

# AISI 1090M Accelerated Stab Bar Steel Iteration #9

Fatigue Behavior, Monotonic Properties  
and  
Microstructural Data

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## SUMMARY

The required chemical analysis, microstructural data, mechanical properties, cyclic stress-strain data and strain-controlled fatigue data for AISI 1090M (GM) Hot Form-Accelerated Cooled steel (Iteration # 9) have been obtained. The material was provided by the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) in the form of metal bars. These bars were machined into smooth axial fatigue specimens. A monotonic tensile test was performed to measure yield strength, tensile strength and reduction of area. Nineteen specimens were fatigue tested in laboratory air at room temperature to establish a strain-life curve.

## INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of tensile and fatigue tests performed on a group of 20 1090M (GM) Hot Form-Accelerated Cooled steel samples. The material was provided by the American Iron and Steel Institute.

The objectives of this investigation were to obtain a chemical analysis, and the microstructural data, mechanical properties, cyclic stress-strain data and strain-life tests requested by the AISI bar group.

## EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

### *Specimen Preparation*

The material for the study was received in the form of bars. Smooth cylindrical fatigue specimens, shown in Figure 1, were machined from the metal bars. The gauge sections of the fatigue specimens were mechanically polished in the loading direction using 240, 400, 500, and 600 emery paper. After polishing, a thin band of M-coat D acrylic coating was applied along the central gauge section. The purpose of the M-coat D application was to prevent scratching of the smooth surface by the knife edges of the strain extensometer, thus reducing the incidence of knife-edge failures. In total, 19 fatigue data points were generated.

### *Test Equipment and Procedure*

A monotonic tension test was performed to determine the yield strength, the tensile strength, the percent of elongation and the percent reduction of area. Hardness tests were performed on the surface of three fatigue specimens using a Rockwell C scale. The hardness measurements were repeated three times for each specimen and the average value was recorded.

All fatigue tests were carried out in a laboratory environment at approximately 25 °C using an MTS servo-controlled closed loop electrohydraulic testing machine. A process control computer, controlled by FLEX software [1] was used to output constant strain and stress amplitudes in the form of a sinusoidal wave.

Axial, constant amplitude, fully reversed ( $R=-1$ ) strain-controlled fatigue tests were performed on smooth specimens. The stress-strain limits for a given cycle of each specimen were recorded at logarithmic intervals throughout the test via a peak reading oscilloscope. Failure of a specimen was defined as a 50 percent drop in tensile peak load from the peak load observed at one half the expected specimen life. For fatigue lives greater than 100,000 reversals, the specimens were tested in stress-control once the stress-strain loops had stabilized. For the stress-controlled tests, failure was defined as the separation of the smooth specimen into two pieces. For strain-controlled tests the loading frequency varied from 0.03 Hz to 5 Hz while in stress-controlled tests the frequency used was up to 30 Hz.

The first reversal of each fatigue test was recorded on an x-y plotter, allowing the elastic modulus ( $E$ ) and the monotonic yield strength to be determined.

## RESULTS

### A) Microstructural Data

Figure 2 presents the pearlitic-martensitic microstructure of AISI 1090M (GM) Hot Form-Accelerated Cooled steel. A type A inclusion rate of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  was obtained based on the severity level number according to ASTM E45 method A. Inclusions of types B, C, and D were not observed. Figure 3 presents the observed inclusions of AISI 1090M (GM) Hot Form-Accelerated Cooled steel. The inclusion area was measured using a JAVA image analysis system. The volume fraction of pearlitic structure based on ASTM E562-95 and using the JAVA image analysis system was over 95%. The chemical composition of AISI 1090M (GM) Hot Form-Accelerated Cooled steel was provided by SCI-Lab materials testing inc., 25 McIntyre place, unit 2, Kitchener, Ontario, N2R 1H1, and is shown in Table 1.

## B) Strain-Life Data

The fatigue test data for AISI 1090M-Accelerated Cooled steel obtained in this investigation are given in table 2. The stress amplitude corresponding to each strain-amplitude was calculated from the peak load amplitude at one half the expected specimen life.

A fatigue strain-life curve for the AISI 1090M-Accelerated Cooled steel is shown in Figure 4, and may be described by the following equation:

$$\frac{\Delta\varepsilon}{2} = \frac{\sigma'_f}{E} (2N_f)^b + \varepsilon'_f (2N_f)^c$$

where

|                               |                                  |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| $\frac{\Delta\varepsilon}{2}$ | = True total strain amplitude    |
| $2N_f$                        | = Number of reversals to failure |
| $\sigma'_f$                   | = Fatigue strength coefficient   |
| $b$                           | = Fatigue strength exponent      |
| $\varepsilon'_f$              | = Fatigue ductility coefficient  |
| $c$                           | = Fatigue ductility exponent     |

Where  $\sigma'_f = 1949.25$  MPa,  $b = -0.1207$ ,  $\varepsilon'_f = 0.8107$  and  $c = -0.6430$ . These values of the strain-life parameters were determined from fatigue testing over the range:  $0.002 < \frac{\Delta\varepsilon}{2} < 0.01$ .

