

Crystal Growth Mechanisms

How do crystals grow?

Juan Manuel García-Ruiz
CSIC-Universidad de Granada

Crystal Growth Mechanisms

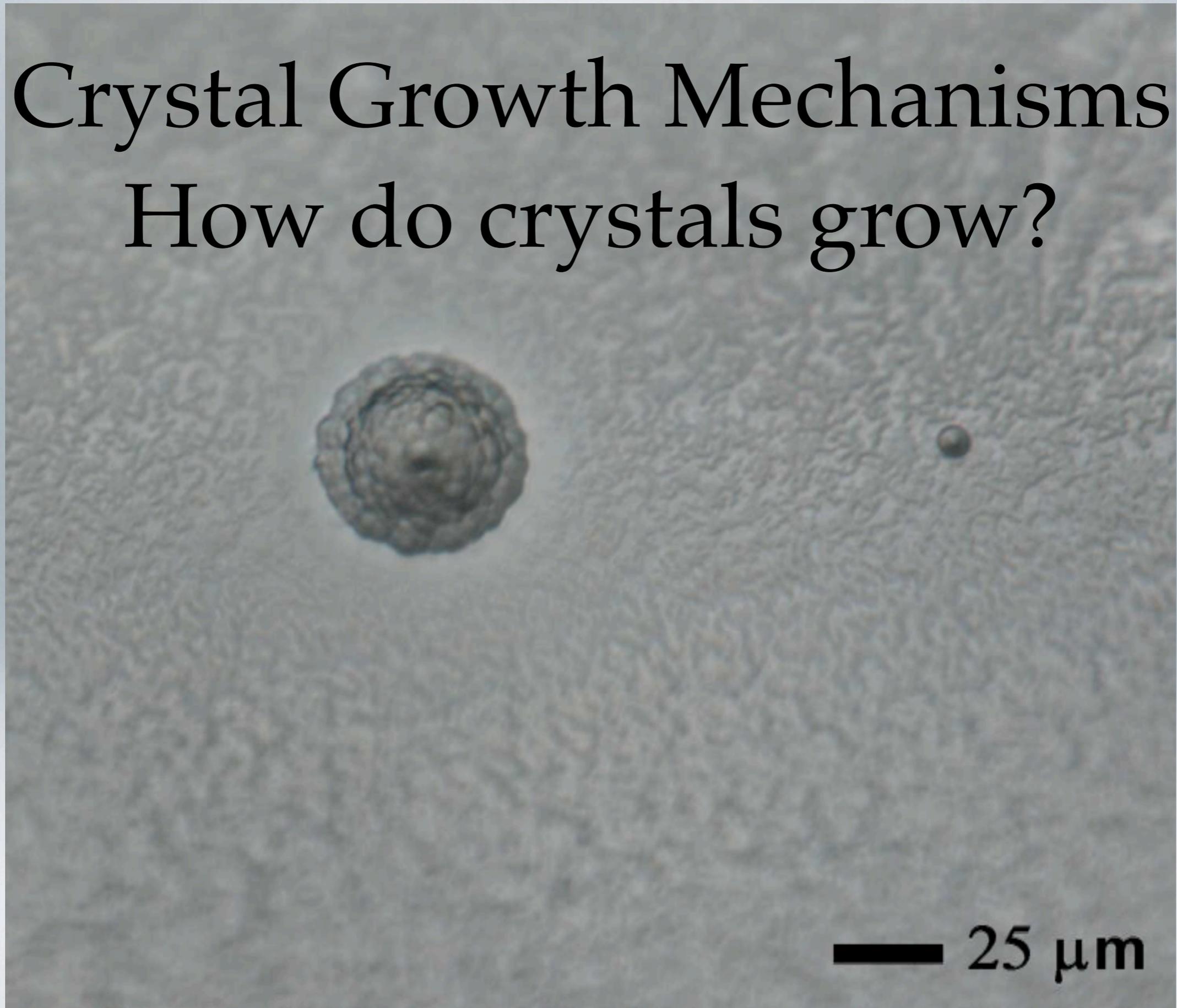
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How do crystals grow?



Los cristales crecen por acumulación de unidades de crecimiento (UC)

Las UC pueden ser átomos, especies aniónicas o polianiónico, o sus agrupaciones

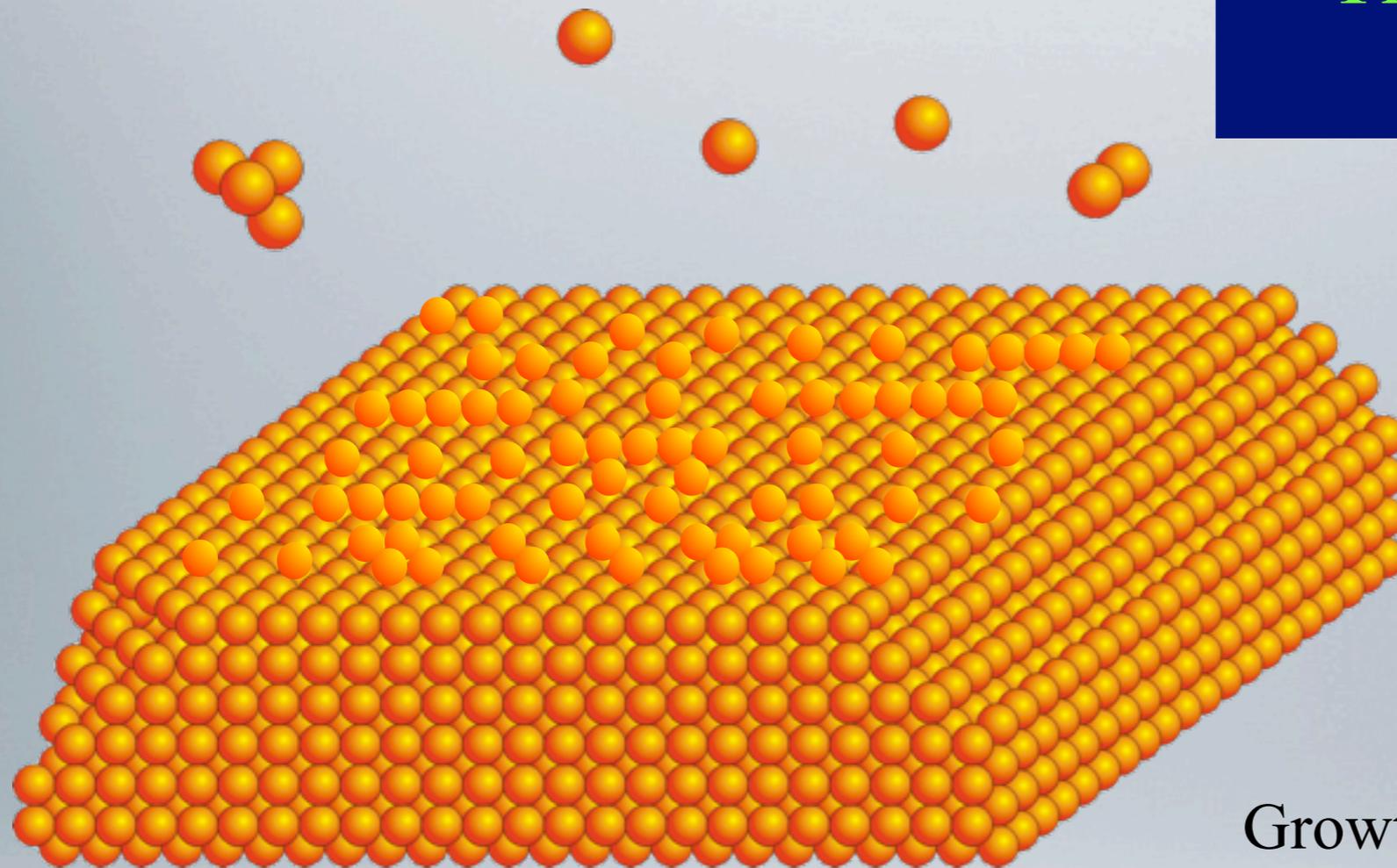
Las UC se acumulan sobre el cristal por diferentes mecanismos

Los mecanismos de crecimiento pueden funcionar simultáneamente, por lo que el mecanismo más rápido domina la tasa de crecimiento overall

Crystal Growth Mechanisms

Normal Growth (Direct Accretion)

The growth of a rough crystal surface

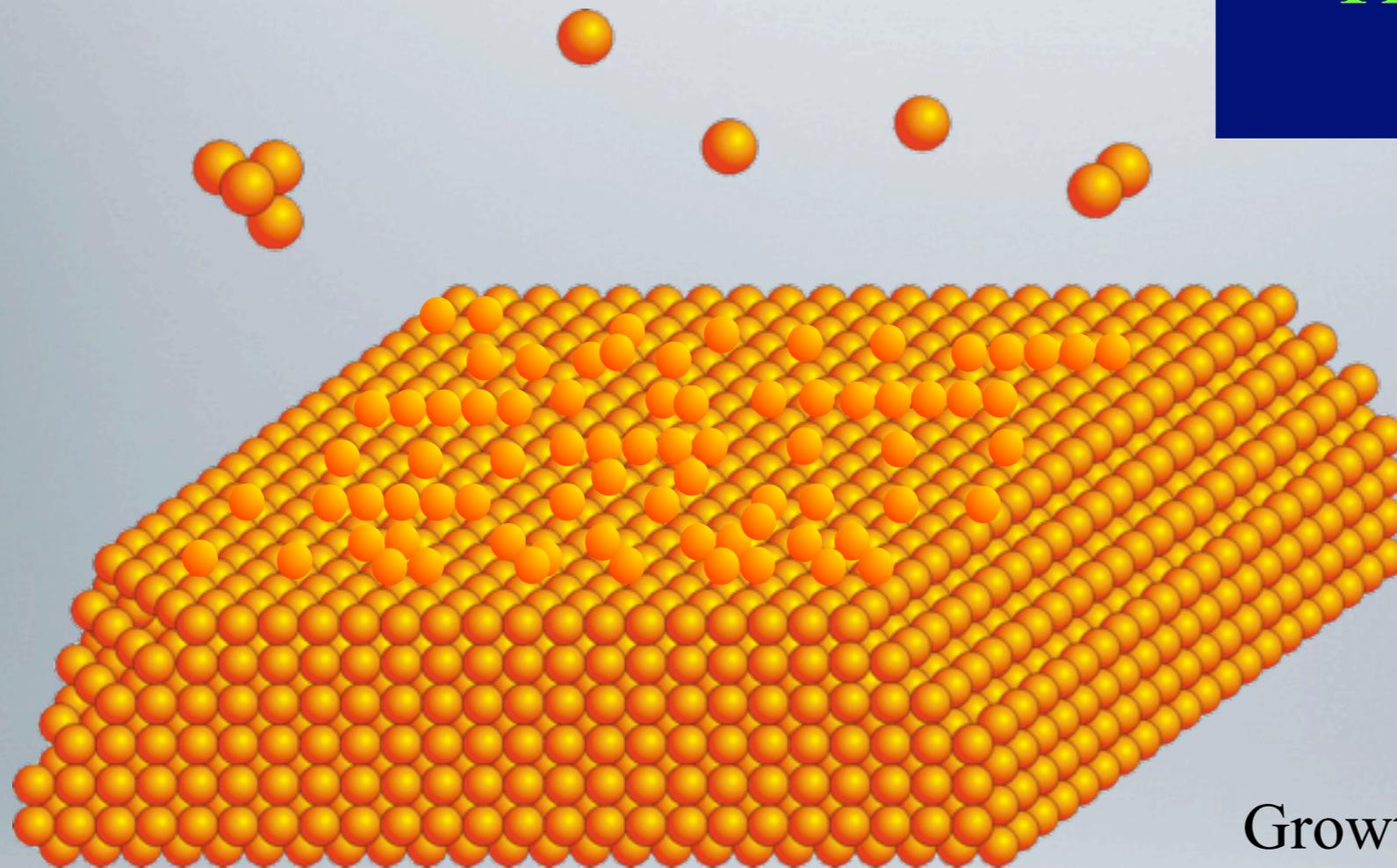


Growth by direct accretion:
Normal growth

$$R_g = k(\sigma - 1) = k\beta$$

Linear trend with supersaturation

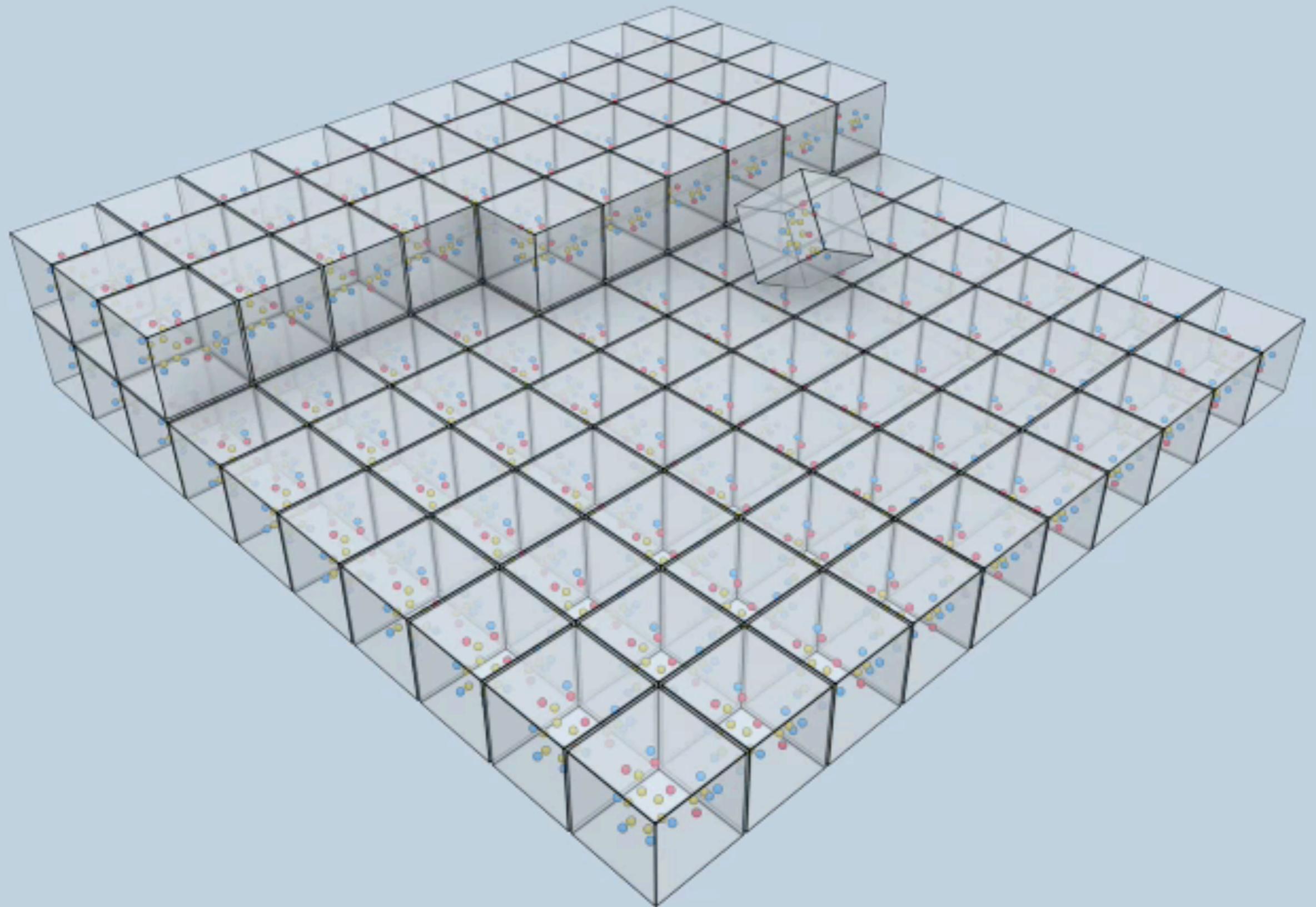
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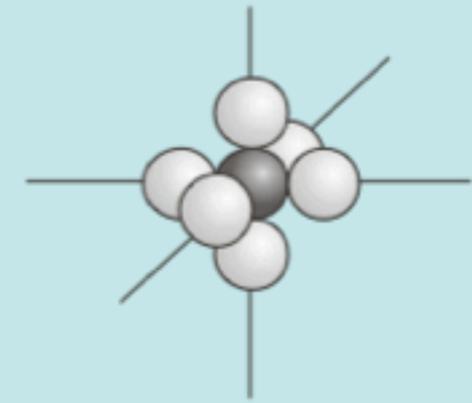
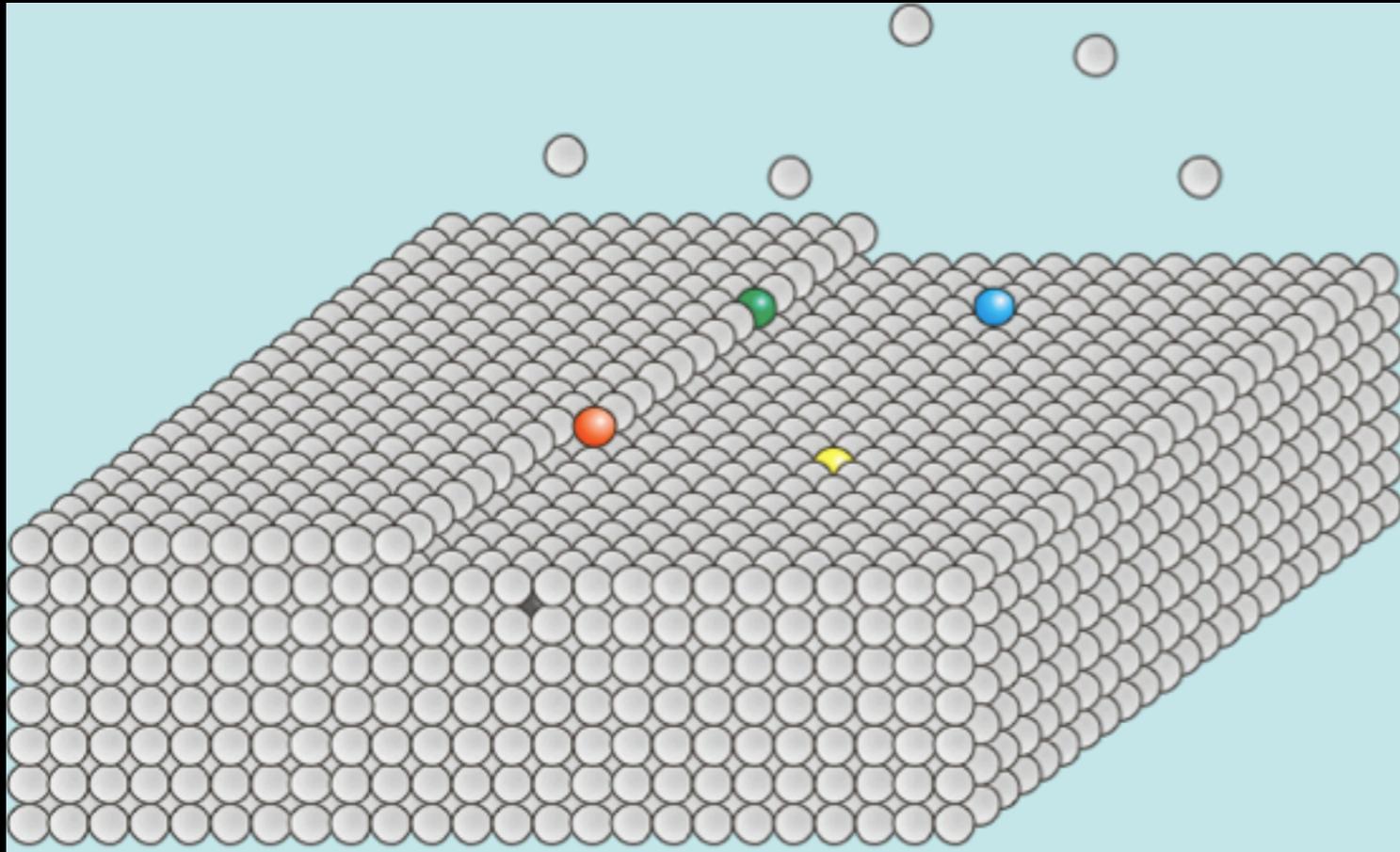


