

# 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

**Excercises** : 13:15 – 14:00

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

**Assistants** : Lorenzo Piersante (lorenzo.piersante@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

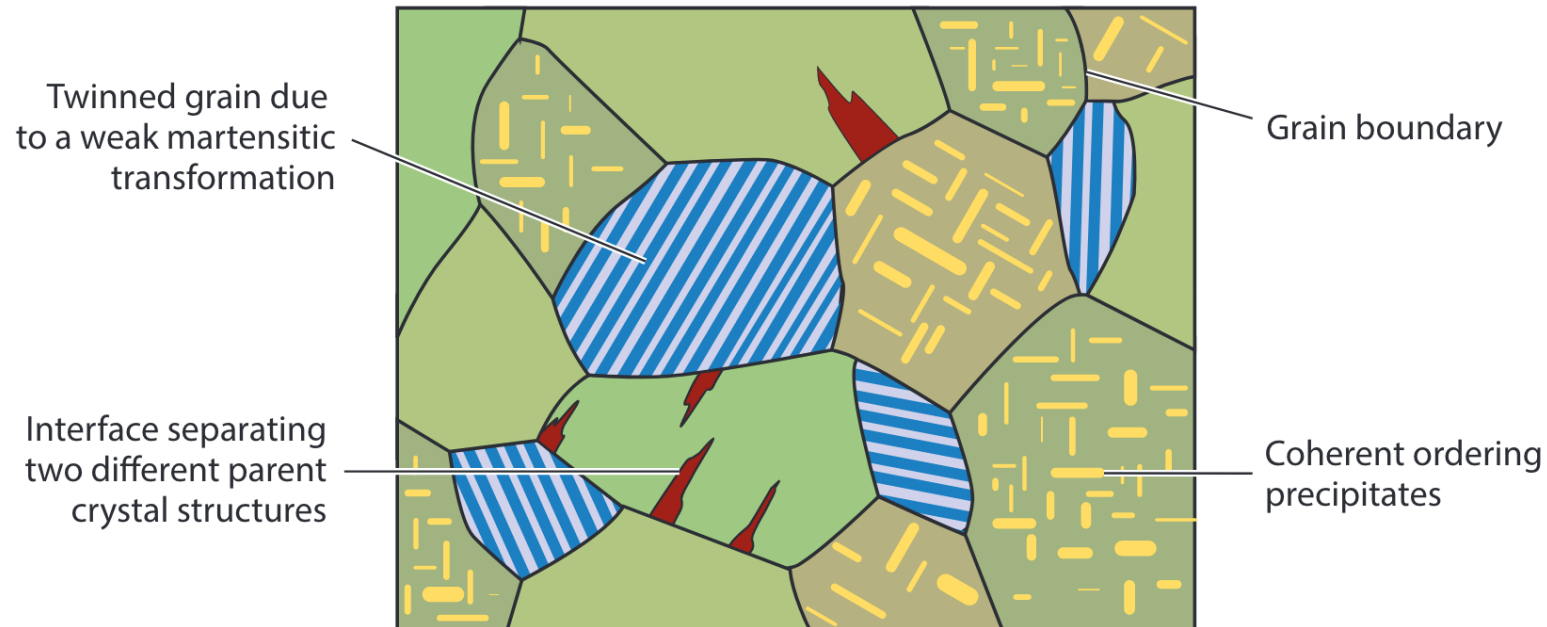
3 credits ~ 3 x 30 hours = 90 hours

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

**Final Exam** : Final exam during the exam month. Date and location will be announced as soon as they are available. Students will be provided with a single formula sheet along the with the exam. No other papers/exam aids are allowed or required.

