

Modelling of Phase Separation in Iron-based Ternary Alloys

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Background

1. Numerical simulations

Fe-Cr-Mo & Fe-Cr-Ni systems

2. Asymptotic behavior of Mo or Ni

Extension of CH equation into **ternary systems**

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{c}_i}{\partial t} = \mathbf{M}_i \nabla^2 \left(\begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial f_0}{\partial \mathbf{c}_i} - \mathbf{K}_i \nabla^2 \mathbf{c}_i - \\ \sum_{j=1}^3 (1 - \delta_{ij}) \mathbf{L}_{ij} \nabla^2 \mathbf{c}_j \end{array} \right)$$

\mathbf{M}_i :mobility

Interaction parameters

$$L_{\text{FeCr}} = 18.6 \text{kJ/mol}$$

$$L_{\text{FeMo}} = 35.7 - 0.0027T - (5.23 - 2.32)/1000 \text{kJ/mol}$$

$$L_{\text{FeNi}} = -0.957 - 0.0013T + (1.79 - 0.002T)(C_{\text{Fe}} - c_{\text{Ni}})$$

$$L_{\text{CrNi}} = 17.12 - 0.0012T + (34.4 - 0.0012T)(C_{\text{Cr}} - C_{\text{Ni}})$$

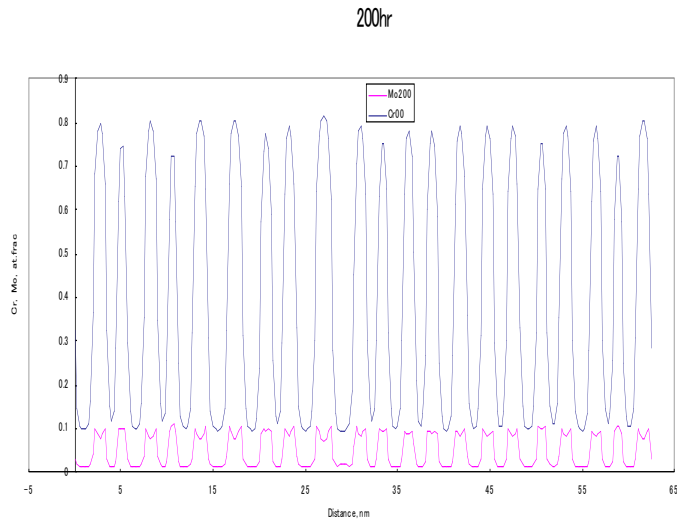
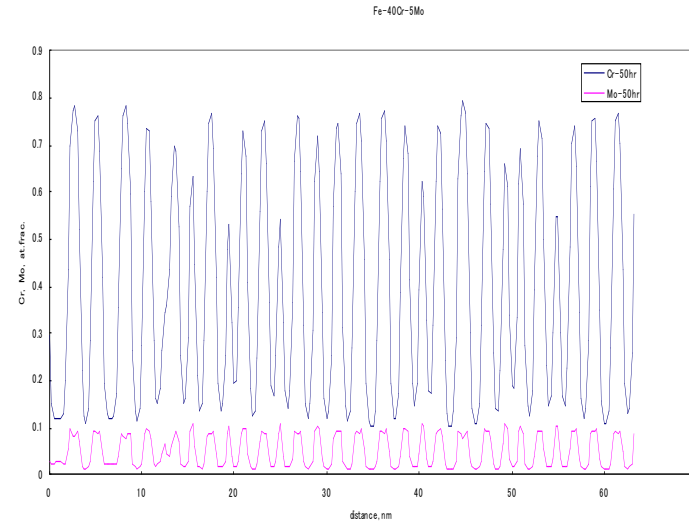
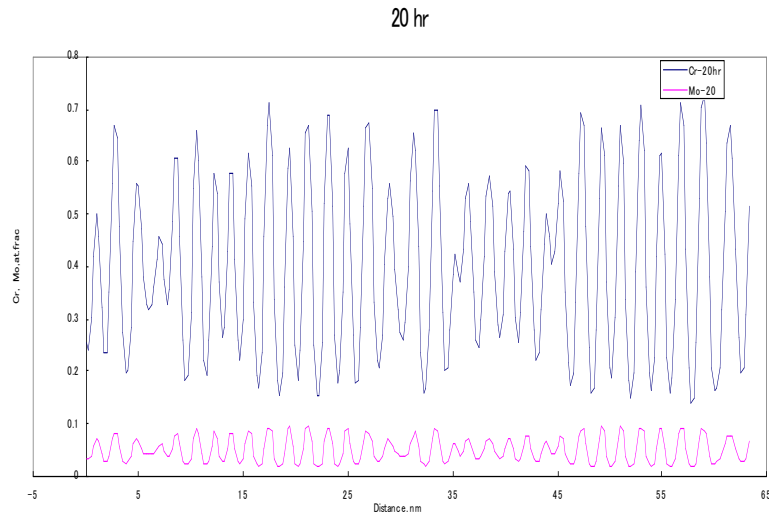
Diffusion coefficients(cm²/s)

