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## Influence of tempering on the deformation level of the multi-layer hard faced samples

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### Abstract

Results of determination of the longitudinal, lateral and angular deformations in hard faced samples are presented in this paper, as well as the influence of the additional heat treatment on the level of residual deformations. Investigation assumed multi-layer hard facing of the two plates (thicknesses 7.4 and 29 mm) made of steel 55CrMo8. Deformations were measured before the hard facing – after the plates' preparation by grinding, immediately after hard facing and after tempering. The objective was to determine if and how much the additional heat treatment (tempering) influences the level of residual deformations in the hard faced joints.

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*Keywords:* Hard facing; Tempering; Hard faced plates; Deformations.

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### 1. Introduction

Reparatory hard facing of forging dies is related to solving numerous tasks including proper selection of filler metals (FM), optimal technology of welding, what also includes decision, which, if any, preheating is necessary. The post hard facing heat treatment is also very important problem, since it influences the level of eventual residual

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deformations within the hard faced (HF) layers and the heat-affected zone (HAZ). The forging dies are parts that operate in harsh conditions since they are exposed to impact loading and cyclic heating up to elevated temperatures. This is the reason why for their manufacturing the mostly applied are the high quality steels that can sustain high impact loads and at the same time preserve very favorable mechanical properties, as well as wear resistance, at elevated temperatures. Taking into account that those steels are very expensive, reparation (and/or finalizing manufacturing) of tools made of them could be done by hard facing. In that way, both money and time could be saved and the eventual downtime for tools reparation is shortened [1]. Prescribing the optimal hard facing technology is a tedious job, accompanied by numerous model investigations, what was the subject of analysis in some previous articles [2-10]. In some of those publications [7-9] is described the detailed procedure of selecting the filler metal and the optimal reparation technology from the aspect of tribological characteristics of the hard faced layers. The hard facing technology of models is presented in this paper. The deformations, which appeared due to the heat input during the hard facing, were recorded. The objective of this work was to show what is the influence of the heat input on the hard faced layers and to present the level of deformation that can result due to input of the certain amount of heat.

### Nomenclature

BM – base metal  
 FM – filler metal  
 HF – hard facing  
 HAZ – heat affected zone  
 $I$  – welding current  
 $Q$  – quenching  
 $T$  – (high) tempering  
 $T_p$  – preheating temperature  
 $T_{temp}$  – tempering temperature  
 $U$  – welding voltage  
 $b$  – width of the hard faced layer  
 $d_e$  – electrode diameter  
 $h$  – height of the hard faced layer  
 $q_1$  – driving energy  
 $v_z$  – welding/hard facing speed

## 2. Properties of the base metal (BM)

Steel 55CrMo8 (SRPS – Č 5742, DIN – 56NiCrMoV7) was used as the base metal for hard facing. The plates of two different thicknesses were made of this steel – the thin plate of thickness 7.4 mm and the thick plate of thickness 29 mm. This steel is used for producing the parts and tools that operate at high temperatures (above 600°C) in dynamic loading conditions – like the forging dies. Steels alloyed with Cr, V and Mo, with increased content of carbon (0.3 – 0.6% C) provide the good hardenability, needed for larger cross-sections of tools, as well as higher hardness at elevated temperatures [2, 3]. The chemical composition, mechanical properties and microstructure of those steels are presented in Table 1 [4, 14].

Table 1. Chemical composition, mechanical properties and microstructure of 58CrMo8 steel.

		Chemical composition, %								
		C	Si	Mn	P	S	Cr	Ni	Mo	V
Steel mark		0.55	0.3	0.7	0.035	0.035	1.1	1.7	0.5	0.12
58CrMo 8		Mechanical properties and microstructure								
		Soft annealing				Tempering			B. M. Microstructure	
		t, °C	HV <sub>max</sub>	R <sub>m</sub> , MPa	t, °C	HRC	R <sub>m</sub> , MPa			
		670-700	250	850	400-700	50-30	1700-1100	M + B (interphase)		

Since the forging dies are mainly used in the heat tempered Q + T condition, all the samples were subjected to the same heat treatment. In that way, the exploitation conditions were simulated as close as possible. Hardness was measured on selected samples after the heat treatment, and it ranged from 40 to 42 HRC.

