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Technical Report No. 1

TESTS WITH VARIABLE STRESS RATIOS IN
THE PLASTIC RANGE

by

Aris Phillips

DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING

YALE UNIVERSITY

NEW HAVEN, CONN.

April, 1956

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Tests with Variable Stress Ratios inThe Plastic Range*

By Aris Phillips (Yale University)

Abstract. In this paper we consider, for aluminum 2S-0, the fundamental assumptions on which the simple incremental theory of plasticity is based, as well as the over-all validity of this theory. As far as the fundamental assumptions are concerned we are able to show that, whereas the flow rule is valid even for extreme types of paths of loading, a generalized stress-strain curve does not exist. Thus, it becomes necessary to modify the theory, and it is shown that the modified theory is substantiated by our experiments. We also show that the flow rule of the simple theory of creep is valid.

INTRODUCTION

In a previous paper¹ it has been shown that for aluminum 2S-0, in tests with variable stress ratios, the flow rule of the simple incremental theory of plasticity is fairly well verified by experiments. In this paper we again consider aluminum 2S-0. First we give additional information on the validity of the flow rule of the simple incremental theory of plasticity. Next we consider the flow rule of the simple theory of creep. We then show that, for the material in question a generalized stress-strain curve does not exist, and accordingly it is necessary to modify the stress-strain relations of the simple

*The results presented in this paper were obtained in the course of research sponsored by the Office of Naval Research.

1. Aris Phillips and L. Kaechele, J. Appl. Mech. 23, 43 (1956).

incremental theory of plasticity. Finally, we show how well this modified theory is substantiated by our test measurements.

DESCRIPTION OF THE TESTS

The tests with which the simple incremental theory of plasticity and the simple theory of creep are compared in this paper were made with thin-walled tubes of aluminum 2S-0 which were subjected to combined tension and torsion with variable stress ratios. Four series of tests were made (Series A, B, C, and G).

For the test series A and B the stresses were measured² by means of a specially constructed mechanical type strain gage. For the test series C and G the strains were measured¹ by SR-4 resistance strain gages. The accuracy of the mechanical gage was $\pm 2 \times 10^{-5}$ inches per inch for the axial strain, and $\pm 5 \times 10^{-5}$ inches per inch for the shearing strain. The accuracy of the SR-4 gages in the plastic range is better than 5% for strains less than 3000 microinches per inch, and better than 10% for strains between 3000 microinches per inch and 10,000 microinches per inch. A comparison of the accuracy of the SR-4 gages with the accuracy of the mechanical gages in these tests shows that the SR-4 gages are the more accurate ones for small and medium increments of strain. For example, for axial strain measurements the SR-4 gages have better accuracy than the mechanical gage for strain increments of 200 microinches per inch or less.

The load was applied by means of a testing machine of the deadweight type² which does not include any ball bearings. Thus, errors due to the ball bearing friction are eliminated. A testing machine of the deadweight type is preferable to one of the straining type, because the former one will not hide any time effects.

2. Aris Phillips, J. Appl. Mech. 19, 496 (1952).

The material of the tubes was supplied in the annealed condition in tubular form with an internal diameter of 0.75 inches and a wall thickness of 0.25 inches. The finished specimens had an over-all length of 11 inches with an intermediate length of 6-3/4 inches of reduced wall thickness equal to 0.030 ± 0.001 inches for the test series A, B, and C, and to 0.050 ± 0.002 inches for the test series G. The internal diameter of the machined specimen was 0.78 inches. The wall thickness of the tubular specimen was measured by using a specially constructed apparatus². The ratio of the wall thickness to diameter was selected so as to delay buckling as much as possible and at the same time to insure an essentially uniform stress distribution throughout the wall of the specimen. No difficulties because of buckling have been encountered.

Microscopic study of the material showed that the grains were equiaxed, with an average size of from 0.004 to 0.008 inches. Random orientation was indicated by random light reflection angles for different grains in the polished specimens.

As is to be expected with pure aluminum a considerable amount of creep occurs at the higher stress levels, although the rate of creep very soon becomes negligible for short time readings (of the order of a few minutes). If the load, however, is sustained for half an hour or more we shall have substantial creep strains. In a few cases, after the reading for the plastic strains had been made, we kept the load constant for a considerable time so that subsequent creep strain measurements could be made at room temperature. After a number of creep strain measurements, for the same load, had been made, the load was increased again so that new plastic strain measurements could be taken.

THE FLOW RULE

The simplest incremental theory of plasticity has the stress-plastic strain relations³

$$\begin{aligned} d\epsilon_x'' &= \frac{F(\tau_0)}{3\tau_0} \left[\sigma_x - \frac{1}{2}(\sigma_y + \sigma_z) \right] d\tau_0, \\ d\gamma_{xy}'' &= \frac{F(\tau_0)}{\tau_0} \tau_{xy} d\tau_0, \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

and the corresponding relations for $d\epsilon_y''$, $d\epsilon_z''$, $d\gamma_{yz}''$, $d\gamma_{zx}''$.

The octahedral shearing stress τ_0 is given by

$$\tau_0 = \frac{1}{3} \left[(\sigma_x - \sigma_y)^2 + (\sigma_y - \sigma_z)^2 + (\sigma_z - \sigma_x)^2 + 6(\tau_{xy}^2 + \tau_{yz}^2 + \tau_{zx}^2) \right]^{1/2} \quad (2)$$

From equations (1) we find the proportionality relations

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\epsilon_x''}{\sigma_x - \frac{1}{2}(\sigma_y + \sigma_z)} &= \frac{d\epsilon_y''}{\sigma_y - \frac{1}{2}(\sigma_x + \sigma_z)} = \frac{d\epsilon_z''}{\sigma_z - \frac{1}{2}(\sigma_x + \sigma_y)} = \\ &= \frac{d\gamma_{xy}''}{3\tau_{xy}} = \frac{d\gamma_{yz}''}{3\tau_{yz}} = \frac{d\gamma_{zx}''}{3\tau_{zx}}, \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

which express the flow rule. Our first problem will be to find the degree of validity of the flow rule for the tests described.

In a tension-torsion test we have

$$\sigma_y = \sigma_z = \tau_{xz} = \tau_{yz} = 0 \quad (4)$$

Thus, relations (3) give

$$\frac{\sigma_x}{\sqrt{3}\tau_{xy}} = \frac{\sqrt{3}d\epsilon_x''}{d\gamma_{xy}''} \quad (5)$$

Hence if we superimpose a $(\sqrt{3}\epsilon_x'', \gamma_{xy}'')$ plane on the $(\sigma_x, \sqrt{3}\tau_{xy})$ plane, the vectors

3. Aris Phillips, Introduction to Plasticity (The Ronald Press Company, New York, 1956) p. 125.

$(\sqrt{3}dc_x'', d\gamma_{xy}'')$ with the points of application $(\sigma_x, \sqrt{3}\tau_{xy})$ will be directed radially outward from the origin. This is a criterion of the validity of the proportionality expressed by equations (3). A similar representation of the results of combined stress tests has been given by Hohenemser and Prager⁴.

In Fig. 1 we see the results of three of the tests (B-4, B-8, G-1) concerning the validity of flow rule (3). In test B-8 the specimen was loaded first in tension and then in torsion, while the tensile stress was kept constant. In test G-1 the loading process was considerably more complicated. It is seen that in test G-1 we loaded first in tension and then in torsion while the tensile stress was kept constant; afterwards, the loading process consisted in either increasing τ while decreasing σ , or increasing σ while decreasing τ . We tried to make the reversals from increasing σ to decreasing σ and vice versa as sharp as possible without introducing unloading or neutral change of stress*. Such sharp reversals would show whether the direction of the strain increment is independent of the direction of loading. Test B-4 is intermediate to tests B-8 and G-1 as far as severity of the loading path is concerned.

From Fig. 1 we see that the flow rule is valid with good accuracy in all three tests. That the results of test G-1 satisfy the flow rule is quite remarkable, since recently published test results by Naghdi and his co-workers⁵, with paths of loading similar to G-1, do not satisfy the flow rule.

In Fig. 2 we see the results of test C-2 in which the specimen was loaded first in torsion, and then in tension while the shearing stress was kept constant. From this figure we see that the flow rule is valid in the beginning,

* For the definition of neutral change of stress, see Ref. 3, p. 124.

4. K. Hohenemser and W. Prager, ZAMM 12, 1 (1932).

5. P. M. Naghdi, J. C. Rowley, and C. W. Beadle, J. Appl. Mech. 22, 416 (1955).

and then an instability in the directions of the strain-increment vectors occurs. This instability may be due to the existence of corners in the yield surface. Such yield corners have been repeatedly discussed in the literature^(6,7).

In some of the tests we tried to see whether at a given point of the loading path the direction of the strain increment vector will remain the same while creep deformation occurs. Fig. 3 shows the results. In all the tests in which the gradually increasing creep deformation has been measured, no change in the direction of the strain increment vector was detected. This shows that the flow rule is valid also during creep. It is interesting that in test C-2 instability in the direction of the strain increment vector occurs in plasticity and not in creep; hence this instability cannot be attributed to creep.

