



F-16 System Program Office



The Inherent Need for Holistic Structural Integrity Application and Progress

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Providing warfighters mission-ready F-16s!



Overview



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- Introduction to the HOListic Structural Integrity Process (HOLSIP)
- HOLSIP concepts and 50+ year historical perspective
- Digital engineering/transformation
- Aging F-16 issues (and how HOLSIP can help)
 - Fracture Critical Structure
 - Risk
 - Corrosion
- Conclusion and recommendations



Holistic Structural Integrity Process



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- HOLSIP is based on the fundamental idea that failure modes or mechanisms are interconnected
- HOLSIP is a physics based structural integrity design approach
 - Essential part of a reliability and integrity centered design system
- HOLSIP considers all fracture mechanisms for monotonic loading with consideration of the intrinsic nature of solids
 - Other extrinsic issues considered are rates of loading, temperature, time of loading, chemical environments, wear and contact mechanics, and neutron and other forms of irradiation
- Time dependent and time related mechanisms of degradation and their synergy are considered in HOLSIP



HOLSIP Elevator Pitch



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- **Whole life cycle design of engineered structures, including design, manufacturing, operation, retirement, ethics**
- **....and really, so much more than aircraft structures!**
- **Examples of where HOLSIP has been applied include...**
 - **Art transportation at the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam, Netherlands**
 - **Big mining trucks**
 - **Oil pipelines**



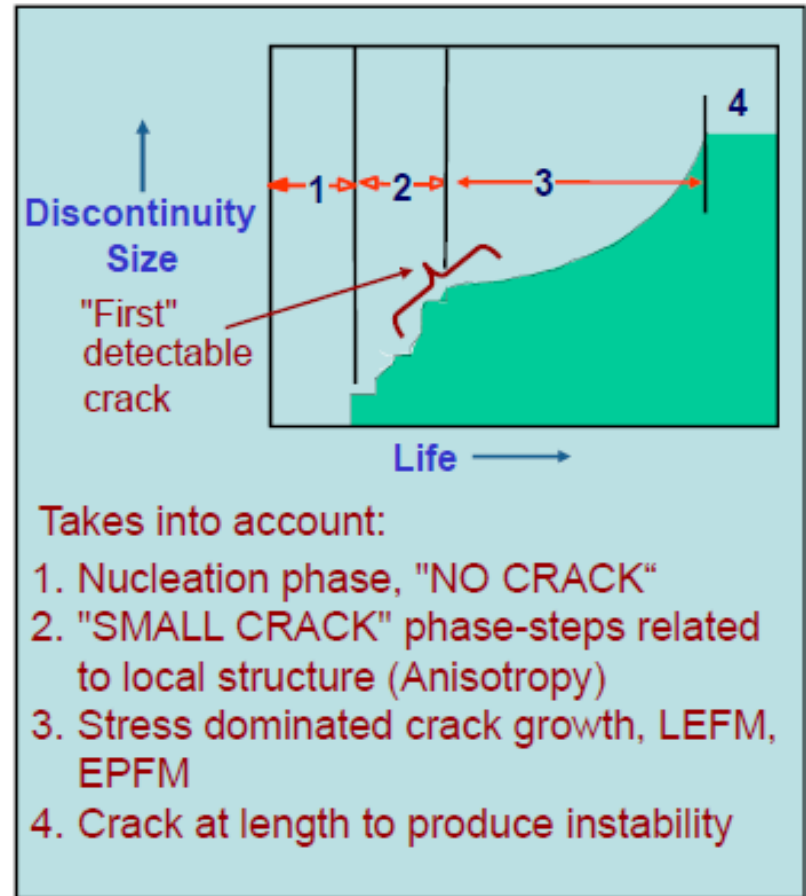
HOLSIP in Terms of Cracks



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■ Holistic Structural Integrity Process (HOLSIP)

- **Motivation:** augment safe-life and damage tolerant paradigms.
- **Key elements:** physics based model, probabilistic modeling, advanced NDI.





Where did HOLSIP come from?



