

Nonstoichiometry in oxides and its control

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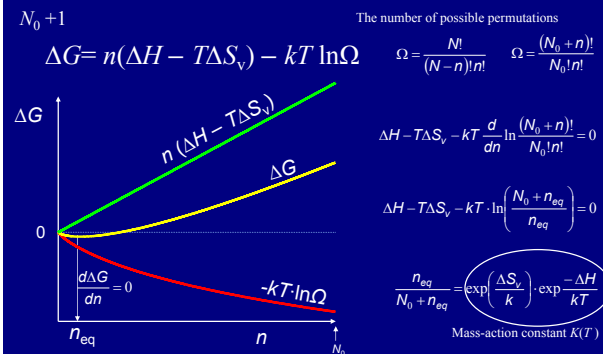
- Infinite networks are nonstoichiometric
 - Cr_2O_3 as an example
- Oxides with wide nonstoichiometry ranges
 - $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_{6+w}$ as an example
- Oxygen engineering
- Examples on properties

Nonstoichiometry in "stoichiometric" oxides



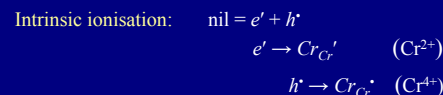
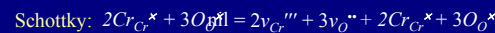
Alumina, after 1500°C in H_2 ; analytical composition $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_{2.97}$

Entropy favors defects

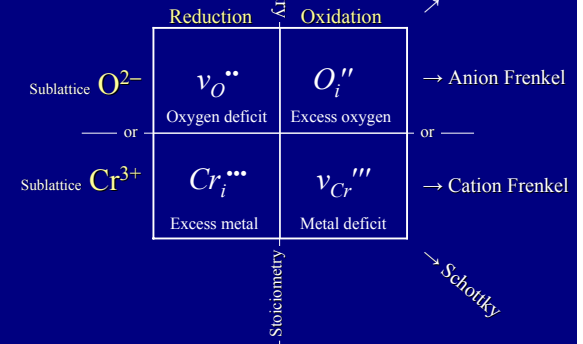


Defects in pure Cr_2O_3

- Possible intrinsic defect reactions



Redox compensations

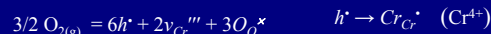


Schottky-type compensation

- Reduction



- Oxidation



Approximation adopted:

Vacancies are fully ionized

Approximation adopted
Concentrations of lattice sites = 1 >> concentrations of defects

Defect equilibria

- Schottky $\text{nil} = 2v_{\text{Cr}}''' + 3v_{\text{O}}'' \quad K_s = [v_{\text{Cr}}''']^2[v_{\text{O}}'']^3$
- Intrinsic ionization of electrons $\text{nil} = e' + h^* \quad K_i = [e'][h^*]$
- Oxidation $3/2 \text{O}_{2(\text{g})} = 6h^* + 2v_{\text{Cr}}''' + 3\text{O}_{\text{O}}^{\times} \quad [v_{\text{Cr}}''']^2[h^*]^6 = K_{\text{ox}} p_{\text{O}_2}^{3/2}$
- Reduction $\text{O}_{\text{O}}^{\times} = 2e' + v_{\text{O}}'' + 1/2 \text{O}_{2(\text{g})} \quad [v_{\text{O}}'']^2[e']^2 = K_{\text{red}} p_{\text{O}_2}^{-1/2}$
- Electroneutrality condition $3[v_{\text{Cr}}'''] + [e'] = [h^*] + 2[v_{\text{O}}'']$

$$K_s \cdot K_i^6 = K_{\text{ox}} \cdot K_{\text{red}}^3$$

Defect concentrations as a function of p_{O_2} , with K_s , K_i , K_{ox} as parameters

$$2[h^*]^5(K_s/K_{\text{ox}})^{1/3} p_{\text{O}_2}^{-1/2} + [h^*]^4 - K_i[h^*]^2 - 3K_{\text{ox}}^{1/2} p_{\text{O}_2}^{3/4} = 0$$

