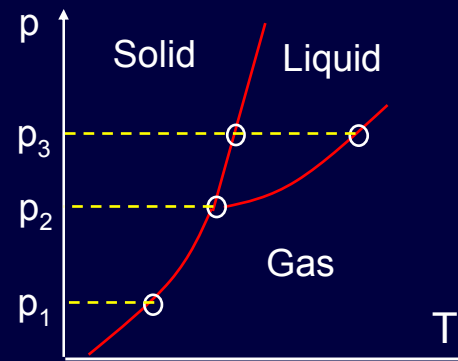


Lecture 22

Freezing/boiling Point Elevation/depression
Supercooling/superheating

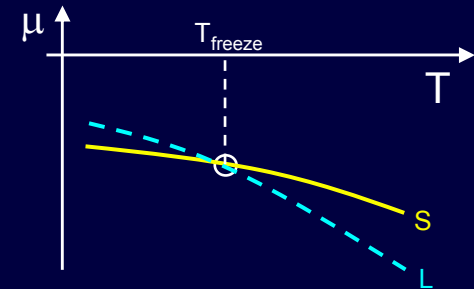
Phase Diagram:



Today:
Lunch with the Prof
Meet in Loomis Lobby
11:30 am

Phase Transitions and Volume Change

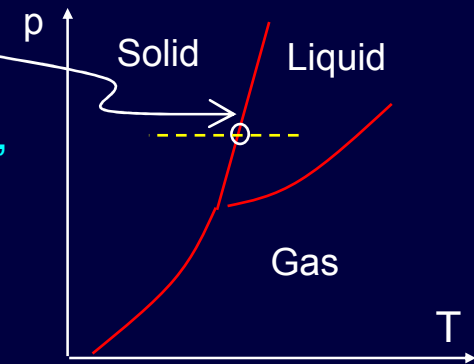
So far, our liquid and solid $\mu(T)$ curves have been independent of pressure. We justified this with the fact that solids and liquids are nearly incompressible (which is true). This means that T_{freeze} should not depend on pressure. So:



Why is the line that separates the liquid and solid phases not vertical?

The reason is that, although they are incompressible, the volumes of the liquid and solid are not the same.

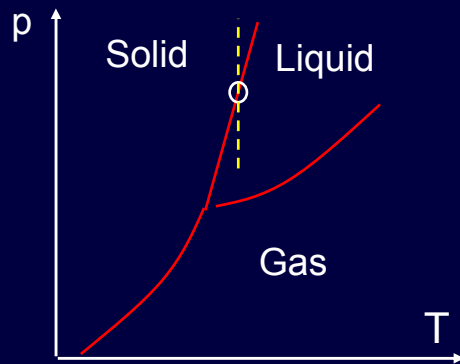
Most substances expand when they melt.



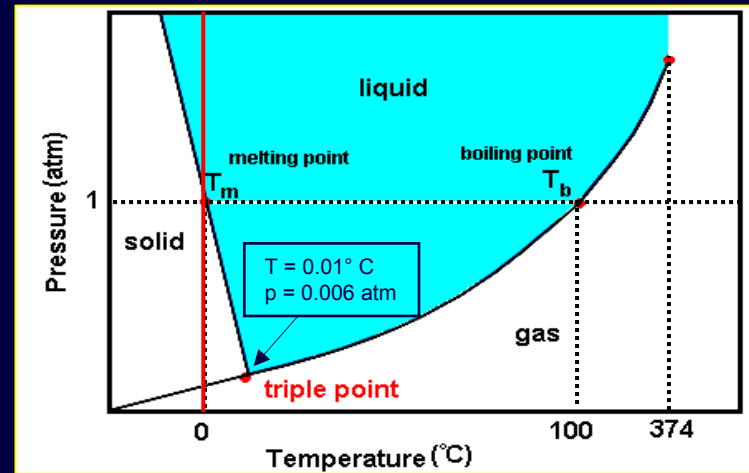
Suppose the volume change per mole is ΔV (which means $\Delta V/N_A$ per particle). Thus, (during melting) when a particle moves from solid to liquid, work is done by it (it's expanding): $W = p\Delta V/N_A$. This is a positive contribution to the liquid's chemical potential, and it increases with pressure. If you look at the chemical potential graph above, you'll see **that this causes T_{freeze} to increase with pressure.**