$$D_{\text{Cr}} = 0.19 \exp\left(-\frac{246000}{RT}\right)$$

$$D_{\text{Mo}} = 0.29 \exp\left(-\frac{264000}{RT}\right)$$

$$D_{\text{Ni}} = 1.4 \exp\left(-\frac{245800}{RT}\right)$$

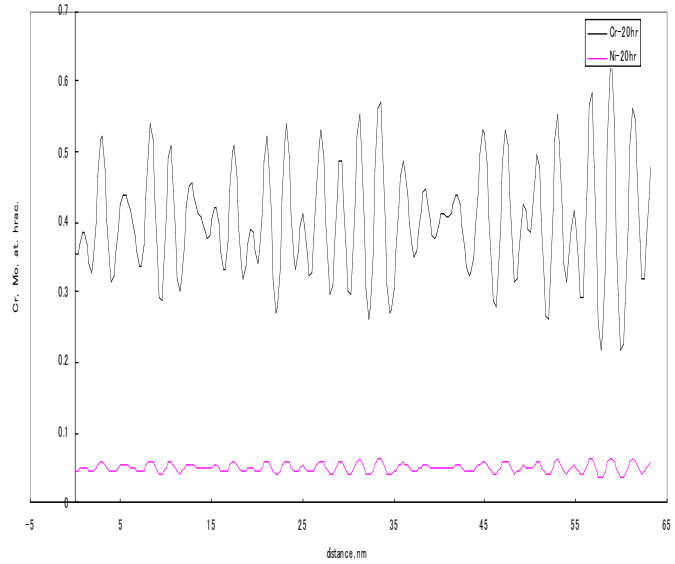
Fe-40Cr-5Mo



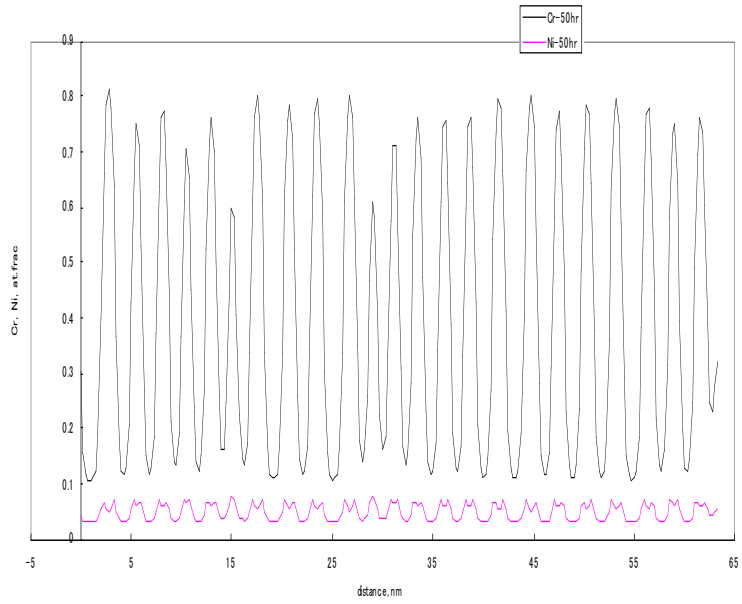
**Bifurcation of
Mo peaks
along the trajectory of
peak tops of Cr**

Fe-40Cr-5Ni

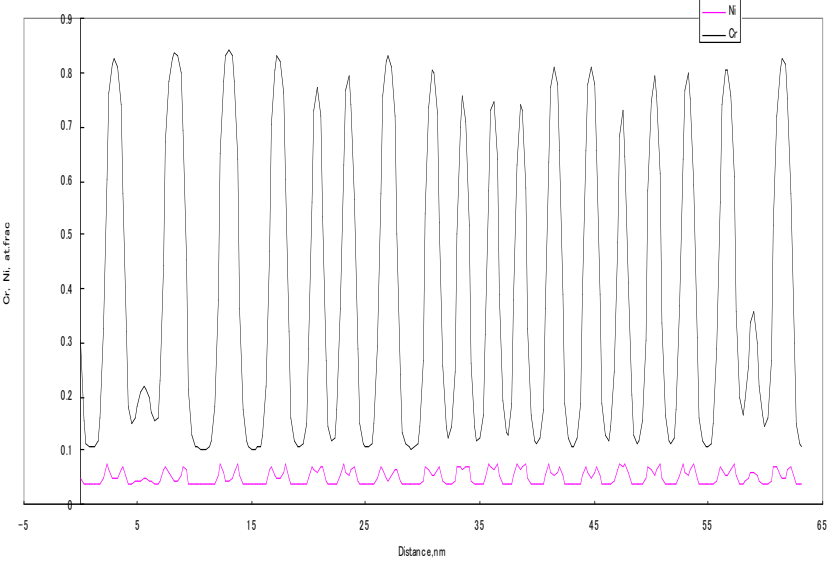
20Hr



50 Hr



200Hr



Decrese of Ni concentration along the trajectory of peak tops of Cr

Behavior of Mo concentration along the trajectory of peak top of Cr

Increase at the beginning and then bifurcation of peak occurs

Behavior of Ni along the trajectory of peak top of Cr

Decrease of peak occurs

Mechanism ?

Purpose of present study

Fe—Cr-X ternary alloys

Behavior of X concentration along
the trajectory of peak tops of Cr

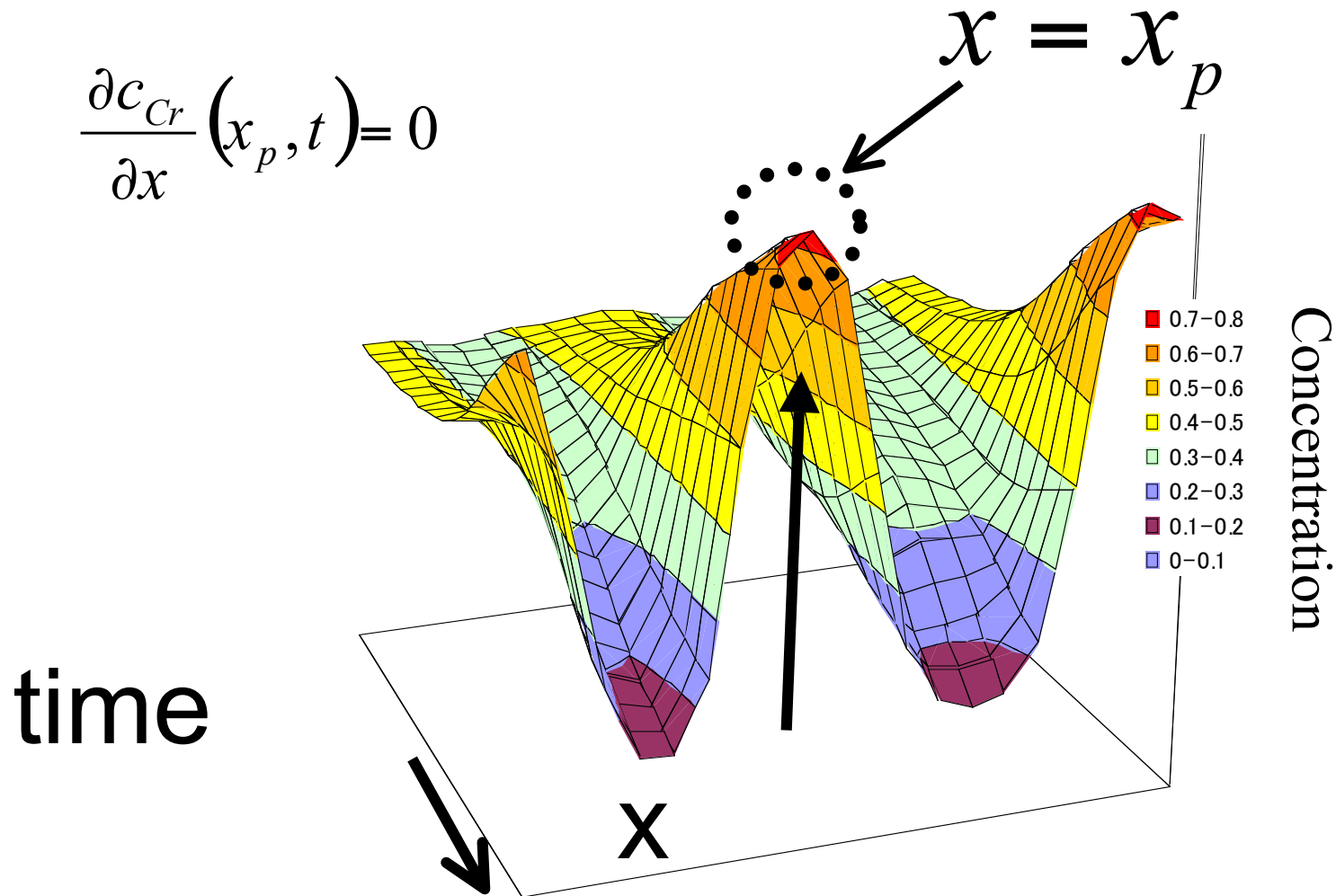
**Mechanism of the bifurcation of
the peak of the concentration X**

