Modeling Post-Process Indenting Using the Discrete Element Method for Particle Density Control in Additively Manufactured Dampers

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particle damper

3. Result



Discrete Element Method simulation

4. Conclusion and future work

Laser Powder Bed Fusion

Laser Powder Bed Fusion

- Make complex parts
- High precision
- Material efficiency
- Wide material compatibility



Particle Damper

Particle Damping in LPBF

- Dissipates energy via friction and collisions
- Simple, cost-effective, and robust

damping mechanism

• LPBF allows for integrated

dampers without adding extra mass

1. Guo H, Ichikawa K, Sakai H, et al. Numerical and experimental analysis in the energy dissipation of additively-manufactured particle dampers based on complex power method[J]. Computational Particle Mechanics, 2023: 1-15.



Particle Damper Application

Key applications

- Aerospace: Vibration mitigation in lightweight structures
- Mechanical systems: Damping for high-frequency oscillations
- Automotive: Enhancing durability of suspension components



Packing Density Change

Changing Particle Packing Density

- Reduction in free space
- Changes damping capabilities
- Potential to target damping

for specific modes performance





regular



Shocking Test

Shocking test setup

- cantilevered beam configuration
- test platform is dropped from a height of 76 mm to generate the impulse force
- Data collection: 50000 S/s



Shaking Test

Frequency response of particle damper

- cantilevered beam configuration
- frequency sweep excitation
 - frequency range: 1-8 kHz
- second flexural mode
- acceleration frequency response observed

$$x(t) = \sin\left(2\pi\left(\frac{f_{\rm end} - f_{\rm start}}{2(\text{test time})}t^2 + f_{\rm start}t\right)\right)$$



Limitation of Traditional Testing

no indentation #1 indentation #2 indentation #1 indentation #2 indentation #1 indentation #2 indentation #1 indentation #2 indentation #2

Limitations of traditional testing

- Expensive equipment
- Time-consuming process
- Difficult to track all configurations experimentally





DEM and YADE

Discrete Element Method

- Simulates interactions between particles
- Well-suited for particle damper modeling
- Offers better insights compared to experimental testing

YADE

- Free and open-source
- Python-based, making it easy to work with





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Simulation Process



Simulation of a damper pocket, done in YADE, showing: (a) front view, (b) side view with simulated indent, (c) side view without indent; (d) cross-section of indent.

Particle Settlement and Indent

Simulation setup

- YADE-based DEM model
- Three test cases: No indentation;

Small indentation; and Large indentation



Simulated pocket being indented during particle settlement.





Scaled down simulated pocket (~1300 particles) used for this study with indent applied.

An impulse force is applied to the pocket to collect the beam displacement.

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Shocking Experiment Result

Time and frequency domains:

- solid beam vs. three damper cases
- particle damper inside of the beam can dramatically reduce the beam vibration
- high powder density cuts the beams damping performance down
- With the increasing indentation, the particle damper's decay rate increases



Shaking Experiment Result

Time and frequency domains:

- solid beam vs. three damper cases
- particle dampers can mitigate vibrations at targeted modes
- increasing packing density reduces damping magnitude
- shift in natural frequency observed
 - unfused powder reduces part mass



Simulation Displacement Result

- simulation can observe changes on such a small scale without expensive equipment
- simulations showed that increasing the particle packing density reduced the damping ability
- as packing density increased via increasing indent volume, the amplitude of displacement increased



simulated damper displacement

Simulation FFT Result

- an increase in the modal resonance of the pocket as the packing factor increases
- simulations align with previous experiments using both shaker and shock testing
- we did not replicate the increase in resonant frequency associated with an increased particle packing density



displacement FFT

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Conclusion and future work

- 1. This paper proposed using the discrete element method to simulate changes in particle packing density in indented LPBF particle dampers.
- 2. The approach aims to provide a more efficient alternative to experimental testing of indented LPBF dampers.
- 3. Results show that the DEM can predict trends observed in real-world experiments regarding particle packing density in particle dampers.
- 4. Results also demonstrated the DEM's ability to observe said trends on scales that would require specialized equipment in experiments.
- 5. Future work will focus on improving the accuracy of DEM simulations on predicting properties of real-world experiments.

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