

Study of Material Removal Rate Process Parameter in WEDM

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Abstract

Wire cut Electrical Discharge Machining is known as nontraditional machining process. It has broad application in complex part or geometry machining. It is known as a non-contact process. The main objective of this research work is to investigate the influence of process parameters of Wire cut Electrical-Discharge Machining in material removal rate. Die steel D3 has been selected as workpiece material for study. The process parameters are peak current, pulse on time and wire tension. In experimental analysis it was concluded that on MRR the most influential process parameter is peak current with contribution of 86.02 %. Pulse of time has 12.29 % contribution and wire tension has minimum contribution of 1.12 % with 0.57% error in the study.

Keywords: Process Parameter, ANNOVA, Peak Current, WEDM, Die Steel and Machining.

1. Introduction

Various researchers have studied different aspects of Wire cut Electrical Discharge Machining (WEDM) in previous research work. As Prajapati et al. [1-2] have used computer numerical control (CNC) based WEDM for machining the Tool steel. Ojha et al. [3] have performed the schematic literature review of WEDM process and studied the material removal rate (MRR) improvement in WEDM process. Researchers have studied wire pressure parameter caused by the WEDM in processing of steel [4-9]. N. Tosun et al [10] investigated the surface roughness properties of material machined by varying machining parameters. In continuation Ravindranadh Bobbili et al [11] concludes that peak current, wire tension (WT) and pulse on time are critical factors that impact the MRR and surface roughness (SR).

These critical parameters were further studied by Malik et al [12]. They have investigated peak current significance in WEDM. Authors have concluded that pulse on time also has significant impact on SR of the material [14]. In continuation K. Kumar et al [13] have decide the ideal variable (feed and speed) for SR in WEDM. In study they found that these variables are a fundamental part to influence the MRR and SR. Researchers [15 & 16] have studied the parametric settings and surface structure of materials machined by WEDM process. Further scientific models for MRR and SR anticipation were evolved [17-18] to study the machining

of instrumental steel. Taguchi approach was also used to study the process and machining parameters of WEDM [19-20].

Anoop et al [21] have investigated the wire speed in WEDM process and found that wire speed has least impact in WEDM process. Baljit Singh et al [22] have studied WEDM for molybdenum composite wire in his research and various other researchers have used advance methods with experimental setup for evaluating process parameters of WEDM [23-29].

In previous years researchers have used finite element analysis (FEA), response surface method (RSM), artificial neural network (ANN), and Fuzzy Logic techniques in mechanical and biomedical engineering for different problem and parametric analysis. A. Kumar [30-33] et. al. have used RSM technique for parameter analysis of heavy vehicle medium duty transmission gearbox. Based upon same study, in present research work design of experiments and ANNOVA has been used. In continuation [34-36] they have studied the mechanical systems using modern tools like modal analysis, loose transmission gearbox bolt condition analysis, bone fracture analysis [37-39]. In this research work simulation and experimental work was performed and there results were compared for final conclusions.

2. Material Removal Rate (MRR)

The rate at which the material expulsion happens from the work piece is known as material removal rate [11]. Some metal is dissolved and after that heat dissipated. The material removal rate is ascertained by partitioning the loss of weight work piece amid machining (in grams) to the result of density of the work piece in gm/cc and the machining time in minutes. Higher is the material removal rate, more is the profitability. Along these lines it is most alluring to have bigger material removal rate. The formula used to compute material removal rate is as following:

$$\text{MRR} = \frac{(\text{Workpiece weight loss (gm)}) \times 1000}{\text{Density (gm/cc)} \times \text{Machining Time}} \quad \dots\dots (1)$$

3. Experimental Setup and Material Properties

Figure 1-2 provides the specification of machine used for experimental work. The machine was accessed at Dilawar Engineering Works Lalbagh, Lucknow.



