Integrated Flight Propulsion Control Research Results Using the NASA F-15 HIDEC Flight Research Facility

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INTEGRATED FLIGHT PROPULSION CONTROL RESEARCH RESULTS USING THE NASA F-15 HIDEC FLIGHT RESEARCH FACILITY

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Abstract

Over the last two decades, NASA has conducted several flight research experiments in integrated flight-propulsion control. Benefits have included increased thrust, range, and survivability; reduced fuel consumption; and reduced maintenance. These flight programs were flown at NASA Dryden Flight Research Facility. This paper presents the basic concepts for control integration, examples of implementation, and benefits of integrated flight propulsion control systems.

The F-15 research involved integration of the engine, flight, and inlet control systems. Further extension of the integration included real-time, onboard optimization of engine, inlet, and flight control variables; a self-repairing flight control system; and an engine-only control concept for emergency control. The flight research programs and the resulting benefits are described for the F-15 research.

Nomenclature

ADECDS adaptive digital engine control system
CAS control augmentation system
DEEC digital electronic engine control
DEFCS digital electronic flight control system
DFCC digital flight control computer
EEL extended engine life
EGE effective gain estimator
EMD engine model derivative
EPR engine pressure ratio
FDIE fault detection isolation and estimation
FTIT fan turbine inlet temperature
HIDEC highly integrated digital electronic control
HUD heads-up display
INS inertial navigation system
IPCS integrated propulsion control system
NASA National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NPR nozzle pressure ratio
P_amb ambient pressure, lb/in^2
PROTECT propulsive techniques for emergency control
PSC performance seeking control
\bar{q} dynamic pressure
SIDC system impairment detection and classification
SRFCS self-repairing flight control system
TSFC thrust specific fuel consumption
USAF United States Air Force
\dot{V}_c\_a\_s calibrated airspeed
\alpha angle of attack, deg
\beta angle of sideslip, deg

Introduction

The integration of propulsion control systems and propulsion-flight control systems has been shown to significantly improve airplane performance parameters such as thrust, range, and rate of climb. When systems are not integrated, each system must be able to operate in a worst-case combination with the other systems, and large operating margins are required. Integration allows these margins to be reduced when the full margins are not required, resulting in higher thrust, lower fuel flow or range, and better safety and reliability. Integration control laws are developed in an
off-line process and stored in an onboard computer for implementation. System performance was further improved by real-time optimization used in place of the a priori or preprogrammed optimization. The real-time approach is much more challenging to develop and implement. Because it can adapt to changing flight conditions, however, the real-time approach may achieve higher levels of performance.

To study the problems of integration and to determine the benefits of integration in the actual flight environment, NASA Dryden has conducted flight research over the past two decades. In the mid-1970's, propulsion system digital control and control integration were developed and demonstrated in the Integrated Propulsion Control System (IPCS) Program (Ref. 1), a joint United States Air Force (USAF) and NASA program flown on an F-111E airplane. The flight demonstration (Fig. 1) clearly showed the benefits of digital control and control integration.

In the late 1970's, a digital cooperative control system was flown on the NASA YF-12C airplane (Fig. 2). This system integrated the inlet control, autothrottle, airdata, and navigation functions. It dramatically improved flightpath control and range, though the integration was not optimized (Ref. 2). This technology was transitioned into production when the concept was implemented on the SR-71 fleet.

In the early 1980's, NASA transitioned integrated controls research to the F-15 airplane. First, the digital electronic engine control (DEEC) was flight-tested (Ref. 3). Later, the engine control was integrated with the flight control system in the Highly Integrated Digital Electronic Control (HIDEC) Program (Ref. 4). This program demonstrated significant improvements in thrust, fuel consumption, and engine life. Further extension of the integration to include real-time, onboard optimization of engine, inlet, and flight control variables (performance seeking control (PSC)) was also accomplished (Ref. 5). Integration also made it possible to develop a self-repairing flight control system (SRFCS) on the F-15 (Ref. 6), which has been successfully tested. A propulsion-only flight control system, which uses the engines for emergency flight control, was also developed and tested (Ref. 7).

This paper presents an overview of the integration research programs conducted on the F-15 HIDEC airplane. Figure 3 depicts the chronological order of each integrated control flight research program. Descriptions and benefits of the F-15 research are presented.

