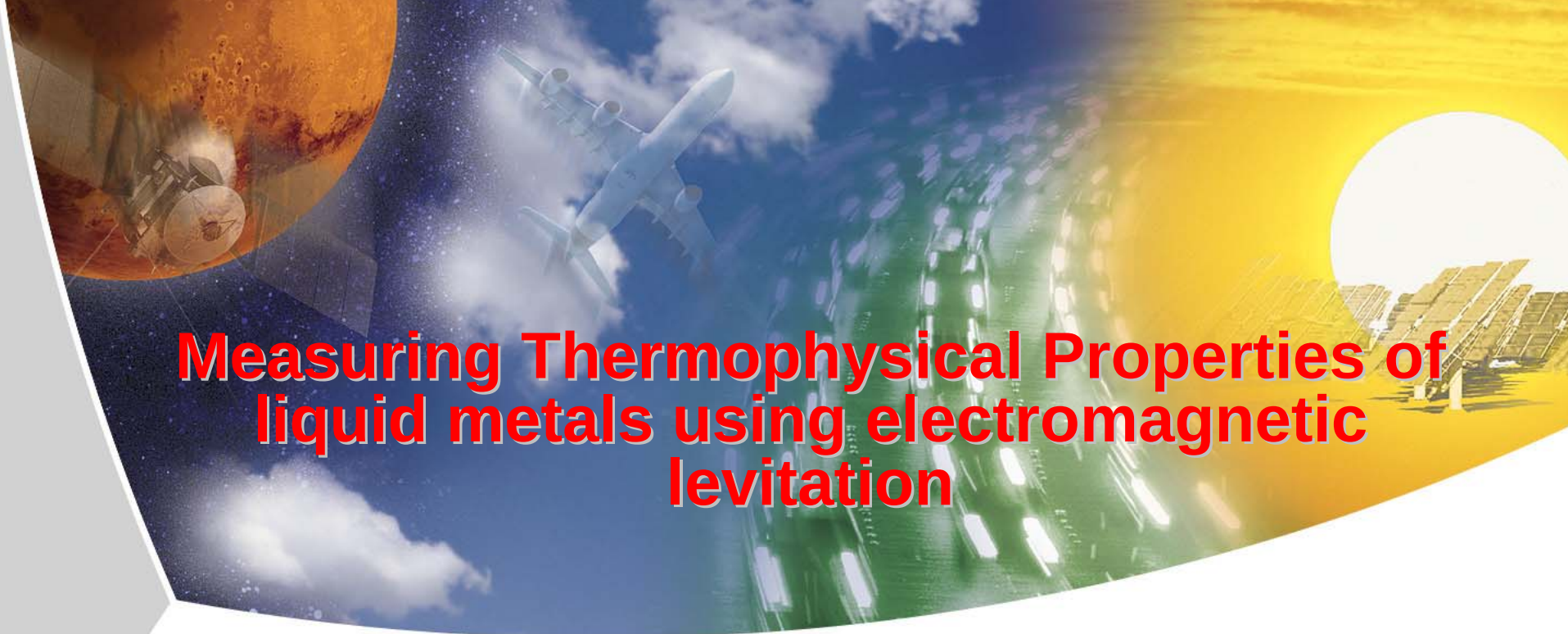




Measuring Thermophysical Properties of liquid metals using electromagnetic levitation

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Deutsches Zentrum
für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V.
in der Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft

Outline

➤ Introduction

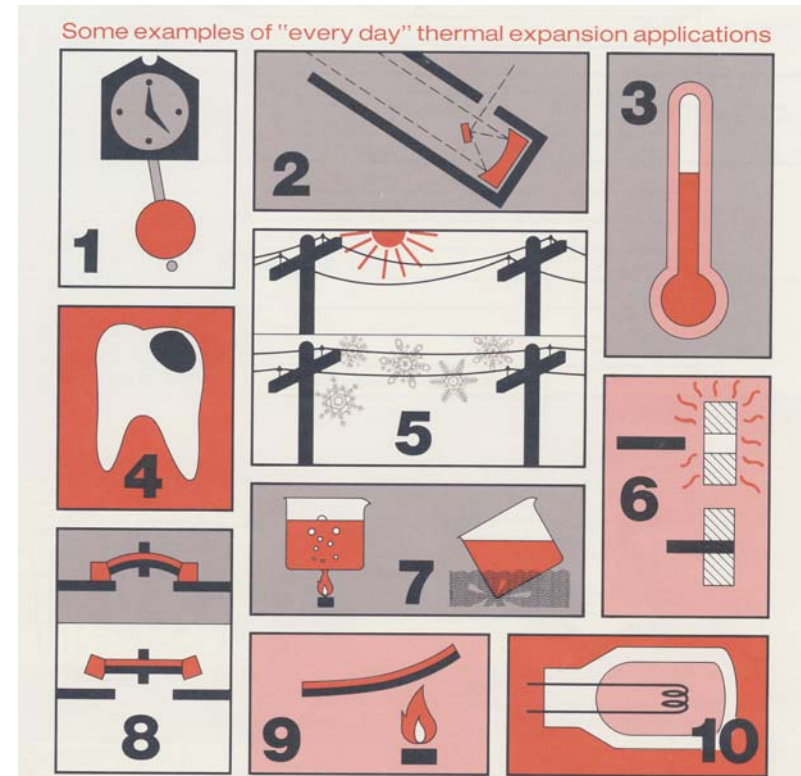
- The Institute
- Relevance
- Materials
- Microgravity

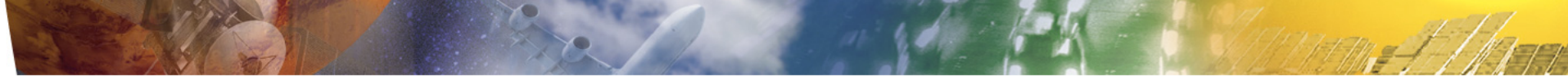
➤ Electromagnetic Levitation

➤ Macroscopic Properties

- (Density)
- **Surface Tension**
- (Viscosity)

➤ Summary





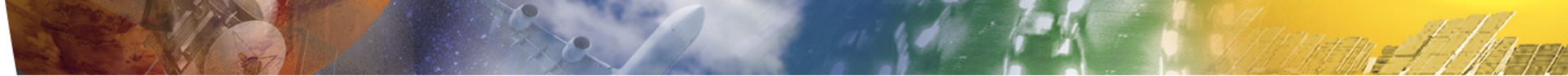
Institut für Materialphysik im Weltraum

Institute for Materials Physics in Space

➤ Tasks

- Utilisation of space environment for materials science (microgravity)
- Investigation of materials for and from space (enabling technologies, exploration)
- Support to external users of space platforms
- Complementary ground-based research on soft matter
 - Solidification (Herlach, Ratke)
 - **Thermophysical properties (Egry)**
 - Structure and Dynamics (Meyer)
 - Molecular Dynamics (Horbach)