6. D. C. Drucker, Proc. 1st U. S. Natl. Congress of Applied Mechanics, ASME (1951), p. 487.

7. D. C. Drucker and F. D. Stockton, Proc. SESA, 10, 2, p. 127 (1953).

COMPARISON OF THEORY WITH EXPERIMENTS

We now turn our attention to the function F in equations (1). Using equations (1) we calculate the quantity

$$d\Gamma_0'' = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \left[d\epsilon_x''^2 + d\epsilon_y''^2 + d\epsilon_z''^2 + \frac{1}{2} (d\gamma_{xy}''^2 + d\gamma_{yz}''^2 + d\gamma_{zx}''^2) \right]^{1/2} \quad (6)$$

We find

$$d\Gamma_0'' = F(\tau_0) d\tau_0 \quad (7)$$

which, after integration becomes

$$\Gamma_0'' = \int F(\tau_0) d\tau_0 = f(\tau_0) \quad (8)$$

In Figures 4, 5, and 6 we give the $\tau_0 - \Gamma_0''$ curves for the tests of the series A, B, and C. We see that there is a substantial disagreement between the $\tau_0 - \Gamma_0''$ curves of the various tests. Hence, a generalized stress-strain curve does not exist for the material in question. This disagreement, however, is of no basic importance for the validity of equations (1), because in these equations there enters only the slope $d\Gamma_0''/d\tau_0$ of the curves. From an inspection of the curves in Figures 4 to 6 it becomes obvious that for the same τ_0 the value of the slope $d\Gamma_0''/d\tau_0$ changes very much from test to test. Thus, the slope $d\Gamma_0''/d\tau_0$ could not be a function of τ_0 . On the other hand, for the same Γ_0'' the value of the slope changes much less. Hence, we can consider $d\Gamma_0''/d\tau_0$ a function rather of Γ_0'' than of τ_0 .

We found, however, that for values of Γ_0'' larger than about 2000 micro-inches per inch the $d\tau_0/d\Gamma_0''$, Γ_0'' curves are much closer to each other percentage-wise than are the $d\Gamma_0''/d\tau_0$, Γ_0'' curves. This is due to the fact that $d\tau_0/d\Gamma_0''$ and $d\Gamma_0''/d\tau_0$ are equal to $\tan \alpha$ and $\cot \alpha$, respectively, where α is the angle which the tangent to the $\tau_0 - \Gamma_0''$ curve is

making with the Γ_0'' curve. These trigonometric functions are sensitive to changes in the value of α , and $\tan \alpha$ is more sensitive for larger values of α than for smaller values; whereas for $\cot \alpha$ the opposite is true. Now, for an increasing Γ_0'' the angle α decreases and therefore $d\tau_0/d\Gamma_0'' = \tan \alpha$ becomes gradually less sensitive to the changes of the angle α , whereas $d\Gamma_0''/d\tau_0 = \cot \alpha$ becomes gradually more sensitive to the changes of α .

In Figures 7, 8, and 9 we see the $d\tau_0/d\Gamma_0''$, Γ_0'' curves for the test series A, B, and C. We see that these curves are close to each other for values of Γ_0'' larger than about 2000 microinches per inch. Assume now that we disregard the difference between the various $d\tau_0/d\Gamma_0''$, Γ_0'' curves, thus considering that $d\tau_0/d\Gamma_0''$ is a unique function of Γ_0'' for all the tests. Then

$$d\tau_0 = \varphi(\Gamma_0'') d\Gamma_0'' \quad (9)$$

and, integrating, we find

$$\tau_0 - A = \Phi(\Gamma_0''), \quad (10)$$

where A is an integration constant. Solving this equation for Γ_0'' we find

$$\Gamma_0'' = \psi(\tau_0 - A). \quad (11)$$

From equations (9) and (11) we then find

$$\frac{d\tau_0}{d\Gamma_0''} = \varphi(\psi(\tau_0 - A)) = \Psi(\tau_0 - A) \quad (12)$$

Thus, the assumption that $d\tau_0/d\Gamma_0''$ is a unique function of Γ_0'' is equivalent to the assumption that $d\tau_0/d\Gamma_0''$ is a unique function of $\tau_0 - A$ where A is a constant varying from test to test.

The stress-strain relations (1) will now be modified so that $d\tau_0/d\bar{\epsilon}_0''$ will be considered as a function of $\bar{\epsilon}_0''$. Thus we shall take into account the fact that the constant A changes from test to test, but we shall disregard the fact that the angle α varies from curve to curve for the same $\bar{\epsilon}_0''$.

Let us denote with $\varphi(\bar{\epsilon}_0'')$ the curve $d\tau_0/d\bar{\epsilon}_0''$, $\bar{\epsilon}_0''$. Then from expressions (3) which have been proved to be correct in the previous section we find

$$\frac{d\epsilon_x''}{\sigma_x - \frac{1}{2}(\sigma_y + \sigma_z)} = \frac{d\bar{\epsilon}_0''}{3\tau_0} = \frac{d\bar{\epsilon}_0''}{d\tau_0} \frac{d\tau_0}{3\tau_0} = \frac{d\tau_0}{3\tau_0 \cdot \varphi(\bar{\epsilon}_0'')} \quad (13)$$

from which again it follows that

$$d\epsilon_x'' = \frac{1}{3\tau_0 \cdot \varphi(\bar{\epsilon}_0'')} \left[\sigma_x - \frac{1}{2}(\sigma_y + \sigma_z) \right] d\tau_0. \quad (14)$$

Similarly we find

$$d\gamma_{xy}'' = \frac{1}{\tau_0 \cdot \varphi(\bar{\epsilon}_0'')} \tau_{xy} d\tau_0, \quad (15)$$

and the corresponding relations for $d\epsilon_y''$, $d\epsilon_z''$, $d\epsilon_{yz}''$, and $d\epsilon_{xz}''$. These are the modified stress-strain relations of the simple incremental theory of plasticity.

For a comparison of this modified theory with the tests, we determine $d\tau_0/d\bar{\epsilon}_0''$ for each of the tests as a function of $\bar{\epsilon}_0''$. Then we average these functions for the same $\bar{\epsilon}_0''$, and this average is used as the $\varphi(\bar{\epsilon}_0'')$ curve in equations (14) and (15).

In Figures 10 to 14 we compare some of our experimental results with theoretically calculated curves. We see that the theoretical calculations reproduce the experimental results with fair to good accuracy. We remark also that a substantial portion of the difference between theoretical and experimental curves

occurs in the initial simple tension stage of the tests. This means that the difference between theory and experiment is due to a substantial part to the difference in the stress-strain curves in simple tension of the various specimens. Any possible lack of validity of the combined stress theory does not seem to be a more important factor in the difference between theoretical and experimental results than the factor just mentioned.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author wishes to thank Mr. V. Neubert for making the computations upon which this paper is based.

