

# Materials Engineering

*Phase transformation*  
*Phase diagrams*

# Phase Transformation

## Why is it important for us?

- Temperature, chemical composition and pressure can change the properties of materials
- Understanding what happens during heat treating processes
- Understanding the development of the microstructure

# Phase Transformation

## Today's topics

- Terminology of phase diagrams and phase transformations
- Thermodynamics of phase transformations
- Phase diagrams

# Phase Transformation

## Terminology

### **Component:**

Pure metals and/or compounds of which an alloy is composed.  
e.g. in a copper–zinc brass, the components are Cu and Zn

### **System:**

Series of possible alloys consisting of the same components,  
but without regard to alloy composition

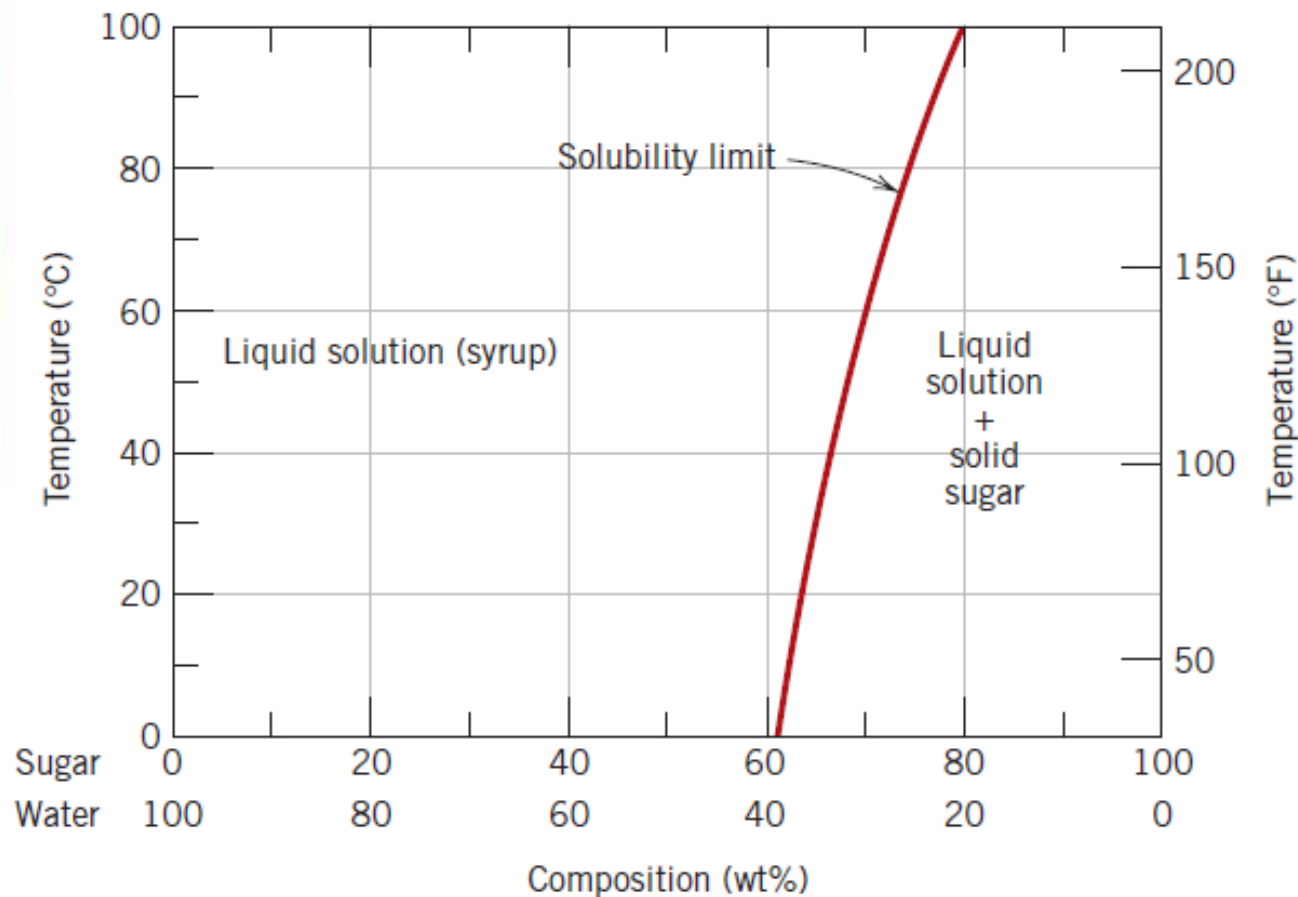
### **Solid solution**

consists at least two different types of atoms  
the solute atoms occupy either *substitutional* or *interstitial* positions  
in the solvent lattice

# Phase Transformation

## Solubility limit

A maximum concentration of solute atoms that may dissolve in the solvent to form a solid solution



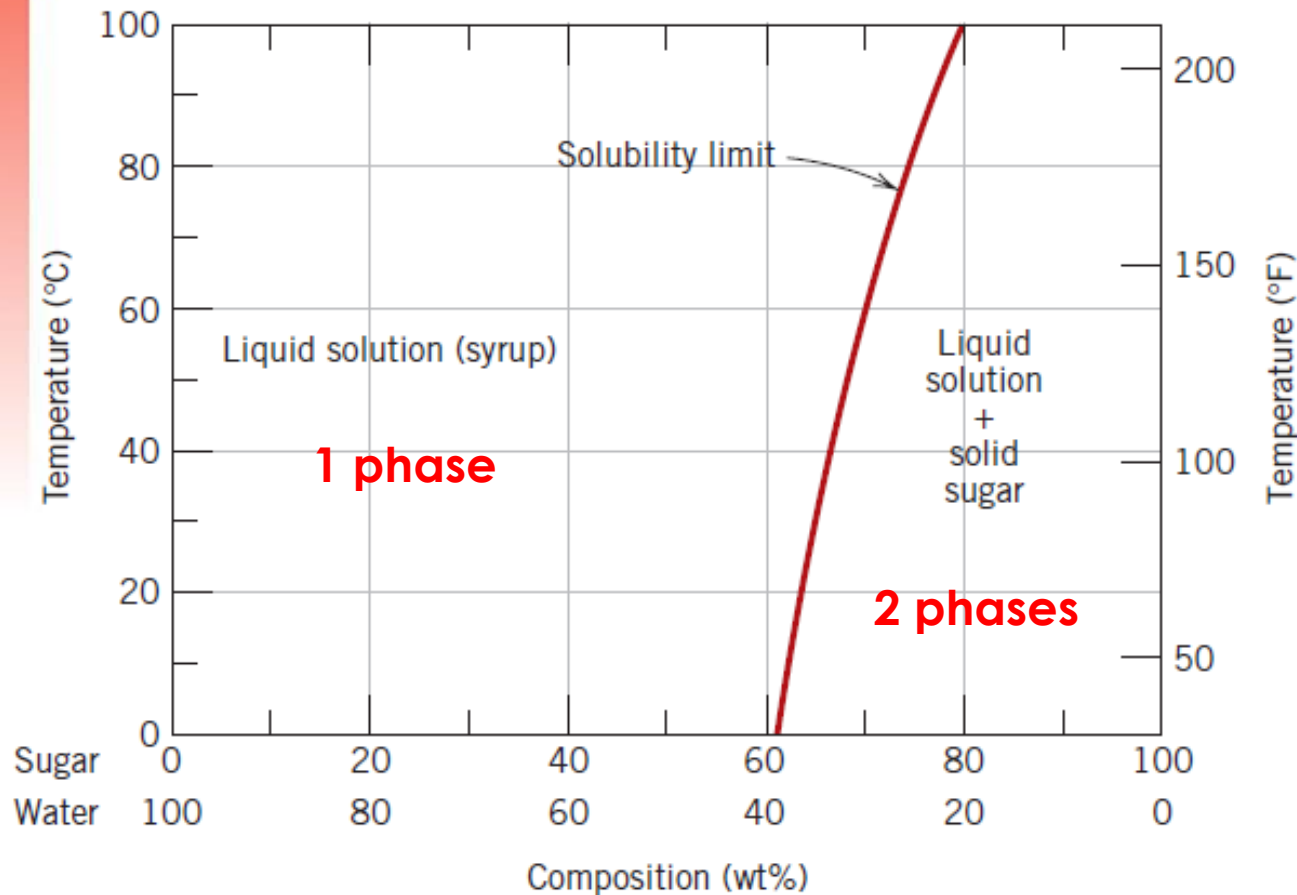
The solubility of sugar in a sugar–water syrup

*Figures from Callister, Mat. Sci. and Eng. An Introduction, 8th edition*

# Phase Transformation

## Phase

A homogeneous portion of a system that has uniform physical and chemical characteristics.



- Own distinct properties
- Chemical composition
  - State of matter (e.g. water+ice)
  - Crystal structure
  - ...

**Homogeneous system:**  
single-phase system

**Heterogeneous system:**  
two or more phases

# Phase Transformation

## Thermodynamics

**Internal energy  $U$ :** the energy needed to create the system

**Enthalpy  $(H=U+pV)$ :**  $U$  + energy required to make room for it by displacing its environment

**Entropy  $(S)$ :** expression of disorder or randomness, the energy not available for work

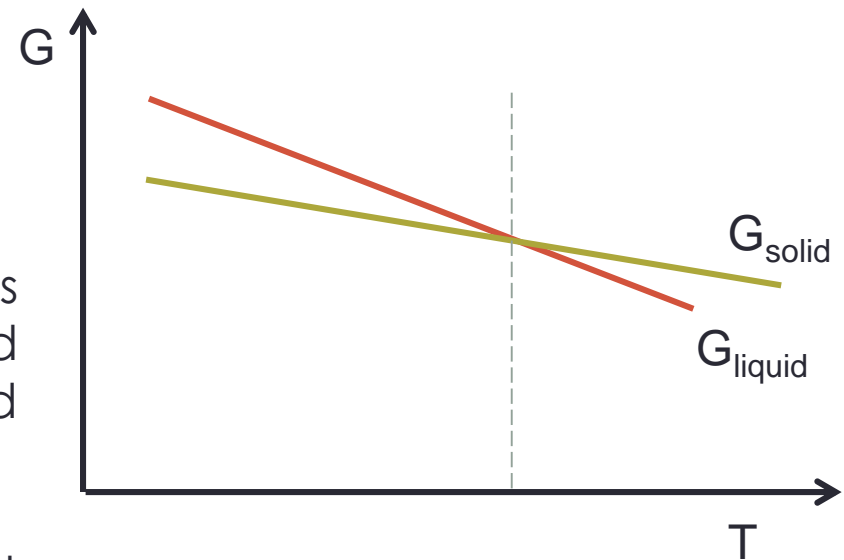
**Helmholtz free energy  $(F=U-TS)$**

**Gibbs free energy (free enthalpy)  $(G=H-TS)$**

## Equilibrium

A system is at equilibrium if its free energy is at a minimum under some specified combination of temperature, pressure, and composition.

