

## Additional reading for Lecture 7: experimental measurement of interdiffusion co-efficient

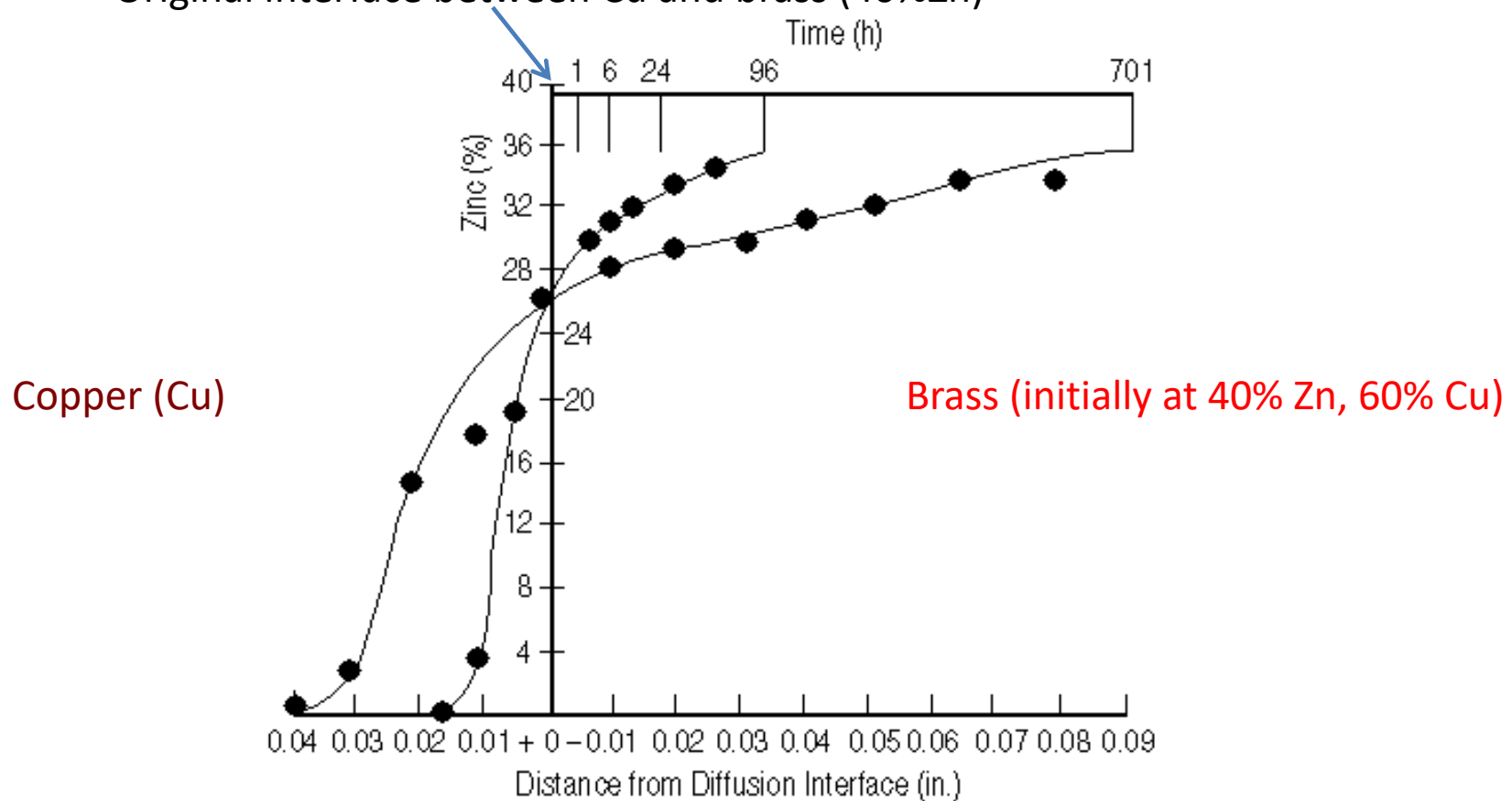
Comments:

- It is possible to measure the **interdiffusion co-efficient** by determining the variation of  $X_A$  or  $X_B$  after annealing a diffusion couple for a given time such as that depicted by real experimental data in the plot next slide.
- In cases where **interdiffusion co-efficient** can be assumed constant, the value of **interdiffusion co-efficient** can be deduced by solving the Fick's second law for the interdiffusion case as we learned in Lecture 4 (See the very last part of the Lecture note, where unvarying **interdiffusion co-efficient** assumed).
- However, if **interdiffusion co-efficient** is not constant (i.e., changing with annealing time as indeed demonstrated in the example shown below), we should use graphical solutions of Fick's second law to get the value of **interdiffusion co-efficient** --- that's exactly what we learn from Lecture 7 --- the Matano method.

real data obtained from copper/zinc binary inter-diffusion upon annealing: Zinc concentration profiles after different times of anneals at 1,053 K.

