

# Stress analysis of rectangular and square plates with various cutouts

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**Abstract.** The geometric irregularities present inside a structure results in an improper stress distribution caused during manufacturing, which not only affects the strength of the component but also its vibrational behaviour when operated in a fluctuating environment. The emphasis of this paper is to evaluate the stress behavioral characteristics of plates with different cutout shapes. Two different loading conditions with three different types of plates made of Mild Steel are used for this analysis. From the present investigation, it may be concluded that where the max stress occurs. The methodology adopted in this research work is based on the numerical technique of finite element method, which uses SOLID 185 in ANSYS 19.1 solver. For further analysis, the obtained results are validated with previous literature works which were found satisfactory when related to the present study. It may be noted that FEM provides good insight for the determination of stress and deflection, with different parameters.

**Keywords:** ansys solver, finite element method, mild steel, rectangular plate, stress analysis.

## 1. Introduction

Plates are the structural members which are generally manufactured for fabrication purpose. The presence of cut out in plates is especially carried out for inserting bolt and nuts. In order to reduce the weight of the structural members, these cutouts play a crucial role. The stress concentration caused due to cutouts with improper alignment in fastening may lead to high stresses, even sometimes it may cause the failure of the structural members. In order to assess the failure of these components stated in terms of deflection and stresses finite element analysis, a numerical method used as an important tool for finding out the stress behaviour characteristics.

## 2. Literature review

Active researchers in the field of structural engineering carried out enormous work on stress analysis of plates with various configurations. The stress analysis of a rectangular plate with a central hole was carried out by Dhanjal [1]. Using finite element method from the research they observed that the value of SEF tends to increase whereas the value of vonMises stress tends to decrease with an increase in  $T/D$  ratio. The calculation of stresses and deflection for a rectangular plate with central hole subjected to transverse loading was done by Jain [2]. He considered both isotropic and orthotropic materials for his analysis. Ahmed [3] used tensile load for assessing the deflection and stresses over circular plate made of isotropic material and orthotropic materials. He used FEM based Ansys tool for performing the analysis. The stress analysis of composite plates with varying cutouts was carried out by Riyah and Ahmed [4]. Various orientation angles in the ply sequence are experimented in their analysis. The Elasto-plastic stress analysis with varying boundary conditions was done by Sayman and Askoy [5]. They used clamped free and simply supported boundary conditions for metal matrix laminated plates positioned with a central hole. The stress analysis has been carried out based on classical lamination plate theory. Using finite

element method as a basis the determination of Von misses and deflection for a rectangular plate with elliptical hole was carried out by Dheeraj and Singh [6]. With the plate dimensions remaining the same and varying the diameter of the hole to the width of the plate the effect on orientation angle on shear, axial stresses and their corresponding deflections for the clamped free boundary conditions are examined. Shaik and Mirzana [7] performed the static analysis for a plate with a central hole with different materials. Mekalke [8] investigated the stress analysis of a plate with a central hole subjected to uniform stress distribution. From his examination, he determined the deviation in the results by varying the mesh sizes and types. Brahmbhatt [9] analyzed the rectangular plate with an elliptical hole for stress analysis. From the results, he concluded that the stress intensity factor gives less error for the lower values of aspect ratio.

### 3. Problem definition

For present work, various shapes of plates with mild steel as the base material is used for calculating the induced stresses and deformations produced due to the uniformly distributed pressure. Also, the effect of various cutout shapes of rectangular, square, triangular, circular, elliptical with two different boundary conditions clamped free and simply supported conditions have been analyzed. The stress concentration factor for a rectangular plate made of Magnesium alloy and Polyethylene material subjected to clamped boundary conditions are determined, taken from the literature. The material properties are shown in Table 1 and Table 2 gives the dimensions of the plate with cutouts.

**Table 1.** Properties of rectangular plate

Properties	Mild Steel
Young's modulus	205 GPa
Poisson's ratio	0.35
Density	7850 Kg/m <sup>3</sup>

**Table 2.** Dimensions of plates with various cutout dimensions

Plate type	No cutout	Cutout shape				
		Rectangular	Square	Elliptical	Circular	Triangular
Rectangular	500×300×25 mm	100×50	100×100	100×50	$D = 75$	100×100
Square	500×500×25 mm	100×50	100×100	100×50	$D = 75$	100×100

### 4. Results and discussions

The stress analysis of a rectangular and square plate with a case of clamped free and simply supported boundary conditions has been studied in the present study for which the deflections and corresponding stresses are obtained. The effects of different cutouts positioned centrally in these plates are observed. The following observations are made to meet the desired result is as follows:

1) Table 3 gives the values of stress and its corresponding deflections for a rectangular plate subjected to clamped free boundary conditions. From the results, it can be observed that the deformation value will be same for all the cutouts with a marginal difference, whereas the values of vonMises stress, Principal stresses, and Componential stresses are more for a rectangular plate with the square type of cutout.

