

# How are models constructed?

## Modeling tool

(MELTS, PhasePlot, SUPCRT, EQ3/EQ6, THERMOCALC, PERPLE\_X)



Internally consistent Thermochemical data/model collections

Solution theory (minerals, melts, gases)



custom software infrastructure



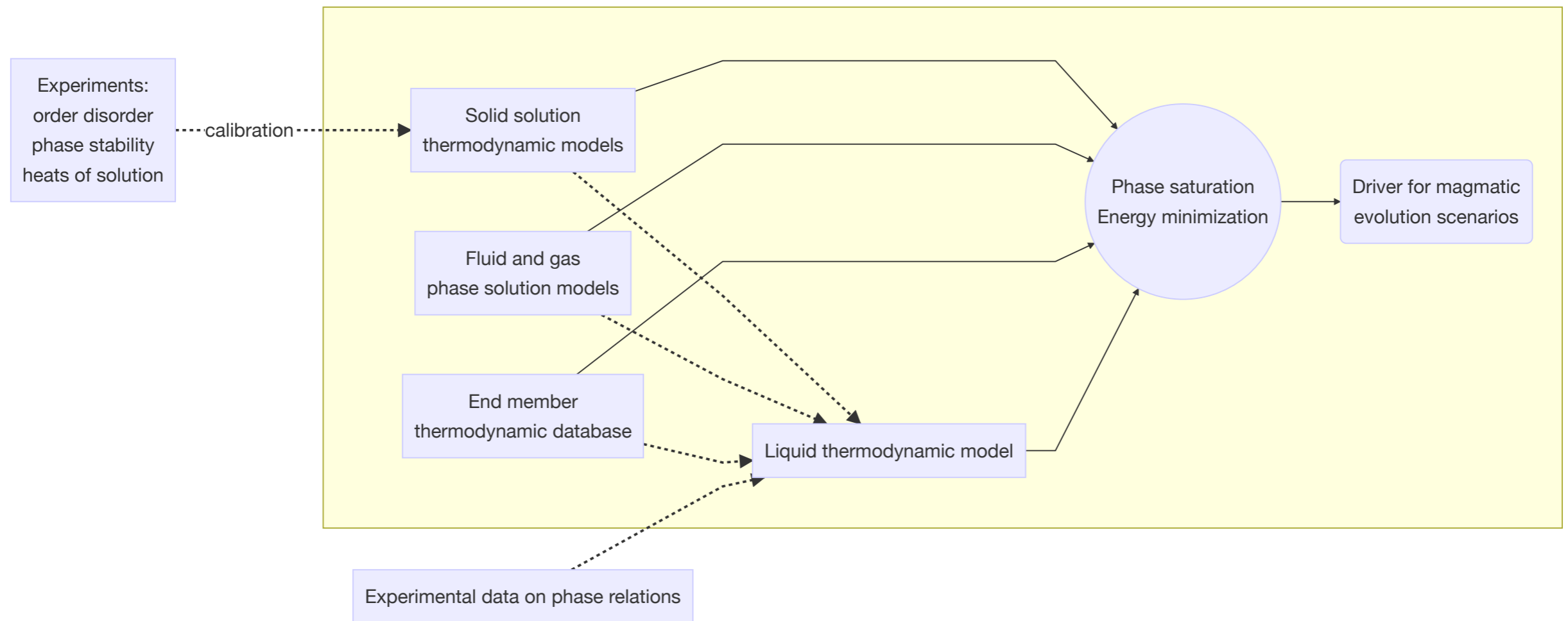
Calorimetric data  
V(T, P) data

Phase equilibrium experimental data

**LEPR** Library of Experimental Phase Relations

Mineral volumetric properties, structural properties, phase equilibria

# MELTS, pMELTS, rhyolite-MELTS, alphaMELTS, MELTS for Excel, etc.



# Phases and components included:

## Solid solutions

- olivine Mg-Fe<sup>2+</sup>-Co-Ni-Ca-Mn
- garnet Mg-Fe<sup>2+</sup>-Ca
- melilite Mg-Al-Fe<sup>2+</sup>-Na
- opx Ca-Mg-Fe<sup>2+</sup>-Al-Fe<sup>3+</sup>-Na
- cpx (pig) Ca-Mg-Fe<sup>2+</sup>-Al-Fe<sup>3+</sup>-Na
- cummingtonite Mg-Fe<sup>2+</sup>
- amphibole Ca-Mg-Fe<sup>2+</sup>
- hornblende (pargasite-hastingsite)
- biotite Mg-Fe<sup>2+</sup>
- feldspar Na-Ca-K
- nepheline Na-Ca-K-[]
- kalsilite Na-Ca-K-[]
- leucite Na-K-H<sub>2</sub>O
- spinel Mg-Fe<sup>2+</sup>-Cr<sup>3+</sup>-Al-Fe<sup>3+</sup>-Ti