Figure 1 WEDM control panel

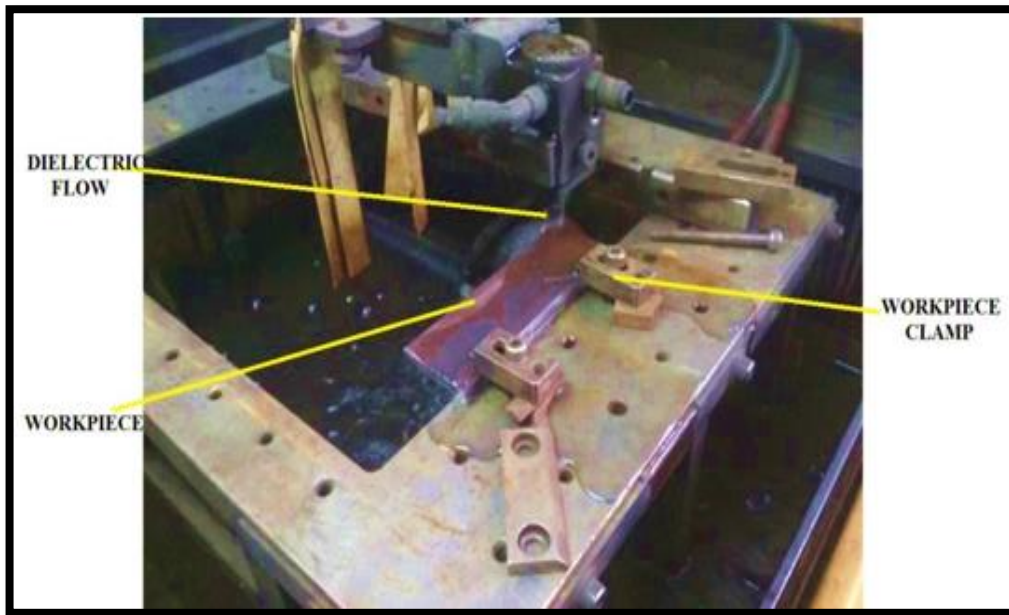


Figure 2 Schematic Diagram of WEDM

Dielectric liquids mostly water is important in WEDM process. It uses for heat dissipation purpose. In this research Die steel D-3 have been used as sample material for conducting experiments using Brass wire of width 0.18mm. Figure 3 shows processing of nine different sample cut by the WEDM experimentally in lab. The input parameters for working on this sample are listed in table 1.