**Airplane Description**

The NASA F-15 HIDEC Flight Research Aircraft is a national facility for conducting integrated flight-propulsion control research. It is a single-seat, high-performance fighter with excellent transonic maneuverability and a maximum Mach capability of 2.5. Two afterburning turbofan engines power the F-15, and it has a high-mounted swept-back wing, twin vertical stabilizers, and large horizontal stabilizers. The engine inlets are the two-dimensional external compression type with three ramps and feature variable capture area. Figure 4 shows a three-view drawing of the F-15 aircraft. The airplane is almost 64 ft long and has a wingspan of nearly 43 ft.

The configuration of the NASA F-15 enhances its flexibility for research, since it does not have most of the weapons systems equipment that is part of the standard F-15 aircraft. Absent are the radar, gun, missiles, and weapons systems avionics. This provides a large volume of space for experiments and instrumentation.

**Flight Control System**

The standard F-15 airplane is equipped with a mechanical flight control system that provides control of the ailerons, rudders, and stabilizers. An analog electronic control augmentation system (CAS) operates in all three axes.

For the NASA F-15 airplane, a digital electronic flight control system (DEFCS) augments the standard flight control system. The DEFCS replaces the analog CAS. It is a dual-channel, fail-safe system programmed in Pascal. The Military Standard 1553B (Ref. 8) data bus input-output capability and the unused capacity in the DEFCS computers may be used for other functions.

**Engine Control System**

The standard F100-PW-100 engines (Pratt & Whitney, West Palm Beach, FL) have a hydromechanical control and a supervisory electronic engine control. The F100 engine model derivative (EMD) engines have DEEC systems. The DEEC is a full-authority, single-channel control with a simple hydromechanical secondary control. A universal asynchronous receiver-transmitter data bus provides input-output capability. These engine controls may communicate with the DEFCS for integrated control research.

**Inlet Control System**

A digital control system positions the three inlet variables. These inlet controllers were modified to accept bias signals for the inlet cowl and ramps from the DEFCS, making integrated inlet control research possible.

**Avionics**

The F-15 avionics system has evolved over the years as a result of integrated controls research programs. Figure 5 shows a recent system architecture, and Fig. 6 depicts the aircraft configuration. Three data
busses are used to communicate between the various components, and a data bus interface and control unit ties these busses together.

On the MIL-STD-1553B bus are the DEFCS, the NASA data system, an uplink telemetry system that receives information transmitted from a ground-based computer, and a general-purpose digital computer. This general-purpose computer uses 32-bit words and has a throughput of approximately 2.5 million instructions/sec and a memory of 2 Mbytes. This computer may be programmed in high-order languages such as Ada, FORTRAN, and Pascal. It has been used for the PSC subsonic flight research.

The standard F-15 (H009) data bus communicates with the inertial measuring unit, the attitude and heading reference set, a horizontal situation indicator, an airdata computer, a central computer, and a cockpit navigation control indicator. The DEECs installed on both engines constitute the remaining part of the avionics system. Their universal asynchronous receiver-transmitter data bus communicates with the aircraft through the data bus interface and control unit. The NASA F-15 aircraft, configured with this avionics system, provides a uniquely capable and flexible system for controls integration research.

**Integrated Flight Propulsion Control Modes**

The pilot carried out the only integration of aircraft-engine controls in the original F-15 by trying to optimize throttle and stick commands for a given mission. Trim control and feedback compensation were carried out by separate flight, inlet, and engine controllers without benefit of shared information.

The designers were aware of the airflow demands of the engine and designed the F-15 variable inlet geometry schedules accordingly. The designers of the DEEC knew what pressure distortion levels were encountered behind the F-15 inlet; engine control laws were produced with sufficient stability margin to ensure stall-free engine operation at the worst levels of distortion. But because the subsystems were not designed to communicate in flight, performance compromises were unavoidable.

**Adaptive Digital Engine Control System**

Figure 7 depicts the integration of the engine control system to the flight control system. In using ADECS, additional thrust was obtained at intermediate and above intermediate power settings by decreasing the nozzle throat area to increase the engine pressure ratio (EPR). This occurs at near constant airflow. The EPR is increased until the fan turbine inlet temperature (FTIT) limit is approached. Thrust is increased at the expense of reduced engine stall margin.

Substantial stall margin is built into engine control schedules to accommodate the distortion produced at high angles of attack or high sideslip angles. In the ADECS at EPR mode, some of the stall margin reserved for extreme inlet distortion is used to increase thrust in regions of low distortion. As flight conditions produce high inlet distortion, the amount of EPR uptrim is reduced to restore stall margin. Figure 8 shows a typical stability audit with and without EPR uptrim. Additional information on stability audits and definition of the amount of stall margin available are found in Ref. 4.

