

Sample preparation for frontier structural biology: cryoEM, neutron diffraction, serial data collection and microED

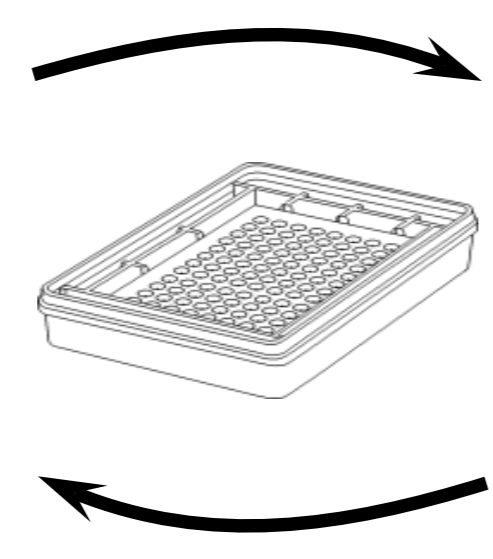
Patrick Shaw Stewart, Stefan Kolek, Peter Baldock, Douglas Instruments Limited, near Oxford, UK

Tristan Kwan, Amy Danson, Isabel Moraes, National Physical Laboratory, Teddington, UK

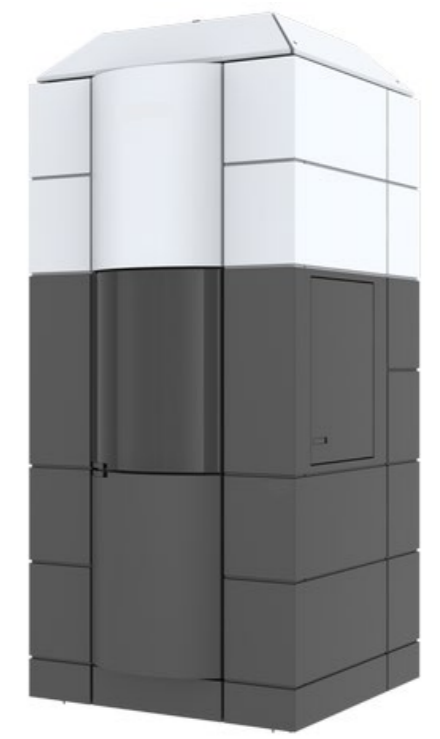
Drop setter (microbatch)



