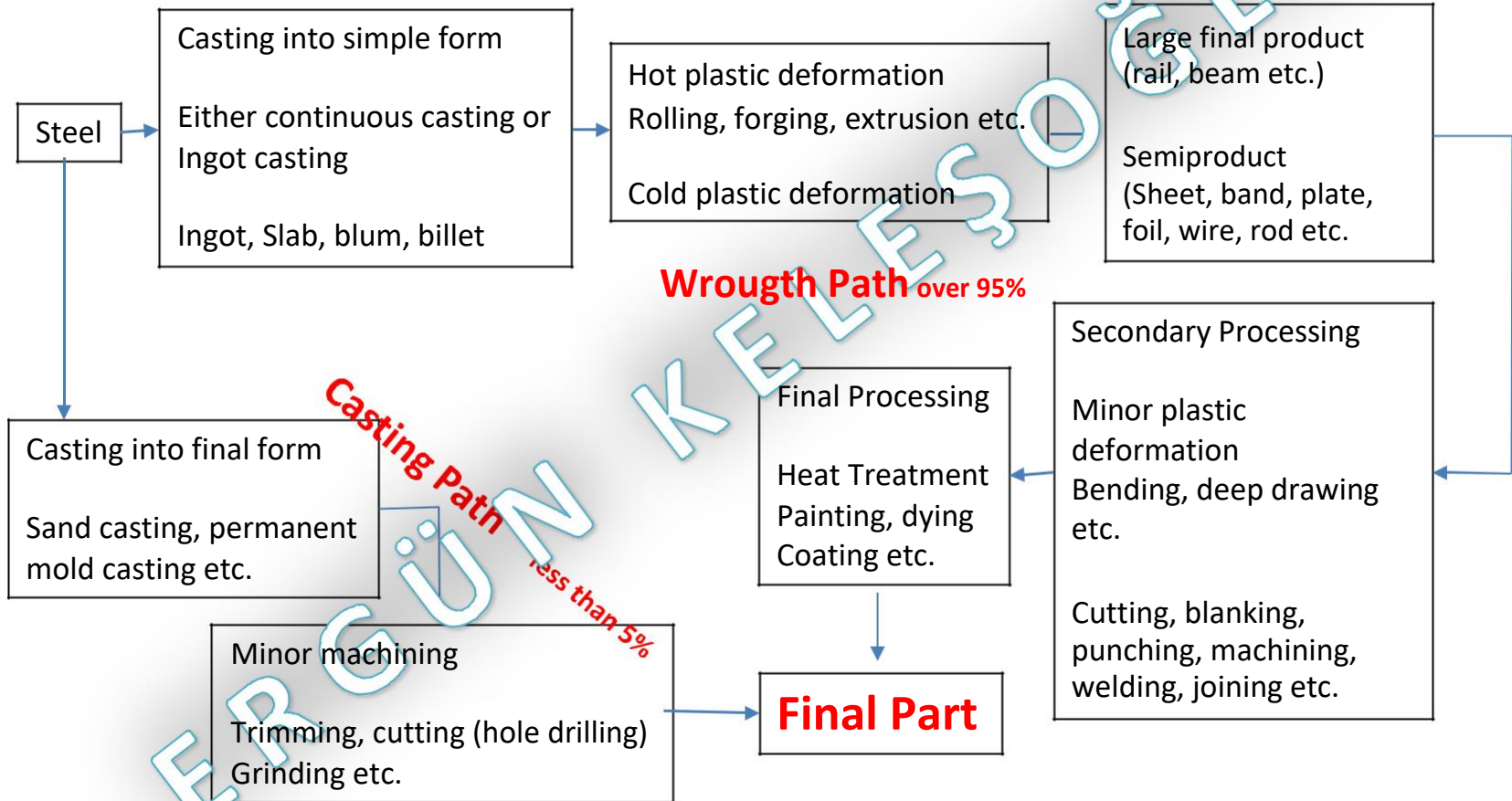


Cast Irons

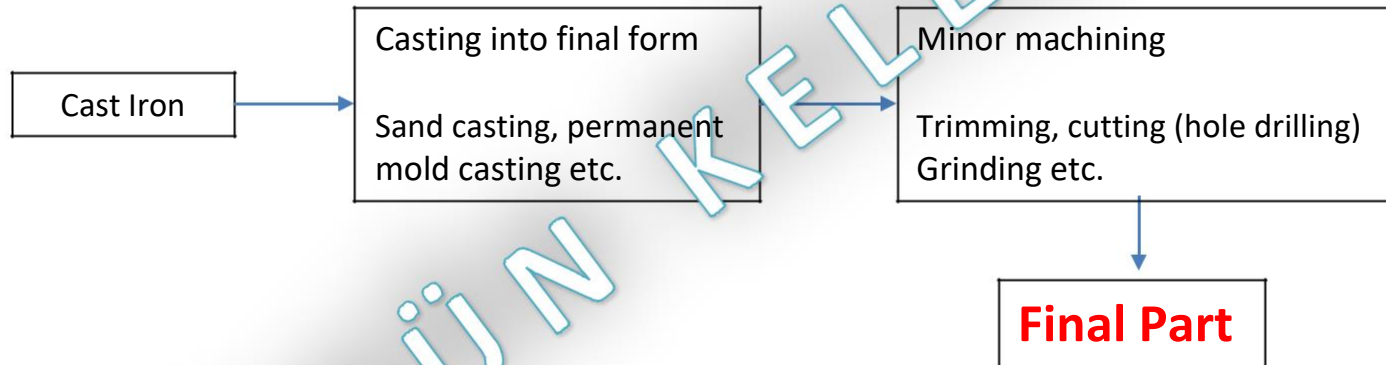
Yildiz Technical University
Metallurgical & Materials Eng. Dept.

