

## Fatigue Life, Fatigue Damage, Fatigue Factor of Safety, Fatigue Sensitivity, Biaxiality Indication and Equivalent Stress of a Radial Connecting Rod

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**Abstract** - Radial Connecting rod is one of the most important parts in engine assembly which transfers energy from piston to crankshaft and convert the linear, reciprocating motion of a piston into the rotary motion of a crankshaft. The connecting rod primarily undergoes tensile and compressive loading under engine cyclic process. The forces acting on connecting rod are: - forces due to maximum combustion pressure, force due to inertia of connecting rod and reciprocating mass. From the viewpoint of functionality, connecting rods must have the highest possible rigidity at the lowest weight. [1]

# *Key Words: Radial connecting rod, Forces, Analysis, Fatigue*

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

In this project, a radial type connecting rod is analysed based on different parameters. This radial connecting rod is designed in SolidWorks 2016 and later analysed in Ansys students version. The analysis is done for fatigue life, fatigue damage, fatigue factor of safety, fatigue sensitive, Biaxiality Indication.

## 1.1 SolidWorks

SolidWorks is a solid modelling computer-aided design (CAD) and computer-aided engineering (CAE) software that runs primarily on Windows and MacOS operating system. The method generally used is to sketch 2D profile and use features like extrude, extrude cut, loft etc to produce the solid shapes. It is the widely used software for 3D modelling in various industries.

## 1.2 Ansys

Ansys is a computer software for both Windows and MacOS operating systems which is mainly designed for engineering tasks. It is mainly used for works like Simulation, structural and elemental analysis, prototyping, mathematical computations, Finite element analysis (FEM), Computational fluid dynamics (CFD) and so on.

In industries it is used to simulate the designed component and get the real time results and know how the designed component works.

## 2. ANALYSIS PARAMETERS

## 2.1 Fatigue life

Fatigue life is the available life for the given fatigue analysis. Fatigue Life can be over the whole model or on parts, surfaces, edges, and vertices. If loading is of constant amplitude, this represents the number of cycles until the part will fail due to fatigue. If loading is non-constant, this represents the number of loading blocks until failure. In actual consider the Fatigue life for a body was found to be 24,000 & We are loading the body for one hour each day then the expected model life would be 1,000 days.

## 2.2 Fatigue Damage

Fatigue damage is defined as the design life/available life. The default design life maybe set manually. For Fatigue Damage, values greater than 1 indicate failure before the design life is reached.

## 2.3 Fatigue Safety Factor

Fatigue safety factor is the factor of safety with respect to a fatigue failure at a given design life. The maximum Factor of Safety is 15. For Fatigue Safety Factor, values less than one indicate failure before the design life is reached.

## 2.4 Fatigue sensitivity

It shows how the fatigue results change as a function of the loading at the critical location on the model. Sensitivity may be found for life, damage, or factor of safety. The user may set the number of fill points as well as the load variation limits. For example, the user may wish to see the sensitivity of the model's life if the FE load was 50% of the current load up to if the load 150% of the current load. Linear, Log-X, Log-Y, or Log-Log scaling can be chosen for chart display.

## 2.5 Biaxiality Indication

This result gives the user some idea of the stress state over the model and how to interpret the results. Real world stress states are usually multiaxial. Biaxiality indication is defined as the principal stress smaller in magnitude divided by the larger principal stress with the principal stress nearest zero ignored. A biaxiality of zero corresponds to uniaxial stress, a value of -1 corresponds to pure shear, and a value of 1 corresponds to a pure biaxial state. In this example the



majority of this model is under a pure uniaxial stress, with parts exhibiting both pure shear and nearly pure biaxiality. When using the biaxiality plot along with the safety factor plot above, it can be seen that the most damaged point occurs at a point of mostly uniaxial stress. If the most damaged spot was under pure shear, then it would be desirable to use S-N data collected through torsional loading if such data was available. Of course, collecting experimental data under different loading conditions is cost prohibitive and not often done. Note that for non-proportional fatigue loading, there are multiple stress states and thus there is no single stress biaxiality at each node. Thus, if the fatigue tool has non-proportional loading, the user may select either to view the average or standard deviation of stress biaxiality. The average value "y be interpreted as above and in combination with the standard deviation, the user can get a measure of how the stress state changes at a given location. Thus, a small standard deviation indicates a condition where the loading is near proportional while a larger deviation indicates change in the direction of the principal stress vectors. This information can be used to give the user additional confidence in his results or whether more indepth fatigue analysis is needed to account for nonproportionality.

## **3. DESIGN AND MODELLING**

The design of the radial connecting rod designed in SolidWorks is shown below along with its dimensions.

