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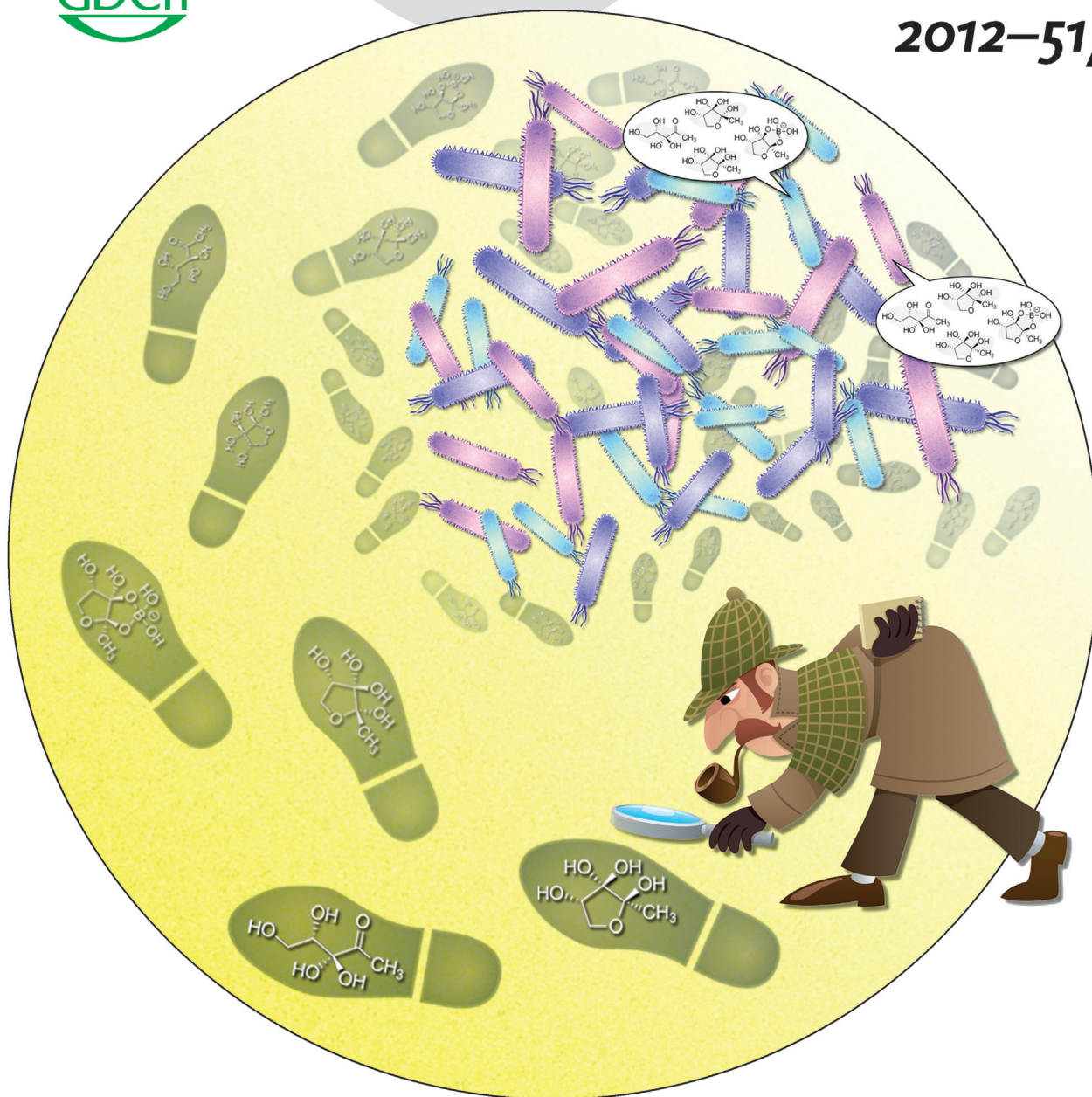
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4,5-Dihydroxy-2,3-pentanedione ...

... (DPD) is the common precursor of the autoinducer-2 class of bacterial quorum sensing molecules. DPD has been proposed as a universal signaling molecule between Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria. In their Communication on page 4204 ff., K. D. Janda and co-workers uncover a complex array of DPD structural isomers, which suggests that the bacterial lexicon may be larger than previously thought. (Detective image copyright Martin Malchev/Dreamstime.com.)

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