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Milling optimisation of removal rate and accuracy with uncertainty: Part 2: parameter variation

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Abstract: Milling models provide tools for estimating stability and surface location error. Existing models are deterministic, though inherent variations in the model inputs propagate to uncertainty in the model outputs. In this paper the experimental procedures used to estimate the model parameters are presented. The effect of correlation between parameters is addressed. The variability of the stability boundary and surface location errors are determined using Latin Hypercube sampling. It is seen that including the correlation between parameters reduced the output variability by as much as 55% with a minimum reduction of 10%. Comparisons between mean model predictions and experimental results are provided.

Keywords: milling; uncertainty; correlation; stability; multi-response regression.

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1 Introduction

In milling operations, models may be used to predict process stability and dimensional accuracy (surface location error) for a specific set of cutting parameters. Selecting optimum cutting parameters that maximise productivity and accuracy is highly desirable. In Part 1 of this paper, optimisation was used to select optimum cutting conditions. Two competing objectives, Material Removal Rate (*MRR*) and Surface Location Error (*SLE*) (Schmitz and Ziegert, 1999; Smith and Tlustý, 1991; Kline et al., 1982), were simultaneously considered using a Pareto front, or tradeoff curve. Although the milling model used in the optimisation algorithm (time finite element analysis, or TFEA (Mann et al., 2005; Mann, 2003)) is deterministic, variations in the input parameters of the model limit the confidence in these optimum predictions. Experimental results in Part 1 emphasised the need to account for variations in the input parameters, which include cutting force coefficients (material and process dependent), tool modal parameters, and cutting parameters. Quantifying variations in these values is necessary for the selection of robust optimum designs.

Different types of uncertainties exist in model predictions including (see for example Thoft-Christensen and Baker, 1982):

- physical variations in loads, material properties and dimensions
- lack of information resulting from limited number of experiments
- model limitations which occur due to simplified mathematical representations, unknown boundary conditions and unknown effects of other variables and their interactions.

In this study we account for the first and second types only, with measurement errors representing the source of lack of information. In previous studies (e.g., Guerra et al., 2003; Kim et al., 2003; Rober et al., 1997), uncertainty in the milling process was handled through a posteriori compensation. In Kim et al. (2003) and Rober et al. (1997), the cutting force uncertainty was accommodated using a control system. The force controller was designed to compensate for known process effects and account for the force-feed nonlinearity inherent in metal cutting operations. A relevant study considered uncertainty directly for maximisation of material removal rate in a turning operation, where the confidence intervals of the design variables were obtained using prior knowledge and heuristic methods to find a robust optimum (Deshayes et al., 2005).

We quantify the output variation by propagating the variation of the process parameters through the analysis model. Some of the process parameters are correlated. Considering the physical interdependence of the parameters can lead to different variation in the response. For example, Honda and Antonsson (2003) has considered parameter variation when the parameters are correlated and uncorrelated. Rooney and Biegler (2001) showed the importance of including parameter correlation in design problems by using elliptical joint confidence regions to describe the correlation among the uncertain model parameters. In a recent paper, Becerra and Hernandez (2006) deemed parameter correlation imperative to the proper evaluation of air density uncertainty. In our study, the variation and correlation in the model parameters are measured and propagated through the model using sampling methods. The variation in the output for both correlated and uncorrelated parameters is reported. Results show a noteworthy difference between the responses for correlated and uncorrelated parameters. This enables more accurate quantification of the performance uncertainty and selection of a design that accounts for the inherent input uncertainties a priori.

The objectives of this study are to:

- measure the mean values of the milling model parameters and determine their variation and correlation
- use Monte Carlo and Latin Hypercube sampling methods to propagate the variations
- quantify the stability boundary and *SLE* uncertainties
- illustrate the significance of accounting for the correlation between parameters on the output variability in the milling model
- compare the experimental case study in Part 1 to the realised sample distribution of stability and *SLE*.

The paper is arranged as follows. Section 2 provides the theoretical and experimental background for measuring the mean, variation and correlation of the input parameters in the milling model. Section 3 describes the sampling methods used in the confidence interval calculation. Section 4 gives a numerical example for the estimation of *SLE* and stability boundary distributions and Section 5 outlines the main conclusions of the paper.

2 Model parameter estimation

In this section the mean levels, variation and correlation of the model parameters are estimated for the tool modal parameters, cutting force coefficients and other machining parameters.

2.1 Measurement of tool modal parameters

Modal parameters are used to represent the tool point frequency response function of the tool-holder-spindle-machine system. The tool point frequency response function is typically measured using an impulse force to excite the tool and an accelerometer to measure the response (i.e., impact testing). The time signals of the impulse and response are transformed into the frequency domain using the Fast Fourier Transform. The peak amplitude method (Pandit, 1991; Ewins, 1982) may then be applied to fit the measured frequency response function. In this method, the frequency at the peak of the magnitude of the frequency response function, $H (\cong 1/[2\zeta K])$ of a particular mode is taken as the natural frequency, f_n , of that mode:

$$|H(f_n)| \cong \frac{1}{2\zeta K}, \quad (1)$$

where the natural frequency is:

$$f_n = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{K}{M}}. \quad (2)$$

From equation (1) the damping ratio ζ is estimated from the half power frequencies, f_1 and f_2 , corresponding to:

$$|H(f_{1,2})| = 1/(2\sqrt{2}\zeta K). \quad (3)$$

This enables determination of modal mass, M , damping, C , and stiffness, K , of the tool-holder-spindle-machine for each modelled mode (a rigid workpiece was assumed in this study). It should be noted here that the peak amplitude method is limited to the case where the modes are well separated. However, because the tool used in our experimental study can be approximated as single mode, the method can be applied here.