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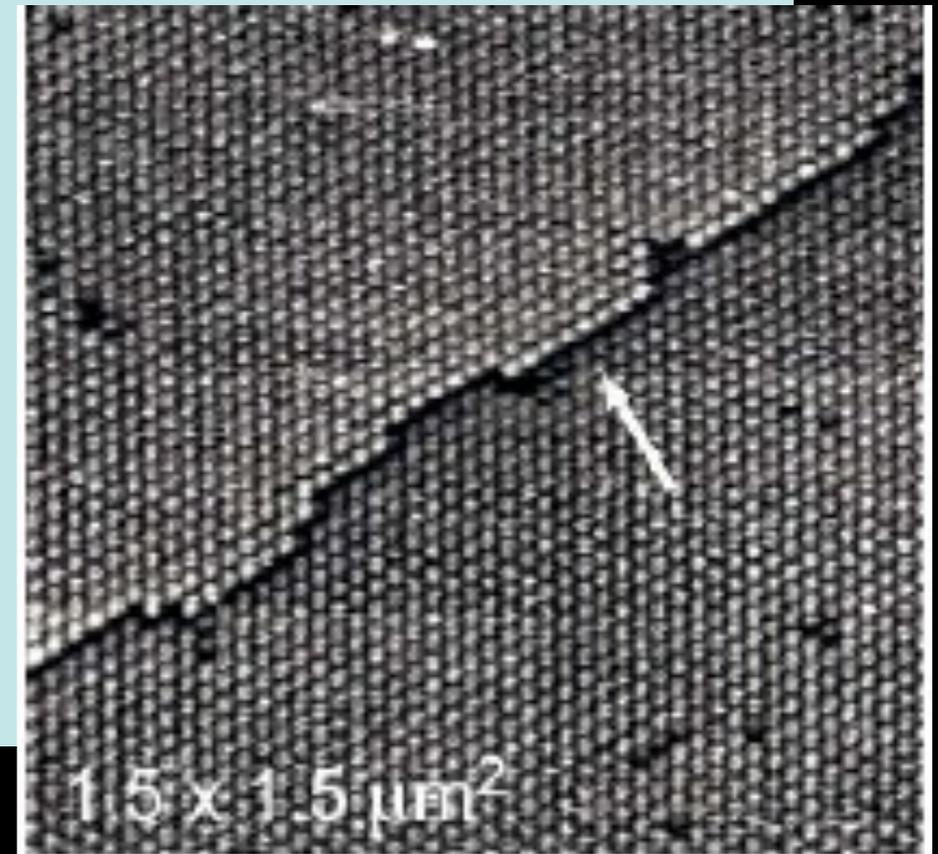
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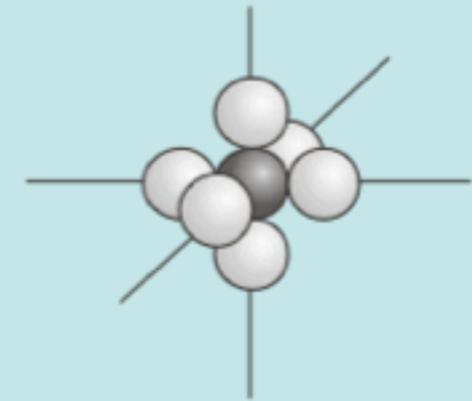
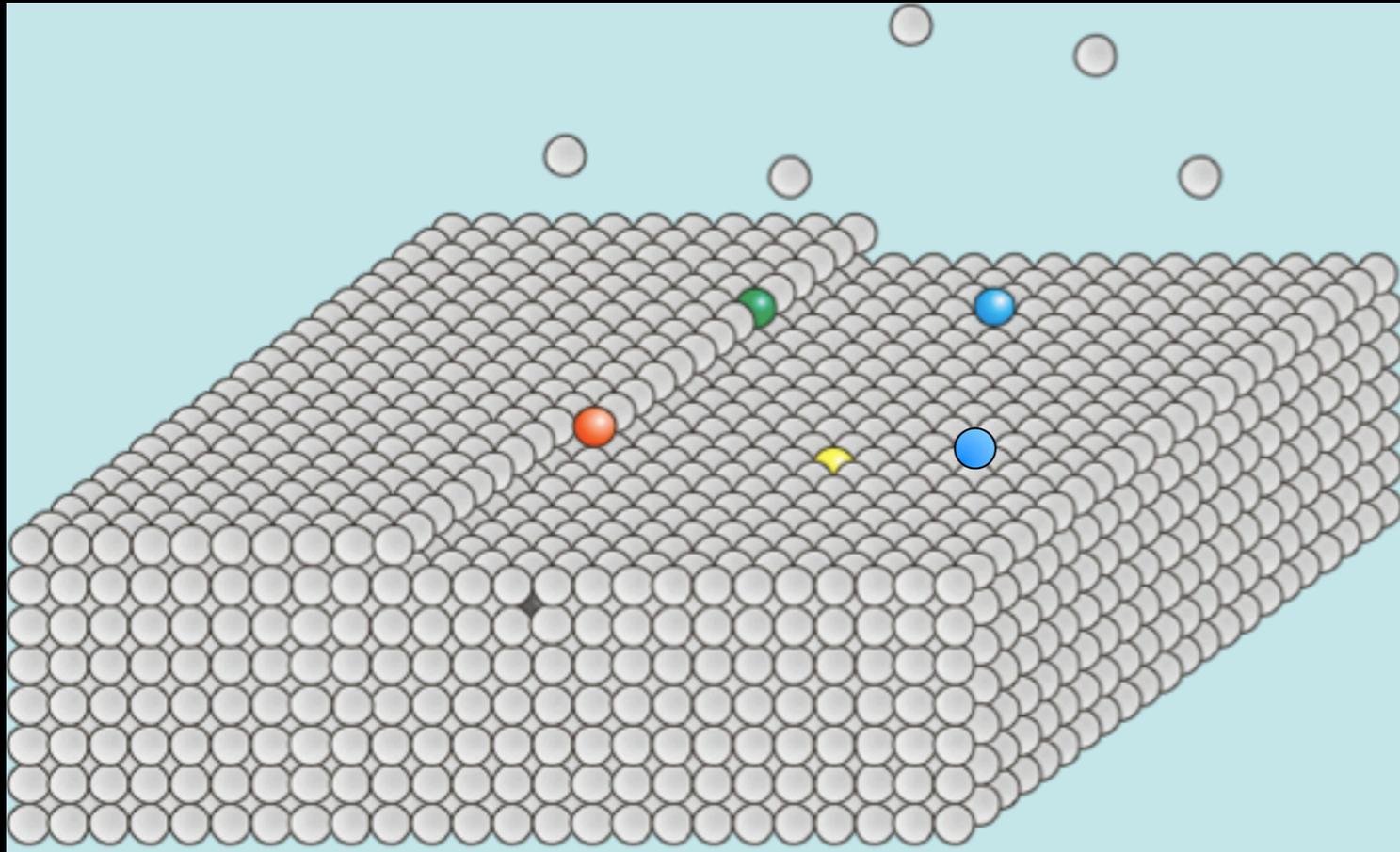




Bonding configuration

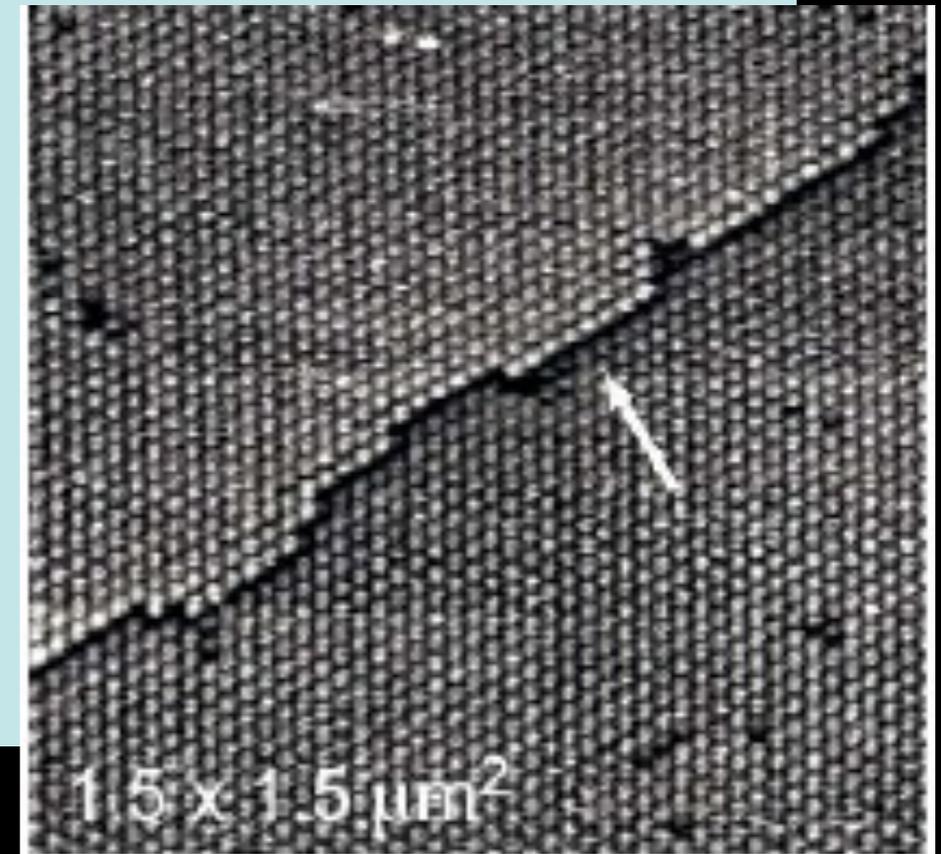
- | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
|  | Kink position (Semicrystal) | 3Φ |
|  | Step position | 2Φ |
|  | Crystal position | 6Φ |
|  | Absorbed atom | 5Φ |
|  | Adatom | 1Φ |

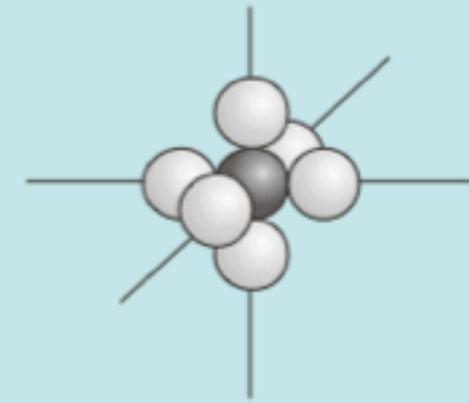
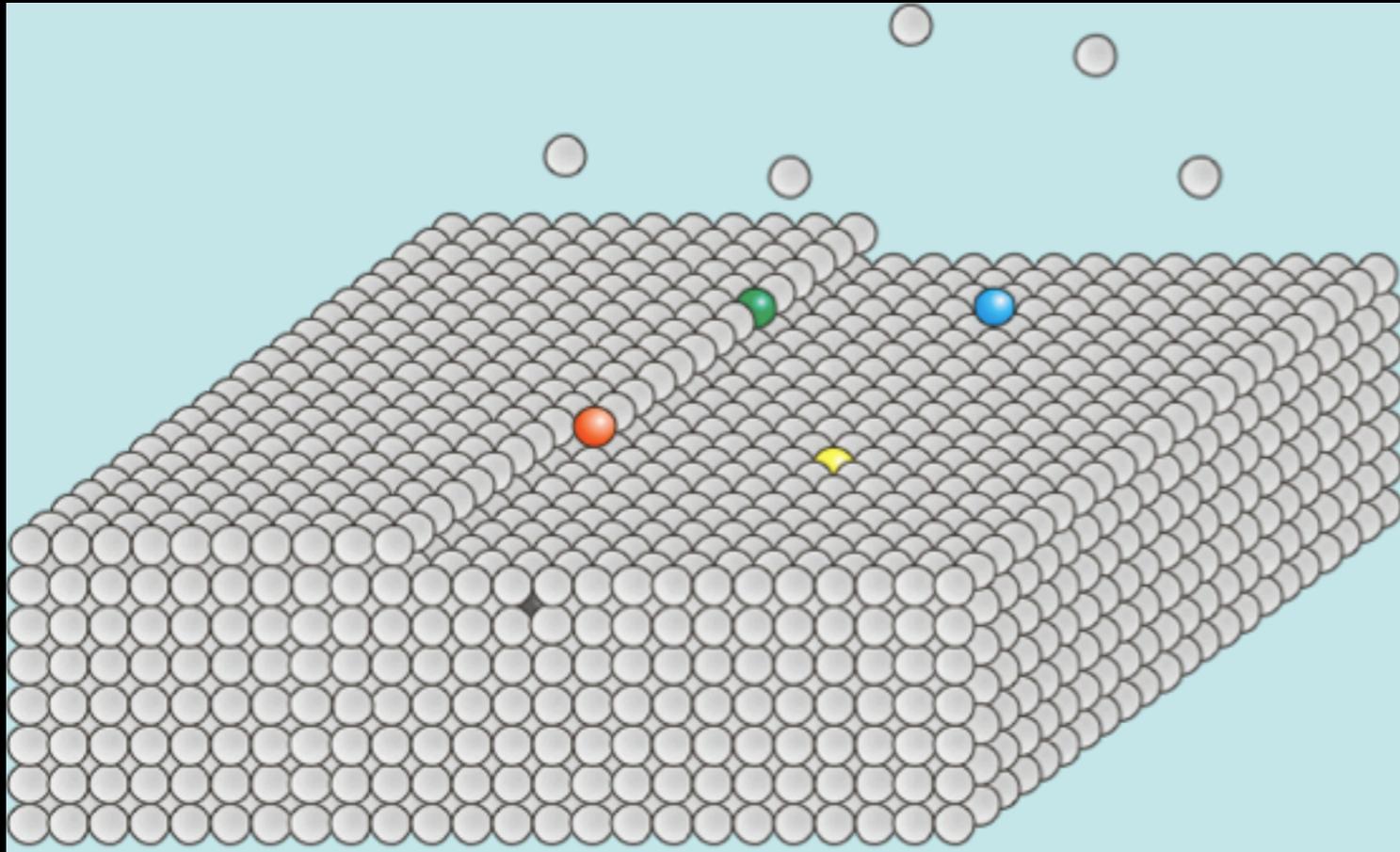




