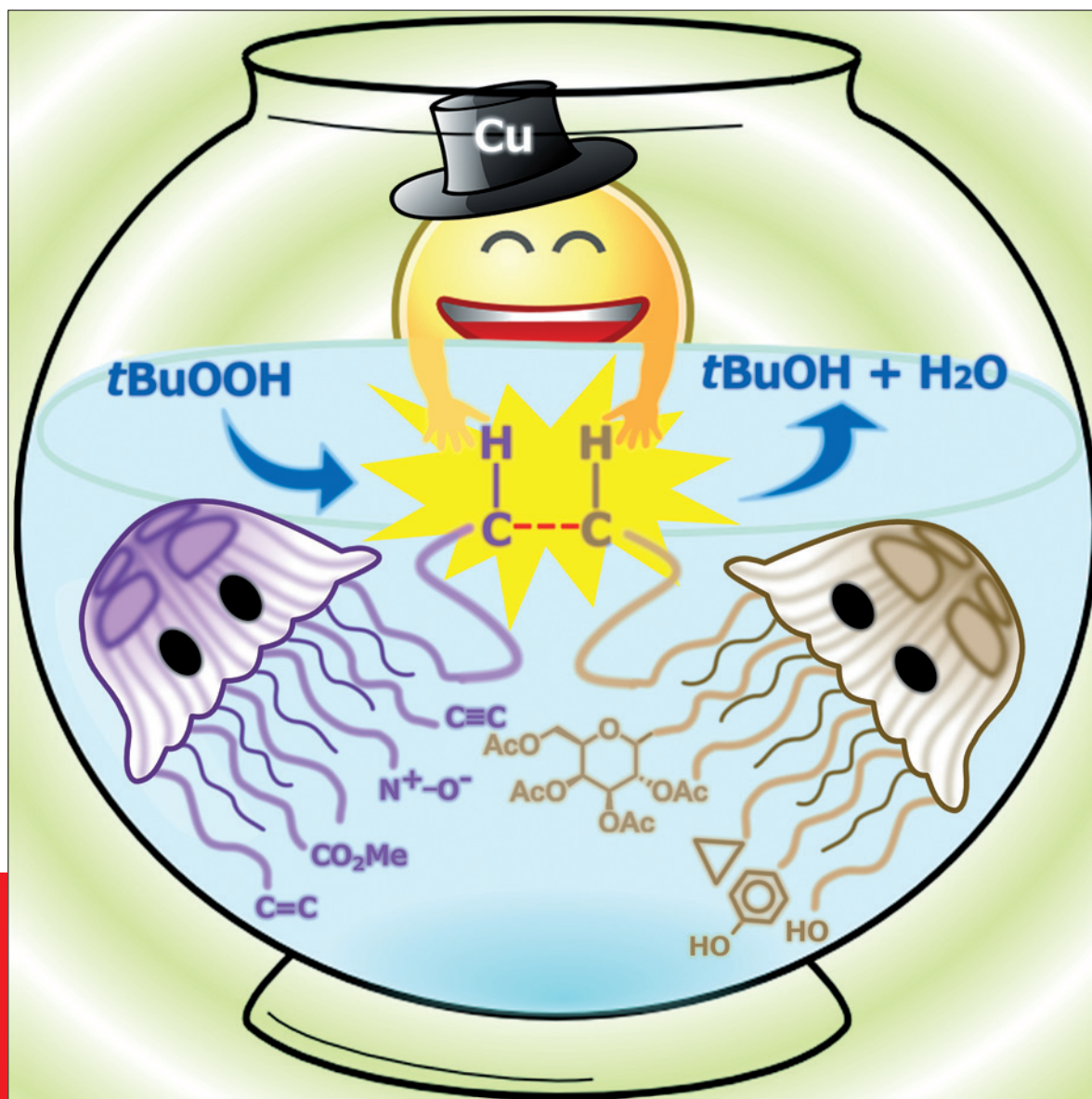


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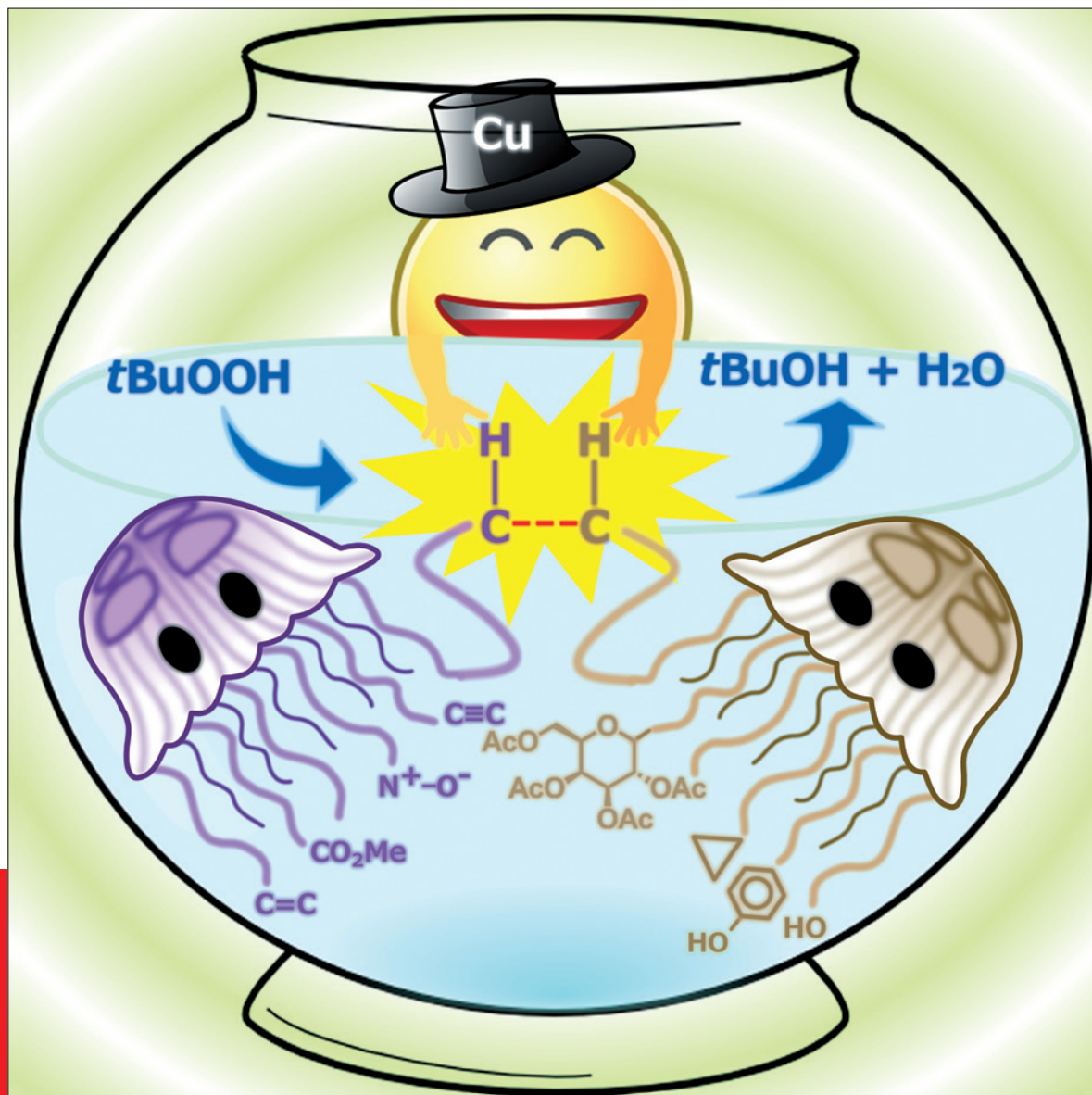
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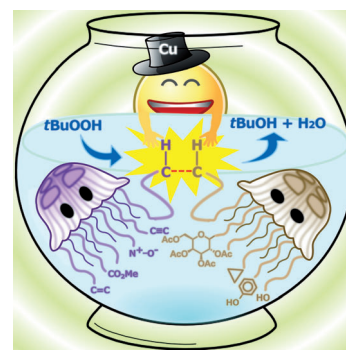


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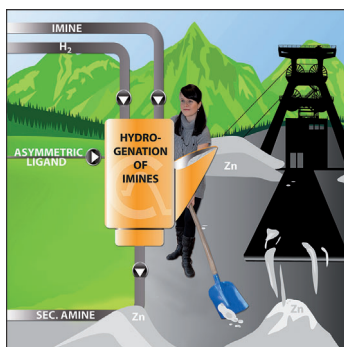
Catalytic...

... cross-dehydrogenative coupling (CDC) reactions have become useful in C–H bond activation. In their Full Paper on page 2599 ff., Shogo Hashizume, Kounosuke Oisaki, and Motomu Kanai demonstrate that the copper-catalyzed migratory oxidative coupling reaction between nitrones and ethers/amines exhibits a high tolerance of functional groups. The reaction proceeds at room temperature in the near-neutral pH range, even under aqueous conditions. These characteristics are favorable for future extension to convergent and protecting group-free catalytic construction of carbon skeletons, as well as for the chemical labeling of biologically relevant molecules.



Zinc Catalysts

The advantages of zinc catalysts, such as their low toxicity, low cost, and environmental benignity, have stimulated organic chemists to explore their applications in organic synthesis. In the Focus Review on page 2502 ff., Xiao-Feng Wu summarizes and discusses recent developments in zinc-catalyzed reduction and oxidation reactions.



Asymmetric Hydrogenation

The synthesis of chiral amines continues to attract considerable academic and industrial interest. In their Full Paper on page 2562 ff., Matthias Beller et al. describe for the first time an asymmetric hydrogenation of imines to amines using $Zn(OTf)_2$ in combination with a chiral monodentate binaphthophosphine ligand. In addition, transfer hydrogenations of imines that apply Hantzsch ester as a hydrogen source are demonstrated.



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