



# Czech-Bavarian Mini-School 2020

## on Large Scale Facilities and Open Data

# Sample (Crystal) Growth



Dr. Ross Colman

# Crystal Growth

– has been around for a while



Buddhist scripture from mid 5<sup>th</sup> C BC  
describe crystallisation of sea salt



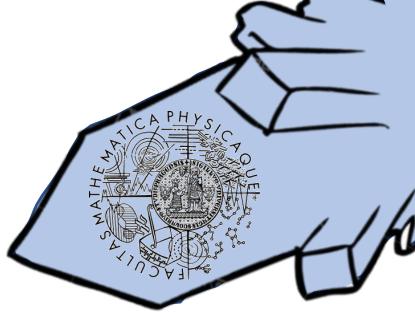


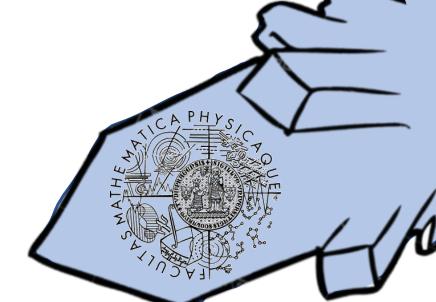
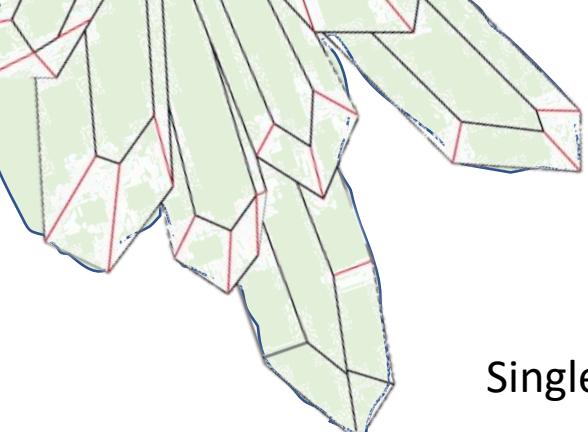
# Outline

1. Motivation for Growing Single Crystals

2. Getting Atoms Moving

3. Practical Growth Methods

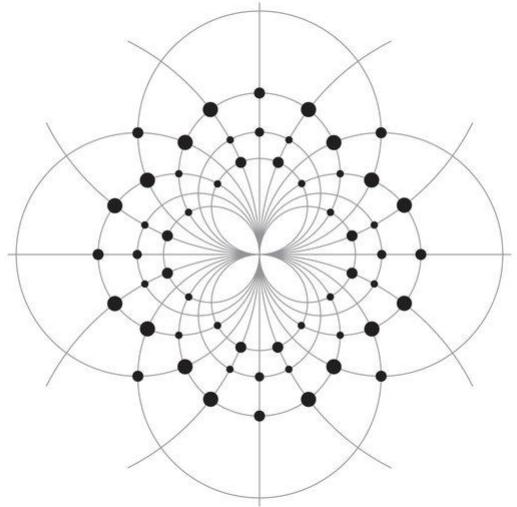
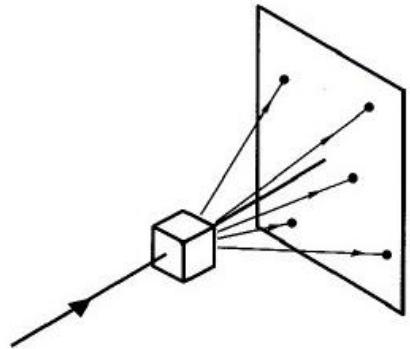




# Motivation for Growing Single Crystals

## Structure Solution

Single Crystal

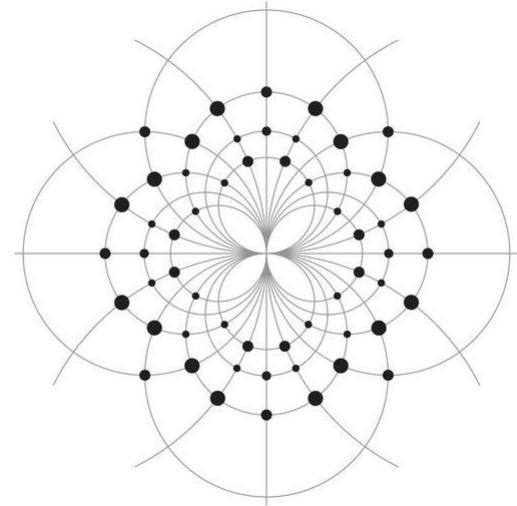
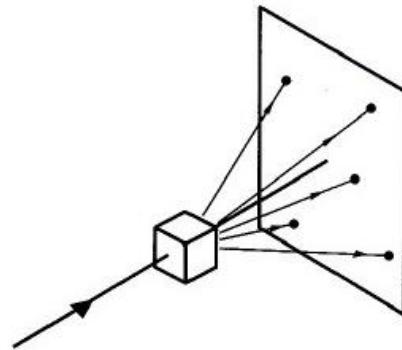


Polycrystalline (powder)

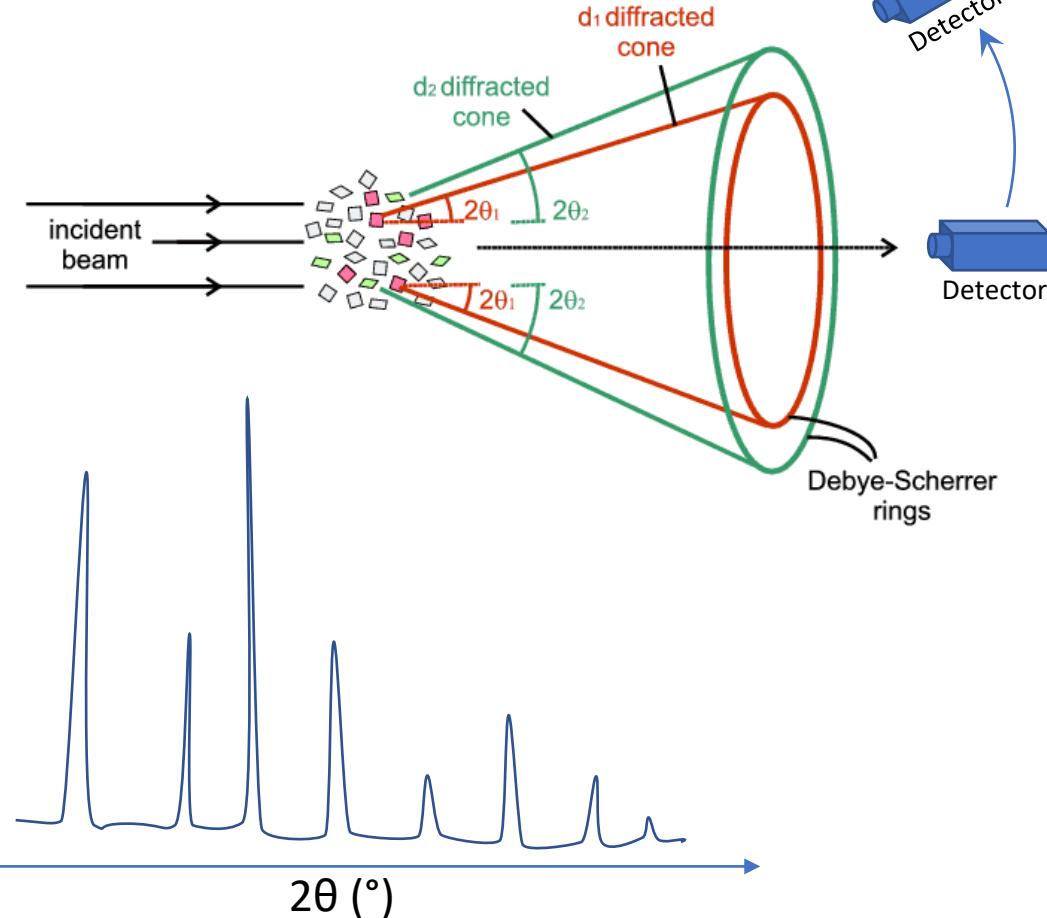
# Motivation for Growing Single Crystals

## Structure Solution

Single Crystal



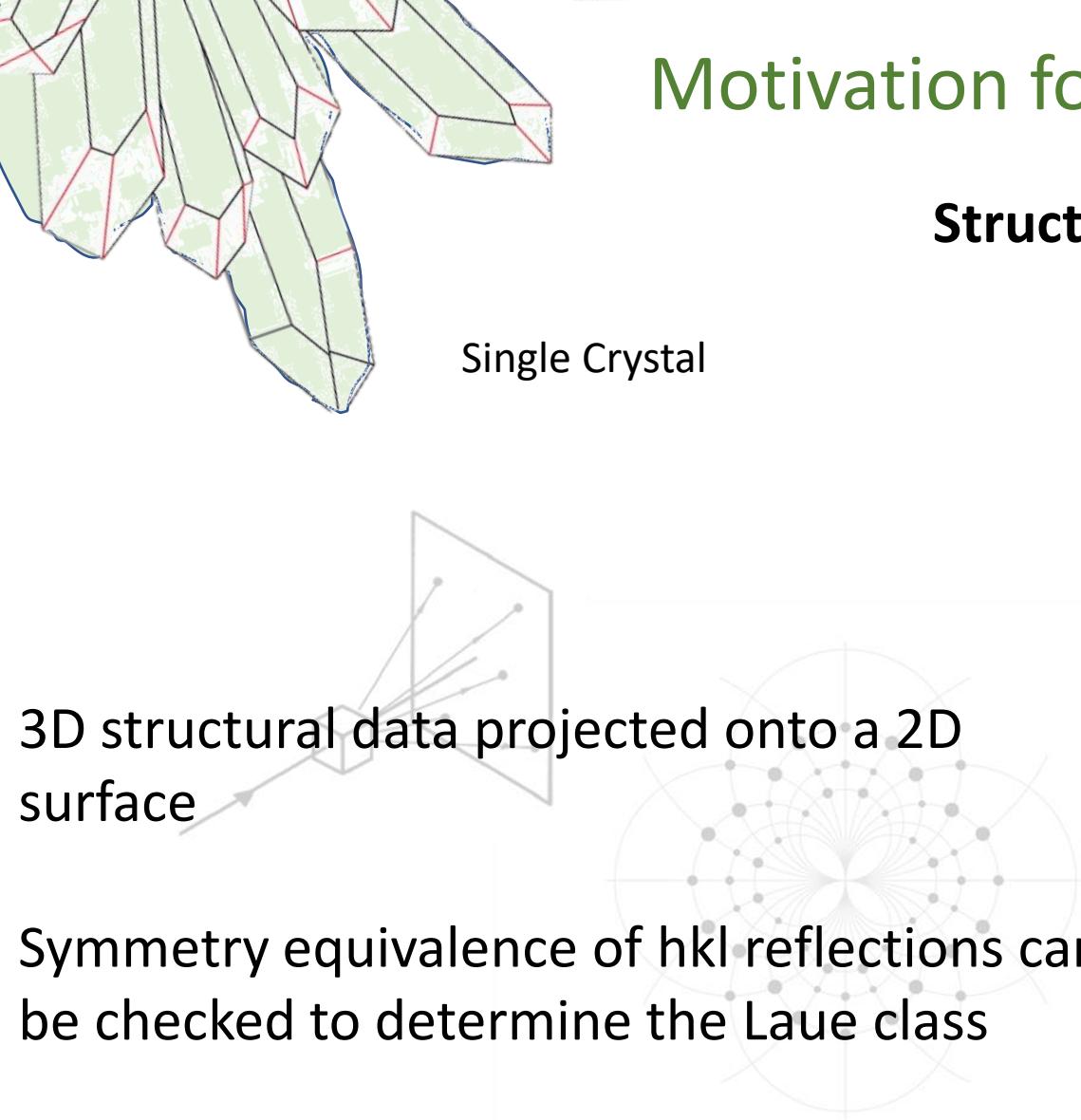
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# Motivation for Growing Single Crystals

## Structure Solution

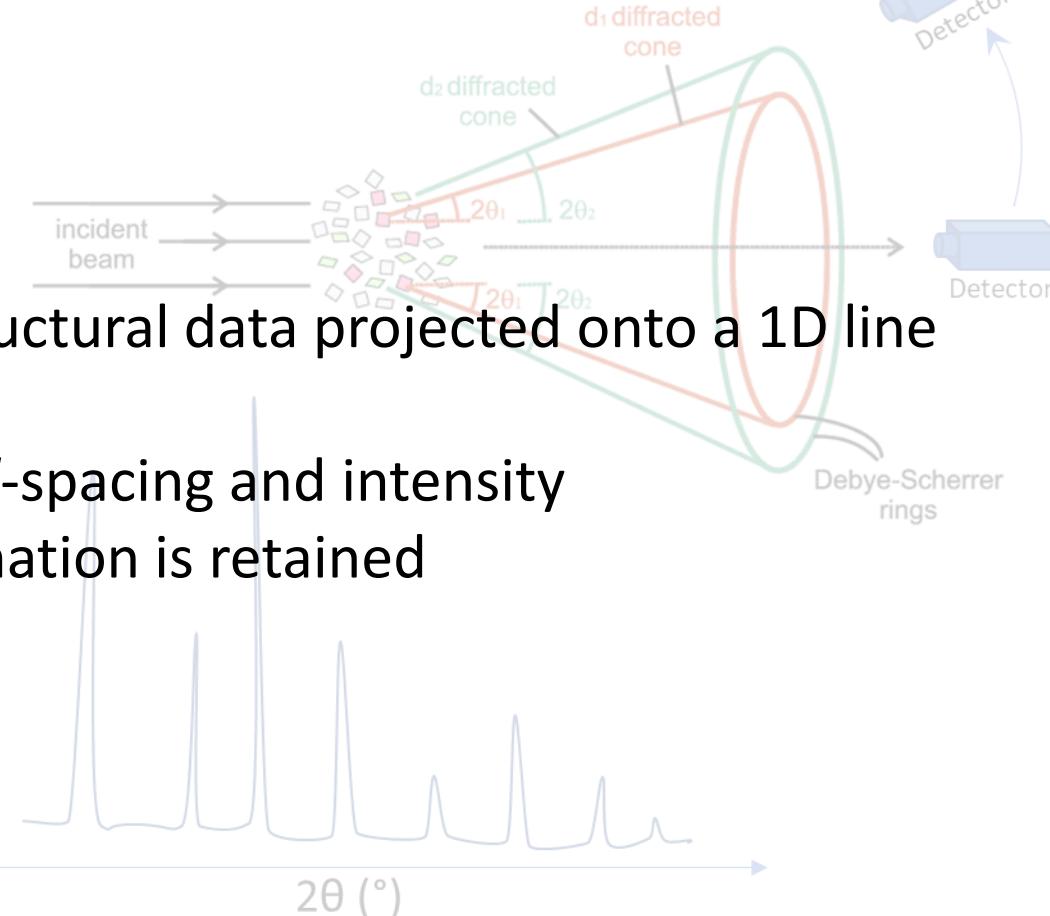
Single Crystal



3D structural data projected onto a 2D surface

Symmetry equivalence of  $hkl$  reflections can be checked to determine the Laue class

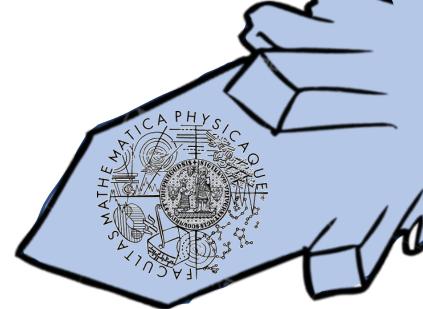
Polycrystalline (powder)



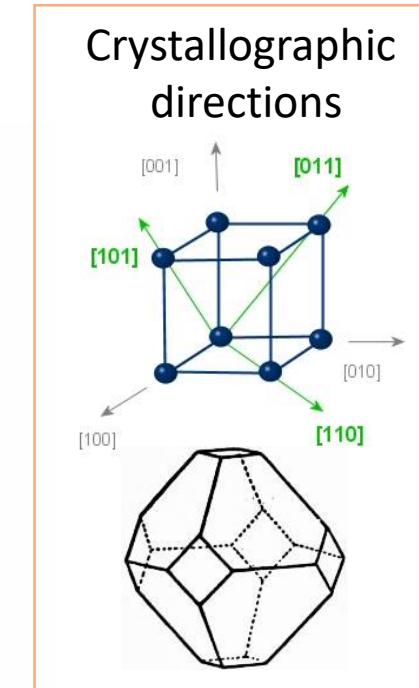
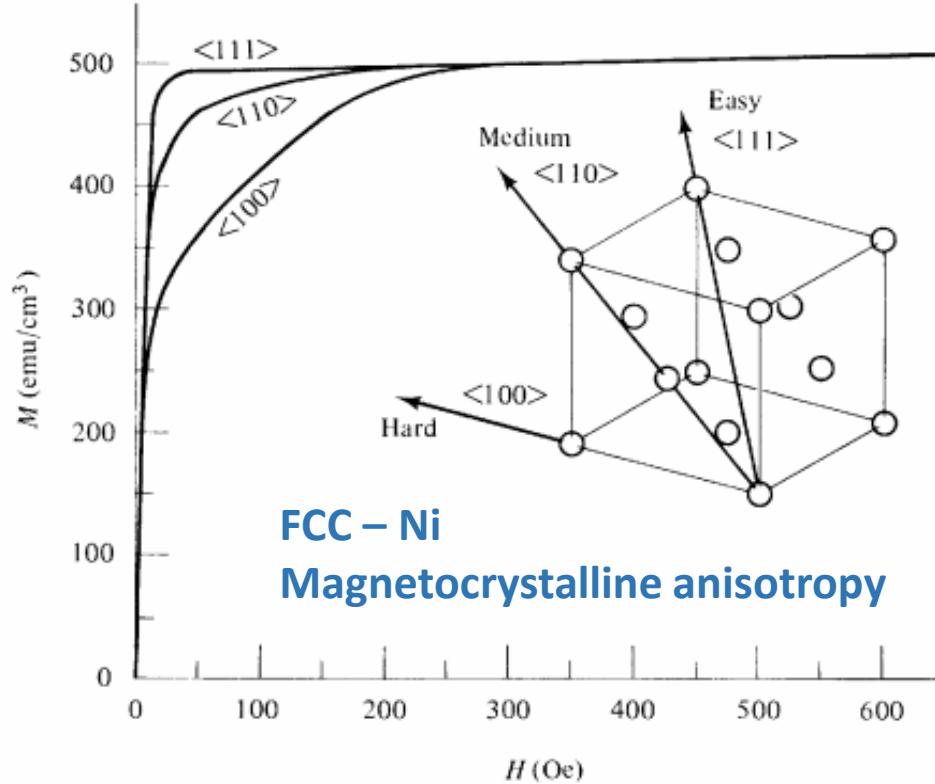
3D structural data projected onto a 1D line