## C) Cyclic Stress-Strain Curves

Stabilized and half life stress data obtained from strain-life fatigue tests were used to obtain the companion cyclic stress-strain curve shown in figure 5. The true cyclic stress-strain curve is described by the following equation:

ak8

$$\epsilon = \frac{\sigma}{E} + \left(\frac{\sigma}{K'}\right)^{\frac{1}{n'}}$$

- where
- $\epsilon$  = True total strain amplitude
  - $\sigma$  = Cyclically stable true stress amplitude
  - $K'$  = Cyclic strength coefficient
  - $n'$  = Cyclic strain hardening exponent

Where  $K' = 1942.70$  MPa and  $n' = 0.1794$ .

#### D) Mechanical Properties

The engineering monotonic stress-strain curve is given in figure 6. The monotonic and cyclic properties are included in Appendix 1. The Hardness of the AISI 1090M-Accelerated Cooled steel taken as the average of three randomly chosen fatigue specimens and is given in Appendix 1. The individual hardness measurements are also given in Table 2. The true monotonic and true cyclic stress-strain curves plotted together are given in figure 7.

#### REFERENCES

- [1] Pompetzki, M.A., Saper, R.A., and Topper, T.H., "Software for High Frequency Control of Variable Amplitude Fatigue Tests," Canadian Metallurgical Quarterly, Vol. 25, No. 2, pp. 181-194, 198.
- [2] J. A. Bannantine, J. J. Comer, and J. L. Handrock (1990), In :Fundamentals of Metal Fatigue Analysis, Prentice Hall, London.

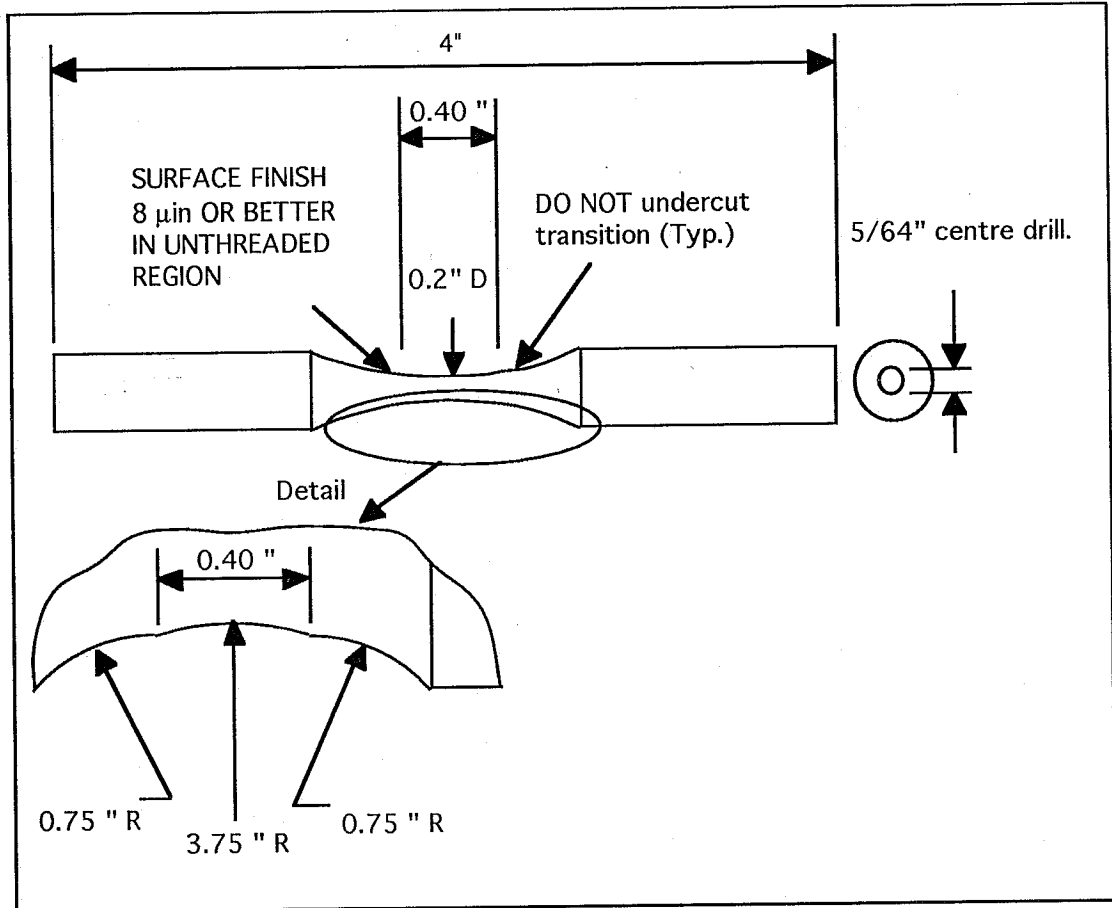
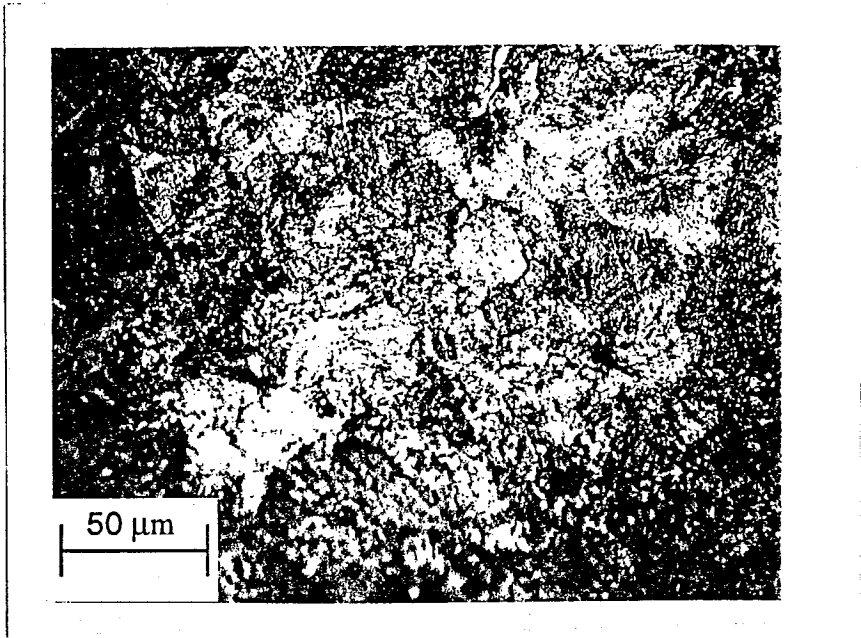


