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# Materials Characterization

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# Contents

## Part I Characterization of Welding and Joining of Materials

<b>1 Metallurgical Investigation of Heat Input on Robot-Welded Joints Using GMAW Pulsed Process on Structural Steel.....</b>	<b>3</b>
I. Guzman-Flores, B. Vargas-Arista, J.J. Gasca-Dominguez, J. del Prado, E. Garfias-Garcia, and L. Rios-Vargas	
<b>2 Distortion Evaluation in Dissimilar Stainless Steel Joints Welded by GMAW Process .....</b>	<b>15</b>
A.F. Miranda Pérez, G.Y. Pérez Medina, E. Hurtado Delgado, and F.A. Reyes Valdés	
<b>3 3-D Porosity in T-Welded Connections Repaired by Grinding and Wet Welding .....</b>	<b>25</b>
G. Terán, S. Capula-Colindres, R. Cuamatzi-Meléndez, D. Angeles-Herrera, and A. Albiter	

## Part II Characterization of Nanostructured Materials

<b>4 Synthesis and Characterization of Bimetallic Nanoparticles by Cs-Corrected Scanning Transmission Electron Microscopy .....</b>	<b>35</b>
R. Esparza, O. Téllez-Vázquez, A. Ángeles-Pascual, and R. Pérez	
<b>5 Application of Silver Decorated Carbon Nanotubes for Environmental Ozone Sensing.....</b>	<b>43</b>
S. Capula Colindres, G. Terán, V. Garibay Febles, L.A. Villa Vargas, and J.R. Vargas García	
<b>6 Spectroscopic and Structural Characterization of Pd Nanoparticles Supported on Hydrotalcite-Like Materials.....</b>	<b>51</b>
Miguel Angel de la Rosa-Guzmán, María de Jesús Martínez-Ortiz, Nancy Castillo, Carlos Alberto Ramírez-Salazar, Andrés Méndez-Ceja, and Juan Esteban Canseco-Morales	

<b>7 Structural and Optical Characterization of ZrO<sub>2</sub> and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-ZrO<sub>2</sub> Nanopowders .....</b>	<b>59</b>
Nadiia Korsunska, Anton Zhuk, Vasyl Papusha, Oleksandr Kolomys, Yuliya Polishchuk, Yurii Bacherikov, Viktor Strelchuk, Vasyl Kladko, Tetyana Konstantinova, Tetyana Kryshchab, and Larysa Khomenkova	

### **Part III Characterization of Steels Used in the Oil Industry**

<b>8 Improvement of Mechanical Properties of API X-65 Steel by Non-conventional Heat Treatment .....</b>	<b>71</b>
Constantino Natividad Murillo, Rafael García Hernández, Víctor Hugo López Morelos, and Melchor Salazar Martínez	
<b>9 Aging of Cast Heat Resisting Alloys 35Cr-45Ni-0.1C (MORE40X) and 40Cr-45Ni-0.2C (UCX) .....</b>	<b>79</b>
Ireri Aydée Sustaita Torres, Sergio Haro Rodríguez, and Rafael Colás Ortiz	
<b>10 SCC of X-65 Weldment Assessment in Diluted NaHCO<sub>3</sub> Solutions with Chloride and Sulfate Ions .....</b>	<b>89</b>
M.A. Espinosa-Medina, G. Carbajal-De la Torre, C. Ángeles-Chavez, and J.G. González-Rodriguez	
<b>11 Electrochemical Characterization of X60 Steel Exposed to Different Soils from South of México.....</b>	<b>101</b>
L.M. Quej, M.J. Míreles, R. Galvan-Martinez, and A. Contreras	

### **Part IV Characterization of Stainless Steels**

<b>12 Effect of the Perpendicular Electromagnetic Field in the 304 Austenitic Stainless Steel Welding in a Single Pass.....</b>	<b>119</b>
Rafael García, Rafael Cortes, Diana L. García, and Víctor H. López	
<b>13 On the Effect of Crosshead Velocity on Polycrystalline Flow During Tension Testing of a 430 Stainless Steel.....</b>	<b>129</b>
Elizabeth Garfias-García, Juan Daniel Muñoz-Andrade, Pablo Gerardo Rodríguez-López, Miriam Aguilar-Sánchez, and Benjamín Vargas-Arista	

