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Optimum Design of Ceramic Spray Coating Evaluated in Terms of Intensity of Singular Stress Field

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Hearth rolls are the most important tools in continuous annealing line to produce thin steel sheet. Usually, the roll surface is coated by ceramics using thermal spraying. However, material mismatch and temperature change may cause thermal stress leading to the failure of the coating and deteriorating high adhesive strength and wears resistance. Therefore, it is very important to improve the debonding strength by optimizing the design of spray coating. The traditional method of evaluating the debonding strength of spray coating is prescribed as JIS H8304 thermal test. This paper focuses on the intensity of singular stress field (ISSF) at the end of interface since few research is available in terms of ISSF. Previously, the authors considered the JIS specimen assuming a plane strain. However, since the hearth roll is cylindrical and axi-symmetric, the difference between plane strain and axi-symmetric models should be clarified. Thus, in this paper, the axi-symmetric model is newly considered and the optimum design is discussed by varying the coating material and the coating thickness. Also the present results are compared with the previous results of JIS specimen so that the difference between actual model and JIS specimen can be clarified to contribute the design and evaluation of the real rolls.

1. Introduction

Continuous annealing furnace is the common line to produce steel sheet used in automobiles. Here, the rolls are working in a harsh environment whose temperature is usually between 700 and 800 °C and sometimes up to 1200 °C for some special grade requirement.^[1] Therefore, excellent performances are demanded for roll material and structure. First of all, the roller surface should be able to do against corrosion and oxidation at high temperatures. Secondly, it must be wear-resistant with a longer service life.^[2] For this demand, the ceramic spaying coating as shown in **Figure 1**a and b has been widely used in recent decades.^[3,4] To prevent the coating failure due to material mismatch under cyclic thermal shock, the multilayer coating as shown in Figure 1b is usually employed instead of single splay coating.

In order to improve the coating strength and service life, different processes and several materials have been widely studied as well as the debonding strength evaluation method. In Japan, the thermal shock resistance of the spaying coating structure is prescribed as JIS8304 (2007) with the specimen shown in Figure 1c.^[5] Mutoh et al. have reported the thermal shock damage characteristics based on the experiment and finite element analysis.^[6] To evaluate the interfacial strength of dissimilar adhesive structures more accurately, it is desirable to consider the intensity of singular stress field (ISSF) at the interface end. Since few studies are available for ISSF on this multi-layer structure under thermal shock, Noda et al. proposed a convenient evaluation method for spray coating in terms of on ISSF.^[7] The previous study considered the JIS specimen assuming two-dimensional plane strain, while the hearth roll is cylindrical and axi-symmetric as shown in Figure 1e. Since the difference between these two models cannot be ignored especially for small roller diameters, in this paper, the axi-symmetric model will be considered and the optimum design will be discussed by varying the coating material and the coating thickness. Then, the results will be compared with the previous 2D results for JIS specimen so that the difference between actual axi-symmetric shape and JIS specimen can be clarified.

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2. Material Properties and Analysis Model

The process of thermal shock test specified by JIS8304 (2007) is shown in **Figure 2**a. First the specimen is heated up to 1000 °C and keep the temperature for a 1800 s to ensure

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(a) Hearth roll used in continuous annealing line (CAL)



(b) Structure of hearth roll with spray





(d) Plane strain model of JIS specimen (xy-plane)



(e) Cylindrical structure of hearth roll (axi-symmetric)



(c) JIS 8304 specimen for thermal shock test (plane strain)

(f) Analysis model of axi-symmetric structure (rz-plane)

Figure 1. Analytical model of specimen in JIS and hearth roll used in CAL. a) Hearth roll used in continuous annealing line (CAL). b) Structure of hearth roll with spray. c) JIS 8304 specimen for thermal shock test (plane strain). d) Plane strain model of JIS specimen (xy-plane). e) Cylindrical structure of hearth roll (axi-symmetric). f) Analysis model of axi-symmetric structure (rz-plane).

uniform heating of the specimen, then the specimen is merged into water of 20 °C to simulate the rapid cooling. That cycle repeats again and again until the failure of coating occurs. In this test, the failure usually occur at the interface end of bond coating and top coating.

