

Newsletter for December 2025
Department of Mechanical Engineering
Dayananda Sagar University
Bengaluru-562112



Dr. Saravana bavan, Associate Professor, Dept. of Mechanical Engineering was selected as speaker at International Conference on Surface Engineering of Sustainable & Bio-Materials (ICSESBM 2025), IIT Madras, 9-11 December 2025.

ICSESBM 2025, jointly organized by the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras), Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT Delhi), and King Mongkut's University of Technology North Bangkok (KMUTNB), Thailand. The conference aligned with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, fostered discussions that paved the way for a sustainable world. Academicians from India and around the world, scientists from research laboratories, and industry professionals attended the conference and exhibited their research ideas.





Dr. Naseem Khayum, Assistant Professor in the **Department of Mechanical Engineering, Dayananda Sagar University, Bangalore**, has published a paper in the **Q1 journal, *Scientific Reports*** (Impact Factor: 3.9). The paper, titled *"Influence of carbon free gaseous ammonia induction on combustion, performance and emissions in an agricultural diesel engine operated on dual fuel mode,"* advances in sustainable combustion research. This achievement highlights Dr. Khayum's continued contributions to **clean energy and intelligent engine technologies**.

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Influence of carbon free gaseous ammonia induction on combustion, performance and emissions in an agricultural diesel engine operated on dual fuel mode

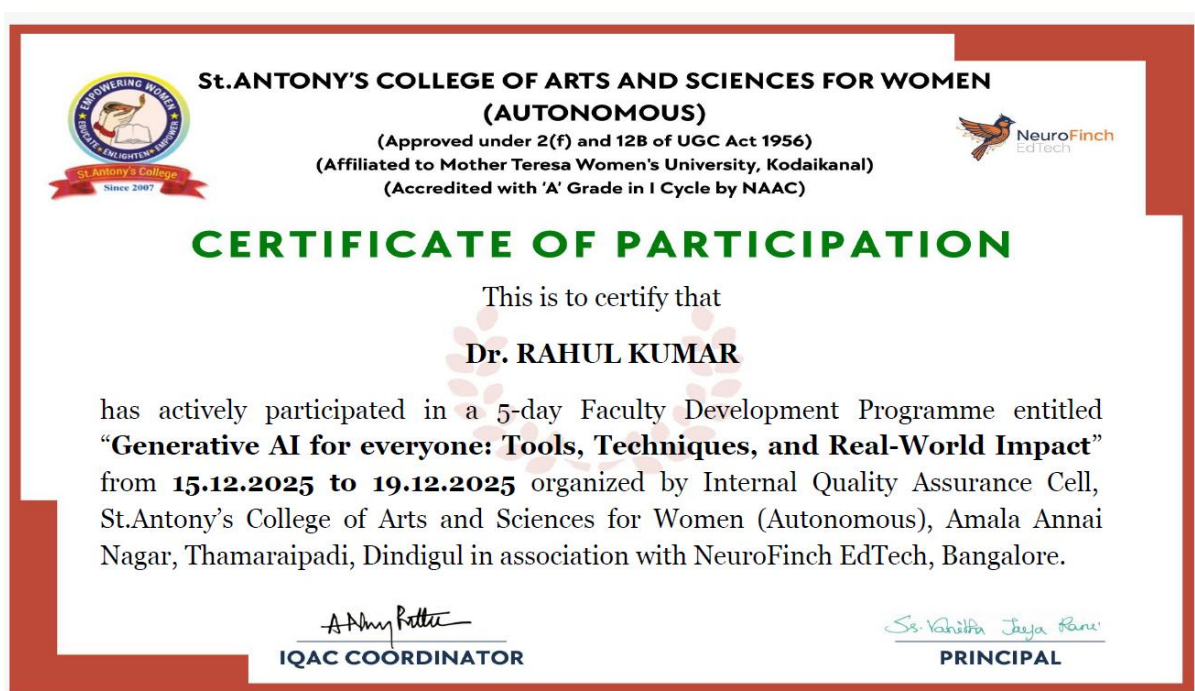
[Naseem Khayum](#), [Syed Suraya](#), [Yerumbu Nandakishora](#), [Jakeer Hussain Shaik](#), [Debabrata Barik](#) , [Milon Selvam Dennison](#) , [Ayyar Dinesh](#) & [Saravanan Rajendran](#)

