# A COMPUTATIONAL APPROACH FOR DESIGNING TRIP STEELs STUDYING

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## Alloy Design



Experimental Results - Fe-0.32C-1.42Mn-1.56Si



## Outline

- Motivations
- CALPHAD-based Models
- Mechanical Models
  - Swift Model
  - Irreversible Thermodynamics
- Genetic Algorithms
- Artificial Neural Network
- Conclusion

## The Properties of TRIP Steel



#### Why TRIP Steel

- Transformation Induced Plasticity
- Martensitic transformation during plastic deformation contributes to overall ductility

#### How to make TRIP steels

- Select chemical composition properly
- Apply **two-step** heat treatment to manage the carbon content in austenite

#### Target

• Maximize **TRIP effect** of the **low alloying addition** TRIP steel

#### Кеу

- Stabilize austenite against the martensitic transformation during heat treatment
- Suppress the formation of cementite

## **Two-Step Heat Treatment**



Two-step heat treatment: (1) inter-critical annealing (IA) (2)-(3) bainite isothermal transformation (BIT) (3)-(4) final cooling to room temperature

Zhu, Acta Mat., 2012

### **Two-Step Heat Treatment**



Two-step heat treatment: (1) inter-critical annealing (IA)

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Li, Acta Mat., 2012
Li, Acta Mat., 2013
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Two-step heat treatment: (1) inter-critical annealing (IA) (2)-(3) bainite isothermal transformation (BIT) (3)-(4) final cooling to room temperature

Li, Acta Mat., 2012 Li, Acta Mat., 2013

## **Displacive Bainitic Transformation**







- The Gibbs free energies of bainitic ferrite and austenite are equal at  $T_0$ .
- 400 J/mole of the strain energy is considered for bainitic transformation as  $T_0'$ .
- The non-homogeneous C-distribution sustains the bainitic transformation.
- The curve is fitting based on database TCFE6 V6.2
- The empirical data is obtained from: Chang et al., Met. Mat. Tran. A, 1999 and Zhao et al., J. Mat. Sci., 2001

## Heterogeneous Carbon Distribution



"During the growth some carbon diffuses out of the ferrite grains into the surrounding austenite matrix. The higher the temperature of formation, the freer the ferrite is of supersaturated carbon."

– Zener, 1912

Li, Acta Mat., 2013

Heterogeneous Carbon Distribution (1)



## Heterogeneous Carbon Distribution (2)



DC >> df

DC << df

### Heterogeneous Carbon Distribution (3)

#### Caballero et al., 2011



## **Two-Step Heat Treatment**



Two-step heat treatment: (1) inter-critical annealing (IA) (2)-(3) bainite isothermal transformation (BIT) (3)-(4) final cooling to room temperature

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Li, Acta Mat., 2012
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### **Mechanical Properties**

#### Swift Model

Jacques et al. Acta Mat., 2007

$$\sigma_i = K_i \big( 1 + \varepsilon_{0,i} \varepsilon \big)^{n_i}$$

$$\sigma = \sum_{i} \sigma_i V f_i$$

$$\sigma = \sigma_A + (\sigma_B - \sigma_A) \frac{w_C^{\gamma} - 1.25}{0.25}$$

#### Composition and micro-structure in tensile tests

	w <sub>c</sub>	W <sub>Mn</sub>		w <sub>Si</sub>	
	0.29 1.42		1.41		
	Vf <sub>Fer</sub>	Vf <sub>Bai</sub>	Vf <sub>Aus</sub>	Vf <sub>Mar</sub>	$w_C^{\gamma}$
Α	55	28	17	0	1.25
В	55	33	12	0	1.5

	Phase	<i>K<sub>i</sub></i> , MPa	E <sub>0,i</sub>	$n_i$
A	Austenite	720	62	0.3
	BCC	475	55	0.27
	Martensite	2000	800	0.005
В	Austenite	1130	80	0.2
	BCC	720	50	0.175
	Martensite	2000	800	0.005

#### Optimum Heat Treatment for Fe-0.32C-1.42Mn-1.56Si

T <sub>IA</sub>	T <sub>BIT</sub>	
943 - 1142	350 - 943	

The temperature domains (Kelvin) for optimizing the heat treatment for **Fe-0.32C-1.42Mn-1.56Si** 







Vf(Fer)







Vf(Mar)



800

(2) Strength, MPa

2





Vf(Fer)





Vf(Aus)



Vf(Bai)







T<sub>BIT</sub> , Kelvin T<sub>IA</sub> , Kelvin

(2) Strength, MPa

#### (3) WTN, MPa%

#### 



In  $T_0'$  calculations, for most of the microstructures the predicted retained austenite is less than 5%. Therefore, these diagrams include all the predicted microstructures.

