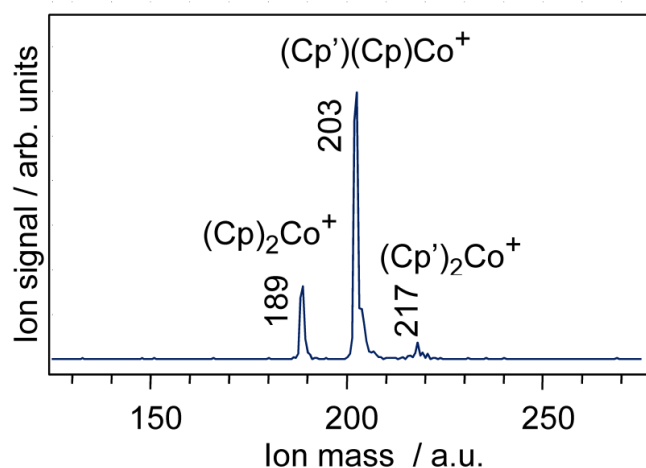


**Effect of a single methyl substituent on the electronic structure of cobaltocene studied by  
computationally assisted MATI spectroscopy**

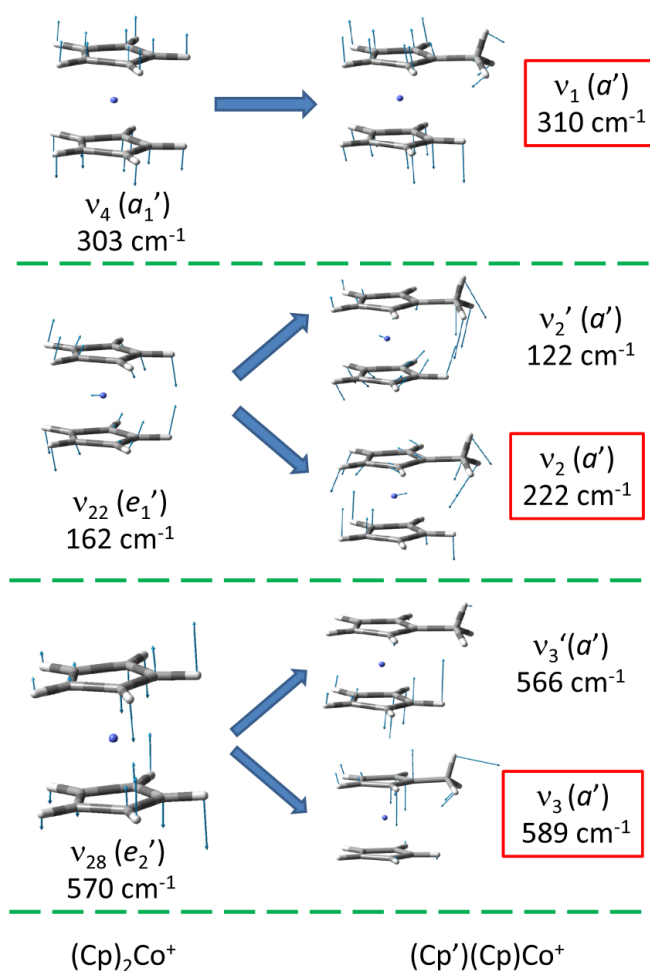
Sergey Yu. Ketkov,\* Sheng-Yuan Tzeng, Elena A. Rychagova, Anton N. Lukoyanov and Wen-Bih Tzeng\*

