

# MSE-483 : Advanced Phase Transformations

## Lecture 1 : Introduction

COURSE DETAILS | BASIC DEFINITIONS | STATE & PATH VARIABLES | MATHEMATICAL STRUCTURE OF THERMODYNAMICS

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# Introduction & Course organization

**Location** : MXF 1

**Lectures** : 09:15 – 11:00

**Exercices** : 13:15 – 14:00

**Office Hours** : *By appointment* (Friday 14:00-16:00)

**Assistants** : Damien Lee (damien.lee@epfl.ch)

**Course Language** : English

## References:

- Principles of Classical Thermodynamics: Applied to Materials Science Didier de Fontaine ([Available online through the library](#))
- Theory of Structural Transformations in Solids, Khachaturyan, Dover
- Kinetics of Materials, Balluffi, Allen, Carter, Wiley 2005
- Phase Transformations in Metals and Alloys, Porter and Easterling

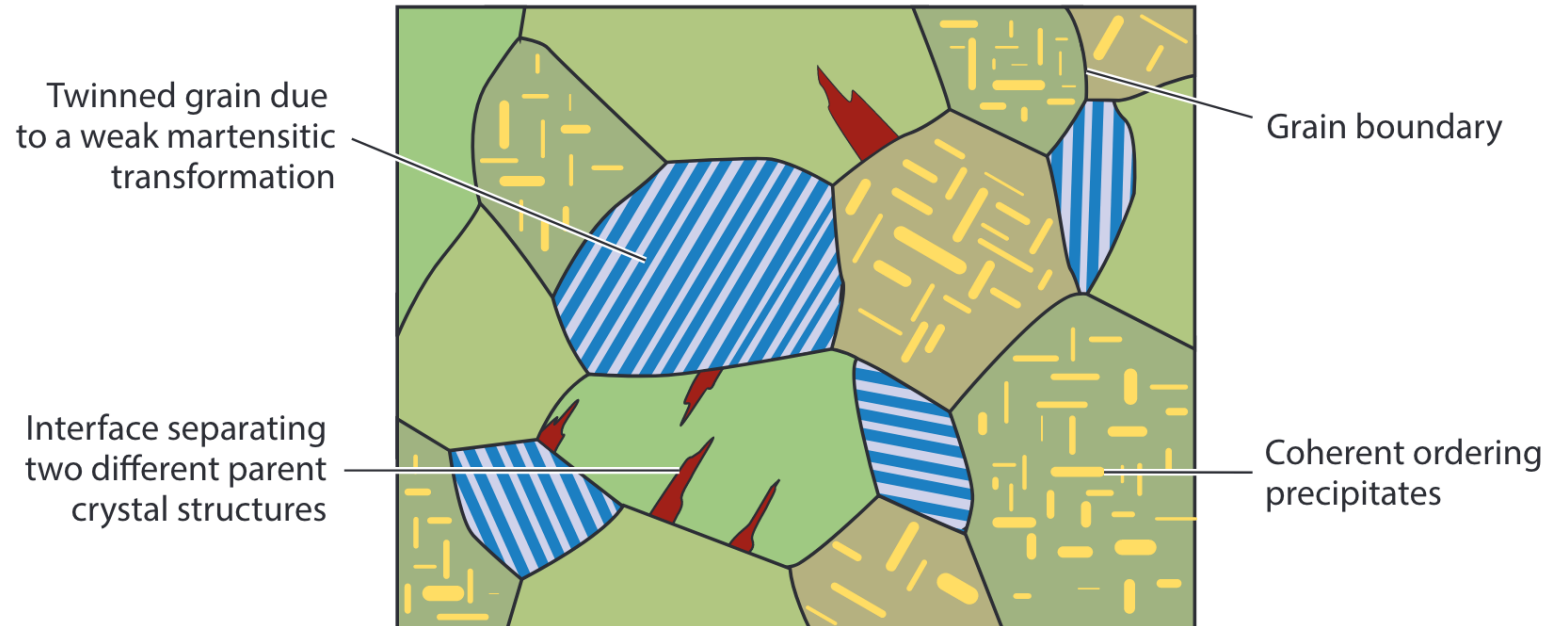
3 credits ~ 3 x 30 hours = 90 hours

14 x 3 hours of lectures/exercise → 48 hours at home/library ~ 3.5 hours a week

**Final Exam** : Oral exam. Time and date will be announced soon.

# Advanced phase transformations

This course provides an overview of the phenomenological concepts and mathematical tools that have been developed to study the thermodynamics, kinetics and mechanics of solid-state phase transformations. We will focus on phase transformations in metallic alloys, energy storage materials, ceramics, electronic materials etc.



