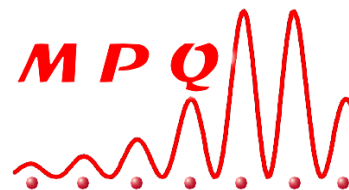
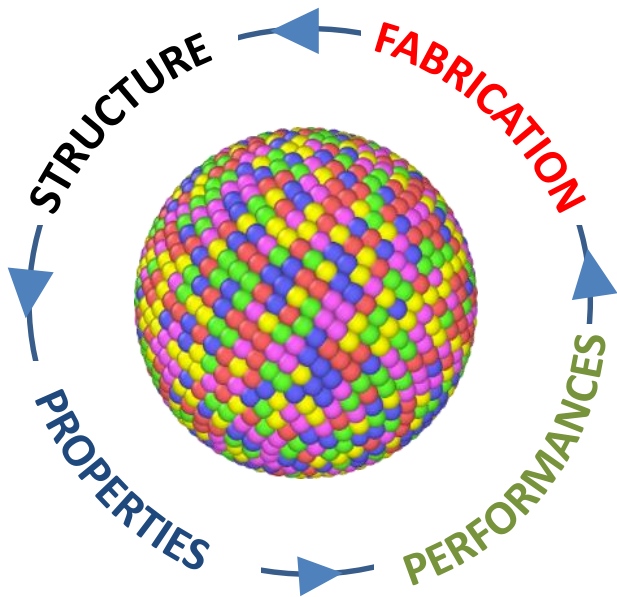


Nucleation and growth of nanoparticles in liquid phase

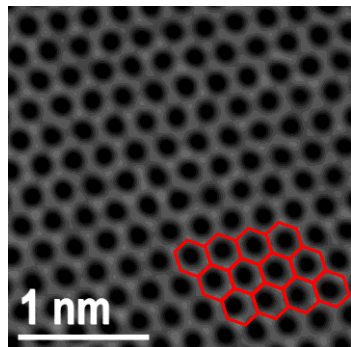
Damien Alloyeau



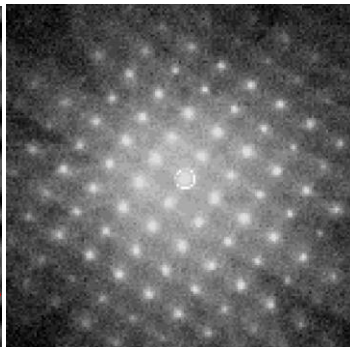


- Double-corrected
- Centurio Large-angle EDS
- 4D-STEM
- Cold FEG (0.3 eV)
- One view camera
- GIF Quantum ER
- Tomography
- In situ TEM holders

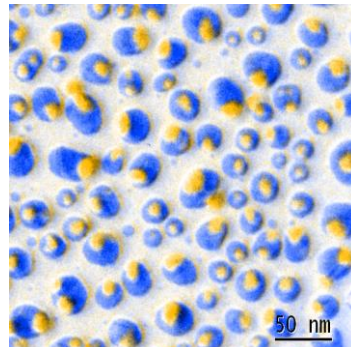
Sub-Angstrom imaging



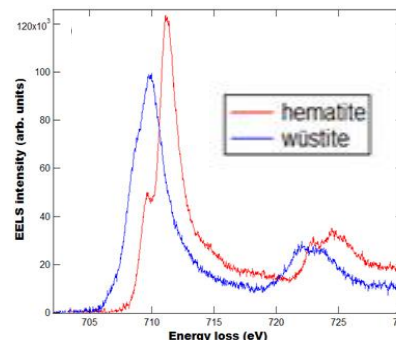
Electron diffraction



Chemical mapping

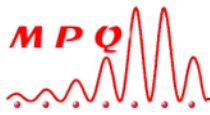


EELS spectroscopy



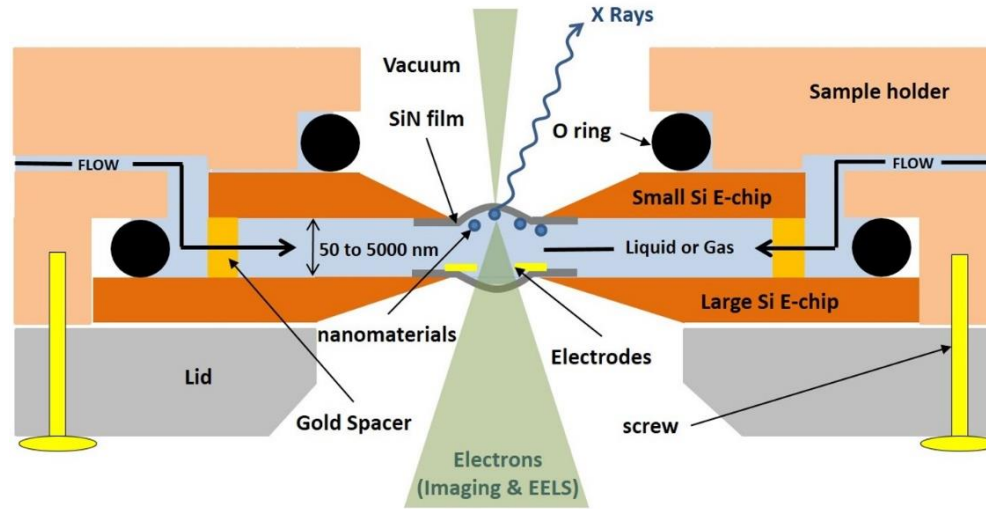
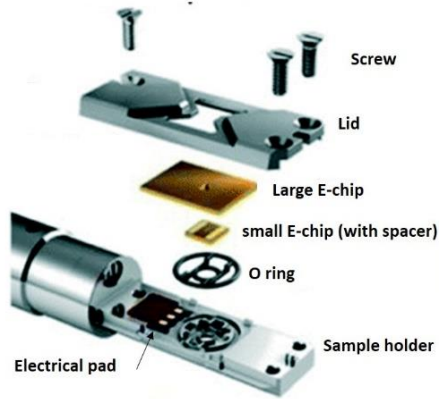
3D Imaging





Nanomaterials dynamics in their formation and application media

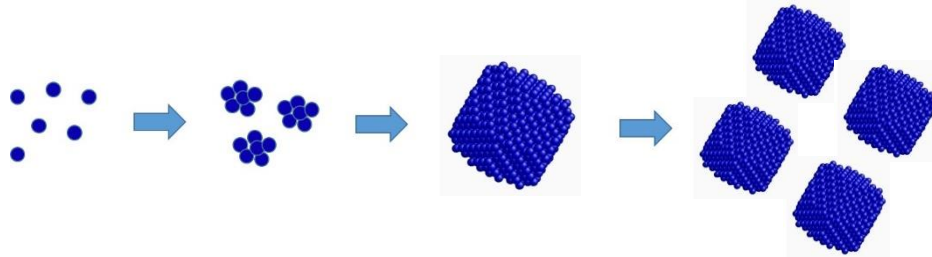
RPF 2024



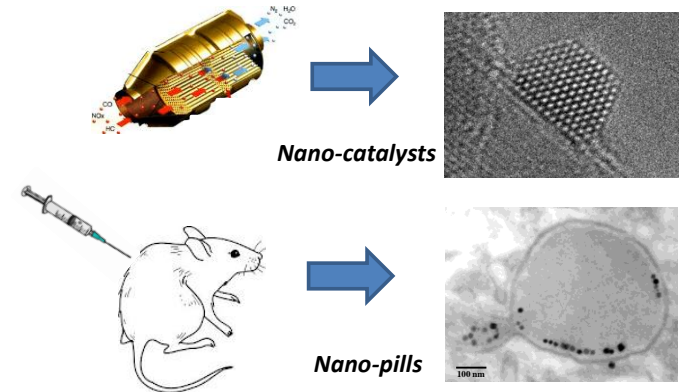
- Poseidon select
- Atmosphere

® Protochips

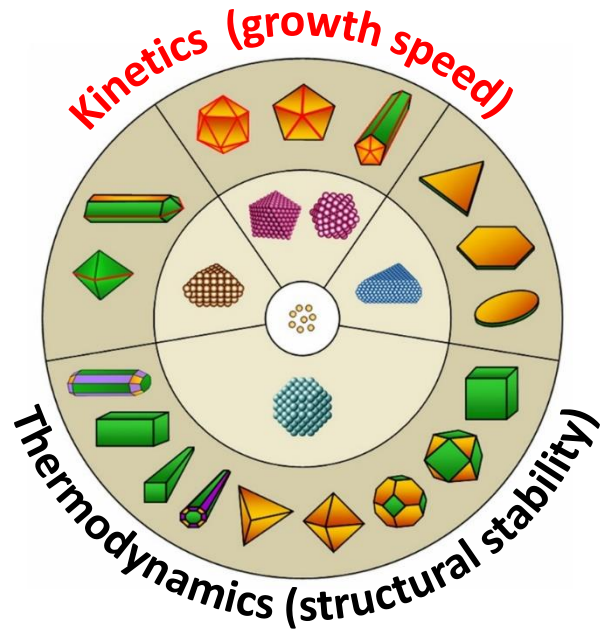
De Jonge and Ross
Nature Mat. 6, 695 (2011)



Nucleation, growth and self assembly



Transformation & degradation



Seed-mediated synthesis

Defect-driven growth

Face blocking methods

Kinetically-controlled formation

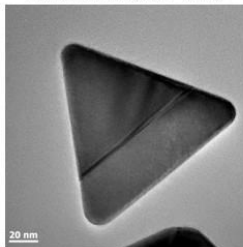
Plasmon mediated growth

...



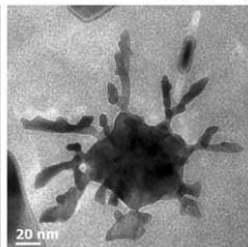
Au nanoplates

Nanoletters, 14, 2574 (2015)



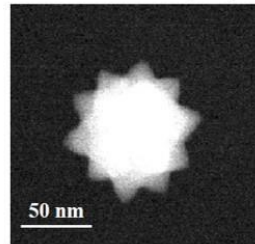
Au nanodendrites

Adv. Struct. Chem. Im., 2, 9, (2016)

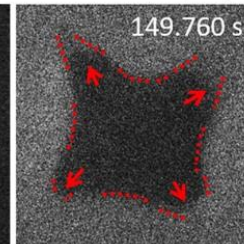


Au and Pd Nanostars

Nanoletters 17, 4194 (2017)

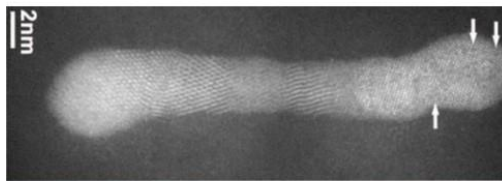
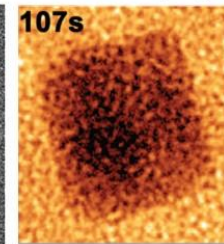


Nanoletters 18, 7004 (2018)



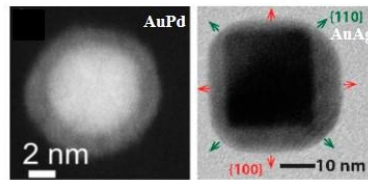
Pt Nanocubes

Science, 345, 916 (2014)



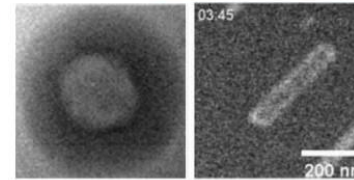
Science, 336, 1011 (2012)

FePt₃ Nanowires



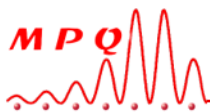
Nanolett. 13, 2964 (2013) *JACS*, 138, 5190 (2016)

Core-shell nanostructures

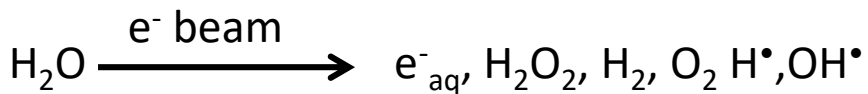


Nanolett. 13, 5715 (2013) *M&M.* 24 244 (2018)

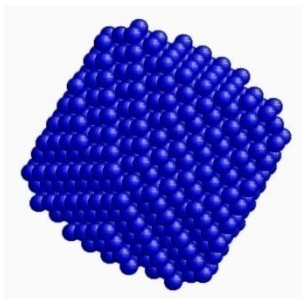
Bi and Au hollow shells



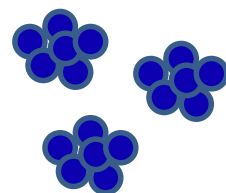
Radiolysis of water



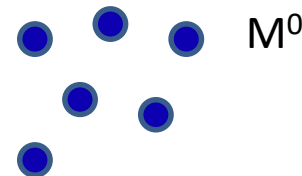
Reduction of metal precursor



Growth

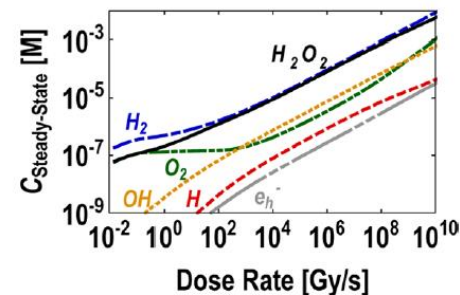


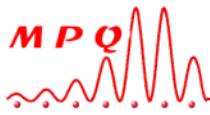
Nucleation



Electron dose is crucial !