Samples of various thickness ( $s = 7.4 - 40 \text{ mm}$ ) were hard faced to steels prone to self-hardening ( $C > 0.35 \%$ ). That required application of preheating. The preheating temperature was determined according to Seferian formula [3] and it was within range from  $T_p = 286^\circ\text{C}$  for  $s = 7.4 \text{ mm}$  up to  $T_p = 315^\circ\text{C}$  for  $s = 40 \text{ mm}$ . The adopted preheating temperature was  $T_p \approx 300^\circ\text{C}$  [9]. (Note: In this paper are presented results for the two plates only, with thicknesses of  $s = 7.4 \text{ mm}$  and  $s = 29 \text{ mm}$ .)

### 3. Selecting the hard facing method, technology and the filler metal

Hard facing of the selected samples was done by application of the cored electrodes. Technological parameters of hard facing were determined according to [2-6], while hard facing was executed with two and three passes, for reducing the mixing-dilution, i.e., to obtain the properties declared by the electrodes supplier, but also taking into account large influence of deposition sequence on welding residual stresses and deformation level [13]. The deposition speed was measured in each pass, while the preheating temperature was checked prior to deposition of each new layer. The measuring was done on the Tastoherm D1200 device (measurement range:  $-50$  to  $+1200^\circ\text{C}$ ).

The highly alloyed basic electrodes UTOP 38 (E3-UM-40T  $\varnothing 3.25 \text{ mm}$  - DIN 8555) and UTOP 55 (E6-UM-60T  $\varnothing 5.00 \text{ mm}$  - DIN 8555) were used as the filler metals. They were selected because they are usually applied for hard facing of tools like: steel molds, dies and thorns for pressing. Hard faced layers obtained by their application are tough and resistant to wear and impact [9]. Hardness of the hard faced layers, according to conducted tests, was stable until the tempering temperature of  $570^\circ\text{C}$  [8-9]. The electrodes' supplier stated that hardness should be stable up to  $600^\circ\text{C}$  [15-1]. Electrodes were dried for 2 h at  $350-400^\circ\text{C}$ , before being used for hard facing. This is done because drying of electrodes should cause reduction of the diffused hydrogen and prevent appearance of hydrogen-induced cracks.

Table 2. Parameters of hard facing by the MAG method and filler material properties.

Hard facing parameters									
No.	Electrode mark		Core diameter $d_c, \text{ mm}$	Hard facing current $I, \text{ A}$	Voltage $U, \text{ V}$	Hard facing speed $v_z, \text{ mm/s}$	Driving energy $q_l, \text{ J/mm}$		
	SŽ Fiprom	DIN 8555							
1	UTOP 38	E3-UM-40T	3.25	115	26	$\approx 2.8$	854.3		
2	UTOP 55	E6-UM-60T	5.00	190	29	$\approx 2.5$	1763.2		
Filler materials properties									
No.	Electrode mark		Chemical composition %					Current type	Hard faced layer hardness, HRC
	SŽ Fiprom	DIN 8555	C	Cr	Mo	V	W		
1	UTOP 38	E3-UM-40T	0.13	5.0	4.0	0.20	+	= (+)	36-42
2	UTOP 55	E6-UM-60T	0.50	5.0	5.0	0.60	+	= (+)	55-60

Order of depositing the hard faced layers is shown in Figure 1a [5]. Prior to each new pass, the slug was removed by the steel brush. Other layers were deposited according to this scheme.

Table 3. Dimensions of the hard faced layers.

No.	Electrode mark		Core diameter $d_c, \text{ mm}$	Width $b, \text{ mm}$	Height $h, \text{ mm}$
	SŽ Fiprom	DIN 8555			
1	UTOP 38	E3-UM-40T	3.25	10-12	1.5
2	UTOP 55	E6-UM-60T	5.00	16-18	2.1

In Table 2 are presented parameters of hard facing (the hard facing current is for about 10% smaller than for welding), as well as the properties of the filler metals [8, 15-1], while the dimensions of the hard faced layers are presented in Table 3.

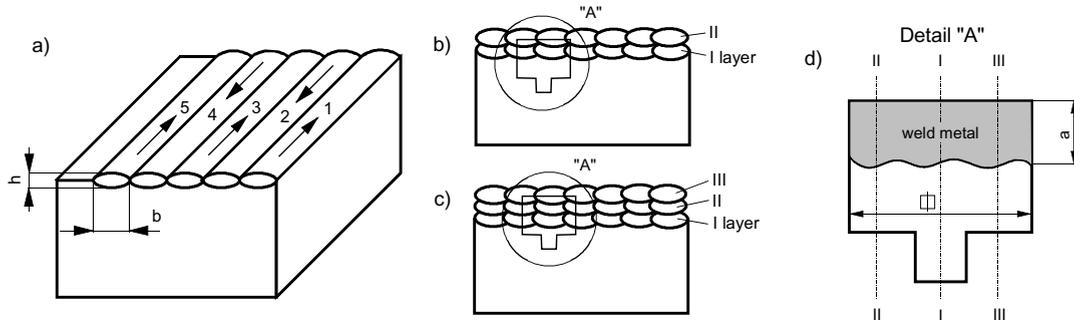


Fig. 1. Order of deposition of the hard faced layers: (a) layer 1; (b) layer 2; (c) layer 3; (d) metallographic slit scheme.

