

Spinodal decomposition: coarsening of morphological patterns

[ps15]

Computation: nonlinear Cahn-Hilliard kinetics

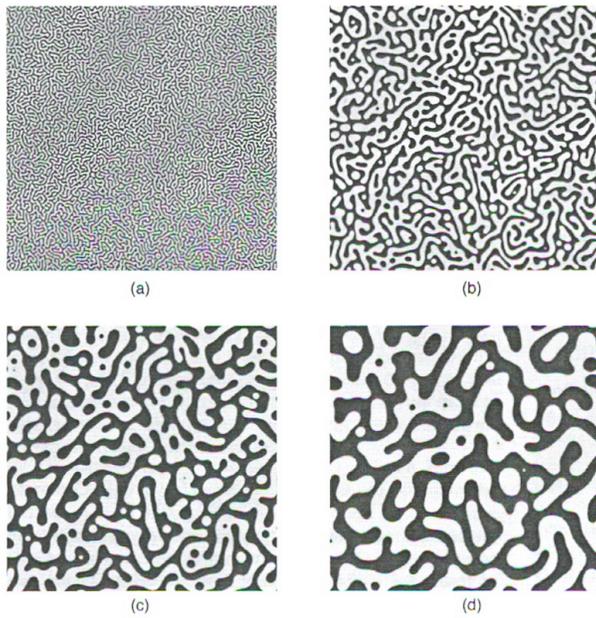


FIG. 1. Morphological patterns during spinodal decomposition and subsequent coarsening for bulk-diffusion-controlled dynamics: (a) $t = 100$, (b) $t = 2000$, (c) $t = 10\,000$, (d) $t = 30\,000$.

[from J. Zhu et al. Phys. Rev. E **60**, 3564 (1999)]

Experiment: Light scattering on polymer mixture

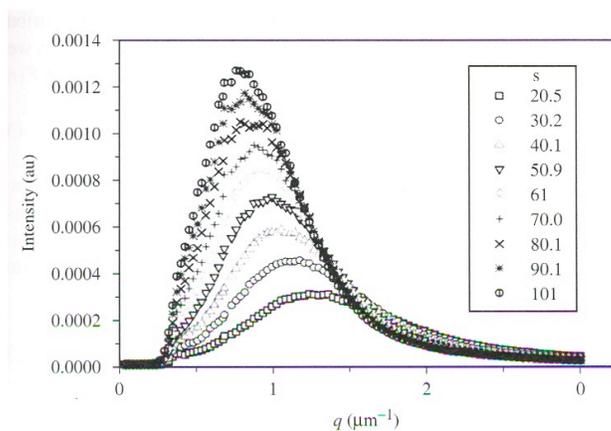


Fig. 3.10 Light-scattering curves from a polymer mixture quenched into the unstable region of the phase diagram, showing the maximum in intensity at q_{\max} characteristic of spinodal decomposition. q_{\max} moves to smaller values at longer annealing times, owing to non-linear coarsening effects. Graph courtesy of B. Jung.

[from Jones 2002]