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# Numerical analysis of the influence of tool wear and special cutting geometry when drilling woven CFRPs

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## A B S T R A C T

CFRPs drilling is a common process in the aerospace industry carried out prior to components assembly. Machining induced damage leads to significant percentage of component rejection. Damage extension strongly depends on drilling geometry and cutting parameters. Fresh drill geometry changes with cutting time due to the wear progression and the risk for hole quality is enhanced as cutting progresses. The influence of wear on hole quality has been analyzed in the literature using mainly an experimental approach.

Simulation of drilling process is an effective method that can be used to optimize drill geometry and process parameters in order to control hole quality and analyze the drill wear evolution. In this paper a finite element model for drilling woven CFRPs, reproducing both fresh and worn tools, is presented. Two different point angles considering fresh and honned edge were modeled. A progressive intra-laminar failure model based on the Chang and Chang model is considered. Cohesive elements allowed the analysis of inter-laminar damage (delamination). The model demonstrated its ability to predict thrust force and delamination for different values of feed rate and cutting speed. Model predictions show the influence of tool geometry (including variations induced due to wear) on delamination.

### Keywords:

Tool wear  
Woven CFRPs  
FE modeling  
Drilling

## 1. Introduction

Carbon fiber reinforced polymer composites (CFRPs) are increasingly used in industry, not only in aircraft structures but also in other sectors. The excellent mechanical properties and low weight of CFRPs together with fatigue and corrosion resistance make them a suitable option for high responsibility applications [1].

Woven CFRPs present enhanced strength to weight ratio, fracture toughness and corrosion resistance when compared to tape composite. The improved mechanical properties due to the architecture of the abrasive fibers, leads to poor machinability of woven composites.

Drilling operations do not allow direct observation since they are difficult to study in process. On the other hand, the efficiency of the machining operations involves important economic consequences for companies since increasing exigent cutting conditions are required to optimize productivity [2].

Drilling is one of the most common operations since it is required for further mechanical joining of the structural components [3]. CFRPs are susceptible to suffer drilling induced damage causing a significant percentage of workpiece rejection. The enhancement of drilling process ensuring hole quality is still a challenge [4].

The influence of the cutting parameters [5,6], the point angle [7–9] and the drill diameter [10] for different tool materials have been analyzed in the literature.

Feed rate seems to be the most influencing factor in delamination (increasing with this parameter). The effect of cutting speed is not clear and seems to have a cross effect with thickness and spindle speed. Davim et al. [5] showed that delamination increased with cutting speed during conventional drilling. However Gaitonde et al. [6] showed an opposite effect when drilling at high spindle speed in thin woven-ply CFRP composite laminates. Cutting speed shows much lower influence than feed rate.

The effect of drill geometry was demonstrated in Karnik et al. [7] and Feito et al. [8]. It was observed that increasing the point angle of twist drill bit during conventional and high speed drilling of woven-ply CFRP composite laminates, delamination was increased. However Heisel et al. [9] reported that the

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delamination at the entry was decreased with the point angle. The increment of drill diameter also showed large contribution on delamination as it was proved by Tsao and Hocheng [10].

Geometrical modifications due to wear progression also influences resultant surface quality and delamination damage. Main wear mechanism in conventional drilling was identified to be abrasion (see for instance Mayuet et al. [11]) due to the presence of abrasive the fibers. Although abrasion is dominant, also adhesion was identified during the study. In this case exit delamination was observed to increase with wear progression.

For high speed drilling, chipping was observed at the first stages of drilling process (Rawat et al. [12]), following by abrasion and adhesion as cutting time progresses. This study also proved that abrasive wear on the flank face of the primary cutting edge was stronger than the wear at the rake face.

Tool wear also affects the cutting forces. It was reported in [13] that high feed rate increases the tool wear and consequently the thrust force. This fact is independent of the tool coating. Torque has demonstrated less sensibility to wear evolution than thrust force [13]. The authors also studied the influence of worn tools in cutting forces and delamination in [8]. Similar conclusions were derived: experimental results showed that crossed effect of feed rate and worn tool increases appreciably the thrust force. Concerning delamination, while entry damage diminished with wear progression, exit damage was enhanced.

The change of the geometry due to abrasion leading to cutting edge rounding (CER) was analyzed for different geometries by Faraz et al. [14]. Positive correlation was found between both delamination and cutting forces and the cutting edge roundness.

Despite the interest of the experimental approaches, finite element (FE) analysis completes the study of drilling performance, since modeling is a powerful tool that can be used to support testing, avoiding technical problems and elevated cost. FE analysis allows controlling all variables that take part during the machining process and uncoupling the influencing parameters. A recent review gives an overview of machining models of different types of composites [15].

There are few works in the literature focusing on numerical modeling of composite drilling. Most papers presenting numerical modeling of composite cutting focus on orthogonal cutting due to its simplicity. Some examples of the modeling strategies and material modeling used in scientific literature for two dimensional (2D) approach to simulation of orthogonal cutting of composites can be found in [16–19]. 2D approaches only allow the simulation of unidirectional composite; moreover delamination cannot be study. To solve the problem of delamination in orthogonal cutting 3D modeling was introduced to allow reproducing different stacking sequences [20,21]. This model also was used to evaluate the validity of the assumptions involved in the formulation of 2D approaches. Focusing on current drilling operations, 3D modeling is required. Different approaches can be found in the literature. First models developed were based on a simplified quasi-static three-dimensional (3D) simulation of drilling, which considers the drill as a punch. Some examples of this approach were used by Durao et al. in [22,23] for CFRPs materials and Singh et al. [24] in order to study drilling of glass fiber reinforced polymer composites (GFRPs). Main objective was obtaining a relation between delamination and the applied thrust force that seems to be one of the governing factor in the generation of out-of-plane failure during drilling as reported also in Upadhyay et al. [25]. These models were also used to study the influence of the drill point angle on delamination damage [22]. It was observed that 90° drill point angle gives better results than those obtained with 104° and 118°.