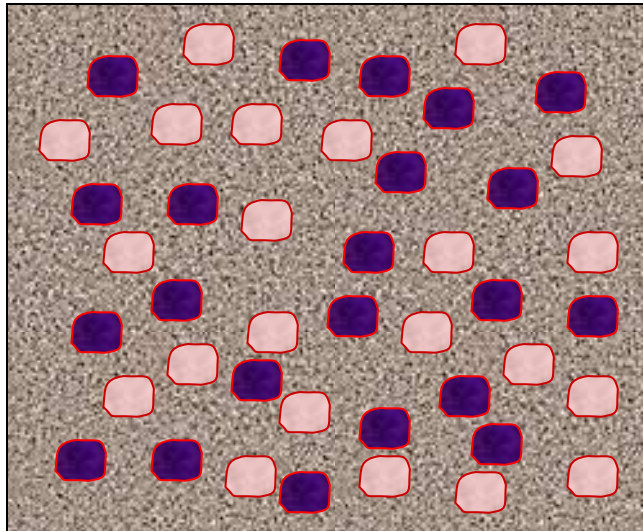
# Course organization




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| <b>Date</b>  | <b>Topic</b>  |
|--------------|---|
| September 11 | Introduction, Course overview, thermodynamics of phase transitions ( <i>No exercise session</i> ) |
| September 18 | Mathematical structure of thermodynamics ( <i>No exercise session</i> )                           |
| September 25 | Equilibrium conditions and phase transitions in unary systems                                     |
| October 2    | Clausius-Clapeyron relation   |
| October 9    | Kinetics of phase transitions   |
| October 16   | Kinetics of phase transitions   |
| October 23   | <i>Mid-semester Break</i>   |
| October 30   | Phenomenological theories of spinodal decomposition   |
| November 6   | Phenomenological theories of spinodal decomposition   |
| November 13  | Descriptors of phase transitions and phase-field models   |
| November 20  | Classical nucleation theory   |
| November 27  | Phase transformations with interfaces   |
| December 4   | <i>No lecture, only exercise session</i>  |
| December 11  | Diffusionless phase transitions   |
| December 18  | Diffusionless phase transitions   |

# A few examples of phase transitions

## Crystallization of chocolate



-  Sugar grains  $< 20 \mu\text{m}$
-  Cocoa powder grains
-  Matrix of cocoa butter

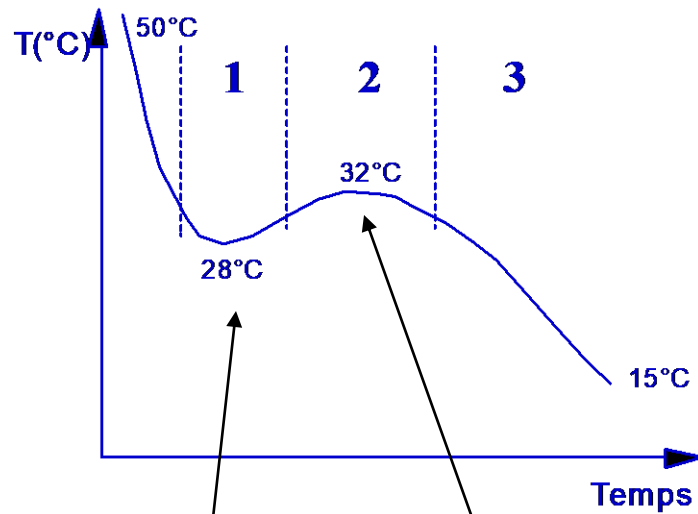
Chocolate is a “composite” material  
with a matrix of cocoa butter.

Energy : 550 kcal/100 g !

Additional listening



# Crystallization of chocolate



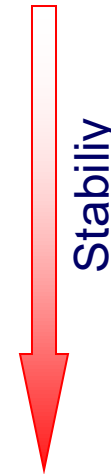
Nucleation of  $\beta'$  and  $\beta$

Remelting of  $\beta'$  and transformation  $\beta' \rightarrow \beta$

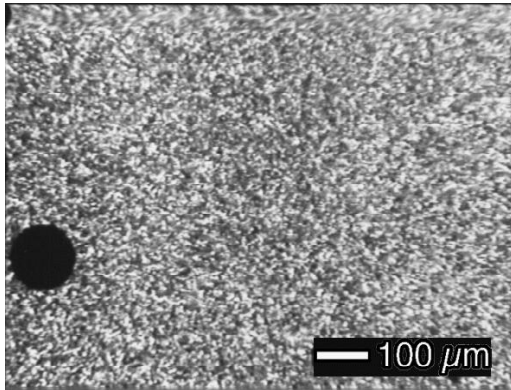
The goal of the **tempering** operation is to obtain the right **density of nuclei** in the cocoa butter matrix with the right **crystalline structure**.

Why ? Because cocoa butter, like many lipids, is **polymorphic**.