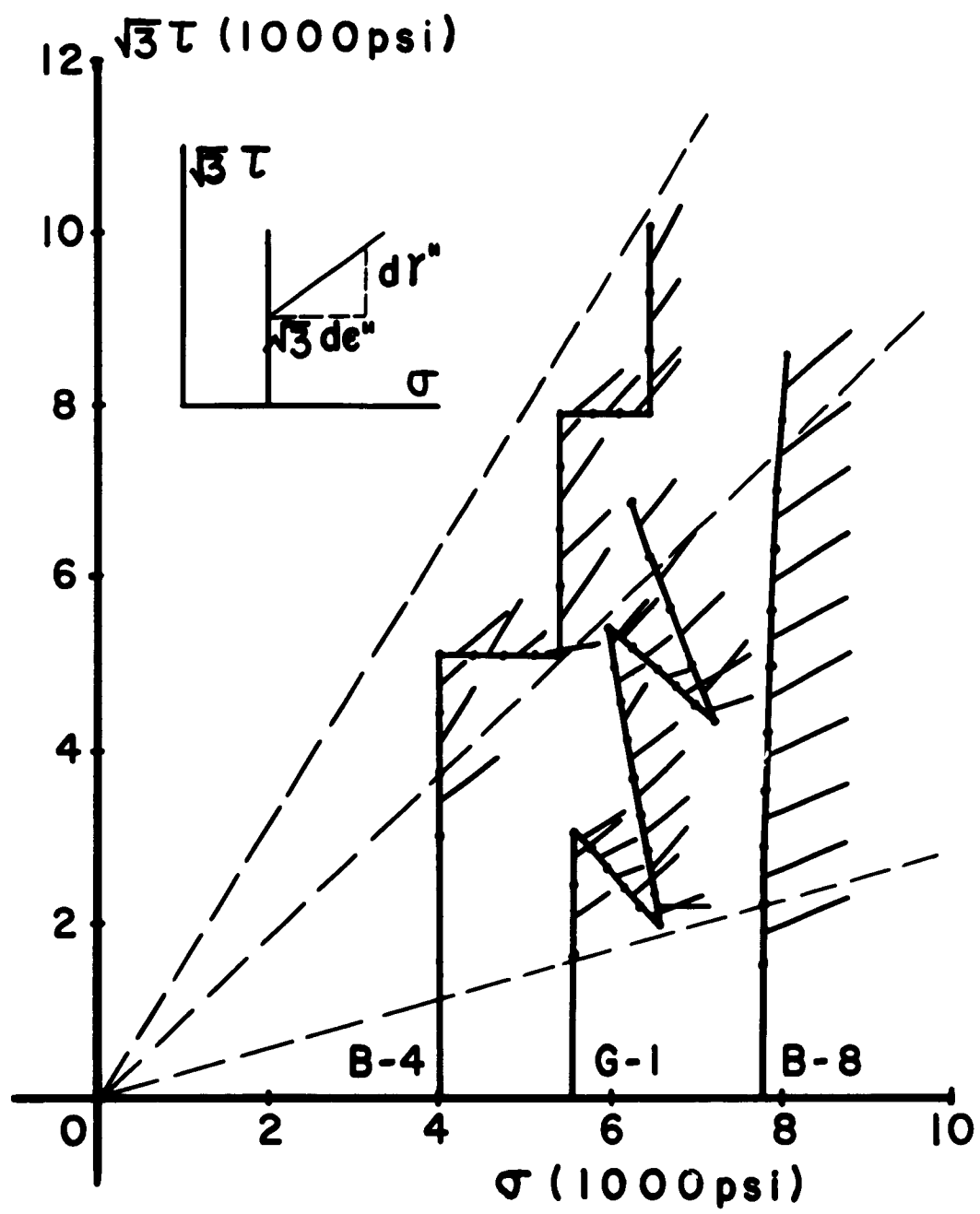


Fig. 1

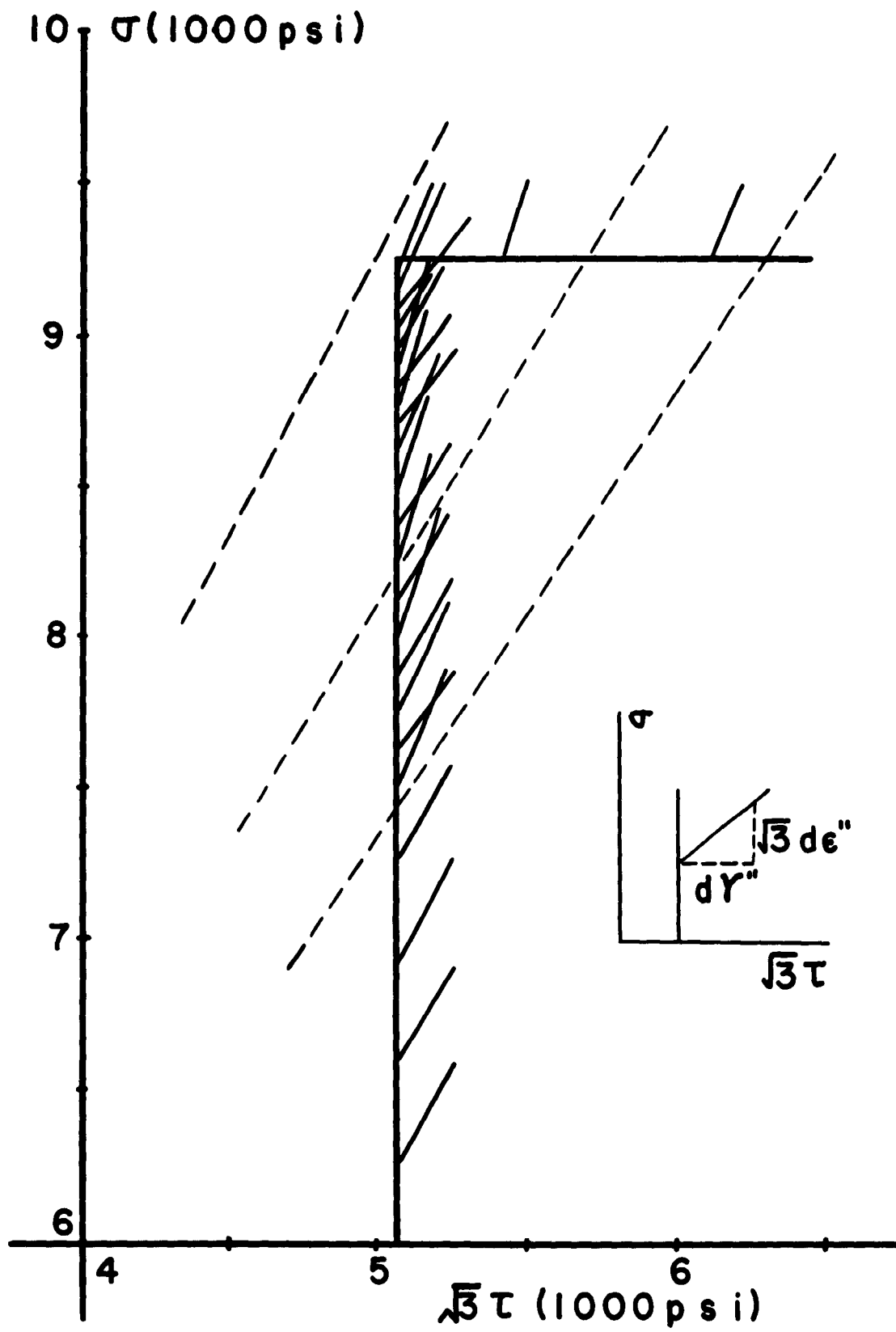


Fig. 2

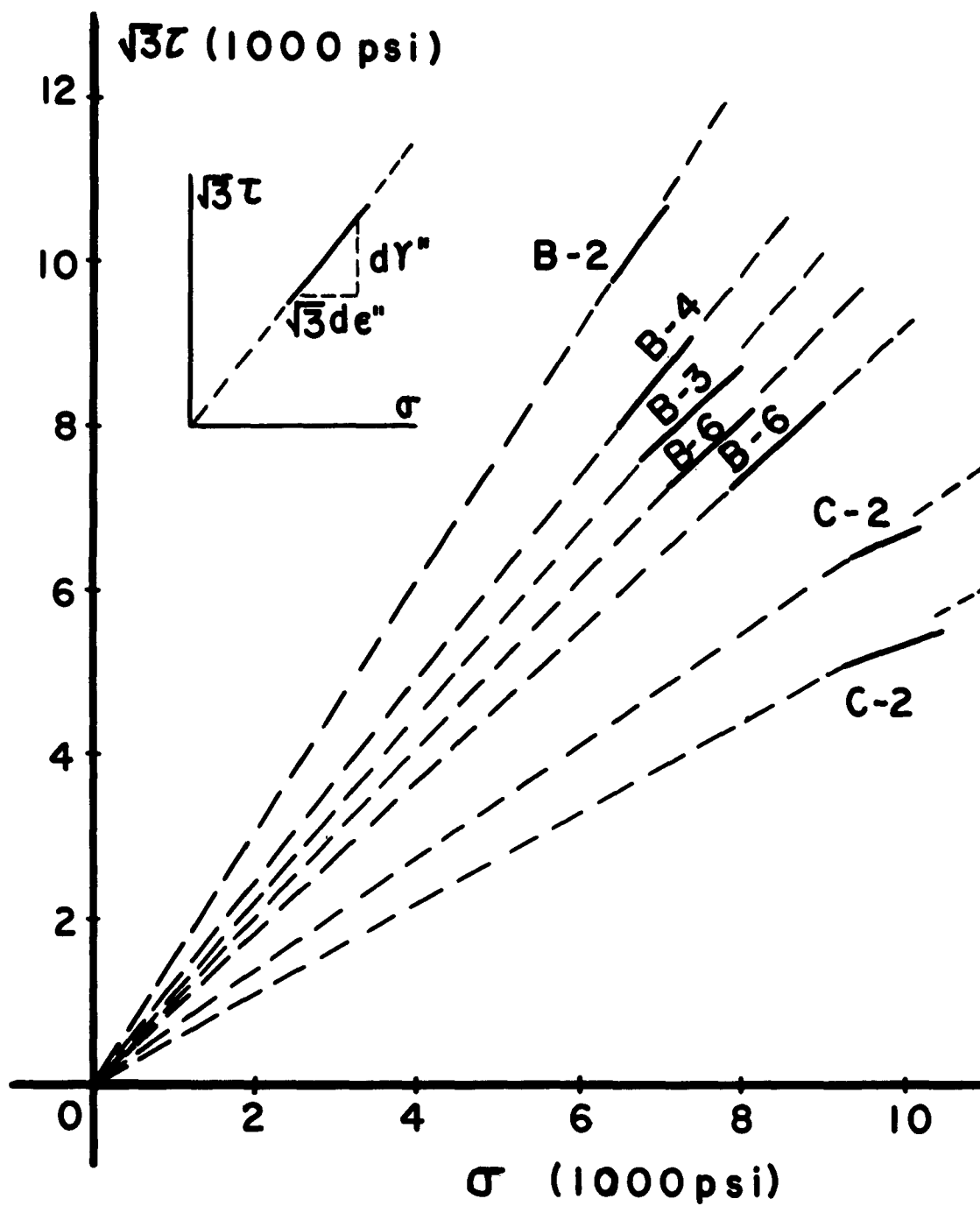


Fig. 3

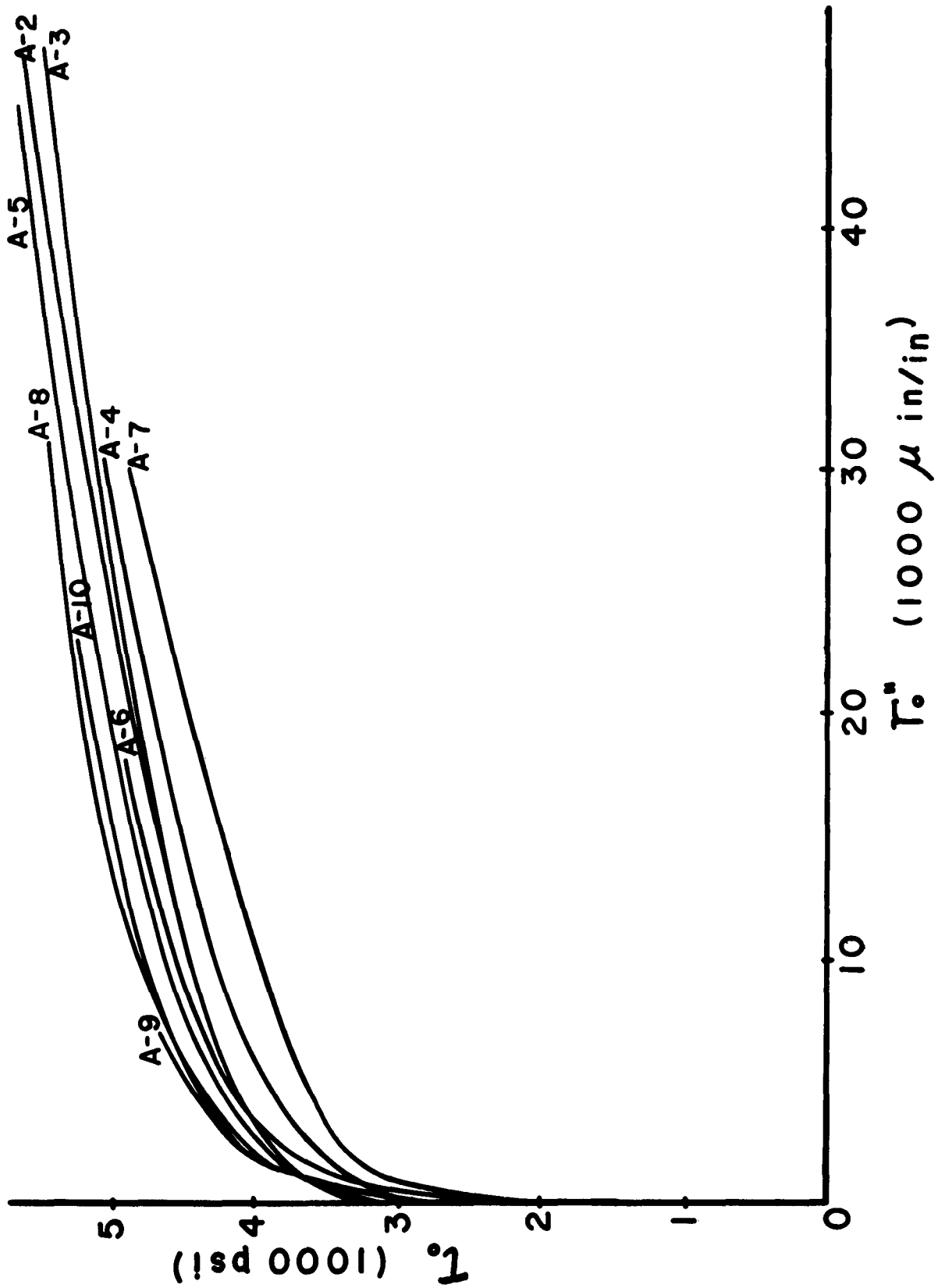


Fig. 4

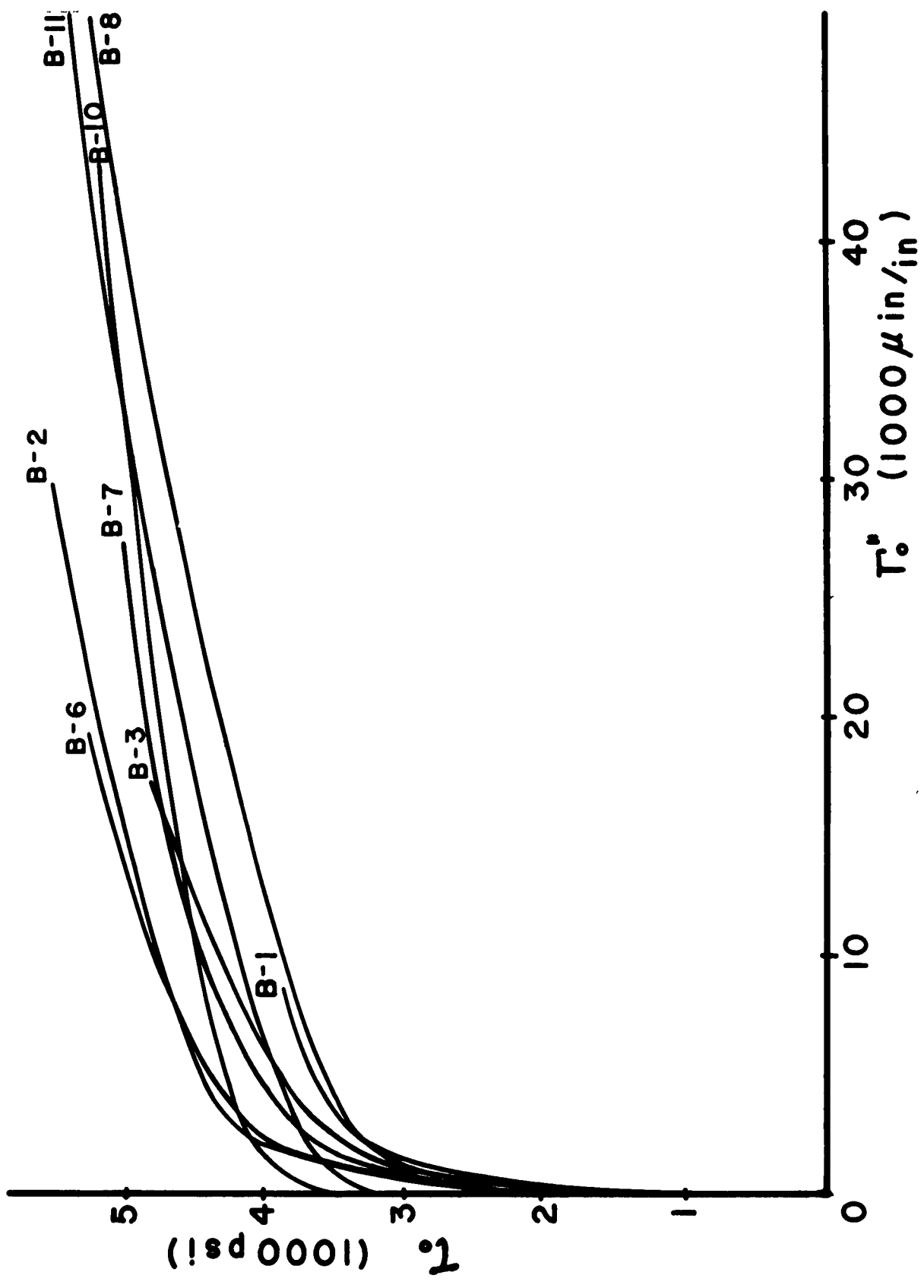


Fig. 5

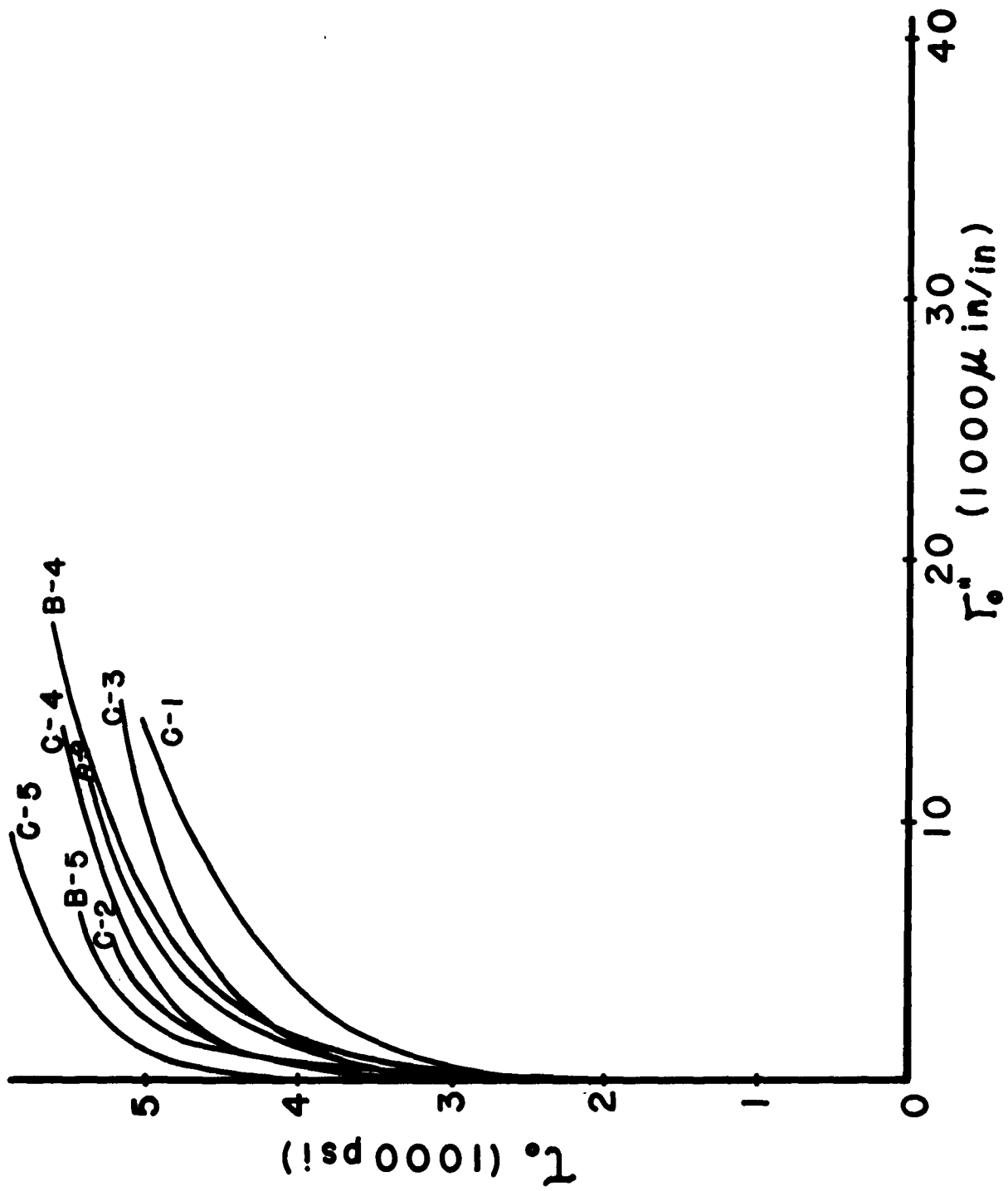


Fig. 6

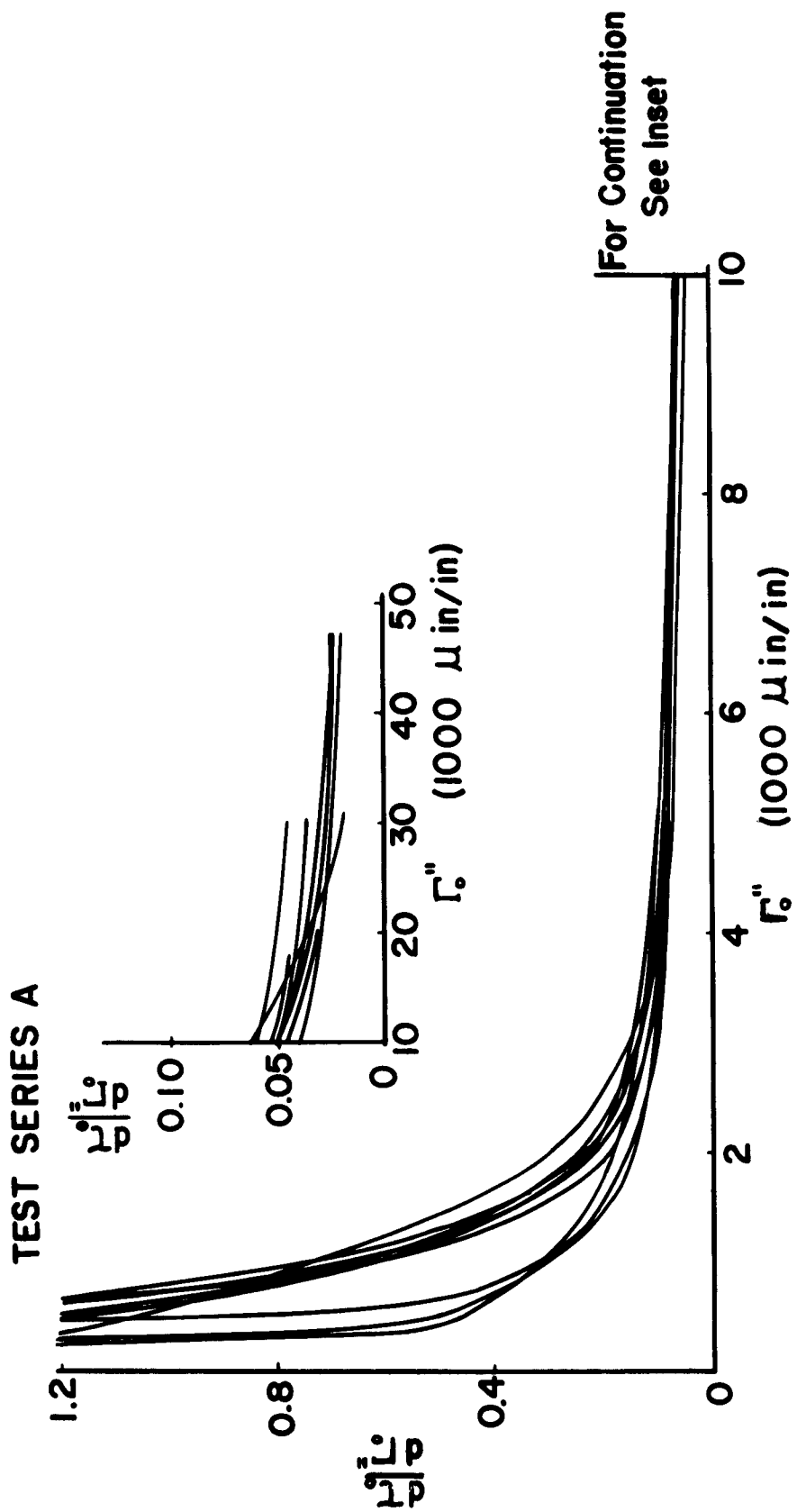


Fig. 7

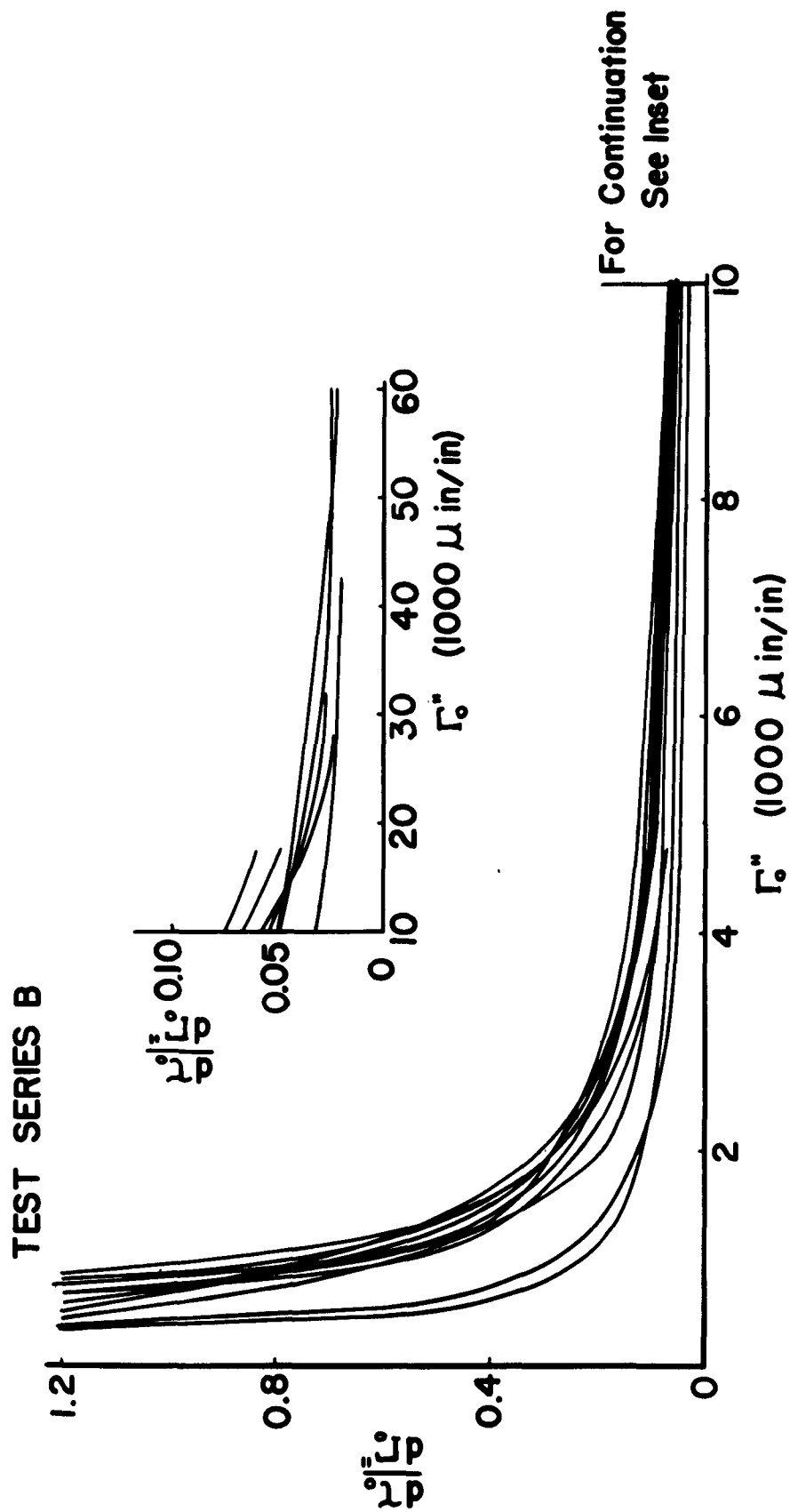


Fig. 8

TEST SERIES C

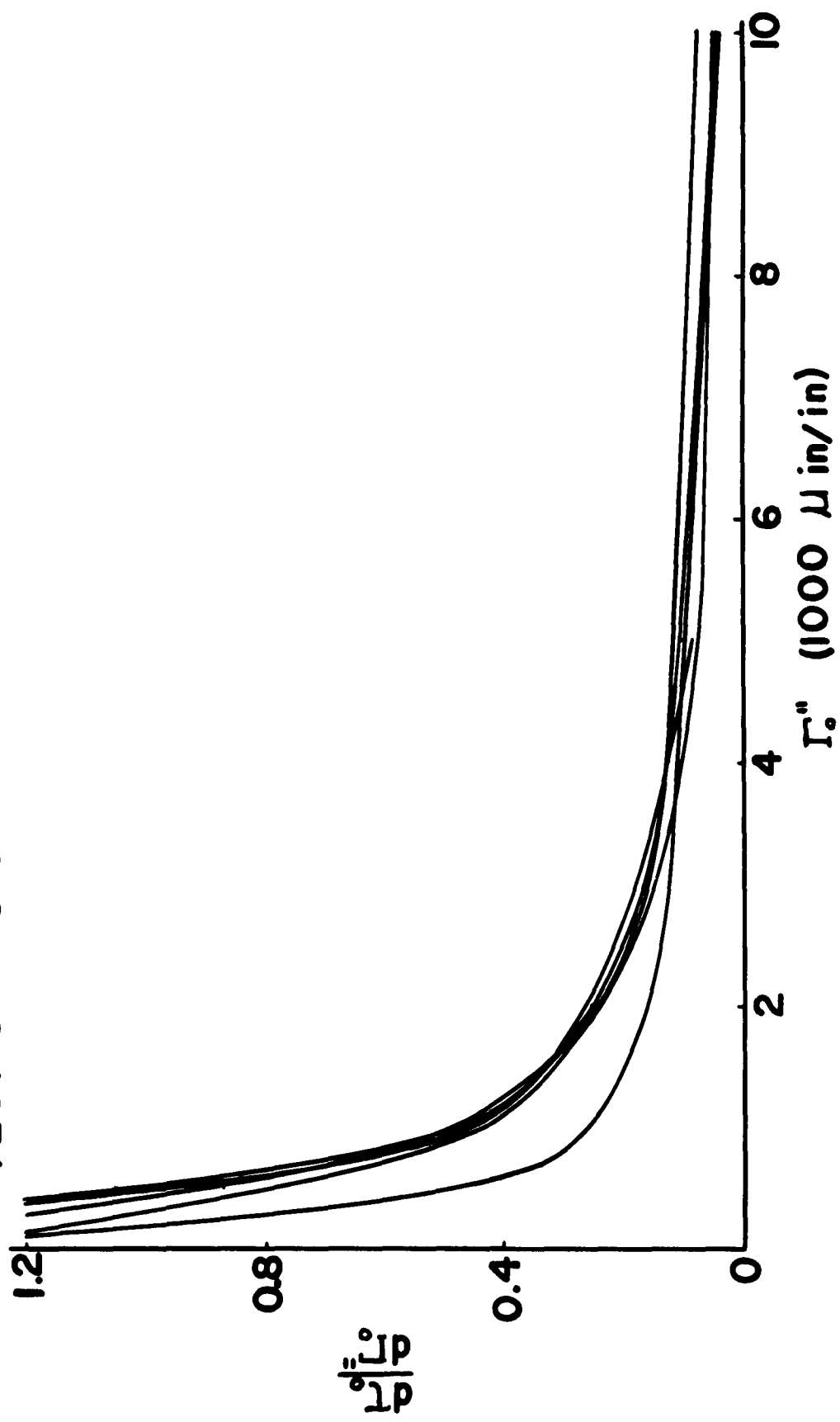


Fig. 9

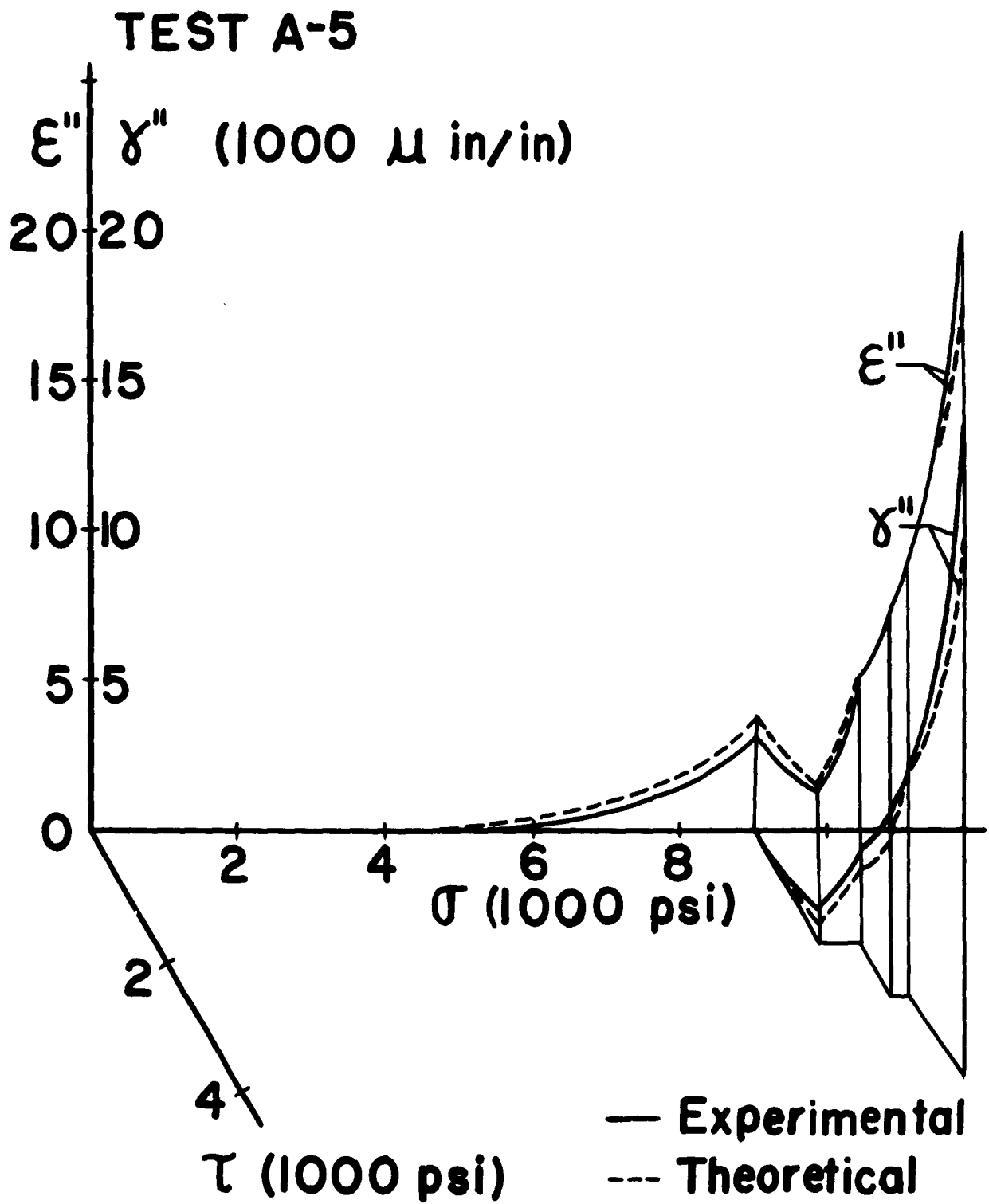


Fig. 10

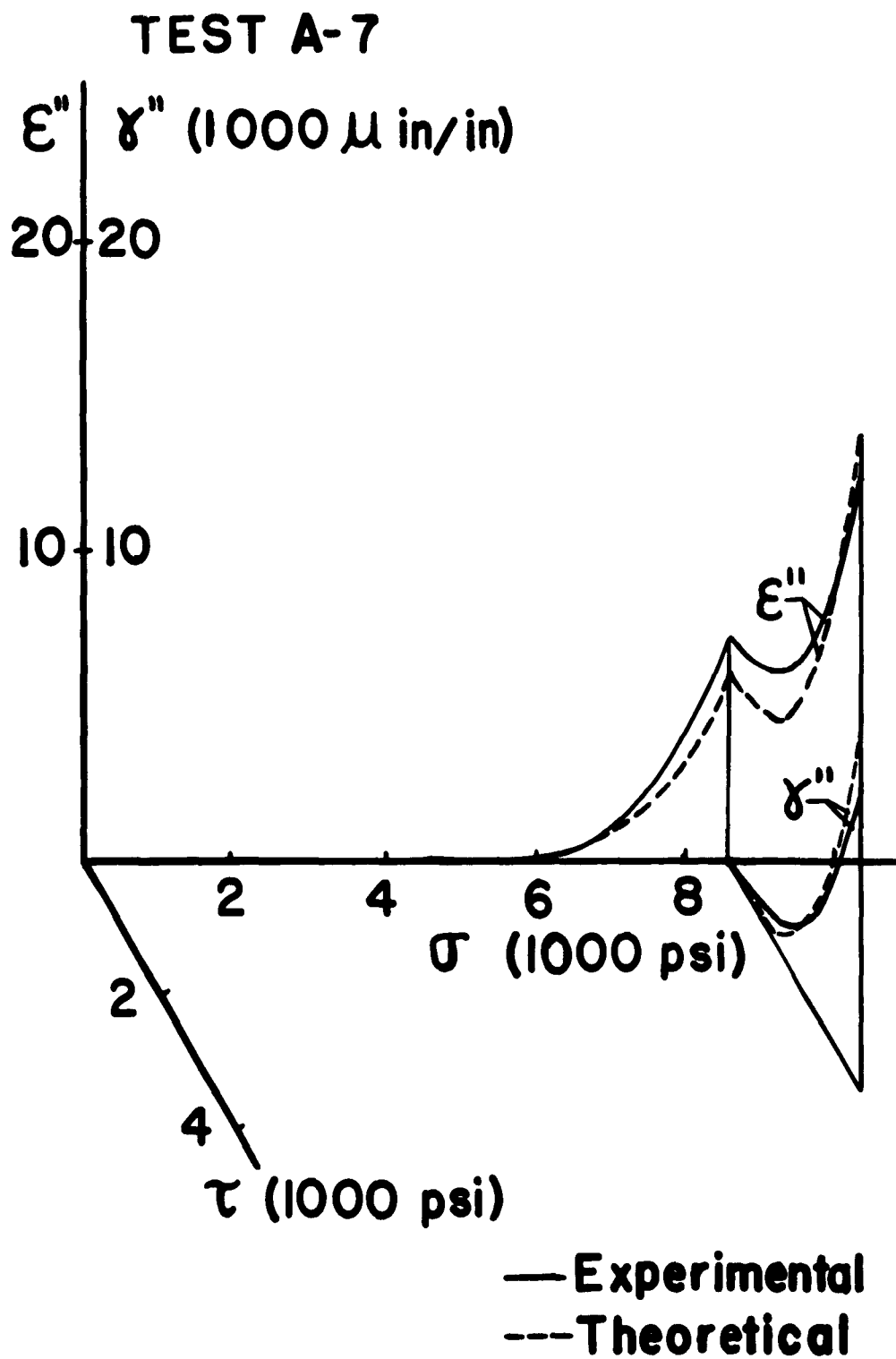


Fig. 11

TEST A-8

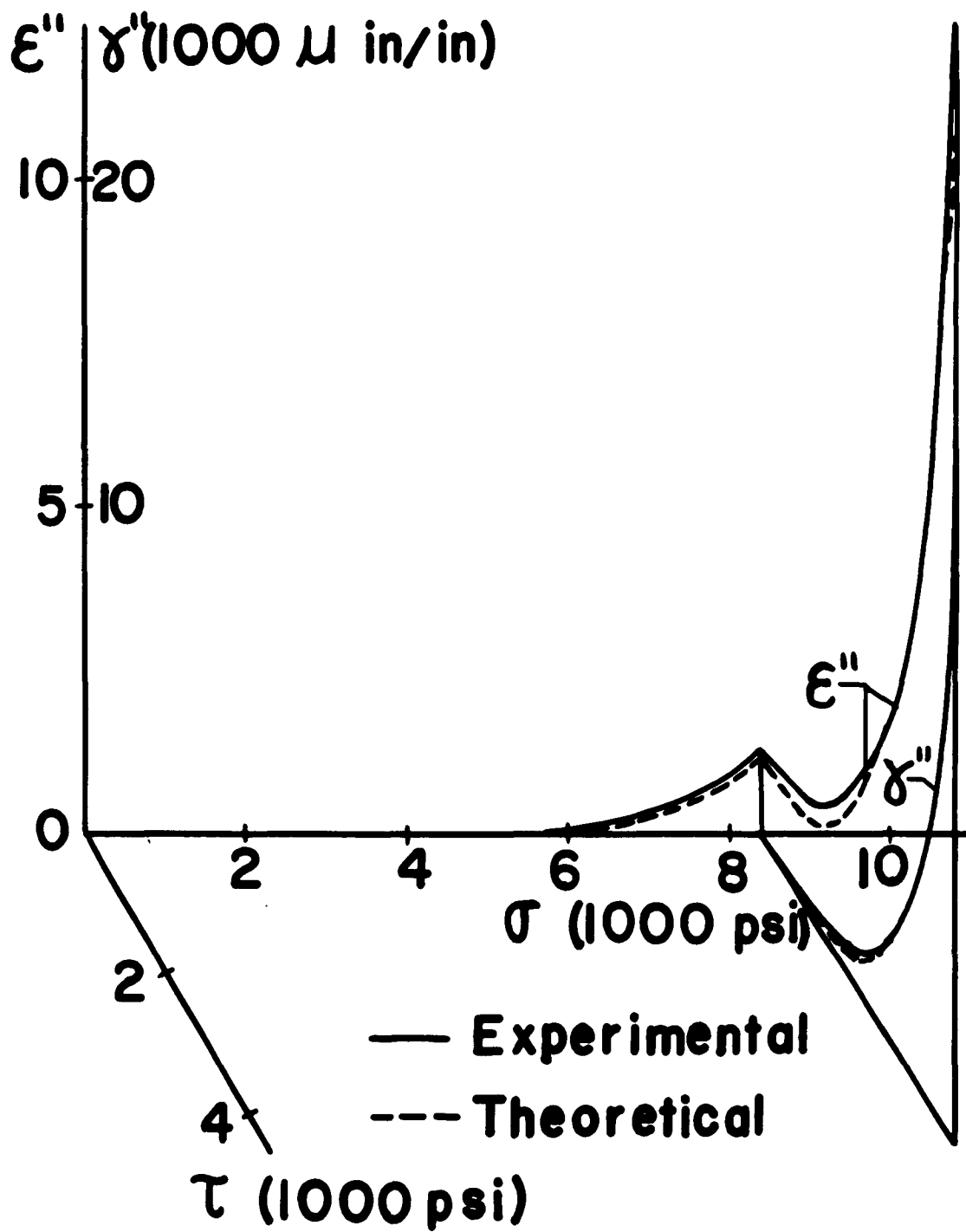


Fig. 12

TEST B-2

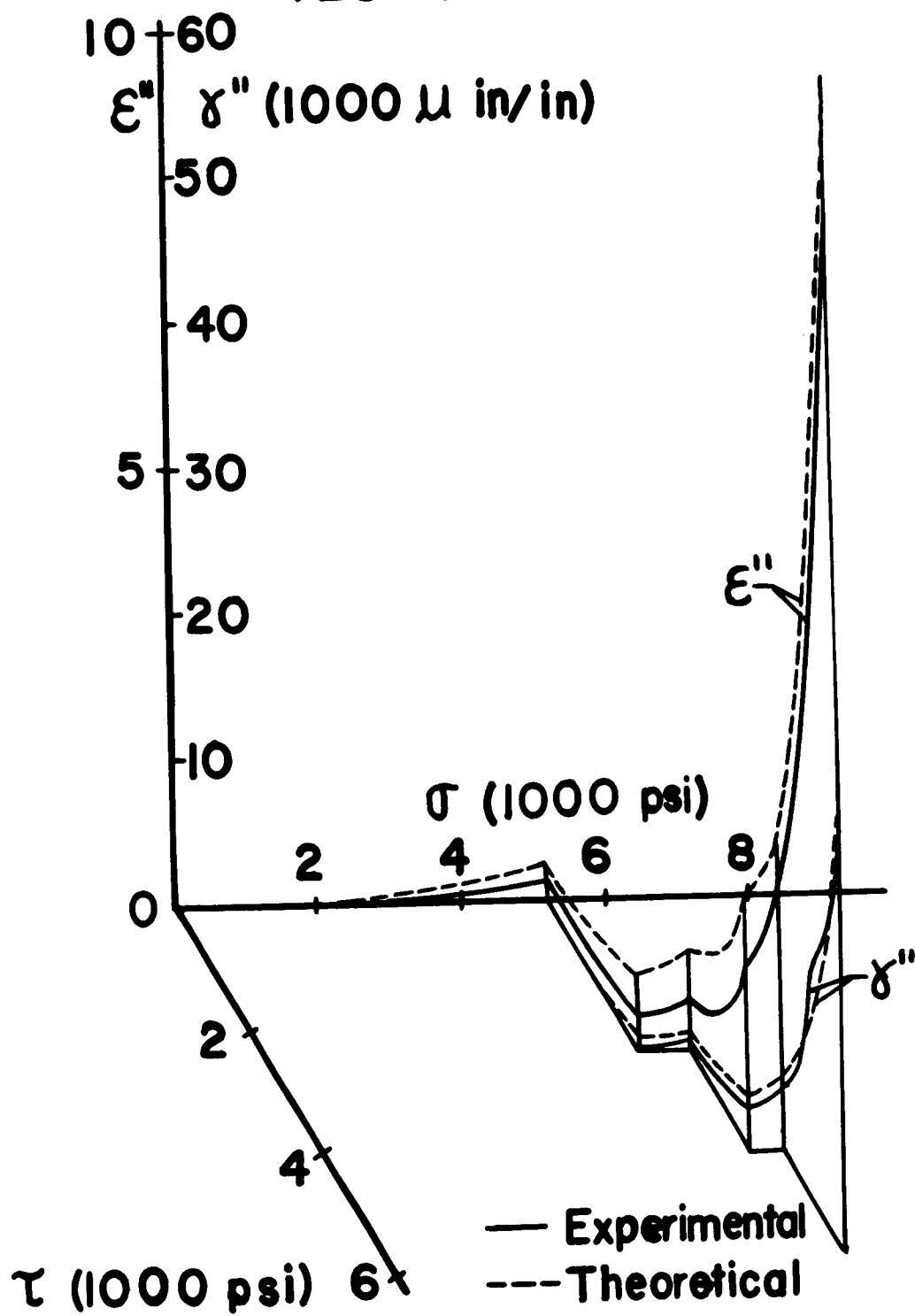


Fig. 13

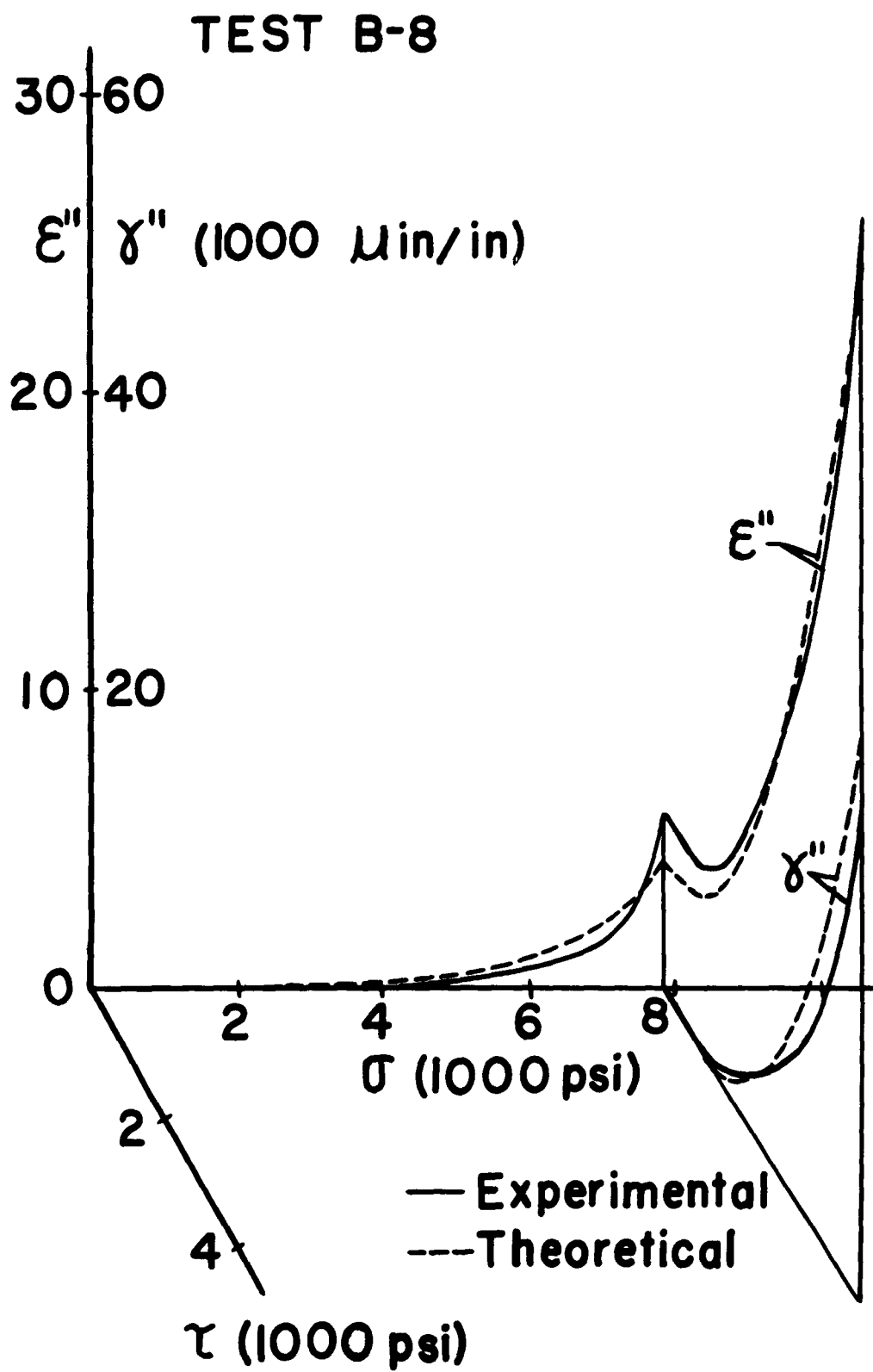


Fig.14

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Washington 25, D. C.
Attn: P.V. Branch (Air Targets
Div.) (1)

Commander
Air Research and Development Command
P. O. Box 1395
Baltimore 3, Maryland
Attn: RDMPE (1)

PART C: OTHER GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES

U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington 25, D. C.
Attn: Director of Research (2)

Director
