
MLL 100

Introduction to Materials Science and Engineering

Lecture-17 (February 12, 2022)

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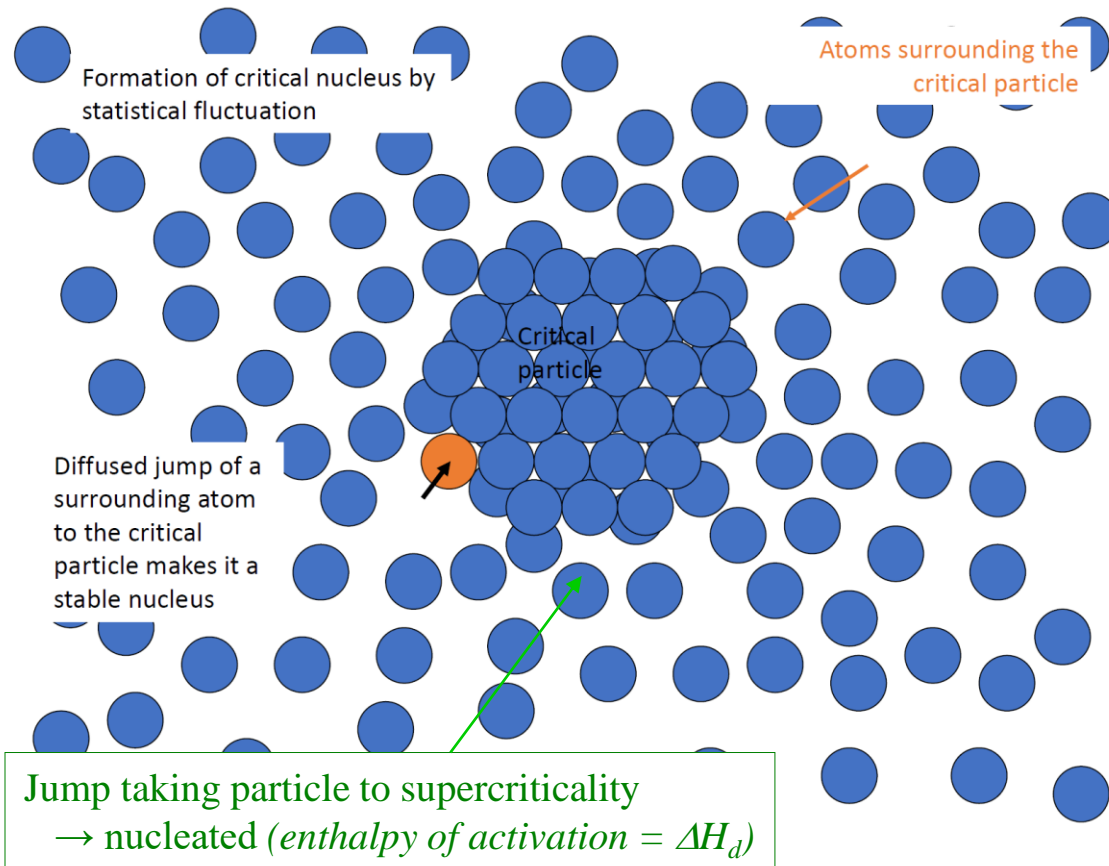
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What have we learnt in Lecture-16?

- ☐ Heterogeneous nucleation
- ☐ Wetting property

Parameters influencing nucleation rate



- Potential atoms capable of jumping to make a critical nucleus supercritical are the atoms which are just 'adjacent' to the liquid, say s^* .
- If the **lattice vibration frequency is ν** and the **activation barrier** for an atom facing the nucleus (i.e. atom belonging to s^*) to jump into the nucleus (to make it supercritical) is ΔH_d , the frequency with which nuclei become supercritical due to atomic jumps into the nucleus

$$\nu' = s^* \nu e^{\left(-\frac{\Delta H_d}{kT}\right)}$$

Rate of nucleation

$$I = \frac{dN}{dt}$$

No. of critical sized particles

$$N^* = N_t e^{\left(-\frac{\Delta G^*}{kT}\right)}$$

No. of particles/volume

Frequency with which they become supercritical

$$\nu' = s^* \nu e^{\left(-\frac{\Delta H_d}{kT}\right)}$$

$\nu \rightarrow$ lattice vibration frequency ($\sim 10^{13}$ /s)

Dependence of Nucleation rate on Temperature

□ How does the plot of nucleation rate vary with temperature?

