

Experimental Approach of CNC Drilling Operation for Mild Steel Using Taguchi Design

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Abstract: Drilling is the most common (multi-point) cutting technique targeted for the production of small-diameter holes. Hole making is among the most important operations in manufacturing, and drilling is a major and common hole-making process in components. Productivity can be interpreted in terms of material removal rate in any machining operation. It is, therefore, essential to optimize quality and productivity simultaneously. Mild steel are soft, ductile, easily machined and is extensive used as a main engineering material in various industry such as air craft and aerospace industry. The Taguchi method is applied to formulate the experimental layout to ascertain the Element of impact each optimum process parameters for CNC drilling machining with drilling operation of mild steel. A total of 27 experimental runs were conducted using an orthogonal array, and the ideal combination of controllable factor levels was determined for the material removal rate, time of machining and circularity has been measured. Design optimization for quality was carried out and single to noise ratio and analysis of variance (ANOVA) were employed using experiment result to confirm effectiveness of this approach.

Keywords: Mild steel, Taguchi, ANOVA, MRR, Circularity.

I. Introduction

Manufacturing processes are technological methods to change raw material from its raw form to the final product. The suitability of materials for a certain process depends usually on a special combination of its properties. There are also special technological tests for certain manufacturing processes to assess the materials suitability of the process. Machining is the most important one among manufacturing process. Machining can be defined as the process of removing metal from the work piece in the form of chips. Machining is necessary where tight tolerances on dimensions and finishes are required. Any machine process requires a cutting tool to remove material. The cutting tool is stronger than the material being machined, and causes fracture of the material.

Drilling is a process used to produce holes inside solid parts. The tool is rotated and also moved in the axial direction. Drilling is used to create a round hole. It is accomplished by a rotating tool that typically has two or four helical cutting edges. The tool is fed in a direction parallel to its axis of rotation into the work piece to form the round hole. Drilling operations are operations in which holes are produced or refined by bringing a rotating cutter with cutting edges at the lower extremity into contact with the work piece. Drilling operations are done primarily in drill presses but sometimes on lathes or mills.

The goal is to improve efficiency, reduce costs, boost productivity, and minimize cycle time, while simultaneously safeguarding the work environment. Dry or near dry processes are the potential candidates to replace wet machining processes. Due to the development of machine design and drive technology, modern CNC machines can be described to an increasingly extent as a characteristic example of complex mechatronic systems.

Manually operated type of drilling machine creates problems such as low accuracy, high setup time, low productivity, etc. A CNC machine overcomes all these problems but the main disadvantage of a CNC drilling machine is the high initial cost and requirement of skilled labor for operating the machine. Hence, there arises a need for a low cost CNC machine which can not only drill holes with high accuracy and low machining time but also have low initial cost.

[1].

Machining requires attention to many details for a work piece to meet the specifications set out in the engineering drawings or blueprints. Besides the obvious problems related to correct dimensions, there is the problem of achieving the correct finish or surface smoothness on the work piece. The inferior finish found on the machined surface of a work piece may be caused by incorrect clamping, a dull tool, or inappropriate presentation of a tool. Frequently, this poor surface finish, known as chatter, is evident by an undulating or irregular finish, and the appearance of waves on the machined surfaces of the work piece.

II. Literature Survey

Out of the various machining processes, drilling is used to produce holes in materials etc. So in order to achieve the optimum working conditions various research were conducted by different researchers from across the globe. This report reviews some of the journal published by them regarding optimization processes.

Yogendra Tyagi, Vadansh Chaturvedi and Jyoti Vimal [2] have conducted an experiment on drilling of mild steel, and applied the taguchi methods for determining the optimum parameters condition for the machining process using the taguchi methods and analysis of variance. Here too the confirmation experiment was conducted and this confirms the successful implementation of taguchi methods. Timur Canel, A. Ugur Kaya, Bekir Celik [3] studied the laser drilling on PVC material in order to increase the quality of the cavity. Taguchi optimization methods was used to obtain the optimum parameters. Taguchi L9 orthogonal array is used to find the signal to noise ratio is used for circularity. Variance analysis is performed using the calculated S/N ratio to conclude optimum stage. The experimental results are compatible with Taguchi method with 93% rate.

