



M. Alcarazo

Manuel Alcarazo

Date of birth:	February 25, 1978
Position:	Group Leader, Department of Organometallic Chemistry, Max Planck Institute for Coal Research, Mülheim an der Ruhr
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Education:	1995–2000 Undergraduate studies at the University of Seville 2001–2005 PhD with Prof. José M. Lassaletta, Institute of Chemical Research, Seville 2005–2008 Postdoc with Prof. Alois Fürstner, Max Planck Institute for Coal Research
Awards:	2009 Young Scientist Award from the Academy of Sciences of Seville; 2010 Thieme Journal Award; 2011 RSEQ Sigma-Aldrich Prize for Outstanding Emerging Researchers; European Research Council Starting Grant; 2012 Award from the Dr. Otto Röhm Foundation
Current research interests:	Ligand design; new coordination modes; metal-promoted and metal-free catalytic transformations; organic synthesis
Hobbies:	Collecting coins, notes, minerals, fossils, etc., and crystallizing compounds in the laboratory

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

“Metal–Free Hydrogenation of Electron–Poor Allenes and Alkenes”: B. Inés, D. Palomas, S. Holle, S. Steinberg, J. A. Nicasio, M. Alcarazo, *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 12533–12536; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 12367–12369.

My greatest achievement has still ... not been published ... I hope!

My biggest motivation is ... curiosity.

I would have liked to have discovered ... X-ray diffraction.

The downside of my job is ... the excessive amount of paperwork.

My favorite food is ... cod with tomato sauce.

My favorite saying is ... “El mundo no es como es, es como lo hacemos” (This world is not how it is, it is how we make it).

My favorite piece of research is ... Werner’s coordination theory. All done without NMR, HRMS, or X-ray diffraction!

My favorite place on earth is ... Seville, walking in the evening between the Alcázar and the Cathedral.

I chose chemistry as a career because ... I had very good chemistry teachers at school. Honestly, I still think that I didn’t make a mistake.

My not-so-secret passion is ... archaeology.

My 5 top papers:

1. “Heterolytic S–S Bond Cleavage by a Purely Carbogenic Frustrated Lewis Pair”: B. Inés, S. Holle, R. Goddard, M. Alcarazo, *Angew. Chem.* **2010**, *122*, 8567–8569; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, *49*, 8389–8391. (The concept of frustrated Lewis pairs is extended to completely organic compounds.)
2. “Synthesis, Structure, and Reactivity of a Dihydrido Borenum Cation”: B. Inés, M. Patil, J. Carreras, R. Goddard, W. Thiel, M. Alcarazo, *Angew. Chem.* **2011**, *123*, 8550–8553; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 8400–8403. (The first reported isolation of a dihydrido borenum cation employing carbodiphosphoranes as ancillary ligands.)
3. “Synthesis, Structure, and Reactivity of Carbene-Stabilized Phosphorus(III)-Centered Trications $[L_3P]^{3+}$ ”: J. Petušková, M. Patil, S. Holle, C. W. Lehmann, W. Thiel, M. Alcarazo, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2011**, *133*, 20758–20760. (The first reported synthesis and an in-depth theoretical study of a carbene-stabilized phosphorous trication.)
4. “Exploiting the π -Acceptor Properties of Carbene-Stabilized Phosphorus-Centered Trications $[L_3P]^{3+}$: Applications in Pt(II) Catalysis”: J. Carreras, M. Patil, W. Thiel, M. Alcarazo, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2012**, *134*, 16753–16758. (The strong π -acceptor character of these trications substantially increases the ability of Pt^{II} centers to activate π systems.)
5. “Metal–Free Hydrogenation of Electron–Poor Allenes and Alkenes”: B. Inés, D. Palomas, S. Holle, S. Steinberg, J. A. Nicasio, M. Alcarazo, *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 12533–12536; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 12367–12369. (A simple procedure for the reduction of carbon–carbon double bonds in electron-poor substrates.)

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