Only  $d$ -spacing and intensity information is retained

# Motivation for Growing Single Crystals



## Property Measurements



Resistivity,  
Magnetoresistance

Hall-effect

Thermal expansion

Thermal conductivity

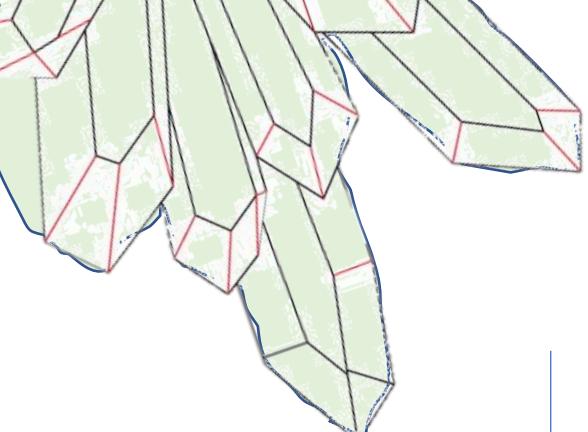


# Outline

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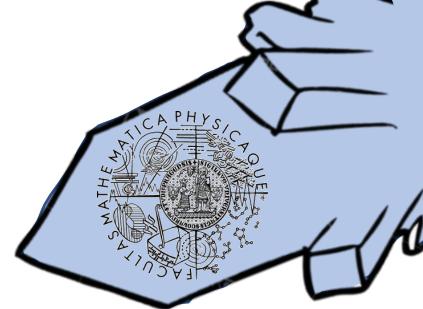
2. Getting Atoms Moving

3. Practical Growth Methods



# Getting Atoms Moving

## Recrystallisation



**Solid**

**Solid-State  
Reorganisation**  
 $(T < T_{melt})$

**Melting**  
 $(T > T_{melt})$

**Liquid**

**Dissolving**  
 $(T > T_{solvation})$

**Flux**  
(reduced the energy  
barrier to  
reorganisation)

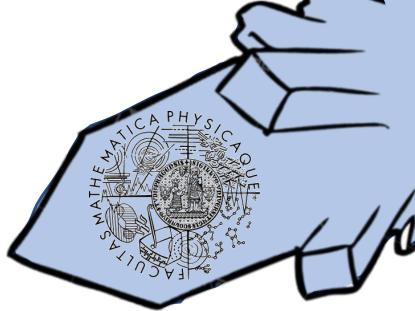
$$E_{\text{fusion}} > E_{\text{solvation}}$$

**Gas**

**Sublimation/Condensation**  
 $(T > T_{vap})$

**Chemical transport**  
 $(T < T_{vap})$

# Getting Atoms Moving



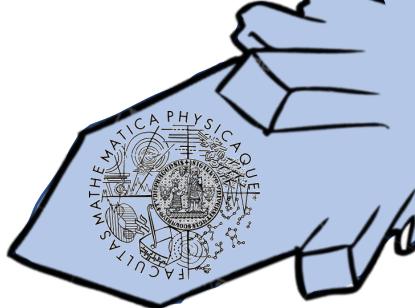
## Heating methods

### Resistive heating

- Standard box and tube furnaces



# Getting Atoms Moving

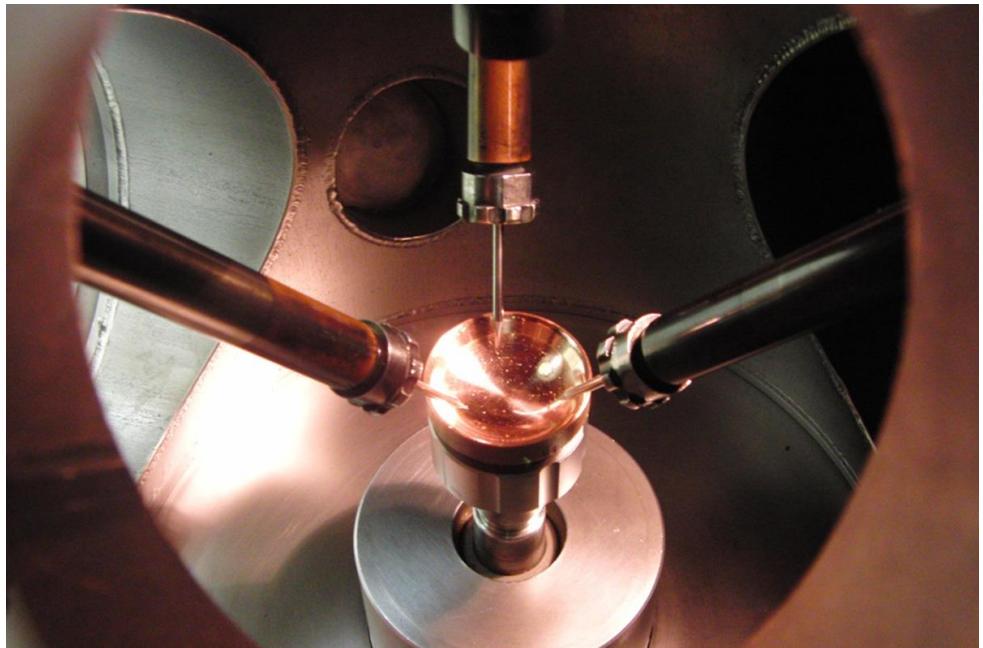
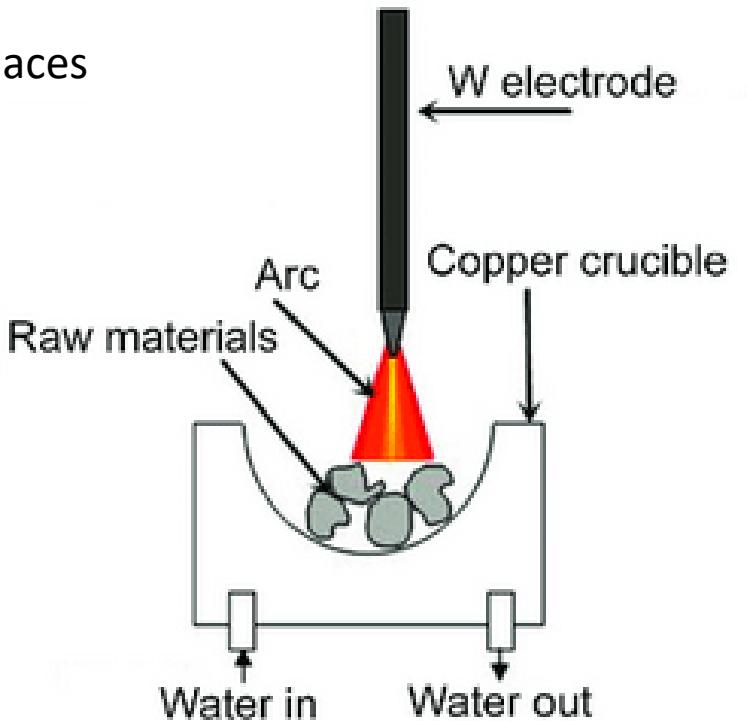


## Heating methods

### Resistive heating

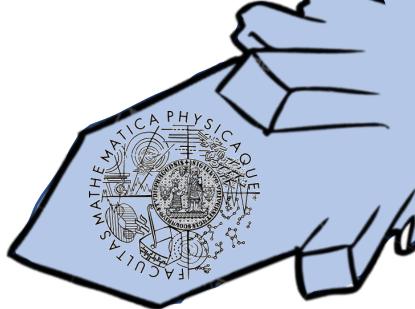
- Standard box and tube furnaces

### Arc discharge



S. Fashu, M. Lototskyy, et al., Mater. Des. **186**, 108295 (2020).

# Getting Atoms Moving



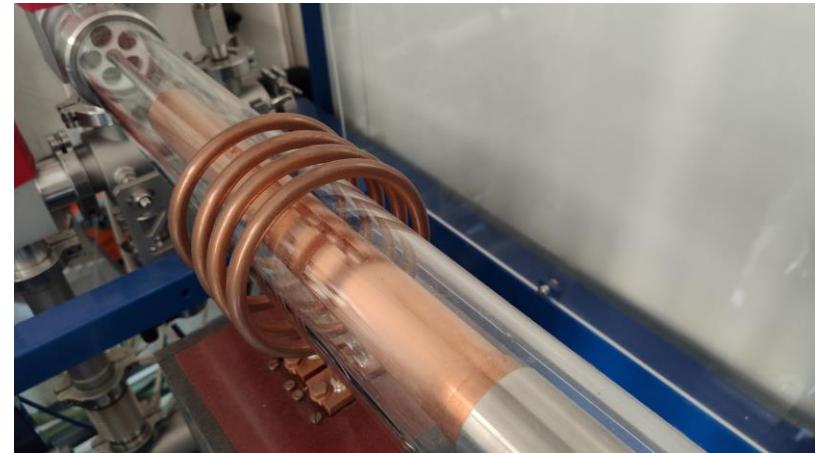
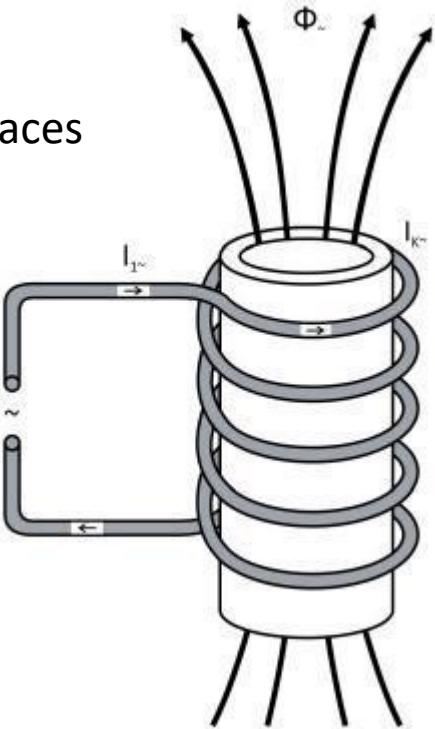
## Heating methods

Resistive heating

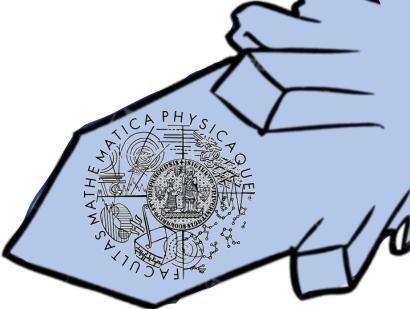
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Arc discharge

Induction heating



# Getting Atoms Moving



Resistive heating

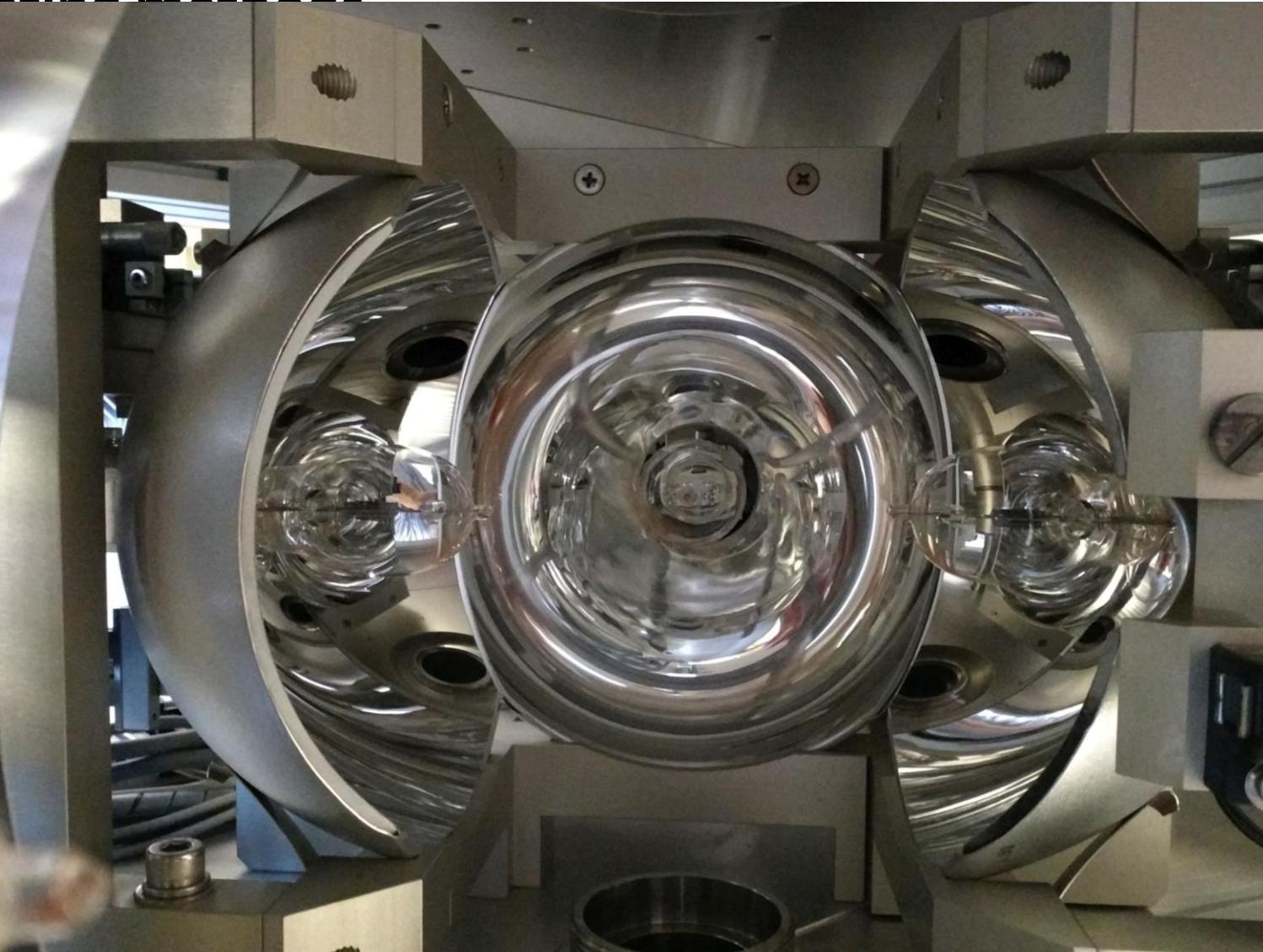
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Arc discharge

Induction heating

**Optical (IR) heating**

## Heating methods



# Getting Atoms Moving

Resistive heating

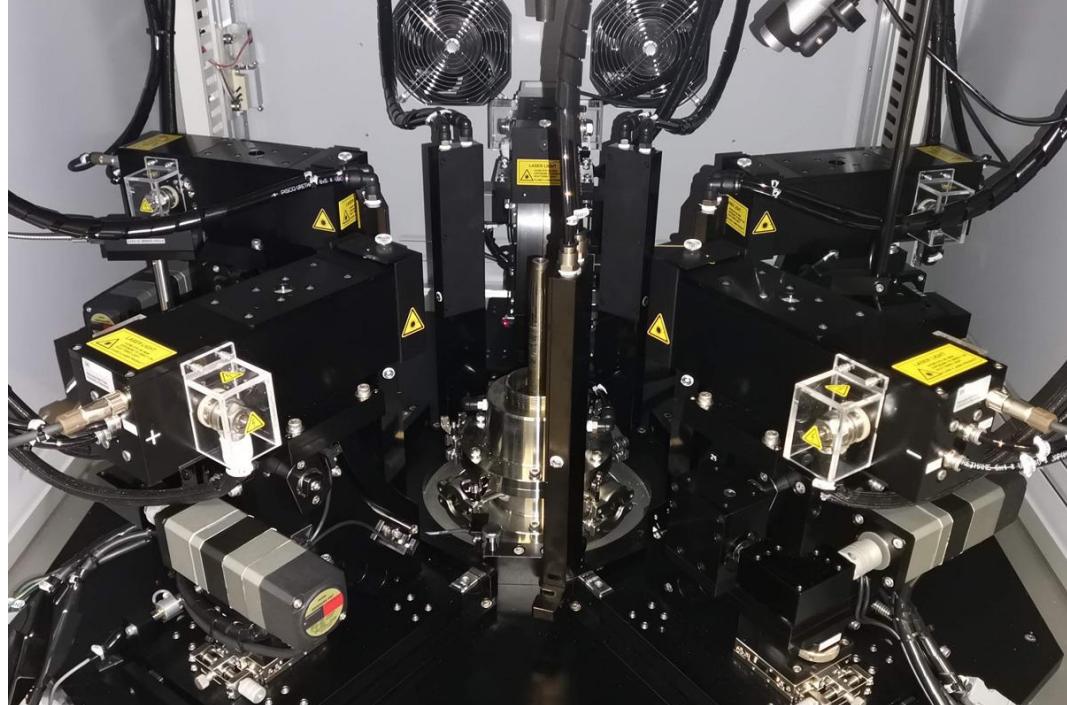
- Standard box and tube furnaces

Arc discharge

Induction heating

Optical (IR) heating

Laser (IR) heating



# Getting Atoms Moving

Resistive heating

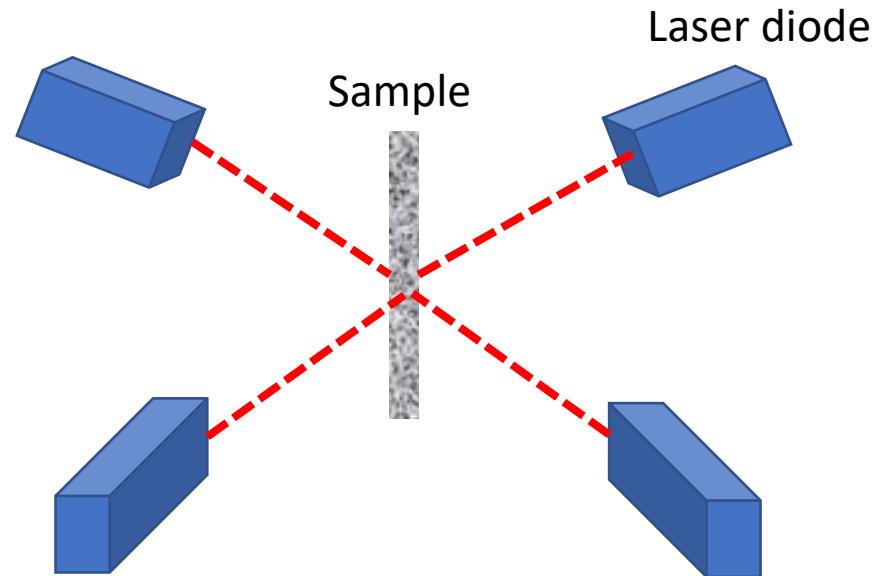
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Arc discharge

