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MULTI-3D MODELING OF PHASE DIAGRAM OF PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ SYSTEMA.I. Aghazade¹, S.M. Rustamova³, I.M. Gojayeva¹, E.N. Orujlu², D.M. Babanly^{1,2},
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Abstract. Using the analytical option of the Origin Lab computer program, the analytical dependences of the liquidus temperature on the composition for the PbTe-Bi₂Te₃, PbTe-Sb₂Te₃, Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ boundary systems of the PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ ternary system were determined. Based on these dependencies and thermal analysis data of the ternary system, the analytical model of the temperature-composition dependence of the crystallization surfaces of PbTe, Sb₂Te₃, Bi₂Te₃ compounds and PbBi₂Te₄, PbBi₄Te₇, PbBi₆Te₁₀ phases in the PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ system was determined. The resulting equations made it possible to visualize the phase diagram of the PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ system from the side of the PbTe-Bi₂Te₃ in 3D coordinates. The analytical model of the phase diagram of the PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ system allowed constructing a three-dimensional image of equilibrium phases from different angles, to obtain two-dimensional projections and to tabulate the coordinates of the phase diagram.

Keywords: PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ system, 3D analytical modeling, phase diagram, liquidus, solidus.

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1. Introduction

One of the main problems of materials science is the design of new functional materials and the expansion of their existence horizons by optimizing the desired properties and new prospects for application in various fields. In recent years, a lot of theoretical and experimental work has been done to create the thermoelectric materials, which are considered as main method to solve the problems of fuel use and energy harvesting [1-3]. Lead tellurides-based alloys are the most successfully applied thermoelectric materials used in the production of similar materials [4,5]. Also, tetradymite-type layered Bi₂Te₃-based alloys are classic low-temperature thermoelectric materials, and recently, their electrical and thermal properties have been enhanced through nanostructuring [6,7].

As the information on topological

insulators increased [8, 9], layered bismuth and antimony chalcogenides were also proven to host topological surface states [10-12]. Ongoing research in this field revealed that tetradymite-like ternary compounds formed in A^{IV}-B^V-Te systems (A^{IV}-Ge, Sn, Pb; B^V-Sb, Bi) systems including A^{IV}B^V₂Te₄, A^{IV}B^V₄Te₇, A^{IV}B^V₆Te₁₀ are also three-dimensional topological insulators [13-21]. The creation of new multicomponent functional materials is possible based on the phase equilibria data of the corresponding systems. The desired properties can be achieved by substituting appropriate elements in these materials via the formation of solid solutions [22-25].

The main principle of building a three-dimensional (3D) computer model of a T-x-y diagram of a ternary system is the construction of three-dimensional images of its surfaces and

phase regions. It may take a lot of time and additional experiments to create the ideal model. However, the computer model does not contain the methodological errors detected during the construction of phase diagrams using traditional methods [26].

The phase relationship in the PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ system was studied by using

powder XRD, DTA, and SEM results of the equilibrated alloys [27,28]. In this research, the analytical method was used for 3D modeling of crystallization surfaces of the PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ system based on the data of boundary systems and a small number of experimental DTA measurements.

2. Modeling Technique

The analytical method, tested in [29-31], was used for the three-dimensional modeling of crystallization surfaces in the PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-

Sb₂Te₃ system. For 3D modeling of crystallization surfaces of phases the following equation was used:

$$T_{1(1-2-3)} = yT_{1(1-2)}(x_1) + (1-y)T_{1(1-3)}(x_1) + ax_1(1-x_1)^2y(1-y) \quad (1)$$

Here $y = x_2/(x_2+x_3)$, $y = x_3/(x_2+x_3)$, x_1 , x_2 and x_3 are mole fraction of 1, 2, 3 components; $T_{1(1-2)}$ and $T_{1(1-3)}$ are liquidus temperatures for boundary binary systems 1-2 and 1-3. The parameter a_1 is determined from the experimental data of the ternary system PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃.

