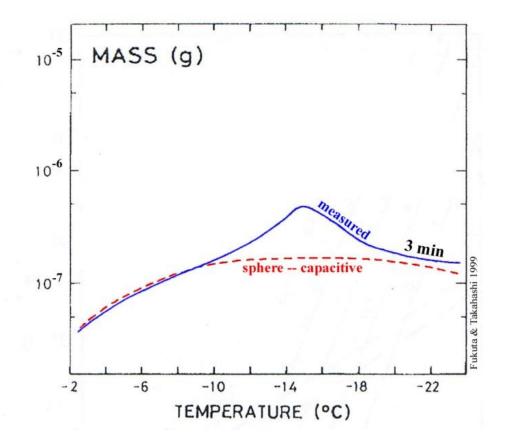


No influence from crystal surface



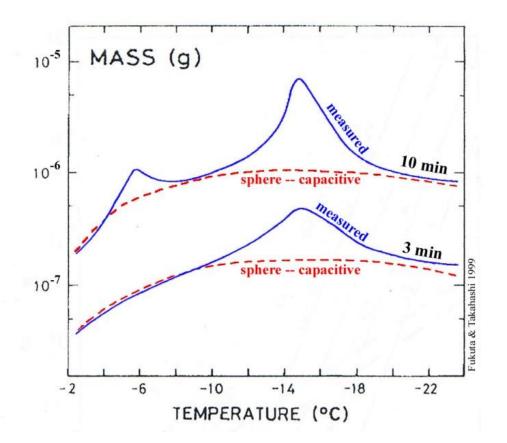
Mass uptake influence from habit

Growth along water saturation line





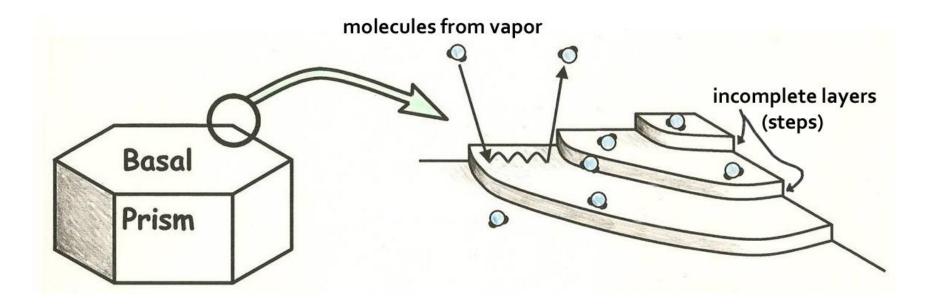
Mass uptake influence from habit



Crystal surface clearly influences growth



On the surface: growth by layers



vapor molecules → surface surface molecules → edge of incomplete layers (step edge) steps sweep across surface → growth normal to surface



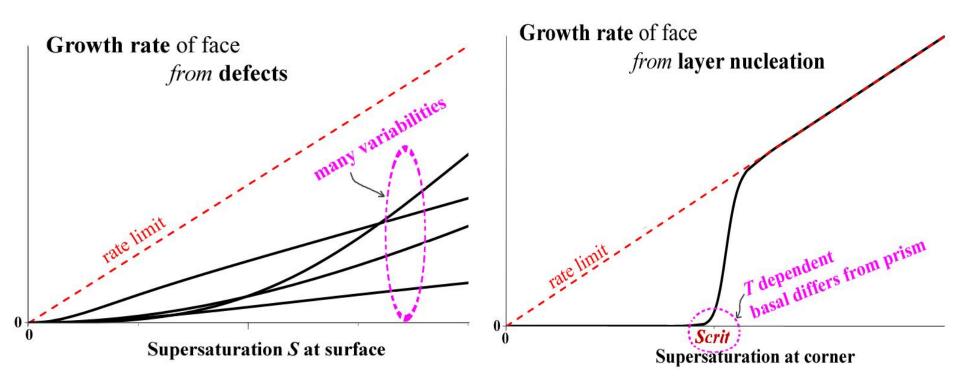
Growth by layers



crystal thickness shown by its color

- 1) Basal face advances (crystal thickens) by the spreading layers.
- 2) Some crystals only grow laterally; their basal faces don't grow.