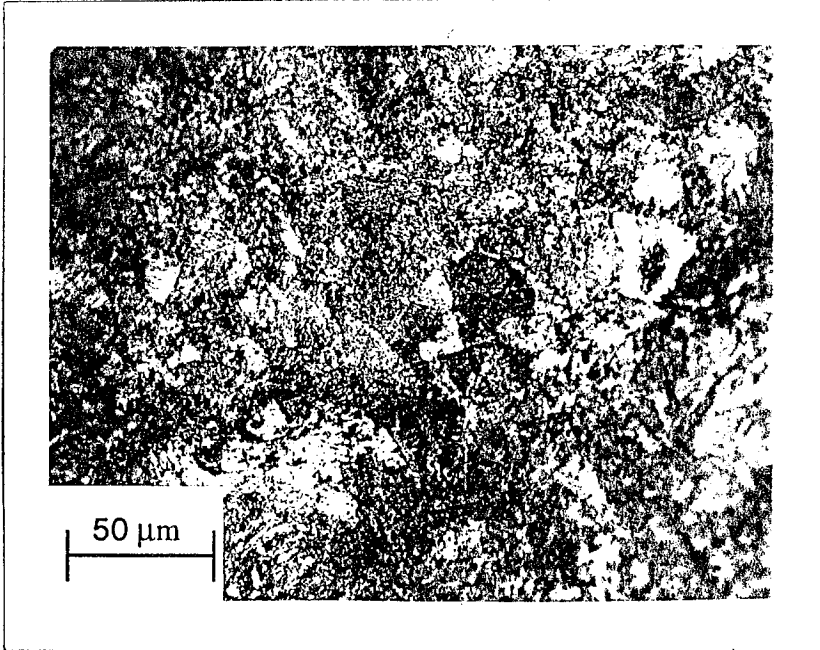
Fig. 1 Smooth cylindrical fatigue specimen





**ITER 9: Photomicrograph of SAE 1090M steel, Hot Forged and Accelerated cooled to Rc-28. 500X Mag.**

(a) Longitudinal direction



(b) Transverse direction

Fig. 2 Photomicrographs of AISI 1090M-Accelerated Cooled steel (X500): (a) Longitudinal direction, and (b) Transverse direction.

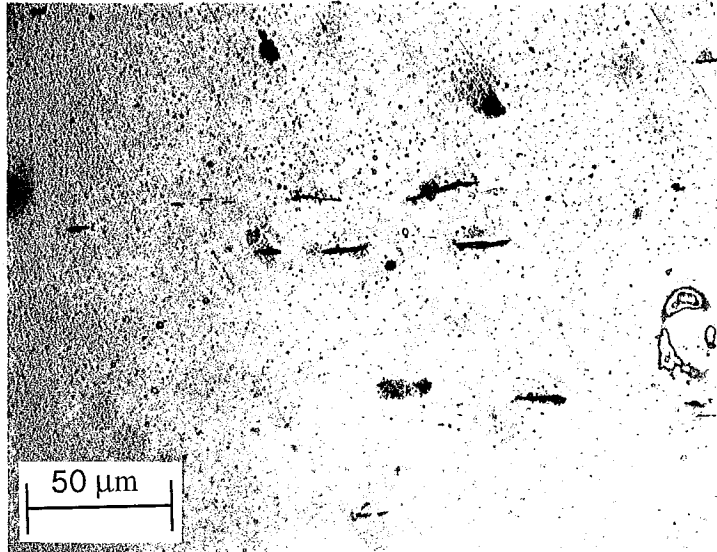


Fig. 3 Inclusions photomicrograph of AISI 1090M (GM) Hot Form-Accelerated Cooled steel (X500)

