

# Application of the Holistic Structural Integrity Process to Canadian Forces Challenges

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# HOLISTIC



The Earth seen from Apollo 17.

From a **holistic** perspective, the universe exists in and forms integrated webs of wholeness, often beyond our direct perception.  
[Wikipedia]

# Opening Remarks

- Introducing new tools to the evaluation and support of Aircraft Structural Integrity is a slow process as safety of flight is at stake.
- The approach we have taken is to test the new tools by using real examples in parallel with existing tools.
- The new tools described in this presentation have the potential to provide new decision basis for better management of aircraft structure in the future, they are not yet used for decision making by Canadian Forces at this time.

# Outline of Presentation

- Background
- Current Canadian Forces (CF) Lifting Methodologies
- Challenging Issues with Existing Lifting Methods
- Holistic Structural Integrity Process (HOLSIP) Framework
  - Case Study: CF-18 Corrosion Fatigue Analysis
- HOLSIP Based Risk Assessment
  - Case Study: CFCW-1 Lower Surface Panel
  - Case Study: Risk Analysis on CP140 (P3)
- Concluding Remarks
- Future Work



# Background

- CF military aircraft have been certified using diverse standards.
- Uniquely “Canadian” service usage:
  - significantly different from Certification Spectrum,
  - affects Certification defined Safe Life, Crack Growth and Residual Strength.
- Prior service history (> 20 years!) missing on most fleets before concerted loads monitoring efforts begun.



## ***CF Legacy Aircraft Problems***

- Lack of:
  - spectrum / design criteria / historical usage info,
  - component tracking (components interchanged between aircraft) & incomplete component history cards.
- Aircraft operated in “unknown territory”:
  - no demonstrated lives in accordance with actual usage.
- Damage is occurring on aircraft where it did not occur in original Full Scale test and vice versa.



# Current Lifting Methodologies

- **Safe Life (SL):**

- Originally used to life CF188 Hornet, CT114 Tutor (Snowbirds)
  - How to extend the life after 'Safe Life'?

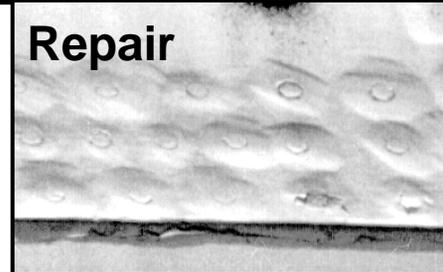
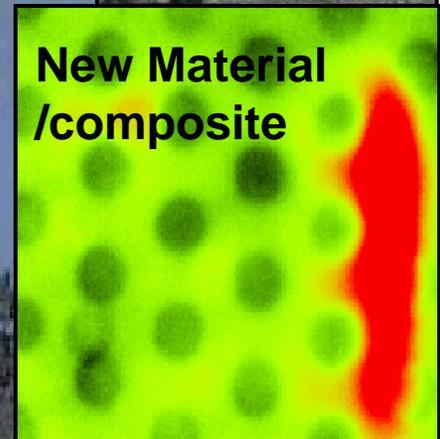
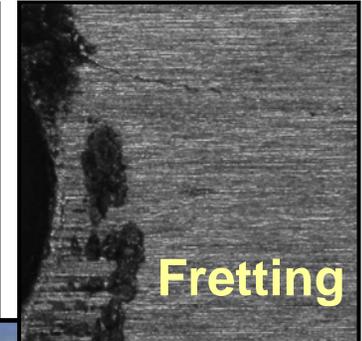
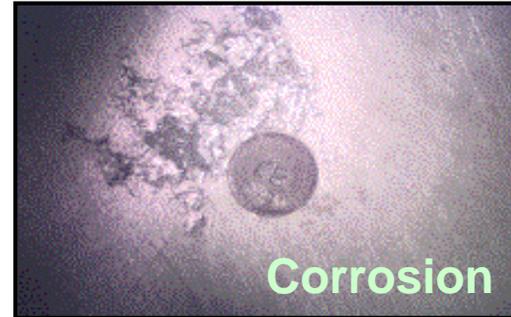
- **Damage Tolerance (DT):**

- Originally used to life CC144 Challenger, CT142 Dash 8, CT156 Harvard II
- Currently being used on the CT114 Snowbirds, CF118 Hornet and repairs for the CC130 Hercules
  - Difficulty analyzing fail safe structures
  - Load redistribution not taken into account



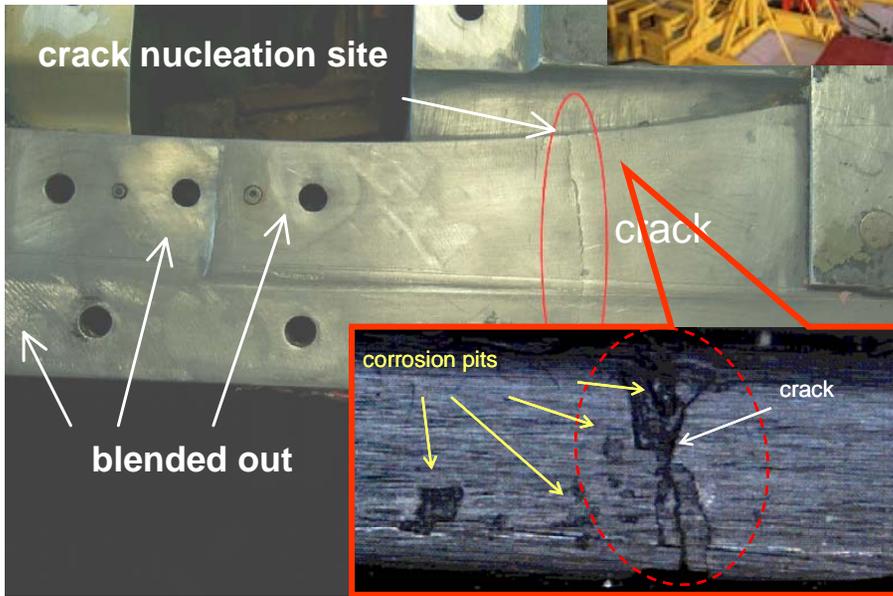
# Issues ....??

- **Challenging issues** - the current lifing paradigms, do not adequately take into account:
  - Complex damage scenarios (MSD/MED/WFD...)
  - Repair damage
  - Environmental and age degradation modes (corrosion pitting/SCC, fretting/wear...)
  - Difficulty with new materials (composites) and manufacturing techniques (i.e. friction stir welding)
  - Changes/unknown in mission profiles