#### **Optimum Heat Treatment for Maximizing Toughness**



Experiments

## **Alloy Design Process**



## **Genetic Algorithms - Schema**



## **Optimum Composition and Heat Treatment**

Composition, wt%; Temperature, Kelvin						
w <sub>c</sub>	w <sub>Mn</sub> w <sub>Si</sub>					
0.1 - 0.5	0.5 - 2.5		0.8 - 1.5			
T <sub>IA</sub>		T <sub>BIT</sub>				
943 - 1142		3	50 - 943			



- 1. 6 bits memory for each variable
- 2. Vf<sub>Aus</sub> > 5%
- 3. Total alloying addition is less than 4 wt%
- 4. 10 individuals in one generation, 1,000 generations
- 5. Full equilibrium after IA treatment is considered
- 6.  $T_0$  and para  $\gamma \theta$  concepts are utilized

The Predicted Fitness as Function of Mechanical Properties



## **Chemical Composition vs Mechanical Properties**



## The Search in 6 Components, 2 Temperatures Domain

w <sub>c</sub>	W <sub>Mn</sub>	w <sub>Si</sub>	w <sub>Al</sub>
0.1 - 0.5	0.5 - 2.5	0.8 - 1.5	0.0 - 2.0
W <sub>Cr</sub>	w <sub>Ni</sub>	T <sub>IA</sub>	T <sub>BIT</sub>
0.0 - 1.33	0.0 - 2.0	943 - 1142	350 - 943

Composition, wt%; Temperature, Kelvin

- 1. 6 bits memory for each variable
- 2. Vf<sub>Aus</sub> > 5%
- 3. Total alloying addition is less than 4 wt%
- 4. 10 individuals in one generation, 10,000 generations
- 5. Full equilibrium after IA treatment is considered
- 6.  $T_0$  and para  $\gamma \theta$  concepts are utilized

### Predicted Fitness as Function of Mechanical Properties



The predicted mechanical properties of Fe-C-Mn-Si-Al-Cr-Ni and Fe-C-Mn-Si alloys

## Summary



## **Plastic Deformation Model**



During the isothermal plastic deformation, the energy dissipation, dE can be attributed to (1) the exchange of the energy with the environment, dQ; (2) energy consumption by dislocation variation,  $dW_E$ 

$$dE = TdS = \frac{Cb}{l}d\tau = dQ + dW_E$$

Plastic Deformation Model – cont. 1

• By energy conservation, dQ can be calculated

$$dQ = dU - dW_M$$

 Because of the dislocation: (1) Generation, dW<sub>ge</sub>; (2) Glide, dW<sub>gl</sub>; (3) Annihilation, dW<sub>an</sub>

$$dW_E = W_{ge} + W_{gl} + W_{an}$$

The energy dissipation can be estimated as:

$$dE = \frac{1}{2}\mu b^2 d\rho_{in}^+ + \tau b l d\rho_{in}^+ + \frac{1}{2}\mu b^2 d\rho_{in}^- + \frac{1}{2}\mu b^2 d\rho_{in} - \tau_{in} d\varepsilon$$

To estimate the shear stress ( $\tau$ ), several mechanisms are taken into account:

$$\tau = \tau_0 + \tau_s + \tau_{H-P} + \sqrt{\tau_{in}^2 + \tau_p^2}$$

 $\tau_0$ : Peierls force [Irvine1969; Varin1988; Zhao 2007]

 $\tau_s$ : solid-solution strengthening [Irvine1969; Varin1988; Zhao 2007]

 $\tau_{H-P}$ : Hall-Petch effect [Irvine1969; Varin1988; Zhao 2007]