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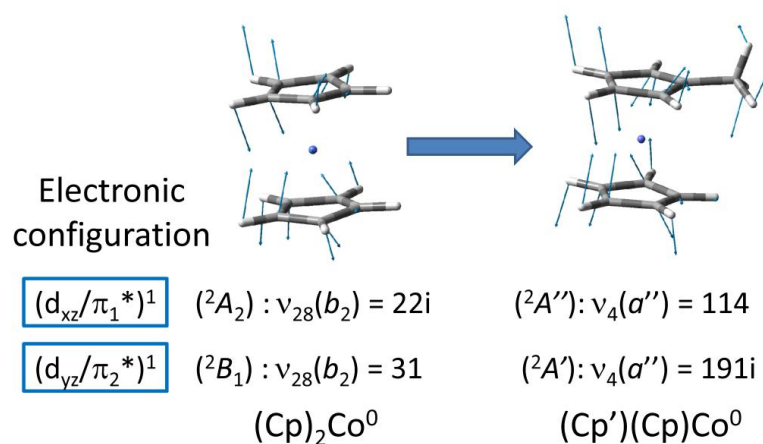
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| Figure S3, Figure S4 .....         | 3  |
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| Table S1, Table S2, Table S3 ..... | 5  |
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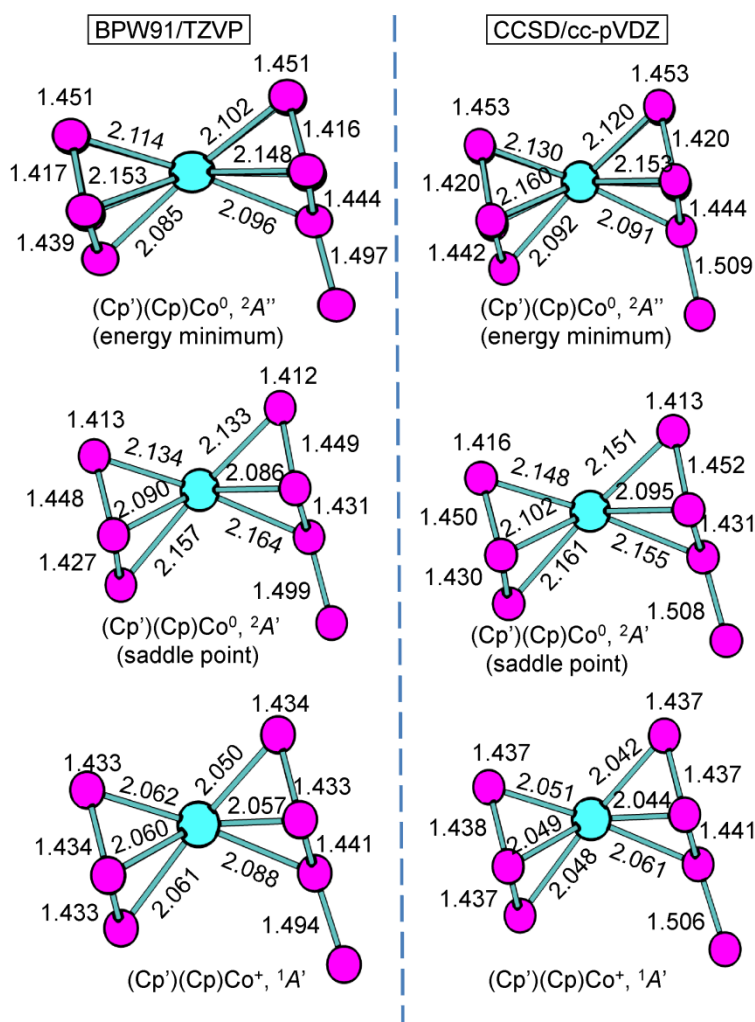
**Figure S1.** Photoionization mass-spectrum of the  $(\text{Cp})_2\text{Co}^+$  /  $(\text{Cp}')(\text{Cp})\text{Co}^+$  /  $(\text{Cp}')_2\text{Co}^+$  mixture synthesized.