2) From Table 4 with the change of plate from rectangular to square type applying the same clamped free boundary condition, the value of stress components is more for the square type of cutout followed by the elliptical type.

3) Table 5 signifies that with the change of boundary condition from clamped free to simply supported type applied to rectangular plate the deformation and maximum stress are more for the square type of cutout whereas components stress and principal stresses are more for triangular type cutout.

4) From Table 6 the square plate with simply supported type boundary condition it makes clear

that the value of deformation and maximum stress are more for the square type of cutout whereas components stress and principal stresses are more for triangular type cutout.

**Table 3.** Stress analysis for a clamped-free rectangular plate with various central cutouts

Parameters	No hole	Rectangular	Square	Elliptical	Triangular	Circular
Deformation (m)	0.001741	0.001738	0.00173	0.00173	0.001736	0.001736
$x$ -component	1.12474	1.14322	1.16374	1.132243	1.13419	1.13977
$y$ -component	0.39364	0.39957	0.40707	0.38998	0.395145	0.397935
1st principal stress	1.8639	1.88265	1.90387	1.89552	1.87297	1.87908
2nd principal stress	0	0	0	0	0	0
3rd principal stress	-0.345524	-0.34017	-0.333056	-0.33345	-0.343583	-0.341373
Von Mises stress	2.05853	2.07377	2.09089	2.07647	2.06656	2.07098

**Table 4.** Stress analysis for clamped-free square plate with various central cutouts

Parameters	No hole	Rectangular	Square	Elliptical	Triangular	Circular
Deformation (m)	0.001874	0.001870	0.001865	0.0018725	0.001870	0.001871
$x$ -component	1.40021	1.40209	1.4169	1.405699	1.40483	1.40596
$y$ -component	0.490073	0.489927	0.495154	0.494545	0.490549	0.490547
1st principal stress	2.15326	2.1551	2.17038	2.15886	2.15776	2.15884
2nd principal stress	0	0	0	0	0	0
3rd principal stress	2.41624	-0.263085	-0.2584	-0.275885	-0.262383	-0.262327
Von Mises stress	2.29607	2.29797	2.31049	2.344021	2.3002	2.30124

**Table 5.** Stress analysis for simply supported rectangular plate with various central cutouts

Parameters	No hole	Rectangular	Square	Elliptical	Triangular	Circular
Deformation (m)	0	0.398e-03	0.463e-03	0.443e-03	0.292e-03	0.245e-03
$x$ -component	0	1.53381	1.84204	1.94223	2.63823	0.984279
$y$ -component	0	1.63257	1.76389	1.89893	2.95788	0.800575
1st principal stress	0	2.72194	3.03275	3.02547	3.12267	0.986324
2nd principal stress	0	0.400506	0.565484	0.6548	1.07301	-0.05275
3rd principal stress	0	0	-1.1086	0	-1.15961	-0.345e-04
Von Mises stress	0	2.5461	2.81564	2.79521	2.7529	1.65708

**Table 6.** Stress analysis for simply supported square plate with various central cutouts

Parameters	No hole	Rectangular	Square	Elliptical	Triangular	Circular
Deformation (m)	0.537e-04	0.197e-03	0.195e-03	0.206e-03	0.231e-03	0.203e-03
$x$ -component	-0.037595	0.342494	0.758062	0.455877	0.544554	0.558754
$y$ -component	0.037612	0.561612	0.566197	0.448755	0.881004	0.548757
1st principal stress	0.083589	0.905531	1.24483	0.915531	0.95565	1.14435
2nd principal stress	-0.037595	-0.036444	-0.048254	-0.034557	-0.035774	-0.035567
3rd principal stress	-0.187378	-0.181914	-0.182976	-0.181759	-0.179844	-0.187944
Von Mises stress	0.954199	1.65003	1.71198	1.684454	1.75966	1.728855

