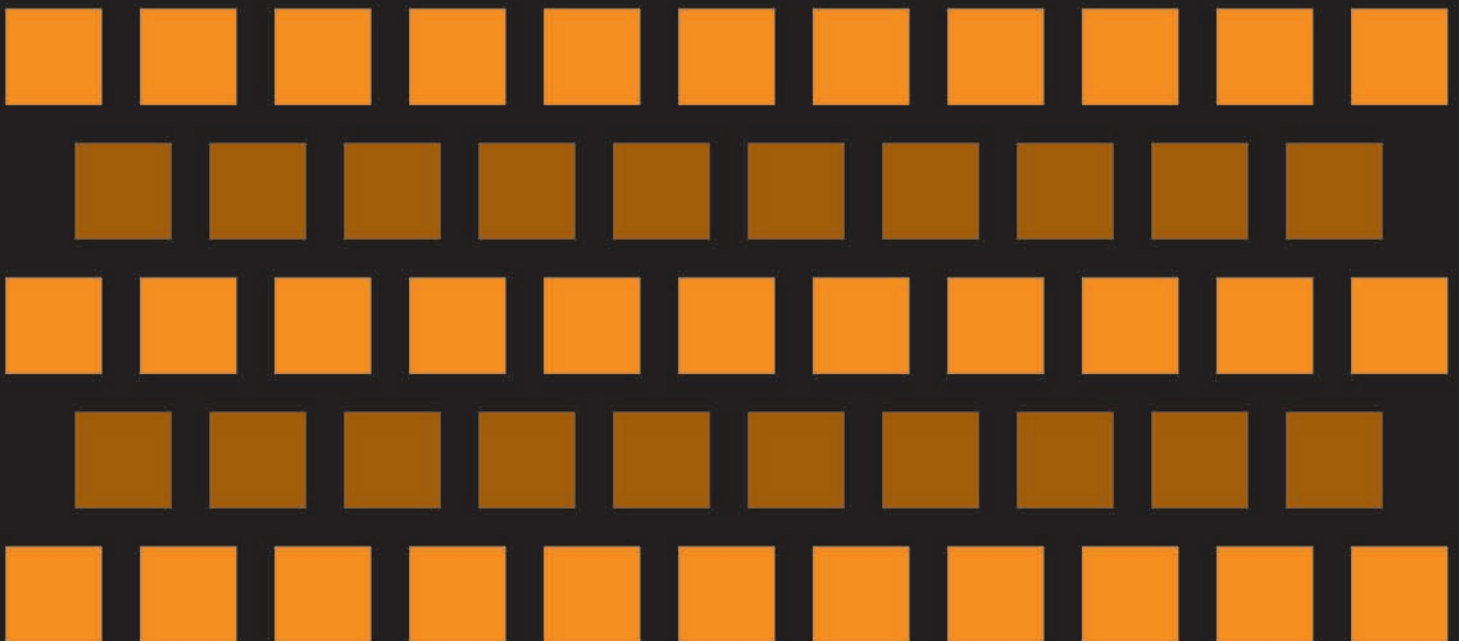


OPERATING CONDITION ALLOWABLE STRESS VALUES IN ASME SECTION III SUBSECTION NH



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STP-NU-037

**OPERATING CONDITION
ALLOWABLE STRESS VALUES
IN ASME SECTION III
SUBSECTION NH**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Foreword	vii
Abstract	viii
PART I	1
1 INTRODUCTION	2
2 EVALUATION OF CONSISTENCIES IN THE CURRENT VALUES.....	4
2.1 304H Stainless Steel.....	4
2.2 316H Stainless Steel.....	5
2.3 Alloy 800H.....	5
2.4 2 ¼ Cr-1Mo Steel	6
2.5 9Cr-1Mo-V Steel.....	7
2.6 Summary of the Evaluations	7
3 AVAILABILITY OF THE ORIGINAL AND AUGMENTED DATABASES NEEDED TO ESTABLISH S_o , S_t and S_r	8
4 AN OVERVIEW OF STRESS-RUPTURE DATABASES BY MEANS OF THE LARSON-MILLER PARAMETER	11
5 SUMMARY	14
References - PART I	15
PART II AND PART III	17
1 INTRODUCTION	18
2 EVALUATION OF THE 304H STAINLESS STEEL DATABASE.....	19
2.1 Expected Minimum Stress-to-Rupture for 304H Stainless Steel	19
2.2 Minimum Time to Tertiary Creep for 304H Stainless Steel	22
2.3 Average Time to 1% Strain for 304H Stainless Steel	25
2.4 Assessment of the Database for 304H Stainless Steel.....	26
3 EVALUATION OF THE 316H STAINLESS STEEL DATABASE.....	28
3.1 Expected Minimum Stress-to-Rupture for 316H Stainless Steel	28
3.2 Minimum Time to Tertiary Creep for 316H Stainless Steel	30
3.3 Average Time to 1% Strain for 316H Stainless Steel	33
3.4 Assessment of the Database for 316H Stainless Steel.....	35
4 EVALUATION OF THE 2 ¼ Cr-1Mo STEEL DATABASE.....	36
4.1 Expected Minimum Stress-to-Rupture for 2 ¼ Cr-1Mo Steel.....	36
4.2 Minimum Time to Tertiary Creep for 2 ¼ Cr-1 Mo Steel.....	39
4.3 Average Time to 1% Strain for 2 ¼ Cr-1Mo Steel.....	41
4.4 Assessment of the Database for 2 ¼ Cr-1Mo Steel.....	42
5 EVALUATION OF THE ALLOY 800H DATABASE	44
6 EVALUATION OF THE 9Cr-1Mo-V STEEL DATABASE	46

7 RECOMMENDED ACTION FOR THE CORRECTION OF CURRENTLY LISTED VALUES FOR S_o , S_t and S_r	48
References - PART II AND PART III.....	52
Appendix 1 - Criteria for Setting the Stress Allowables in ASME Section 2D Table 1A and 1B and ASME Section III, Subsection NH.....	54
Acknowledgments.....	56

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1 - Comparison of Allowable Stresses for 304H in ASME Section III, Subsection NH.....	4