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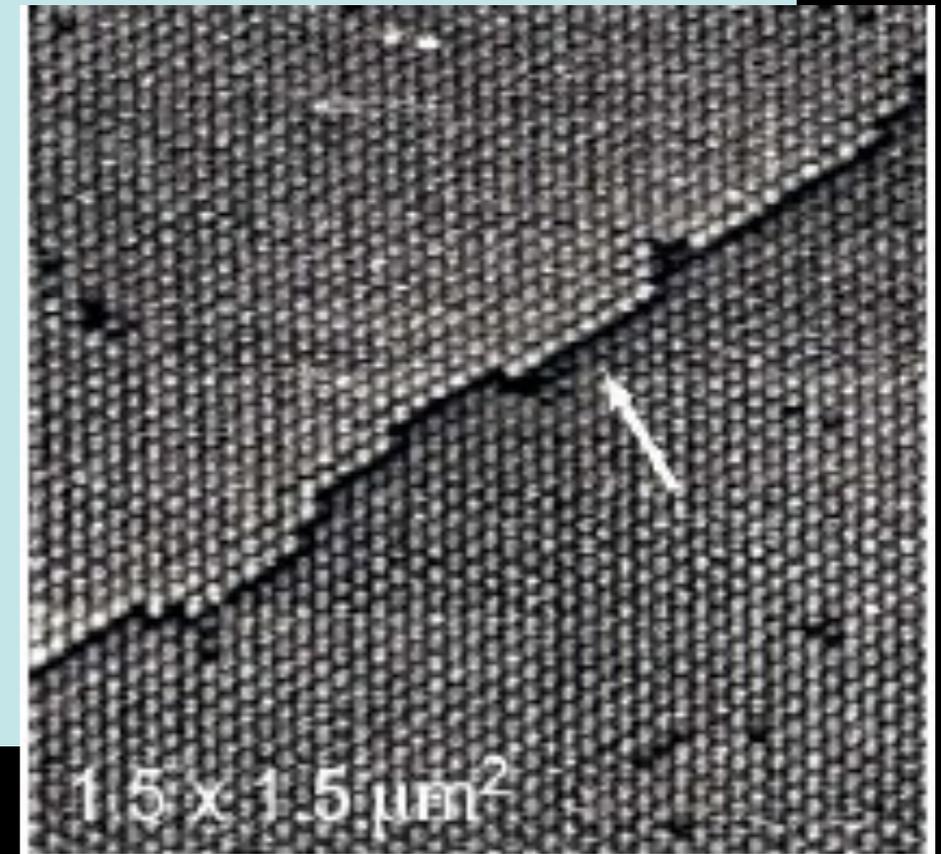
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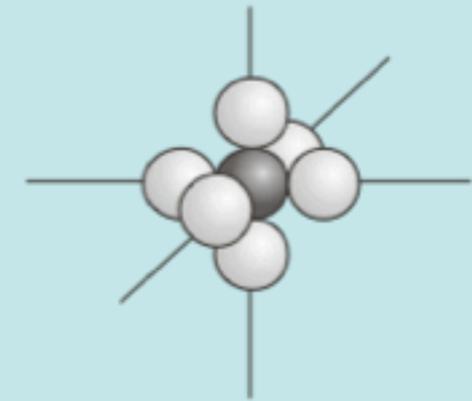
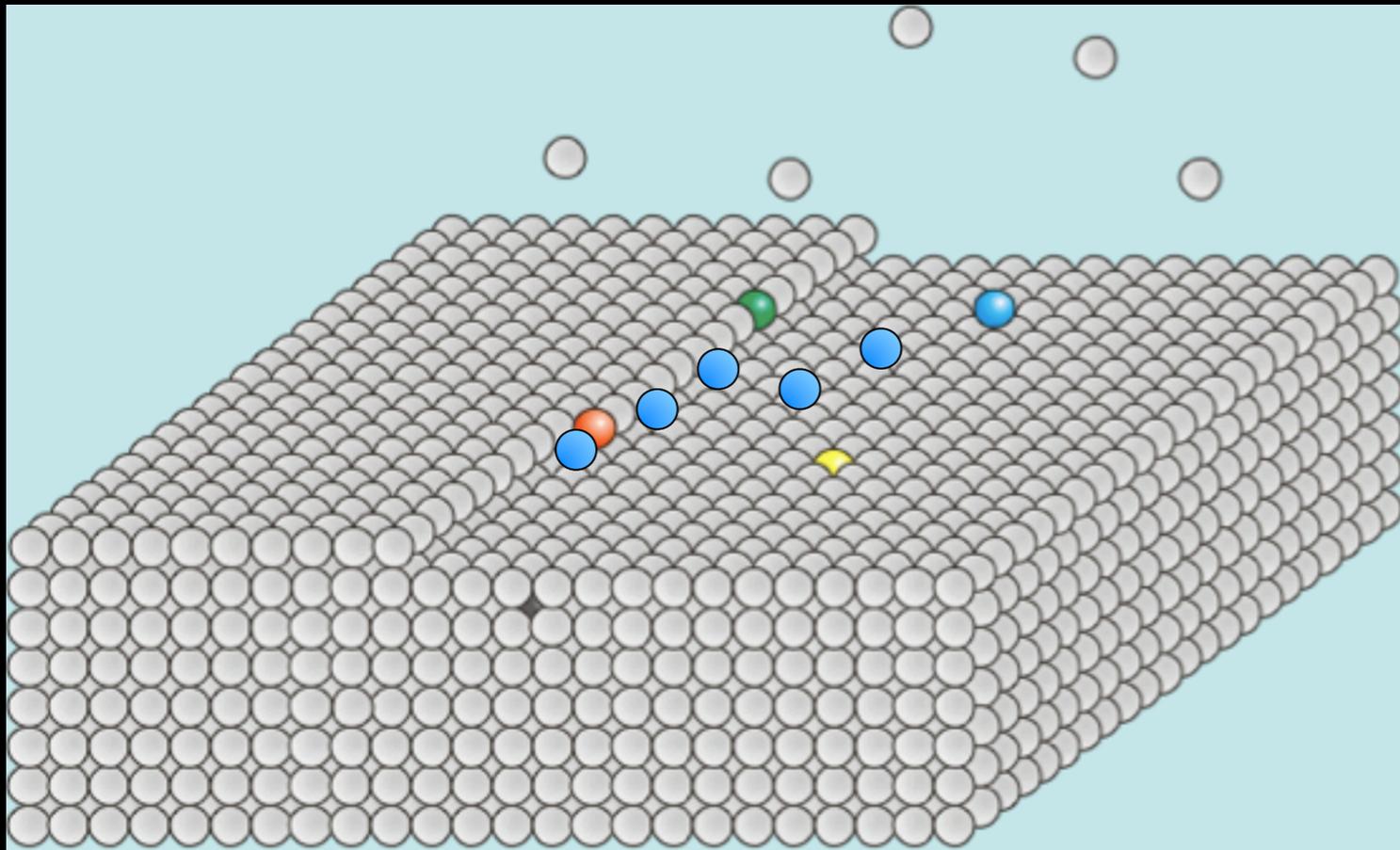




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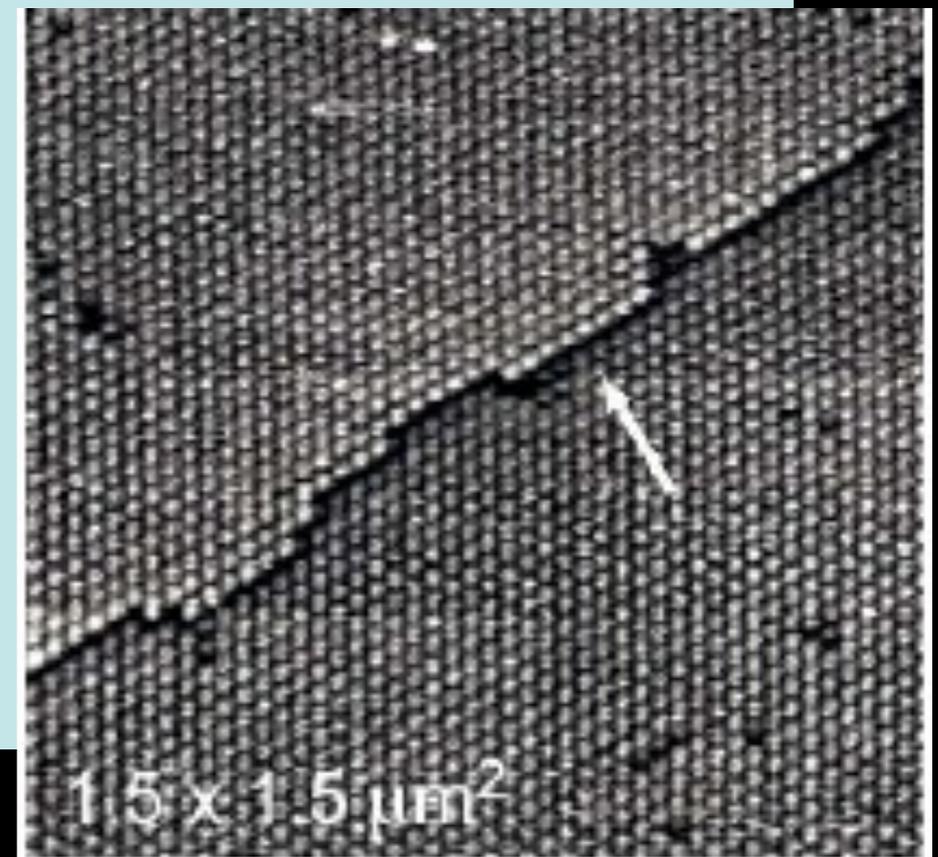
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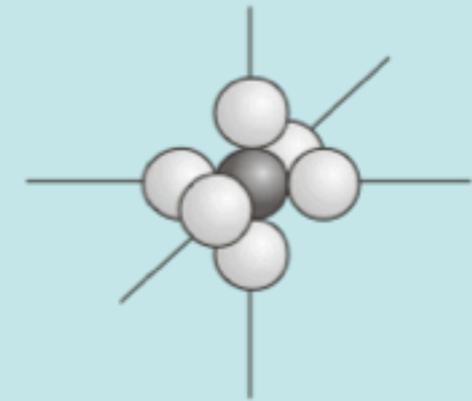
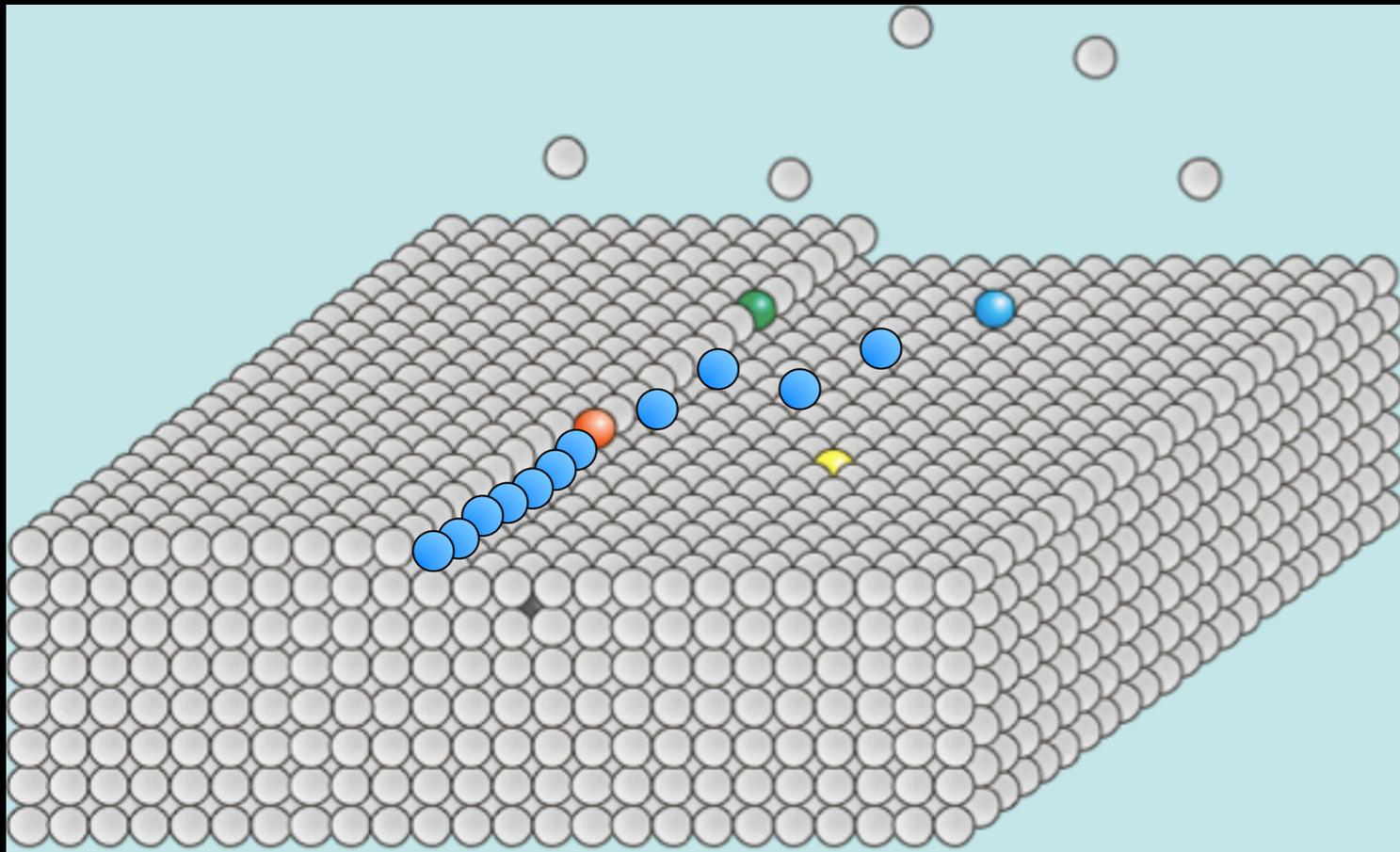




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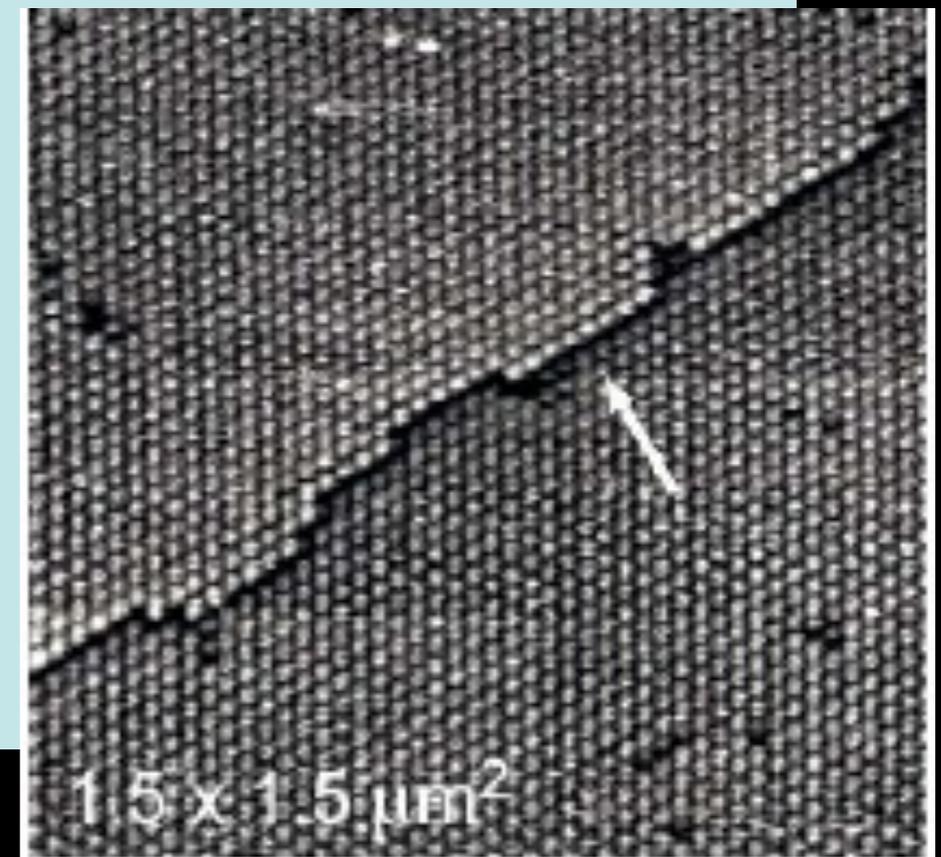
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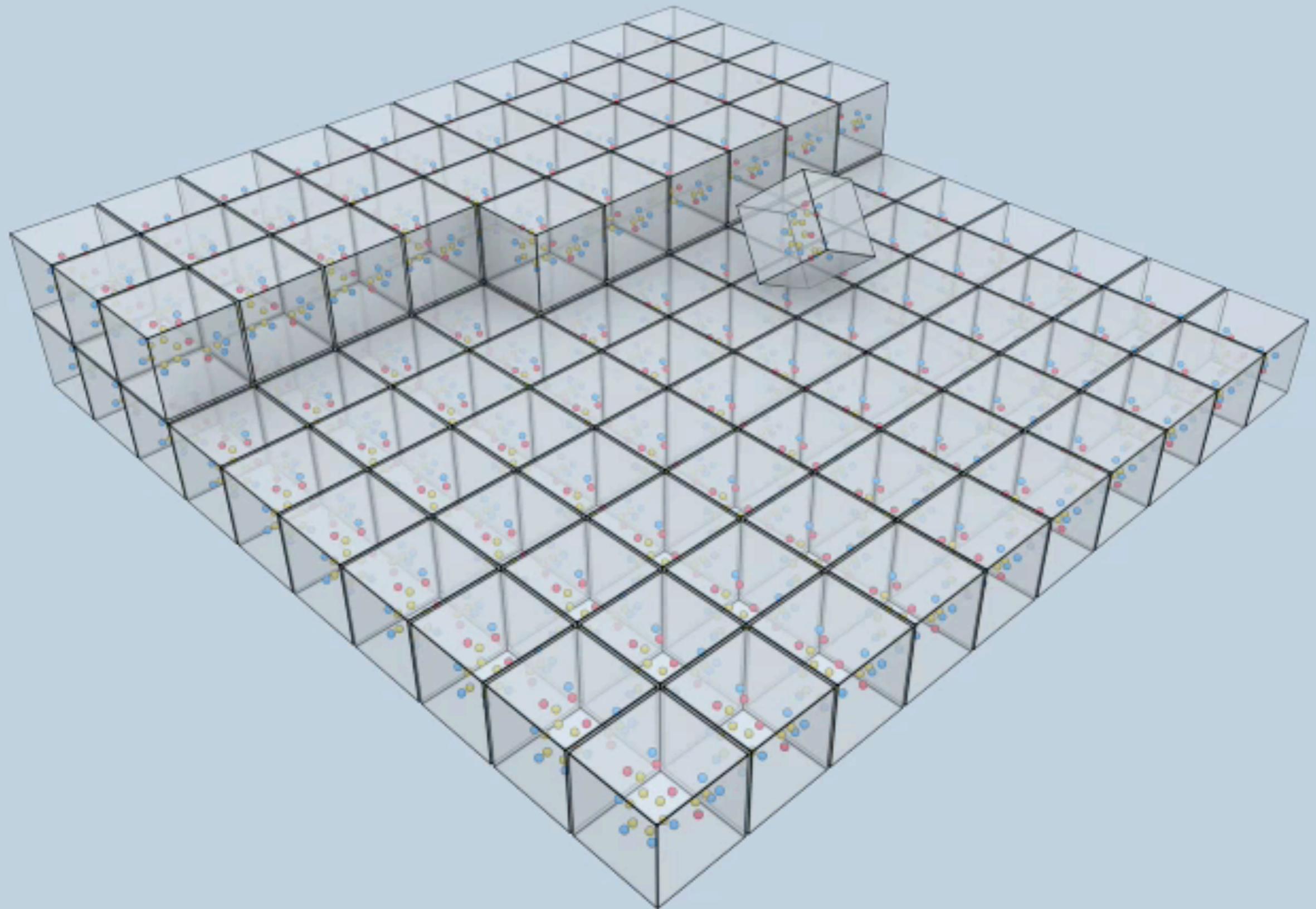


