

# MatCalc approach for the modelling of the precipitate/matrix interfacial energy

(MatCalc 5.60.1003)

P. Warczok



# Outline

- What is it all about?
- Why do we care?
- How do we estimate it?
  - Planar sharp interface
  - Curvature correction
  - Diffusive interface

# What is it all about?

- Various contributions to Gibbs energy...

$$G = \sum_i N_i \mu_i + \sum_k A_k \gamma_k + \dots$$

Chemical part     
 Interfacial part

$G$  – Gibbs energy

$N_i$  - Number of moles of „i“-species

$\mu_i$  - Chemical potential of „i“-species

$A_k$  - Area of „k“-interface

$\gamma_k$  - Interfacial energy of „k“-interface

- Interfaces considered

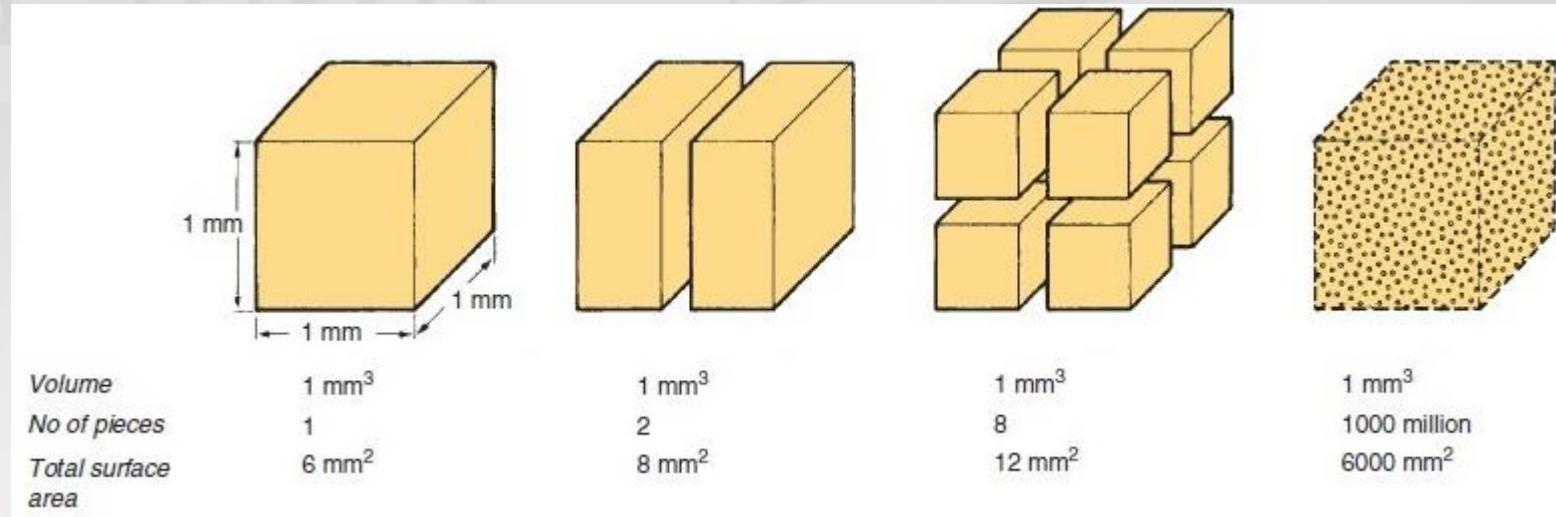
- Precipitate/matrix interface
- Grain boundary
- Subgrain boundary

# What is it all about?

- Various contributions to Gibbs energy...

$$G = \sum_i N_i \mu_i + \sum_k A_k \gamma_k + \dots$$

- Interfacial contribution dependent on the dispersion...



# What is it all about?

- Various contributions to Gibbs energy...

$$G = \sum_i N_i \mu_i + \sum_k A_k \gamma_k + \dots$$

$U$  – Internal energy

$H$  – Enthalpy

$F$  – Free energy

$S$  – Entropy

$p$  – pressure

$V$  – Volume

- Various derivatives...

$$\gamma = \left( \frac{\partial U}{\partial A} \right)_{S,V,N_i,N_j\dots} = \left( \frac{\partial H}{\partial A} \right)_{S,p,N_i,N_j\dots} = \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial A} \right)_{T,V,N_i,N_j\dots} = \left( \frac{\partial G}{\partial A} \right)_{T,p,N_i,N_j\dots}$$

# Why do we care?

- Classical Nucleation Theory

$$J \sim \exp\left(-\frac{G^*}{RT}\right)$$

$$G^* = \frac{16\pi\gamma^3}{3 \left[ \frac{\Delta G_{chem} + \Delta G_{el}}{v^\alpha} \right]^2}$$

$J$  – Nucleation rate

$R$  – Gas constant

$T$  – Temperature

$G^*$  - Critical nucleation energy

$\Delta G_{chem}$  - Chemical contribution of nucleation Gibbs energy

$\Delta G_{el}$  - Mechanical contribution of nucleation Gibbs energy

$v^\alpha$  - Molar volume of the matrix

# Why do we care?

- Coarsening (Ostwald ripening)

$$(\bar{r}(t))^3 = (\bar{r}(t_0))^3 + K_{LSW} t$$

$$K_{LSW} = \frac{8c_B^\alpha D_B^\alpha v^\beta}{9(c_B^\beta - c_B^\alpha)RT} \gamma$$

$t$  – time

$\bar{r}(t)$  – Mean radius at time t

$D_B^\alpha$  - Diffusion coefficient of solute in the matrix

$c_B^\alpha$  - Solute concentration in the matrix

$c_B^\beta$  - Solute concentration in the precipitate

$v^\beta$  - Molar volume of precipitate phase

# How do we estimate it?

- Becker concept

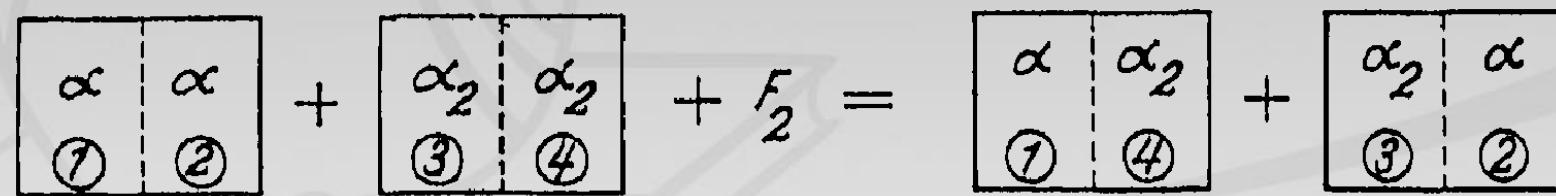
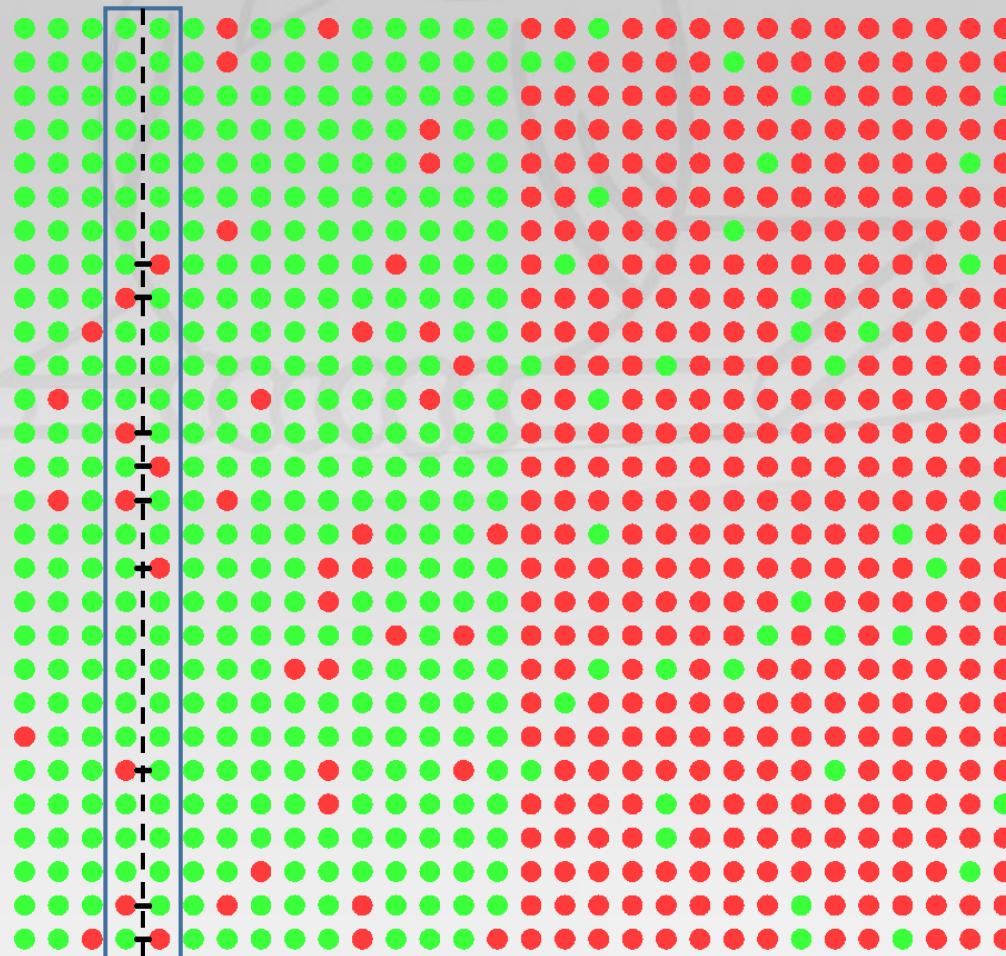


