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Genetic Algorithm

Vision System for machined surfaces’ roughness prediction

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# Acronyms and Abbreviations

V Spindle Speed

F Feed Rate

Ra Surface Roughness

Ga Surface digital image

NN Neural Networks

GA Genetic Algorithm

D Depth of cut

AI Artificial intelligence

# Background

Studies show that, the corresponding surface roughness, measured in micrometres, of a machined surface is dependent on the parameters selected during the machining operation (i.e. Spindle speed, tool cutting speed, feed rate, tool rate of approach and Depth of cut and tool cutting depth). Machining is loosely defined as material removal by use of a cutting tool. It has also emerged from research that the measured surface roughness can be discerned from the grey level content of the machined surface’s digital image, thus making it possible to determine associated surface roughness from image grey level. Making use of these properties a vision system for predicting surface roughness of a machined surface can be formulated.

# 1.Introduction

In the field of artificial intelligence, a genetic algorithm is an evolutionary computer programing representation of nature’s natural selection. The earth’s natural environment has been continually changing ever since its creation and will continue to change until its end. Biological organisms have had to adapt generation after generation to find an optimal biological physical structure and being to survive this change in environment. This process was first described by Charles Darwin as the survival of the fittest, in his book “On the *Origin of the Species*” (1859), and it obtained the term evolution. Evolution can be characterised as a continual optimization solution to the environmental problems faced by the species in context.

Just like Darwin’s model, a genetic algorithm (GA) creates the genetic composition of each individual solution within a population and breeds them repeatedly until the optimum solution is found to a given problem. These solutions, as with biological organisms in nature, share their genetic information with its offspring when “mating” with other solutions during the creation of a new generation. This sharing over genetic information over a vast number of generations allow the solution to search the solution search space and eventually finds the most fit solution to the problem.

The following report presents an optimization problem, to a genetic algorithm, that involves using Neural Networks to train a system to correlate surface roughness to a machined surface’s digital image. The genetic algorithm must consider certain parameters to predict the corresponding surface roughness of the machined surface.

# 2.Project Proposal and Aim

The project sets out to determine if Neural Networks and Genetic Algorithms can be utilized to train a system to correlate surface roughness to a machined surface’s digital image, and the machining (cutting) operation parameters(**V, F** & **D**), to predict the corresponding surface roughness of a machined surface (mild steel), given its image and machining parameters. Other goals is to determine which of the two implementations are better and whether or a Genetic Algorithm could be created that outputs possible parameters values, given the required roughness.

# 3. Theory

## 3.1 Surface Roughness

The definition of roughness is:

“Relatively finely spaced surface irregularities on surfaces produced by machining and abrasive operations, the irregularities produced by the cutting action of the tool edges and abrasive grains, and by the feed of the machine tool are roughness. Roughness may be considered as superposed on a "wavy" surface.” (SUNDARAM, n.d.)

The surface roughness is dependent on the following parameters:

* Machine tool type that is used
* Characteristics of material being machined (for example its microstructure and hardness)
* Cutting speed, depth of the cut and feed rate
* Shape and smoothness of the tool used and also the amount of time that it would be used
* Tool setting
* Vibration caused by the machine tool

When machining a part that will have to operate under cyclic loads, it is important to consider the surface roughness. The overall performance of the machined part is dependent on its surface roughness. According to Taraman and Lambert (1974), there are three constants that have to be considered when predicting this. The parameters include the cutting speed, feed rate and the depth of the cut. In order to achieve the desired surface roughness, one has to ensure that the correct combinations of these parameters are selected. A part with a smoother surface roughness is less prone to undergo fatigue failures due to a decreased amount of residual stresses on the part. (Taraman, 1974), (SUNDARAM, n.d.)

It was only until recent years that a fourth variable was included, namely the time of cut. For the purpose of this assignment, this fourth variable has been neglected due to it being insignificant in comparison to the other three. (SUNDARAM, n.d.)

### Cutting Speed:

As the cutting speed is increased, the surface roughness also improves. As with anything else, there is a limit to which one can increase this speed. This limit is due to the constant decrease in the magnitude of the built-up edge. Once this edge becomes very small, there is very little improvement of the surface finish. This maximum cutting speed is usually around about 300fpm. In the low speed region, the surface roughness decreased as the cutting speed was increased. In the intermediate speed region, the surface roughness deteriorated and in the high speed region it decreased steadily until it reached a restraining value. One other aspect to note is that the surface roughness will only improve as long as the tool is not blunt. Thus the surface roughness would end up deteriorating once the tool has begun to wear. (Chandramani, 1964), (SUNDARAM, n.d.)

### Feed

It is possible to relate the surface roughness to the feed rate analytically by using the following equation:

Where:

* is the maximum peak to valley height (μ-inch)
* F is the feed (inch/rev)
* R is the nose radius of the cutting tool (inch) (SUNDARAM, n.d.)

