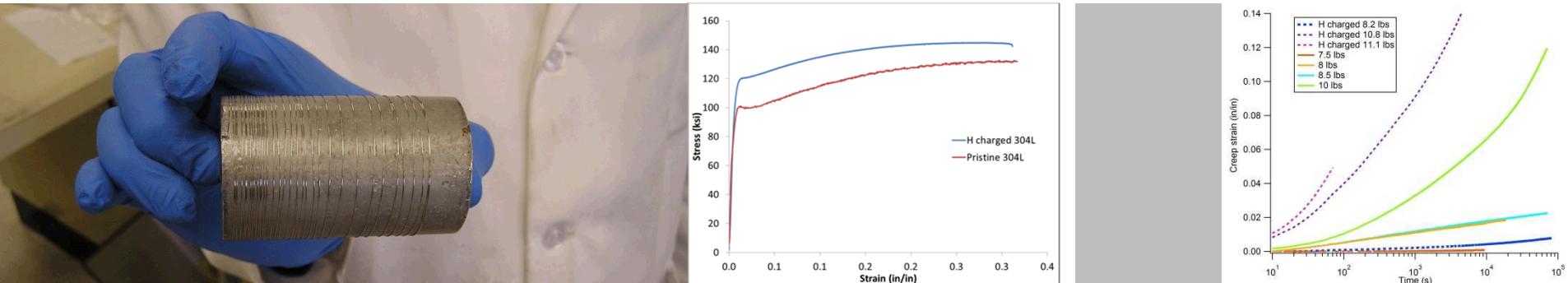


Exceptional service in the national interest



The effect of hydrogen on room temperature creep of 304L stainless steel wire

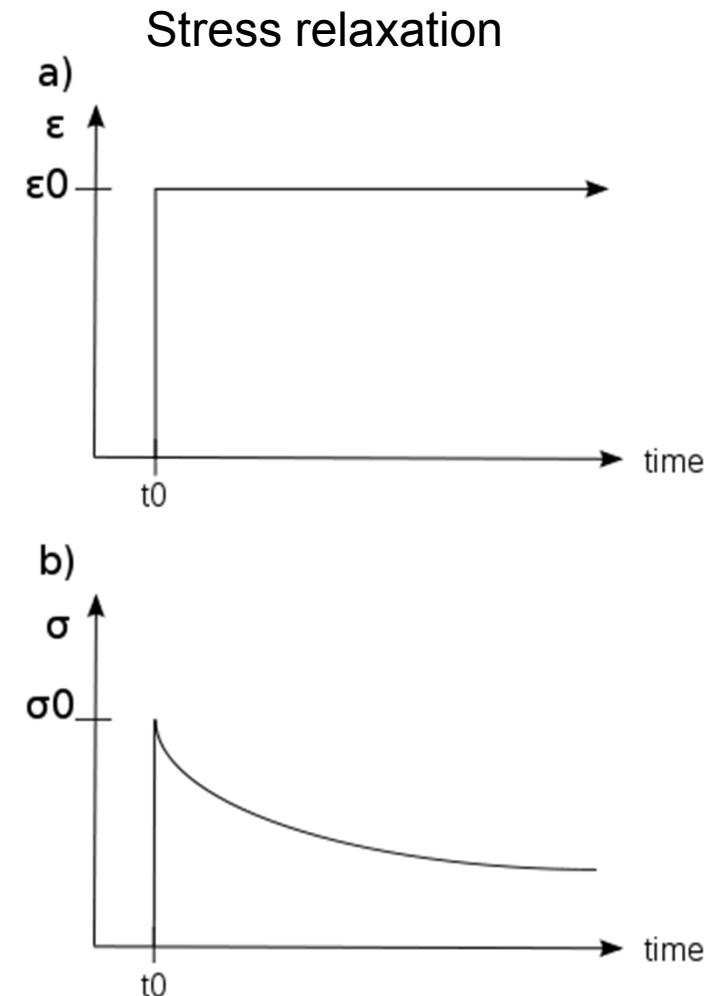
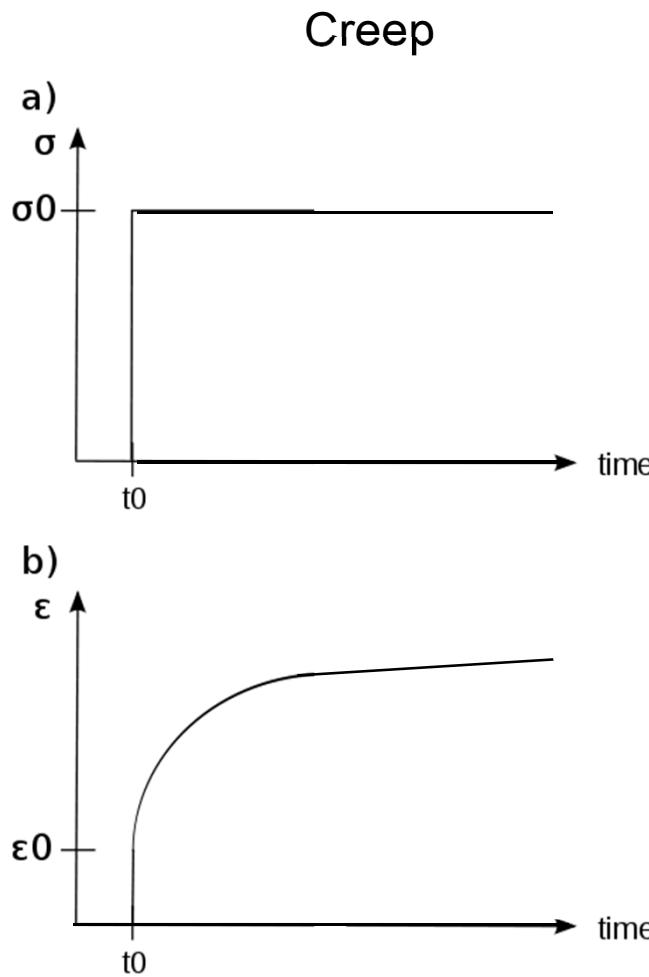
Lisa A. Deibler