Further improvements of drilling simulation have led to the development of 3D complex drilling models for CFRPs. Drilling

was successfully reproduced including drill penetration in the workpiece, material failure and chip removal [26,27]. Modeling of drilling processes involves elevated difficulty because of the need to simulate drill rotation and feed using both damage and erosion criteria involving high computational cost. The authors presented a recent work focusing on the comparison of simplified and complex models of composite drilling [28]. It was proved that simplified model can save computational time due to its simplicity while overestimates the prediction of damage.

This work presents a new 3D FE analysis accounting for the effect of worn geometry when drilling woven materials. Also the effect of drill point angle and cutting parameters with new and worn tool was analyzed. The model has been validated in comparison with experimental work in terms of thrust force and delamination extension, showing good accuracy.

The present work is structured as follows. Firstly, experimental work required for model validation is presented in the next section. Numerical work providing details of constitutive and contact modeling is given in the third section. Model validation and results achieved with simulations are presented in the fourth section, including mechanistic model derived from the numerical simulations. Finally conclusions are stated in the last section of the paper.

## 2. Experimental work

### 2.1. Workpiece material

The specimens were made using plain woven prepregs with AS4 fiber and 8552 epoxy matrix, commercially denoted AGP193-PW by its manufacturer Hexcel Composites. This composite, commonly used in aerospace industry, was cut in pieces of 120 mm × 29 mm in order to introduce them in a confining device specially designed to avoid dispersion of the fiber chip (see previous work of the authors [8] providing detailed description of the confining device) The laminate was composed of 10 plies with bidirectional orientation of the fibers, with thickness equal to 2.2 mm. The characteristics and mechanical properties of this material are presented in Table 1 where  $\rho$  is density;  $E_i$  is the elastic modulus in the direction  $i$ ,  $\nu_{ij}$  is the Poisson coefficient,  $G_{ij}$  is the elastic modulus in shear directions,  $X_t$ ,  $Y_t$  and  $S_t$  are the maximum tensile stress in longitudinal and shear directions respectively,  $X_c$  and  $Y_c$  are the maximum compressive stress in longitudinal directions and  $\epsilon_l$  is the critical strain.

### 2.2. Drill characteristics

Three different drill bits were selected. The first one was a conventional twist drill with different point angles (90° and 118°). Fresh drill, corresponds to the geometry given by the tool manufacturer (Fig. 1 case A). The second drill bit was a worn tool with honed edge wear with length equal to 0.05 mm. Honed edge is a wear mode, consequence of wear mechanisms observed when

**Table 1**  
Mechanical properties of carbon–epoxy woven laminate [29].

Property	Value
$\rho$	1570 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
$E_1 = E_2$	68 Gpa
$E_3$	10 Gpa
$\nu_{12}$	0.22
$X_t = Y_t$	880 Mpa
$X_c = Y_c$	880 Mpa
$S_t$	96 Mpa
$\epsilon_1 = \epsilon_2$	0.025
$\epsilon_3$	0.05

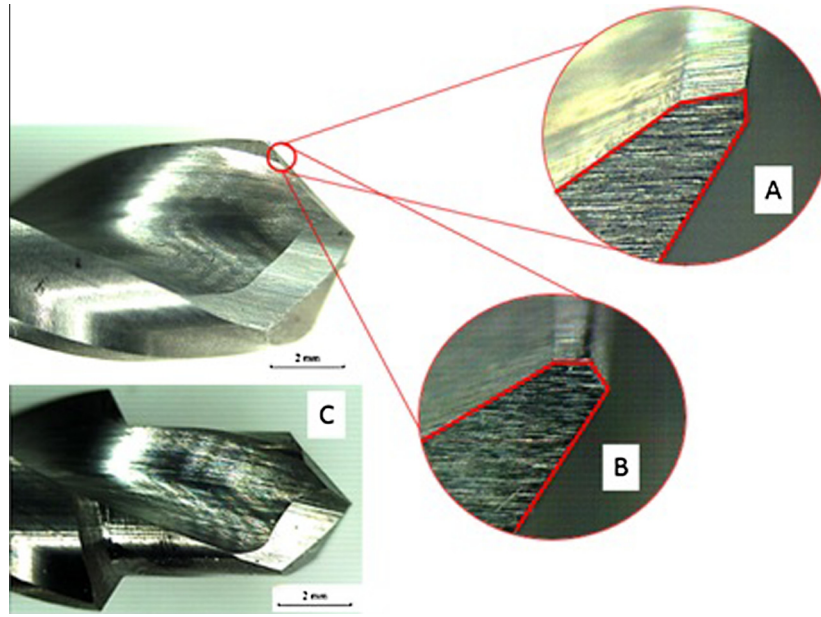


Fig. 1. Drill bit geometries for fresh drill (A), honed edge drill (B) and step drill (C).

drilling CFRP, as it was stated in a previous work of the authors [8]. In order to control the worn geometry, it was artificially generated through a grinding process by the manufacturer GUHRING [30] (Fig. 1 case B). Finally, the third case was a step twist drill with an initial diameter equal to 4 mm. The step had a length equal to 6.6 mm (Fig. 1 case C). In all cases the nominal diameter of the drill was 6 mm.

### 2.3. Machining tests

Both thrust force and torque were measured during dry drilling tests using a rotating dynamometer (Kistler 9123C). A machining center (B500 KONDIS) was equipped with a confining system with a supporting back plate previously drilled with hole diameter equal to 10 mm (see Fig. 2). The aim was avoiding chips spreading combining the confining box with a vacuum to remove them. Cutting parameters are summarized in the Table 2.

The delamination factor ( $F_d$ ), defined as the ratio between the maximum diameter of delaminated area and the nominal hole diameter, was calculated through the measurement of diameters

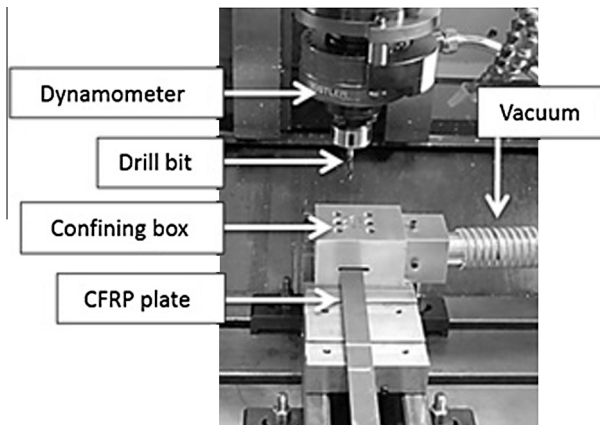


Fig. 2. Set-up device for drilling tests showing confining box.

