

# Metallurgy of Low Carbon Steel And Potential for A Passivated Magnetite Layer



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# Agenda

- **History of Steel**
- **Crystallography of Ferrous Alloys**
- **Microstructures of Carbon and Stainless Steel**
- **Comparison of Steel Grades**
- **Welding Carbon Steel to Stainless Steel**
- **Properties of Magnetite**
- **Potential for a Magnetite Passive Layer**

# Historic Metallurgy

700 AD

3300 BC

Innovation of the technique of smelting ore

Widespread use of iron or steel coinciding with other changes in society, including differing agricultural practices, religious beliefs and artistic styles

Stone Age

Bronze Age

Iron Age



9300 BC

Advent of metalworking ended roughly 3.4 million year Stone Age where stone widely used to make implements with a sharp edge or point.

-1300 BC

Start of iron metallurgy and utilization of iron objects. Developing implements and weapons that are hammered into shape

# What is Steel?

**Steel** is an alloy of iron and carbon.

Additional elements may also present naturally: manganese, phosphorus, sulfur, silicon, and traces of oxygen, nitrogen and aluminium.

Additional alloying elements sometimes added: nickel, chromium, molybdenum, boron, titanium, vanadium and niobium.

# Steelmaking Process (Controlling carbon and oxygen)

## ○ Iron extracted from iron ore

- Blast furnace coke (carbon) used as reducing agent to reduce  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  to pig iron
- $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 + 3\text{CO} \rightarrow 2\text{Fe} + 3\text{CO}_2$
- Pig iron contains about 4% carbon along with impurities

## ○ Converting pig iron to steel (1855)

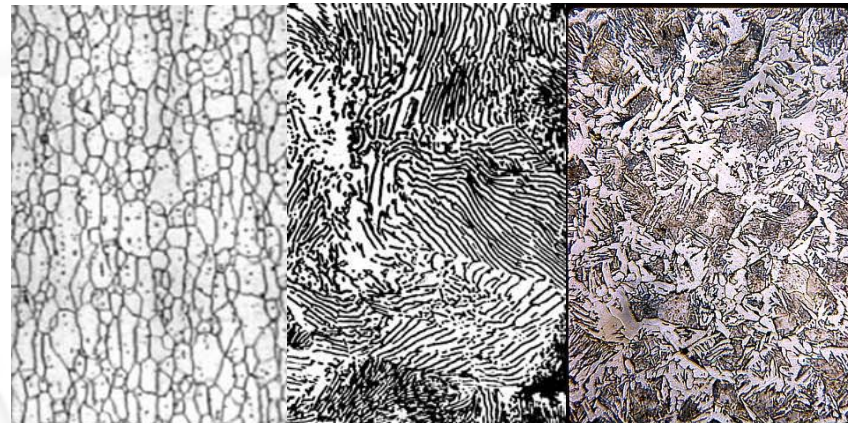
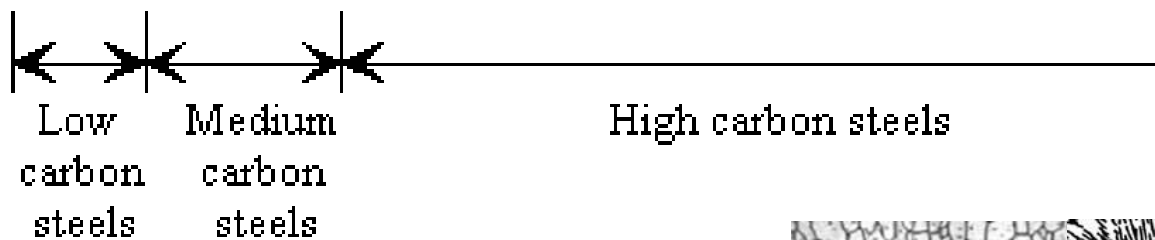
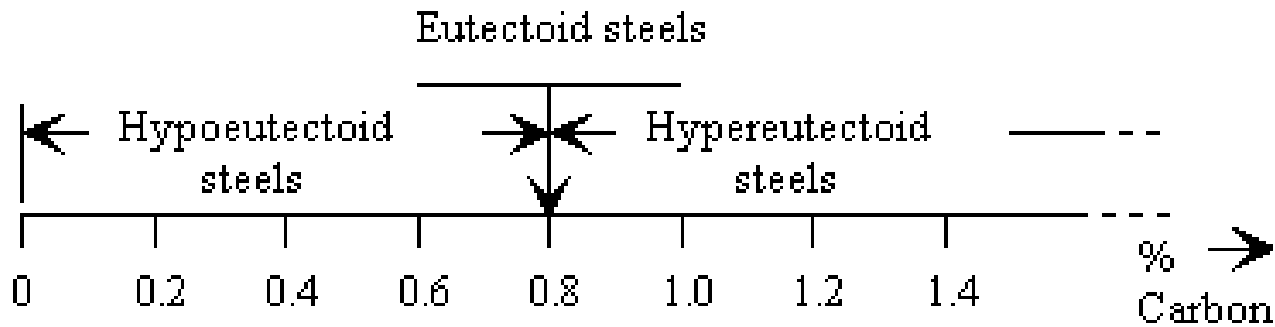
- Pig iron and <30% steel scrap are charged into barrel-shaped refractory-lined converter
- Pure oxygen is lanced into liquid metal to form iron oxide  $\text{Fe} + \text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{FeO}$
- Carbon in the steel reacts with iron oxide to form iron and carbon monoxide



Slag-forming fluxes (lime) are added  
Carbon drastically reduced along with impurities (S, P)  
Molten steel cast into slabs, billets or blooms

Ref. Smith, Principles of Mat. Sci. & Eng.

# Percent Carbon in Steel



Low

Medium

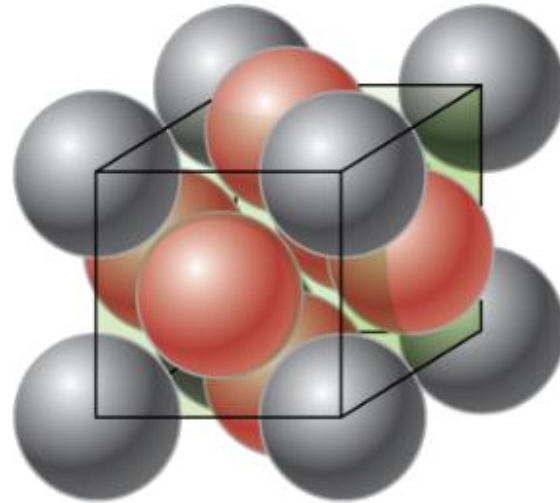
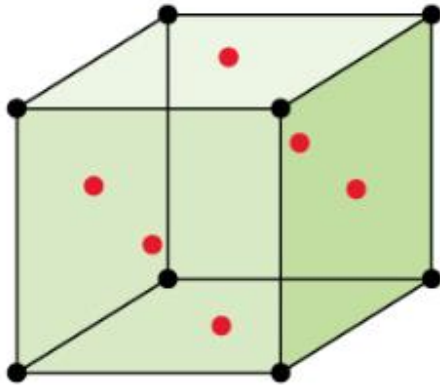
High

Ref. Henkel and Pense

# $\gamma$ Austenitic Iron

## Face-Centered Cubic (FCC)

- Close-packed structure
- Carbon diffusivity  $2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$
- 2.08% at  $1148^\circ\text{C}$ ; decreases to 0.83% at  $723^\circ\text{C}$



Packing fraction is 74%. So, the void space in the unit cell will be  $(100-74) = 26\%$ .