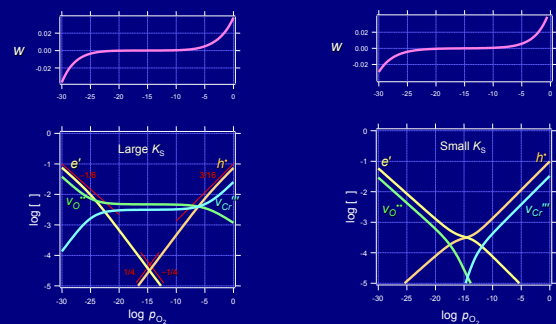
$$3[v_{\text{Cr}}''']^{5/3} + [v_{\text{Cr}}'''] K_i K_{\text{ox}}^{-1/6} p_{\text{O}_2}^{-1/4} - [v_{\text{Cr}}''']^{1/3} K_{\text{ox}}^{1/6} p_{\text{O}_2}^{1/4} - 2K_s^{1/3} = 0$$

$$3[e']^5(K_{\text{ox}}^{1/2}/K_i^3) p_{\text{O}_2}^{3/4} + [e']^3 - K_i[e'] - 2(K_s/K_{\text{ox}})^{1/3} K_{\text{red}} p_{\text{O}_2}^{-1/2} = 0$$

$$2[v_{\text{O}}'']^{5/2} + [v_{\text{O}}'']^2(K_{\text{ox}}/K_s)^{1/6} p_{\text{O}_2}^{1/4} - K_i[v_{\text{O}}''] (K_s/K_{\text{ox}})^{1/6} p_{\text{O}_2}^{-1/4} - 3K_s^{1/2} = 0$$



Defect concentrations

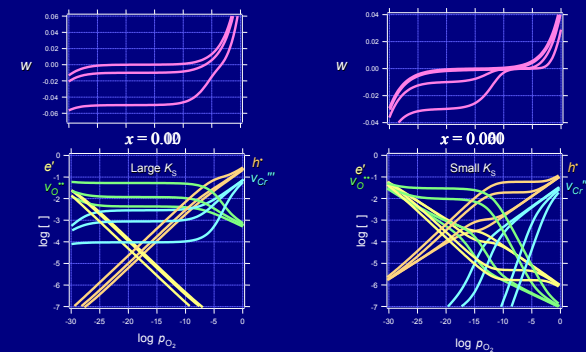


Acceptor doping; $\text{Cr}_{2-x}\text{Mg}_x\text{O}_{3+w}$

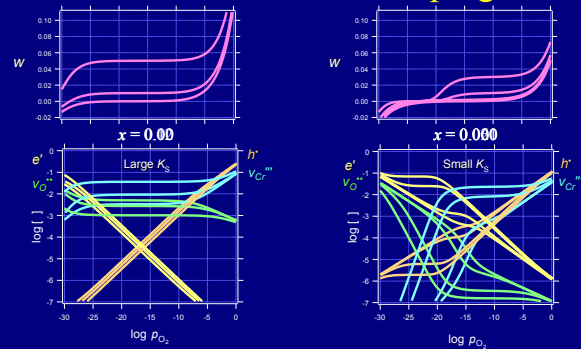
- Schottky $\text{nil} = 2v_{\text{Cr}}''' + 3v_{\text{O}}''$ $K_s = [v_{\text{Cr}}''']^2[v_{\text{O}}'']^3$
- Intrinsic ionization of electrons $\text{nil} = e' + h'$ $K_i = [e'][h']$
- Oxidation $3/2 \text{O}_2(\text{g}) = 6h' + 2v_{\text{Cr}}''' + 3\text{O}_\text{O}^\times$ $[v_{\text{Cr}}''']^2[h']^6 = K_{\text{ox}} p_{\text{O}_2}^{-3/2}$
- Reduction $\text{O}_\text{O}^\times = 2e' + v_{\text{O}}'' + 1/2 \text{O}_2(\text{g})$ $[v_{\text{O}}'']^2 = K_{\text{red}} p_{\text{O}_2}^{-1/2}$
- Electroneutrality condition $3[v_{\text{Cr}}'''] + [e'] + [Mg_{\text{Cr}}'] = [h'] + 2[v_{\text{O}}'']$



