Keisuke Suzuki

Date of birth:	June 24, 1953
Nationality:	Japanese
Position:	Professor, Department of Chemistry, Tokyo Institute of Technology
Education:	1978 Undergraduate, University of Tokyo 1993 PhD with Prof. T. Mukaiyama, "Studies on Stereoselective Approaches to Optically Active Alcohols and Application to Carbohydrate Synthesis", University of Tokyo 1990–1991 Visiting scientist with Prof. Dr. D. Seebach, Zürich
Awards:	1986 The Chemical Society of Japan Award for Young Chemists 1994 Takasago Award of the Synthetic Organic Chemical Society, Japan 1994 Japan IBM Award 1997 Teshima Award 1999 Nagoya Silver Medal 2003 Synthetic Organic Chemistry Award, Japan 2006 MEXT Award of Japanese Government
Current research interests:	New synthetic methods to the total synthesis of natural and non-natural organic molecules; synthesis of polyketide-derived polycyclic natural products with full or partial aromatization; synthesis of polyphenols, specifically catechin- and epicatechin-derived natural products; synthesis of structurally intriguing non-natural products, including strained molecules such as dicyclo- and tricyclobutabenzenes
Hobbies:	Soccer and reading novels

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*The author presented on this page has recently published his **10th article** since 2000 in Angewandte Chemie.* "Formation of α-Hydroxy-β-diketones through Hydroxylation of Isoxazolium Salts: Stereoselective Approach to Angular *cis*-Diols in Polycyclic Systems": H. Takikawa, A. Takada, K. Hikita, K. Suzuki, *Angew. Chem.* **2008**, *120*, 7556–7559; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, *47*, 7446–7449.

My first experiment was... the preparation of proline-derived chiral ligands for asymmetric alkylation.

My favorite subjects at school were... history and English.

When I was eighteen I wanted to be... an oceanographer/scuba diver/fisherman.

I chose chemistry as a career... because it is just fun!

In a nutshell, my research involves... lessons on organic reactivity during "often-unsuccessful" multistep syntheses.

The part of my job which I enjoy the most is... to meet many people from different backgrounds, generations, nationalities, and with different ideas.

My motivation... traces back to good old days at ETH, witnessing wonderful chemical heritage. An opportunity Prof. Seebach generously provided about 20 years ago.

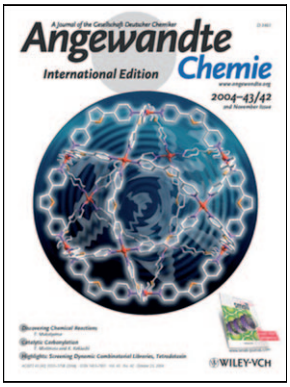
When I wake up, I... do some small exercises.

My favorite science author is... Gilbert Stork.

My favorite musician/band/composers are... Beethoven/Dvorak/The Beatles.

My five top papers:

1. "Stereocontrolled Asymmetric Total Synthesis of Protomycinolide IV": K. Suzuki, K. Tomooka, E. Katayama, T. Matsumoto, G. Tsuchihashi, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1986**, *108*, 5221–5229.
2. "First Total Synthesis of Mycinamicin IV and VII. Successful Application of New Glycosidation Reaction": T. Matsumoto, H. Maeta, K. Suzuki, G. Tsuchihashi, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1988**, *29*, 3575–3578.
3. "Total Syntheses of the Gilvocarcins": T. Hosoya, E. Takashiro, T. Matsumoto, K. Suzuki, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1994**, *116*, 1004–1015.
4. "Total Synthesis of the Furaquinocins": T. Saito, T. Suzuki, C. Akiyama, T. Ochiai, K. Takeuchi, T. Matsumoto, K. Suzuki, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1998**, *120*, 11633–11644.
5. "General Synthetic Route to Benanomicin–Pradimicin Antibiotics": M. Tamiya, K. Ohmori, M. Kitamura, T. Arai, H. Kato, M. Oorui, K. Suzuki, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2007**, *13*, 9791–9823.



K. Suzuki has featured on the cover of Angewandte Chemie: M. Tominaga, K. Suzuki, M. Kawano, T. Kusukawa, T. Ozeki, S. Sakamoto, K. Yamaguchi, M. Fujita, *Angew. Chem.* **2004**, *116*, 5673; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2004**, *43*, 5555.

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