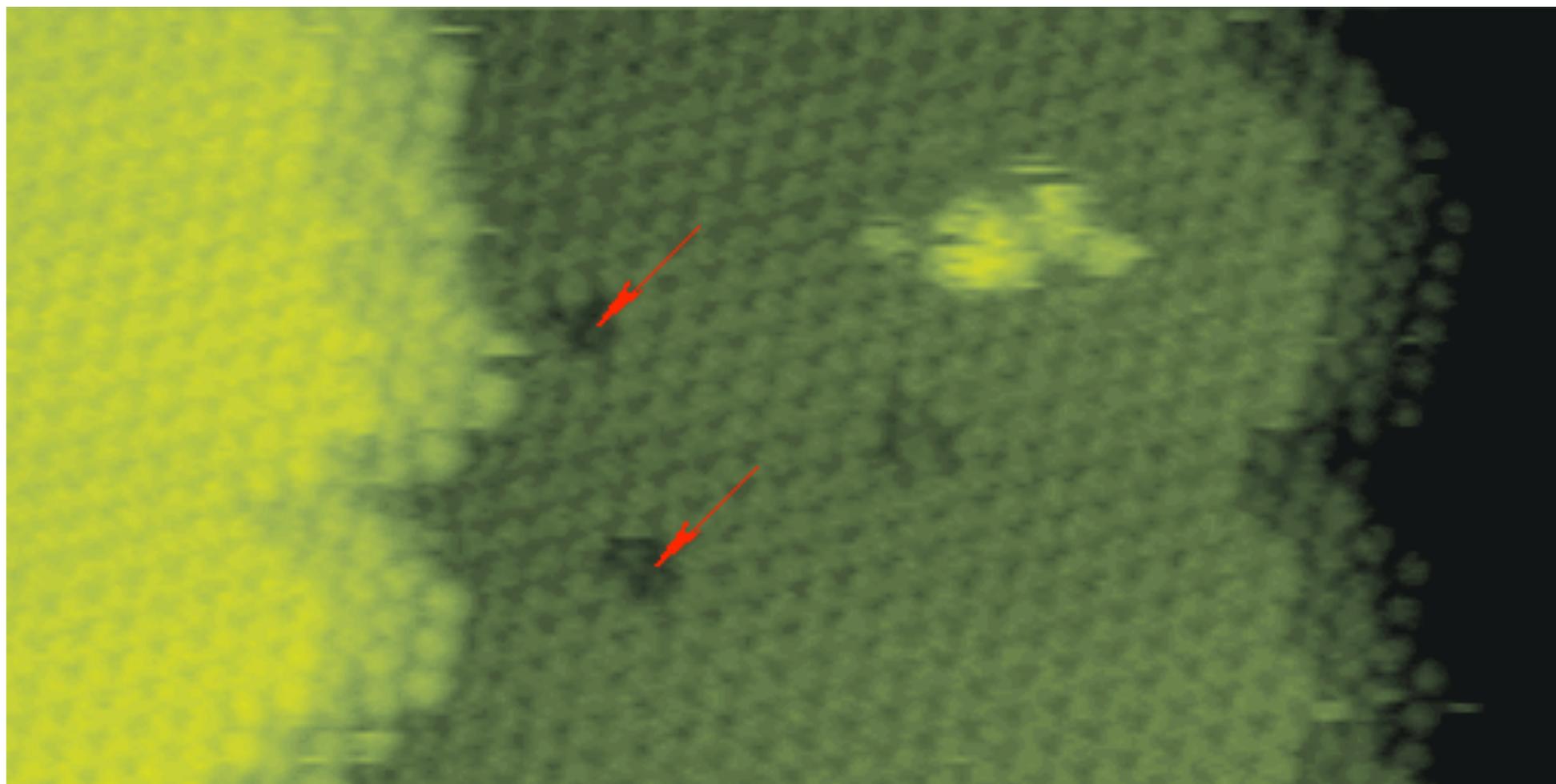


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Movie provided by Vekilov and Georgiou

Crystal Growth Mechanisms

Two-dimensional nucleation

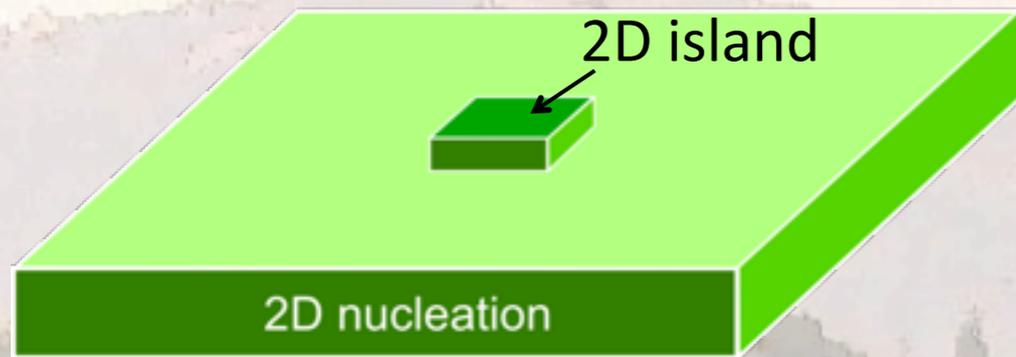
(Birth and Spread growth)

So what happens on perfect flat faces?



(Birth and Spread growth)

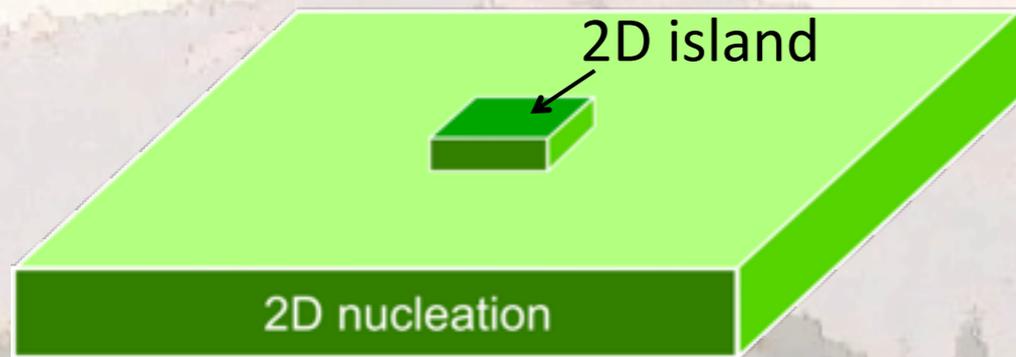
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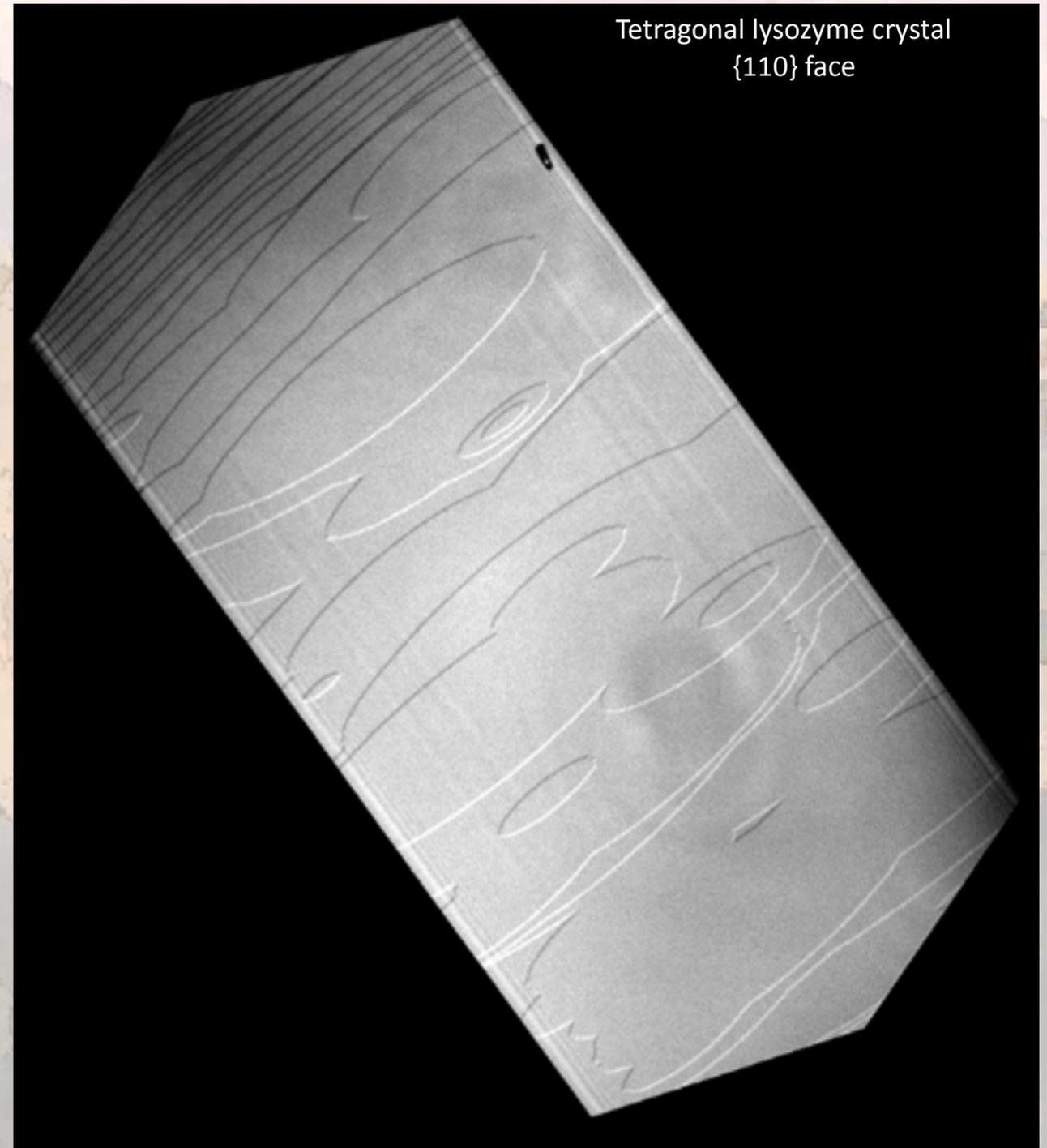
Steps are created by a process of two-dimensional nucleation: (\approx 3D nucleation)

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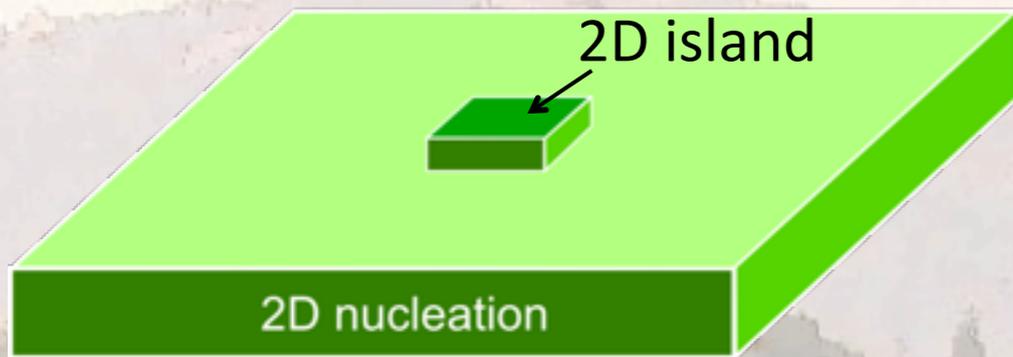


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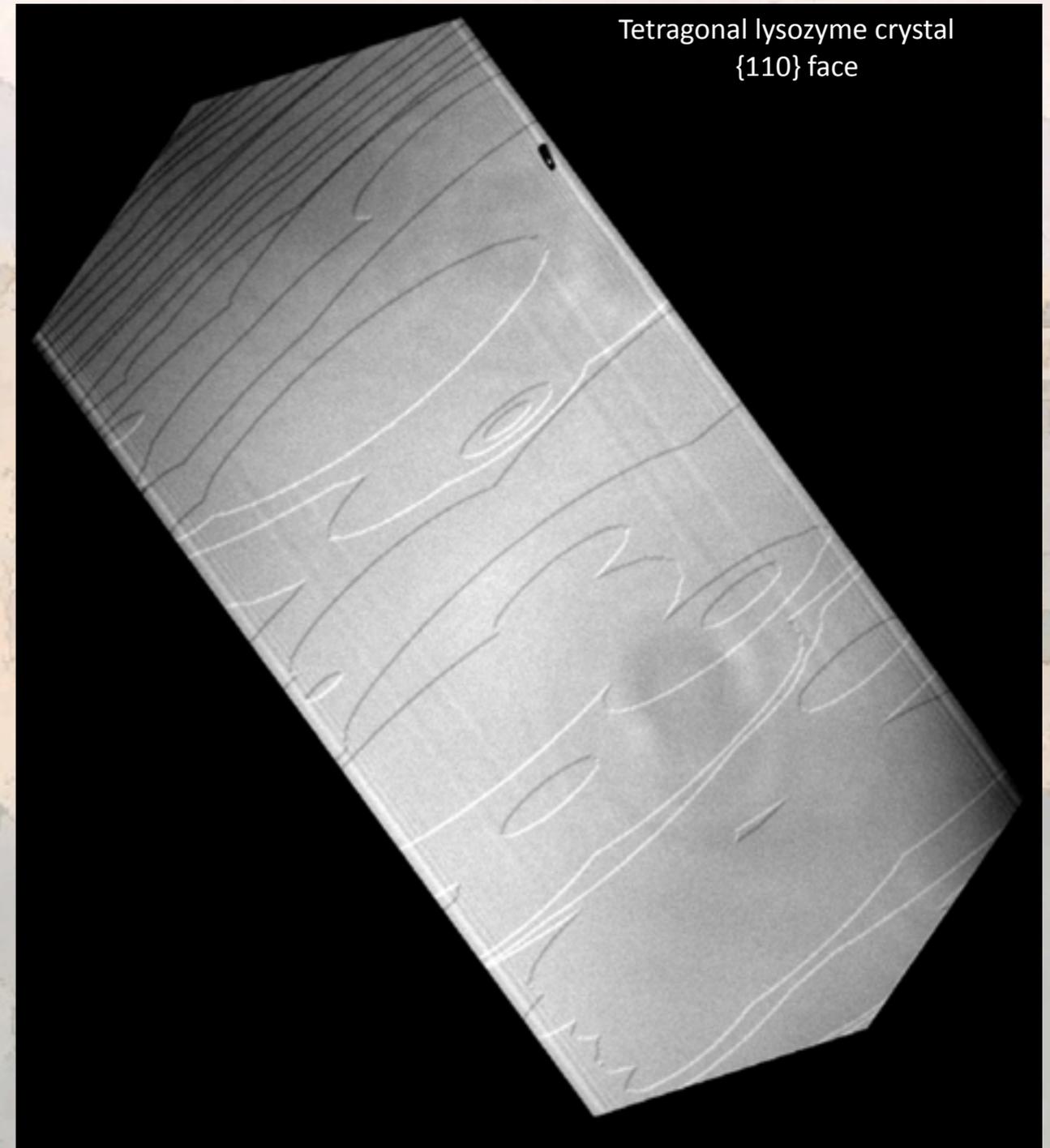
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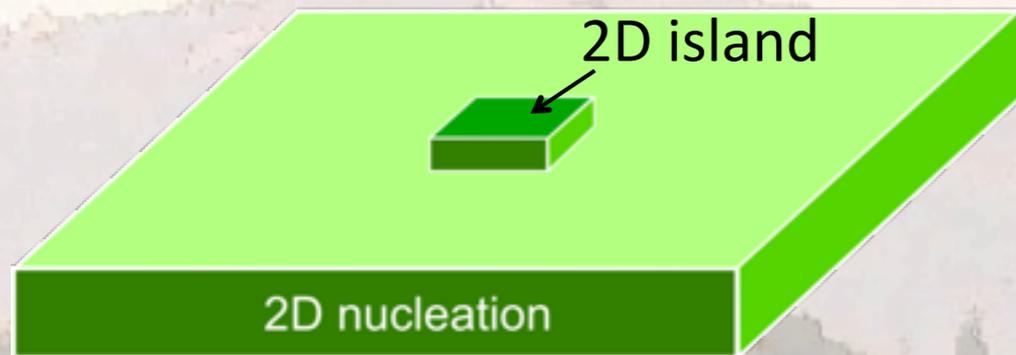
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- Nucleation barrier is involved
- Minimum supersaturation is required



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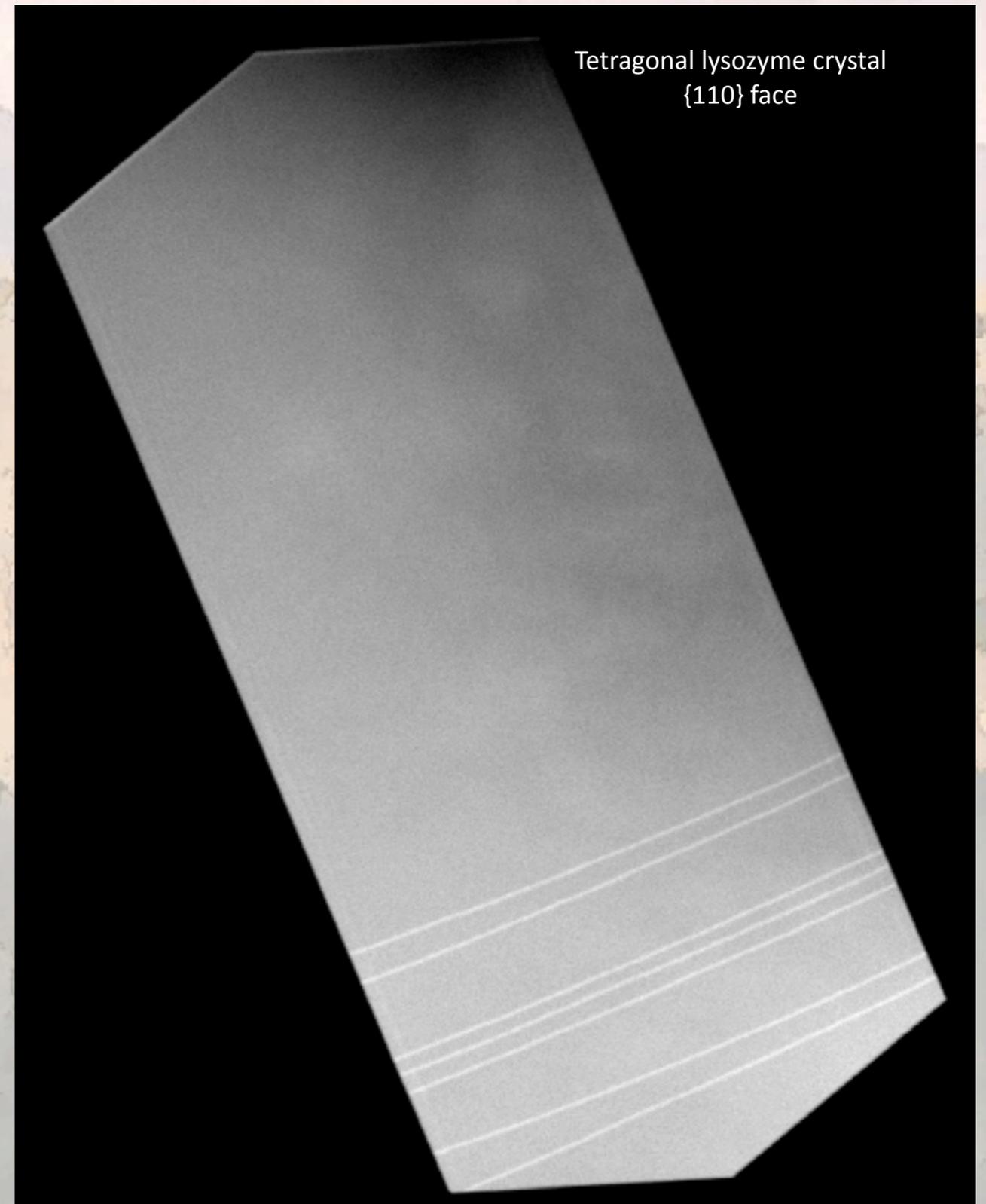
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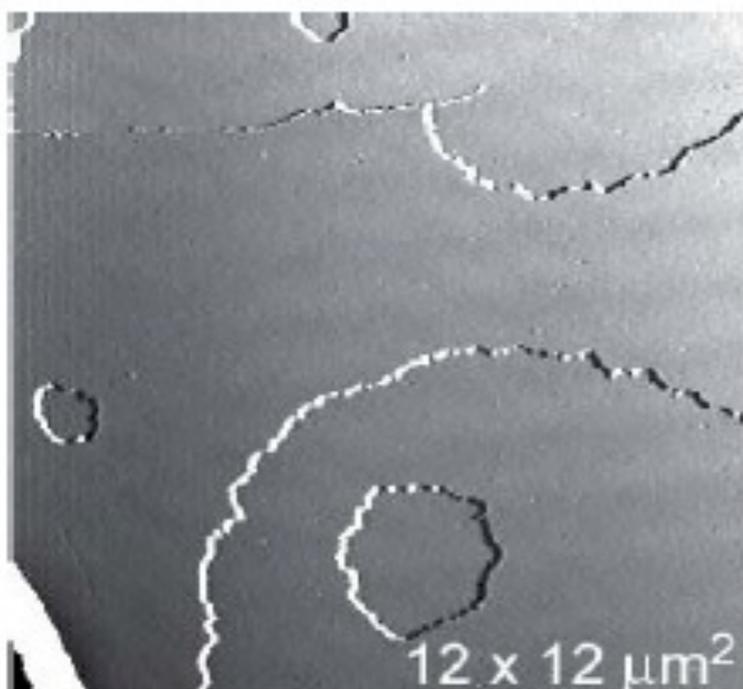