The JIS specimen is a cubic SU304 steel coated with yttrium (Y_2O_3) stabilized zirconia (ZrO₂). The top coating ZrO₂ has 8–20 wt% of Y_2O_3 (In the following % will be omitted) and the substrate are bonded with CoNiCrAIY. The material properties are shown in **Table 1**. Figure 3 shows the material properties of three layers: coefficient of expansion α_e , specific heat *C*, Young's modulus *E*, and thermal conductivity *K*. All material properties are temperature dependent.

Different from the previous study assuming plane strain as shown in Figure 1d of the JIS specimen, here, the

axi-symmetric model shown in Figure 1f is used as the analysis model so that the results of actual structure and experimental specimen can be compared. Here, the subscript 1, 2, and 3 represents the top coating, bond coating, and substrate, respectively, with the corresponding material properties shown in Table 1. Our previous studies show that the ISSFs of bonded cylinder as well as pipe are quite different from the ISSF of bonded plate by up to 30%.^[8,9] Therefore, the difference between the problem in Figure 1d and f will be clarified in this study.

In the analysis of this research, FEM is use to obtain the value of stress at the end of interface when simulating the thermal shock. In this study, FEM software ANSYS 16.2 with four nodes quad element is applied to thermal-structural elastic analysis.



(a) Temperature history of thermal shock test in one cycle



(b) Results of thermal shock test

Figure 2. Thermal shock test specified by JIS8304(2007). a) Temperature history of thermal shock test in one cycle. b) Results of thermal shock test.

3. Axi-Symmetric Analysis Method for the Intensity of Singular Stress Field under Thermal-Load

In this study, we mainly focus on the intensity of singular stress field ISSF at the end of coating layer under the thermal shock test. The optimization will be done from the results of ISSF affected by the coating thickness. In the previous studies, a convenient method for the solution of ISSF in an adhesive bonding plate under bending and tension has been proposed.^[10,11] And in this paper, the method is applied to analysis the coating problem under thermal shock.

For bonded structure shown in Figure 1f, in JIS test and our former research, it is known that the most dangerous point is at the end of the interface, where the stress goes infinity with its singularity of $\sigma_{ij} \propto 1/R^{\lambda}$, in which *R* is the

distance from the end of the interface in a dissimilar bonded structure (see **Figure 5**b). Here, λ is singular index, which is the root of Equation 1.^[12,13] As for α and β in Equation 1 are known as Dundurs' parameters which are expressed by Equation 2,^[12,13] where v is Poisson's ratio and G = E/2(1 + v) is shear modulus.

$$\left[\sin^2\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\lambda\right) - \lambda^2\right]\beta^2 + 2\lambda^2\left[\sin^2\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\lambda\right) - \lambda^2\right]\alpha\beta + \lambda^2(\lambda^2 - 1)\alpha^2 + \frac{\sin^2(\pi\lambda)}{4} = 0$$
(1)

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha &= \frac{G_1(\kappa_2 + 1) - G_2(\kappa_1 + 1)}{G_1(\kappa_2 + 1) + G_2(\kappa_1 + 1)}, \\ \beta &= \frac{G_1(\kappa_2 - 1) - G_2(\kappa_1 - 1)}{G_1(\kappa_2 + 1) + G_2(\kappa_1 + 1)}, \\ \kappa_j &= \begin{cases} \frac{3 - \nu_j}{1 + \nu_j} \text{(plane stress)}\\ 3 - 4\nu_j \text{(plane strain)} \end{cases} (j = 1, 2) \end{aligned}$$

Since all properties of the three materials vary with temperature, the singular stress field is, therefore, changed by varying the material properties. The relationship between the singular index λ and the temperature is plotted in **Figure 4**. Singular index λ_2 for the interface between the bond coating and substrate is very close to 1, which means almost no singularity. Therefore, this study will mainly focus on the ISSF between the top coating and the bond coating as shown in Figure 1f. During the thermal shock test process as shown in Figure 2a, water-cooled condition is simulated by given temperature 20 °C to the entire surface of specimen at t = 4800 s, then the temperature distribution and thermal stress was determined by thermal and elastic analysis.

