



Standard Test Method for Determining Residual Stresses by the Hole-Drilling Strain-Gage Method¹

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INTRODUCTION

The hole-drilling strain-gage method determines residual stresses near the surface of an isotropic linear-elastic material. It involves attaching a strain rosette to the surface, drilling a hole at the geometric center of the rosette, and measuring the resulting relieved strains. The residual stresses within the removed material are then determined from the measured strains using a series of equations.

1. Scope

1.1 Residual Stress Determination:

1.1.1 This test method specifies a hole-drilling procedure for determining residual stress profiles near the surface of an isotropic linearly elastic material. The test method is applicable to residual stress profile determinations where in-plane stress gradients are small. The stresses may remain approximately constant with depth (“uniform” stresses) or they may vary significantly with depth (“non-uniform” stresses). The measured workpiece may be “thin” with thickness much less than the diameter of the drilled hole or “thick” with thickness much greater than the diameter of the drilled hole. Only uniform stress measurements are specified for thin workpieces, while both uniform and non-uniform stress measurements are specified for thick workpieces.

1.2 Stress Measurement Range:

1.2.1 The hole-drilling method can identify in-plane residual stresses near the measured surface of the workpiece material. The method gives localized measurements that indicate the residual stresses within the boundaries of the drilled hole.

1.2.2 This test method applies in cases where material behavior is linear-elastic. In theory, it is possible for local yielding to occur due to the stress concentration around the drilled hole. Satisfactory measurement results can be achieved providing the residual stresses do not exceed about 80 % of the material yield stress for hole drilling in a “thick” material and about 50% of the material yield stress in a “thin” material.

1.3 Workpiece Damage:

1.3.1 The hole-drilling method is often described as “semi-destructive” because the damage that it causes is localized and often does not significantly affect the usefulness of the workpiece. In contrast, most other mechanical methods for measuring residual stresses substantially destroy the workpiece. Since hole drilling does cause some damage, this test method should be applied only in those cases either where the workpiece is expendable, or where the introduction of a small shallow hole will not significantly affect the usefulness of the workpiece.

1.4 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

E251 Test Methods for Performance Characteristics of Metallic Bonded Resistance Strain Gauges

3. Terminology

3.1 Symbols:

\bar{a}	= calibration constant for isotropic stresses
\bar{b}	= calibration constant for shear stresses
\bar{a}_{jk}	= calibration matrix for isotropic stresses
\bar{b}_{jk}	= calibration matrix for shear stresses
D	= diameter of the gage circle, see Table 1.
D_0	= diameter of the drilled hole
E	= Young’s modulus

¹ This test method is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee E28 on Mechanical Testing and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee E28.13 on Residual Stress Measurement.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard’s Document Summary page on the ASTM website.