

A scanning electron micrograph (SEM) showing a metal surface with a prominent crack. The surface has a fine, granular texture. A scale bar in the bottom left corner indicates a length of 5 micrometers. The crack runs diagonally across the center of the image.

# Ni-Based Alloys for Advanced Ultrasupercritical Steam Boilers

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*EPRI*

Fossil Energy Crosscutting Research Program Review

May 22, 2014

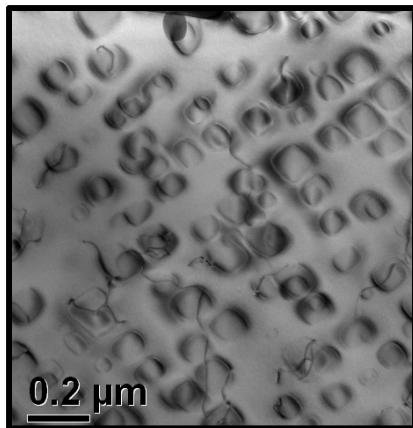
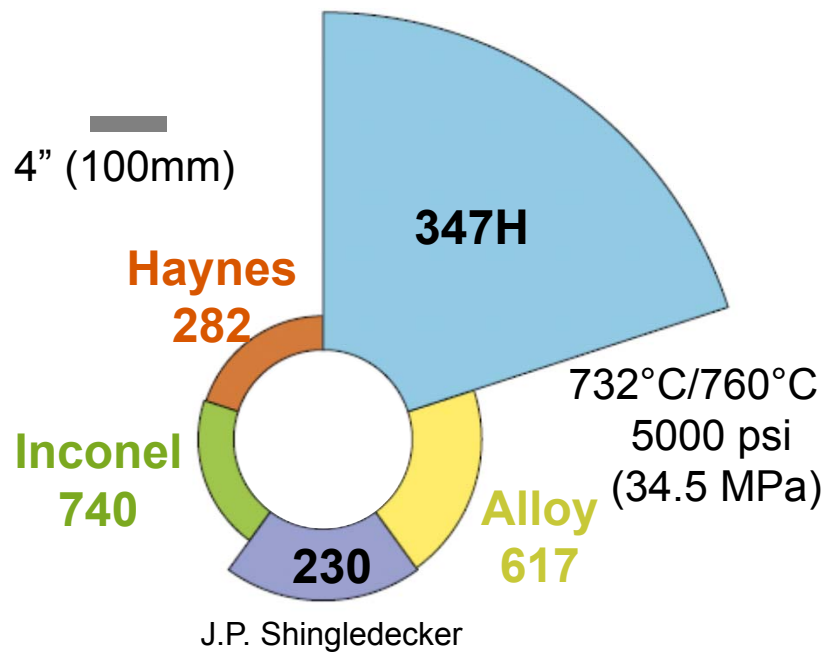
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

5  $\mu\text{m}$

# Acknowledgments

- Jeremy Moser, creep testing
- Tracie Lowe, specimen prep and microstructural analysis
- Donovan Leonard, microprobe analysis
- Vito Cedro, NETL, federal project manager

# Work Motivated by Need for Ni-based Alloys in Advanced Ultrasupercritical Steam Boilers

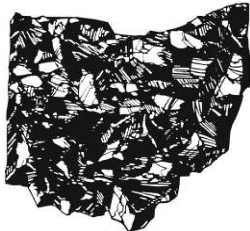


Inconel 740

- U.S. advanced ultrasupercritical (A-USC) steam
  - 760°C
  - >3500 psi (24 MPa)
- A-USC technology requires precipitation-strengthened nickel-based alloys for hottest parts of boiler (superheater, reheater)
- Long-term data needed for code development and confidence in life prediction
- Until A-USC boiler project, little attention to this need for nickel-based alloys



# ORNL Work Is Part of the U.S. A-USC Program (U.S. Dept. Of Energy, Ohio Economic Develop. Corp.)



MAKING OHIO COAL  
THE CLEAN CHOICE



Energy  
Industries  
Of Ohio

**EPRI**

ELECTRIC POWER  
RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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imagination at work

**FOSTER WHEELER**



**RILEYPower**

A Babcock Power Inc. Company



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

**OAK  
RIDGE**  
National Laboratory



ORNL's role:

- Generate high quality creep-rupture data using accepted test methods
  - Inconel 740, Haynes 282
  - Supplement minimum required data for code-approved alloys, e.g., alloy 617, Inconel 740
  - Identify fabrication & welding issues on creep strength
- Understand microstructural underpinnings of creep strength and failure
- Predict life with confidence



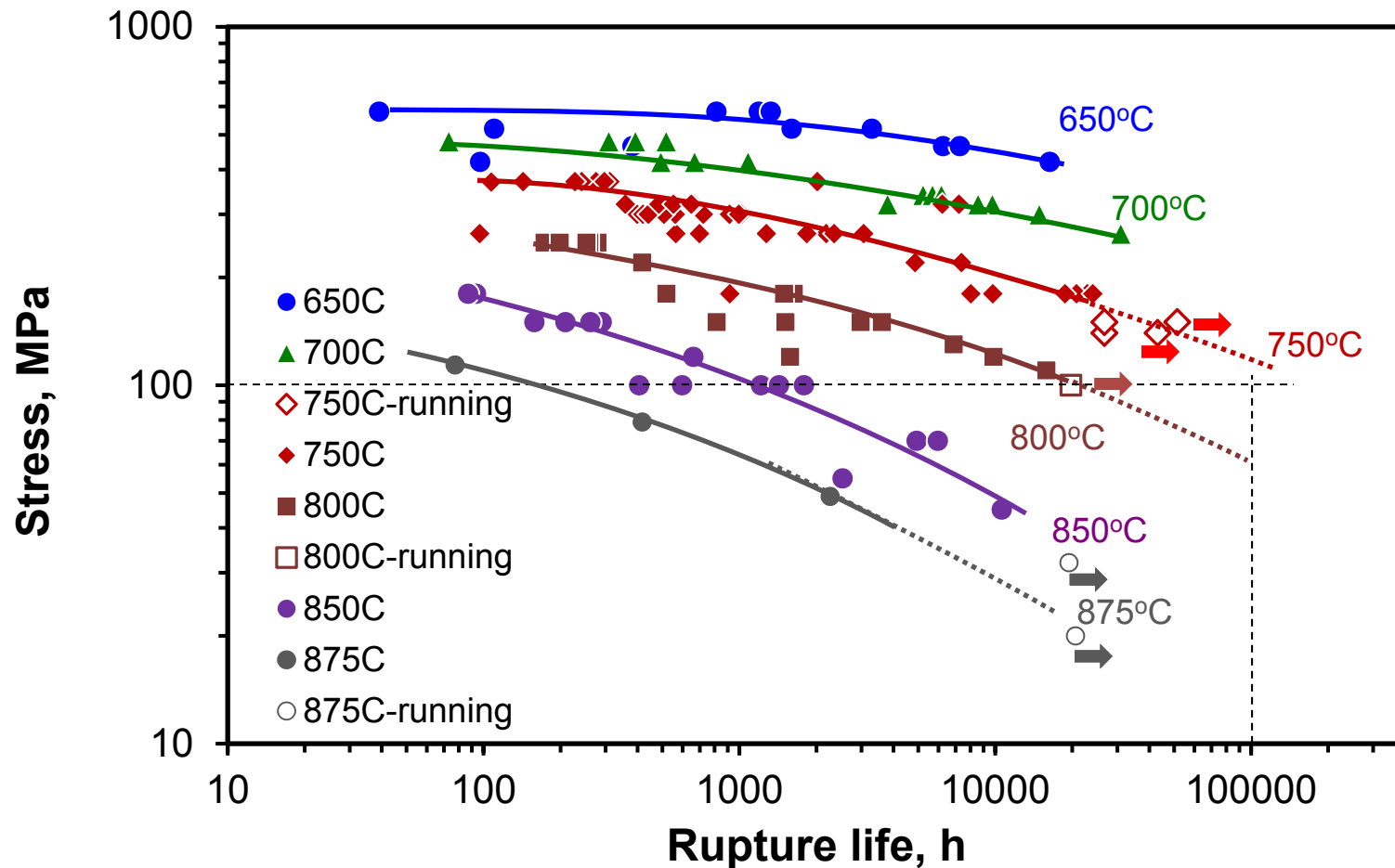
# Focus of Recent Work Has Been on Inconel 740/740H and Haynes 282

	Ni	Cr	Co	Al	Ti	Nb	Mo	Fe	Mn	Si	C	B
<b>740</b>	Bal	25	20	0.9	1.8	2.0	0.5	0.7	0.3	0.5	0.03	-
<b>740H</b>	Bal	25	20	1.4	1.4	1.5	0.5	1.0	-	0.2	0.03	0.001
<b>282</b>	Bal	20	10	1.5	2.1	-	8.5	1.5	0.3	0.15	0.06	0.005

- Both Inconel 740 and Haynes 282 form  $\gamma'$  ( $\text{Ni}_3\text{Al}$ ,  $\text{Ni}_3\text{Ti}$ ) and carbides
- Only Inconel 740 forms  $\eta$  ( $\text{Nb}_3\text{Ti}$ ), with 740H having significantly less susceptibility to its formation (several studies)
- Vol%  $\eta$  that forms during exposure seems to have little effect on creep rupture (Shingledecker and Pharr, Tortorelli et al.)
- Both alloys types have elements that promote internal oxidation (Pint et al., Wright et al.)

