

# Lecture 2 - defects

# Lecture summary

- Introduction to defects
- Types of defect
- Intrinsic and extrinsic defects
- Defect equations

# Defects

**All** crystals contain defects of some sort, for example:

- Missing atoms (*vacancies*)
- Atoms in the 'wrong' place
  - *interstitials* (between lattice sites) or *substitutions* (different atom types)
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Defects are often the source of interesting properties

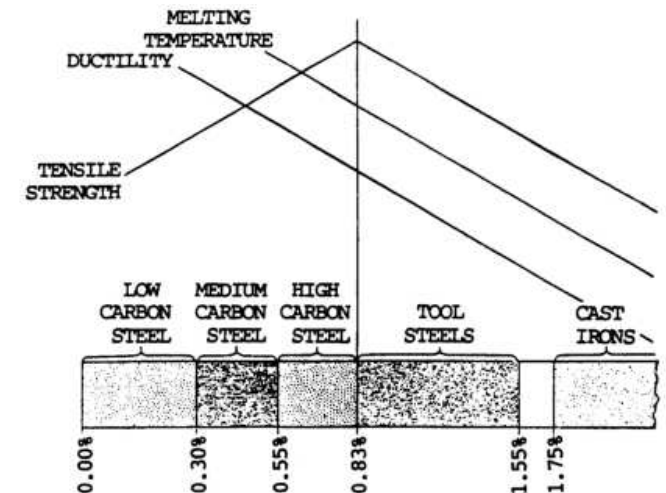
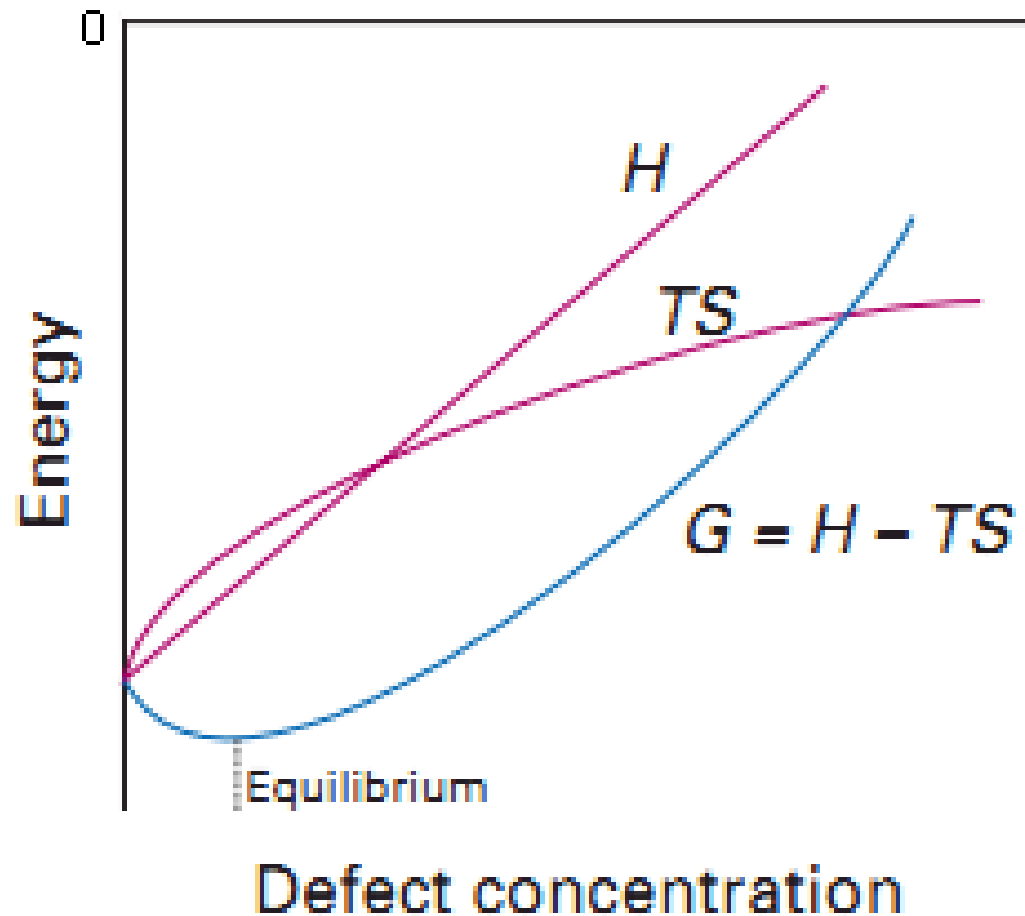


