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Numerical analysis of the Ti6Al4V behavior based on the definition of a new phenomenological model

Mariem Yaich^{1,2} · Yessine Ayed¹ · Guénaél Germain¹ · Zoubeir Bouaziz²

Abstract

The finite element modeling is significantly dependent on the accurate prediction of the material behavior. In order to increase the accuracy of numerical simulations, a new phenomenological model is proposed in this study. Its mathematical formulation allows suitable predictions of the Ti6Al4V sensitivity to strain rates and temperatures, while maintaining a low identification cost of its constitutive coefficients. A subroutine VUMAT is developed, and its reliability is investigated in the case of the modeling of uniaxial tensile and impact tests. In addition, the 3D numerical analysis of the machining process is investigated based on the definition of the rheological Johnson-Cook model and the proposed one. Experimental orthogonal machining tests are also established for several cutting conditions. The significant sensitivity of the chip serration, the segments geometry, and the cutting forces to the feed rate is pointed out. Comparisons of the numerical results corresponding to different constitutive models are carried out. High-correlation levels with the experimental results are reached with the definition of the proposed phenomenological model, which is not the case of the Johnson-Cook empirical law. Moreover, intuitive insights about the effect of cutting conditions on the material flow towards the workpiece edges are provided with the 3D modeling. A pronounced increase of the width of side burrs with the feed rate rise was underlined. The results presented in this study point out the inability of 2D numerical simulations to accurately predict the phenomena induced during the machining process, even in the case of an orthogonal machining.

Keywords Ti6Al4V · VUMAT · Constitutive model · Chip segmentation · Orthogonal machining

1 Introduction

The commonly used biphasic Ti6Al4V titanium alloy is known for its interesting strength-to-weight ratio, as well as its excellent resistance to corrosion. However, its low thermal conductivity and its significant mechanical properties, even for high temperatures, heavily influence its machinability [1]. The high gradients of plastic strains, strain rates, and temperatures, which are encountered during the Ti6Al4V machining, result in an accelerated tool wear, mainly in the case of high chemical affinity with the cutting tool material [2]. In

order to understand the physical phenomena induced during the machining process, several experimental investigations have been performed in the literature review [3–5]. Different experimental devices (e.g., scanning electron microscope and high-frame rate camera.) have been used to enable access to local and instantaneous information, during the chip formation. In the experimental study of Pottier et al. [4], a new method based on the sub-millimeter procedure and the numerical post-processing has been proposed to determine the strain field in the segmented chip. However, many difficulties in terms of the experimental determination of the crack propagation within the chip have been faced. Despite the serious efforts to increase the reliability of experimental in situ and post-mortem equipment, they are still insufficient for the study of the local and instantaneous phenomena induced in the cutting zones during the chip formation. Therefore, numerical simulations of the machining processes have been required, in addition to experimental tests [6].

The availability of powerful and efficient commercial codes has encouraged the establishment of numerical analyses, mainly in the case of the machining process, where severe

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dynamic and non-linear conditions are taking place. Their ability to reduce both time and cost, while providing key information for a better understanding of the machining process, has encouraged their widespread adoption in the last decades. Several numerical studies of the machining process have been set up in the literature [7–13]. They have been focused on the prediction of the chip segmentation, the cutting forces, the tribology, the surface integrity, the tool edge preparation, etc. However, the reliability of the finite elements (FE) modeling is deeply dependent on the adequate definition of numerical parameters and the workpiece material behavior. During the machining process, the workpiece is subjected to severe non-linearities. Therefore, an adequate prediction of the material behavior, under wide ranges of plastic strain, strain rate, and temperature, is required. The literature review has pointed out the definition of several constitutive models, which are classified in three categories: the empirical, the semi-empirical, and the physically based models [14–16]. These latter are based on the definition of internal variables, which allow taking into account the history of the material deformation, the physical phenomena, and the changes followed by the microstructure of the machined material (e.g., the dislocations' density, its orientation, and the grain size) [17]. Despite the reliability of these constitutive models, they have been uncommonly used for the modeling of the machining process, in which heavy interactions between the involved phenomena are taking place. In addition, these constitutive models are characterized by the complicated identification of their numerous and coupled coefficients, where the setting up of particular experimental tests and the use of evolved equipment are deeply required. Moreover, the numerical implementation of these physically based models in the commercial codes remains a genuine task. On the other hand, the semi-empirical models, with a less complex mathematical formulation, present an interesting alternative. These models are advantageous since they allow a well prediction of the material behavior. However, problems related to the identification and the implementation of the semi empirical models in the commercial codes are raised. This explains its uncommon use for the modeling of forming processes, totally unlike the empirical models [17]. The thermo-visco-plastic Johnson-Cook (JC) model [18] has been widely used for the numerical analysis of the machining process [8, 19–22]. Its outstanding success is due to its ability to take into account the effects of plastic strains, strain rates, and temperatures. It is also attributed to its implementation in many commercial codes. In addition, only few experimental tests are required for its identification due to its uncoupled terms and the low number of its constitutive parameters. However, the accuracy of this empirical model is generally limited for particular loading conditions. In addition, the divergence of numerical simulations related to the definition of low strain rates is problematic [23]. A discontinuous regularization has been widely adopted to overcome this problem. It consists in neglecting the viscosity

effect, for strain rates below the reference one (case of the commercial code Abaqus®). Ayed et al. [24] have also underlined the inability of the JC rheological model to suitably fit the experimental flow stress-plastic strain curves for several ranges of plastic strain rates and temperatures. The authors have attributed this inadequacy to the JC parameters C and m . In addition, Laakso and Niemi [25] have noted errors up to 42% between the experimental flow stresses and those computed based on the JC empirical law. Its definition for the modeling of the machining process has led to heavily overestimated forces and chip thicknesses, for the investigated cutting conditions. Liu et al. [26] have also underlined its inability to reliably predict the thermal softening effects in the dual-phase steel plate DP600, for temperatures ranged between 300 and 1200 K.

Therefore, this study aims to improve the reliability of the FE modeling of the Ti6Al4V machining process. It focuses on increasing the correlation between experimental and numerical results. A new phenomenological model based on the investigation of Ayed et al. [24] is proposed. An exponential viscosity term and a modified JC thermal softening law are used to reproduce the Ti6Al4V behavior under several strain rates and temperatures, respectively. Attention is paid to the effect of this constitutive model on the accurate prediction of the material behavior, to the identification of its coefficients, as well as to its implementation in the numerical software Abaqus®. The identification of its coefficients is performed based on the non-linear regression method. The experimental compression tests of Braham-Bouchnak [27] are used. Comparisons between the experimental flow stress-plastic strain curves and the computed ones are carried out. The advantageous of proposed modifications are discussed. The validation of the new phenomenological model is performed, for several loading conditions. A user-material subroutine VUMAT is developed for its implementation in the Abaqus®/Explicit software. Numerical simulations of uniaxial tensile tests and extremely dynamic impact tests are set up. Experimental and numerical studies of the orthogonal Ti6Al4V machining are carried out, for different cutting conditions. Comparisons between the simulated chips and forces, and the experimental ones are set up. The efficiency of the proposed rheological model, in terms of accurately predicting the chip segmentation, its geometry, and the tangential and feed forces, is studied. Attention is also paid to the material flow towards the workpiece sides. The 3D modeling of the orthogonal machining highlighted the sensitivity of side burrs to the cutting conditions.

2 Material rheological models

Three constitutive laws were used in this study for the prediction of the Ti6Al4V alloy behavior: the thermo-visco-plastic JC model [18], the empirical model of Ayed et al. [24]

(MJC1), and that proposed in this study (MJC2). The general mathematical formulation of all investigated models is given by Eq. (1). The material flow stress is expressed through three uncoupled terms: the Ludwik plastic hardening term $H(\varepsilon_p)$ [28] (given by Eq. (2)), the strain rate sensitivity term $G(\dot{\varepsilon})$, and the thermal softening term $F(T)$. For both JC and MJC1 models, a logarithmic function was used to predict the effect of the strain rate (see Eqs. (3) and (4) respectively). A function $C(\dot{\varepsilon})$, which depends on the strain rate, was defined in the MJC1 model instead of the JC coefficient C (see Eq. (5)). Contrariwise, an exponential viscosity term was used in the MJC2 model to predict the Ti6Al4V sensitivity to the strain rate (see Eq. (6)). Nonetheless, a function $m(T)$ was defined to the thermal softening terms of both MJC1 and MJC2 models instead of the JC coefficient m (as shown by Eq. (8)). The $m(T)$ expression is given by Eq. (9). It aimed to overcome the limitations of the JC thermal softening law given by Eq. (7), thus enabling accurate predictions of the Ti6Al4V behavior under wide ranges of temperatures.

$$\sigma = H(\varepsilon_p) \times G(\dot{\varepsilon}) \times F(T) \quad (1)$$

where, ε_p , $\dot{\varepsilon}$, and T are the equivalent plastic strains, the strain rate, and the temperature, respectively. $H(\varepsilon_p)$, $G(\dot{\varepsilon})$, and $F(T)$ are the hardening, viscosity, and thermal softening terms, respectively.

$$H(\varepsilon) = A + B \times \varepsilon_p^n \quad (2)$$

where, A , B , and n are the initial material yield stress at room temperature, the Ludwik hardening modulus, and the Ludwik hardening exponent, respectively.

$$G_{JC}(\dot{\varepsilon}) = \begin{cases} 1 & (\text{For : } \dot{\varepsilon} \leq \dot{\varepsilon}_0) \\ 1 + C \times \ln\left(\frac{\dot{\varepsilon}}{\dot{\varepsilon}_0}\right) & (\text{For : } \dot{\varepsilon} > \dot{\varepsilon}_0) \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

where C is the JC strain rate sensitivity coefficient. $\dot{\varepsilon}_0$ is the reference equivalent plastic strain rate corresponding to the transition from static loadings to dynamic ones.

$$G_{MJC1}(\dot{\varepsilon}) = \begin{cases} 1 & (\text{For : } \dot{\varepsilon} \leq \dot{\varepsilon}_0) \\ 1 + C(\dot{\varepsilon}) \times \ln\left(\frac{\dot{\varepsilon}}{\dot{\varepsilon}_0}\right) & (\text{For : } \dot{\varepsilon} > \dot{\varepsilon}_0) \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

where $C(\dot{\varepsilon})$ is the viscosity function and it is computed as follows:

$$C(\dot{\varepsilon}) = C_1 \times \exp\left(-C_2 \times \ln\left(\frac{\dot{\varepsilon}}{\dot{\varepsilon}_0}\right)\right) \quad (5)$$

where C_1 and C_2 are the strain rate sensitivity coefficients.

$$G_{MJC2}(\dot{\varepsilon}) = Y_0 + A_0 \times \exp\left(\frac{R_0 \dot{\varepsilon}}{\dot{\varepsilon}_0}\right) \quad (6)$$

where Y_0 , A_0 , and R_0 are the strain rate sensitivity coefficients of the proposed model.

$$F_{JC}(T) = \begin{cases} 1 & (\text{For : } T < T_{\text{room}}) \\ 1 - \left(\frac{T - T_{\text{room}}}{T_{\text{melt}} - T_{\text{room}}}\right)^m & (\text{For : } T_{\text{room}} \leq T \leq T_{\text{melt}}) \\ 0 & (\text{For : } T > T_{\text{melt}}) \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

where m is the JC thermal softening coefficient. T_{room} and T_{melt} are the room temperature and the melting one, respectively. They are equal to 293K and 1943K, respectively [27].

$$F_{JCM(1,2)}(T) = \begin{cases} 1 & (\text{For : } T < T_{\text{room}}) \\ 1 - \left(\frac{T - T_{\text{room}}}{T_{\text{melt}} - T_{\text{room}}}\right)^{m(T)} & (\text{For : } T_{\text{room}} \leq T \leq T_{\text{melt}}) \\ 0 & (\text{For : } T > T_{\text{melt}}) \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

where $m(T)$ is the thermal softening sensitivity exponent and it is written as follows:

$$m(T) = m_1 \times (1 - \exp(-m_2(T - T_{\beta}))) \quad (9)$$

where T_{β} is the Ti6Al4V β -transus temperature and it is equal to 1253K [27]. m_1 and m_2 are the thermal softening coefficients of the proposed model.