Acknowledgements

- Brian Somerday
- Jeff Campbell – H charging
- Tom Crenshaw – Creep setup

What is creep?

At temperatures above 0.5 melting temperature:



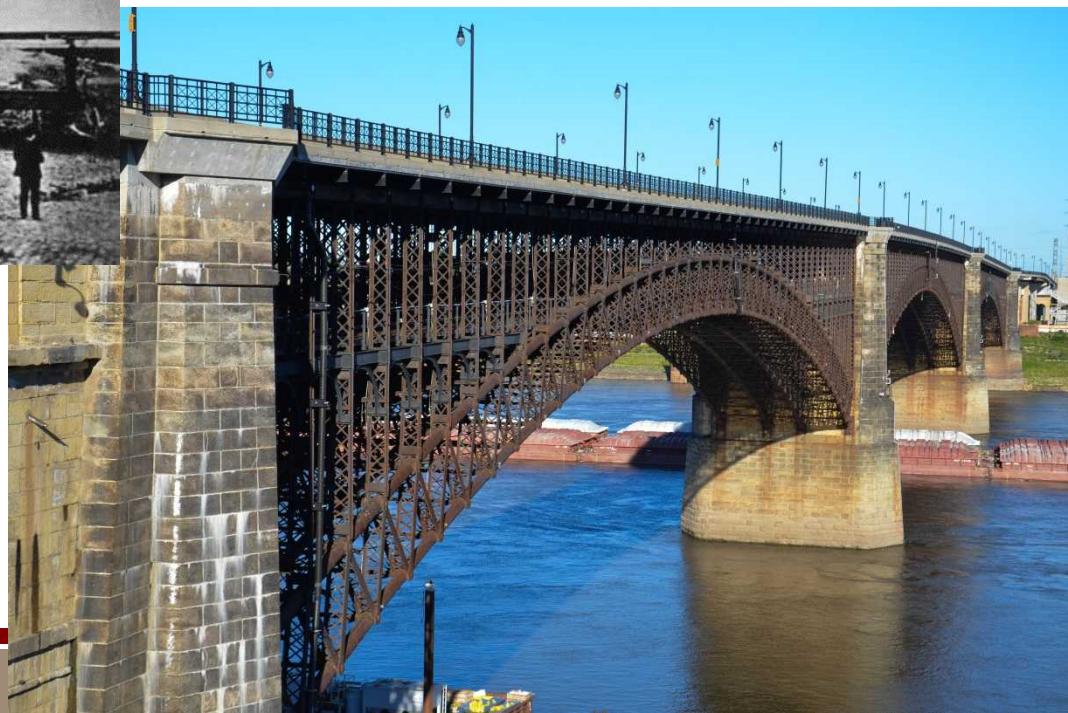
Why do we need to worry about it at room temperature?

Eads bridge, St. Louis ca. 1874



It's been 140 years, creep of chrome steel to failure at ambient St. Louis temperature has not been an issue.