2.2 Variation and correlation of tool modal parameters

The variation, correlation and mean values of the modal parameters are calculated by repeating the measurement and fitting procedure multiple times. Due to the general symmetry of the tool-holder-spindle assembly, it is expected that the x and y -direction modal parameters should exhibit some level of correlation. Therefore, in sampling from the distribution of potential modal values for uncertainty propagation through the milling model, this correlation should be considered. For example, a random selection of a high stiffness in the x -direction would be expected to correlate with a high stiffness in the y -direction. The correlation between the modal stiffness in the x and y -directions, ρ_{K_x, K_y} , is calculated according to:

$\rho_{K_x K_y}$,

$$\rho_{K_x K_y} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^Q (K_{y_i} - \bar{K}_y)(K_{x_i} - \bar{K}_x)}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^Q (K_{y_i} - \bar{K}_y)^2 \sum_{i=1}^Q (K_{x_i} - \bar{K}_x)^2}}, \quad (4)$$

where Q is the number of times the experiment is conducted and \bar{K}_x and \bar{K}_y are the mean values. Several factors contribute to the variability in the estimated modal parameters:

- the fitting method
- changes in the tool-holder interface due to tool-holder removal/replacement
- the thermal state of the machine spindle
- the impact testing procedure.

The combined effect of all these factors can be estimated by repeating the measurement under varying conditions. However, the reader may note that this approach does not account for potential impact testing biases (such as accelerometer mass loading or incorrect calibration constants for the transducers) and we have not addressed variations due to removal of the tool from the holder.

2.3 Measurement of cutting force coefficients

A mechanistic model is used to determine the cutting forces. In this approach the cutting forces are expressed as a function of cutting force coefficients. The average milling forces during one tooth period in the x and y -directions is given by (Budak et al., 1996; and Altintas, 2000):

$$\bar{F}_x = \left\{ \frac{Nbh}{8\pi} [K_t \cos(2\phi) - K_n [2\phi - \sin(2\phi)]] + \frac{Nb}{2\pi} [-K_{te} \sin(\phi) + K_{ne} \cos(\phi)] \right\}_{\phi_{st}}^{\phi_{ex}} \quad (5)$$

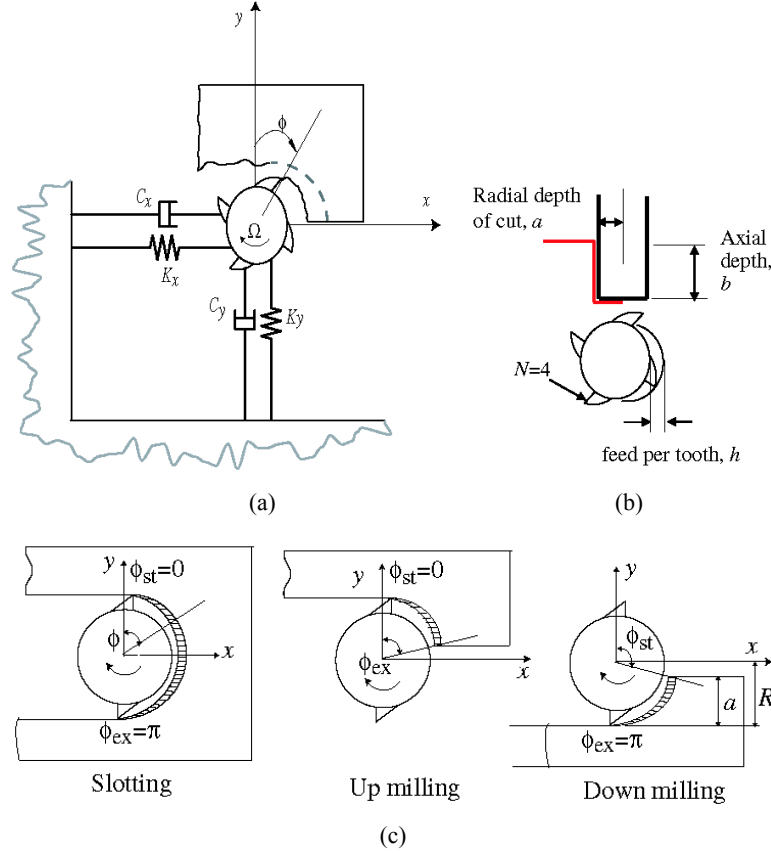
$$\bar{F}_y = \left\{ \frac{Nbh}{8\pi} [K_t [2\phi - \sin(2\phi)] + K_n \cos(2\phi)] - \frac{Nb}{2\pi} [K_{te} \cos(\phi) + K_{ne} \sin(\phi)] \right\}_{\phi_{st}}^{\phi_{ex}} \quad (6)$$

where N is the number of teeth on the cutting tool, b is the axial depth, h is the feed per tooth, ϕ is the cutter angle, and $\{K_t, K_n, K_{te}$ and $K_{ne}\}$ are the tangential, normal, and tangential and normal edge cutting force coefficients, respectively. In slotting tests (see Figure 1(c)), the start and exit angles of the cutter are $\phi_{st} = 0$ and $\phi_{ex} = 180^\circ$, respectively. The average forces per tooth period for this case simplify to:

$$\bar{F}_x = -\frac{Nb}{4} K_n h - \frac{Nb}{\pi} K_{ne} \quad (7a)$$

$$\bar{F}_y = \frac{Nb}{4} K_t h + \frac{Nb}{\pi} K_{te} \quad (7b)$$

Figure 1 (a) Schematic of 2-DOF milling tool; (b) identification of key variables and (c) various types of milling operations (see online version for colours)



Equation (7) can be written as a function of h as:

$$\bar{F}_{x,y} = \bar{F}_{x/y,h} h + \bar{F}_{x/y,e} \quad (8)$$

The experimental procedure consists of completing multiple cutting tests at varying h values and recording the cutting forces. For each feed per tooth, the average cutting forces in the x and y -directions ($\bar{F}_{x/y}$) are calculated, then a linear regression of the average forces vs. feed per tooth is completed to extract the cutting coefficients. See equations (7) and (8), where ($\bar{F}_{x/y,h}$) and ($\bar{F}_{x/y,e}$) are the slope and intercept of the linear regressions, respectively:

$$K_t = \frac{4\bar{F}_{y,h}}{Nb}, \quad K_{te} = \frac{\pi\bar{F}_{y,e}}{Nb} \quad (9a)$$

$$K_n = -\frac{4\bar{F}_{x,h}}{Nb}, \quad K_{ne} = -\frac{\pi\bar{F}_{x,e}}{Nb} \quad (9b)$$

