

INVESTIGATION AND OPTIMIZATION OF EDM PERFORMANCE MEASURES USING EMPIRICAL DATA ANALYSIS

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Abstract

In this paper research is aimed to investigate and optimization of EDM performance measures in order to find out best ideal EDM electrode having higher material removal rate, improved surface finish and lower electrode wear rate. For this four EDM electrodes of four different materials (viz. Gr, Cu, Br and Al) are developed by three different manufacturing methodologies. Electrode design is very time consuming process and done interactively using CAD system. In this research work Vertical Milling Machine, Net Shape Casting and Die Sinking EDM do EDM electrodes fabrication. After the electrode Fabrication testing of electrodes is done on Die Sinking EDM. For optimization two different advanced methods of optimization SAW & TOPSIS are used for analysis of EDM performance measures and to predict optimal choice of each EDM electrode. The analysis of both optimization methods reveals Copper is best EDM electrode followed by Brass, Aluminium and Graphite. Experimental results are provided to verify this approach.

Key Words: EDM, MRR, EWR, SR, OPTIMIZATION, SAW, TOPSIS

I. INTRODUCTION

EDM is one of the main non-conventional machining process in which current is converted into heat. EDM is a thermal process in which rapid and continuous spark is discharged between electrically conductive workpiece and electrode in dielectric medium such as kerosene [1]. Now a day the advance materials viz. super alloys, ceramic & composites have wide applications in industrial equipment's and aerospace industry due to their excellent properties like high strength, high bending stiffness, low thermal expansion, better fatigue characteristics. These advance materials are used in aero engine components, automotive ceramic gas turbine, nuclear reactors etc. Thus present manufacturing industries facing challenges from these super alloys as they are very hard and difficult to machining, required high precision and surface quality which increase machining cost. The solution to meet these requirements and to survive in these challenges is use of EDM. EDM plays excellent role in machining difficult to machine material and complicated geometries with better surface finish and dimensional accuracy which is impossible to achieve by other conventional machining [2]. But EDM electrode manufacturing is very time consuming and expensive process. It have been observed that major cost and time for manufacturing of electrode could occupy more than 50 % of total machining cost [3]. Thus correct selection of manufacturing condition is one of the most important aspects to take into consideration during electrode manufacturing. The aim is to produce and evaluate EDM

electrodes manufactured by various manufacturing technologies. In this research electrodes are fabricated by vertical milling machining (WMC), Net shape casting and Die sinking EDM process. Vertical Milling Machine (WMC) is a computer-controlled process and thus two main electrodes (Cu & Gr) are manufactured by Vertical milling machine operation. In WMC, system can be manually programmed and accept files from CAD system. There for first electrode is design in Unigraphics 9 software and this CAD file is then used for making program for WMC operation. Brass electrode is fabricated using Net Shape Casting process. Net Shape Casting is a process in which cast part is produced by forming mould from sand mixture and then pouring molten metal into it. Copper electrode is used for mould making in this process. Aluminium electrode is directly manufactured by Die Sinking EDM process using Graphite as a master tool manufactured by WMC process. All electrodes are tested on Die sinking EDM machine using same workpiece of 5mm thick MS sheet. To find out best manufacturing technology comparison is takes place between all three manufacturing methodologies on the basis of Cost & time. Performance of EDM process is measured with respect to the Material Removal Rate (MRR), Electrode Wear Rate (EWR) and Surface Finish of workpiece. Optimization is done under four criteria: MRR, EWR, SR & Total Cost of electrode. The methods used for Optimization are Simple Addictive Weighting (SAW) and Technique for Order Preference by Similarities to an Ideal Solution (TOPSIS) to find out best optimal solution of electrode among all four electrodes.

II. METHODOLOGY

Fabrication of EDM electrode is very difficult and time-consuming task. Considering the overall literature review through research paper and market survey, it was observed that most of problems are related to complex shape. Methodology adopted for this research work is shown in below figure.

