

# Effect of Fillet Radius on Bending Stress in Helical Gear using FEA

Hardial Singh<sup>1\*</sup>, S.B. Gupta<sup>2</sup>

## Abstract

*A well-optimized change in root fillet radius could greatly benefit helical gear operation by providing a smoother transmission with less impact and noise. The fillet area of the gear root is an area of extensive bending stress concentration. An increase in fillet radius for helical gears is considered to minimise the bending stress at the gear tooth's base. This paper develops appropriate models of various gear tooth profiles of the helical gear with the same loading conditions to obtain the results using structural analysis (ANSYS) and validate the results with standard theoretical stress. This study is an attempt to evaluate the impact of the root fillet radius on bending stress, strain, and total deformation.*

**Keywords:** Helical gear, fillet radius, ANSYS, KISSsoft, AGMA stress.

## INTRODUCTION

One of the most effective method of transmitting smooth power and large load capacity between the shafts by means of helical gear. The gears are accurately designed and precisely manufactured with high strength materials so that they can withstand the work under different static and dynamic loading conditions. It also enhances the gearbox's efficiency and life. Helical gears should be made of materials that are strong, corrosion-resistant, lightweight, and long-lasting.

Bending stresses and contact stresses have been identified as key concerns for helical gear design. The root of the gear tooth is under a lot of bending stress, which causes the gear to bend. The problem can be precisely solved by profile optimization at the root of the helical gear. The KISSsoft software has been used in this study to design the gear and analyse the results in order to observe the effects of various aspects of design on stresses of the helical gear. Gidado A.Y [1] conducted the evaluation of the tooth bending stress on the gears with different face widths in increasing order. It found that the AGMA formulation reduced the bending stress on the helical gears. D. Deepak [2] evaluated the impact of contact stress and bending stress on the helical gear system using FEA and analytical techniques. Gambhir et al. [3] discovered that when the driving side pressure angle rises, the contact stress in asymmetric involute helical gears reduces. Bozca M [4] found that the carrying capacity of gears will be greater if the helix angel of the gear tooth is increased, thus the increase in total contact ratio will

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cause a reduction in contact and bending stress on the helical gear tooth. Sonali A. et al. [5] evaluated five different materials using FEA to determine the best material for the helical gear by examining the AGMA findings. Patil J. [6] discovered the impact of pressure angle and helix angle at the root of the helical gear tooth under dynamic conditions to reduce the bulk load of the gearbox of a vehicle. Miryam B. [7] conducted a comprehensive investigation of the tooth bending strength for the bending load capacity in order to identify the critical value of stress at the given critical load conditions for the helical gears. Sarkar G.T et al. [8]

used FEA software to simulate the 3D model of the gear in order to determine the bending stress and compare it to the AGMA stress. Simon V. [9] studied various loading conditions and stress calculations in helical gear. The theory was established for a number of tooth and face widths that have the greatest impact on the load distribution parameters in helical gears. Jabbour T. [10] developed a theory for evaluating the stress distribution at the root of a helical gear and determining the maximum bending stress on each pair of helical gear due to line contact. Zeyin H. et al. [11] developed a mathematical model that incorporated real-world engineering to predict radiation noise in a gear system using a dynamic contact finite element method. Chunjiang He. [12] discussed the function of transmission errors and path of contact with misalignment between the gears. It shows the comparison of different properties between the curve-faced helical gear and straight-faced helical gear.

### PROBLEM FORMULATION

The current research work can further be extended using FEA [13–18] by applying specific loading conditions with the change of the root fillet radius in order to get the optimum design of helical gear. In the current research work, the alloy steel material is used but the fillet radius varied from 0.5mm to 1.4 mm just to give a more precise and optimized design to the helical gear. KISSsoft software was used to develop the helical gear's involute profile. After that, a solid model was generated in SolidWorks software for CAD modelling. Structural analysis is done using Ansys.

### DESIGN OF GEAR

To reduce the bending stress, the root fillet radius parameter has been introduced in the modification of the helical gear profile. KISSsoft software has been proposed for the design of helical gears as this software was specifically developed for the purpose of designing various gear tooth profiles. In this research work, the helical gear tooth profile has been developed with the help of KISSsoft software, and all specified parameters have been used to generate the involute tooth profile. Figure 1 depicts the tooth profile specifications of an involute helical gear for input into the software.

