MODULE-II
WELDING

Welding

Welding is a materials joining process which produces coalescence of materials by heating them to suitable temperatures with or without the application of pressure or by the application of pressure alone, and with or without the use of filler material.

Welding is used for making permanent joints.

It is used in the manufacture of automobile bodies, aircraft frames, railway wagons, machine frames, structural works, tanks, furniture, boilers, general repair work and ship building.

Classification of welding processes

(i) Arc welding

- Carbon arc
- Metal arc
- Metal inert gas
- Tungsten inert gas
- Plasma arc
- Submerged arc
- Electro-slag

(ii) Gas Welding

- Oxy-acetylene
- Air-acetylene
- Oxy-hydrogen

iii) Resistance Welding

- Butt
- Spot
- Seam
- Projection
- Percussion

(iv)Thermit Welding

(v)Solid State Welding

Friction
Ultrasonic
Diffusion
Explosive

(vi) Newer Welding

Electron-beam
Laser

(vii)Related Process

Oxy-acetylene cutting
Arc cutting
Hard facing
Brazing
Soldering

Welding practice & equipment

STEPS :

- Prepare the edges to be joined and maintain the proper position
- Open the acetylene valve and ignite the gas at tip of the torch
- Hold the torch at about 45deg to the work piece plane
- Inner flame near the work piece and filler rod at about 30 – 40 deg
- Touch filler rod at the joint and control the movement according to the flow of the material

Two Basic Types of AW Electrodes

- Consumable – consumed during welding process
  - Source of filler metal in arc welding
- Nonconsumable – not consumed during welding process
  - Filler metal must be added separately

Consumable Electrodes

Forms of consumable electrodes

- Welding rods (a.k.a. sticks) are 9 to 18 inches and 3/8 inch or less in diameter and must be changed frequently
- Weld wire can be continuously fed from spools with long lengths of wire, avoiding frequent interruptions

In both rod and wire forms, electrode is consumed by arc and added to weld joint as filler metal.

Nonconsumable Electrodes

- Made of tungsten which resists melting
- Gradually depleted during welding (vaporization is principal mechanism)
- Any filler metal must be supplied by a separate wire fed into weld pool

Flux

A substance that prevents formation of oxides and other contaminants in welding, or dissolves them and facilitates removal

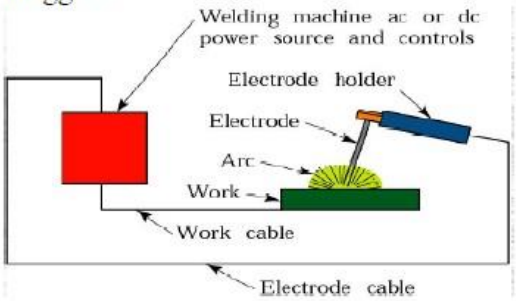
- Provides protective atmosphere for welding
- Stabilizes arc
- Reduces spattering

Arc welding

Uses an electric arc to coalesce metals
Arc welding is the most common method of welding metals
Electricity travels from electrode to base metal to ground

Arc welding Equipments

- A welding generator (D.C.) or Transformer (A.C.)
- Two cables- one for work and one for electrode
- Electrode holder
- Electrode
- Protective shield
- Gloves
- Wire brush
- Chipping hammer
- Goggles



Advantages

- Most efficient way to join metals
- Lowest-cost joining method
- Affords lighter weight through better utilization of materials
- Joins all commercial metals
- Provides design flexibility

Disadvantages

- Manually applied, therefore high labor cost.
- Need high energy causing danger
- Not convenient for disassembly.
- Defects are hard to detect at joints.