Steel (wrought Fe-Fe₃C Alloy)



Cast Iron (cast Fe-Fe₃C/Graphite Alloy)

Casting Path almost 100%



Fe – C Diagrams

When C content is lower than 2% (Steel range)

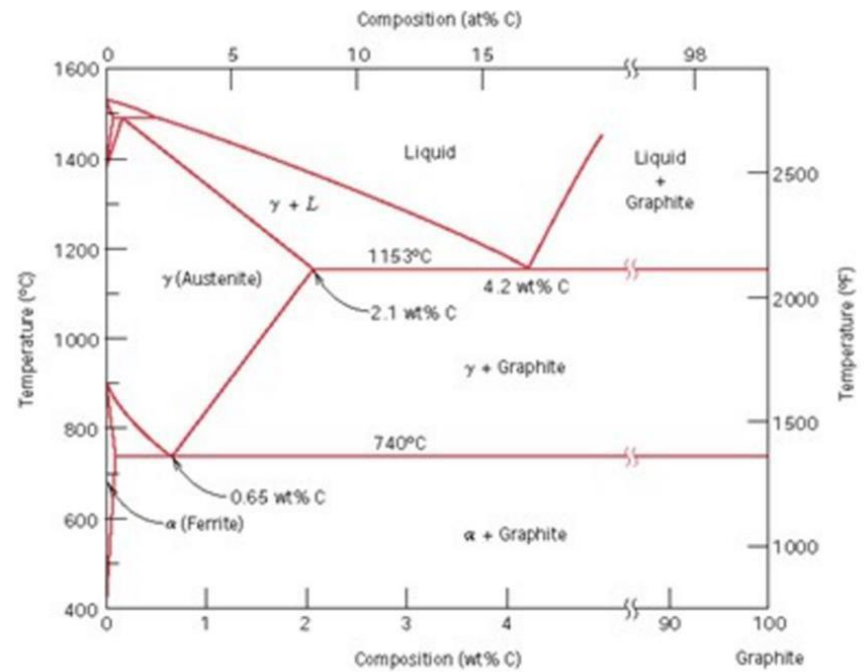
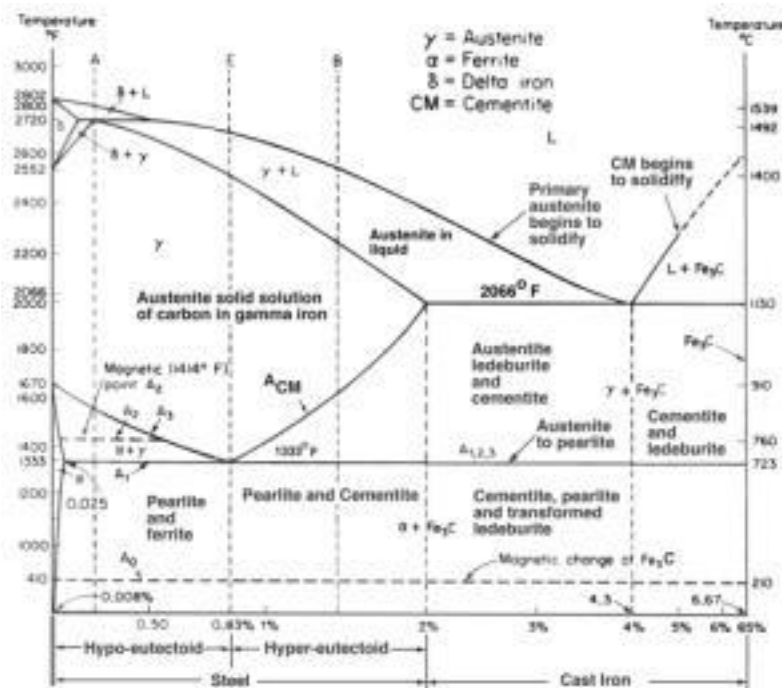
Only iron-cementite phase diagram is favour.

When C content is higher than 2% (Cast iron range)

Both systems are possible.

