

Materials Science (MS)

Prelims Lecture Course Synopses 2025-26

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Materials Science 1: Physical Foundations of Materials

Materials Science 1: Physical Foundations of Materials

Summary

This paper introduces the physical foundations underpinning important areas of Materials Science. You will learn some basic concepts of atomic arrangements in perfect crystals and how we can use diffraction of X-ray and electron waves to measure these arrangements. The use of waves will also be used to explore basic concepts in wave mechanics and quantum theory, and how these theories can be used to explore the behaviour of electrons in materials and how bonding occurs. Quantum theory involves randomness and probability, and these ideas are continued in the study of random processes in materials to explain phenomena such as diffusion and the behaviour of gases. The physical principles of electricity and magnetism are introduced and used to explore the electrical and magnetic properties that are so important for many applications of materials.

Physical Foundations of Materials comprises:

- The Study of Crystalline materials by Diffraction (8 lectures)
- Electromagnetic Properties and Devices (12 lectures)
- Random Process and Statistical Physics (8 lectures)
- Wave mechanics, Quantum Theory and Bonding (12 lectures)

The Study of Crystalline Materials by Diffraction

Overview

The vast majority of materials are crystalline, and so any study of materials must start with introducing some basics of crystallography including the use of a unit cell to describe the periodicity in the crystal and how to represent symmetry in crystals. In a crystal, the atoms form a periodic lattice that can act as a diffraction grating to radiation, and diffraction is therefore an important characterisation tool. The use of diffraction as a practical tool for identifying crystal structures in materials will be introduced.

Lecture Content

Lecture 1. The Periodic lattice

- Definitions of a lattice, mesh, unit mesh and motif
- The Unit Cell and basis vectors
- The structure of metals and some binary compounds

Lecture 2. Symmetry in 2D

- Symmetry elements in 2D
- Lattice symmetry in 2D
- The 2D plane groups

Lecture 3. 3D point and space groups; crystallographic planes and directions

- The 14 Bravais lattices and 230 space groups
- Miller and Miller Bravais indices describing planes and directions
- Calculation of interplanar spacings, angles between planes and directions

Lecture 4. The stereographic projection and some 3D symmetry elements

- Stereographic projection and its properties – preservation of angular truth
- Great circles, small circles, zones, zone axes, zone symbols

Weiss zone law

Crystallographic calculations, Wulff net

Coordination and introduction to 3D symmetry **Lecture 5. Waves and diffraction in 2D and 3D**

Wave particle duality for X-Rays, electrons and neutrons

Interference of waves and the principle of superposition

Diffraction from a 2D grating, the effects of slit width, separation and grating size

Lecture 6. Diffraction in 3D

Diffraction from a 3D lattice; The Laue equation

Braggs law

Scattering factors for electrons, X-rays and neutrons

Structure factors

Forbidden reflections in cubic systems

Lecture 7. The reciprocal lattice

Constructing the reciprocal lattice

The Ewald sphere construction for single crystal and powder diffraction

Observing the reciprocal lattice with electron diffraction

Lecture 8. Practical diffraction and phase identification

Practical X-ray, electron and neutron diffraction experiments

Indexing powder x-ray and electron diffraction patterns

Example phase identification using powder diffraction

Further reading

Hammond, C. **The Basics of Crystallography and Diffraction**. Fourth edition, Oxford University Press, 2015. Oxford Scholarship Online. Electronic resource.

Kelly, A. and Kevin M. Knowles. **Crystallography and Crystal Defects**. Third edition, John Wiley & Sons, 2020. Electronic resource.

Electromagnetic Properties and Devices

Overview

Next generation batteries for electric vehicles; sustainable materials for touch screen displays; faster, more compact and efficient computing; futuristic cloaking devices: these are just a few examples of the wide range of technological applications which exploit electromagnetic phenomena in materials. This course introduces the physics of classical electromagnetism and how different kinds of material respond to electrical and magnetic fields. We will explore how the structure of a material influences its electromagnetic properties including the origins of phenomena such as ferroelectricity and piezoelectricity, and how the coupling between electric/magnetic/strain fields can be exploited in real devices.

Part I: Electrical properties of materials

Theory of electrostatics

- Basic concepts of charge, force on a charge, potential and electric field, capacitance
- Calculations using superposition principle and Gauss' theorem in examples with simple geometries

Dielectric materials

- Concepts of polarisation, dielectric permittivity, susceptibility, and electric displacement (D).
- Calculations involving simple geometries of capacitor.
- Example devices

Piezoelectric, pyroelectric and ferroelectric materials

- Concept of coupling between fields (e.g. electrical and strain)
- Crystal symmetry requirements
- Examples of materials
- Applications (e.g. Atomic Force Microscope, ferroelectric RAM)

Electrical transport

- Basic concepts of current, current density, resistance, Ohm's law.
- Electrical conductivity of metals – Drude model
- DC circuits

Part II: Magnetic properties of materials

Theory of magnetostatics

- Concepts of magnetic field, flux and induction.
- Calculations of magnetic field from currents in simple geometries using Biot-Savart and Ampere's laws (e.g. straight wire, loop, solenoid, toroid)
- Lorentz force on charges moving in electric fields