$h_{aP}$  = Addendum

$h_{fP}$  = Dedendum

$h_{prP}$  = Protuberance height

$\alpha_{prP}$  = Protuberance Angel

$\alpha_{KP}$  = Ramp Angle

$\rho_{fP}$  = Root fillet radius

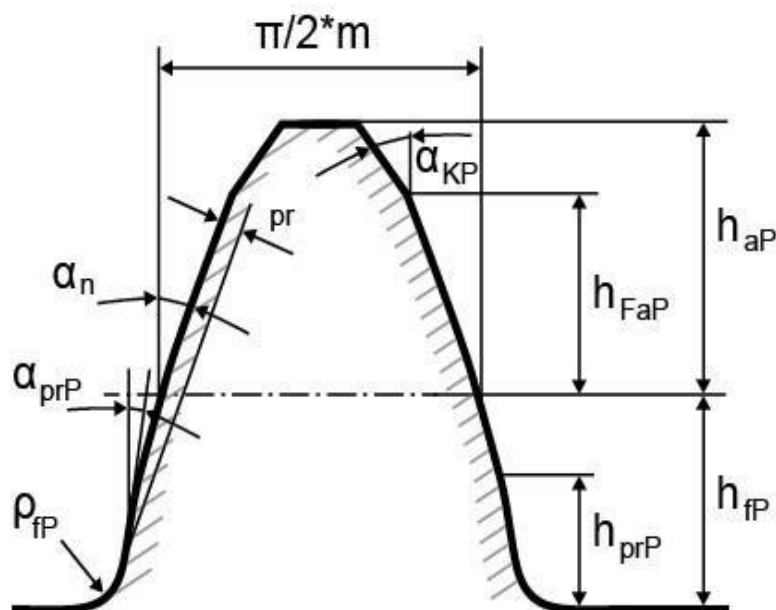
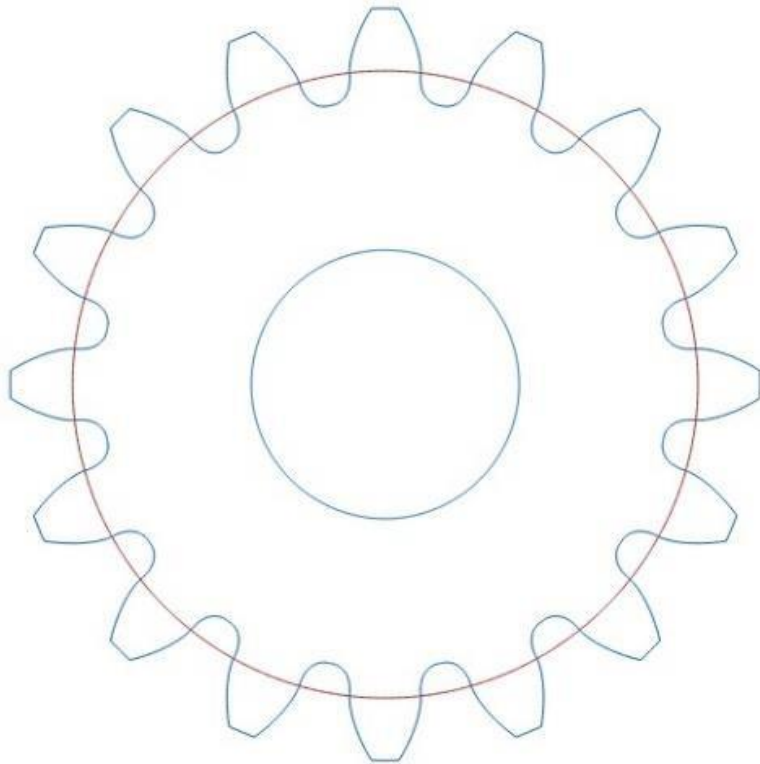


Figure 1. Tooth Profile.



**Figure 2.** Involute profile.

The helical gear parameters, i.e., normal module, number of teeth, pitch circle diameter, helix angle, and pressure angle, are required for the design of the gear. The involute profile of a helical gear has been developed using the parameters determined by G Maitra [19].

