

CO₂ 激光 — MAG 电弧复合焊接保护气体的影响规律

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摘 要: 保护气体是决定 CO₂ 激光 — MAG(metal active gas) 电弧复合焊接工艺稳定性、焊接熔深和接头质量的关键因素, 但是相关的试验研究报道有限。对此, 采用 He — Ar 和 CO₂ — Ar 混合气体在 Q235 钢板上进行了 CO₂ 激光 — MAG 电弧复合焊接工艺研究。结果表明, 保护气体种类与对比对工艺和焊缝特征有明显的影响。He — Ar 焊缝能够得到更大的焊接熔深和焊缝硬度。CO₂ — Ar 中的 CO₂ 在高温下分解形成氧进入熔池后改变了表面张力系数, 进而改变了熔池流动方向, 导致在 CO₂ ≥ 30% 后形成平整的焊缝余高, 焊缝电弧区和激光区的过渡更加平滑。当 CO₂ 含量 > 30% 后, 复合焊接工艺稳定性变差, 焊缝硬度急剧降低。

关键词: 激光焊接; 电弧焊接; 复合焊接; 保护气体; 焊接熔深

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0 序 言

同传统单热源焊接工艺相比, 激光 — 电弧复合焊接通过激光、电弧两热源之间的相互作用, 弥补了单热源焊接工艺的不足, 具有焊接熔深大、加工速度快、工件变形小、熔池搭桥能力强、可焊接高反射率材料、易于集成等特点^[1-4]。近年来, 该工艺已成为焊接领域的重点研究技术之一, 在汽车、石油管道、船舶等领域已得到初步应用^[5-8]。

众所周知, 无论 CO₂ 激光焊接还是 MAG 焊接, 保护气体的作用都至关重要。在高功率 CO₂ 激光焊接中, 需要保护气体来消除光致等离子体在激光入射点处膨胀上升并屏蔽激光能量的现象; 在 MAG 焊接中, 保护气体直接影响电弧焊接特性, 决定焊接工艺稳定性、焊缝成形和接头性能。显然, 在 CO₂ 激光 — MAG 电弧复合焊接工艺中, 保护气体对工艺过程和焊缝成形同样具有重要的影响和重要的作用, 其研究具有重要的理论和工程意义。但到目前为止, 对其影响程度以及如何选择保护气体等问题, 几乎还没有专门的研究。

对此, 作者系统研究了在激光 — MAG 电弧复合焊接中, 保护气体成分和对比对焊接工艺稳定性、焊缝成形及微观硬度等重要参数的影响, 旨在进一步了解保护气体在 CO₂ 激光 — MAG 电弧复合焊接

中的作用机理, 为实际工程实施时如何根据不同的需求来选择保护气体成分和配比提供可靠依据。

1 试验装置及方法

试验采用 Rofin TR050 5 kW 快轴流 CO₂ 激光器和 Panasonic 脉冲 MAG 焊机, 通过自行研制的复合焊接装置进行旁轴复合, 具体装置如图 1 所示。激光光束模式为 TEM₀₁, 整个光路经四块平面反射镜后反射聚焦镜。其中, 聚焦距离 286.5 mm, 光斑直径为 0.6 mm。具体试验参数为激光功率 4.5 kW, 热源间距 2 mm, 焊接速度 13.3 mm/s, 焊枪角度 60°, 焊丝伸出长度 11 mm, 激光离焦量 0 mm。试验材料为 Q235 钢板, 尺寸 100 mm × 50 mm × 7 mm。焊丝牌