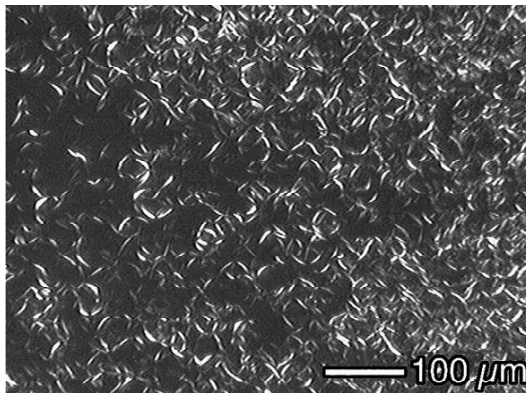
| Phases |            | $T_m$ [°C] |
|--------|------------|------------|
| I      | $\gamma$   | 17         |
| II     | $\alpha$   | 24         |
| III    | $\beta_1'$ | 28         |
| IV     | $\beta_2'$ | 33         |
| V      | $\beta$    | 35         |
| VI     | ?          |            |



## Crystallization of chocolate



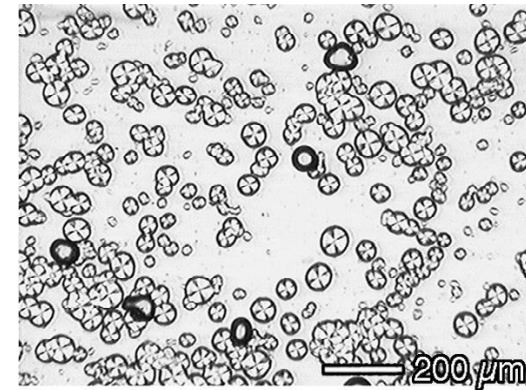
POS fine mass (16 °C)



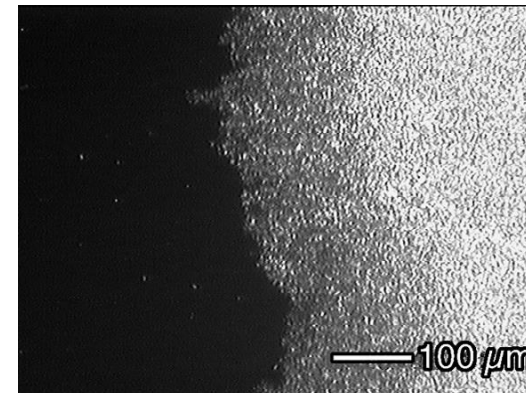
SOS needles (21 °C)

A few morphologies observed under an optical microscope when isolated components of cocoa butter are solidified isothermally.

