
Contents

Preface	xi
Notations and Symbols	xv
Chapter 1. Liquid Surfaces	1
1.1. Mechanical description of the interface between a liquid and its vapor	2
1.1.1. Gibbs' and Young's interface models	2
1.1.2. Mechanical definition of the surface tension of the liquid	4
1.1.3. Influence of the curvature of a surface – Laplace's law	5
1.2. Thermodynamic approach to the liquid–vapor interface	7
1.2.1. Potential functions	7
1.2.2. Functions of state of surface	11
1.2.3. Equivalence between surface tension and interface energy between two fluids	11
1.2.4. Sign of the energy associated with the surface of a pure liquid	12
1.2.5. Extent of the area of the surface of a liquid	14
1.3. Influence of temperature on surface energy	16
1.4. Surface latent heat	22
1.5. Surface specific heat capacity	23
1.6. Influence of pressure on the surface tension of a liquid	24
1.7. Evaluation of the surface energy of a pure liquid.	25

Chapter 2. Interfaces Between Liquids and Fluid Solutions	29
2.1. Surface concentrations and surface excess	29
2.2. Thermodynamics of interfaces of polycomponent liquid–fluid systems	33
2.2.1. Complete chemical potential of a component in a phase	33
2.2.2. Chemical potentials and lateral chemical potentials	36
2.2.3. Conditions of equilibrium in a capillary system	38
2.2.4. Gibbs–Duhem relation for surface phenomena	39
2.2.5. Adsorption and Gibbs isotherm	40
2.3. Surface tension of solutions	43
2.3.1. Perfect solutions	44
2.3.2. Highly-dilute solutions.	47
2.4. Interface tension between two liquids	48
2.5. Energy of adhesion of two liquids	49
2.6. Spreading of a liquid over another liquid	50
2.7. Example of the microscopic modeling of surfaces of solutions: the monolayer model for strictly-regular solutions	53
2.7.1. Presentation of the model	53
2.7.2. Chemical potentials of the surface and bulk components of a strictly-regular solution.	55
2.7.3. Surface tension and composition of the surface layer of a strictly-regular solution	58
2.7.4. Monolayer model and interface tension between two strictly-regular solutions	59
2.7.5. Critique of the monomolecular layer model	61
Chapter 3. Surfaces of Solids and Interfaces	65
3.1. Surface tension and the surface energy of solids	65
3.2. Surface energy of a pure crystallized solid: the macroscopic approach	67
3.3. Surface energy in a mesoscopic model.	69
3.4. Effective surface energy: the Wulff crystal	70
3.5. Interfacial energy between two solids	74
3.6. Interfaces between pure solids and liquids	77
3.6.1. Spreading and angle of contact of a liquid on a solid.	77
3.6.2. Work of adhesion between a liquid and a solid	80

3.6.3. Solid surface in contact with two liquids: displacement of one liquid by another	81
3.6.4. Conditions of stability of solid particles at fluid interfaces	83
3.7. Adsorption of elements of a liquid solution by a solid	85
3.8. Electrocapillary phenomena	87
3.8.1. Definition of electrocapillarity	88
3.8.2. Gibbs–Lippmann formula and Lippmann’s formula	88
3.8.3. Experimentally obtaining the surface tension/electrical potential curve.	91
3.8.4. Shape of the electrocapillary curves	91
3.8.5. Applying electrocapillarity to the experimental determination of the excess surface.	94
Chapter 4. Small-volume Phases	99
4.1. Laplace’s law for spherical liquid drops	99
4.2. Similarity between the thermodynamics of a Wulff crystal and that of a liquid drop	100
4.3. Reiss’ characteristic function	101
4.4. Gibbs energy of a spherical pure liquid or solid with small volume	104
4.5. Chemical potential of a component of a solution.	105
4.6. Phase change in pure substances	106
4.6.1. The saturating vapor pressure of pure liquid	107
4.6.2. Melting of a small grain	110
4.7. Alteration of the solubility of a solid due to the small dimension of its grains	112
4.8. Equilibrium constant for a reaction involving small grains	114
4.9. Nucleation of a condensed phase	117
4.9.1. Hypotheses underlying the nucleation model	117
4.9.2. Homogeneous nucleation in a fluid phase: Volmer’s approach (1905)	120
4.9.3. Homogeneous nucleation within a solid phase.	126
4.9.4. Primary heterogeneous nucleation from a fluid phase	126
Chapter 5. Capillary Tubes and Thin Films	137
5.1. Behavior of a liquid in a capillary space	137
5.2. Thermodynamics of the cylindrical meniscus.	138
5.2.1. Laplace’s law for the cylindrical meniscus.	138
5.2.2. Capillary ascension.	139
5.2.3. Capillary condensation.	146

5.3. Modeling the interactions between two surfaces of an insulating material	148
5.4. Thin liquid films	153
5.4.1. Disjunction pressure	153
5.4.2. Formation of a film by condensation	155
5.4.3. Ascension of a liquid along a wall	157
5.4.4. Minimum spreading thickness	160
Chapter 6. Physical Adsorption of Gases by Solids	163
6.1. Shapes of the isotherms of physical adsorption found experimentally	163
6.2. Potential energy of a gaseous molecule in the presence of the surface of a solid	164
6.2.1. Adsorbent insulating solid.	165
6.2.2. Electronically-conductive adsorbent solid	167
6.3. Thermodynamic models for physical adsorption.	171
6.3.1. Hill's model	171
6.3.2. Hill and Everett's model.	175
6.3.3. Adsorption heats	178
6.4. Monolayer adsorption.	182
6.4.1. Energy distribution of adsorbed molecules.	183
6.4.2. Isotherms of adsorption in mobile monolayers with no interaction	184
6.4.3. Isotherms of adsorption in mobile monolayers with interactions.	186
6.4.4. Isotherms of adsorption in localized monolayers without interaction	188
6.4.5. Isotherms of adsorption in localized monolayers with interactions.	189
6.5. Multilayer adsorption	192
6.5.1. The Brunauer, Emmet and Taylor (B.E.T.) isotherm	193
6.5.2. Frenkel, Halsey and Hill's liquid layer model	197
6.5.3. Polanyi's potential model	199
6.6. Adsorption on porous substances	202
6.6.1. Process of pore filling	203
6.6.2. Shape of the adsorption curve	204
6.6.3. Shape of the evaporation curve, phenomenon of hysteresis.	205
6.6.4. Relation between the shape of the pores and that of the hysteresis loop	206

Chapter 7. Chemical Adsorption of Gases by Solids	209
7.1. Chemical force between gas and solid surface	209
7.1.1. Chemical adsorption on metals	209
7.1.2. Chemical adsorption on semiconductors	212
7.2. Physical adsorption and chemical adsorption	215
7.3. Isotherms of adsorption and experimental results	217
7.4. Langmuir's model of equilibrium of chemical adsorption	218
7.5. Dissociative adsorption and Langmuir's model	220
7.6. Chemical adsorption of mixtures of gases in Langmuir's model	221
7.7. "Non-Langmuirian" isotherms of adsorption	223
Appendix	227
Bibliography	239
Index	241