Basic models, animations and unsolved problems in welding



T. DebRoy

- A basic heat conduction model benefits and limitations
- Applications of heat transfer and fluid flow models
 - Unusual weld pool shapes
 - Weld surface profiles
 - Effect of surface active elements
 - Welding two plates with different sulfur contents
 - Uphill, downhill, tilted, L and V configurations
 - Weld metal composition change
 - Why Sievert's Law cannot be directly applied in welding
- Tailoring weld geometry

Thanks to: A. Kumar, W. Zhang, B. Ribic, C.H. Kim, W. Pitscheneder, G. G. Roy, A. Arora, S. Mishra, T. J. Lienert, P. A. A. Khan, X. He, T. A. Palmer, A. De

Basic models in welding



Models the essential physical processes

"Essential" => of interest to many for meaningful understanding of the process and the weld metal

- Heat transfer and melting
- Evaporation of elements & dissolution of gases
- Flow of liquid metal
- Solidification & structural changes
- Properties



Rosenthal model for heat conduction in welding - a most widely used basic model



"For an engineer in search of a theory, the simpler the better"



(paraphrased)

Professor D. Brian Spalding

picture from http://www.cham.co.uk/about.php

Rosenthal model for heat conduction in welding

Analytical solution to calculate temperature fields, cooling rates and weld geometry

Widely used - simple, phenomenological and insightful

But ignores convection which is the main mechanism of heat transfer in many cases



Four main difficulties of heat conduction models

"Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler."

— Albert Einstein

From: http://rescomp.stanford.edu/~cheshire/EinsteinQuotes.html

Problem 1: diversity of weld shapes cannot be predicted from heat conduction equation





All these shapes have been explained considering convective heat transfer

Problem 2: weld orientation effect cannot be explained





This effect has been explained considering convective heat transfer

Problem 3: The effects of minor alloying elements cannot be explained ignoring convection

20 ppm sulfur



150 ppm sulfur



5200 W

* Minor changes in composition => major changes in geometry * Does not always happen!



1900 W

The effects of oxygen and sulfur has been explained considering convective heat transfer

Problem 4: Heat conduction equations overpredict cooling rates



"...the heat conduction equation has been found to be inadequate in representing experimental cooling curves" SVENSSON, GRETOFT and BHADESHIA, An analysis of cooling curves from the fusion zone of steel weld deposits, *Scand. J. Metallurgy*, vol. 15, pp. 97-103, 1986.

They recommended use of empirical correlations

The heat conduction equations predict high temperature gradients and cooling rates because mixing of hot and cold liquids is ignored.

Convective heat transfer calculations do not have any such problems.





Heat and fluid flow models and their diverse applications

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GTA weld pool with deformed free surface 1043 1386 1729 2073 700 G.G. Roy and T. DebRoy The Pennsylvania State Unniversity



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Many more applications



- 1. Fusion zone (FZ) and heat affect zone (HAZ) geometries
- 2. Grain size and topological features in the HAZ
- 3. Evolution of inclusion composition and size distribution
- 4. Evolution of microstructure in both FZ and HAZ
- 5. Control of cooling rates
- 6. Composition change owing to selective vaporization of alloying elements
- 7. Control of hydrogen and nitrogen in steel weldments
- 8. Joining of dissimilar materials including steels of different surface active elements such as sulfur and oxygen
- 9. Prevention of macro-porosity in laser welding
- 10. Enhancing fatigue property through improved surface finishing



1. Understanding unusual weld pool shapes

Wavy weld pool boundary



Wavy weld pool boundary



High Marangoni number, Ma, leads to formation of wavy weld pool boundary

Arora, Roy, and DebRoy, Scripta Materialia, 2009



Phase Transformations & Complex Properties Research Group, Cambridge University, 19 August 2011

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2. Surface profiles

Why study surface profile?

