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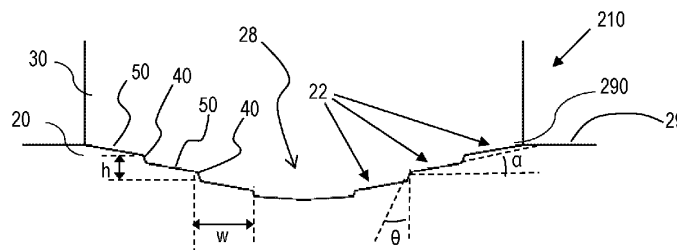


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: A method of fabricating an interfacial structure, the interfacial structure comprising a substrate and a projection on the substrate, the method comprising the steps of: a) providing the substrate; b) creating a number of steps on a surface of the substrate; and c) fabricating the projection on the substrate by additive manufacturing onto the number of steps, thereby creating a stepped interfacial joint between the substrate and the projection. A fabricated interfacial structure comprising: a substrate having a number of steps created on a surface of the substrate; a projection fabricated by additive manufacturing onto the number of steps; and a stepped interfacial joint between the substrate and the projection.

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