Materials

➤ Academic interest

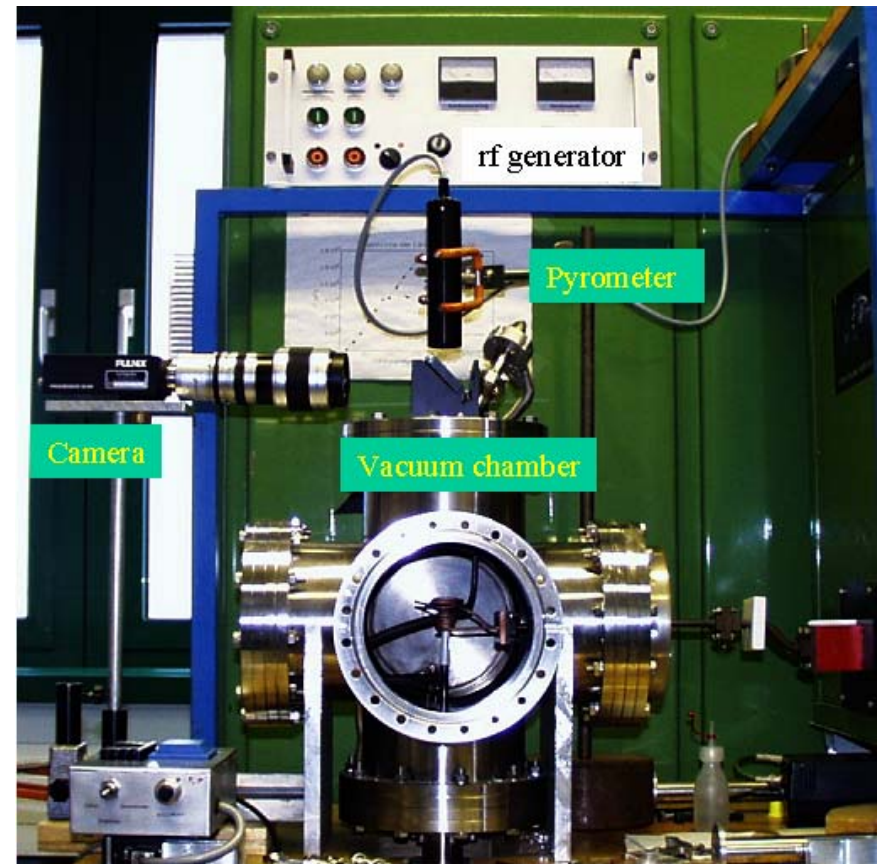
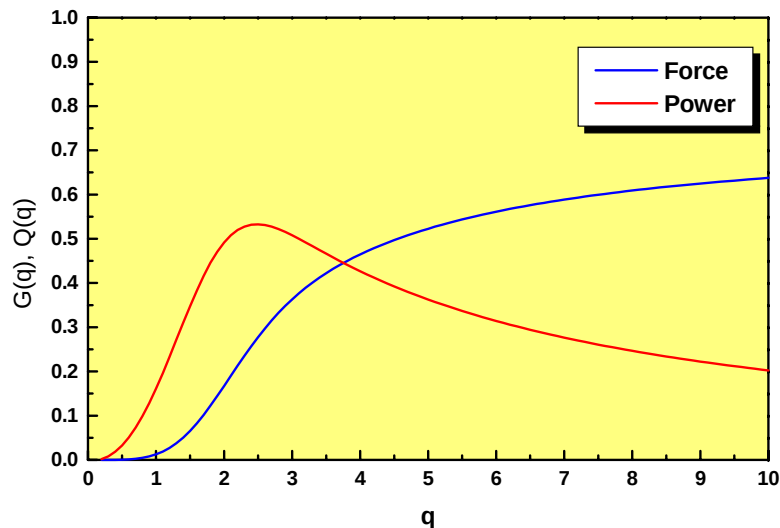
- Elemental melts:
benchmarks
Au, Ag, Cu, Fe, Ni, Co, ...
- Alloys
Excess quantities
 - (metastable) monotectics
Cu-Co, Cu-Fe, Ag-Cu-Ni
 - Intermetallics
Al-Ni

