



Y.-C. Chen

The author presented on this page has recently published his **10th article** in *Angewandte Chemie* in the last 10 years:

“Trienamine Catalysis with 2,4-Dienones: Development and Application in Asymmetric Diels–Alder Reactions”: X.-F. Xiong, Q. Zhou, J. Gu, L. Dong, T.-Y. Liu, Y.-C. Chen, *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 4477–4480; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 4401–4404.



The work of Y.-C. Chen has been featured on the cover of *Angewandte Chemie*: “Organocatalytic Asymmetric Inverse-Electron-Demand Aza-Diels–Alder Reaction of *N*-Sulfonyl-1-aza-1,3-butadienes and Aldehydes”: B. Han, J.-L. Li, C. Ma, S.-J. Zhang, Y.-C. Chen, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, *120*, 10119–10122; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, *47*, 9971–9974.

## Ying-Chun Chen

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<b>Position:</b>	Professor of Organic Chemistry, Sichuan University and Third Military Medical University (China)
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<b>Awards:</b>	<b>2007</b> Third Prize, WuXi PharmaTech Life Science and Chemistry Award; <b>2011</b> Distinguished Young Investigator Foundation (sponsored by The National Natural Science Foundation of China)
<b>Current research interests:</b>	Asymmetric synthesis, mostly focused on organic catalysis; design of new reactions; design and synthesis of biologically important compounds
<b>Hobbies:</b>	Badminton, gardening

**My favorite name reaction is ...** the Diels–Alder reaction.

**The secret of being a successful scientist is ...** to keep reading and thinking.

**The greatest scientific advance of the last decade was ...** nanotechnology.

**If I could be described as an animal it would be ...** a wolf.

**If I could be anyone for a day, I would be ...** Ka-Shing Li (businessman and philanthropist).

**My biggest inspiration is ...** my daughter.

**My favorite way to spend a holiday is ...** to stay with my family.

**If I had one year of paid leave I would ...** take it with pleasure but still have to direct my students.

**If I could be a piece of lab equipment, I would be ...** a magnetic stirrer.

**The principal aspects of my personality are ...** frankness and lenience.

**What I appreciate most about my friends is ...** loyalty.

**My favorite band is ...** Beyond (a rock band from Hong Kong).

**The natural talent I would like to be gifted with is ...** farsightedness.

### My 5 top papers:

1. “Highly Asymmetric Michael Addition to  $\alpha,\beta$ -Unsaturated Ketones Catalyzed by 9-Amino-9-deoxyepiquinine”: J.-W. Xie, W. Chen, R. Li, M. Zeng, W. Du, L. Yue, Y.-C. Chen, Y. Wu, J. Zhu, J.-G. Deng, *Angew. Chem.* **2007**, *119*, 393–396; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2007**, *46*, 389–392. (Primary amines derived from natural cinchona alkaloids were identified as valuable chiral aminocatalysts.)
2. “Organocatalytic Enantioselective Mannich-Type Reaction of Phosphorus Ylides: Synthesis of Chiral *N*-Boc- $\beta$ -amino- $\alpha$ -methylene Carboxylic Esters”: Y. Zhang, Y.-K. Liu, T.-R. Kang, Z.-K. Hu, Y.-C. Chen, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2008**, *130*, 2456–2457. (Stabilized phosphorus ylides were applied as useful nucleophiles in asymmetric catalysis.)
3. “Direct Asymmetric Hydrosilylation of Indoles: Combined Lewis Base and Brønsted Acid Activation”: Y.-C. Xiao, C. Wang, Y. Yao, J. Sun, Y.-C. Chen, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 10849–10852; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 10661–10664. (The first reported organocatalytic asymmetric reduction of indoles.)
4. “Trienamines in Asymmetric Organocatalysis: Diels–Alder and Tandem Reactions”: Z.-J. Jia, H. Jiang, J.-L. Li, B. Gschwend, Q.-Z. Li, X. Yin, J. Grouleff, Y.-C. Chen, K. A. Jørgensen, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2011**, *133*, 5053–5061. (The first reported catalytic stereoselective Diels–Alder reaction that occurs via trienamine intermediates.)
5. “Trienamine Catalysis with 2,4-Dienones: Development and Application in Asymmetric Diels–Alder Reactions”: X.-F. Xiong, Q. Zhou, J. Gu, L. Dong, T.-Y. Liu, Y.-C. Chen, *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 4477–4480; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 4401–4404. (Trienamine intermediates from 2,4-dienones act as electron-rich dienes in asymmetric Diels–Alder reactions.)

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