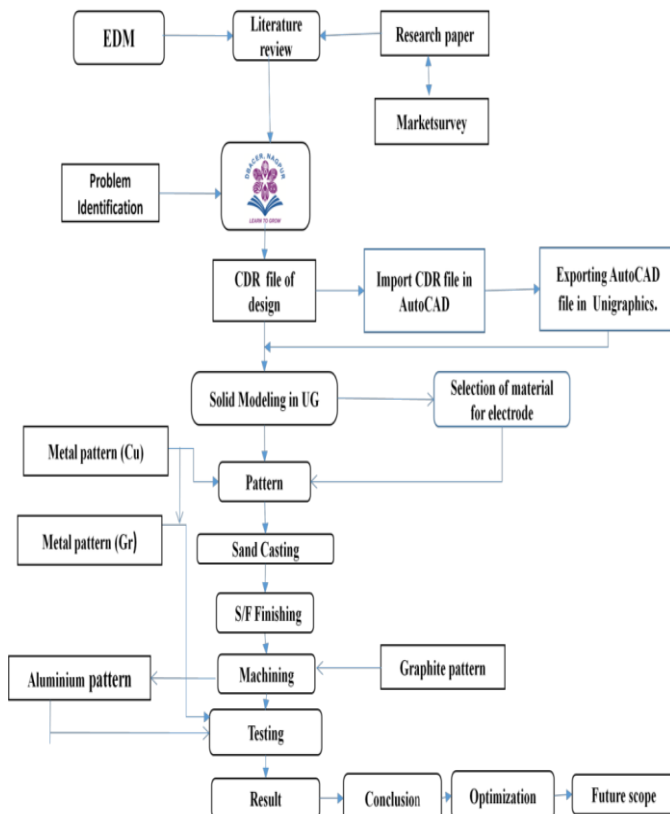


Chart 1- Methodology

2.1. Modeling Of Electrode Design

Modeling of electrode is done in latest Unigraphics 9 software. But we have only jpg file of design, which is not clear enough for solid modeling of the part. Thus first step is to Re-design college logo into coral draw software. With the Re-design model gives the clear & good appearance and aesthetic to the design. Once the part is Re-Design into coral draw software the coral draw file is directly imported to the CAD-Model by using Auto-Cad software. This CAD-Model is again imported into NX-Model by using latest Unigraphics-9 software and complete solid modeling of part is done in this software.

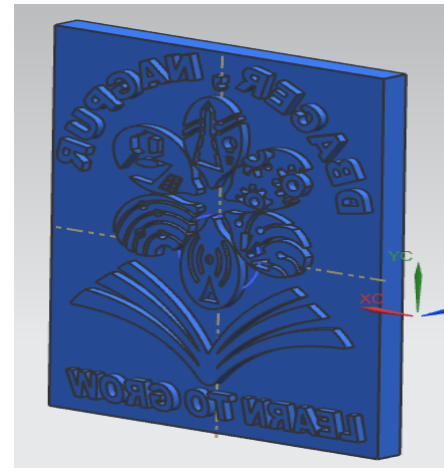


Figure 1 Solid Model of Electrode design in Unigraphics software

2.2. Material Selection

Selection of material for EDM tool is one of the important step in research. Owing to the increased development in field of EDM, it is very important to select material having higher material removal rate, lower electrode wear rate and improved surface finish. For material selection number of research papers are reviewed which shows Graphite, Copper, Brass & Aluminium are best material for EDM electrode [4], [5], [11]. On this basis following four material are selected,

1. Graphite
2. Copper
3. Brass
4. Aluminium

III. EXPERIMENTAL PROCESS

This is the main step in research. The aim is to produce EDM electrodes by different manufacturing methods and compare the performance parameter of each electrode. After fabrication of the EDM Electrode, finishing and testing is done on Die-sinking EDM machine using constant workpiece (5mm thick MS sheet). During testing of electrode a hole is drilled on the topside of electrode for fixing the electrode in holder.

3.1 Manufacturing Methodology No.1

(Fabrication Of Copper & Graphite Electrode By Vertical Milling Machine)

This methodology helps in fabricating metal electrode by using Vertical milling machine at optimized cost with good dimensional accuracy. The flow process chart in figure I gives the information about fabrication of the metal pattern. For Vertical Milling Operation first requirement is to create NC- part program of the solid model of electrode design. Selection of tool (mill bore) is also important part for this machining operation. Once the part program is completed actual machining of the electrode is start. For first one hour

4 mm milling cutter is used to remove excessive material from work part, then for next two hour 1.5 mm diameter milling cutter is used and finally for critical portion of electrode design 1 mm diameter milling cutter is used for next three hours. So time required for machining of copper and graphite electrode is 6 hours for each electrode. This operation is done at Spindle speed = 3000 rpm, Feed rate = 1000 mm/min and Depth of cut = 0.2 mm. after electrode fabrication testing is done at constant machining set up on Die Sinking EDM. This testing is done on MS sheet of 5mm thickness at I=15 A.