Figure 7-7. How steel qualities change as carbon is added.

# Defect amounts

The number of defects is a fine balance of entropy and enthalpy


- Defects gain entropy but have a (often large) formation energy



Minimum in  $\Delta G$  depends on structure and bonding, but typically  $\ll 1\%$ .


# Types of defect

The three most common defect types in ionic solids are:

Vacancy						Interstitial						Substitution					
M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X
X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M
M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X
X	M	X		X	M	X	M	X	<sup>X</sup> M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M
M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	N	X	M	X
X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M
M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X
X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M

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M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X
X	M	X		X	M	X	M	X	<sup>X</sup> M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M
M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	N	X	M	X
X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M
M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X
X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M	X	M

Additionally, defects can be either

- *intrinsic* (maintaining stoichiometry) or
- *extrinsic* (non-stoichiometric)

# Intrinsic defects

Two of the most common stoichiometric defects are:

## Schottky

- Charge-balanced combination of anion and cation vacancies



## Frenkel

- Ions displaced to interstitial sites

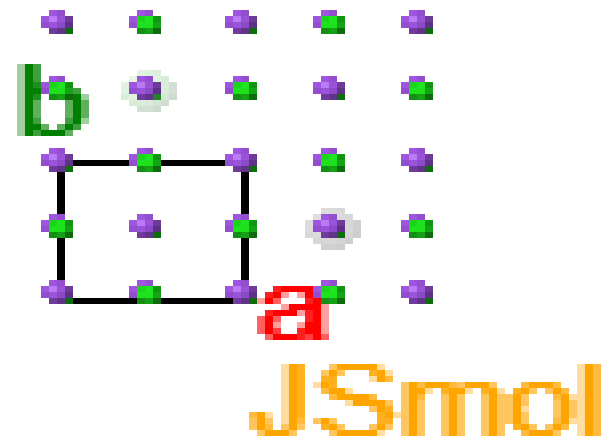
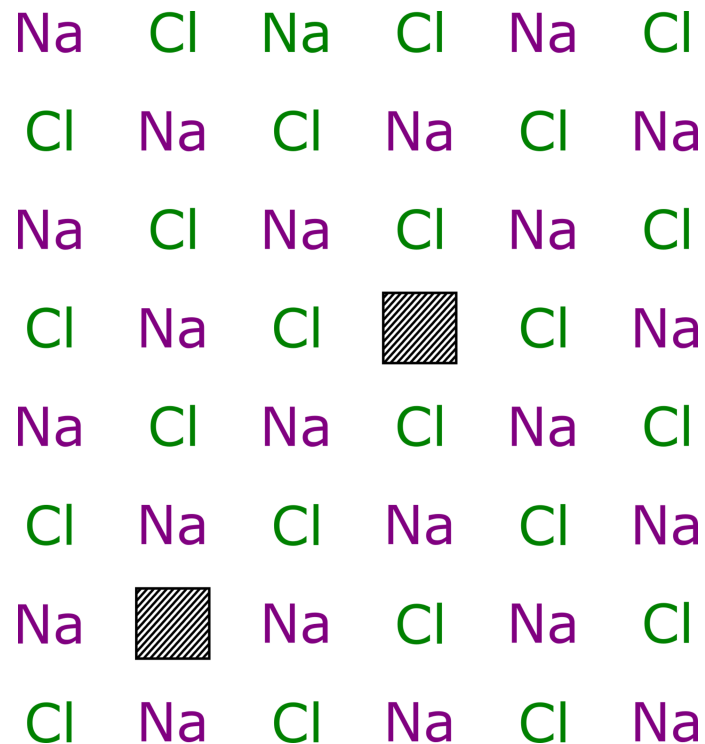


Defects observed depend on both structure type and atoms involved.