I mproper parameters \Rightarrow poor mechanical properties \Rightarrow defects \Rightarrow failure





Calculated and experimental GMA bead shape



Effect of welding parameters on the solidified surface profile



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	<u>(300 A, 15 mm)</u>		<u>(28</u>
	Calc.	Exp.	Ca
Bead width (mm) - W	11.20	11.32	12
Bead Height (mm) – h	3.02	3.12	2.
Penetration (mm) – P	5.00	5.05	4.
Toe angle - θ	59°	53 °	5
	Bead width (mm) - W Bead Height (mm) – h Penetration (mm) – P Toe angle - θ	$(300 \text{ A}, Calc.)$ Bead width (mm) - W 11.20 Bead Height (mm) - h 3.02 Penetration (mm) - P 5.00 Toe angle - θ 59°	$\begin{array}{ccc} (300 \text{ A}, 15 \text{ mm}) \\ \text{Calc.} & Exp. \\ \text{Bead width (mm) - W} & 11.20 & 11.32 \\ \text{Bead Height (mm) - h} & 3.02 & 3.12 \\ \text{Penetration (mm) - P} & 5.00 & 5.05 \\ \text{Toe angle - }\theta & 59^{\circ} & 53^{\circ} \end{array}$

Test case A		Test case B		Test case C	
<u>300 A, 15 mm)</u>		<u>(280 A, 20 mm)</u>		<u>(260 A, 25 mm)</u>	
Calc.	Exp.	Calc.	Exp.	Calc.	Exp.
1.20	11.32	12.82	12.60	13.24	13.20
3.02	3.12	2.80	2.82	2.80	2.79
5.00	5.05	4.00	3.95	2.90	2.84
59°	53°	50°	47 °	49 ^o	49 °



3. Effect of surface active elements

Convection in Fe and Fe-<u>S</u> Melts











Minor changes in composition → major changes in geometry



Insignificant change in geometry

Variable penetration - summary

Experiments

- reveal what happens: sometimes the depth changes with % <u>S</u>
- but do not reveal why

Modeling

 surface active elements improve penetration *only when* convection is important (high Pe)

Modeling is a path to understand the science of welding



4. Welding two plates with different sulfur contents





The arc shifts towards the low sulfur side

I = 101 A, *V* = 9.6 V, Welding speed = 1.7 mm/s







• Sulfur covers more surface on high sulfur side => less metal sites on the surface.

• Sulfur has strong interaction with low ionization potential metals like Mn. Higher the sulfur the more it prevents ionization.

Incorporating arc shift





Maximum penetration occurs approximately below the arc location

Amount of arc shift is approximated by length AB



Empirical relation for amount of arc shift

Temperature and velocity fields & Sulfur distribution



Welding conditions: 150 A, 10.8 V, welding speed is 1.7 mm/s

No significant sulfur gradient except very close to the edges

Fair agreement between the calculated and experimental weld pool geometry



5. Uphill, downhill, tilt, L and V configurations








6. Composition change

Phase Transformations & Complex Properties Research Group, Cambridge University, 19 August 2011



Temperature field and weld pool size are important factors







Why is the composition change more pronounced at low powers?



Low Power Welding



Base Metal

High Power Welding



Base Metal

- Most of the evaporation takes place under the beam
- Pool size increases strongly with increase in power alloying element loss is spread over a larger volume



Temperature from Vapor Composition

Vaporization rate of A Vaporization rate of B $\frac{J_A}{J_B} = \frac{p_A}{p_B} \sqrt{(M_B/M_A)}$



8 5 5

Temperature from Vapor Composition

	S.	2	5
1	8	5	-5

Power and pulse	Spot radius (mm)	Peak temperature from numerical heat transfer (K)	Temperature from J _{Fe} / J _{Mn} (K)	Temperature from J _{Cr} / J _{Mn} (K)
1067 W, 3.0 ms pulse	0.260	3270	3125	3110
	0.325	2879	3005	2865
530 W, 4.0 ms pulse	0.210	2761	3090	3060
	0.313	2308	2435	2485

Model Validation

Experimental and Calculated Weld Pool Cross Sections



(a) beam radius:0.43 mm



(b) beam radius:0.57 mm

Laser power: 1967 W and pulse duration: 3 ms.