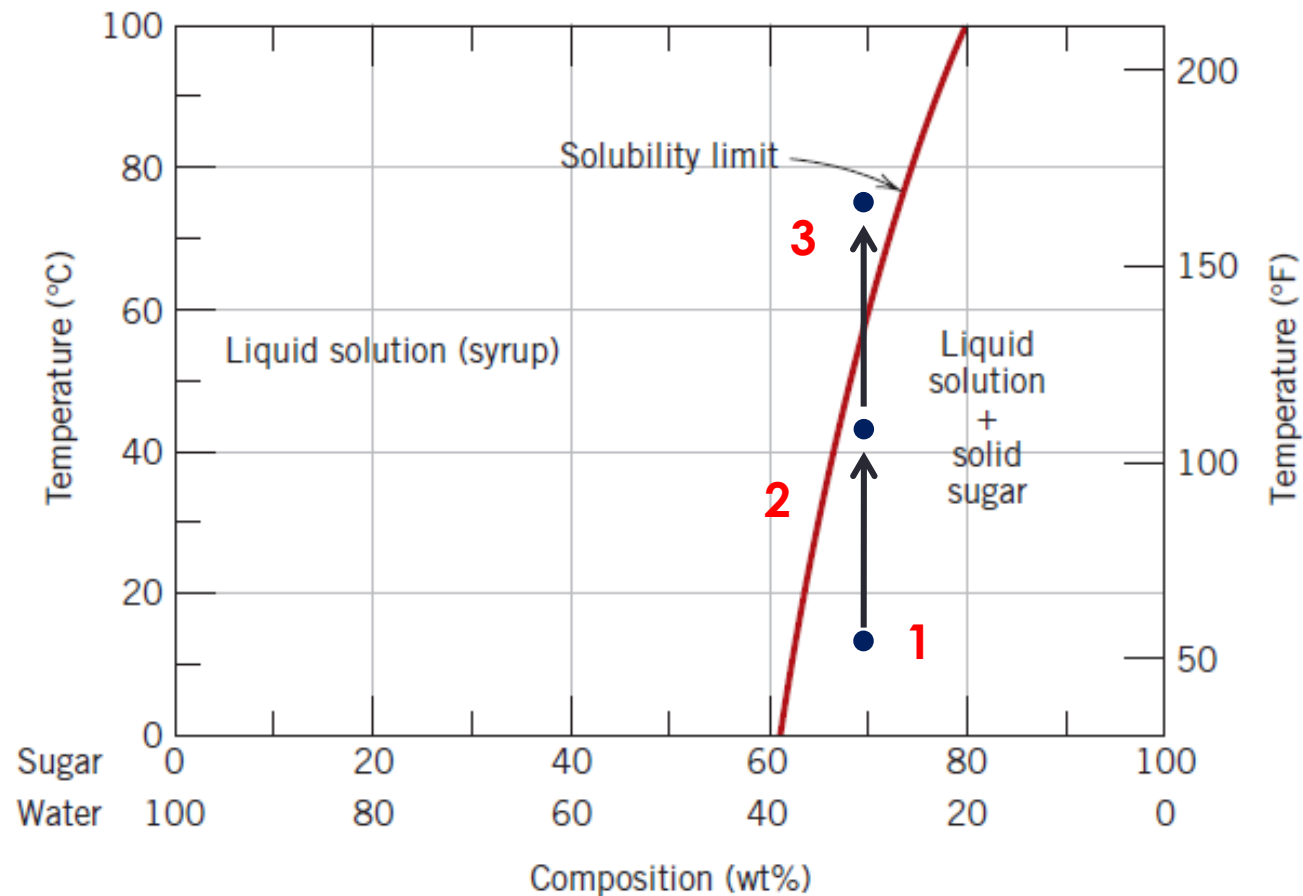
The characteristics of the system do not change with time.



# Phase Equilibrium

## Phase Equilibrium

In an equilibrium system the ratio of phases are constant.



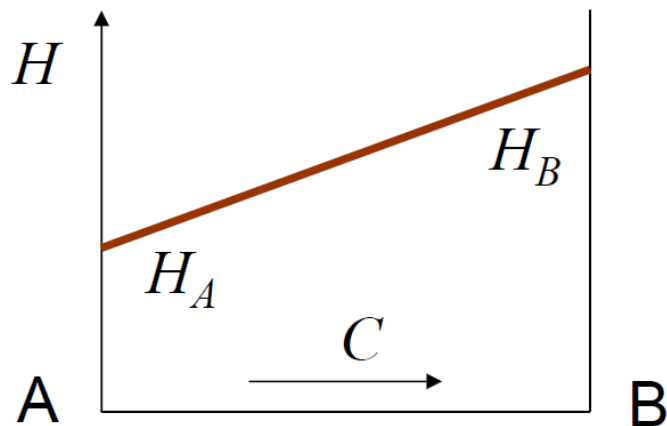


# Phase Equilibrium

## Equilibrium

### Two component system (A-B)

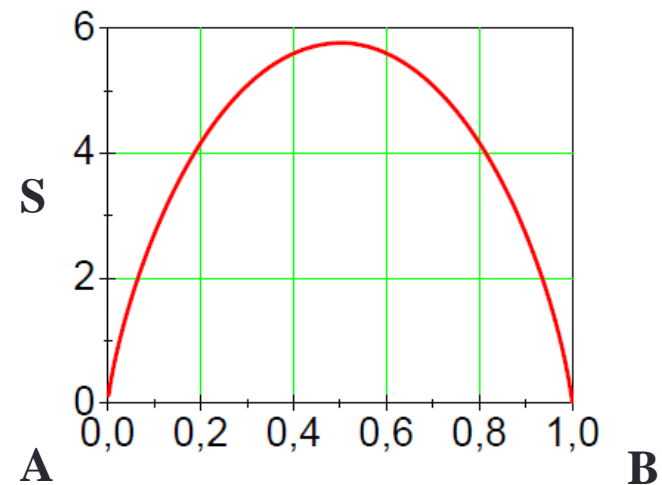
(ideal solution: exchanging any two atoms does not change the enthalpy)



## Entropy, $S$

disorder or randomness

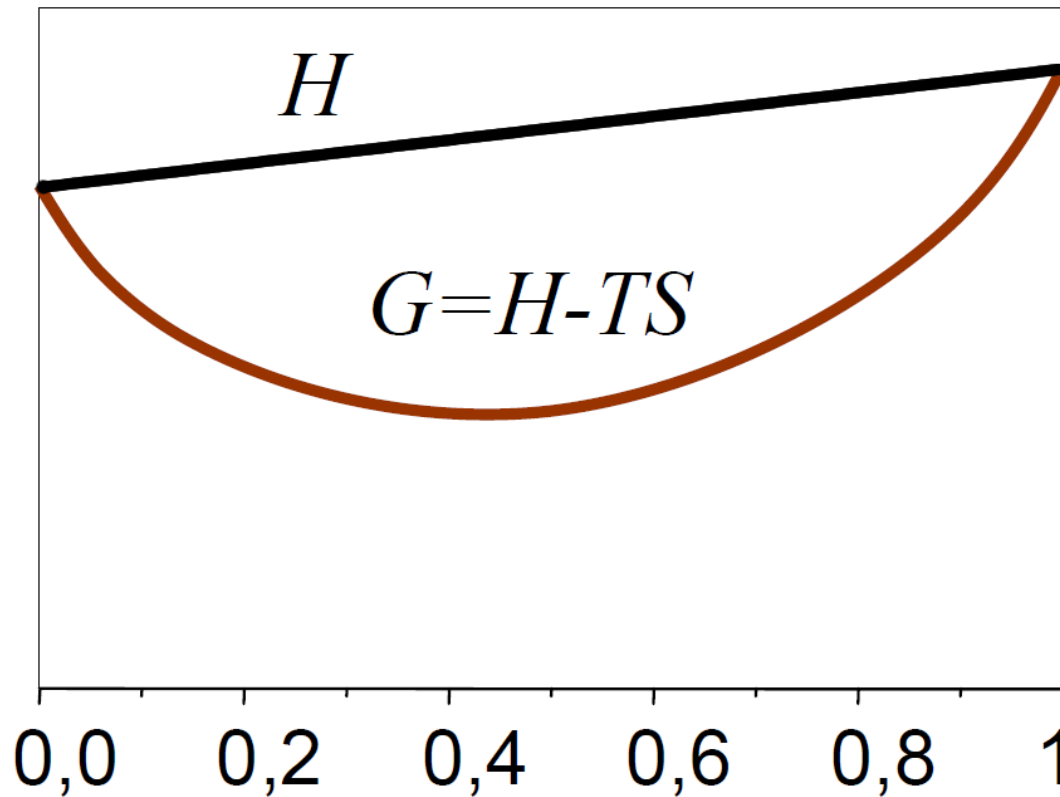
Processes reduce the state of order of the initial systems.



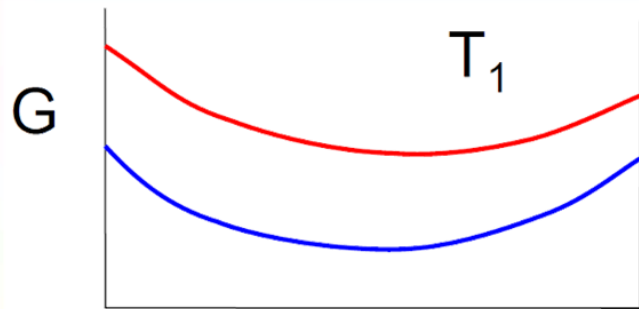
# Phase Equilibrium

## Equilibrium

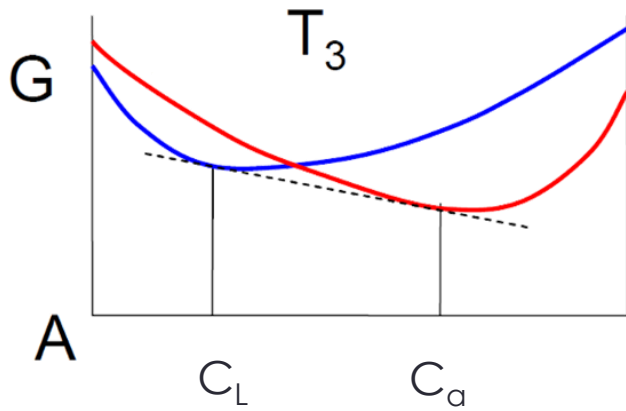
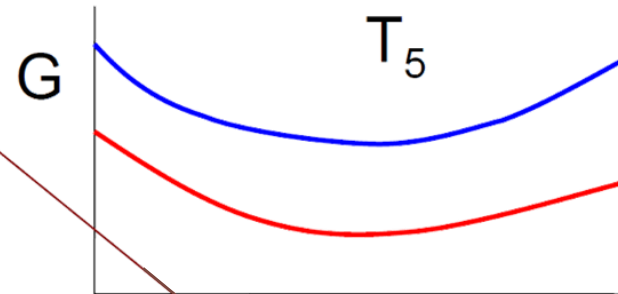
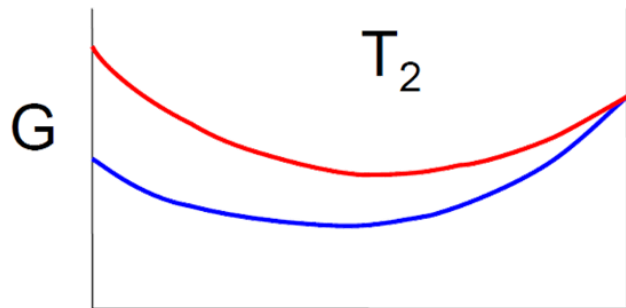
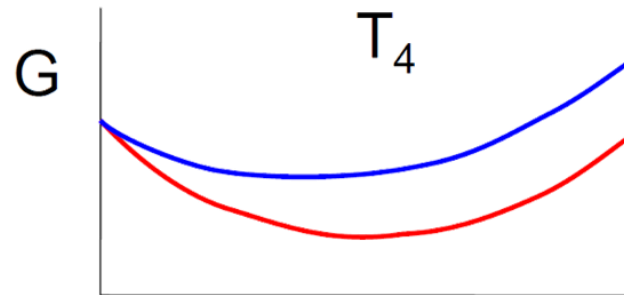
Two component system (A-B), ideal solution



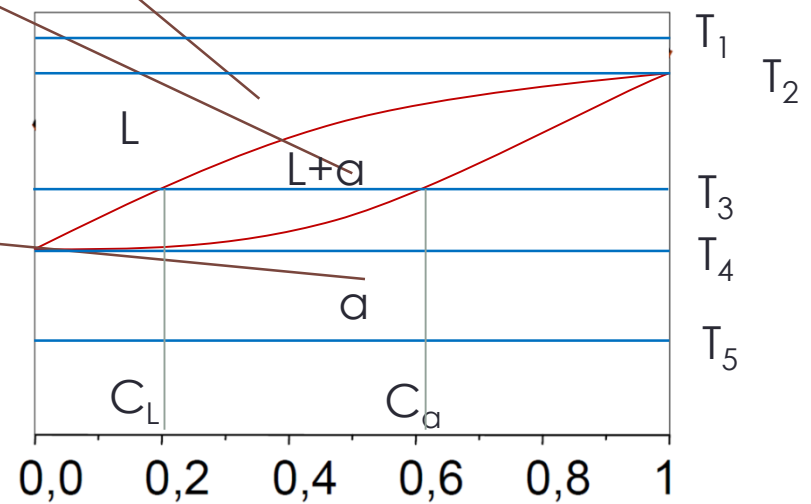
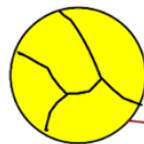
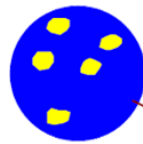
# Phase Equilibrium