Table 2

Cutting parameters used in drilling tests: feed rate ( $f$ ) and cutting speed ( $V$ ).

Parameter	Range		
$f$ [mm/rev]	0.05	0.1	0.15
$V$ [m/min]	25	50	100

obtained from images taken with an optical stereo microscope (Optika SZR).

### 3. Numerical modeling

The model presented in this work, was able to reproduce drilling of woven composite including chip removal. The FEM code ABAQUS/Explicit [31] was used to perform the numerical simulations. The complete movement of the drill including spindle speed and feed rate was simulated. In a previous work of the authors [28] it was presented the main advantages and drawbacks of this complex model when compared with simplified models assuming drilling as a punching process. Since the aim of this paper is simulating the effect of tool geometry changes induced by wear, the development of complete model including both rotary and feed movement and chip removal is required.

The scheme of the model developed is presented in the Fig. 3. The displacement of the workpiece in  $Z$  direction was restricted at the base except for the zone inside a circumference with 10 mm diameter where it is free. This boundary condition reproduces the effect of the supporting back plate used in the experiments.

#### 3.1. Drill and workpiece behavior

The drill was assumed to be rigid with nominal diameter equal to 6 mm.

The woven laminate was modeled as an orthotropic elastic material until failure. This approach has been successfully implemented by López-Puente et al. [32] to simulate dynamic loading (impact) in the same material. Both intra-laminar and inter-laminar damage mechanisms were defined. The first one was implemented by means of a user subroutine (VUMAT). The second

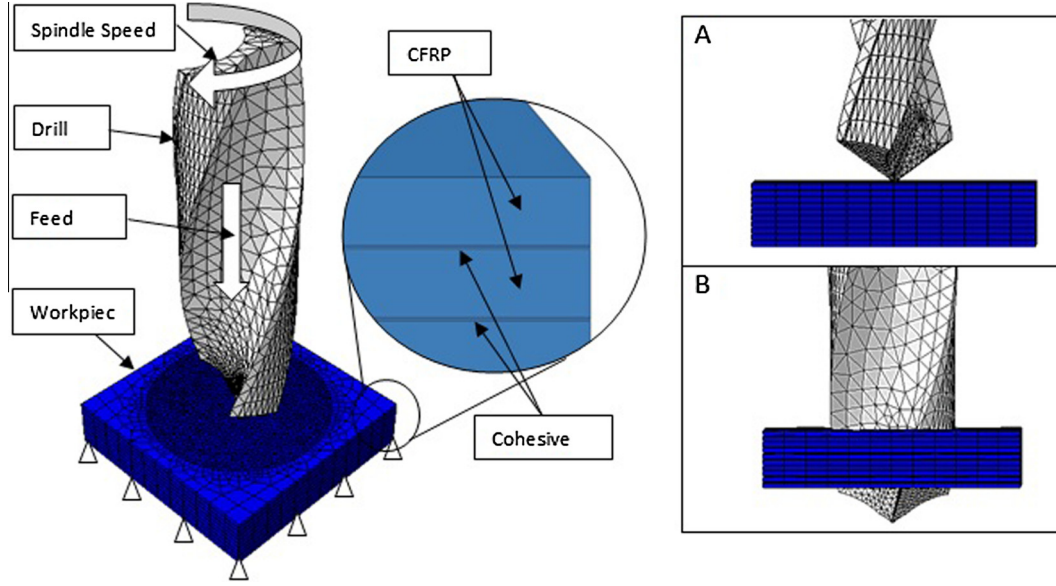


Fig. 3. Scheme of the complete model. Drill entrance simulation; (A) initial and (B) final drill position.

one was achieved using cohesive elements. This implementation of different failure mechanisms has been used in previous work of the authors [29] modeling impact processes and also drilling [28].

The fiber and matrix damages were defined in the Eqs. (1)–(3) where the damage variables  $d_{ij}$  (stress dependent) range from 0 (undamaged) to 1 (fully broken). When the failure criterion is reached the stress components involved in the failure definition (fiber or matrix failure) are set to zero. To control the element erosion, strain tensor is calculated after each time increment. When one of the components reaches a critical value, the element is removed.

In woven laminates, fibers are located in orthogonal in-plane directions (1 and 2). Eq. (1) describes the fiber failure ( $d_{ij}$  equal to 1) in both directions:

$$d_{f1} = \begin{cases} \sigma_{11}/X_t & \text{if } \sigma_{11} > 0 \\ |\sigma_{11}|/X_c & \text{if } \sigma_{11} < 0 \end{cases} \quad d_{f2} = \begin{cases} \sigma_{22}/Y_t & \text{if } \sigma_{22} > 0 \\ |\sigma_{22}|/Y_c & \text{if } \sigma_{22} < 0 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where  $\sigma_{11}$  and  $\sigma_{22}$  are the stresses in the warp and fill direction respectively,  $X_t$  and  $X_c$  are the strengths of the composite laminate in tension and compression for the warp direction, and  $Y_t$  and  $Y_c$  are the strengths in tension and compression for the fill direction.

On the other hand two different parameters are proposed corresponding to crushing matrix failure mode ( $d_{ij}$  equal to 1), the first one in the ply plane Eq. (2) and the other one in the through-thickness direction Eq. (3).

$$d_{m12} = |\sigma_{12}/S_{12}| \quad (2)$$

$$d_{m3} = \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{\sigma_{33}}{Z_c} \right)^2 + \frac{Z_c \cdot \sigma_{33}}{4S_{13}S_{23}} + \left| \frac{\sigma_{33}}{Z_c} \right| + \max \left[ \left( \frac{\sigma_{13}}{S_{13}} \right)^2, \left( \frac{\sigma_{23}}{S_{23}} \right)^2 \right] \quad (3)$$

where  $\sigma_{ij}$  are the components of the stress tensor,  $S_{12}$ ,  $S_{13}$  and  $S_{23}$  are the shear strengths in the three different planes and  $Z_c$  is the strength in the through-thickness direction under compression. The Eq. (3) is applied only when  $\sigma_{33} < 0$ .