Modeling is made in the following order. First, the temperature dependences on the composition $T = f(x)$ and $T = f(y)$ were

determined for the liquidus of boundary binary systems. Next, based on the experimental data of the PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ ternary system, the function $T = f(x, y)$ is defined, where: $x = x(\text{PbTe})$; $y = x(\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3) / [x(\text{Sb}_2\text{Te}_3) + x(\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3)]$; x_i – molar fractions of PbTe, Bi₂Te₃, Sb₂Te₃ compounds. To determine the boundaries of immiscibility of liquid alloys, the asymmetric version of the model of regular solutions

$$\Delta G_T^0 = [a + b(1-x)^2](1-x)x + RT[x \ln x(1-x) \ln(1-x)] \quad (2)$$

And the thermodynamic condition for internal stability

$$(\partial^2 \Delta G^0 / \partial x^2)_{P,T} = -2*(a+b*x^2+2*b*x*(x-1)+b*x*(3*x-1))+8.31*T/(1-x)+8.31*T/x \quad (3)$$

were used. The obtained analytical expressions for the PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ ternary system and its boundary binary systems are given in Tables

1 and 2. The analytical dependencies are given in the form used by the Origin Lab computer program.

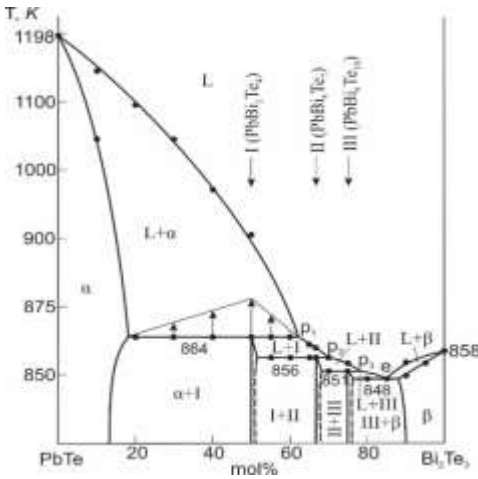
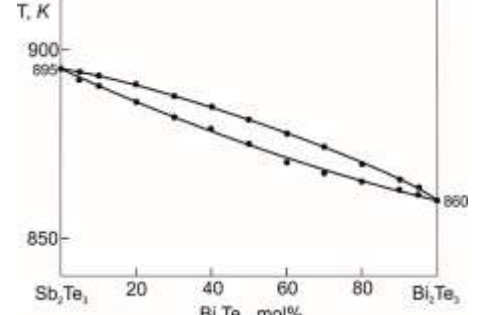
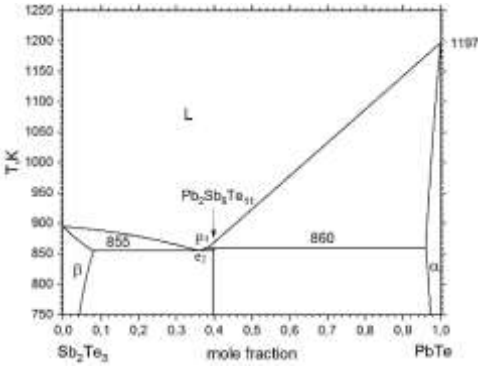
2.1. Boundary binary systems

The boundary sides of the analyzed system were studied. According to PXRD (Powder X-ray Diffraction) and DTA (Differential Thermal Analysis) data, the existence of three PbBi₂Te₄, PbBi₄Te₇, and PbBi₆Te₁₀ tetradymite-like layered ternary compounds was confirmed. All listed ternary compounds melt by peritectic reactions at 864, 856, and 851 K, respectively [32]. According to [33-35], two members of nPbTe·mSb₂Te₃ homologues series, namely, PbSb₂Te₄ and PbSb₄Te₇ are formed in the PbTe-Sb₂Te₃

system, while further studies [35-39] show that earlier reported Pb₂Sb₆Te₁₁ compound is stable only in a small temperature range and decomposes by solid-phase reaction. The Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ system is characterized by the formation of continuous solid solutions with a tetradymite-like structure [21].

Here and throughout the text, the following notation is adopted: α -is solid solutions based on PbTe; β -is solid solutions based on Bi₂Te₃ and Sb₂Te₃.