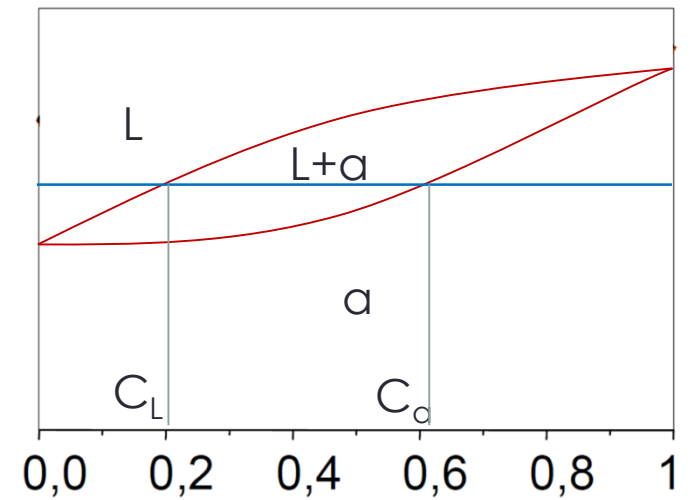
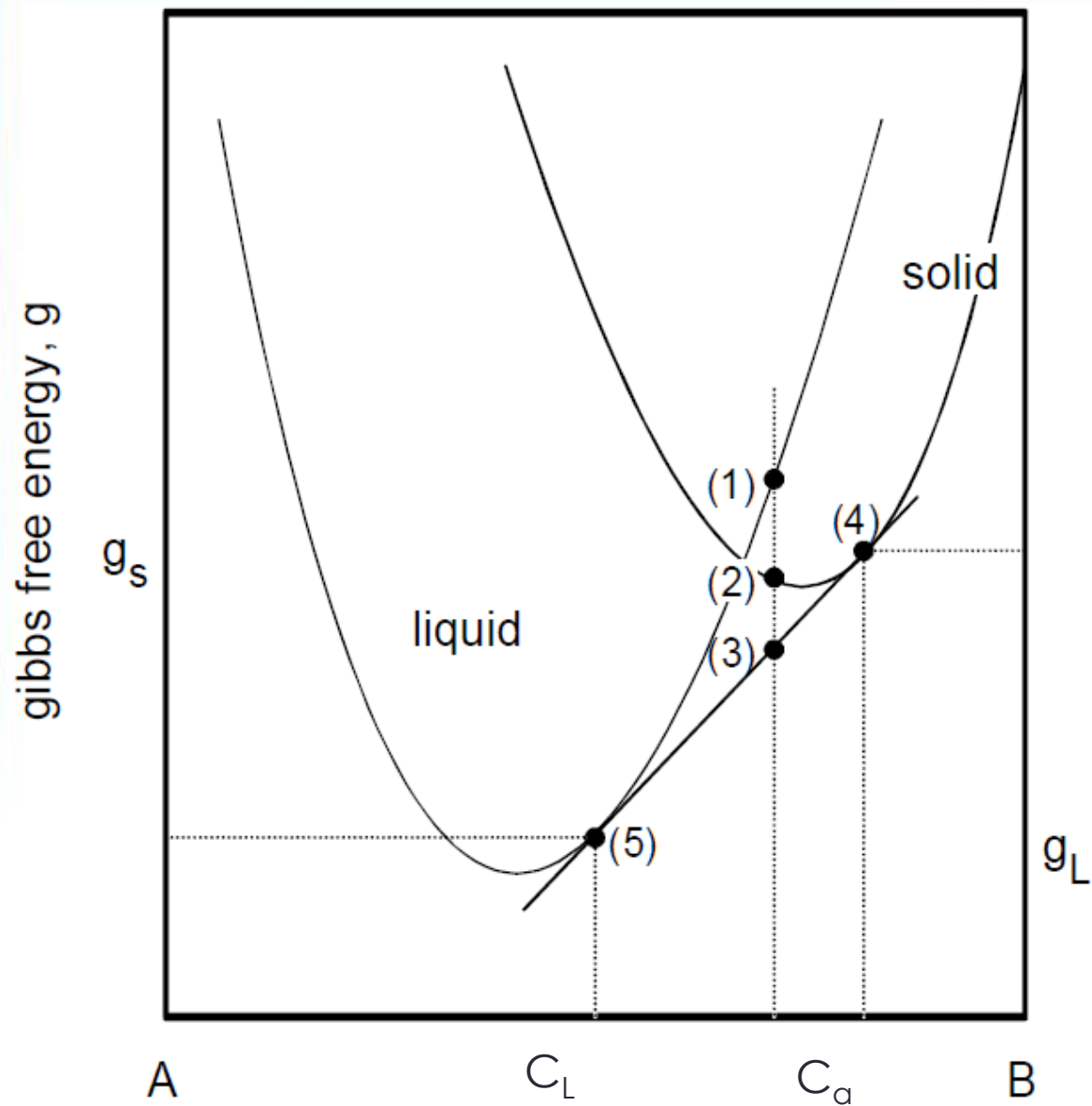
L liquid  
a phase



B



# Phase Equilibrium



# Phase Equilibrium

## Metastable state

Often the state of equilibrium is never completely achieved because the rate of approach to equilibrium is extremely slow.

→ *non-equilibrium or metastable state.*

Metastable state or microstructure may persist indefinitely  
(changes only extremely slight)

Often, metastable structures are of **more practical significance** than equilibrium ones.

# Phase Diagrams

## Phase or equilibrium diagram

Information about the phase structure of a particular system.

### Parameters

- Temperature
- Pressure
- Composition

### Informations

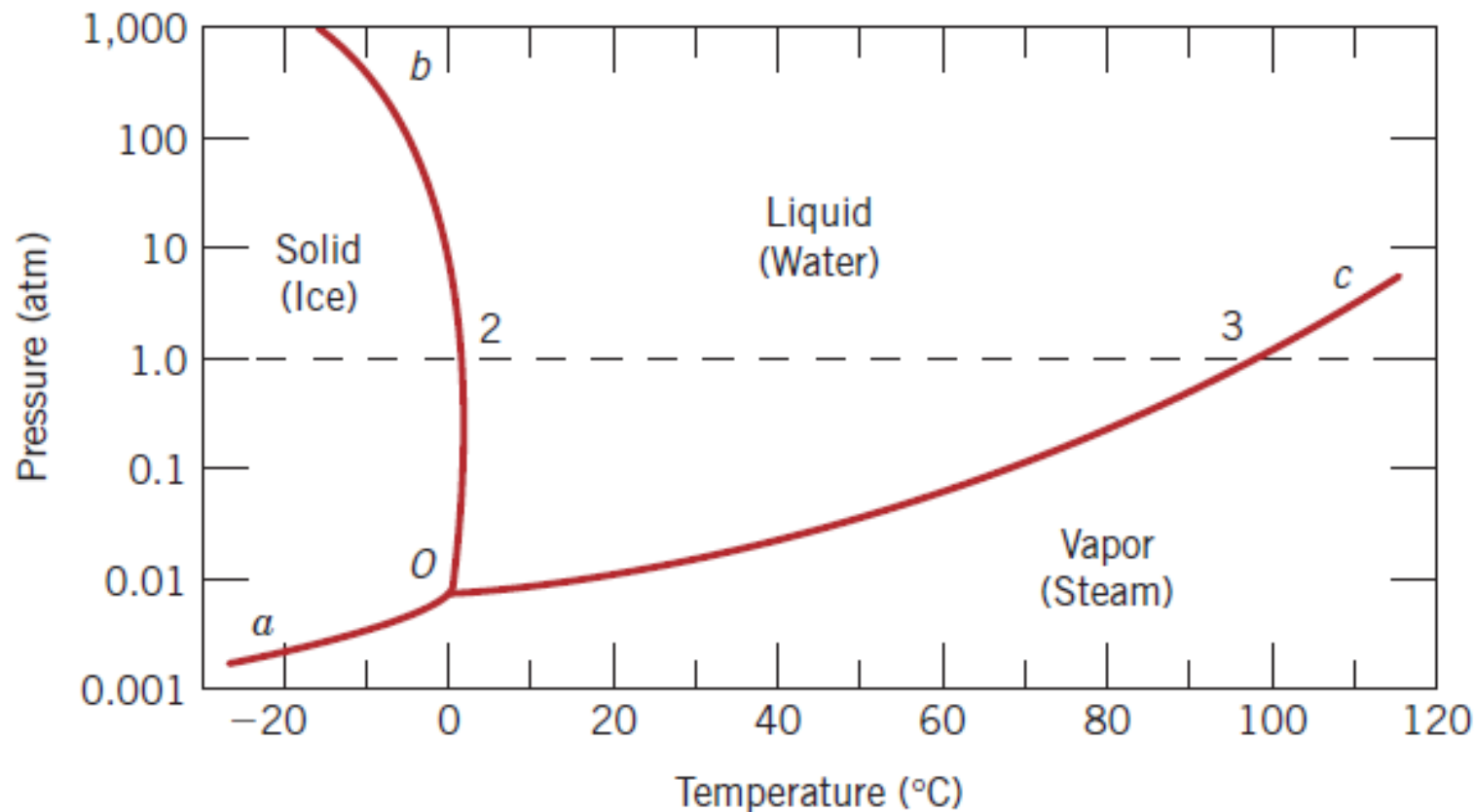
- State of the matter, crystal structure
- Phase composition
- Chemical composition of the phases

several different varieties  
(e.g. composition-Temperature, pressure-Temperature)

# Phase Diagrams

## One-component (or unary) phase diagram

Simplest, one-component system p-T phase diagram



*Note!  
phases at  
equilibrium*

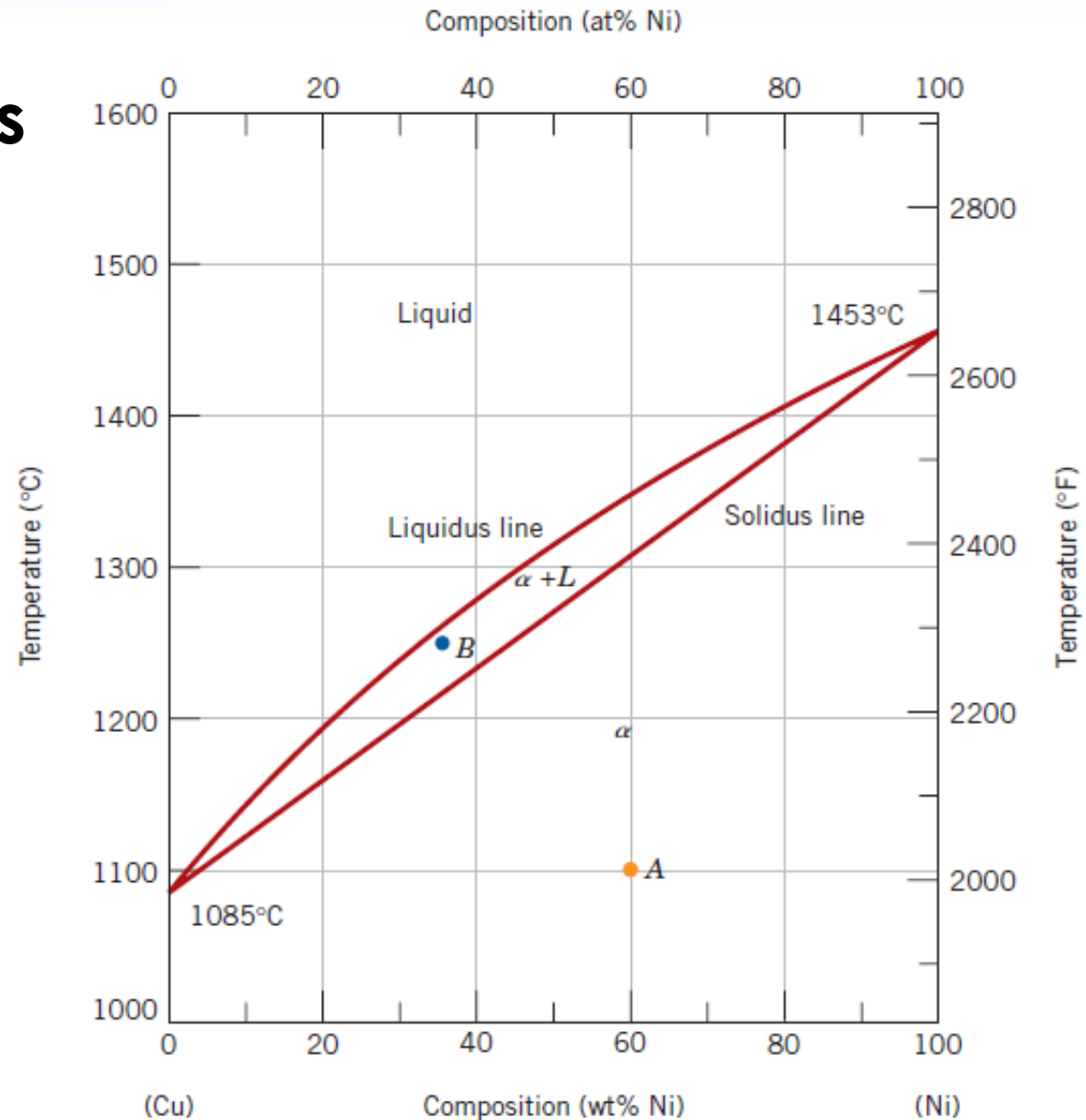
Pressure-temperature phase diagram for H<sub>2</sub>O.

# Phase Diagrams

## Binary phase diagrams

composition-Temperature

transition from one phase to another, or the appearance or disappearance of a phase.