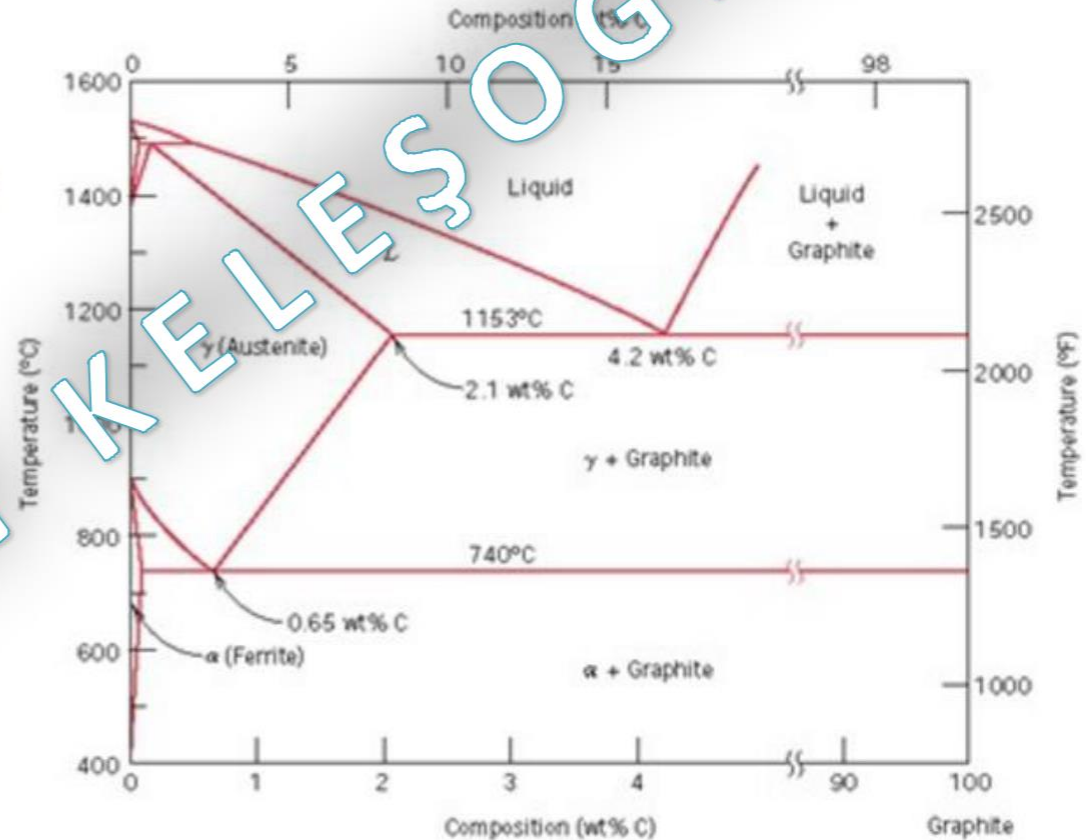
Fe-Cementite Phase Diagram

Fe-Graphite Phase Diagram



Cast Iron

- Fe-C alloys with 2-4% C
- 1-3% Si is added to improve castability
- Phase diagram shows graphite rather than Fe_3C since C may be present in the form of both graphite and cementite
- Temperatures and compositions are different from the Fe- Fe_3C diagram
- Features:
 - Low melting temperature (1153°C to 1400°C)
 - Low shrinkage
 - Easily machinable
 - Low impact resistance
 - Low ductility

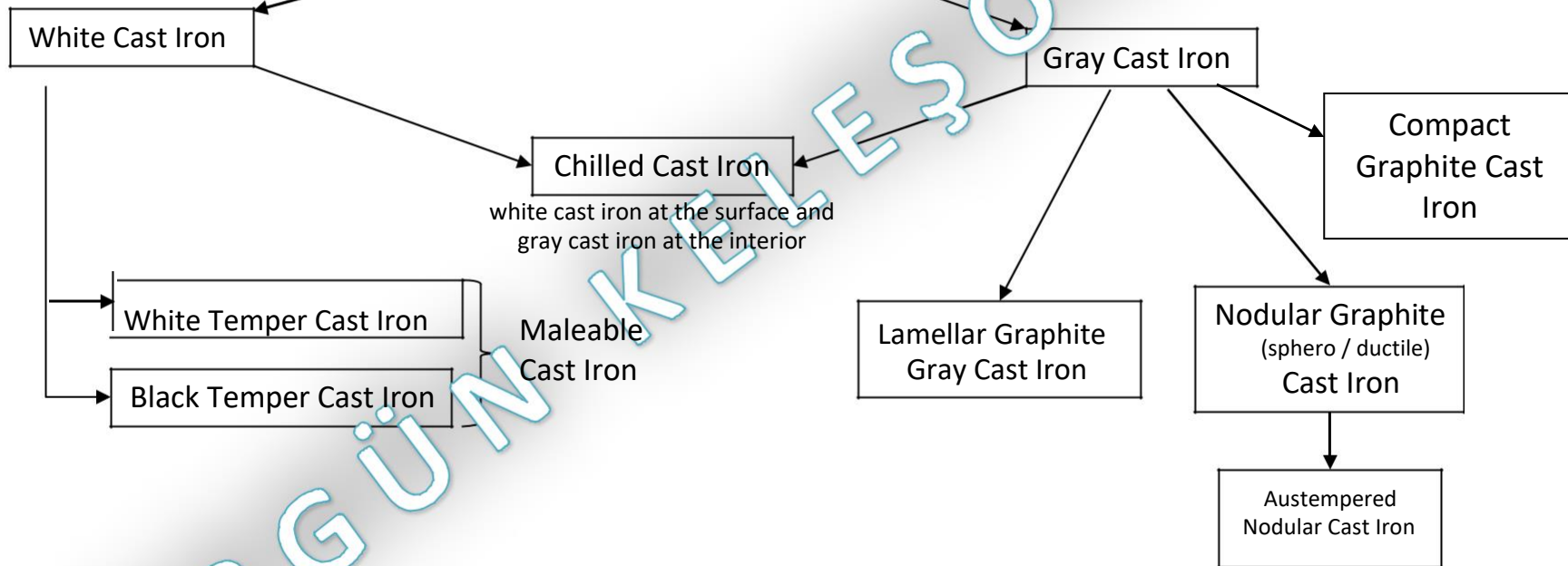


- Carbon can occur in C.I's as:
combined carbon (Fe_3C) or free carbon (graphite)
- Shape and distribution of free carbon also important