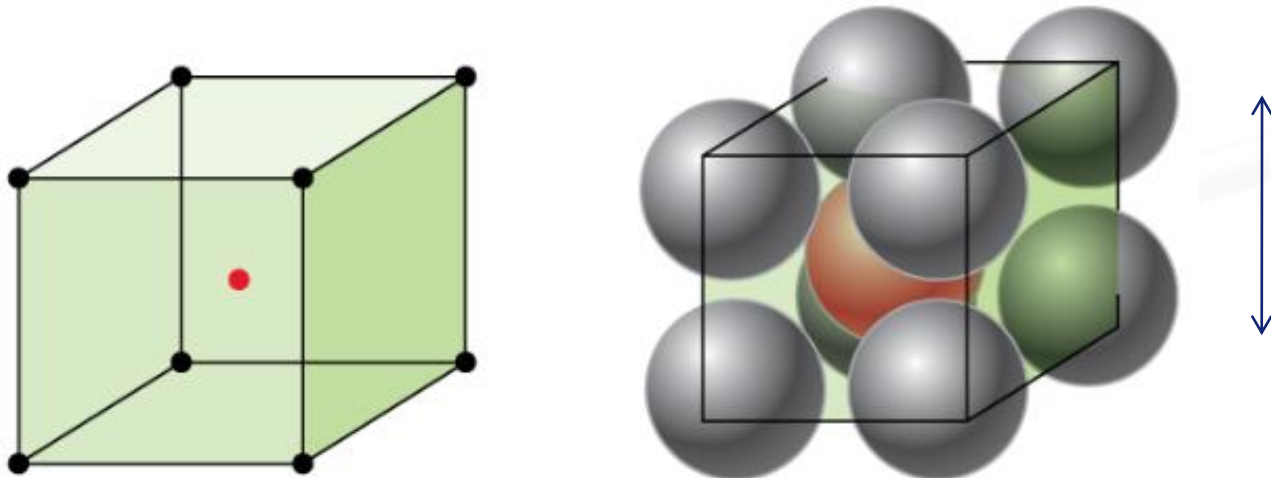
Ref. Henkel and Pense



# $\alpha$ Ferritic Iron

## Body-Centered Cubic (BCC)

- Not a close-packed structure
- Carbon diffusivity  $22 \times 10^{-5} \text{ m}^2/\text{s}$
- Carbon solubility 0.02% at  $723^\circ\text{C}$ ; decreases to 0.005% at  $0^\circ\text{C}$

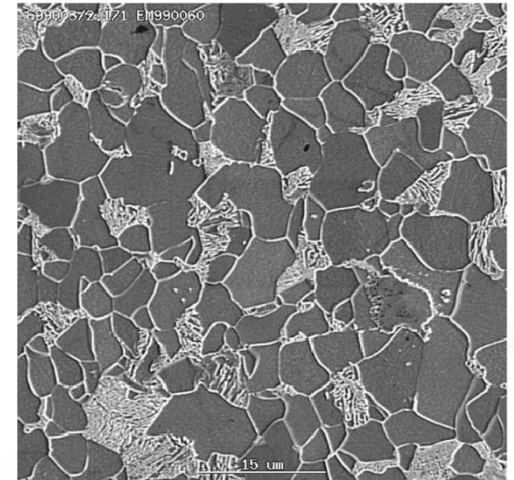
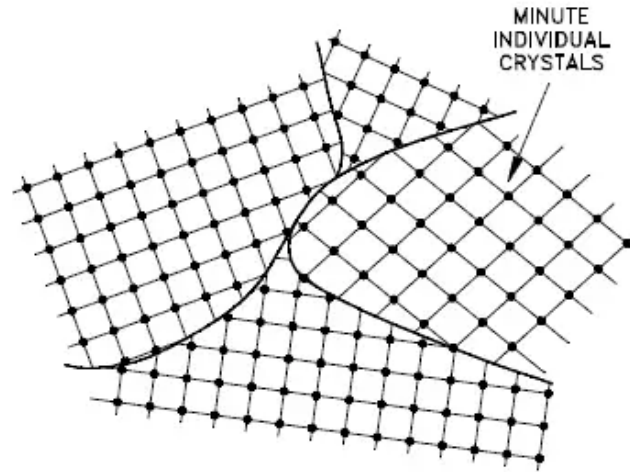
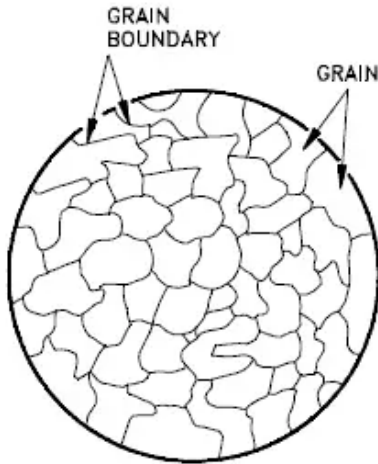


Packing fraction is 68%. So, the void space in the unit cell will be  $(100-68) = 32\%$ .

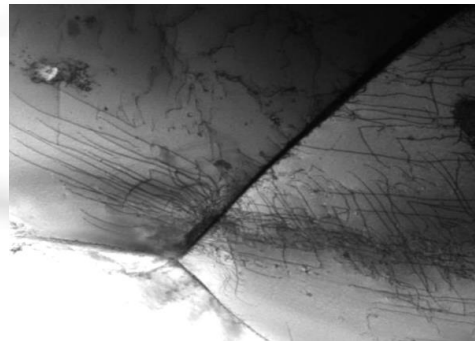
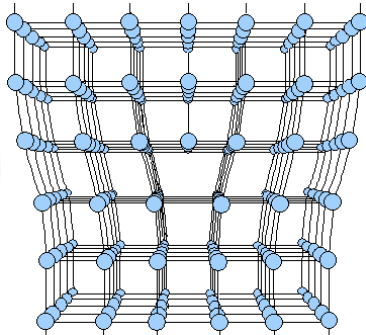
Ref. Henkel and Pense



