FUNDAMENTALS OF METAL ALLOYS, EQUILIBRIUM DIAGRAMS Chapter 4-Part 1

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4.2 What is a Phase?

- Phase is a form of material having characteristic structure and properties.
- More precisely: form of material with identifiable composition (chemistry), definable structure, and distinctive boundaries (interfaces) which separate it from other phases.

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4.2 Phases

- Phase can be continuous

 (air in the room) or
 discontinuous (salt grains
 in the shaker).
- Gas, liquid or solid.
- Pure substance or solution (uniform structure throughout).



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4.3 Equilibrium Phase Diagrams

- Graphic mapping of the natural tendencies of a material or a material system (equilibrium for all possible conditions).
- Primary variables: temperature, pressure and composition.
- P-T diagram (the simplest).



4.3 Temperature-Composition Diagrams

- Engineering processes conducted at atmospheric pressure (P/T variations).
- The most common: temperaturecomposition phase diagrams.



4.3 Cooling Curves

• Cooling curves for NaCl-H20 combinations:



4.3 Cooling Curves

• Partial equilibrium diagram of NaCl-H20 system



4.3 Solubility

- Solubility limits.
- Degree of solubility determines properties.
- I-Two metals completely soluble in each other.
- II- Two metals soluble in liquid state and insoluble in solid state.
- III-Two metals soluble in liquid state and partially soluble in solid state.

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4.3 Complete Solubility

• Copper-Nickel equilibrium diagram



4.3 Partial Solid Solubility



- Degree of solubility depends on temperature
- At max. solubility, 183°C: lead holds up to 19.2 wt% tin in a single phase solution, and tin holds up to 2.5wt% lead and still be a single phase.

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4.3 Utilization of Diagrams



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4.3 Example problem



Liquid phase amount =
$$\frac{36-18}{72-18} \times 100\%$$
 =33.33 % by mass

Solid phase amount
$$=\frac{72-36}{72-18} \times 100\% = 66.67\%$$
 by mass

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4.3 Utilization of Diagrams

- The phases present.
- Composition of each phase (single phase region or two phase region).
- In two phase region a tie-line should be constructed.
- The amount of each phase present: leverlaw calculation using a tie-line.

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4.3 Three Phase Reactions



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