Helical gear models were generated in KISSsoft modeller, where we assigned all parameters to its basic data part and used the reference profile part to execute all involute profiles of the helical gear for various root fillet radius profiles. Figure 2 depicts the generated involute profile. Table 1 lists the helical gear's geometric values, and Figure 3(i) depicts the generated solid model. Table 2 lists the gear's material properties.

**Table 1.** Parameters of the helical gear.

| S/N | Variable Name | Description           | Value<br>(mm) (KW) |
|-----|---------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1   | Z             | No. of Teeth          | 16                 |
| 2   | $M_n$         | Normal Module         | 3                  |
| 3   | D             | Pitch circle Diameter | 48                 |
| 4   | $\theta_p$    | Pressure Angle        | 20                 |
| 5   | $\beta$       | Helix Angle           | 16                 |
| 6   | F             | Face Width            | 40                 |
| 7   | $h_{ap}$      | Addendum              | 3                  |
| 8   | $h_{fp}$      | Dedendum              | 3.75               |
| 10  | $D_t$         | Tip Circle Diameter   | 56                 |
| 11  | $D_r$         | Root Circle Diameter  | 42.5               |
| 12  | C             | Clearance             | 0.75               |

**Table 2.** Material Properties of the helical Gear.

| S no | Description         | Unit                    |
|------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1    | Material Type       | ALLOY STEEL-15Ni5Cr4Mo1 |
| 2    | Working temperature | 850-1150°Cs             |
| 3    | Tensile strength    | 1350 MPa                |
| 4    | Yield strength      | 720 MPa                 |
| 5    | Density             | 7850 kg/m <sup>3</sup>  |
| 6    | Young's modulus     | 210 GPa                 |
| 7    | Poisson ratio       | 0.3                     |

AGMA (American Gear Manufacturing Association) has standardised gear tooth design for tooth contact stress and bending stress [20]. According to this theory, the bending stress on a tooth is calculated in terms of the tangential force acting on it. The force analysis is calculated by using the equations (1–5) on the basis of normal module, helix angle, number of teeth, gear speed, and force exerted on the pinion shaft.

1. Transverse modulus

$$M_t = \frac{M_n}{\cos\beta} \quad (1)$$

2. Pitch circle in mm

$$PCR = \frac{M_t \times Z}{2} \quad (2)$$

3. Torque in Nm

$$T = \frac{60P}{2\pi N} \quad (3)$$

4. Tangential Force ( $F_t$ ) in N

$$F_t = \frac{T}{PCR} \quad (4)$$

5. AGMA Bending Stress Formulae:

$$\sigma_{b1} = \frac{F_t}{FM_n J} \times K_v \times K_o (0.93 \times K_m) \quad (5)$$

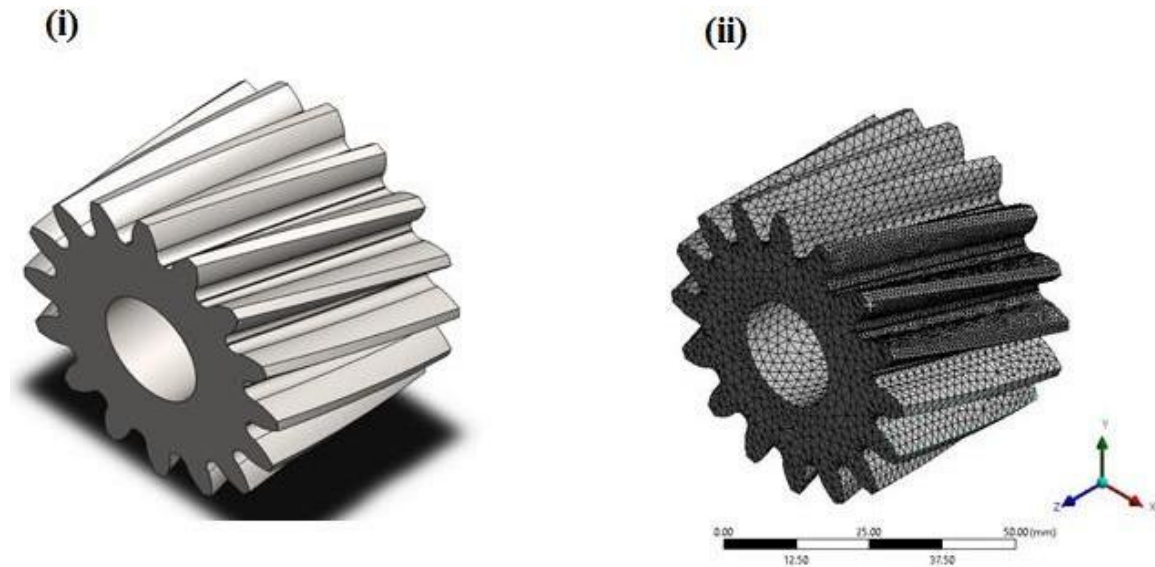
The bending stress value is derived using the aforementioned equations (1-5) and various parameters, such as the overload factor ( $K_o$ ), velocity factor ( $K_v$ ), and load distribution factor ( $K_m$ ) are taken into account. The value of the overload factor ( $K_o$ ) is calculated by the machinery-driven load and the kind of source power (heavy or light). The tangential velocity is used to determine the velocity factor, and the load distribution factor is chosen based on the loading parameters, such as mounting, clearance, deflection, and precision between gear drives. The torque has been computed to be 143.40 Nm based on a power of 22 KW and an input speed of 1465 rpm.

