

Optimization Of Shoulder Milling Process Parameters Of Aa6082t6 Using Taguchi Coupled Grey Relational Analysis

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Abstract: The Paper Is Presented To Optimize The Process Parameters Of Vmc Shoulder Milling Of Aa6082 T6 Material For Improvement Of Multi Performance Features By Taguchi Based Grey Relational Analysis (Gra) Method. The Four Main Input Process Parameters I.E., Coolant, Feed Rate, Depth Of Cut And Speed Are Taken Out For The Experimental Study. According To Taguchi L₁₈ Orthogonal Array 18 Experiments Were Performed By Taking Two Values Of Coolant, Three Values For Remaining Three Parameters, Surface Roughness Of Product, Micro Hardness And Material Removal Rate (Mrr) Were Taken As Performance Features For Improvement. Taguchi With Gra Was Applied For Improvement In Multi Performance Features And After That Taguchi Response Table And Analysis Of Variance (Anova) Were Used To Examine The Data. Validation Of Outcomes Was Completed By A Confirmation Test And After That Microstructure Photographs Before And After The Operation Were Captured And Examined.

Key Words: Shoulder Milling, Surface Roughness (Ra), Micro Hardness, Mrr, Multi-Performance Optimization.

1. Introduction

One Out Of Three Most Used Materials In Industries Are Aluminum, The Uses Of Aluminum Alloy In Manufacturing Industry Have Increasing Rapidly From Past Few Years Because Of Its Primarily Ability Of Lightness And Strength In A Single Material [1]. Aluminum Is A Light Weight Metal Along With Good Strength. Surface Reliability Always Plays A Key Role In Life And Presentation Of Product So It Is Considered As Performance Feature During The Optimization Of The Machining Parameters [2]. The Excellence Of Any Component Is Extremely Worried By Manufacturer For Competitiveness Of Product To Others. Many Approaches Were Used For Optimization Of Surface Finish But From Them Taguchi Based Grey Relational Analysis Were Used Continuously [3].

Milling Is A Versatile Machining Method As It Is Used In Various Kinds Of Operations With Good Surface Finishing. It Is One Of Most Important Method Of Machining Used For Production Of Various Parts Like Road Rail Cars, Mining Equipments, Construction, Many Kinds Of

Automobile Etc. [4]. Various Parts Are Manufactured By Machining Of Aa6082 T6 In Place Of Aa6061 In Most Of The Cases. These Products Or Parts Are Manufactured By Various Kind Of Machine Operation Out Of Which Milling Is Most Common. The Consistency Of Parts Is Validated By The Parameters Of Surface Integrity For Its Required Essential Service Life. The Reliability Of Surface Can Be Described By Evaluating Its Succeeding Factors Such As Finishing Of Surface, Strain Of Surface, Lay, Waviness, Micro Hardness Etc.

The Presented Article Is Divided In Five Sections: Various Studies And Researches Literature Review Is Derived In Section-Ii, Related Experimental Data Is Described In Section-Iii, Method Of Analysis For Research Is Given In Section-Iv, Discussions And Results Are Elaborated In Section-V. In Last Section-Vi Conclusion And Scope Of Future Work Is Described.

