Phase Transformations: Solidification

3.205 L09 11/28/06



- Solidification of superheated liquid against a cooled mold wall
- Solidification of supercooled liquid by a nucleation event in the liquid
- Shape stability of the solid/liquid interface
- Constitutional supercooling of an alloy
- Casting microstructures

Solidification of superheated liquid Heat removed through mold wall at T < T_m

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Interface stable with respect to shape variations

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Solidification of supercooled liquid Latent heat removed into liquid at T < T_m

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Interface unstable with respect to shape variations

Figure removed due to copyright restrictions. See Figure 20.11b in Balluffi, Robert W., Samuel M. Allen, and W. Craig Carter. *Kinetics of Materials*. Hoboken, NJ: J. Wiley & Sons, 2005. ISBN: 0471246891.

Constitutional supercooling in alloys

Solute enrichment ahead of an advancing solid/liquid interface can effectively supercool the adjacent liquid by forming liquid compositions that are below their melting temperature. This commonly results in dendrite formation in alloys.

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Cells and dendrites

Features resulting from shape instability

Cells & Dendrites ~10 µm

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Macro grain structure of a casting ~0.1-10 mm grains

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SEM View of Dendrites in Cu-Ni-Mn Alloy

These dendrites are very large because the liquid metal was cooled very slowly.

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- When a material solidifies dendritically and forms a polycrystal, the grain size is generally *much larger* than the dendrite spacing.
- Alloy solidification via dendrite formation leads to compositionally inhomogeneous material.

Microsegregation

Alloy solidification via dendrite formation leads to compositionally inhomogeneous material.

Figure removed due to copyright restrictions. See Figure 22.4 in Balluffi, Robert W., Samuel M. Allen, and W. Craig Carter. *Kinetics of Materials*. Hoboken, NJ: J. Wiley & Sons, 2005. ISBN: 0471246891.