But how do new layers start?



Layer nucleation on snow:

- Nucleate at corners, where S is highest
- Scrit differs between basal and prism
- Scrit depends on temperature

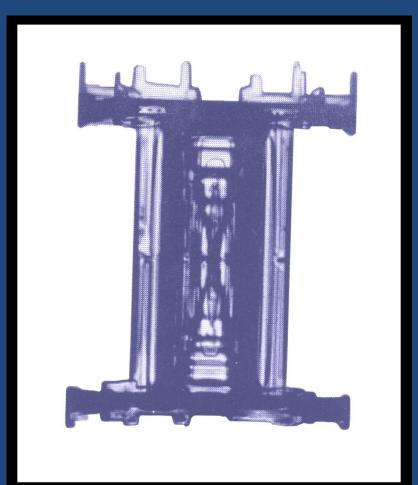


How layer nucleation can explain habit



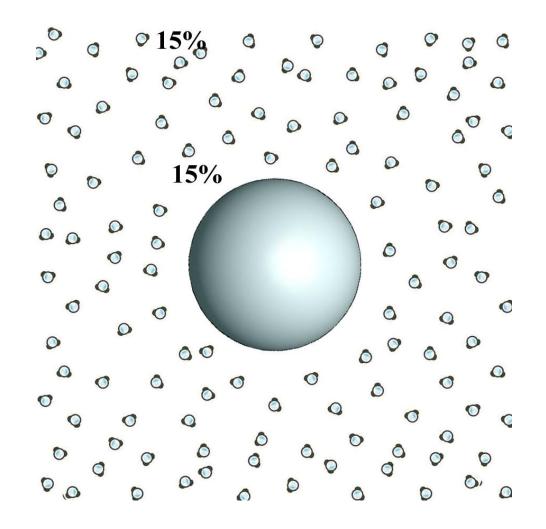


1) Tabular-columnar transitions



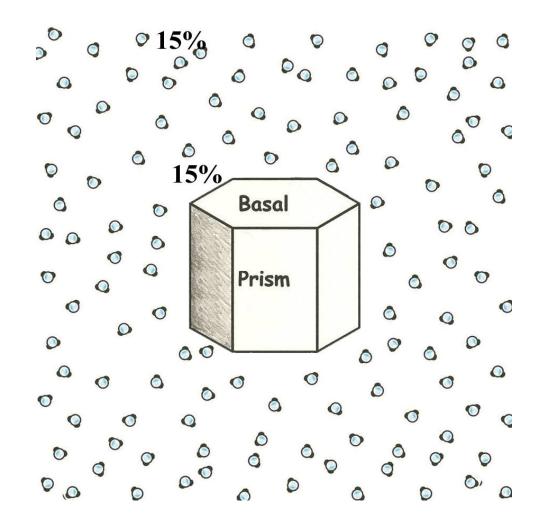


The crystal begins...



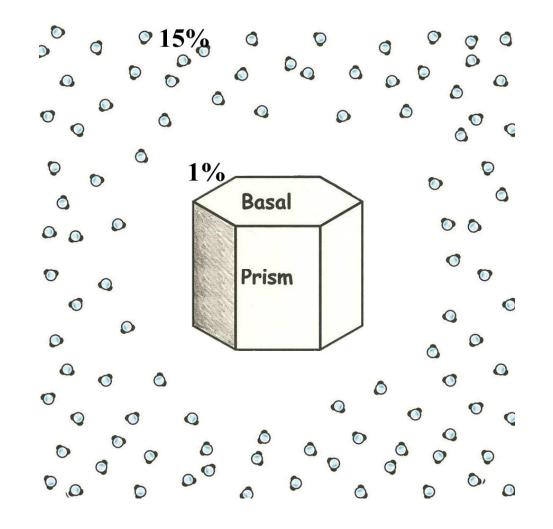


The crystal begins...