# Creep-Rupture Results

# Long-Term Creep-Rupture Data for 740/740H Build Confidence in A-USC Boiler Use

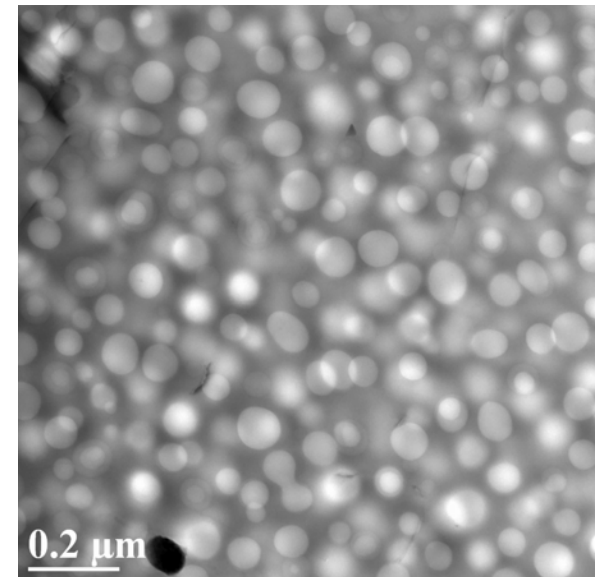


Generating Similar Data for Haynes 282

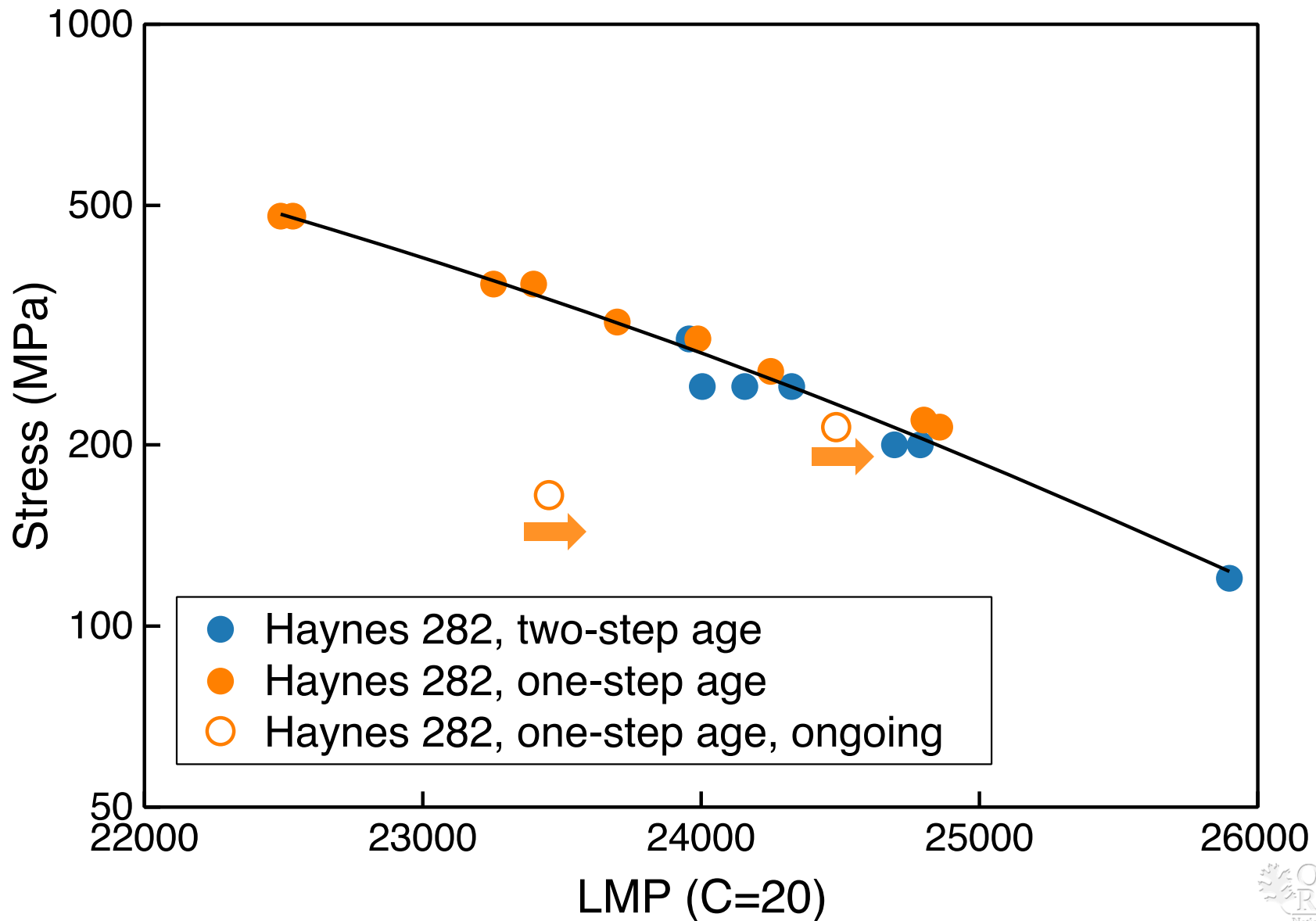


# In Process of Developing Qualified Creep-Rupture Data for Haynes® alloy 282

- Interest in Haynes 282 for boiler application triggered by turbines part of A-USC program
- Work to date has shown Haynes 282 may be preferred to 740
  - longer creep-rupture lifetimes
  - minimal debits due to welding and cold work
- Recommended 2-stage aging protocol (1010°C/1h+788°C/8h) deemed problematical by boiler manufacturers
- Last year: determined a one-step aging treatment (800°C/4h)
- This year: first dataset for one-step aged Haynes 282



# Little Difference between 1-step and 2-step Aged Haynes 282 Creep-Rupture Data

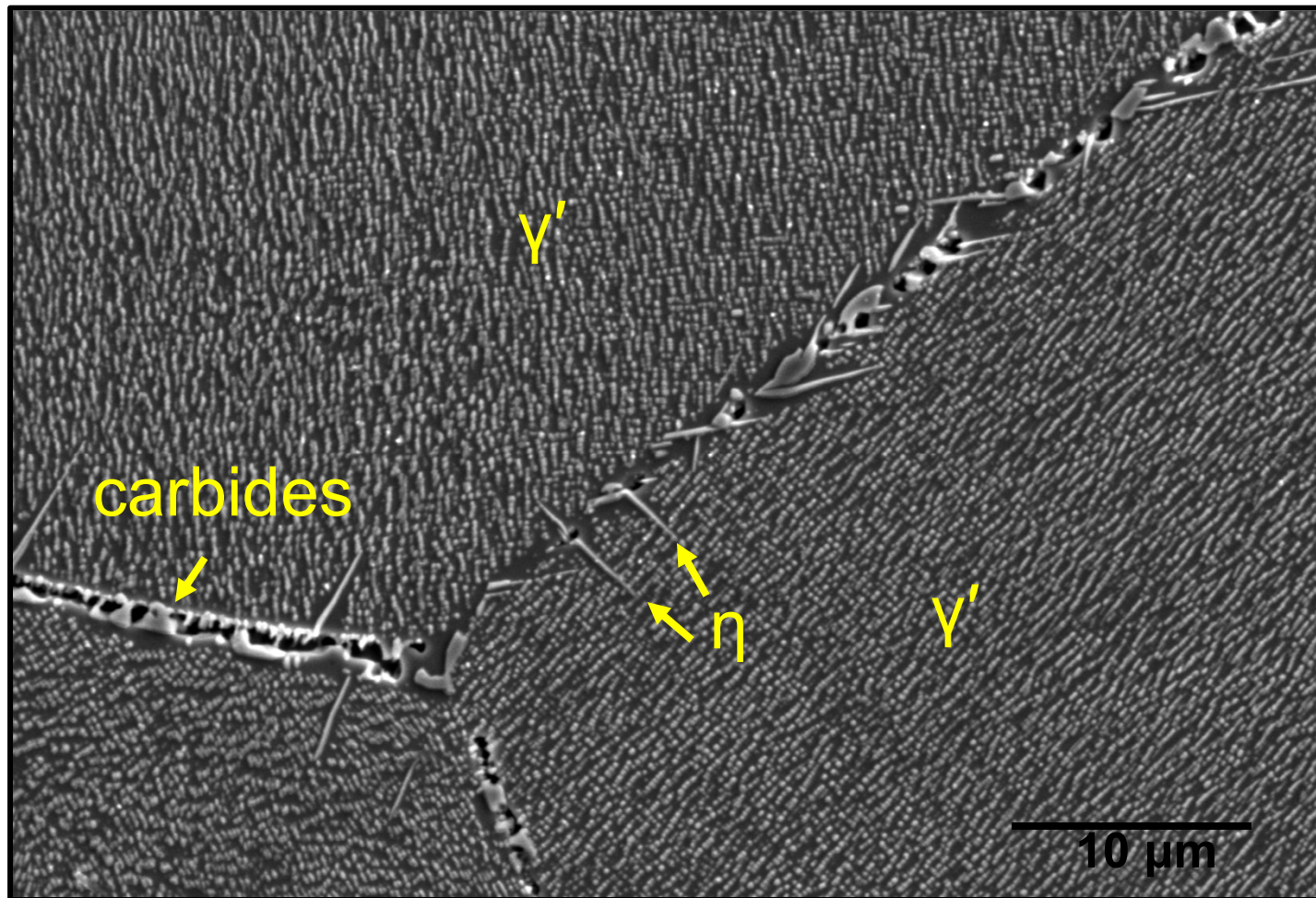


# **Microstructural Stability over Long Times with Particular Attention to $\gamma'$**



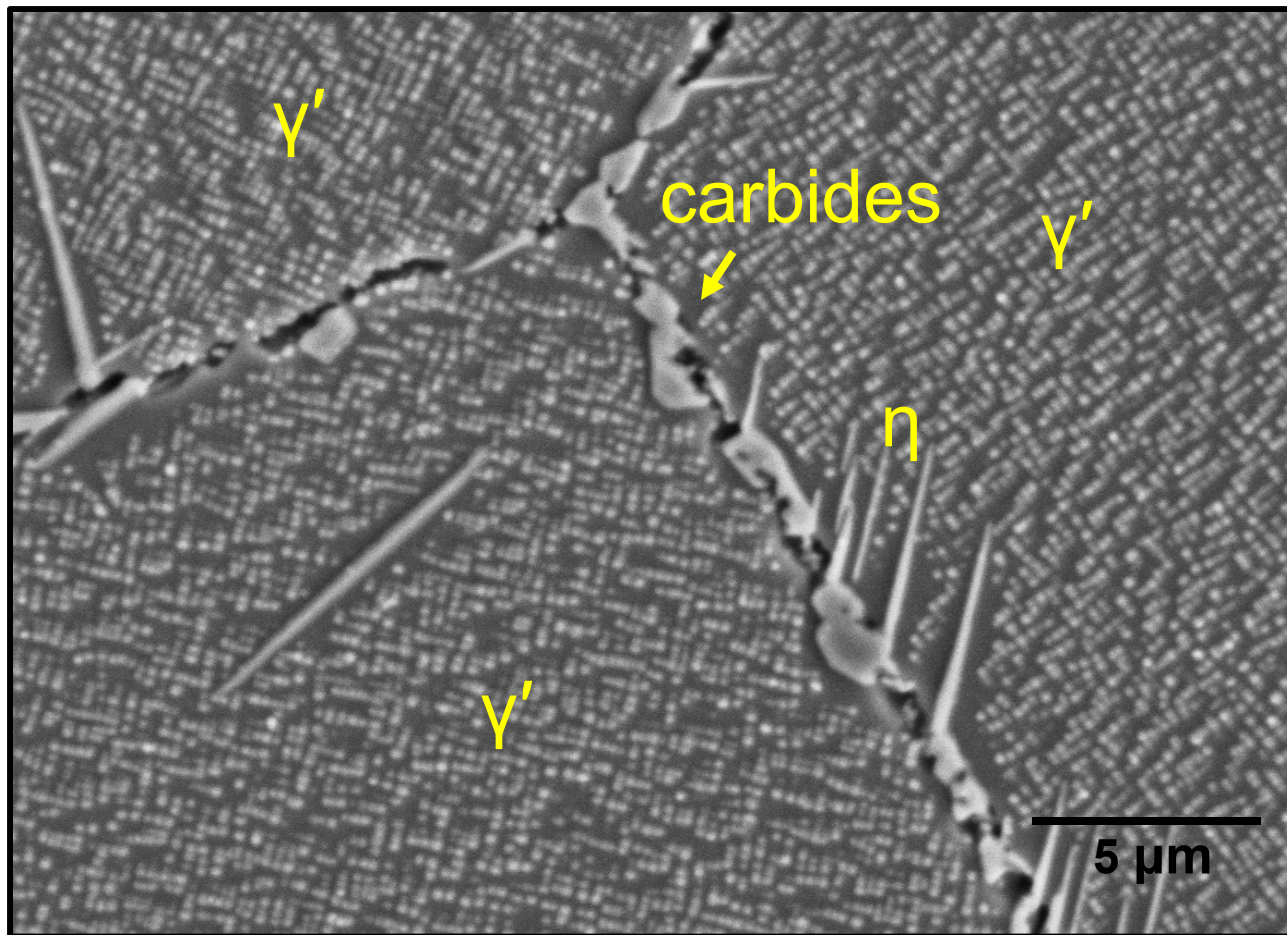
# Inconel 740: Little Evidence of $\gamma'$ Depletion at 750°C after Extended Testing

