

Summer school on Epitaxy

MATEPI 2025

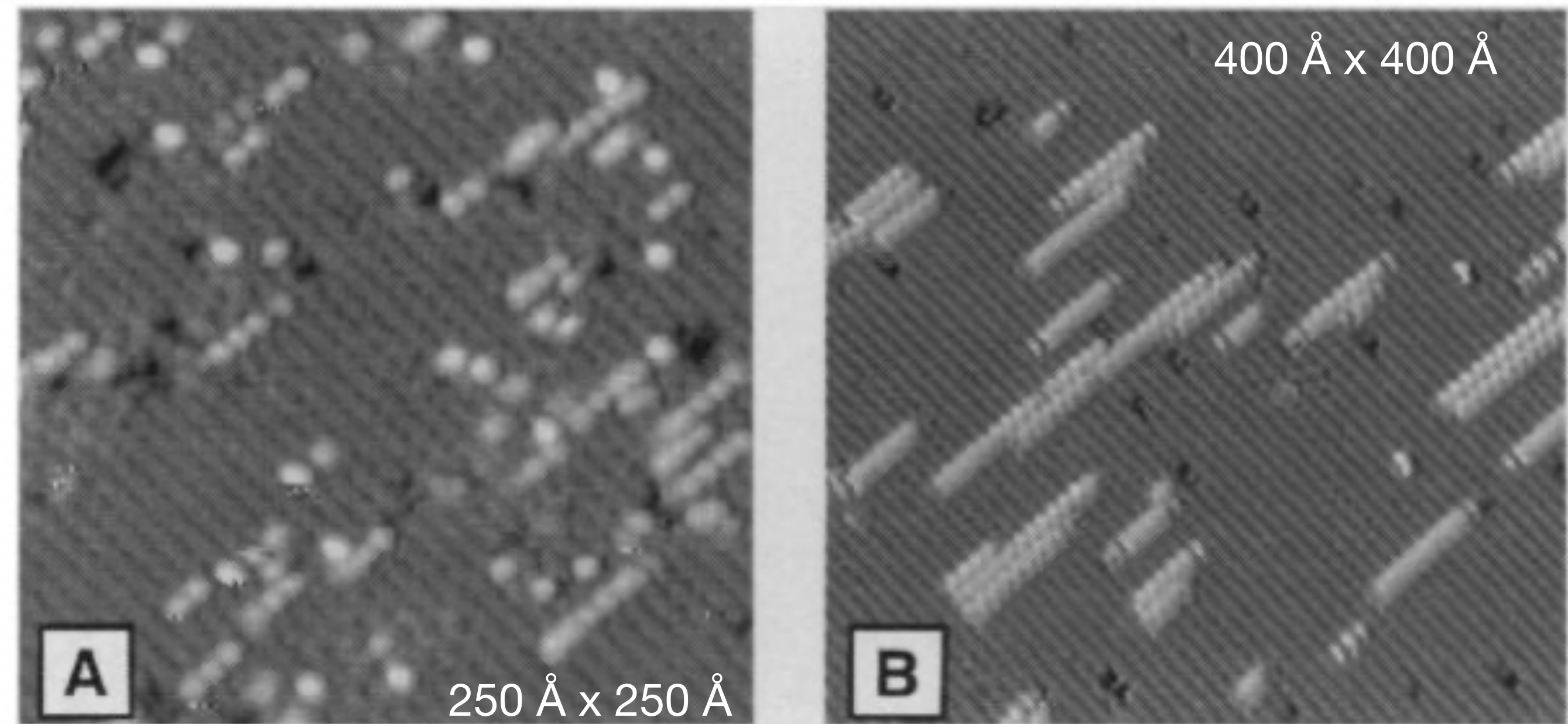
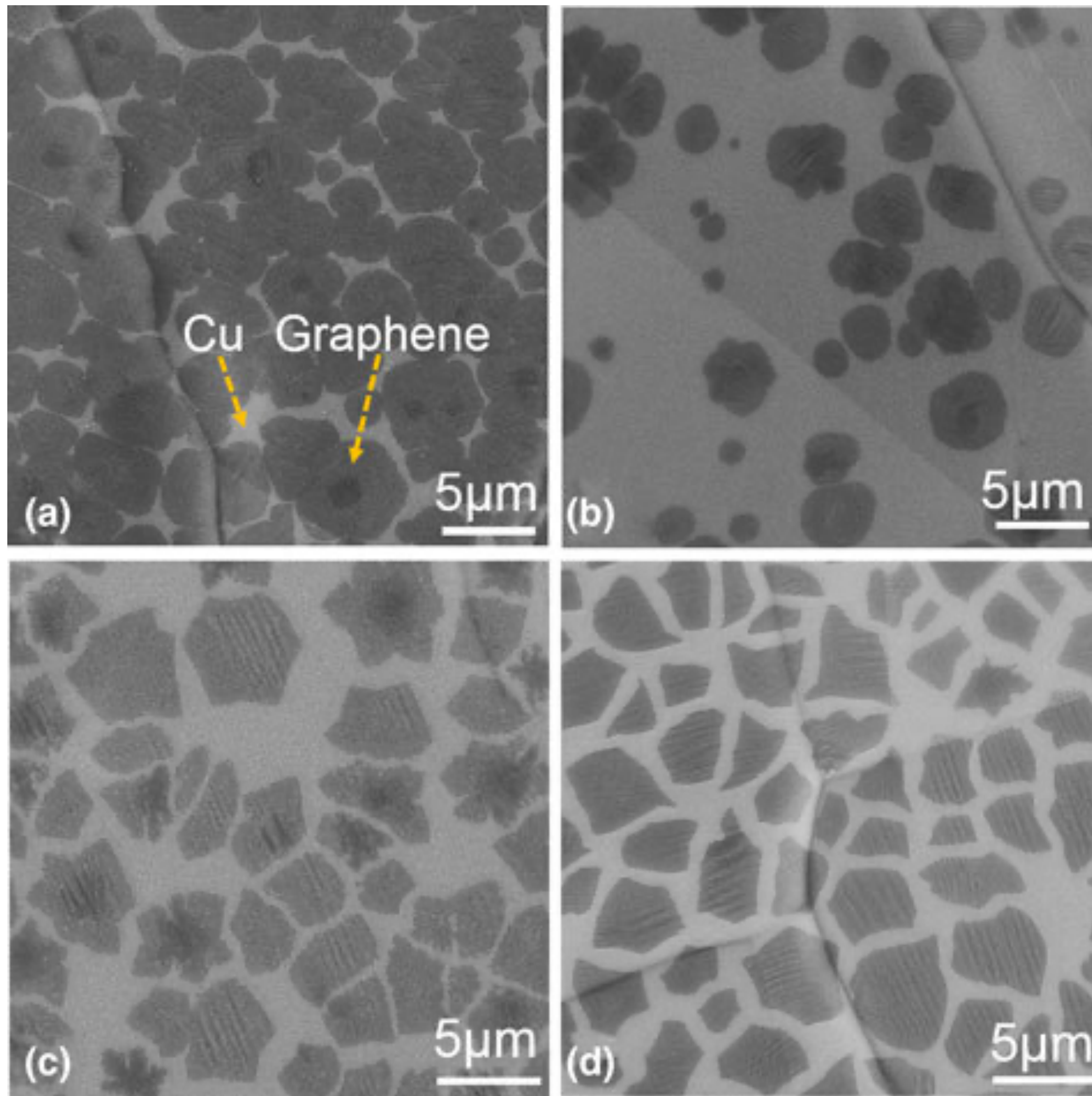
Porquerolles June 22-27 2025



Alberto Pimpinelli
Université Clermont Auvergne
Clermont-Ferrand, France



Introduction to the Physics of Epitaxial Growth: nucleation

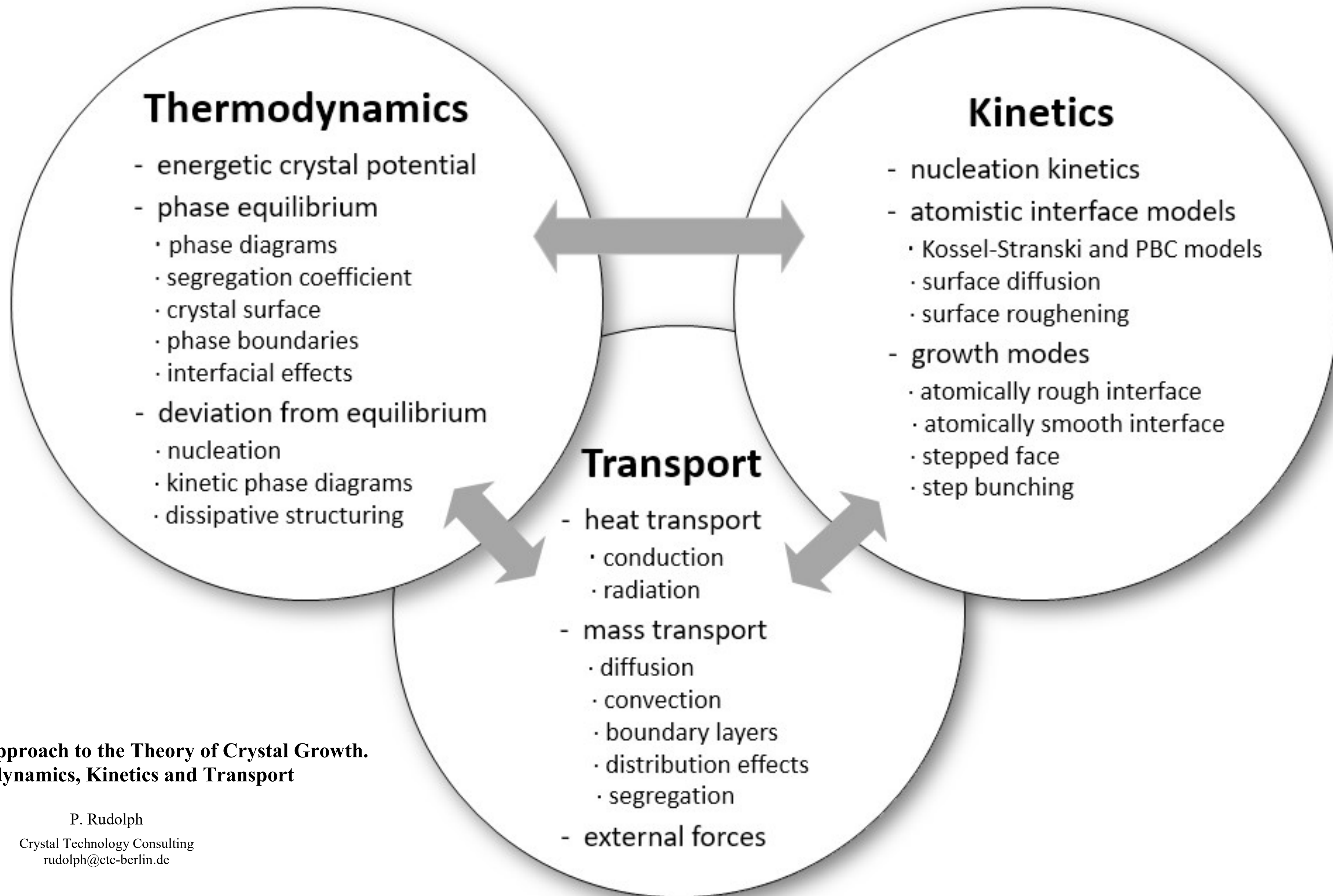


Atomistic Processes in the Early Stages of Thin-Film Growth

Science, Apr. 18, 1997, New Series, Vol. 276, No. 5311 (Apr. 18, 1997), pp. 377-383

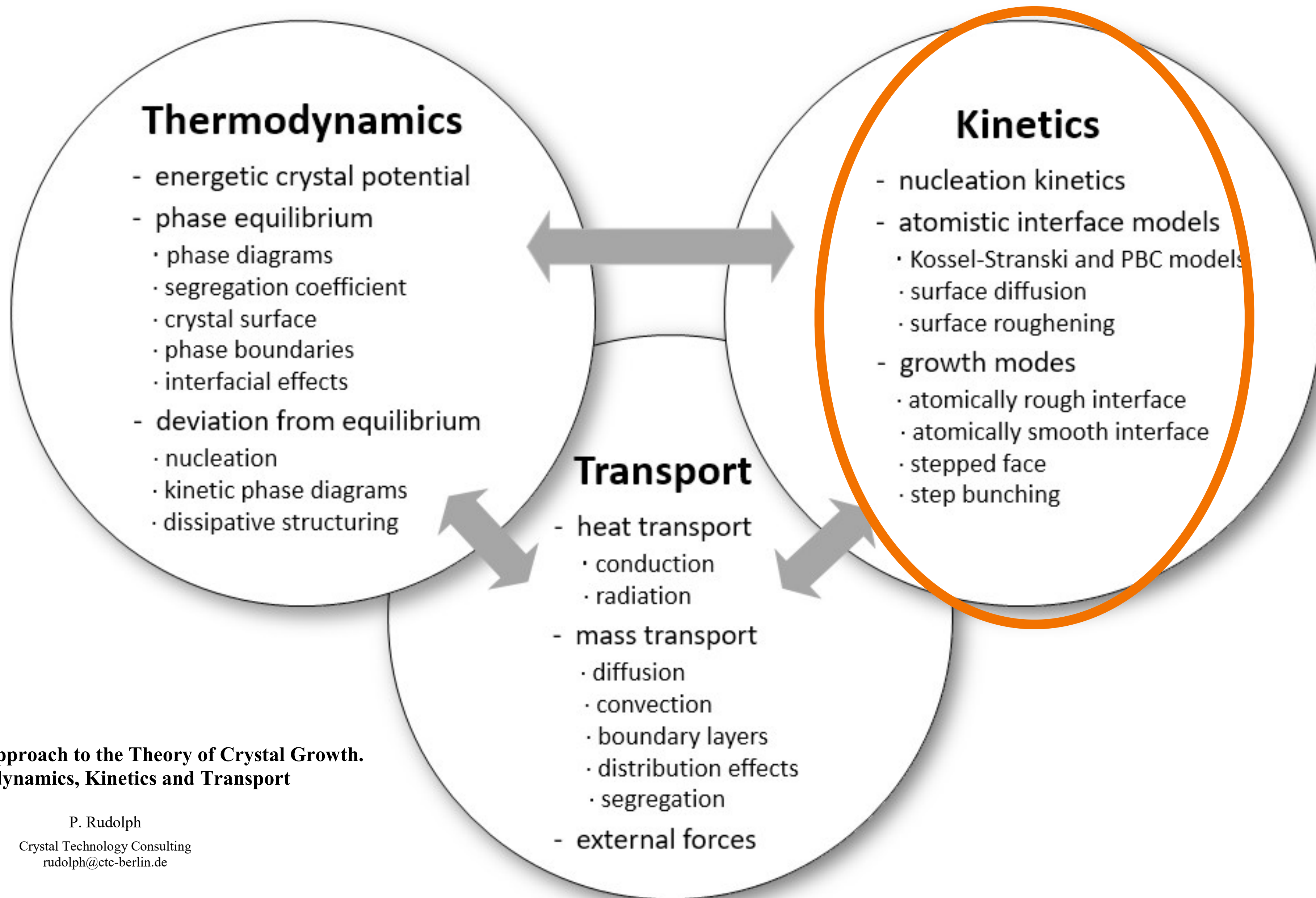
Effect of intermittent oxygen exposure on chemical vapor deposition of graphene

• October 2017 *MRS Communications* 7(04):1-6



A Compressed Approach to the Theory of Crystal Growth.
Thermodynamics, Kinetics and Transport

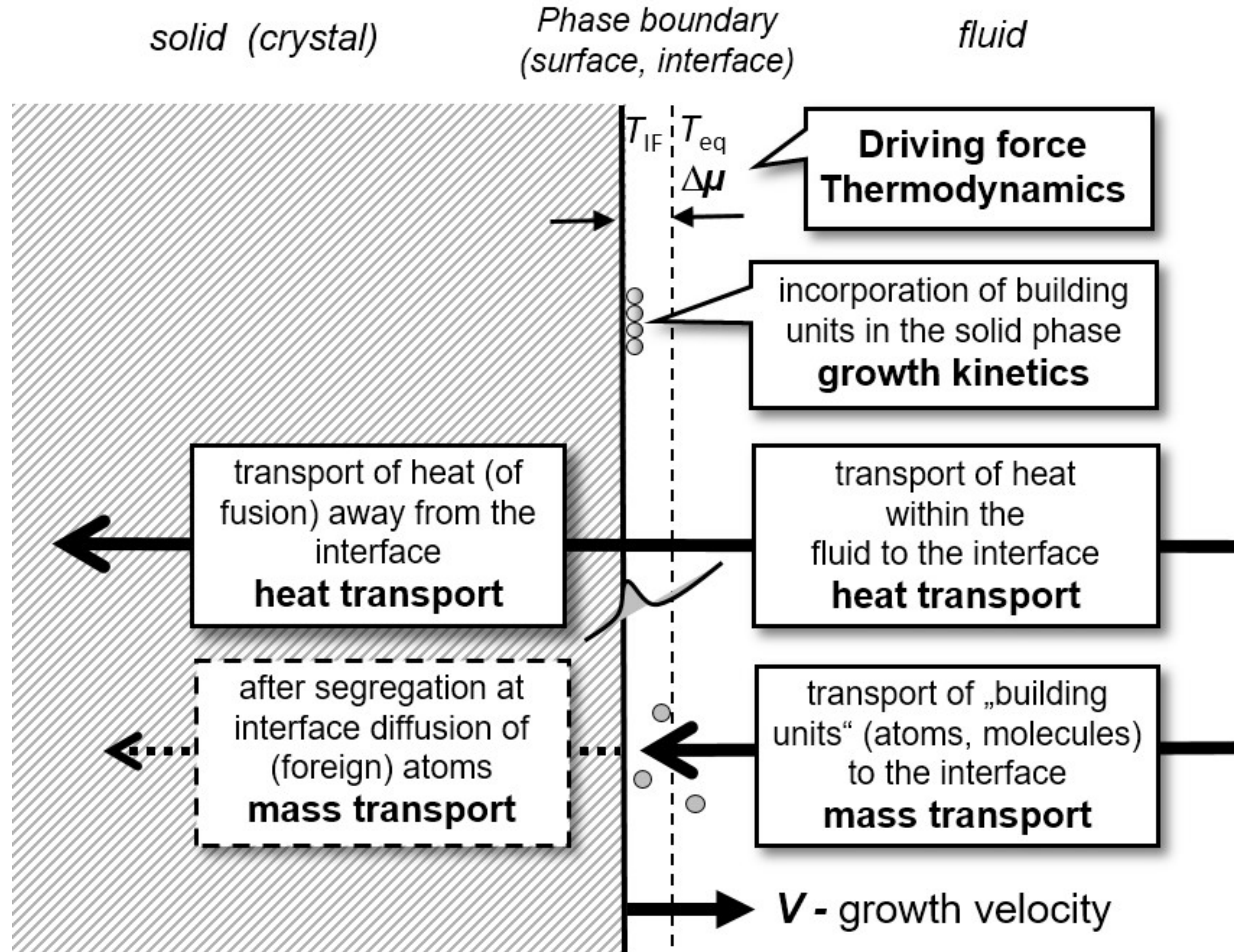
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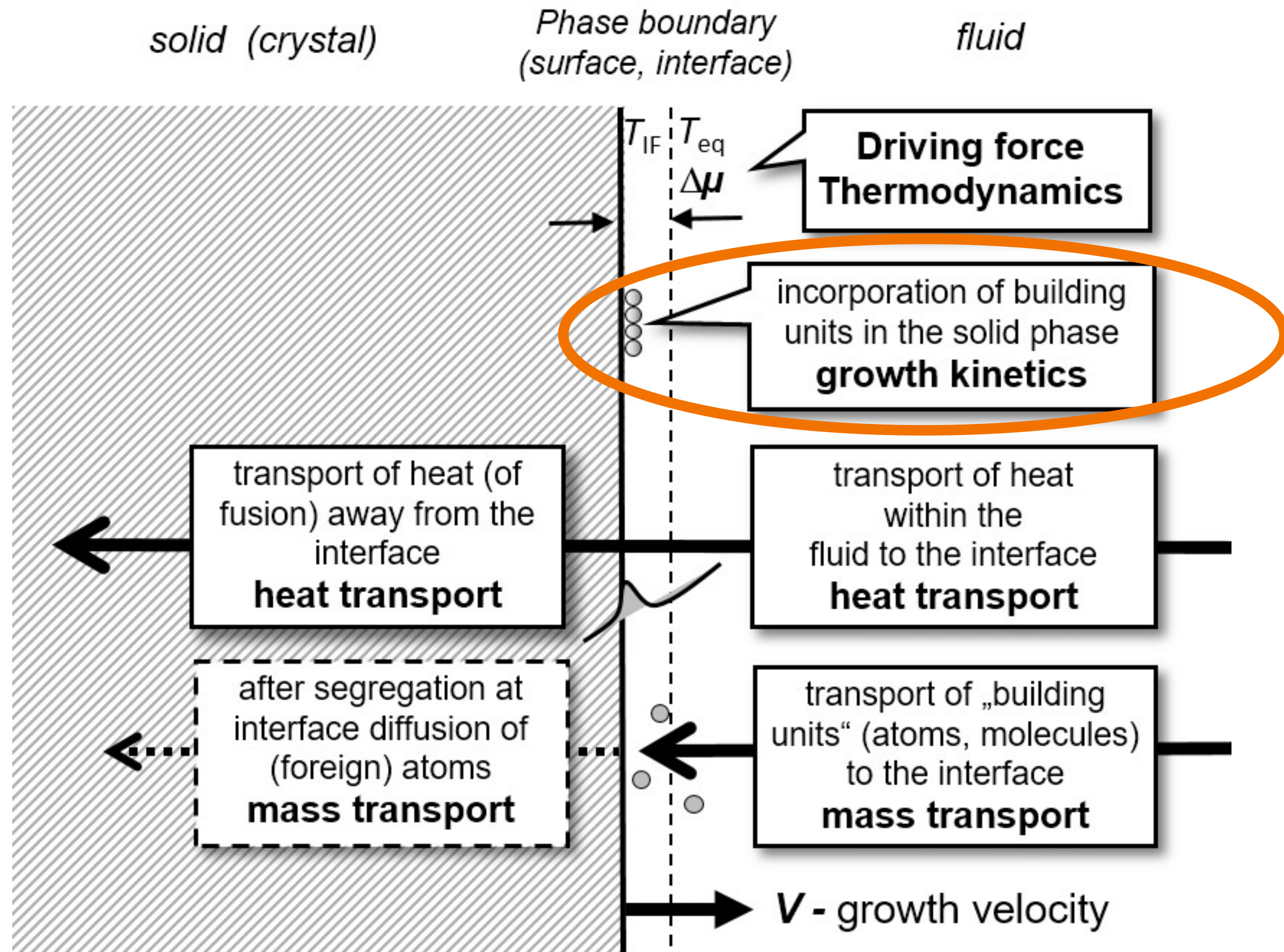
Interface processes during crystal growth



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Interface processes during crystal growth



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Driving force of crystal growth: supersaturation

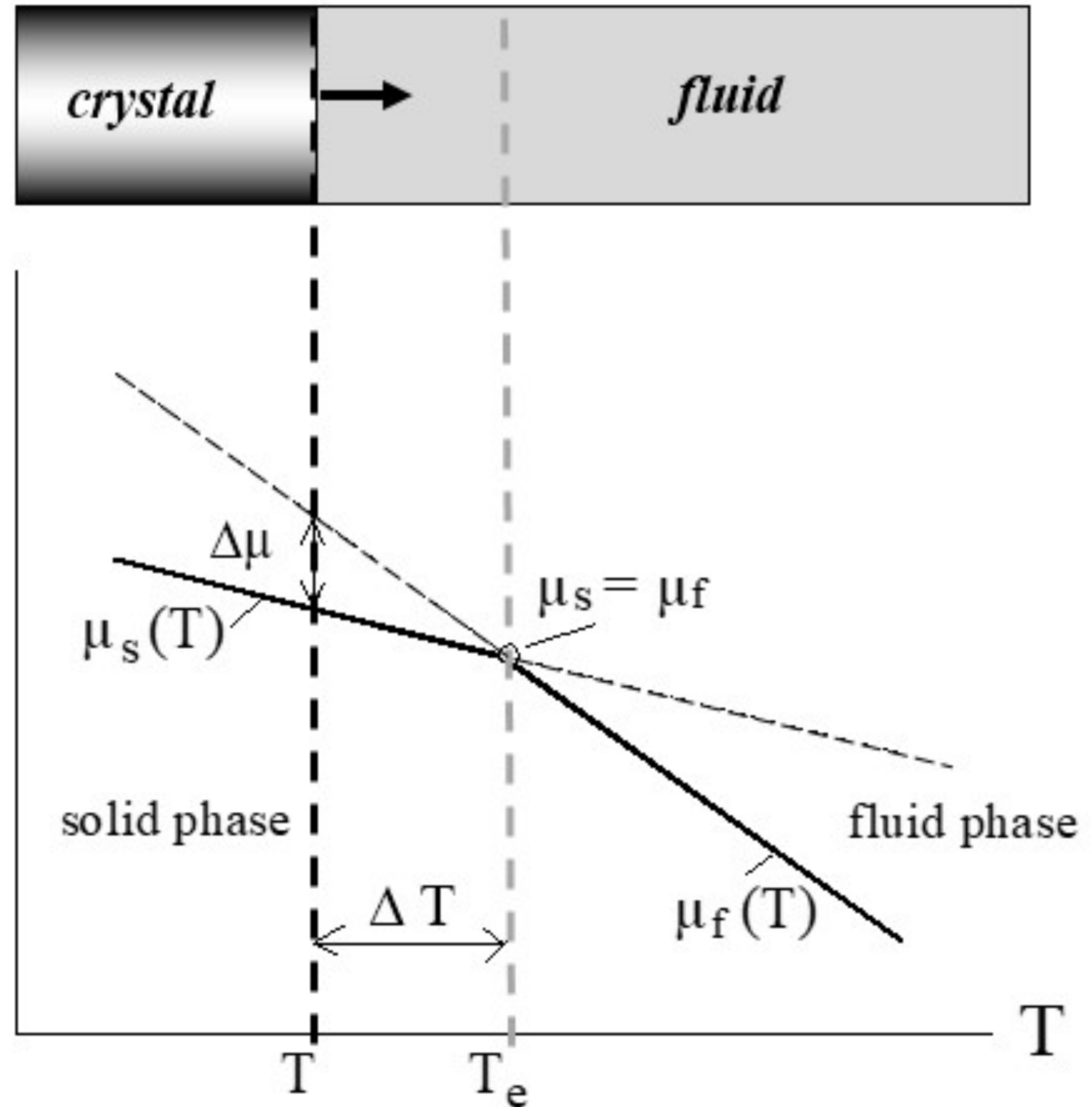
$$G = G(T, P, N), \quad V = \left(\frac{\partial G}{\partial P} \right)_{T, N}$$

$$\mu(T, P) = \left(\frac{\partial G}{\partial N} \right)_{T, N}$$

$$\Delta\mu = k_B T \ln(1 + \Delta P/P_e)$$

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Driving force of crystal growth: supersaturation

$$G = G(T, P, N), \quad V = \left(\frac{\partial G}{\partial P} \right)$$

$$\mu(T, P) = \left(\frac{\partial G}{\partial N} \right)_{T, P}$$

Epitaxy method	LPE	VPE	MOCVD	MBE
Relative super-saturation $\mathcal{S}$	~ 0.02 - 0.1	~ 0.5 - 2	~ 50	~ 10 - 100
Driving force $\Delta\mu$ J/mol ($T = 1000$ K)	~ 165 - 800	~ (3-9) $\times 10^3$	~ 3.3×10^4	~ (2-4) $\times 10^4$

$$\Delta\mu = k_B T \ln(1 + \Delta P/P_e)$$

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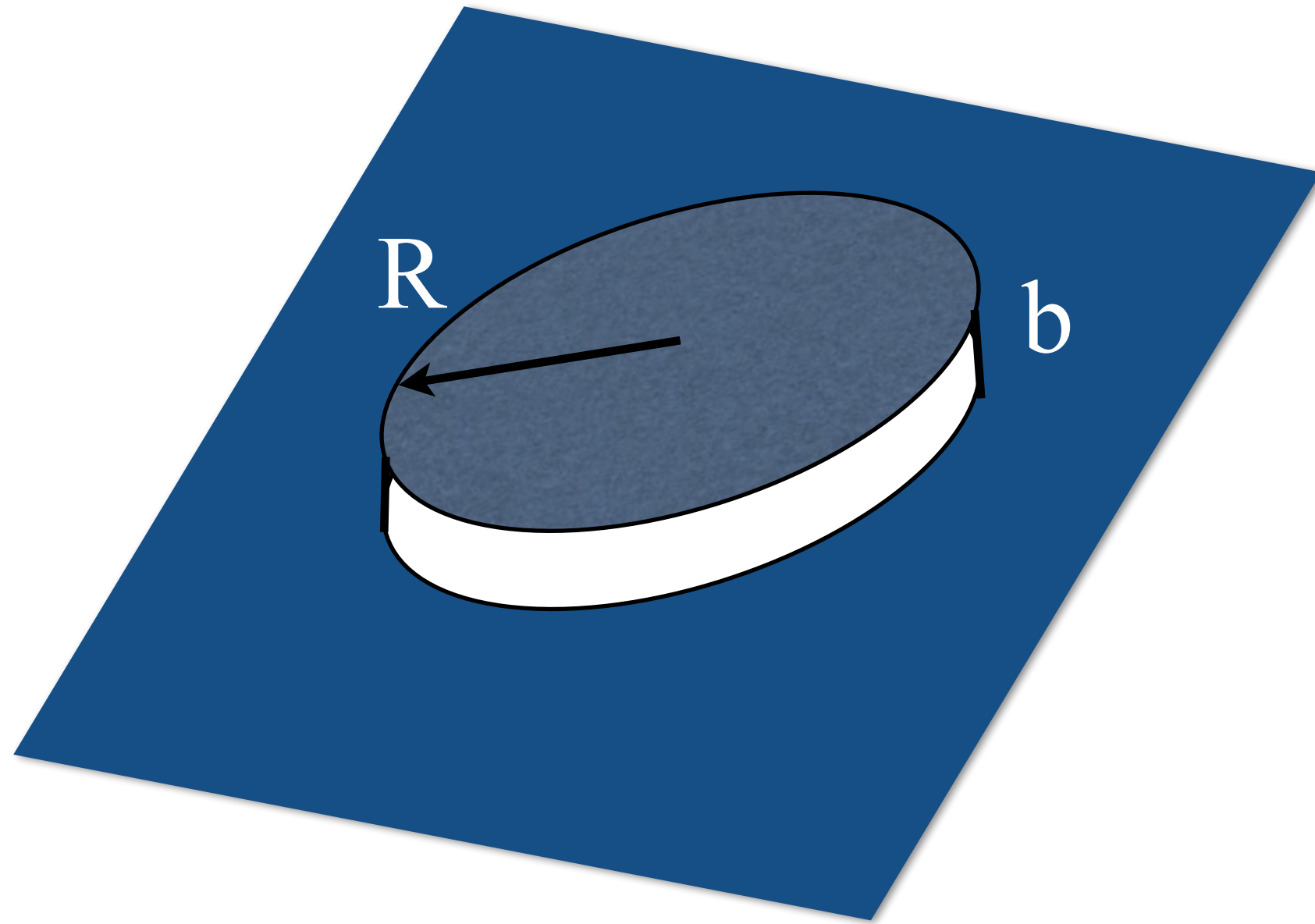
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Classical nucleation theory

- Close to equilibrium (free energy, chemical potential)
- Computes the size (radius) of the critical cluster, nucleation barrier

Classical nucleation theory

$$\Delta G = 2\pi\gamma bR - \pi\Delta\mu bR^2$$



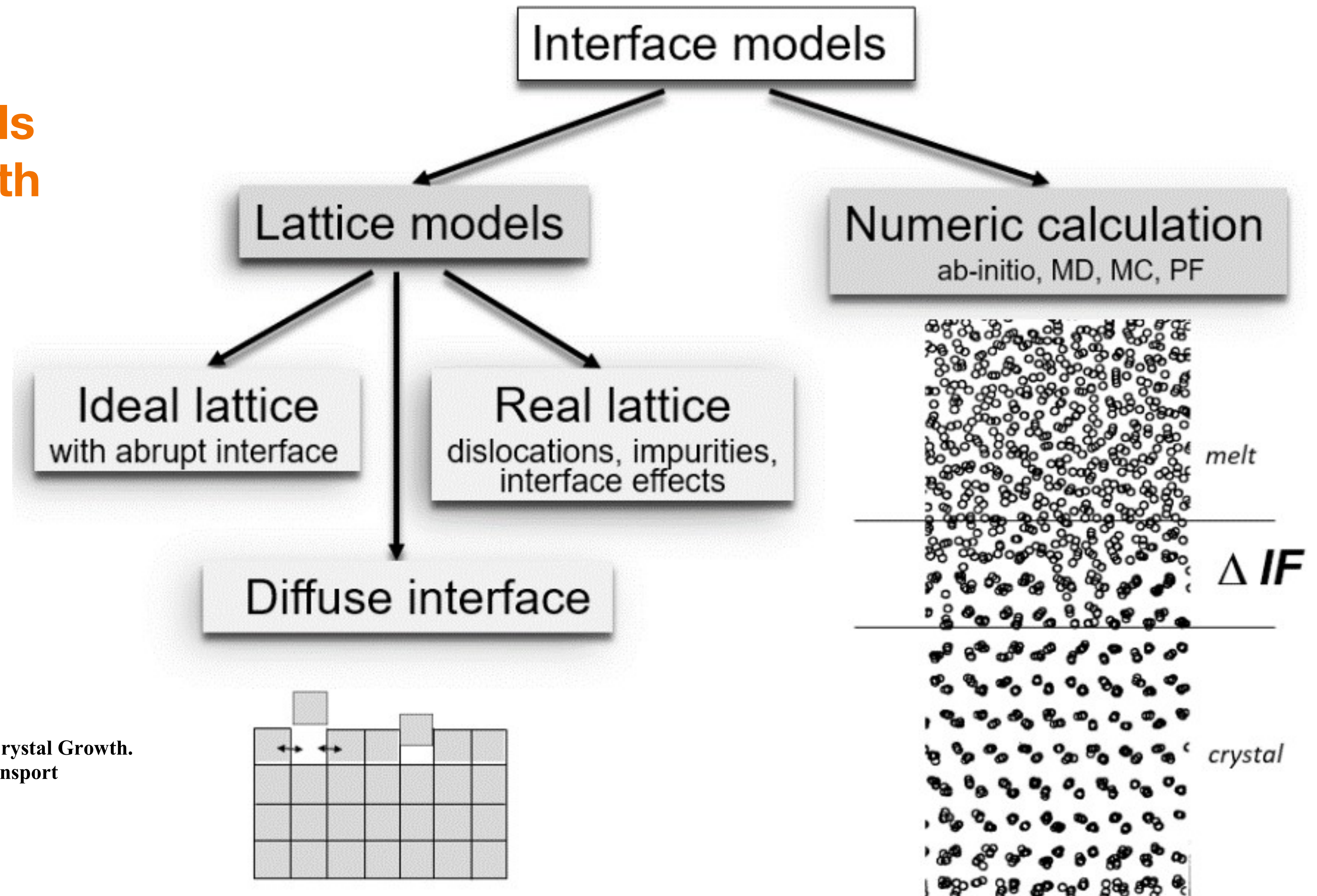
$$R_c = \frac{\gamma}{\Delta\mu}$$

Step free energy

$$\Delta G_c = \pi b \frac{\gamma^2}{\Delta\mu} = \pi b \frac{\gamma}{R_c}$$

R_c “critical nucleus size”

Numerical models and crystal growth



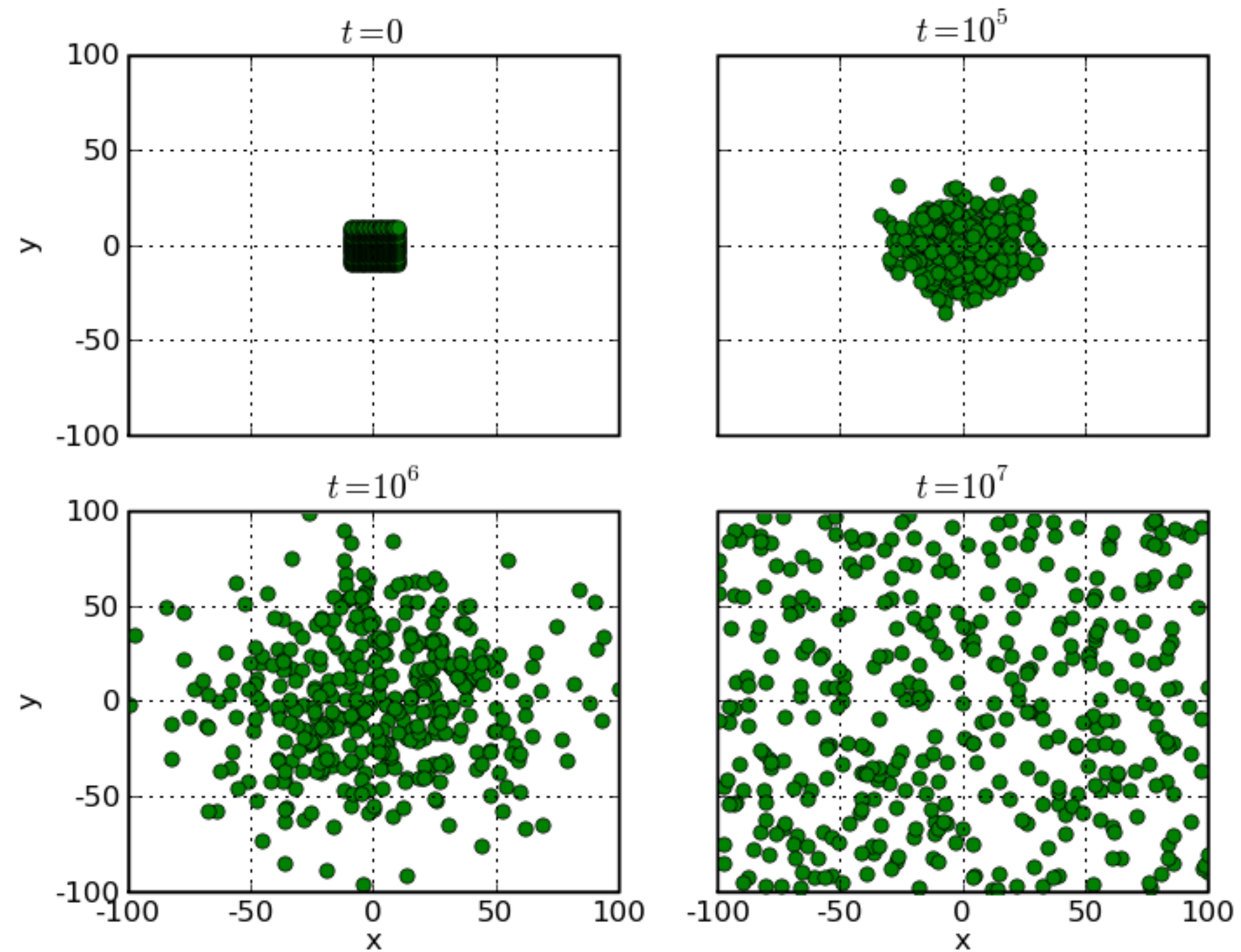
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An example of numerical methods

Kinetic Monte Carlo (kMC)

Diffusion is a random walk!



Diffusion is a random walk!

(case $p_{\leftarrow} = p_{\rightarrow}$)

$$P(i, N) = \frac{1}{2}P(i+1, N-1) + \frac{1}{2}P(i-1, N-1)$$

Defining: $t = N\tau$, $x = i\ell$ we have:

$$P(x, t) = \frac{1}{2}P(x+l, t-\tau) + \frac{1}{2}P(x-l, t-\tau)$$

We rewrite this by subtracting $P(x, t-\tau)$ and dividing by τ

$$\frac{P(x, t) - P(x, t-\tau)}{\tau} = \frac{P(x+l, t-\tau) + P(x-l, t-\tau) - 2P(x, t-\tau)}{2\tau}$$

we get

$$\frac{\partial P(x, t)}{\partial t} \approx \frac{l^2}{2\tau} \frac{\partial^2 P(x, t)}{\partial x^2}$$

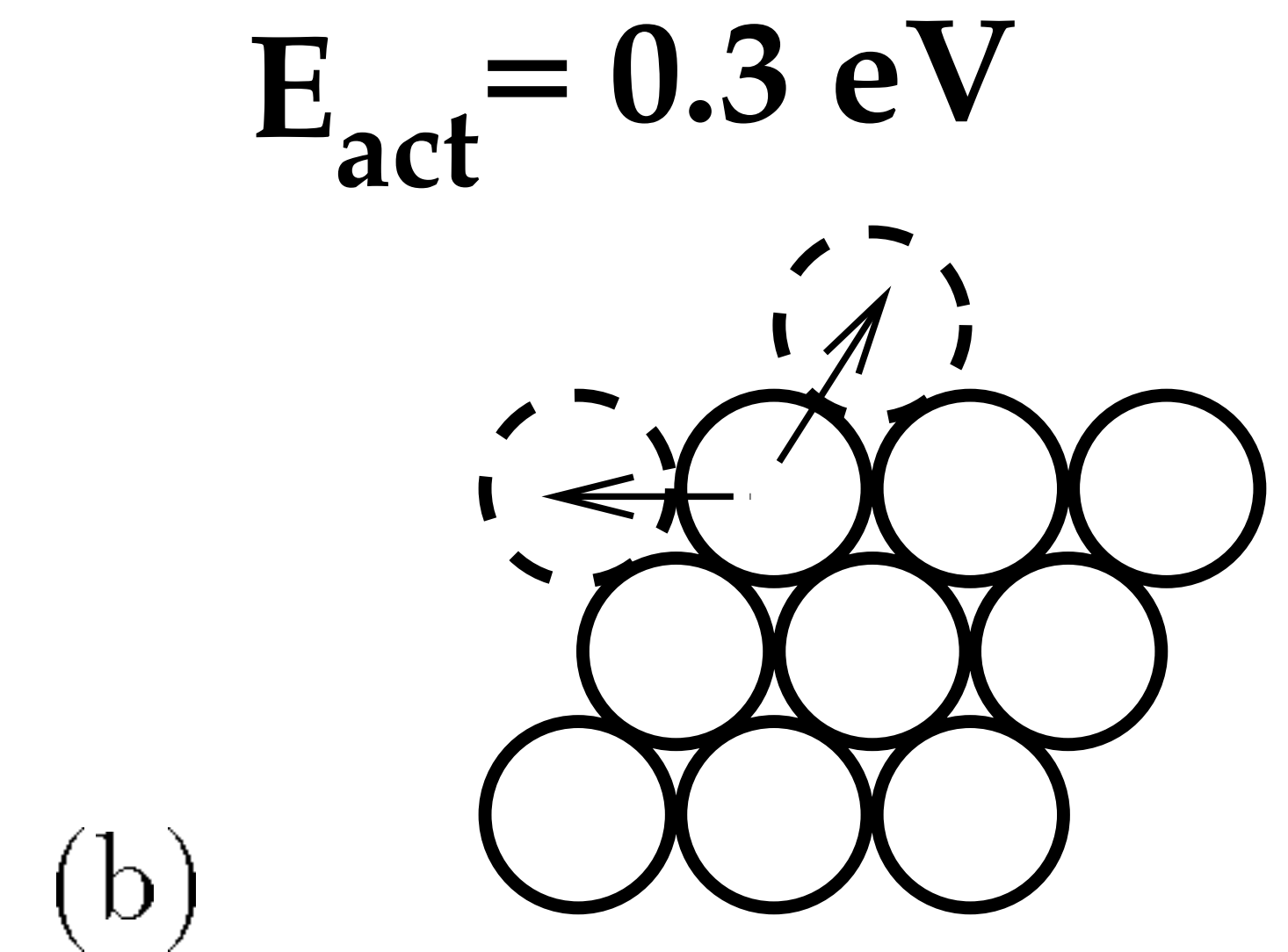
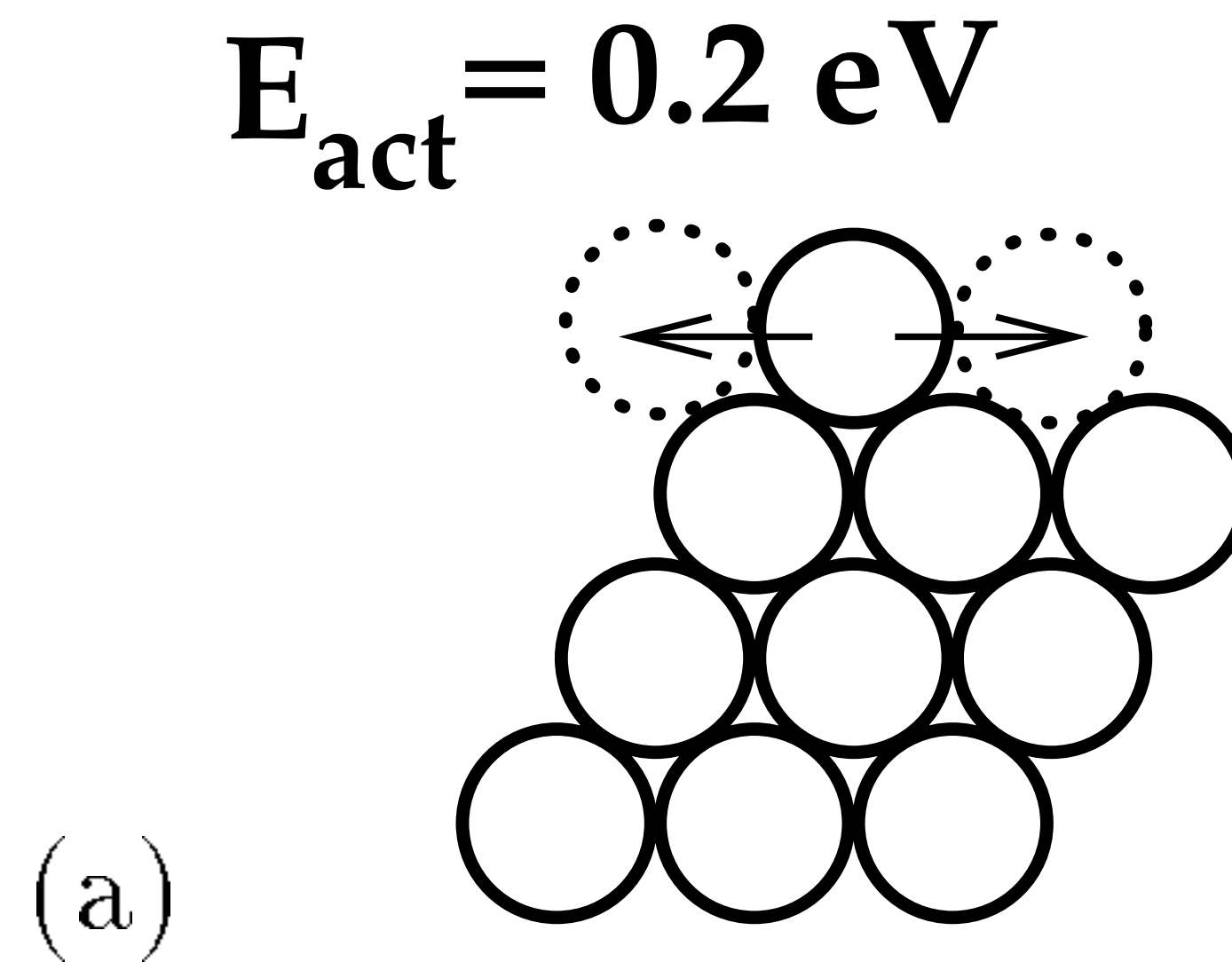
In the limit $\tau \rightarrow 0$, $l \rightarrow 0$ but where the ratio l^2/τ is finite, this becomes an exact relation.

An example of numerical methods

Kinetic Monte Carlo (kMC)

$$p_i = \nu_0 e^{\frac{-i E}{k_b T}}$$

$$E = 0.1 \text{ eV}$$

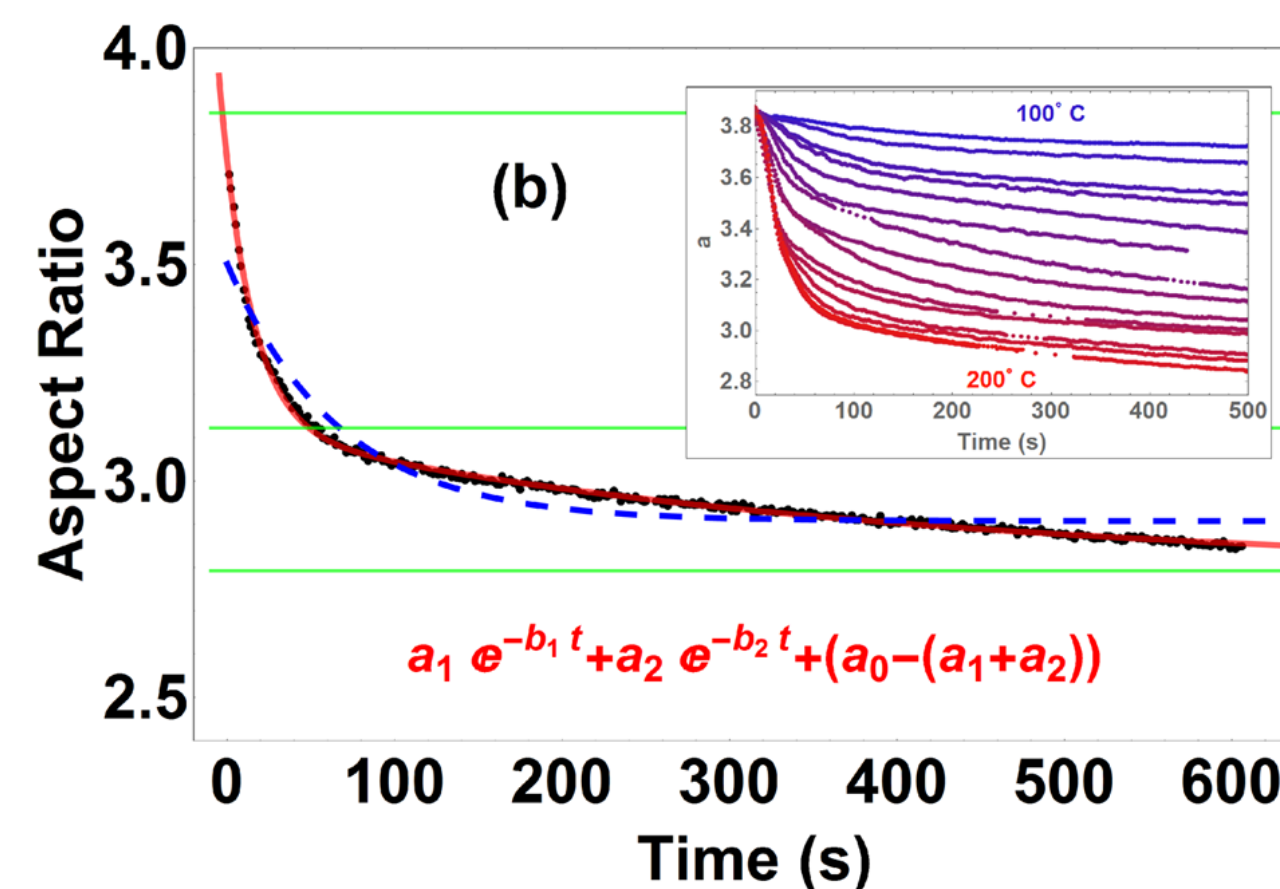
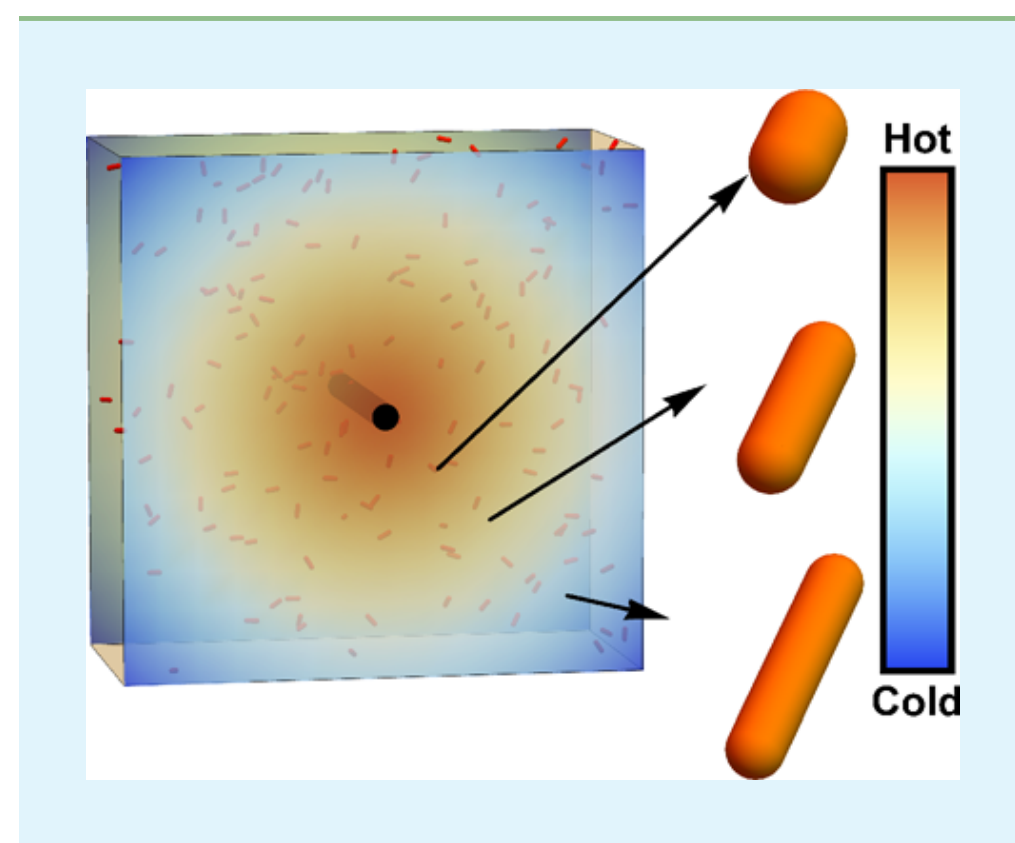


My own The Big Bang Theory moment

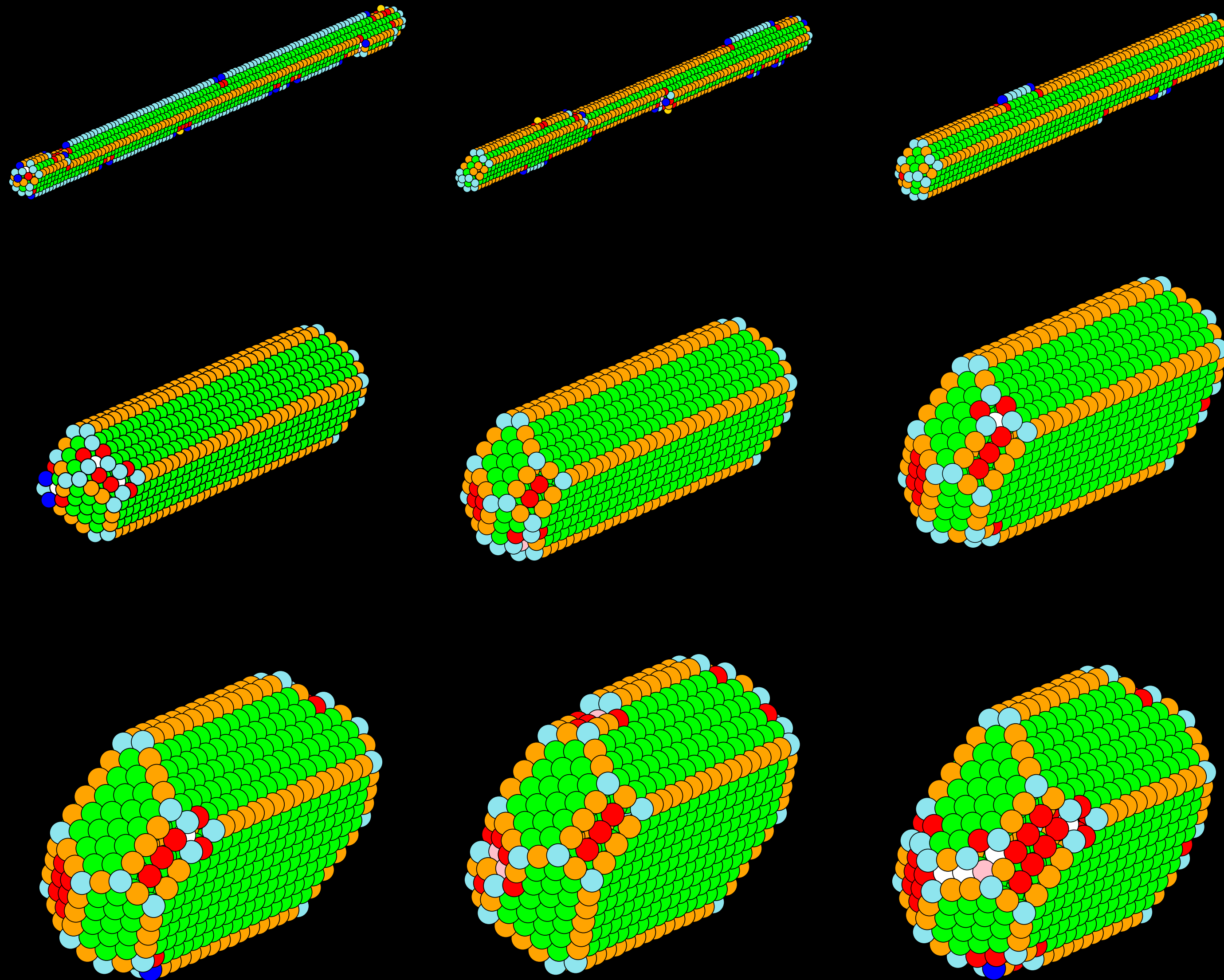


High-Resolution Mapping of Thermal History in Polymer Nanocomposites: Gold Nanorods as Microscale Temperature Sensors

