Investigation of the influence of the geometrical dimensions of the striker on the efficiency of energy transfer of shock pulses during wave strain hardening

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Abstract. The article presents data on the influence of the geometric parameters of a flat-faced rod shock system on the efficiency of a shock pulse energy transfer to the deformation zone during wave strain hardening. As a result of the simulation, it was found that an increase in the ratio of the striker length to its diameter from 0.1 to 10 allows transferring 15.6 times more shock pulse energy to the deformation area. Changing the ratio of the lengths of the striker and the waveguide from 0.1 to 10 increases the share of the transmitted shock pulse energy by 2.8 times.

1 Introduction

The modern level of technology urgently requires more and more reliability and service life from machine parts, which are ensured by the creation of materials of new generations and new technologies for their hardening. One of the most promising directions in the development of modern hardening technologies is the formation of a heterogeneous structure of the modified surface layer of a continuous non-gradient material, which, on the one hand, does not have pronounced boundaries of zones with changed properties, and, on the other hand, is similar in properties to a composite material with a soft matrix and solid inclusions.

Wave strain hardening (WSH) is the only technology that makes it possible to use the surface plastic deformation method to create a multilayer heterogeneous, naturally reinforced structure in the product surface layer [1-3]. The location of such structures at a depth of 6-10 mm can increase the operational properties of machine parts by 3-6 times [1-3]. The technology of wave strain hardening is interesting for modern industry, since it allows us to increase the payload on the material, and thereby open up huge reserves for improving the tactical and technical characteristics of products in aviation, astronautics, automotive, general engineering, tool manufacturing, energy, oil and gas and construction industries.

The technology is based on a shock through an intermediate link - a waveguide, due to which a deformation wave is formed. A deformation wave is a stream of pulses

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characterized by the presence of not only the head but also the tail, which is formed due to
the reflection and superposition of elastic waves in the striker, waveguide, and hardened
product. This makes it possible to increase the pulse duration by 10 times, the efficiency of
impact energy by several times. Previously performed studies were carried out in a rather
narrow range; nevertheless, a high dependence of the pulse duration on the parameters of
the applied shock system was revealed. It is generally accepted that the following ratios of
the lengths and areas of the cross sections of the striker and waveguide are most effective
for WSH: \( \frac{L_1}{L_2} = 3; \frac{d_1}{d_2} = 1 \ldots 3 \) [1].

The process of wave strain hardening can be controlled by a large number of
 technological factors in a wide range of values. On the one hand, this allows a rather fine
control of the WSH process on the other hand, due to the large amount of experimental
data, difficulties arise in establishing relationships between technological factors that ensure
the formation of the required strengthening parameters.

The study of the influence of a large number of WSH controlled technological factors of
on the hardening efficiency is easy to carry out in the modeling process. The existing
analytical model of pulse formation in the deformation area, wave transformation at the
boundaries of zones with various acoustic properties, as well as a computer program
created on its basis, require rather cumbersome calculations and are based on assumptions
that must be clarified with the FEM (Finite Element Model) [1]. So, physical and
mechanical properties of the processed material are considered semi-experimentally,
without taking into account hardening curves; hardening is carried out with only one tool;
hardness (stress, strain) formed in the loading medium as a result of the calculation can be
determined only at one point, under the imprint from the impact of the tool, and not by the
equidistant surface of the material. Although finite-element models proposed later by A. N.
Afonin [4] allow us to identify the nature of the relationship between the fields of stresses,
strains, design and technological parameters of the thread rolling process with static and
static-pulse loading of a deforming tool, they have a narrow focus and are intended only for
solving problems related to thread rolling. Therefore, the task of developing a
comprehensive model of the wave strain hardening process of a modified layer, which
allows us to get rid of the limitations of earlier models, is relevant.

The aim of this paper is to identify the general patterns of the WSH process, to search
for the conditions of the most efficient transfer of shock pulse energy to the deformation
zone by means of finite element modeling.