In this study, the same experimental compression tests of the literature [29] were used for the identification of all investigated rheological models (JC, MJC1, and MJC2 models). The compression tests of cylindrical specimens have been carried out at several reference speeds and initial temperatures (see Table 1). Graphite papers and a nickel paste were applied in the anvil-specimen interface in order to reduce the friction conditions, as well as to promote the thermal conductivity, mainly in the case of compression tests under high temperatures. The specimens were heated by an electric current (Joule effect), and thermocouples were used for the temperature determination.

The non-linear regression method was used for the identification of all studied rheological models. The optimal sets of constitutive coefficients ($P_{JC} = \{A, B, n, C, m\}$, $P_{MJC1} = \{A, B, n, C_1, C_2, m_1, m_2\}$ and $P_{MJC2} = \{A, B, n, Y_0, A_0, R_0, m_1, m_2\}$) were determined, based on the reduction, in a least square sense, of the errors between the experimental flow stress-plastic strain curves and the computed ones for the same loading conditions. The general error function given by Eq. (10) was defined in this study. A specific iterative identification procedure was used for a better adjustment of the material coefficients, thus a reliable fitting of experimental curves. It consisted of three steps. First of

Table 1 Experimental conditions of the compression tests of Brahm-Bouchnak [27]

Compression speed V (mm/s)	Initial temperature T_0 (K)
0.1	293
	473
	673
	873
	1073
0.1	293
1	
10	
100	
1000	

all, the isotropic hardening coefficients (A , B , and n) were determined. Afterward, the material thermal softening parameters were computed. This choice was justified by the self-heating of the specimen material, which was induced during dynamic tests. The stress-plastic strain curves corresponding to the reference strain rate and several initial temperatures were used. Finally, the strain rate sensitivity coefficients were determined. Table 2 regroups the constitutive coefficients of all compared rheological models.

$$Q = \sum_{i=1}^{n_i} \gamma_i \times \left[(\sigma_c)_i - (\sigma_{\text{exp}})_i \right]^2 \quad (10)$$

where n_i is the total number of experimental measurements for all investigated loading conditions. γ_i is the weighting factor and it is given by Eq. (11). σ_c is the computed flow stress and σ_{exp} is the experimental one.

$$\gamma_i = 1 / \sum_{i=1}^{n_i} \left[(\sigma_{\text{exp}})_i \right]^2 \quad (11)$$

The adequacy of investigated rheological models in terms of accurately predicting the experimental Ti6Al4V behavior was investigated. Figure 1 illustrates the comparison of

experimental flow stress-plastic strain curves to the computed ones based on the identified constitutive models, for different initial strain rates. The definition of the empirical JC model resulted in the most mismatched results, due to its parameter C . It led to a quasi-linear evolution of the G function, as shown in Fig. 2. Therefore, high relative errors (about 17%) were computed, while the mismatch between the experimental results and the computed ones was below 6.12% and 5.7% when the modified JC models (MJC1 and MJC2 models, respectively) were defined. For all compared rheological models, the most mismatched results were noted for $\bar{\dot{\epsilon}} = 100\text{s}^{-1}$ (see Fig. 1). For lower strain rates, the definition of the MJC1 model resulted in a slight improvement of the JC empirical model predictions. However, flow stresses very close to the experimental ones were computed with the MJC2 model. Therefore, the proposed viscosity law allowed more accurate predictions of the strain rate effects on the Ti6Al4V alloy behavior. In addition, it enabled overcoming the divergence of the numerical simulations, when the JC and MJC1 models were used, due to the definition of the logarithmic function for $\bar{\dot{\epsilon}} < \dot{\epsilon}_0$.

Figure 3 illustrates significant errors between the experimental stress-plastic strain curves and those computed with the empirical JC model. This mismatched reproduction of the temperature effect on the Ti6Al4V titanium alloy was attributed to the JC coefficient m . Its value deeply decreased from 0.9 to 0.25 for temperatures ranged between 473 and 1073 K, respectively, as illustrated by the black crosses of Fig. 4a. The definition of the same JC thermal softening coefficients for different temperatures resulted in an inadequate representation of the Ti6Al4V behavior. However, high agreements between the computed and the experimental flow stresses were noted, when the modified thermal softening law given by Eq. (8) was used (see Fig. 3b). The definition of the $m(T)$ function allowed a suitable reproduction of the m variation with the temperature (see Fig. 4). It enabled taking into account the effects of thermal softening on the flow stress, which decreased with the temperature rise as underlined by Laakso and Neimi [25].

These preliminary results pointed out the efficiency of the proposed rheological model in terms of allowing more reliable

Table 2 Constitutive coefficients of the JC, MJC1, and MJC2 models

Model	Constitutive coefficients							
	Hardening coefficients			Viscosity coefficients			Thermal softening coefficients	
JC	A (MPa)	B (MPa)	n	C			m	
	518.54	941.12	0.16	0.0087			0.58	
MJC1	A (MPa)	B (MPa)	n	C_1	C_2	m_1		m_2
	518.54	941.12	0.16	0.0027	0.198	1.628		0.001
MJC2	A (MPa)	B (MPa)	n	Y_0	A_0	R_0	m_1	m_2
	518.54	941.12	0.16	1.115	-0.124	-0.007	1.628	0.001

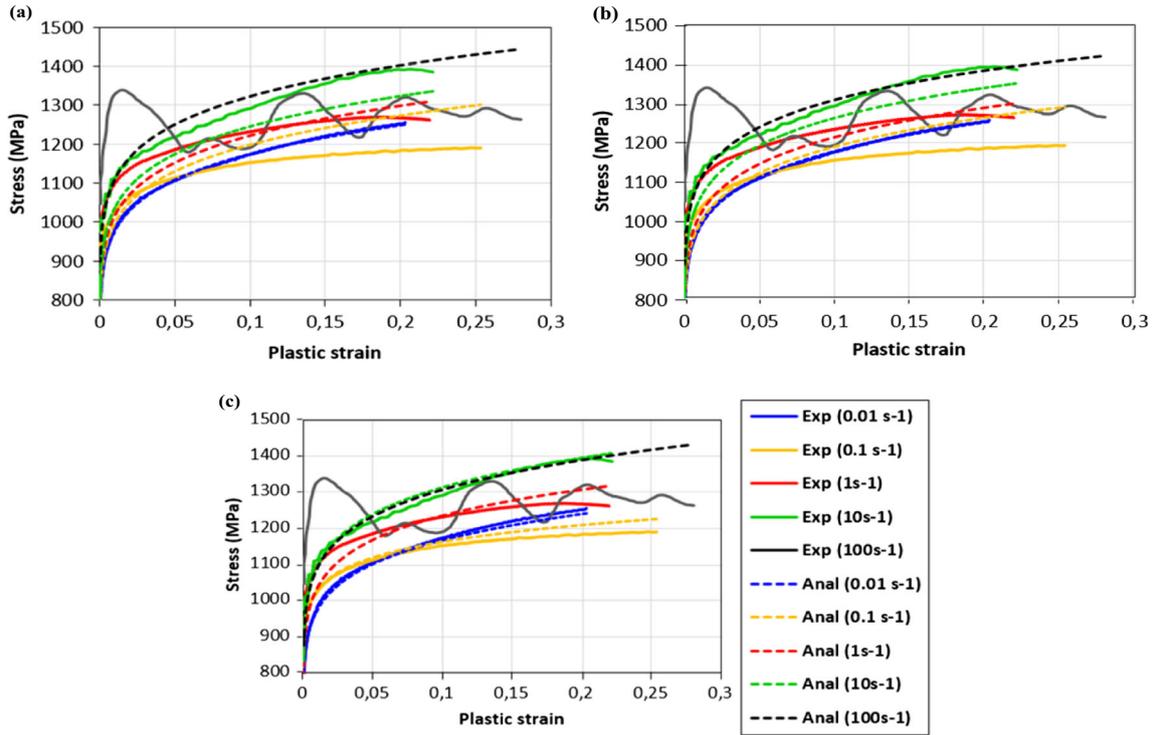


Fig. 1 Comparison of the experimental true stress-plastic strain curves to the computed ones for different strain rates ($T_0 = 293\text{K}$). a JC. b MJC1. c MJC2 models

predictions of the Ti6Al4V behavior for several strain rates and temperatures. The fact that the same JC hardening term was defined, this allowed reducing the identification cost. Only the determination of the strain rate of the viscosity and thermal softening terms was required.