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- **Many early fatigue and fracture mechanics pioneers created the framework**
 - **Griffith, noted discontinuities existed in solids**
 - **Irwin, Orowan, Peterson, Neuber, Hartman, Crichlow, and many others contributed through research**
- **Hoepfner**
 - **Approached by corporate legal council attorney who pointed out that a crack or intrinsic discontinuity does not equal defect or flaw (1971)**
 - **Defective parts are very bad in the legal and technical world!**
 - **Terminology is important**
 - **HOLSIP has list of terms and definitions**
 - **See Swift ICAF 2011 and Hoepfner, ICAF 2011 and AGARD Greece, 1992**



First International Symposium on Corrosion Fatigue



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- Held at U of Connecticut, 1971
 - Hoepfner, D. W., Featured keynote paper-
Corrosion Fatigue Considerations in Materials Selection and Engineering Design, A systems based framework for introducing corrosion, corrosion fatigue, creep fatigue, and fretting fatigue into engineering design.
 - Corrosion Fatigue, NACE 2, pp 3-11
 - Edited by McEvily, Staehle, Devereux
 - Published by NACE, Houston, TX, 1972
- Later to become basis of HOLSIP (1980)

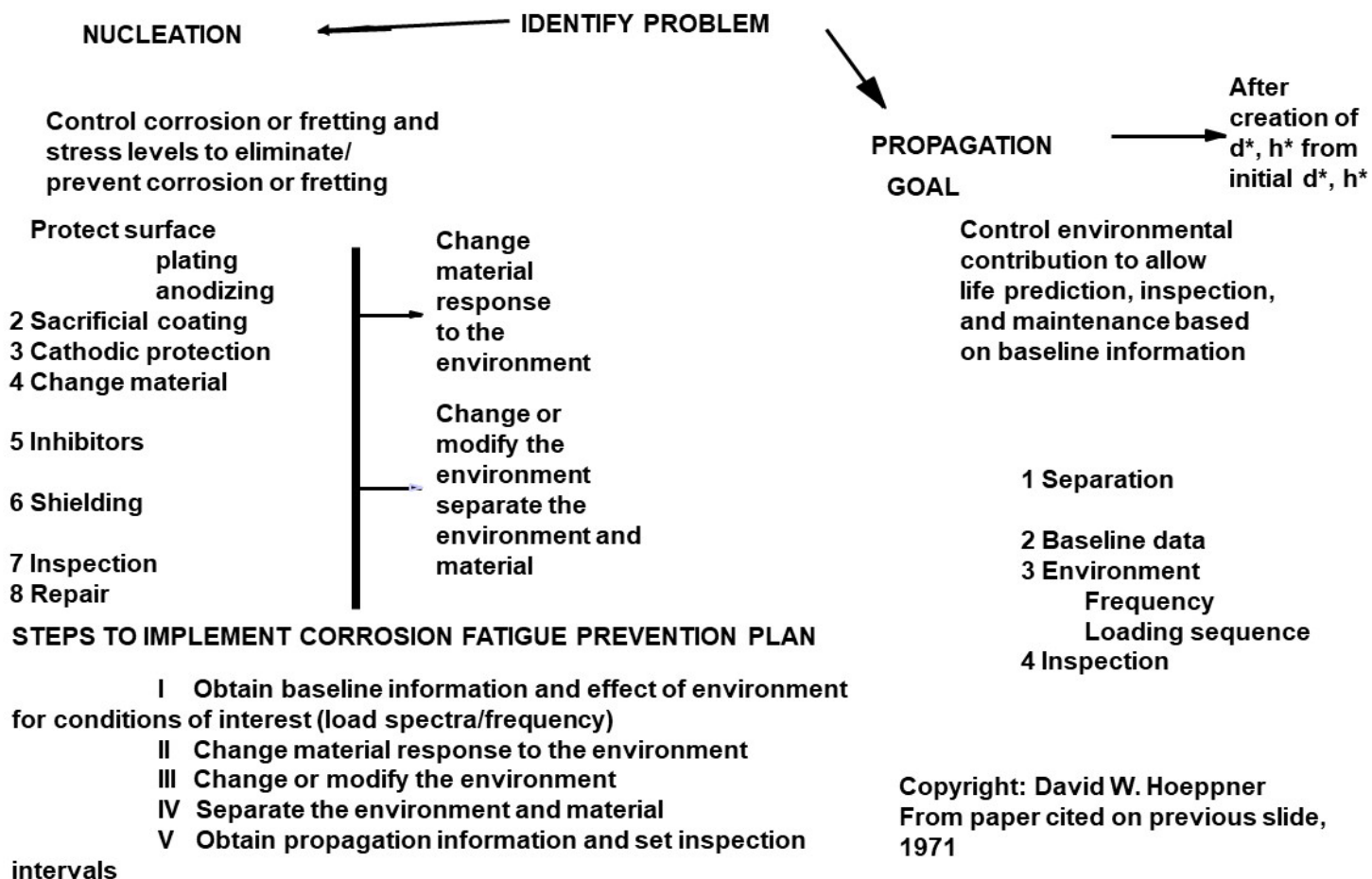


Hoepfner Paper, 1971



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USE OF SYSTEMS APPROACH TO DESIGN FOR CORROSION AND CORROSION FATIGUE, 1971- CURRENT



Copyright: David W. Hoepfner
From paper cited on previous slide,
1971



Where did HOLSIP come from? (cont.)