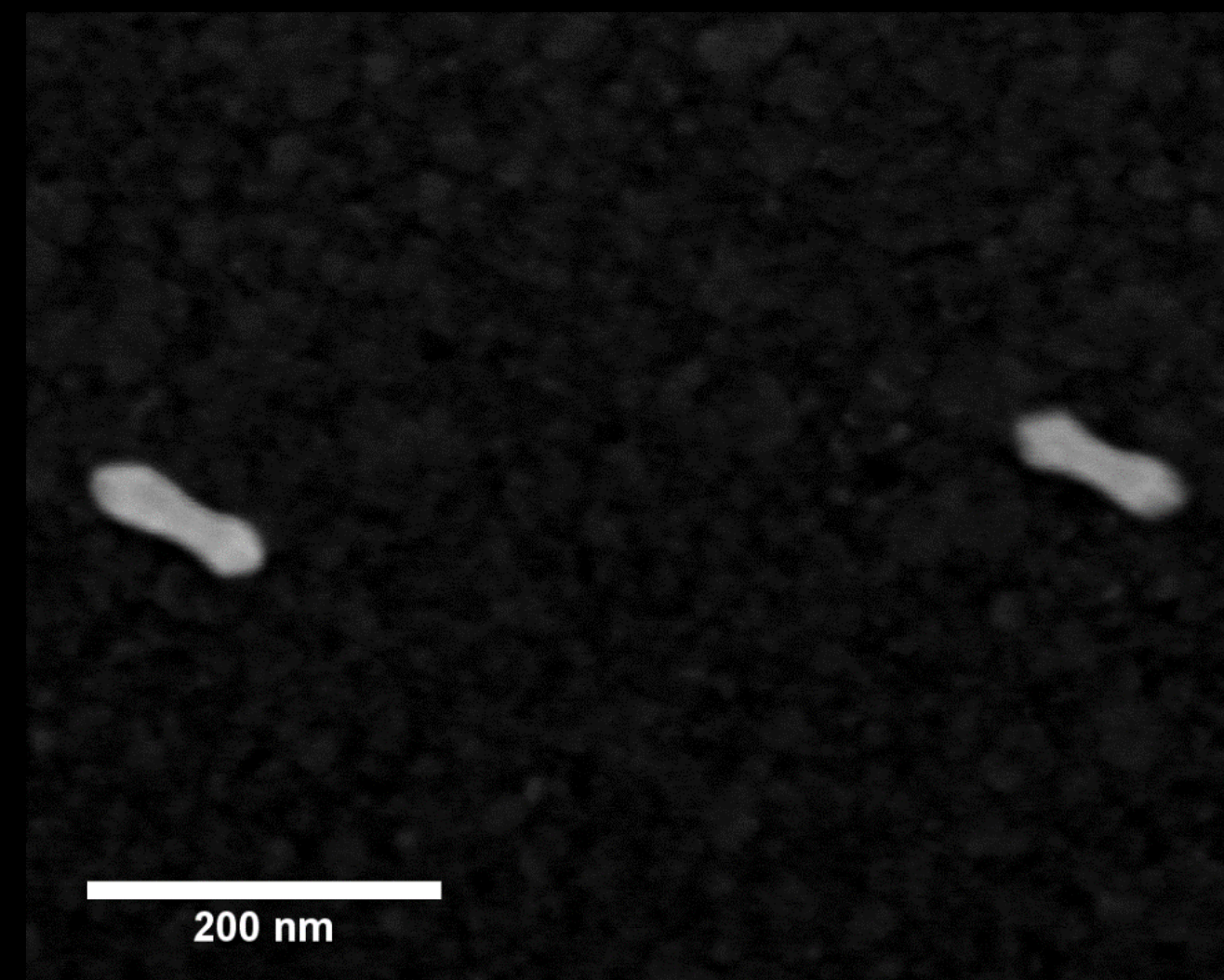
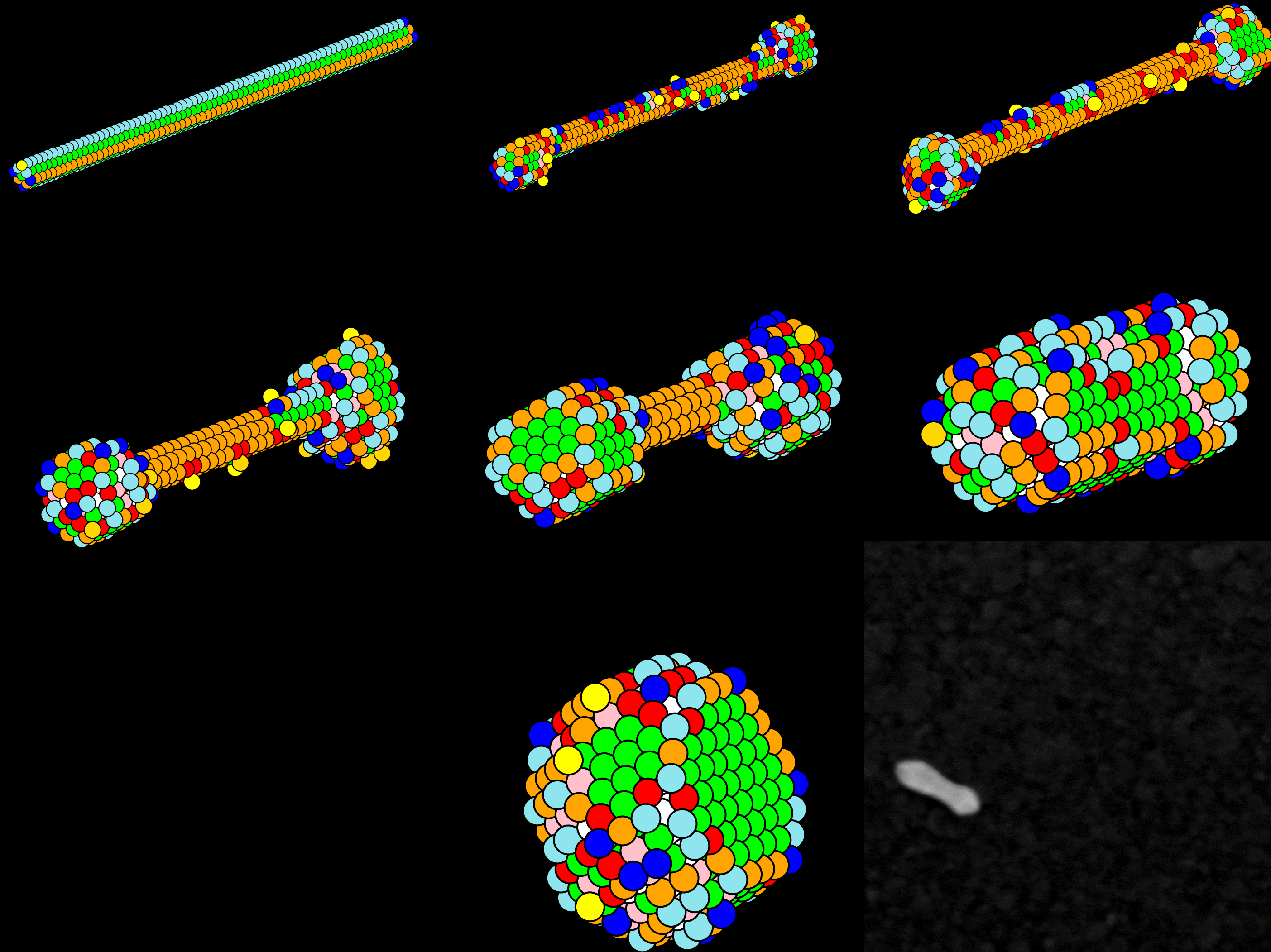
W. Joshua Kennedy,^{†,‡} Keith A. Slinker,^{†,‡} Brent L. Volk,[‡] Hilmar Koerner,[‡] Trenton J. Godar,^{§,‡}
Gregory J. Ehlert,[‡] and Jeffery W. Baur^{*,‡}

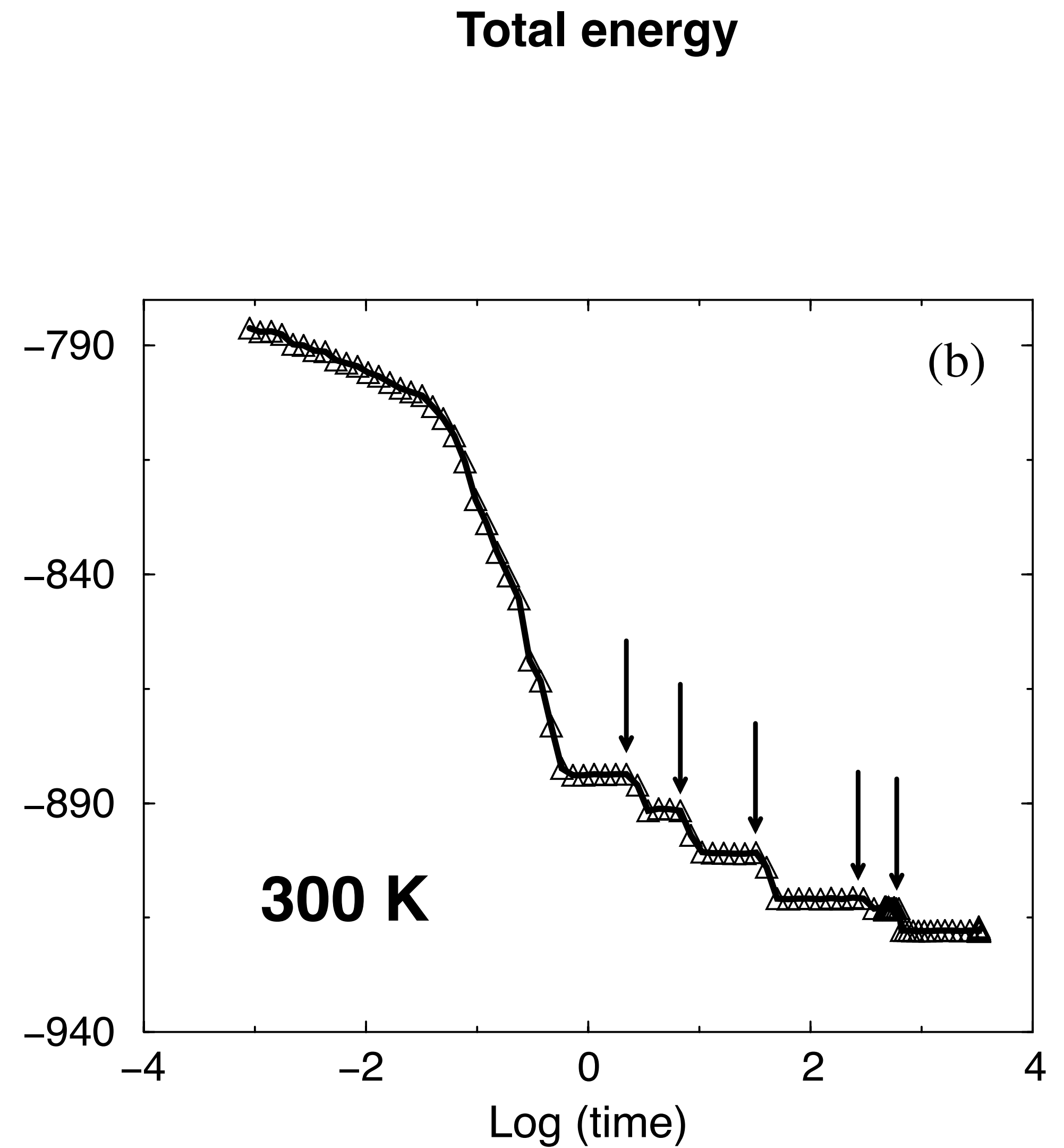
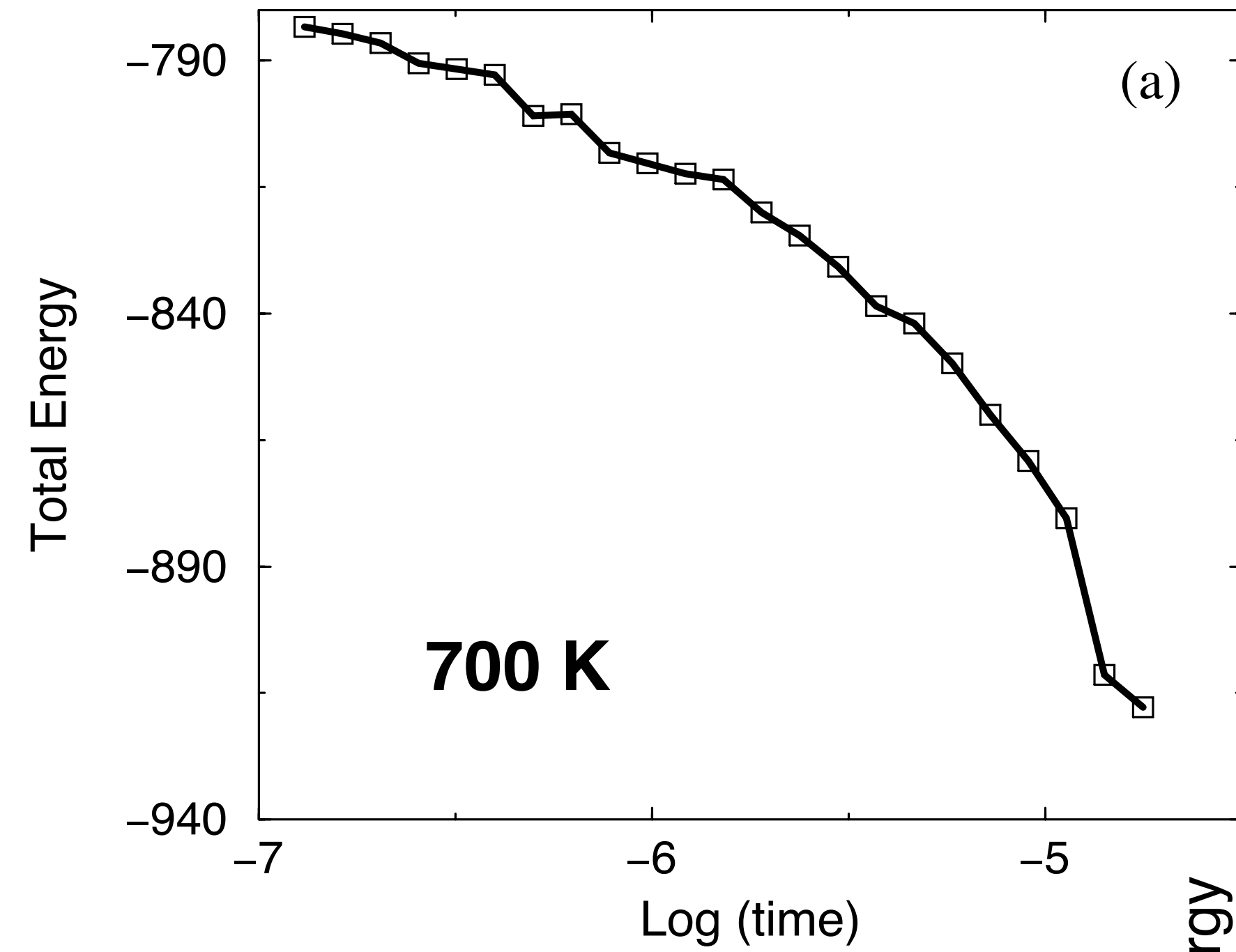


$N = 1728, T = 300\text{K}$ time evolution

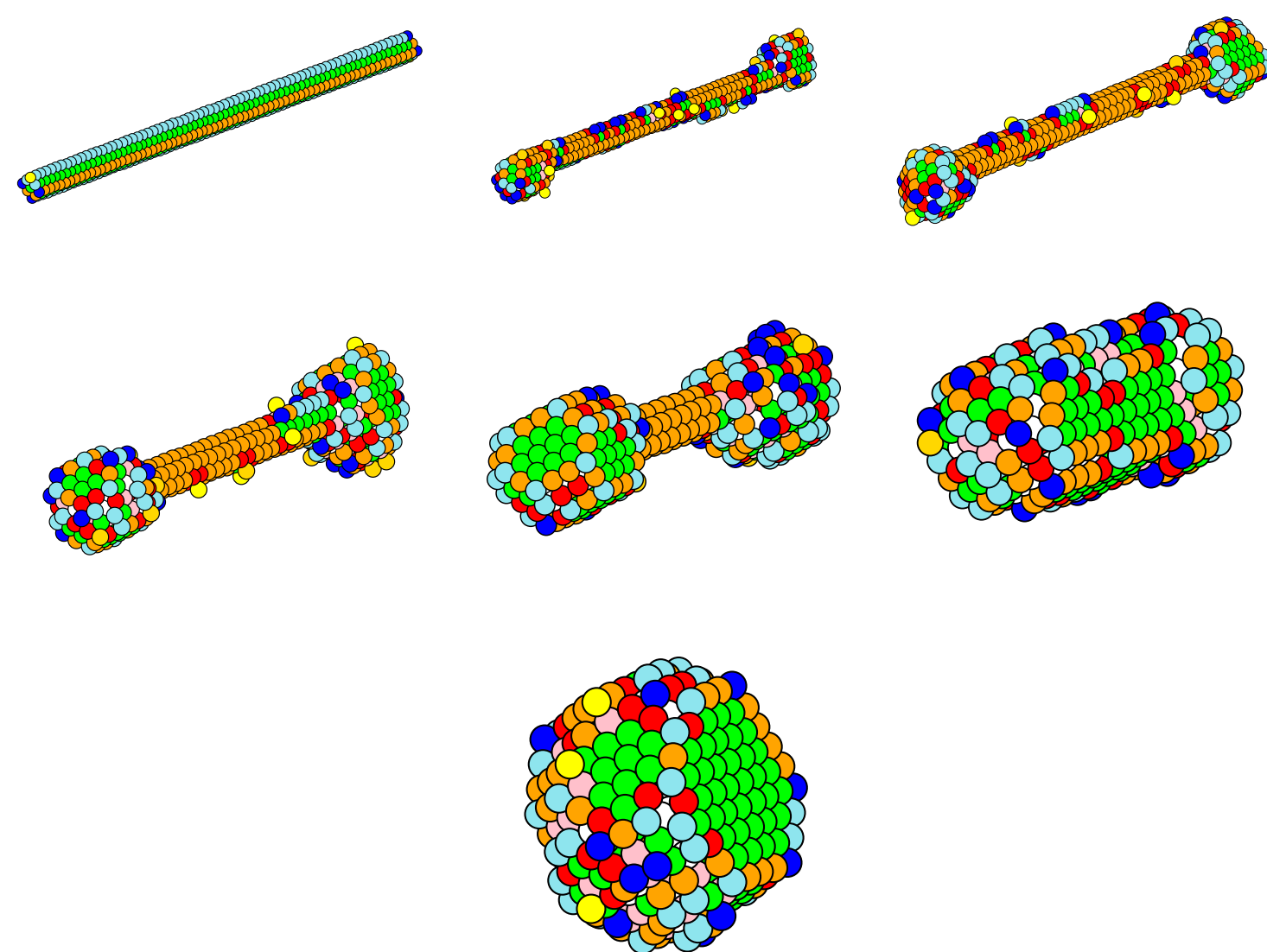


$N = 675$, $T = 700\text{K}$ time evolution

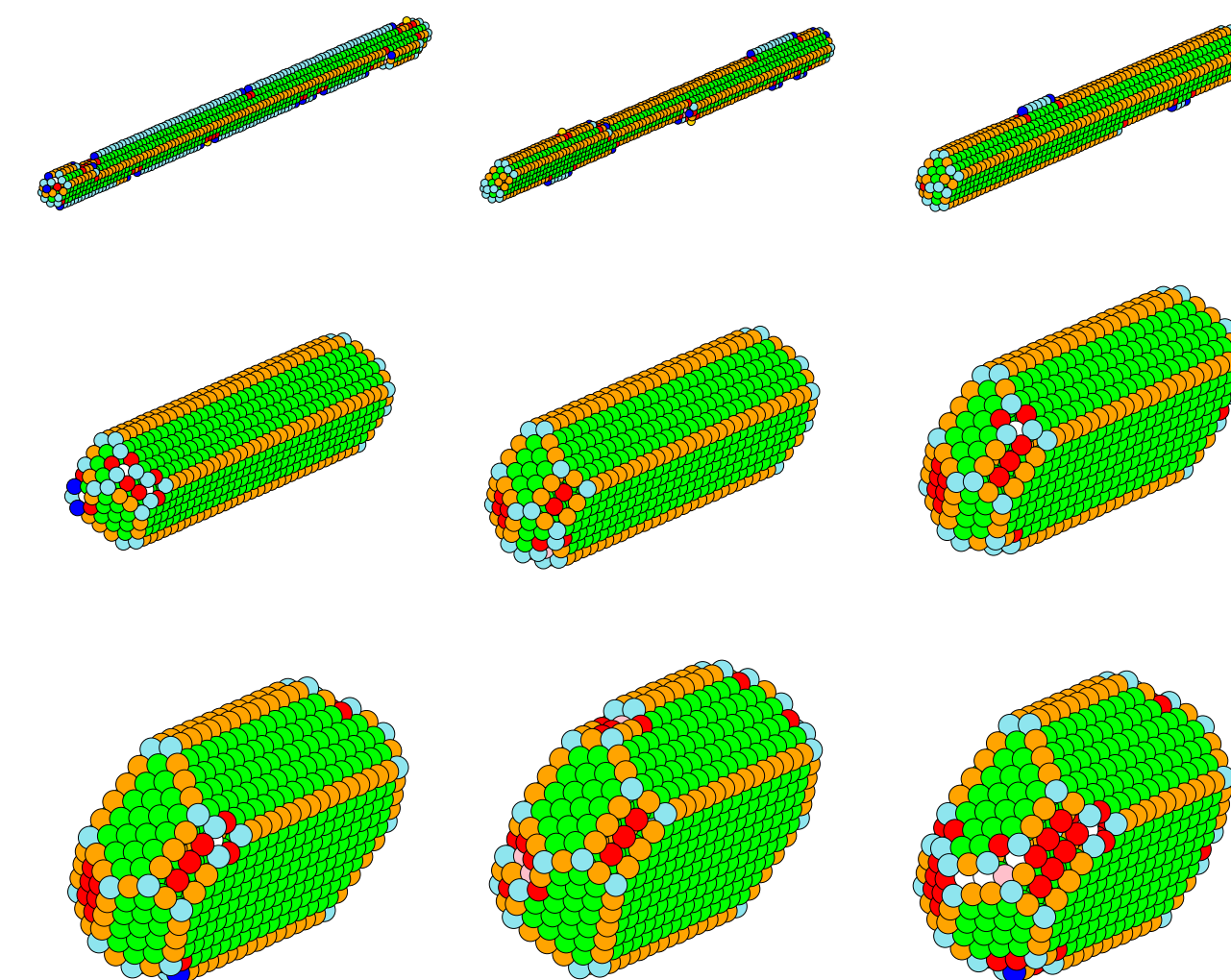




Equilibration time: time needed
to attain an aspect ratio of 1.2

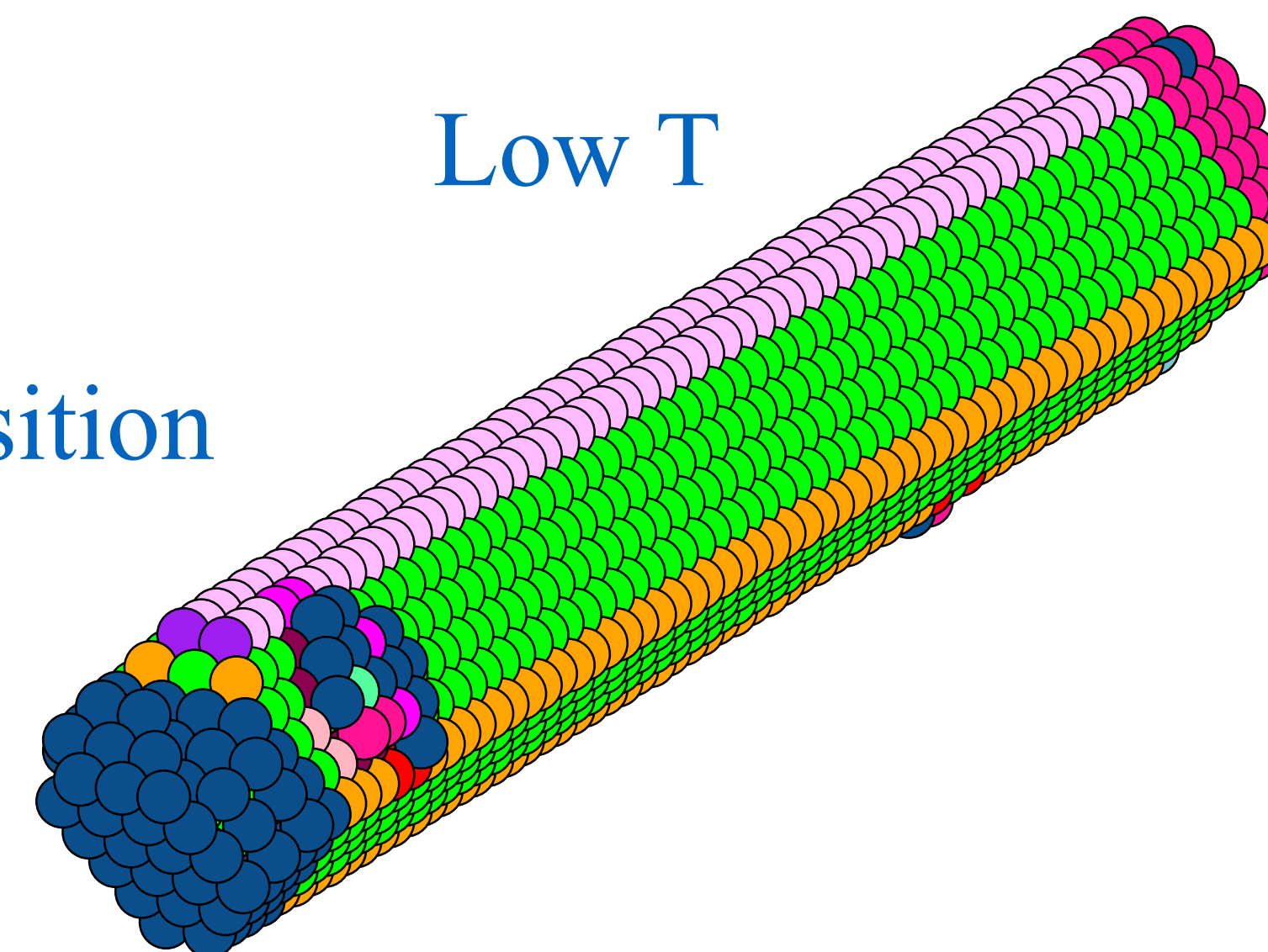


High T



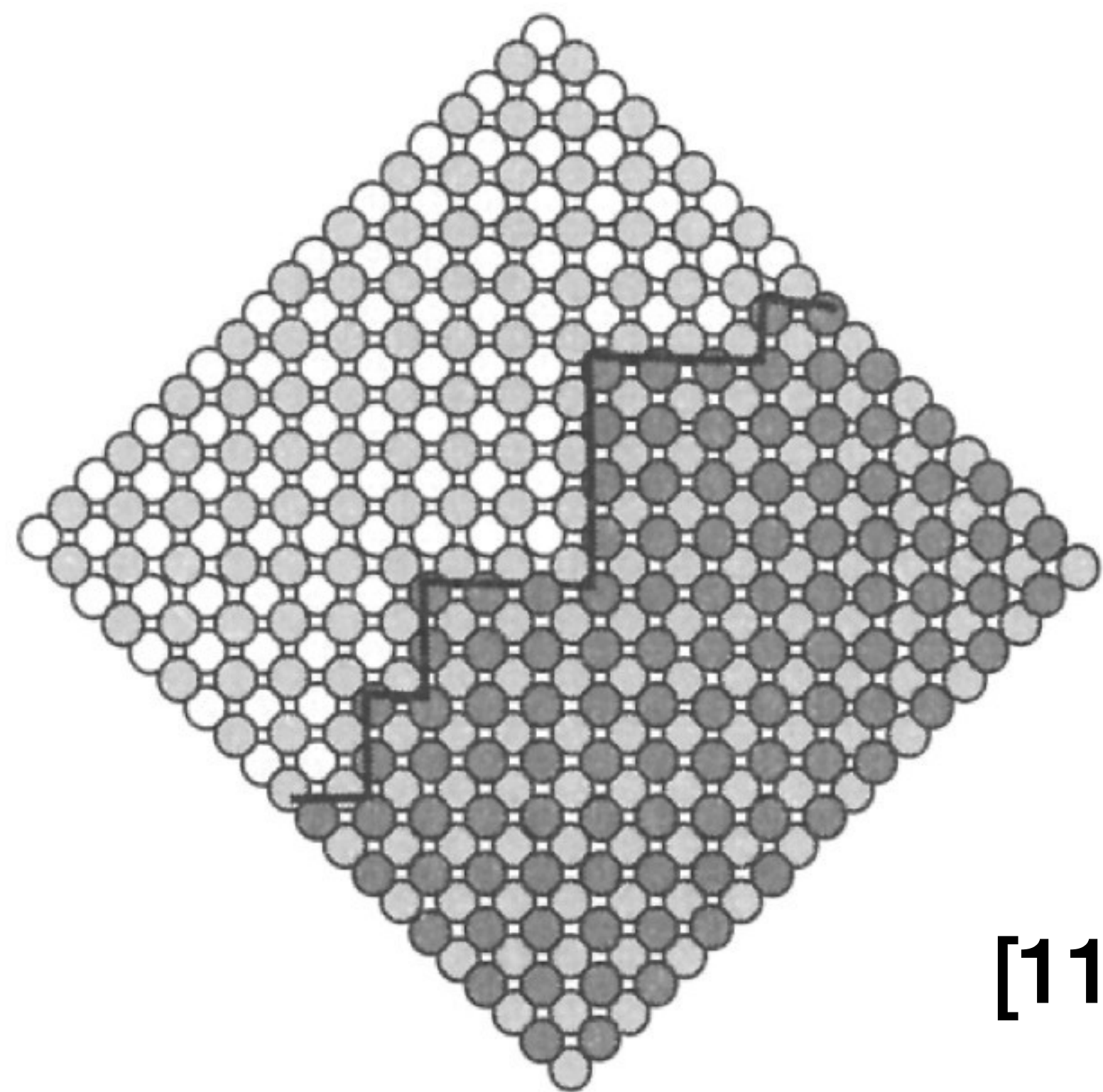
Low T

Roughening transition



The Roughening Transition

Step Free Energy: work needed to create a step, per bond



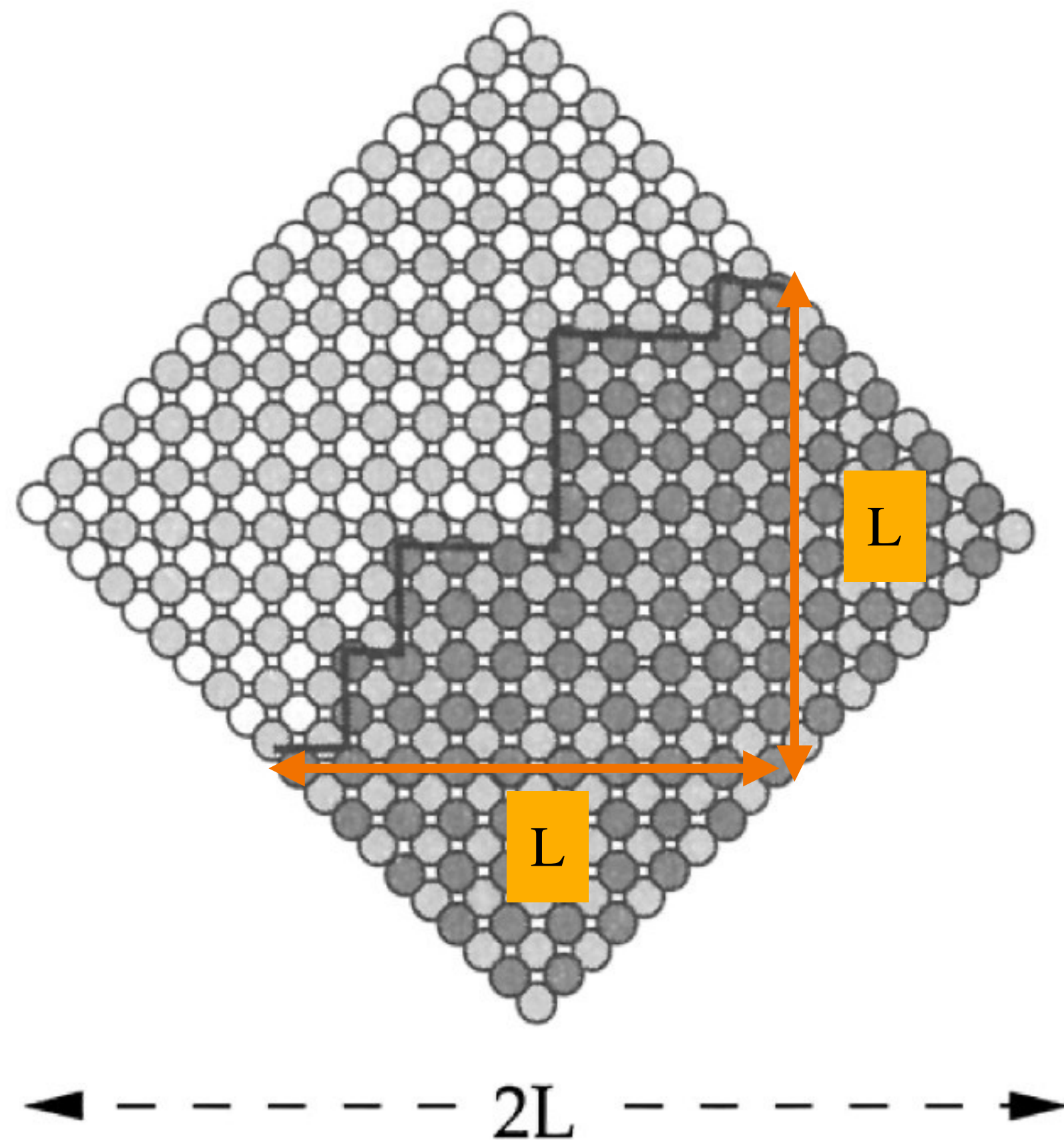
$$\Delta G^* = \pi h \gamma^2 / \Delta \mu$$

[110] step on a (100) surface

← - - - - 2L - - - - →

The Roughening Transition

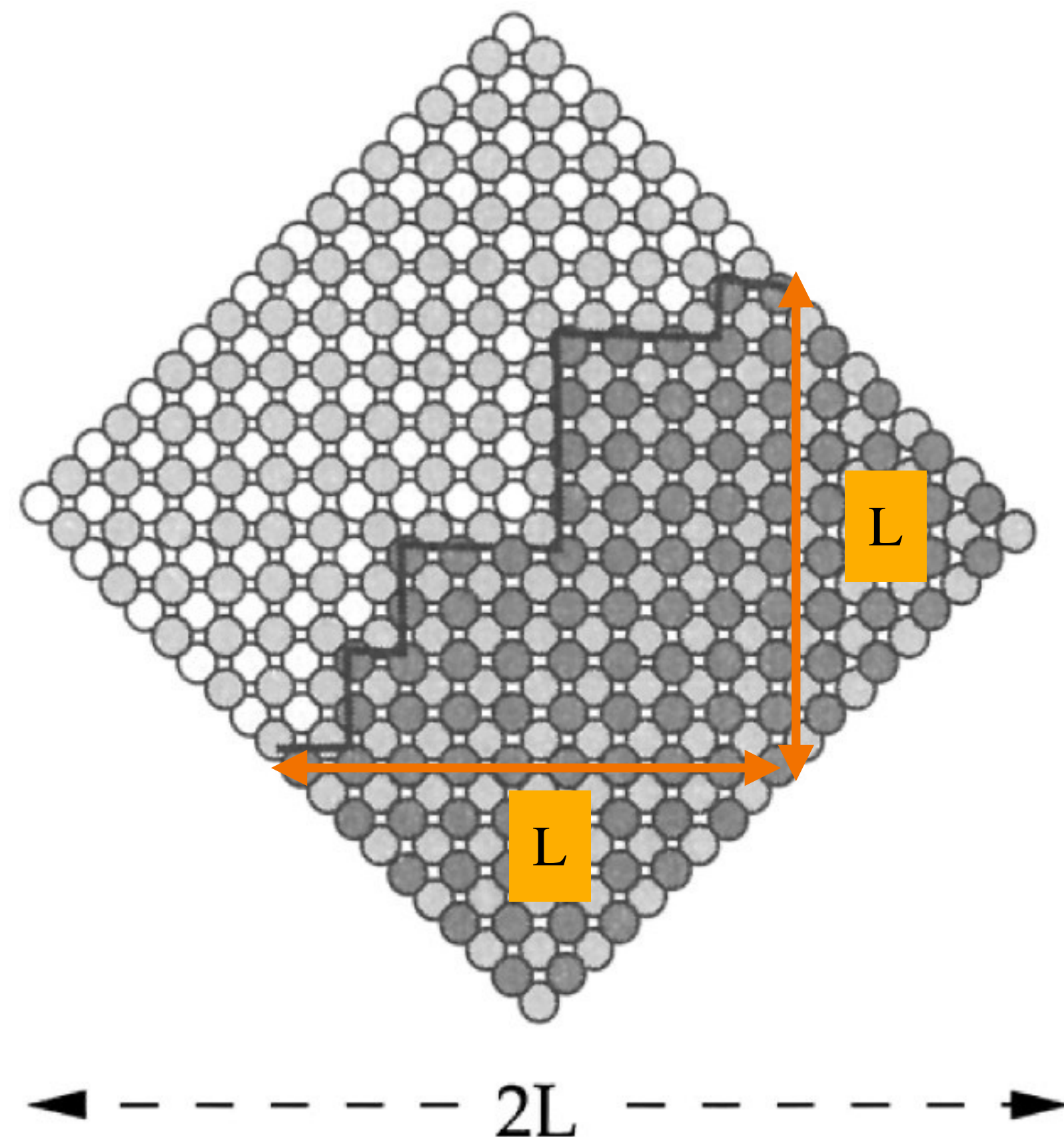
Step Free Energy: work needed to create a step, per bond



- Step: random walk from left to right (fixed ends)
- Number of steps = number of bonds = $2L$
- Bond energy = W_1
- Total energy = $2LW_1$
- Number of configurations = 2^{2L}
- Entropy = $2L k_B \ln 2$

The Roughening Transition

Step Free Energy: work needed to create a step, per bond



$$\gamma = e - Ts$$

$$\gamma = W_1 - k_B T \ln 2$$

$$\gamma = 0 \rightarrow T_R = \frac{W_1}{k_B \ln 2}$$

Surfaces: smooth and rough

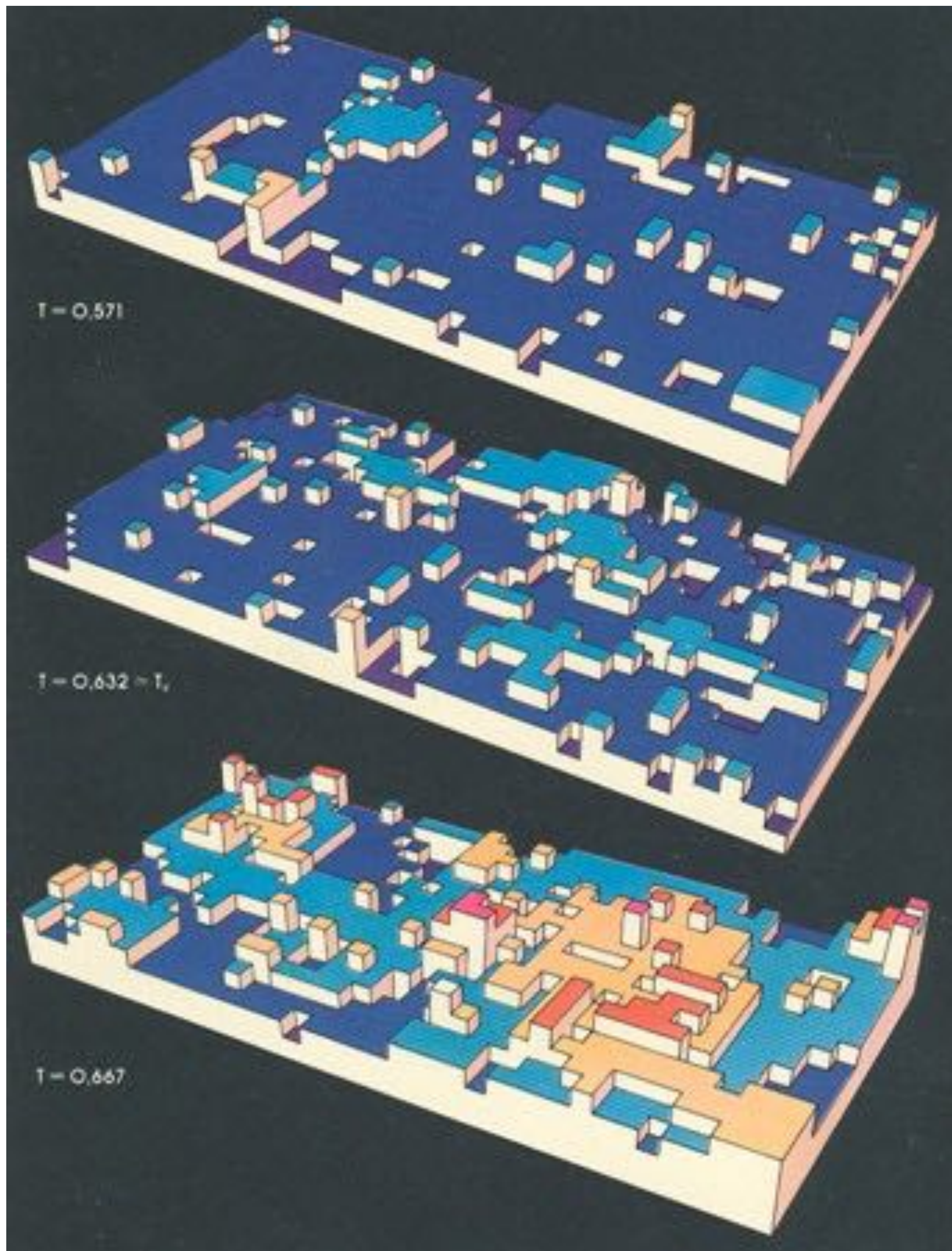
$$\gamma = 0 \rightarrow T_R = \frac{W_1}{k_B \ln 2}$$

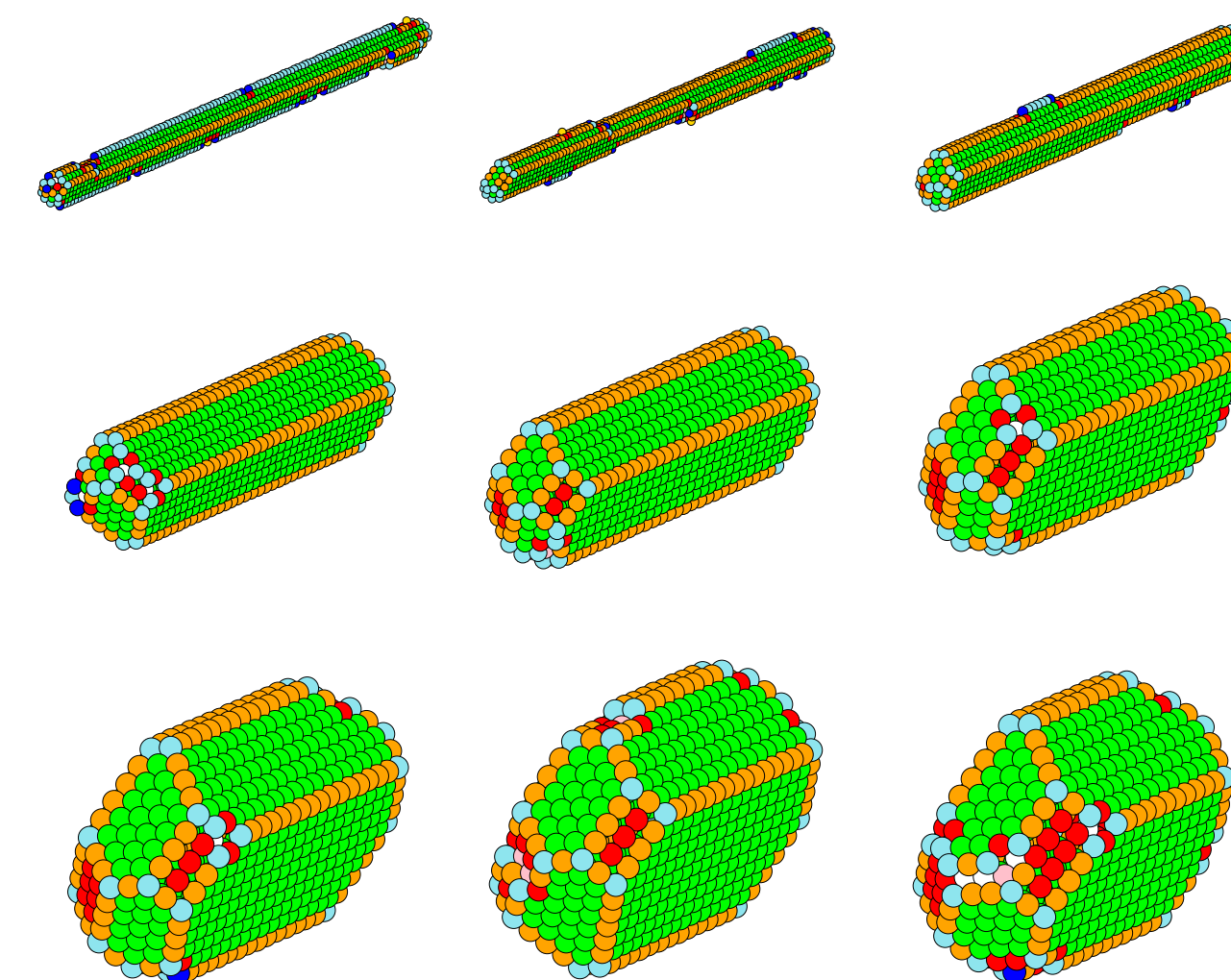
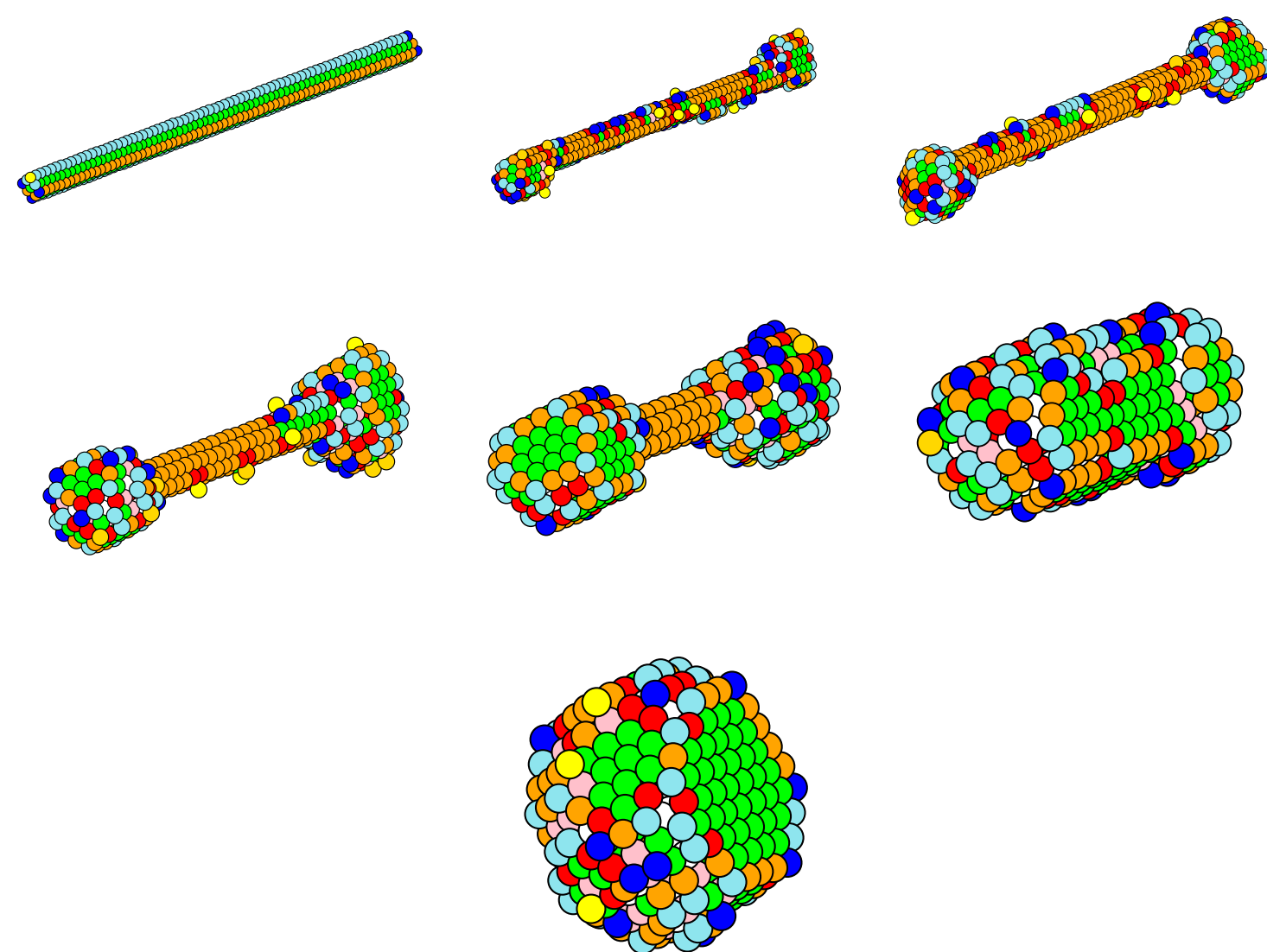
$$T < T_R$$

$$\langle [z(\vec{r} + \vec{R}) - z(\vec{r})]^2 \rangle \sim \text{const.}$$

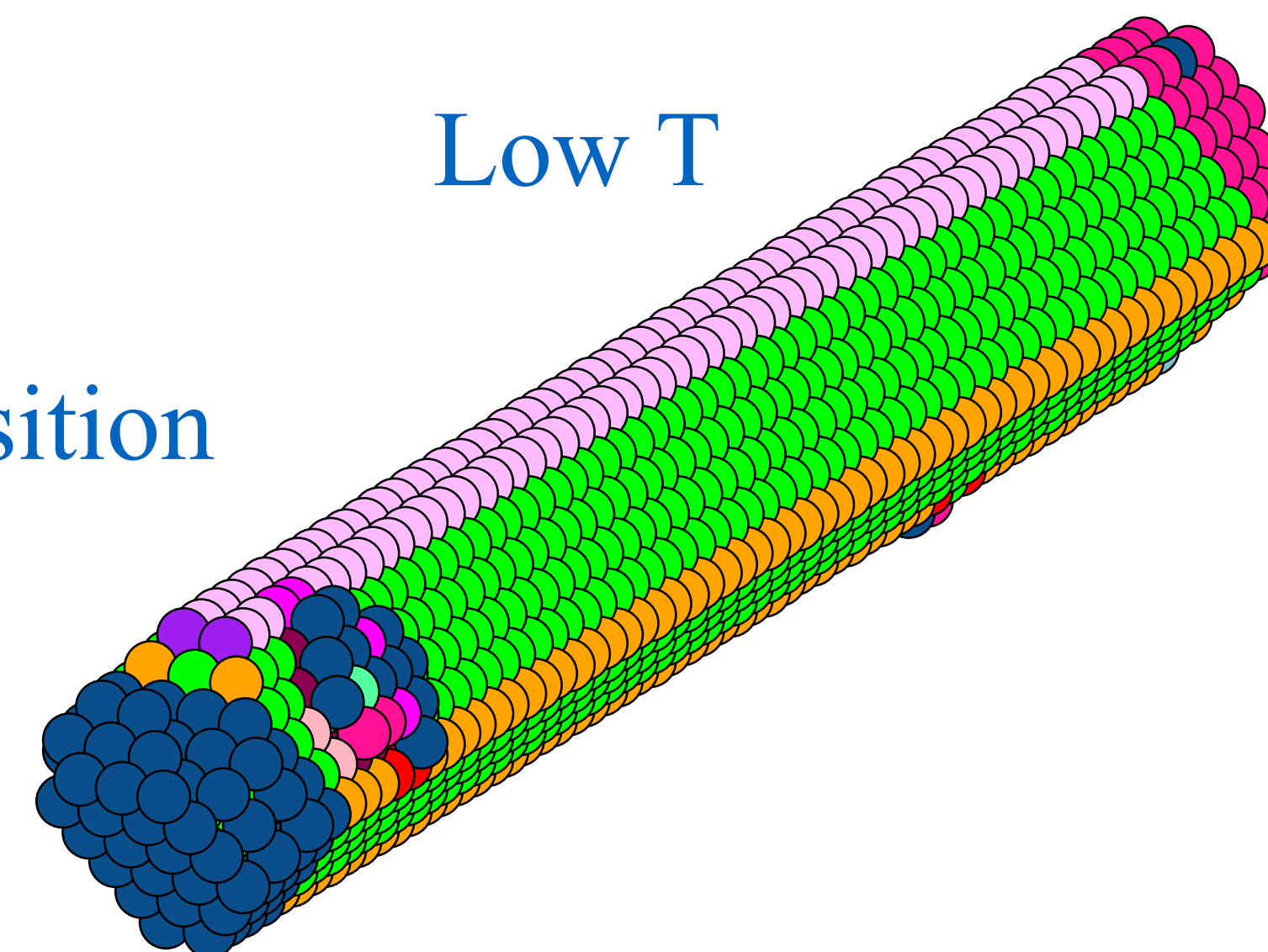
$$T > T_R$$

$$\langle [z(\vec{r} + \vec{R}) - z(\vec{r})]^2 \rangle \sim (4\pi k_B T / \tilde{\sigma}) \ln R$$

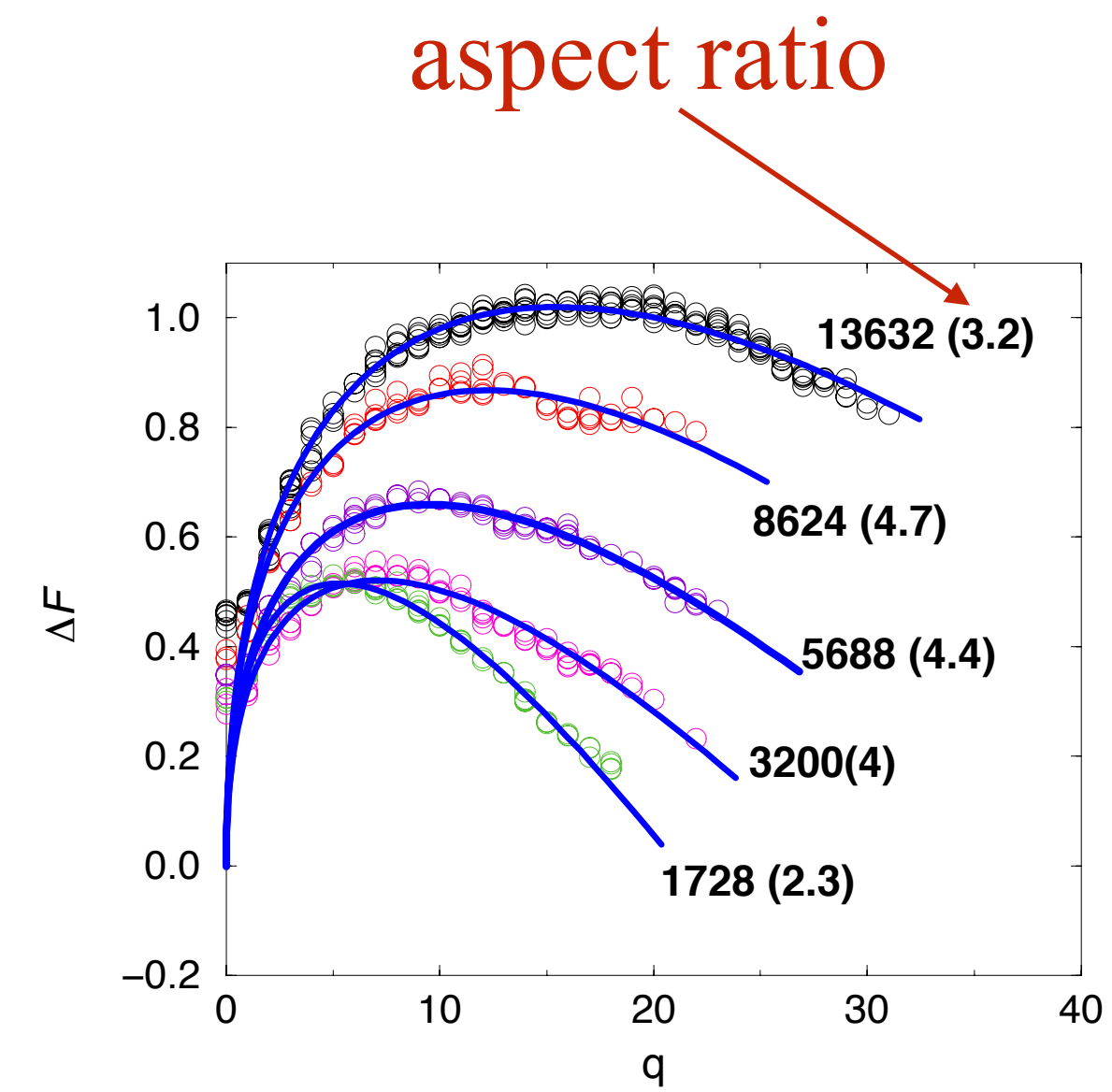
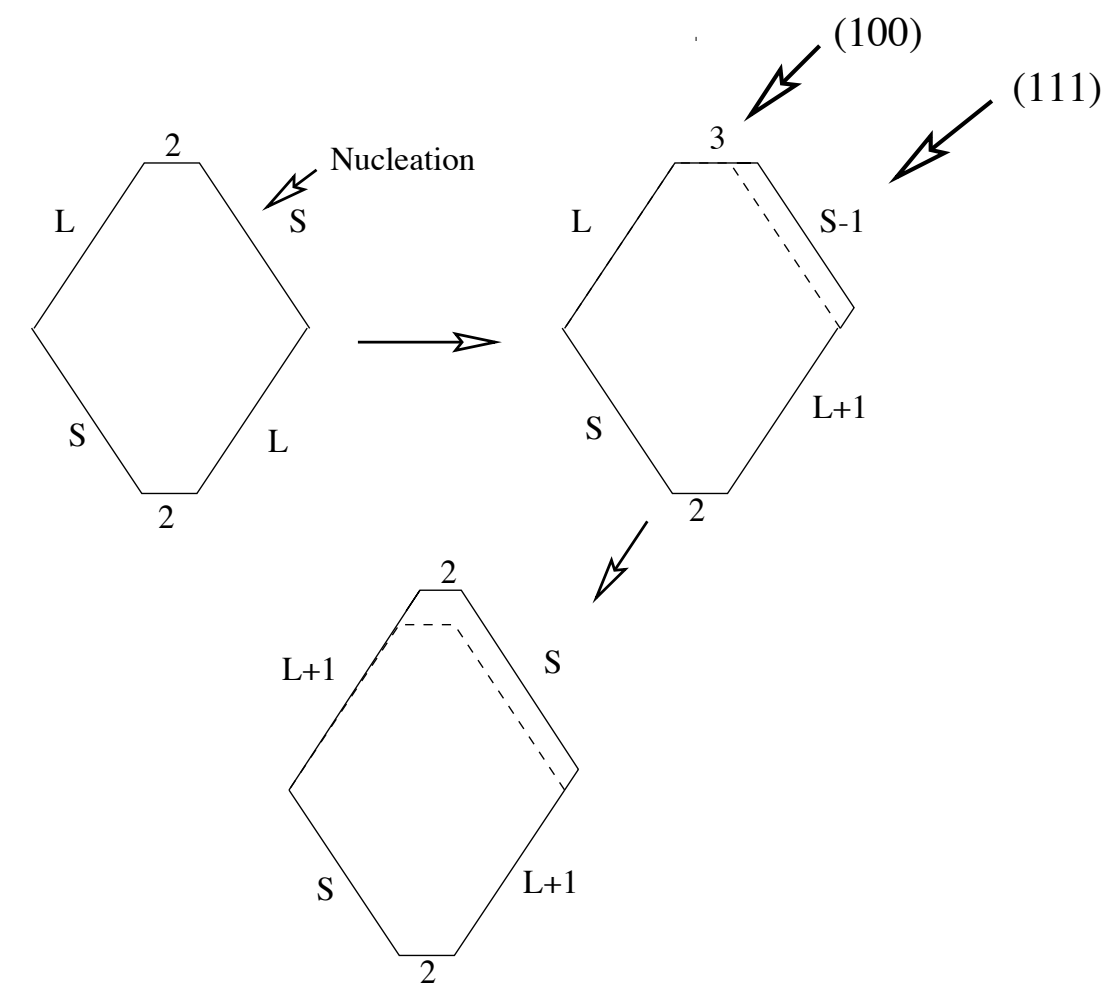
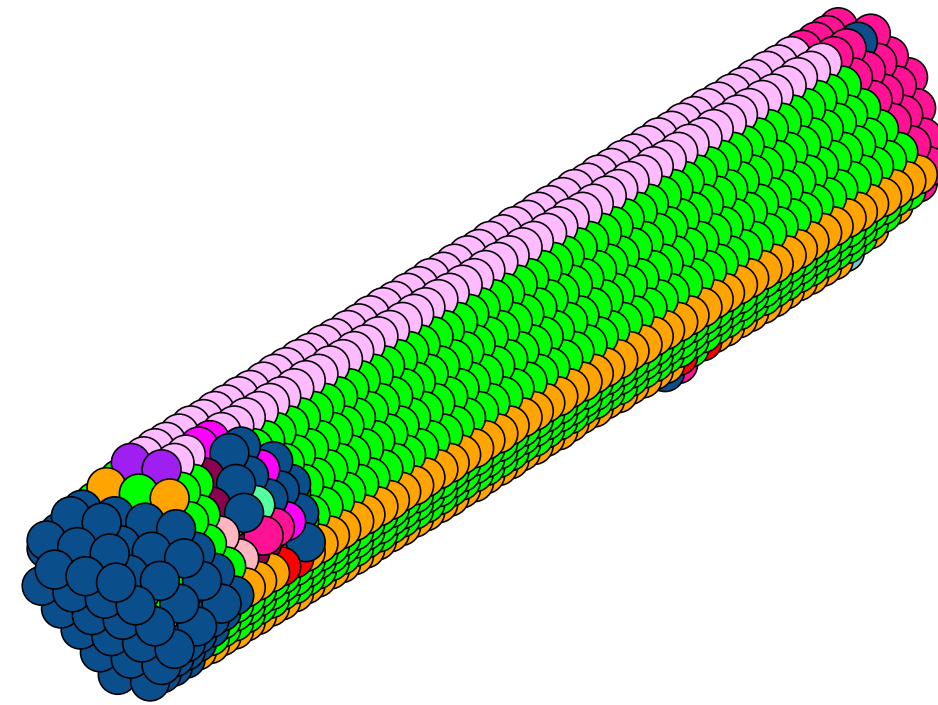