3 VUMAT definition and validation

3.1 VUMAT definition

The implementation of the empirical JC model and the proposed one in the FE software Abaqus® was done. The explicit

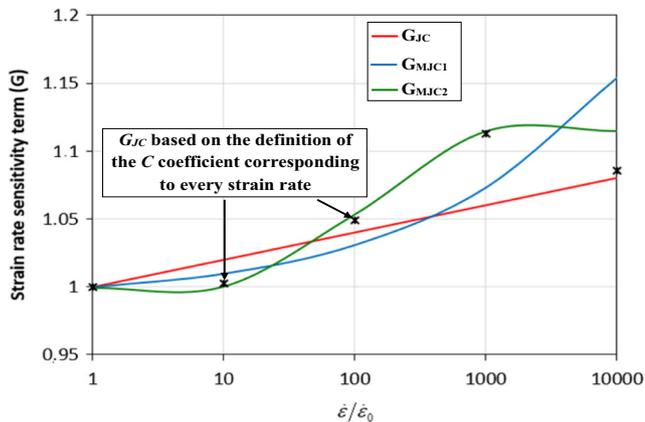
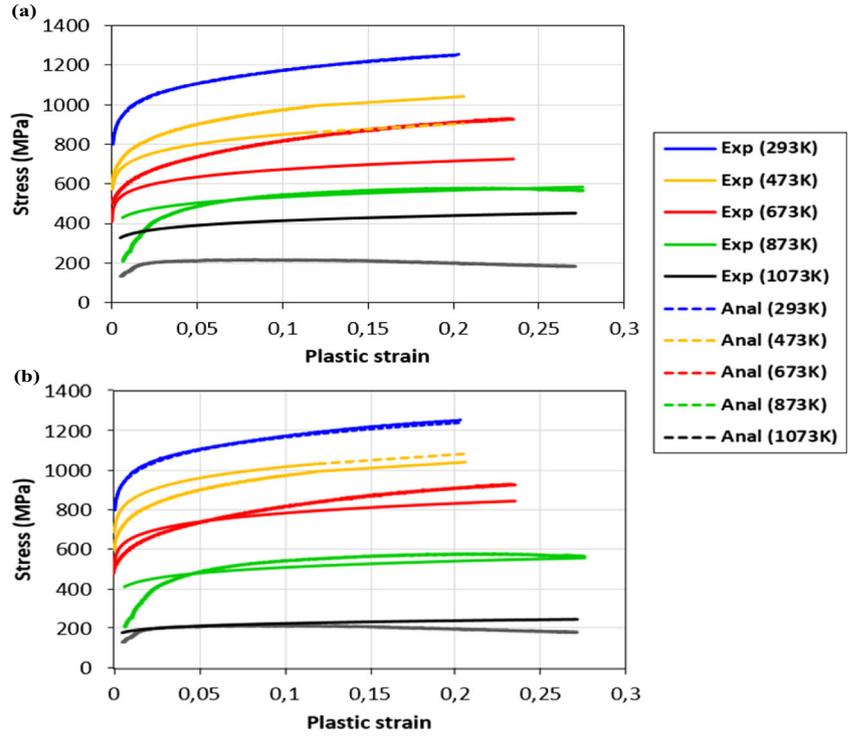


Fig. 2 Comparison of studied strain rate sensitivity terms

scheme, which is suitable for dynamic and nonlinear conditions similar to those induced during the Ti6Al4V machining, was adopted. A user material subroutine VUMAT was developed, in which the investigated rheological and damage equations were integrated. The material parameters were defined in a vector form, and the order of its components was imperatively respected. The fact that severe dynamic phenomena are involved during the Ti6Al4V machining, hindering consequently the modeling convergence, sufficiently small increments were used. In this study, an assumption of isotropic material behavior was made the fact that no cyclic loadings, and thereby Bauschinger effects, were investigated. The von Mises plasticity criterion, which is commonly used for the modeling of the material hardening, was defined. A scalar yield function f was computed (see Eq. (12)). The elastoplastic transition was verified at every time increments Δt . If $f < 0$, an elastic (reversible) material deformation was assumed; and the von Mises equivalent stress increased from zero to the initial yield surface (see Fig. 5). However, a plastic deformation was taking place once $f \geq 0$. Hence, an increase of the yield surface was taking place. Therefore, a massive proliferation of dislocations (stacking defects) within the metal crystal was encountered [30, 31]. Significant irreversible motion of dislocations was taking place during the machining of the Ti6Al4V alloy according to Yang and Liu [32]. It led to severe changes of the material properties and a drift of the $\sigma_{(t+\Delta t)}$ stress (see Fig. 5). Indeed, a correction of the positive yield function was required. The general approach adopted to explicitly implement

Fig. 3 Experimental and computed stress-plastic strain curves corresponding to different initial temperatures ($\dot{\varepsilon}_0 = 0.01\text{s}^{-1}$). **a** JC and **b** MJC2 models



the compared material models is illustrated in Fig. 6. It was based on the study of Bednarczyk et al. [33], in which the authors used the return mapping method to integrate the plasticity equations. A correction factor m_{corr} given by Eq. (13)

was defined in order to enable the radial return mapping of the integration scheme. It allowed bringing back the updated stress onto the yield area.

$$f = \bar{\sigma}_{\text{pr}} - \sigma_y(\bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\dot{\varepsilon}}, T) \quad (12)$$

where, $\bar{\sigma}_{\text{pr}}$ is the equivalent predictor stress. $\sigma_y(\bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\dot{\varepsilon}}, T)$ is the yield stress. It was computed based on the JC rheological model and the proposed one, in this study.

$$m_{\text{corr}} = \frac{(\sigma_y(\bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\dot{\varepsilon}}, T))_{(t+\Delta t)}}{(\bar{\sigma}_{\text{pr}})_{(t+\Delta t)}} \quad (13)$$

where $(\sigma_y(\bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\dot{\varepsilon}}, T))_{(t+\Delta t)}$ and $(\bar{\sigma}_{\text{pr}})_{(t+\Delta t)}$ are the updated yield stress and the equivalent predictor stress, respectively.

Based on the numerical analysis of Pipard [34], the correction factor was only applied to the deviatoric stress. Therefore, the effective stress tensor $(\sigma_{\text{eff}})_{(t+\Delta t)}$ was explicitly computed based on Eq. (14). This assumption was justified by the incompressible conditions of nonporous metals, which plastically deform without resulting in a volume change.

$$[\sigma_{\text{eff}}]_{(t+\Delta t)} = (\sigma^h)_{(t+\Delta t)} \times [I] + m_{\text{corr}} \times [\sigma_{\text{pr}}^{\text{dev}}]_{(t+\Delta t)} \quad (14)$$

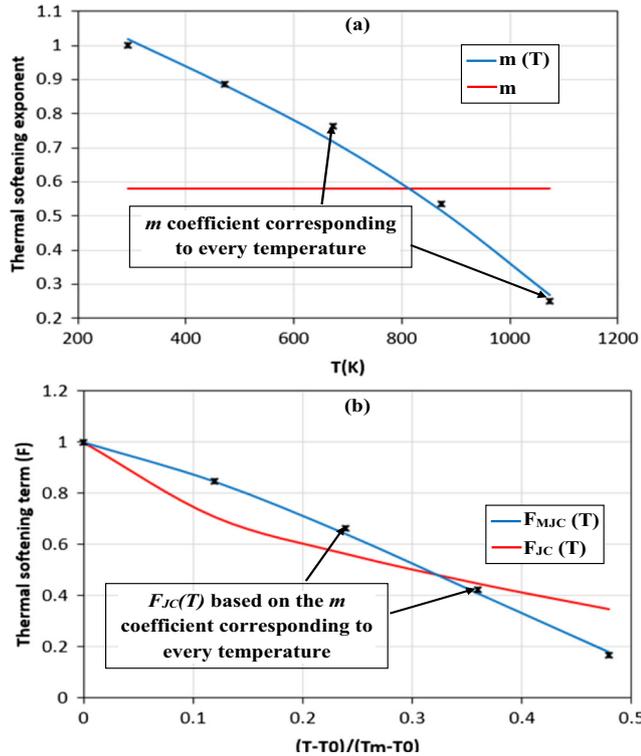
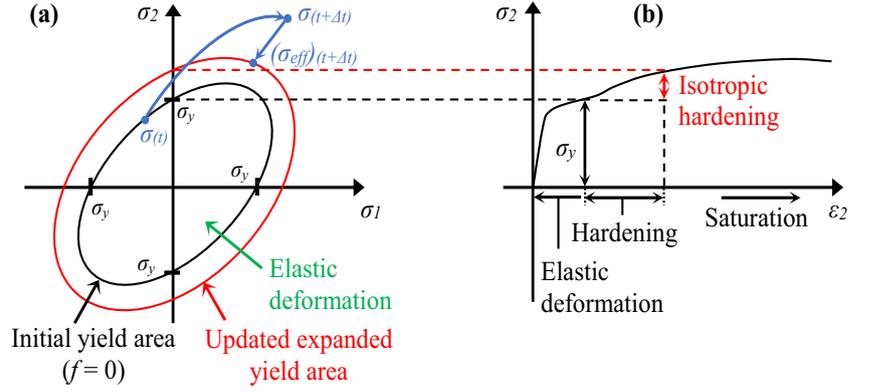


Fig. 4 Comparison of the thermal softening (a) exponents and (m and $m(T)$) (b) terms

Fig. 5 Schematic representation of **a** the yield areas in the plane stress and **b** the uniaxial stress-strain curves (case of an isotropic hardening plasticity)



where $(\sigma^h)_{(t+\Delta t)}$ is the updated hydrostatic stress, m_{corr} is the correction factor, and $[\sigma_{\text{pr}}^{\text{dev}}]_{(t+\Delta t)}$ is the updated deviatoric stress tensor.

The equivalent plastic strain increment $(\Delta \bar{\varepsilon}_p)_{(t+\Delta t)}$ was explicitly determined based on Eq. (15).

$$(\Delta \bar{\varepsilon}_p)_{(t+\Delta t)} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3} \left[\Delta \varepsilon_p^{\text{dev}} \right]_{(t+\Delta t)} : \left[\Delta \varepsilon_p^{\text{dev}} \right]_{(t+\Delta t)}} \quad (15)$$

where $[\Delta \varepsilon_p^{\text{dev}}]_{(t+\Delta t)}$ is the deviatoric plastic strain tensor (see Eq. (16)). It was used for the $(\Delta \bar{\varepsilon}_p)_{(t+\Delta t)}$ prediction (see Eq. (17)).

$$[\Delta \varepsilon_p^{\text{dev}}]_{(t+\Delta t)} = \left(\frac{1-m_{\text{corr}}}{2 \times \mu_{\text{Lame}}} \right) \times [\sigma_{\text{pr}}^{\text{dev}}]_{(t+\Delta t)} \quad (16)$$

where μ_{Lame} is the Lamé factor. m_{corr} is the correction factor, which expression is given by Eq. (13). $[\sigma_{\text{pr}}^{\text{dev}}]_{(t+\Delta t)}$ is the updated deviatoric stress tensor.

$$(\Delta \bar{\varepsilon}_p)_{(t+\Delta t)} = \left(\frac{1-m_{\text{corr}}}{3 \times \mu_{\text{Lame}}} \right) \times (\bar{\sigma}_{\text{pr}})_{(t+\Delta t)} = \frac{(\bar{\sigma}_{\text{pr}})_{(t+\Delta t)} - (\sigma_y(\bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\varepsilon}, T))_{(t+\Delta t)}}{3 \times \mu_{\text{Lame}}} \quad (17)$$

where $(\bar{\sigma}_{\text{pr}})_{(t+\Delta t)}$ is the equivalent predictor stress. $(\sigma_y(\bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\varepsilon}, T))_{(t+\Delta t)}$ is updated yield stress and it is computed as follows:

$$(\sigma_y(\bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\varepsilon}, T))_{(t+\Delta t)} = (\sigma_y(\bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\varepsilon}, T))_{(t)} + \left(\frac{d\sigma_y(\bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\varepsilon}, T)}{d\varepsilon} \right)_{(t)} \times (\Delta \bar{\varepsilon}_p)_{(t+\Delta t)} + \dots \quad (18)$$

As shown in Eq. (18), a linear hardening was considered, since an explicit integration scheme and extremely small time increments were considered. Therefore, Eq. (19) was used to determine the plastic strain increment.

$$(\Delta \bar{\varepsilon}_p)_{(t+\Delta t)} = \frac{(\bar{\sigma}_{\text{pr}})_{(t+\Delta t)} - (\sigma_y(\bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\varepsilon}, T))_{(t)}}{3 \times \mu_{\text{Lame}} + \left(\frac{d\sigma_y(\bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\varepsilon}, T)}{d\varepsilon} \right)_{(t)}} \quad (19)$$

where $\left(\frac{d\sigma_y(\bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\varepsilon}, T)}{d\varepsilon} \right)$ is the yield hardening parameter.

