



Steels & Stainless Steels I

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Outline

- 1. Introduction to steels and stainless steels
 - Iron and steel, major players in the history of mankind
 - Stainless steels, a 100 years of know-how
- 2. Metallurgy
 - phases, properties, microstructures
 - the Fe-C (Fe-Fe₃C) diagram
 - families of steels
 - steels and irons
- 3. Steelmaking practice
 - Heat treatments and practice
 - Tailoring the properties of heat treatable steels
- 4. Case studies
- 5. Conclusions







Remains of Etruscan furnaces, exploited from the end of the Iron Age ($9^{th} - 8^{th}$ century BC) to the 1st century BC



Residues

exploite

Until 196

A. Berveglieri, R. Valentini, La Metallurgia Italiana, June 2001, p. 49ff

1. Introduction



Fig. 2 – La posizione geografica di Populonia. Fig. 2 – Geographical location of Populonia.











Dessin de Constantin Meunier.

TRAIN DE LAMINEURS DANS UN LAMINOIR DE MONTIGNY-SUR-SAMBRE.

CERN

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The Fe-C (Fe-Fe₃C) diagram



1. Introduction

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Fe₃C (metastable cementite) → 3 Fe + C (graphite)

Fe - Fe3C ----- Fe - graphite

2024-06-04



WORLD STEEL PRODUCTION, 1950-2014 (IN MILLION TONNES)



SOURCE: WORLD STEEL



Weathering steel COR-TEN trademark of United States Steel Corporation (USS): by amount of Cu, P Si and Cr, can develop under favourable climatic conditions a patina of hydrated Fe oxide retarding further attack. Long dry summer periods required.





Cast irons:

Class of ferrous alloys with $C \ge 2.14$ % Most contain 3.0 $\% \le C \le$ 4.5 % Lower T_m (1150 °C -1300 °C) than steel **Easily melted and** amenable to casting **Based on the reaction** $Fe_3C \rightarrow 3Fe + C$ **Tendency to form** graphite regulated by composition and rate of cooling







2. Metallurgy - Phases, properties, microstructures





200 µm





b)

 \bigcirc

- bcc, non-compact (32 % empty space)
- available small but numerous interstitial sites
- faster diffusion
- smaller CTE
- ferromagnetic under T_c
- DBTT (ductile to brittle transition T)
- limited ductility, high strength
- high Young's modulus
- yield strength well defined





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1495

Steels



 δ -ferrite stringers in 17-7 PH stainless steel after hot and cold processing. Source, ASM Handbook, Volume 9, *Metallography* and Microstructure

 δ -ferrite under the form of stringers and as precipitated in a LS2 repair weld of a stainless steel LHC diode box (magnet 2303) - EDMS 2083070

2024-06-04

interface, original magnification ×100

 α -ferrite: 0.013% C steel, finish rolling at 940 °C (left) or 845 °C (right) and coiled at 725 °C. Ibidem



 δ -ferrite in stainless steel welds. Ibidem

T. Demaziere EN/MME





1900857

1.0 APPROVED

Pic10 - sample #2 weld centre original magnification $\times 300$ HDR mode – $a/\gamma = 38/62$



Pic11 - sample #2 transition weld-parent material original magnification ×300 HDR mode

Pic12 - sample #2 parent material original magnification ×300 HDR mode - a/y=43/57

Figure 6. Micrographs, sample #2.





b)

80 µm

γ-austenite: solid solution of C in γ-iron

Source: ASM Technical Books, Steels







2. Metallurgy - Phases, properties, microstructures



Source, ASM Handbook, Volume 14, Forming and Type 302

fcc, compact (24% empty space)

- available larger interstitial sites
- slower diffusion compared to bcc
- larger CTE
- paramagnetic
- absence of DBTT
- weaker Young's modulus
- high ductility
- ill-defined yield strength





The eutectoid transformation: pearlite

2. Metallurgy - Phases, properties,



Hypoeutectoid steels





Fig. 3.52 Rappresentazione schematica delle strutture allo stato ricotto di acciai: a) eutettoide; b) ipo-eutettoide; c) ipereutettoide.



25 µm



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Source: Science et génie des

matériaux, W. Callister



2. Metallurgy -Phases, properties, microstructures

Hypereutectoid steels





Fig. 3.52 Rappresentazione schematica delle strutture allo stato ricotto di acciai: a) eutettoide; b) ipo-eutettoide; c) ipereutettoide.