Electromagnetic induction

- Faraday's law and Lenz's law
- Concepts of self and mutual inductance

Magnetic materials

- Concepts of magnetisation, magnetic susceptibility, magnetic permeability and magnetic intensity (H)
- Introduction to paramagnetic, diamagnetic and ferromagnetic materials
- Applications of ferromagnets (saturation magnetisation, hysteresis loops, remanent field, coercivity, hard and soft ferromagnets)
- Example magnetic devices

Part III: Electromagnetic waves

General theory of electromagnetism

- Maxwell's equations in integral form
- Concept of displacement current

Electromagnetic waves

- General wave equation
- Formulation in integral form

Interaction of materials with EM waves

- Refractive index
- Conductors
- Example applications

Further reading

Bleaney, B. I. and B. Bleaney. **Electricity and Magnetism**. 3rd ed., 2-vol. edition, Oxford University Press, 1989. Oxford Science Publications. Materials Dept. Library 21 BLE/a or 21 BLE/b. More advanced text - rather old fashioned.

Duffin, W. J. **Electricity and Magnetism**. 4th ed.], New impression. edition, W. J. Duffin, 2001. Good basic text with similar level of mathematical complexity as lecture course.

Feynman, Richard P. et al. **The Feynman Lectures on Physics**. Addison-Wesley, 1963. Materials Dept. Library 20 FEY/Bb or 20 FEY/Cc or 20 FEY/Ac. Vol II, Ch. 1-22 are worth reading. The mathematical formalism is more complex, but is clearly explained in the text. Vol. 1, Ch. 2 gives an interesting historical overview of “Basic Physics” which helps set the classical physics discussed in this course in context.

Solymar, L. and D. Walsh. **Electrical Properties of Materials**. 6th edition, Oxford University Press, 1998. Materials Dept. Library 21 SOL/Q. More advanced text - interesting examples. “Basic Physics” which helps set the classical physics discussed in this course in context.

Speller, Susannah. **A Materials Science Guide to Superconductors: And How to Make Them Super**. Oxford University Press, 2022. Superconductors. 21 SPE. General interest. Ch 2 particularly relevant.

Random Processes and Statistical Physics

Overview

Quantum theory shows us that probability plays an important role in the processes that control materials properties. This course explores that idea in more detail, looking at how randomness can control structure, how it plays a role in diffusion processes and in the interaction of gases with surfaces. The statistical concepts introduced can be used to explain classical thermodynamics, and the statistical nature of heat capacity is introduced.

Lecture Content

Random processes in materials

Examples of random processes e.g. diffusion

Random walks – applications (e.g. polymers)

Rapid random motion of gas molecules

Basic assumptions of kinetic theory

Simple derivations of pressure and temperature

Ideal gas equations

Statistical distributions of molecular motions

Statistical notation

Collision with walls – relating pressure to collision rate

Deposition of materials and thin film growth

Effusion

Pressure and distribution of velocities

Derivation of pressure as statistical average and need for mean-square velocity

Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution of velocities

Collisions and transport

Concept of mean free path

Rate of collisions in gases and relation to reaction kinetics (effect of temperature and pressure)

Rate laws. Determination of reaction order and rate constants/The Arrhenius equation.

Transport in materials – diffusion, heat flow and viscosity

Effect of temperature and pressure on transport

Non-ideal gas behaviour

Interaction between molecules

Modification to ideal gas law

Equipartition theory (links to thermodynamics course)

Heat capacity of gases

Breakdown of classical physics

Heat capacity of solids

Further reading

Atkins, P. W. et al. **Atkins' Physical Chemistry**. Eleventh edition. International edition, Oxford University Press, 2018. Physical Chemistry. Focus 1

Chorkendorff, I. and J. W. Niemantsverdriet. **Concepts of Modern Catalysis and Kinetics**. Third edition, Wiley-VCH, 2017. Materials Dept. Library 42 CHO. Chapters 2 and 7.

Dill, Ken A. and Sarina Bromberg. **Molecular Driving Forces : Statistical Thermodynamics in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Nanoscience**. 2nd edition, Garland Science, 2010. Legal Deposit Only. Chapters 1-12, 17-19.

Seddon, John M. and Julian D. Gale. **Thermodynamics and Statistical Mechanics**. Wiley-Interscience, 2002. Basic Concepts in Chemistry. Chapter 8-11,13.

Tabor, David. **Gases, Liquids, and Solids : And Other States of Matter**. 3rd edition, Cambridge University Press, 1991. Cambridge Core. Online Resource. Ch1-6, 10.

Wave Mechanics, Quantum Theory and Bonding

Overview

Many properties of materials are controlled by how electrons behave in them. Because of wave-particle duality, we need to consider electrons as waves. This course shows how these ideas lead onto quantum theory and the idea of discrete states. We can then think about what happens over different length scales including atoms and nanomaterials. The concept of bonding and molecular orbitals is introduced before thinking about entire crystals and how bands are formed.

Lecture Content

Wave particle duality

Evidence, electron diffraction, photoelectric effect, atomic spectra

DeBroglie wavelength

Interpretation of quantum mechanical wave

Observation of quantum systems

Perturbation of observed systems

Postulates of quantum mechanics

Operators and commutators

Uncertainty principles – momentum-space / energy-time

Waves and the wave equation

Wave packets

Dispersion, phase velocity and group velocity for electrons and photons

Schrödinger equation

Waves on a string, standing waves and boundary conditions

Mathematical notations for waves

Free and fixed boundaries

Nodes and antinodes

Harmonics

Wave equations

Infinite potential well

Infinite potential well

Waves in a 1D box, quantisation, quantum confinement

Illustrated with energy levels in nanomaterials (QDs etc.)