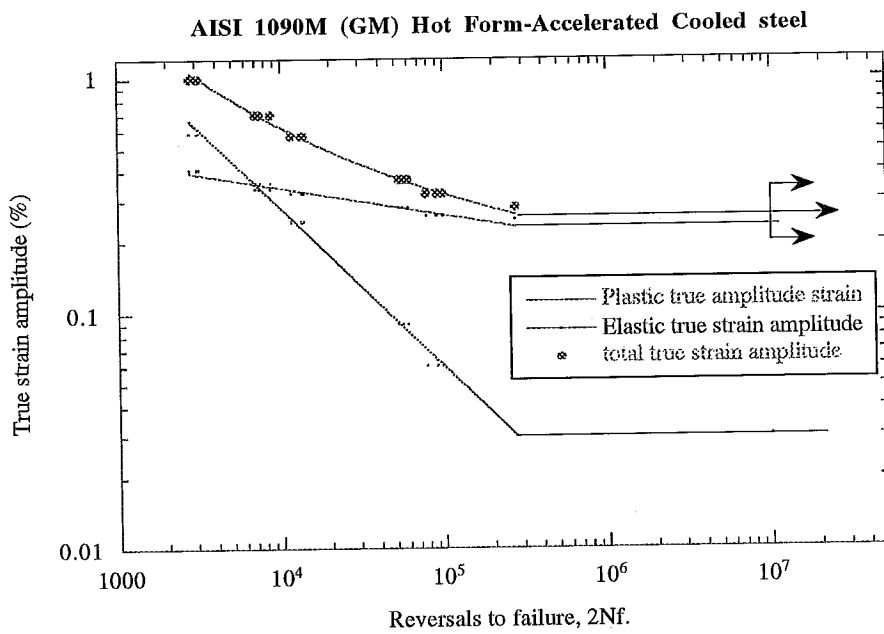


Fig. 4 Constant amplitude fully reversed strain-life curve for AISI 1090M (GM) Hot Form-Accelerated Cooled steel.

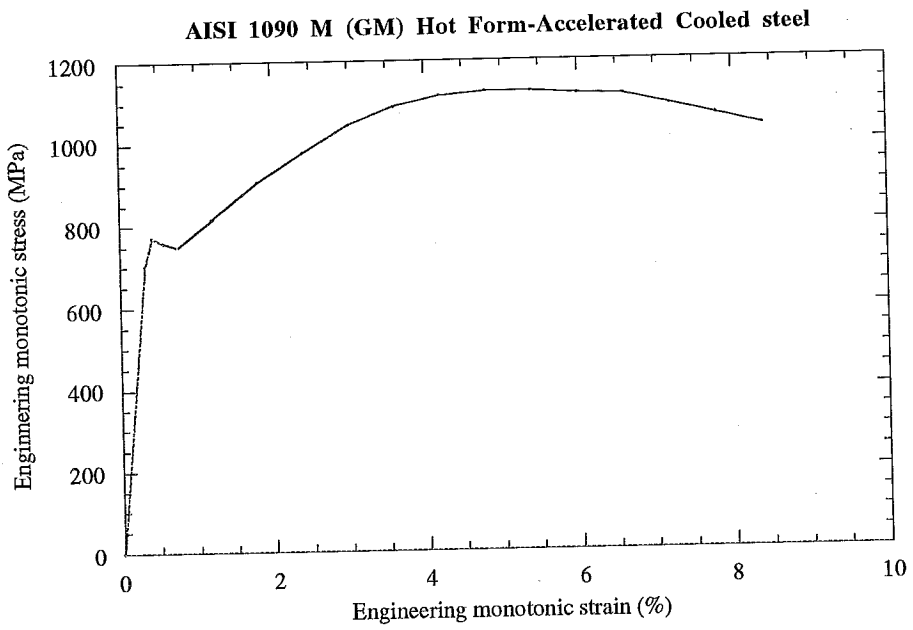


Fig. 5 Monotonic stress-strain curve for AISI 1090M (GM) Hot Form-Accelerated Cooled steel

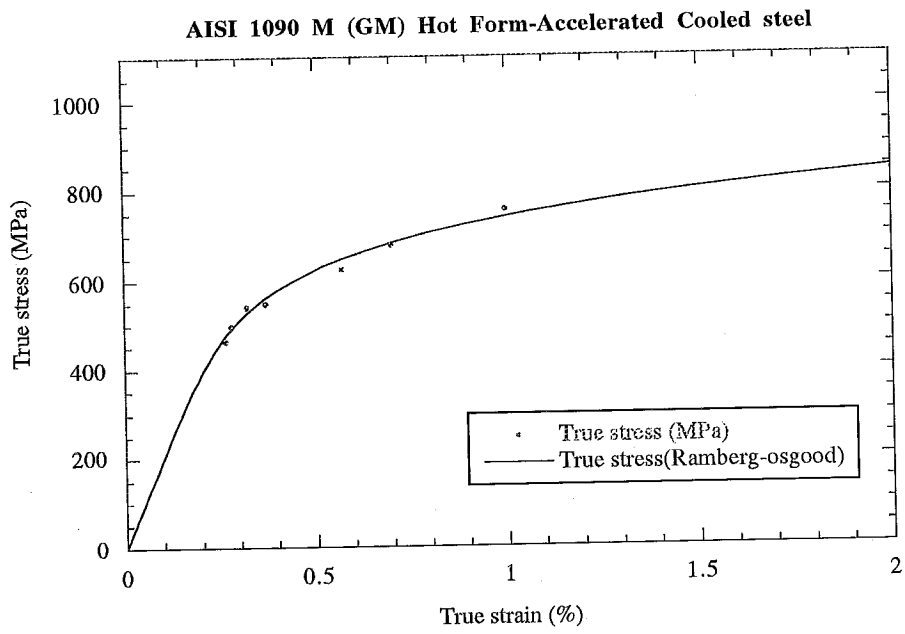


Fig. 6 Cyclic stress-strain curve for AISI 1090M (GM) Hot Form-Accelerated Cooled steel