#### 4. Experimental measurements of deformations on samples

Samples for experimental recording of deformations were used from both the thin and the thick plates. The plates' sizes were  $394 \times 192 \times 7.4 \text{ mm}$  - 3 pieces and  $394 \times 192 \times 29 \text{ mm}$  - 3 pieces). They were heat tempered and then ground, Table 4. After the hard facing plates were tempered for the purpose of reducing the residual stresses and strains. The tempering temperature was  $T_{\text{temp}} = 520^\circ\text{C}$  [9]. This heat treatment procedure was adopted based both on own previous investigations [10] and on steel manufacturers' recommendations [14].

...Table 4. Hard facing parameters.

Plate number	Thickness $s, \text{ mm}$	Number of layers	Electrode diameter $d_e, \text{ mm}$	Hard facing current $I, \text{ A}$	Voltage $U, \text{ V}$	Hard facing speed $v_z, (\approx) \text{ mm/s}$	Driving energy $q_t, \text{ J/mm}$
1	29	2	5.00	190	29	2.3	1916.5
2	29	3	5.00	190	29	2.3	1916.5
3	29	1	5.00	190	29	2.4	1836.7
4	7.4	1	3.25	115	26	2.6	920.0
5	7.4	2	3.25	115	26	1.7	1407.0
6	7.4	3	3.25	115	26	2.5	956.8

Deformations were measured in three phases: before the hard facing (after the plates were prepared by grinding), immediately after the hard facing and after tempering. The objective of those measurements was to establish the correlation between deformations (i.e. the applied hard facing technology – the heat input) and the values of the residual stresses, for different plates' thicknesses. The grids were applied to the plates after grinding in three longitudinal and three lateral directions, with 111 measurement points in the  $x$ - $y$  plane, Figure 2. The OPTON UMC 850 contact coordinate device was used for measurement of deformations.

#### 5. Results and discussion

The measurements results – the maximal and minimal deformations, as well as the angular deformations of plates are presented in table 5 and in diagrams in Figs. 3 to 6. In Figs. 3 and 4 are presented the lateral and longitudinal deformation of the thick plate ( $29 \text{ mm}$ ) and in Figs 5 and 6 are presented the lateral and longitudinal deformation of the thin plate ( $7.4 \text{ mm}$ ). In Figures 7 and 8 are presented results of deformations' measurements in the form of the 3D diagrams for the thick and the thin plate, respectively.

