

**TMS 2005 --- Diffusion Symposium**

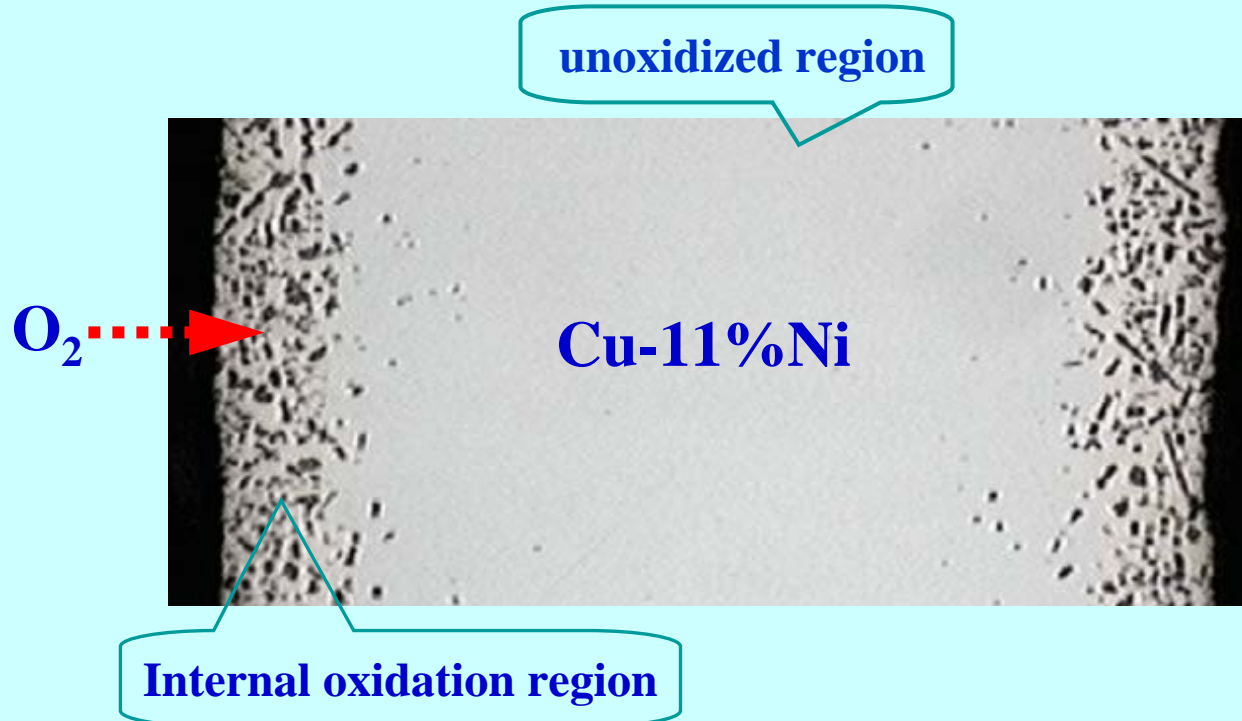
# **Characterization of Internal Oxidation**

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**<sup>1</sup> University of Connecticut, Storrs CT 06269 USA**

**<sup>2</sup> Ohio State University, Columbus OH 43210 USA**

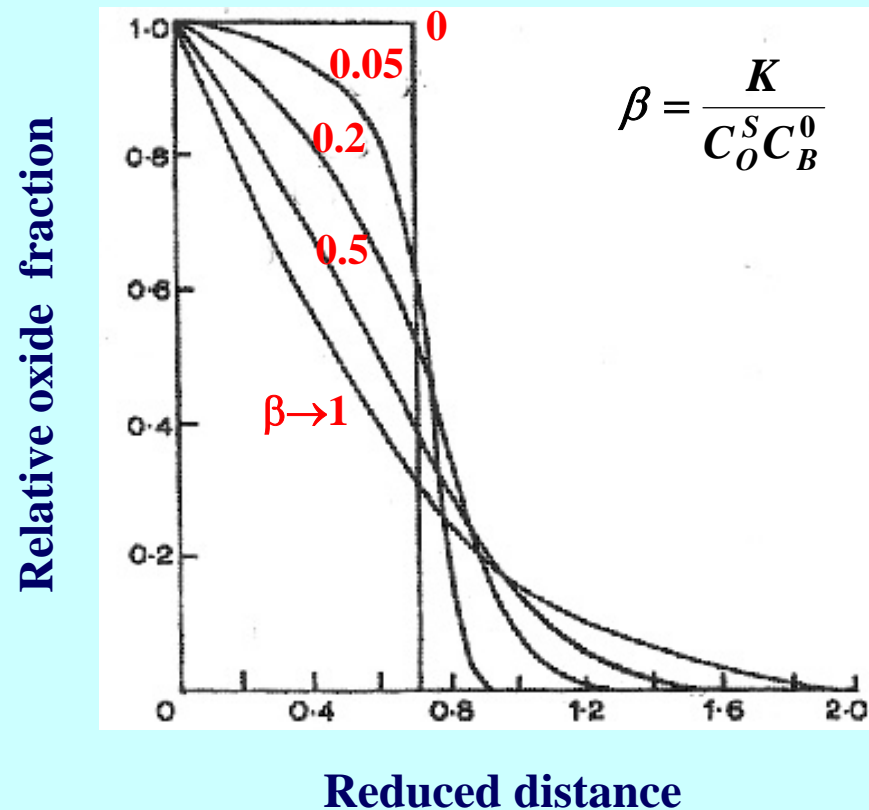
# Internal Oxidation Characterization



- ❖ Phases present --- XRD
- ❖ Oxide fraction profile --- Image analysis
- ❖ Concentration profile --- EDX
- ❖ Thickness of internal oxidation region

# Oxide Fraction Profile

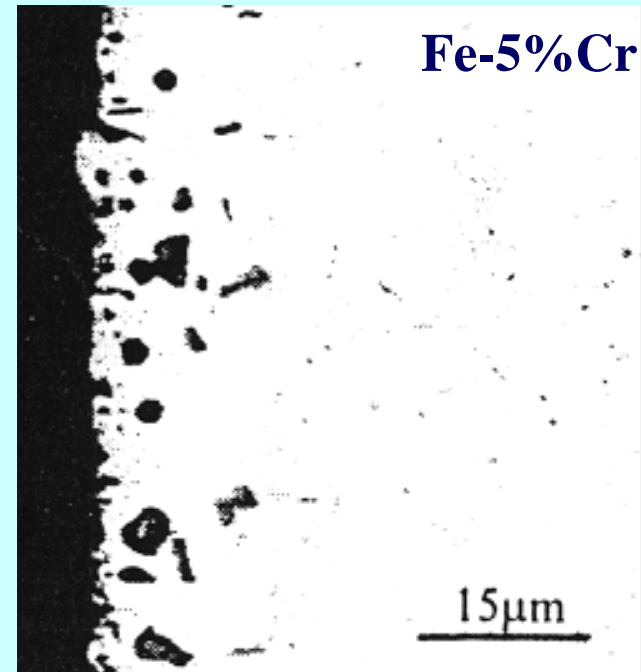
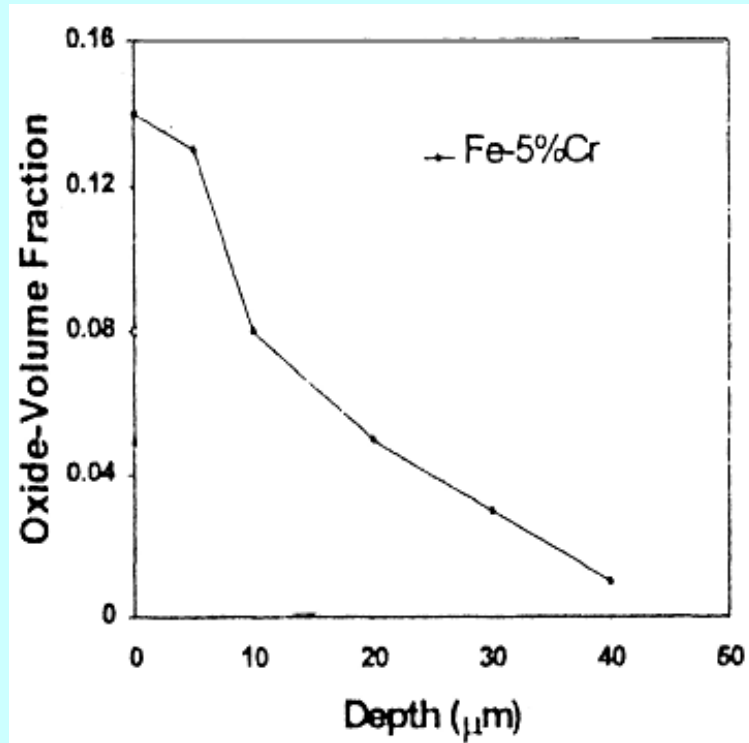
Simulation results for **saturated case** in literature :



\* E. K. Ohriner and J. E. Morral, Scripta Metallurgica, 13 (1979) 7.

# Oxide Fraction Profile

Experimental results in literature:

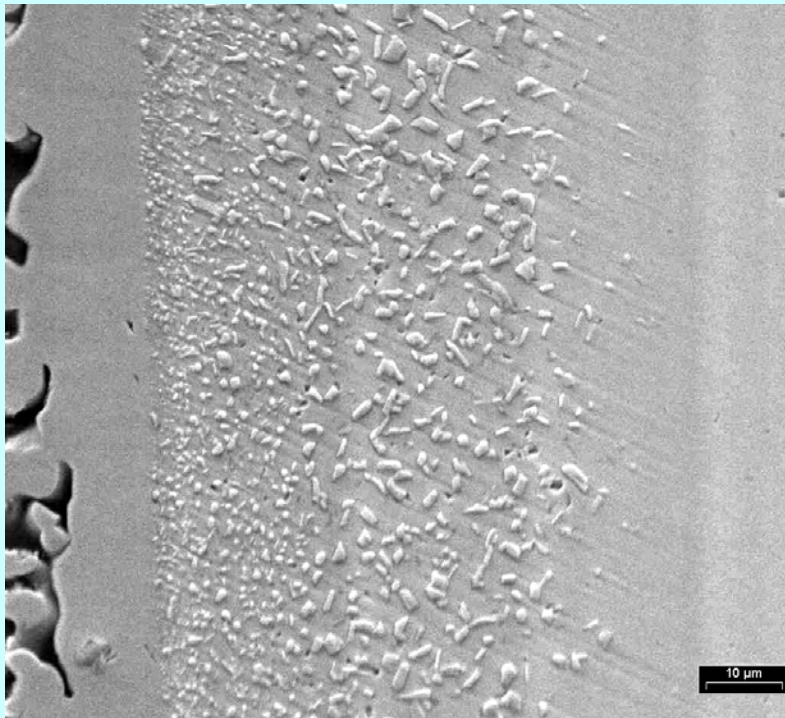


Fe-Cr alloys internally oxidized at 1000 °C for 20 hours with  $P_{O_2}=8.7 \times 10^{-17}$  atm.\*

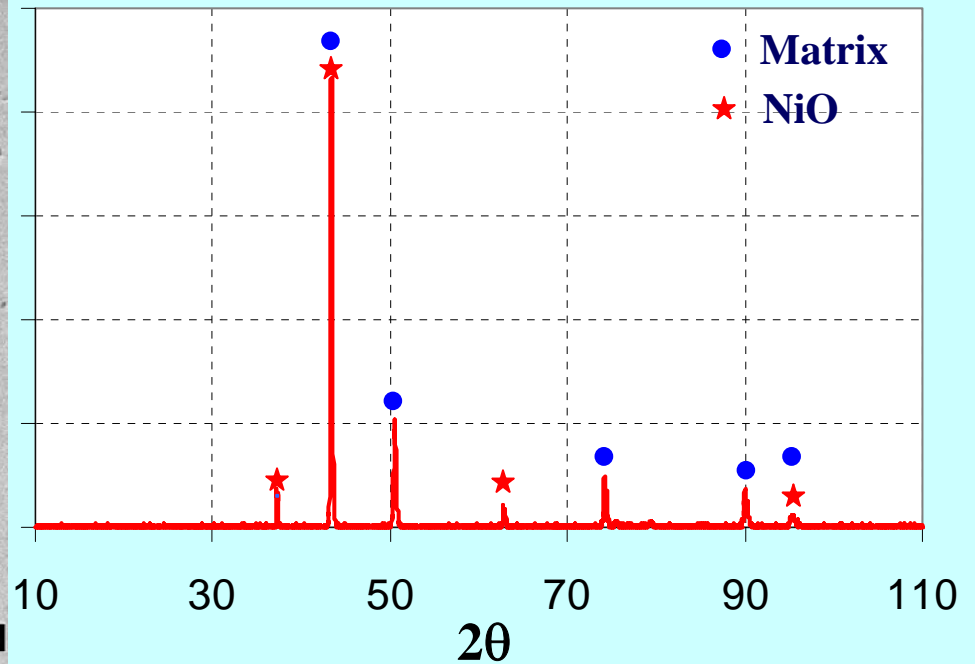
\* O. Ahmed and D. J. Yong, Electrochemical Society Proceedings, 38 (1999) 77.