 $\tau_{in}$ : dislocation strengthening inside the grain

 $\tau_p$ : precipitation strengthening

This energy dissipation is also related to (1) the hardness parameter ( $\sigma^*$ ), (2) flow stress ( $\tau$ ), and (3) strain rate ( $\dot{\gamma}$ ). It is proposed:

$$TdS = \frac{Cb}{l}d\tau$$
$$= \frac{1}{2}\mu b^2 d\rho_{in}^+ + \tau bld\rho_{in}^+ + \frac{1}{2}\mu b^2 d\rho_{in}^- + \frac{1}{2}\mu b^2 d\rho_{in} - \tau_{in}d\varepsilon$$

$$d\rho_{in} = d\rho_{in}^+ - d\rho_{in}^-$$

$$d\rho_{in}^{-} = \frac{\nu_0}{\dot{\gamma}} exp\left(-\frac{\Delta G}{kT}\right)\rho_{in}d\gamma$$

#### Stress-Strain Curves of Steel Alloys





**Ferrite** El Galindo-Nava et al., Mat. Sci. Eng. A 2012

**Ferrite + Martensite** PEJ Rivera et al., Mat. Sci. Tech. 2012

### **Micro-Structure & Plastic Deformation**



### Bainite Sub-Unit Size





0.2

0.4

0.6

х

- **1. Chemical Driving Force**
- 2. Austenite Yield Strength
- 3. Temperature

0.8

### **Mechanical Response of Bainite**

#### Garcia-Mateo et al., 2011



### **Micro-Structure & Plastic Deformation**



#### Parameters for Olson-Cohen Model

Olson et al., 1972, 1975





 $Vf_{\alpha'} = 1 - exp\left[-\beta\left(1 - exp(-\alpha\varepsilon)\right)^n\right]$ 

Jacques et al., Phil. Mag. A, 2001

Composition	O-C Param.				
	α=20, β=0.94				
Fe-0.13C-1.42Mn-1.50Si	α=26, β=0.94				
	α=20, β=0.70				
	-				
	α=57, β=1.41				
Fe-0.16C-1.30Mn-0.38Si	α=30, β=1.88				
	α=49, β=2.08				
	-				
$ \tau_{\rm YS} = \tau_0 + \kappa D^{-\frac{1}{2}} $					
	Composition Fe-0.13C-1.42Mn-1.50Si Fe-0.16C-1.30Mn-0.38Si 0000 000 000 000 0000 0000 0000 0000				

$$Vf_{\alpha'} = 1 - exp\left[-\beta\left(1 - exp(-\alpha\varepsilon)\right)^n\right]$$

Jacques et al., Philosophical Magazine A, 2001

Strain Rate =  $2 \text{ mm/min} = 6.67\text{E}-4 \text{ s}^{-1}$ 

Composition	Т <sub>віт</sub> , К	∆G, J/mol	O-C Param.
Fe-0.13C-1.42Mn-	683	-1785	α=20, β=0.94
1.50Si	633	-2239	α=26, β=0.94
	683	-1860	α=20, β=0.70
Fe-0.16C-1.30Mn-	-	-	-
0.38Si	643	-2216	α=57, β=1.41
	643	-2216	α=30, β=1.88
	643	-2216	α=49, β=2.08
	643	-2216	-



## The Optimum Conditions for TRIP Steels



	С	Mn	Si	T <sub>IA</sub>	T <sub>BIT</sub>
Max	0.5	3.0	3.0	950	800
min	0.0	0.0	0.0	1100	500
MSize	2 <sup>5</sup>			2	7

- Total alloying addition is less than 4 wt%
- 10 individuals in one generation, 1,000 generations
- 3. Full equilibrium after IA treatment is considered
- 4.  $T_0$  and para  $\gamma \theta$  concepts are utilized

## Phase Constituent and Performance









## **Chemical Composition and Performance**



## The Optimum Conditions



To achieve 15%-1600MPa, the recommended conditions are (wt%; K):

С	Mn	Si	T <sub>IA</sub>	T <sub>BIT</sub>
0.24	0.48	2.22	1051	601

## Conclusion



## **Selected References**

- 1. S Li et al., Thermodynamic analysis of two-stage heat treatment in TRIP steels
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- 3. H. Bhadeshia, Bainite in Steels.
- 4. Caballero et al., Design of Advanced Bainitic Steels by Optimisation of TTT Diagrams and TO Curves
- 5. Xu et al., Genetic alloy design based on thermodynamics and kinetics
- 6. Matsumura et al., Mechanical properties and retained austenite in intercritically heattreated bainite-transformed steel and their variation with Si and Mn additions
- 7. De Cooman, Structure–properties relationship in TRIPsteels containing carbide-free bainite
- 8. Fan et al., A Review of the Physical Metallurgy related to the Hot Press Forming of Advanced High Strength Steel