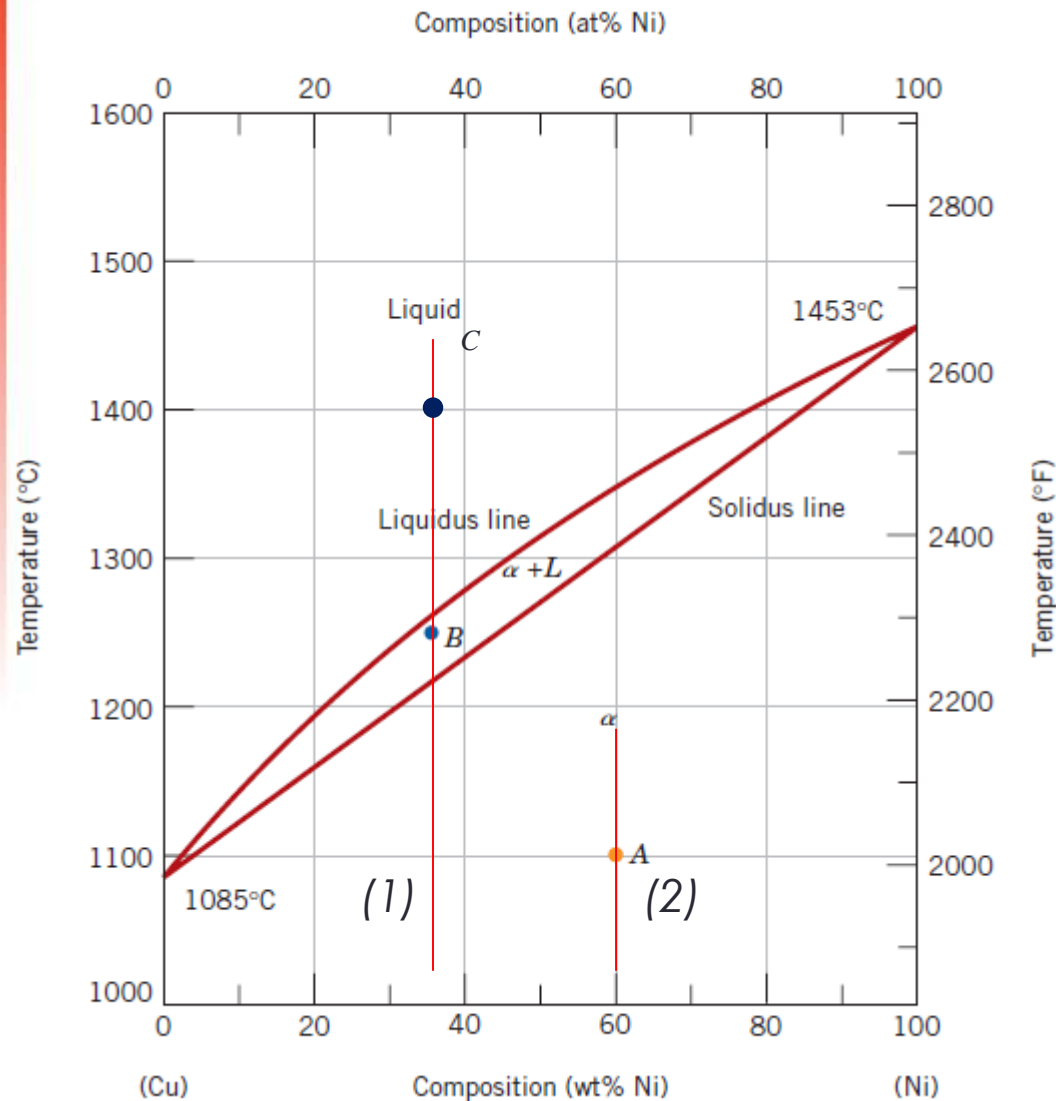


Copper-nickel phase diagram



# Phase Diagrams

## Copper–nickel phase diagram



### Alloy (2)

Point A:

$T=1100^{\circ}\text{C}$

1 phase:  $\alpha$ , solid sol. of Cu and Ni

$C_{\text{Ni}}=60\%$ ,  $C_{\text{Cu}}=40\%$

### Alloy (1)

Point C:

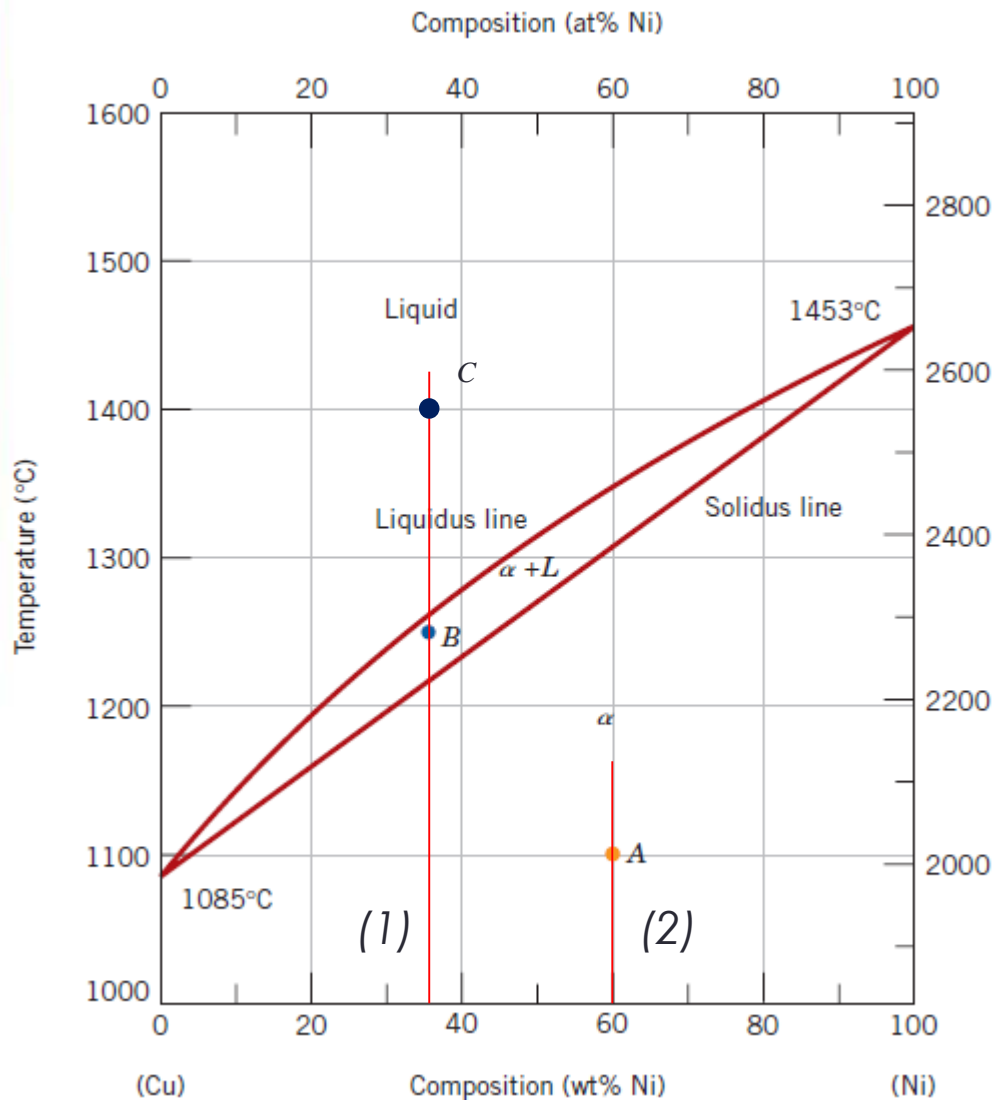
$T=1400^{\circ}\text{C}$

1 phase: L, liquid

$C_{\text{Ni}}=35\%$ ,  $C_{\text{Cu}}=65\%$

# Phase Diagrams

## Copper–nickel phase diagram



### Alloy (1)

Point B:

$T = 1250^{\circ}\text{C}$

2 phases:  $\alpha + L$ ,  
solid + liquid phase

Composition:

$C_{\text{Ni}} = 35\%$ ,  $C_{\text{Cu}} = 65\%$

Mass fraction of phases

$W_{\alpha} = ? \%$ ,  $W_L = ? \%$

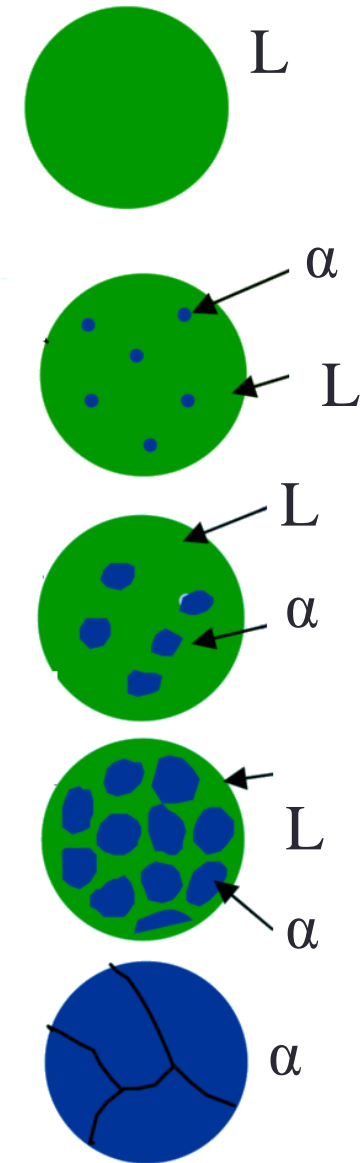
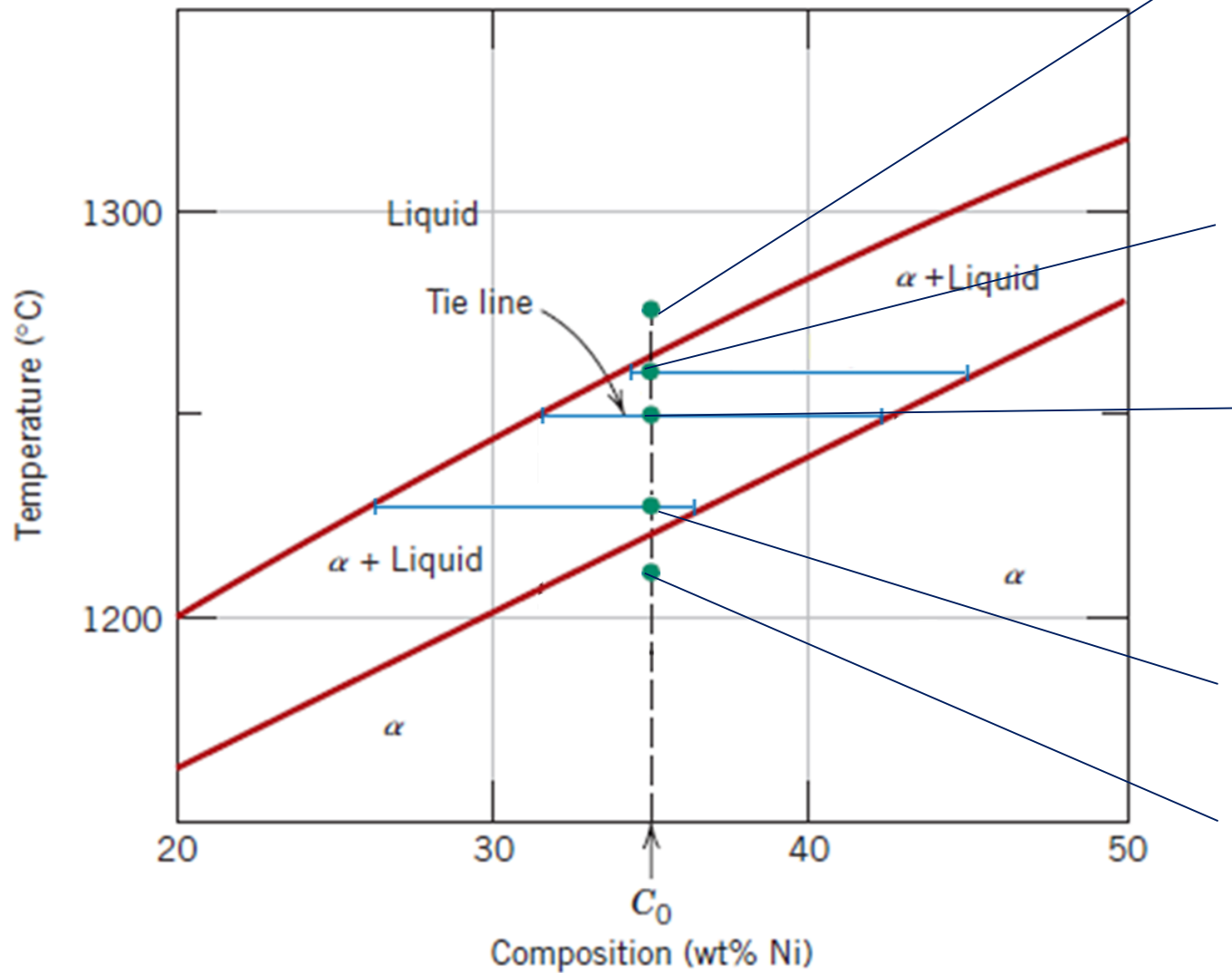
Composition of phases:

