

Phase diagram :-

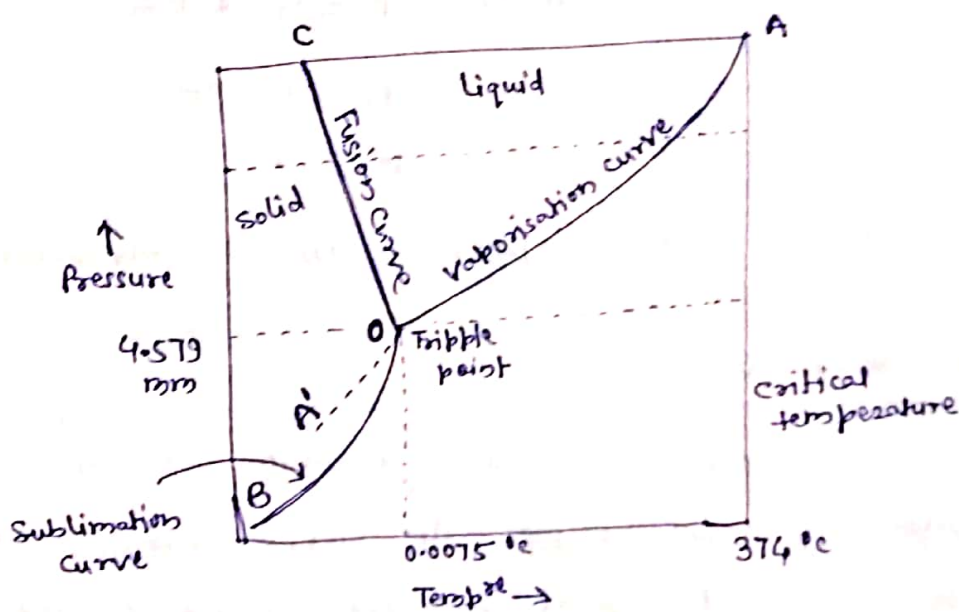
A phase diagram is the sum total of the description of the behaviour of phases under equilibrium.

The no. of phases that exists in equilibrium depends upon the conditions of temperature and pressure or temperature and compositions. These conditions are determined experimentally and inter dependency of the variables can be shown graphically using appropriate conditions.

*. One Component System

(1). Water system :-

Water system is three phase but one component system. It has no degree of freedom i.e. it is invariant system. This system exists in three phases as: -



solid \rightleftharpoons liquid

liquid \rightleftharpoons vapour

vapour \rightleftharpoons solid

Solid \rightleftharpoons liquid \rightleftharpoons vapour.

(6)

The phase diagram of water system consists of —

(i) three stable curves OA, OB, OC.

(ii) One metastable curve OA'.

(iii) three areas AOB, COB, AOC.

(iv) triple point O.

*. Curve OA :-

This represents the liquid \rightleftharpoons vapour at different temperature. It is called the vapour pressure of water. The rate of increase of vapour pressure with temperature is relatively higher at higher temp^{re} and therefore the curve OA. Above critical temp^{re}, only vapour phase exists whatever may be the pressure.

$$\text{Since, } F = C - P + 2$$

$$F = 1 - 2 + 2$$

$$F = 1$$

So, the water-vapour system is univariant.

*. Curve OB :-

It represents the equilibrium between ice & vapour. It falls off more steeply. The curve OB existence as the temp^{re} decreases and vapour pressure of ice become insignificant. It is also a univariant system.

* Curve OC :-

This represents the equilibrium between ice & water. This indicates that the melting point of ice is slightly lower by increase of pressure. This is also uni-variant system.

* Curve OA' :-

Along this curve liquid-water co-exists with vapour and vapour-pressure are different. This is called meta stable equilibrium as slight disturbance brings it to the stable region OB of the phase diagram.

* Triple point O :-

The point 'O' at which the three curves AO, BO & CO meet, is called the triple point. At this point all the three phases are in equilibrium and the system is non-variant. This show that there is only one set of variables P, T at which the three phases exists together.

The triple point 'O' is a self defined point corresponding to a definite temperature & definite pressure. It differs from the ordinary freezing point because freezing temperature is lower than triple point temperature due to effect of high pressure and dissolved more.

* Areas :- The areas gives the conditions of temp & pressure under which single phase - ice, water & vapour can exists. These areas are bivariant.