



AIGMF celebrating International Women's Day 2025



Role of Science in Glass Manufacturing

By

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8th March, 2025

CSIR-Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute



(Established in 1950)

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Biomaterials & Medical Devices
Energy Materials & Devices
Fiber Optics and Photonics
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Refractory & Traditional Ceramics
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Multiscale Microstructure and Mechanics of Materials (4M)



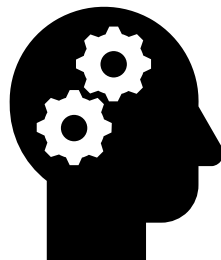
Science

What

Why

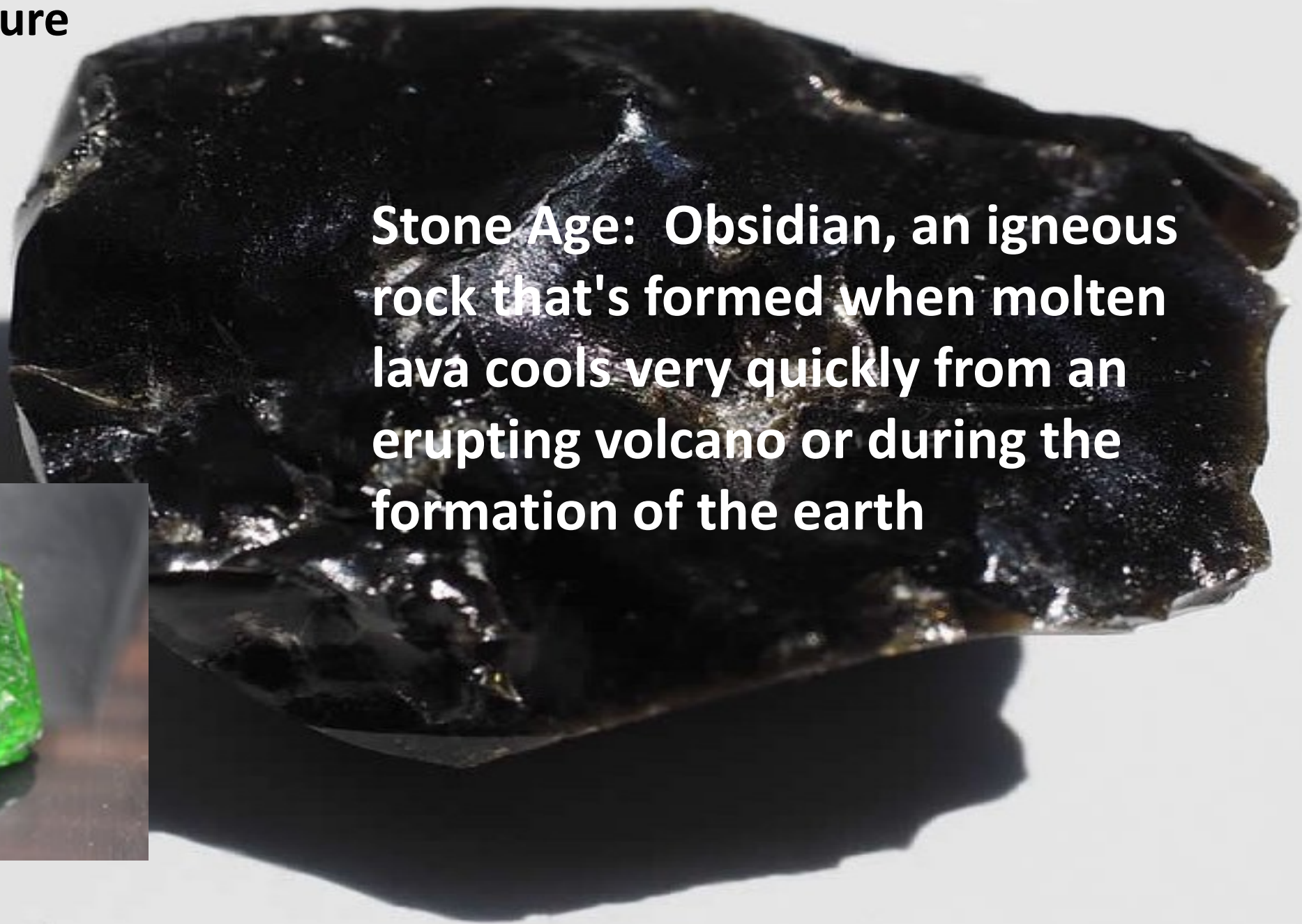
How

The Study of Nature



Glass: A Gift from Nature

Stone Age: Obsidian, an igneous rock that's formed when molten lava cools very quickly from an erupting volcano or during the formation of the earth



Natural glass on Earth: Meteorites and lightning. Glass that is made as a result of the collision of a meteorite with the Earth's surface is called meteoritic glass or tektite. Glass that is made as a result of a cloud-to-ground lightning discharge is called a fulgurite