Measurement in quantum mechanics

Decomposition into eigenstates

Statistical nature of measurements and expectation values

Wavefunction collapse and Schrödinger's cat

Transmission and reflection of waves

Finite boundary potentials

Boundary condition matching

Transmission and reflection coefficients

Tunnelling and evanescent waves

Extension to 3D

Separation of variables

Angular momentum

Quantum numbers n and l

The hydrogen atom

One electron atoms

Heavier atoms

Spin

Fermions and bosons

Pauli exclusion principle

Filling of atoms

Multiple finite wells

Molecular orbital theory – bonding and antibonding

The concept of the broadening of discrete states into bands

The concept of a crystal momentum to describe a wave

Further reading

Bransden, B. H, and C. J. (Charles Jean) Joachain. ***Physics of Atoms and Molecules***. 2nd ed. Harlow: Prentice Hall, 2003. Print.

Blinder, S. M. **Introduction to Quantum Mechanics : In Chemistry, Materials Science, and Biology**. Elsevier, 2004. 1514/Complementary Science Ser. Materials Dept. Library 40 BLI. Goes a bit faster than Philipps, but also has a lot of background about further applications in science.

Gasiorowicz, Stephen. **Quantum Physics**. 3rd edition, Wiley, 2003. Materials Dept. Library 20 GAS/D. A classic text book in the field.

Griffiths, David J. **Introduction to Quantum Mechanics**. Second edition, Cambridge University Press, 2017. 3rd Ed 2018. More formal and mathematical and goes a bit deeper.

Phillips, A. C. **Introduction to Quantum Mechanics**. Wiley, 2003. Manchester Physics Series. Materials Dept. Library 20 PHI. Pitched at a similar level to the course.

Materials Science 2: Structure and Mechanical Properties of Materials

Materials Science 2: Structure and Mechanical Properties of Materials

Summary

This paper introduces the basic structures of materials –both crystalline and amorphous and how they deform and fail under applied stresses. You will learn the theory behind methods used to study the atomic arrangement in perfect crystals and in then apply these to the common lattice defects which can occur. How these defects control the mechanical properties of the materials will be introduced in both single crystal and more engineering relevant material systems. This will cover elastic properties, including stress and strain analysis, yield phenomenon, post yield plastic flow and linear elastic fracture mechanics.

Structure and Mechanical Properties of Materials comprises:

- Elastic Deformation (8 lectures)
- Structures of Crystalline and Glassy Materials (12 lectures)
- Defects in Crystals (8 lectures)
- Mechanical Properties (12 lectures)

Elastic Deformation

Overview

This course introduces the basics of stress and strain. Analysis of simple bending conditions (cantilever, three point, four point) as required for mechanical testing analysis are developed, including shear force and bending moment diagrams. Mohr's circle is introduced as a graphical method to calculate stress or strain states at any point in a plane for arbitrary loading conditions. The underlying physics of elastic constants and how they relate stress and strain will be derived. Time dependant elastic deformation (viscoelasticity) will be introduced through examples in polymeric materials. Stress states and the elastic deformation of thin wall pressure vessels and torsional deformation of prismatic rods will be discussed.

Lecture Content

Equilibrium

- Resolving forces

- Taking moments

Internal forces

- Shear force and bending moment diagrams

Stress

- Definitions, normal stress, shear stress, notation

- Transformation of axes

- Resolving stress onto an inclined plane

- Mohr's circle for stress

- Principal stresses, maximum shear stress

Strain

Definitions, normal strains, shear strain

Engineering and tensor strains

Transformation of axes

Mohr's circle for strain

Principal strains, maximum shear strain

Elasticity and interatomic forces

Recap of fundamentals

Physical basis for Hooke's law

Hooke's law

Relating stress and strain

Young's Modulus

Shear modulus, bulk modulus

Poisson's ratio

Viscoelastic deformation

Simple spring and dash pot models

Elastic deformation examples

Thin wall pressure vessels

Bending of beams

Torsional deformation

Further reading

Benham, P. P. et al. **Mechanics of Engineering Materials**. 2nd edition, Longman, 1996.

Dieter, George E. **Mechanical Metallurgy**. 3rd edition, McGraw-Hill, 1988 McGraw-Hill Series in Materials Science and Engineering. MT A J Wilkinson Chapter 2

Gere, James M. **Mechanics of Materials**. 5th SI edition, Nelson Thornes, 2002. Dept. of Materials Library 50 GER. 8th ed 2008 online.

McCrum, N. G. et al. **Principles of Polymer Engineering**. 2nd edition, Oxford University Press, 1997. Dept. of Materials Library 45 McM/3C. Chapter 4.

Structures of Crystalline and Glassy Materials

Overview

This course will investigate why different classes of materials exist and how different forms of interatomic bonds lead to different materials properties. Ways to represent and describe bonding will be introduced through the use of example materials with common crystal structures. Key classes of materials (ceramics, metals, polymers, glasses) will be introduced and specific applications of these materials used to illustrate key points.

