

# Research on Ultrasonic Machining Gap Control Based on Fuzzy Self-tuning PID Parameters Technology

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**Abstract.** The working principle and measurement of ultrasonic machining gap is analyzed in this paper. A stable machining gap between the tool and workpiece must be maintained for improving processing accuracy and efficiency. Therefore, a fuzzy self-tuning PID parameters controller for ultrasonic machining tool feed system is designed, by means of using Matlab /Simulink simulation experiment, in this paper.

## 1 Formulation of issues

One of the major concerns in any kinds of processing method is the producing proficiency. Ultrasonic machining is a method which process material by suspension abrasive material under the condition of a high-frequency vibration of the tool, thus, it is one of the most effective methods in processing hard and brittle materials such as glass and ceramics. Tool vibration amplitude and frequency, machining gap (that is, workpiece feed pressure produced by the tool) between the tool and the workpiece, abrasive suspensions, materials of the tool are the main factors that affect the processing speed. With other conditions remain unchanged, when the machining gap is too big, the impact of machining abrasive on the workpiece will decrease, resulting in decreased processing speed and reduced efficiency; when machining gap is too small, machining abrasive will be squeezed out, reducing the amount of abrasives, also resulting in decreased processing speed and reduced efficiency. To ensure accuracy and efficiency, we must maintain a stable machining gap (usually slightly larger than the average diameter of abrasive) between the tool and the workpiece. Therefore, under certain conditions, the controlling ultrasonic machining gap is a critical issue to improve ultrasonic machining productivity. In this paper, we mainly discuss the ultrasonic machining gap control based on fuzzy self-tuning PID parameter technology.

## 2 Basic principle of ultrasonic machining

Ultrasonic machining is a forming processing method in which the end face of an ultrasonic machine tool (Fig:1) is made ultrasonic vibration, by use of abrasive suspension to process brittle materials. Ultrasonic generator produces more than 16000 Hz high frequency

AC power supplied to the ultrasonic transducer to generate ultrasonic

Vibrations, and the amplitude is amplified up to about 0.05 ~ 0.1mm by means of the horn, so that the lower end of the tool horn generates strong vibration. The suspension, containing water and an abrasive material, driven by the

Tool, also produces a strong vibration, impacting the surface of the workpiece. When machining, the tool puts a tiny pressure on the workpiece and the abrasive surface, continuously impacted by abrasive material with great speed and accelerated velocity, is crushed into small particles, falling down from the surface. The tool continuous feeds and the processing goes on until finally the desired size is reached and the shape of the tool is "Copied" on the workpiece.