GAS WELDING

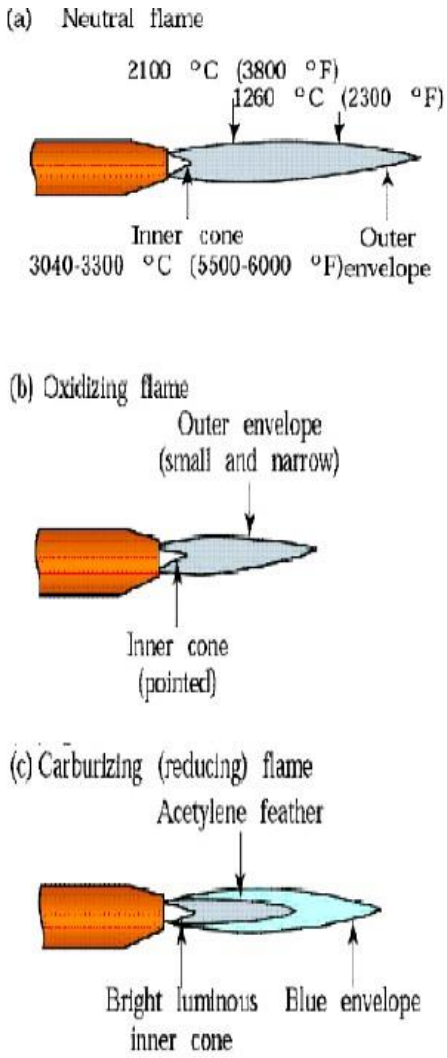
- Sound weld is obtained by selecting proper size of flame, filler material and method of moving torch
- The temperature generated during the process is 33000c.
- When the metal is fused, oxygen from the atmosphere and the torch combines with molten metal and forms oxides, results defective weld
- Fluxes are added to the welded metal to remove oxides
- Common fluxes used are made of sodium, potassium. Lithium and borax.
- Flux can be applied as paste, powder, liquid. solid coating or gas.

GAS WELDING EQUIPMENT

1.Gas Cylinders
Pressure
Oxygen – 125 kg/cm2
Acetylene – 16 kg/cm2
2. Regulators
Working pressure of oxygen 1 kg/cm2
Working pressure of acetylene 0.15 kg/cm2
Working pressure varies depends upon the thickness of the work pieces welded.
3. Pressure Gauges
4. Hoses
5. Welding torch
6. Check valve
7. Non return valve

Types of Flames

- Oxygen is turned on, flame immediately changes into a long white inner area (Feather) surrounded by a transparent blue envelope is called **Carburizing flame** (30000c)
- Addition of little more oxygen give a bright whitish cone surrounded by the transparent blue envelope is called **Neutral flame** (It has a balance of fuel gas and oxygen) (32000c)
- Used for welding steels, aluminium, copper and cast iron
- If more oxygen is added, the cone becomes darker and more pointed, while the envelope becomes shorter and more fierce is called **Oxidizing flame**
- Has the highest temperature about 34000c
- Used for welding brass and brazing operation



Three basic types of oxyacetylene flames used in oxyfuel-gas welding and cutting operations:

(a) neutral flame; (b) oxidizing flame; (c) carburizing, or reducing flame.

Fusion welding processes

- Definition : Fusion Welding is defined as melting together and coalescing materials by means of heat
- Energy is supplied by thermal or electrical means
- Fusion welds made without filler metals are known as autogenous welds

Filler Metals:

- Additional material to weld the weld zone
- Available as rod or wire
- They can be used bare or coated with flux
- The purpose of the flux is to retard the

Shielded metal arc welding process

- An electric arc is generated between a coated electrode and the parent metal
- The coated electrode carries the electric current to form the arc, produces a gas to control the atmosphere and provides filler metal for the weld bead
- Electric current may be AC or DC. If the current is DC, the polarity will affect the weld size and application

Process

- Intense heat at the arc melts the tip of the electrode
- Tiny drops of metal enter the arc stream and are deposited on the parent metal
- As molten metal is deposited, a slag forms over the bead which serves as an insulation against air contaminants during cooling
- After a weld 'pass' is allowed the cool, the oxide layer is removed by a chipping hammer and then cleaned with a wirebrush before the next pass.