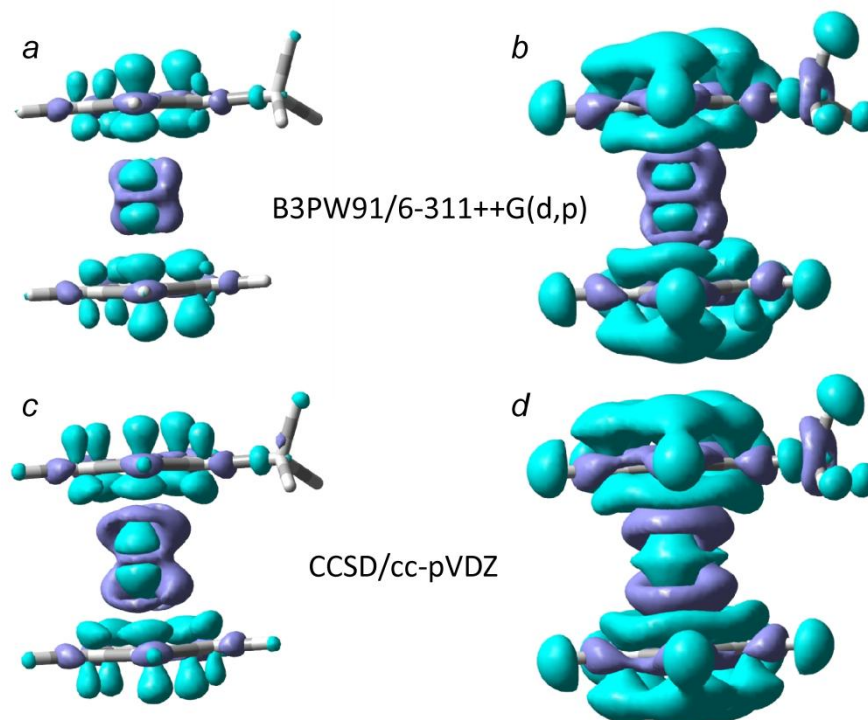
**Figure S2.** Relative atomic shifts and calculated (BPW91/TZVP) frequencies of the  $(\text{Cp})_2\text{Co}^+$  vibrations revealed by the MATI spectrum[1] and the corresponding  $(\text{Cp}')(\text{Cp})\text{Co}^+$  modes. Only those components of the  $(\text{Cp})_2\text{Co}^+$   $e_2'$  modes that become totally symmetric on the JT symmetry reduction of the neutral molecule are shown. The  $(\text{Cp}')(\text{Cp})\text{Co}^+$  vibrations observed in the MATI spectrum measured in this work are indicated by red frames.



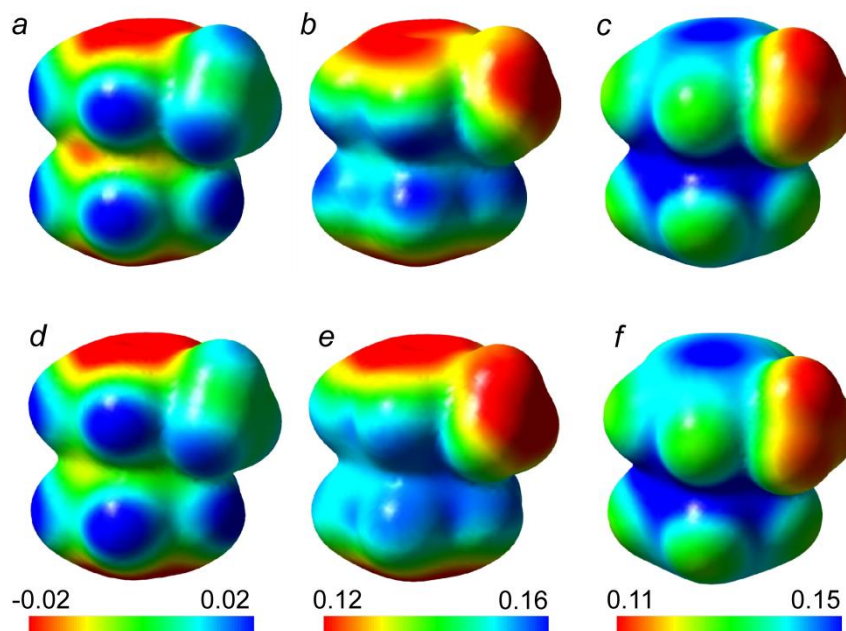
**Figure S3.** Relative atomic shifts and calculated (BPW91/TZVP) frequencies of the  $\nu_{28}$  mode in  $(Cp)_2Co^0$  and the corresponding  $\nu_4(a'')$  vibration in  $(Cp')(Cp)Co^0$ . The frequencies are given for the  $[d_{xz}, \pi_1^*]^1$  and  $[d_{yz}, \pi_2^*]^1$  electronic configurations. The symmetries of the electronic states are indicated.



**Figure S4.** Co-C and C-C bond lengths in the DFT and CCSD optimised  $A''$  and  $A'$  states of the  $(Cp')(Cp)Co^0$  neutral and the closed-shell  $(Cp')(Cp)Co^+$  ion.



**Figure S5.** B3PW91/6-311++G(d,p) (a, b) and CCSD/cc-pVDZ (c, d) electron density difference isosurfaces at 0.005 a.u. (a, c) and 0.002 a.u. (b, d) corresponding to ionization of  $(\text{Cp}')(\text{Cp})\text{Co}^0$ . The violet and blue colours indicate the positive and negative EDD values, respectively.