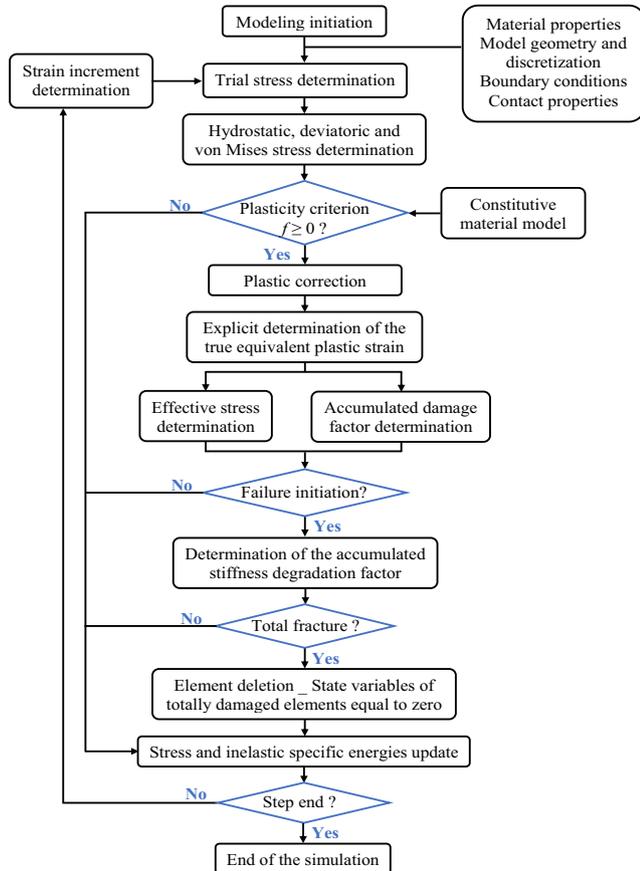


Fig. 6 Flowchart of the VUMAT

During the machining process of the Ti6Al4V alloy, a segmented chip is usually formed, even under low cutting conditions. The modeling of the chip formation and segmentation requires taking into account the damage behavior of ductile materials, when the Lagrangian formulation is used. The definition of damage models allows the prediction of the failure initiation followed by the stiffness degradation until reaching the total fracture of the mesh. In this study, the JC damage model [35] was used to determine the damage onset. It represents a cumulative failure law, where the magnitude of the equivalent plastic strain within a deformed finite element is computed, and it is compared to that corresponding to the failure initiation ε_{JCD} (see Eq. (21)). The damage occurs in the finite element once the cumulative scalar damage parameter w reaches unity (see Eq. (20)). It results in the flow stress degradation, which progressively decreases until reaching the total failure of the mesh. Equation (22) was used to predict the effect of damage evolution on the ductile material behavior, until the occurrence of the total fracture. Both linear and exponential forms of the damage evolution (given by Eqs. (23) and (24) respectively) were implemented in the VUMAT to model the progressive stiffness degradation. These failure criteria are based on the definition of the characteristic length L of finite elements, which depends on the mesh topology (FE geometry, full/reduced integration, number of nodes per element). It allows taking into account the effects of mesh properties on the numerical simulations.

$$\omega_{(t+\Delta t)} = \omega_{(t)} + \Delta\omega_{(t+\Delta t)} = \sum \left(\frac{\Delta\varepsilon_p}{\varepsilon_{\text{JCD}}} \right) \quad (20)$$

where ε_{JCD} is the plastic strain when the damage is initiated in a finite element. It is computed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_{\text{JCD}} = & \left[D_1 + D_2 \times \exp \left(D_3 \frac{\sigma_h}{\sigma_{\text{pr}}} \right) \right] \\ & \times \left[1 + D_4 \times \ln \left(\frac{\dot{\varepsilon}}{\varepsilon_0} \right) \right] \\ & \times \left[1 + D_5 \times \left(\frac{T - T_0}{T_m - T_0} \right) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

where D_i ($i = 1, 2, 3, 4,$ and 5) are the JC damage coefficients which values are regrouped in Table 3. σ_h and σ_{pr} represent the hydrostatic and the predictor stresses, respectively. ε_0 is

the reference strain rate, T_m is the melting temperature, and T_0 is the reference one.

$$[\sigma_{\text{eff}}]_{(t+\Delta t)} = \left(1 - (D_{\text{ev}})_{(t+\Delta t)} \right) \times [\tilde{\sigma}]_{(t+\Delta t)} \quad (22)$$

where $[\tilde{\sigma}]_{(t+\Delta t)}$ is the stress tensor when the damage effect is neglected. $(D_{\text{ev}})_{(t+\Delta t)}$ is the damage evolution parameter at $t + \Delta t$ (see Eqs. (23) and (24)). It reproduces the stiffness degradation within the damaged finite element until its total fracture. Its implementation aimed to avoid the problems of the numerical solution's dependency to the mesh, the fact that the damaged material behavior was no more given as a stress-strain response, but as a stress-displacement response.

$$(D_{\text{ev}})_{(t+\Delta t)} = \frac{(\Delta \bar{u}_p)_{(t+\Delta t)}}{\bar{u}_f} = \frac{L \times (\varepsilon_p)_{(t+\Delta t)}}{\bar{u}_f} \quad (23)$$

$$(D_{\text{ev}})_{(t+\Delta t)} = 1 - \exp \left(- \int_0^{\bar{u}_p} \left(\frac{\sigma_{y_0}(\bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\varepsilon}, T)}{G_f} \right) \times d\bar{u}_p \right) \quad (24)$$

where \bar{u}_p is the equivalent plastic displacement. \bar{u}_f is the equivalent material displacement at failure (see Eq. (25)). G_f is the failure energy. $\sigma_{y_0}(\bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\varepsilon}, T)$ is the yield stress at the damage onset. L is the characteristic length of the finite element.

$$\bar{u}_f = \frac{2 \times G_f}{\sigma_{y_0}(\bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\varepsilon}, T)} \quad (25)$$

where G_f is the failure energy and $\sigma_{y_0}(\bar{\varepsilon}, \bar{\varepsilon}, T)$ is the yield stress at the damage onset.

3.2 VUMAT validation

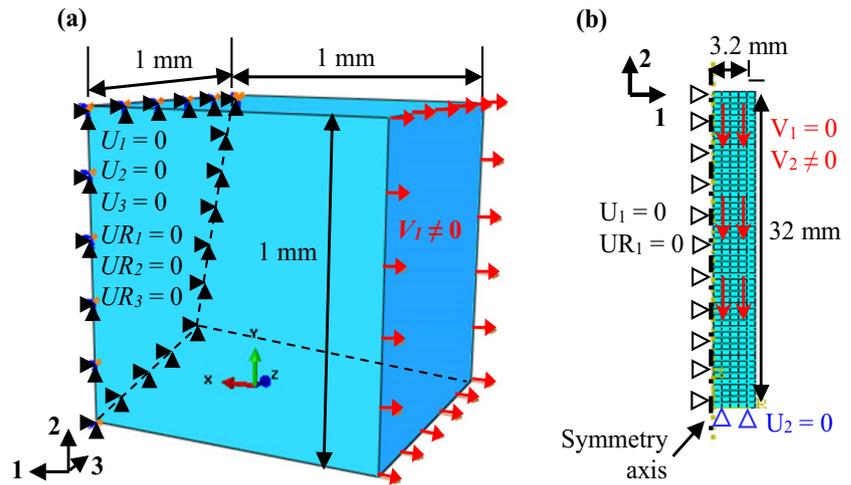
The reliability of the user-material subroutine was verified for several loading conditions. 3D numerical simulations of uniaxial tensile tests along the X-direction were firstly set up in the FE software Abaqus®. The model geometry and the boundary conditions are illustrated in Fig. 7a. Tensile velocities and initial temperatures ranged between 0.01 and 100 mm/s and 293–1073K, respectively, were defined. The model discretization was carried out based on the definition of one 8-node thermally coupled finite element (C3D8RT). The displacement-temperature coupling and the reduced integration scheme were assumed.

The accuracy of performed implementations in the case of ultra-high dynamic conditions was also investigated. 2D numerical simulations of the axisymmetric Taylor impact test under two strain rates (200 m.s⁻¹ and 300 m.s⁻¹) were performed. This test consisted in the modeling of the

Table 3 JC damage coefficients [36]

Damage coefficient	D_1	D_2	D_3	D_4	D_5
Value	-0.09	0.25	-0.5	0.014	3.87

Fig. 7 Model geometry and boundary conditions of **a** the 3D tensile test and **b** the 2D axisymmetric impact test



compression of a cylindrical specimen against a hardened rigid target. During the impact test, its end-face was subjected to high plastic strains. In this study, an initial temperature of 293K was defined. Axial displacements of the projectile were permitted, while radial displacements were constrained (see Fig. 7b). The model discretization was done based on the definition of 270 quadrilateral axisymmetric CAX4RT mesh. The case of a reduced integration and coupled temperature-displacement conditions was investigated.

In the current study, no comparisons with the experimental results were set up the fact that the main purpose was to verify the reliability of performed implementations in terms of accurately reproducing the numerical results directly modeled with

the FE code Abaqus®, for the same loading conditions. Therefore, the JC empirical model [18], the JC damage initiation law [35], and the failure evolution criteria (given by Eqs. (23) and (24)), which are available in the Abaqus® library, were firstly implemented in the VUMAT. The constitutive and damage coefficients regrouped in Tables 2 and 3, respectively, were defined. The same physical properties of the Ti6Al4V alloy, which were used in the FE analysis of Yaich

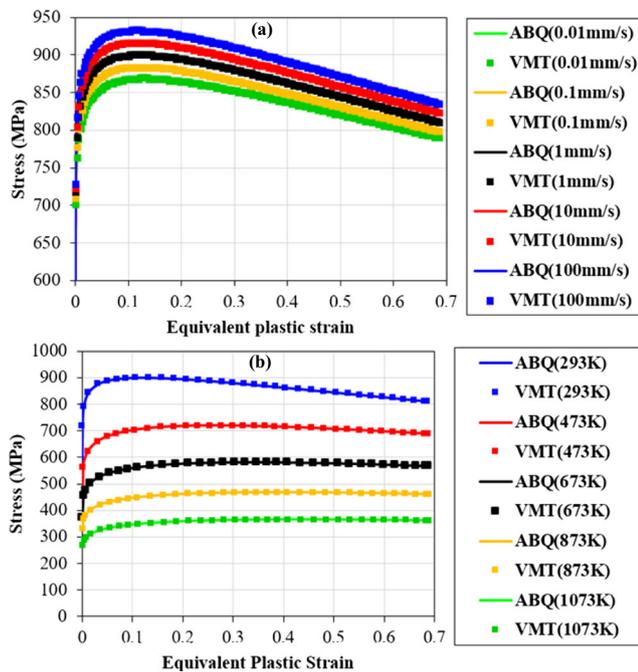


Fig. 8 Numerical stress-plastic strain curves computed with the constitutive JC model of the Abaqus® library (ABQ) or that implemented in VUMAT (VMT). $T_0 = 293$ K and $V = 1$ mm/s

