

Some Comparisons of Residual Stress Measurements on Pressurized Pipes by the Hole Drilling and Magnetoelastic Methods*

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Kulcsszavak: csövek nyomás alá helyezése, maradó feszültség mérése, lyukfúrás, magneto-elasztikus módszer
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Összefoglalás

Magas folyáshatárú hegesztett gázcsövezetékek acélcsőveinek megmunkálásakor jelentős maradó feszültségek kialakulásával kell számolni. A feszültségek csökkentésének lehetősége a csövek előzetes nyomás alá helyezése (akár egészen a folyáshatárig). A folyamat paramétereinek optimalizálása érdekében végrehajtott maradó feszültség vizsgálatok eredményeit mutatják be a szerzők cikkükben.

Summary

Residual stress measurements on pressurized pipe-bodies made of X70 steel have been realized. Measurements after pressurizing by the hole drilling and magnetoelastic methods gave in most part of cases comparable values of stresses and they were similar their courses.

Pressurizing close above the yield point gave relevant decrease of stress level, pressurizing close under this point gave less favourable results.

Introduction

During manufacturing of welded pipes for gas pipelines made of steels with high yield point, the formation of high residual stresses comes about. They can often reach up to the yield point value. Since the thermal stress relieving would contribute to degradation of strength properties, an important approach to their decreasing is pressurizing of pipes up to yield point. Plastic deformation, which occur during this operation lead to the decreasing and redistribution of stresses. To optimize this pressurizing process, which is often called "stress test", some data from measurements of residual stress are needed to be obtained, to optimize conditions for this operation.

Material of the pipes

Measurements were carried out on pressurized bodies (length app. 4m), prepared of spiral welded pipes DN 500, made of thermo-mechanically treated steel L485MB (X70) – $R_{t 0,5} = 493$ MPa, $R_m = 605$ MPa.

Methods for residual stress measurements

Hole drilling strain gage method is described in ASTM Standard [1] and in other documents, e.g. [2]. On drilling a small ($\varnothing 1,5$ mm) and shallow (2 mm) hole a stress balance on the pipe surface will be changed. Deformations being formed are measured using special strain gage rosettes. Of the three strain measured components, the main stress σ_{max} and σ_{min} are then evaluated according to [2]. From measured strains, orientation of the planes σ_{max} and σ_{min} can be also evaluated.

Magnetoelastic method

Method utilized changes the Barkhausen magnetic noise in stress field. On acting magnetic field on material an orientation change of Weiss domains comes about. In a coil surrounding magnetized metal these changes manifest themselves like current impact. These current impacts can be observed acoustically like so called Barkhausen noise. Basic principle of the method is known for a long time, but only in the last years, proper sophisticated instrumentation was successfully developed, e.g. [3].

The method was successfully used for measuring of residual stresses in research works of VŠB - Technical University Ostrava [5].

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Results of stress measurements on pressurized pipe-bodies after stress tests [4,7]

Pressurizing up to value $\sigma_v^1) = 0,96 R_{t,0,5}$, dwell time 5 minutes

This level of pressurizing is usually used by producer of pipes, with dwell time 45 s. Results of residual stress measurements by hole drilling method are on Fig.1, by the magnetoelastic method on Fig.2.

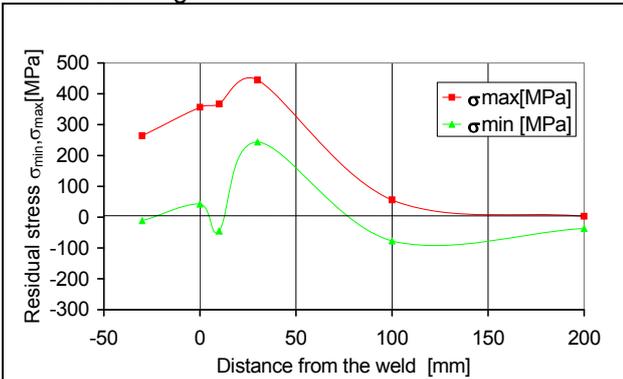


Fig.1 Hole drilling method, results of residual stress measurements (pressurizing up to $\sigma_v = 0,96 R_{t,0,5}$ ($p=21,7$ MPa) 5 minutes)

1. ábra Lyukfúrásos módszer, visszamaradó feszültségek mérése (nyomás alá helyezés $\sigma_v = 0,96 R_{t,0,5}$ ($p=21,7$ MPa) 5 percig)

