

# CUTTING PERFORMANCE IN GROOVING TURNING OF SUPER HEAT-RESISTANT ALLOY INCONEL 718 WITH A HIGH-PRESSURE COOLANT SUPPLY

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## INTRODUCTION

Hickel-based alloys such as Inconel 718 are difficult to cut due to their outstanding mechanical properties [1]. A major requirement of cutting tool materials used for machining nickel-based alloys is that they must possess adequate hot hardness to withstand elevated temperatures generated under high-speed conditions during machining. Most cutting tool materials lose their hardness at elevated temperatures resulting in weakening of the inter-particle bond strength and consequent acceleration of tool wear [2]. Therefore, in the cutting of a nickel based-alloy, due to the high cutting temperature and strong adhesion generated at the interface between the cutting tool and the chip, the wear of the tool becomes large. Thus, when cutting nickel-based alloys, a slower cutting rate is required than when cutting carbon steel.

High-speed cutting is desirable to improve productivity, however in high-speed cutting the rise in cutting temperature is significant. In particular, when cutting nickel-based alloys the cutting temperature rises rapidly, so the tool material must have both excellent wear resistance and heat resistance. Wet cutting is effective for cooling and cooling of tools.

High-pressure coolant cutting is effective for lowering the cutting temperature and reducing the tool wear [3-6]. By supplying high-pressure coolant into the cutting edge, the cutting temperature decreases and the flank wear decreases [7]. Furthermore, by supplying high-pressure coolant, the chip breakage performance is also improved [4-6]. Therefore, studies on high-pressure coolant cutting of difficult-to-cut materials such as titanium alloy [8-12] and Inconel [7, 13] has been carried out in addition to the above. However, in the grooving turning of nickel-based alloys with a high-pressure coolant supply the effects of the coolant pressure on the cutting performance have not been reported.

In this study, in grooving turning of Inconel 718 with a pressure coolant supply, the chip configurations and the tool wear were experimentally investigated.

## CONCLUSION

In this study, Inconel 718 was grooving turned with a pressurized coolant supplied, and the chip configurations and the tool wear were experimentally investigated.

The following results were obtained:

- (1) The pressure coolant supply method improved the chip breakage performance.
- (2) In the case of low-pressure coolant supply cutting, the mass per chip increased with increasing cutting speed. However, in the case of high-pressure coolant supply cutting, there was no difference in the mass per chip even if the cutting speed was increased.
- (3) It seemed that the bending of chips caused by high-pressure fluid has a large influence on chip breakage in high-pressure coolant cutting.
- (4) Comparing the cutting of the conventional coolant supply cutting with the cutting of the pressure coolant cutting, the tool wear with the pressure coolant supply was smaller than that with the conventional coolant supply.
- (5) Comparing the cutting of the low-pressure coolant supply with the cutting of the high-pressure coolant supply, the tool wear with the high-pressure coolant supply was smaller than that with the low-pressure coolant supply.

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