Meteoritic glass : Libyan
Desert Glass



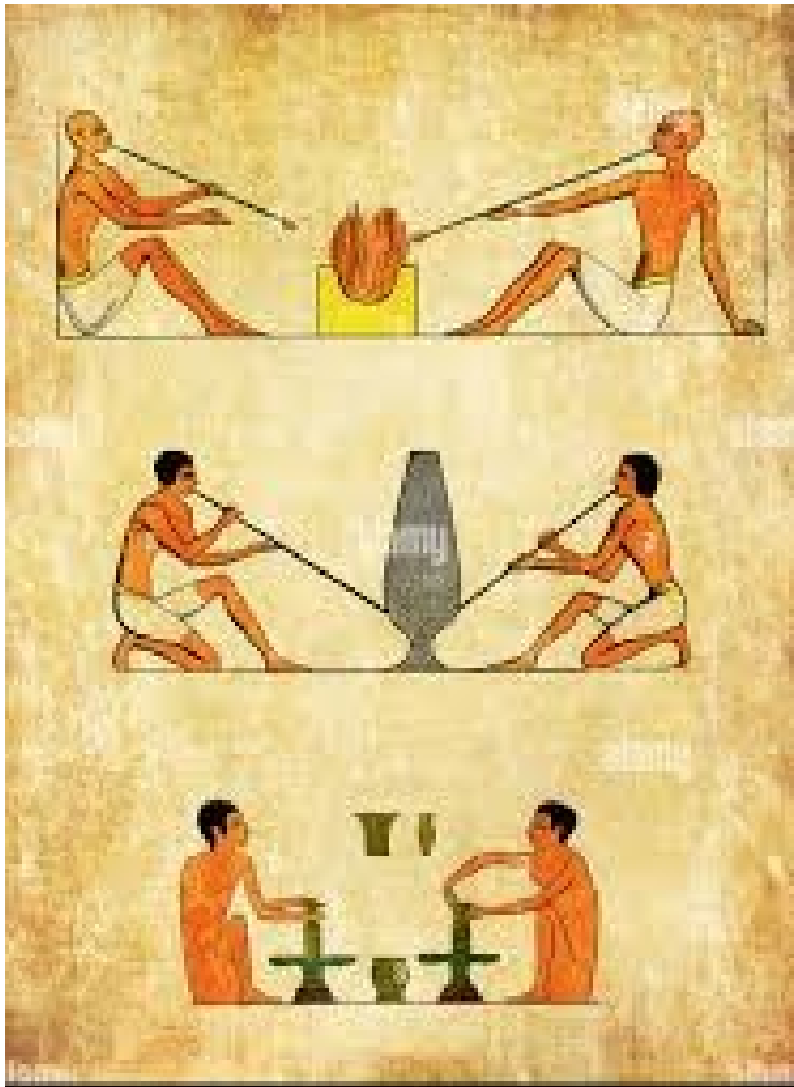
Fulgurite



Sea Glass

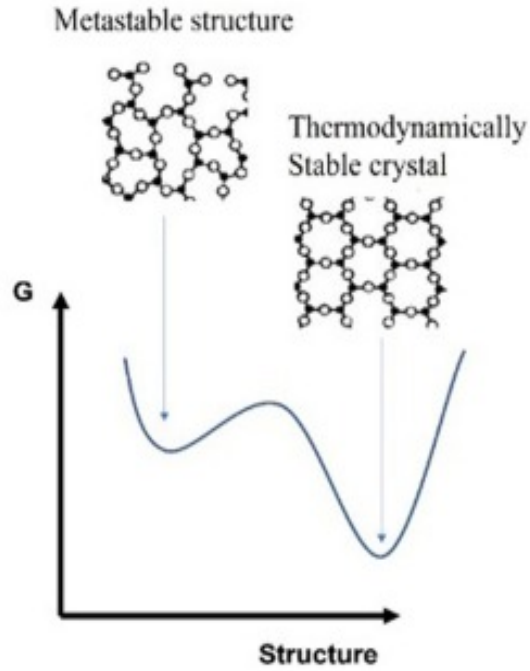
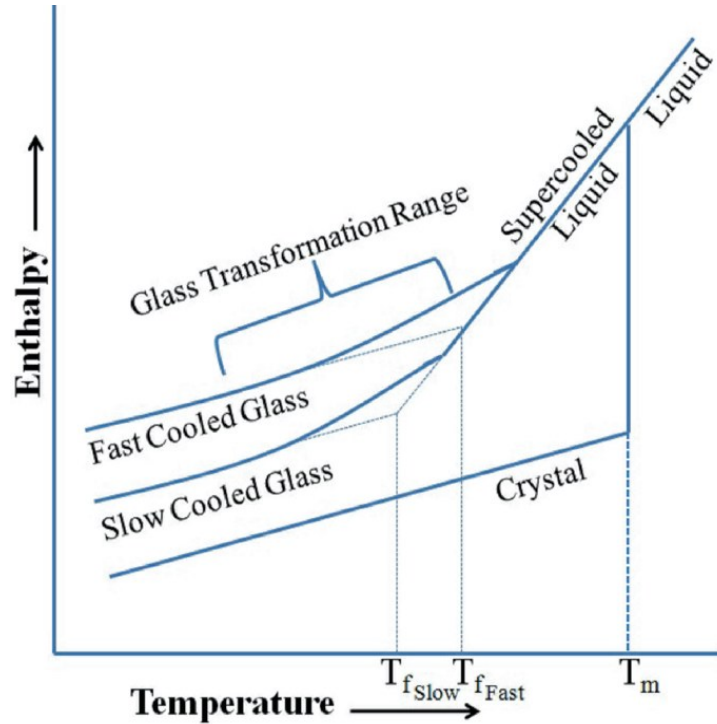


Glass making in the ancient age



How to reproduce Glass: The Science of Glass

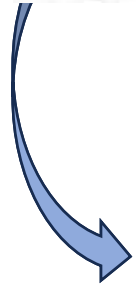
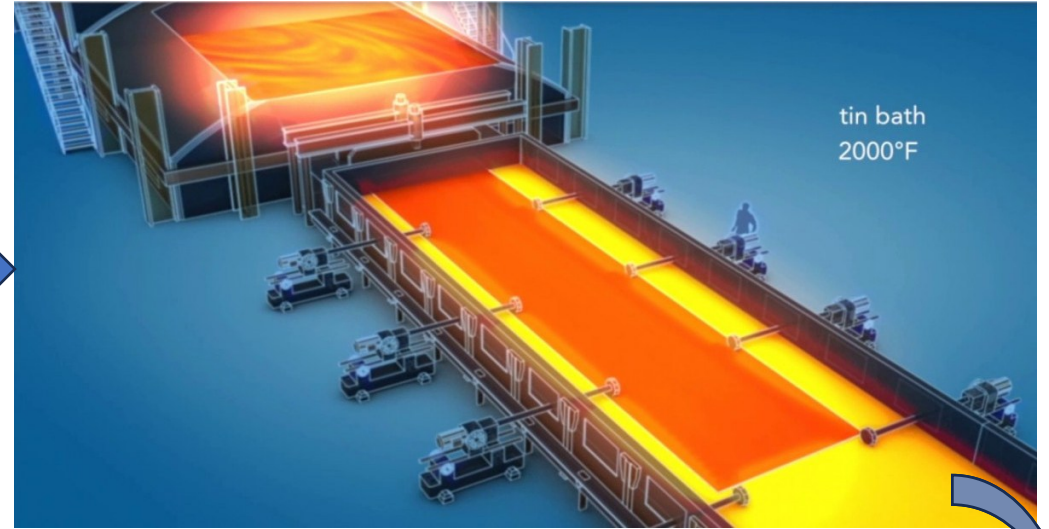
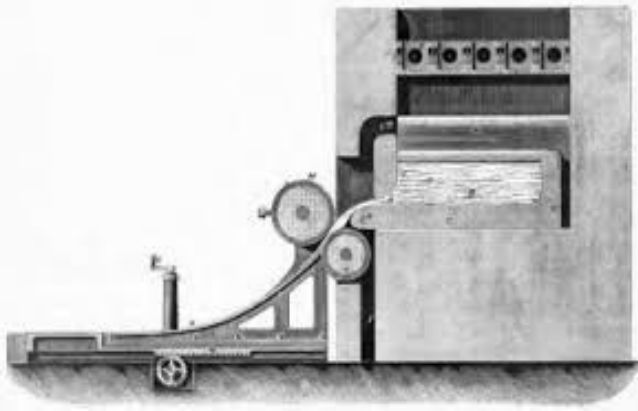
Quenching of high temperature molten sand



- ✓ Zachariasen theory of glass
- ✓ Dietzel model for glass
- ✓ Sun's theory of glass