# 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.

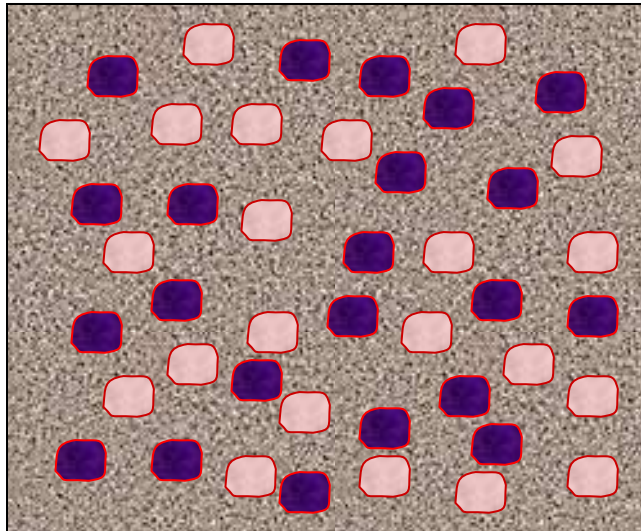





# Course organization

Date	Topic
September 12	Introduction, Course overview, thermodynamics of phase transitions ( <i>No exercise session</i> )
September 19	Mathematical structure of thermodynamics ( <i>No exercise session</i> )
September 26	Equilibrium conditions and phase transitions in unary systems
October 3	Clausius-Clapeyron relation
October 10	Kinetics of phase transitions
October 17	Kinetics of phase transitions
October 24	<i>Mid-semester Break</i>
October 31	Phenomenological theories of spinodal decomposition
November 7	Phenomenological theories of spinodal decomposition
November 14	Descriptors of phase transitions and phase-field models
November 21	Classical nucleation theory
November 28	Phase transformations with interfaces
December 5	<i>No lecture, only exercise session</i>
December 12	Diffusionless phase transitions
December 19	Diffusionless phase transitions

# A few examples of phase transitions

## Crystallization of chocolate



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

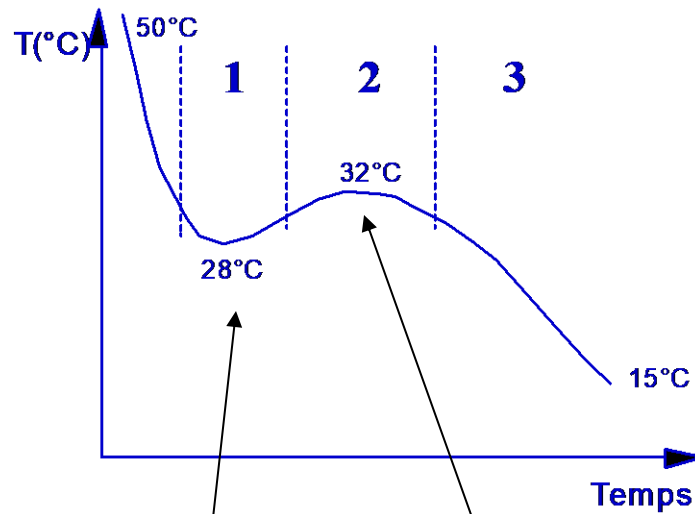
Chocolate is a “composite” material  
with a matrix of cocoa butter.

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**.

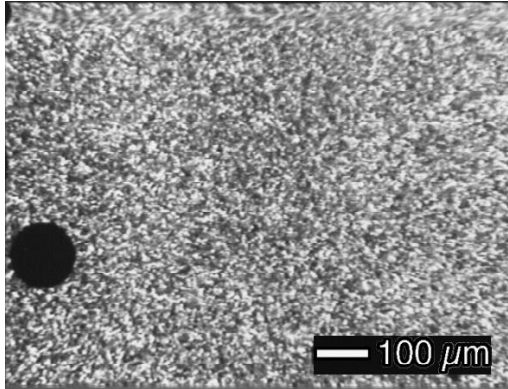
Why ? Because cocoa butter, like many lipids, is **polymorphic**.

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

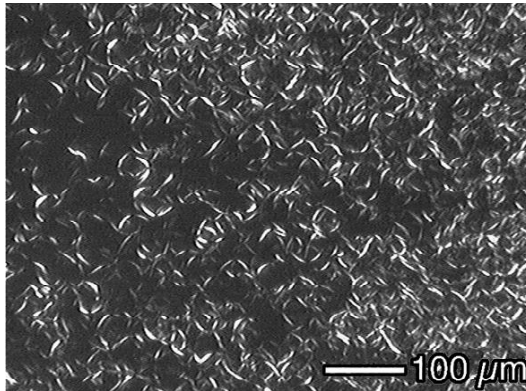
Stability



## Crystallization of chocolate



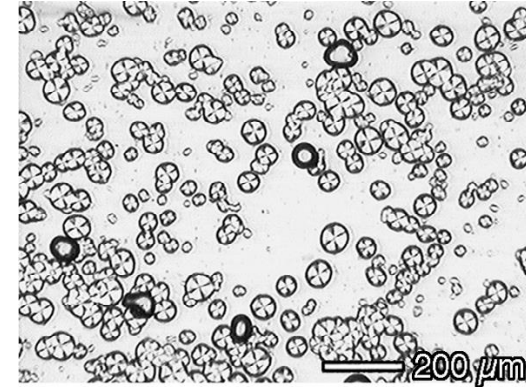
POS fine mass (16 °C)



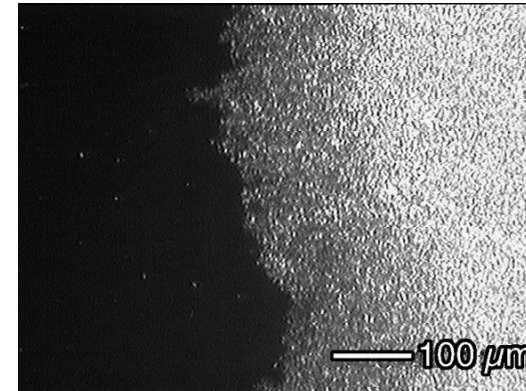
SOS needles (21 °C)

