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Akimitsu Narita was born in Yokohama, Japan in 1986. He received his Bachelor's (2008) and Master's (2010) degrees in Chemistry at the University of Tokyo, where he worked on photomodification of supramolecular fullerene bilayer vesicles under the supervision of Professor Eiichi Nakamura. Then he joined the group of Professor Klaus Müllen at the Max Planck Institute for Polymer Research (MPIP) in Mainz, and obtained his Ph.D degree in March 2014. His dissertation was focused on bottom-up solution synthesis of structurally well-defined graphene nanoribbons (GNRs). He was an Early-Stage Researcher in the Marie-Curie Initial Training Network (ITN) "SUPERIOR" for three years from May 2010. Beginning in August 2014, he became a project leader in the Synthetic Chemistry Department at MPIP. His current research focuses on the bottom-up synthesis of functional graphene molecules and GNRs with novel structures for the elucidation of their optical, vibrational, and electronic properties as well as for the applications in nano- and opto-electronic as well as photonic and spintronic devices.

Awards and Fellowship

- The CSJ Award for Young Chemists from the Chemical Society of Japan (2018)
- IAAM Scientist Medal, European Advanced Materials Congress (EAMC) 2016, organized by International Association of Advanced Materials (IAAM)
- CSJ Presentation Award 2016, the 96th Annual Meeting of the Chemical Society of Japan (2016)
- Runner-Up, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Prizes 2014 in the prize category "Promising Research Talent" (2014) (Selected as one of the 10 finalists and achieved the 2nd position.)
- Marie Curie fellowship as an Early-Stage Researcher in Initial Training Network "SUPERIOR" (2010–2013)
- 2nd Place Best Poster Award, MPIP Poster Day 2012 (Awarded by the Association for the Promotion of Polymer Research – Mainz)

10 Selected Publications (Full publication list is [here](#).)

1. [A. Narita](#), X. Feng, Y. Hernandez, S. A. Jensen, M. Bonn, H. Yang, I. A. Verzhbitskiy, C. Casiraghi, M. R. Hansen, A. H. R. Koch, G. Fytas, O. Ivasenko, B. Li, K. S. Mali, T. Balandina, S. Mahesh, S. De Feyter, K. Müllen, Synthesis of structurally well-defined and liquid-phase-processable graphene nanoribbons. *Nature Chem.*, **2014**, *6*, 126–132. (Highlighted in News and Views, *Nature Chem.*, **2014**, *6*, 91–92.)
2. [A. Narita](#), I. A. Verzhbitskiy, W. Frederickx, K. S. Mali, S. A. Jensen, M. R. Hansen, M. Bonn, S. De Feyter, C. Casiraghi, X. Feng, K. Müllen, Bottom-up synthesis of liquid-phase-processable graphene nanoribbons with near-infrared absorption. *ACS Nano*, **2014**, *8*, 11622–11630. (Highlighted in *Synfacts*, **2015**, *11*, 0036.)
3. Y. Hu, X.-Y. Wang, P.-X. Peng, X.-C. Wang, X.-Y. Cao, X. Feng, K. Müllen, [A. Narita](#), Benzo-fused double [7]carbohelicene: synthesis, structures, and physicochemical properties. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, **2017**, *56*, 3374–3378.
4. A. Keerthi, B. Radha, D. Rizzo, H. Lu, V. Diez Cabanes, I. C.-Y. Hou, D. Beljonne, J. Cornil, C. Casiraghi, M. Baumgarten, K. Müllen, [A. Narita](#), Edge Functionalization of Structurally Defined Graphene Nanoribbons for Modulating the Self-Assembled Structures. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2017**, *139*, 16454–16457.
5. G. M. Paternò, Q. Chen, X.-Y. Wang, J. Liu, S. G. Motti, A. Petrozza, X. Feng, G. Lanzani, K. Müllen, [A. Narita](#), F. Scotognella, Synthesis of Dibenzo[*hi,st*]ovalene and Its Amplified Spontaneous Emission in a Polystyrene Matrix. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, **2017**, *56*, 6753–6757.
6. X.-Y. Wang, T. Dienel, M. Di Giovannantonio, G. Borin Barin, N. Kharche, O. Deniz, J. I. Urgel, R. Widmer, S. Stolz, L. Henrique De Lima, M. Muntwiler, M. Tommasini, V.

- Meunier, P. Ruffieux, X. Feng, R. Fasel, K. Müllen, A. Narita, Heteroatom-Doped Perihexacene from a Double Helicene Precursor: On-Surface Synthesis and Properties. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2017**, *139*, 4671–4674.
7. Z. Chen, H. I. Wang, J. Teyssandier, K. S. Mali, T. Dumsclaff, I. Ivanov, W. Zhang, P. Ruffieux, R. Fasel, H. J. Räder, D. Turchinovich, S. De Feyter, X. Feng, M. Kläui, A. Narita, M. Bonn, K. Müllen, Chemical Vapor Deposition Synthesis and Terahertz Photoconductivity of Low-Bandgap $N = 9$ Armchair Graphene Nanoribbons. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2017**, *139*, 3635–3638
8. Z. Chen, H. I. Wang, N. Bilbao, J. Teyssandier, T. Prechtel, N. Cavani, A. Tries, R. Biagi, V. De Renzi, X. Feng, M. Kläui, S. De Feyter, M. Bonn, A. Narita, K. Müllen, Lateral Fusion of Chemical Vapor Deposited $N = 5$ Armchair Graphene Nanoribbons. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2017**, *139*, 9483–9486.
9. G. Soavi, S. Dal Conte, C. Manzoni, D. Viola, A. Narita, Y. Hu, X. Feng, U. Hohenester, E. Molinari, D. Prezzi, K. Müllen, G. Cerullo, Exciton-exciton annihilation and biexciton stimulated emission in graphene nanoribbons. *Nat. Commun.* **2016**, *7*, 11010.
10. Y.-Z. Tan, B. Yang, K. Parvez, A. Narita, S. Osella, D. Beljonne, X. Feng, K. Müllen, Atomically precise edge chlorination of graphenes. *Nat. Commun.*, **2013**, *4*, 2646.

Current Project Involvements

- EU H2020 project 642196 EU ITN iSwitch
- EU H2020 project 696656 EU Graphene Core1 (Graphene Flagship)

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