Window glasses using old technologies

Development of Science → Development of technology



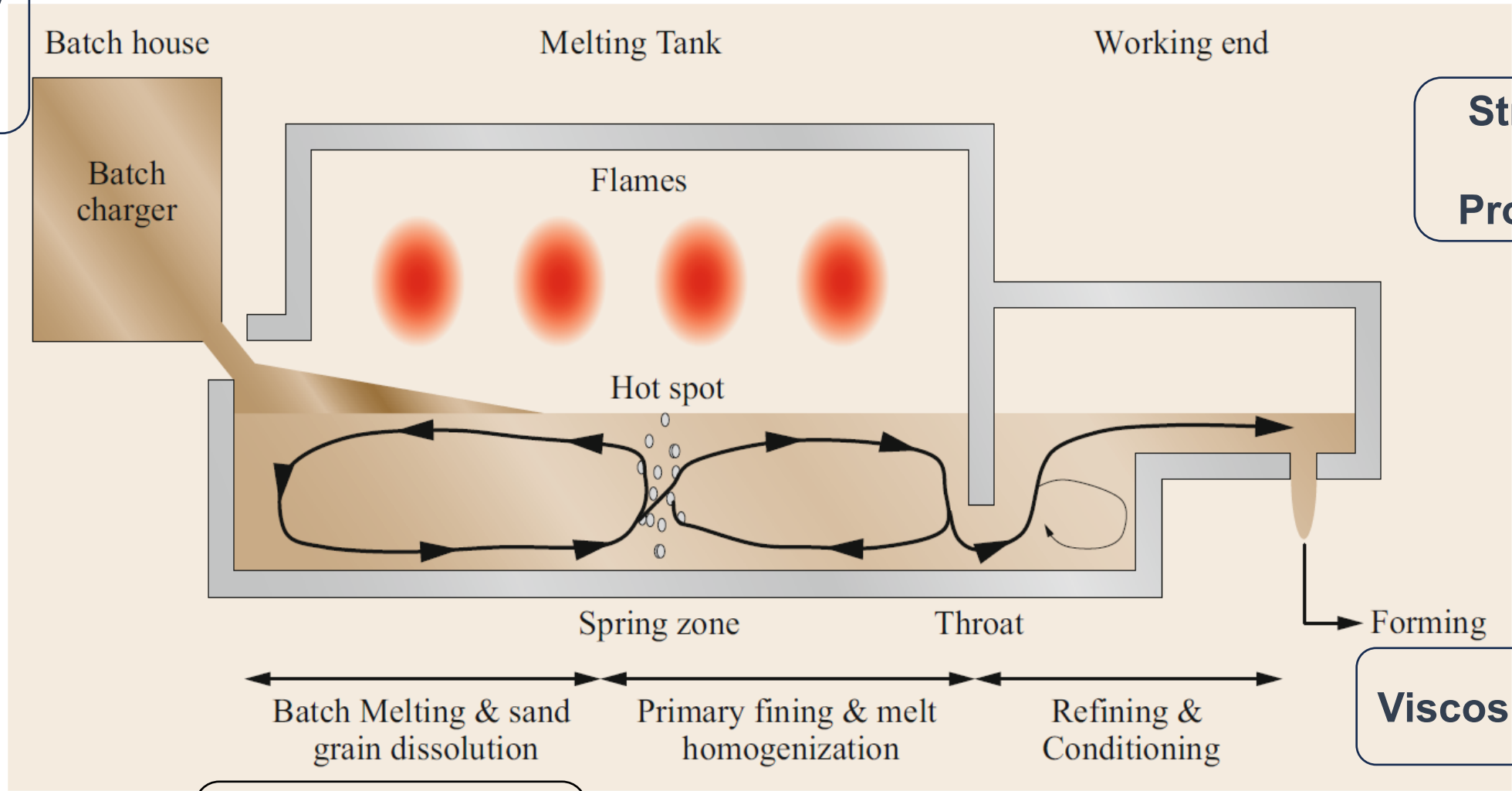
Glasses with non-uniform thickness and homogeneity

Highly uniform thickness and homogeneity, and ultra-transparency



Science behind Glass Manufacturing

Chemistry of raw materials



Structure and Properties

Thermodynamics and Energetics

Flow and fluid dynamics

Viscosity

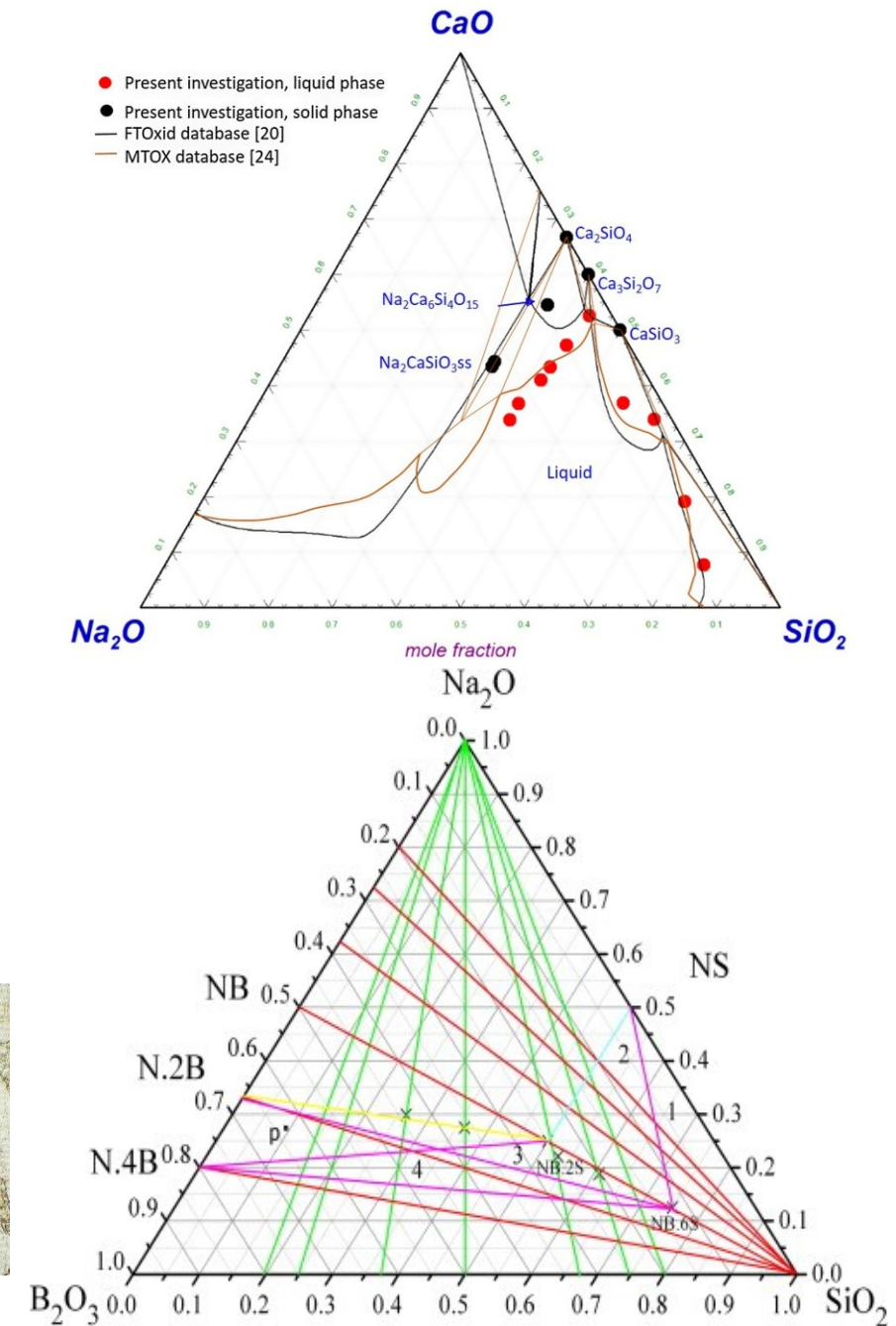
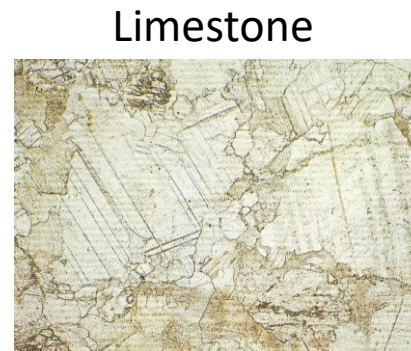
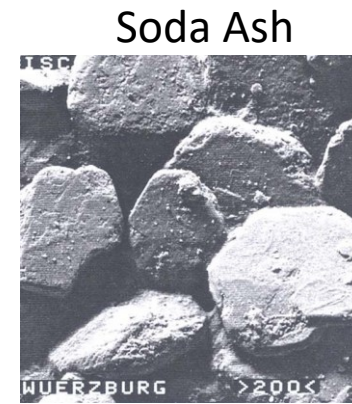
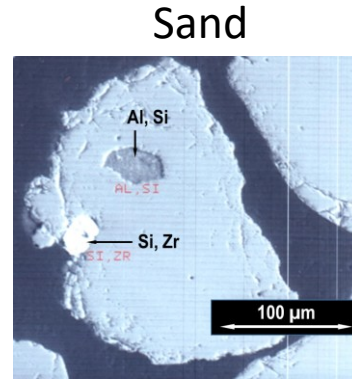
Batch Calculation