Induction heating

Optical (IR) heating

**Laser (IR) heating**



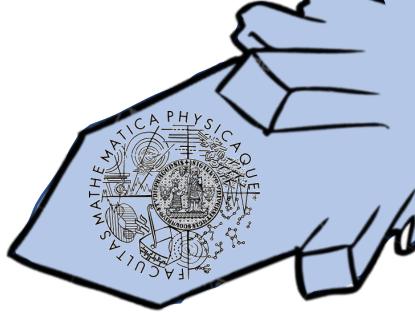


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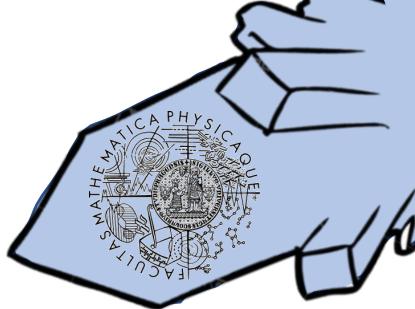
1. Motivation for Growing Single Crystals

2. Getting Atoms Moving

3. Practical Growth Methods



# Practical Growth Methods



## Solid State Sintering

### Pros:

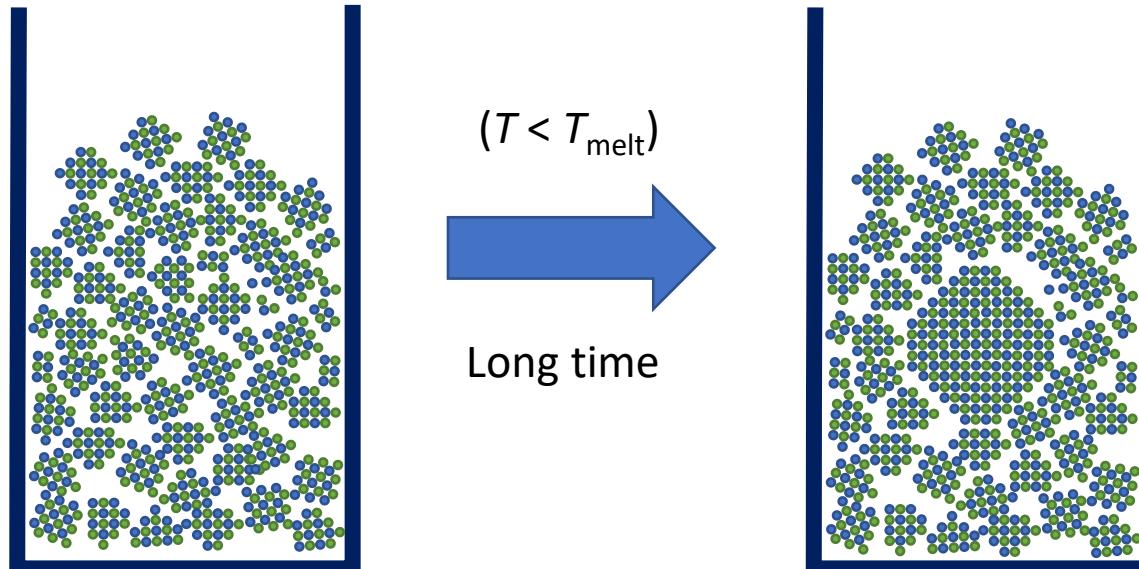
Relative simplicity

### Cons:

Long times required

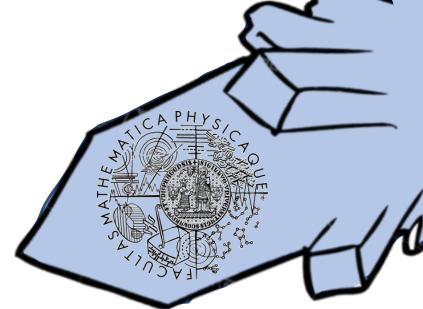
Small crystals

Crystal isolation is tricky



F. Scheibel, B. Zingsem, et al.,  
Phys. Rev. Mater. **3**, 54403 (2019).

# Practical Growth Methods



## Recrystallising from a melt

### Pros:

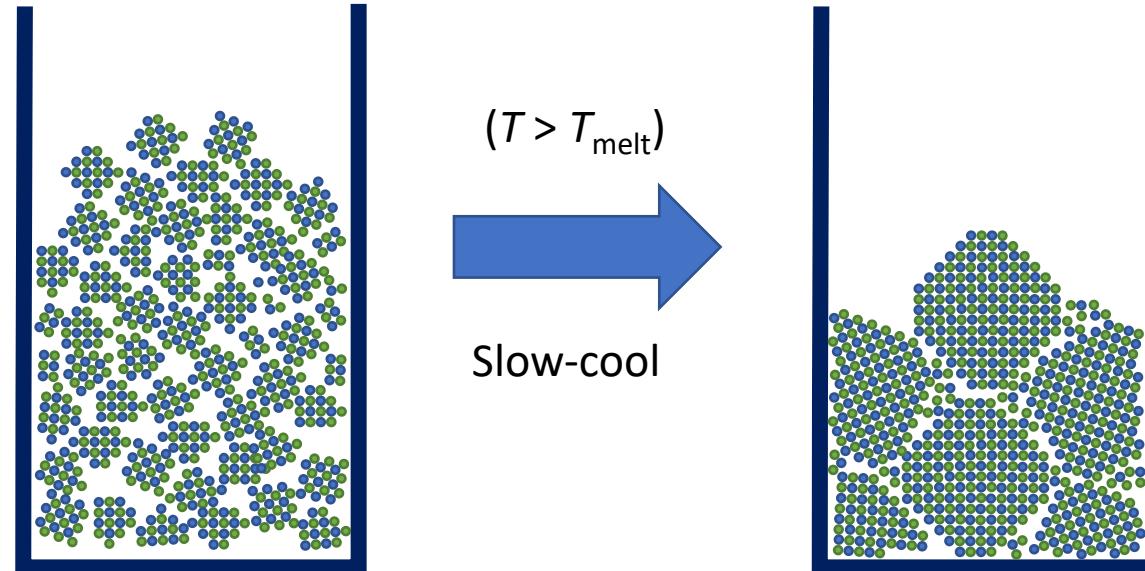
Relative simplicity

### Cons:

Limited control of nucleation

Orientation control not possible

Only works for congruently melting materials



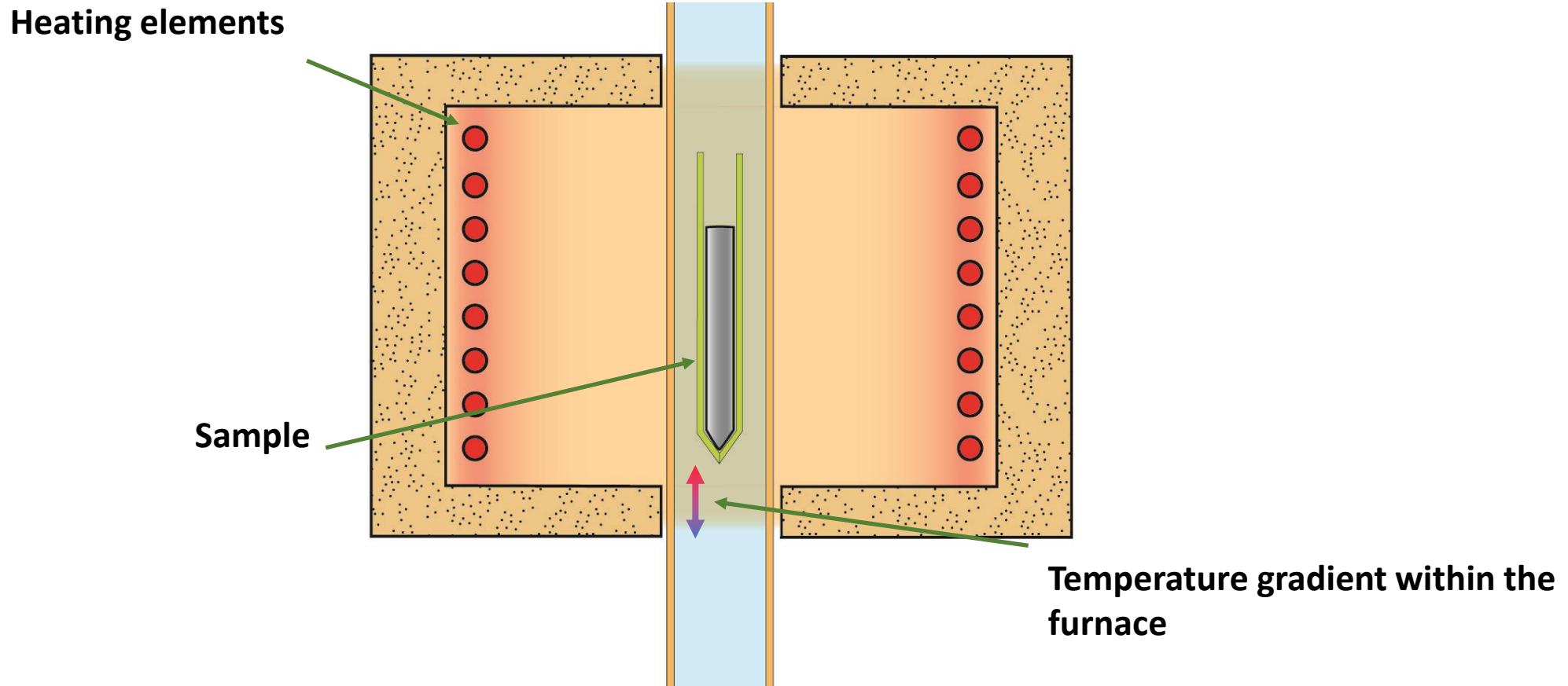
CuMnAs



J. Volný, D. Wagenknecht, et al.,  
*Electrical Transport Properties of Bulk Tetragonal CuMnAs*,  
Phys. Rev. Mater. **4**, 064403 (2020).