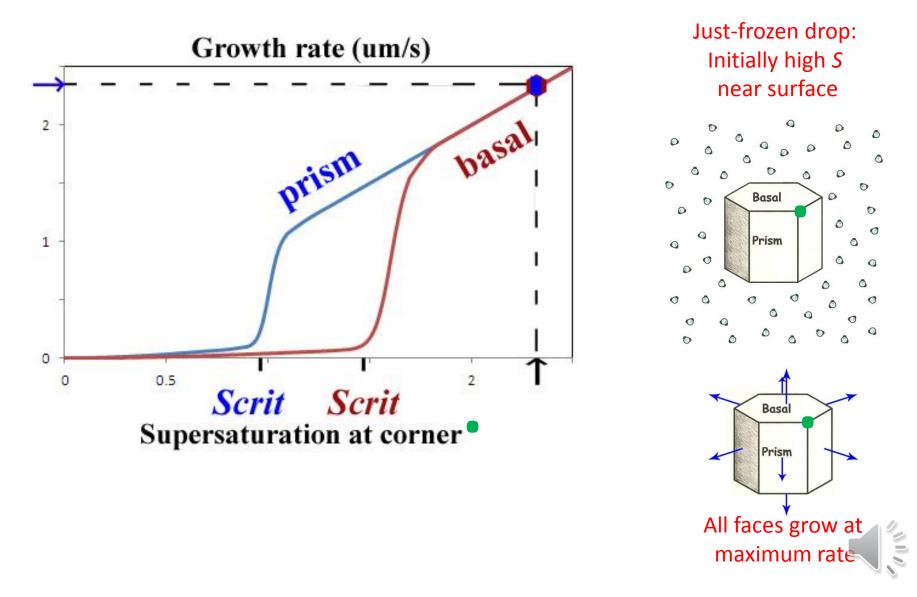


...and surface supersaturation drops

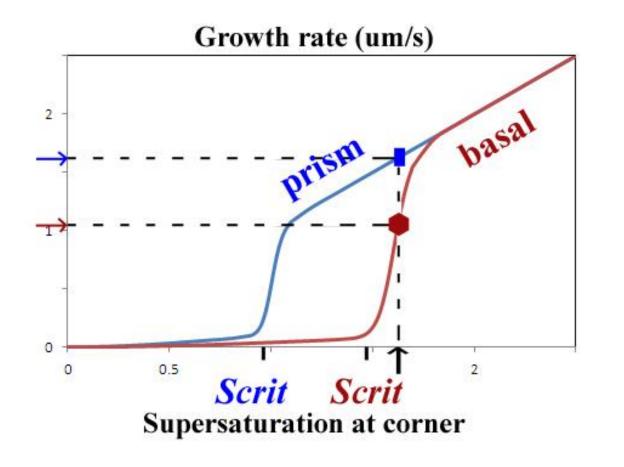


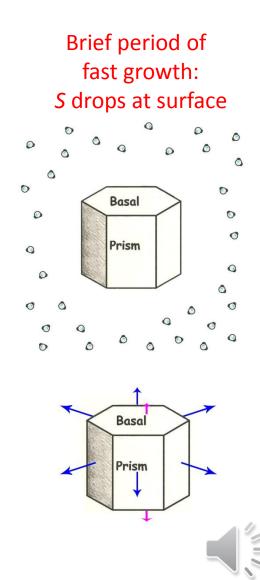


Why tabular? (1 of 3)

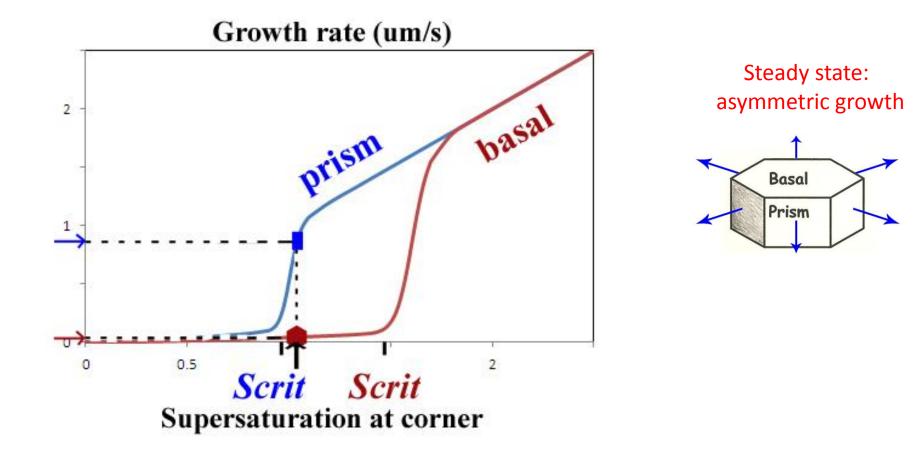


Why tabular? (2 of 3)



