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Non-contact measurement and multi-objective analysis of drilling temperature when drilling B_4C reinforced aluminum composites

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Abstract: Non-contact measurements of machining temperatures were performed with optical pyrometer when drilling particle (B4C) reinforced metal matrix composites (MMCs) with different drills. The effect of particle content, cutting speed, feed rate and tool material on the maximum drilling temperature was investigated. The drilling parameters were optimized based on multiple performance characteristics in terms of the maximum cutting temperature and tool wear. According to the results, the most influential control factors on the cutting temperatures are found to be particle fraction, feed rate and interaction between the cutting speed and particle content, respectively. The influences of the cutting speed and drill material on the drilling temperature are found to be relatively lower for the used range of parameters. Minimum cutting temperatures are obtained with lower particle fraction and cutting speed, with relatively higher feed rates and carbide tools. The results reveal that optimal combination of the drilling parameters can be used to obtain both minimum cutting temperature and tool wear.

Key words: metal matrix composite; drilling temperature; wear; non-contact measurement; grey relation

1 Introduction

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Metal matrix composites (MMCs) exhibit some important properties such as high specific strength, excellent wear resistance, low thermal expansion and lightweight. Due to these superior properties, MMCs are used as a substitute for conventional materials in some engineering applications such as aerospace, electronics, automotive, medical and military industries. However, machining of these composites is difficult because of hard abrasive reinforcement particles causing higher cutting temperatures and rapid tool wear, thus leading to high cost, size error and poor surface [1].

Temperature generated during the drilling process is one of the significant parameters controlling the tool wear [2]. Furthermore, machining temperature tends to increase since the drill is embedded in the workpiece, softening the drill bit and shortening the tool life. Thus, the cutting tool may be used more effectively by knowing the temperature mechanisms dependent on the machining parameters and conditions. Since drilling operations come generally after turning or milling processes, undesirable hole quality results in some unfavorable consequences as well. For this reason, precisely measuring and analyzing the drill temperatures are significant in designing drills and machining parameters for longer tool life, lower surface roughness, better hole quality and improved mechanical properties of the workpiece [3].

There is almost no study in the literature regarding the drilling temperatures during drilling of MMCs. In the present work, a novel technique was developed for non-contact measuring of temperatures at cutting edge generated during the drilling of MMCs reinforced with different B4C particle fractions. The drilling parameters were set by Taguchi experimental design methodology. The influence of particle content, drill material, spindle speed and feed rate on the maximum cutting temperature was determined. The cutting parameters were optimized according to the temperatures and tool wear. Before introducing this research, a brief review of the drilling temperature and existing temperature measuring techniques used for the drilling operations was presented.

2 Literature studies on drilling temperature

Literature studies on the drilling of MMCs focus

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primarily on the cutting forces, tool wear, surface roughness and burr formation. However, analysis of drilling temperatures, which negatively affect the tool life and hole quality, is needed. Various measuring methods of drilling temperatures were developed in previous studies such as embedding wire and thermocouples into the workpiece (Fig. 1(a)) [4] or in drill (Fig. 1(b)) [5], drill-foil thermocouple system (Fig. 1(c)) [3], measurement of microhardness, scanning electron microscopy and thermosensitive images. On the other hand, few researchers used non-contact measuring methods to accurately measure the temperature of cutting edge (Fig. 1(d)) [6,7]. Additionally, knowing the response time of the measuring device is tremendously important when measuring the cutting temperatures [8−14].

The most widely used method of wire-workpiece (Fig. 1(a)), in which thermocouples are embedded in workpiece as near as the hole wall, has a number of disadvantages [3]. In this method, measured maximum temperature depends on heat conductivity of the drilled workpiece and contact ratio between the thermocouple and workpiece, as well as the response time of the system. Moreover, a separate wire and thermocouple must be embedded for each test specimen, and a great care must be taken to ensure that the thermocouple is embedded at the desired location. For example, under the

same cutting conditions, temperature results of COZ et al [11] are different from those of ZEILMANN and WEINGAERTNER [14] due to the distance of the thermocouples from the hole wall.

