

Example calculation for BCC Fe

- Problem: Calculate the typical times of the different stages of C_v and C_i for BCC Fe using the following parameters:

293K neutron irradiation

Lattice parameter (a_0) of 2.82 Å

Dislocation density (ρ_d) of 10^8 cm^{-2}

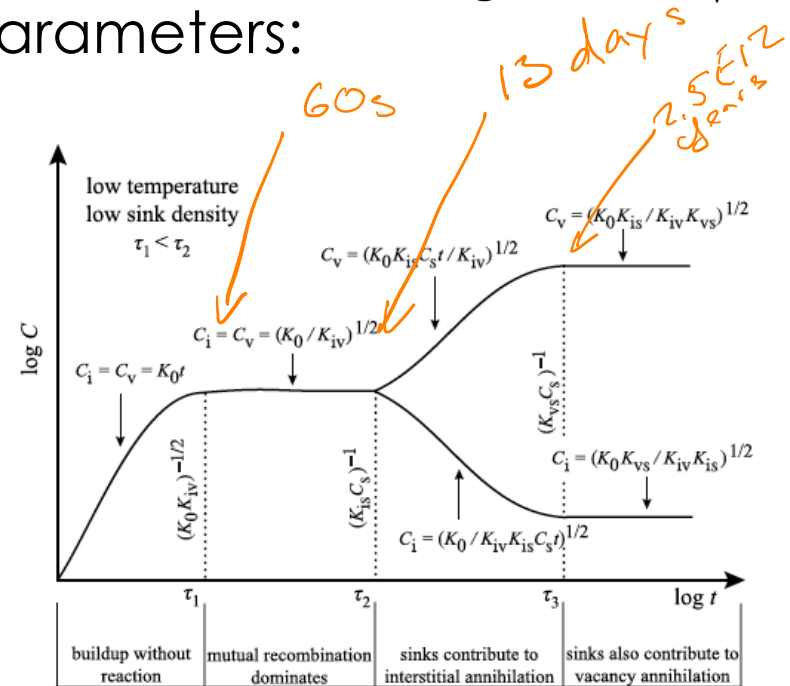
Interstitial migration energy (E_m^i) of 0.65 eV

Vacancy migration energy (E_m^v) of 1.5 eV

Capture radius (r_{iv}) of $10a_0$

Displacement rate (K_0) of 10^{-7} dpa/s

Vibration frequency (ν) of 10^{13} Hz



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 - Step 1: Calculate the recombination constant:

And the recombination rate constant is:

$$K_{iv} = P_{iv} v e^{-\frac{E_m^i}{kT}} = 200 \times 10^{13} \times e^{-\frac{0.65}{(293 \times 8.62 \times 10^{-5})}} \\ = 1.33 \times 10^4 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

- Now calculate the time for recombination to become significant

Thus the time for recombination to become significant is:

$$\tau_1 = \sqrt{\frac{1}{K_{iv} k}} = \tau_1 = \sqrt{\frac{1}{1.33 \times 10^4 \times 10^{-7}}} = 27.4 \text{ s}$$

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For bcc Fe, $Z=8$ and the elemental jump distance is equal to:

$$\frac{a_0}{2}\sqrt{3} = 2.44\text{\AA}$$

This means that the diffusion coefficient for interstitial is:

$$D_i = \frac{1}{6}a^2\nu Z e^{-\frac{E_m^i}{kT}} = \frac{8}{6} \times (2.44 \times 10^{-8})^2 \times 10^{13} \times e^{-\frac{0.65}{(293 \times 8.62 \times 10^{-5})}} = 5.3 \times 10^{-14} \text{cm}^2/\text{s}$$

And the diffusion coefficient for vacancies is:

$$D_v = \frac{1}{6}a^2\nu Z e^{-\frac{E_m^i}{kT}} = \frac{8}{6} \times (2.44 \times 10^{-8})^2 \times 10^{13} \times e^{-\frac{1.5}{(293 \times 8.62 \times 10^{-5})}} = 1.27 \times 10^{-28} \text{cm}^2/\text{s}$$

The time for interstitials to arrive at sinks is:

$$\tau_2 = \frac{1}{\rho_d Z_i D_i} = \frac{1}{10^8 \times 1.02 \times 5.3 \times 10^{-14}} = 1.86 \times 10^5 \text{s} = 51 \text{hrs}$$

The final steady state is reached when vacancies arrive at sinks:

$$\tau_3 = \frac{1}{\rho_d Z_v D_v} = \frac{1}{10^8 \times 1 \times 1.27 \times 10^{-28}} = 7.8 \times 10^{19} \text{s} = 2.48 \times 10^{12} \text{years!!!}$$