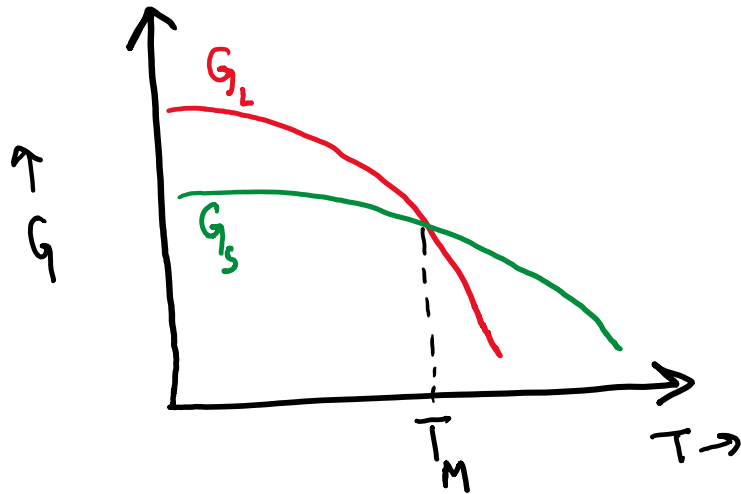
➤ At T_m , ΔG^* is $\infty \Rightarrow I = 0$ (if there is no undercooling there is no nucleation).

➤ At $T = 0$ K again $I = 0$

$$\Delta G^* = \frac{16\pi\gamma_{sl}^3}{3 \cdot (\Delta G_v)^2}$$

□ This implies that the function should reach a maximum between $T = T_m$ and $T = 0$.

□ Nucleation rate is not a monotonic function of undercooling.