Parameters that influence are:

- Carbon content,
- Alloy and impurity content,
- Cooling rate during and after freezing,
- Heat treatment after casting

Classification of Cast Irons based on microstructure



Check of Cast Structure

Gray Cast Iron

Chill zone
White Cast Iron

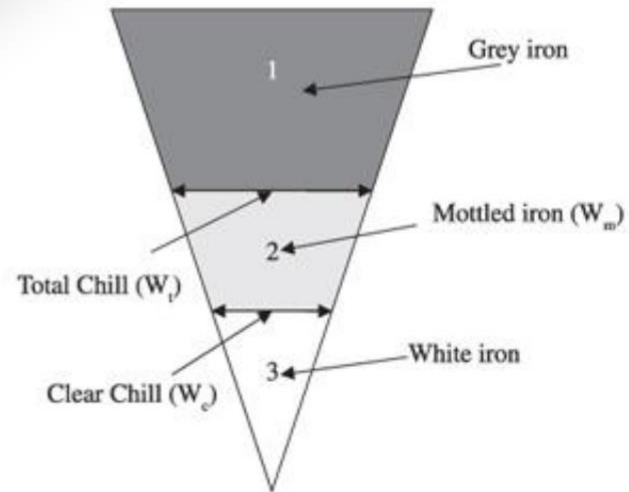


Figure 1. White, mottled and gray iron zones (1, 2 and 3) of the wedge sample, and the dimensions representing W_t and W_c chill criteria.

Classification of cast iron

	Type of cast iron	Graphite	Ductility	
•	White	No	No	fast cooling rates
•	Gray	Flake	No	Slow cooling rates
•	Malleable	Anneal: flake to nodule	Yes	white iron + annealing heat treatment
•	Nodular	Nodular	Yes	additions made so that nodules of graphite form instead of flakes
•	Compact	Worm like	Yes	additions made so that worm like graphite form instead of flakes

Cast Irons

White cast iron

- **Types**

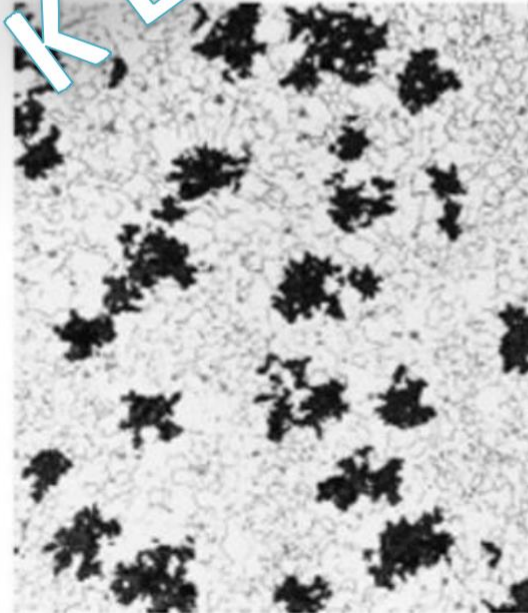
- **White cast iron**

- Carbon in the form of cementite

- **Malleable cast iron**

- Carbon in the form of irregular graphite nodules
 - Obtained by heat treating white cast iron

- Fe_3C + pearlite
- Hard, brittle
- Shows a “white” crystalline fractured surface
- Excellent wear resistance
- High compressive stress



Malleable cast iron

- White cast iron + annealing treatment (900-950°C for many days/cooling slowly)
- During annealing treatment graphite nucleates and grows from the Fe_3C to form nodules

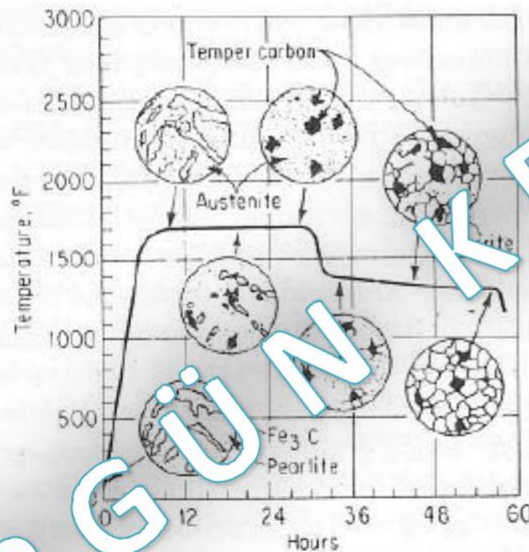
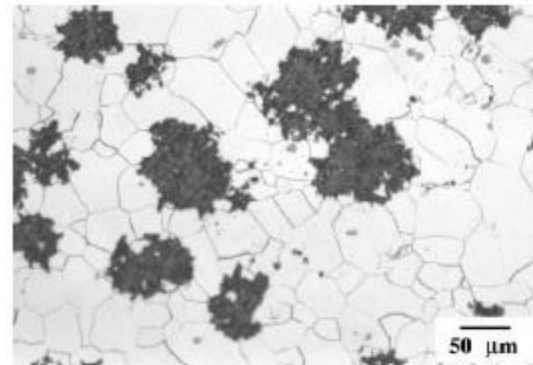
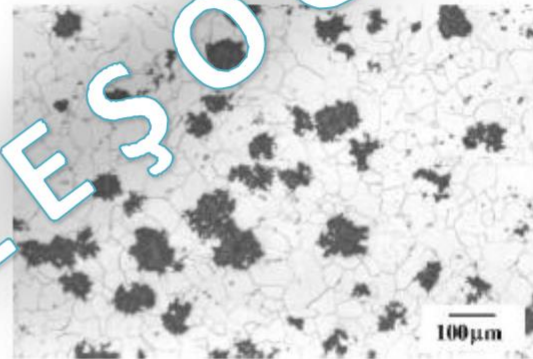