In the method of tool-thermocouple system, a thin wire and thermocouples are epoxied in the clearance face of the drill near the cutting edge through the coolant holes of drill bit (Fig. 1(b)). This method also has a disadvantage that there is a distance between the thermocouples and the cutting edge. Literature studies state that the maximum machining temperature occurs on the secondary shear zone at the rake face of cutting tool (Fig. 2) [15]. However, the placement of thermocouples at this zone is impossible since they would be damaged. Furthermore, the drill temperature cannot be measured by this method with small diameter drills because they do not have coolant channels.

Unlike the thermocouple methods, non-contact measurement method has some advantages over the other methods mentioned above. The major advantage of this method is that it continuously measures the cutting edge temperatures, so the temperature values can be continuously stored through the drilling depth. BHOWMICK et al [6] indicated that temperature measurement by using non-contact infrared termometer was a practical and effective method. In this method, emissivity of the cutting tool might be needed.

Fig. 1 Temperature measurement methods during drilling process: (a) Thermocouple embedded in workpiece; (b) Thermocouple embedded in tool; (c) Drill-foil thermocouple system; (d) Non-contact measurement

Fig. 2 Temperature regions of metal cutting process [15]

In the previous studies on the machining temperatures, some researchers developed analytical and computational models to predict the temperatures during the drilling process. WU and HAN [16] studied the prediction of maximum drilling temperature by using finite element analysis. They indicated that their simulated results experienced a good agreement with the measured temperatures. BRANDAO et al [4] used an analytical model to evaluate the temperature, heat flux and convection coefficient when drilling AISI H13 steel by using new and worn drill bits with conditions of dry, minimal quantity lubrication (MQL) and coolant. The lowest cutting temperatures were found with the use of coolant, followed by MQL and dry conditions. BONO and NI [17] developed a model in order to predict heat flow in the workpiece during dry drilling by assuming that total heat formation was due to the sum of shearing and friction. This heat formation was correlated with the tool geometry and cutting forces. They experienced some measuring problems by embedding thermocouples close to the hole wall. They claimed that the uncertainty in the location of the thermocouples was a great problem in measuring the drilling temperatures.

With regard to the workpiece materials, most of the earlier studies on the temperature measurement deal with the drilling of steels such as AISI 1040, AISI 1045 and AISI H13 as well as Ti6Al4V alloys. In addition, there are limited studies on the polymer composites [18], magnesium alloys, cast iron and aluminum alloys [3,7,13]. Some researchers stated that drilling temperature increases as both cutting speed and feed rate increase due to increasing spent power [3,7,13,16,18]. Moreover, increasing rate of the temperature decreases with the increase in feed rate [13]. In addition, increasing drilling depth or hole number has an effect on the temperature increase when intermittently drilling AISI 1040 and Al 7075-T651 alloy [9,12]. However, there is a

different study pointing out that drilling temperature decreases as feed rate increases [12]. Minimum drilling temperature was obtained with a combination of lower spindle speed, higher feed rate and lower cutting depth when drilling Ti6Al4V alloy [11,14,19]. BAGCI and OZCELIK [8] implied that influence of drilling depth on the cutting temperature is important, but that of cutting speed and feed rate is insignificant. Figure 3 depicts the maximum measured temperatures found in the literature when drilling different types of workpiece materials. According to these results, maximum drill temperatures are seen during drilling of titanium and AISI carbon steels, while the minimum tool temperatures are observed during the drilling of aluminum alloys [7]. With respect to coolant conditions, decrements of the cutting temperature during flooded turning, milling and drilling are nearly 5%, 10%−15% and 20%−25%, respectively, as compared to dry machining [7]. Drilling with cutting fluid through coolant channels of the drill bit helps the temperature to maintain at a constant level and to decrease by 50% [19]. Furthermore, the maximum temperatures while the drilling under MQL condition do not exceed the temperatures during wet circumstances [6]. On the other hand, around 50% reduction in the temperatures is obtained with MQL applied through the coolant holes as compared with MQL applied with an external nozzle [14].