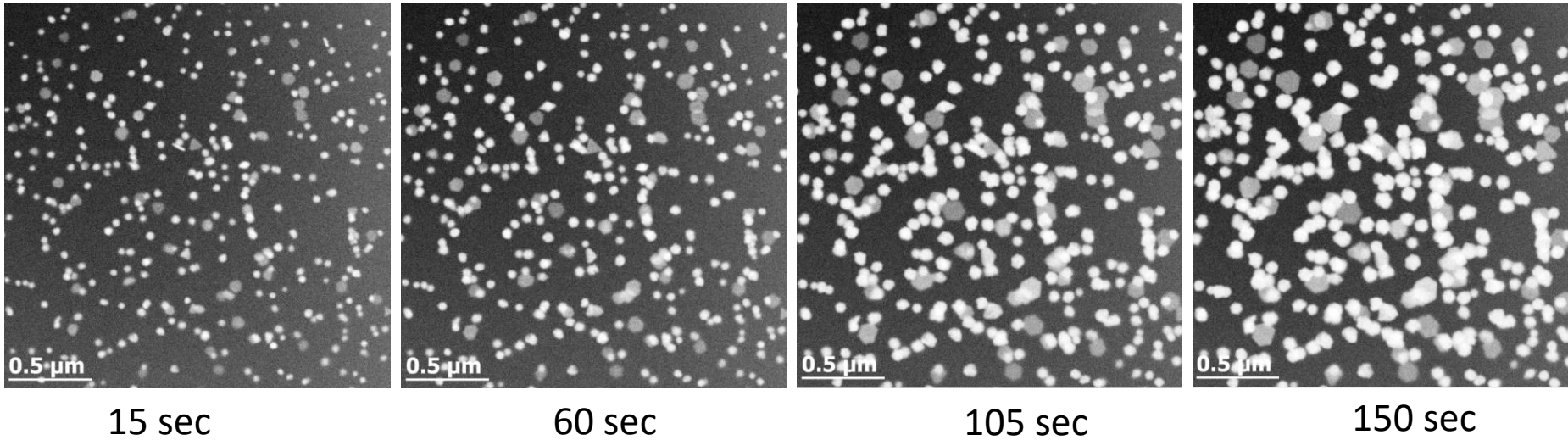
Distinguishing thermodynamic and kinetic effects





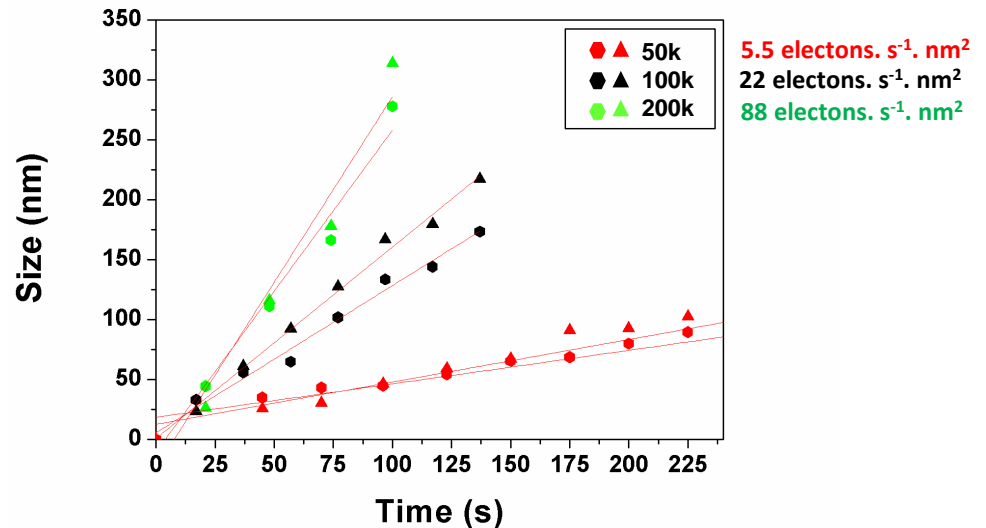
Controlling the kinetic of formation of nanostructures

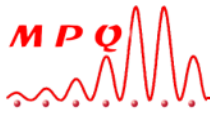
HAuCl_4 (1 mM) in water (dose rate of 22 electrons. $\text{s}^{-1} \cdot \text{nm}^2$)



$$\text{Dose (electrons/sA}^2) = \frac{\text{beam current (C/s)}}{\text{elementary charge (C/electron)} * \text{scanned area (A}^2)}$$

1 electron . $\text{nm}^2 \cdot \text{s}^{-1} = 40\,000 \text{ Gy} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$!!





Kinetics Vs Thermodynamic control

RPF 2024

$$V_{\text{deposition}} < V_{\text{surface diffusion}}$$

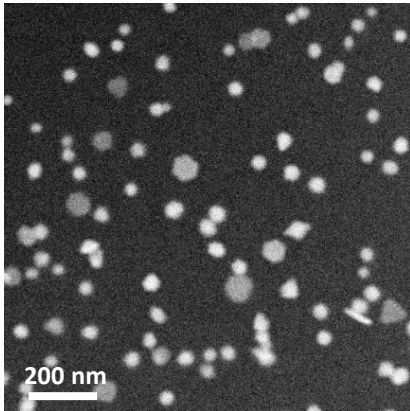
Governed by thermodynamic

$$V_{\text{deposition}} > V_{\text{surface diffusion}}$$

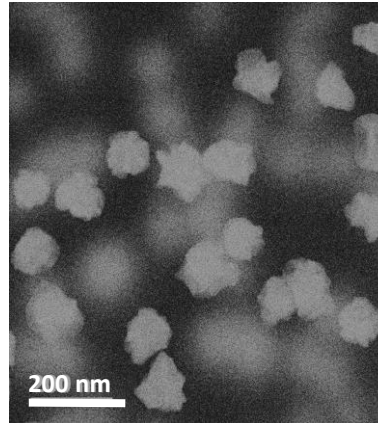
Governed by kinetics

Electron dose

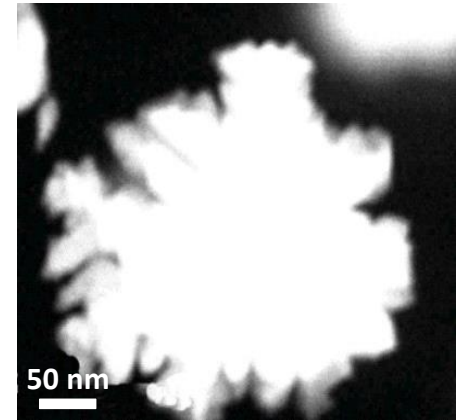
Magnification 100 k
dose = 10^6 Gy/s



Magnification 250 k
dose = $6.2 \cdot 10^6$ Gy/s



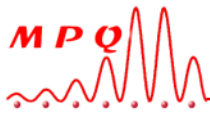
Magnification 400 k
dose = $1.6 \cdot 10^7$ Gy/s



**The formation of faceted nanoparticles
requires reducing reaction rate < 3 atomic layers per seconds**



Punta Nizuc (Cancun)

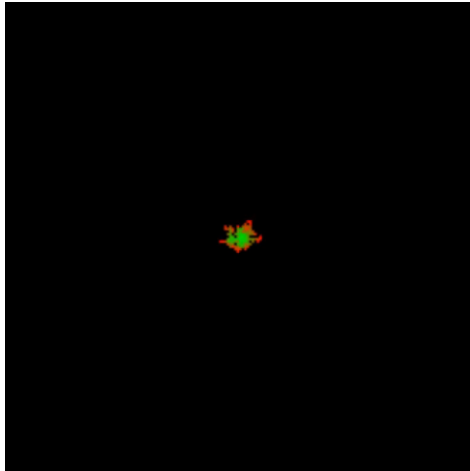


Diffusion - limited growth

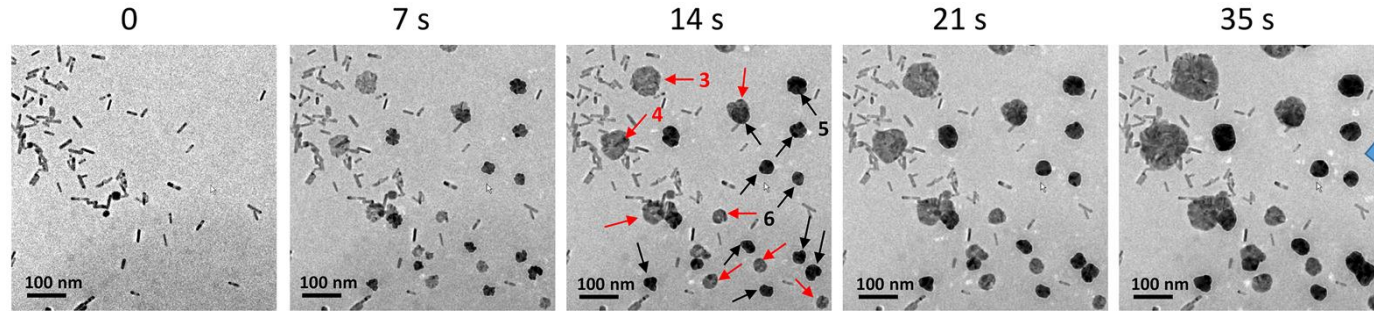
RPF 2024

Eden model 1961
(growth in rich environment)

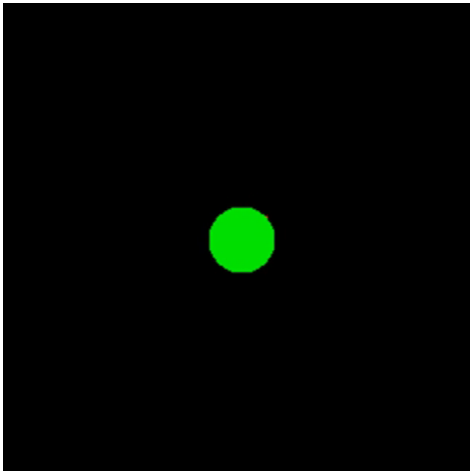
Collaboration with Y. le Bouar (LEM, ONERA)



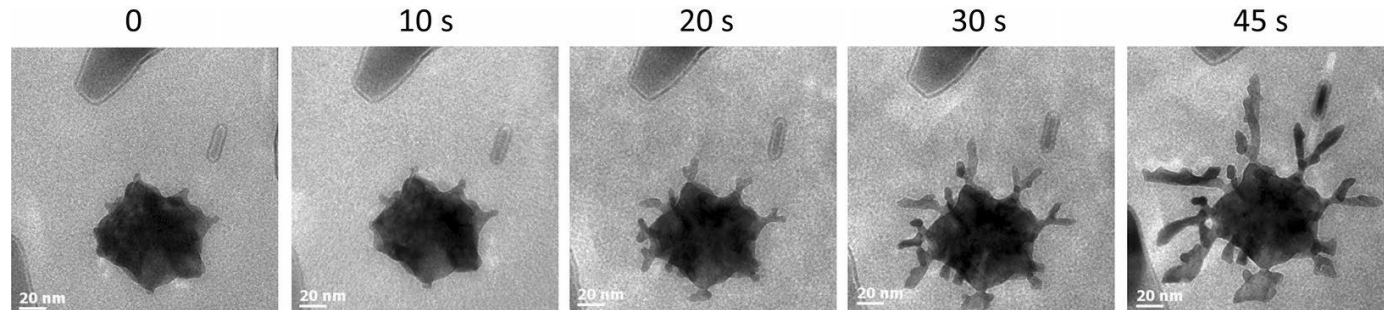
Pristine area

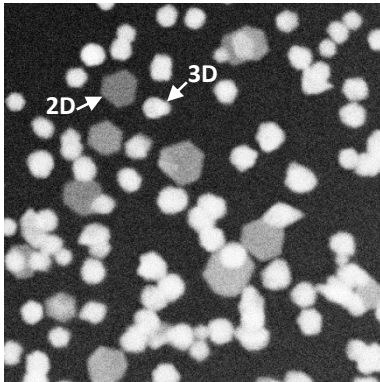


Diffusion limited aggregation (DLA)
« food is far away »



Pre-exposed area

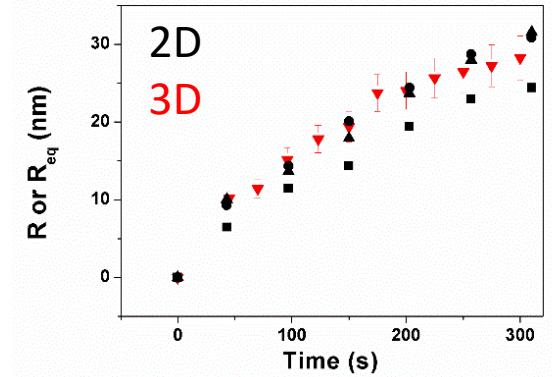




Electron tomography ($\pm 60^\circ$)

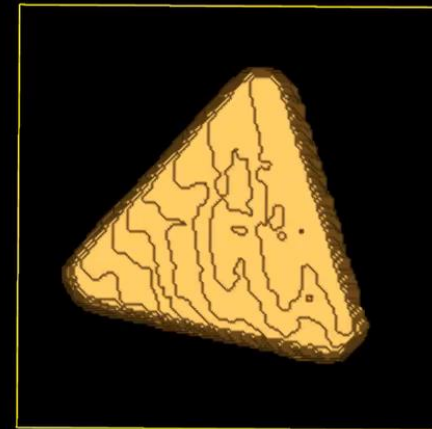
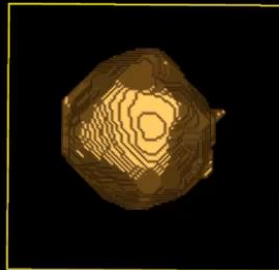


+ DART reconstruction
 (collaboration with Ovidiu Ersen, IPCMS, Strasbourg)



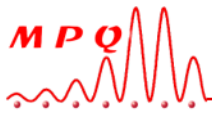
Aspect ratio ≈ 1

Thickness = 21 ± 6 nm

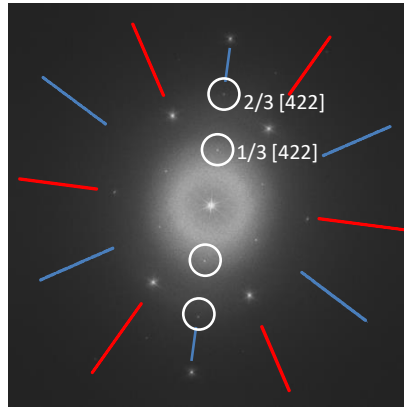
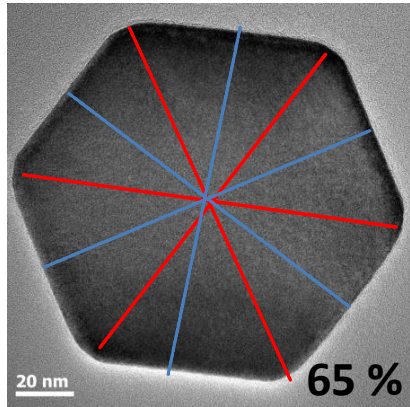


40 nm

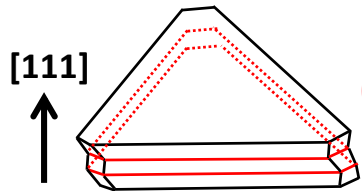
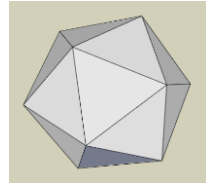
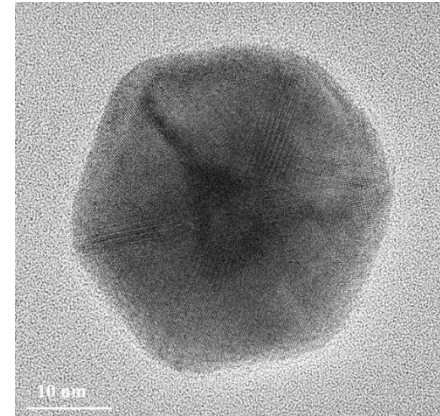
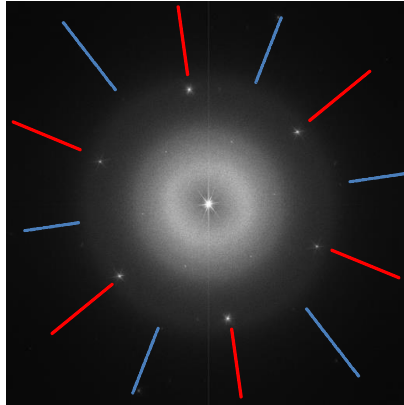
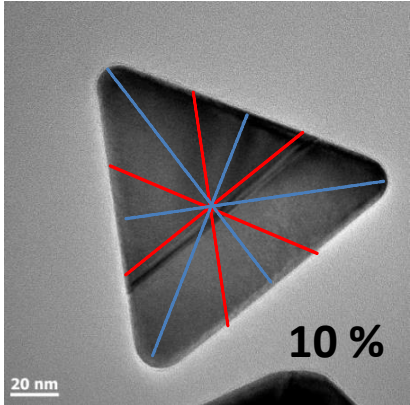
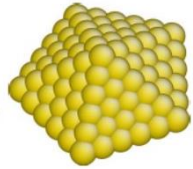
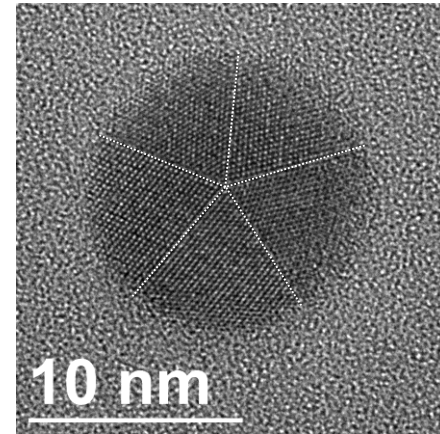
40 nm



