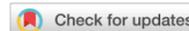




## Experimental Analysis of Surface Roughness Optimization of EN19 Alloy Steel Milling by the Cuckoo Search Algorithm

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**Abstract:** In the present paper, end milling has been performed on EN19 alloy steel by selecting cutting speed, feed rate, & depth of cut as input parameters and surface roughness (SR) as a response. EN19 alloy steel milling is widely used in various sectors, such as the automotive, defence, construction, aerospace, and nuclear sectors. A parametric study of EN19 alloy steel is needed for better machining. The central composite design was used for designing the experiments & modeling the surface roughness as a response. A cuckoo search algorithm was applied to minimize the surface roughness. It was found that feed rate is the most important factor affecting surface roughness (SR). The Cuckoo Search Algorithm also reveals that a minimum SR 1.8576 micrometer has been achieved at a higher speed of 765 RPM, a lower feed rate of 55.9516 mm/min., & a lower depth of cut of 0.4846 mm. The experiment concludes that it is so that the optimum SR is exhibited at both lower feed rates & high speeds. This, in turn, indicates that our implementation of CCD-based SR, followed by the real cuckoo search algorithm optimization, provides similar results and a good model to the practical results we would expect.

### Introduction

The milling process is a high-material removal process. Due to its wide application in industries, it is essential to investigate the surface quality of the milled products. Surface roughness shows the quality of the machined products, & hence analysis of surface roughness is required (Mandal et al., 2022; Shashwath et al., 2023). There are different types of milling processes like High-speed milling (Das and Ghosh, 2023), High-speed milling with minimum quantity lubrication (MQL) & liquid N<sub>2</sub> (Wu et al., 2023), & chemical milling (Çakır, 2023) have been developed to cut the harder material with high material removal rate & good surface quality (Jain and Parashar, 2022).

The cuckoo search algorithm is a nature-inspired mathematical optimization algorithm. It can solve many

real-life problems very easily due to inspiration from the cuckoo egg-laying phenomenon & requires no derivatives for calculation. Hence, using employability & exploitability features, it can easily solve many real-life complicated problems. In this research, the cuckoo search algorithm was used for parametric optimization of Surface Roughness by considering 3 process parameters speed, feed & depth of cut as input process parameters.

Mali & Chakraborty modified the cuckoo search algorithm by using McCulloch's approach & Luus-Jaakola's heuristic approach in a balanced manner to enhance its exploring capability (Chakraborty and Mali, 2024). Zhao et al. (2023) performed a direct energy deposition arc hybrid method with interpass milling on 304 Stainless Steel. They found that its surface quality, microhardness, tensile strength & elongation improved



when compared with additive manufacturing alone (Zhao et al., 2023). Muanpaopong et al. (2023) compared the fine milling for breaking the cement clinker into very fine particles using steel balls & Al balls. They concluded that steel balls achieve faster breakage of cement clinker than the Al balls. It has also been found that if slower breakage of cement clinker is allowed, then Al balls will be the greatest replacement for steel balls for significant energy saving (Muanpaopong et al., 2023). Amit Kumar et al. (2023) investigated the cryogenic treatment on the performance of cutting insert while milling En 24 steel. They found that this treatment improves the surface roughness of the workpiece specimen, reduces flank wear of the tool, & improves microhardness (Kumar et al., 2023). Patel et al. investigated end milling on AISI D2 tool steel using an AlCrN-coated tool considering 4 input process parameters cutting speed, feed, width of cut, & depth of cut. Cutting force was selected as a response & the verification experiments validated the developed model that predicts cutting force (Patel et al., 2023). Jackson et al. (2023) investigated about clean production by using a coated mill tool during dry milling machining. They concluded that coated tools have a longer tool life in dry conditions than uncoated tools (Jackson et al., 2023).