Fig. 3 Maximum temperature values observed during drilling of various workpieces in literatures

In previous studies, there are different results regarding the place of maximum cutting temperature on the drill bit. For example, according to some researchers, the maximum drilling temperature occurs close to the chisel edge [16, 20]. However, UEDA et al [7] argued that drilling temperature on the cutting edge increases linearly with increasing distance from the drill center, and it reaches the highest value near the drill corner. In addition, BONO and NI [20] found that the temperature rises with an increase in point angle.

3 Experimental

3.1 Materials

In this work, matrix material of the workpiece was 7xxx series aluminum alloy and its chemical composition was 5% Zn, 3.5% Cu, 2.5% Mg (mass fraction) and balanced Al. Three reinforcement materials of 10%, 15% and 25% B4C (mass fraction) with an average particle size of 30 μm were used. The composites were produced by powder metallurgy (PM) method in prismatic dimensions of 50 mm×70 mm×12 mm. This method was similar to the fabrication route used by previous researchers [21−25]. Mechanical properties of the workpieces are listed in Table 1.

Table 1 Mechanical properties of composites

$w(\text{B}_4\text{C})/$ %	Yield Tensile strength/ strength/ MPa	MPa	Elongation/ $\frac{0}{0}$	Area reduction/ $\frac{0}{0}$	Hardness/ HRB
10	491	527	22.2	1.113	61
15	532	599	6.87	2.110	79
25	328	408	4.8	3.870	87

3.2 Plan of experiments and drilling process

With regard to experimental design, Taguchi's L_{27} (3¹³) orthogonal array was chosen since it has the ability to control the interactions among the factors [26]. For drilling experiments, control factors and levels of each parameter are given in Table 2. Total of 108×2 holes were drilled according to Taguchi's 27 experiments for confirmation purpose. Drilling experiments were performed with CNC controlled vertical machining center (VMC-550 Johnford Fanuc Series O-M) having the capacity of 15 kW and 3500 r/min under dry machining conditions. The materials and geometrical properties of the drill bits are listed in Table 3.

3.3 Measurements

Before measuring the drilling temperatures, emissivity values of the cutting tools at different temperatures were experimentally obtained. For this purpose, drill bits were heated between 300 °C and 900 °C in a furnace, of which the temperature was preset. At that time, emissivity values of each drill bit were measured and recorded using the optical pyrometer.

Table 2 Drilling parameters and levels

<u> பொ</u>						
	Levels					
Control parameter		2	3			
Mass fraction of B ₄ C $(A)/\%$	10	15	25			
Feed rate $(B)/(\text{mm}\cdot\text{r}^{-1})$	0.1	02	0.3			
Spindle speed $(C)/(r \cdot m^{-1})$	1500	2000	2500			
Drill material	High speed steel (HSS)	Carbide	TiAlN coated carbide			

For non-contact measuring of the temperatures in inaccessible regions, measuring device needs to get sight of that region. During the drilling process, contactless measurement of the tool's cutting edge temperature is difficult due to the embedded drill bit. In order to overcome this difficulty, the drilling experiments were performed with the workpieces having 24 pre-drilled holes of 1 mm (Fig. 4). In addition, flank wears of the drill bits were measured with a Mitutoyo–TM–20X optical microscope having 5 μm accuracy.

Technical specifications and arrangement of the laser pyrometer used in the experiments are illustrated in Fig. 5. The pyrometer has different spot diameters according to the distance, as seen in Fig. 5(a). In this work, drilling temperatures were measured at distance from 150 mm to the cutting edge (Fig. 5(b)). Therefore, the optical pyrometer has to move together with the cutting tool in order to maintain this distance and spot diameter. For this purpose, a fastening device for the pyrometer was designed and manufactured, as seen in Fig. 6. One end of the fastening device was mounted on the machine tool's spindle and the other end was fixed with the pyrometer. Later, parallelism of the pyrometer in three axes (x, y, z) was arranged by using a dial gauge. Distance of 150 mm in feed direction between the middle of the cutting edge and pyrometer was adjusted. Hence, pyrometer moved at the same speed with the feed rate keeping the 150 mm distance during the drilling process. Finally, drilling temperatures were recorded by using Compact Connect software.