Source: Metallurgia by W. Nicodemi



25 µm

2. Metallurgy -Phases, properties, microstructures







Source: Metallurgia by W. Nicodemi (from Sauveur)

 Tabella 3.2
 Proprietà dei costituenti degli acciai allo stato ricotto (secondo sauveur).

Costituente	Resistenza alla trazione R N/mm ²	Allungamento A %	Durezza Brinell
Ferrite	280	50	80
Perlite	800	10	200
Cementite	35 (?)	0	700





2. Metallurgy -Phases, properties, microstructures



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1100 1000 Y $\gamma + Fe_3C$ Percent pearlite 600°C 650°C 675°C 50 900 Température (°C) X 800 a 727 °C $\alpha +$ 10 10^{2} 10^{3} Time (s) a 700 Alloy supercooled to C. below the eutectoid 600 Fe₃C $\alpha + Fe_3C$ 500 400 2.0 1.0 0 Composition (%m de C)

 $\gamma(0.76 \text{ wt\% C}) \xleftarrow{\text{cooling}} \alpha(0.022 \text{ wt\% C}) + \text{Fe}_3\text{C}(6.70 \text{ wt\% C})$

heating







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ercent austenite

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Isothermal heat treatments

3. Steelmaking practice Heat treatments and practice





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3. Steelmaking practice Heat treatments

Bainitic transformations: a fine non-lamellar structure, consisting of cementite and dislocation-rich ferrite.

Le superbe et fonctionnel Katana Hunter avec une lame en acier L6-Bainite dans le style Shinogi Zukuri



Samurai - Bainite Katana's from Paul Chen

Continuos cooling (CC) transformation diagrams, eutectoid steel

- Isothermal treatments not practical
- CC to RT generally applied
- Isothermal treatment diagrams to be modified
- Reactions delayed for CC conditions →
- Curves shifted to longer times and lower T
- Structures (fine, coarse) controlled by cooling rate



3. Steelmaking practice Heat treatments





Transformation to martensite, eutectoid steel:

For CC of steel:

- Critical quenching rate exists
- Producing totally martensitic structure
- Missing the "nose" at which pearlite begins
- Very low quenching rates can develop 100 % pearlite
- Intermediate → pearlite + martensite



3. Steelmaking practice Heat treatments





A constructional steel



3. Steelmaking practice Heat treatments

Werkstoff-Datenblatt

Saarstahl - C35											
Werkstoff-Nr.:	Alte We	erksmarl	ke:		Internationale Bezeichnungen:						
1.0501							BS: C35, 40CS, 080M36 AFNOR: C35, AF55C35, 1C35 SAE: 1035				
Werkstoffgruppe:	Vergütu	Vergütungsstahl nach DIN EN 10083									
Chemische Zusammensetzung:	С	Si	Mn	Р	s	Cr	Мо	Ni	Cr+Mo+ Ni		
(Schmelzanalyse in %)	0,32 0,39	<0,40	0,50 0,80	<0,045	<0,045	<0,40	<0,10	0,40	<0,63		
Verwendung:	Unlegi Fahrze	erter Ba ugbau.	iustahl	für Teile	e im all	gemein	en Mas	chinen	bau und		





An air-quenchable steel



3. Steelmaking practice Heat treatments

Saarstahl-35 NiCr 18

No allemand									
AFNOR	40 NC 17								
Ancienne désign	ation	RAN 6							
Compositio (moyenne en %)		que							
Si	0,40								
Mn	0,40								
Cr	1,65								
Ni	4.35								





25

Martensitic transformations

3. Steelmaking practice - Heat treatments



Source: Science et génie des matériaux, W. Callister













3. Steelmaking practice - Heat treatments

Applicable to as-quenched structures:

- C confers hardness
- Excessive hardness → brittleness
- Tempering applicable

Martensitic transformations





3. Steelmaking practice Heat treatments



Hardness can be decreased by time and T (tempering)



Tempered martensite reverts back to ferrite and cementite

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Source: Materials Science and Engineering: An Introduction, W. Callister and D.G. Rethiwisch



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3. Steelmaking practice Heat treatments - exercice

Which one creates a Kanata's sword? (a), (b) or (c)?

Using the isothermal transformation diagram for an iron–carbon alloy of eutectoid composition specify the nature of the final microstructure (in terms of microconstituents present and approximate percentages) of a small specimen that has been subjected to the following time–temperature treatments. In each case assume that the specimen begins at 760°C (1400°F) and that it has been held at this temperature long enough to have achieved a complete and homogeneous austenitic structure.

(a) Rapidly cool to 350° C (660°F), hold for 10^4 s, and quench to room temperature.