Table 2 - Comparison of Allowable Stresses for 316H in ASME Section III, Subsection NH.....	5
Table 3 - Comparison of Allowable Stresses for Alloy 800H in ASME Section III, Subsection NH....	6
Table 4 - Comparison of Allowable Stresses for 2 ¼ Cr-1Mo Steel in ASME Section III, Subsection NH	6
Table 5 - Comparison of Allowable Stresses for 9Cr-1Mo-V Steel in ASME Section III, Subsection NH	7
Table 6 - Comparison of the Data that Produced the N-47 Code Case with New Data for Re-evaluation by Booker	9
Table 7 - Comparison of the Data that Produced the N-47 Code Case with Data for Re-evaluation by McCoy for Alloy 800H in ASME III Code Case N-47.....	10
Table 8 - Comparison of Data That Produced the ASME III-NH Stress Allowables for 9Cr-1Mo- V Steel with Data that Could be Used for Re-evaluation	10
Table 9 - Effect of Censoring on the Larson-Miller Lot Constant, C, and Strength at 10 ⁵ hr and 649°C (1200°F) for 304 Stainless Steel	19
Table 10 - Summary of the Larson-Miller Lot Constants for the Rupture Life of 304H Stainless Steel in Terms of the Data Sources and Products	22
Table 11 - Ratio of Time to Tertiary Creep to Time to Rupture for 304H Stainless Steel at Several Temperatures.....	23
Table 12 - Summary of the Larson-Miller Lot Constants for the Rupture Life of 316H Stainless Steel in Terms of the Data Sources	30
Table 13 - Summary of the Larson-Miller Lot Constants for the Rupture Life of 2 ¼ Cr-1Mo Steel in Terms of the Products and Heat Treatments.....	39
Table 14 - Summary of Suggested Action Regarding Changes to the BPV III-NH Stress Allowables to Accommodate the Needs for the Generation IV Reactor Concepts.....	51

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1 - Stress versus the Larson Miller Parameter for the Combined 304H Stainless Steel Rupture Database- 75 Lots, 1170 Data, 179,000 hr Longest Life	11
Figure 2 - Stress versus the Larson Miller Parameter for the Combined 316H Stainless Steel Rupture Database- 106 Lots, 1940 Data, 222,000 hr Longest Life	12
Figure 3 - Stress versus the Larson Miller Parameter for the Combined 2 ¼ Cr-1Mo Steel (Gr 22 Class 1) Rupture Database- 189 Lots, 1623 Data, 213,000 hr Longest Life	12