# Microstructure discovered in late 1800's

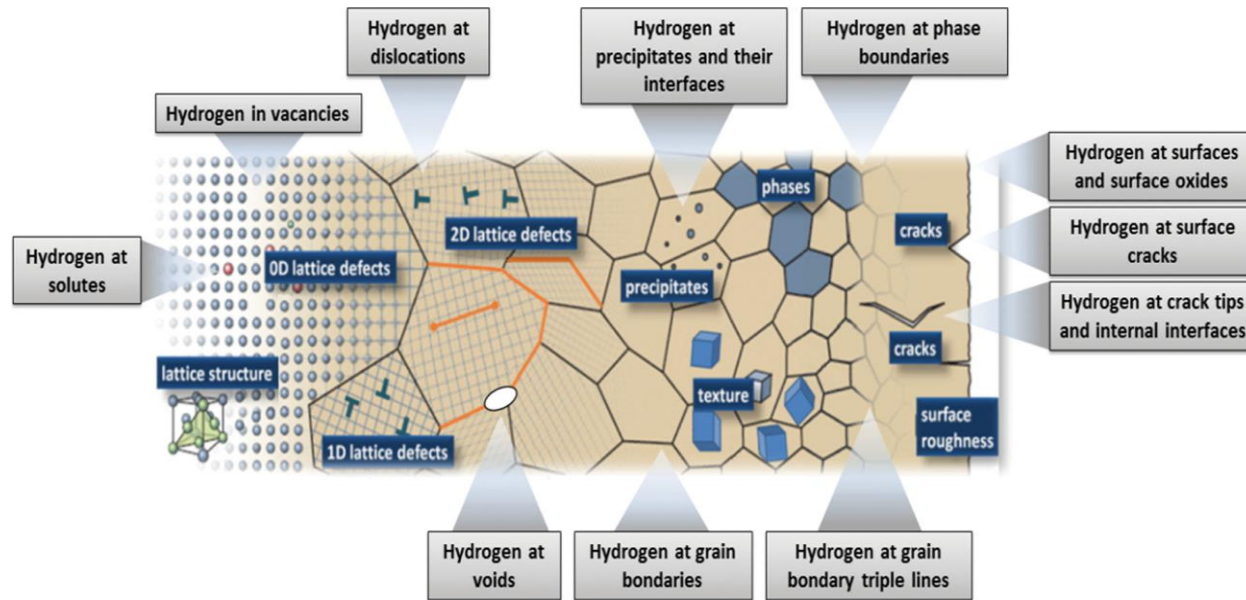


## Dislocations discovered in early 1960's



Ref. RWK Honeycombe

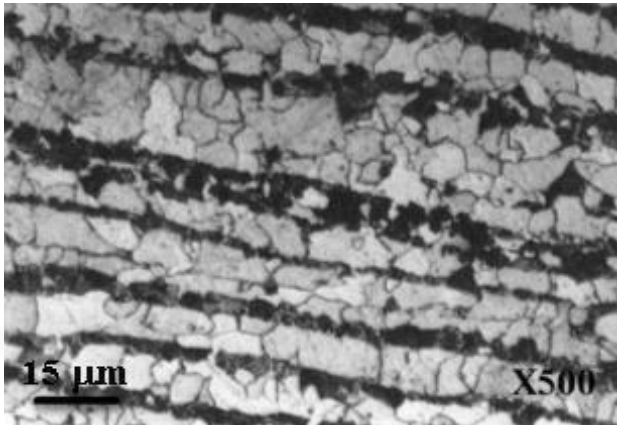
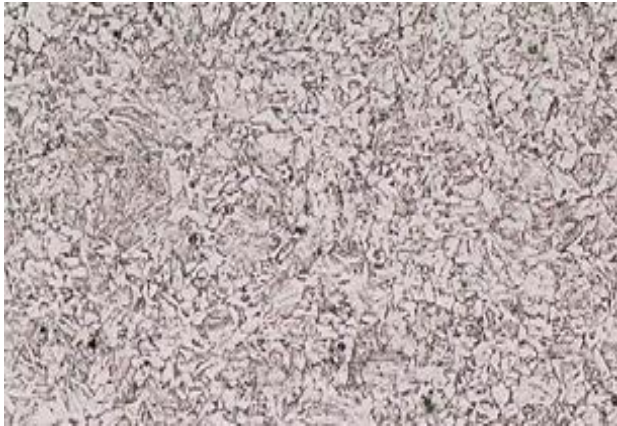
# Defects that Trap Hydrogen



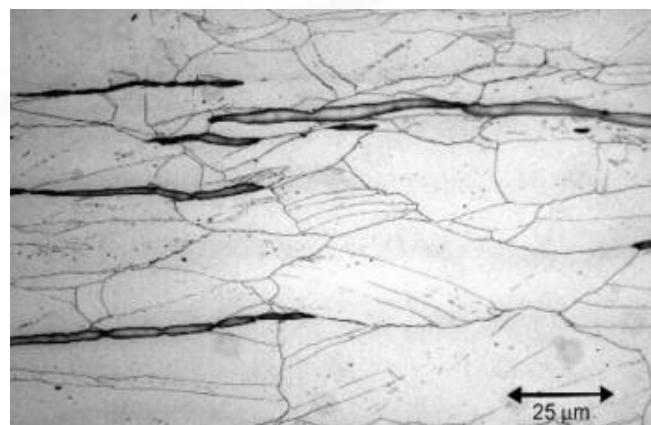
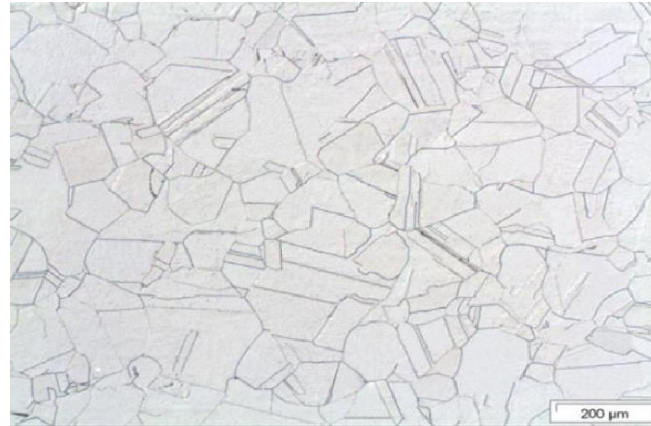
Ref. M. Koyama, M. Rohwerder, et al