Lecture Content

Types of Bonding

Examples of simple crystal structures

Close packing of spheres. FCC and HCP and stacking sequences

Octahedral and tetrahedral interstices in close-packed structures

Basic Concepts

- Definition of metals, ceramics, polymers, glasses and semiconductors
- Types of bonding: ionic, covalent, metallic, van der Waals
- Dependence of interatomic forces on distance
- Non-directional bonds: van der Waals, metallic; close packing
- Directional bonds: the covalent bond, hybrids
- Electronegativity, ionic bonding, co-ordination
- Trends in the periodic table

Ceramic materials bonding

Ionic Structures

- Structures of composition AX (CsCl, NaCl, ZnS)
- Principles of ionic bonding: radius ratio criterion, energy considerations, Madelung constant
- Structures of composition AX₂

- Pauling's Rules

Covalent Structures

- Simple covalent structures (diamond, graphite)
- Molecular crystals
- Structures of some ceramics.

Perovskite structures

- Basic properties

Glassy materials

What is a glass? Compositions and additives

Structural properties. Local ordering

Volume change vs temperature. Glass transition temperature.

Applications of glasses

Bonding and structures of polymers

What is a polymer?

Polymer chain formation. Mixtures of bonding

Physical properties and applications (polyethene etc)

Polymer types and structures - linear, branched, cross-linked, network

Side groups and isomers

Molecular weight distributions. Degree of polymerisation.

Polymer crystallinity

Metals, solid solutions and ordered alloys

Trends across the Periodic Table

Typical metallic structures (FCC, BCC, HCP); atomic packing factor, unit cell volume, theoretical density

Relationship between structure, bonding and properties of pure metals

Interstitial and substitutional alloys – iron-carbon, iron-chromium, aluminium-copper

Hume-Rothery Rules: size factor, electrochemical factor & relative valency factor

Electron compounds; normal valency compounds; size factor compounds - interstitial compounds

Further reading

Barrett, C. S. and T. B. Massalski. **Structure of Metals : Crystallographic Methods, Principles, and Data**. 3rd rev ed., C.S. Barrett, T.B. Massalski edition, Pergamon, 1980. Pergamon International Library of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Social Studies. Dept. of Materials Library 31 BAR/1H.

Callister, William D. **Materials Science and Engineering**. Ninth edition, SI version. edition, Wiley, 2014. Dept. of Materials Library 50 CAL/3.

Cottrell, Alan. **An Introduction to Metallurgy**. 2nd edition, Institute of Materials, 1995. Book (Institute of Materials (Great Britain)) ; 626. Dept. of Materials Library 50 COT/3.

Evans, Robert Crispin. **An Introduction to Crystal Chemistry**. 2nd edition, Cambridge University Press, 1964. Dept. of Materials Library 30 EVA/B or 30 EVA/A or 30 EVA/D or 30 EVA/E.

Hammond, C. **The Basics of Crystallography and Diffraction**. Fourth edition, Oxford University Press, 2015. Oxford Scholarship Online. Electronic resource.

Hume-Rothery, William et al. **The Structure of Metals and Alloys**. 5th ed. (revised) edition, Metals & Metallurgy Trust, 1969. Monograph and Report Series ; No. 1. Dept. of Materials Library (overnight) 50 HUM/2E. Parts II to V.

Kelly, A. and Kevin M. Knowles. **Crystallography and Crystal Defects**. Third edition, John Wiley & Sons, 2020. Dept. of Materials Library 30 KEL and electronic.

Kittel, Charles and Paul McEuen. **Introduction to Solid State Physics**. 8th edition, Wiley, 2005. Dept. of Materials Library 22 KIT/1N. chapters 1 & 3

Phillips, F. C. **An Introduction to Crystallography**. 4th edition, Oliver & Boyd, 1971. Dept. of Materials Library 30PHI.

Smallman, R. E. and A. H. W. Ngan. **Modern Physical Metallurgy**. Eighth edition, Butterworth-Heinemann, 2014. Ebook Central. Dept. of Materials Library 50 SMA.

Sperling, L. H. **Introduction to Physical Polymer Science**. 4th edition, Wiley, 2006. Online Resource. reference book.

Wulff, John. **Structure and Properties of Materials**. Wiley, 1964. Dept. of Materials Library 50 WUL/Ba. chapter 1-3.

Defects in Crystals

Overview

This course will introduce the basic forms of defects present in crystalline materials. Their effect on physical properties will be considered. Diffusion of point defects and implications for systems such as ionic conductors will be covered. Dislocations will be given the fullest consideration. Differences between edge and screw dislocations. How dislocation move and control the mechanical properties in single crystal metals will be covered. Methods for imaging dislocations and calculating their nature will be introduced. This course will build on the diffraction and crystal structures courses and also use elasticity analysis introduced in elasticity and structures. It will lead into the mechanical properties course.

Lecture Content

Introduction

Types of lattice defects (point, line, planar)

What do defects control – e.g. (doping of semiconductors, strengthening in metals)

Introduction to dislocations

How do we know they exist?