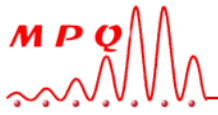
Defect - driven growth



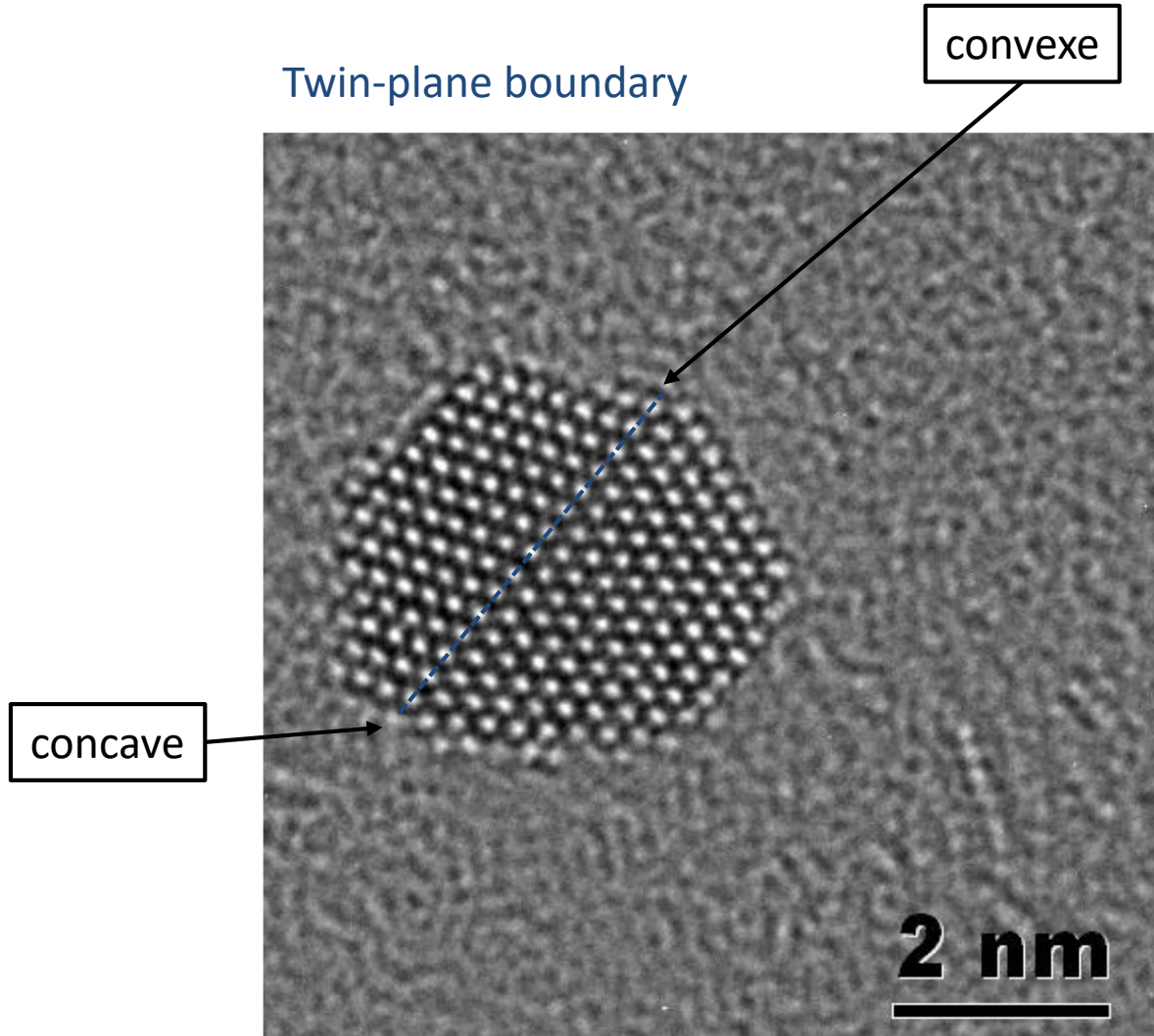
— [422]
— [220]

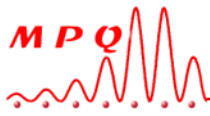


**Planar defects
(Twin planes or stacking faults)**



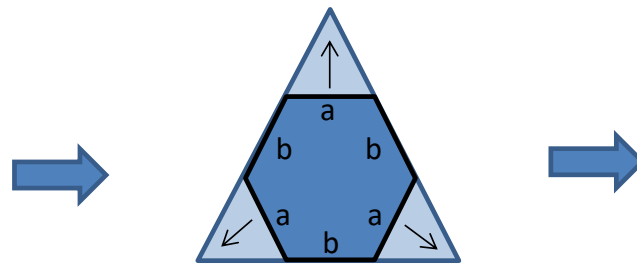
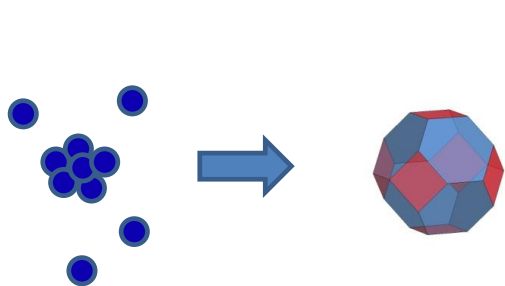
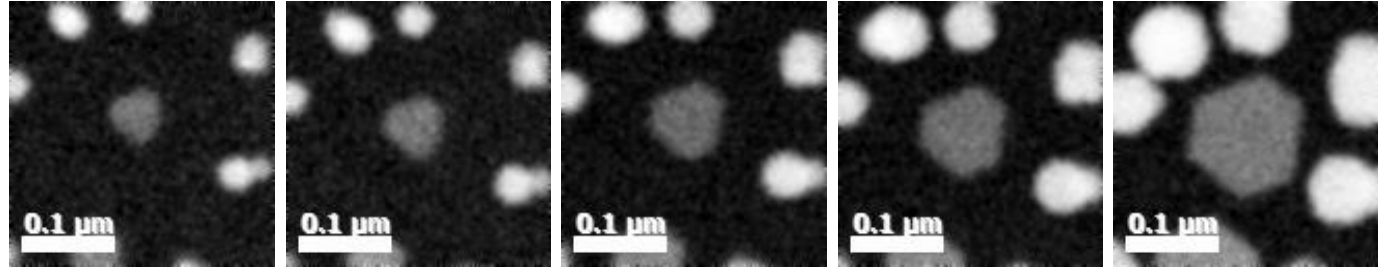
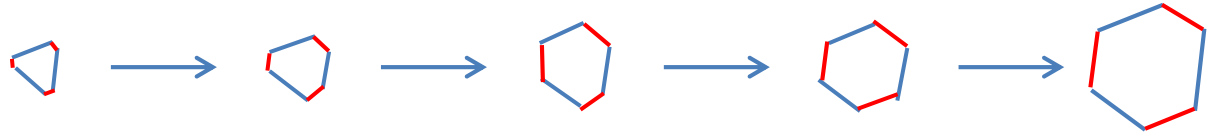
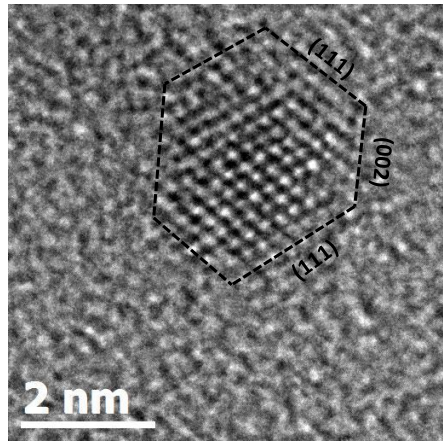
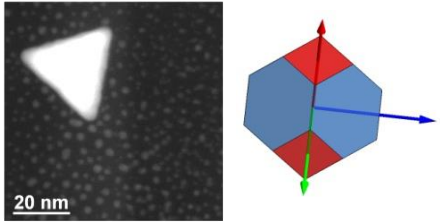
Defect - driven growth



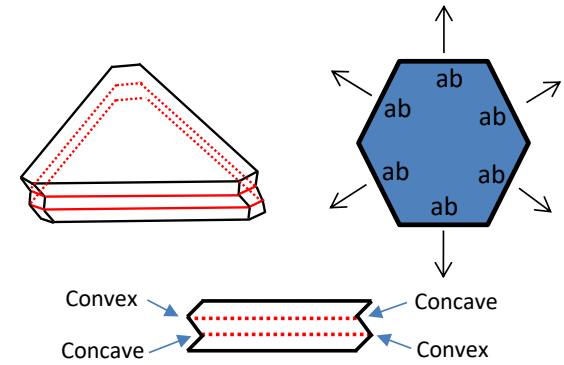


Defect - driven growth

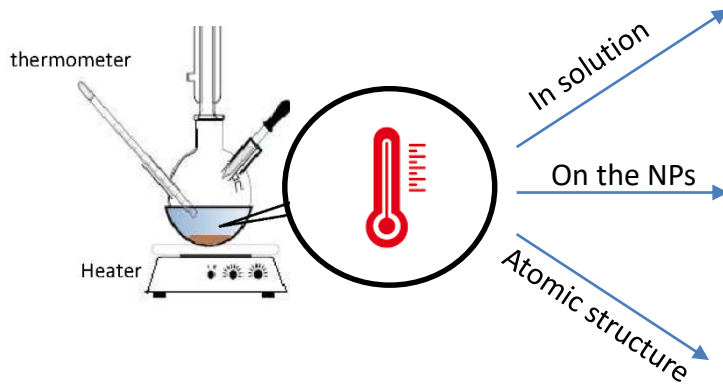
RPF 2024



Concave Fast growth a \rightarrow b Convex Slow growth



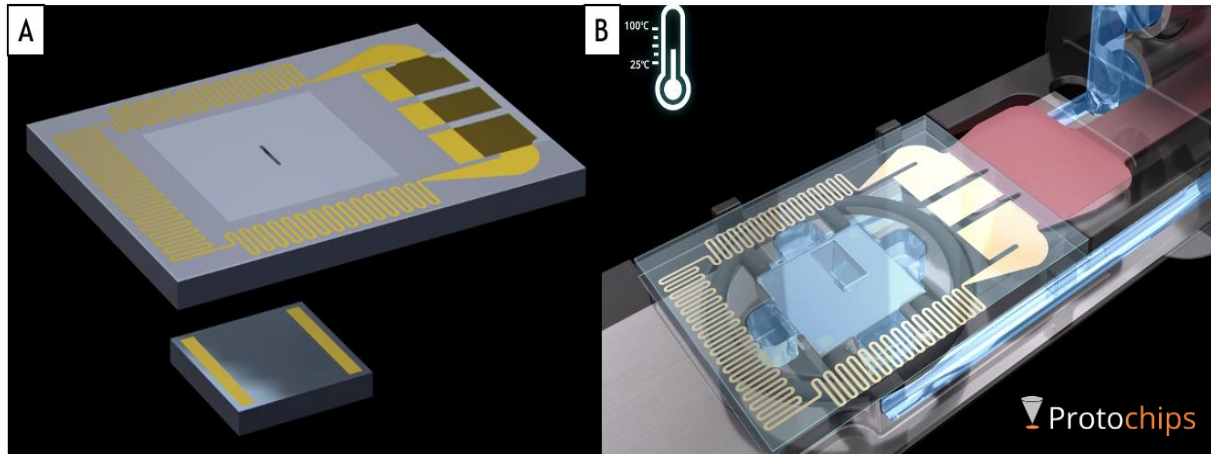
$$\Delta\mu = \gamma\Omega \left(\frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right)$$



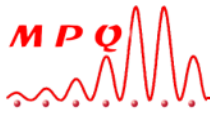
reaction, solubility and diffusion of metal precursors

nucleation, adsorption, desorption and diffusion of metal atoms, Ostwald ripening and coalescence

Thermodynamic equilibrium



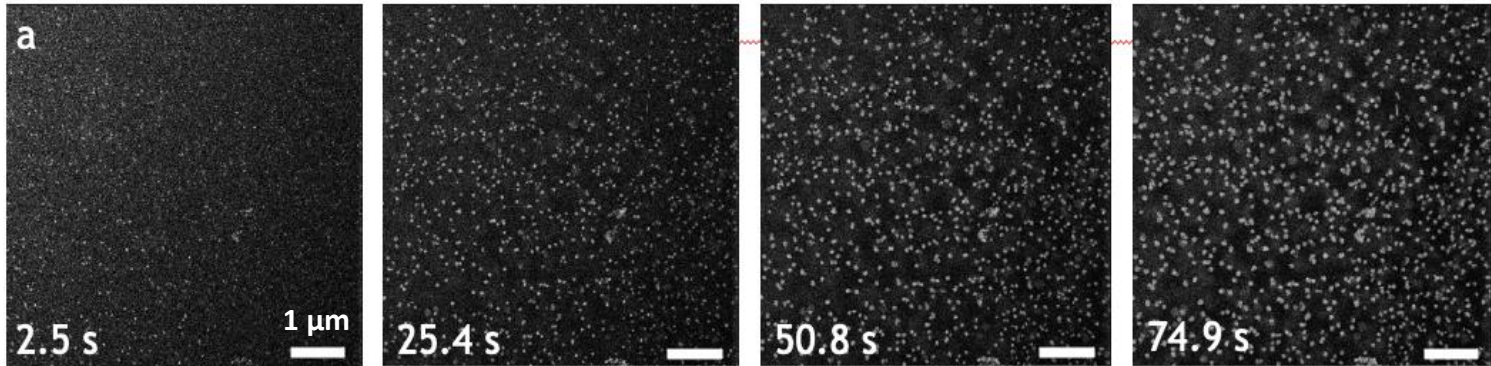
Khelfa et al. JOVE methods 2021 (video article)



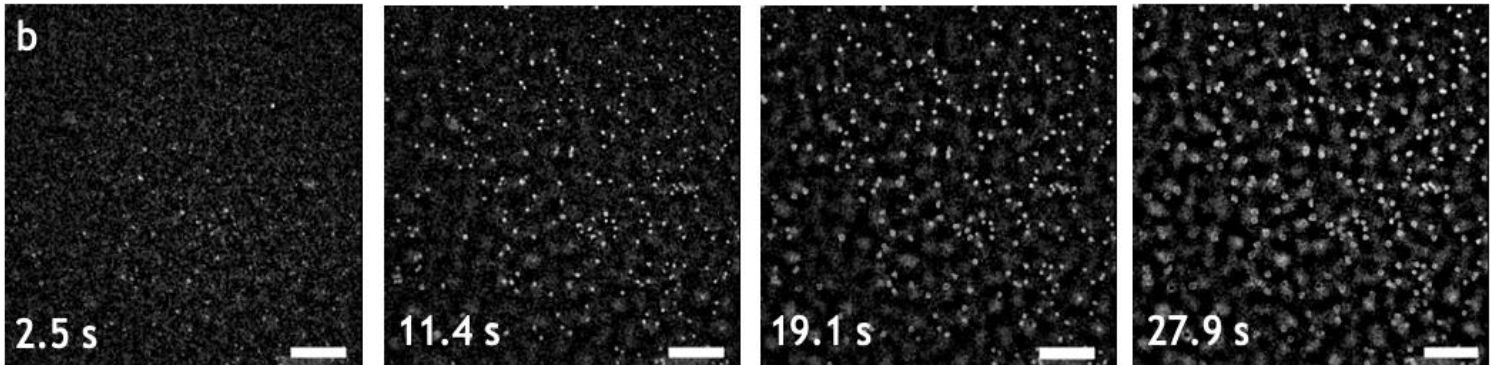
Temperature effects on gold nanoparticle formation