1. Chemical composition

- To achieve desired properties

2. Selection of raw materials

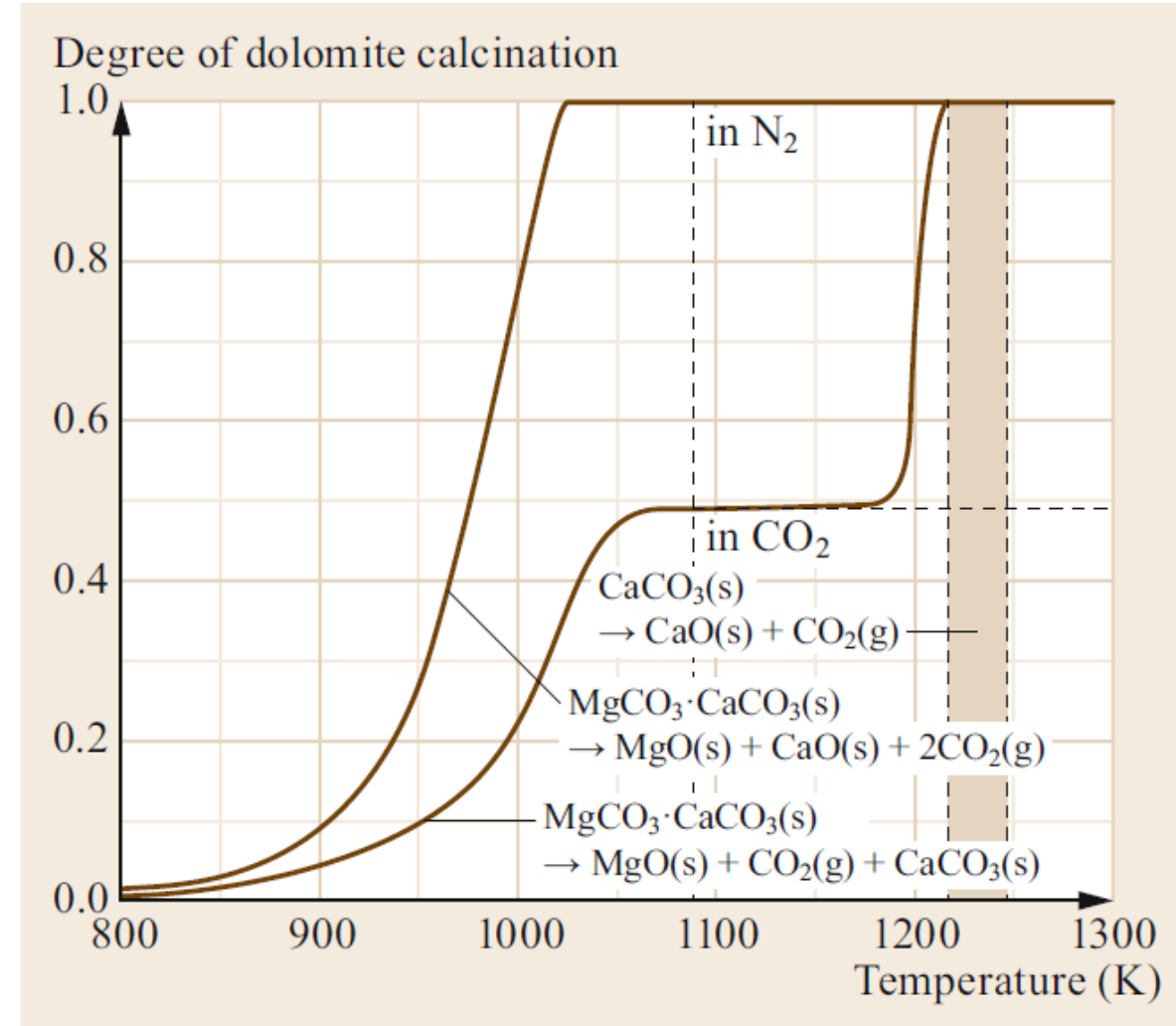
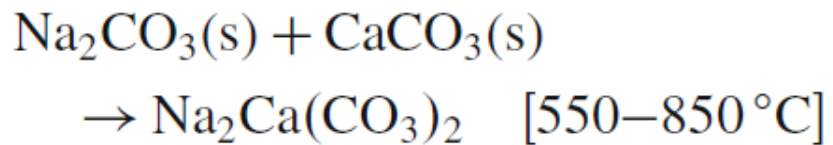
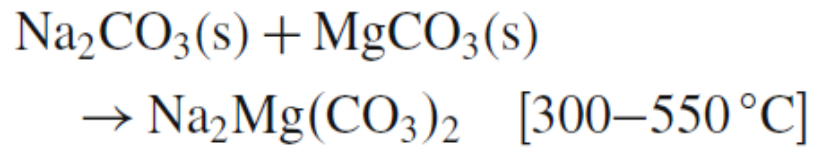
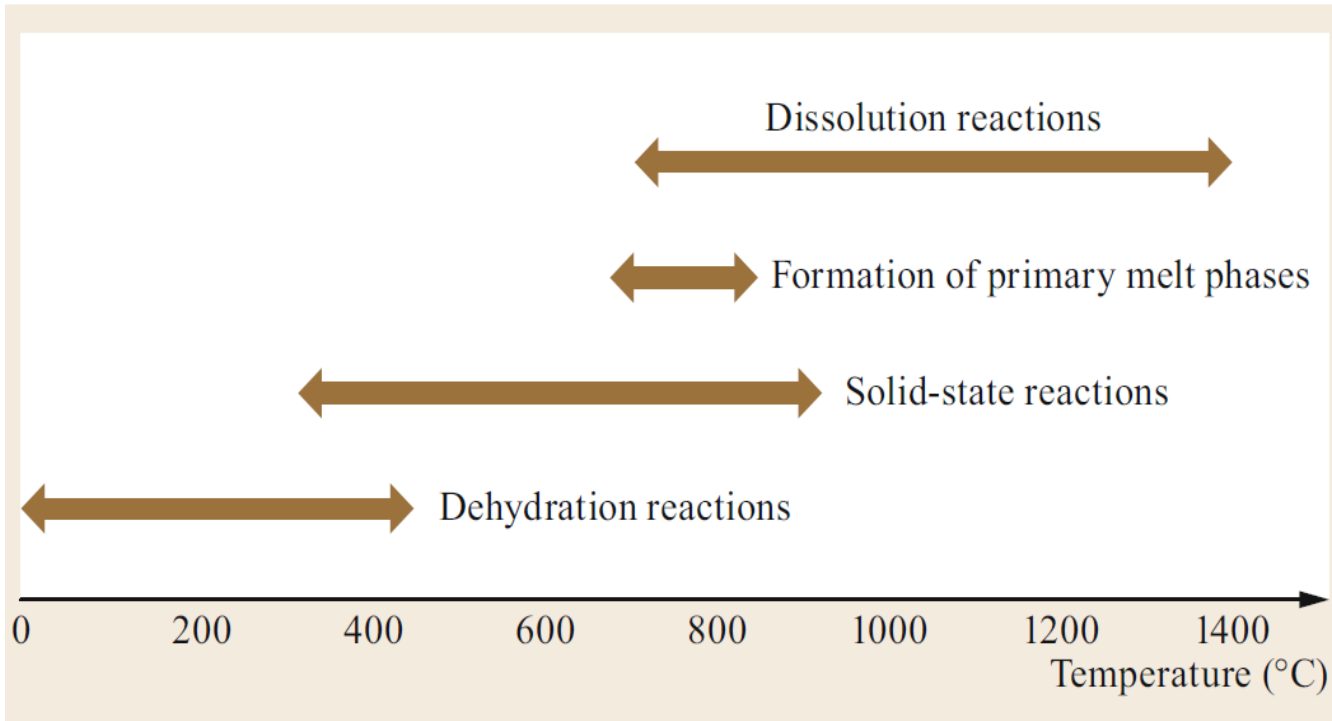
- Combination of a suitable glass former, modifier, and intermediate
- Raw material melting point
- Cationic field strength
- Raw material purity and particle size