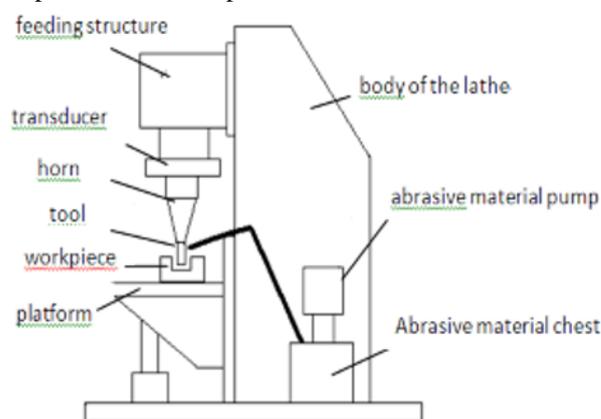


Fig. 1. Structure of Ultrasonic Machine Tool

## 3 Measure and control principle of machining gap

Ultrasonic resonance principle can be used to measure the gap between the tool and the work piece. Figure 2 is an ultrasonic machining gap measure and control system illustrative diagram. When machining, the ultrasonic is transformed into mechanical oscillation by machining transducer, then amplified by the horn and passed to tools. In order to improve the processing precision and efficiency, we expect the gap between tool and workpiece to be maintained at the set value  $= \lambda / 2$  ( $\lambda$  is ultrasonic propagation wavelength measured in the abrasive suspension). When measured, pulse excitation transducer converts signal into measured ultrasound and launched and spread to abrasive suspension by the horn. Part of the ultrasonic waves are reflected at the interface, others pass through the suspension and reach the surface of the work piece, resulting in reflection and transmission. When the gap between the workpiece and the tool is  $\lambda / 2$ , or  $n\lambda / 2$  ( $n$  is an integer), the ultrasonic waves and its reflected waves transmit back and forth in the suspension and interfere with each other precisely in the same phase. According to the principle of resonance, as the ultrasound energy transmitted from the horn to abrasive suspension is reduced, ultrasonic amplitude is reduced accordingly. Based on the circuit feedback signal, CNC system then decides whether the gap between the workpiece and the tool is equal to  $\lambda / 2$  or  $n\lambda / 2$ . If it is equal to  $\lambda / 2$  or  $n\lambda / 2$ , the gap information will be sent back to CNC system; if it is not equal to  $\lambda / 2$  or  $n\lambda / 2$ , the feed structure will keep feeding until the machining gap is equal to  $\lambda / 2$  or  $n\lambda / 2$ .

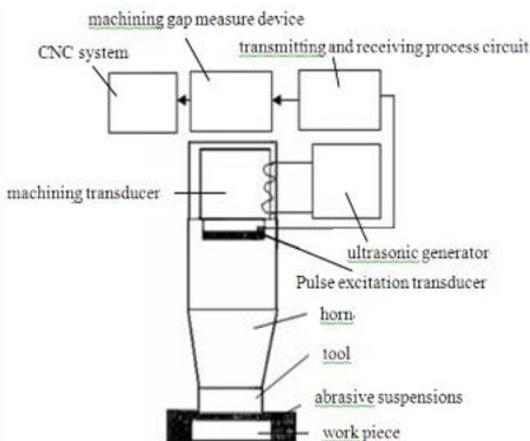


Fig. 2. Ultrasonic Machining Gap Measure and Control System

## 4 Design of fuzzy self-tuning PID parameters controller

### 4.1 Design

Conventional PID control is simple in principle and easy to use, but its control methods are mostly to be fixed a set of adjustable parameters under certain performance requirements. Such controls cannot often give attention to both static and dynamic performance, therefore the control of the system is not optimal. As to the fuzzy

control, in which the mathematical model of the controlled objects is not necessarily to be known, it is easy to implement the control on uncertain or nonlinear systems and has a strong robustness to the parameters of the controlled objects, also it has strong suppression to external interference, and other similar characters. We, in this paper, try to combine the advantages of PID fuzzy control and design the fuzzy self-tuning PID parameters controller, with the function of identifying fuzzy relations between the three parameters, scale factor, integration constant and differential constant, and the error as well as error rate of change. It also keeps detecting error and error rate of change, and then revises the three parameters according to the fuzzy control principle, to meet the requirements of errors and error rate of change to the three parameters, thus the control system processes good dynamic and static performance.

### 4.2 Structure

The fuzzy self-tuning PID parameters controller consists of PID controller in which the parameters are adjustable and fuzzy controller. The fuzzy controller takes the deviation  $e$  and deviation rate of change  $ec$  of the ultrasonic machining gap as input value, the three parameters  $K_p, K_i, K_d$  of the conventional controller as output value, and then conducts real-time adjustments to  $K_p, K_i, K_d$  with fuzzy inference methods so as to meet the requirements of deviation  $e$  and deviation rate of change to PID parameters in different time. The structure of the composition of the controller is shown in Fig.3.

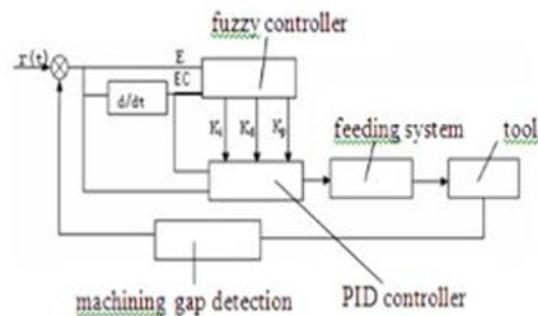
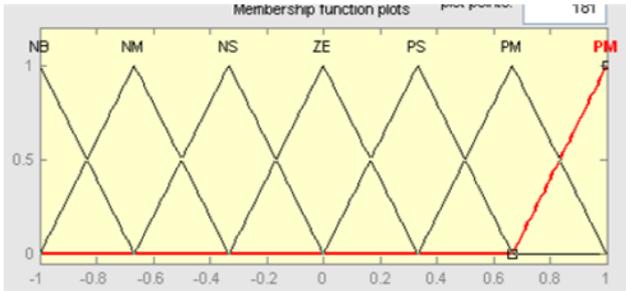


