



J.-A. Ma

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

"Iron-Facilitated Oxidative Dehydrogenative C–O Bond Formation by Propargylic C_{sp}³–H Functionalization": T. Wang, W. Zhou, H. Yin, J.-A. Ma, N. Jiao, *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, 124, 10981–10984; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, 51, 10823–10826.

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Position:	Professor, Department of Chemistry, Tianjin University (China)
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Homepage:	http://www.tjchemistry.org/usr/maja.htm
Education:	1991 Undergraduate degree, He'nan University, Kaifeng (China) 1999 PhD with Professor Run-Qiu Huang, Nankai University, Tianjin (China) 2003–2005 Postdoctoral fellow with Dr. Dominique Cahard (CNRS, Rouen, France) and Professor Manfred T. Reetz (Max Planck Institute for Coal Research, Germany)
Awards:	2006 New Century Excellent Talents in University Award (sponsored by the Chinese Ministry of Education); 2012 Distinguished Young Investigator Foundation (sponsored by The National Natural Science Foundation of China)
Current research interests:	Asymmetric catalysis and synthesis; stereoselective fluorination and fluoroalkylation; design and synthesis of biologically active compounds
Hobbies:	Reading, listening to classical music, traveling

My biggest motivation is ... curiosity.

Guaranteed to make me laugh are ... Charlie Chaplin movies.

The best advice I have ever been given is ... "never give up".

If I could go back in time and do any experiment, it would be ... the discovery of penicillin.

My favorite author is ... Lu Xun (鲁迅).

My top three films of all time are ... Roman Holiday, Waterloo Bridge, and Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon (卧虎藏龙).

My favorite food is ... Chinese noodles.

My favorite piece of music is ... The Butterfly Lovers' Violin Concerto (梁祝).

My favorite saying is ... "God helps those who help themselves".

If I won the lottery, I would ... travel around the world with my family.

My favorite place on earth is ... my home village.

My 5 top papers:

1. "Reversal of Enantioselectivity by Tuning the Conformational Flexibility of Phase-Transfer Catalysts": M.-Q. Hua, H.-F. Cui, L. Wang, J. Nie, J.-A. Ma, *Angew. Chem.* **2010**, 122, 2832–2836; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, 49, 2772–2776. (A new strategy for the design of dinuclear *N*-spiro quaternary ammonium salts as chiral catalysts.)
2. "Catalytic Enantioselective Alkynylation of Trifluoromethyl Ketones: Pronounced Metal Fluoride Effects, Observation and Practical Implications of Zinc-to-Titanium Transmetalation": G.-W. Zhang, W. Meng, H. Ma, J. Nie, W.-Q. Zhang, J.-A. Ma, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, 123, 3600–3604; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, 50, 3538–3542. (Small amounts of BaF₂ were shown to be essential for effective asymmetric induction.)
3. "The Long-Arm Effect: Influence of Axially Chiral Phosphoramidite Ligands on the Diastereo- and Enantioselectivity of the Tandem 1,4-Addition/Fluorination": L. Wang, W. Meng, C.-L. Zhu, Y. Zheng, J. Nie, J.-A. Ma, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, 123, 9614–9618; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, 50, 9442–9446. (The potential benefits of the fluorination-blocking epimerization were recognized.)
4. "A Facile Parallel Synthesis of Trifluoroethyl-Substituted Alkynes": C.-B. Liu, W. Meng, F. Li, S. Wang, J. Nie, J.-A. Ma, *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, 124, 6331–6334; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, 51, 6227–6230. (Construction of a flow setup for the continuous gaseous CF₃CHN₂ generation/trifluoroethylation sequence.)
5. "Allenoate-derived 1,5-, 1,7-, and 1,9-zwitterions as highly versatile coupling partners for phosphine-triggered cycloaddition reactions": W. Meng, H.-T. Zhao, J. Nie, Y. Zheng, A. Fu, J.-A. Ma, *Chem. Sci.* **2012**, 3, 3053–3057. (Our computational and experimental results provide supportive evidence that these high order 1,*n*-zwitterions are real species.)

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