3. Selection of Eutectic composition

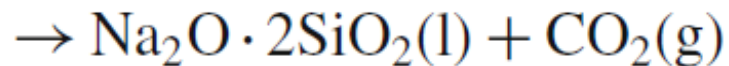
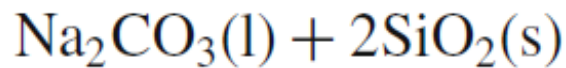
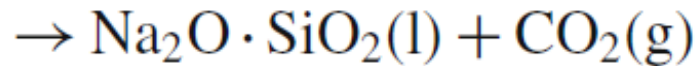
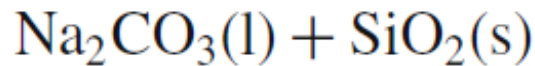
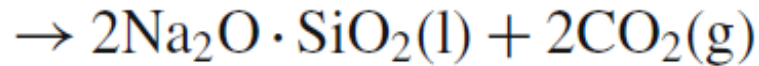
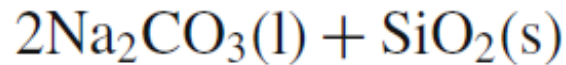
- Best Glass forming ability (Obeying Zachariasen's and field strength rule)
- Minimum melting temperature

Chemical reaction of raw materials at different temperatures

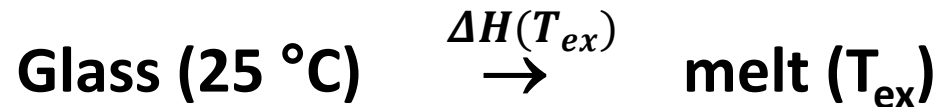
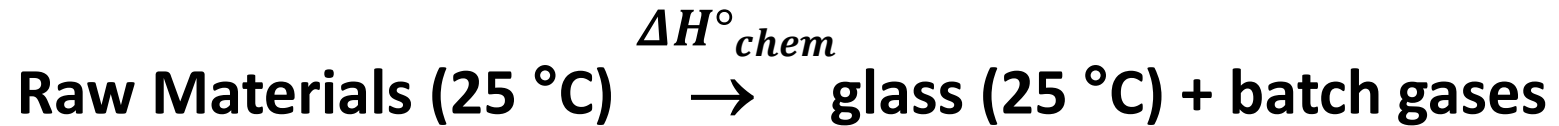


Thermodynamics and Energetics

$$H_{heat} = \sum_{\phi} n_{\phi} \cdot H_{\phi}^{\bullet}$$



raw material i	kg/t	oxide j	kg/t	phase k	kg/t
sand	740.0	SiO ₂	740.0	SiO ₂	286.9
limestone	178.5	CaO	100.0	Na ₂ O·3CaO·6SiO ₂	351.1
soda ash	273.6	Na ₂ O	160.0	Na ₂ O·2SiO ₂	362.0
		gases g			
		CO ₂	192.1		
sum	1192.1		1192.1		1000.00