### **Part V Characterization of Composite Materials**

<b>14 Effect of FSW Parameters on Microstructure of Aluminum Matrix Composites Joints .....</b>	<b>139</b>
O. Cuevas Mata, A.F. Miranda Pérez, F.J. García Vázquez, G.Y. Pérez Medina, and F.A. Reyes Valdés	

<b>15 Electrochemical Characterization of the Aluminum–Copper Composite Material Reinforced with Titanium Carbide Immersed in Seawater .....</b>	147
N. Alvarez-Lemus, C.A. Leon, A. Contreras, R. Orozco-Cruz, and R. Galvan-Martinez	

## Part VI Characterization of Materials for Medical Applications

<b>16 Adsorption of Arsenite from Aqueous Solution on Mg/Al Hydrotalcite .....</b>	159
E. Ramos-Ramírez, Norma Leticia Gutiérrez Ortega, R. Zarraga-Núñez, and F.J. Acevedo-Aguilar	
<b>17 Synthesis and Characterization of Magnetic Nanoparticles for Biomedical Applications .....</b>	169
J.R. Piñón-Hernández, I.G. Becerril-Juárez, A. Ángeles-Pascual, R. Pérez, and R. Esparza	

## Part VII Characterization of Materials for Industrial Applications

<b>18 A Green Method for Graphite Exfoliation Using a Mechanochemical Route .....</b>	179
I. Estrada-Guel, F.C. Robles-Hernandez, and R. Martínez-Sánchez	
<b>19 Characterization of Wurtzite Type ZnS Grown by RF Magnetron Sputtering .....</b>	189
Joel Díaz-Reyes, Roberto S. Castillo-Ojeda, and Javier Martínez-Juárez	

## Part VIII Characterization of Intermetallic Materials

<b>20 Mechanical Properties of Spray-Atomized FeAl40 at.% Al Alloys .....</b>	199
M. Amaya, J.M. Romero, L. Martinez, and R. Pérez	
<b>21 Structural Characterization of Fe<sub>2</sub>Al<sub>5</sub> Intermetallic Compound After Reaction with Water to Release Hydrogen .....</b>	209
J. Luis López-Miranda, R. Esparza, and G. Rosas	

<b>Author Index .....</b>	219
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<b>Subject Index.....</b>	221
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# **Chapter 9**

## **Aging of Cast Heat Resisting Alloys**

### **35Cr–45Ni–0.1C (MORE40X) and 40Cr–45Ni–0.2C (UCX)**

**Ireri Aydée Sustaita Torres, Sergio Haro Rodríguez, and Rafael Colás Ortiz**

**Abstract** Heat resisting cast alloys are designed to sustain operation while are exposed to temperatures greater than 650 °C. These alloys have widespread uses in petrochemical industry in pyrolysis and reformer furnaces, etc.; in addition, they can be held into oxidizing, sulfidizing, or carburizing environments. The principal attributes of the alloys are creep strength and corrosion resistance. The purpose of this study was to explore the effects of chromium contents in two centrifugal cast pipes of Ni-base heat resistant alloys, one MORE40X 0.1C and the other UCX 0.2C during aging. The behavior of these alloys during aging was examined by optical and scanning electron microscopy in samples aged at 750 °C up to 1,000 h. The microstructural evolution was analyzed on selected samples and images using secondary and backscattered electron detectors and with X-ray energy dispersive spectroscopy. The main microstructural changes in primary and secondary carbides that occurred during aging were described and related to mechanical properties in two alloys. The microstructure as cast materials shows a primary carbides network, in austenitic matrix. The aging times produced different changes in the alloys, which dependent of the composition, morphology, distribution and in the transformation of carbides inside them. It was found that aging promoted the increment in tensile strength and the reduction in ductility. However the mechanical properties of UCX (aged at 750 °C up to 1,000 h) are better with respect to MORE40X (as cast).

**Keywords** Heat resisting cast alloys • Strength • Corrosion resistance • Optical • Scanning electron microscopy (SEM)

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