Gaurav Mohanty et al. (2018) studied EDM machining on En24 alloy steel, while DOE was used to optimize the process parameters (Mohanty et al., 2018). Abhishek Tiwari et al. have investigated ECM machining on En19 tool steel using the Taguchi method. ANOVA obtained a significant factor for overcutting (Tiwari et al., 2015). Dr. Vijay Kumar M (2018) performed CNC turning on En19 steel and responses (MRR and SR) are modeled by the L18 Taguchi orthogonal array (Kumar et al., 2018). Selvarajan et al. (2018) used a pentagonal-shaped Cu electrode for EDM machining on En19 alloy steel. At the same time, responses (Material Removal Rate, Wear Ratio, machining time, and Tool Wear Rate) were optimized by the Taguchi L9 orthogonal array (Selvarajan et al., 2018). Tilak and Nagarju used Taguchi L9 orthogonal array to optimize CNC Milling on Aluminium alloy 1100. They have concluded that minimum SR is obtained at a speed of 4000 RPM, feed 600 mm/rev, and depth of cut 1.5 mm (Tilak & Nagaraju, 2018). V.S. Kaushik et al. have optimized temperature during end milling on Aluminium Al 7068 by RSM and Genetic Algorithm (Kaushik et al., 2018). Pillai et al. found that by applying Taguchi and ANOVA during end milling, tool path strategy is the most significant factor affecting SR and machining time (Unnikrishna Pillai et al., 2018). Gaikhe et al. investigated the best minimizing

cutting force conditions in helical ball-end milling of Inconel 718. From GA, it is clear that a low feed rate, high cutting speed, and moderate depth of cut are the optimum conditions for the lowest cutting force (Gaikhe et al., 2018). Vardhan et al. (2018) carried out CNC milling on P20 steel by Taguchi L50 orthogonal array. They concluded that feed rate is an important factor for responses (SR and MRR) (Vishnu Vardhan et al., 2018). Tansukatanon et al. performed micro-milling on stainless steel to make microchannels. By fluctuating depth of cut and feed rate as process variables, its effect on responses like MRR, SR, Burr height, and channel dimension has been studied (Tansukatanon et al., 2019). Parashar et al. have investigated wire EDM parameters for SR of stainless-steel grade 304L using the L32 Taguchi standard Orthogonal array method (Parashar et al., 2010).

### Methodology

Design of experiment (DoE) is a technique that is used in various fields like finding the interaction between process parameters (Pisani et al., 2022), finding the best combination of mixtures (Pratap Singh et al., 2023) & optimizing the process parameters for specific responses (Ng et al., 2022). It is done by using linear regression (Ermergen and Taylan, 2024), & analysis of variance (Chen et al., 2022) methods. Taguchi is also a type of systematic DoE approach (Sharma et al., 2022) that uses the orthogonal array method to find the optimal solutions for a given problem (Kumar et al., 2020).

In this investigation, two rectangular blocks of size 100mm×100mm×50mm with a density of 7.85 gm/cm<sup>3</sup> of En19 alloy steel have been used as a specimen. On each block, ten experiments were performed. Carbide was used as a tool material for end milling (figure 1). The surface roughness was measured by MITUTOYO SJ 210 SURFTEST 178. Due to having star points CCD predicts a more accurate & precise model for the responses & therefore used in this research for modeling the SR. In this work, three factors (speed, feed rate, doc) with 5 levels were taken for performing 20 experiments to analyze the response. Table 1 shows the coded value of the variable (-γ and +γ are the axial points, the factorial points are +1 and -1, and 0 is the center point. Whereas  $\beta=2^{k/4}$ , where k=number of factors) (Aslan, 2008). Design Expert has been used to fit the regression model and to analyze the SR. MATLAB has been used to minimize SR by a cuckoo search algorithm. The actual process parameters are defined in Table 2. An experimental chart for the SR as a response is presented in Table 3.

Surface roughness optimization is required because SR affects the quality, life, & cost of the product. A

minimum SR is required to improve the product's surface quality. While EN19 steel has wide applications in gears, pinion, shafts, spindles, oil & gas industries, automobile aircraft, & transport industries, where its surface quality plays a major role. Therefore, this research used the cuckoo search algorithm for SR optimization of EN19 alloy steel after milling.

nest where the host bird only lays its eggs. It is a fact that cuckoo eggs incubate somewhat faster than host eggs. When the main cuckoo chick emerges from the egg, the primary move is to expel the host egg, which forms the cuckoo chick's portion of the food provided by its host bird. A cuckoo chick may also imitate the calls of host chicks to gain additional care opportunities (Yang & Deb,



Figure 1. En 19 Alloy specimen.