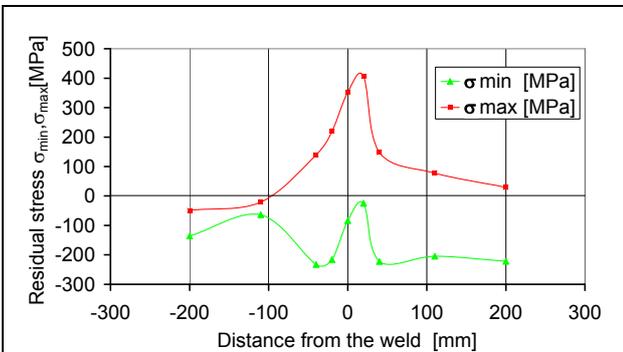


Fig.2 Magnetoelastic method, results of residual stress measurements (pressurizing up to $\sigma_v = 0,96 R_{t,0,5}$ ($p=21,7$ MPa) 5 minutes)

2. ábra Magnetoelasztikus módszer, visszamaradó feszültségek mérése (nyomás alá helyezés $\sigma_v = 0,96 R_{t,0,5}$ ($p=21,7$ MPa) 5 percig)

The course of stress components by both methods is similar not only in the course, but also in max. stress values in the weld vicinity -

¹⁾ $\sigma = \sqrt{\sigma_\phi^2 + \sigma_L^2 + \sigma_\phi \cdot \sigma_L}$ = stress intensity
 HMH

σ_ϕ = circumferential stress σ_L = longitudinal stress

$\sigma_{max} = +400$ to $+450$ MPa. Level σ_{max} in places far from the weld tends to zero value. Stress component σ_{max} acts in plane approximately parallel to the spiral weld.

The second stress component σ_{min} which acts approximately in the plane perpendicular to the weld is low : $+200$ MPa or -30 MPa, alternatively.

It was showed that even after this pressurizing stress level σ_{max} in weld area is still unfavourably high.

Pressurizing firstly up to $\sigma_v = 1,01 R_{t,0,5}$, 1 hour, and secondly subsequently up to $\sigma_v = 0,92 R_{t,0,5}$ 30 minutes.

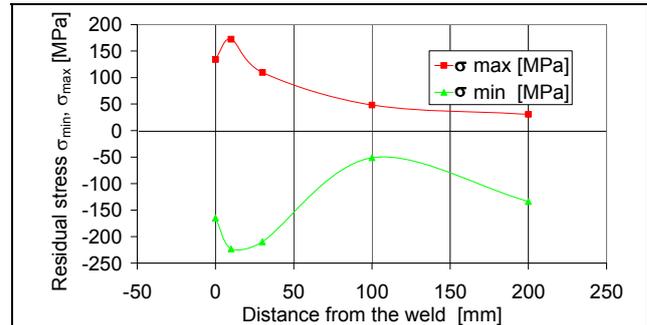


Fig.3 Hole drilling method, results of residual stress measurements (pressurizing up to $\sigma_v = 1,01 R_{t,0,5}$ 1 hour and $\sigma_v = 0,92 R_{t,0,5}$, 30 minutes)

3. ábra Lyukfúrásos módszer, visszamaradó feszültségek mérése (nyomás alá helyezés $\sigma_v = 1,01 R_{t,0,5}$ 1 óra és $\sigma_v = 0,92 R_{t,0,5}$ 30 perc)

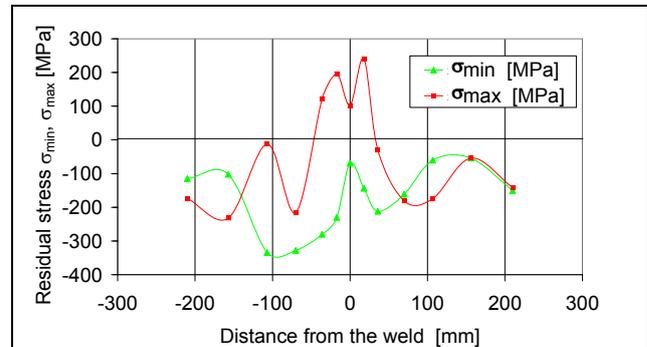


Fig.4 Magnetoelastic method, results of residual stress measurements (pressurizing up to $\sigma_v = 1,01 R_{t,0,5}$ 1 hour and $\sigma_v = 0,92 R_{t,0,5}$, 30 minutes)

4. ábra Magnetoelasztikus módszer, visszamaradó feszültségek mérése (nyomás alá helyezés $\sigma_v = 1,01 R_{t,0,5}$ 1 óra és $\sigma_v = 0,92 R_{t,0,5}$ 30 perc)

Such type of pressurizing is used at stress tests of pipelines. Results of measurements with both methods are on Fig.3 and Fig.4. The courses of stress components σ_{max} in shape are similar in both cases. The highest values reached according

to first method are $\sigma_{\max} = +180$ MPa, according to the second method approximately +230 MPa. At the distance of 200 mm from weld, appropriate levels are low : +30, and -130 MPa respectively.

