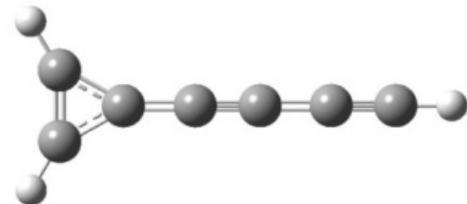
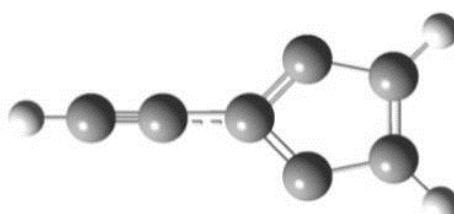


**Supplementary material:**

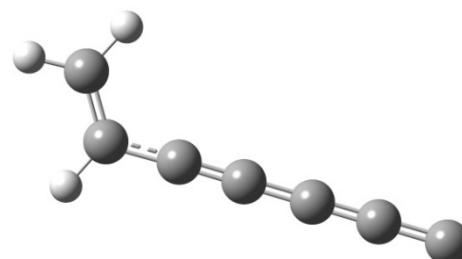
**Table S1.** Energies in kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>, relative to the most stable cation and neutral species of the cation and neutral isomers calculated with MP2/cc-pVDZ basis set. D<sup>-</sup> energy (relative to C<sup>-</sup>) is calculated in DFT using B3LYP functional and cc-pVDZ basis set.



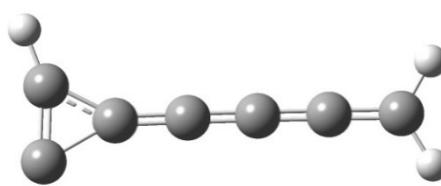
**A<sup>+</sup> (0)**  
**A<sup>•</sup> (160)**



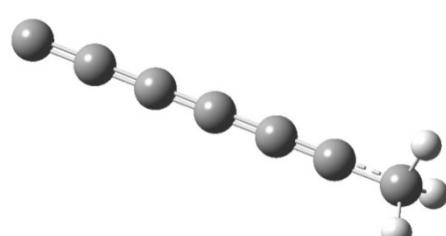
**D<sup>+</sup> (245)**  
**D<sup>•</sup> (68)**  
**D<sup>-</sup> (170)**



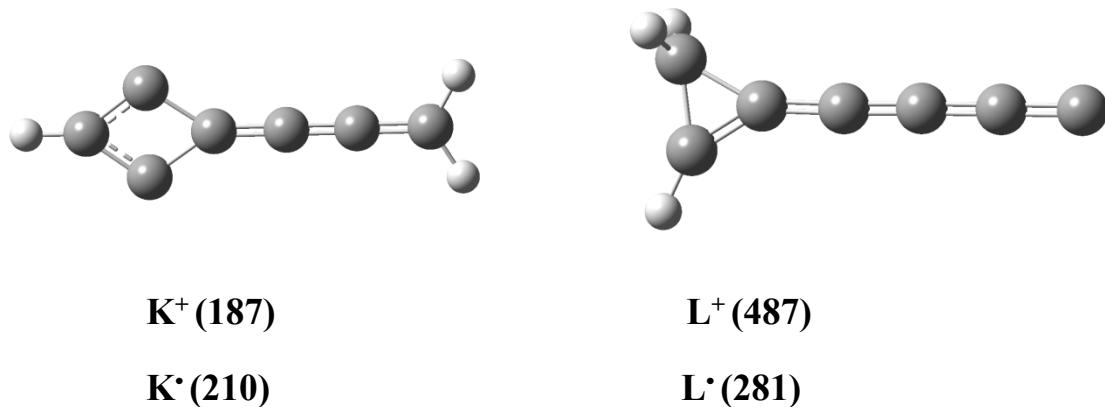
**G<sup>+</sup> (213)**  
**G<sup>•</sup> (239)**



**H<sup>+</sup> (236)**  
**H<sup>•</sup> (186)**



**I<sup>+</sup> (383)**  
**I<sup>•</sup> (123)**



**Table S2.** Electronic excitation energies  $E_{\text{cal}}$  (eV) and oscillator strength ( $f$ ) of the dipole allowed electronic transitions for  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_3^+$  and  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_3^{\bullet}$  isomers, listed in Table S1, are calculated by the CASPT2 method.