The cohesive elements used to estimate delamination are based on a traction–separation law. The linear elastic behavior is required by means of the respective stiffness ( $K_{nm}$ ,  $K_{ss}$  and  $K_{tt}$ ). In this work, a quadratic nominal stress criterion for the damage initiation, similar to Eq. (4), was selected where  $t_n$ ,  $t_s$  and  $t_t$  are the strengths of the cohesive interface in the normal and in shear directions

respectively. Eq. (4) is applied if one of conditions on Eq. (5) is reached, where  $Z_t$  is the laminate strength under tension in the through thickness direction.

$$\left( \frac{\sigma_{33}}{t_n} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\sigma_{13}}{t_s} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{\sigma_{23}}{t_t} \right)^2 \geq 1 \quad (4)$$

$$\sigma_{33} \geq Z_t \text{ or } \sqrt{\sigma_{12}^2 + \sigma_{13}^2} \geq S_{23} \quad (5)$$

The damage evolution follows a potential law type based on energies, see Eq. (6) where the parameter  $\alpha = 1$ ;  $G_n$ ,  $G_s$  and  $G_t$  are the released rate energy in the three aforementioned directions; and  $G_n^c$ ,  $G_s^c$  and  $G_t^c$  are the critical values of the released rate energy. The values of these properties are shown in Table 3 [29].

$$\left( \frac{G_n}{G_n^c} \right)^\alpha + \left( \frac{G_s}{G_s^c} \right)^\alpha + \left( \frac{G_t}{G_t^c} \right)^\alpha \geq 1 \quad (6)$$

### 3.2. Drill geometry and workpiece meshing

Each ply was modeled at the zone around the diameter of the drill using solid elements C3D6R (wedge elements) with six nodes in order to minimize the dependence of the results with mesh orientation in the laminate plane. Just one element is located along the ply thickness. Minimum element size was 0.2 mm around the penetration zone. Far from to the drill entrance zone hexagonal elements C3D8R with 8 nodes and reduced integration were used, with minimum element size around 1 mm. Delamination is modeled by means of cohesive elements. Small thickness was assigned to the interface (5 microns) in order to improve numerical behavior when high deformations occur during calculation. Meshing strategy in the interface plane 1–2 was the same as that used in the ply, with one element along the thickness (direction 3).

Table 3  
Parameters for the cohesive interface [29].

$K_n$	$K_{ss} = K_{tt}$	$t_n$	$t_s = t_t$	$G_n$	$G_s = G_t$
2 GPa/mm	1.5 GPa/mm	11 MPa	45 MPa	0.6 J/m <sup>2</sup>	1.8 J/m <sup>2</sup>



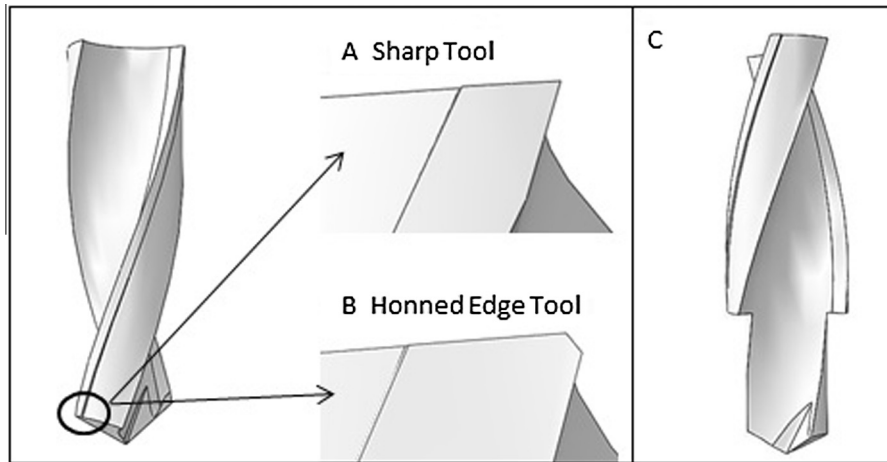


Fig. 4. Model of the geometries: helicoidal new (A), helicoidal honed (B) and step (C).

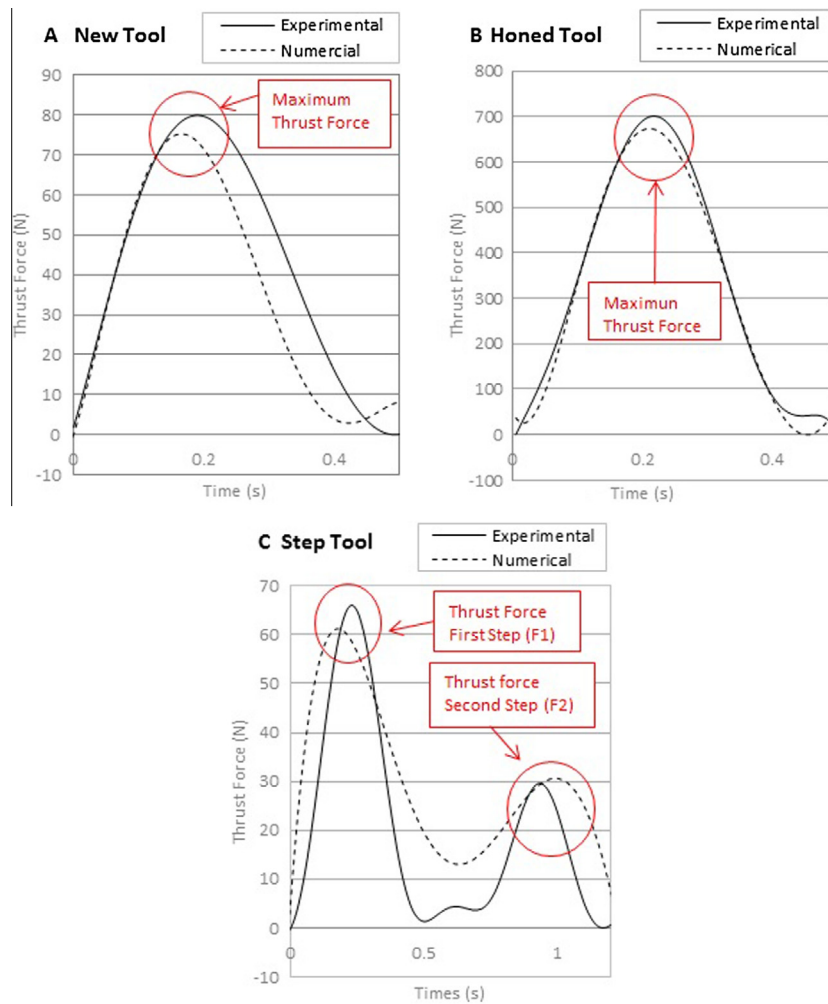


Fig. 5. Numerical and experimental thrust force evolution (A-C, different geometries considered in this study).