Defect concentrations

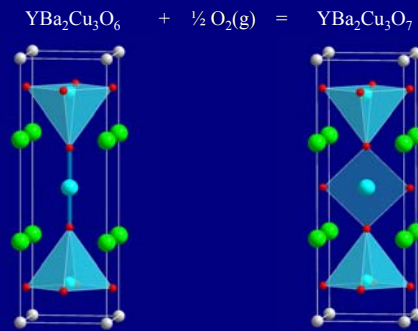


The same for donor doping

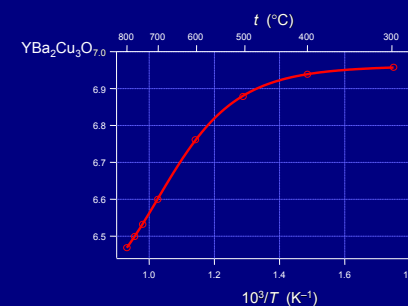


Continuous oxygen occupation between two limiting structural polyhedra

Wide range of nonstoichiometry

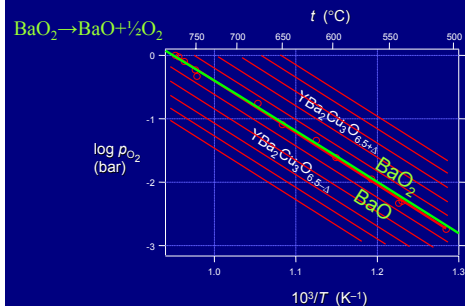


Constant O_2 pressure



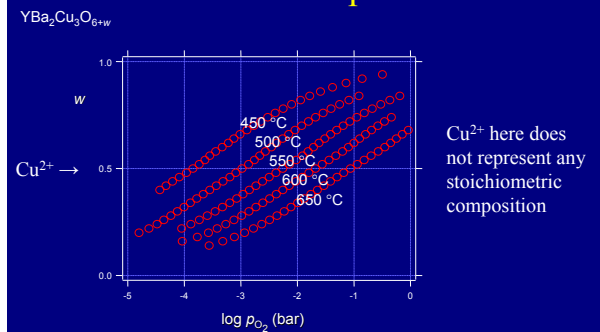
Fjellvåg, Karen, Kjekshus, Kofstad, Norby: *Acta Chem. Scand.* A42 (1988) 178

Constant composition; $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_{6.5}$



Fjellvåg, Karen, Kjekshus, Kofstad, Norby: *Acta Chem. Scand.* A42 (1988) 178

Constant temperature



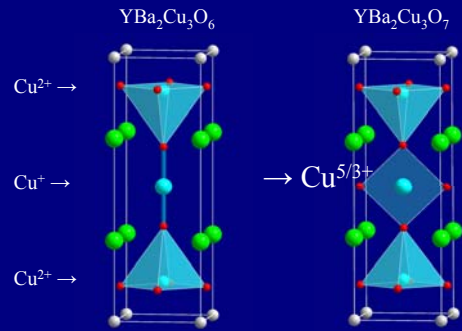
Cu^{2+} here does not represent any stoichiometric composition

Data: Schlegel, Hardy, Yang: *Physica C* 176 (1991) 261

Approaches

- Defect model as a doped oxide
 - Either $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_6$ or $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_7$
- Phenomenological defect models with defect clustering
- Lattice-gas model (thermodynamic approach)

Stoichiometric composition?



