



U. H. F. Bunz

The author presented on this page has recently published his **10th article** since 2000 in *Angewandte Chemie*: "An Efficient Synthesis of Tetraazapentacenes": O. Tverskoy, F. Rominger, A. Peters, H. J. Himmel, U. H. F. Bunz, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, 123, 3619–3622; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, 50, 3557–3560.

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Education:	1985 Vordiplom in Chemistry, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (Germany) 1987 Diplom in Chemistry, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München 1990 PhD in Organic Chemistry with Günther Szeimies, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München 1991–1992 Postdoc with K. P. C. Vollhardt, UC Berkeley (USA)
Awards:	1992 Liebig Scholarship; 1994 DFG-Habilitandenstipendium; 1997 Heisenberg Scholarship; 2000 Camille-Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar; 2010 Best Faculty Paper (Georgia Institute of Technology).
Current research interests:	Aromatic molecules and acetylene chemistry, assembly of novel symmetrical molecules with appealing structures and attractive properties.
Hobbies:	Swimming, surfing, cooking, travelling, music

The best stage in a scientist's career is ... ALWAYS. Each has different opportunities, rewards, and challenges.

My favorite place on earth is ... the waves in front of Waikiki beach on a day when there is a 3–7 ft (Hawaiian scale) swell.

The biggest problem that scientists face is ... "Civilians"—Peter Vollhardt's fabulously funny yet profound answer just cannot be topped.

In my opinion, the word "scientist" means ... that you can wear rumpled jackets, occasionally drink hard and be somewhat socially awkward without any societal backlash.

I chose chemistry as a career because ... I was in the south of France when the registration deadline for the business school (Betriebswirtschaftslehre) passed, so chemistry was my backup plan...

I would have liked to have discovered ... polymeric light emitting diodes (Sir Richard Friend, 1990); an elegant and fairly simple experiment with significant consequences.

The downside of my job is ... the lack of a beach in Heidelberg. The Neckar river bank does not count!

My top three films of all time are ... Pulp Fiction (1994, Quentin Tarantino), Das deutsche Kettensägenmassaker (1992, Christoph Schlingensiefel), La Dolce Vita (1960, Federico Fellini).

My favorite food is ... fresh pasta with lots of butter, mozzarella, and a freshly ground hard cheese.

My 5 top papers:

1. "Switching of Intramolecular Charge Transfer in Cruciforms: Metal Ion Sensing": J. N. Wilson, U. H. F. Bunz, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2005**, 127, 4124–4125. (This paper describes the two-stage response of very simple fluorophores that is induced by metal binding.)
2. "An Efficient Synthesis of Tetraazapentacenes": O. Tverskoy, F. Rominger, A. Peters, H. J. Himmel, U. H. F. Bunz, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, 123, 3619–3622; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, 50, 3557–3560. (Here we were able to show that you can easily form six-membered rings using a double Hartwig–Buchwald reaction.)
3. "Rapid and Efficient Identification of Bacteria using Gold-Nanoparticle–Poly(*para*-phenyleneethynylene) Constructs": R. L. Phillips, O. R. Miranda, C. C. You, V. M. Rotello, U. H. F. Bunz, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, 120, 2628–2632; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, 47, 2590–2594. (The disruption of three simple gold nanoparticles/conjugated polymer complexes gives signals that can be used to discern different strains of *E. coli*.)
4. "A Restitutive Bergman Rearrangement: Synthesis of a CpCo-Complexed, Tetraethynylated Cyclobutadiene": M. Altmann, G. Roidl, V. Enkelmann, U. H. F. Bunz, *Angew. Chem.* **1997**, 109, 1133–1135; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **1997**, 36, 1107–1109. (This paper is a homage to Peter Vollhardt. Here we have used his cyclobutadiene rearrangement but we re-engineered it to get to synthetically attractive peralkynylated building blocks.)
5. "Modulating the Sensory Response of a Conjugated Polymer by Proteins: An Agglutination Assay for Mercury Ions in Water": I.-B. Kim, U. H. F. Bunz, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2005**, 128, 2818–2819. (Here the addition of commercially available proteins makes a conjugated polymer more sensitive and selective towards sensing of mercury ions in water.)

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