POP, SOS and POS are three triglycerides that occur in cocoa butter

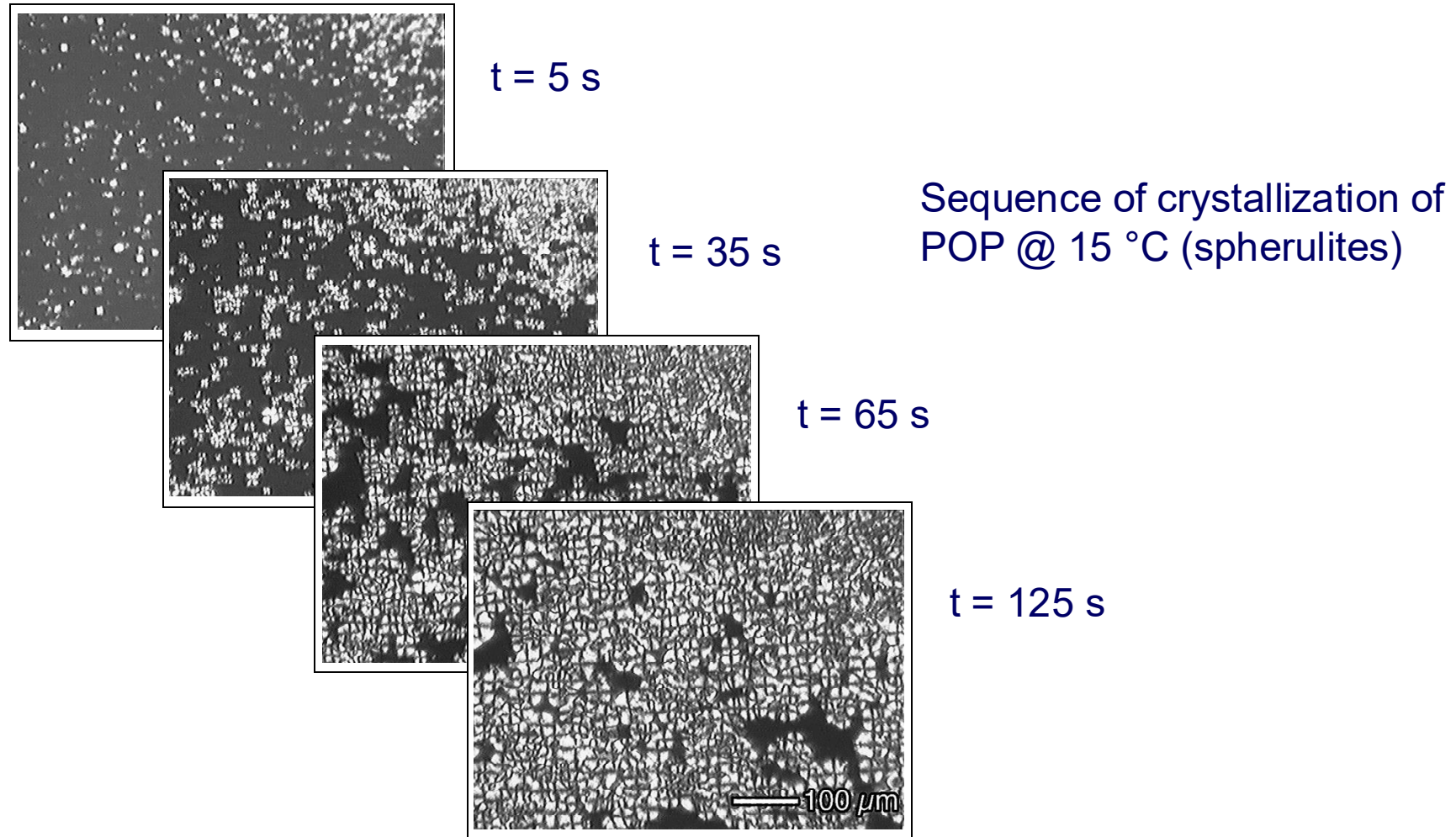


POP spherulites (16 °C)

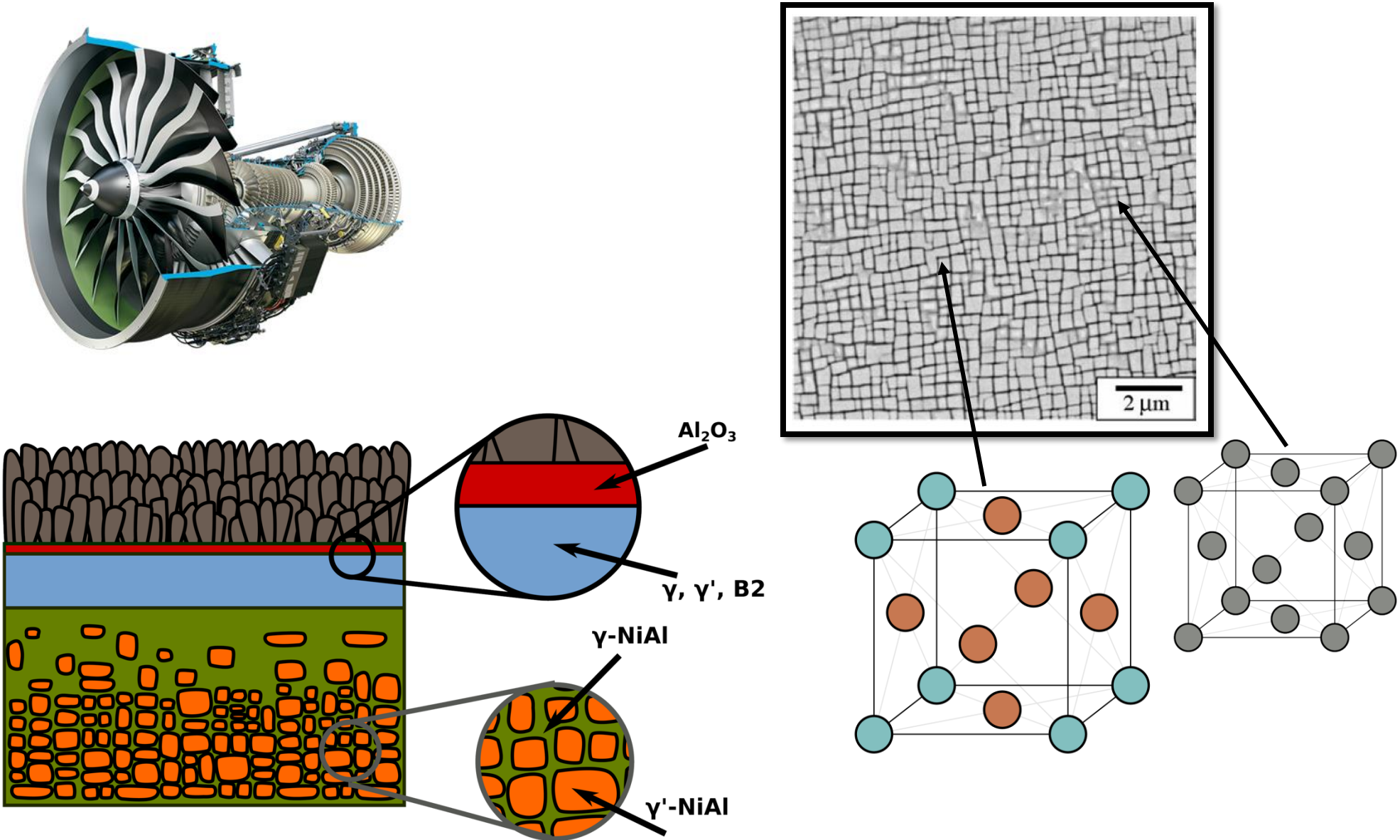


POP directional mass (20 °C)

