

"Calculation and Applications Phase Equilibria" Principles Solidification

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Solidification: Liquid ----- Solid

1) Pure Metals: Nucleation and Growth (thermally activated process)

a) homogeneous Nucleation or Heterogeneous Nucleation • Undercooling **AT**



"Alloy solidification"

- **1. Solidification of single-phase alloys**
- Three limiting cases
 - 1) Equilibrium Solidification: perfect mixing in solid and liquid
 - 2) No Diffusion on Solid, Diffusional Mixing in the Liquid
 - 3) No Diffusion in Solid, Perfect Mixing in Liquid





1) Equilibrium Solidification : perfect mixing in solid and liquid



2) Mixing in the liquid by diffusion only: No diffusion in the solid

* 1) Equilibrium Solidification ⇔ Opposite extreme of perfect mixing in solid and liquid (solute or solvent) does not move → no mixing in either the solid or the liquid
→ L→S without composition change: "diffusionless solidification" of this kind may take place locally when the liquid is sufficiently supercooled. = "polymorphic transformation"





: high cooling rate, no stirring \rightarrow diffusion

- \rightarrow diffuse into liquid with limitation
- Rapid build up solute in front of the solid \rightarrow rapid increase in the comp. of solid forming (initial transient)
 - if it solidifies at a const. rate, v, then a steady state is finally obtained at T_3
 - liquid : C_0/k_0 , solid: C_0





Composition profile at $T_2 < T_{S/l} < T_3$?

Steady-state profile at T₃? at T_F or below? 6

"Alloy solidification"

- Solidification of single-phase alloys
- * No Diffusion on Solid, Diffusional Mixing in the Liquid







1 During steady-state growth,



(Interface →liquid: Diffusion rate)

Rate at which solute diffuses down the concentration gradient away from the interface = Rate at which solute is rejected from the solidifying liquid

(Solid—Liquid from solidification: solute rejecting rate)



(C_L decreases exponentially from C_0/k_0 at x=0, the interface, to C_0 at large distances from the interface. The concentration profile has a characteristic width of D/R.)

- Liquid distribution: "characteristic distance" given by D/R; that is, the distance in which the excess concentration falls to 1/e of its initial value.

2 Initial Transient

(a) First solid to form from C_0 liquid: k_0C_0

- → Steady state condition, in which the concentrations solid of L and S at the interface are C_0/k_0 and C_0 , will not be reached until the solidification has proceed far enough for a substantial amount of solute to have been rejected.
- (b) Two shaded area (deficit of solute in solid, excess in liquid, compared with C_0) ~ "equal"

(c) Tiller et al: C_S = as a function of the distance

$$C_{S} = C_{0} \left\{ (1 - k_{0}) \left[1 - \exp \left(-k_{0} \frac{R}{D} X \right) \right] + k_{0} \right\}$$

(exp. Approach not quite correct, and that an exact solution is) $\frac{C_s}{C_0} = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ 1 + \operatorname{erf} \sqrt{(R/2D)X} + (2k_0 - 1) \exp\left[-k_0(1 - k_0)\frac{R}{D}X\right] \\ \operatorname{erf}\left[\frac{(2k_0 - 1)\sqrt{(R/D)X}}{2}\right] \right\}$

- * C_{S} values calculated by these two methods \rightarrow "similar"
- * Characteristic distance



Fig. 5.10. distribution of solute during initial transient.



③ Terminal Transient

- (a) Steady state condition: No hindrance of solute diffusion & *R* remain constant. But, former condition ceases when the boundary of the liquid is approached (Figure 5.11.)
- (b) Concentration of solid = $C_0 \uparrow$ (: excess solute must all appear in the terminal region)
- (c) Characteristic distance for the diffusion zone (initial transient= D/k_0R , steady state condition = D/R) \rightarrow terminal transient zone occupies a shorter distance, by a factor k_0 , than the initial zone (concentration change in terminal transient zone_Chapter 8)



"Alloy solidification" - Solidification of single-phase alloys

* No Diffusion on Solid, Diffusional Mixing in the Liquid



When the solid/liquid interface is within ~D/R of the end of the bar the bow-wave of solute is compressed into a very small volume and the interface composition rises rapidly leading to a final transient and eutectic formation.