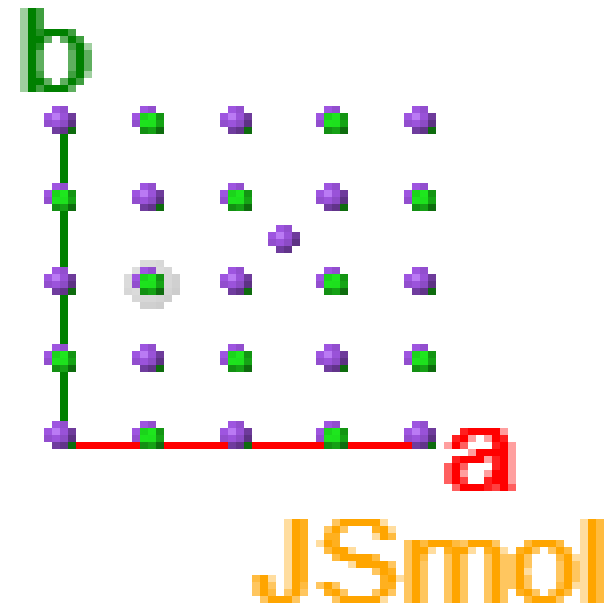
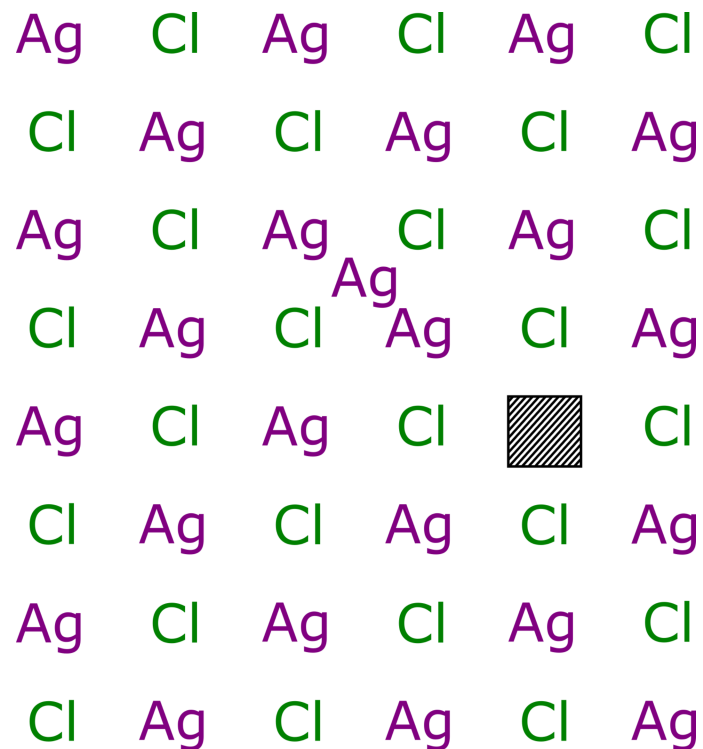
# Schottky defects

- Typically occur when anions and cations have similar size (e.g. NaCl structure)
- Reduced density compared with the ideal material
- e.g. NaCl - equal numbers of Na and Cl vacancies



# Frenkel defects

- Smaller ion normally displaced
- Only one ion type shows defect
- e.g. AgCl (NaCl-type)
  - Smaller  $\text{Ag}^+$  ion displaced to tetrahedral holes in CCP  $\text{Cl}^-$  structure