Fig. 1. The changes in microstructure as a function of the malleabilizing cycle resulting in temper carbon in a ferrite matrix. (From "Malleable Iron Castings," Malleable Iron Founders Society, Cleveland, Ohio, 1960.)



Cast Irons

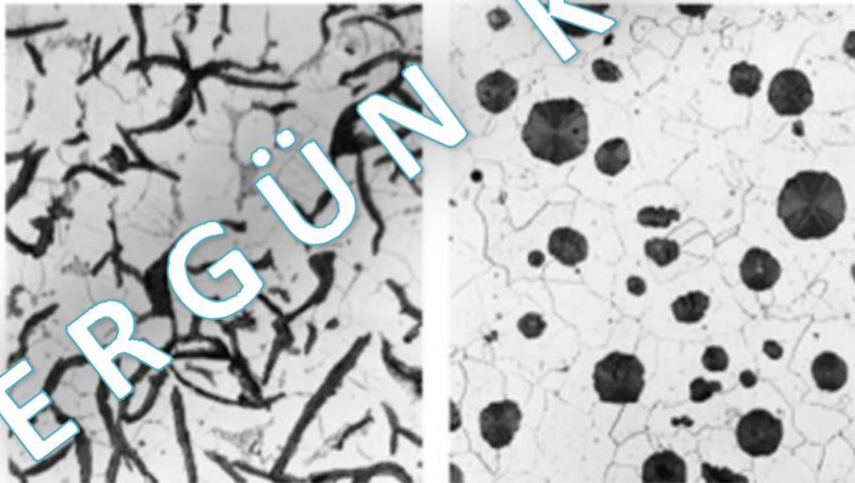
- Types

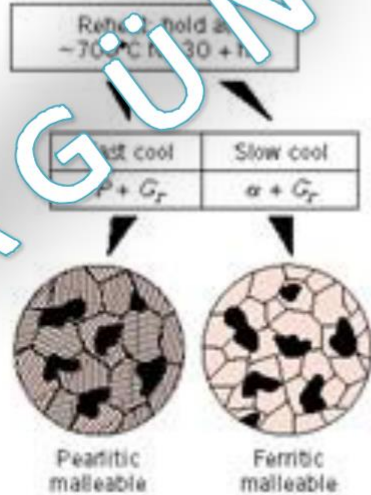
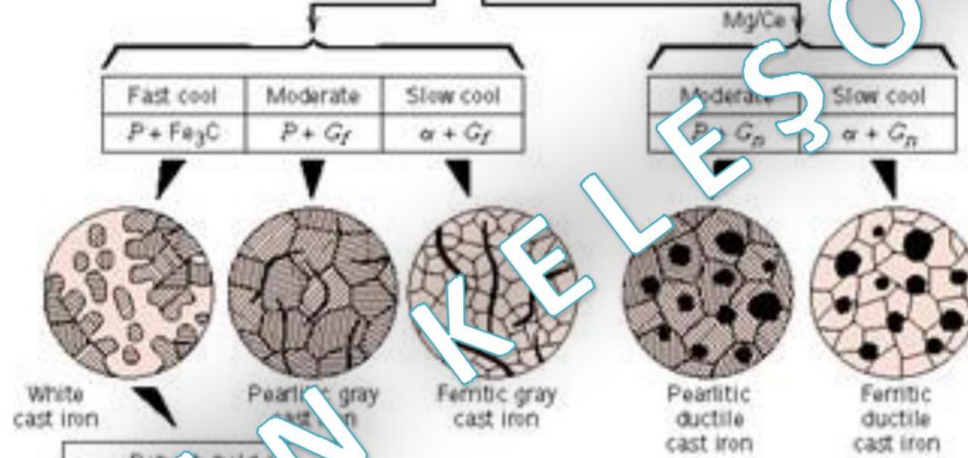
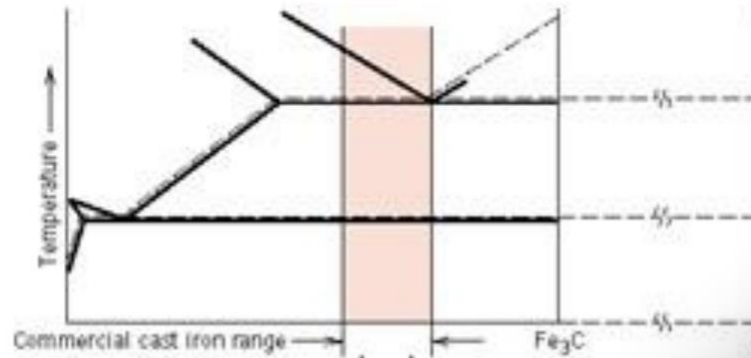
- Gray cast iron

