



Advancing Cutting Table Estimation with the Help of AI

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Presentation Overview

- Background and Context
- Research
 - Equipment
 - Testing Process
 - Results
- Summary
- Conclusions
- Future Directions



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Background and Context

- Why is this necessary?
- Industry connection.

“We are still working on that...”

“It depends on the week!”

“It is loosely based off prior jobs we have completed.”

“We guess!”

“What do you mean by estimate?”

Prior Work

- To Determine Cut Time:
 - Estimate the circumference of the object.
 - Total circumference (based on number needed).
 - Calculate cutting time (based on knife speed).
 - Add a complexity factor.
- Account for setup time.
- Estimate cost.

Cutting Table Production Standards (hourly rate: \$115.00)					
Setup time		Cutting tool base rates per linear inch		Shape Complexity	Time increase
single sheet	5 min first sheet; 1 minute per additional	serigraphy knife	1100 in/min (2794 cm/min)	simple	4x
step & repeat per piece	5 min first sheet + .25 minutes per piece	high frequency knife	900 in/min (2286 cm/min)	medium	8x
milling	10 min first piece; 1 minute per additional	milling knife	236 in/min (600 cm/min)	high	12x
kiss cut	add 5 minutes			very high	20x

So What?

- Prior work
 - Simple – 4x
 - Moderate – 8x
 - Complex – 12x
 - Very Complex – 20x
- Estimate this job given existing methods...
 - $13.79'' \times 3.1415 = 43.32''$
 - $43.32/900 = .048$ minutes or 2.88 seconds
 - $2.88 \times 20 = 57.6$ seconds
- Actual cut time – 9 minutes, 51.3 seconds



Prior Results

Shape	Complexity	Speed	Cut Distance	Old Method	Actual Cut Time	Difference
1	Simple	16.4 in/sec	43.8"	11.76 sec	6 sec	+5.76 sec
2	Simple	16.4 in/sec	45.35"	7.2 sec	7 sec	+.2 sec
3	Simple	16.4 in/sec	73.5"	11.52 sec	31 sec	-19.48 sec
4	Moderate	16.4 in/sec	81.45"	24.48 sec	1 min 1 sec	-36.52 sec
5	Moderate	16.4 in/sec	60.25"	20.64 sec	1 min 27 sec	-1 min 6.36sec
6	Moderate	16.4 in/sec	50"	22.56 sec	36 sec	-13.44 sec
7	Complex	16.4 in/sec	112.44"	25.92 sec	46 sec	-20.08 sec
8	Complex	16.4 in/sec	167.43"	25.2 sec	1 min 49 sec	-1 min 23.8sec
9	Very Complex	16.4 in/sec	363.37"	56.4 sec	7 min 17 sec	-6min 20.6sec
10	Very Complex	16.4 in/sec	480.29	57.6 sec	9 min 51 sec	-8min 53.4sec