Abb. 6. Schema zur Berechnung der Oberflächenenergie

$$\gamma = \frac{F_2}{(A_{1-4} + A_{3-2})}$$

# How do we estimate it?

- Source of energy – chemical bonds



$$E_{\alpha 1} = n_s z_s \varepsilon_{\alpha 1}$$

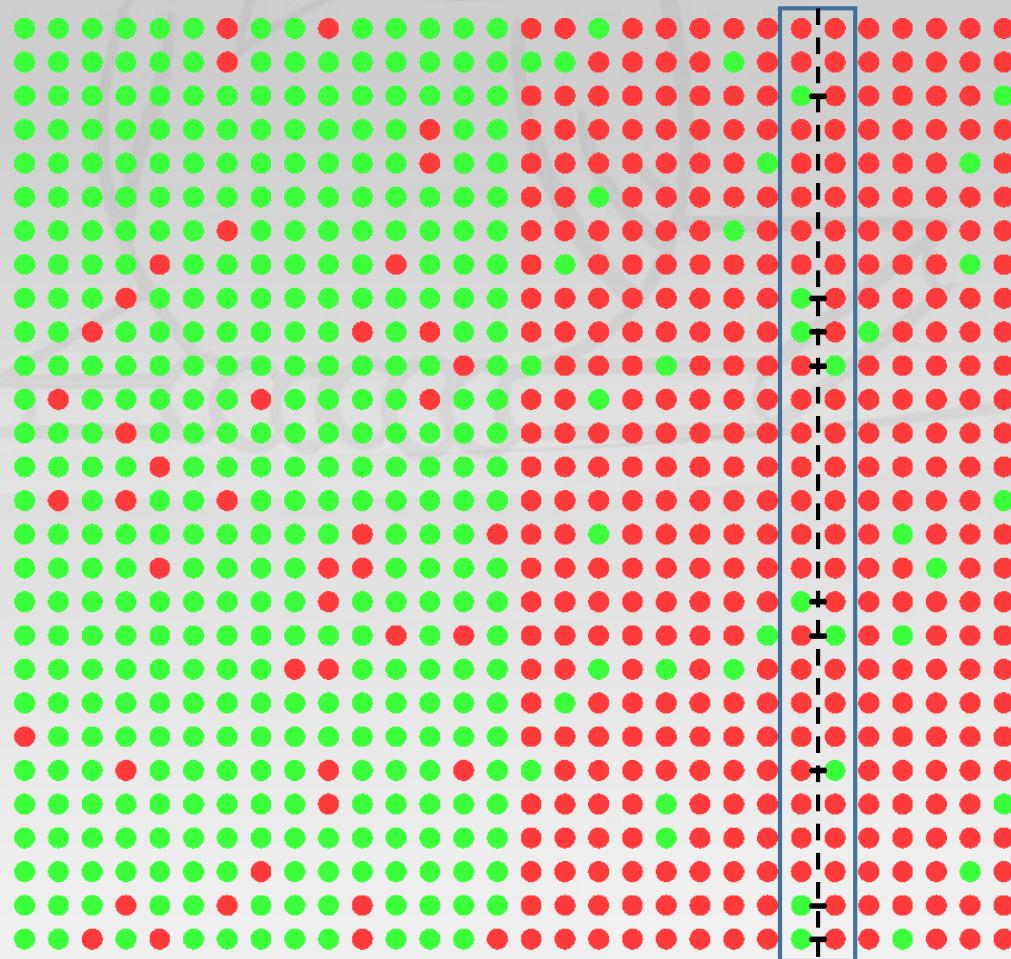
$$\varepsilon_{\alpha 1} = \frac{\sum_i \sum_{j \geq i} n_{ij} \varepsilon_{ij}}{n_s z_s}$$

$n_s$  - Number of atoms per interface area

$z_s$  - Number of bonds between the nearest  
neighbors „broken“ by the interface

# How do we estimate it?

- Source of energy – chemical bonds

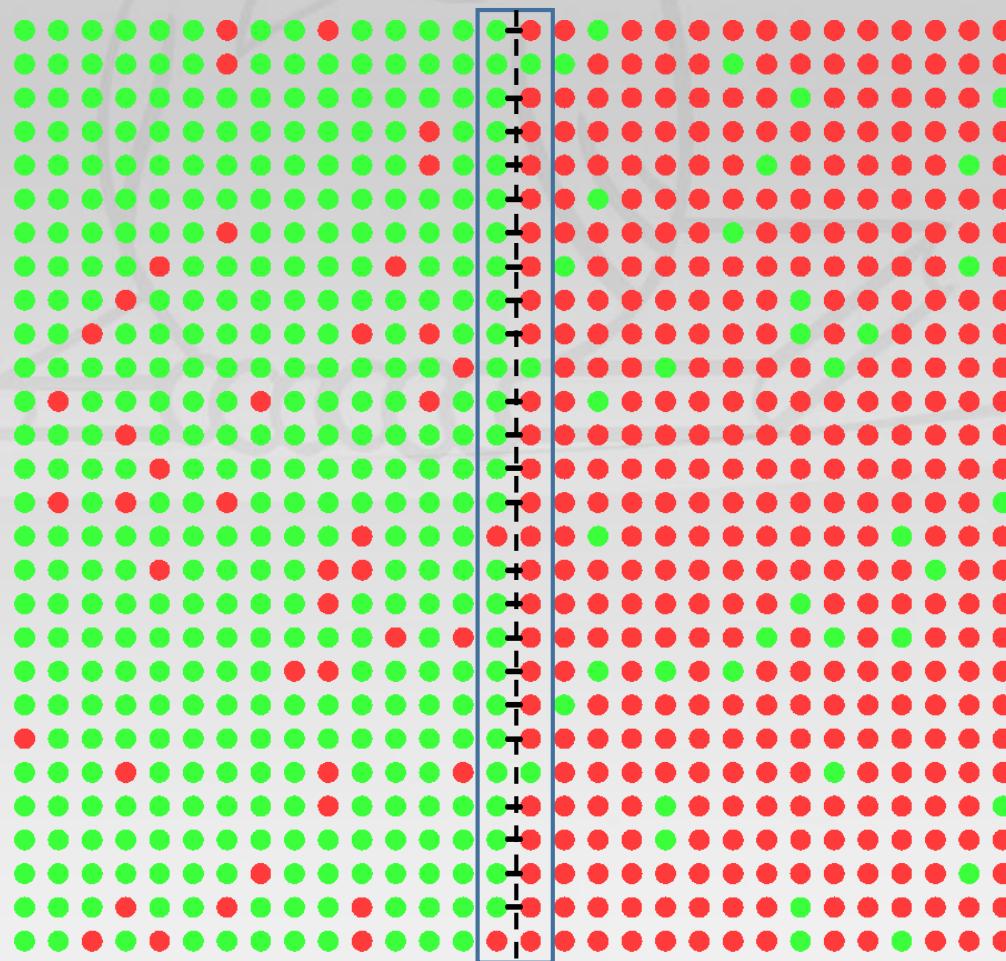


$$E_{\alpha 2} = n_S z_S \varepsilon_{\alpha 2}$$

$$\varepsilon_{\alpha 2} = \frac{\sum_i \sum_{j \geq i} n_{ij} \varepsilon_{ij}}{n_S z_S}$$