$\alpha$ :  $C_{\text{Ni}} = ? \%$ ,  $C_{\text{Cu}} = ? \%$

L:  $C_{\text{Ni}} = ? \%$ ,  $C_{\text{Cu}} = ? \%$

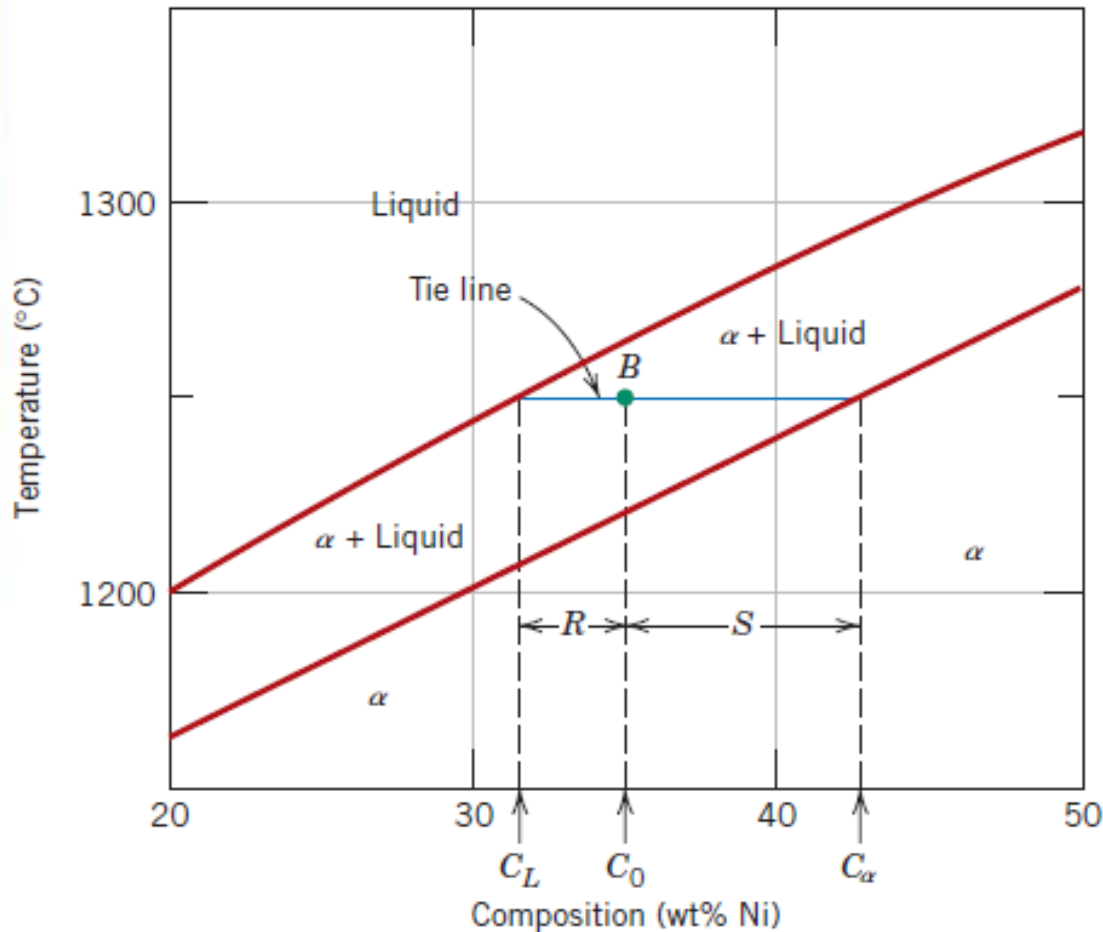
# Phase Diagrams

## Copper–nickel phase diagram

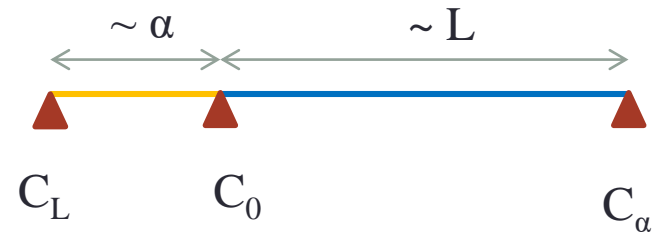


# Phase Diagrams

## Copper–nickel phase diagram



### Lever rule



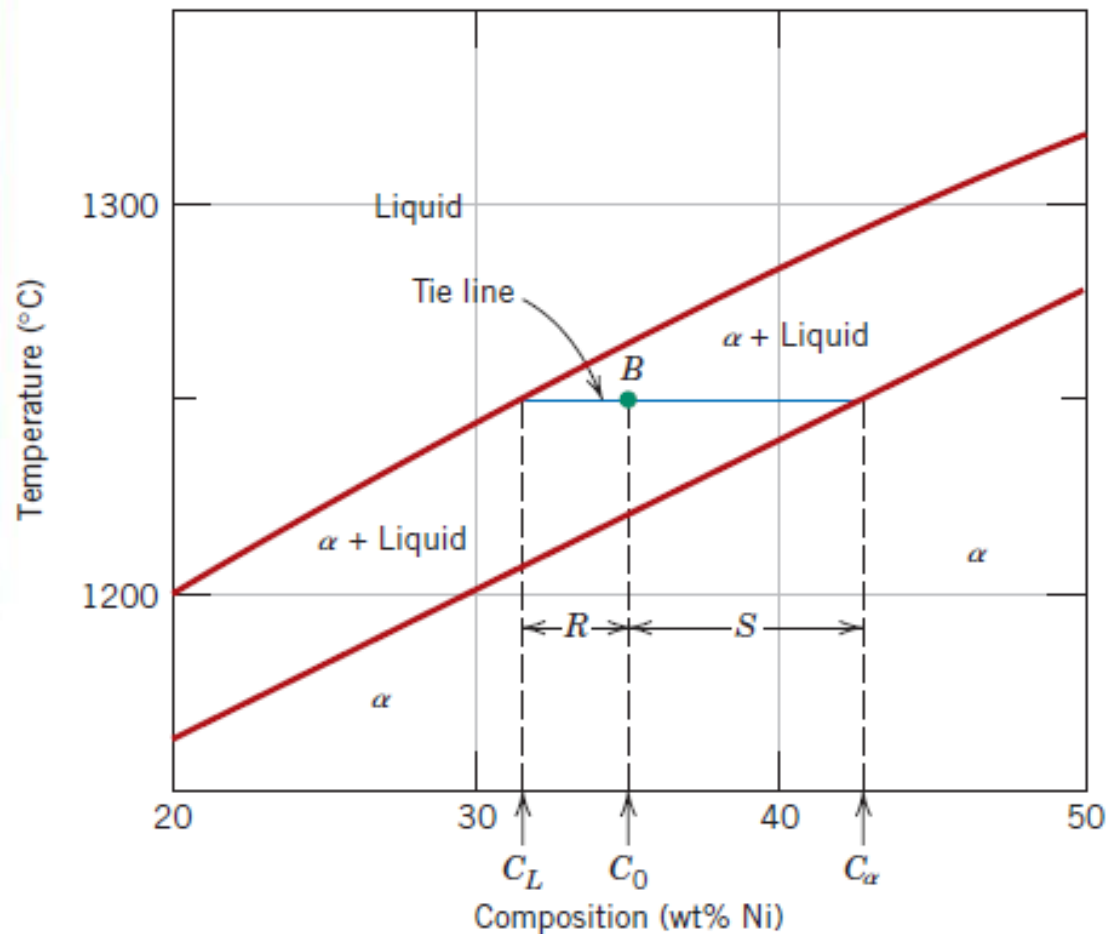
Mass fraction of phases

$$W_\alpha = \frac{C_0 - C_L}{C_\alpha - C_L}$$

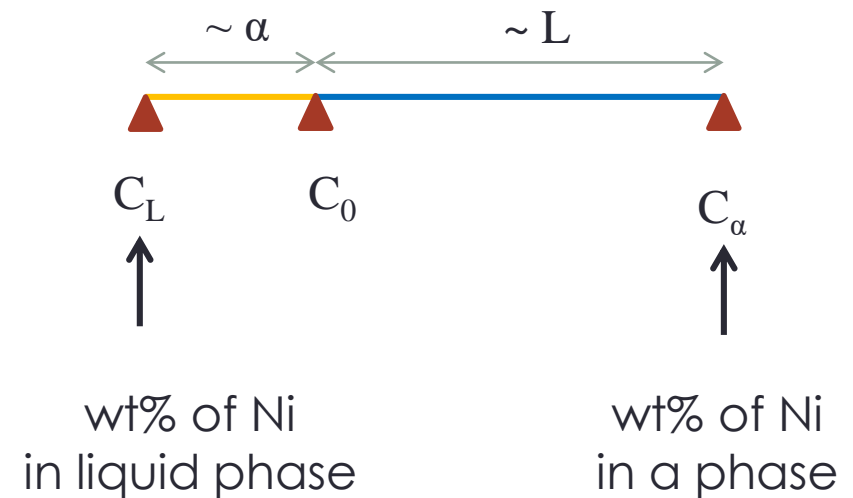
$$W_L = \frac{C_\alpha - C_0}{C_\alpha - C_L}$$

# Phase Diagrams

## Copper–nickel phase diagram



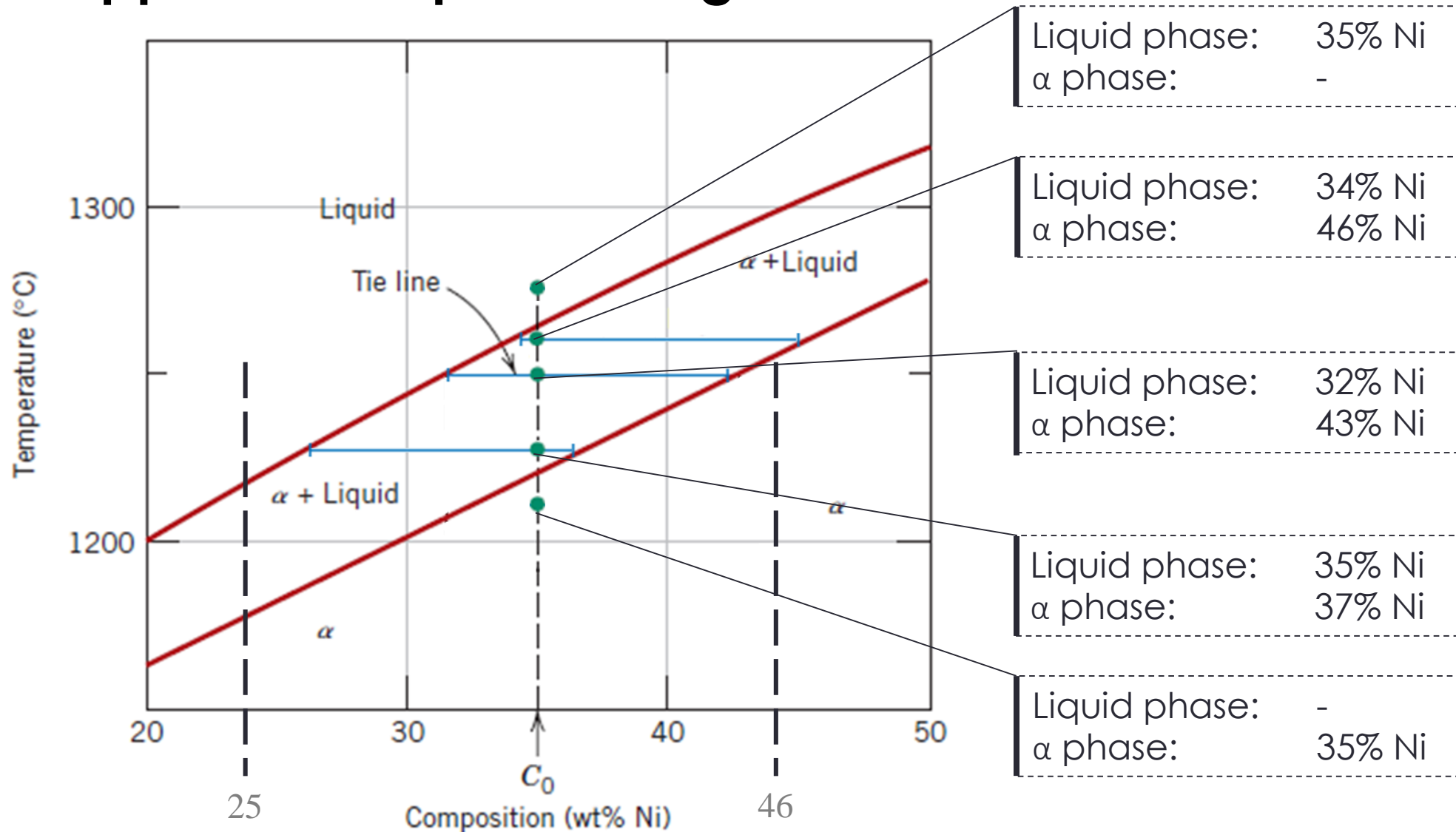
### Composition of phases



The chemical composition of the phases is changing with the temperature change.