# Defect equations

Useful to write equation for defects, using **Kroger-Vink** notation:

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Useful to write equation for defects, using **Kroger-Vink** notation:

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- Charges shown relative to the ideal host site:
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- For example:
  - Na vacancy in NaCl:  $V_{\text{Na}}'$
  - Ag interstitial in AgCl:  $\text{Ag}_i^{\bullet}$

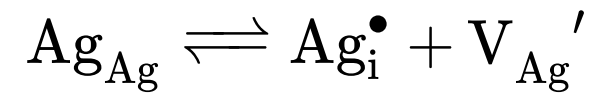
# Defect equations (2)

Defect equations must balance for:

- mass (atoms)
- charge
- sites
  - positions created/destroyed must balance

# Examples

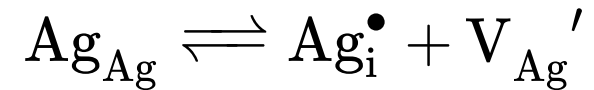
AgCl interstitial formation again:





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AgCl interstitial formation again:

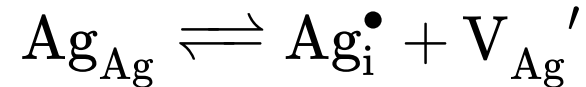


NaCl Schottky formation:



# Examples

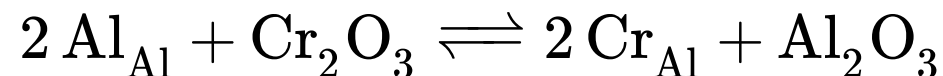
AgCl interstitial formation again:



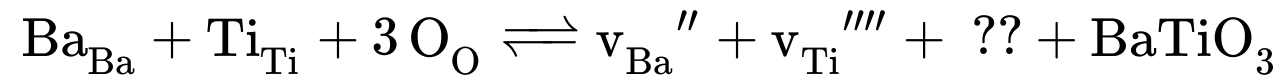
NaCl Schottky formation:



Easily extended to substitutions, e.g. substituting  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  with  $\text{Cr}^{3+}$  in  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  (ruby):



# Quick test - BaTiO<sub>3</sub> Schottky Formation



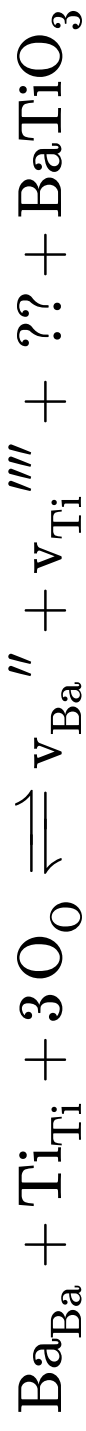
What is missing?

$3 v_{\text{O}}^{\bullet\bullet}$  ☐ A

$3 \text{O}_{\text{i}}''$  ☐ B

$3 \text{O}_{\text{O}}^{\text{x}}$  ☐ C

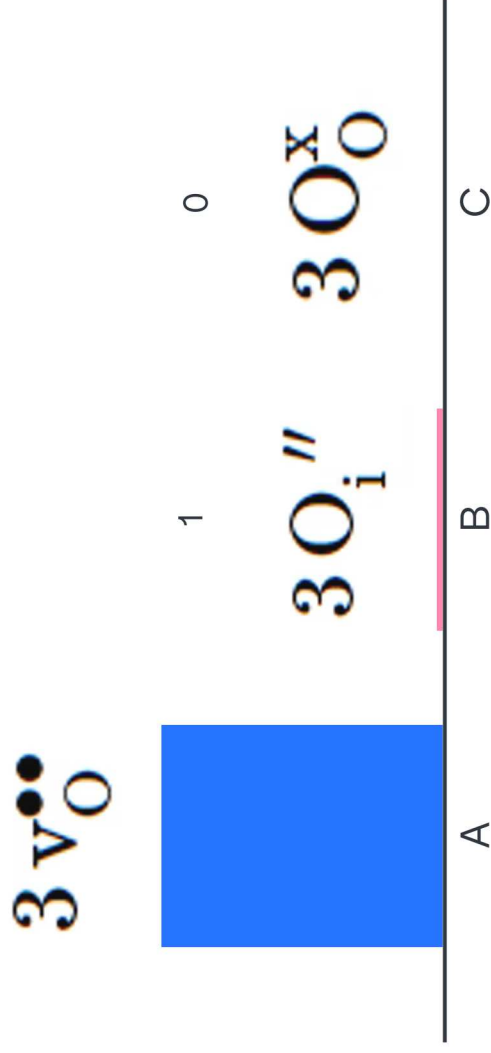
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Go to [www.menti.com](https://www.menti.com) and use the code \*