Thermal stress σ_r is caused by entire body temperature difference $T + \Delta T$ in the bonded structure shown in Figure 5a. In our previous research for bonded pipe^[8] and bonded cylinder,^[9] it was found that there is non-singular terms $\tilde{\sigma}_r$ in the stress component as shown in Equation 3,^[9] which will cause difficulty in the solution of ISSF. Therefore, it is necessary to eliminate the non-singular term. There is

Material		Young's modulus E [GPa]	Poisson's ratio v	Thermal expansion $\alpha_e [10^{-6} \text{ K}^{-1}]$
	20YZ (ZrO ₂ -20 wt% Y_2O_3)	20	0.25	7.5–9.7
Top coating	12YZ (ZrO_2 -12wt% Y_2O_3)			8.3–9.93
	8YZ (ZrO_2 -8 wt% Y_2O_3)			8.7–10.05
Bonded coating (CoNiCrAlY)		103–180	0.33	2.8–16.8
Substrate (SUS304)		85–200	0.3	16.8–19.2





Figure 3. Relationship between material properties and temperature: a) coefficient of expansion; b) specific heat; c) Young's modulus, and d) thermal conductivity.

also another non-singular term σ_0 caused by thermal stress.^[14] By eliminating the non-singular terms σ_0 , and $\tilde{\sigma}_r$, the remaining singular term $\sigma_y - \sigma_0 - \tilde{\sigma}_r$ has a singularity of the form $r^{1-\lambda}$ as shown in Equation 4.

$$\sigma_r^{\text{Axial}} - \sigma_0 - \tilde{\sigma}_r = \lim_{R \to 0} \frac{K_{\sigma}^{\text{Axial}}}{R^{1-\lambda}}$$
(4)

$$\sigma_{r}^{\text{Axial}} - \sigma_{0} = \lim_{r \to 0} \frac{K_{\sigma}^{\text{Axial}}}{r^{1-\lambda}} + \tilde{\sigma}_{r} = \lim_{r \to 0} \frac{K_{\sigma}^{\text{Axial}}}{r^{1-\lambda}} + -\frac{(\nu_{1} - \nu_{2})E_{1}E_{2}}{(1 + \nu_{1})\nu_{1}E_{2} - (1 + \nu_{2})\nu_{2}E_{1}} \frac{u_{r0}^{\text{Axial}}}{(W + R_{inf})}$$
(3)





Figure 4. Relationship between temperature and singular index λ .

(a) Thermal singular stress field for ceramic coating as unknown problem



(b) The bonded strip model as the known reference problem

Figure 5. Comparison of Reference problem and unknown problem. a) Thermal singular stress field for ceramic coating as unknown problem. b) The bonded strip model as the known Reference problem.

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(a) Basic axi-symmetric model



(b) Bonded plate

Figure 6. Basic axi-symmetric problem and bonded plate. a) Basic axi-symmetric model. b) Bonded plate.

This intensity of singular stress field caused by thermal stress is equivalent to the one due to the remote tension σ_0 as shown in Equation 5.^[10]

$$\sigma_0 = -\Delta \alpha \Delta E \Delta T, \tag{5}$$

where,

$$\Delta \alpha = \begin{cases} \alpha_1 - \alpha_2 \text{ (plane stress)} \\ (1 + \nu_1)\alpha_1 - (1 + \nu_2)\alpha_2 \text{ (plane strain)} \end{cases}$$

$$\Delta E = \frac{8}{\left\{\frac{(\kappa_1 - 3)}{G_1} - \frac{(\kappa_2 - 3)}{G_2}\right\}}$$
$$\kappa_j = \begin{cases} \frac{3 - \nu_j}{1 + \nu_j} & (\text{ plane stress })\\ 3 - 4\nu_j & (\text{ plane strain }) \end{cases}$$

$$G_i = \frac{E_i}{2(1+\nu_i)} \begin{pmatrix} i = 1 : \text{Top coat}, \\ i = 2 : \text{Middle coat} \end{cases}$$

The problem of finite bonded plate subjected to tension shown in Figure 5b has been accurately calculated by using the body force method.^[15,16] Since the singular stress fields are similar if the material angles of two bonded structures are the same, then the stress intensity of unknown problem shown in Figure 5a can be determined by applying this known solution (Figure 5b) to Equation 6.^[10,11–17]

$$\frac{K_{\sigma}}{K_{\sigma}^*} = \frac{F_{\sigma}\sigma_0 W^{1-\lambda}}{F_{\sigma}\sigma_0^* W^{1-\lambda}} = \frac{\sigma_{r,\text{FEM}} - \sigma_0 - \tilde{\sigma}_r}{\sigma_v^{\text{FEM}*}}$$
(6)

Here, the superscript * means known Reference problem.