2.4 Variation and correlation of cutting force coefficients

The linear regression performed in the previous section is a single response analysis. However, the measured responses are the forces in both the x and y -directions during a single measurement (recorded using a dynamometer). This represents a multi-response measurement. Therefore, analysis of the data should take into consideration its multivariate nature, which would provide information regarding potential correlation between the responses. However, it should be noted that both single and multi-response linear regressions give identical estimates of the mean and variation of the fitting parameters. The development of the multi-response model follows the description provided in reference (see Khuri and Cornell, 1996, pp.252–254). If we let Q be the number of times the experiment is conducted and r be the number of response variables (two in our case, i.e., F_x and F_y) measured for each feed per tooth, then the x or y response models can be written in vector form as:

$$F_i = \mathbf{Z}_i \boldsymbol{\beta}_i + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_i \quad i = x \text{ or } y, \quad (10)$$

where F_i is a $Q \times 1$ vector of observations of the x or y average cutting force responses, $\boldsymbol{\beta}_i$ is a 2×1 vector of unknown constant parameters, and $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_i$ is a random error vector associated with the i th response. Equation (10) can be written in matrix form as:

$$\begin{bmatrix} F_x \\ Q \times 1 \\ F_y \\ Q \times 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Z}_x & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{Z}_y \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \beta_{01} \\ \beta_{11} \\ \beta_{02} \\ \beta_{12} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_x \\ Q \times 1 \\ \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_y \\ Q \times 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (11)$$

where \mathbf{Z}_i is defined as:

$$\mathbf{Z}_x = \mathbf{Z}_y = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{h} \\ Q \times 1 & Q \times 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (12)$$

\mathbf{h} represents the feed per tooth vector at which the responses are observed and $\mathbf{1}$ is a vector of ones. The assumption of a simple linear regression applies here. That is, the expected value of $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_i$ is, $E(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_i) = 0$. However, the variance-covariance matrix between the responses is not zero; this matrix can be written as:

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_x^2 & \sigma_{xy} \\ \sigma_{xy} & \sigma_y^2 \end{bmatrix}. \quad (13)$$

Therefore, $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$ (with a $2Q \times 1$ size) has the following variance-covariance matrix:

$$\Delta = \text{Var}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) = \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \otimes \mathbf{I}_Q, \quad (14)$$

where \mathbf{I}_Q is $Q \times Q$ identity matrix and \otimes is a symbol for the direct (or Kronecker) product of matrices. The direct product of two matrices $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ and \mathbf{I}_Q , of sizes 2×2 and $Q \times Q$, respectively, gives a $2Q \times 2Q$ matrix which is partitioned as $\sigma_{ij} \mathbf{I}_Q$ where σ_{ij} is the (i, j) th element of matrix $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$. The best linear unbiased estimate of $\boldsymbol{\beta} = [\beta_{01} \ \beta_{11} \ \beta_{02} \ \beta_{12}]^T$ is given by Zellner (1962):

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}} = (\mathbf{Z}^T \Delta^{-1} \mathbf{Z})^{-1} \mathbf{Z}^T \Delta^{-1} \mathbf{F}, \quad (15)$$

where \mathbf{F} is the left hand side of equation (11) and \mathbf{Z} is the coefficient matrix (matrix size $2Q \times 4$) of β in equation (11). The variance-covariance matrix of the estimated vector $\hat{\beta}$ is:

$$\text{Var}(\hat{\beta}) = (\mathbf{Z}^T \Delta^{-1} \mathbf{Z})^{-1}. \quad (16)$$

Since Σ is usually unknown, its terms are estimated as (Zellner, 1962):

$$\hat{\sigma}_{ij} = \frac{\mathbf{F}_i^T [\mathbf{I}_Q - \mathbf{Z}_i (\mathbf{Z}_i^T \mathbf{Z}_i)^{-1} \mathbf{Z}_i^T] [\mathbf{I}_Q - \mathbf{Z}_j (\mathbf{Z}_j^T \mathbf{Z}_j)^{-1} \mathbf{Z}_j^T] \mathbf{F}_j}{Q}. \quad (17)$$

It should be noted that $\hat{\sigma}_{ij}$ is computed from minimising the residuals (the second term in both bracketed expressions in equation (17) using ordinary least-squares fits of the x and y -directions single response models to their respective data sets. Using the estimate for Σ in equation (17), an estimate of the variance of $\hat{\beta}$ can be obtained. The cutting force coefficients are determined using the linear transformation defined in equation (9):

$$\mathbf{K}_{\text{cut}} = [\mathbf{A}][\hat{\beta}], \quad (18)$$

where $\mathbf{K}_{\text{cut}} = [K_{ne} \ K_n \ K_{te} \ K_t]^T$ and the matrix \mathbf{A} for slotting is:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{\pi}{Nb} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{4}{Nb} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{\pi}{Nb} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{4}{Nb} \end{bmatrix}. \quad (19)$$

Therefore, the variance-covariance matrix of cutting force coefficients can be found as

$$\text{Var}(\mathbf{K}_{\text{cut}}) = \mathbf{A}^T \text{Var}(\hat{\beta}) \mathbf{A}. \quad (20)$$

Using equation (20) the correlation between the tangential cutting force coefficients, for example, can be written as:

$$\rho_{K_t, K_{te}} = \frac{\sigma_{K_t, K_{te}}}{\sigma_{K_t} \sigma_{K_{te}}}, \quad (21)$$

where $\sigma_{K_t, K_{te}}$ is the covariance between the K_t and K_{te} cutting coefficients and σ_{K_t} and $\sigma_{K_{te}}$ are the corresponding standard deviations.