The EPR uptrim control law is implemented in the digital flight control computer (DFCC). When the predicted angle of attack (\(\alpha\)) and sideslip angle (\(\beta\)) are moderate, the controller issues an EPR command to the engine causing the engine to operate close to the stall line. The DFCC uses airframe pitch, roll, and yaw rates and normal, lateral, and axial accelerations to predict angles of attack and sideslip. As these predicted angles become large, the controller decreases the uptrim signal to ensure stall-free engine operation. Details of the EPR uptrim logic are given in Ref. 4.

The ADECS also provides a constant-thrust or extended engine life (EEL) mode that improves the engine thrust-specific fuel consumption (TSFC) and increases engine life by reducing turbine temperature. This EEL mode increases EPR while reducing engine airflow to maintain constant thrust for a given power setting. Figure 9 illustrates this mode.

**Flight Results**

Figure 10 indicates the improvements in thrust for intermediate power at various altitudes. These improvements range from approximately 8 percent at 10,000 ft to 10.5 percent at 30,000 ft. If the engine is uptrimmed using the excess stall margin while thrust is held constant, TSFC can be reduced as shown in Fig. 11. At 30,000 ft, Mach 0.6 and maximum power, a 16-percent reduction in TSFC was obtained. This compares well with the predicted value of 17 percent. More details of predicted versus actual results can be found in Ref. 9.

The EEL mode was shown to reduce engine turbine temperature up to 80 °F. Figure 12 shows this reduction in temperature. This has been predicted by the engine manufacturer to be equivalent to reducing high-pressure turbine wear rate by 50 percent at high-power settings. Over a typical mission profile, this results in 10- to 15-percent increased turbine life.
The ADECS test results proved that substantial gains in excess thrust (thrust minus drag) for increased performance, or reduction in FITT for extended engine life, can be realized through integrated controls.

**Performance Seeking Control**

Personnel at NASA anticipated that additional benefits could be realized by replacing the ADECS schedules, which are based on a normal engine, with a model-based control algorithm that adapts to engine variations. The PSC was designed to develop such an adaptive, integrated flight-propulsion control algorithm and to demonstrate this control technique in flight.

The PSC onboard adaptive real-time optimization algorithm has three modes: the maximum thrust mode, which maximizes excess thrust (thrust minus drag) during accelerations, climbs, and dashes; the minimum fuel mode, which minimizes fuel consumption during aircraft cruise; and the minimum FITT mode, which extends engine life by reducing FITT.

The standard engine sensors provide input information to a Kalman filter, which estimates engine component deviations to account for other than nominal engine performance. These component deviations represent changes in fan low-pressure turbine efficiency, fan airflow, compressor high-pressure turbine efficiency, core airflow, and core turbine area. The deviations are estimated within the accuracy of the Kalman filter and its inputs (Ref. 10).

The component deviation estimates are used to match the onboard engine model to the operating characteristics of the actual engine. The engine model, updated with the current engine component deviations, is combined with an engine exhaust nozzle model that calculates the internal nozzle performance and external boattail drag as a function of engine and flight condition. An inlet-trim drag model represents the performance of the inlet first ramp on inlet pressure recovery, drag, and pitching moment, and the associated change in the horizontal tail position and its associated trim drag. The inlet third ramp effects on inlet drag and recovery are also modeled. This model is assumed to be time invariant.

These models are simpler than the off-line simulation used in ADECS. The PSC approach has the advantage, however, of tuning these models in flight. During the current PSC research, only the engine model is required to change with time to match the actual system operating condition.

The PSC uses a linear-programming algorithm to optimize the performance objectives. The PSC approach performs a series of constrained local linear-programming optimizations to converge to a global optimization. The outputs of the optimization are two inlet variables (the cowl position and the third ramp position), the nozzle area, engine fan and compressor variable vane positions, core and afterburner fuel flow, fan airflow, and fan speed as illustrated in Fig. 13. These optimized commands are sent to the inlet controller and to the engine controller. A detailed description of the model, update logic, and the optimization process can be found in Ref. 11.

**Flight Results**

The PSC algorithm was flight-tested throughout the subsonic envelope for both degraded and refurbished (overhauled) engines. Supersonic flight tests will be initiated in late 1992. Results have shown that PSC produces significant thrust increases at key flight conditions (Fig. 14). Thrust increases of up to 15 percent were obtained on a refurbished engine. A 9-percent improvement was obtained in the degraded engine.

