Phase transitions – an introduction (the Gibbs energy perspective)

 $H_2O(s) \rightarrow H_2O(l)$ 298 K (r.t.), 1 atm (i.e., ambient cond.) $\Delta G < 0$

 $G_{H_2O(s)} > G_{H_2O(l)}$

Therefore, this (ice melts into liquid water) is a spontaneous process at ambient condition

- i.e., Gibbs energy decrease is a driving force for the phase transition of water
- With Legendre transformation, we know

$$\left(\frac{\partial G}{\partial T}\right)_P = -S < 0$$
 Meaning, $(T\uparrow) \rightarrow (G\downarrow)$

What's the indication of the above simple relation?

Phase transitions – an introduction (the Gibbs energy perspective)

1) Because of
$$\left(\frac{\partial G}{\partial T}\right)_P = -S < 0$$
, generally, we have

$$(T\uparrow) \rightarrow (G\downarrow)$$

2) Generally, S(s) < S(l) < S(g), we have

- i.e., the slope $\left(\frac{\partial G}{\partial T}\right)_P$ is becoming more and more negative (steeper) in going from *solid* \rightarrow *liqui* < *gas*
- i.e., it is guaranteed to have crossings amongst *solid*, *liqui*, and *gas*



Phase transitions – an introduction (the Gibbs energy perspective)



1) At $T_{s,l}$, $G_{solid} = G_{liquid}$, therefore $\Delta G = 0$,

- 2) i.e., "equilibrium", meaning solid-liquid coexist
- 3) i.e., the so-called "melting point", or more formally, "fusion temperature"
- 1) At $T_{l,g}$, $G_{liquid} = G_{gas}$, therefore $\Delta G = 0$,
- 2) i.e., "equilibrium", meaning liquid-gas coexist
- i.e., the so-called "boiling point", or more formally, "vaporization temperature"

Phase transition – a close look



- Did we miss something?
- Gibbs energy is a Legendre transformed function of in terms of (*T*, *P*), we only looked at *T*

Phase transition – typical phase diagram



NOTE that, *P* in the diagram refers to external pressure

- Coexistence curve: where two phases coexist at equilibrium
- Typically, solid is more dense than liquid; thus, the slope of the coexistence curve of *solid liquid* is positive
- However, water is one of the a few substances that expands when solidified (interesting consequences, ocean ecosystem)

• We learned thermodynamic stability in the form of Legendre transforms (i.e., thermodynamic potentials): $\frac{\partial^2 Y_{\psi}}{\partial x_i^2} \ge 0$



- Imagine a space filled with water vapor (e.g., P=1 atm, T > 373.15K)
- Transient overcome of the shallow barrier from B to A will allow the formation of droplets occasionally, live briefly, then evanesce.



- A: the liquid phase B: the gas phase
- How could you reconcile this schematic with the G(T, P) T diagram?



A: the liquid phase B: the gas phase



- What is the change from T₁ (or T₅) to T₅ (or T₁) is very fast (faster than system relaxation time)?
 - Superheated water, or supercooled liquid:
 - 1) Superheated/supercooled phase is globally unstable based on the stability requirement $\frac{\partial^2 Y_{\psi}}{\partial X_j^2} \ge 0$
 - 2) Barriers can be overcome (easily, sometimes) via fluctuations

• Superheated water



• Supercoold water



Obj. 11-12. 1st order phase transition and critical phenomena.





1st order phase transition – the Ehrenfest classification



- 1) These transitions are continuous in terms of the Gibbs energy change
- 2) HOWEVER, the sudden turning point at the equilibrium (coexistence) of two phases guarantees the slope is discontinuous

$$\left(\frac{\partial G}{\partial T}\right)_P = -S$$

Paul Ehrenfest summarized that, *The order of the lowest derivative* of the Gibbs energy showing a discontinuity upon crossing the coexistence curve is the order of a phase transition

• Could you imagine how a 2nd order phase transition may look like?

curve defines the order of a phase transition.

*. Latent heat.

$$\Rightarrow \Delta S$$

e.g. phose $1 \Rightarrow phose 2$
 S_1 , S_2
 $\Delta S = [S_2 - S_1]$
 $Q_L = T \Delta S$
• Ethalpy, $Y_{\Psi} = Y - \sum_{i=1}^{n} P_i X_j$
 $H \equiv U - (-P) V = U + PV$
 $\begin{cases} I \\ G \equiv U - TS + PV \\ H \equiv G + TS \end{cases}$
 $G(T)$
 $H_1 - H_2 = \Delta H$
 $= G_1 + TS_1 - (G_2 + TS_2)$
 T
 $= T [S_1 - S_2]$
 $= T \Delta S = (Q_L)$





Scenerio:

Determine how much pressure is needed to melt ice at $T < 0^{\circ}C$ (e.g., $T = -6^{\circ}C$). Knowing. QL (H2O) = 3.34 × 10 5 J/kg, ~ ~ V(H2OS-H0) $= -9.05 \times 10^{-5} \text{m}^{3}/\text{kg}$. T = 273 K $\Delta P = \frac{Q_L}{T_{\Delta V}} \Delta T = \frac{3.34 \times 10^{5} \text{J}/\text{kg} \times (-6\text{K})}{273 \text{K} \times (-9.05 \times 10^{-5} \text{m}^{3}/\text{kg})}$ △P = 8.1×/0 Pa= 8.1×13 kg·m?s=2 Assuming Area A=JCM², knowing $g = 9.8 \text{ m} \cdot \text{s}^{-2}$ $m = \frac{\Delta P X A}{g} = \frac{8 \cdot 1 \times 10^7 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m}^{-1} \cdot \text{S}^{-2} \times 10^{-4} \text{m}^2}{9.0 \text{ m} \cdot \text{c}^{-2}}$ 9.8 m·5-2 = 830 kg . Rbys. Rev. X II.011025 (2021) of ice.

How T. P. and speed control the slipperiness