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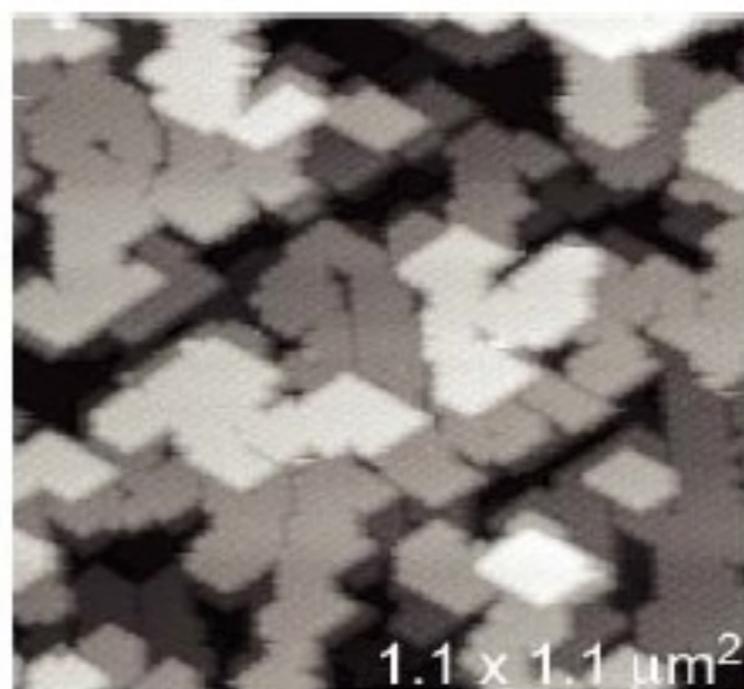
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Below a critical driving force no 2D nuclei will form...

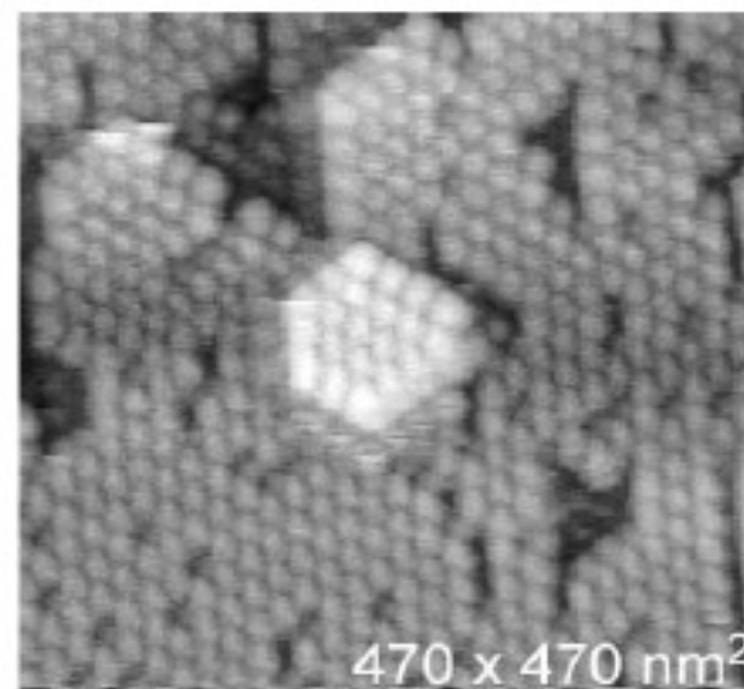




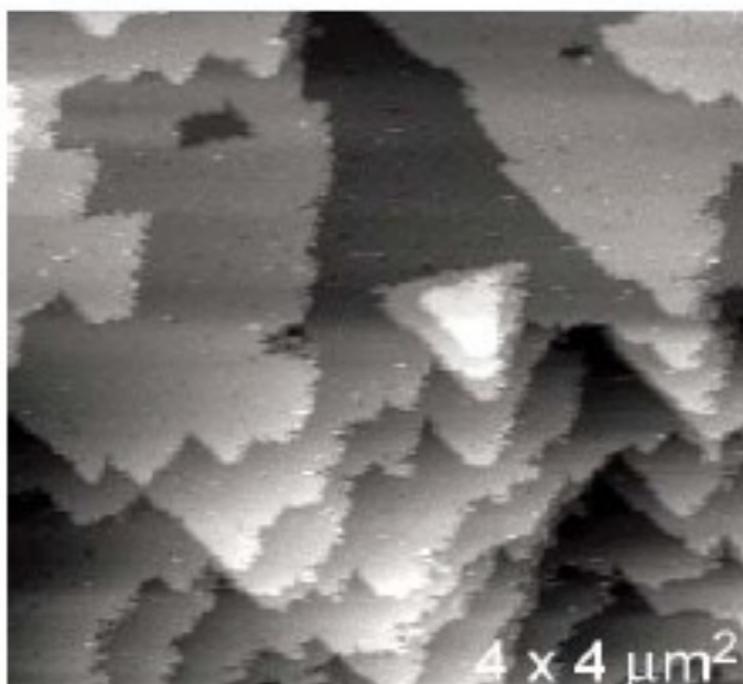
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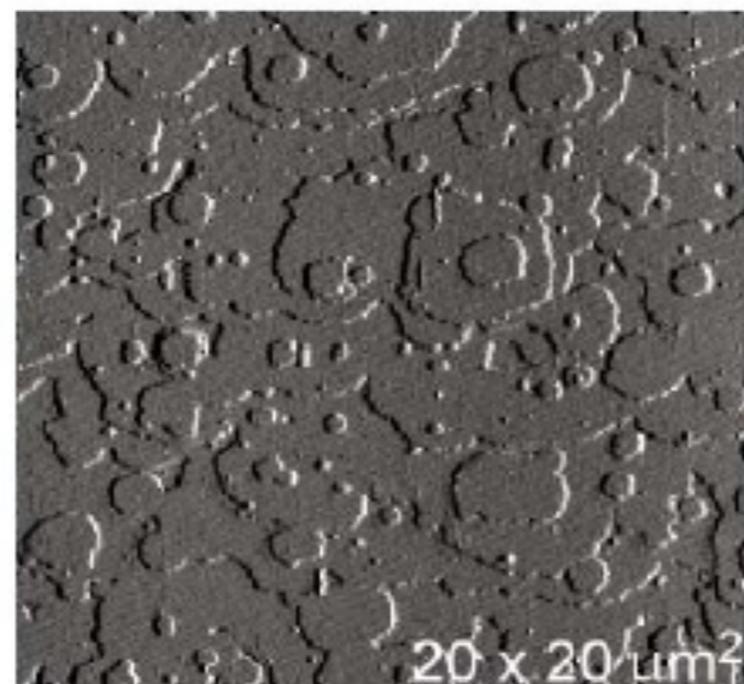
b



c



d



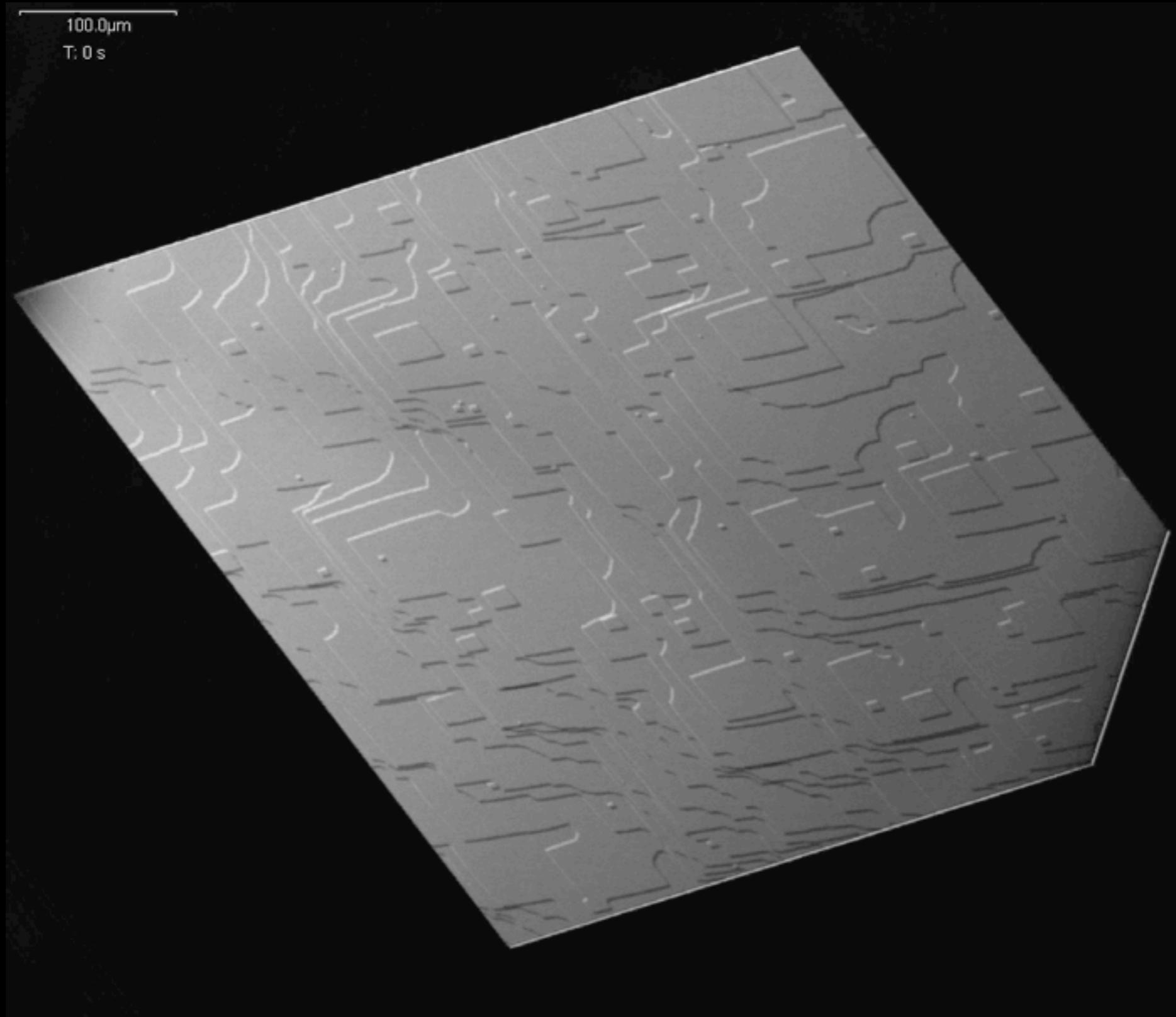
e



f

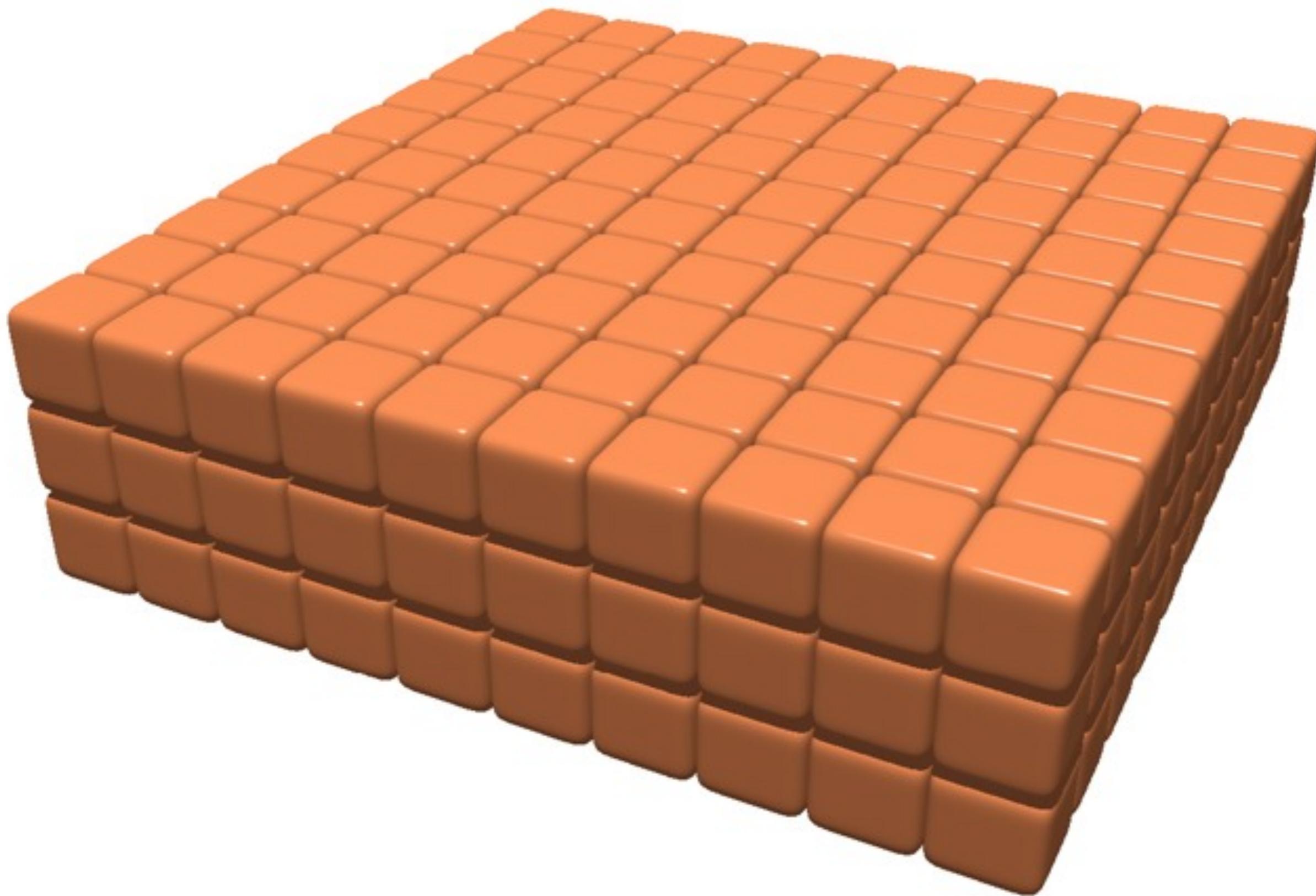
A. McPherson, Y. G. Kuznetsov, A. Malkin & M. Plomp, Macromolecular Crystal Growth As Revealed By Atomic Force Microscopy