# Example Issue 1 : CF-18 Corrosion Fatigue

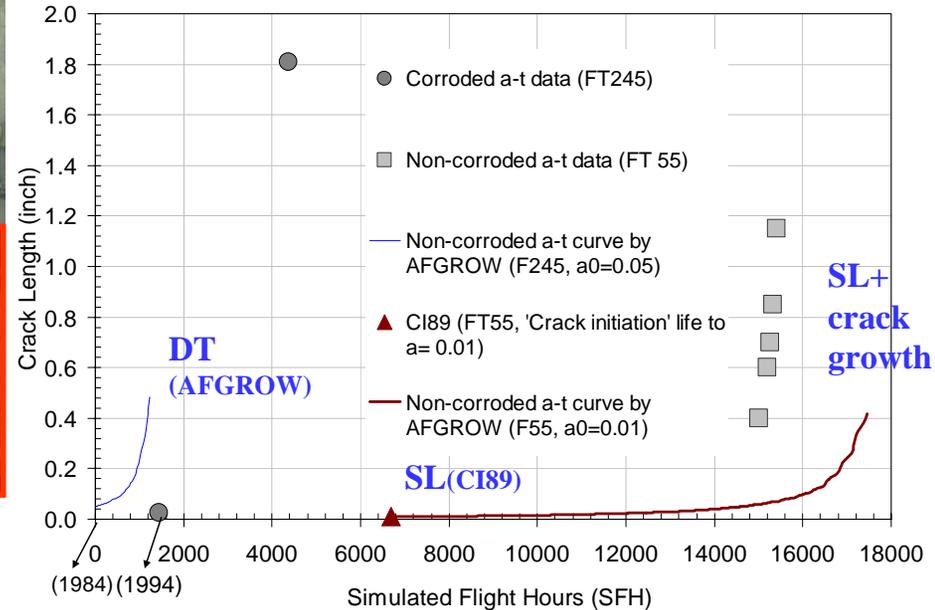
Full Scale  
Wing Test



**Crack (1.81 inch)** found at 2932 simulated FH in the longeron.

Crack nucleated from **corrosion pits** on upper outboard longeron

## Fatigue Life Analysis



**DT life is too short.**

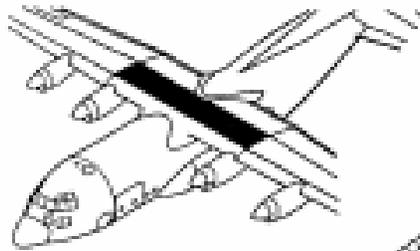
**SL life is conservative**

**SL+ crack growth is not conservative**

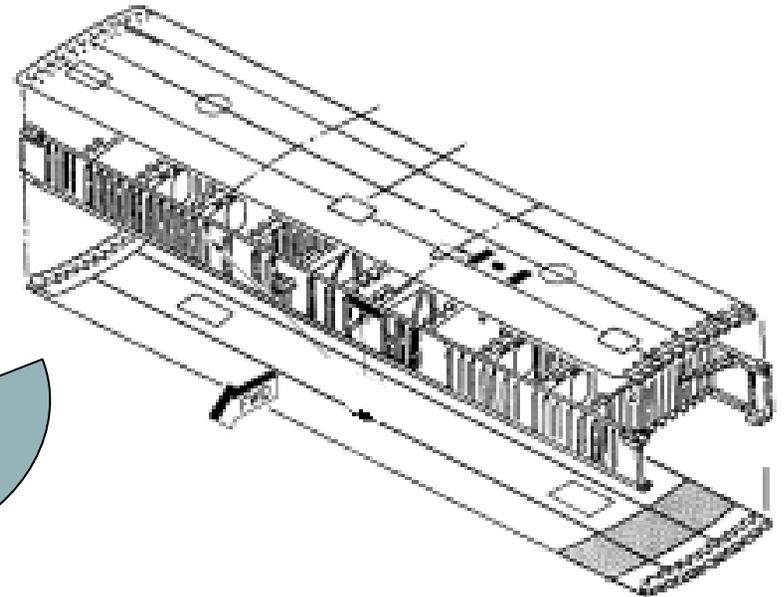
# Example Issue 2: CC130 Center Wing MSD/WFD

- **CW-1:** 10 of 30 A/C inspected had cracked Lower Aft Wing Panels
- **CW-12:** 11 cracked/severed Corner Fittings
- **CW-14:** 12 cracked/severed Lower Forward Spar Caps
- **CW-9:** 13 cracked Rainbow Fittings
- **CW-11:** 14 cracked Lower Forward Wing Panels

**What is the risk of getting there?**



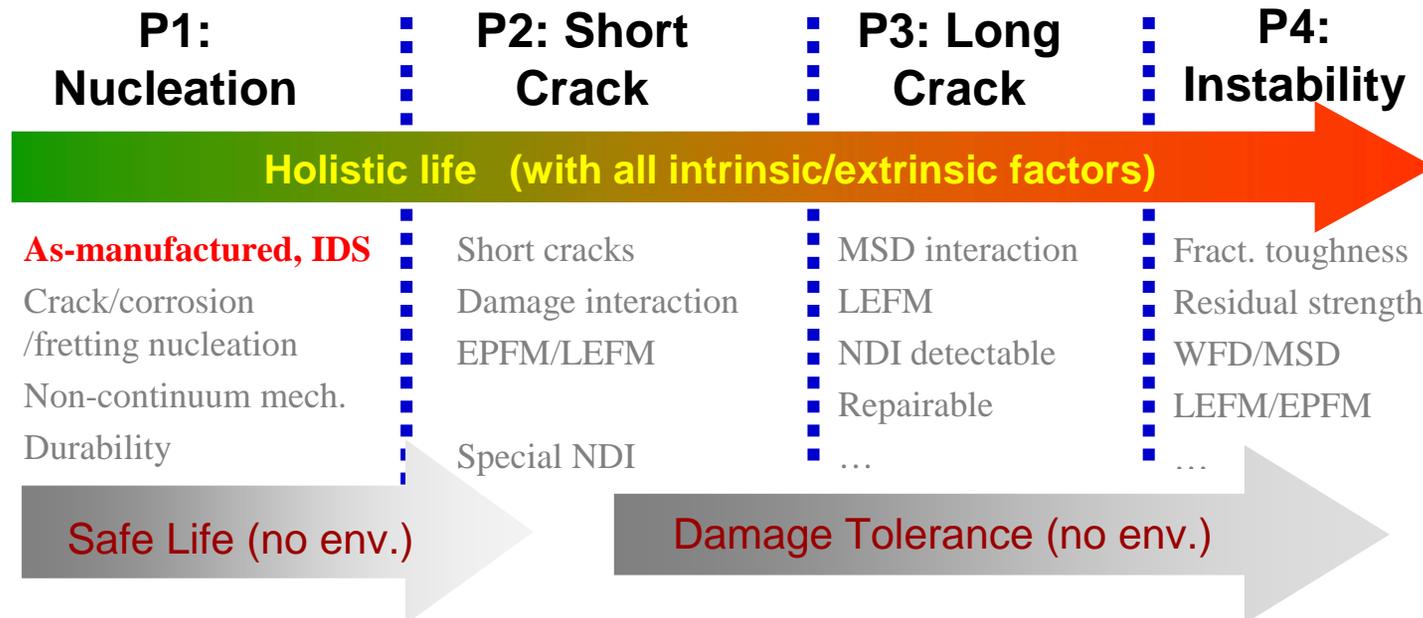
**With these In-service damages**



# Holistic Structural Integrity Process

- The **ever-growing demands** on aircraft availability and sustainment is resulting in a significant increase in the cost of maintaining existing aircraft due to the detection of unanticipated damage.
- **Physics-based models** have recently been developed to predict structural degradation and failure modes to enhance life assessment methodologies. It is now possible to quantify the **internal state** of a material as well as the **external influences** that drive the life of a component.
- These advancements have led to the development of **a new living paradigm** that will permit the CF to retain the positive aspects associated with both the safe life and damage tolerance approaches while quantifying the risks associated with all sources of damage. This paradigm is known as the **Holistic Structural Integrity Process (HOLSIP)**, which is capable of positively impacting all aspects of safety, cost and availability through risk management.
- Can also be effectively applied in **SHM (DPHM)** and elsewhere.

# Holistic structural integrity Process (HOLSIP) Development

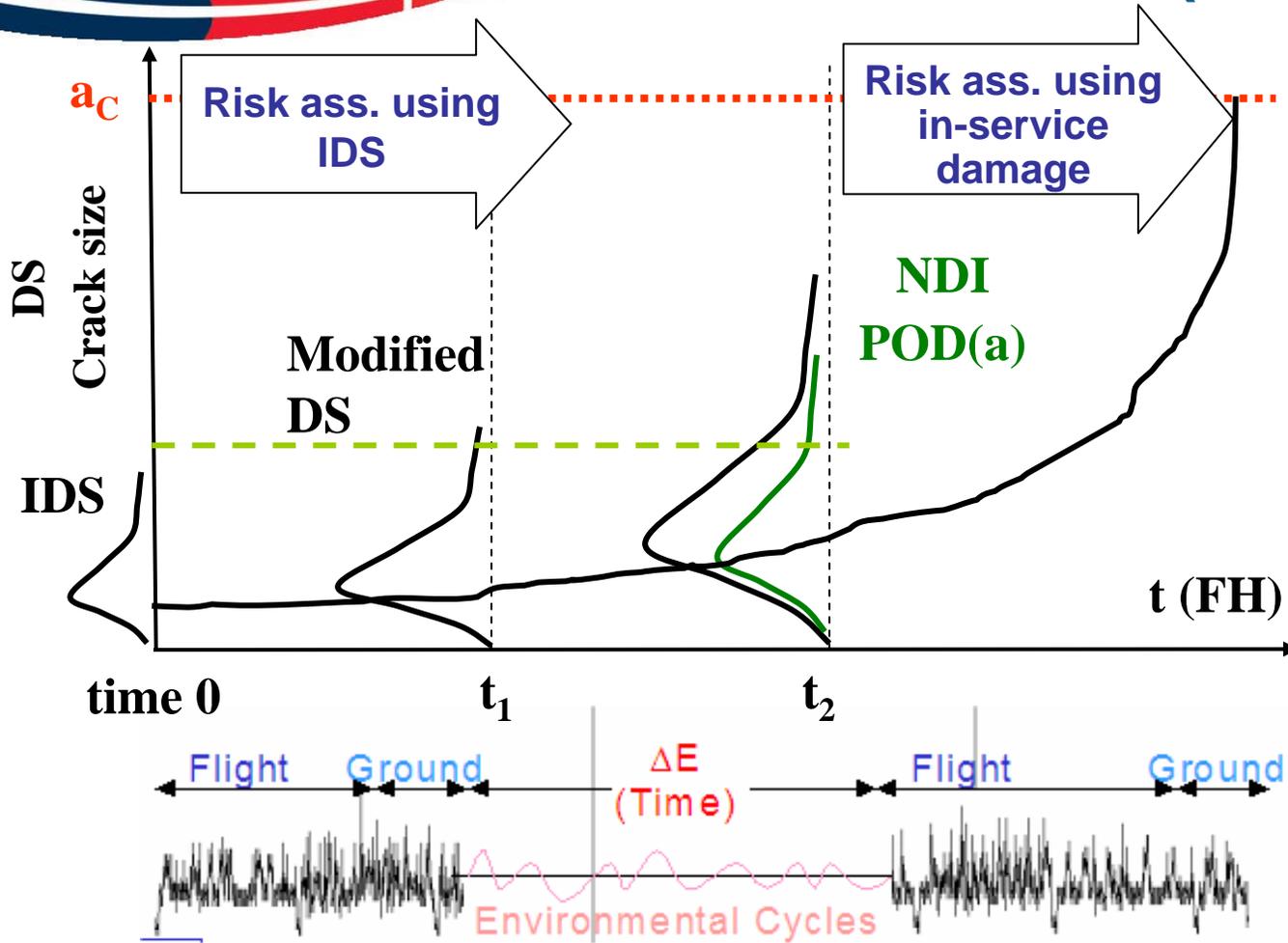


**Motivation:** augment safe-life and damage tolerant paradigms with the *ultimate* goal to evolve HOLSIP into a new paradigm for both design and sustainment stages.