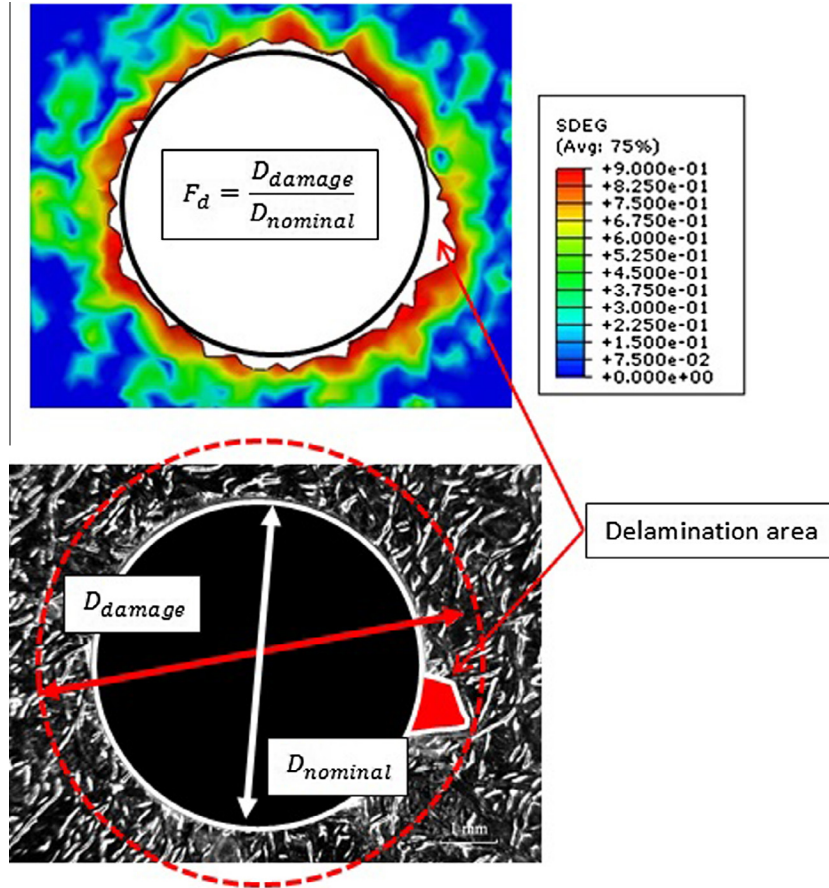


Fig. 6. Measured and predicted delamination (point angle: 90°; cutting speed: 100 m/min; feed rate: 0.10 mm/rev).

The geometry of the base model (corresponding to fresh tool, see Fig. 4A) was modified simulating the honed edge (see Fig. 4B). Also stepped drill geometry was simulated (Fig. 4C). Geometrical changes strongly affect thrust force and delamination, as it is demonstrated in next section.

## 4. Results

### 4.1. Model validation

Model validation was carried out comparing experimental and numerical results, in terms of thrust force and maximum delamination. Maximum thrust force (being the peak value of the thrust force evolution with cutting time) was obtained from the experimental measurement and the numerical simulations. Fig. 5 shows the thrust force evolution with cutting time, showing good agreement between measured and predicted curves, both in terms of magnitude and shape. For these cases the cutting speed was equal to 100 m/min and the feed rate was equal to 0.010 mm/rev.

Fig. 6 shows predicted and measured exit delamination in the case of point angle equal 90°, cutting speed equal 100 m/min and feed rate equal 0.10 mm/rev. The measurement of the maximum diameter of delaminated area allows the calculation of delamination factor defined as  $F_d = D_{damaged}/D_{nominal}$

Fig. 7 summarizes the numerical and experimental results (in terms of maximum thrust forces and exit delamination factor) for different geometries of the drill bit.

For the case of fresh drill (Fig. 5A), the maximum deviation in maximum thrust force and delamination factor were 7.7% and 2.6% respectively.

The model was modified to simulate worn geometry (Fig. 5B). In this case the drill point angle was 118° and the cutting speed was equal to 100 m/min. The difference between experimental and estimated values of thrust force were lower than 17%. Delamination factor presented maximum error around 3%.

Finally, the model was applied to the simulation of a special stepped drill bit geometry. Fig. 5C presents the results for this case. It can be observed very good predicted results in both thrust force and delamination factor with errors around 11.3% and 3.5% respectively.

