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High surface quality welding of aluminum using adjustable ring-mode fiber laser

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Abstract

A method to improve penetration and stabilize the welding phenomenon at a high welding speed has been

described through experimental and numerical investigations. Using a high power laser beam consisting of a

center and a ring part, influences of shielding gas direction and flow rate, laser power density, and welding

mode defined by variable intensity distribution have been clarified. The weld bead was evaluated in terms of

width, height, shape and roughness. Dual-mode laser irradiation of center and ring power made it possible to

stabilize the welding process. The center power helps to achieve sufficient deep penetration, while ring

power ensures good temperature distribution. Good surface quality and deep penetration welding could be

achieved with dual-mode welding, using low flow rate of shielding gas supplied from the backside direction.

Keywords: Adjustable ring-mode fiber laser; Aluminum; Laser welding; Shielding gas; Surface quality.

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