**Figure S6.** B3PW91/6-311++G(d,p) (a, b) and CCSD/cc-pVDZ (d, e) molecular electrostatic potential (MEP) mapped onto the ED isosurface (0.001 a.u.) of  $(\text{Cp}')(\text{Co})\text{Co}^0$  (a, d) and  $(\text{Cp}')(\text{Cp})\text{Co}^+$  (b, e) and the difference between the ion and neutral MEP at the optimised geometry of  $(\text{Cp}')(\text{Co})\text{Co}^0$  (c, f).

**Table S1.** Calculated ionization potentials based on the electronic energies  $I_{el}$  (eV), the differences between the ion and neutral zero-point energies  $\Delta ZPE$  (eV) and their sums calculated at various levels of theory for  $(Cp)_2Co$  /  $(Cp')(Cp)Co$ .

| Method                  | $I_{el}$      | $\Delta ZPE$  | $I_{el} + \Delta ZPE$ |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| BPW91/TZVP              | 5.11 / 4.983  | 0.146 / 0.137 | 5.256 / 5.12          |
| B3PW91/6-311+G(d,p)     | 5.412 / 5.286 | 0.145 / 0.139 | 5.557 / 5.425         |
| B3PW91/6-311+G(d,p), D3 | 5.368 / 5.244 | 0.146 / 0.139 | 5.515 / 5.383         |
| B3PW91/6-311++G(d,p)    | 5.41 / 5.287  | 0.145 / 0.139 | 5.556 / 5.426         |
| B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p)     | 5.503 / 5.379 | 0.144 / 0.137 | 5.647 / 5.517         |
| CCSD/cc-pVDZ            | 5.309 / 5.192 | —             | 5.446 / 5.329         |
| CCSD/cc-pVTZ            | 5.47 / 5.084  | —             | 5.616 / 5.221         |
| CCSD(T)/cc-pVDZ         | 5.027 / 4.915 | —             | 5.173 / 5.052         |
| CCSD(T)/cc-pVTZ         | 5.196 / 5.084 | —             | 5.342 / 5.221         |

**Table S2.** Calculated and experimental frequencies ( $cm^{-1}$ ) of the  $\nu_1 - \nu_3$  vibrations in the  $(Cp')(Cp)Co^+$  cation.

| Method                  | $\nu_1$ | $\nu_2$ | $\nu_3$ |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| BPW91/TZVP              | 310     | 589     | 222     |
| B3PW91/6-311+G(d,p)     | 323     | 596     | 230     |
| B3PW91/6-311+G(d,p), D3 | 332     | 602     | 230     |
| B3PW91/6-311++G(d,p)    | 323     | 596     | 231     |
| TPSSh/6-311+G(d,p)      | 326     | 592     | 229     |
| B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p)     | 310     | 589     | 225     |
| MATI experiment         | 312     | 585     | 219     |

**Table S3.** Selected interatomic distances ( $\text{\AA}$ ) in the  $(Cp')(Cp)Co^0$  structures corresponding to the the  $^2A''$  and  $^2A'$  PES cross-section minima<sup>a</sup> (Figure 4 see the main text) and averaged geometry<sup>b</sup> as well as distances in the closed-shell  $(Cp')(Cp)Co^+$  cation. The distances are calculated at the BPW91/B3PW91/CCSD levels of theory.