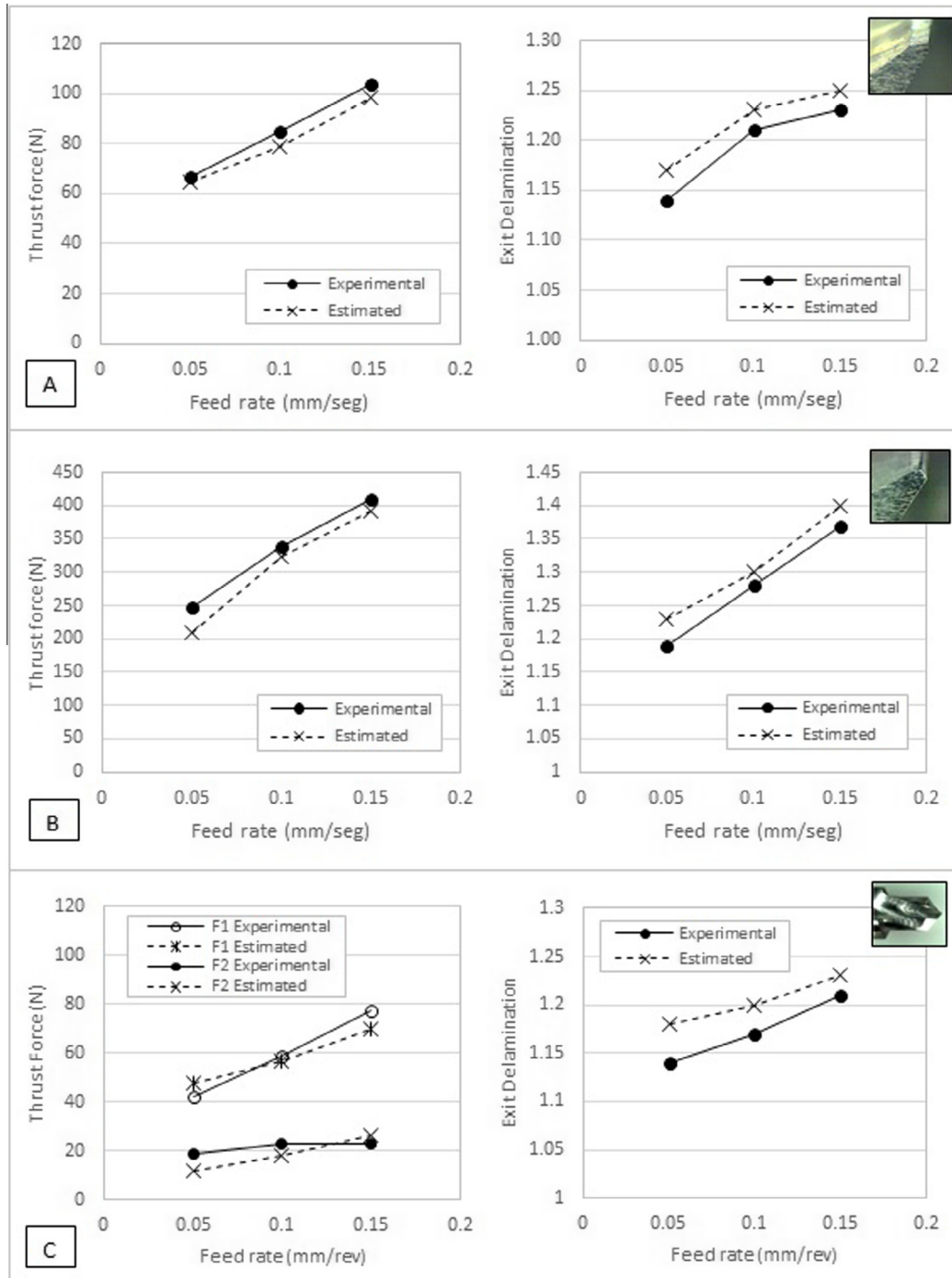
In all cases analyzed, the model overestimates the delamination. This fact could be related to the characterization of the interface properties and the properties given to the cohesive elements (Eqs. (4)–(6), Table 3). These properties are obtained from [29], this study focuses on dynamic impact on the same woven CFRP. The properties required for cohesive elements do not account for strain rate dependence, but actually the response of the interface between plies could be influenced by the rate of the deformation.

### 4.2. Parametric analysis

Once the model was validated in different conditions, a parametric analysis was carried out in order to study the influence of the cutting parameters in the predicted thrust force and delamination factor.

Figs. 8 and 9 show the surface prediction for thrust force and delamination damage in the case of point angle equal 90° and 118° for new tool.

The feed is the most influencing factor both in thrust force and delamination. Although cutting speed has slight influence, the best



**Fig. 7.** Model validation for new drill bit with point angle equal 90° and cutting speed equal 25 m/min (A), for honed drill bit with point angle equal 118° and cutting speed equal 100 m/min (B) and for stepped geometry with cutting speed equal to 100 m/min (C).

combination in order to minimize damage seems to be high cutting speed and low feed rate since both force and delamination factor are decreased. These trends are in agreement with the experimental data found in the literature [6,8]. The use of the numerical model to obtain similar conclusions is interesting because of the possibility to apply the simulation to other materials, configurations and tools, avoiding expensive experimental work.

The numerical results obtained from the simulations allowed the adjustment of a mechanistic expression relating both thrust force and delamination factor to feed rate and cutting speed (see Table 4). With these equations it is possible to determine a diagram

of evolution with both cutting parameters and estimate the values for a couple of cutting parameters (Fig. 10).

The simulations for the case of worn drill bit has been carried for the point angle equal to 118°. The model has been used to predict force and damage in the material changing the cutting speed. Numerical results are showed in Fig. 11. The influence of feed rate is lower than the observed with fresh tool, also the influence of cutting speed is almost negligible. The effect of worn geometry is dominant and thus the selection of proper parameters for damage minimization is difficult with worn tool. It is worth noting the elevated value of delamination factor even for low values of feed rate.



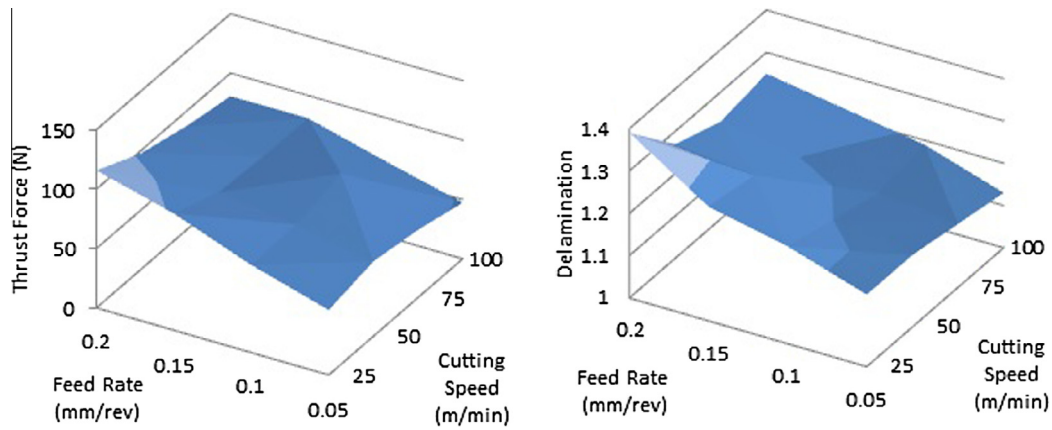


Fig. 8. Surface diagram for thrust force and delamination for a helicoidal drill bit (point angle = 90°).