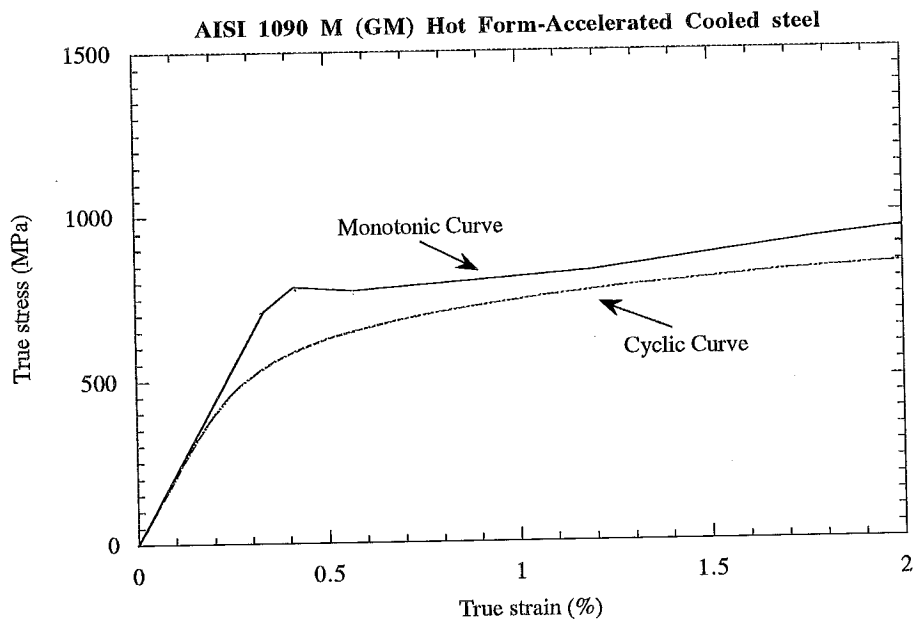


Fig. 7 Monotonic and Cyclic stress-strain curves for AISI 1090M (GM) Hot Form-Accelerated Cooled steel

Table 1 Chemical composition of AISI 1090M (GM) Hot Form-Accelerated Cooled steel

|                |         |
|----------------|---------|
| Carbon, C      | 0.88%   |
| Manganese, Mn  | 0.58%   |
| Phosphorous, P | 0.002%  |
| Sulfur, S      | 0.021%  |
| Silicon, Si    | 0.22%   |
| Copper, Cu     | 0.28%   |
| Nickel, Ni     | 0.08%   |
| Chromium, Cr   | 0.14%   |
| Molybdenum, Mo | 0.02%   |
| Vanadium, Va   | 0.030%  |
| Calcium, Ca    | 0.002%  |
| Boron, Bo      | 0.0024% |
| Aluminum, Al   | <0.001% |
| Titanium, Ti   | 0.001%  |
| Oxygen, O      | 0.0024% |
| Columbium, Cb  | 0.003%  |

