

## 0200425 Quiz 4 Nanopowders

- 1) For a droplet at equilibrium with its vapor,  
**-what is** the pressure difference between the droplet and its vapor if the liquid has a surface tension,  $\sigma$  and the droplet is of size  $d_p$ ?

If a droplet of size  $r$  is in equilibrium with a supersaturated vapor with saturation ratio  $S$ ,  
**-how does** the droplet size,  $r$ , change with the addition of  $n$  solute molecules with molecular volume  $v$ ?

- 2) Consider a bimodal distribution of silica particles, at atmospheric pressure and room temperature. One mode is centered at  $0.01 \mu\text{m}$  and the other at  $10 \mu\text{m}$ .

**-Which** of the modes falls in the free molecular regime and which corresponds to the continuum range for particle transport? Why?

**-What is the Knudsen number range** for these two cases (relative to 1)?

**-Give an expression for Kn** in terms of the number of gas molecules,  $n$ , the gas molecular diameter,  $\lambda$ , and the particle size,  $d_p$ .

**-If the pressure drops** to 0.01 Torr, such as by subjecting the system to a roughing pump, will the situation change? Why?

**-If the temperature** is raised to  $1700^\circ\text{C}$ , such as in pyrolytic synthesis, will the situation change? Why?

**-What parameter and what equation** do you need to describe the flux of these particles if they are subjected to a concentration gradient?

### Answers: 0200425 Quiz 4 Nanopowders

1)  $D_p = 4 \lambda / d_p$

$$\ln(S) = \frac{4 \lambda v}{d_p RT} - \frac{6nv}{d_p^3}$$

- 2) The small mode falls in the free molecular range since  $\lambda_g$  is about  $0.1 \mu\text{m}$ . The large mode is in the continuum range. Kn for the small particle is  $>1$  and Kn for the large particles is  $<1$ .

$$Kn = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{n \lambda_g d_p}, \text{ and } n = PV/kT \text{ for an ideal gas.}$$

For  $P \Rightarrow 0.01$  Torr,  $n$  is reduced by a factor of  $0.01/760 = 1.3 \times 10^{-5}$ .  $\lambda_g$  goes to about  $7.8$  mm, so both particles are in the free molecular range.

For  $T \Rightarrow 1700^\circ\text{C}$   $n$  is reduced by a factor of  $273/1973 = 0.14$  so  $\lambda_g$  goes to  $0.7 \mu\text{m}$  and the large particles are still in the continuum range since Kn is less than 1 for the large particles.

The particles are subject to Brownian diffusion and the diffusion coefficient is needed to describe the flux,  $D$ . For the flux due to a concentration gradient,  $dn/dx$ , Fick's first law is needed,

$$J_x = -D \frac{dn}{dx}$$