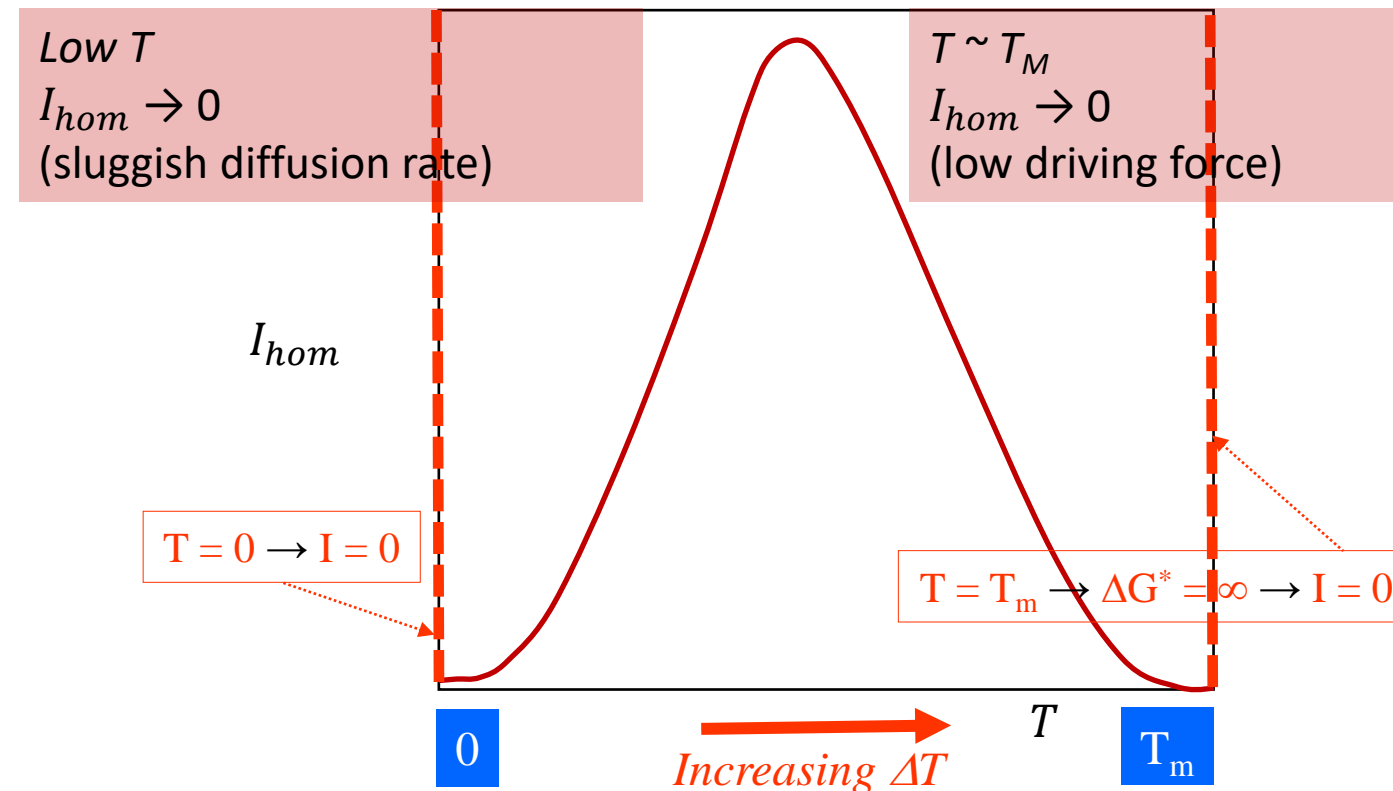


$$I = N_t s^* \nu e^{-\left(\frac{\Delta G^* + \Delta H_d}{kT}\right)}$$

■ $\Delta G^* \uparrow \Rightarrow I \downarrow$

■ $T \uparrow \Rightarrow I \uparrow$

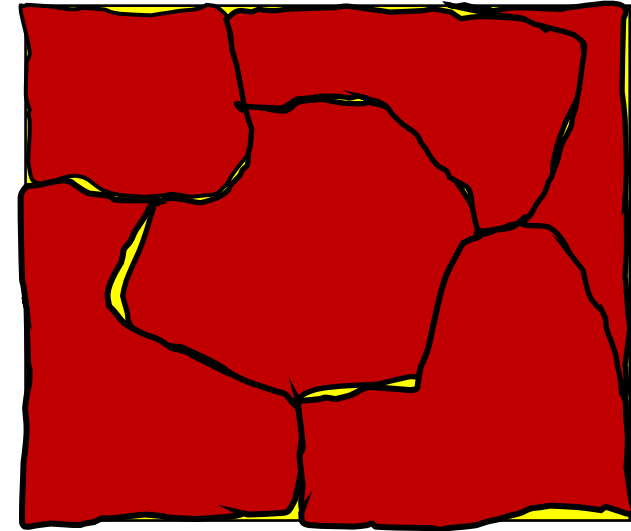
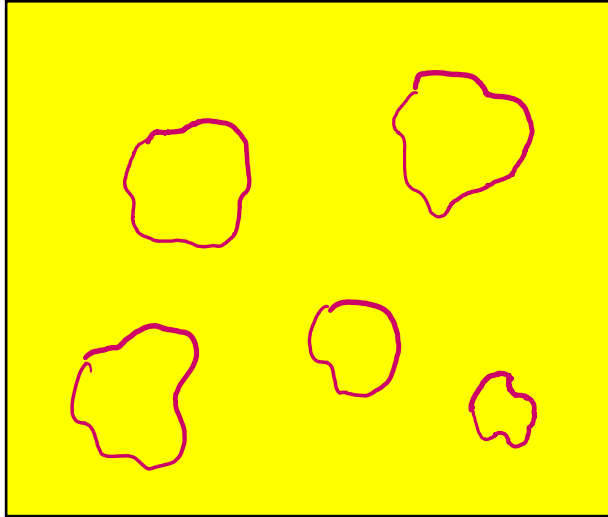
Note: ΔG^* is a function of T