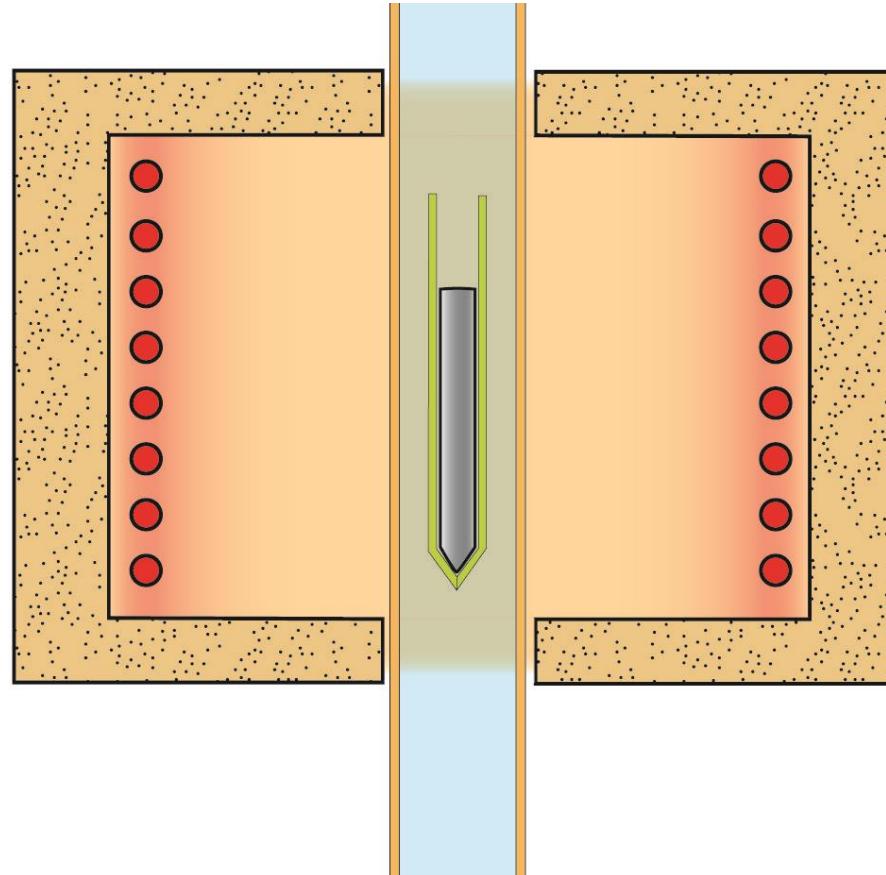
# Practical Growth Methods

## Recrystallising from a melt: Directional solidification: Bridgeman-Stockbarge



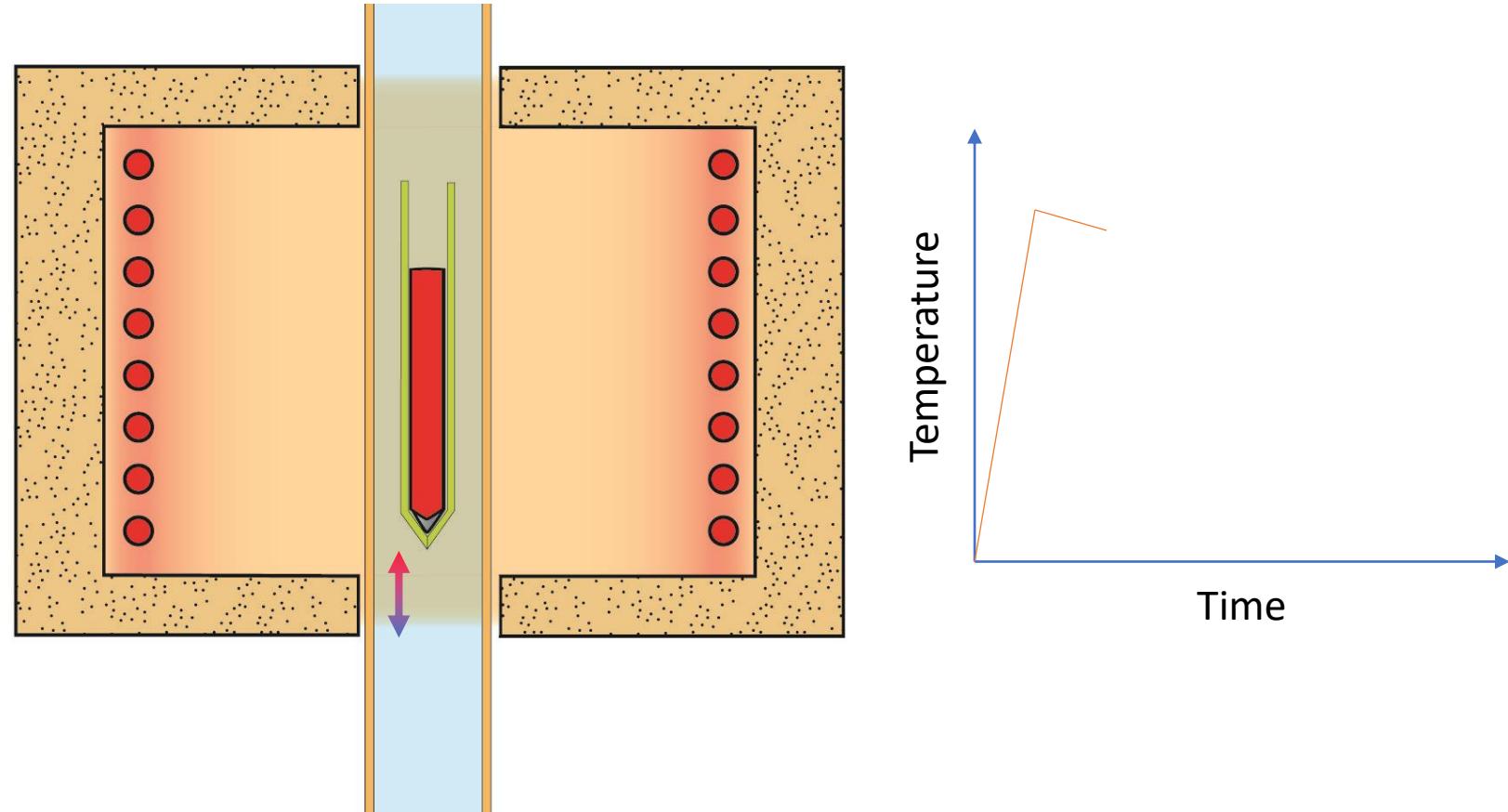
# Practical Growth Methods

## Recrystallising from a melt: Directional solidification: Bridgeman-Stockbarge



# Practical Growth Methods

Recrystallising from a melt:  
Directional solidification: Bridgeman-Stockbarge



# Practical Growth Methods

## Recrystallising from a melt: Directional solidification: Bridgeman-Stockbarge

### Pros:

Relative simplicity

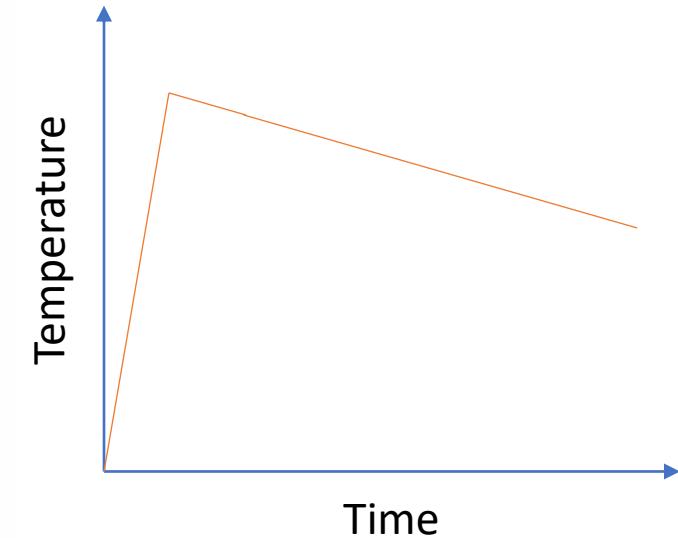
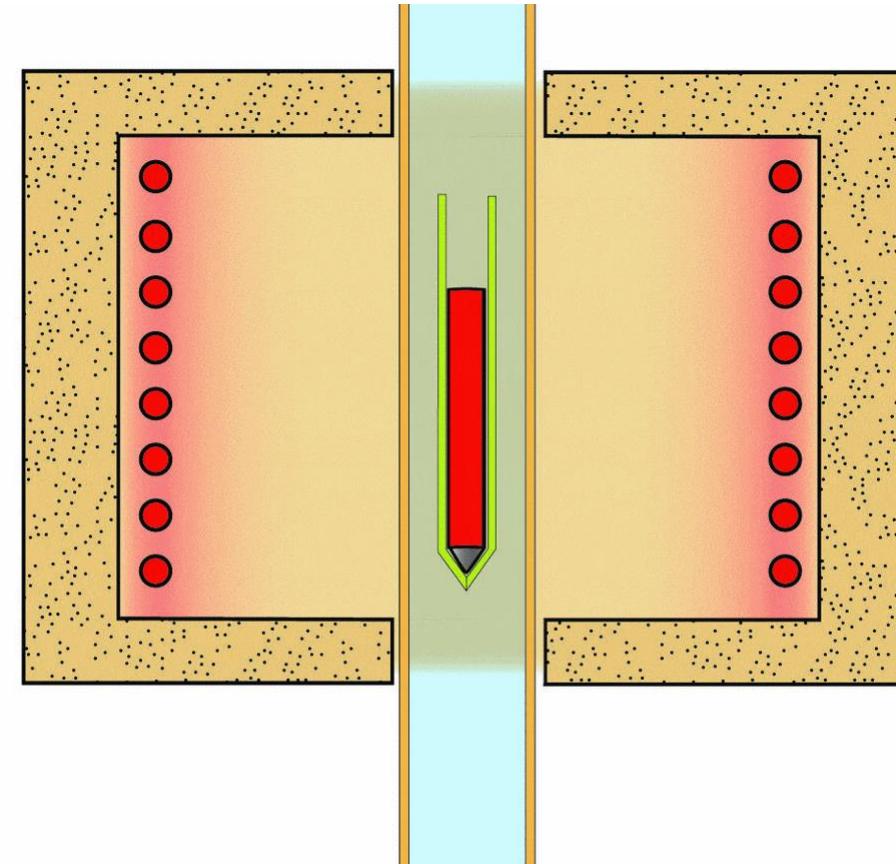
Some control of nucleation

Large crystals possible

### Cons:

Orientation control not possible

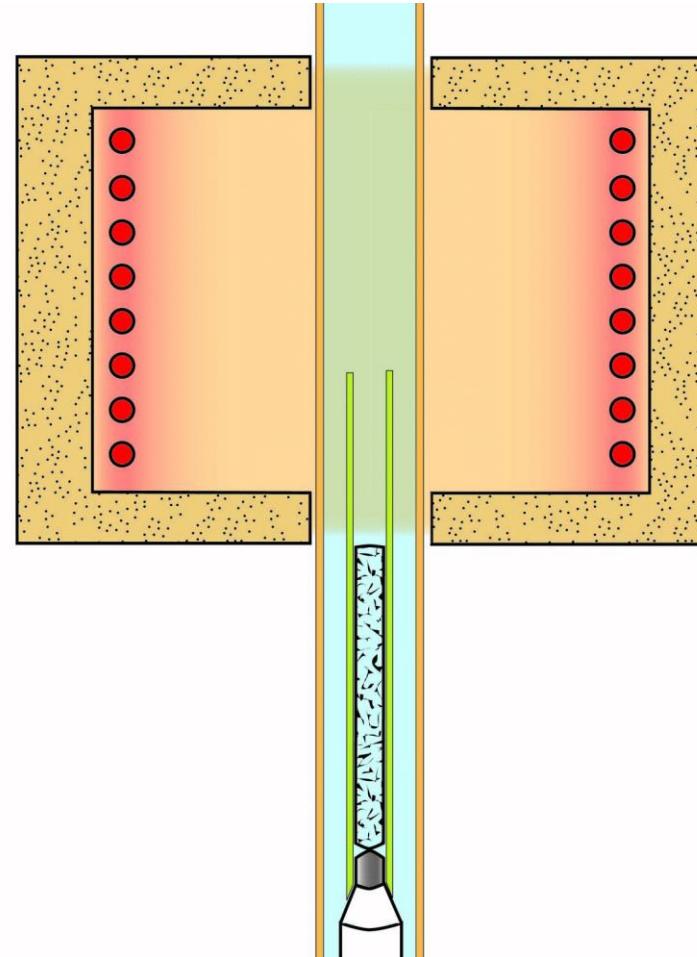
Only works for congruently melting materials



# Practical Growth Methods

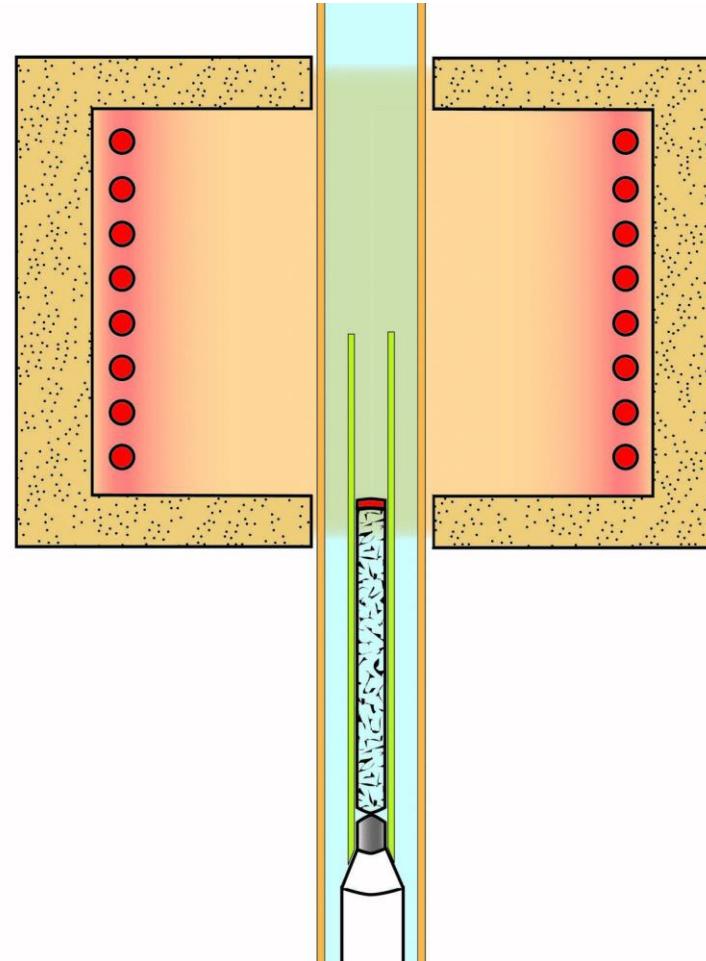
**Recrystallising from a melt:  
Directional solidification: Bridgeman-Stockbarge**

**(with seed)**



# Practical Growth Methods

**Recrystallising from a melt:  
Directional solidification: Bridgeman-Stockbarge  
(with seed)**



# Practical Growth Methods

## Recrystallising from a melt: Directional solidification: Bridgeman-Stockbarge

(with seed)

### Pros:

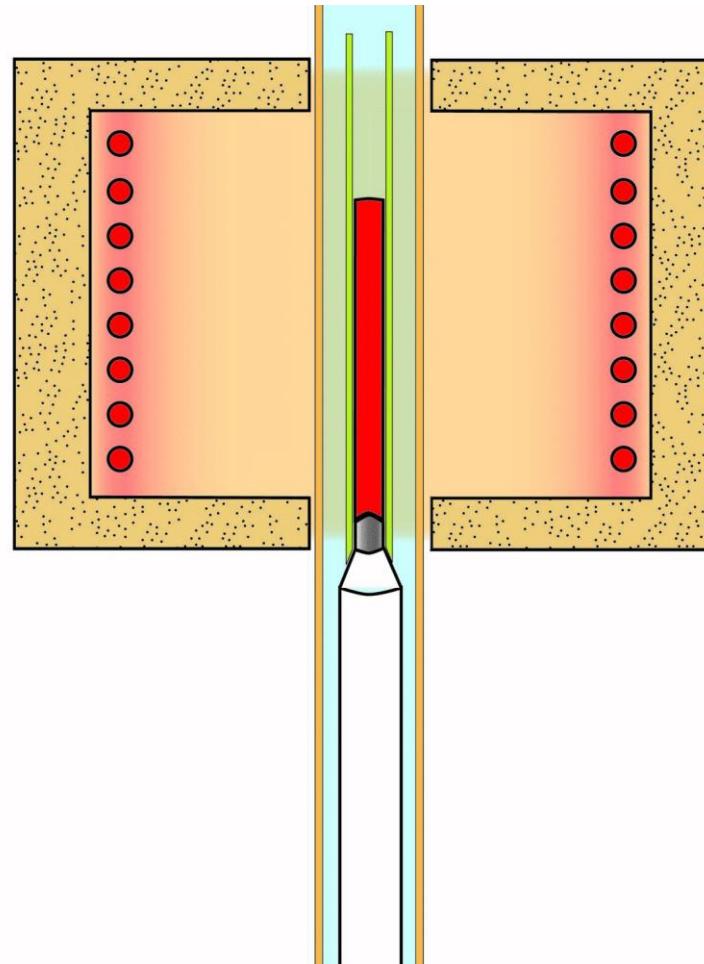
Seed orientation control

Large crystals possible

### Cons:

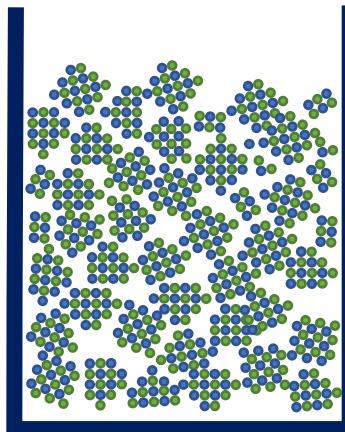
Only works for congruently melting materials

Complexity is increased



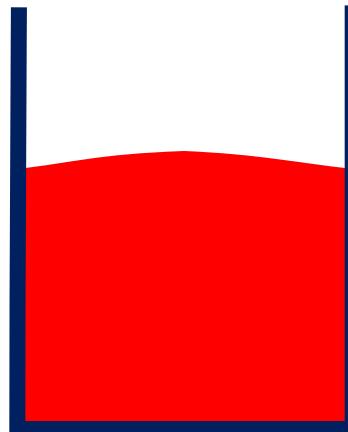
# Practical Growth Methods

## Recrystallising from a melt: Czochralskii pulling



# Practical Growth Methods

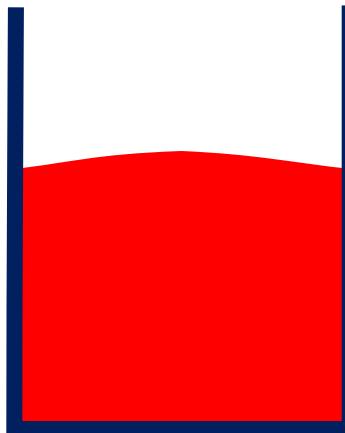
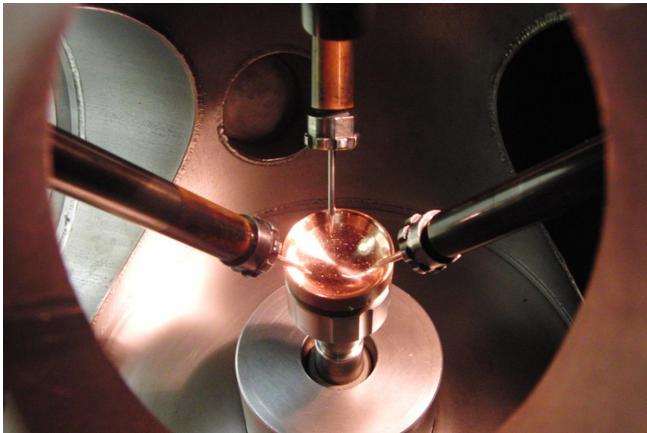
**Recrystallising from a melt:  
Czochralskii pulling**