National Bureau of Standards
Washington 25, D. C.
Attn: Division of Mechanics (1)
Engineering Mechanics (1)
Section (1)
Aircraft Structures (1)

Commandant
U.S. Coast Guard
1300 E Street, N.W.
Washington 25, D. C.
Attn: Chief, Testing and
Development Division (1)

U.S. Maritime Administration
General Administration Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.
Attn: Chief, Division of Preliminary
Design (1)

National Advisory Committee for
Aeronautics
1512 H Street, N.W.
Washington 25, D. C.
Attn: Loads and Structures Div. (2)

Director
Langley Aeronautical Laboratory
Langley Field, Virginia
Attn: Structures Division (2)

Director
Forest Products Laboratory
Madison, Wisconsin (1)

Civil Aeronautics Administration
Department of Commerce
Washington 25, D. C.
Attn: Chief, Aircraft Engineering
Division (1)
Chief, Airframe and Equipment
Branch (1)

National Sciences Foundation
1520 H Street, N.W.
Washington 25, D. C.
Attn. Engineering Sciences Div. (1)

National Academy of Science
2101 Constitution Avenue
Washington 25, D. C.
Attn: Technical Director, Committee
on Ships' Structural Design (1)
Executive Secretary, Committee
on Undersea Warfare (1)

PART D: INVESTIGATORS ACTIVELY ENGAGED
IN RELATED RESEARCH

Professor Lynn S. Beedle
Fritz Engineering Laboratory
Lehigh University
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania (1)

Professor R. L. Bisplinghoff
Department of Aeronautical Engineering
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts (1)

Professor H. H. Bleich
Department of Civil Engineering
Columbia University
New York 27, N. Y. (1)

* Professor B. Budiansky
Pierce Hall
Harvard University
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts (1)

Professor G. F. Carrier
Pierce Hall
Harvard University
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts (1)

Professor Herbert Deresiewicz
Department of Civil Engineering
Columbia University
632 W. 125th Street
New York 27, N. Y. (1)

Professor Lloyd Donnell
Department of Mechanics
Illinois Institute of Technology
Technology Center
Chicago 16, Illinois (1)

Professor D. C. Drucker, Chairman
Division of Engineering
Brown University
Providence 12, Rhode Island (1)

Professor A. C. Eringen
Department of Aeronautical Engineering
Purdue University
Lafayette, Indiana (1)

Professor W. Flugge
Department of Mechanical Engineering