| Atoms    | $^2A''$           | $^2A'$            | Averaged geometry | $(Cp')(Cp)Co^+$   |
|----------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Co20-C4  | 2.096/2.090/2.091 | 2.164/2.153/2.155 | 2.130/2.121/2.123 | 2.088/2.067/2.061 |
| Co20-C5  | 2.148/2.141/2.153 | 2.086/2.082/2.095 | 2.117/2.112/2.124 | 2.057/2.040/2.044 |
| Co20-C7  | 2.102/2.101/2.120 | 2.133/2.132/2.152 | 2.117/2.117/2.136 | 2.050/2.035/2.043 |
| Co20-C12 | 2.085/2.079/2.092 | 2.157/2.148/2.161 | 2.121/2.113/2.126 | 2.061/2.043/2.048 |
| Co20-C10 | 2.153/2.146/2.160 | 2.090/2.087/2.102 | 2.122/2.116/2.131 | 2.060/2.043/2.049 |
| Co20-C17 | 2.114/2.112/2.130 | 2.134/2.132/2.148 | 2.124/2.122/2.139 | 2.062/2.045/2.051 |
| C4-C5    | 1.444/1.433/1.444 | 1.431/1.421/1.431 | 1.436/1.426/1.436 | 1.441/1.430/1.441 |
| C5-C7    | 1.416/1.408/1.420 | 1.449/1.439/1.452 | 1.432/1.423/1.435 | 1.433/1.424/1.437 |
| C1-C7    | 1.451/1.440/1.453 | 1.412/1.402/1.413 | 1.431/1.421/1.433 | 1.434/1.424/1.437 |
| C10-C12  | 1.439/1.429/1.442 | 1.427/1.418/1.430 | 1.431/1.422/1.434 | 1.433/1.424/1.437 |
| C10-C17  | 1.417/1.408/1.420 | 1.448/1.437/1.450 | 1.432/1.422/1.434 | 1.434/1.425/1.438 |
| C15-C17  | 1.451/1.441/1.453 | 1.413/1.404/1.416 | 1.432/1.422/1.434 | 1.433/1.424/1.437 |

<sup>a</sup>The  $^2A'$  PES cross-section minimum actually represents a saddle point on the three-dimensional PES;

<sup>b</sup> – the coordinates of each atom in the  $2A''$  and  $2A'$  optimized structures are averaged.

**Table S4.** BPW91/TZVP and CCSD/cc-pVDZ atom and fragment QTAIM charges (a.u.) in (Cp')(Cp)Co<sup>0</sup> and (Cp')(Cp)Co<sup>+</sup> and their difference  $\Delta q$ .

| Atom or fragment     | (Cp')(Cp)Co <sup>0</sup> |                  | (Cp')(Cp)Co <sup>+</sup> |                  | $\Delta q$     |                  |
|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
|                      | BPW91/<br>TZVP           | CCSD/<br>cc-pVDZ | BPW91/<br>TZVP           | CCSD/<br>cc-pVDZ | BPW91/<br>TZVP | CCSD/<br>cc-pVDZ |
| C1                   | -0.122                   | -0.098           | -0.084                   | -0.079           | 0.037          | 0.019            |
| C2                   | -0.110                   | -0.073           | -0.094                   | -0.093           | 0.016          | -0.019           |
| H3                   | 0.044                    | -0.025           | 0.103                    | 0.055            | 0.060          | 0.080            |
| C4                   | -0.101                   | -0.158           | -0.058                   | -0.116           | 0.043          | 0.042            |
| C5                   | -0.110                   | -0.073           | -0.094                   | -0.093           | 0.015          | -0.019           |
| H6                   | 0.044                    | -0.025           | 0.103                    | 0.055            | 0.060          | 0.080            |
| C7                   | -0.122                   | -0.098           | -0.084                   | -0.079           | 0.037          | 0.019            |
| H8                   | 0.048                    | -0.022           | 0.109                    | 0.066            | 0.062          | 0.088            |
| H9                   | 0.048                    | -0.022           | 0.109                    | 0.066            | 0.062          | 0.088            |
| C10                  | -0.104                   | -0.062           | -0.085                   | -0.078           | 0.019          | -0.016           |
| H11                  | 0.047                    | -0.017           | 0.108                    | 0.066            | 0.061          | 0.083            |
| C12                  | -0.136                   | -0.122           | -0.085                   | -0.079           | 0.051          | 0.043            |
| C13                  | -0.103                   | -0.062           | -0.085                   | -0.078           | 0.018          | -0.016           |
| H14                  | 0.047                    | -0.017           | 0.108                    | 0.066            | 0.061          | 0.083            |
| C15                  | -0.122                   | -0.096           | -0.084                   | -0.078           | 0.038          | 0.018            |
| H16                  | 0.047                    | -0.021           | 0.109                    | 0.067            | 0.062          | 0.088            |
| C17                  | -0.122                   | -0.096           | -0.084                   | -0.078           | 0.038          | 0.018            |
| H18                  | 0.047                    | -0.021           | 0.109                    | 0.067            | 0.062          | 0.088            |
| H19                  | 0.046                    | -0.027           | 0.107                    | 0.064            | 0.061          | 0.091            |
| Co20                 | 0.672                    | 1.073            | 0.695                    | 1.081            | 0.023          | 0.008            |
| C21                  | 0.004                    | 0.285            | 0.000                    | 0.276            | -0.004         | -0.009           |
| H22                  | 0.018                    | -0.077           | 0.050                    | -0.038           | 0.032          | 0.039            |
| H23                  | 0.021                    | -0.068           | 0.073                    | -0.004           | 0.052          | 0.064            |
| H24                  | 0.018                    | -0.077           | 0.050                    | -0.038           | 0.032          | 0.039            |
| $\Sigma q(\text{C})$ | -1.146                   | -0.654           | -0.837                   | -0.575           | 0.309          | 0.079            |
| $\Sigma q(\text{H})$ | 0.474                    | -0.420           | 1.140                    | 0.491            | 0.667          | 0.911            |
| Cp                   | -0.351                   | -0.543           | 0.120                    | -0.062           | 0.472          | 0.481            |
| Cp'                  | -0.321                   | -0.532           | 0.182                    | -0.022           | 0.504          | 0.510            |
| Me                   | 0.060                    | 0.063            | 0.173                    | 0.195            | 0.113          | 0.132            |