[Scientific Reports](#), Article number: (2025) | [Cite this article](#)

436 Accesses | [Metrics](#)



Dr Rahul Kumar, Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, has successfully completed 5-day Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on “Generative AI for everyone: Tools, Techniques, and Real-World Impact” from 15.12.2025 to 19.12.2025.





Dr. Ravitej Y P, Assistant Professor, Mechanical Engineering Department published 3 Scopus Indexed (Q2) papers as corresponding author in December 2025

J. Inst. Eng. India Ser. D
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s40033-025-00963-1>



ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTION

Effect of Tungsten Carbide Composites on Al6061 Using Powder Metallurgy Technique: Experimental and Machine Learning Approach

Y. P. Ravitej¹  · Rajeev Gupta¹ · S. B. Karthik¹ · Krantikumar Kshaurad² · Rayappa S. Mahale^{1,2,3,4} · B. V. N. Ramakumar³ · Balachandra Hakamani⁴ · N Abhijith¹

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Abstract This paper investigates the mechanical and microstructural behaviour of Al6061-tungsten carbide (WC) metal matrix composites (MMCs) fabricated via powder metallurgy. Seven composite samples were prepared with varying WC content (0–12 wt%) using compression molding and sintering. Mechanical characterization, including Brinell hardness and compressive strength testing, showed significant improvement in both properties with increasing WC content, reaching up to 33% and 56% enhancement, respectively, at 12 wt% WC. Optical and SEM analyses confirmed a relatively uniform dispersion of WC particles in the matrix. Statistical validation using one-way ANOVA revealed a significant influence of WC content on hardness, supported by post-hoc Tukey's HSD test. Additionally, machine learning models linear, polynomial, and random forest regression, were developed to predict hardness, with polynomial regression (degree 3) yielding the highest accuracy ($R^2=0.9372$). A 3D surface model further highlighted the coupled effect of WC content and indentation diameter on hardness. The results affirm the suitability of WC reinforcement in enhancing Al6061 properties for load-bearing and wear-resistant applications, with 4–10 wt% identified as an optimal range.

Keywords Powder Metallurgy · Al6061-WC Composites · Brinell Hardness · Compressive Strength · Reinforcement Percentage

Introduction

Composites are materials made by combining two or more distinct substances to achieve enhanced properties that individual components cannot provide alone [1, 2]. Typically, they consist of a matrix material, such as a polymer, metal [3], or ceramic, reinforced with fibers or particles like carbon, glass, or aramid [4]. This combination results in materials that exhibit superior strength [5], stiffness, lightweight characteristics [6], and resistance to corrosion and wear [7]. Composites are widely used in aerospace, automotive, construction, and sports industries due to their high performance [8] and durability [9]. Advances in composite technology [10] continue to drive innovation in engineering and material science [11]. Reinforcements play a crucial role in determining composite materials' mechanical, thermal [12], and chemical properties [13]. The type, shape, size, and orientation [14] of reinforcements significantly affect the composite's strength,



Machine Learning-Enabled Analysis of Surface Texture Orientation Effects on Wear Debris Morphology and Tribological Performance of High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE)

Rajeev Kumar Gupta^{1,2} · M. Rajanish³ · R. PremChand⁴ · Mahadeva Prasad⁵ · Rayappa S. Mahale⁶ · Ravitej Yellampalli Prakash⁷ · M. Madhusudan⁷ · Jayatirtha M. Patil⁸ · B. Nityanand⁹ · Balachandra Halemani¹⁰ · O. Abhilash² · Joy Mondal²