2 Materials and methods

Most modern modeling means are based on the finite element method [5-7]. The leader in
the field of modeling short-term transient processes (˂10^{-5}s) of the contact interaction of
several bodies is the LS-DYNA software module. The finite element model of the shock
pulse formation consists of the shock system of the striking waveguide (cylindrical rods
with flat ends) and a loaded medium (Figure 1). The flat end of the waveguide is
preliminarily statically pinched \( P_{st} \) to the loading medium. The striker and waveguide
material is 90CrSi hardened steel. The material of the loading medium is 41Cr4 steel in the
delivery state. In the model the striker delivers a single coaxial strike \( P_i \) against the
waveguide with an energy of 35 J. The diameters of the striker \( d_1 \) and the waveguide \( d_2 \)
were not changed to achieve the objectives of the experiment; they were taken equal to 60
mm. The magnitude of the shock pulse energy reported to the deformation area is evaluated
by the method described in the source [1]. The efficiency of the process was estimated by
the value of the energy transfer coefficient \( \eta \), which is equal to the ratio of the pulse energy
in the deformation area to the impact energy of the striker on the waveguide. The influence
of the geometric dimensions of the striker and the waveguide on the transfer of the shock
pulse energy to the deformation area is estimated, it is assumed that the tool is the end of the waveguide.

![Diagram of the shock system](image)

**Fig. 1.** Scheme of the shock system.

According to previous studies, the geometric parameters of the striker and waveguide have a significant effect on the energy transfer efficiency in a rod shock system [8, 9]. Based on this, shock systems are simulated with the ratio of the $L_1$ striker lengths and the $L_2$ waveguide in the range of $0.1 < L_1 / L_2 < 10$.

Previously, insufficient attention has been paid to the study of the effect of the ratio of the lengths of the striker $L_1$ and its diameter $d_1$ on the value of the transferred energy of the shock pulse to the deformation area at WSH. For this purpose, models of shock systems have been created that make it possible to establish the effect of the ratio of the sizes of the lengths of the striker $L_1$ and its diameter $d_1$ on the value of the transmitted energy of the shock pulse in the deformation zone, in the range of $0.1 < L_1 / d_1 < 10$. In connection with the change in the mass of the striker (in order to maintain the given ratios $L_1 / L_2; L_1 / d_1$), to ensure the constancy of the impact energy ($P_i = 35$ J), the impact velocity also changes.

The adequacy of the obtained model of a shock pulse formation with WSH was estimated by comparing it with the experimental data obtained at the shock system bench model. The strength, duration, and energy of the shock pulse in the deformation area obtained from the finite element model correspond to the experimental results with a confidence level of 0.95.
3 The study of the influence of the geometrical dimensions of the striker and the waveguide on the efficiency of energy transfer of shock pulses energy transfer with wave strain hardening

3.1 The study of the influence of the ratio of the $L_1$ striker length to its diameter $d_1$ on the efficiency of the energy of shock pulses transmitted by the shock system to the deformation zone

A graphical interpretation of the results of the studies is presented in Figure 2.

![Figure 2: Beginning.](image)

![Figure 3: Diagram of the dependence of the fraction of the transmitted energy of the shock pulse in the deformation zone on the ratio of the shock system parameters $L_1/d_1$ and $L_1/L_2$.](image)
The smallest fraction of the energy (4-9%) transferred to the deformation was established at the $L_1/d_1 = 0.1$ ratio. With an increase in the $L_1/d_1$ ratio to 0.5, the proportion of transmitted energy increased to 21-24%. The worst growth of $\eta$ to 11-18% was found in the $0.1 \leq L_1/L_2 \leq 0.3$ shock systems. With an increase in the $L_1/d_1 = 1$ ratio, the largest value (of 43-45%) of the fraction of the transmitted energy in the deformation zone was noted in shock systems with $3 \leq L_1/L_2 \leq 10$. $0.1 \leq L_1/L_2 \leq 1$ impact systems showed a smaller increase of $\eta$ to 25-33%.