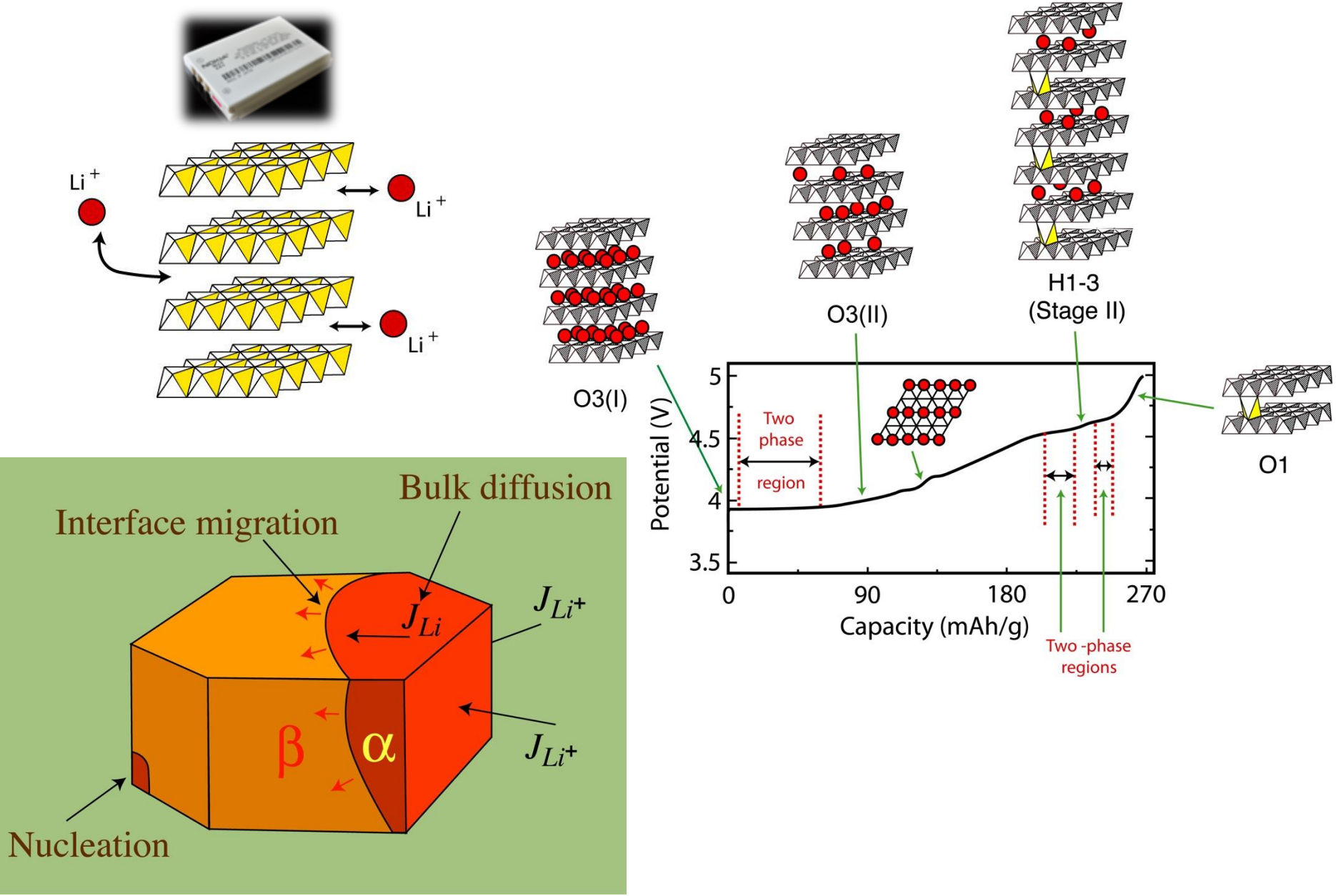
# Crystallization of chocolate



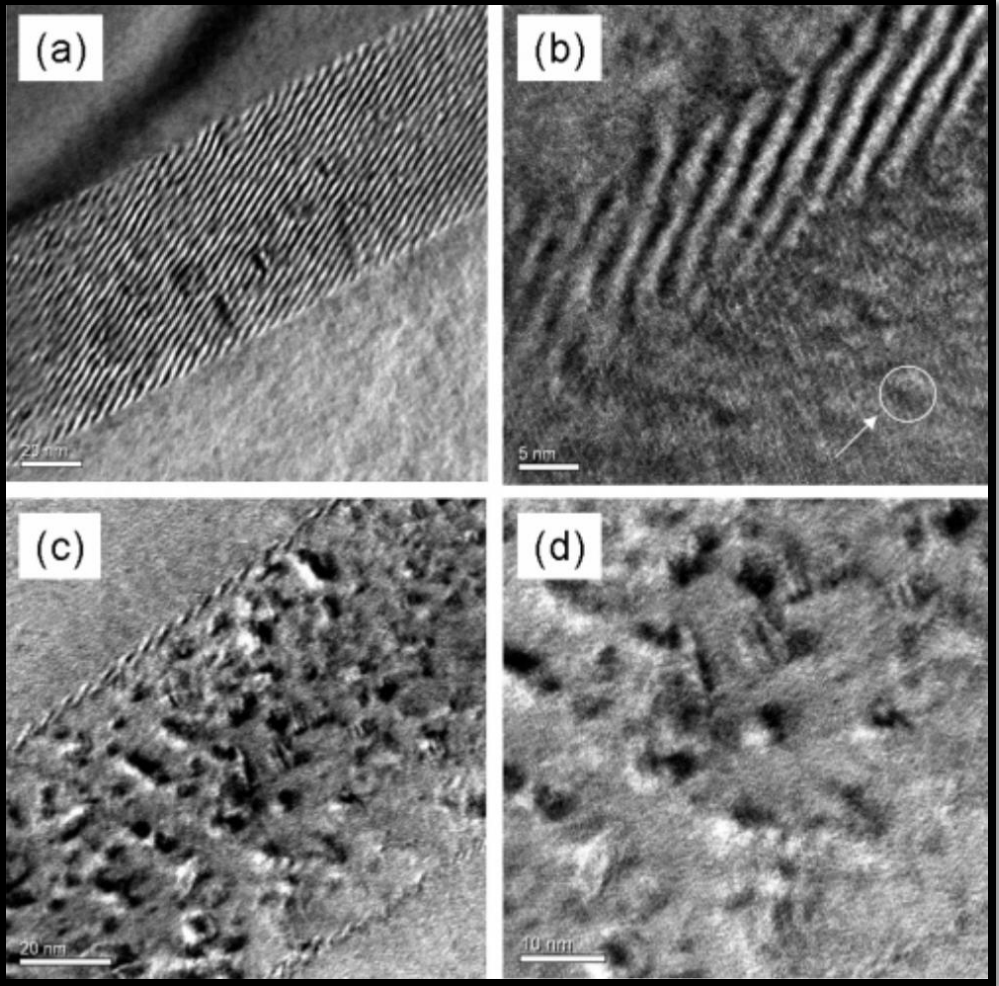