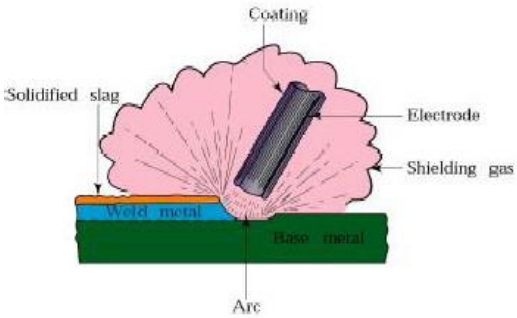


Fig : Schematic illustration of the shielded metal-arc welding process. About 50% of all large-scale industrial welding operations use this process.

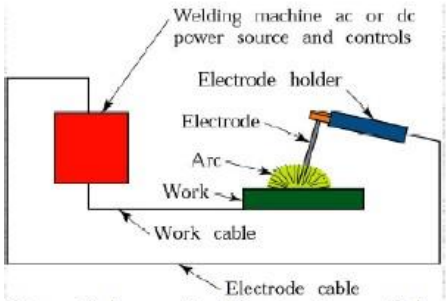


Fig : Schematic illustration of the shielded metal-arc welding process (also known as stick welding, because the electrode is in the shape of a stick).

Submerged arc welding

- Weld arc is shielded by a granular flux , consisting of silica, lime, manganese oxide, calcium fluoride and other compounds.
- Flux is fed into the weld zone by gravity flow through nozzle

- Thick layer of flux covers molten metal

- Flux acts as a thermal insulator ,promoting deep penetration of heat into the work piece
- Consumable electrode is a coil of bare round wire fed automatically through a tube
- Power is supplied by 3-phase or 2-phase power lines

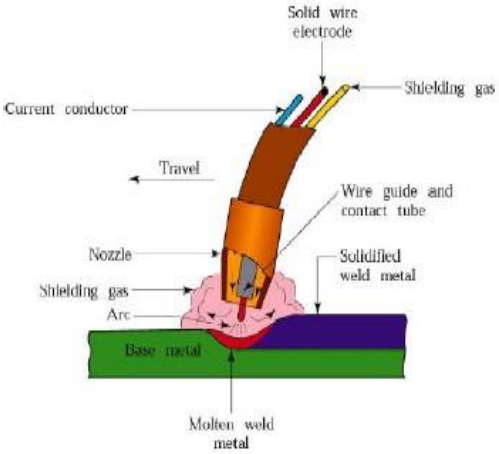


Fig : Schematic illustration of the submerged-arc welding process and equipment. The unfused flux is recovered and reused.

Gas metal arc welding

- GMAW is a metal inert gas welding (MIG)
- Weld area shielded by an effectively inert atmosphere of argon,helium,carbon dioxide,various other gas mixtures
- Metal can be transferred by 3 methods :
- Spray transfer
- Globular transfer
- Short circuiting

Process capabilities

- GMAV process is suitable for welding a variety of ferrous and non-ferrous metals
- Process is versatile ,rapid, economical, welding productivity is double that of SMAW

Flux cored arc welding

- Flux cored arc welding is similar to a gas metal arc welding
- Electrode is tubular in shape and is filled with flux
- Cored electrodes produce more stable arc improve weld contour and produce better mechanical properties
- Flux is more flexible than others

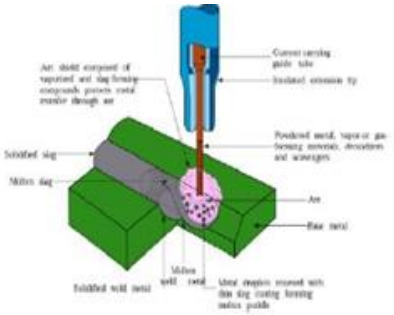


Fig : Schematic illustration of the flux-cored arc-welding process. This operation is similar to gas metal-arc welding.