# Practical Growth Methods

## Recrystallising from a melt: Czochralskii pulling

Tri-Arc melting

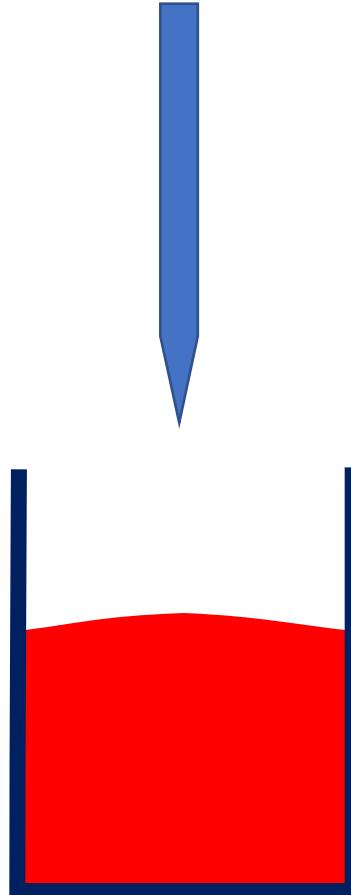


Resistance heater melting



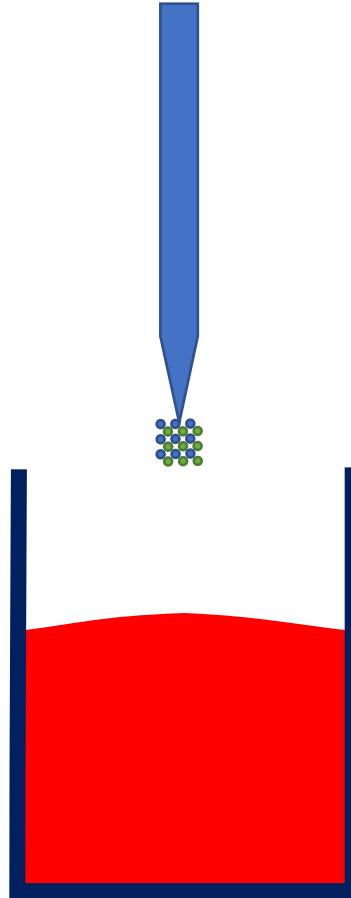
# Practical Growth Methods

**Recrystallising from a melt:  
Czochralskii pulling**



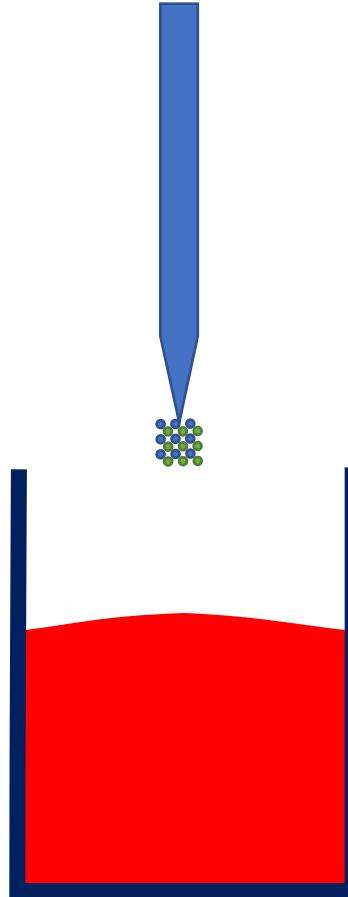
# Practical Growth Methods

## Recrystallising from a melt: Czochralskii pulling



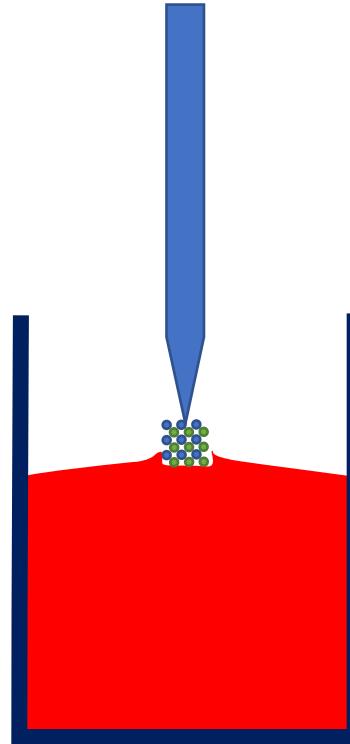
# Practical Growth Methods

## Recrystallising from a melt: Czochralskii pulling



# Practical Growth Methods

## Recrystallising from a melt: Czochralskii pulling



# Practical Growth Methods

## Recrystallising from a melt: Czochralskii pulling

### Pros:

Seed orientation control

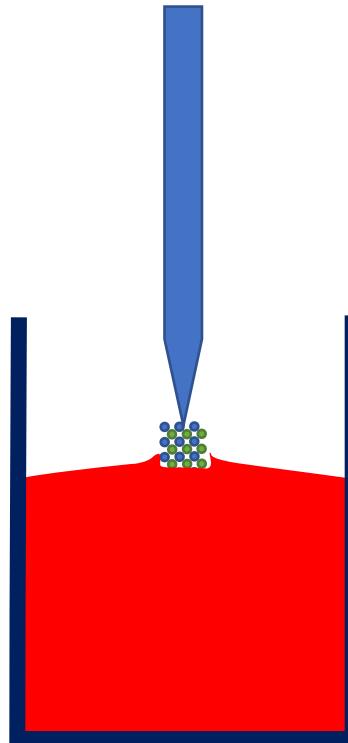
Large (long) crystals possible

Minimised vessel contamination

### Cons:

Time consuming and complex

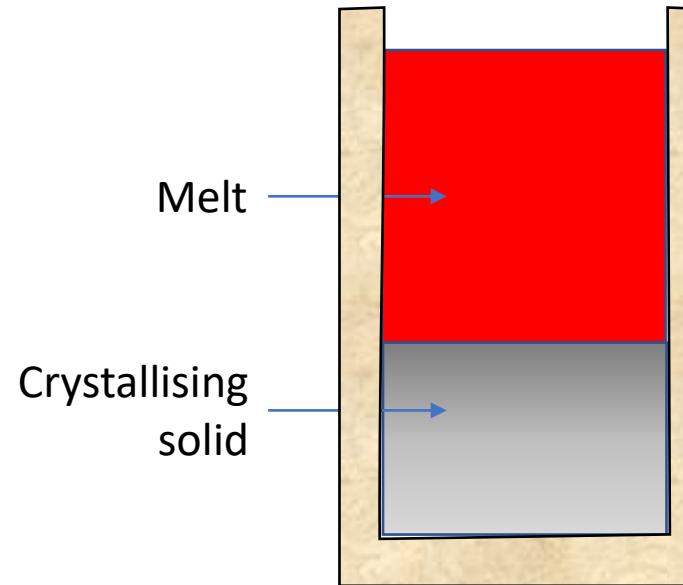
Not suitable for incongruently melting materials



# Practical Growth Methods

A material is described as **incongruently melting**

- if the **solid crystallises with a different composition from the melt**.



The ratio between melt concentration and solid concentration is known as the partition coefficient,

$$k = \frac{c_{\text{solid}}}{c_{\text{melt}}}$$

e.g. If the melt has composition



the crystallising solid will have composition



For Ni-Mn-Ga, these are known to be:

$$k_{\text{Ni}} \sim 1.04$$

$$k_{\text{Mn}} \sim 0.88$$

$$k_{\text{Ga}} \sim 1.09$$

# Practical Growth Methods

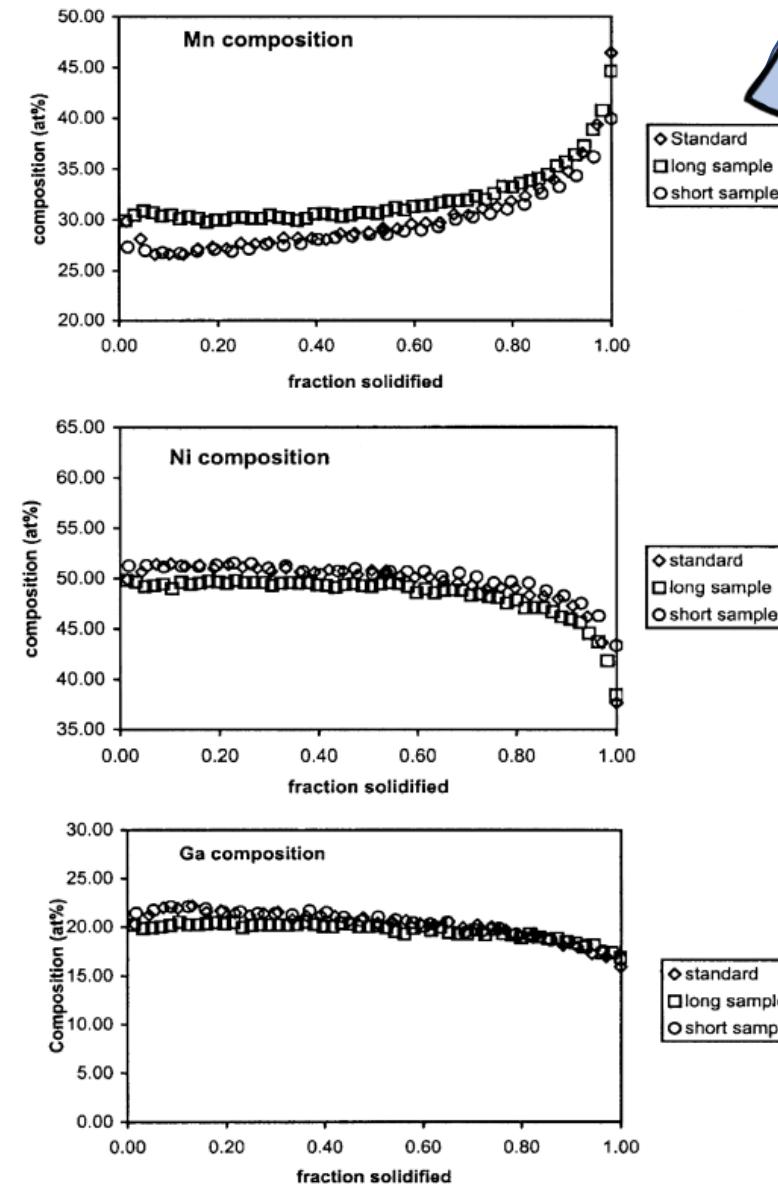
As the solid forming has a different composition to the melt, the composition of the melt changes during the growth.

A formula to describe the composition change was put forward by Scheil in 1942 – now known as the Scheil-Gulliver equation:

$$c_s(f) = k c_0 (1 - f)^{k-1}$$

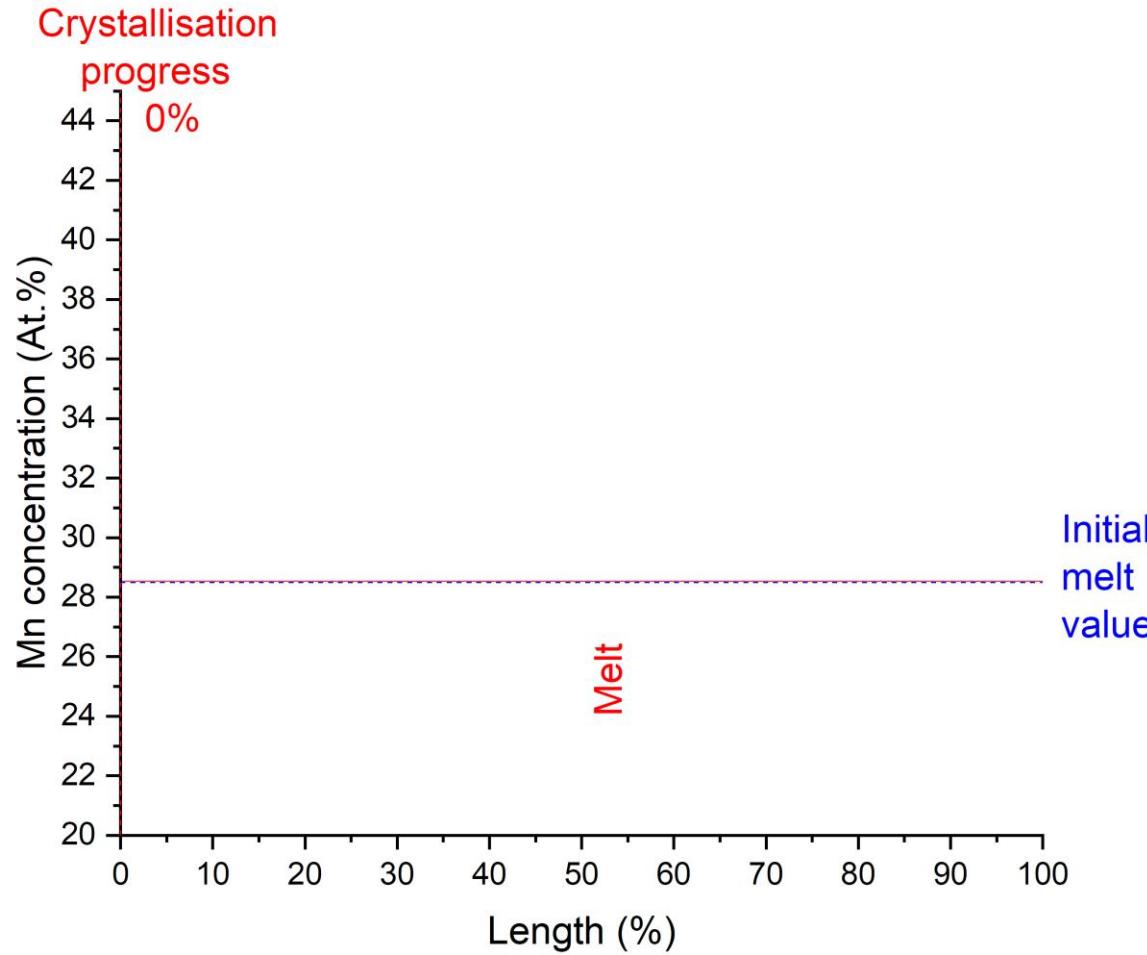
Crystallizing concentration      Partition coefficient  
Initial concentration      Fraction solidified

Scheil E. Z Metall 34 (1942) 70.



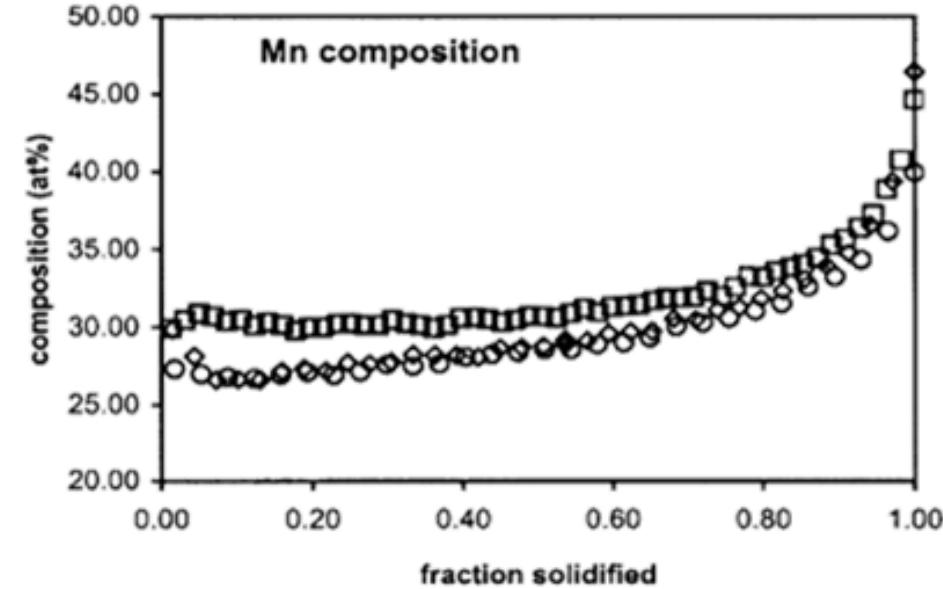
D. L. Schlagel et al. J. Alloys Compd. 312, 77 (2000).

# Practical Growth Methods



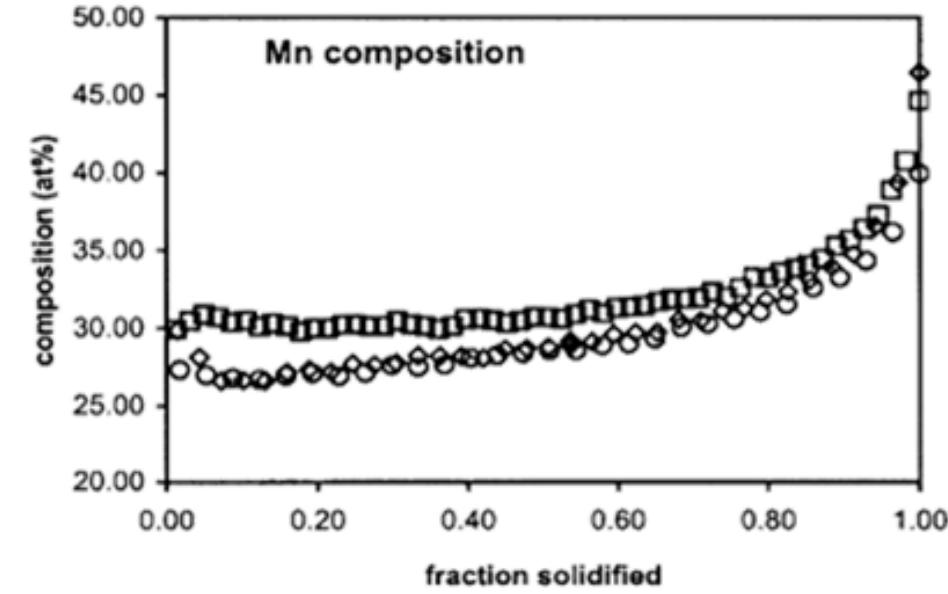
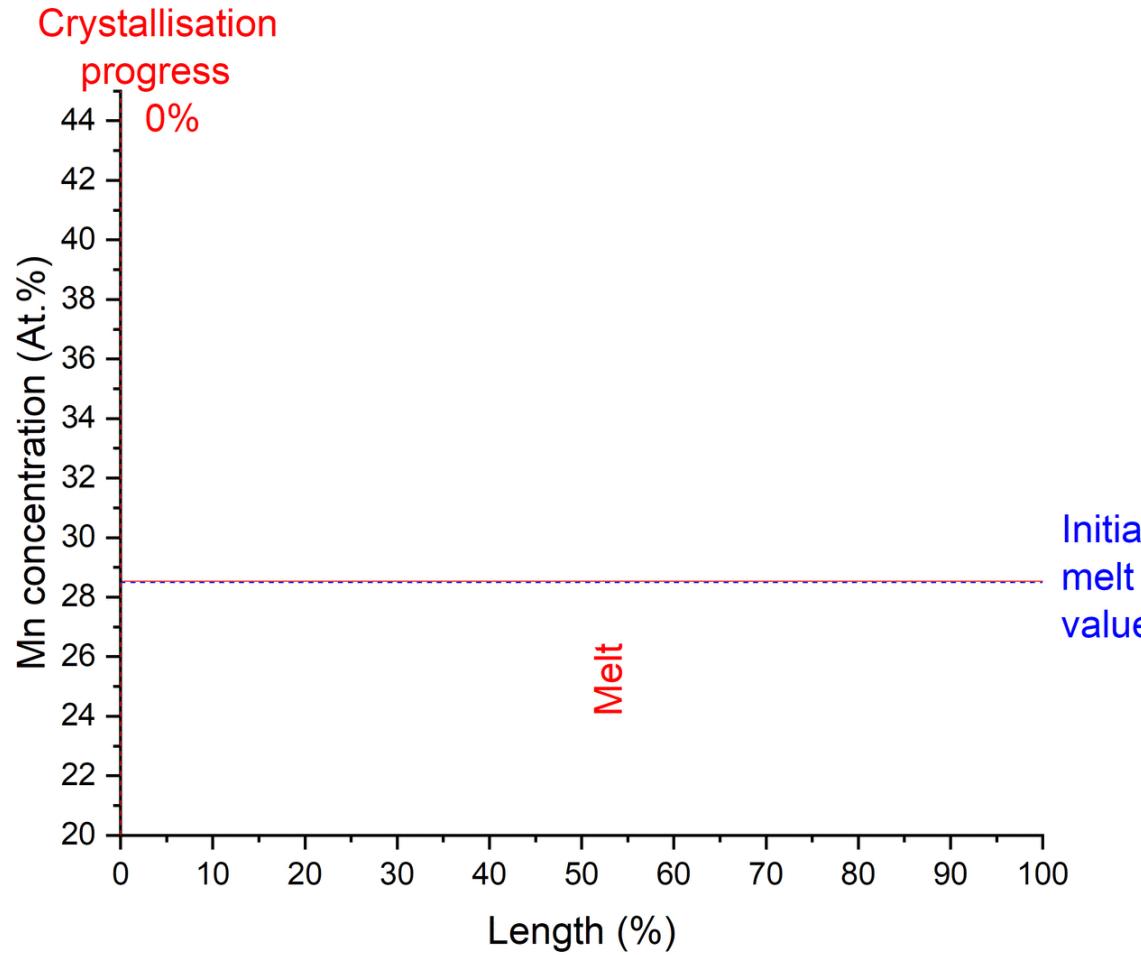
Initial  
melt  
value