# Oxide Fraction Profile

**Cu-7% Ni internally oxidized at 900° C in Rhines Pack**



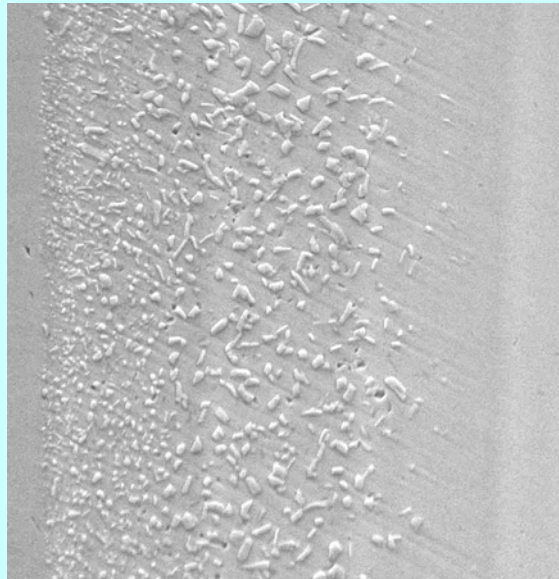
**SEM**



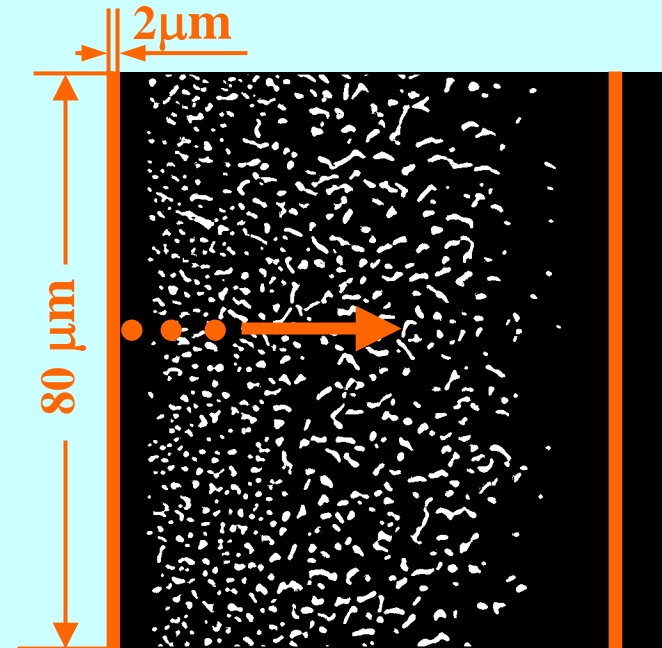
**XRD patterns**

# Oxide Fraction Profile

## Image analysis: oxide area fraction profile



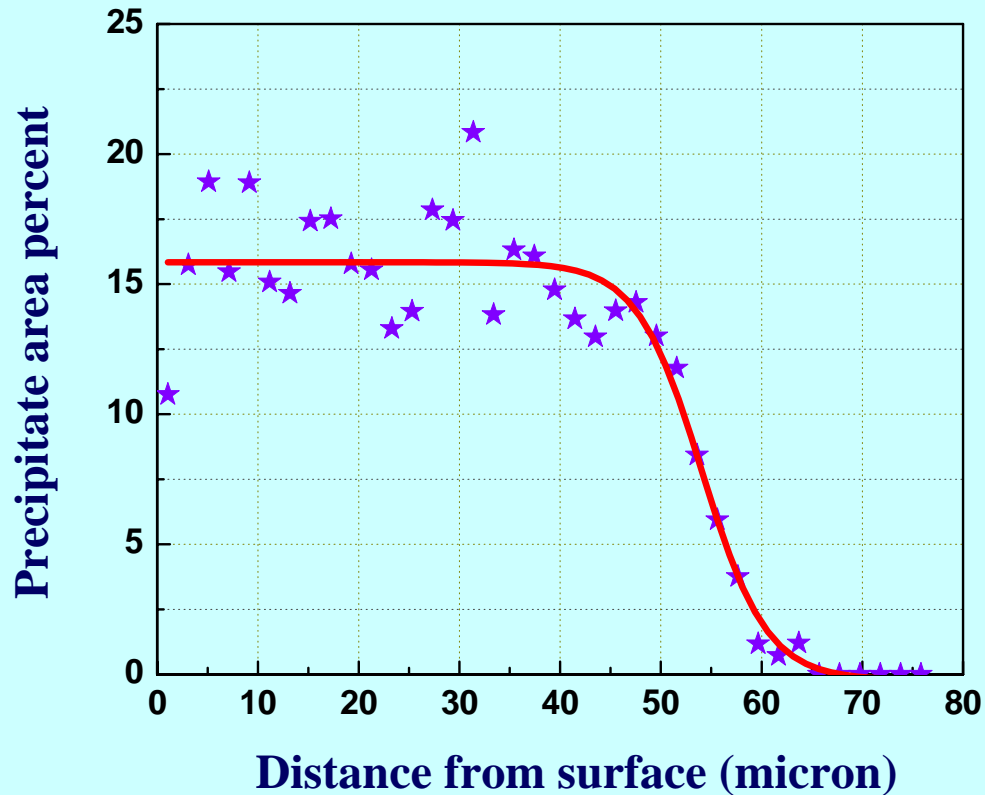
grey scale



binary mode

# Oxide Fraction Profile

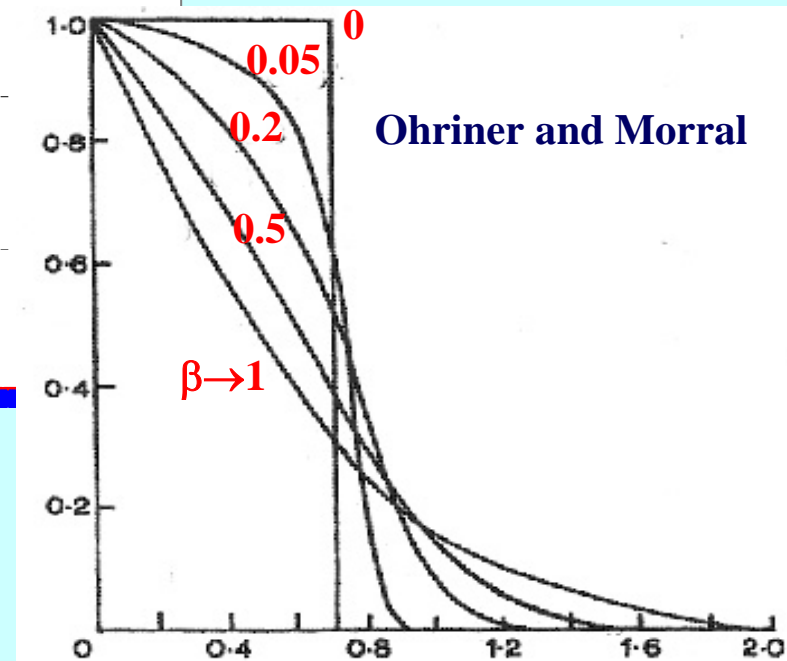
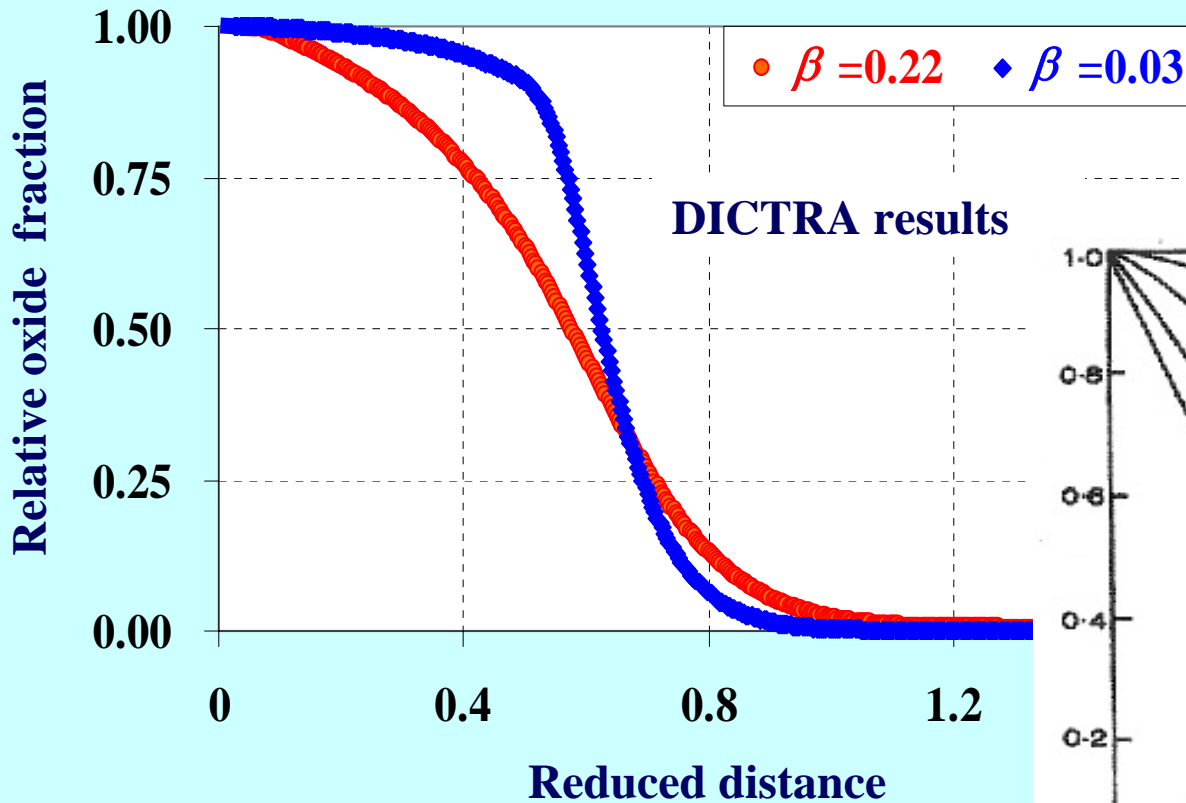
## NiO area fraction versus distance