Table 1. Coded value of variable

Coded Level	Actual Parameter Value
$-\gamma$	$W_{min}$
-1	$[(W_{max} + W_{min})/2] - [(W_{max} - W_{min})/2\beta]$
0	$[(W_{max} + W_{min})/2]$
+1	$[(W_{max} + W_{min})/2] + [(W_{max} - W_{min})/2\beta]$
$+\gamma$	$W_{max}$

Table 2. Actual value of variable

Variables	Symbol	levels of coded Variables				
		Lowest	Low	Centre	High	Highest
		$-\gamma$	-1	0	+1	$+\gamma$
Speed (rpm)	$W_1$	137	264	451	637	765
Feed (mm/min)	$W_2$	20	40	70	100	120
doc (mm)	$W_3$	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.8

**Cuckoo search algorithm**

Cuckoos are birds known for their excellent sounds and power generation system. The cuckoo lays eggs in typical nests. Many bird varieties parasitize by putting their eggs in the nests of other birds. A few host birds may scuffle directly with the cuckoo. Assuming that a host bird knows that the egg is not its own, it will either remove the extraneous eggs or leave them in the nest and assemble them somewhere else. Tapera is a female cuckoo that is exceptionally skilled at regular copulation. This reduces the chances of their eggs being ruined. Apart from this, the condition of egg-laying in some classes is also shocking. The cuckoo routinely chooses a

2010). The pseudocode of the cuckoo search algorithm is presented in Table 6.

**Results and discussion**

The fitted statistics of the SR are presented in Table 4. The R-squared value is 0.9591, which is very close to 1, therefore showing good fitness of the regression model. A "pred r-square" of 0.8162 is in proper bond with an "adj R-square" of 0.9223. "Adeq Precision" scales the signal-to-noise ratio. A fraction of more than four is wanted. A fraction of 19.444 shows a sufficient signal. This model can be practiced to handle the design space.

ANOVA for SR is shown in Table 5. From ANOVA, it is clear that the quadratic model is best close-fitting for

SR with an F-value of 26.07. It has also been obtained that feed rate is the most critical factor for SR with a p-value less than 0.0001. The lack of fit has a p-value of more than 0.05, which is 0.5189, indicating an insignificant lack of fit (i.e., showing good fit).

Figure 2 shows Normal plots of Residual for SR. It offers a fitted straight line, indicating the regression model's good fitness for SR. Figure 3 displays the Residual vs. Predicted plot for SR. From this, it is clear that all residuals are not crossing outliers (i.e., within the .

**Table 3. Experimental chart for SR**

S. No.	Parameter1 A : Speed (RPM)	Parameter 2 B : Feed Rate (mm/min)	Parameter 3 C : Depth of Cut (mm)	Response SR (micrometre)
1	264.00	40.00	0.30	2.77
2	637.00	40.00	0.30	2.28
3	264.00	100.00	0.30	3.6
4	637.00	100.00	0.30	2.99
5	264.00	40.00	0.70	2.46
6	637.00	40.00	0.70	2.27
7	264.00	100.00	0.70	3.61
8	637.00	100.00	0.70	3.01
9	137.00	70.00	0.50	2.99
10	765.00	70.00	0.50	1.95
11	451.00	20.00	0.50	2.63
12	451.00	120.00	0.50	4.33
13	451.00	70.00	0.20	2.85
14	451.00	70.00	0.80	2.9
15	451.00	70.00	0.50	2.48
16	451.00	70.00	0.50	2.23
17	451.00	70.00	0.50	2.53
18	451.00	70.00	0.50	2.19
19	451.00	70.00	0.50	2.51
20	451.00	70.00	0.50	2.21

**Table 4. FIT statics for SR**

<b>Adequate Precision</b>	19.444	<b>Coefficient of Variance</b>	5.91
<b>Mean</b>	2.74	<b>Adjusted R-Squared</b>	0.9223
<b>Predicted R-Squared</b>	0.8162	<b>PRESS</b>	1.18
<b>R-Squared</b>	0.9591	<b>Standard Deviation</b>	0.16