Ground state	$E_{\text{cal}}$	$f$	Excited State
<b>A<sup>+</sup></b>			
X ${}^1\text{A}_1$ (C <sub>2V</sub> )	4.13	0.403	$1 {}^1\text{A}_1$
	5.99	0.005	$2 {}^1\text{A}_1$
<b>A<sup>•</sup></b>			
X ${}^2\text{B}_1$ (C <sub>2V</sub> )	1.72	0.002	$1 {}^2\text{A}_2$
	4.76	0.131	$3 {}^2\text{B}_1$
<b>D<sup>+</sup></b>			
X ${}^1\text{A}_1$ (C <sub>2V</sub> )	5.11	0.017	$1 {}^1\text{A}_1$
	5.90	0.011	$2 {}^1\text{A}_1$
<b>D<sup>•</sup></b>			
X ${}^2\text{A}_2$ (C <sub>2V</sub> )	2.49	0.002	$2 {}^2\text{B}_1$
	3.28	0.003	$1 {}^2\text{A}_2$
	4.87	0.026	$4 {}^2\text{B}_1$
<b>F<sup>+</sup></b>			
X ${}^1\text{A}_1$ (C <sub>2V</sub> )	5.46	0.125	$1 {}^1\text{A}_1$
	6.15	0.009	$2 {}^1\text{A}_1$

**F<sup>•</sup>**

X <sup>2</sup> A <sub>2</sub> (C <sub>2</sub> V)	1.15	0.031	<b>1</b> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>1</sub>
	4.44	0.042	<b>2</b> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>1</sub>
	5.64	0.187	<b>3</b> <sup>2</sup> B <sub>1</sub>

**G<sup>+</sup>**

X <sup>1</sup> A'(C <sub>S</sub> )	2.60	0.004	<b>1</b> <sup>1</sup> A'
	2.69	0.155	<b>2</b> <sup>1</sup> A'
	4.31	0.348	<b>3</b> <sup>1</sup> A'

**G<sup>•</sup>**

X <sup>2</sup> A(C <sub>1</sub> )	4.536	0.002	<b>9</b> <sup>2</sup> A
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**H<sup>+</sup>**

X <sup>1</sup> A'(C <sub>S</sub> )	2.59	0.133	<b>1</b> <sup>1</sup> A'
	4.15	0.292	<b>2</b> <sup>1</sup> A'
	4.33	0.024	<b>3</b> <sup>1</sup> A'
	5.48	0.359	<b>4</b> <sup>1</sup> A'
	5.62	0.557	<b>5</b> <sup>1</sup> A'

**H<sup>•</sup>**

X <sup>2</sup> A(C <sub>S</sub> )	3.57	0.002	<b>3</b> <sup>2</sup> A
	4.17	0.005	<b>4</b> <sup>2</sup> A

**I<sup>+</sup>**

X <sup>1</sup> A'(C <sub>S</sub> )	2.94	0.029	<b>3</b> <sup>1</sup> A'
	3.06	0.001	<b>4</b> <sup>1</sup> A'
	4.18	0.015	<b>7</b> <sup>1</sup> A'

**I<sup>•</sup>**

X <sup>2</sup> A'(C <sub>S</sub> )	2.51	0.012	<b>2</b> <sup>2</sup> A'
	3.08	0.014	<b>3</b> <sup>2</sup> A'
	3.87	0.008	<b>5</b> <sup>2</sup> A'

**K<sup>+</sup>**

X <sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub> (C <sub>2V</sub> )	4.36	0.54	1 <sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>
	5.27	0.023	2 <sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>
	5.81	0.70	3 <sup>1</sup> A <sub>1</sub>

**Table S3.** Ground state vibrations (cm<sup>-1</sup>) of isomer **B<sup>+</sup>** calculated at the MP2 /cc-pVDZ level:Symm. a<sub>1</sub> v<sub>1</sub> – v<sub>9</sub>: 3442, 3157, 2543, 2245, 2087, 1531, 1414, 1049, 549b<sub>1</sub> v<sub>10</sub> – v<sub>16</sub>: 1043, 688, 618, 553, 331, 201, 77b<sub>2</sub> v<sub>17</sub> – v<sub>24</sub>: 3275, 1026, 727, 509, 436, 264, 191, 76.