One-dimensional case

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mathbf{c}_X}{\partial t} = \mathbf{M}_1 & \left[\frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{f}_0}{\partial \mathbf{c}_X^2} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{c}_X}{\partial \mathbf{x}^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{f}_0}{\partial \mathbf{c}_X \partial \mathbf{c}_Y} \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{c}_Y}{\partial \mathbf{x}^2} \right. \\ & + 2 \frac{\partial^3 \mathbf{f}_0}{\partial \mathbf{c}_X^2 \partial \mathbf{c}_Y} \frac{\partial \mathbf{c}_X}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{c}_Y}{\partial \mathbf{x}} + \frac{\partial^3 \mathbf{f}_0}{\partial \mathbf{c}_X^3} \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{c}_X}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right)^2 \\ & \left. + \frac{\partial^3 \mathbf{f}_0}{\partial \mathbf{c}_X \partial \mathbf{c}_Y^2} \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{c}_Y}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right)^2 - \mathbf{K}_1 \frac{\partial^4 \mathbf{c}_X}{\partial \mathbf{x}^4} - \mathbf{L}_{12} \frac{\partial^4 \mathbf{c}_Y}{\partial \mathbf{x}^4} \right] \end{aligned}$$

At peak top position $p(x_p, t)$

$$\frac{\partial c_{Cr}}{\partial x}(x_p, t) = 0$$



At the peak top position

- Peak top position of the i-element $c_{Cr}(x_p)$

$$\left[\frac{\partial c_{Cr}}{\partial x} \right]_{x=x_p} = 0, \quad \left[\frac{\partial^2 c_{Cr}}{\partial x^2} \right]_{x=x_p} < 0 \quad \dots (2.1)$$

$t = 0$

- Initial time ()

$$\overline{c_{Cr}} > \overline{c_X}, \quad \frac{\partial^2 f_0}{\partial c_{Cr}^2} < 0, \quad \frac{\partial^2 f_0}{\partial c_X^2} > 0 \quad \dots (2.2)$$

Mean value theorem for differential calculus

$$\frac{f(a) - f(b)}{(a - b)} = \frac{df}{dx}(c), \quad a > c > b$$

Mean value theorem for compound function

(R. Courant and F. John: Introduction to Calculus and Analysis I, Springer(1989) ,pp.222-223)

$$G\left(t, x_p, 0, \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial x^2}(x_p, t), \dots\right) - G\left(t, x_p, 0, 0, \dots\right)$$

$$= \frac{\partial G}{\partial(\partial^2 c / \partial x^2)}\left(t, x_p, 0, \zeta, \dots\right) \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial x^2}(x_p, t)$$

$$\left[0 > \zeta > \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial x^2}(x_p, t) \right]$$

Assumption

- $x = x_p$ Behavior of component X

$$\left(\frac{\partial c_x}{\partial x}\right)^2 \ll \left|\frac{\partial^2 c_{cr}}{\partial x^2}\right|, \quad \left|\frac{\partial c_{cr}}{\partial x}\right| = 0 \quad (\text{After peak or bottom formation})$$

$$\frac{\partial^4 c_{cr}}{\partial x^4}, \frac{\partial^4 c_x}{\partial x^4}$$

Negligible small

Behavior of element X along the trajectory of peak top of element Cr

$$\frac{d c_x}{d t} (x_p, t) \cong M_x \frac{\partial^2 f_0}{\partial c_{Cr} \partial c_x} \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial x^2}$$

$\frac{\partial^2 c_{Cr}}{\partial x^2} < 0$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial c_{Cr} \partial c_X} = {}^0L_{CrX} - {}^0L_{FeCr} - {}^0L_{Fe}$$

$$- 2 \left[{}^1L_{CrX} (c_{Cr} - c_X) + {}^1L_{CrX} (1 - c_{Cr} - 3c_X) \right]$$

$$+ RT \frac{1}{(1 - c_{Cr} - c_X)}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial c_x \partial c_{cr}} \right) = \frac{RT}{(1 - c_{cr} - c_x)^2} \left(\frac{dc_{cr}}{dt} + \frac{dc_x}{dt} \right)$$

$$\frac{dc_{cr}}{dt} > 0, \quad \frac{dc_x}{dt} > 0$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial c_{cr} \partial c_x} \right) > 0$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial c_{Cr} \partial c_X} \right) < 0$$

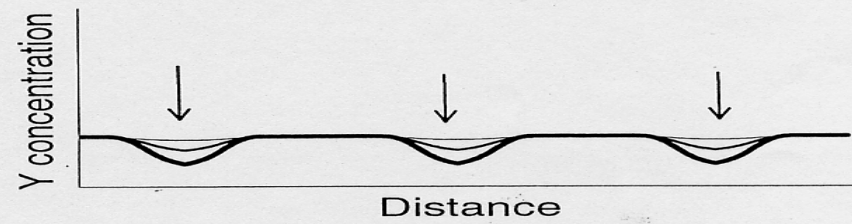
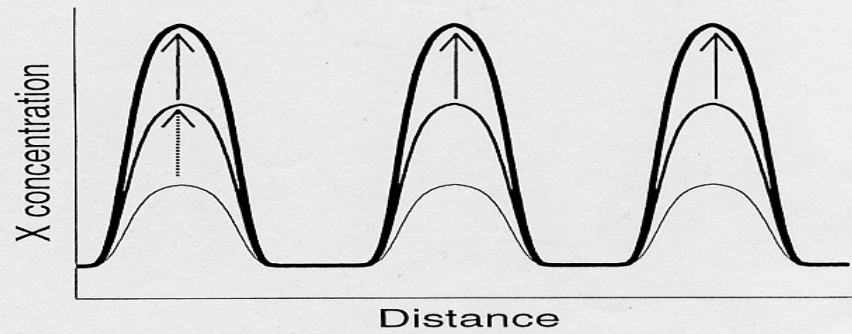
$$\frac{dc_{Cr}}{dt} > 0, \quad \frac{dc_X}{dt} > 0$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial c_{Cr} \partial c_X} \right) > 0$$