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- **Early 2000s, USAF financed a Corrosion Fatigue Structural Demonstration Program**
 - **LM Aero was the prime contractor; subs included NRC-Canada, University of Utah, and APES, Inc.**
 - **Basic research on Initial Discontinuity States (IDS) of aluminum alloys was one of the topics studied – developed understanding of constituent particle types, sizes, and shapes and they were physically identified and modelled**
 - **Corrosion fatigue and associated physics-based modeling were included in the program**
 - **Definitions and terminology developed to establish consistent framework to avoid inconsistency**



Where did HOLSIP come from? (cont.)



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- **Players from CFSD were founding members of the HOLSIP movement (left to right):**
 - **David Hoepfner (University of Utah, FASIDE, Int.)**
 - **Jerzy Komorowski (NRC-Canada)**
 - **Craig Brooks (APES, Inc.)**
 - **Nick Bellinger (NRC-Canada)**





20+ Years of HOLSIP Advancement



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- **Holistic ideas and concepts have been presented in journal articles, conferences and other meetings**
 - **Associated ICAF paper summarizes some of these**
 - **Shütz, Bellinger, Gallagher, Komorowski, Hoepfner, G. Clark, P. Clark, Swift, Brooks, Molent & Dixon, and Lindgren included**
- **Aircraft are being flown well past design life**
 - **Damage tolerance is often not enough to deal with aging aircraft issues and maintain aircraft availability**



Digital Engineering/Transformation as a Part of HOLSIP



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- **United States Air Force has been driving towards advanced digital engineering**
 - **Presentation at 2021 ASIP Conference by Mr. Thomas Fischer detailed the USAF digital campaign**
 - **Cited the importance of data and seamless data sharing as drivers to speed and agility**
 - **Mr. Charles A. Babish wrote a whitepaper in response to Fischer's presentation**
 - **Defined digital engineering as “the use of models and data for design, analysis, structural certification, and sustainment to enable informed decision making over the entire life cycle”**
 - **These digital engineering efforts are not new within ASIP**
 - **Practiced within the HOLSIP community to have the necessary data and analysis capabilities for whole life modelling concepts**