Figure 7 depicts typical temperature variations at the cutting edge of the drill bit. As the drill bit goes deep, more heat is generated because of the formation of chips and friction at the tool's clearance face [4]. In this graph, the temperature started with 300 °C since the measuring

Fig. 4 Composite specimen with pre-drilled 24 holes by EDM machine: (a) Technical drawing and sizes (unit: mm); (b) Picture of pre-drilled composite

Fig. 5 Technical specifications, focal length and spot distance of non-contact temperature measurement device (a), and arrangement of pyrometer (b)

range of the device was between 200 °C and 1200 °C, as seen in Fig. 5.

4 Results and discussion

4.1 Emissivity values of cutting tools

Non-contact measuring instruments generally measure the temperatures according to the emissivity (*ε*) values of the materials, which are determined from experiments. However, cutting tools have different emissivity values at different temperatures due to multiple material combinations. For this reason, emissivity values of the drill bits were measured at different temperatures between 300 °C and 900 °C with the optical pyrometer. Figure 8 shows the emissivity values of HSS, carbide and TiAlN coated carbide tools. Emissivity of cutting tools decreases until a temperature of approximately 500 °C and then it increases.

4.2 Drilling temperatures

Average temperature variations of the cutting edge according to the machining parameters are shown in Fig. 9. As can be seen from Fig. 9, an increase of the feed rate results in a decrease in the temperature. This status can be explained by the easy flowing and discharging of chips, since 80% of the temperature generated on the drilling process is discharged with the chip [27,28]. Therefore, as the feed rate increases, generated chips will be easily discharged. Additionally, previous studies also argued that the drilling temperatures decreased with increasing feed rate owing to less contact time between hard particles and the cutting edge [12,19].

Figure 10 shows the response graphs of drilling temperature regarding the effects of factors on the tool temperature. The tool temperature increases with the reinforcement particle content by the reason of higher contact ratio and rubbing activity between the abrasive

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Fig. 6 Test setup for temperature measurement: (a) Picture of test setup; (b) Solid model view of test setup; (c) Detail of A (Test setup); (d) Detail of A (Solid modelling)

Fig. 7 Typical temperature variations when drilling 25% composite with carbide tool at 1000 r/min and 0.1 mm/r

B4C particulates and cutting edge. This idea was supported by previous studies stating that abrasive forces and thus wear rate increased when density of the hard particle increased [29].

Past studies indicated that there was an increase in heat formation during the drilling process depending on the increase of cutting speed leading to the friction forces [3,7,13,16,18,19]. In the present work, even though tool

Fig. 8 Emissivity results of HSS, carbide and TiAlN coated carbide tools

temperature increases with the spindle speed, variations in the tool temperature as a function of spindle speed are weak compared to those of particle fraction or feed rate (Fig. 10). The reason for this can be attributed to the tool wear mechanisms on the machining of ferrous and nonferrous materials. For example, flank and crater wears grow when the cutting speed is increased during the drilling of ferrous materials, as well as certain high

Fig. 10 Mean response graphs of factors for drilling temperature: (a) Particle content; (b) Feed rate; (c) Spindle speed; (d) Cutting tool

strength alloys, due to higher interface temperature between the cutting tool and workpiece [30]. However, an increase in the cutting speed has a less influence on cutting temperature at the interface during the drilling of nonferrous materials. Accordingly, cutting speed does not significantly affect the cutting of aluminum alloys since the melting temperature of the aluminum alloys (550−660 °C) is close to the softening temperature of the HSS tools (540−600 °C) and is much smaller than that of carbide tools (870−1100 °C) [31]. In addition, machining forces and temperatures are usually low due to good heat conductivity of the aluminum [32].

When test results were discussed in terms of the drill materials, low temperature was produced with carbide tools than HSS tools. The reason can be attributed to the hardness of drill bit and wear mechanisms on the cutting tool. The best results in terms of cutting temperatures were obtained with carbide, TiAlN coated carbide and HSS drills, respectively (Fig. 10).