Electro gas Welding

- EGW is welding the edges of sections vertically in one pass with the pieces placed edge to edge
- Similar to Electro gas welding
- Weld metal is deposited into weld cavity between the two pieces to be joined
- Difference is Arc is started between electrode tip and bottom part of the part to be welded
- Flux added first and then melted by the heat on the arc
- Molten slag reaches the tip of the electrode and the arc is extinguished
- Heat is then continuously produced by electrical resistance of the molten slag
- Single or multiple solid as well as flux-cored electrodes may be used

Process capabilities

- Weld thickness ranges from 12mm to 75mm
- Metals welded are steels, titanium, aluminum alloys
- Applications are construction of bridges, pressure vessels, thick walled and large diameter pipes, storage tanks and ships.

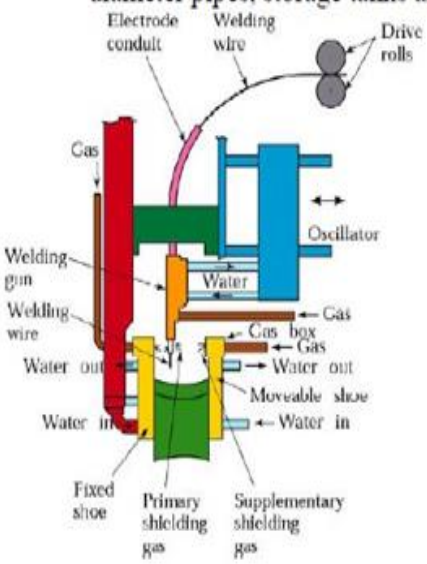


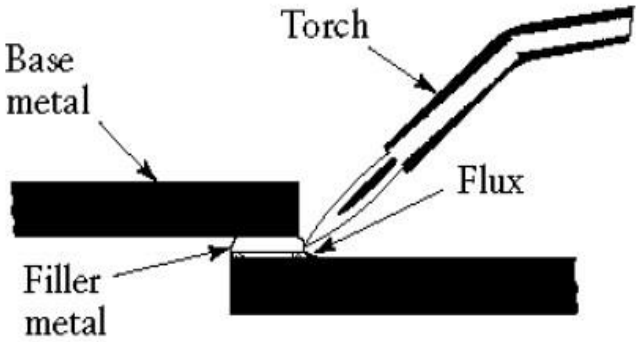
Fig : Schematic illustration of the electrogas welding process

Brazing:

It is a low temperature joining process. It is performed at temperatures above 840° F and it generally affords strengths comparable to those of the metal which it joins. It is low temperature in that it is done below the melting point of the base metal. It is achieved by diffusion without fusion (melting) of the base

Brazing can be classified as

Torch brazing
Dip brazing
Furnace brazing
Induction brazing



Advantages

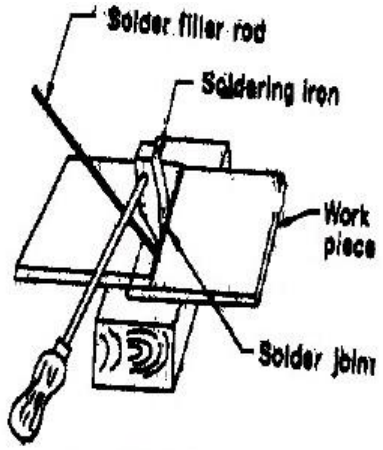
- Dissimilar metals which canot be welded can be joined by brazing
- Very thin metals can be joined
- Metals with different thickness can be joined easily
- In brazing thermal stresses are not produced in the work piece. Hence there is no distortion
- Using this process, carbides tips are brazed on the steel tool holders

Disadvantages

- Brazed joints have lesser strength compared to welding
- Joint preparation cost is more
- Can be used for thin sheet metal sections

Soldering

- It is a low temperature joining process. It is performed at temperatures below 840°F for joining.
- Soldering is used for,
    - Sealing, as in automotive radiators or tin cans
    - Electrical Connections
    - Joining thermally sensitive components
    - Joining dissimilar metals



Inert Gas Welding

For materials such as Al or Ti which quickly form oxide layers, a method to place an inert atmosphere around the weld puddle had to be developed

