Supplementary Information

A crystalline molecular gyrotop with germanium junctions between a phenylene rotor and alkyl spokes

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1. Copies of NMR Spectra for All New Compounds

a. Spectra of Ethoxytris(7-octenyl)germane (3)



Fig S1. ¹H NMR spectrum of Ethoxytris(7-octenyl)germane (3) in CDCl₃.



Fig S2. ¹³C NMR spectrum of Ethoxytris(7-octenyl)germane (3) in CDCl₃.





Fig S3. ¹H-¹³C hsqc NMR spectrum of Ethoxytris(7-octenyl)germane (3) in CDCl₃.



Fig S4. ¹H-¹³C hmbc NMR spectrum of Ethoxytris(7-octenyl)germane (3) in CDCl₃.



Fig S5. ¹H NMR spectrum of Chlorotris(7-octenyl)germane (4) in CDCl₃.



Fig S6. ¹³C NMR spectrum of Chlorotris(7-octenyl)germane (4) in CDCl₃.





NUC1 P1 P2 P28 PL1 SF01

CPDF NUC2 P3 p4 PCPE PL12 PL2 SF02

GPNAM GPNAM GPZ1 GPZ2 P16

F1 ND0 TD SF0 FID SW F0

F2 SF WDW SSB LB GB FC

F1 SI MC2 SF WDW SSB LB GB

Fig S7. ¹H-¹³C hsqc NMR spectrum of Chlorotris(7-octenyl)germane (4) in CDCl₃.



Fig S8. ¹H-¹³C hmbc NMR spectrum of Chlorotris(7-octenyl)germane (4) in CDCl₃.

c. Spectra of 1,4-bis(tri-7-octenylgermyl)benzene (5)





Fig S10. ¹³C NMR spectrum of 1,4-bis(tri-7-octenylgermyl)benzene (5) in CDCl₃.



Fig S11. ¹H-¹³C hmbc NMR spectrum of 1,4-bis(tri-7-octenylgermyl)benzene (5) in CDCl₃.



Fig S12. ¹H-¹³C hsqc NMR spectrum of 1,4-bis(tri-7-octenylgermyl)benzene (5) in CDCl₃.

d. Spectra of Molecular Gyrotop (2)



90 Fig S14. ¹³C NMR spectrum of Molecular Gyrotop (2) in CDCl₃.

80

70

60

120 110 100

140 130

50

40

30

20

ppm



Fig S15. ¹H-¹³C hsqc NMR spectrum of Molecular Gyrotop (2) in CDCl₃.



dB MHz

L f2

13C 8.70 use -2.00 dB 100.6216229 MHz

> 30.00 40.10 1000.00

> > 1.40

QF 100.6127690 MH: SINE 0 0.00 Hz

Fig S16. ¹H-¹³C hmbc NMR spectrum of Molecular Gyrotop (2) in CDCl₃.



Fig S17. ¹H NMR spectrum of Molecular Gyrotop Isomer (2i) in CDCl₃.



Fig S18. ¹³C NMR spectrum of Molecular Gyrotop Isomer (2i) in CDCl₃.





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Fig S19. ¹H-¹³C hsqc NMR spectrum of Molecular Gyrotop Isomer (2i) in CDCl₃.



Fig S20. ¹H-¹³C hmbc NMR spectrum of Molecular Gyrotop Isomer (2i) in CDCl₃.



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2. ORTEP Drawing of Moleculr Gyrotop 2

The structures were refined using a SHELXL program package. Because of remarkably weak diffraction data at high temperature, it was difficult to refine the structure of the crystal adequately. Certain C-C distances and C-C-C angles of the alkyl chains were restrained by means of DFIX and DANG, respectively, because of the unresolved disorder.