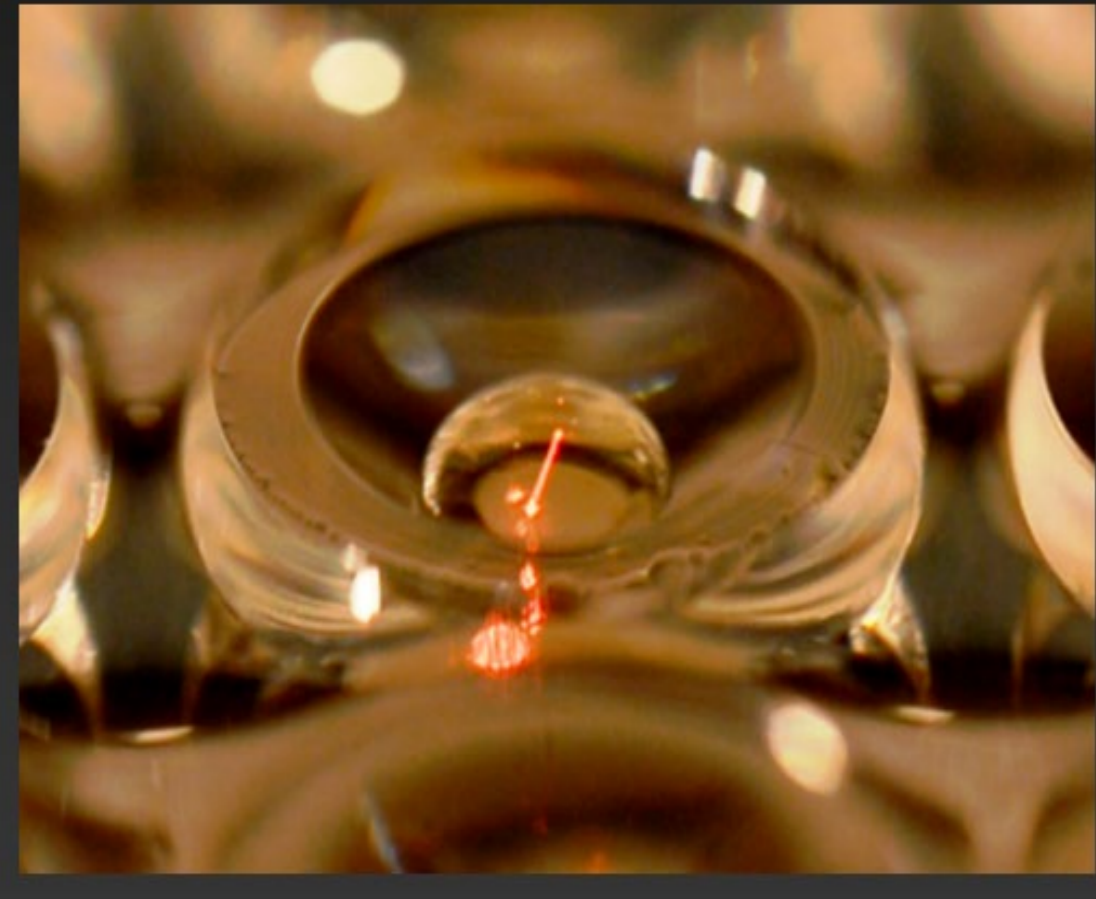
Dynamic light scattering



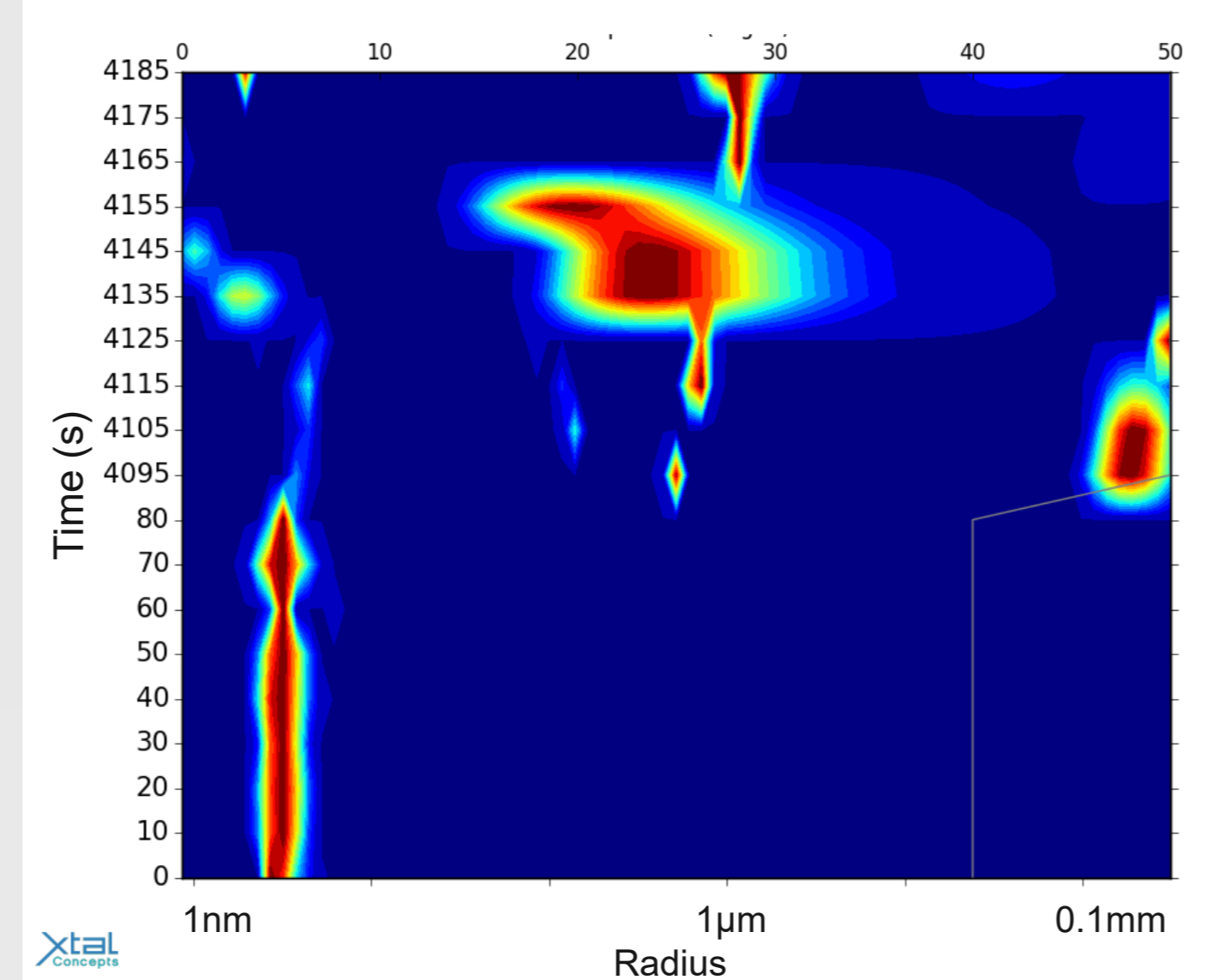