Water is Unusual

The typical phase diagram



The H₂O phase diagram



Most materials freeze if you push hard enough, but water melts! This results from the fact that **water expands when it freezes** (ice floats). Consequences:

- Fish can live in wintry lakes, because they don't freeze solid.
- Ice is slippery when you skate on it ... **NOT!**

It's true that ice is slippery, but not for this reason - the pressure required is too large. Here's an article about it:

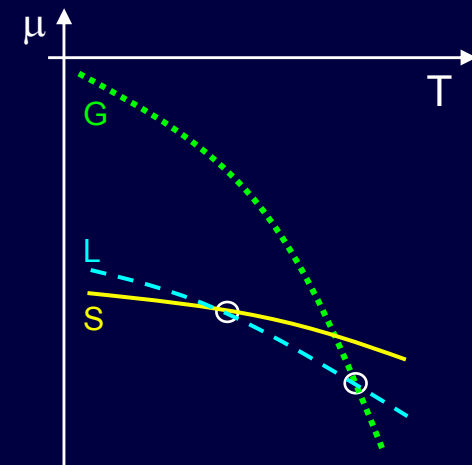
<http://people.virginia.edu/~lz2n/mse305/ice-skating-PhysicsToday05.pdf>

Variation of Freezing/boiling Temperatures

Lowering the density of the gas lowers its chemical potential curve μ_G . This will move the boiling transition to lower temperature. This is the reason water boils at lower T at high altitude.

We can similarly lower the μ_L curve by lowering the density of the molecules in the liquid. This will lower the freezing temperature of the liquid.

Example: Putting salt on ice lowers the melting point. Why? The salt dissolves in the liquid, lowering the density (and thus μ) of the remaining liquid H_2O . The salt does not easily penetrate the solid ice, so has little effect on its μ .



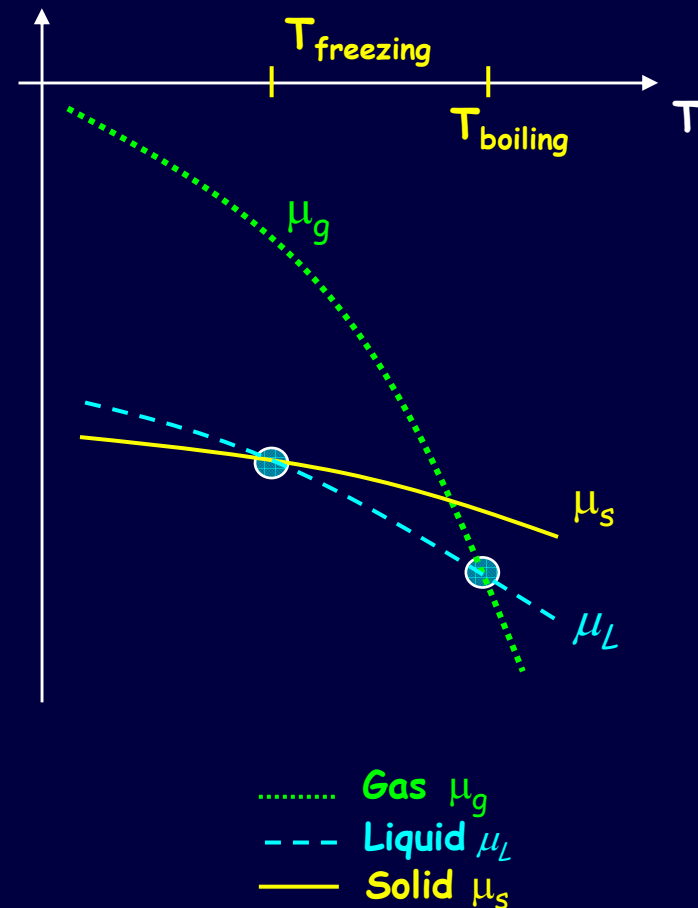
This illustrates a general principle: **Dissolving substance A in substance B lowers the chemical potential.** If the chemical potential weren't lowered, it wouldn't dissolve!