Fig S21. ORTEP drawing of the molecular structure of **2** at (a) 260 K; (b) 300 K; and (c) 340 K (30% thermal probability ellipsoid). Hydrogen atoms are omitted for clarity. Disorders of side chains are indicated.

| | | 260 K | 300 K | 340 K |
|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| CCDC # | | 1026017 | 1026018 | 1026019 |
| Empirical formula | | C48 H88 Ge2 | C48 H88 Ge2 | C48 H88 Ge2 |
| Cryst shape | | prism | plate | prism |
| Cryst color | | colorless | colorless | colorless |
| Cryst size | | 0.40 x 0.20 x 0.20 mm ³ | 0.40 x 0.20 x 0.20 mm ³ | 0.40 x 0.20 x 0.20 mm ³ |
| Formula weight / g mol- | 1 | 810.36 | 810.36 | 810.36 |
| Crystal system | | Monoclinic | Monoclinic | Monoclinic |
| Space group | | C2/c | Cc | Cc |
| Z | | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Temperature / K | | 260(2) | 300(2) | 340(2) |
| | а | 25.736(7) Å | 26.056(10) Å | 26.170(17) Å |
| | b | 11.733(3) Å | 11.558(4) Å | 11.561(8) Å |
| | с | 18.790(5) Å | 19.190(7) Å | 19.398(13) Å |
| Cell parameter | α | 90.00° | 90.00° | 90.00° |
| · | β | 120.046(3)° | 118.979(4)° | 118.837(7)° |
| | γ | 90.00° | 90.00° | 90.00° |
| | V | 4911(2) Å ³ | 5056(3) Å ³ | 5141(6) Å ³ |
| Calculated density | | 1.096 Mg/m ³ | 1.065 Mg/m ³ | 1.047 Mg/m ³ |
| F(000) | | 1760 | 1760 | 1760 |
| Absorption coefficient | | 1.252 mm ⁻¹ | 1.216 mm ⁻¹ | 1.196 mm ⁻¹ |
| heta range for collecn (deg) | | 1.83 to 27.10° | 2.43 to 16.30° | 2.40 to 15.39° |
| Index ranges | | -24<=h<=31, -8<=k<=14, - 23<=l<=23 | -24<=h<=30, -13<=k<=11, -22<=l<=22 | -25<=h<=32, -14<=k<=11, -23<=l<=24 |
| Reflections collected | | 11694 | 10770 | 11576 |
| Independent reflections | | 4954 [R(int) = 0.0299] | 6828 [R(int) = 0.0429] | 7471 [R(int) = 0.0445] |
| Completeness | | 99.6 % | 99.4 % | 99.5 % |
| Goodness-of-fit on F ² | | 1.015 | 0.895 | 0.859 |
| Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)] | | R1 = 0.0640, wR2 = 0.1884 | R1 = 0.0712, wR2 = 0.1778 | R1 = 0.0585, wR2 = 0.1405 |
| R indices (all data) | | R1 = 0.1390, wR2 = 0.2352 | R1 = 0.1889, wR2 = 0.2648 | R1 = 0.2226, wR2 = 0.2312 |
| Largest diff. peak and hole | | 0.439 and -0.311 e.Å ⁻³ | 0.358 and -0.176 e.Å ⁻³ | 0.177 and -0.094 e.Å ⁻³ |

Table S1. Crystal Data of 2 at 260 K, 300 K, and 340 K

3. Details of Solid-state ²H NMR Study of $2-d_4$

The temperature-dependent, solid-state ²H NMR spectra of **2-***d*₄ were obtained through the same procedure as reported previously for **1-***d*₄.^{4e} The details are as follows: the data were recorded using a quadrupolar echo pulse sequence (d1-90° pulse- τ 1-90° pulse- τ 2-FID; 90° pulse = 4.2 µs, τ 1 = 30 µs, τ 2 = 20 µs, d1 = 20 s). Simulations of the ²H NMR spectra were carried out using NMR-WEBLAB. The following parameters were used for the simulations: quadrupolar coupling constant *q*cc = 122 kHz, asymmetry parameter $\eta = 0$, line broadening = 3 kHz.

The temperature dependence of the spin-lattice relaxation time (T_1) in the ²H NMR spectra was recorded using an inversion-recovery quadrupolar echo pulse sequence (d1-180° pulse-d2-90° pulse- τ 1-90° pulse- τ 2-FID; 90° pulse = 4.2 µs, τ 1 = 30 µs, τ 2 = 20 µs, d1 = 5–3 s, d2 varied) and standard T_1 analysis software. The spin-lattice relaxation time (T_1) was analyzed using the general relaxation model (eq. 1). T_1 is known to depend on the motional model for the exchange process; several special motions have been discussed so far.

a. VT-Solid state ²H NMR spectra of $2-d_4$.



