

# FAMSE: Fundamental Aspects of Material Science and Engineering

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Fundamental Aspects of Materials Science  
and Engineering (FAMSE)

# Thermodynamics in materials science, high entropy alloys

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Atomic-scale Characterisation

Fundamental Aspects of Materials Science  
and Engineering (FAMSE)



## Structure of this lecture:

- (1) Basics of thermodynamics
- (2) Driving forces for phase transformations
- (3) Thermodynamics of mixtures
- (4) Understanding of phase diagrams
- (5) Ternary phase diagrams
- (6) High entropy alloys

Why is called thermodynamics?

James Prescott Joule (English, 1818-1889)  
Image from Wikipedia



of Breguet. But our knowledge of the specific heat of elastic fluids is of such an uncertain character, that we should not be justified in attempting to deduce from them the absolute quantity of heat evolved or absorbed. I have succeeded in re-

Thermometer

Mechanical device

Keep pumping  
air into the  
chamber (add  
mechanical  
work), what  
happens next?

Condensing  
pump

Copper receiver

The same  
amount of heat  
is always  
produced by  
the same  
amount of work

Thermo dynamics

\* Memoirs of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester,  
vol. v. part 2. p. 521-525.

## ➤ Terminology and symbol

- Isolated system
- Closed system
- Isothermal process
- Adiabatic process
- Ideal solution
- non-ideal solution (real solution)
- Spontanoue (irreversible) ★ important equations



Self study

# 1. Basics

**FIRST LAW** of thermodynamics (and what follows):

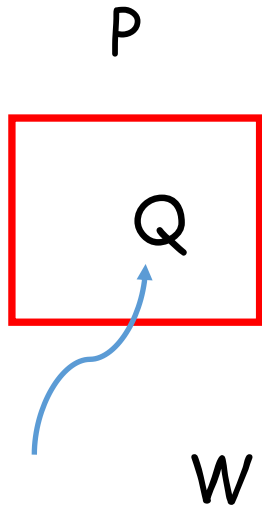
**Conservation of energy** : energy can be transformed from one form to another, but can be neither created nor destroyed



$$dU = U_{II} - U_I = dQ + dW$$

Thermodynamics is concerned with the beginning ( $U_I$ ) and final states ( $U_{II}$ ) of an isolated system.

$$dU = U_{II} - U_I = dQ + dW$$

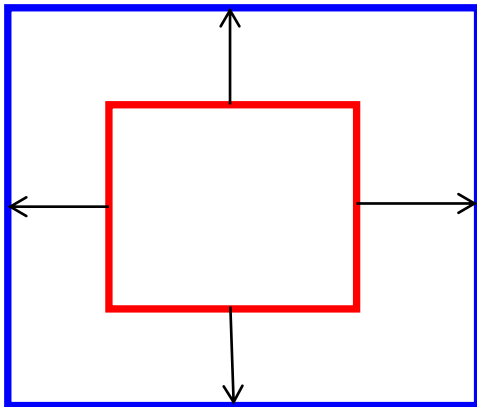


$$dU = U_{II} - U_I = dQ - PdV$$

Heat capacity: heat adsorbed per unit change in temperature ( $dQ/dT$ )

At constant volume:  $dU = \partial Q$

$$C_v = \left( \frac{\partial U}{\partial T} \right)_V$$



**We work at constant pressure**, not at constant Volume. We define **H**:

$$dU = U_{II} - U_I = \partial Q - p dV = \partial Q - p(V_{II} - V_I)$$

**We look at heat effect:**

$$dQ = (U_{II} + pV_{II}) - (U_I + pV_I)$$

**We introduce H:**

★

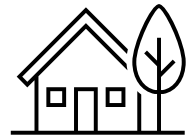
$$H = U + pV$$

**Unit of Enthalpy: J/mol**

The enthalpy H of a thermodynamic system is defined as the sum of its internal energy and the product of its pressure and volume

**U** - internal energy, **p**-pressure, **V**-volume





We work with  $H$ :

$$H = U + pV$$

$$H = f(T, p)$$

$$dH = \left( \frac{\partial H}{\partial T} \right)_p dT + \left( \frac{\partial H}{\partial p} \right)_T dp = dU + pdV + Vdp = \partial Q + Vdp$$



$$H = U + pV$$



$$dU = \partial Q - pdV$$

# Heat capacity at constant pressure

★

$$C_p = \left( \frac{\partial H}{\partial T} \right)_p$$

★

$$\Delta H = \int_{T_1}^{T_2} C_p dT$$

$$c_p = (\partial h / \partial T)_p = \frac{1}{n} \cdot C_p$$

Unit of heat capacity: J/k·mol

$C_p$  - heat capacity,  $c_p$  - heat capacity per quantity of material,  
 $n$  - number of moles

Materials engineers use empirical relations like

$$c_p = a + b \cdot T + c \cdot T^{-2} \text{ (in : } \frac{J}{K \cdot mol} \text{)}$$

with a, b und c from data bases.

Materials engineers often use the approximation of Dulong and Petit (which is a zero order approximation of idea gas:

$$c_p \approx 3R$$

R - universal gas constant

Related to **FIRST LAW**:

From which to which? Direction?

**Conservation of energy** : energy can be transformed from one form to another, but can be neither created nor destroyed

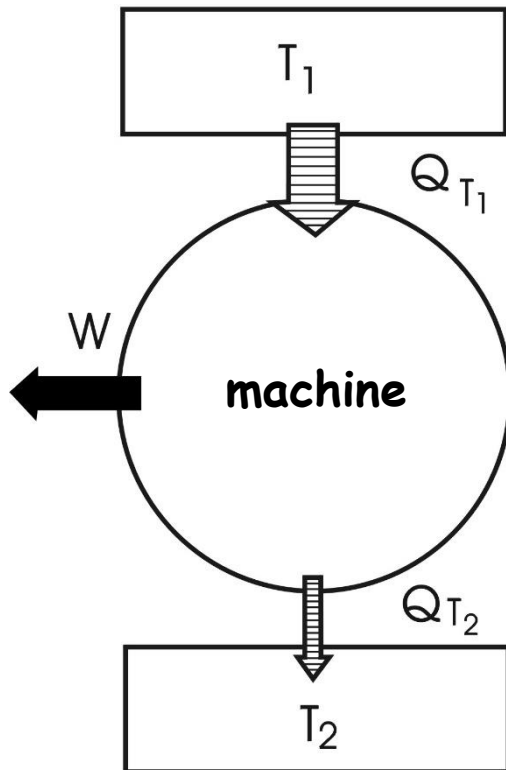
differential equations and characteristic functions

$U$  - internal energy

$H$  - enthalpy

$c_p$  - heat capacity (how  $H$  depends on temperature)

## SECOND LAW of thermodynamics:

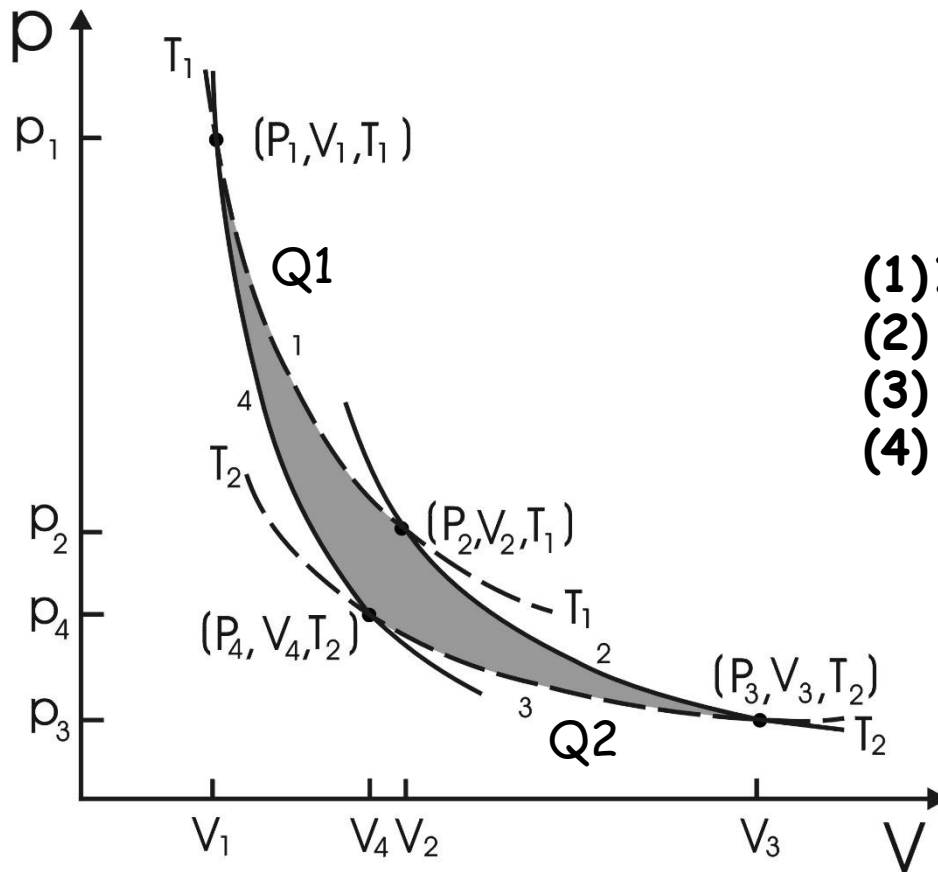


We cannot transform 100% heat ( $Q_{T_1}$ ) into work. We can transform some of it into work  $W$ . We must always produce waste heat  $Q_{T_2}$ .

The efficiency  $\eta$  of our process is always smaller than 1:

$$\eta = 1 - T_2 / T_1$$

One can analyze an ideal process, known as the **Carnot process**. It involves an **ideal gas** which can transform heat/work into work/heat by expansion/compression. The Carnot process does what we have seen in the previous figure. It can be subdivided into four steps:



- (1) Isothermal expansion ( $T_1$ )
- (2) Adiabatic expansion ( $T_1 \rightarrow T_2$ )
- (3) Isothermal compression ( $T_2$ )
- (4) Adiabatic compression ( $T_2 \rightarrow T_1$ )


$$Q_1/T_1 + Q_2/T_2 = 0$$

The **Carnot process** has been analyzed in detail. A number of important conclusions could be drawn, like:

- (1) No processes have a higher efficiency than the Carnot process.
- (2) The thermal efficiency of the Carnot process is smaller than 1.

This is of interest for questions related to energy conversion.

In materials science we are interested in spontaneous processes. Does something happen? Can we make an alloy? Does a melt solidify? Do carbides precipitate? We want to have a parameter which gives us an answer to these questions. In this context it was interesting to find:

- (3) When each step in the Carnot process is reversible, then the sum of the reduced heats is zero:  $\sum Q/T=0$ .  **S (entropy)**
- (4) When one spontaneous (non reversible) process occurs, the sum of the reduced heats is  $>0$ .

We use the entropy  $S$  to describe a reduced heat:



$$dS = dQ / T \quad \text{Unit of entropy: J/K}\cdot\text{mol}$$

Our analysis has shown, that when a system changes from state 1 into state 2, then we can differentiate to cases:

in equilibrium:

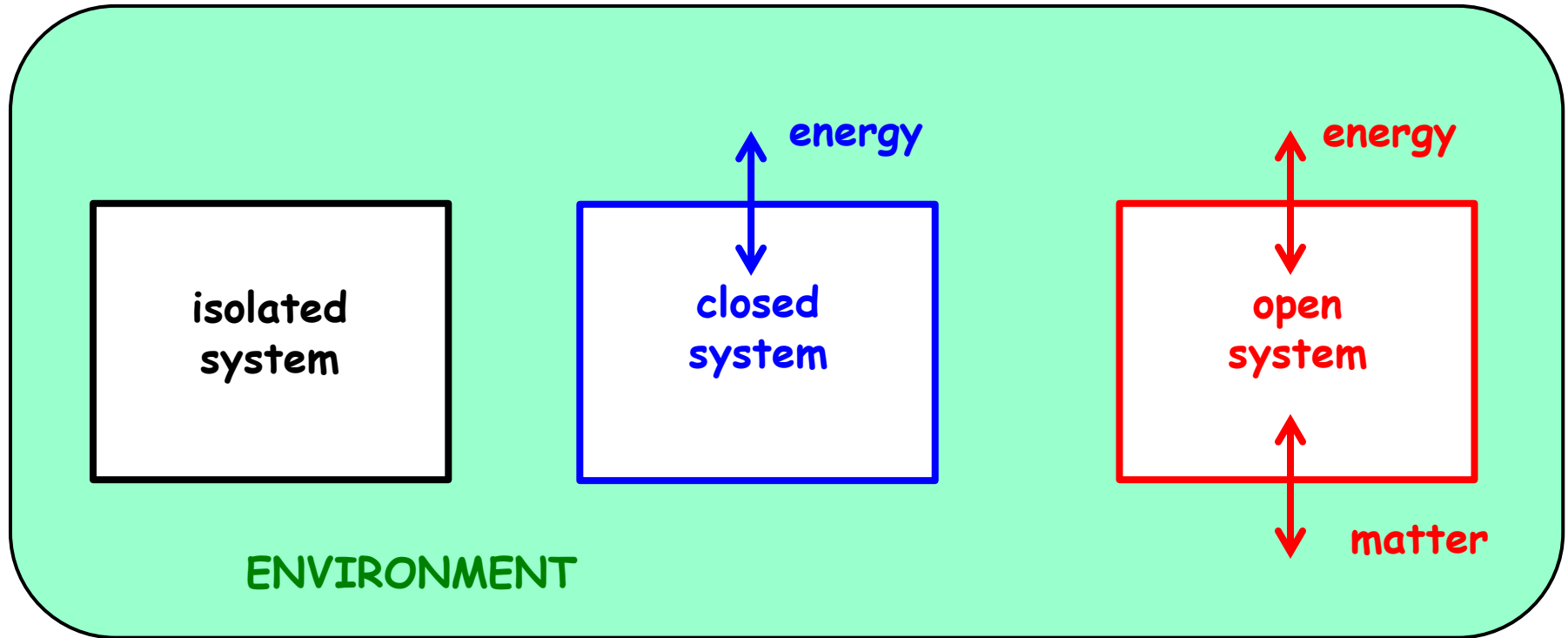
$$S_2 - S_1 = \Delta S = 0$$



spontaneous process:

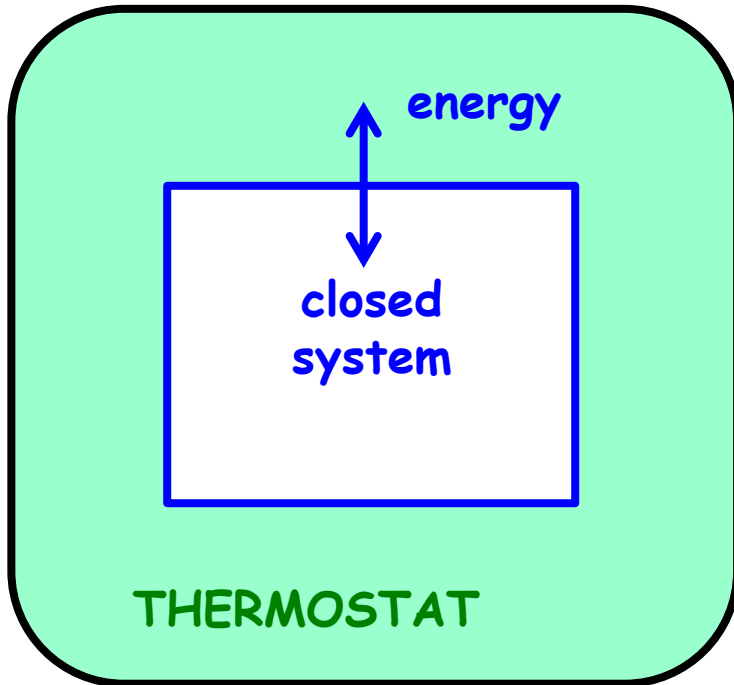
$$S_2 - S_1 = \Delta S > 0$$





Carnot cycle occurs in an isolated system.  $\Delta S=0$ : nothing happens.  $\Delta S>0$ : spontaneous process.

However, in materials research we are interested in closed and open systems. E.g., alloy melt in crucible during melting, alloy melt in mould during solidification, steel specimen in furnace during heat treatment  
→ **closed systems**.



In order to derive such an equation of state for our **closed system**, we consider our closed system together with its direct environment, and we assume, that the **whole system represents an isolated system**.

The direct environment is so big, that it behaves like a **thermostat** and does not notice a small heat transfer  $Q_{\text{rev}}$  into our closed system.

For spontaneous effect to occur in whole system:

$$dS_{\text{isolated system}} = dS_{\text{closed system}} + dS_{\text{thermostat}} \geq 0$$

$$dS_{\text{isolated system}} = dS_{\text{closed system}} + dS_{\text{thermostat}} \geq 0$$

$$dQ_{\text{closed system}} = -dQ_{\text{thermostat}}$$

we can write:

$$dS_{\text{isolated system}} = dS_{\text{closed system}} - \frac{\delta Q_{\text{closed system}}}{T} \geq 0$$

$$dS_{\text{closed system}} - \frac{\delta H_{\text{closed system}}}{T} \geq 0$$

$$TdS_{\text{closed system}} - dH_{\text{closed system}} \geq 0$$



$$dH_{\text{closed system}} - TdS_{\text{closed system}} \leq 0$$

We introduce the Gibbs free energy  $G$ :

$$dG = dH_{\text{closed system}} - TdS_{\text{closed system}} \leq 0$$

with this we get:



$$G = H - T \cdot S$$

Unit of  $G$ : J/mol

$G$  is the state function which we need in our closed systems. It provides information about a process.  $\Delta G=0$ : equilibrium - nothing happens.  $\Delta G<0$ : we have a driving force for a spontaneous process.

$\Delta G$  as driving force for spontaneous processes in closed systems:

$$\Delta G = \Delta H - T \cdot \Delta S$$

For a **high driving force  $\Delta G$**  we want an **as negative as possible  $\Delta H$**  (heat comes out of system) and **a high positive  $\Delta S$** . We see that the influence of the  $\Delta S$ -term ( $T \cdot \Delta S$ ) increases with increasing temperature.

What is the physical meaning?



**Ludwig Boltzmann**

**20.2.1844-5.Sept.1906**

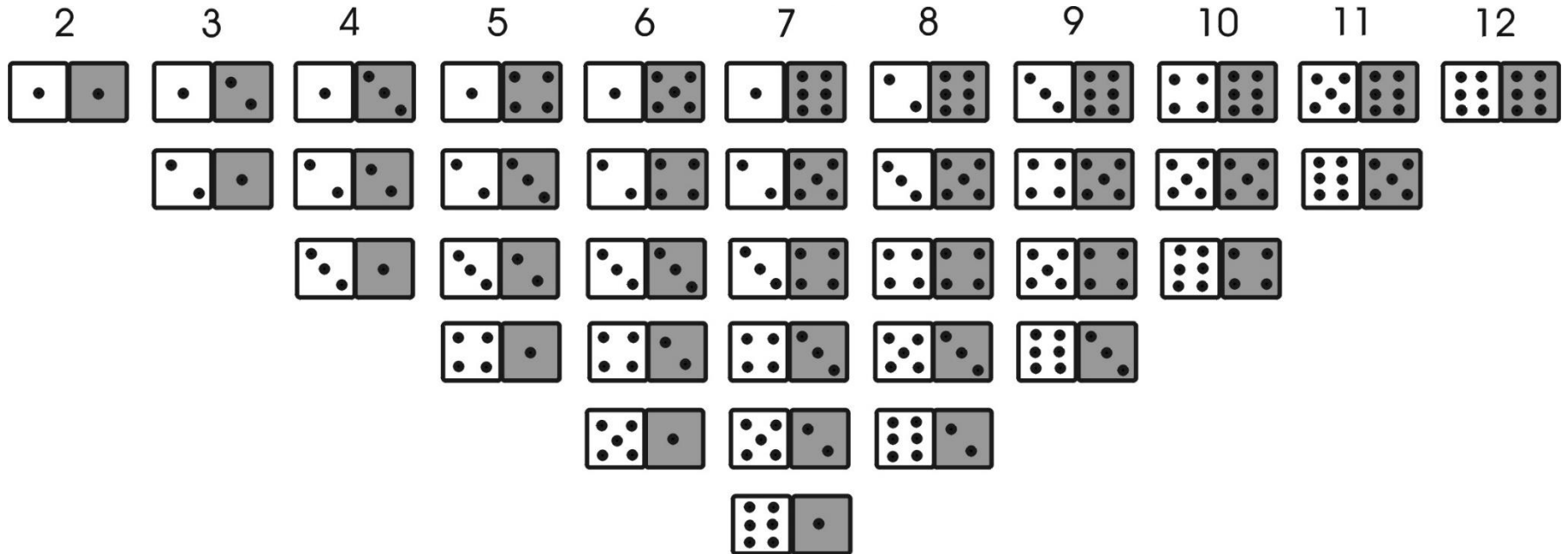
**grave:**

**Wiener Zentralfriedhof**

**Foto: 14. May 2016**

**(from Internet)**

# Playing dice (example)



The macro state 7 is more probable than the macro state 2, because it has a higher number of possible micro states! Imagine we had  $6,023 \cdot 10^{23}$  dice (1 mol of ideal gases)

Famous and important statistical interpretation of entropy  $S$  by **Ludwig Boltzmann**:

★

$$S = k_B \cdot \ln \omega$$

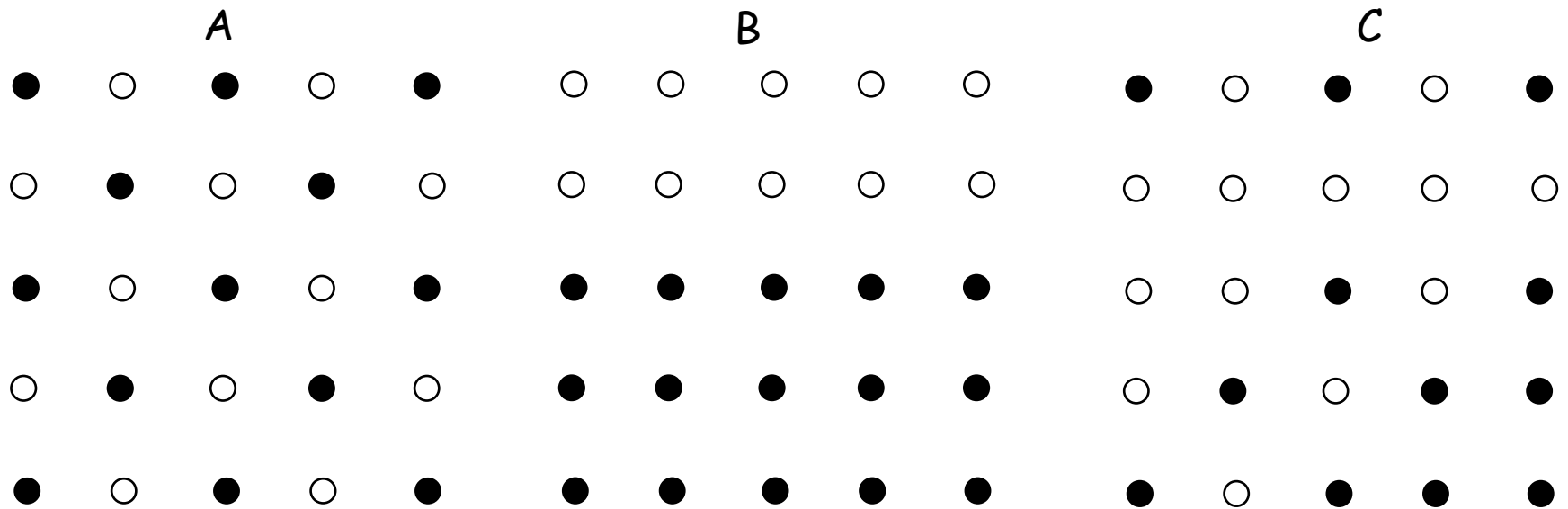
There is a macrostate which has the entropy  $S$ .

$\omega$  is the number of micro states which corresponds to this macro state.

$k_B$  is the Boltzmann constant  $1,381 \cdot 10^{-23} \text{ JK}^{-1}$ .  $k_B$  is for an atom, what  $R$  is for one mole:  $R = N_A \cdot k_B$  ( $N_A$  - Avogadro Zahl von Teilchen in einem Mol:  $6,023 \cdot 10^{23} \text{ mol}^{-1}$ ).