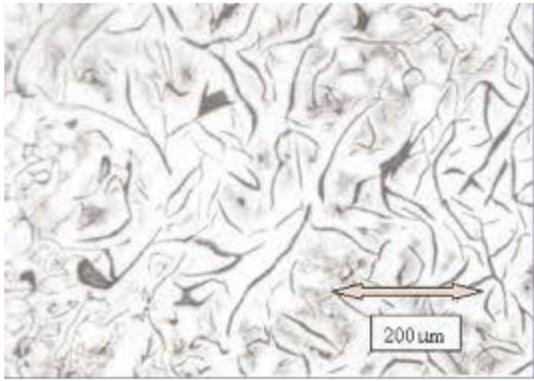
- Carbon in the form of graphite flakes
 - 2.5 – 4% C and 1 – 3% Si (Promotes formation of graphite)

- Nodular cast iron

- Carbon in the form of spherical graphite nodules
 - 3-4% C and 1.8 – 2.8 % Si + Mg or Ce, and low impurities







TYPE A
Random flake graphite
in a uniform distribution



TYPE B
Rosette flake
graphite



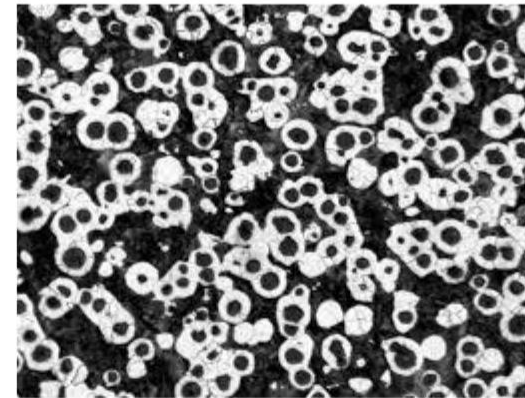
TYPE C
Kish graphite
(hyper-eutectic compositions)



TYPE D
Undercooled
flake graphite



TYPE E
Interdendritic flake graphite
(hypo-eutectic compositions)

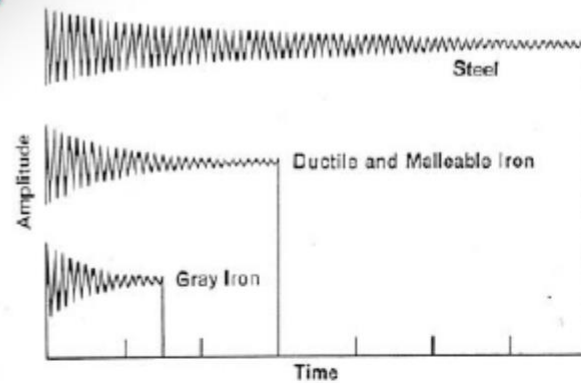


General characteristics/advantages of gray cast iron

- Cheap
- Low melting point
- Fluid – easy to cast, especially advantageous into large complex shapes
- Excellent machinability
- Excellent bearing properties
- Excellent damping properties
- Excellent wear resistance (hi C)
- Can be heat treated (surface hardened)
- Can be alloyed etc.

Compressive strength \gg tensile strength

Great at dampening!



Relative ability of ferrous metals to dampen vibrations. The energy absorbed per cycle, or specific damping capacity of these can differ by more than 10 times.

Gray cast iron

- During slow solidification carbon in Fe separates or graphitizes to form separate graphite flakes

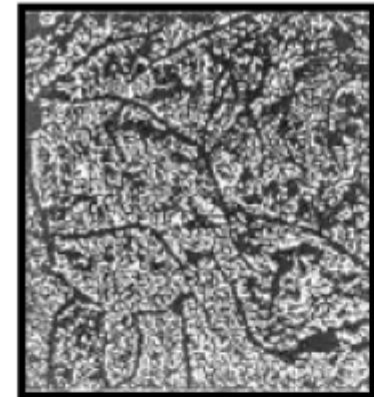
Cast iron: factors affecting graphitization

Cast iron Carbon Equivalent

$$CE(\text{wt}\%) = C + \frac{Si}{3}$$

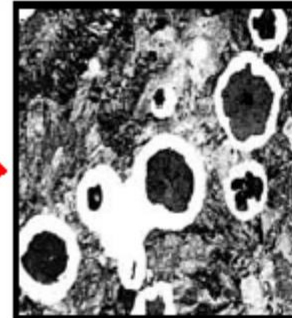
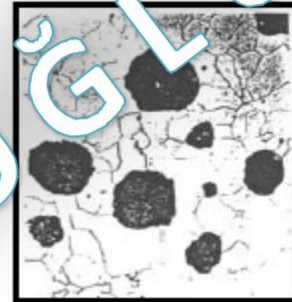
A high cooling rate and a low carbon equivalent favours the formation of white cast iron