Very low dose rate experiments ($3.4 \text{ electrons.nm}^{-2}.\text{s}^{-1}$) in 1 mM HAuCl₄

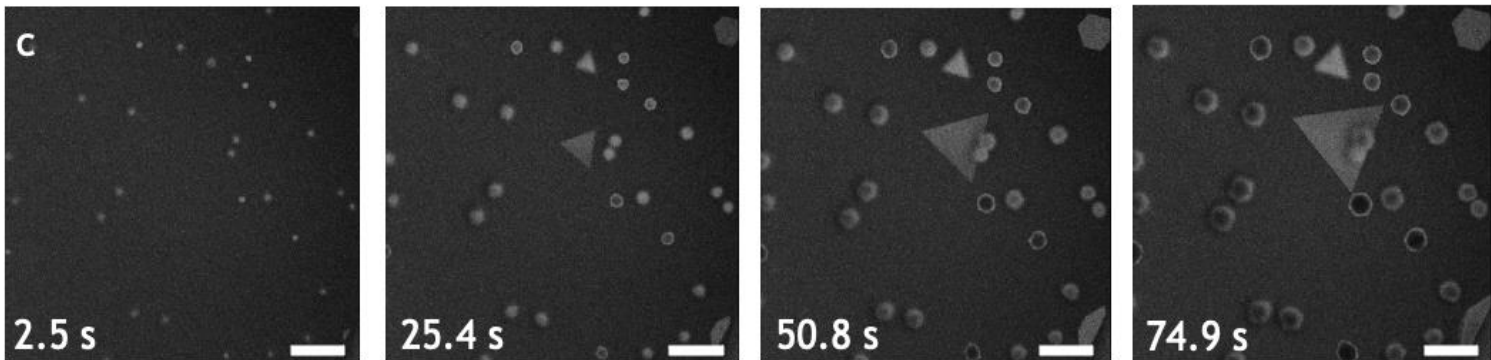
25°C

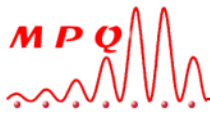


50°C



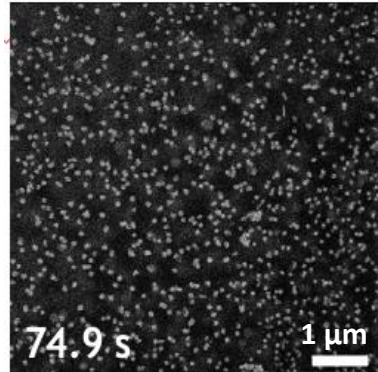
85°C



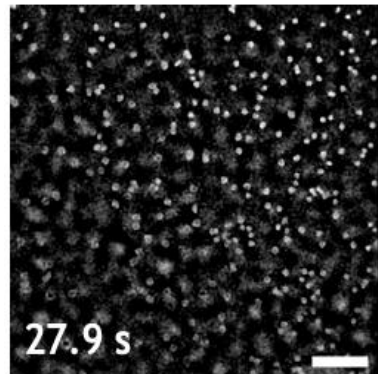


Temperature effects on the nucleation dynamics

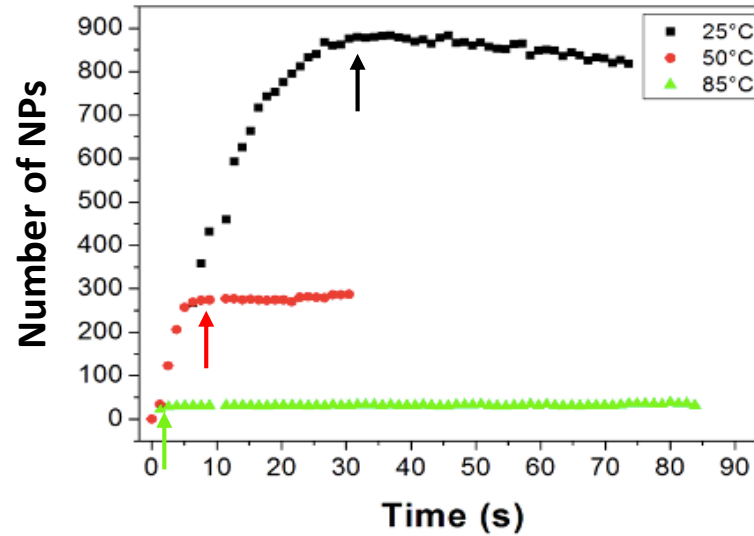
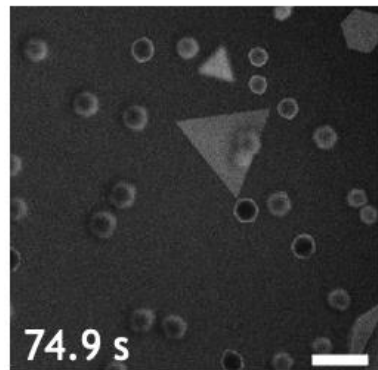
25°C



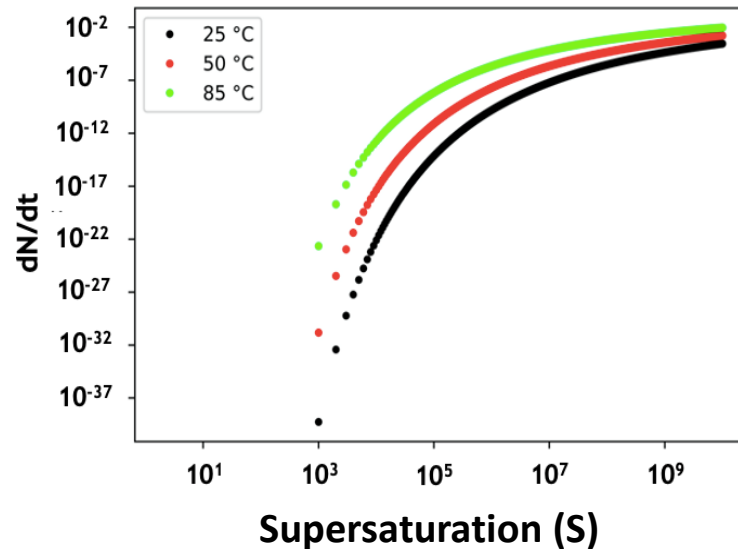
50°C



85°C

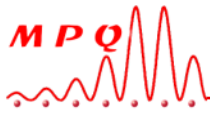


Nanoparticle density decreases with temperature because the nucleation period shortens



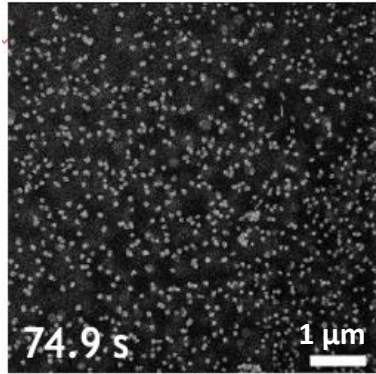
Nucleation theory

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = A \exp\left(-\frac{16 \phi \pi \gamma^3 V_m^2}{3 k_b^3 T^3 N_a (\ln S)^2}\right)$$

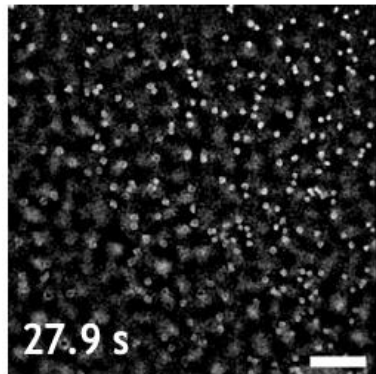


Temperature effects on the nucleation dynamics

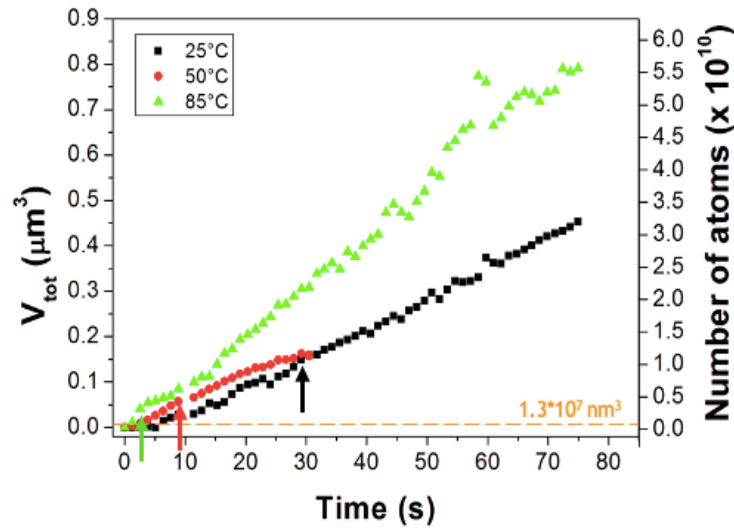
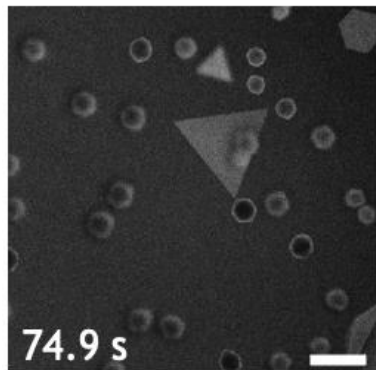
25°C



50°C



85°C



$$S = \frac{C_{Au}}{C_{\infty}}$$

C_{Au} decreases faster at high temperature but...

Saturated NaCl solution

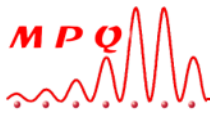


cold



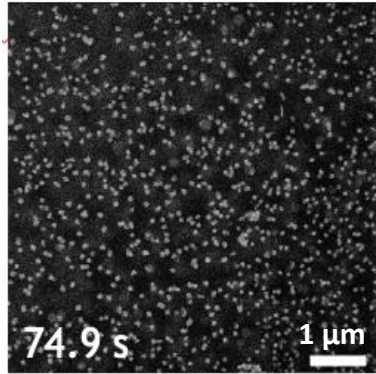
hot

C_∞ increases with temperature

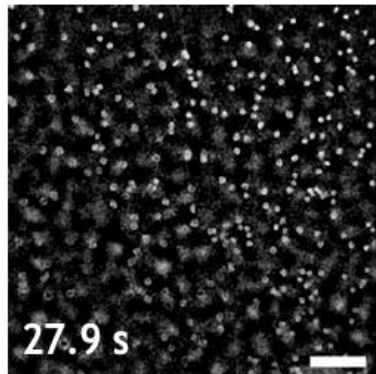


Temperature effects on the growth dynamics

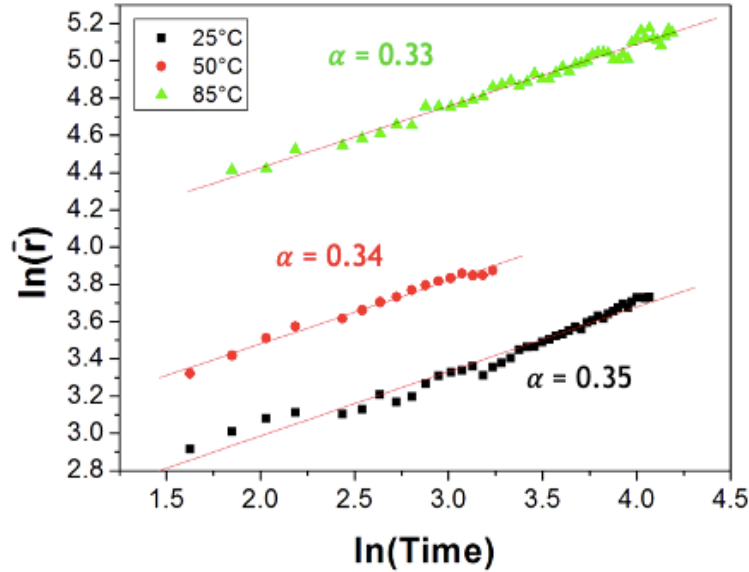
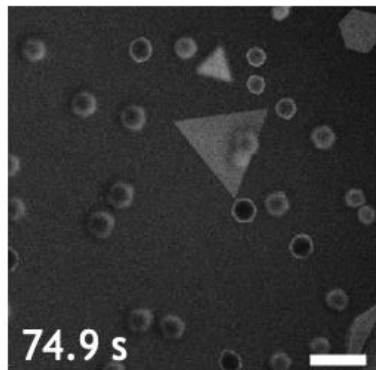
25°C



50°C



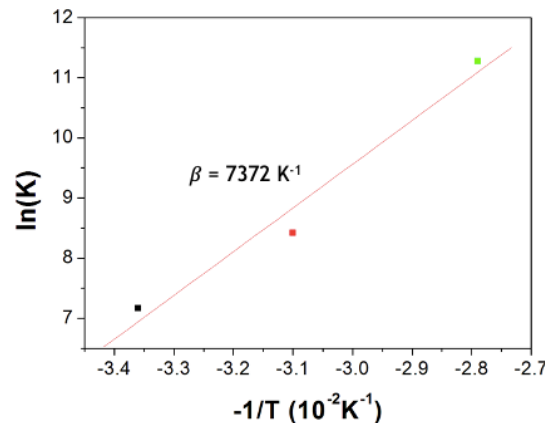
85°C



LSW theory
(Diffusion-limited growth)

$$\bar{r}^3 = Kt$$

$$K = \frac{4\gamma V_m^2 C_\infty}{27\pi N_a \eta a}$$

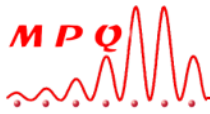


$$C_\infty^{50^\circ\text{C}} = 2.2 \times C_\infty^{25^\circ\text{C}}$$

$$C_\infty^{85^\circ\text{C}} = 22.6 \times C_\infty^{25^\circ\text{C}}$$

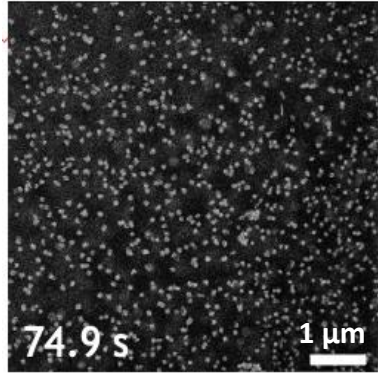
Activation energy for NP growth = 61 kJ.mol⁻¹ (0.63 eV/atom)