**Table 5. Analysis of SR by ANOVA**

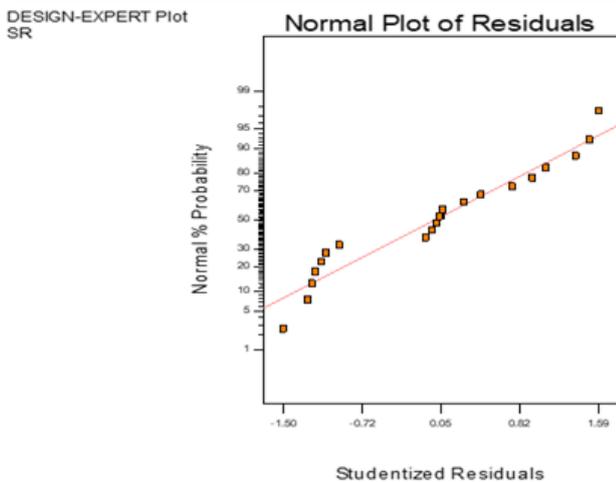
Source	Sum of Squares	DF	Mean Square	F Value	Prob > F	
Model	6.15	9	0.68	26.07	< 0.0001	Significant
A	0.97	1	0.97	36.94	0.0001	
B	2.89	1	2.89	110.27	< 0.0001	
C	3.669E-003	1	3.669E-003	0.14	0.7162	
A <sup>2</sup>	8.123E-004	1	8.123E-004	0.031	0.8638	
B <sup>2</sup>	1.94	1	1.94	73.92	< 0.0001	
C <sup>2</sup>	0.33	1	0.33	12.75	0.0051	
AB	0.035	1	0.035	1.33	0.2748	
AC	0.012	1	0.012	0.46	0.5134	
BC	0.015	1	0.015	0.58	0.4625	
Residual	0.260	10	0.026			
Lack of Fit	0.130	5	0.026	0.96	0.5189	Not Significant
Pure Error	0.130	5	0.027			
Cor Total	6.42	19				

agreement). Figure 4 shows the Residual vs. Run plot for SR. It reveals that there is no specific pattern, hence indicating the model is of excellent fitness. Figure 5 shows the perturbation plot for SR. It shows that at higher speeds and lower feed rates, SR is minimal. In contrast, the depth of cut has a very negligible effect on SR.

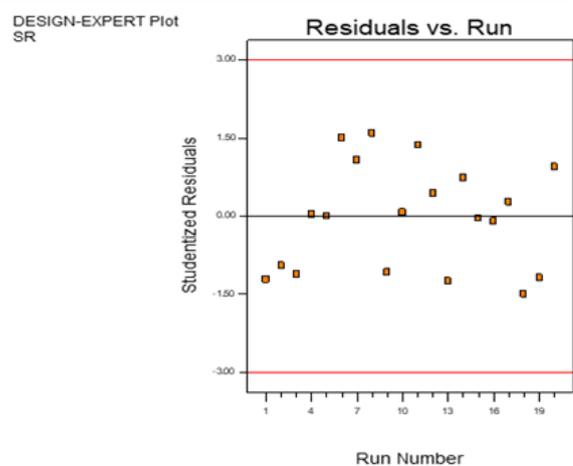
Figures 6,7 & 8 are 3D plots for SR. From these plots, it is pretty clear that SR reduces by increasing speed and reducing feed rate. At the same time, the doc has no significant effect on SR. Regression equation for surface roughness in terms of process parameters is shown in Equation (1).

**Table 6. Pseudocode of cuckoo search algorithm.**

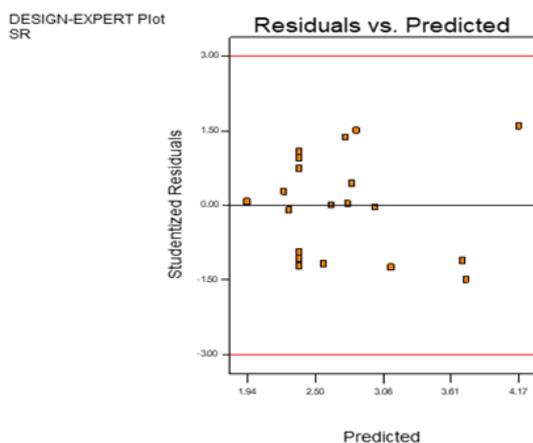
Cuckoo Search Algorithm	
<b>Start</b>	
Define Input Parameters like number of nests(population), Discovery alien probability (pa), number of iterations, limits of lower bound (lb) and upper bound (ub);	
Randomly generate the position of all nests within the lb and ub;	
Evaluate the fitness of each nest;	
Find the current best nest;	
<b>For</b> i = 1: Maximum number of iterations	
Generate new nests by Levy Flight;	
Evaluate the fitness of each new nest;	
Update the current best nest;	
Worst nests discovered by pa (among nest and new nest);	
New nests generated by random walk;	
Evaluate the fitness of each new nest;	
Update the current best nest;	
<b>End</b>	
Best nest and its fitness found;	
<b>End</b>	