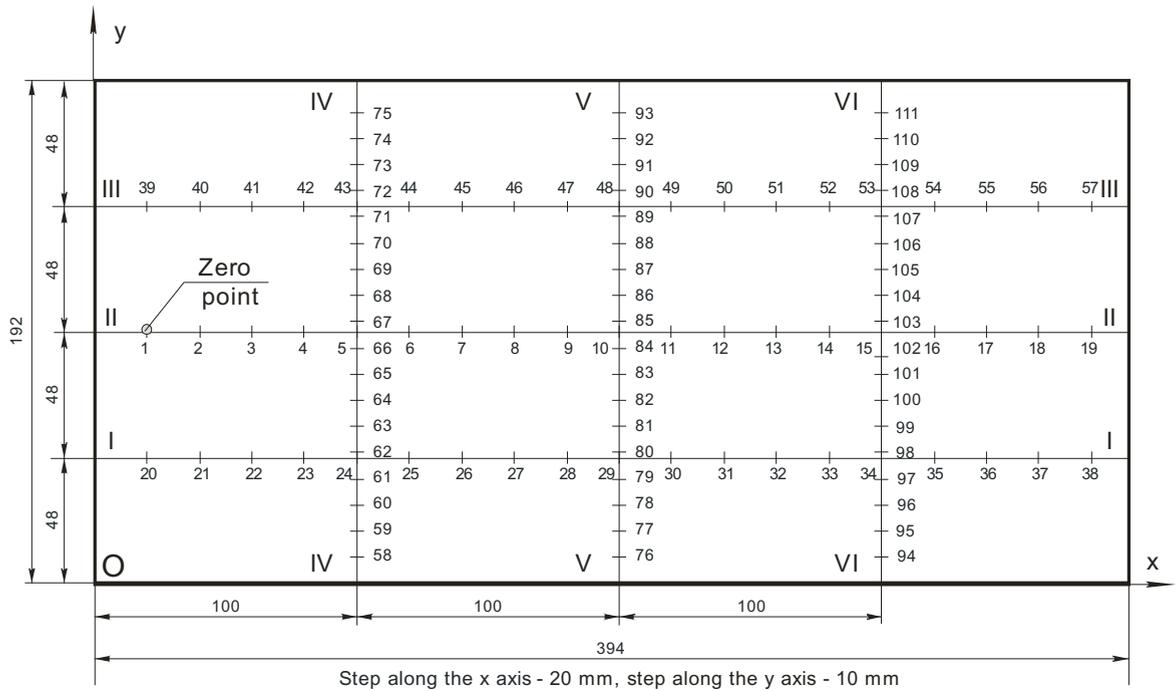


Fig. 2. Schematics of the plates' calibration.

Table 5. Characteristic deformations of the considered plates.

Measured variables		Plate No.							
		s = 29 mm			s = 7.4 mm				
			1	2	3	4	5	6	
Deformation [mm]	After hard facing	Max	0.069	0.135	0.060	3.607	5.671	7.375	
		Min	-0.038	-0.074	-0.038	-2.675	-5.236	-7.668	
	After tempering	Max	0.098	0.137	0.032	3.835	5.764	7.312	
		Min	-0.157	-0.208	-0.025	-2.976	-5.441	-7.245	
Angles of transverse deformations [°, °]	After hard facing	IV-IV	$\alpha_1$	3.1-3.25'	3.5-7.7'	2.1-2.1'	4.1-3.94°	5.5-6.1°	6.5-7.4°
		V-V	$\alpha_2$	3.2-4.1'	6.2-6.9'	0.4-0.7'	3.7-4.03°	5.2-6.1°	6.9-7.5°
	After tempering	VI-VI	$\alpha_1$	3.1-3.8'	5.9-3.1'	1.5-1.9'	3.6-3.7°	4.7-5.7°	6.5-6.8°
		IV-IV	$\alpha_2$	0.48-1.6'	1.6-5.9'	2.0-1.95'	3.8-4.2°	6.0-5.8°	6.5-7.4°
		V-V	$\alpha_1$	1.02-2.3'	3.7-5.3'	1.9-2.1'	3.7-4.3°	5.6-5.8°	7.0-7.5°
		VI-VI	$\alpha_2$	1.15-2.25'	3.6-1.8'	1.95-2.1'	3.4-4.0°	5.0-5.4°	6.6-6.9°

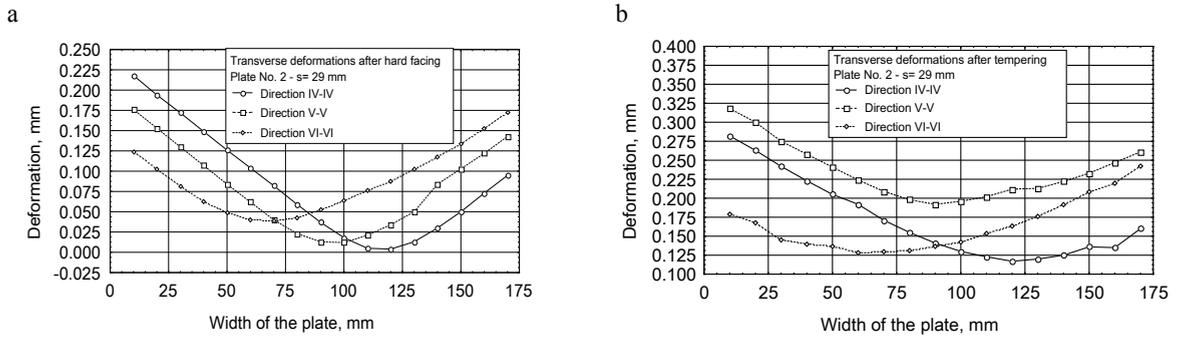


Fig. 3. Transverse deformation of plate no 2 – 29 mm; (a) after hard facing; (b) after tempering.