Fig. 3. Structure of Fuzzy Self-Tuning PID Parameters Controller

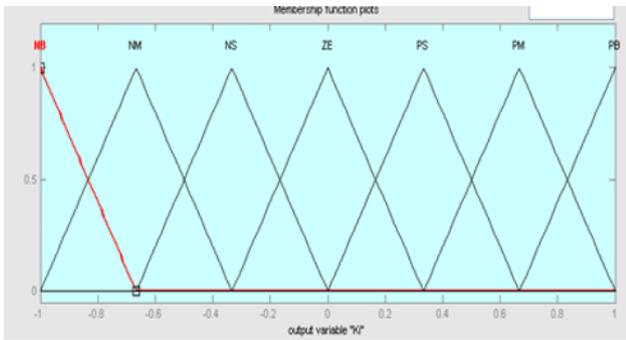
### 4.3 Design of fuzzy control

The design of fuzzy control system employs two inputs ( $E, EC$ ), triple-outputs ( $\Delta K_p, \Delta K_i, \Delta K_d$ ). The fuzzy domain of error  $e$  and error change rate  $ec$  is:  $E, EC = \{-6, -5, -4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ . The language variable value is taken as  $E, EC = \{NB, NM, NS, ZE, PS, PM, PB\}$ . The fuzzy domain of  $\Delta K_p, \Delta K_i, \Delta K_d$  of is:  $\Delta K_p, \Delta K_i, \Delta K_d = \{-1, -0.8, -0.6, -0.4, -0.2, 0, 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8, 1\}$ , and the language variable value is taken as  $\Delta K_p, \Delta K_i, \Delta K_d = \{NB, NM, NS, ZE, PS, PM, PB\}$ . The membership functions of input and output variables are taken evenly distributed triangular

membership function. The membership function distribution curve of E, EC is shown in Figure 4 and the membership function profiles of  $\Delta K_p$ ,  $\Delta K_i$ ,  $\Delta K_d$  is shown in Figure 5. The control rules of parameters  $\Delta K_p$ ,  $\Delta K_i$ ,  $\Delta K_d$  are shown in Table 1, Table 2 and Table 3. The control rules of fuzzy PID parameter self-tuning controller is shown in Figure 6.



**Fig. 4.** Membership Function Distribution Curve Of E, EC



**Fig. 5.** Membership Function Profiles Of  $\Delta K_p, \Delta K_i, \Delta K_d$

**Table 1.** Control Rules of Parameters  $\Delta K_p$

	E	NB	NM	NS	ZE	PS	PM	PB
EC	NB	PB	PB	PM	PS	NM	ZE	ZE
	NM	PB	PB	PS	PS	NS	ZE	PS
	NS	PB	PM	ZE	ZE	ZE	PS	PM
	ZE	PB	PM	ZE	ZE	ZE	PS	PB
	PS	PB	PS	ZE	ZE	ZE	PS	PB
	PM	PS	PS	NS	NS	PS	PM	PB
	PB	ZE	ZE	NM	NS	PM	PM	PB

**Table 2.** Control Rules of Parameters  $\Delta K_i$

	E	NB	NM	NS	ZE	PS	PM	PB
EC	NB	PB	PB	PB	NM	NM	ZE	ZE
	NM	PB	PB	PM	NS	NS	PS	PS
	NS	PB	PM	PS	NS	ZE	PS	PM
	ZE	PB	PM	PS	ZE	PS	PM	PB
	PS	PB	PS	ZE	NS	PS	PB	PB
	PM	PS	PS	NS	NS	PM	PB	PB
	PB	ZE	ZE	NM	NM	PB	PB	PB