Inconel 740, 20,789 h, 750°C, 180 MPa



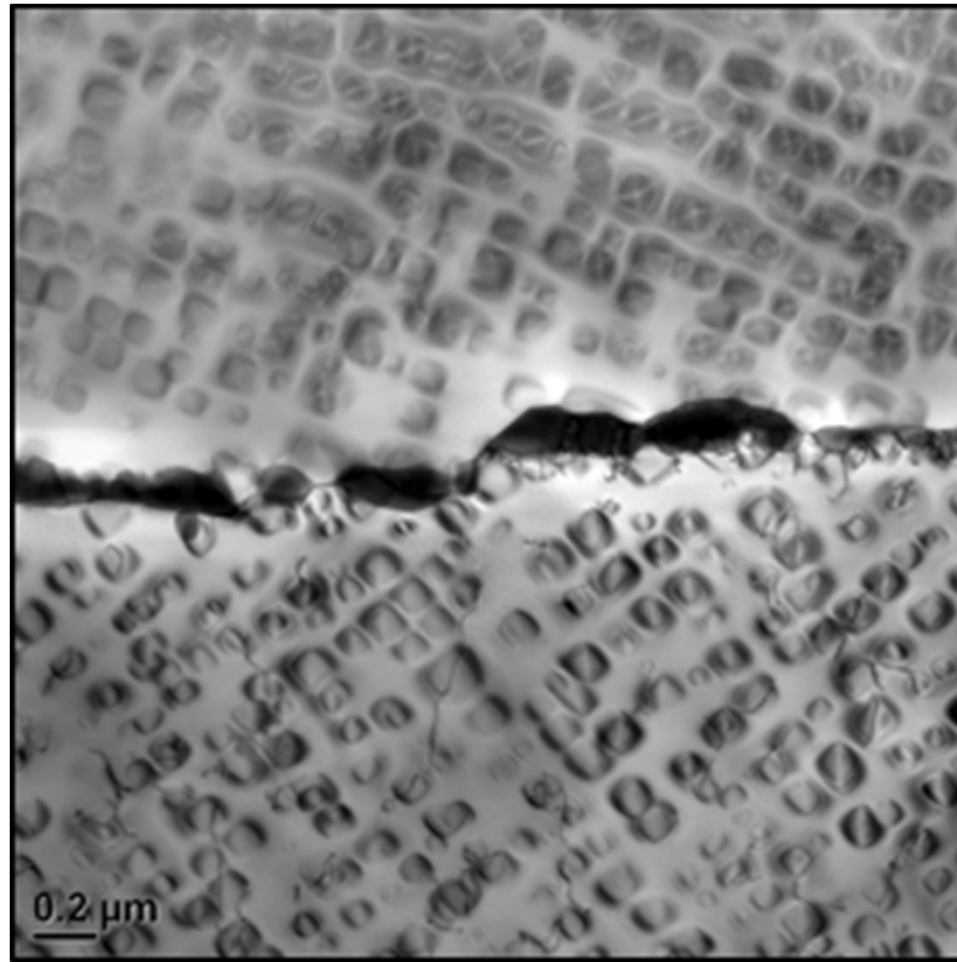
# Little Evidence of $\gamma'$ Depletion Near Grain Boundaries in Bulk at 750°C

Inconel 740, 20,789 h, 750°C, 180 MPa



# Little Evidence of $\gamma'$ Depletion Near Grain Boundaries in Bulk at 750°C

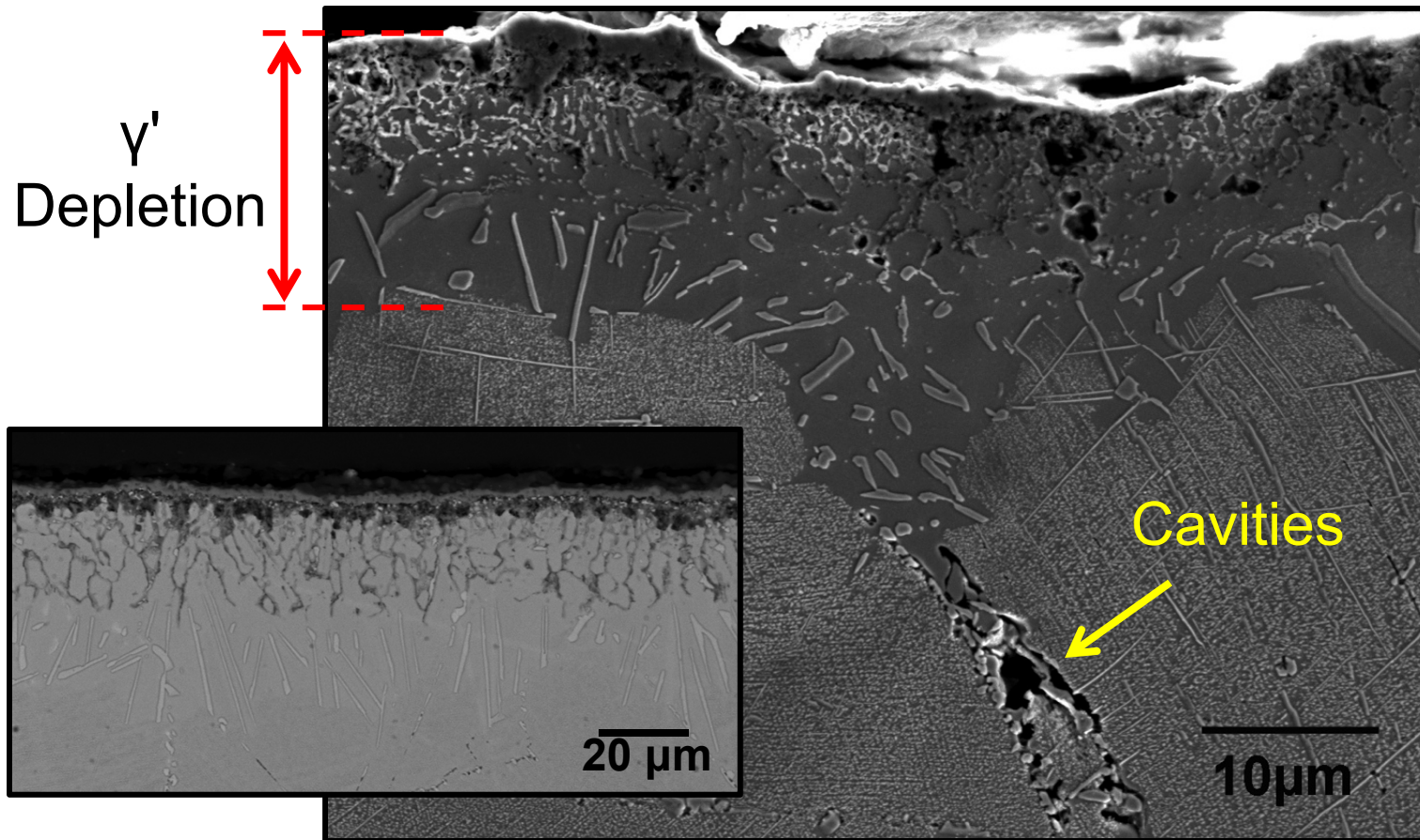
Inconel 740, 4864 h, 750°C, 220 MPa





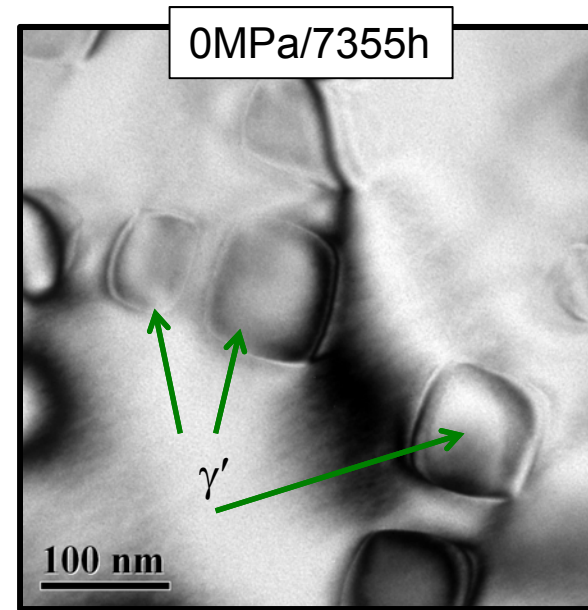
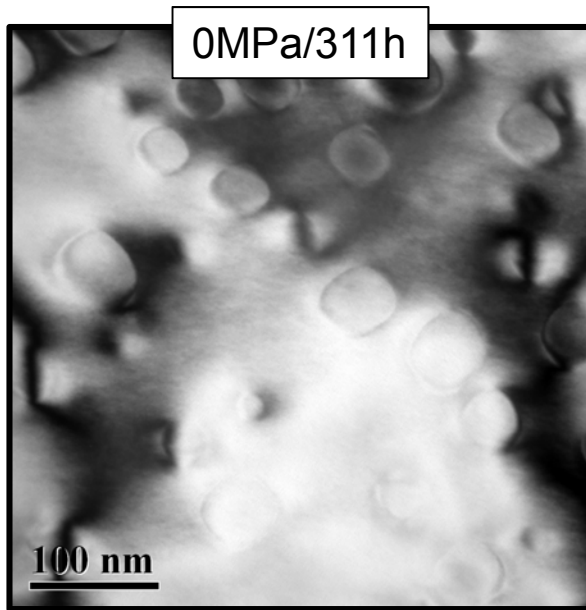
# $\gamma'$ Depletion Observed Near Surfaces in Contact With Test Environment