# What is missing?

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# Ionic Substitution

- Ions of similar size can often replace each other

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- While an integer number are substituted across a crystal, the average can be non-stoichiometric
  - often represented by a variable such as  $x$ :
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- Substitution can dramatically affect properties:
  - e.g.  $\text{La}_{2-x}\text{Sr}_x\text{CuO}_4$ :
    - semiconducting for  $x = 0$
    - superconducting (below 40 K) for  $x = 0.15$

# Extrinsic defects

Substitution can also drive formation of defects, e.g. doping NaCl with  $\text{CaCl}_2$ :

Overall synthesis reaction:





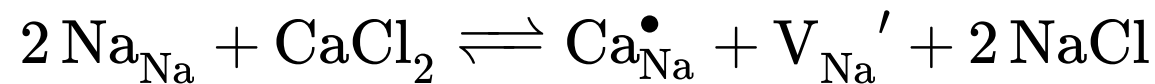
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Overall synthesis reaction:



Kroger-Vink notation:



## More complex example

Sometimes, substitution (or 'doping') can give rise to multiple potential defects.

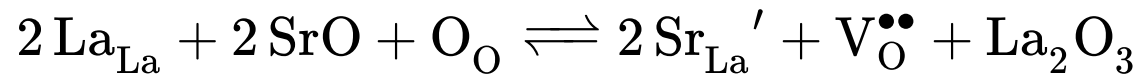
For example, replacing  $\text{La}^{3+}$  by  $\text{Sr}^{2+}$  in  $\text{LaCoO}_3$  could occur:

## More complex example

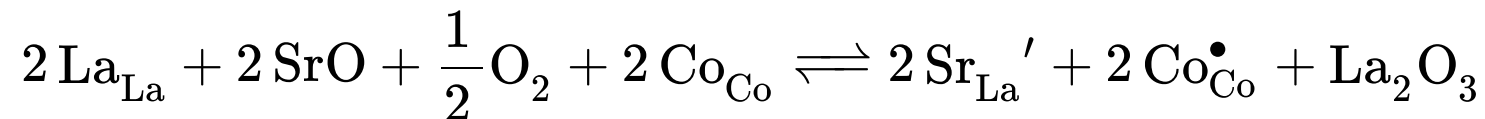
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For example, replacing  $\text{La}^{3+}$  by  $\text{Sr}^{2+}$  in  $\text{LaCoO}_3$  could occur:

- by creating oxygen vacancies;



- or by oxidising  $\text{Co}^{3+}$  to  $\text{Co}^{4+}$



# Quiz 2 - Extrinsic defects

At high pressure, oxygen vacancies in  $\text{Mg}_2\text{SiO}_4$  can react with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  to form new defects.

