



J. Okuda

The author presented on this page has recently published his **10th article** since 2000 in *Angewandte Chemie*:
 “The Allylcalcium Monocation: A Bridging Allyl Ligand with a Non-Bent Coordination Geometry”: C. Lichtenberg, P. Jochmann, T. P. Spaniol, J. Okuda, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, 123, 5825–5829; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, 50, 5753–5756.

Jun Okuda

Date of birth:	July 24, 1957
Position:	Professor and Chair of Organometallic Chemistry, RWTH Aachen (Germany)
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Education:	1982 Diplom-Chemiker, RWTH Aachen 1984 PhD with Gerhard E. Herberich, RWTH Aachen 1984–1986 Postdoctoral Associate with Richard R. Schrock, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (USA)
Awards:	1991 Heinz-Maier-Leibnitz Award of the German Minister for Education and Science; 1996 Fellow of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, Osaka University, Japan; 2010 Distinguished Guest Professor, Chinese Academy of Science, Institute of Applied Chemistry, Changchun, P. R. China.
Current research interests:	Organometallic chemistry of the early and pre-/post-transition metals and their use as homogeneous catalysts; hydride complexes; stereoselective polymerization catalysis; chiral polymers
Hobbies:	Reading, classical music, our cats Emma and Leda

In my opinion, the word “scientist” means ... being honest.

My biggest motivation is ... understanding nature.

The most significant scientific advance of the last 100 years has been ... the discovery of DNA.

The greatest scientific advance in the next decade will be ... chemical storage of solar energy.

The biggest problem that scientists face is ... whether life can be reduced to physicochemical processes.

My favorite pieces of research are ... the discovery of the Ziegler catalyst and of ferrocene.

The most important thing I learned from my parents is ... to appreciate hard work, freedom, and tolerance.

My secret/not-so-secret passion is ... history.

My worst nightmare is ... dealing with lazy students.

The most exciting thing about my research is ... when my co-workers discover things that I did not expect.

When I'm frustrated I ... go home.

My favorite author (fiction) is ... Thomas Mann.

My top three films of all time are ... “Rashomon” (Akira Kurosawa), “Casablanca” (Michael Curtiz), “Das Boot” (Wolfgang Petersen).

My 5 top papers:

1. “Functionalized Cyclopentadienyl Ligands, IV. Synthesis and Complexation of Linked Cyclopentadienyl-Amido Ligands”: J. Okuda, *Chem. Ber.* **1990**, 123, 1649–1651.
2. “Highly Heteroselective Ring-Opening Polymerization of *rac*-Lactide Initiated by Bis(phenolato)scandium Complexes”: H. Ma, T. P. Spaniol, J. Okuda, *Angew. Chem.* **2006**, 118, 7982–7985; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2006**, 45, 7818–7821.
3. “Rare-Earth Metal Alkyl and Hydride Complexes Stabilized by a Cyclen-Derived [NNNN] Macrocyclic Ancillary Ligand”: M. Ohashi, M. Konkol, I. Del Rosal, R. Poteaus, L. Maron, J. Okuda, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2008**, 130, 6920–6921.
4. “Stereospecific Styrene Enchainment at a Titanium Site within a Helical Ligand Framework: Evidence for the Formation of Homochiral Polystyrene”: K. Beckerle, R. Manivannan, B. Lian, G.-J. M. Meppelder, G. Raabe, T. P. Spaniol, H. Ebeling, F. Pelascini, R. Mülhaupt, J. Okuda, *Angew. Chem.* **2007**, 119, 4874–4877; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2007**, 46, 4790–4793.
5. “Bis(allyl)calcium”: P. Jochmann, T. S. Dols, T. P. Spaniol, L. Perrin, L. Maron, J. Okuda, *Angew. Chem.* **2009**, 121, 5825–5829; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, 48, 5715–5719.

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