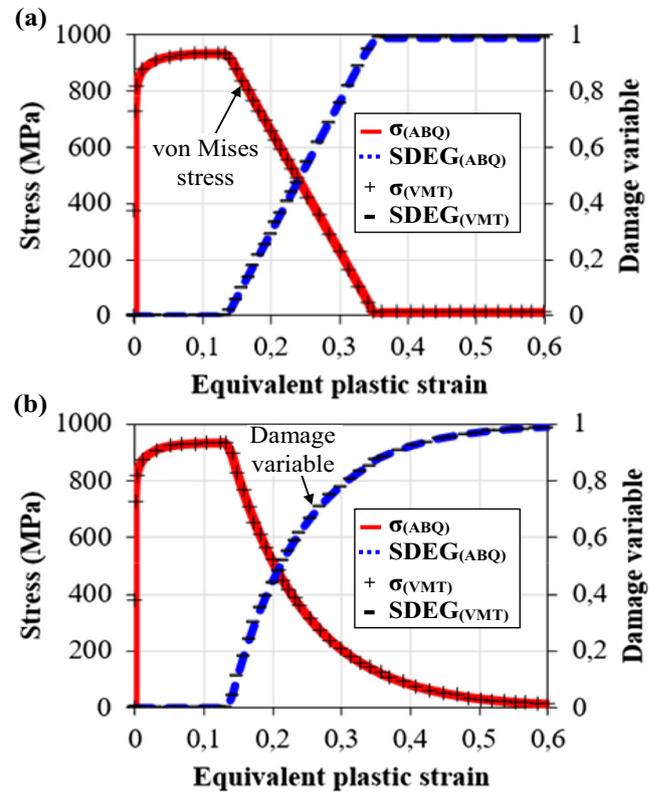


Fig. 9 Comparison of the Von Mises stress and damage variable (SDEG) predicted with Abaqus® to those obtained through the VUMAT definition ($V = 100$ mm/s): Case of **a** a linear and **b** an exponential failure evolution

et al. [22], were defined in the numerical simulations. An assumption of adiabatic conditions was made and a Taylor-Quinney parameter of 0.9 was defined.

Figures 8 and 9 illustrate the numerical curves of the von Mises stresses and the damage evolution variables, respectively, which were predicted with either the direct use of constitutive/damage models implemented in the FE software Abaqus® or those defined in the programmed VUMAT. High agreements between the numerical results of uniaxial tensile tests were noted, even when the damage was initiated in the Ti6Al4V specimens. The definition of both failure evolution models resulted in a well fitting of the stress-plastic strain curves directly modeled with Abaqus® (see Fig. 9).

Figure 10 illustrates the equivalent plastic strain (PEEQ or SDV1) and the damage variable (SDEG or SDV5) computed in the deformed projectile. For both methods (with/without the VUMAT definition), a pronounced plastic strain concentration at the bottom face of the cylinder, mainly around the symmetry axis, was underlined. In addition, high correlations were noted between the numerical geometry of the deformed projectile, which was obtained either with the constitutive/

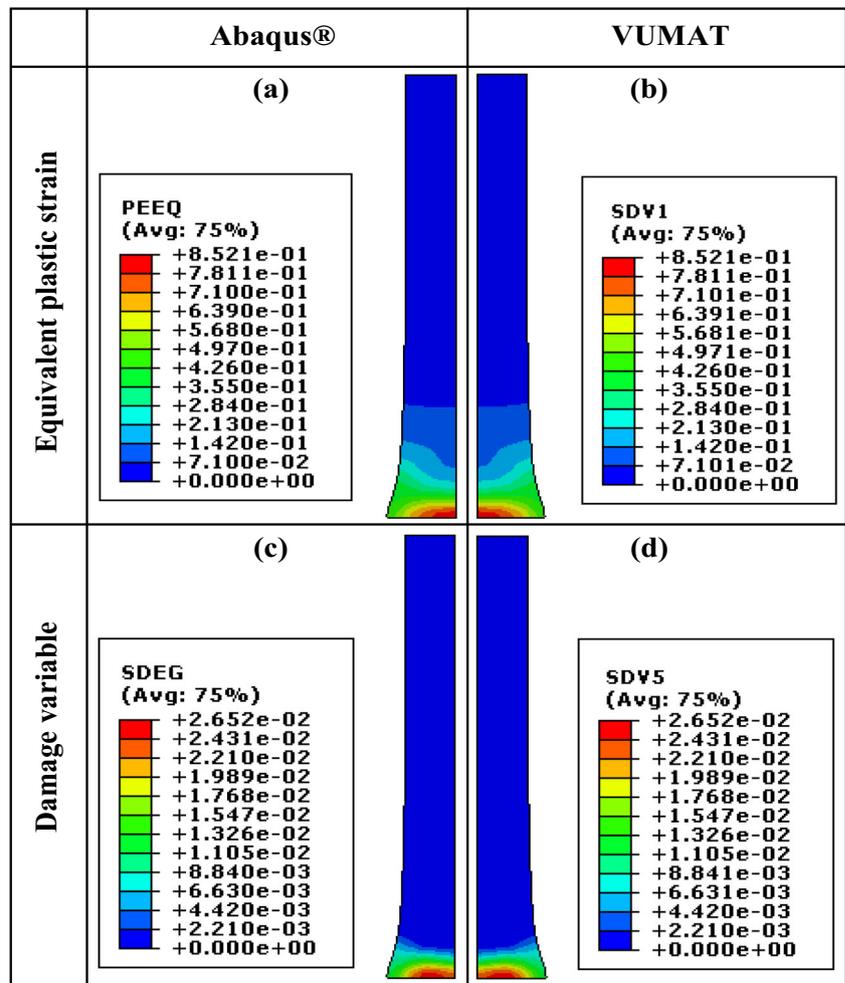
damage models available in the Abaqus® library or through those implemented in VUMAT (see Fig. 11). An extremely deformed part of the projectile was underlined resulting in the modeling of a mushroom shape in the bottom surface of the specimen. For both FE modeling methods, the same heights and radius of the deformed projectile were predicted. These pronounced correlations emphasized the accuracy of performed implementations, for quasi-static, dynamic, and ultra-high dynamic conditions.

4 Orthogonal machining of the Ti6Al4V alloy

4.1 Experimental tests

Orthogonal dry turning tests of the Ti6Al4V titanium alloy were performed on the LEADWELL LTC25iL CNC lathe. An uncoated tungsten carbide insert referenced AP40 122002-ARNO, which was fixed on the insert holder, was used. In order to reproduce the orthogonal machining configuration, the cylindrical workpiece was previously prepared

Fig. 10 Deformed projectile predicted with **a, c** Abaqus® and **b, d** through the VUMAT definition ($V = 200 \text{ m.s}^{-1}$ and $T_0 = 293 \text{ K}$): **a, b** equivalent plastic strain and **c, d** damage evolution variable



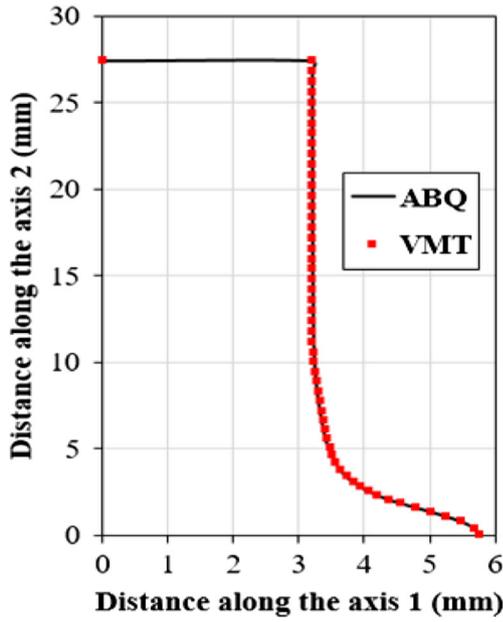


Fig. 11 Deformed projectile geometry ($V = 300 \text{ m.s}^{-1}$ and $T_0 = 293 \text{ K}$)

with bearings of 3-mm width (Fig. 12). The cutting conditions are grouped in Table 4. Measurements of the instantaneous forces in different directions were done through the Kistler dynamometer. An optical microscope was used for the chip morphology investigation. Properties of the cutting tool geometry are summarized in Table 4.

4.2 Numerical model

3D numerical simulations of the orthogonal turning were carried out. An assumption of temperature-displacement coupling conditions was made. The case of explicit and Lagrangian conditions was investigated. A multi-part workpiece was defined for a better control of the mesh distortion in the heavily deformed parts, mainly in the contact interfaces

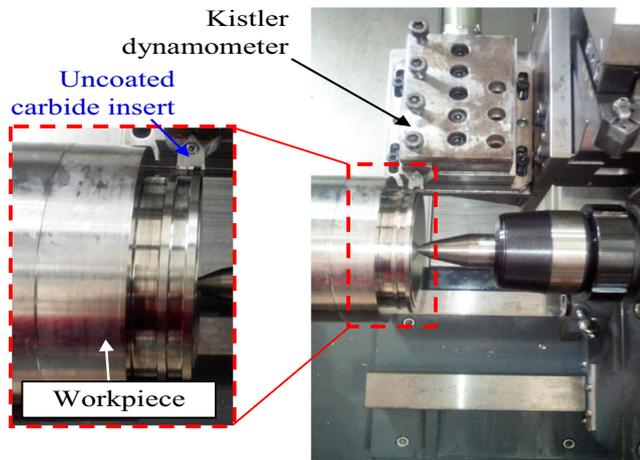


Fig. 12 Experimental machining test

Table 4 Cutting conditions, insert tool geometry, and material properties

Cutting conditions	
Cutting speed V_c (m/min)	45 _ 60 _ 75
Uncut chip thickness f (mm)	0.15 _ 0.22 _ 0.3
Width of cut a_p (mm)	3
Tool geometry	
Rake angle γ ($^\circ$)	6
Clearance angle α ($^\circ$)	7
Edge inclination angle λ_s ($^\circ$)	0
Edge entering angle κ_r ($^\circ$)	90
Cutting edge radius r_b (μm)	20
Tool material properties [37]	
Density ρ (kg/m^3)	15,000
Specific heat C_p (J/kg/K)	203
Thermal conductivity λ (W/m/K)	46
Thermal expansion α_p ($\mu\text{m.m/K}$)	4.7×10^{-6}

and the shear zones. The workpiece was conceived in three tied parts: the uncut chip zone (P_1), the chip separation zone corresponding to the cutting tool passage zone (P_2), and the workpiece support (P_3). The model geometry and the boundary conditions are illustrated in Fig. 13. The cutting speed was applied to the rigid tungsten carbide tool, whereas the workpiece was fixed at its bottom side. The 8-node thermally coupled elements C3D8RT, based on the definition of the reduced integration, were used for the model discretization. A mesh refinement was applied to the tool edge radius. It was also defined to P_1 and P_2 of Fig. 13, where pronounced geometry changes were taking place. The mesh furthest from these zones was the coarsest. This assumption aimed to reduce the computing time (the CPU time). The same experimental cutting conditions given by Table 4 were modeled.