As seen in equation (9), some correlation is expected between the coefficients K_t and K_{te} and between the coefficients K_n and K_{ne} . This is because each pair depends on the cutting force in a single direction. Again, the reader may note that this approach does not account for potential calibration errors (for the dynamometer in this case).

2.5 *Variation in other machining parameters*

The uncertainty in spindle speed and radial depth are also considered here. These uncertainties are aleatoric in nature (irreducible). Based on the authors' experience, a standard deviation of 50 rpm and a coefficient of variation of 0.05% are assumed for the spindle speed and radial depth, respectively. The uncertainties here are assumed due to machine characteristics and process setup and are considered to be constant independent of operating conditions.

3 **Uncertainty propagation methods (sampling methods)**

In this section we discuss the two methods used in propagating uncertainty from input to output. First, we discuss simple random sampling using the Monte Carlo method and then we describe the more efficient Latin Hypercube sampling method.

3.1 *Monte Carlo sampling*

In this approach, a random sample of size L is selected from the population of each input parameter. The nominal value (mean) and standard deviation of each input parameter are used to generate a sample from a distribution (we have assumed normal, or Gaussian, distributions). This sample is propagated through the mathematical model to yield statistical information about the model output. In our case the milling model outputs are the axial depth limit, b_{lim} , and surface location error. The standard deviations of the predicted b_{lim} and SLE are then calculated from the sample output at each spindle speed in the range of interest. An improved sampling method will be discussed next.

3.2 *Latin hypercube sampling*

This method was originally proposed as a variance reduction technique (see McKay and Beckmann, 1979) in which the estimated variance is asymptotically lower than with simple random sampling (Monte Carlo method) (Cheng and Druzdzel, 2000; Stein, 1987). That is, for the same sample size L , this method gives a lower estimate of the output variance than is possible with the Monte Carlo method. The basic idea of this method is that each value (or range of values) of a variable is represented in the sample, no matter which value turns out to be the most important. In this way, the sampling distribution is divided into a number of strata with a random selection inside each stratum. In the following analysis Latin Hypercube sampling is used to propagate the uncertainty from input to output using both zero correlation and a calculated correlation matrix between parameters.

4 **Stability boundary and surface location error variations**

The output distribution of the stability boundary and surface location errors were calculated using TFEA in conjunction with the bi-section method for the experimental comparison study presented in Part 1. Using the procedure outlined in Section 2, means, standard deviations and correlations for the tool modal parameters and cutting force coefficients were calculated. Tables 1 and 2 give the tool modal parameter results and

Table 3 gives the cutting force coefficients results. In Table 1 we note that the correlation between the modal mass and stiffness in the x and y -directions, $\rho_{M,K}$, is large which can be explained by the small variations in the natural frequency of the system, see equation (2). Also, the symmetry of the tool explains the high correlation ρ_{M_x, M_y} and ρ_{C_x, C_y} where:

$$C_{x,y} = 4\pi\zeta f_n M_{x,y}. \quad (22)$$

Table 1 Fitted tool modal parameters in x and y -directions. Four impact tests (with five repetitions for each test) were conducted for the same tool. The tool holder was removed from/replaced in the spindle between each test and the thermal state of the spindle was varied. The thermal states corresponded to cold and the condition after running the spindle for 30 s at {5000, 10,000, 15,000 and 20,000} rpm. These states are denoted by 1, 2, 3 and 4, respectively

Measurement state	M_x (kg)	C_x (N.s/m)	K_x (N/m $\times 10^6$)	M_y (kg)	C_y (N.s/m)	K_y (N/m $\times 10^6$)
1	0.03	24.34	4.83	0.03	29.09	4.30
2	0.03	22.05	4.38	0.02	37.25	2.60
3	0.03	22.66	4.28	0.02	29.54	2.90
4	0.02	24.18	3.95	0.02	29.85	3.40
μ , mean	0.03	23.31	4.36	0.02	31.43	3.30
σ , standard deviation	0.002	0.976	0.316	0.004	3.368	0.644
μ/σ	0.07	0.04	0.07	0.20	0.11	0.20

Table 2 Correlation coefficient matrix between modal parameters

ρ_{ij}	M_x	C_x	K_x	M_y	C_y	K_y
M_x	1.00					
C_x	0.23	1.00				
K_x	0.99	0.13	1.00			
M_y	0.86	0.69	0.80	1.00		
C_y	-0.09	-0.75	-0.05	-0.50	1.00	
K_y	0.66	0.88	0.58	0.95	-0.64	1.00

Table 3 Cutting force coefficients for 7475 aluminum obtained from slotting cutting tests at 1000 rpm, for a 3.05 mm axial depth, and feed per tooth values of {0.025, 0.05, 0.10, and 0.15} mm/tooth. The cut at 0.10 mm/tooth was repeated five times. The correlation matrix between the coefficients was obtained using the multi-response regression

	K_t (N/m ² $\times 10^6$)	K_n (N/m ² $\times 10^6$)	K_{te} (N/m $\times 10^2$)	K_{ne} (N/m $\times 10^2$)
μ	841	253	127	101
σ	21.9	26.6	17	20.7
ρ_{ij}	K_{ne}	K_n	K_{te}	K_t
K_{ne}	1.00			
K_n	-0.93	1.00		
K_{te}	-0.13	0.12	1.00	
K_t	0.12	-0.13	-0.93	1.00
Regression P – value	2×10^{-8}	8×10^{-5}	3×10^{-4}	3×10^{-3}

Latin Hypercube sampling was then combined with TFEA to calculate stability boundary and *SLE* confidence intervals. The effect of nonzero correlation between parameters is compared to the case of zero correlation. First, a random sample of size $L = 1000$ was generated while ignoring the correlation between parameters. Another sample of the same size was generated while considering the correlation between cutting force coefficients and between the tool modal parameters (zero correlation was assumed for the other machining parameters, spindle speed and radial depth). In Figure 2, the stability boundaries of seven uncorrelated samples are shown. The average of the stability boundary peaks of the sample, \bar{b}_{max} , was calculated as:

$$\bar{b}_{max} = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^L \max(b_{lim}(x_{ij}))}{L}, \quad (23)$$

where i is the input parameter index (total of 12 parameters) and j is the sample index. It is seen that both the peak location (spindle speed) and the magnitude of the peak vary widely. The large variation in peak location means that for a stability diagram obtained by averaging, the individual samples will be greatly smeared and will give the wrong impression of the peak. In Figure 3, the stability boundaries of seven correlated samples show only small variations in the peak location, with larger variations in the peak magnitudes than the peak location. We note here that a fine grid of spindle speeds (50 rpm) is used in generating the boundaries in the figure.