4.3 Tool wear

Based on the experimental results, the most important tool wear mechanism was abrasive wear, and no edge chipping was observed after drilling for one time with each drill. Figure 11 shows the effects of drilling parameters on the flank wear. It can be deduced from this figure that the tool wear can improve if the feed rate is increased over the used range of feeds. Furthermore, a reduction of tool temperature with increased feed rate might be another influential cause of decreasing the tool wear or vice versa [33,34].

From Fig. 11(b), one can understand that flank wear increases with reinforcement content for all feed rates due to similar reasons of tool temperature mentioned before. More than that, the results of response graphs, presented in Fig. 12, the effects of factors on the tool wear showed that there was also nearly similar correlation between the drill temperatures and the tool wear with regard to the effects of machining conditions on the responses.

Fig. 11 Effects of process parameters on tool wear according to cutting tool and spindle speed (a) and feed rate and particle content (b)

Fig. 12 Mean response graphs of factors for tool wear: (a) Particle content; (b) Feed rate; (c) Spindle speed; (d) Cutting tool

4.4 Multi response optimization with grey relational analysis (GRA)

In this section, maximum drilling temperature and tool wear were simultaneously optimized with GRA, a valuable methodology for the design of qualitative and discrete parameters. With this method, the following steps are followed in order to optimize the process parameters:

1) The experimental results are normalized (data pre-processing).

2) The grey relational coefficient and grey relational grade are computed.

3) The experimental results are analyzed.

4) The optimal levels of the process parameters are selected.

5) The optimal parameters through the confirmation experiments are verified.

Experimental results for the maximum tool temperature (t_{max}) and tool's flank wear (V_{B}) conducted by using $L_{27}(3^{13})$ orthogonal array are given in Table 4. For calculating the grey grade, the maximum temperature of the tool and tool wear were normalized in

the range between zero and one [35,36]. This process is called the data pre-processing, and is required due to the different range and unit of each data. Data pre-processing transfers the original sequence to a comparable one. In this work, calculation method of "the smaller the better" was used since minimization of the temperature and tool wear is intended. For calculating the normalized value of the *j*-th response of the *k*-th experiment, $Z_i(k)$, the following expression can be used:

$$
Z_j(k) = \frac{\max_j \left[Y_j(k) \right] - Y_j(k)}{\max_j \left[Y_j(k) \right] - \min_j \left[Y_j(k) \right]}
$$
(1)

where $Y_i(k)$ is the original value to be normalized, $\max_i [Y_i(k)]$ is the largest value of $Y_i(k)$, and $\min[Y_i(k)]$ is the smallest value of $Y_i(k)$.

For example, the normalized value for *j*=1−2, *k*=1−27 can be computed as follows:

$$
Y_1(1)=(496.7-299.4)/(496.7-273.4) = 0.8836 \tag{2}
$$

*Y*₂(1)=(1.78−0.66)/(1.78−0.36)=0.7887 (3)

The normalized values for T_{max} and V_{B} are presented in Table 4.

Table 4 Taguchi experimental design, normalized values and grey grades for tool's maximum temperature (T_{max}) and tool' flank wear $(V_{\rm B})$