 **Mentimeter**

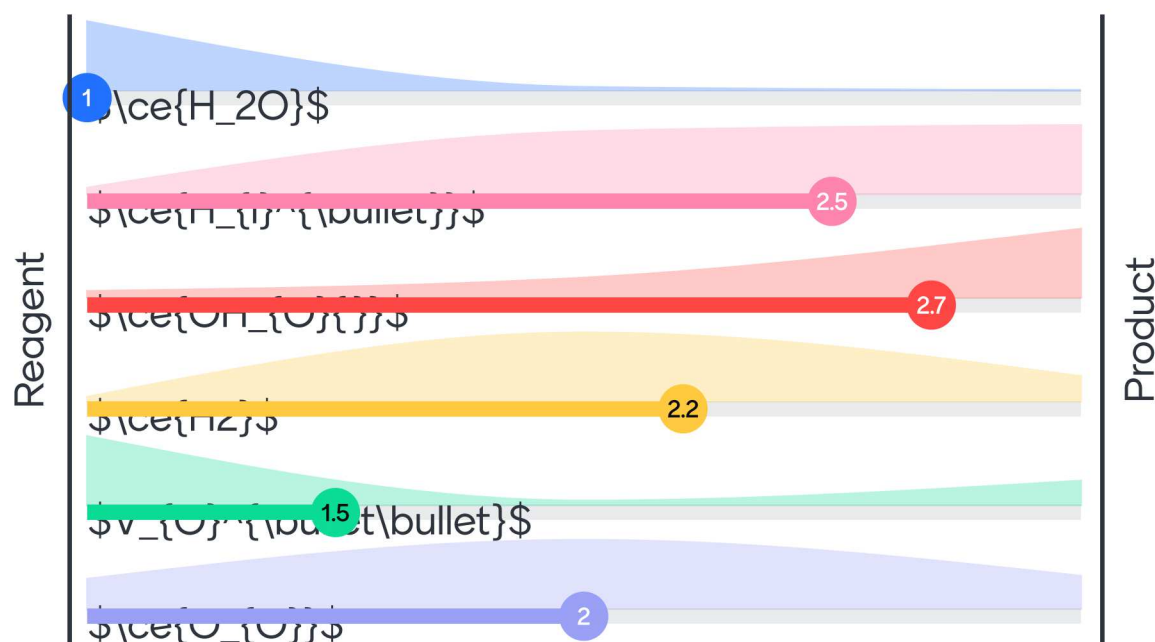
Assign these as reagents / products / not used

$\text{H}_2\text{O}$		Skip
1	1 Reagent	3
Reagent		Product
$\text{H}_i^\bullet$		Skip
1	1 Reagent	3
Reagent		Product
$\text{OH}_\text{O}'$		Skip
1	1 Reagent	3