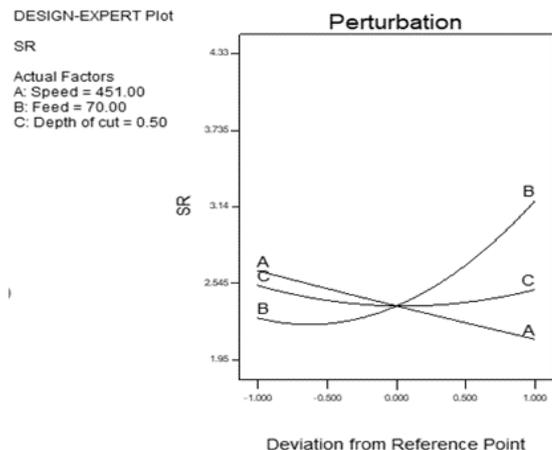
**Figure 2. Normal graph of residual for SR.**



**Figure 4. Residual vs. Run graph for SR.**



**Figure 3. Residual vs. Predicted graph for SR.**



**Figure 5. Perturbation graph for SR.**

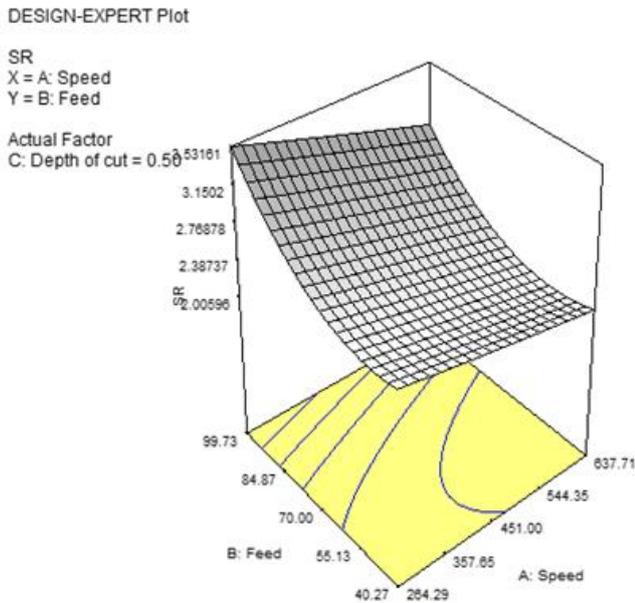


Figure 6. 3D curve of Speed vs. Feed vs. SR.

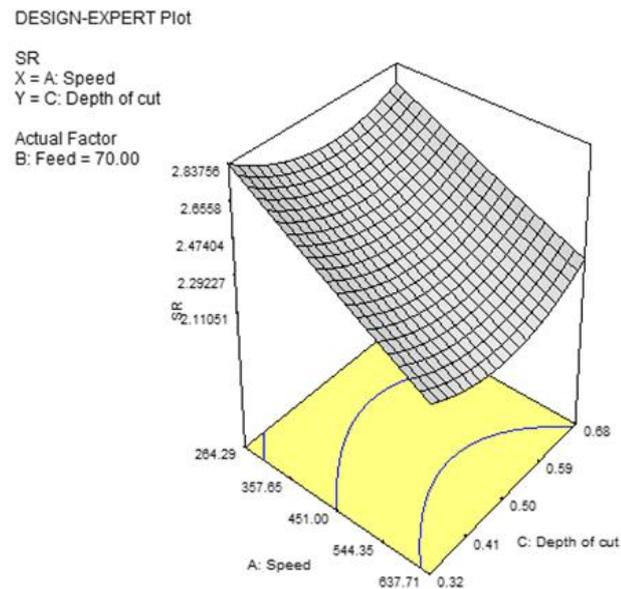


Figure 7. 3D curve of Speed vs. doc vs. SR.

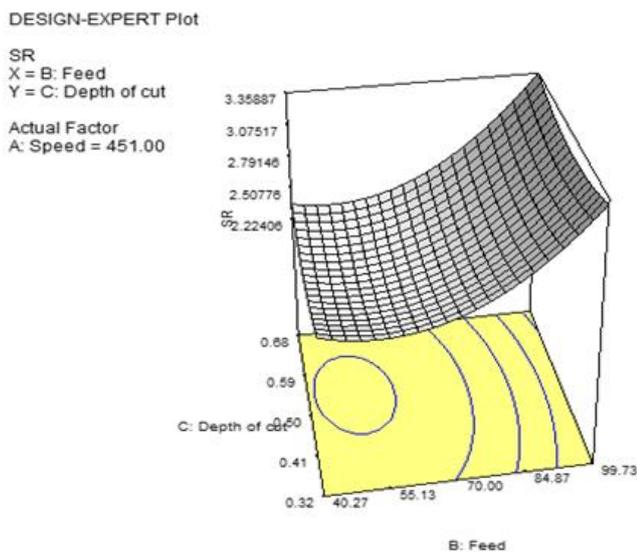


Figure 8. 3D curve of Feed vs. doc vs. SR.