# Phase Diagrams

## Copper–nickel phase diagram

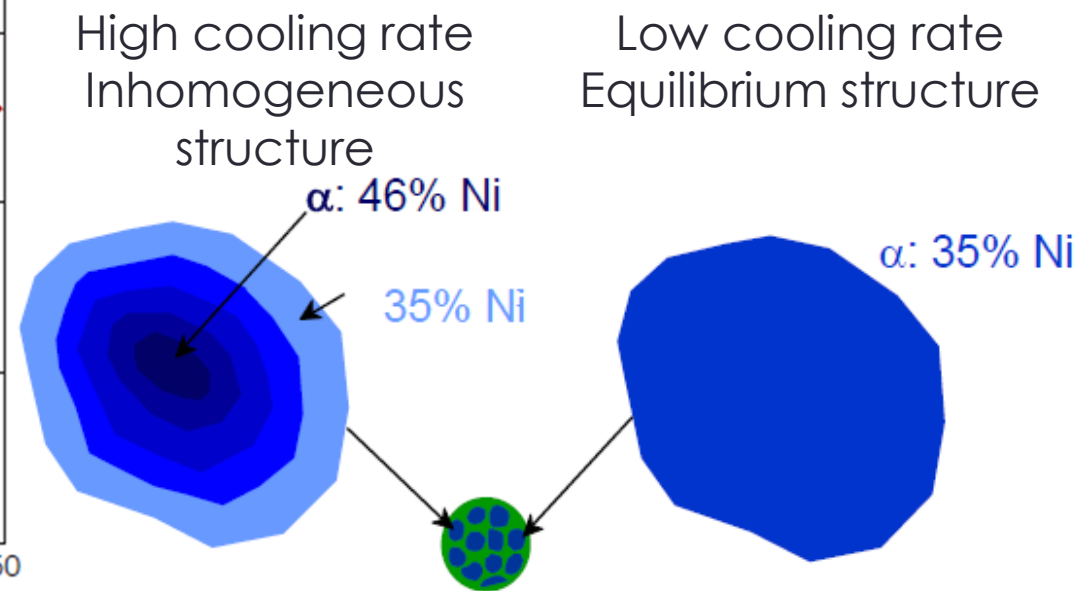
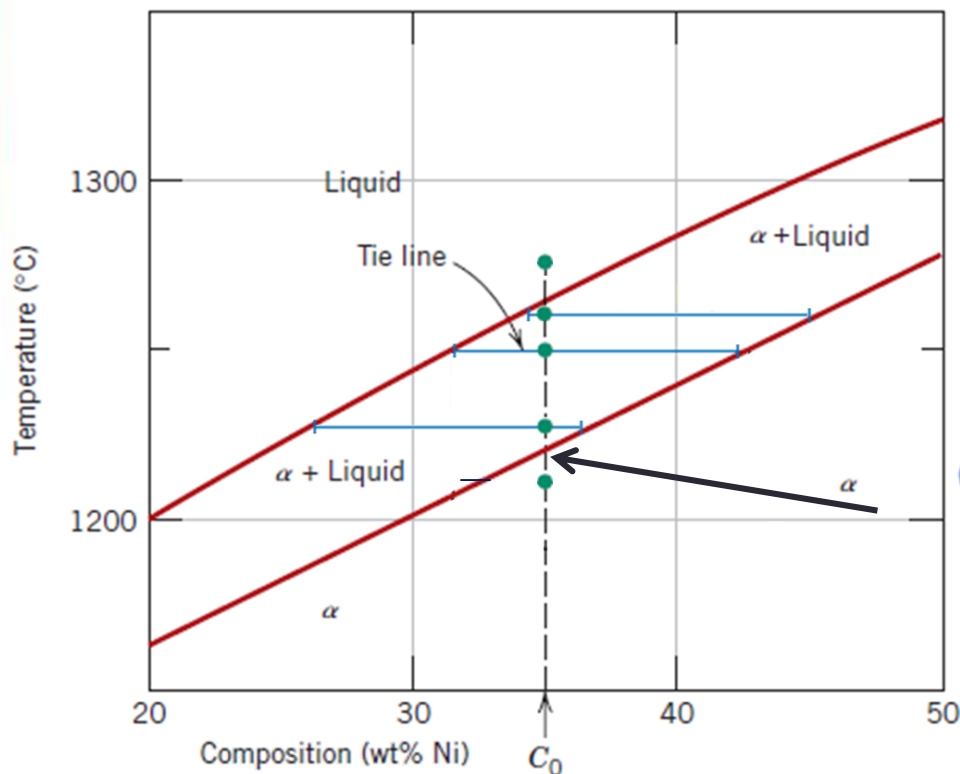


# Phase Diagrams

## Inhomogeneous and equilibrium phase

Equilibrium solidification:

- only for extremely slow cooling rates.
- diffusional processes (diffusion rates are lower for lower temperatures and for solid phases)



# Phase Diagrams

Inhomogeneous and equilibrium phase

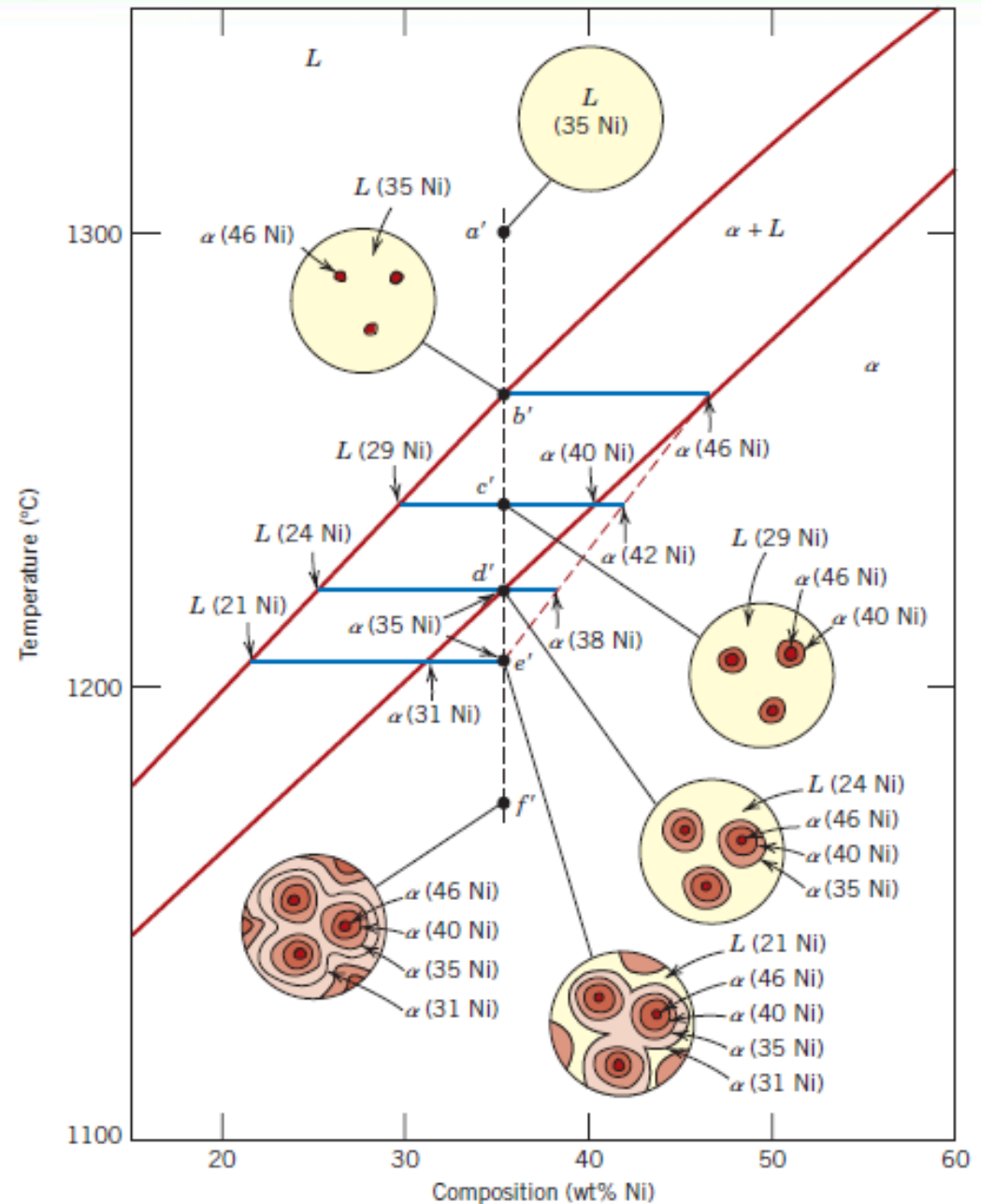
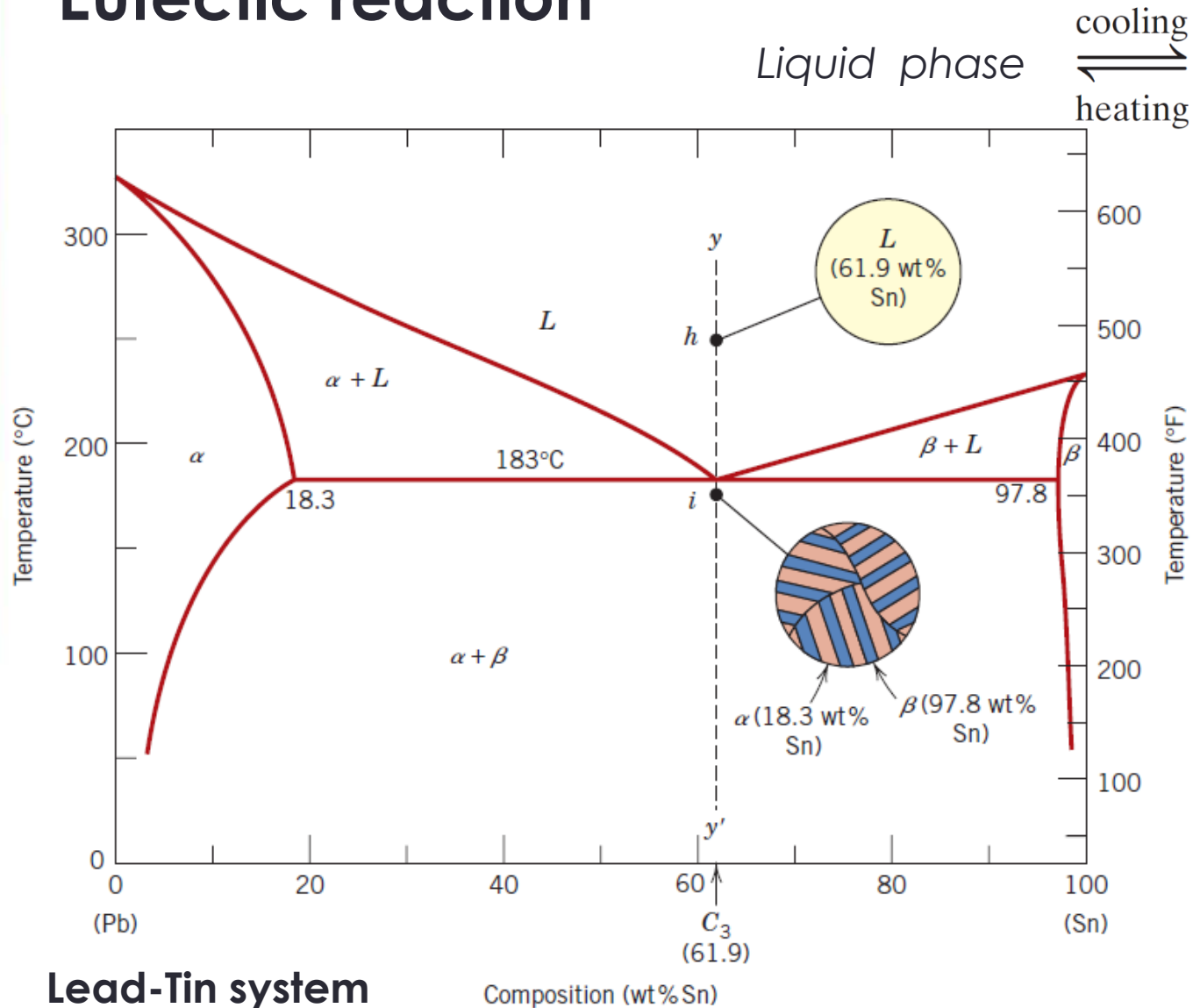