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



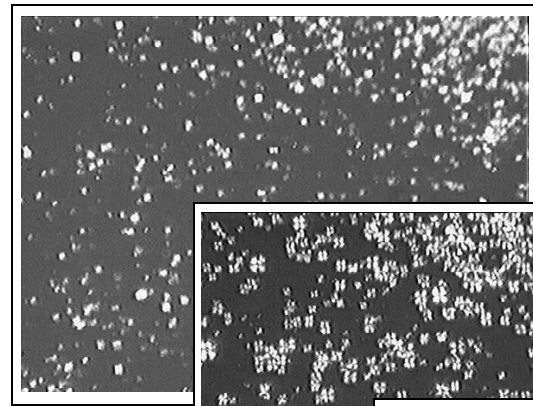
POP spherulites (16 °C)



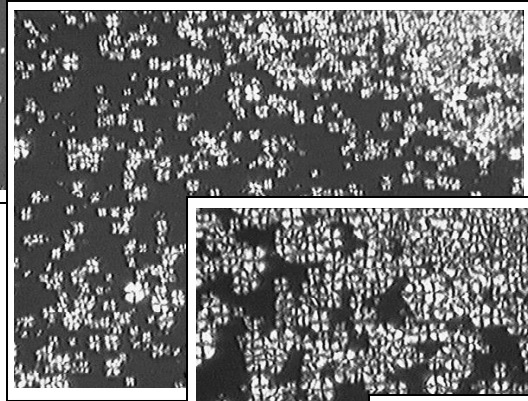
POP directional mass (20 °C)