**Table 3.** Control Rules Of Parameters  $\Delta K_d$

	E	NB	NM	NS	ZE	PS	PM	PB
EC	NB	PB	PM	PB	PB	PB	ZE	NB

NM	PB	PS	PM	PM	PM	NS	NB
NS	PM	PS	PS	PS	PS	NB	NB
ZE							
PS	NB	NM	PS	PS	PS	PS	PS
PM	NB	NS	PM	PM	PM	PS	PM
PB	NB	ZE	PB	PB	PB	PM	PB



**Fig. 6.** Control Rules of Fuzzy PID Controller

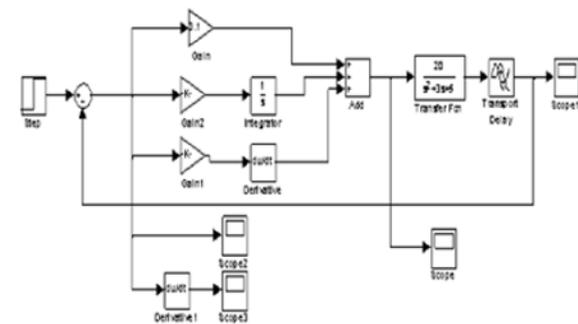
## 5 Simulation experiment based on simulink simulation

In order to verify the control effect of fuzzy self-tuning PID parameters controller, and for comparison, we apply the software Mtlab/Simulink to conduct the simulation experiment and analysis on conventional PID control and fuzzy self-tuning PID control. The common second order delay in actual control tasks is selected as the control object. Suppose the transfer function is:

$$G(s) = \frac{20 e^{-2s}}{s^2 + 3s + 5}$$

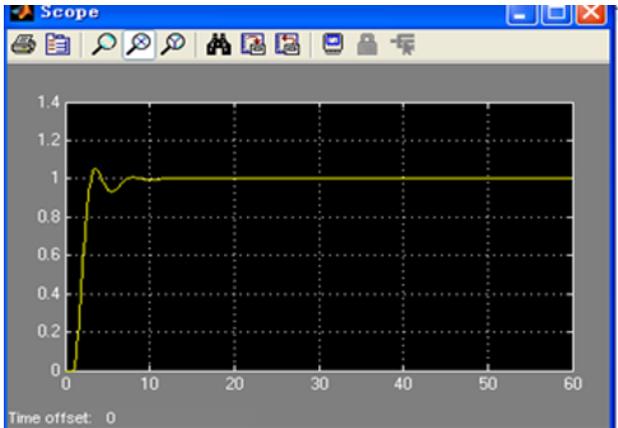
### 5.1 Conventional PID control system simulation experiment

Conventional PID control system simulation model shown in Figure 7.

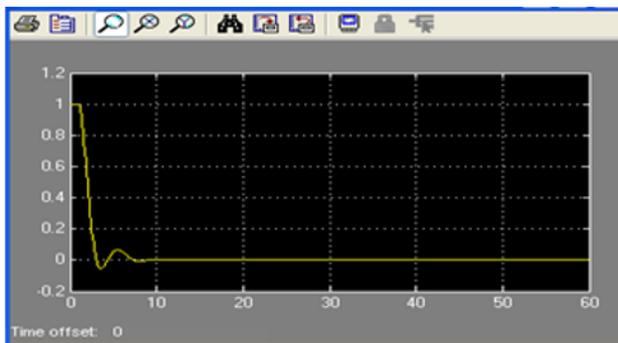


**Fig. 7.** Conventional PID Control System Simulation Model

In the role of unit step signal, we take sampling time  $T=0.1$  seconds, the simulation time  $t = 60$  second, PID controller parameters  $K_p=0.1$ ,  $K_i=0.12$ ,  $K_d=0.01$ , then we get the output waveform of the system shown in Figure 8, system deviation  $e$  and deviation change rate  $e_c$  are shown in Figure 9 and Figure 10, respectively, and the curve of the PID controller output  $u$  changes in pace with time  $t$  is shown in Figure 11.