# How do we estimate it?

- Source of energy – chemical bonds



$$E_{\alpha_1/\alpha_2} = n_s Z_s \varepsilon_{\alpha_1/\alpha_2}$$

$$\varepsilon_{\alpha_1/\alpha_2} = \frac{\sum_i \sum_{j \geq i} n_{ij} \varepsilon_{ij}}{n_s Z_s}$$

# How do we estimate it?

- Becker concept

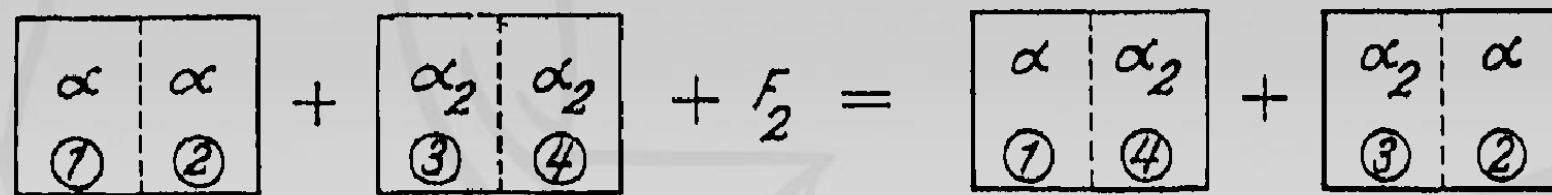


Abb. 6. Schema zur Berechnung der Oberflächenenergie

$$\gamma = \frac{F_2}{(A_{1-4} + A_{3-2})} = n_s z_s (2\varepsilon_{\alpha_1/\alpha_2} - \varepsilon_{\alpha_1} - \varepsilon_{\alpha_2}) = n_s z_s \varepsilon^*$$

$$\varepsilon^* = 2\varepsilon_{\alpha_1/\alpha_2} - \varepsilon_{\alpha_1} - \varepsilon_{\alpha_2}$$

# How do we estimate it?

- Using Turnbull concept



$$H_{\alpha 1} = N_{\alpha 1} \varepsilon_{\alpha 1}$$

$$H_{\alpha 2} = N_{\alpha 2} \varepsilon_{\alpha 2}$$

$$H_{\alpha 1/\alpha 2} = (N_{\alpha 1} - N_{\alpha 1/\alpha 2}) \varepsilon_{\alpha 1} + N_{\alpha 1/\alpha 2} \varepsilon_{\alpha 1/\alpha 2}$$

$$H_{\alpha 1/\alpha 2} = (N_{\alpha 2} - N_{\alpha 1/\alpha 2}) \varepsilon_{\alpha 2} + N_{\alpha 1/\alpha 2} \varepsilon_{\alpha 1/\alpha 2}$$

$N_i$  - Number of bonds in phase „ $i$ “

$N_{i/j}$  - Number of bonds on the interface between phase „ $i$ “ and „ $j$ “

# How do we estimate it?

- Using Turnbull concept



$$\Delta H_{sol} = 2H_{\alpha_1/\alpha_2} - H_{\alpha_1} - H_{\alpha_2} = N_{\alpha_1/\alpha_2} (2\varepsilon_{\alpha_1/\alpha_2} - \varepsilon_{\alpha_1} - \varepsilon_{\alpha_2}) = n_L z_L \varepsilon^*$$

$$\varepsilon^* = 2\varepsilon_{\alpha_1/\alpha_2} - \varepsilon_{\alpha_1} - \varepsilon_{\alpha_2}$$

$$N_{\alpha_1/\alpha_2} = n_L z_L$$

$n_L$  - Number of solute atoms

$z_L$  - Number of nearest neighbors

# How do we estimate it?

- Planar sharp interface. Nearest neighbor broken bond (NNBB) model
  - $n_S, z_S$  - dependent on the interface orientation
  - $z_L$  - dependent on the matrix crystal structure
  - $n_L = N_A$
  - $\Delta H_{sol}$  taken as  $(\partial H_{matrix,eq} / \partial f_{prec,eq})$

$$\gamma_{NNBB} = \frac{n_S z_S}{n_L z_L} \Delta H_{sol} = \frac{n_S z_S}{z_L N_A} \left( \frac{\partial H_{matrix,eq}}{\partial f_{prec,eq}} \right)_{f_{prec,eq}=0}$$

# How do we estimate it?

- Planar sharp interface. Generalized broken bond (GBB) model

Reaching beyond  
the nearest neighbors...

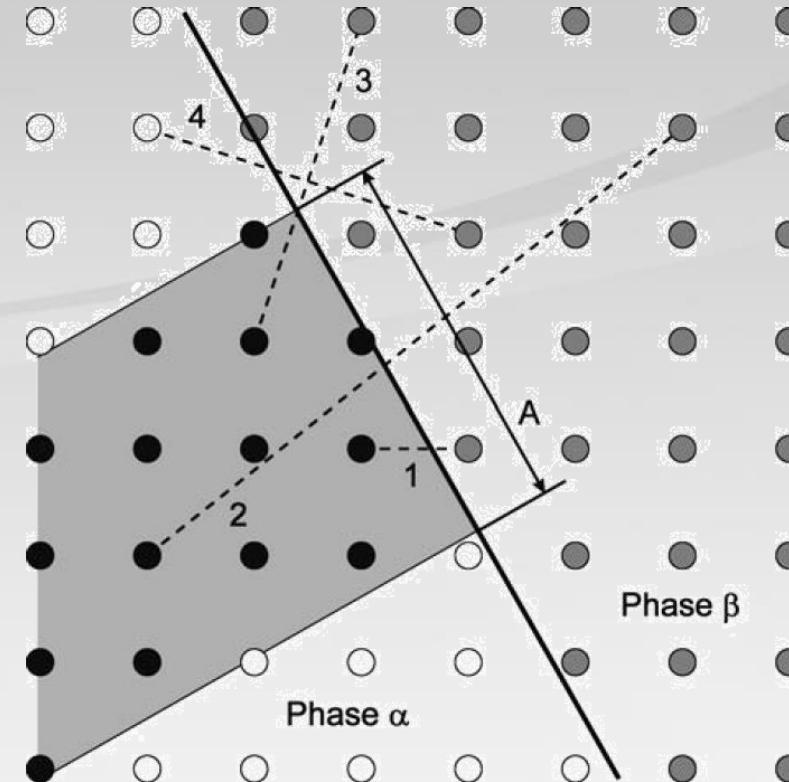


Fig. 1—Broken bonds across a randomly oriented interface.

# How do we estimate it?

- Planar sharp interface. Generalized broken bond (GBB) model

- $n_S = (N_A/V_M)^{2/3}$
- $z_S/z_L \approx 0.329$

**Table III.** Minimum, Maximum, and Mean Values of  $z_{S,\text{eff}}/z_{L,\text{eff}}$  for 100 Nearest-Neighbor Shells and  $r^{-6}$  Dependence of Interaction Potential