Roughening transition



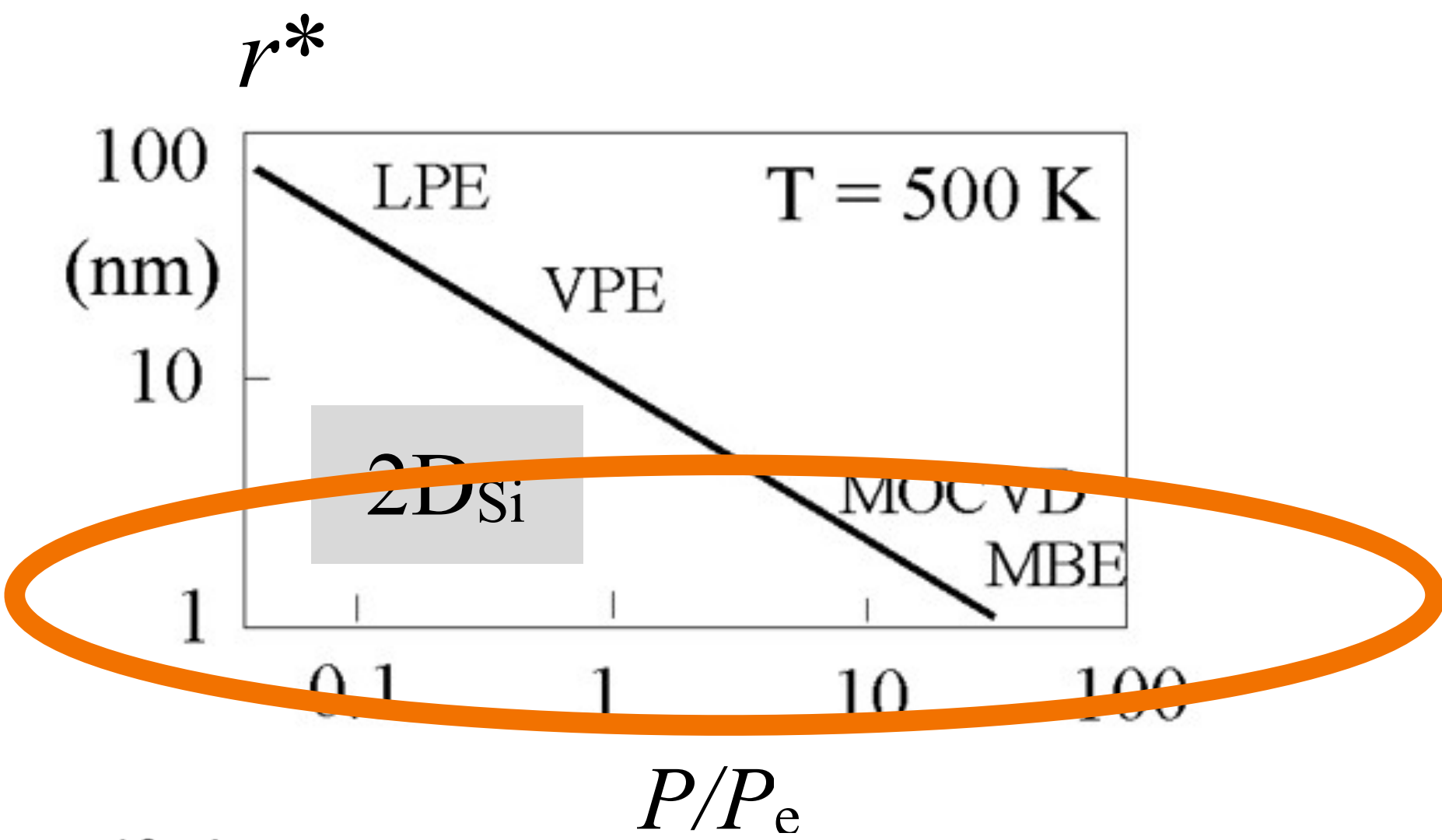
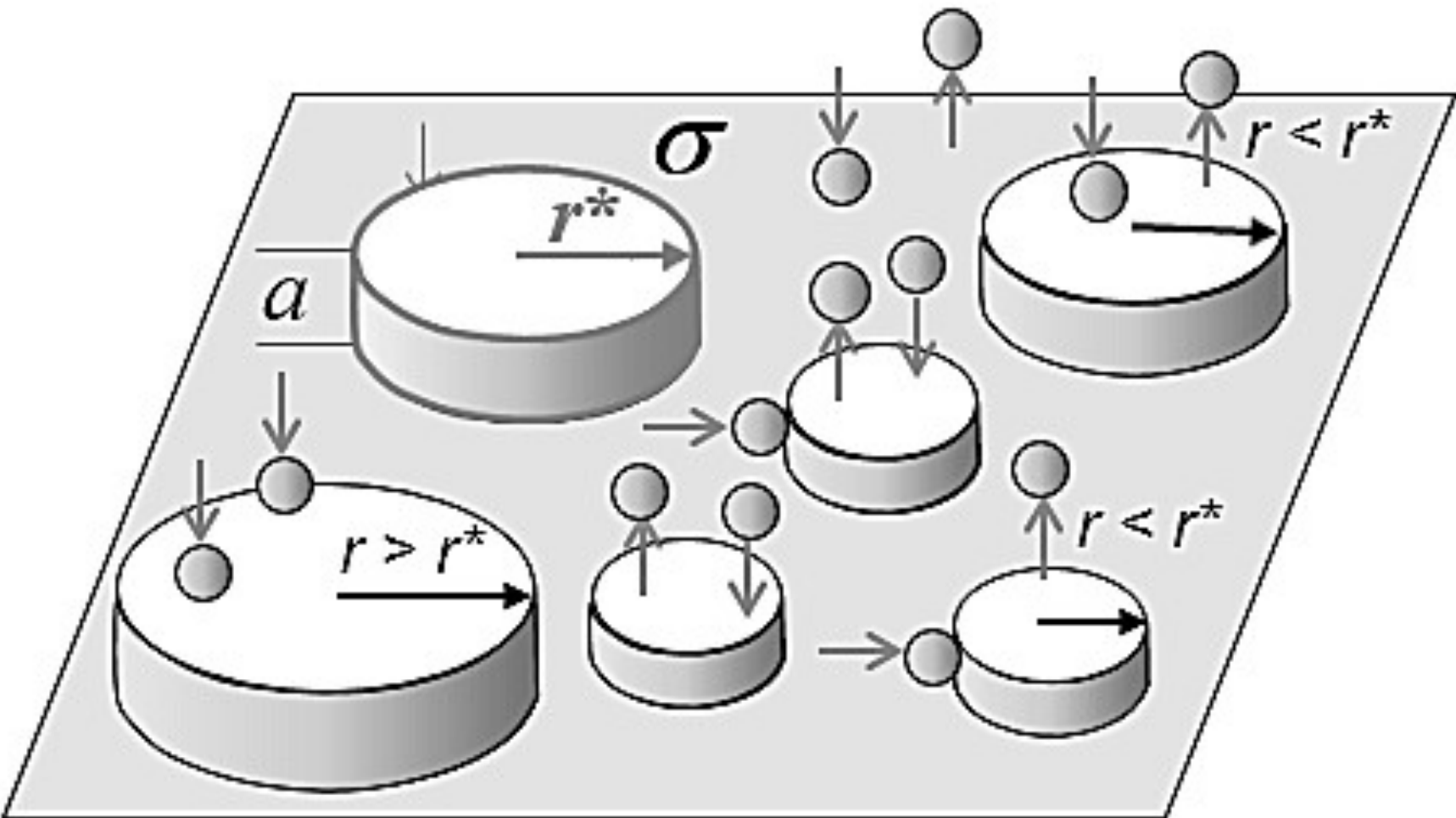
Classical nucleation theory



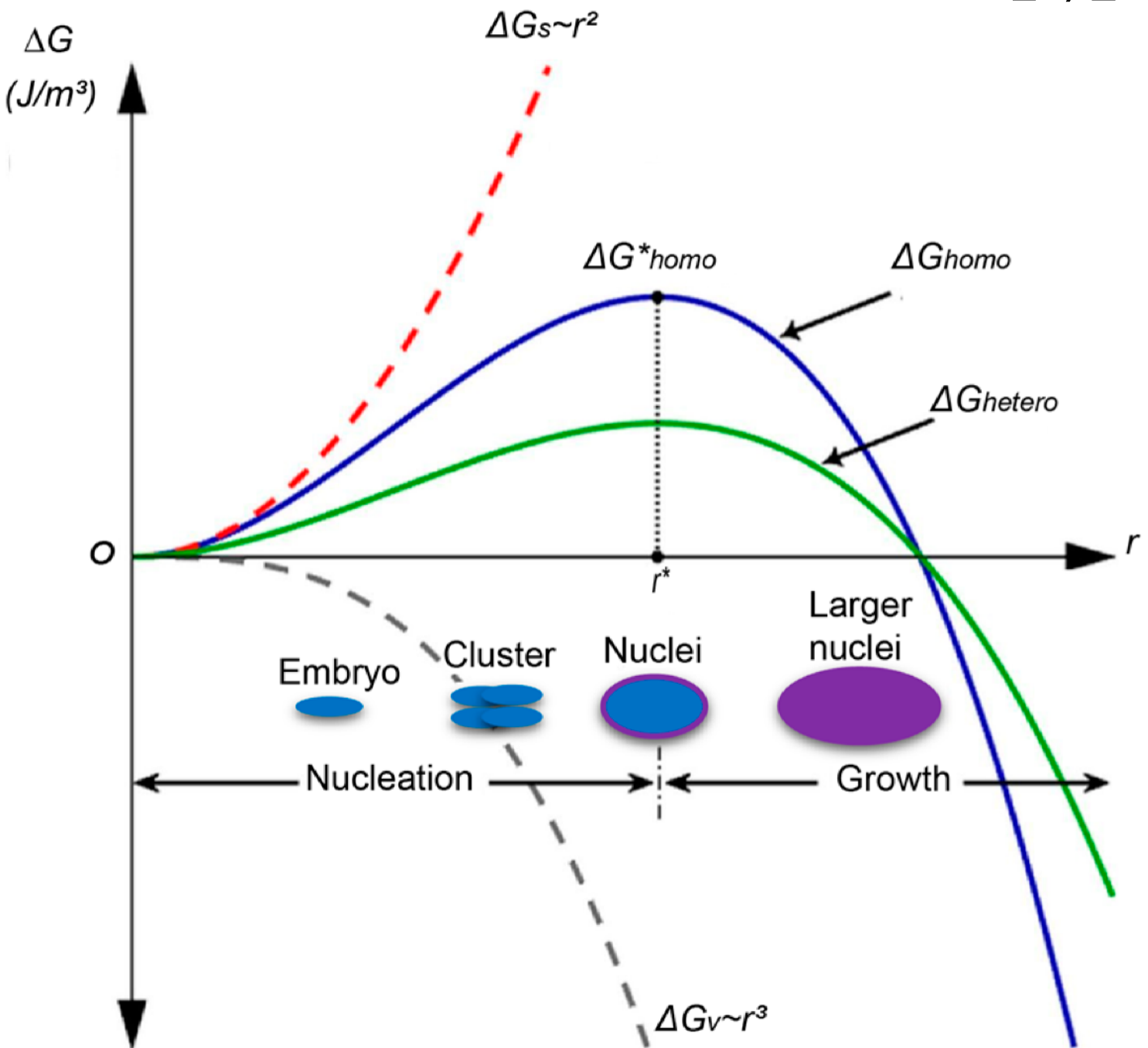
$$\Delta G = 2\pi \gamma bR - \pi \Delta\mu bR^2$$

$$\Delta\mu = \gamma/R_c$$

Nucleation and critical nucleus



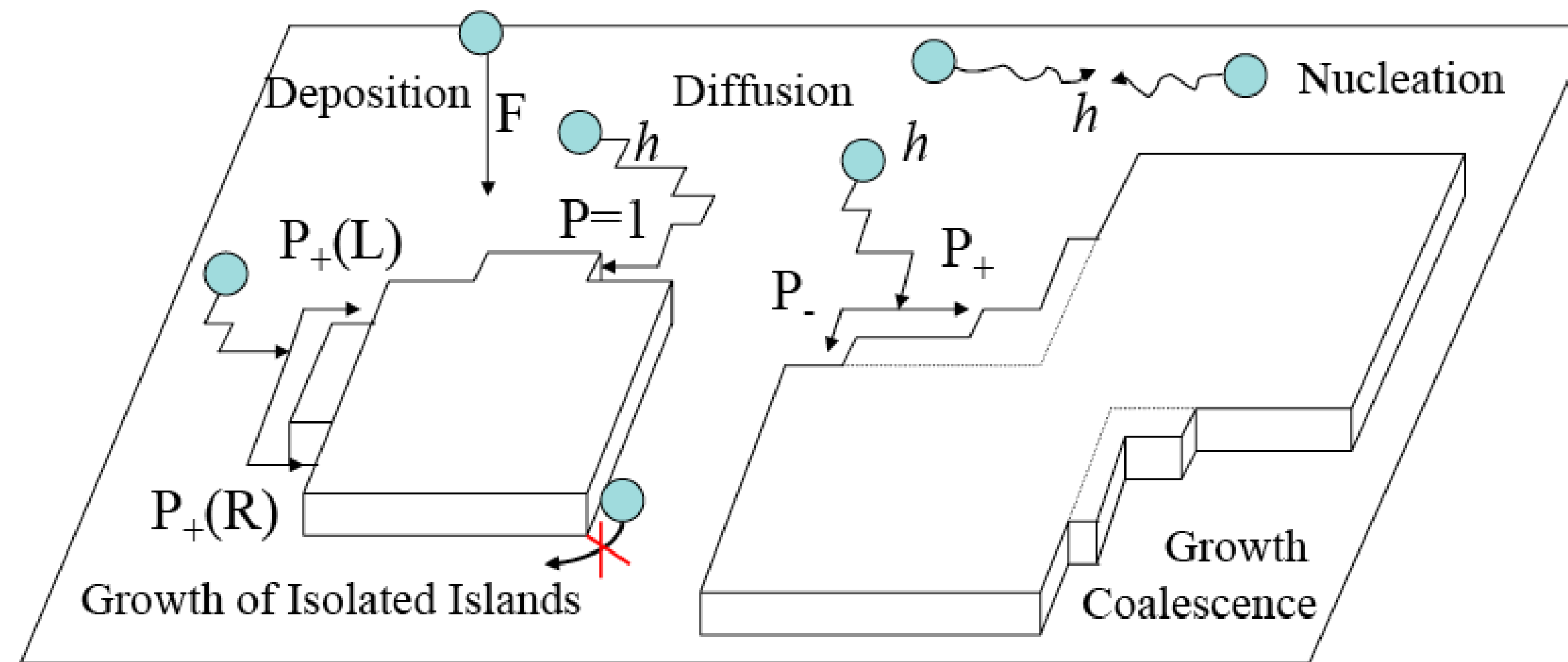
$$\Delta\mu = k_B T \ln(1 + \Delta P/P_e)$$



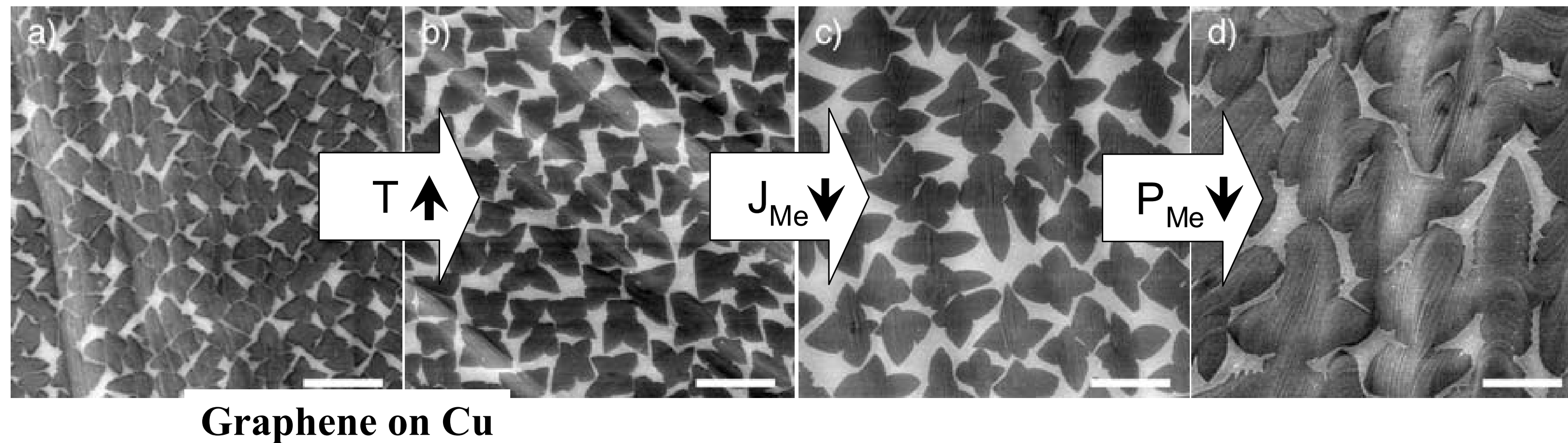
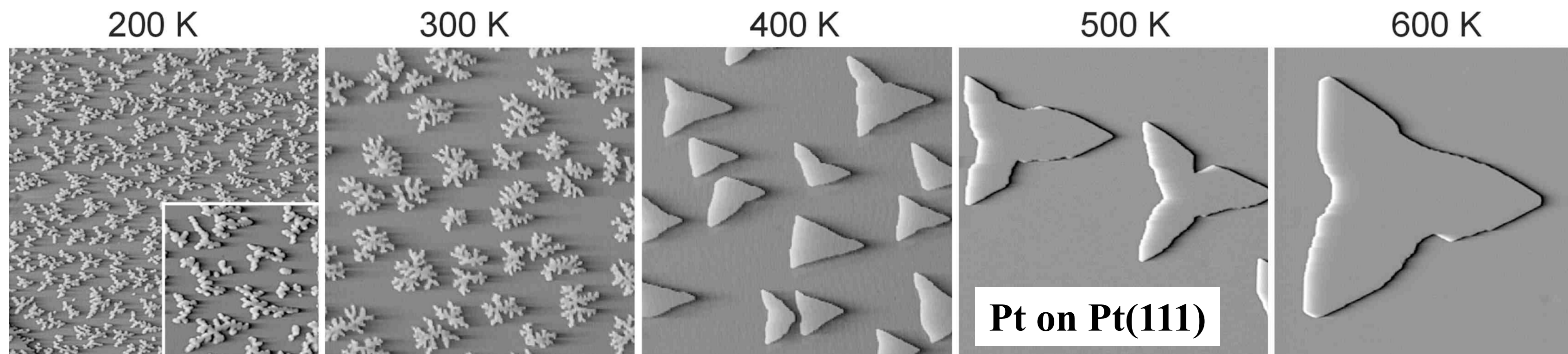
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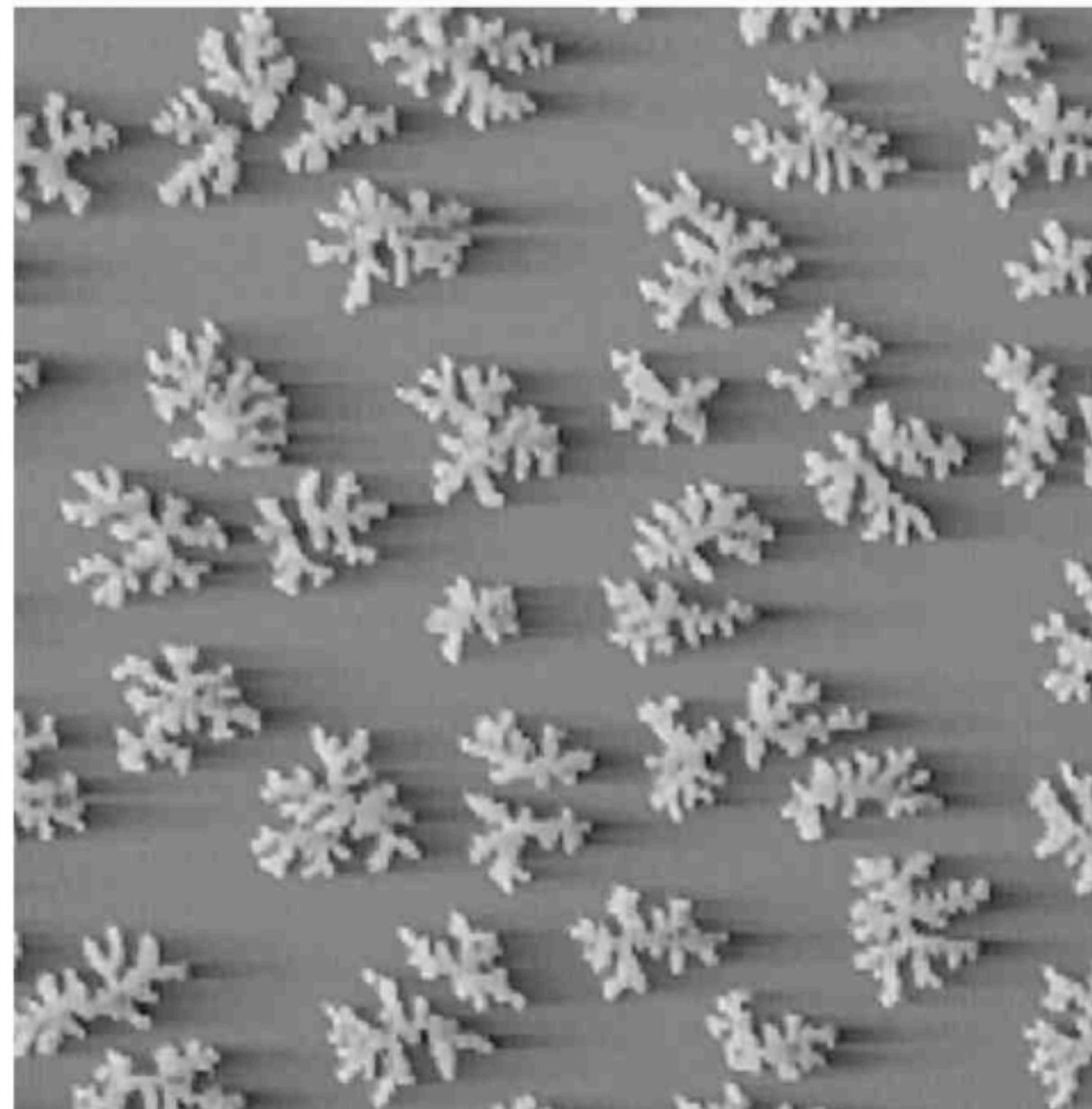
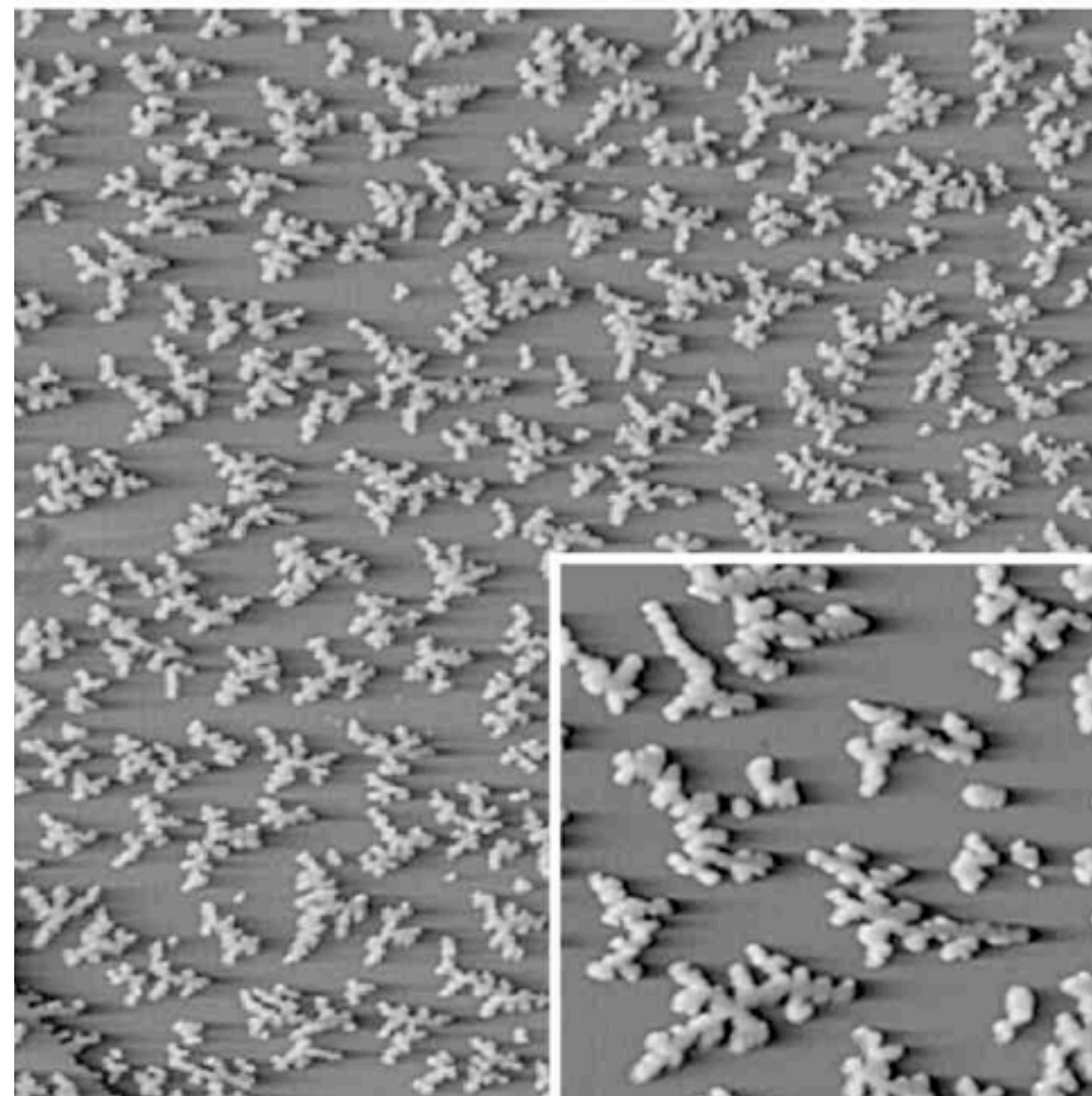
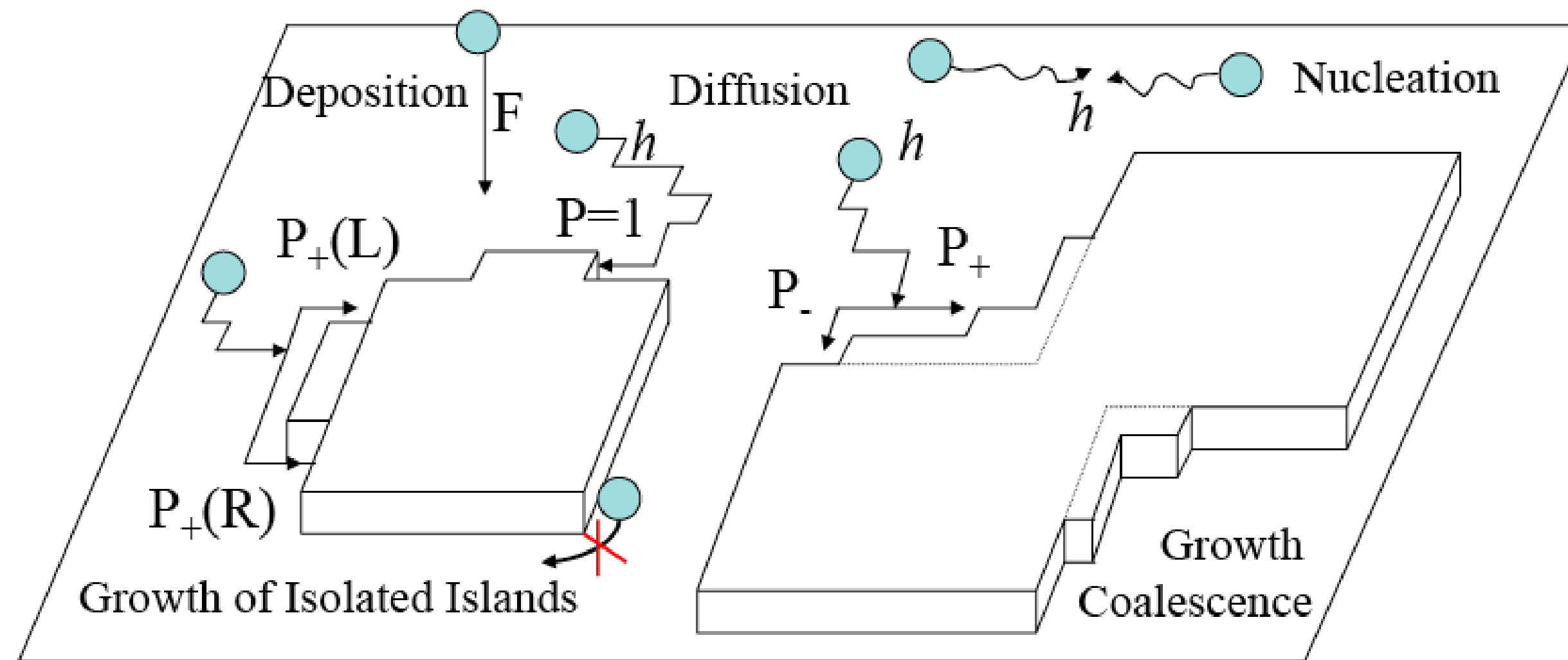
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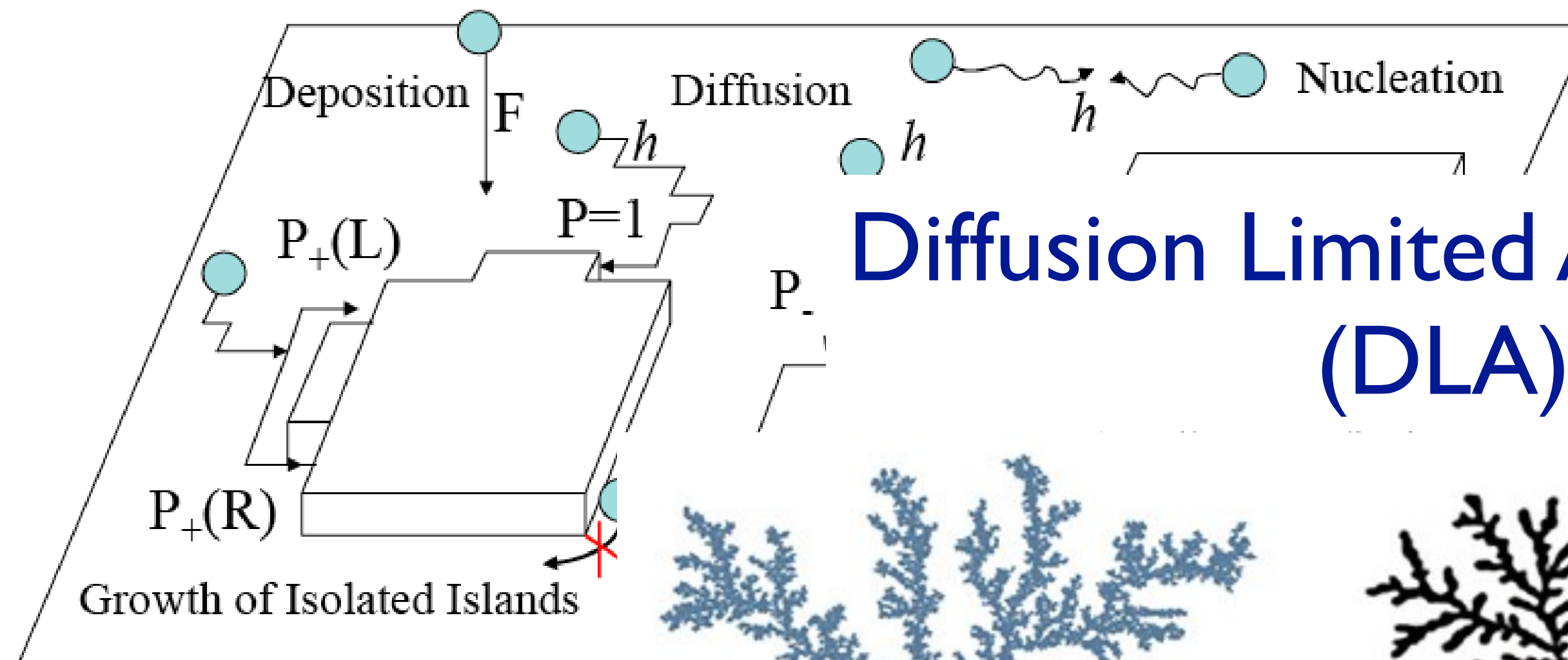
Deposition, diffusion, nucleation and aggregation on substrates



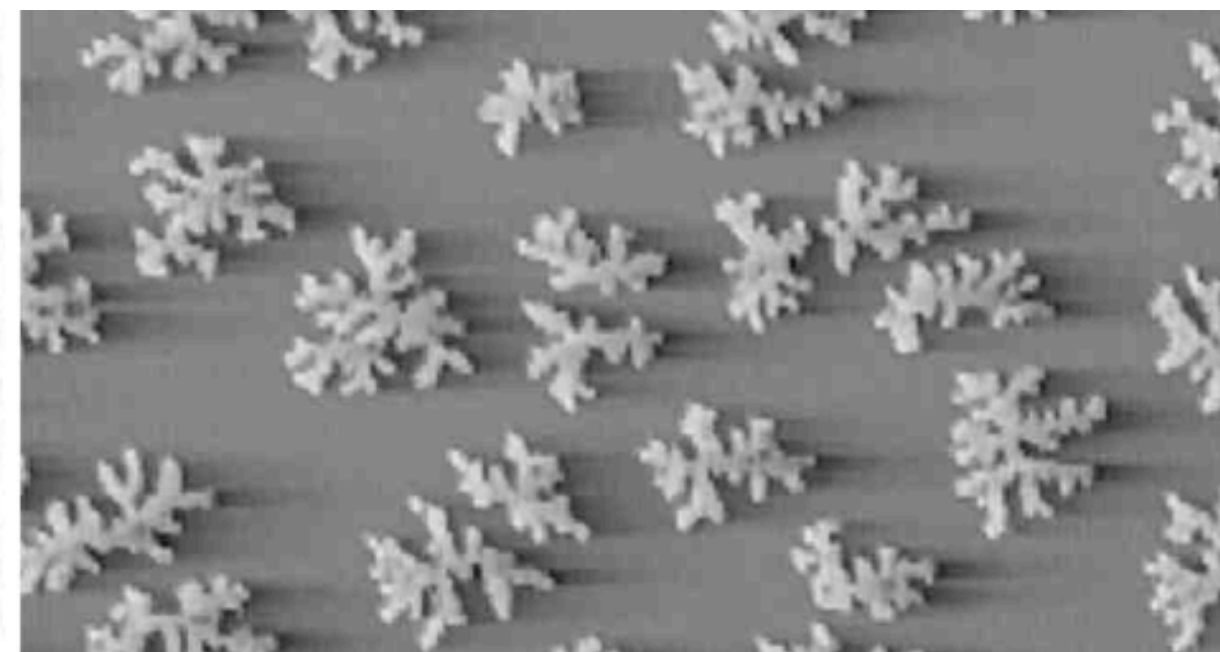
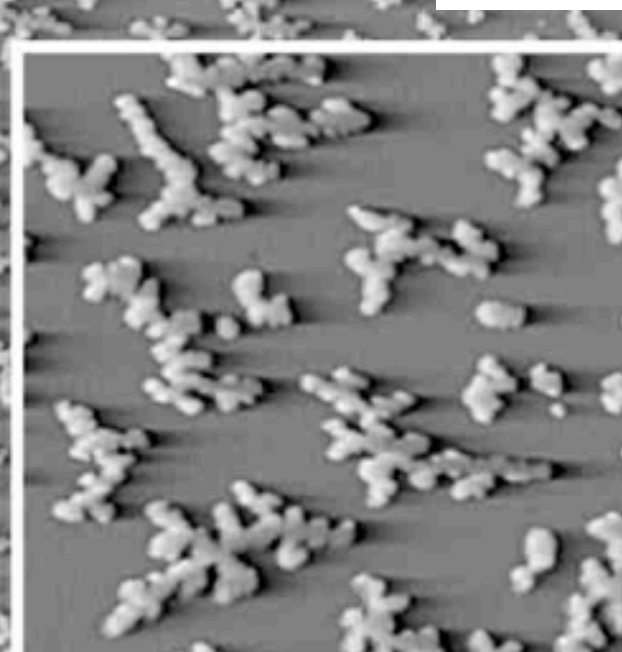
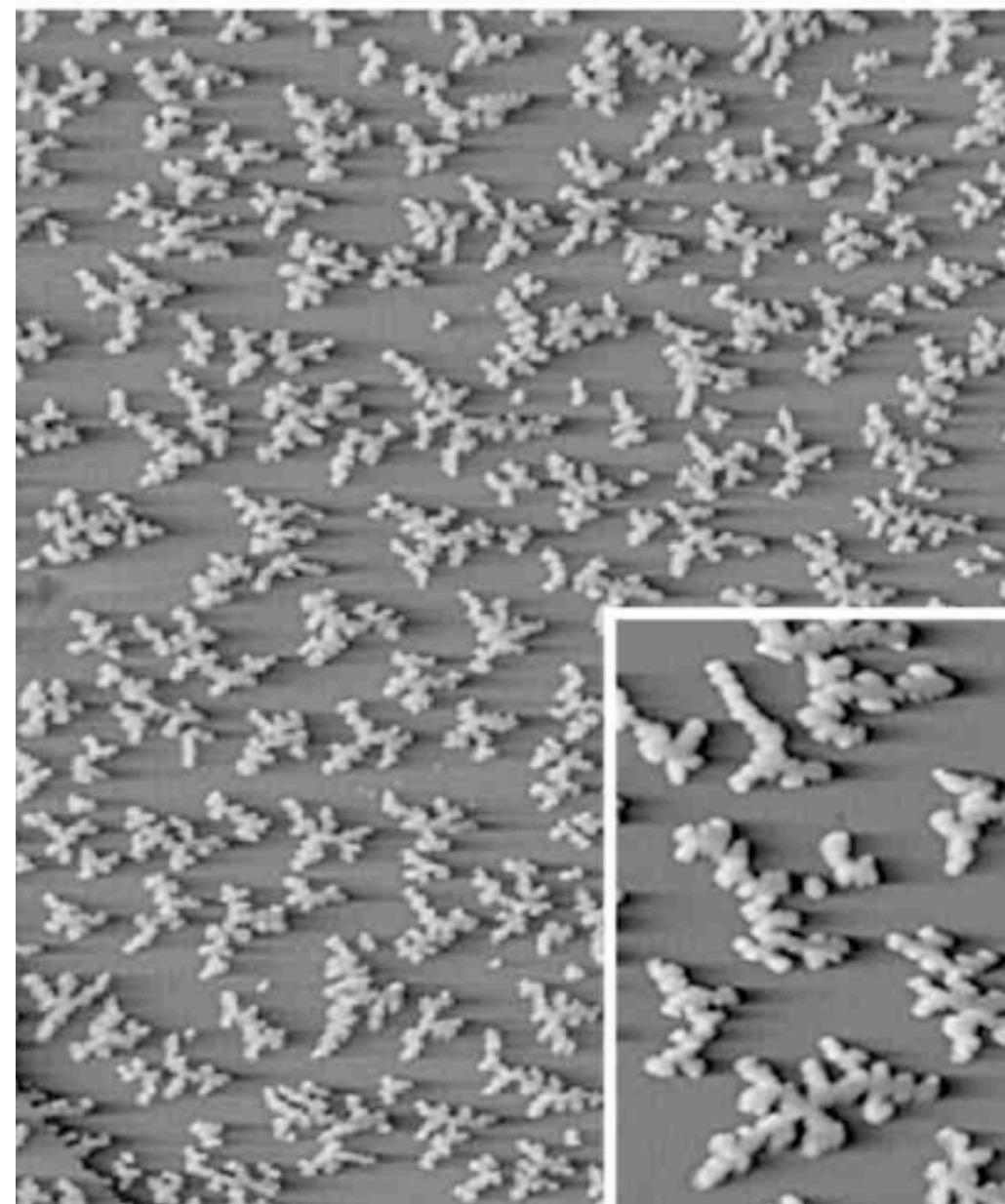
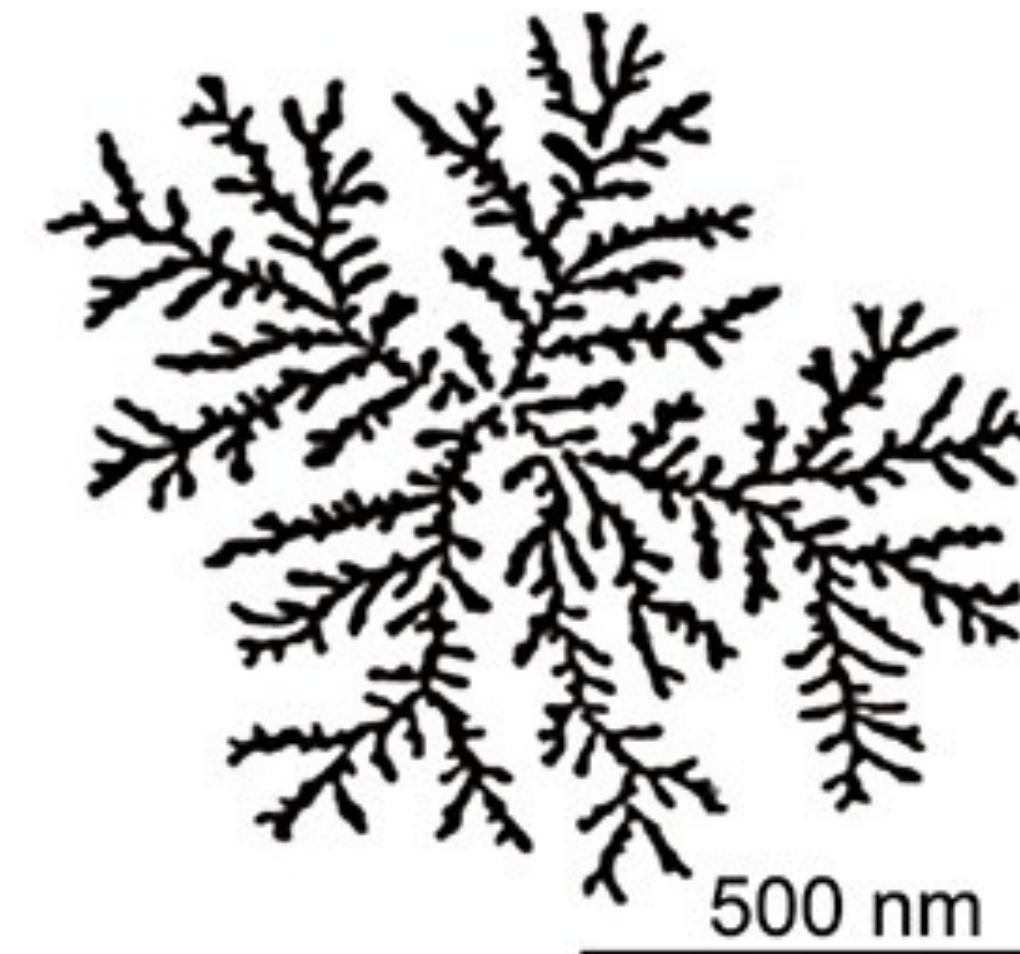
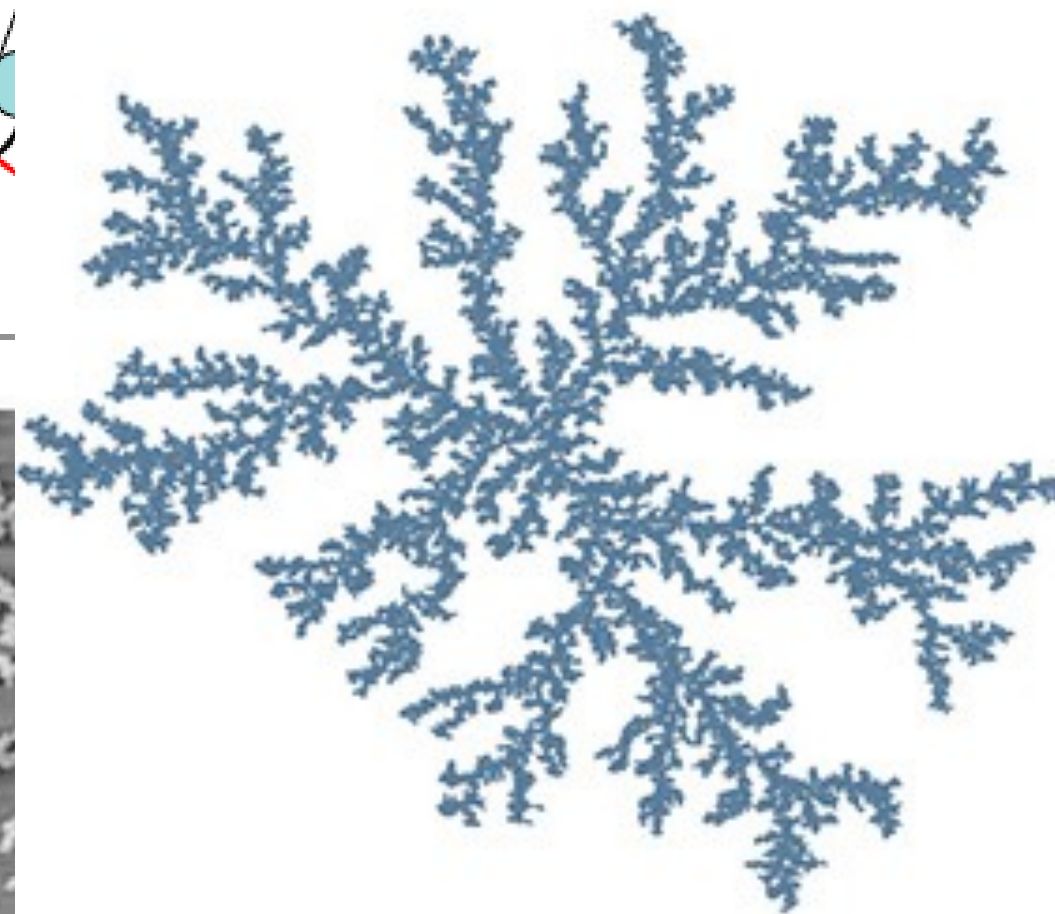
Deposition, diffusion, and aggregation on substrates

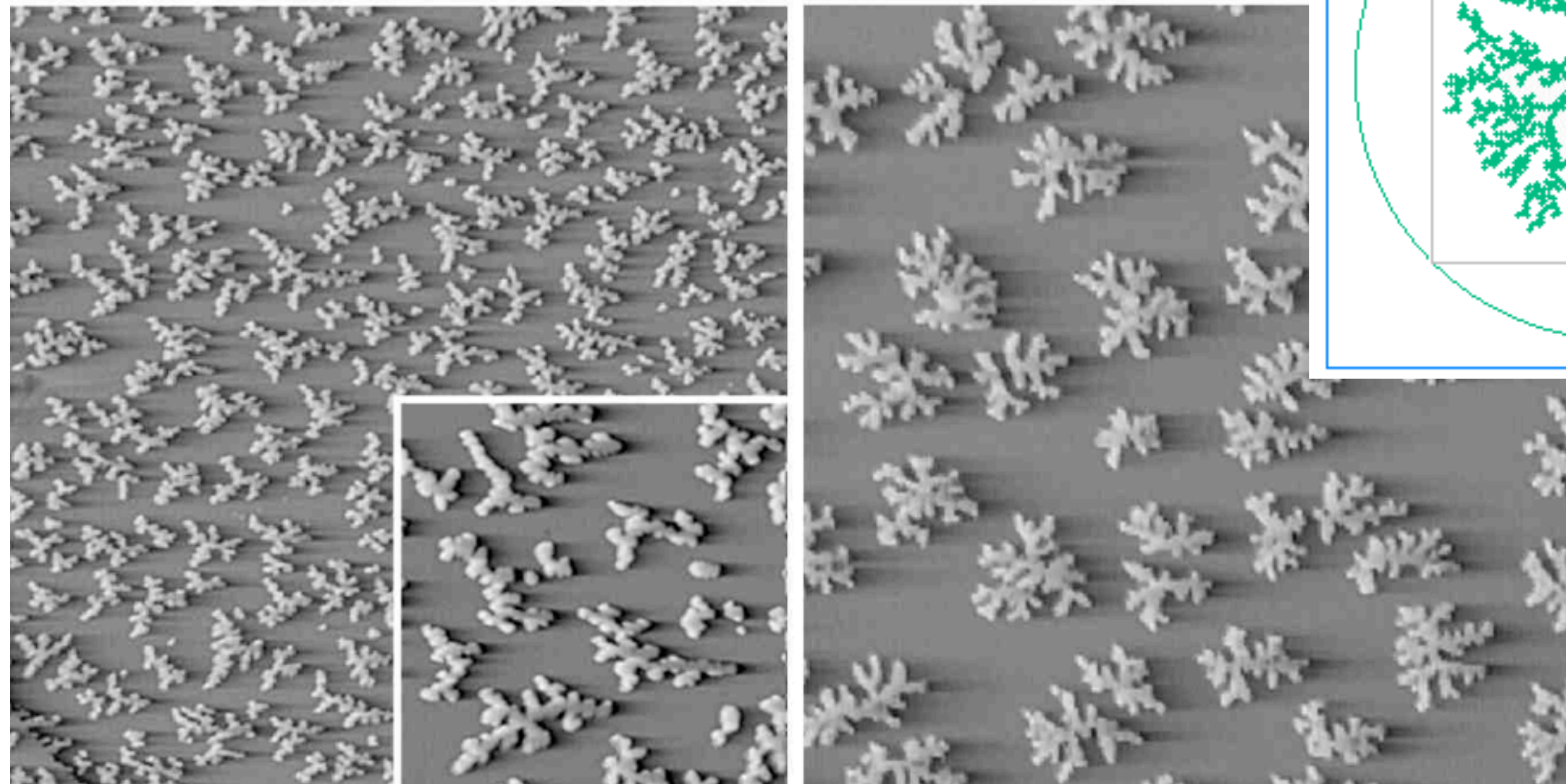
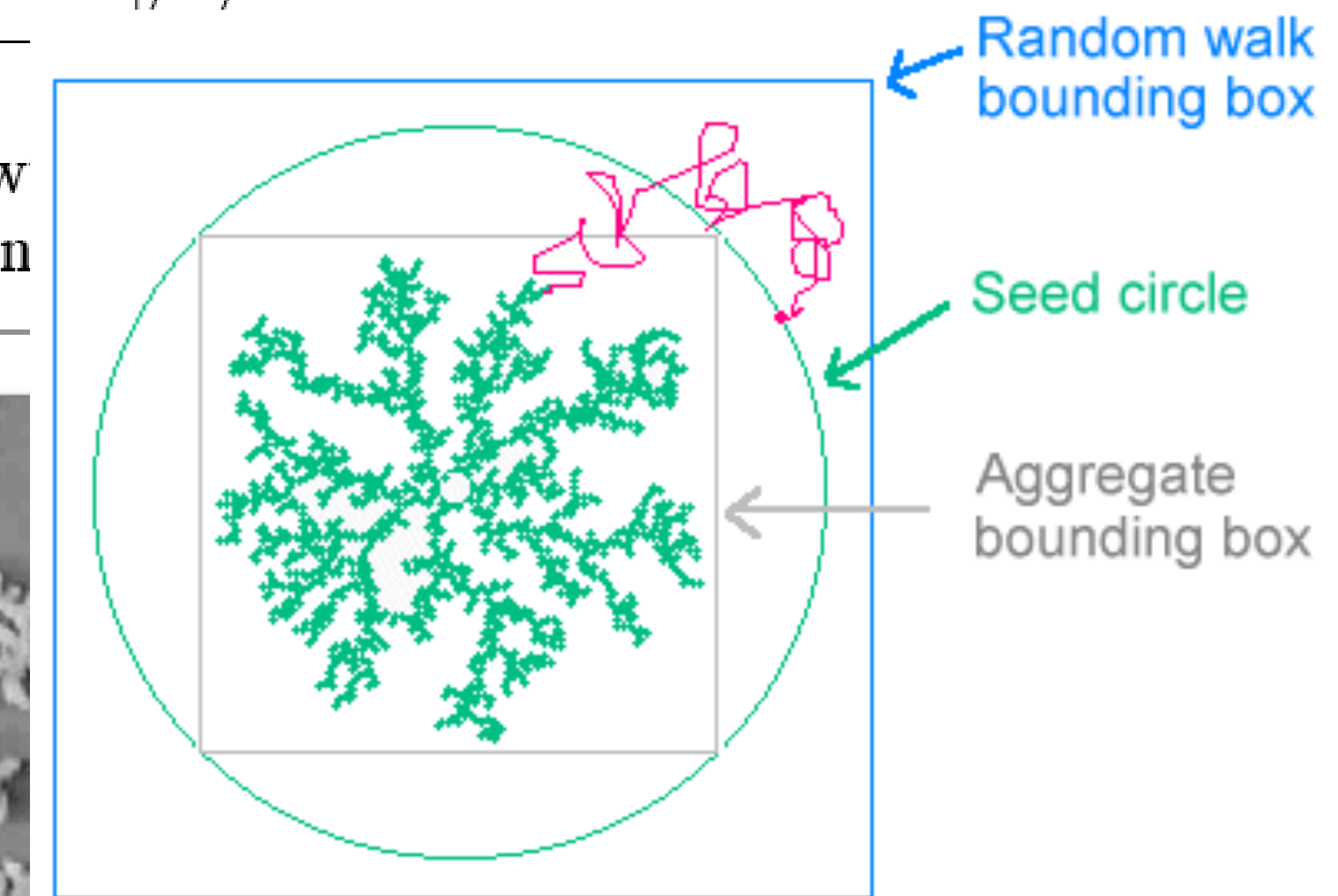
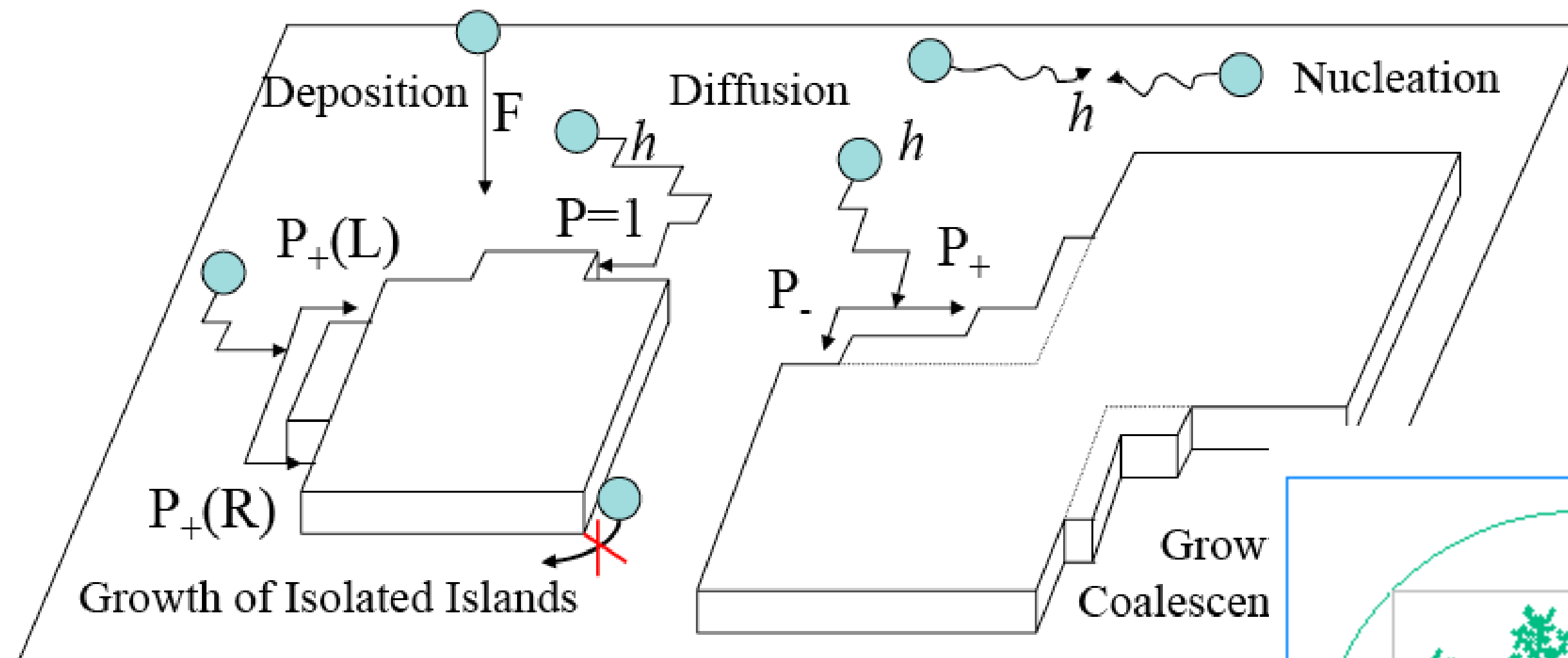