cryoEM / crystallization / NMR



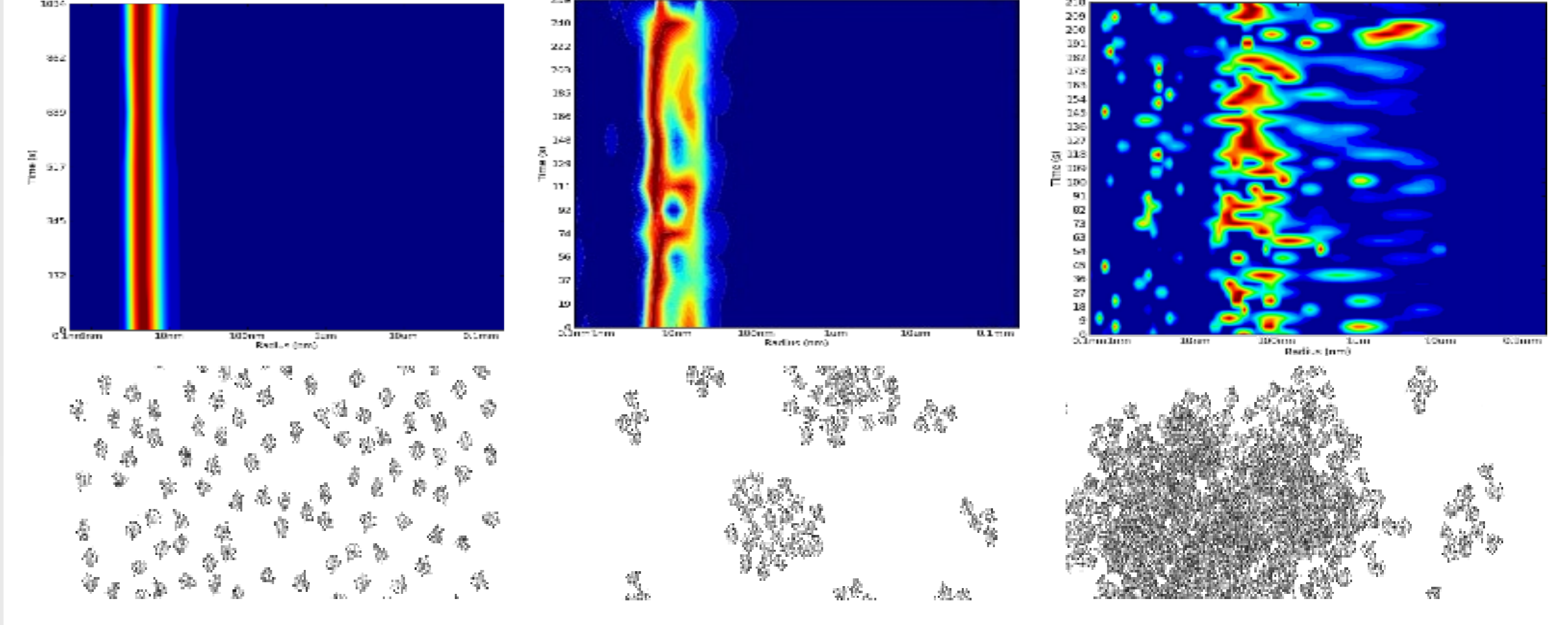
DLS in microbatch-under-oil



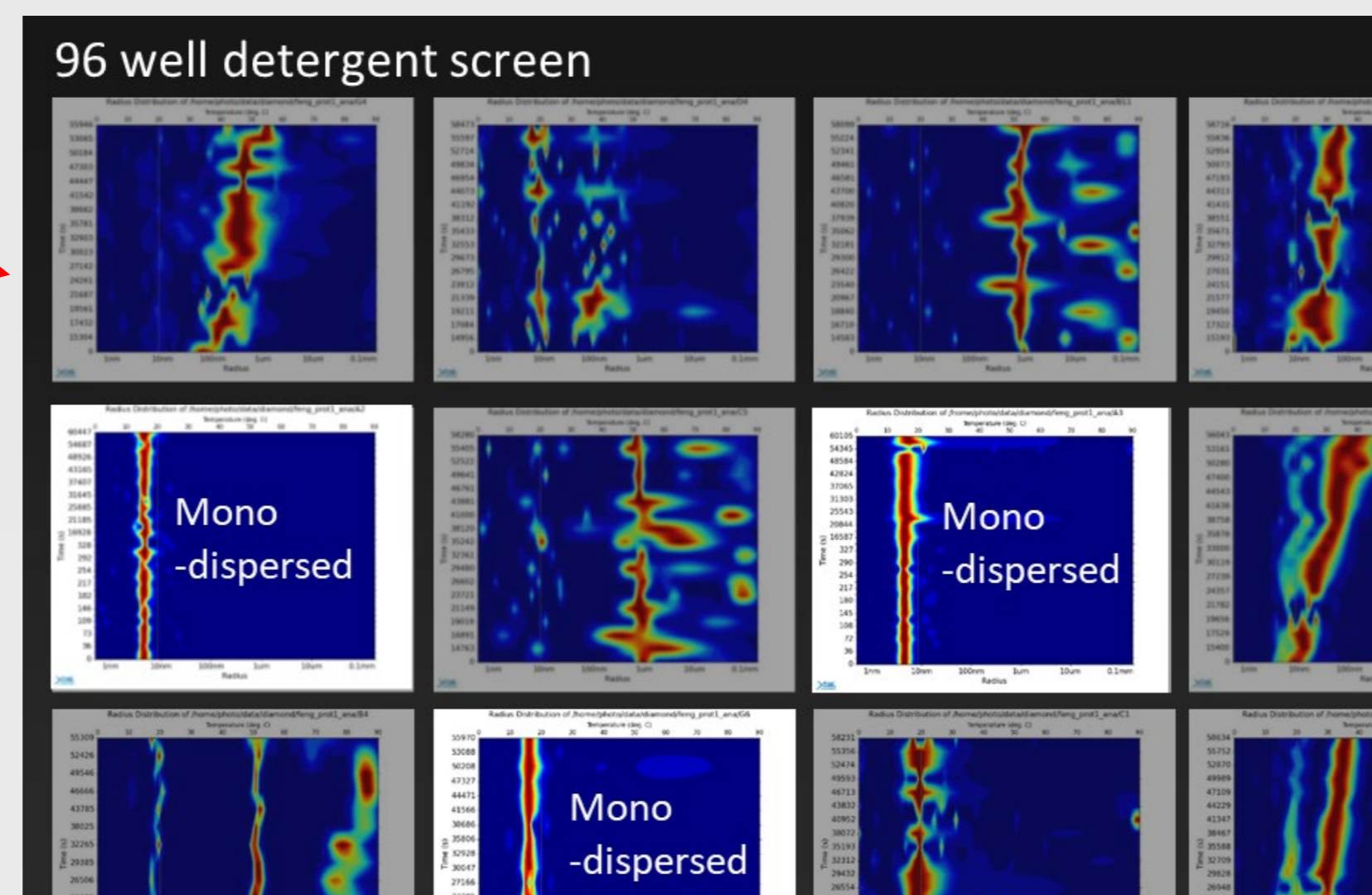
- Refractive index of oil is similar to water
- Surface is particle-free
- Alignment of laser and detector is maintained