E.O. Kirkendall, "Diffusion of Zinc in Alpha Brass," *Trans. AIME*, 147 (1942), pp. 104-110

Original interface between Cu and brass (40%Zn)



The average of the diffusivity at 26% Zinc concentration at 1,053 K was  $\tilde{D} = 3.8 \times 10^{-13} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ .  
 Inter-diffusion coefficient  $\tilde{D}$  is composition dependent, i.e., varying with annealing time as evidenced here;  $\tilde{D}$  increases gradually with  $X_{\text{Cu}}$ , simply because zinc has faster diffusion than copper, and,  $\tilde{D} = x_{\text{Cu}} D_{\text{Zn}}^{\text{C}} + x_{\text{Zn}} D_{\text{Cu}}^{\text{C}}$ .

The experiments shown in the last slide was carried out by Kirkendall, and first published in 1942: E.O. Kirkendall, "Diffusion of Zinc in Alpha Brass," *Trans. AIME*, 147 (1942), pp. 104-110. Following this observation, Kirkendall performed the famous "Kirkendall Effect" experiment and published that result in 1947: A.D. Smigelskas and E.O. Kirkendall, "Zinc Diffusion in Alpha Brass," *Trans. AIME*, 171 (1947), pp. 130-142.



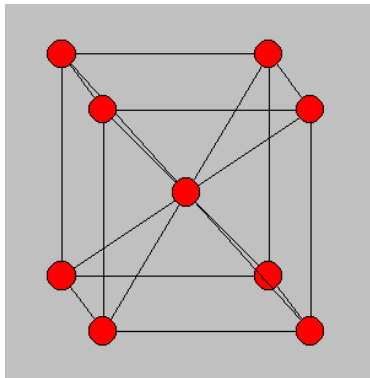
**Ernest Kirkendall**

From the data in the last slide, the average of the diffusivity ( $\tilde{D}$ ) at 26% Zinc concentration at 1,053 K was  $3.8 \times 10^{-13} \text{ m}^2\text{s}^{-1}$ .

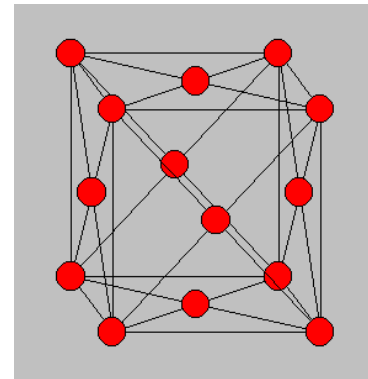
Diffusion coefficient is a function of composition fraction (composition dependent), which in turns varies with annealing time as evidenced here;  $\tilde{D}$  increases gradually with  $x_{\text{copper}}$ , simply because zinc has faster diffusion than copper, and,  $\tilde{D} = x_{\text{Cu}}D_{\text{Zn}}^{\text{C}} + x_{\text{Zn}}D_{\text{Cu}}^{\text{C}}$  .

## General practices:

- For a given crystal structure, **interdiffusion co-efficient** at the melting point is roughly constant. Therefore if adding B to A decreases the melting point, **interdiffusion co-efficient** will increase at a given temperature, vice versa.
- For a given solvent and temperature, both interstitial and substitution diffusion are more rapid in a **bcc** lattice than a **close-packed** lattice. For example, for the diffusion of carbon in iron at 910 degree C, the intrinsic diffusion coefficient in alpha-iron (with **bcc** lattice) is about 100 times larger than that in gamma-iron (with **fcc** lattice, close-packed). Similarly for the self-diffusion coefficient of iron atom in alpha-iron is about 100 times larger than that in gamma-iron. The reason for this huge difference lies in the fact that the **bcc** structure is more open and the diffusion process requires less lattice distortion (enthalpy or thermodynamically favored).



Body centered cubic (bcc) lattice



Face centered cubic (fcc) lattice