

# A Study on Metals and Their Properties (Aluminum, Iron, Silver)

Sushma Devi\*

Assistant Professor, Department of Physics, Govt. P.G. College, Ambala Cantt. Haryana, India

**Abstract – Metals are one of the most commonly used forms of engineering products. Any of their characteristics, e.g. elastic constants, may be specifically linked to the existence of the metallic bonds between the atoms. On the other side, macro and microstructural characteristics of metals, such as point faults, dislocations, grain borders, and second phase particles, regulate their yield, flow, and fracture stress. Photos of microstructural components may be collected through advanced imaging techniques. As metals are key engineering components, a knowledge of mechanical and fatigue properties of metals used in engineering structures is necessary. This Paper presents mechanical properties and, the proliferation and plasticity actions of metals such as wrought iron and mild steel used in engineering. In this study, we explore the knowledge regarding Metals and Their Properties like Aluminum, Iron and Silver.**

**Keywords: Properties, Metals, Aluminium, Silver, Iron**

-----X-----

## INTRODUCTION

Metals may be classified into two broader classes, ferrous and nonferrous, if seen in a broad way. The iron materials are focused on iron and the nonferrous materials have a part other than iron. The majority of non-ferrous products consisting of copper, aluminium, magnesium, silver, gold, plum and zinc alloys. Cadmic, molybdenum, cobalt, zirconium, beryllium, titanium, tantalum and precious metals of gold, silver and platinum are also less widely used nonferrous metals and alloys. The uses of nonferrous metals are immense and their knowledge is still being studied in particular fields.

Aluminum has played a very important role as a flexible metal in this production. Aluminum replaced much older and well-established products like wood, copper, iron and steel due to its peculiar characteristics. More aluminium than any other non-ferrous element, like copper and its alloys, and plumbing, tin and zinc are consumed on a volumetric scale. Aluminum entered this status, even though its industrial output started only towards the end of the nineteenth century and thus aluminium was an industry latecomer.

## GENERAL CLASSIFICATION OF ALUMINIUM ALLOYS

Pure aluminium is conveniently assigned to a combination of physical and mechanical properties like many other metals. There is an international convention acknowledging the classification scheme

for aluminium association. A short overview of the alloy classification scheme is given below.

- First digit alloy element(s).
- Second digit — Original alloy variance
- Third and fourth digits — Differences of individual alloys
  - o 1xxx — Pure Al (99.00%)
  - o 2xxx — Al-Cu Alloys
  - o 3xxx — Al-Mn Alloys
  - o 4xxx — Al-Si Alloys
  - o 5xxx — Al-Mg Alloys
  - o 6xxx — Al-Mg- Si Alloys
  - o 7xxx--Al-Zn-Mg Alloys
  - o 8xxx —Al + Other Elements

As a criterion for classifying aluminous alloys into two groups, the process by which the alloying elements improve aluminium is: non heat treatable and heat treatable.

**Non—Heat Treatable Aluminium Alloys**

The initial strength of the aluminium alloys, which are not heat-trained, relies mainly on the hardening impact and effects of silicone, iron, manganese and magnesium alloys. These elements influence their intensity increase either as a scattered stage or by reinforcing the strong solution. The heat treatable alloys, based on the alloying components, are often used in the 1xxx, 3xxx, 4xxx and 5xxx alloy range. By strain hardening the strength of all non-heat treatable alloys can be increased.

**Heat—Treatable Aluminium Alloys**

The initial strength of these aluminium alloys relies on the structure of the alloy as do the non-heat-processing alloys. Aluminum heat treatable alloys improve their properties by heat treatment and soothing solution, accompanied by either 3 natural or artificial ageing. Cold work will bring extra power. The temperature-treatable alloys are predominantly present in 2xxx, 6xxx and 7xxx alloys.

**PHYSICAL AND MECHANICAL PROPERTIES OF METALS**

**Physical Properties of aluminium**

Aluminum is one of the most flexible, economic and desirable metallic products for a large variety of applications, from extremely ductile soft sheets to the most challenging of engineering applications due to the unusual combination of properties offered by aluminium with its alloys. The density of aluminium is just 2.7g / cm<sup>3</sup>, only one-third as high as steel (7.83g / cm<sup>3</sup>). The sort of incremental oxidation that causes steel to rust away resists aluminium. The exposed surface of aluminium mixes oxygen in an inert aluminium oxide film with a thickness of a mere 10 millionths that blocks further oxidation. If the aluminium protective coating is scratched, it is re-stitched immediately.

