Vibration Characteristics of Force Signal for Single Diamond Grit Scratching Process

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Scratching force is a significant factor to evaluate the characteristics of single diamond grit scratching process. In this paper, experimental study was carried out to investigate the vibration characteristics of force signals during the scratching process. A precise multicomponent dynamometer is employed in the force measurement during a single diamond grit scratching on pure copper. The frequencies of the vibration section of force signals with different scratching parameters are calculated and analyzed. The influence of force signal vibration on the measuring accuracy of dynamometer is systematically analyzed further. The results show that higher scratching speed and larger scratching depth lead to larger vibration amplitudes of the force signals. Strong impact on the quartz piezoelectric crystal of dynamometer, which is produced indirectly by single diamond grit scratching process, leads to the vibration of scratching force signal. The first semi-sinusoidal force signal is the actual scratching force. The vibration of the scratching force signal has little effect on the measuring accuracy of the dynamometer.

Keywords: Single Diamond Grit, Scratching, Force Signal, Signal Vibration

1 Introduction

Single diamond grit scratching process is an effective approach to investigate the complex situation of diamond wheel grinding process. The influence of grits and chips on the grinding arc area could be avoided with single diamond grit scratching process [1, 2]. Thus, it is widely used to realize the workpiece material removal mechanism and wear characteristics during the machining process [3].

Scratching force is considered as one of the most essential parameter for the scratching process. Force measurement in the scratching process is commonly carried out by piezoelectric crystal dynamometers [4]. The scratching force signals in the post studies are almost extracted and presented as a value [5]. However, the scratching force signal varies dynamically with the workpiece material removal volume.

The scratching normal force $F_n$ and tangential force $F_t$ present to be a semi-sinusoidal variation during the single diamond grit scratching process. Scratching experiments with a pendulum setup were carried out just with a low scratching speed (0.05 m/s) [6]. The scratching force signals with higher speeds were measured and exhibited to be vibration [7]. However, the reasons why the scratching force signals appear to be vibration were not discussed further in the post studies. To date, there is no clear understanding on the vibration characteristics of single diamond grit scratching force signals.

This paper attempts to present and illustrate the vibration characteristics of force signals during the single diamond grit scratching process. The force signals are measured by a precise piezoelectric crystal dynamometer during a single diamond grit scratching on pure copper. The influences of force signal vibration on the measuring accuracy of dynamometer are analyzed systematically to investigate the vibration characteristics of scratching force signals.

2 Experimental procedure

The scratching experiments were carried out on a precision grinding machine (Blohm Planomat HP408) as shown in Fig. 1. A single diamond grit, which was a Rockwell hardness indenter with 90° cone apex angle, was mounted to a dummy wheel with threaded connection. Pure copper, which has excellent plasticity, was selected as the workpiece material in the scratching experiments. The pure copper disc was stuck onto the dynamometer directly. The dynamometer was mounted on a clamp which was magnetically absorbed on the machine table. The pure copper was
precision machined with flatness was 1 μm and Ra = 0.5 μm. The scratches on pure copper separated from each other.

The force signals were measured by multicomponent dynamometer Kistler 9119AA2. The scratching speeds are 0.5-40 m/s and scratching depths are 10-40 μm. The dynamometer is precisely designed with high sensitivity (-26 pC/N, -13 pC/N, -26 pC/N in x, y, z dimensions respectively) and high natural frequency (4.3 kHz, 4.6 kHz, 4.4 kHz in x, y, z dimensions respectively), and it can be employed for microcutting force measurement in precision and ultra-precision machining. The dynamometer was in connected with Kistler charge amplifier 5080. The force signals data was acquired by Kistler 5697 and analyzed by Dynoware software. The sampling frequency was 91 kHz. Meanwhile, the influence of a steel ball free dropping and a steel bar striking directly on the dynamometer were tested further to investigate the vibration characteristics of force signals.