2. Literature Review

A.Saravanakumar Et Al.[5] Stated Experimental Investigation For Effect Of Speed Of Spindle , Feeding Rate And Wt% Of Alumina For Increasing Surface Finish And For Improvement Product Quality By Using Material Al6063/Al2O₃/Gr. Usually 6mm Tin Coated Carbide Drill Bit Used For Such Operation. Om Prakash Singh .Et. Al [6] Optimized Multi-Functional Parameters For Aa6063 T6 Aluminium Alloy By Shoulder Milling Operation, Eighteen Experiments Were Conducted On Bases Of Taguchi Based Gra With Microstructure Testing Before And After Milling. K. Palanikumar.Et.Al [7] Have Done Research On Silicon Carbide Fabricated Particle Reinforced Aluminium Matrix Of Metal (A356/SiC/20p) Many Times Tested Through Diamond Of Poly Crystalline (Pcd) Inserts. Surface Finish Was Taken As A Response Parameter And Depth Of Cut, Feeding Rate, Speed As Process Parameter By Using Surface Response Regression And Anova. Rm'saoubi And Jc Outeiro [8] Gives An Overview Of A Study On Integrity Of Surfaces (Si) Machined Component And Stainless Steel, Ni, Ti, Alloys Hardened Steel For Moulds And Dies, Bearings And Automobile Applications. Phase Transformation, Micro Hardness And Residual Stress All Are Related To Phase Transformation And All Are Connected With The Purposeful Performance Of Machining Parts. Gaurav Kumar.Et.Al [9] Studied About End Milling Machining Parameters Optimization By Taguchi Method Of Ss 304. Taguchi Technique Was Used To Increase Surface Roughness. A Solid Carbide Tool Of M Series Was Used On Vmc Milling Machine For End Milling Process. Mukesh Kumar.Et.Al [10] Optimized The Multi Performance Machining Parameters Of Ss 321. Taguchi Based Gra Was Consider For Optimization Of Drilling Parameters. Waseem Akhtar.Et.Al [11] Studied A Vital Consideration In Different Types Of Machining Related To Fatigue Load, Some Examples Is Critical Components Of Aerospace Engines. For A Machined Fragment Micro Hardness (Mh), Residual Stresses And Finishing Of Surface Were Investigated For Cutting Parameters Deviations For Super Alloy Gh4169/ Inconel71. Whisker And Coated Cemented Carbide Reinforced Was Used As Inserts. Outeiro J. Et.Al [12] Studied The Residual Stresses Encouraged By Aisi H13 Tool Steel Turning In Dry Condition. Feed, Depth Of Cut Was Considered For Residual Stress Was Evaluating Experimentally In Tool Geometry Functions. A

Design Of Experiment Established By G. Taguchi Is Used For Reducing The Total Experiments. Ga-Genetic Algorithm And Ann-Artificial Neural Network Developed By Modelling And Optimization Procedure. G. Rotella Et Al. [13] Has Done The Machining On Ti6al4v Alloy At Different Conditions. The Conditions Were Dry, Cryogenic Cooling Conditions And Minimum Quality Lubrication By Layered Tool With Different Cutting Speed And Feeding Rate. P.Rasagopal .Et.Al [14] Inspected The Machining Parameters On Surface Integrity Related Parameters Like Surface Finish And Force For Cutting On Hybrid Aluminium Metal Matrix Composites Were Examined. Three Mixtures Were Made By Addition Of Many Arrangements Of Boron Carbide (B4c) And Sic By Stir Casting Method. M Abas Et Al. [15] Deals With Study And Various Response Optimizations For Input Cutting Parameters Of Aluminium 6026 T9 In Minimum Quantity Lubricant (Mql) And Dry Environments Using A Joined Composites Approach.

After Study Of Many Researchers Articles It Was Observed That Speed, Feeding Rate, Depth Of Cut, Size Of Tool, Coolant Etc Are The Main Process Parameters Which Affect The Performance In Terms Of Tool Wear, Quality Of Surface, Mrr, Surface Strain, Micro Hardness Etc. As Performance Featured In Machining Of Aa 6082 T6 And Other Materials. So, Taking Availability Of Resources And Feasibility In Account An Experiment Was Design For Shoulder Milling Of Aa 6082 T6 Aluminium Alloy To Increase The Surface Finish, Mrr And Micro Hardness By Choosing Coolant, Feed Rate, Depth Of Cut And Speed As Milling Process Parameters.

3. Experiments

3.1 Material

Machined Aluminium Alloy (Aa 6082 T6) Material Was Used For Experimental Investigations. It Is Mostly Used For High Stress Applications, Transport Applications, Cranes, Bridges, Beer Barrels, Cranes, Trusses, Milk Churns And Ore Skips. The Sample Of Aluminium Alloy (Aa6082 T6) Work Pieces Of Size (60 Mm X 35 Mm X 25 Mm) Used In Experiment Are As Shows Figure1.



Figure 1 Aa 6082 T6 Aluminium Alloy Pieces

The Chemical Constituents Present In Aluminium Alloy (Aa 6082 T6) With Their Percentage Weight Obtained After Chemical Composition Testing Are Shown In Table 1.