		$e_{ m min}/ m W{=}2.25{ imes}10^{-7}$		$e_{\min}/$	$e_{\min}/W = 2.25 \times 10^{-8}$	
Items	Stress components	Mat. 1	Mat. 2	Mat. 1	Mat. 2	
	$\sigma^{ m Axial}_{r0, m FEM}$	1.2689×10^9	1.6841×10^9	1.8654×10^9	2.4035×10^9	
	$\sim_{r0, { m FEM}}^{\sim { m Axial}}$	$\textbf{9.8708}\times 10^7$	$\textbf{9.8708}\times 10^7$	$\textbf{9.8708}\times 10^7$	$\textbf{9.8708}\times10^7$	
$\xrightarrow{R_{inf}}$ r	σ_0	-8.4354×10^{8}	-8.4354×10^{8}	-8.4354×10^{8}	-8.4354×10^{8}	
	$\sigma^*_{ m y0,FEM}$	2.2750×10^9	2.7441×10^9	2.9489×10^9	3.5568×10^9	
	$\sigma^{ m Axil}_{r0, m FEM}/\sigma^{ m Plate}_{y0, m FEM}$	0.55776	0.61372	0.63257	0.67575	
	$\frac{\sigma^{\text{Axil}}_{r0,\text{FEM}} - \sigma_0 - \hat{\sigma}^{\text{Axial}}_{r0,\text{FEM}}}{\sigma^*_{y,\text{FEM}}}$	0.885158	0.885148	0.885155	0.885159	

Table 2. Stress components of bonded axi-symmetric problem and Reference problem.



Figure 7. Dimension of analysis model and local FEM mesh.

To verify application of proportional method expressed as Equation 6, a basic bonded axi-symmetric problem is investigated under thermal load. Considering the thickness of coating is usually small enough compared to the inner radius of the roll, the inner radius of the basic model is assumed as infinite (Figure 6a). Here, we use $W/R_{\rm inf} = 10^{-5}$. Table 2 shows the FEM results of stress for these two problems with using different minimum element size of 2.25×10^{-7} and 2.25×10^{-8} mm, respectively. The thermoelastic constant term $\tilde{\sigma}_0$ and the nonsingular term $\tilde{\sigma}_r$ are also listed in the table. The value $\sigma_{r0,\text{FEM}}^{\text{Axial}}$ and $\sigma_{\nu0,\text{FEM}}^{*}$ in Table 2 are FEM solutions which are usually mesh dependence. However, the stress ratio $(\sigma_{r0,\text{FEM}}^{\text{Axial}} - \sigma_0 - \tilde{\sigma}_r) / \sigma_{\nu 0,\text{FEM}}^*$ is independent of mesh size when the same material property and the same FEM mesh pattern are applied to the two problems. This means the FEM error can be eliminated by applying the same mesh pattern and the same minimum element size to the unknown problem and Reference problem. This also reveals that the elimination of the non-singular terms in the stress of axi-symmetric problems under thermal load is correct. In view of the fact that the exact solution of the Reference problem shown in Figure 6b has already been obtained,^[15,17] the ISSF for the unknown axi-symmetric problem can be solved by applying Equation 6.

4. Results and Discussion for the Intensity of Singular Stress Field

The model dimensions used in the analysis are shown in **Figure 7** with the local FEM mesh near the end of interface between top coating and bond coating. The minimum element size near the end of interface is $e_{\rm min} = 2.3438 \times 10^{-5}$ mm. The total number of the element is 5120.

Figure 8 shows the stress history at the end of interface around the water cooling. In FEM simulation, the largest singular stress appears just after dipping into the water,

however, K_{σ} takes a maximum value at the steady state under constant temperature of 1000 °C and decreases immediately after the start of cooling. This behavior was confirmed in our previous study.^[7] Therefore, in this research, we mainly pay attention to the condition of temperature 1000 °C. It is also found that the top material 8YZ, which means the content of Y₂O₃ is 8%, has the best thermal shock resistance among the three materials. This result coincides with the experimental result shown in Figure 2b. Therefore, the following research will mainly focus on the structure with top coating of 8YZ.