3 Results

3.1 Scratching force signals

A typical scratch on the pure copper disc and its corresponding normal force $F_n$ and tangential force $F_t$ obtained during the scratching process are shown in Fig. 2. The scratch is produced at a relatively low scratching speed $v_s = 0.5$ m/s and scratching depth $a_p = 20$ μm. The normal force $F_n$ and tangential force $F_t$ vary with the scratching depth and display a semi-sinusoidal variation during the scratching process. Similar scratch traces and force profiles were also observed by Wang [8] and Subhash [9]. However, these experiments were all carried out with a low scratching speed.

Experiments with higher scratching speeds and larger scratching depths were carried out to investigate the influence of different scratching parameters on the scratching force signals. The scratching force signals, which scratching depth and scratching speed are 20 μm and 2.5-20 m/s respectively, are shown in Fig. 3. It could be observed that both the tangential force $F_t$ (Fig. 3a) and normal force $F_n$ (Fig. 3b) display the same evolution, and present to be vibration at the tail of the first peak of the force signal curves. Higher scratching speeds result in larger vibration amplitude of the scratching force signals. The force signals attenuate continuously after the initial vibration point. They are obviously different from the force signals with a low scratching speed (Fig. 2).
3.2 Impacting force signals

In order to compare with the vibration characteristics of the scratching force signals, two impacting force experiments were carried out as shown in Fig. 5. The force signal of a steel ball free dropping directly on the dynamometer one-time with a certain height (about 0.5 m) is shown in Fig. 5a. It can be observed that the amplitude of the first peak of the force signal is larger than that of other vibration signals. Meanwhile, the vibration of the force signal attenuates continuously for a rather long progress.

The force signal of a steel bar striking directly on the dynamometer is shown in Fig. 5b. It can be observed that the variation of the force signal is similar with Fig. 5a. The force signals of a steel ball free dropping and a steel bar striking are both impacting forces for the dynamometer, and they are similar to the force signals of single diamond grit scratching process (Fig. 3 and Fig. 4). Therefore, it could be speculated that the vibration of scratching force signals are most probably produced by the direct impact of the single diamond grit scratching process.
4 Discussion

4.1 Frequency spectrum analysis

The vibration section of the scratching force signals with \( a_p = 40 \mu m \) and \( v_s = 20 \text{ m/s} \) are spectral analyzed with fast Fourier transform as shown in Fig. 6. It can be observed that there is a peak in the spectral figure. The amplitude reaches the peak when the measurement system frequency is \( 3092 \text{ Hz} \).

![Fig. 6 The spectral analysis of the scratching force vibration section.](image)

The peak frequencies of the vibration section for the normal forces signals with different scratching parameters are shown in Fig. 7. It is obviously that the peak frequencies of the vibration signals with different scratching parameters are almost within the range of 2950-3200 \( \text{Hz} \). The frequency of the measurement system can be calculated as \([9]\):

\[
f = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} \text{[Hz]},
\]

Where the \( k \) is the stiffness of the measurement system, \( m \) is the weight of the measurement system including the workpiece material (1.38 \text{ kg}) and the dynamometer (1.35 \text{ kg}). According to the specification of the Kistler 9119AA2 dynamometer, the natural frequency without additional mass of the three dimensions \( x, y, z \) are 4.3 \( \text{kHz} \), 4.6 \( \text{kHz} \) and 4.4 \( \text{kHz} \) respectively. The stiffness \( k \) of the dynamometer can be calculated \([8, 10]\). Therefore, the frequency of the measurement system can be calculated as about 3094 \( \text{Hz} \). The calculated frequency is lower than the natural frequency of the dynamometer. However, it is just in the range of the peak frequency of the vibration signals (2950 - 3200 \( \text{Hz} \)), and it is prone to cause resonance.

The analysis above shows that the vibration of scratching force signal is closely related with the strong scratching impact of the diamond grit. High precise quartz piezoelectric crystal, which is shown in Fig. 8, is employed as the core sensor sensitive element of the dynamometer \([9, 11]\). The quartz crystal is hexagonal cone as shown in Fig. 8a. A part of the quartz crystal (Fig. 8b) is machined to fabricate dynamometer, and extreme thin precise quartz crystal plate (Fig. 8c) is employed in the measurement of dynamometer by utilizing the piezoelectric effect. The strong impact of single diamond scratching process leads to the self-sustained vibration of the quartz crystal plate. Hence, the output force signals appear to vibration.