Experiment		Coded factors			Experimental results, Y_i		Normalization, Z_i		Grey relation coefficient, ε		Grey	Optimum
No.		A B		$\mathcal C\!-\!D$	$T_{\rm max} / ^{\rm o}{\rm C}$	$V_{\rm B}$ /mm	$T_{\rm max}$	$V_{\rm B}$	$T_{\rm max}$	$V_{\rm B}$	Grade, γ	order
1	$\mathbf{1}$	1	1	$\mathbf{1}$	299.4	0.66	0.8836	0.7887	0.8111	0.7030	0.7570	14
\overline{c}		$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{2}$	$\overline{2}$	282.8	0.46	0.9579	0.9296	0.9223	0.8765	0.8994	7
3		1	3	3	317.4	0.49	0.8030	0.9085	0.7173	0.8452	0.7813	13
4	1	\overline{c}	1	$\overline{2}$	279.3	0.40	0.9736	0.9718	0.9498	0.9467	0.9482	3
5	$\mathbf{1}$	\overline{c}	\overline{c}	3	284.0	0.40	0.9525	0.9718	0.9133	0.9467	0.9300	5
6	1	$\overline{2}$	3	1	309.7	0.51	0.8374	0.8944	0.7546	0.8256	0.7901	11
7	$\mathbf{1}$	3		3	281.7	0.36	0.9628	1.0000	0.9308	1.0000	0.9654	2
$\,$ $\,$		3	\overline{c}	1	291.2	0.46	0.9203	0.9296	0.8625	0.8765	0.8695	$\,$ 8 $\,$
9	$\mathbf{1}$	3	3	$\overline{2}$	281.1	0.39	0.9655	0.9789	0.9355	0.9595	0.9475	$\overline{\mathcal{A}}$
10	\overline{c}	$\mathbf{1}$	1	$\overline{2}$	364.8	0.65	0.5907	0.7958	0.5499	0.7100	0.6299	19
11	$\overline{2}$	1	$\overline{2}$	3	351.9	0.61	0.6485	0.8239	0.5872	0.7396	0.6634	17
12	$\overline{2}$	$\mathbf{1}$	3	1	355.3	0.93	0.6332	0.5986	0.5769	0.5547	0.5658	$22\,$
13	$\overline{2}$	$\overline{2}$	1	3	310.4	0.45	0.8343	0.9366	0.7511	0.8875	0.8193	10
14	2	$\overline{2}$	$\overline{2}$	$\mathbf{1}$	310.4	0.63	0.8343	0.8099	0.7511	0.7245	0.7378	16
15	$\overline{2}$	$\overline{2}$	3	$\overline{2}$	289.9	0.48	0.9261	0.9155	0.8712	0.8554	0.8633	9
16	$\overline{2}$	3	1	1	298.3	0.60	0.8885	0.8310	0.8176	0.7474	0.7825	12
17	\overline{c}	3	$\overline{2}$	$\overline{2}$	273.4	0.41	1.0000	0.9648	1.0000	0.9342	0.9671	$\mathbf{1}$
18	$\overline{2}$	3	3	3	285.0	0.42	0.9481	0.9577	0.9059	0.9221	0.9140	6
19	3	1		3	392.6	0.91	0.4662	0.6127	0.4836	0.5635	0.5236	24
20	3	$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{2}$	$\mathbf{1}$	496.7	1.78	0.0000	0.0000	0.3333	0.3333	0.3333	$27\,$
21	3	$\mathbf{1}$	3	$\overline{2}$	486.4	0.95	0.0461	0.5845	0.3439	0.5462	0.4450	26
22	3	$\overline{2}$	1	1	406.9	1.06	0.4021	0.5070	0.4554	0.5035	0.4795	25
23	3	$\overline{2}$	$\overline{2}$	$\overline{2}$	396.0	0.72	0.4510	0.7465	0.4766	0.6636	0.5701	20
24	3	$\overline{2}$	3	3	437.9	0.615	0.2633	0.8204	0.4043	0.7358	0.5700	21
25	3	3	1	$\overline{2}$	322.5	0.54	0.7801	0.8732	0.6946	0.7978	0.7462	15
26	3	3	\overline{c}	3	397.2	0.515	0.4456	0.8908	0.4742	0.8208	0.6475	18
27	$\overline{3}$	3	3	1	410.9	0.76	0.3842	0.7183	0.4481	0.6396	0.5439	23

4.4.1 Computing grey relational coefficient and grey relational grade

Grey relational coefficient $\varepsilon(k)$ is calculated to express the relationship between the ideal and actual normalized experimental results. The grey relational coefficient $\varepsilon(k)$ can be expressed as follows [37,38]:

$$
\varepsilon_j(k) = \{ \min_j \min_k |Z_j(k) - Z_0(j)| +
$$

$$
\xi \max_j \max_k |Z_j(k) - Z_0(j)| \} \{ |Z_j(k) - Z_0(j)| +
$$

$$
\xi \max_j \max_k |Z_j(k) - Z_0(j)| \}
$$
 (4)

where $Z_0(j)$ is the ideal sequence which has the value of 1, and $\varepsilon_i(k)$ is the grey relational coefficient of the *j*-th performance characteristic of the *k*-th experiment.