- rhm oxide Mg-Fe<sup>2+</sup>-Cr<sup>3+</sup>-Al-Fe<sup>3+</sup>-Ti
- ortho oxide Mg-Fe<sup>2+</sup>-Fe<sup>3+</sup>
- Fe-Ni alloy (solid and liquid)

## Stoichiometric phases

- titanite
- aegirine
- aenigmatite
- muscovite
- quartz
- tridymite
- cristobalite
- corundum
- sillimanite
- rutile
- perovskite
- whitlockite
- apatite
- water
- periclase

**Liquid:** SiO<sub>2</sub>-TiO<sub>2</sub>-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-FeO-MnO-MgO-NiO-CoO-CaO-Na<sub>2</sub>O-K<sub>2</sub>O-P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-H<sub>2</sub>O-(CO<sub>2</sub>)

# Mass transfer calculations

## Gibbs free energy

minimization of  $G(T, P)$  yields  $m, X, V, \text{ etc.}$

## Helmholtz free energy ( $A = G - PV$ )

minimization of  $A(T, V)$  yields  $m, X, P, \text{ etc.}$

## Enthalpy ( $H = G - TS$ )

minimization of  $H(S, P)$  yields  $m, X, T, \text{ etc.}$

## Internal energy ( $E = G - PV + TS$ )

minimization of  $E(S, V)$  yields  $m, X, T, P, \text{ etc.}$

## Entropy ( $S = G/T - H/T$ )

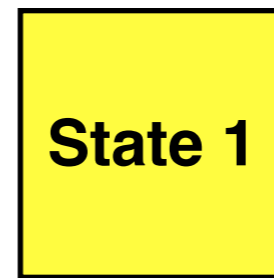
maximizing of  $S(H, P)$  yields  $m, X, T, \text{ etc.}$