**Table S5.** Atomic coordinates (Å) in the DFT and CCSD optimized and averaged structures of methylcobaltocene (the .xyz file format).

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(Cp')(Cp)Co<sup>0</sup>, A'', BPW91/TZVP

|    |           |           |           |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C  | 0.725500  | 1.710700  | -0.955300 |
| C  | 1.166700  | 1.746100  | 0.390100  |
| H  | 2.197300  | 1.739600  | 0.731900  |
| C  | -0.000000 | 1.678700  | 1.237600  |
| C  | -1.166700 | 1.746100  | 0.390100  |
| H  | -2.197300 | 1.739600  | 0.731900  |
| C  | -0.725500 | 1.710700  | -0.955300 |
| H  | -1.356700 | 1.698800  | -1.838900 |
| H  | 1.356700  | 1.698800  | -1.838900 |
| C  | -0.000000 | 1.735300  | 2.736600  |
| H  | 0.889200  | 1.249800  | 3.158500  |
| H  | -0.000000 | 2.781900  | 3.080900  |
| H  | -0.889200 | 1.249800  | 3.158500  |
| C  | -1.170200 | -1.789400 | 0.343000  |
| H  | -2.200500 | -1.790600 | 0.683400  |
| C  | -0.000000 | -1.736600 | 1.178100  |
| C  | 1.170200  | -1.789400 | 0.343000  |
| H  | 2.200500  | -1.790600 | 0.683400  |
| C  | 0.725300  | -1.728200 | -1.001200 |
| H  | 1.355000  | -1.701900 | -1.885400 |
| C  | -0.725300 | -1.728200 | -1.001200 |
| H  | -1.355000 | -1.701900 | -1.885400 |
| H  | -0.000000 | -1.738200 | 2.264600  |
| Co | -0.000000 | -0.014800 | 0.001900  |

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(Cp')(Cp)Co<sup>0</sup>, A', BPW91/TZVP

|    |           |           |           |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C  | 0.705800  | 1.731700  | -0.962400 |
| C  | 1.141400  | 1.657200  | 0.417500  |
| H  | 2.177000  | 1.634100  | 0.747200  |
| C  | -0.000000 | 1.705100  | 1.279100  |
| C  | -1.141400 | 1.657200  | 0.417500  |
| H  | -2.177000 | 1.634000  | 0.747200  |
| C  | -0.705800 | 1.731800  | -0.962400 |
| H  | -1.353300 | 1.737700  | -1.833500 |
| H  | 1.353300  | 1.737600  | -1.833500 |
| C  | -1.145800 | -1.753600 | 0.330300  |
| H  | -2.181000 | -1.746300 | 0.659300  |
| C  | -0.000000 | -1.842500 | 1.176600  |
| C  | 1.145800  | -1.753700 | 0.330300  |
| H  | 2.181000  | -1.746300 | 0.659300  |
| C  | 0.706500  | -1.758800 | -1.049300 |
| H  | 1.352600  | -1.728200 | -1.920900 |
| C  | -0.706500 | -1.758800 | -1.049300 |
| H  | -1.352600 | -1.728200 | -1.920900 |
| H  | -0.000000 | -1.871500 | 2.261100  |
| Co | -0.000000 | -0.037700 | -0.003900 |
| C  | -0.000000 | 1.766700  | 2.776800  |
| H  | 0.887700  | 1.277300  | 3.199400  |