# Microstructures

## X52 Pipe Steel



## 304L Stainless Steel



Ref. Henkel and Pense

# Steel Standards

**AISI 1020** 0.2C, 0.5Mn  
(ferritic steel)

**API X60** 0.16C, 1.65Mn, 0.45Si, 0.02P, 0.01S, 0.08V,  
0.05Nb and 0.04Ti  
(ferritic, bainitic, or pearlitic steel)

**S355J2+AR** 0.22C, 1.60Mn, 0.55Si, 0.03P, 0.03S, 0.30Ni  
(ferritic, bainitic, or pearlitic steel)

S is short for structural steel  
355 refers to minimum yield strength (355 MPa)  
JR means impact strength is 27 minimum at room temp  
+AR means as rolled; +N means normalized





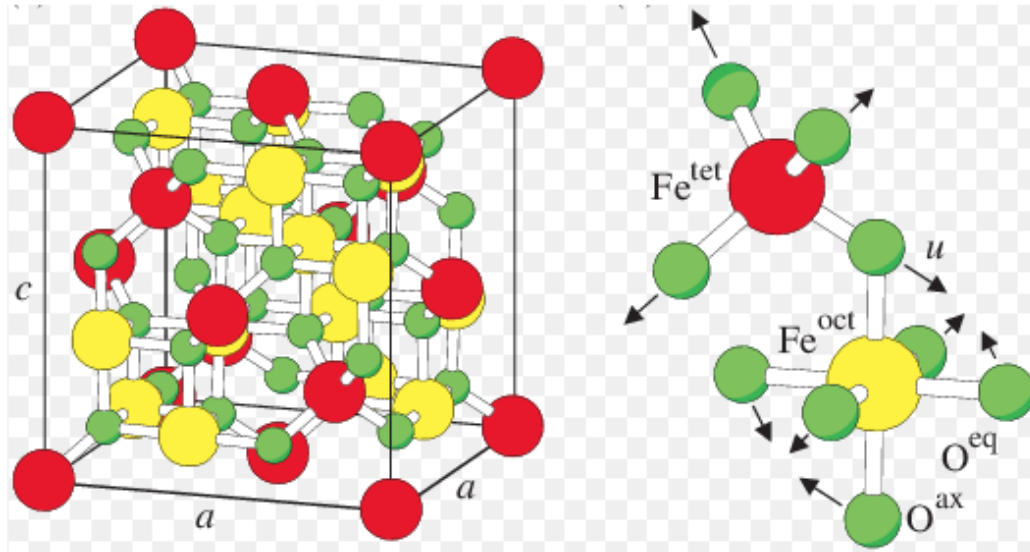
# Magnetite



Hematite – red rust, porous, easily spalled or removed, leaving clean surface

Magnetite –matte black, nonreflective, non-porous, tightly adhering,  
may reduce binding energy and requirement for bakeout

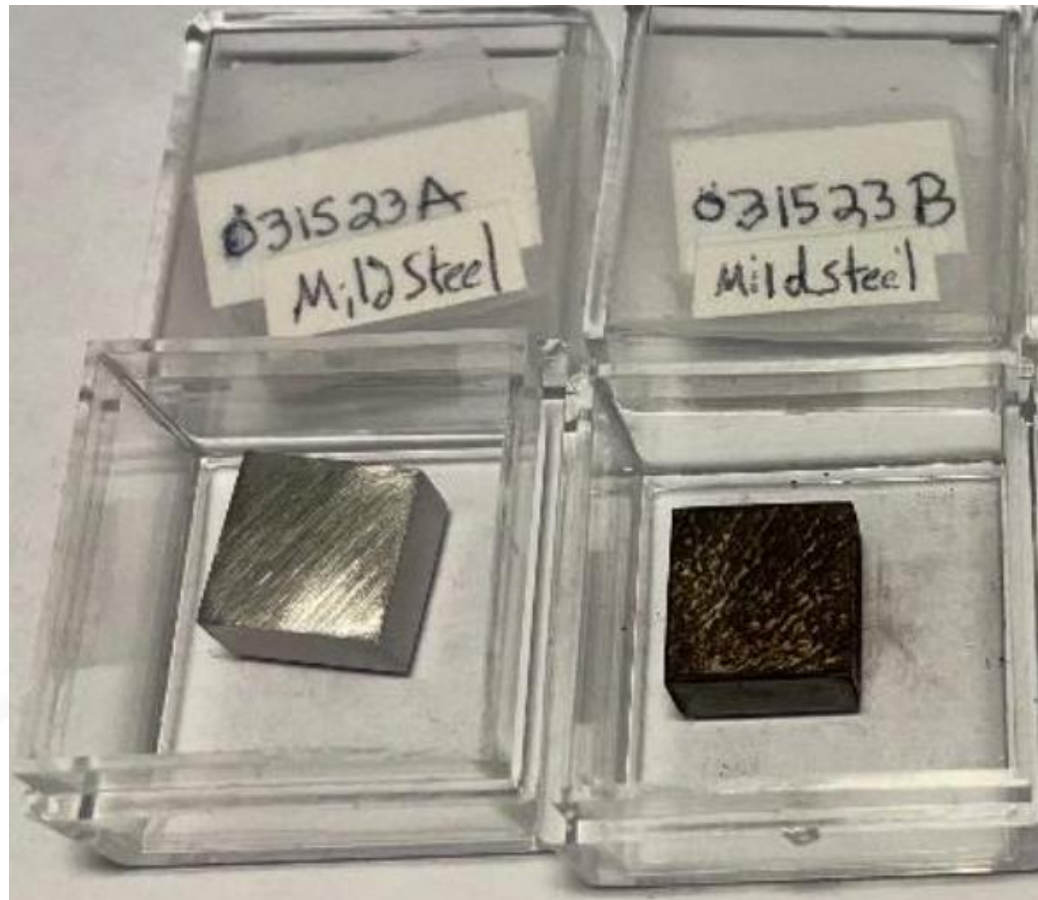
# Properties of Magnetite



- Inverse-spinel
- Close-packed structure, similar to fcc
- Unit cell has thirty-two oxygen atoms
- Iron cations at octahedral and tetrahedral sites
- Unit cell edge length is 0.839 nm.