Eads bridge, St. Louis 2012

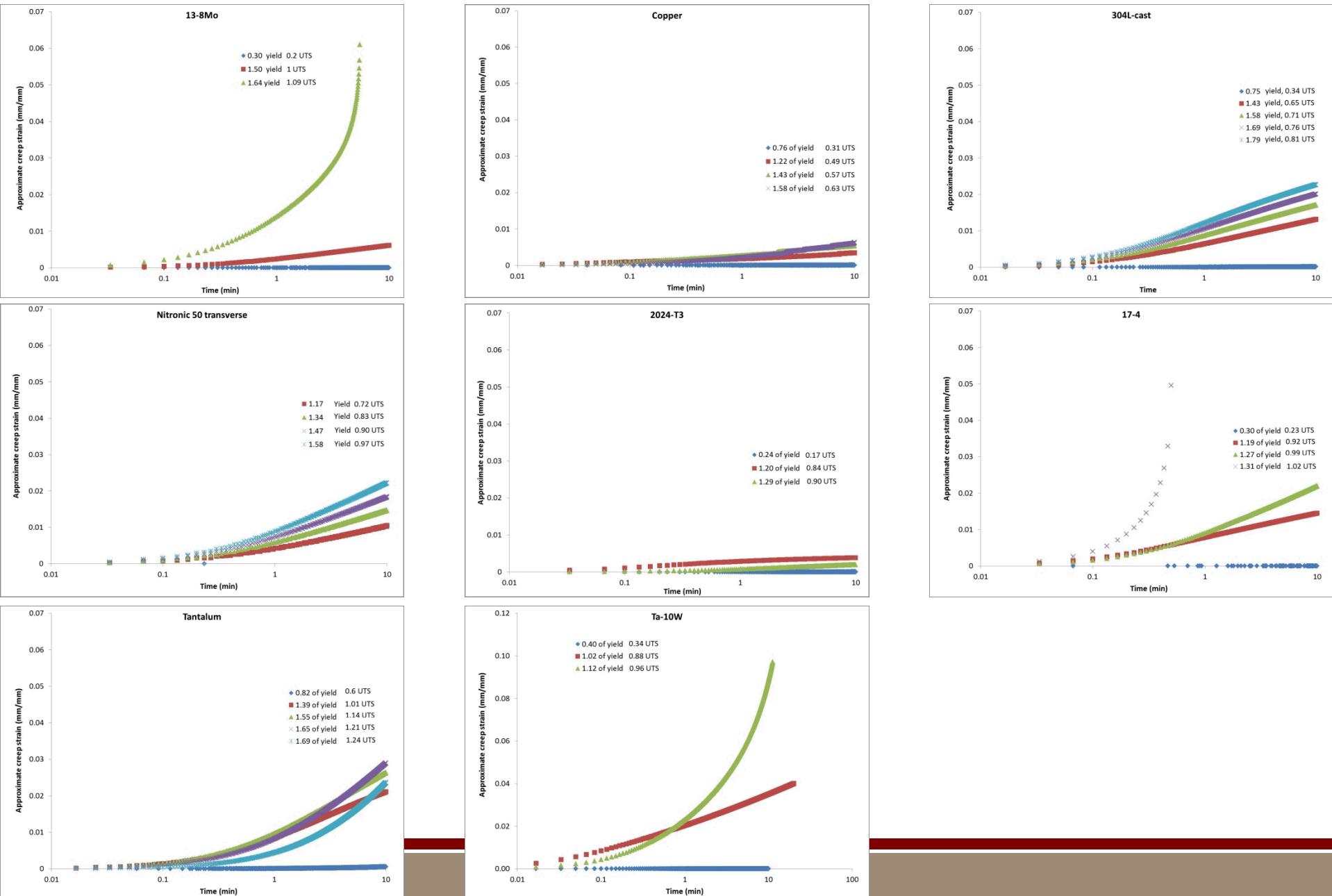


Why do I care?

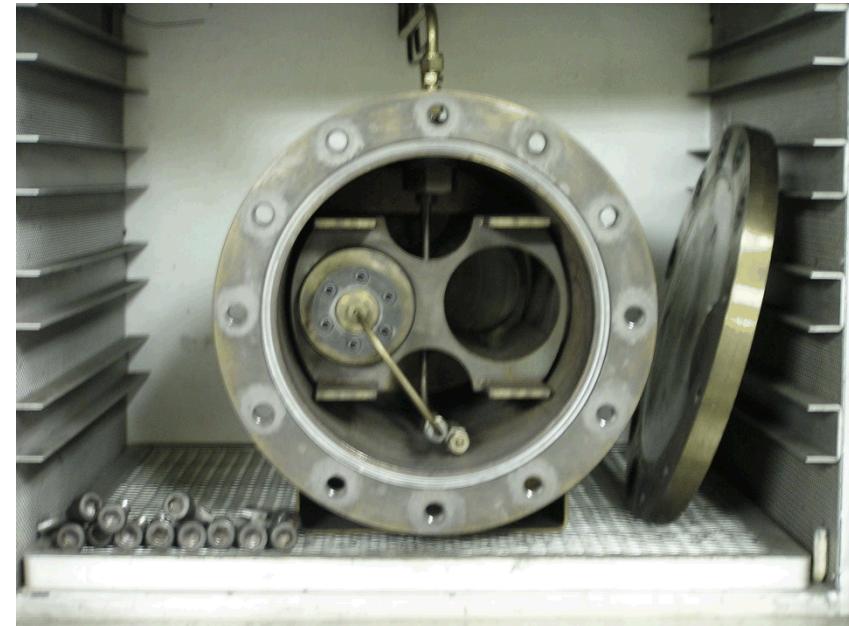
- Springs
- Glass to metal seals in electrical connectors.
- Electrical connections
- Pressure vessels
- Anywhere there's a designed residual stress

Conventional wisdom is that metals do not age (except for corrosion). Time dependent deformation is aging.

Creep happens at RT in many alloys



Hydrogen charging wire

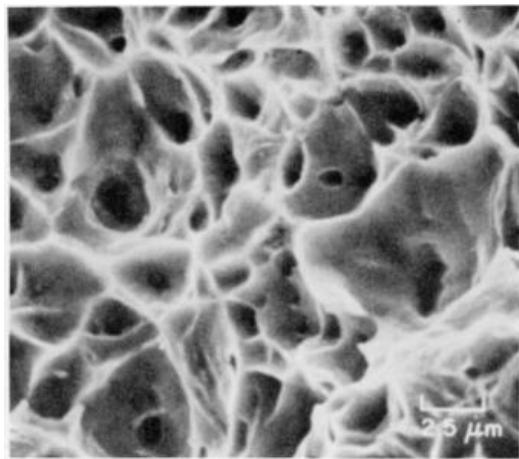


Pressurized to 18,750 psi with 99.9999% pure hydrogen gas for 39 days.

