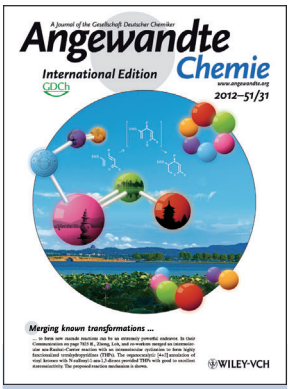
T.-P. Loh

Teck-Peng Loh

Date of birth:	April 14, 1962
Position:	Professor, Nanyang Technological University, and University of Sciences and Technology of China
E-mail:	teckpeng@ntu.edu.sg or teckpeng@ustc.edu.sg
Homepage:	http://www1.spms.ntu.edu.sg/~cbc/cv/teckpeng/index.htm
Education:	1987 BEng (chemistry), Tokyo Institute of Technology 1989 MEng (chemistry), Tokyo Institute of Technology 1994 PhD with Professor E. J. Corey, Harvard University
Awards:	**2010** Thousand Talent Award, China; GSK–SNIC Award in Organic Chemistry
Current research interests:	Organic synthesis; green chemistry; enantioselective reactions; bioinspired organic transformations; development of new synthetic methods and concepts
Hobbies:	Reading, listening to music, and driving

*The author presented on this page has recently published his **10th article** in Angewandte Chemie in the last 10 years:*
"Organocatalytic Synthesis of Highly Functionalized Pyridines at Room Temperature": Z. Shi, T.-P. Loh, *Angew. Chem.* **2013**, *125*, 8746–8749; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2013**, *52*, 8584–8587.



The work of T.-P. Loh has been featured on the inside back cover of Angewandte Chemie:
"Catalytic Asymmetric [4+2] Annulation Initiated by an Aza-Rauhut–Currier Reaction: Facile Entry to Highly Functionalized Tetrahydropyridines": Z. Shi, P. Yu, T.-P. Loh, G. Zhong, *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 7945–7949; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 7825–7829.

My biggest motivation is ... to be the best in whatever I do.

I lose track of time when I ... start brainstorming for a new idea.

My greatest achievement is ... that I was able to advance my career and leave poverty behind.

My worst nightmare is ... when I abandoned a project, but others later succeeded by carrying out the reactions using a different solvent or substrate.

The downside of my job is ... that I don't get to spend quality time with my loved ones, especially my children.

When I'm frustrated, I ... find the best way to relax is to catch up with my children and watch a movie.

The most amusing chemistry adventure in my career was ... trying to design a "Color Xerox Machine for Organic Synthesis" (the different color of the toners represent different synthetic building blocks in a flask and the Xerox machine represents a catalyst; when the same catalyst is thrown into the reaction mixture it will result in the same product, i.e., the same picture).

My favorite motto is ... "Work hard and smart. Determination will keep you going".

The most important thing I learned from my parents is ... to be humble and not to cause any harm to others.

My favorite place on earth is ... Yong Peng, my hometown in Malaysia where many beautiful memories were created.

If I were not a scientist, I would be ... a banker.

My most exciting discovery to date has been ... the alkene–alkene cross-coupling reactions.

My 5 top papers:

1. "The First In(OTf)$_3$-Catalyzed Conversion of Kinetically Formed Homoallylic Alcohols into the Thermodynamically Preferred Regioisomers: Application to the Synthesis of 22α-sterols": T.-P. Loh, K.-T. Tan, Q.-Y. Hu, *Angew. Chem.* **2001**, *113*, 3005–3006; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2001**, *40*, 2921–2922. (Homoallylic alcohols can easily epimerize under acidic conditions and the ability to suppress this racemization process is important.)
2. "Cu(I) Tol-BINAP-Catalyzed Enantioselective Michael Reactions of Grignard Reagents and Unsaturated Esters": S.-Y. Wang, S.-J. Ji, T.-P. Loh, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2007**, *129*, 276–277. (γ-Substituted esters can be obtained in high optical purities by using Grignard reagents.)
3. "Direct Cross-Coupling Reaction of Simple Alkenes with Acrylates Catalyzed by Palladium Catalyst": Y.-H. Xu, J. -Lu, T.-P. Loh, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2009**, *131*, 1372–1373. (This atom-economic process provides easy access to dienes and derivatives by using simple starting materials.)
4. "Copper-Catalyzed Rearrangement of Tertiary Amines through Oxidation of Aliphatic C–H Bonds in Air or Oxygen: Direct Synthesis of α-Amino Acetals": J.-S. Tian, T.-P. Loh, *Angew. Chem.* **2010**, *122*, 8595–8598; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2010**, *49*, 8417–8420. (One of the first bioinspired amino group migration reactions.)
5. "Synthesis of 3-Oxaterpenoids and Its Application in the Total Synthesis of (±)-Moluccanic Acid Methyl Ester": B. Li, Y. C. Lai, Y. Zhao, Y.-H. Wong, Z.-L. Shen, T.-P. Loh, *Angew. Chem.* **2012**, *124*, 10771–10775; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 10619–10623. (A bioinspired cationic polyene cyclization provides easy and efficient access to polycyclic compounds.)

DOI: 10.1002/anie.201307948