Table 1. Phase diagrams and analytical dependencies for liquidus and solidus surfaces of the PbTe-Bi₂Te₃, PbTe-Sb₂Te₃, and Sb₂Te₃-Bi₂Te₃ systems (equations are presented in computer variation).

Phase diagrams	System, region $x=x(\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3)$	Equations: $T, K=f(x)$ $x=x(\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3)$	Eq. N.
 <p>Fig. 1. Phase diagram of PbTe-Bi₂Te₃ [32] system</p>	Bi ₂ Te ₃ -PbTe. liquidus α -PbTe, $x=0\div 0.62$	1198-288.4*x- 1224*x^2+1321*x^3	4
	liquidus p_1p_2 , $x=0.62\div 0.7$	694.5+593.7*x- 518.5*x^2	5
	liquidus p_2p_3e , $x=0.7\div 0.825$	776.4+264,5*x- 215.4*x^2	6
	liquidus β -Bi ₂ Te ₃ , $x=0.85\div 1$	654+354*x-148*x^2	7
	solidus α -PbTe, $x=0\div 0.18$	1198-238*x-20458* x^2+63470*x^3	8
	solidus α -PbTe, $x=0.12\div 0.18$	473+4510*x- 13000*x^2	9
	solidus β -Bi ₂ Te ₃ , $x=0.88\div 1$	760+100*x	10
	solidus β -Bi ₂ Te ₃ , $x=0.88\div 0.91$	-9155+23100*x- 13333*x^2	11
 <p>Fig. 2. Phase diagram of Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ [20] system</p>	Bi ₂ Te ₃ -Sb ₂ Te ₃ . $x=x(\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3)=0\div 1$ liquidus	895-35*x+15*x*(1-x)	12
	$x=x(\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3)=0\div 1$ solidus	895-35*x-15*x*(1-x)	13
 <p>Fig. 3. Phase diagram of Sb₂Te₃-PbTe [39] system</p>	Sb ₂ Te ₃ -PbTe liquidus α -PbTe $x=x(\text{PbTe})=0.38\div 1$	653+539*x+5.8*x^2	14
	liquidus p_4e_2 , $x=$ $x(\text{PbTe})=0.36\div 0.38$	765+250*x	15
	liquidus β -Sb ₂ Te ₃ $x=x(\text{PbTe})=0\div 0.36$	895-46*x-180*x^2	16
	solidus β -Sb ₂ Te ₃ $x=x(\text{PbTe})=0\div 0.08$	895-650*x+1875*x^2	17
	solidus β -Sb ₂ Te ₃ $x=x(\text{PbTe})=0.05\div 0.1$	555+5750*x- 25000*x^2	18
	solidus α -PbTe $x=x(\text{PbTe})=0.96\div 1$	58828+113775*x- 53750*x^2	19
solidus α -PbTe $x=x(\text{PbTe})=$ $0.96\div 0.94$	446+4325*(1-x)- 10545*(1-x)^2	20	

2.2. System PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃

Analytical dependencies of the 3D modeling of the phases of the PbTe-Bi₂Te₃ -

Sb₂Te₃ system are given in Table 2 (equations 21-28).

Table 2. Analytical dependencies of the phases of the PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ system.