Note: The density argument we made above isn't always the important point. Sometimes, the energy change is also important (even dominant).

Freezing point depression

Lowering the density of the gas lowers the chemical potential curve μ_g .

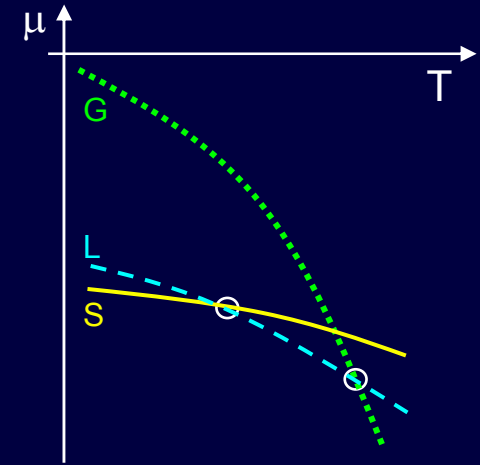
We can similarly lower the μ_L curve by lowering the density of the molecules in the liquid.



ACT 1: Boiling Temperature

What does the addition of salt to liquid water do to its boiling temperature?

- A) Raises the boiling temperature
- B) Lowers the boiling temperature
- C) Does not change the boiling temperature



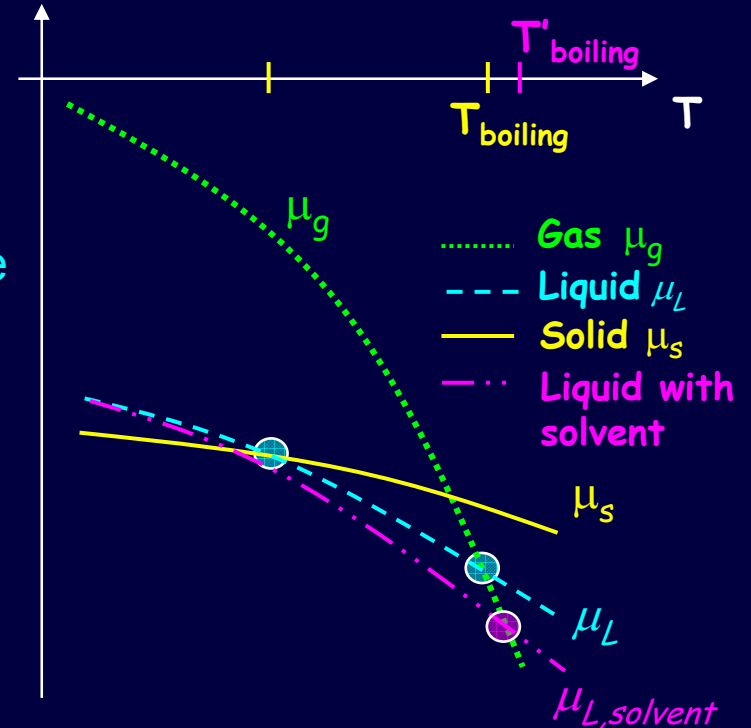
Solution

What does the addition of salt to liquid water do to its boiling temperature?

- A) Raises the boiling temperature
- B) Lowers the boiling temperature
- C) Does not change the boiling temperature

Adding salt to the liquid lowers the liquid's μ , (because it lowers the H_2O density) raising the boiling temperature.

However, we must be careful. What does the salt do to the gas's chemical potential? In this case, salt does not evaporate easily (it has a very low vapor pressure), so it has a negligible effect on μ_G . If we were to dissolve a more volatile substance (e.g., alcohol) in the liquid, the answer might be different.



Freezing point depression

Lowering the density of the gas lowers the chemical potential curve μ_g .

We can similarly lower the μ_L curve by lowering the density of the molecules in the liquid. How do we lower the density of molecules?