Thiren G. Pokar, Prof. V. D. Patel [4] used grey based taguchi method to determine the optimum micro drilling process parameters. B. Shivapragash, K. Chandrasekaran, C. Parthasarathy, M. Samuel [5] have tried to optimize the drilling process involving metal matrix composites (MMC) in order to minimize the damage done to it during the process by using taguchi and grey rational analysis. The input parameters are spindle speed, depth of cut and feed rate whereas the output parameters are MRR and surface roughness. Wen Jialing and Wen Pengfei [6] used an orthogonal experimental design in order to find out the optimum process parameters for injection molding of aspheric plastic lens, to reduce volumetric shrinkage and volumetric shrinkage variation.

III. Experimental Details

3.1 Work Piece Material

Drilling operation will be performed on Mild steel work piece. Mild steel is soft, ductile and easily machined. The composition of mild steel contains carbon (0.05% to 0.3%) and small quantities of manganese (Mn), silicon (Si), phosphorus (P), sulphur (S). A rectangular mild steel plate of size (300 mm × 100 mm × 5 mm) is used in the shaping machine for performing CNC drilling. Cutting oil was used as the coolant fluid in this experiment. Young's Modulus (210 GPa), Poisson's Ratio (0.29), Density (7.8 g/cm³), Melting Point (1400°C), Modulus of elasticity (200 GPa), Bulk Modulus (140 GPa).

3.2 High Speed Steel

One of our tools for the CNC drilling operation will be the high speed steel. High speed steel (HSS) is used for making drilling tools, we used tool diameter 10 mm in the drilling machine and point angle is 118°. This property allows HSS to drill faster than high carbon steel, hence the name high speed steel. At room temperature, in their generally recommended heat treatment, HSS grades generally display high hardness. The composition of high speed steel is carbon (0.6% to 0.75%), tungsten (14% to 20%), Chromium (3% to 5%), Vanadium (1% to 1.5%), Cobalt (5% to 10%) and the remaining is iron.

3.3 Plan of Experimental Design

Design of experiment is the design of any information gathering experiment where variation is present, whether under full control of the experimenter or not. Taguchi methods are statistical methods applied to problems in engineering, marketing etc. In this particular case we have used L27 orthogonal arrays with 3 input parameters at 3 levels each. Hence the total number of experimental runs is 27.

Table 3.1: Input process parameters

Factors	Units	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Spindle Speed (S)	rpm	1000	1500	2000
Feed (F)	mm/rev	0.5	1.0	1.5
Drill tool point	mm	6.4	8.8	10



Fig 1: Experimental Setup

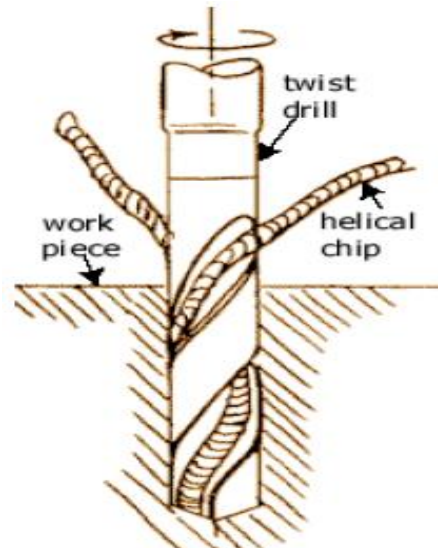


Fig 2: Drilling empathy

In this experiment, in order to investigate the material removal rate of the machined work piece, during cutting, a tungsten carbide tool was used. A view of the cutting zone and Experimental setup is shown in Fig. 1. The initial and final diameters was measured with the help of Digital vernier, material removal rate are calculated as below type. The working ranges of the parameters for subsequent design of experiment, based on Taguchi's L27 Orthogonal Array (OA) design have been selected. In the present experimental study, drill type, spindle speed & feed rate have been considered as Process variables.

3.4 Calculations

MRR is Material Removal Rate and note; no material is removed while the Drill travels through the "Allowance Zone". Use caution with units!!

$$MRR = \frac{\text{Vol. Removed}}{CT} = \frac{\pi D^2 L f_r N}{4L} = \frac{\pi D^2 f_r N}{4}$$

- D is Drill Diameter, A is allowance usually (D/2), Fr is drill feed rate, N is rpm and L is length of hole
- CE is Circularity error is difference of (Max – Min) value of circularity distance of the existed hole.