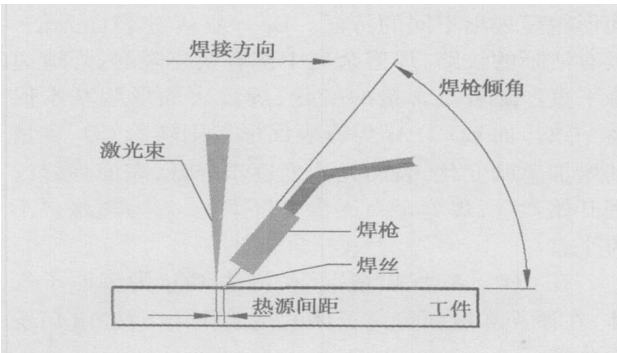


图 1 CO₂ 激光 — MAG 电弧复合焊接示意图

Fig. 1 Schematic setup of CO₂ laser — MAG hybrid welding

号为神钢 MG - 51T (相当于 ER056), 直径 $\phi 1.0\text{ mm}$ 。

试验采用 CO_2 激光和 MAG 电弧焊接中常用的保护气体混合后进行试验研究, 主要采用两种形式, He , Ar 混合与 CO_2 , Ar 混合。其中, 气体直接通过流量计控制流量, 并通过气阀进行混合配比后用于焊接。试验采用平板堆焊, 通过焊接过程中的飞溅多少来评定工艺稳定性。焊接完成后, 将试样沿着横截面切开, 经标准的金相试样制备工序制成试样, 采用 4% 硝酸酒精溶液腐蚀焊缝试样, 运用体视显微镜测量焊缝熔深, 通过维氏显微硬度计测量焊缝区显微硬度。文中约定, 激光 - MAG 表示 CO_2 激光 - MAG 电弧复合焊接, $\text{He} - \text{Ar}$ 表示 He , Ar 混合气体, $\text{CO}_2 - \text{Ar}$ 表示 CO_2 , Ar 混合气体。

2 试验结果与讨论

2.1 保护气体对工艺稳定性的影响

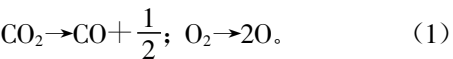
由图 2 可以看到, 随着 CO_2 和 He 含量的增加, 焊接飞溅量 (粘附在试板上的飞溅颗粒数量) 逐步增加, 工艺稳定性下降。其中, CO_2 对工艺稳定性的影响更为显著, 在 CO_2 含量达到 30% 时, 试样表面的飞溅量已经非常明显; 而 He 含量达 60% 时才有少量飞溅出现, 100% 时有明显飞溅。通常来说, MAG 电弧焊接中 CO_2 含量的增加会导致熔滴斑点压力增大并使熔滴过渡变得困难。同样的, 在激光 - MAG 中 CO_2 含量的增加使焊接电弧呈现出明显的短路过渡特征, 在大熔滴脱离焊丝瞬间极易爆炸形成飞溅, 导致工艺稳定性下降。氦具有类似影响, 但其影响远小于 CO_2 , He 含量在 0 ~ 80% 内只有少量飞溅出现, 工艺相对稳定。

2.2 保护气体对焊缝成形的影响

2.2.1 焊缝表面形貌

随着保护气体混合种类的变化, 图 2 中焊缝表面形貌呈现出不同的特征。 $\text{He} - \text{Ar}$ 焊缝表面光洁, 具有清晰的纹路, 焊道余高中部有明显隆起, 焊道边缘平直。随着氦含量的变化, 焊缝表面形貌基本保持一致。而 $\text{CO}_2 - \text{Ar}$ 焊缝表面形貌则随着 CO_2 含量的增加急剧变化, 表面光洁度逐步降低, 表面焊缝纹理开始紊乱, 焊道余高逐步变得平整, 焊道边缘也不再平直。

在 $\text{CO}_2 - \text{Ar}$ 保护情况下, 因为 CO_2 为多原子气体, 在激光和电弧等离子体的高温作用下按式 (1) 发生分解



最终形成大量活性氧原子进入熔池。氧含量的增加会加剧熔池表面金属的流动速率, 使焊缝余高变得平整^[9]。另外, 大熔滴的短路过渡造成激光 - MAG 工艺稳定性下降, 形成曲折的焊道边缘。在 $\text{He} - \text{Ar}$ 气体保护中, 两种组分都为惰性气体, 不会改变熔池金属的流动特性, 从而焊缝形貌保持稳定。