Fig S22. Temperature dependence of solid-state ²H NMR spectra of $2-d_2$ [solid black line: observed spectra; dotted red line: spectra simulated with designated exchange rate constants, *k*, and degree of angular displacement, Δ . The simulation model is mentioned in main text].

b. Analysis of temperature dependence of the ²H NMR spin-lattice relaxation (T_1) measurements of 2- d_2



Fig S23. Representative inversion-recovery ²H NMR spectroscopy data and single exponential fit from solid sample of molecular gyrotop $2 - d_4$ (240 K – 340 K).

4. Details of Optical properties of a single crystal of 2

The fast and slow optical axes were confirmed by a polarized-light microscope equipped with a sensitive color plate. Retardations were observed by the polarized-light microscope equipped with a Berek compensator and monochromatic light at 546 nm generated by a color filter. The thickness of the crystal was measured by a laser displacement sensor at 300 K. The Δn value was calculated from the retardation/thickness of the sample.



a. Crystal orientation mapping of a single crystal of 2

Fig S24. Crystal orientation mapping of a single crystal of **2** as determined by X-ray diffraction study at 300 K.

b. Thickness of the single crystal of 2

The thickness of the crystal was measured at 300 K using a laser displacement sensor (KEYENCE LT-9010M).



Fig S25. Measurement of the thickness of the single crystal of 2 at 300 K using a laser displacement sensor (KEYENCE LT-9010M); (a) $63.7 \pm 1.0 \mu m$;(b) $56.8 \pm 1.0 \mu m$; (c) $44.9 \pm 1.0 \mu m$.



c. Photograph of single crystals of 2 observed by polarized microscopy

Fig S26a. Photographs of the single crystal of 2 (sample thickness: $64 \pm 1 \mu m$) showing the crystal face upon irradiation with polarized white light ({100} face at 200 K).



Fig S26b. Photographs of the single crystal of **2** (sample thickness: $57 \pm 1 \mu m$) showing the crystal face upon irradiation with polarized white light ({100} face at 200 K).



Fig S26c. Photographs of the single crystal of **2** (sample thickness: $45 \pm 1 \mu m$) showing the crystal face upon irradiation with polarized white light ({100} face at 200 K).

d. Temperature dependence of Δn of 2

Temperature dependence of birefringence (Δn) of the crystal face of a single crystal of **2**, calculated from Retardation/Thickness as summarized in Table S2.

| | | 0 |
|-----------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Temperature / K | Retardation ¹⁾ / nm Δn^{2} / 10 ⁻³ | |
| | cooling process heating process | cooling process heating process |
| 210 | 855.7 859.7 | $19.08 \pm 0.60 \mid 19.16 \pm 0.53$ |
| 220 | 871.5 864.1 | $19.43 \pm 0.47 \mid 19.26 \pm 0.57$ |
| 230 | 880.3 876.4 | $19.63 \pm 0.50 \mid 19.54 \pm 0.47$ |
| 240 | 897.8 885.4 | $20.02\pm 0.53\mid 19.74\pm 0.54$ |
| 250 | 546.2 892.5 | $12.18 \pm 0.29 \mid 19.90 \pm 0.55$ |
| 260 | 544.5 872.3 | $12.14 \pm 0.33 \mid 19.45 \pm 0.49$ |
| 270 | 536.4 540.7 | $11.96 \pm 0.29 \mid 12.01 \pm 0.33$ |
| 280 | 526.5 528.0 | $11.74 \pm 0.31 \mid 11.79 \pm 0.28$ |
| 290 | 497.2 499.2 | $11.08\pm0.28\mid 11.13\pm0.28$ |
| 300 | 473.6 472.5 | $10.56 \pm 0.28 \mid 10.53 \pm 0.28$ |
| 310 | 451.9 451.4 | $10.07\pm0.28\mid 10.07\pm0.25$ |
| 320 | 432.1 435.5 | $9.63 \pm 0.27 \mid 9.72 \pm 0.23$ |
| 330 | 417.7 418.1 | $9.31 \pm 0.24 \mid 9.32 \pm 0.23$ |
| 340 | 405.1 400.5 | $9.03 \pm 0.32 \mid 8.93 \pm 0.28$ |
| 350 | 385.3 387.6 | $8.59 \pm 0.29 \mid 8.64 \pm 0.26$ |
| 360 | 371.6 369.9 | $8.28\pm 0.26\mid 8.25\pm 0.23$ |
| 370 | 357.2 357.3 | $7.96 \pm 0.23 \mid 7.97 \pm 0.24$ |

Table S2-1. Temperature Dependence of Retardation, and Δn of **2**.