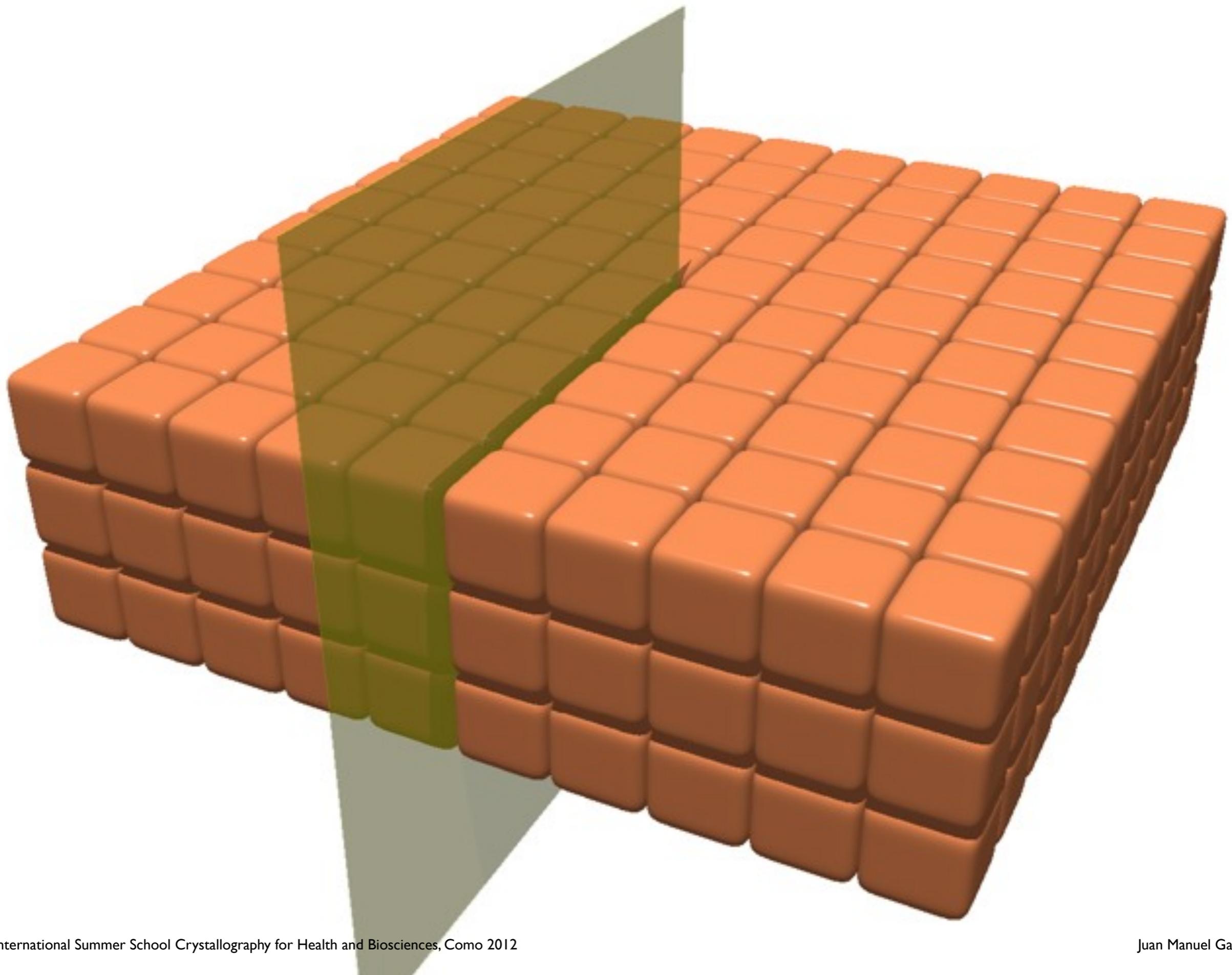
Two dimensional nucleation

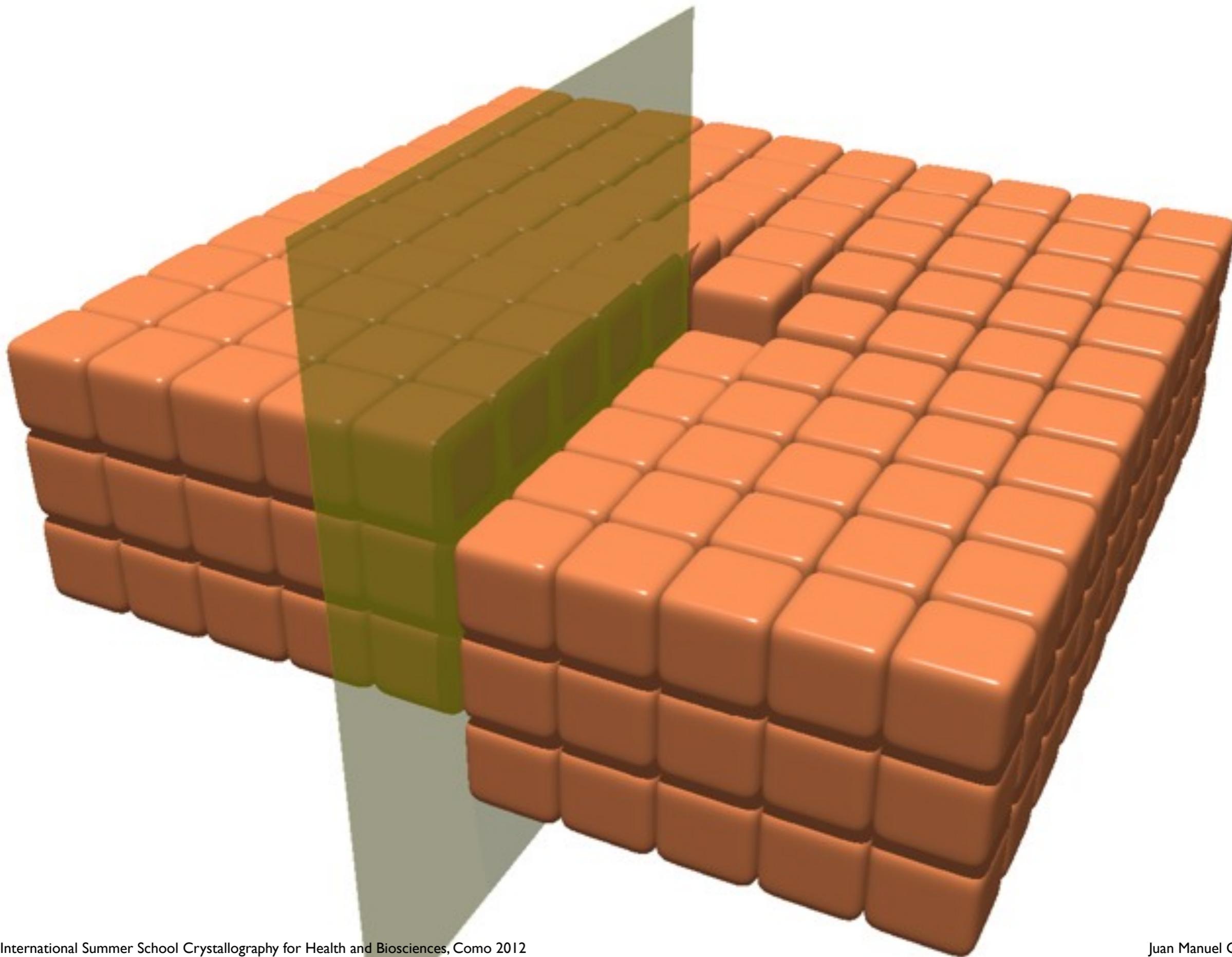


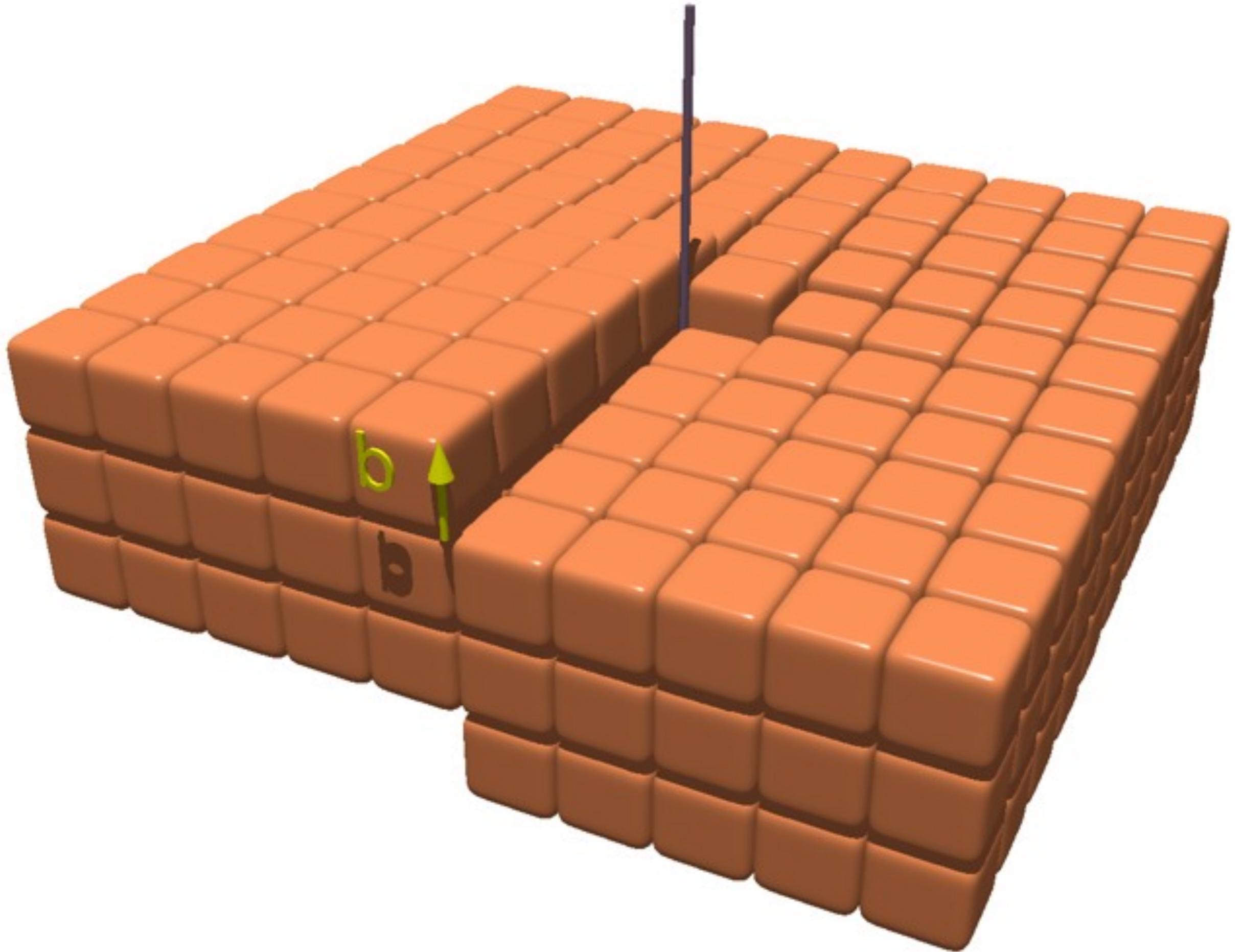
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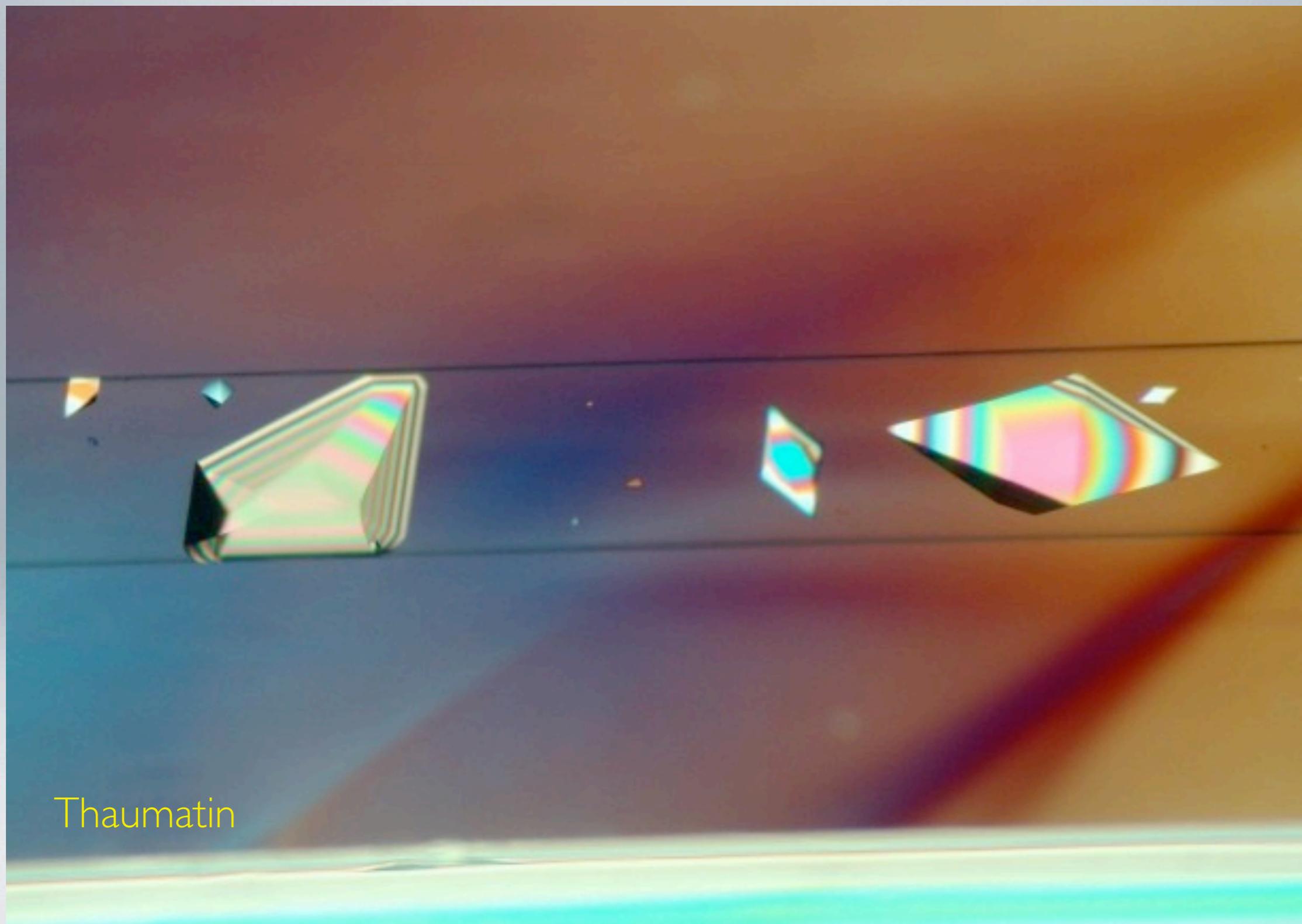
Screw dislocation