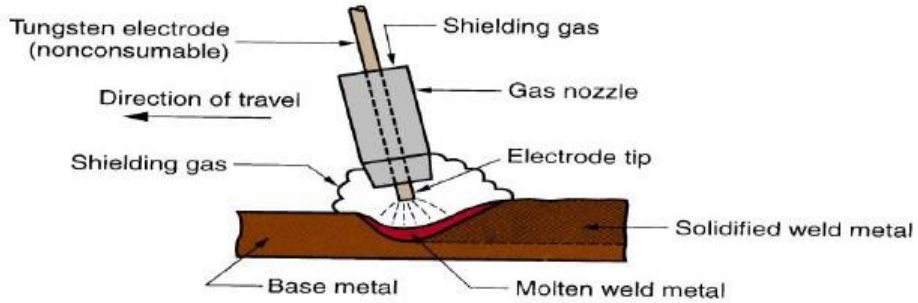
Metal Inert Gas (MIG)

- Uses a consumable electrode (filler wire made of the base metal)
- Inert gas is typically Argon

Gas Tungsten Arc Welding (GTAW)

Uses a non-consumable tungsten electrode and an inert gas for arc shielding

- Melting point of tungsten = 3410°C (6170°F)
- A.k.a. Tungsten Inert Gas (TIG) welding
  - In Europe, called "WIG welding"
- Used with or without a filler metal
  - When filler metal used, it is added to weld pool from separate rod or wire
- Applications: aluminum and stainless steel most common



Advantages

- High quality welds for suitable applications
- No spatter because no filler metal through arc
- Little or no post-weld cleaning because no flux

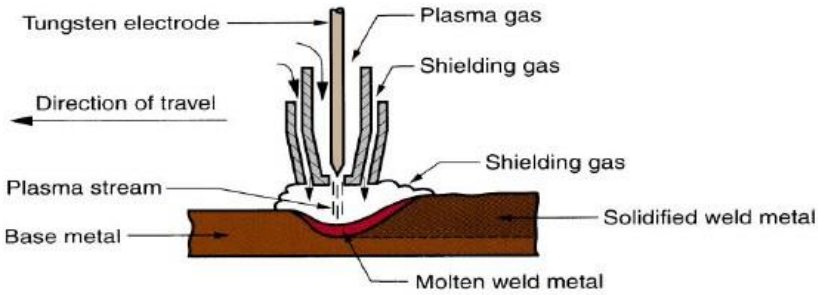
Disadvantages

- Generally slower and more costly than consumable electrode AW processes

Plasma Arc Welding (PAW)

Special form of GTAW in which a constricted plasma arc is directed at weld area

- Tungsten electrode is contained in a nozzle that focuses a high velocity stream of inert gas (argon) into arc region to form a high velocity, intensely hot plasma arc stream
- Temperatures in PAW reach 28,000°C (50,000°F), due to constriction of arc, producing a plasma jet of small diameter and very high energy density



Resistance Welding (RW)

A group of fusion welding processes that use a combination of heat and pressure to accomplish coalescence

- Heat generated by electrical resistance to current flow at junction to be welded
- Principal RW process is resistance spot welding (RSW)

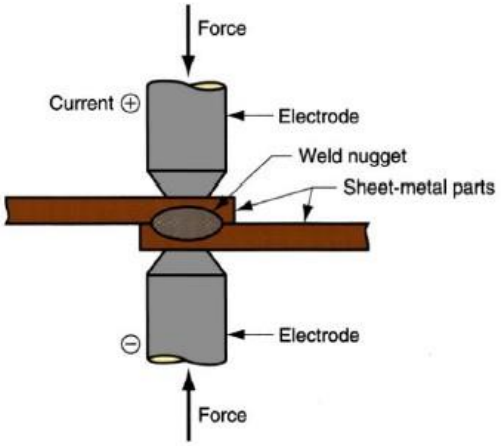


Fig: Resistance welding, showing the components in spot welding, the main process in the RW group.