Structure of edge and screw dislocations in simple cubic materials

Definition of the Burgers vector

Imaging dislocations

Microscopy and diffraction techniques

Introduction to diffraction contrast TEM imaging and $\mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{b}$ analysis

Etch pits methods

Dislocations in cubic lattices

Self-energy of a dislocation

Slip systems

Partial dislocations and stacking faults

Peach Koehler formula for force on dislocation
Motion of dislocations under an applied stress
Dislocation sources

Point defects and diffusion

Point defect types
Concentration of point defects
Vacancy motion and solid state diffusion
Diffusion mechanisms and Fick's first and second laws

Planar defects

Planar defect types
Stacking faults
Twinning
Structure of grain boundaries and concepts of grain boundary energy
Interphase and antiphase boundaries

Further reading

Hull, Derek and D. J. Bacon. **Introduction to Dislocations**. 5th edition, Elsevier Butterworth-Heinemann, 2011. Dept. of Materials Library 54 HUL/1.

Kelly, A. and Kevin M. Knowles. **Crystallography and Crystal Defects**. Third edition, John Wiley & Sons, 2020. Dept. of Materials Library 30 KEL and electronic. HT M R Castell

Reed-Hill, Robert E. and R. Abbaschian. **Physical Metallurgy Principles**. 3rd. edition, PWS-Kent Publishing Co., 1992. The Pws-Kent Series in Engineering. Dept. of Materials Library 50 REE/D. Chapter 6

Mechanical Properties

Overview

This course builds on the elastic behaviour course looking at how materials behave beyond the yield point and from the defects course, looking at how defects can control mechanical behaviour. The basic methods of materials testing will be introduced, this will link into several practical classes. Plastic behaviour will be covered both at the micro and macroscale. At the microscale building on the defects course, but concentrating on the strength of polycrystalline metals and introduce the concept of strengthening through precipitates, using aerospace aluminium alloys as examples. This will be followed by a macroscopic treatment of yield through Tresca, Von Mises and Coulombs Yield Criterion for deformation in bulk metals and polymers. Fracture will be covered in ceramics and glasses using a linear elastic treatment. Toughening mechanisms will be introduced including fibre toughening which will lead to a first treatment of composite materials. Finally optimisation of materials properties will be covered, looking at a range of properties including design for strength, stiffness and cost.

Lecture Content

Testing mechanical properties

Why we test, how we test, what we test.

Types of stress and strain

Introduction to stress- strain curves for metals, ceramics, polymers

Microscale mechanisms of plasticity and how we control plastic strength

Metals – chemistry and crystallographic effects

Metals –grain size; Hall-Petch effect, how to control grain size

Work hardening in metals. Single vs double slip. Effect of crystal structure and stacking fault energy on work hardening behaviour

Twinning deformation, difference to annealing twins
Plasticity in polymers, glass transitions temperatures

Predicting plastic failure at bulk or component length scales

Tresca and Von Mises yield criterion – metals
Coulomb yield criterion – polymers
Using yield criterion for combined tension-torsion loading

Fracture processes

Recap of theoretical strength
Stress concentrations at small flaws
Griffith theory
Orowan Modification
Ductile to brittle transitions in metals
Fracture and failure in polymers
Toughening mechanisms –transformation toughening, microcracking, composites

Introduction to mechanics of composites

Design of composites
Rules of mixture in long fibre composites
Rules of mixture in particulate composites

Optimising materials selection

Ashby Maps
Examples of using Ashby Diagrams and properties optimisation (design for stiffness, lightness, strength, cost etc).

Further reading

Anand, I., Kamrin, K. and Govindjee, S. **Introduction to the Mechanics of Solid Materials**. First edition, OUP, 2022.

Ashby, M. F. **Materials Selection in Mechanical Design**. Fifth edition, Butterworth-Heinemann, 2016.

Ashby, M. F. and David R. H. Jones. **Engineering Materials 1: An Introduction to Properties, Applications, and Design**. 4th edition, Butterworth-Heinemann, 2012.
Engineering Materials One.

Callister, William D. and David G. Rethwisch. **Materials Science and Engineering**. 8th ed. edition, Wiley, 2011. TT D Armstrong.

Clyne, T. W. and J. E. Campbell. **Testing of the Plastic Deformation of Metals**. Cambridge University Press, 2021. Cambridge Core.

Dieter, George E. **Mechanical Metallurgy**. 3rd edition, McGraw-Hill, 1988 McGraw-Hill Series in Materials Science and Engineering.

DoITPoMS. "The Dissemination of It for the Promotion of Materials Science."

<https://www.doitpoms.ac.uk/> This site has good introductions to many key concepts discussed in this course.

Materials Science 3: Transforming Materials

Materials Science 3: Transforming Materials

Summary

This paper introduces you to how the microstructure of materials can be transformed and controlled through processing, in order to control and optimise the properties that are required for the material to perform its function. The theory of thermodynamics is critical to all transformations in materials, and you will be introduced to the first and second laws of thermodynamics and their role in phase diagrams. This will be developed further in Microstructure and Processing of Materials I & II, which will describe how phase transformations can be used to control microstructure, with case studies in metallic, ceramic and polymeric systems. Electrochemical processes, which are driven by thermodynamics, are important in the production and degradation of materials, as well as the performance of materials for energy storage. The developing field of nanomaterials will also be introduced, with emphasis on nanomaterial synthesis, properties and applications.

