

Research on Vibration Assisted Machining Equipment and Mechanism

Bingrui Lv¹, Bin Lin¹, Tianyi Sui^{1,2,#}

¹ Key Laboratory of Advanced Ceramics and Machining Technology, Ministry of Education, Tianjin University, Tianjin 300072, China

² Key Laboratory of Mechanism Theory and Equipment Design of Ministry of Education, Tianjin University, Tianjin 300072, China

Corresponding Author / Email: suity@tju.edu.cn TEL: +86-137-5251-0757,

KEYWORDS: Hard and brittle materials, Vibration assisted machining, Compliant mechanism, Material removal mechanism

Hard and brittle materials are widely used in aerospace, semiconductor, biomedical and nuclear energy applications due to their excellent physical and chemical properties such as high temperature stability, wear resistance, corrosion resistance, light weight and high strength. Prior to practical application, these hard and brittle materials must be precision machined to achieve satisfactory surface integrity. However, their relatively high hardness combined with low fracture toughness makes them susceptible to subsurface damage and cracking during machining. Vibration-assisted machining technology is an advanced energy field-assisted manufacturing technology for hard and brittle materials, which has the advantages of high efficiency and high precision manufacturing. However, its machining mechanism is still not clear. For example, the crack propagation and expansion mechanism under vibration conditions, the chip formation mechanism during the ductile brittle transformation process, and the stress-strain transition behavior within the material under impact loading are not well understood. In addition, the critical ductile-brittle transition depth of hard and brittle materials is always at the level of tens of nanometers to submicrometers, which is difficult to achieve with the precision of conventional high-speed scratching equipment. Therefore, we have conducted research on vibratory scribing equipment and theory.

For the vibratory scribing machine, the machine tool error identification model shows that the spindle perpendicularity error and the workpiece-guideway parallelism error are the most important factors affecting the scribing accuracy. Therefore, spindle modulation and workpiece positioning methods were proposed, and physical prototypes were analyzed, optimized, and fabricated. Experiments show that these methods can well improve the machining accuracy to realize the ductile removal of quartz glass. In addition, a 2-degree-of-freedom vibration device was developed to investigate vibration-assisted machining mechanisms.

For machining mechanisms, axial and radial vibration crack initiation and propagation mechanisms were investigated. First, indentation, scratch, and axial vibration scratch experiments were conducted on quartz glass, and the results showed that vibration scratch cracks are a combination of indentation cracks and scratch cracks. Vibration scratch cracks change from indentation cracks to scratch cracks when the indenter moves from the entrance to the exit of the workpiece or when the vibration frequency changes from high to low. Second, radial vibration scratch tests were conducted on the self-developed scratch test platform. The results showed that surface cracks appeared outside the scratch grooves at the maximum curvature. Scratches with higher curvature peaks showed less crack initiation depth, and deeper cracks were induced inside the scratch. A novel finite-length curved stress field model is proposed to evaluate the damage evolution from the inside and outside of the scratch. Based on the theory of maximum principal stress and tensile stress, the mechanism of crack propagation under the curvature effect is revealed. This research aims to provide new insights into the efficient non-destructive processing of hard and brittle materials.