$$SR = +5.28509 - 1.31355E-003 * Speed - 0.040582 * Feed - 5.57608 * Depth\ of\ cut + 2.14582 E-007 * Speed^2 + 4.11911E-004 * Feed^2 + 4.51085 * Depth\ of\ cut^2 - 1.18249E-005 * Speed * Feed + 1.04024E-003 * Speed * Depth\ of\ cut + 7.29167E-003 * Feed * Depth\ of\ cut. \quad (1)$$

This research achieves minimum SR by a cuckoo search algorithm with tuning parameters in Table 7. Cuckoo Search Algorithm results for minimum SR are shown in Table 8. These optimization results also verify the results of Response Surface Methodology. Minimum SR of 1.8576 micrometers was achieved at a higher cutting speed (765 RPM) and relatively lower feed rate (55.9516 mm/min). Figure 9 shows the convergence curve for SR. From this convergence plot, it is pretty clear that the Cuckoo search algorithm obtained minimum SR very quickly.

Table 7. Cuckoo search algorithm setting parameters value.

Cuckoo Search Algorithm Setting Parameters	Value
Number of Nests	20
Levy exponent	3/2
Probability of alien eggs	0.25
Maximum Iterations	1000
Random number	Between 0 to 1

Table 8. Cuckoo search algorithm optimization results.

Type of Optimization Process	Optimized Parameters	Optimization Result
Cuckoo Search Optimization Algorithm	Speed 765 RPM Feed 55.9516 mm/min doc 0.4846 mm	Surface Roughness = 1.8576 micrometer

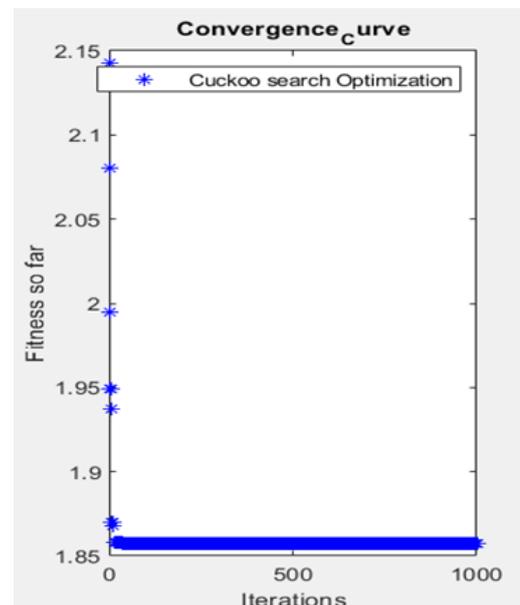


Figure 9. Convergence Curve for SR.

## Conclusion

A parametric analysis of end milling on EN19 alloy steel by Central Composite Design (an RSM technique) and by the cuckoo search algorithm is shown in this paper. The CCD approach was used to model the SR in terms of speed, feed rate and depth of cut. It was found that minimum SR was achieved at a lower feed rate. Meanwhile, feed rate is also the most significant factor affecting SR. Cuckoo search algorithm results also verify the results obtained by DoE methods. For practical implication, when we compare cuckoo search algorithm results with experimental results, it is found that minimum SR is achieved at high speed & lower feed rate. It implies that our model for SR by CCD & its optimization by the cuckoo search algorithm is quite good & has good agreement with practical results.

- By CCD, SR has been formulated in a quadratic model.
- From the Perturbation plot and 3D plot, it is clear that minimum SR is obtained at a higher speed & lower feed rate, while the depth of cut has no significant effect on SR.
- The Cuckoo Search Algorithm also reveals the same results as RSM. Minimum SR 1.8576 micrometer achieved at 765 RPM, 55.9516 mm/min., 0.4846 mm.
- By considering more process parameters and responses and applying a multi-objective optimization approach, En19 alloy steel milling can be more understood.

## Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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