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About the Cover

Like oil blending into larger liquid blobs, the contents of cells can also be separated into droplets. The transformation of a single-phase system into a multiple-phase system is defined as phase separation. Phase separation is one of biology's hottest questions in recent years. Numerous physical theories and biological experiments have been developed to uncover the underlying principles of phase separation in biology. Whether a solution is able to undergo phase separation in a cell, and whether phase separation is nucleation-limited or diffusion-limited depend strongly on the component concentration and temperature. Based on these physical theories, the occurrences of some diseases could be understood and synthetic organelles could be designed to implement some specific functions. For details please refer to the article by Shi et al. in pp. 378–399.

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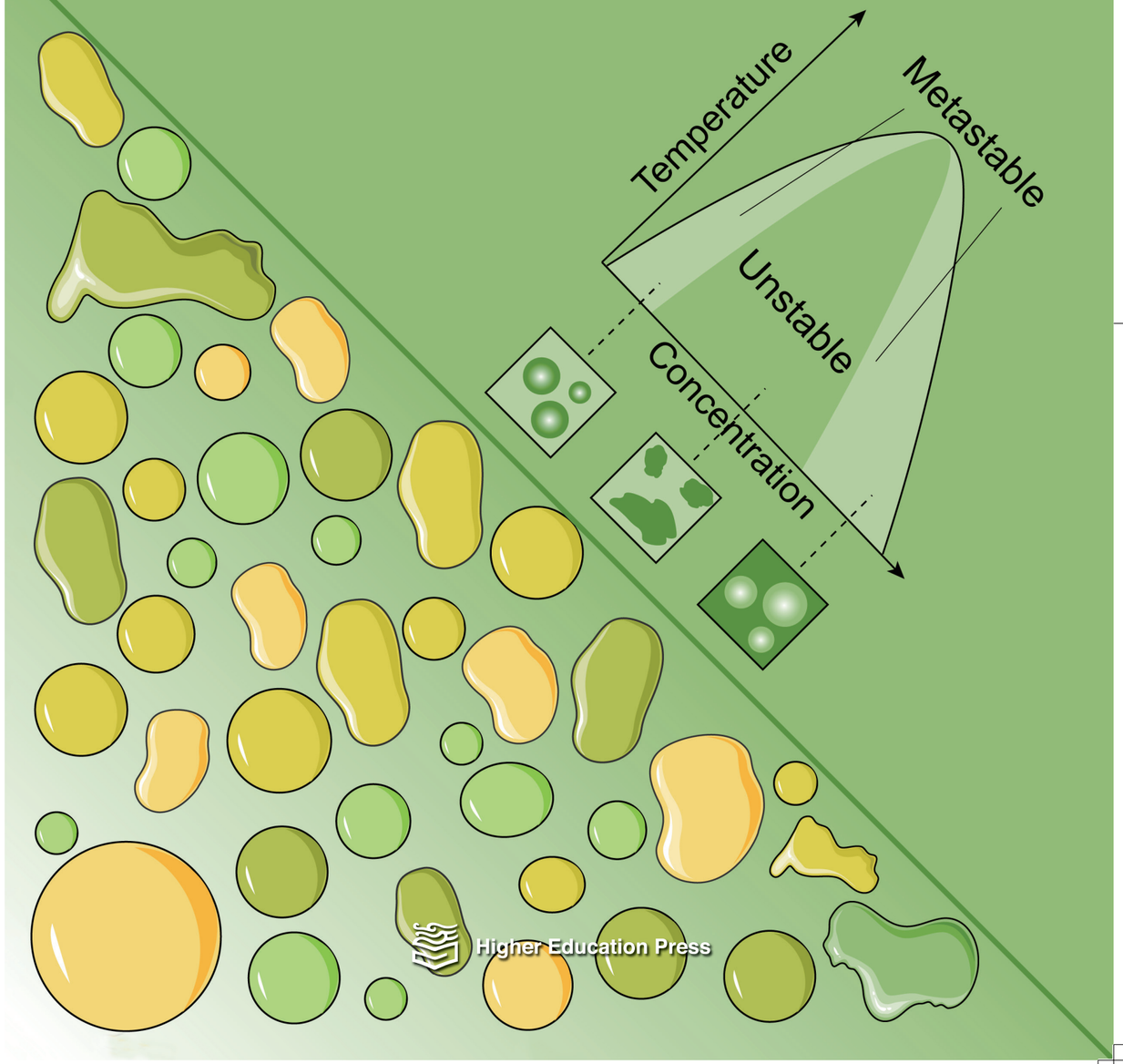

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