

# Material Science & Engg. BME303



A T M E  
College of Engineering



## Module-2 Physical Metallurgy

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## MODULE-2

### Physical Metallurgy

**Alloy Systems:** Classification of Solid solutions, Hume- Rothery Rules

**Diffusion:** Diffusion Mechanisms: Vacancy Diffusion and Interstitial Diffusion, Fick's laws of diffusion, Factors affecting diffusion.

**Phase Diagrams:** Gibbs Phase Rule, Solubility limit, phase equilibrium and Phase Diagrams: Isomorphous systems, Invariant Binary Reactions: Eutectic reaction, Eutectoid reaction and Peritectic reaction, Lever Rule, Iron-Carbon Diagram. Effect of common alloying elements in steel.

Numerical on Lever rule.

## Solid Solution

When two metals are mixed together, they form an alloy if one metal is soluble in the other one in solid state. Therefore, an alloy is a solid solution of two or more metals.

Solid solution is a combination of two metals which are completely soluble in both the solid and liquid states.

**Solid solution** is a phase, where two or more elements are completely soluble in each other. Depending on the ratio of the solvent (matrix) **metal** atom size and solute element atom size, two types of **solid solutions** may be formed: substitution or interstitial.

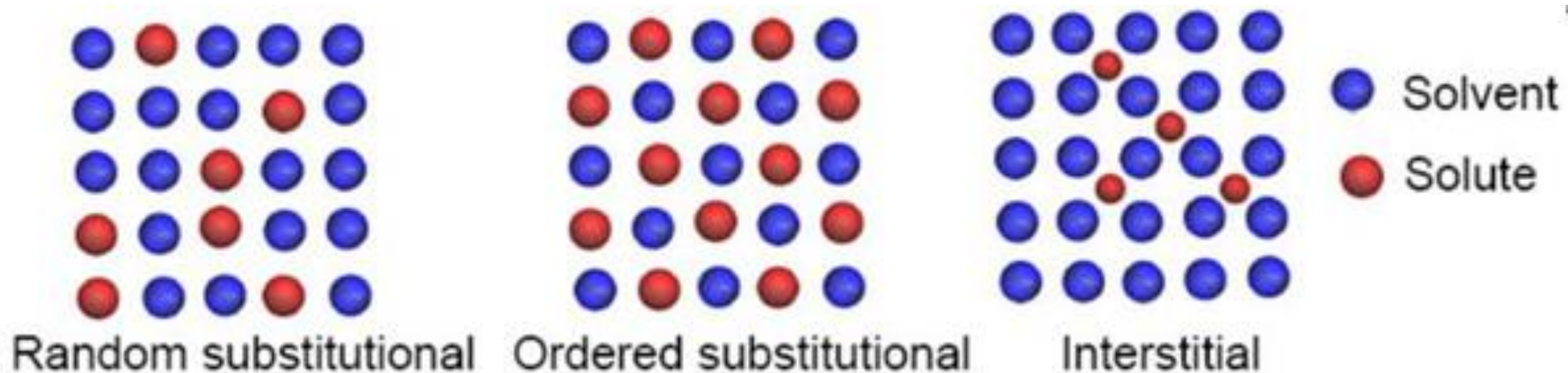
- The term solid solution is used just as liquid solution, because the solute and solvent atoms (applying the term solvent to the element in excess) are arranged in random.
- The difference between a solid and liquid solution is that, in solid solution, the size of the solute atoms greatly affect the solubility of the element which is of little consequence | liquid solutions.
- The solid solubility of one metal in another depends on a number of factor a set of rules were formulated and these are usually called the Hume-Rothery rules.

**Primarily there are two types of solid solutions -**

**Substitutional** – Solute atoms occupy the regular lattice sites of the parent metal (solvent).

Substitutional solid solutions can be random (Cu-Ni) or ordered (Cu-Au) and Au-Ag and Cu-Ag.

**Interstitial** – Solute atoms occupy the interstitial positions (Steel – C solute atoms in Fe)



## 1) Substitutional

- Solute atoms replace solvent atoms.
- It can be formed with limited solubility

e.g. Bronze (Sn in Cu)

or unlimited solubility e.g. Brass (Zn in Cu), in this case both atoms have nearly the same size.