![Fig. 7 The peak frequency of the vibration section of normal force signals with (a): \( v_s = 20 \text{ m/s}, \ a_p = 5-50 \mu m \), and (b): \( a_p = 20 \mu m, \ v_s = 2-40 \text{ m/s} \).](image)

![Fig. 8 Quartz piezoelectric crystal is the measurement core of the dynamometer. (a) quartz crystal structure, (b) a part of the quartz crystal, (c) the quartz crystal plate employed in dynamometer measurement.](image)

4.2 Actual Scratching Force

Similar vibration situation of force signals was also observed with Kistler 9257B dynamometer during the process of end-milling AISI H13 steel \([11]\). However, the vibration characteristics of milling force signals were not investigated further, and the first peak of the signals are regarded as the final force value.
Fig. 9 A single diamond grit scratching normal force (a) and the scratching model (b).

It is necessary to confirm which part of the vibration force signal is the actual scratching force. A typical single diamond grit scratching normal force \( F_n \) and the scratching model are shown in Fig. 9. The time of the first semi-sinusoid for the experimental normal force signal \( t_{exp} \) (Fig. 9a) is compared with the theoretical calculation time \( t_{cal} \) (Fig. 9b). The arc length of a single scratch \( l \) could be calculated by [12]:

\[
l = 2\sqrt{a_p d} \quad [\text{mm}], \quad (2)
\]

The \( d \), which is the equivalent diameter of the scratching wheel, is the sum of the diameter of dummy wheel (360 mm) and two times of the length of diamond indenter (10 mm). Therefore, the theoretical scratching time \( t_{cal} \) of a single scratch can be calculated as [13]:

\[
t_{cal} = \frac{l}{v_s} \quad [\text{s}], \quad (3)
\]

The error \( \Delta \phi_{time} \) of the experiment time and calculation time can be denoted as:

\[
\Delta \phi_{time} = \frac{t_{exp} - t_{cal}}{t_{cal}} \times 100\% \quad [-], \quad (4)
\]

The comparison of the two types of scratching time with various scratching parameters is shown in Fig. 10. It can be observed that the variation trends of the experimental time and calculation time are relatively coherent, and their values are close to each other. The errors of experiment time and calculation time are rather small from 0.25% to 8.11%. It demonstrated that the first semi-sinusoidal force signal is the actual scratching force. The force signal vibration, which is principally produced by the scratching impact on the quartz crystal plate of the dynamometer, has little influence on the measuring accuracy of the dynamometer.

Fig. 10 The time and error of the first peak of the force signals compared with the theoretical calculating value and the experimental value with (a) \( v_s = 20 \text{ m/s}, a_p = 10-40 \mu\text{m} \); and (b) \( a_p = 20 \mu\text{m}, v_s = 2.5-20 \text{ m/s} \).

5 Conclusions

In this present work, the vibration characteristics of force signals during single diamond grit scratching on copper are investigated systematically. The main conclusions can be summarized as follows:

The vibration of scratching force signal is strongly affected by the actual scratching condition. A certain degree of resonance would be produced by the force measurement system and experimental scratching conditions. Higher scratching speed and larger scratching depth lead to larger vibration amplitude of the
scratching force signals.

The force signal vibration depends on the intensity of the impact on the quartz piezoelectric crystal of dynamometer. Strong impact produced indirectly by the single diamond grit scratching process, results in the self-sustained vibration of the quartz crystal plate and the vibration of scratching force signal. The single diamond grit scratching on the workpiece with a lower speed produces a weak impact on the dynamometer, and its force vibration is not obvious.

The first semi-sinusoidal force signal is the actual scratching force, and the first peak value of the scratching force signal can be regarded as the actual force value. The vibration of the scratching force signal has little effect on the measuring accuracy of the dynamometer.

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