Group of Laser Technology

Department of Coherent Optics

THEMATIC RESEARCH FOCUS

Research area

- Laser welding including wobbling, hybrid welding (Laser-MIG, Laser-TIG)
- Laser 2D/3D cutting
- Process diagnostics
- Micromachining with a picosecond power laser
- WAAM 3D metal printing
- Numerical simulations of laser welding, hybrid welding and WAAM
- Optical layers

Excellence

- Diagnostics of laser welding process
- Numerical simulations
- Micromachining with IR, VIS and UV laser wavelengths

Mission

- Theoretical and experimental research of laser welding process
- Study, monitoring and control of the laser welding process
- Application of laser welding technology for the high-tech industry and green technology
- Application of picosecond micromachining for optical elements
- Thin optical layers for laser optics and interferometry

UP-TO-DATE ACTIVITIES

Research orientation/focus

- Study of the welding process by means of of back reflected radiation image processing
- Numerical simulations of laser welding process
- Study of microstructure and mechanical properties of 3D printed (WAAM) samples, WAAM simulations
- Picosecond laser micromachining of materials IR, VIS and UV wavelengths





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Laser welded solar collectors

- Development of optical elements using picosecond micromachining technology
- Theoretical and experimental study of laser induced damage threshold of thin film optical coatings

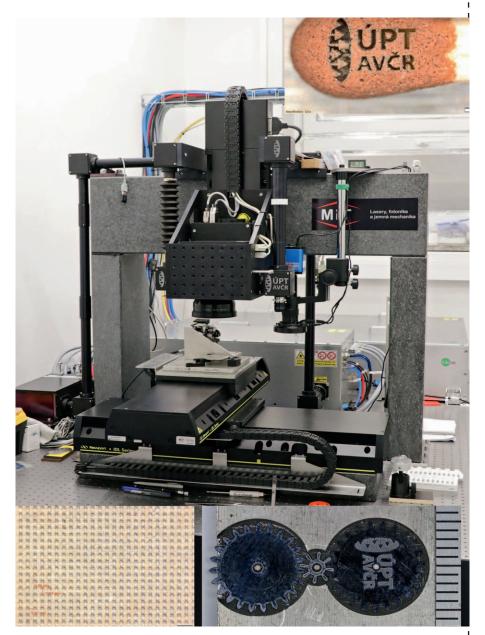
Main capabilities

Basic research

- Study of laser welding process based on image analysis of back reflected laser radiation
- Numerical modeling and simulations of welding, including hybrid processes
- Microstructural and mechanical characterization of samples 3D printed with WAAM technology
- Investigation of picosecond laser micromachining

Applied research

- New type of a sensor for monitoring of the laser welding process
- Hybrid laser welding technology
- New type laser welded heat exchangers and solar absorbers with controlled circulation
- Development of picosecond micromachining technology for the manufacturing of optical elements
- Laser induced damage threshold test station



Micromachining station with a picosecond laser, rotary axis and two scanning heads (for 1070/515 nm and 257 nm). Detail in the top right: example of "cold" engraving – match head with ISI logo. Detail in the bottom left:

microstructuring of stainless steel. Bottom right: Micromechanism on alumina pads pad with metal and silicon gears.

Innovations

 Licence agreement about utilization of methods of monitoring laser welding process based on patent CZ303797

Sub-fields of group activities

- Engineering industry related to modern methods of materials processing
- Renewable energy
- Materials science
- Optics for high-power lasers

KEY RESEARCH EQUIPMENT

List of devices

- Laser YLS2000 (IPG photonics)
- Welding head YW30 (Precitec)
- Cutting head YRC100, (Precitec)
- Wobble head IPG D30 (IPG photonics)
- Scanning welding head Fiber RHINO (ARGES)
- Robotic arm IRB2400 and 2-axis rotary positioner IRBP250 (ABB)
- Power picosecond laser Perla 100 IR, VIS, UV (HiLASE)
- Micromachining station (Newport)
- Infrared Camera FLIR A310
- BeamWatch BW-NIR-2-55 (Ophir)
- PIAD Electron beam evaporation coating system SYRUSpro 710 (Leybold Optics)
- Electron beam evaporation coating system Balzers BAK550
- Spectrophotometer Varian CARY 5E