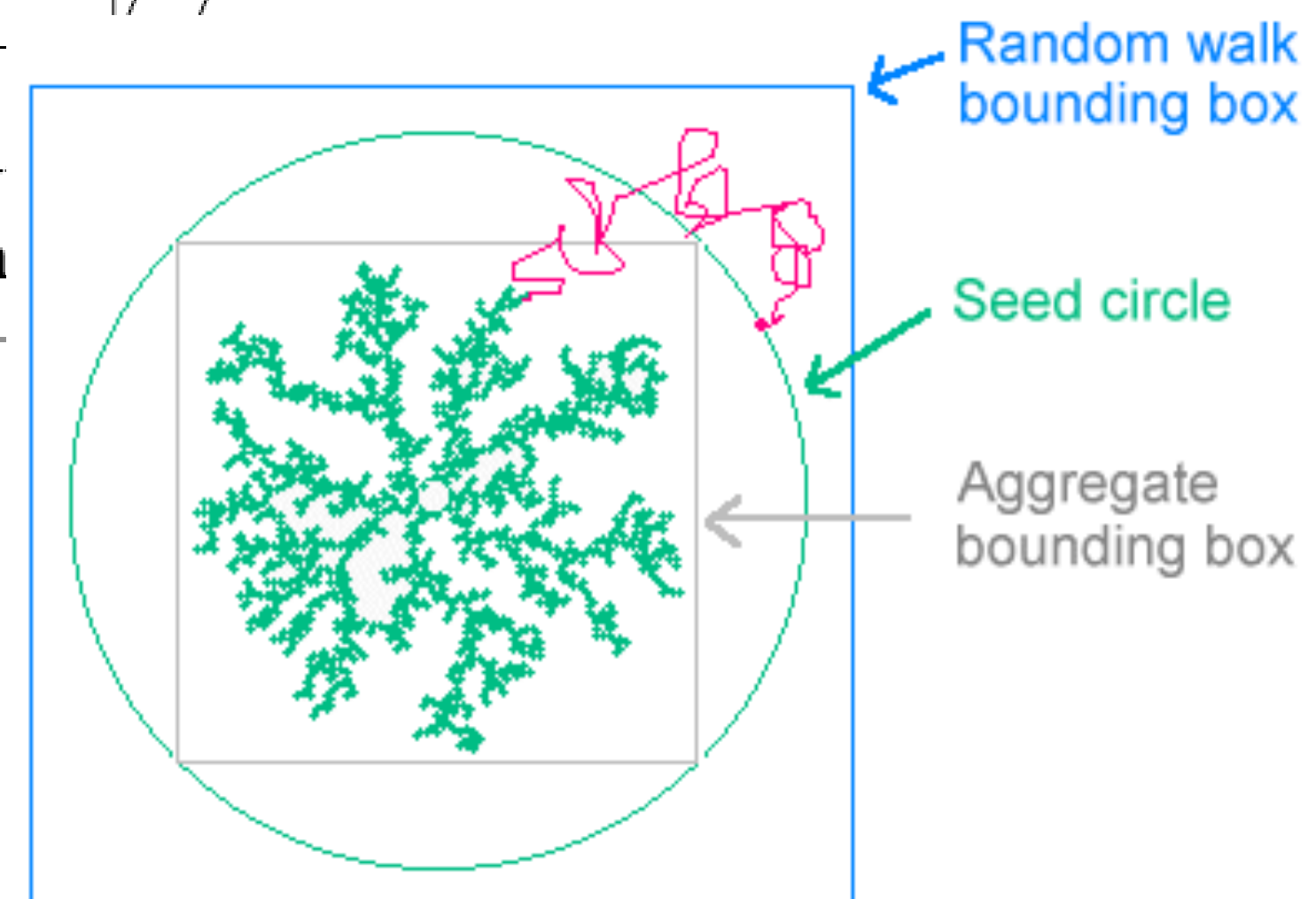
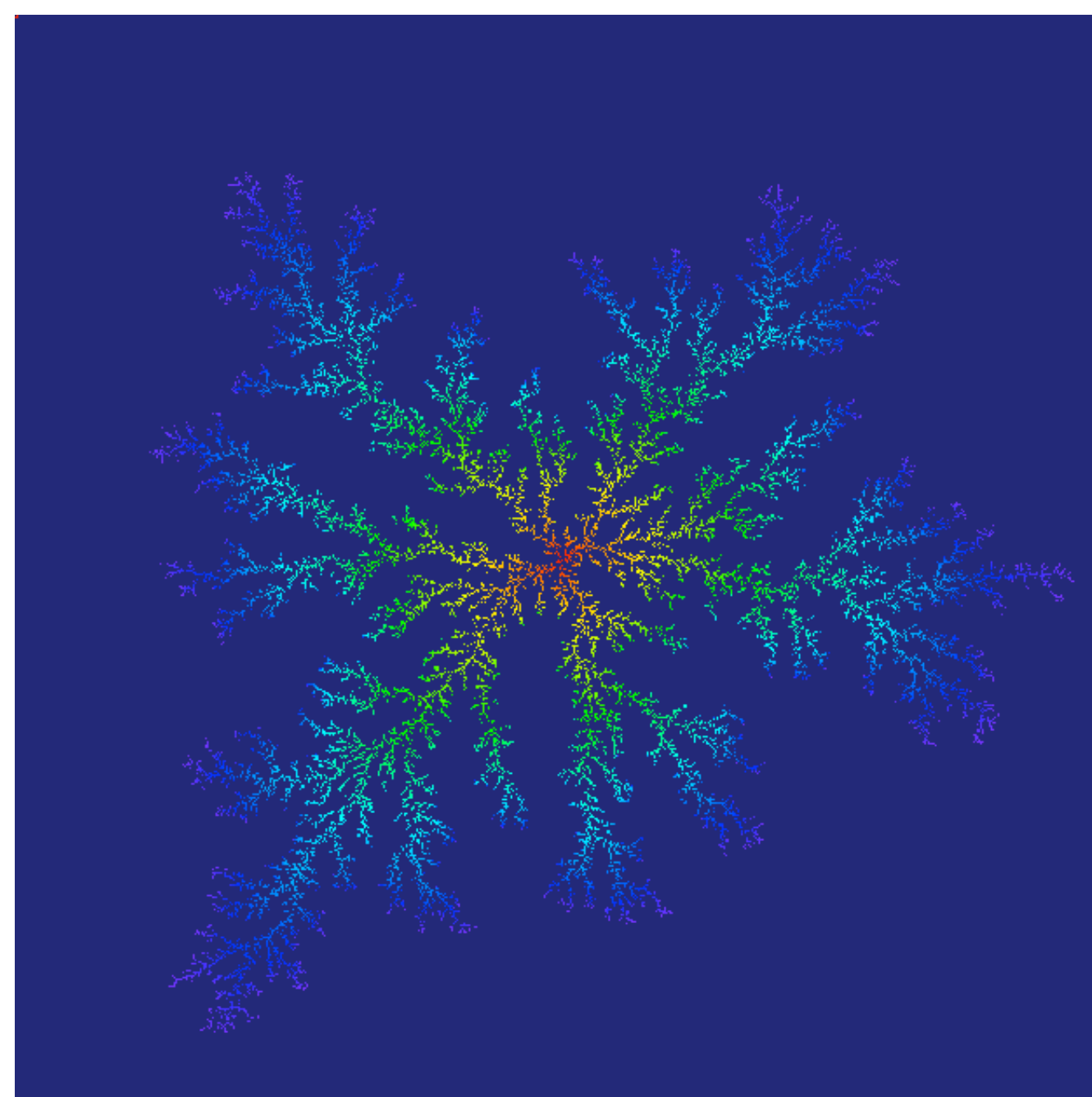
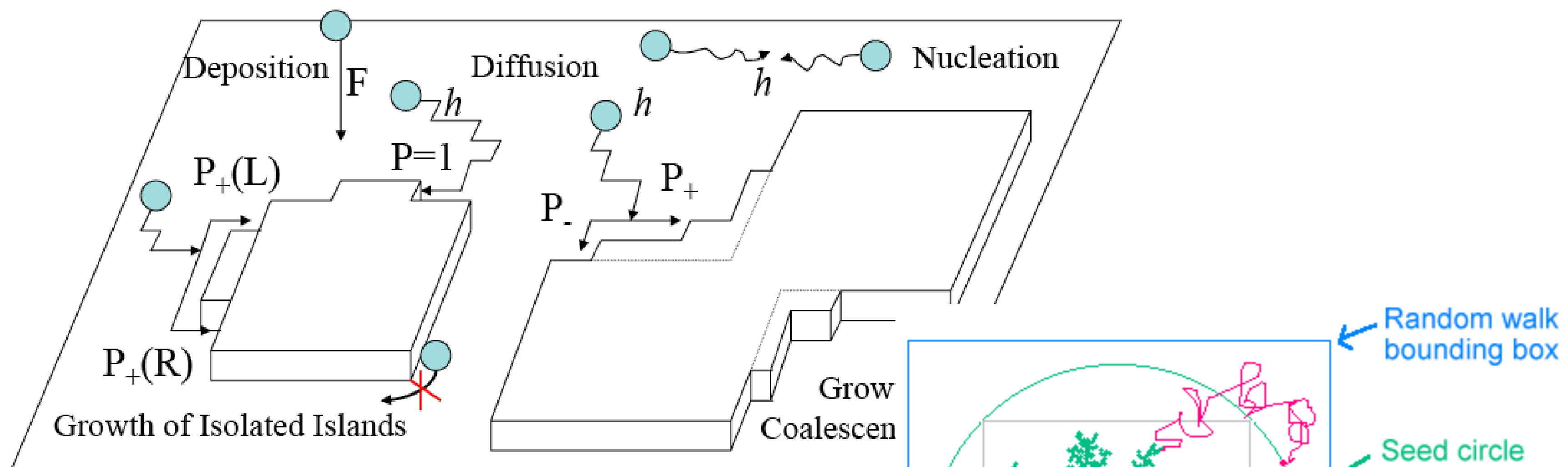


Diffusion Limited Aggregation (DLA)

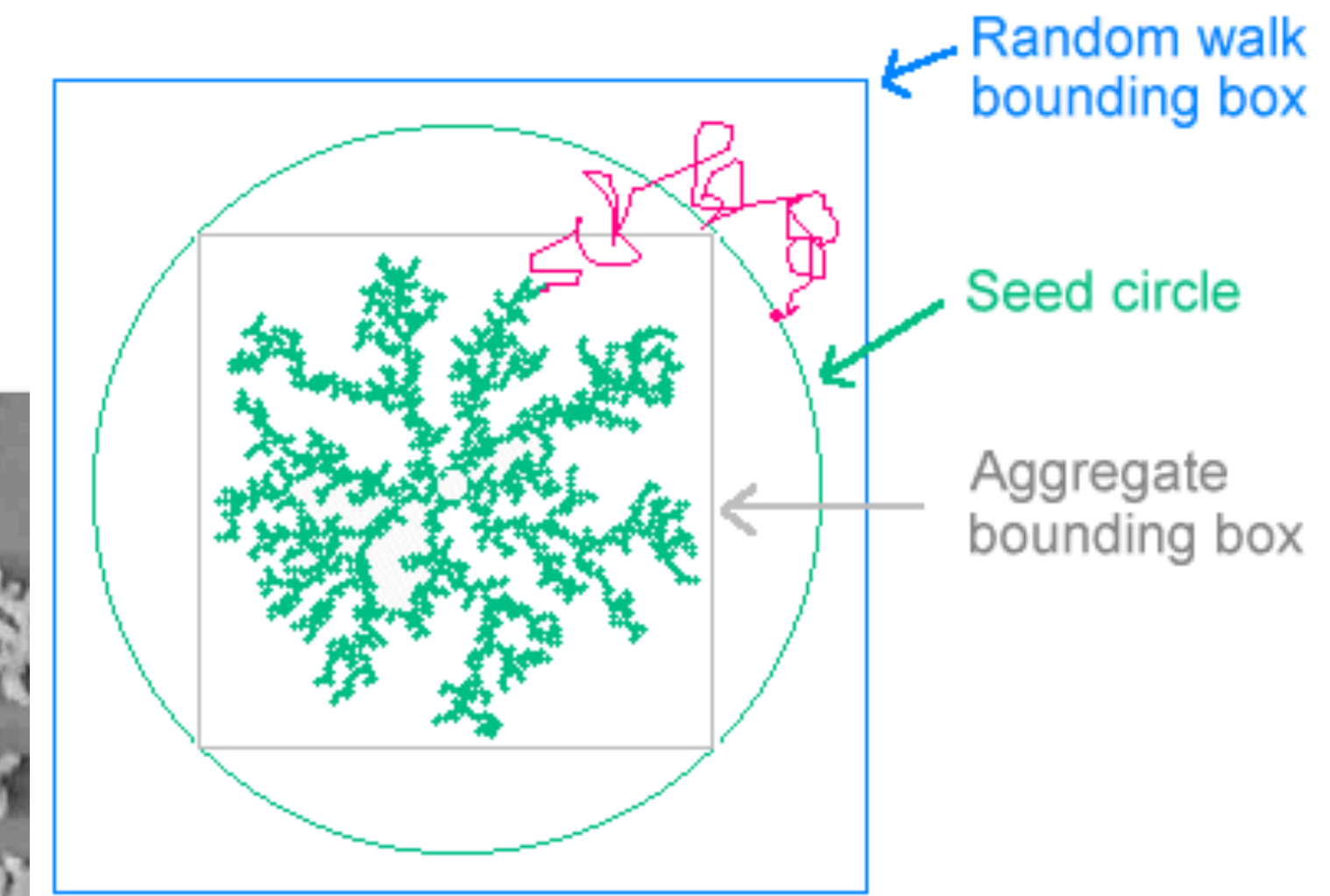
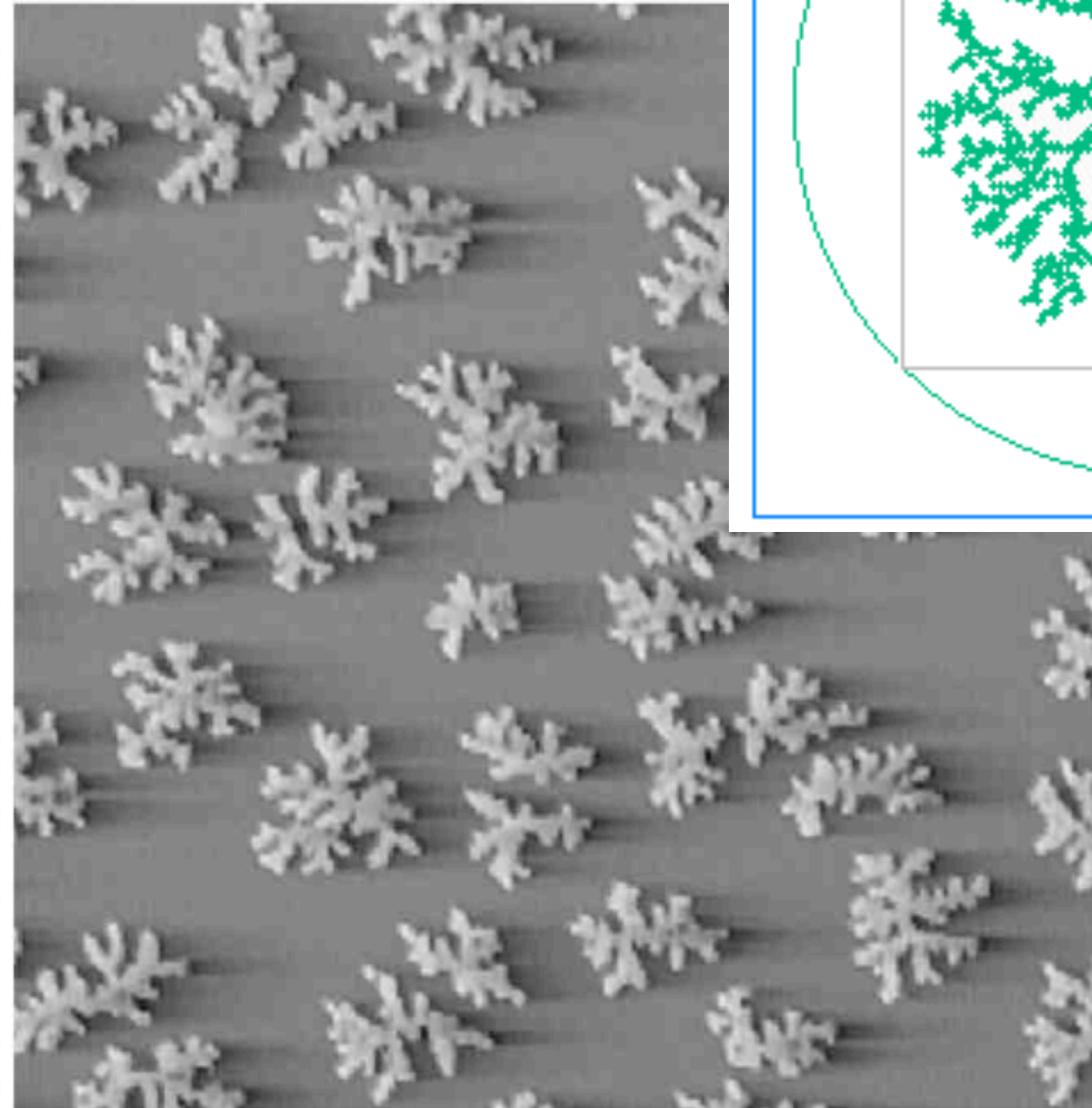
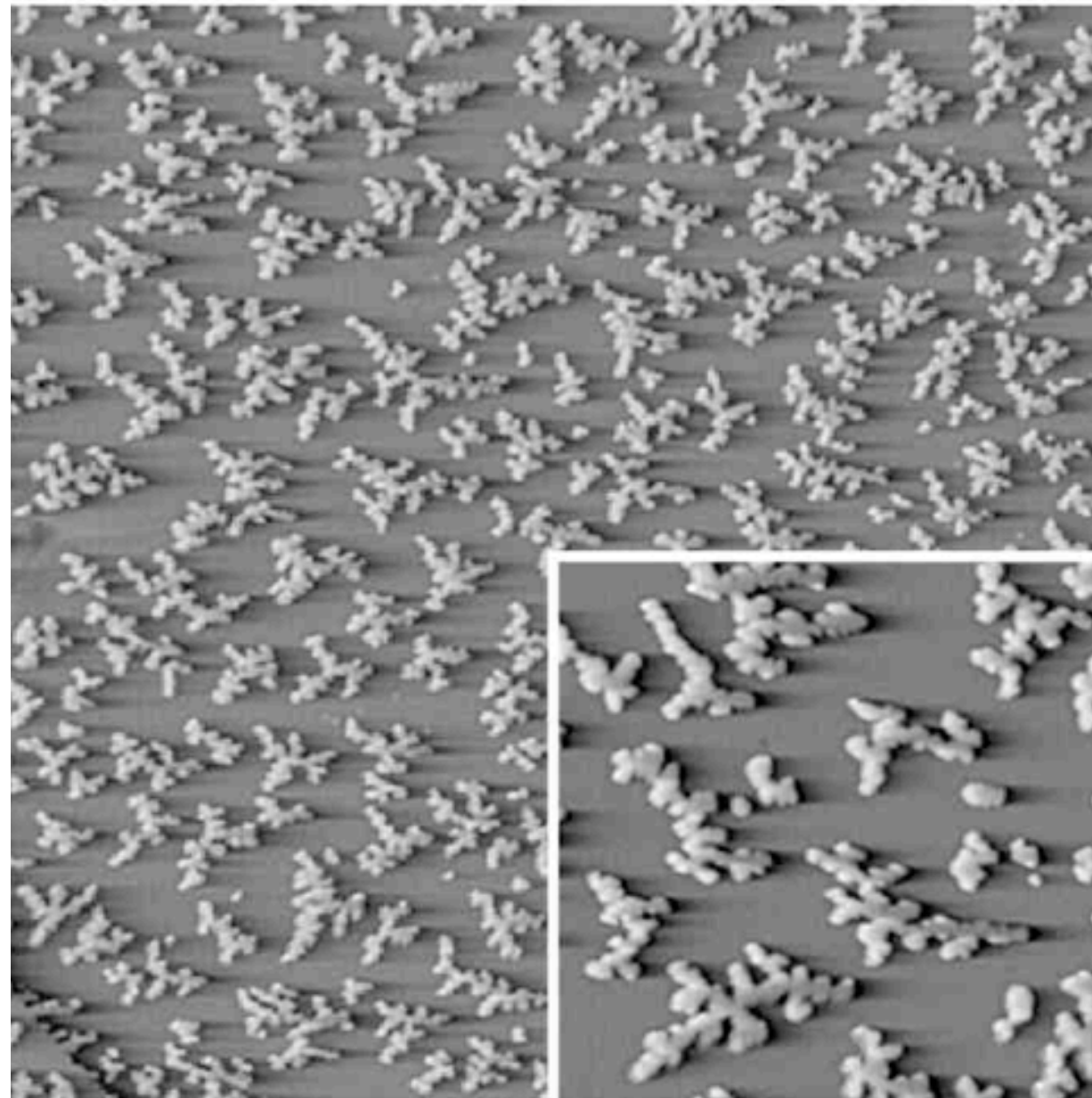




“Hit and stick”



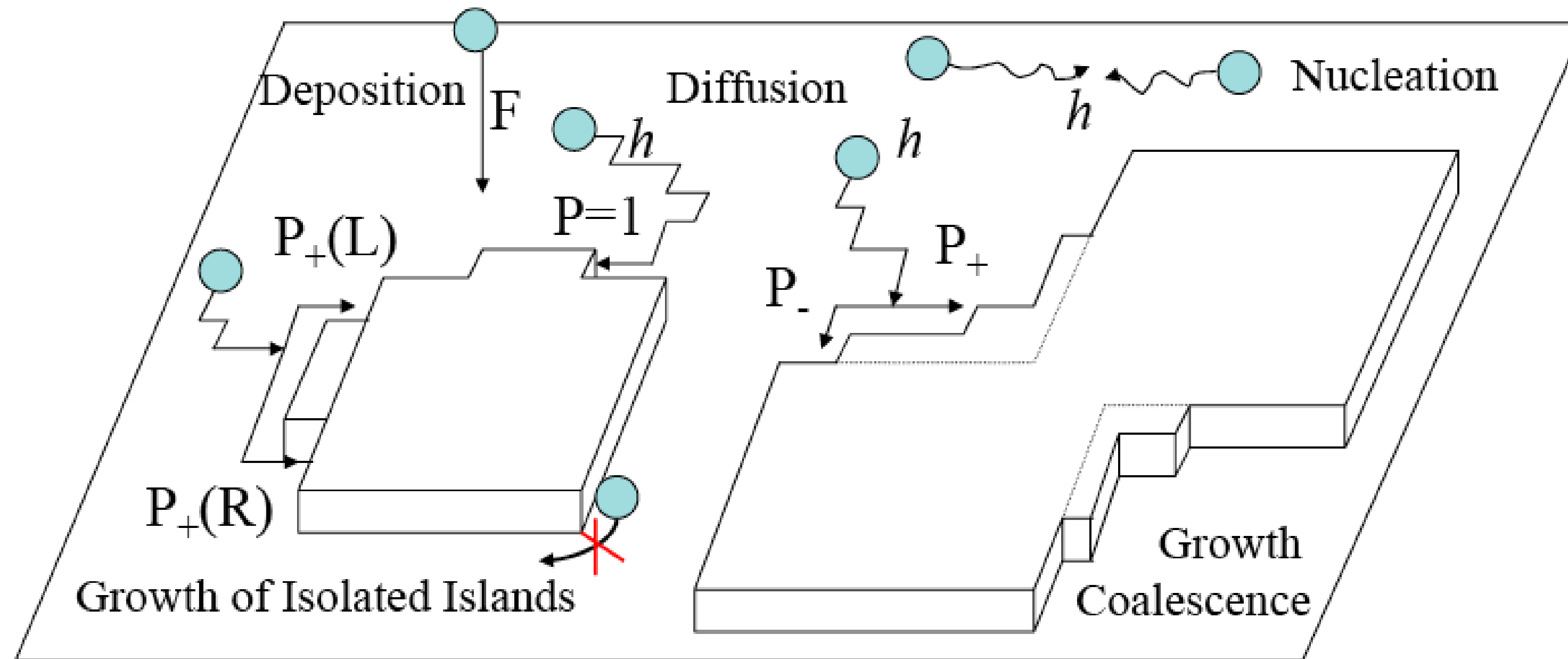
$R_c = 1 !!$ “critical nucleus” is a monomer!



“Hit and stick”

Task: building a kinetic theory of nucleation

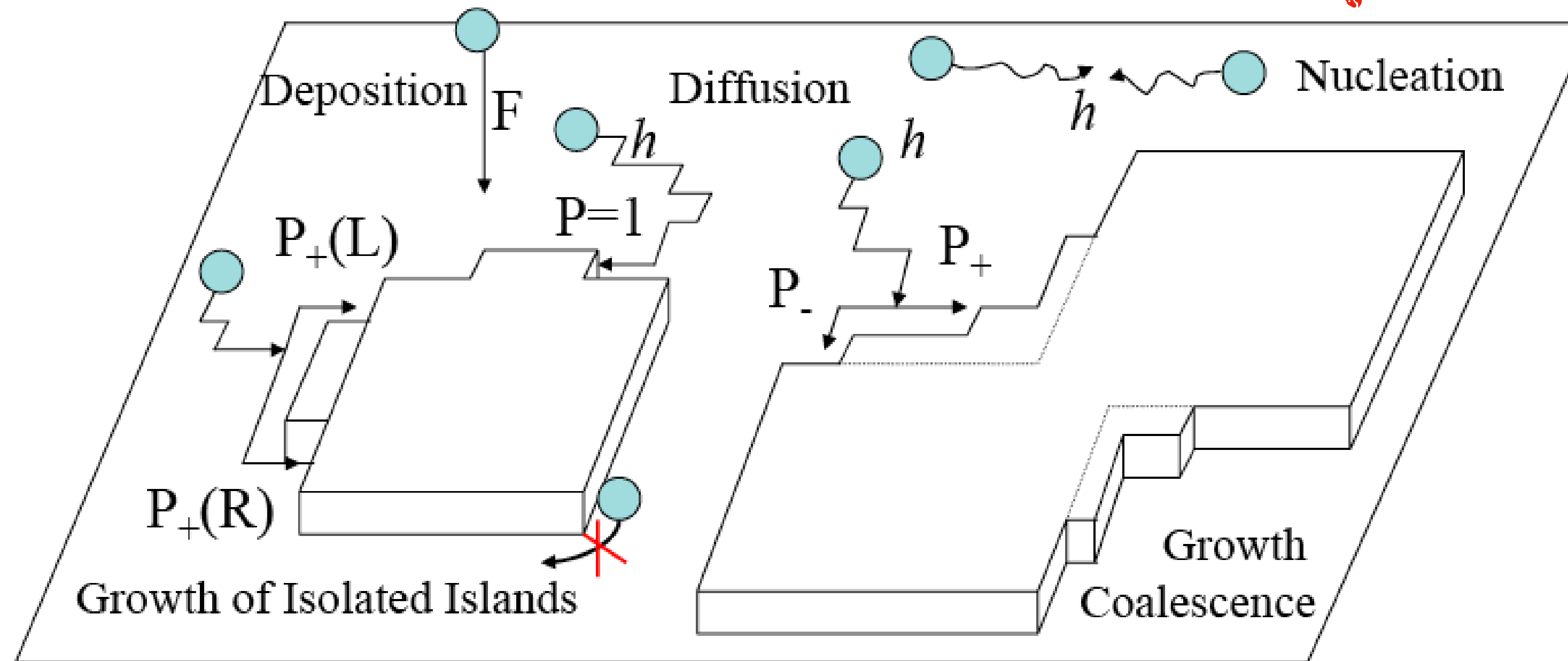
Nucleation Kinetics Critical Nucleus Size



Task: building a kinetic theory of nucleation

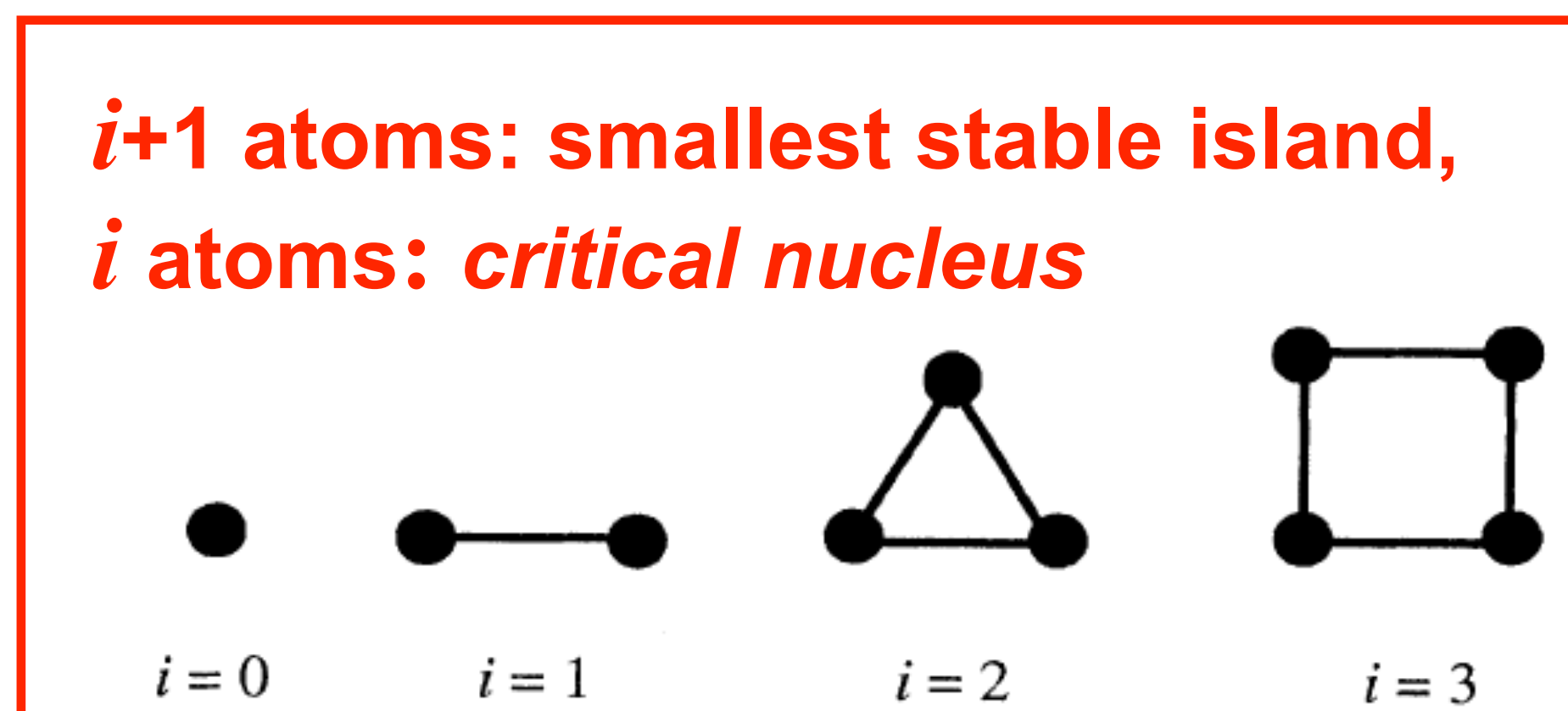
Nucleation Kinetics
Critical Nucleus Size

Mean field



Kinetic theory of nucleation

- Rate equations
- Clusters with s monomers have density N_s
- Diffusing monomers have density n
- *Assume* critical nucleus is cluster with size $s = i$



**Parameters: deposition rate F ; diffusion constant D ;
Critical Nucleus Size i**

$$\dot{n} = F - 2Dn^2 - DnN$$

$$\dot{n} = 0, \quad n \ll N$$

$$n = \frac{F}{DN}$$

$$\dot{N}_s = \sigma_{s-1}nN_{s-1} - \sigma_s n N_s + \frac{1}{\tau_{s+1}}N_{s+1} - \frac{1}{\tau_s}N_s \quad s < i$$

$$\dot{N}_i = \sigma_{i-1}nN_{i-1} - \sigma_i n N_i - \frac{1}{\tau_i}N_i$$

$$\dot{N} = \sigma_i n N_i$$

Simplest cases: $i = 1$ and $i = 2$

$$i = 1$$

$$\dot{n} = F - 2Dn^2 - DnN$$

$$\dot{N} = Dn^2$$

$$i = 2$$

$$\dot{n} = F - 2Dn^2 - DnN_2 + \frac{1}{\tau_2}N_2 - DnN$$

$$\dot{N}_2 = Dn^2 - DnN_2 - \frac{1}{\tau_2}N_2$$

$$\dot{N} = DnN_2$$

Simplest cases: $i = 1$ and $i = 2$

$$i = 1$$

$$\dot{n} = F - 2Dn^2 - DnN \approx 0 ; n \ll N \rightarrow n \approx \frac{F}{DN}$$

$$\dot{N} = Dn^2 \approx F \frac{F}{DN^2}$$

$$i = 2$$

$$\dot{n} = F - 2Dn^2 - DnN_2 + \frac{1}{\tau_2}N_2 - DnN ; n, N_2 \ll N \rightarrow n \approx \frac{F}{DN}$$

$$\dot{N}_2 = Dn^2 - DnN_2 - \frac{1}{\tau_2}N_2 \approx Dn^2 - \frac{1}{\tau_2}N_2 \approx 0 \rightarrow N_2 \approx (D\tau_2)n^2$$

$$\dot{N} = DnN_2 \approx D(D\tau_2)n^3$$

Simplest cases: $i = 1$ and $i = 2$

$$i = 1$$

$$n \approx \frac{F}{DN}$$

$$\frac{dN}{d\theta} \approx \frac{F}{DN^2} ; \theta = Ft$$

$$i = 2$$

$$n \approx \frac{D}{FN}$$

$$N_2 \approx (D\tau_2)n^2$$

$$\frac{dN}{d\theta} \approx \frac{D}{F}(D\tau_2)\left(\frac{F}{DN}\right)^3 = (D\tau_2)\left(\frac{F}{D}\right)^2 N^{-3}$$

Simplest cases: $i = 1$ and $i = 2$

$$i = 1$$

$$n \approx \frac{F}{DN}$$

$$N^2 \frac{dN}{d\theta} \approx \frac{F}{D} \rightarrow N^3 \approx \frac{F}{D} \rightarrow N \approx \left(\frac{F}{D} \right)^{1/3}$$

$$i = 2$$

$$n \approx \frac{D}{FN}$$

$$N_2 \approx (D\tau_2)n^2$$

$$\frac{dN}{d\theta} \approx (D\tau_2) \left(\frac{F}{D} \right)^2 N^{-3} \rightarrow N \approx (D\tau_2)^{1/4} \left(\frac{F}{D} \right)^{1/2}$$

General i

Assuming stationarity ($\dot{N}_s = 0$) one finds the solution

$$N_s = \left(\prod_{k=2}^s \sigma_{k-1} \tau_k \right) n^s.$$

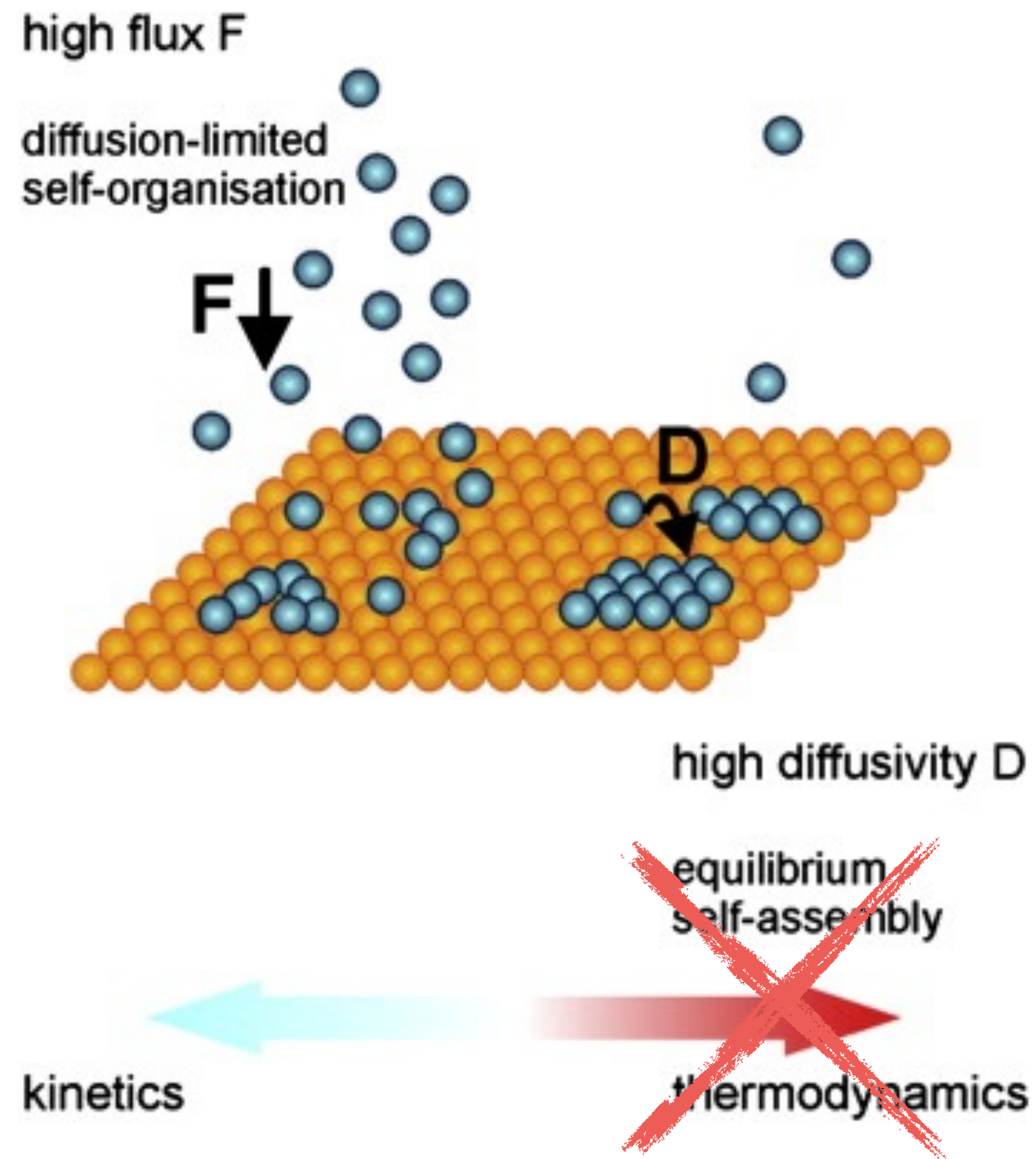
Integrating, we obtain

$$N \sim \left(\frac{F}{D} \right)^{i/(i+2)} e^{E_i/[k_B T(i+2)]} = \left(\frac{F}{D_0} \right)^{i/(i+2)} \exp \left[\frac{iE_D + E_i}{(i+2)k_B T} \right],$$

where E_D is the hopping energy barrier and E_i is the cohesion energy of a cluster of size i (the critical nucleus in this approach.)

Scaling!

$$N \sim \left(\frac{F}{D} \right)^{i/(i+2)}$$



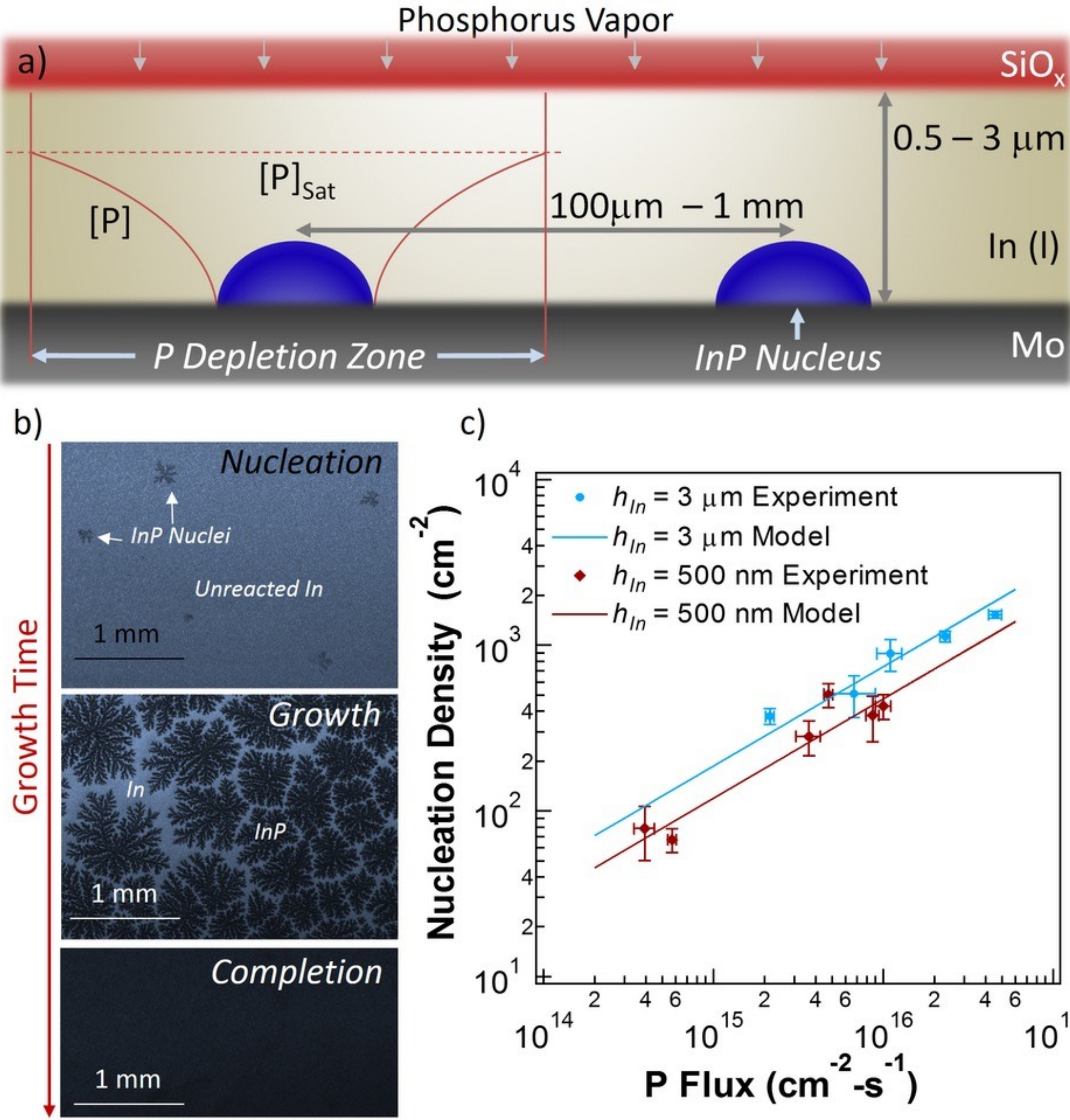
Scaling!

$$N \sim \left(\frac{F}{D} \right)^{i/(i+2)}$$

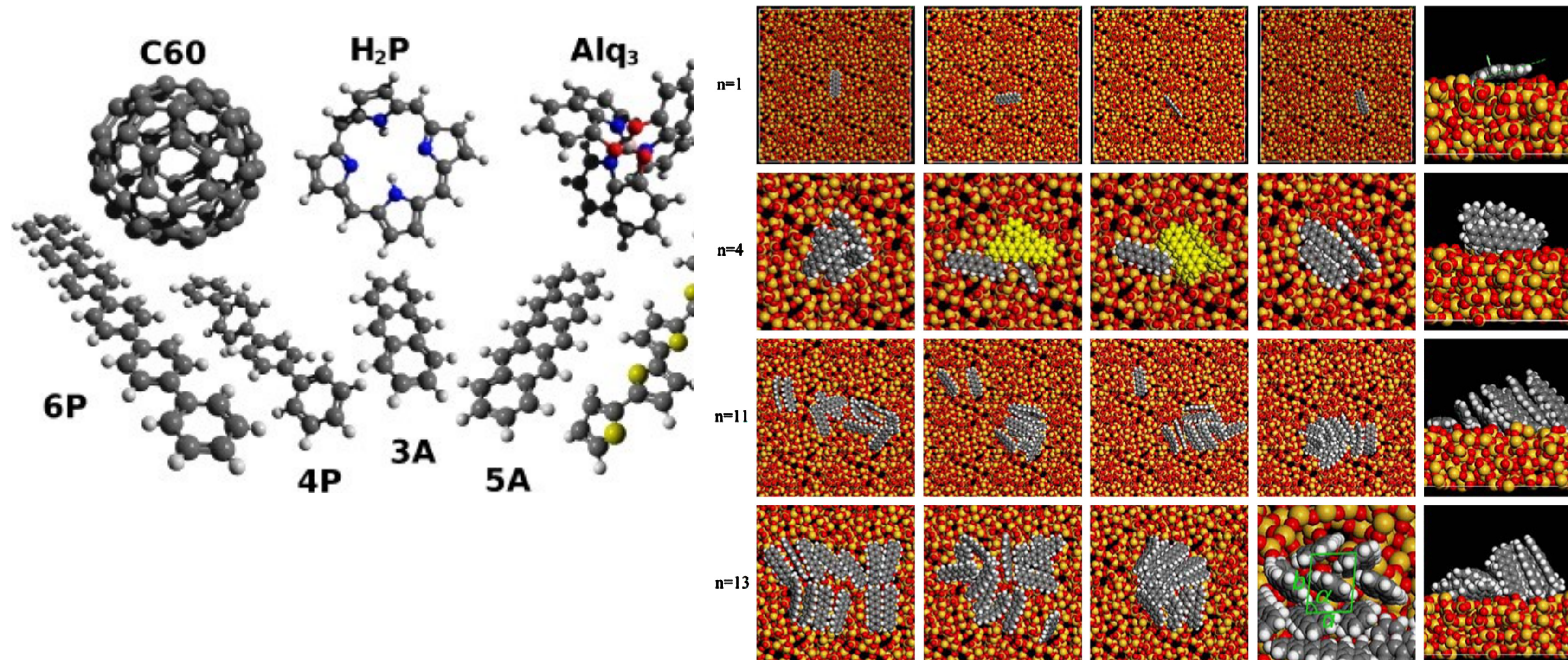
“Byproduct”:
measuring diffusion
coefficient by counting
islands

A direct thin-film path towards low-cost large-area III-V photovoltaics

Rehan Kapadia^{1,2*}, Zhibin Yu^{1,2*}, Hsin-Hua H. Wang^{1,2}, Maxwell Zheng^{1,2}, Corsin Battaglia^{1,2}, Mark Hettick^{1,2}, Daisuke Kiriya^{1,2}, Kuniharu Takei^{1,2}, Peter Lobaccaro^{2,3}, Jeffrey W. Beeman², Joel W. Ager², Roya Maboudian³, Daryl C. Chrzan^{2,4} & Ali Javey^{1,2}



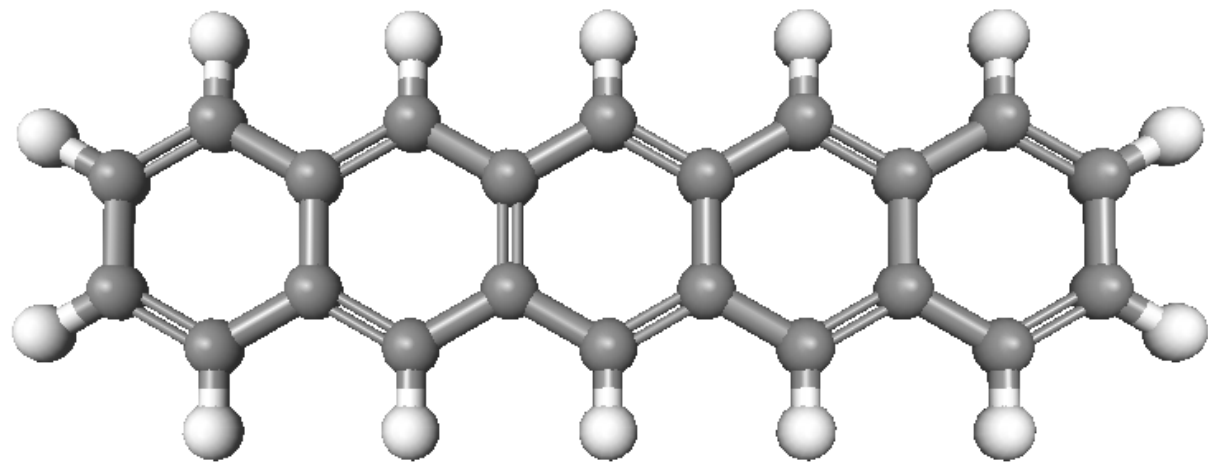
Organic molecules!



[Journal of Crystal Growth 405 \(2014\) 73–80](#)

Molecular orientation transformation of pentacene on amorphous SiO₂: A computational study on the initial growth stage of physical vapor deposition

Yuanqi Zeng, Bo Tao*, Zhouping Yin



Growth dynamics of pentacene thin films

Frank-J. Meyer zu Heringdorf, M. C. Reuter & R. M. Tromp

Appl. Phys. A 78, 787–791 (2004)
DOI: 10.1007/s00339-003-2432-x

Applied Physics A
Materials Science & Processing

F.-J. MEYER ZU HERINGDORF^{✉,*} **The nucleation of pentacene thin films**
M.C. REUTER
R.M. TROMP
IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, P.O. Box 218, NY 10598, USA

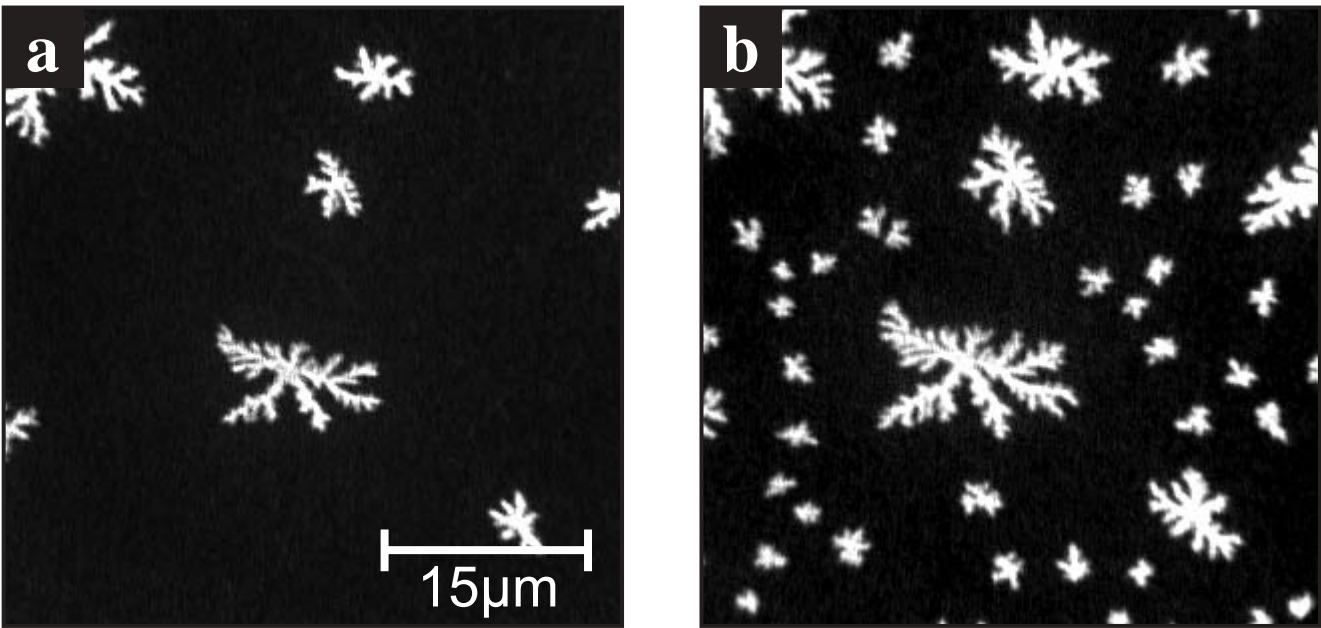
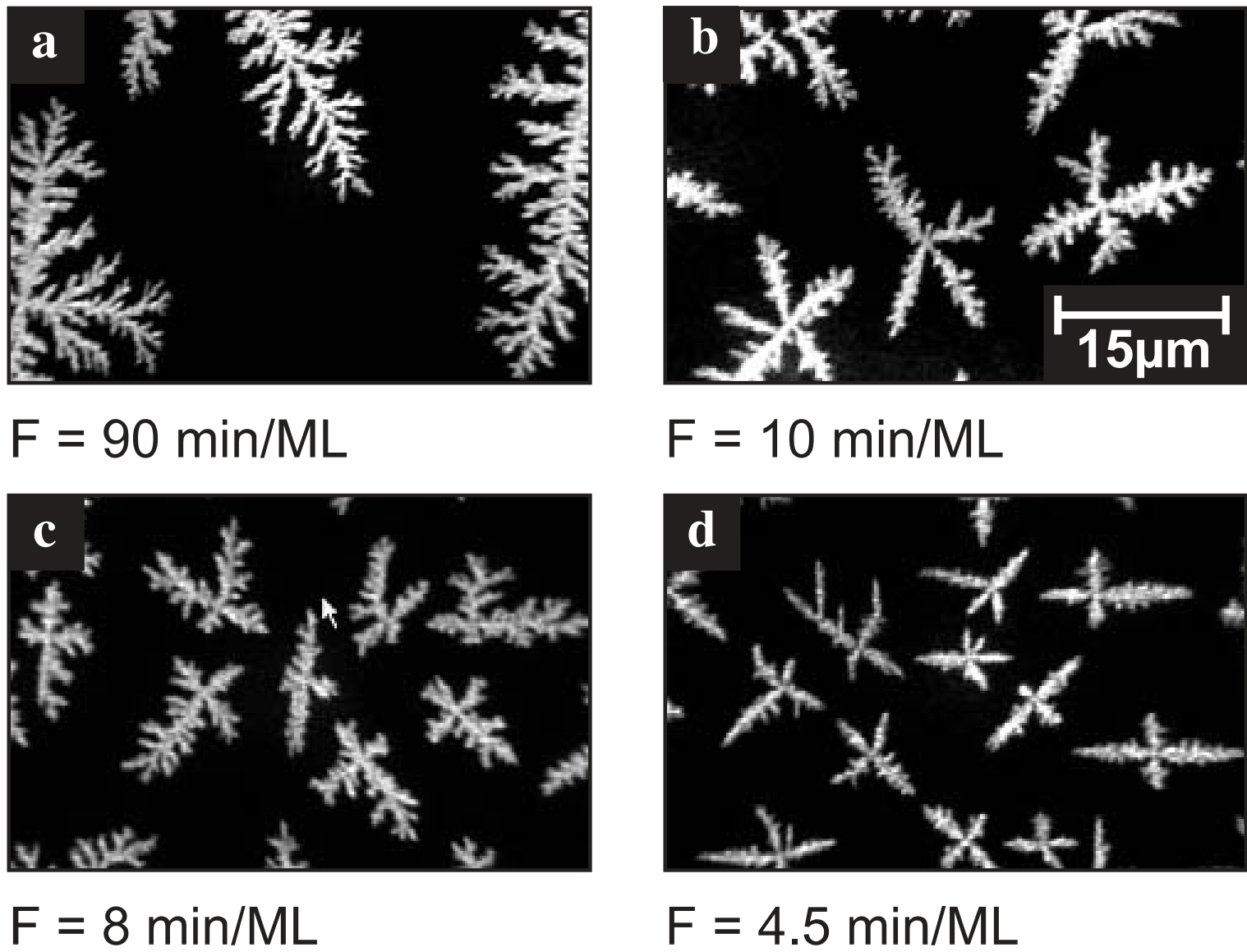
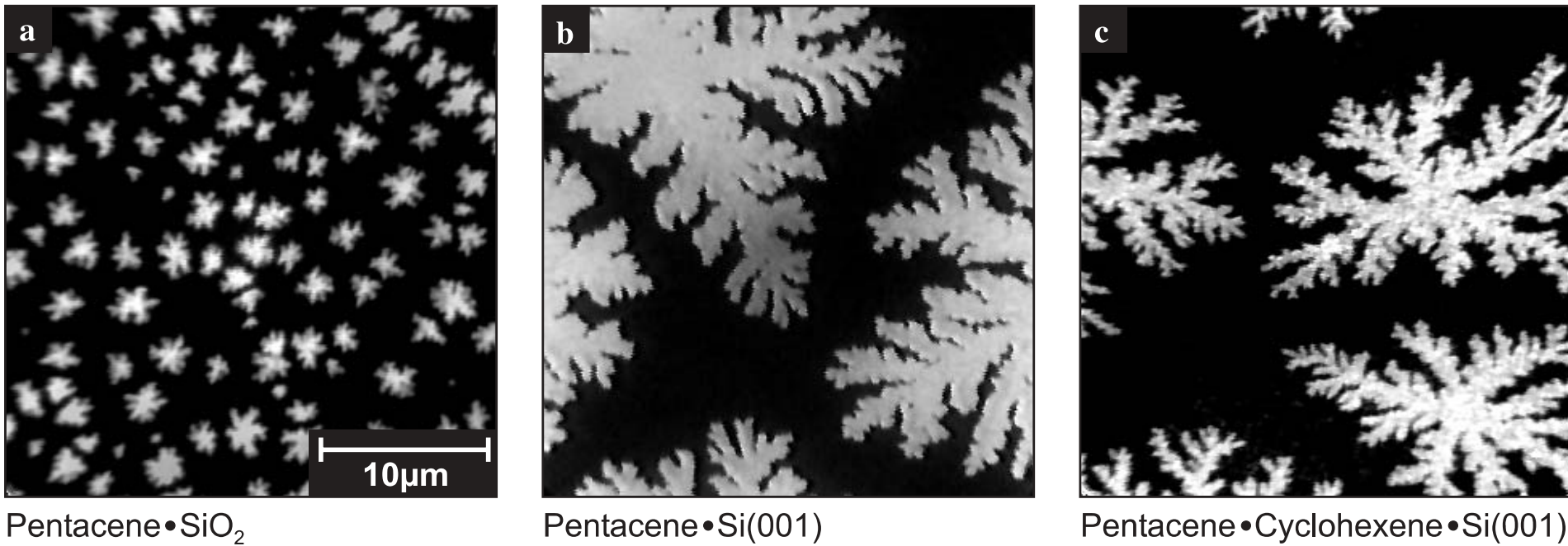


FIGURE 4 Influence of the deposition rate on the nucleation density for pentacene on cyclohexene on Si(001). **a** typical PEEM image after island nucleation, **b** PEEM image after additional nuclei were formed by an increased rate

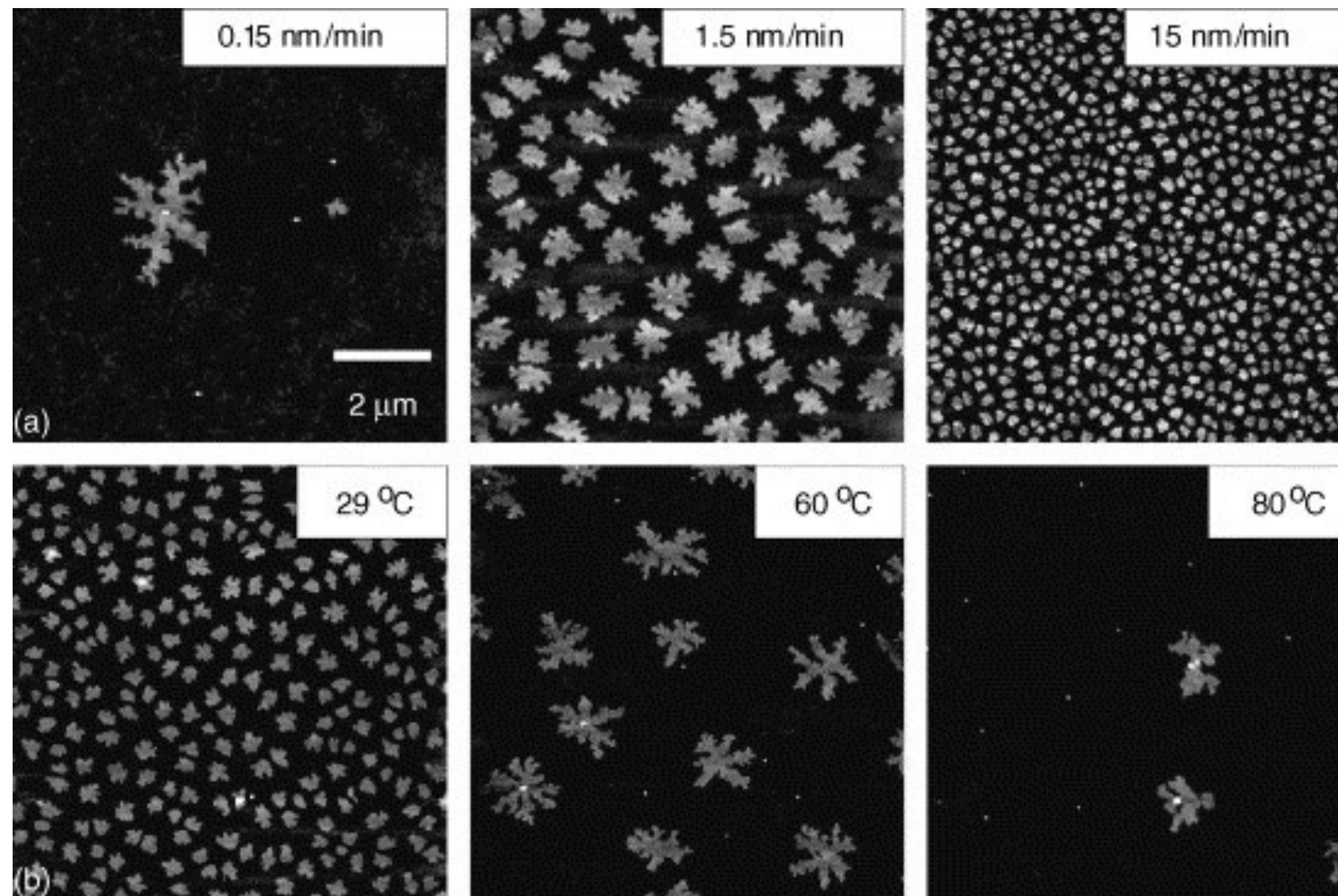


Fig. 1 AFM surface topography ($10\ \mu\text{m} \times 10\ \mu\text{m}$) of 0.5 nm-thick pentacene films grown on a 200 nm-thick SiO_2 substrate (a) at various deposition rate for a fixed substrate temperature of 65 °C and (b) at different substrate temperatures for a fixed deposit...