Figure 2. Finished Cu electrode



Figure 3. Tested MS by Cu electrode



Figure 4 Finished Gr electrode

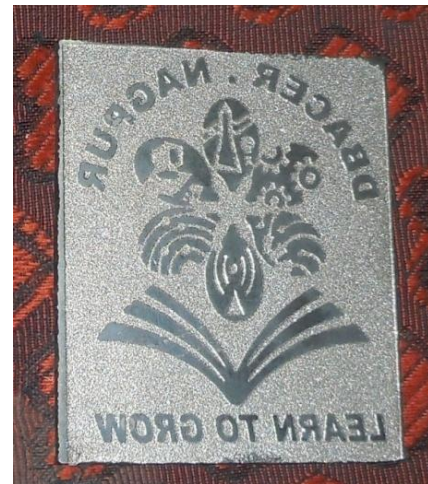


Figure 5 Tested MS Workpiece By Gr Electrode

3.2 Manufacturing Methodology No.2

(Net Shape Casting of Brass electrode)

Net shape casting is a process by which cast part produced by forming a mould from a sand mixture and then pouring molten liquid metal into the cavity in the mould. The material used in this process was brass. For the net shape casting first important requirement is pattern making. We use copper electrode created by the WMC machining process as a pattern for the net shape casting. Mould is developed using copper tool as a pattern from a sand mixture and then pouring molten liquid of brass material into the cavity in the mould. The mould is then cooled until the metal has solidified. At last, the casting is separated from the mould. The next step was the finishing of the cast electrode. This operation was performed on the Lathe. The finishing process help in getting the surface flatness and having removing burr from the electrode. The finish Electrode has to be tested on the Die- Sinking EDM machine. The workpiece and all the other parameters was constant and same in the VMC machining operation



Figure 6 Finished Br Electrode

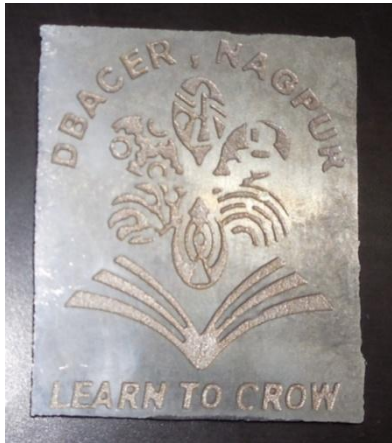


Figure 7. Tested MS Workpiece By Br Electrode

3.3 Manufacturing Methodology No.3

(Fabrication of Aluminium Electrode by Die

Sinking EDM process)

Due to limited time we decided to fabricate Aluminium electrode using graphite electrode created by WMC as a master tool for EDM and Aluminium as a workpiece so that we can fabricate Aluminium tool as fast as possible. The flow process diagram will give the detail of manufacturing process of EDM electrode. The first step was developing solid model of the electrode. The modeling of electrode is done using Unigraphics 9.0 version software as done in vertical milling machine Process. Next stage according to flow chart is fabrication of graphite tool, which is already completed in methodology no.1 WMC machining operation. As we already have electrode for EDM machine next stage is machining stage. In this stage machining of graphite electrode with Aluminium electrode is done at $I = 10$ A for 1 hour and 15.6 min. After machining we get finished Aluminium workpiece, which we are going to use as a electrode in this research. This Aluminium electrode is again tested on the same Die Sinking EDM using MS sheet as a workpiece at 15 A current.