Doping the stoichiometric point

- $\text{Y}_3\text{Cu}_3^{5/3+}\text{O}_7$ acceptor-doped with 2Ba

Doping defines an oxygen-content change between:

- Integer-valence composition (when $e' = h'$), and
- Integer-structure composition

Just like for $\text{Cr}_{2-x}\text{Mg}_x\text{O}_3$, between:

- trivalent Cr (and some oxygen vacancies), and
- the integer structure of the oxide with 3O per metal atom (and some tetravalent chromium)

Defects in pure $\text{Y}_3\text{Cu}_3^{5/3+}\text{O}_7$

- Intrinsic defect reactions



Acc. Doping: $\text{Y}_{3-2}\text{Ba}_2\text{Cu}_3^{5/3+}\text{O}_7$

- Anion Frenkel $\text{O}_\text{O}^\bullet = \text{v}_\text{O}^{\bullet\bullet} + \text{O}_\text{i}^{\bullet\bullet}$ $K_\text{f} = [\text{v}_\text{O}^{\bullet\bullet}][\text{O}_\text{i}^{\bullet\bullet}]$
 - Intrinsic ionization of electrons $\text{nil} = e' + h'$ $K_\text{i} = [e'][h']$
 - Oxidation $\frac{1}{2}\text{O}_{2(\text{g})} = 2h' + \text{O}_\text{i}^{\bullet\bullet}$ $[\text{O}_\text{i}^{\bullet\bullet}][h']^2 = K_\text{ox} p_{\text{O}_2}^{1/2}$
 - Reduction $\text{O}_\text{O}^\bullet = 2e' + \text{v}_\text{O}^{\bullet\bullet} + \frac{1}{2}\text{O}_{2(\text{g})}$ $[\text{v}_\text{O}^{\bullet\bullet}][e']^2 = K_\text{red} p_{\text{O}_2}^{-1/2}$
 - Electroneutrality condition $2+2[\text{O}_\text{i}^{\bullet\bullet}] + [e'] = [h'] + 2[\text{v}_\text{O}^{\bullet\bullet}]$
- $K_\text{f} \cdot K_\text{i}^2 = K_\text{ox} \cdot K_\text{red}$

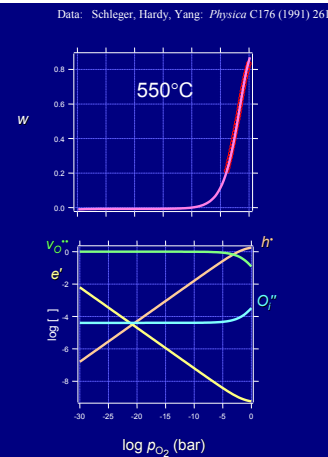
"Defect" concentrations

$$K_\text{ox} = 10^{-3}$$

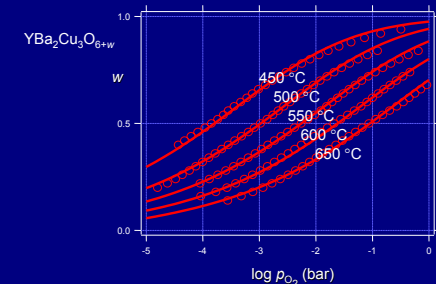
$$K_\text{i} = 10^{-9}$$

$$K_\text{f} = 4 \cdot 10^{-5}$$

$$\ln K = \frac{\Delta S}{R} - \frac{\Delta H}{RT}$$

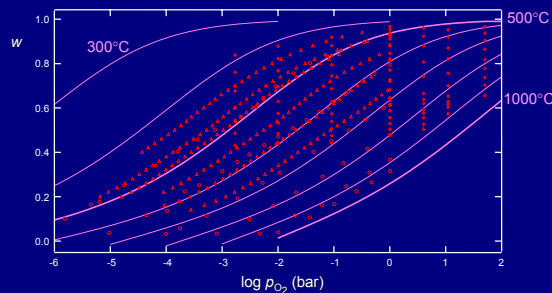


Temperature dependence



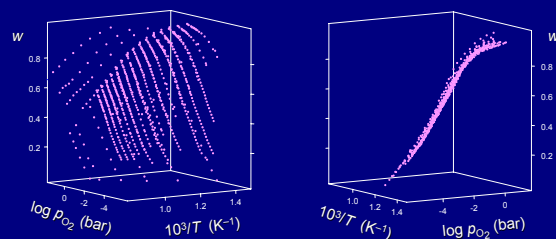
Data: Schlegler, Hardy, Yang: *Physica C* 176 (1991) 261