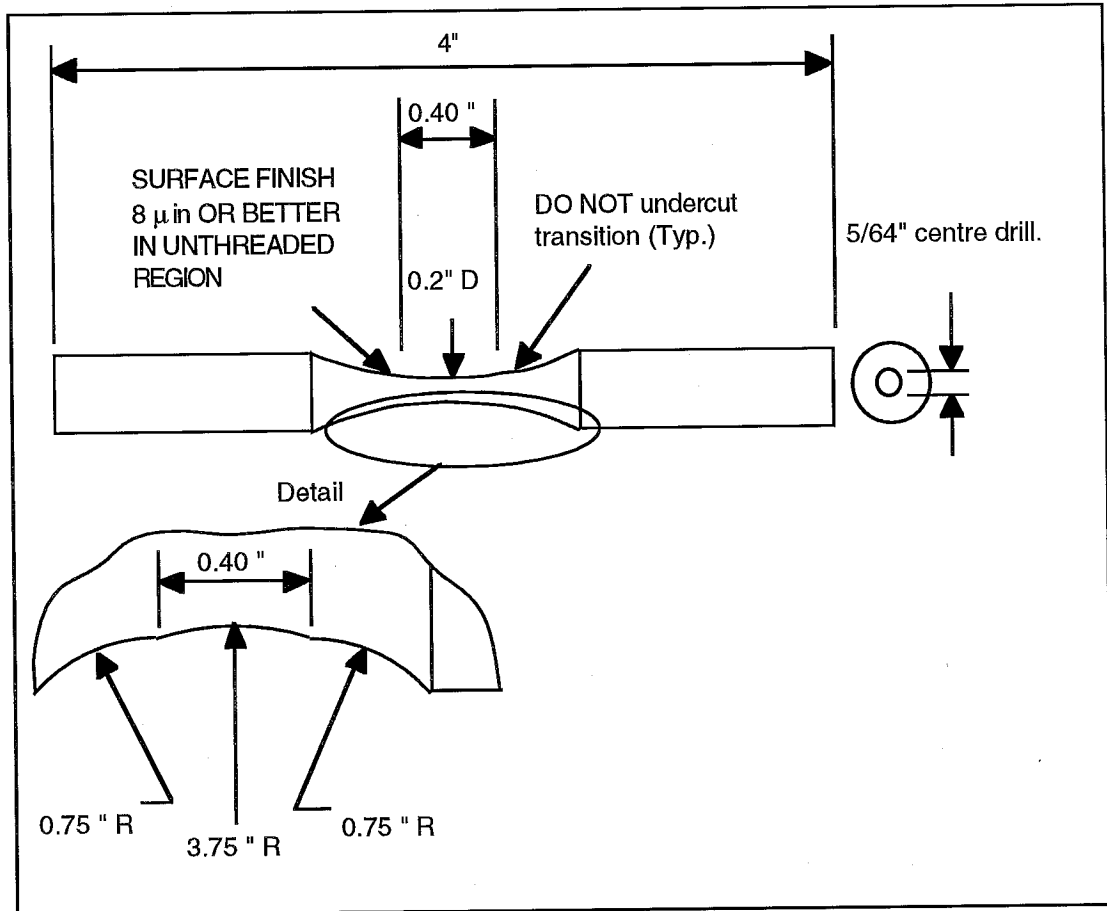


Fig. 1 Smooth cylindrical fatigue specimen



Table 2 Tensile and Fatigue Test Data for 1090M-Accelerated Cooled steel

| Sp#  | TRUE<br>Total Strain<br>Amplitude(%) | TRUE<br>Stress Amplitude<br>(MPa) | TRUE<br>Plastic Strain<br>Amplitude(%) | TRUE<br>Elastic Strain<br>Amplitude(%) | (50% load drop)<br>Fatigue Life<br>(Reversals, 2NF) | MONOTONIC<br>Young's<br>Modulus(GPa) | Hardness<br>(HRC) |
|------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| GM18 | 0.995                                | 807.23                            | 0.621                                  | 0.376                                  | 2138  | 219.50                               | 29                |
| GM27 | 0.995                                | 847.92                            | 0.602                                  | 0.395                                  | 1254  | 219.50                               |                   |
| GM23 | 0.995                                | 802.95                            | 0.623                                  | 0.374                                  | 1284  | 219.50                               |                   |
| GM19 | 0.697                                | 695.96                            | 0.373                                  | 0.325                                  | 5192  | 191.50                               | 29                |
| GM8  | 0.697                                | 706.63                            | 0.368                                  | 0.330                                  | 6020  | 191.50                               | 29                |
| GM12 | 0.697                                | 715.17                            | 0.364                                  | 0.334                                  | 5756  | 191.50                               |                   |
| GM11 | 0.568                                | 673.74                            | 0.253                                  | 0.315                                  | 8840  | 219.50                               |                   |
| GM3  | 0.568                                | 652.42                            | 0.263                                  | 0.305                                  | 8780  | 219.50                               |                   |
| GM16 | 0.568                                | 641.76                            | 0.268                                  | 0.300                                  | 9506  | 219.50                               | 29                |
| GM26 | 0.319                                | 508.30                            | 0.080                                  | 0.238                                  | 50738   | 219.50                               |                   |
| GM28 | 0.319                                | 531.70                            | 0.069                                  | 0.249                                  | 47666   | 219.50                               |                   |
| GM5  | 0.319                                | 508.30                            | 0.080                                  | 0.238                                  | 44950   | 219.54                               |                   |
| GM29 | 0.279                                | 488.97                            | 0.049                                  | 0.229                                  | 44366   | 219.50                               |                   |
| GM13 | 0.279                                | 467.71                            | 0.059                                  | 0.219                                  | 70228   | 219.50                               | 29                |
| GM21 | 0.279                                | 495.34                            | 0.046                                  | 0.232                                  | 97556   | 219.50                               |                   |
| GM20 | 0.224                                | 450.47                            | 0.017                                  | 0.211                                  | 408300  | 200.00                               |                   |
| GM21 | 0.219                                | 424.93                            | 0.019                                  | 0.199                                  | 10000000*   | 206.85                               |                   |
| GM8  | 0.219                                | 427.06                            | 0.018                                  | 0.200                                  | 10000000*   | 206.85                               |                   |
| GM30 | 0.219                                | 429.18                            | 0.017                                  | 0.201                                  | 10000000*   | 206.85                               | 29                |

\* Run out

8/6/10

9/98

## Appendix 1

### Monotonic Properties for AISI 1090M-Accelerated Cooled steel

|   |   |             |
|---|---|-------------|
| Average Elastic Modulus, E  | = | 212 GPa     |
| Upper Yield Strength  | = | 768.30 MPa  |
| Lower Yield Strength  | = | 751.30 MPa  |
| Ultimate tensile Strength   | = | 1251.25 MPa |
| % Elongation  | = | 6.66 %      |
| % Reduction of Area   | = | 13.56 %     |
| True fracture strain, $Ln (A_i / A_f)$  | = | 14.6 %      |
| True fracture stress, $\sigma_f = \frac{P_f}{A_f}$  | = | 1422 MPa    |
| Bridgman correction, $\sigma_f = \frac{P_f}{A_f} \left/ \left( 1 + \frac{4R}{D_f} \right) Ln \left( 1 + \frac{D_f}{4R} \right) \right.$ | = | 1169 MPa    |
| Monotonic strength coefficient, K   | = | 2273.3 MPa  |
| Monotonic strain hardening exponent, n  | = | 0.1934      |
| Hardness, Rockwell C (HRC)  | = | 29 HRC      |
| Hardness, Brinell   | = | 279         |

### Cyclic Properties for AISI 1090M-Accelerated Cooled steel

|   |   |             |
|---|---|-------------|
| Cyclic Yield Strength, (0.2% offset) = $K'(0.002)^{n'}$ | = | 637 MPa     |
| Cyclic strength coefficient, $K'$                       | = | 1942.70 MPa |
| Cyclic strain hardening exponent, $n'$                  | = | 0.1794      |
| Fatigue Strength Coefficient, $\sigma'_f$               | = | 1949.25 MPa |
| Fatigue Strength Exponent, b                            | = | -0.1207     |
| Fatigue Ductility Coefficient, $\epsilon'_f$            | = | 0.8107      |
| Fatigue Ductility Exponent, c                           | = | -0.6430     |