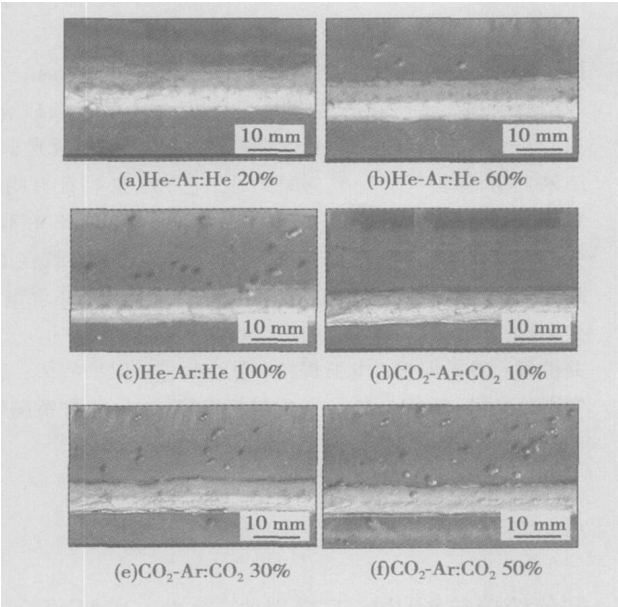


图 2 CO_2 和 He 含量对激光 - MAG 飞溅的影响
Fig. 2 Effect of CO_2 & He content on spatter of Laser - MAG

2.2.2 焊缝几何形状

根据复合焊接焊缝的特征, 将焊缝分为如图 3 所示的两个区域, 电弧区和激光区。通过图 4 可以发现, $\text{He} - \text{Ar}$ 焊缝具有更为明显的激光区, 而 $\text{CO}_2 - \text{Ar}$ 焊缝具有更为明显的电弧区。在由电弧区向激光区的过渡上, $\text{CO}_2 - \text{Ar}$ 焊缝更为平滑。

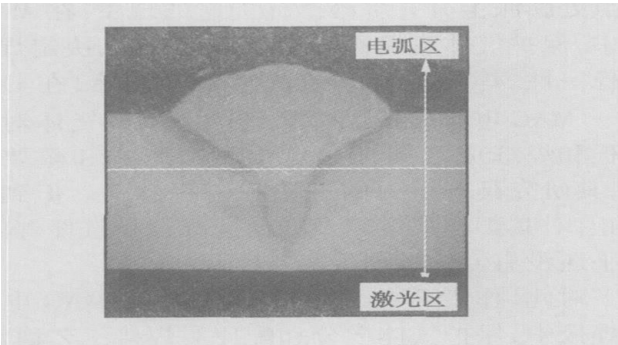


图 3 焊缝不同区域的命名
Fig. 3 Nomenclature of different weld zones

这同样归因于 CO_2 在高温下分解形成氧原子,

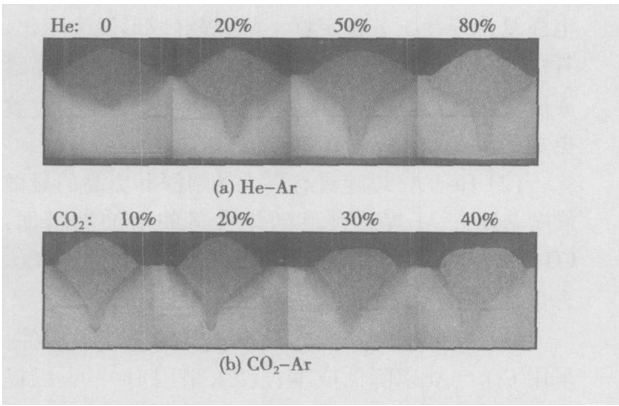


图 4 He - Ar 和 CO₂ - Ar 焊缝横截面形貌图
Fig. 4 Photos of He - Ar & CO₂ - Ar weld cross-section