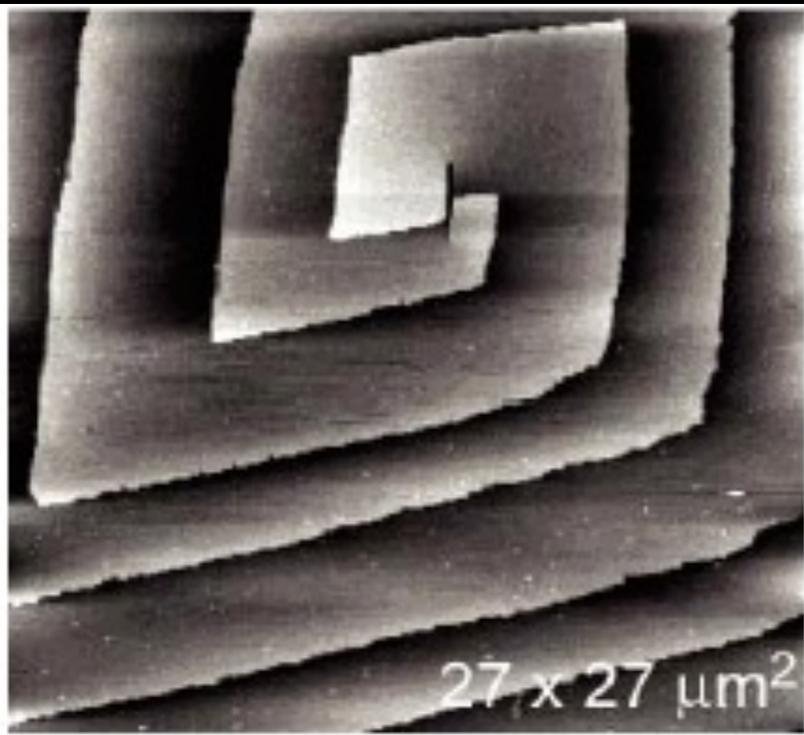




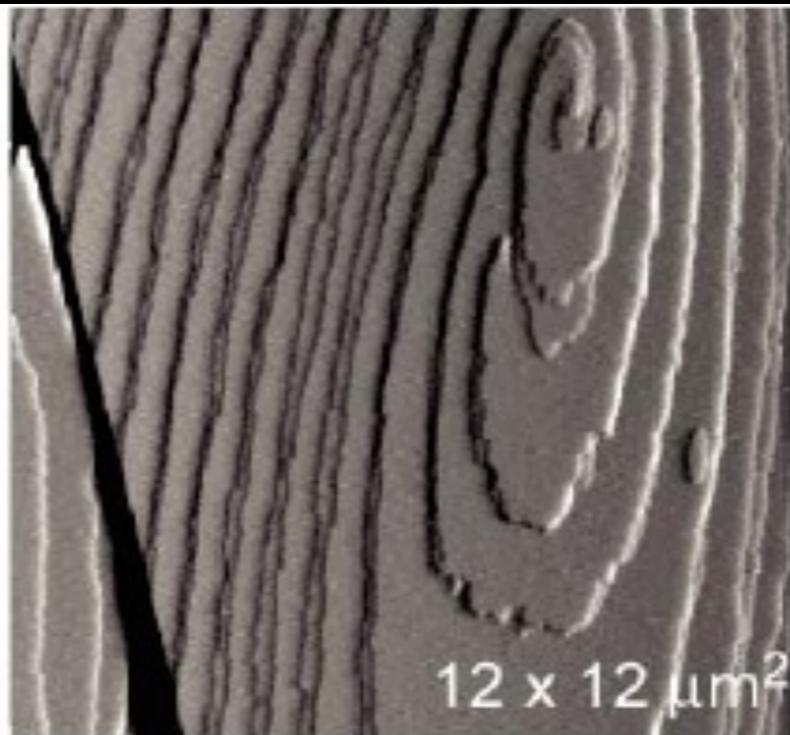




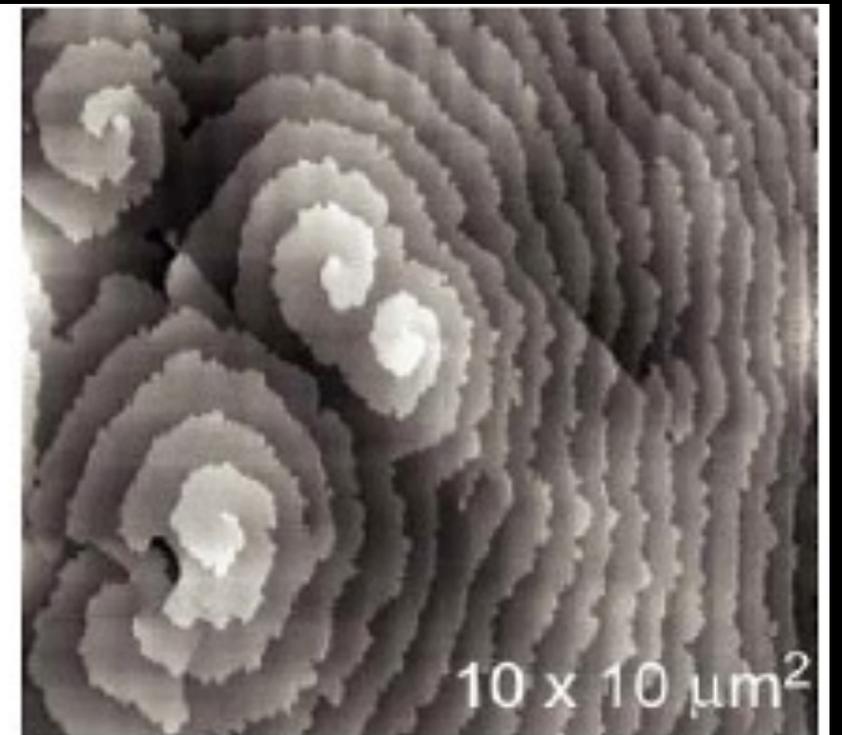
Thaumatin



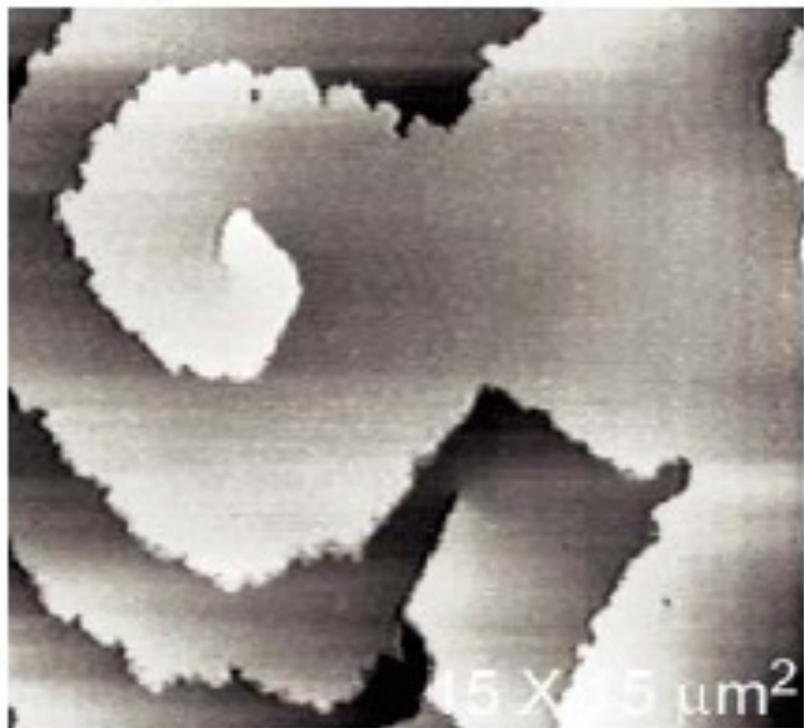
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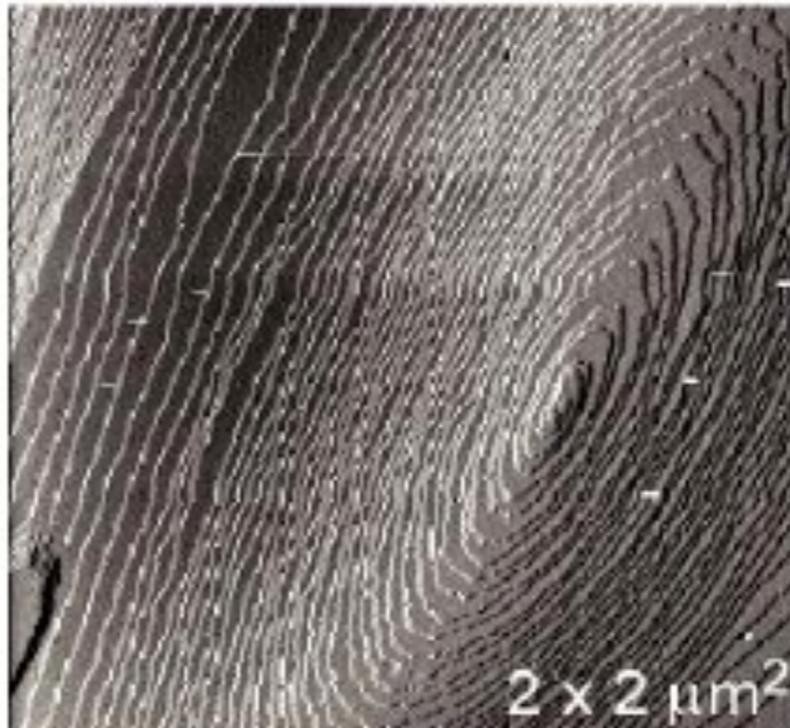
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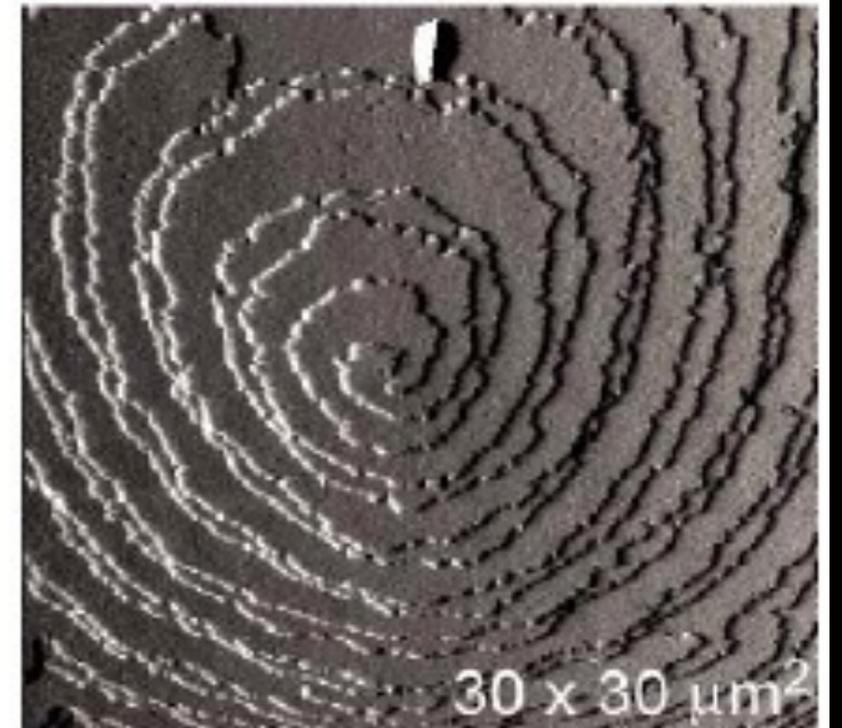
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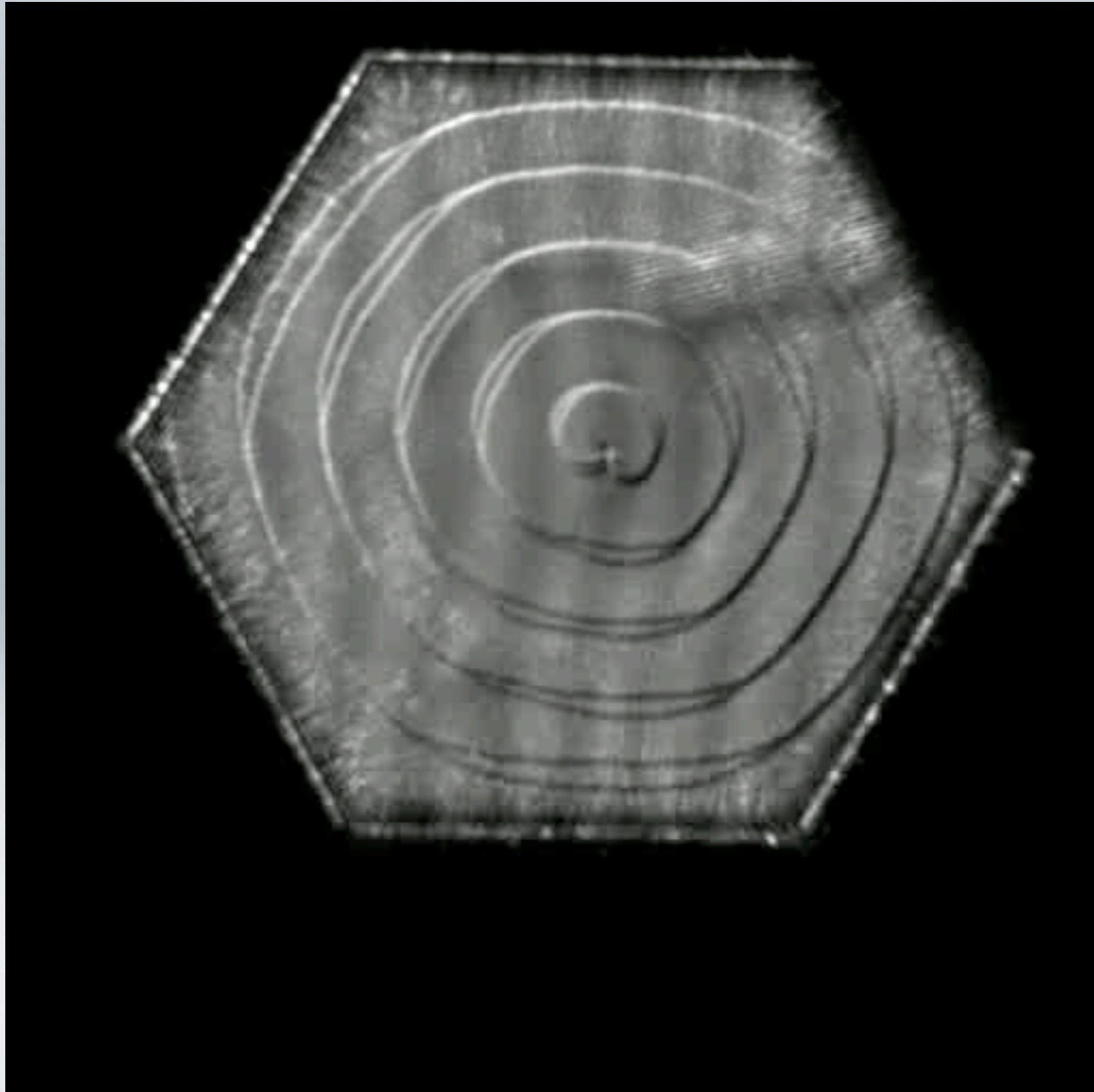
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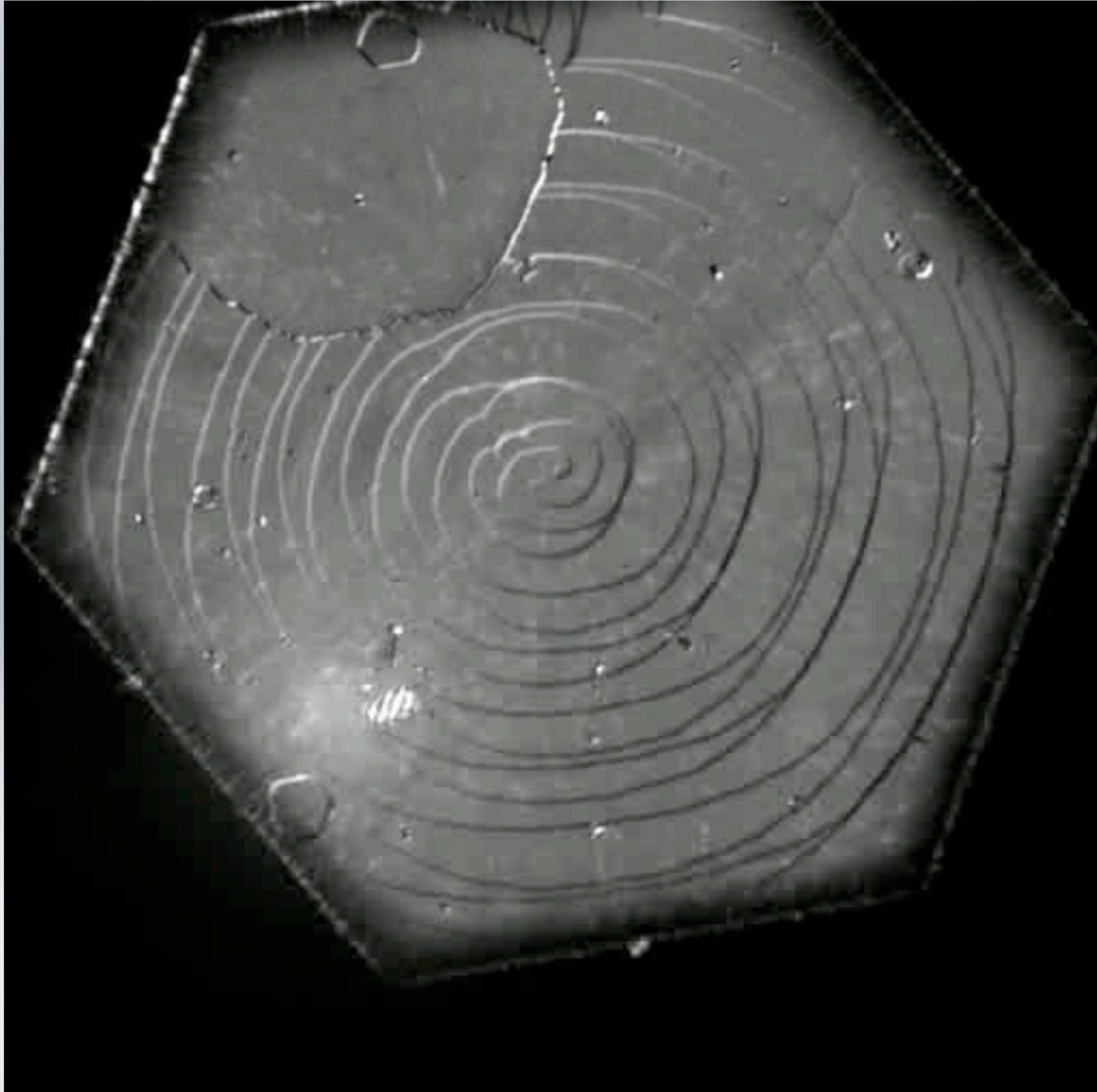
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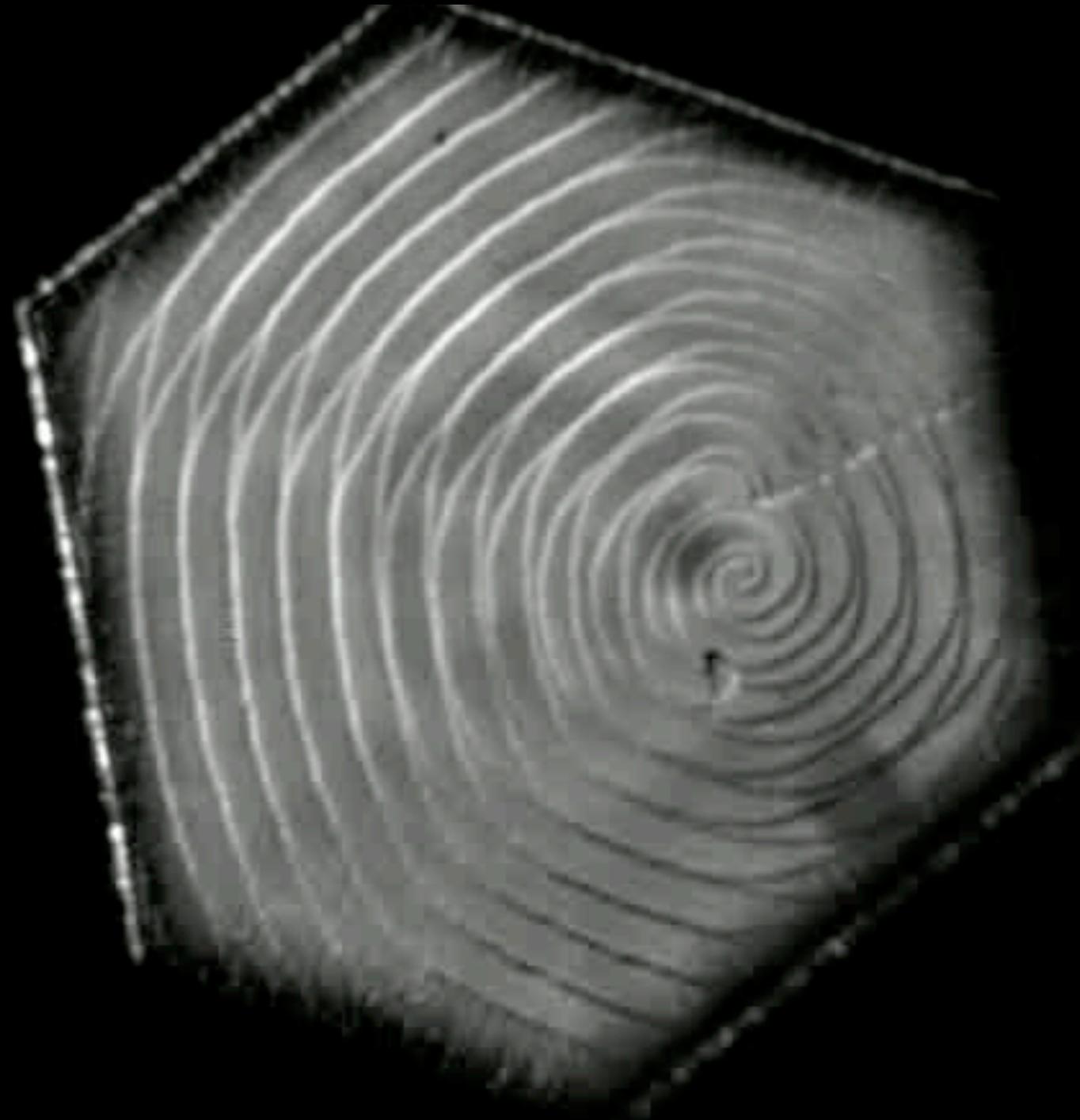
Screw dislocation growth