**Key elements:** physics based models, probabilistic modeling, health monitoring, advanced NDE and risk assessment...

**Developers:** NRC, APES, U. of Utah, Tri/Austin, AFRL/USAF,...

# HOLSIP: Discontinuity States (DS) Evaluation



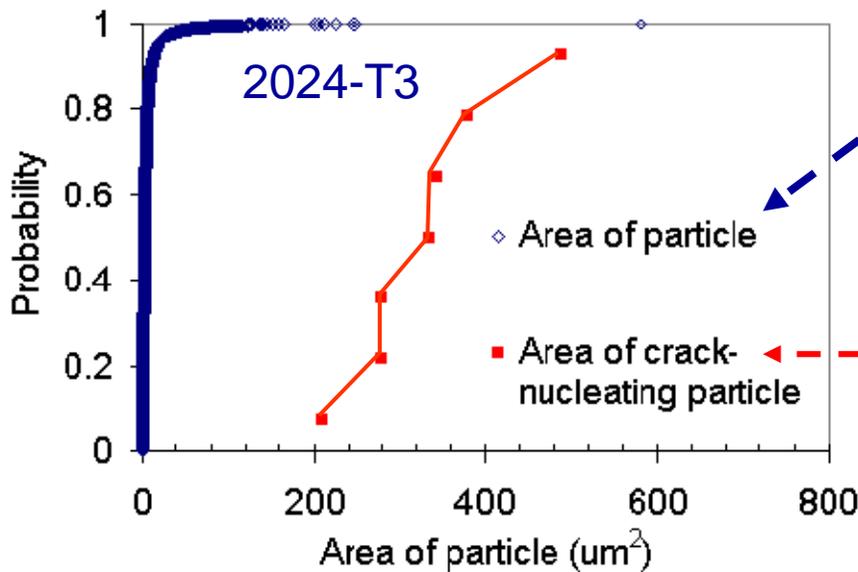
## HOLSIP Fundamental Tasks:

- physically characterize IDS,
- physically model external effects (cyclic and environmental) on IDS.
- ...

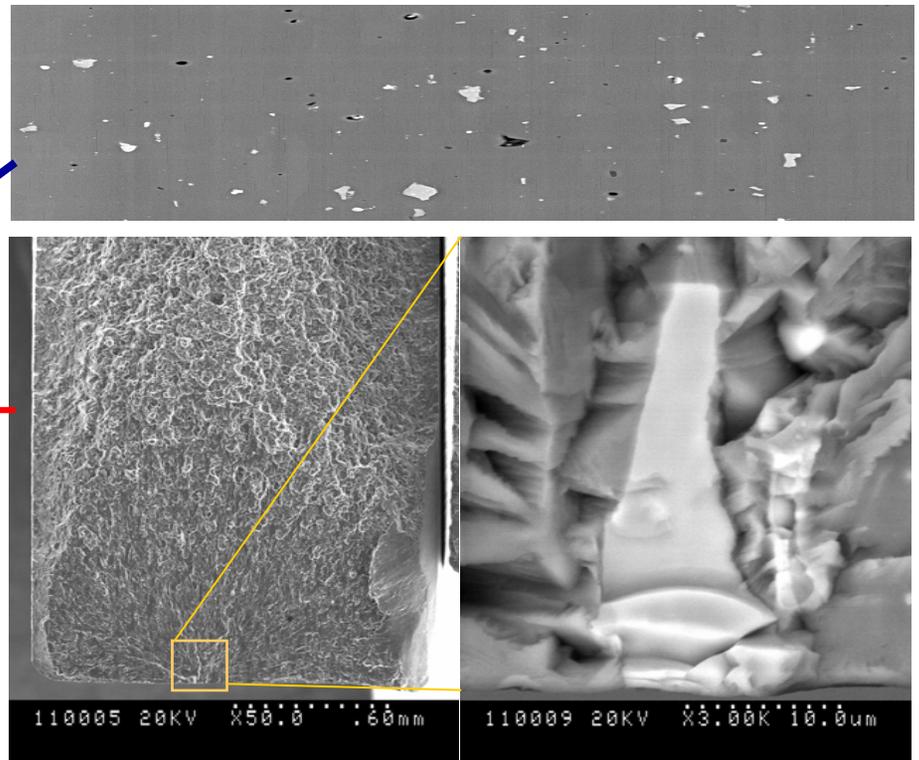
- Presently, HOLSIP is developing IDS database and physics models to 'evolve' the IDS for *future living technology*.

# Initial Discontinuity States (Material Characterization for Future Lifting Technology)

**Initial discontinuity states (IDS):** The *initial population of discontinuities that are in a structure made of a given material as it was manufactured in a given geometric form.* The IDS is a geometric and material characteristic that is a function of composition, microstructure, phases and phase morphology, and the manufacturing process used to process the material.



**IDS examples: particles,  
pores, scratches.**



# IDS Distributions (Research for Future Lifting Technology)

## IDS/particle and pore distribution

- **A 3 Parameter Lognormal** – best-fit distributions for all material IDS/particle and pores.
- **Weighted 3P Lognormal**: best fit to the *right tail* of the distributions.
- **Distribution parameters** were obtained for