To investigate the effect of the coating thickness on the intensity of singular stress field, the top coating thickness H, and the bond coating thickness h of the FEM model were changed systematically. As shown in Figure 7a, the thickness of top coating H was changed from 0.05 to 0.30 mm while the thickness of bond coating h was changed from 0.025 to 0.15 mm. And the results of K_{σ} are listed in Table 3a.



Figure 8. Stress history at the end of interface around the water cooling.

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Bond coating thickness	$H=0.05\mathrm{mm}$	$H=0.12\mathrm{mm}$	<i>H</i> = 0.15 mm	$H=0.20\mathrm{mm}$	$H=0.30\mathrm{mm}$
$h = 0.025 \mathrm{mm}$	308.44*	332.45	342.51	355.46	375.17
$h = 0.060 \mathrm{mm}$	310.27	328.85	336.48	347.37	364.67
$h = 0.075 \mathrm{mm}$	311.64	328.97	336.09	346.31	362.74
$h = 0.100 \mathrm{mm}$	314.67	329.92	336.21	345.67	360.33
$h = 0.150 \mathrm{mm}$	319.05	332.65	339.26	347.78	359.98

The figures in bold type show minimum value when H = const. (MPa m^{0.1127}).

Table 3a. K_{σ} for 8YZ at 1000 °C (axi-symmetric model).

Bond coating thickness	$H=0.05\mathrm{mm}$	$H=0.12\mathrm{mm}$	$H=0.15\mathrm{mm}$	$H=0.20\mathrm{mm}$	$H=0.30\mathrm{mm}$
$h = 0.025 \mathrm{mm}$	366.27*	407.27	419.34	435.87	460.77
$h = 0.060 \mathrm{mm}$	370.48	403.72	413.93	428.68	451.35
$h = 0.075 \mathrm{mm}$	371.24	404.05	413.88	427.83	449.68
$h = 0.100 \mathrm{mm}$	373.59	405.05	414.31	427.40	448.05
$h = 0.150 \mathrm{mm}$	376.81	407.73	416.30	428.27	447.17

The figures in bold type show minimum value when H = const. (MPa m^{0.1127}).

Table 3b. K_{σ} for 8YZ at 1000 °C (plane strain model).^[7]

Bond coating thickness	$H=0.05\mathrm{mm}$	$H=0.12\mathrm{mm}$	$H=0.15\mathrm{mm}$	$H=0.20\mathrm{mm}$	$H=0.30\mathrm{mm}$
$h = 0.025 \mathrm{mm}$	1.1875	1.2251	1.2243	1.2262	1.2282
$h = 0.060 \mathrm{mm}$	1.1941	1.2277	1.2302	1.2341	1.2377
$h = 0.075 \mathrm{mm}$	1.1912	1.2282	1.2315	1.2354	1.2397
$h = 0.100 \mathrm{mm}$	1.1872	1.2277	1.2323	1.2364	1.2435
$h = 0.150 \mathrm{mm}$	1.1810	1.2257	1.2271	1.2316	1.2422

Table 3c. $K_{\sigma}^{\text{plane}}/K_{\sigma}^{\text{Axial-symetric}}$ 8YZ at 1000 °C.

From Table 3a, it is found that the model with thinner top coating thickness always has smaller $K_{a.}$ In other words, the thinner top coating has better thermal shock resistance. The results for each *H* constant in Table 3a were plotted in **Figure 9**. It is found that the singular stress intensity reaches the minimum value when the coating thickness ratio of top coating and the bond coating $H/h \cong 2$, which is in accordance with the results for plane strain state model shown in Table 3b.^[7] This also coincides with the conventional knowledge of spray coating companies.

It is important to understand the difference between the model specified by JIS8304 and the actual axi-symmetric model to evaluate the debonding strength of the ceramic spray coating accurately. From this view point, the ratios of $K_{\sigma}^{\text{plane}}/K_{\sigma}^{\text{Axial-symetric}}$ are shown in Table 3c. For different coating thickness, the ISSF of these two problems change in a similar way, which means the optimum conditions are also similar. In Table 3c, all ratios are larger than 1, which means the ISSF of axi-symmetric strain problem is always smaller than that of plane strain problem. The results in Table 3c indicate that the ISSF of plane strain in the JIS specimen model is approximately 20% larger than the same place of the real shaped cylindrical model. Since the JIS standard is relatively more severe, it can be used to evaluate the roll coating strength safely.