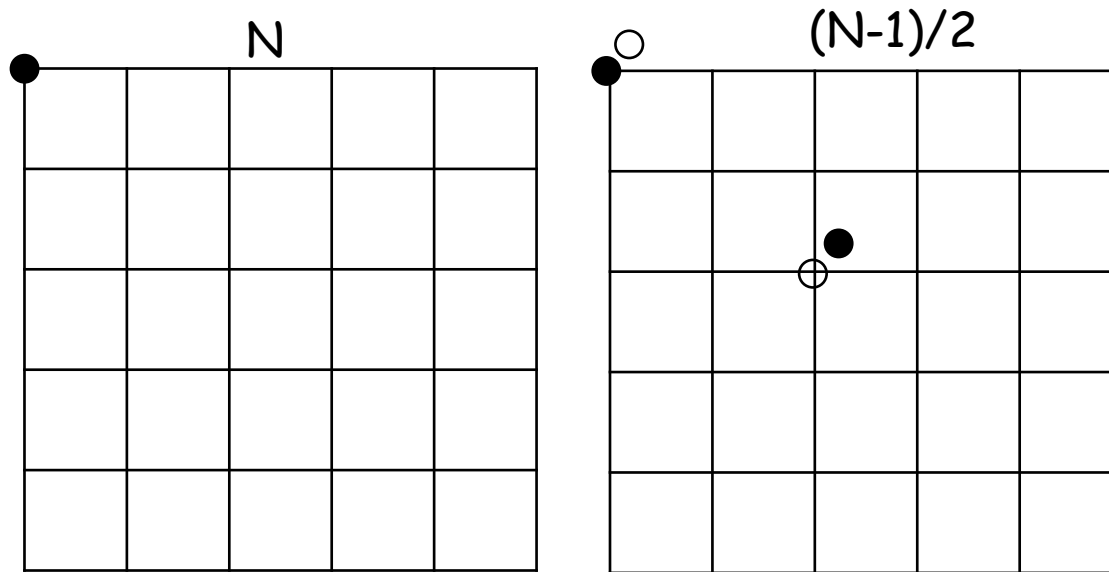
# For solid solution



Which has a higher probability?

Nature establishes the macro state which corresponds to the highest number of microstates = which has the highest probability.

For solid solution



$$\frac{N(N-1) \dots (N-n+2)(N-n+1)}{n!}$$

$$w = \frac{N!}{n! (N-n)!}$$

## Boltzmann's equation:

$$\Delta S^M = k_B \cdot \ln \omega = k_B \cdot \ln \left( \frac{N!}{N_1! \cdot N_2!} \right)$$

From this with Stirling's approximation for large numbers ( $\ln N! = N \cdot \ln N - N$ ) and by introducing mole fractions we obtain:



$$\Delta S^M = -R \cdot (x_1 \cdot \ln x_1 + x_2 \cdot \ln x_2)$$

$x_1$  and  $x_2$ : mole fractions of 1 and 2 atoms,  $R$  is gas constant

Related to **SECOND LAW**:

Carnot process

Entropy  $S$

$\Delta S$  as driving force in isolated system

Gibbs free energy  $G$

$\Delta G$  as driving force in closed system

Statistical interpretation of entropy  $S$ : aims at establishing the highest degree of disorder. This tendency increases with increasing temperature.

## 2. THERMODYNAMICS OF PHASE TRANSFORMATIONS

Example: The martensitic transformation

*austenite*  $\leftrightarrow$  *martensite*

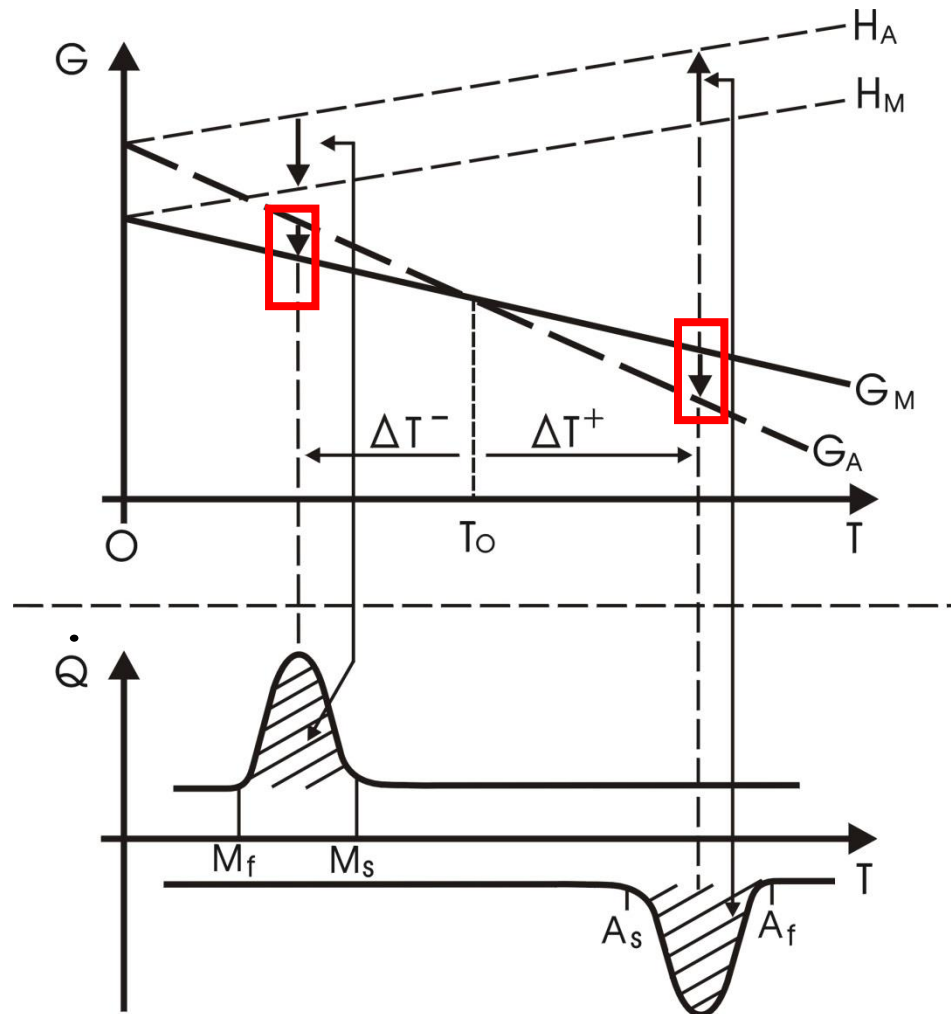
On cooling from high T (forward transformation):

*austenite*  $\rightarrow$  *martensite*

On heating from low T (reverse transformation):

*martensite*  $\rightarrow$  *austenite*

We have made a big step when we understand this schematic diagram:

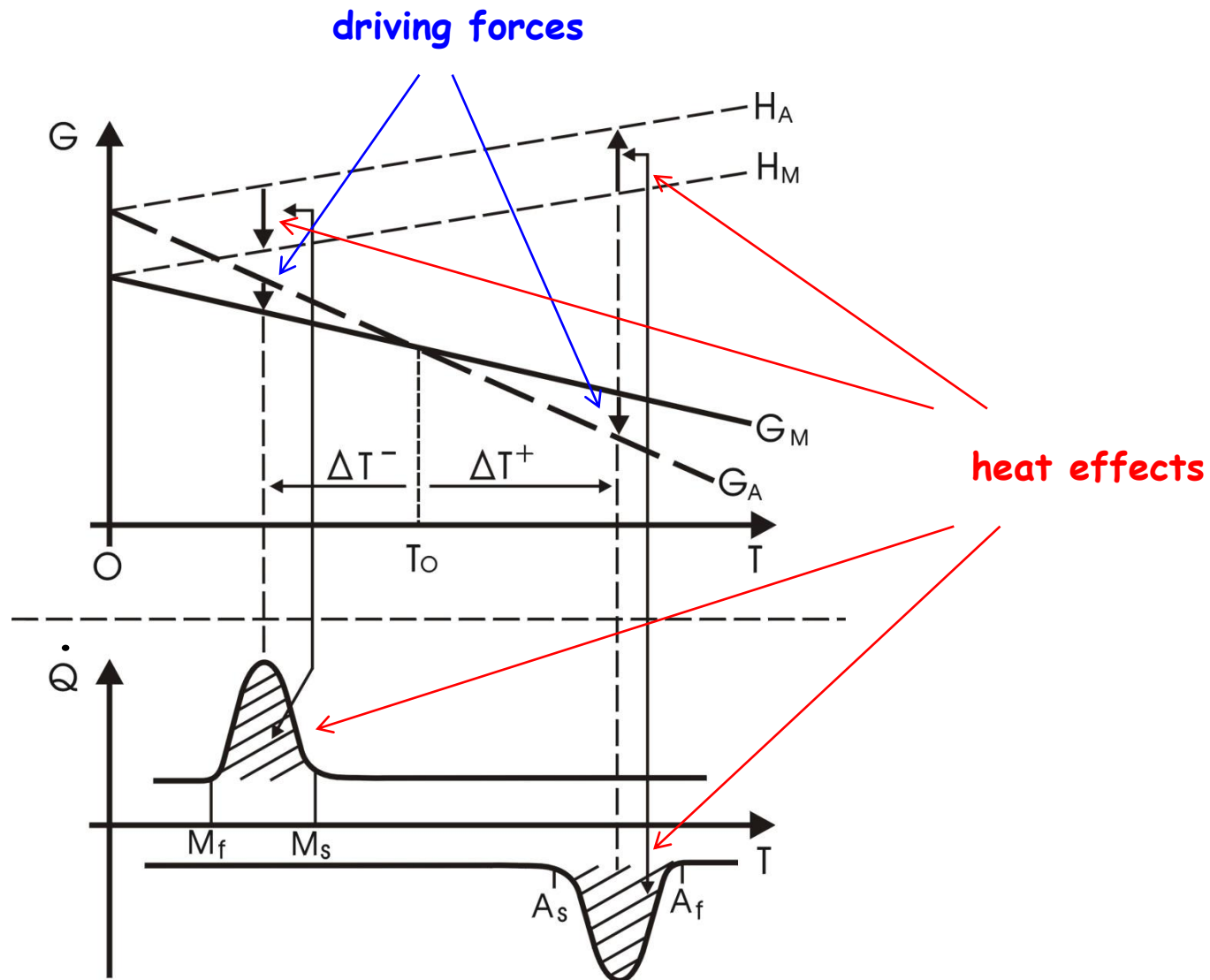


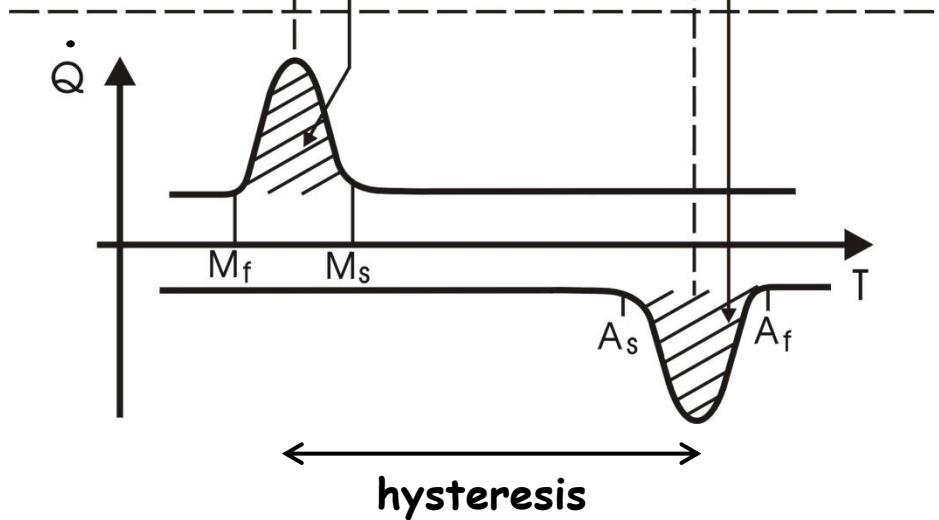
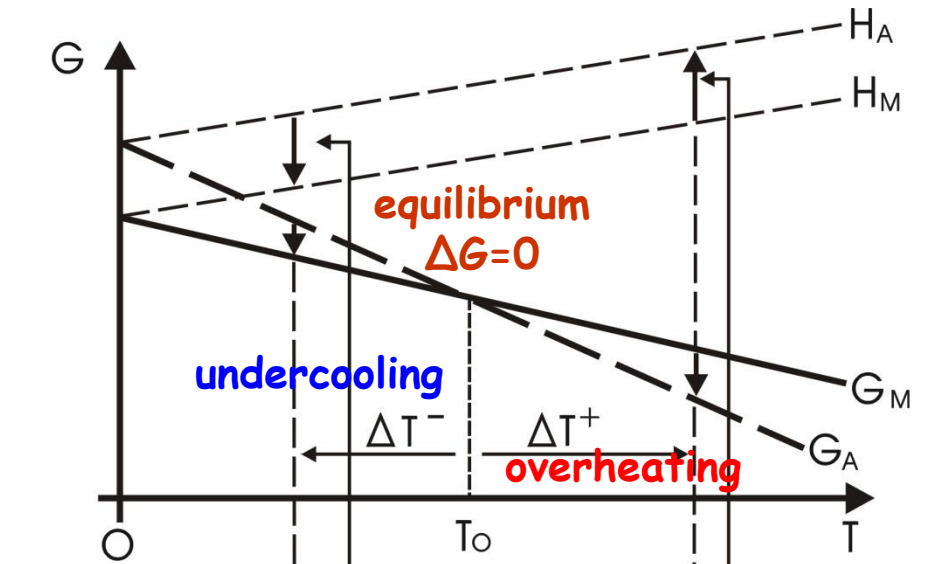
$G(T)$ -curves

$H(T)$ -curves

$\Delta G$  - DRIVING FORCE -  
ALWAYS NEGATIVE -  
LITTLE ARROWS  
POINTING DOWN

DSC chart





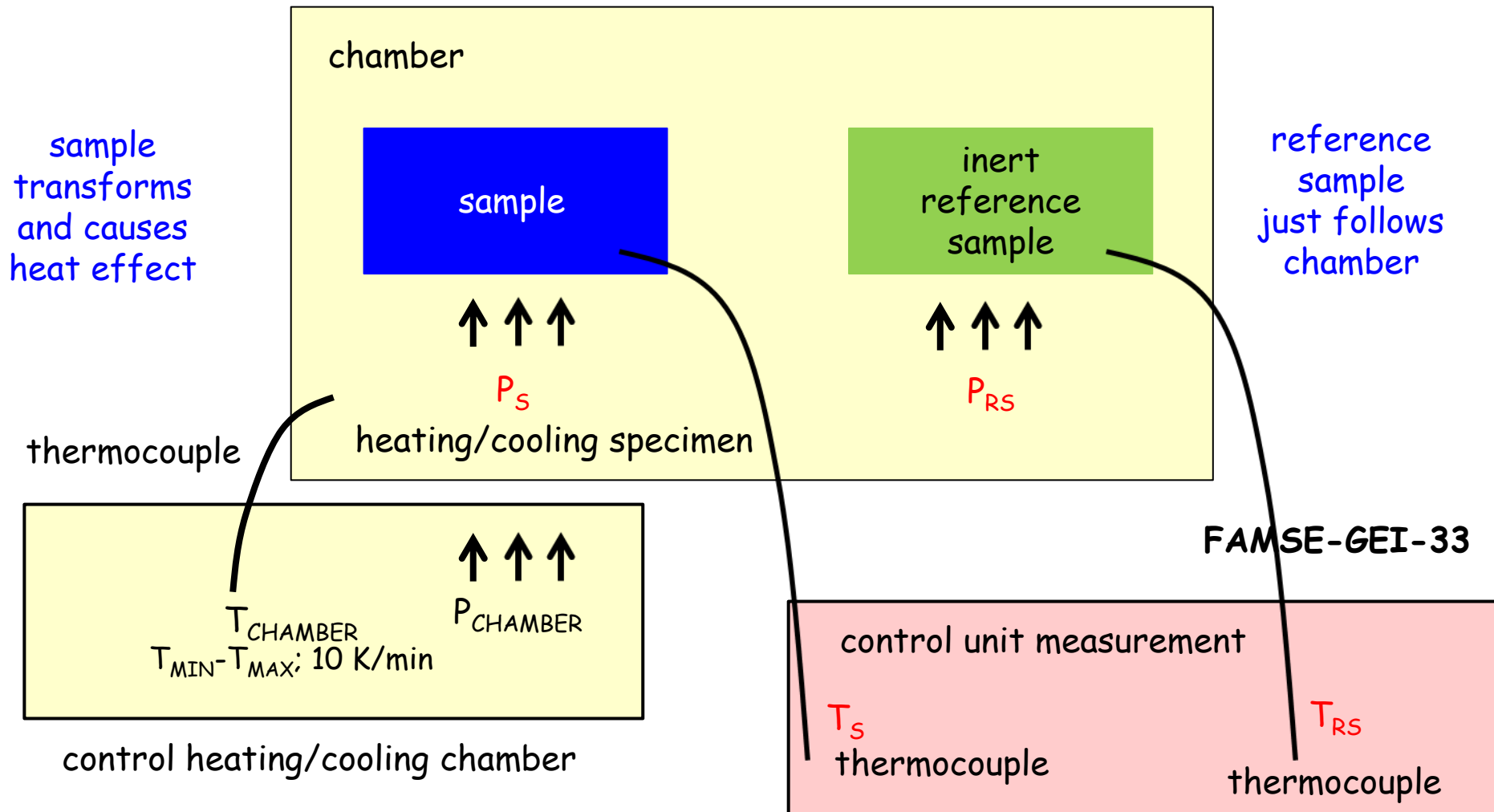


# Differential Scanning Calorimetry

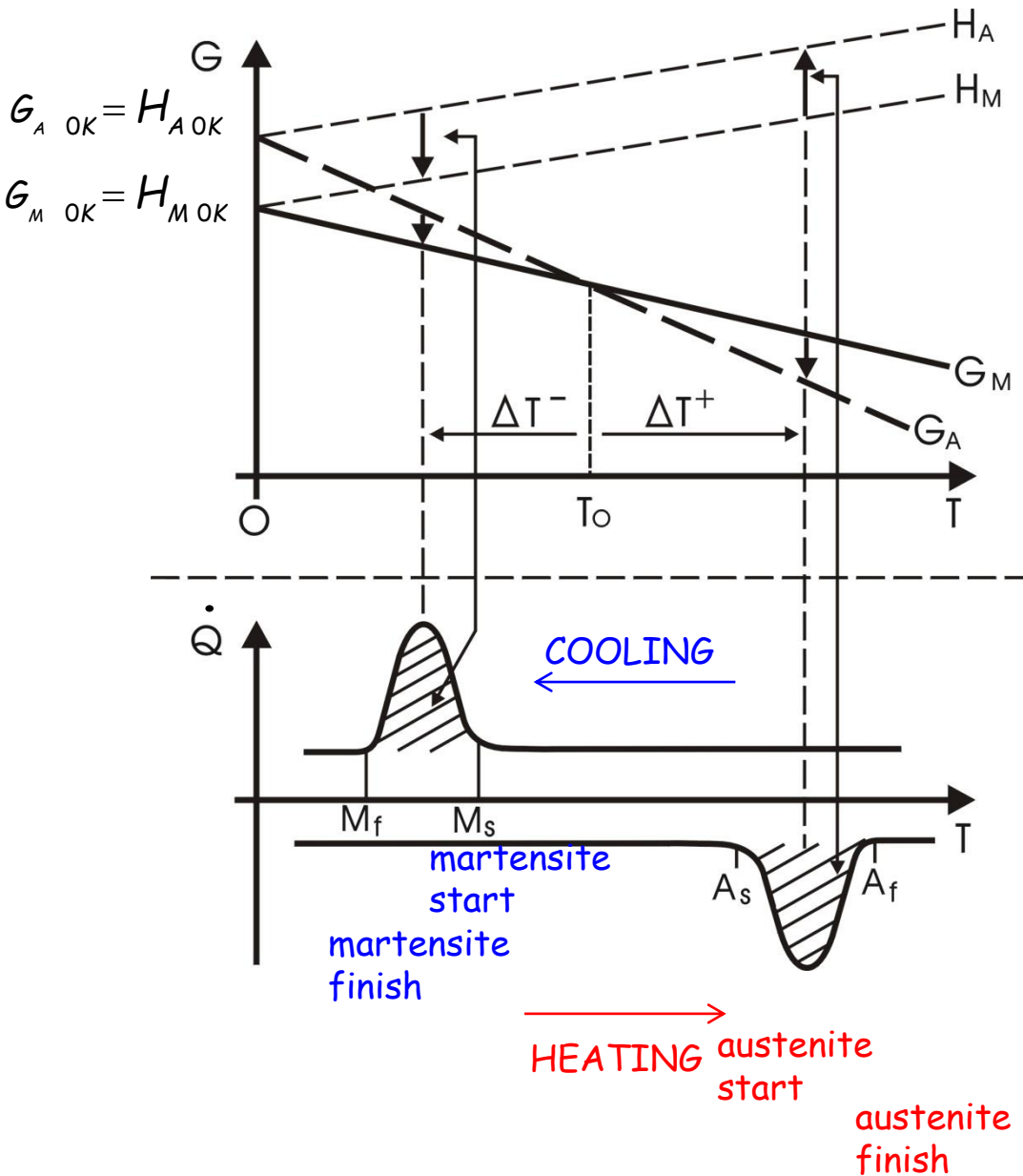
## DSC

Control circuit keeps both specimens at same temperature:  $T_S = T_{RS}$

Measurement:  $\Delta P = P_S - P_{RS}$  (direct measurement of electric energy)



# EQUATIONS/APPROXIMATIONS



$$c_p = \text{const.} = 3R$$

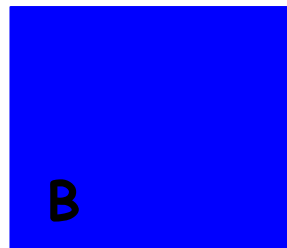
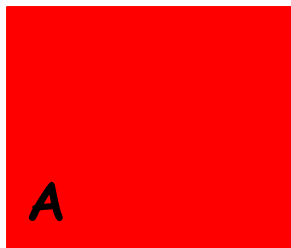
$$H = H_0 + \int_0^T c_p dT$$

## DSC EXPERIMENT

cooling / heating rate:  
10 K/min

### 3. THERMODYNAMICS OF MIXTURES

This is the basis for the understanding of alloys and of phase diagrams!



pure elements



MIXING



homogeneous  
solution

We remember:

There are daily life systems which mix:

sugar/tea, wine/water, ...

There are other systems we know which do not mix:

oil/water, ....

There is mixing without any special effects:

We just add everything up and get the correct result.

$$V_{AB} = n_A \cdot V_A + n_B \cdot V_B$$

$$G_{AB} = n_A \cdot G_A + n_B \cdot G_B$$

(here:  $V$  - molar volume,  $n$  - number of moles)

This is simple. We call such solutions **ideal solutions**. These are actually not so very interesting.

It is more interesting when there is an **effect of mixing**, like for example:

$$V_{AB} < n_A \cdot V_A + n_B \cdot V_B \quad G_{AB} > n_A \cdot G_A + n_B \cdot G_B$$

How do we deal with effects of mixing?

A simple physical system which allows to directly address the interaction of atoms in a binary systems

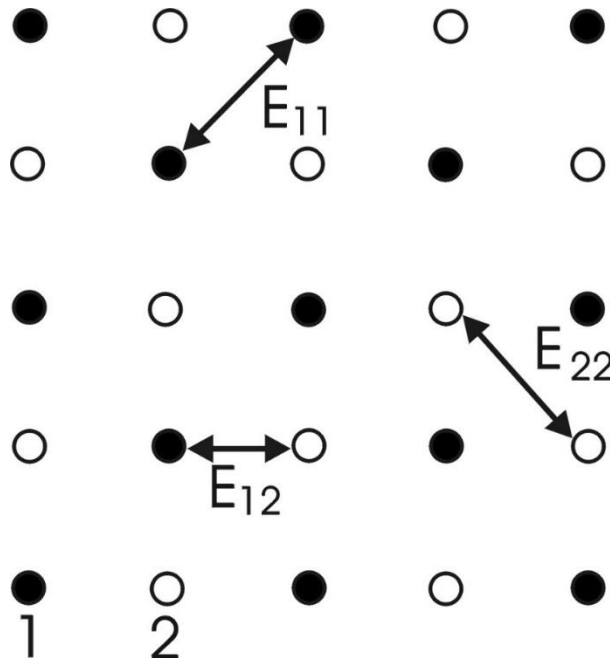
$$G_{AB} = n_A G_A + n_B G_B + \Delta G^M \quad \Delta G^M = \Delta H^M - T \Delta S^M$$

**We calculate for mixtures:**

Excess terms:  $\Delta G^M$ ,  $\Delta H^M$  and  $\Delta S^M$  of mixture

## $\Delta H^M$ contribution

Our system and our approximations:

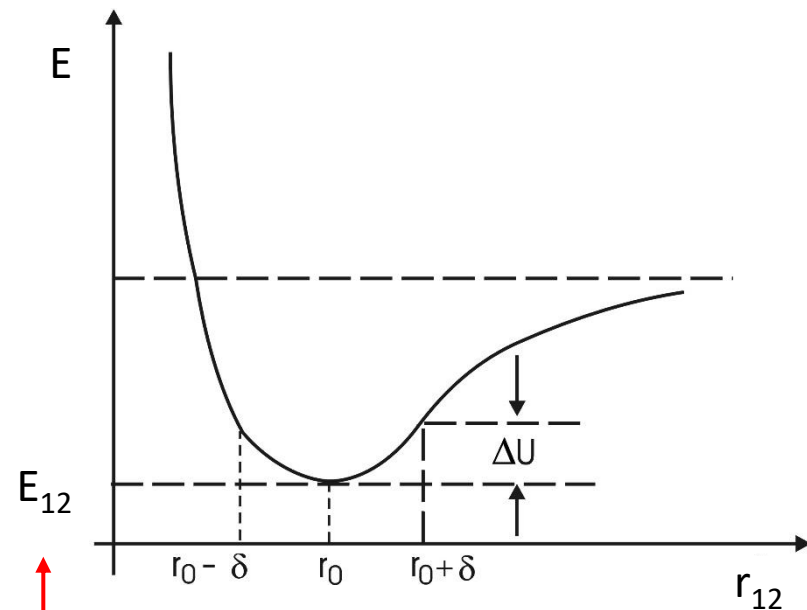
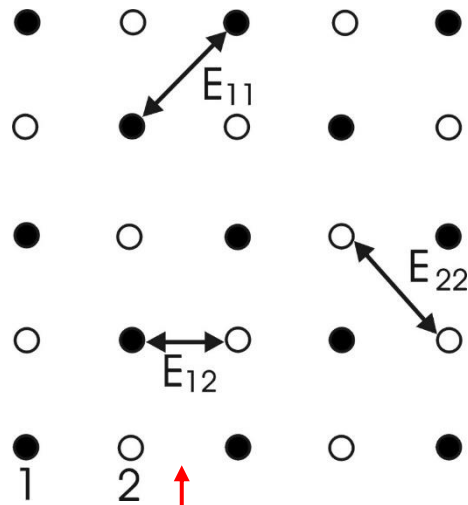


System (crystal) with two Types of atoms (1-black, 2-white).