Cu-7% Ni alloys internally oxidized at 900° C for 1 hour

# Oxide Fraction Profile

Simulation results: **saturated case**

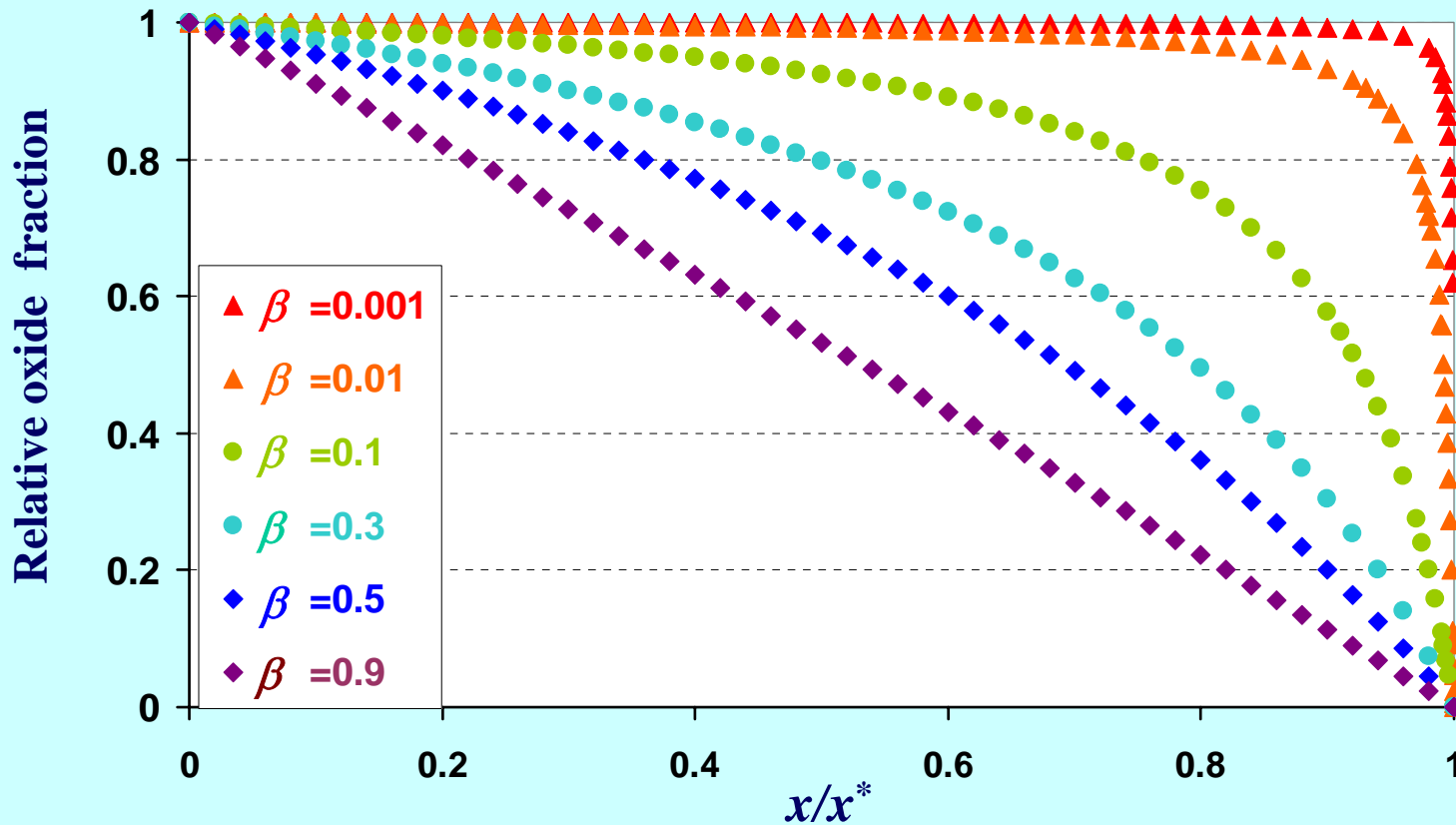




# Oxide Fraction Profile

Simulation results: **unsaturated case**

Effect of  $\beta$  on relative oxide fraction profiles



# Oxide Fraction Profile

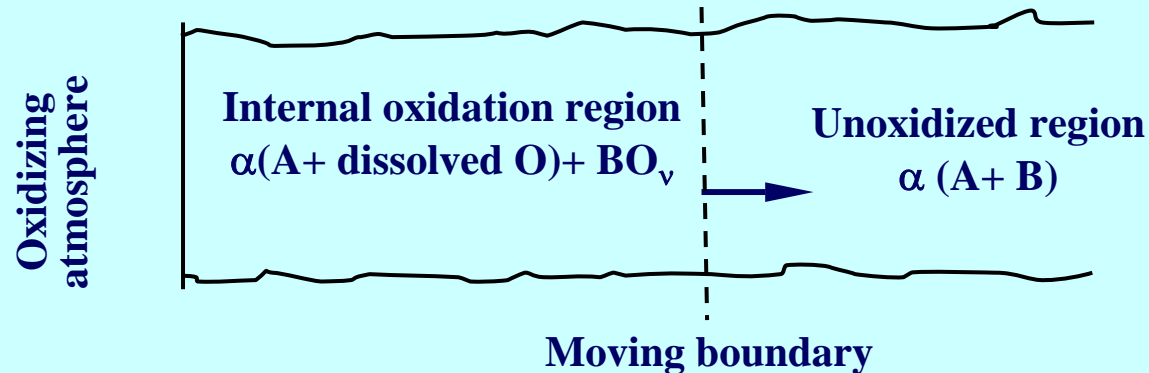
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## Summary:

- ❖ When alloys are saturated with oxygen, oxide mole fraction decreases asymptotically to zero and the position of moving boundary cannot be defined.
- ❖ When alloys are unsaturated with oxygen, the moving boundary between internal oxidation region and unoxidized region is well defined.

# Concentration Profiles

The classic model:

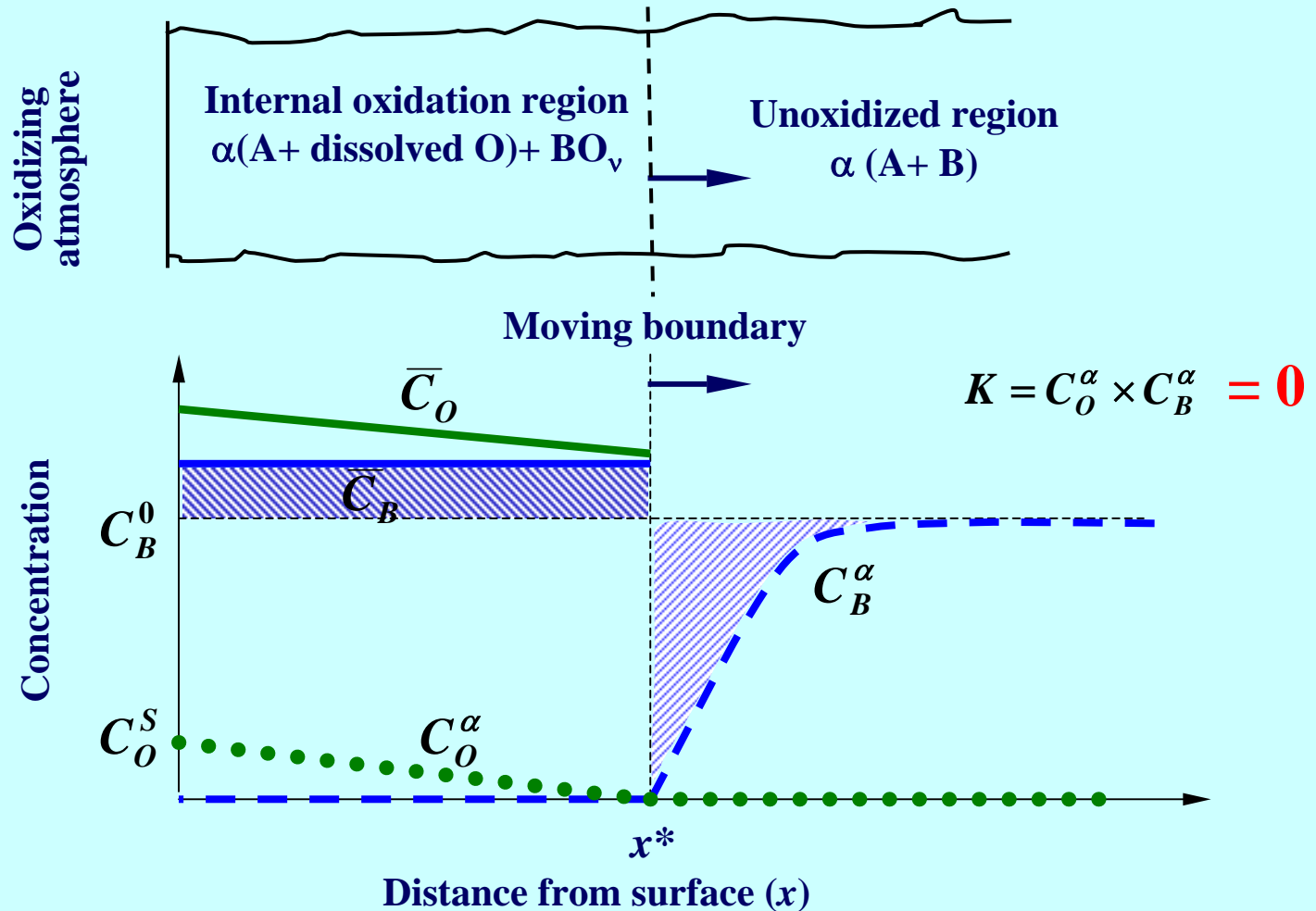


**Assumptions:**

- ❖ All the solute B is consumed to form  $\text{BO}_v$  in the internal oxidation region.
- ❖ The concentrations of dissolved B and O at the moving boundary are zero.

# Concentration Profiles

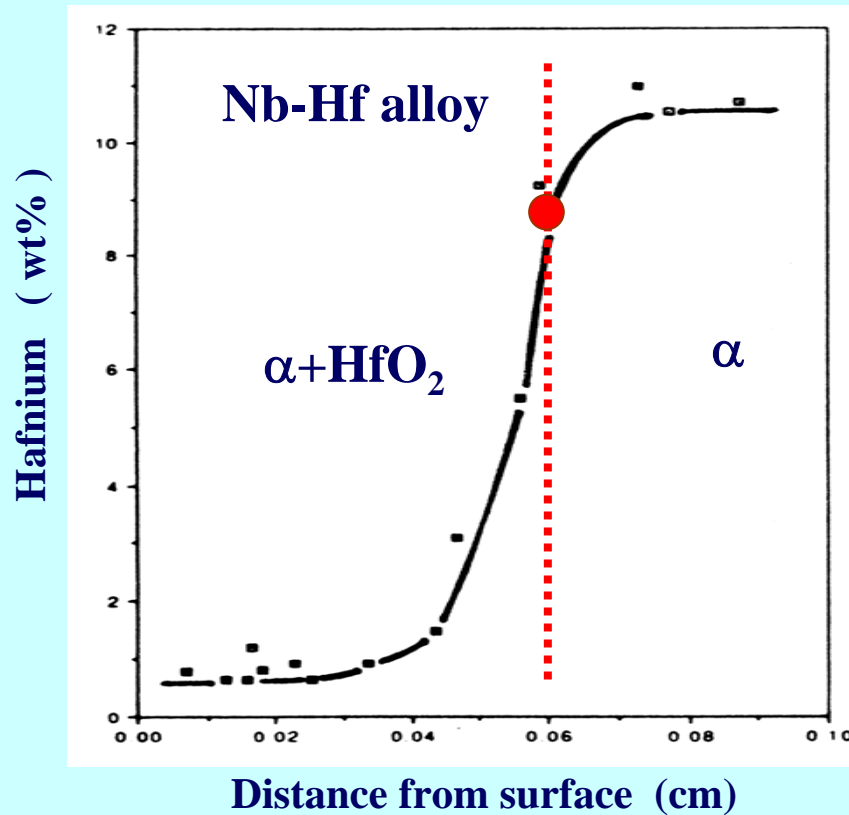
The classic model:



\* C. Wagner, Z. Electrochem, 63 (1959) 772.

# Concentration Profiles

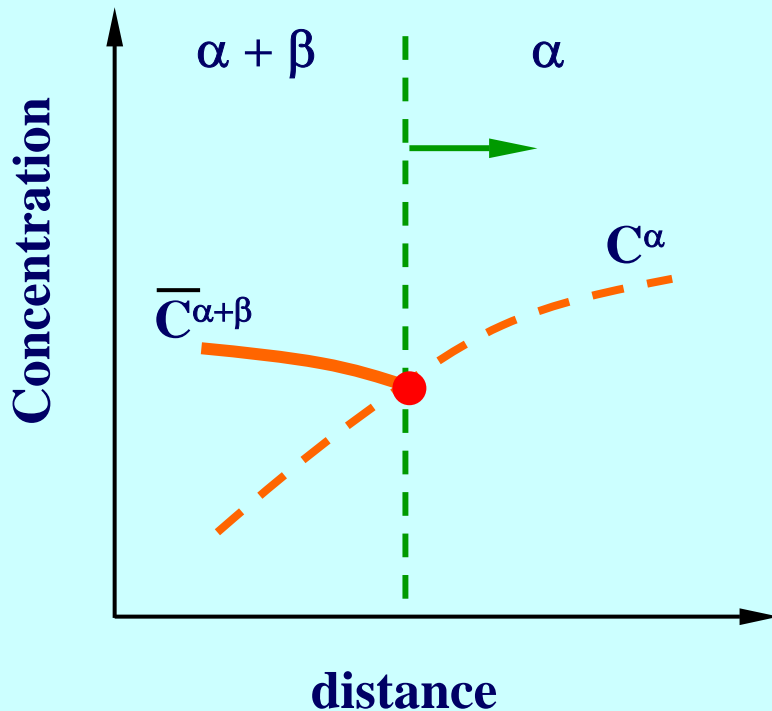
Experimental results in literature:



\* D. L. Corn *et al.* *Oxidation of Metals*, 35 (1991) 139

# Concentration Profiles

## Concentration profiles under local equilibrium conditions



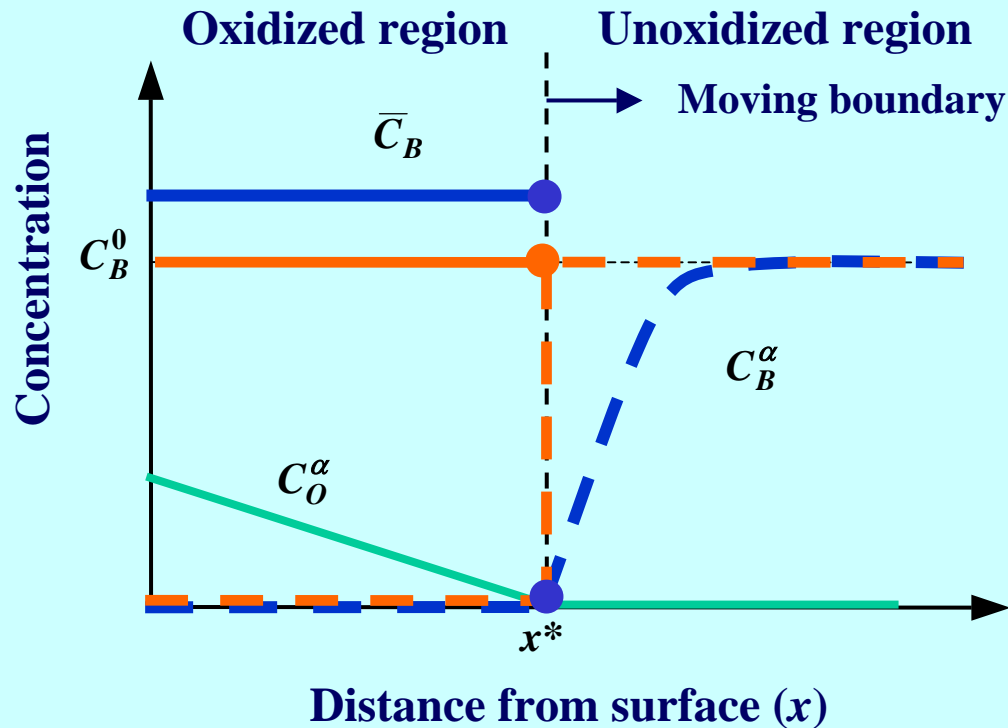
- ❖ Matrix concentration profile,  $C^\alpha$ , is continuous in slope and value.
- ❖ Average profile,  $\bar{C}^{\alpha+\beta}$ , and matrix profile,  $C^\alpha$ , meet at the moving boundary.

\* W.J. Boettinger *et al.* Acta Metall.Mater. 48 (2000) 481-492.

\* J. E. Morral and H. Chen, Scripta Mater. 43 (2000) 699-703.

# Concentration Profiles

## The classic model versus Local equilibrium model



The classic model:

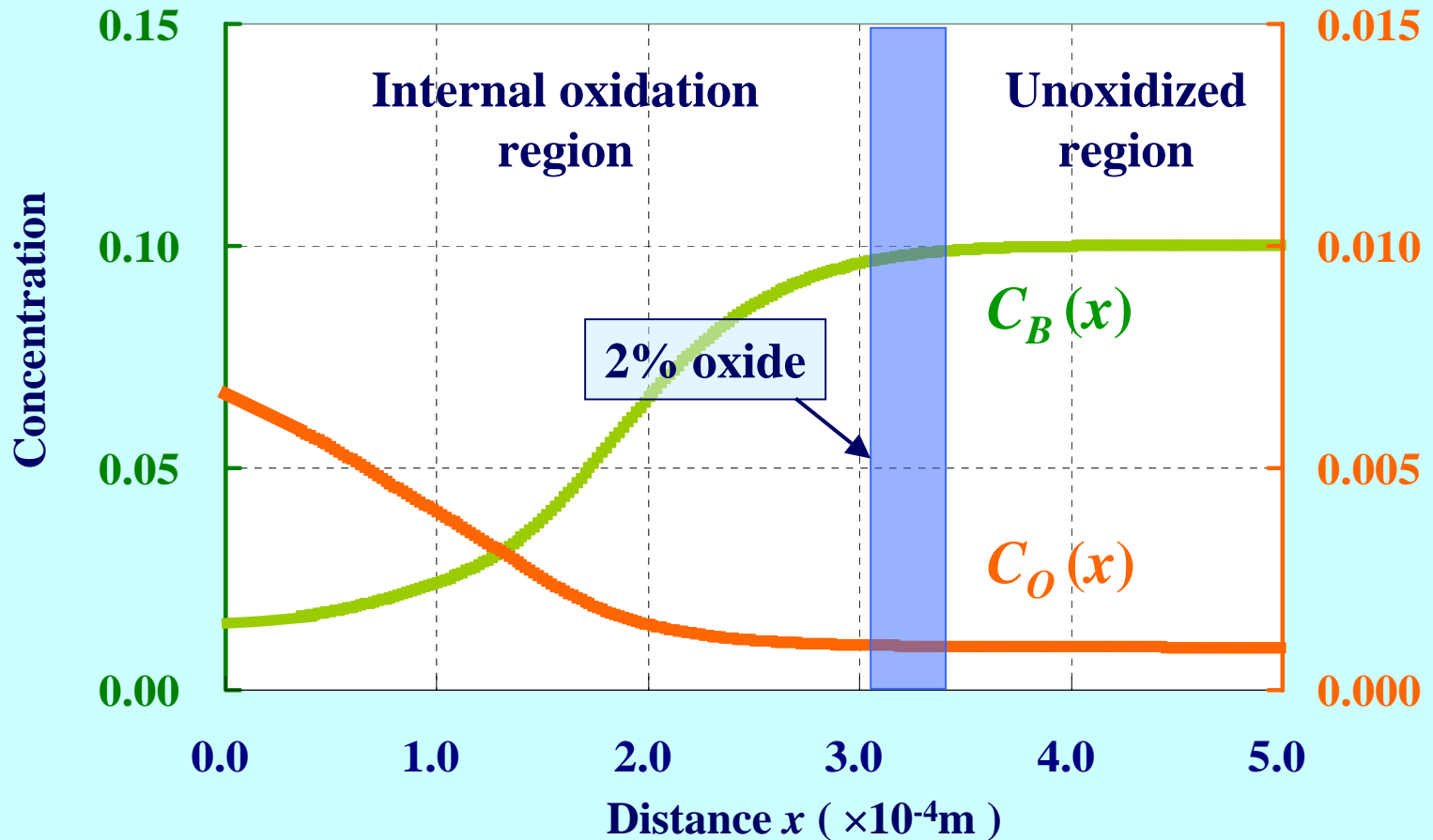
————  $\bar{C}_B$       - - - -  $C_B^\alpha$

Local equilibrium model:

————  $\bar{C}_B$       - - - -  $C_B^\alpha$

# Concentration Profiles

DICTRA simulation results: **saturated case**

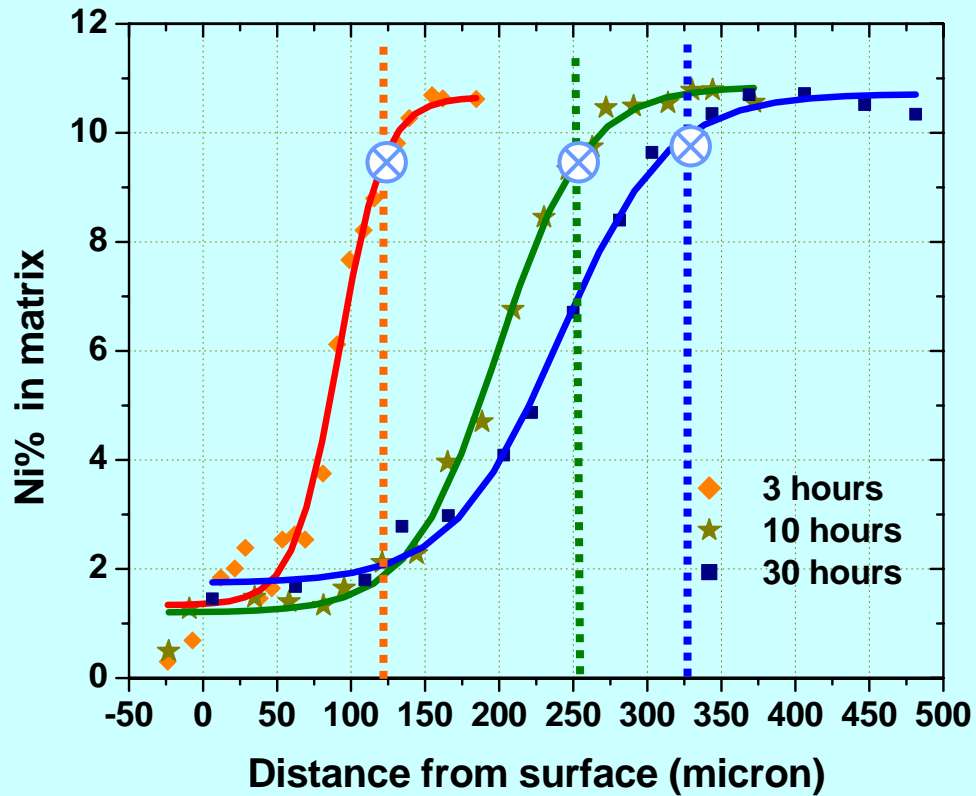


Simulation conditions:  $\beta=0.96$ ,  $D_B/D_O=10^{-3}$



# Concentration Profiles

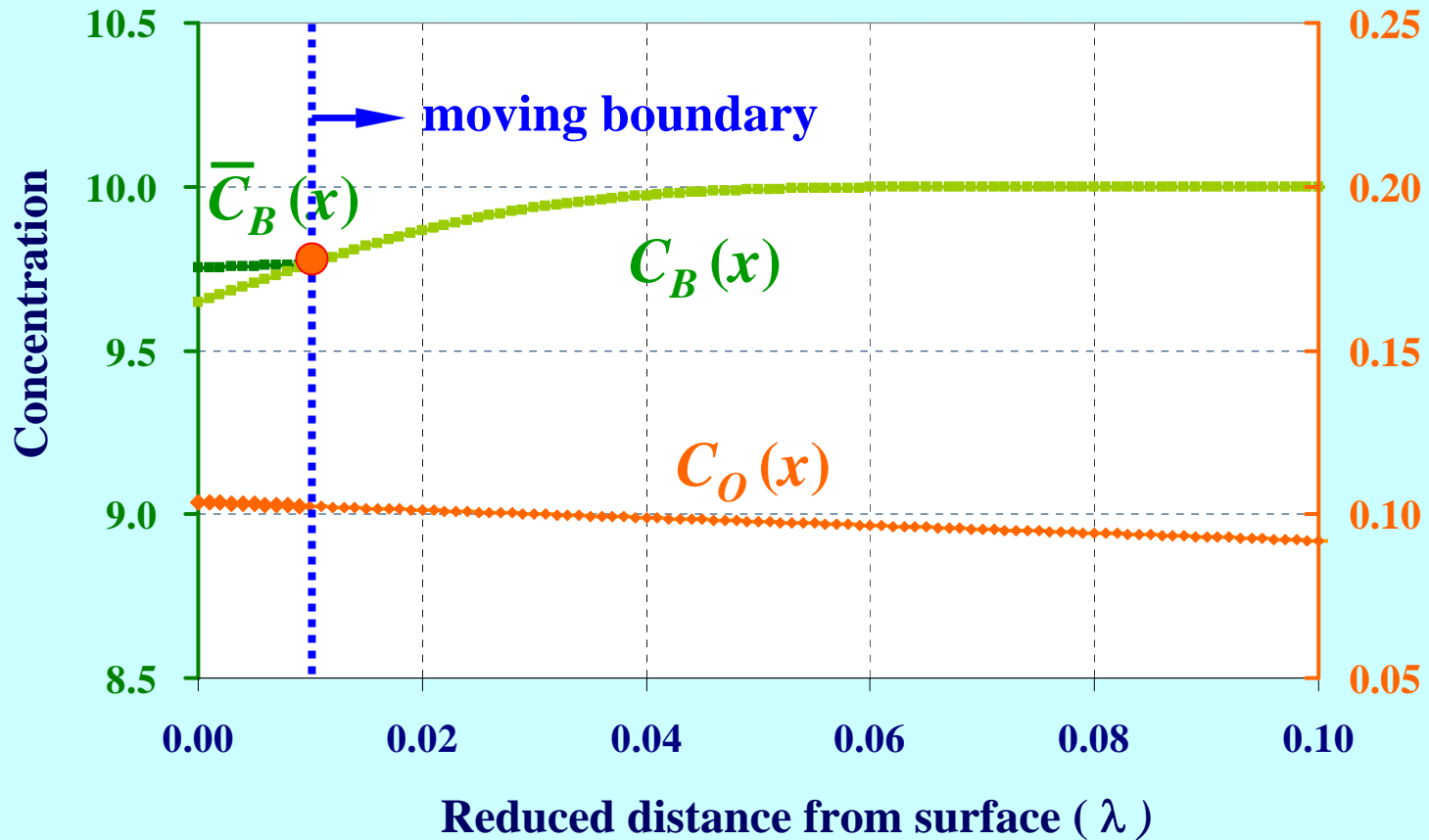
Concentration profiles of Cu-10% Ni alloys oxidized at 950 °C