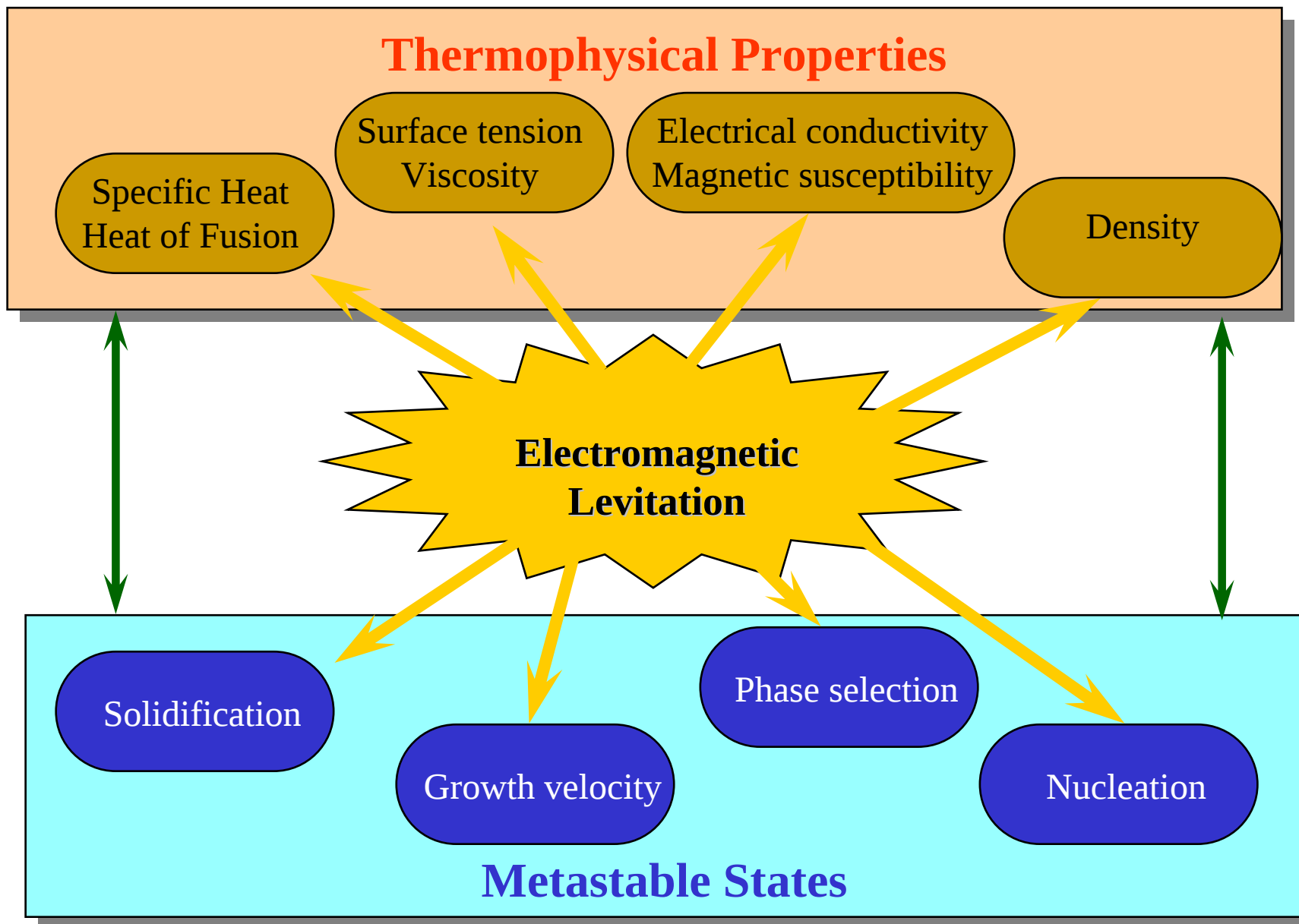
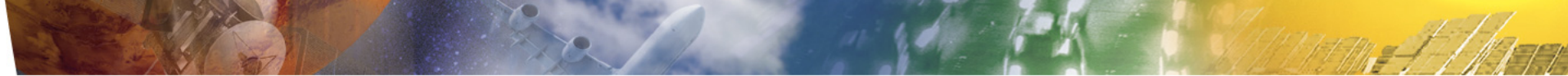
➤ Industrial interest

- Lightweight alloys
Al-Fe, Al-Ni, Al-Cu
- Ni-based superalloys
CMSX-4
Rene N90
- Ti-Aluminides
Ti-Al-V, Ti-Al-Nb
Ti-Al-Ta

Electromagnetic Levitation

- Containerless processing of metals
- Inert atmosphere (He, Ar)
- Small samples (1g)
- High temperatures ($1000 < T < 2000$ °C)
- Non-contact-diagnostics