(a) ISSF of different thickness of top coating (H) and bonded coating (h)



(b) ISSF of different thickness of of top coating (H) and bonded coating (h)

Figure 9. K_{σ} for 8YZ at 1000 °C (axi-symmetric model). a) ISSF of different thickness of top coating (*H*) and bonded coating (*h*). b) ISSF of different thickness of of top coating (*H*) and bonded coating (*h*).

5. Conclusions

This paper focuses on the intensity of singular stress field (ISSF) appearing at the end of ceramic spray coating layers of hearth roll under thermal loading by varying the coating thickness and top coating material. The conclusions can be summarized in the following way.

- 1. The difference between the roll cylindrical shape and the plane strain JIS specimen was clarified. It is found that ISSF of JIS specimen is larger than the ISSF of cylindrical shape by 20%. Therefore, by using JIS specimen the coating strength can be evaluated safely.
- 2. Under constant top coating thickness, the ISSF reaches the minimum value when the coating thickness ratio of the top coating and the bond coating $H/h \cong 2$, which is in accordance with the previous research assuming plane strain of JIS specimen.

3. The top coating material 8YZ having the minimum content of Y_2O_3 shows the best performance of thermal shock resistance because of small value of ISSF.

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4. The analysis method of ISSF for axi-symmetric cylindrical layers was considered by applying FEM under thermal loading. It was found that by eliminating the non-singular term $\tilde{\sigma}_r$ and thermal constant σ_0 from the FEM stress ISSF can be obtained accurately by using mesh-independent technique.

Nomenclature

In this paper the following notations are used.

- 12YZ Coating material which contains $12\% Y_2O_3$
- 20YZ Coating material which contains 20% Y₂O₃
- 8YZ Coating material which contains $8\% Y_2O_3$
- C Specific heatE Young's modulus
- E_1 Young's modulus of the top coating E_2 Young's modulus of the bonded coating E_3 Young's modulus of the substrate G Shear modulus G_1 Shear modulus of the top coating Shear modulus of the bonded coating G_2 Shear modulus of the substrate G_3 Η Thickness of the top coating ISSF Intensity of singular stress field Κ Thermal conductivity Intensity of singular stress field (ISSF) K_{σ} $K_{\sigma}^{\rm Axial}$ ISSF of axi-symmetric model R Distance from the end of the interface R_{inf} Inner radius R in the Figure 6a when R is large enough Width of the substrate layer W e_{\min} The minimum element size in simulation h Thickness of the bonded coating l Thickness of the substrate layer The radial distance in the polar coordinates r $u_{r0}^{\rm Axil}$ Displacement in the axial direction Dundurs' parameters α, β Dundurs' parameter of the top coating α_1 Dundurs' parameter of the bonded coating α_2 Coefficient of expansion α_{e} Poisson's ratio v Poisson's ratio of the top coating v_1 Poisson's ratio of the bonded coating v_2 v_3 Poisson's ratio of the substrate Singular index defined in λ $\frac{3 - v_j}{(\text{plane stress})}$ κ_j , 2)Ki =

$$= \begin{cases} 1 + v_j \text{ (plane strain)} \\ 3 - 4v_j \text{ (plane strain)} \end{cases} (j = 1$$

 κ_1

 κ_2

 σ_{v}

 σ_0

 $\tilde{\sigma}_r$

Kolosov constant defined by Equation 2 Kolosov constant of the top coating Kolosov constant of the bonded coating Stress in the y direction in Figure 1d Non-singular term defined by Equation 5 Non-singular term in the radial direction steel research

 σ_r^{Axil} Stress in the axial direction

$$\Delta \alpha \qquad \Delta \alpha = \begin{cases} \alpha_1 - \alpha_2 \text{(plane stress)} \\ (1 + \nu_1)\alpha_1 - (1 + \nu_2)\alpha_2 \text{(plane strain)} \\ \Delta E \qquad \Delta E = \frac{8}{\left\{\frac{(\kappa_1 - 3)}{G_1} - \frac{(\kappa_2 - 3)}{G_2}\right\}} \end{cases}$$

 ΔT Temperature change of the specimen

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