⊗ Estimated position of oxidation frontier

# Concentration Profiles

Error Function Model simulation results: **unsaturated case**



Simulation conditions:  $\beta=0.96$ ,  $D_B/D_O=10^{-3}$

# Concentration Profiles

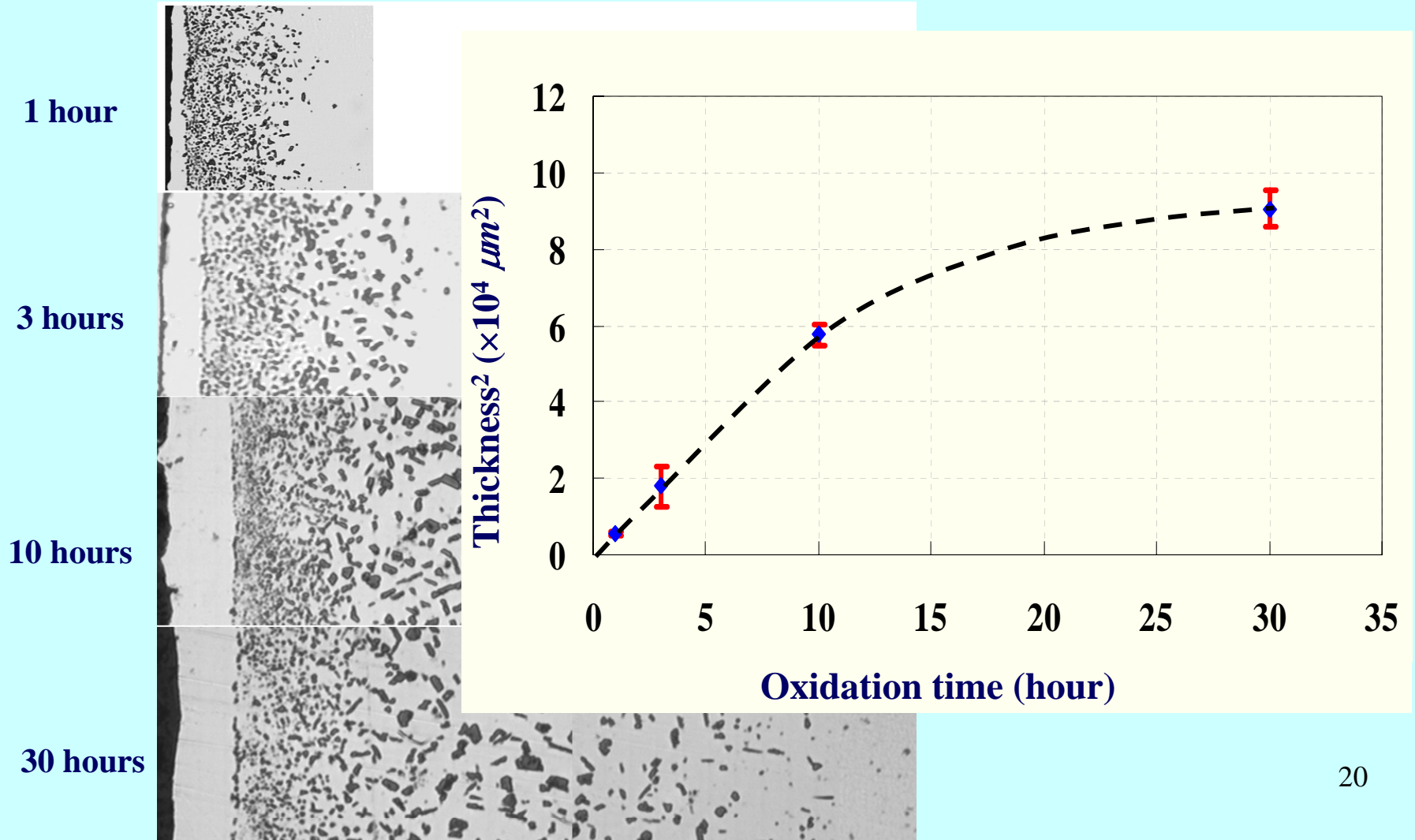
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## Summary:

- ❖ Concentration profiles in the classic model are in error because they are not supported by experimental results in the literature or in this study and have no theoretic basis.
- ❖ When  $K = 0$ , there is no long-range diffusion of solute B, thus the enrichment phenomena proposed by the classic model doesn't occur.
- ❖ Near the boundary between oxidized and unoxidized region, matrix solute concentration approaches initial solute concentration rather than zero as assumed by the classic model.

# Thickness of Internal Oxidation Region

Cu-10%Ni alloys oxidized at 950 °C



# Thickness of Internal Oxidation Region

Cu-Ni alloys oxidized  
at 950 °C for 3 hours

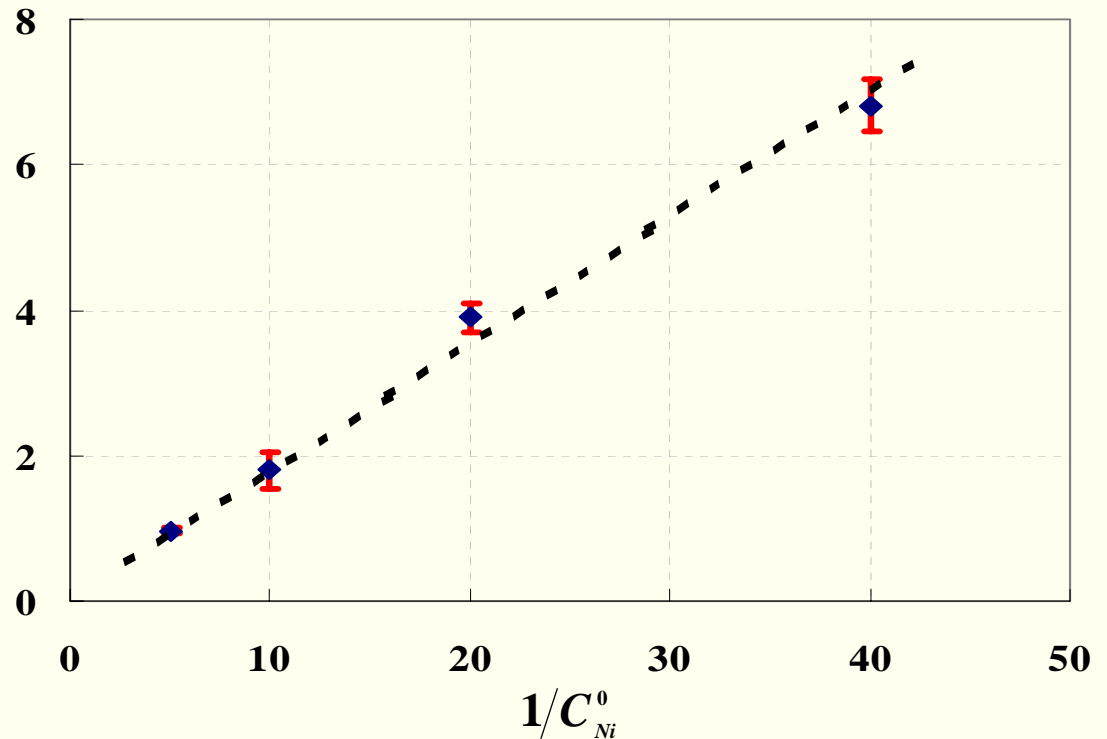
2.5% Ni

5.0% Ni

10.0% Ni

20.0% Ni

Thickness<sup>2</sup> ( $\times 10^4 \mu\text{m}^2$ )



25 micron

# Conclusions (1)

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**For saturated cases:**

- (a) Because oxide fraction decreased asymptotically to zero, there was no distinct boundary between the oxidized and unoxidized regions.**
- (b) For  $D_O \gg D_B$ , when oxide fraction approaches zero, matrix solute concentration is close to initial solute concentration.**
- (c) DICTRA predicted internal oxidation under local equilibrium for  $0.03 < \beta < 0.22$  for alloys saturated with oxygen.**

# Conclusions (2)

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**For unsaturated cases:**

- (a) The moving boundary between internal oxidation region and unoxidized region is well defined.**
- (b) For  $D_O \gg D_B$ , solute concentration in matrix at the moving boundary is close to initial solute concentration.**
- (c) When  $\beta \rightarrow 1$ , Error Function Model can be used to model internal oxidation for unsaturated alloys.**

# Acknowledgements

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- ❖ **Major advisor: Dr. John E. Morral**
- ❖ **Dr. Ronald N. Caron at Olin Corporation**
- ❖ **Dr. Carelyn E. Campbell at NIST**
- ❖ **Dr. Caian Qiu at Ques Tek**
- ❖ **UConn staff: Mary Anton, Fred Massicotte**
- ❖ **All members of UConn diffusion group**
- ❖ **National Science Foundation**





# Applications

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- ❖ **Design alloys with improved oxidation resistant**
- ❖ **Design intermetallic alloys capable of protective scale formation ( e. g.  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_3$  and  $\text{SiO}_2$ )\***
- ❖ **Synthesize functional ceramic surface structures (e.g. nitride and carbide catalysts  $\text{Co}_3\text{Mo}_3\text{N}$  or  $\text{Co}_3\text{Mo}_3\text{C}$ ) by gas-metal reactions (oxidation, nitridation, carburization, etc.)\***

\* M. P. Brady and P.F. Tortorelli, *Intermetallics*, 12(2004) 779-789

# Approach: Experimental studies

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**Rhines Pack: Cu (shot) + Cu<sub>2</sub>O (powder) in a stainless steel tube**



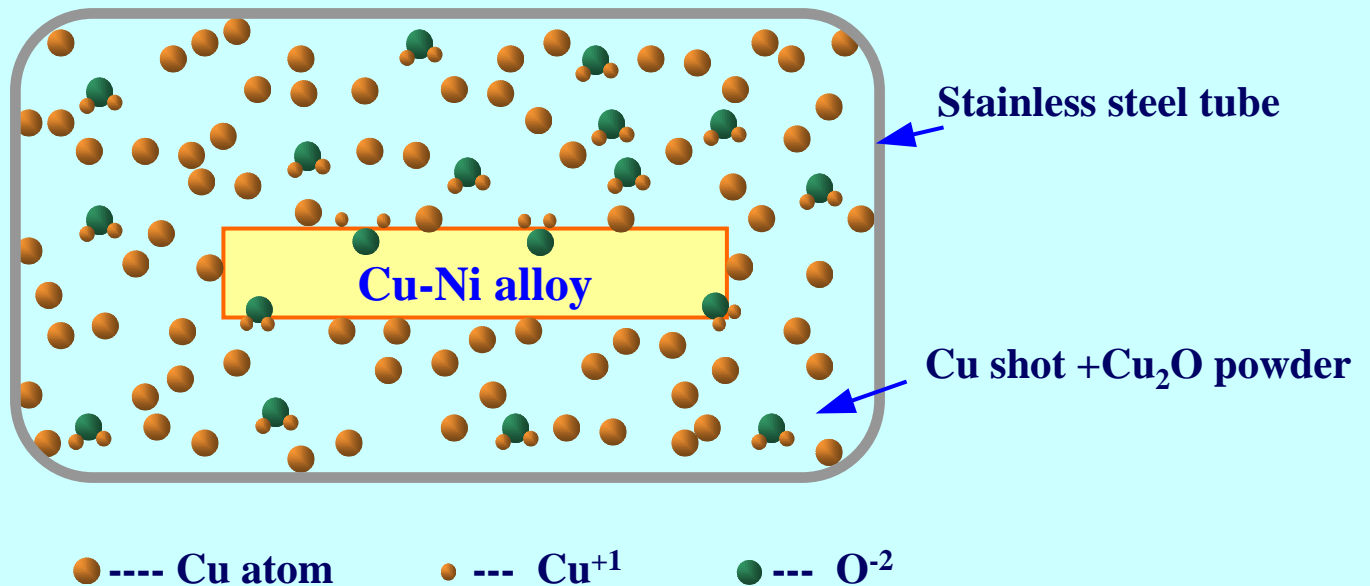
**Sample size : 10×10 ×20 (mm)**

**The tube was welded at the ends in argon atmosphere**

# Experimental results: Optical microstructures

Two Cu sources for the new Cu layer:

(1) The mixture of Cu and  $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$  in a Rhines Pack