# Results - Extrinsic defects

Go to [www.menti.com](https://www.menti.com) and use the code ✨

Assign these as reagents / products / not used



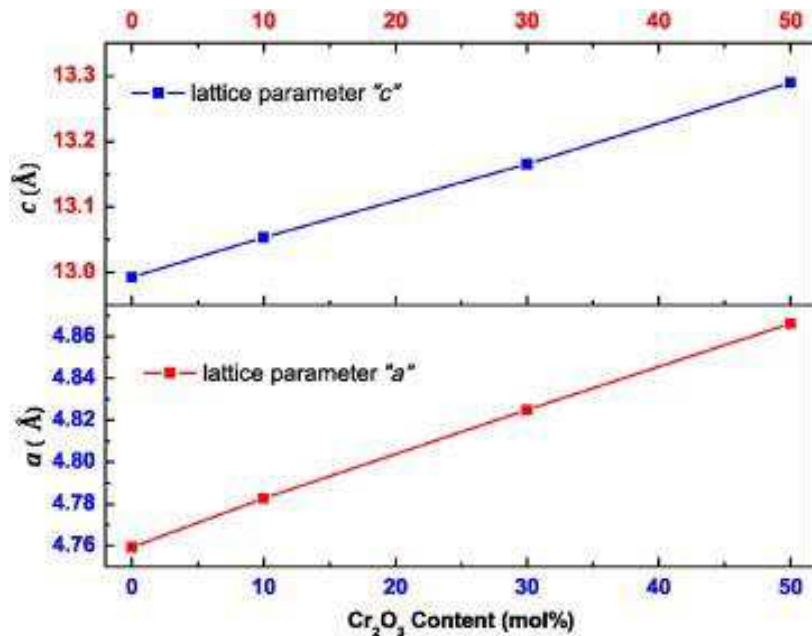
44



# Solid solutions

Frequently, substitutional defect concentrations can exceed 1%

- known as a 'solid solution'
- Very important for tuning properties *via* synthesis
- Often useful to think of the "average ion" properties at each site
  - e.g. ionic radius, resulting in *Vegard's Law*
    - Lattice parameter is weighted average of the end-members, e.g.  $\text{Al}_{2-x}\text{Cr}_x\text{O}_3$ :



# Non-stoichiometry

Some materials are naturally non-stoichiometric even without extrinsic defects

- Very common in transition metal compounds
  - multiple oxidation states available
- Example: FeO (wustite, NaCl structure) cannot actually form stoichiometrically at ambient pressure
  - Actually  $\text{Fe}_{1-x}\text{O}$ , with  $0.05 \leq x \leq 0.15$

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**N.B. From cation:anion ratio alone you cannot determine the defect types**

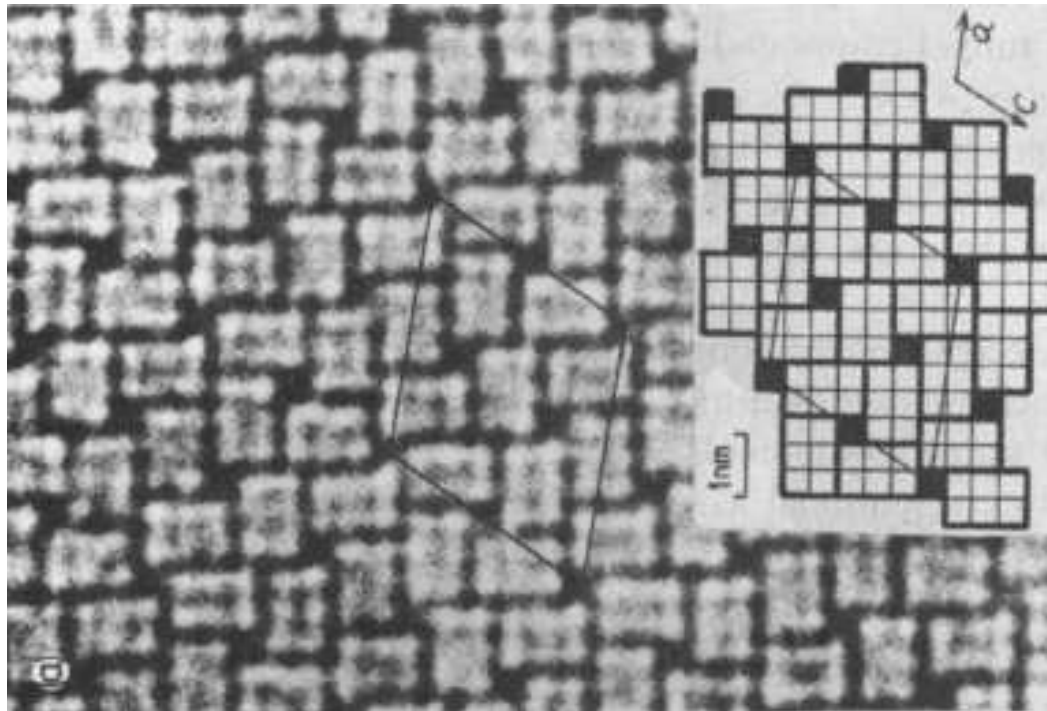
e.g. Fe:O ratio of 0.9 could equally be  $\text{Fe}_{0.9}\text{O}$  or  $\text{FeO}_{1.11}$ !