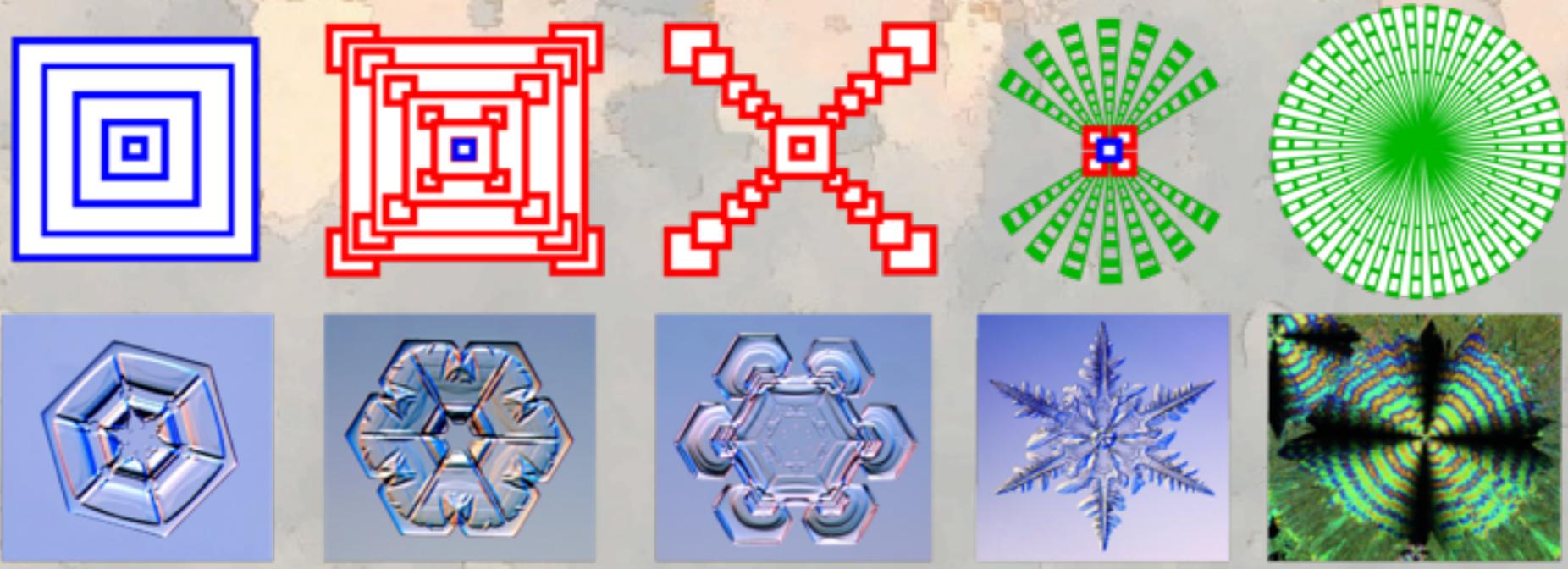
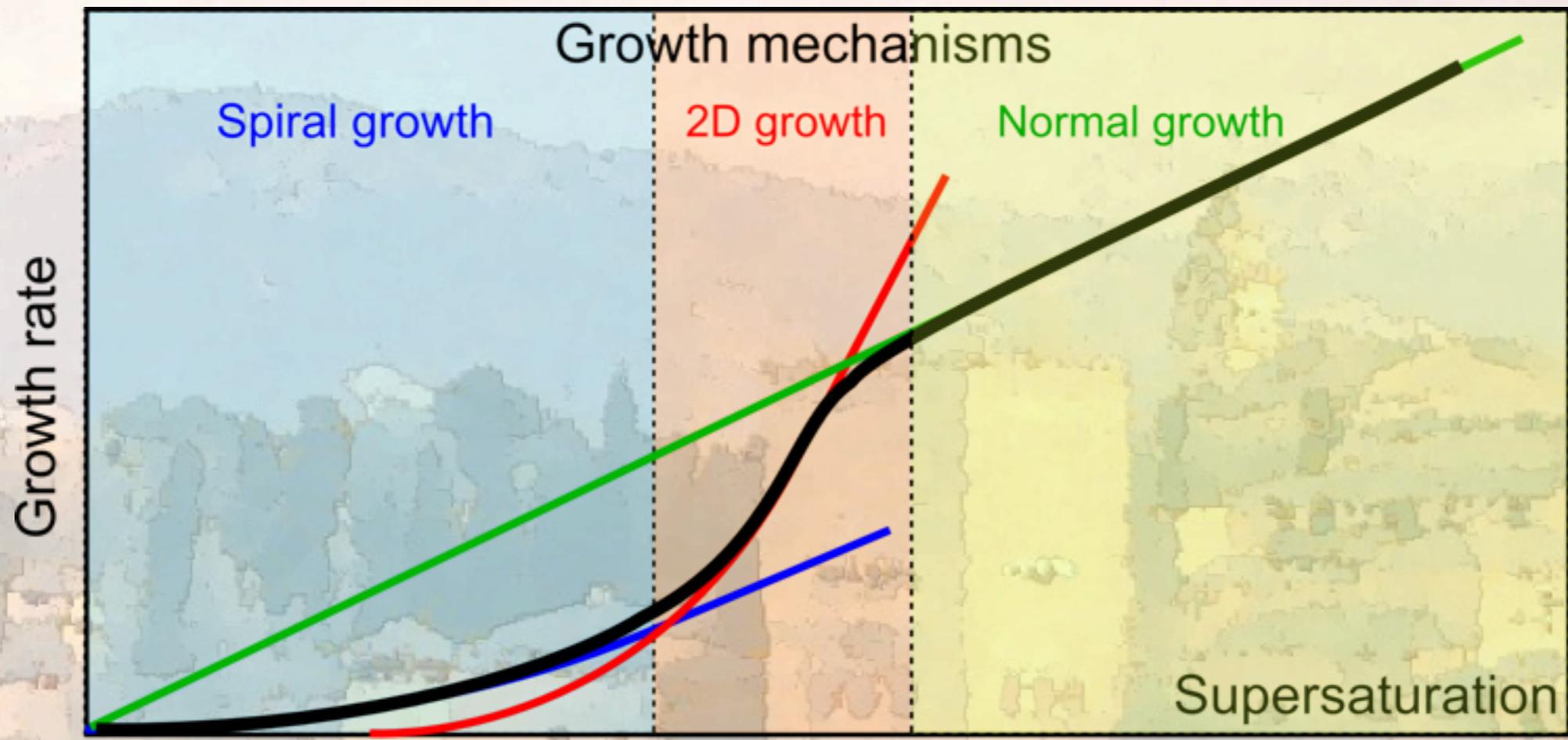


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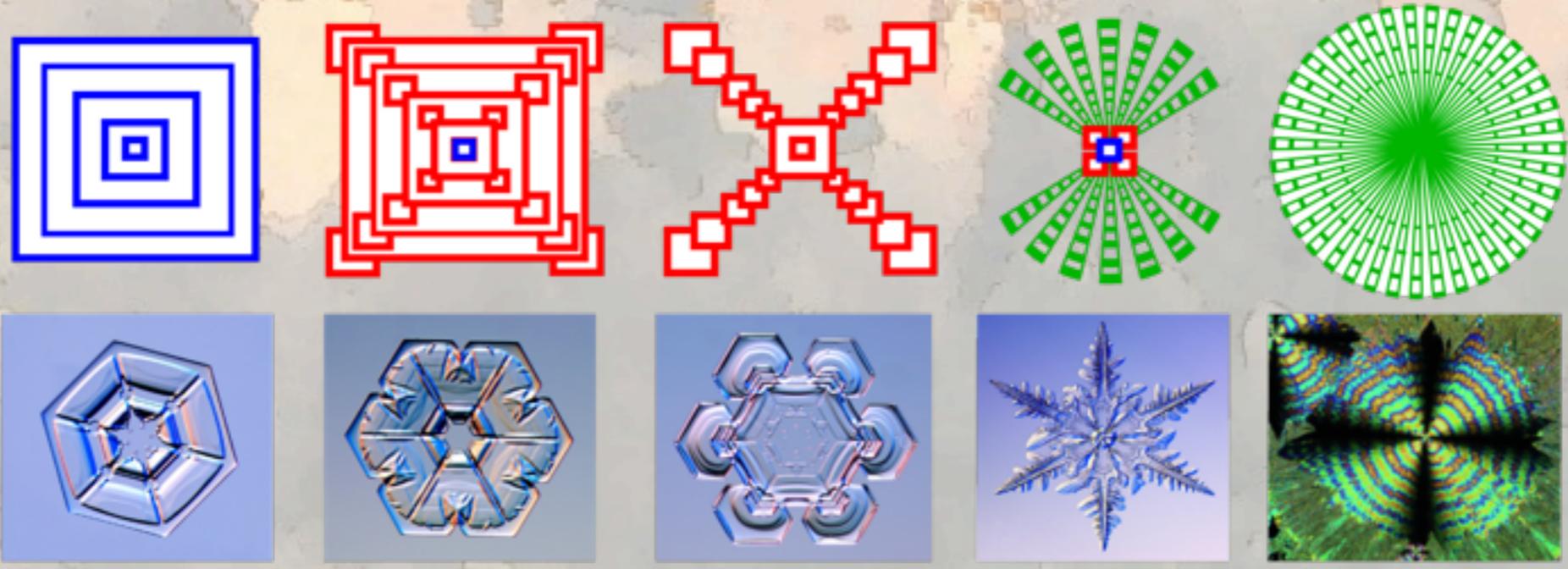
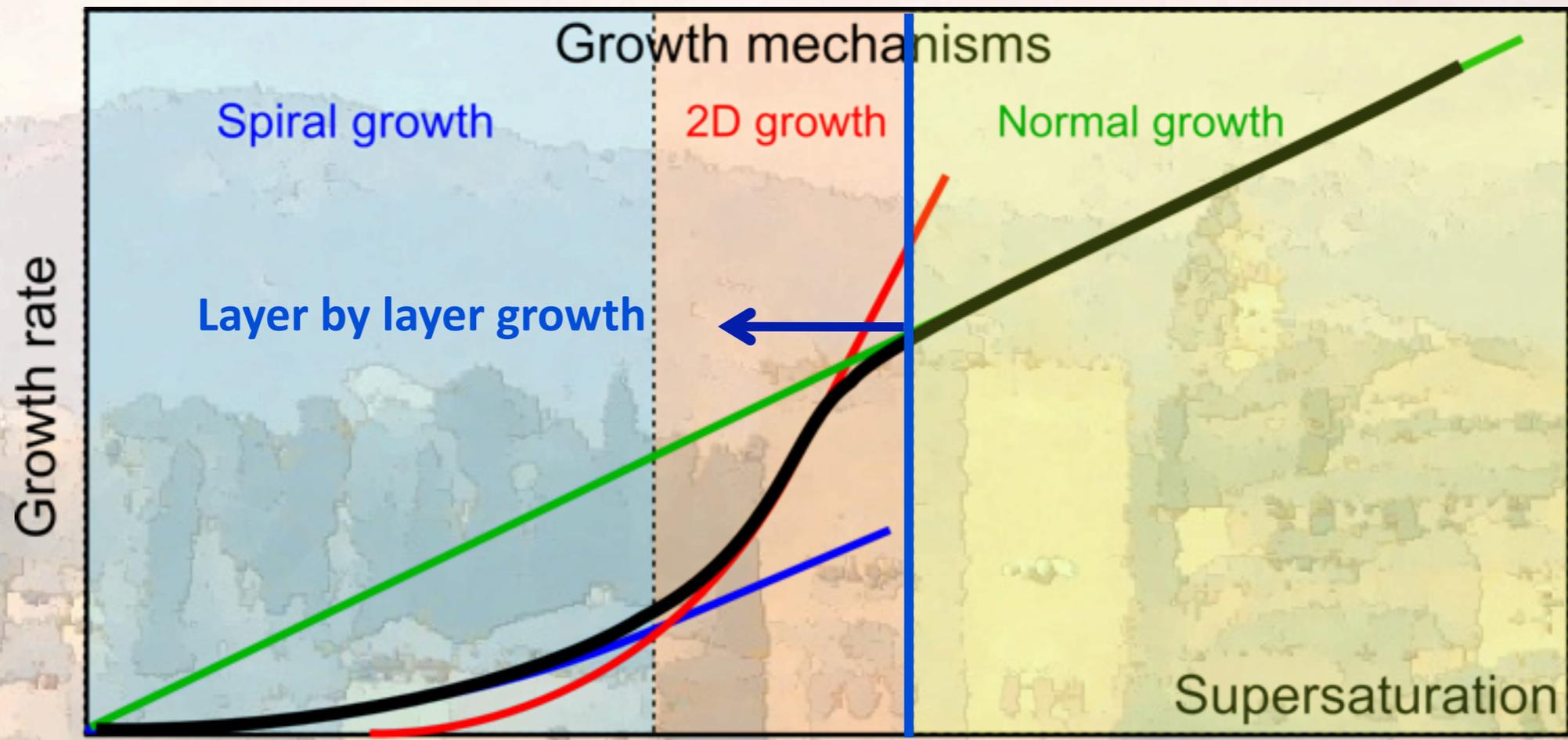


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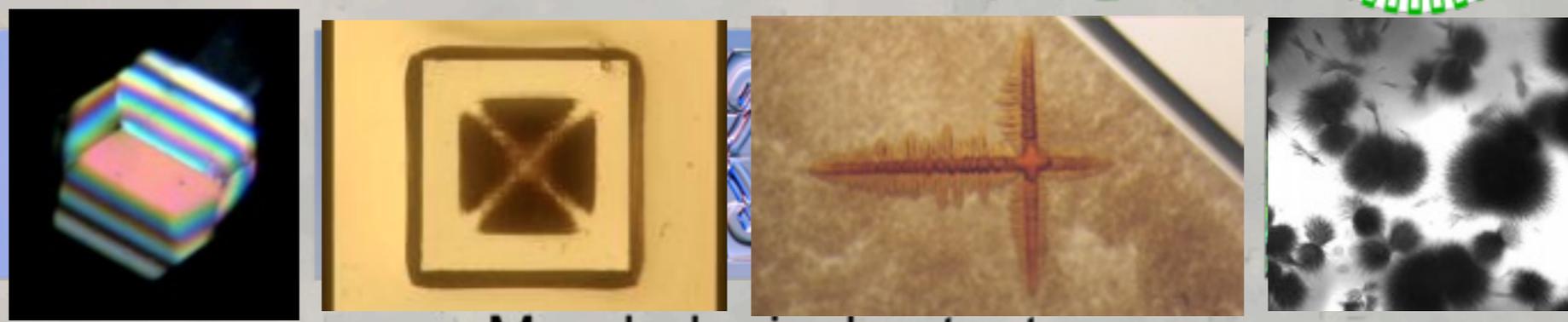
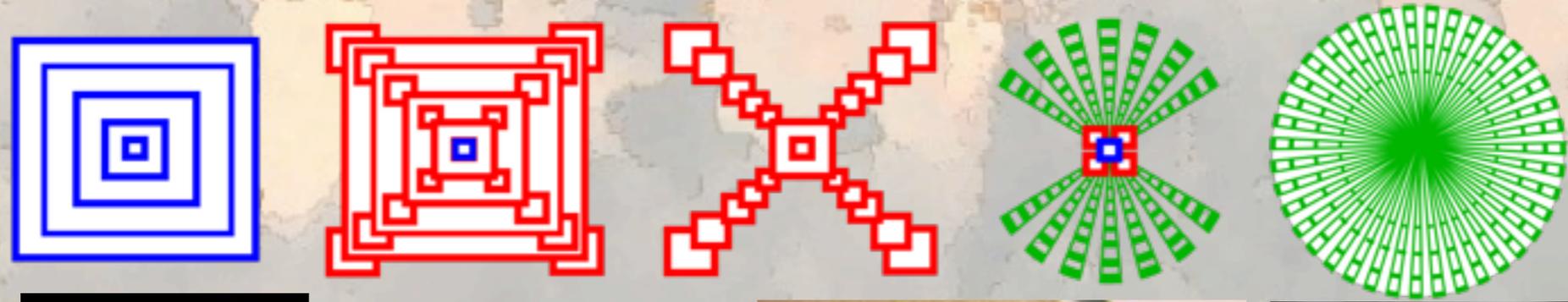
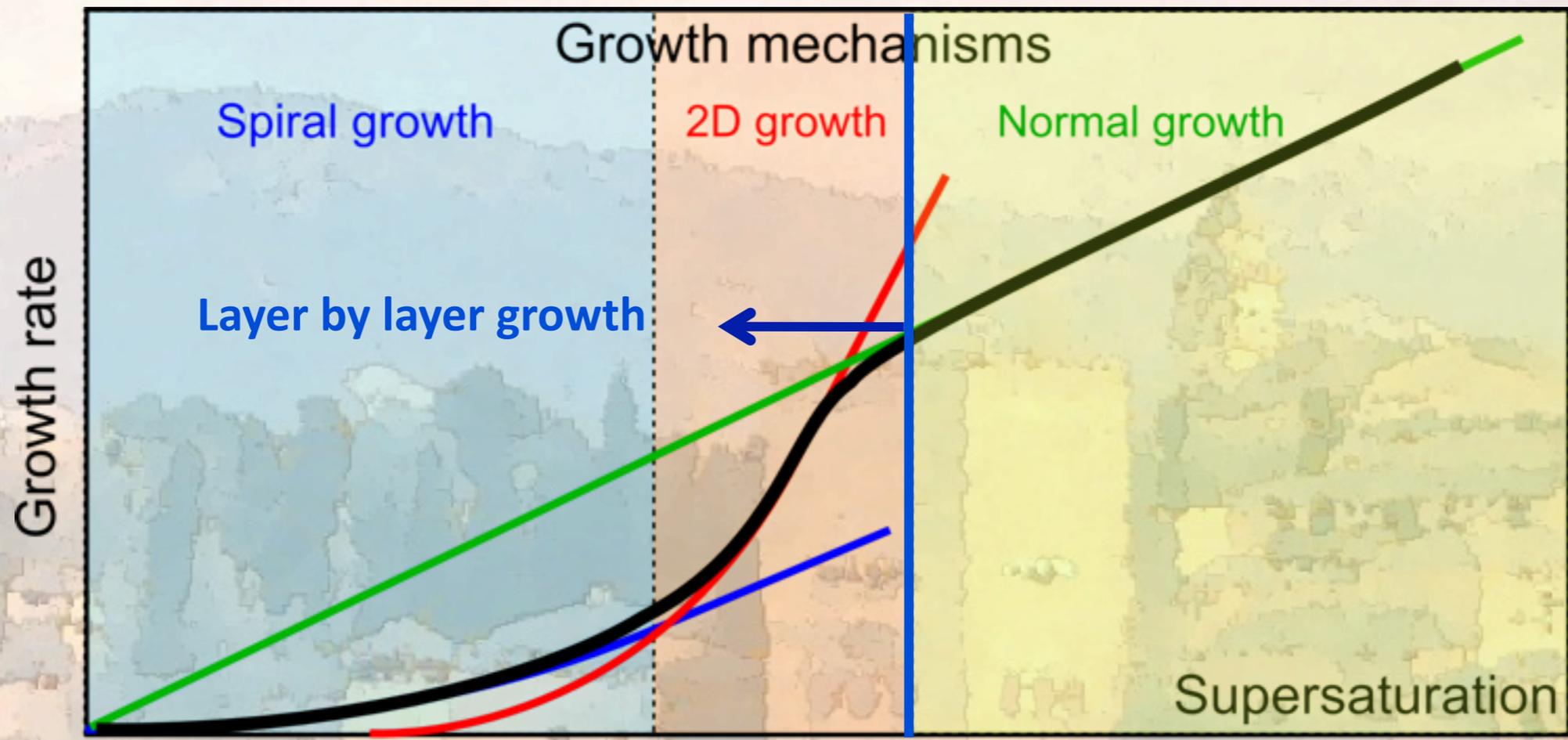




Morphological output



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