Microgravity

➤ Advantages

- No convection
- No buoyancy or sedimentation
- Containerless processing

➤ Opportunities

- Parabolic Flights
Zero-g Airbus
- Sounding Rockets
TEXUS, MAXUS
- ISS
COLUMBUS



Electromagnetic Levitation in Microgravity

Residual forces

Containerless processing

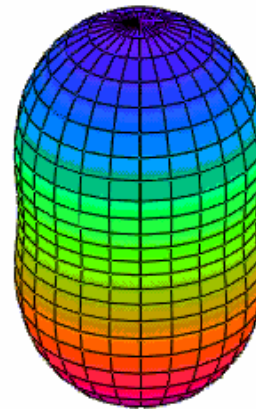
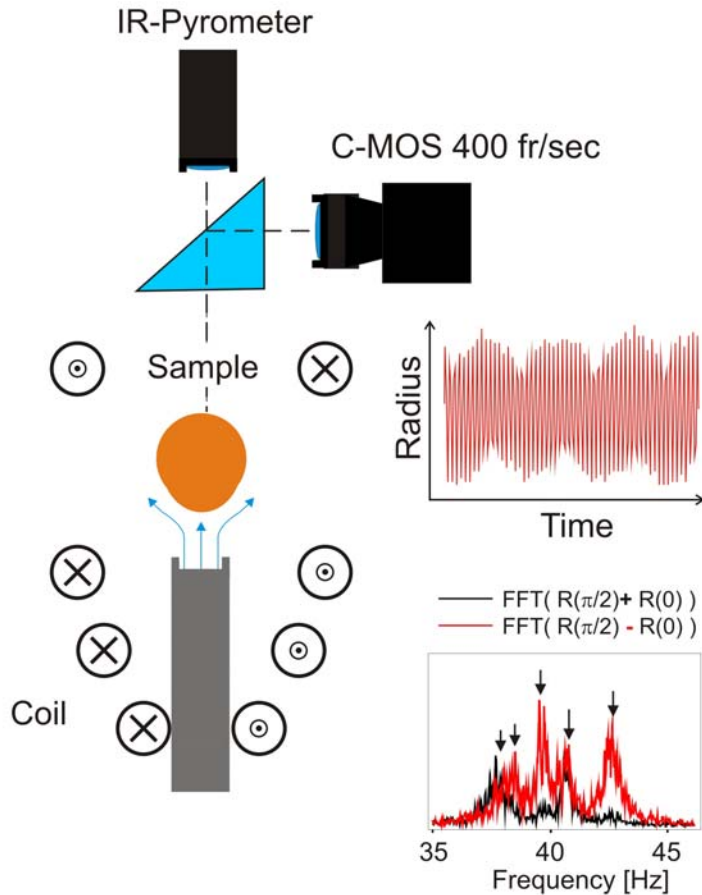
Sample/crucible reactions

High temperatures
Undercooling

- additional properties (e.g. specific heat)
- new materials (e.g. vitralloys)
- extended temperature range (500°C - 2500°C)
- improved accuracy (100% - 1000%)



Surface Tension- Oscillating Drop



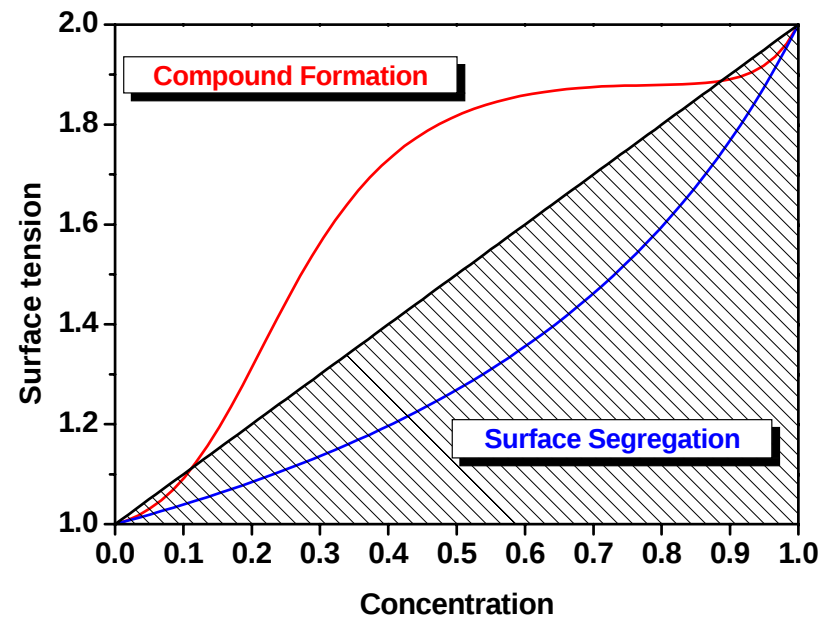
$$R(t) = R_0 \left(1 + \sum_n \varepsilon_n \cos(\omega_{2,n} t + \alpha) \right)$$

$$\frac{1}{5} \sum_n \omega_{2,n}^2 = \frac{32\pi}{3} \frac{\gamma}{M} + 1.9 \overline{\Omega_{tr}^2} + 0.3 (\overline{\Omega_{tr}^2})^{-4} (g/a)^2$$