# Defect ordering

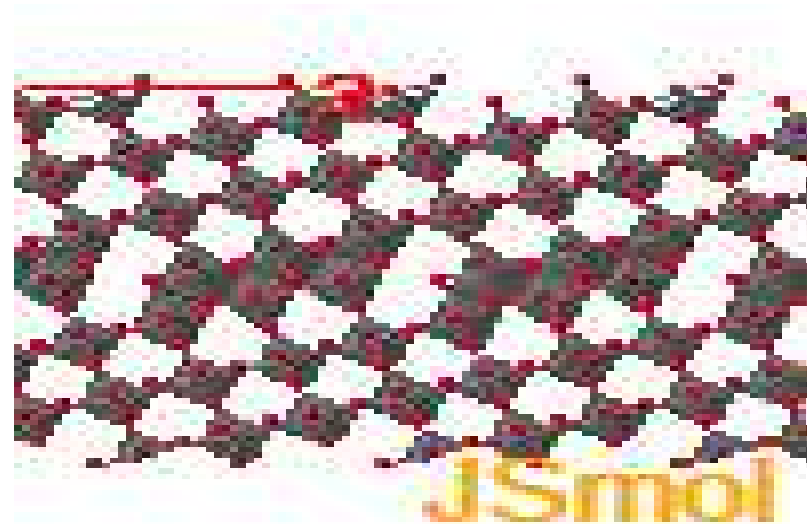
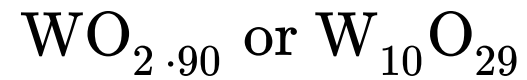
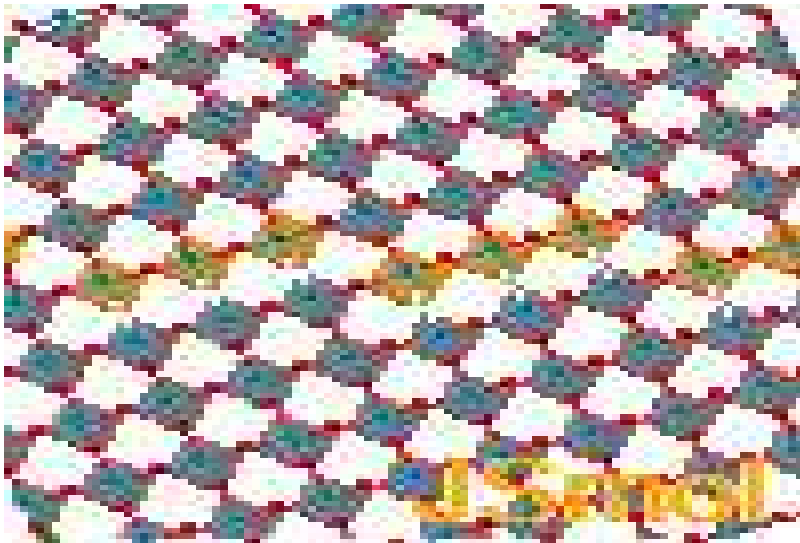
- At large defect concentrations, defects can interact
  - minimises enthalpy
- Can occur as
  - clusters ('0D')
  - lines ('1D')
  - planes ('2D')

Often seen in microscopy, e.g.  $\text{ZrNb}_{24}\text{O}_{62}$  shows 2D order in two directions:



# Example - $\text{WO}_3$

Plane-like defects often described as shear phases



# Lecture recap

- Crystals are never perfect!
  - defects favoured at higher temperature
- Three main types of defect:
  - vacancy (called Schottky if stoichiometry maintained)
  - interstitial (called Frenkel if stoichiometry maintained)
  - substitution
- Kroger-Vink notation is a way to write defect equations
- Some materials can form solid solutions and/or non-stoichiometric compositions
- If defects order, this can lead to new stoichiometric structure types

# Feedback



**What did you like or dislike about this lecture?**

Short answers are recommended. You have 250 characters left.

250

You can submit multiple answers

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