We only consider next neighbour interactions.

There are three of these:  
 $E_{11}$ ,  $E_{22}$ ,  $E_{12}$

When we see a  $E_{12}$ -term, we remember that there is a bonding energy between atoms 1 and 2!





We add everything up and obtain:

Enthalpy of mixture (which we can measure):



$$\Delta H^M = z \cdot x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot W$$

$z$ : number of neighbours,  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ : mole fractions of 1 and 2 atoms,  
 $W$ : interaction term

Interaction term  $W$  (which we understand):



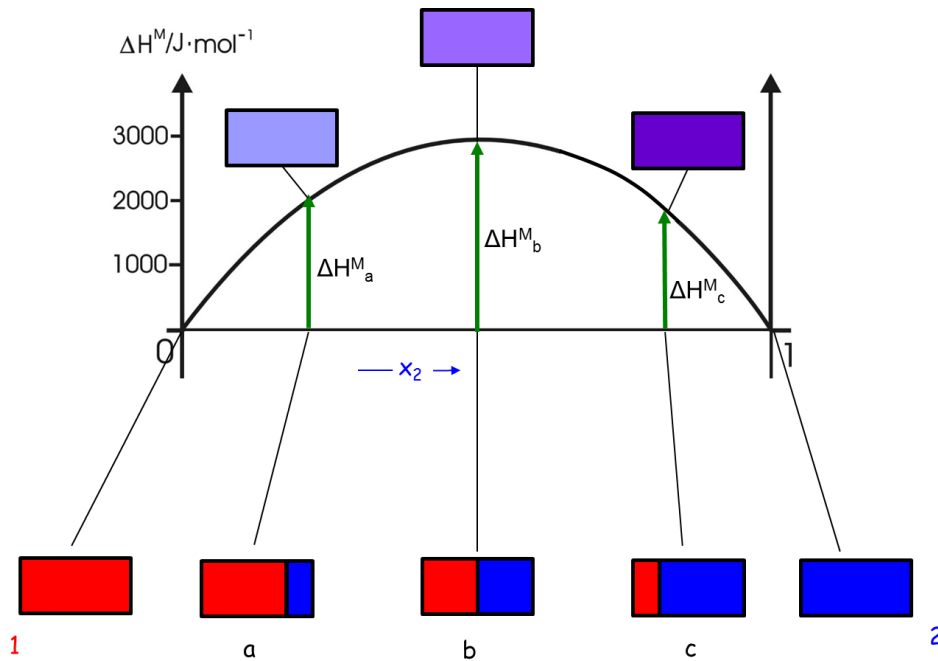
$$W = E_{12} - \frac{1}{2} \cdot (E_{11} + E_{22}) = E_{12} - \bar{E}$$

$E_{11} + E_{22} < 2E_{12}$  : favors ordering,  $W > 0$

$E_{11} + E_{22} > 2E_{12}$  : favors clustering,  $W < 0$

$E_{ij}$ : binding energies between atoms  $i$  and  $j$

We plot  $\Delta H^M$  as a function of  $x_2$ . We see the whole system. Here we consider a case, where there is a repulsive type of interaction ( $\Delta H^M > 0$ ). We need to provide energy for mixing!



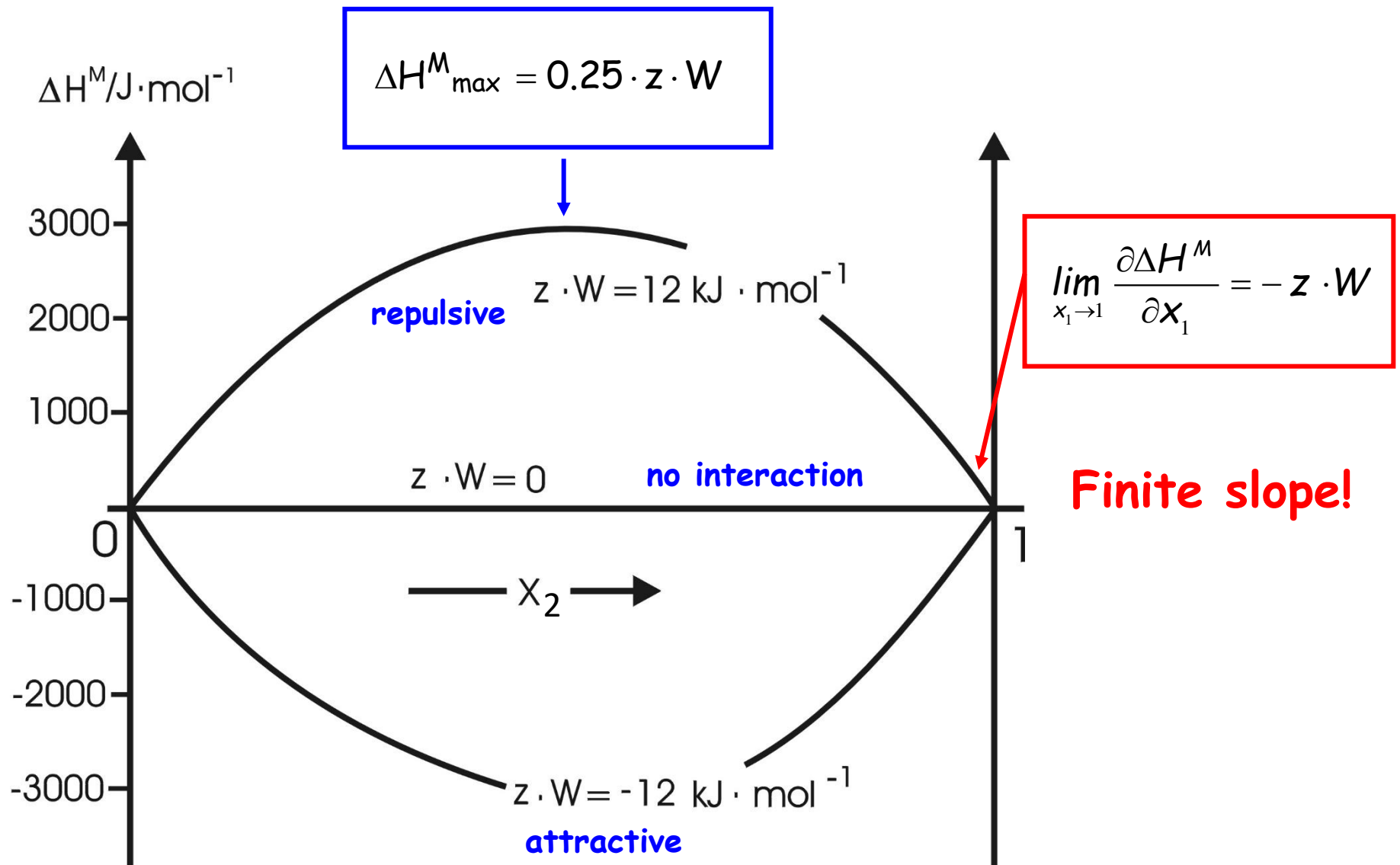
(1) We consider the mixing of two components, 1 (red) and 2 (blue).

(2) On the x-axis we plot all alloy compositions, which gradually change from pure 1 (red,  $x_2=0$ ) to pure 2 (blue,  $x_2=1$ )

(3) On the y-axis we plot the heat of transformations.

(4) We show the heats of transformation for three alloy compositions (green arrows).

(5) Our  $\Delta H^M(x)$ -curve runs through 0 at  $x_2 = 0$  and 1. Pure elements do not mix!



$$\Delta H^M = z \cdot x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot W$$

$$W = E_{12} - \frac{1}{2} \cdot (E_{11} + E_{22}) = E_{12} - \bar{E}$$

So far we know what the bond energy between the atoms of our two component system does. It is responsible for the enthalpy of mixture:

$$\Delta H^M = z \cdot x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot W \quad \text{with} \quad W = E_{12} - \frac{1}{2} \cdot (E_{11} + E_{22}) = E_{12} - \bar{E}$$

For a complete picture we need to know the Gibbs free energy of mixture:

$$\Delta G^M = \Delta H^M - T \cdot \Delta S^M$$

What about the entropy term  $-T \cdot \Delta S^M$  ?

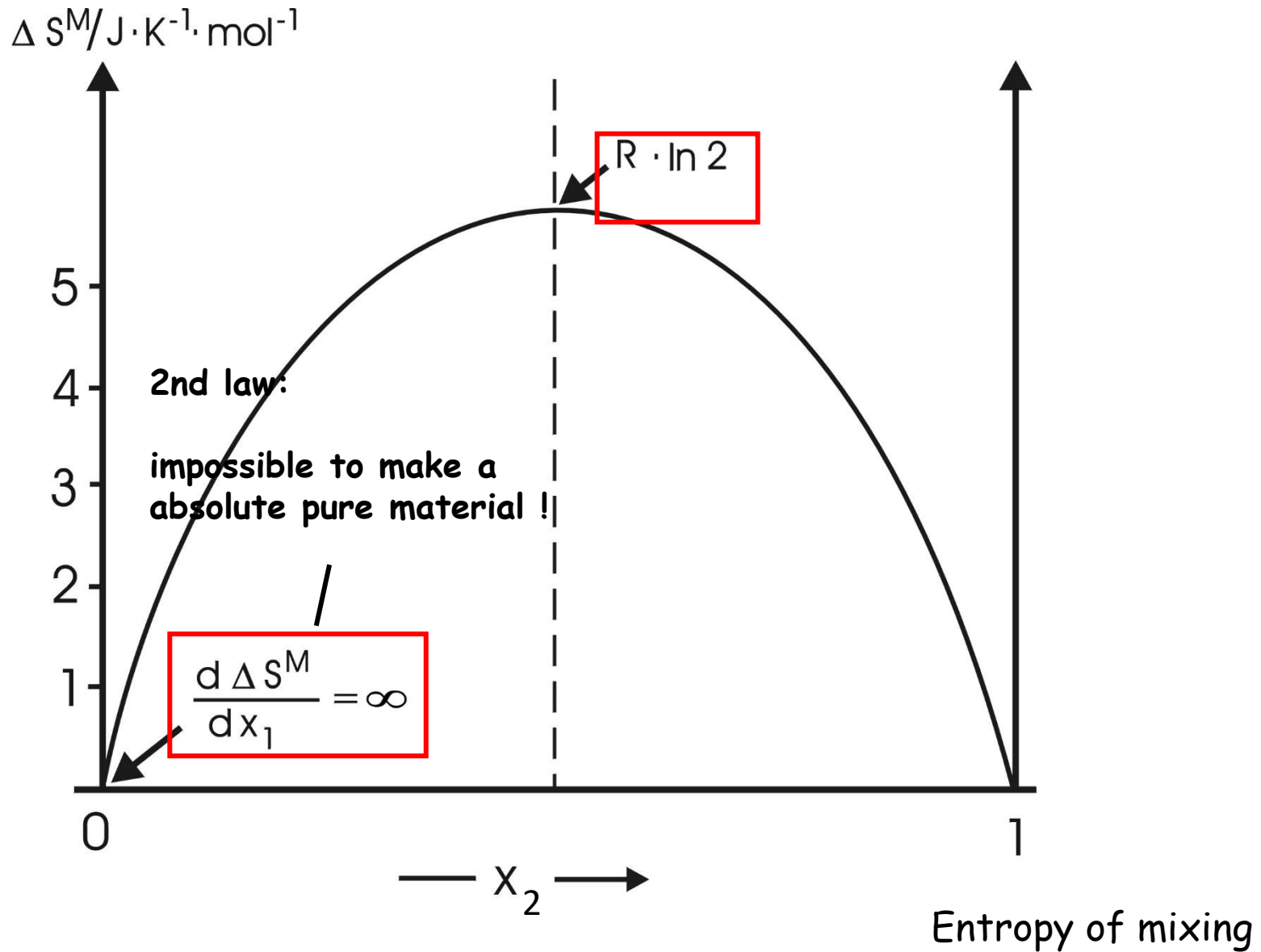
## Boltzmann's equation:

$$\Delta S^M = k_B \cdot \ln \omega = k_B \cdot \ln \left( \frac{N!}{N_1! \cdot N_2!} \right)$$

From this with Stirling's approximation for large numbers ( $\ln N! = N \cdot \ln N - N$ ) and by introducing mole fractions we obtain:

$$\Delta S^M = -R \cdot (x_1 \cdot \ln x_1 + x_2 \cdot \ln x_2)$$

$x_1$  and  $x_2$ : mole fractions of 1 and 2 atoms,  $R$  is gas constant



$$\Delta S^M = -R \cdot (x_1 \cdot \ln x_1 + x_2 \cdot \ln x_2)$$

If we first consider an ideal solid solution:

$$\Delta G^M = \Delta H^M - T \cdot \Delta S^M$$

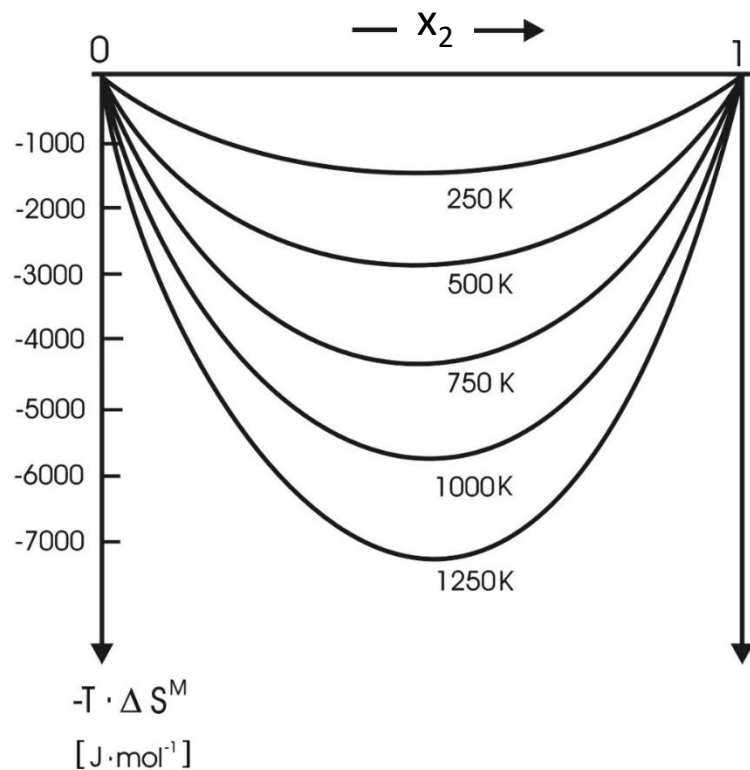
ideal:  $W=0$ ,  $\Delta H=0$

$$\Delta G^M = -T \cdot \Delta S^M = R \cdot T \cdot (x_1 \cdot \ln x_1 + x_2 \cdot \ln x_2)$$

Ideal solution:  $\Delta G^M$  is given by the entropy term!

The Gibbs free energy of mixing of an ideal system ( $\Delta H^M=0$ )

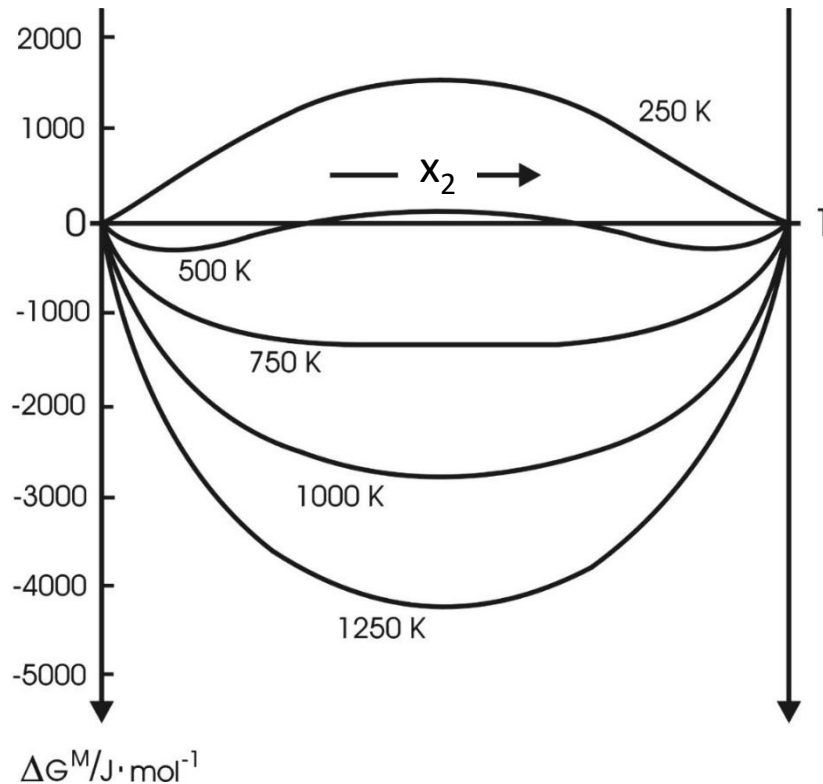
$$\Delta G^M = -T \cdot \Delta S^M = R \cdot T \cdot (x_1 \cdot \ln x_1 + x_2 \cdot \ln x_2)$$



**Ideal solution ( $\Delta H^M=0$ ):**



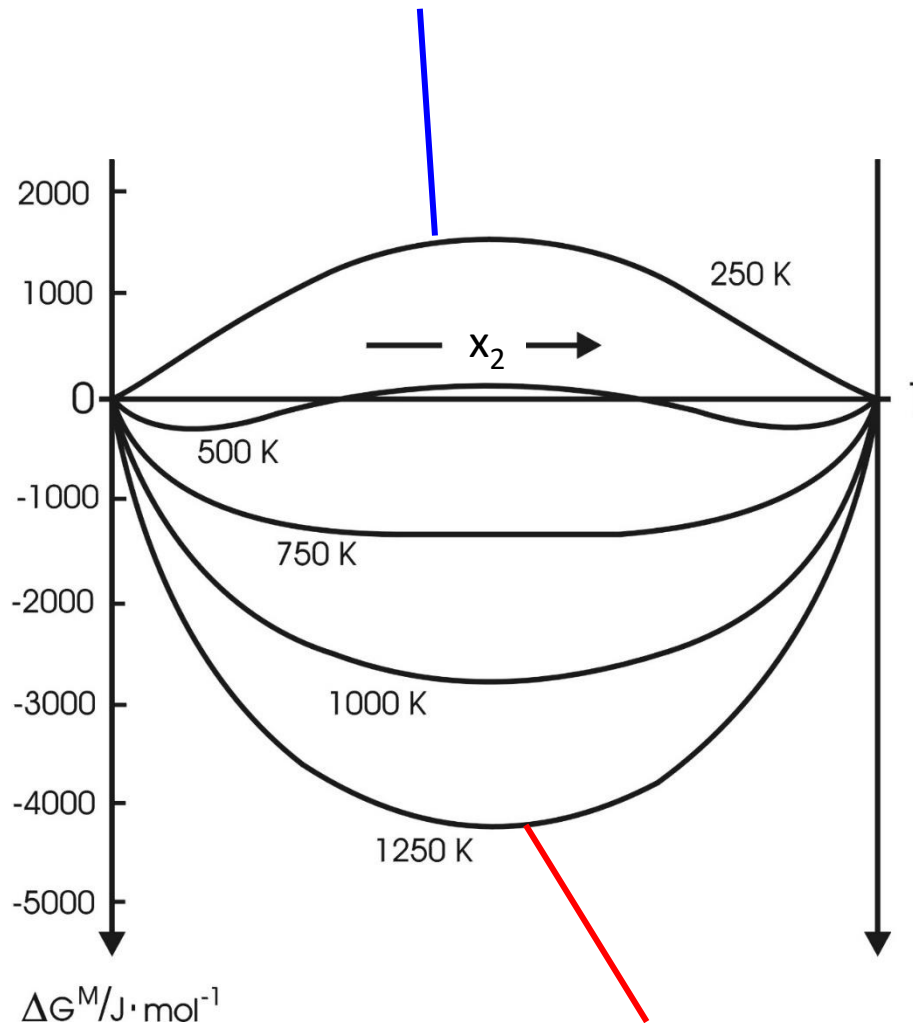
Now we consider the interesting case: a **real** solid solution with repulsive interaction ( $\Delta H^M > 0$ ):



$$\begin{aligned} \Delta G^M &= \Delta H^M - T \cdot \Delta S^M = \\ &= z \cdot x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot W + \\ &+ RT \cdot (x_1 \ln x_1 + x_2 \ln x_2) \end{aligned}$$

The Gibbs free energy of a real system with repulsive interaction ( $\Delta H^M > 0$ ).

low T: positive  $\Delta H^M$ -term (repulsive interaction) dominates! no mixing!



$$\Delta G^M = \Delta H^M - T \cdot \Delta S^M =$$

$$= z \cdot x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot W +$$

$$+ RT \cdot (x_1 \ln x_1 + x_2 \ln x_2)$$

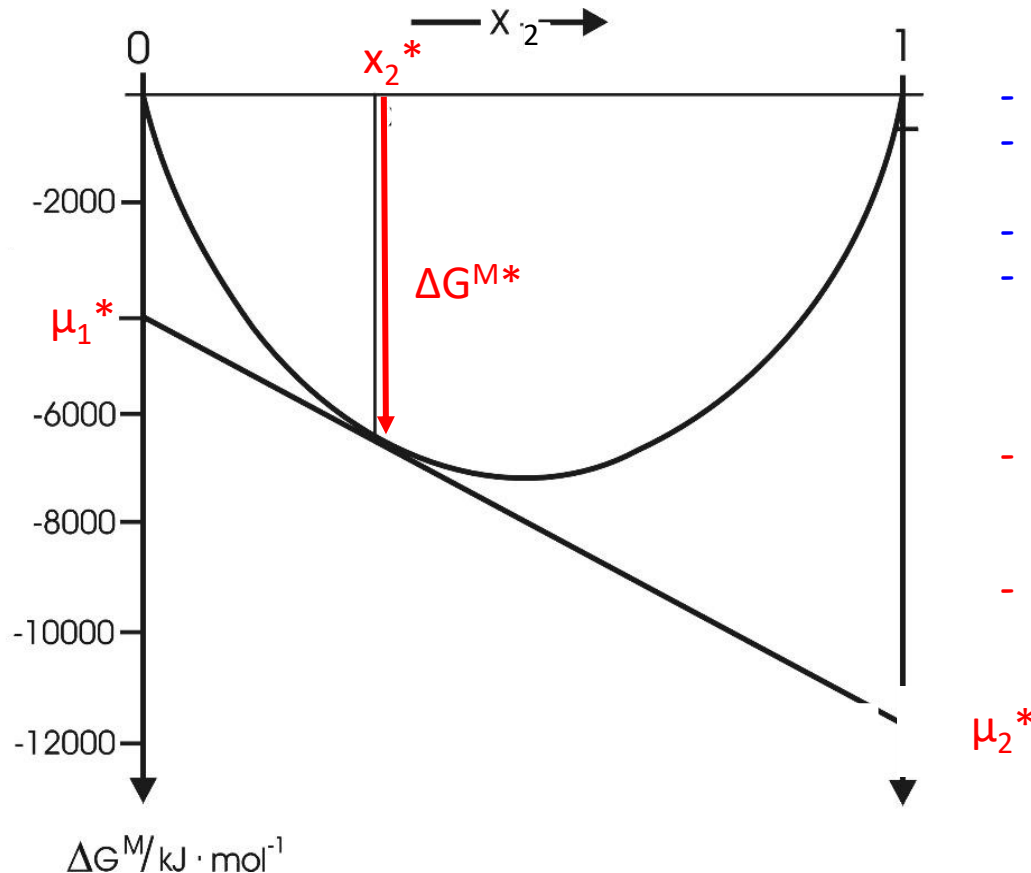
With increasing temperature,  
the entropy term becomes more  
and more important!

high T:  $-T \cdot \Delta S^M$ -term dominates! mixing!

# Another way to look at $G(x)$ -plot (for an ideal solution)

$$\Delta H^M = 0$$

Figure PT.20: Tangent construction.



- we select an alloy **composition  $x_2^*$**
- we know  $\Delta G^{M*}$ , the driving force for mixing
- at  $x_2^*$  we draw a tangent to the  $G(x)$ -curve
- where the tangent intersect the axes we have the chemical potentials of the components 1 and 2
- $\mu_1^*$ : chemical potential of component 1 in alloy of composition  $x_2^*$
- $\mu_2^*$ : chemical potential of component 2 in alloy of composition  $x_2^*$

$$\frac{dG}{dx_2} = \mu_2 - \mu_1$$

$$\Delta G^{M*} = (1 - x_2^*) \mu_1^* + x_2^* \mu_2^*$$

What is the physical meaning of  $\mu$ ?