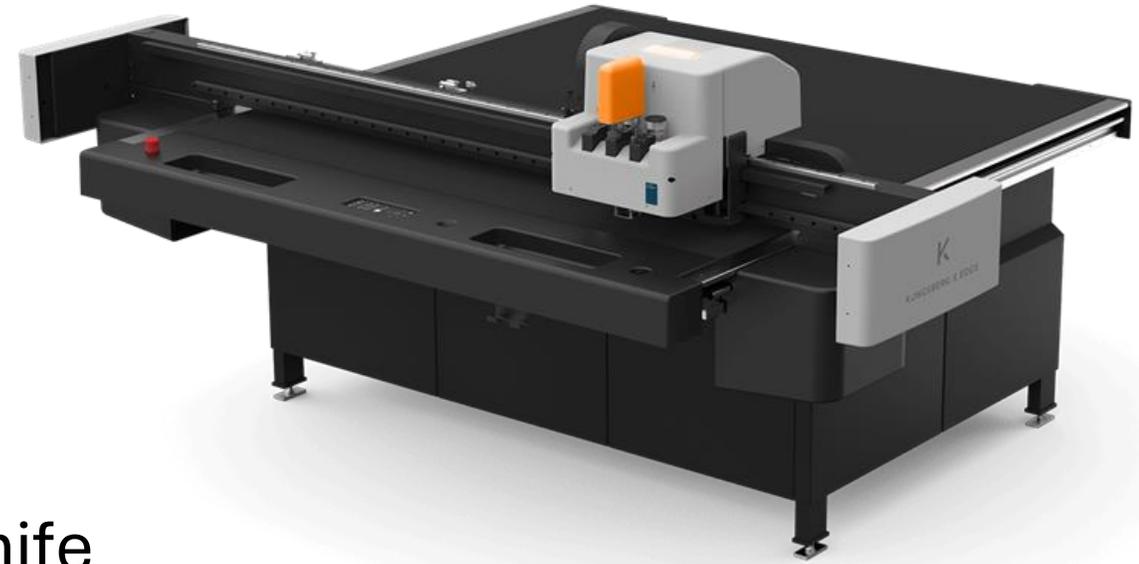
New Study

- What did prior research not consider?
 - Start/Stop/Lift/Adjust/Restart
- Use Original Shapes to test AI
 - Cut “critical corners” based on shape.
 - Record CAD table cutting and have AI count the “lifts”.
- Factors Considered
 - Total cut distance and nodes/points (identified in Adobe Illustrator).
 - Accel speed of CAD table
 - Stopping time

Equipment Used

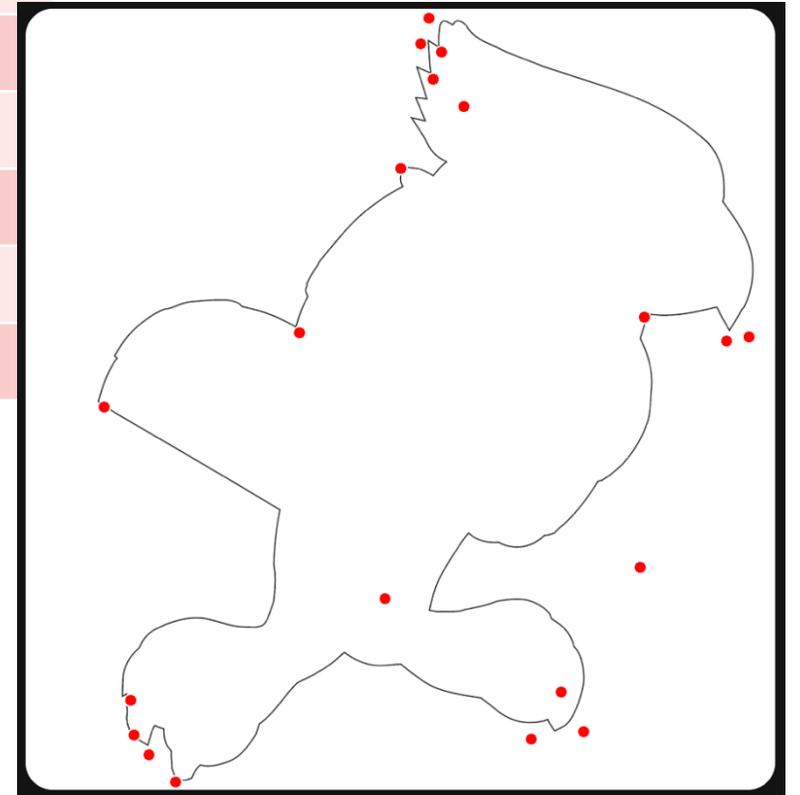
- Kongsberg X20 CAD Table

High-Frequency Vibracut Knife
Tool SR6224 Blade



What Didn't Work – Critical Corner Count

Shape	Complexity	AI1-CS	AI2-CS	AI1-CC	AI2-CC	Illustrator
3	Simple	16	16	16	16	16
4	Moderate	38	40	56	32	81
5	Moderate	32	17	20	23	224
6	Moderate	21	0	12	7	54
8	Complex	35	26	56	12	143
9	Very Complex	0	0	316	94	656
10	Very Complex	0	0	445	214	833



What Didn't Work – Video Count

Shape	Complexity	CS	CC	AI1-CS	AI2-CS	AI1-CC	AI2-CC
3	Simple	15	15	18	N/A	9	10
4	Moderate	63	62	38	N/A	9	5
5	Moderate	57	57	33	N/A	54	31
6	Moderate	28	28	23	N/A	12	18
8	Complex	70	70	35	N/A	7	14