Figure 2 Seven stability boundaries calculated using seven of the 1000 samples of the input parameters generated using Latin Hypercube with no correlation. The mean of 1000 samples peaks, \bar{b}_{max} (see equation (23)) is found to be =3.7 mm

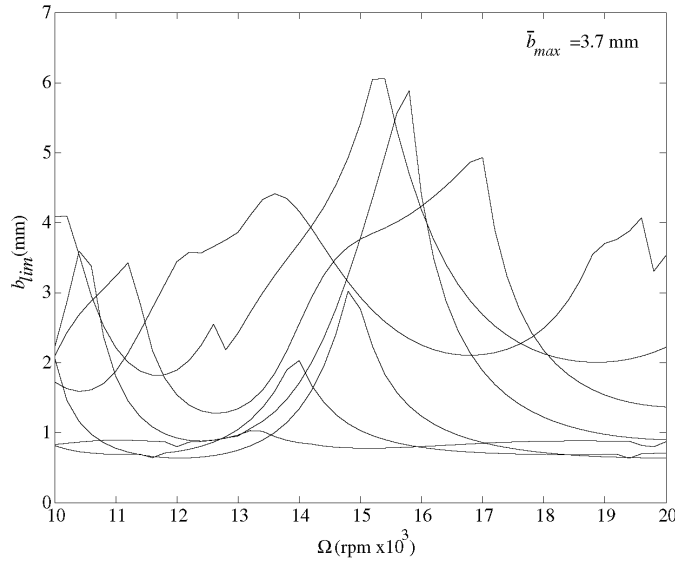
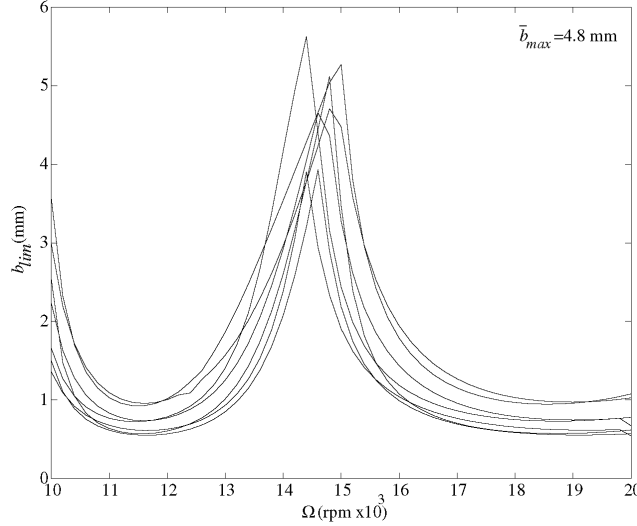


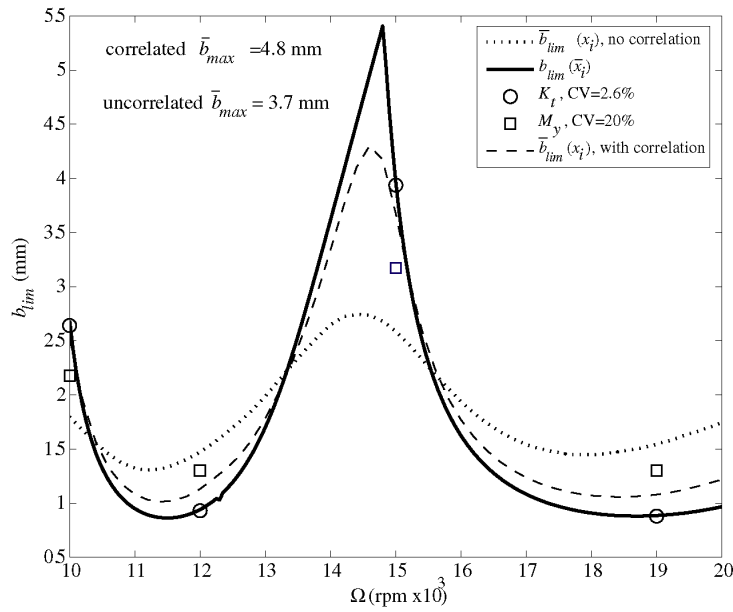
Figure 3 Seven stability boundaries calculated using seven of the 1000 samples of the input parameters generated using Latin Hypercube with correlation. The mean of 1000 samples peaks, \bar{b}_{max} (see equation (23)) is found to be =4.8 mm)