Figure from Callister, Mat. Sci. and Eng.  
An Introduction, 8th edition

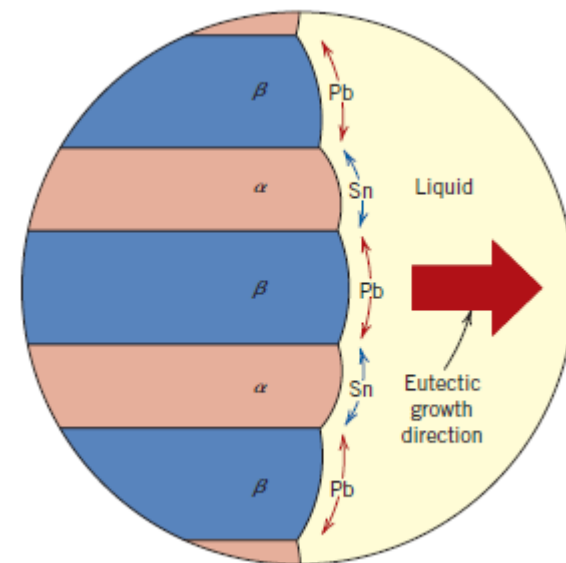


# Phase Diagrams

## Eutectic reaction

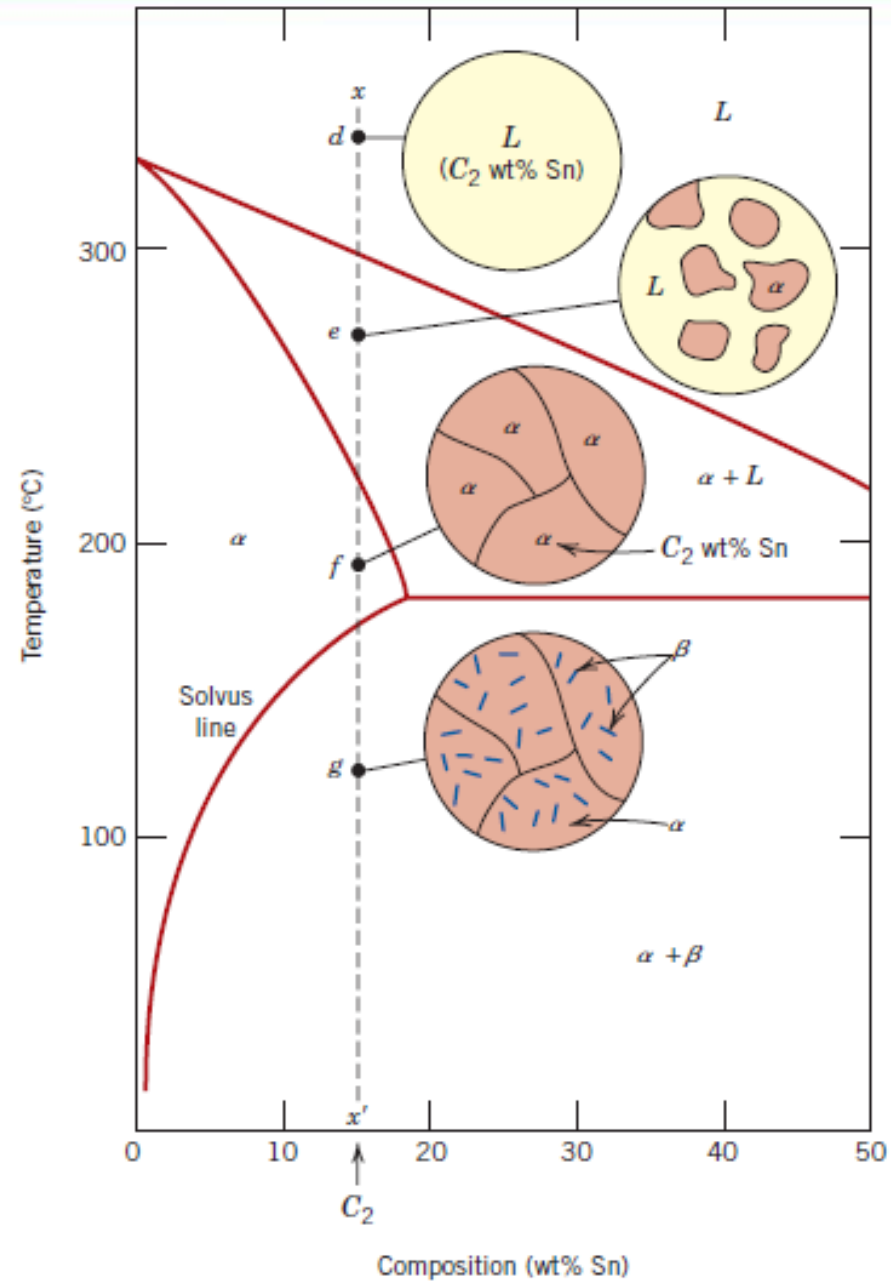


$\alpha + \beta$  (solid phases)