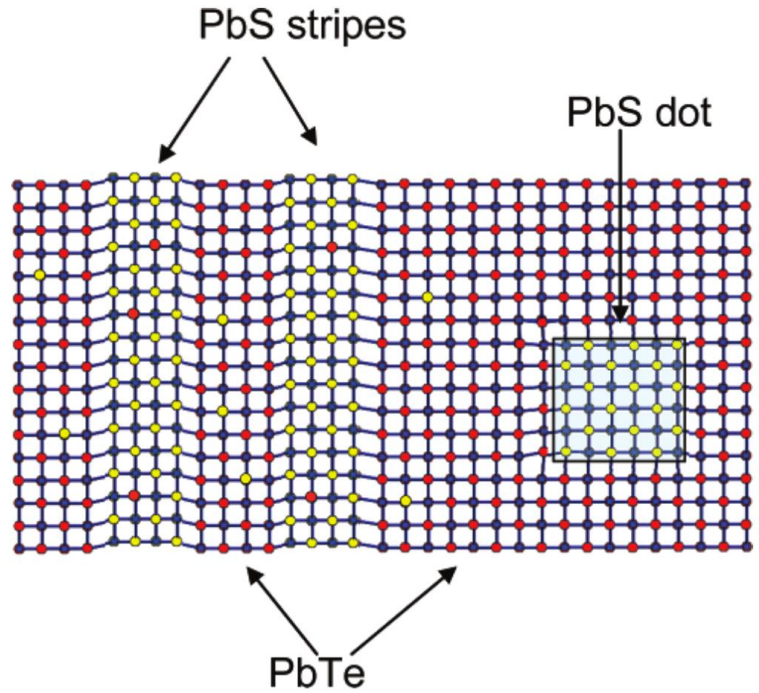
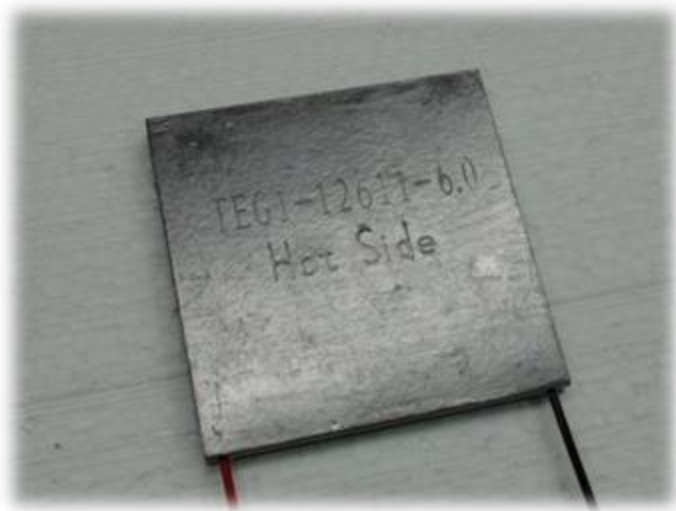
# A few examples of phase transitions