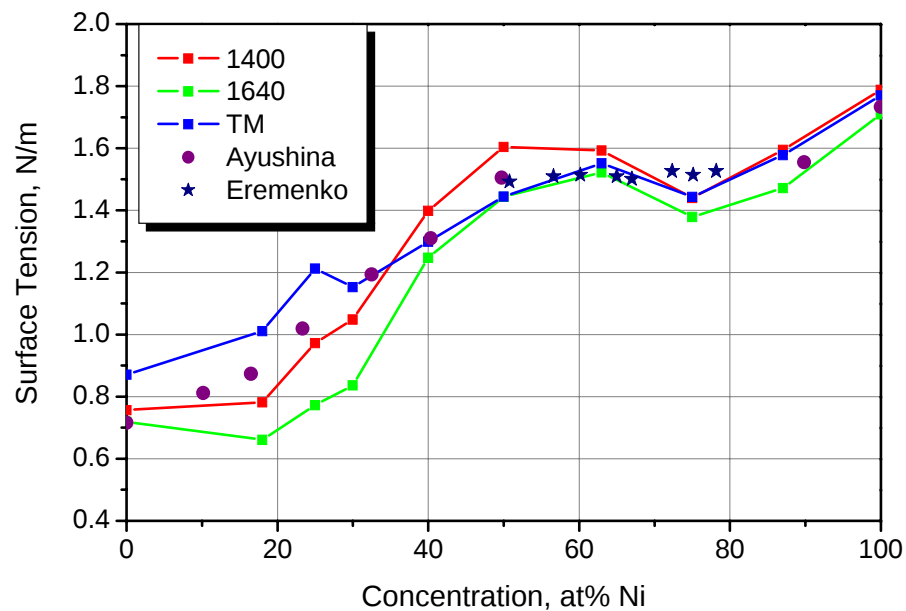
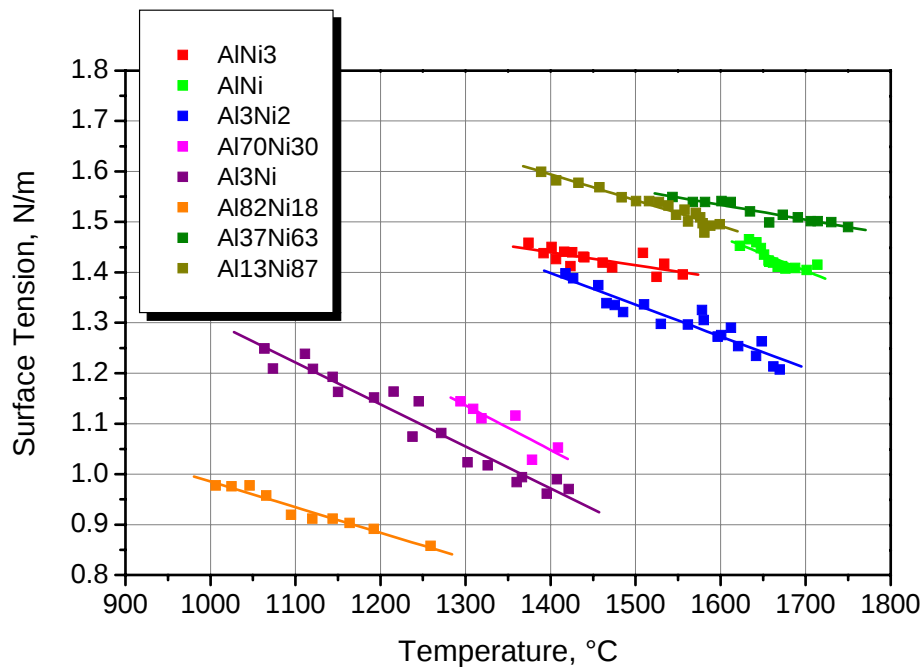
Surface Tension - Results

- Linear temperature dependence
 $\chi(T) = \gamma_m + \gamma' (T - T_m)$
- Generally negative temperature coefficient $\gamma' < 0$
- Generally surface segregation
 $\gamma_{AB} < c_A \gamma_A + c_B \gamma_B$
- Link to thermodynamics via Butler equation