The PSC extended life mode shows a turbine temperature decrease of more than 160 °F at 0.9 Mach, 15,000 ft, military power, while holding constant thrust (Fig. 15). Data with and without the engine model update logic (Kalman filter) show that using the component deviation parameters improves the optimization process over optimization with a standard engine model. This can be seen from the additional decrease in engine turbine temperature of more than 60 °F.

The engine manufacturer estimates that at high-power settings, the engine high-pressure turbine wear rate is reduced by 50 percent for a 70 to 80 °F temperature reduction. Therefore, significant engine life extension can be obtained using PSC. In addition to the reduced operating turbine temperature, fuel flow was reduced 2 percent while holding constant thrust.

**Self-Repairing Flight Control System Program**

The F-15 HIDECS program, sponsored by the USAF, has developed, implemented, and flight-tested a SRFCS. This program includes control reconfiguration, a heads-up display (HUD) positive pilot alert system, and knowledge-based maintenance diagnostics.

The SRFCS program approach exploits the inherent control redundancies of advanced aircraft by fully using its multiple control effectors and their secondary aerodynamic characteristics. This is accomplished by reconfiguration, after control effector failures, to allow control substitution by the remaining effectors. Instead of using massive redundant hardware on each effector to achieve fault tolerance and reliability, the redundant elements become the aerodynamic forces and moments produced by the other control effectors. The necessary forces and moments are generated by the alternate control surfaces to provide the required aircraft motion.
In today’s fighter and transport-commercial aircraft, the control systems have the power and surface displacement to maneuver the aircraft in a very large flight envelope, with surplus control capacity available from each control surface. If failure or loss of a control surface occurs, the SRFCS uses this surplus capacity by reconfiguring control commands to the remaining control surfaces, and thus preserve the maneuvering response.

Reconfiguration is one of the few technologies that holds promise to meet the availability and survivability requirements for aircraft in a hostile environment, while minimizing the complexity and costs of the system. Knowledge-based diagnostics can provide timely and accurate fault isolation for maintenance and reduce the unnecessary removal of nonfailed equipment.

The technologies demonstrated in this joint NASA and USAF flight program include control reconfiguration, fault detection and isolation, positive pilot alert, and maintenance diagnostics. Figure 16 illustrates how the technologies were integrated with the F-15 HIDEC aircraft. Details of each technology area and the SRFCS process can be found in Ref. 6. Each technology area is highlighted in the following list:

1. **Control Mixer Reconfiguration Strategy.**
   The core element of the reconfiguration strategy was the control mixer. The mixer accepted the outputs of a preexisting set of control laws designed for an unimpaired airplane and reallocated these outputs to the surviving effectors of an impaired airplane.

2. **Fault Detection Isolation and Estimation (FDIE).**
   Fault isolation was accomplished by hypothesis testing through sequential probability ratio tests, a scheme successfully used on the NASA F-8 digital fly-by-wire analytic redundancy management experiment.

3. **Positive Pilot Alert.**
   An integral part of the reconfiguration philosophy was the presentation in the HUD of the surviving flight control system status information to the pilot, including a situation assessment of the existing performance limits of the damaged aircraft.

4. **Maintenance Diagnostics.**
   In addition to the reconfiguration, the SRFCS had an expert system capability that could detect and isolate system component failures occurring in routine aircraft use. These onboard diagnostics were adept at finding intermittent faults that happened only in flight and relating them to casual events such as maneuver action, cooling temperature, pilot input sequence, or other fact relationships that may be impossible to reconstruct in postflight maintenance troubleshooting.

**Implementation**

The SRFCS tested was capable of emulating an impairment and reconfiguration after detection of the impairment. The SRFCS impairment failure modes could be selected by the pilot and flown to assess the performance of the F-15 aircraft with and without the impairment. Figure 17 is a block diagram of the F-15 SRFCS implementation, which includes both standard mechanical and electronic CAS. The F-15 HIDEC CAS serves to provide stability augmentation and command response enhancement through control laws implemented in a dual-channel DFCC.

The baseline mode was unchanged until an impairment was introduced. Two SRFCS commands, shown in Fig. 17, were added to the F-15 HIDEC CAS servo controller commands. The first command forced the control system to represent failure conditions. (This software was for flight test only.) The second command added a reconfiguration correction to each control surface servo controller. Additional details of the implementation in the F-15 HIDEC aircraft can be found in Ref. 12.