A low cooling rate or a high carbon equivalent promotes grey cast iron



Ductile/nodular cast iron

- Gray iron composition for C and Si
- Impurity level control important as it will affect nodule formation
- Have nodule instead of flake if we add 0.05% Mg and/or Ce
- As cast structure: graphite forms as nodules instead of flakes



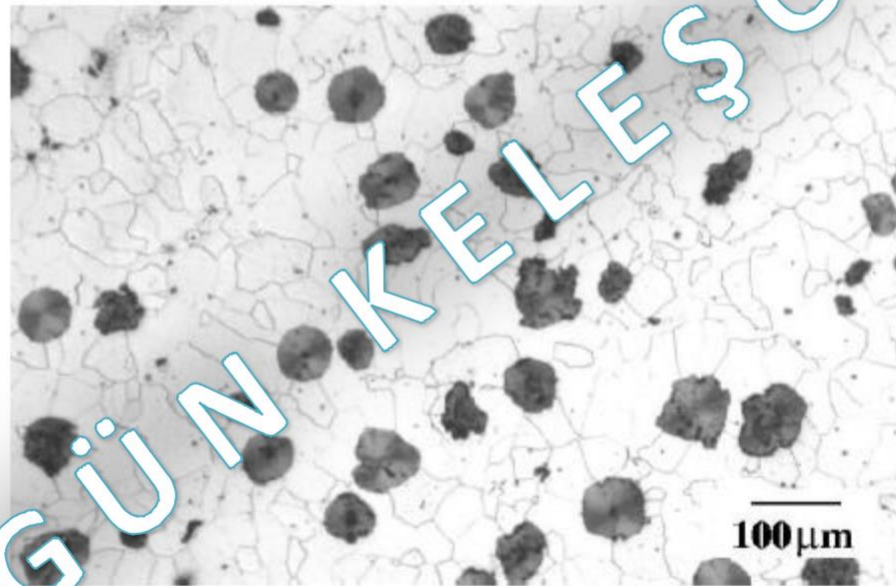
Addition of Ce / Mg poisons the easy growth direction and results change in graphite morphology from flakes to spheres which occurs due to isotropic growth

Spheroidal graphite cast iron usually has a pearlitic matrix.



Heat Treated Spheroidal Graphite Cast Iron

Annealing causes the carbon in the pearlite to precipitate on to the existing graphite or to form further small graphite particles, leaving behind a ferritic matrix.



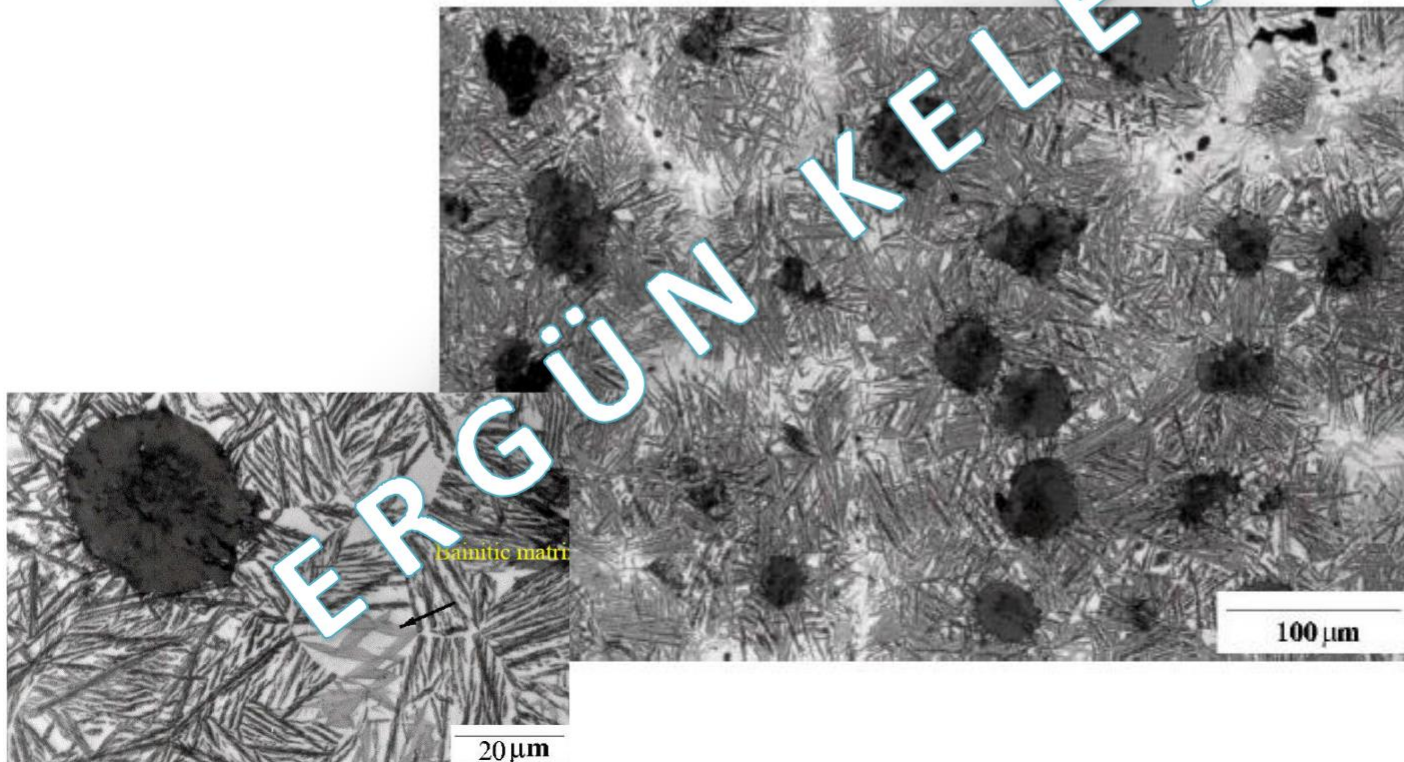
Applications: agricultural, automotive machinery