$$k_{\text{Mn}} = 0.88$$



D. L. Schlagel et al. *J. Alloys Compd.* **312**, 77 (2000).

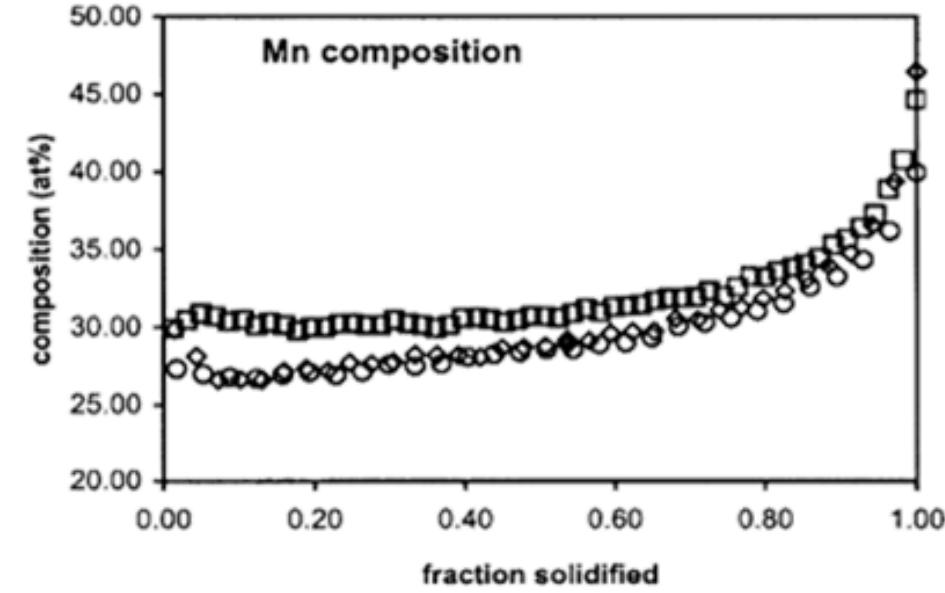
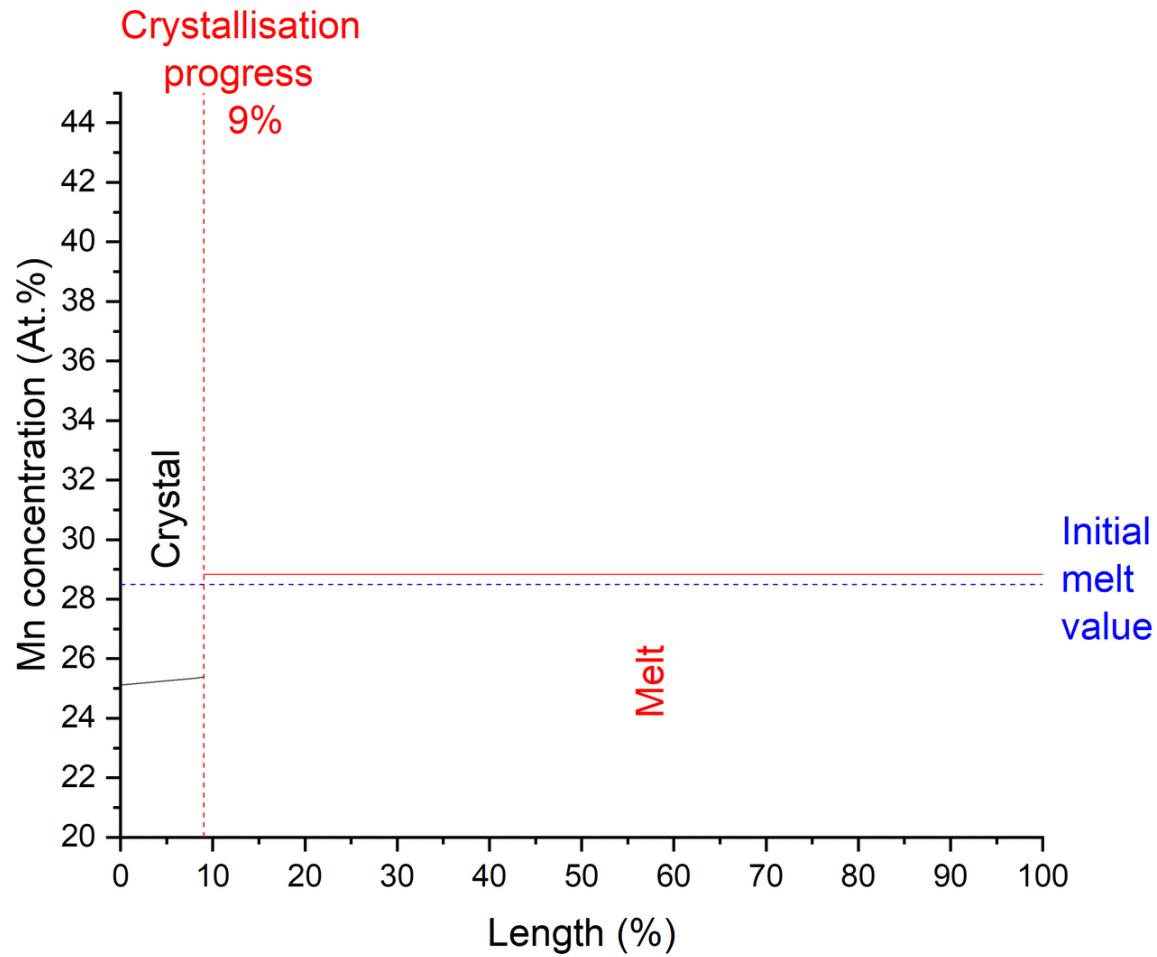
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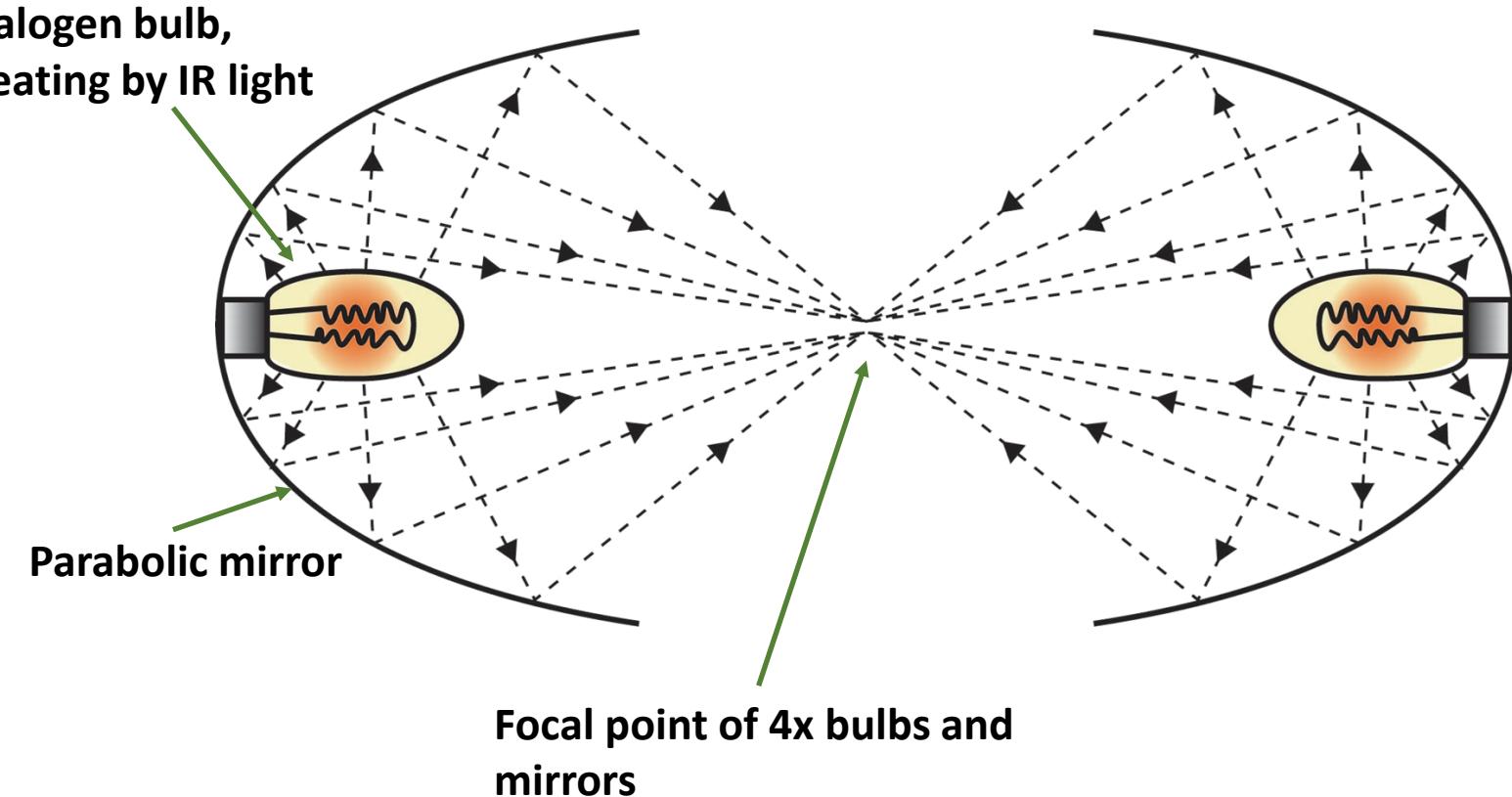


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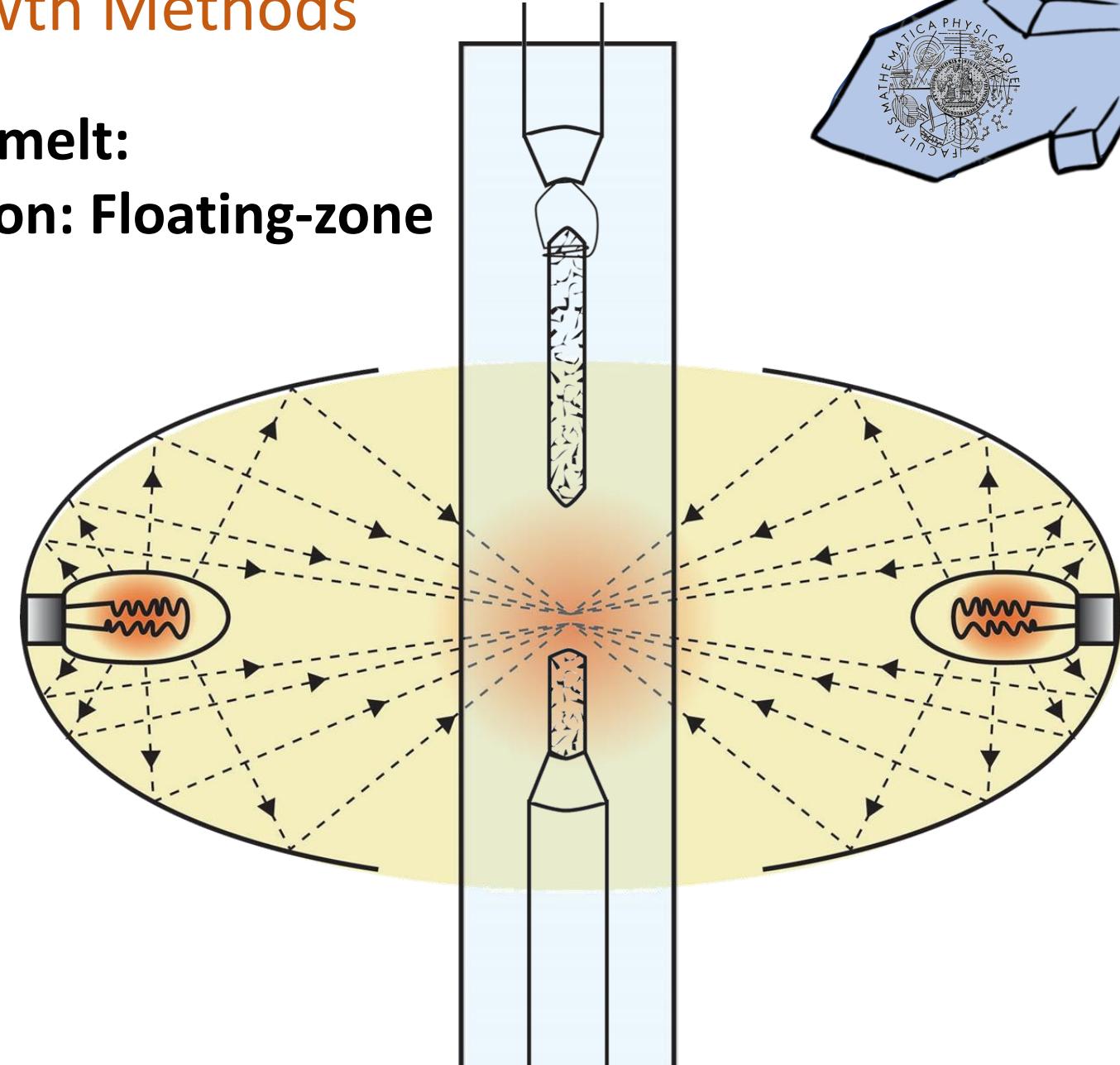
# Practical Growth Methods

## Recrystallising from a melt: Directional solidification: Floating-zone



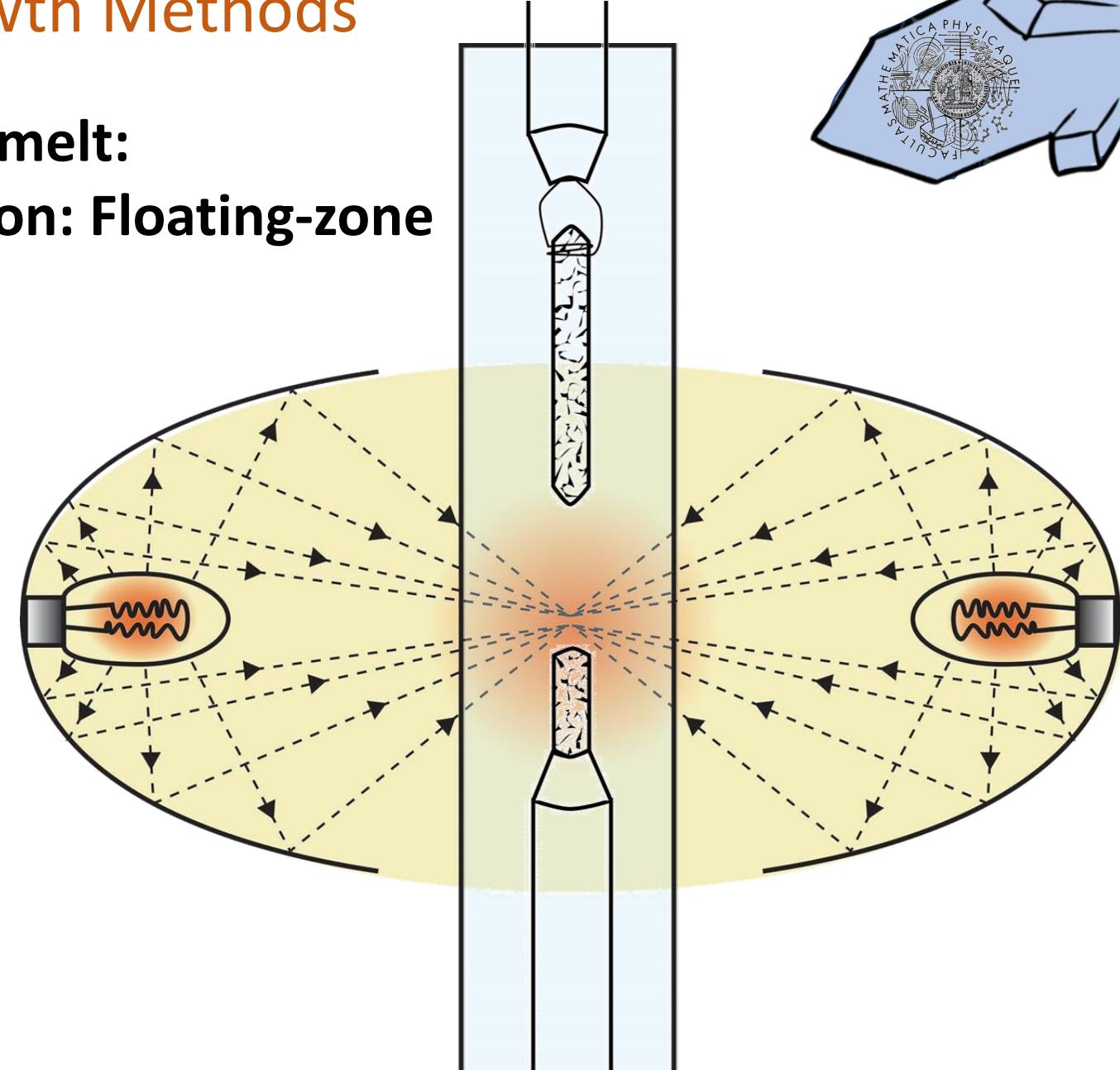
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**Recrystallising from a melt:  
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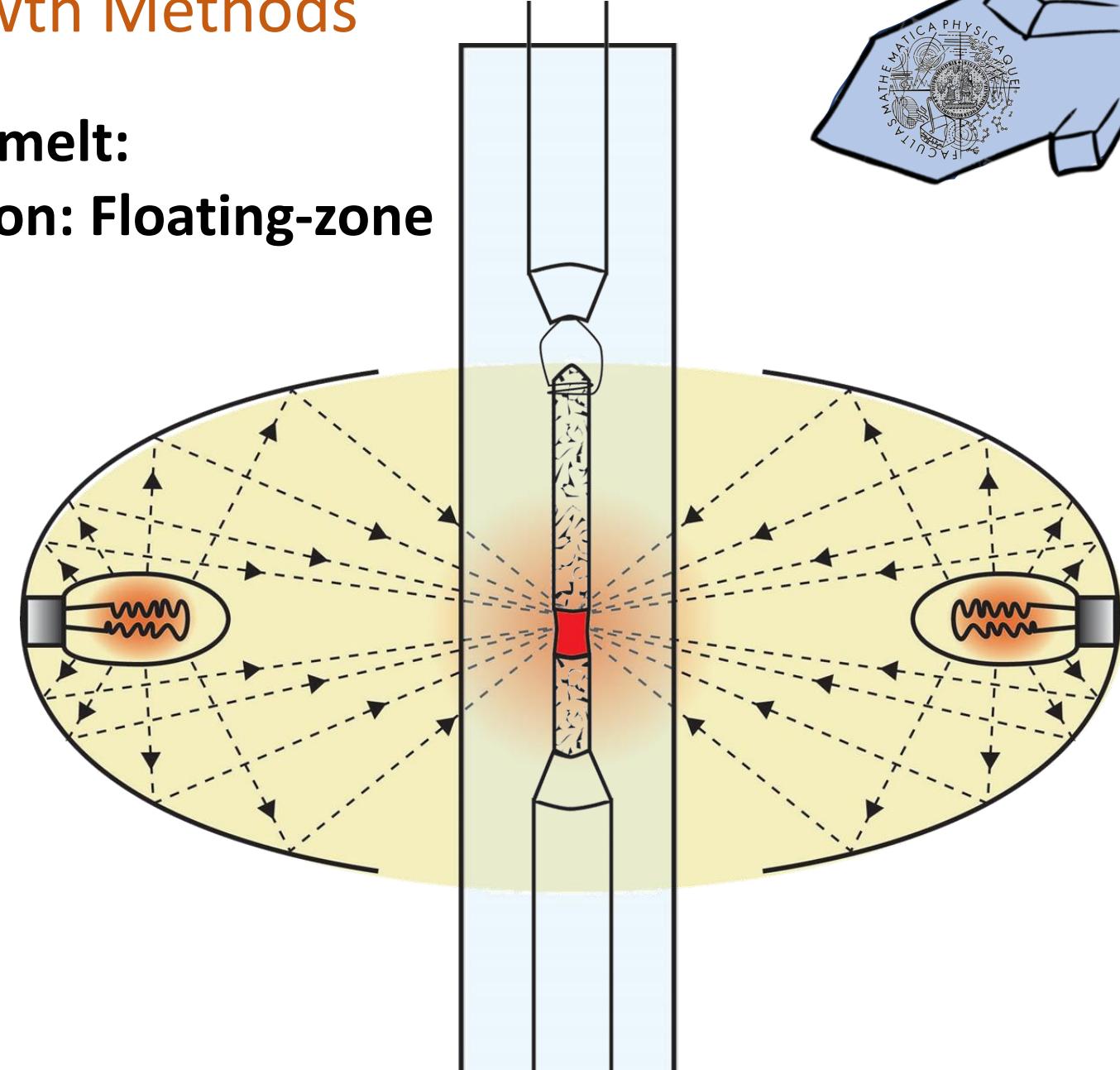
# Practical Growth Methods