## 2) Interstitial solid solutions

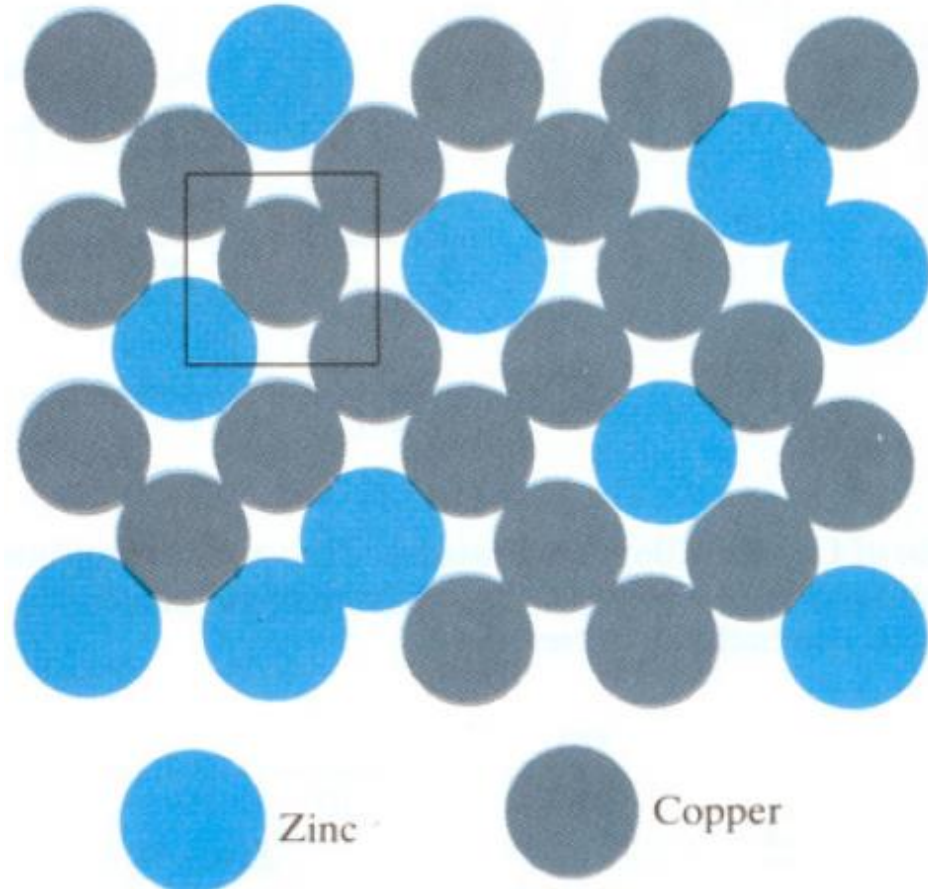
Small atoms located at the interstices between larger atoms. E.g. C in Fe

## 3) Ordered solid solutions

The two types of atoms arranged in a specific order.

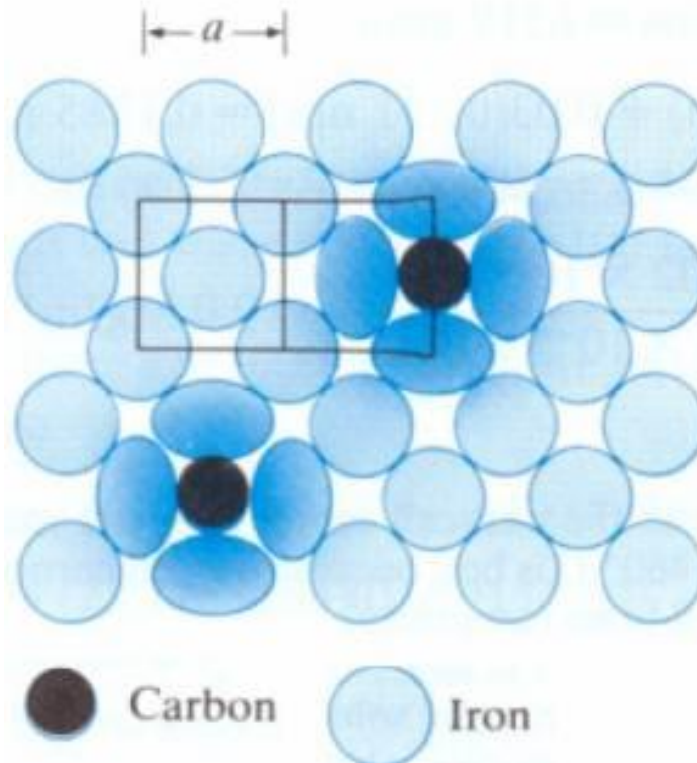
Heating always destroys the ordering in the solution.