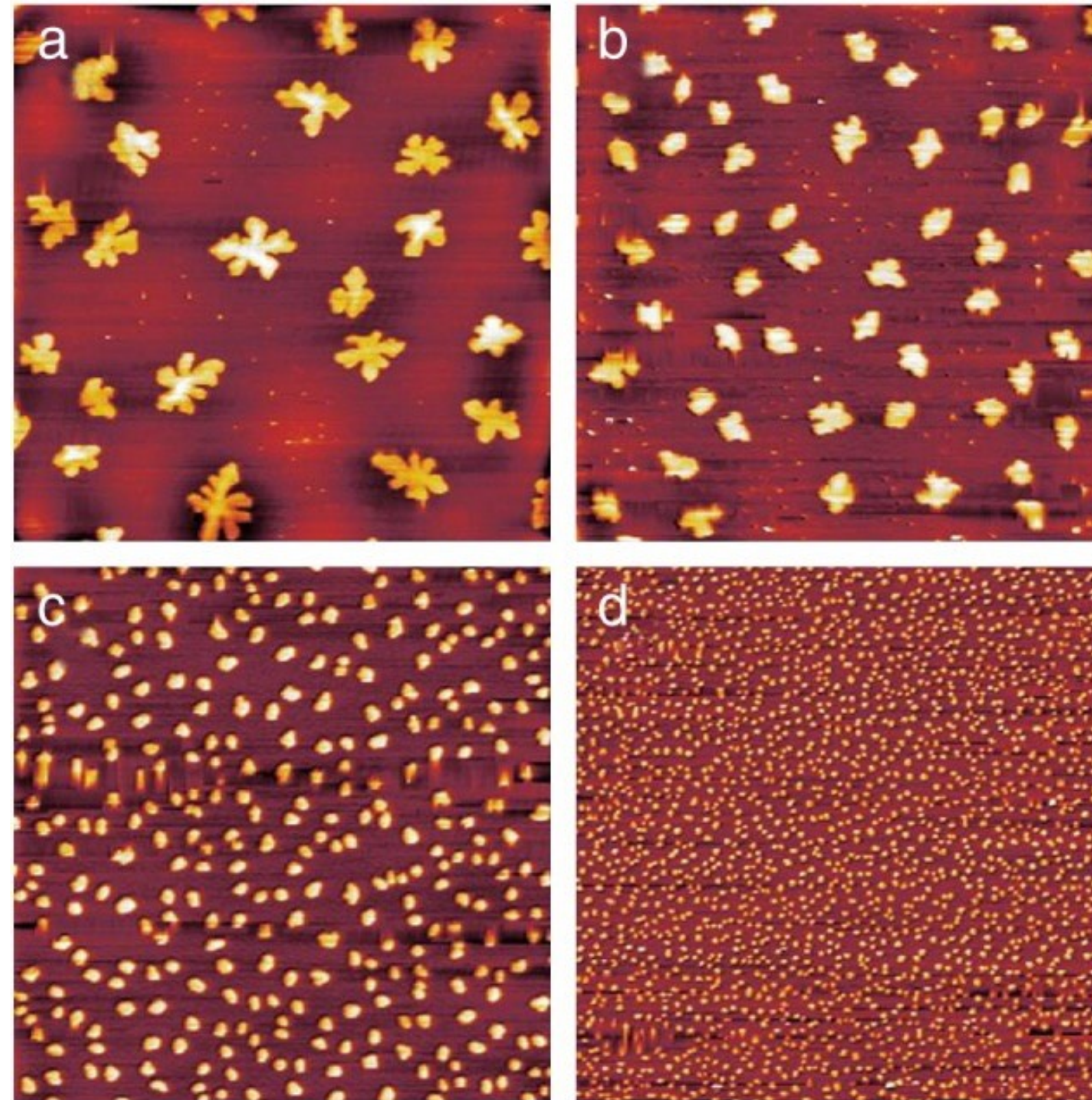
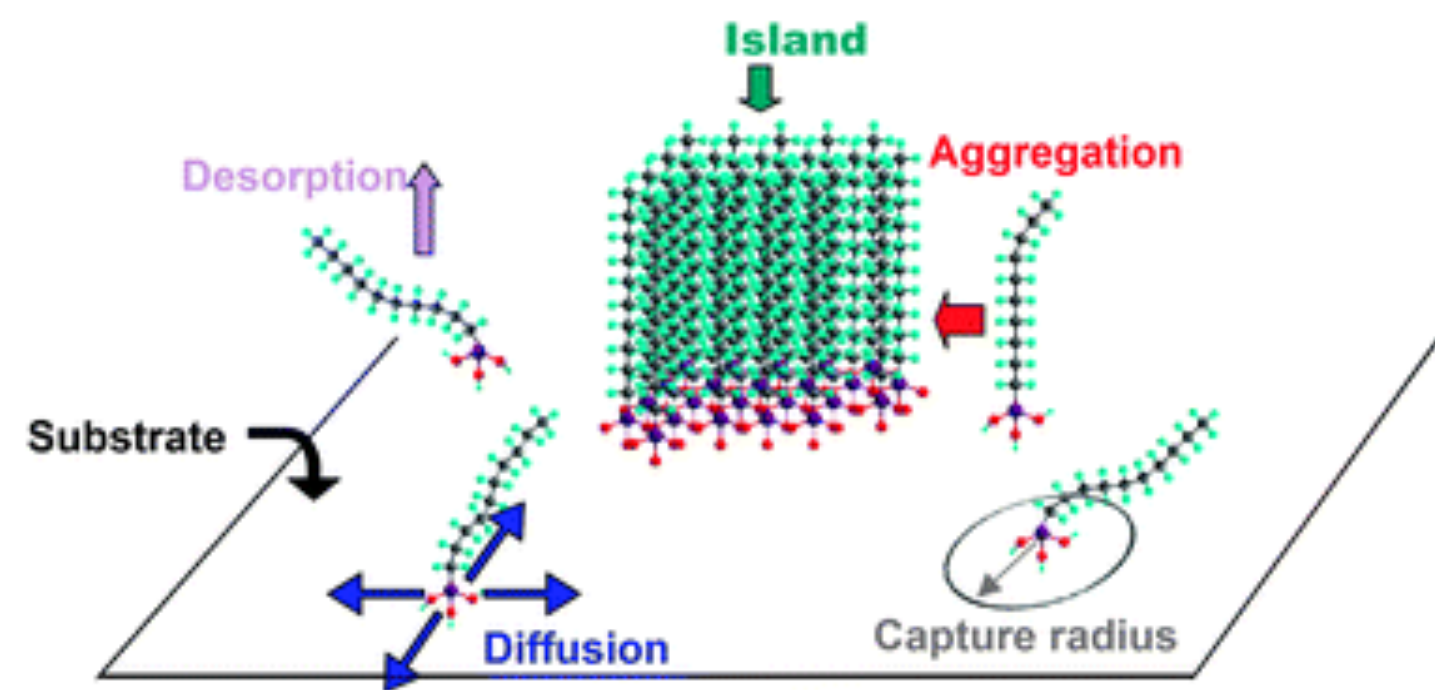
Sirapat Pratontep , Martin Brinkmann , Frank Nüesch , Libero Zuppiroli

Nucleation and growth of ultrathin pentacene films on silicon dioxide: effect of deposition rate and substrate temperature

Synthetic Metals, Volume 146, Issue 3, 2004, 387 - 391

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.synthmet.2004.08.017>

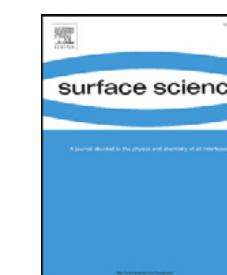
Deposition, diffusion, nucleation and aggregation



Surface Science Letters

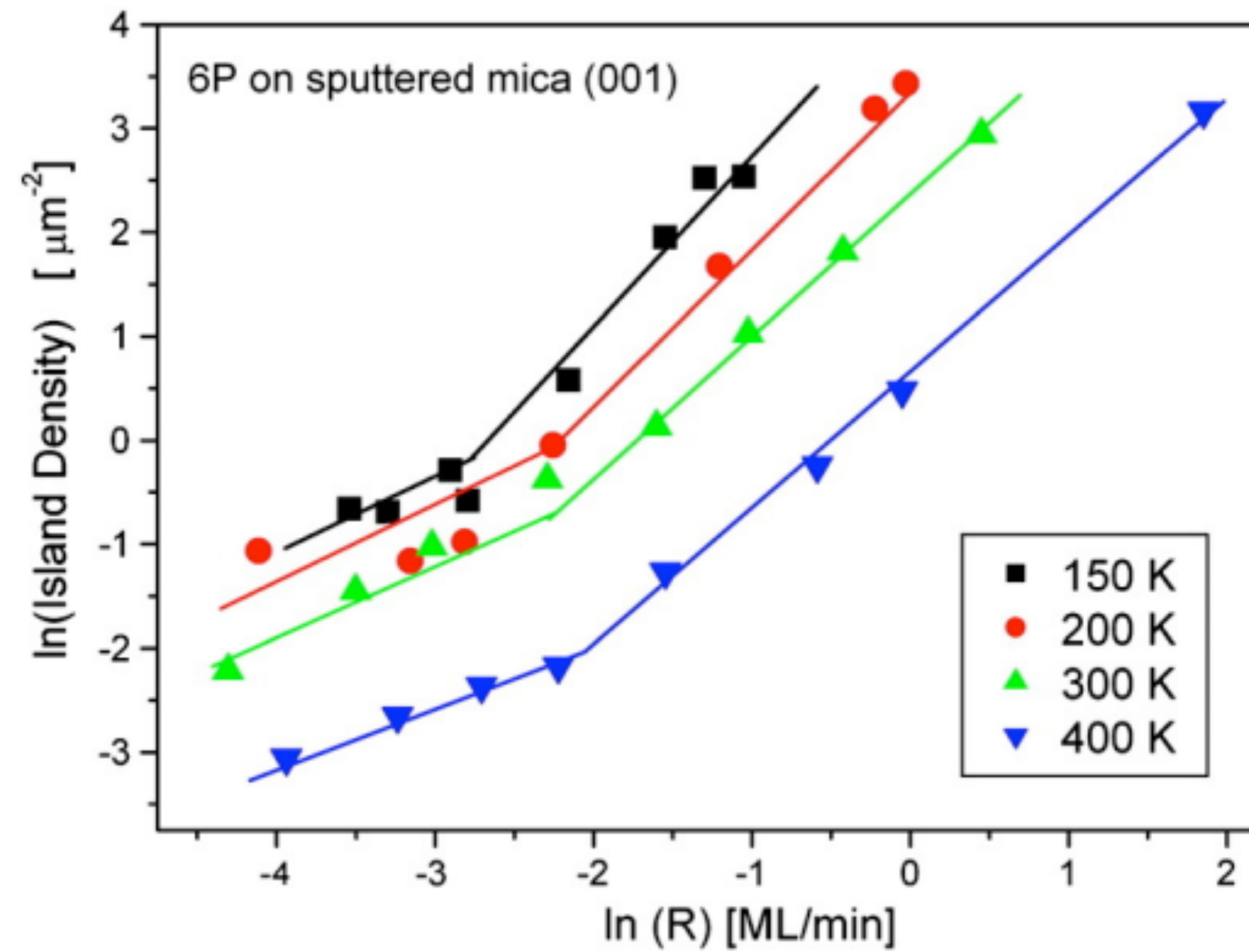
Attachment limited versus diffusion limited nucleation of organic molecules:
Hexaphenyl on sputter-modified mica

L. Tumbek, A. Winkler*



Scaling?

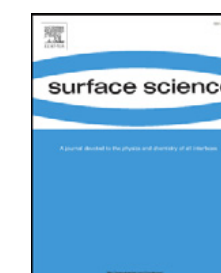
$$N \sim \left(\frac{F}{D} \right)^{i/(i+2)}$$



Surface Science Letters

Attachment limited versus diffusion limited nucleation of organic molecules:
Hexaphenyl on sputter-modified mica

L. Tumbek, A. Winkler*



Different exponents
may imply
different aggregation
processes

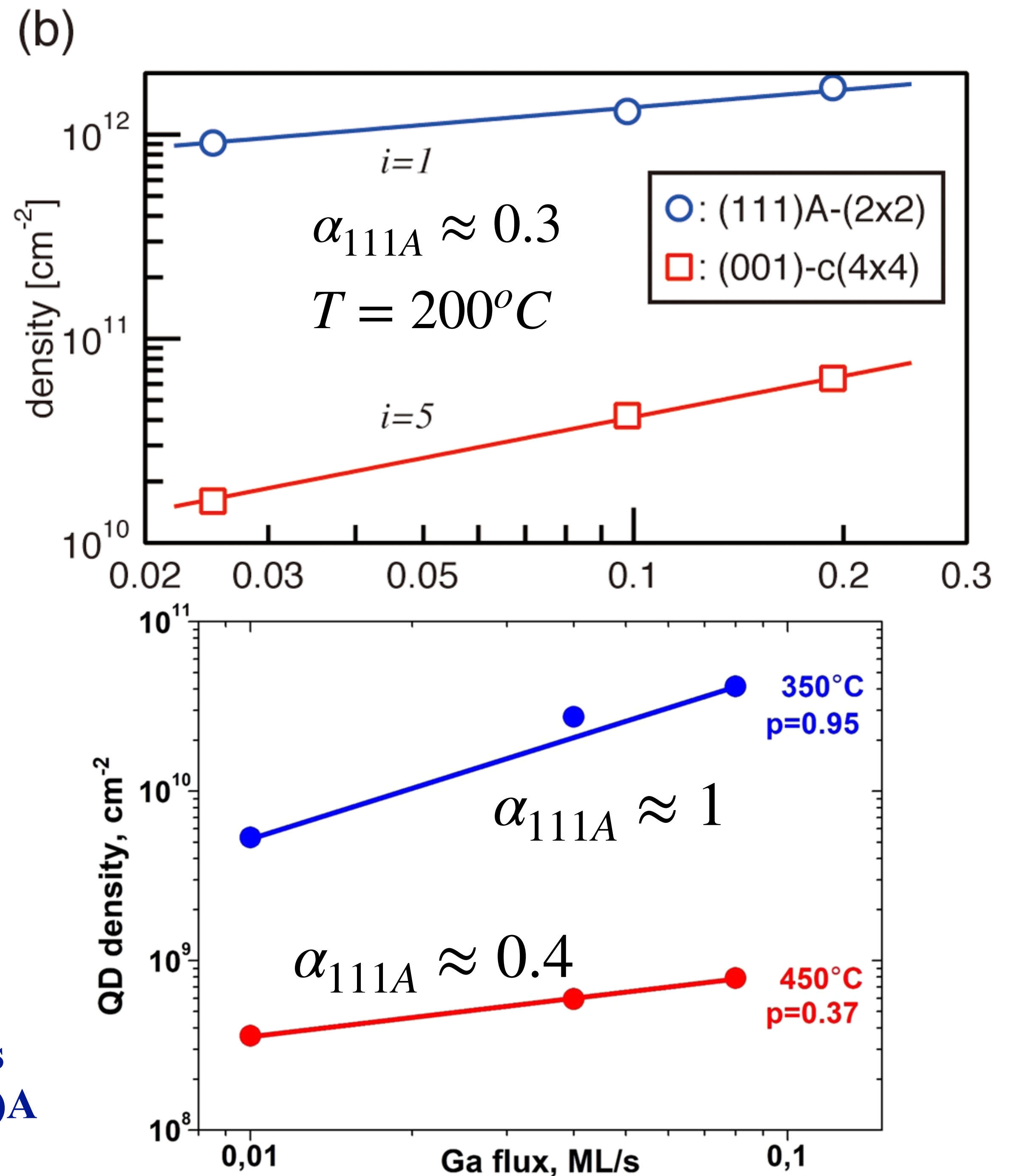
Diffusion Limited (DLA)
Attachment Limited (ALA)
3D Clusters (3D) ...

$$\alpha_{\text{DLA}} = i/(i + 2)$$

$$\alpha_{\text{ALA}} = 2i/(i + 3)$$

$$\alpha_{3D} = 2i/(2i + 5)$$

Ga droplets
on GaAs(111)A
2° vicinal



Can one extract from the islands
pattern more information about
the nucleation process?

Average island density

$$N = \frac{1}{\langle A \rangle}$$

Average area per island

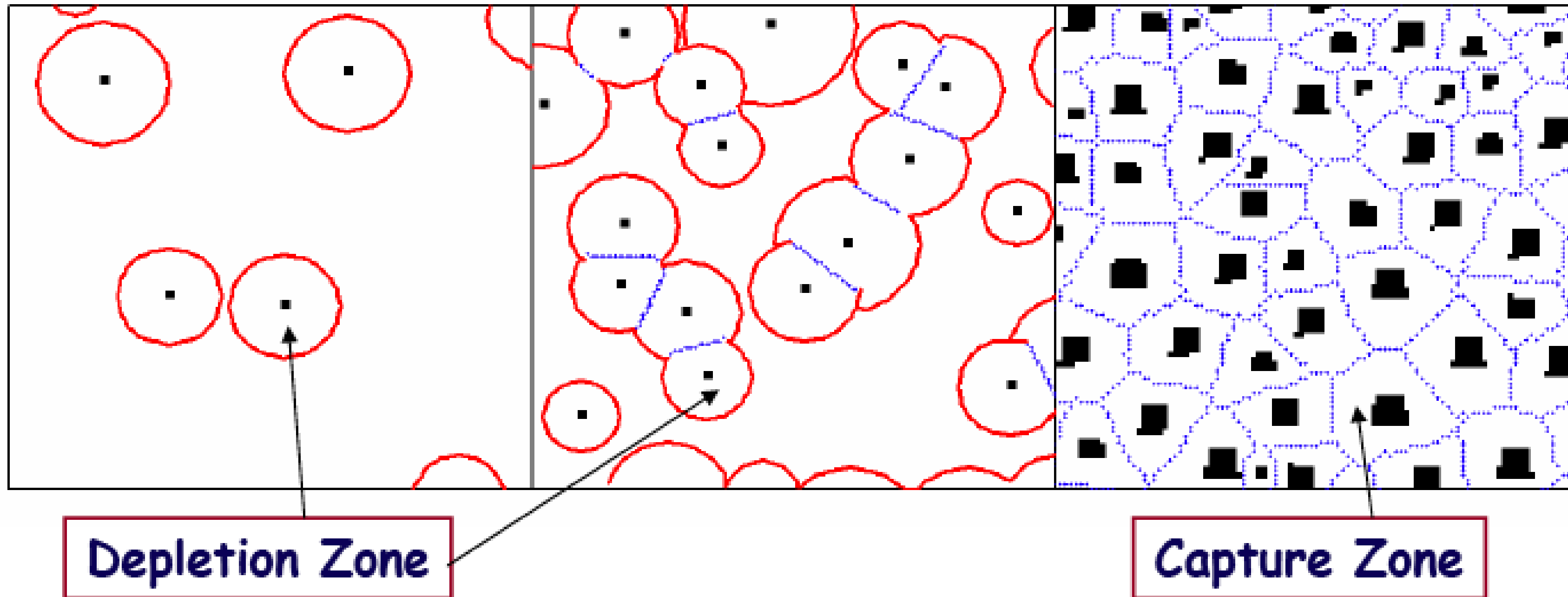
Beyond island densities

Area fluctuations: Capture Zone Distribution (CZD)

Initial Regime

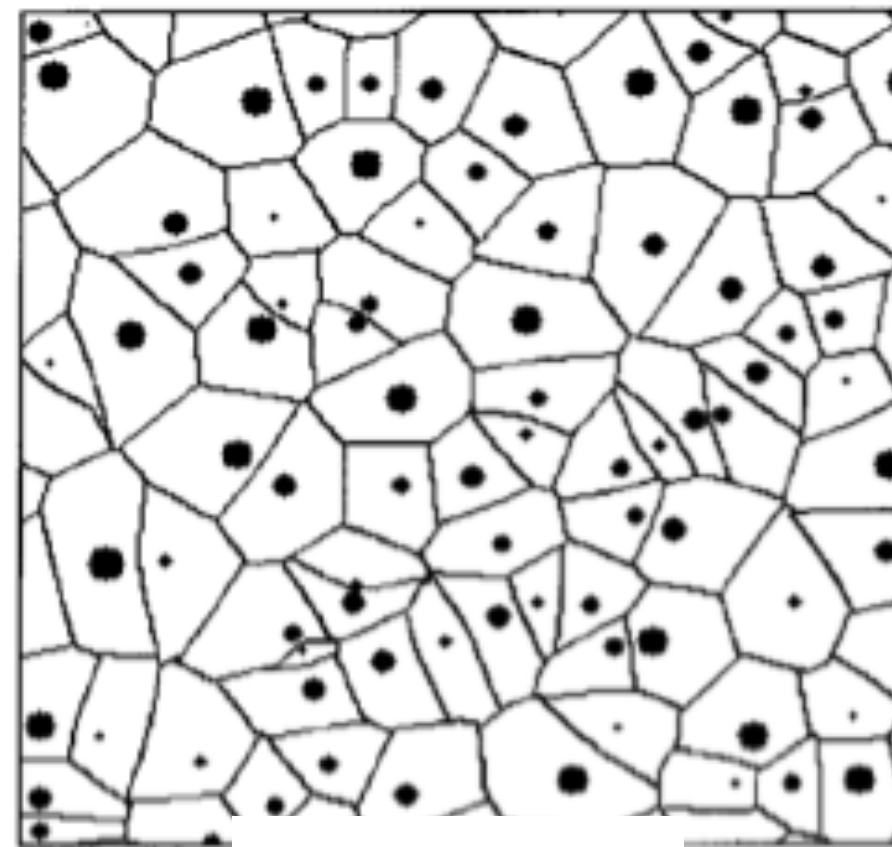
Crossover Regime

Steady-State Regime

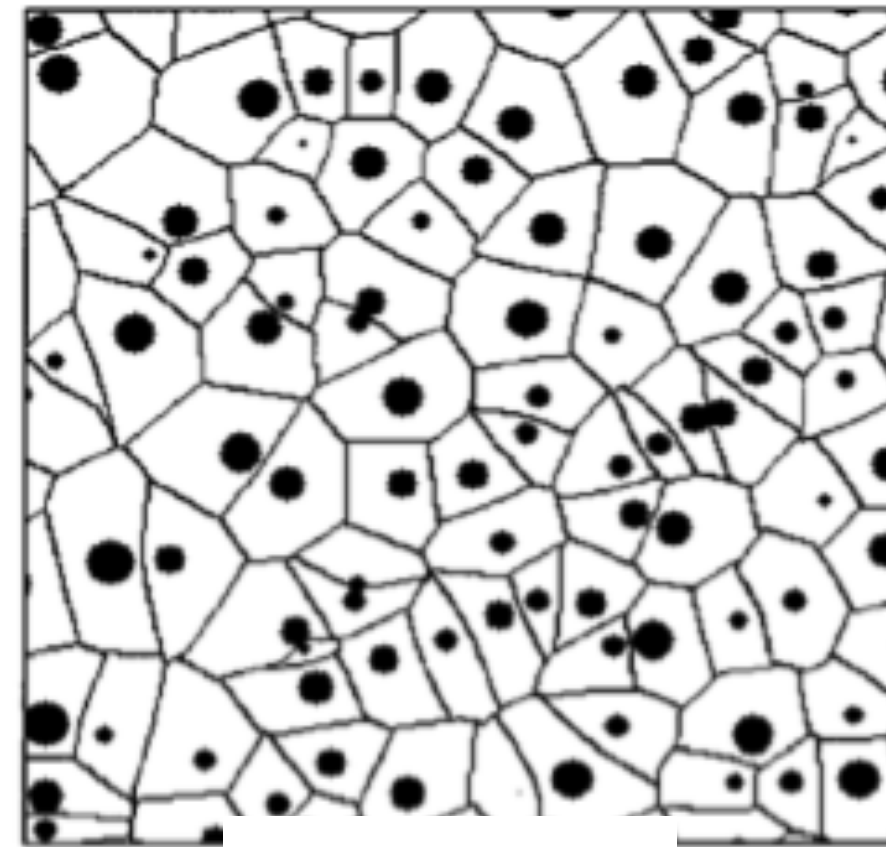


Simulations of $i=0,1$ Circular Islands

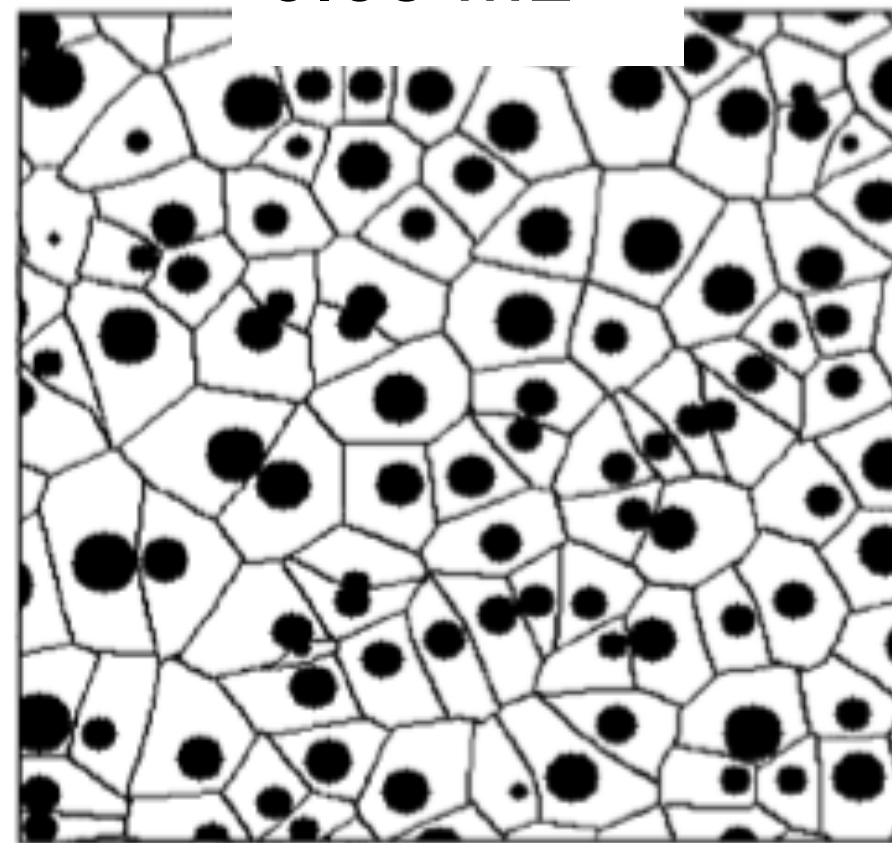
Mulheran & Blackman, PRB 53 (96) 10261



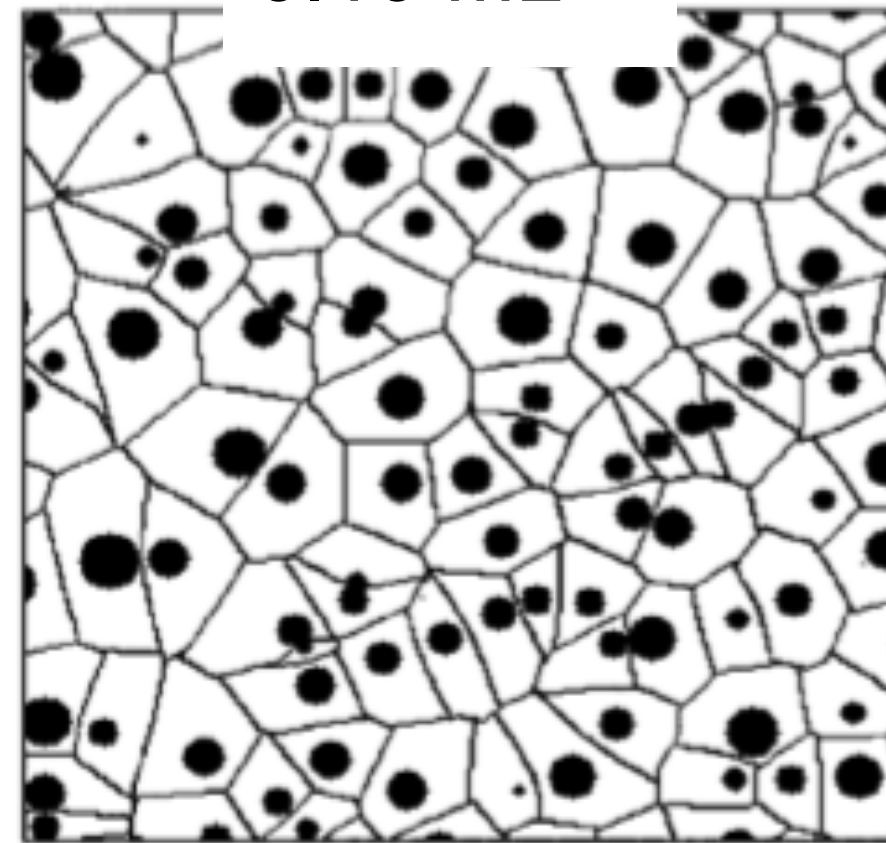
0.05 ML



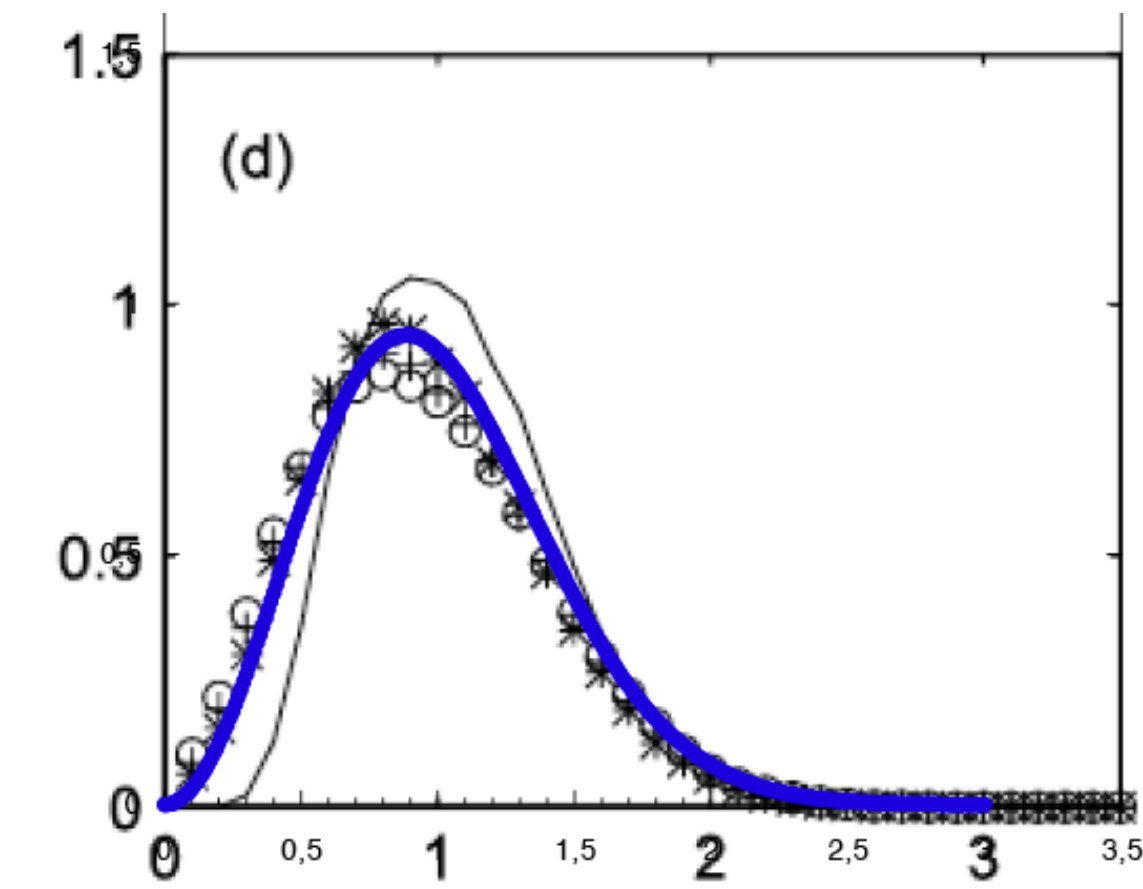
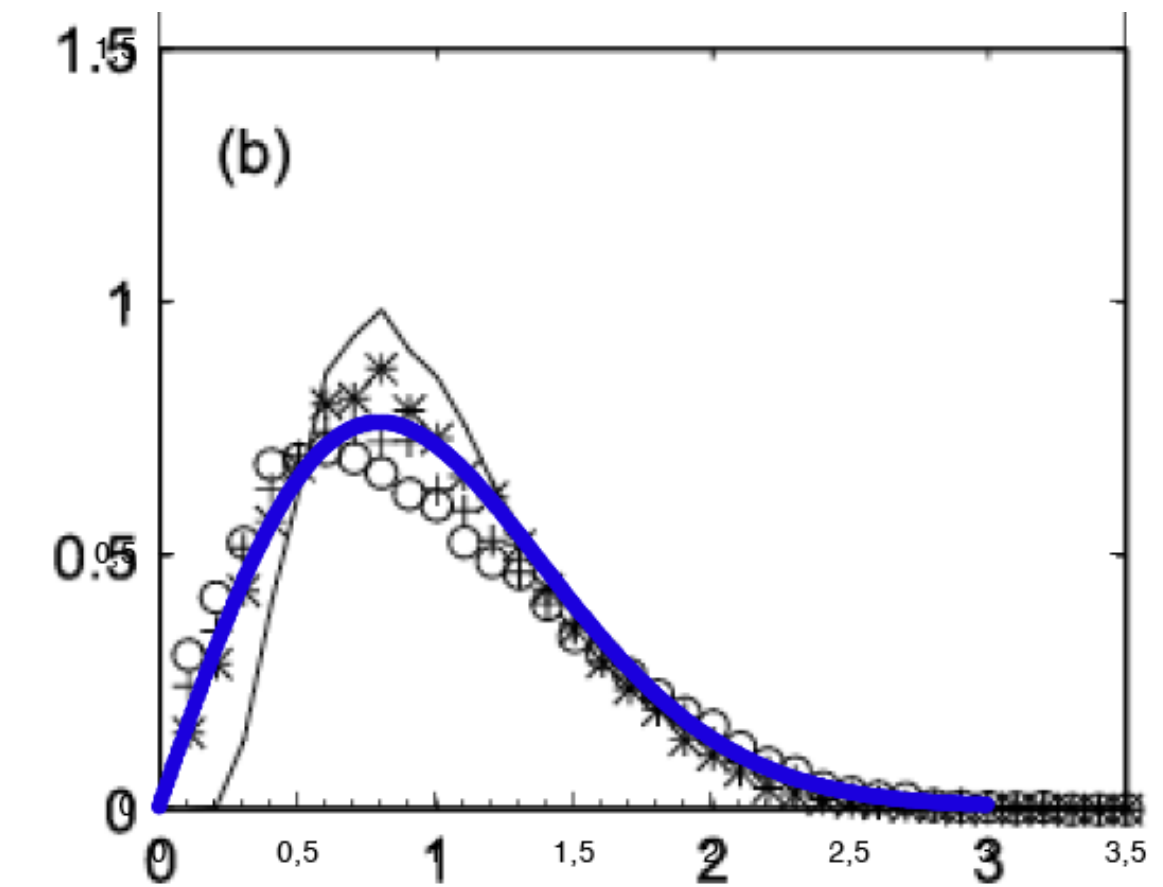
0.10 ML



0.20 ML

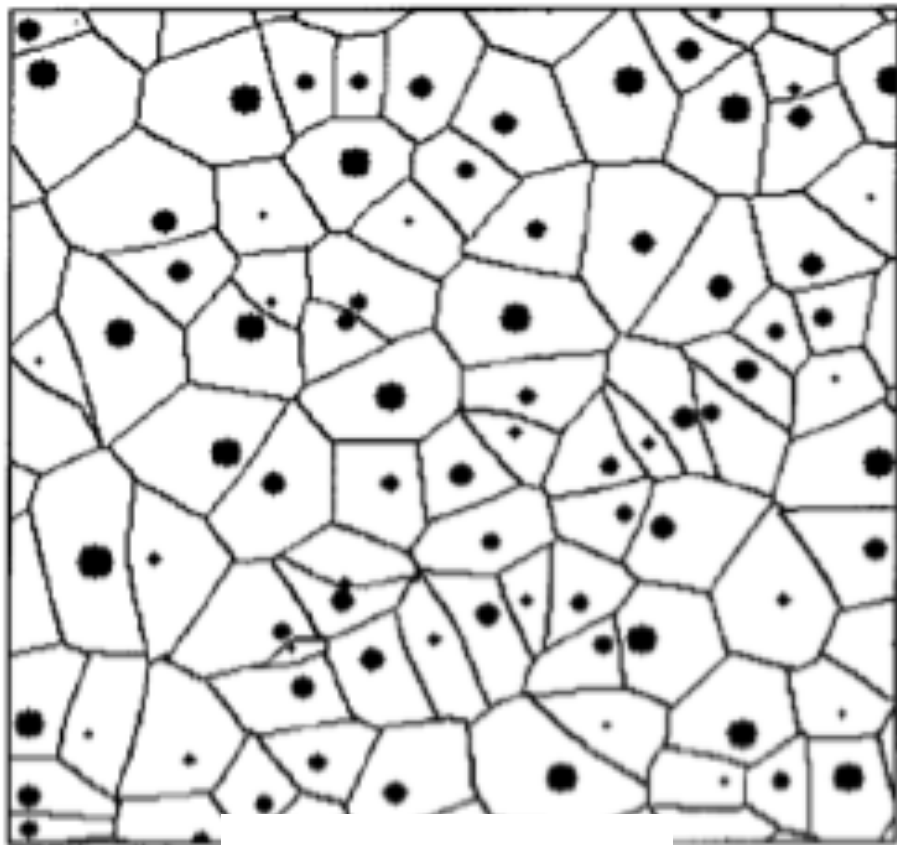


0.15 ML

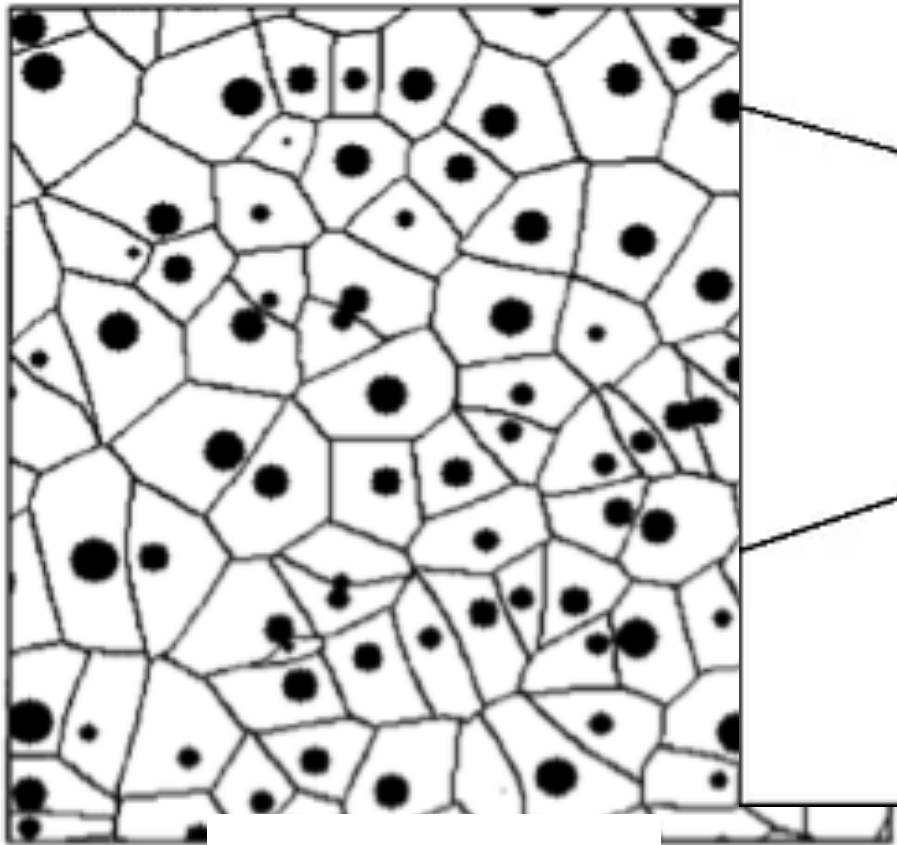


Simulations of $i=0,1$

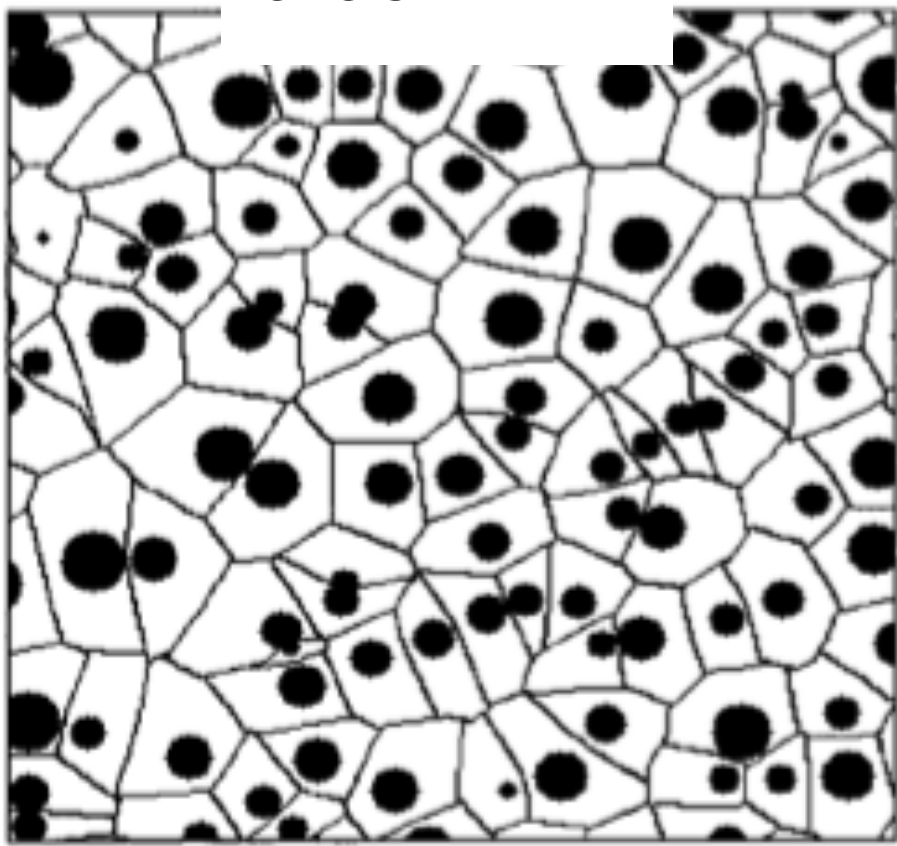
Mulheran & Blackman, P



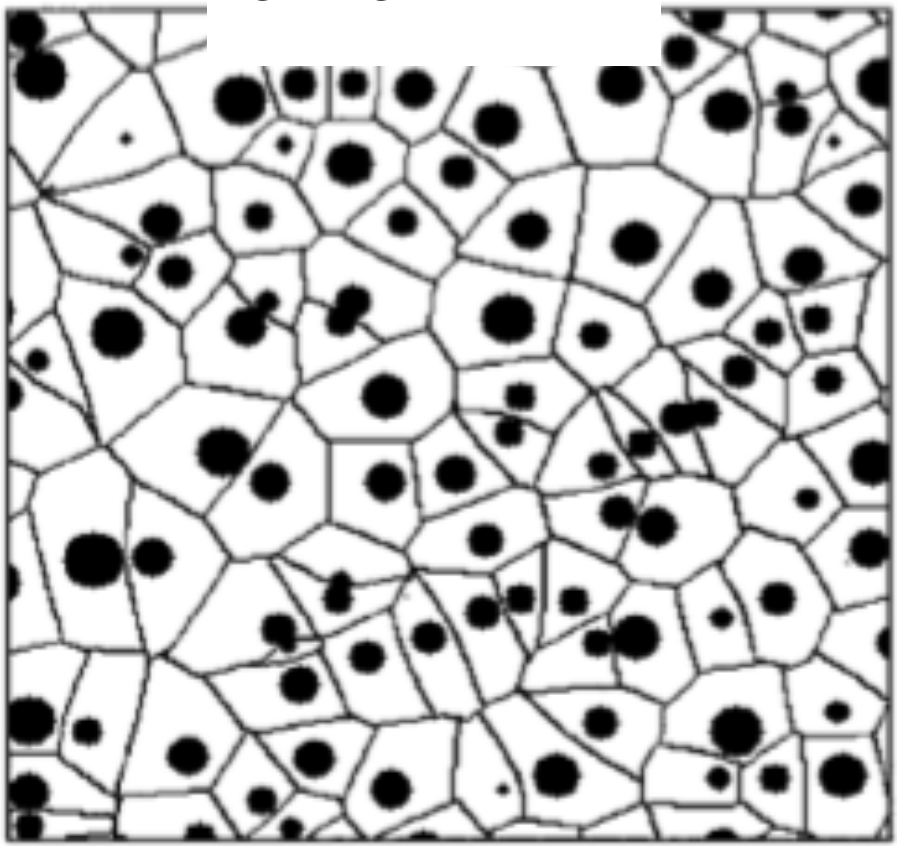
0.05 ML



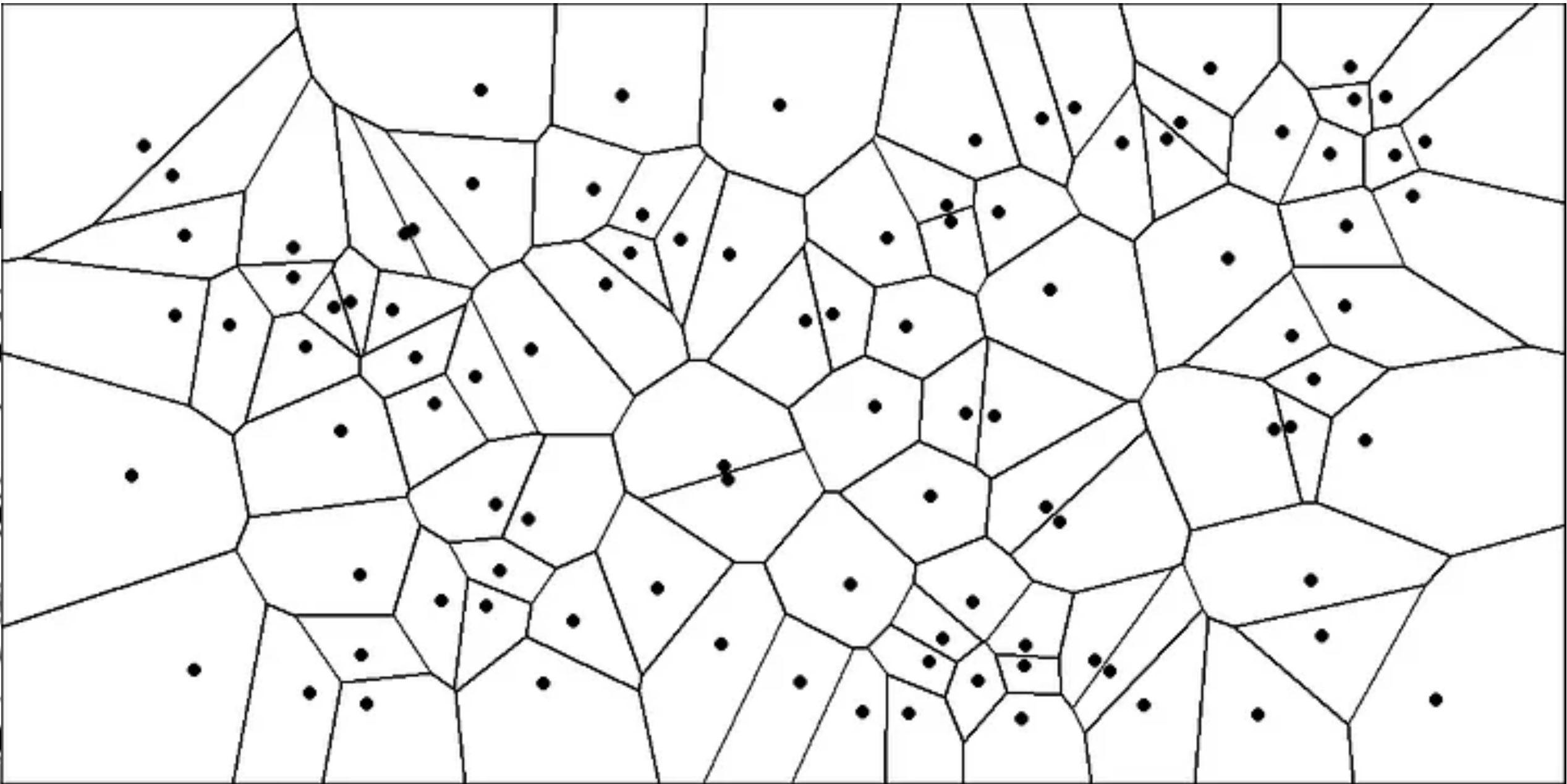
0.10 ML



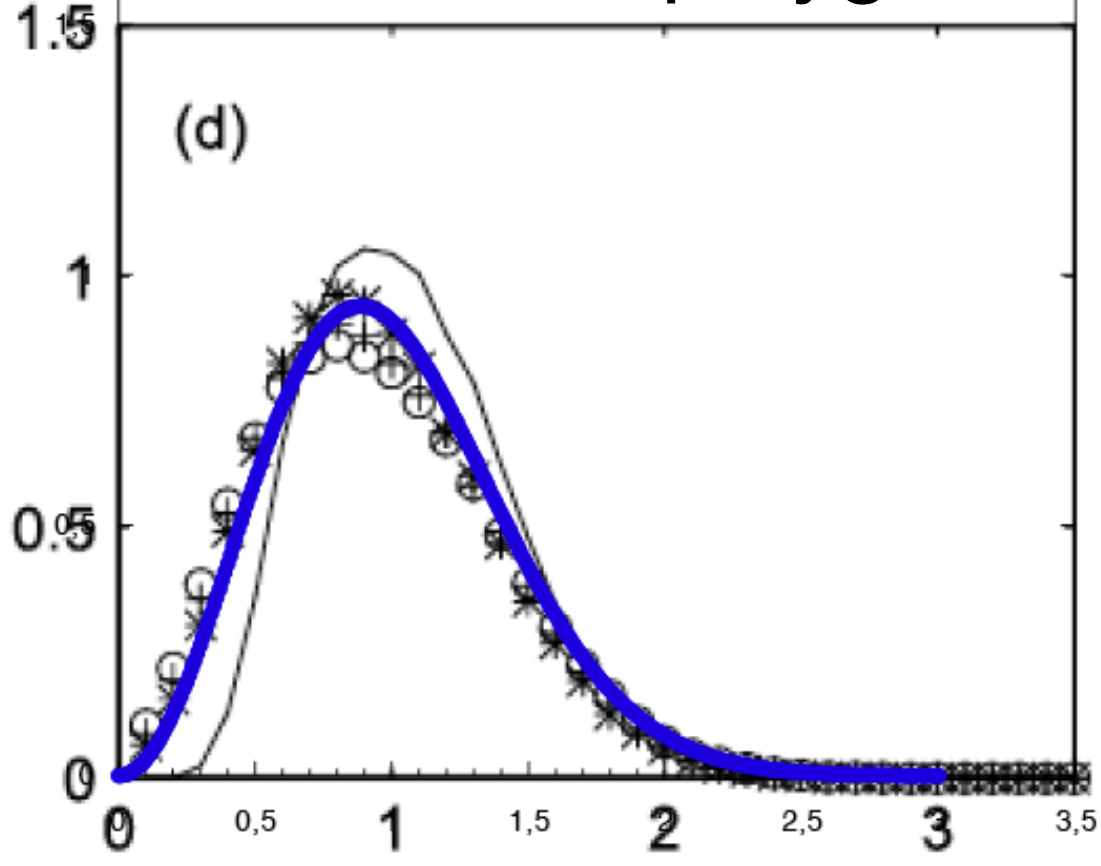
0.20 ML



0.15 ML

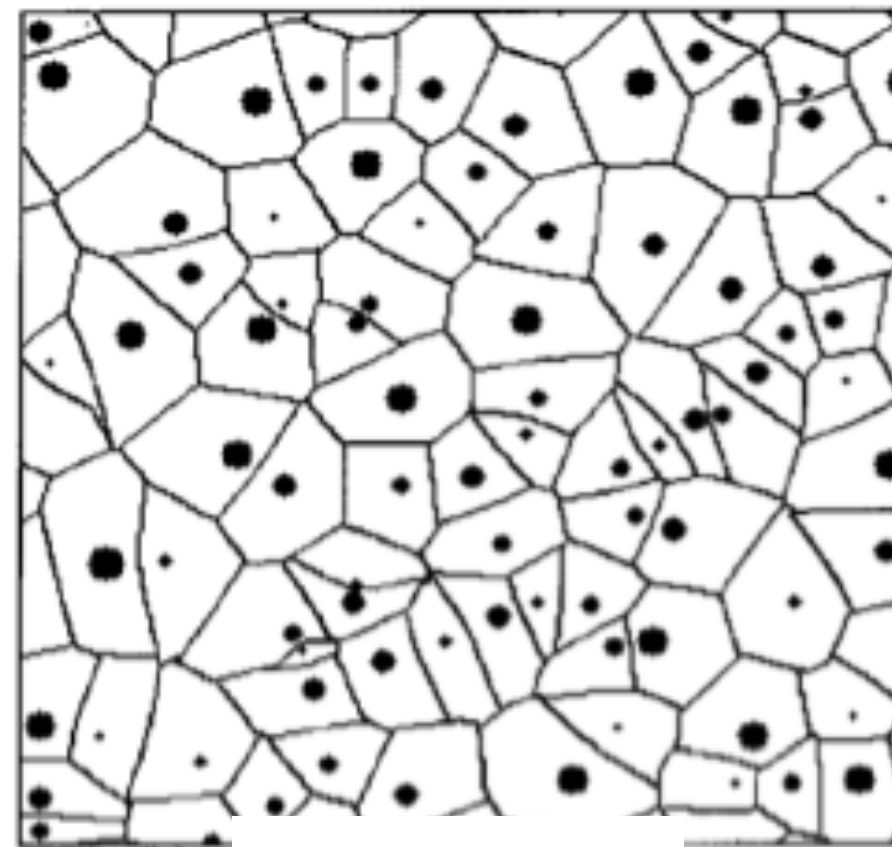


Voronoi polygons

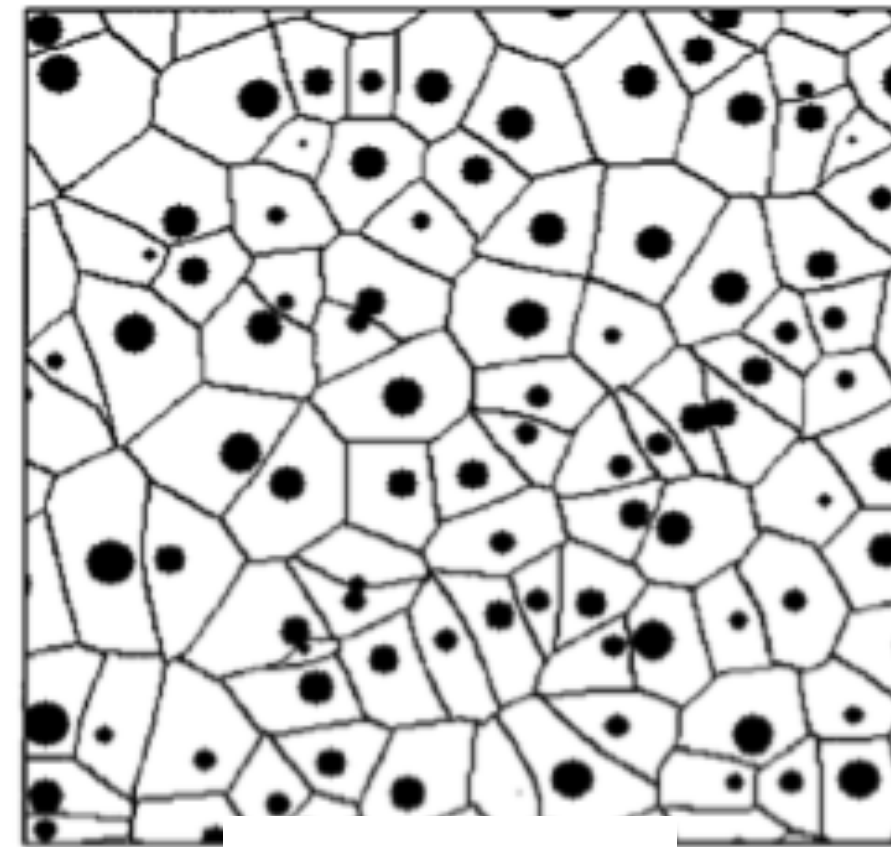


Simulations of $i=0,1$ Circular Islands

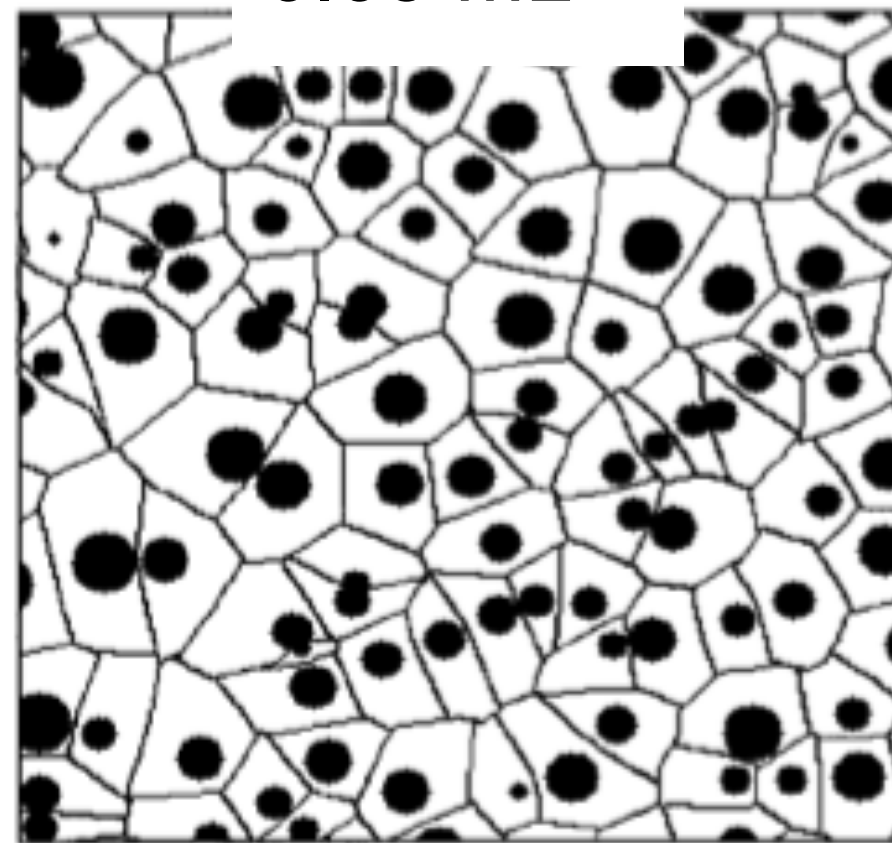
Mulheran & Blackman, PRB 53 (96) 10261



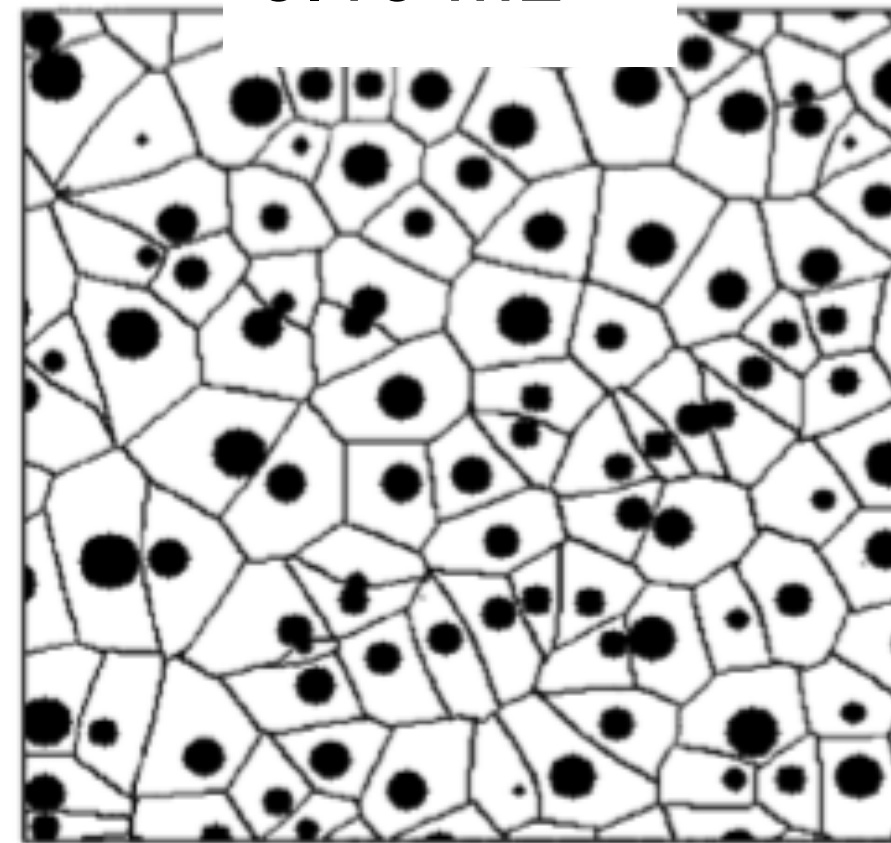
0.05 ML



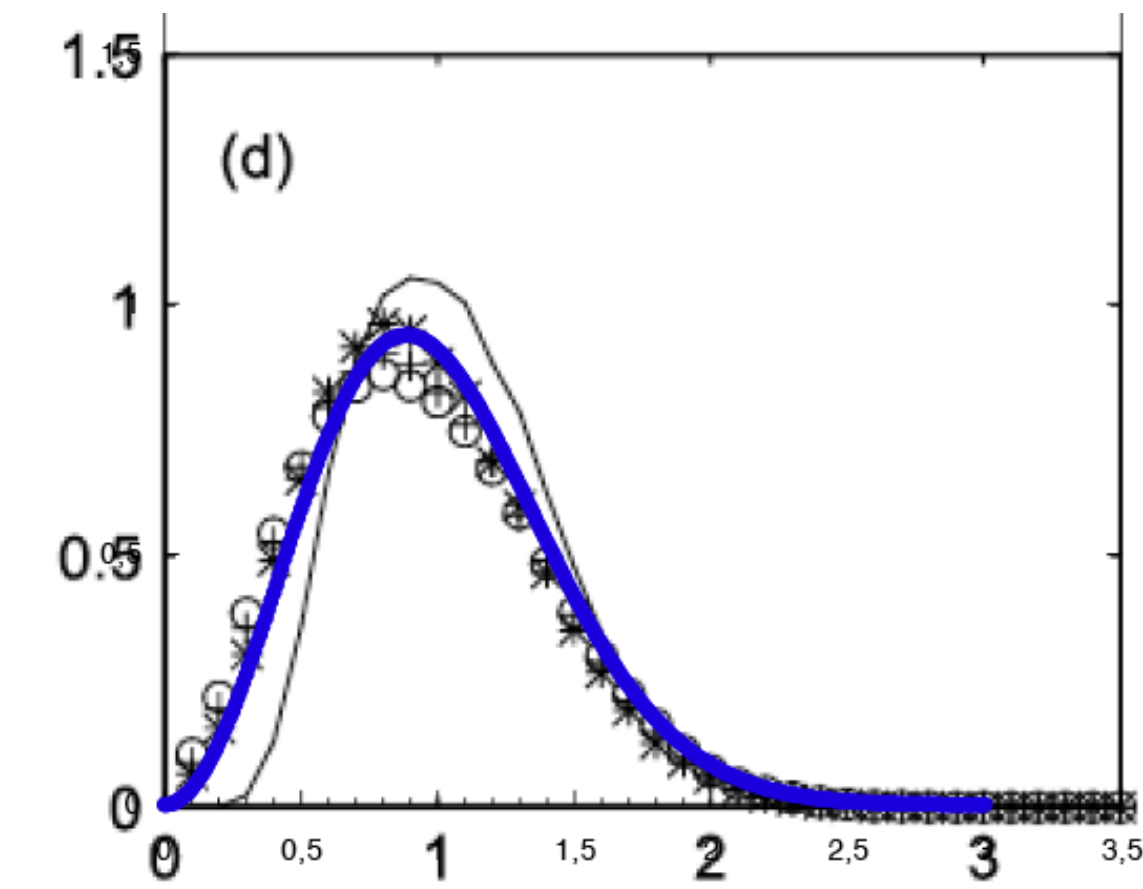
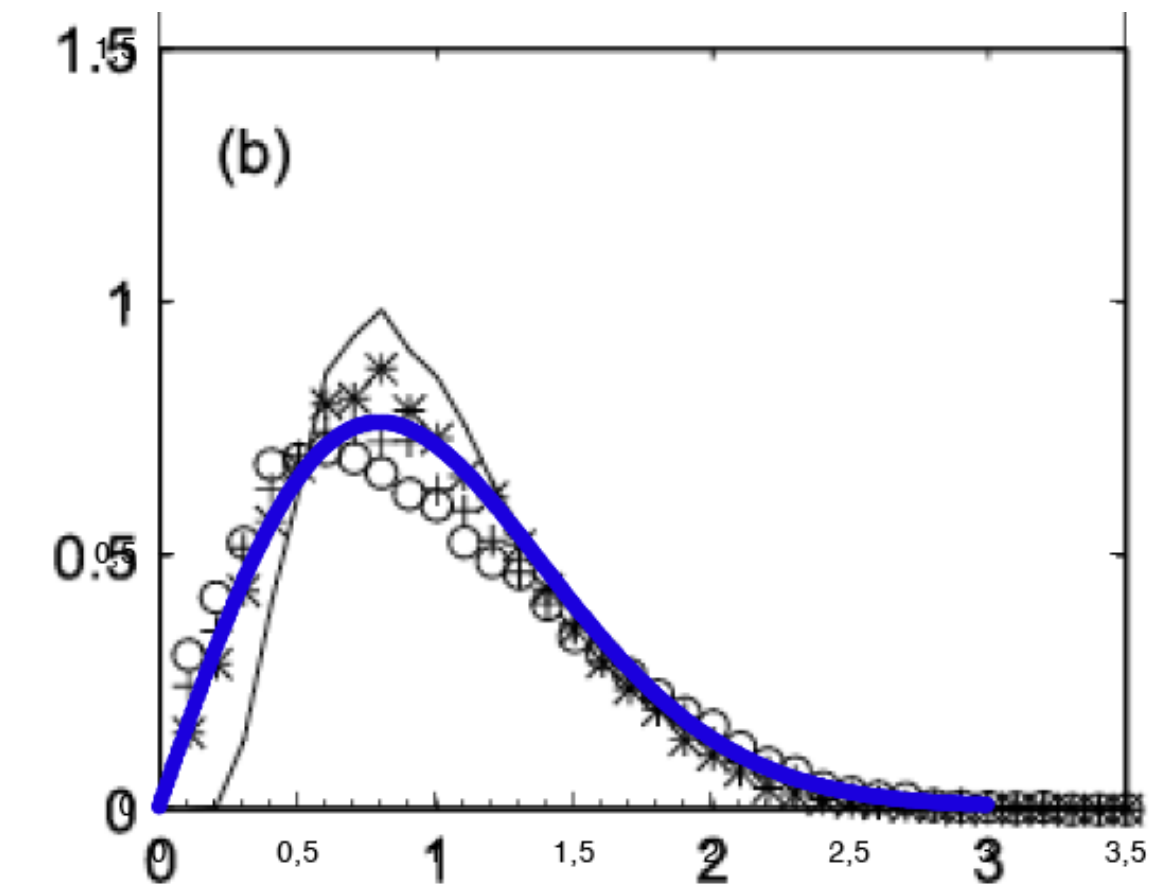
0.10 ML



