

EXPERIMENTAL STUDY OF OIL FILM
THICKNESS ON WORKPIECE UNDER
MINIMUM QUANTITY LUBRICATION
MILLING PROCESS USING LASER INDUCED
FLUORESCENCE METHOD

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We hereby declare that We have checked this thesis and in our opinion, this thesis is adequate in terms of scope and quality for the award of the degree of Master of Science



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I hereby declare that the work in this thesis is based on my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted for any other degree at Universiti Malaysia Pahang or any other institutions.

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ABSTRAK

Dalam proses pemesinan, pelincir digunakan untuk meningkatkan pengeluaran bagi tujuan pelinciran dan penyejukan bagi mengurangkan daya, suhu pemotongan dan geseran di zon pemotongan. Penyejukan konvensional adalah medium paling universal yang digunakan oleh pengilang tetapi penggunaan pelincir yang banyak menjejaskan kos pembuatan dan kesihatan pekerja. Usaha berterusan penyelidik untuk menggantikan kaedah itu telah menemui pendekatan yang lebih baik iaitu teknologi pelinciran kuantiti minimum (MQL). MQL memberikan kesan positif kepada kos pembuatan dan kesihatan pekerja. Ini disebabkan MQL menggalakkan pelinciran mencukupi di sepanjang bahagian pemotongan dengan sedikit minyak. Justeru, untuk memastikan minyak pelincir menembusi zon pemotongan, kabus minyak pelincir yang disebarkan pada bahan kerja semasa pemesinan mesti dianalisis secara mendalam dengan memerhatikan jumlah kabus minyak yang melekat berhampiran bahagian pemotongan. Namun, penyelidik lepas hanya mengambil berat tentang kesan parameter pemesinan terhadap prestasi MQL. Kajian tentang perilaku minyak pelincir semasa pemesinan MQL terhad kerana pemerhatiannya semasa pemesinan adalah mencabar. Selain itu, saiz titisan pada jarak muncung dekat dan tekanan udara sederhana dapat membasahi permukaan pemotongan dengan baik. Bahkan, kadar aliran minyak pelincir MQL membolehkan pelarasan tekanan antara minyak pelincir dalam tangki penjana dan tekanan atmosfera untuk menjana kabus minyak yang mencukupi. Justeru, objektif kajian ini adalah untuk mengukur ketebalan filem minyak pelincir di zon pemotongan, mengkaji kekasaran permukaan bahan kerja di kedudukan muncung MQL dan kadar aliran minyak pelincir yang berbeza menggunakan kaedah pendarfluor teraruh laser (LIF) semasa proses pengilangan MQL dan mengenal pasti hubungan antara ketebalan filem minyak pelincir dan kekasaran permukaan. Ketebalan filem minyak pelincir dinilai menggunakan persamaan daripada prosedur penentuan dari LIF. Didapati bahawa; julat ketebalan filem minyak pelincir meningkat dengan peningkatan kadar aliran minyak untuk kedua-dua kedudukan muncung MQL 0° dan 45° . Pada kedudukan muncung MQL 0° , ketebalan filem minyak pelincir mencapai julat yang tinggi yang ditunjukkan oleh lebih banyak taburan kecondongan negatif dan hampir simetri berbanding kedudukan muncung 45° . Untuk nilai purata kekasaran permukaan pula, pada kedudukan muncung MQL 0° , semua nilai kekasaran permukaan menurun dengan peningkatan kadar aliran minyak. Ini mungkin kerana penambahan ketebalan filem minyak pada julat tinggi iaitu 0.5 mm hingga 0.9 mm dan ke atas. Namun, pada kedudukan muncung 45° , pada kadar aliran minyak pelincir yang tinggi, kekasaran permukaan lebih tinggi dari kedudukan muncung MQL 0° . Ini boleh dikaitkan dengan ketebalan filem minyak pelincir yang rendah dalam julat 0.3 mm hingga 0.7 mm. Oleh itu, terbukti keberkesanan penghantaran minyak pelincir ke dalam zon pemotongan bahan kerja pada kedudukan muncung MQL 0° , pada kadar aliran MQL yang tinggi. Hubungan antara ketebalan filem minyak pelincir dan kekasaran permukaan berjaya dikenalpasti. Penemuan ini berpotensi memberi manfaat kepada proses pengilangan MQL bahan keras seperti aloi aluminium 6061.

ABSTRACT

In machining process, lubricant is utilized in order to facilitate higher production for lubrication and cooling purpose to reduce cutting force, cutting temperature and friction near the cutting zone. Conventional flooding technique is the most universal medium used by the manufacturer however, the used of large amount of lubricant contributes to high manufacturing cost and jeopardizing workers health. Thus, continuous effort of researchers to substitute the flood cooling has found a better approach that is minimum quantity lubrication (MQL) technology. MQL promotes diverse benefits to the manufacturers, in terms of manufacturing cost and employees' health's. Superior advantage in using MQL is attributed by its compelling performance that promotes sufficient lubrication along the cutting edge with small amount of oil. However, the lubricant oil must be ensured to well penetrate the cutting zone. In order to explain this situation, the lubricant oil mist sprayed onto workpiece upon the on-going operation must be analysed in depth. This can be accomplished by observing the amount of oil mist adhered near the cutting edge. However, past researchers concern merely on the machining parameters effects towards the performance of MQL. The studies on the behavior of lubricant oil during MQL machining operation is limited since it is a challenging task to observe the lubricant oil during MQL machining is on-going. Moreover, the preferable size of droplet obtained at short nozzle distance and medium air pressure can efficiently wet the cutting surface. Furthermore, MQL lubricant oil flow rate is among the factor to enable the adjustment of pressure between lubricant oil in the tank of MQL generator and atmospheric pressure to make sure oil mist generated is sufficient for the lubrication effect. Therefore, the objectives of this study are set to measure lubricant oil film thickness at cutting zone, to examine surface roughness of workpiece under different MQL nozzle positions and lubricant oil flow rates using laser induced fluorescence (LIF) method during MQL milling process and to identify relationship between lubricant oil film thickness and surface roughness. Lubricant oil film thickness was evaluated by applying equation from the calibration procedure for the LIF method. As a result, it was found that; the range of lubricant oil film thickness increased with increasing oil flow rates for both MQL nozzle positions of 0° and 45° . Suggested that at MQL nozzle position of 0° , more lubricant oil film thickness reached higher ranges which were shown by more negative skewness distribution of histogram as well as nearly symmetrical histogram compared to nozzle position of 45° . Then, for average surface roughness it was found that; at 0° MQL nozzle position, all mean roughness values decreased with increasing oil flow rates. This could be due to the gain in oil film thickness at high range which is 0.5 mm until 0.9 mm and above. However, at nozzle position of 45° , for higher lubricant oil flow rates, the values of mean surface roughness were higher compared to mean surface roughness of MQL nozzle position of 0° . This could be associated with lower lubricant oil film thickness gained in the range of 0.3 mm until 0.7 mm. Therefore, it is proven that at 0° MQL nozzle position, increasing MQL flow rate; makes lubricant oil more capable to be effectively delivered into the cutting zone of workpiece. Here, relationship between lubricant oil film thickness and surface roughness was successfully identified in this study. These findings potentially benefit for MQL milling process of hard material such as aluminium alloy 6061.

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