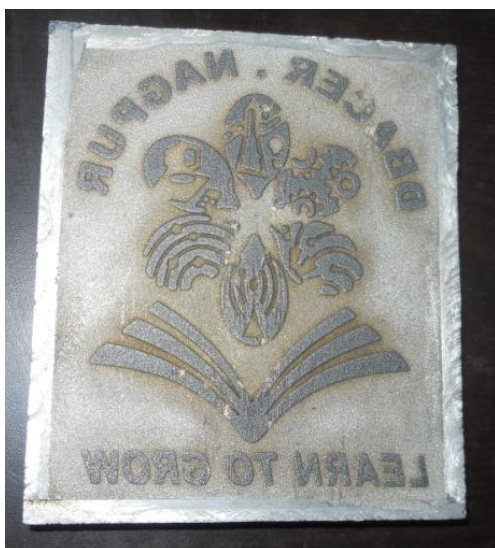


Figure 8 Finished Al electrode

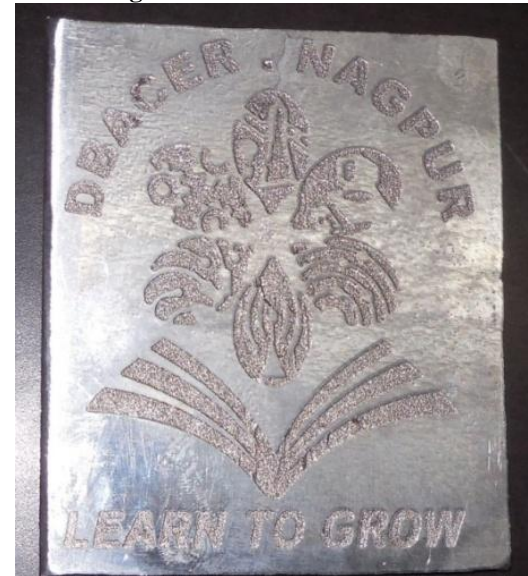


Figure 9 Tested MS Workpiece By Al Electrode

IV. CALCULATIONS AND COMPARISON OF MANUFACTURING PARAMETERS

In this research total three experiments are carried out. from this experiment's total four electrode of four different materials are developed. To find out best optimal result we have to compare each manufacturing parameter of all four electrodes.

4.1 Time Analysis For All Manufacturing Process And Testing Of Electrodes

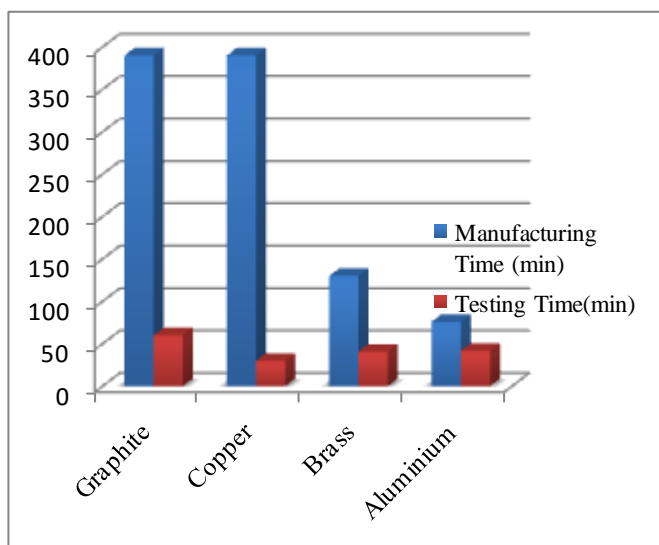
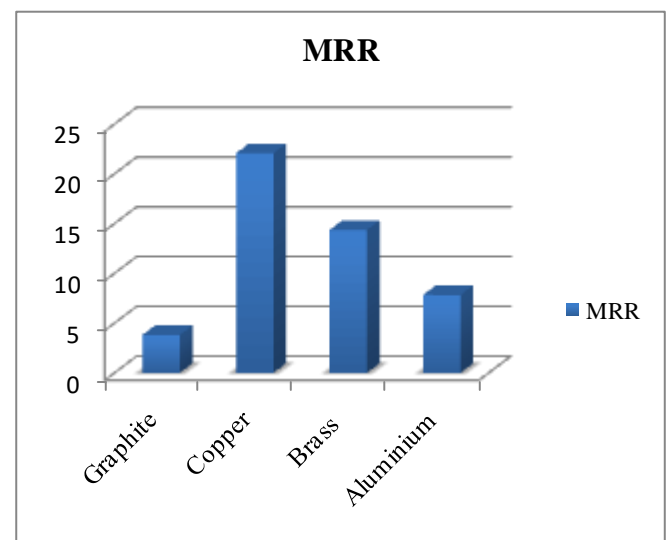
Time analysis plays very important role in calculation of different parameters, thus its necessary to calculate time required for manufacturing and testing of all electrodes. Following table I show time required for manufacturing of electrodes by Vertical Milling Machining, Net Shape Casting and Die Sinking EDM Methodology. And also Shows time required for testing of each electrode at $I = 15$ A on Die Sinking EDM. Following graph I shows production time testing time (on X- axis) plotted against various electrode (on Y- axis) gives detail information and idea about the time required for fabrication and testing of electrode. Aluminium Electrode Fabricated using Die Sinking EDM required highest production time compare to WMC and Net Shape Casting Method. And Copper Electrode required minimum testing time compare to other electrodes.

Table -1 Production Time And Testing Time For All Electrodes.