Table 1 Percentage Of Chemical Constituents Present In Aa6082 T6 Material

Name Of Constituent	Percentage By Weight	Name Of Constituent	Percentage By Weight
Aluminium	90.17	Tin	<0.0050
Copper	1.50	Titanium	0.0692
Magnesium	2.16	Chromium	<0.0050
Silicon	0.0519	Vanadium	
Iron	0.102	Zinc	5.92
Nickel	<0.0050	Lead	<0.0050
Manganese	0.0113		

3.2. Machine Tools And Equipments

The Vmc Machine For Milling At M/S Gauri Components Pvt. Ltd. In Meerut Was Used For Shoulder Milling As Shown In Figure 2. Roughness Readings Were Obtained By Roughness Tester And Micro Hardness Tester For Measurement Of Micro Hardness As Shown In Figure 3 And Figure 4 Correspondingly. Specifications Of Machines Are Given In Table 2.



Figure 2 Vmc Milling Machine

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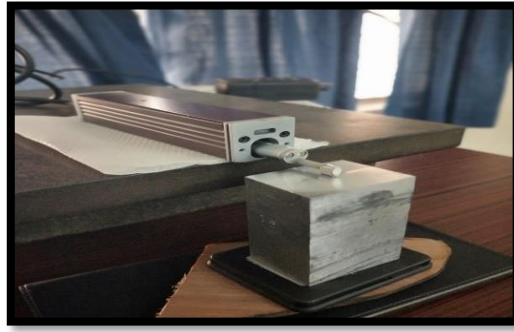


Figure 3. Surface Roughness Tester



Figure 4 Micro Hardness Tester

Table-2. Working Conditions

Condition	Specification
Specimen	Aa6082 T6
Size Of Specimen	60mm X 35 Mm X 25 Mm
Milling Machine	Vmc Milling Machine (Vmc 640 With Apc
Cutter Used	Solid Carbide End Mill Tool (M – Series) Ø15
Measuring Instrument	Mitotoyo Surface Roughness Tester
Coolant	Bechem Avantin 361

3.3. Experimental Design

Experiments Were Performed On A Vertical Milling Center Machine By Using L_{18} Taguchi's Orthogonal Array. Gra Was Considered To Define The Prime Grouping Of Parameters For Machining Having Multi-Performance Features.

Four Number Of Main Parameters Of Shoulder Milling Like Coolant, Feed Rate, Depth Of Cut, Speed And Their Values At The Time Of Machining Were Used As Given In Table 3.

Table 3. Milling Parameters With Their Values

Notation	Parameter	1	2	3
A	Coolant	On	Off	-
B	Feed Rate (Millimetre/Min.)	400	800	1200
C	Depth Of Cut (Millimetre)	0.35	0.45	0.55
D	Speed (R.P.M.)	3400	4200	5000

A Suitable Taguchi's Orthogonal Array I.E., L_{18} Was Planned For Conduction Of Experiments As Per Availability Of Parameters With Values Of These Parameter As Noted In Table 3. Roughness Tester Were Used For Measurement Of Roughness Of Surface (R_a) And Equation 1 Were Used For Calculation Of Material Removal Rate (Mrr). Micro Hardness (Mh) Of All Specimens Was Obtained By Vickers Hardness Tester-Tv-50 And Tv-250 And Using Equation 2.

$$\text{Material Removal Rate} = \frac{w \times f \times d}{60} \text{ mm}^3/\text{sec} \quad (1)$$

Where: F = Feeding Rate In Millimetre/Minute; D = Cutting Depth In Millimetre, W= Block Width In Millimetre, The Width For Every Piece Is 25 Mm It Is Constant.

$$\text{Micro hardness} = \frac{1.854 \times f}{D^2} \text{ N/Mm}^2 \quad (2)$$

Where:

f = Force Applied By Vickers Machine, d = Strike Diameter In Millimetre.

The Values Of R_a , Mrr And Mh For All Experiments That Was Performed Are Shown In Table 4.