If a small amount of  $A$ ,  $dn_A$  mol, is added to a large amount of a phase at constant temperature and pressure, the free energy change  $d\bar{G}$  is equal to:

$$d\bar{G} = \mu_A dn_A$$



$$\mu_A = \left( \frac{\partial \bar{G}}{\partial n_A} \right)_{T,p,n_B}$$

**chemical potential  
of the component A**



**we keep everything  
else constant**

$\mu_A$  is called chemical potential or partial molar free energy of  $A$  in the phase.

$\mu_A$  depends on the composition of the phase.

What is the chemical potential  $\mu$  ?

$$\mu_{\text{Zn in brass with 10\%Zn}} = \left( \frac{\partial G_{\text{brass}}}{\partial n_{\text{Zn}}} \right)_{T, p, n_{\text{Cu}}}$$

$\mu_{\text{Zn}}$  tells us how much the  $G$  of brass changes, when we add one mole of Zn.

**Meaningless** to say: the  $\mu$  of Zn.

**We must say:** the  $\mu$  of Zn in a brass with 10%Zn.

## What about $dG$ ?



Gibbs: The change in  $G$  of a homogeneous part of the system must be related to the **changes of the masses of the substances**:

$$dG = -SdT + Vdp + \sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i \cdot dx_i$$

for  $T, p = \text{const.}$  and binary system:  $dG = \mu_1 dx_1 + \mu_2 dx_2$

with:  $dx_1 = -dx_2$

$$dG = (\mu_2 - \mu_1) dx_2$$

$$dG/dx_2 = \mu_2 - \mu_1$$

**Translation rule** between  $G(x)$ - and  $\mu$ -thermodynamics.

## Concentration dependence of chemical potential:

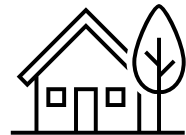
For ideal gas:

$$dG = -SdT + Vdp$$

$T=\text{const.}:$   $dG = Vdp$

$pV=RT:$   $dG = RT \cdot \frac{dp}{p}$

integration:  $G = G_{p_1} + RT \cdot \ln \frac{p_2}{p_1}$



## Concentrations:

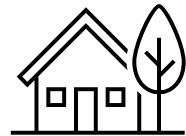
mixture of gases: total pressure and partial pressures

$$p = \sum_i^k p_i$$

$$\frac{p_i}{p} = \frac{n_i RT / V}{\sum n_i RT / V} = \frac{n_i}{\sum n_i} = x_i$$

concentration



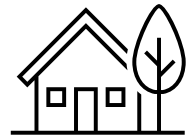


1000g Fe-C-alloy with 3 wt.-% C:

$$n_C = \frac{0.03}{12\text{g/mol}} \cdot 1000\text{g} = 2,5 \text{ mol} \quad \text{moles C}$$

$$n_{\text{Fe}} = \frac{0.97}{56\text{g/mol}} \cdot 1000\text{g} = 17,3 \text{ mol} \quad \text{moles Fe}$$

$$M_{\text{Fe-3\%C}} = \frac{1000\text{g}}{2,5 \text{ mol} + 17,3 \text{ mol}} = \frac{50,5\text{g}}{\text{mol}} \quad \text{molecular weight of alloy}$$



mole fractions of C and Fe

$$x_C = \frac{2,5 \text{ mol}}{2,5 \text{ mol} + 17,3 \text{ mol}} = 0,126$$

mole fraction of C

$$x_{Fe} = \frac{17,3 \text{ mol}}{2,5 \text{ mol} + 17,3 \text{ mol}} = 0,874$$

mole fraction of Fe

same for  $\mu$ : 
$$\mu = \mu_{p_1} + RT \cdot \ln \frac{p_2}{p_1}$$

define reference condition: 
$$\mu_i(p, T) = \mu_i^*(p_i, T)$$

with this:

$$\mu_i(p, T) = \mu_i^*(p, T) + RT \cdot \ln \frac{p_i}{p} = \mu_i^*(p, T) + RT \cdot \ln x_i$$



$$\mu_i(x) = \mu_i^{\text{ideal}} = \mu_i^0 + RT \cdot \ln x_i$$

For ideal solution

## Ideal solution:



$$\mu_i(x) = \mu_i^{\text{ideal}} = \mu_i^0 + RT \cdot \ln x_i$$

## Regular non-ideal solution (activity: $a = f \cdot x$ ):

$$\mu_i = \mu_0 + RT \cdot \ln(f_i \cdot x_i) = \mu_0 + RT \cdot \ln x_i + RT \cdot \ln f_i$$

binary system:

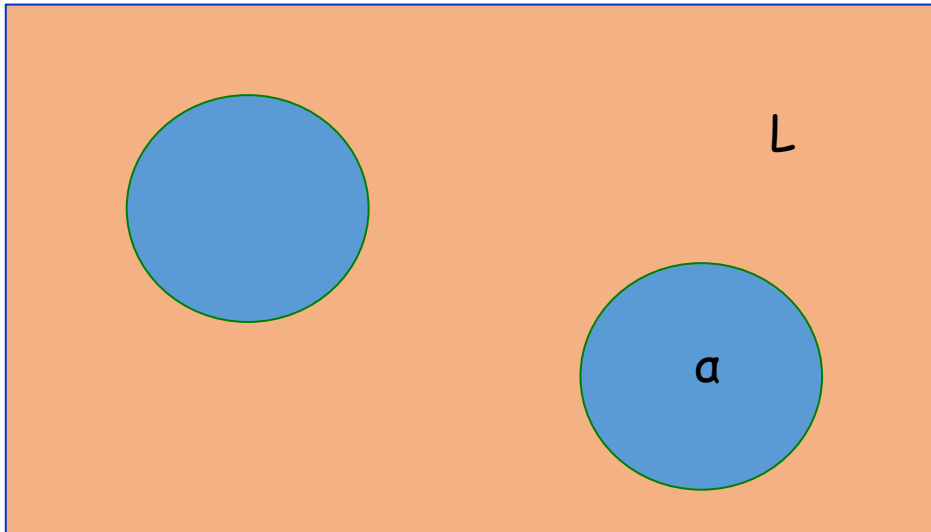
$$f_1 = \exp\left(\frac{x_2^2 \cdot z \cdot W}{RT}\right) \quad f_2 = \exp\left(\frac{x_1^2 \cdot z \cdot W}{RT}\right)$$



atomic  
interactions

→ The tendency of an atom to leave a solution

**Equilibrium between two phases** (example: system AB with a liquid phase L and a solid phase  $\alpha$ ):



L: 70% A, 30% B

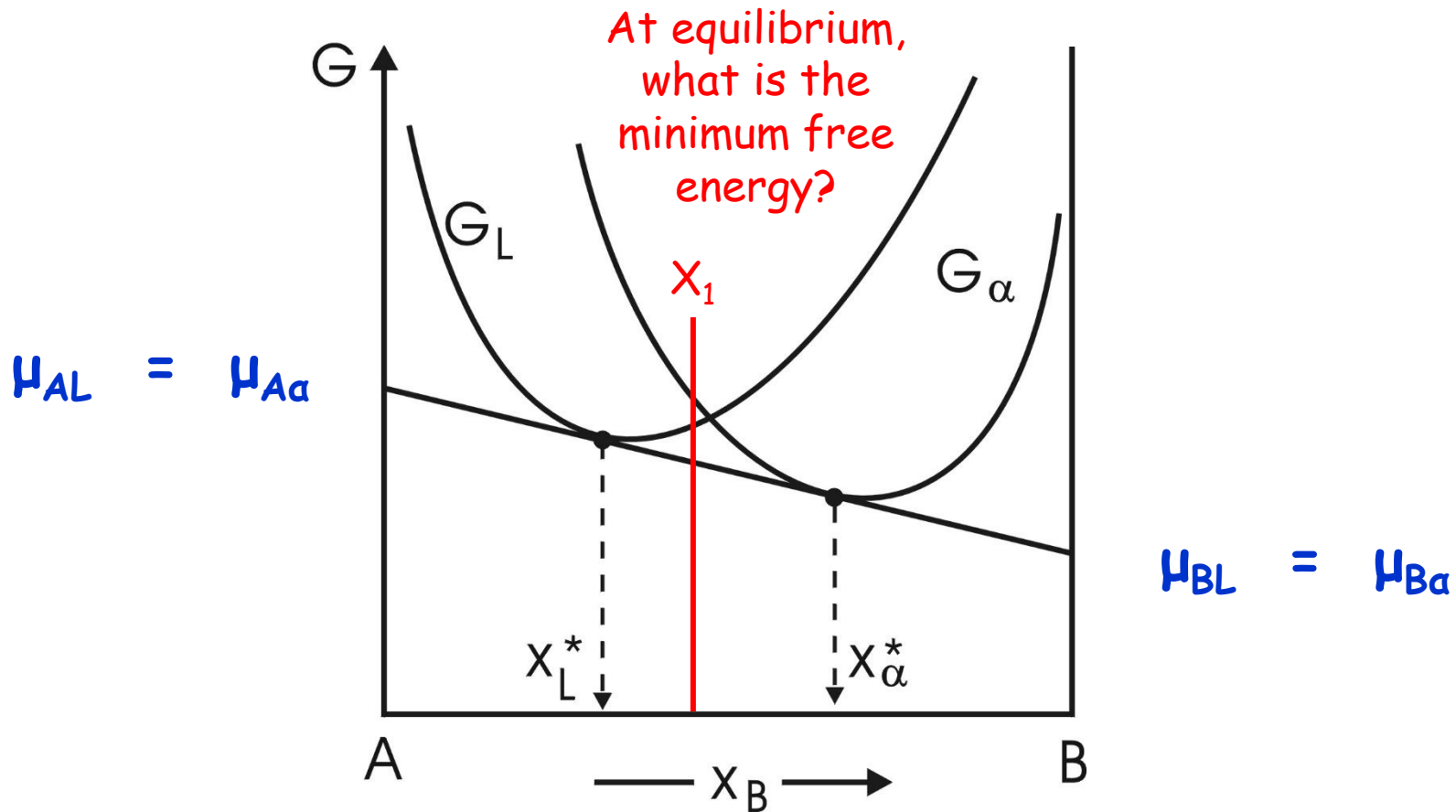
$\alpha$ : 30% A, 70% B

**Equilibrium** between two phases means:

The chemical potentials of all atoms in all phases are equal!

$$\mu_A^\alpha = \mu_A^L \quad \text{and} \quad \mu_B^\alpha = \mu_B^L$$

## Situation in $G(x)$ -diagram:



Equilibrium between two phases L and  $\alpha$ . Each phase has one  $G(x)$ -curve. The **common tangent** determines the composition of the equilibrium phases.

## 4. UNDERSTANDING PHASE DIAGRAMS

As materials scientists we must be able to comfortably work with binary phase diagrams.

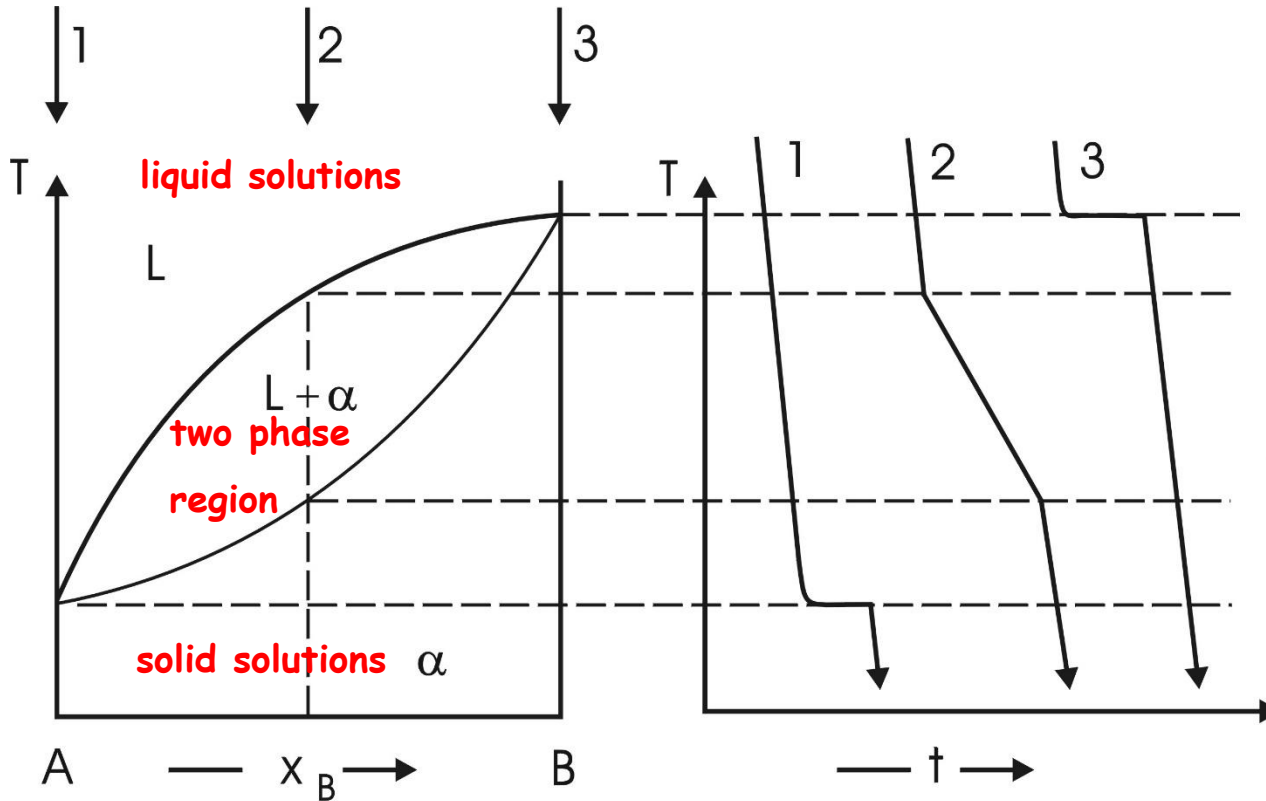
We should also be able to read and understand ternary phase diagrams.

Only then can we appreciate multicomponent systems.

Phase diagrams are equilibrium diagrams ( $\Delta G=0$ )

We want to be able to interpret phase diagrams on a thermodynamic basis.

# A binary system with full solubility in the liquid and in the solid state



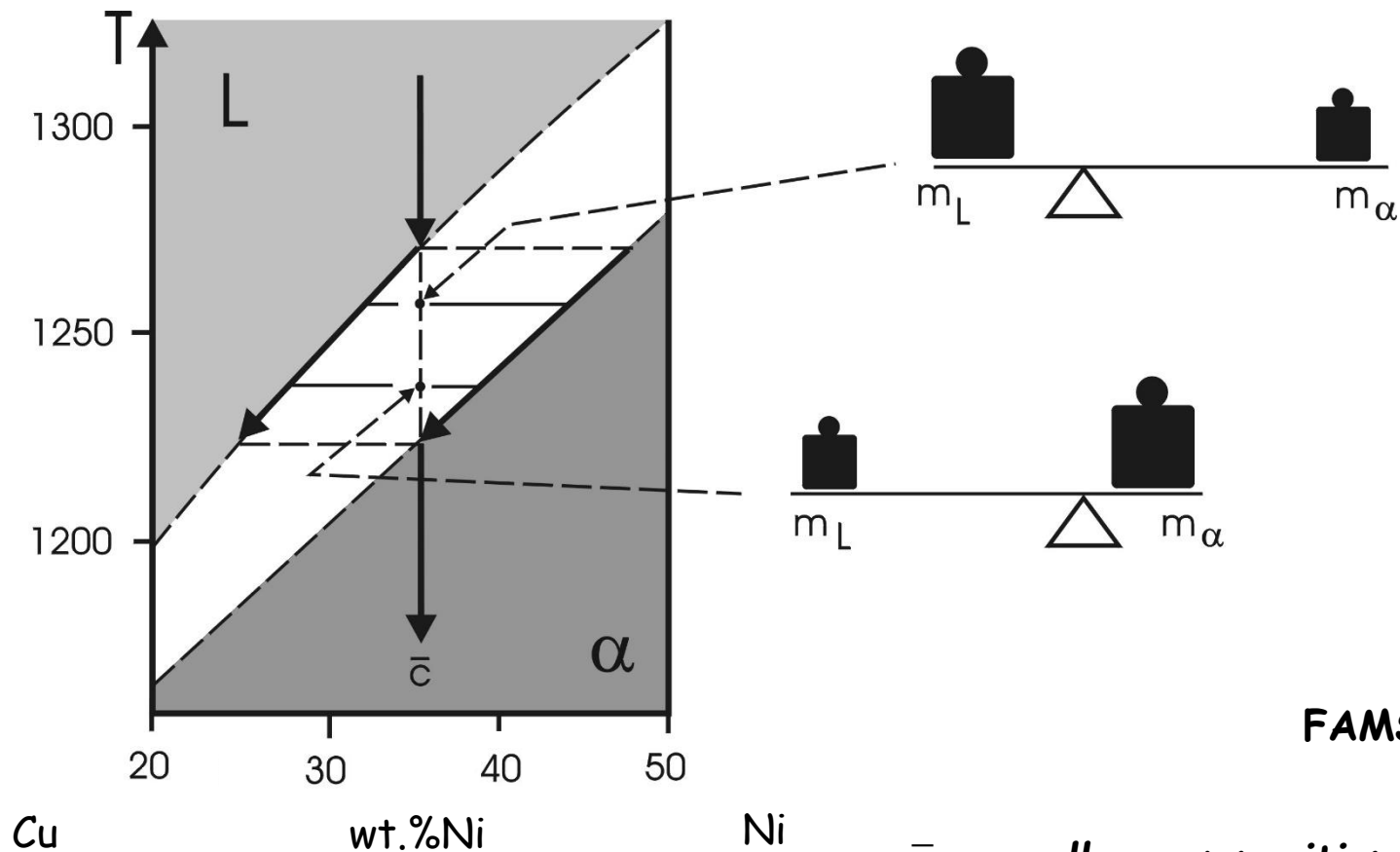
phase diagram

cooling curves

Thermal analysis  
of phase diagrams



# Cooling through a two phase region: THE LEVER RULE



FAMSE-GEI-65

$$m_L \cdot (\bar{c} - c_L) = m_\alpha \cdot (c_\alpha - \bar{c})$$

$\bar{c}$  – alloy composition

$m_L$  – mass of liquid phase L

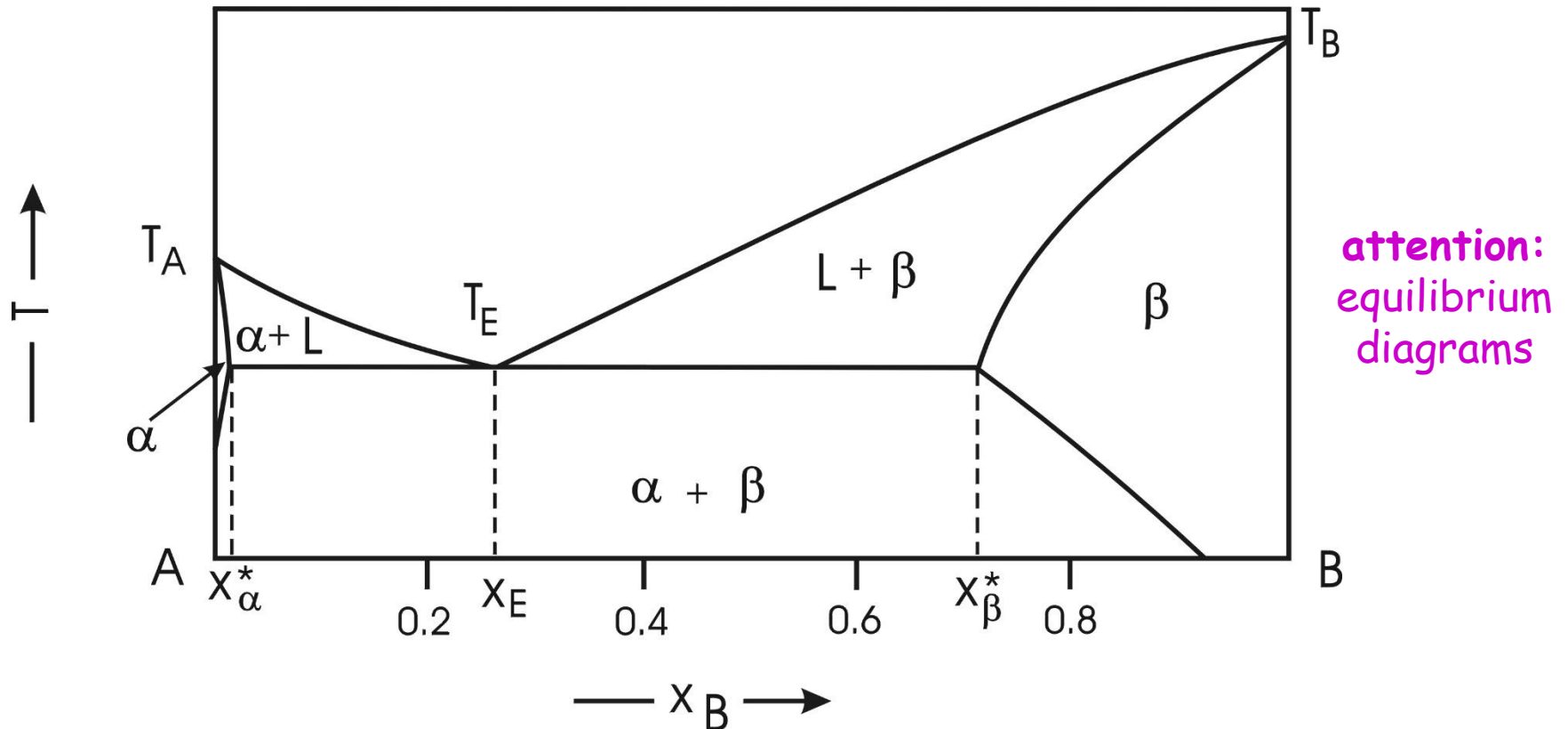
$c_L$  – concentration of liquid phase L