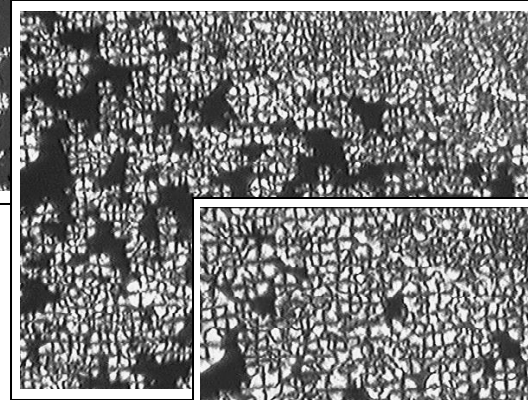
## Crystallization of chocolate



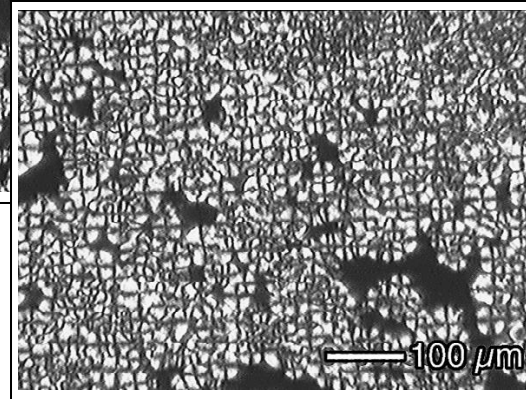
$t = 5 \text{ s}$



$t = 35 \text{ s}$