Table 4 Values Of Response Variables

Expt. No.	A	B	C	D	R_a	Mrr	Mh
1	1	1	1	1	0.38	58.33	190.04
2	1	1	2	2	0.79	75.00	190.04
3	1	1	3	3	0.95	91.67	197.26
4	1	2	1	1	2.10	116.67	186.57
5	1	2	2	2	0.91	150.00	196.52
6	1	2	3	3	1.97	183.33	179.28
7	1	3	1	2	0.81	175.00	185.21
8	1	3	2	3	0.99	225.00	184.14
9	1	3	3	1	0.97	275.00	198.76
10	2	1	1	3	0.76	58.33	191.45
11	2	1	2	1	0.80	75.00	190.04
12	2	1	3	2	0.88	91.67	190.74
13	2	2	1	2	0.81	116.67	189.34
14	2	2	2	3	0.79	150.00	184.54
15	2	2	3	1	1.84	183.33	194.32

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16	2	3	1	3	1.45	175.00	188.64
17	2	3	2	1	1.21	225.00	192.88
18	2	3	3	2	0.69	275.00	187.95

4. Analysis Method

4.1 Signal To Noise Ratio

To Find The Robustness Of The Product, S/N Ratio Was Developed By Taguchi. S/N Ratio Isolates Sensitivity Of Functions Of System With Noise Factor And Then Set Of Observation Is Converted To Single Number. For Maximization In Robust Design The S/N Is Considered Like Objective Function, The Ratio Of S/N Is A Ratio Of Signal (Mean) For Noise (Standard Deviation). This Is Dependent On Decisive Factor Of Quality To Optimize. There Are Three Main Ratios Which Are Generally Used In Following Conditions. S/N Ratio Types Are Greater-The-Better, Smaller-The-Better And The Nominal-The-Better. The Facts Of S/N Ratio Are In [16].

4.2 Data Pre-Processing

Pre-Processing For Data Is A Procedure To Transfer The Original Series In A Series That Can Be Compared. For This Intention, The Normalization Of Results Of Experiments Is Done 0 To 1. The Facts Of Normalization Can Be Found In [17].

4.3 Grey Relational Coefficient And Grey Relational Grade

Grey Relational Coefficients (Grc) Are Calculated To Show The Difference Between Real Results And Ideal Experiments Has Stabilized Results. Represented As Follows

$$\Xi_i(l) = \frac{\Delta_{\text{Minimum}} + Z \cdot \Delta_{\text{Maximum}}}{\Delta_{0i}(L) + Z \cdot \Delta_{\text{Maximum}}} \quad (3)$$

Where $\Delta_{0i}(L)$ Is Deviation Sequence Of References Series $x_0^*(l)$ And Comparability Sequence $x_i^*(l)$, Named-

$$\Delta_{0i}(L) = \|x_0^*(l) - x_i^*(l)\| \quad (4)$$

$$\Delta_{\text{Max}} = \max_{\forall j \in I} \min_{\forall l} \|x_0^*(l) - x_i^*(l)\| \quad (5)$$

$$\Delta_{\text{Minimum}} = \max_{\forall j \in I} \min_{\forall l} \|x_0^*(l) - x_i^*(l)\| \quad (6)$$

Z Is Distinctive Or Identification Coefficient: $Z \in [0, 1]$. Normally $Z = 0.5$ Is Used

Multi Functions Features Of Mean Value Is Calculated By Using Analysis Of Mean (Anom) I.E., The Grg (Grey Relational Grade) At Various Level Of Parameter For Machining. Since Used

Experiment Design In That Work Is Found Orthogonally, It Is Promising To Finding Individually Outcome Of Parameters Of Machining At Many Levels. Grey Relational Grade Is Definite As Follows

$$\gamma_i = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \xi_i(l) \quad (7)$$

5. Results And Discussion

5.1 Optimal Parameter Combination

Firstly, The Results Of Experiments Were Considered To Determine S/N Ratios For Output Characteristic To Get Required Results With Most Excellent Performance And The Minimum Variation. Surface Roughness Was The Lowest-The-Better, Material Removal Rate Was Maximum-The-Better And Micro Hardness Was Maximum-The-Better Were Considered. Experimental Data Equivalent Grey Relational Grade And Grey Relational Coefficient Was Calculated (See Table 5). Diagram For The Response Of Every Milling Parameter At Each Value Is Shown In Figure 4 And Table 6, Grg Average Is Shown By A Thick Dashed Line (See Figure 4). As We Can See From Figure 4, A₁, B₃, C₃, And D₁ Each Shows The Largest Grey Relational Grade For Every Parameter A, B, C, D At Their Different Values, The Same Can Also Be Concluded From Table 6.

