

Stories on Design & Surprise: C-H Activation, Asymmetric Arene Hydrogenation and NHC Organocatalysis

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Catalysis allows for increased levels of selectivity and efficacy of chemical transformations and can thus be seen as an important, environmentally friendly technology. While rational design of catalysts and new catalytic processes would be desirable, progress is often made by serendipitous findings (and the realization of their importance).

In this talk, recent results from the Glorius group will be presented from three timely research fields and the interplay of design and serendipity will be discussed:

- C-H activation chemistry¹
- Asymmetric arene hydrogenation²
- NHC organocatalysis.³

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