Figure 4 - Stress versus the Larson Miller Parameter for the Combined Alloy 800H Rupture Database- 83 Lots, 1170 Data, 194,000 hr Longest Life..... 13

Figure 5 - Stress versus the Larson Miller Parameter for the Combined 9Cr-1Mo-V Steel (Gr 91) Rupture Database- 104 Lots, 1600 Data, 110,000 hr Longest Life 13

Figure 6 - Stress versus the Larson-Miller Parameter for Rupture of 304H Stainless Steel 20

Figure 7 - Distribution of Residuals from the Fit of the Larson-Miller Parameter to Rupture Life Data for 304H Stainless Steel..... 20

Figure 8 - Distribution of the Lot Constants for the Rupture Life of 304H Stainless Steel According to the Source of the Rupture Data..... 21

Figure 9 - Distribution of the Lot Constants for the Rupture Life of 304 Stainless Steel According to the Product..... 21

Figure 10 - Comparison of BPV III-NH Minimum Stress-to-Rupture Values with the Values Estimated from the Analysis of the Expanded Database for 304H Stainless Steel 22

Figure 11 - Time to Tertiary Creep versus Time to Rupture for 304H Stainless Steel at 593°C (1100°F)..... 23

Figure 12 - Stress versus the Larson-Miller Parameter for the Time to Tertiary Creep, t_3 , of 304H Stainless Steel..... 24

Figure 13 - Fit of Linear $f(S)$ Model to Log Stress versus the Larson-Miller Parameter for the Time to Tertiary Creep, t_3 , of 304H Stainless Steel 24

Figure 14 - Comparison of the S_f Values from BPV III-NH Table I-14.4 for 304H with Estimations Based on 80% of the Minimum Stress for Tertiary Creep..... 25

Figure 15 - Comparison of the Stress for 1% Strain from the Isochronous Stress versus Strain Curves with the Stresses from BPV III-NH Table I-14.4 for 304H Stainless Steel 26

Figure 16 - Stress versus the Larson-Miller Parameter for Rupture of 316H Stainless Steel 28

Figure 17 - Distribution of Residuals from the Fit of the Larson-Miller Parameter to Rupture Life Data for 316H Stainless Steel..... 29

Figure 18 - Distribution of the Lot Constants for the Rupture Life of 316H Stainless Steel According to the Source of the Rupture Data..... 29

Figure 19 - Comparison of BPV III-NH Minimum Stress-to-Rupture Values with the Values Estimated from the Analysis of the Expanded Database for 316H Stainless Steel 30

Figure 20 - Time to Tertiary Creep versus Time to Rupture for 316H Stainless Steel 31

Figure 21 - Stress versus the Larson-Miller Parameter for the Time to Tertiary Creep, t_3 , of 316H Stainless Steel..... 31

Figure 22 - Distribution of Residuals from the Fit of the Larson-Miller Parameter to the Time to Tertiary Creep Data for 316H Stainless Steel 32

Figure 23 - Comparison of BPV III-NH S_f Values from Table I-14.4 (Based on the Lower of 67% of the Minimum Stress to Rupture or 80% of the Average Stress to Produce 1% Strain) with the Values Estimated from the Analysis of the Tertiary Creep Criterion and the Expanded Tertiary Creep Database for 316H Stainless Steel..... 32

Figure 24 - Stress versus the Larson-Miller Parameter for the Time to 1% Creep for 316H Stainless Steel..... 33