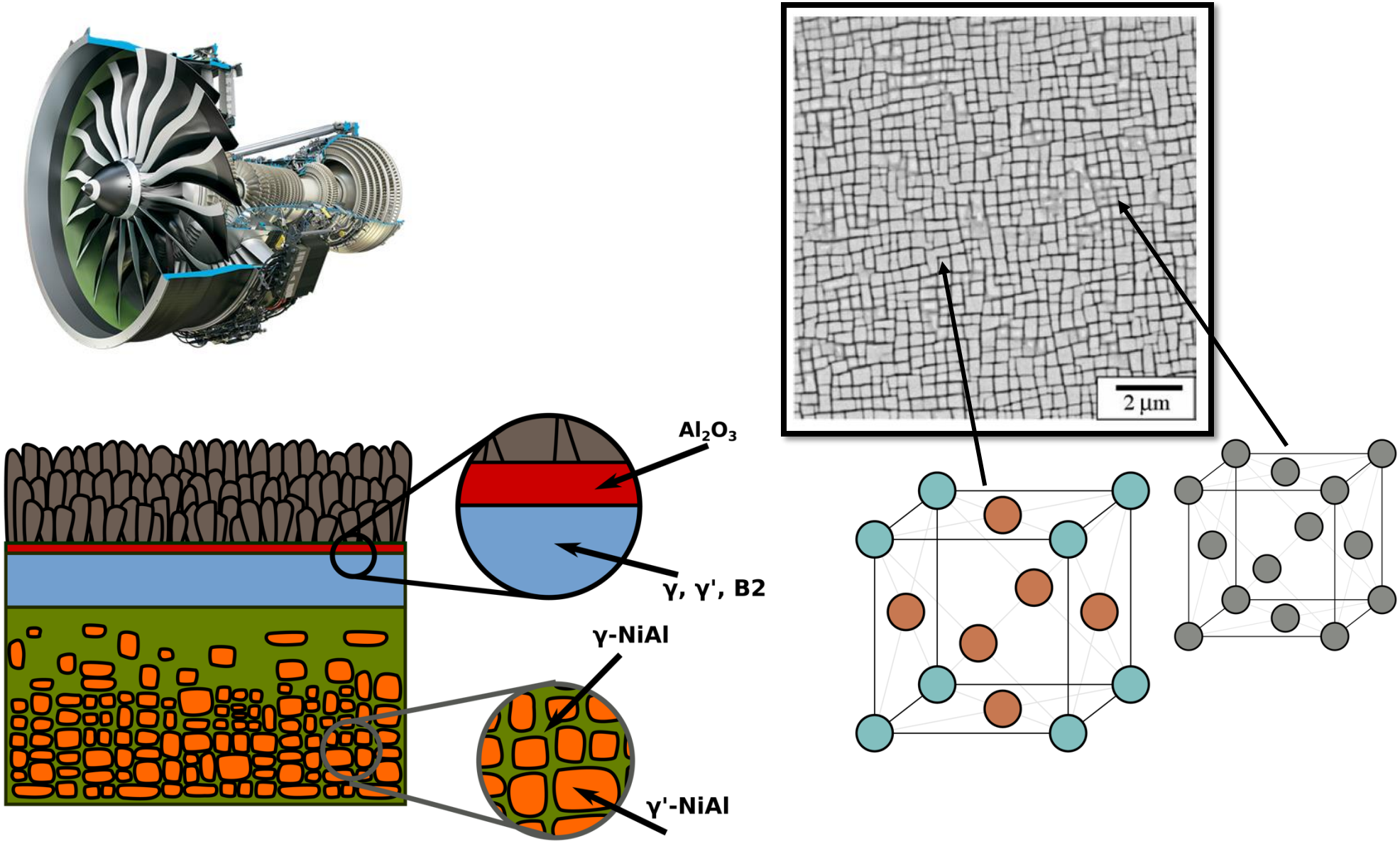
$t = 65 \text{ s}$



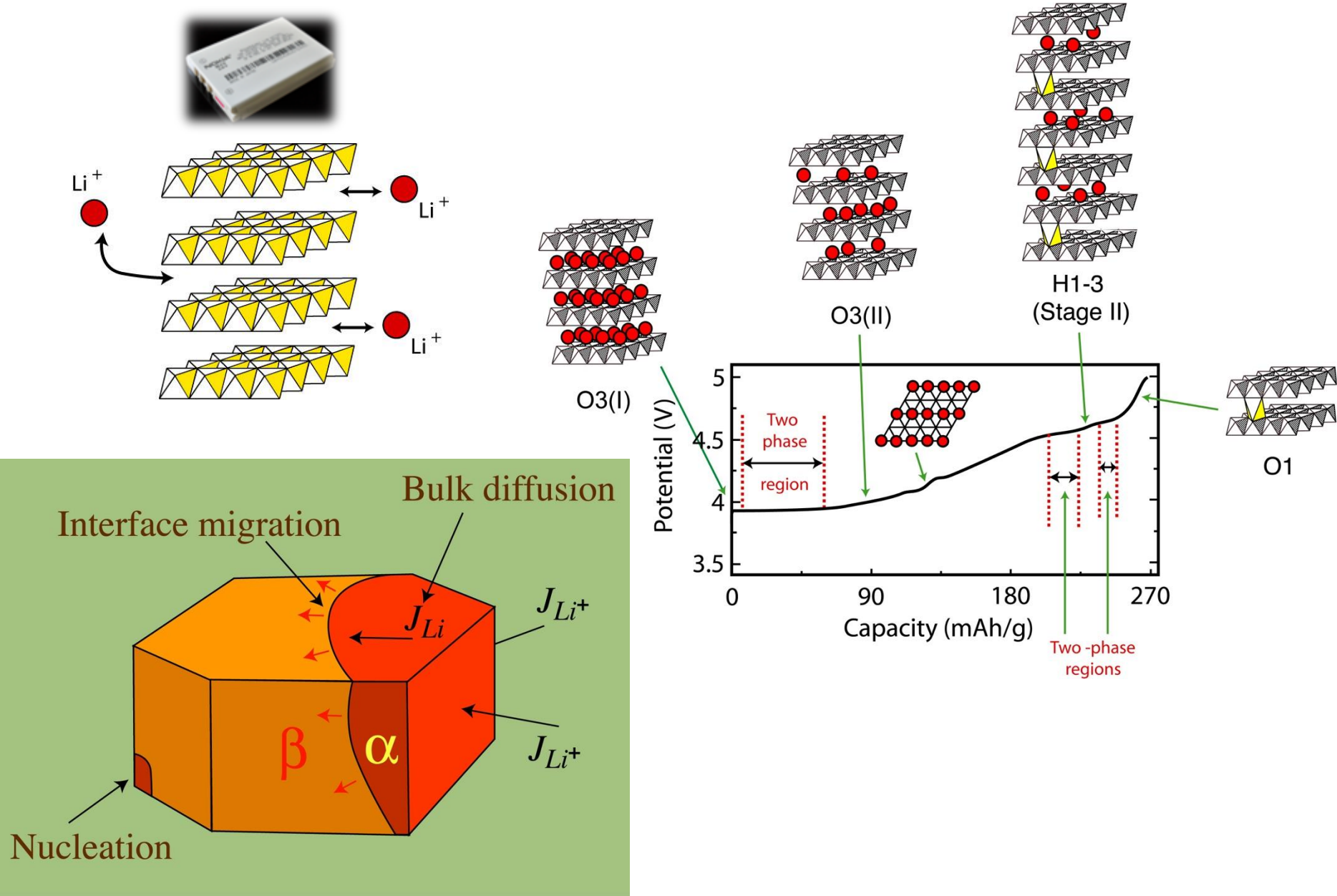
$t = 125 \text{ s}$

Sequence of crystallization of  
POP @ 15 °C (spherulites)