**Random Substitutional Solid Solution (Zinc in Copper; i.e., Brass). The crystal pattern is not altered.**

## Interstitial solid solutions



**Interstitial-Solid Solution  
(Carbon in fcc Iron).**



In brief these rules (Hume-Rothery rules) are as follows:

- Crystal structure
- The atomic size factor
- The electrochemical effect
- Relative valence factor
- Electro-negativity

Solid solutions, in accordance with the Hume-Rothery rules, may form if the solute and solvent have:

- Similar atomic radii (15% or less difference)
- Same crystal structure
- Similar electronegativities
- Similar valency

## *Hume-Rothery Rule 1: Atomic Size Factor (the 15%) Rule.*

*Extensive substitutional solid solution occurs only if the relative difference between the atomic diameters (radii) of the two species is less than 15%. If the difference > 15%, the solubility is limited. Comparing the atomic radii of solids that form solid solutions, the empirical rule given by Hume-Rothery is given as:*

$$\text{Mismatch} = \left( \frac{r_{\text{solute}} - r_{\text{solvent}}}{r_{\text{solvent}}} \right) \times 100 \leq 15\%$$

## ***Hume-Rothery Rule 2: Crystal Structure Rule .***

*For appreciable solid solubility, the crystal structures of the two elements must be identical.*

## ***Hume-Rothery Rule 3: Valency Rule .***

*A metal will dissolve a metal of higher valency to a greater extent than one of lower valency. The solute and solvent atoms should typically have the same valence in order to achieve maximum solubility.*

### ***Hume-Rothery Rule 4: The Electronegativity Rule .***

*Electronegativity difference close to 0 gives maximum solubility. The more electropositive one element and the more electronegative the other, the greater is the likelihood that they will form an intermetallic compound instead of a substitutional solid solution. The solute and the solvent should lie relatively close in the electrochemical series.*

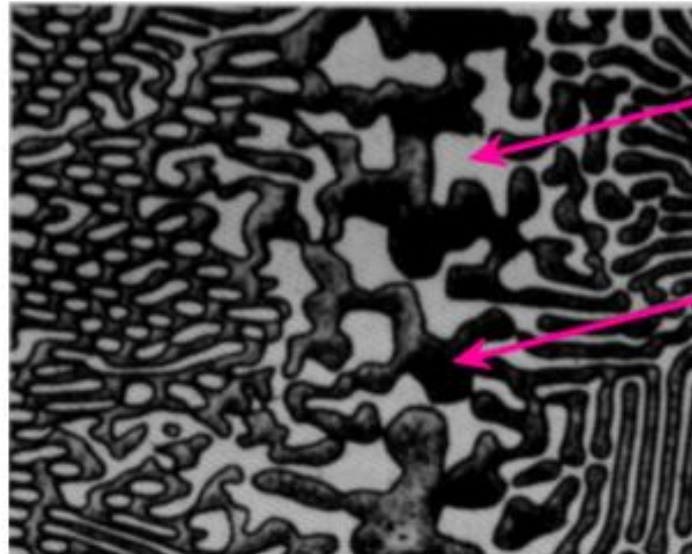
## Phase

- A phase can be defined as a physically distinct and chemically homogeneous portion of a system having its own boundry, that has a particular chemical composition and structure.
- A solid phase has its own crystal structure and its set of individual properties.
- Example:  $\alpha$ -Ferrite,  $\text{Fe}_3\text{C}$ , Austinite and homogenous liquid etc.
- Water in liquid or vapor state is single phase. Ice floating on water is an example two phase system.

## Phases:

A phase is a homogenous, physically distinct and mechanically separable portion of the material with a given chemical composition and structure.