Figure 25 - Distribution of Residuals from the Fit of the Larson-Miller Parameter to the Time to 1% Strain for 316H Stainless Steel	34
Figure 26 - Comparison of BPV III-NH S_t Values for 316H Stainless Steel from Table I-14.4 with the Values from the Isochronous Stress-Strain Curves at 1% Strain and New Values Estimated from the LMP Analysis of the Expanded 1% Strain Database	34
Figure 27 - Stress versus the Larson-Miller Parameter for Rupture of 2 ¼ Cr-1Mo Steel	36
Figure 28 - Distribution of Residuals from the Fit of the Larson-Miller Parameter to the Time to Rupture Data for 2 ¼ Cr-1Mo Steel Annealed	37
Figure 29 - Histogram Showing the Distribution of Lot Constant with the Product Form for the Larson-Miller Analysis of the Rupture Life of 2 ¼ Cr-1 Mo Steel	38
Figure 30 - Histogram Showing the Distribution of Lot Constant with the Heat Treatment for the Larson-Miller Analysis of the Rupture Life of 2 ¼ Cr-1 Mo Steel	38
Figure 31 - Comparison of BPV III-NH Minimum Stress-to-Rupture Values with the Values Estimated from the Analysis of the Expanded Database for 2 ¼ Cr-1Mo Steel	39
Figure 32 - Time to Tertiary Creep versus Time to Rupture for 2 ¼ Cr-1Mo Steel	40
Figure 33 - Larson-Miller Correlation for Tertiary Creep of 2 ¼ Cr-1Mo Steel	41
Figure 34 - Time to 1% Strain versus Time to Rupture for 2 ¼ Cr-1Mo Steel	41
Figure 35 - Stress versus the Larson-Miller Parameter for 1% Creep of 2 ¼ Cr-1Mo Steel	42
Figure 36 - Log Stress versus the Larson-Miller Parameter for Rupture of Alloy 800H.....	44
Figure 37 - Comparison of BPV II-D Table 1B Stresses with the New Fit for the Expanded Database for Alloy 800H	45
Figure 38 - Comparison of the Stress to Produce 1% Strain with Estimates of the S_t Values Based on Rupture for Alloy 800H to 900°C (1650°F)	45
Figure 39 - Stress versus the Larson-Miller Parameter for Rupture of 9Cr-1Mo-V Steel	46
Figure 40 - Comparison of BPV III-NH S_t Values with 67% of the Minimum Stress-to-Rupture Calculated from the Expanded Database for 9Cr-1Mo-V Steel.....	47

FOREWORD

This document is the result of work resulting from Cooperative Agreement DE-FC07-05ID14712 between the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and ASME Standards Technology, LLC (ASME ST-LLC) for the Generation IV (Gen IV) Reactor Materials Project. The objective of the project is to provide technical information necessary to update and expand appropriate ASME materials, construction and design codes for application in future Gen IV nuclear reactor systems that operate at elevated temperatures. The scope of work is divided into specific areas that are tied to the Generation IV Reactors Integrated Materials Technology Program Plan. This report is the result of work performed under Task 6 titled “Operating Condition Allowable Stress Values.”

ASME ST-LLC has introduced the results of the project into the ASME volunteer standards committees developing new code rules for Generation IV nuclear reactors. The project deliverables are expected to become vital references for the committees and serve as important technical bases for new rules. These new rules will be developed under ASME’s voluntary consensus process, which requires balance of interest, openness, consensus and due process. Through the course of the project, ASME ST-LLC has involved key stakeholders from industry and government to help ensure that the technical direction of the research supports the anticipated codes and standards needs. This directed approach and early stakeholder involvement is expected to result in consensus building that will ultimately expedite the standards development process as well as commercialization of the technology.

ASME has been involved in nuclear codes and standards since 1956. The Society created Section III of the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code, which addresses nuclear reactor technology, in 1963. ASME Standards promote safety, reliability and component interchangeability in mechanical systems.

Established in 1880, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) is a professional not-for-profit organization with more than 127,000 members promoting the art, science and practice of mechanical and multidisciplinary engineering and allied sciences. ASME develops codes and standards that enhance public safety, and provides lifelong learning and technical exchange opportunities benefiting the engineering and technology community. Visit www.asme.org for more information.

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ABSTRACT

Part I - Review of Current Operating Conditions Allowable Stresses in ASME Section III Subsection NH and Overview of the Availability of the Original and Augmented Databases Needed to Establish S_o , S_i , and S_r

The current operating condition allowable stresses provided in ASME Section III, Subsection NH were reviewed for consistency with the criteria used to establish the stress allowables and with the allowable stresses provided in ASME Section II, Part D. It was found that the S_o values in ASME III-NH were consistent with the S values in ASME II-D for the five materials of interest. However, it was found that $0.80S_r$ was less than S_o for some temperatures for four of the materials. Only values for alloy 800H appeared to be consistent with the criteria on which S_o values are established. With the intent of undertaking a more detailed evaluation of issues related to the allowable stresses in ASME III-NH, the availabilities of databases for the five materials were reviewed and augmented databases were assembled.