Manufacturing methodology	Electrode Material	Total Manufacturing time (Min)	Testing time for Electrode
WMC (Vertical milling machine)	Graphite	390	60
WMC(Vertical milling machine)	Copper	390	30
Net shape casting	Brass	130	40.8
Die sinking EDM	Aluminium	76	42

Table 2. MRR of Electrodes

Electrode Material	Weight of Electrode (gms)	Total machining Time (min)	MRR= $\frac{\text{weight of electrode}}{\text{total machining time}}$ (gms/min)
Graphite	229	60	3.8167
Copper	662	30	22.067
Brass	586	40.8	14.3627
Aluminium	329	42	7.833

**Figure 10** Manufacturing Time & Testing Time Vs. All Electrodes**Figure 11** MRR Vs All Electrodes

4.2 Material Removal Rate (Mrr)

MRR is an important performance measure of EDM and many researchers research on improving mechanism of Material Removal in EDM. Mechanism of Material Removal means conversion of electrical energy into heat energy. It is also well known by many EDM researchers that Material Removal Mechanism is the process of transformation of material elements between tool and workpiece. There for MRR of the work piece will be measure by dividing the weight of workpiece before and after machining against the machining time that was achieved [6], [7].

The following table II contains detail information about weight of electrode, time required for testing and corresponding MRR of electrode. Graph II shows Copper having highest MRR followed by Brass, Aluminium and Graphite. MRR is plotted against all four electrodes.

4.3 Electrode Wear Rate (Ewr)

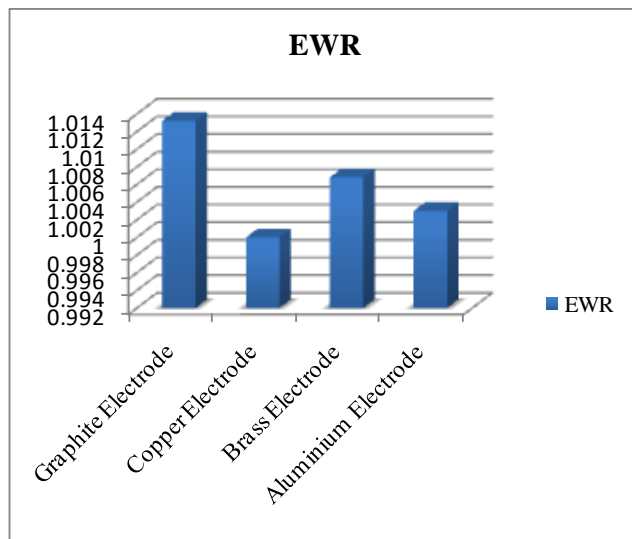
Proper knowledge of electrode wear is essential for determining the electrode size and number of electrodes. Electrode wear is a function of factor such as polarity, thermal conductivity, and melting point of electrode, duration and intensity of spark discharge [11]. Table III show EWR of all electrodes and Graph III shows EWR plotted against corresponding Electrodes. Copper electrode shows lowest EWR compare to other electrodes.

The EWR is measured by

$$\text{EWR} = \frac{\text{Weight of Electrode before machining [A] (gms)}}{\text{Weight of Electrode after machining [B] (gms)}}$$

Table-3 Electrode Wear Rate For All EDM Electrode

Electrode Material	A (gms)	B (gms)	Electrode Wear Rate(EWR)
Graphite	229	226	1.01321
Copper	662	662	1.0068
Brass	586	582	1.003
Aluminium	329	328	1.003

**Figure 12** EWR Vs All Electrodes

4.4 Surface Roughness (Sr)

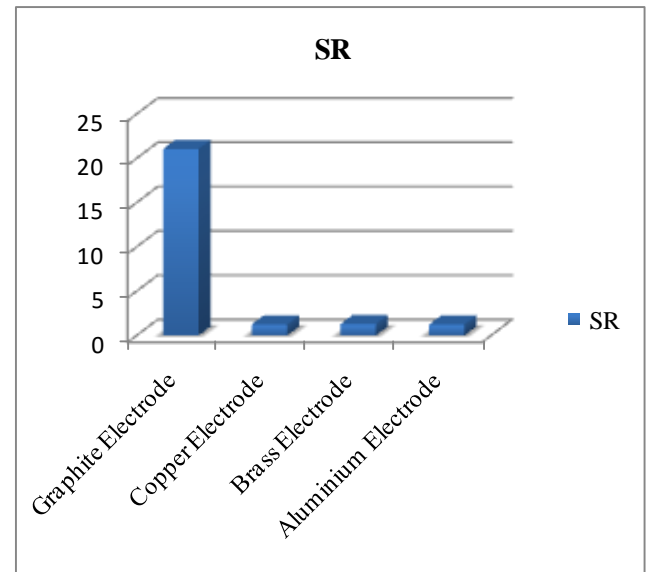
The Roughness Average value (Ra) is measured using a Surface roughness tester instrument. For accurate calculation of SR, reading is taken at four different points on workpiece and mean is taken to calculate SR. SR of graphite is maximum at 15 A current compare to other electrodes. This is explaining in below graph in figure no.