Ref. Fleet, 1986

# Experimental Passivation

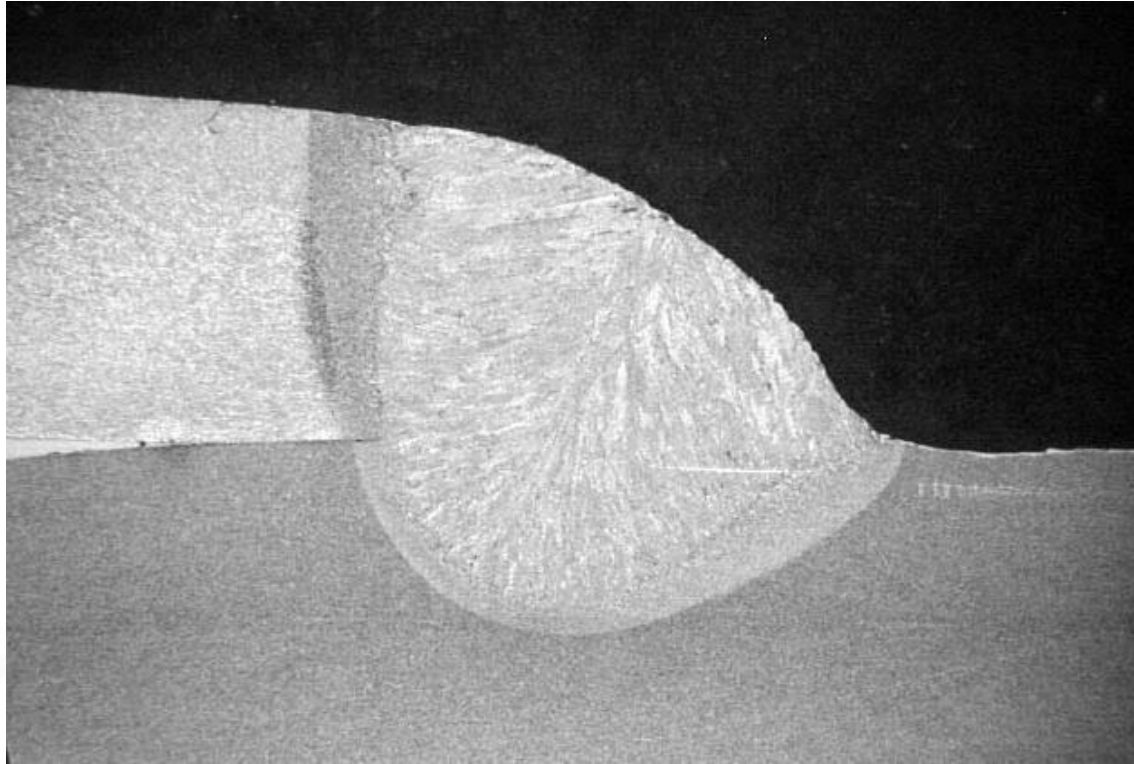


Courtesy: D. Manos



# Welding Carbon Steel to Stainless Steel

(MIG weld with 309L filler)



