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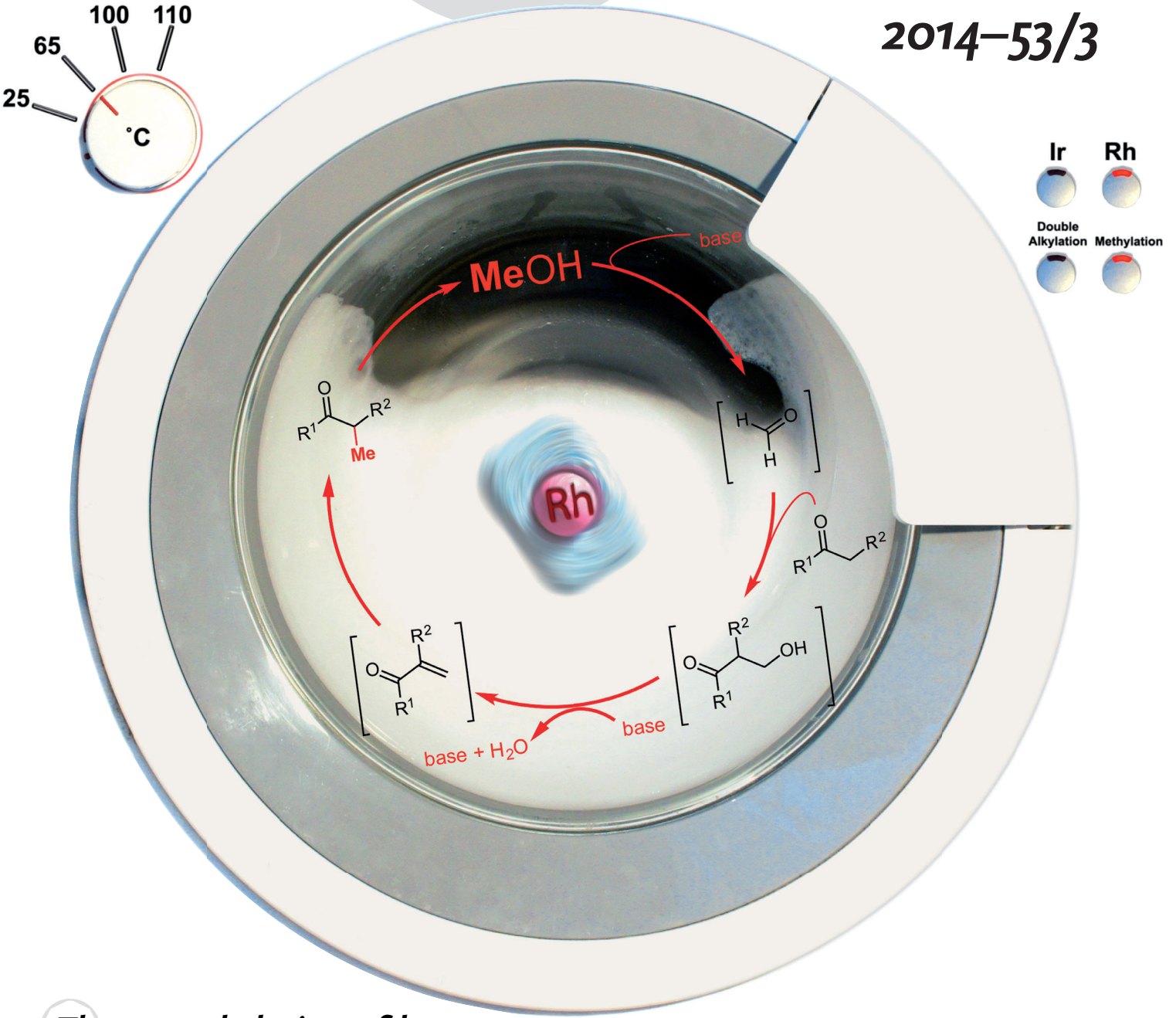

The α-methylation of ketones ...

… using methanol as the carbon source is described in the Communication by T. J. Donohoe et al. on page 761 ff. The reaction of a carbonyl compound, a base, a catalytic amount of rhodium, and methanol in an atmosphere of oxygen allows the alkylation to proceed at 65 °C. The use of an iridium/rhodium catalyst combination facilitates a double cycle of alkylation reactions, which transforms methyl ketones into more highly substituted compounds.

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