$m_\alpha$  – mass of solid phase α

$c_\alpha$  – concentration of solid phase α

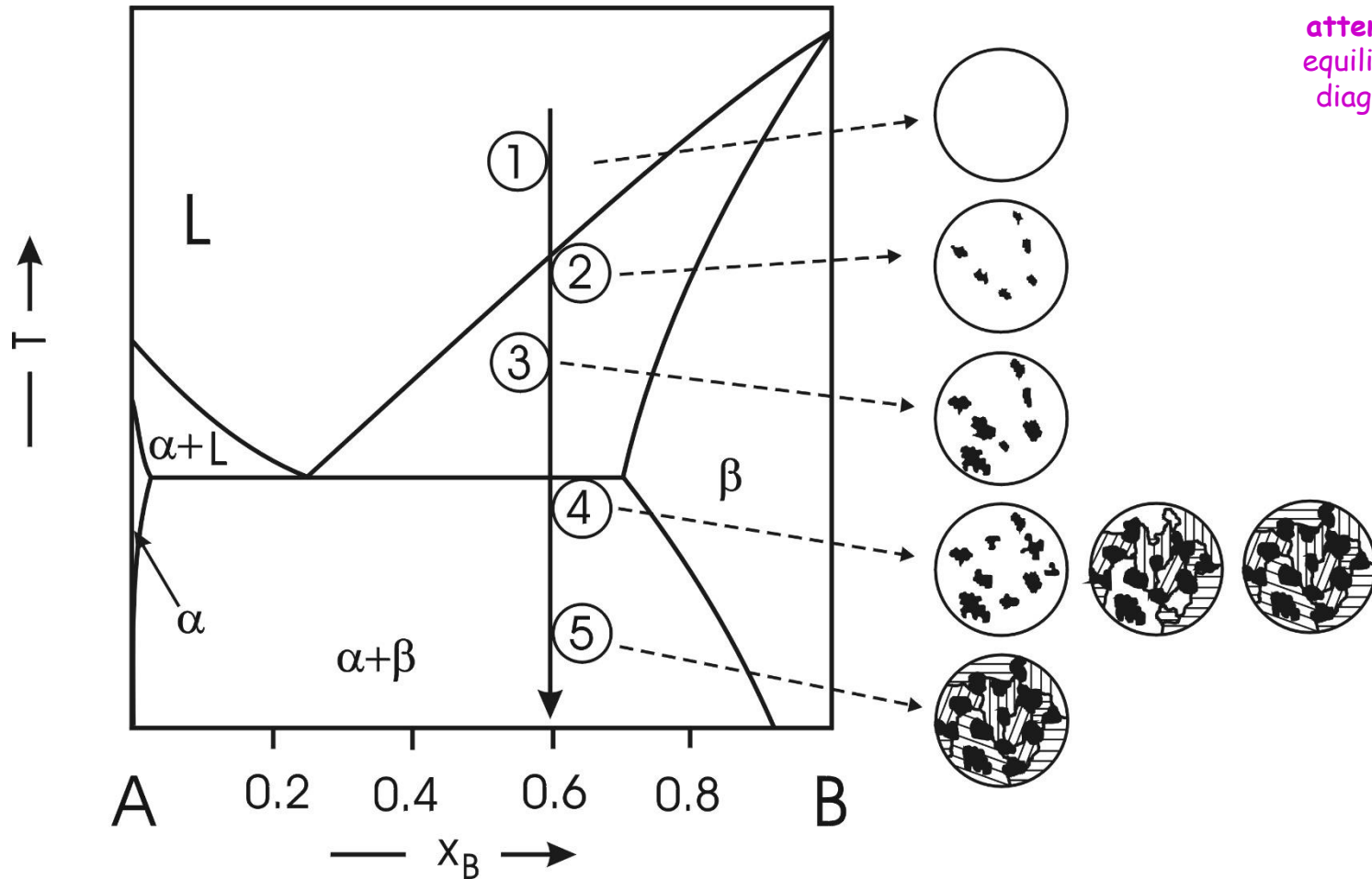
# BINARY EUTECTIC SYSTEM

FAMSE-GEI-66

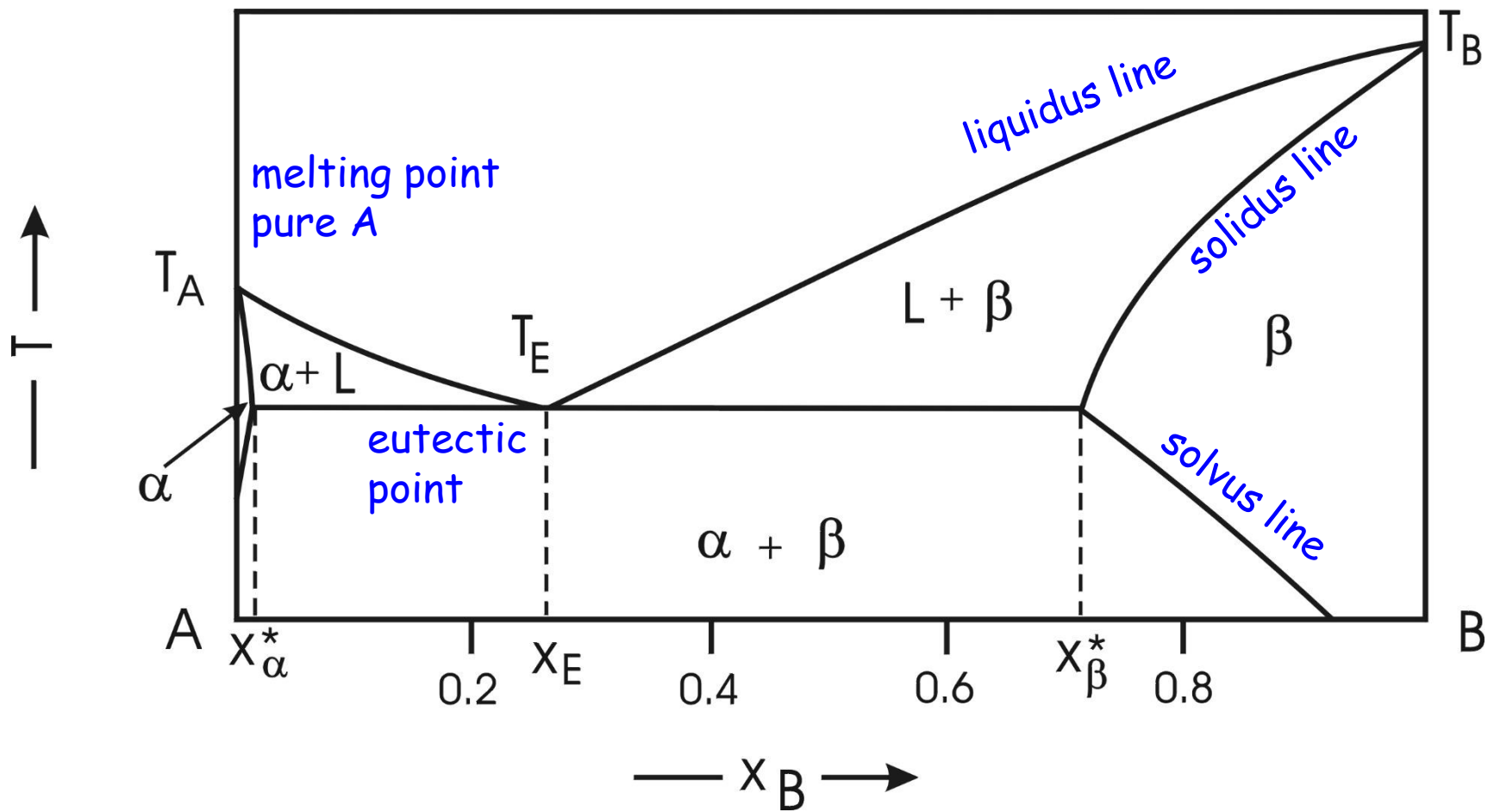


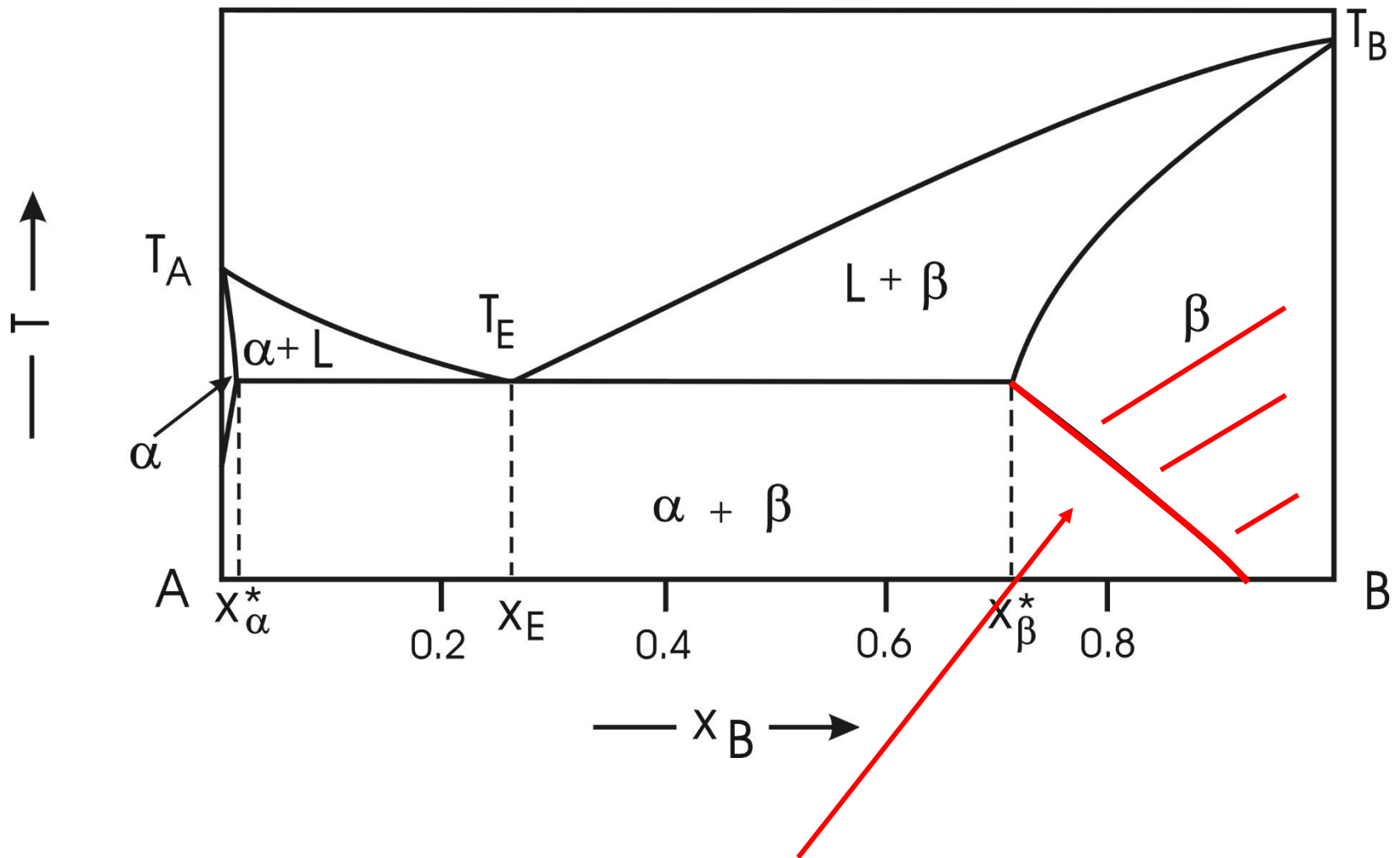
Simple eutectic system

Eutectic reaction:  
 $L \rightarrow \alpha + \beta$



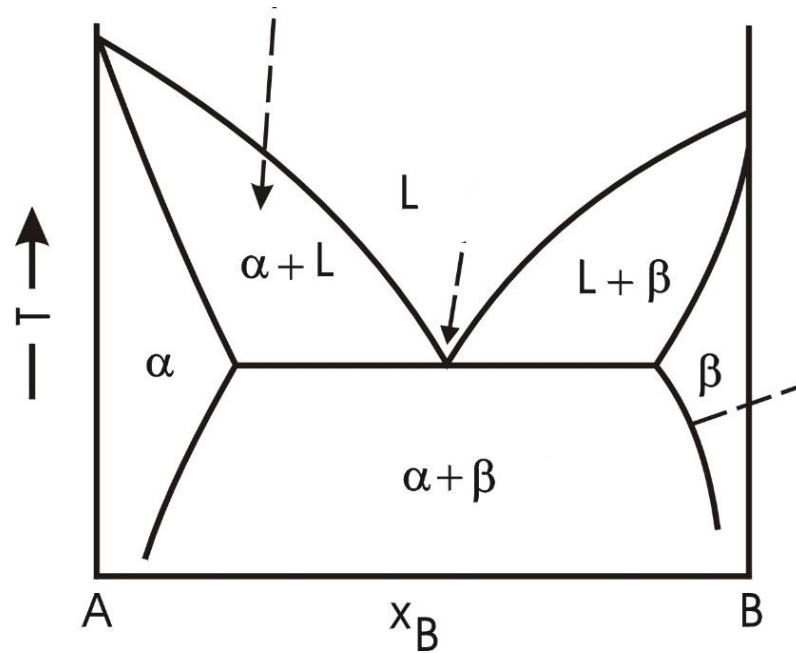
How phase diagrams are used to discuss the  
evolution of microstructures



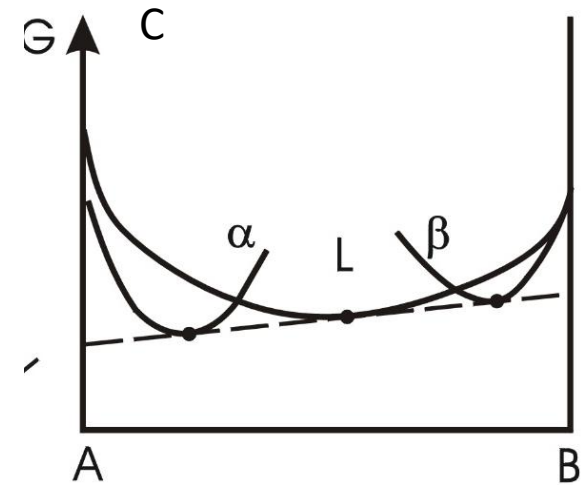
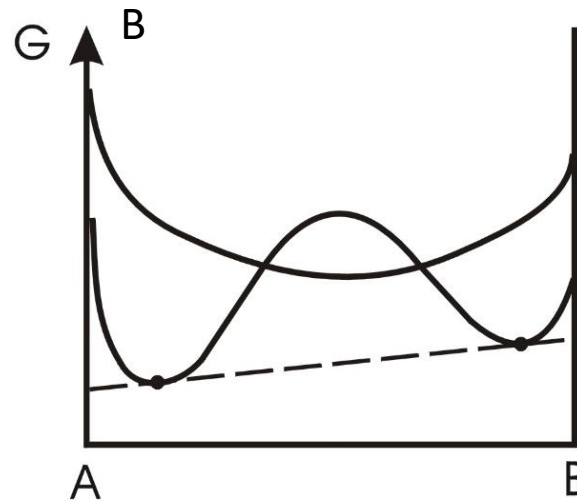
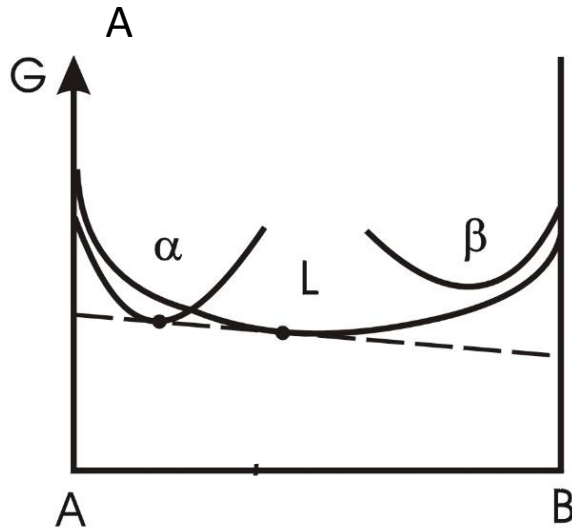


Solubility for A-atoms in  $\beta$ -phase increases with increasing temperature (like sugar in tea).

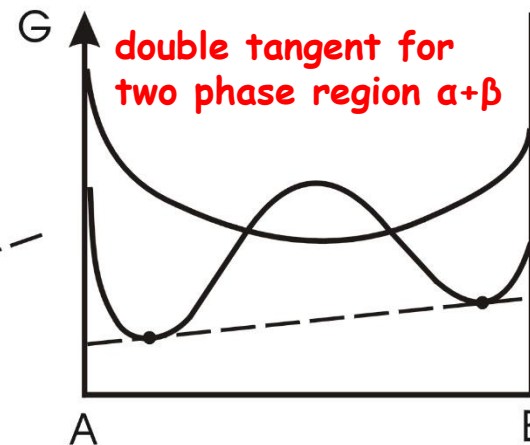
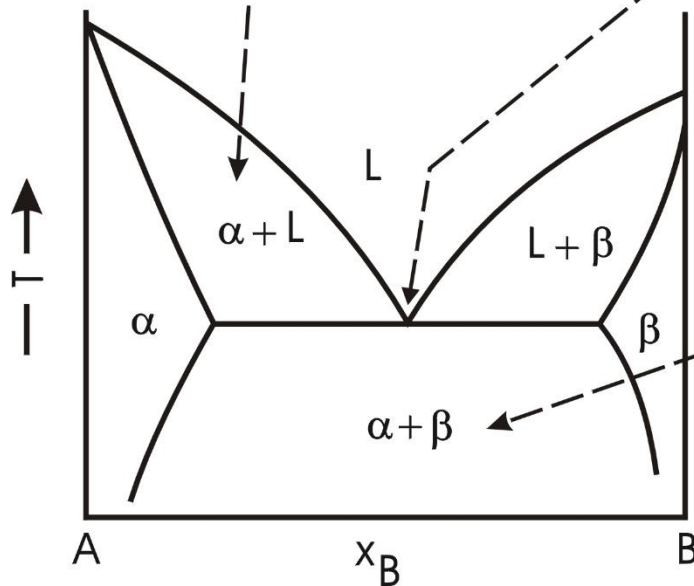
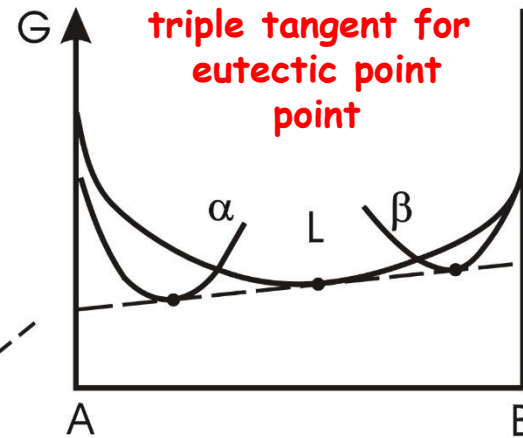
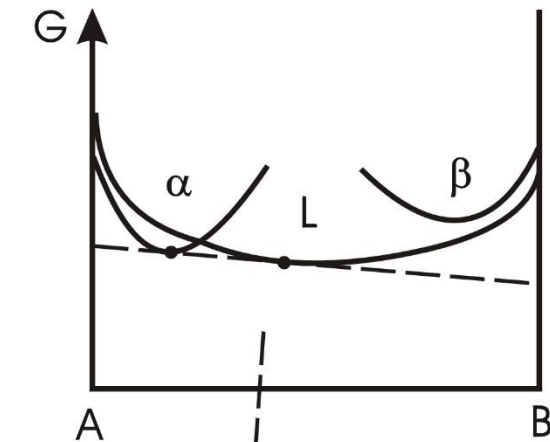
Phase diagram



Which part of the phase diagram corresponds to the following  $G(x)$  plots?



double tangent for two phase region  $\alpha+L$



Eutectic phase diagram and  $G(x)$ -curves for three conditions in eutectic system.

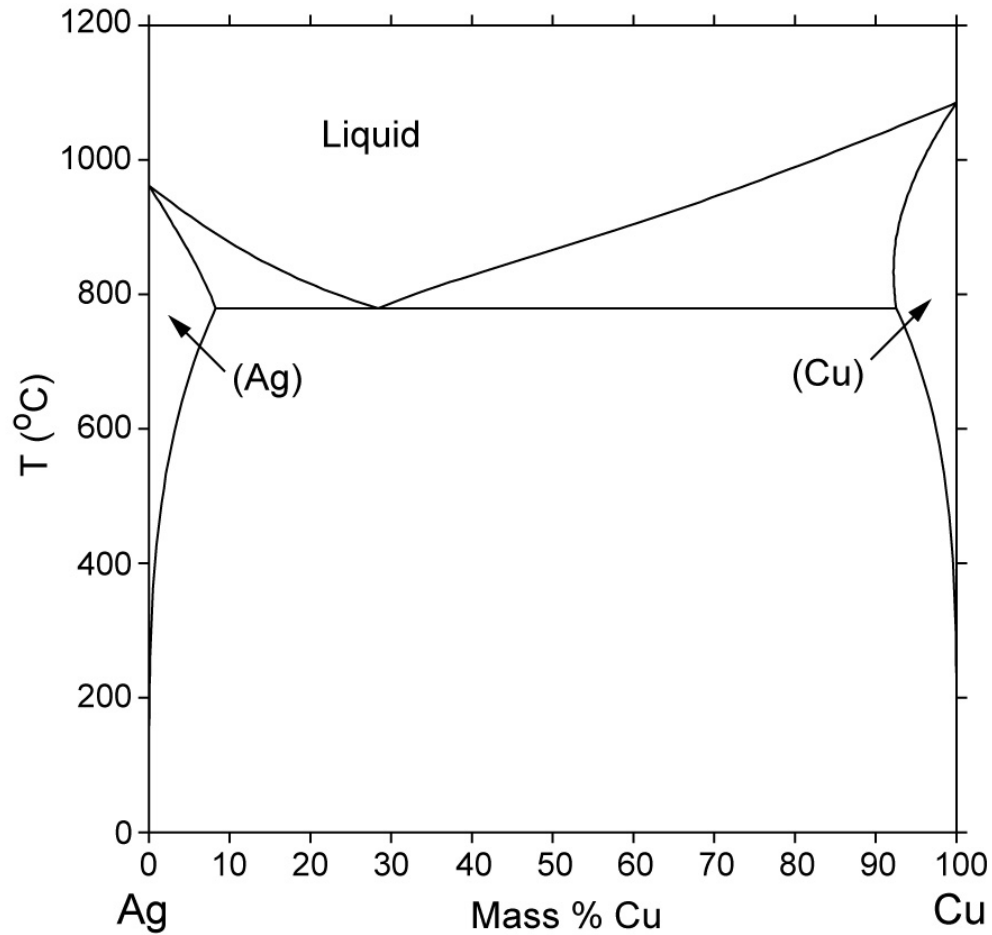
# Eutectica:

On cooling: one high temperature phases decomposes and forms two low temperature phases.

Eutectic microstructures are typically very fine microstructures.

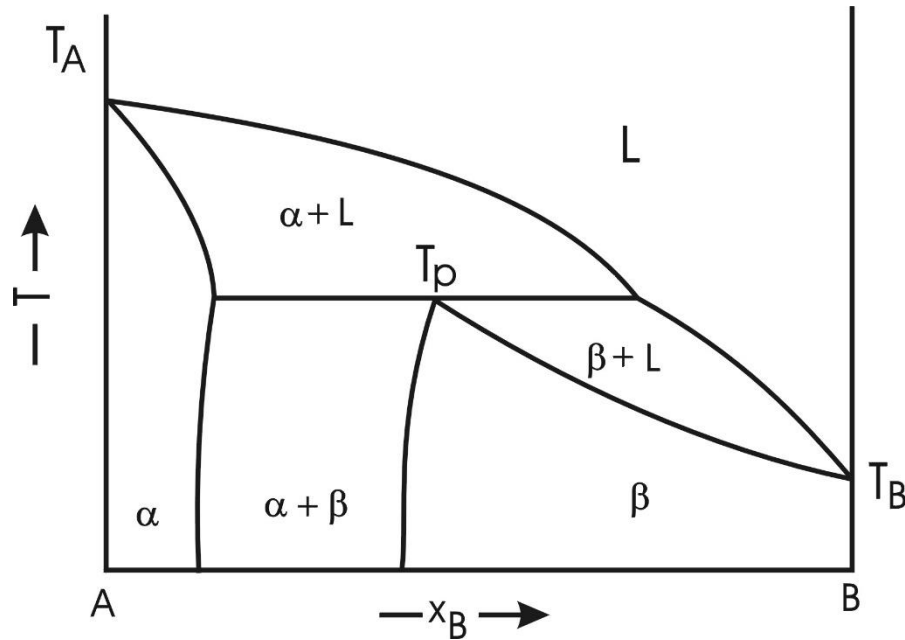
Eutecticum (old greek): The one which is well built. Well built in the sense that at this alloy composition the alloy can melt at the lowest temperature (old times: it was not easy to provide high temperatures). Also in the sense that the melt can reach the lowest temperature (eutectic alloys are good for casting).





Example for a simple eutectic system: Ag-Cu.

