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Cairo University

INFLUENCE OF THERMAL TREATMENTS ON STRUCTURE AND PROPERTIES OF FERRITE - MARTENSITE STEEL

By

Omar Abolfotoh Abdelnaby Mohamed

A Thesis Submitted to the
Faculty of Engineering at Cairo University
In Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree of
MASTER OF SCIENCE
In
Metallurgical Engineering

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING, CAIRO UNIVERSITY
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Title of Thesis:

**INFLUENCE OF THERMAL TREATMENTS ON STRUCTURE AND
PROPERTIES OF FERRITE - MARTENSITE STEEL**

Key Words:

Dual phase steel; Intercritical treatment; quenching; Tempering; Dynamic strain aging

Summary:

The main purpose of this thesis is to study the effect of different heat treatments on structure and properties of ferrite-martensite (0.15 % C) dual phase (DP) steel. Two different kinds of DP steel were produced from the as received low carbon hot rolled steel with ferrite/pearlite microstructure using two different techniques, i.e., direct quenching (DQ) and intermediate quenching (IQ). DQ and IQ heat treatments included normalizing and hardening respectively of the as received steel at 950 °C then intercritical heat treatment between 740 and 800 °C then quenching in ice cooled water. The martensite volume fraction of the DQ dual phase steel increased from 16.3 % to 42.6 % when the intercritical heat treatment temperature increased from 740 °C to 800 °C. Hardness of DP steel was studied. It was found that hardness of either DQ or IQ dual phase steel (242 and 270 VH10 respectively) is higher than that of the as received steel (145 VH10). Tensile properties of DP steel were studied. Stress-strain curves of DQ and IQ dual phase steel showed a continuous yielding behavior unlike the normalized steel that showed a yield point. Besides continuous yielding, DQ and IQ dual phase steel have higher yield and ultimate tensile strength, initial rate of work hardening, but lower elongation and yield to ultimate tensile strength ratio than the normalized steel. Effect of testing temperature from 25 - 500 °C on the tensile properties of IQ -760 °C dual phase steel was studied. Stress – strain curves showed a continuous yielding behavior at all temperatures except at 300 - 400 °C due to dynamic strain aging happened. Effect of tempering from 100 to 500 °C on structure and properties of IQ-760 °C DP steel was studied. The effect of banded structure on room temperature impact toughness of DP steel was studied. It was found that the impact toughness of DQ and IQ dual phase steel both intercritically heat treated at 760 °C has greatly increased after the removal of banding to be 95 and 114 J respectively after being 10 and 25 J in the presence of banded structure.

Disclaimer

I hereby declare that this thesis is my own original work and that no part of it has been submitted for a degree qualification at any other university or institute.

I further declare that I have appropriately acknowledged all sources used and have cited them in the references section.

Name: _____ Date: / /

Signature:

Dedication

Most importantly, none of this could have happened without my family. My father, my mother and my wife, who offered me encouragement through everything limited devotion to correspondence. They did not let me and I am forever grateful. This dissertation stands as a testament to your unconditional love and encouragement.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

DISCLAIMER	I
DEDICATION	II
ACKNOWLEDGMENT	III
TABLE OF CONTENTS	IV
LIST OF TABLES	VI
LIST OF FIGURES	VII
ABSTRACT	XII
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION	1
CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE SURVEY	3
2.1 Definition of dual Phase Steel	3
2.2 Chemistry of dual Phase Steels.....	6
2.2.1 Carbon.....	6
2.2.2 Manganese.....	6
2.2.3 Silicon.....	7
2.2.4 Cr and Mo.....	7
2.2.5 Micro-alloying elements.....	8
2.3 Production of dual phase steel.....	9
2.3.1 Direct quenching (DQ).....	10
2.3.2 Intermediate quenching (IQ).....	11
2.3.3 Step quenching (SQ).....	12
2.4 Mechanical properties of dual phase steels.....	14
2.4.1 Continuous yielding behavior.....	14
2.4.2 Very high strength.....	14
2.4.3 Good elongation.....	14
2.4.4 Low yield to tensile strength ratio.....	16
2.4.5 High initial rate of work hardening.....	16
2.5 Factors affecting mechanical properties of dual phase steel.....	17
2.5.1 Morphology of the martensite phase.....	17
2.5.2 Volume fraction of martensite.....	18
2.5.3 Carbon content of martensite.....	19
2.5.4 Grain size of ferrite.....	20
2.6 Tempering of dual phase steel.....	21
2.6.1 Effect of tempering on microstructure of dual phase steel.....	21
2.6.2 Effect of tempering on mechanical properties of dual phase steel	22
2.6.2.1 Yielding behavior.....	22
2.6.2.2 Tensile strength.....	23
2.6.2.3 Elongation.....	23
2.6.2.4 Hardness.....	23

2.6.2.5 Yield to ultimate tensile strength ratio.....	24
2.6.2.6 Work hardening rate.....	24
CHAPTER 3: EXPERIMENTAL WORK.....	25
3.1 Materials.....	25
3.2 Heat Treatment Cycles.....	27
3.2.1 Normalizing and hardening.....	29
3.2.1.1 Normalizing.....	29
3.2.1.2 Hardening.....	29
3.2.2 Intercritical heat treatment.....	29
3.2.3 Tempering process.....	30
3.2.4 Heat treatment to remove the banded structure.....	30
3.3 Microscopy.....	32
3.3.1 Optical microscopy.....	32
3.3.2 Scanning electron microscopy.....	34
3.4 Tensile testing.....	34
3.5 Impact test.....	35
3.6 Hardness and micro-hardness tests.....	39
CHAPTER 4: RESULTS AND DISCUSSION.....	40
4.1 Effect of heat treatment procedure on production of dual phase steel.....	40
4.1.1 Microstructure of the normalized steel.....	40
4.1.2 Microstructure of the hardened steel.....	42
4.2 Microstructures of dual phase steels produced from normalized and hardened low carbon steels.....	43
4.3 Effect of the intercritical thermal treatment temperature on DP steel microstructure	46
4.4 Hardness of dual phase steel.....	49
4.5 Tensile Properties of dual phase steel.....	52
4.6 Effect of intercritical heat treatment temperature on the room temperature tensile properties of dual phase steel.....	57
4.7 Effect of testing temperature on the tensile properties of fibrous martensite dual phase steel.....	61
4.8 Effect of tempering on microstructure and mechanical properties of fibrous martensite dual phase steel.....	66
4.8.1 Effect of tempering on microstructure.....	66
4.8.2 Effect of tempering temperature on the room temperature tensile properties.....	67
4.8.3 Effect of tempering temperature on hardness and impact toughness of dual phase steel.....	73
4.9 Effect of banded structure on the toughness of dual phase steel.....	76
CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSIONS.....	81
REFERENCES.....	83
ARABIC SUMMARY.....	i

List of Tables

Table 3.1:	Chemical composition of the as received low carbon steel used.....	26
Table 4.1:	Vickers hardness values for the normalized steel and for both DQ and IQ dual phase steels.....	49
Table 4.2:	Room temperature tensile properties of the normalized low carbon steel, and both IQ and DQ dual phase steels intercritically heat treated at 760 °C for 30 min.....	53
Table 4.3:	Effect of banded structure on the room temperature impact toughness of DP steel intercritically treated at 760 °C for 30 min.....	77