Aluminum can tolerate corrosion by water, salt and other environmental causes, as well as a vast number of other chemical and physical agents. It may be rather reflective and radiant radiation, expressed effectively by visible light, radiant heat and electromagnetic waves. Aluminum normally possesses exceptional electrical and thermal conductivity and copper is between 50 to 60 percent thermal conductivity in aluminium alloys. Aluminum is an essential property of the electrical and computer industry, non-ferromagnetic. It is non-pyrophoric and is important for the handling or exposure to flammable or explosive materials. Aluminum is non-toxic and routinely used in food and beverage cans.

Aluminum alloy physical metallurgy involves the compositional impacts, mechanical activity and heat treatment on their mechanical and physical

properties. Aluminum alloys are the most popular methods for improving their strength.

- (a) Alloys (non-heat treatable alloys) and Disperse the second phase constituents or components in a strong solution and cold work;
- (b) dissolving and precipitating the alloy components as consistent sub-microscopic particles into strong solution (heat-treatable or precipitating alloys).

**Mechanical Properties and Chemical Composition**

Significant mechanical properties such as strength of the tensile, yield strength, fatigue limits and toughness of aluminium alloys are presented in Table 1.

**Table1 Mechanical properties of aluminium alloys**

Alloy Series	Ultimate Tensile Strength (MPa)	Yield Strength (MPa)	Fatigue Limit (MPa)	Brinell Hardness Number (500kg)
1XXX	70-185	30-165	20-60	23-105
2XXX	185-475	70-455	30-140	45-135
3XXX	110-285	40-250	50-125	28-40
4XXX	170-380	315	110	120
5XXX	124-435	40-405	85-150	28-105
6XXX	124-400	50-360	60-110	25-95
7XXX	221-720	95-510	360	60-160

**Table2 Chemical composition of aluminium alloys**

Alloy	Si	Fe	Cu	Mn	Mg	Cr	Ni	Zn
1xxx	0.008-1.0	0.066-0.6	0.009-0.1	0.002-0.05	0.005-0.006	0.01-0.03	-	0.056-0.1
2xxx	0.1-1.3	0.12-1.0	0.7-6.8	0.1-0.6	0.25-1.8	0.05-0.2	0.9-2.2	0.05-0.35
3xxx	0.08-1.8	0.2-0.8	0.05-0.3	0.05-1.8	0.05-1.5	0.05-0.2	0.05	0.05-0.4
4xxx	3.6-13.0	0.2-1.0	0.05-4.7	0.05-0.1	0.05-0.2	0.07-0.1	0.5	0.05-10.7
5xxx	0.08-0.4	0.33-0.7	0.03-0.2	0.05-1.4	0.03-5.5	0.05-0.35	0.05	0.03-2.8
6xxx	0.2-1.8	0.15-1.0	0.04-2.6	0.03-1.1	0.35-1.5	0.03-0.15	0.2	0.03-2.4
7xxx	0.10-0.6	0.08-1.4	0.05-2.6	0.05-0.4	0.8-3.4	0.05-0.35	0.04-0.16	1.3-9.7

**Properties of Steel**

Steel is primarily a blend of iron and carbon (or Alloy) with minor quantities of silicone, Sulphur, phosphorous, and manganese. Additional elements may be applied to the steel in order to give it a certain consistency to increase its utility. The carbon content in steel is 21 between 0.05% and 1.2%. The other components may be controlled by impurities or alloying elements added to change the heat treatment reaction or create some special characteristics. As a strong alloy agent, carbon may create a variation of strength and strength by varying its steel composition. In reality, steel may have approximately 2,1% carbon at most. Mild steel is one of the most widely used building products. It is very solid and can be produced from natural materials that are readily accessible. It is

classified as mild steel since the carbon content is comparatively poor. Due to its soft ability and machinability, mild steel is highly suitable for building. It is very soft due to its strong intensity and malleability. Mechanical properties are the features of steel responding to such loads or mechanical action, including bending, machining and forming. Mechanical characteristics influence how the metal responds as a framework is produced. Carbon is applied to the iron to harden or reinforce the steel in different quantities. As carbon content improves toughness and tensile strength, ductility, plasticity and roughness are reduced. Generally speaking, the content of carbon improves the welding (how easily welded).

### Properties of iron

The chemical element iron is the fourth most important element and the second most prevalent metal in the earth's crust. Early humans used iron. The Latin ferrum is taken from its chemical sign, Fe. The iron name derives from the Anglo-Saxon Iren or Isern. About 5% of the Earth's surface is made of iron. The metal is chemically active and can be present in nature in association with other rock and soil components. Both plants and animals have so little iron.