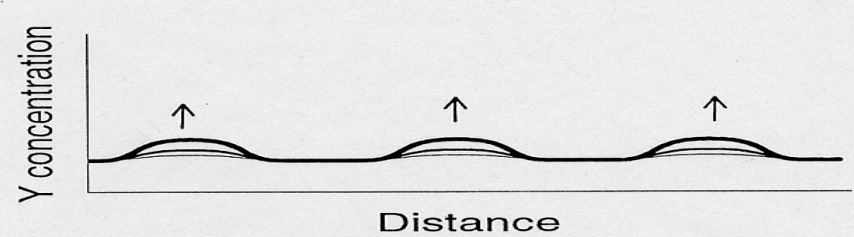
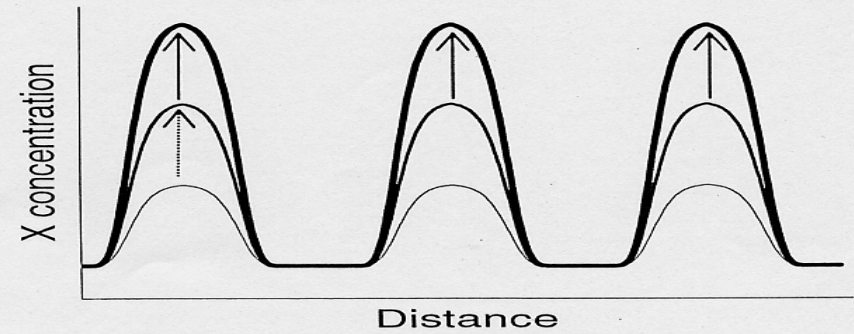
$$\left(\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial c_{Cr} \partial c_X} \right) < 0$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial c_{Cr} \partial c_X} \right) > 0 \rightarrow \frac{dc_X}{dt}$$

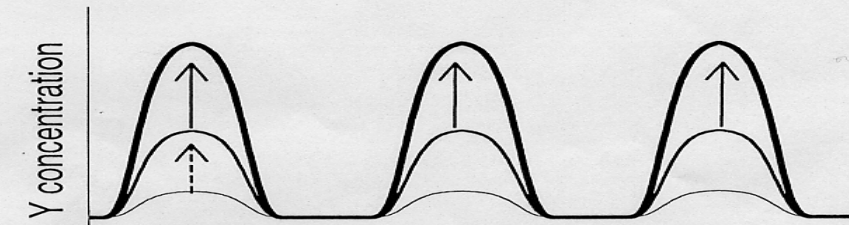
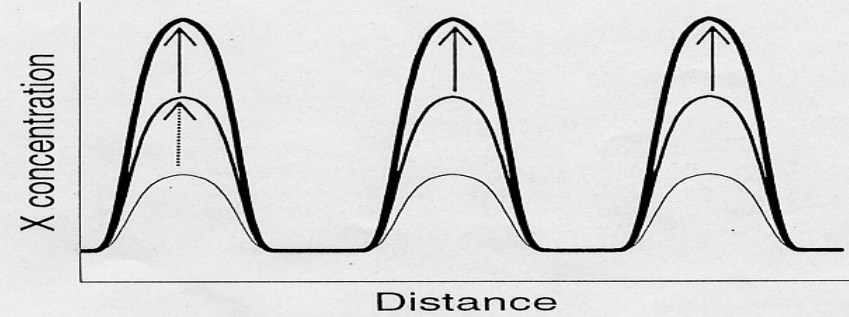
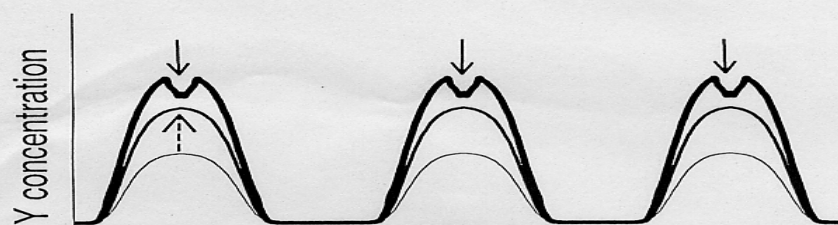
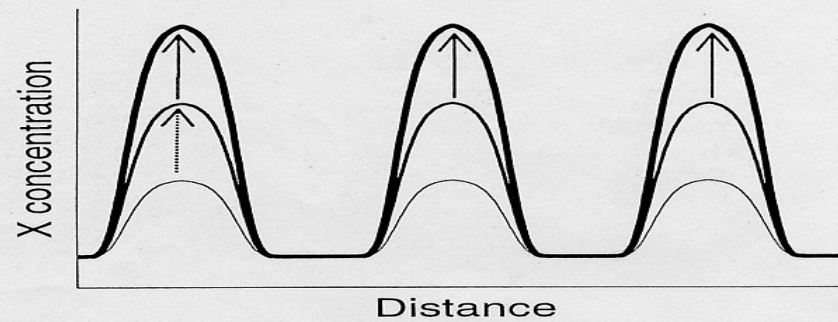
Bifurcation