Aluminum-  
Copper  
Alloy



$\beta$  (lighter  
phase)

$\alpha$  (darker  
phase)



- **Component**

- is either pure metal and/or compounds of which an alloy is composed. The components of a system may be elements, ions or compounds. They refer to the independent chemical species that comprise the system.

- **Components:**

- The elements or compounds that are mixed initially (Al and Cu).

- **System**

- it can either refer to a specific body of material under consideration or it may relate to the series of possible alloys consisting of the same components but without regard to alloy composition.

## Terminology

<b>Solid solution</b>	A solution that contains two or more types of atoms or ions that are dispersed uniformly throughout the material
<b>Solute</b>	The impurities that may occupy regular lattice sites in the crystal or interstitial sites
<b>Alloys</b>	A material made from multiple elements that exhibits properties of a metallic material
<b>Stainless steels</b>	Alloys that usually contain iron (Fe), carbon (C), chromium (Cr), nickel (Ni), and some other elements
<b>Single-phase alloy</b>	An alloy consisting of one phase
<b>Multiple-phase alloy</b>	An alloy that consists of two or more phases

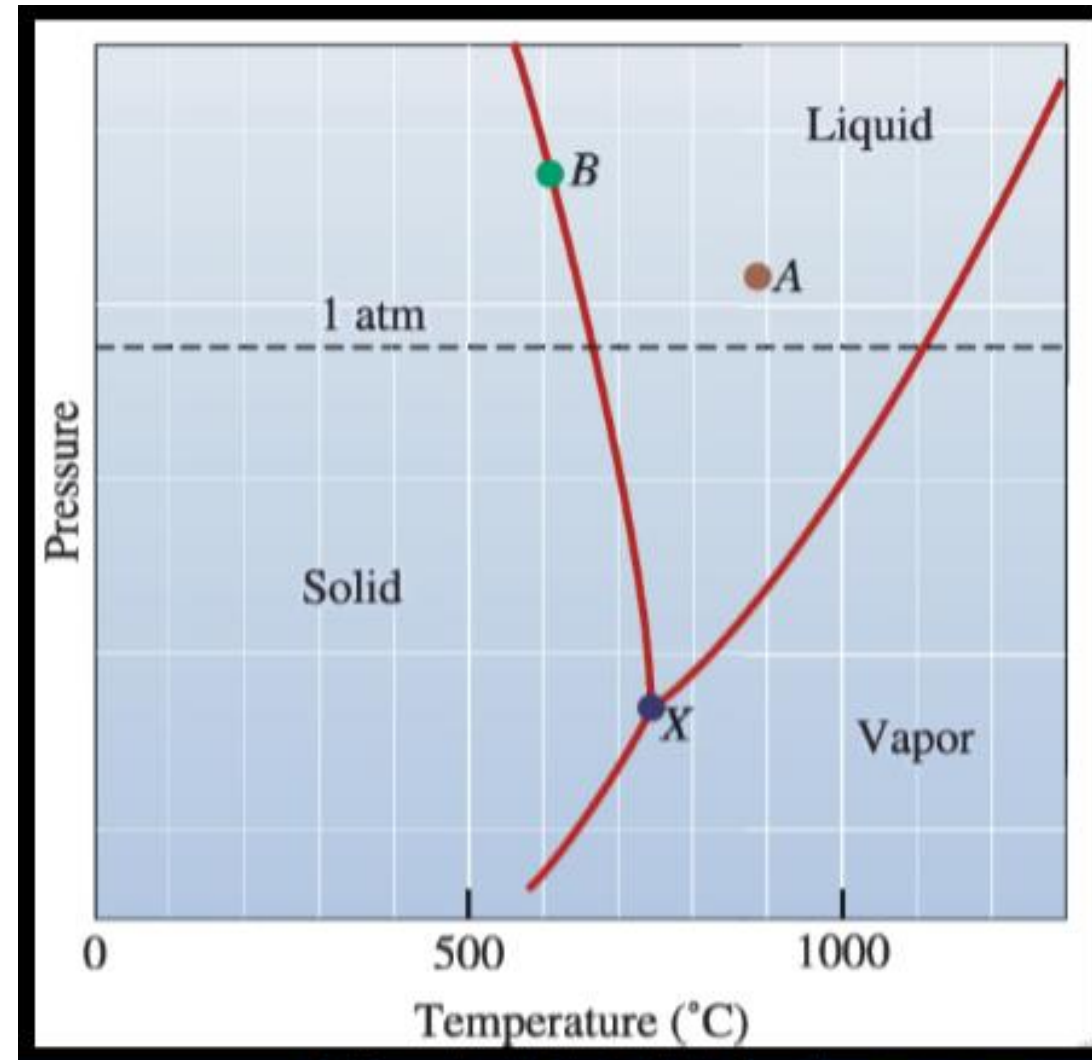
A phase diagram is essentially a graphical representation of an alloy system. Phase diagrams are also called as equilibrium diagrams or constructional diagrams.