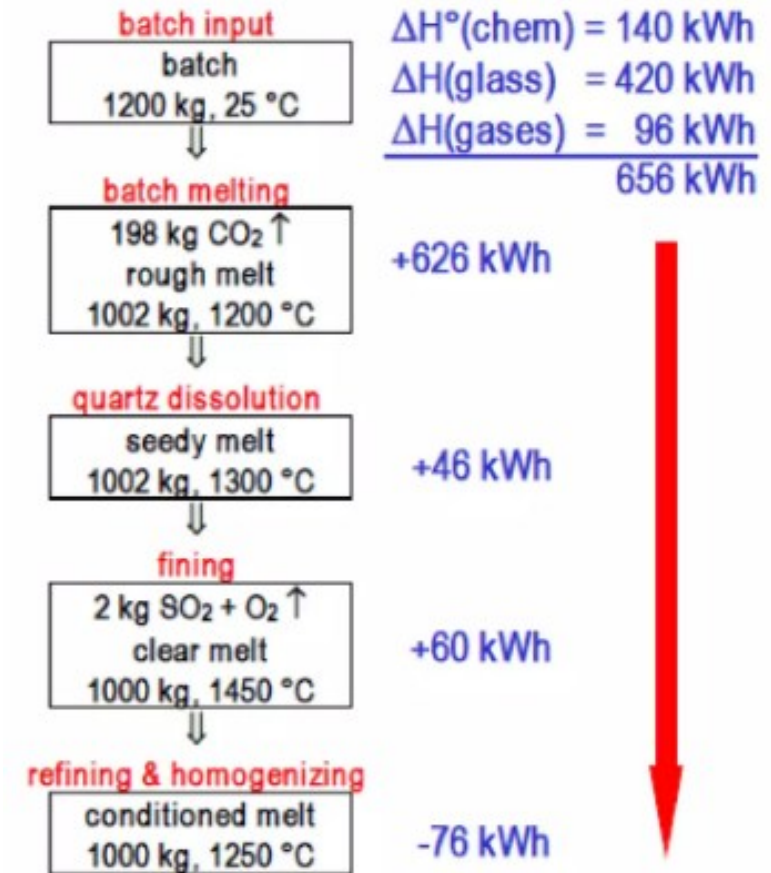
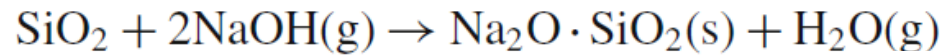
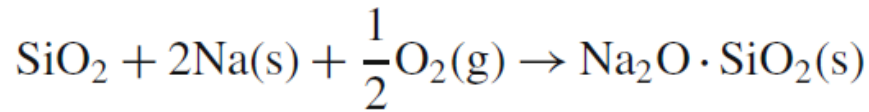
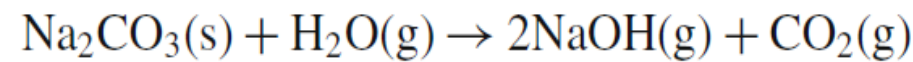
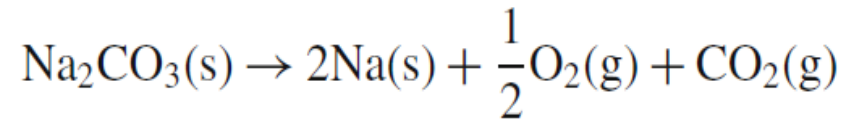
Thermodynamics and Energetics

$$\Delta H_{chem}^{\circ} = H_{glass}^{\circ} + H_{gas}^{\circ} - H_{batch}^{\circ}$$

$$H_{glass}^{\circ} = \sum_k n_k (H_k^{\circ} + H_k^{vit})$$

$$H_{gas}^{\circ} = \sum_b n_b \cdot H_b^{\circ}$$

$$H_{batch}^{\circ} = \sum_b n_b \cdot H_b^{\circ}$$



Flow and Fluid Dynamics

$$(P_{\text{Vapour of Gas}})_{\text{melt}} > (P_{\text{Vapour Pressure of Gas}})_{\text{bubble}}$$



diffusion of gases from the melt into a bubble

ascension rate of the bubbles

Stokes Law

$$v = \frac{cg\rho r^2}{\eta}$$

$$p_{\text{bubble}} = p_0 + \rho gH + \frac{2\sigma}{r}$$

P_0 = furnace pressure

ρ = density of melt (g/cc)

σ = Surface tension of melt near bubble

r = Bubble radius



V = ascension rate

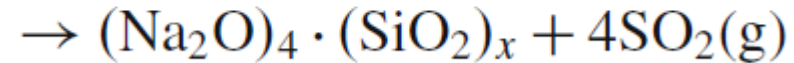
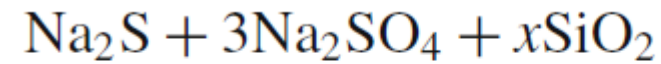
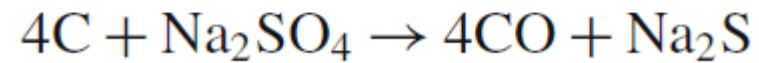
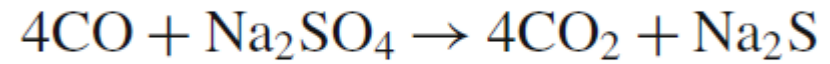
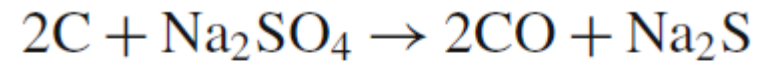
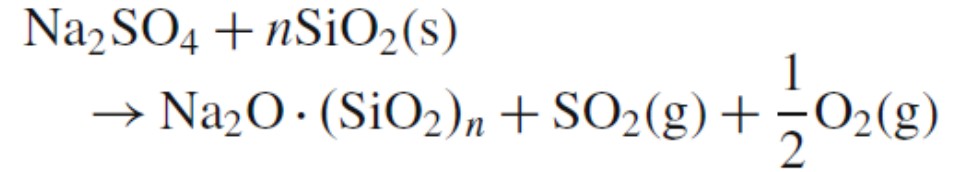
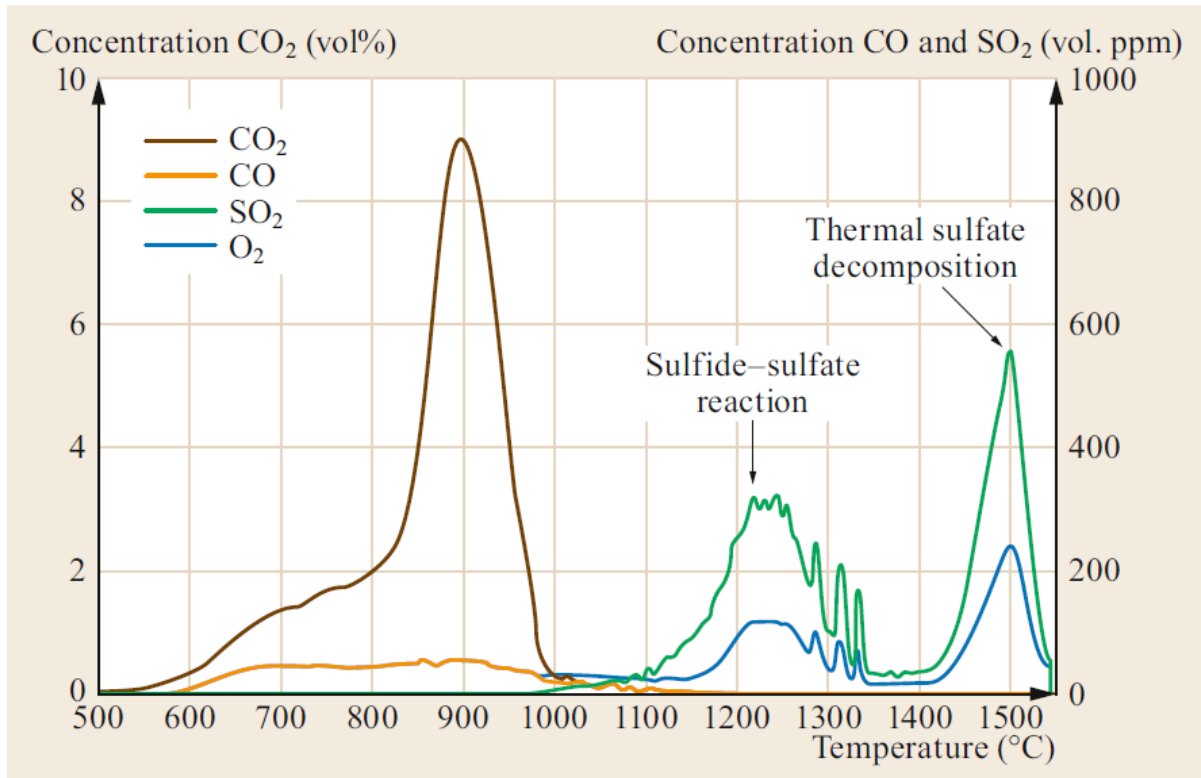
ρ = density of melt (g/cc)