20,879 h, 180 MPa, 750°C

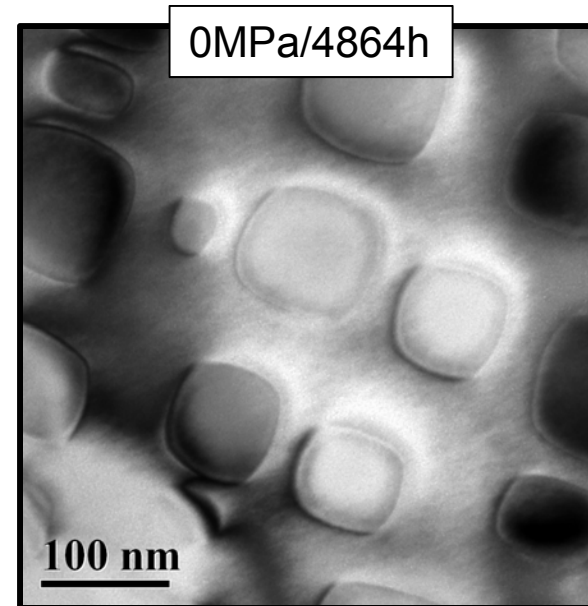
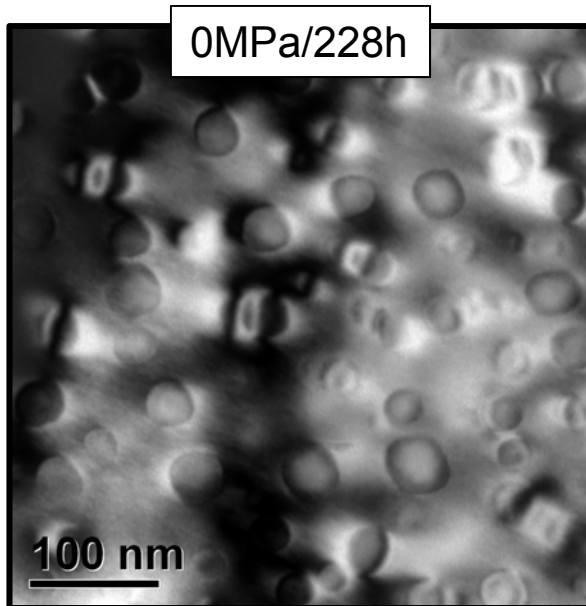