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Abstract

High-density polyethylene (HDPE) is widely used in tribological components, yet the influence of surface texture orientation on its frictional and wear behaviour remains underexplored. This study examines the effect of grinding angles (0°, 30°, 45°, 60°, 90°) on the coefficient of friction (COF), wear depth, and debris morphology of HDPE under dry and lubricated sliding at a 30 N load. Under dry conditions, the COF increases from 0.30 at 0° to 0.42–0.45 at 45°, while wear depth rises from ~25 µm to over 100 µm. Lubrication significantly reduces friction, with COF dropping to 0.18–0.20 at 0° and 0.28–0.32 at 45°, accompanied by more than a 50% reduction in wear depth. Debris analysis shows finer, spherical particles under lubrication (ECD 8–30 µm) and elongated particles in dry sliding (AR 4–7), indicating distinct wear mechanisms. The novelty of this work lies in integrating experimental tribology with supervised machine learning models (Decision Tree, Random Forest) to predict COF and wear depth with high accuracy ($R^2 > 0.90$), and in using image-based ML classification to correlate debris morphology with grinding orientation. This combined framework offers a predictive pathway for optimizing HDPE-based tribo-component design.

Keywords HDPE · Surface texture orientation · Grinding angle · Coefficient of friction (COF) · Random forest · Decision tree

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Tribologi

Wear rate prediction of hybrid composites: A comparative study using experimental analysis, finite element simulation and machine learning prediction

Ravitej Y P^{1*}, Keshavamurthy R², Rahul Kumar¹, Krantikumar Kshaurad³, Balachandra Halemani⁴, Ramakumar B V N⁵, Sripad Kulkarni S⁵, Ramesh Shankaranarayana⁶

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Dr. Rajeev Kumar Gupta, Assistant Professor at Mechanical Engineering Department published 1 SCI journal (Q2) as first author and 1 Scopus Indexed (Q2) papers as co-author in December 2025. He has also successfully completed NPTEL-AICTE5, Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on “Artificial Intelligent and Machine Learning in Material Engineering” from July-October 2025.

Journal of Bio- and Tribo-Corrosion (2026) 12:22
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s40735-025-01089-3>



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NPTEL-AICTE Faculty Development Programme

(Funded by the MoE, Govt. of India)



This certificate is awarded to

RAJEEV KUMAR GUPTA

for successfully completing the course
**Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in
Materials Engineering**
with a consolidated score of **54 %**

Prof. Andrew Thangaraj
NPTEL Coordinator
IIT Madras



(Jul-Oct 2025)

Roll No: NPTEL25MM37S552601232

Duration of NPTEL course : 12 Weeks

The candidate has studied the above course through MOOCs mode, has submitted online assignments and passed proctored exams.
This certificate is therefore acceptable for promotions under CAS as per AICTE notifications dated 16th Nov, 2023, similar to other refresher / orientation courses.
F.No. AICTE / RIFD / FDP through MOOCs / 2023



Dr. Shashidhara L C, Assistant Professor at Mechanical Engineering Department successfully conducted **A Two-week Corporate Training Program on “Autodesk Inventor and AutoCAD”** for the Graduate Engineer Trainees (GETs) of Bühler India