Part II and Part III - Assessment of the Databases Leading to the Establishment of Allowable Stresses in ASME Section III Subsection NH and Recommended Action for the Correction of Currently Listed Values for S_o , S_i , and S_r

Based on a review of the current operating condition allowable stresses provided in ASME BPV Section III, Subsection NH and the finding of inconsistencies between the S values in ASME BPV Section II, Part D and the S_o values in ASME BPV III-NH for the five materials included in ASME BPV III-NH, expanded databases for stress-rupture, tertiary creep and time to 1% strain were assembled for use estimating and possibly revising the stress allowables in ASME BPV III-NH. A preliminary evaluation showed that, in spite of the substantially larger databases, the stress allowables S_i and S_r for some materials were within 5% of the existing values. It was judged that the existing values in ASME BPV III-NH for alloy 800H and 9Cr-1Mo-V steel were conservative and adequate for use in the temperature range of interest to the Generation IV reactor design. A number of issues were identified in using the databases to estimate the stresses based on tertiary creep and time to 1% strain criteria. Some actions were suggested to resolve the issues. The greatly expanded times for the databases were expected to help in extending allowable stresses to at least 500,000 hours.

PART I

Review of Current Operating Conditions Allowable Stresses in ASME Section III Subsection NH

and

Overview of the Availability of the Original and Augmented Databases Needed to Establish S_o , S_t and S_r

1 INTRODUCTION

In ASME Section II Part D, the criteria for setting S of wrought products above room temperature are provided in Appendix 1 Table I-100 and include:

- (i) $S_T/3.5$, where S_T is the “specified minimum specified tensile strength at room temperature,”
- (ii) $1.1S_T R_T/3.5$, where “ R_T is the ratio of the average temperature dependent trend curve value of tensile strength to the room temperature tensile strength,”
- (iii) $2S_Y/3$, where S_Y is the “specified minimum yield strength at room temperature,”
- (iv) $2S_Y R_Y/3$ or $0.9 S_Y R_Y$ where R_Y is the “ratio of the average temperature dependent trend curve value of yield strength to room temperature yield strength,”
- (v) $F_{avg} S_{Ravg}$, where S_{Ravg} is the “average stress to cause rupture at the end of 100,000 hr” and F_{avg} is a “multiplier applied to S_{Ravg} ” that has a value of 0.67 for temperatures of 1500°F and below,
- (vi) $0.80S_{Rmin}$, where S_{Rmin} is the “minimum stress to cause rupture at the end of 100,000 hr” and
- (vii) $1.0S_c$, where S_c is the “average stress to produce a creep rate of 0.01%/1,000 hr.”

In ASME III-NH, the criteria for setting S_m , “the lowest stress intensity value at a given temperature among the time-independent strength properties” for wrought metal are provided in ASME Section II Part D Appendix 2 and Table 2-100(a). These include:

- (i) $S_T/3$, where S_T is the “specified minimum specified tensile strength at room temperature,”
- (ii) $1.1 S_T R_T /3$, where “ R_T is the ratio of the average temperature dependent trend curve value of tensile strength to the room temperature tensile strength,”
- (iii) $2S_Y/3$, where S_Y is the “specified minimum yield strength at room temperature” and
- (iv) $2S_Y R_Y /3$ or $0.9 S_Y R_Y$ where R_Y is the “ratio of the average temperature dependent trend curve value of yield strength to room temperature yield strength.”

The criteria for setting S_o , the “maximum allowable value of general primary membrane stress intensity to be used as a reference for stress calculation under Design Loadings” above room temperature, are identical to the criteria of ASME Section II-D Appendix 1 for wrought products and S_o is intended to be equivalent to S , “except for a few cases at lower temperatures” as defined in NH-3221. This exception sometimes appears as a lower value than S_m or greater value than S_t at the temperature where S_o transitions from the time-independent criteria to the time-dependent criteria.

The criteria in ASME III-NH for setting S_s , “the temperature and time-dependent stress intensity limit,” include:

- (i) “100% of the average stress required to obtain a total strain (elastic, plastic and creep) of 1%,”
- (ii) “80% of the minimum stress to cause initiation of tertiary creep” and
- (iii) “67% of the minimum stress to cause rupture.”

The criteria for S_s , therefore, differ from the criteria for setting S and S_o in the sense that they need to cover a range of times from 1 to 300,000 hr, whereas S and S_o only pertain to 100,000 hr.