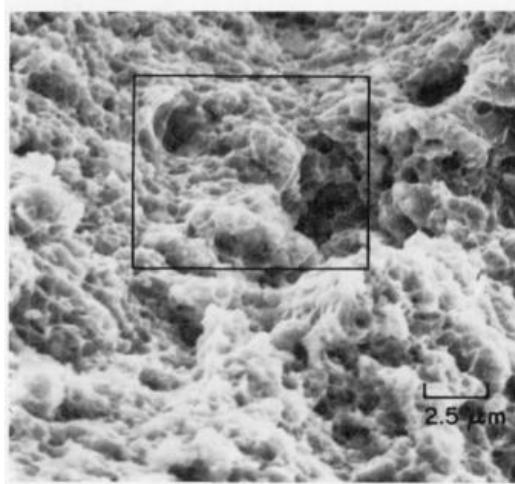
Stored in freezer at -70°C until ready for testing

Normal hydrogen damage effects

- Strengthening
- Embrittlement



13-8 PH



13-8 PH exposed to hydrogen

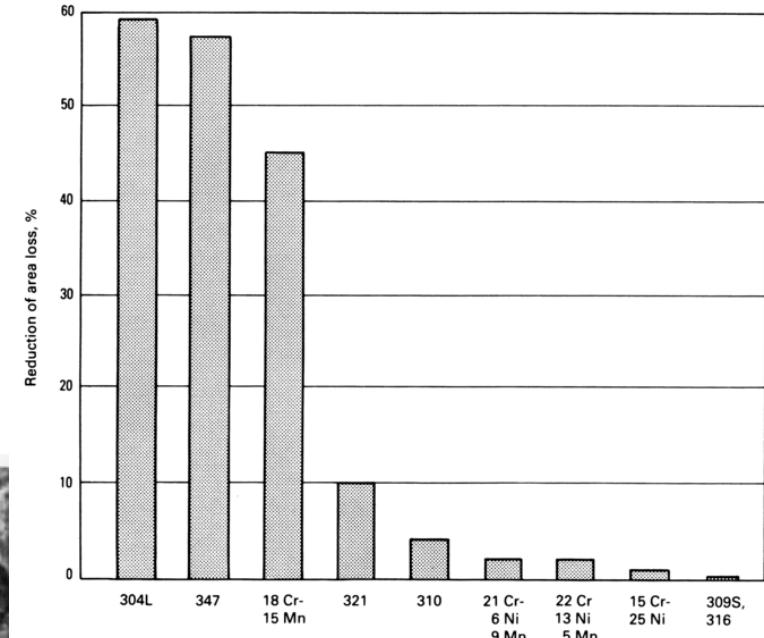
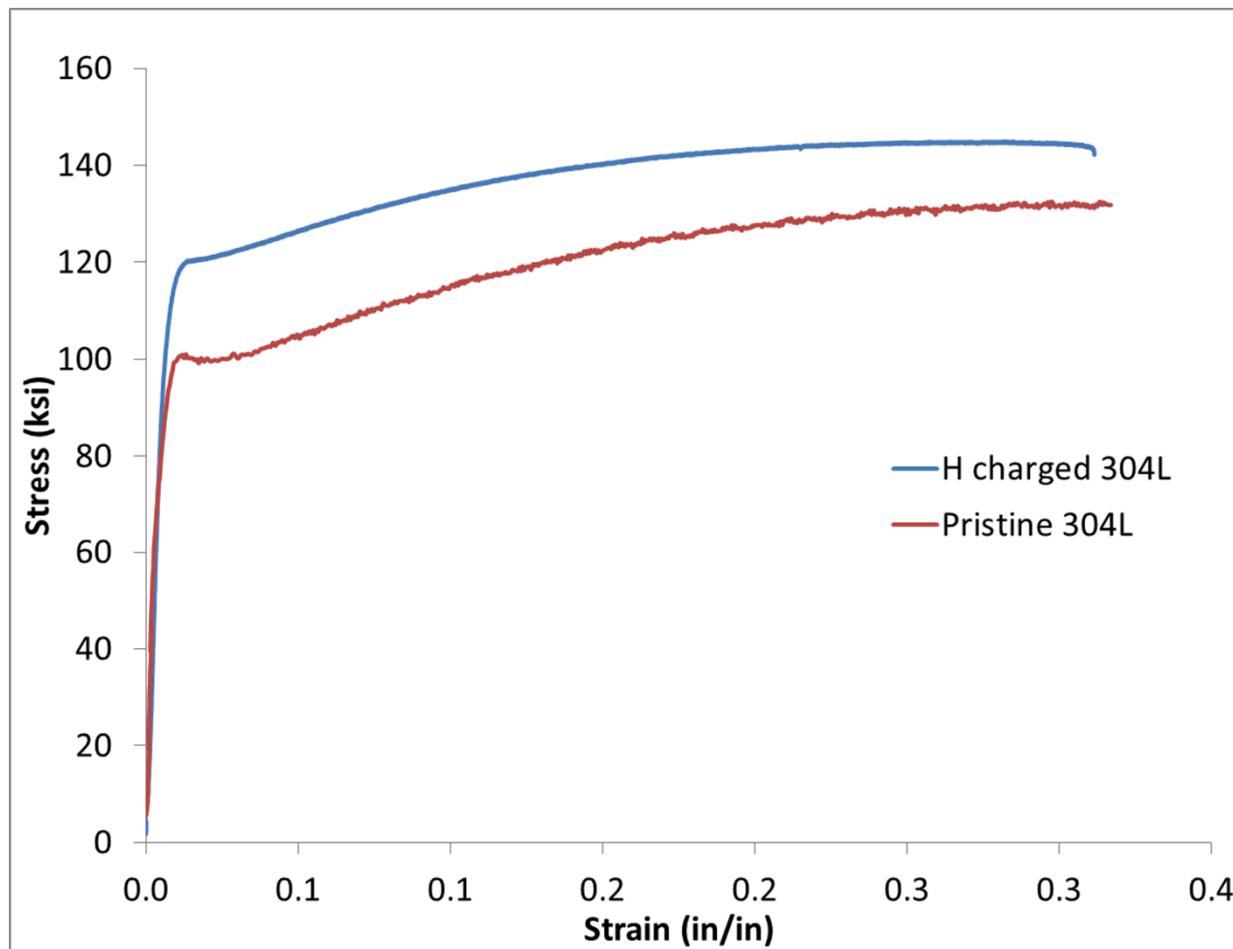
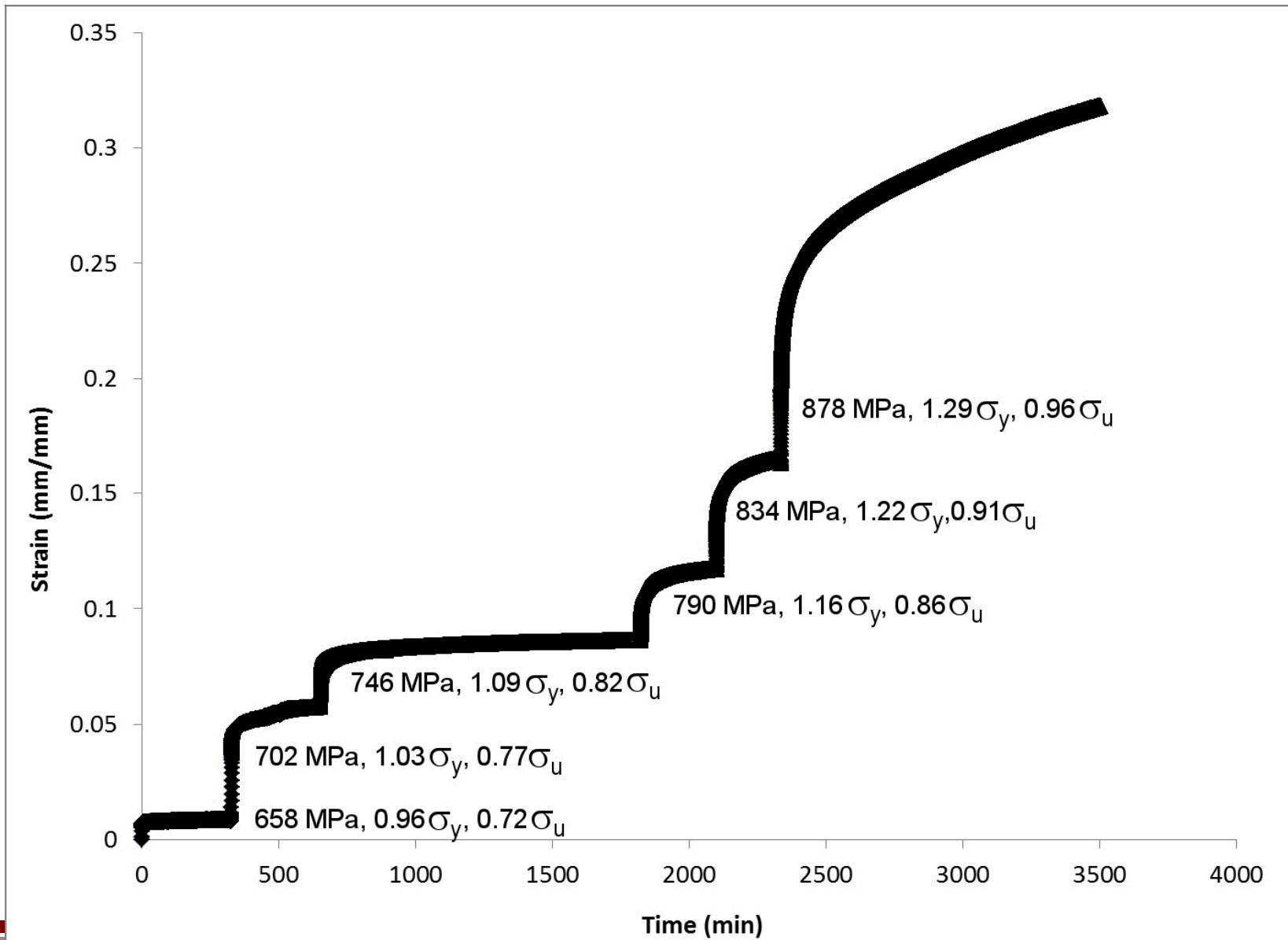


Fig. 9 Ductility loss for several austenitic stainless steels in high-pressure hydrogen. Source: [Ref 21](#)