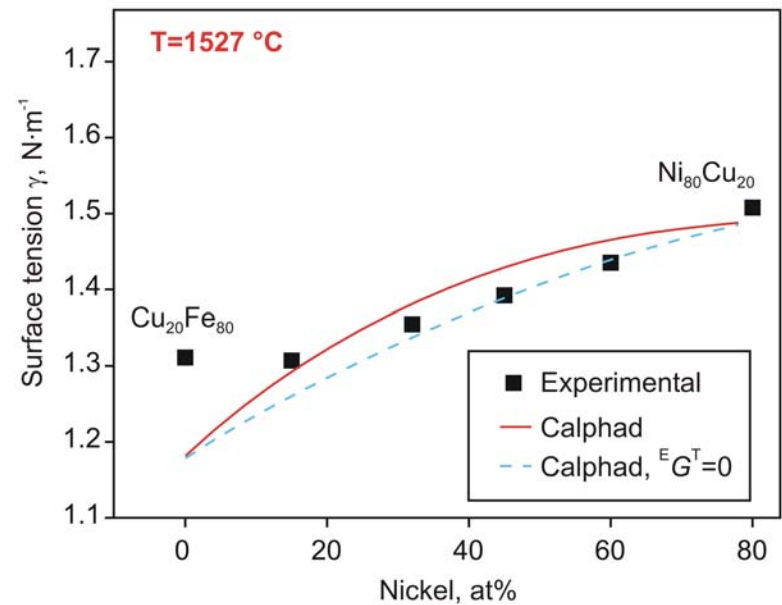
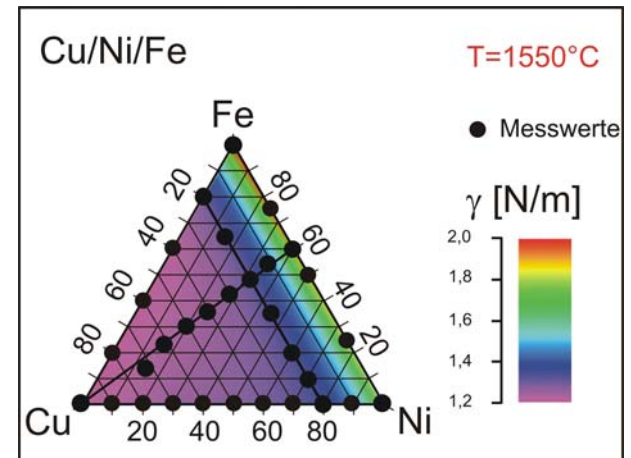
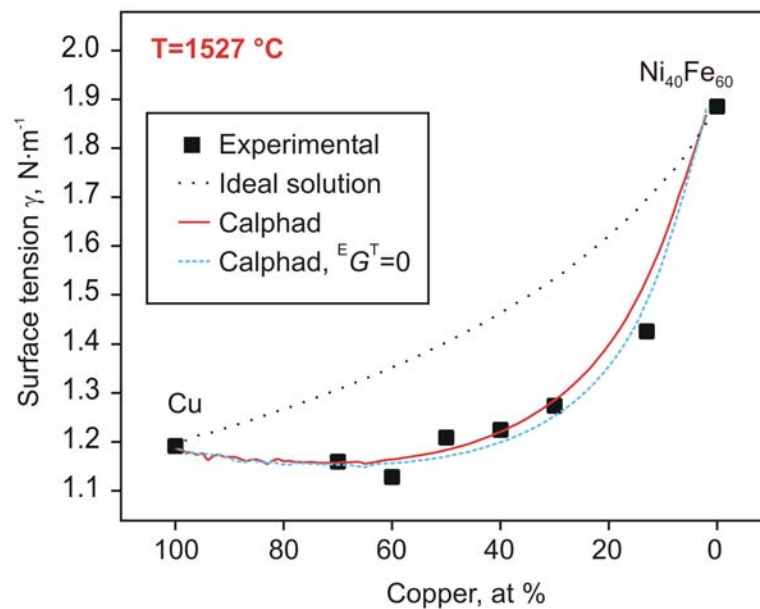
$$\begin{aligned}\gamma &= \gamma_A + \frac{RT}{A_A} \ln \frac{c_A^S}{c_A} + \frac{\Delta G_A^E}{A_A} \\ &= \gamma_B + \frac{RT}{A_B} \ln \frac{c_B^S}{c_B} + \frac{\Delta G_B^E}{A_B}\end{aligned}$$

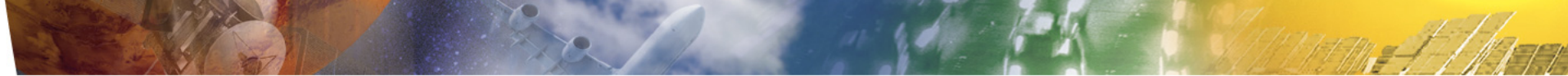


Surface Tension – Al-Ni



Surface Tension – Cu-Fe-Ni





Summary

- **Structure and properties of (multicomponent) liquid metals are important quantities, but still not well understood**
- **Unique interdisciplinary research field**
- **Powerful tools available for their investigation (levitation, x-rays/neutrons, microgravity)**
- **Links between thermophysical properties, structure and thermodynamics need to be explored**