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|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| $P_f$ :           | Load at fracture.                                      |
| $A_i$ and $A_f$ : | Specimen cross-section area before and after fracture. |
| R:                | Specimen neck radius.                                  |
| $D_f$ :           | Specimen diameter at fracture.                         |

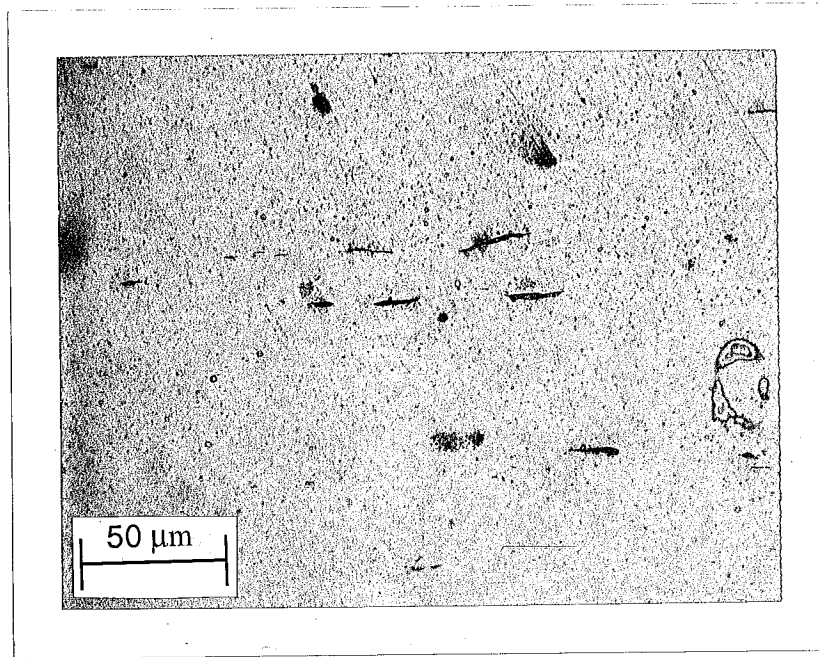
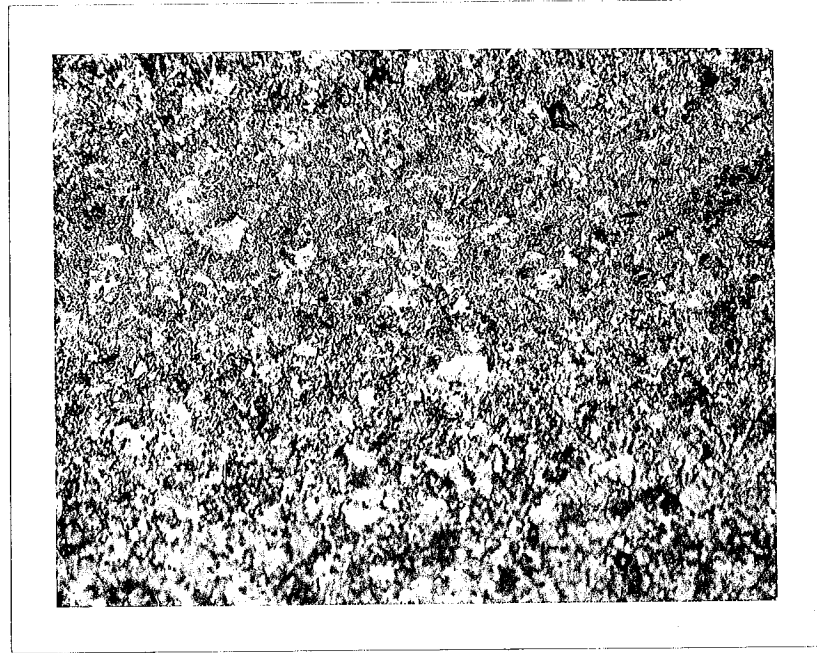
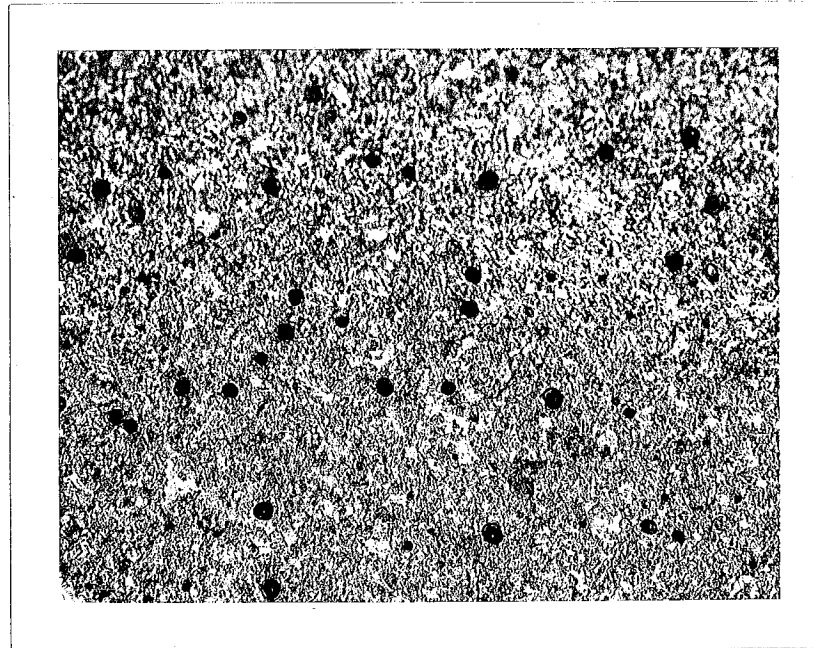


