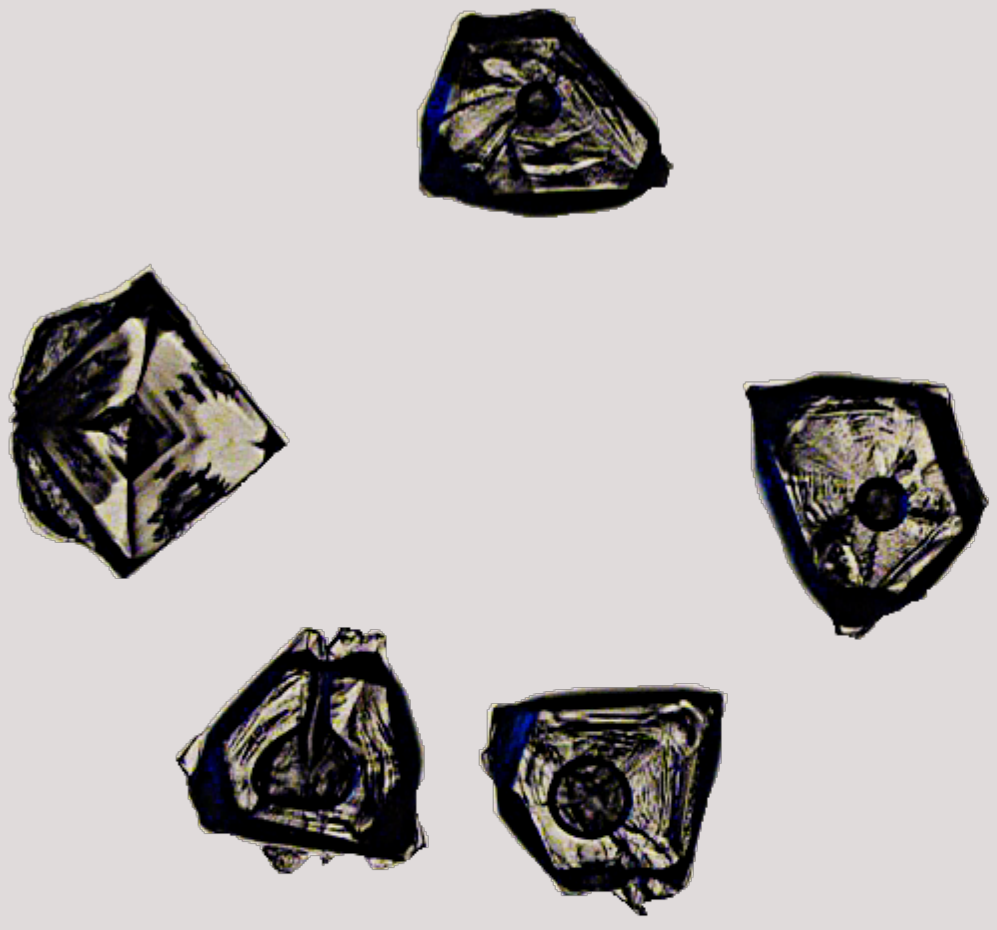


Salty snowflakes: 2D crystallization in drying protein solutions

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As a 2 mm drop of an aqueous 3 wt% NaCl solution evaporates, the salt crystallizes into three-dimensional crystals (left). Remarkably, adding 9 wt% of peptone, a protein, to the solution confines the crystallization into two-dimensional dendrites. The smaller images show the temporal evolution of crystallization.