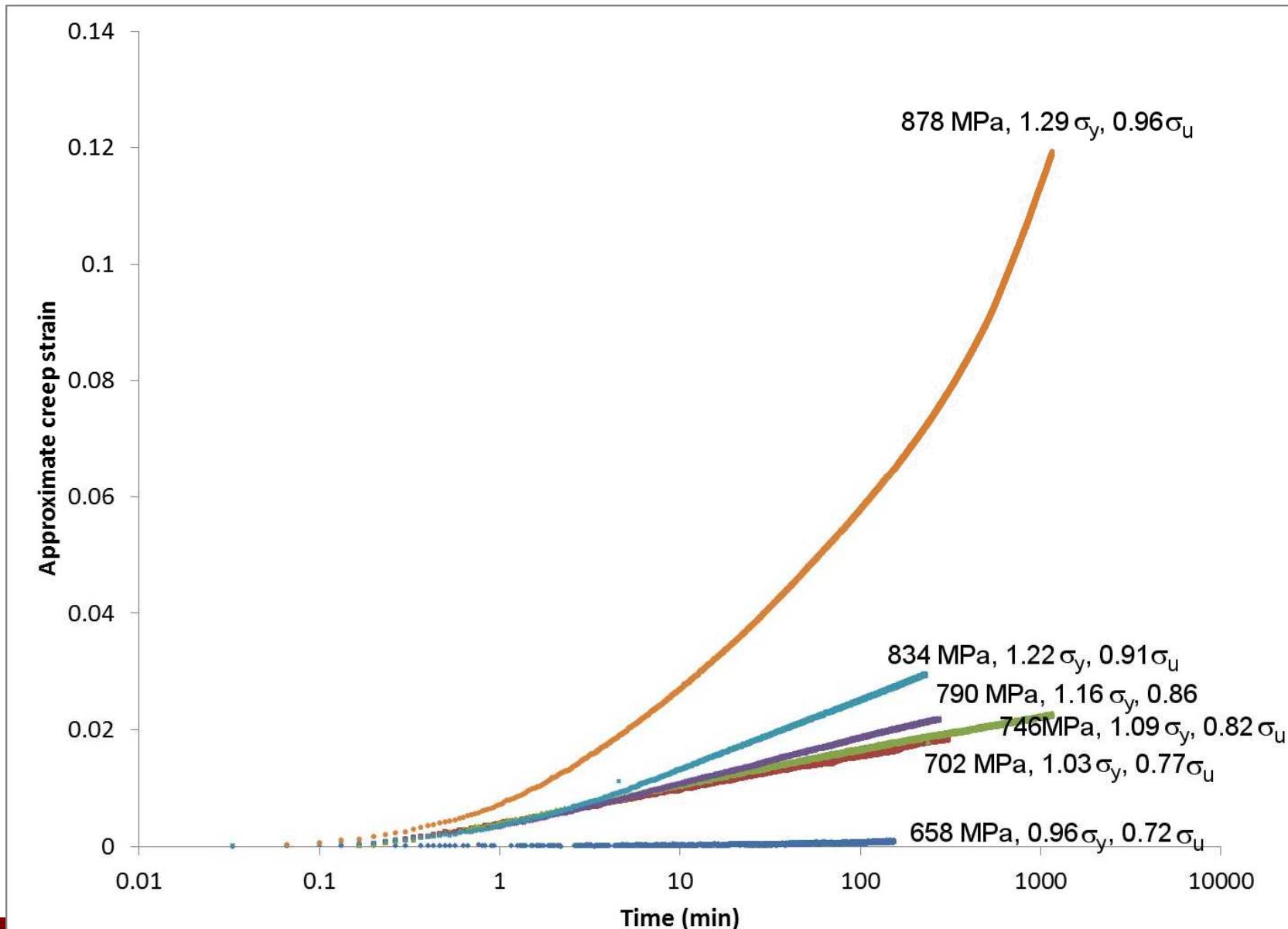
Hydrogen effects on 304L wire



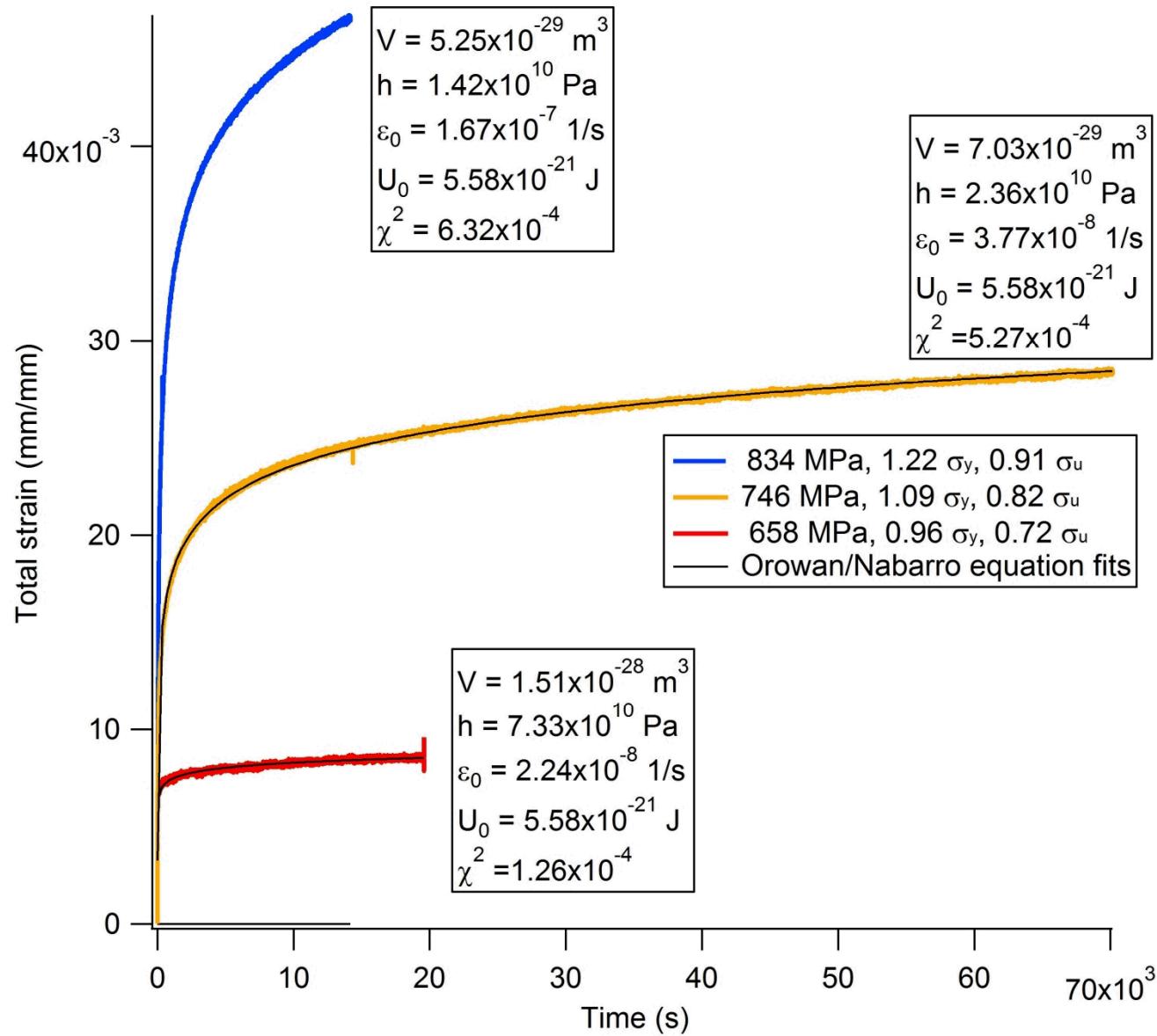
Creep testing pristine wire



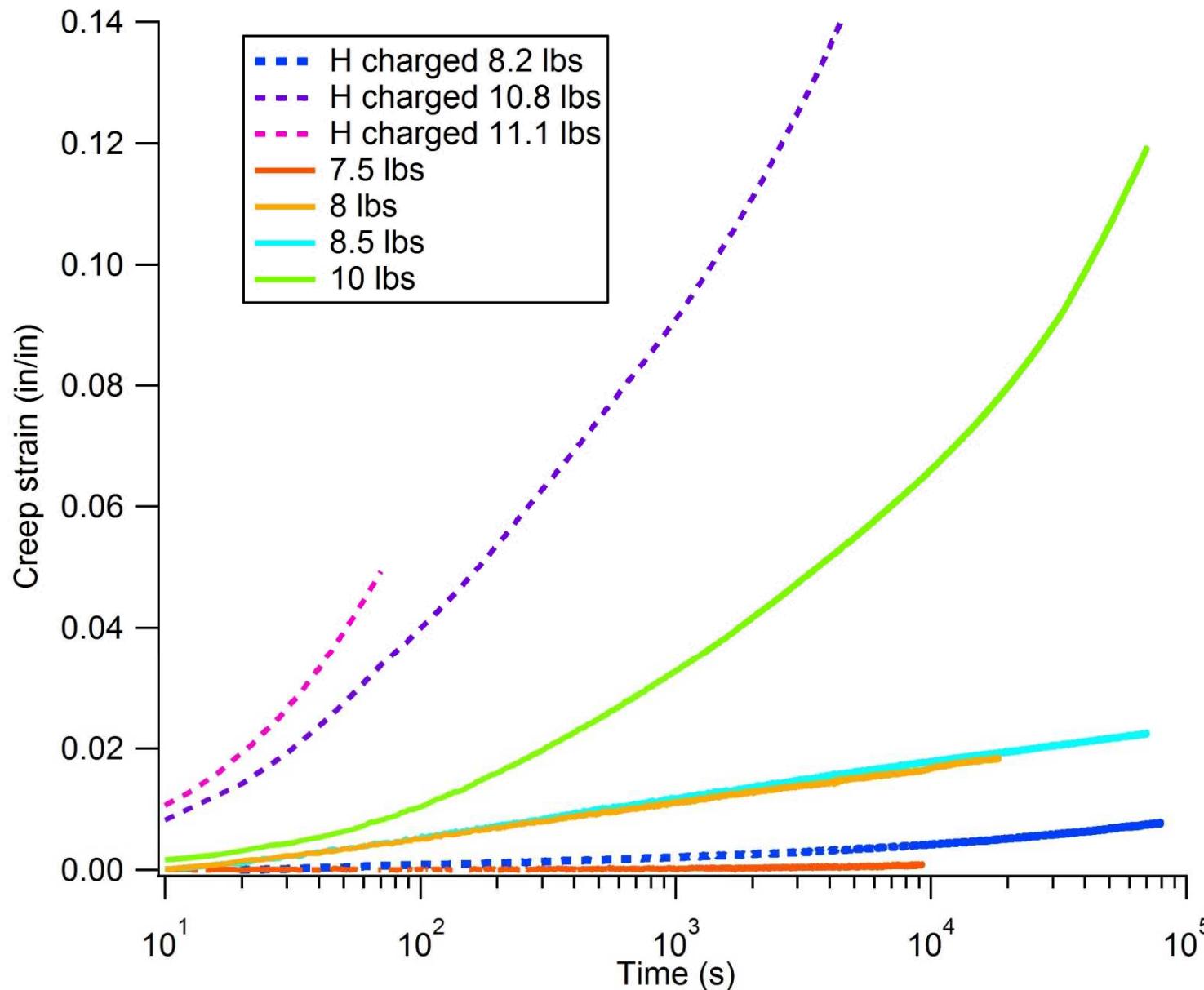
Pristine 304L creep behavior



Fitting equation to creep behavior

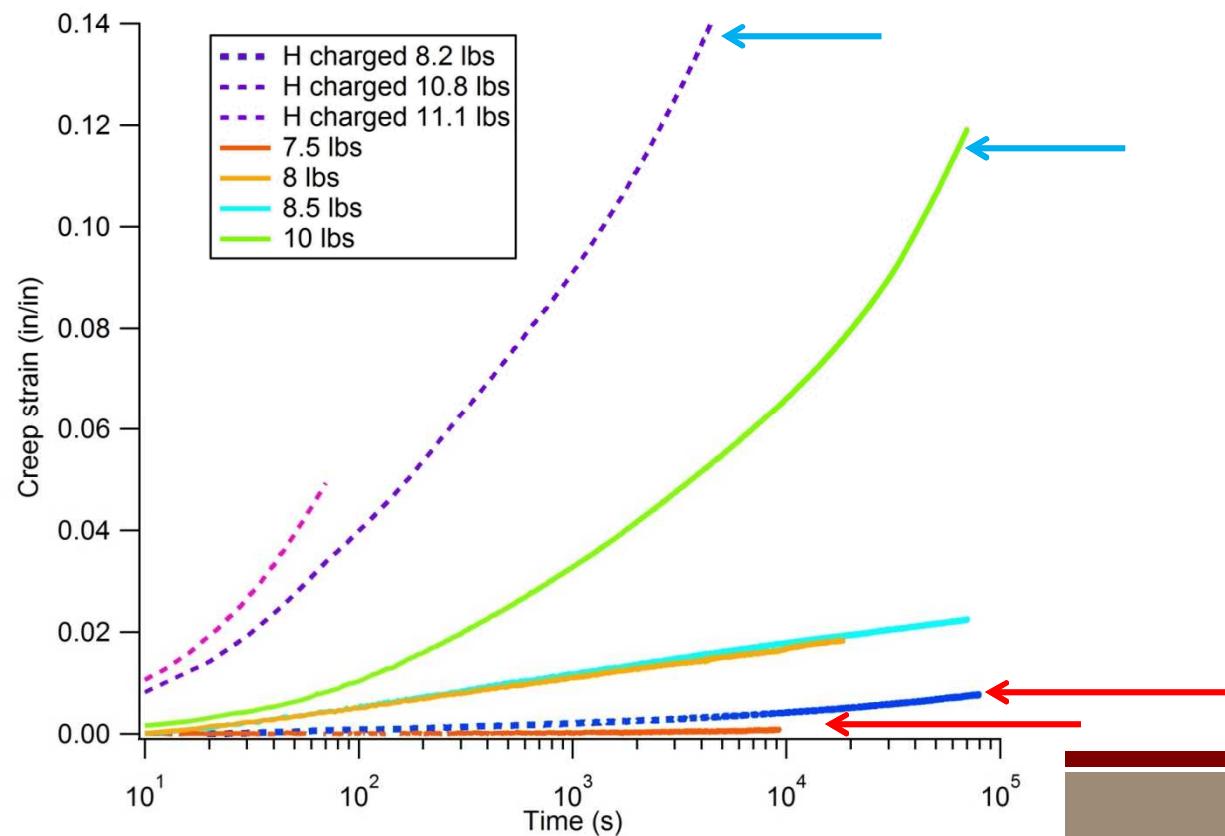


H charged data compared with uncharged data



Normalized comparison of stresses

Sample	Load (lbs.)	Stress (ksi)	Applied stress/yield	Applied stress/ultimate
Pristine	7.5	95.5	0.96	0.72
Pristine	8	101.9	1.03	0.77
Pristine	8.5	108.2	1.09	0.82
Pristine	10	127.3	1.29	0.96
H-charged	8.2	104.4	0.87	0.72
H-charged	10.8	137.5	1.15	0.95
H-charged	11.1	141.3	1.18	0.97



Conclusions

- Hydrogen exposure causes strengthening in 304L wire.
- Hydrogen increases creep rates at similar normalized stresses.

Future work

- Can the Orowan/Nabarro equations be fit to hydrogen creep?