r = Bubble radius

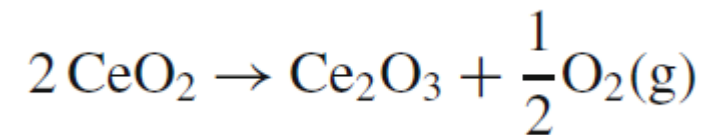
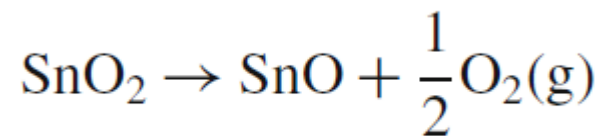
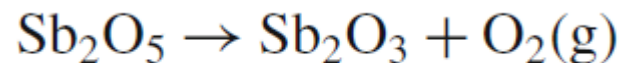
η = Viscosity

C = constant

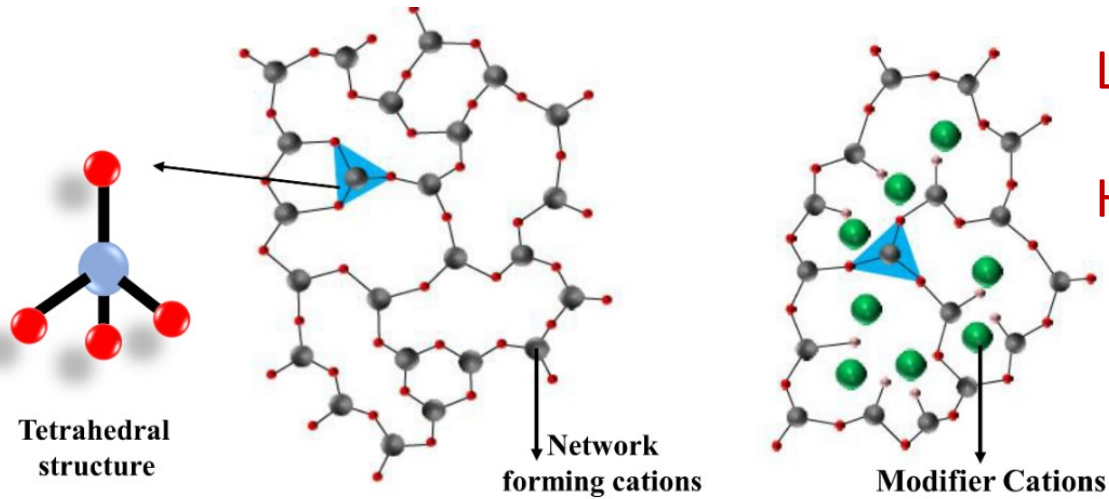
Gas evolution from soda-lime-silicate glass using fining agent