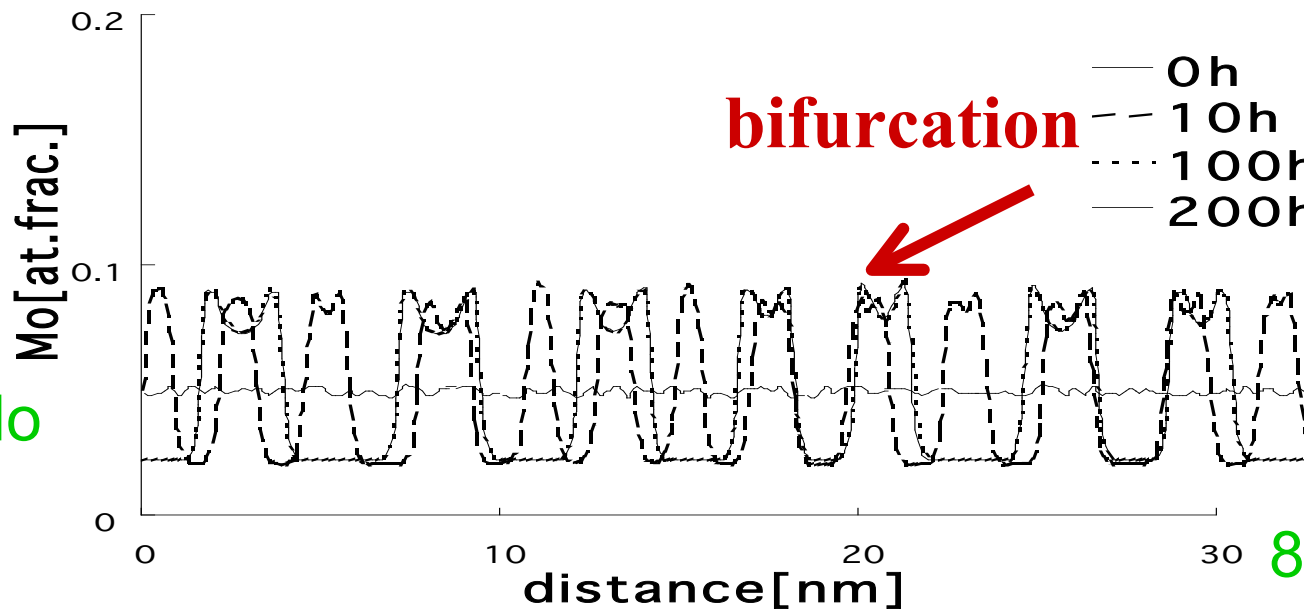
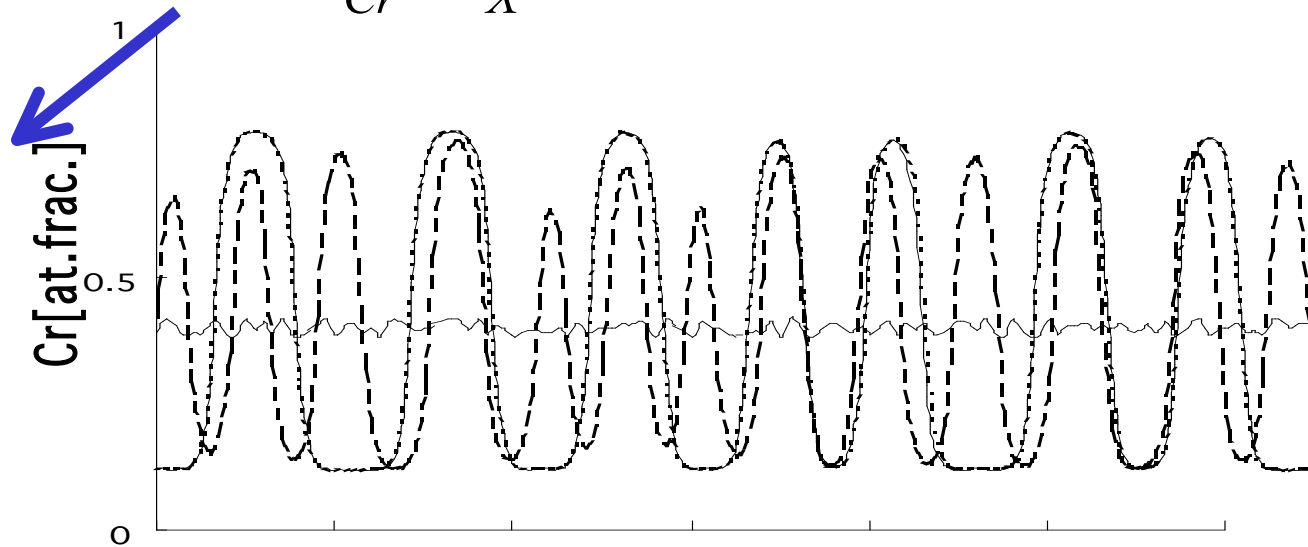
Group 1 $\partial^2 f_0 / \partial c_i \partial c_j > 0$
 $(c_i > c_j, \partial^2 f_0 / \partial c_i^2 < 0, \partial^2 f_0 / \partial c_j^2 > 0)$



Group 2 $\partial^2 f_0 / \partial c_i \partial c_j < 0$ ($0 < t < \infty$)
 $(c_i > c_j, \partial^2 f_0 / \partial c_i^2 < 0, \partial^2 f_0 / \partial c_j^2 > 0)$



$$\frac{\partial^2 f_0}{\partial c_{Cr} \partial c_X} < 0, \quad \frac{dc_{Cr}}{dt} > 0, \quad \frac{dc_X}{dt} > 0$$



Fe40Cr5Mo

850K

850K

Summary of numerical simulation of 1-dimensional C-H equation

- **Asymptotic behavior of minor element X** in a Fe-Cr-X ternary alloy along the trajectory of a peak top of the major element Cr is **classified into three groups according to the sign of the second derivative of the chemical free energy with respect to the concentration of Cr and the concentration of X.**

N-dimensional cases?

If at a position $\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{x}^0$ and a time $t_1>0$ a function $\alpha=c_x(\mathbf{x},t_1)$ has a peak top which is characterized by

$$\frac{\partial c_x}{\partial x_i}(\mathbf{x}^0, t_1) = 0$$

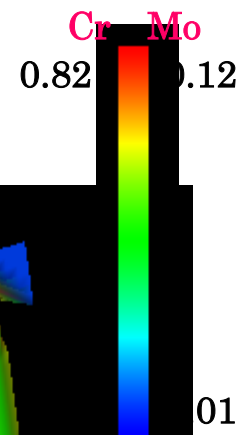
and negative definiteness of the Hessian

Then according to the general discussion on the solution of non-linear equation (A.Kitada, 1994)

there exist an implicit function $\mathbf{g}(t)$, $\mathbf{x}^0=\mathbf{g}(t_1)$ such that