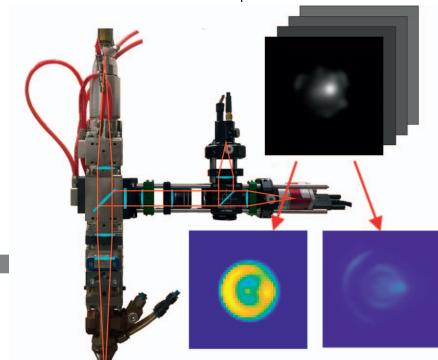
ACHIEVEMENTS

- Šebestová H, Horník P, Mikmeková Š, Mrňa L, Doležal P, Novotný J. Microstructural Characterization of Laser Weld of Hot-Stamped Al-Si Coated 22MnB5 and Modification of Weld Properties by Hybrid Welding. *Materials*. 2021; 14(14):3943. https://doi.org/10.3390/ma14143943
- Šebestová H, Horník P, Mrňa L, Jambor M, Horník V, Pokorný P, Hutař P, Ambrož O, Doležal P. Fatigue properties of laser and hybrid laser-TIG welds of thermomechanically rolled steels. *Materials Science and Engineering:* A. 2020; 772: 138780. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.msea.2019.138780
- Darwish M, Mrňa L, Orazi L, Reggiani B. Modeling and analysis of the visualized gas-assisted laser cutting flow from both conical and supersonic nozzles. *International Journal of Advanced Manufacturing Technology*. 2020; 106: 4635–4644. https://doi.org/10.1007/s00170-019-04915-4
- Darwish M, Mrňa L, Orazi L, Reggiani B. Numerical modeling and Schlieren visualization of the gas-assisted laser cutting under various operating stagnation pressures. *International Journal of Heat and Mass Transfer.* 2020; 147: 118965. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijheatmasstransfer.2019.118965
- Horník P, Šarbort M, Šebestová H, Mrňa L. Study of the influence of focal position on back-reflected radiation during deep penetration laser welding and its simulation. Optics and Measurement International Conference 2019. Proceedings of SPIE. 2019; 11385: 1138505. https://doi.org/10.1117/12.2542806
- Mrňa L, Řiháček J, Šarbort M, Horník P. Solar absorber with a structured surface
 A way to increase efficiency. *Acta Polytechnica*. 2019; 59 (2):134-143. https://doi.org/10.14311/AP.2019.59.0134

System for studying the laser welding process based on the analysis of backscattered laser radiation.

Detail in the top right: set of shots from HS camera.

Detail in the bottom right: evaluation of a set of images according to various statistical criteria.



Šebestová H, Horník P, Mrňa L, Doležal P, Mikmeková E. The Effect of Arc Current on Microstructure and Mechanical Properties of Hybrid LasTIG Welds of High-Strength Low-Alloy Steels. *Metallurgical and Materials Transactions B*. 2018; 49: 3559–3569. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11663-018-1385-6

MAIN COLLABORATING PARTNERS

Collaboration with academic partners

- Brno University of Technology (Brno, CZ)
- Masaryk University (Brno, CZ)

Collaboration with companies

- Tescan Orsay (Brno, CZ)
- EBZ Hoffmann (Ostržská n. Ves, CZ)
- Garrett motion CZ (Brno, CZ)
- Narran (Praha, CZ)
- Lascam (Praha, CZ)

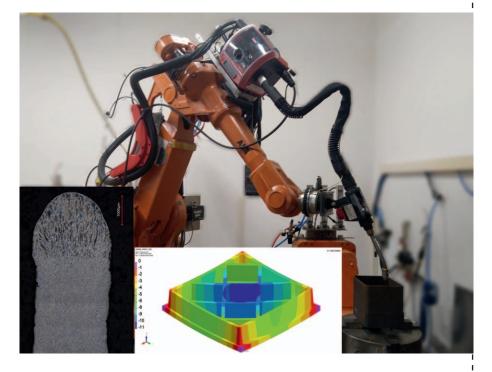
EXPECTATIONS

Offers

- Licensing of the patent for automatic optimization of the laser beam geometry in laser welding
- Partnership in international projects
- Contractual research in laser welding, cutting, etc.
- Consulting in the field of laser welding, cutting, surface hardening etc.
- Cooperation in the development of solar absorbers and heat exchangers
- Design and production of custom thin film optical coatings
- Consulting in the field of optical coating deposition

Requirements

- Real interest in applied research and innovation
- Knowledge of grant projects
- Collaboration with industrial partners in common projects dedicated to applied science
- New complementary technologies



Robotic arm modified for 3D printing using the WAAM method. Detail on the left: microstructure of the deposited steel wall. Detail in the center: simulation of deformation of a deposited rib reinforcement.