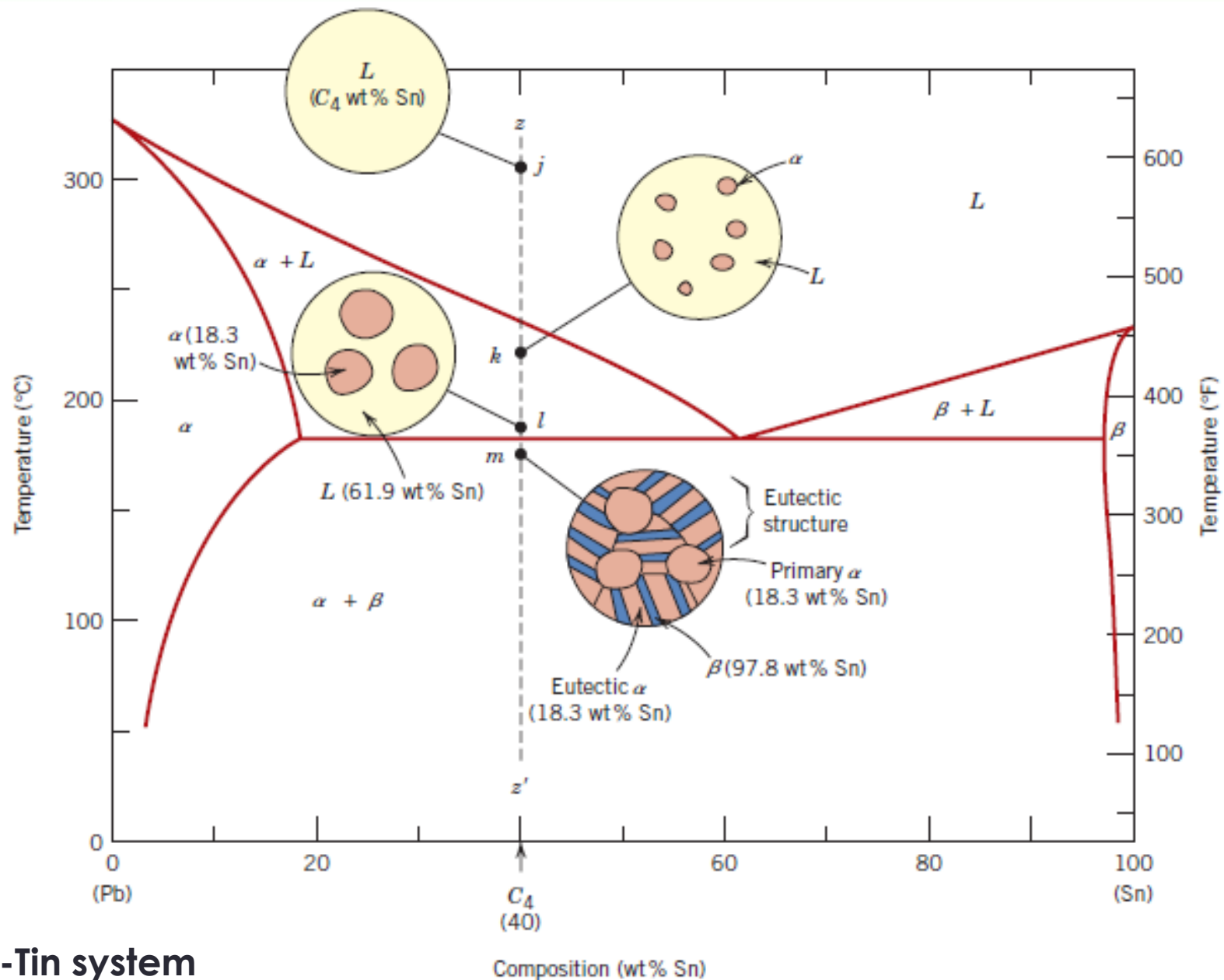


# Phase Diagrams

## Lead-Tin system

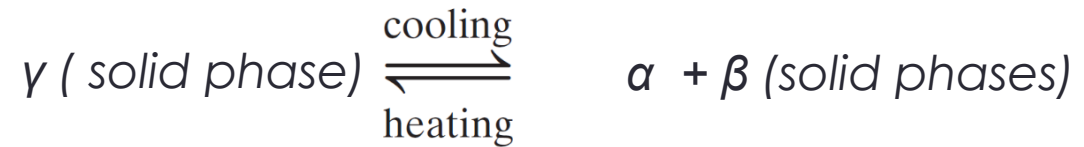


# Phase Diagrams

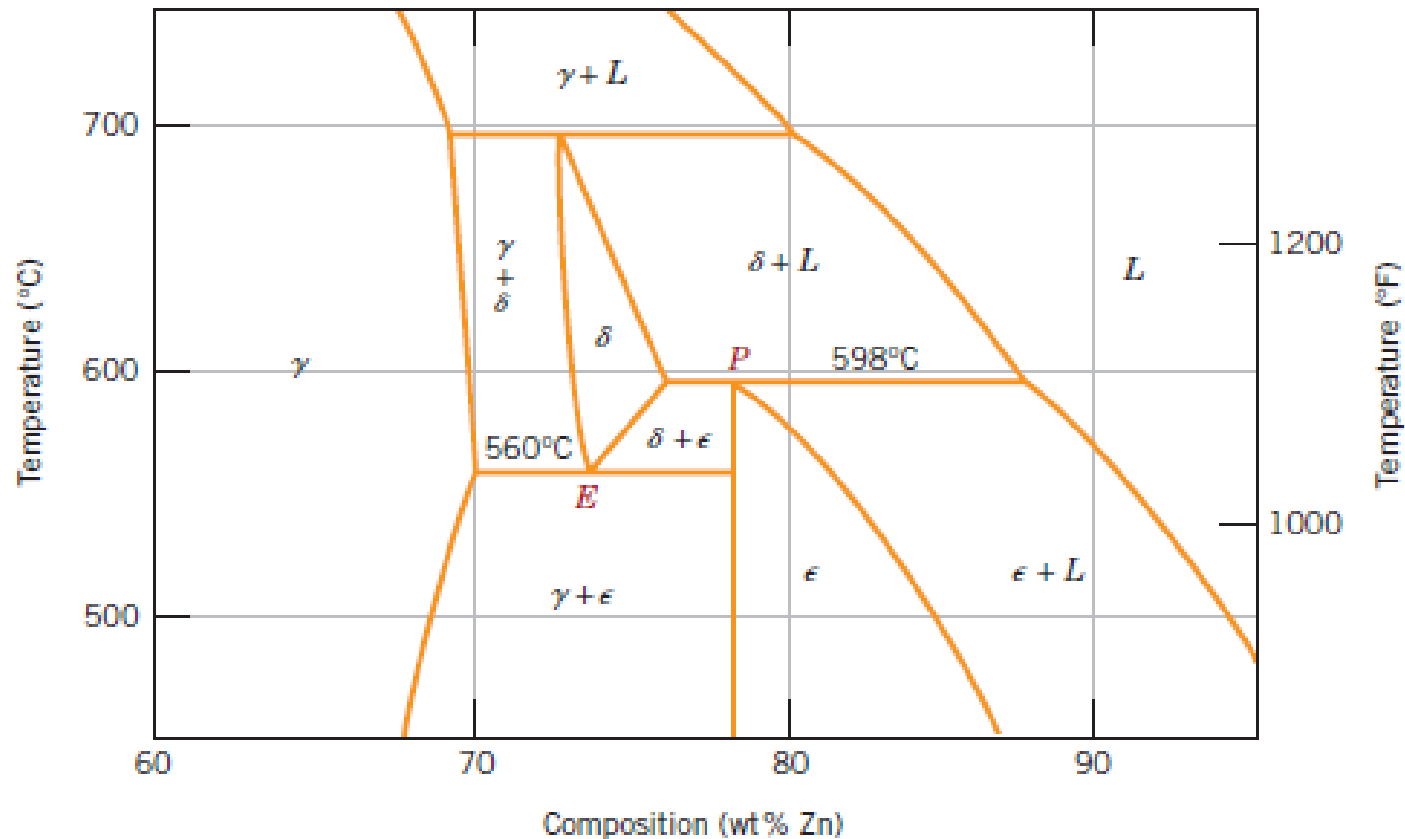


# Phase Diagrams

## Eutectoid reaction

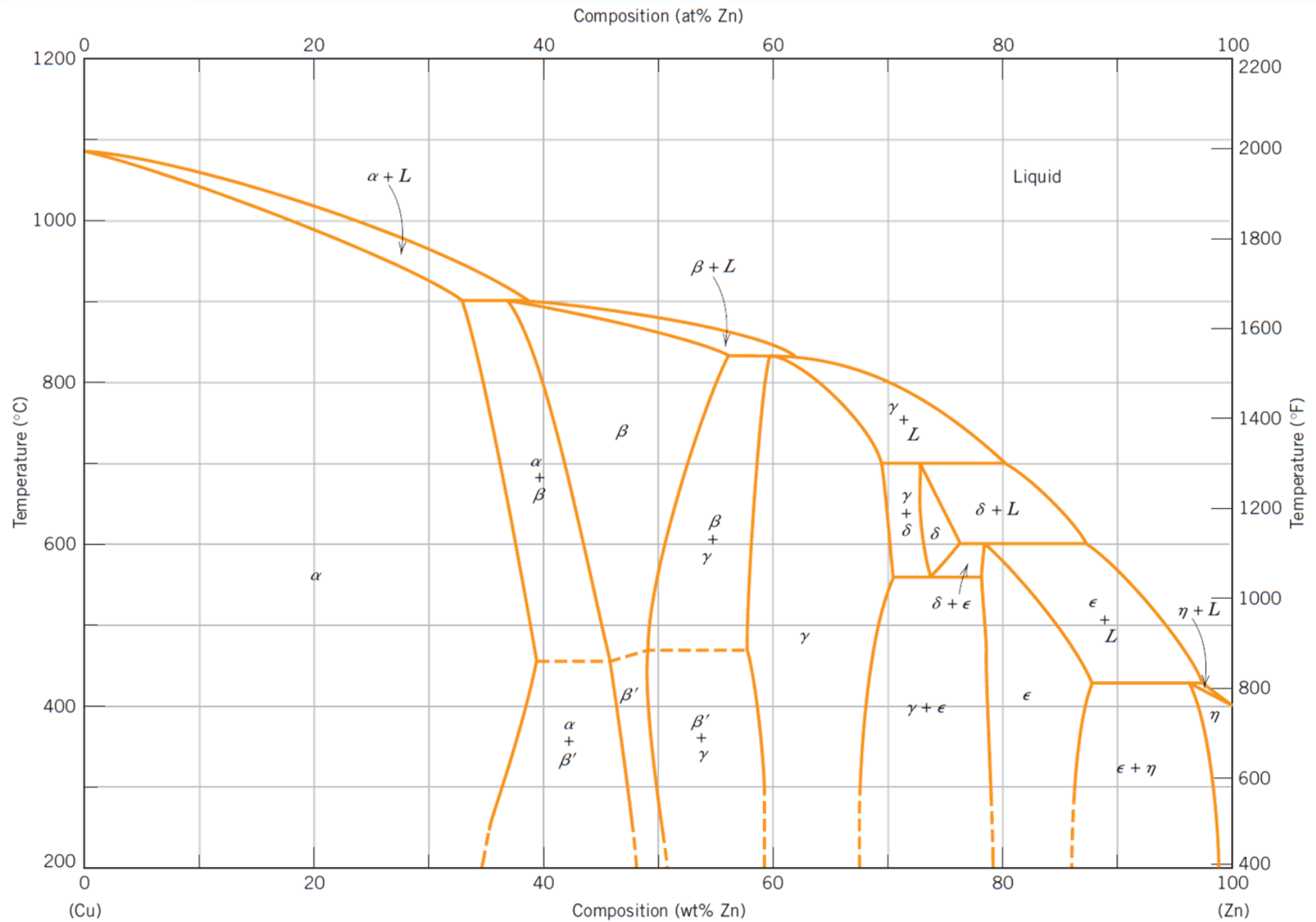


## Peritectic reaction



**Copper-zinc  
phase diagram**

# Phase Diagrams



# Ceramic Phase Diagrams

The two components are compounds that share a common element  
Similar to metal-metal systems

## $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ - $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_3$ phase diagram

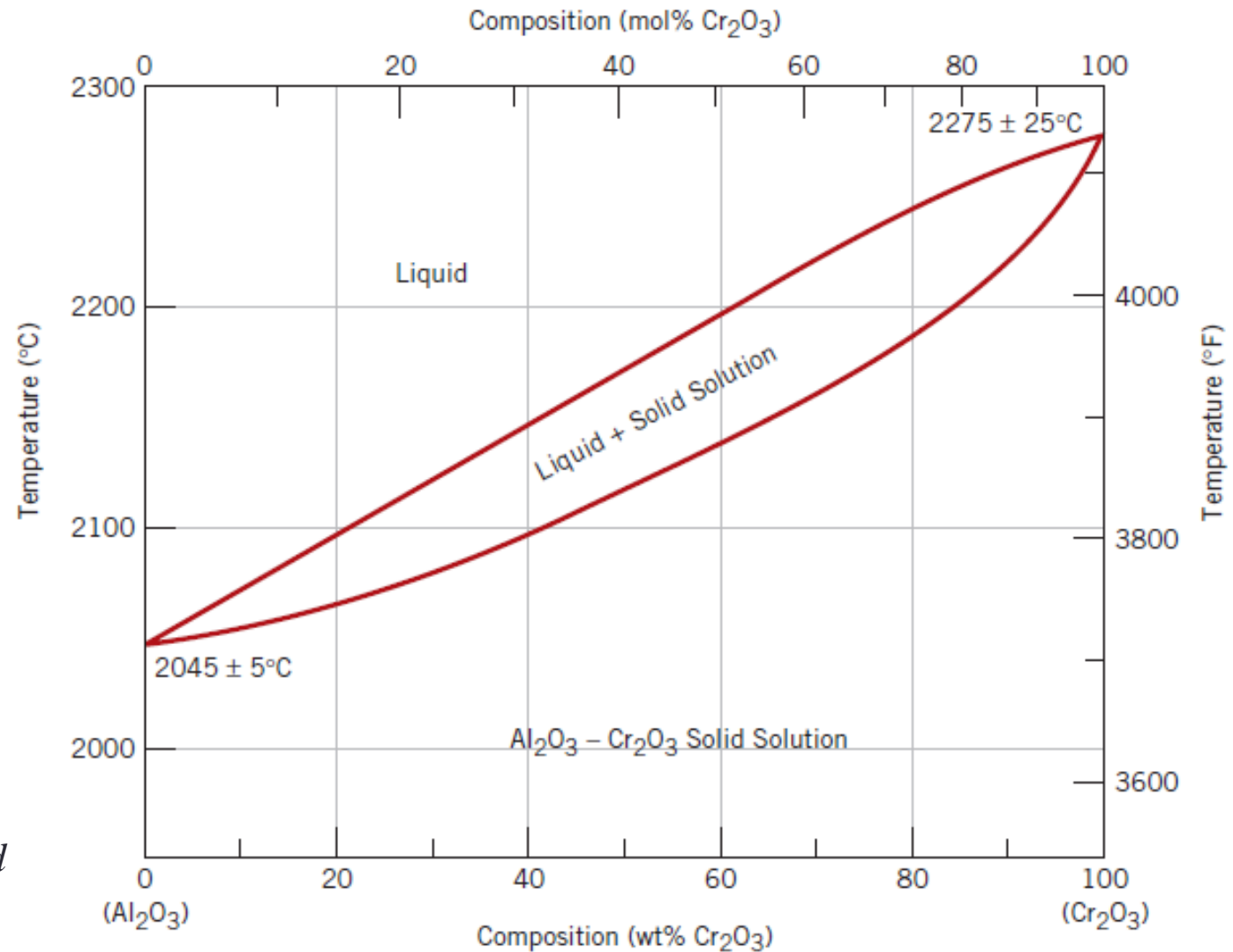
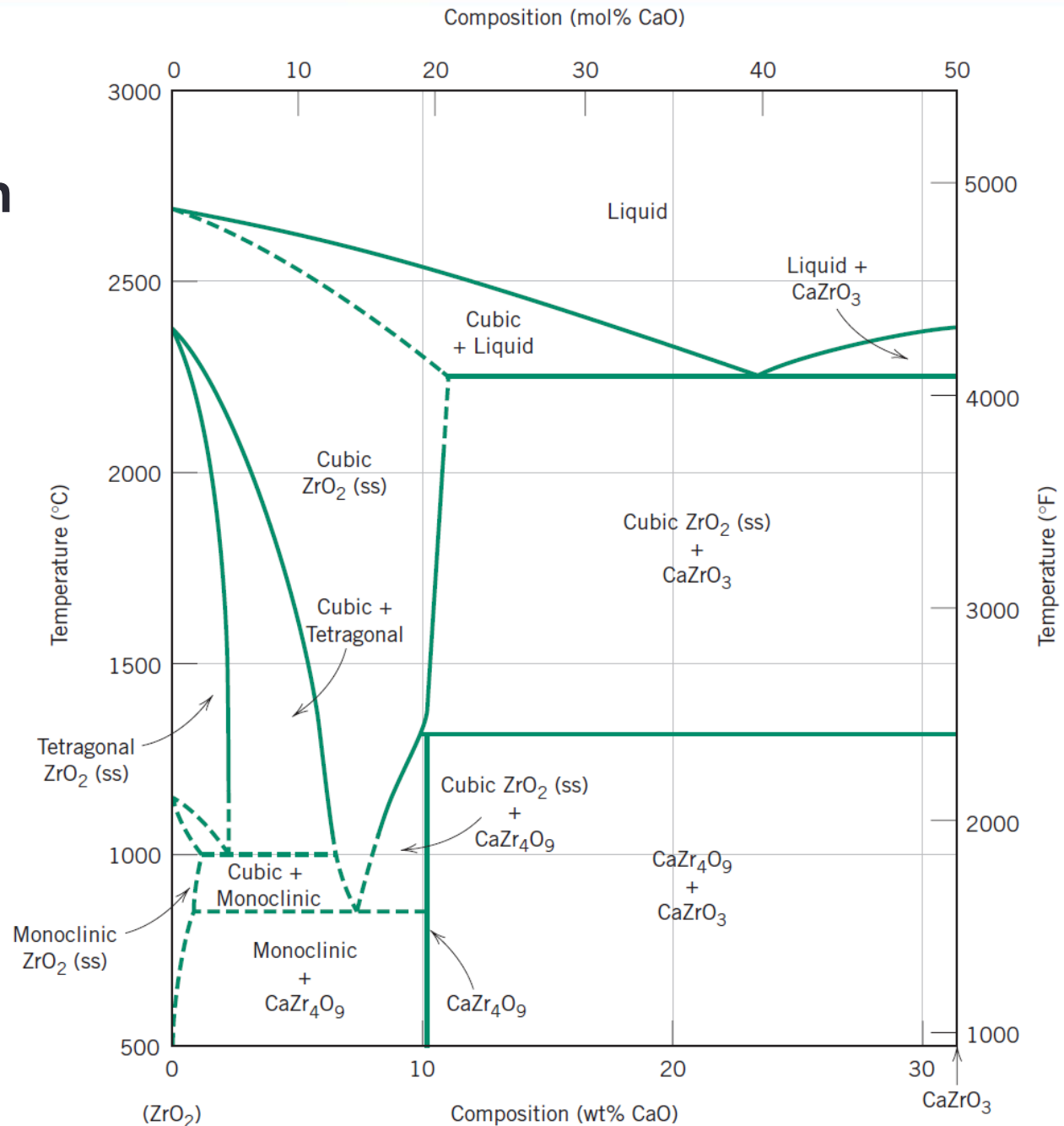


Figure from Callister, Mat. Sci. and Eng. An Introduction, 8th edition

# Ceramic Phase Diagrams

## $\text{ZrO}_2$ - $\text{CaZrO}_3$ phase diagram



# Ceramic Phase Diagrams

## BaTiO<sub>3</sub> p-T phase diagram