The mean of the b_{lim} distribution, \bar{b}_{lim} , was calculated for the aforementioned cases and compared to b_{lim} obtained using the mean values of measured parameters, $b_{lim}(\bar{x}_i)$ where $\bar{x}_i = (\sum_{j=1}^L x_{ij})/L$ (Tables 1 and 3). A comparison is provided in Figure 4. The first observation from the figure is that neglecting the correlation gives very different estimation of the mean value of the stability boundary. A comparison between the peak on the graph and the mean value of the peak, equation (23) shows that for the uncorrelated case there is substantial smearing due to the shifting of the peak location. For the correlated case, however, there is much better agreement between the peak of the mean inputs stability boundary and the mean of the peaks of the individual simulations. These do not match exactly due to the effect of the operator non-linearity.¹ The stability boundary obtained by using mean properties (solid line in Figure 4 is different from the mean of the stability boundaries. This effect is especially true when the variation in the parameters is large. For example, for the small variation case of K_t (circles in Figure 4) only, \bar{b}_{lim} and $b_{lim}(\bar{x}_i)$ predictions are nearly identical. However for the large variation case of M_y (squares in Figure 4), \bar{b}_{lim} and $b_{lim}(\bar{x}_i)$ predictions are quite different. The calculated \bar{b}_{max} values stress the importance of correlation. For the uncorrelated case (Figure 2 and the dotted line in Figure 4), $\bar{b}_{max} = 3.7$ mm is substantially higher than the calculated peak of 2.7 mm. This implies that the uncorrelated case underestimates the peak of \bar{b}_{lim} due to horizontal shifts in the stability boundary peaks. For the correlated case (Figure 3 and the dashed line in Figure 4), $\bar{b}_{max} = 4.8$ is closer to the calculated peak of 4.3 mm. This suggests that the correlated result \bar{b}_{lim} provides a better representation of the physical variability in the input parameters. Note that, aside from this effect, we also have a band of uncertainty around the mean. For simple random sampling, the standard deviation of the estimated sample mean depends on the sample size, L , for example for the axial depth limit, b_{lim} :

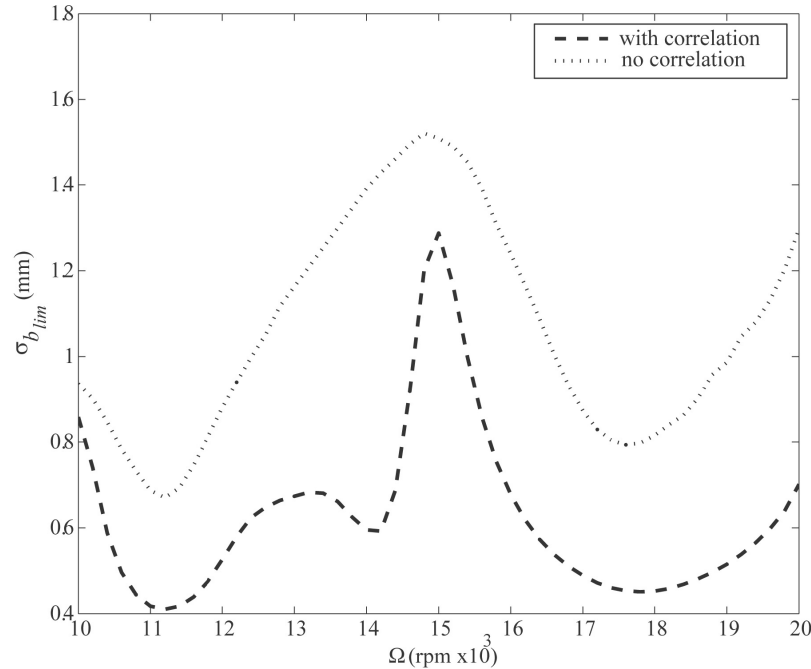
$$\sigma_{\bar{b}_{lim}} = L^{-1/2} \sigma_{b_{lim}(x_i)}. \quad (24)$$

Figure 4 Stability boundary calculated using the mean value of input parameters, \bar{x}_i , mean of b_{lim} distribution considering correlation between parameters and without considering the correlation. The mean of b_{lim} considering a coefficient of variation, CV, of 2.6% and 20% in M_y and K_t (squares and circles, respectively) at selected spindle speeds is also shown



For an $L = 1000$ sample size, this gives an approximately 3% accuracy. This accuracy is improved for Latin Hypercube sampling (Stein, 1987). With this accuracy in mind, the propagated variation in the stability boundary using the Latin Hypercube method was computed to compare the resulting levels with the accuracy limit imposed by the sample size. Results are provided in Figure 5, which shows the standard deviation, $\sigma_{b_{lim}}$, in the axial depth limit, b_{lim} , both with and without correlation. Clearly the correlation has significantly reduced the variation in the limiting axial depth of stability compared to the zero correlation case. However, in both cases, the percentage of the standard deviation to the mean (see Figure 4) is much higher than 3%. The reduction in standard deviation with the inclusion of correlation is expected since ignoring correlation results in a physically unrealistic sample. For example, while ignoring correlation, the modal stiffness in the x and y -directions for a particular sample may be at the extreme opposite sides of the normal distribution, while we do not expect this to be true in practice. Therefore, neglecting the correlation between tool stiffness values, for example, can overestimate its influence on the stability limit.

Figure 5 Standard deviation of the axial depth limit due to parameter variations. The Latin Hypercube method was used for the correlated and zero correlation cases



Latin Hypercube sampling with correlation is used to propagate the variation from input to output for the analyses that follow. The histogram of the b_{lim} output sample is shown at 12,000 rpm in Figure 6(a). The histogram indicates non-normality of the distribution at that spindle speed. The corresponding boxplot (a plot used to show variation and measures of central tendency for a sample) is shown in Figure 6(b). In the figure, the median, 25% and 75% quartiles and two whiskers, which mark the sample extremes, are shown. The unequal lengths of the two whiskers identify the non-normality of the distribution. Also, the Interquartile Range (IQR) gives a measure of the distribution variability. Figure 7 shows the variation in the limiting axial depth as a function of spindle speed with the experimental results presented in Part 1 overlaid. As indicated in the figure, the experimental results generally agree with the median of the sample. In Figure 8 the experimental results are shown with a 95% confidence interval, the interval lies between the 2.5% and 97.5% percentiles of the output distribution. Also shown in the figure is the confidence interval based on two standard deviations of \bar{b}_{lim} , in which the upper bound of this interval agrees with the 97.5% percentile. Though the lower bound gives unrealistic negative b_{lim} values, which emphasises that due to the non-linearity in the response, a standard deviation correction may not provide an accurate variation of the response. Furthermore, the confidence interval of the stability limit is also prohibitively large. Accounting for the change in the tool dynamics after tool-holder removal/replacement caused large variation in the modal parameters (see Table 1) and, consequently, the stability limit confidence interval was increased.