All of the above as open systems

## Korzhinskii potential ( $L = G - n_{O_2} \mu_{O_2}$ )

polythermal  
isobaric

polythermal  
isochoric

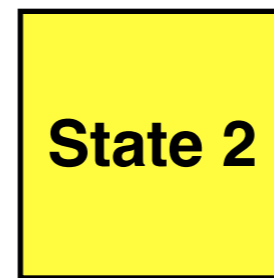


$$G(T_1, P)$$

$$A(T_1, V)$$

$$m_1, X_1, V_1$$

$$m_1, X_1, P_1$$



$$G(T_2, P)$$

$$A(T_2, V)$$

$$m_2, X_2, V_2$$

$$m_2, X_2, P_2$$



$$G(T_3, P)$$

$$A(T_3, V)$$

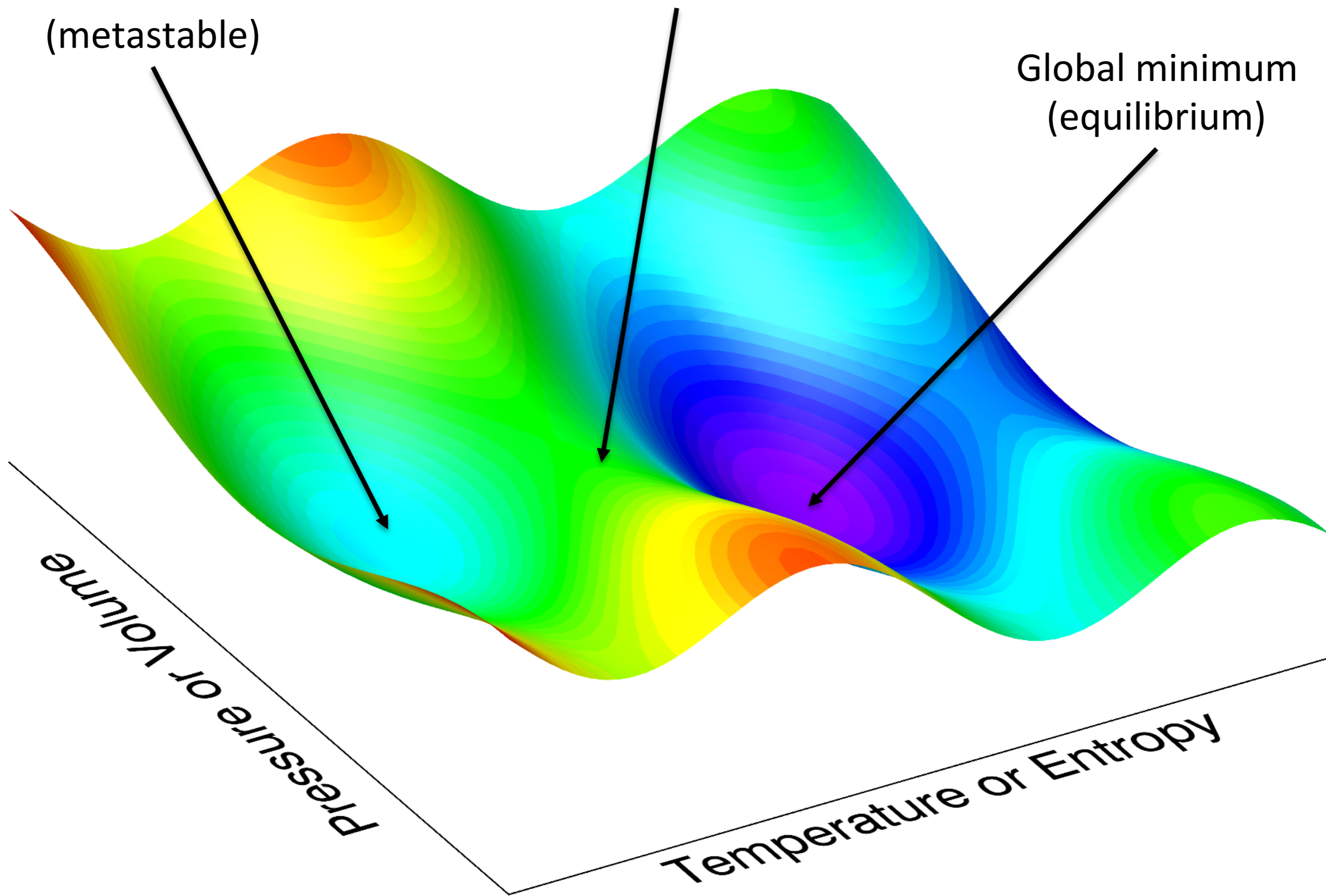
$$m_3, X_3, V_3$$

$$m_3, X_3, P_3$$

Saddle point  
(metastable)

Local minimum  
(metastable)

