grown when a layer of hexane was allowed to slowly diffuse into a CH₂Cl₂ solution of **2d**. Data were collected with θ in the range $2.31-27.50^{\circ}$. Of the 3755 reflections collected, there were 3755 with $F_0^2 > 2.0\sigma(F_0^2)$.

Structure Determination of 2e. A dark green crystal $(0.35 \times 0.20 \times 0.05 \text{ mm})$ was grown when a layer of hexane was allowed to slowly diffuse into a CH₂Cl₂ solution of **2e**. Data were collected with θ in the range 2.13–27.50°. Of the 19 204 reflections collected, there were 7657 with $F_0^2 > 2.0\sigma(F_0^2)$.

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Supporting Information Available: Complete tables of positional parameters, bond distances and angles, and thermal parameters for **1e**, **2b**, **2c**, **2d**, and **2e**. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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