

# Science and Technology Group Annual Report FY2023

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## 1 Introductions

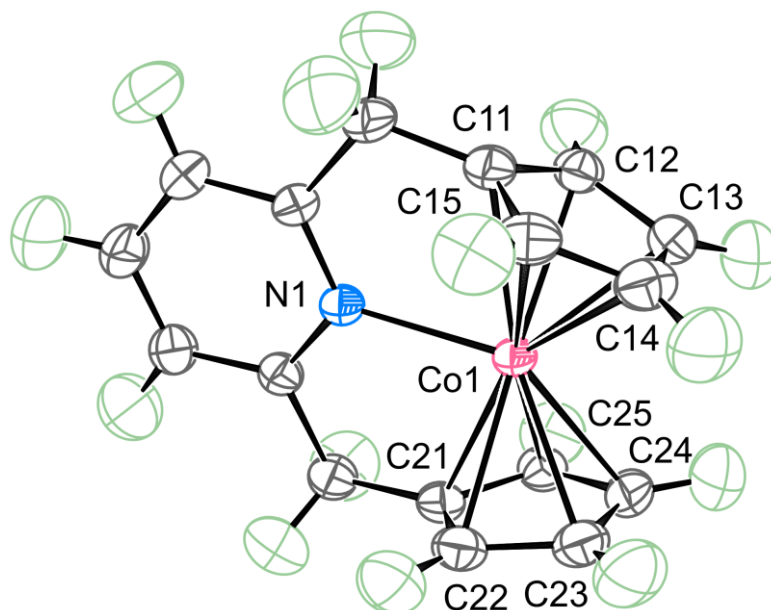
### Synthesis of >20 electron metallocene derivatives

Metallocenes are highly versatile organometallic compounds. The versatility of the metallocenes stems from their ability to stabilize a wide range of formal electron counts. To date, d-block metallocenes with an electron count of up to 20 have been synthesized and utilized in catalysis, sensing, and other fields. However, d-block metallocenes with more than formal 20-electron counts have remained elusive. The synthesis and isolation of such complexes are challenging because the metal–carbon bonds in d-block metallocenes become weaker with increasing deviation from the stable 18-electron configuration. In this project, we aim to synthesize such complexes using a novel synthetic approach.

## 2 Activities and Findings

This year, we reported the synthesis, isolation, and characterization of a 21-electron cobaltocene derivative (<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-023-40557-7>). This discovery is based on the ligand design that allows the coordination of an electron pair donor to a 19-electron cobaltocene derivative while maintaining the cobalt–carbon bonds, a previously unexplored synthetic approach. Furthermore, we elucidate the origin of the stability, redox chemistry, and spin state of the 21-electron complex. This study reveals a synthetic method, structure, chemical bonding, and properties of the 21-electron metallocene derivative that expands our conceptual understanding of d-block metallocene chemistry. We expect that this report will open up previously unexplored synthetic possibilities in d-block transition metal chemistry, including the fields of catalysis and materials chemistry.

This research was highlighted at the reputed chemistry journal Nature Chemistry (<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41557-023-01372-1>), and an established Japanese scientific newspaper, The Science News.



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## 3 Collaborations

This project was carried out partly by corroboration with

- Dr. Robert R. Fayzullin (Arbuzov Institute of Organic and Physical Chemistry, FCR Kazan Scientific Center, Russian Academy of Sciences)
- Dr. Urs Gellrich (Institute of Organic Chemistry, Justus Liebig University Giessen, Germany)
- Prof. Kazunobu Sato (Department of Chemistry, Graduate School of Science, Osaka Metropolitan University)
- Prof. Ko Mibu (Graduate School of Engineering, Nagoya Institute of Technology)
- Dr. Hyung-Been Kang (Engineering section, OIST)
- Dr. Noriko Ishizu (Engineering section, OIST)

## 4 Publications and other outputs

### Publication (\*: corresponding authors)

- (1) Takebayashi, S.\*; Ariai, J.; Gellrich, U.\*; Kartashov, S. V.; Fayzullin, R. R.\*; Kang, H.-B.; Yamane, T.; Sugisaki, K.; Sato, K.  
Synthesis and characterization of a formal 21-electron cobaltocene derivative  
**Nat. Commun.** 2023, 14, 4979.  
*Highlighted at [Nature Chemistry](#) and [The Science News](#).*
- (2) Hao Wu, Hiroki Hanayama, Max Coehlo, Yanwei Gu, Ze-Hua Wu, Satoshi Takebayashi, Gerhard Jakob, Serhii Vasylevskiy, Dieter Schollmeyer, Mathias Kläui, Grégory Pieters, Martin Baumgarten, Klaus Müllen\*, Akimitsu Narita\*, and Zijie Qiu\*  
Stable  $\pi$ -Extended Thio[7]helicene-Based Diradical with Predominant Through-Space Spin-Spin Coupling  
**J. Am. Chem. Soc.** 2024, 146, 7480.

### Presentation (\*:presenter)

- (1) Takebayashi, S.\* Ariai, J.; Gellrich, U.; Kartashov, S. V.; Fayzullin, R. R.; Kang, H.-B.; Yamane, T.; Sugisaki, K.; Sato, K.  
Synthesis and characterization of a formal 21-electron cobaltocene derivative  
*73rd Japan Society of Coordination Chemistry Conference*, Mito, Japan, 2023.
- (2) Takebayashi, S.\* Ariai, J.; Gellrich, U.; Kartashov, S. V.; Fayzullin, R. R.; Kang, H.-B.; Yamane, T.; Sugisaki, K.; Sato, K.  
Synthesis of a 21-electron cobaltocene derivative  
*25th Conference on Organometallic Chemistry (EuCOMC)*, Alcalá, Spain, 2023.
- (3) Takebayashi, S.\* Ariai, J.; Gellrich, U.; Kartashov, S. V.; Fayzullin, R. R.; Kang, H.-B.; Yamane, T.; Sugisaki, K.; Sato, K.; Onoue, T.; Mibu, K.  
Formal 21-electron cobaltocene and 20-electron ferrocene derivatives  
*Gorgon Research Conference in Organometallic Chemistry*, Newport, RI, USA, 2023

### Patent

- (1) Milstein, D.; Takebayashi, S.  
Iron-Catalyzed Metathesis Polymerization of Olefins.  
PCT patent, published 2023, [WO/2023/012789](#).

## 5 External fundings

KAKENHI Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C), 22K05134, FY2022-FY2024.