**Recrystallising from a melt:  
Directional solidification: Floating-zone**



# Practical Growth Methods

**Recrystallising from a melt:  
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# Practical Growth Methods

## Recrystallising from a melt: Directional solidification: Floating-zone

### Pros:

Orientation control possible

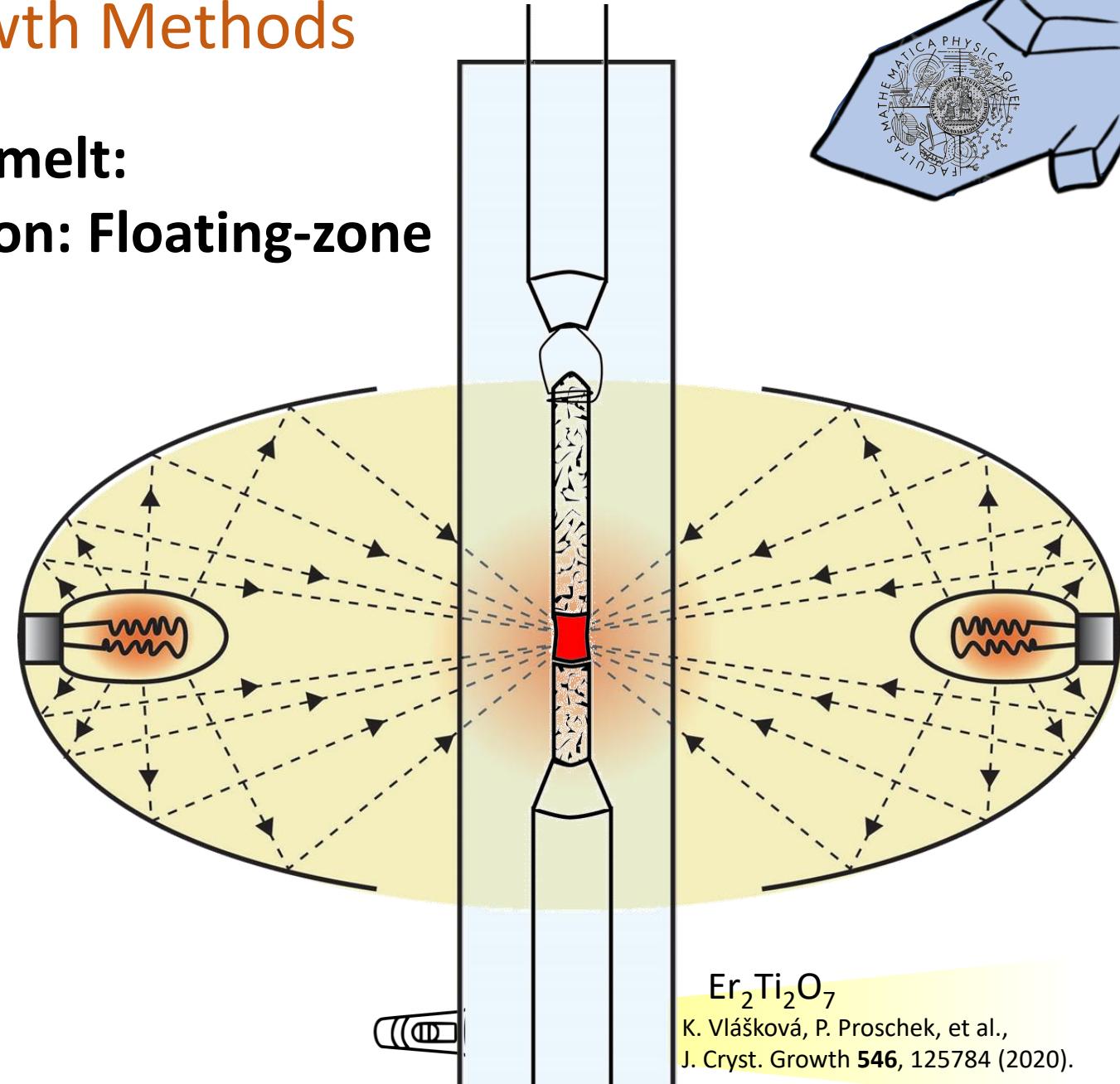
Suitable for incongruently melting materials

Minimal vessel contamination

### Cons:

Complex setup

Not possible for volatile compounds



# Practical Growth Methods

## Recrystallising from a melt: Directional solidification: Floating-zone

### Pros:

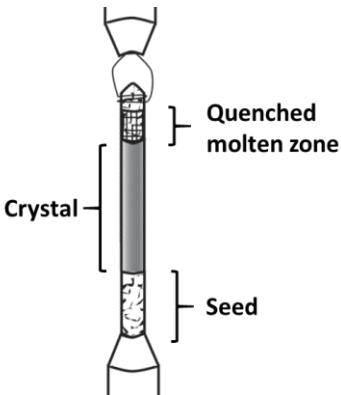
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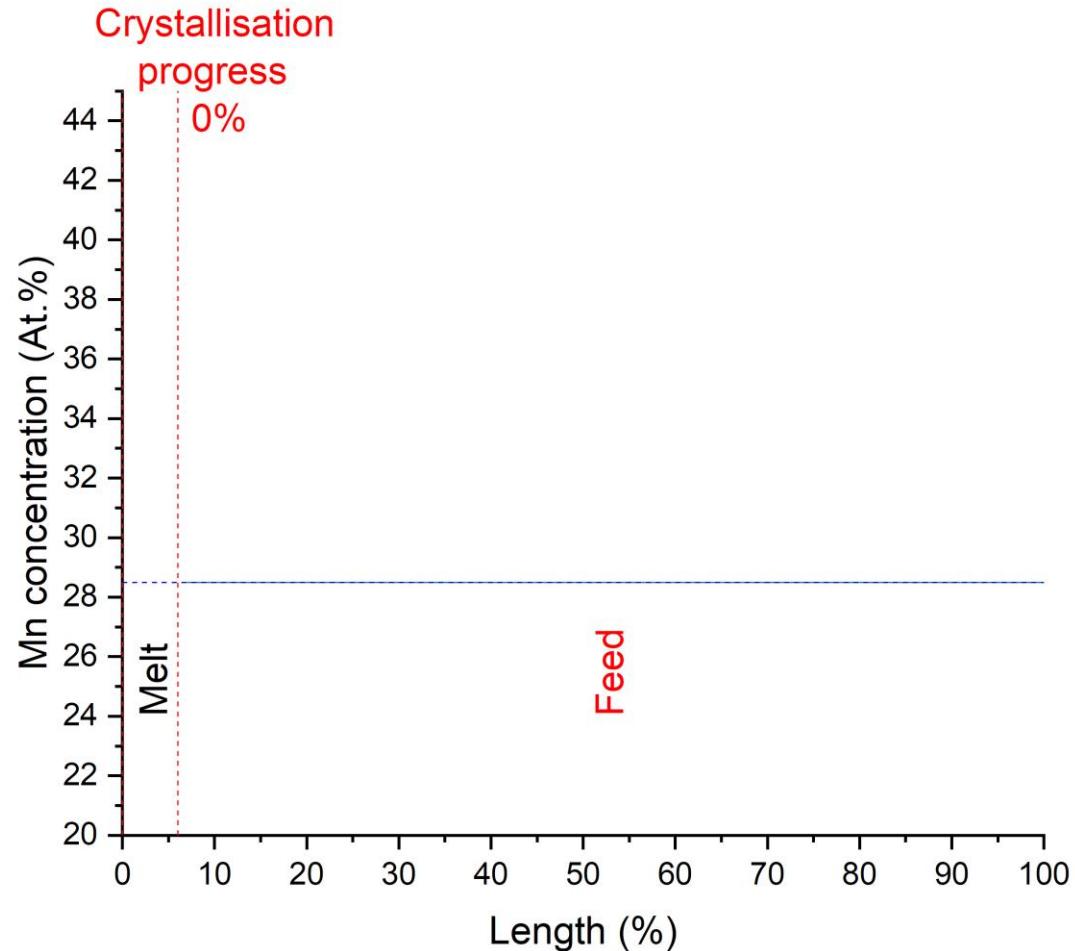
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$$c_s(f) = c_0 \left[ 1 - (1 - k)e^{(-k\frac{f}{l})} \right]$$



# Practical Growth Methods

## Recrystallising from a melt: Directional solidification: Floating-zone

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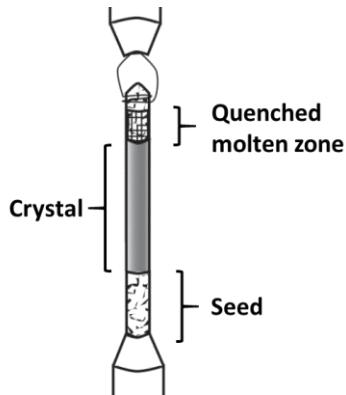
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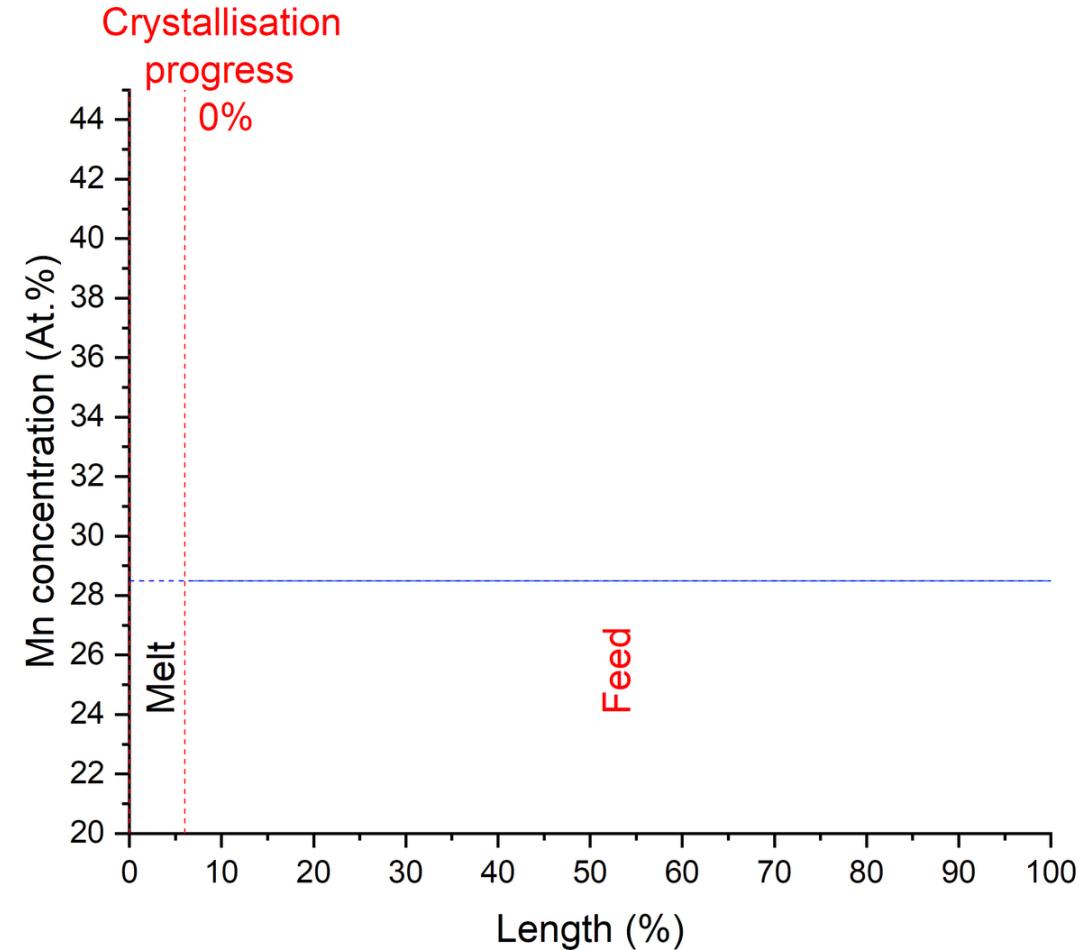
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## Recrystallising from a melt: Directional solidification: Floating-zone

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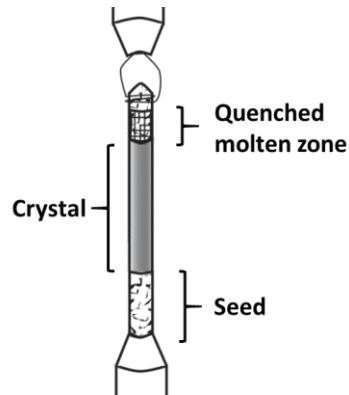
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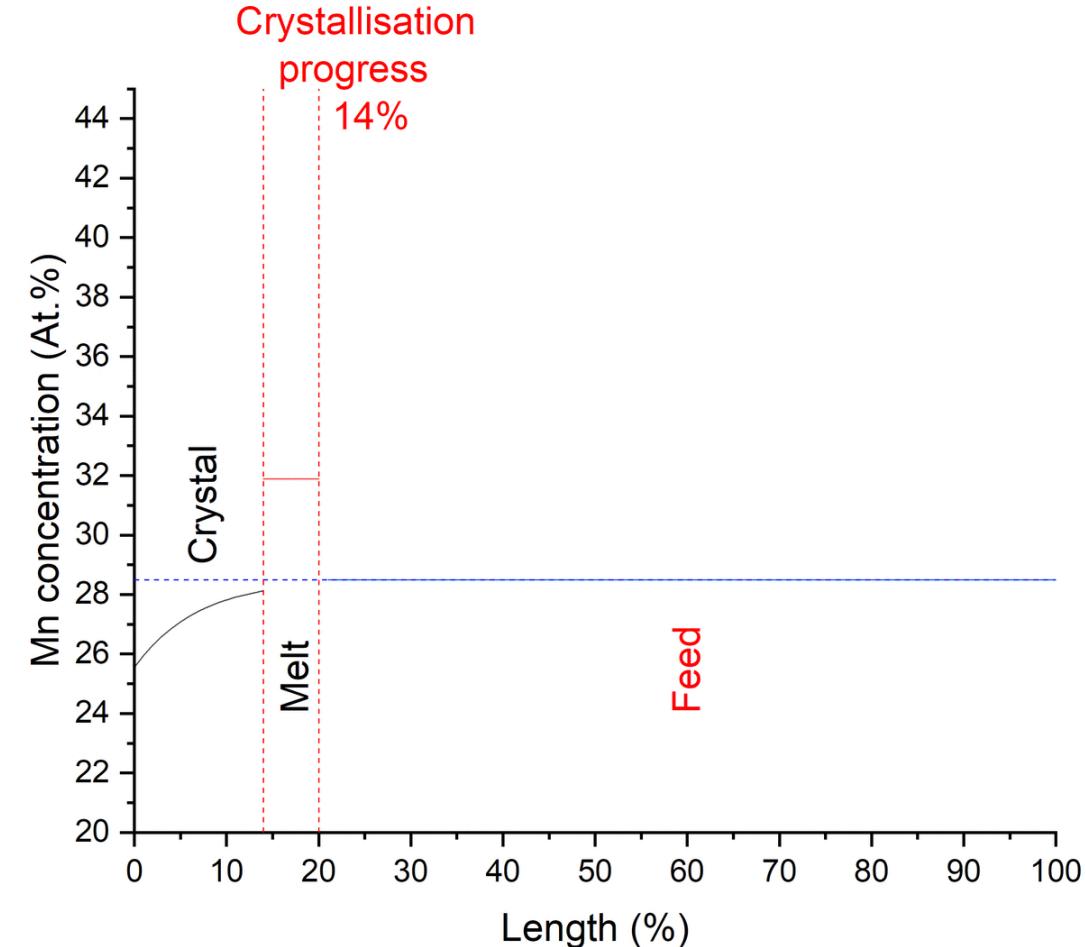
### Cons:

