

Outline

- Introduction
 - Definitions and basic concepts
 - Phases and microstructure
- Binary PD and Gibbs free energy
- Binary isomorphous systems (complete solid solubility)
- Eutectic phase diagram
- Interpretation of phase diagram

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Definitions and Basic Concepts

Component: chemically recognizable species (e.g. Fe and C in carbon steel, H₂O and NaCl in salted water).
- A binary alloy contains two components, a ternary alloy – three, etc.
Phase: a chemically homogeneous portion of a microstructure; a region of uniform composition and crystal structure.
-Do not confuse phase with grain. A single phase material may contain many

grains, however, a <u>single grain</u> consists of only one phase.

- A phase may contain one or components.

- **System**: a series of possible alloys, compounds, and mixtures resulting from the same components.
 - Examples: the Fe-C system, the water-sugar system, the alumina-silica system.
- **Solvent**: host or major component in solution, **Solute**: minor component *(Chapter 4)*.

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Definitions and Basic Concepts

• **Solubility Limit** of a component in a phase is the maximum amount of the component that can be dissolved in it.

- e.g. alcohol has <u>unlimited</u> solubility in water, sugar has a <u>limited</u> solubility, oil is <u>insoluble</u>.

- The same concepts apply to solid phases: Cu and Ni are soluble in any amount (unlimited solid solubility), while C has a solubility in Fe.

• **Equilibrium:** The stable configuration of a system, when a <u>sufficient</u> amount of time has elapsed that occur.

- Equilibrium may take place rapidly (on the order of microseconds), or may require a geological time frame.

- We will talk in this class about equilibrium phase diagrams, that is, the nature of a system at any given temperature after a "....." long period of time.

- <u>*Quenching*</u> (extreme cooling rate) can sometimes shift phase boundaries relative to their equilibrium values.



Definitions and Basic Concepts

• Microstructure: The properties of an alloy depend not only on proportions of the phases but also on how they are arranged structurally at the microscopic level. Thus, the microstructure is specified by: (1) the number of phases, (2) their proportions, and (3) their arrangement in space.



- This is an alloy of Fe with 4 wt.% C.
- > There are several phases.

-The long grey regions are flakes of graphite.

- The matrix is a fine mixture of BCC Fe and Fe_3C compound.

Phase diagrams will help us to understand and predict the microstructures like the one shown above





What is a Binary Equilibrium Phase Diagram?

Binary – two components

Equilibrium – stable over time

Phase – a chemically and structurally homogeneous regionDiagram – a map or drawing showing the general scheme of things

• Phase diagrams are maps of the equilibrium phases associated with various combinations of composition, temperature and **pressure**.

- Since most materials engineering work involves atmospheric pressure, we are usually most interested in composition – temperature diagrams.

• Binary phase diagrams are two component maps <u>widely used by</u> <u>engineers</u>.

• They are helpful in predicting phase transformations and the resulting microstructures



Phase Diagrams



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Binary phase diagram and Gibbs free energy

The equilibrium state can be found from the Gibbs free energy dependence on temperature and composition.



1600

Liquid

Liquidus lim

..... of Cu

Cu along this axis

Pure

1200

1100

1000

Cu



Binary solutions with unlimited solubility

Let us construct a binary phase diagram for the simplest case: A and B components are mutually soluble in any amounts in both solid (isomorphous system) and liquid phases, and form ideal solutions.

> But let us review the isomorphous system first.



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Binary Isomorphous Systems

Isomorphous system: complete solid solubility of the two components (both in the liquid and solid phases).

Three distinct regions can be identified on the phase diagram: Liquid (L), solid + liquid (α +L), solid (α)

- Liquidus line separates liquid from liquid + solid
- Solidus line separates solid from liquid + solid

Example of isomorphous system: Cu-Ni

Recall: the complete solubility occurs because both Cu and Ni have the same and

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Ni

..... of Ni

1455

Solidus line

axis

Ni along this

Pure



Phase Diagrams



• In one-component system melting occurs at a well-defined melting temperature.

• In multi-component systems melting occurs over the range of temperatures, between the solidus and liquidus lines.

- Solid and liquid phases are in equilibrium in this temperature range.



Gibbs Free Energy of Isomorphous Binary System





Gibbs Free Energy of Isomorphous Binary System

Decreasing the temperature below T_1 will have two effects.

 \succ G^{liquid}_A and G^{liquid}_B will increase more rapidly than G_{A}^{solid} and G_{B}^{solid} Why?

 \succ The curvature of the G(X_B) curves will decrease.







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Gibbs Free Energy of Isomorphous Binary System

For even lower temperature $T_3 <$ $T_2 = T_m(A)$ the Gibbs free energy curves for the liquid and solid phases will cross.





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Gibbs Free Energy of Isomorphous Binary System

As temperature decreases below T₃ G_{A}^{liquid} and G_{B}^{liquid} continues to increase more rapidly than G_{A}^{solid} and G_{B}^{solid}

Therefore, the intersection of the Gibbs free energy curves, as well as points X_1 and X_2 are shifting to the right, until, at $T_4 = T_m(B)$ the curves will intersect at $X_1 = X_2 = 1$





Gibbs free energy of the solid is lower than that of the liquid in the whole range of compositions \Rightarrow the solid phase is the only stable phase.

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Interpretation of Phase Diagrams

For a given temperature and composition we can use phase diagram to determine:

- 1) The phases that are present
- 2) Compositions of the phases
- 3) The relative fractions of the phases



Microstructure Development



Schematic representation of the development of microstructure during the equilibrium solidification of a <u>35 wt% Ni-65 wt%</u> Cu alloy.



Finding the composition in a two phase region:





Finding the Amounts of Phases in a Two Phase Region

The Lever Rule



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Example

Again using the Cu-Ni phase diagram, suppose the overall composition of an alloy is 35 wt. % Ni and the alloy is at a temperature of 1250°C (i.e., point "B" in the figure). What are the mass fractions of solid and liquid phases at that temperature?









Eutectic Phase Diagram











How to calculate relative amounts of microconstituents?

Question:

For alloy C, find the weight percentage of (1) primary α (2) eutectic phase and (3) eutectic α , at T₁?



Next time: Continue Binary Phase Diagrams