Figure 6 The b_{lim} sample variation for 12,000 rpm spindle speed with no correlation: (a) histogram depicting the sample distribution and (b) boxplot corresponding to histogram shown in part (a) – the boxplot summarises the sample distribution characteristics by indicating the sample variation using Interquartile Range (IQR), sample median and non-normality of the distribution by the unequal lengths of the whiskers. The interval between the two solid squares constitutes a 95% confidence interval or the corresponding 2.5% and 97.5% percentiles

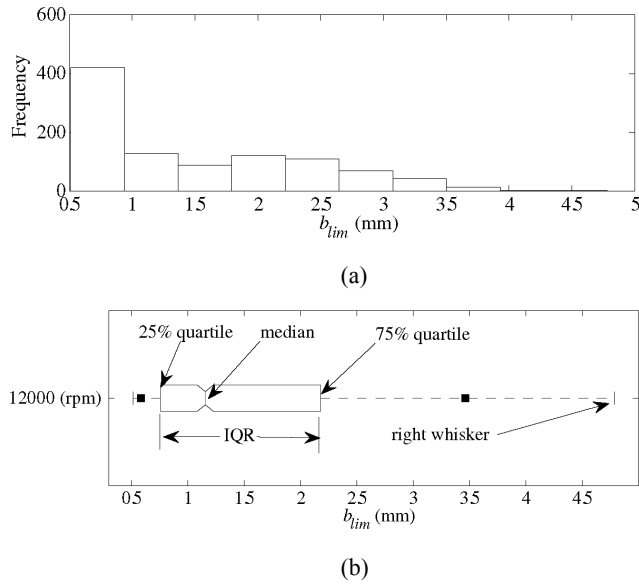


Figure 7 Stability boundary generated using mean values of input parameters with experimental results overlaid. The boxplot corresponding to each spindle speed used in the measurements is also shown. At some spindle speeds the boxplot is skewed. This indicates the non-normality of the sample distribution (see online version for colours)

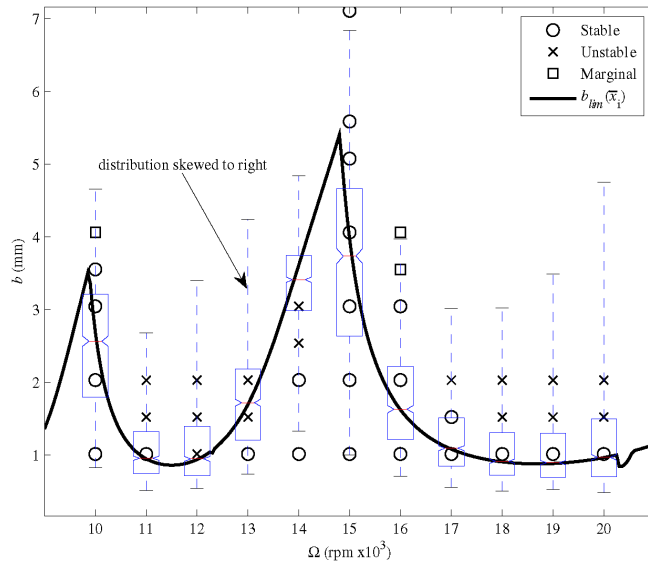
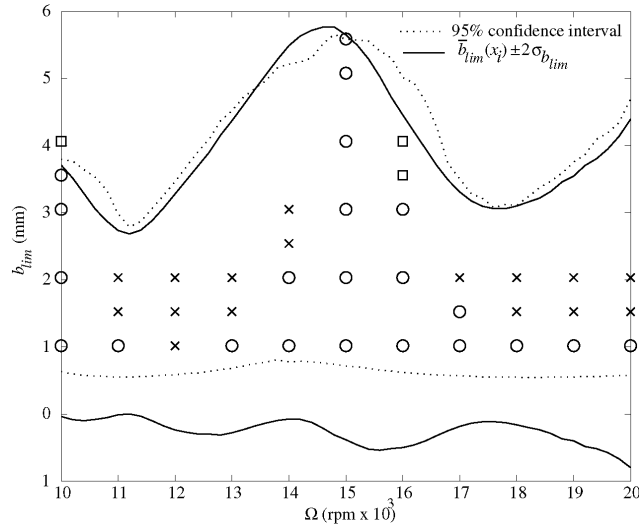


Figure 8 A 95% stability limit confidence interval with experimental results overlaid. The interval is based on 2.5% and 97.5% percentiles calculated from the distribution of the output sample. A two standard deviation interval is also shown – the upper limit of the standard deviation interval generally agrees with the 97.5% percentile