SAXS and XANES Abecassis et al Langmuir 2010, 26, 13847

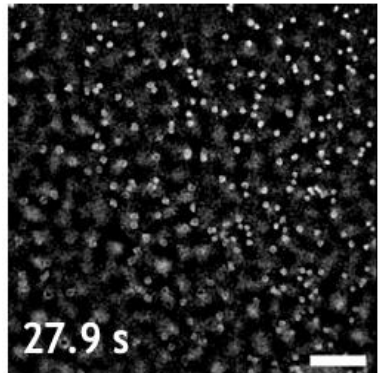


Solubility rules the nucleation dynamics

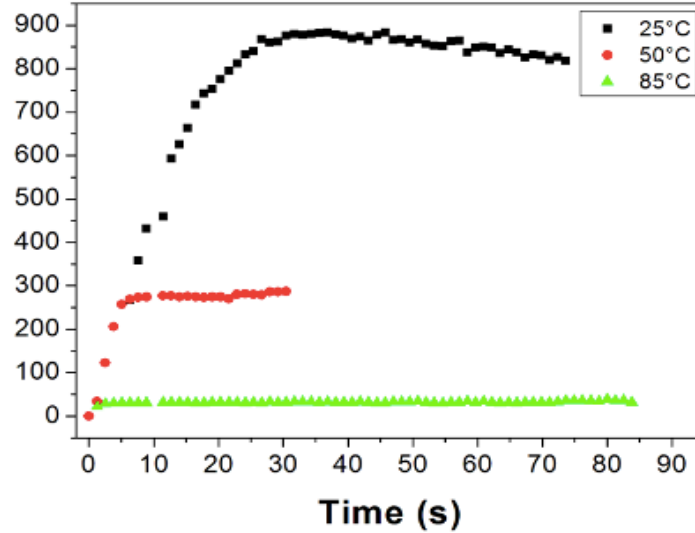
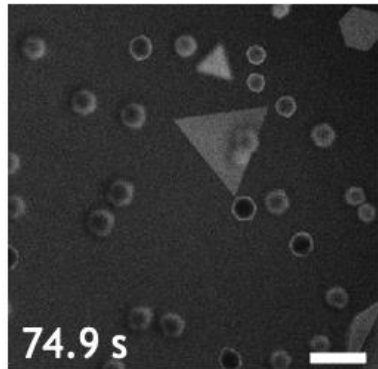
25°C



50°C

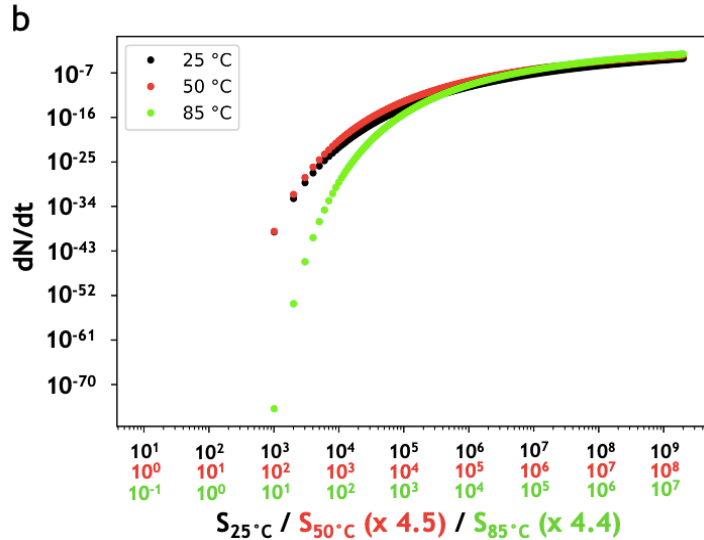


85°C

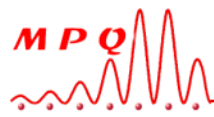


$$S = \frac{C_{Au}}{C_{\infty}}$$

Experiments :
The nucleation period is reduced with temperature

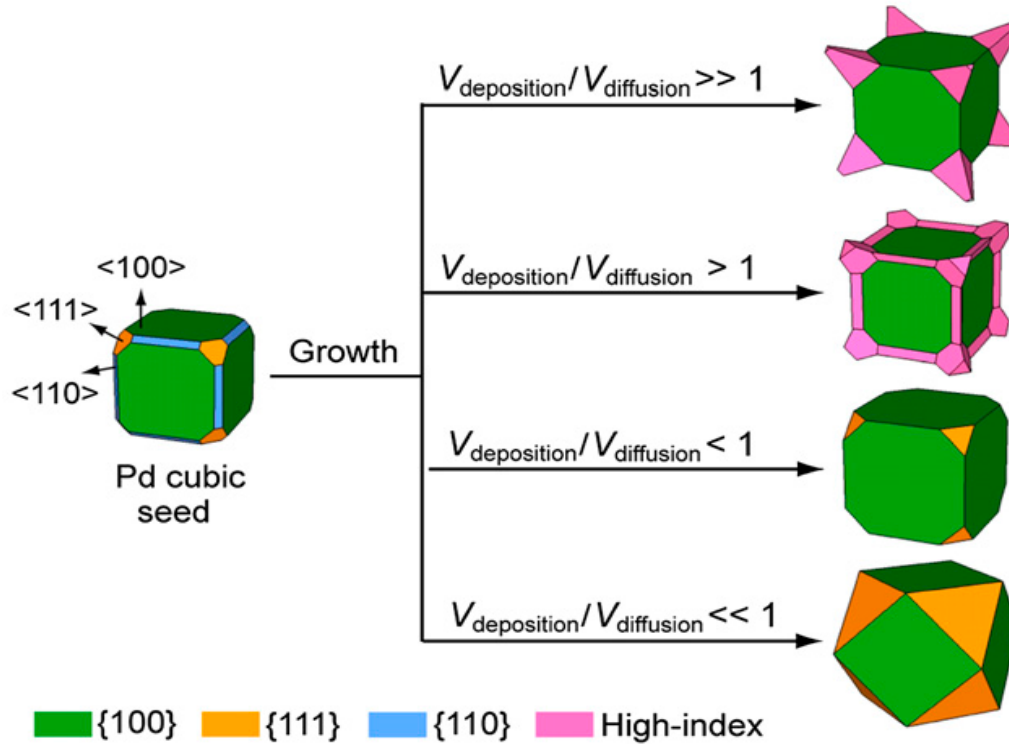


Nucleation theory with $C_{\infty}(T)$



$V_{\text{deposition}} / V_{\text{diffusion}}$ ratio rules the shape of nanostructures

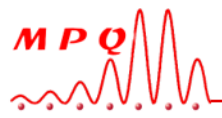
X. Xia et al. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 2013, 110, 6669



In our the liquid cell TEM experiments

$V_{\text{deposition}}$ increases with dose rate and temperature

$V_{\text{diffusion}}$ increases only with temperature



$V_{\text{deposition}} / V_{\text{diffusion}}$ ratio rules the shape of nanostructures

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Low dose rate

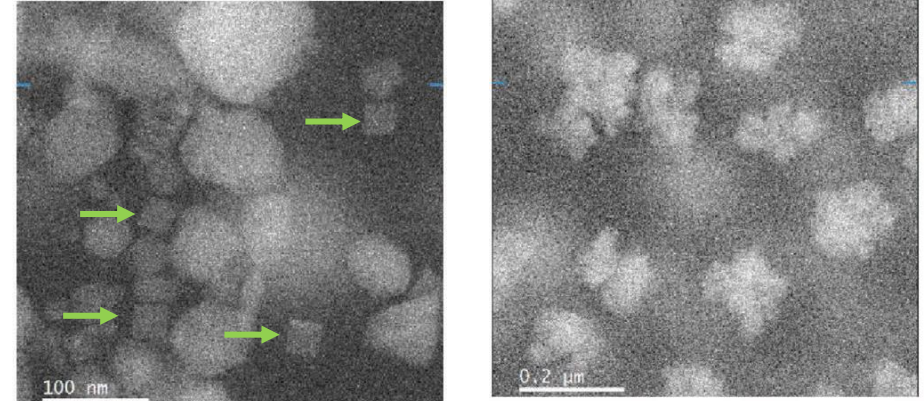
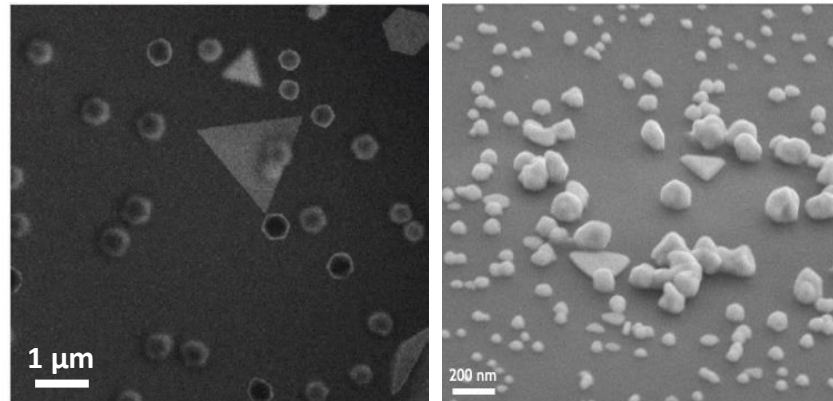
High dose rate

85°C

25°C

85°C

25°C



$V_{\text{deposition}} \lll V_{\text{diffusion}}$

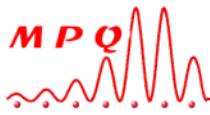
$V_{\text{deposition}} < V_{\text{diffusion}}$

$V_{\text{deposition}} > V_{\text{diffusion}}$

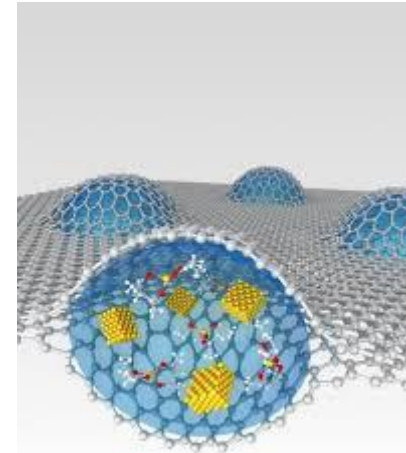
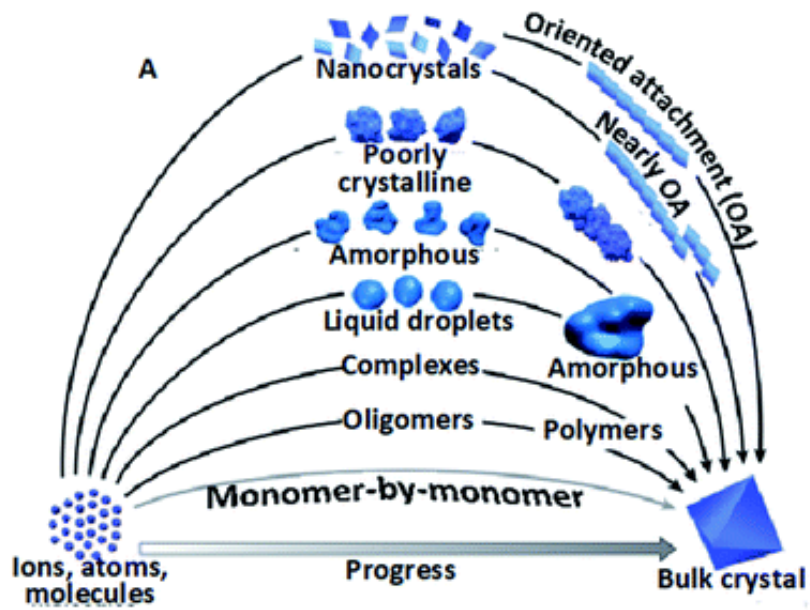
**Faceted NPs
With (111) surfaces**

**Faceted NPs
with (100) surfaces**

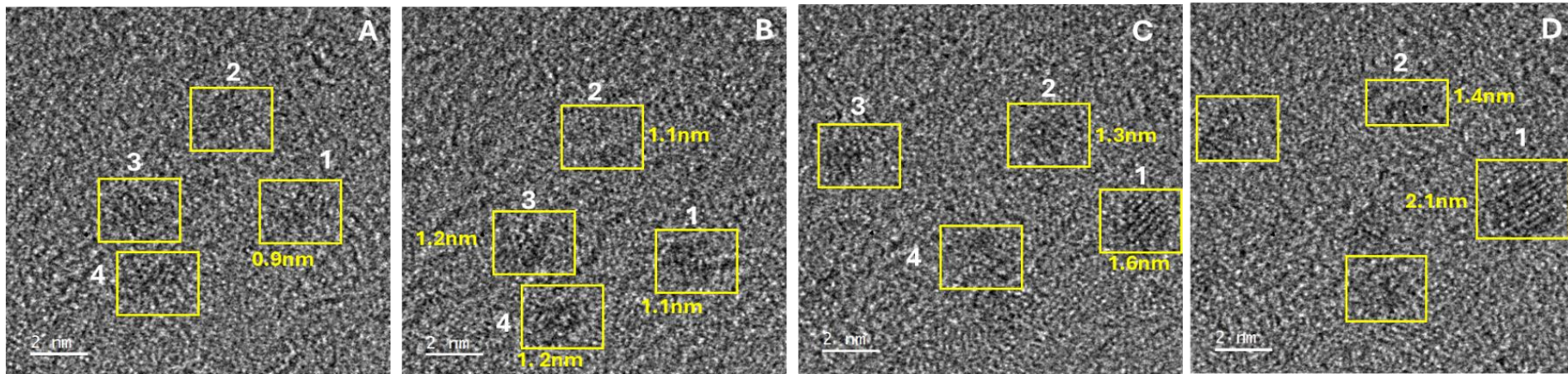
**Dendritic NPs
with rough surfaces
(high index facets)**