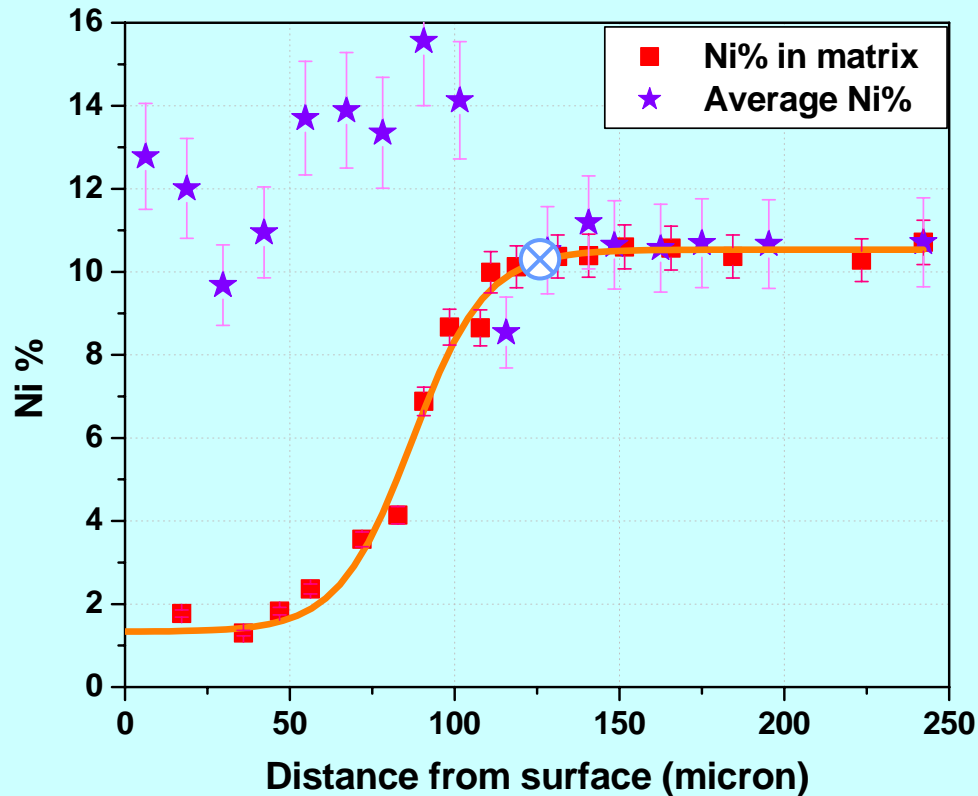
(2) Internally oxidized Cu-Ni alloys

Ni : 6.59 cm<sup>3</sup>/mole

NiO: 11.15 cm<sup>3</sup>/mole

# Experimental results: EDX

## Concentration profiles of Cu-10% Ni alloys oxidized at 950° C



⊗ Estimated position of oxidation frontier

# Experimental results: EDX

**New Cu layer at the surface:**



The figure shows an EDX spectrum plot with a vertical axis representing intensity, ranging from 4000 to 4500. The plot contains two rows of data points corresponding to Copper (Cu) and Nickel (Ni). Each row has five columns representing different X-ray lines:  $K\alpha_1$ ,  $K\beta_1$ ,  $L\alpha_1$ , and  $L\beta_1$ . The Cu row shows a very high peak at  $K\alpha_1$  (8.046) and a much smaller peak at  $K\beta_1$  (8.904). The Ni row shows a peak at  $K\alpha_1$  (7.477) and a smaller peak at  $K\beta_1$  (8.263). The  $L$  lines for both elements are very low in intensity.

	$K\alpha_1$	$K\beta_1$	$L\alpha_1$	$L\beta_1$
<b>Cu</b>	<b>8.046</b>	<b>8.904</b>	<b>0.93</b>	<b>0.95</b>
<b>Ni</b>	<b>7.477</b>	<b>8.263</b>	<b>0.851</b>	<b>0.863</b>

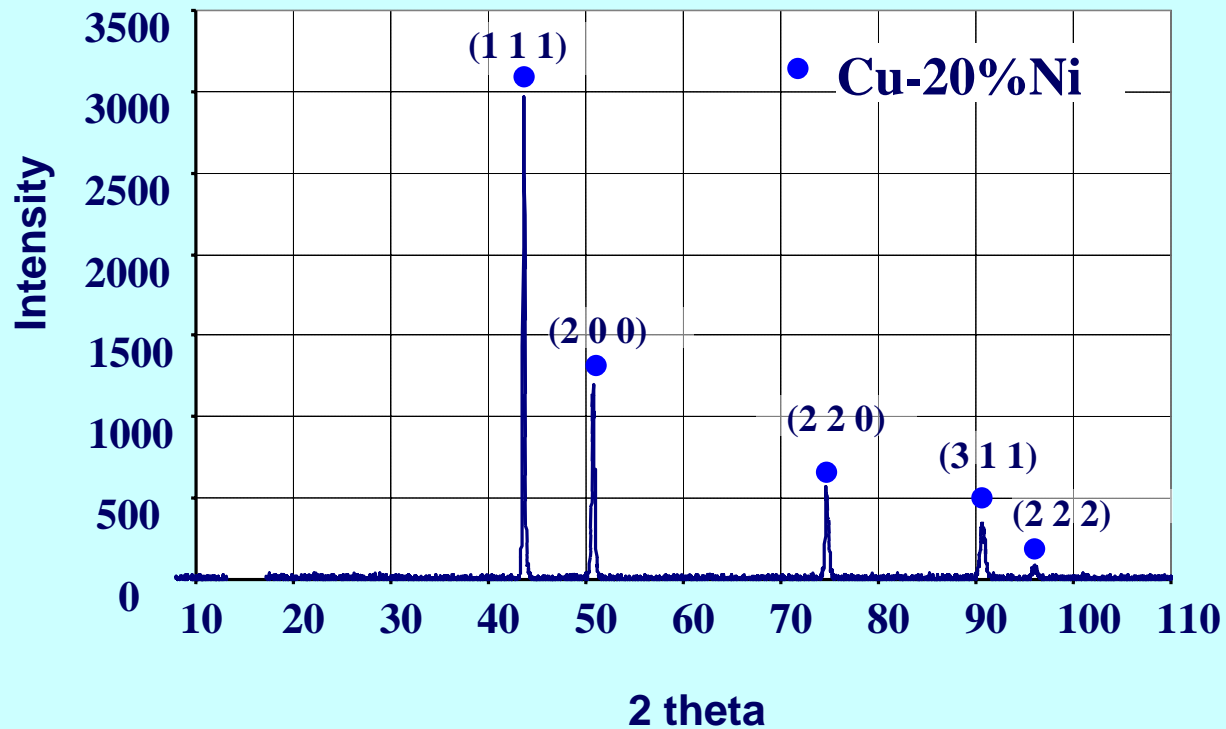
**Quantitative results:**

**Cu --- 99.69 wt%**

**Ni --- 0.31 wt%**

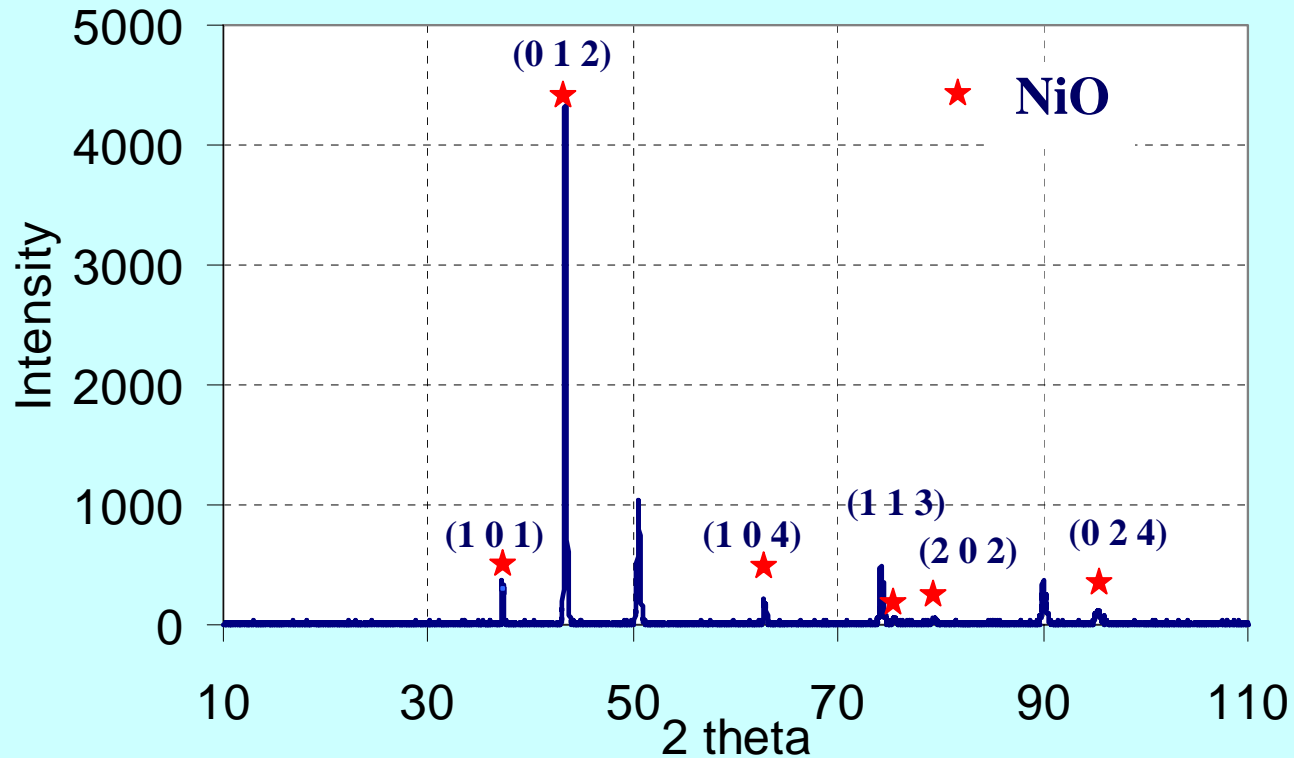
# Experimental results: Phase identification (XRD)

