

# Surface Defects or Grain Boundaries

- Granular structure of crystalline solids
  - Each grain differentiates itself from the neighbor only in its crystalline orientation
  - Each grain meets its neighbors along grain boundaries.
- Study of all defects can be done through microscopy





Crystal Structure Solidified Structure



Observe what happens when at three different points in space crystals form and grow (propagate) in every direction.







## INGE 4001 - Engineering Materials Diffusion in Solids

- Similarities with diffusion in liquids and gases
- •Diffusion mechanisms:
  - -Substitutional diffusion: requires vacancies!
    - >In pure elements→self-diffusion (random
      walk)

–Interstitial diffusion: "channels" for diffusion can be smaller







And the terms in the equation mean:

$$\frac{\mathbf{C}_{s} - \mathbf{C}_{x}}{\mathbf{C}_{s} - \mathbf{C}_{0}} = \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{\mathbf{x}}{2 \cdot \sqrt{\mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{t}}}\right)$$

C<sub>s</sub>: Concentration at the surface (assumed to be constant during the entire process

C<sub>0</sub>: Initial uniform concentration

C<sub>x</sub>: Concentration at a distance <u>x</u>

x: distance from the surface

t: diffusion time

D: diffusivity of solute element



### Example

Determine the carburizing time necessary to achieve a carbon concentration of 0.45 wt.% at a position 2mm into an iron-carbon alloy that initially contains 0.20 wt.% C. The surface concentration is to be maintained at 1.30wt.%C and the treatment is to be conducted at 1000°C. For carbon diffusing into  $\gamma$ Fe: D<sub>0</sub>= 2.3 · 10<sup>-5</sup> m<sup>2</sup>/s and Q = 148 kJ/mol or look at the plot of diffusivities.



Z	erf z	Z	erf z	Z	erf z	Z	erf z
0	0	0.40	0.4284	0.85	0.7707	1.6	0.9763
0.025	0.0282	0.45	0.4755	0.90	0.7970	1.7	0.9838
0.05	0.0564	0.5	0.5205	0.95	0.8209	1.8	0.9891
0.10	0.1125	0.55	0.5633	1.0	0.8427	1.9	0.9928
0.15	0.1680	0.6	0.6039	1.1	0.8802	2.0	0.9953
0.20	0.2227	0.65	0.6420	1.2	0.9103	2.2	0.9981
0.25	0.2763	0.70	0.6778	1.3	0.9340	2.4	0.9993
0.30	0.3286	0.75	0.7112	1.4	0.9523	2.6	0.9998
0.35	0.3794	0.80	0.7421	1.5	0.9661	2.8	0.9999



Draw some conclusions on the effect of the following factors on diffusivity: Crystal structure; grain boundaries; solute atom size; point defects









#### **INGE 4001 - Engineering Materials**

## Summary: Structure and Diffusion

Diffusion FASTER for... Diffusion SLOWER for...

- open crystal structures
- lower melting T materials
   higher melting T materials
- materials with metallic bonding
- smaller diffusing atoms
- cations
- lower density materials

- close-packed structures
- materials with covalent bonding
- larger diffusing atoms
- anions
- higher density materials