Growth rate

- Fraction of the product phase (solid phase) forming with time

→ the sigmoidal growth curve

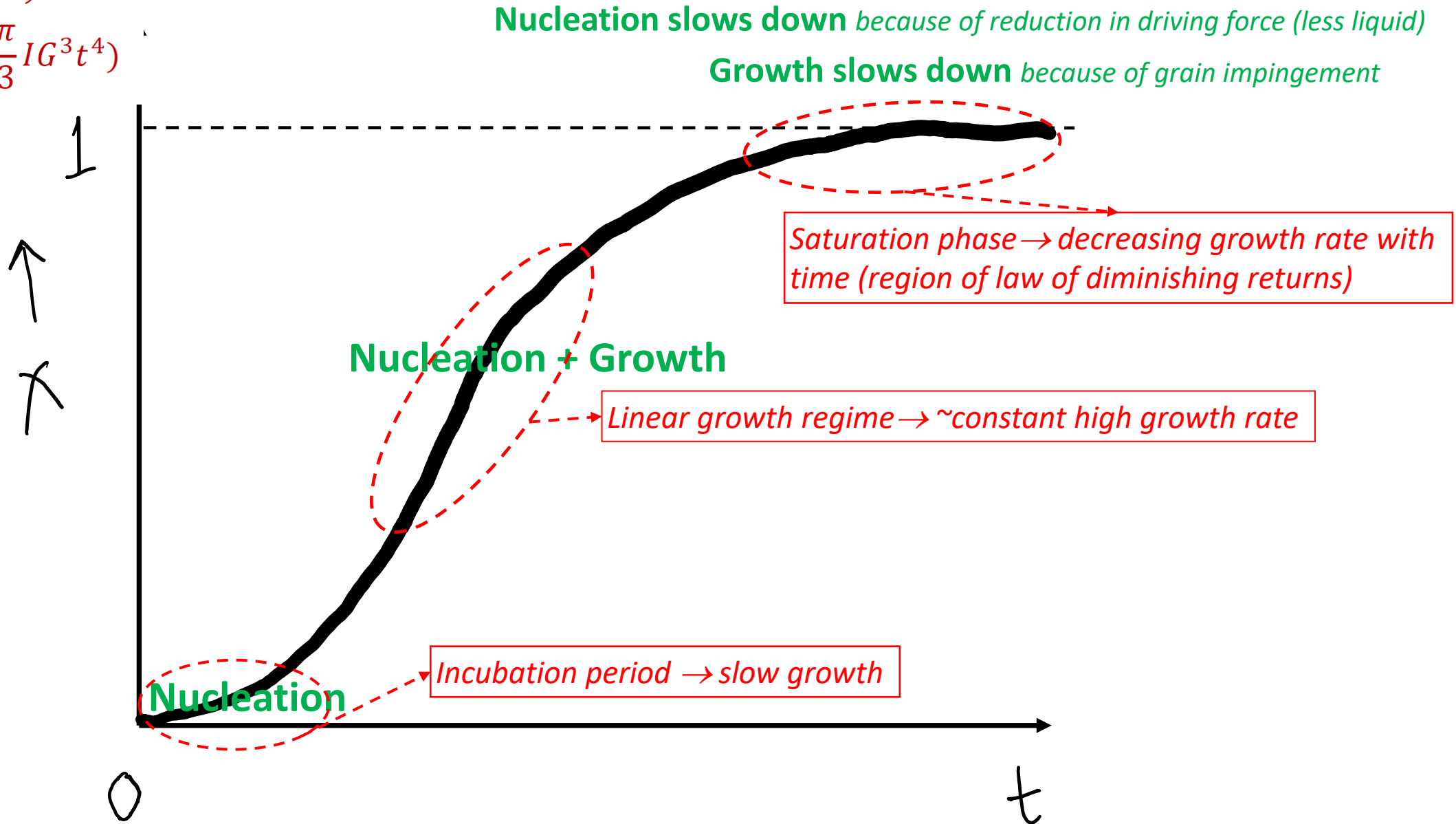


- Overall transformation rate, $\frac{dX}{dt}$ (s⁻¹):** Fraction transformed (X) per second.
- Nucleation Rate, I (in m⁻³s⁻¹):** No of nucleation events per unit volume per second.
- Growth Rate, $G = \frac{dR}{dt}$ (ms⁻¹):** Rate of increase of the size of growing particle.