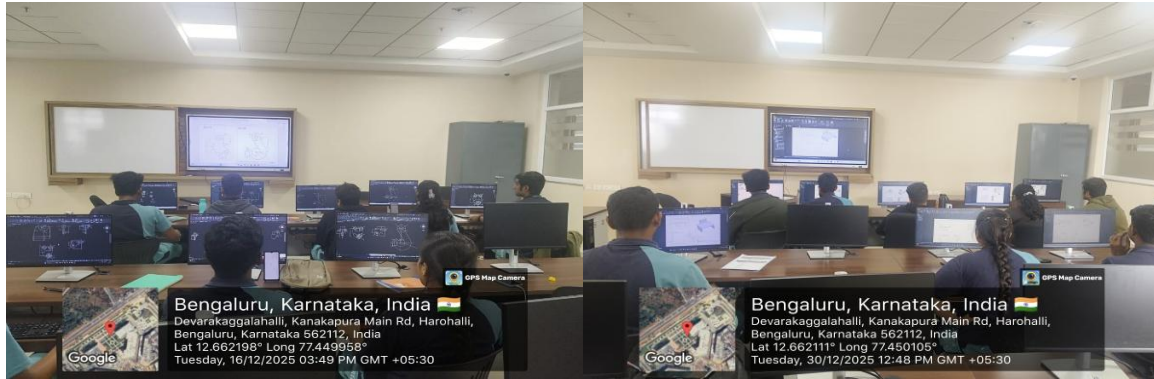
The poster is for a corporate training program on Autodesk Inventor and AutoCAD. It features the logos of Dayananda Sagar University (Bengaluru) and Autodesk. The text includes 'DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING', 'Autodesk Design & Innovation Lab.', 'Corporate Training on Autodesk Inventor & AutoCAD', and 'For GET'S FROM BUHLER ACADEMY'. The dates are '15-12-2025 to 27-12-2025' and the time is '9.30 AM - 4.00 PM'. The trainer is 'Dr. Shashidhara L C, Manager, Autodesk Design & Innovation Laboratory'. The venue is 'Lab 307, 3rd Floor, Block-A, Dayananda Sagar University, DSU Main Campus, Devarakogalahalli, Harohalli, Kanakapura Road, Bengaluru South Dt. - 562 112'. A circular inset image shows a person working on a laptop in a lab setting.

A two-week corporate training program on Autodesk Inventor and AutoCAD for the Graduate Engineer Trainees (GETs) of Bühler India was successfully conducted from 15th to 27th December 2025. This initiative marked the 12th batch under the ongoing collaboration between Bühler India and the institution, reflecting a strong and sustained industry-academia partnership. The program was expertly conducted by Dr. Shashidhar L C, Manager – Autodesk Design & Innovation Lab, who delivered structured sessions with extensive hands-on practice and guided learning, significantly enhancing participants' technical competence and professional readiness.

The training was supported with excellent institutional facilities and a well-equipped learning environment, ensuring a highly productive experience. Participants shared very positive feedback, appreciating the comprehensive curriculum, practical exposure, and effective delivery of concepts. With yet another successful batch completed, this initiative continues to strengthen



collaborative engagement and contribute meaningfully to industry-oriented skill development.





Dr. Vinay M S, Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, participated in the First International Conference on Advances in Computational and Experimental Approaches in Aerostructures (ICACEAA 2025) organised by JAIN (Deemed-to-be University), Bengaluru, held on 20th December 2025.

A research paper titled “Fabrication & Design Analysis of Toroidal Propeller Drone” (Paper ID: 71) was presented at the conference. The paper was authored by Dr. Saravana Bavan and co-authored by Dr. Vinay M S, Ravitej, Vishwas V S, and Yathish M, all from the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Dayananda Sagar University, Bengaluru.

The research focused on the design, analysis, and fabrication of toroidal propellers for unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) with the objective of reducing noise and improving propulsion efficiency. The study involved CAD modelling, structural stress and strain analysis, and fabrication of the toroidal propeller using 3D printing with ABS material. The toroidal propeller’s closed-loop geometry was shown to reduce tip vortices, resulting in lower noise levels and improved thrust efficiency when compared to conventional propellers.

The work also highlighted applications in surveillance, wildlife monitoring, and aerial cinematography, where low-noise UAV operation is critical. Participation in this international conference facilitated interaction with researchers and experts, provided insights into recent advances in aerostructural engineering, and contributed to academic and professional development.

Overall, the conference participation and paper presentation were academically enriching and supported further research dissemination and collaboration.