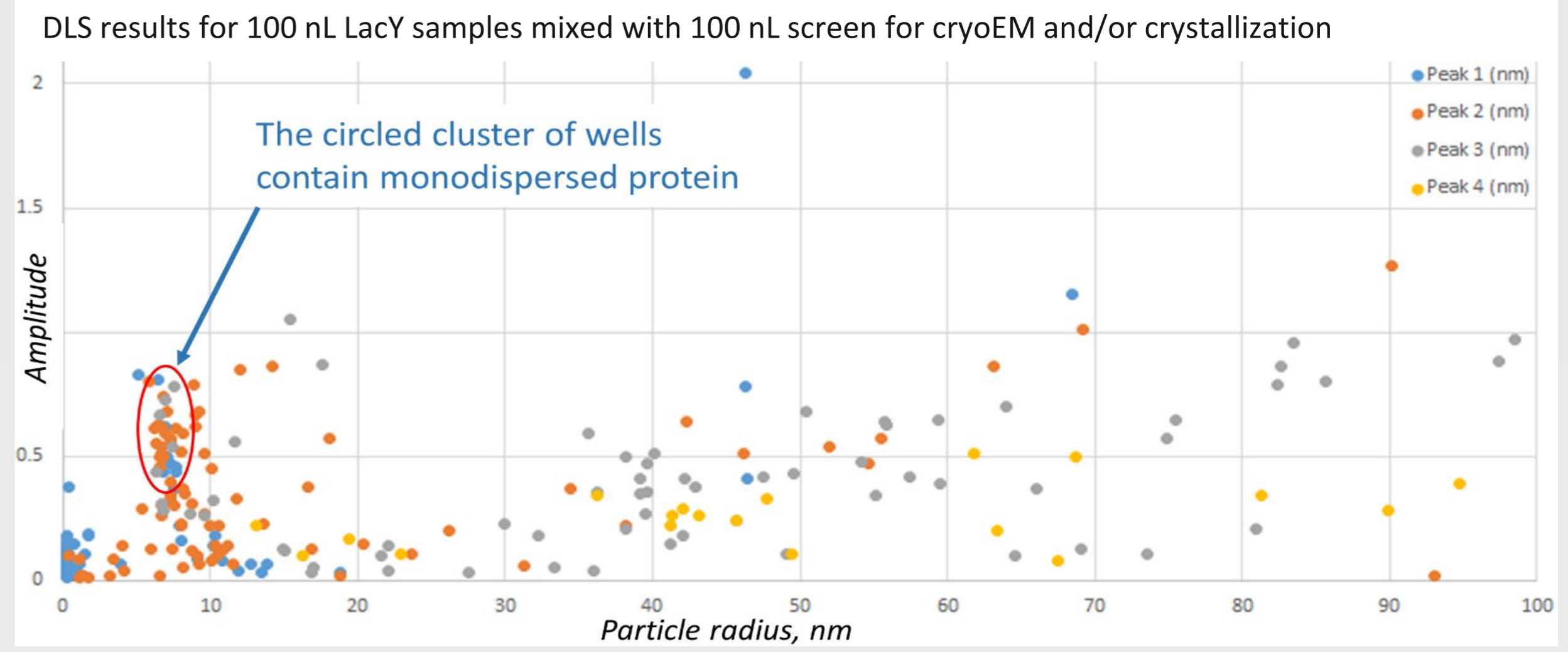
Interpretation



Membrane protein (LacY)
Crystallization project
Screen with 96 detergents
10 µl of protein
100 + 100 nL drops



