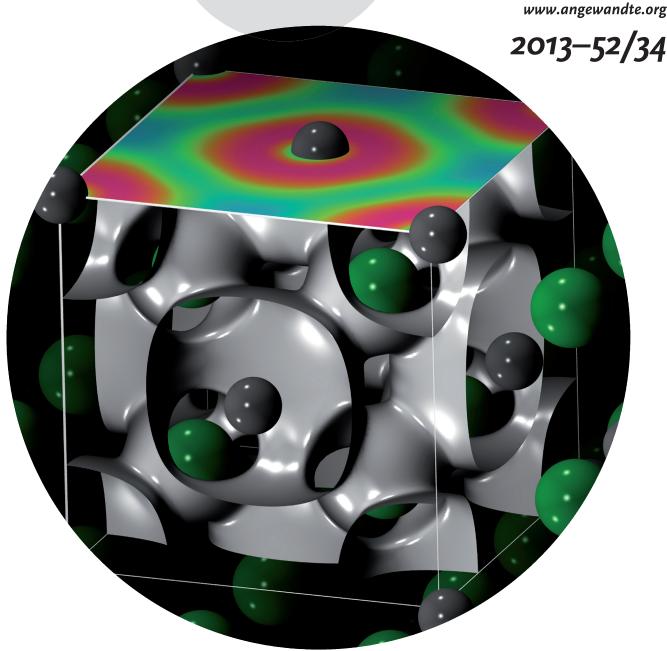
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## Magnesium carbide ...

...  $(Mg_2C)$  was first suggested 20 years ago by ab initio calculations. In their Communication on page 8930 ff., T. A. Strobel and co-workers describe the first synthesis of this methanide through the use of high-pressure and high-temperature methods. The ionic binary compound contains  $C^{4-}$  ions, which have an extremely negative charge for carbon.



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