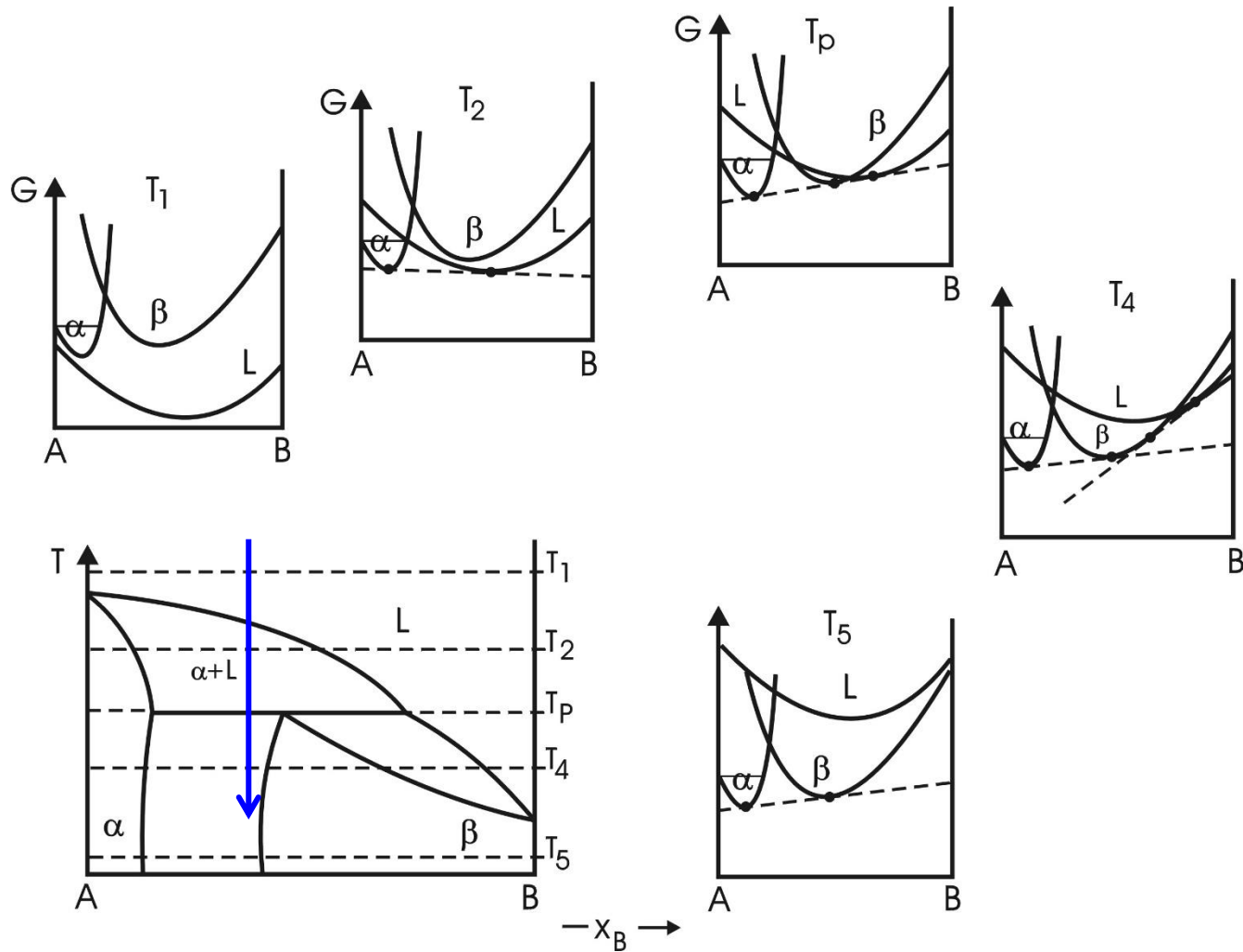
# BINARY PERITECTIC SYSTEM



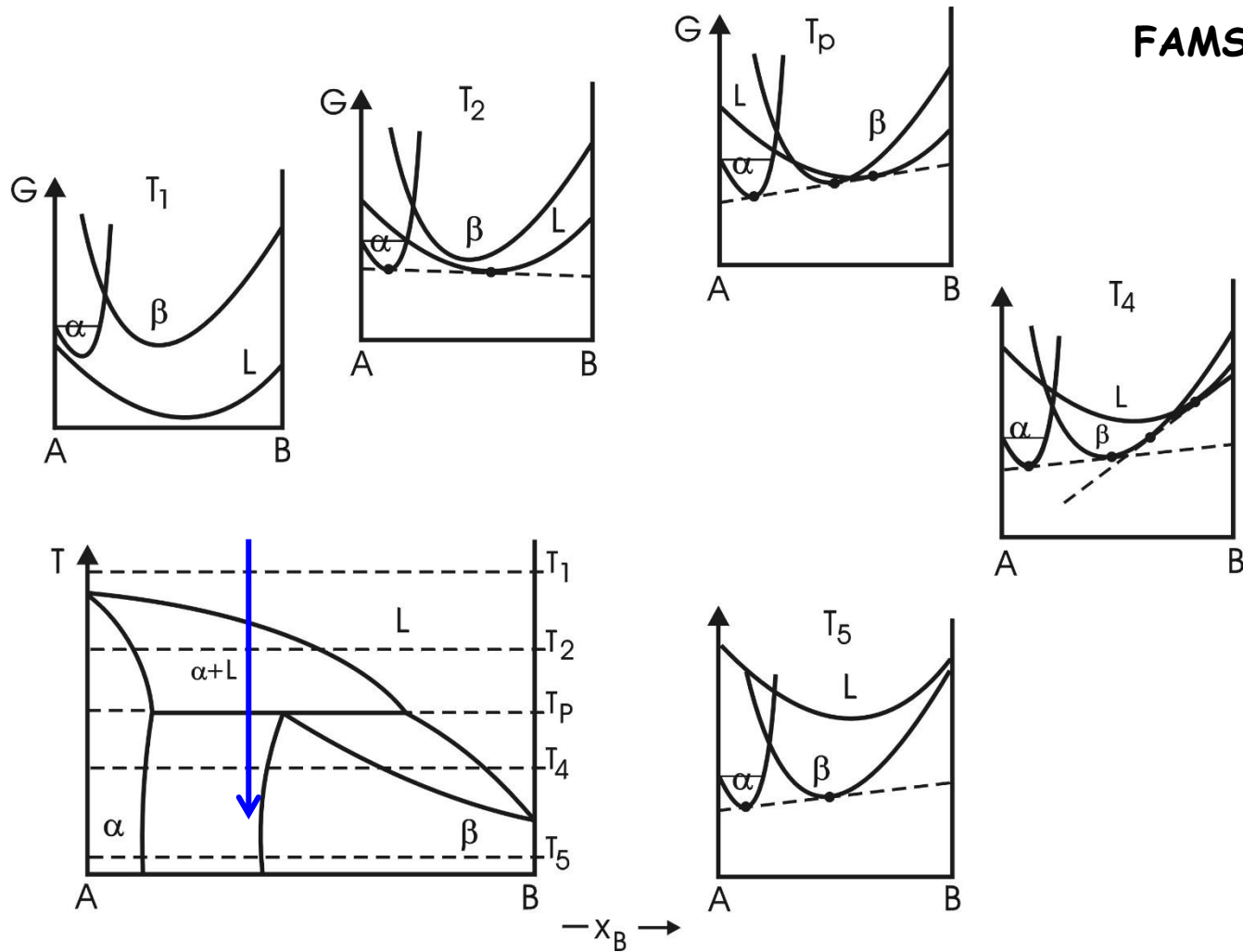
Simple peritectic system

Peritectic reaction:  
 $\alpha + L \rightarrow \beta$

attention:  
equilibrium  
diagrams



Peritectic phase diagram and  $G(x)$ -curves for the composition indicated by blue vertical arrow.



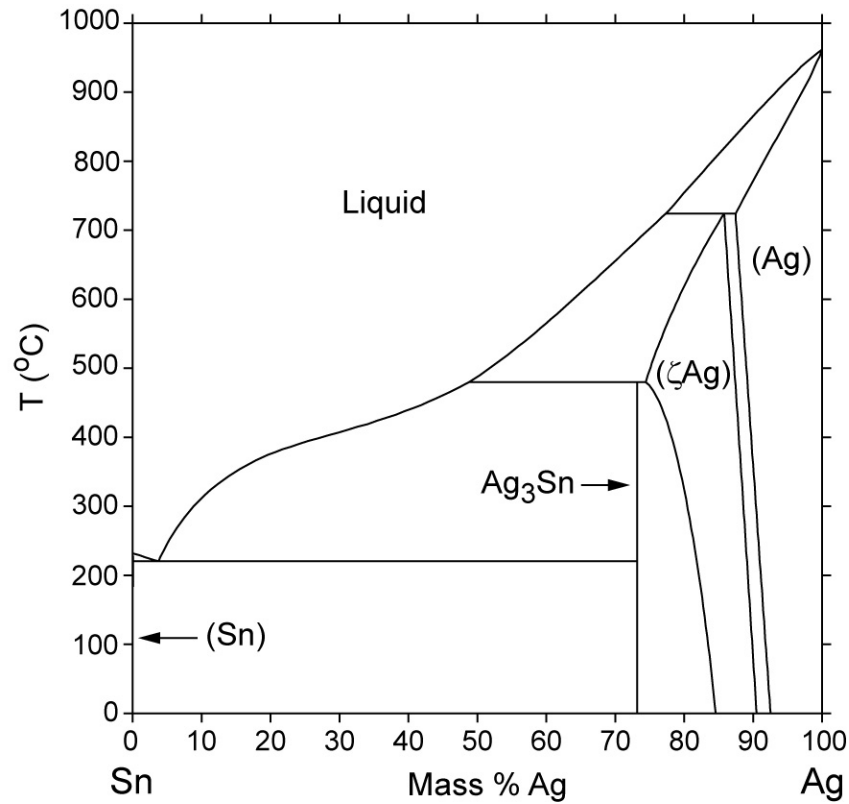
Peritectic phase diagram and  $G(x)$ -curves at different temperatures for a composition indicated by blue vertical arrow (schematic).

# Peritectica:

We find them in systems, where elements have very different melting points.

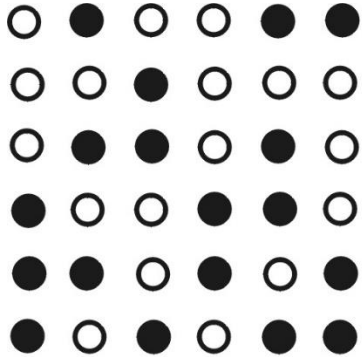
On cooling: two high temperature phases react to form one low temperature phase.

Peritecticum (old greek): The one which is built around. We can understand this when we analyse the reaction.

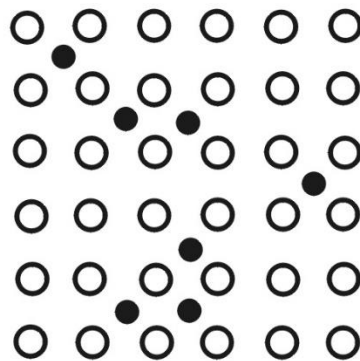


Example for a simple peritectic system: Sn-Ag.

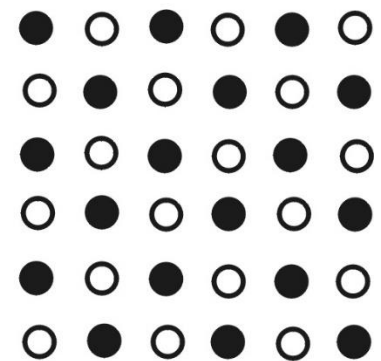
## Solid solutions



substitutional  
solid solution

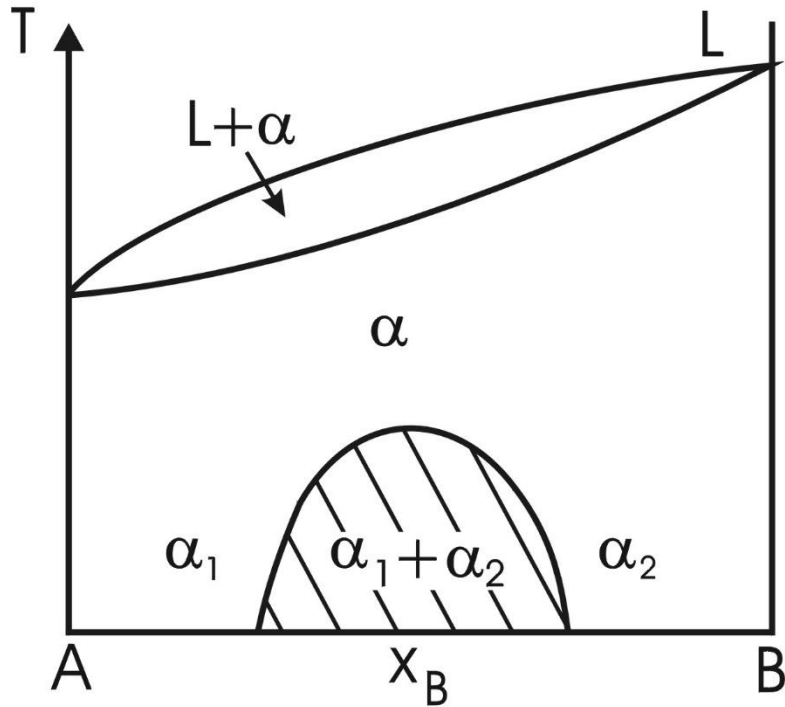


interstitial  
solid solution

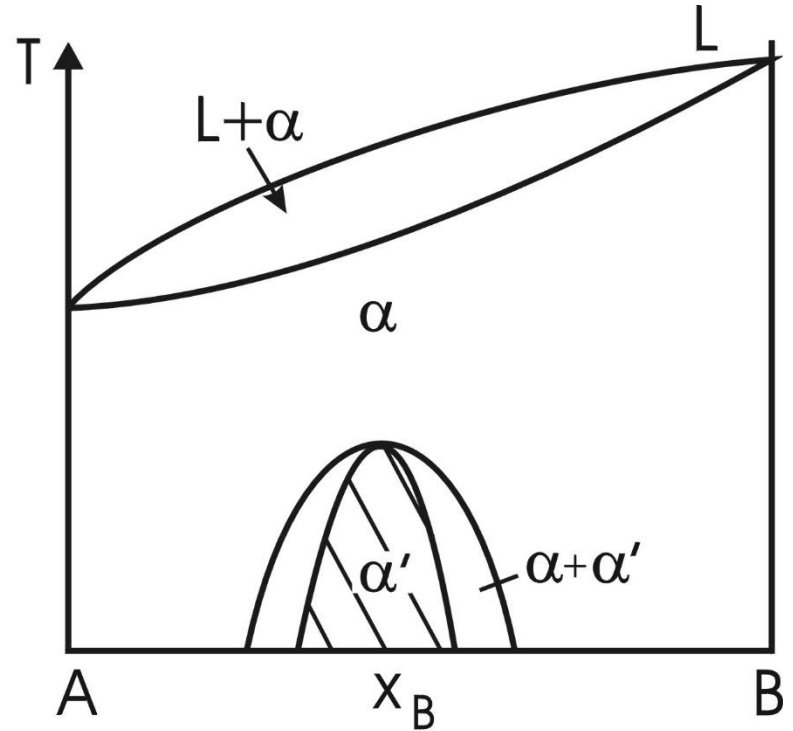


order in 2  
component  
system  
(ordered phase)

# Miscibility gaps and ordered phases

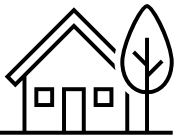


miscibility gap

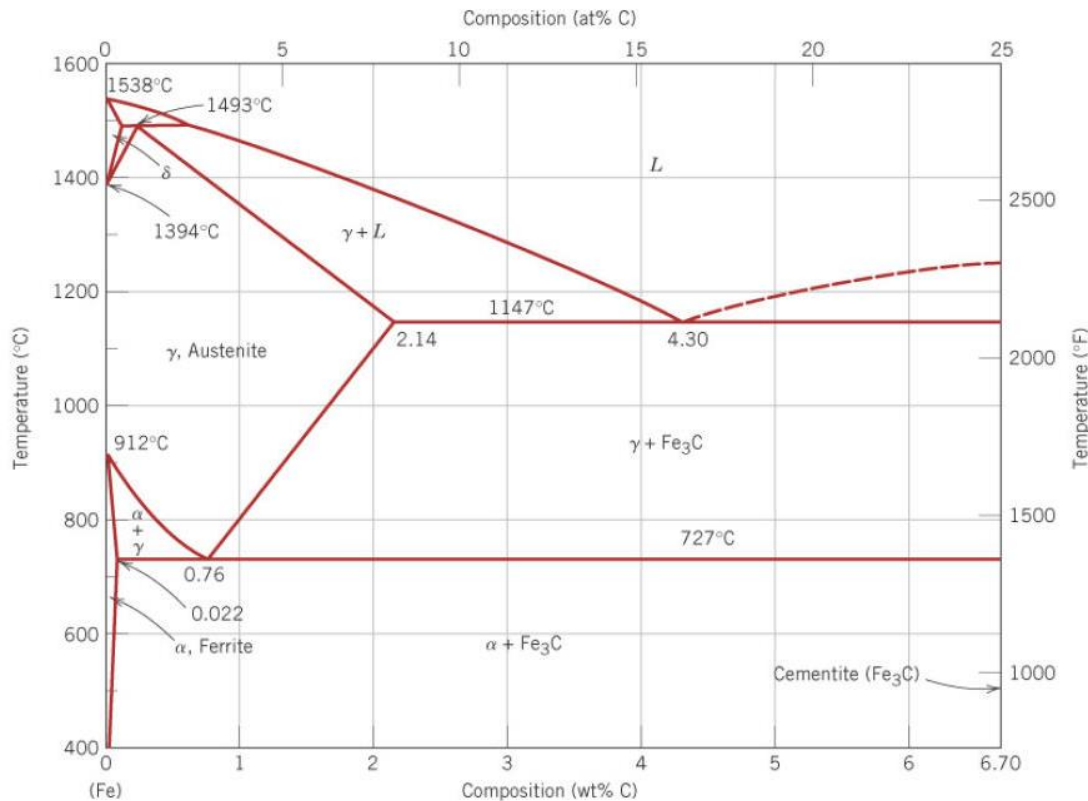


ordered phase  
metallic alloy: intermetallic phase



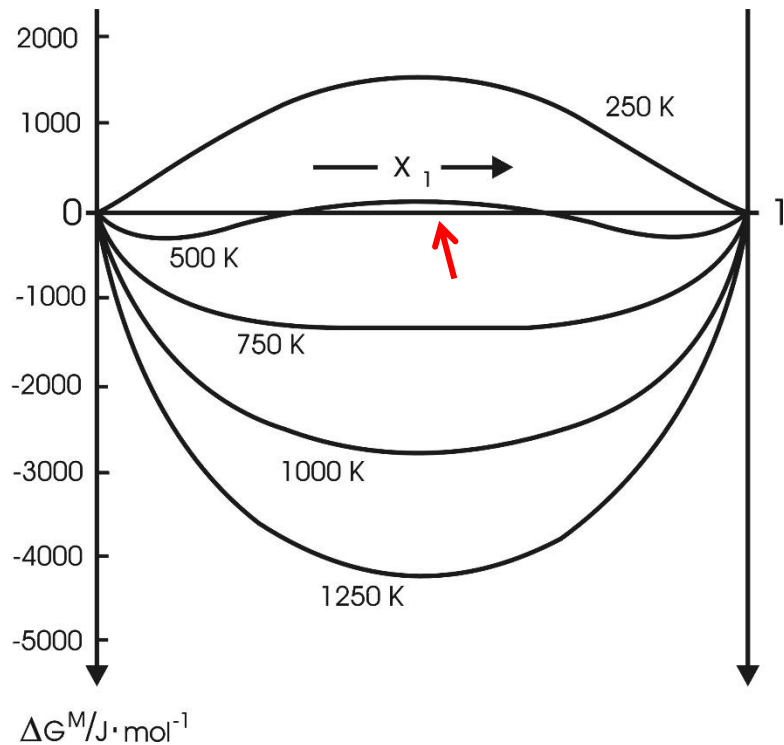
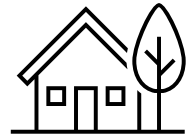


## The best known phase diagram in materials science and engineering: Fe-C.



### Interesting/important to know:

- (a) 2 eutectic reactions and 1 peritectic reaction.
- (b) There are different irons ( $\alpha$ ,  $\gamma$  and  $\delta$ ).
- (c) The diagram is only interesting up to 25 at.% C, where the compound  $\text{Fe}_3\text{C}$  forms (carbide).
- (d) Austenite solves more carbon than ferrite.
- (e)  $c = 4.3$  wt.% C: cast iron (lowest melting point).
- (f)  $c < 2$  wt.% C: steel (weldable).



We can use thermodynamics to calculate **miscibility gaps** and the appearance of intermetallic phases.

$$\Delta G^M = z \cdot x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot W + R \cdot T \cdot (x_1 \ln x_1 + x_2 \ln x_2)$$

*miscibility gap :*  $\frac{\partial \Delta G^M}{\partial x_1} = 0$  and  $\frac{\partial^2 \Delta G^M}{\partial^2 x_1} = 0$

## Results:

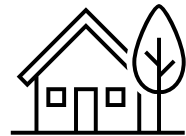


From  $\frac{\partial \Delta G^M}{\partial x_1} = 0$  and  $\frac{\partial^2 \Delta G^M}{\partial^2 x_1} = 0$  we get:

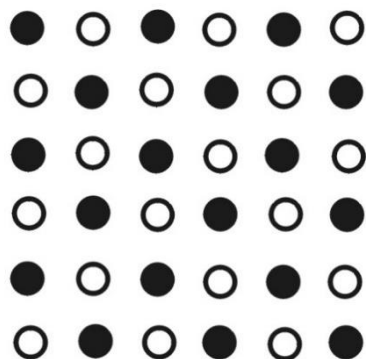
width  $b$  of a miscibility gap: 
$$\frac{1}{b} \cdot \ln \frac{1+b}{1-b} = \frac{z \cdot W}{R \cdot T}$$

Temperature where intermetallic phase forms:

$$T_{IP} = \frac{z \cdot W}{2 \cdot R}$$



# On the appearance of ordered phases (compounds; metallic alloys: intermetallics)

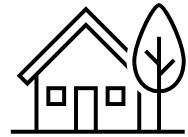


## Possibilities (quite common):

- valence electron compounds
- NiAs-compounds
- Hume-Rothery phases
- Laves-Phasen phases

lanthanum 57	cerium 58	praseodymium 59	neodymium 60	promethium 61	samarium 62	europium 63	gadolinium 64	terbium 65	dysprosium 66	holmium 67	erbium 68	thulium 69	ytterbium 70
La	Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb
138.91	140.12	140.91	144.24	[145]	150.36	151.96	157.25	158.93	162.50	164.93	167.26	168.93	173.04
actinium 89	thorium 90	protactinium 91	uranium 92	neptunium 93	plutonium 94	americium 95	curium 96	berkelium 97	californium 98	einsteinium 99	fermium 100	mendelevium 101	nobelium 102
Ac	Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No
[227]	232.04	231.04	238.03	[237]	[244]	[243]	[247]	[247]	[251]	[252]	[257]	[258]	[259]

\* \* Actinide series



## Valence electron compounds

Metals with elements from PSE groups IV, V und VI

Examples:

$\text{Mg}_2\text{Si} - T_S = 1085^\circ\text{C}$

$\text{Mg}_2\text{Ge} - T_S = 1115^\circ\text{C}$

$\text{Mg}_2\text{Sn} - T_S = 778^\circ\text{C}$

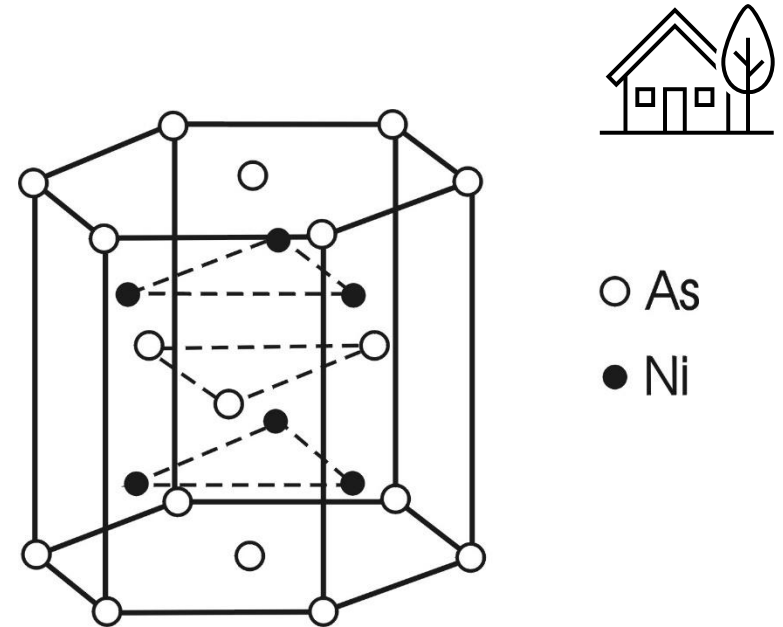
$\text{Mg}_2\text{Pb} - T_S = 550^\circ\text{C}$



decreasing  
electronegativity

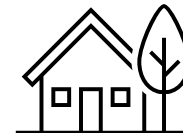
- valence electron compounds
- NiAs-compounds
- Hume-Rothery phases
- Laves-Phasen phases

- valence electron compounds
- **NiAs-compounds**
- Hume-Rothery phases
- Laves-Phasen phases

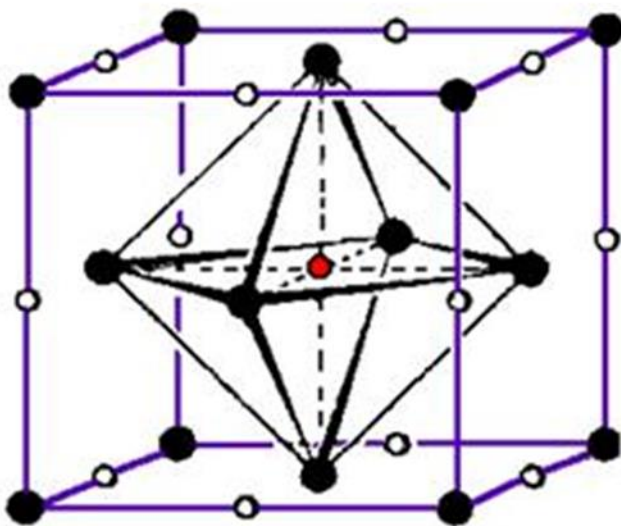


Compounds between: Se, Te, Sn, Sb, As, Bi  
with transition metals: Fe, Cr, Co, Ni, Mn

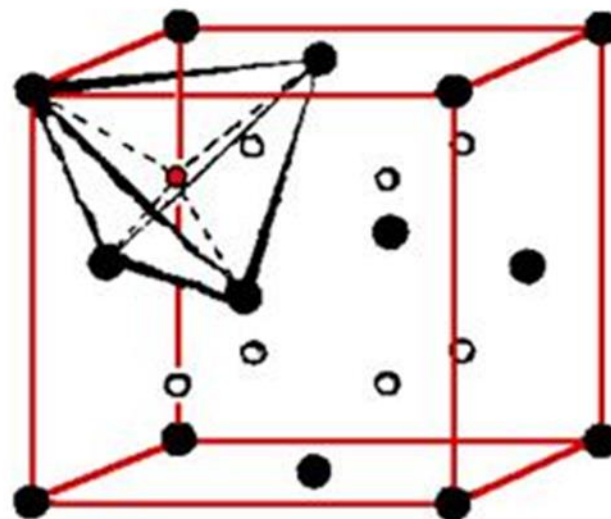
In NiAs, As-atoms have a closely packed sublattice.  
In NiAs Ni occupies octahedral sites.



## Sites in crystals:

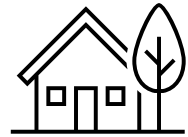


octahedral site



tetrahedral site





- valence electron compounds
- NiAs-compounds
- **Hume-Rothery phases**
- Laves-Phasen phases

We get similar crystal lattices for similar valence electron concentrations per atom of compound (VEC)

VEC = Number of electrons per atom of compound

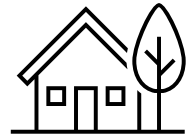
VEC-CuBe:  $(1 \cdot 1 - 1 \cdot 2)/2 = 3/2$ ; VEC-CuZn<sub>3</sub>:  $(1 \cdot 1 - 3 \cdot 2)/4 = 7/4$

VEC = 3/2: bcc

Examples: CuBe, CuZn, Cu<sub>3</sub>Al, Cu<sub>5</sub>Sn

VEC = 7/4: hex

Examples: CuZn<sub>3</sub>, Cu<sub>3</sub>Sn, AgZn<sub>3</sub>



- valence electron compounds
- NiAs-compounds
- Hume-Rothery phases
- **Laves-Phasen phases**

Nature of compound governed by ratio of atom radii of elements.