Nucleation : a non classical mechanisms



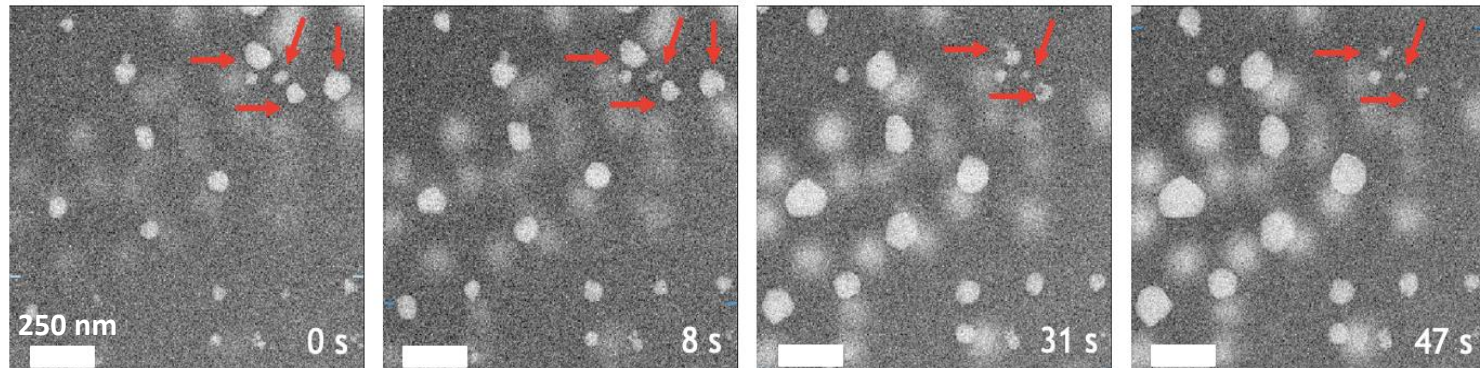
De Yoreo *Science*, 2015, 349, aaa6760



Amorphous crystalline phase transition at 1.6 nm in gold NPs

**Idealistic view of Ostwald ripening:
the growth of larger NPs at the expense of the small ones.**

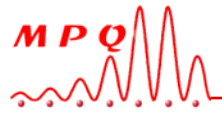
85°C



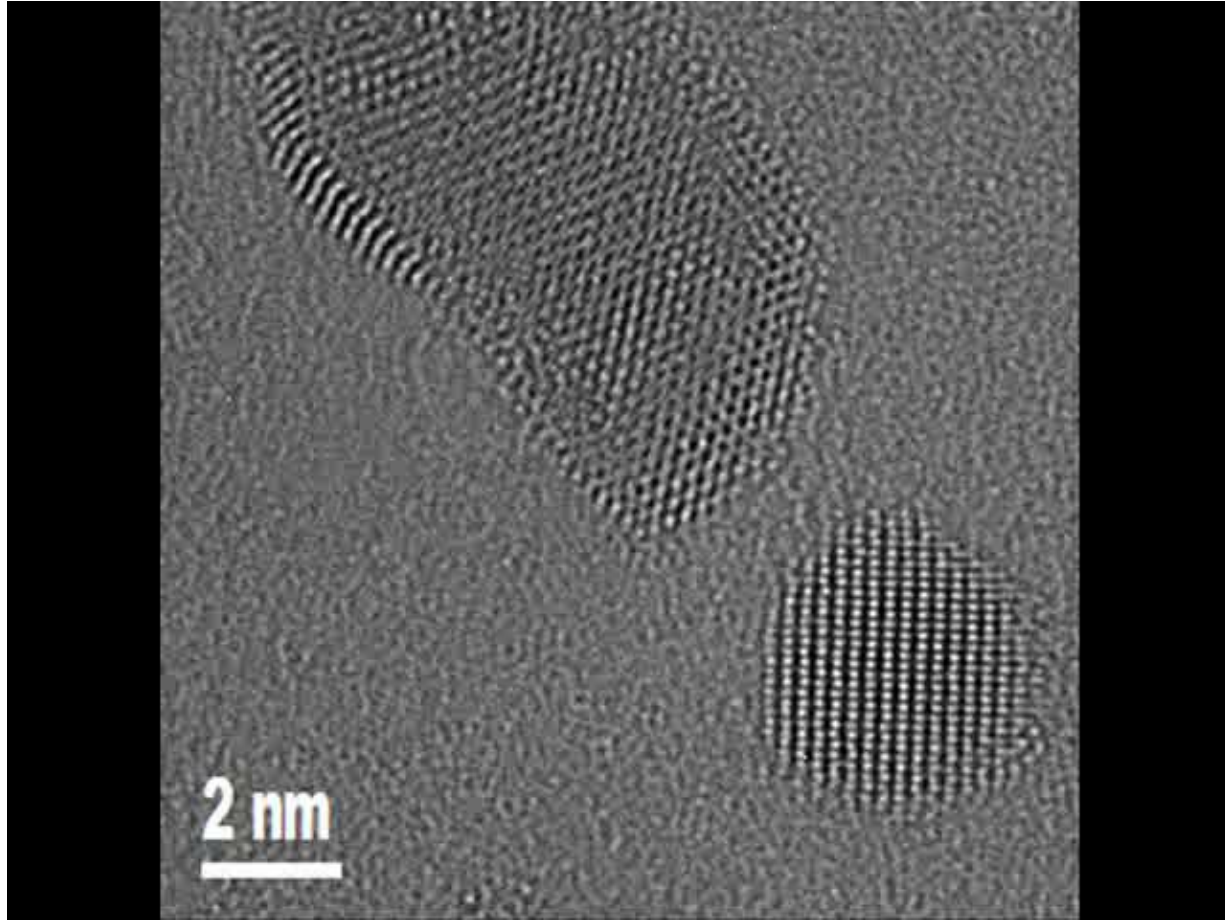
$$\bar{R}_{shrink}(38 \text{ nm}) < \bar{R}_{Grow}(57 \text{ nm})$$

But 20% of the NPs that shrink have a radius $> \bar{R}_{Grow}$

Ostwald ripening is not only driven by size effects



Growth mechanisms : Coalescence



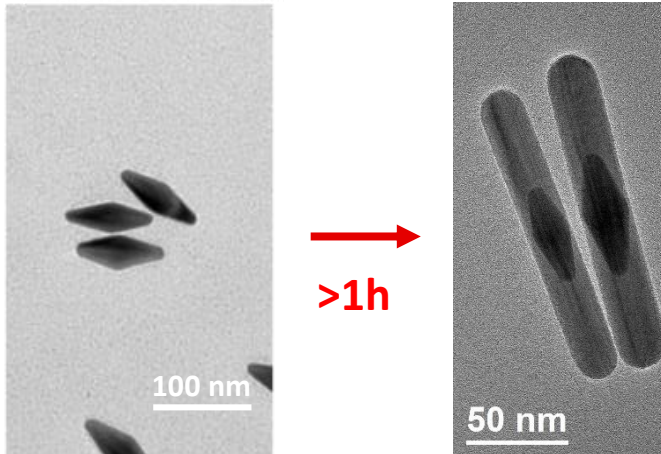
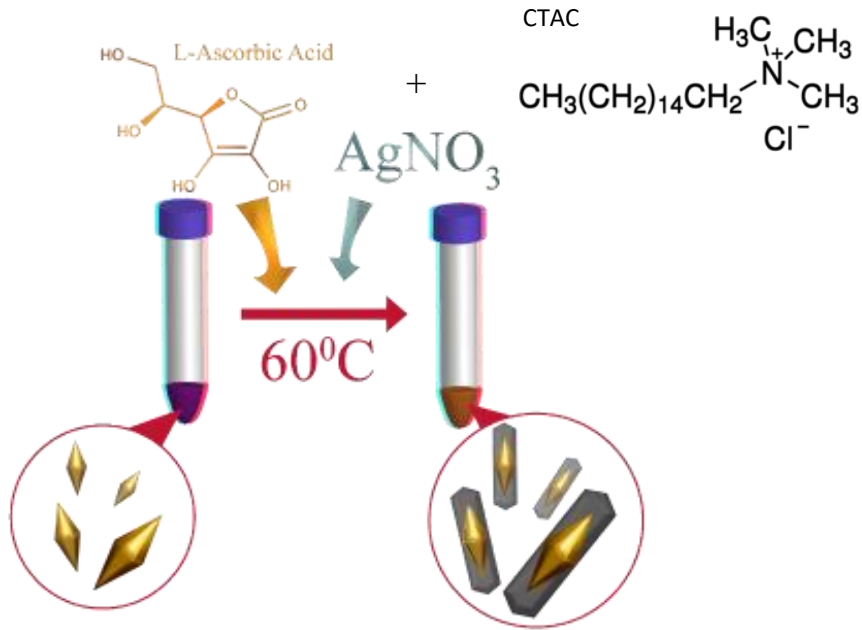
Oriented attachment to minimize the interface energy !

**From nanoscale
in situ observations...**

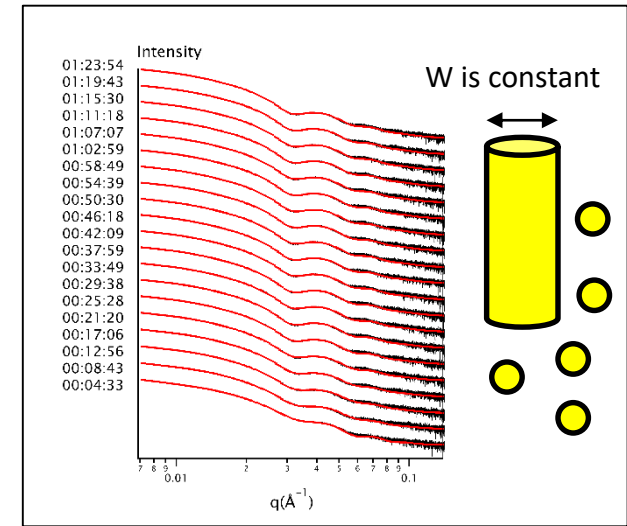


...to bench-scale synthesis

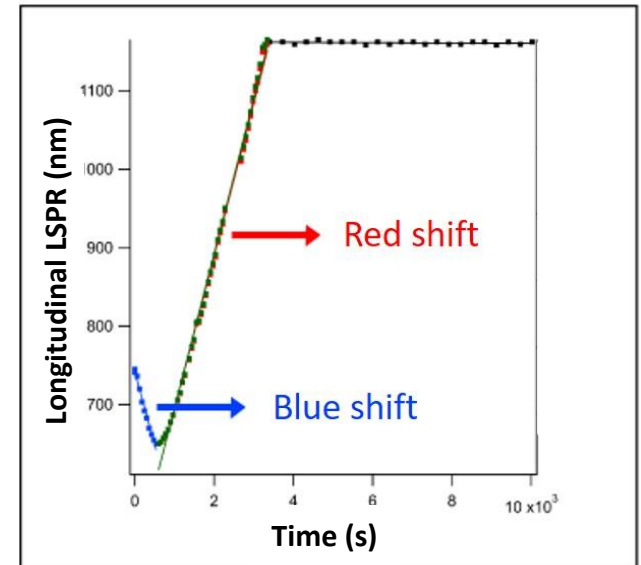


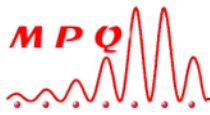


Real-time SAXS (SOLEIL Synchrotron)



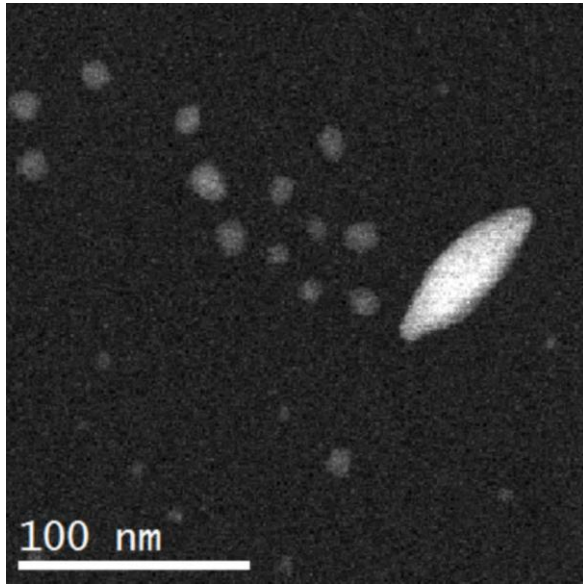
Real-time absorption spectroscopy



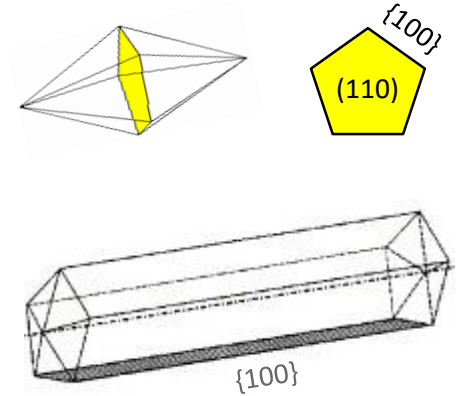
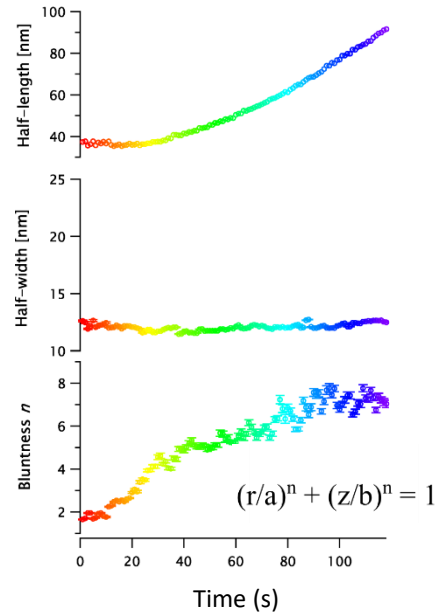
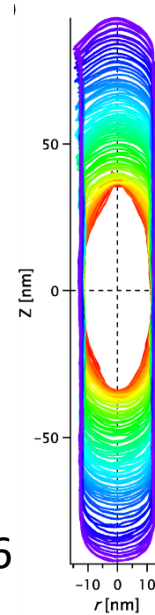