Distinguishing coefficient ξ is defined in the range of 0≤*ξ*≤1. It is generally taken as 0.5. If this coefficient is small, distinguishing capability would be higher (the value may be adjusted based on the practical needs of the system).

Grey relational grade (GRG, average value of the grey relational coefficients) is the geometrical similarity between Z_0 and Z_i in a grey system and it can take a value between zero and one, [0,1]. A higher grey relational grade indicates a strong relational degree between the comparative and ideal sequence. Grey relational grade γ_k for the *k*-th experiment can be determined from the following equation:

$$
\gamma_k = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \varepsilon_j(k) \tag{5}
$$

where *n* is the number of responses.

For example, the grey relational grade for the maximum tool temperature (T_{max}) at level 1 can be calculated by averaging the grey relational coefficients as follow:

$$
\gamma_{A_1} = \frac{1}{2}(0.8111 + 0.7030) = 0.7570\tag{6}
$$

The results of calculated grey relational coefficients ε _{*j*}(*k*) (*j*=1, …, 2) and grey relational grade γ _{*k*} (*k*=1, …, 27) using Eq. (4) and Eq. (5), respectively, for different cutting conditions are given in Table 4. The calculated grey relational grades for each experiment were put in order from maximum (optimum) to minimum and then they were presented in the rightmost of the table. The optimal value, which was the maximum of grey relational grade, was found to be the 17th experiment for initial parameters (Table 4).

In the next step, the main effects of each factor were calculated from the value of grey relational grade. The maximum grey relational grades of each factor were calculated (Table 5) and effects of the factors are plotted in Fig. 13. By maximizing the grade values (Table 5 and

*Levels for optimum grey relational grade.

Fig. 13 Effect of each factor with regard to multiple performance on grey grade

4.5 Analysis of variance (ANOVA) for grey relational grade

Analysis of variance is applied to determine which parameter significantly influences the drilling temperature. In ANOVA, *F*-value of particle fraction (*A*) 533.31 designates that the particle fraction is significant with the probability of ≤ 0.0001 . "Prob F " values less than 0.05 denote that the terms are significant [37]. In this situation, *A*, *B*, *D*, $A \times B$ and $A \times C$ are the significant terms which influence the grey grade in drilling MMCs (Table 6). According to the ANOVA results presented in Table 6, the most efficient factor on the grey grade is found to be particle content as 63.4%, followed by the feed rate (21.4%) and drill material (10.1%).

4.6 Optimal cutting conditions and confirmation experiments

In the final step, prediction and verification of the performance characteristics regarding the selected initial parameter setting were carried out. Confirmation experiments were performed to validate the applicability and reproducibility of the optimization method adopted

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THERE OF $\frac{1}{2}$ is a counter for $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$						
Factor	DF	SS	МS	F value	Prob>F	PD.
Particle fraction (A)	2	0.533857	0.266929	533.31	< 0.0001	63.4
Feed rate (B)	$\overline{2}$	0.180458	0.090229	180.27	< 0.0001	21.4
Spindle speed (C)	\overline{c}	0.003455	0.001727	3.45	0.101	0.41
Drill material (D)	\overline{c}	0.084902	0.042451	84.82	< 0.0001	10.1
$A \times B$	$\overline{4}$	0.020922	0.005230	10.45	< 0.007	2.48
$A \times C$	$\overline{4}$	0.014716	0.003679	7.35	< 0.017	1.75
$B\times C$	$\overline{4}$	0.001001	0.000250	0.50	0.738	0.119
Error	6	0.003003	0.000501			0.357
Total	26	0.842314				100

Table 6 ANOVA results for grey grade

DF: Degree of freedom, SS: Sum of squares, MS: Mean squares, PD: Percentage distribution. *F*-table_{(0.05;2;6)=5.14, *F*-table_{(0.05;4;6)=4.53.}}