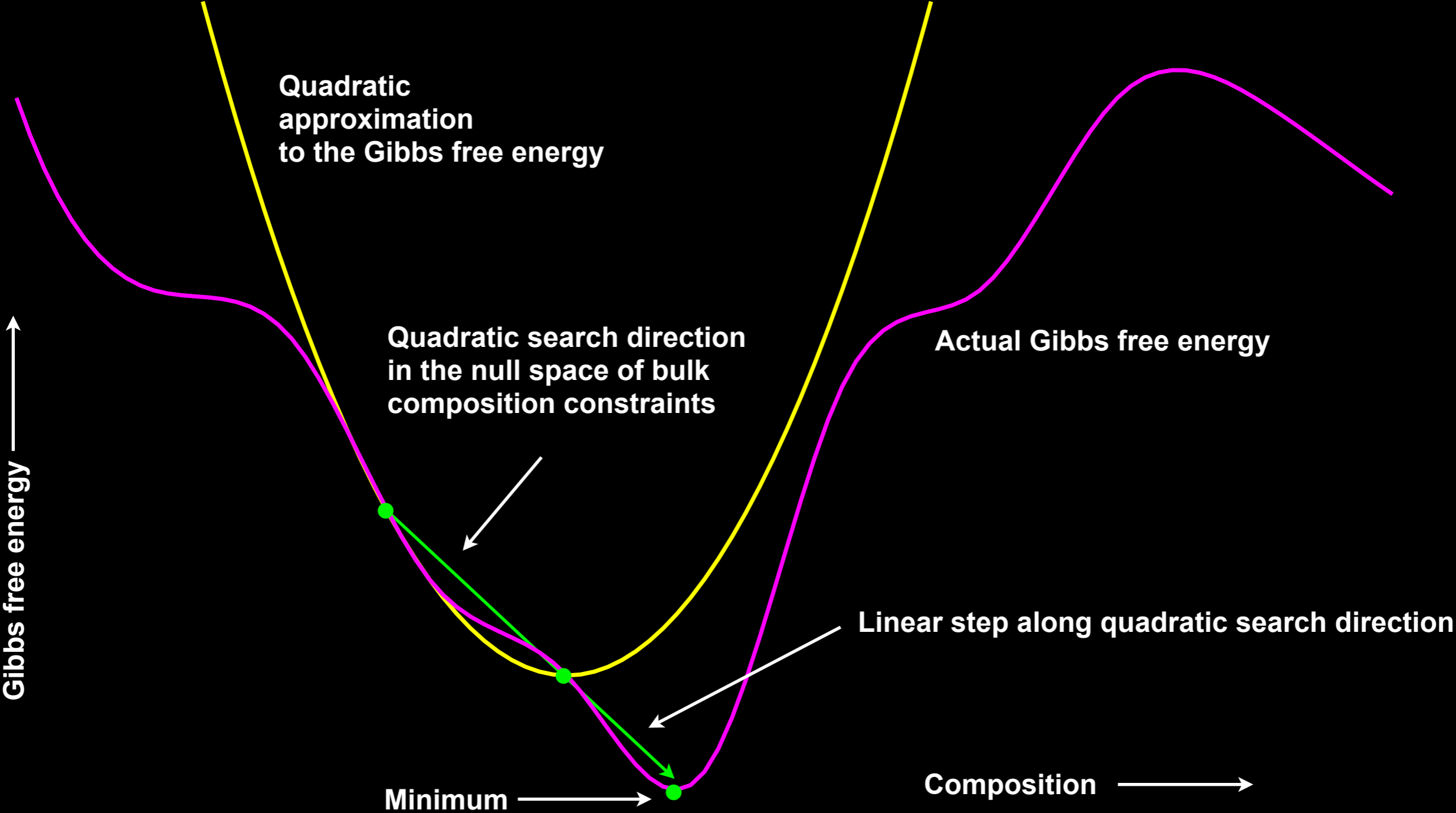
Global minimum  
(equilibrium)