For this measurement values, I= 9Amps

DC voltage range= 45-50Volt

Table-4 Ra values Calculated by SR Tester

Manufacturing methodology	Electrode Material	Ra Value (μm) at 15 A
Development of electrode by WMC	Graphite Copper	21.063 1.2525
Net shape casting process	Brass	1.2825
Development of electrode by die sinking EDM	Aluminium	1.2175

**Figure 13**

From all the comparisons between performance measures, time and cost Copper electrode gives moderate result compare to the Aluminium, Graphite and Brass. Second best material is Brass then Aluminium and Graphite. To validate this result optimization is done by using advanced optimization techniques SAW & TOPSIS.

V. OPTIMIZATION

Selection of material for EDM electrode is one of the critical factors for decision makers in competitive environment. This research aims to find out best optimal electrode material by two optimization methods to evaluate the electrode and techniques and ranking aspect of efficacy under four criteria: MRR, EWR, SR and total Cost of electrode. The methods used for this study are "Simple Additive Weighting (SAW) and Technique for Order Preference by Similarity to an Ideal Solution (TOPSIS) [8],[9],[10]. Following table shows attributes selected for optimization.

Table 5 Performance Measures And Manufacturing Cost Of All Electrode

Attributes	MRR	ETW	SR	MC
Graphite electrode	3.8167	1.0132	21.063	4875
Copper electrode	22.067	1	1.2525	4328
Brass electrode	14.3627	1.0068	1.2825	2075
Aluminium electrode	7.833	1.003	1.2175	2230

Here, MRR- material removal rate

EWR- electrode wear rate

SR- surface roughness

MC- manufacturing cost for electrode

5.1 Topsis Method:-

Step 1:-Construction of normalized Matrix

This step transforms various attribute dimensions into non-dimensional attributes, by using the eq. (1). To calculate the normalizing decision matrix, squaring each element of the matrix of alternatives. Then, sum the squaring elements in each column. After that, calculate the root for the sum in each column. Divide the elements in alternatives matrix of each column by the root in each column and the resulted normalized matrix stated in table 7.2.

$$r_{ij} = \frac{X_{ij}}{\sqrt{\sum (X_{ij})^2}} \dots\dots\dots (1)$$

let's calculate $\sum (X_{ij})^2$ first for ease of calculation.

$$\text{MRR} = \sqrt{3.8167^2 + 22.067^2 + 14.3627^2 + 7.833^2}$$

$$= 27.7337$$

$$\text{EWR} = \sqrt{1.0132^2 + 1^2 + 1.0068^2 + 1.2825^2 + 1.2175^2}$$

$$= 2.0115$$

$$\text{SR} = \sqrt{21.063^2 + 1.2525^2 + 1.2825^2 + 1.2175^2}$$

$$= 21.1741$$

$$\text{MC} = \sqrt{4875^2 + 4328^2 + 2075^2 + 2230^2}$$

$$= 7195.5356$$

Now, normalized matrix can be calculated as,

$$r_{ij} = \frac{X_{ij}}{\sqrt{\sum (X_{ij})^2}}$$

Table 6 Normalized Matrix

Attributes	MRR	EWR	SR	MC
Graphite electrode	0.1376	0.5037	0.9947	0.6775
Copper electrode	0.7956	0.4971	0.0591	0.6014
Brass electrode	0.5178	0.5005	0.0605	0.2883
Aluminium electrode	0.2824	0.4986	0.0574	0.3099

Step 2:- calculation of weight Relative importance matrix

MRR	EWR	SR	MC	
MRR	1	2	3	1
EWR	0.5	1	4	2
SR	0.33	0.25	1	0.5
MC	1	0.5	2	1

Now,

$$\text{MRR} = (1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 1)^{1/4} = 1.5650$$

$$\text{EWR} = (0.5 \times 1 \times 4 \times 2)^{1/4} = 1.3195$$

$$\text{SR} = (0.33 \times 0.25 \times 1 \times 0.5)^{1/4} = 0.5285$$

$$\text{MC} = (1 \times 0.5 \times 2 \times 1)^{1/4} = 1$$

$$\text{MRR} + \text{EWR} + \text{SR} + \text{MC} = 1.5650 + 1.3195 + 0.5285 + 1$$