Table 7 Results of confirmation experiments

Machining parameter	T_{max} /°C	$V_{\rm B}$ /mm	Experimental GRG	Predicted GRG	$Error\%$
$A_2B_3C_2D_2$ [*]	273.4	0.41	0.9671	0.9578	0.96
$A_1B_3C_1D_2$ ^{**}	273.5	0.33	1.022	0.9927	2.87
$A_3B_1C_1D_1$	419.3	1.54	0.4046	0.4039	0.17
$A_2B_2C_3D_3$	322.2	0.45	0.7917	0.8559	8.11
$A_3B_2C_3D_2$	392.3	0.685	0.5851	0.5816	0.60

* Initial machining parameters; ** Optimum level.

in this work. Grey relational grade under the optimum conditions, *γ*predicted, is predicted by using the following model:

$$
\gamma_{\text{predicted}} = \gamma_{\text{m}} + \sum_{i=1}^{N} (\gamma_i - \gamma_{\text{m}})
$$
\n(7)

where *γ*m is the total mean of grey relational grade, *γi* is the mean grey relational grade at optimal level, and *N* is the number of main design parameters that significantly affect the multiple performance characteristics [35]. For example, predicted GRG at $A_1B_3C_1D_2$ optimal machining conditions can be calculated as following:

$$
\gamma_{\text{predicted}} = \gamma_{\text{m}} + (A_1 - \gamma_{\text{m}}) + (B_3 - \gamma_{\text{m}}) + [(A_1B_3 - \gamma_{\text{m}}) - (A_1 - \gamma_{\text{m}}) - (B_3 - \gamma_{\text{m}})] + (C_1 - \gamma_{\text{m}}) + [(A_1C_1 - \gamma_{\text{m}}) - (A_1 - \gamma_{\text{m}}) - (C_1 - \gamma_{\text{m}})] + [(B_3C_1 - \gamma_{\text{m}}) - (B_3 - \gamma_{\text{m}}) - (C_1 - \gamma_{\text{m}})] + (D_2 - \gamma_{\text{m}})
$$

The results of the confirmation experiments for the optimal drilling conditions of $A_1B_3C_1D_2$ are found to be T_{max} =273.5 °C and V_{B} =0.33 mm, respectively. Predicted grey grade with Eq. (7) is found to be 0.9927. In addition, Table 7 and Fig. 14 present the comparison between the predicted and experimental grey grades under different machining conditions. These results show that the predicted results are compatible with the confirmation experiments. Thus, the grey relational analysis is a very powerful method for estimating the grey relational grade in the drilling of Al/B4C reinforced MMCs.

Fig. 14 Comparison of grey relational grades

5 Conclusions

1) The influential factors on the tool temperature are found to be particle mass fraction and feed rate, respectively. Tool temperatures increase with the increase of reinforcement content.

2) For the used range of parameters, increasing the feed rate decreases the cutting temperature due to easy flowing and discharging of cut chips. Although tool temperature increases with the spindle speed, variations in the tool temperature as a function of spindle speed are weak compared to those of particle fraction or feed rate.

3) Regarding the cutting tools, lower temperatures

are produced with carbide drills than that with HSS drills. The effect of the cutting parameters on the tool wear is found to be similar to that on the tool temperature.

4) From the grey relational analysis, the optimum level of particle content of B4C is 10%, feed rate is 0.3 mm/r, spindle speed is 1500 r/min and drill material is uncoated carbide tool. Hence, this method is useful in order to optimize the drilling parameters, considering simultaneously minimum tool temperature and tool wear, in drilling MMCs for the used range of levels.

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B4C 增强铝基复合材料钻削温度的 非接触测量和多目标分析

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摘 要:采用光学高温计对在不同钻削条件下的 B4C 金属基复合材料的钻削温度进行非接触测量。研究了颗粒含 量、切削速度、进给速率和刀具材料对最高钻削温度的影响。基于最高切削温度和刀具磨损对钻削参数进行优化。 结果表明:对最高切削温度影响最大的因素主要为颗粒含量、进给速率以及切削速率与颗粒含量间的相互作用。 切削速率与切削材料对最高切削温度的影响相对较小。当颗粒含量较小,切削速度较低,进给速率较高,利用硬 质合金刀具时,切削温度较低。采用优化后的钻削参数可以获得较低的切削温度和较小的刀具磨损。 关键词: 金属基复合材料; 钻削温度; 磨损; 非接触测量; 灰度关联

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