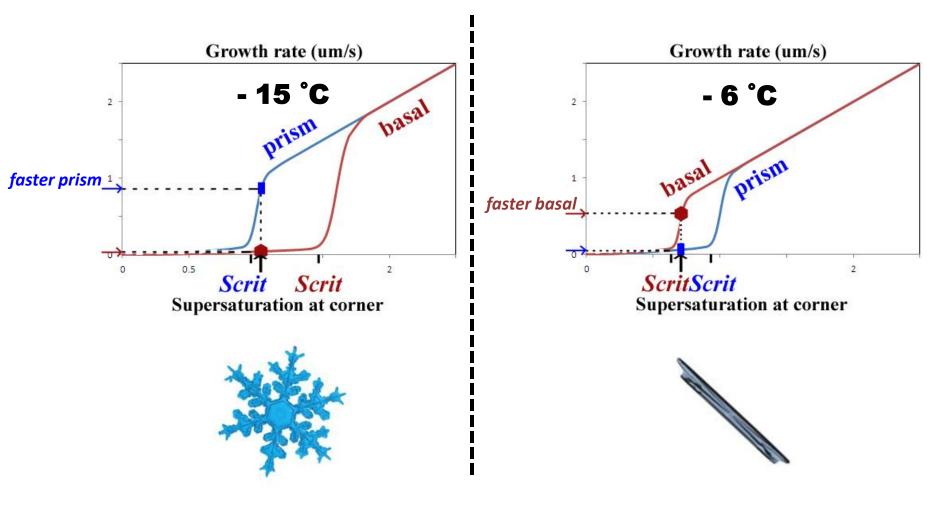


Why tabular? (3 of 3)