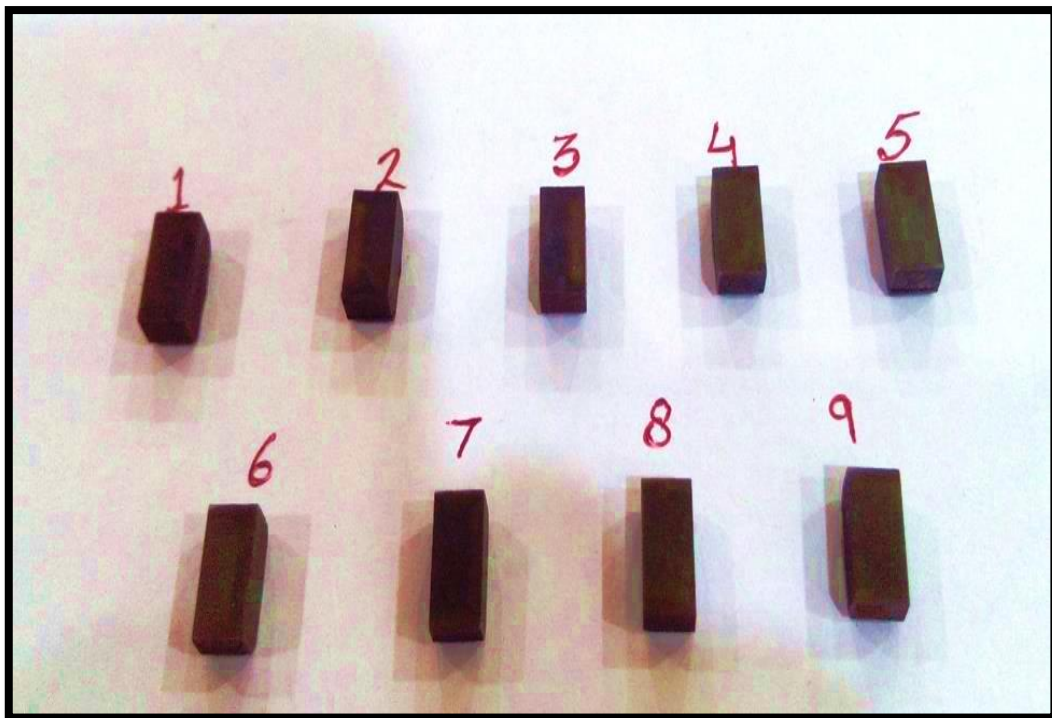


Figure 3 Die-Steel D3 work pieces processed by WEDM.

Table 1 Input Parameter variation in WEDM

S.No	Current (amp)	Pulse on Time	Wire Tension (N)	Weight loss (gm)	Machining Time in (minutes)
1	2	3	400	0.8	33.2
2	2	6	700	0.8	21.52
3	2	9	1000	0.8	17.25
4	4	3	700	0.8	10.43
5	4	6	1000	0.8	9.54
6	4	9	400	0.8	9.39
7	6	3	1000	0.8	15.26
8	6	6	400	0.8	12.72
9	6	9	700	0.8	10.83

4. Results & Discussion

4.1 Material Removal Rate (MRR)

Using equation 1 MRR has been calculated and its values are tabulated in Table 2.

Table 2 Calculation of Material Removal Rate

Exp. No	Current (amp)	Pulse on Time	Wire Tension (N)	Material Removal Rate (mm ³ /min)
1	2	3	400	3.062
2	2	6	700	4.724
3	2	9	1000	5.893
4	4	3	700	9.746
5	4	6	1000	10.655
6	4	9	400	10.825
7	6	3	1000	6.661

8	6	6	400	7.992
9	6	9	700	9.825

4.2 Calculations of S/N ratio for Material Removal Rate

S/N ratio for MRR Larger is Better condition is opted as shown in Table 3. The equation (2) has been used for the S/N ratio calculation for material removal rate:

$$S/NLB = -10 \log (\Sigma (1/y_i^2)) \quad \dots(2)$$

Table 3 Calculation of S/N ratio for MRR

S. No	Material Removal Rate (mm³/min)	Signal to noise ratio (db)
1	3.089	9.7201
2	4.766	13.4862
3	5.946	15.4067
4	9.834	19.7765
5	10.751	20.5511
6	10.934	20.6886
7	6.721	16.4721
8	8.063	18.0531
9	9.470	19.4496

Table 4 Calculation of mean S/N ratio for MRR

Level	Current (amp)	Pulse on Time	Wire Tension (N)
1	12.87	15.32	16.15
2	20.34	17.36	17.57
3	17.99	18.51	17.48
Delta	7.47	3.19	1.42
Rank	1	2	3

Table 5 ANOVA of MRR

Source	DOF	SS	MS	F Value	P Value	Contribution
Current	2	51.877	25.938	151.05	0.007	86.02
Pulse on Time	2	7.411	3.705	21.58	0.044	12.29
Wire Tension	2	0.678	0.339	1.97	0.336	1.12
Error	2	0.343	0.172			0.57
Total	8	60.308				100%