1) Mean values of three time measurements.

2) The error for the birefringence Δn includes both a measurement error of retardation and a thickness error (± 1.0).

⁽Thickness of the Single Crystal $d = 44.9 \ \mu m$)

| Temperature / K | Retardation ¹⁾ / nm | ∆ <i>n</i> ²⁾ / 10 ⁻³ |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| | cooling process heating process | cooling process heating process |
| 210 | 1105.6 1107.3 | $19.47 \pm 0.43 \mid 19.50 \pm 0.49$ |
| 220 | 1112.5 1117.0 | $19.59 \pm 0.47 \mid 19.67 \pm 0.37$ |
| 230 | 1129.6 1138.9 | $19.89 \pm 0.49 \mid 20.06 \pm 0.38$ |
| 240 | 1151.3 1155.9 | $20.28 \pm 0.42 \mid 20.36 \pm 0.42$ |
| 250 | 693.8 1162.0 | $12.22\pm0.25\mid 20.47\pm0.45$ |
| 260 | 683.4 1129.2 | $12.04 \pm 0.24 \mid 19.89 \pm 0.39$ |
| 270 | 673.9 1056.0 | $11.87 \pm 0.23 \mid 18.60 \pm 0.48$ |
| 280 | 663.1 666.0 | $11.68 \pm 0.26 \mid 11.73 \pm 0.32$ |
| 290 | 631.7 628.3 | $11.13 \pm 0.25 \mid 11.13 \pm 0.25$ |
| 300 | 601.1 599.4 | $10.60\pm 0.20\mid 10.60\pm 0.20$ |
| 310 | 570.2 571.0 | $10.04\pm0.20\mid 10.04\pm0.20$ |
| 320 | 548.1 548.6 | $9.65 \pm 0.22 \mid 9.65 \pm 0.22$ |
| 330 | 524.7 526.5 | $9.24 \pm 0.20 \mid 9.24 \pm 0.20$ |
| 340 | 508.4 506.5 | $8.95 \pm 0.22 \mid 8.95 \pm 0.22$ |
| 350 | 489.5 489.1 | $8.62\pm 0.16 \mid 8.62\pm 0.16$ |
| 360 | 470.2 470.2 | $8.28\pm0.17\mid 8.28\pm0.17$ |
| 370 | 452.1 449.5 | $7.96 \pm 0.19 \mid 7.96 \pm 0.19$ |

(Thickness of the Single Crystal $d = 56.8 \mu m$)

1) Mean values of three time measurements.

2) The error for the birefringence Δn includes both a measurement error of retardation and a thickness error (± 1.0).

e. Details of measurement of the optical axes of the single crystal of 2

On the {100}-face of the crystal at 300 K, the fast optical axis is observed to be parallel to <010> axis as ascertained from the decrease in the retardation by 147 nm, observed using a polarized-light microscope equipped with a 1/4 λ plate, which adds 147 nm along the <010> axis (FigS27(i)b). After rotation of the crystal by 90°, the retardation observed through the 1/4 λ plate increased by 147 nm (Fig S27(i)c), indicating that the slow optical axis is perpendicular to <010> axis. On the other hand, in the case at 240 K the increment and decrement of the retardation observed through the 1/4 λ plate were opposite to that observed at 300 K (Fig S27(ii)).



Fig S27. Photographs of the single crystals of **2** (sample thickness: $63.7 \pm 1.0 \,\mu$ m) on the crystal face upon irradiation with polarized white light and its retardation (*R*) ({100} face at 300 K). **a**, Normal photograph with directions of optical axes. **b**, Photograph through a 1/4 λ plate. **c**, Photograph through a 1/4 λ plate after 90° rotation of the crystal. **d**, Photograph through a sensitive color plate. **e**, Photograph through a sensitive color plate after 90° rotation of the crystal.