In this study, the “standard” JC model [18] and the proposed one were used for the modeling of the Ti6Al4V machining. The damage initiation model [35] and the failure evolution laws (see Eqs. (23) and (24)) were defined, in the aim to allow the prediction of the material removal process, thus the chip formation and segmentation, in the case of the Lagrangian formulation definition. The Coulomb-Tresca friction model (see Eq. (26)), which has been commonly used in the literature review [3, 8, 22, 38] to model the machining process, was defined. It aimed to predict the stick-slip conditions induced in the contact interfaces. In order to model the thermomechanical coupling conditions characterizing the Ti6Al4V machining and resulting in pronounced heating of the workpiece and the cutting tool, all the energy generated by the friction work was assumed converted to a heat flow. In addition, the case of the conversion of 90% of the workpiece plastic deformation to a thermal energy was considered.

Fig. 13 Numerical model geometry and boundary conditions

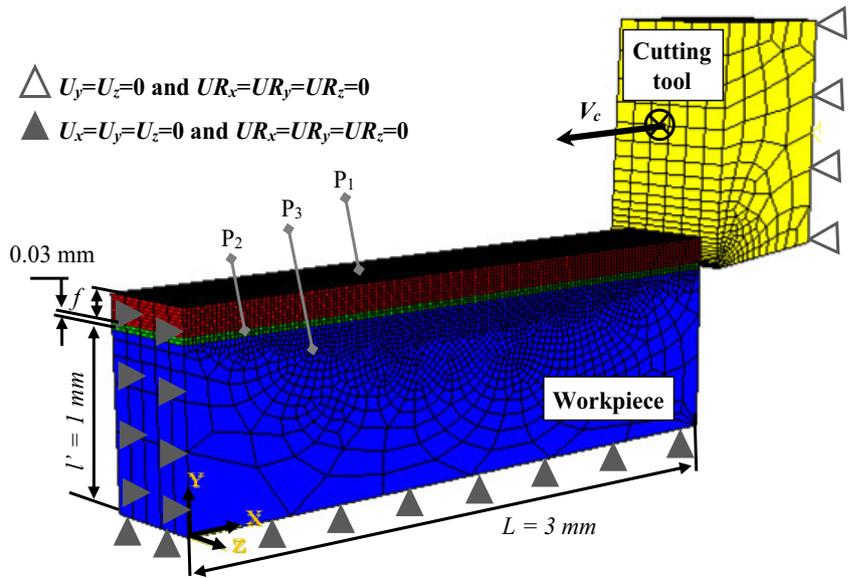


Fig. 14 Experimental chip morphologies corresponding to different cutting conditions

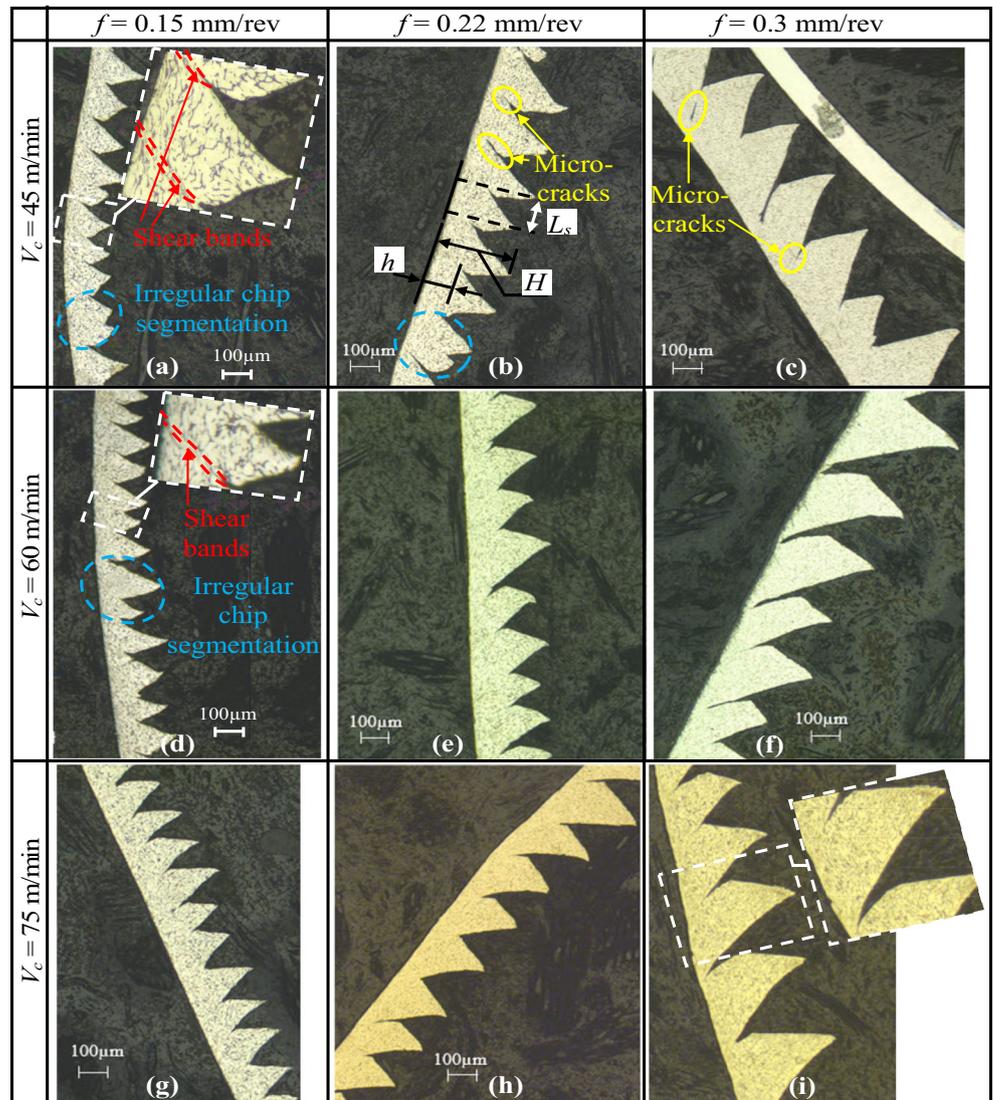
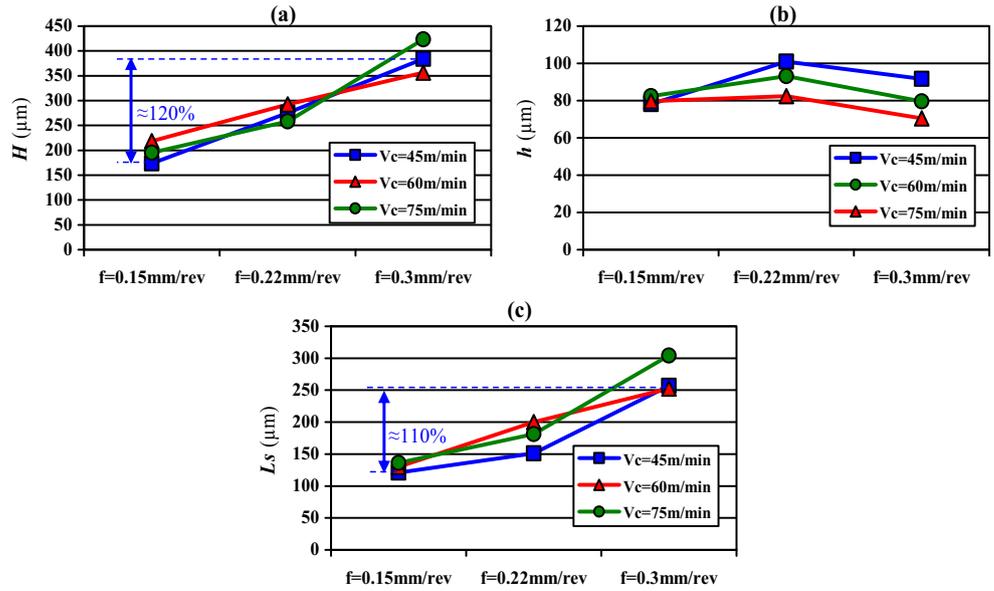


Fig. 15 Experimental average peak height (a), valley height (b), and segments width for different cutting conditions (c)



$$\tau_f = \max \left(\mu \times \sigma_n, m_{\text{Tresca}} \times \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{3}} \right) \quad (26)$$

where μ and m_{Tresca} are the Coulomb's friction coefficient and the Tresca factor, respectively. $\frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{3}}$ is the average shear stress. σ_n is the normal friction stress.

5 Experimental and numerical results of the Ti6Al4V machining

5.1 Chip segmentation and side burr formation

The morphologies of experimental chips corresponding to different cutting speeds and feed rates are illustrated in Fig. 14.

For all investigated cutting conditions, the Ti6Al4V machining resulted in the formation of serrated chips. The sensitivity of the chip segmentation, the segments geometry, and the crack propagation within the formed shear bands to the machining conditions was underlined. For the lowest cutting speed and feed rate (45 m/min and 0.15 mm/rev, respectively), an irregular chip segmentation was underlined. However, the increase of the cutting condition gave rise to a pronounced and regular chip serration, as well as to an accentuated crack propagation. Quantitative measurements of the peak height (H), the valley height (h), and the segment width (L_s) of experimental chips were made. Figure 15 illustrates a low sensitivity of the chip geometry to the cutting speeds, which was not the case of the feed rate. The H and L_s mean values were almost doubled when the feed rates was increased from 0.15 to 0.3

Fig. 16 Numerical chip morphology predicted with the JC (a–c) and the proposed rheological models for different cutting speeds ($f = 0.15$ mm/rev) (d–f)

