International Union of Crystallography

Acta Cryst. (1983), A39, 948-949

Prices of Acta Crystallographica and Journal of Applied Crystallography

The Executive Committee of the International Union of Crystallography is pleased that it has only been necessary to make a slight increase to the regular-price subscription rates and the prices of back numbers for *Acta Crystallographica* and *Journal of Applied Crystallography* as from 1 January 1984. The subscription rates for personal copies are unchanged.

Acta Crystallographica

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Acta Crystallographica

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Book Reviews

Works intended for notice in this column should be sent direct to the Book-Review Editor (J. H. Robertson, School of Chemistry, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT, England). As far as practicable books will be reviewed in a country different from that of publication.

Acta Cryst. (1983), A39, 949-950

Interfacial aspects of phase transformations. Edited by B. MUTAFTSCHIEV. Pp. x + 708. Dordrecht: Reidel, 1982. Price Dfl 185.00, US \$79.00

This book is a collection of lectures presented at the NATO Advanced Study Institute on 'Interfacial Aspects of Phase Transformations', held in Erice (Sicily) in 1981. The Institute was the seventh course of the International School of Crystallography, established in the Center of Scientific Culture 'Ettore Majorana' in 1974.

This book consists of twenty-seven papers covering six basic areas: structure of interfaces, physisorption and chemisorption, nucleation, surface thermodynamics and kinetics, crystal growth and crystallization, and new observation techniques applied to crystallography. The reader will find in the first three chapters (Bauer, Gaspard, Mutaftschiev) descriptions of clean crystal surfaces, their structure, energy and thermodynamics, followed by a similar treatment of two-dimensional phases on foreign substrates (Gaspard, Domany). The consideration of the structure and behaviour of more complicated interfaces is contained in three further chapters (Bonissent, Franks, Gleiter). The next part is devoted to problems of interfacial kinetics. It begins with a general overview of elementary processes (Cole-Toigo) and

covers their principal applications in phase transformations: homogeneous nucleation (Katz), substrate nucleation and coalescence of small particles (Kern), and crystal growth (Rosenberger). In the next twelve chapters, the cases treated are: physisorption (Webb-Bruch), chemisorption (Bauer, Oudar), and crystal growth in the several practically important systems, vapor (Cadoret), melt (Sekerka), aqueous solutions (Simon), biological systems (Franks), non-aqueous solutions (Boistelle), electrocrystallization (Budevski) and recrystallization (Gleiter), together with two special topics, the action of impurities (Boistelle) and dissolution (Simon). Some experimental methods for studying morphology are presented in the last two chapters (Bedarida, Bethe).

As we know, a lot of physical phenomena such as dissolution, vaporization, crystal growth and crystallization as well as other traditional phase transformations occur at interfaces. These phenomena are governed by the structure, energy, thermodynamics and kinetics of the phase interface as well as by the heat and mass-transfer conditions which occur at and near the phase interface. This book emphasizes the common fundamentals in closely related areas to promote the interpenetration of the various disciplines. Hence, this book is an excellent research monograph of surface science and crystal growth.

Most of the articles are well written with a lucid style.