Screening – Solubility and Stability screen by Hampton Research



Neutron diffraction

Less seed

Serial data collection

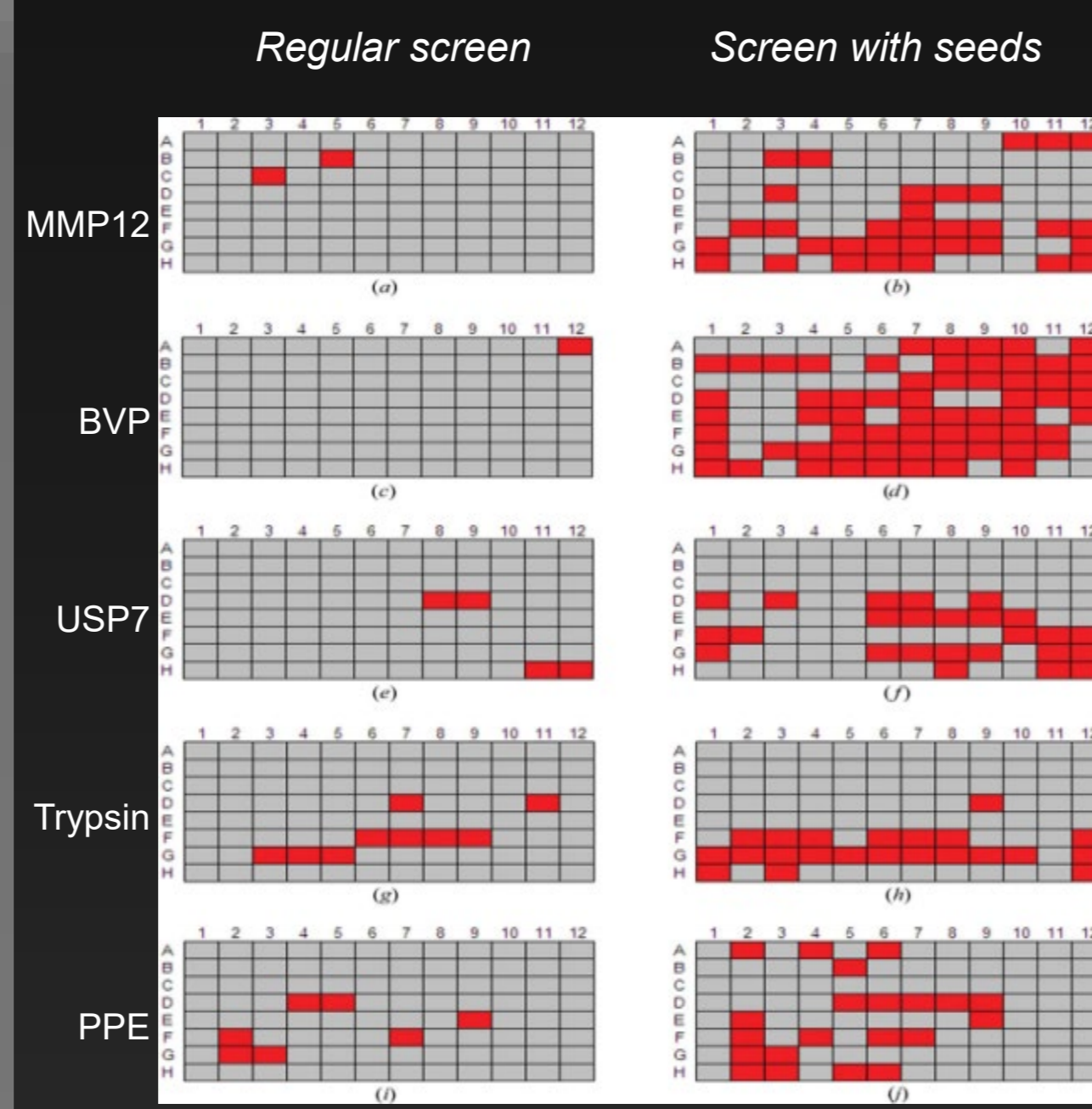
MicroED

More seed

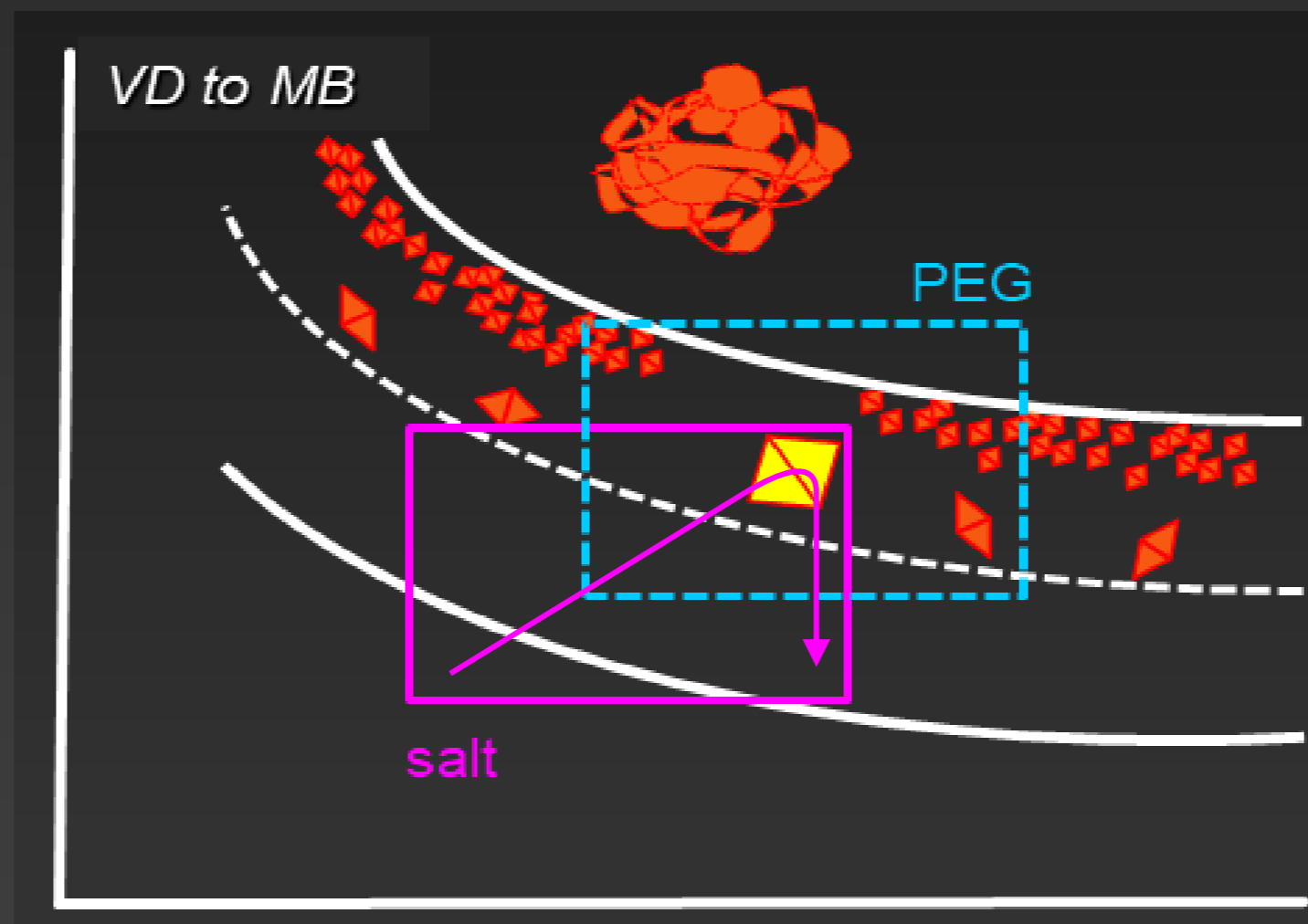
