Effect of External Fields on Microstructures: A Modeling Perspective

Nitin Singh Department of Materials Science and Engineering University of Virginia 2006

Inputs from: Peng Zhou, S. Wise, W.C. Johnson, D.M. Elzey

Outline

- Motivation
- Quaternary System Phase Microstructure: Inhomogeneous Elastic Properties
- Intermediate Phase Growth: Externally Applied Electric Fields

What can we do with OOF:

Study the effect of externally applied tractions and electric fields on the kinetics and the final microstructure formed.

Motivation

- Diffuse Interface Model used to study phase microstructure evolution in a III-V system with site occupancy restriction.
 - What is the effect of self-stress?
 - What is the effect of externally applied tractions?
 - Can we consider elastic inhomogeneity?
- Diffuse Interface Model is used to study the behavior of an existing intermediate phase during current flow.
 - What effect does the direction of current have?
 - How do stress considerations play a role?
- Our Numerical Engine uses the Multigrid Method to solve equations.
- We do not have the versatility as OOF.
- We can compare our results with that by OOF

1. III-V Phase Microstructure Evolution

- Model the microstructural evolution of a III-V pseudo-binary system which has a miscibility gap.
- Model Physical System:
 - $In_xGa_{1-x}As_ySb_{1-y}$
 - Group III: In, Ga
 - Group V: As, Sb
 - Mixture of 4 binary compounds InAs, InSb GaAs, GaSb
- The quaternary solid solutions crystallize in Zinc-Blend structure which consists of two interpenetrating binary sublattices.



Free Energy Functional

 $F(x,y,\Phi) = \int_{V} \{f^{\text{chem}}(x,y,\Phi) + f^{\text{elas}}(x,y,\Phi,u) - \mu_{A}(x-x_{o}) - \mu_{C}(y-y_{o}) + \kappa_{xx}/2 \\ \Delta x + \kappa_{yy}/2 \Delta y + \kappa_{\Phi\Phi}/2 \Delta \Phi \} d^{3}z + \int_{S} [f_{S}(x,y) - t.u] d^{2}z$

 κ_{xx} , κ_{yy} , $\kappa_{\Phi\Phi}$ - Cahn-Hilliard gradient energy coefficients associated to the x, y and Φ fields.

Regular Solution Model for $A_x B_{1-x} C_y D_{1-y}$ system $f^{\text{chem}}(\Phi, x, y) = xy \,\mu_{AC}^0(\Phi) + x(1-y) \,\mu_{AD}^0(\Phi) + y(1-x) \,\mu_{BC}^0(\Phi) + (1-x)(1-y) \,\mu_{BD}^0(\Phi) + \rho_0 kT[x \ln x + (1-x)\ln(1-x) + y\ln(y) + (1-y)\ln(1-y)] + x(1-x)[y \,\omega_{BC-AC}(\Phi) + (1-y) \,\omega_{AD-BD}(\Phi)] + y(1-y)[x \,\omega_{AD-AC}(\Phi) + (1-x) \,\omega_{BC-BD}(\Phi)]$

Elastic Energy for $A_x B_{1-x} C_y D_{1-y}$ system

$$f^{elas}(\Phi, x, y, u) = 1/2 T_{ij}(\Phi, x, y, u)(E_{ij}(u) - e(\Phi, x, y)\delta_{ij})$$

 $e(\Phi, x, y)$ - eigenstrain in the system

Free Energy Surface

Free energy surface across the 'x' and 'y' composition at T = 773 K for a $In_xGa_{1-x}As_ySb_{1-y}$ system.



Thermodynamics

In_xGa_{1-x}As_ySb_{1-y} system

Chemical Spinodal

$$\left(\frac{\partial^2 f^{chem}}{\partial^2 x}\right) \bullet \left(\frac{\partial^2 f^{chem}}{\partial^2 y}\right) - \left(\frac{\partial^2 f^{chem}}{\partial x \partial y}\right)^2 = 0$$

Miscibility Boundary

$$\mu_{AC}^{\alpha} = \mu_{AC}^{\beta} \qquad \mu_{AD}^{\alpha} = \mu_{AD}^{\beta}$$
$$\mu_{BC}^{\alpha} = \mu_{BC}^{\beta} \qquad \mu_{BD}^{\alpha} = \mu_{BD}^{\beta}$$



Evolution Equations for the Order Parameters

-order parameters evolve so that the total free energy decreases

Evolution Equations for the order parameters

$$\begin{split} \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} &= \nabla \bullet \left(M_{xx} \nabla \left(\frac{\delta F}{\delta x} \right) + M_{xy} \nabla \left(\frac{\delta F}{\delta y} \right) \right) \\ \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} &= \nabla \bullet \left(M_{yx} \nabla \left(\frac{\delta F}{\delta x} \right) + M_{yy} \nabla \left(\frac{\delta F}{\delta y} \right) \right) \\ \mu_x &\equiv \frac{\delta F}{\delta x} = \frac{\partial f^{chem}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial f^{elas}}{\partial x} - \kappa_{xx} \nabla^2 x \\ \mu_y &\equiv \frac{\delta F}{\delta y} = \frac{\partial f^{chem}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial f^{elas}}{\partial y} - \kappa_{yy} \nabla^2 y \end{split}$$

Simulation 1: Initial Conditions

(X,Y) = (0.3,0.4)



Simulation 1: Results for X



Simulation 1: Results for Y









2. Intermediate Phase growth

- Diffusion couple
 - Binary, multiphase
- •Independent variables:
 - Diffusion:
 - c (composition)

Electromigration:

ψ (electric potential)

Elasticity:

u (elastic displacement)



Free Energy Density

• Free energy density of the system(Joule/mol) $f(\phi,c) = f_{ch}(\phi,c) + f_{elec}(\phi,c,\phi) + f_{elas}(\phi,c,u) + \frac{\kappa_c}{2} |\nabla c|^2 + \frac{\kappa_{\phi}}{2} |\nabla \phi|^2$ $- \frac{\text{Chemidal free energy}}{4}$ $- \frac{\text{Electrostatic energy}}{4}$ $- \frac{\text{Elastic energy}}{4}$ $- \frac{1}{2} |\nabla c|^2 + \frac{\kappa_{\phi}}{2} |\nabla \phi|^2$

Electrostatic Energy

• Effective charge

 $- Z_i = Z_v + Z_m$ (i=A,B)

Valence charge

Momentum transfer Dominant contribution Effecitive charge of AI: -20/-30

• Electrostatic energy

$$f_{elec} = N_0 e(cZ_B + (1-c)Z_A)\psi$$

 Ψ : the electric potential N_0 : Avogadro's number $Z_i(i=A,B)$: the effective charges

Intermediate Phase Growth

• Polarity effect in Al/Zn diffusion sample



What can we do with OOF?

- Compare our results
- OOF is more versatile
- More accurate material property information can be used
- OOF can take information from real microstructures
- Perform Virtual Experiments
- Is it applicable to study dynamic processes?
- What other external long range fields can be included?