Using of CAE tools, the model's profiles have been imported to the SolidWorks Software to deal with the solid modelling feature of SolidWorks by varying root fillet radius of helical gears. The parameters have used for gear modelling as mentioned in Table 1. Fig. 3 (i) depicts a developed model of involute profile helical gear, which can be considered to be almost same with other solid models of helical gears due to small amount of change in fillet radius.

## STATIC STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS

The developed helical gear model, shown in Figure 3(i), was imported in STEP format into ANSYS workbench's static structural module to analyse the bending stress on the helical gear. The helical gear

material is applied as specified in Table 2. The Tetrahedron method is used to mesh this model, and the number of nodes and elements are listed in Table 3. Figure 3 (ii) depicts the finely mesh elements of a helical gear's 0.5 mm fillet, which have been meshed in the same way as the other five helical gears, as shown in Table 3.



**Figure 3.** (i) CAD Model of Helical gear; (ii) Meshed Model of Helical gear.

**Table 3.** Number of nodes and elements of helical gear with various fillet radius.

| ROOT FILLET RADIUS | 0.5mm  | 0.7mm  | 1.0mm  | 1.2mm  | 1.4mm  |
|--------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| NO. OF NODES       | 861550 | 275473 | 243297 | 274741 | 25547  |
| NO. OF ELEMENTS    | 519828 | 172430 | 153866 | 173457 | 147562 |

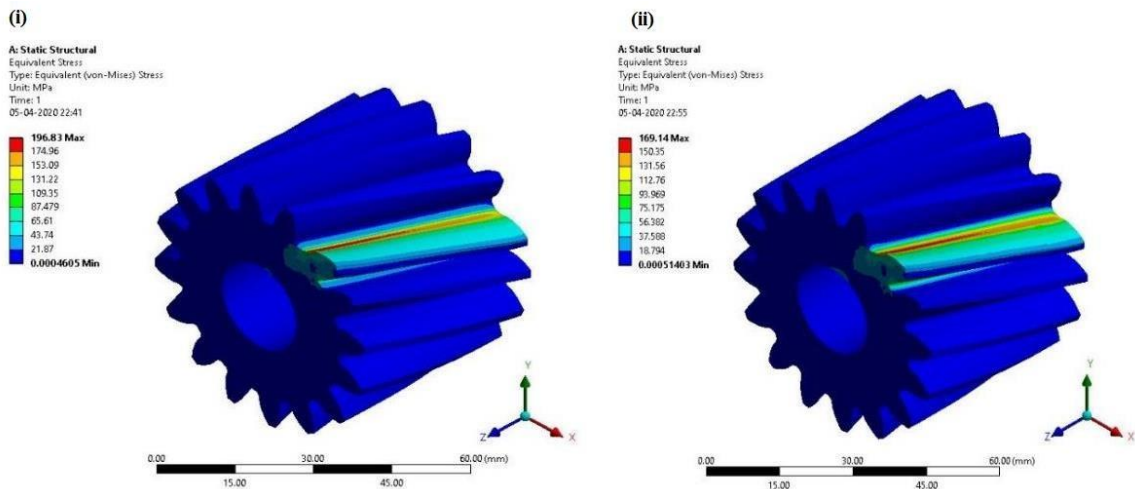
## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The helical gear's results are represented as coloured figures and numerical data, with varying fillet radius for Von-Mises stresses, strains, and total deformations. The torque is considered to be 143.40 Nm as per the calculation of power 22 KW with an input speed of 1465 rpm. The Von-Mises stress Load distribution for a helical gear, where tangential force is 7975 N applied on the gear tooth of the model to establish the analysis outcomes for varying fillet radius of 0.5 mm, 0.7 mm, 1.0 mm, 1.2mm and 1.4 mm on helical gears. The red colour portions are identified to be maximum stress, strain and deformation area of the helical gear tooth.