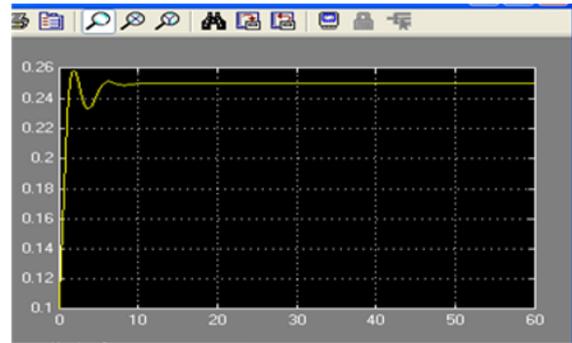
**Fig. 8.** Simulation Effect of Conventional Control System



**Fig. 9.** Curve of Deviation E In Pace With Time T



**Fig. 10.** Curve of Deviation Change Rate E in Pace with Time T

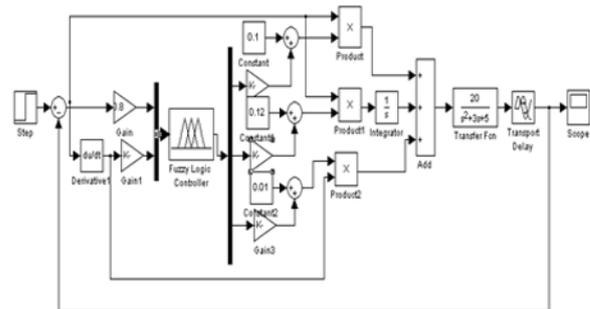


**Fig. 11.** Curve of PID Controller Output U in Pace with Time T

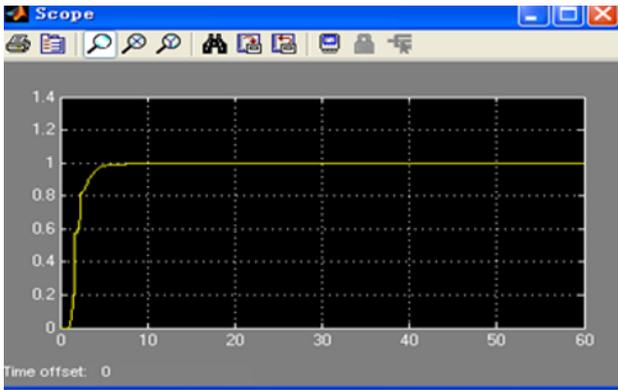
## 5.2 Fuzzy PID self-turning parameters controller simulation experiment

Based on Figure 8, Figure 9, Figure 10, we decide the basic domain to be  $e \in (-0.2, 1)$ ,  $e_c \in (-0.8, 0.2)$ ,  $\Delta K_p \in (0.22, 0.26)$ ,  $\Delta K_i \in (0.22, 0.26)$ ,  $\Delta K_d \in (0.22, 0.26)$ . In the role of the unit step signal through repeated experiments, we take quantitative factors to be  $K_e=0.8$ ,  $K_{ec}=0.35$ , scale factor  $G_{kp}$ ,  $G_{ki}$ ,  $G_{kd}$  were 0.01, 0.001, 0.01. Then fuzzy self-tuning PID parameters controller simulation model is shown in Figure 12. The simulation result of the system in the role of unit step signal is shown in Figure 13.

To compare the simulation results in Figure 8 and Figure 13, we can see that the fuzzy PID parameter self-tuning controller discussed in this article can be well used to control machining gap, to improve processing quality and efficiency, at same time free of such shortcomings as large overshoot amount and long time for adjustment that exist in conventional PID controlling.



**Fig. 12.** Simulation Model of Fuzzy PID Parameter Self-Tuning Control System



**Fig. 13.** Simulation Result in the Role of Unit Step Signal

## 6 Conclusion

Machining gap is a critical parameter in ultrasonic CNC machining. This article puts forward that fuzzy self-tuning PID parameters controller is used to control the feed system of ultrasonic CNC machine tool to ensure a stable machining gap between the tool and the workpiece. Matlab/Simulink simulation software is applied to conduct the experiment on the designed system, and proved to have good results for it achieves an on-line control of the process.

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