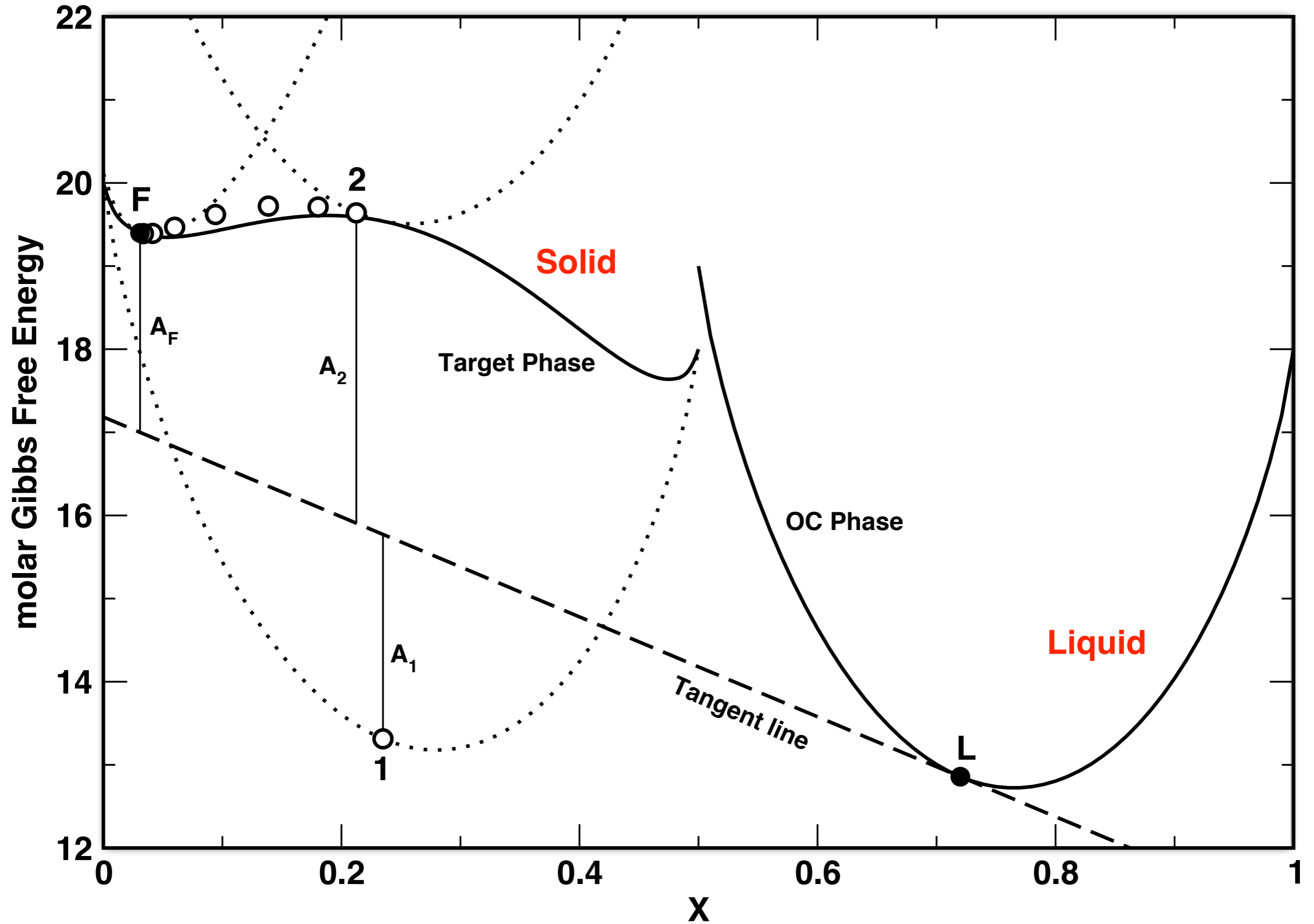
# Computational method for solving for the abundances and compositions

Gibbs free energy minimization for T, P grids using a fully second order Newton method

Helmholtz free energy for T, V grids; Enthalpy for S, P grids; Internal Energy for S, V grids



# Most time consuming calculation: phase saturation algorithm



# MELTS Failures and solutions

- **Calc-alkaline magmas**
  - Inability to accurately model hornblende-liquid and biotite-liquid phase equilibria. Due to a dearth of applicable experimental data. Not necessarily a problem with formulation of liquid solution theory.
- **Phase equilibria above  $\sim 4$  GPa and  $< 30$  GPa**
  - A decade ago, the problem was a dearth of experimental data. That is no longer the case. Now the difficulties are an EOS for the liquid state (solved), a more sophisticated solution model for the liquid (solved) and solution theory for high-pressure phases.
- **Phase equilibria at pressures  $> \sim 30$  GPa**
  - Here the problem is lack of experimental data and insufficient understanding of structural transformations that accompany compression of the liquid. But, there is hope!
- **Sulfur-bearing mixed fluid systems**
  - Mixed H<sub>2</sub>O-CO<sub>2</sub>-sulfur bearing systems are the goal. The ability to model redox equilibria involving iron and sulfur is an attainable objective.
- **Automating calibration and maintenance of models**