DOF: Degrees of Freedom, SS: Sum of Squares, MS: Mean Squares

At least 95% confidence

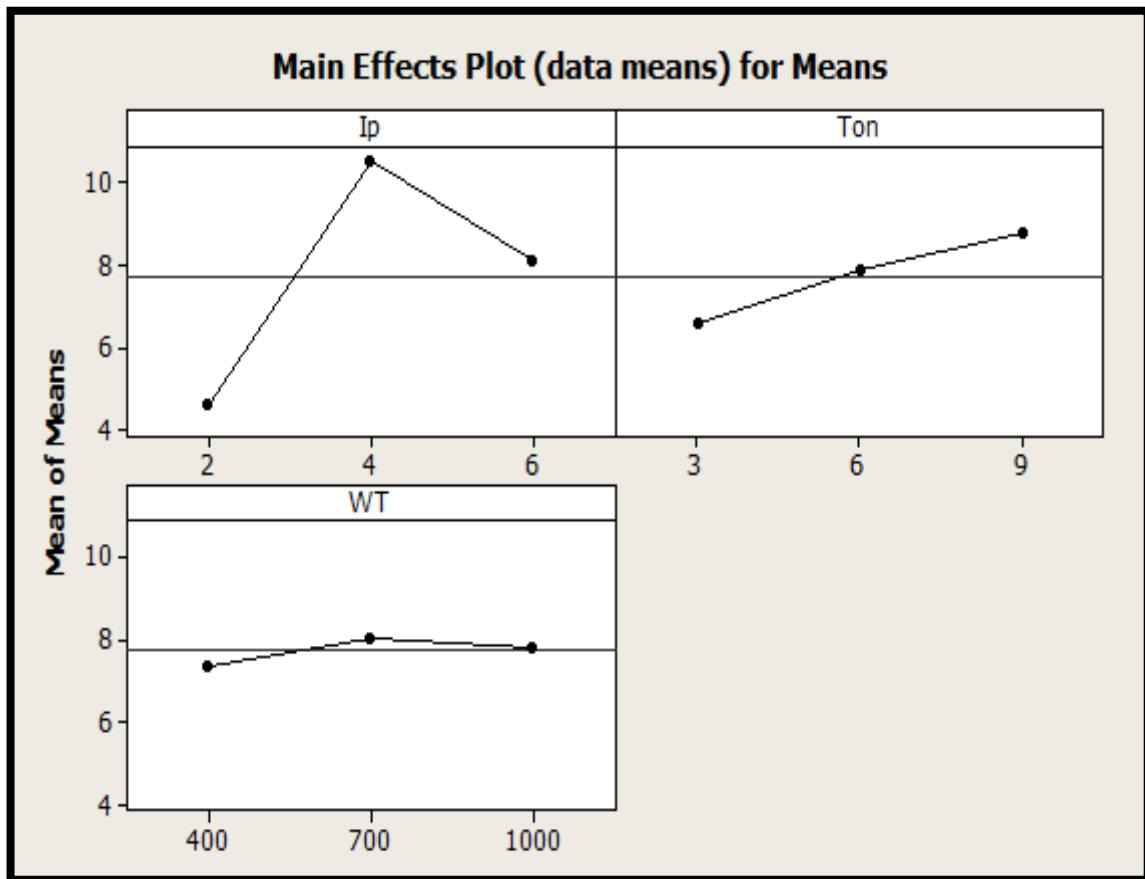


Figure 4 Mean Effect Plot for MRR

Table 4-5 and Figure 4 show the parametric variations and its impact on WEDM. As we increase the peak current (I_p), the MRR tends to increase at a higher rate than pulse on time and voltage. It demonstrates that peak current is the most critical factor for MRR.

MRR at first increases with peak current however with further increment in its value MRR has a tendency to decrease. The purpose behind such behaviour is that the workpiece does not permit adequate sparks to strike the surface of work.

On account of wire tension, at first the MRR tends to increase, however additionally increment in its value, MRR has a tendency to decrease. Wire tension has relatively no impact on MRR.

Wire tension is the minimum affecting parameters for material removal rate. The contribution of wire tension towards the material removal rate is just 1.12% (Table 5).

Table 5 shows the P-value, which describes that current having p value 0.007 is most prominent parameter for MRR analogous by pulse on time with p value 0.044 and least comical parameter is wire tension with p-value 0.336. Optimum level of three parameters is shown in Table 6.