F-16 ASIP Portal



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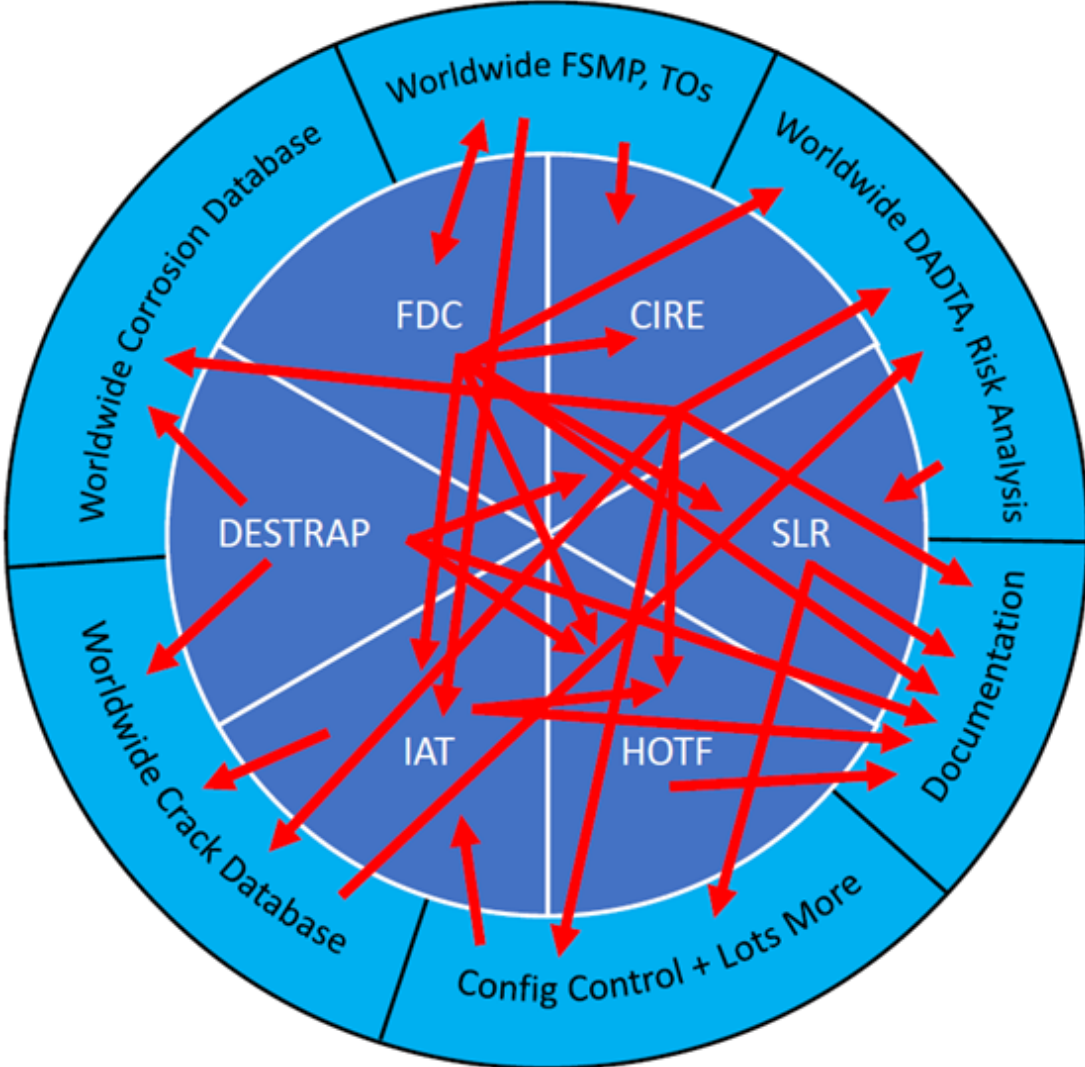
- **For more than 20 years, USAF F-16 SPO has developed and maintained the F-16 ASIP Portal for data and lifecycle management purposes**
 - **Engineering dispositions, inspection data, flight data recorder files, and service life information stored**
 - **Can be used for risk analyses, fatigue crack modelling/correlation, and maintenance planning**
- **USAF F-16 data is combined with F-16 OEM information**
 - **Creates a powerful, data-driven tool needed to apply HOLSIP principles**
 - **Improves aircraft inspection intervals**
 - **Better manage aircraft life**



F-16 ASIP Engineering “Threads”



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Fracture Critical Parts



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- Major current F-16 concern:
 - Fracture critical part
 - Part condition (gouges/scrapes/cracks)
 - Gouges not acceptable using either damage tolerance or holistic principles without characterization/analysis
 - Surface preparation for eddy current inspection





Practical Risk Analysis



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- **Prioritize depot inductions**
 - **Required due to limited depot capacity**
- **Multiple risk analyses considered to maximize induction intervals for applicable aircraft**
 - **Primary risk driver is lower end pad radii on center fuselage bulkheads near wing attach bolts/fuselage structure**
 - **Inspection and blend data critical for risk assessments and aircraft re-evaluation**
- **Flight data recorder and inspection info, combined with risk assessments critical to overall success of this individual aircraft effort**