# A few examples of phase transitions

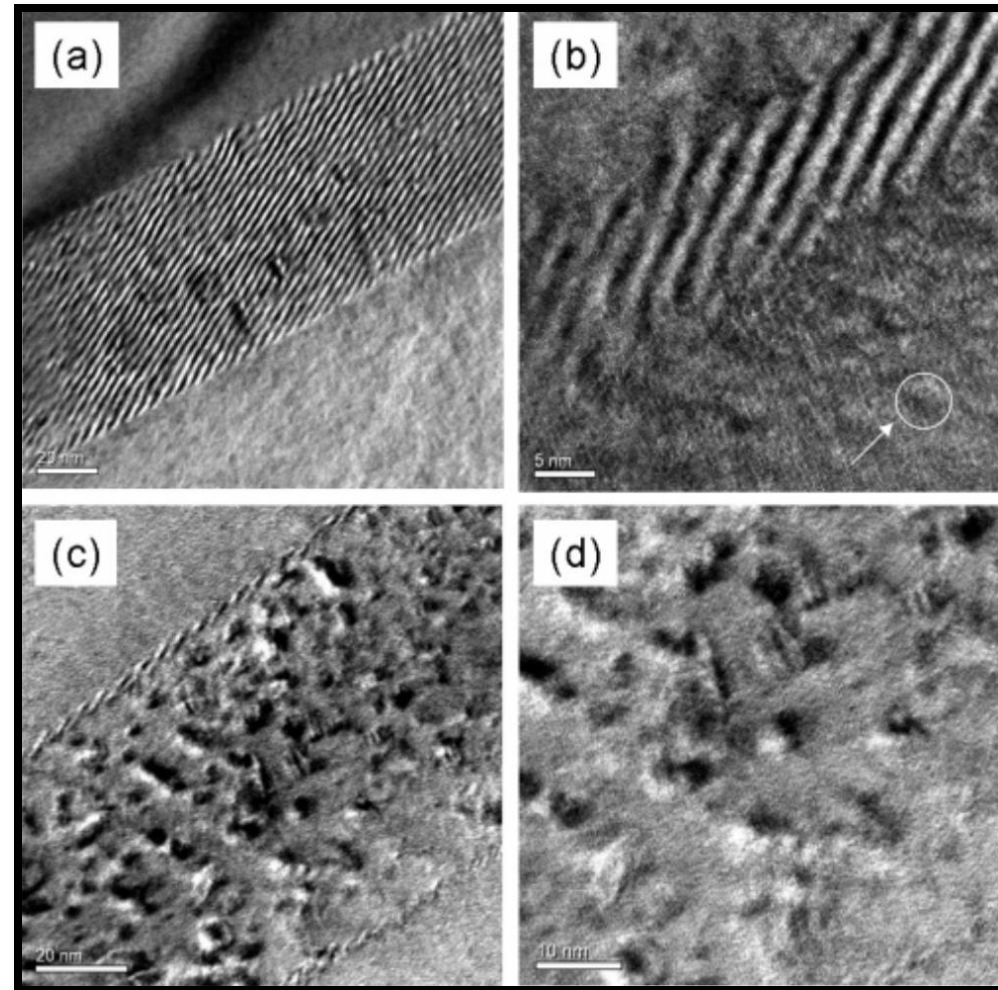
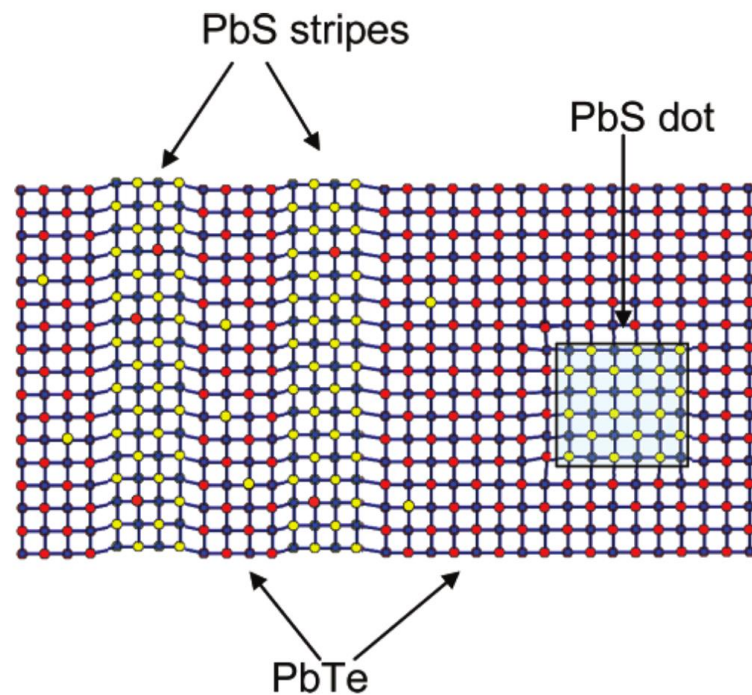
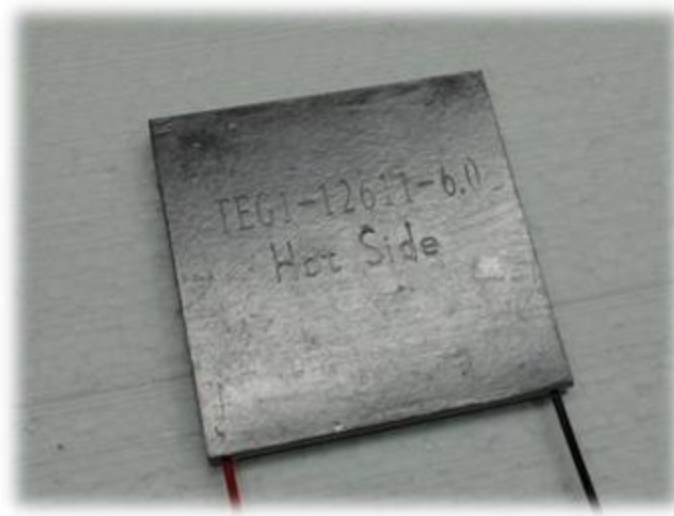