2024-T3

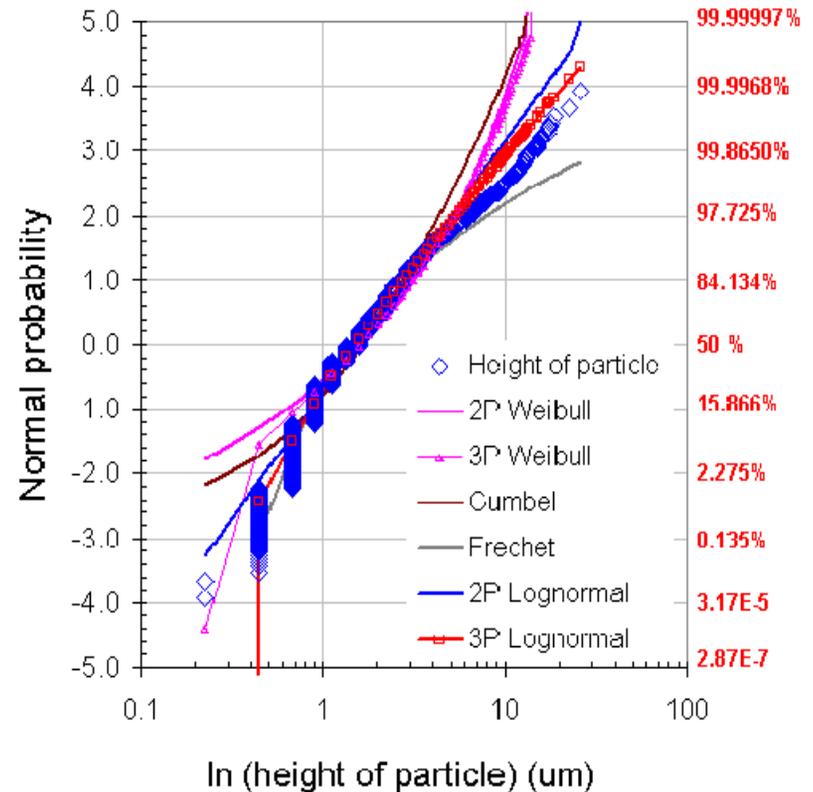
7075-T6

7050-T7452

7079-T6

7178-T6

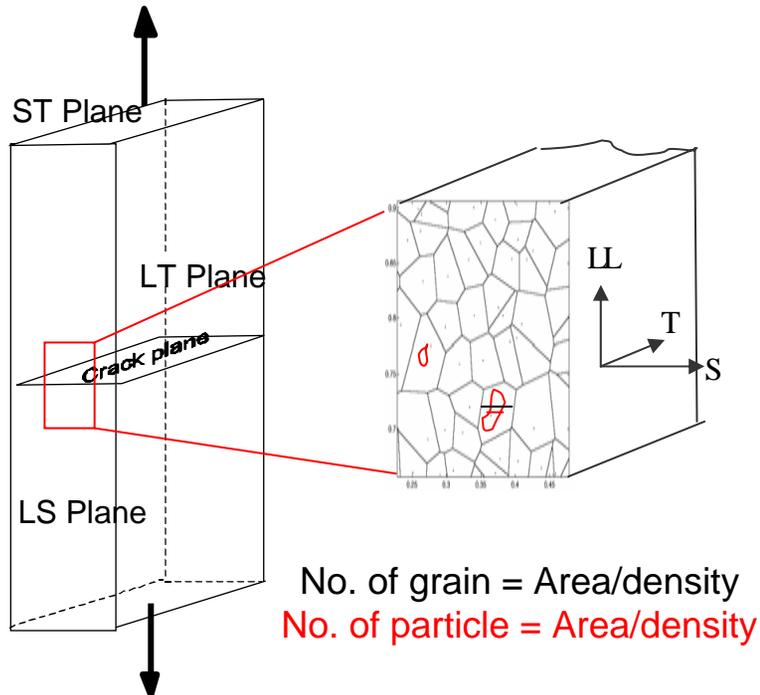
*for future HOLSIP application.*



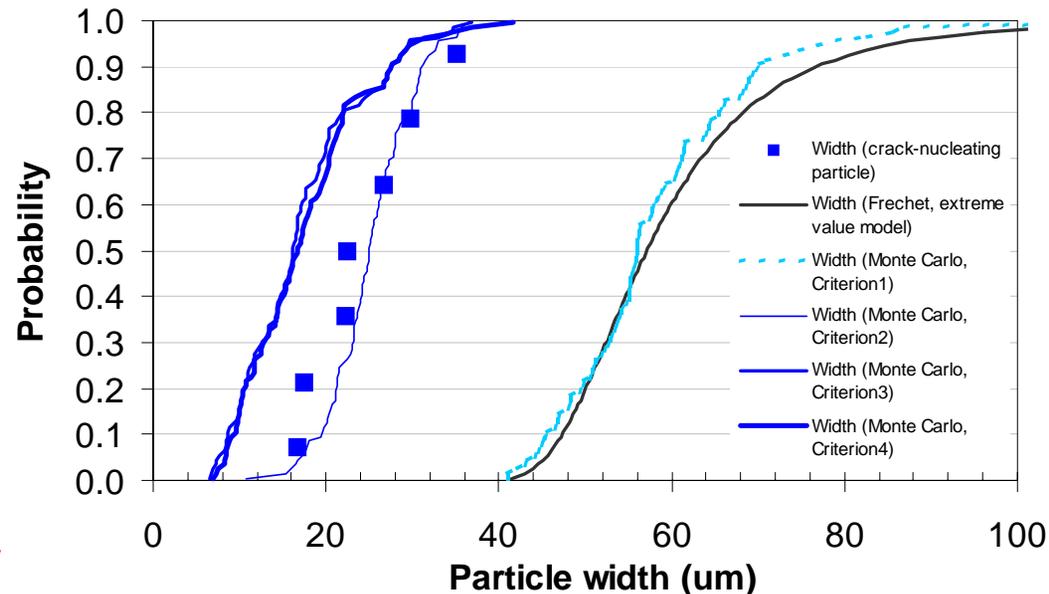
Ex. Goodness-of-fit plot on Normal probability paper (height of particle on ST plane, bare 2024-T3,0.063"CFSD)

# IDS Fatigue Subset (Research for Future Lifting Technology)

Developed a new *Monte Carlo simulation* to correlate material IDS distributions to its fatigue subsets based on material science and micromechanics.



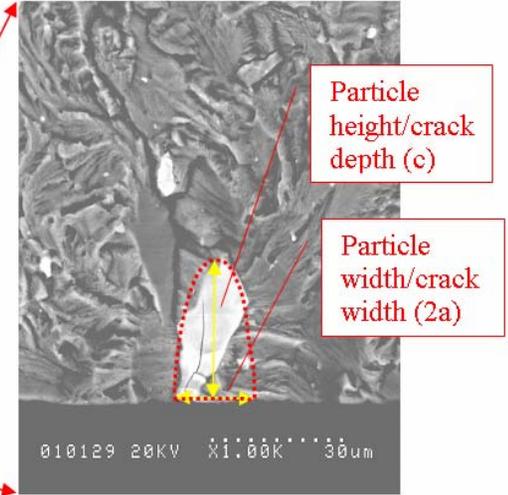
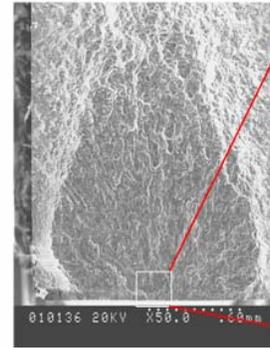
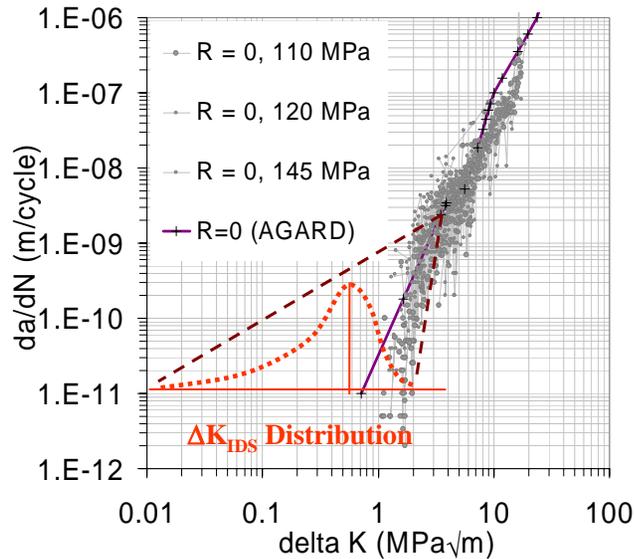
Schematic particle and grain structure on fatigue critical area.



IDS fatigue subsets, prediction and test (2024-T3/0.063",  $S_{max}$  44 ksi, R0.1)

- Particle size, grain size and orientation are considered in the Simulation.

# IDS based Short Crack Model (Probabilistic Modeling for Future Lifing Technology)

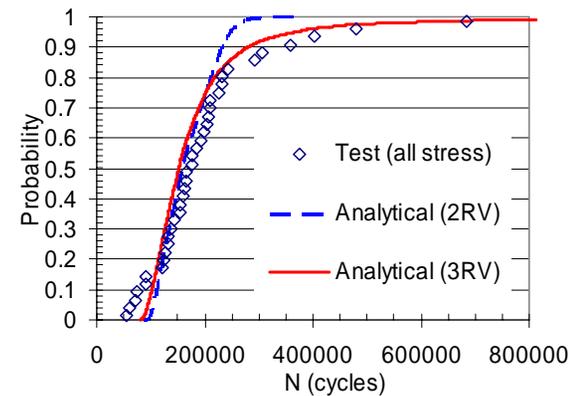


IDS/particle based fatigue model variables, 1) particle width, 2) height,

3)  $\Delta K_{IDS}$  - combined microstructural effects (particle, grain size, orientation..)

Physics-based short crack model can,

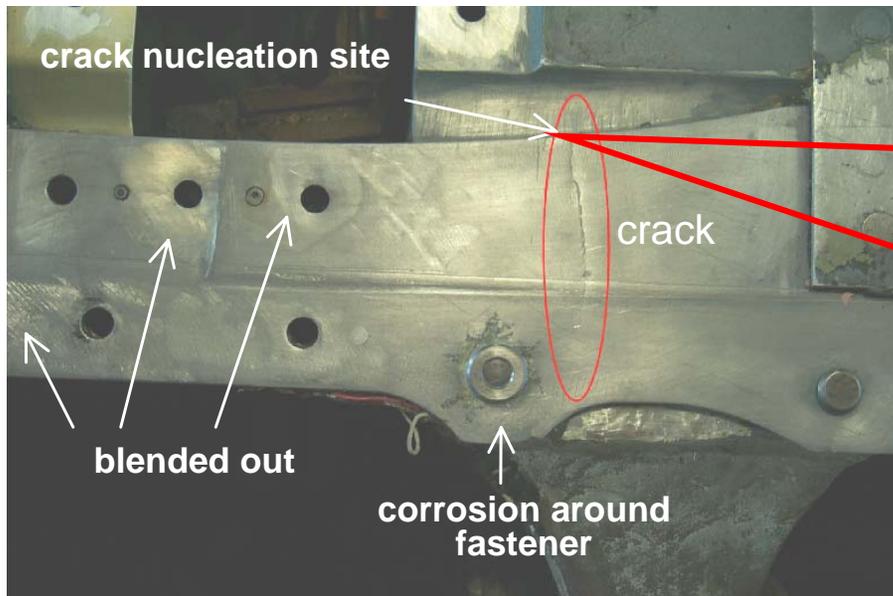
- correlate IDS/particle with individual fatigue life
- estimate a better fatigue life distribution