Transforming Materials comprises:

- Thermodynamics (8 lectures)
- Introduction to Nanomaterials (8 lectures)
- Microstructure and Processing of Materials I (8 lectures)
- Electrochemistry (8 Lectures)
- Microstructure and Processing of Materials II (8 lectures)

Thermodynamics

Overview

Thermodynamics is fundamental to the physical and chemical processes that occur in materials. This course underpins many subsequent parts of the materials degree. It focuses on the first and second laws of thermodynamic, using practical examples, and leads to an understanding of phase stability.

Lecture Content

First law of thermodynamics

Thermodynamic Definitions: work, heat, internal energy, state and path functions

Simple gas expansion

Reversible and irreversible processes

Enthalpy and heat capacity

Heat capacity at constant volume

Storage of internal energy

Constant pressure processes

Heat capacity at constant pressure

Enthalpy variation with temperature

Hess's law. Kirchhoff's equation

Entropy and the second law of thermodynamics

Definition of a spontaneous process

Entropy variation with temperature

Entropy of phase changes

Definition of the Gibbs function

Thermodynamic Master Equations

Gibbs function variation with temperature and pressure

Gibbs Helmholtz equation

Statistical mechanics definition of entropy

Mixtures and equilibria.

- Dealing with mixtures
- Chemical Potential
- The Van't Hoff isochore

Applications of thermodynamics to metallurgy

- Ellingham diagrams
- Stability of oxides
- Thermodynamics of the Blast Furnace
- Extraction of metals from Sulphides
- Predominance diagrams

Phase changes.

- The phase rule and phase diagrams
- The Clausius-Clapeyron equation
- Vapour pressure. Ideal solutions
- Non-ideal solutions
- Free energy of mixing
- Regular solutions
- The quasi chemical model

Further reading

Atkins, P. W. and Julio De Paula. **Atkins' Physical Chemistry**. Tenth edition, Oxford University Press, 2014. Physical Chemistry. Part 1: Chapters 1-6.

Gaskell, David R. and Arthur E. Morris. **Introduction to the Thermodynamics of Materials**. 5th edition, Taylor & Francis, 2008. Dept. of Materials Library 50 GAS/3. Chapters 1-13.

Atkins, P. W. **The Laws of Thermodynamics : A Very Short Introduction**. Oxford University Press, 2010. Very Short Introductions ; 226.

Introduction to Nanomaterials

Overview

This course serves as an introduction to the rapidly developing area of Nanomaterials, beginning with the peculiar characteristics of materials at the nanoscale and the new technologies they enable. Important methodologies for nanomaterial synthesis are described, and the structures of key nanomaterials are introduced, including carbon nanomaterials and chalcogenides. The upscaling of the manufacture of nanomaterials is considered, together with associated ethical and safety issues. The course concludes with current and potential applications of nanomaterials in medicine and energy.

Lecture Content

Introduction

Nanoscale,
Nanotechnology,
Surface areas per unit volume,
0-D, 1-D, 2-D materials

Synthesis of nanomaterials

Chemistry of particle synthesis,
Sol-gel processing,
Core-shell nanoparticles,
Composites, coatings, thin films,
Chemical vapour deposition, arc discharge, exfoliation

Carbon nanomaterials

Fullerenes, nanotubes, graphene

Other nanomaterials

Chalcogenides, other 2-deg materials

Manufacturing

Upscaling,
Safety of nanomaterials,
Ethics and regulation

Physical properties of nanomaterials

Introduction to electrical, optical and mechanical properties at the nanoscale

Applications of nanomaterials

Medical applications,
Energy materials

Further reading

Ando Y, Zhao X, Sugai T, and Kumar M, “**Growing carbon nanotubes**”, *Materials Today*, October 2004.

Arzt, E, Gorb, S, and Spolenak, R, “**From micro to nano contacts in biological attachment devices**” *PNAS*, vol. 100, no. 19, 2003, pp. 10603–10606.

Cooper, K, “**Scalable Nanomanufacturing—A Review**” *Micromachines*, vol. 8, 2017, pp 20.

Crew, B. “**Scientists Create World's Most Expensive Material**”, 2016.

Di Ventra, Massimiliano et al. **Introduction to Nanoscale Science and Technology**. Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2004. Nanoscale Science and Technology. Dept. of Materials Library Overnight 58 DIV.

Endo, M and Dresselhaus MS, “**Carbon Fibers and carbon nanotubes**”

Geim, A & Grigorieva, I, “**Van der Waals heterostructures**” *Nature*, vol 499, 2013, pp. 419.

Guldi, D. M. **Carbon Nanotubes and Related Structures: Synthesis, Characterization, Functionalization, and Applications**. Wiley-VCH Verlag, 2010. Online.

Harris, Peter J. F. **Carbon Nanotube Science : Synthesis, Properties and Applications**. 2nd edition, Cambridge University Press, 2009. Dept. of Materials Library 40 HAR/1. General Overview of CNTs.

Iijima S, “Helical microtubules”, *Nature*, 1991.

Karn, Barbara. **Nanotechnology and the Environment: Applications and Implications**. American Chemical Society, 2005. Acs Symposium Series; 890. Dept. of Materials Library Overnight 05 ACS/2005.

Koch, C. C. **Nanostructured Materials: Processing, Properties, and Applications**. 2nd edition, Andrew, 2007. Dept. of Materials Library Overnight 40 KOC/1.

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Lin, J and Zhou, W, **“Defect in 2D materials beyond graphene”**, *Elsevier*, 2018.