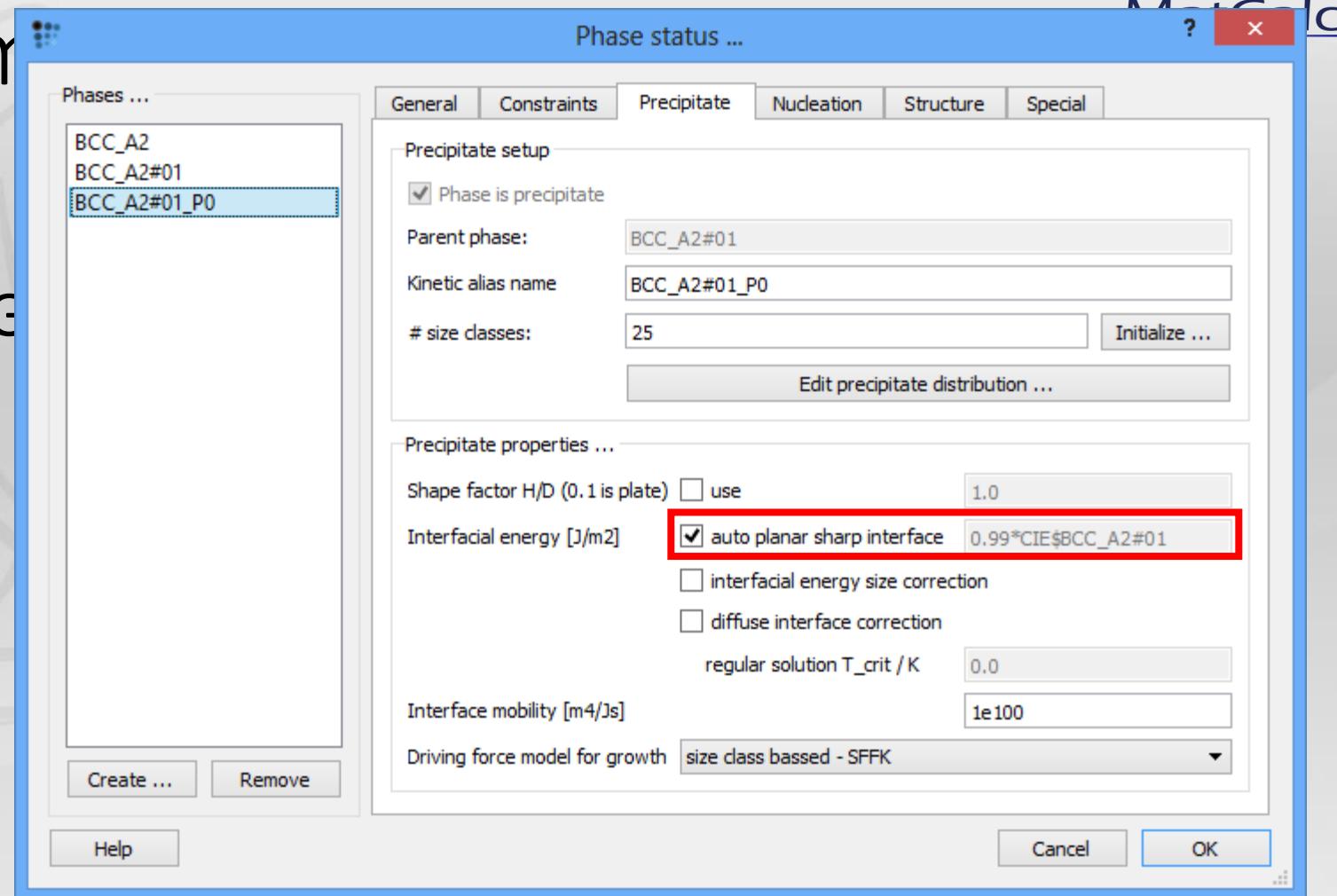
Structure	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Anisotropy
Fcc	0.2871 [1,1,1]	0.3398 [10,5,1]	0.3291	18.4 pct
Bcc	0.2905 [1,1,0]	0.3415 [10,2,1]	0.3280	17.6 pct

$$\gamma_{GBB,pl,sh} = \frac{n_S z_S}{z_L N_A} \left( \frac{\partial H_{matrix,eq}}{\partial f_{prec,eq}} \right) = 0.329 (N_A V_M^2)^{-\frac{1}{3}} \left( \frac{\partial H_{matrix,eq}}{\partial f_{prec,eq}} \right)$$

# How do we estimate

- Planar sharp interface. Growth

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet & n_S = (N_A/V_M)^{2/3} \\ \bullet & z_S/z_L \approx 0.329 \end{aligned}$$

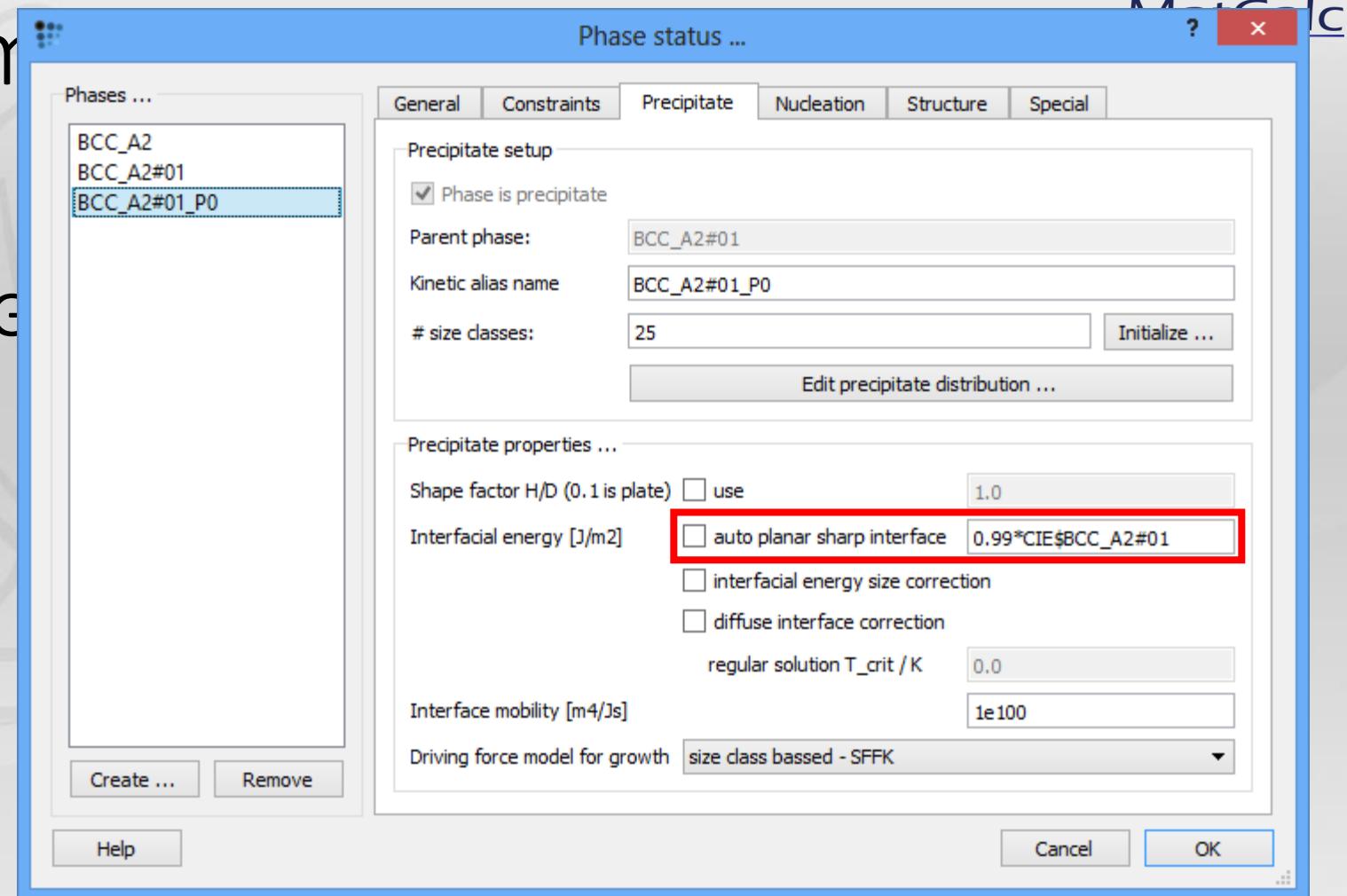


$$\gamma_{GBB,pl,sh} = 0.329(N_A V_M^2)^{-\frac{1}{3}} \left( \frac{\partial H_{matrix,eq}}{\partial f_{prec,eq}} \right)$$

# How do we estimate

- Planar sharp interface. Growth

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet & n_S = (N_A/V_M)^{2/3} \\ \bullet & z_S/z_L \approx 0.329 \end{aligned}$$



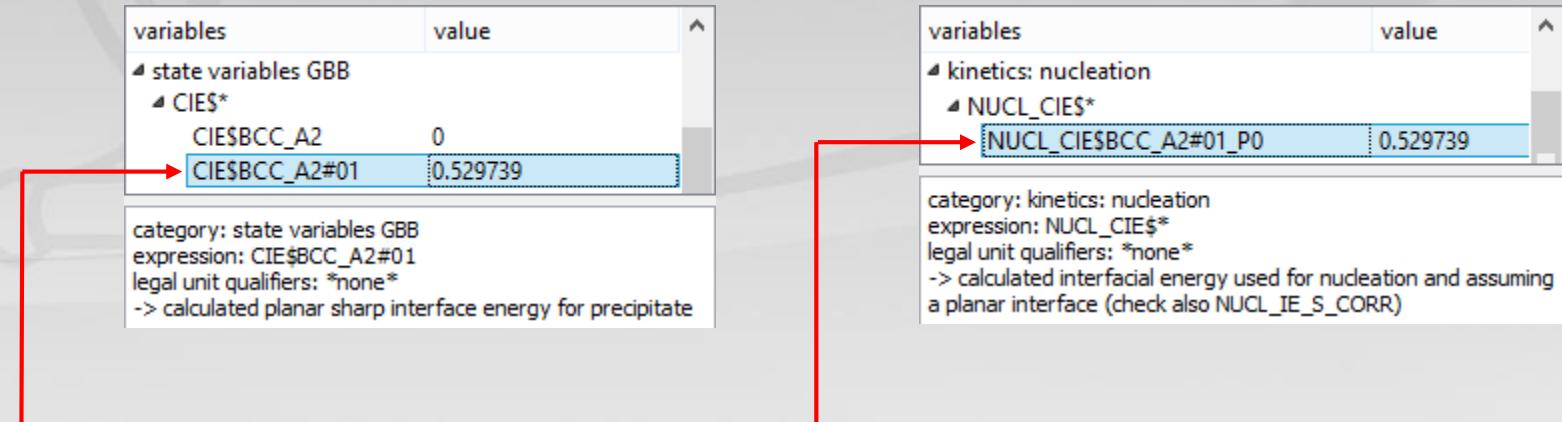
$\gamma_{GBB,pl,sh}$  - user defined...