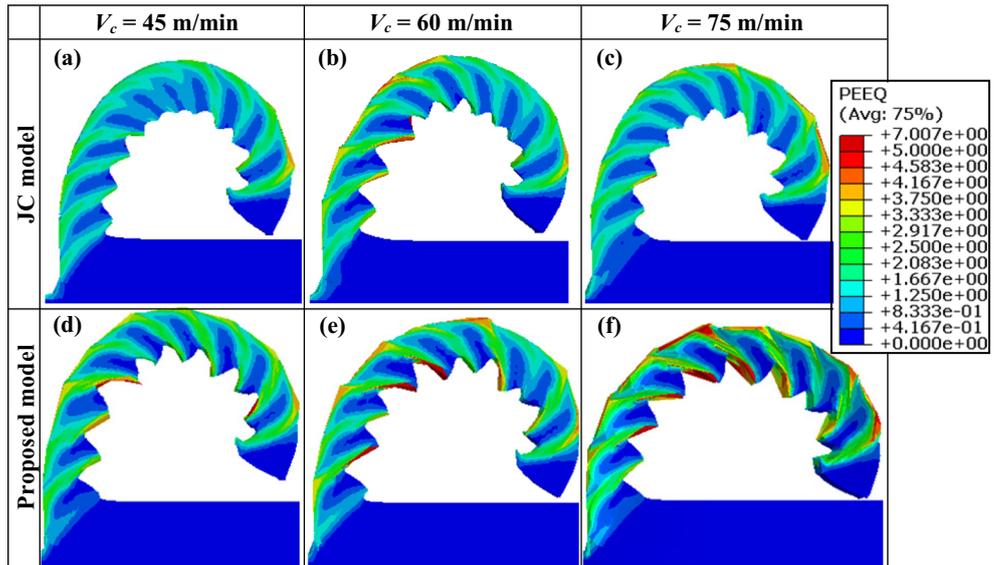
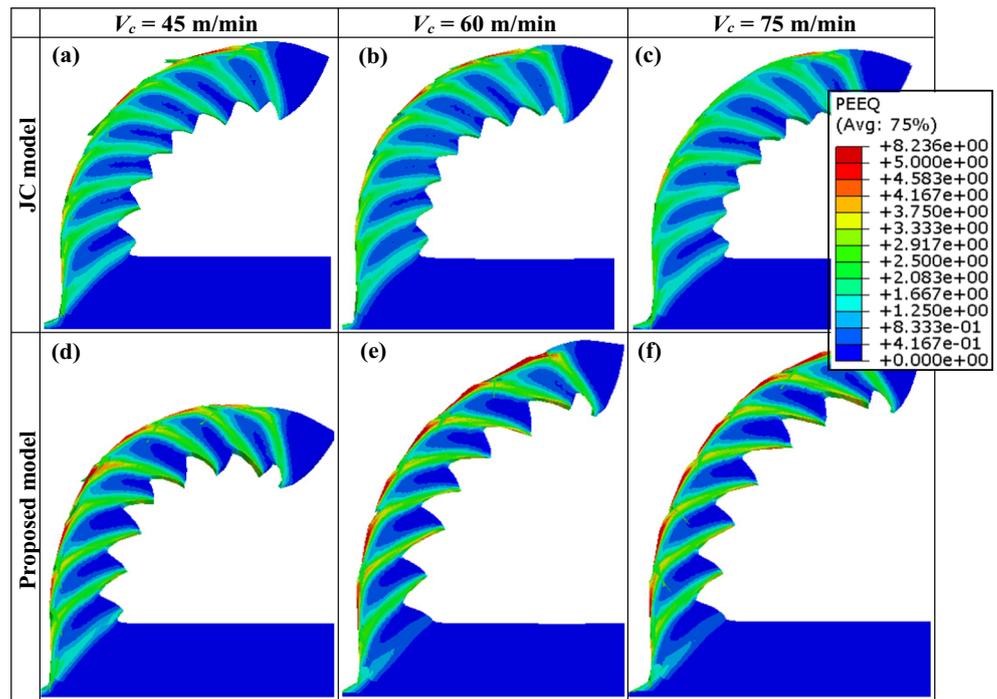


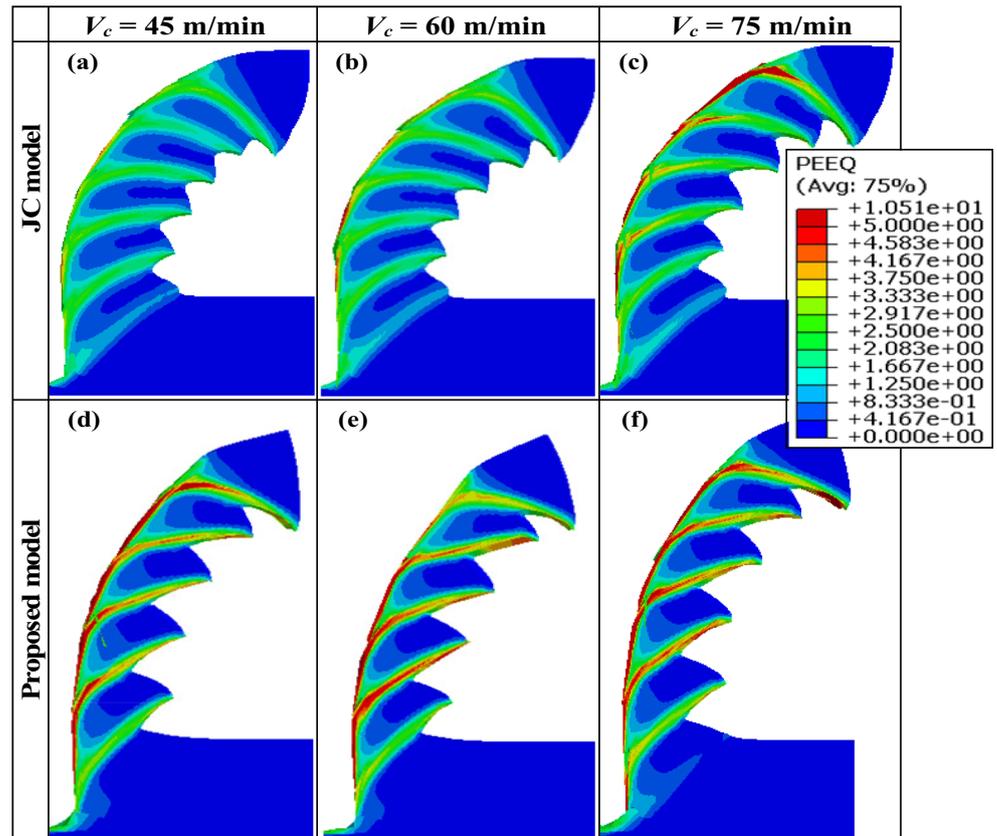
Fig. 17 Numerical chip morphology modeled with different rheological models ($f = 0.22$ mm/rev): case of the JC (a–c) and the proposed rheological models (d–f)



mm/rev, leading to more segmented chips. However, lower effects of the f value on the valley height was noted. Only a variation below 17% of its average value was underlined, for the investigated cutting speeds.

The numerical chips predicted with the JC rheological model and the proposed one were compared to the experimental ones, for the same cutting conditions. The adequacy of both models in terms of accurately predicting the machining process

Fig. 18 Numerical chip morphology corresponding to different cutting speeds and rheological models ($f = 0.3$ mm/rev). a–c JC and d–f proposed models



of the Ti6Al4V titanium alloy was investigated. In correlation with the experimental chip morphology, the lowest chip segmentation was modeled when a cutting speed and a feed rate of 45 m/min and 0.15 mm/rev, respectively, were defined (see Fig. 16). For $f = 0.15$ mm/rev, wavy to slightly segmented chips, in a mismatch with the experimental results, were predicted with the empirical JC model, whatever the cutting speed. However, more serrated chips were simulated for the same cutting conditions, when the proposed rheological model was defined. Comparisons with the experimental chips obtained for higher feed rates (0.22 mm/rev and 0.3 mm/rev) underlined the inability of the JC empirical model to adequately predict the Ti6Al4V alloy behavior. Even though a slight increase of the chip serration intensity with the cutting speed was enabled with this constitutive model, Figs. 17 and 18 show the modeling of weakly segmented chips for feed rates of 0.22 mm/rev and 0.3 mm/rev, which was in a mismatch with the experimental chip morphology. Contrariwise, an accentuation of the chip segmentation with the increase of the cutting speed and the feed rate was predicted with the proposed rheological model. For all investigated cutting conditions, numerical chips in correlation with the experimental ones were modeled with this constitutive model. Very serrated chips, with high equivalent plastic strains in the well-formed shear bands, were modeled for the highest feed rate.

Quantitative comparisons of the chip geometry were carried out to determine the reliability of the investigated phenomenological models. The peak and valley heights of numerical chips predicted with the “standard” JC model and the modified one were determined (see Fig. 19). The segmentation ratio SR (given by Eq. (27)) of experimental and numerical chips was computed and compared. It is underlined that the SR increase corresponds to a more pronounced chip segmentation. In the case of the proposed model definition, the numerical SR was generally close to the experimental ones, for the investigated cutting speeds and feed rates (see Fig. 20). Maximum errors of 15% were obtained, while mismatched chip valley and peak heights were predicted with the JC rheological model, mainly for high feed rates. In the case of $f = 0.3$ mm/rev, SR errors up to 83% were illustrated in Fig. 20.

$$SR(\%) = 100 \times \left(\frac{H-h}{H} \right) \quad (27)$$

where h and H are the valley and the peak heights of the chip, respectively.

The comparisons of numerical chips to the experimental ones underlined the advantageous of modifications proposed to the JC rheological model. It resulted in more accurate predictions of the chip morphology and the segments geometry,

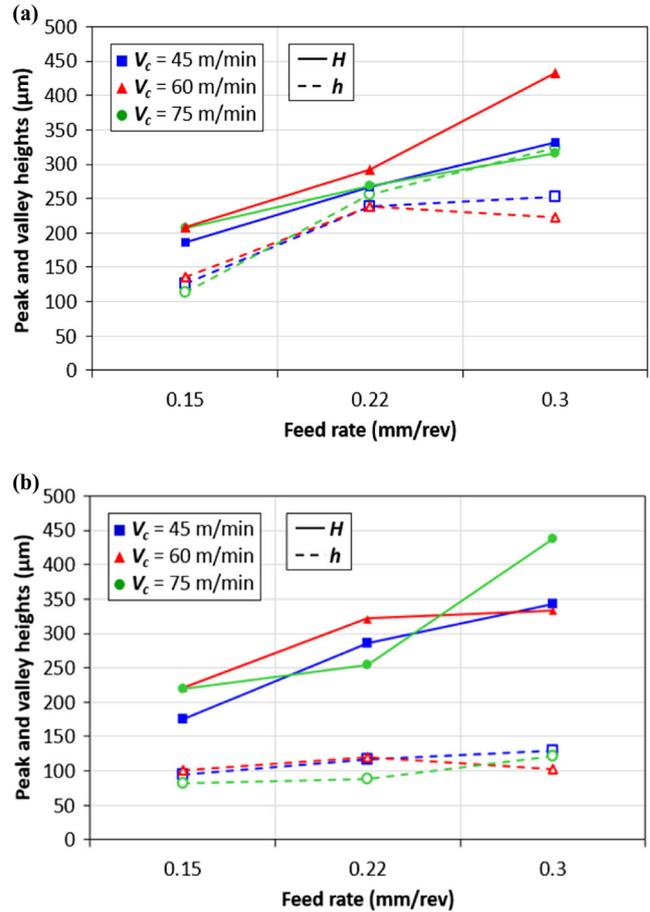


Fig. 19 Numerical peak and valley heights corresponding to different cutting conditions and constitutive models: case of **a** JC and **b** proposed models

mainly in the case of high feed rates. For these cutting conditions, the efficiency of the 3D FE modeling in taking into account the influence of the material flow in the cutting direction, as well as in the width of cut direction, was underlined. The formation of side burrs in the numerical chip sides was also underlined (see Fig. 21). A low sensitivity of its average