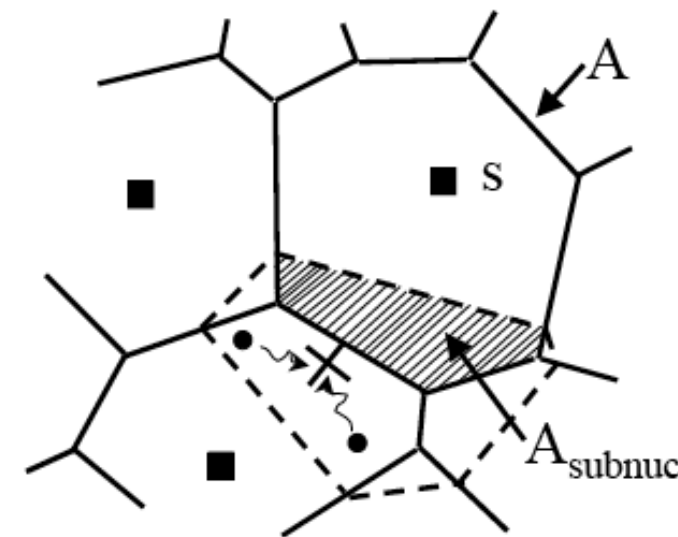
0.20 ML



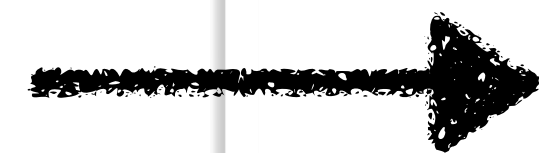
0.15 ML



A phenomenological model for the CZD



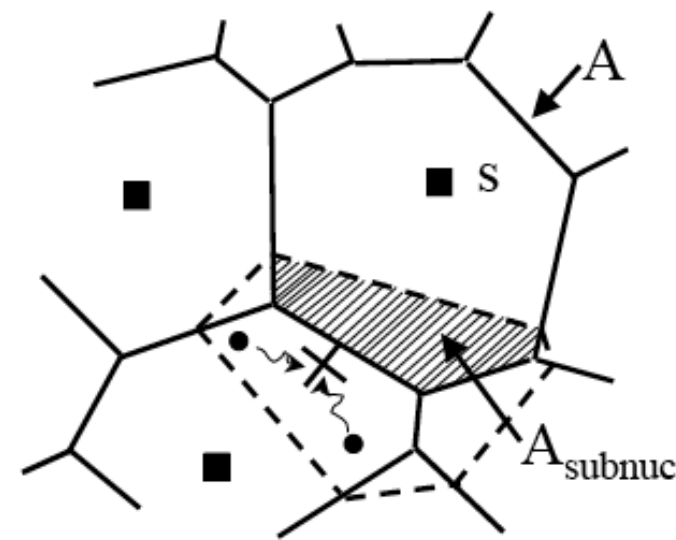
Nucleation rate
between islands



$$\dot{N}(A)$$

$$\dot{N}_{i+1} \approx DnN_i \approx Dnn^i = Dn^{i+1}$$

A phenomenological model for the CZD



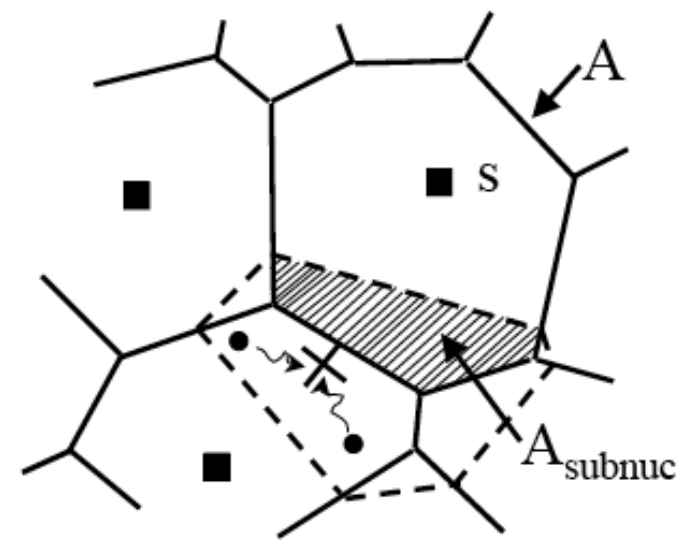
$$\dot{N}(A) \sim D \int_A dr r [n(r)]^{i+1} \sim A^{i+2}$$

$$\dot{N}(A) \sim D \bar{n}^{i+1} P(s), \quad s = A / \langle A \rangle$$

↳ **probability of a capture zone
having area $s = A / \langle A \rangle$**

$$\bar{n} = (F/D)^{i+1} \langle A \rangle^{i+1}$$

A phenomenological model for the CZD



$$\dot{N}(A) \sim D \int_A dr r [n(r)]^{i+1} \sim A^{i+2}$$

$$\dot{N}(A) \sim D \bar{n}^{i+1} P(s), \quad s = A / \langle A \rangle$$

$$\hookrightarrow \mathbf{P(s)} \propto \mathbf{s^{i+2}} = \mathbf{(A / \langle A \rangle)^{i+2}}$$

$$\bar{n} = (F/D)^{i+1} \langle A \rangle^{i+1}$$

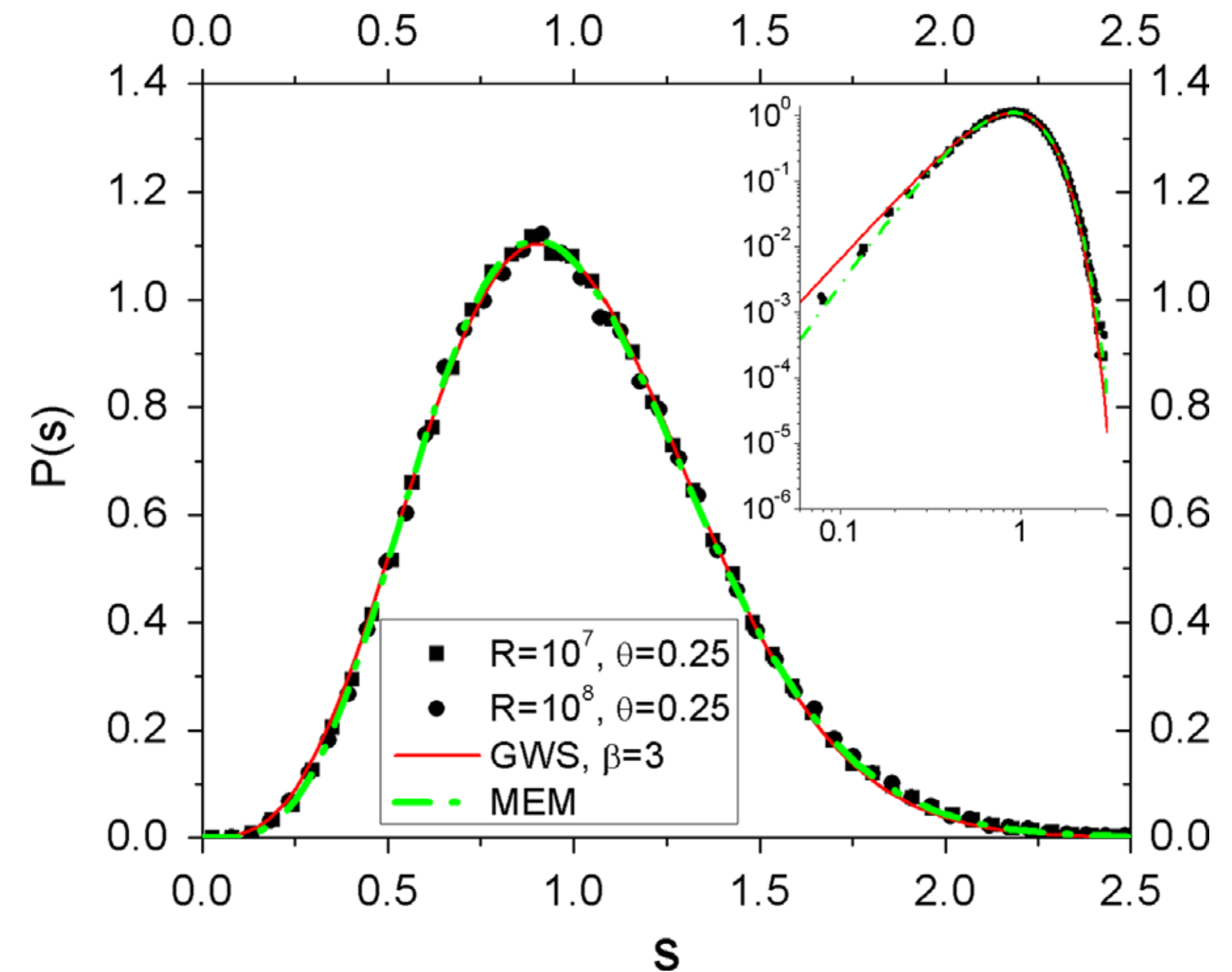
A phenomenological model for the CZD

$$\beta_{\text{DLA}} = i + 2$$

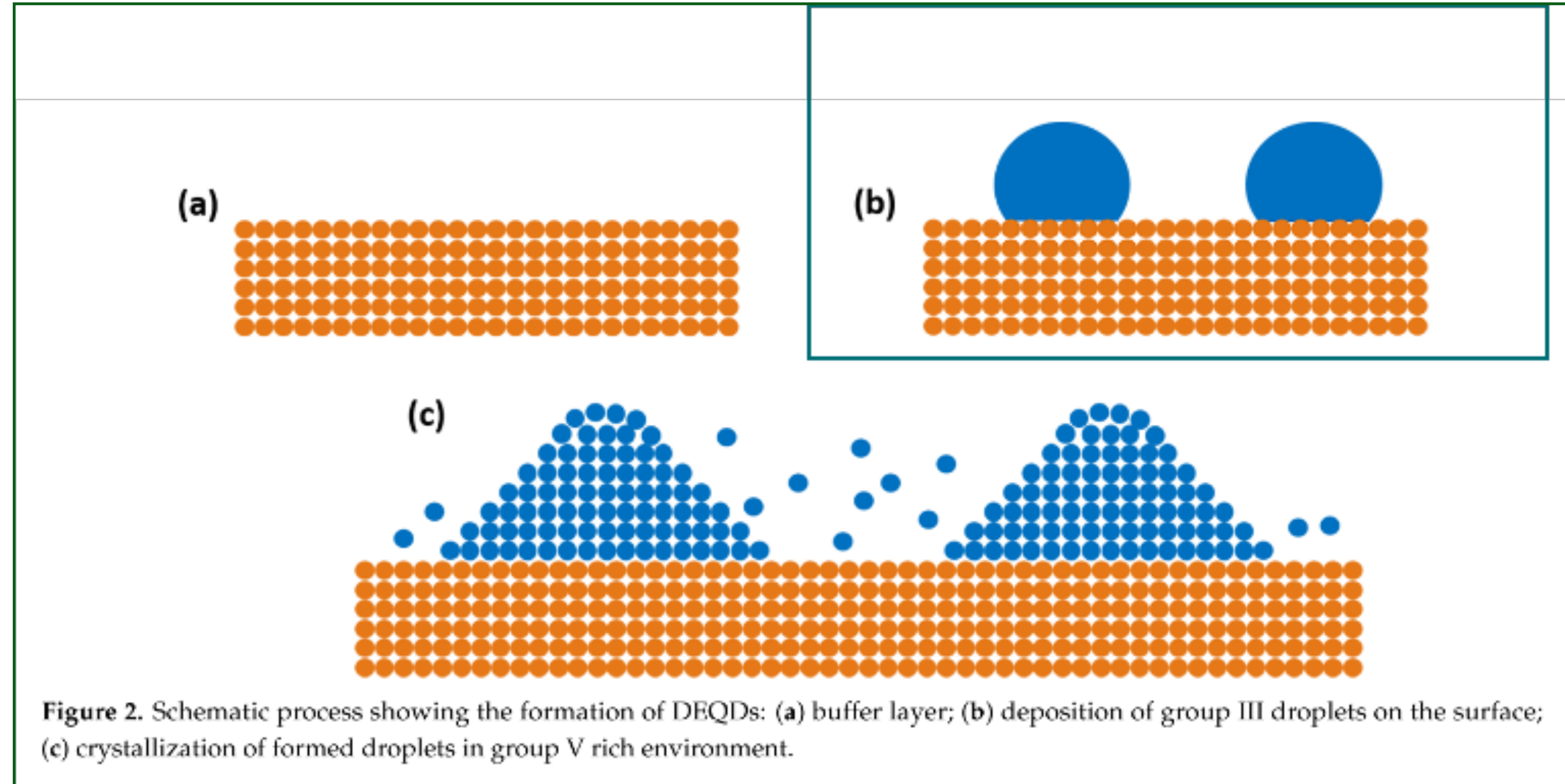
$$P(s) = a_{\beta} s^{\beta} \exp(-b_{\beta} s^2)$$

Wigner distribution

$$\beta_{\text{ALA}} = (i + 3)/2$$



Experiments: III-V droplet epitaxy



R. Jouanneaud, G. Monier, L. Bideux, AP, C. Robert-Goumet
Équipe Surfaces Interfaces, Institut Pascal, CI-Fd

$$\beta_{\text{ALA}} = (i + 3)/2$$

$$\beta_{\text{DLA}} = i + 2$$

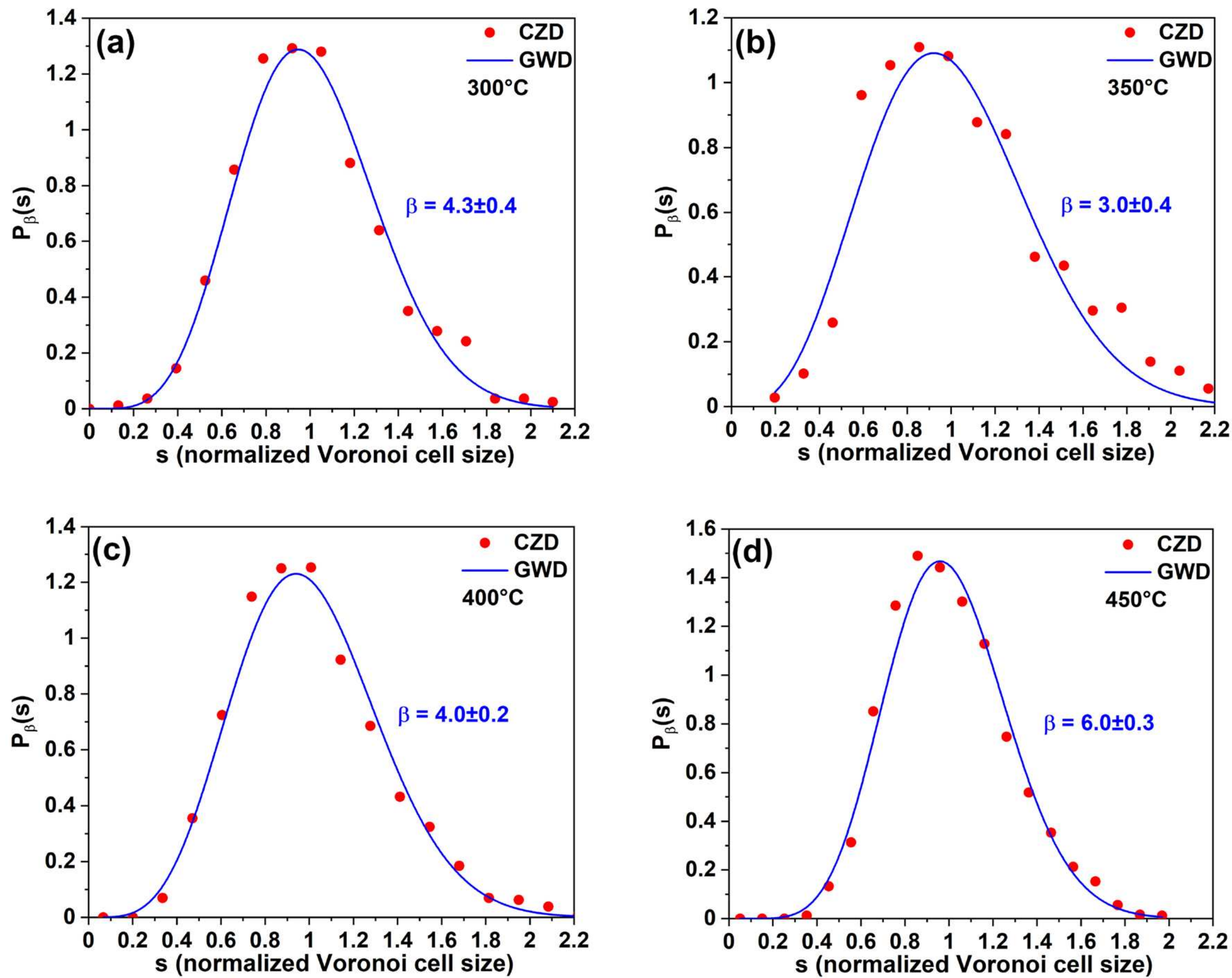


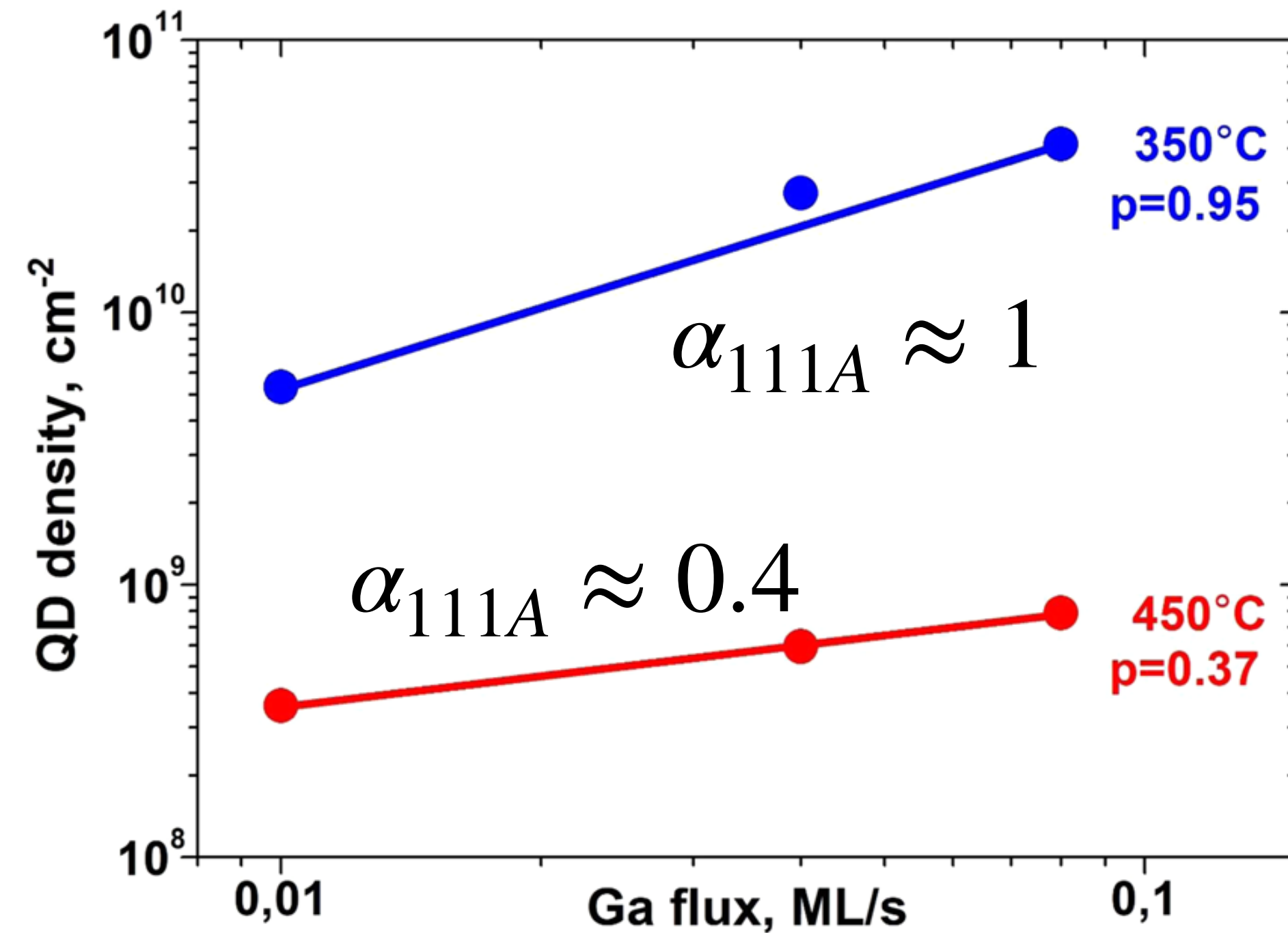
Figure 3. CZDs of the samples (a) T1, (b) T2, (c) T3, and (d) T4, fitted by the GWD.

Sample	β	$i = \beta - 2$
T1 (300 °C)	4.3 ± 0.4	2.3 ± 0.4
T2 (350 °C)	3.0 ± 0.4	1.0 ± 0.4
T3 (400 °C)	4.0 ± 0.2	2.0 ± 0.2
T4 (450 °C)	6.0 ± 0.3	4.0 ± 0.3

Nucleation of Ga droplets self-assembly on GaAs(111)A substrates

Artur Tuktamyshev^{1,3}, Alexey Fedorov^{2,3}, Sergio Bietti^{1,3}, Stefano Vichi^{1,3}, Riccardo Tambone^{1,3}, Shiro Tsukamoto^{1,3} & Stefano Sanguinetti^{1,3}

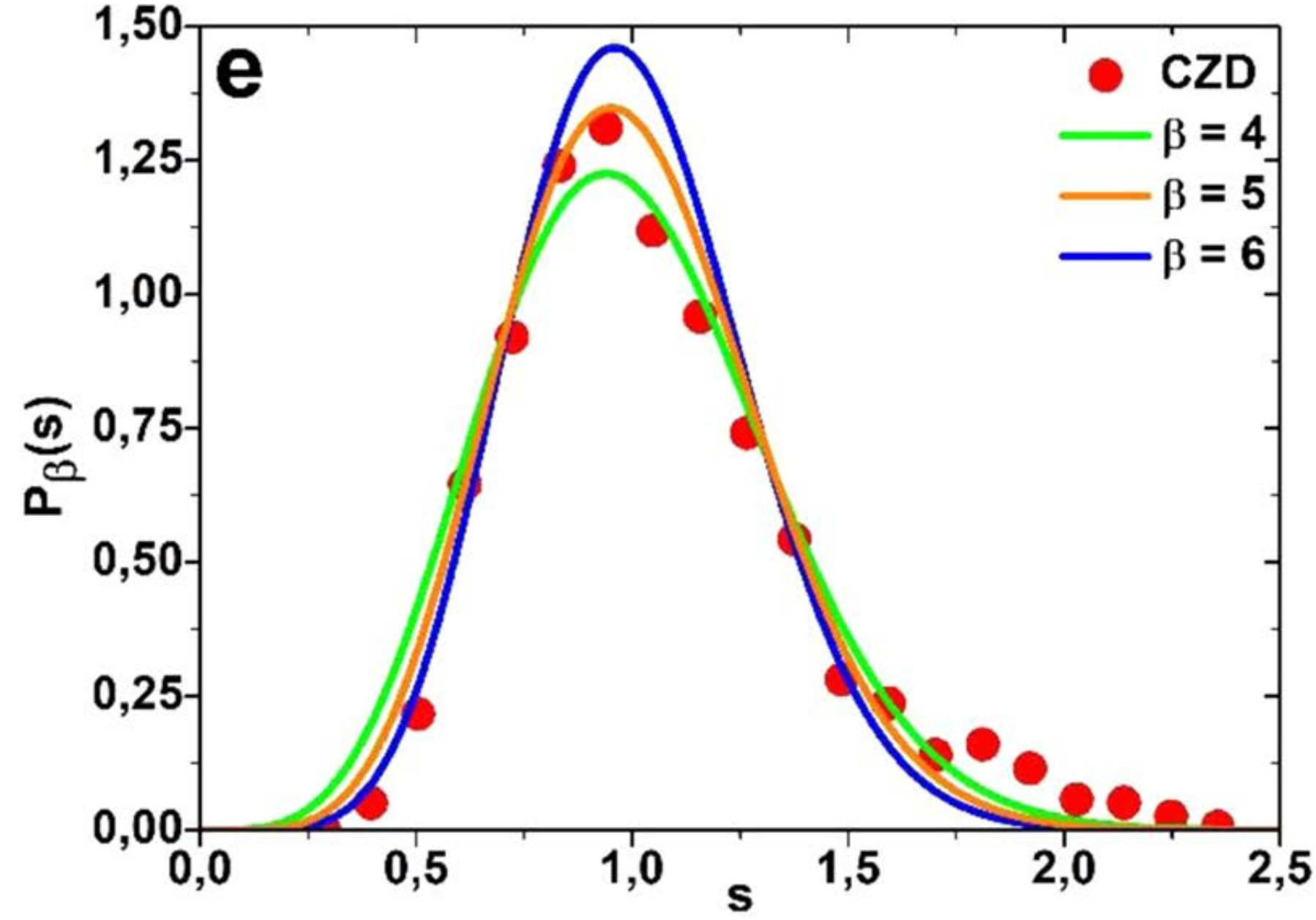
Ga droplets on GaAs(111)A 2° vicinal



Temperature Activated Dimensionality Crossover in the Nucleation of Quantum Dots by Droplet Epitaxy on GaAs(111)A Vicinal Substrates

Artur Tuktamyshev¹, Alexey Fedorov², Sergio Bietti¹, Shiro Tsukamoto¹ & Stefano Sanguinetti¹

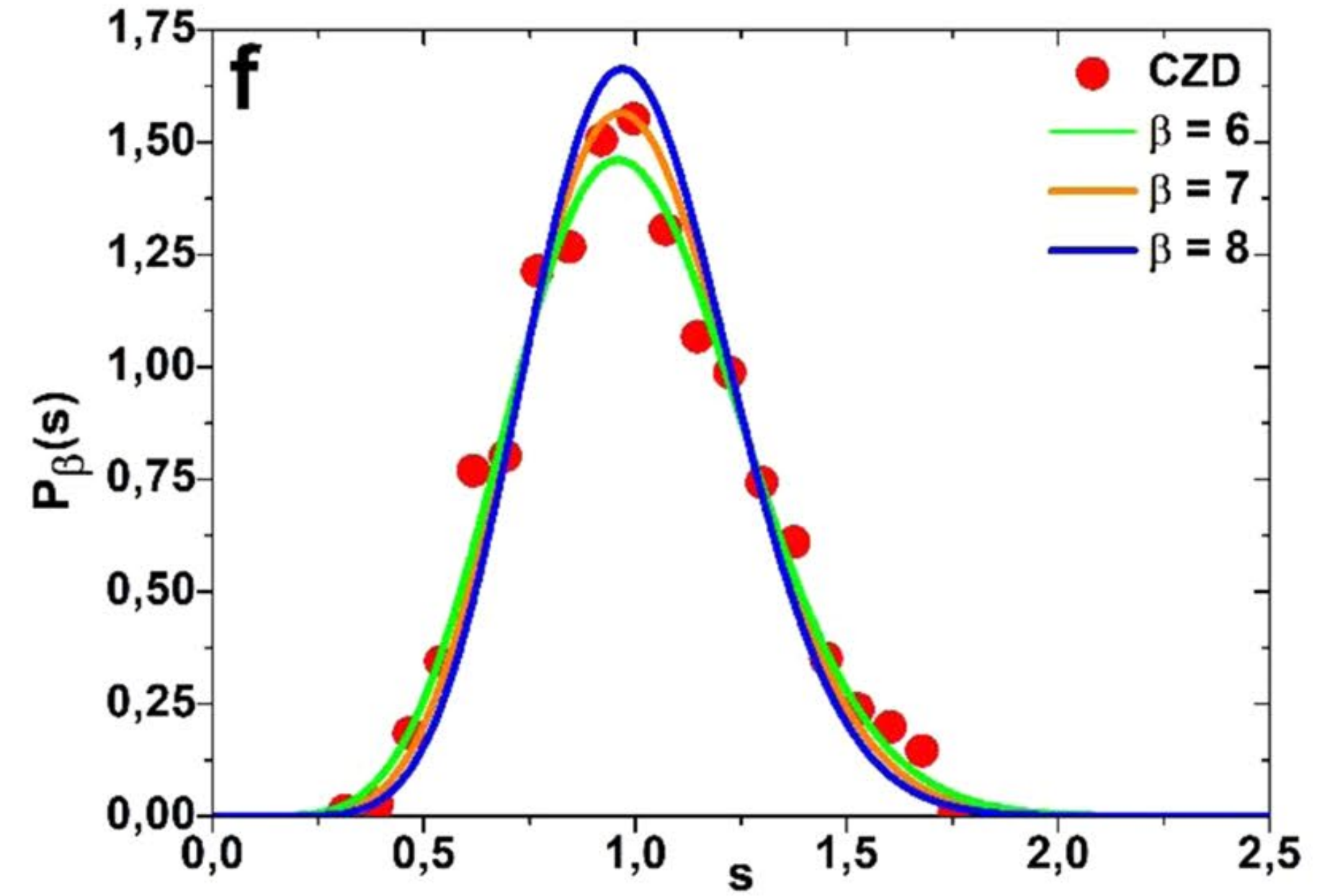
Ga droplets on GaAs(111)A
2° vicinal



$$\beta_{300^{\circ}C} \approx 5$$

$$i_{DLA} \approx 3$$

$$i_{ALA} \approx 4$$



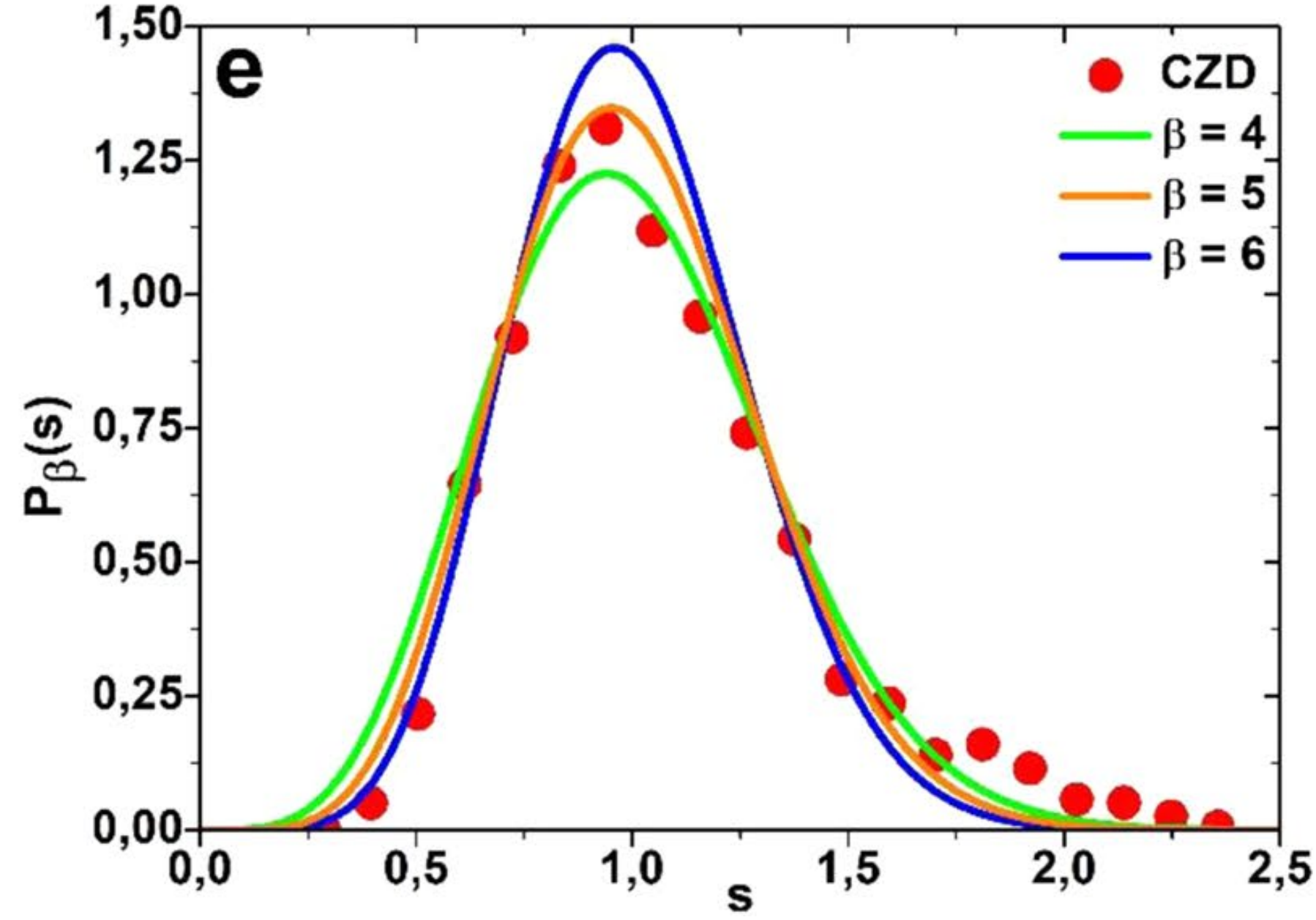
$$\beta_{450^{\circ}C} \approx 7$$

$$i_{DLA} \approx 5$$

$$i_{ALA} \approx 6$$

$$\alpha_{3D}(2\beta_{3D} + 1) = 2i$$

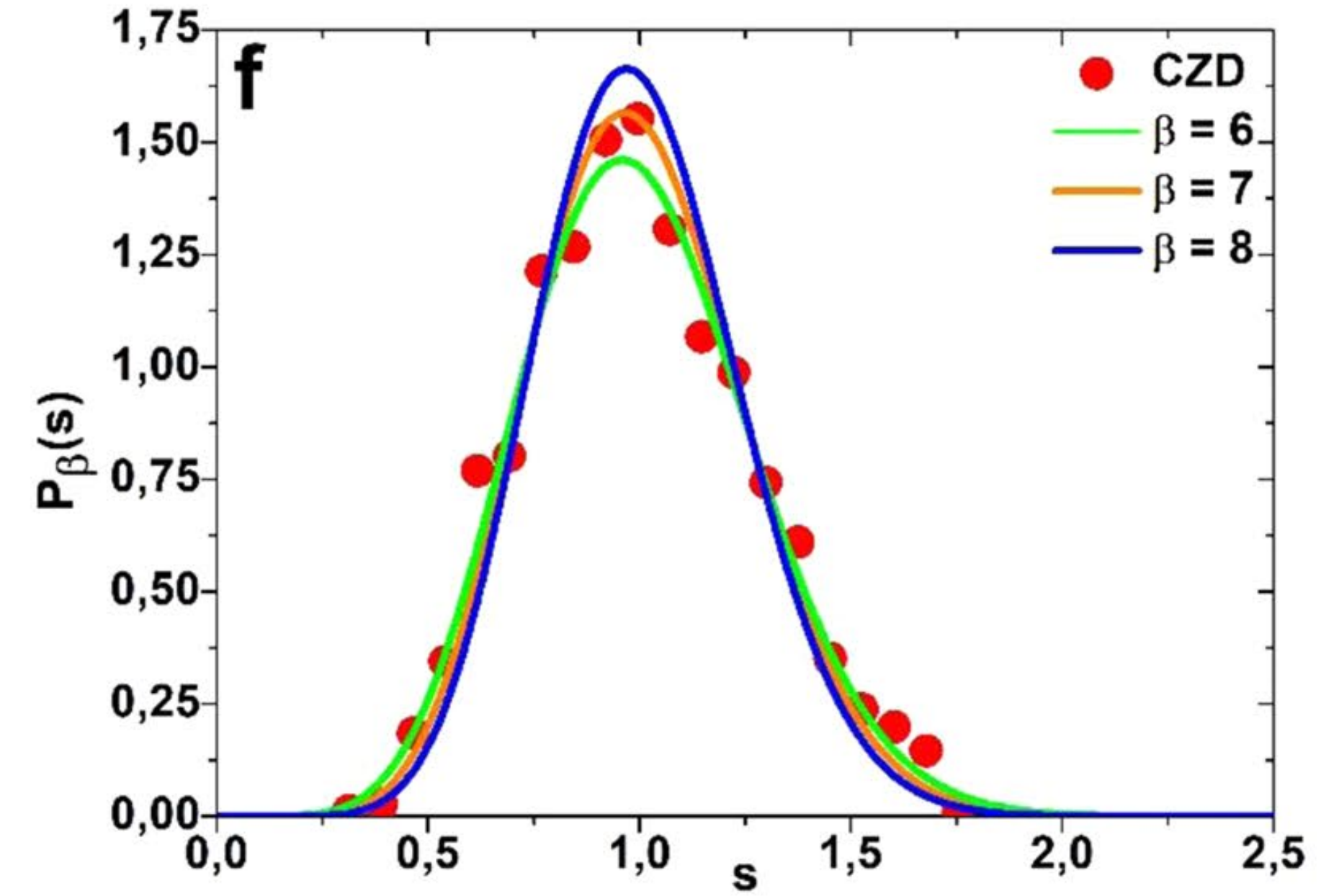
Ga droplets on GaAs(111)A
2° vicinal



$$\beta_{300^{\circ}C} \approx 5$$

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$$i_{ALA} \approx 4$$



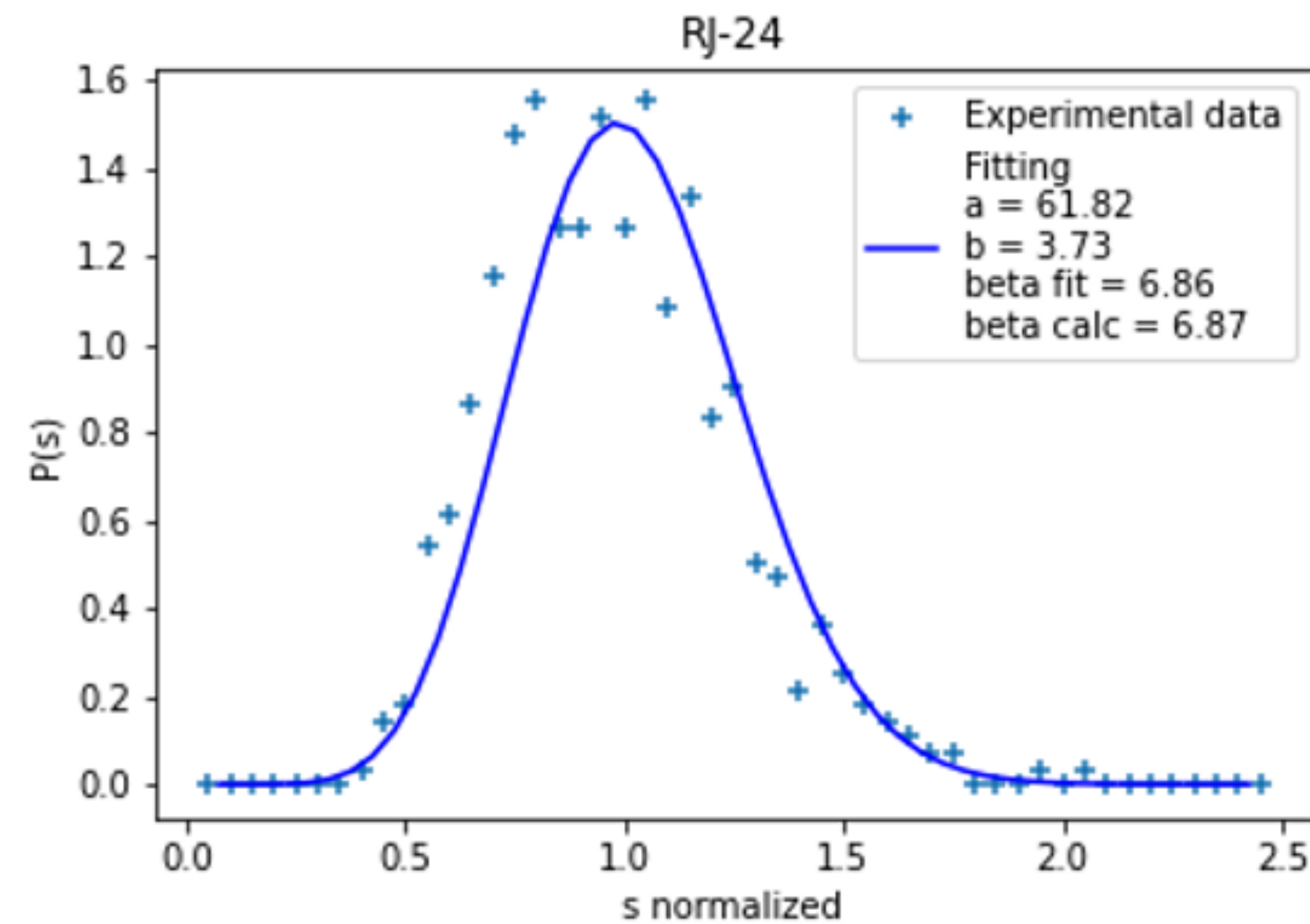
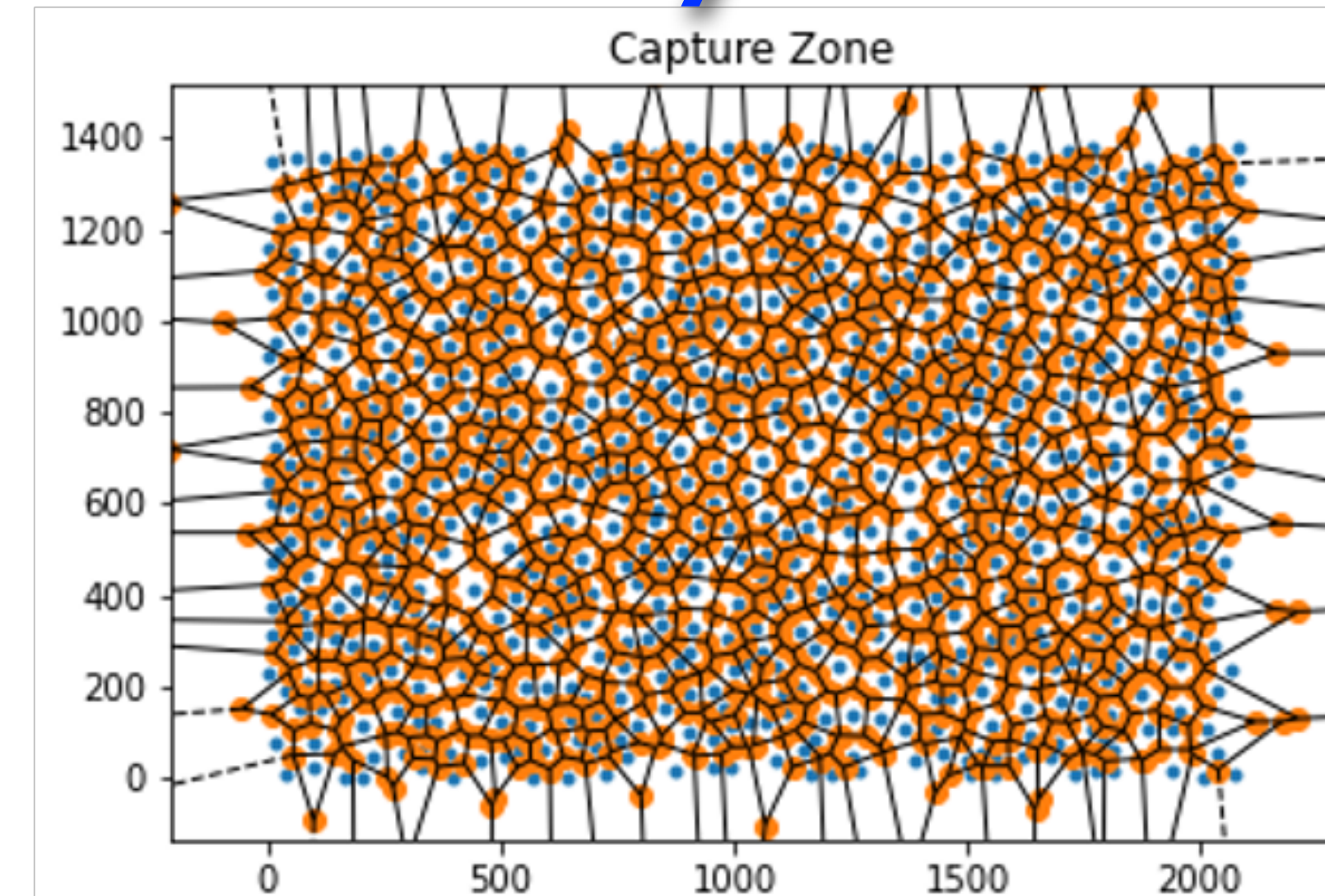
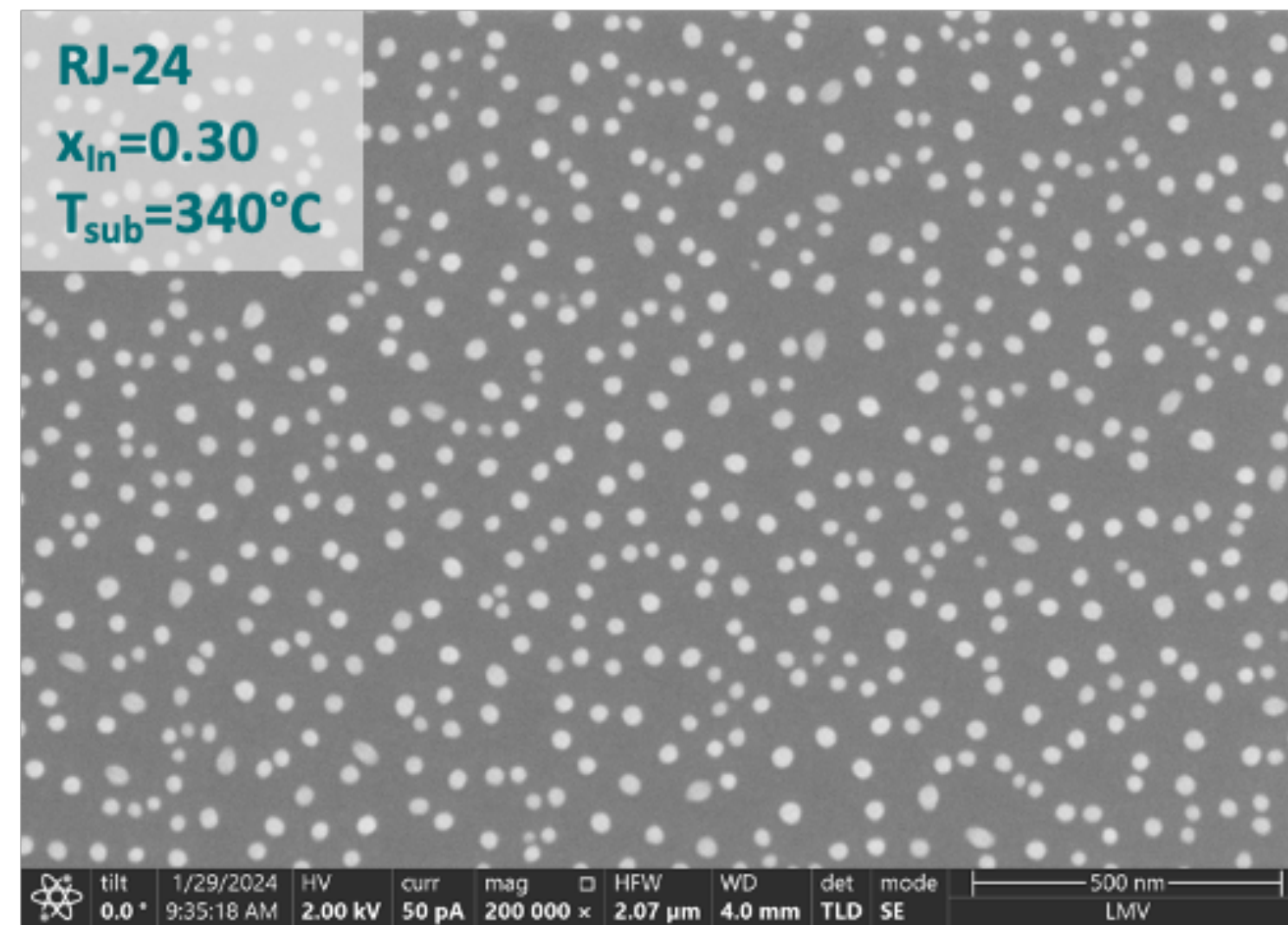
$$\beta_{450^{\circ}C} \approx 7$$