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Oberun, A, Endo, M and Koyama Filamentous, T. **“Growth of Carbon Through Benzene Decomposition”** *Journal of Crystal Growth*, vol. 32, 1975, pp.335—349.

Picó, Y and Barceló, D, **“Analysis and Prevention of Microplastics Pollution in Water: Current Perspectives and Future Directions”**, *ACS Omega*, vol 4, 2019, pp.6709–6719.

Reich, S. et al. **Carbon Nanotubes: Basic Concepts and Physical Properties**. Wiley-VCH, 2004. Dept. of Materials Library Overnight 40 REI/A. Basic Concepts and Physical Properties of CNTs.

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Shinohara, H. **“Endohedral metallofullerenes”**. *Rep. Prog. Phys.* vol. 63, 2000, pp. 843.

Teyssier, J, Saenko, S, van der Marel, D & Milinkovitch. M, **“Photonic crystals cause active colour change in chameleons”** *Nature Communications*, 2015.

Wang, H, et al, **“Multifunctional inorganic nanomaterials for energy applications”** *Nanoscale* vol. 12, 2020, pp.14.

Whitehead, C, Özkar, S and Finke, R, **“LaMer’s 1950 Model for Particle Formation of Instantaneous Nucleation and Diffusion-Controlled Growth: A Historical Look at the Model’s Origins, Assumptions, Equations, and Underlying Sulfur Sol Formation Kinetics Data”** *Chem. Mater*, vol. 31, 2019, pp. 7116 – 77132.

Yina, D, Yangb, Y, Yanga, Y, Fanga, H, **“A novel fullerene-like B30N30 structure: Stability and electronic property”** *Carbon 102*, 2016, pp. 273-278.

Microstructure and Processing of Materials I

Overview

Material microstructures are the product of phase transformations that occur during processing, so an understanding of what controls phase transformations is important in all material systems. This course builds on the thermodynamics course to explain how we determine phase diagrams, and how they predict which equilibrium phases are formed by what reactions. This will be illustrated with examples of how to read phase diagrams to predict how to process a range of materials by both liquid-solid and solid-solid transformations.

Lecture Content

- Concepts of microstructure
- Terminology for microstructures
- Gibbs phase rule
- Solutions, compounds and mixtures
- Simple phase diagrams; tie lines and invariant points
- Ideal and regular solution models
- Tangent and lever rules

Phase diagrams

- Derivation from free energy-composition curves
- Continuous solutions, immiscibility and ordering
- Eutectic, peritectic, eutectoid peritectoid and monotectic reactions. Intermediate phases

Using phase diagrams

- Solidification: driving force for solidification; introduction to homogeneous and heterogeneous nucleation

- Solidification of solutions: partition coefficient; Scheil equation and segregation; cells and dendrites, cored microstructures
- Eutectic and peritectic transformations and microstructures
- Solid state phase transformations
- Introduction to precipitation, homogeneous and heterogeneous nucleation, equilibrium precipitation and age hardening
- Heat treatments
- Introduction to recrystallization and grain growth

Further reading

Ashby, M. F. "**Teach Yourself: Phase Diagrams and Phase Transformation.**"

https://www.grantadesign.com/download/pdf/edupack2015/Teach_Yourself_Phase_Diagrams_and_Phase_Transformations.pdf

Askeland, Donald R. et al. **The Science and Engineering of Materials**. Seventh edition. SI edition edition, Cengage Learning, 2016. Dept. of Materials Library Overnight 50 ASK/1. MT and TT C R M Grovenor.

Cottrell, Alan. **An Introduction to Metallurgy**. 2nd edition, Institute of Materials, 1995. Book (Institute of Materials (Great Britain)); 626. Dept. of Materials Library 50 COT/3. MT and TT C R M Grovenor.

Smallman, R. E. and A. H. W. Ngan. **Modern Physical Metallurgy**. Eighth edition, Butterworth-Heinemann, 2014. Ebook Central. Dept. of Materials Library 50 SMA.

Electrochemistry

Overview

Electrochemistry is fundamental to the extraction of metals by electrolysis and also their corrosion and protection from degradation. The same processes of electrochemical thermodynamics are critical to the design and performance of materials for electrochemical energy storage, and sensors that rely on electrochemical processes. This course provides an introduction to applications of electrochemistry, and considers the thermodynamics of electrochemical processes. Factors that influence the kinetics of electrochemical reactions, including transport properties and interfaces are considered, using case studies.

Lecture Content

Introduction to electrochemistry

Overview: electrodes, electrolytes and interfaces

Applications:

- Electrolysis
- Electrodeposition and electroplating
- Electro-mining
- Electroanalysis and sensors
- Corrosion and protection
- Energy conversion, production and storage

Electrochemical thermodynamics

The physics of phase potentials

Cell potential and Gibbs free energy

Electrochemical potential

Half-reactions and standard reduction potentials

Cell potential and concentrations: Nernst equation

Reference electrodes

Pourbaix Diagrams

Case studies: sensors (potentiometry), maximum theoretical specific energy in batteries

Electrolytes and transport properties

Electroneutrality

Non-ideal behaviour of electrolyte solutions: activity coefficient

Transport properties: conduction, diffusion, migration

Case studies: activity coefficient, diffusion coefficient and transference number

The electrode-electrolyte interface: the electrical double layer

Structure of the electrical double layer

Case study: supercapacitors

Kinetics of electrode reactions

Charge transfer across the interface

Overpotential

Butler-Volmer model and the Tafel equation 

Case study: electrocatalysis

Further reading

Bard, Allen J. et al. **Electrochemical Methods : Fundamentals and Applications.**

Second edition, Wiley, 2001. Dept. of Materials Library Overnight 43 BAR/1. Chapters 1-4.