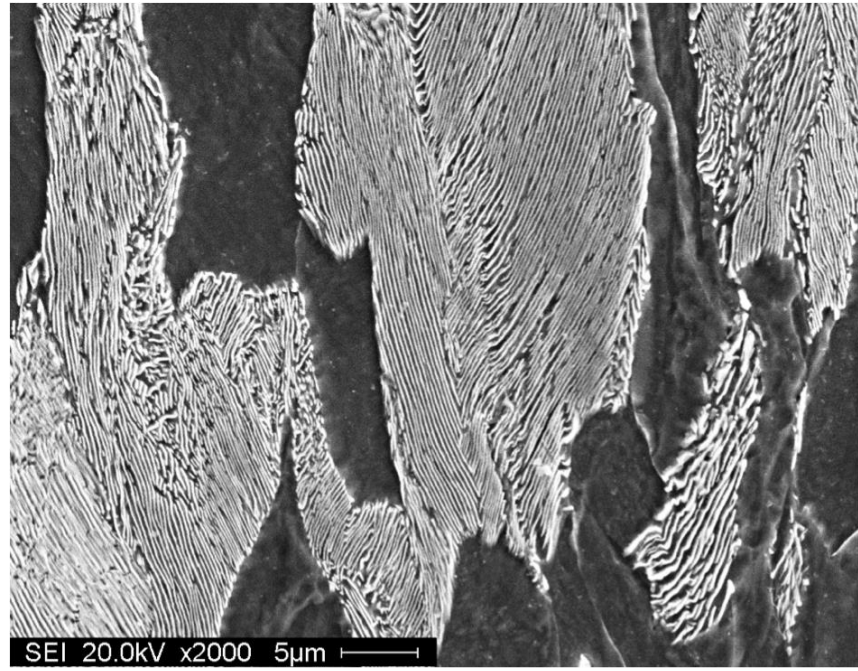
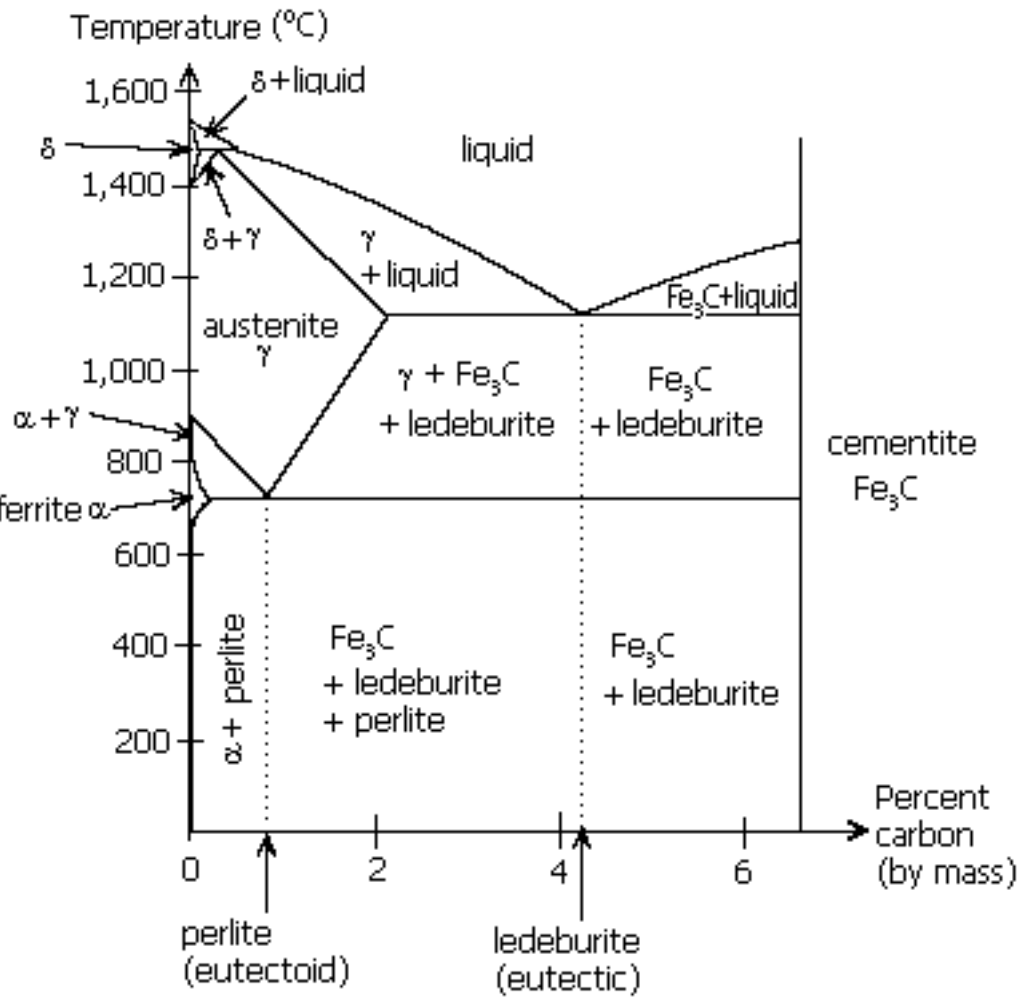
# A few examples of phase transitions