Phase number in Fig. 4.	$T, K=f(x, y);$ $x=x(\text{PbTe}); y= x(\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3)/[x(\text{Sb}_2\text{Te}_3)+ x(\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3)];$ x_i -mole fractions of the PbTe, Bi ₂ Te ₃ , Sb ₂ Te ₃	Eq.N.
1	$(1197-351*(1-x)-276.7*(1-x)^2-26.8*(1-x)^3)*y+(653+539*x+5.8*x^2)*(1-y)+70*y*(1-y)*(1-x)$ $x=0\div 0.625, y=0\div 1$	21
2	$(1197-1465,3*x+9728*x^2-91304*x^3)*(1-y)+(1079-1923,1*x+5841,7*x^2-6624,48*x^3)*y-48*y*(1-y),$ $x=0.842\div 1, y=0\div 1;$ $(446+4325*x-10545*x^2)*(1-y)+(443,5+2065*x)*y,$ $x=0.954\div 0.832, y=0\div 1$	22
5	$694.5+593.7*(1-x)-518.5*(1-x)^2)*y+(765+250*x)*(1-y)+70*y*(1-y)*(1-x)$ $x=0.625\div 0.71, y=0\div 0.95$	23
6	$(776,4+264,5*x-215,4*x^2)*(1-y)+(596,6+677,5*x-437,5*x^2)*y,$ $x=0.695\div 0.875, y=0\div 1$	24
7	$(546+592*x-280*x^2)*(1-y)+(731+130*x)*y,$ $x=0.81\div 0.875, y=0\div 1$	25
9	$(629,6+421,9*(1-x)-190,5*(1-x)^2)*y+(895-46*x-180*x^2)*(1-y)+70*y*(1-y)*(1-x);$ $y=0\div 1$	26
11	$(-13642+34100*x-20000*x^2).$ $x=0.9\div 0.97, y=0\div 1$	27
12,13,14	$12550+26300*x; 9542-26300*x; -5975+26300*x$	28

According to the numbers of the indicated fragments of the phase diagram of the PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ system, $T, K=f(x, y)$ are visualized in Fig 4:

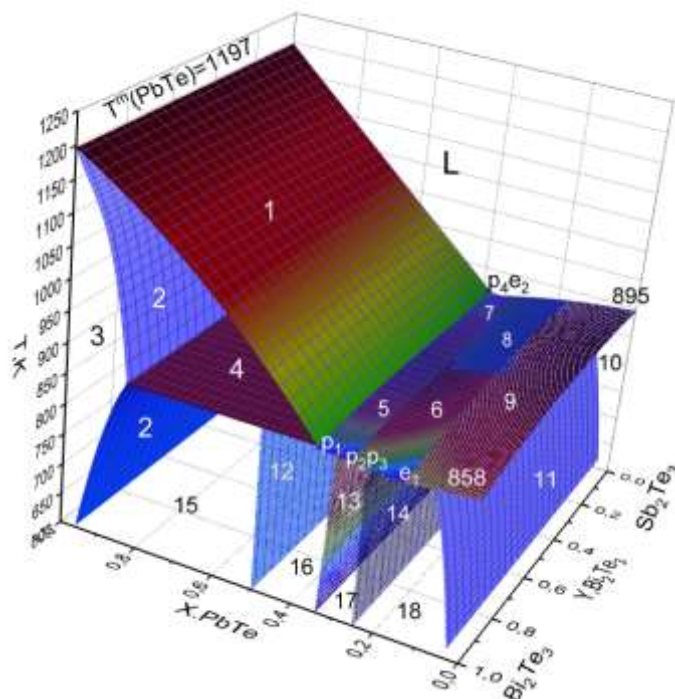


Fig. 4. 3D view of the phase diagram of the PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ system from the side of the PbTe-Bi₂Te₃ system.

- 1- Liquid surface of solid solutions based on α -PbTe;
- 2- Solidus surface of solid solutions based on α -PbTe;
- 3- Solid solution based on α -PbTe;
- 4- Plane obtaining peritectic PbBi_2Te_4 compound
- 5- Liquidus surface of the peritectic PbBi_2Te_4 compound;
- 6- Liquidus surface of peritectic PbBi_4Te_7 and $\text{PbBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ compounds;
- 7- Liquidus surface of the peritectic $\text{Pb}_2\text{Bi}_6\text{Te}_{11}$ compound;
- 8- Liquid surface of solid solutions based on β - Bi_2Te_3 ;
- 9- Liquid surface of solid solutions based on β - Bi_2Te_3 and β - Sb_2Te_3 ;
- 10- Solid solution based on β - Bi_2Te_3 and β - Sb_2Te_3 ;
- 11- Solidus surface of solid solutions based on β - Bi_2Te_3 and β - Sb_2Te_3 ;
- 12-14- Planes perpendicular to obtaining peritectic phases PbBi_2Te_4 , PbBi_4Te_7 , $\text{PbBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$;
- 15- Heterogeneity areas of solid solutions based on α -PbTe+ PbBi_2Te_4 ;
- 16- Heterogeneity area of PbBi_2Te_4 + PbBi_4Te_7 phase;
- 17- Heterogeneity area of PbBi_4Te_7 + $\text{PbBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ phase;
- 18- Heterogeneity area of $\text{PbBi}_6\text{Te}_{10}$ + solid solutions based on β - Bi_2Te_3 and β - Sb_2Te_3 .