... of more data



Karen, Kjekshus: Phase diagrams and thermodynamic properties, *Handbook on the Physics and Chemistry of Rare Earths* 30 (2000) 229-373

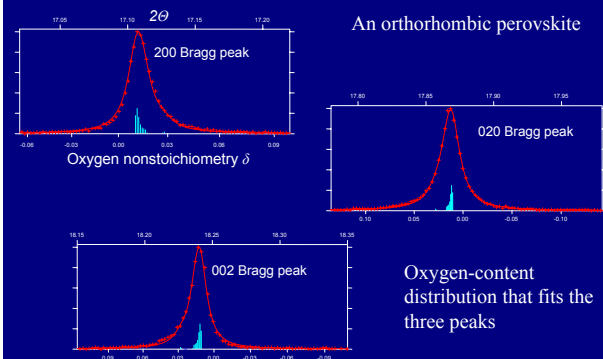
One more look at the raw data



Oxygen engineering

- Control of the overall oxygen content
- Control of its distribution
- Evaluation of the distribution

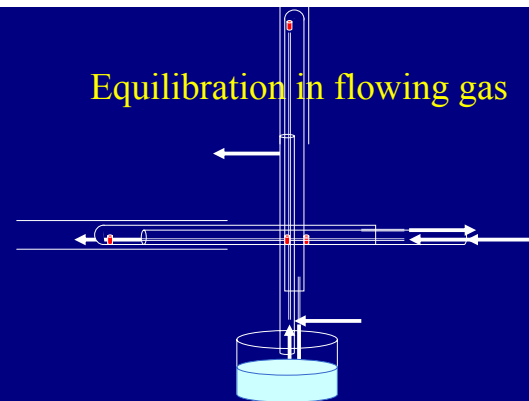
Oxygen content distribution



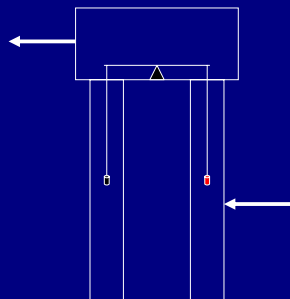
Control of oxygen content

Control parameters	Redox reagents	System
T and p_{O_2}	flowing gas	open
mass, T	flowing gas	open
T	p_{O_2} buffer	closed
mass (n_{O_2})	oxygen getter	closed

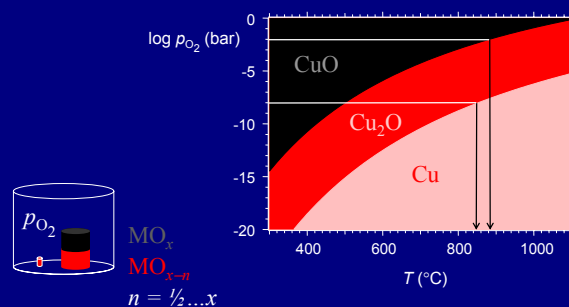
Equilibration in flowing gas



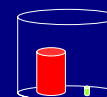
Equilibration in a thermobalance



Equilibration with p_{O_2} buffer



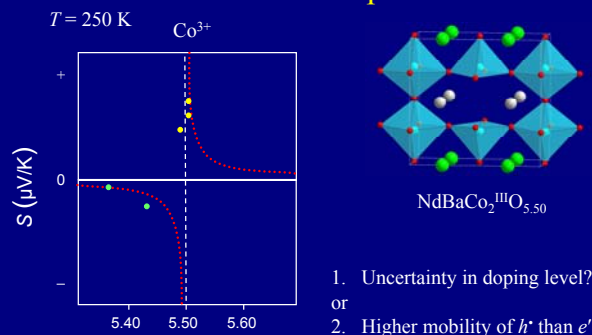
Equilibration with p_{O_2} getter



Properties that are very sensitive to the oxygen nonstoichiometry

- Properties that change abruptly at the stoichiometric point
- Properties related to valence mixing

Seebeck coefficient at the stoichiometric point



Verwey transition in magnetite