The flight test aircraft was configured with three impairments that were selectable by the pilot. All impairments affected the right horizontal stabilator. The impairments were activated with software commands to the stabilator servo actuator to accurately represent the desired failure (Fig. 17). The commands negated the mechanical system inputs and set the stabilator for the desired impairment. Once the failure type was selected and activated by the pilot, it remained active throughout the fault detection sequence and pilot evaluation of the reconfigured airplane. Both the failure and the correction commands disappeared upon pilot deactivation of the reconfiguration test mode through a switch on the control stick. Three types of failure modes were mechanized and flight-tested:

1. **Locked at trim - representing hydraulic or mechanical failure.**
2. **Locked at an offset position - representing a failure caused by hydraulic or mechanical jam. Values up to 6° offset locked position could be flown.**
3. **Partial surface loss - representing a portion of the right stabilator missing because of midair collision or battle damage of 50-, 80-, and 100-percent surface loss.**

**Flight Test Process**

Figure 18 shows the flight envelope used for SRFCS development. The system was developed for the design envelope, but it was also tested in
the pilot maneuver envelope. The pilot could select various impairments and SRFCS test modes. The following table displays the conditions flown: (a) impairments of the right stabilator, (b) the maneuver sequence, and (c) the SRFCS subroutine or test mode that could be selected by the pilot. Tests were also conducted on the maintenance diagnostics system using maneuver sequences designed to trigger the fault scenarios shown in Fig. 19.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test conditions.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) Right-stabilator impairment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locked at trim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locked at +2°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locked at +4°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locked at +6°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-percent missing span</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100-percent missing span</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-percent missing span</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Test maneuvers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pitch and roll stick doublets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pushover and pullup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-g windup turn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-g bank-to-bank roll</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(c) Configuration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No impairment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impairment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impairment with fault detection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impairment with effector estimator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impairment with reconfiguration mixer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impairment with complete reconfiguration sequence</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Flight Results**

Figure 20 shows the summary results of the FDIE. The FDIE performance was directly related to the onboard simulation model fidelity.

The flight performance of the reconfiguration mixer was judged satisfactory by the NASA evaluation pilots, with the largest effects occurring for the 6° locked-stabilator impairments. This impairment required large stick offsets just to maintain level flight, while the reconfigured system permitted the pilot to control with normal stick position. Figure 21 is an example of the stick position change. The indication was that after reconfiguration, no offset was required to control the reconfigured aircraft.

Figure 22 shows an example of the F-15 test aircraft SRFCS software performing the reconfiguration for a battle-damaged right stabilator missing 80 percent of its span. The fault was detected as the pilot initiated a bank maneuver, and the reconfiguration engaged 0.35 sec later. The bank response was maintained very close to the undamaged F-15 response. Additional results of the SRFCS flight test program can be found in Refs. 6 and 12.

**Planned Research Using Propulsion-Only Controls Technology**

The SRFCS is flight-proven technology for practical application of new flight control systems which will greatly increase the survivability of combat aircraft and enhance survivability of combat aircraft and commercial aircraft. Part of the NASA Dryden research investigation was undertaken to develop methods for emergency control for multisurface failures and for the extreme case when most or all of the flight control system became inoperative. For multiengined aircraft the research led to techniques that use the throttles for emergency controls. This research has shown that to some degree, most multiengined aircraft can be controlled by a closed-loop, propulsion-only flight control system. This breakthrough technology for emergency control will be flight-demonstrated on the NASA F-15 HIDEC aircraft in late 1992.

The augmented control system has been implemented on the NASA Dryden F-15 simulator. The propulsion-only control technique has two important features:

1. Flight controllers such as a stick or autopilot type pitch and bank angle control knobs can be used to control the aircraft.

2. The system uses feedback of key pitch and roll parameters to stabilize and accurately control the flightpath.

Figure 23 shows a block diagram of the augmented control system. In the pitch axis, flightpath angle and pitch rate feedback provide phugoid damping to stabilize the system. In the roll axis, the roll rate, bank angle, and sideslip parameters are used as required to obtain the satisfactory bank angle control. Details of the F-15 propulsion-only flight controls can be found in Ref. 7.