Thus from this relationship it is clear to see that if the nose radius is kept constant, the surface roughness will increase with an increase in feed. In many situations it has been shown that the surface roughness deteriorates if the feed rate is increased beyond a limit. There is a certain critical point at which a decrease in the feed rate would not improve the surface roughness. (Galloway, 1945), (SUNDARAM, n.d.) An explanation on this will follow:

Decreasing the feed leads to less feed marks on the work-piece. Thus this leads to an improved surface roughness. Each tool type has its own optimal feed rate. (SUNDARAM, n.d.)

### Depth of cut:

There are many contrasting theories about whether the depth of the cut increases or decreases the surface roughness.

### Interaction between the three parameters:

The cutting speed is inversely proportionate to the life of the tool. A high feed leads to increased cutting forces as well as a lower tool life. Thus it is best to ensure that the feed is low and cutting speed is very high. The surface roughness increases as the cutting speed and the depth of the cut increases. The major problem is that when both the cutting speed and depth of the cut is increased, a state of self-excited vibration occurs. This then deteriorates the surface roughness. The cutting force increases as the cutting depth is decreased along with an increase in the cutting speed and a small feed. Higher cutting forces tend to deform the machine tool and workpiece. (SUNDARAM, n.d.)The effect of these parameters on the surface roughness will be examined and discussed in the latter of this report.

## 3.2 Genetic Algorithm

### Fitness Function

There are several techniques that could be used to determine the fitness function. One technique that could have been used is regression analysis. Multiple regression analysis is a manner in which one can predict the relationship between the dependent variable and several independent variables. The regression coefficients would then have been determined by making use of the least square method. For the purpose of this assignment however, it was decided to predict the regression coefficients by making use of a genetic algorithm. The regression coefficients were treated like the weights and were thus changed until the results became accurate. (Jithin Babu. R, 2014) The formula that was used is:

Where:

* is the surface roughness
* is the cutting speed
* is the feed rate
* is the depth of cut
* C is the weight values (Jithin Babu. R, 2014)

### Selection Technique – tournament selection

Selection is one of the main operators in EAs. Its main function is to select the fittest individuals for mating to create the next generation, therefore emphasizing better solutions. There are many selection models, but for this assignment, the Tournament Selection model was chosen and used to enable the selection of the two best individuals from the population.

Tournament selection involves creating a tournament of a desired size from the random selection of individuals within the population. Once the tournament is created, the fittest individual of that tournament is selected as a parent fit for mating.

Elitism was used to ensure that the best individuals make it through to the next generation without being mutated.

### Crossover Technique

The crossover is simply the process of deciding which parents to inherit a given gene from and produces an offspring made up of genes from its parents. Uniform cross over is a procedure that assigns a random cross over probability to each gene carrying element of the offspring

A uniform crossover was used to ensure that the chromosomes are mutated randomly and not at the same place with every generation. This created a higher diversity within the population. Before doing the crossover, a mask was created randomly. The mask then determined which chromosomes were to cross-over.

### Mutation Technique

The aim of mutation is to introduce new genetic material into an existing individual, this adds diversity to the genetic characteristics of the population. It supports crossovers by ensuring that the full range of allele is accessible for each gene.

The Gaussian mutation technique was used and the mutation rates were changed as time progresses. Thus, as the population starts tending towards the correct values, the amount by which the mutation varies the chromosome is varied.

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# 4.Physical Aspects and Experiment

## Description

The objective of the vision system is to make use of certain parameters (**V**, **F**, **D** and **Ga**) to predict surface roughness, using Neural networks (even other cutting conditions, that is, for which different combinations of operation parameters (**V**, **F**, and **D**) are selected. This will be achieved through applying the following:

* corresponding surface roughness is measured using a reference contact method, and the corresponding image is taken accordingly.
* The measured contact surface roughness is used as a target during the training. This includes making use of **AI** techniques to predict the roughness of a machined surface through creation of a **NN** acting as a surface roughness predictor.
* After training, the **NN** will make use of four known attributes of a machined surface and then output the associated surface roughness.
* Training data to train the **NN** will be obtained experimentally. Grey level is extracted and used as an input to the **NN**. If necessary, the image pixels can further be used as inputs to improve the accuracy of the training process.
* A reverse **NN** will also be implemented to determine each of the four parameters associated with a certain surface roughness.
* Additional outputs as many as the image pixels themselves can also be employed to regenerate the image and get a feel of the roughness perceived by the vision system.

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## Experiment

# 5.Optimisation

## Population Size

## Tournament Size

## Fitness Function

## End Condition

# 6. Results and discussion

# 7. Conclusion

# 8.Reference

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# 9. Appendix

## Code