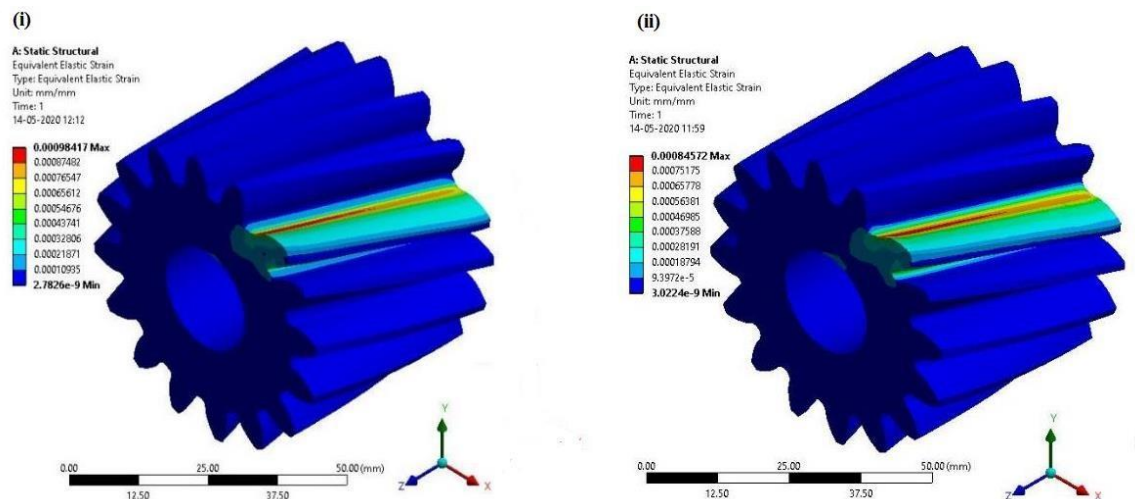
As an illustration of these models can be observed that maximum Von-Mises stress developed on the helical gear is 196.83 N/mm<sup>2</sup> of 0.5 mm fillet radius in Figure 4 (i) and the minimum is found to be 169.14 N/mm<sup>2</sup> of 1.4 mm fillet radius in Figure 4 (ii). The Von-Mises strain developed on helical gear tooth which has found to be maximum of 0.00098 mm at 0.5 mm fillet radius in Figure 5 (i) and minimum of 0.00084 mm at 1.4 mm fillet radius in Figure 5 (ii). The Total deformation of a helical gear tooth can be observed to be maximum is 0.0089 mm at 0.5 mm fillet radius in Figure 6 (i) and minimum is found to be 0.0079 mm at 1.4 mm fillet radius in Figure 6 (ii).

