

Phase rule : $\Rightarrow F = C - P + 2$ (F is the no. of variables)

Consider let a heterogeneous system in equilibrium of C components in which P phases are present.

Since state of the system will depend upon the ~~number of phases~~ temp and pressure, these two variables are always there. The concentration variables ^{of each component} depends upon the no. of phase

Since if the concentration of (C-1) components are known then concentration of last component is automatically fixed, hence (C-1) component term are needed to expressed the composition of the system. For P phases, the total no. of concentration variables is $P(C-1)$

Therefore total variables of the system is equal to $[P(C-1) + 2]$.

From thermodynamic consideration if the phases are in equilibrium then partial molar free energy of every component in different phases is the same. ^{Since} when P phases are present hence (P-1) equations are available ~~for~~ for each component. and for C component, the total no. of equations are $C(P-1)$. ~~had~~ These eqⁿ cannot be vary and hence degree of freedom $f = \text{Total no. of variable} - \text{no. of equation}$

$$F = [P(C-1) + 2] - [C(P-1)]$$

$$= P \cancel{C} - P + 2 - P \cancel{C} + C = C - P + 2$$

This is called the phase rule.

Q. Explain why in phase diagram of water system the solid-vapour & liquid-vapour lines have +ve slopes while the solid-liquid has a -ve slope.

Ans. The clapeyron equation decides the sign of slope of the lines represented by the two phase equilibria. The slopes of the lines for solid-liquid & liquid-vapour equilibria is always +ve as entropy change (ΔS) & volume change (ΔV) both are +ve for such equilibria. But the sign of $\frac{dP}{dT}$ for solid-liquid equilibria depends on their relative densities or volumes.

By clapeyron equation

$$\frac{dP}{dT} = \frac{S_V - S_S}{T(V_V - V_S)} = \frac{+ve}{+ve} = +ve \quad (\text{for solid-vapour})$$

$$\frac{dP}{dT} = \frac{S_V - S_L}{T(V_V - V_L)} = \frac{+ve}{+ve} = +ve \quad (\text{for liquid-vapour})$$

$$\frac{dP}{dT} = \frac{S_L - S_S}{T(V_L - V_S)} = \frac{+ve}{-ve} = -ve \quad (\text{for (ice) solid-liquid})$$

~~$(V_L - V_S) = (+)ve$ as $V_L > V_S$~~

Since $V_S > V_L$ for water system

Therefore $V_L - V_S = (-)ve$