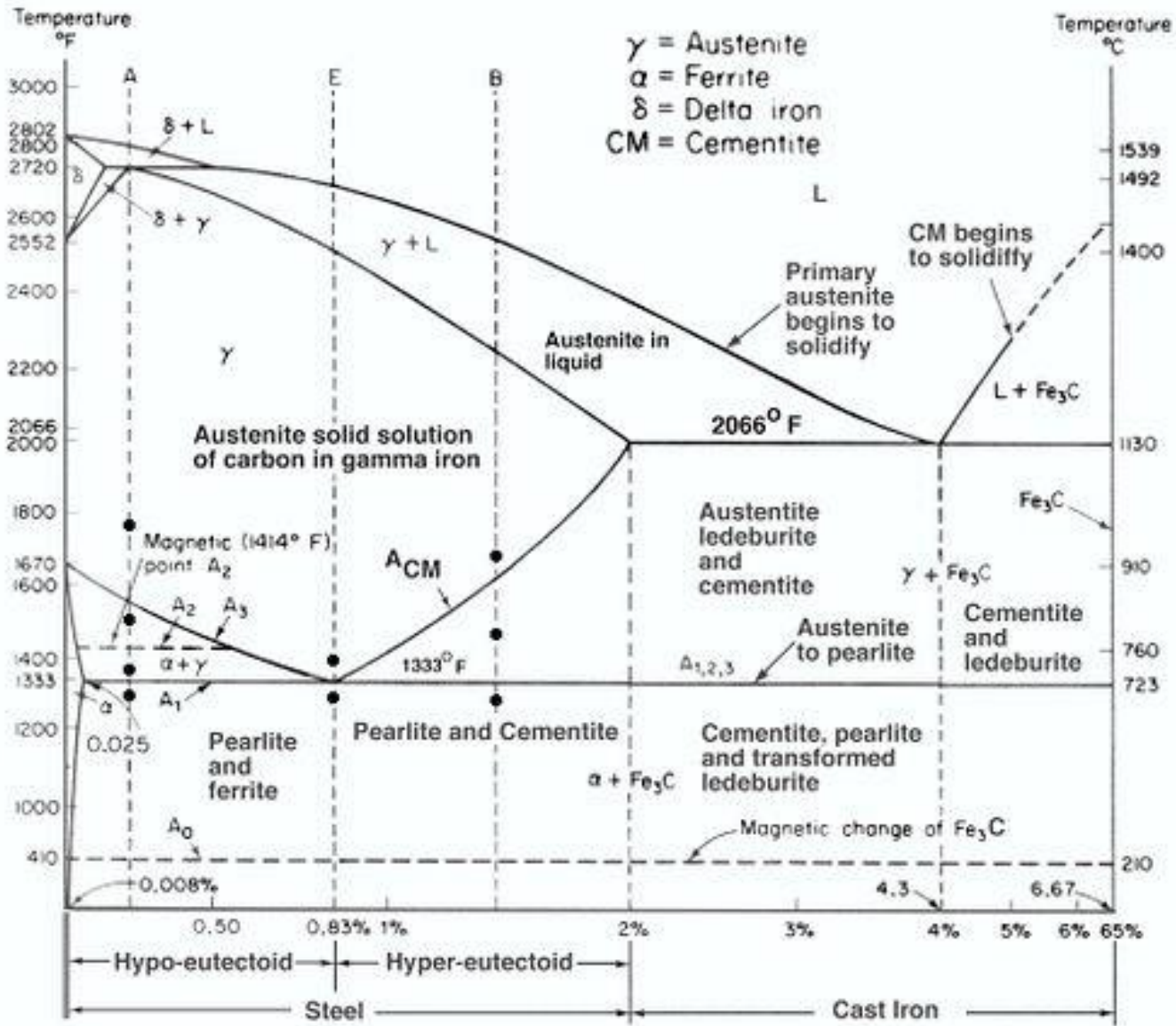
Ref. K. Easterling

*Thank you*

# Appendix

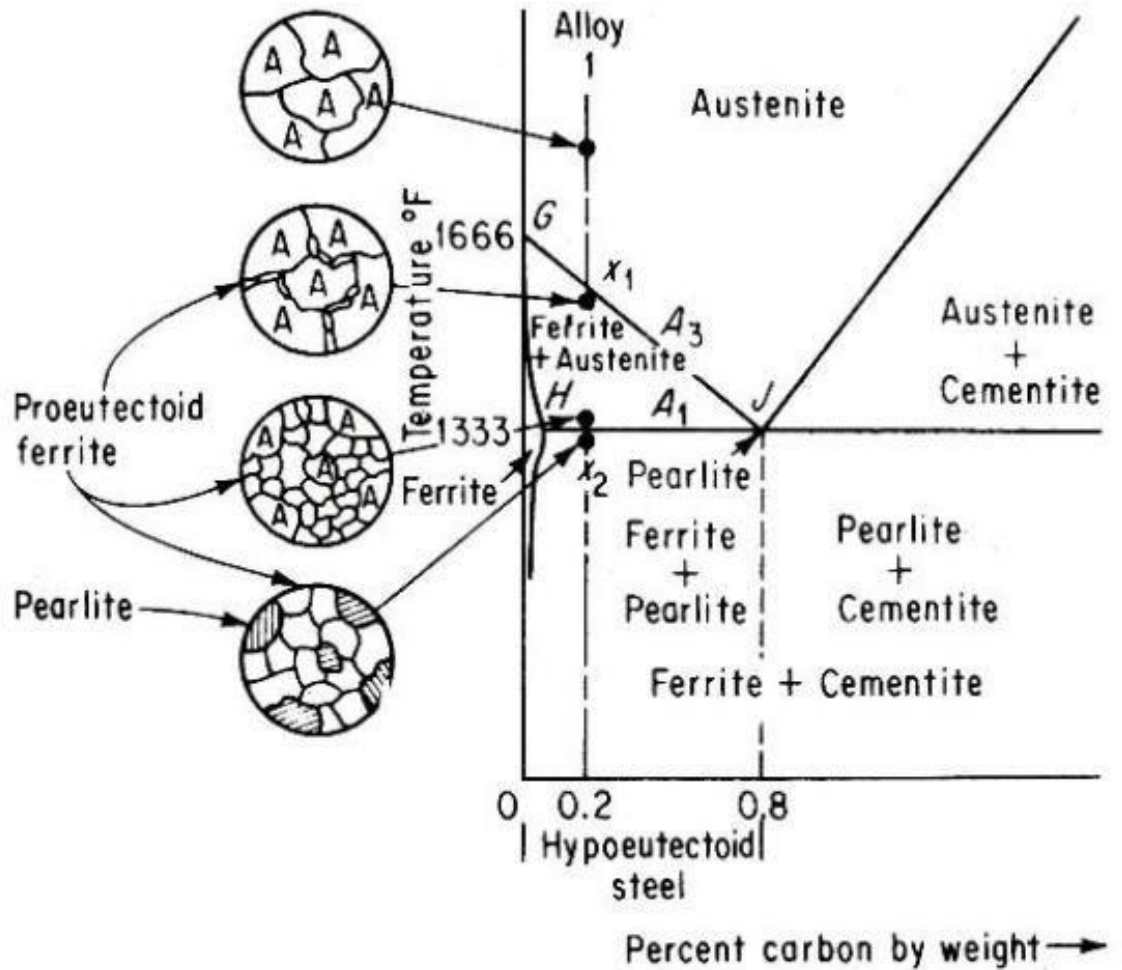


# Iron Carbon Phase Diagram



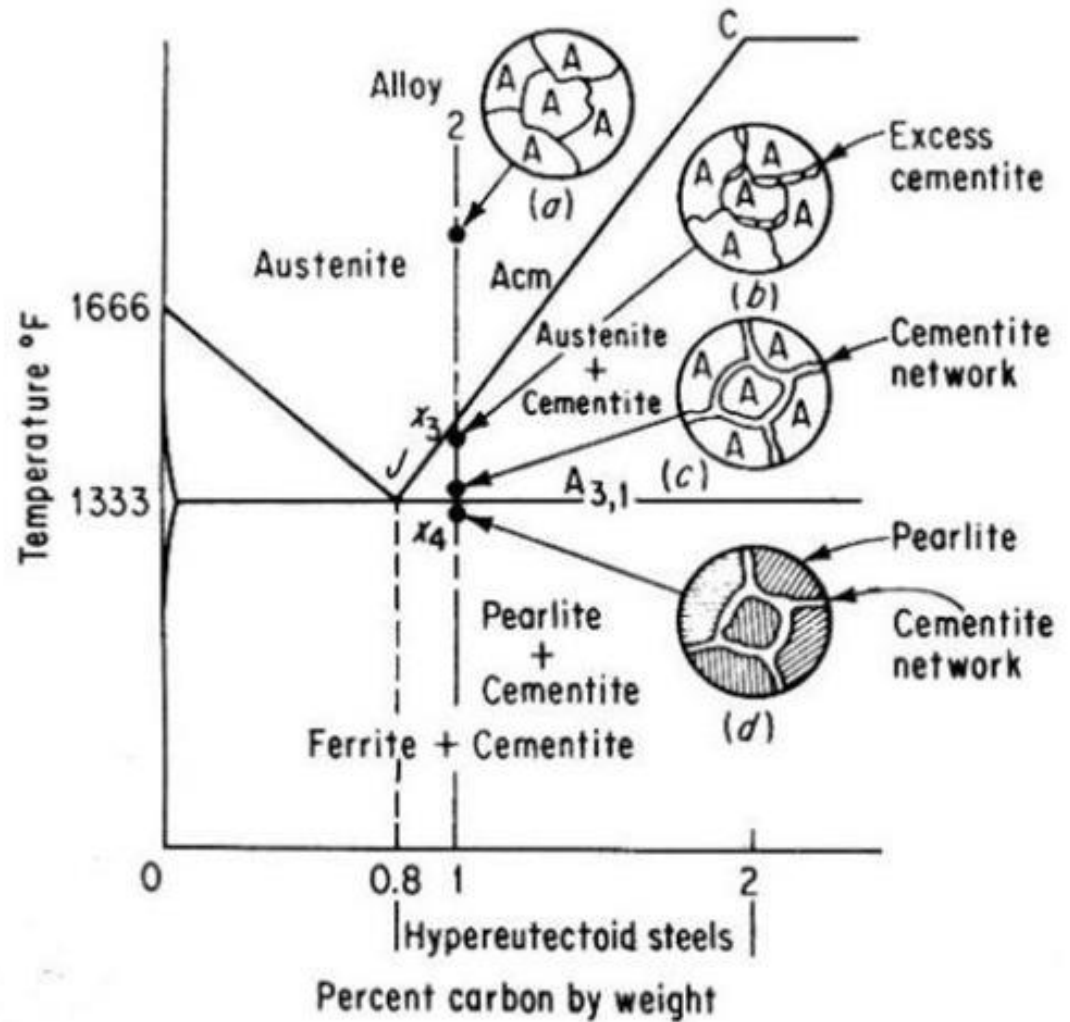
# Low Carbon Steel

## Hypoeutectoid



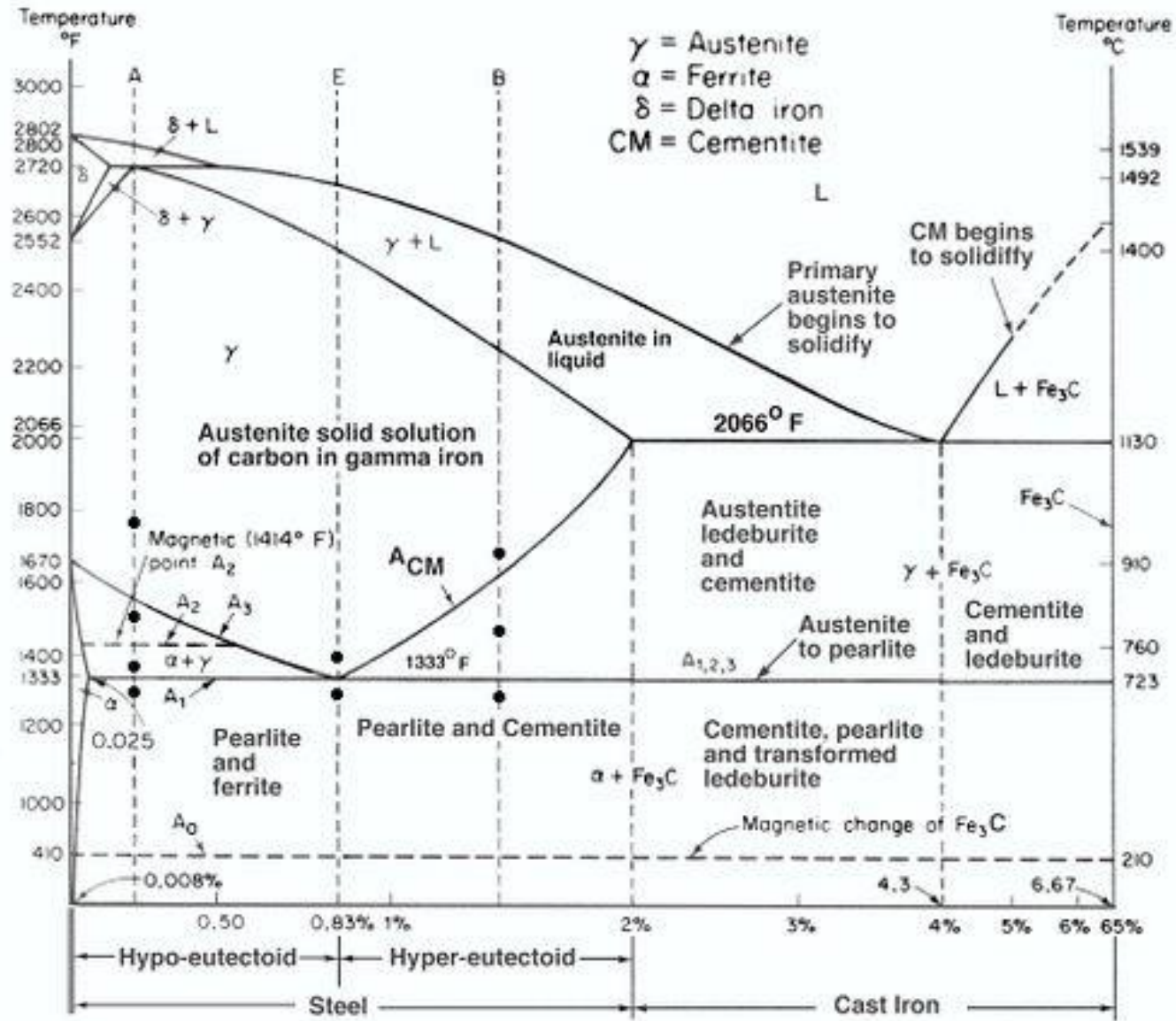
# High Carbon Steel

## Hypereutectoid





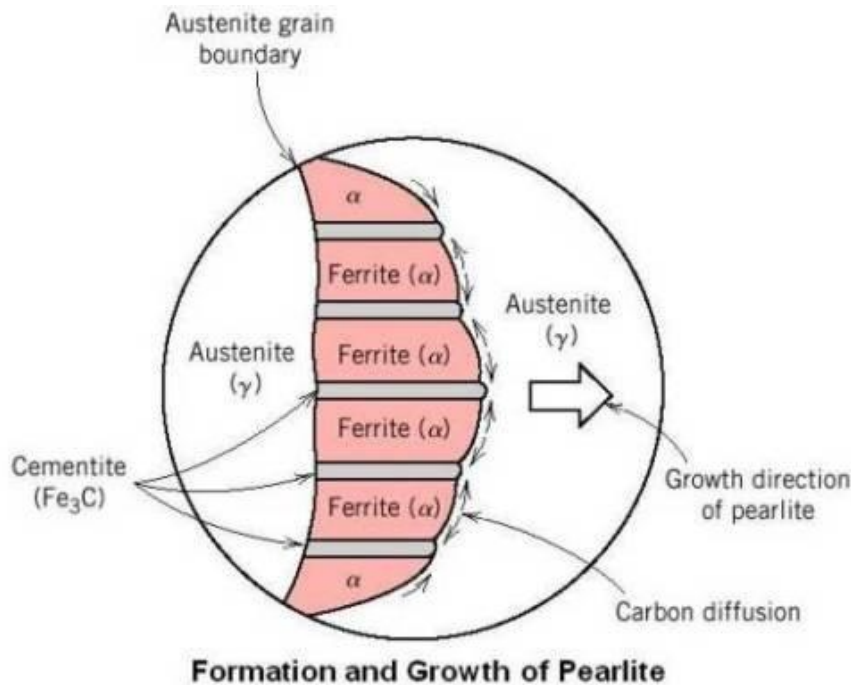
# Fe-C Equilibrium Phase Diagram



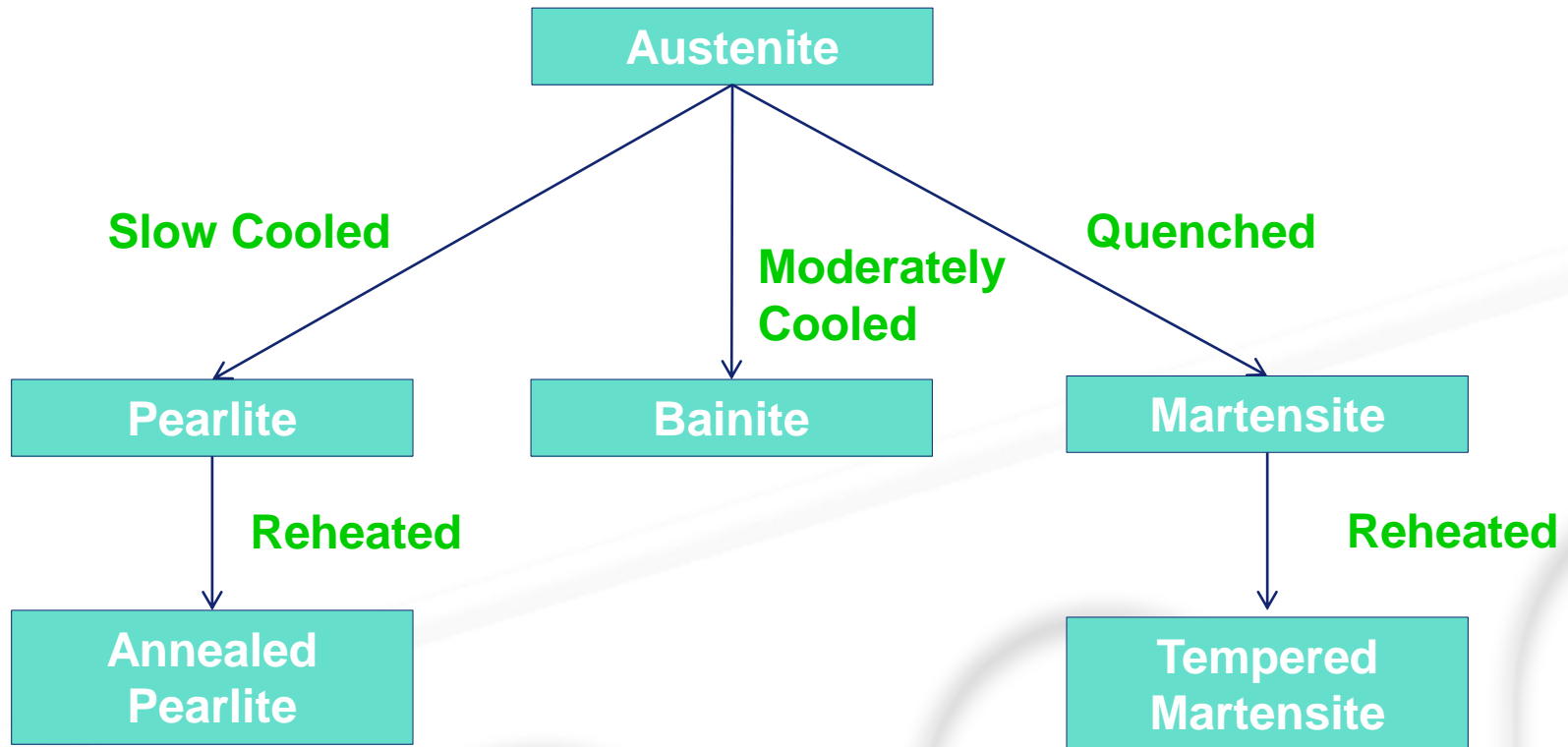


# Pearlite

- 2-Phase eutectoid structure of  $\gamma + \alpha$
- Lamellar structure of alternating plates
- Resembles mother-of-pearl
- Composition unchanged from 0°C to 723°C
- Intermediate hardness & ductility



# Non-Equilibrium Kinetics



# Major Classifications of Steels

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SAE designation	Type
1xxx	Carbon steels
2xxx	Nickel steels
3xxx	Nickel-chromium steels
4xxx	Molybdenum steels
5xxx	Chromium steels
6xxx	Chromium-vanadium steels
7xxx	Tungsten steels
8xxx	Nickel-chromium-molybdenum steels
9xxx	Silicon-manganese steels

# Carbon and alloy steel grades

## Carbon steels

10xx	Plain carbon (Mn 1.00% max)
11xx	Resulfurized