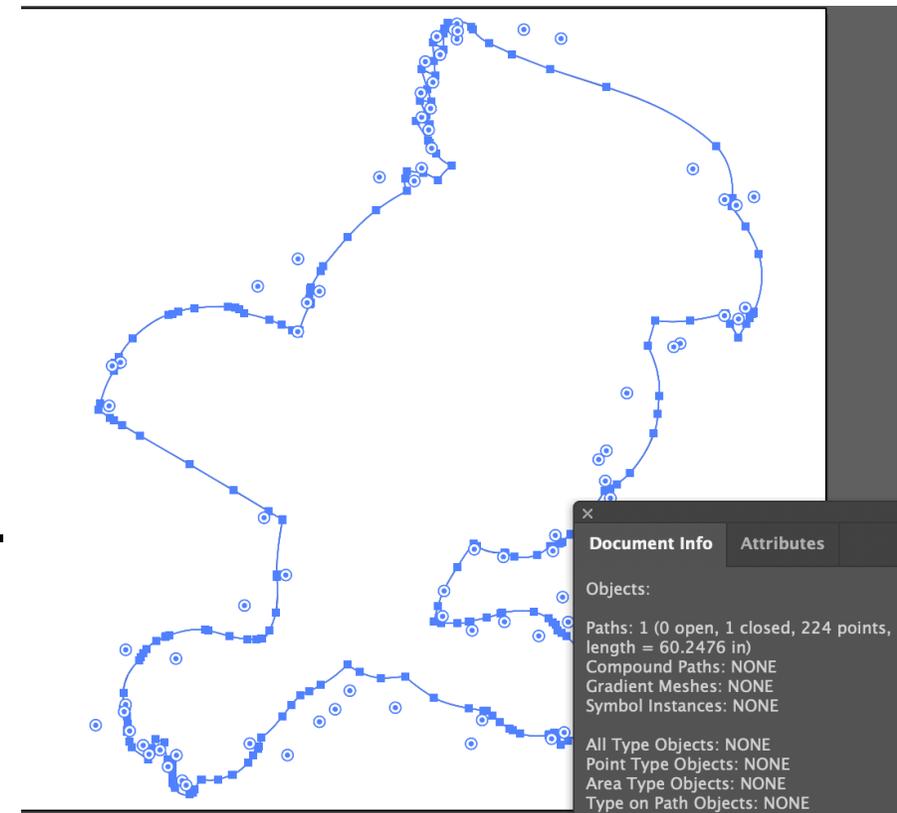
- No Consistency outside of personal counts
- Some AI (free editions) couldn't/wouldn't accept the files
- Even after refinement of prompt, AI resulted in very low “lift” counts
 - Learning Example – Shape 3

Stick to Math

- Utilize the total cut distance.
- Utilize the node/point count from Illustrator.
 - In each case .5 seconds stop/adjust speed

Carryover:

- Shape Complexity
 - Establish Accel Speeds based on Complexity
 - Consider nodes/points dependent on Shape
 - Stop at all or halve due to smoothness of shape?



