Germany’s Digital Future Is at Stake
To ensure Germany’s continued economic success, the digital infrastructure and the internet offerings of German public authorities and ministries need to be improved.
Sense of touch: Director Melina Schuh is researching the delicate maturation process of the human egg cell.

Sense of smell: Pheromones that flea beetles can detect over great distances attract these pests.

Sense of community: Norms of interaction should be more strictly enforced on social media.

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How the universe came into existence is one of the greatest mysteries known to science. Researchers at the Max Planck Institute for Gravitational Physics are attempting to solve it using state-of-the-art mathematical tools.

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Personal Portrait: Melina Schuh

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60 A Beetle Overcomes a Plant’s Defenses
Cabbage plants protect themselves against their natural enemies with a mustard oil bomb. Flea beetles, however, can disarm this defensive weapon and even commandeer it for their own protection. Biologists at the Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology are investigating how they do this.

CULTURE & SOCIETY

68 Getting the Trolls Under Control
Whether it’s security, environmental protection, infrastructure or the internet, everybody has to play by the rules if we are to reap the benefits of collective goods. Sociologists at the Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods are studying the conditions needed for this to happen – for instance on social media.

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