12xx	Resulfurized and rephosphorized
15xx	Plain carbon (Mn 1.00% to 1.65%)

## Manganese steels

13xx	Mn 1.75%
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## Nickel steels

23xx	Ni 3.50%
25xx	Ni 5.00%

## Nickel-chromium steels

31xx	Ni 1.25%, Cr 0.65% or 0.80%
32xx	Ni 1.25%, Cr 1.07%
33xx	Ni 3.50%, Cr 1.50% or 1.57%
34xx	Ni 3.00%, Cr 0.77%

# Carbon and alloy steel grades

## Molybdenum steels

40xx

Mo 0.20% or 0.25% or 0.25% Mo & 0.042 S

44xx

Mo 0.40% or 0.52%

## Chromium-molybdenum (Chromoly) steels

41xx

Cr 0.50% or 0.80% or 0.95%, Mo 0.12% or 0.20% or 0.25% or 0.30%

## Nickel-chromium-molybdenum steels

43xx

Ni 1.82%, Cr 0.50% to 0.80%, Mo 0.25%

43BVxx

Ni 1.82%, Cr 0.50%, Mo 0.12% or 0.35%, V 0.03% min

47xx

Ni 1.05%, Cr 0.45%, Mo 0.20% or 0.35%

81xx

Ni 0.30%, Cr 0.40%, Mo 0.12%

# Carbon and alloy steel grades

## Molybdenum steels

40xx

Mo 0.20% or 0.25% or 0.25% Mo & 0.042 S

44xx

Mo 0.40% or 0.52%

## Chromium-molybdenum (Chromoly) steels

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Cr 0.50% or 0.80% or 0.95%, Mo 0.12% or 0.20% or 0.25% or 0.30%

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47xx