H -0.000000 2.809900 3.132300  
H -0.887700 1.277300 3.199400

24

(Cp')(Cp)Co<sup>0</sup>, the averaged geometry, BPW91/TZVP

C 1.107300 -1.663200 0.715600  
C 1.557900 -0.377000 1.154000  
H 1.659500 -0.056600 2.187200  
C 1.842800 0.428700 0.000000  
C 1.557900 -0.377000 -1.154000  
H 1.659500 -0.056700 -2.187200  
C 1.107300 -1.663200 -0.715600  
H 0.802500 -2.485900 -1.355000  
H 0.802500 -2.485900 1.355000  
C 2.413900 1.815200 -0.000000  
H 2.101600 2.379400 0.888500  
H 3.515400 1.784100 -0.000000  
H 2.101600 2.379400 -0.888500  
C -1.726300 0.755200 -1.158000  
H -1.608200 1.068400 -2.190700  
C -1.453900 1.550800 -0.000000  
C -1.726300 0.755200 1.158000  
H -1.608200 1.068500 2.190700  
C -2.168700 -0.533100 0.715900  
H -2.444100 -1.367200 1.353800  
C -2.168700 -0.533100 -0.715900  
H -2.444100 -1.367200 -1.353800  
H -1.094700 2.575200 -0.000000  
Co -0.203800 -0.162500 0.000000

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(Cp')(Cp)Co<sup>+</sup>, BPW91/TZVP

C 0.721300 1.638800 -0.956100  
C 1.159100 1.623400 0.408200  
H 2.192200 1.596400 0.742700  
C 0.003500 1.632300 1.268300  
C -1.151400 1.629500 0.407200  
H -2.184900 1.608000 0.740900  
C -0.712500 1.642600 -0.956700  
H -1.351800 1.631800 -1.834200  
H 1.361200 1.624600 -1.833100  
C 0.003000 1.707000 2.760100  
H 0.894700 1.240900 3.194800  
H 0.005500 2.765200 3.064800  
H -0.891400 1.245300 3.194000  
C -1.164500 -1.691900 0.333700  
H -2.197300 -1.679200 0.667800  
C -0.005800 -1.717000 1.177000  
C 1.154200 -1.698100 0.335300  
H 2.186600 -1.690900 0.671000  
C 0.712300 -1.665400 -1.029000  
H 1.351400 -1.626900 -1.905600  
C -0.720400 -1.661500 -1.030000  
H -1.358100 -1.619700 -1.907500  
H -0.006500 -1.727500 2.262500



Co -0.000400 -0.025800 -0.000800

24

(Cp')(Cp)Co<sup>0</sup>, A'', CCSD/cc-PVDZ

C 1.640600 1.154600 0.726700  
C 0.368500 1.604900 1.167300  
H 0.036700 1.699500 2.203200  
C -0.459100 1.799800 0.000000  
C 0.368500 1.604900 -1.167300  
H 0.036700 1.699500 -2.203200  
C 1.640600 1.154600 -0.726700  
H 2.481000 0.866700 -1.361300  
H 2.481000 0.866700 1.361300  
C -1.882700 2.300400 0.000000  
H -2.427100 1.950200 0.894500  
H -1.904900 3.406500 0.000000  
H -2.427100 1.950200 -0.894500  
C -0.734100 -1.765000 -1.171200  
H -1.055800 -1.648100 -2.207400  
C -1.507900 -1.437100 0.000000  
C -0.734100 -1.765000 1.171200  
H -1.055800 -1.648100 2.207400  
C 0.555700 -2.158400 0.726400  
H 1.402400 -2.430700 1.359600  
C 0.555700 -2.158400 -0.726400  
H 1.402400 -2.430700 -1.359600  
H -2.539600 -1.077800 0.000000  
Co 0.174100 -0.193200 0.000000