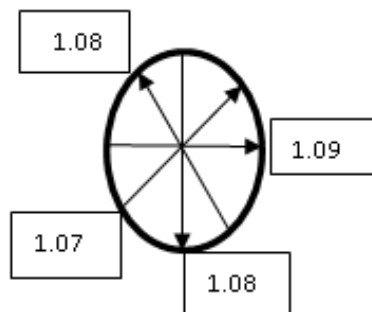


Fig 3: Post-View of drilling hole

IV. Data Collection & Analyzing Phase

The results of the experiments have been shown in Table 4.1 to 4.2. Analysis has been made based on those experimental data in the following session. Optimization of material removal rate of the cutting tool has been made by Taguchi method and couple with Regression analysis, Confirmatory test also been conducted finally to validate optimal results.

Table 4.1: Experimental Runs L27 Orthogonal array

Drill type	Spindle Speed	Feed rate	Runs		Drill type	Spindle Speed	Feed rate
1	1	1	⇨ 1	15 ⇨	2	2	3
1	1	2	2	16	2	3	1
1	1	3	3	17	2	3	2
1	2	1	4	18	2	3	3
1	2	2	5	19	3	1	1
1	2	3	6	20	3	1	2
1	3	1	7	21	3	1	3
1	3	2	8	22	3	2	1
1	3	3	9	23	3	2	2
2	1	1	10	24	3	2	3
2	1	2	11	25	3	3	1
2	1	3	12	26	3	3	2
2	2	1	13	27	3	3	3
2	2	2	14	--	--	--	--

Table 4.2: Calculated & Measured Output Data

Runs		Material removal rate (mm ³ /min)		Circularity Error	
⇨ 1	15 ⇨	267.9467	1962.5	0.05	0.02
2	16	506.5867	1205.76	0.05	0.03
3	17	654.1667	2279.64	0.04	0.03
4	18	535.8933	2943.75	0.04	0.03
5	19	1013.173	535.8933	0.04	0.02
6	20	1308.333	1013.173	0.04	0.02
7	21	803.84	1308.333	0.04	0.01
8	22	1519.76	1071.787	0.04	0.01
9	23	1962.5	2026.347	0.04	0.01
10	24	401.92	2616.667	0.03	0.01
11	25	759.88	1607.68	0.03	0.02
12	26	981.25	3039.52	0.02	0
13	27	803.84	3925	0.03	0.01
14	--	1519.76	--	0.03	--

Data Analyses

Experiment was conducted to assess the effect of, drill type, Spindle speed, feed rate on material removal rate (MRR)&Circularity error (CE).

4.1 Taguchi Method

Taguchi defines as the quality of a product, in terms of the loss imparted by the product to the society from the time the product is shipped to the customer. Some of these losses are due to deviation of the products functional characteristic from its desired target value, and these are called losses due to functional variation. The

uncontrollable factors, which cause the functional characteristics of a product to deviate from their target values, are called noise factors, which can be classified as external factors (e.g. unit to unit variation in product parameters) and product deterioration. The overall aim of quality engineering is to make products that are robust with respect to all noise factors.

Taguchi has empirically found that the two stage optimization procedure involving S/N ratios, indeed gives the parameter level combination, where the standard deviation is minimum while keeping the mean on target. This implies that engineering systems behave in such a way that the manipulated production factors that can be divided into three categories:

1. Control factors, which affect process variability as measured by the S/N ratio.
2. Signal factors, which do not influence the S/N ratio or process mean.
3. Factors, which do not affect the S/N ratio or process mean.

In practice, the target mean value may change during the process development applications in which the concept of S/N ratio is useful are the improvement of quality through variability reduction and the improvement of measurement. The S/N ratio characteristics can be divided into three categories when the characteristic is continuous: nominal is the best, smaller the better and larger is better characteristics.

The analysis is made with the help of a software package MINITAB 16. The main effect plot and SNR plots are shown in Fig.1 and 2. These show the variation of individual response with the three parameters i.e. Speed, feed, and depth of cut separately. In the plots, the x-axis indicates the value of each process parameter at three level and y-axis the response value. Horizontal line indicates the mean value of the response. The signal-to-noise ratio plots are used to determine the optimal design conditions to obtain the optimum MRR and CE. Fig.3 and 4 shows the main effect plot and SNR plot for Circularity Error.