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$$i_{ALA} \approx 6$$

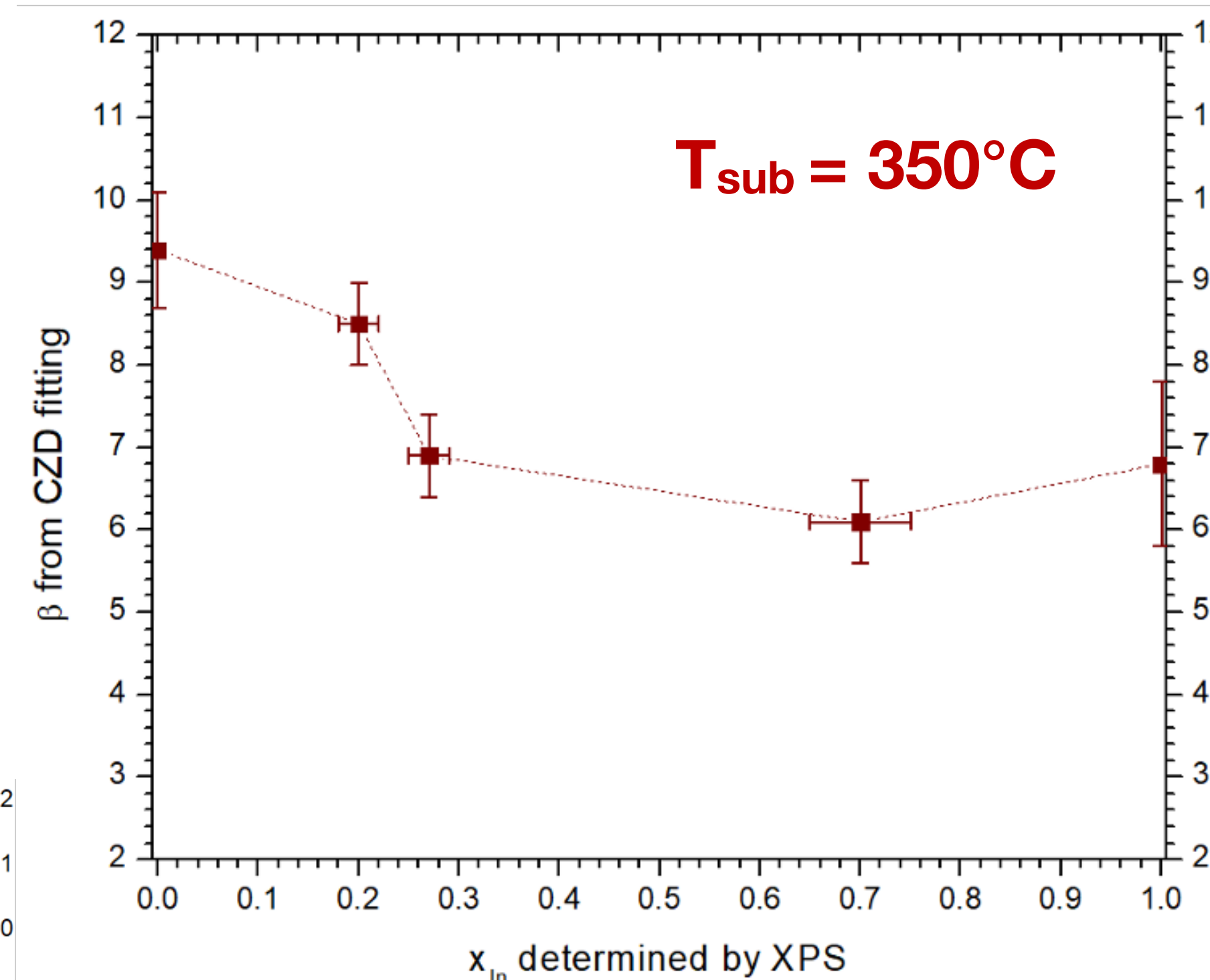
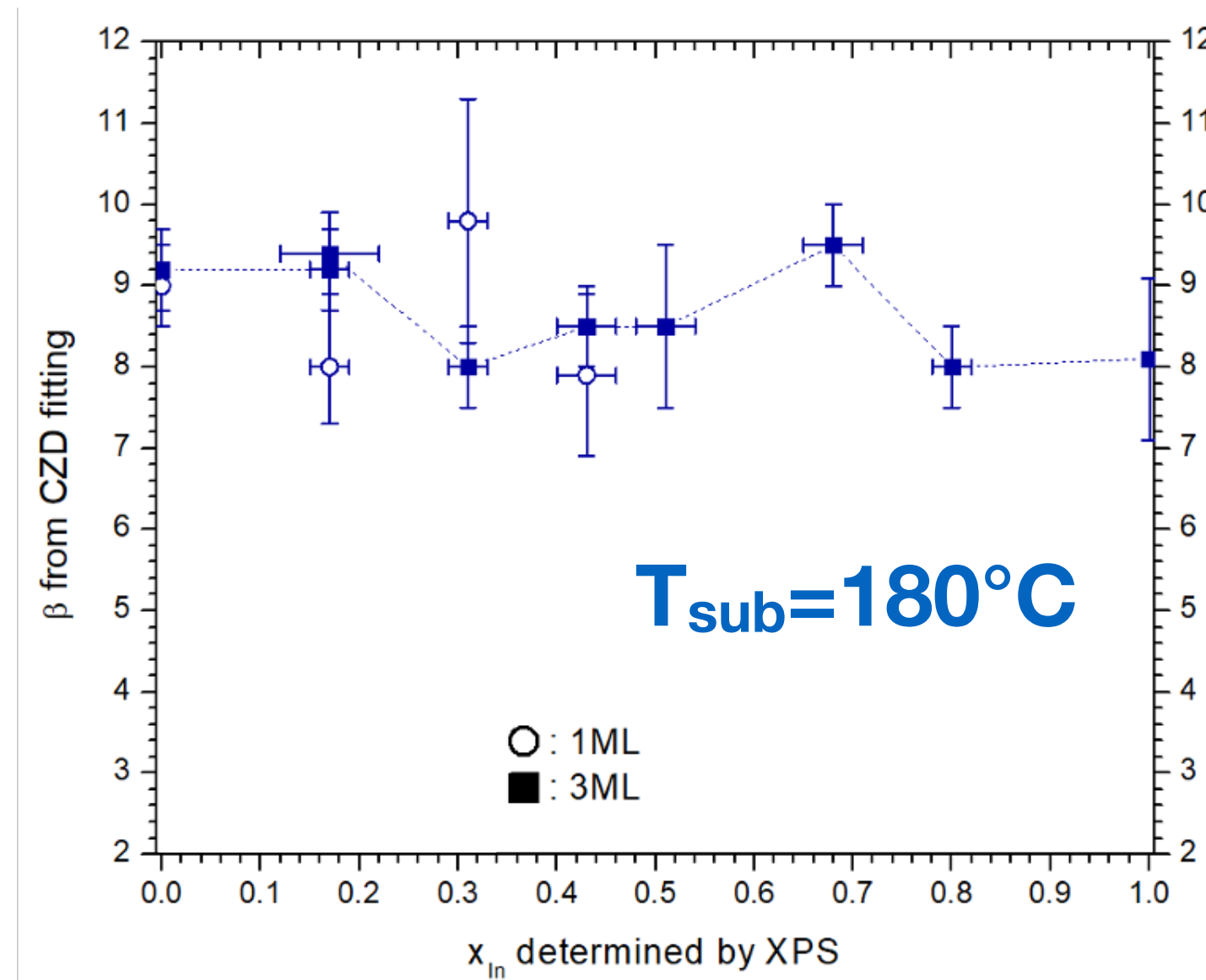
$$0.4(2 \times 7 + 1) = 6 \rightarrow i_{3D} = 3$$

Tuning nucleation: alloys



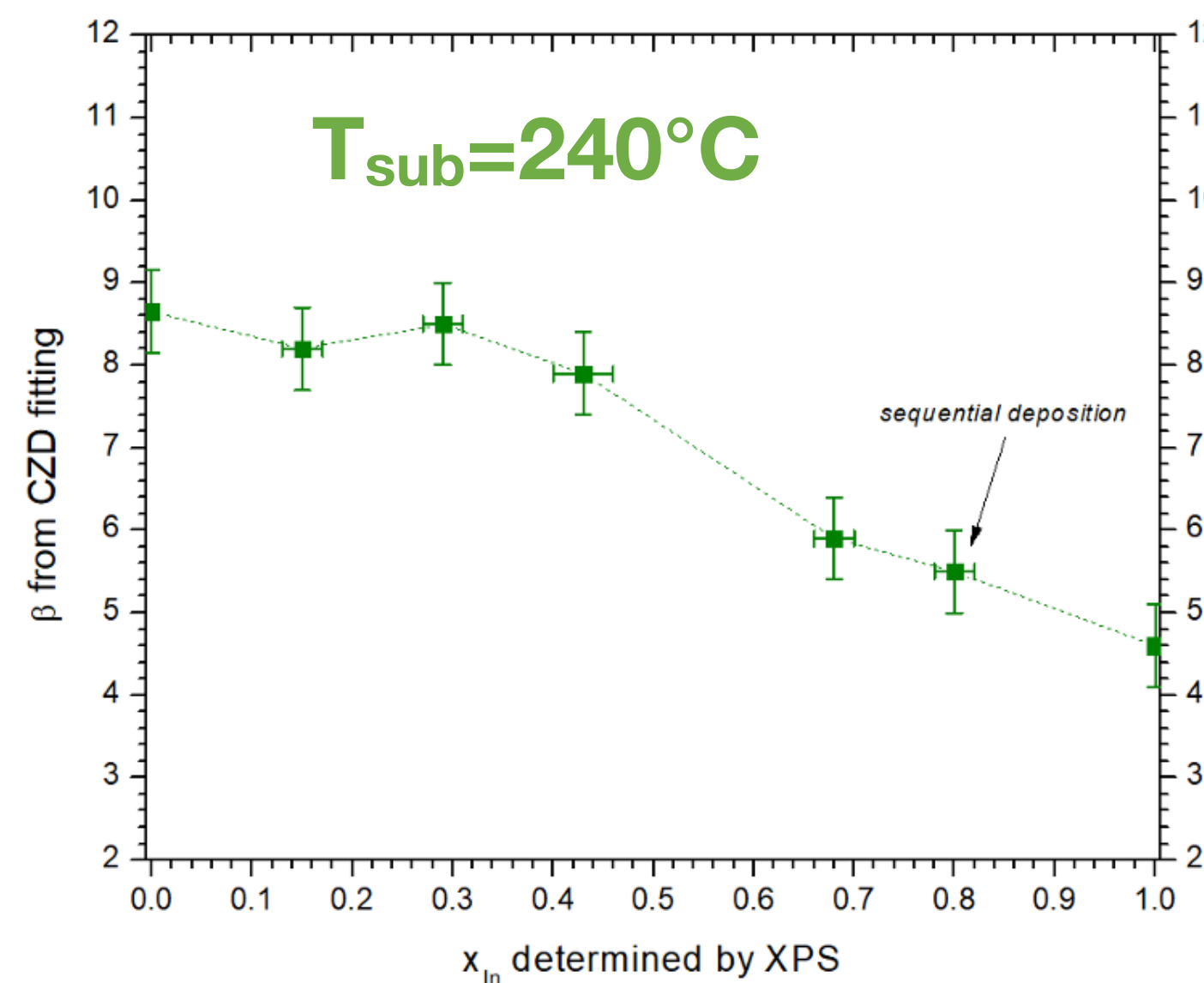
R. Jouanneaud, G. Monier,
L. Bideux, AP, C. Robert-Goumet
Équipe Surfaces Interfaces,
Institut Pascal, CI-Fd

Tuning nucleation: alloys



Ga

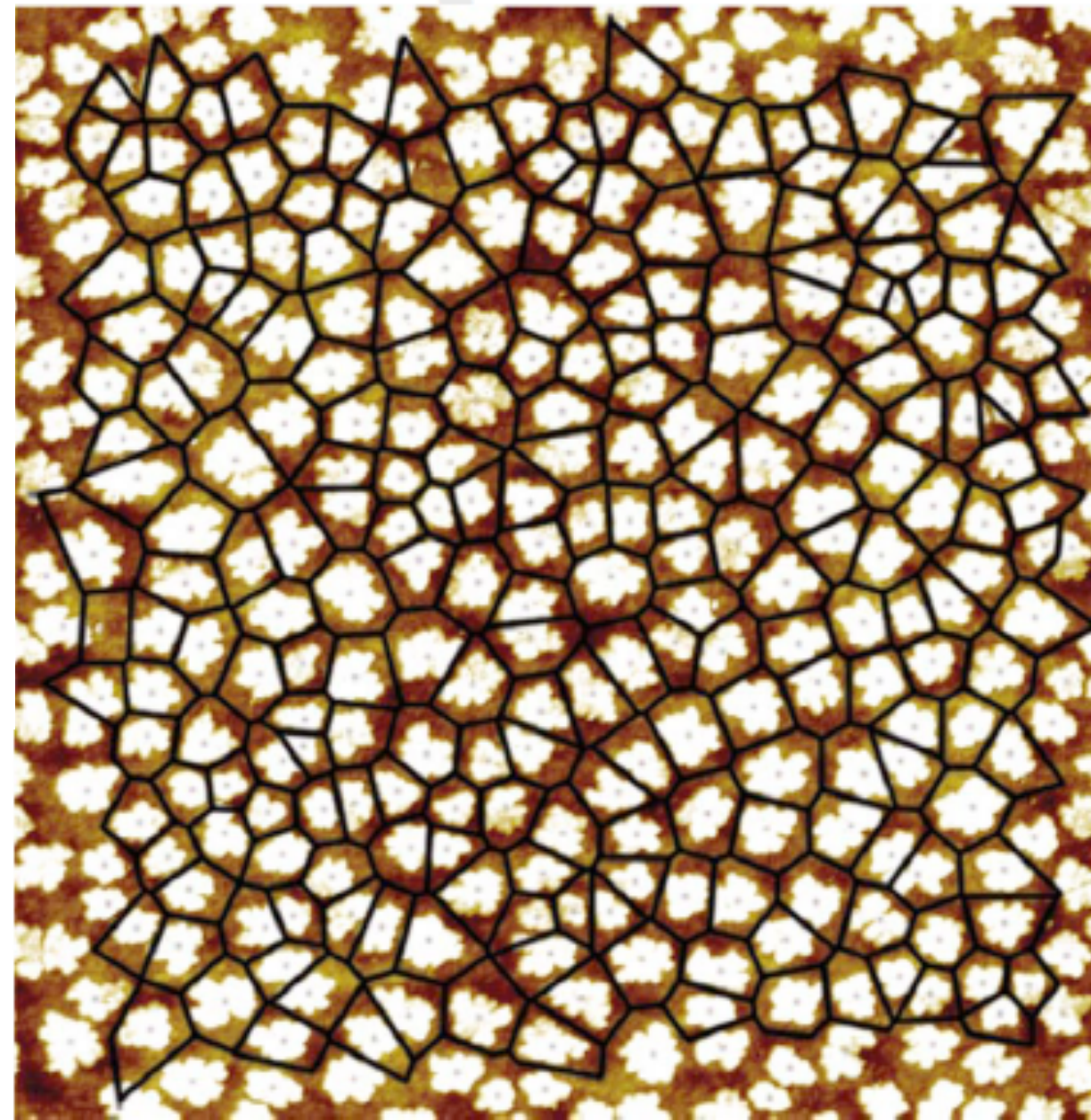
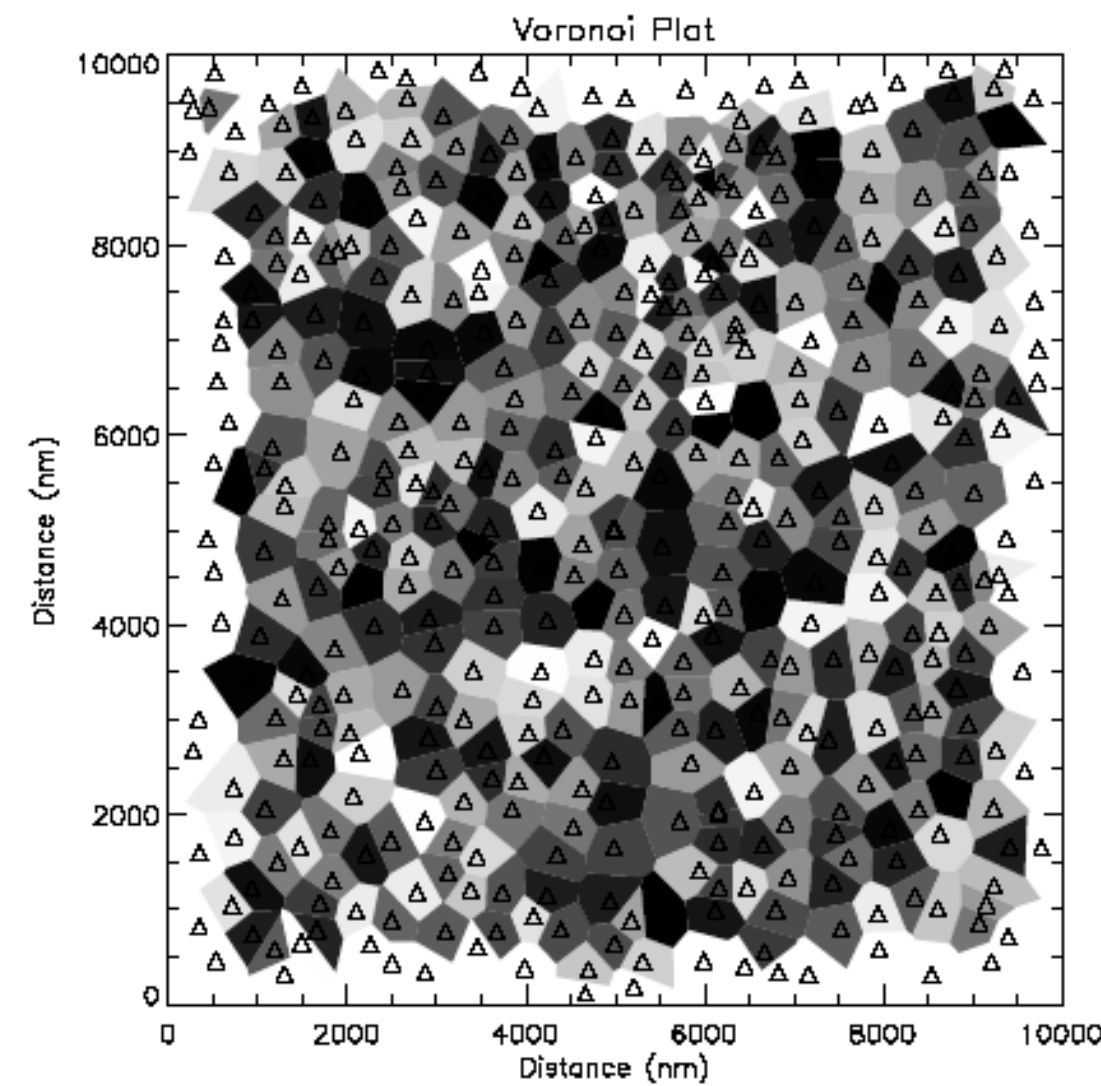
In



R. Jouanneaud, G. Monier,
L. Bideux, AP, C. Robert-Goumet
Équipe Surfaces Interfaces,
Institut Pascal, CI-Fd

Tuning nucleation: impurities

experiments: pentacene islands
with quinone impurities



PHYSICAL REVIEW B 77, 205328 (2008)

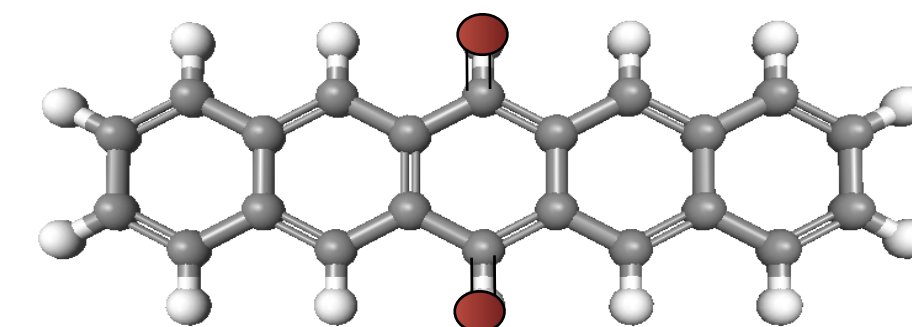
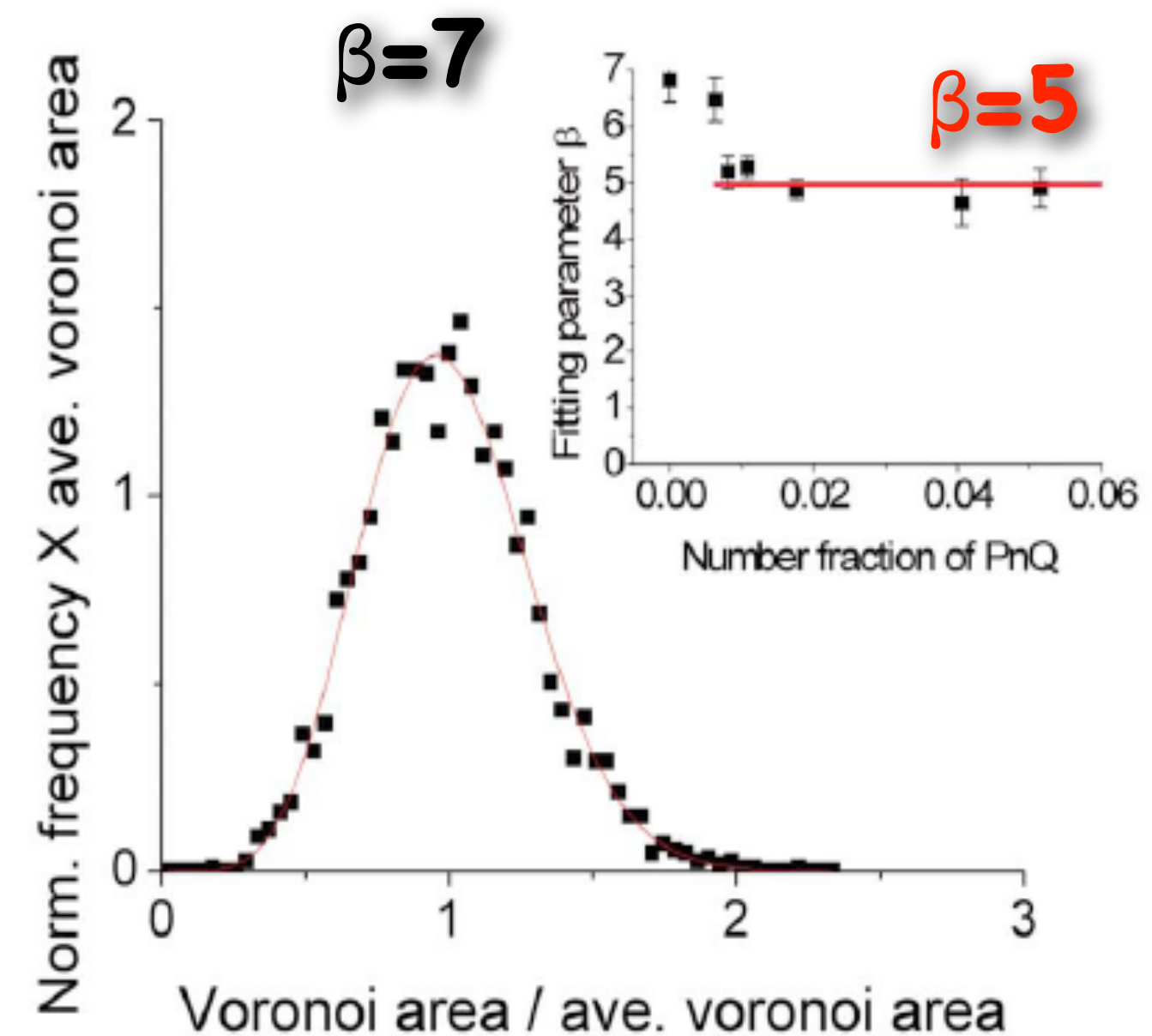
Effect of impurities on pentacene island nucleation

B. R. Conrad, Elba Gomar-Nadal, W. G. Cullen, A. Pimpinelli,* T. L. Einstein, and E. D. Williams†

Physics Department and Materials Research Science and Engineering Center, University of Maryland,

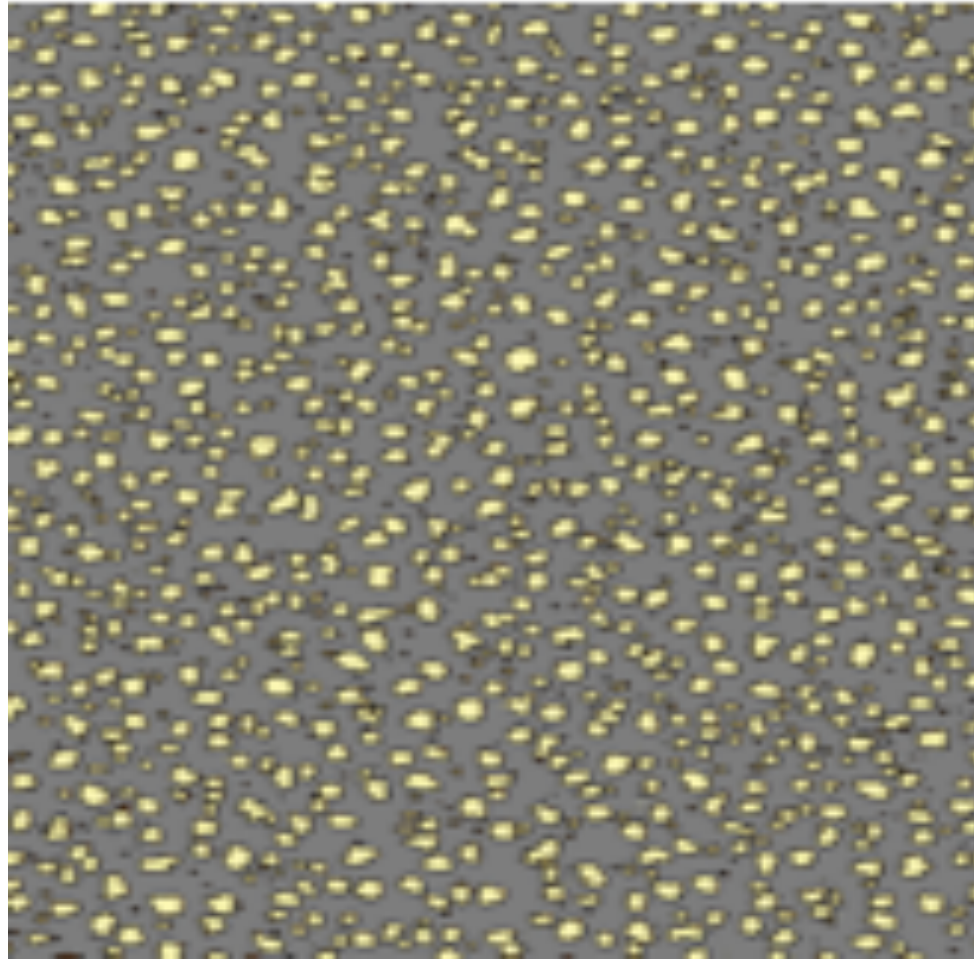
College Park, Maryland 20742-4111, USA

(Received 11 February 2008; published 27 May 2008)

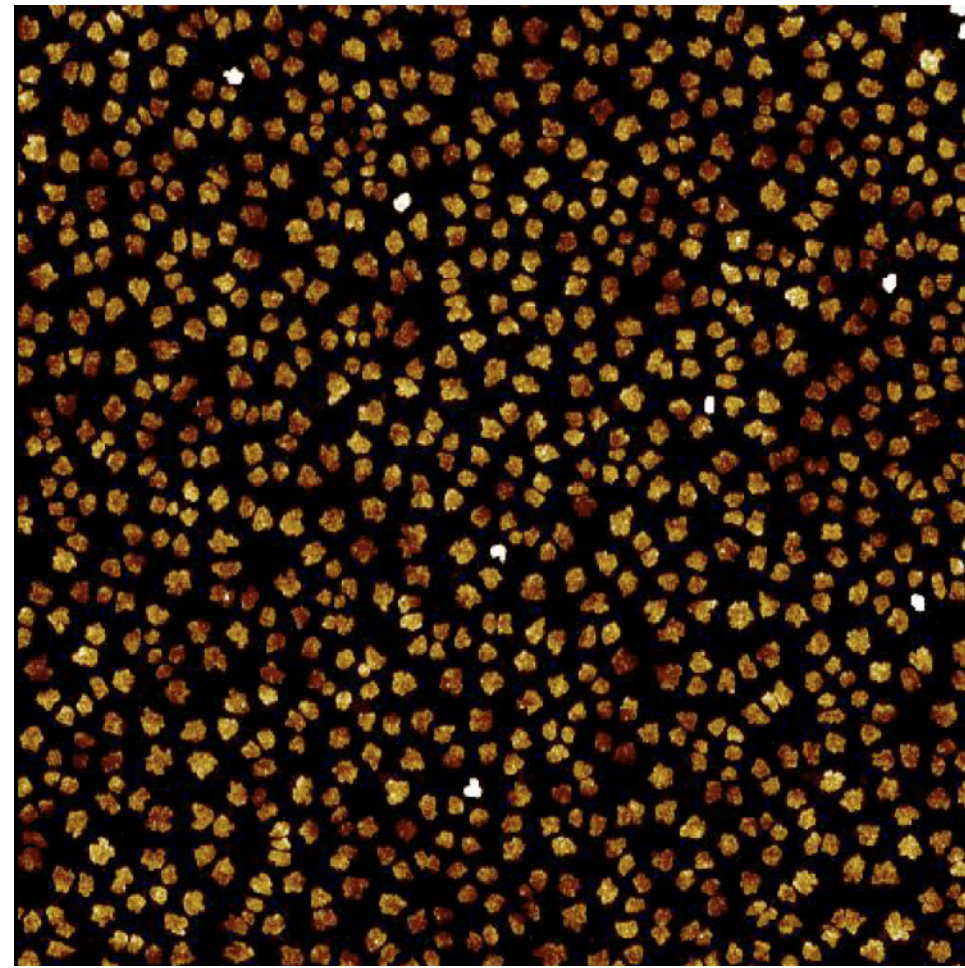


Tuning nucleation: impurities

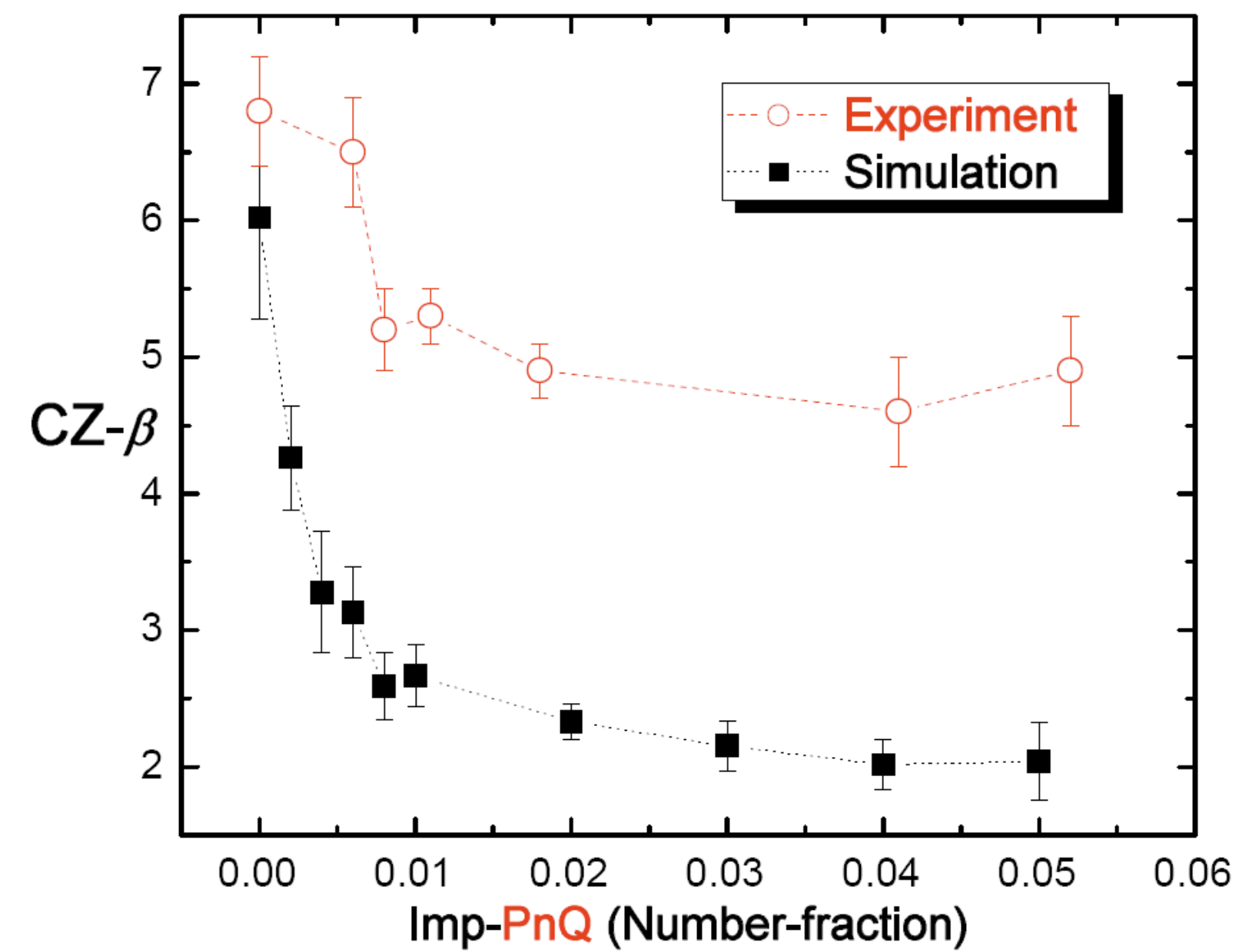
Sim.



Exp.

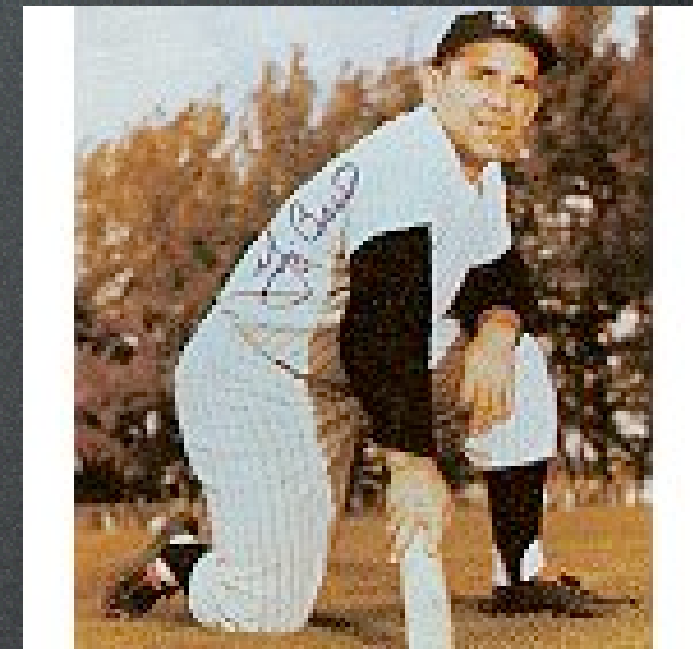


0.5 % Pentacene/PentaceneQuinone
B Conrad, et al. PRB 77, 205328 (2008)



Modeling nucleation: elasticity

In theory there is no difference between theory and practice. In practice there is.



Yogi Berra

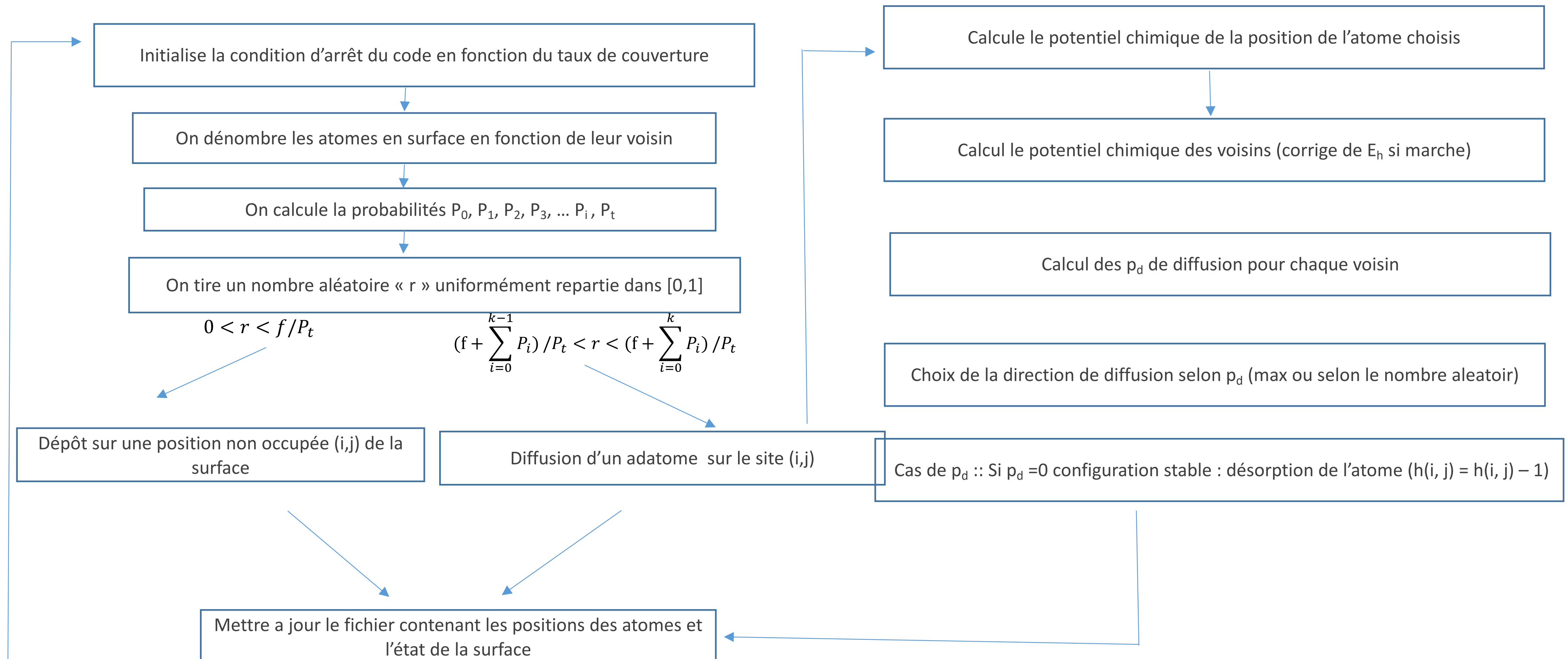


Modeling nucleation: elasticity

Simulation flow chart

Hydrice Nzomo

Équipe Surfaces Interfaces, Institut Pascal, CI-Fd

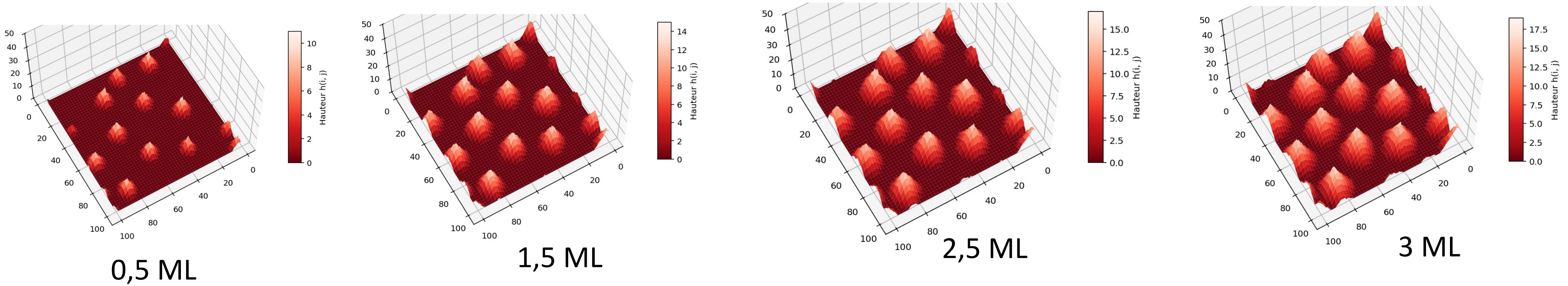


Effet élastique

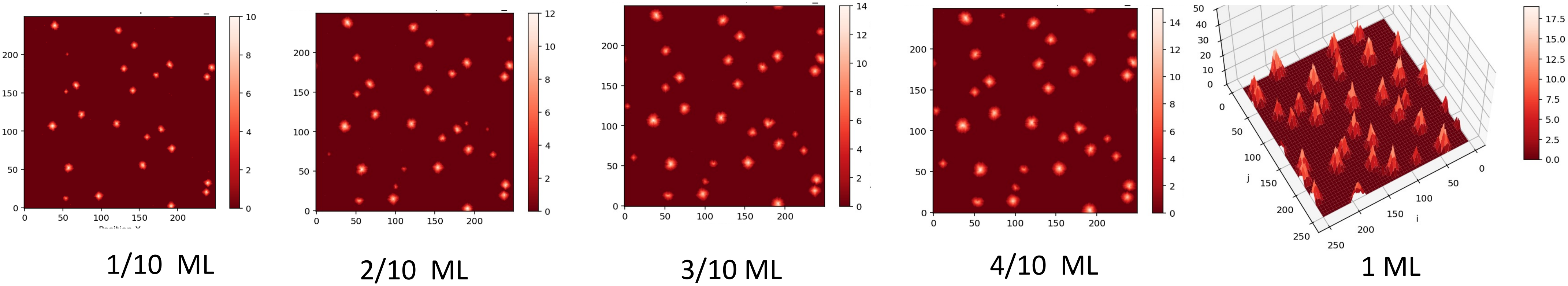
La direction de diffusion est choisir par un nombre aléatoire ($\Delta E_{el}=E0 + E_{EL}(i,j) - E_{EL}(ni(d),nj(d))$)

$$p(d) = D_0 * \exp(-(Ed + \Delta E_{el})/K_B T)$$

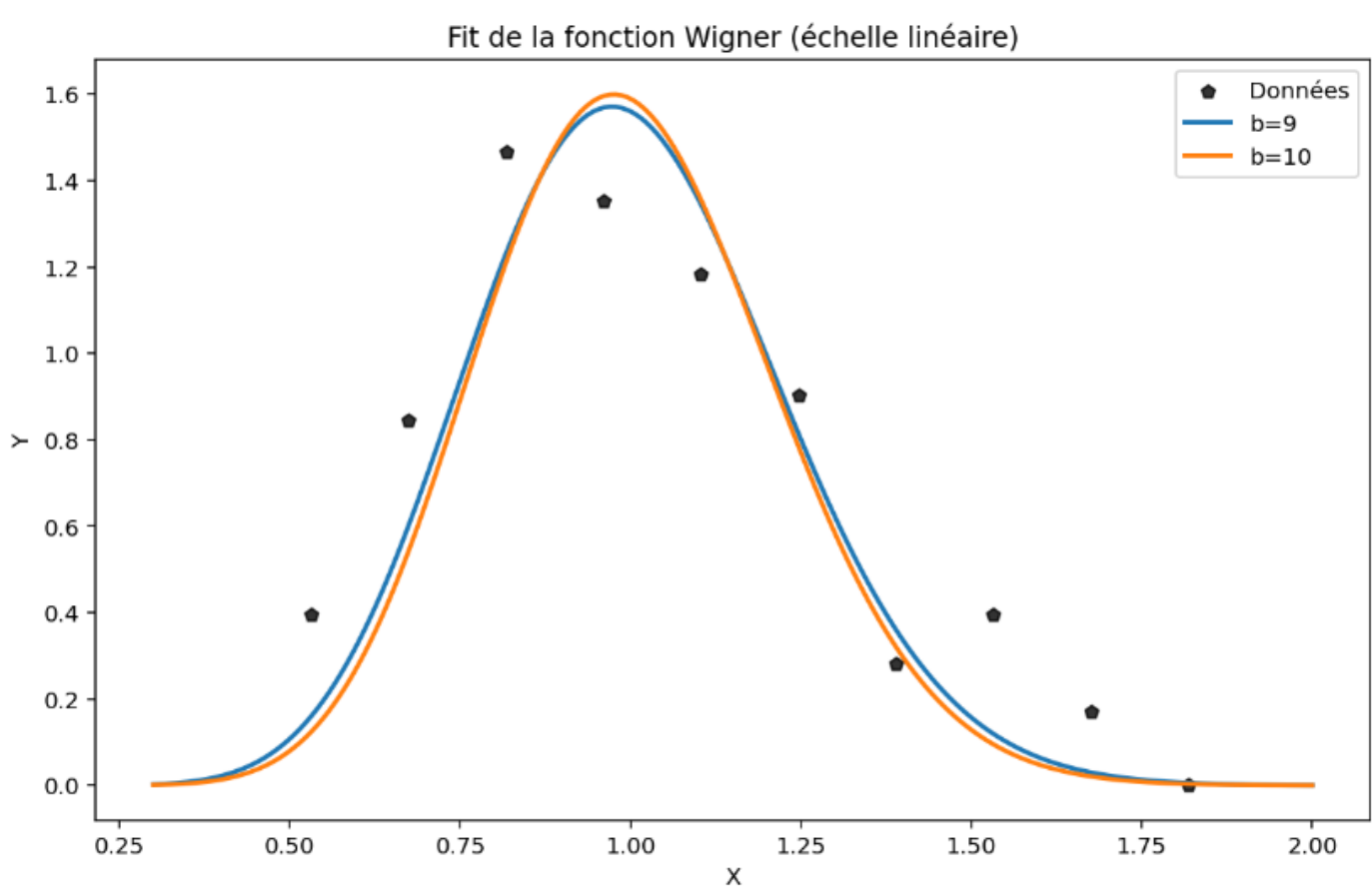
TAILLE DE LA GRILLE 100*100



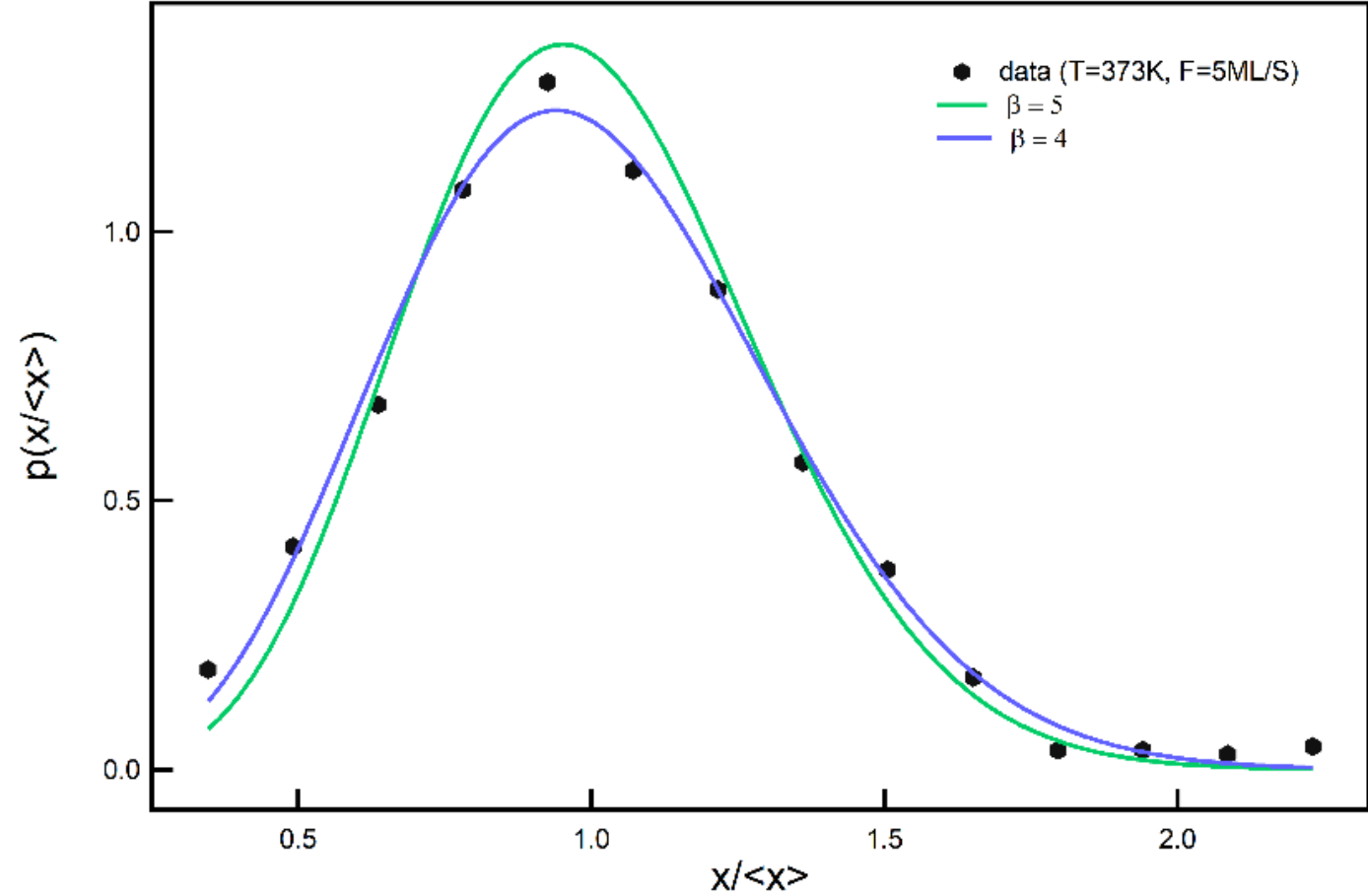
TAILLE DE LA GRILLE 250*250



Simulations

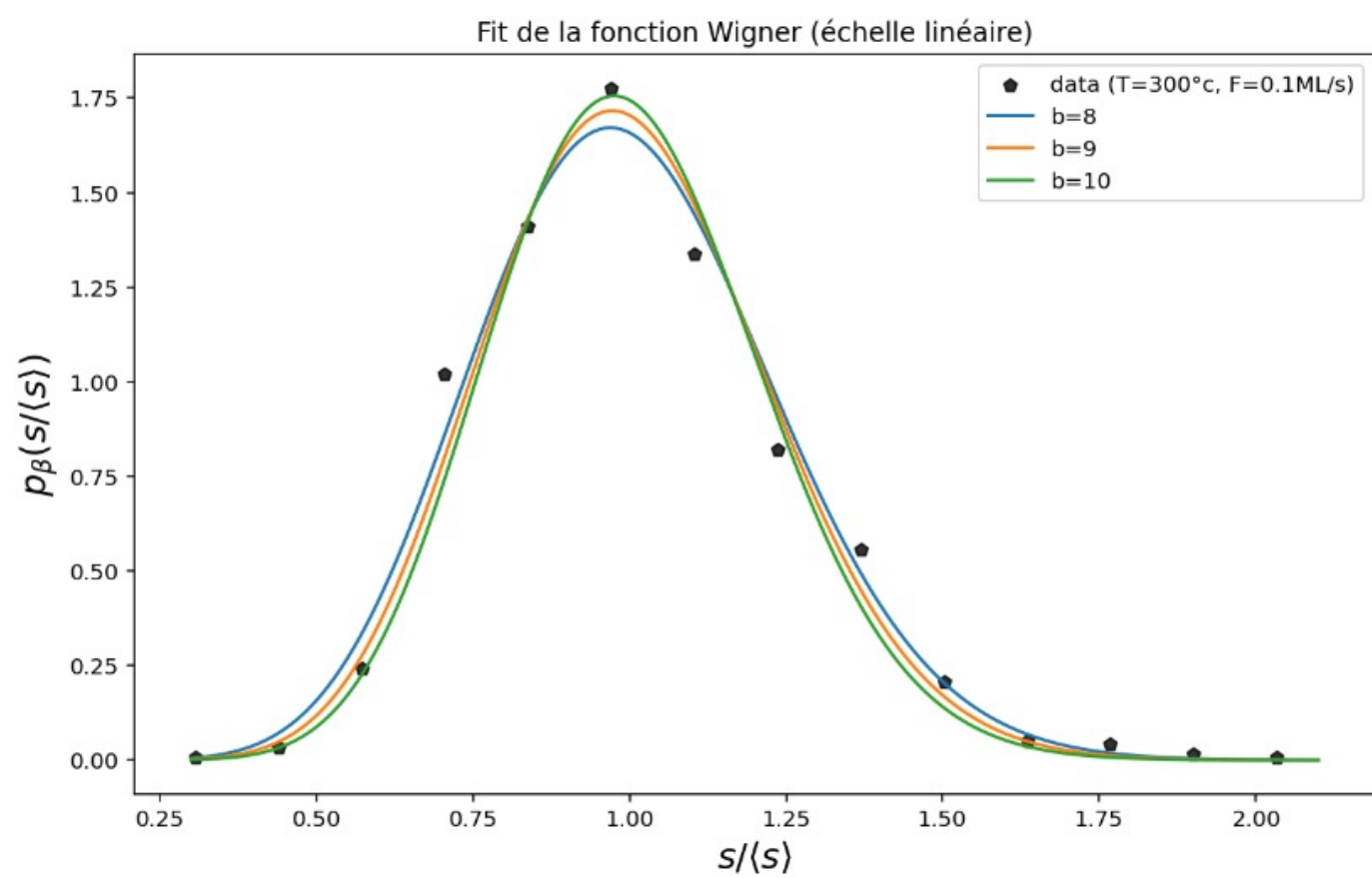


CZD

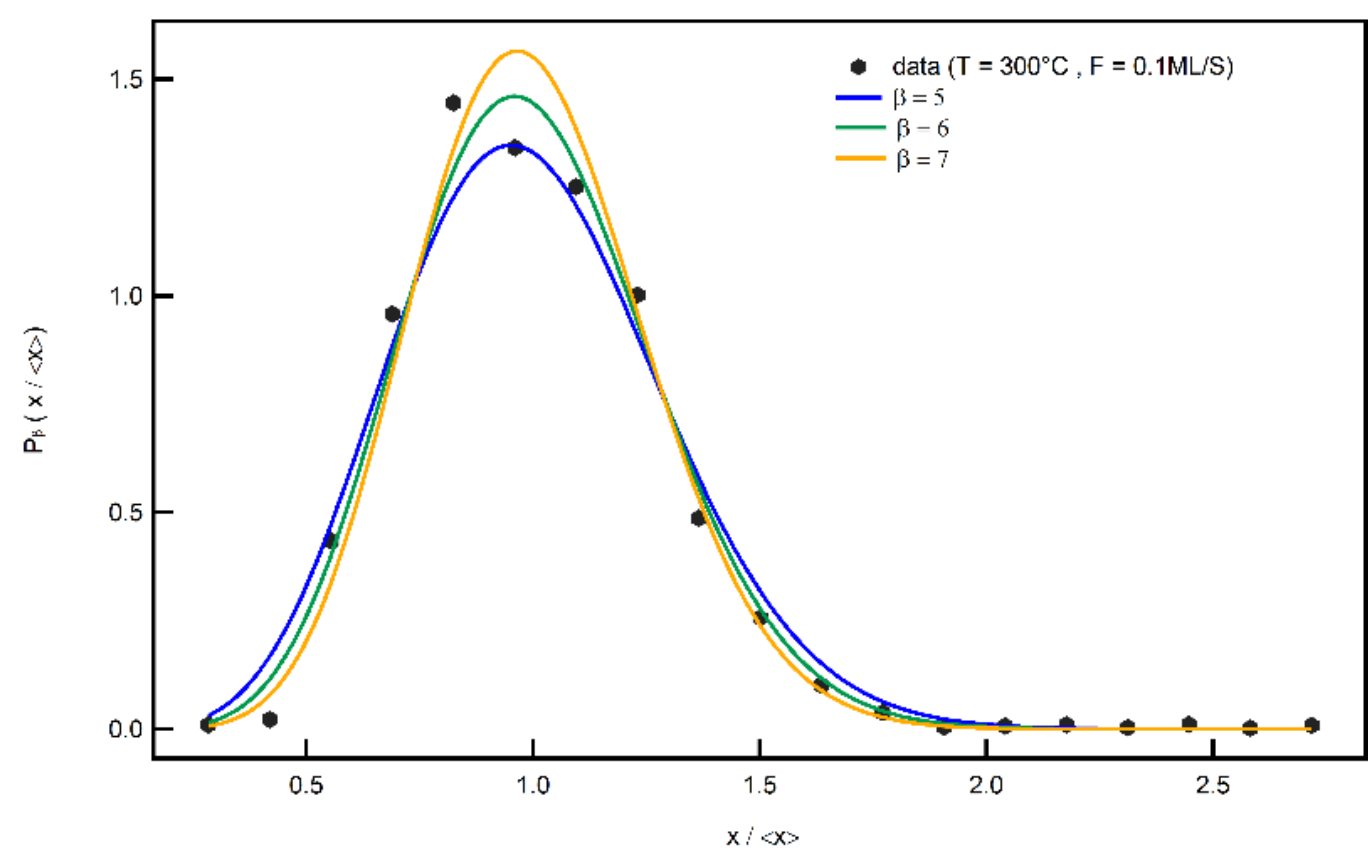


Delaunay triangulation

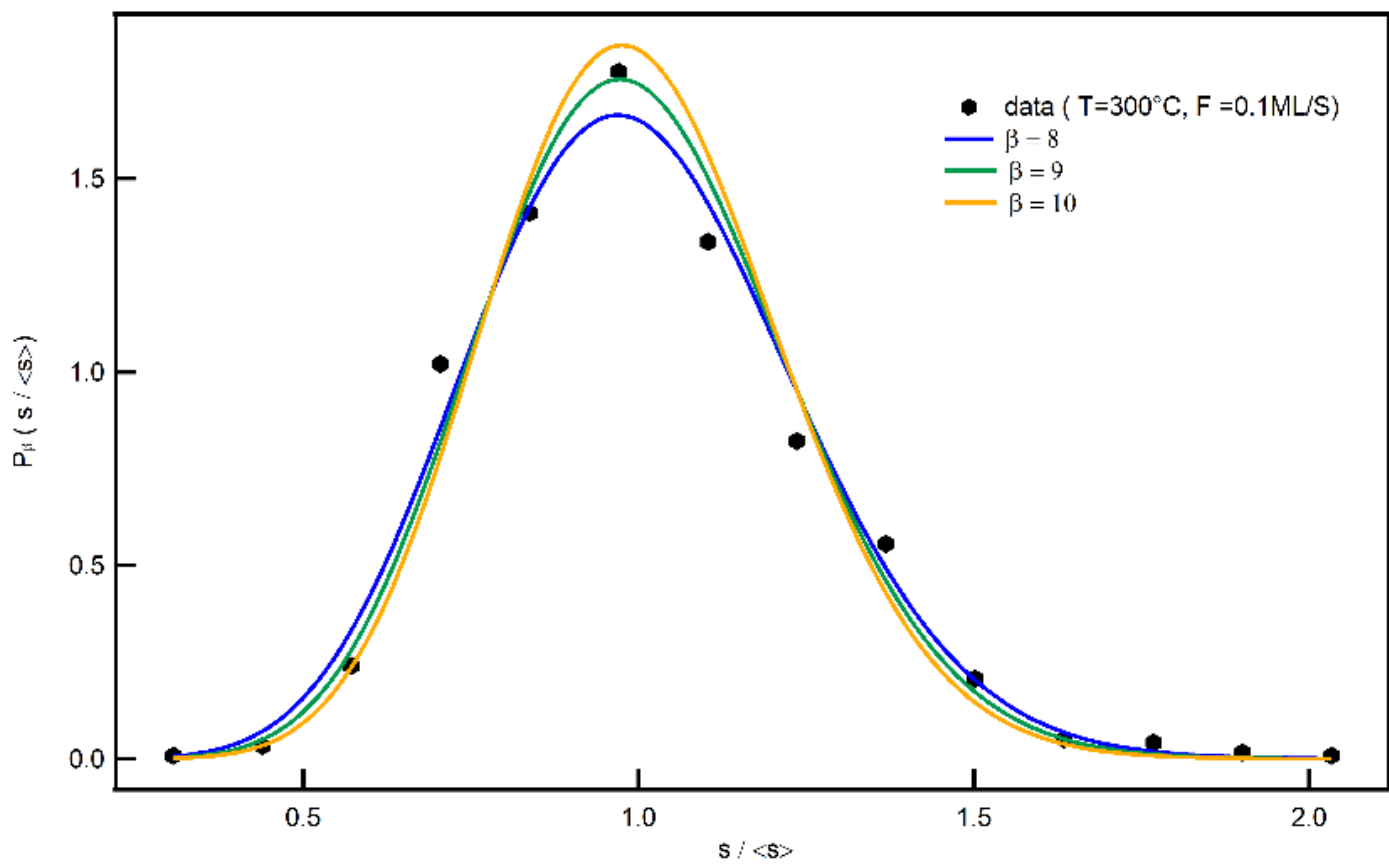
Experiments



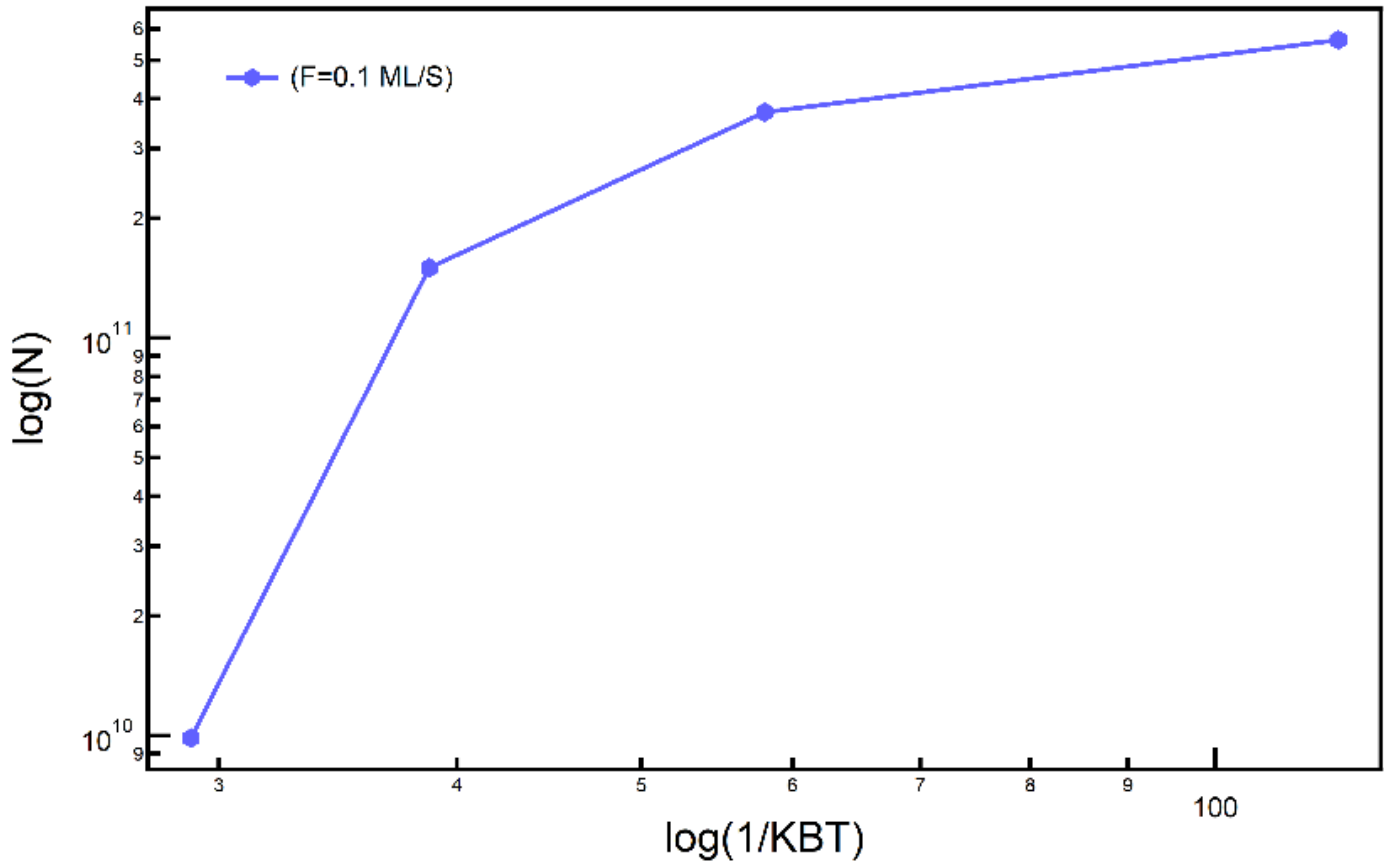
CZD



Delaunay triangulation

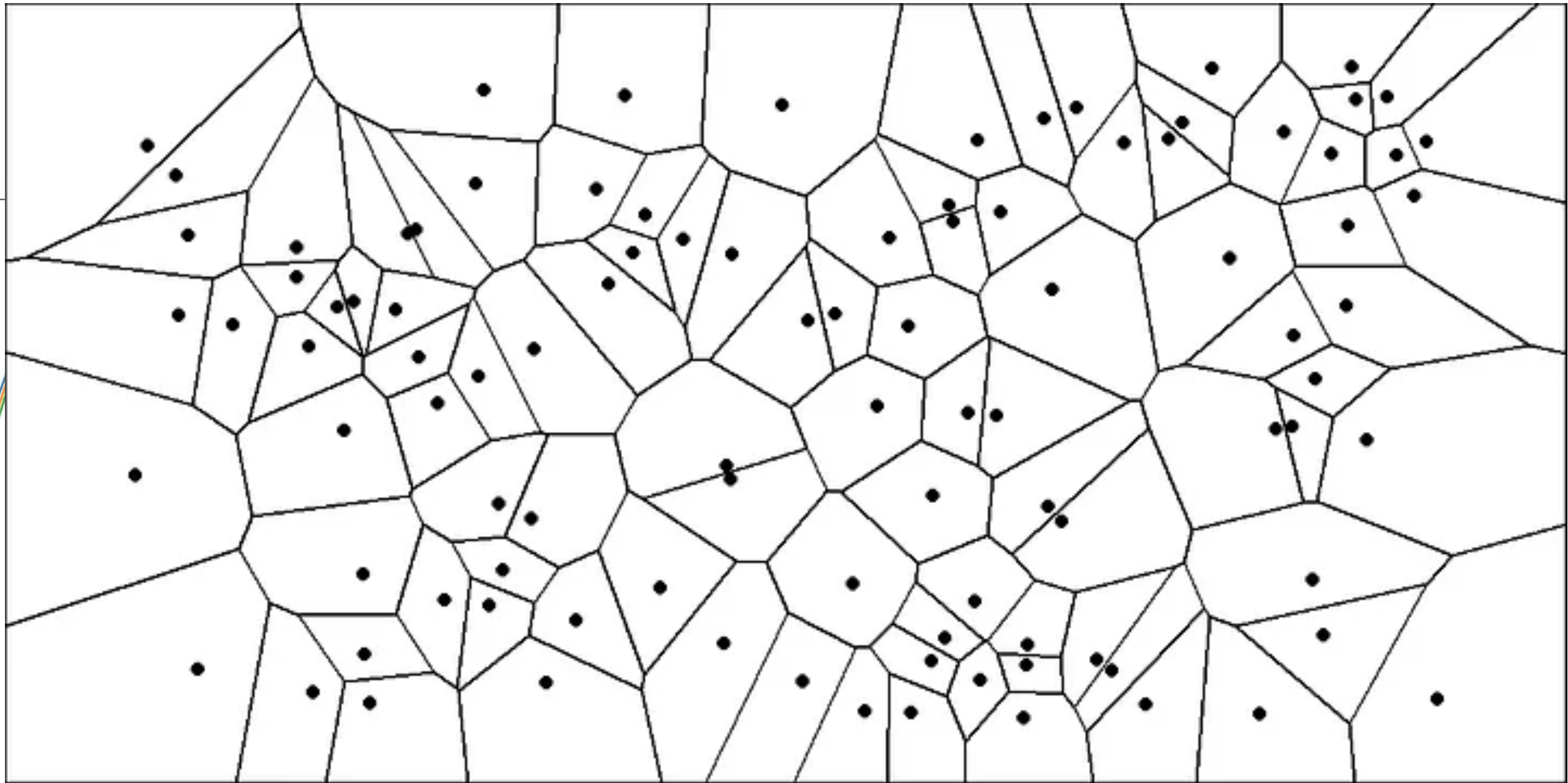
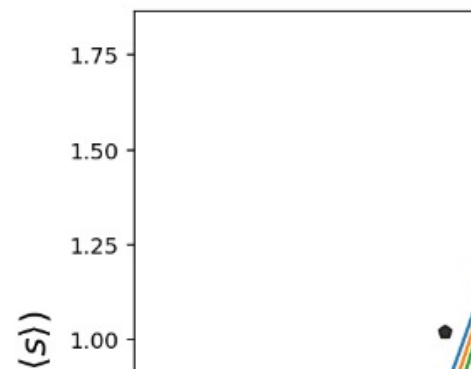
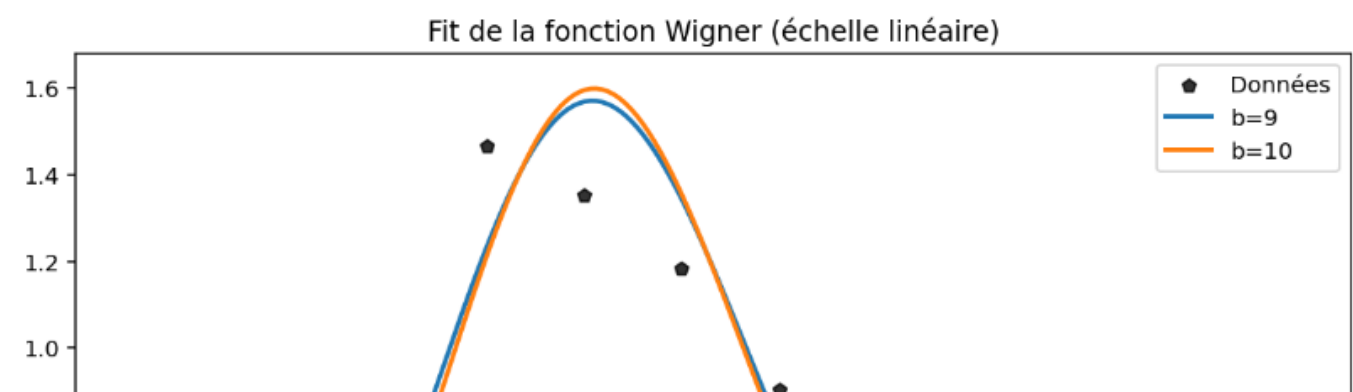