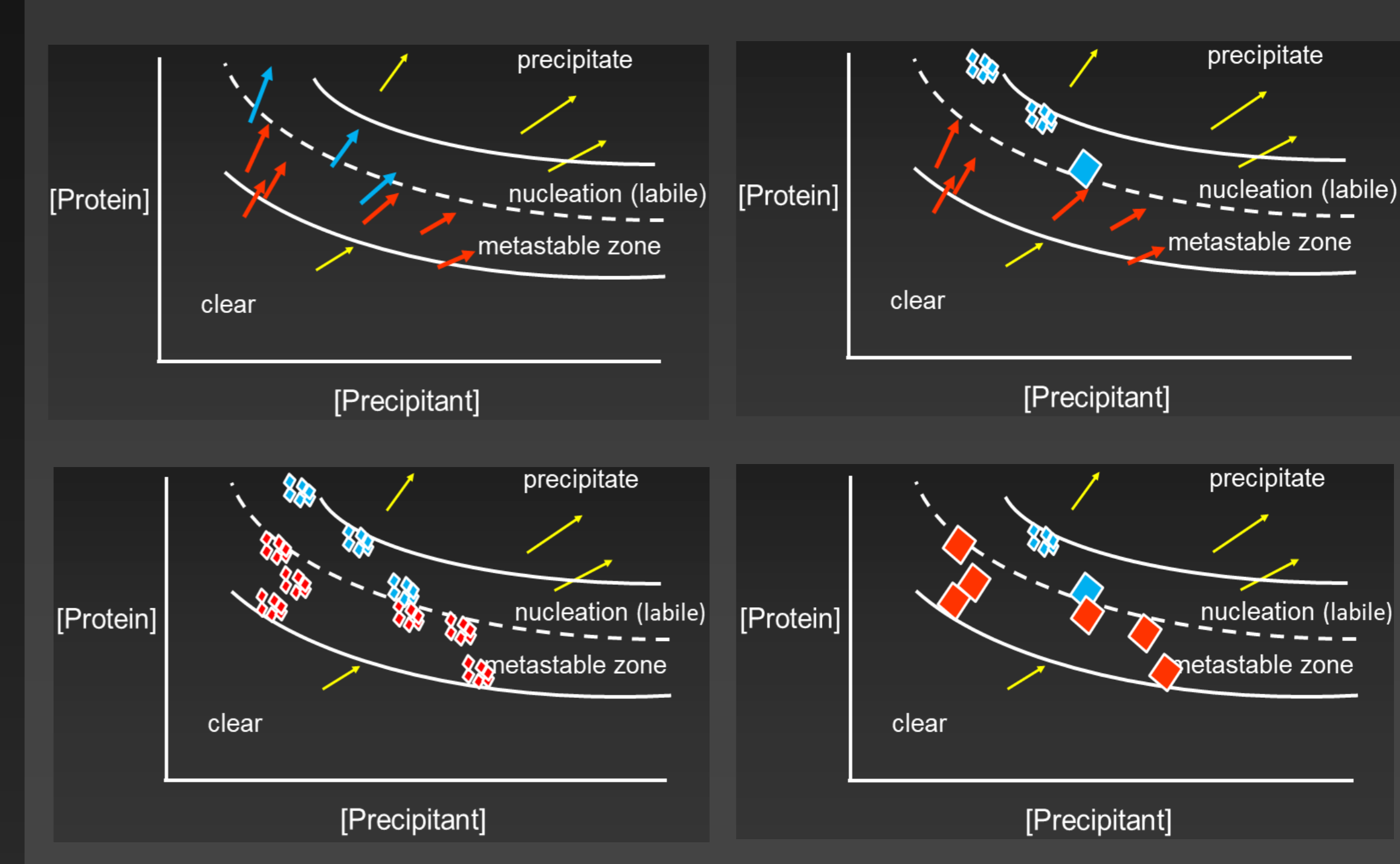
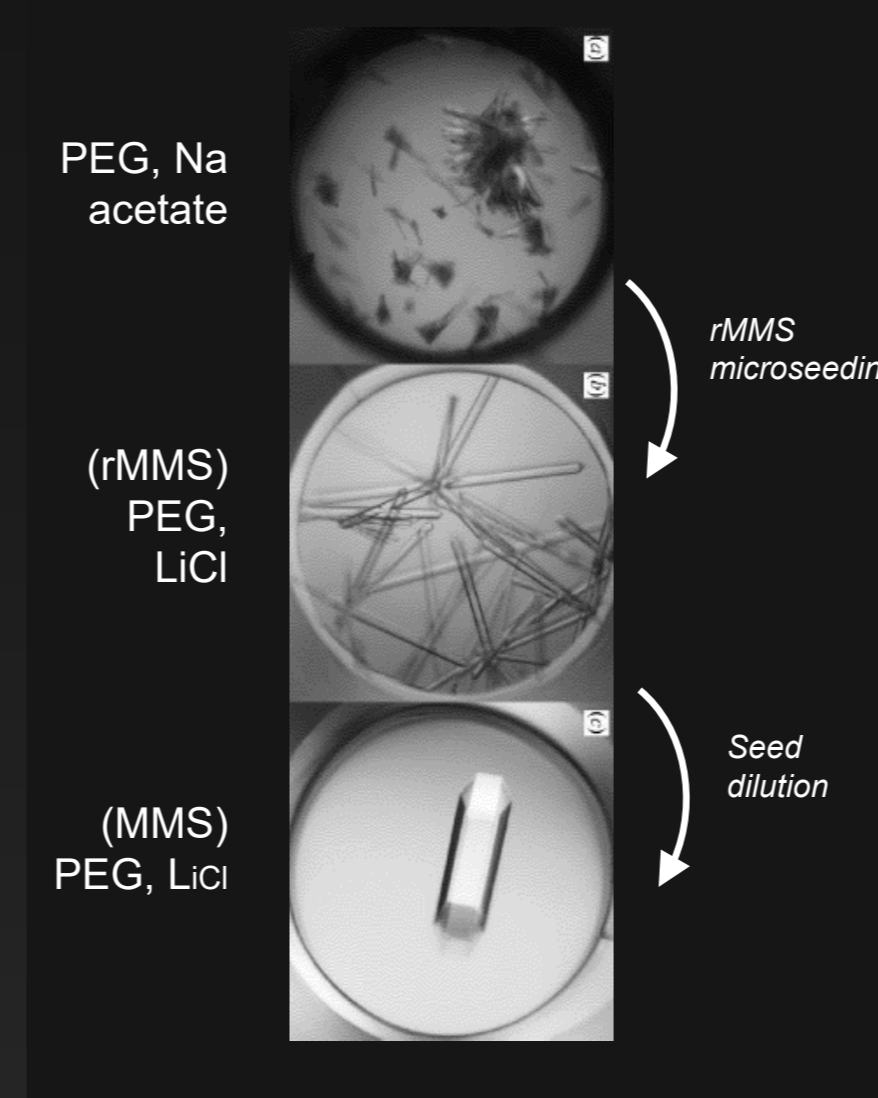
Same work flow

Starting with published vapor diffusion conditions:

- Make a seedstock – increase control
- Convert to MB: make a grid
- Or add seeds to a random screen in MB
- Make phase diagrams in MB
- Scale up sample volume
- Optimize
 - crystal crushing
 - seed dilution
 - crystal growth time



D'Arcy, A. et al. (2007) Acta Cryst. D63, 550–554.



Phase diagrams