E.g. ratio of atom radii 1 : 1,225 -> AB<sub>2</sub>-Compounds

More closely packed (e.g. 0,71) as bcc (e.g. 0,682).

Famous example: Fe<sub>2</sub>Mo in steels.

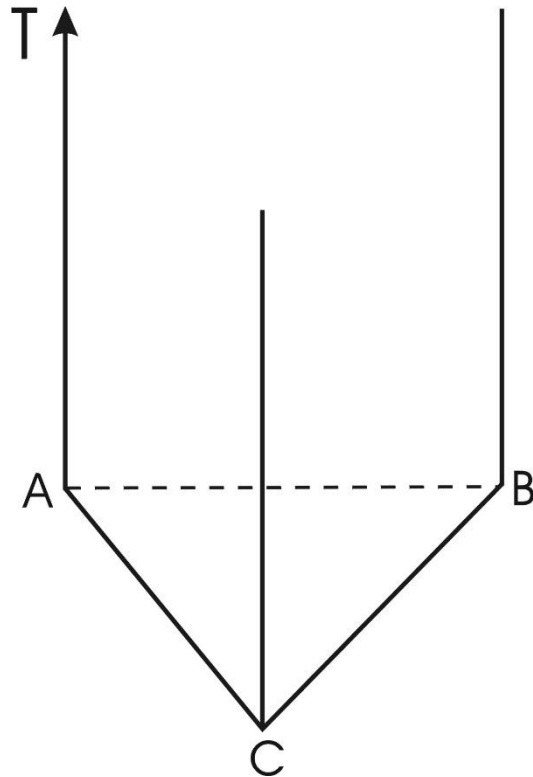


In phase diagrams we find compounds (metallic alloys: intermetallic phases).

We have discussed a few well known type of phases.

Research on compounds and intermetallic phases is an important part of modern structural materials science.

## 5. TERNARY PHASE DIAGRAMS

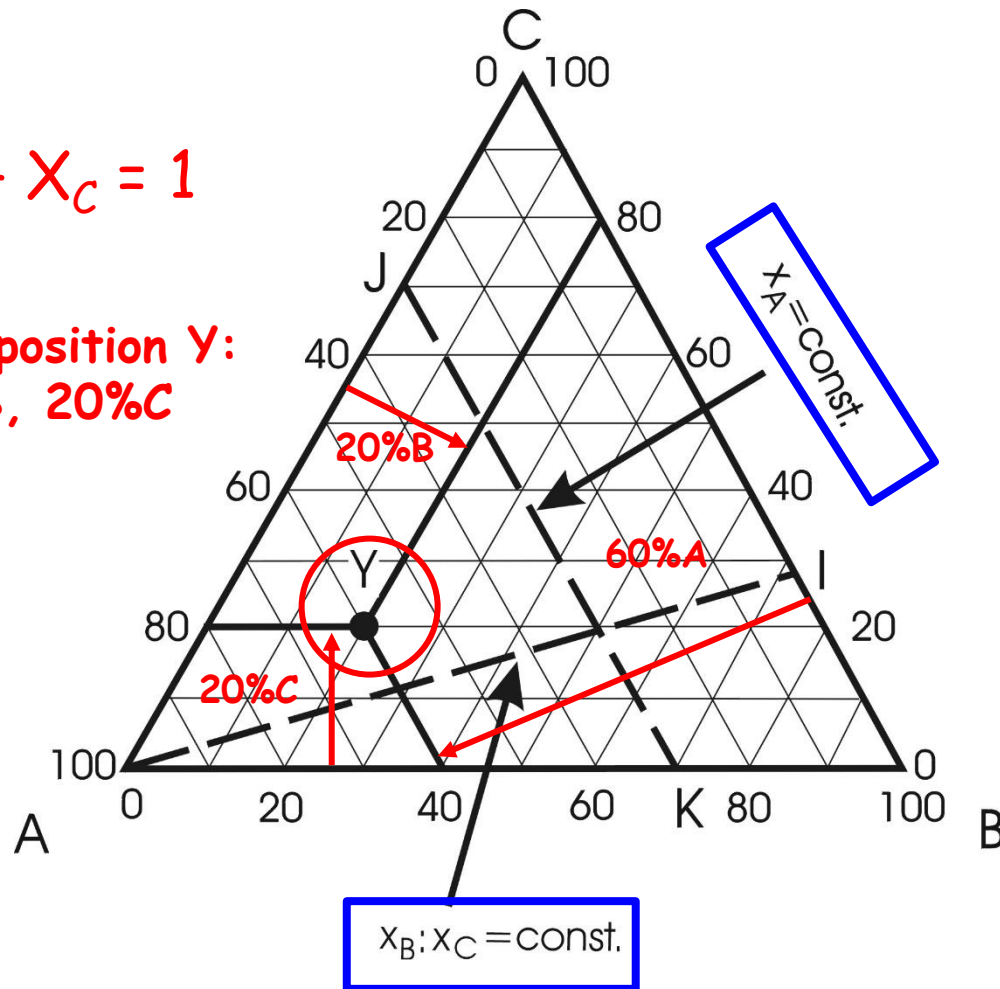


$$X_A + X_B + X_C = 1$$

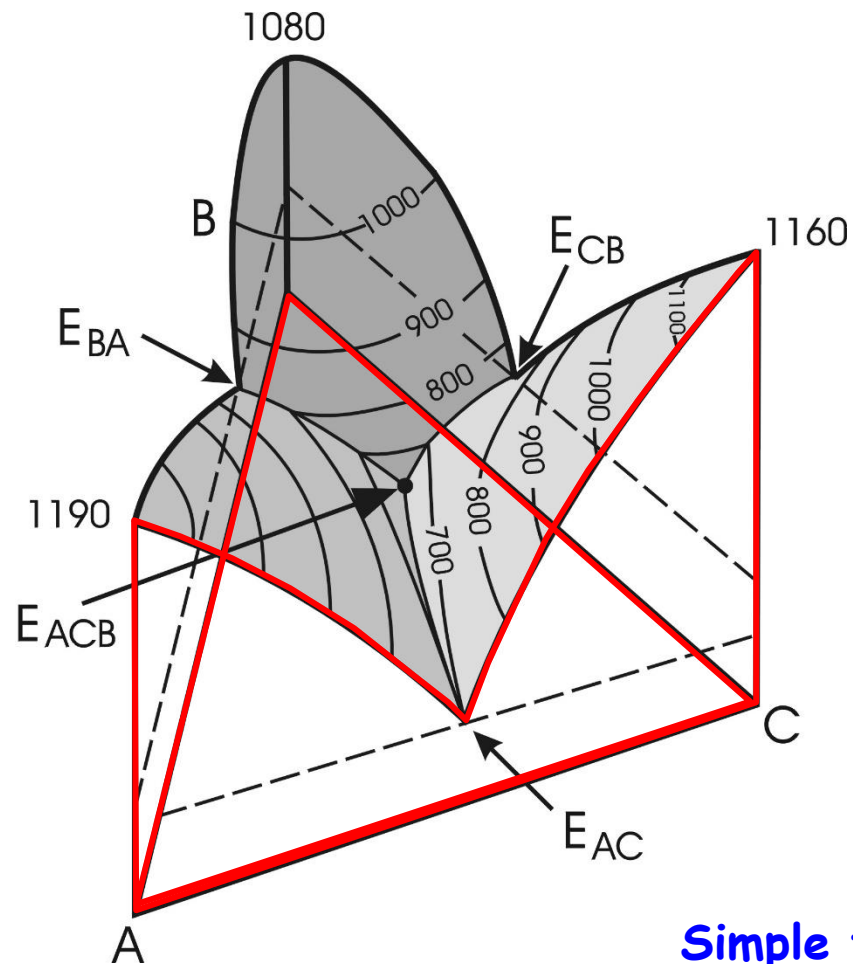
A 3D frame for a ternary phase diagram.

$$X_A + X_B + X_C = 1$$

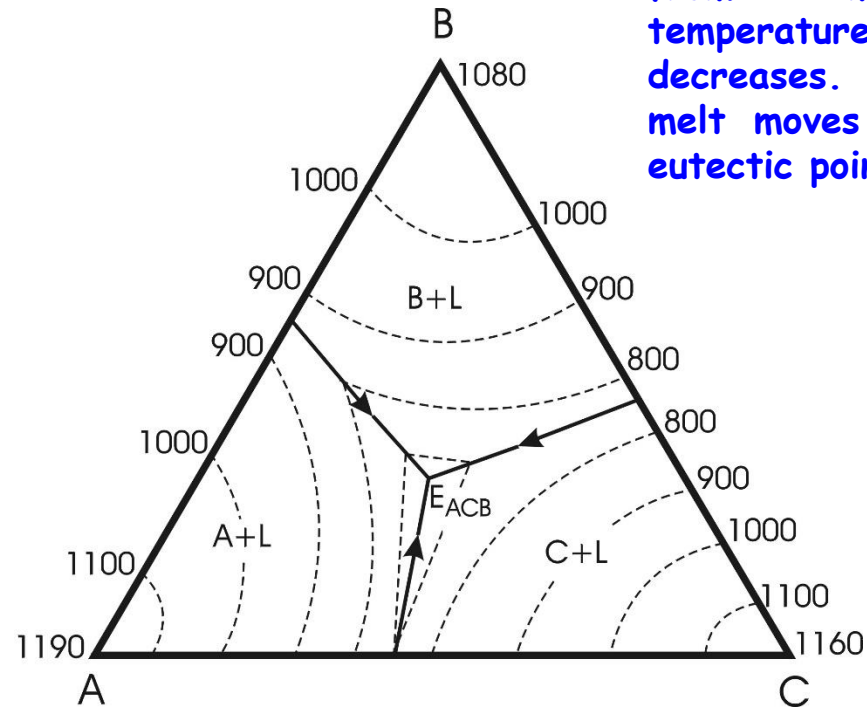
Ternary composition Y:  
60%A, 20%B, 20%C



Concentration triangle



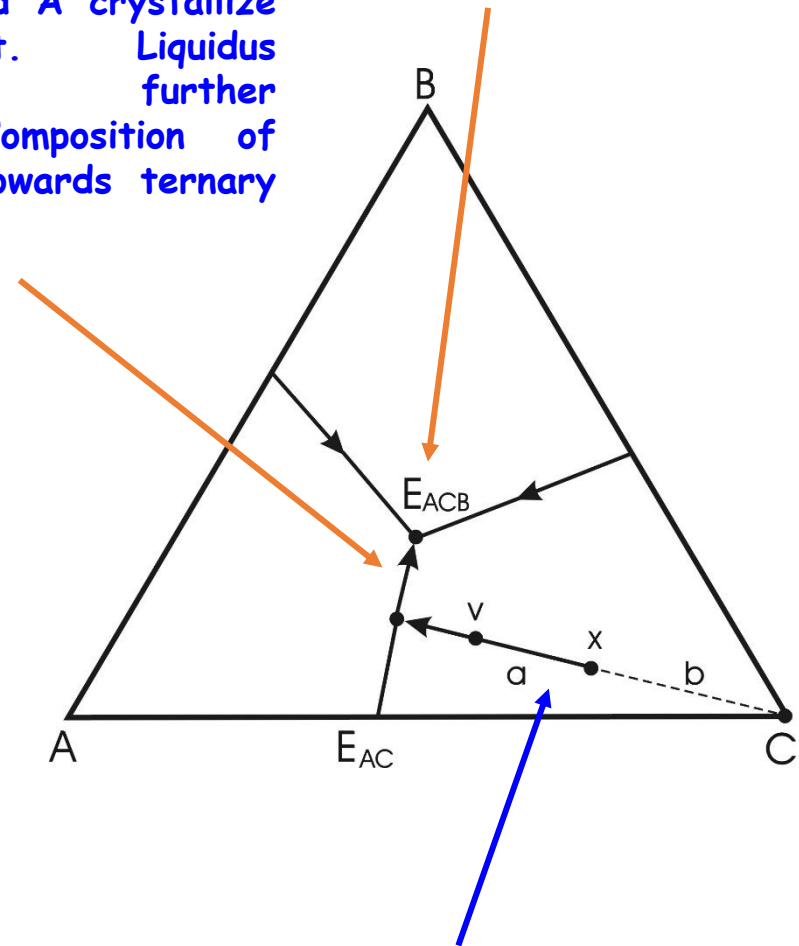
Simple ternary eutecticum.  
On each side: a binary eutecticum.



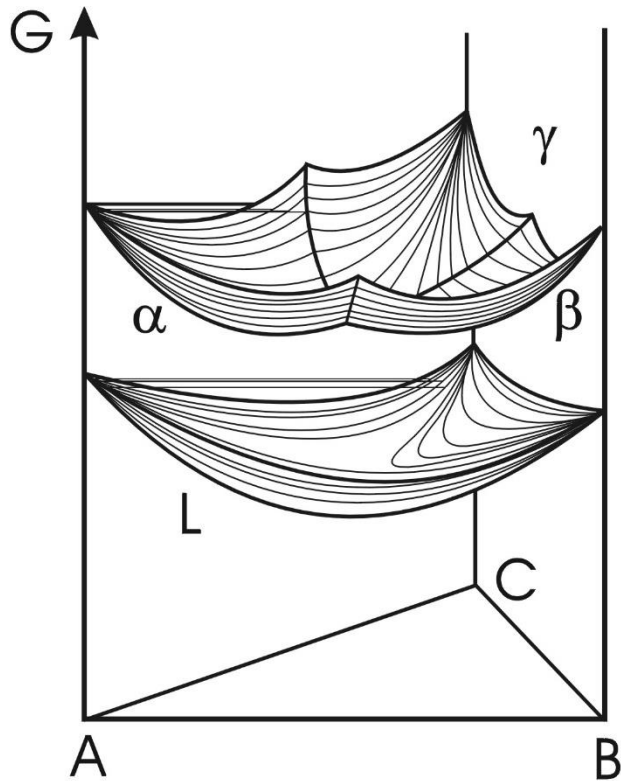
projection

**Second:** C and A crystallize from melt. Liquidus temperature further decreases. Composition of melt moves towards ternary eutectic point.

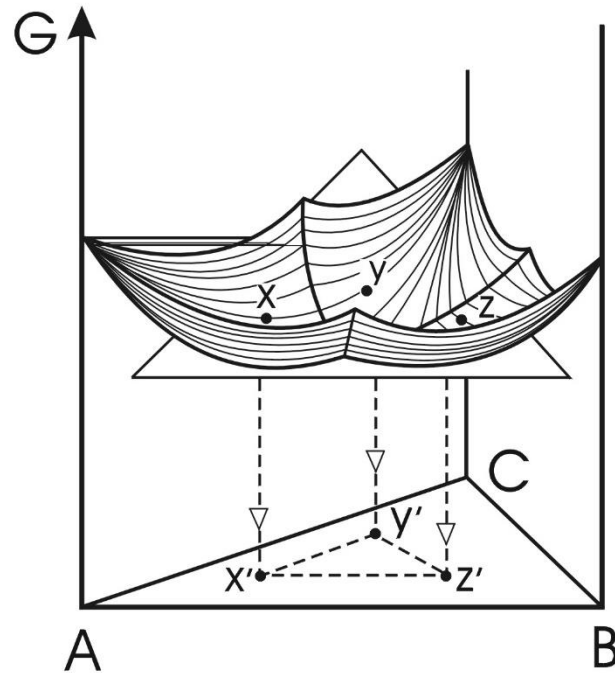
**Third:** eutectic solidification  
 $L \rightarrow A + B + C$



**First:** C crystallizes from the melt. Liquidus temperature decreases. Composition of melt moves towards eutectic groove between  $E_{AC}$  and  $E_{ACB}$ .



(a)



(b)

$G(X)$ -planes. (a) Liquid is stable. (b) Equilibrium composition at ternary eutectic point.



## 6. HIGH ENTROPY ALLOYS

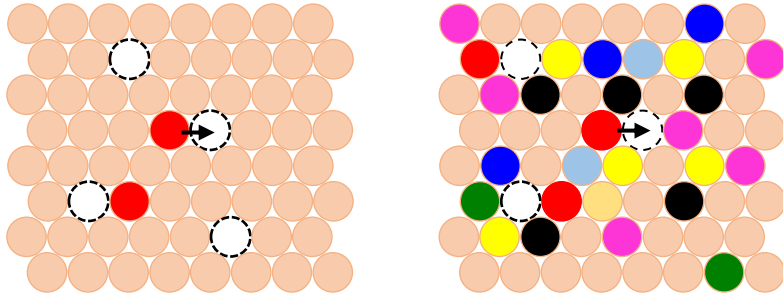
Recently a new class of **equiatomic** alloys has been proposed — no “base” element (e.g.  $\text{Cr}_{20}\text{Mn}_{20}\text{Fe}_{20}\text{Co}_{20}\text{Ni}_{20}$ )

- Yeh et al. Adv. Eng. Mater. (2004)
- Cantor et al. Mater. Sci. Eng. A (2004)

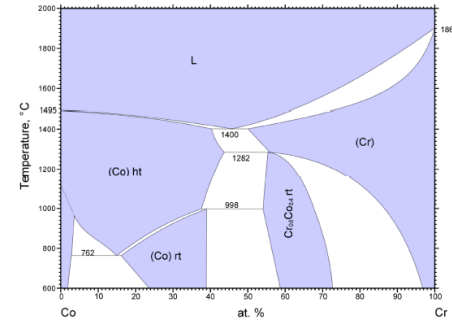
These materials are referred to as high entropy alloys. Today a hot research topic. Here: some background.

Configurational entropy is at maxima  $\rightarrow$  if entropy is dominant contribution to free energy, it becomes to 'stabilise' a multiple component solution  $\rightarrow$  single phase.

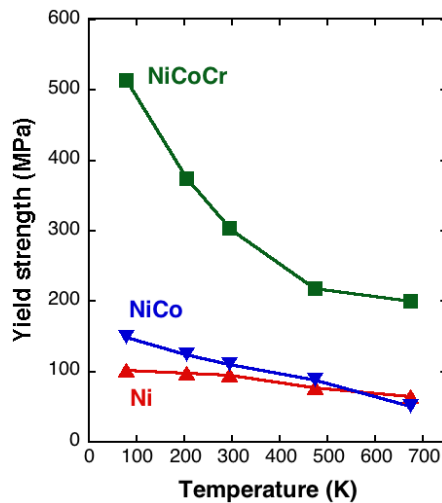
# Why are high entropy alloys interesting?



(1) Diffusion behavior



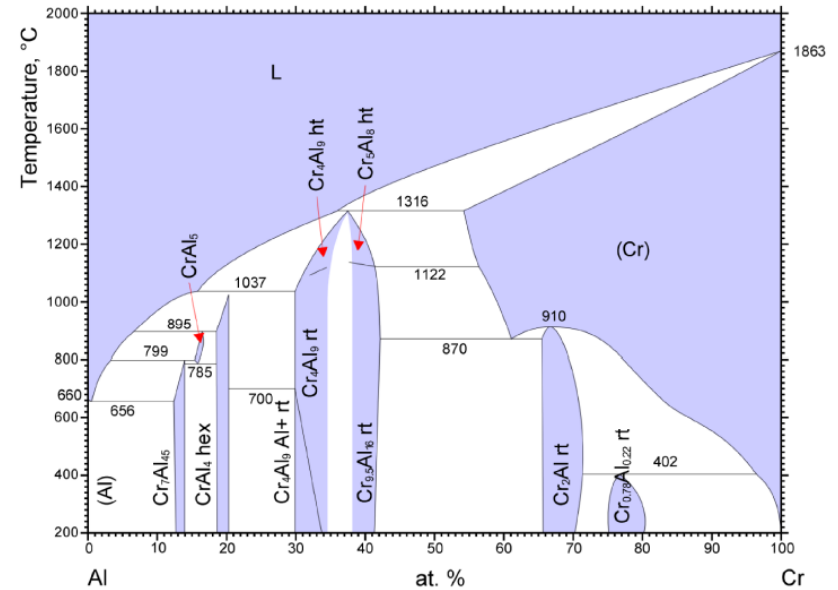
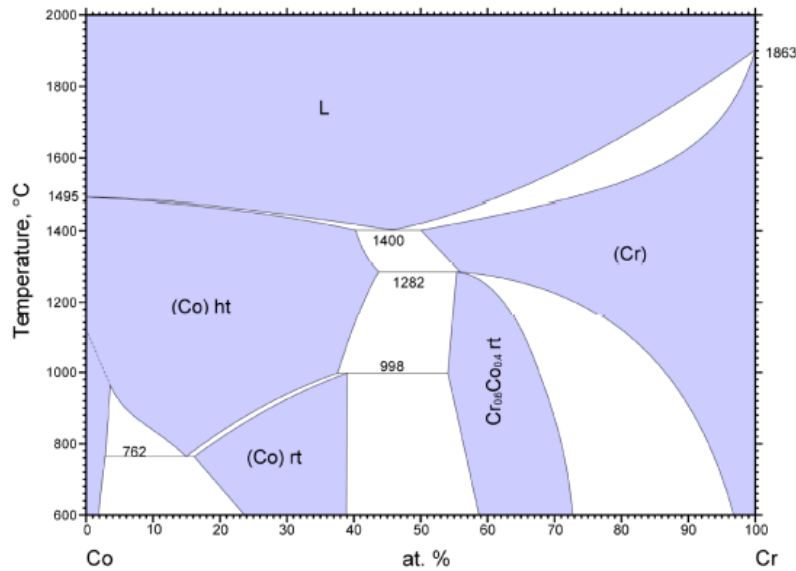
(2) Phase stability



(3) Solid solution strengthening

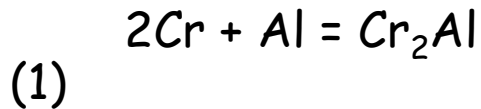
Three aspects of compositional complexity.

Often: Solid solutions typically form at the **ends** of phase diagrams while intermetallic compounds are found near the **centers**

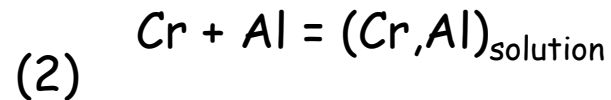


Two tendencies:

- (1) Strong heat of formation of intermetallics drives phase separation.
- (2) Entropy of mixture promotes single phase solid solutions.



$$\Delta G_f = \Delta H_f - T \cdot \Delta S_f$$

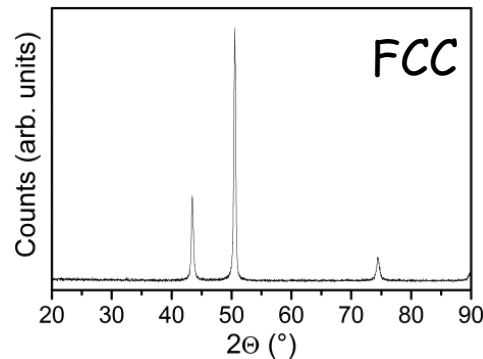
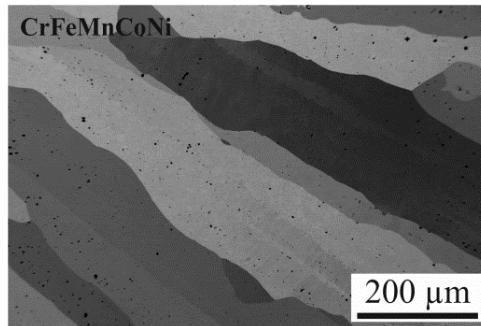
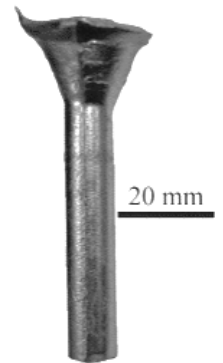
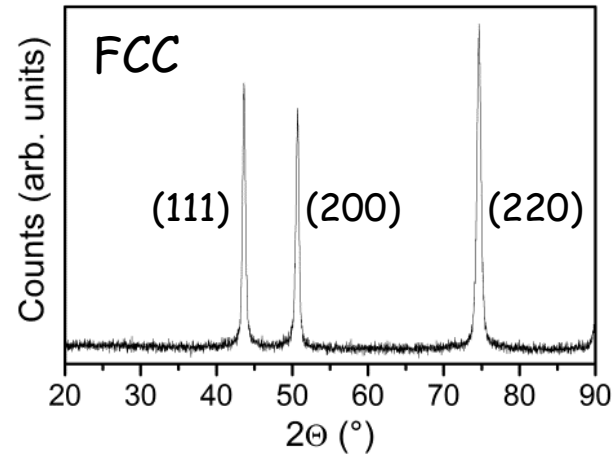
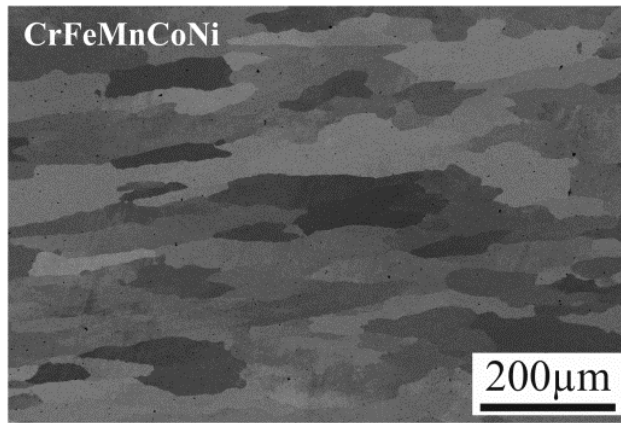


$$\Delta G_{\text{mix}} = \Delta H_{\text{mix}} - T \cdot \Delta S_{\text{mix}}$$

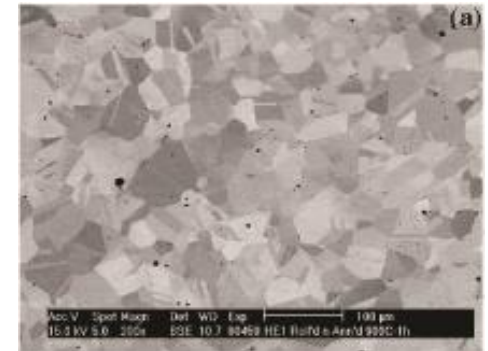
# High entropy alloys: multi-component alloys are single phase !