# A few examples of phase transitions

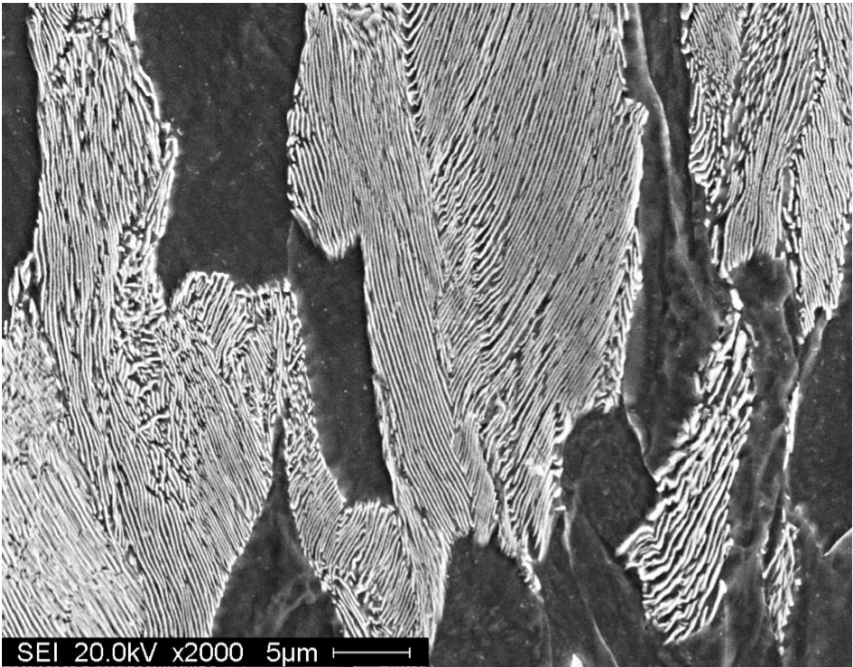
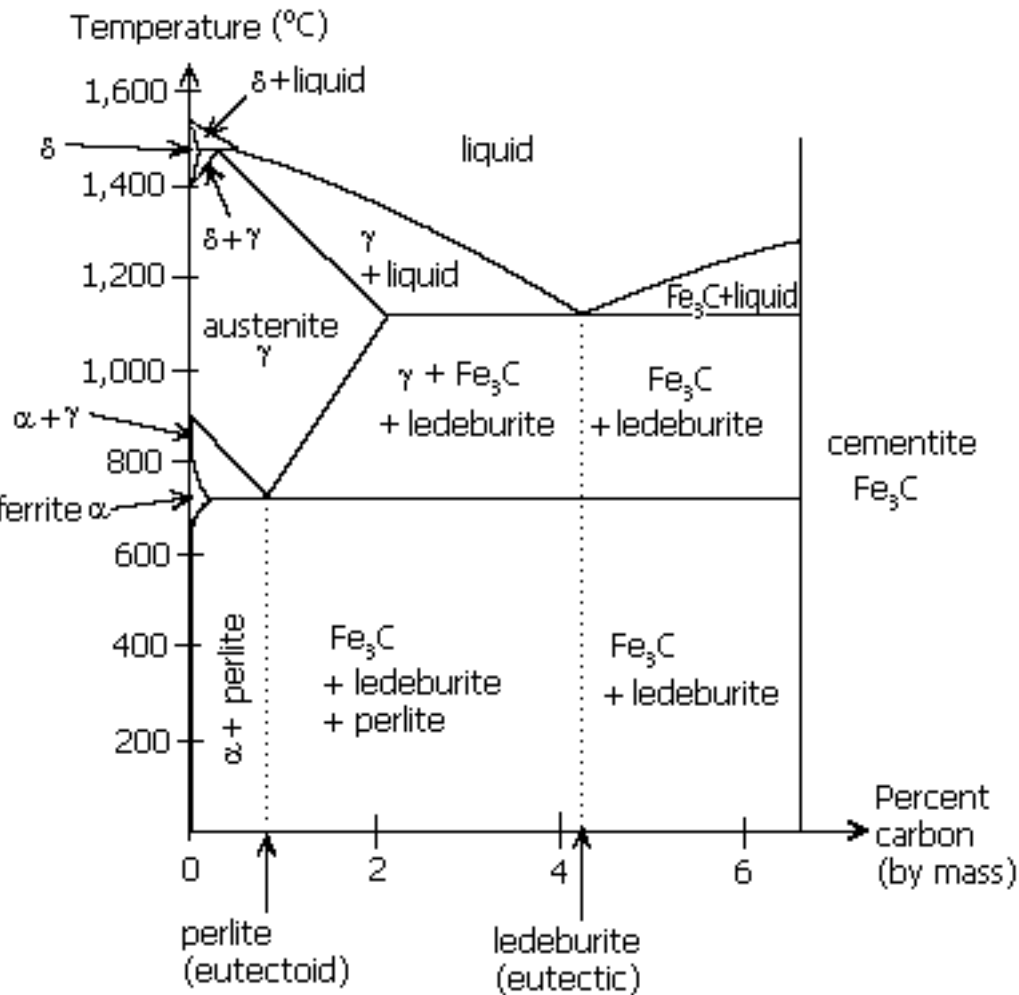