Shape Complexity

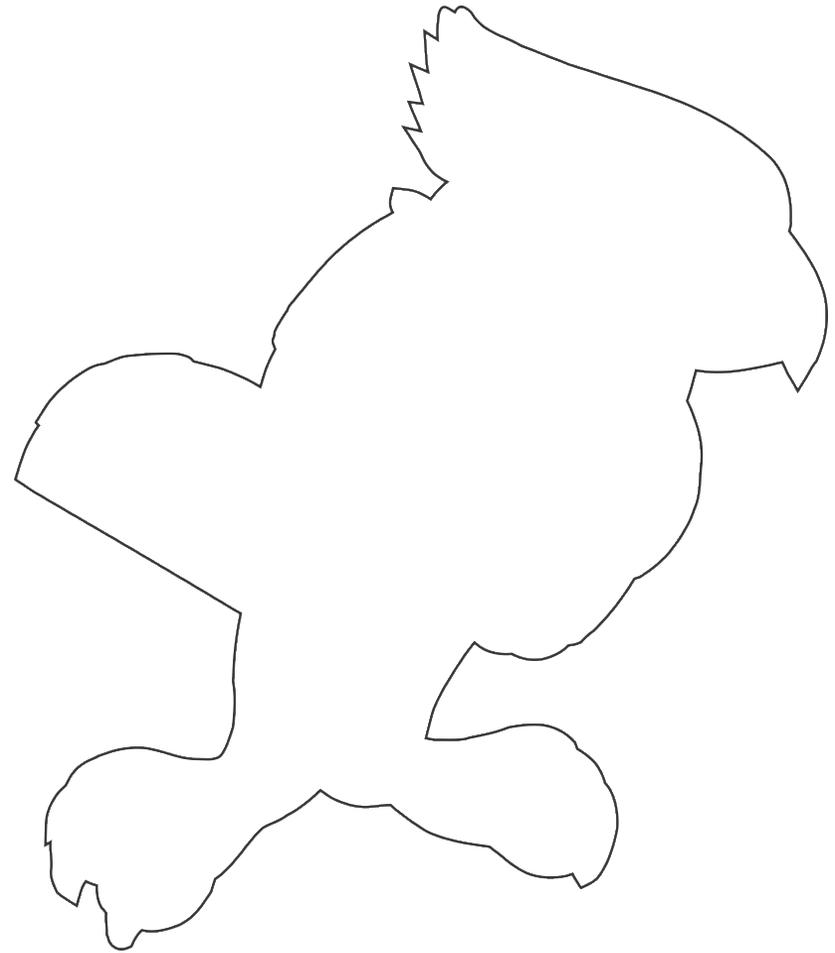
Complexity Options	Accel Factor	Stop Time	Node Count	
			Majority Smooth/Majority Critical	
Simple	Fast – 300in/s ²	.5 Seconds	50%	100%
Moderate	Moderate – 200in/s ²	.5 Seconds	50%	100%
Complex	Slow – 100in/s ²	.5 Seconds	50%	100%
Very Complex	Very Slow – 50in/s ²	.5 Seconds	50%	100%

New Approach

Shape	Complexity	Cut Distance	Nodes/Points	Prompt Specs
1	Simple	43.8"	4	.5 seconds, fast accel (300in/s ²), 50% nodes
2	Simple	45.35"	4	.5 seconds, fast accel (300in/s ²), 100% nodes
3	Simple	73.5"	16	.5 seconds, fast accel (300in/s ²), 100% nodes
4	Moderate	81.45"	81	.5 seconds, mod accel (200in/s ²), 100% nodes
5	Moderate	60.25"	224	.5 seconds, mod accel (200in/s ²), 50% nodes
6	Moderate	50"	54	.5 seconds, mod accel (200in/s ²), 100% nodes
7	Complex	112.44"	28	.5 seconds, slow accel (100in/s ²), 50% nodes
8	Complex	167.43"	143	.5 seconds, slow accel (100in/s ²), 100% nodes
9	Very Complex	363.37"	656	.5 seconds, very slow accel (50in/s ²), 100% nodes
10	Very Complex	480.29	833	.5 seconds, very slow accel (50in/s ²), 100% nodes