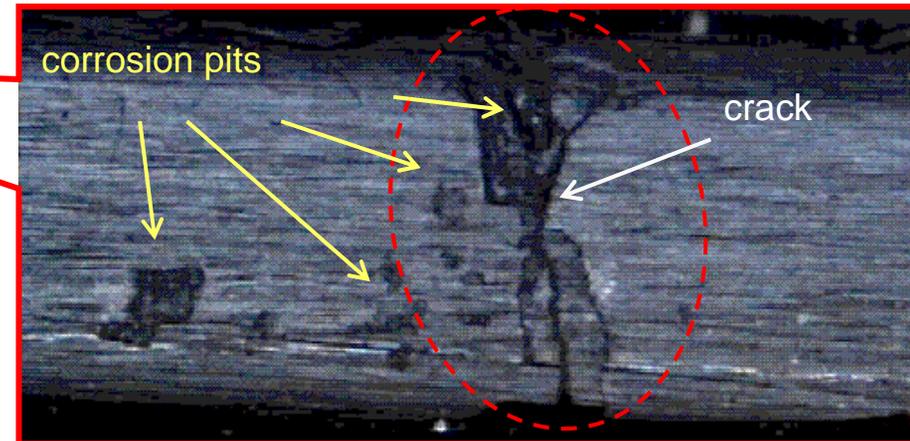
Fatigue life distribution of 2024-T3

# Case Study: CF-18 Corrosion Fatigue Analysis

- Fuselage/transition structure, 3644 hours service in US Navy (1984-1994)
- Crack (1.81 inch) found at 2932 simulated flight hours in the right hand upper outboard longeron (UOL).

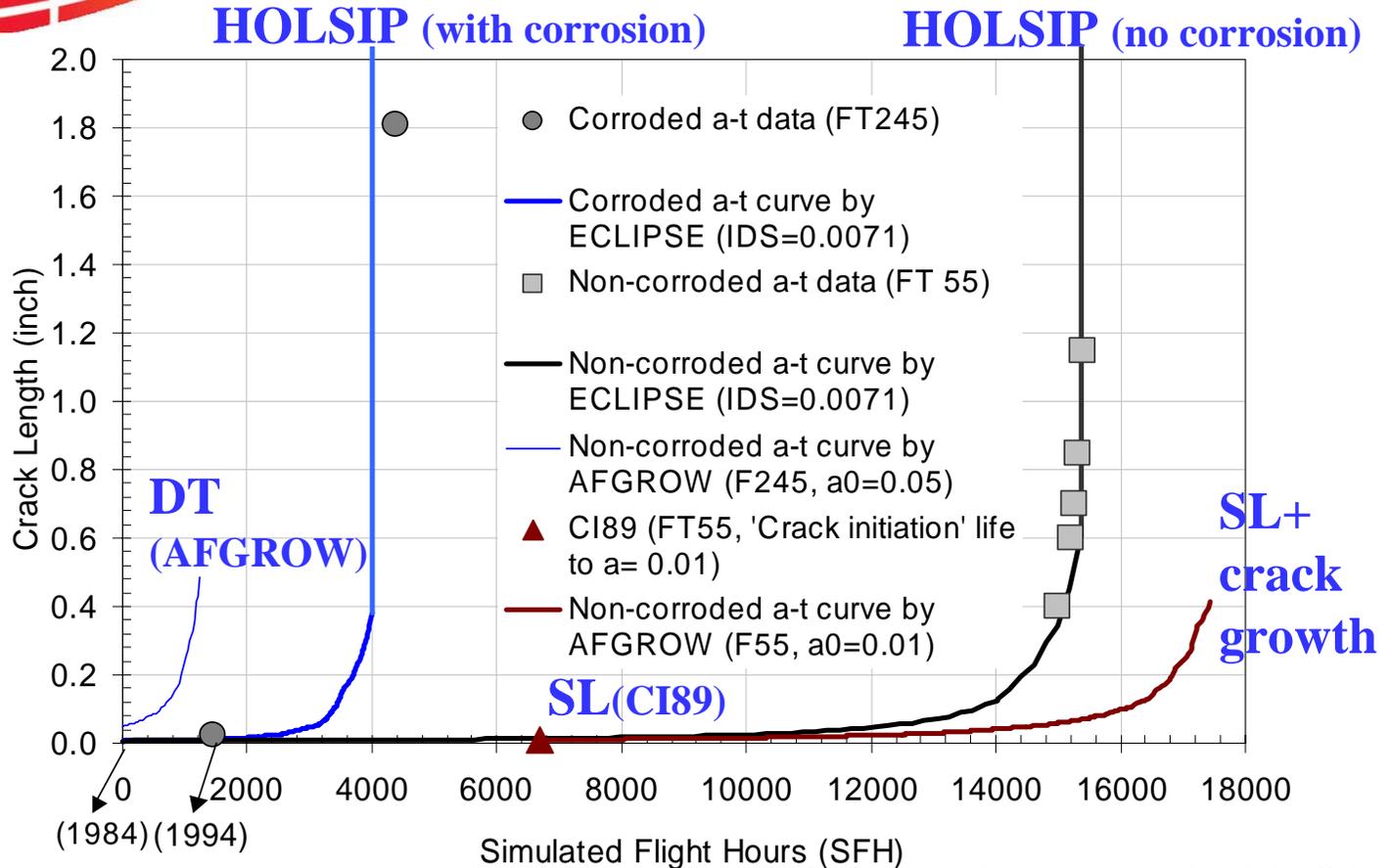


Crack nucleated from corrosion pits on upper outboard longeron



Side view of upper outboard longeron at crack nucleation site

# HOLSIP vs. Safe-Life (SL), Damage Tolerant (DT)



- DT life is too short as compared to the test result from the corroded UOL.
- SL life is conservative and SL+ crack growth is not conservative when compared to the pristine test results.
- **HOLSIP life is close to reality for both cases.**

# Risk Management for CF Fleets

## CF ASIP managers need:

- New structural integrity assessment capabilities to deal with the new materials and joining technologies used in the newly acquired platforms as well as the increase in occurrences in age related degradation (such as WFD) that are occurring in existing platforms.
- This new structural integrity analysis has to be combined with a risk assessment capability.



# Quantitative Risk Assessment for CF ASIP

- **RARM** (Record of Airworthiness Risk Management): *“the single most critical decision making tool in the air force”* (DND).
- Qualitative risk assessment (RA) and Quantitative RA in RARM.