## XRD patterns of Cu-20%Ni – before oxidation



# Experimental results: Phase identification (XRD)

## XRD patterns of Cu-20%Ni – after oxidation

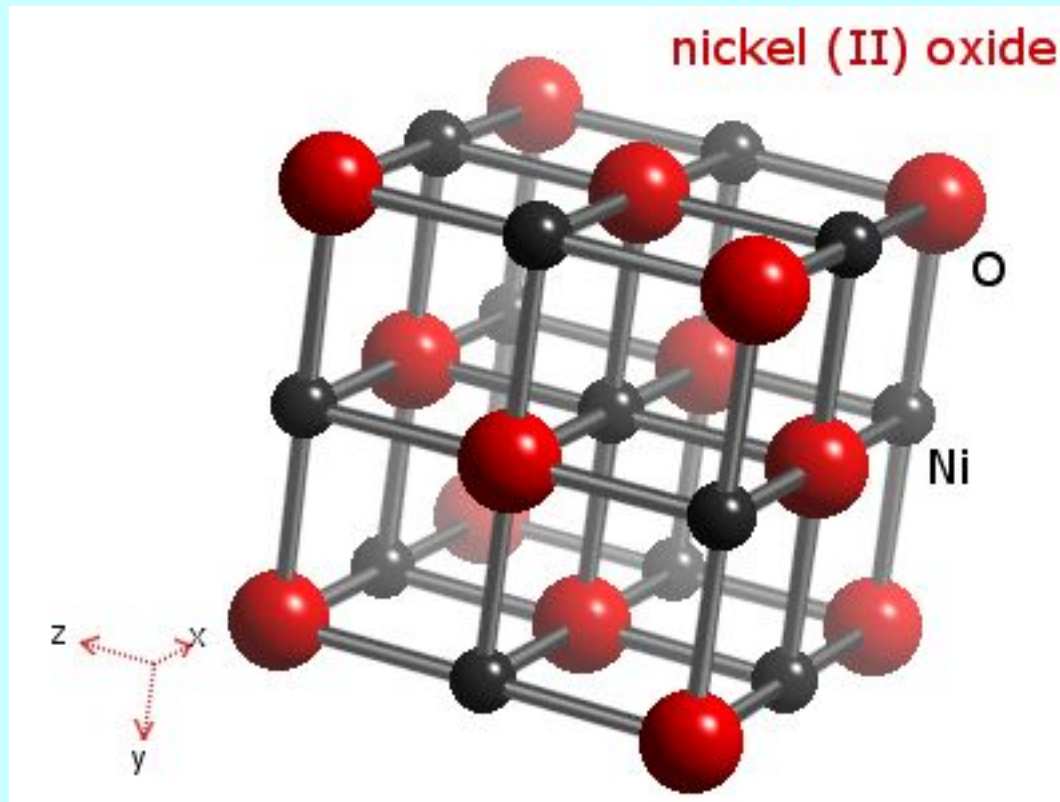




# Experimental results: Phase identification (XRD)

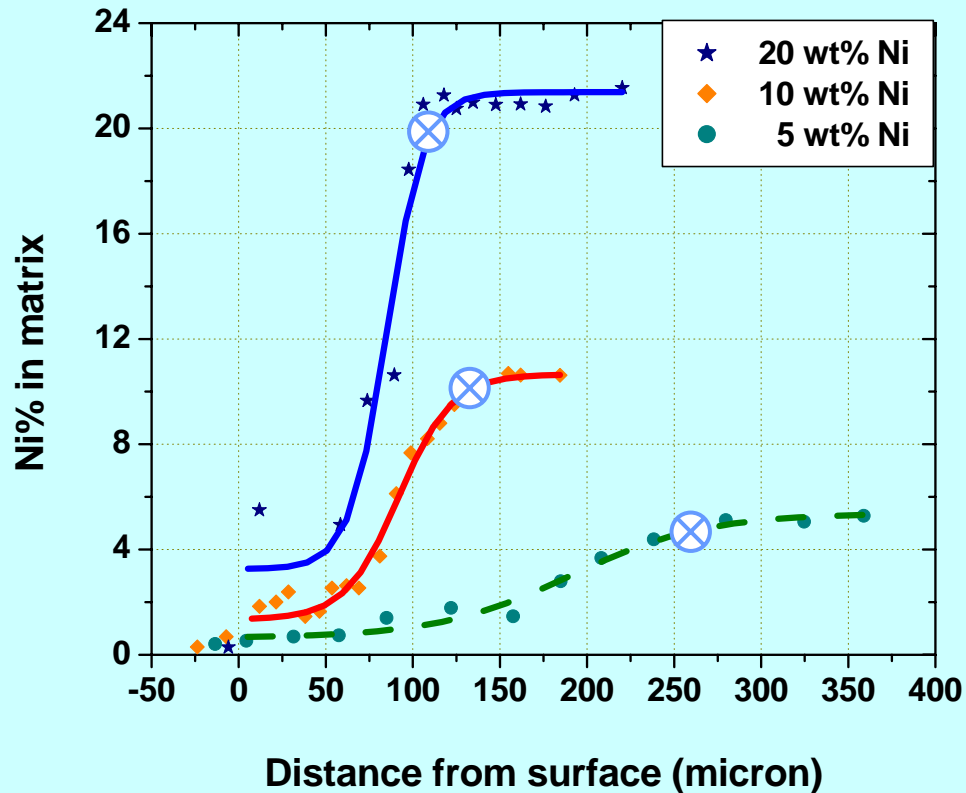
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**NiO crystal structure:**



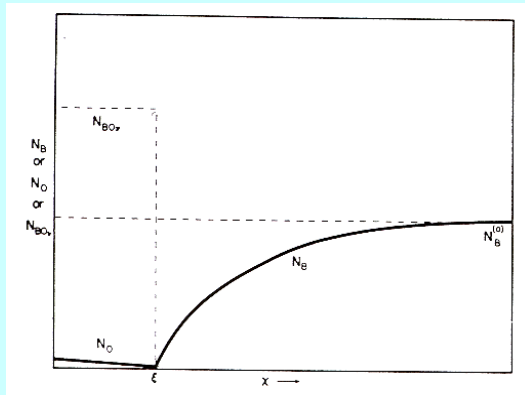
# Experimental results: EDX

Concentration profiles of Cu-Ni alloys oxidized at 950° C for 3 hours

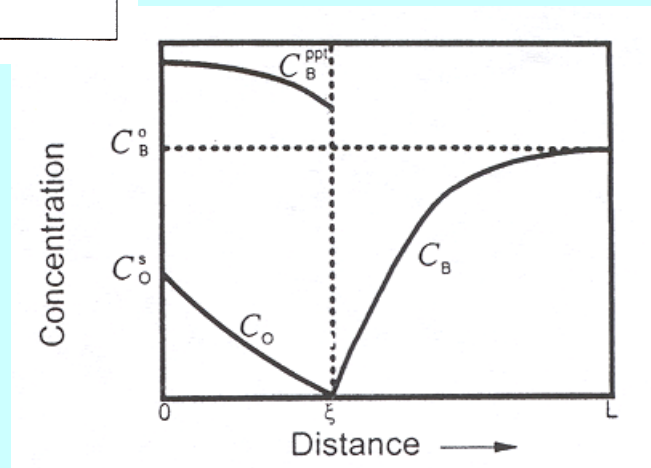


⊗ Estimated position of oxidation frontier

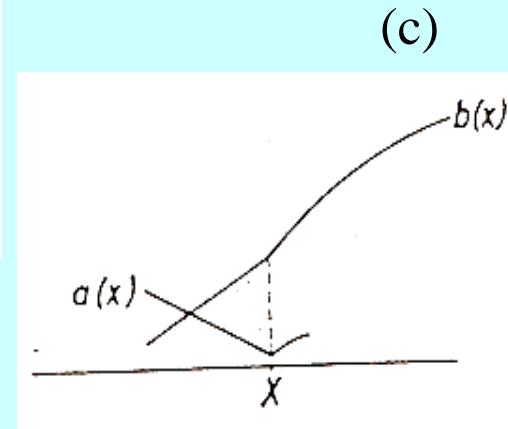
# Background: Existing models of internal oxidation



(a)



(b)



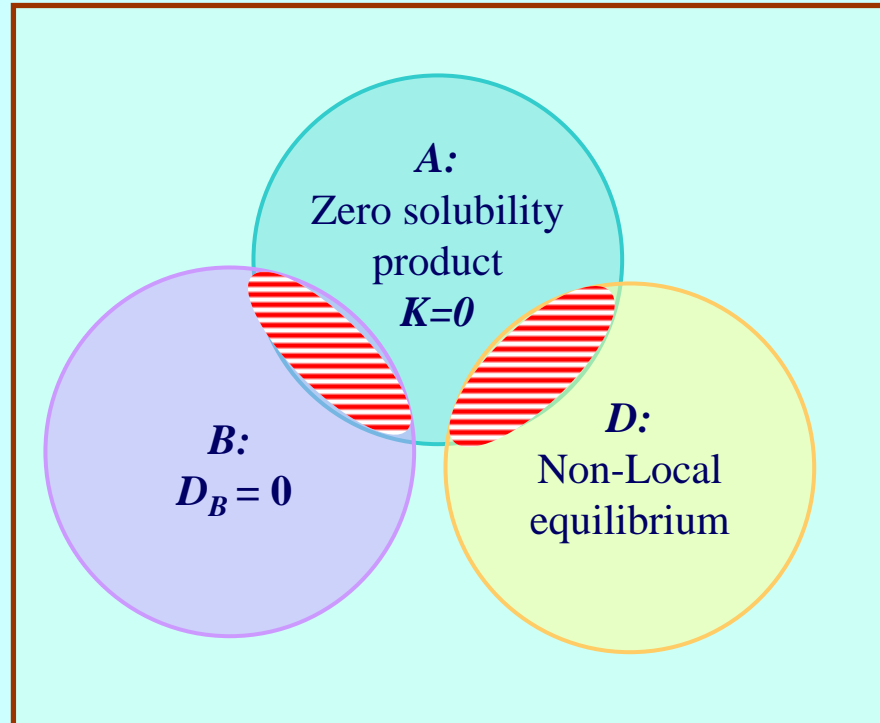
(c)

(a) C. Wagner, *Z. Electrochem*, 63 (1959) 772.

(b) J. A. Nesbitt, *Oxidation of Metals*, 44 (1995) 309.

(c) G. Bohm *et al.* *Acta Metall.*, 12 (1964) 641

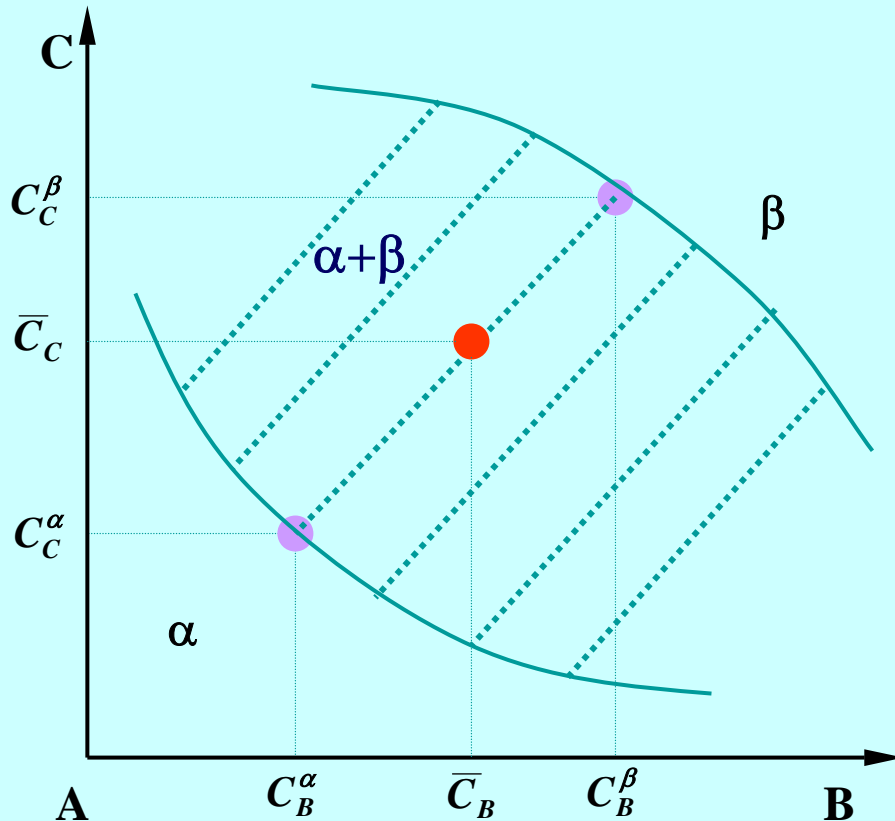
# Background: Venn diagram



**The classic mode =  $(A \cap D) \cup (A \cap B)$**

**Local equilibrium model =  $D^c$**

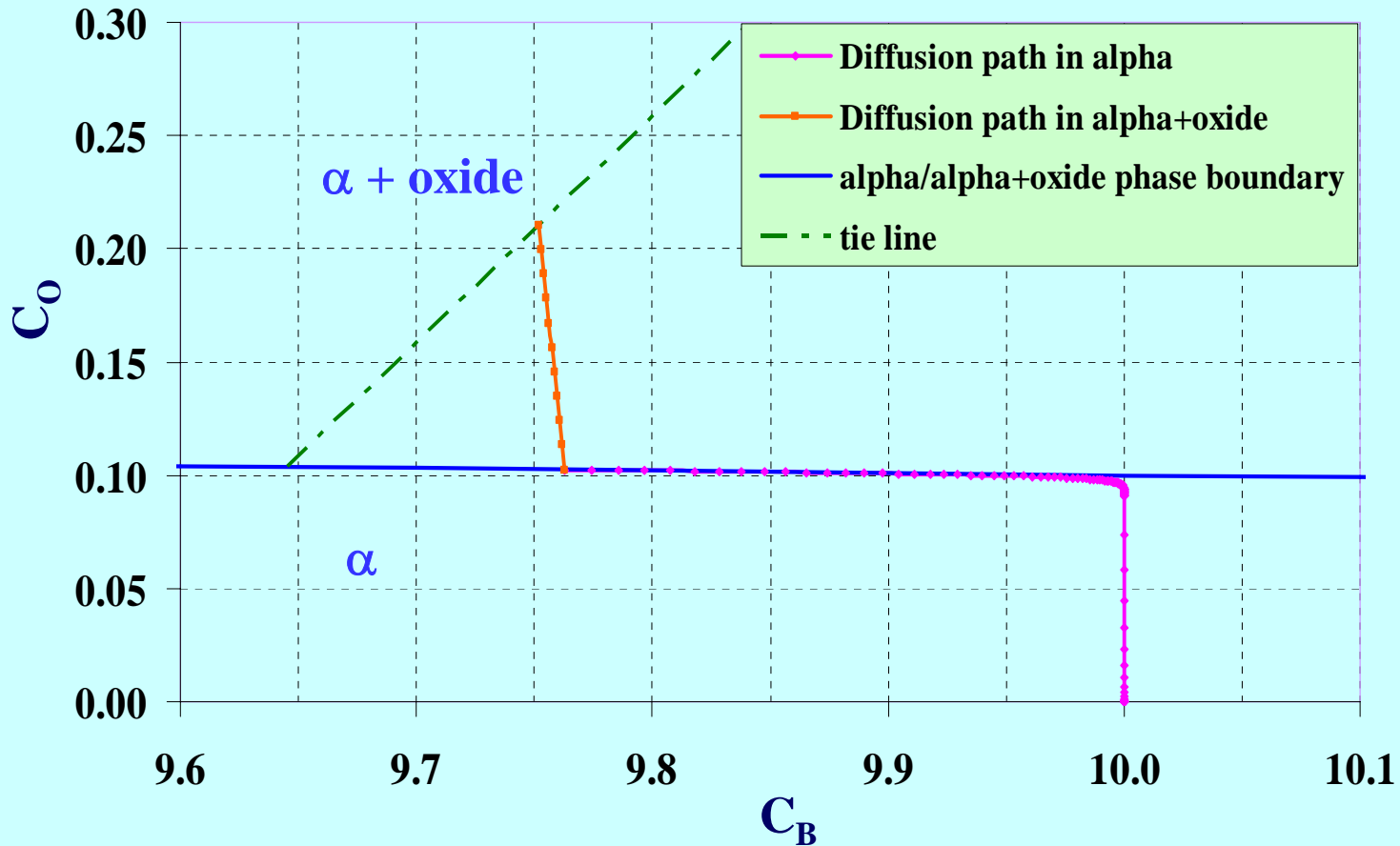
# Background: Local equilibrium assumptions



- ❖ The compositions and amount of each phase are given by the local average composition, the phase diagram, and the lever rule.
- ❖ Nucleation and growth rate of precipitates are so rapid that only long range diffusion need be considered.