# Modest (2-3X) Coarsening of $\gamma'$ in Inconel 740 with No Change in Shape

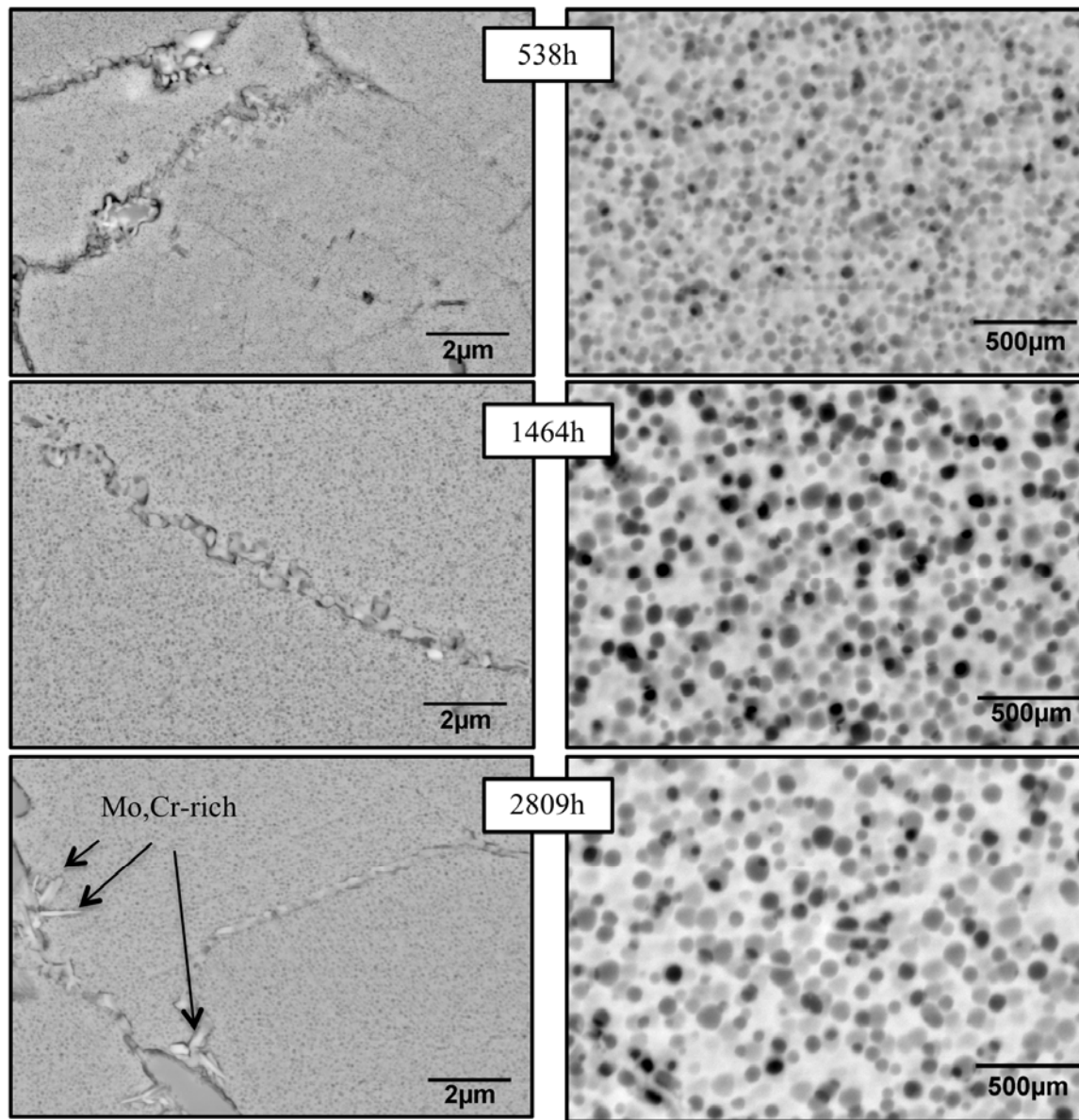
IN740



IN740H

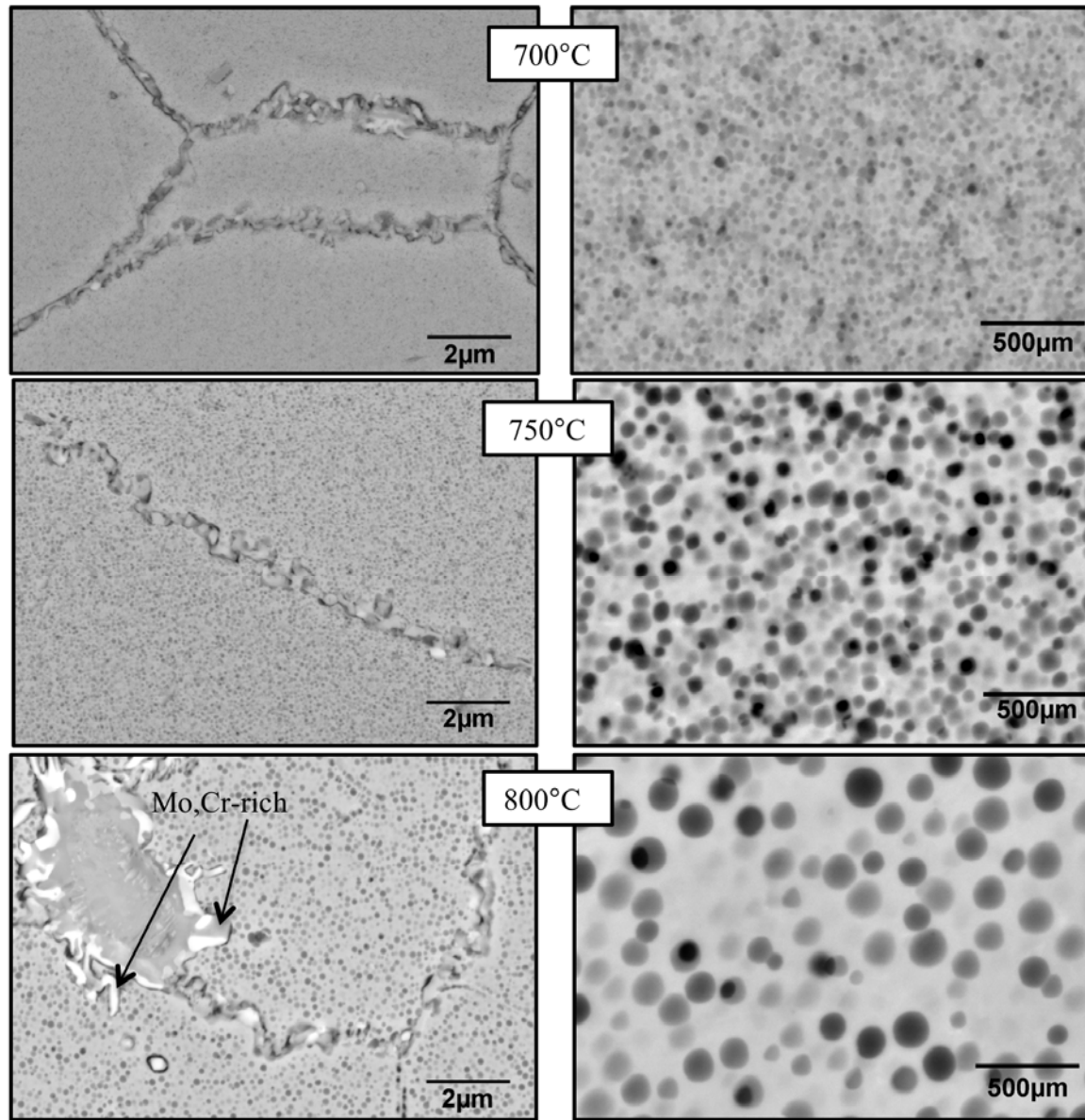


# Also Observed Some Coarsening of $\gamma'$ in Haynes 282 with Time

