

AMSE502 Phase Transformations

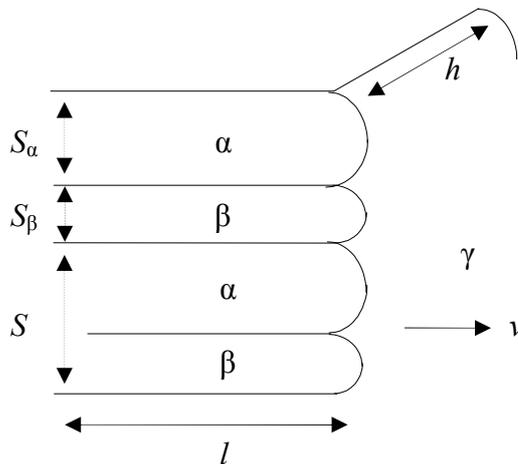
due Date: Dec. 04, 2012

Problem Set #6

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1. Consider the increase of free energy during the formation of lamellar eutectic/eutectoid.

It is thought that the free energy increase comes from the creation of the α/β interfaces, and the amount of free energy increase per mole of the lamellar eutectic/eutectoid is often expressed as follows :



$$\Delta G_{IF}(S) = \frac{2\gamma_{\alpha\beta}}{S} \cdot V_m^L$$

where $\gamma_{\alpha\beta}$ is the α/β interfacial energy and V_m^L is the molar volume of the lamellar structure.

However, it can also be thought that the free energy increase comes from the capillarity effects due to the curvature at the growing tip of each (α/β) layer.

- a) Why the tip of each layer has a curvature? (20%)
- b) Estimate the radius of curvature for each layer as a function of layer thickness. (40%)
- c) Show that the free energy increase due to the capillarity effects is exactly the same as that obtained by considering the α/β interfacial energy. (40%)