Oxygen fining



Glass Structure and Chemical Homogeneity

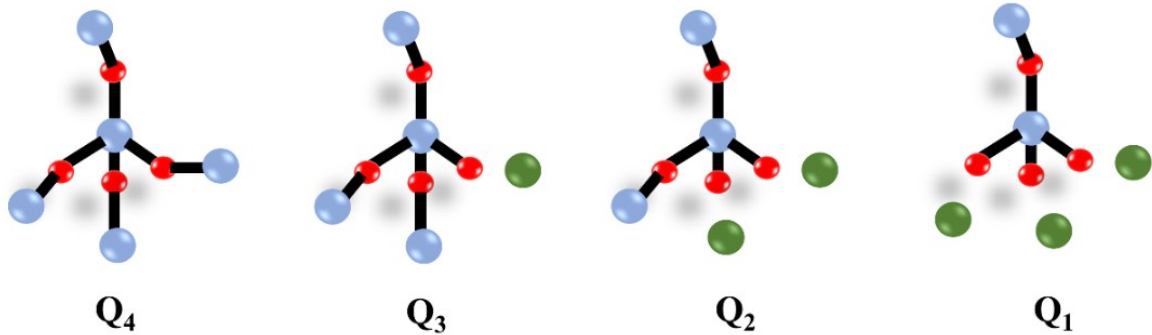


Low Field Strength Cations- High Chemical Homogeneity

High Field Strength Cations- Less Chemical Homogeneity

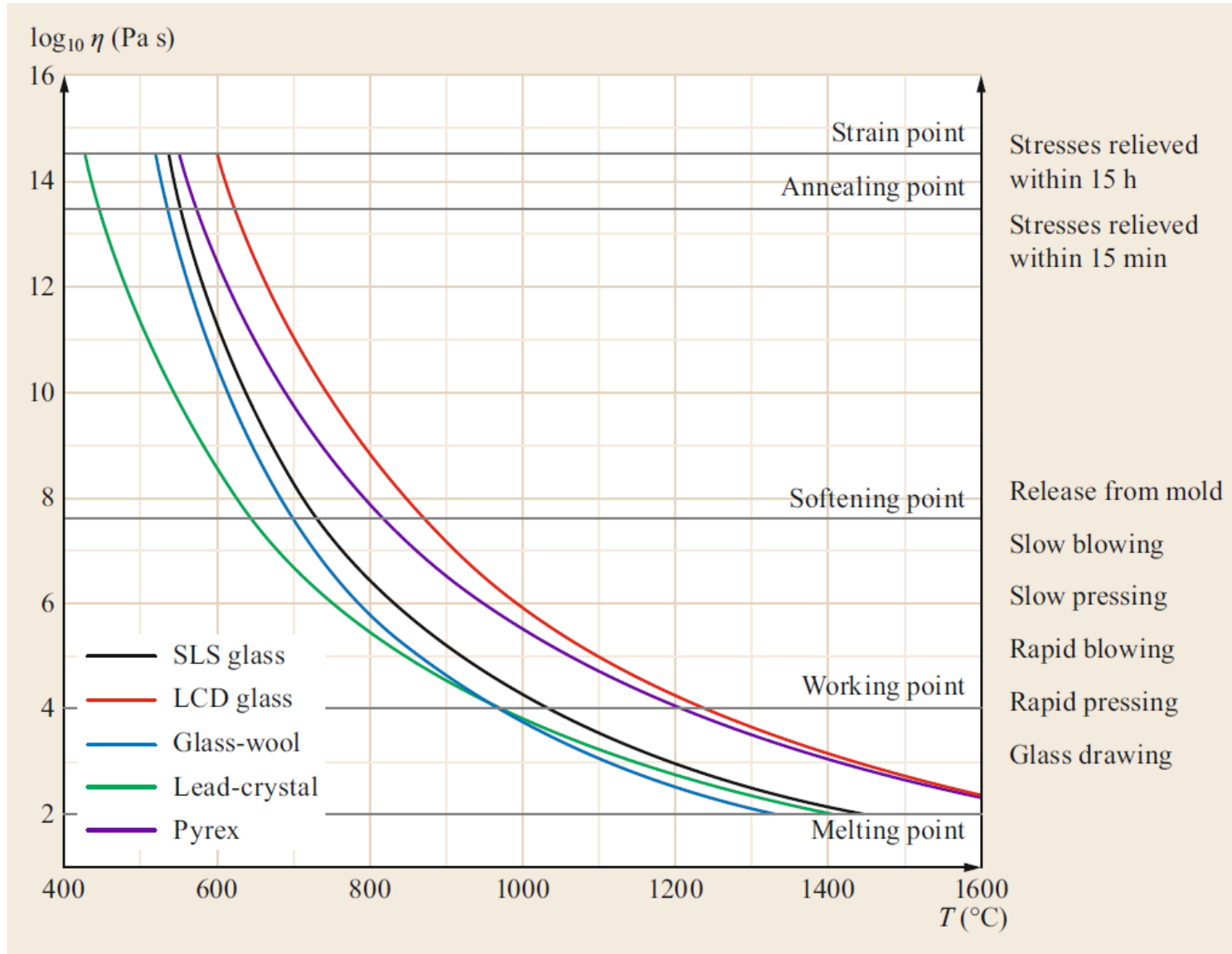


Homogeneous distribution of Q_3



Formation of separate Q_2 and Q_4 rich regions

Viscosity of the melt



$$\log \eta(T) = \log \eta_{\infty} + (12 - \log \eta_{\infty}) \frac{T_g}{T} \times \exp \left[\left(\frac{m}{12 - \log \eta_{\infty}} - 1 \right) \left(\frac{T_g}{T} - 1 \right) \right],$$



Viscosity of the melt

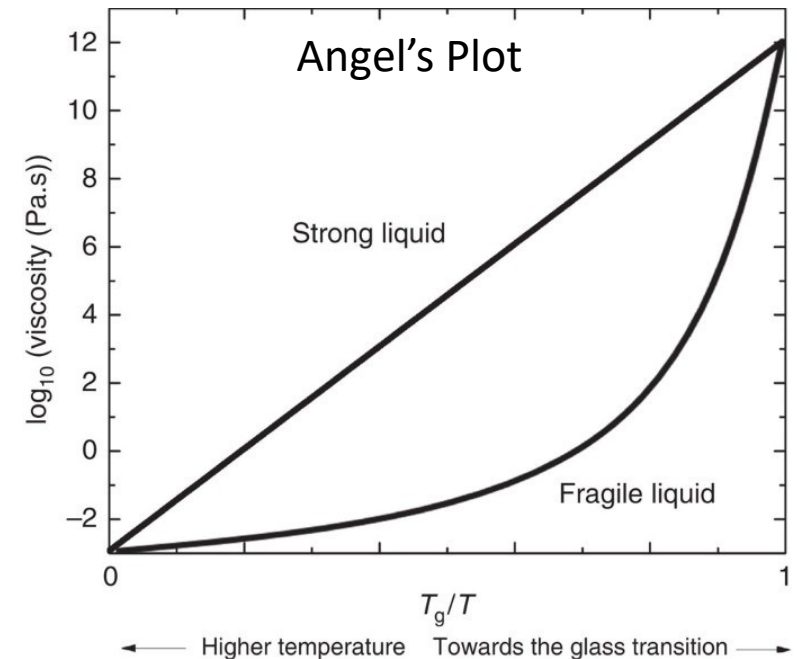
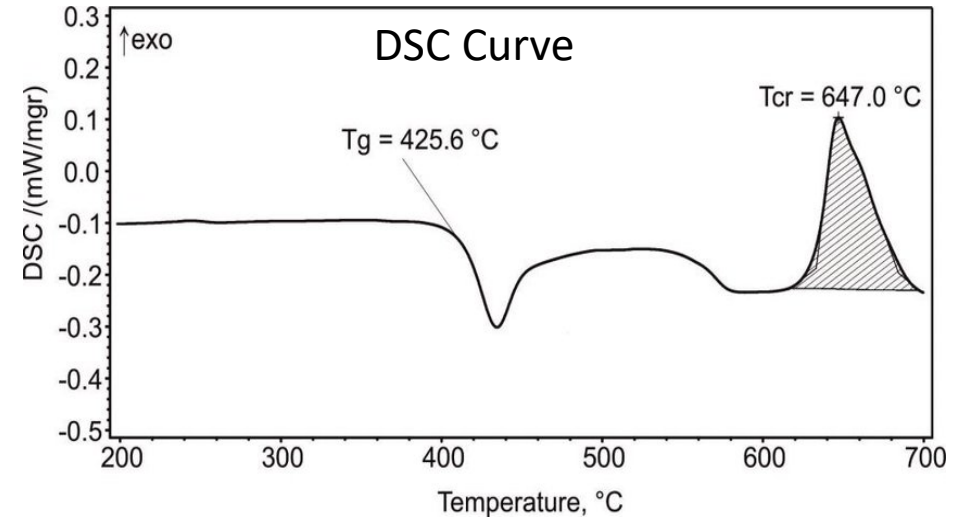
- **Melt Flow:** Viscosity determines the glass forming and shaping into desired forms such as bottles, windows, fiber optics, etc.
- **Bubble removal:** During the melting process, proper viscosity facilitates the removal of trapped air bubbles, leading to a clear and defect-free glass.
- **Stress relief:** To relieve internal stresses, Annealing relies on controlled viscosity for gradual structural relaxation in the glass.
- **Composition dependence:** The chemical composition of a glass significantly impacts its viscosity, allowing manufacturers to tailor the glass for specific applications by adjusting the ingredients.
- **Crystallization Temperature:** Higher viscosity can delay the onset of crystallization, while lower viscosity can promote it



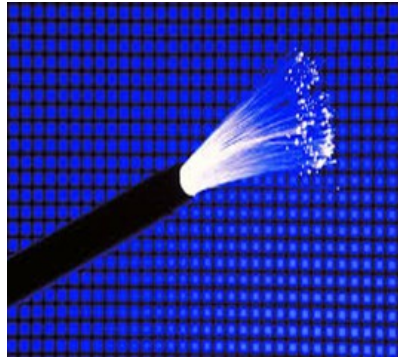
Impact of Viscosity to Control Glass-Ceramics

Crystallization Control: Viscosity determines the rate of crystallization and the size and distribution of crystals in glass ceramics.

- Lower viscosity allows for easier atomic movement, facilitating controlled nucleation and growth of crystals and vice versa. This results in a more uniform and desirable microstructure.
- Higher viscosity restricts the atomic movement and retains the amorphous phase.



Development of Glass Science: Advancement of Technology for emerging applications





References

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