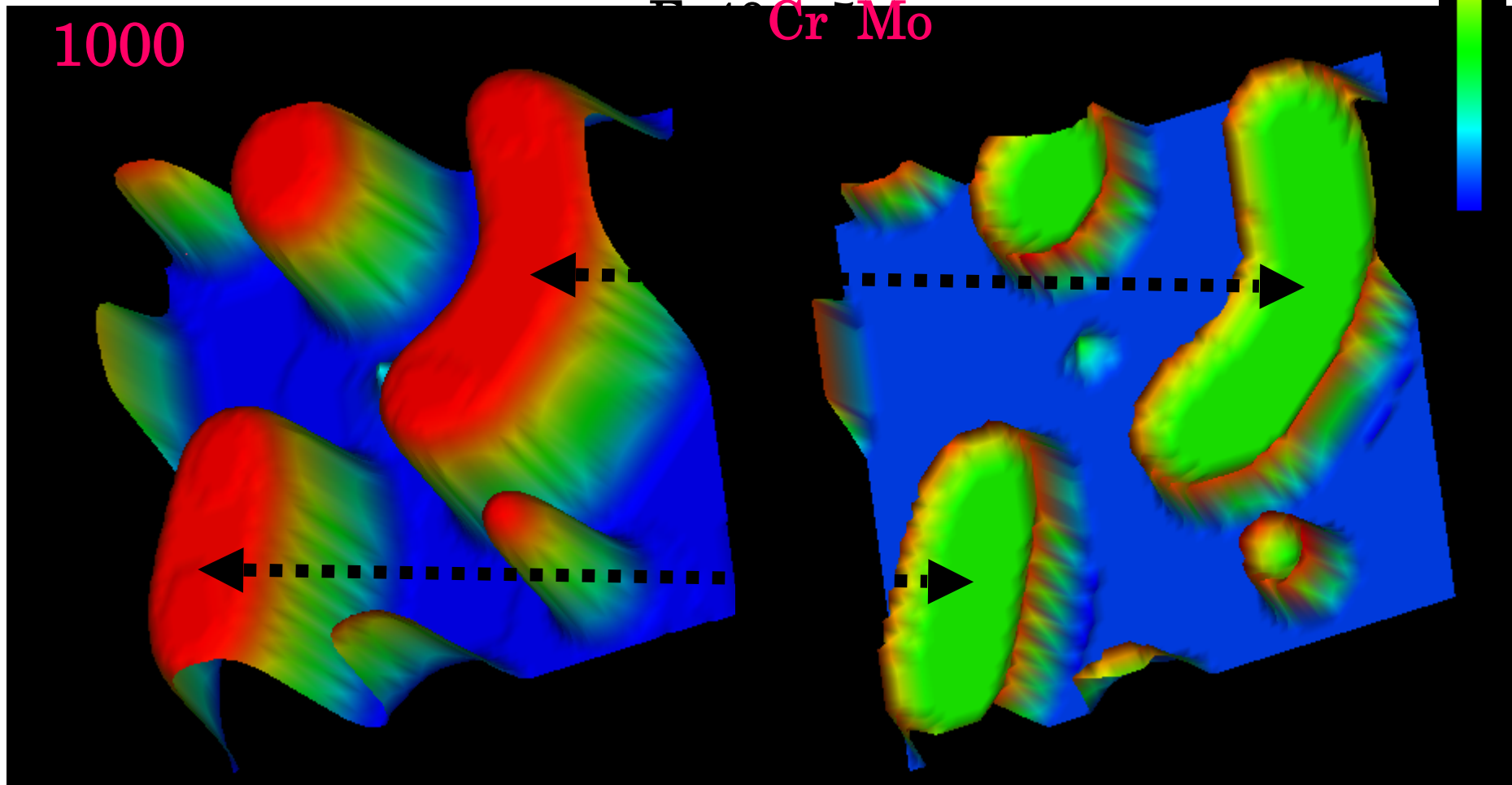
$$\frac{\partial c_x(\mathbf{g}(t), t)}{\partial x_i} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial^2 c_x(\mathbf{g}(t), t)}{\partial x_i^2} < 0$$

2D simulation



1000

Cr Mo



16 nm

Cr

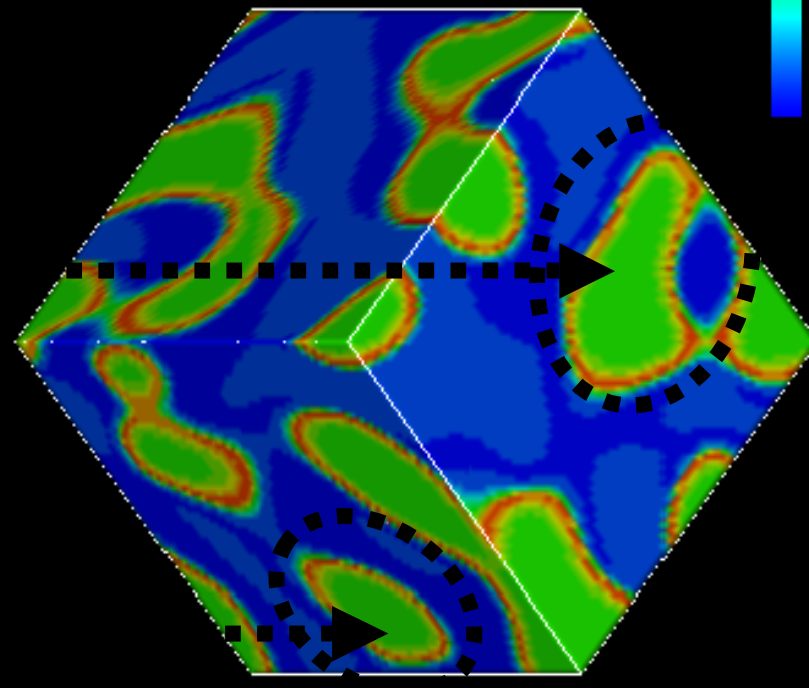
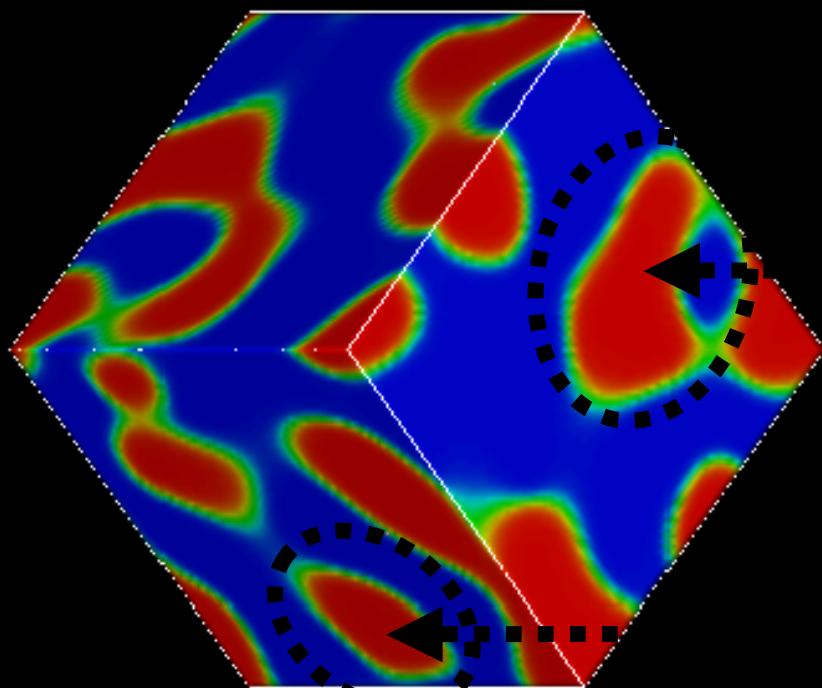
Mo