Iron exists mostly in iron-oxide ores on earth. One such ore is lodestone or magnetite, named for its magnetism property. Hematite is the most concentrated ore, but less iron than magnetite. Limonite and siderite are fewer iron ores. Iron is also present in meteorites, alloyed with nickel.

Like most metals, iron absorbs heat and energy, it has a luster and in its chemical reactions produces positive ions. Pure iron is somewhat soft and can be formed and formed quickly while heated. Its colour is white silver. Iron is magnetized quickly. It becomes steel in conjunction with tiny quantities of carbon. Significant iron compounds are of two types: iron, with a valence (combining strength measurement) of +2 for the ions forming the alloy, and iron, in which the ions have a valence of +3 for the ions. It has four stable isotopes or shapes.

As heat, the crystal structure and magnetism of iron alter. When an iron magnet is warmed red, it loses its magnetism and returns when cooled.

In the presence of humidity, iron rapidly rusts as it readily mixes with oxygen in the air. Iron can be protected from corrosion by covering it with a solution of phosphate. Zinc coating iron to produce galvanized iron often avoids rusting.

### APPLICATIONS OF METAL

Important aluminium alloy applications

- Alloys in the 1xxx series are used mostly in the electrical and chemical industry.
- 2xxx series alloys have exceptionally high strength, and are used in the aircraft industry and in the transportation industry.
- 3xxx series alloys are used for stoneware, fuel tanks, chemical machinery, etc.
- 4xxx series alloys are used in the production of brazing alloys, solder electrodes and complex forging.
- Alloys 5xxx series are commonly used in boat hull, gangplanks and other marine-exposed items for welded structures. The ductility of these alloys is outstanding and ideal for impact and shock load use.
- 6xxx series alloys are extremely prone to corrosion and used for welded structures, industrial and marine application.
- 7xxx series alloys were used for the construction of airframes, pressure vessels, high tension elements and military uses such as armor shield, portable bridge etc.

### Application of Steel

Mild steel is one of the world's largest because it is simple to reach, easy to produce, low cost and strong tensile strength among numerous other attractive characteristics. It finds many applications including,

In particular, manufacturing products are used in the structural, industrial and other industries. Mild steel is often used to produce different reaction vessels such as cooling tower reservoirs, pipelines etc. in manufacturing processes such as acid washing, beating etc. It is often used for beams, plates, bars and pipes on and off shore in certain structural forms.

Austenitic stainless steels have unusually large elongations, typically about 60%-70% for finished products. The mixture of strength, job longevity and high duration makes extreme production operations regularly conducted, such as deep drawing of sinks and tanks.

The cast iron is durable and relatively cheap engineering materials with different properties which can be alloyed, solidified and heat-treated regulated and changed. These are commonly used in pumps and other hydraulics, and diesel motor cylinder liners in particular are constructed almost entirely from flake graphite grey iron.

In numerous science and technical applications such as chemicals and medications, the food &

beverage sector, the petrochemical industry, the oil and water pipe lines, ship & navel frameworks, architectural applications, water source and desalination plants, Stainless steel is used because of its high power, its workability and its high corrosion resistance.

Iron is the most prone metal to corrosion. A lot of focus is also devoted to shielding it from aggressive conditions. In manufacturing, acid solutions are commonly used. Acid picking, industrial acid purification, acid descaling and oil well acidization are the most significant applications.

Over the years, owing to its excellent corrosion resistance properties, interest is centered on ferritic stainless steels as corrosion resistant products. They are extremely resistant to chloride pitting and slit erosion, chloride tension cracking resistant and have outstanding tolerance to organic acids and caustic environments. However, rusting in the moist atmosphere is quick and its corrosion rate in acidic conditions is very high. Security of mild steel from corrosion is therefore an important concern.

Every year, thousands of iron aircraft are exhumed from archaeological sites all over the planet. Many of them are always destroyed by thousands of years of attacks by soil environmental causes. Soil is a dynamic ecosystem whose characteristics are regulated by geological factors (soil forms, pH, electrical resistivity, etc.), hydrological factors (water movement through the soil), and the composition of soil chemicals. Any of these is involved in the phase of corrosion.

The corrosion activity of alloys relies heavily on its structure and composition. The environmental features, namely structure, temperature and degree of aeration, have a dramatic effect on this behavior, on the other side. Mild steel appears in most corrosive media very similarly than stainless steels. These alloys are conventionally used as a strong alternative in nearly neutral watery solutions for corrosion-resistant products. The presence of microorganisms in media including seawater and contaminated estuary water has been commonly documented to impact the corrosion characteristics of various iron and non-ferrous alloys, including corrosion resistant alloys.