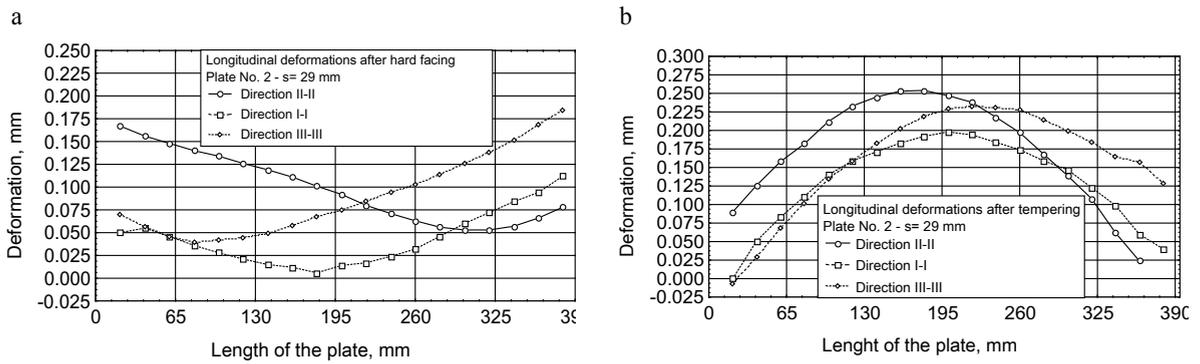


Fig. 4. Longitudinal deformation of plate no 2 – 29 mm; (a) after hard facing; (b) after tempering.

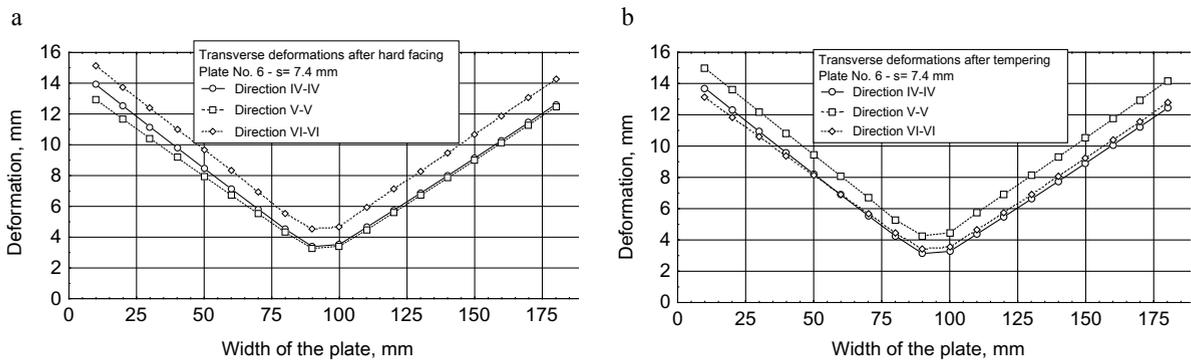


Fig. 5. Transverse deformation of plate no 6 – 7.4 mm; (a) after hard facing; (b) after tempering.

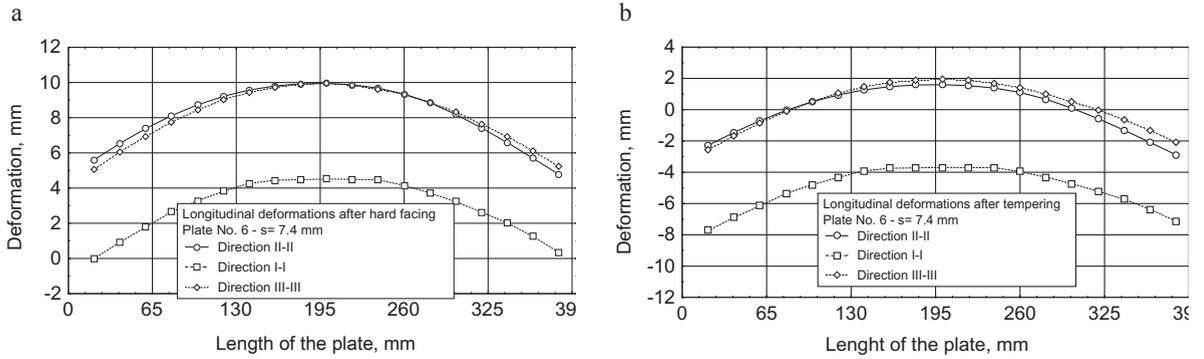


Fig. 6. Longitudinal deformation of plate no 6 – 7.4 mm; (a) after hard facing; (b) after tempering.