Visualize intermediate structures and reaction dynamics

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x16



BEM Simulations of LSPR

$\lambda = 745 \text{ nm}$



$\lambda = 662 \text{ nm}$



$\lambda = 646 \text{ nm}$



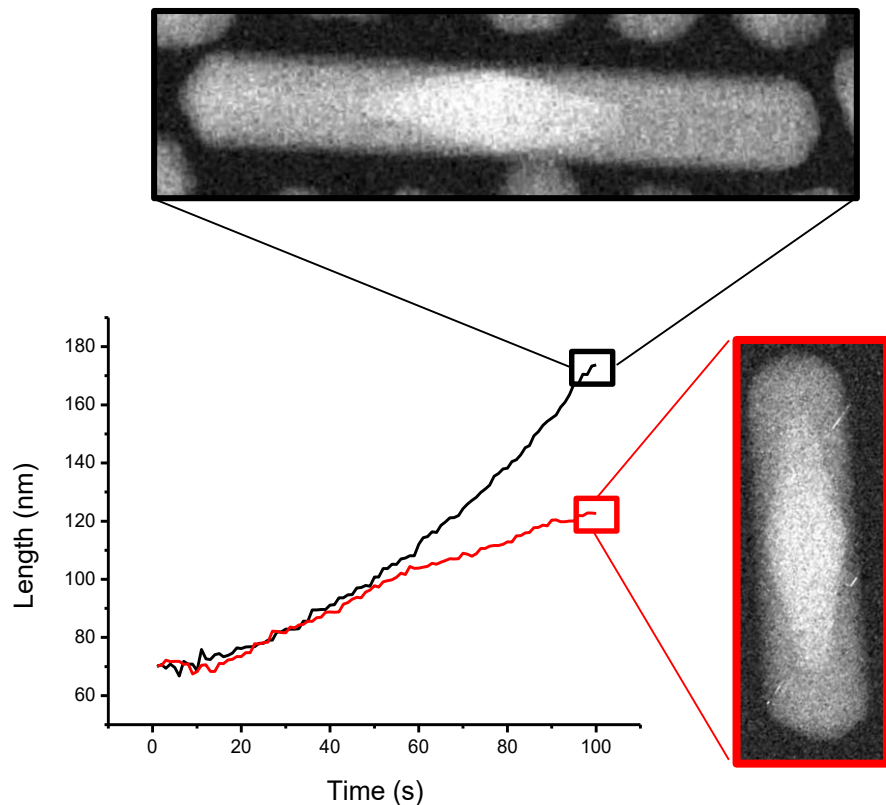
$\lambda = 721 \text{ nm}$



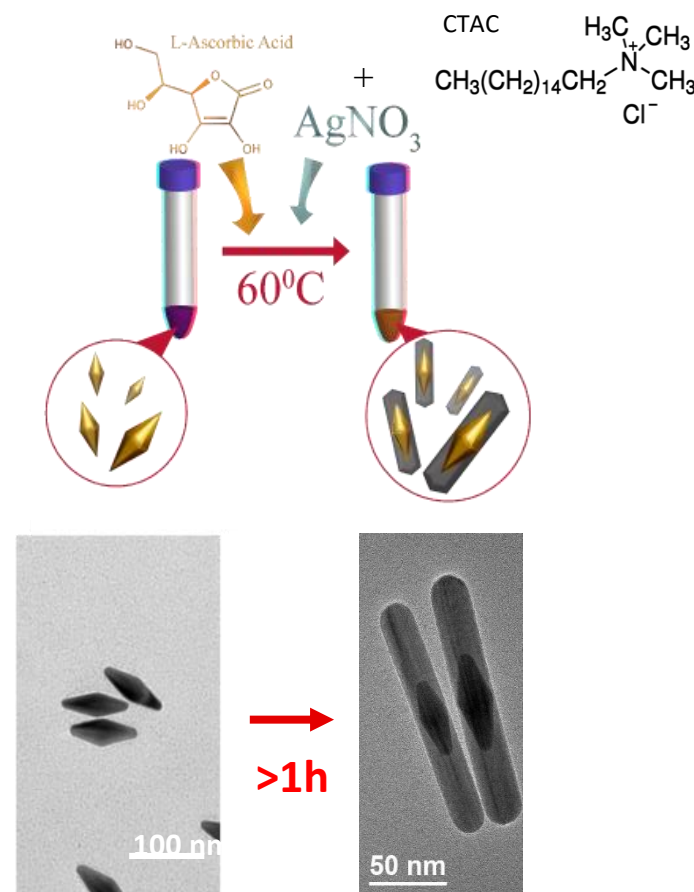
$\lambda = 794 \text{ nm}$



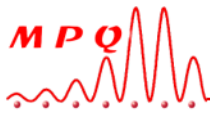
Synthesis in the TEM



Bench-scale synthesis

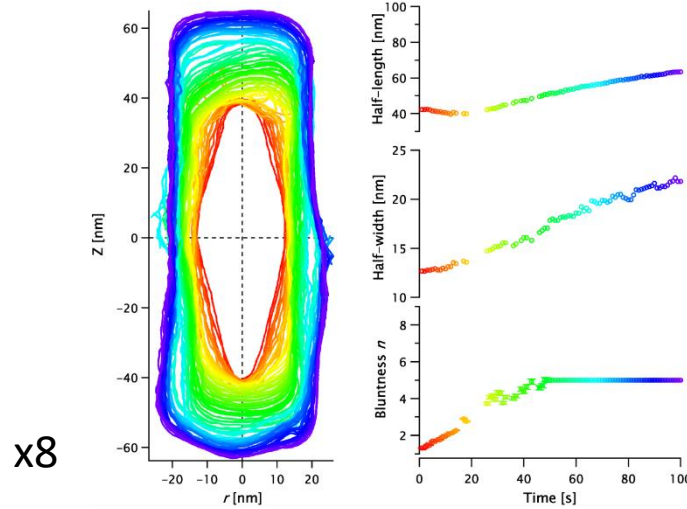
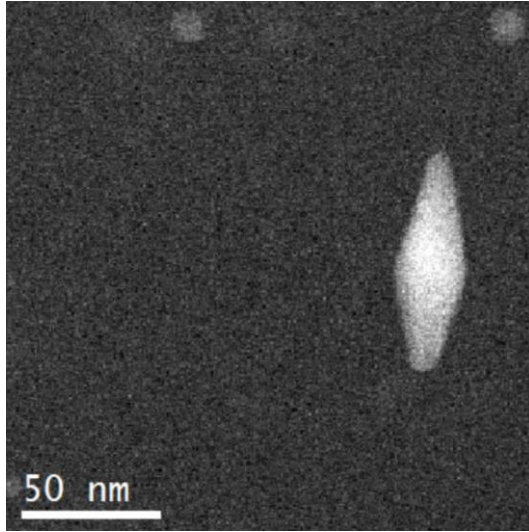


Anisotropic growth is governed by thermodynamic effects

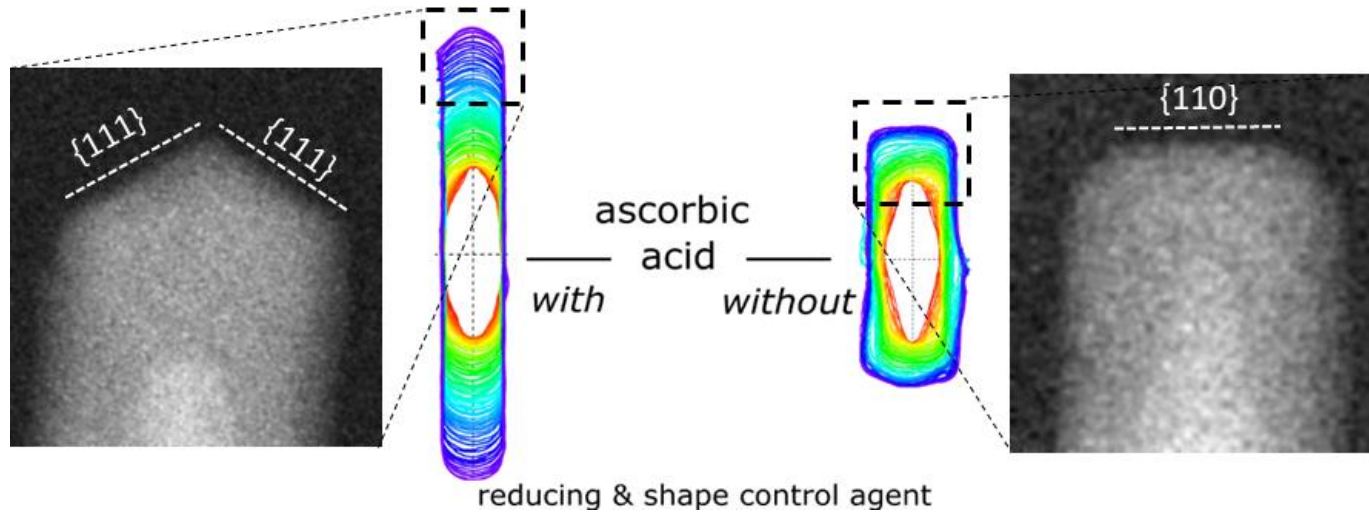


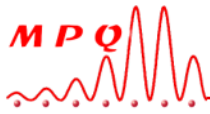
Reveal the role of each chemical in the synthesis

Without ascorbic acid

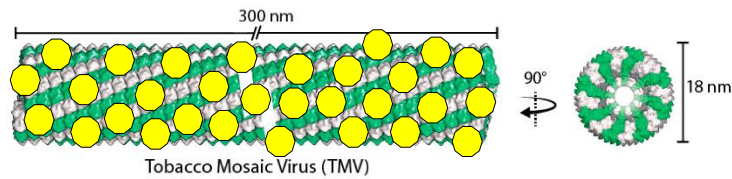


Ascorbic acid is not only a source of electron but it is also shape directing agent !



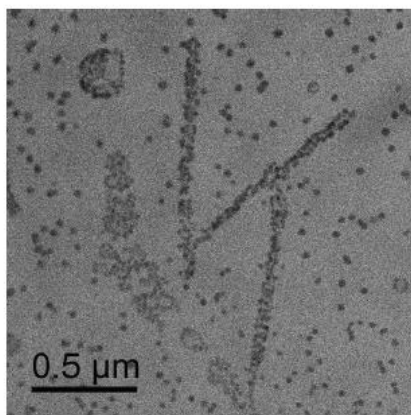


Biotemplated synthesis of gold NPs on TMV virus

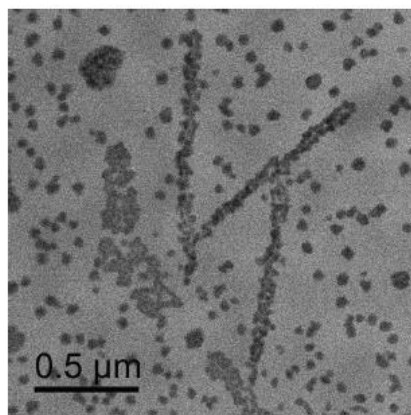


Cora Moreira da Silva
Thanh Ha Duong

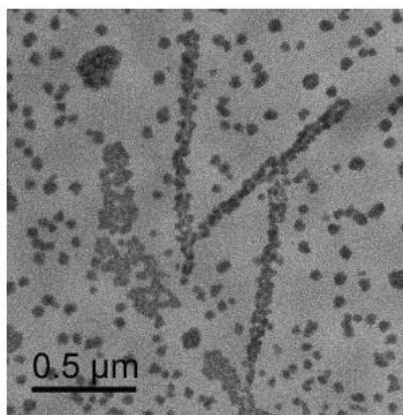
How to increase the density of
gold NPs at the surface of TMV ?



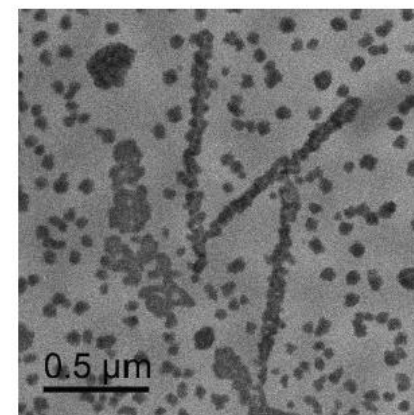
(a) $t = 0$ s



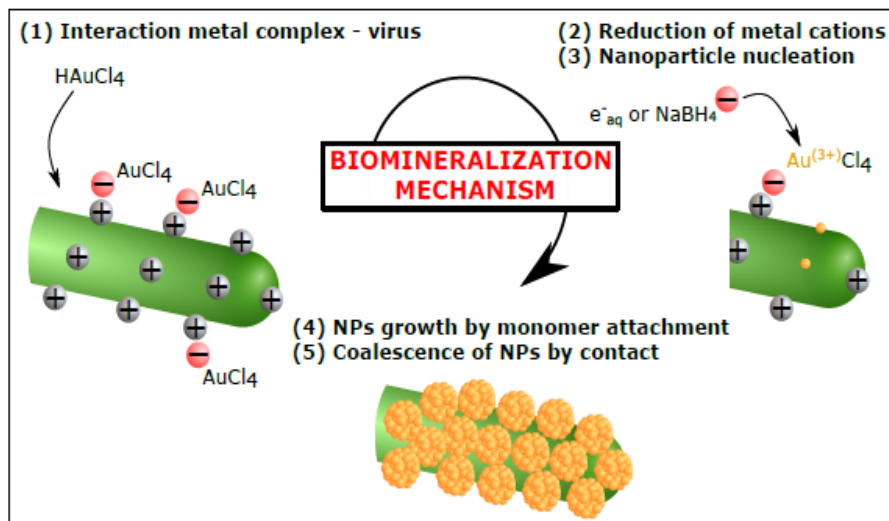
(b) $t = 63$ s



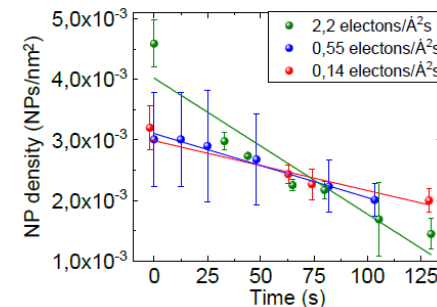
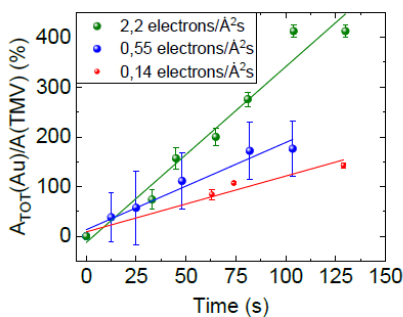
(c) $t = 74$ s



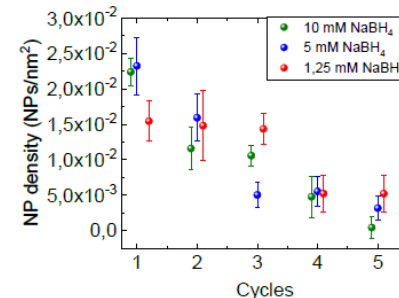
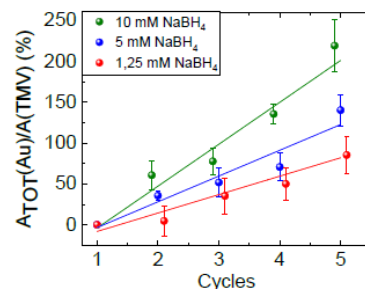
(d) $t = 129$ s

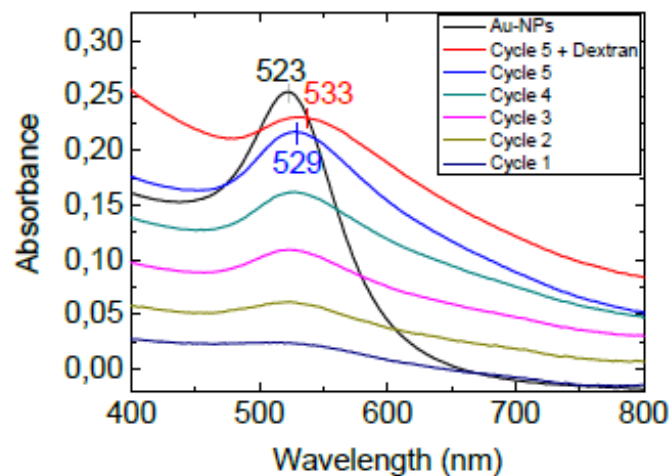
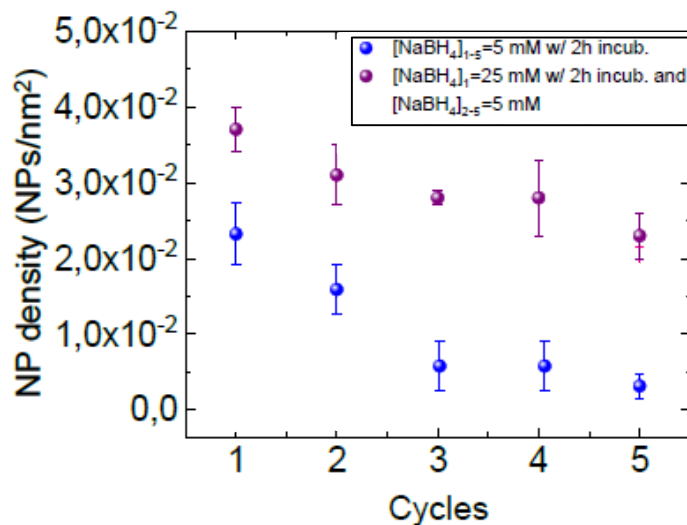
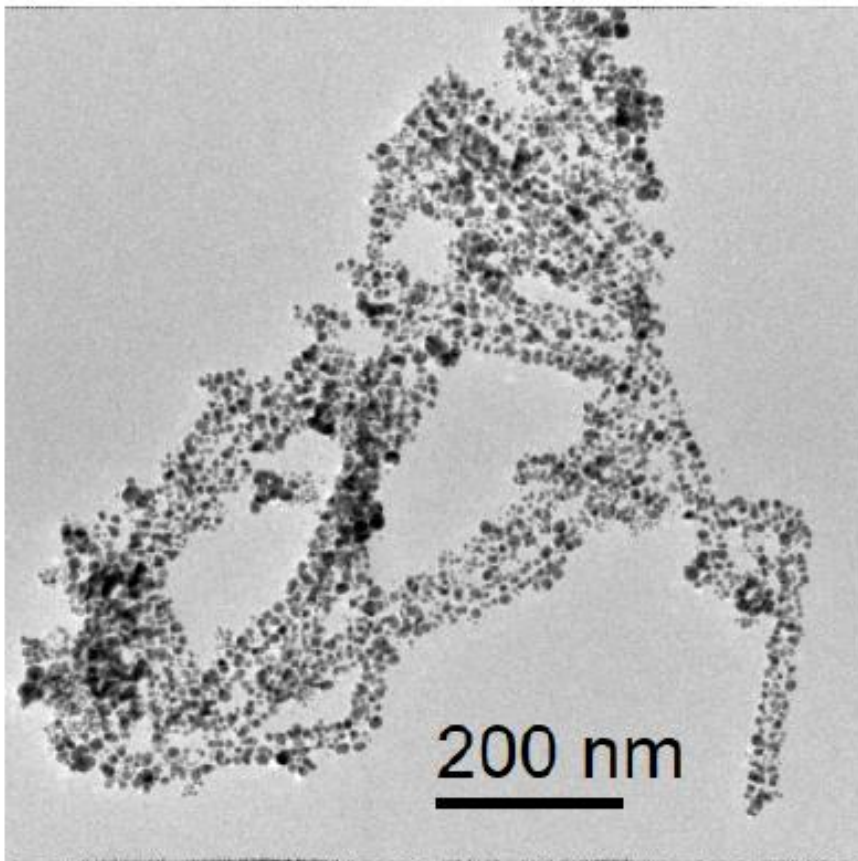