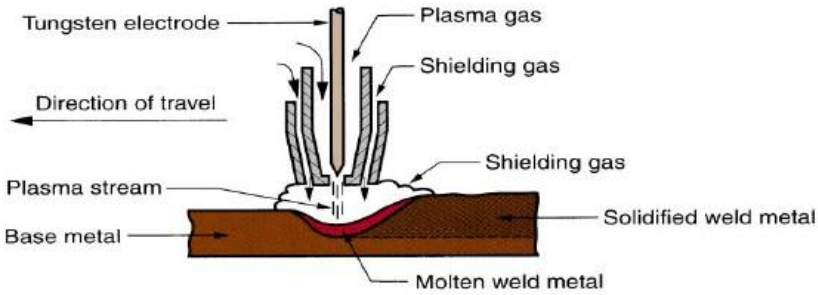
Components in Resistance Spot Welding

- Parts to be welded (usually sheet metal)
- Two opposing electrodes
- Means of applying pressure to squeeze parts between electrodes
- Power supply from which a controlled current can be applied for a specified time duration

Advantages

- No filler metal required

- Tungsten electrode is contained in a nozzle that focuses a high velocity stream of inert gas (argon) into arc region to form a high velocity, intensely hot plasma arc stream
- Temperatures in PAW reach 28,000°C (50,000°F), due to constriction of arc, producing a plasma jet of small diameter and very high energy density



Resistance Welding (RW)

A group of fusion welding processes that use a combination of heat and pressure to accomplish coalescence

- Heat generated by electrical resistance to current flow at junction to be welded
- Principal RW process is resistance spot welding (RSW)

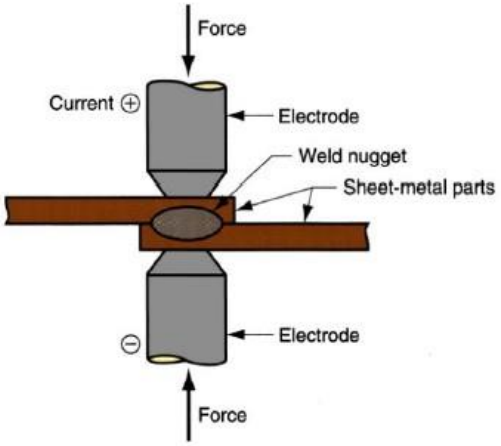


Fig: Resistance welding, showing the components in spot welding, the main process in the RW group.

Components in Resistance Spot Welding

- Parts to be welded (usually sheet metal)
- Two opposing electrodes
- Means of applying pressure to squeeze parts between electrodes
- Power supply from which a controlled current can be applied for a specified time duration

Advantages

- No filler metal required

- Filler metal not usually added
- High power density in small area, so LBW often used for small parts

Comparison: LBW vs. EBW

- No vacuum chamber required for LBW
- No x-rays emitted in LBW
- Laser beams can be focused and directed by optical lenses and mirrors
- LBW not capable of the deep welds and high depth-to-width ratios of EBW
    - Maximum LBW depth = ~ 19 mm (3/4 in), whereas EBW depths = 50 mm (2 in)

Thermit Welding (TW)

FW process in which heat for coalescence is produced by superheated molten metal from the chemical reaction of thermite

- Thermite = mixture of Al and Fe3O4 fine powders that produce an exothermic reaction when ignited
- Also used for incendiary bombs
- Filler metal obtained from liquid metal
- Process used for joining, but has more in common with casting than welding

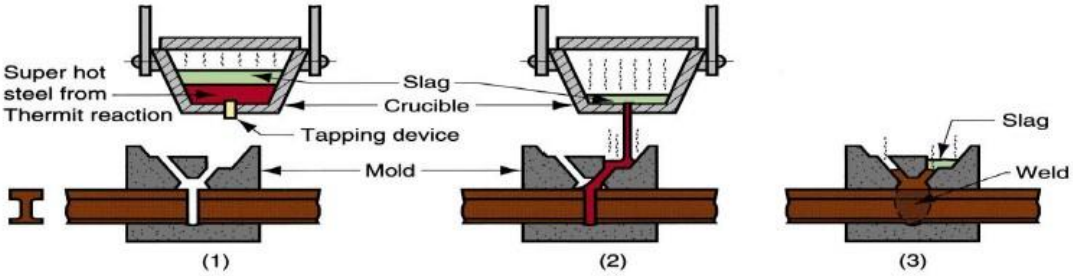


Fig: Thermit welding: (1) Thermit ignited; (2) crucible tapped, superheated metal flows into mold; (3) metal solidifies to produce weld joint.