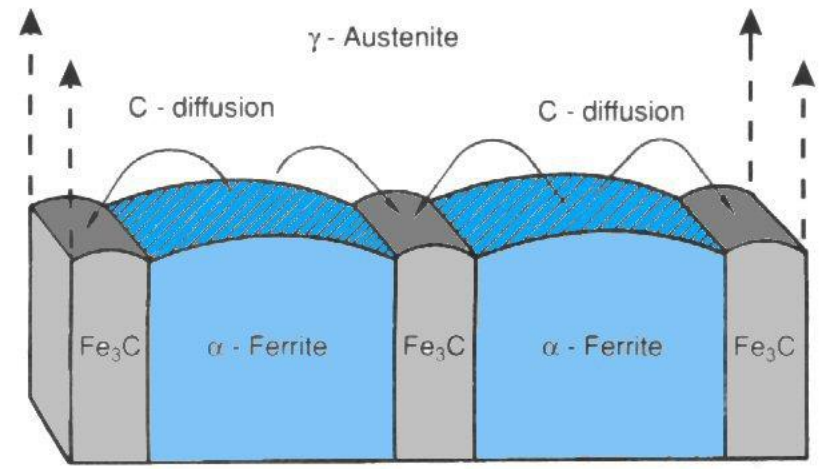
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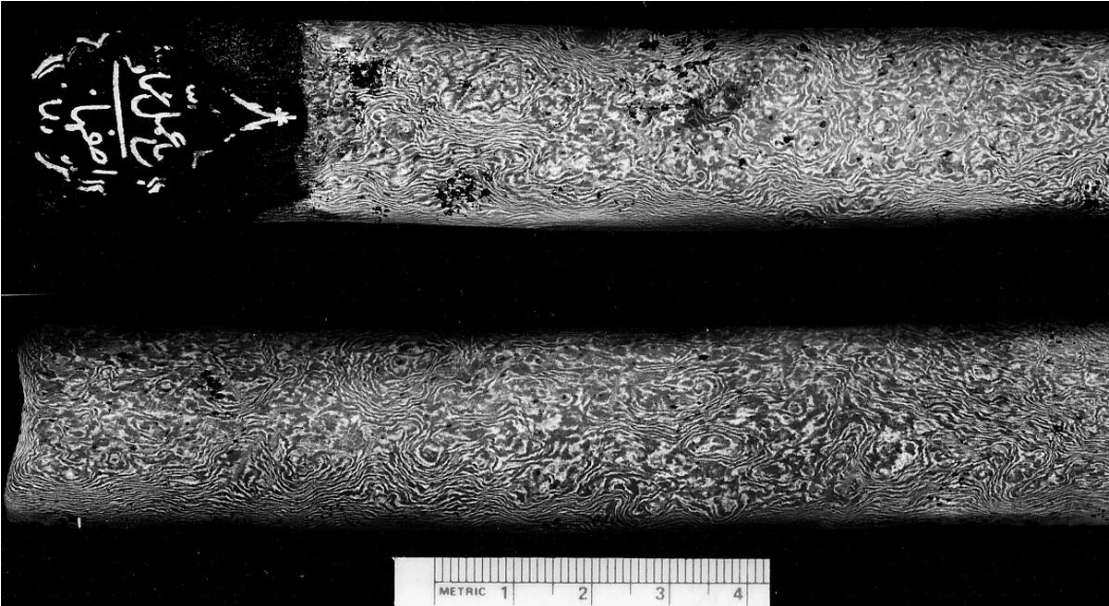
Microstructure of ferrite + pearlite



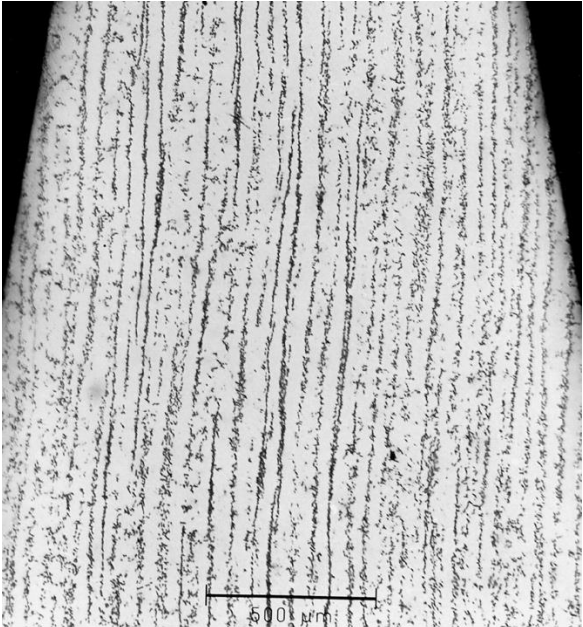
# A few examples of phase transitions



Damascus Steel Swords



*The Figiel blade purchased in Rajasthan India.*



*Transverse section of Figiel blade with inverse contrast*

Additional listening