- Fig. Planar front solidification of alloy C_0 in upper figure assuming no diffusion in solid and no stirring in the liquid.
- (a) Composition profile when S/L temperature is between T_2 and T_3 in upper figure.
- (b) Steady-state at T_3 . The composition solidifying equals the composition of liquid far ahead of the solid (C_0).
- (c) Composition profile at T_E and below, showing the final transient.

④ Change of speed

- (a) When R~const, excess solute ahead of the interface = the area under the diffusion curve → characteristic distance D/R & solidification rate ~ 1/R
 - $\cdot\cdot$ The solid that is formed immediately after a change of speed must have a concentration that differs from C_0.
- (b) If R ↑, D/R ↓, the amount of Solute ↓, the solid must have a higher concentration during the transition from steady state at lower R to steady state at higher R.

(C) If $\mathbf{R} \downarrow$, solid concentration is less than \mathbf{C}_0 as shown in Fig. 5.13.



Fig. 5.13. solute distribution following changes in speed of solidification (A) Increase; (B) Decrease.

(5) Effect of curvature of the interface

- (a) Steady state condition ($C_s = C_0$, $T_I = T_s$) is valid only if the interface is planar.
- (b) If it is convex (center of curvature in the solid), then the solute is not conserved within a cylindrical volume of the solidifying liquid (see Fig. 5.14)
- → Solute concentration is less than C_0 / Liquid concentration adjacent to the interface is less than $C_0/k_{0.}$ / Temp. of Interface is above the solidius temp. for the original liquid.



Fig. 5.14. Solute diffusion ahead of a convex interface

(c) If concave, (1) Solid concentration > C_0

(2) solidify at a temp. below that of the initial solidus

(6) Influence of liquid fluid motion: Convection

- (a) Assumption of mixing by only diffusion ~ not realistic \rightarrow \therefore a liquid in which ΔT exist is likely to be subject to convection.
- (b) Only case for no convection \rightarrow <u>density gradient</u> in the liquid is everywhere vertical
- (c) If (1) in addition to density gradient caused by ΔT ,

(2) density gradients resulting from **compositional variation** caused by rejection of solute, <u>the problem of achieving a completely non-convection system becomes even more difficult</u>.

(d) It is therefore necessary to consider the extent to which convection, resulting from density gradients that arise from non-uniformity of temperature or of composition, will affect the redistribution of solute during solidification. → "Effect of mixing by fluid motion"



Fig. 5.15. Effect of stirring on the diffusion zone.

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Mass balance: non-equilibrium lever rule (coring structure)



when f_{S} = 0 \rightarrow C $_{S}$, C $_{L}$?

$$C_{S} = k_{0}C_{0}$$
 and $C_{L} = C_{0}$

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Initial conditions



If k<1: predicts that if no diff. in solid, some eutectic always exist to solidify.

3) Complete or partial mixing of liquid: no diffusion in solid



(liquid completely mixed at all times).

 C_0 is 1 for all curves.

10⁻³ cm < d < 10⁻¹ cm Very vigorous stirring Natural convention



Fig. 5.16. Curves for normal freezing (liquid completely mixed at all times). C_0 is 1 for all curves.

$$k_E = \frac{k_0}{k_0 + (1 - k_0) \exp\left(-\frac{Rd}{D}\right)}$$

- Fig. 5.17 shows how k_E varies with normalized growth velocity (Rd/D) for values of k_0 from 0.1 to 0.9.



