

Advanced Computational and Experimental Methods in Cold Spray

Northeastern University Cold Spray Additive Manufacturing Laboratory

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Model Guided Materials & Process Development





Today's Focus: Factors Affecting Particle Flight and Impact Behavior





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Particle Flight Velocity Measurements and Mismatch with CFD Simulations



Measurement Limitations Max Velocity: 1,400 m/s Max d_p : 5 μ m Particle size distribution different than actual



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Schlieren Image Taken at NU Showing Shock Diamonds

Particle size distribution for Al and Cu through transmission microscopy.

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Powder Characterization



Particle Size (µm)

Praxair Cu-159-3



3D CFD Model Domain Boundaries

Particle Flight Behavior & Impact Velocity and Temperature



Continuous Phase Computations

- Navier Stokes Equations of Mass, Momentum, and Energy Conservation
- Realizable k- ω Shear Stress Transport Reynolds Averaged Navier Stokes Approximation

Initial HiWatch vs CFD Comparisons

Particle Flight Behavior & Impact Velocity and Temperature



- Mean particle velocity measurements with full particle size distribution (PSD) match mean measurements by HiWatch
- But HiWatch PSD does not match with actual powder PSD

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- CFD simulations carried out by HiWatch measured PSD show discrepancy in mean and size dependent particle velocity.
- Possible causes
 - HW measures size inaccurately (ruled out after discussions with manufacturer)
 - Gas dynamics is not captured properly
 - Particle dynamics is not captured properly



Confirmation of Gas Dynamics Calculations through Schlieren Imaging



Evaluate & Refine



How spherical are gas atomized particles?

Evaluate & Refine



gas atomized aluminum particles



$$\begin{array}{cccc} \Psi = & d_n/a & \Psi = sphericity \\ \Psi = & (bc/a^2)^{\frac{1}{3}} & d_n = nominal \ diameter \\ \Psi = & c/(ab)^{\frac{1}{2}} & b = median \ axis \\ \Psi = & (c^2/ab)^{\frac{1}{3}} & c = minor \ axis \end{array}$$

Drag Coefficient of Off-Spherical Particles



Figure 4.5. Drag coefficient of a non-spherical particle dependent on the particle Reynolds number and the sphericity ψ .

S. Martin, J.R. Williams, Multiphase Flow Research, Nova Science Publishers, Inc., 2009

$$C_{\rm D} = \frac{24}{\text{Re}_{\rm p}} \left[1 + \exp\left(2.3288 - 6.4581\Psi + 2.4486\Psi^2\right) \cdot \text{Re}_{\rm p}^{(0.0964 + 0.5565\Psi)} \right] \\ + \frac{\exp\left(4.905 - 13.8944\Psi + 18.4222\Psi^2 - 10.2599\Psi^3\right) \cdot \text{Re}_{\rm p}}{\exp\left(1.4681 + 12.2584\Psi - 20.7322\Psi^2 + 15.8855\Psi^3\right) + \text{Re}_{\rm p}}$$

S. A. Morsi and A. J. Alexander, "An investigation of particle trajectories in twophase flow systems," *J. Fluid Mech.*, vol. 55, no. 2, pp. 193-208, 1972, doi: 10.1017/S0022112072001806.

Cold spray Re_{p} range: $0 < \text{Re}_{\text{p}} < \sim 10^3$ Significant effects of shape on velocity expected.



Particle shape distribution for Al and Cu through transmission microscopy.

Powder Characterization





Effects of Sphericity

VRC System

Nozzle 71

Helium

35 bar, 425 C

Mil Spec Al6061 Powder

Particle Flight Behavior & Impact Velocity and Temperature

SPEE3D System Water Cooled Nozzle Air 35 bar, 500 C Praxair Copper Powder



VRC System

Nozzle 71

Nitrogen

65 bar, 425 C

Mil Spec Al6061 Powder



2000

0

Velocity Estimation

VRC System

Nozzle 71

Helium

35 bar, 425 C

Mil Spec Al6061 Powder

0

HiWatch

Particle Flight Behavior & Impact Velocity and Temperature

VRC System

Nozzle 71

Nitrogen

65 bar, 425 C

Mil Spec Al6061 Powder

50

60

70

1400

1200

SPEE3D System Water Cooled Nozzle Air 35 bar, 500 C Praxair Copper Powder





CFD - y = [-0.2,0.2]mm





Refine Particle Shape Measurement





Major Findings



Particle shape, generally not measured in cold spray, is an important factor for impact velocity.



Particle shape measurement methods developed throughout this study needs to be improved to increase accuracy.



Bow shock that forms ahead of the substrate has a significant impact on particles that have off-spherical shapes. (More thorough analysis of this work will be published.)



Calibrated Models Provide Interfacial Energy and Thermal Energy Rise During Impact



Q. Chen, et al., NU







Thermal energy conversion to kinetic energy $TE_{particle} = 0.34 \cdot KE$

 $TE_{substrate} = 0.45 \cdot KE$

 $V_c = 884 \text{ m/s}$ $G^{Al} = 25 \text{ J/m}^2$



Building on findings



Refined particle shape analysis through measurement of 3rd dimension by interferometry



Shape Dependent Behavior



Script to generate parametrized shapes



Import into FEM Models

Sample impact FEM: Al-6061, 22 µm, 636 m/s





Thank you! Questions

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