Greater Grg Means The Stronger Correlation Comparability. Thus, The Comparability Series Has A Greater Value Of Grg For The Surface Roughness, Microhardness And Material Removal Rate On This Basis That Levels Are Selected Which Have Maximum Average Responses. In Table 5, A₁, B₃, C₃ And D₁ Shows Greatest Value Of Grg Of Machining Factor A, B, C And D Respectively. Hence, Condition A₁B₃C₃D₁ Is The Best Combination Of Parameters For Current Shoulder Milling Process.

Table 5 Calculated Grey Relational Grade And Its Orders

Expt. No.	Grey Relational Coefficients				
	Surface Roughness	Material Removal Rate	Micro Hardness	Grey Relational Grade (Grg)	Order
1	0.33333	0.33333	0.5348	0.4005	18
2	0.4677	0.3737	0.5348	0.4588	16
3	0.5188	0.4137	0.8723	0.6061	8
4	1	0	0.4491	0.483	13
5	0.5068	0.5612	0.8202	0.6294	6
6	0.9291	0.6566	0.3333	0.6397	4
7	0.4753	0.6317	0.4222	0.5097	10
8	0.5344	0.7944	0.403	0.5773	9
9	0.5255	1	1	0.8418	1
10	0.457	0.3333	0.5793	0.4566	17

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11	0.471	0.3737	0.5348	0.4598	15
12	0.4969	0.4137	0.5562	0.4889	11
13	0.4753	0.4748	0.5151	0.4884	12
14	0.4677	0.5612	0.41	0.4797	14
15	0.8667	0.6566	0.6957	0.7397	2
16	0.6975	0.6317	0.4968	0.6087	7
17	0.6091	0.7944	0.6321	0.6785	3
18	0.4356	1	0.4798	0.6385	5

The Table Of Response Is Generated As Given In Table 6. This Research Establishes That The Gap Between Grey Relational Level Minimum And Maximum Values Of Factor C Was The Largest, So Depth Of Cut Plays Most Dominating Role In Milling.

Table 6. Response Table For Grey Relational Garde

Machining Parameter				
	Value-1	Value-2	Value-3	Maximum-Minimum
Coolant(A)	0.5713	0.5599		0.5713
Feed Rate(B)	0.4777	0.5766	0.6424	0.6424
Depth Of Cut (C)	0.4911	0.5472	0.6584	0.6584
Speed(D)	0.6006	0.5356	0.5606	0.6006

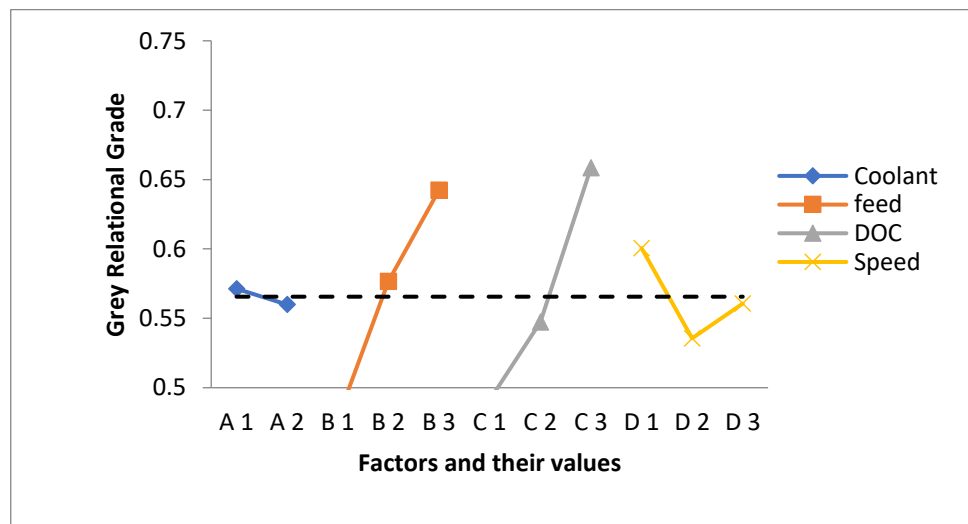


Figure 4. Effect Of Milling Parameters On Multi-Performance.