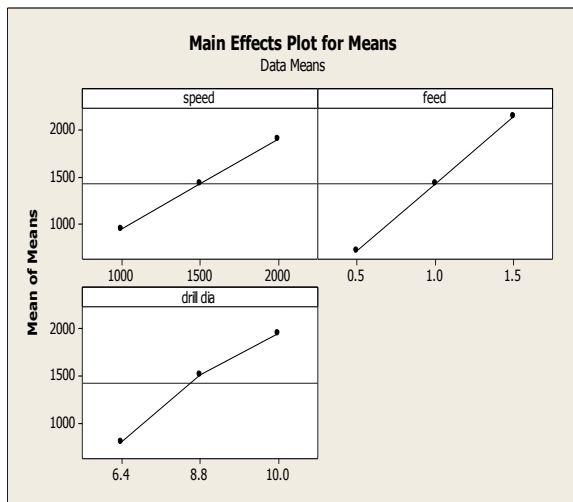


Fig.1 Main effect plot for MRR

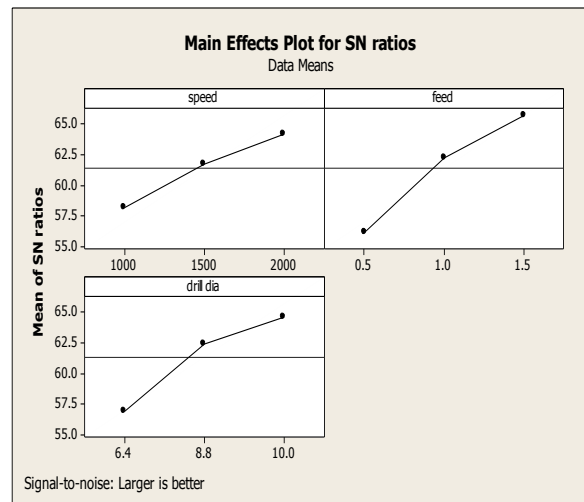


Fig.2 SNR plot for MRR

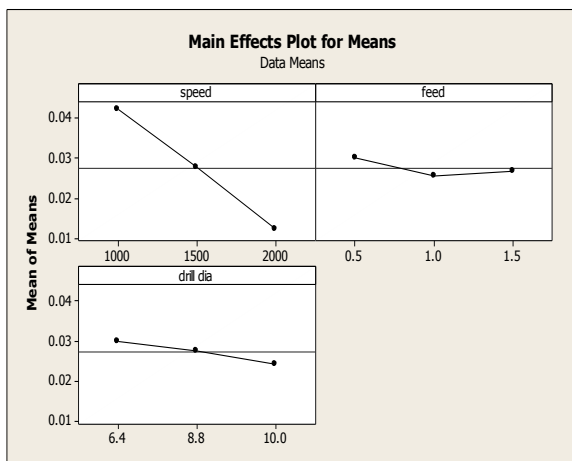


Fig.3 Main effect plot for CE

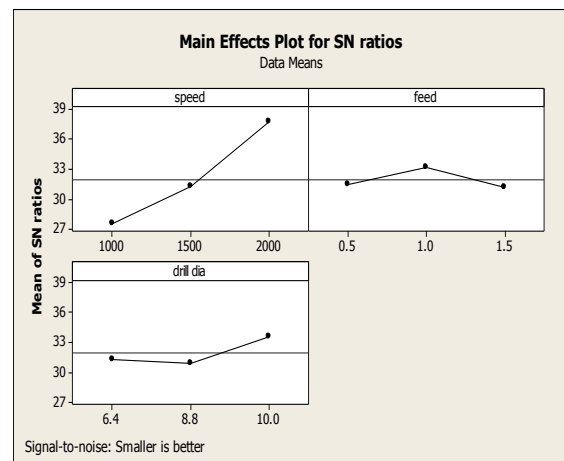


Fig.4 SNR plot for CE

Table 4.3: Optimal turning conditions

Responses	Best-Levels
MRR	3-3-3
CE	3-2-3

4.2 Analysis Of Variance

The non-linear behavior among the process parameters, IF EXISTS, If can only be revealed if more than two levels of the parameter are investigated. Therefore each parameter was analyzed at three levels. The assignment of process parameters along with their values at three levels are given in table 4.4&4.5. In order to remove the biased-ness each experiment was conducted for a fixed duration. It was also decided to investigate the following two factor interaction effects on Material removal rate and Circularity error.