Example:  
CrMnFeCoNi

As-cast



Homogenized at 1000°C for 72 h



Hot rolled at 1000°C

## Hume-Rothery rules for solid solubility:

- Similar atomic size (difference  $< 15\%$ )
- Similar crystal structure
- Similar chemical valence
- Similar electronegativity

Atoms of HEA must have similar properties!

## Second: Configurational entropy may stabilize solid solutions

Yeh et al. *Adv. Eng. Mater.* 6 299 (2004)

$$\Delta G_{\text{mix}} = \Delta H_{\text{mix}} - T \cdot \Delta S_{\text{mix}} \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \Delta G_{\text{f}} = \Delta H_{\text{f}} - T \cdot \Delta S_{\text{f}}$$

$$\Delta S_{\text{mix}}^{\text{ideal}} = -R \sum_i^n x_i \ln x_i \quad \sum_i^n x_i = 1$$

$$\Delta S_{\text{mix}} \rightarrow \max .$$

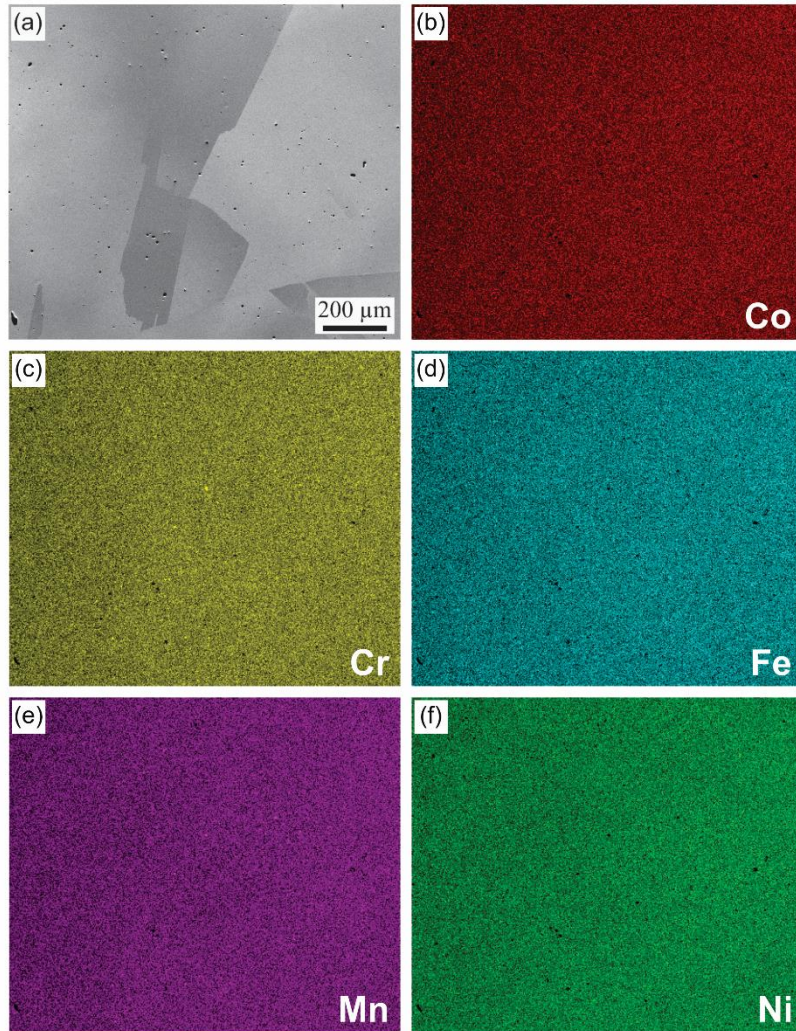
when  $n$  is large, and  $x_1 \approx x_2 \approx x_3 \dots \approx x_i$

For equiatomic alloys:  $\Delta S_{\text{mix}} = R \ln n$

**HEAs**: equiatomic with  $n \geq 5$ ;  $\Delta S_{\text{mix}} \geq 1.6 \cdot R$

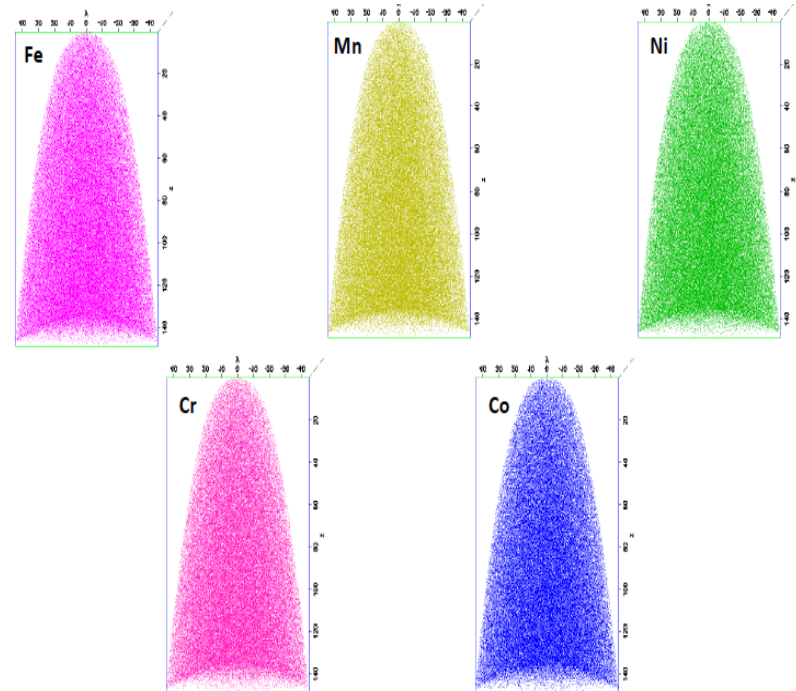


# Single-phase homogeneous microstructure after 48 h at 1200 °C



SEM/EDX results

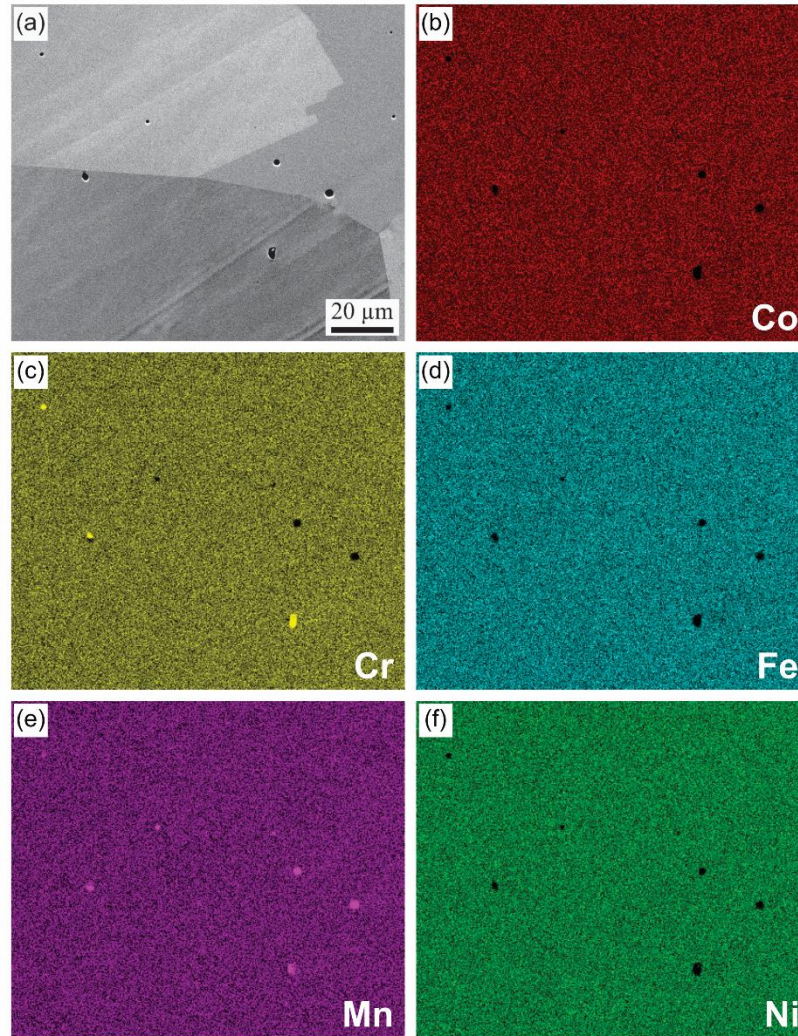
CrMnFeCoNi



APT results

Otto et al, Acta Mater. (2016)

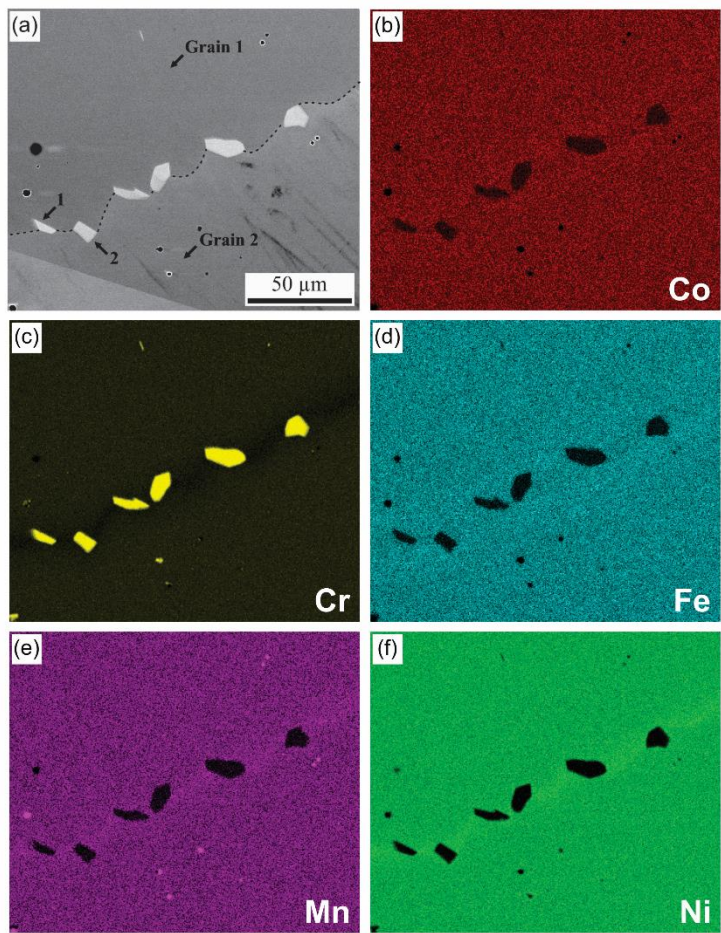
# Single-phase homogeneous microstructure after 500 days at 900 °C



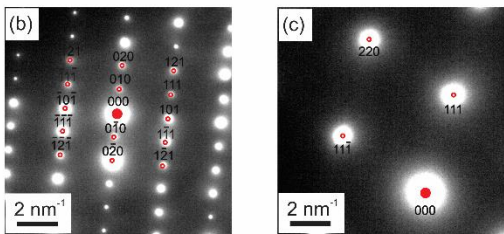
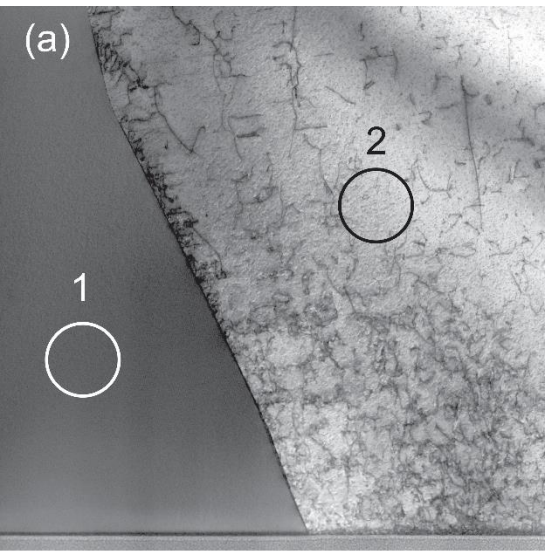
SEM/EDX results



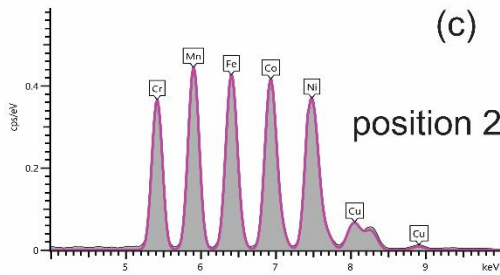
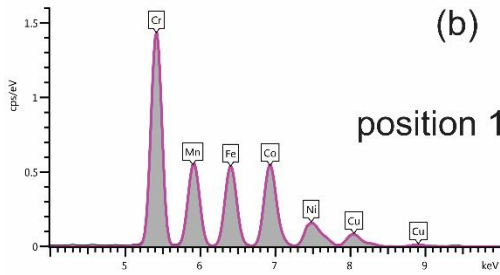
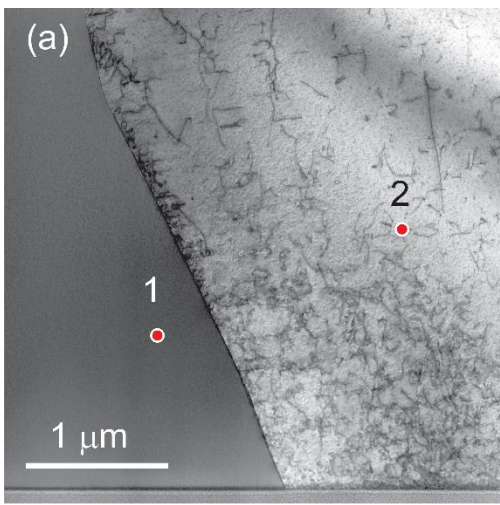
# Decomposition into Cr-rich phase after 500 days at 700 °C



SEM-EDX



TEM-SAD

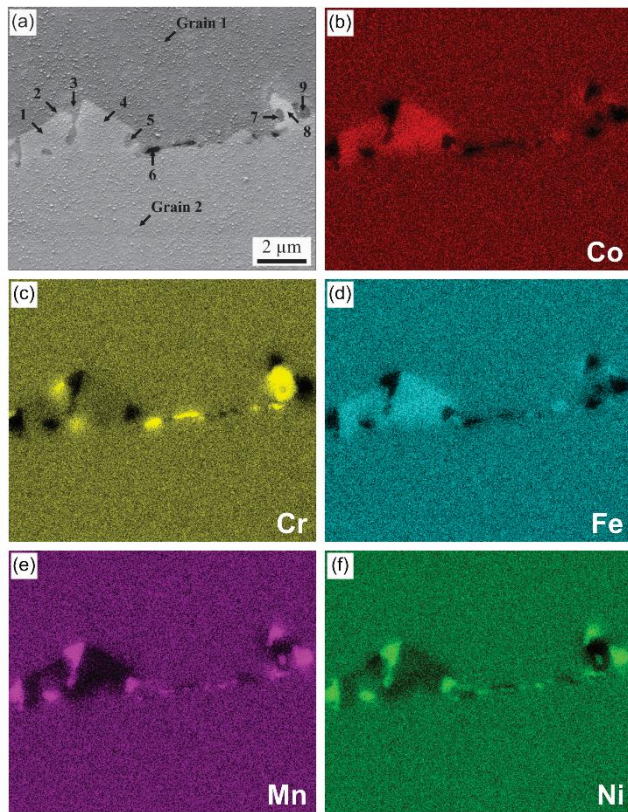


TEM-EDX

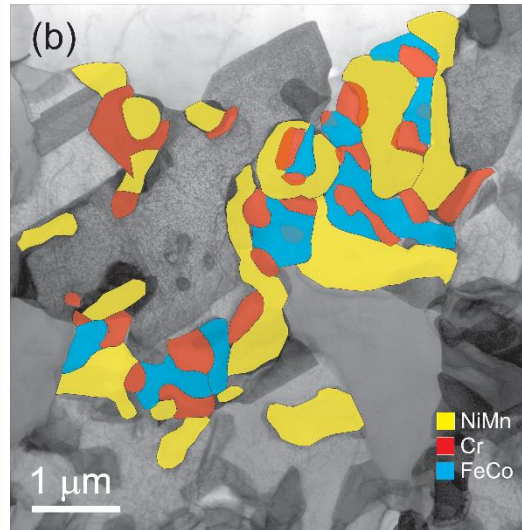
Otto et al, Acta Mater. (2016)

# Decomposition into three phases after 500 days at 500 °C

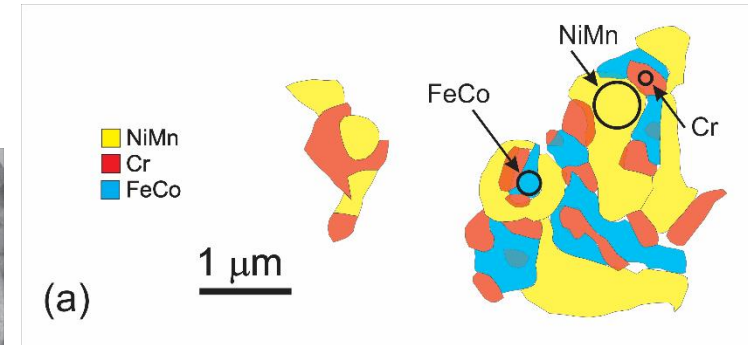
$L1_0$  - NiMn  
BCC - Cr  
B2 - FeCo



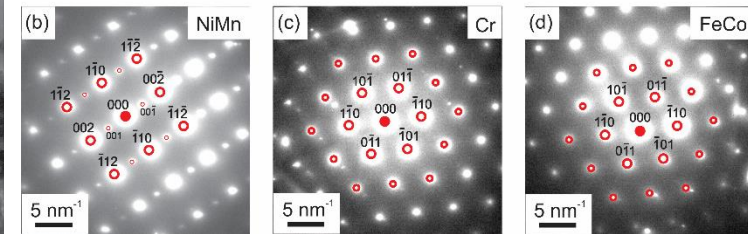
SEM-EDX



TEM-EDX



TEM-SAD



Otto et al, Acta Mater. (2016)

FAMSE-GEI-106



## Recommended text books:

- (1) R.A. Swalin, Thermodynamics of Solids, 2nd edition, Wiley VCH, New Jersey, 1972
- (2) D. R.Gaskell, Introduction to the Thermodynamics of Materials, 5th Edition, CRC Press, New York, 2008
- (3) D. Kondepudi, I. Prigogine, Modern Thermodynamics, John Wiley and Sons, Chichester, 1998
- (4) F.C. Campell, Phase Diagrams - Understanding the Basics, ASM, Ohio, 2012
- (5) B. Predel, M. Hoch, M. Pool, Phase Diagrams and Heterogeneous Equilibria, Springer, Berlinm 2004
- (6) J.-C. Zhao, Methods for Phase Diagram Determination, Elsevier, Oxford, 2004
- (7) D.A. Proter, K.E. Easterling, M. Sherif, Phase Transformations in Metals and Alloys (3rd edition), 2009

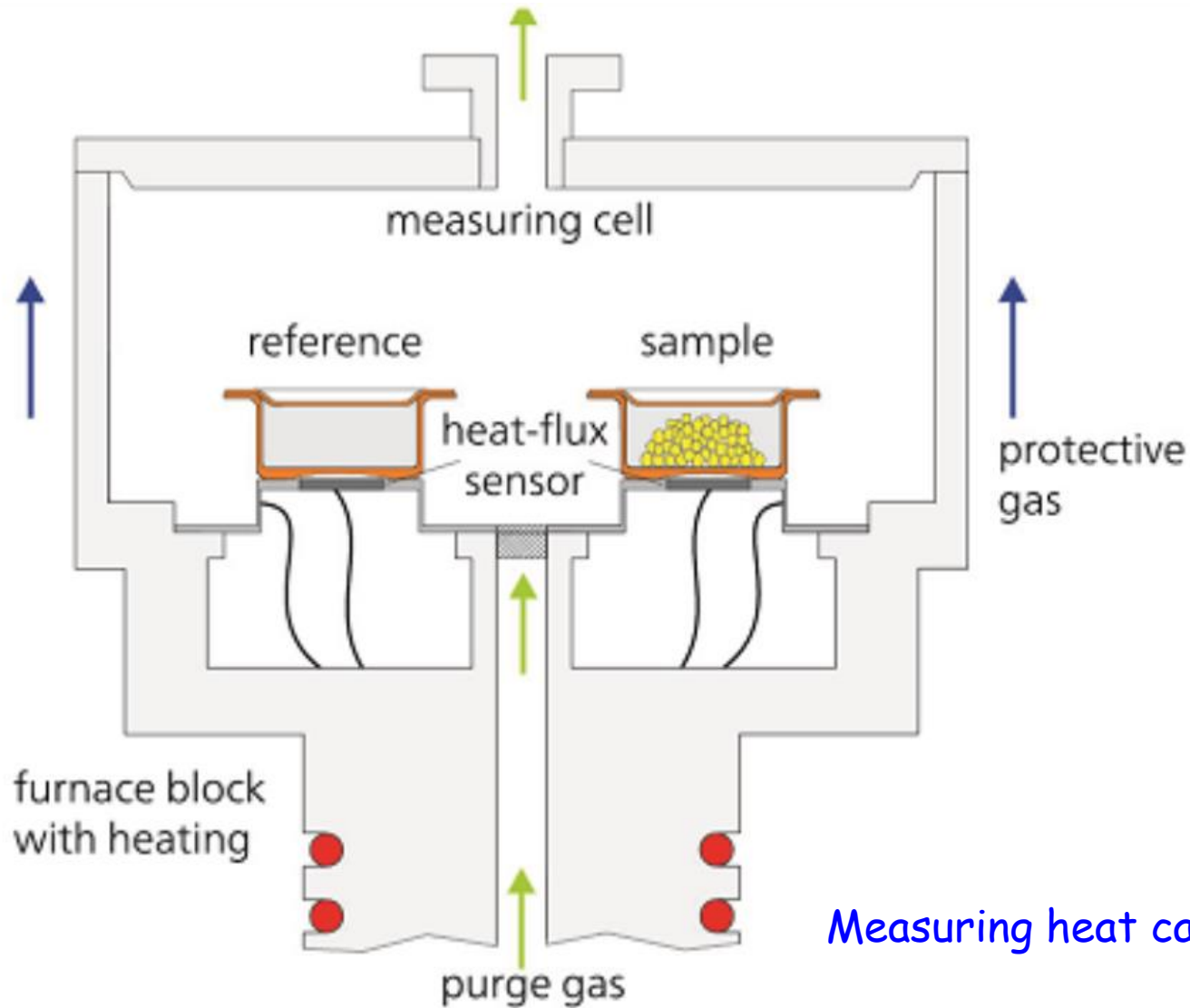
## Summary

- (1) First law;  $U$ ,  $H$  and  $c_p$
- (2) Second law;  $S$  and  $G$
- (3) Statistical interpretation of  $S$
- (4) Driving forces for phase transformations (and heat effects)
- (5) Driving forces for mixing
- (6)  $G(x_i)$ -curves and chemical potential  $\mu$
- (7) Physical justification of phase diagrams
- (8) High entropy alloys

# Questions for self control

1. What has  $U$  and  $H$  to do with the first law of thermodynamics?
2. How does the 2nd law help us to derive  $G$ ?
3. How was the entropy  $S$  introduced?
4. What is the statistical interpretation of  $S$ ?
5. Discuss a simple phase transformation (austenite - martensite) considering  $G(T)$ - and  $H(T)$ -curves and a related DSC-chart.
6. How does differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) work?
7. What is the chemical potential?
8. Which are the equations for enthalpy and entropy of mixtures?
9. What is the tangent rule and how is it used in  $G(x)$ -diagrams?
10. What does equilibrium between two phases mean?
11. Which intermetallic phases do you know?
12. Explain eutectic and peritectic phase diagrams on the basis of underlying  $G(x)$ -curves of all relevant phases.
13. What are high entropy alloys?
14. What must elements fulfill to be able to form a high entropy alloy?
15. Why are high entropy alloys an interesting research topic?

# Differential scanning calorimeter



Measuring heat capacity (enthalpy)