



M. Murakami

The author presented on this page has recently published his **10th article** since 2000 in *Angewandte Chemie*:  
“Rhodium-Catalyzed Reaction of 1-Alkenylboronates with Aldehydes Leading to Allylation Products”: H. Shimizu, T. Igarashi, T. Miura, M. Murakami, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, 123, 11 667–11 671; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, 50, 11 465–11 469.

## Masahiro Murakami

<b>Date of birth:</b>	June 28, 1956
<b>Position:</b>	Professor, Department of Synthetic Chemistry and Biological Chemistry, Kyoto University (Japan)
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<b>Education:</b>	1979 BS, The University of Tokyo (Japan) 1984 MSc, The University of Tokyo 1984 DSc with Prof. T. Mukaiyama, The University of Tokyo 1991–1992 Postdoctoral fellow with Prof. A. Eschenmoser, ETH Zurich (Switzerland)
<b>Awards:</b>	<b>2004</b> The Chemical Society of Japan Award for Creative Work; <b>2008</b> Nagoya Silver Medal
<b>Current research interests:</b>	Development of new reactions, including transition-metal-catalyzed reactions involving carbon–carbon bond formation or cleavage, $4\pi$ electrocyclic reactions, and synthesis of heterocycles; rationalizing basic principles underlying organic transformations; exploitation of light by combining photomediated reactions and transition-metal-catalyzed reactions.
<b>Hobbies:</b>	Furniture making

**When I was eighteen I wanted to be ...** a rice farmer.

**The biggest challenge facing scientists is ...** solar energy capture.

**Last time I went to the pub ...** I shared a fabulous time with a Korean natural-product chemist and an American organocatalysis chemist together with a Kyoto Geiko named Masaki.

**My favorite drink is ...** champagne, in particular Krug when possible.

**If I were a car I would be ...** a sedan with a flat six-cylinder engine.

**In a spare hour I ...** go shopping.

**My favorite quote is ...** “Love is the triumph of imagination over intelligence” (H. L. Mencken).

**My favorite time of day is ...** the hour after waking up.

**My favorite way to spend a holiday is ...** making wooden furniture.

**If I had one year of paid leave I would ...** stay with my elderly mother.

**If I could be a piece of lab equipment, I would be ...** a rotary evaporator.

**The most important thing I learned from my students is ...** “que sera sera”.

**What I appreciate most about my friends is ...** they listen to my complaints.

**My favorite book is ...** an Australian wine companion.

**The natural talents I would like to be gifted with are ...** an eye for art and an ear for music.

### My 5 top papers:

1. “Selective Activation of Carbon–Carbon Bonds next to a Carbonyl Group”: M. Murakami, H. Amii, Y. Ito, *Nature* **1994**, 370, 540–541. (This work brought me into the field of carbon–carbon bond activation.)
2. “Rhodium-Catalyzed Reaction of 1-Alkenylboronates with Aldehydes Leading to Allylation Products”: H. Shimizu, T. Igarashi, T. Miura, M. Murakami, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, 123, 11667–11671; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, 50, 11 465–11 469. (This reaction is applicable to the synthesis of complex molecules.)
3. “Synthesis and Thermal Ring Opening of *trans*-3,4-Disilylcyclobutene”: M. Murakami, M. Hasegawa, *Angew. Chem.* **2004**, 116, 4982–4984; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2004**, 43, 4874–4876. (An extreme example of the electronic effect of hyperconjugation overwhelming a steric effect.)
4. “Iterative Approach to Oligo(arylenevinylene)s Containing Tetrasubstituted Vinylene Units”: N. Ishida, Y. Shimamoto, M. Murakami, *Org. Lett.* **2010**, 12, 3179–3181. (A highly efficient method for the synthesis of precisely stereo- and size-defined oligomeric compounds.)
5. “Rhodium-Catalyzed Carbonylation of Spiropentanes”: T. Matsuda, T. Tsuboi, M. Murakami, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2007**, 129, 12596–12597. (The two elementary steps for the cleavage of carbon–carbon bonds by transition metals occur in sequence in one pot.)

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