$$= 4.413$$

Weight(Wj): -

$$\text{MRR} = \frac{1.5650}{4.413} = 0.3546$$

$$\text{SR} = \frac{1.3195}{4.413} = 0.2990$$

$$\text{EWR} = \frac{0.5285}{4.413} = 0.1197$$

$$\text{MC} = \frac{1}{4.413} = 0.2266$$

$$\sum \text{MRR} + \text{EWR} + \text{SR} + \text{MC} = 0.9999$$

$$\approx 1$$

Now, we have to check consistency of weights

[A1] = Relative importance matrix

$$W_j = \begin{bmatrix} 0.3546 \\ 0.2990 \\ 0.1197 \\ 0.2266 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[A3] = [A1][A2]$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 0.5 & 1 & 4 & 2 \\ 0.33 & 0.25 & 1 & 0.5 \\ 1 & 0.5 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.3546 \\ 0.2990 \\ 0.1197 \\ 0.2266 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A4] = \frac{[A3]}{[A2]}$$

$$[A4] = \begin{bmatrix} 4.3381 \\ 4.7100 \\ 3.5480 \\ 4.2811 \end{bmatrix}$$

Now,

$$\lambda_{\max} = \frac{4.3381 + 4.7100 + 3.5480 + 4.2811}{4}$$

$$= 4.2193$$

$$C.I. = \frac{\lambda_{\max} - 1}{m - 1} \dots \dots \dots (2)$$

$$C.I. = \frac{\lambda_{\max} - m}{m - 1} = \frac{4.2193 - 4}{4 - 1} = 0.0731$$

$$CR = \frac{CI}{RI} = \frac{0.0731}{0.89} = 0.0821 < 0.1$$

Since CR = 0.1 or < 0.1 is considered as acceptable, our weights are consistence.

Here,

CR= Consistency ratio

RI= Random index value

CI= Consistency ratio

Step 3:-Construct the weighted normalized decision matrix by using below eq. In this step Multiply each column of the normalized decision matrix by its associated weight.

$$V_{ij} = W_j \times T_{ij}$$

	MRR	EWR	SR	MC
MRR	0.0487	0.1506	0.119	0.1531
EWR	0.2821	0.1138	0.007	0.1359
SR	0.1836	0.1496	0.0072	0.0651
MC	0.1001	0.149	0.0068	0.0700

Step 4:-Determine the ideal and negative ideal solutions. Ideal solution is calculated by using the eq. (3). It is the maximum of performance and safety and minimum in cost. Negative ideal solution is calculated by using the eq. (4) and it is reverse to the Ideal solution. The ideal and negative ideal solution are presented in table no. 7.

$$A^* = \{V_j^*, \dots, V_n^*\} \dots \dots \dots (3)$$

Where,

$$V_j = \{ \max (V_{ij}) \text{ if } j \in j; \min i (V_{ij}) \text{ if } j \in j^* \}$$

$$A' = \{V_j^*, \dots, V_n^*\} \dots \dots \dots (4)$$

Where,

$$V_j = \{ \min (V_{ij}) \text{ if } j \in j; \max (V_{ij}) \text{ if } j \in j^* \}$$

From above equations, calculated positive and negative ideal solution are given in following table 7

Table 7 Calculated Positive And Negative Ideal Solutions

	Positive ideal solution	Negative ideal solution
MRR	0.282	0.0487
EWR	0.1138	0.1506
SR	0.119	0.0068
MC	0.0651	0.1531

Calculations of separation measures using Euclidian formula

$$S_i^+ = \sqrt{\sum_j (V_{ij} - V_j^*)^2} \dots \dots \dots (5)$$

$$S_i^- = \sqrt{\sum_j (V_{ij} - V_j^-)^2} \dots\dots\dots (6)$$

From above equations, calculated positive and negative separation measures are given in following table no. 8

Table 8 Calculated Separations Measures

	S^+	S^-
S1 (MRR)	0.2520	0.1122
S2 (EWR)	0.1325	0.2369
S3 (SR)	0.1531	0.1610
S4 (MC)	0.2166	0.09772

Step 5 :- Calculate similarities to positive ideal solutions, from equation no.(7)

$$Ci = \frac{s_i}{s_i + s_i} \dots\dots\dots (7)$$

$$\text{Graphite} = \frac{s_1}{s_1 + s_1} = \frac{0.2520}{0.1122 + 0.2520}$$

$$= 0.3080$$

$$\text{Copper} = \frac{s_2}{s_2 + s_2} = \frac{0.2369}{0.2369 + 0.1325}$$

$$= 0.6431$$

$$\text{Brass} = \frac{s_3}{s_3 + s_3} = \frac{0.1610}{0.1610 + 0.1531}$$

$$= 0.5125$$

$$\text{Aluminium} = \frac{s_4}{s_4 + s_4} = \frac{0.09772}{0.09772 + 0.2166}$$

$$= 0.3108$$

Step 6 :- Rank Preference Order

In this step Alternatives are Ranked according to similarities in descending order. This is shown in following table no. 9