Applications

- Joining of railroad rails
- Repair of cracks in large steel castings and forgings
- Weld surface is often smooth enough that no finishing is required

Diffusion Welding (DFW)

SSW process uses heat and pressure, usually in a controlled atmosphere, with sufficient time for diffusion and coalescence to occur

- Temperatures ≤ 0.5 Tm
- Plastic deformation at surfaces is minimal
- Primary coalescence mechanism is solid state diffusion
- Limitation: time required for diffusion can range from seconds to hours

Applications

- Joining of high-strength and refractory metals in aerospace and nuclear industries
- Can be used to join either similar and dissimilar metals
- For joining dissimilar metals, a filler layer of different metal is often sandwiched between base metals to promote diffusion

Friction Welding (FRW)

SSW process in which coalescence is achieved by frictional heat combined with pressure

- When properly carried out, no melting occurs at faying surfaces
- No filler metal, flux, or shielding gases normally used
- Process yields a narrow HAZ
- Can be used to join dissimilar metals
- Widely used commercial process, amenable to automation and mass production

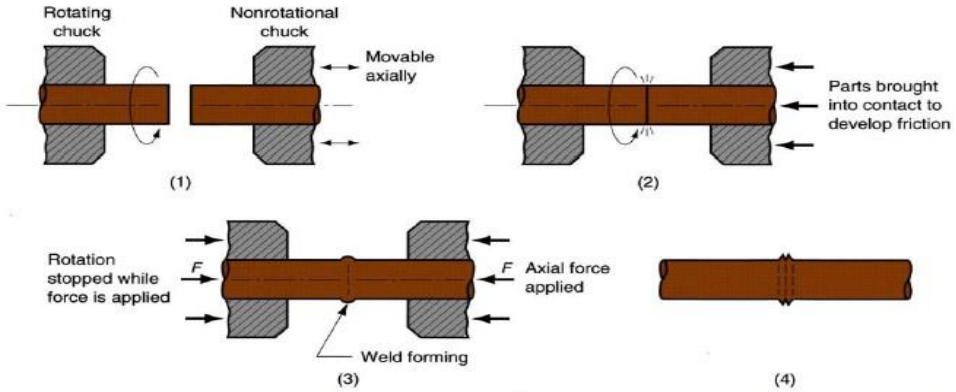


Fig: Friction welding (FRW): (1) rotating part, no contact; (2) parts brought into contact to generate friction heat; (3) rotation stopped and axial pressure applied; and (4) weld created.

Applications

- Shafts and tubular parts
- Industries: automotive, aircraft, farm equipment, petroleum and natural gas

Limitations

- At least one of the parts must be rotational
- Flash must usually be removed
- Upsetting reduces the part lengths (which must be taken into consideration in product design)

Weld Defects

- Undercuts/Overlaps
- Grain Growth

A wide ΔT will exist between base metal and HAZ. Preheating and cooling methods will affect the brittleness of the metal in this region

- Blowholes

Are cavities caused by gas entrapment during the solidification of the weld puddle. Prevented by proper weld technique (even temperature and speed)

- Inclusions

Impurities or foreign substances which are forced into the weld puddle during the welding process. Has the same effect as a crack. Prevented by proper technique/cleanliness.

- Segregation

Condition where some regions of the metal are enriched with an alloy ingredient and others aren't. Can be prevented by proper heat treatment and cooling.

- Porosity

The formation of tiny pinholes generated by atmospheric contamination.
Prevented by keeping a protective shield over the molten weld puddle.