## APPLICATIONS OF IRON

### As structural material

Iron is the most commonly used commodity, responsible for more than 90 % of the world 's metal supply. Due to its low cost and high strength, it is also the material of preference to resist stress or to pass power, for example the construction of machinery and machine machines, tracks, vehicles, hulls, concrete support bars and the load-carrying

structure of houses. Since pure iron is very soft, it is generally mixed with steel alloying elements.

The mechanical characteristics of iron and its alloys are highly significant for its structural use. These qualities may be measured in different forms, such as Brinell, Rockwell and Vickers hardness.

However, the mechanical characteristics of iron are greatly influenced by the sample 's purity; pure, single crystals of iron are therefore weaker than aluminium and the purest industrially manufactured iron (99,99%) has a hardness of 20-30 Brinell.

A rise in carbon content can increase the toughness and tensile strength of iron dramatically. The toughness of the alloy is 0,6 per cent but the tensile strength is low. Due to its smoothness, it is much simpler to deal with than its heaviest congeners ruthenium and osmium.

The "white" cast iron carbon absorbs the carbon as cementite or iron carbon. This strong, porous compound dominates white cast irons' mechanical properties, making it hard yet shock immune. The rotten surface is full of fine facets of the rotten iron carbide, a very pale, silver, bright stuff, hence the word. Cooling an iron mixture steadily below 723 ° C with 0.8% carbon at room temperature contributes to distinct, contrasting cementite's and  $\alpha$ -iron layers, which are soft and malt able and referred to as perlite for its appearance. In the other side, rapid cooling does not give time for this separation and leaves the martensite hard and delicate. The steel will then be cooled by heating to an intermediate temperature, changing the perlite and martensite proportions. The final result below 0.8% carbon content is a pearlite- $\alpha$ Fe combination, with a perlite-cement blend over 0.8% carbon content.

Gray iron produces different, fine graphite flakes, which often render the material fragile because of sharp-edged graphite flakes that create stress-concentration sites in the material. A newer version of grey iron, known as the ductile iron, is handled particularly by magnesium trace amounts to modify graphite to spheroid or nodule shapes, reducing the strand to spheroids

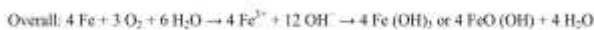
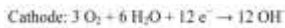
Worn iron produces less than 0.25% carbon but significant quantities of slag making it a fibrous quality. It is a durable, mixable metal but not as fusible as pig iron. If it's shaped to the tip, it loses it soon. Wrought iron is distinguished by the appearance in the metal of fine slag fibers. Wrought iron is more prone to rust than steel. For conventional "wrought-iron" goods and blacksmithing, mild steel has almost entirely been substituted.

Mild steel corrodes more quickly than wrought iron but is cheaper and available more commonly.

Carbon steel comprises 2.0% or less of carbon, containing minimal quantities of manganese, Sulphur, phosphorus and silicone. Alloy steels include various quantities of carbon and other metals such as chromium, vanadium, molybdenum, copper, tungsten and so forth. Their alloy material boosts their prices and is typically only required for specialized applications. However, stainless steel is a traditional alloy steel. Recent ferrous metallurgy advances have developed a wider range of micro alloy metals, often referred to as 'HSLA' or low-alloy steels with small increments which produce stronger and sometimes dramatic durability at low cost.

Iron is also used to shield from ionizing radiation in comparison to conventional uses. While it is thinner than another conventional protective substance, it is physically much better. The energy-based attenuation of radiation is seen in the chart.

The key downside of iron and steel is that pure iron, like much of its alloys, is seriously hindered by corrosion if not somehow covered, at an expense of more than 1 % of global economy. Painting, galvanizing, passivation, plastic coating and bluing are all used to shield iron from rust, except water and oxygen or cathodic shielding. The iron rusting process is as follows:



The electrolyte is typically sulphate iron(II) in urban areas (formed as Sulphur dioxide attacks iron), and atmospheric salt particles are present in coastal areas.

## THEORIES OF CORROSION

Corrosion is known to be metal cancer. The treatment should be focused on the right evaluation of the illness. Although several hypotheses were misleading, Whitney gave the most appropriate electrochemical corrosion theory in 1903. The other old hypotheses, such as acid theory, colloidal theory of chemical assault and biological theory were either proven to be part of or considered not to be applicable electrochemical theory. The only hypothesis widely recognized and relevant for most corrosion processes is the electrochemical theory of corrosion. Corrosion may primarily be induced by factors correlated with metal or atmosphere or both.