The courses of components σ_{\min} are similar in character by both methods. They reach values from -170 to -250 MPa in the weld by hole drilling method, and from -80 to -220 MPa by magnetoelastic method. At the distance of 200 mm from the weld they reach values

$\sigma_{\min} = -180$ and /or -140 MPa using the second method.

Pressurizing up to $\sigma_v = 1,05 R_{t0,5}$, 1 hour

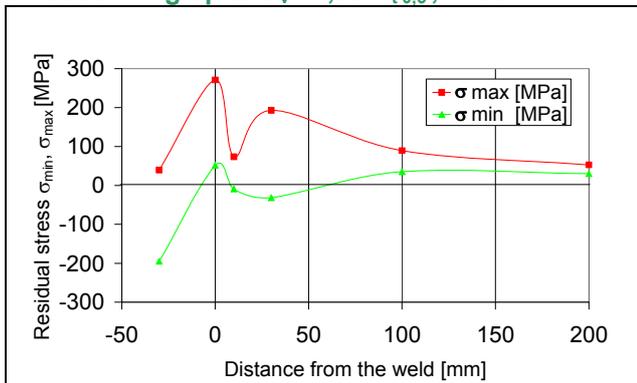


Fig.5 Hole drilling method, results of residual stress measurements (pressurizing up to $\sigma_v = 1,05 R_{t0,5}$ 1 hour)

5. ábra Lyukfúrásos módszer, visszamaradó feszültségek mérése (nyomás alá helyezés $\sigma_v = 1,05 R_{t0,5}$ 1 óra)

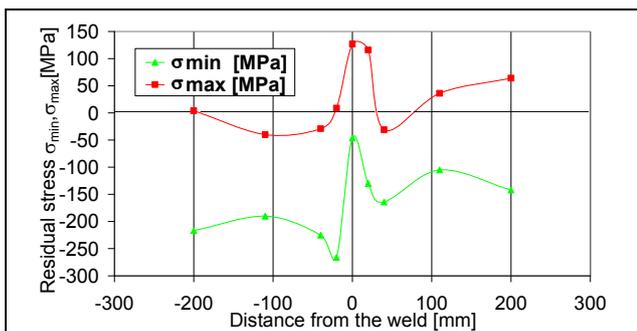


Fig.6 Magnetoelastic method, results of residual stress measurements (pressurizing up to $\sigma_v = 1,05 R_{t0,5}$ 1 hour)

6. ábra Magnetoelasztikus módszer, visszamaradó feszültségek mérése (nyomás alá helyezés $\sigma_v = 1,05 R_{t0,5}$ 1 óra)

Results of residual stress measurement after pressurizing are in Fig.5 and Fig. 6. Stress courses determined by both methods are similar though measured values σ_{\max} in the welds show differences. By hole drilling method the highest value of these stresses is +270 MPa, by the magnetoelastic

method only +125 MPa. At the distance 200 mm from the weld they decreased to approx. 50 MPa.

Stress σ_{\min} attain at both methods low values, approx. ± 50 MPa in the weld, and -200MPa, respectively -260 MPa out of this region.

Discussion on some deviations in results of both methods

Because two used methods work on quite different principle, an agreement of results cannot be expected to be complete.

At drilling method average stresses in surface layer (to the depth 2mm) assert themselves in the results. For used magnetoelastic method the results are stress characteristics in thinner surface layer (≤ 1 mm). Incidental interference by this thin surface layer condition, e.g. influence of surface treating by grinding, can be expected.

At the magnetoelastic method definite deviations of measured values in material with different structure cannot be eliminated - e.g. welds and their vicinity. Influence of these changes can be described by calibration very hardly, especially in thin transient areas.

At hole drilling method are needed to be expected higher deviations in stress values from real ones have to be expected, on the other hand, if residual stress components exceed $65\% R_e$ [6].

Hole drilling method results from simple and evidential measuring of strains. Measuring results obtained at individual drilling depth are control indicators of correctness of measuring.

Conclusion

1. Both methods gave comparable values of stress level in the weld and in adjacent places for most part of our measurements on spiral welded pipes pressurized up to yield point.
2. Also stress courses have similar character in dependence on location from weld.
3. Some deviations in measurement results of both methods are discussed.
4. Residual stress measurements showed favourable influence of pressurizing close above $R_{t0,5}$ level on the overall decrease of stress level in pipes.
5. Pressurizing close under $R_{t0,5}$ gave less favourable results.

References

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