# How do we estimate it?

- Planar sharp interface. Generalized broken bond (GBB) model

- $n_S = (N_A/V_M)^{2/3}$

- $z_S/z_L \approx 0.329$



$$\gamma_{GBB,pl,sh} = 0.329(N_A V_M^2)^{-\frac{1}{3}} \left( \frac{\partial H_{matrix,eq}}{\partial f_{prec,eq}} \right)$$

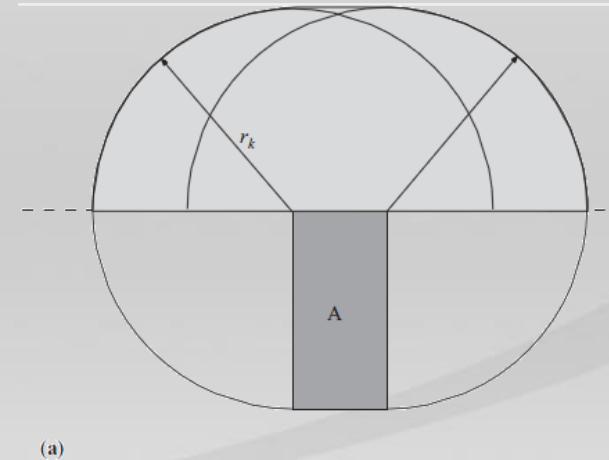
# How do we estimate it?

- Spherical correction factor  $\alpha(r)$

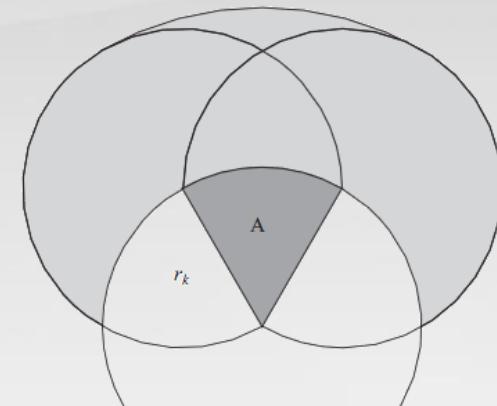
Moving from planar to spherical interface...



Recounting  
the broken bonds...



(a)



(b)

Figure 4.11. Sketch of model for bond counting with (a) planar interface and (b) curved interface. See text for explanation.

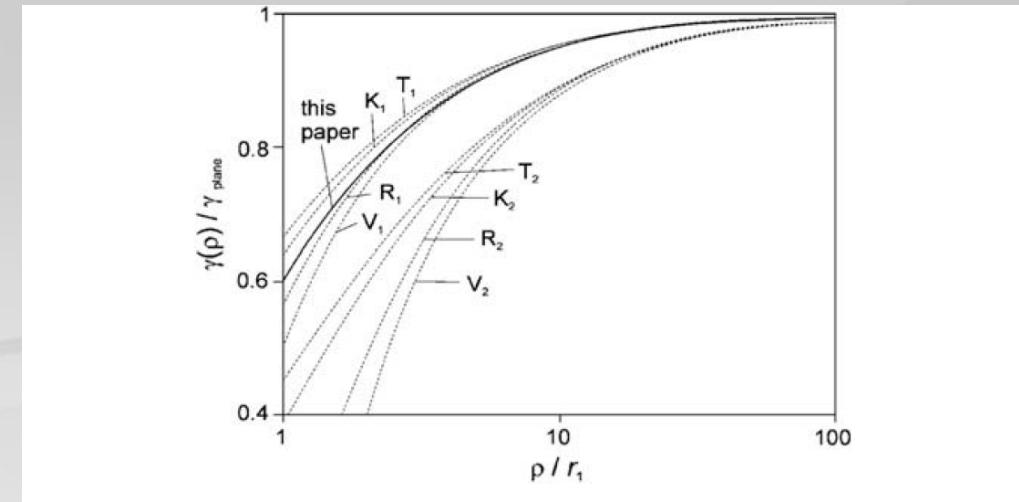
# How do we estimate it?

- Spherical correction factor  $\alpha(r)$

$$\gamma_{GBB,sph} = \gamma_{GBB,pl} \alpha(r)$$

$$\alpha(r) = 1 - \frac{6}{11} \left( \frac{r_1}{r} \right) + \left[ 0.8921 + 0.045 \ln \left( \frac{10r}{3r_1} \right) \right] \left( \frac{r_1}{r} \right)^2$$

$r_1$  - Nearest neighbor distance ( $2.48 \times 10^{-10}$  m)



**Figure 4.** Comparison of present size-correction function  $\alpha(\rho)$ , Eq. (27), with results of Tolman [2] (T), Kashchiev [3] (K), Rasmussen [8] (R) and Vogelsberger et al. [9] (V). Subscripts 1 for  $\delta_0 = 0.25$ ; subscripts 2 for  $\delta_0 = 0.6$ .

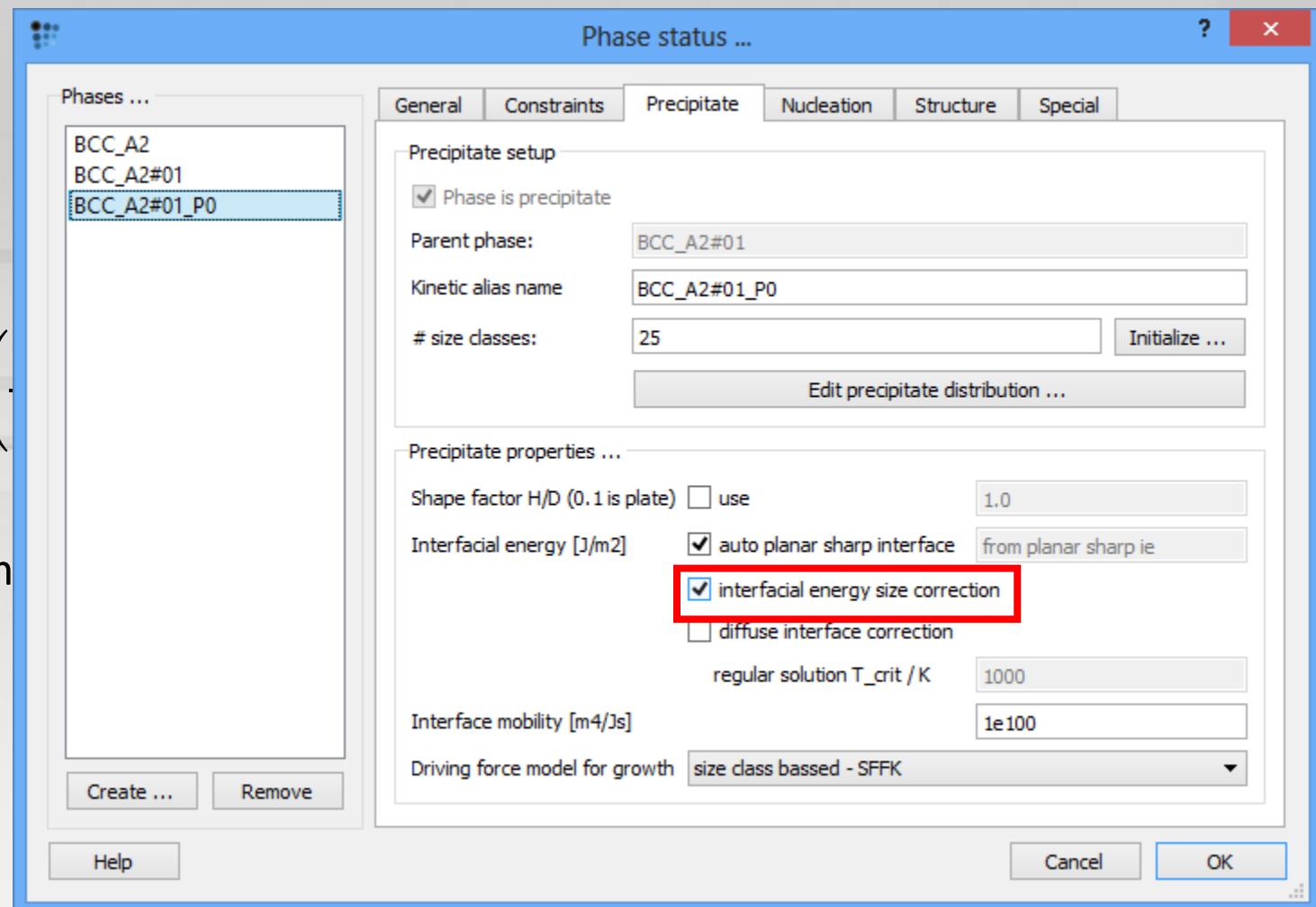
# How do we estimate it?