### Corrosion Behavior of Aluminium

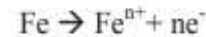
The issues in alloys that have not been thoroughly analyzed should be researched and they are:

- (i) The impact on pit initiation of semi-conductive properties of oxide films;
- (ii) Salt precipitation period required in the trap,

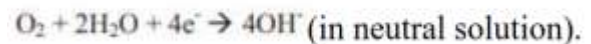
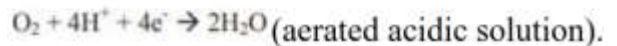
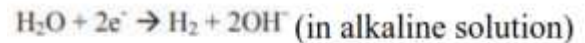
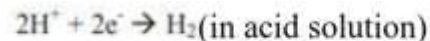
- (iii) Cathodic intermetallic pit shape,
- (iv) the state and transformation of crystallographic pit formation into spheroidized shape (inclusion effect)
- (v) Pitting of inorganic compounds (chromate, phosphate nitrate): pH solution experiments with a dissolved inhibitor, inhibitor effect on cathodic reactions and the level of passive current, and inhibitor influence on the electronic composition of passive films;
- (vi) deterministic considerations in pit beginning e.g. particle size of second step, aspect ratio chemistry, etc.

### Corrosion of Iron

During the corrosion phase, a metal is transformed from the atomic to the ionic state by losing one or more electrons (at anode).



These electrons pass through the external circuit and respond with some surface species (at cathode).



### Corrosion property of steel

In certain conditions in which carbon and low-alloy tool steels corrode, stainless steel is known for its corrosion resistance. The resistance to corrosion is induced by an exceedingly thin (approximately 5 nanometers) oxide coating on the surface of the steel. This oxide coating is named passive since in the midst of corrosive conditions, it leaves the surface electrochemically passive.

Due to chromium applied to stainless steel, the passive layer shapes. In order to shape the passive sheet, inox steel must have at least 10.5% chromium. The more chromium is applied, the more durable the passive layer becomes and the greater the resistance to corrosion. Additional components including nickel, manganese and molybdenum may be applied to increase resistance to corrosion from stainless steel.

## CONCLUSION

The most prominent materials in civilization have undoubtedly been the metals in the last two or three centuries. All of you have a general understanding of what is metal and what is not and some of the parameters for the differentiation have been shown in this portion.

In that section you have studied the most relevant terms and principles: metallic bonding and how metallic features apply to it; metallic bonding is the attraction between the relocation electrons and the filled nucleus. It is powerful and takes place in all directions. Electrons transfer from excited countries to lower energy levels contributes to emission spectrums. Emission spectra are the foundation for straightforward flame testing for metal salts.

In this review we will examine the electronic, physical and chemical properties of aluminium alloy, iron and steel. In addition, we will address applications and corrosion behavior.

## REFERENCES

1. Han Ye, Zhu ShengLi, Inoue. (2016) on Research progress of ferro-based soft magnetic materials amorphous alloy and block metal glass
2. Lu WenHao. (2017) on Properties, preparation and application of metallic glass
3. K.j. Kurzydłowski (2000) on structure and properties of metals
4. Mcintyre T. (2003) on Phytoremediation of heavy metals from soils. Adv Biochem Eng Biotechnol.
5. F García-Moren (2016) on Commercial applications of metal foams: Their properties and production
6. A Zak, Y Feldman, V Lyakhovitskaya (2002) on Alkali Metal Intercalated Fullerene-Like MS<sub>2</sub> (M = W, Mo) Nanoparticles and Their Properties
7. Y Nakao, K Kaeriyama (2001) on Preparation of noble metal sols in the presence of surfactants and their properties
8. K Chander, J Dyckmans, R Joergensen (2001) on Different sources of heavy metals and their long-term effects on soil microbial properties
9. J Marx, A Rabiei (2017) on Overview of composite metal foams and their properties and performance
10. V Maier-Kiener, M Siller, S Jakob (2018) on Impact of the Microstructure of Refractory Metals on their Mechanical Properties—a Multi-Scale Study
11. AM Polyanskiy, VA Polyanskiy, AK Belyaev (2018) on Relation of elastic properties, yield stress and ultimate strength of polycrystalline metals to their melting and evaporation parameters with account for nano and micro
12. J Singh, T Dutta, KH Kim, M Rawat, P Samddar (2018) on 'Green'synthesis of metals and their oxide nanoparticles: applications for environmental remediation

---

### Corresponding Author

**Sushma Devi\***

Assistant Professor, Department of Physics, Govt. P.G. College, Ambala Cantt. Haryana, India

[sushmabarmanap@gmail.com](mailto:sushmabarmanap@gmail.com)