氧进入熔池,将导致表面张力系数 $ds/dr < 0$,改变熔池表面的流动方向,使熔池由四周向内部流动^[9],如图 5b 所示。另一方面加快了熔池的流动,由熔池周边向熔池内部的流动将热量带向熔池下方,从而形成深而窄的电弧区和由电弧区到激光区的平滑过渡。反之,通常熔池的表面张力系数 $ds/dr > 0$,如图 5a 所示,熔池金属由中间向四周流动,由熔池内部向周边的流动将大量焊接热量带向熔池周围,所以 He - Ar 焊缝形成浅而宽的电弧作用区。

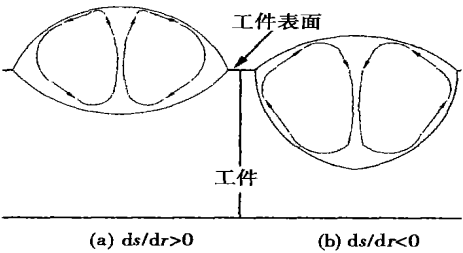


图 5 不同表面张力系数的熔池流动
Fig. 5 Weld pool flow with different surface tension coefficients

2.3 保护气体对焊接熔深的影响

如图 6 所示,和纯氩保护相比,少量 He 或者 CO₂ 的加入就能够显著增加焊接熔深,He - Ar 焊缝的焊接熔深更大。纯氩保护时,熔深仅为 3.3 mm,焊缝中没有明显的激光“小孔”特征(图 3 He 含量为零),而在混合气体保护下,He - Ar 在 He 含量为 50%取得最大焊接熔深,高达 6.2 mm,几乎是纯氩熔深的 2 倍;CO₂ - Ar 则在 CO₂ 含量为 40%取得最大焊接熔深(5.6 mm)。另外,He - Ar 焊缝在 He 含量为 80%~100%的范围内也能取得较大的焊接熔

深,但过高的氦含量会导致焊接成本的增加。

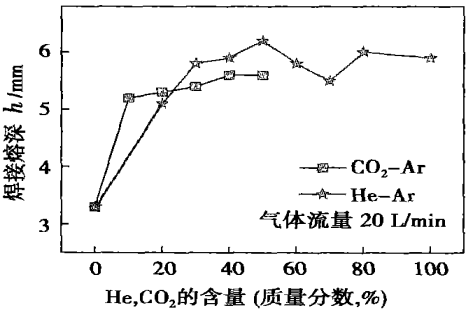


图 6 He CO₂ 含量对焊接熔深的影响
Fig. 6 Effect of He & CO₂ content on weld penetration

对比图 3 和图 6 可以发现,激光小孔特征的出现是激光—MAG 焊接熔深增加的关键。因此,对激光—MAG 焊接中光致等离子体的有效抑制是提高焊接熔深的有效方法。在纯氩保护中,因为氩的电离能(15.76 eV)较低,在高功率 CO₂ 激光作用下极易和母材金属一起热电离形成光致等离子体并吸收激光能量而膨胀,对 CO₂ 激光能量具有强烈的散焦作用^[10]。另一方面,在试验所选用的电流下,电弧等离子体自身温度、粒子密度和稳定性已经很强,导致电弧对激光等离子体的稀释作用和激光对电弧的压缩作用非常有限^[2-4]。这样,过度的等离子体阻碍了激光“小孔”的形成,导致焊接熔深急剧减小。相反,氦具有更高的电离能(24.56 eV),能够避免过度热电离而有效抑制光致等离子体的膨胀和散焦作用,形成激光深熔焊“小孔”,提高焊接熔深。而 CO₂ 则在高温下吸热分解,避免热电离形成等离子体,同样能够有效抑制等离子体的膨胀,提高激光能量的传输,形成“小孔”。此外,氧改变了表面张力系数,使熔池能向下流动,提高了热量向母材下部的传导,对焊接熔深也有一定的贡献。因此 CO₂ 也有助于焊接熔深的增加。