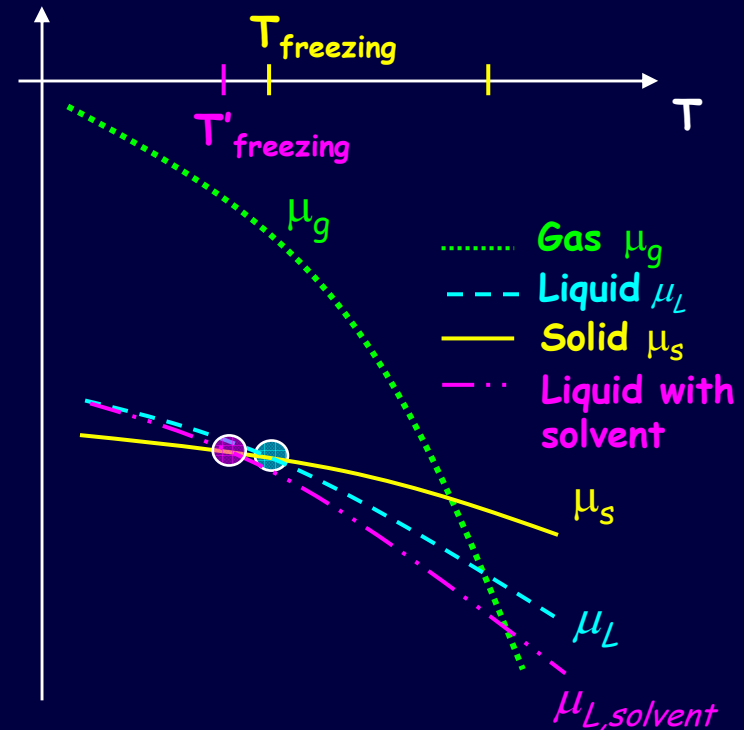
Replace them with other sorts of molecules (It is only the molecules of the same species as the solid that count toward equilibrium).

There are very many solutes which:

- Dissolve easily in the liquid phase
- Don't fit well at all in the crystal
- Have very low vapor pressure (absent from gas)

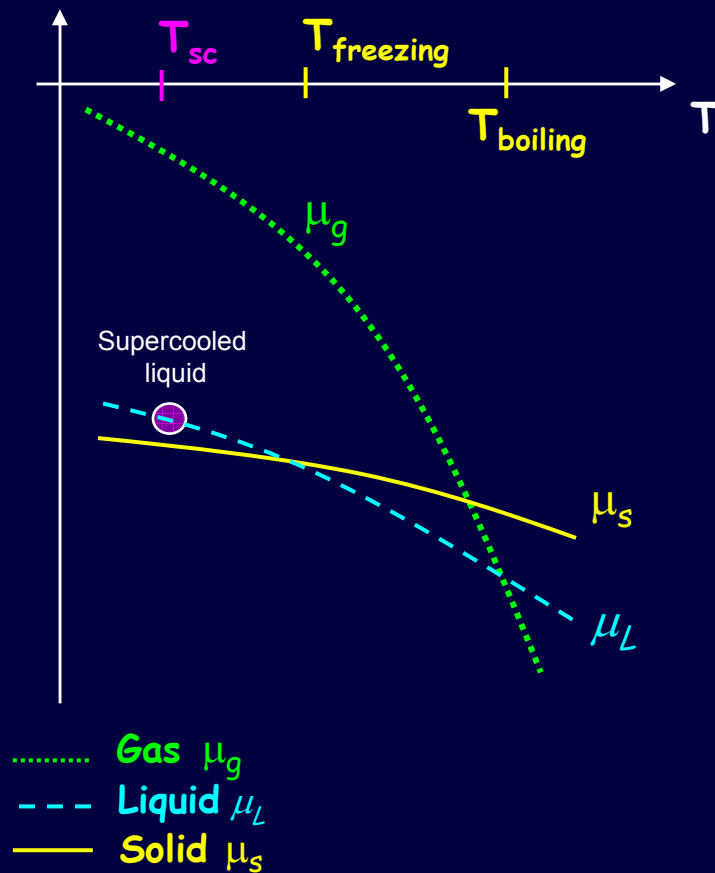
These have almost no effect on H_2O 's μ_g or μ_s .