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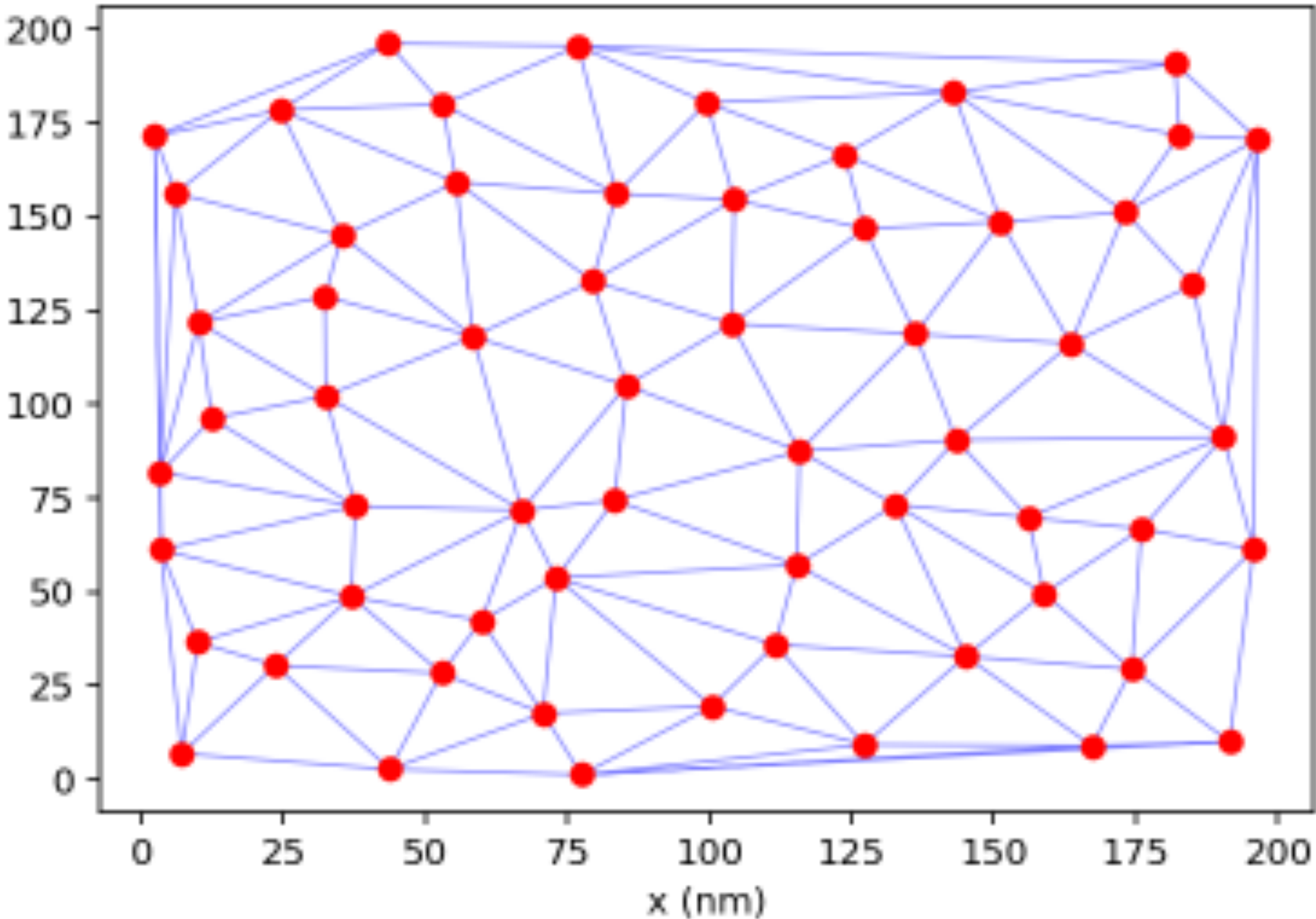
Island density vs. 1/T

Simulations

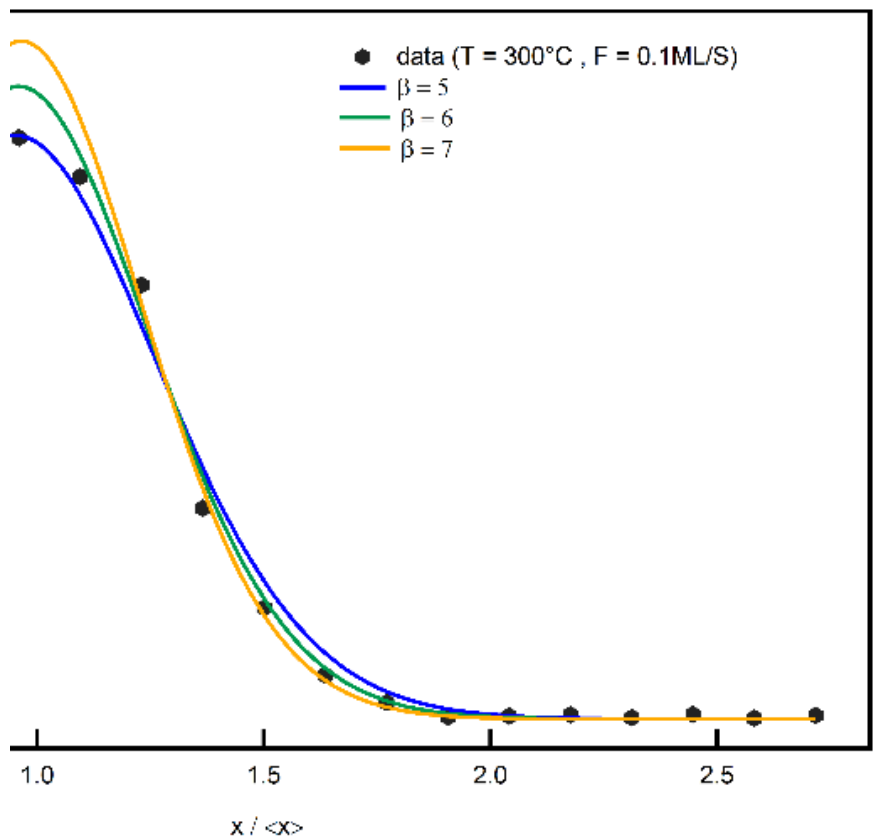


Voronoi polygons

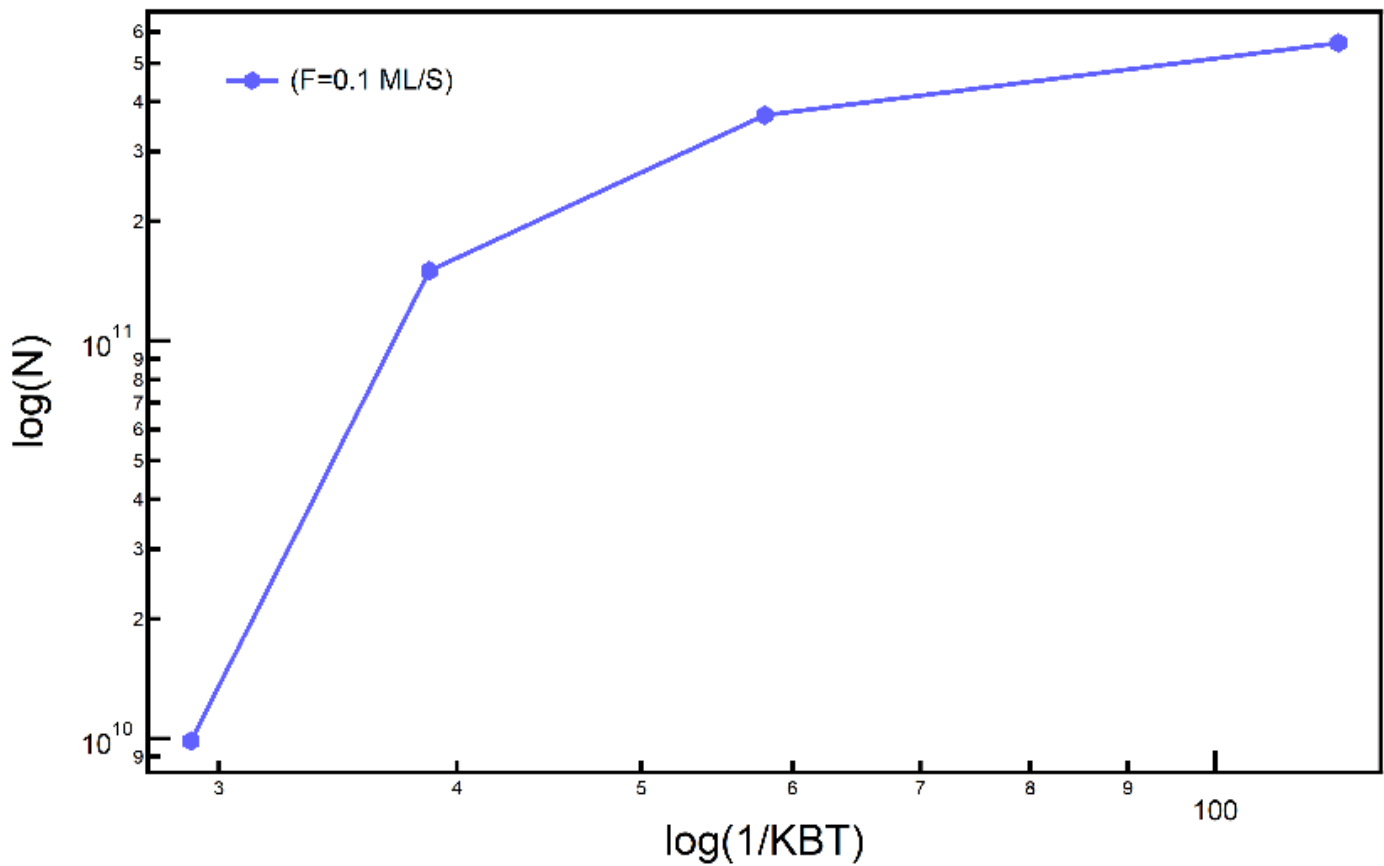
Delaunay triangulation



Delaunay triangulation

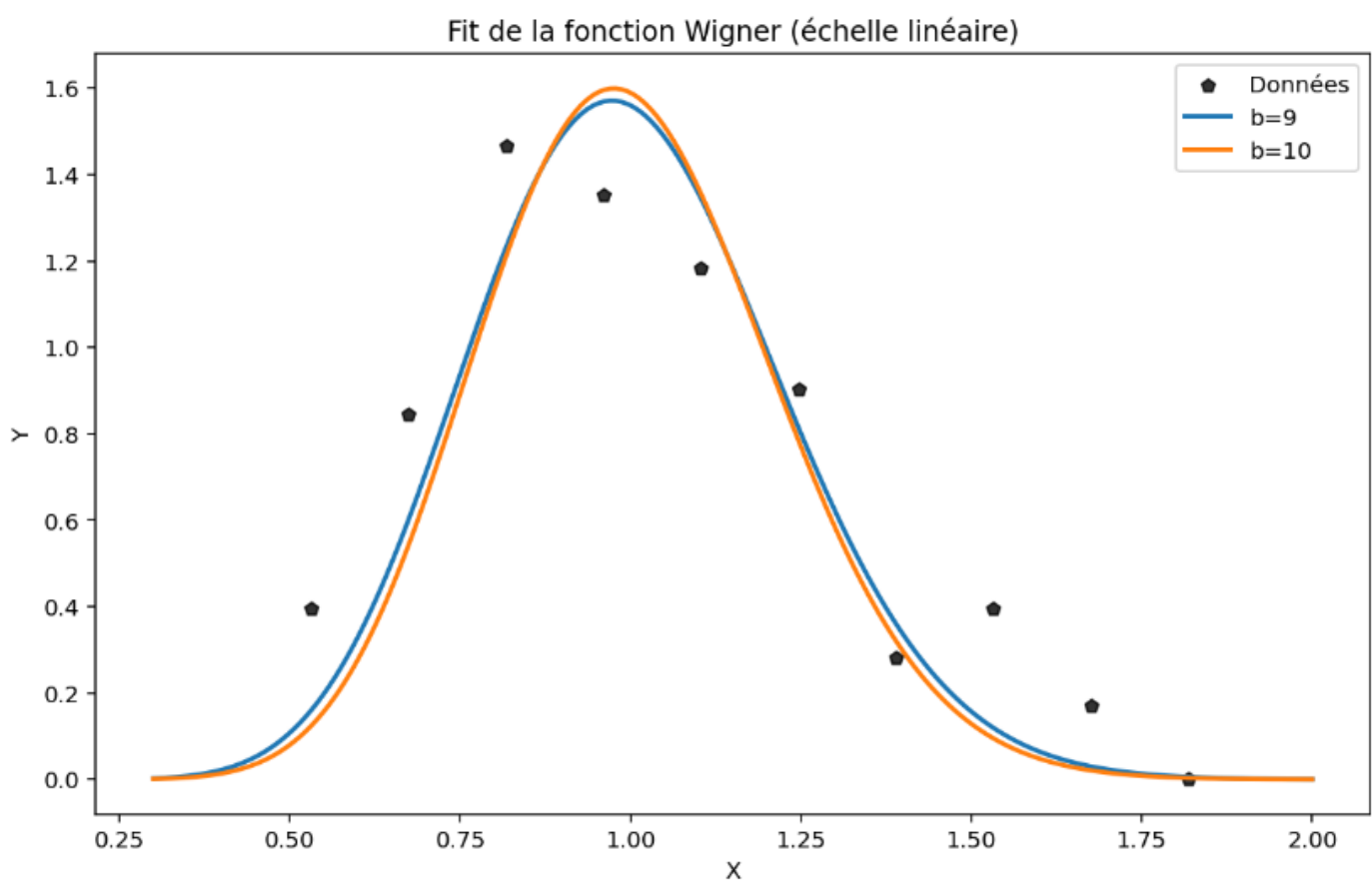


Delaunay triangulation

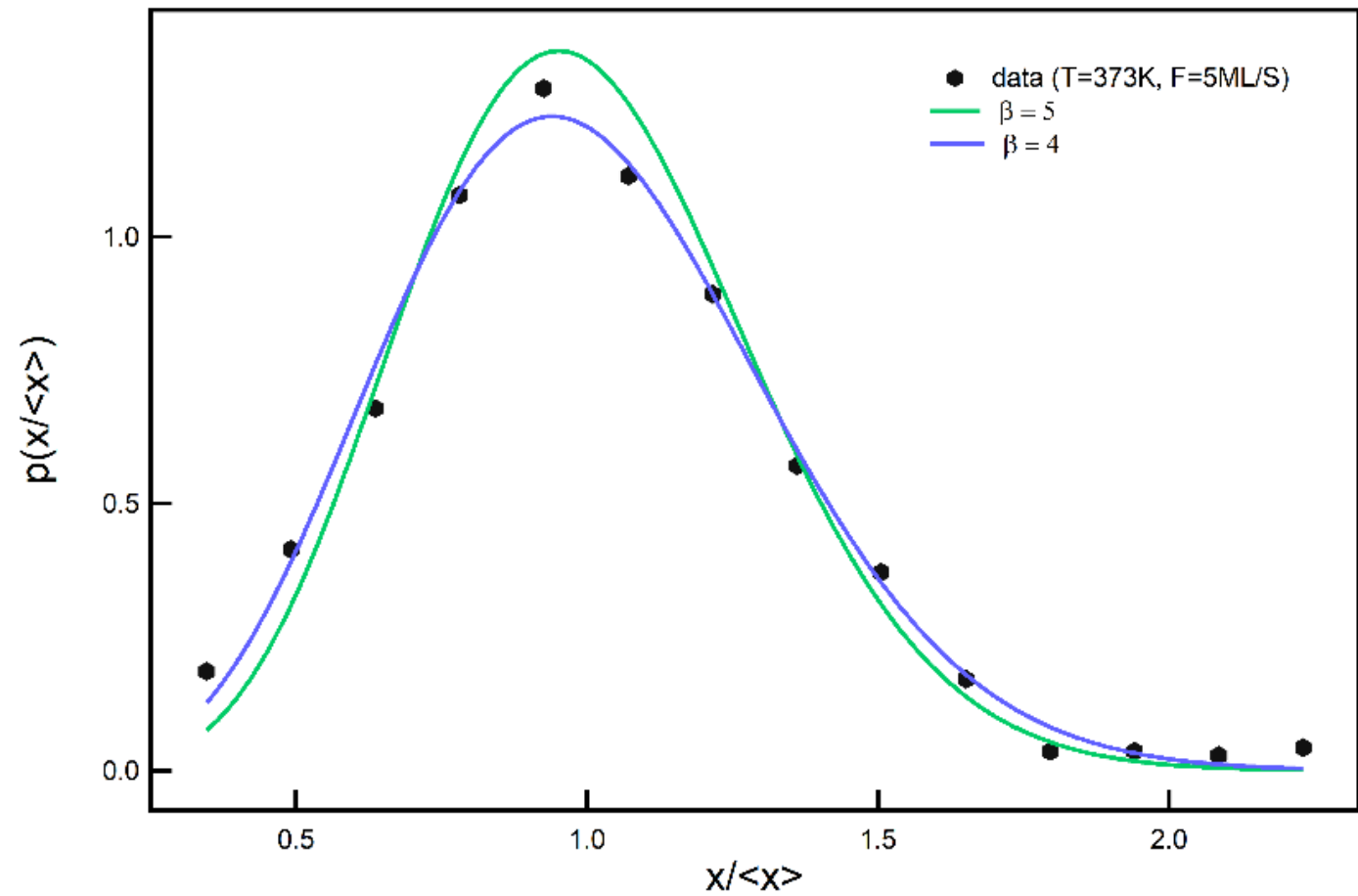


Island density vs. 1/T

Simulations

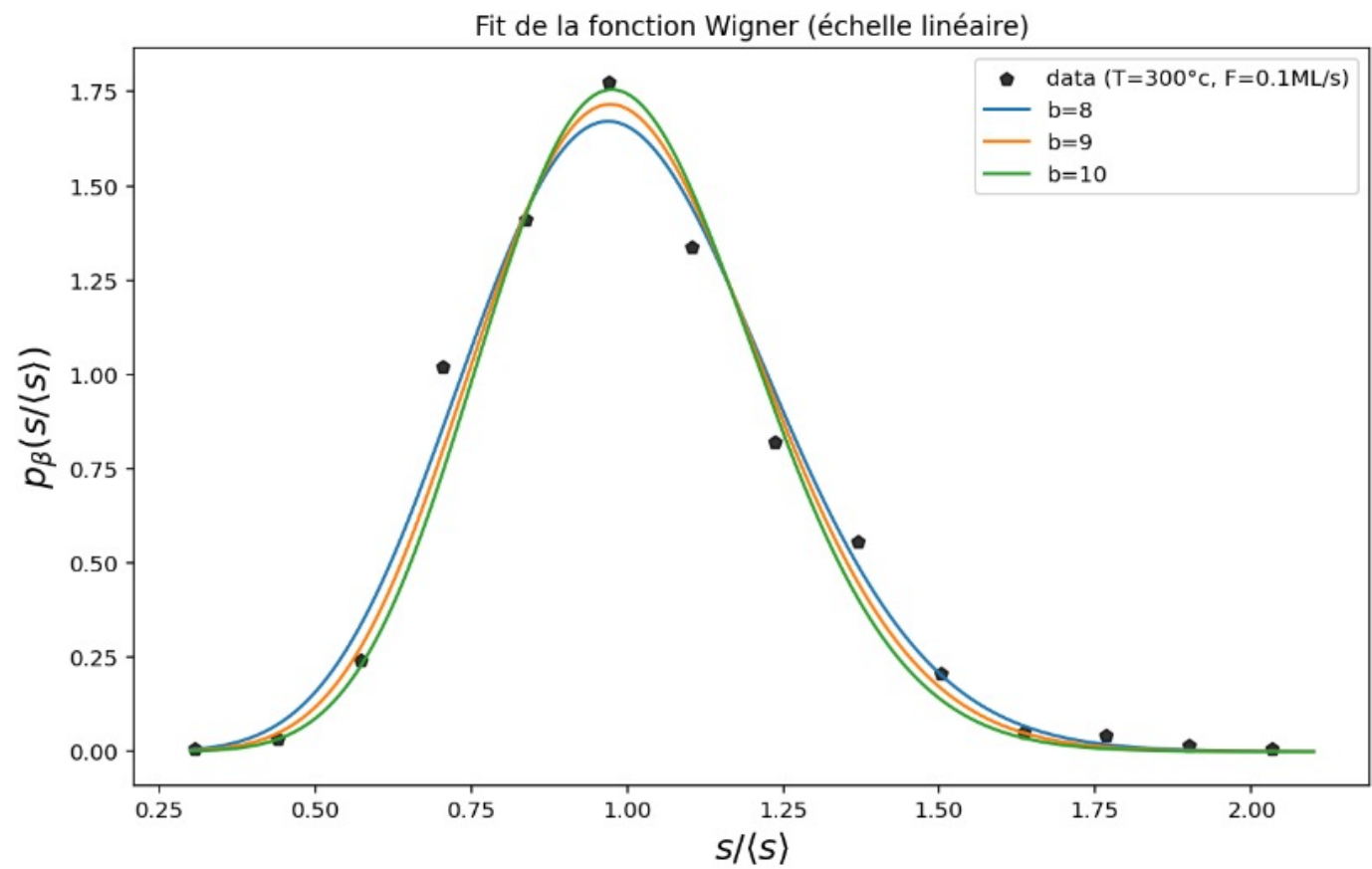


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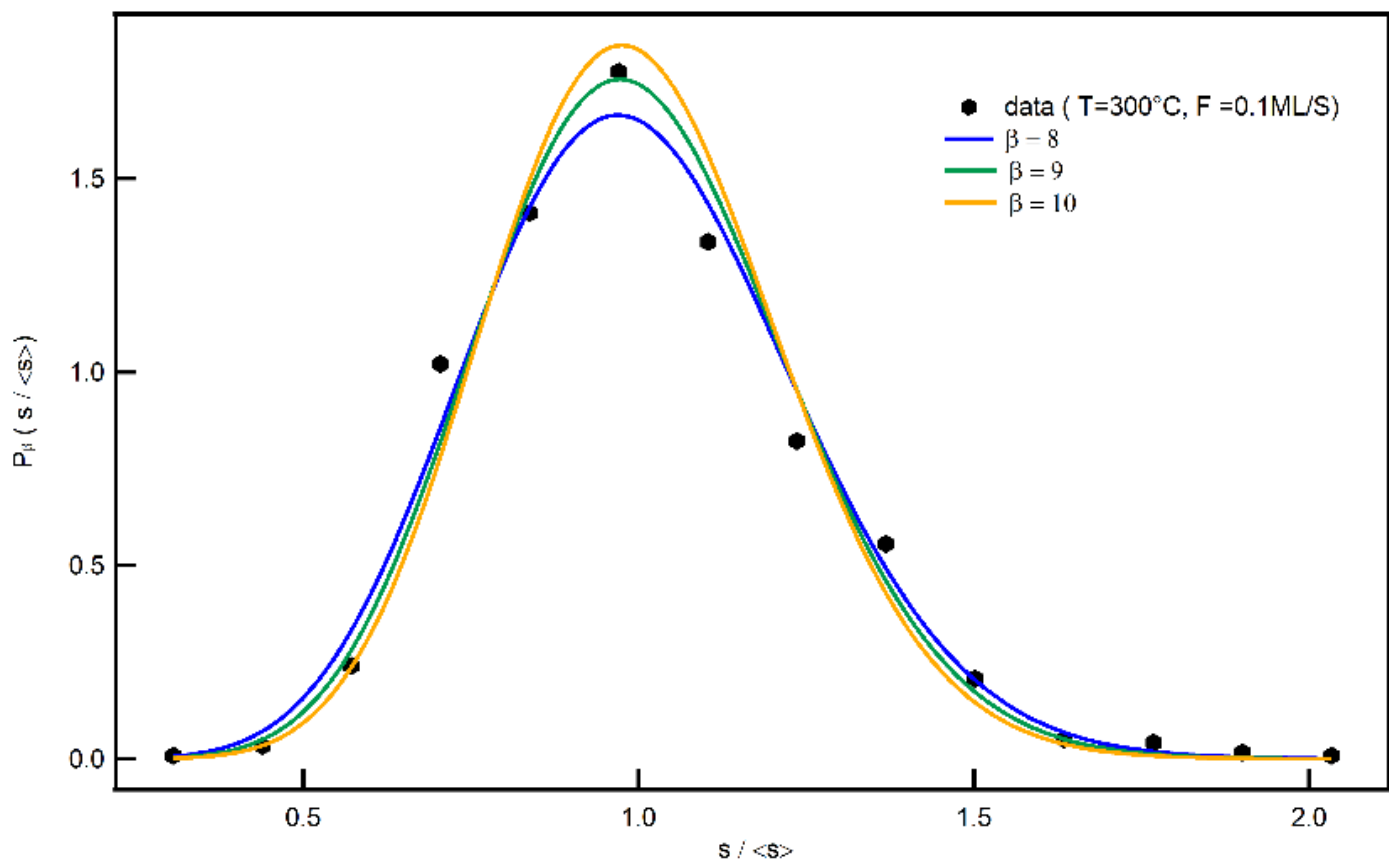


Delaunay triangulation

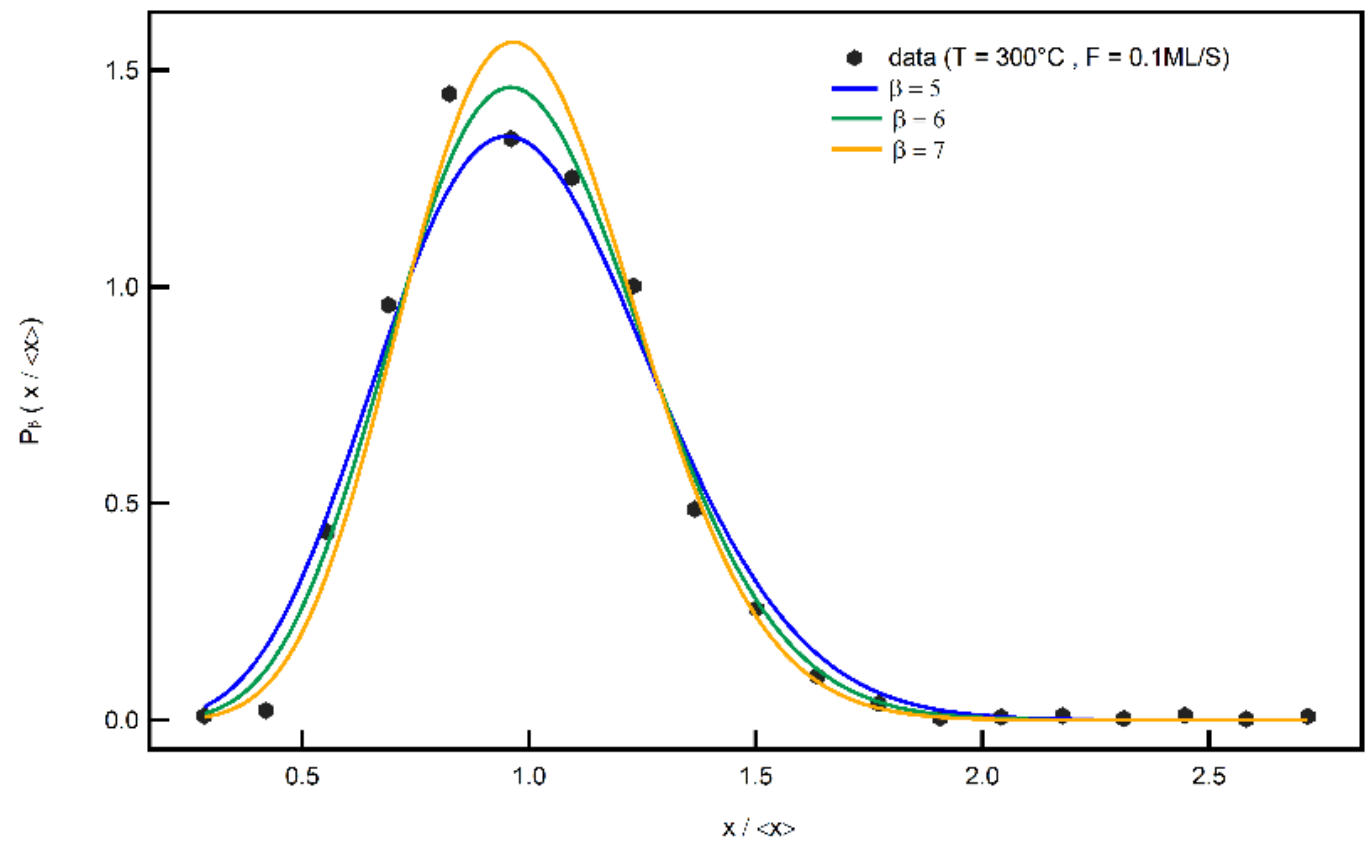
Experiments



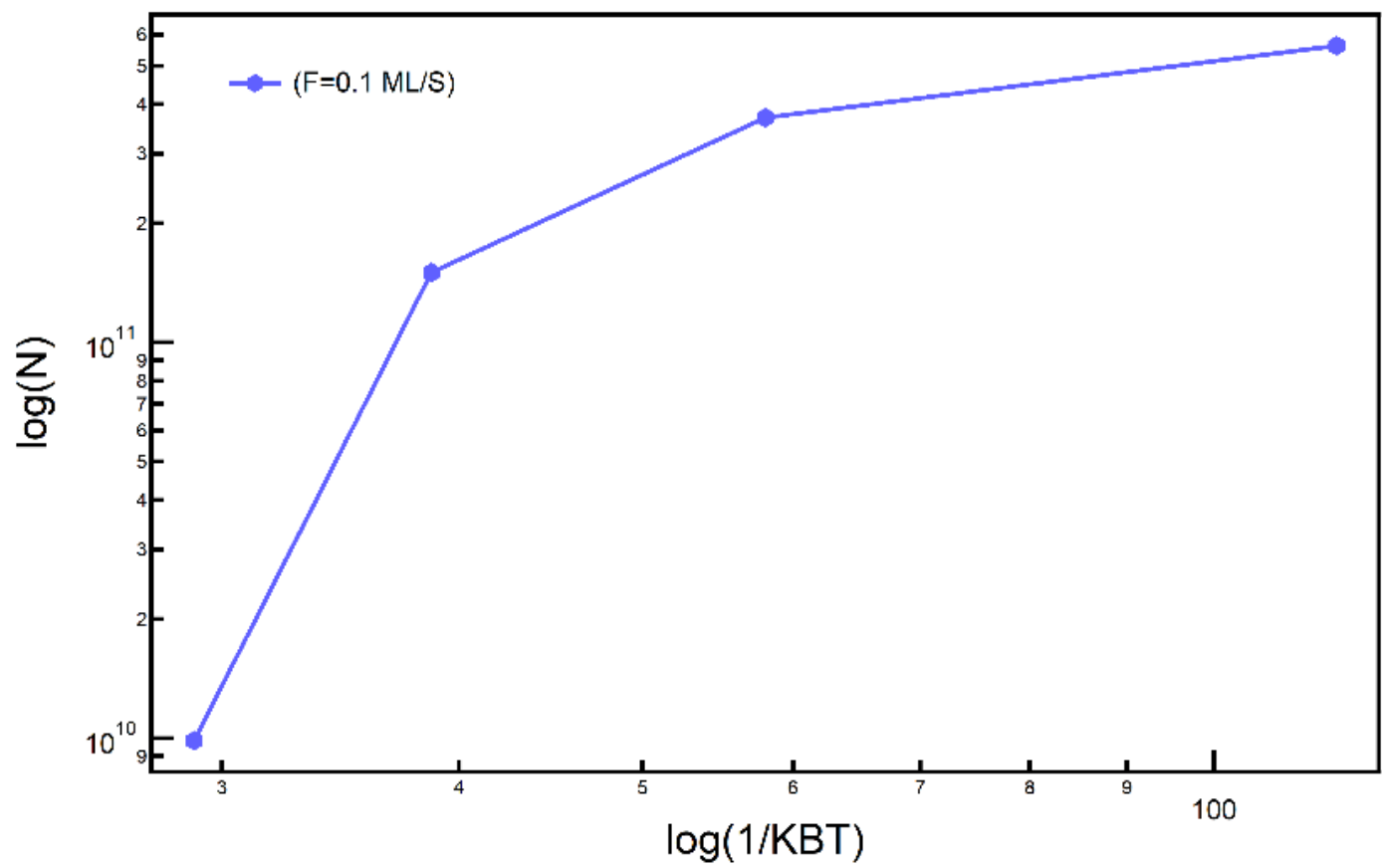
CZD



CZD

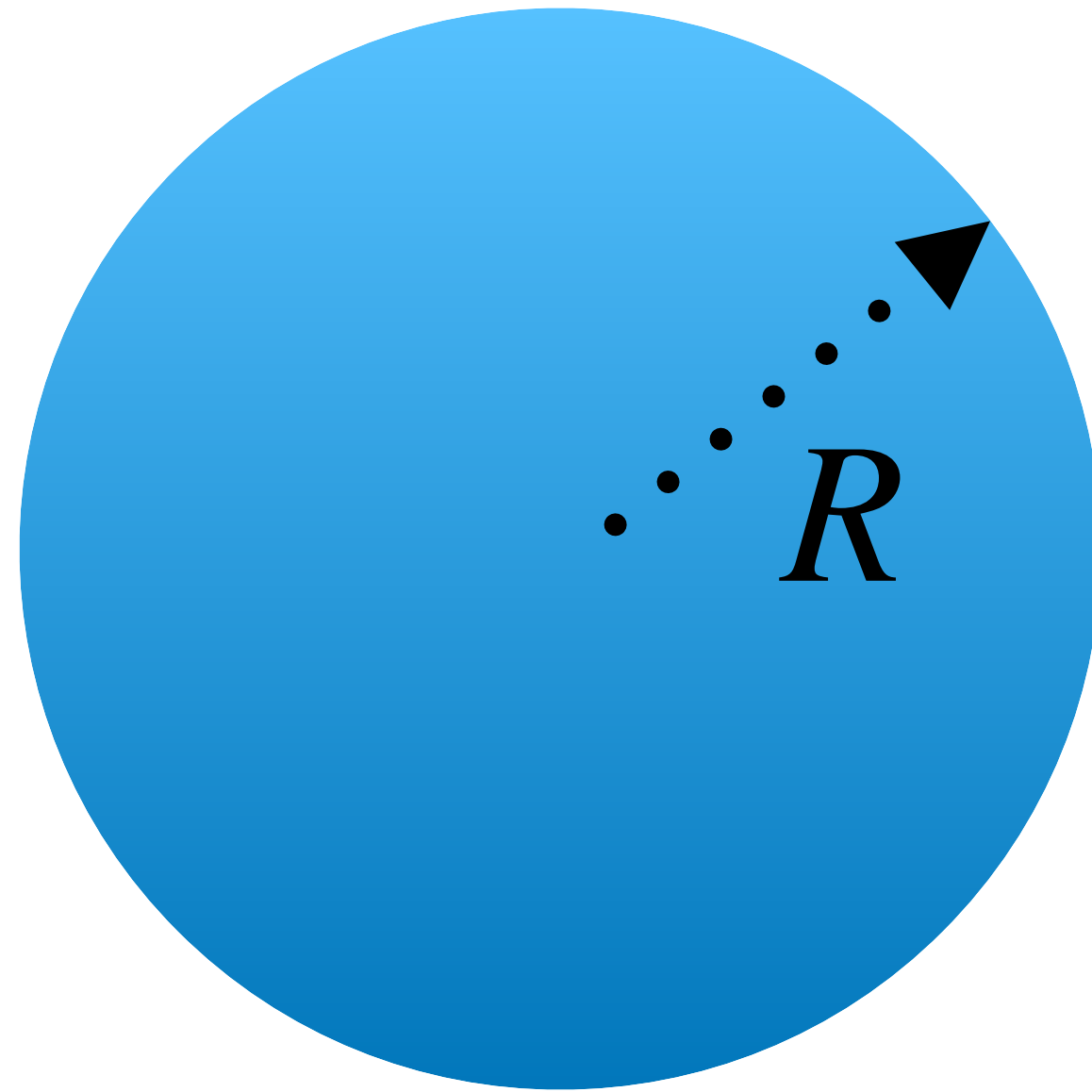


Delaunay triangulation



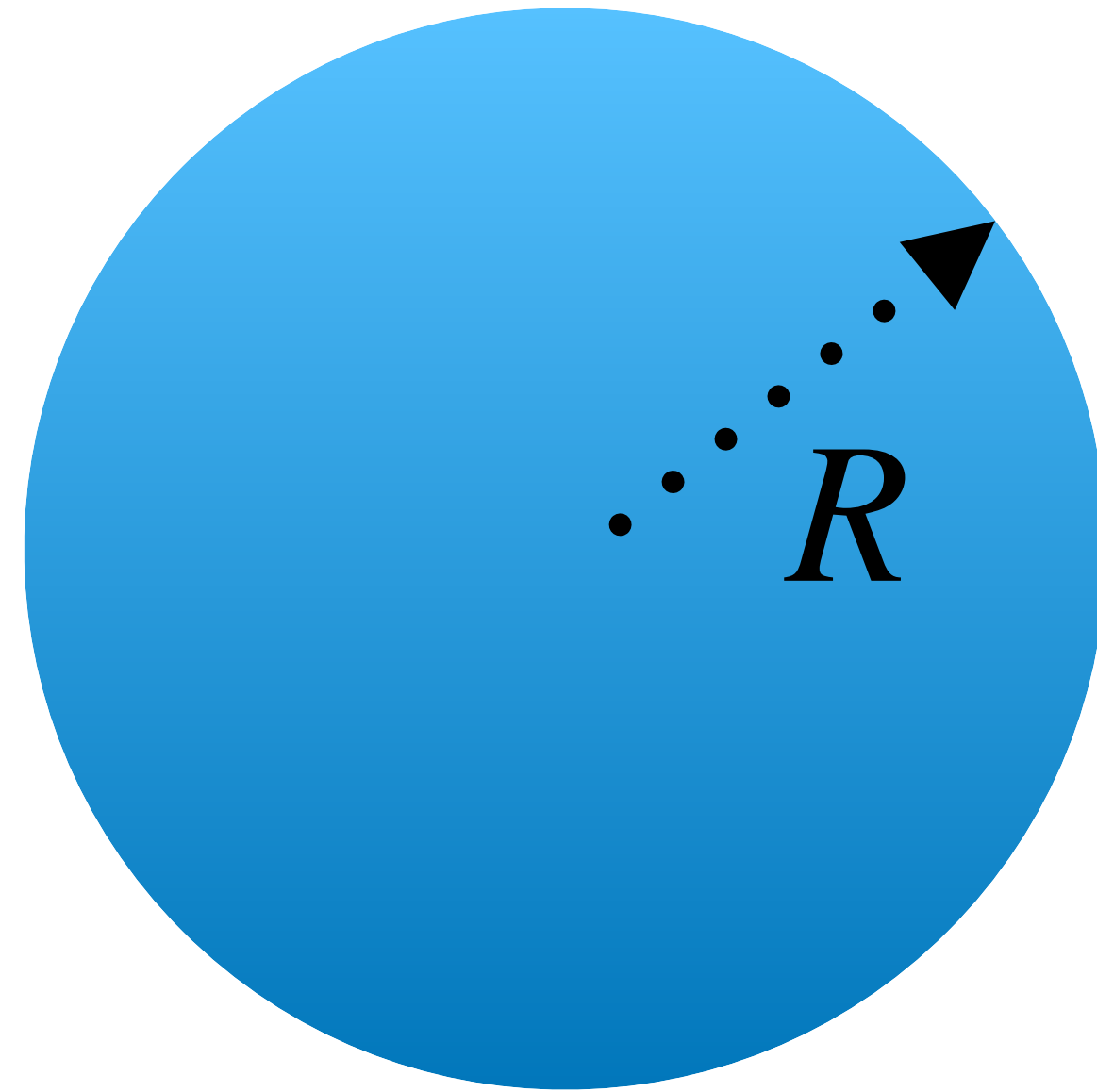
Island density vs. $1/T$

Nucleation, Growth, Coarsening: Ostwald Ripening



$$\mu(R) - \mu(\infty) = \Omega \frac{2\sigma}{R}$$

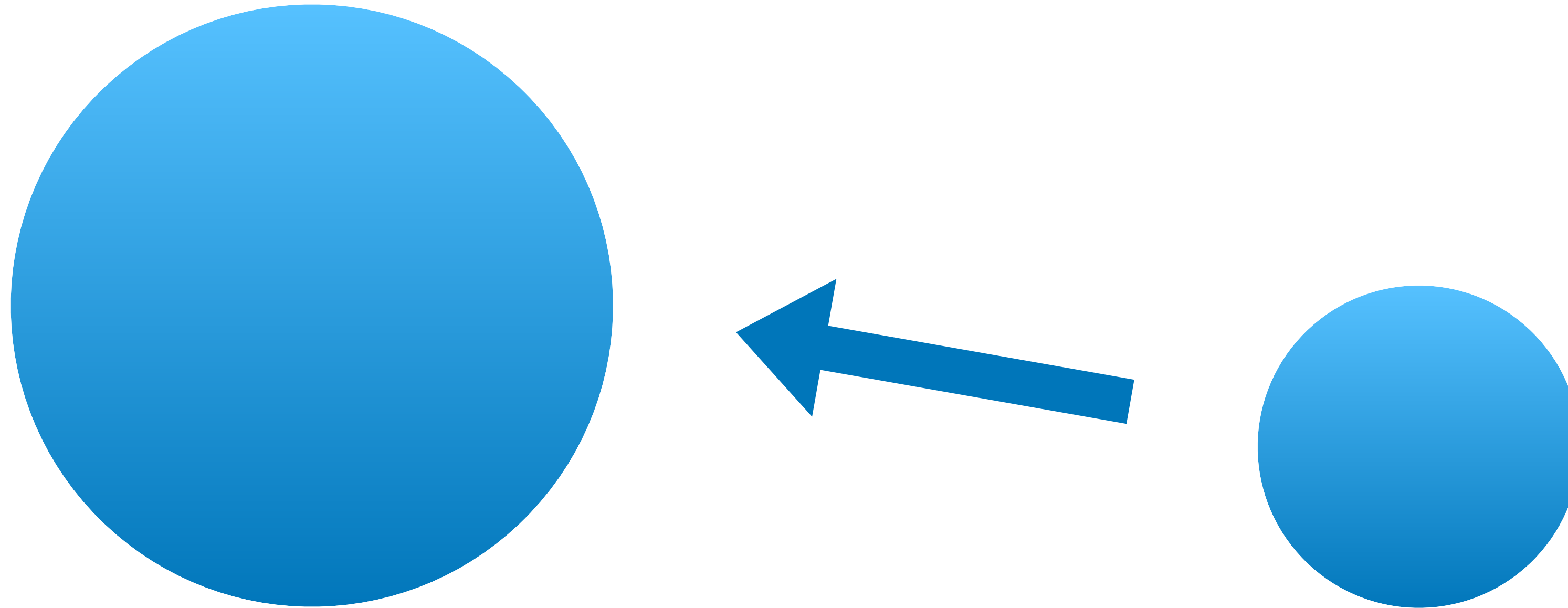
Nucleation, Growth, Coarsening: Ostwald Ripening



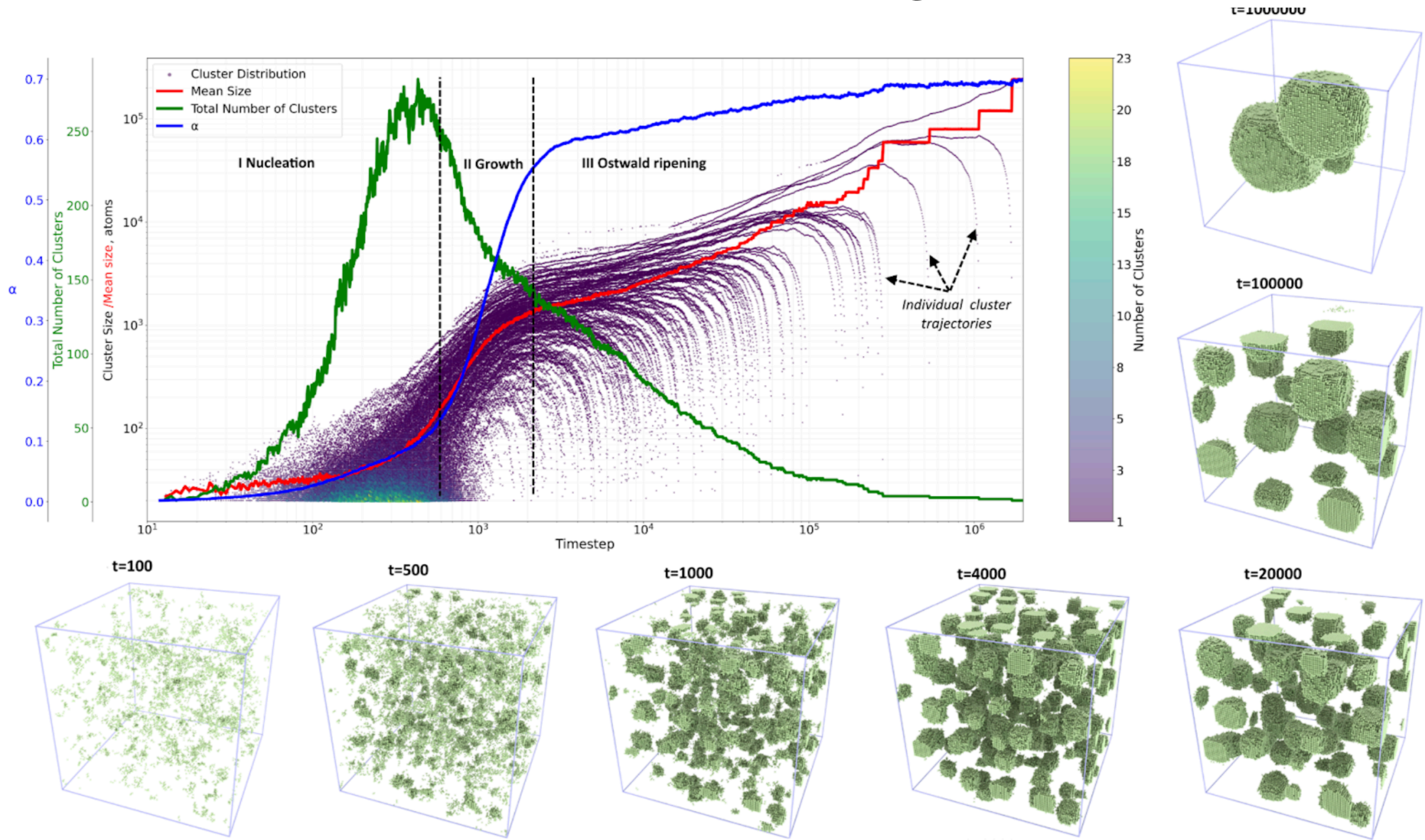
$$c(R) = c(\infty) \exp \left(\Omega \frac{2\sigma}{R} k_B T \right)$$

Nucleation, Growth, Coarsening: Ostwald Ripening

$$\vec{J} = -D \nabla c$$

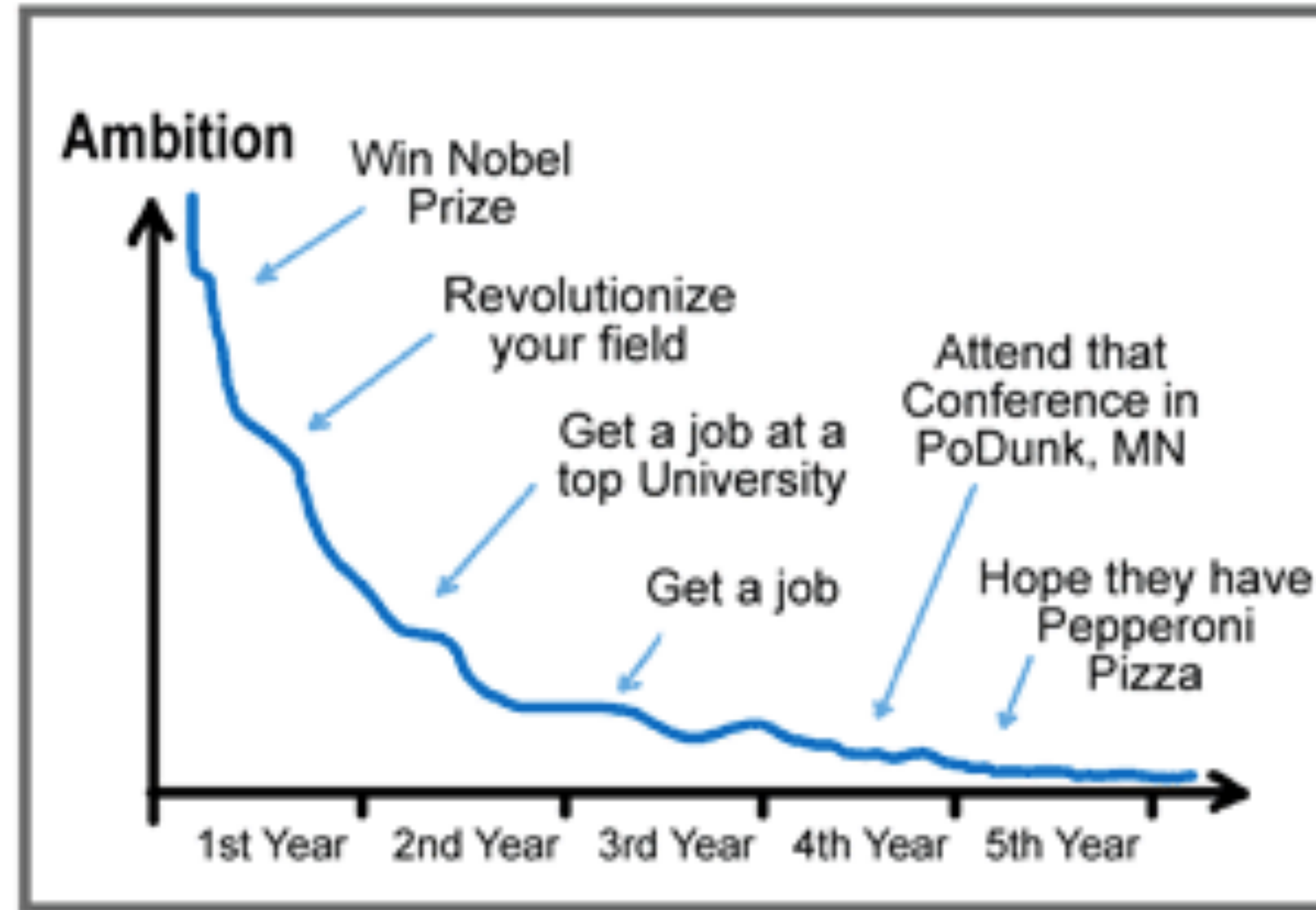


Nucleation, Growth, Coarsening: Ostwald Ripening



Questions?

YOUR LIFE AMBITION - What Happened??



Exponent relations (2D islands)

$$P(s) = a_{\beta} s^{\beta} \exp(-b_{\beta} s^2)$$

$$N \sim (F/D)^{\alpha}$$

$$\beta_{\text{DLA}} = i + 2$$

$$\alpha_{\text{DLA}} = i/(i + 2)$$

$$\beta_{\text{ALA}} = (i + 3)/2$$

$$\alpha_{\text{ALA}} = 2i/(i + 3)$$

Exponent relation

$$P(s) = a_{\beta} s^{\beta} \exp(-b_{\beta} s^2) \quad N \sim (F/D)^{\alpha}$$

$$\alpha\beta = i$$

for 2D islands!

Exponent relation

$$P(s) = a_\beta s^\beta \exp(-b_\beta s^2) \quad N \sim (F/D)^\alpha$$

$$\alpha(2\beta + d - 2) = 2i$$

for d-dimensional islands!

Exponent relation

$$P(s) = a_{\beta} s^{\beta} \exp(-b_{\beta} s^2) \quad N \sim (F/D)^{\alpha}$$

$$\alpha(2\beta + 1) = 2i$$

for 3D islands