(b) Rapidly cool to 250°C (480°F), hold for 100 s, and quench to room temperature.

(c) Rapidly cool to 650° C (1200°F), hold for 20 s, rapidly cool to 400° C (750°F), hold for 10^{3} s, and quench to room temperature.



"Heat treatment of steel"

Ordinarily intended for producing martensitic steels

Treatable steels referred as:

"Vergütungsstähle" "Aciers d'amélioration" "Heat treatable steels" "Acciai da bonifica"

Successful treatment depends from:

- Steel composition
- Type and character of quenching medium
- Size and shape of the specimen \rightarrow
- Hardenability

3. Steelmaking practice Heat treatments









Hardenability curves for five different steel 3. Steelmaking practice Heat treatments – Jominy test

Source: Materials Science and Engineering: An Introduction, W. Callister and D.G. Rethiwisch





3. Steelmaking practice - Tailoring the properties of heat treatable steels

Su Incr	easing	ctures an	d Mechanical Properties for	or Iron–Carbon Alloys
Micro har	dness	es Present	Arrangement of Phases	Mechanical Properties (Relative)
Spheroidite α-Ferri		$te + Fe_3C$	Relatively small Fe ₃ C spherelike particles in an α -ferrite matrix	Soft and ductile
Coarse pearlite	α-Ferri	$te + Fe_3C$	Alternating layers of α -ferrite and Fe ₃ C that are relatively thick	Harder and stronger than spheroidite, but not as ductile as spheroidite
Fine pearlite	α-Ferri	$te + Fe_3C$	Alternating layers of α -ferrite and Fe ₃ C that are relatively thin	Harder and stronger than coarse pearlite, but not as ductile as coarse pearlite
Bainite α-Fe		$te + Fe_3C$	Very fine and elongated particles of Fe ₃ C in an α -ferrite matrix	Hardness and strength greater than fine pearlite; hardness less than martensite; ductility greater than martensite
Tempered martensite α -l		$te + Fe_3C$	Very small Fe ₃ C spherelike particles in an α-ferrite matrix	Strong; not as hard as martensite, but much more ductile than martensite
Martensite Body-o tetra phas		eentered, gonal, single e	Needle-shaped grains	Very hard and very brittle

Source: Materials Science and Engineering, An Introduction by William D. Callister Jr. & David G. Rethwisch





4. Case study: ductile to brittle transition

Predominantly C-Mn steels

- **o** Ferrite-pearlite microstructures
- Plates and sections
- Up to several hundred mm thick (HR)
- Includes also low-alloy grades quenched and tempered in order to provide yield strengths up to about 700 MPa
- Weldability: a key issue since the 40ies →

Strength, ductility, toughness

liberty_ships



Pictures from Earl R. Parker, Brittle Behavior of Engineering Structures, National Academy of Sciences, National Research Council, John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1957











Hall & Petch relationship

$$\sigma_{\rm v} = \sigma_{\rm i} + k' \ (\% \ \text{alloy}) + k_{\rm y} d^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

4. Case study: ductile to brittle transition





4. Case study: ductile to brittle transition





Fig. 5.8 Schematic diagram of the Charpy impact test

Source, ASM Handbook

Fig. 5.9 Charpy V-notch (CVN) data on plain carbon steels austenitized at 870°C (1600°F) for 4 h and slow cooled. Source: Ref 5.3

Courtesy of Zwick Roell





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4. Case study: hydrogen embrittlement

The Grande Dixence Dam is the tallest gravity dam in the world. It is part of the Cleuson-Dixence Complex. The dam fuels four power stations, totaling the installed capacity to 2,069 MW. This enables the output of two large nuclear power plant to be fed into the high voltage grid in just three minutes



Steels and Stainless Steels

Mont Blava

Projet Gornerli

Prises d'eau existantes

Réseau collecteur existant de GD Stations de pompage existantes Pointe de

e Bando

"On **December 12, 2000**, the three groups at the Bieudron plant were **put into service around 7 a.m.** and **operated normally throughout the day**. The order to stop them (stopping production) was given between 8:02 p.m. and 8:03 p.m. by the EOS control post in Lausanne, in accordance with customary practices in this area. From 8:06 p.m., there was no longer any flow in the shielded well.

At 8:09 p.m., the measuring devices monitoring the development detected a sudden drop in pressure in the balance chamber and a very significant increase in flow rate in the well, which caused the Tracouet head valve to automatically close, downstream of the chamber, closure which ended around 8:11 p.m.