## Qualitative Definitions



## Quantitative Definitions

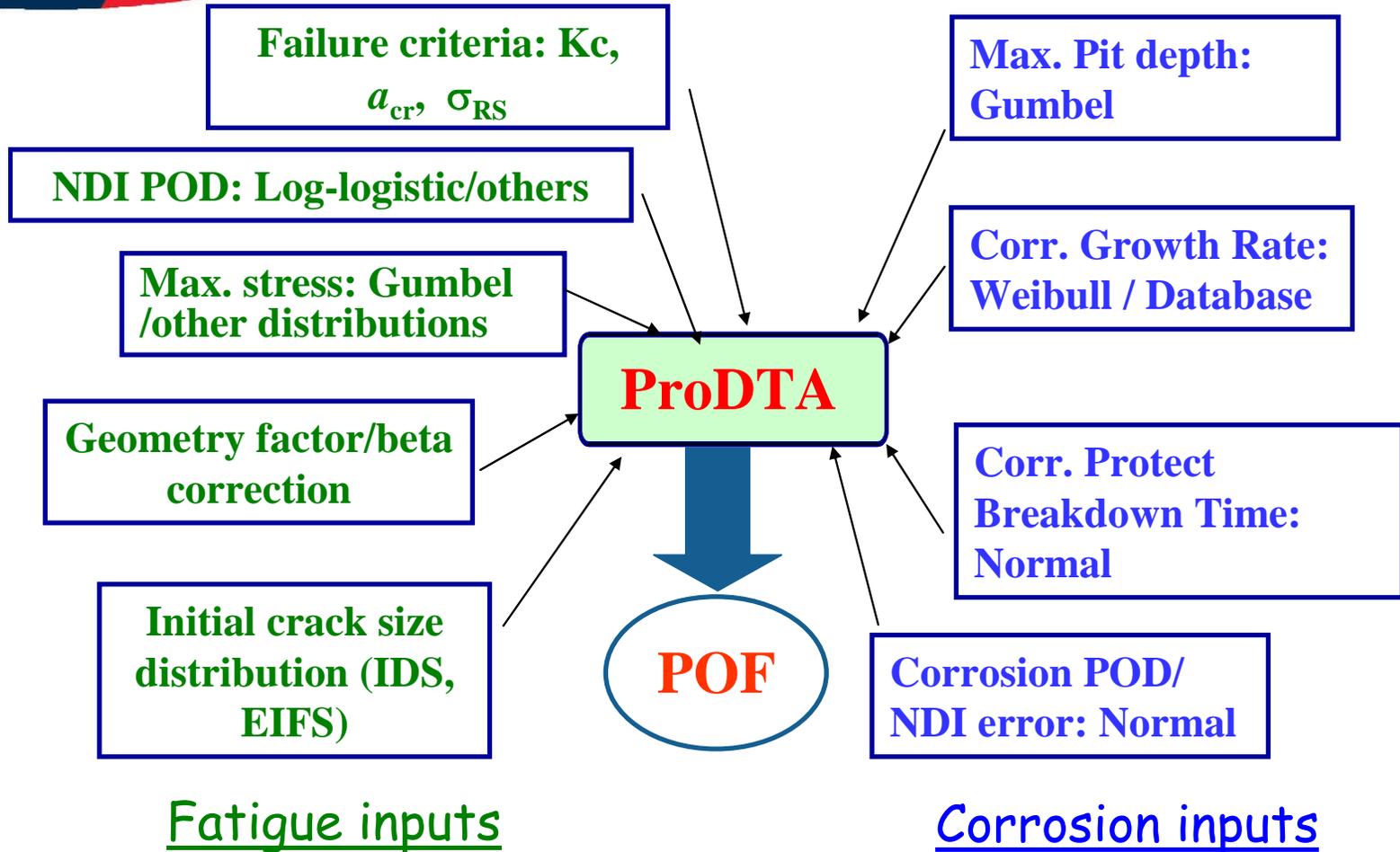
Description	Level	Qualitative Definition(s)	Individual Aircraft Product (1)	Entire Fleet (2)	Individual Aircraft Career (3)	All Exposed DND Aircraft (4)
Frequent	A	Likely to occur frequently.	Expected to occur frequently during the operational life of an individual aircraft.	Occurs occasionally across the entire fleet.	Expected to frequently occur on each individual aircraft career.	Occurs occasionally to the entire population.
Reasonably Probable	B	Expected to occur one or more times.	Expected to occur one or more times during the operational life of an individual aircraft.	Likely to occur one or more times per year to the entire fleet.	Expected to occur one or more times based on career during each individual aircraft career.	Likely to occur one or more times to the population per year.
Remote	C	Unlikely, but possible to occur.	Unlikely, but possible to occur during the operational life of an individual aircraft.	May occur one or more times per year to the entire fleet.	Unlikely, but possible to occur during each individual aircraft career.	May occur one or more times per year to the population.
Extremely Remote	D	Not expected to occur.	Not expected to occur during the operational life of an individual aircraft.	May occur one or more times during the entire operational life of the entire fleet.	Not expected to occur during each individual aircraft career.	May occur one or more times to the entire population.
Extremely Improbable	E	So unlikely, it may be assumed that it will never occur.	So unlikely, it may be assumed that it will never occur.	So unlikely, it may be assumed that it will never occur during the entire operational life of all aircraft of the type or code of aircraft of the type.	So unlikely, it may be assumed that it will never occur during the entire operational life of all aircraft of the type or code of aircraft of the type.	So unlikely, it may be assumed that it will never occur during the entire operational life of all aircraft of the type or code of aircraft of the type.

Hazard Probability Level	Hazard Probability Thresholds (Per Flight Hour)			
	DND Passenger Carrying Aircraft (Derived from FAR 25.1301/25.1309)	Military Aircraft		
		Military Aircraft	Military Aircraft - Operations and Engaged	Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) - Above 15000 ft
Frequent	Greater than 1	Greater than 1	Greater than 1	Greater than 1
Reasonably Probable	$10^{-1}$	$10^{-2}$	$10^{-3}$	$10^{-4}$
Remote	$10^{-2}$	$10^{-3}$	$10^{-4}$	$10^{-5}$
Extremely Remote	$10^{-3}$	$10^{-4}$	$10^{-5}$	$10^{-6}$
Extremely Improbable	$10^{-4}$	$10^{-5}$	$10^{-6}$	$10^{-7}$

**For all military aircraft, fixed wing, UAV, and helicopters**

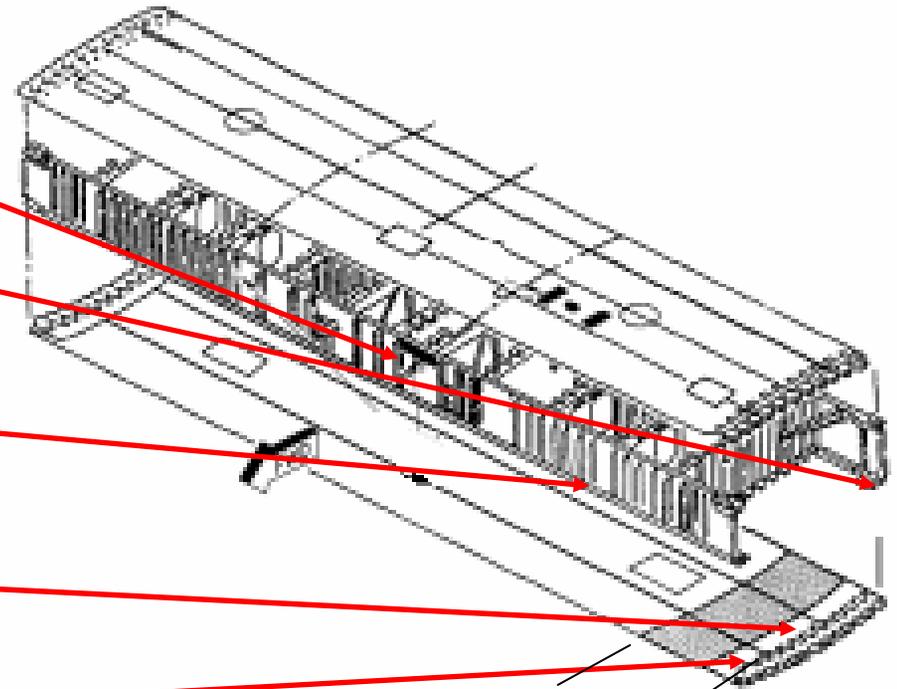
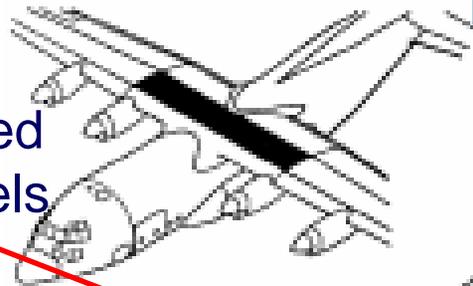
When “sufficient” data is available, Quantitative RA substantiates the assignment of a risk number (ex. frequent  $\rightarrow 10^{-3}$ , remote  $\rightarrow 10^{-5}$ , extremely remote  $\rightarrow 10^{-7}$  ...)

# HOLSIP-Based Risk Analysis Tool (NRC in-house)



- ProDTA is under development, with a goal to become a tool for CF fleets

# Case Study: CC130 CFCW-1 Lower Surface Panel Risk Assessment



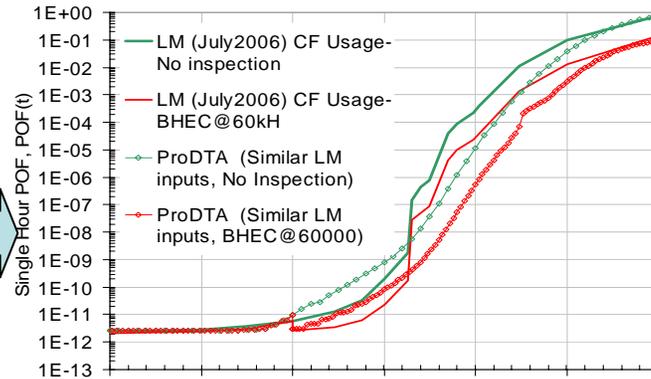
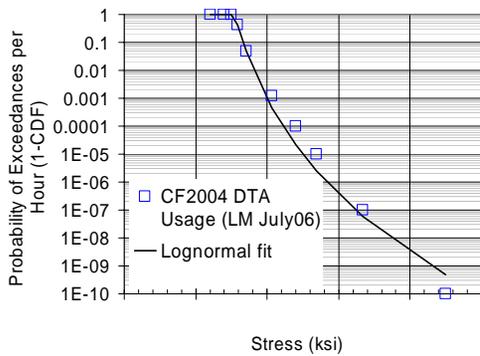
WS174-178

WS214-220

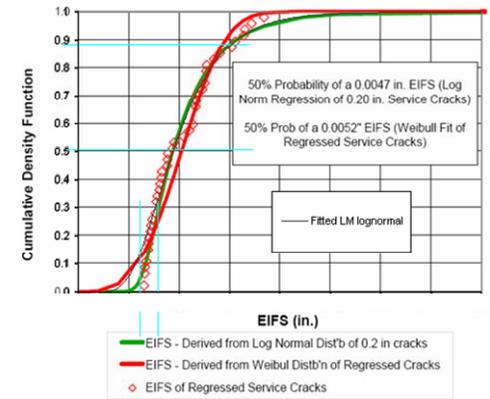
- **CW-1:** 10 of 30 A/C inspected had cracked Lower Aft Wing Panels
- **CW-12:** 11 cracked/severed Corner Fittings
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- **CW-9:** 13 cracked Rainbow Fittings
- **CW-11:** 14 cracked Lower Forward Wing Panels

