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The vast majority of equilibrium assembly processes give rise to two states: one consisting of dispersed disassociated subunits and the other consisting of a bulk-condensed state of unlimited size. The Brandeis MRSEC focuses on the more specialized class of self-limiting assembly, which describes equilibrium assembly processes resulting in finite-size structures. These systems pose a generic and basic question, how do thermo-dynamic processes involving non-covalent interactions between identical sub-units “measure” and select the size of assembled structures?