**First International Conference on Advances in Computational
and Experimental Approaches in Aerostructures
(ICACEAA 2025)**

JAIN (Deemed-to-be University), Bengaluru



Paper ID-71
**Fabrication & Design Analysis Of Toroidal
Propeller Drone**

Saravana Bavan, Vinay MS, Ravitej, Vishwas VS and Yathish M

Department of Mechanical Engineering
Dayananda Sagar University
Harohalli, Bengaluru

20th December, 2025



Dr. Viswanathan R, Associate Professor, Dept. of Mechanical Engineering successfully organised a two-day workshop titled “Gen-AI for Manufacturing Leaders: From Vision to Implementation” on 16 and 17 December 2025.

The sessions were conducted by Dr. J. B. Simha, a leading AI and data analytics expert. Participants included representatives from various industries along with DSU faculty.

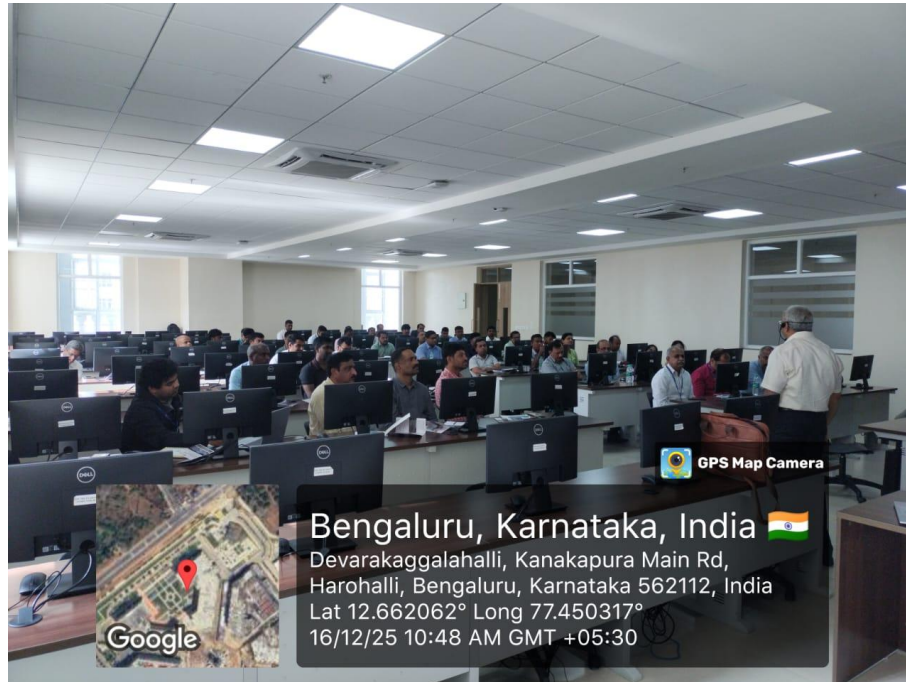
The workshop focused on:

- Practical understanding of AI and Generative AI in manufacturing
- Real-world industrial applications and case discussions
- Identification of organization-specific industrial problems
- Shortlisting of feasible problems for AI-based Proof-of-Concept (PoC) development

The sessions were interactive and well-received, with active participation and meaningful discussions. Participants expressed that the program helped them clearly understand how AI can be applied to solve real manufacturing challenges.

The event concluded with the identification of key problem statements and a roadmap towards PoC development and consultancy collaboration with industries. Support from the organizing team and university administration contributed to the smooth conduct of the program.







Dr. Vinay M S, Assistant Professor and **Mr. Sridhar S. Jetty**, PhD student at Mechanical Engineering Department, Dayananda Sagar University, Bengaluru have successfully participated in National Conference on Condensed Matter Physics (CMPA 2025) was organized at Manipal Institute of Technology, Manipal. The conference served as a distinguished platform bringing together academicians, researchers, scientists, and professionals working in the field of condensed matter physics and allied areas.