- Spherical correction factor

$$\gamma_{GBB,sph} = \gamma_{GBB,pl} \alpha(r)$$

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$r_1$  - Nearest neighbor distance ( $2.48 \times 10^{-10}$  m)



# How do we estimate it?

- Spherical correction factor  $\alpha(r)$

$$\gamma_{GBB,sph} = \gamma_{GBB,pl} \alpha(r)$$

$$\alpha(r) = 1 - \frac{6}{11} \left( \frac{r_1}{r} \right) + \left[ 0.8921 + 0.045 \ln \left( \frac{10r}{3r_1} \right) \right] \left( \frac{r_1}{r} \right)^2$$

$r_1$  - Nearest neighbor distance ( $2.48 \times 10^{-10}$  m)

variables	value
kinetics: nucleation	
NUCL_CIE_S_CORRS*	
NUCL_CIE_S_CORRS\$BCC_A2#01_P0 [0.742612]	
category: kinetics: nucleation	
expression: NUCL_CIE_S_CORRS\$BCC_A2#01_P0	
legal unit qualifiers: *none*	
-> calculated interfacial energy size correction for nucleation	

# How do we estimate it?

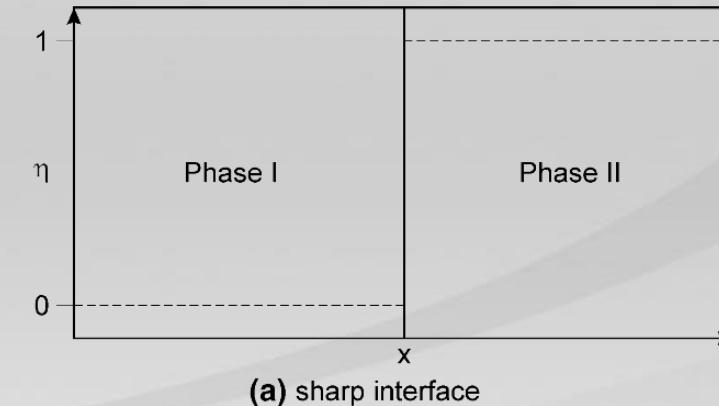
- Diffuse interface correction factor

Moving from sharp  
to diffuse interface...

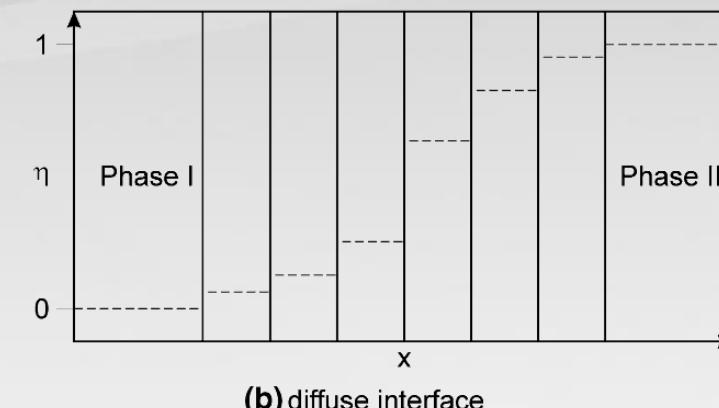


Recounting the  
broken bonds again...

$\eta$  – Solute fraction



(a) sharp interface

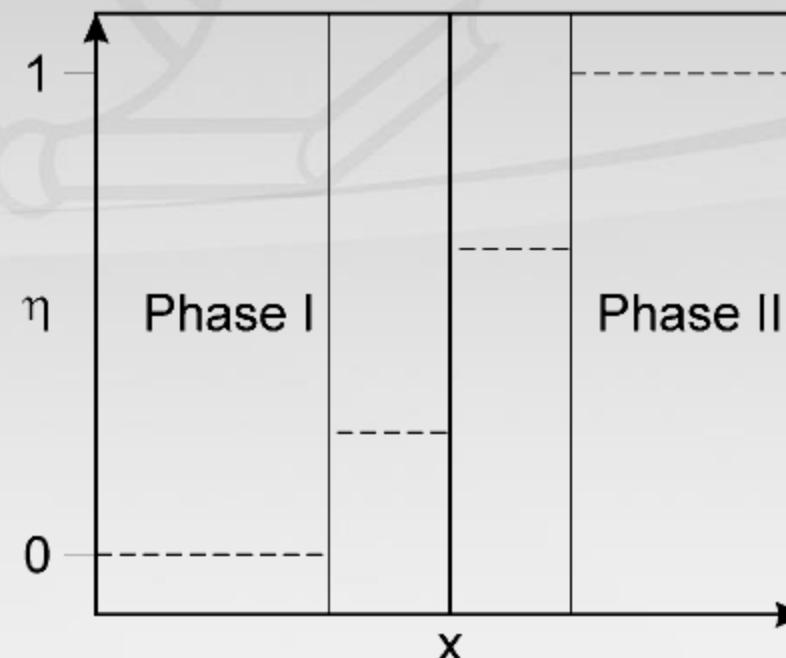


(b) diffuse interface

Fig. 1—Schematic concentration profiles of sharp and diffuse interfaces.

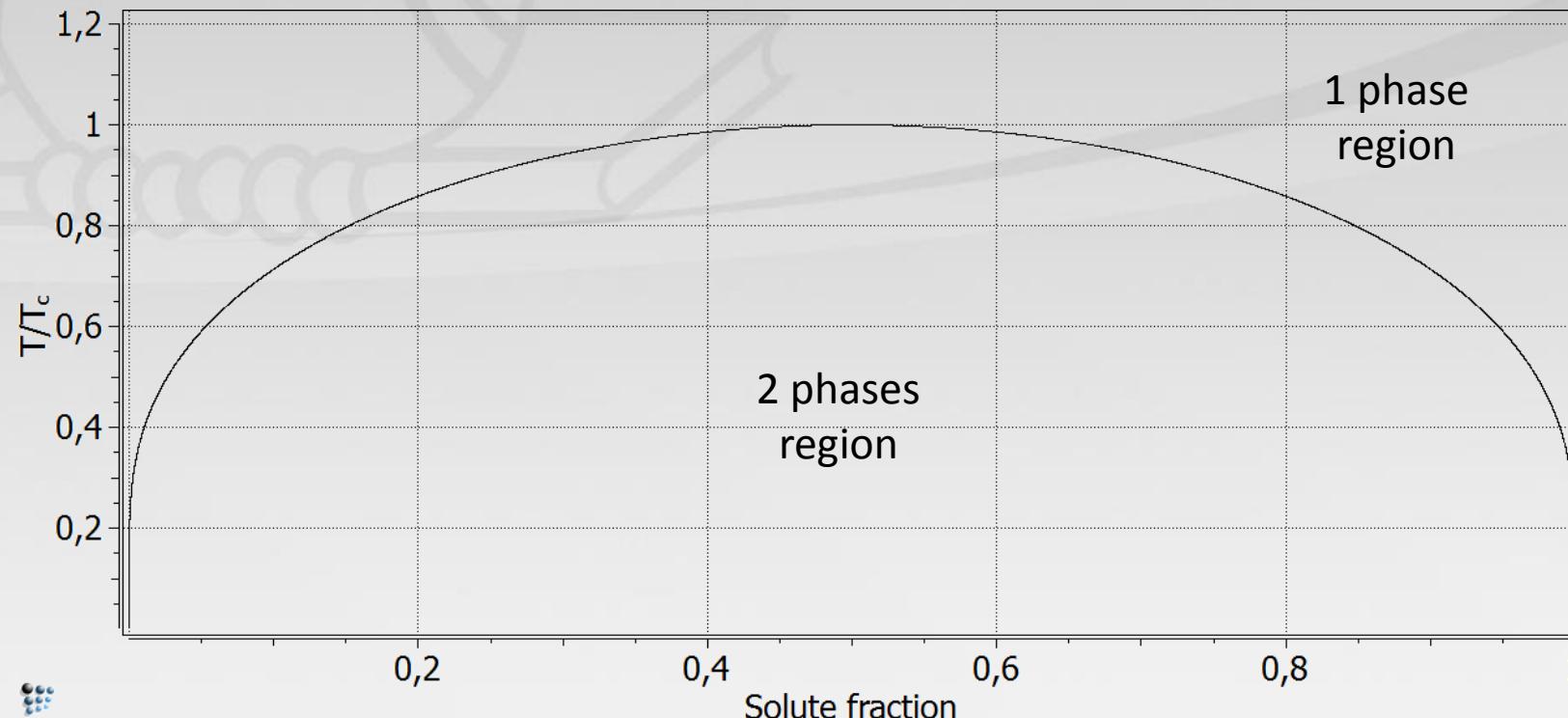
# How do we estimate it?