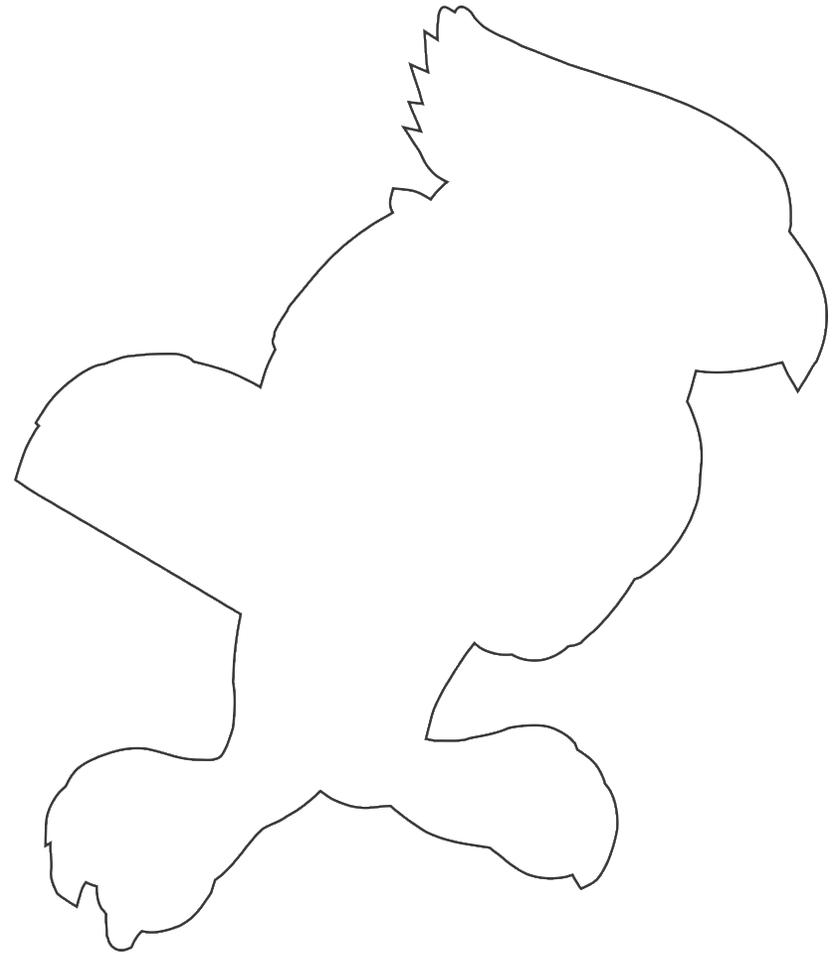
Specific Prompt

- If I have a moderate shape with a total cut circumference of 60.25", and the cad table is cutting at a rate of 16.4 inches per second, how long would it take to cut? Assume the head effectively has to accelerate + decelerate between points and usually can't get back to full speed. We also need to take into account the number of pivot points...illustrator indicates there are 112 points in the design. If we average .5 seconds per point additional to allow the cutting table to stop/lift/adjust/drop, how long in total can we expect it to take to cut this shape? Can you adjust this to factor in a moderate accel of about 200 in/s²?



Specific Prompt

- If I have a moderate shape with a total cut circumference of **60.25"**, and the cad table is cutting at a rate of **16.4 inches per second**, how long would it take to cut? Assume the head effectively has to accelerate + decelerate between points and usually can't get back to full speed. We also need to take into account the number of pivot points...illustrator indicates there are **112 points** in the design. If we average **.5 seconds** per point additional to allow the cutting table to stop/lift/adjust/drop, how long in total can we expect it to take to cut this shape? Can you adjust this to factor in a moderate accel of about **200 in/s²** ?