- (i) Interaction between drill type and spindle speed (AxB)
- (ii) Interaction between spindle speed and feed rate (BxC)
- (iii) Interaction between drill type and spindle speed (AXC)

The total degree of freedom for three parameters each at three levels and three second order interactions is 18. So a three level OA with at least 18 DOF was to be selected. The L27 OA having 26 DOF was selected for the present work. ANOVA Terms & Notations: D.F =Degree of Freedom, S.S = Sum of Squares, M.S = Mean Square, F =Variance Ratio & C = Percentage Contribution.

Table 4.4: ANOVA result for Material removal rate (MRR) [95% confidence level]

SOURCE	DOF	S.S	M.S	F	C%
(S)	2	4082367	2041184	14.11582	19.91233
(F)	2	9185327	4592663	31.7606	44.80274
(D)	2	6153159	3076580	21.27611	30.01291
SXF	4	340197.3	85049.32	0.588159	1.659361
SXD	4	227894.8	56973.7	0.394002	1.111589
FXD	4	512763.3	128190.8	0.886505	2.501076
ERROR	8	1156820	144602.5		
TOTAL	26	20501709			100

Table 4.5: ANOVA result for Circularity Error (CE) [95% confidence level]

SOURCE	DOF	S.S	M.S	F	C%
(S)	2	0.004052	0.0020259	78.1429	89.8215884
(F)	2	9.63E-05	0.0000482	1.85714	2.13469954
(D)	2	0.000141	0.0000704	2.71429	3.11994548
SXF	4	5.19E-05	0.000013	0.5	1.1494536
SXD	4	5.19E-05	0.000013	0.5	1.1494536
FXD	4	0.000119	0.0000296	1.14286	2.62732251
ERROR	8	0.000207	0.0000259		
TOTAL	26	0.004511			100

From ANOVA table for Material removal rate it is clear that feed (44.80%) is the major factor to be selected effectively to get the Maximum Material removal rate. The interaction FXD (2.51%) has more influence than other two interactions. For Circularity Error, speed (89.82%) is the major factor to be selected to get Min- Circularity Error of the drilledholes. The interaction FXD (2.62%) has more influence than other two interactions.

4.3 Calculations Of Optimum MRR&CE.

Let T' = average result for 9 runs of MRR

T' = 1428.7

$$T' = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^9 M}{9}$$

$$MRR_{OPT} = T' + (A3 - T') + (B3 - T') + (C3 - T') \quad [7]$$

$$= 1904.933+2143.05+1962.5- 2 \times 1428.7$$

$$MRR_{OPT} = 3153.083 \text{ mm}^3/\text{min}$$

$$T' = 0.027407$$

$$T' = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^9 M}{9}$$

$$CE_{OPT} = T' + (A3 - T') + (B2 - T') + (C3 - T') \text{ [Ross, 1988]}$$

$$= 0.012222+0.025556+0.024444- 2 \times 0.027407$$

$$CE_{OPT} = 0.007407 \text{ mm}$$

Table 4.6: Optimal Drilling Conditions & Pin Point Optimal Value

Response	S	F	D	Optimal value
MRR(mm ³ /min)	A3	B3	C3	3153.083
CE(mm)	A3	B2	C3	0.007407

V. Conclusion

The machining of mild steels is relatively easy and high if there is no built-up edge or material adhesion problem. However, some problems may arise with the chip form and particle emissions. To develop a rigid and robust drilling machine following are the some concluded points must be taken into considerations:

- 1) Cutting parameters are to be optimized for producing holes with require quality.
- 2) Material removal rate (MRR) decreases when spindle speed, feed and tool diameter decrease.
- 3) CircularityError is mostly affected by spindle speed and feed rates. If the value of spindlespeed and feed rate increase, Error will also increase.
- 4) Increased Spindle speed, feed rate and tool diameter increases the quality of hole.

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