5.2 Analysis Of Variance

Anova Intention Was To Examine That Which Shoulder Milling Parameter Considerably Affects The Performance Characteristic. The Anova Result For The Gra Is Given Below In Table 7.

Table 7 Shows The Values Of F For All The Parameters And If It Value Is More Than Four Than It Indicates That The Particular Parameter Play An Influencing Role In Milling. The Results Show That Depth Of Cut Is The Most Influencing Parameter With 38.0518 % Contribution And Feed Is The Next Influencing Parameter In Reducing Order With 36.114% Contribution. Remaining Two Parameters I.E. Speed And Coolant Has Negligible Significance In Multi Performance Features As Their F Value Is Lesser Than Four With Percentage Contribution Of 5.6394% And 0.2585% Respectively With An Error Of 19.936%.

Table 7. Result Of Analysis Of Variance

Symbols	Machining Parameter	Dof	Sum Of Squares	Mean Square	F Value	Contribution (%)
A	Coolant	1	0.0006	0.0006	0.1297	0.2585
B	Feed Rate	2	0.0825	0.0412	9.0576	36.1144
C	Depth Of Cut	2	0.0869	0.0435	9.5435	38.0518
D	Speed	2	0.0129	0.0064	1.4144	5.6394
Error	-	10	0.0455	0.0046		19.936
Total		17	0.2284			100

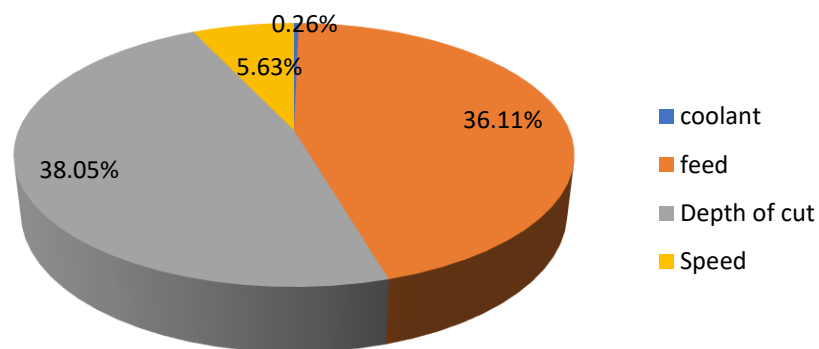


Figure 5. Percentage Contribution Of Machining Parameters

Analysis Of Variance Results Are Also Represented By A Pie Chart In Figure 5 Which Show That The Most Important Process Input Parameters Is Depth Of Cut With Percentage Contribution (38.05%) For Shoulder Milling, Followed By Feed Rate (36.11%), Speed (5.64%) And Coolant (0.26%).

5.3. Confirmation Test

Validation Of Change Of Percentage In Grey Relational Grade (Grg) Between Experimental And Predicted Value For This Best Possible Arrangement Of Parameters Was Completed In This Test. Table 8 Displays That The Top Most Shoulder Milling Process Parameters (A_1 , B_3 , C_3 , D_1) Obtained Using This Method Are Used To Confirm The Results Of The Experiment And To Compare It With The Initial Shoulder Milling Process Parameters (A_1 , B_3 , C_3 , D_1). The Experimental Results Show By Results Of Surface Roughness, Micro Hardness And With The Prediction Of The Model For Analysis Material Removal Rate (Mrr) Are In Good Agreement.

Table 8 Results Of Confirmation Test

Optional Machining Parameters			
Level	Prediction	Experimental	% Change
	$A_1b_3c_3d_1$	$A_1b_3c_3d_1$	
Surface Roughness		0.5255	
Material Removal Rate		1	
Micro Hardness		1	
Grey Relational Grade	0.7759	0.8418	8.49

Table 8 Shows That Grey Relational Grade Increases By 8.49% Which Means That Optimal Arrangement Of The Process Parameters For Current Shoulder Milling Is Super To Fulfil The Requirement.