8 5 5

Main Metallic Species in the Vapor



8.5.5

Weld Metal Composition Change



Initial concentrations:

Final weight percent of element i:

(% i) =
$$\frac{V\rho(\% i)^{\circ} - \Delta m_{i}}{V\rho - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \Delta m_{i}} \times 100\%$$

- V: volume of weld pool
- ρ: density of liquid metal
- Δm_i : weight loss of element i
- n: number of vapor species

Assumption: uniform weld pool composition resulting from strong recirculating flow

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Change of Composition of Weld Pool



Laser power: 1067 W, pulse duration: 3.0 ms, and beam radius: 0.225 mm.

8.5

Composition Change of Weld Pool



Laser power: 1067 W, pulse duration: 3.0 ms, and beam radius: 0.325 mm **48**

Recoil and Surface Tension Forces

Laser power: 1067 W, pulse duration: 3.0 ms, and beam diameter: 0.405 mm.





t > 2.6 ms, Recoil force > Surface tension force => Expulsion of metal drops 50



Progressive deformation of the free surface





 8.0 kW/mm^2

Critical laser power density: 7.0 kW/mm²

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7. Dissolution of gases

Phase Transformations & Complex Properties Research Group, Cambridge University, 19 August 2011

Nitrogen Dissolution In The Weld Pool



Nitrogen concentration in the weld metal is much higher than that predicted by Sieverts' law

But why?

Nitrogen dissolution from a plasma environment

SYSTEM SPECIES LAW	GAS/METAL N ₂ /Fe SIEVERTS' LAW	PLASMA/METAL N ₂ , N [*] ₂ , N ⁺ ₂ , N, N [*] /Fe ??	
SYSTEM Source of N Gas	GAS/METAL Thermal Dissociation	PLASMA/METAL Thermal Dissociation Electron Impact Electromagnetic Effects	
Partial Pressure	$\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{N}_{2}(g) \rightarrow \operatorname{N}(g)$ $\operatorname{P}_{N} = \operatorname{K}_{eq}^{T_{s}} \operatorname{P}_{N_{2}}^{1/2}$	$P_{N} > K_{eq}^{T_{s}} P_{N_{2}}^{1/2}$ $P_{N} = K_{eq}^{T_{d}} P_{N_{2}}^{1/2}$	

 $T_s =$ Sample Temperature

 T_d = Temperature at which $N_2(g)$ dissociates

Nitrogen – Iron System

DIATOMIC NITROGEN

MONATOMIC NITROGEN



Physical modeling with isothermal metal drops



Enhanced dissolution of nitrogen in isothermal metal drops



- Nitrogen solubilities up to 30 times larger than Sieverts' Law predictions.
- Small changes in sample temperature cause large variations in <u>N</u>.



• Experimental verification for the presence of species in the plasma phase.

Nitrogen dissolution in the weld pool

Much higher than Sieverts' law values of nitrogen concentration can be predicted by a two temperature model

But how?





Dissociation temperatures are 100-215 K above the sample temperature
But welds are not isothermal!

Nitrogen concentrations at the weld pool surface



$\frac{\text{Inside Arc Column}}{N(g) \rightarrow [\underline{N}](ppm)}$	<u>Outside Arc Column</u> $\frac{1}{2}$ N ₂ (g)→[<u>N</u>](ppm)
$\underline{\mathbf{N}}] = \mathbf{P}_{\mathbf{N}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta \mathbf{G}_{\mathbf{N}(g)}^{\circ}}{\mathbf{R}\mathbf{T}}\right)$	$[\underline{\mathbf{N}}] = (\mathbf{P}_{\mathbf{N}_2})^{1/2} \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta G_{\mathbf{N}_2(g)}^{\circ}}{\mathbf{R}T}\right)^{1/2}$
$\int_{z}^{y} \frac{dc}{dy} = 0$	[<u>N</u>] = 20 ppm [<u>N</u>] = 20 ppm