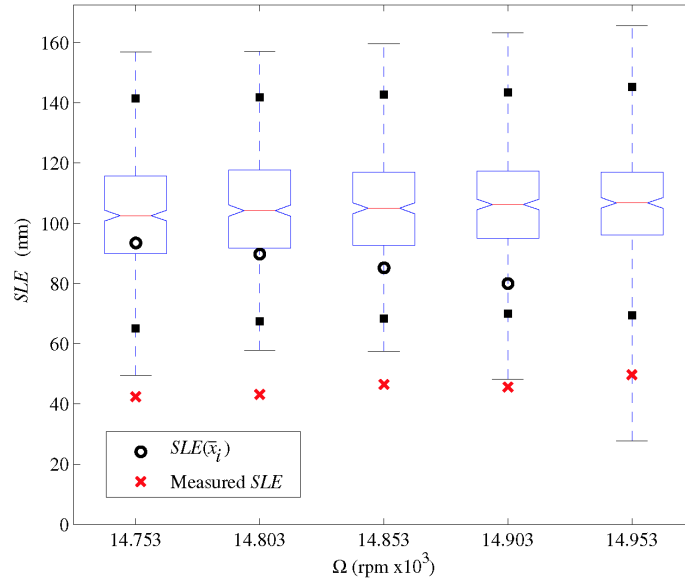


The *SLE* results from the experimental case study presented in Part 1 (see Table 4) are shown in Figure 9 with the *SLE* boxplots overlaid. It should be noted here that, because *SLE* is undefined in the unstable region, only the *SLE* values of the sample in the stable domain are shown in the boxplot. In Figure 9, it is seen that the variation in the *SLE* is nearly constant for the five cases considered. It is also seen that the prediction *SLE* sample median is larger than the experimental results. Although the bounds of the numerical *SLE* sample depend on the sample size, we believe the discrepancy is dominated by modelling simplifications rather than input value variations. As noted in Part 1, TFEA does not include the effects of the cutting teeth helix angle and we have assumed that the system dynamics and cutting force coefficients do not vary with spindle speed. The figure also identifies the difference between the calculated *SLE* using the mean parameters, (shown as circles), and the median or mean *SLE* of the sample. The notch in the figure indicates that the *SLE* median is essentially constant between consecutive spindle speeds. This result, combined with the small variation in the experimental results, validates the robustness of the maximum *MRR* (1400 mm³/s with a 4.45 mm axial depth) optimum design.

Table 4 Surface location error cutting conditions for maximum *MRR* Pareto optimal design (the first cut listed) with four extra cuts at different spindle speeds

Cut no.	<i>b</i> (mm)	Ω (rpm)	<i>MRR</i> (mm ³ /s)	<i>SLE</i> (μ m)
1		14853		
2		14803		
3	4.45	14753	1400	85.7
4		14903		
5		14953		

Figure 9 Boxplot of SLE variability at different spindle speeds for 4.45 mm axial depth case. Also shown are 95% confidence intervals within the filled squares. The $|SLE(\bar{x}_i)|$ value for the 14,953 rpm spindle speed is not shown in the figure because it falls in the predicted unstable region where the SLE is undefined by TFEA (see online version for colours)



5 Conclusions

In this study the Latin Hypercube method was used to quantify the uncertainty in stability boundary and surface location error by propagating the parameter variations through the milling model. The parameter mean values, variation and correlation were measured experimentally. The variation in the tool modal parameters accounted for thermal and tool-holder replacement effects, as well as inconsistencies in the impact testing procedure. This variation was transformed to stability and SLE confidence intervals; the large size of these intervals suggest the need to measure the tool point frequency response function immediately prior to cutting tests, if possible. Using a multi-response regression analysis and measurement repetition, significant correlation was found between the cutting force coefficients, as well as between the tool modal parameters. Accounting for this correlation reduced the variation in the calculated output sample by 55% with a minimum reduction of 10%. It was found that stability limit and SLE values computed from the input means did not agree with the means of the distributions obtained after propagating the input variations through TFEA. This was especially true when large variation in the parameters existed.

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Note

¹As an example, consider the case of propagating a mean zero normal distribution of samples, x , through the nonlinear absolute value operator, $y = |x|$. Clearly, the mean value of y ($\bar{y} > 0$) is not equal to $|\bar{x}| = 0$. Further, the greater spread of x , the higher the disagreement between \bar{y} and $|\bar{x}|$.

Nomenclature

A	Slotting transformation matrix
a	Radial depth (mm)
b	Axial depth (mm)
b_i	Root corresponding to stability limit at iteration i (mm)
b_{lim}	Axial depth at stability limit (mm)
\bar{b}_{max}	Average of the stability boundaries peaks of the sample
C_x	Modal damping in x -direction (N.s/m)
C_y	Modal damping in y -direction (N.s/m)
CV	Coefficient of Variation
F	Vector of average observed cutting forces for x and y -directions (N)
F_i	Average observed cutting force for response i (N)
F_x	Observed cutting force in x -direction (N)
F_y	Observed cutting force in y -direction (N)
\bar{F}_x	Average cutting force in x -direction (N)
\bar{F}_y	Average cutting force in y -direction (N)
$\bar{F}_{x/y,h}$	Average cutting force per chip load (N/m)

$\bar{F}_{x/y,e}$	Average edge cutting force (N)
f_n	Natural frequency (Hz)
$f_{1,2}$	Half power frequencies (Hz)
h	Feed per tooth (mm/tooth)
H	Feed per tooth
\mathbf{I}_Q	Identity matrix of size Q
K_t	Tangential cutting force coefficient (N/m ²)
K_n	Normal cutting force coefficient (N/m ²)
K_{te}	Tangential edge cutting force coefficient (N/m)
K_{ne}	Normal edge cutting force coefficient (N/m)
K	Modal stiffness (N/m)
\mathbf{K}_{cut}	Vector of cutting force coefficient (N/m ²)
K_x	Modal stiffness in x -direction (N/m)
K_y	Modal stiffness in y -direction (N/m)
L	Sample size
MRR	Material Removal Rate (mm ³ /s)
M_x	Modal mass in x -direction
M_y	Modal mass in y -direction
N	Number of teeth on the cutting tool
Q	Number of times the experiment is conducted
SLE	Surface location error (μm)
Var	Variance-covariance matrix of a vector
\bar{x}_i	Mean of milling parameter x_i
y	y -direction
\mathbf{Z}_i	Coefficient matrix of size $(Q \times 2)$
\mathbf{Z}	Coefficient matrix of size $(2Q \times 4)$
$\hat{\beta}$	Unbiased estimate of β
β	Vector of unknown constant parameters
ε_i	Random error vector associated with i th response
Δ	Variance-covariance matrix of random error vector ε
ϕ	Cutter angle (degrees)
ϕ_{st}	Cutter angle at start of cut (degrees)
ϕ_{ex}	Cutter angle at exit of cut (degrees)
Ω	Spindle speed (rpm)
ρ	Correlation factor
Σ	Variance-covariance matrix
σ_i	Standard deviation of generic parameter I
$\sigma_{l_{lim}}$	Standard deviation of axial depth limit

σ_{ij}	Covariance between i and j
$\hat{\sigma}_{ij}$	Estimate of σ_{ij}
ζ	Damping ratio