2.4 保护气体对焊缝显微硬度的影响

通过图 7 可以看出,CO₂ - Ar 和 He - Ar 焊缝区硬度(5 个测量值的平均值)具有不同的变化,He - Ar 焊缝硬度高于 CO₂ - Ar 焊缝。随着氦含量的增加,He - Ar 焊缝硬度逐步增加。而随着 CO₂ 含量的增加 CO₂ - Ar 焊缝硬度首先保持稳定,到 30%后急剧降低。这是因为 CO₂ 分解产生的氧具有很强的氧化性,极易和熔池中的碳结合形成 CO 气体逸出并造成焊缝含碳量的降低,导致硬度下降。另一方面合金元素 Mn, Si 的氧化减少也造成硬度降低和焊

缝综合性能恶化。对于低碳钢焊接接头来说,较高的硬度意味着较高的接头强度,再加上合金元素的作用,所以 He - Ar 焊缝具有更高的强度和综合性能。

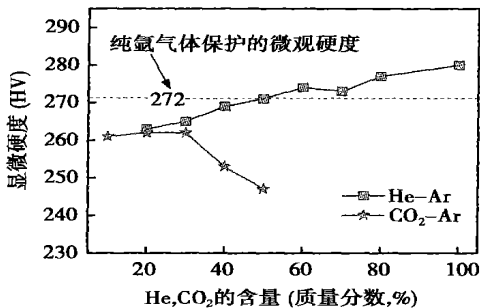


图 7 保护气体对焊缝显微硬度的影响

Fig. 7 Effect of shielding gas on weld micro-hardness

3 保护气体的选择与优化

上述试验结果表明,在 CO₂ 激光 - MAG 电弧复合焊接中,可以根据焊接实际需求来选择合理的保护气体。

考虑到氦气昂贵的价格(大约是 CO₂ 的 20 倍, Ar 的 10 倍),对性能要求较低的普通结构件的焊接可以采用低廉的 CO₂ - Ar 混合气体来进行焊接,能够在满足力学性能和工艺稳定性的同时实现激光 - MAG 的大熔深和高效率焊接,有效控制焊接成本。但是 CO₂ 含量要尽量控制在 30% 以内,否则焊缝性能会急剧恶化,难以达到实际性能需求。

对于要求较高性能的焊接件,则必须采用 He - Ar 来保证焊接熔深和接头力学性能。He 含量可在 45% ~ 55% 内选择,在此范围内不但能够最大程度地增加焊接熔深和得到更好的焊接效果,还可以有效避免过高的氦含量造成的焊接成本增加;对于厚度较低的焊件,可以考虑更低的氦含量,这样可以在保证焊接质量的同时进一步压缩焊接成本。

4 结 论

(1) 随着 He 和 CO₂ 含量的增加,激光 - MAG

电弧复合焊接工艺稳定性下降,焊缝成形发生变化。其中,CO₂ 对工艺稳定性影响更大。CO₂ - Ar 焊缝表面变化更为显著,其焊缝中电弧区和激光区过渡更加平滑。

(2) He - Ar 焊缝具有更大的熔深和更高的显微硬度。He - Ar 焊缝硬度随氦含量的增加而增加,CO₂ - Ar 焊缝硬度则在 CO₂ ≤ 30% 时保持稳定,CO₂ 含量在 30% 后急剧降低。

(3) 对于厚度和性能要求较低的焊接结构件,采用 CO₂ - Ar 以降低成本;反之,采用 He - Ar 以提高焊接质量。

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Abstract: The electrical signals of CO₂ arc welding contain plenty of welding information. The joint time-frequency analysis was used to study the electrical signals of CO₂ arc welding. The effect of analysis window selecting of short-time Fourier transform to the result of time-frequency analysis spectrum was discussed, and the conclusion that Hanning window has better time-frequency centralizing in analysis was gotten. Based on several welding currents and arc voltages in experiment, the characteristic of energy distribution and metal transfer was investigated by time-frequency analysis to get the information of short-circuiting transfer in electrical signals of CO₂ arc welding. The result of analysis in experiment shows that more information in electrical signals can be gotten by time-frequency analysis in CO₂ arc welding. This way has a good foreground in research and application.