# Simulation results: EFM

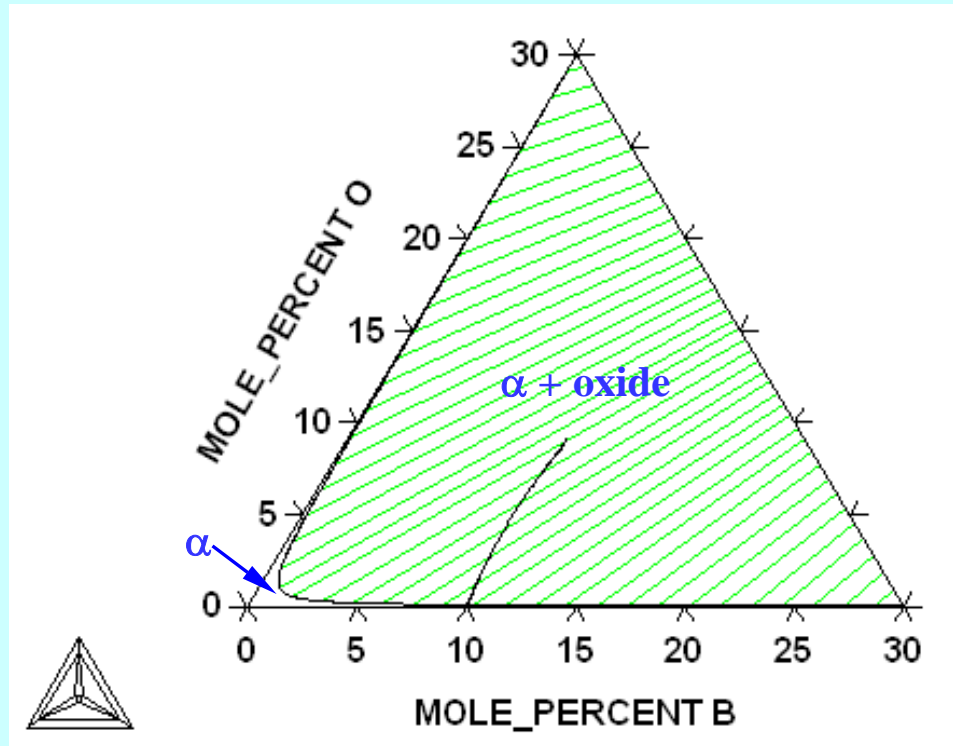
## Diffusion paths:



Simulation conditions:  $K = 9.6 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $\dots$

# Simulation results: DICTRA

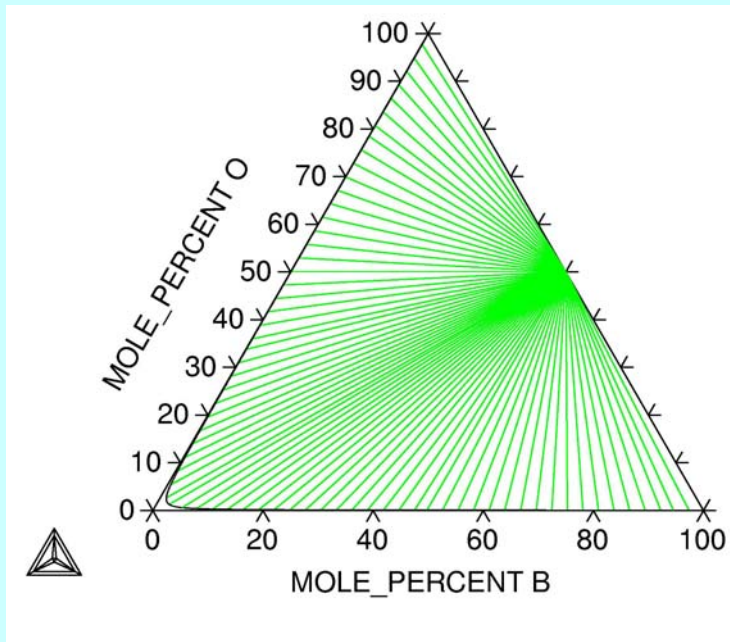
## Diffusion path:



Simulation conditions:  $K = 9.6 \times 10^{-5}$ , = -, = , =

# DICTRA simulation

## An ideal A-B-O solid solution system



**Three elements:**

**A - solvent**

**B - solute**

**O - fast diffuser ( $D_O \gg D_B$ )**

**Two phases:**

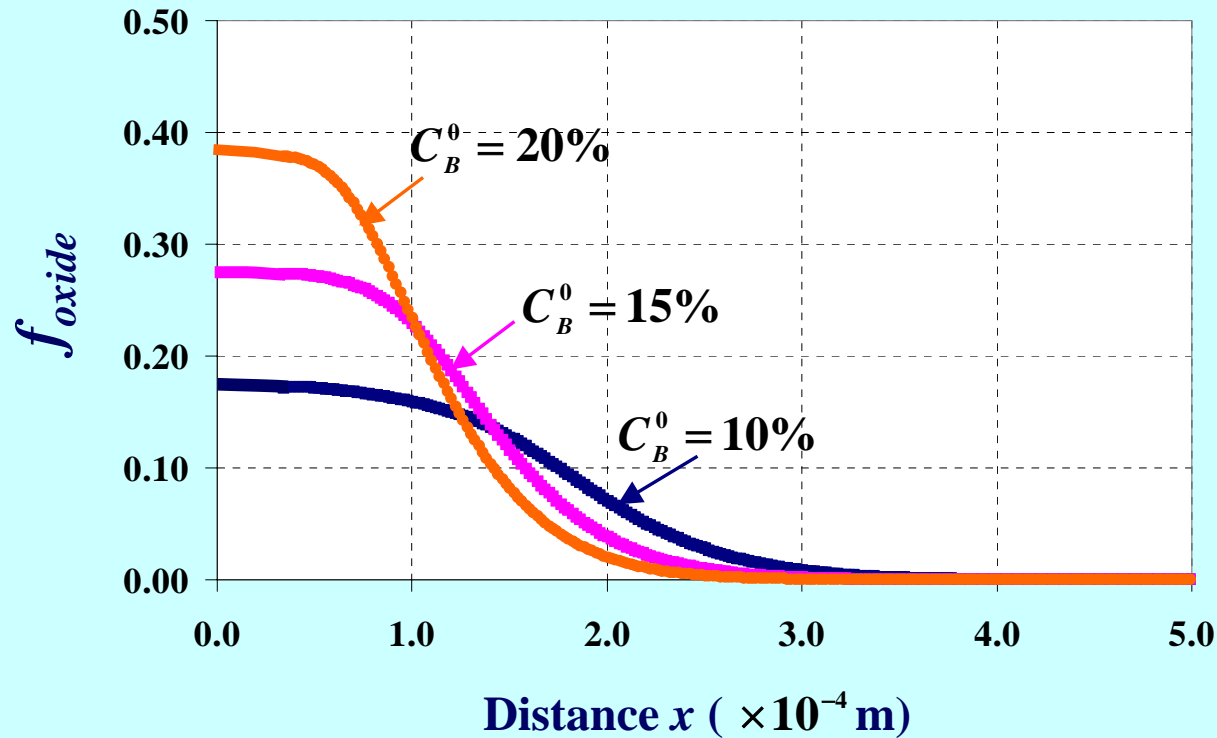
❖ **matrix phase**

❖ **line compound (BO)**



# Simulation results: DICTRA

Effect of  $C_B^0$  on oxide mole fraction:



Simulation conditions:  $K = 9.6 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $\dots$

# Simulation results

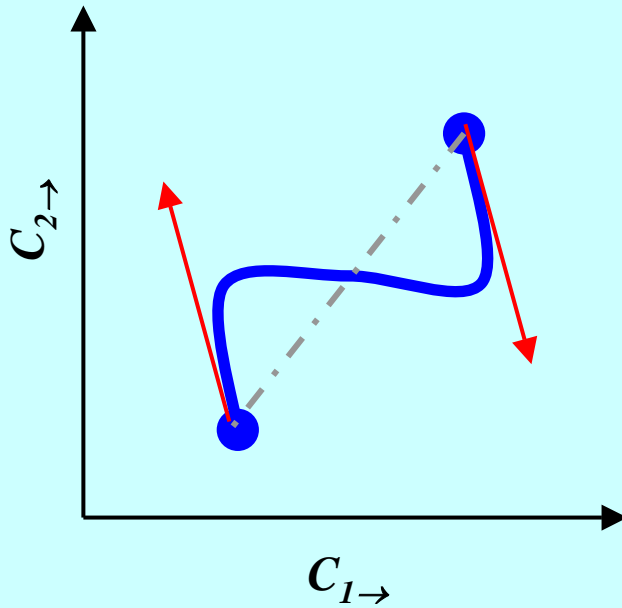
## Comparison of EFM and DICTRA

	<b>EFM</b>	<b>DICTRA</b>
Application	Unsaturated case	Saturated case
Boundary conditions	$C_o^s = \text{Constant}$ $J_B = -D_B \frac{\partial C_B}{\partial x}$	$C_o^s = \text{Constant}$ $J_B = \mathbf{0}$
[D <sup>eff</sup> ]	Constant	Concentration dependent
Phase boundary	Linear	$C_B C_o = K$
$\beta$	$\beta \rightarrow \mathbf{1}$	$\mathbf{0.03} < \beta < \mathbf{0.55}$
Local equilibrium conditions	Satisfied	Satisfied

# Interesting diffusion paths

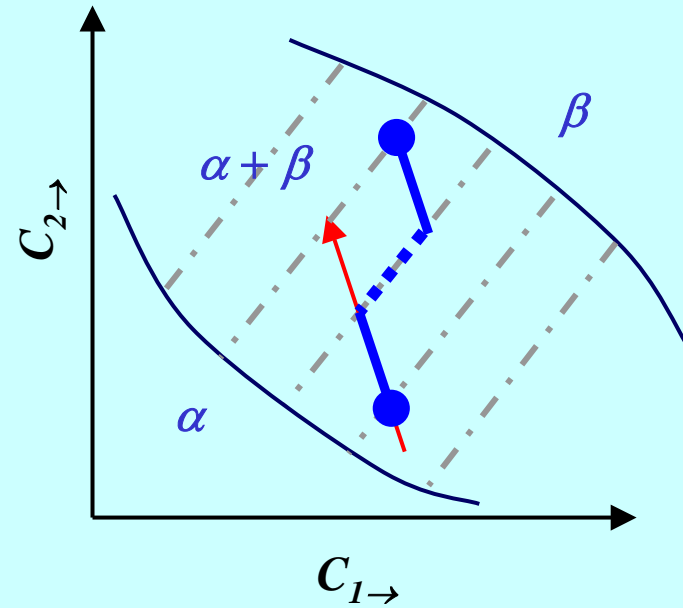
Single-phase region

Serpentine shape



two-phase region

Zigzag shape



$$\begin{bmatrix} D_{11} & D_{12} \\ D_{21} & D_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

Major eigen vector direction

Gibbs Phase law:  $f = c - p + 2$