Table 9 Calculated similarities to Positive Ideal Solutions

Alternatives	C_i^*
Graphite	0.03080
Copper	0.6413
Brass	0.5125
Aluminium	0.3108

Table 9 Calculated similarities to Positive Ideal Solutions

From above table no. 7.5 Rank preference order will be,

Copper electrode



Brass electrode



Aluminium electrode



Graphite electrode

5.2 Saw Method

Step 1- Obtain the normalized decision matrix from the

decision matrix using the Following equation,

$rij = xij/xj^* \dots\dots\dots (7)$ if the jth criterion is a benefit criterion,

$rij = xj^-/xij \dots\dots\dots (8)$ if the jth criterion is a cost criterion

	MRR	EWR	SR	MC
MRR	0.1729	0.9869	1	0.4264
EWR	1	1	0.0594	0.4794
SR	0.6508	0.9932	0.0608	1
MC	0.3549	0.9970	0.0578	0.9304

Step 2:- Calculation of weight

Calculations of weights are same as in TOPSIS method

$$W_j = \begin{bmatrix} 0.3546 \\ 0.2990 \\ 0.1197 \\ 0.2266 \end{bmatrix}$$

Step 3 :- Calculation of weighted normalize matrix

Obtain the weighted decision matrix by multiplying each column of normalized decision

matrix by the corresponding weight

$$V_i = \sum_{j=1}^m W_j V_{ij} \dots\dots\dots(9)$$

$$\text{Graphite} = 0.1729 \times 0.3546 + 0.09869 \times 0.299 + 0.1197 + 0.4264 \times 0.2266 \\ = 0.5727$$

$$\text{Copper} = 0.3546 + 0.299 + 0.0594 \times 0.1197 + 0.4798 \times 0.2266 \\ = 0.7694$$

$$\text{Brass} = 0.3546 \times 0.6508 + 0.299 \times 0.9932 + 0.1197 \times 0.0608 + 0.2266 \\ = 0.0.7616$$

$$\text{Aluminium} = 0.3546 \times 0.354 + 0.299 \times 0.9970 + 0.1197 \times 0.0578 + 0.2266 \times 0.9304 \\ = 0.6416$$

Step 4:- Rank Preference Order

In this step Alternatives are ranked according to similarities in descending order.

Copper electrode



Brass electrode



Aluminium electrode



Graphite electrode

In this topic optimization of process parameters is done to find out optimal combination of electrode and workpiece. This optimization is done using TOPSIS & SAW methods.

From both the methods its clear that Copper is best EDM Electrode among Br, Gr & Al. both the methods gives same rank order preference, which shows that preference given to selection of material for EDM tool are exact and calculations done in both the methods are accurate. From both methods its clearly shown that Copper is best material for EDM electrode then Br, Al & Gr respectively. From this optimization results from comparisons between Performances measures (MRR, EWR, SR), Cost and Time analysis is also validated.

VI. CONCLUSION

1. The MRR increases with changes in material of the different manufacturing methods. In the present work of the highest material removal rate (22.067) was obtained in Copper Electrode by WMC Process. Material removal rate of Brass = 14.3627, Aluminium=7.833 and Graphite=3.8167
2. Optimized Electrode wear rate was observed maximum in Copper Electrode = 1. Machining time for the copper electrode was 30 min. Electrode wear rate of Brass = 1.0068, Aluminium=1.003 and Graphite =1.0132
3. The optimized surface roughness value in all manufacturing process was observed in Graphite electrode of the WMC process. Other electrode having very low surface roughness compare to other electrode surface roughness of Graphite= 21.063 µm, Copper=1.2525 µm, Brass= 1.2825 µm Aluminium =1.2175 µm
4. While manufacturing the EDM Electrode through different manufacturing methods, the electrode manufacture by Die sinking EDM & Net shape casting requires less time for production but the manufacturing parameters were greatly affected.
5. Optimization is done using two advanced methods of optimization based on multiple criteria decision making (MADM) problem. Optimization is done base on the multiple criteria including MRR, EWR, SR and MC (manufacturing cost). From SAW & TOPSIS methods of optimization optimal rank of electrode is find out. Both methods give the same rank. These methods suggests Copper is best EDM electrode followed by Brass, Aluminium and Graphite.

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