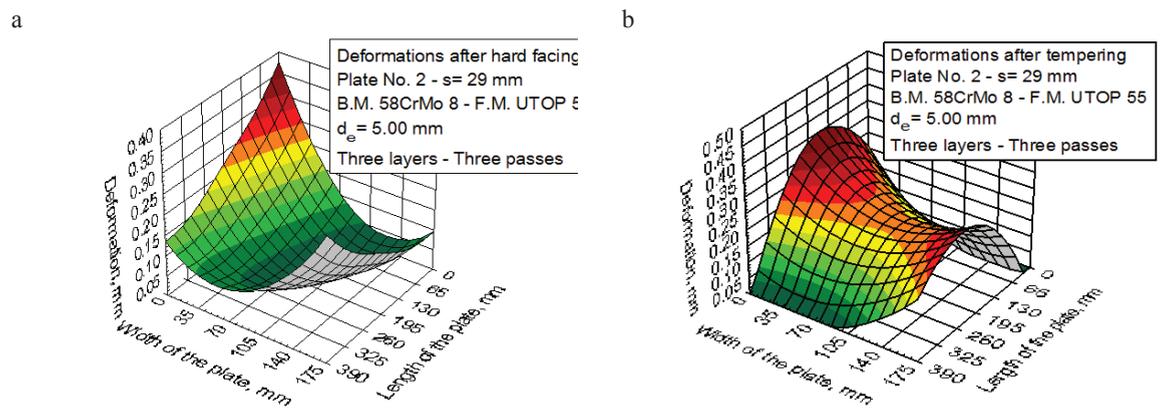


Fig. 7. 3D deformation of plate no 2 – 29 mm; (a) after hard facing; (b) after tempering.

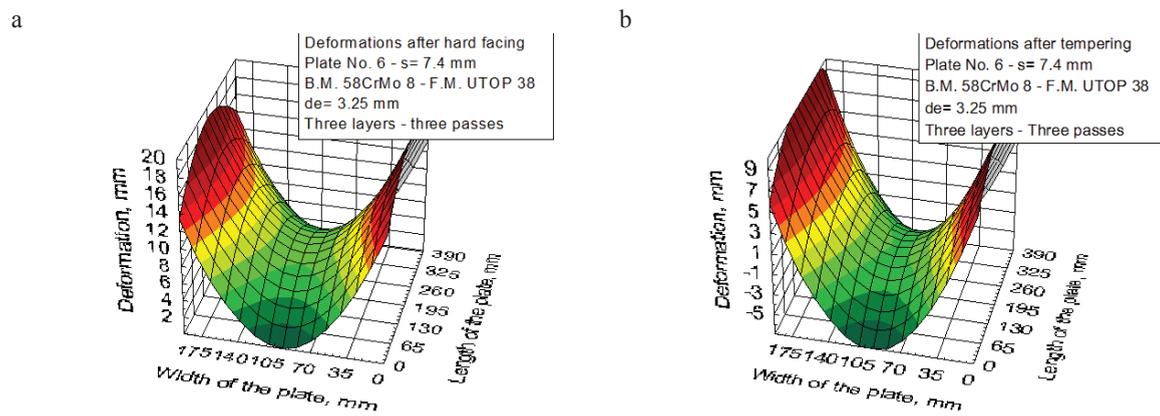


Fig. 8. 3D deformation of plate no 6 – 7.4 mm; (a) after hard facing; (b) after tempering.

## 6. Conclusion

Technology of hard facing of the thick and thin plate is presented in this paper in details. The deformations were measured and the influence of the hard facing technology (the heat input) on the level of deformation was investigated, as well as the influence of the additional heat treatment – tempering on level of deformation in the hard faced layers. Through the deformation measurements, it was established that they are the most prominent in hard facing of the thin plates, when deformations increase excessively in all the points of the hard faced joint, both in lateral (Fig. 5) and longitudinal direction (Fig. 6). The case of thick plates is somewhat different, since deformation increase is not so drastic in the lateral direction (Fig. 3), while in the longitudinal direction (Fig. 4) it is also very noticeable. All these observations were confirmed by the 3D diagrams (Figs. 7 and 8), where the total deformations are shown, what justifies the conclusion that the thin plates deform significantly more than the thick ones.

What concerns the investigated influence of tempering on deformation, it was concluded that the strongest influence is imposed to decrease of the longitudinal deformations in thin plates (Figs. 6 and 8). While the influence on thick plates deformations is practically negligible.

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