3. Conclusion

The use of 3D modeling made it possible to determine the analytical dependences of integral and partial thermodynamic properties depending on the mole fractions of all components in the entire concentration range ($x_i=0\div 1$) in the 300-1250 K temperature range.

Based on obtained data, the homogeneity areas of stable solid solutions and the areas of the formation of ternary compounds and the multiphase diagram of the PbTe-Sb₂Te₃-Bi₂Te₃ system in three-dimensional space were determined. Analytical dependences, in the form of 3D model, according to the analytical option

of the Origin Lab program, contain, respectively, $100 \times 100 = 10,000$ and $50 \times 50 = 2500$ tabular data in the form of matrices that can be used for choose the optimal values of the composition, and temperature for the synthesis of PbTe, Bi₂Te₃, Sb₂Te₃ binary compounds and three-component phases in the PbTe-Bi₂Te₃ - Sb₂Te₃ system.

The obtained 3D model of the phase diagram also makes it possible to better understand the crystallization processes in the system via visualization of liquidus and solidus surfaces.

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МУЛЬТИ-3D МОДЕЛИРОВАНИЕ ФАЗОВОЙ ДИАГРАММЫ СИСТЕМЫ PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃

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Аннотация: С помощью аналитической опции компьютерной программы OriginLab определены аналитические зависимости температуры ликвидуса от состава для граничных систем PbTe-Bi₂Te₃, PbTe-Sb₂Te₃, Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ тройной системы PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃. На основании этих зависимостей и данных термического анализа тройной системы построена аналитическая модель поверхностей кристаллизации соединений PbTe, Sb₂Te₃, Bi₂Te₃ и фаз PbBi₂Te₄, PbBi₄Te₇, PbBi₆Te₁₀ в системе PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃. Полученные уравнения позволили визуализировать фазовую диаграмму системы PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ со стороны PbTe-Bi₂Te₃ в трехмерных координатах. Аналитическая модель фазовой диаграммы системы PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ позволяет представить трехмерное изображение равновесных фаз с разных ракурсов, получить двумерные проекции и табулировать координаты фазовой диаграммы.

Ключевые слова: система PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃, трехмерное аналитическое моделирование, фазовая диаграмма, ликвидус, солидус.

PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ SİSTEMİNİN FAZA DİAQRAMININ MULTİ-3D MODELLƏŞMƏSİ

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Xülasə: OriginLab kompüter programının analitik variantından istifadə etməklə PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ üçlü sisteminin PbTe-Bi₂Te₃, PbTe-Sb₂Te₃, Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ sərhəd sistemləri üçün likvidus temperaturunun tərkibdən analitik asılılıqları müəyyən edilmişdir. Bu asılılıqlar və üçlü sistemin termiki analizi məlumatları əsasında PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ sistemində PbTe, Sb₂Te₃, Bi₂Te₃ birləşmələrinin və PbBi₂Te₄, PbBi₄Te₇, PbBi₆Te₁₀ fazalarının kristallaşma səthlərinin analitik modeli işlənmişdir. Alınan tənliklər PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ sisteminin faza diaqramının PbTe-Bi₂Te₃ tərəfdən müxtəlif bucaqlardan üçölçülü təsvirini qurmağa, ikiölçülü proyeksiyalarını əldə etməyə və faza diaqramının koordinatlarını cədvəlləşdirməyə imkan verir.

Açar sözlər: PbTe-Bi₂Te₃-Sb₂Te₃ sistemi, 3D modelləşdirmə, faza diaqramı, likvidus, solidus.