Fuller, Thomas, author and John Harb, author. **Electrochemical Engineering.** 1st edition, Wiley, 2018. Online.

Microstructure and Processing of Materials II

Overview

These lectures build on the MT course, using case studies in metallic (solidification and heat treatment), polymeric and ceramic systems to develop an understanding of how the microstructures of materials can be controlled through processing.

Lecture Content

The Al-Si system for casting

- Structures of cast metal, Na modification
- Engineering applications

The Fe-C system

- Eutectic reaction and cast irons
- Eutectoid decomposition
- Hypo and hyper eutectoid alloys
- Martensite and bainite
- TTT curves. Typical microstructures for different heat treatments
- Engineering applications

Polymers: The PS/PBD system

- Polymer blends and phase separation
- Control of microstructure
- Engineering applications – tyres and high impact polystyrene

Ceramics: Mullite

- Powder processing
- Sintering
- Ceramic microstructures
- Engineering applications

Further reading

Askeland, Donald R. et al. **The Science and Engineering of Materials**. Seventh edition. SI edition edition, Cengage Learning, 2016. Dept. of Materials Library Overnight 50 ASK/1. MT and TT C R M Grovenor.

Ashby, M. F. and David R. H. Jones. **Engineering Materials 2: An Introduction to Microstructures and Processing**. 4th edition, Butterworth-Heinemann, 2013. Dept. of Materials Library 50 ASH/5.

Cottrell, Alan. **An Introduction to Metallurgy**. 2nd edition, Institute of Materials, 1995. Book (Institute of Materials (Great Britain)); 626. Dept. of Materials Library 50 COT/3. MT and TT C R M Grovenor.

Porter, David A. and K. E. Easterling. **Phase Transformations in Metals and Alloys**. 2nd edition, Chapman & Hall, 1992. Dept. of Materials Library 53 POR/H.

Mathematics for Material Science

Mathematics for Material Science

Summary

Mathematics is the language of the physical sciences. This course will cover the mathematics which will underpin the material science you will learn this year, and in future years. As well as learning the fundamentals you will gain experience at applying mathematics to physical problems.

Lecture Content

Mathematics for Materials Science I

- Ordinary and Partial Differentiation (7 Lectures)
- Vectors & Matrices (12 lectures)

Mathematics for Materials Science II

- Taylor Series and Limits (3 lectures)
- Integration (5 lectures)
- Complex Numbers (4 lectures)
- Ordinary Differential Equations (6 lectures)

Further reading

Boas, Mary L. **Mathematical Methods in the Physical Sciences**. 3rd edition, John Wiley, 2006. Dept. of Materials Library Overnight 10 BOA/1.

Riley, K. F. et al. **Mathematical Methods for Physics and Engineering : A Comprehensive Guide**. Second edition, Cambridge University Press, 2002. Mathematical Methods for Physics & Engineering. Online.

Stephenson, G. **Mathematical Methods for Science Students**. 2nd edition, Longman, 1973. Dept. of Materials Library 10 STE.

1st year MS

Dr E. Liberti

Prof S.C. Benjamin

19 lectures

Mathematics for Material Science I

Ordinary differentiation (EL)

Differentiation from 1st principles, chain rule

Partial Differentiation (EL)

Total derivatives, exact differentials,

Change of variables, chain rule

Applications: Spherical and polar coordinates, thermodynamics

Vectors (SCB)

Scalar Product and Vector Product.

Introduction to Vector Calculus

Applications: Reciprocal lattice, Miller indices and planes

Matrices (SCB)

Inverse matrices

Determinants

Orthogonal matrices

Properties of symmetric Matrices - eigenvalues and eigenvectors

Applications: Conductivity – interpretation of principle value and directions.

1st year MS

Dr K Dey

Dr A Moshtaghpour

Dr G. Martinez Alanis

18 lectures

Mathematics for Material Science II

Integration (K Dey)

Evaluation of definite integrals by substitution, partial fractions, integration by parts and reduction formulae

Multiple integrals in two and three dimensions - including polar and spherical coordinates.

Applications: areas, volumes, centroids, bending moments, Random Processes and Statistical Physics

Complex numbers (K Dey)

Exponential form.

Argand Diagrams

de Moivre's theorem

Solutions of Polynomial Equations.

Applications: Complex Impedance, circuits involving inductors, capacitors and resistors.

Taylor series and limits (AM)

Taylor series, limits and l'Hopital's rule

Applications: Low and high temperature expansions

Ordinary differential equations (Gerardo Martinez Alanis)

First Order equations: Separable variables. Linear homogeneous equations – integrating factor as a method of solution.

Applications: Cooling, circuits

Second Order Equations: Linear homogeneous with constant coefficients. Linear inhomogeneous with constant coefficients. Method of solution via auxiliary equation and particular integral.

Applications: Resonance in electrical and mechanical systems.