# Case Study: CC130 CFCW-1 PoF Cal. using ProDTA

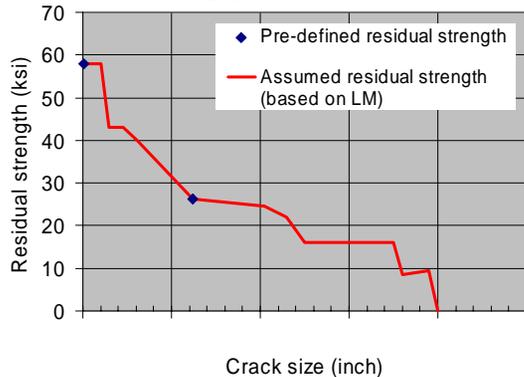
## Stress Exceedance (Lognormal)



## Initial Crack Size Distr. (EIFS, IDS)



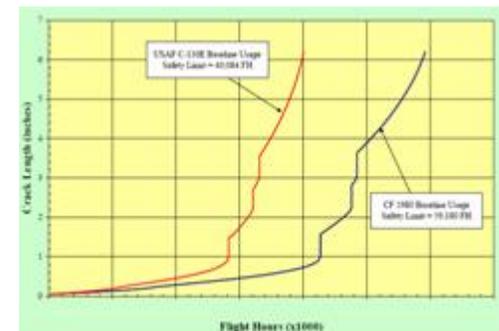
## Residual Strength Curve



## Bolt Hole Eddy Current POD(a)

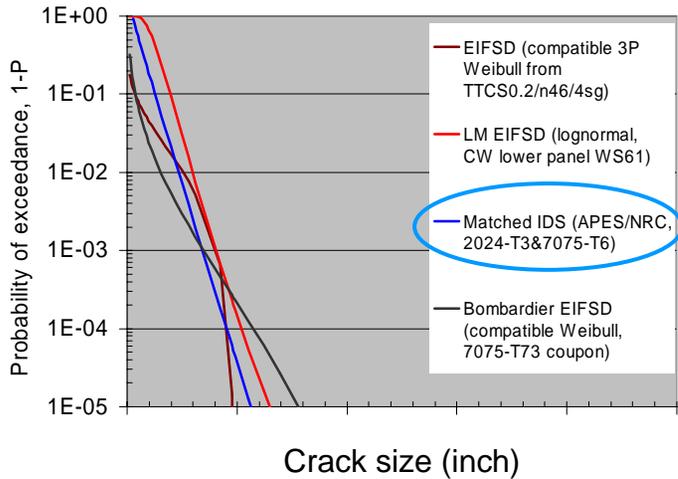


## Crack growth curve (EBH, CF)

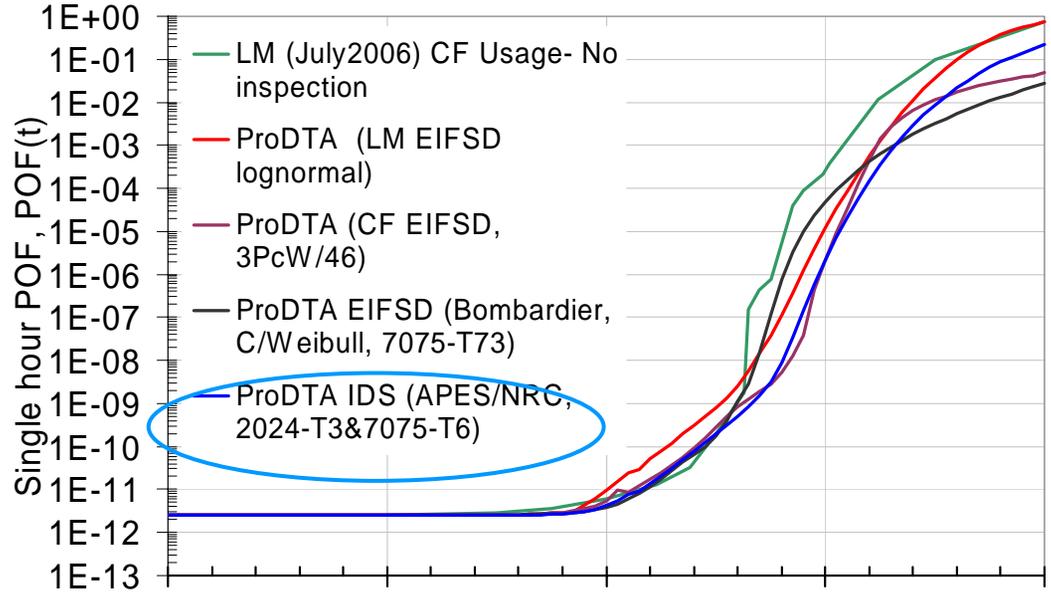


- ProDTA verified OEM's results.

# Significance of ICSD (EIFSD vs. IDS) on RA results



Probability of exceedance (1-CDF) for ICSD



Single flight hour POF, using different initial crack size distribution (ICSD) curves

## Different ICSDs

- Bombardier, coupon based EIFSD
- NRC/APES, material&coupon based IDS

- If the usage is known, IDS could result in reasonable PoF results.
- It is possible to do risk analysis BEFORE in-service cracks are found.

# Next Case Study: CC130 Risk Analysis with MSD/WFD

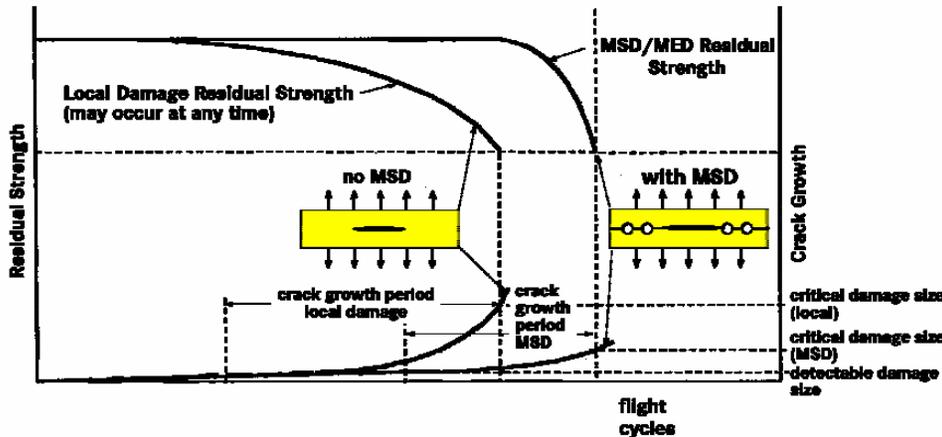
Probabilistic

Monte Carlo Simulation

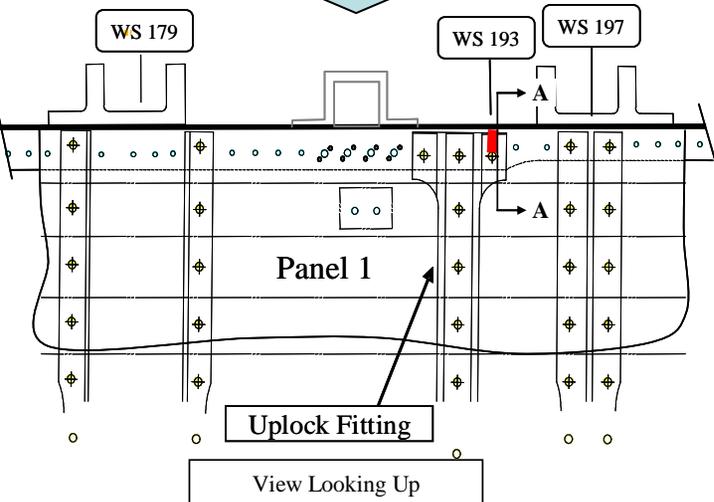
Deterministic

- Stress Exceedance Curve
- Initial Damage Scenario (Multiple holes with randomized primary and secondary flaw sizes)
- PoD in multiple holes inspection
- ICSD/EIFS/IDS Distribution

- LEFM Crack Growth (new beta factors for multiple crack interaction)
- Residual Strength with crack plus load redistribution (Net Section Ligament or CTOA or T-Integral)