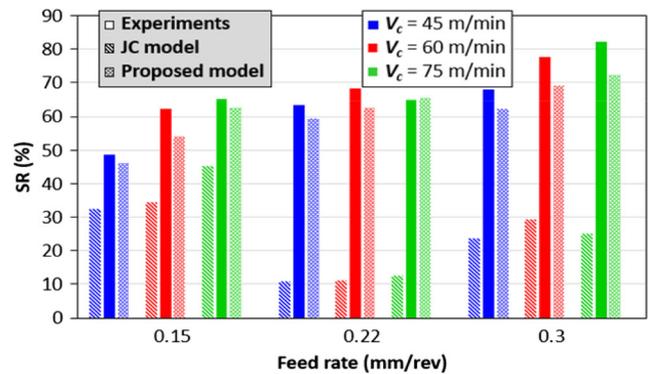
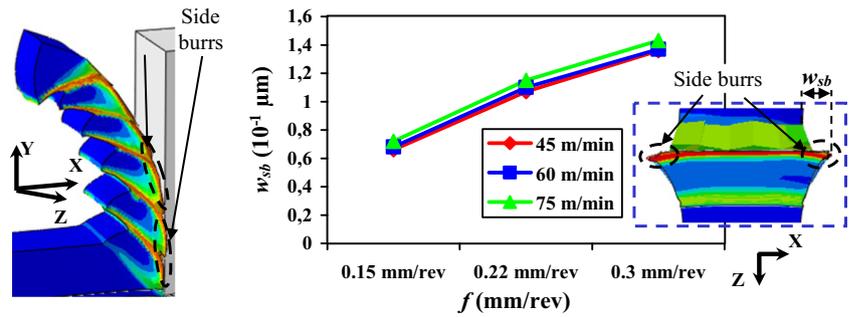


Fig. 20 Experimental and numerical segmentation ratio for different cutting conditions

Fig. 21 Side burrs width corresponding to different cutting conditions



width w_{sb} to the cutting speed was noted. Contrariwise, the increase of the feed rate gave rise to a significant material flow in the side edges of the workpiece. For a cutting speed of 75 m/min, w_{sb} increased from 0.072 to almost 0.15 μm , when feed rates of 0.15 mm/rev and 0.3 mm/rev were modeled, respectively.

5.1.1 Cutting forces

The effect of the cutting conditions on the instantaneous forces applied to the cutting tool was investigated. Measurements of the cutting and feed forces were carried out once the stable regime was reached. A significant effect of the feed rate on the experimental forces was underlined (see Fig. 22). Due to the definition of the highest feed rate, the penetration of the cutting tool in the workpiece and its displacement were followed by a significant increase of the quantity of the removed material. Therefore, high cutting and feed forces were obtained during the Ti6Al4V machining. Nonetheless, Fig. 23 shows a low sensitivity of the experimental cutting forces to the cutting speed. For all studied feed rates, F_c was slightly decreased with the V_c increase due to the temperature rise in the contact interfaces and the shear bands. It resulted in more softening of the machined material. However, a F_f rise with the cutting speed increase was noted (see Fig. 23b).

Comparisons of numerical cutting and feed forces to the experimental ones were set up, for all investigated cutting conditions (see Fig. 24). The low sensitivity of F_c to the cutting speed was accurately predicted with both compared rheological models. For a feed rate of 0.15 mm/rev, numerical cutting forces were generally close to the experimental ones. Errors below 10% were computed. The pronounced sensitivity of the F_c mean value to the feed rate was predicted with the proposed constitutive model. However, mismatched results were noted when the JC thermo-visco-plastic model was defined in the FE modeling of the Ti6Al4V orthogonal machining, mainly for the highest feed rates. Errors up to 31% were reached, while it was ranged between 0.8 and 11% in the case of the proposed model's definition to the workpiece. Even though this rheological model resulted in high correlations with the experimental chip morphology, segments geometry, and cutting forces, an underestimation of the experimental feed forces was noted for the investigated cutting conditions. Errors ranged between 19 and 30% were computed. This disagreement was accentuated with the definition of the JC empirical model, where errors up to 41% were determined. The low reliability of both investigated constitutive models in terms of the feed forces prediction was due to the effect of residual stresses. In addition, the numerical method used by the Lagrangian formulation for the modeling of the material removal, which is based on the deletion of the totally damaged mesh, influenced the F_f predictions.

Fig. 22 Experimental **a** cutting and **b** feed forces obtained for different feed rates ($V_c = 45$ m/min)

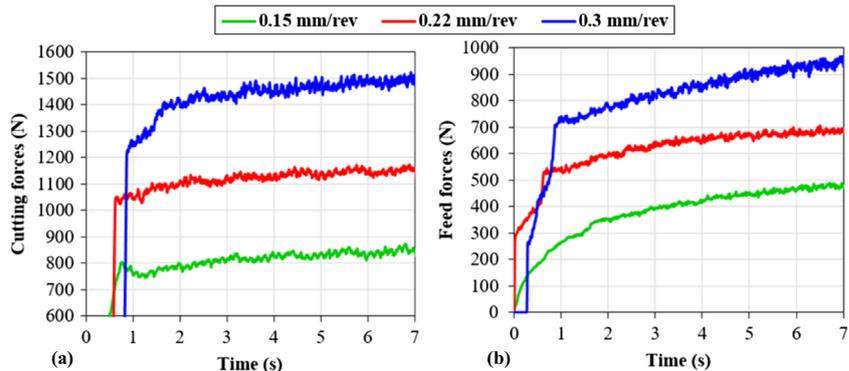
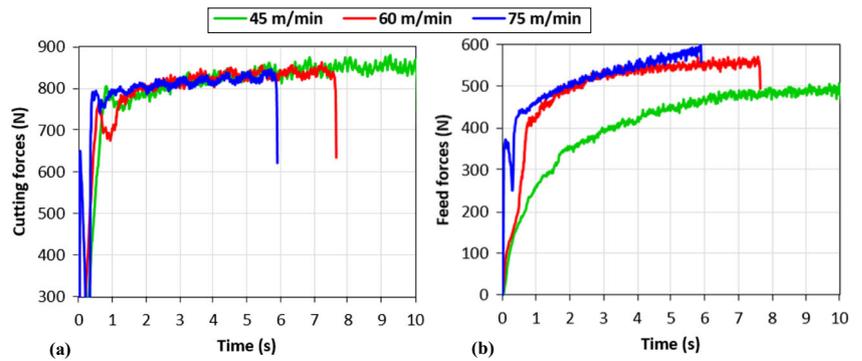


Fig. 23 Experimental **a** cutting and **b** feed forces corresponding to different cutting speeds ($f = 0.15$ mm/rev)



6 Conclusion

In this study, a new phenomenological model, based on an exponential strain sensitivity term and a generalized JC thermal softening law, was proposed. Its efficiency in terms of overcoming the weaknesses of the JC thermo-visco-plastic law, mainly summarized on its limited validity to particular strain rates and temperatures, was underlined. The identification of the proposed rheological model was carried out based on the same experimental tests used for the determination of the JC constitutive coefficients. This model ensured an interesting compromise between its identification cost and its accuracy. Its definition for the prediction of the Ti6Al4V

behavior pointed out the reliability of the proposed model, for both quasi-static and dynamic conditions, as well as under wide ranges of temperatures. Its implementation in the FE code Abaqus®/Explicit through the developed subroutine VUMAT was performed. The accuracy of this subroutine was investigated based on the setting up of numerical simulations of the uniaxial tensile and axisymmetric impact tests, in which the material behavior of specimens was predicted either with the constitutive/damage models already defined in the Abaqus® library or the similar ones implemented in the VUMAT. For all investigated loading conditions, high correlations were noted underlining the reliability of performed implementations.

The experimental orthogonal cutting process of the Ti6Al4V alloy and its 3D modeling were done, for the same cutting speeds and feed rates. The efficiency of the JC rheological model and the proposed one was investigated. Comparisons were set up with the experimental results of the Ti6Al4V orthogonal machining. Despite the modeling of the same cutting conditions, different chip morphologies, segments geometries, cutting, and feed forces were predicted. The reliability of the FE analysis was increased with the definition of the proposed constitutive model. The pronounced effect of the feed rate on the chip serration, the segments geometry, and the cutting forces was suitably predicted, pointing out the accuracy of this rheological model in predicting the Ti6Al4V behavior under wide ranges of strain rates and temperatures. Contrariwise, mismatched numerical results were modeled with the JC empirical model, mainly for feed rates of 0.22 mm/rev and 0.3 mm/rev. An underestimation of feed forces was noted for both rheological models, due to the effect of the residual stresses and the deletion of damaged FE. It was accentuated with the JC model definition.

Nonetheless, the advantages of 3D numerical simulations in terms of the modeling of the side burrs were highlighted. An increase of its width with the feed rate rise was noted. It resulted in additional thermomechanical loads, which effects on the cutting tool were neglected with the 2D FE modeling. Therefore, the limitations of 2D numerical simulations, in terms of taking into account the phenomena induced towards

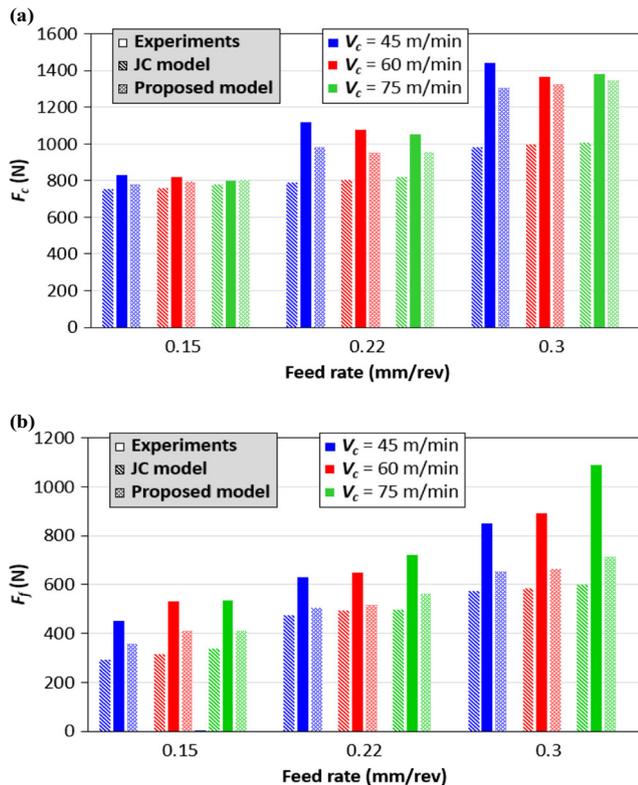


Fig. 24 Experimental and numerical mean forces corresponding to different cutting conditions: **a** F_c and **b** F_f

the width of cut direction, even in the case of orthogonal cutting conditions, were emphasized. In conclusion, the definition of the proposed rheological model coupled to 3D numerical simulations enabled suitable predictions of the phenomena induced in the chip thickness and width, during the Ti6Al4V machining.

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Data availability The data presented and analyzed in this study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

Code availability The code used in this study is available from the corresponding author on a reasonable request.

Declarations

Ethics approval and consent to participate Not applicable

Consent for publication All authors consent to the publication of this research work

Conflict of interest The authors declare no competing interests.

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