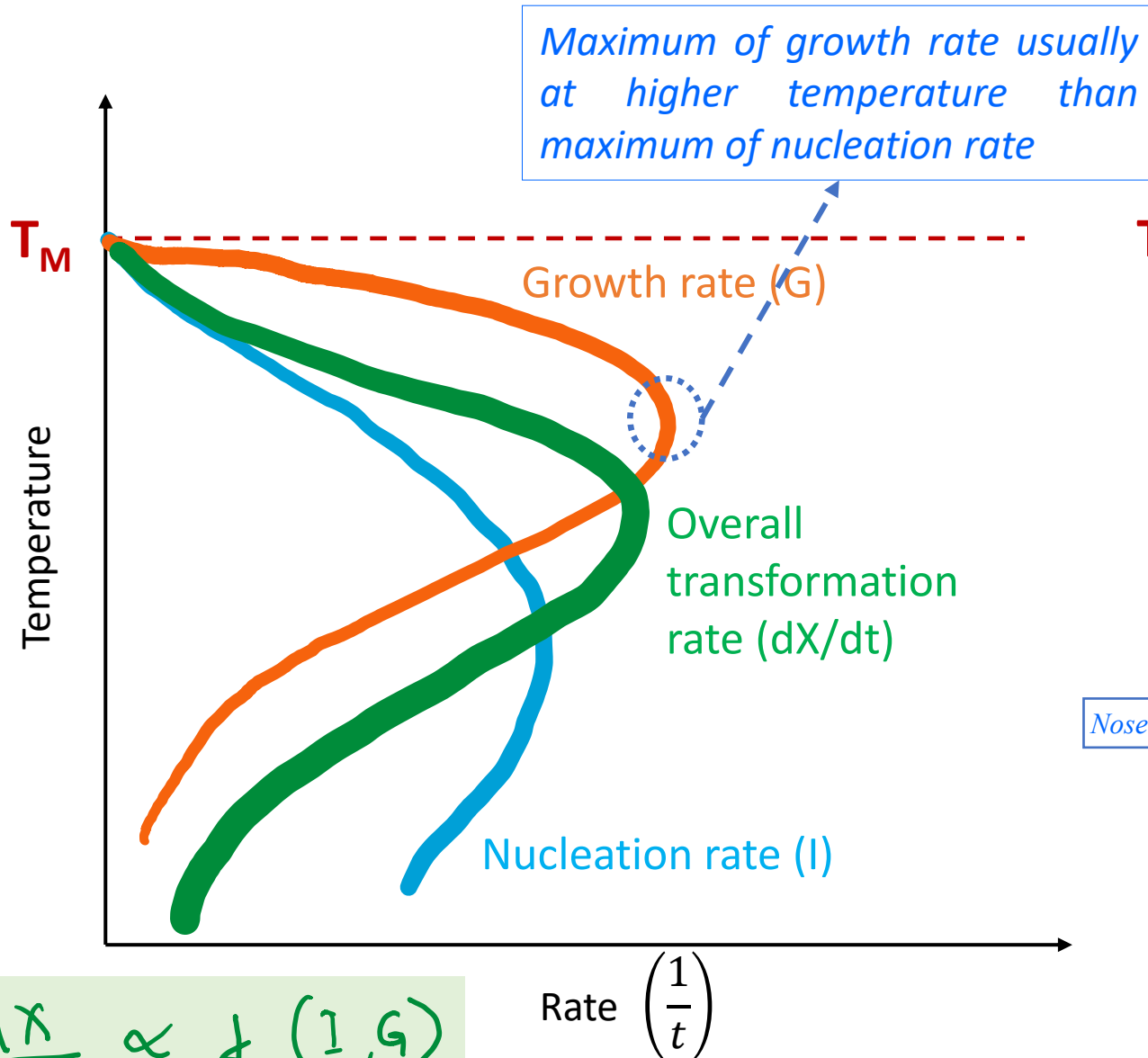
$$\frac{dX}{dt} = f(I, G)$$
$$X = 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{\pi}{3} I G^3 t^4\right)$$

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Transformation rate



$$\frac{dX}{dt} \propto f(I, G)$$