Key words: joint time-frequency analysis; CO₂ arc welding; short-time Fourier transform

Effect of thermit composition on manual SHS welding for low carbon steel LI Zhizun, XIN Wentong, WU Bin, LI Baofeng (Advanced Material Institute, Ordnance Engineering College, Shijiazhuang 050003, China). p79—81

Abstract: Base on self propagating high-temperature synthesis(SHS), a new method of welding called manual SHS welding is introduced. Since it is easy to carry and operate, this technique can be used in emergency maintenance. The effect of the thermit composition of the combustion welding rod on the welding of low carbon steel and the microstructure of weld were studied. The thermit was composed of (CuO+Al) and (Fe₂O₃+Al). It is shown that when the content of (CuO+Al) is higher than 50%, welding can successfully proceed. And combustion velocity becomes higher with the increasing of (CuO+Al) content. This is due to the higher combustion temperature and larger combustion heat of (CuO+Al) thermit. The tensile strength of weld becomes higher with the increasing of (Fe₂O₃+Al) content. This is due to the precipitation of the second phase rich in Fe, which can thin the Cu grain and strengthen the alloy. The combustion welding rod with 50% and 60% (CuO+Al) thermit is easy to operate and the tensile strength of weld are higher than 420 MPa.

Key words: manual self-propagating high-temperature synthesis welding; thermit; combustion velocity; tensile strength

Microstructure and residual stress of TA12 titanium alloy with electron beam welding FU Pengfei¹, HUANG Rui², LIU Fangjun¹, ZUO Congjin¹ (1. Key Laboratory of High Energy Density Beam Processing Technology, Beijing Aeronautical Manufacturing Technology Research Institute, Beijing 100024, China; 2. Qian Han Pipe Factory, Chengdu Aircraft Industrial Group Co., Ltd., Chengdu, 610092, China). p82—84

Abstract: Weld configuration of TA12 titanium alloy is very good for electron beam welding (EBW). The main microstructure of weld is martensite, and the tiny rare earth rich phases is dispersedly distributed in the weld zone, and dimension whose configuration changes disciplinary along the joint. By hole drilling method measuring weld residual stresses, the results show that longitudinal stresses

are higher than transverse stress, which present gradient distribution along the vertical direction of the weld. In the weld all the longitudinal residual stresses are tensile stresses, and whose peak stresses are lower than yield stresses, while the transverse stresses are very low pressure stresses. Along the weld direction in the central of the plate the residual stresses distributing are approximate equal.

Key words: TA12 titanium alloy; electron beam welding; rare earth phase; residual stress

Effects of shielding gas in CO₂ laser—MAG hybrid welding

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Abstract: Shielding gas is a crucial factor for the process stability, weld penetration and joint quality of CO₂ laser—MAG (metal active gas) hybrid welding. However, the concerned researches about this field are very few. A serial trial investigating the effect of He—Ar and CO₂—Ar shielding gas on CO₂ laser—MAG hybrid welding was carried out on mild steel. The results show that different mixed shielding gases have different effects. The penetration depth and microhardness of He—Ar welds are higher than that of CO₂—Ar welds. Because atomic oxygen is decomposed from CO₂ under high temperature and enters into welding pool, the surface tension coefficient changes and the direction of weld pool flow is changed. Consequently, CO₂—Ar weld reinforcement becomes flatter at CO₂≥30% and the transition from arc zone to laser zone is flatter. Moreover, when CO₂>30%, the process stability and microhardness of weld dramatically decrease.

Key words: laser welding; arc welding; hybrid welding; shielding gas; welding penetration

A CO₂ arc welding seam detection algorithm based on transition region

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Abstract: In order to detect CO₂ arc welding seam, a new image segmentation method based on transition region is presented. Transition region is a special region located between the object and background in the real image, whose histogram has a wide and evenly hollow between two peaks. First, transition region of original image is determined by calculating the average grads of nonzero pixels of the image obtained through top-cut and bottom-cut transform, and then threshold can be obtained easily from transition region. It overcomes the effect of disturbance. Examinations indicate that it is a good method to detect CO₂ arc welding seam.

Key words: CO₂ arc welding; edge detection; seam detection; transition region

Application of vibratory welding technology to large-scale welding components

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Abstract: The vibratory conditioning process was investigated