Reaction	Phase	Free Energy (J/mol)	Temperature Range (K)
$1/2 N_2(g) \rightarrow N(g)$	gas	362,318.0 - 65.52 T	273 to 1811
$N(g) \rightarrow N$ (wt pct)	liquid	-358,719.4 + 89.56 T	>1811
$N(g) \rightarrow \overline{N}$ (wt pct)	solid-δ	-349,265.3 + 74.01 T	1663 to 1810
$N(g) \rightarrow N$ (wt pct)	solid-y	-353,698.6 + 10.29 T	1185 to 1662
$N(g) \rightarrow N(wt pct)$	solid- α	-349,265.3 + 74.01 T	273 to 1184
$1/2 N_2(g) \rightarrow N$ (wt pct)	liquid	3598.2 + 23.89 T	>1811
$1/2 N_2(g) \rightarrow \overline{N}$ (wt pct)	solid-δ	13,052.4 + 8.49 T	1663 to 1810
$1/2 N_2(g) \rightarrow \overline{N}$ (wt pct)	solid-y	-8619.0 + 37.40 T	1185 to 1662
$1/2 N_2(g) \rightarrow \underline{N} (wt pct)$	solid- α	13,052.4 + 8.49 T	273 to 1184

Species concentrations in the plasma



$$\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{Ar} \to \operatorname{Ar}^{+} + e^{-} & [1] \\ & \frac{n_{e}n_{\operatorname{Ar}}^{+}}{n_{\operatorname{Ar}}} = \frac{2(2\pi m_{e}kT)^{3/2}Z_{\operatorname{Ar}}^{+}}{h^{3}} e^{-(\varepsilon_{\operatorname{Ar}})/kT} & [2] \\ & \operatorname{Ar}^{+} \to \operatorname{Ar}^{++} + e^{-} & [3] \\ & \frac{n_{e}n_{\operatorname{Ar}}^{++}}{n_{\operatorname{Ar}}^{++}} = \frac{2(2\pi m_{e}kT)^{3/2}}{h^{3}} \frac{Z_{\operatorname{Ar}}^{++}}{Z_{\operatorname{Ar}}^{+}} e^{-(\varepsilon_{\operatorname{Ar}}^{+})/kT} & [4] \\ & \operatorname{N}_{2} \to \operatorname{N}_{2}^{+} + e^{-} & [5] \\ & \frac{n_{e}n_{\operatorname{N}_{2}}^{+}}{n_{\operatorname{N}_{2}}} = \frac{2(2\pi m_{e}kT)^{3/2}}{h^{3}} \frac{Z_{\operatorname{N}_{2}}^{+}}{Z_{\operatorname{N}_{2}}} e^{-(\varepsilon_{\operatorname{N}_{2}})/kT} & [6] \\ & \operatorname{N} \to \operatorname{N}^{+} + e^{-} & [7] \\ & \frac{n_{e}n_{\operatorname{N}}^{+}}{n_{\operatorname{N}}} = \frac{2(2\pi m_{e}kT)^{3/2}}{h^{3}} \frac{Z_{\operatorname{N}_{2}}^{+}}{Z_{\operatorname{N}}} e^{-(\varepsilon_{\operatorname{N}})/kT} & [8] \\ & \operatorname{N}_{2}(g) \to \operatorname{N}(g) & [9] \\ & K = \frac{p_{\operatorname{N}_{2}}^{2}}{p_{\operatorname{N}_{2}}} = \frac{(P)^{2}(X_{\operatorname{N}})^{2}}{(P)X_{\operatorname{N}_{2}}} = P \frac{(X_{\operatorname{N}})^{2}}{X_{\operatorname{N}_{2}}} = \frac{(n_{\operatorname{N}})^{2}}{n_{\operatorname{N}_{2}}} \left(\frac{\operatorname{R}T}{N_{\operatorname{A}}}\right) [10] \\ & n_{e} = n_{\operatorname{Ar}}^{+} + 2n_{\operatorname{Ar}}^{+} + n_{\operatorname{N}_{2}^{+}} + n_{\operatorname{N}}^{+} & [11] \\ & X_{\operatorname{Ar}}\left(N_{\operatorname{A}}\left(\frac{p}{\operatorname{R}T}\right)\right) = X_{\operatorname{Ar}}(n_{\operatorname{Ar}} + 2n_{\operatorname{Ar}}^{+} + 3n_{\operatorname{Ar}}^{+}) & [12] \end{aligned}$$

$$X_{N_2}\left(N_A\left(\frac{p}{RT}\right)\right) = X_{N_2}(n_{N_2} + 2n_{N_2^+} + n_N + 2n_{N^+}) \quad [13]$$