**Phase diagrams are classified as:**

- **Unary Phase diagram**
- **Binary Phase diagram**
- **Ternary Phase diagram**

*Unary Phase diagram is nothing but the **Pressure-Temperature diagram of a pure metal.***

## Unary Phase diagram



# Phase Equilibria: Solubility Limit

- **Solution** – solid, liquid, or gas solutions, single phase
- **Mixture** – more than one phase

- **Solubility Limit:**  
Maximum concentration for which only a single phase solution exists.

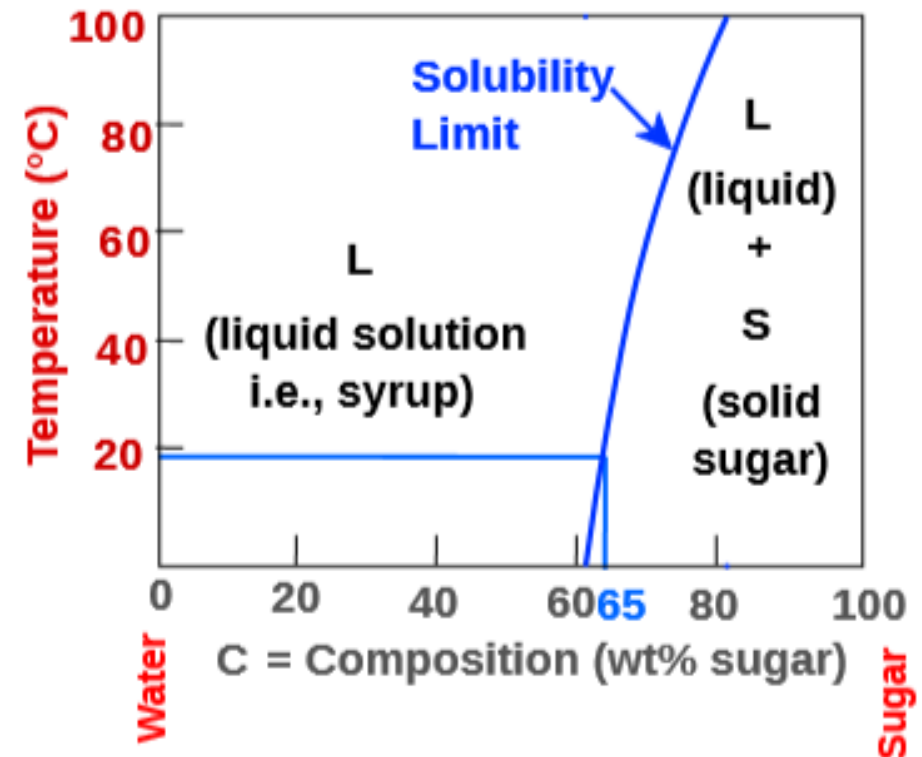
**Question:** What is the solubility limit for sugar in water at 20°C?

**Answer:** 65 wt% sugar.

At 20°C, if  $C < 65$  wt% sugar: **syrup**

At 20°C, if  $C > 65$  wt% sugar: **syrup + sugar**

Sugar/Water Phase Diagram



# Equilibrium

- A system is at equilibrium if its free energy is at a minimum, given a specified combination of **temperature**, **pressure** and **composition**.
- The (macroscopic) characteristics of the system do not change with time — the system is stable.
- A change in T, P or C for the system will result in an increase in the free energy and **possible changes to another state** whereby the free energy is lowered.