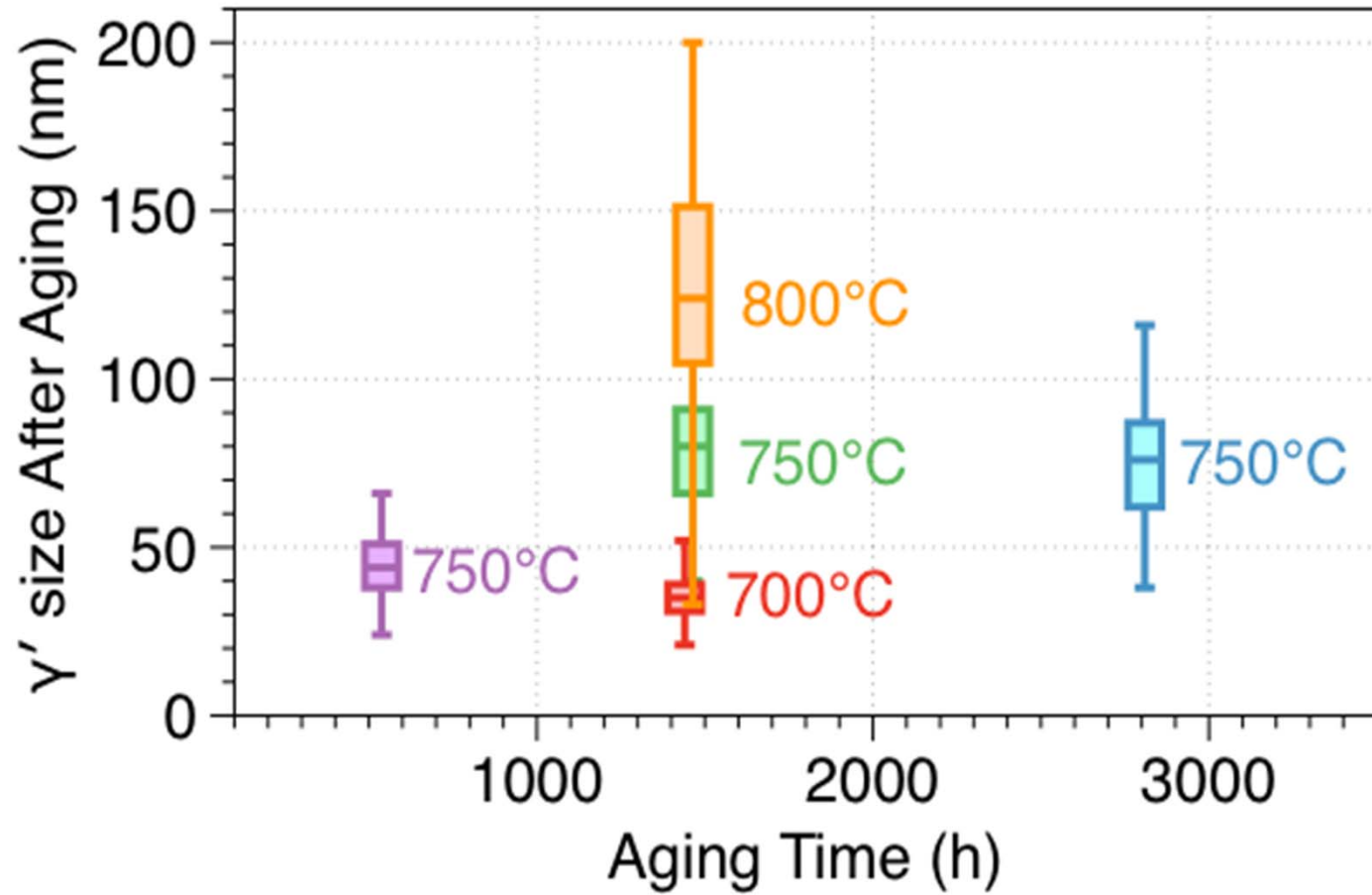




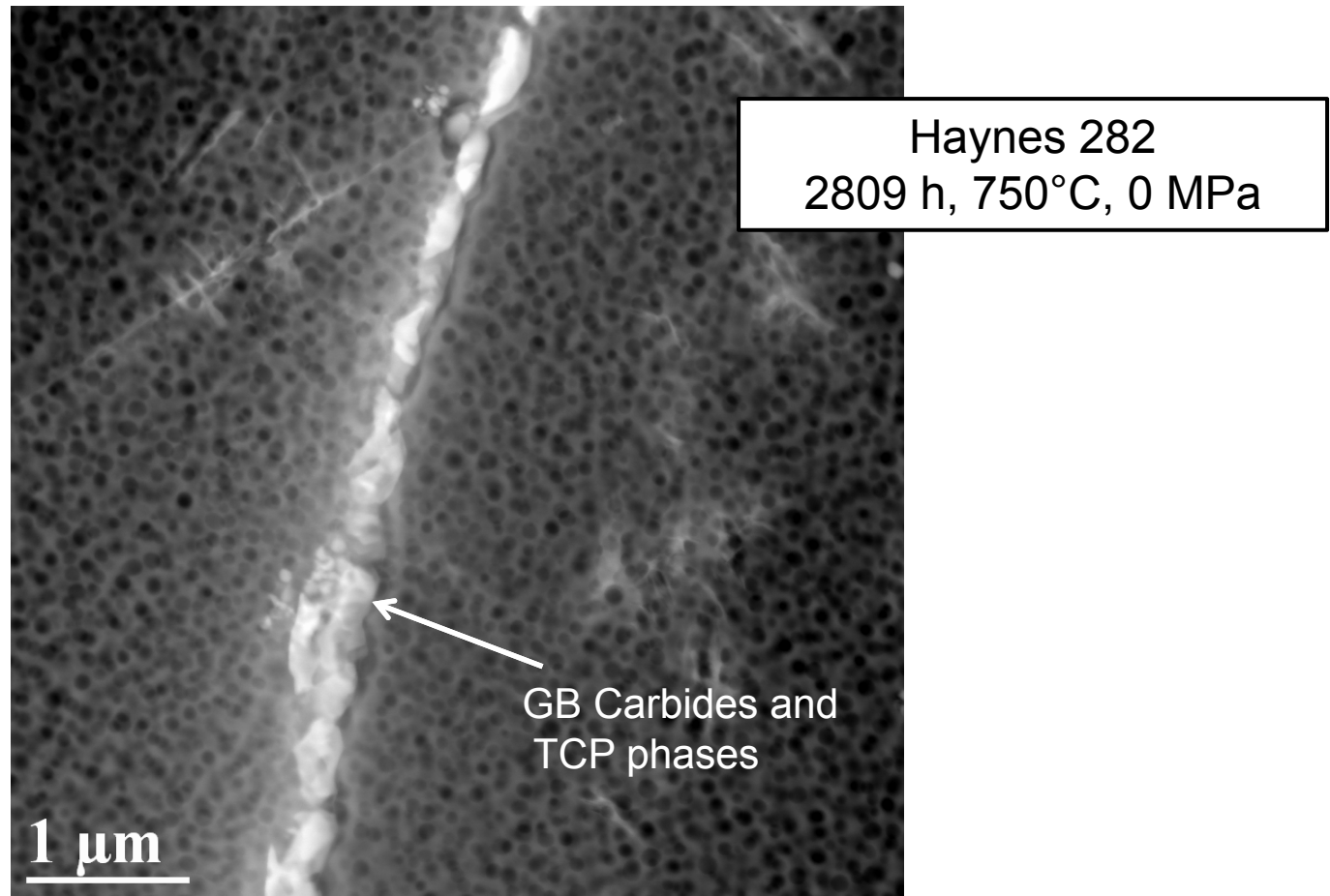
# ...and Temperature (Greater Effect)



# Coarsening Kinetics of $\gamma'$ in Haynes 282

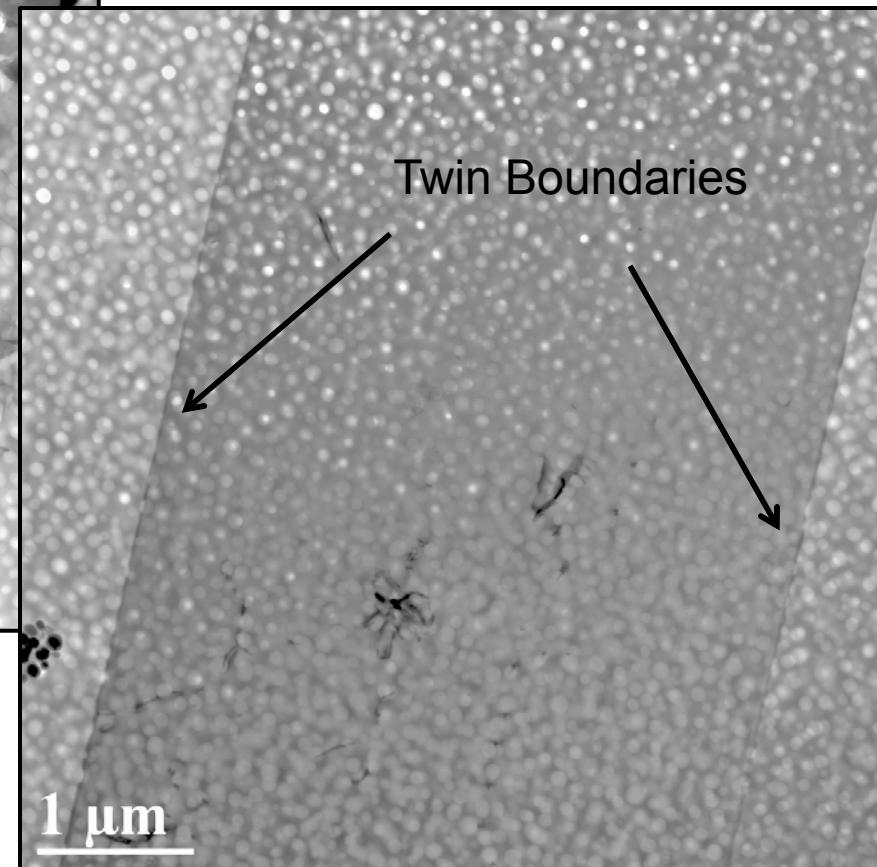
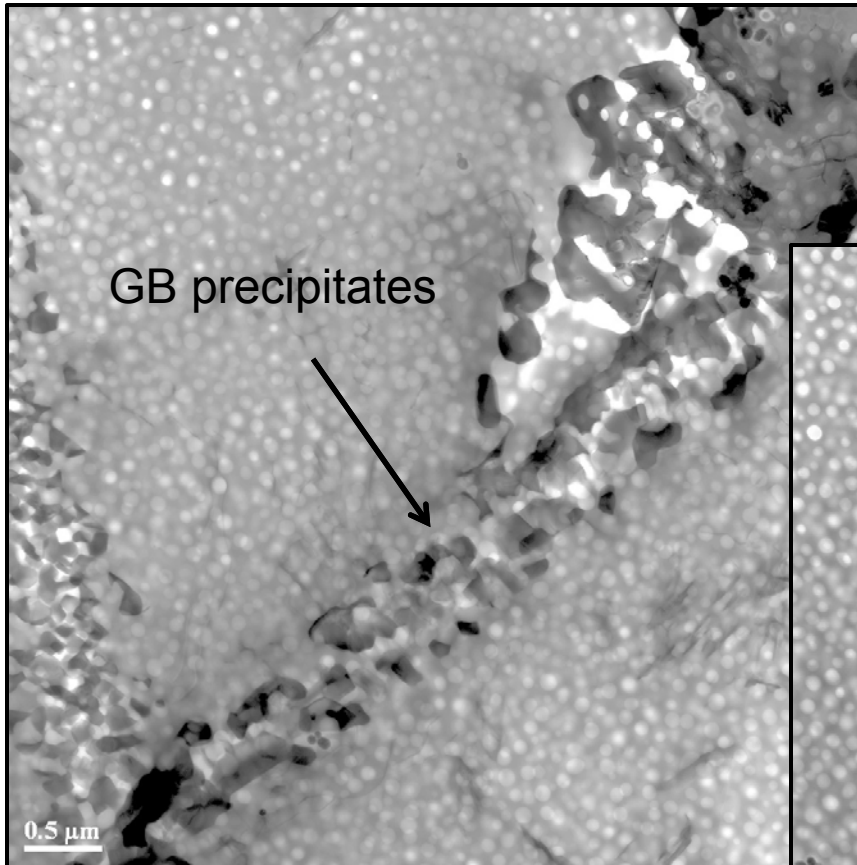