5.4. Optical Micrographs

Microstructure Test Of 9th Experiment Work Piece Was Completed Because Of Its Most Consistent And Best Way To Find Out Integrity Of Surface Parameters Like Surface Roughness By Detecting Micro Defects, Micro Cracks And Changes Related To Micro Structure Etc. A Lot Of Number Of Defects Related To Surface Of Specimen Like Micro Cracks And Flaws Depends On Machining Condition. It Is Therefore Important To Use Superior Metallographic Techniques And Optical Microscopy Instrument For Inspecting Features Of Surface. Only Finish Of Surfaces Does Not Repeat The Work Piece Surfaces Behaviour. The Study Of Fundamental Was Completed To Inspect Micro-Structure Possibilities And For Treatment Of Surfaces On Aluminium Alloy (Aa 6082 T6) Substrates. In Adding Of Given Data, The Study Of Microstructure Were Also Conducted Where Maximum Strain Of Surface Was Detected. Optical Microscopy (Make Rsamet Unitrom), Capacities Of 200 X Were Used For Taken Microstructure Pictures And This Is Shown In Figures 6(A) And 6(B) Individually. The Microstructure Picture (Before Shoulder Milling) Shows That The Microstructure Alloys Structure Equi-Axed Grains

With Interdendritic Areas Of Mg_2Si And Fe_3SiAl_{12} Eutectic And Particles Of Mg_2Si In Matrix Of Aluminium Solid Solution. And The Magnification: 100x And 200x.

The Microstructure Pictures (After Shoulder Milling) Show The Elongated Grains With Interdendritic Areas Of Mg_2Si And Fe_3SiAl_{12} Eutectic And Particles Of Mg_2Si In Matrix Of Aluminium Solid Solution.

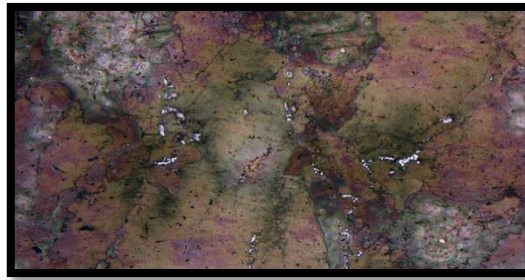


Figure 6(A) Microstructure Photograph (Before Shoulder Milling)

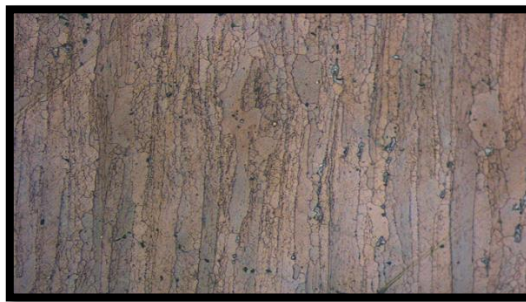


Figure 6(B) Microstructure Photograph (After Shoulder Milling)

6. Conclusion And Future Scope

Multi-Performance Features Finest Combination Is $A_1b_3c_3d_1$ For Process Parameters Of Shoulder Milling, That Is, Coolant In On Condition, Feed Rate 1200 Millimetre/Minute, Depth Of Cut 0.55mm And Speed Of Machining 3400 Rpm. The Percentages Of Contribution For Depth Of Cut, Feed Rate, Speed Of Machining And Coolant Are 38.05, 36.11, 5.64 And 0.26%, Respectively Shown By The Variance Analysis. Various Performance Optimum Improvement Of 8.49 Is Detected By This Method. The Microstructure Pictures (Before Shoulder Milling) Shows That The Microstructure Alloys Structure Equiaxed Grains And Elongated Grains (After Shoulder Milling) With Interdendritic Areas Of Mg_2Si And Fe_3SiAl_{12} Eutectic And Particles Of Mg_2Si In Matrix Of Aluminium Solid Solution. Genetic Algorithm (Ga), Fuzzy Logic And Many Natures Inspired Algorithms Can Also Be Used In Future For Optimization.

Acknowledgment

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I Am Very Thankful To Vidya Knowledge For Supporting Me In My Thesis Work. Also
Thanking To Authors For Supporting And Motivating Me.

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