**Table 4.** FEA results of the helical gears with different fillet radius.

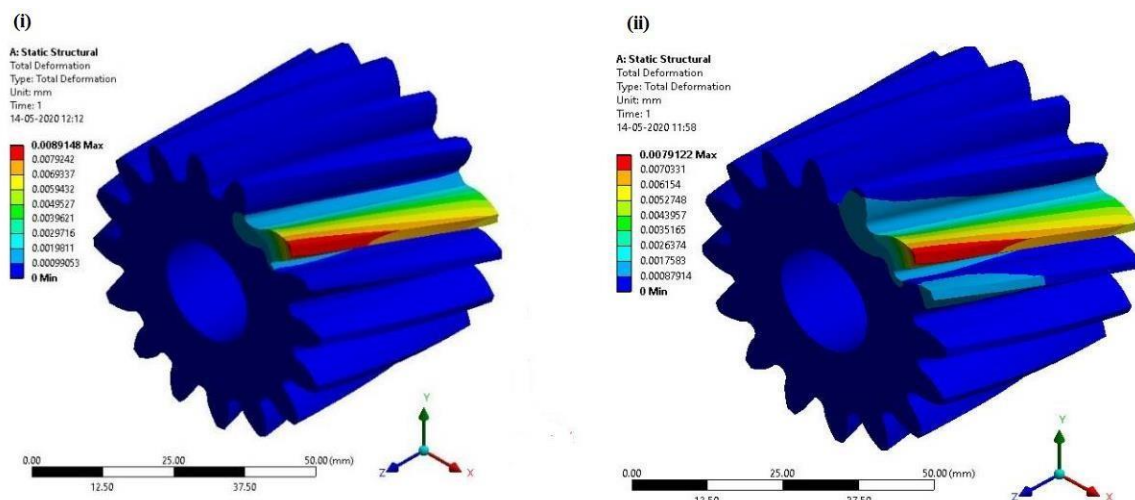
| Root fillet radius (mm)  | 0.5     | 0.7     | 1.0     | 1.2     | 1.4     |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Von-Mises stress (MPa)   | 196.83  | 191.28  | 188.2   | 172.62  | 169.14  |
| Von-Mises strain (mm/mm) | 0.00098 | 0.00095 | 0.00094 | 0.00086 | 0.00084 |
| Total Deformation (mm)   | 0.0089  | 0.0090  | 0.0092  | 0.0080  | 0.0079  |



**Figure 4.** (i) Von-Mises stress at root fillet radius of 0.5 mm; (ii) Von-Mises stress at root fillet radius of 1.4 mm.



**Figure 5.** (i) Von-Mises strain at root fillet radius of 0.5 mm; (ii) Von-Mises strain at root fillet radius of 1.4 mm.



**Figure 6.** (i) Total deformation at root fillet radius of 0.5 mm; (ii) Total deformation at root fillet radius of 1.4 mm

The observation can be drawn from the Table 4 that the root fillet radius increased from 0.5 mm to 1.4 mm with results in a reduction of Von-mises stress from 196.83 N/mm<sup>2</sup> to 169.14 N/mm<sup>2</sup> which is 14.06% of the decrease in Von-Mises stress. The Von-mises strain also decreased from 0.00098 to 0.00084 which is about to decrease in 14.28% of Von-Mises strain and the Total deformation has decreased from 0.0089 mm to 0.0079mm about to decrease in 11.23% with regarding maximum deformation. It has been observed that more the fillet radius, less the impact of force to be found at helical gear tooth.

In every case, the bending stress is less than the material's yield stress. Comparison of maximum bending stress obtained by AGMA with the maximum bending stress is obtained by ANSYS software as mentioned in Table 5. It shows that percentage error to be less than 10%.

**Table 5.** Comparison of analytical and numerical result.

| S/N | Face width<br>[mm] | AGMA<br>[Mpa] | ANSYS<br>[Mpa] | Percentage<br>Differences<br>[%] |
|-----|--------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| 1   | 40mm               | 209.02        | 196.83         | 6                                |

The increase in value of fillet radius is restrained by the fact that there should not be any interference between gears when teeth are in contact. The interference is likely not to happen when the fillet radius is too high. When the gear is cut with a normal gear shaper, the cutting tool will interfere with the area of the tooth below the base circle and will cut away the interfering material. This will result in undercutting which weakens the tooth by removing material. The fillet radius increments have a positive effect on the design parameters of helical gears but it is restrained by interference and undercutting. It is evident from Table 4 it shows that with the increase in fillet radius, the Von- Mises stress goes on decreasing from the magnitude of 196 MPa to 169MPa.

## CONCLUSION

The results of the performed research work allow the following conclusions to be drawn:

- A relationship has been found between the amount of root fillet radius and Von-Mises stress and strain in the helical gear.
- Von-Mises stress and strain in symmetric helical gears decrease with an increase in the root fillet radius of the helical gear as mentioned in Table 4.
- The maximum reduction in bending stress concentration occurs with a higher root fillet radius of 1.4 mm, with a 15.10% reduction as per equation (5).
- The total deformation decreases with an increase in root fillet radius, which can be observed from simulation results.

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