24

(Cp')(Cp)Co<sup>0</sup>, A', CCSD/cc-PVDZ

C -1.726700 -1.083700 0.706700  
C -0.415400 -1.528000 1.144600  
H -0.098600 -1.632700 2.185200  
C 0.367300 -1.882900 0.000000  
C -0.415400 -1.528000 -1.144600  
H -0.098600 -1.632700 -2.185200  
C -1.726700 -1.083700 -0.706700  
H -2.540800 -0.760200 -1.357800  
H -2.540800 -0.760200 1.357800  
C 1.760000 -2.462600 0.000000  
H 2.323400 -2.139900 0.893500  
H 1.730500 -3.568500 0.000000  
H 2.323400 -2.139900 -0.893500  
C 0.807300 1.678600 -1.149500  
H 1.112300 1.550200 -2.190200  
C 1.622000 1.433500 0.000000  
C 0.807300 1.678600 1.149500  
H 1.112300 1.550200 2.190200  
C -0.467400 2.211200 0.707900  
H -1.290000 2.515800 1.357400  
C -0.467400 2.211200 -0.707900  
H -1.290000 2.515800 -1.357400  
H 2.638700 1.037100 0.000000  
Co -0.157400 0.207400 0.000000

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(Cp')(Cp)Co<sup>0</sup>, the averaged geometry, CCSD/cc-PVDZ

|    |           |           |           |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C  | -1.663900 | -1.149400 | 0.716700  |
| C  | -0.364800 | -1.573300 | 1.155900  |
| H  | -0.038700 | -1.667300 | 2.194200  |
| C  | 0.446400  | -1.834200 | 0.000000  |
| C  | -0.364800 | -1.573300 | -1.155900 |
| H  | -0.038700 | -1.667300 | -2.194200 |
| C  | -1.663900 | -1.149400 | -0.716700 |
| H  | -2.496600 | -0.858200 | -1.359600 |
| H  | -2.496600 | -0.858200 | 1.359600  |
| C  | 1.864400  | -2.349600 | 0.000000  |
| H  | 2.412400  | -2.003300 | 0.894000  |
| H  | 1.880300  | -3.455700 | 0.000000  |
| H  | 2.412400  | -2.003300 | -0.894000 |
| C  | 0.740700  | 1.735500  | -1.160400 |
| H  | 1.056300  | 1.618400  | -2.198800 |
| C  | 1.539100  | 1.463600  | 0.000000  |
| C  | 0.740700  | 1.735500  | 1.160400  |
| H  | 1.056300  | 1.618400  | 2.198800  |
| C  | -0.550500 | 2.175900  | 0.717200  |
| H  | -1.390300 | 2.449600  | 1.358500  |
| C  | -0.550500 | 2.175900  | -0.717200 |
| H  | -1.390300 | 2.449600  | -1.358500 |
| H  | 2.570000  | 1.103800  | 0.000000  |
| Co | -0.169400 | 0.197400  | 0.000000  |

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(Cp')(Cp)Co<sup>+</sup>, CCSD/cc-PVDZ

|    |           |           |           |
|----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C  | 0.930800  | -1.697300 | 0.718500  |
| C  | 1.456300  | -0.433900 | 1.157700  |
| H  | 1.561400  | -0.111900 | 2.196000  |
| C  | 1.789300  | 0.357300  | -0.000000 |
| C  | 1.456300  | -0.433900 | -1.157700 |
| H  | 1.561400  | -0.111900 | -2.196000 |
| C  | 0.930800  | -1.697300 | -0.718500 |
| H  | 0.565800  | -2.500300 | -1.361600 |
| H  | 0.565800  | -2.500300 | 1.361600  |
| C  | -1.581300 | 0.817400  | -1.162600 |
| H  | -1.430100 | 1.119000  | -2.200800 |
| C  | -1.256900 | 1.598000  | -0.000300 |
| C  | -1.581000 | 0.817900  | 1.162400  |
| H  | -1.429700 | 1.120000  | 2.200400  |
| C  | -2.105900 | -0.444900 | 0.718500  |
| H  | -2.421600 | -1.269200 | 1.360600  |
| C  | -2.106000 | -0.445200 | -0.718100 |
| H  | -2.421900 | -1.269900 | -1.359700 |
| H  | -0.814700 | 2.596200  | -0.000600 |
| Co | -0.205800 | -0.159200 | -0.000000 |
| C  | 2.411300  | 1.728800  | -0.000000 |
| H  | 2.122400  | 2.299200  | 0.898200  |
| H  | 3.511500  | 1.627100  | 0.000100  |
| H  | 2.122600  | 2.299200  | -0.898300 |

## References

1. S. Y. Ketkov and H. L. Selzle, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, 2012, **51**, 11527–11530.