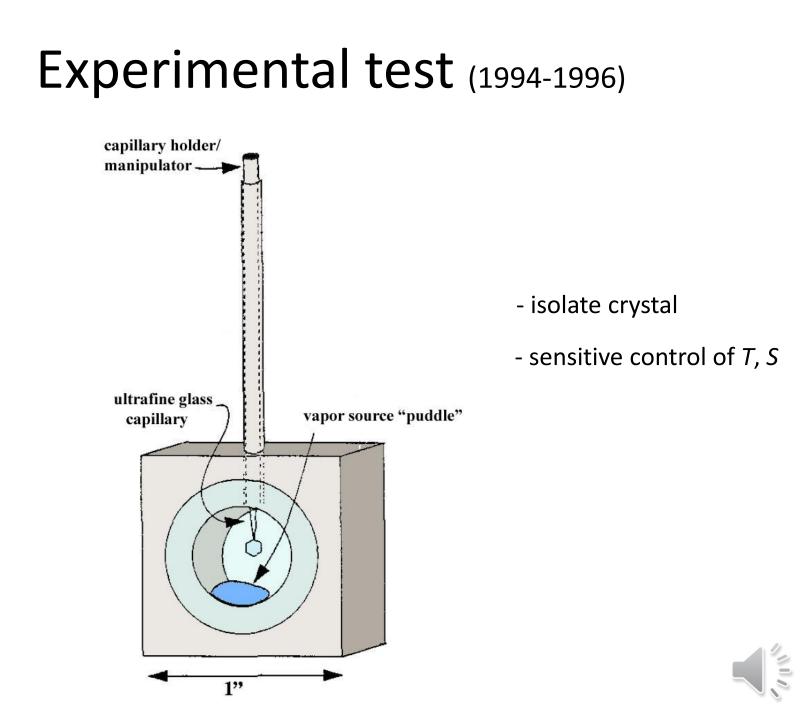


Basal face essentially stops nucleating layers: only prism can grow

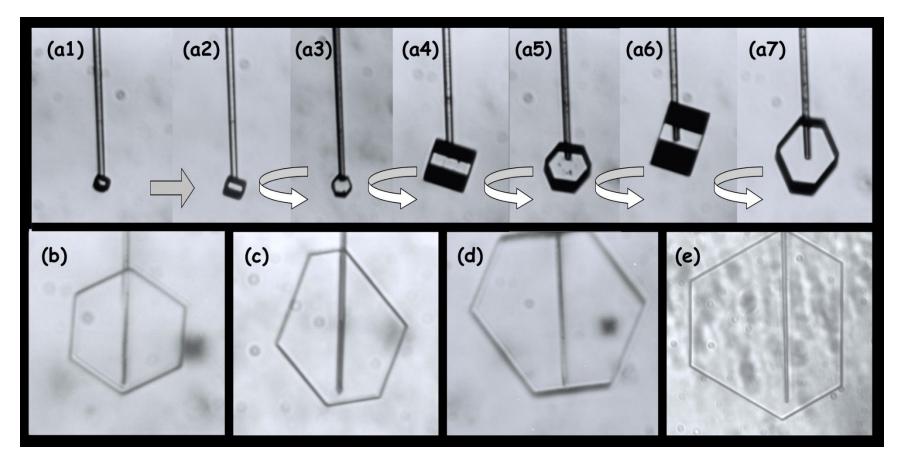
Tabular-columnar transitions



Small change in Scrit (from T change) changes dendrites to need

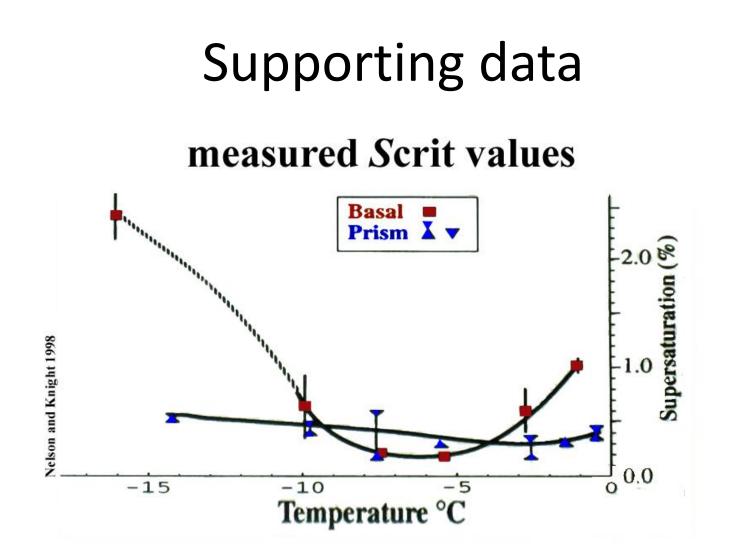


Results

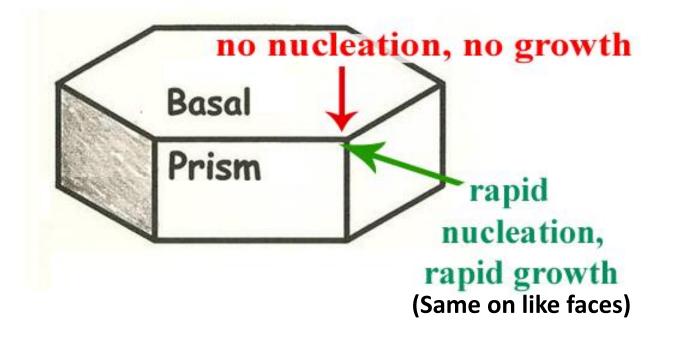


Defect-free faces common: exhibit reproducible Scrit





Prism Scrit nearly constant, basal Scrit has minimum near -6 °C, below prism Scrit, <u>leading to the observed habit transitions</u> And so, for example, the dendrites are extremely thin and flat because near -15 °C the basal face cannot nucleate any new layers.





Direct observation of layer nucleation





Direct observation of layer nucleation





2) Branching and sidebranching