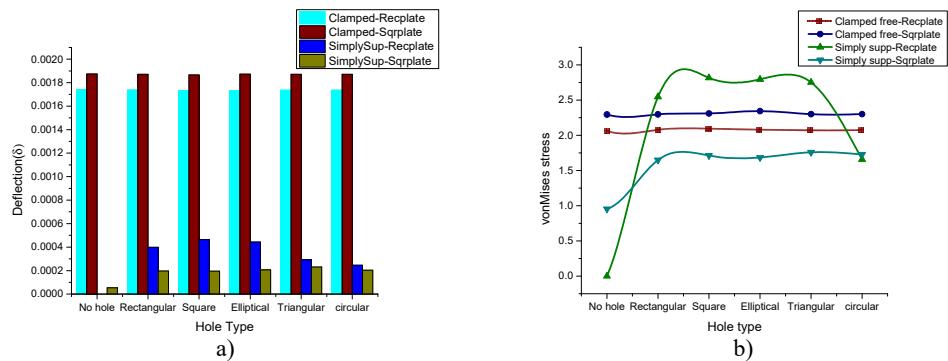


Fig. 1. Deflection and vonMises comparison for rectangular and square plates for various cutouts

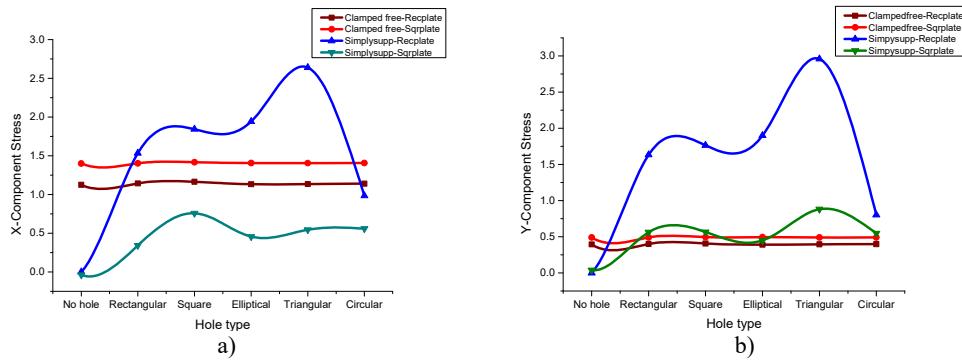


Fig. 2. X, Y-component stress comparison for rectangular and square plates for various cutouts

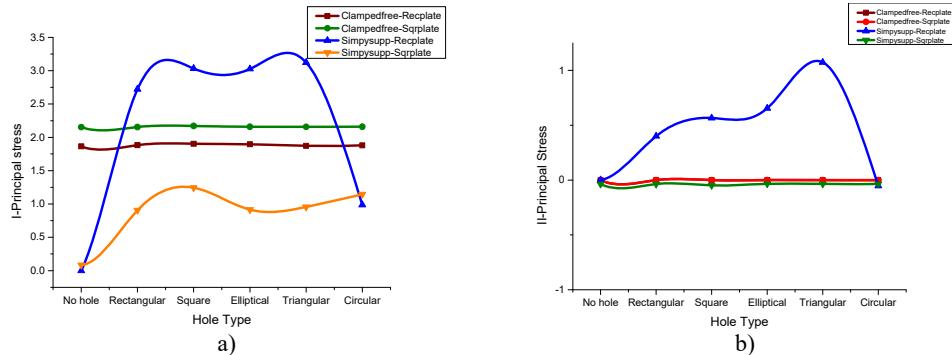


Fig. 3. I, II-Principal stress comparison for rectangular and square plates for various cutouts

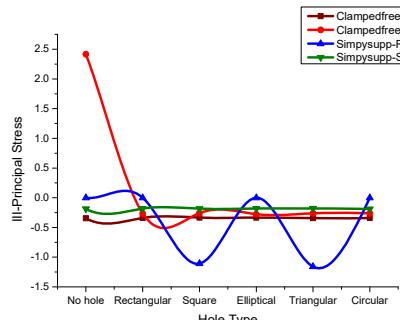


Fig. 4. III-Principal stress comparison for rectangular and square plates for various cutouts

## 5. Conclusions

The stress analysis of plates with a centrally positioned cutout is of practical importance in designing the engineering structures, closed form of solutions for different types of cutouts for plates are not generally available, for these types of cutouts the solutions are determined either experimentally or numerically using finite element methods. This study has presented a numerical solution for various stresses i.e. rectangular and square plates with specially shaped cutouts. The stress analysis of isotropic material based rectangular and square plates with a variety of centrally located cutouts was investigated. Numerical studies were conducted to investigate the effects of variation on cutout shape, geometries in the location and the value of the maximum stress in the plate under uniformly distributed pressure. Two types of boundary conditions simply supported and clamped free is applied to the plates consisting of special cutout shape. The adapted numerical scheme can be used for evaluating the stress concentration and finding out the stress distribution in isotropic and laminated plates. The effect of cutout shape for static analysis of plates can significantly change by varying the material properties, cutout parameters.

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