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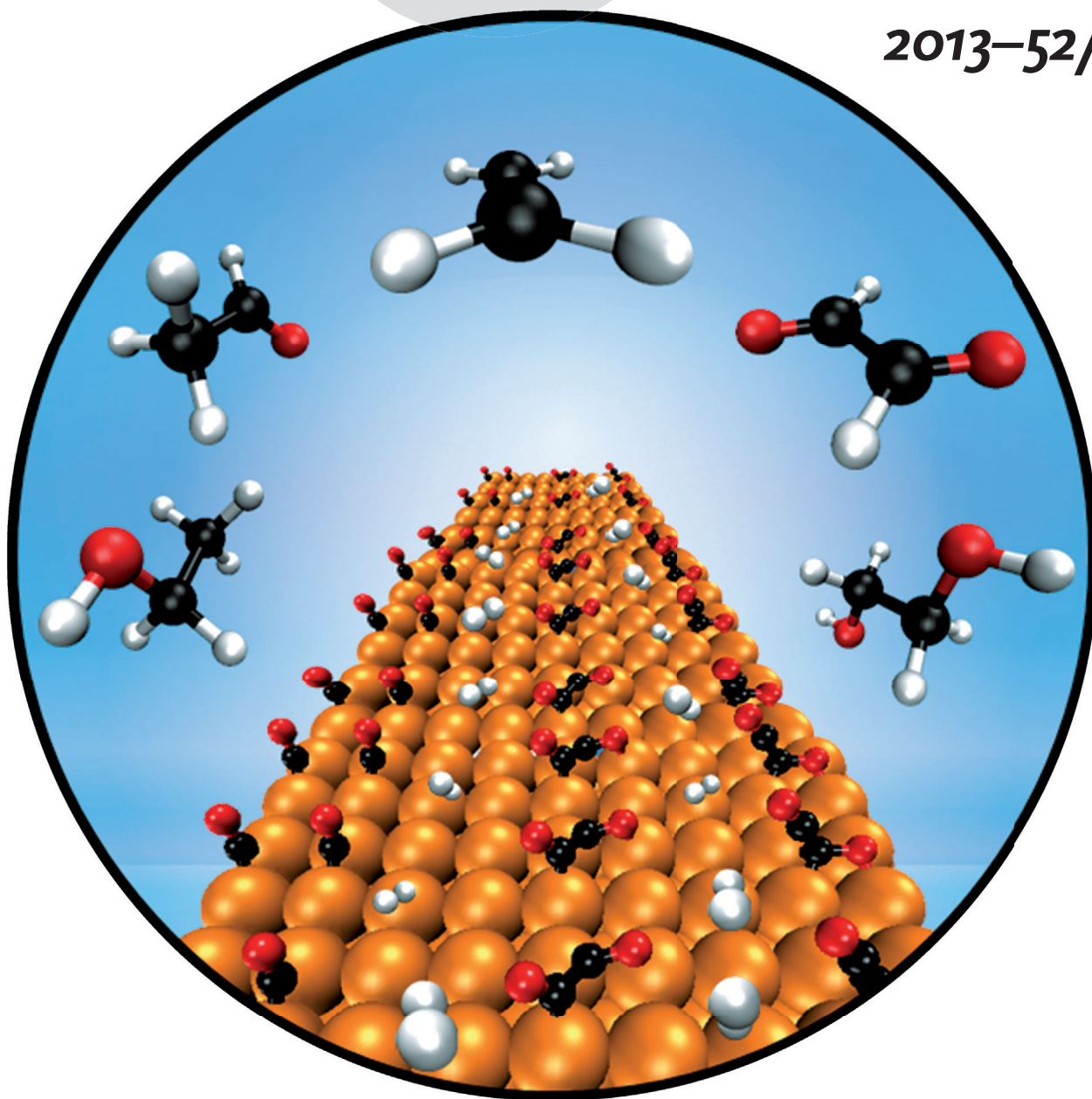
# Angewandte Chemie

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## How carbon oxides ...

... are reduced by copper electrodes is a mystery. In their Communication on page 7282 ff., F. Calle-Vallejo and M. T. M. Koper use DFT calculations to elucidate a mechanism for the electroreduction of CO on Cu(100) to C<sub>2</sub> species. The electron-transfer-mediated coupling of CO molecules is found to be the rate-limiting step. The most abundant C<sub>2</sub> products, namely ethylene, ethanol, and acetaldehyde, are formed in a common pathway. This mechanism explains why the formation of C<sub>2</sub> species is pH-independent.

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