# No Evidence of $\gamma'$ Depletion in Bulk of Haynes 282 Specimen



Dark field image

# No Evidence of $\gamma'$ Depletion in Bulk of Haynes 282 Specimen

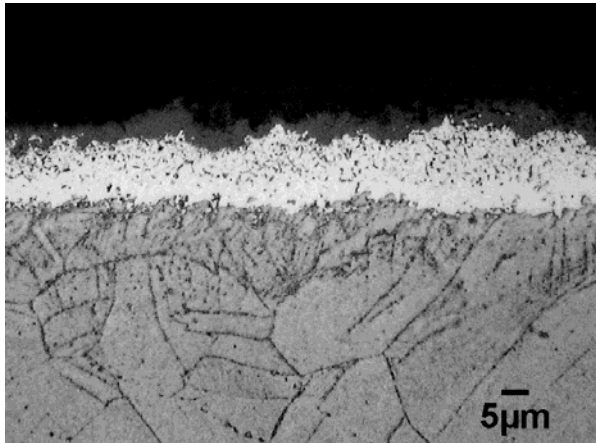


Haynes 282  
2809 h, 750°C, 0 MPa

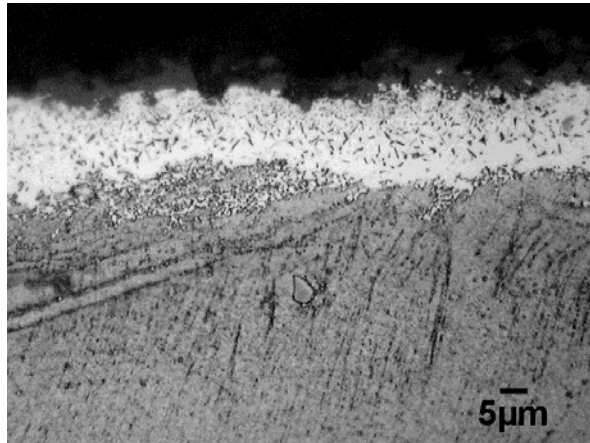


# As with Inconel 740, $\gamma'$ Depletion Was Observed Near Surfaces in Contact with Test Environment

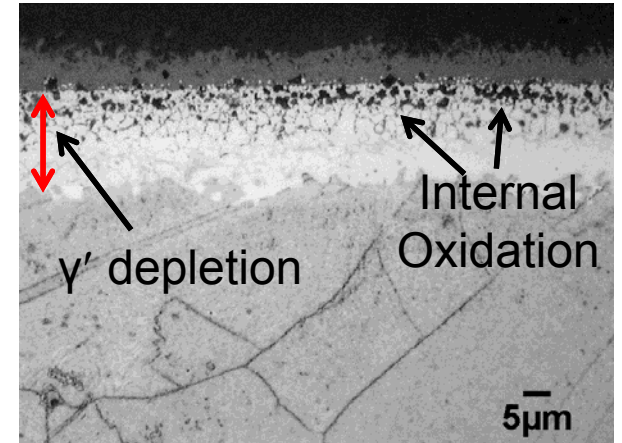
538h/0MPa



1464h/0MPa

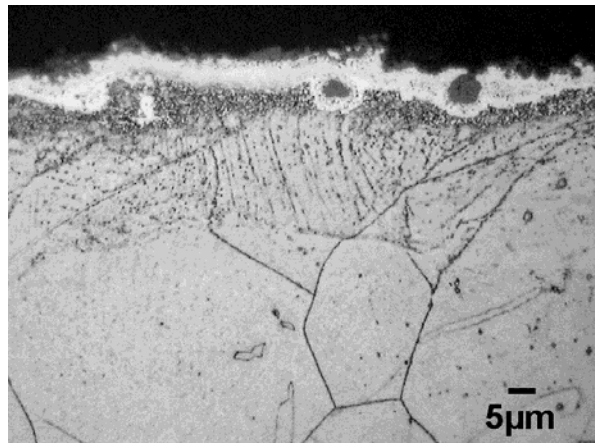


2809h/0MPa

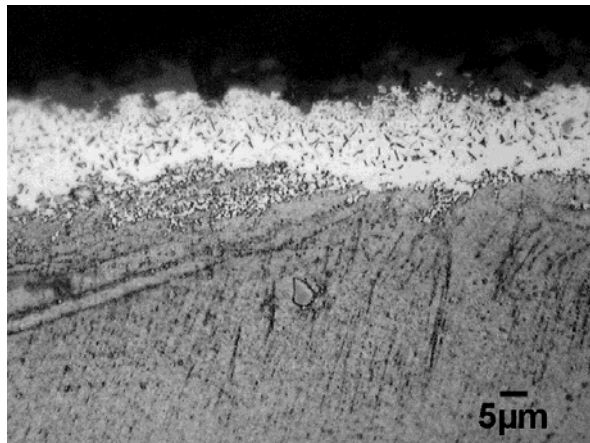


Increasing Exposure Time

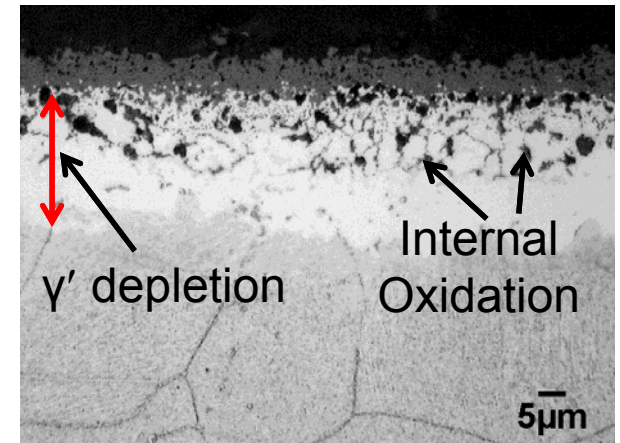
1440h/700°C



1464h/750°C

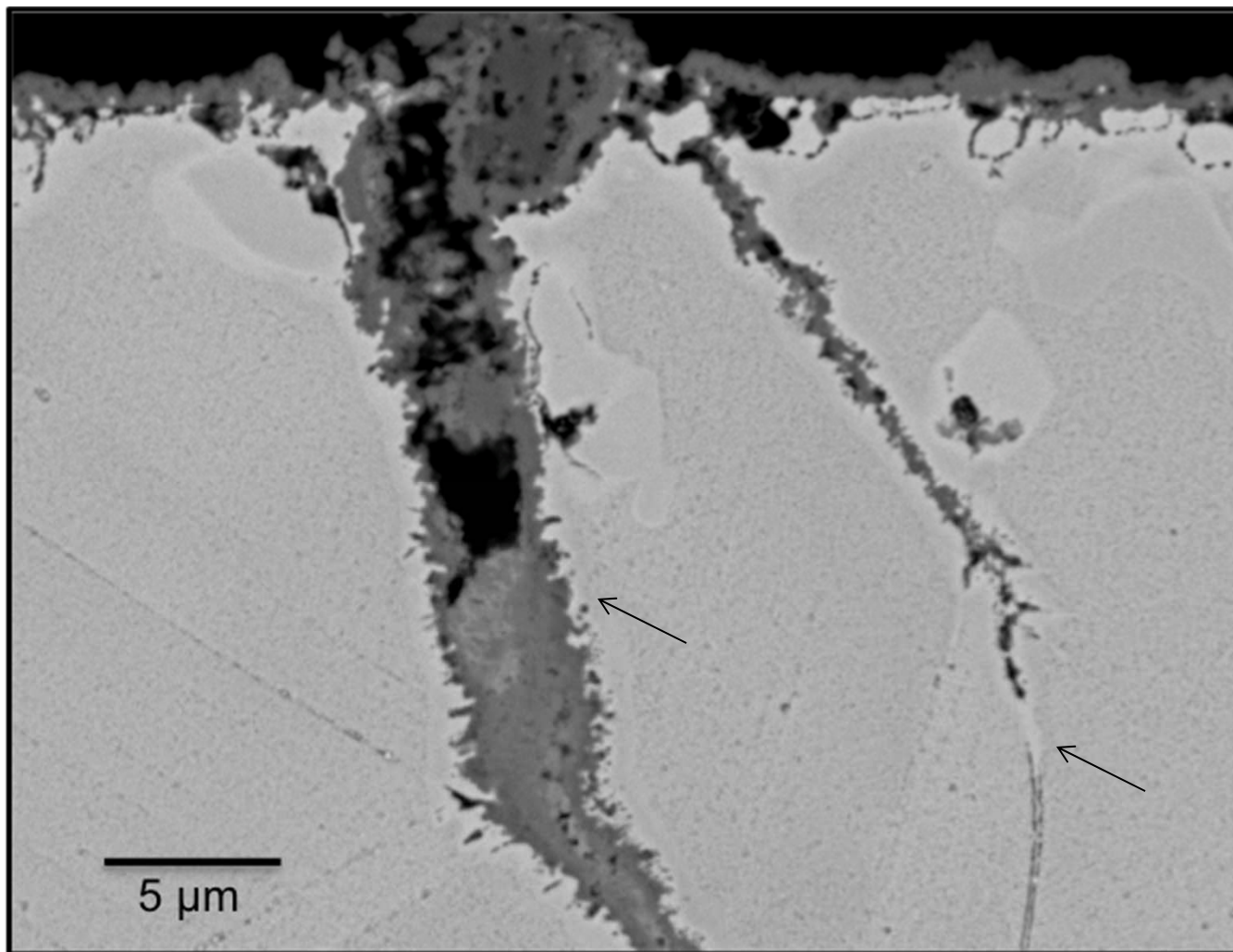


1464h/800°C



Increasing Temperature

# $\gamma'$ Depletion Along and Below Internal Penetrations

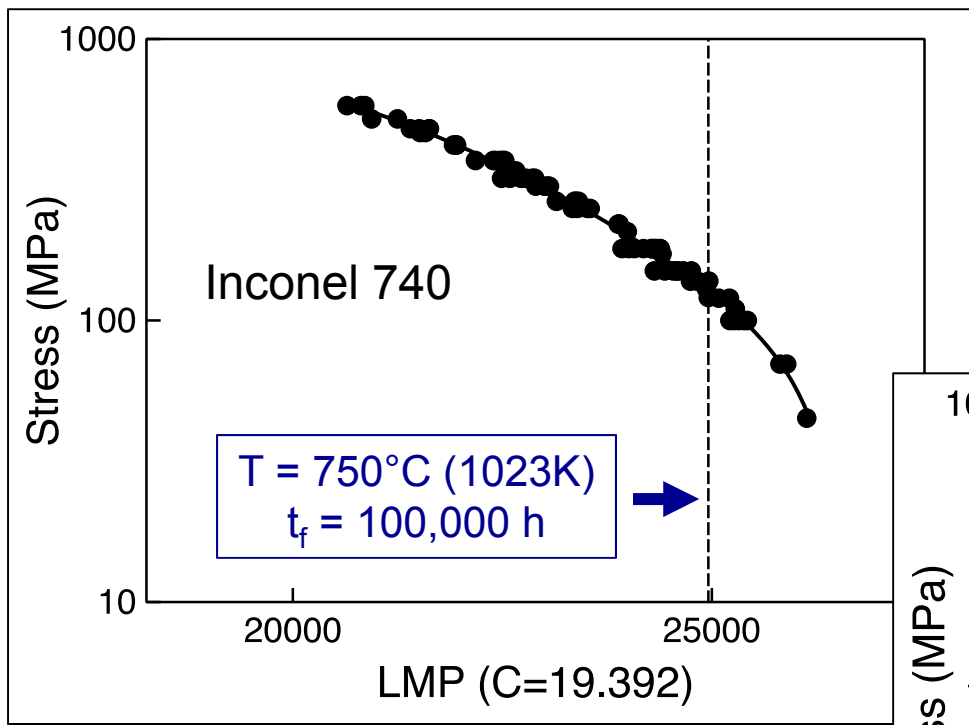


Aged Haynes 282, 538 h, 350 MPa, 750°C

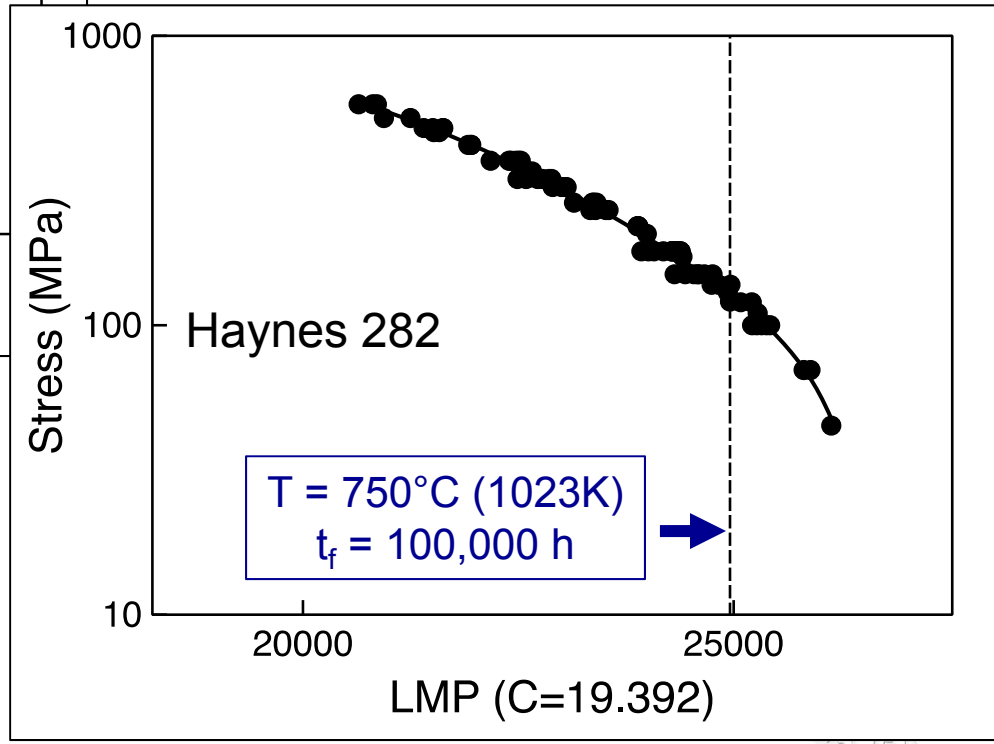


# Lifetime Prediction

# Extrapolation of Larson-Miller Plots for 100,000 h Life: Haynes 282 > Inconel 740



$$\text{LMP} = T (\log t_f + C)$$



# Extrapolation of Larson-Miller Plots for 100,000 h Life: Haynes 282 > Inconel 740

Temperature (°C)	$\sigma$ for 100,000 h Rupture Life ( $\sigma_{100,000 \text{ h}}$ ) (MPa)	
	Inconel 740	Haynes 282
650	336	–
700	214	248
750	127	138
800	54	70

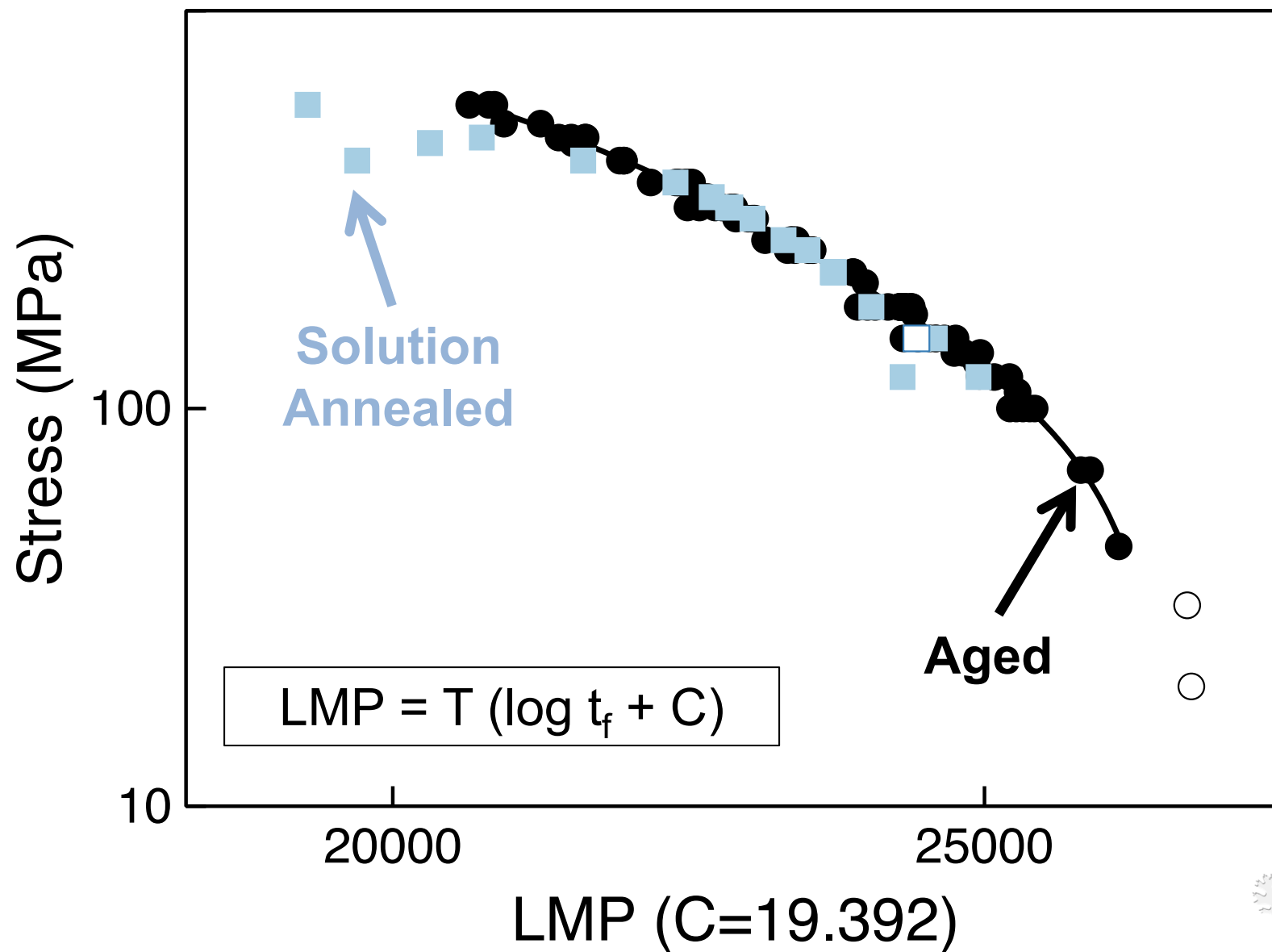
## We Have Also Examined Wilshire Approach

- Evans (*Mater. Metall. Trans.*, 2013): improvements in life prediction methods for traditional boiler steels need to be extended to Inconel 740 and Haynes 282; suggested Wilshire et al. as a possible approach
- Based on accepted power law description, Wilshire et al. (*Int'l. Mater. Rev.*, 2008) proposed:

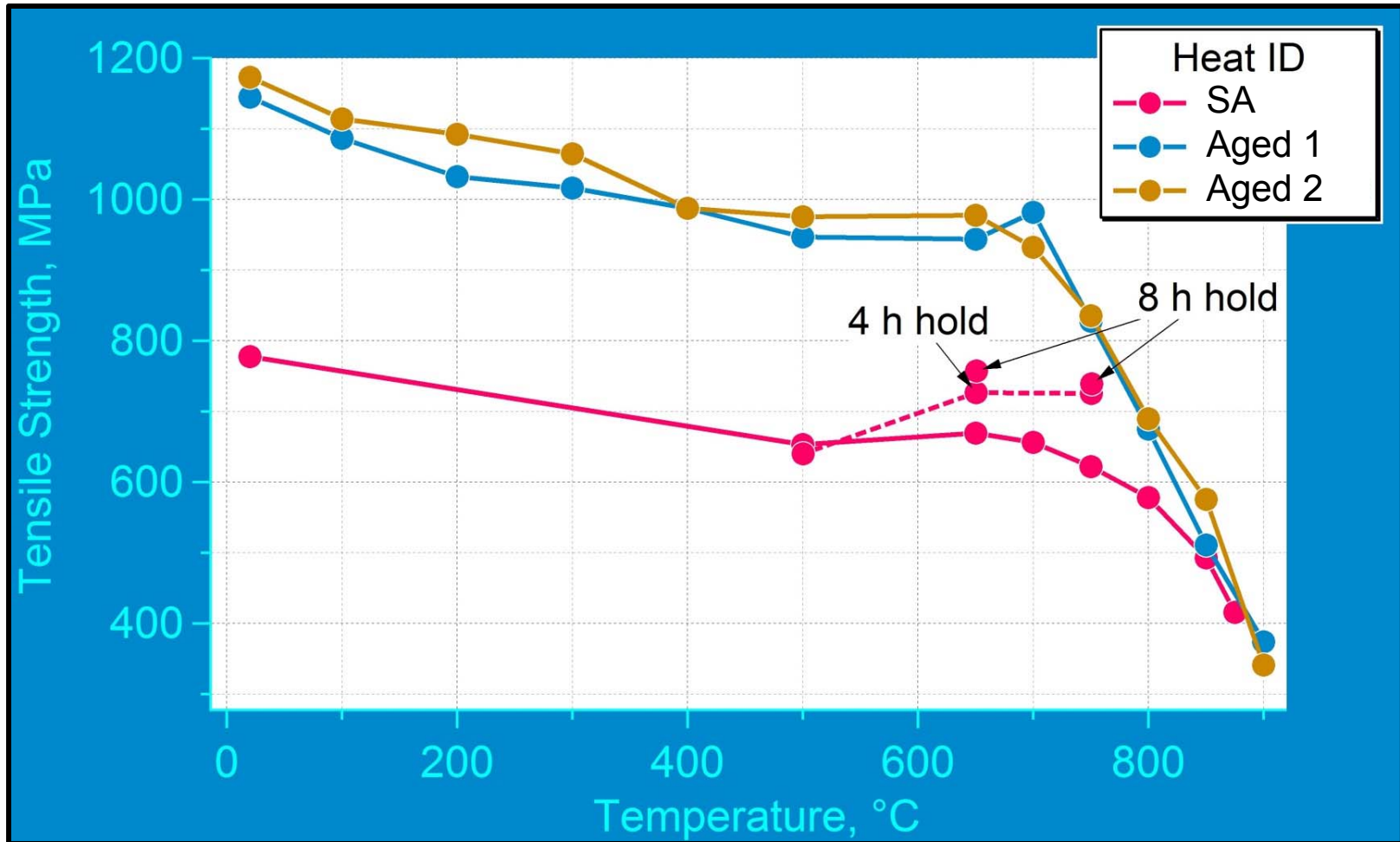
$$\sigma = \sigma_{TS} \exp\left\{-k_1 \left[t_f \exp\left(-Q_c^* / RT\right)\right]^u\right\}$$

- $t_f \rightarrow 0$ , as  $\sigma \rightarrow \sigma_{TS}$ ;  $t_f \rightarrow \infty$ , as  $\sigma \rightarrow 0$
  - special case of more a general cumulative probability distribution function
  - Need to measure  $\sigma_{TS}$  and then determine  $k_1$  &  $u$
- ***Our creep results show that rupture time doesn't necessarily scale with  $\sigma_{TS}$***

# Except at Highest Stresses, Lifetimes Similar for Solution Annealed (SA) and Aged 740/740H



# ... Despite Tensile Strength ( $\sigma_{TS}$ ) of SA 740 Being Significantly Less Than That of Aged





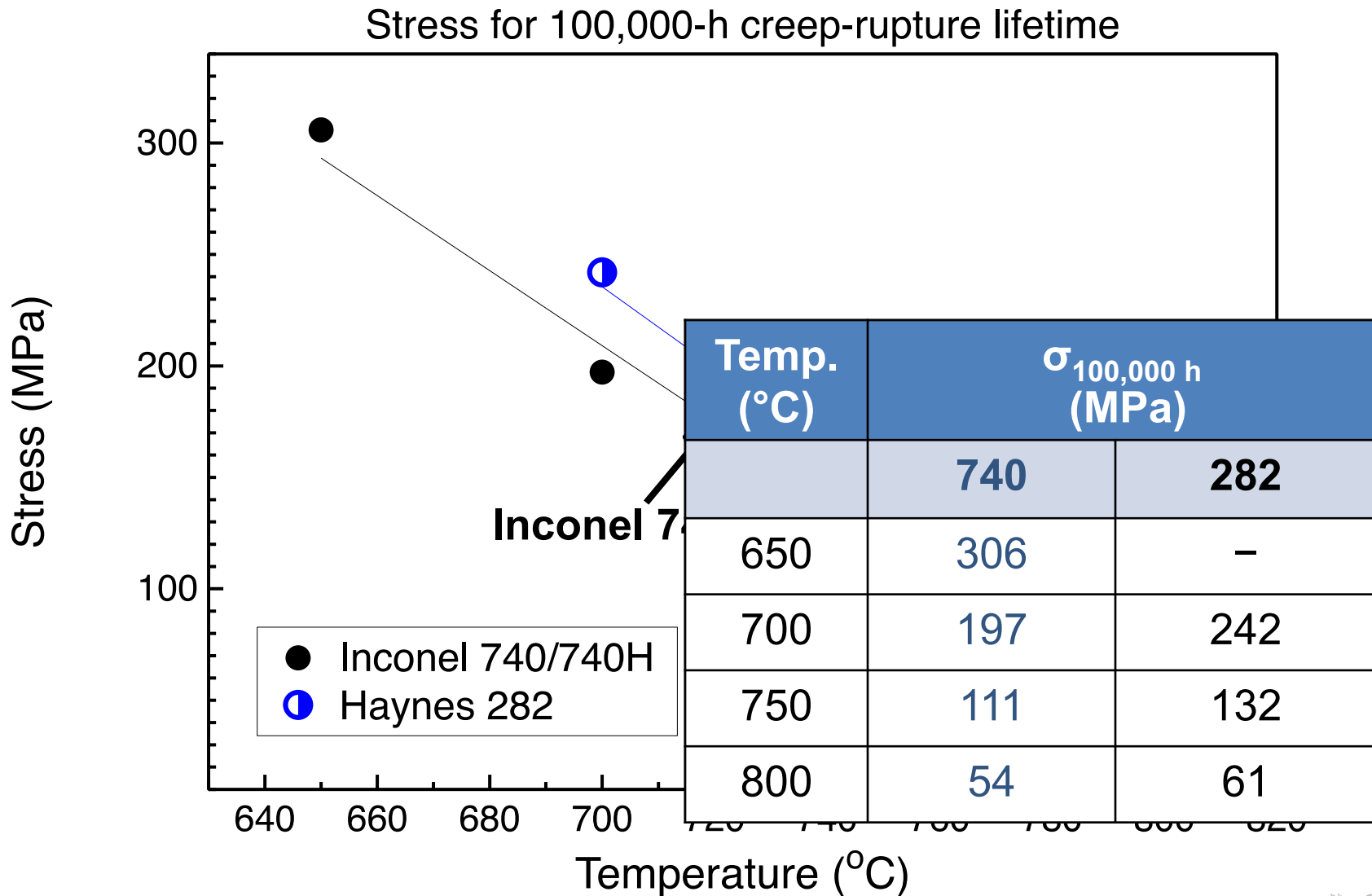
## We Have Also Explored Wilshire Approach

- Evans (*Mater. Metall. Trans.*, 2013): improvements in life prediction approaches for traditional boiler steels need to be extended to Inconel 740 and Haynes 282
- Based on accepted power law description, Wilshire et al. (*Int'l. Mater. Rev.*, 2008) proposed:

$$\sigma = \sigma_{TS} \exp\left\{-k_1 \left[t_f \exp(-Q_c^* / RT)\right]^u\right\}$$

- $t_f \rightarrow 0$ , as  $\sigma \rightarrow \sigma_{TS}$ ;  $t_f \rightarrow \infty$ , as  $\sigma \rightarrow 0$
- Has the form of a Weibull distribution function, special case of more a general cumulative probability distribution function
- Need to measure  $\sigma_{TS}$  and then determine  $k_1$  &  $u$
- ***Our creep results show that rupture time doesn't necessarily scale with  $\sigma_{TS}$***
- Examined predicted lifetimes for aged Inconel 740 and Haynes 282

# Wilshire Analysis Also Predicted Better Creep Rupture Lifetimes for Haynes 282



# Wilshire Analysis (W) More Conservative Than Simple LMP Extrapolation (LM) In Most Cases

Temp. (°C)	$\sigma$ for 100,000 h Rupture Life ( $\sigma_{100,000 \text{ h}}$ ) (MPa)			
	Inconel 740		Haynes 282	
	W	LM	W	LM
650	306	336	–	–
700	197	214	242	248
750	111	127	132	138
800	54	54	61	70

- Neither methodology accounts for microstructural effects
- Will be exploring life prediction approaches that do

# Milestones

## FY13

Compare weld strength reduction for alloy 282 to that for Inconel 740/740H and report results to the A-USC Steering Committee ✓

Complete report analyzing all results to date on creep behavior of Inconel 740/740H ✓

Complete a study of the effect of heat treatment on the creep-rupture life of wrought alloy 282 ✓

## FY14

Complete a summary report on all alloy 617B data produced by the A-USC program with a comparison to other 617 databases. (July 2014)

Complete a proof-of-principle creep test of a co-extruded pipe (August 2014)

Prepare a summary report analyzing all results to date on creep behavior of alloy 282. (September 2014)

Complete a report or paper on oxidation effects on Ni-based superalloys under creep conditions (September 2014)



# Remaining Work Before End of A-USC Boiler Consortium Project in Dec. 2015

- Sufficient creep-rupture and microstructural data to verify effectiveness of one-step aging treatment for Haynes 282 developed on project
- Completion of microstructural analyses of specimens with longest rupture times and use of such data in advanced lifetime models for Ni-based superalloys
- Multiple summary reports/papers on the different alloys tested and analyzed during the course of the A-USC boiler project

# Summary

- Creep testing and microstructural analysis were used to assess thermal stability and time-dependent deformation behavior of precipitation-strengthened Inconel<sup>®</sup> alloy 740 and Haynes<sup>®</sup> 282<sup>®</sup> alloy
- Simple Larson-Miller estimates and a modified power-law model (Wilshire) were used to predict stress levels needed for creep lifetimes of  $10^5$  h at various temperatures
- Except for very high stresses, little difference in creep-rupture times measured to date for solution annealed vs. aged specimens – inconsistent with Wilshire model assumption of dependence of creep-rupture life on  $\sigma_{TS}$
- Data indicate greater creep-rupture resistance for Haynes 282 than Inconel 740, but both precipitation-strengthened alloys exhibit good thermal stability for A-USC boiler application and should meet the A-USC goal of 100,000 h at 750°C