- Diffuse interface correction factor. MatCalc application
  - Two intermediate layers (one on each side of the interface)



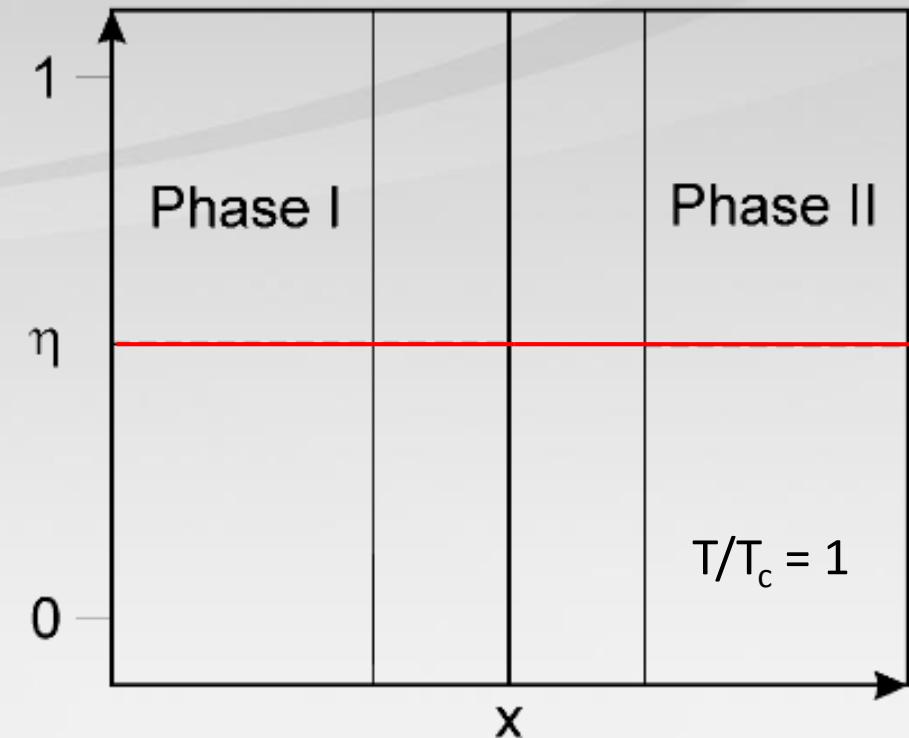
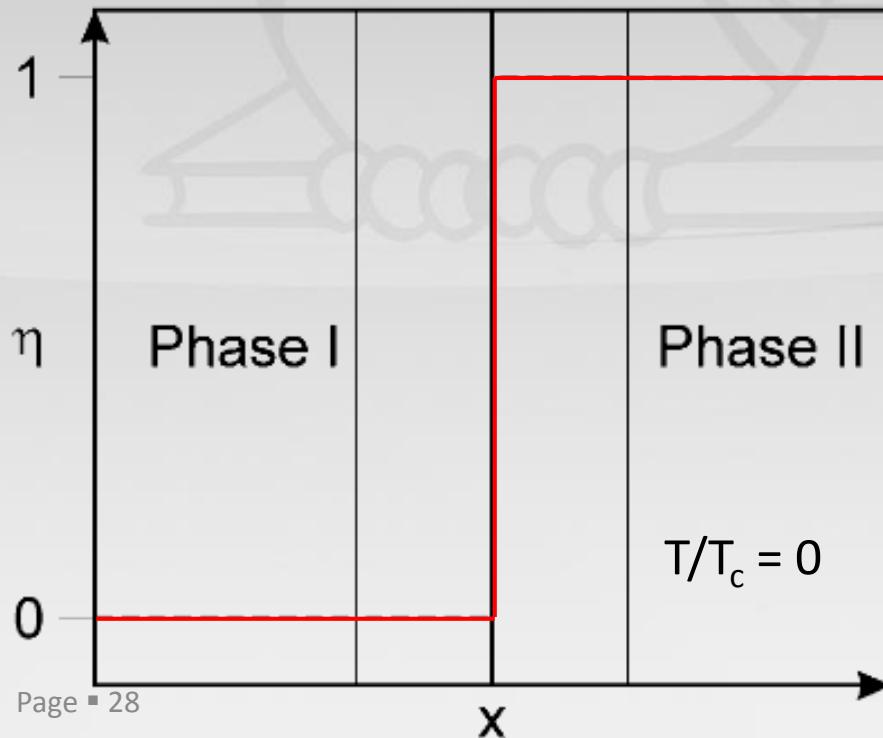
# How do we estimate it?

- Diffuse interface correction factor
  - Concept of critical temperature of regular solution



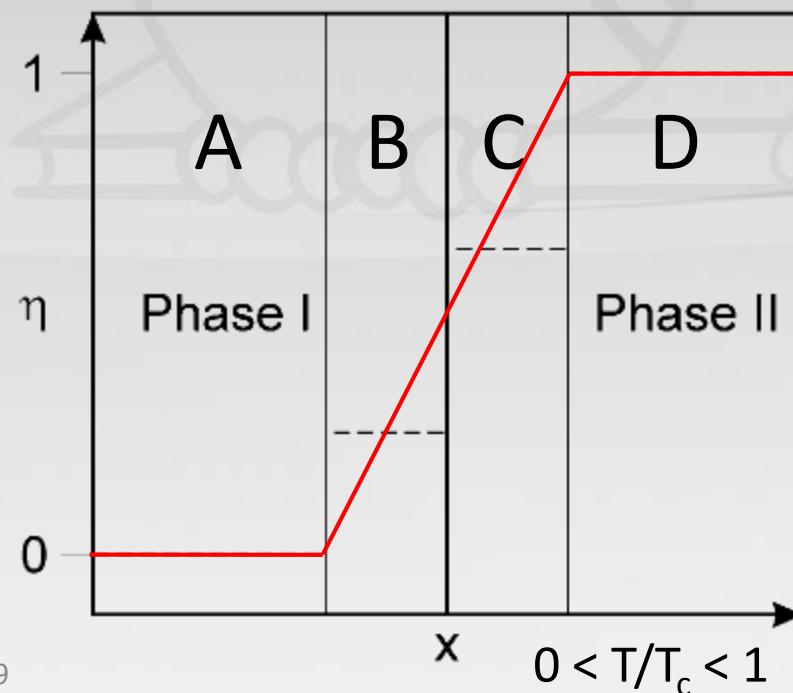
# How do we estimate it?