Complex setup

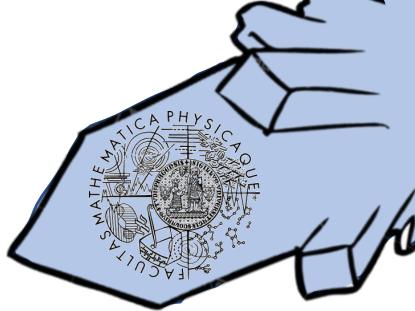
Not possible for volatile compounds



$$c_s(f) = c_0 \left[ 1 - (1 - k)e^{(-k\frac{f}{l})} \right]$$



# Practical Growth Methods



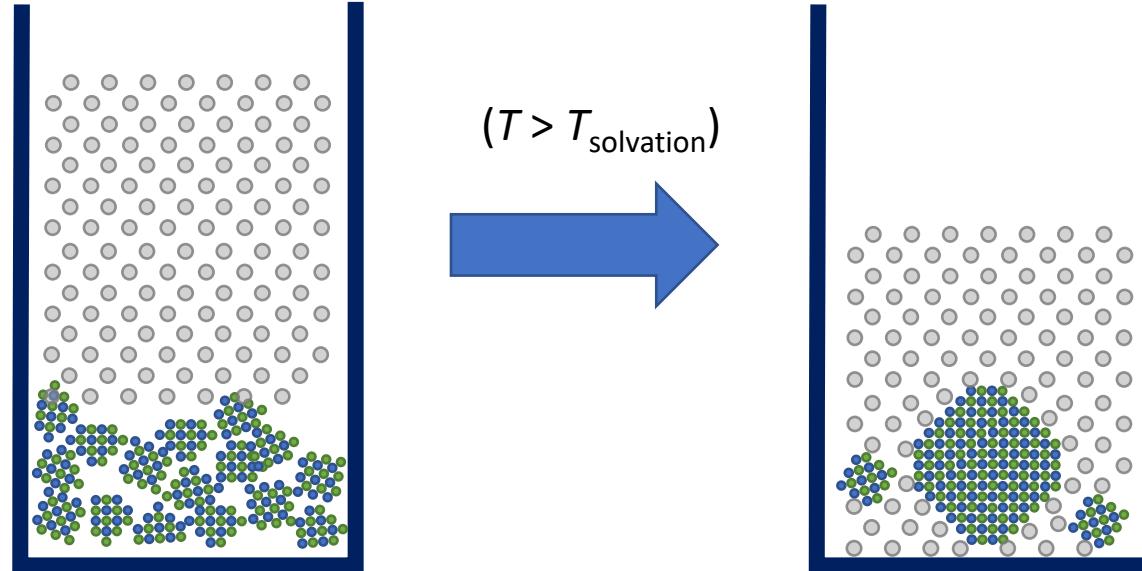
## Flux growth

### Flux choice:

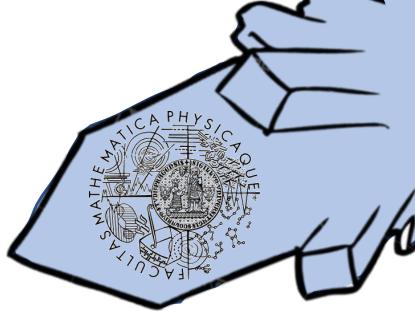
Low melting point

Capable of dissolving chosen material

Un-reactive (towards compound)



# Practical Growth Methods



## Flux growth

### Pros:

Simple

Incongruently melting materials  
can be prepared

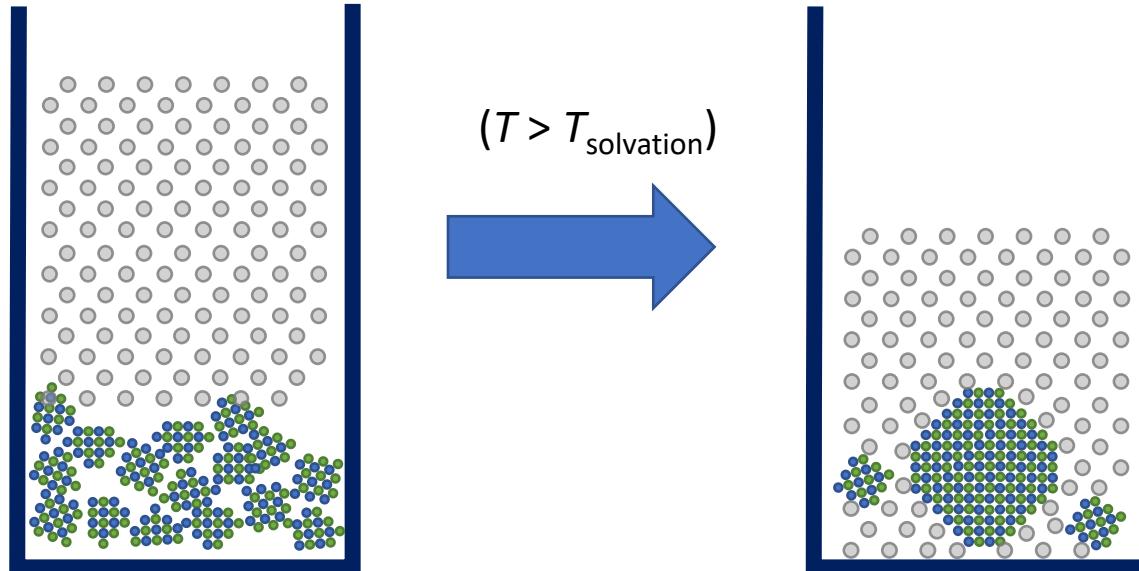
### Cons:

Flux choice can be difficult

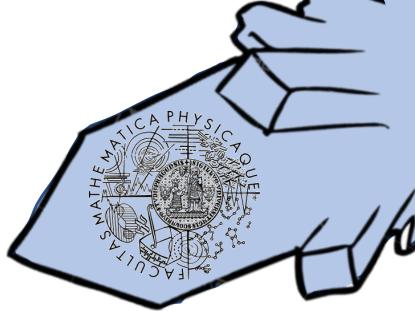
Nucleation is not controlled

Sample must be separated from  
the flux

Sample can be contaminated by  
flux

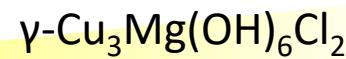
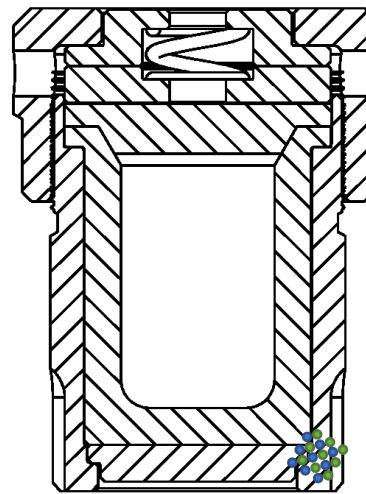
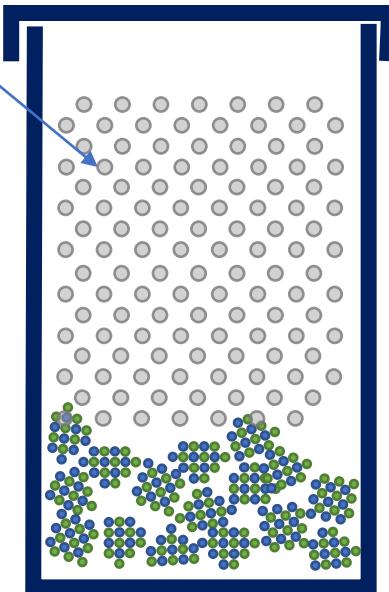


# Practical Growth Methods



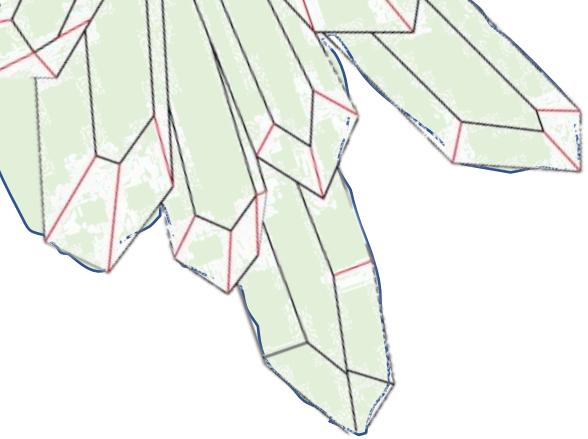
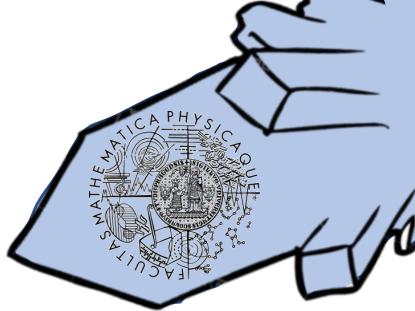
## Hydrothermal (Flux = water) growth

Water (+ mineralising agent)



R. H. Colman, A. Sinclair, et al.,  
Chem. Mater. **23**, 1811 (2011).

# Practical Growth Methods



## Hydrothermal (Flux = water) growth

### Pros:

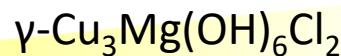
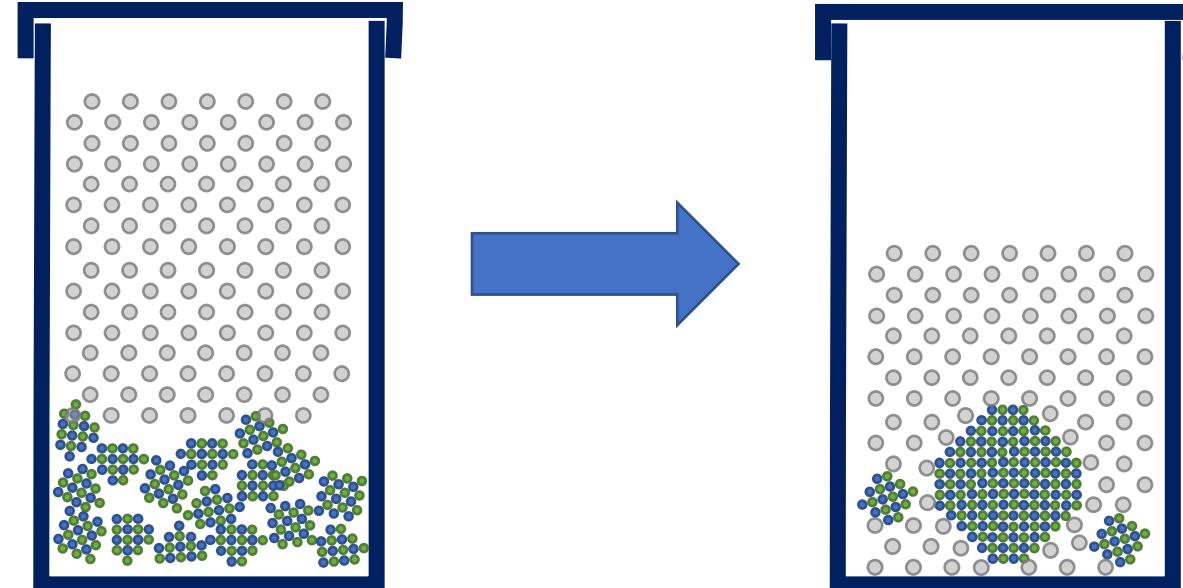
Simple

Materials that decompose before melting can be prepared

### Cons:

Many parameters to test:

- Temperature (and ramp)
- Concentration(s)
- Mineralising agent
- Fill level (pressure)



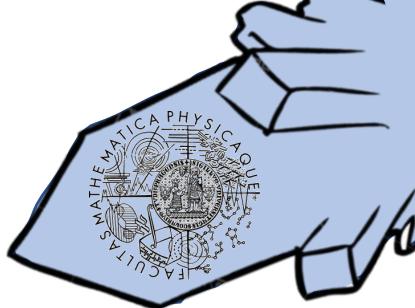
R. H. Colman, A. Sinclair, et al.,  
Chem. Mater. **23**, 1811 (2011).

# Practical Growth Methods

## Chemical transport



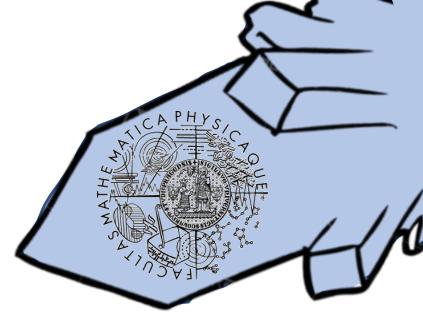
# Practical Growth Methods



## Chemical transport



# Practical Growth Methods



## Chemical transport

Transport agent

e.g.  $I_2$ ,  $Cl_2$ ,  $O_2$ , S,  $AlCl_3$



•

# Practical Growth Methods

## Chemical transport



# Practical Growth Methods

## Chemical transport



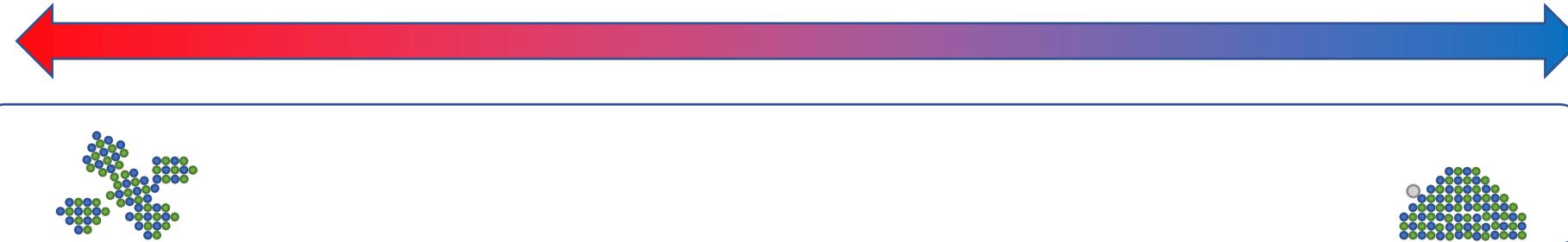
# Practical Growth Methods

## Chemical transport

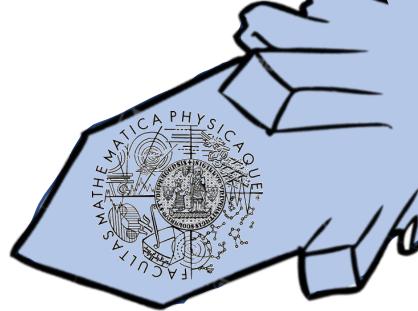


# Practical Growth Methods

## Chemical transport



# Practical Growth Methods



## Chemical transport

### Pros:

Large, high quality crystals  
Compounds can be volatile

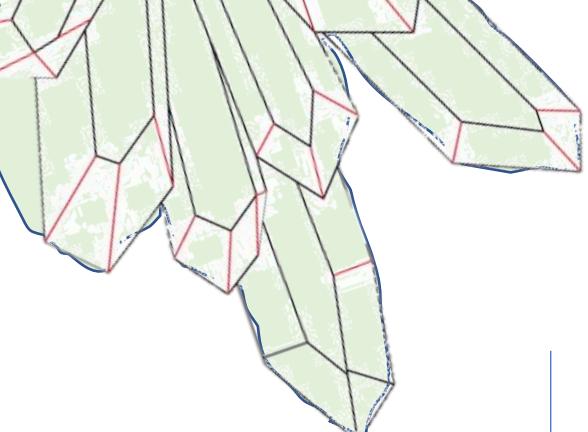


### Cons:

Many parameters to test:

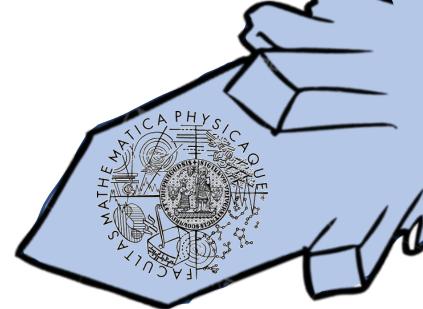
- Temperature (and gradient)
- Concentration(s)
- Transport agents

Slow process



# Getting Atoms Moving

## Recrystallisation



**Solid**

**Solid-State  
Reorganisation**  
 $(T < T_{melt})$

**Melting**  
 $(T > T_{melt})$

**Liquid**

**Dissolving**  
 $(T > T_{solvation})$

**Flux**  
(reduced the energy  
barrier to  
reorganisation)

$$E_{\text{fusion}} > E_{\text{solvation}}$$

**Gas**

**Sublimation/Condensation**  
 $(T > T_{vap})$

**Chemical transport**  
 $(T < T_{vap})$

# Conclusions

## Practical Growth Methods

### Solid

- Solid state reorganisation

### Liquid

- Melt
- Bridgeman-Stockbarger
- Czochralskii
- Floating zone
- Flux
- Hydrothermal

### Gas

- Chemical transport
- Condensation