Austempered Ductile Cast Iron

The chemical composition of the cast iron is

Fe-3.52C-2.51Si-0.49Mn-0.15Mo-0.31Cu wt%

Austenitised at 950°C, austempered at 250°C for 60 min.



Chilled Cast Iron



- Obtained by casting against a chiller
- Surface is White C.I. (faster cooling rates)
- Harder / wear resistant surface
- Depth depends on composition
(C, Si decrease chill depth)

Carbide forming elements like Cr, Mo
increase chill depth

Applications:

Railway car wheels, crushing rolls, heavy
machinery

Examples



Manhole



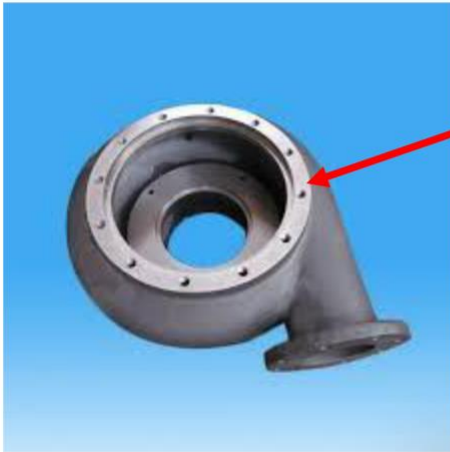
Cast iron radiators



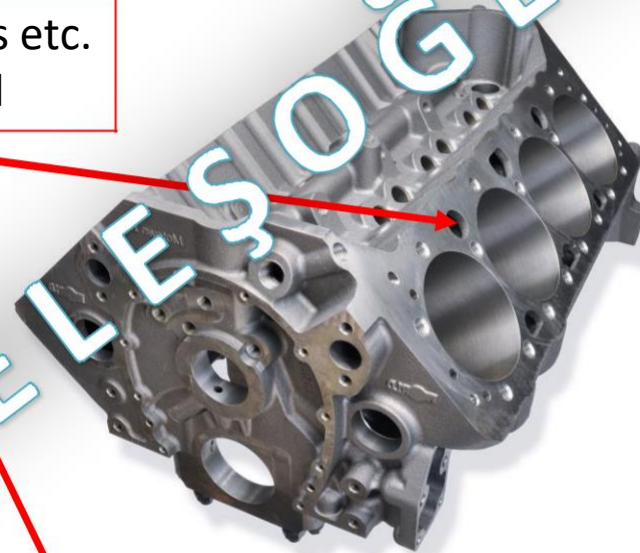
Cast iron valves

Examples

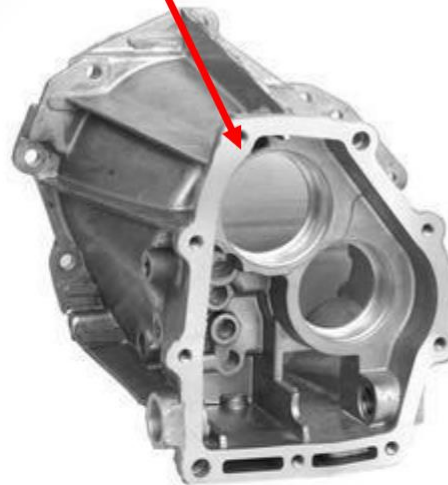
Surfaces / holes etc.
to be machined



Centrifugal Cast Iron Pumps



Cast iron engine block



Gear Box



Examples



Fatih's Cannon «Şahi»



Historical Buildings
Cast iron Gate of Dolmabahçe Palace

Designation of Cast Irons in European Standards

1	2	3	4	5	6
		Graphite Type	Matrix Type	Mechanical Property / Chemical Comp.	Additional Symbol (optional)
EN	GJ	L- Lamellar	A-Austenitic	-xxx min.Rm (N/mm ²)	-D Raw Cast
		S- Spheroidal	F- Ferritic	or	-H Heat Treated
		M- Temper	P- Pearlitic	-xx min. A	-W Suitable for Welding
		V- Vermicular	M- Martensitic	and	
		N- without Graphite, ledeburitic	L- Ledeburitic	S- Separate test sample	
		Y- Special Structure	Q- Quenched	U- Joined test sample	
			W- White Tempered	C- Sample from part	
			B- Black Tempered		

Example : EN GJL 350 EN GJS 700-2