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## ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Development of omnidirectional  $A_0$  mode EMAT employing a concentric permanent

magnet pairs with opposite polarity for plate inspection

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**Abstract** 

This work presents an omnidirectional electromagnetic acoustic transducer (EMAT) for generating and

receiving A<sub>0</sub> mode of Lamb waves in plate structures. The proposed EMAT is composed of a spiral meander

coil (SMC) and a new concentric permanent magnet pairs with opposite polarity (CPMP-OP) for enhancing the

generation and detection of A<sub>0</sub> mode. A finite element model was established to simulate the directions of the

static magnetic field produced by the permanent magnets and the incentive process of guided waves. To verify

the performance of the EMAT, several experiments were performed. Firstly, we experimentally verified that the

developed EMAT could generate and receive a pure single A<sub>0</sub> mode omnidirectionally. Then, the relationship

between the frequency response characteristic of the developed EMAT and the interval l (the distance between

the two adjacent annular wires of the SMC) were explored. Furthermore, the circumferential consistency of the

transducer was well demonstrated. Finally, the sensing performance of the developed omnidirectional A<sub>0</sub> mode

EMAT employing a CPMP-OP was compared with that of EMAT with different structures of coils and

permanent magnets. The experimental results indicated that the developed omnidirectional A<sub>0</sub> mode EMAT

employing a CPMP-OP could enhance the signals of the A<sub>0</sub> mode.

**Keywords:** Lamb waves; EMAT, Plate; Permanent magnet; Omnidirectional; defect detection

1. Introduction

As a special ultrasonic propagation in the waveguide structure, ultrasonic guided waves are widely applied

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