At the same time, an electrician foreman on standby that day received an alarm on his radio, while at the nearby Nendaz factory, and then saw water falling from the mountain, which led him to alert his superiors. He then joined the hydraulic room of the Bieudron factory, where he manually closed the head valve of the Grande Dixence dam in order to secure the installation.

Between 8:09 p.m. and 8:14 p.m., part of the water found in the balance chamber as well as that found in the section of the armored well between Tracouet and a point located some 350 meters downstream from the Perua window , at an altitude of 1234 meters, emerged on the surface, the well being, at this location, buried at a depth of approximately 60 meters. According to estimates, between 25,000 and 40,000 m3 of water gushed into the open air, after rushing into a 9 meter long tear."

4. Case study: hydrogen embrittlement



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4. Case study: hydrogen embrittlement

« (...) a hardened steel with a high elastic limit (HLE), in particular type S 890 QL" was used "to create such a well." Prior studies "showed that the weldability of the S 890 QL steel was very satisfactory and that submerged arc welding (AS) presented a slight superiority over the other welding processes evaluated and likely to be used, namely manual welding with



Fig. 12. Hardness distribution HV in welded joint made of toughened steel of Re>500MPa (QT), ts=30s [13]



Fig. 10. Allowed hydrogen content in parent metal depending on steel grade (yield point) [44]



Fig. 11. Allowed hydrogen content in weld deposit depending on the grade of filler metal (weld deposit hardness) [46]

"In December 2000 there was a catastrophic collapse of the steel lined shaft at the Cleuson Dixence Scheme in Switzerland. This pipe was fabricated by using high strength steel grade S 890 Q which had **never been done before**. Comprehensive investigations about this failed case revealed that the collapse was caused by the **presence of large cracks in the welds**. These cracks had appeared due to the fact that the welding and testing procedures http://bulletin.is.gliwice.pl/pic/they applied did not take into consideration the much higher sensitivity of high strength steel grades against crack formation during the welding process."

> 1 From: High Strength Steels for hydropower plants, Design & Concepts – Pressure Conduits, 18-20/09/2013, Graz, Austria, Proc. 3rd Int. Conference



Collaring tool shim Collaring tool shim Nominal collaring cavity 70 mm

Figure 10. Illustration of the collared coil assembly without compression, with an interference of the key slots of 0.15 mm and the assembly under compression at which the key slots are aligned.

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S Izquierdo Bermudez et al 2019 Supercond. Sci. Technol. 32 085012

15m Collaring press

Eigenschaftsmerkmale Province Province

Propriétés des aciers pour moules



Source: Böhler catalogue – programme de vente 2001



4. Case study:

press

collaring

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Source: Böhler catalogue – programme de vente 2001

Acier de traitement thermique pour moules

40CrMnMoS8-6 Werkstoff-Nr. 1.2312

Valeurs moyennes d'analyse C 0,4 Si 0,4 Mn 1,5 Cr 1,9 Mo 0,2% + S

Propriétés:

 Très bonne usinabilité grâce à l'adjonction de soufre

Applications:

- Pour moules moyens et grands à injection et à compression pour matières plastiques
- Pièces destinées à la construction des machines en général

Recuit doux:

720-740°C / refroidissement lent au four Résistance après le recuit doux env. 700 N/mm²

Recuit d'élimination de tensions:

550-600°C / refroidissement lent au four

Trempe:

840–860°C / huile 860–880°C / à l'air Dureté obtenable env. 54 HRC

Revenu:

Voir diagramme de revenu

Nitruration:

Tous procédés de nitruration sont applicables Courbe de dureté de la couche nitrurée voir diagramme



Anlasstemperatur in °C Température de revenu en °C



4. Case study:



Supplied condition: prehardened & quenched

Process:

- Rough machining
- Stress relieving at T \approx T_{tempering} 100 °C
- Fine machining
- Low T heat treatment at T \approx T_{curing} + 100 °C
- Finishing
- **o** Zn-coating (corrosion resistance, surface hardness)