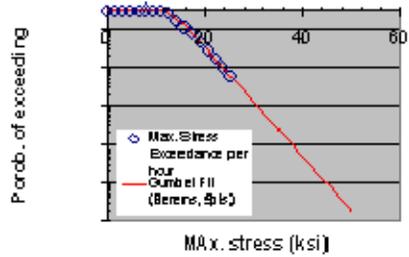


# Case Study: Risk Analysis Trial on CP140 (P3)

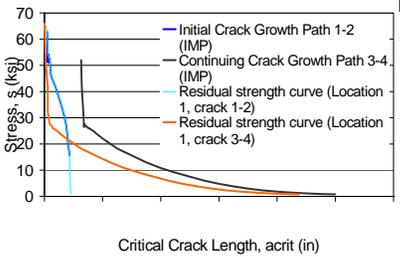


- **Problem definition:** CP140 locations, geometry, configuration
- **RA input data**
  - ✓ Initial crack size distribution (ICSD – EIFSD and IDS)
  - ✓ Crack growth data (a - t curve) - preliminary
  - ✓ Max. stress distribution (stress exceedance curve)
  - ② ✓ Residual strength data ( $\sigma_{RS}$  - a curve)
  - ✓ POD data (POD - a curve) – reference curve
- ✓ **Goal:** demo. NRC ProDTA capability, check data availability for CP140 risk analysis

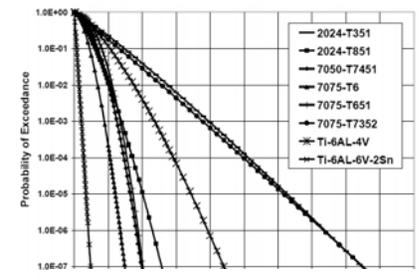
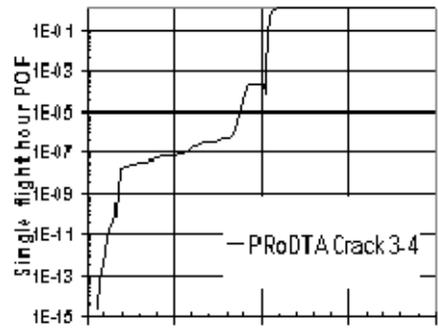
# Case Study: CP140 (P3) PoF Cal. using ProDTA



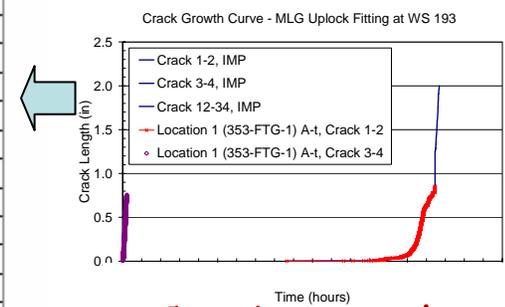
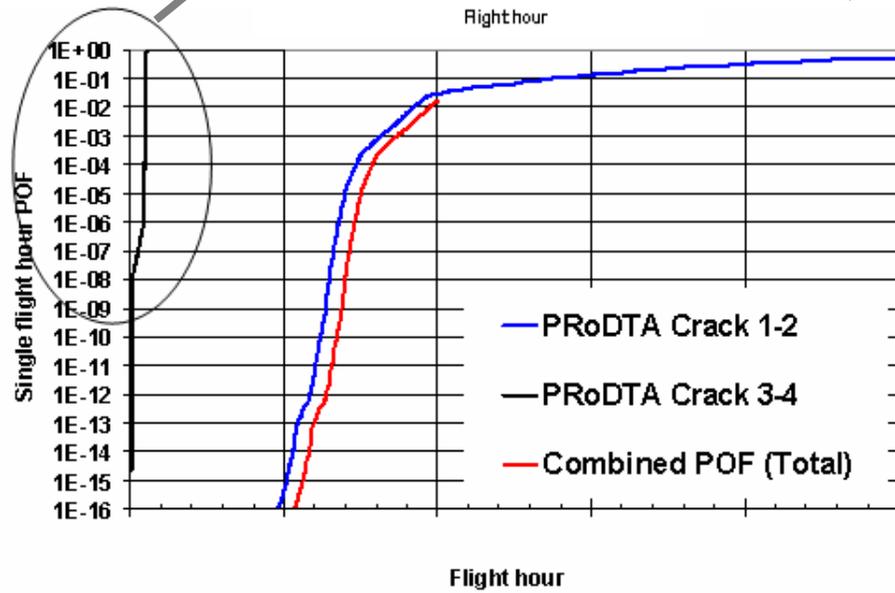
**Max. Stress (Exceedance)**



**Residual Strength**



**No ICSD yet, try USAF EIFSD!**



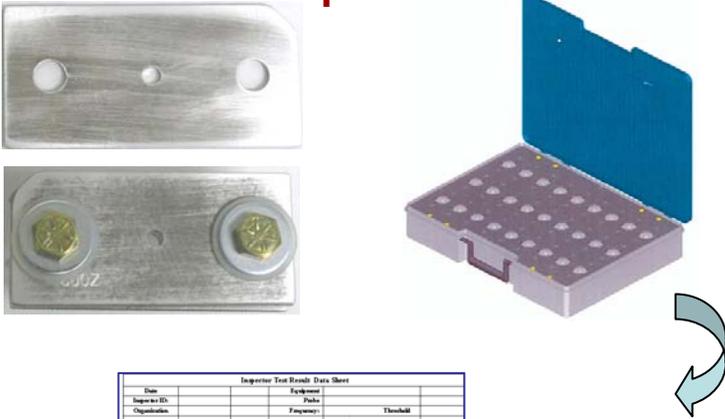
**Crack growth curve**

- Demonstrated the feasibility of risk analysis for CP140 using ProDTA.

# Development of Cost Effective POD/NDI for CF

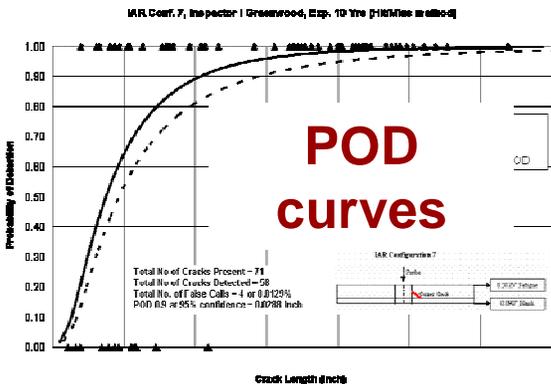
## Generic Bolt Hole Eddy Current POD Study

**Coupon box**



**Report card**

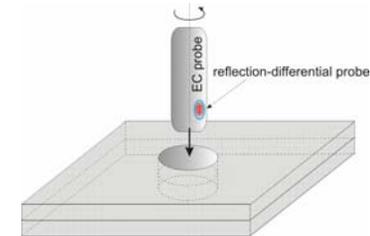
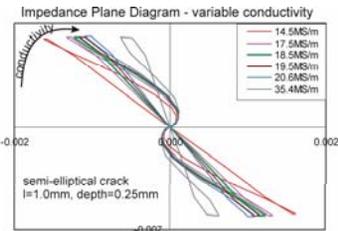
Inspector Test Results Data Sheet				
Date		Equipment		
Inspector ID#		Probe		Threshold
Organization		Frequency		
Box ID		Magnitude Scale		Noise Level
				Comments
Test Results table				
Box and Test Number	Crack Indicator (Y/N)	Signal Magnitude	Phase Angle	
A11				
A12				
A13				
A14				
A15				
A16				
A17				
A18				
A19				
A20				
A21				
A22				
A23				
A24				
A25				
A26				
A27				
A28				
A29				
A30				



**POD curves**

**Goal:** to replace 0.050" rogue flaw size with the crack size at 90% POD at 95% confidence (90/95) for DTA and Risk Analysis

**Application:** CC130, CP140 (USN designation P3) and likely all CF fleets in future



**Side goal:** Eddy Current Modeling to deter. POD

# Concluding Remarks

- To meet the CF challenges, a new life management paradigm, HOLSIP, is being developed that takes into account cyclic loading and time related effects, to accurately determine the risk associated with manufactured quality and service-induced damage.
- The risk assessment module ProDTA, based on HOLSIP, is very flexible, and expandable to handle different inputs. ProDTA is being further developed along with cost-effective NDI/POD development.
- HOLSIP is not just another crack growth model. It is a new way to evaluate structural integrity of existing and new designs. It has the potential to form the core of future SHM (DPHM) systems.

# Future Work

- NRC will continue to work with DND to further the development of the HOSLIP framework in order to meet their future requirements for aircraft certification and sustainment.
- In association with DND, procedures will be developed to carry out generic risk assessments, which will allow them to perform quantitative risk assessments on other CF fleets.
- Processes will be developed to ensure the proper capture of the data required to carry out a risk assessment on an individual aircraft. This will include carrying out teardowns, in-service inspections and crack data recording, sensor interpretation (e.g. corrosion, crack sensors) as well as cost-effective NDI/POD modeling and data fusion.
- Maintenance optimization (variable inspection interval, NDI options, and repair techniques options) will be incorporate into risk assessment.

# Acknowledgements

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  - the National Research Council Canada,
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# Questions?