Table 6 Optimal level of parameter for Material Removal Rate

Process variables of factors		Optimum level
Peak Current	Ip (A)	4
Pulse on Time	Ton (µsec)	9
Wire Tension	WT	700

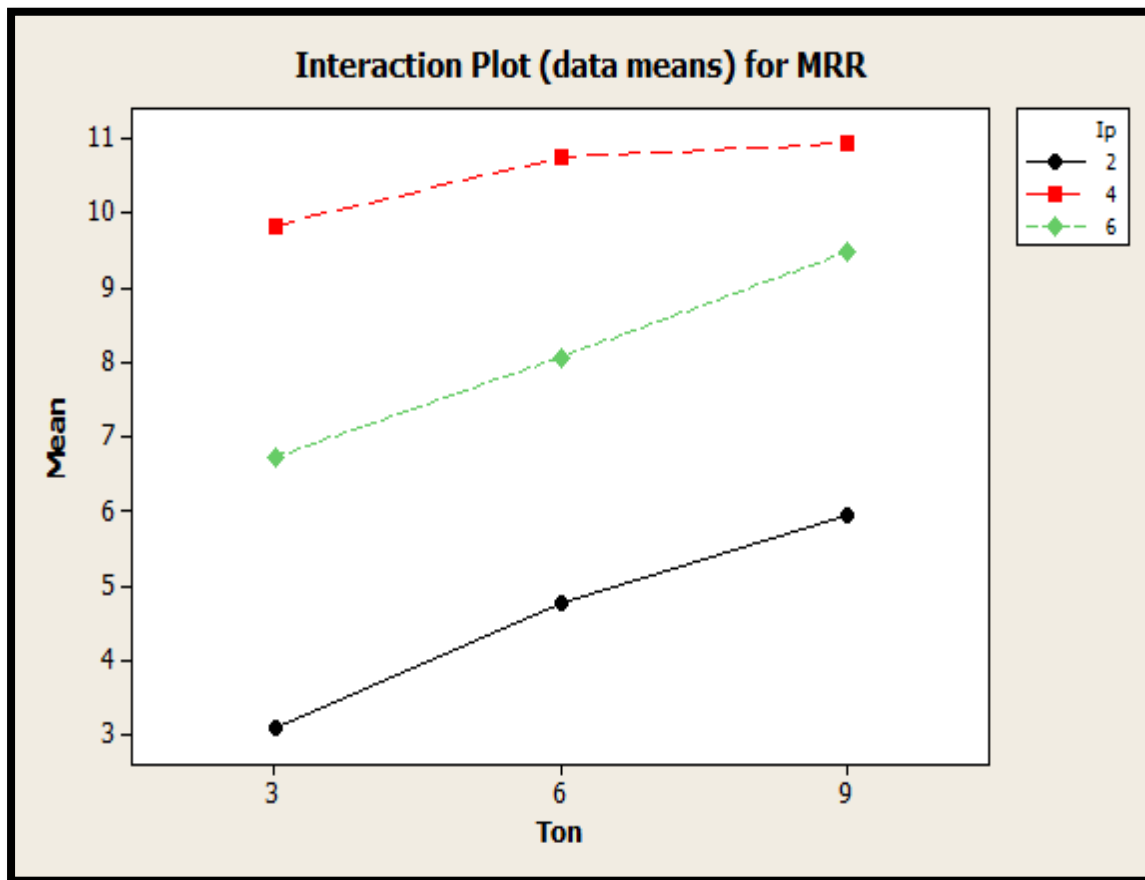


Figure 5 Interaction plot between WEDM parameters and MRR

Figure 5 shows the interaction plot between MRR and pulse on time at various levels of peak current. The graph indicates that at each level of peak current, the material removal rate of the workpiece follows an increasing trend with pulse on time. Moreover, it is also observed that with increase in the value of peak current, there is a gradual increase in the MRR.

5 Conclusion

From the above analysis following conclusions were drawn:

The experiment shows that the advancement of machining parameters in WEDM of Die Steel D-3, parametric components like peak current, pulse on time and Wire Tension have large impact on MRR.

MRR at first increases with peak current however with further increment in peak current the MRR has a tendency to decrease. The explanation behind such behaviour is that the metal chips introduced between the terminal wire and the workpiece does not permit adequate sparks to strike the surface of work.

With Wire Tension, at first the MRR tends to increase, however further increment in its value has a tendency to decrease the MRR. Wire tension has relatively no impact on MRR and is the minimum affecting parameters with a contribution of just 1.12%.

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