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# Nondestructive Inspection of Fatigue Crack Propagation beneath Supersonic Particle Deposition Coatings during Fatigue Testing

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## Abstract

Supersonic particle deposition (SPD) is an additive manufacturing technology with demonstrated potential for the repair of corrosion damage in metallic aircraft components. Repairs via SPD are applied with the aim of restoring damaged components to at least the equivalent structural properties of their original design. A successful SPD repair must have sufficient cohesive strength to prevent further cracking under fatigue loading, and the quality of the repair must be able to be monitored nondestructively on a periodic basis during ongoing operation of the repaired aircraft. In this study, we demonstrate the capability of two nondestructive inspection (NDI) techniques, thermoelastic stress analysis and angle-beam ultrasonic inspection, to both assess the health of an SPD coating and to detect and characterise representative fatigue crack growth beneath it. The results obtained via NDI are explained with reference to the microstructural features of the SPD coating and the substrate, as analysed via optical microscopy.

## Keywords

Repair technologies, Nondestructive Inspection, Crack detection, Aircraft engineering, Advanced materials.

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