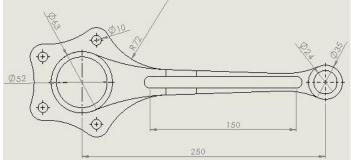


Figure 1: Dimensions of the Radial Connecting rod



Figure 2: 3D model of the Radial Connecting Rod

## 4. ANALYSIS

First, the component is created in SolidWorks with the required dimensions and imported into Ansys Workbench. [2]

#### a) Selection of problem

Ansys workbench contains several analysis systems in the toolbox window. We have to select the appropriate system from them which suits the specified problem. For this problem, Static Structural problem type system is selected.

#### b) Engineering data

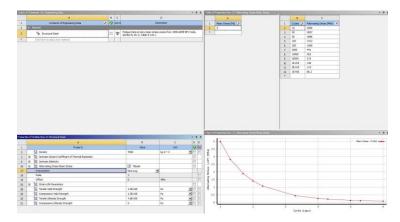


Figure 3: Specification of Engineering data

## c) Importing the model into the workbench

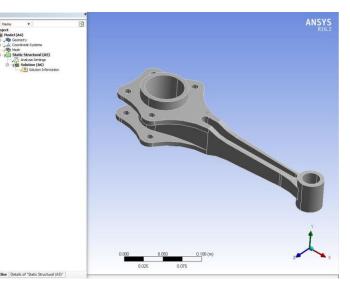


Figure 4: Component in Mechanical workbench

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## d) Meshing

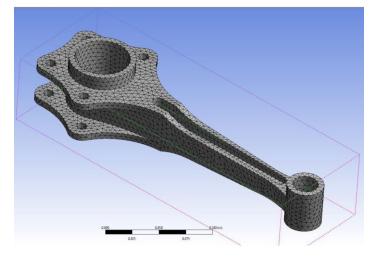


Figure 5: Meshing of Radial Connecting Rod

## e) Defining Fatigue tool details

Materials	
Fatigue Strength Factor (Kf)	1.
Loading	
Туре	Fully Reversed
Scale Factor	1.
Definition	
Display Time	End Time
Options	
Analysis Type	Stress Life
Mean Stress Theory	Goodman
Stress Component	Equivalent (Von Mises)
E Life Units	
Units Name	cycles
1 cycle is equal to	1. cycles

Figure 6: Fatigue Tools

## f) Results

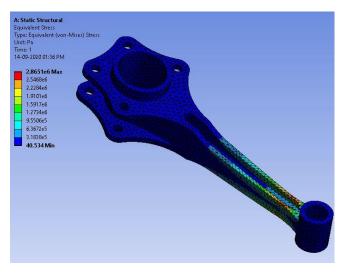


Figure 7: Equivalent stress of Radial Connecting rod

Maximum Equivalent stress: 2.8651 MPa

Minimum Equivalent stress: 40.534 Pa

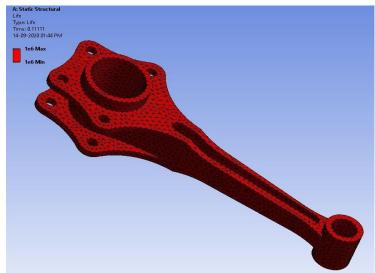


Figure 8: Fatigue Life

The Radial type connecting rod will fail after 10,00,000 cycles.



Figure 9: Fatigue Damage



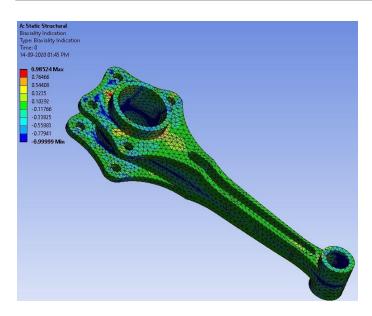
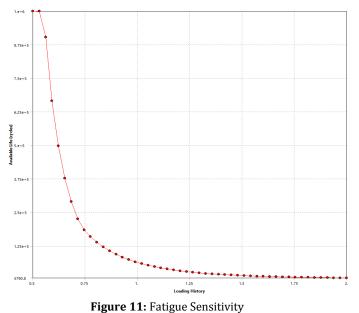


Figure 10: Biaxiality Indication



**5. CONCLUSION** 

The results of the Radial Connecting rod are shown above and are analyzed on the parameters such as Equivalent stress, Fatigue life, Fatigue Damage, Biaxiality Indication and fatigue sensitivity. We can observe from the Fatigue sensitivity graph that as the loading increases the average life of the component decreases

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