An increase in the $L_1/d_1$ ratio to 5 led to 65-71% increase in the fraction of transmitted energy, which is more than at $L_1/d_1 = 1$ by 51 - 57%.

An increase in the $L_1/d_1$ ratio to 10 showed the maximum possible increase in the fraction of the transmitted energy in the deformation area to 80-83%, in shock systems, where $0.5 \leq L_1/L_2 \leq 10$, which is 17–23% more than at $L_1/d_1 = 5$. However, with $L_1/d_1 = 10$, for $0.1 \leq L_1/L_2 \leq 0.3$ shock systems, a decrease of $\eta$ by 4.6 and 1.12 times, respectively, was noted.

3.2 The investigation of the influence of the ratio of the $L_1$ striker lengths and the $L_2$ waveguide on the efficiency of the energy of shock pulses transmitted by the shock system to the deformation area

An analysis of the effect of the ratios of the $L_1$ striker lengths and the $L_2$ waveguide on the efficiency of the shock pulse energy transfer to the deformation area revealed that, with the $L_1/d_1 = 0.1$ ratio, a change of $0.1 \leq L_1/L_2 \leq 1$ is accompanied by an increase in $\eta$ from 4 to 9%.

At $L_1/d_1 = 0.5$, the largest increase in $\eta$ from 11 to 22% was observed at $0.1 \leq L_1/L_2 \leq 0.5$. With an increase of $0.7 \leq L_1/L_2 \leq 10$, the share of the transmitted energy in the deformation zone did not change and amounted to 21-24%.

At $L_1/d_1 = 1$, an increase in $L_1/L_2$ from 0.3 to 0.5 increased $\eta$ from 25 to 33%. A further increase in $\eta$ was achieved with an increase in $L_1/L_2$ from 1 to 3 and amounted to 33 and 45% respectively.

At $L_1/d_1 = 5$, an increase in $L_1/L_2$ from 0.3 to 0.5 led to an increase in $\eta$ from 56 to 65%. A further increase in the fraction of the transmitted energy of the shock pulse in the deformation area from 65 to 71% was achieved with a change in $L_1/L_2$ from 3 to 10.

At $L_1/d_1 = 10$, a change in $L_1/L_2$ from 0.1 to 0.3 is accompanied by an increase in $\eta$ from 12 to 50%. An increase in $L_1/L_2$ from 0.3 to 0.5 is accompanied by an increase in $\eta$ from 50 to 74%. Further growth of $L_1/L_2$ from 1 to 10 leads to an increase in $\eta$ from 74 to 83%.

4 Conclusion

1. It is established that in rod shock systems with flat ends, in the range of ratios of $0.1 \leq L_1/L_2 \leq 10; 0.1 \leq L_1/d_1 \leq 10$ at $d_1 = d_2 = 60$ mm, the largest share of the shock pulse energy transferred to the deformation zone is 83%. This maximum value was obtained at $L_1/d_1 = 10; L_1/L_2 = 10$. 

2. The obtained simulation results are fully consistent with the theoretical concepts of the formation of deformation waves in shock systems.
2. It is established that an increase in the $L_1/d_1$ ratio to 20 ... 30 does not lead to a further increase in the fraction of the shock pulse energy entering the deformation area. In addition, the use of $L_1/d_1$ more than 10 in most cases, non-technological and inappropriate.

3. It is established that an increase in the ratio of the striker length $L_1$ to its diameter $d_1$ with $0.1 \leq L_1/d_1 \leq 10$ allows, on average, to increase the fraction of the shock pulse energy transmitted to the deformation zone by 15.6 times. An increase in the ratio of the lengths of the striker $L_1$ and the waveguide $L_2$ with $0.1 \leq L_1/L_2 \leq 10$ allows us, on average, to increase the fraction of the shock pulse energy transmitted to the deformation zone only 2.8 times.

The reported study was funded by RFBR according to the research project No. 18-38-20066

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