Updated Results

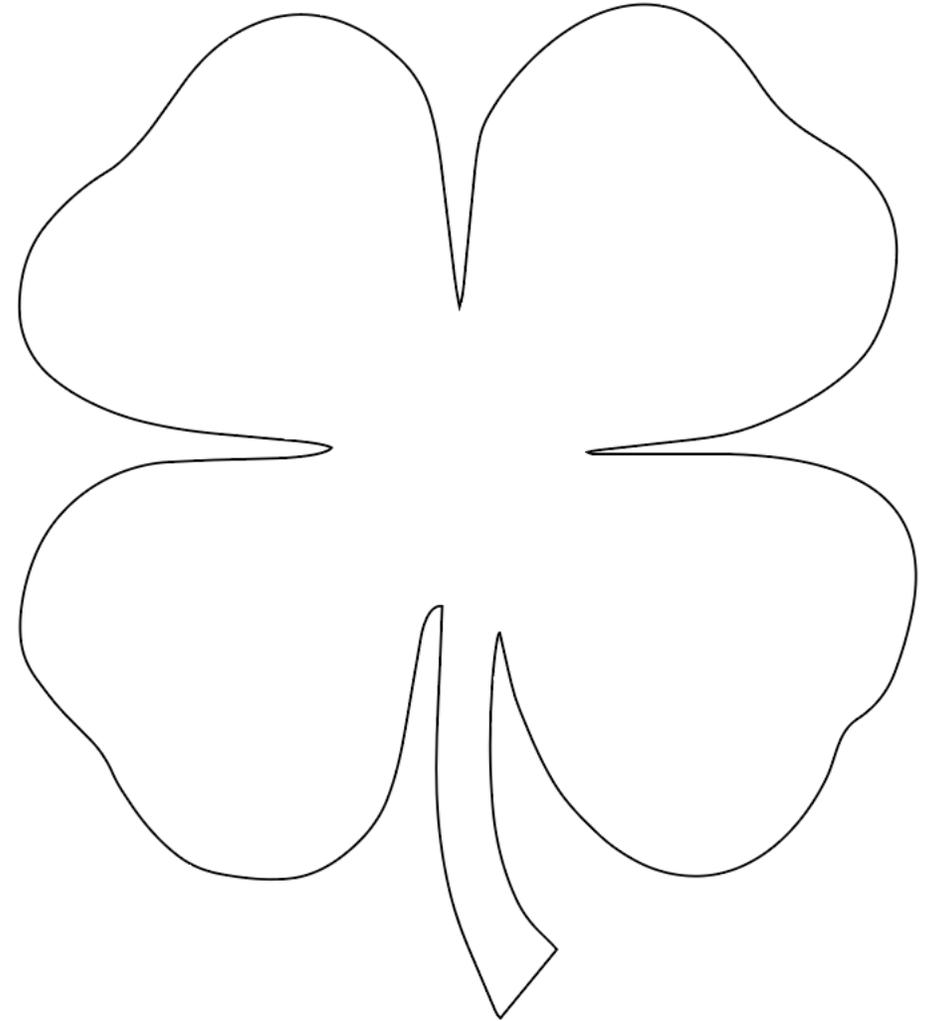
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3	Simple	16.4 in/sec	73.5"	13.8 sec	31 sec	-17.2 sec
4	Moderate	16.4 in/sec	81.45"	52 sec	1 min 1 sec	-9 sec
5	Moderate	16.4 in/sec	60.25"	1 min 8 sec	1 min 27 sec	-19 sec
6	Moderate	16.4 in/sec	50"	34.3 sec	36 sec	-1.7 sec
7	Complex	16.4 in/sec	112.44"	25.5 sec	46 sec	-20.5 sec
8	Complex	16.4 in/sec	167.43"	1 min 42 sec	1 min 49 sec	-7 sec
9	Very Complex	16.4 in/sec	363.37"	7 min 46 sec	7 min 17 sec	+29 sec
10	Very Complex	16.4 in/sec	480.29	9 min 55 sec	9 min 51 sec	+4 sec



Adding Shapes

Specific Prompt

- If I have a moderate shape with a total cut **circumference of 44.37"**, and the cad table is cutting at a rate of **16.4 inches per second**, how long would it take to cut? Assume the head effectively has to accelerate + decelerate between points and usually can't get back to full speed. We also need to take into account the number of pivot points...illustrator indicates there are **41 points** in the design. If we average **.5 seconds per point** additional to allow the cutting table to stop/lift/adjust/drop, how long in total can we expect it to take to cut this shape? Can you adjust this to factor in a **moderate accel of about 200 in/s²**?



Updated Results

Shape	Complexity	Speed	Cut Distance	AI	Actual Cut Time	Difference
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6	Moderate	16.4 in/sec	50"	34.3 sec	36 sec	-1.7 sec
7	Complex	16.4 in/sec	112.44"	25.5 sec	46 sec	-20.5 sec
8	Complex	16.4 in/sec	167.43"	1 min 42 sec	1 min 49 sec	-7 sec
9	Very Complex	16.4 in/sec	363.37"	7 min 46 sec	7 min 17 sec	+29 sec
10	Very Complex	16.4 in/sec	480.29	9 min 55 sec	9 min 51 sec	+4 sec
N1	Moderate	16.4 in/sec	44.37"	26.5 sec	22.54 sec	+3.96 sec
N2	Very Complex	16.4 in/sec	250.41"	5 min 16 sec	5 min 19 sec	-3 sec

Conclusions and Future Directions

- AI can be helpful
- New method
 - Not perfect, but more consistent
- Expand Research:
 - Build in crease calculations
 - Test with different blades/speeds
 - Material comparisons



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Thank you!

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