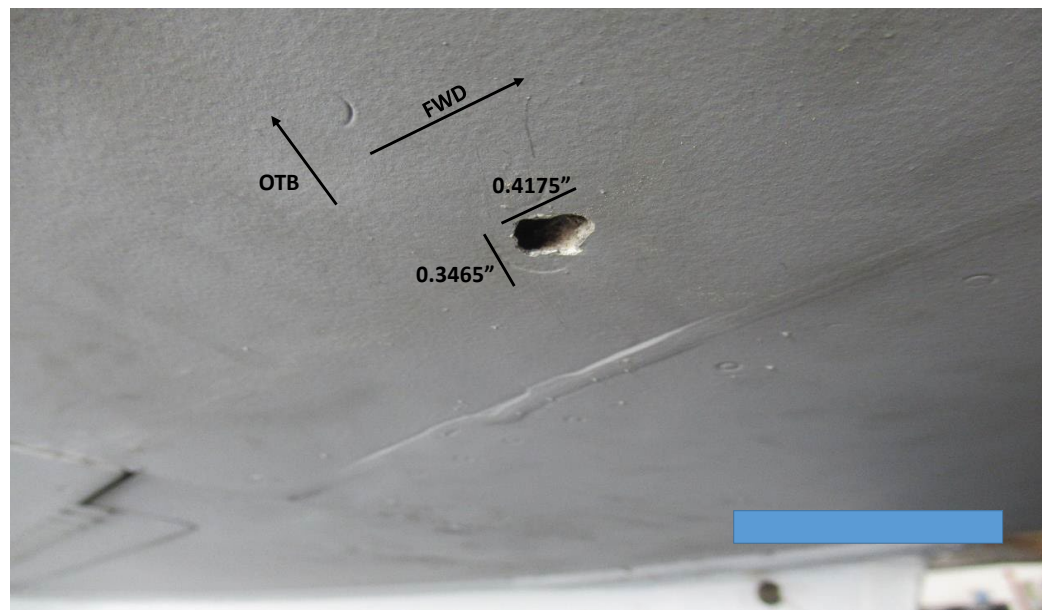
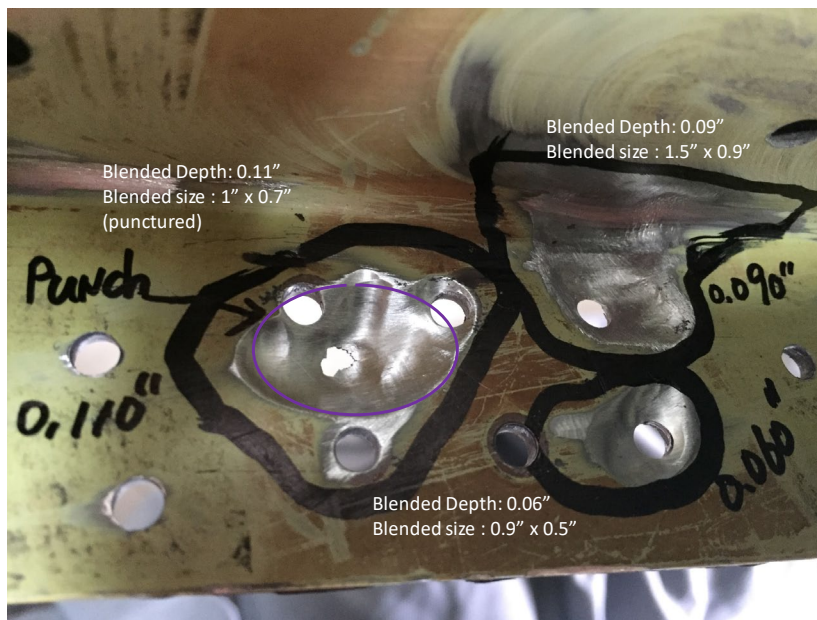


F-16 Corrosion Analysis Examples



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- Guidance is limited on how to account for corrosion
- Various areas of corrosion including F-1 fuel cell and lower longerons and frames beneath the cockpit
 - Difficult to analyze and repair; lots of corrosion variability
- Corrosion variability can be human caused





The future is now...



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- **F-16s already have corrosion**
 - **If we abide by the “thou shalt have no corrosion” (or fretting) rules, all aircraft should likely be grounded**
 - **Find and fix will not be sufficient for the future**
 - **Already insufficient for F-16s**
 - **Repair programs in place to specifically identify and repair known corrosion problem areas**
 - **Several severely corroded aircraft were down for years being repaired/parts replaced**
 - **Fail safe analyses performed to determine urgency of fixing problem areas**
 - **Favorable results, allows for triage of aircraft for depot repair inductions**



The future is now...(cont.)



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- **Using HOLSIP principles to understand the physics behind the degradation will improve models**
 - **LEFM models not sufficient currently to predict impact of damage being found**
- **Groups are proactive in using these concepts with efforts such as Engineered Residual Stress Implementation (ERSI)**
- **Use/creation of time based degradation models needs to gain traction in order to improve aging issue related safety, reliability, and ultimately, aircraft availability**



Conclusions



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- **HOLSIP can be applied throughout the entire lifecycle for:**
 - **Engineered structures design**
 - **Manufacturing**
 - **Operations**
 - **Retirement**
 - **Ethics**
- **50+ years of HOLSIP development and 20+ years of intentional holistic practice**
 - **Moved past some limitations of traditional design paradigms and LEFM**
- **Continued use and development critical to aging aircraft (and many other applications) safety, reliability, and availability**



Acknowledgments



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HOLSIP 2019

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