Fig. 5.17. Dependence of effective distribution coefficient on normalized growth velocity (From Ref. 9, p. 14)



* Comments: Solidus temperature of an alloy

 T_L : Solidification start \rightarrow supercooling $\rightarrow T_L$ (recalesence) $\rightarrow T_S$: Solidification finish

Phase diagram \rightarrow determined from cooling curve \therefore T_L satisfactory, T_S large errors

When a single-phase solid is formed, the last liquid always solidifies at a temperature below the solidus for the original liquid (of composition C_0) some times by a large 23 amount \rightarrow Please check "Zone refining".



5.4 Zone Refining

: A crystal growing from a solution usually rejects either the solute or the solvent \rightarrow "Purifying Crystalline"

- (a) Distribution coefficient of any solute, $k_0 \sim \text{very small} (< 10^{-6})$
 - \rightarrow Importance of R/d/D $\downarrow \rightarrow$ Purity \uparrow by multi-stage process
- (b) Distribution coefficient k_0 ~close to 1,
 - \rightarrow Purity \uparrow by multi-stage process
 - \rightarrow possible, but not practical
 - : Each successive stage would provide less material of high purity.

Zone melting or Zone refining - W.G. Pfann Invention ~ various extension and modifications (see Pfann's book: Zone melting, John Wiley & Sons New York, 1958) Ring heater



The form of a bar & Held in suitable container

Fig. 5.19. Zone melting, schematic. (From Ref. 9, p. 24.)

(a) Fig. 5.20. Distribution of solute after passage of one molten zone; initial concentration C_0 . (From Ref.9, p. 25)



* Concentration distribution : except terminal transient region

$$\frac{C_s}{C_0} = 1 - (1 - k_E) \exp\left(-\frac{k_E X}{l}\right)$$

(b) Concentration gradients after multi-pass in the same direction as first: further transfer of solute from left to right (c) Effect of k_E on purification: low k_E (left) : small # of pass \rightarrow large decrease of solute concentration $k_E \sim 1$ (next page): requires a very large # to produce a comparable effect





Fig. 5.21. Solute concentration against distance (in zone lengths) after passage of n zones

(c) Effect of k_E on purification: low k_E (left) : small # of pass \rightarrow large decrease of solute concentration $k_E \sim 1$: requires a very large # to produce a comparable effect



Fig. 5.23. Solute concentration for $k_E = 0.95$.





(a) How the ultimate distribution (i.e. when a steady state has been reached) varies with the value of k_E for a bar 10 zones in length.

Assumption : - Impurity to be removed have distribution coefficient less than 1.

- Solutes are rejected by growing crystals and accumulate in the terminal region.

But, (b) some solute are preferentially accepted by growing crystal, and therefore, ²⁹ have distribution coefficients greater than 1& accomulate in the first part to solidify

* A comparison of separation obtained with $k_E = 0.7$ and 1.2 is shown in Fig. 5.25, where a bar ten zones in length L/l=10 is subjected to various number of passes.



* When purifying through zone refining, metals with high reactivity and high Tm should be carefully considered for contamination especially from containers. \rightarrow This problem is minimized by using the various floating zone methods described below.

; high purity, expensive The maintenance of the molten zone is possible by the combined force of surface tension or stress induced by surface tension and electromagnetic. Gas inlet Silicon bar Cooled silica Feed rod envelope Direction of travel Direction of flow Radilo frequence source RF coil Floating_ Single crystal zone Gas outlet

Single Crystal Growth: c) Float-zone (FZ) method

* Cellular and Dendritic Solidification

Fast Solute diffusion similar to the conduction of latent heat in pure metal, possible to break up the planar front into dendrites.

 \rightarrow complicated, however, by the possibility of temp. gradients in the liquid.



* Constitutional Supercooling

No Diffusion on Solid, Diffusional Mixing in the Liquid



 $T_{L}' > (T_1 - T_3)/(D/v)$: the protrusion melts back \rightarrow Planar interface: stable