In situ TEM synthesis

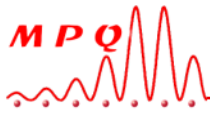


Bench scale synthesis



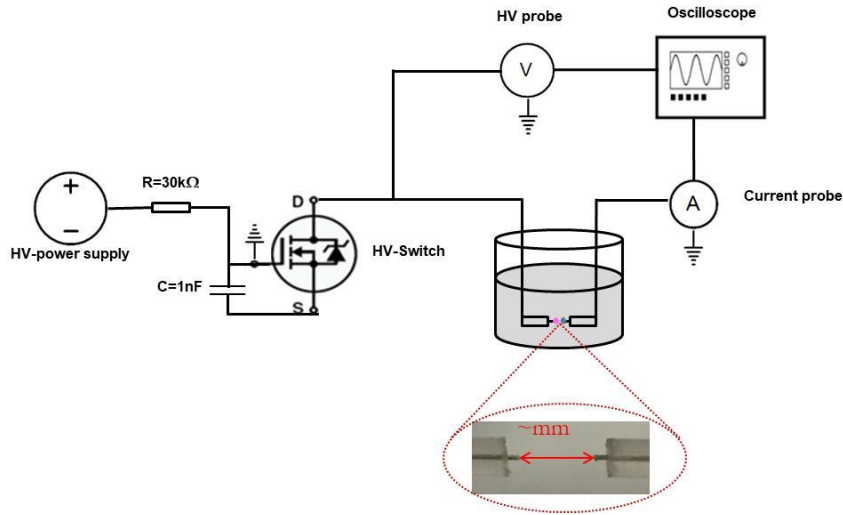


Bench-scale synthesis:
Viruses decorated with a higher density of NPs



Can LPTEM experiments be compared with plasma driven synthesis ?

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Large scale and clean synthesis processes !

Pulsed plasma discharge in water



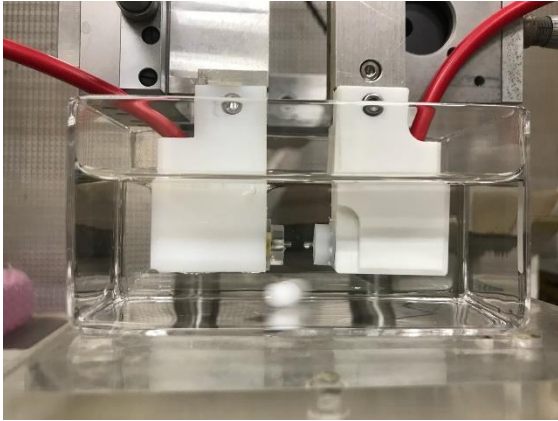
Excitation, ionization and dissociation of water molecules by electron impact



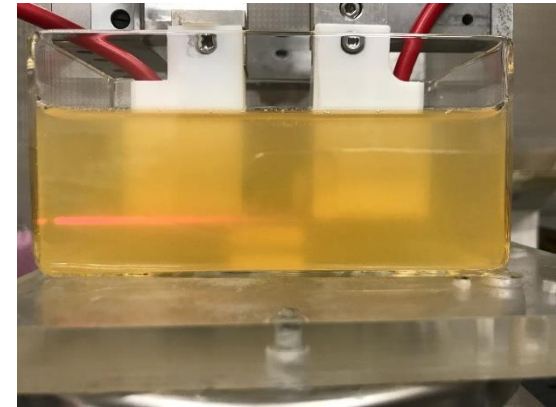
$\text{OH}^\bullet, \text{H}^\bullet, \text{H}_2\text{O}^+, e^-, \text{H}_3\text{O}^+, (e_{aq}^-), \text{H}_2\text{O}_2, \text{O}_2, \text{H}_2$
(same reactive species than in the electron beam driven radiolysis of water)

Précursors : $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{Fe}(\text{SO}_4)_2$

pH = 3-4



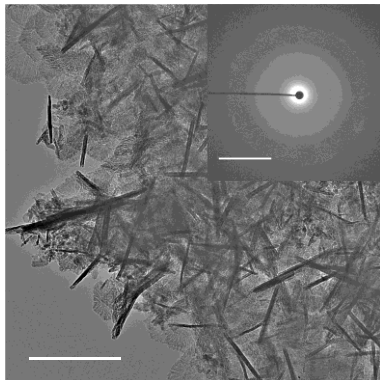
Plasma 10 kV



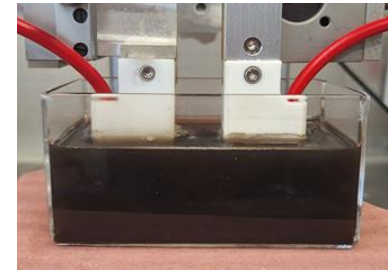
No crystalline nanostructures

pH = 11

Amorphous $\text{Fe}(\text{OH})_2$

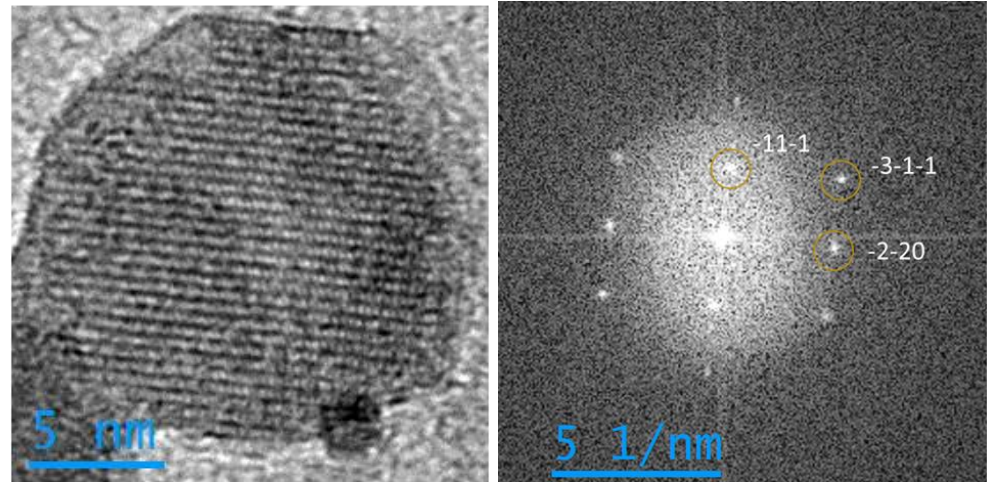
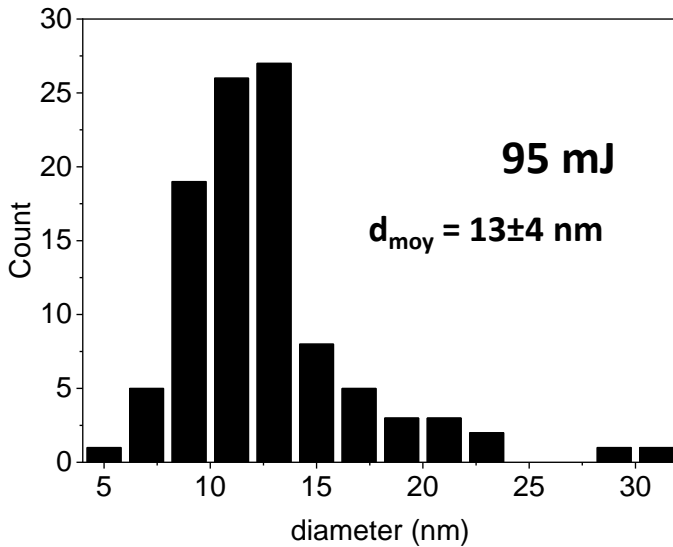
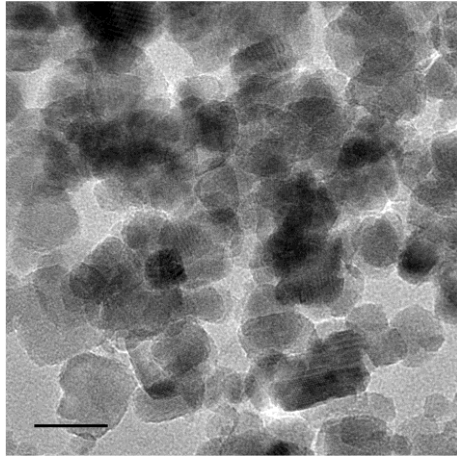


Plasma 10 kV



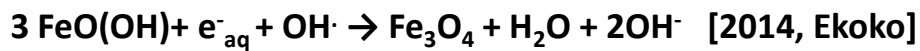
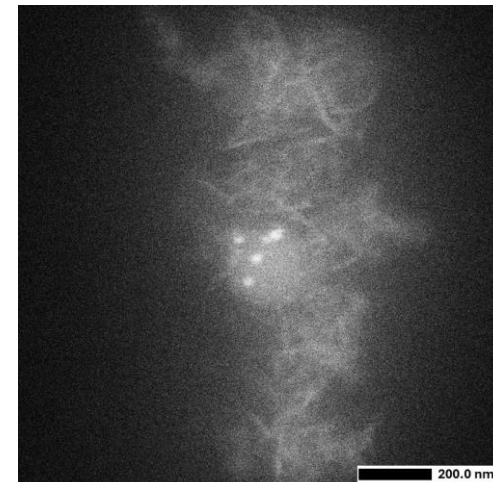
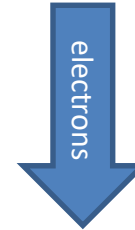
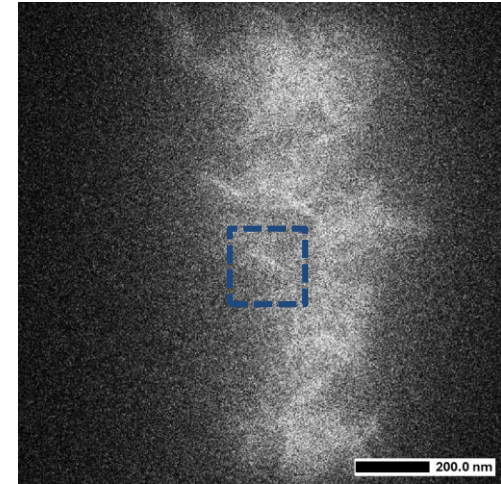
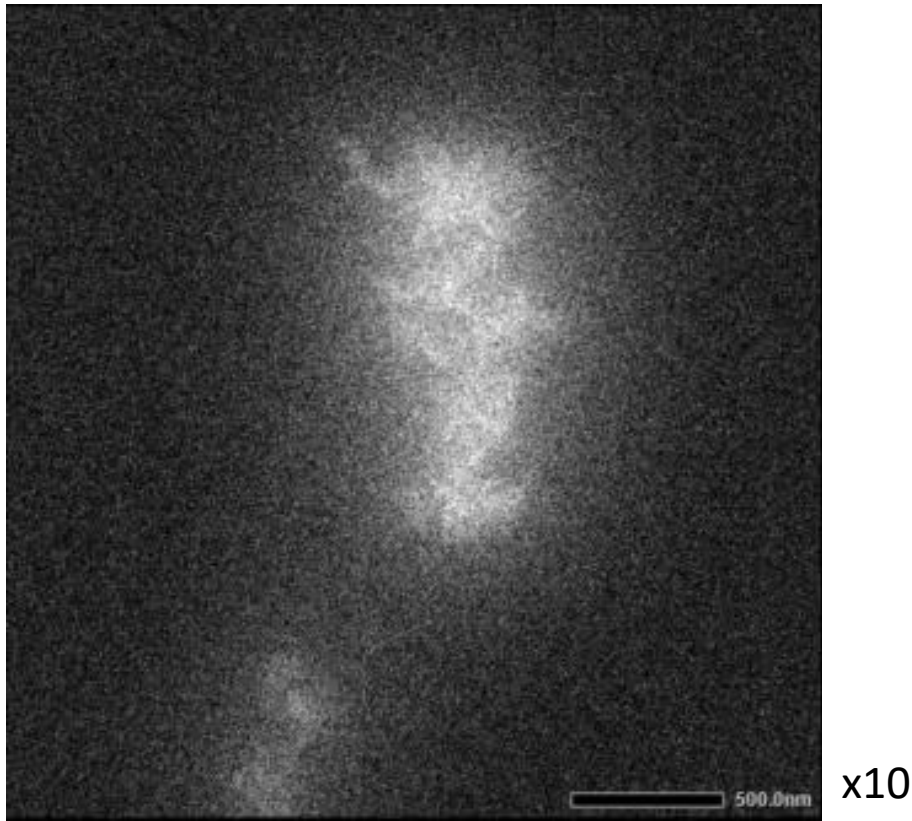
Magnetic colloids

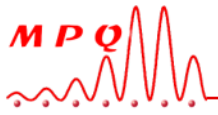
95 mJ (10kV)



Inverse spinel structure : $\gamma\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ or Fe_3O_4

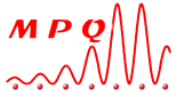
in situ TEM Conditions : $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{Fe}(\text{SO}_4)_2$ à 1 mM, pH 10-12





Thank you

RPF 2024



Jaysen Nelayah
 Christian Ricolleau
 Guillaume Wang
 Nathaly Ortiz Pena
 Abdelali Khelfa
 Abdallah Nassereddine
 Hakim Amara
 Syrine Krouna
 Adrien Momcombe
 Vinavadini Ramnarai
 Thomas Blin



Cyrille Hamon
 Daru Constantin
 Claire Goldmann



Arlette Vega Gonzalez



Cora Moreira da Silva
 Thanh Ha Duong
 Frederic Kanoufi
 Jean Marc Noel
 Jean Francois Lemineur

Foundings :





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11th - 23th May 2025

6th edition

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