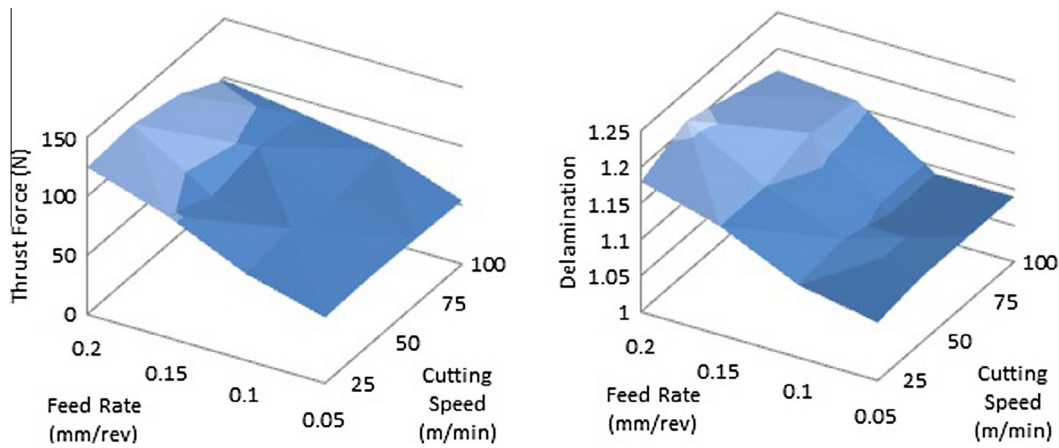


Fig. 9. Surface diagram for thrust force and delamination for a helicoidal drill bit (point angle = 118°).

Table 4

Prediction equations (thrust force and delamination) for worn tool at different cutting speeds.

Point angle	Prediction equation	$R^2$
90	$T_f(N) = -16.2629 + 1.8649 \cdot V + 962.9183 \cdot f - 14.9973 \cdot V \cdot f - 0.0143 \cdot V^2 - 948.675 \cdot f^2 + 0.1011 \cdot V^2 \cdot f$	0.94
	$D_f = 1.1837 + 0.0001 \cdot V - 0.195 \cdot f - 0.0166 \cdot V \cdot f - 0.00001 \cdot V^2 + 10.5 \cdot f^2 + 0.0003 \cdot V^2 \cdot f - 0.128 \cdot V \cdot f^2$	0.93
118	$T_f(N) = 71.92 - 0.9585 \cdot V - 271.63 \cdot f + 14.6184 \cdot V \cdot f + 0.0056 \cdot V^2 + 2592 \cdot f^2 - 0.0653 \cdot V^2 \cdot f - 37.736 \cdot V \cdot f^2$	0.96
	$D_f = 1.0981 - 0.001 \cdot V - 0.2075 \cdot f + 0.0146 \cdot V \cdot f + 8E-6 \cdot V^2 + 2.25 \cdot f^2 - 0.0001 \cdot V^2 \cdot f$	0.92

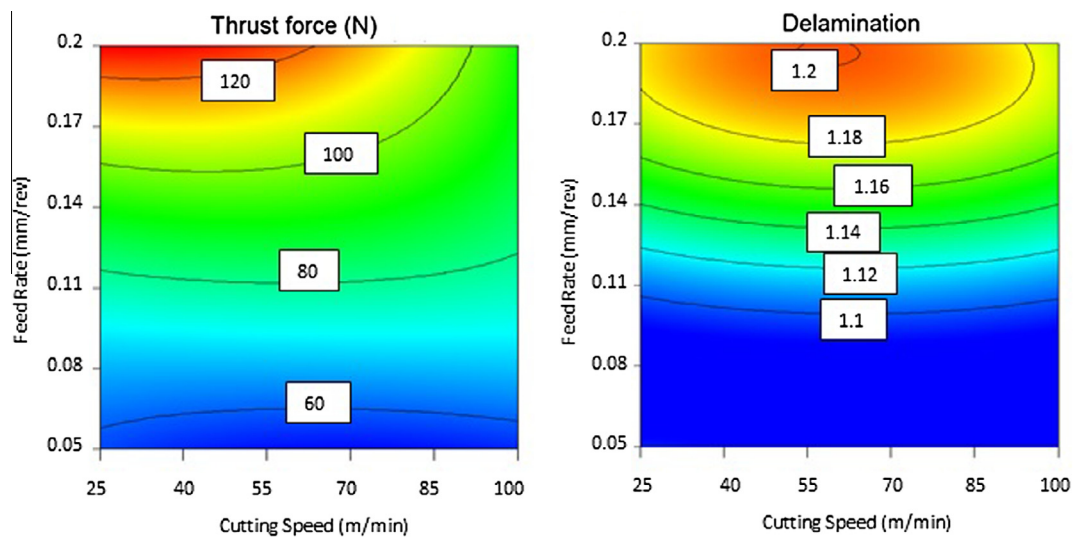


Fig. 10. Diagrams to estimate thrust force and delamination for a helicoidal drill bit with point angle equal 118°.