3 D

Cr Mo
0.82 0.11

1000

Cr Mo

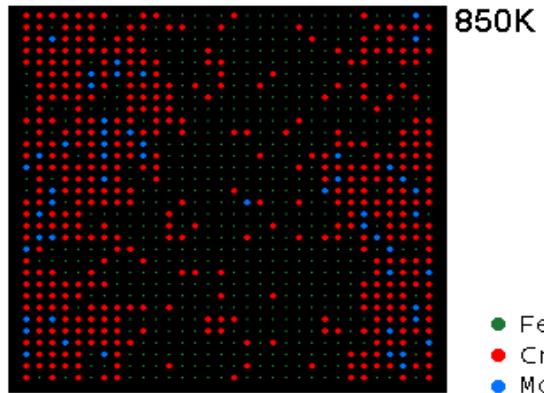
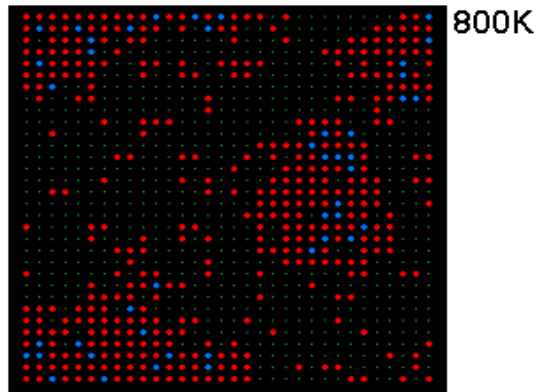
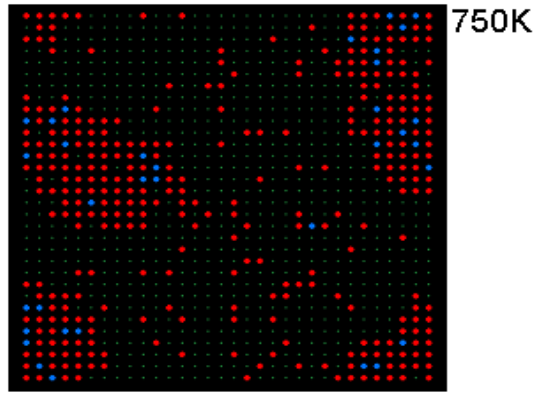


Cr

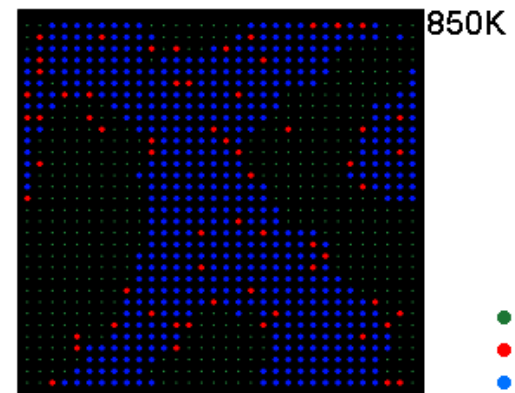
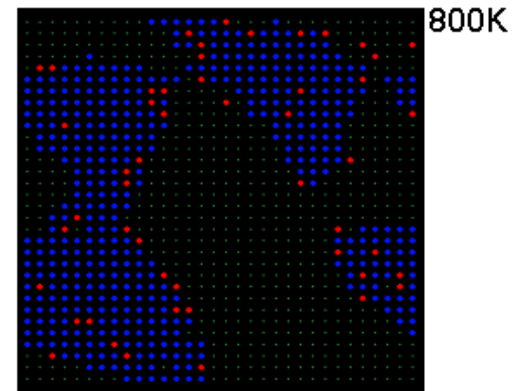
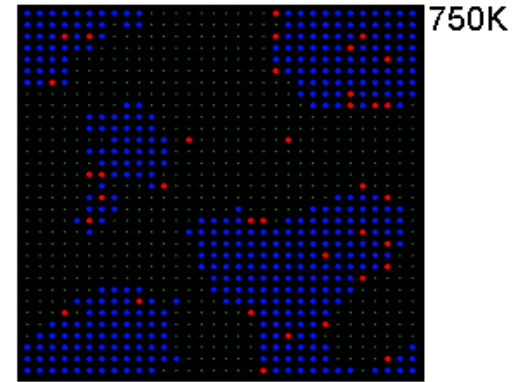
Mo