- The Nature and occurrences of these phases in turn is a function of different independent variables such as temperature, pressure and composition.
  - So in order to predict the properties of materials,  
*it is important to know the following:*
    - The conditions under which different phases exist.
    - The conditions under which a change of phase will occur.
- Therefore phase diagrams are constructed to provide the following information.*

*Therefore phase diagrams are constructed to provide the following information.*

- The different phases existing in the alloy for any combination of temperature and composition.
- (Pressure is assumed to be constant at atmospheric value.)
- Temperature at which different compositions begin and end solidification.
- To study and control process such as solidification and heat treatment of metals and alloys.

A phase diagram is essentially a **graphical representation of an alloy system.**

Phase diagrams are also called as **equilibrium diagrams or constructional diagrams.**

## Classification of Binary Phase Diagrams

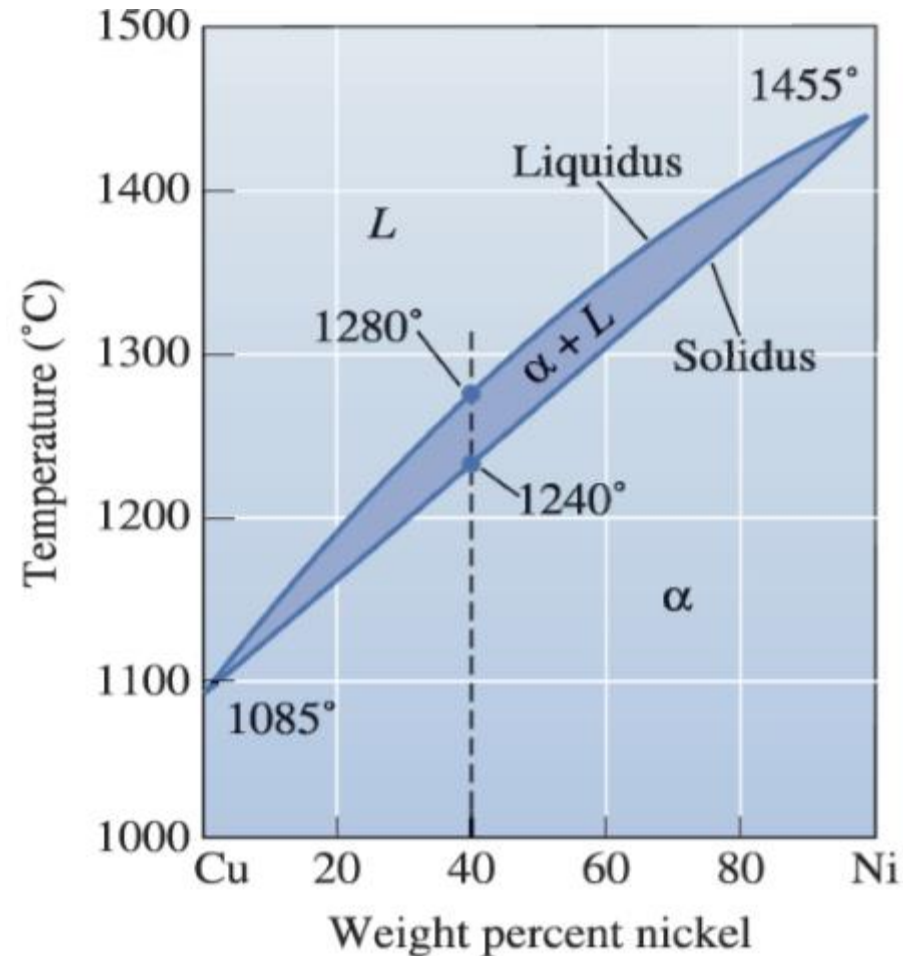
All binary phase diagrams can be classified according to the appearance of the following reactions or Transformations in them.

These include:

- Solid solution or Isomorphous phase diagram
- Eutectic system(Eutectic type phase diagram)
- Eutectoid transformation
- Peritectic reaction
- Peritectoid transformation

# Solid solution or Isomorphous phase diagram

**Solid solution** is a combination of two metals which are completely soluble in both the solid and liquid states





**Thank You**