Species concentrations in Ar-5%N2 plasma



I mportant species: Ar, N2 and N

Main tasks:

- Compute temperature and velocity fields in the weld pool
- Compute species concentrations in the plasma above the weld pool
- Compute nitrogen concentrations on the weld pool surface
- Compute nitrogen concentrations in the entire specimen

Comparison between modeling and experimental results

Modeled results with nitrogen supersaturations between 50 and 75% higher than Sieverts' Law calculations for $P(N_2) = 1$ atm correspond well with experimental results.

Many other applications

http://www.matse.psu.edu/modeling

From http://www.matse.psu.edu/modeling

Grain Growth in Ti-6Al-4V Heat Affected Zone

Phase Transformations & Complex Properties Research Group, Cambridge University, 19 August 2011

Tailoring weld geometry – has been done Tailoring structure and properties?

Tailoring weld geometry



Target: Form a weld of the following dimensions:

Penetration : 1.23 mm Width : 4.47 mm

This weld was actually fabricated by GTA welding



Objective function



$$O(f) = \left(\frac{w^{c} - w^{obs}}{w^{obs}}\right)^{2} + \left(\frac{p^{c} - p^{obs}}{p^{obs}}\right)^{2}$$

- W weld pool width
- P weld pool penetration

Superscript c – computed values

Superscript obs - experimentally observed values

$$\{f\} \equiv \{f_1 \ f_2 \ f_3\} = \left\{\frac{I}{I_{mn}} \ \frac{V}{V_{mn}} \ \frac{v}{v_{mx}}\right\} = \{I^* \ V^* \ v^*\}$$

- *f*-welding variable set

- I Current
- V Voltage

Subscript mn- minimum allowed value

Subscript mx – maximum allowed value

Objective function with I^{*}, V^{*} and v^{*}





O(f) for the initial population





O(f) after ten generations

Eight alternate welding conditions achieved after fifteen generations Multiple combinations of welding parameters result in roughly the same target geometry



Target geometry: penetration = 1.23 mm, width = 4.47 mm I = 140 A, V = 11.2 V, Welding speed = 7 mm/s

Individual		V	U	Penetration	Width
solutions	(amp)	(Volt)	(mm/s)	(mm)	(mm)
(1)	134	9.8	4.3	1.24	4.54
(2)	140	11.5	7.1	1.24	4.57
(3)	135	10.6	5.1	1.25	4.60
(4)	163	10.3	9.6	1.18	4.34
(5)	117	14.4	8.2	1.23	4.53
(6)	149	12.6	9	1.28	4.63
(7)	106	12.5	4.8	1.23	4.45
(8)	166.5	10.5	8.6	1.24	4.55

Geometries of fabricated welds





Geometries of fabricated welds





Multiple sets of welding variables can produce a target geometry



Arc welding of SS304 to produce 4.47 mm wide and 1.23 mm deep pool

Obtained by GA

Obtained by experiments,

Current (A)	Voltage (V)	Velocity (mm/s)	Width (mm)		Penetration (mm)	
			computed	measured	computed	measured
134.0	9.8	4.3	4.54	4.81	1.24	1.20
140.3	11.5	7.1	4.57	4.89	1.24	1.21
134.8	10.6	5.1	4.60	4.78	1.25	1.27
163.0	10.3	9.6	4.34	4.60	1.18	1.22
117.0	14.4	8.2	4.53	4.23	1.23	1.19
149.0	12.6	9.0	4.63	4.90	1.28	1.30
106.1	12.5	4.8	4.45	4.26	1.23	1.21
166.5	10.5	8.6	4.55	4.65	1.24	1.25



Thank you very much

More models, animations and papers at http://www.matse.psu.edu/modeling