Results of simulations using propulsive techniques for emergency control (PROTECT), Fig. 24, have shown that precise control capability was greatly enhanced using the closed-loop (augmented) control system. Simulation results indicate that even inexperienced pilots were able to make acceptable emergency landings on the first try. Details of the simulation results for the F-15 and commercial aircraft can be found in Ref. 13.
Concluding Remarks

The use of digital control systems and their ability to share information and act on that shared information in an intelligent manner allow for better control of the individual systems and the overall aircraft. This has resulted in significant performance benefits as highlighted in this paper and the referenced research. The potential payoff for integrated technologies has barely begun. The implications of integrated technologies on future aircraft design are only now starting to be understood. These and other integrated control systems and the synergistic effect of integrated technologies in new designs will improve the performance, reliability, and survivability of future aircraft.

References


Tests
- Sea level engine tests
- Altitude engine tests at NASA Lewis
- 27 flights at NASA Dryden

Features
- Digital engine control
- Digital inlet control
- Advanced engine control logic
- Engine-inlet integration

Payoff: Established feasibility of integrated propulsion controls

Figure 1. Results of the F-111E integrated propulsion control system.

Figure 2. YF-12C research aircraft.
Figure 3. Integrated control flight research programs.

Figure 4. NASA F-15 HIDEC flight research aircraft.
Figure 5. F-15 avionics system architecture.

Figure 6. F-15 avionics system configuration.
Figure 7. Engine-inlet-flight control integration.

Figure 8. Stall margin available.
Figure 9. Extended engine life mode.

Figure 10. Engine pressure ratio mode.
Figure 11. Percentage reduction in thrust-specific fuel consumption for afterburning power at Mach 0.6 and 30,000 ft, using advanced engine control system (EEL).

Figure 12. Results of extended-engine-life mode, military power.
Figure 13. Performance seeking control for onboard, adaptive real-time optimization of performance.

Figure 14. Maximum thrust mode results for performance seeking control (0.9 Mach, 15,000 ft, military power).
Figure 15. Extended engine life mode results for performance seeking control (0.9 Mach, 15,000 ft, military power, constant thrust).

Figure 16. Self-repairing flight control system on F-15 aircraft.
Figure 17. Implementation of self-repairing flight control system.

Figure 18. Flight demonstration test envelope for the F-15 SRFCS.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fault scenario</th>
<th>Maneuver conditions</th>
<th>Failure indication major system</th>
<th>Subsystem failed</th>
<th>Cause</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>&gt;3g</td>
<td>Roll CAS disengage</td>
<td>Dynamic pressure sensor</td>
<td>Connector fails under g load</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1-g small pitch inputs</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Stabilator surface</td>
<td>Actuator connecting pin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1-g small pitch inputs</td>
<td>Pitch, roll CAS disengage</td>
<td>Stabilator actuator</td>
<td>Hydraulic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2-g turn</td>
<td>Autopilot disengage</td>
<td>Inertial navigation system</td>
<td>Platform stabilization fails under g load</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>5-g turn</td>
<td>Pitch, roll CAS disengage</td>
<td>Pitch computer</td>
<td>Card A loose connection under g load</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Pullup</td>
<td>CAS disengage</td>
<td>Right angle-of-attack sensor</td>
<td>Excessive friction in rotor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 19. In-flight maintenance diagnosis scenarios.

Fault detection, right stabilator partial missing
Correction detection and verification: 60 percent
Detection, no verification: 40 percent
False detection or verification: 0 percent

Fault detection, right stabilator locked
Correct detection: 100 percent

Estimate of remaining stabilator surface
Correct value, span missing: 51 percent
(±20 percent tolerance)

Figure 20. Summary results of FDIE.
Figure 21. Flight data from F-15 SRFCS (Mach 0.7, altitude = 20,000 ft).

Figure 22. Bank response comparison for self-repairing flight control system.
Figure 23. F-15 augmented throttles-only control system function.

- NASA F-15 simulator landed on Edwards runway
- CAS off, V = 170 knots, no afterburner used

Landing trouble parameter = sink rate (ft/sec) + bank angle (deg) + up to 30 penalty for touchdown dispersion

Figure 24. Results of PROTECT on the NASA F-15 aircraft.
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**Abstract:**

Over the last two decades, NASA has conducted several flight research experiments in integrated flight-propulsion control. Benefits have included increased thrust, range, and survivability; reduced fuel consumption; and reduced maintenance. These flight programs were flown at NASA Dryden Flight Research Facility. This paper presents the basic concepts for control integration, examples of implementation, and benefits of integrated flight propulsion control systems.

The F-15 research involved integration of the engine, flight, and inlet control systems. Further extension of the integration included real-time, onboard optimization of engine, inlet, and flight control variables; a self-repairing flight control system; and an engines-only control concept for emergency control. The flight research programs and the resulting benefits are described for the F-15 research.