Stanford University
Stanford, California (1)

Mr. Martin Goland, Vice President
Southwest Research Institute
8500 Culebra Road
San Antonio, Texas (1)

Professor J. N. Goodier
Department of Mechanical Engineering
Stanford University
Stanford, California (1)

Professor L. E. Goodman Engineering Experiment Station University of Minnesota Minneapolis, Minnesota (1)	Professor George H. Lee Director of Research Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Troy, New York (1)
Professor M. Hetenyi The Technological Institute Northwestern University Evanston, Illinois (1)	Mr. M. M. Lemcoe Southwest Research Institute 8500 Culebra Road San Antonio 6, Texas (1)
Professor P. G. Hodge Department of Aeronautical Engineering and Applied Mechanics Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn 99 Livingston Street Brooklyn 2, New York (1)	Professor Hsu Lo School of Engineering Purdue University Lafayette, Indiana (1)
Professor N. J. Hoff, Head Department of Aeronautical Engineering and Applied Mechanics Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn 99 Livingston Street Brooklyn 2, New York (1)	Professor R. D. Mindlin Department of Civil Engineering Columbia University 632 W. 125th Street New York 27, N. Y. (1)
Professor W. H. Hoppmann, II Department of Mechanical Engineering Johns Hopkins University Baltimore, Maryland (1)	Dr. A. Nadai 136 Cherry Valley Road Pittsburgh 21, Pennsylvania (1)
Professor Bruce G. Johnston University of Michigan Ann Arbor, Michigan (1)	Professor Paul M. Naghdi Department of Engineering Mechanics University of Michigan Ann Arbor, Michigan (1)
Professor J. Kempner Department of Aeronautical Engineering and Applied Mechanics Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn 99 Livingston Street Brooklyn 2, New York (1)	Professor William A. Nash Department of Engineering Mechanics University of Florida Gainesville, Florida (1)
Professor H. L. Langhaar Department of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics University of Illinois Urbana, Illinois (1)	Professor N. M. Newmark Department of Civil Engineering University of Illinois Urbana, Illinois (1)
Professor B. J. Lazan, Director Engineering Experiment Station University of Minnesota Minneapolis 14, Minnesota (1)	Professor W. Prager, Chairman Physical Sciences Council Brown University Providence 12, Rhode Island (1)
Professor E. H. Lee Division of Applied Mathematics Brown University Providence 12, Rhode Island (1)	Professor M. A. Sadowsky Department of Mechanics Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Troy, New York (1)
	Professor C. B. Smith College of Arts and Sciences Department of Mathematics Walker Hall University of Florida Gainesville, Florida (1)

Professor J. Stallmeyer
Department of Civil Engineering
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois (1)

Professor Eli Sternberg
Department of Mechanics
Illinois Institute of Technology
Technology Center
Chicago 16, Illinois (1)

Professor S. P. Timoshenko
School of Engineering
Stanford University
Stanford, California (1)

*Professor B. A. Boley
Department of Civil Engineering
Columbia University
New York 27, N. Y. (1)

Professor A. S. Velesztos
Department of Civil Engineering
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois (1)

Professor Enrico Volterra
Department of Mechanics
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Troy, New York (1)

Professor Dana Young
Yale University
New Haven, Connecticut (1)

Project Staff (10)

For your future distribution (10)