Ni 1.05%, Cr 0.45%, Mo 0.20% or 0.35%

81xx

Ni 0.30%, Cr 0.40%, Mo 0.12%

# Carbon and alloy steel grades

## Nickel-molybdenum steels

46xx Ni 0.85% or 1.82%, Mo 0.20% or 0.25%

48xx Ni 3.50%, Mo 0.25%

## Chromium steels

50xx Cr 0.27% or 0.40% or 0.50% or 0.65%

50xxx Cr 0.50%, C 1.00% min

50Bxx Cr 0.28% or 0.50%, and added boron

51xx Cr 0.80% or 0.87% or 0.92% or 1.00%  
or 1.05%

51xxx Cr 1.02%, C 1.00% min

## Chromium-vanadium steels

61xx Cr 0.60% or 0.80% or 0.95%, V 0.10%  
or 0.15% min



# Carbon and alloy steel grades

Tungsten-chromium steels

72xx

W 1.75%, Cr 0.75%

Silicon-manganese steels

92xx

Si 1.40% or 2.00%, Mn 0.65% or 0.82% or 0.85%, Cr 0.00% or 0.65%

High-strength low-alloy steels

9xx

Various SAE grades

xxBxx

Boron steels

xxLxx

Leaded steels

# Structural Steels

## ASTM - Composition, strength, hardness, etc.

- A36 Bridges and buildings
- A515 Pressure vessels, boilers
- A542 Chemical and refinery vessels
- A553 Cryogenic tanks
- A662 Pressure vessels, low temperature

# Mechanical Properties

	TS	YS	Elong.
1010	325	180	28
1080	800	480	24
A36	400	220	23
A516 Grade 70	485	260	21
4340	1960	1570	10