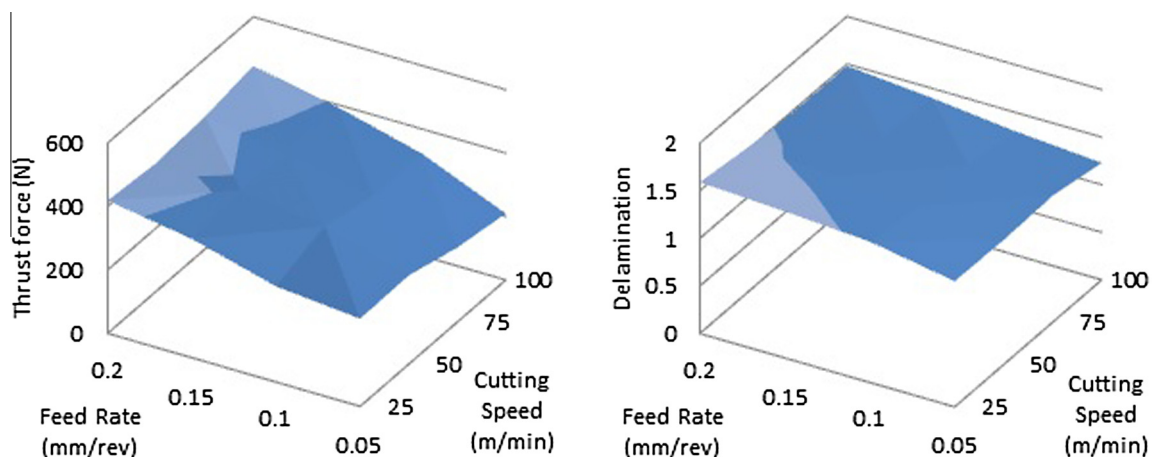


Fig. 11. Surface diagram for thrust force and delamination for honed edge drill bit.

**Table 5**

Prediction equations (thrust force and delamination) for step drill bit at different cutting speeds.

Point angle	Prediction equation	$R^2$
118	$T_f(N) = 272.0205 - 1.1143 \cdot V + 634.463 \cdot f + 8.1877 \cdot V \cdot f$	0.93
	$D_f = 0.9725 + 0.0075 \cdot V + 6.43 \cdot f - 0.0941 \cdot V \cdot f - 5.6E-5 \cdot V^2 - 14 \cdot f^2 + 0.00043 \cdot V^2 \cdot f + 0.152 \cdot V \cdot f^2$	0.96

It can be observed that the predicted values for thrust force and delamination for the case of honed edge drill bit are higher than the estimated for new drill bit. This is in concordance with the experimental results published in a previous work by the authors [6].

The numerical results obtained from the simulations allowed the adjustment of a mechanistic expression relating both thrust force and delamination factor to feed rate and cutting speed for the honed tool (see Table 5). Similar to the previous case, it is possible to generate graphics allowing prediction of the values of thrust force and delamination for a couple of cutting parameters selected (Fig. 12).

Table 6 shows the results of a set of validation experiments (cutting speed equal 50 m/min) that were performed to assess the predictability of mechanistic models previously presented. The maximum relative difference between the experimental value and the predicted value was 13.8% for the thrust force and 2.92% for the delamination, providing a good confidence level regarding the applicability of the analytical expressions.

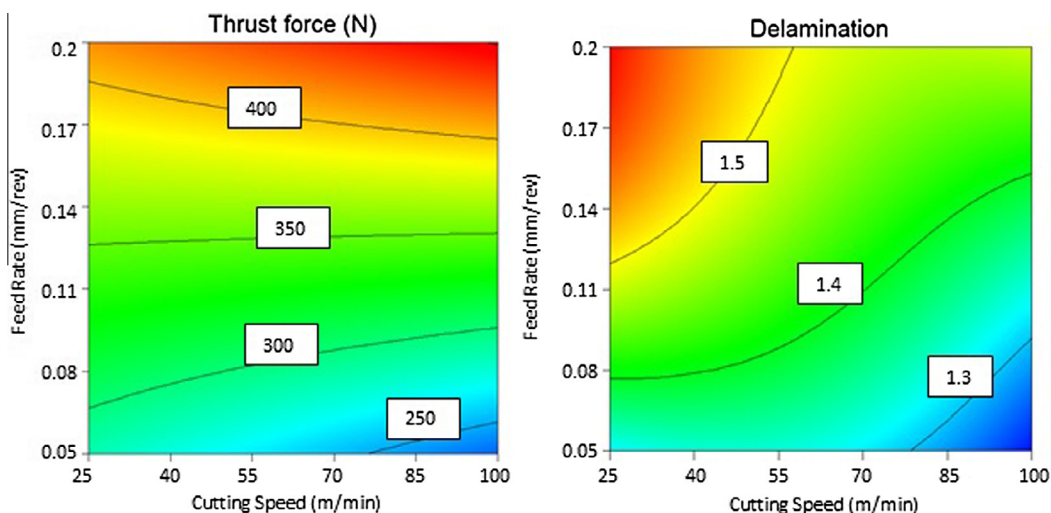


Fig. 12. Example of diagrams to estimate thrust force and delamination for honed drill bit.

**Table 6**

Comparison between experiments and estimated values by regression equations.

	Feed rate (mm/rev)	Thrust force			Delamination		
		Estimated	Experimental	Error (%)	Estimated	Experimental	Error (%)
Fresh drill	0.1	74.76	68.24	9.6	1.09	1.08	0.93
	0.15	84.64	74.38	13.8	1.16	1.14	1.75
Honed edge drill	0.1	313.306	358.19	12.5	1.37	1.41	2.92
	0.15	375.73	395.035	5.1	1.43	1.47	2.80

## 5. Conclusions

In this work, a numerical model able to predict the response of carbon/epoxy woven laminates under drilling processes has been presented. The numerical simulations predict quite faithfully the delamination damage and the thrust force; this tool has a potential use in the understanding of the interlaminar damage due to drilling in composites, allowing the reduction of experimental tests. In addition, the model is also able to estimate the thrust force and delamination damage for worn tools and complex geometries. It is possible to extend the proposed modeling scheme to new geometries and wear modes.

Validation was carried out comparing numerical results and experiments in terms of thrust force and induced delamination and good accuracy was found. The validated model was used to study the influence of different cutting parameters both in the case of new and worn tool. Clear influence of the feed rate and point angle has been observed and explained.

Finally a mechanistic model developed for rapid estimation of delamination and thrust force has been presented and validated with a very good confidence level. The expressions and surface diagrams obtained in this paper allowed prediction of thrust force and delamination once the feed rate and cutting speed are defined. This complementary analysis has elevated potential to be used in industry because of its simplicity. However it is worth noting the necessity of carry out sound previous work, both experimental and numerical, priorly required to develop these type of mechanistic models with applicability in industrial environment.

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