

Contents

1 Structure.....	1
1.1 State of nitrogen atoms in austenite.....	2
1.1.1 Electronic structure.....	3
1.1.1.1 Interatomic electron exchange.....	7
1.1.1.2 Experimental studies of electronic structure.....	10
1.1.2 Distribution of nitrogen and carbon atoms.....	14
1.1.2.1 Thermodynamical characteristics of solid solutions.....	14
1.1.2.2 Thermodynamical models of Fe-C(N) austenite.....	20
1.1.2.3 Monte Carlo method for thermodynamical simulation of solid solutions.....	24
1.1.2.4 C-C interaction and atomic configurations of carbon in Fe-C austenite.....	26
1.1.2.5 N-N interaction and atomic configurations of nitrogen in Fe-N austenite.....	29
1.1.2.6 Correlation between atomic interaction and short range atomic order.....	33
1.1.3 Interaction of nitrogen atoms with substitutional solutes.....	42
1.1.3.1 Estimation of interaction energies s-i.....	43
1.1.3.2 Crystalline symmetry of s-i defects.....	45
1.1.4 Interaction of nitrogen atoms with crystal lattice imperfections.....	49
1.1.4.1 Vacancies.....	50
1.1.4.2 Dislocations.....	51
1.1.4.3 Grain boundaries.....	56
1.1.5 Dislocations and twins in nitrogen austenite.....	58
1.1.5.1 Stacking fault energy.....	58
1.1.5.2 Dislocation structure and twins.....	62
1.2 Distribution of nitrogen atoms in martensite.....	65
1.2.1 Freshly formed Fe-N martensite.....	66
1.2.2 Early stages of ageing and tempering of nitrogen martensite.....	71
2 Constitution.....	77
2.1. Thermodynamics of multicomponent solutions.....	77
2.1.1 Solubility of nitrogen in liquid iron and steel.....	79
2.1.1.1 Effect of alloying elements.....	80
2.1.1.2 Effect of temperature.....	82
2.1.1.3 Effect of pressure.....	83

2.2 Binary Fe-N diagramme.....	84
2.3 Multicomponent phase diagrams.....	91
2.3.1 The calculation of phase diagrams	91
2.3.2 The Fe-Cr-Ni-N phase diagram.....	93
2.3.3 The Fe-Cr-Mn-N phase diagram	100
2.4 Precipitates in austenitic steels	102
2.4.1 Intermetallic phases.....	102
2.4.2 Carbides.....	108
2.4.3 Effect of nitrogen on precipitation.....	109
2.4.4 Electron concept for stability of austenitic steels	116
2.5 Precipitates in martensitic steels.....	119
3 Key properties	135
3.1 Mechanical properties	135
3.1.1 Solid solution strengthening	136
3.1.1.1 Athermal strengthening	137
3.1.1.2 Temperature dependence of the yield strength.....	143
3.1.2 Strengthening by grain boundaries	153
3.1.3 Cold work strengthening	159
3.1.4 Toughness.....	169
3.1.5 Fatigue.....	173
3.1.5.1 Austenitic steels.....	173
3.1.5.2 Martensitic and duplex steels	179
3.1.6 Creep	180
3.1.7 Wear	183
3.2 Chemical properties.....	185
3.2.1 General corrosion	186
3.2.2 Localised corrosion	188
3.2.2.1 Intercrystalline corrosion.....	188
3.2.2.2 Pitting	190
3.2.2.3 Crevice corrosion	194
3.2.2.4 Stress corrosion cracking.....	195
3.2.3 Hydrogen embrittlement.....	198
4 Manufacturing	203
4.1 Uptake of nitrogen.....	203
4.1.1 Alloying.....	205
4.1.2 Pressure metallurgy	206
4.1.3 Powder metallurgy.....	213
4.1.4 Solution nitriding.....	215
4.2 Hot working.....	218
4.2.1 Process.....	219
4.2.2 Microstructure	220
4.2.3 Surface effects	221

4.3 Welding	223
4.3.1 Pressure welding	223
4.3.2 Fusion welding	224
4.4 Heat treatment	226
4.4.1 Holding at high temperature	227
4.4.2 Cooling	229
4.5 Machining	229
4.5.1 Experimental conditions	229
4.5.2 Results	230
4.6 Products	232
5 Steels and applications	235
5.1 Martensitic steels	236
5.1.1 Hard stainless steels	238
5.1.2 Wear resistant stainless steels	242
5.1.3 High-speed steels	245
5.1.4 Nickel - martensitic stainless steels	248
5.1.5 Stainless quench-and-temper steels	250
5.1.6 Steels for inlet valves	253
5.1.7 Hot work tool steels	255
5.1.8 Creep resistant low-alloy steel	257
5.1.9 Creep resistant high alloy steels	259
5.2 Austenitic steels	263
5.2.1 Standard stainless steels	265
5.2.2 Low cost stainless steels	267
5.2.3 High strength stainless steels	271
5.2.4 Body friendly steels	275
5.2.5 Steels of high corrosion resistance	276
5.2.6 Cryogenic non-magnetic steels	280
5.2.7 Steels for exhaust valves	284
5.2.8 Creep resistant steels	286
5.2.9 High temperature nickel alloys	289
5.3 Steels of mixed microstructure	291
5.3.1 Stainless ferritic-martensitic dual-phase steels	292
5.3.2 Stainless austenitic-martensitic steels	294
5.3.3 Stainless ferritic-austenitic duplex steels	302
5.4 Steels for solution nitriding	307
5.4.1 Martensitic case	308
5.4.2 Austenitic case	313
5.4.3 Application of solution nitriding	316

XII **Contents**

6 From structure to development.....	323
6.1 Structure	323
6.2 Properties.....	326
6.3 Technical relevance.....	330
References	335
Index.....	373