Fig. 3 Inclusions photomicrograph of AISI 1090M (GM) Hot Form-Accelerated Cooled steel (X500)

9  
1090M  
Accel Cool



(a) Longitudinal direction



(b) Transverse direction

Fig. 2 Photomicrographs of AISI 1090M (GM) Hot Form-Accelerated Cooled steel (X200):  
(a) Longitudinal direction, and (b) Transverse direction.

## AISI Bar Application Group Fatigue Project Test Matrix (6-9-98)

| Iter. No. | Steel      | Supplier  | Status           | Part Fabrication                   | Fabricated Hdns | Microstructure     | School   | Bar or Part |
|-----------|------------|-----------|------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------|-------------|
| 1         | 1541       | RES       | Complete 2-4-98  | Normalize 1650F                    |                 | Ferrite/Pearlite   | Waterloo | HR Bar      |
| 2         | 1541       | RES       | Complete 2-4-98  | Cold Size/Form                     | Rb 85 min.      | Ferrite/Pearlite   | Waterloo | HR Bar      |
| 3         | 1050M      | Stelco    | Complete 7-30-97 | Normalize 1650F                    |                 | Ferrite/Pearlite   | Waterloo | Hr Bar      |
| 4         | 1050M      | Chrysler  | Complete 6-9-98  | Hot Forge, Cold Extrude (Core)     | Rc 35 max.      | Martensite         | Waterloo | Axles       |
| 5         | 1050M      | Chrysler  | Complete 6-9-98  | Induction Surface Hardened (Case)  | Rc 58 min.      | Martensite         | Waterloo | Axles       |
| 6         | 1090       | NS        | Complete 6-9-98  | Normalize 1650F                    |                 | Pearlite           | Waterloo | Hr Bar      |
| 7         | 1090M      | Chrysler  | Complete 6-9-98  | Hot Form + Acc. Cool               | BHN 341-444     | Martensite/Bainite | Waterloo | Stab Bar    |
| 8         | 1090       | Chrysler  | Complete 2-4-98  | Hot Form + Q&T                     | BHN 341-444     | Martensite         | Waterloo | Stab Bar    |
| 9*        | 1090M      | GM/AMM    | Complete 2-4-98  | Hot Form + Acc. Cool               | BHN 302-363     | Martensite/Bainite | Waterloo | Stab Bar    |
| 10*       | 1090       | GM/Mather | Complete 6-9-98  | Hot Form + Austemper               | BHN 3.0-3.5     | Bainite            | Waterloo | Stab Bar    |
| 11        | 1141(AIFG) | RES       | Complete 6-9-98  | Normalize 1650F                    |                 | Ferrite/Pearlite   | Toledo   | Hr Bar      |
| 12        | 1141(AIFG) | RES       | Complete 6-9-98  | Reheat, Q&T                        | BHN 229-269     | Martensite         | Toledo   | Hr Bar      |
| 13        | 1141(NbFG) | NS        | Complete 6-9-98  | Normalize 1650F                    |                 | Ferrite/Pearlite   | Toledo   | Hr Bar      |
| 14        | 1141(NbFG) | NS        | Complete 6-9-98  | Reheat, Q&T                        | BHN 229-269     | Martensite         | Toledo   | Hr Bar      |
| 15        | 1141(VFG)  | NS        | @ Toledo         | Normalize 1650F                    |                 | Ferrite/Pearlite   | Toledo   | Hr Bar      |
| 16        | 1141(VFG)  | NS        | @ Toledo         | Reheat, Q&T                        | BHN 229-269     | Martensite         | Toledo   | Hr Bar      |
| 17        | 1141(VFG)  | NS        | @ Toledo         | Normalize @ High Temp (1750F)      | TBD             | Ferrite/Pearlite   | Toledo   | Hr Bar      |
| 18        | 1038       | Stelco    | Complete 10-9-97 | Normalize 1650F                    |                 | Ferrite/Pearlite   | Toledo   | Hr Bar      |
| 19        | 1038       | Stelco    | Complete 6-9-98  | Cold Size/Form                     | Rb 85 min.      | Ferrite/Pearlite   | Toledo   | Hr Bar      |
| 20        | 1038       | Stelco    | @ Toledo-Re-H.T. | Reheat, Q&T, (Temper @ 930F)       | Rc 20-30        | Martensite         | Toledo   | Hr Bar      |
| 21        | 10V45      | Inland    | @ Toledo         | Normalized 1650F                   |                 | Ferrite/Pearlite   | Toledo   | Hr Bar      |
| 22        | 10V45      | Inland    | @ Toledo         | Reheat, 2250F, Deform @ 2000F, FAC | RC 25-30        | Ferrite/Pearlite   | Toledo   | Hr Bar      |

\*These iterations will be supplied by GM, and funded separately from the rest of the program.