S. Aldridge

*The author presented on this page has recently published his **10th article** since 2000 in Angewandte Chemie*: "Amidinato- and Guanidinato-Cobalt(I) Complexes: Characterization of Exceptionally Short Co-Co Interactions": C. Jones, C. Schulten, R. P. Rose, A. Stasch, S. Aldridge, W. D. Woodul, K. S. Murray, B. Moubaraki, M. Brynda, G. La Macchia, L. Gagliardi, *Angew. Chem.* **2009**, *121*, 7542 – 7546; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, *48*, 7406 – 7410.

Simon Aldridge

Date of birth:	July 26th, 1970
Position:	University Lecturer in Inorganic Chemistry and Fellow of The Queen's College University of Oxford, Oxford (UK)
Education:	October 1988–June 1992 BA Hons, Jesus College, University of Oxford October 1992–March 1996 DPhil with Tony Downs, University of Oxford April 1996–November 1997 Postdoc with Tom Fehlner, University of Notre Dame, Indiana (USA) December 1997–July 1998 Postdoc with Mike Mingos FRS, Imperial College, London (UK)
Professional associations:	1998–2006 Cardiff University (UK) 2007–Present University of Oxford
Awards:	**2009** RSC Dalton Transactions European Lectureship, **1996/97** Fulbright Scholarship
Current research interests:	Main group and transition-metal organometallic chemistry, ranging from fundamental studies of structure/bonding and reactivity for new types of chemical bond, through to applications of Lewis acids and acid/base pairs in catalysis and sensors
Hobbies:	Spending time with the family, gardening, beer, Manchester United FC

The best advice I have ever been given is … "Hard work never killed anyone!"

The worst advice I have ever been given was … "Don't go to Oxford—you'll flounder."

My favorite subject at school was … maths.

When I was eighteen I wanted to be … centre forward for Manchester United FC.

The biggest challenge facing scientists is … convincing the government to invest appropriately in something as fundamental as science—especially in the current economic climate.

My biggest inspiration is … my father.

In a nutshell, my research involves … synthesizing challenging molecules, which either do something useful or tell us a little more about the world we live in.

In my spare time I … entertain my two-year-old son.

I would have liked to have discovered … ferrocene.

The part of my job which I enjoy the most is … talking about science with graduate students.

The most groundbreaking discovery in science in the past 100 years has been … the silicon chip.

A good work day begins with … an interesting new crystal structure.

My worst habit is … procrastination.

My 5 top papers:

1. "Coordination and Activation of the BF molecule": D. Vidovic, S. Aldridge, *Angew. Chem.* **2009**, *121*, 3723 – 3726; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, *48*, 3669 – 3672.
2. "Cationic Terminal Gallylene Complexes by Halide Abstraction: Coordination Chemistry of a Valence Isoelectronic Analogue of CO and N_2": N. D. Coombs, D. Vidovic, J. K. Day, A. L. Thompson, D. D. Le Pevelen, A. Stasch, W. Clegg, L. Russo, L. Male, M. B. Hursthouse, D. J. Willock, S. Aldridge, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2008**, *130*, 16111 – 16124.
3. "Cationic Terminal Borylene Complexes: A Synthetic and Mechanistic Investigation of M=B Metathesis Chemistry": D. L. Kays (née Coombs), J. K. Day, L.-L. Ooi, S. Aldridge, *Angew. Chem.* **2005**, *117*, 7623 – 7626; *Angew. Chem. Int Ed.* **2005**, *44*, 7457 – 7460.
4. "Selective Electrochemical Detection of Hydrogen Fluoride by Ambiphilic Ferrocene Derivatives": C. Bresner, S. Aldridge, I. A. Fallis, C. Jones, L.-L. Ooi, *Angew. Chem.* **2005**, *117*, 3672 – 3675; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2005**, *44*, 3606 – 3609.
5. " Cationic Terminal Borylenes by Halide Abstraction: Synthesis, Spectroscopic and Structural Characterization of an Fe=B Double Bond": D. L. Coombs, S. Aldridge, C. Jones, D. J. Willock, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2003**, *125*, 6356 – 6357.

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