4. Case study: yield and formability

Table 1.3	BS EN 10130:	1991	Cold-rolled	carbon steel	flat	products	for cold	forming
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				send to be a set of a second											
Steel name	Steel number	Definition and	Deoxidation	Validity of mechanical	Surface appearance	Absence of stretcher strain	Re N/mm ²	$R_{\rm m}$ N/mm ²	A ₈₀ % min. ³	^{r90} min. ^{4,5}	n_{90} min. ⁴		Chemico (ladle an	al compo alysis %	sition max.)
		according to EN 10020		propenies		marks						C	Р	S	Mn T
DC01 ^e	1.0330	Non-alloy quality steel ⁷	Manufacturer's discretion	-	A B	- 3 months	-/280 ^{8,10}	270/410	28			0,12	0,045	0,045	0,60
DC03	1.0347	Non-alloy quality steel ⁷	Fully killed	6 months 6 months	A B	6 months 6 months	-/240 ⁸	270/370	34	1,3		0,10	0,035	0,035	0,45
DC04	1.0338	Non-alloy quality steel ⁷	Fully killed	6 months 6 months	A B	6 months 6 months	-/210 ⁸	270/350	38	1,6	0,180	0,08	0,030	0,030	0,40
DC05	1.0312	Non-alloy quality steel ⁷	Fully killed	6 months 6 months	A B	6 months 6 months	-/180 ⁸	270/330	40	1,9 7min. ^{4,5}	0,200 \overline{n} min. ⁴	0,06	0,025	0,025	0,35
DC06	1.0873	Alloy quality steel	Fully killed	6 months 6 months	A B	no limit no limit	-/180 ⁹	270/350	38	1,8	0,220	0,02	0,020	0,020	0,25 ¹¹ 0
1					the second s	Statement of the local division of the local									

Notes:

- 1 The mechanical properties apply only to skin-passed products.
- 2 The values of yield stress are the 0.2% proof stress for products which do not present a definite yield point and the lower yield stress R_{eL} for the others. When the thickness is less than or equal to 0,7 mm and greater than 0,5 mm the value for yield stress is increased by 20 N/mm². For thickness less than or equal to 0,5 mm the value is increased by 40 N/mm².

After BS EN 10130: 1991.

- 3 When the thickness is less than or equal to 0,7 mm and greater than 0,5 mm the minimum value for elongation is reduced by 2 units. For thickness less than or equal to 0,5 mm the minimum value is reduced by 4 units.
- 4 The values of r_{90} and n_{90} or \overline{r} and \overline{n} (see annexes A and B) only apply to products of thickness equal to or greater than 0,5 mm.
- 5 When the thickness is over 2 mm the value for r_{90} or \overline{r} is reduced by 0,2.

- 6 It is recommended that products in grade Fe P01 should be formed within 6 weeks from the time of their availability.
- 7 Unless otherwise agreed at the time of the enquiry and order Fe P01, Fe P03, Fe P04 and Fe P05 may be supplied as alloy steels (for example with boron or titanium).
- 8 For design purposes the lower limit of R_e for grade Fe P01, Fe P03, Fe P04 and Fe P05 may be assumed to be 140 N/mm².

- 9 For design purposes the lower limit of $R_{\rm e}$ for grade Fe P06 may be assumed to be 120 N/mm².
- 10 The upper limit of R_e of 280 N/mm² for grade Fe P01 is valid only for 8 days from the time of the availability of the product.
- Titanium may be replaced by niobium. Carbon and nitrogen shall be completely bound.



Courtesy of Thyssenkrupp AG

U.S. automotive steel market size, by vehicle type, 2014 - 2025 (USD Billion)



Passenger Vehicles Light Commercial Vehicles Heavy Commercial Vehicles

Typically "Ultra Low Carbon (ULC) Interstitial Free Steels"





4. Case study: yield and formability

Strain Aging: "A phenomenon that occurs in some materials following plastic deformation. In low-carbon steel sheet, strain aging results in a return of discontinuous yielding, an increase in yield strength and hardness, and a decrease in ductility without a substantial change in tensile strength."

If the steel is not pressed within a specified time after skin passing, removing the yield point, strain aging will result in the return of the yield point



Stress-strain curve with yield point phenomenon - (Source: Auto/Steel Partnership)



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Source: M. Meyer, Lüders Bands in Steel

Also AlMg alloys et al.: see ⇒ I. Aviles, Non Ferrous Materials, later today

http://vimeo.com/4586024

5. Conclusions

- 1. Ferrous alloys a complex family of materials
- 2. Understanding properties:
 - Influence of alloying elements
 - Effect of heat treatments
- 3. Several equilibrium and non-equilibrium phases
 - predictable from the phase diagram (α , γ , Fe₃C...)
 - or due to diffusionless transformation (martensite)
 - susceptible to be shaped by HT
- 4. The Fe-Fe₃C diagram basis for the understanding of the metallurgy of ferrous materials
 - Properties mainly conferred by HT
 - Properties predictable and tailored on the basis of steelmaker information, or specific dedicated tests (Jominy)
- 5. Martensitic transformation are at the basis of treatment of "heat treatable" steels