- Diffuse interface correction factor. MatCalc application
  - Minimization of Gibbs energy of the system



# How do we estimate it?

- Diffuse interface correction factor. MatCalc application
  - Evaluation of interfacial energy (broken bond counting...)



$$\begin{aligned}\gamma_{GBB,diff} = & \gamma_{AB} + \gamma_{AC} + \gamma_{AD} \\ & + \gamma_{BC} + \gamma_{BD} + \gamma_{CD}\end{aligned}$$

# How do we estimate it?

- Diffuse interface correction factor. MatCalc application

- Numerical solution

$$K = \left( \frac{T}{T_c} \right)$$

$$\gamma_{GBB,diff} = \gamma_{GBB,sh} \beta(K)$$

$$\beta(K) = \begin{cases} 8.4729K^6 - 26.691K^5 + 32.717K^4 - \\ -17.674K^3 + 2.2673K^2 - 0.09K + \\ +1.00047632 & , \text{ for } K > 0.07 \\ 1 & , \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

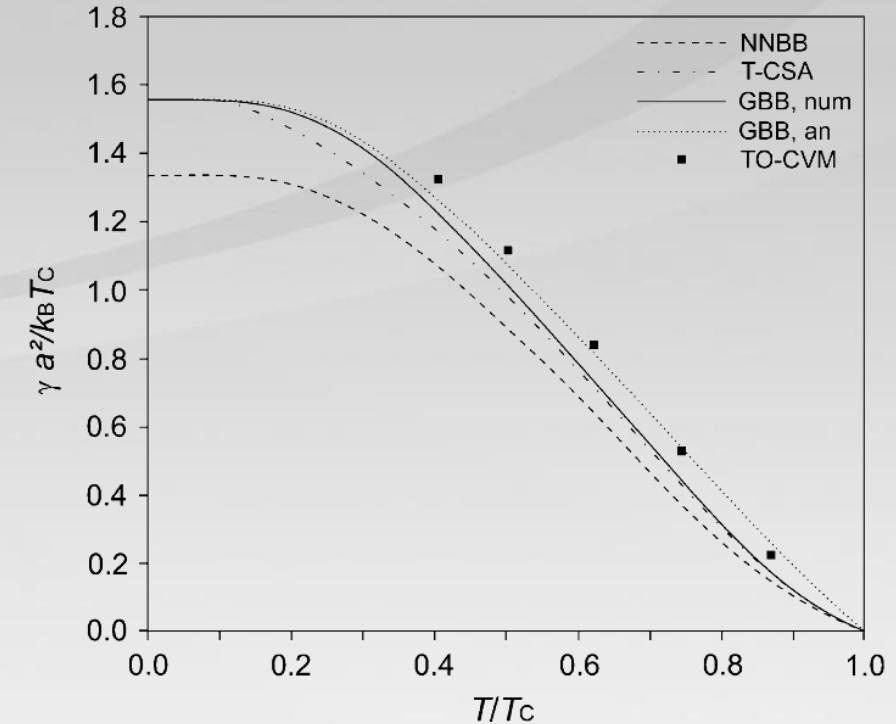


Fig. 3—Interfacial energy of an (100) interface in fcc systems. NNBB model (Ref. 4), T-CSA,<sup>[13]</sup> TO-CVM,<sup>[11]</sup> and analytical (GBB, an) and numerical GBB (GBB, num) approach.

# How do we estimate it?

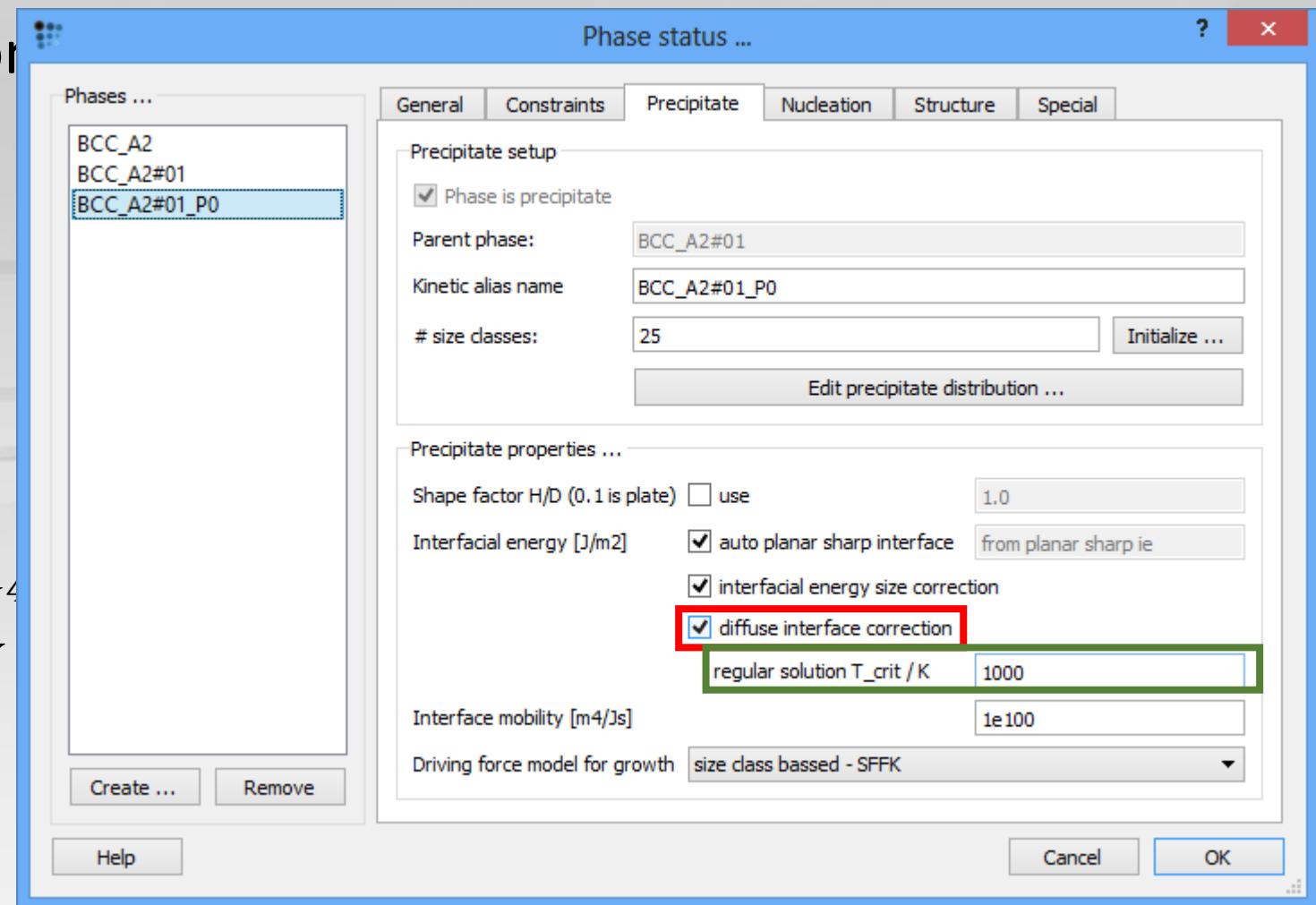
- Diffuse interface correction
  - Numerical solution

$$K = \begin{pmatrix} T \\ T_c \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\gamma_{GBB,diff} = \gamma_{GBB,pln,sh} \beta(K)$$

$$\beta(K) = \begin{cases} 8.4729K^6 - 26.691K^5 + 32.717K^4 \\ - 17.674K^3 + 2.2673K^2 - 0.09K \\ + 1.00047632 \end{cases}$$

1



# How do we estimate it?

- Diffuse interface correction factor. MatCalc application

- Numerical solution

$$K = \left( \frac{T}{T_c} \right)$$

$$\gamma_{GBB,diff} = \gamma_{GBB,pln,sh} \beta(K)$$

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variables	value
kinetics: precipitates	
CIE_DI_CORRS*	
CIE_DI_CORRSBCC_A2	1
CIE_DI_CORRSBCC_A2#01	1
CIE_DI_CORRSBCC_A2#01_P0	0.244428
category: kinetics: precipitates	
expression: CIE_DI_CORR\$BCC_A2#01	
legal unit qualifiers: *none*	
-> calculated diffuse interface energy correction (requires input of T_crit_reg_sol)	

variables	value
kinetics: precipitates	
EIE\$*	
EIE\$BCC_A2#01_P0	0.129483
category: kinetics: precipitates	
expression: EIE\$BCC_A2#01_P0	
legal unit qualifiers: *none*	
-> effective interfacial energy of precipitate in matrix phase (CIE\$@ minus gb, disl energy)	

# Examples

- MatCalc website
  - E10 (finding minimal nucleation barrier, binary system)
  - E11 (finding minimal nucleation barrier, )
  - P80 (application to Fe-Cu precipitation kinetic simulation)