Monte Carlo Simulation

ϕ

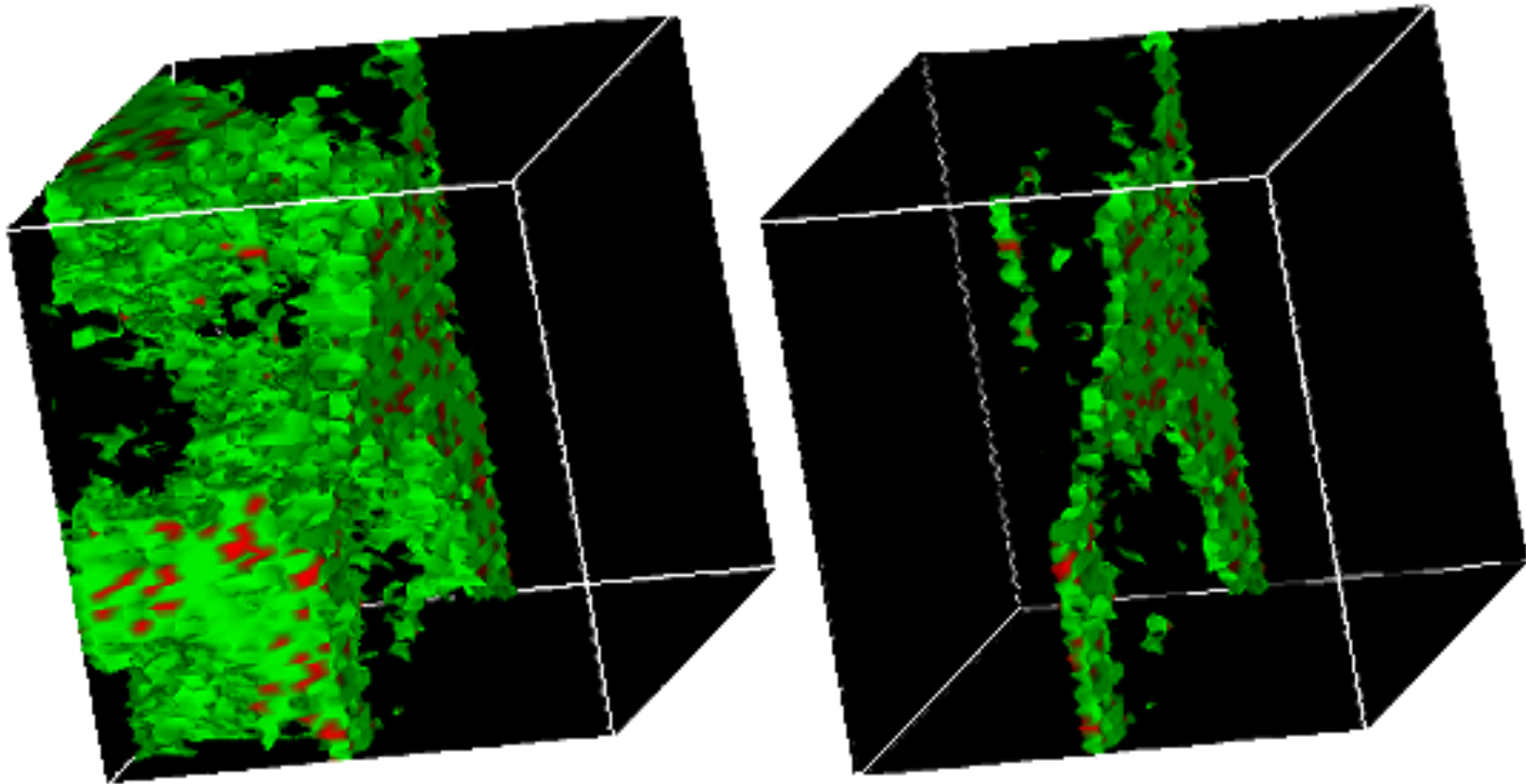


Fe-40Cr-5Mo

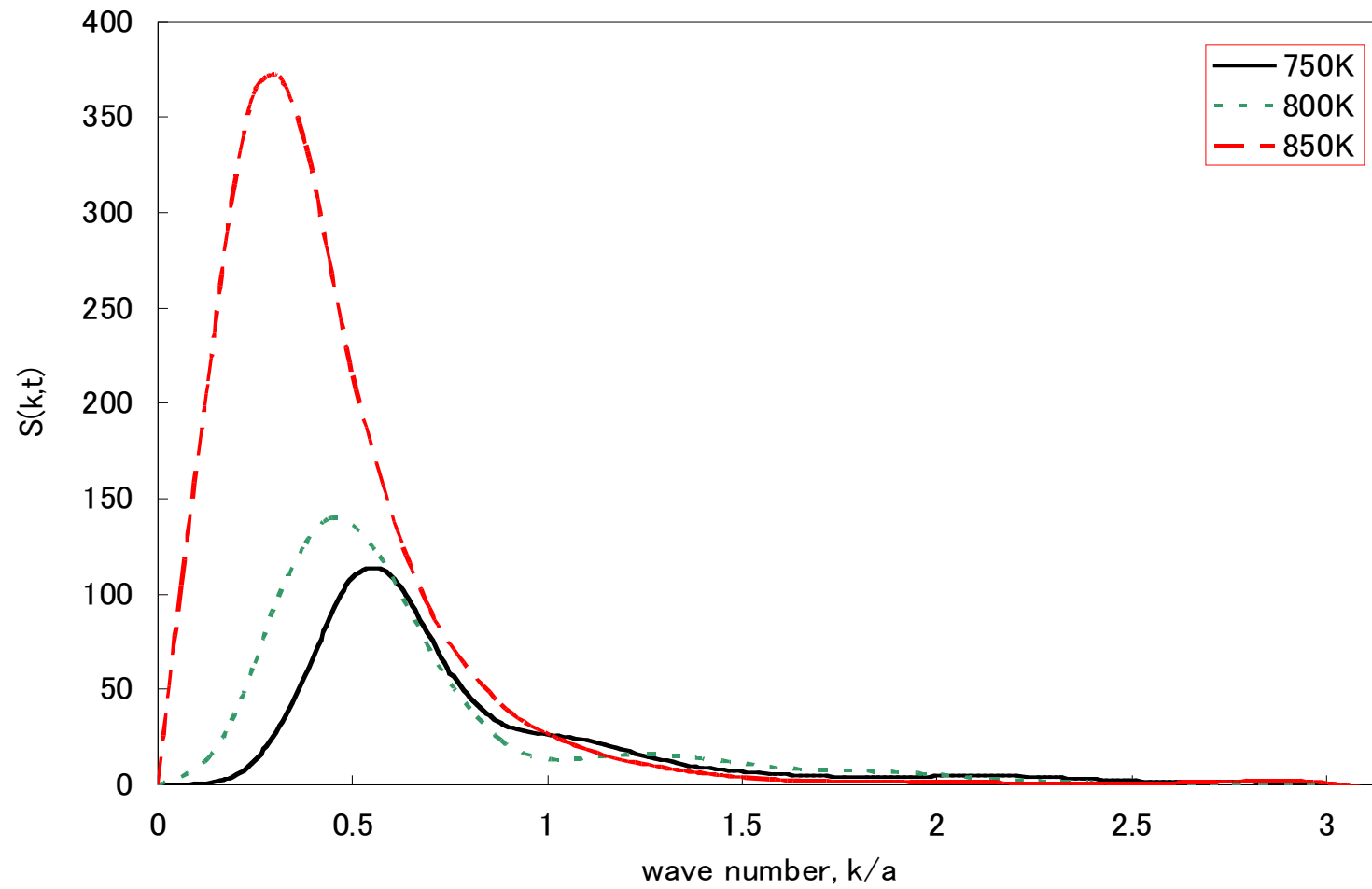


Fe-40Mo-5Cr

Monte Carlo Simulation



Variation of structure factor



Problems

Simulations

**Temporal evolution of the
structure
factor**

Observations

X-ray diffraction

3D atom probe?(POSAP)

Thank you for your attention

ϕ

Fe-Cr-X ternary alloys (X=Mo, Ti, Ni etc.)

$$G_m^\phi = x_{Fe}^0 G_{Fe}^\phi + x_{Cr}^0 G_{Cr}^\phi + x_X^0 G_X^\phi + RT(x_{Cr} \ln x_{Cr} + x_X \ln x_X) \\ + {}^E G_m^\phi + {}^{mo} G_m^\phi$$

Excess Gibbs energy

$${}^E G_m^\phi = x_{Fe} x_{Cr} L_{FeCr}^\phi + x_{Fe} x_X L_{FeX}^\phi + x_{Cr} x_X L_{CrX}^\phi \\ + x_{Fe} x_{Cr} x_X L_{FeCrX}^\phi$$

Gibbs energy due to the magnetic ordering

$${}^E G_m^\phi = RT \ln(\beta^\phi + 1) f(\tau)$$

L_{ij}^ϕ binary interaction parameter

Between components i and j in phase ϕ