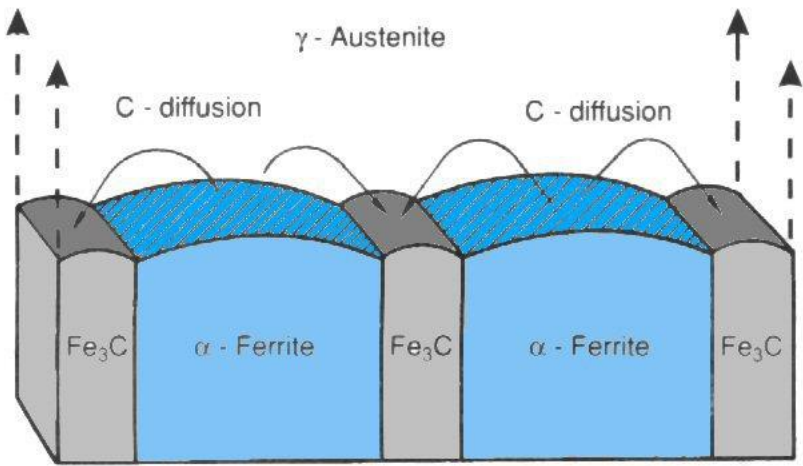
# A few examples of phase transitions



# A few examples of phase transitions



Microstructure of ferrite + pearlite



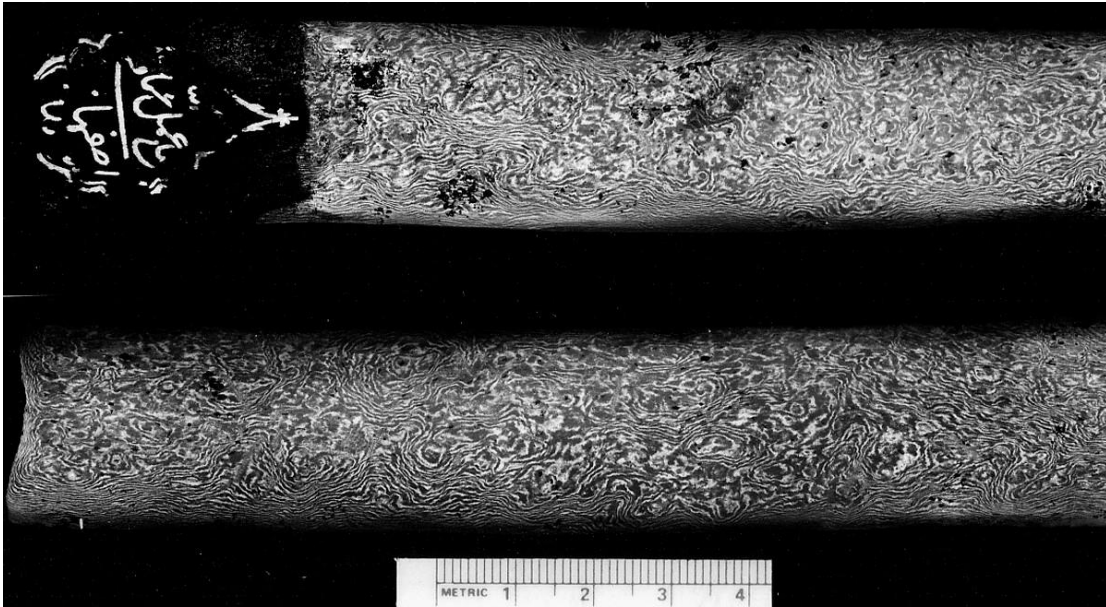
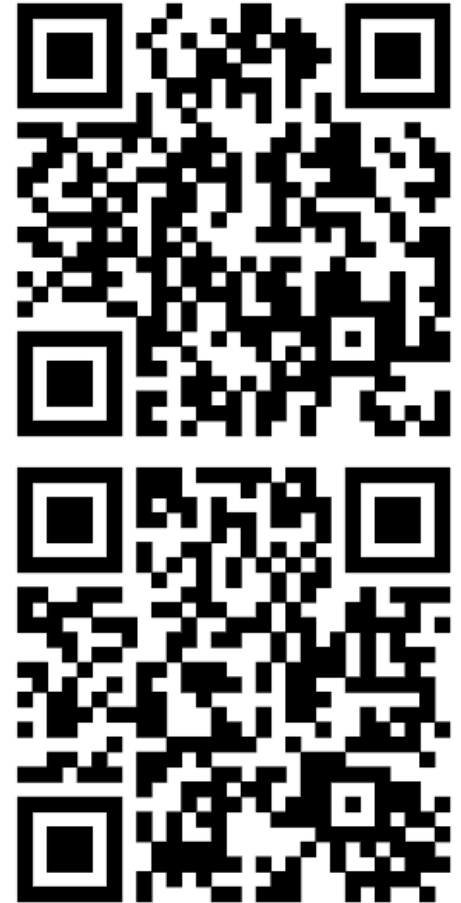


# A few examples of phase transitions

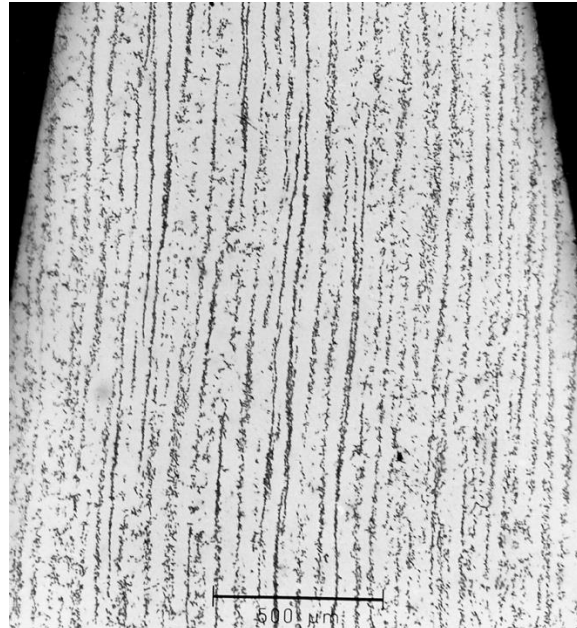


Damascus Steel Swords

Additional listening



*The Figiel blade purchased in Rajasthan India.*



*Transverse section of Figiel blade with inverse contrast*