- **anti-freeze**
- **salt on roads**
- **sugar would work too, but**
 - **doesn't have as many molecules/kg**
 - **costs more**
 - **would leave a sticky mess!**



They always *lower* μ_l (stabilize liquid in each case). So they lower T_f and they raise T_b

Supercooling & Superheating



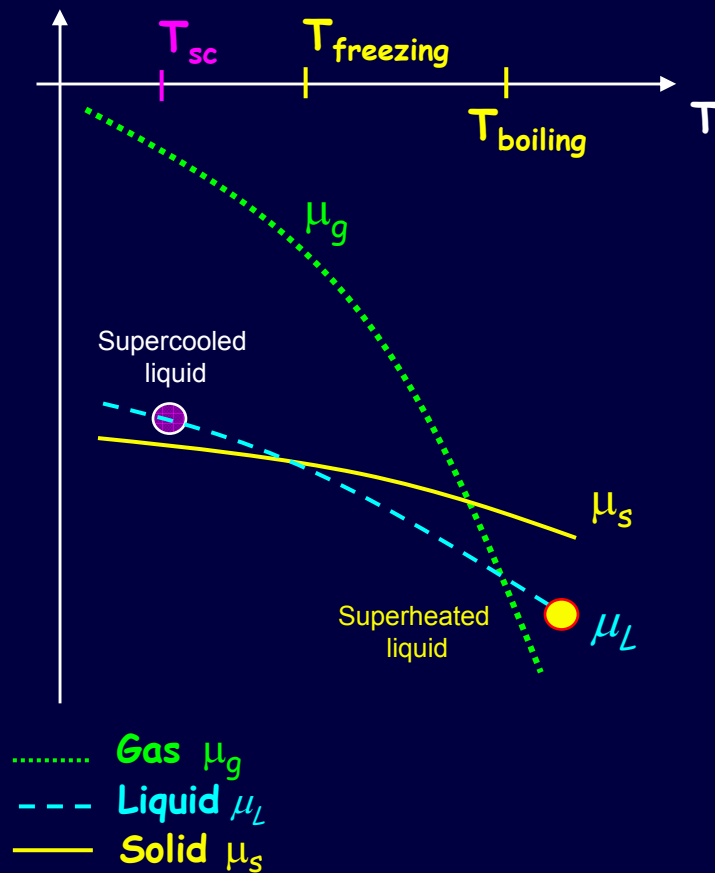
If we cool a liquid to $T_{freezing}$, normally it will freeze to lower its free energy.

However, if there are no nucleation sites, it is possible to “supercool” the liquid well below the freezing temperature.

This is an unstable equilibrium.

What happens when the system suddenly freezes?

Solution



If we cool a liquid to $T_{freezing}$, normally it will freeze to lower its free energy.

However, if there are no nucleation sites, it is possible to “supercool” the liquid well below the freezing temperature.

This is an unstable equilibrium.

What happens when the system suddenly freezes?

The free energy drops.

This “latent heat” is suddenly released.

It is similarly possible to superheat a liquid above its boiling temperature; adding nucleation sites leads to rapid (and often dangerous!) boiling.

Supercooling/superheating Demos

Liquid water can be

- heated above 100°C
 - <http://www.animations.physics.unsw.edu.au/jw/superheating.htm>
- Cooled well below 0°C
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=13unrtlvfrw>

Why does the water only partly boil or freeze (slush)?

What is T of the leftover water?:

Boiling: 100°C

Freezing: 0°C

Supercooling/superheating Demos (2)

Freezing: warmed to 0°C .

The molecules U^* dropped as they joined the ice, releasing U^* that warmed things up to 0°C

At which point freezing stopped leaving slush.

*To be precise, it's $U+pV$ (enthalpy, H) here at constant p

Boiling: cooled to 100°C .

$U+pV$ (enthalpy, H) increased as molecules joined the gas, soaking up H from surroundings, cooling them to 100°C

At which point boiling stopped leaving some liquid.

Thank you,

Erika !!

Good Luck !!