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The dose rate in a rotationally-symmetric radiation field near a space power reactor is assumed to be inversely proportional to separation distance squared and directly proportional either to a constant or a constant times the sine-cubed of a polar angle. Constant velocity motion (constant speed and direction) is examined in both cases in both two- and three-dimensional geometries. The two-dimensional geometry occurs when the line of motion and the field axis of symmetry are co-planar. The dose integral in the sine-cubed region may be integrated directly, but a more useful form is obtained after a change of variable. A coordinate system rotation greatly simplifies the results. The three-dimensional problem is integrated after a change of variable. Finally, tables of normalized functions are presented and discussed.

INTRODUCTION

A key problem associated with the study of nuclear energy sources in space is the evaluation of the leakage radiation reaching the astronauts or other radio-sensitive detectors. This paper discusses a solution to the problem of constant velocity motion near a space power reactor with a specific leakage radiation pattern. The term "constant velocity" is intended to be understood in the vector sense implying constant speed and constant direction.

The radiation field description was derived from material presented by Atomics International in References 1 and 2 and is illustrated in Figures 1 and 2. Figure 3 depicts an isodose contour in the (x, +y) half-plane. The radiation source is represented as a point source located at the origin O. The radiation field is assumed to be comprised of three regions. Region I represents the field due to an unshielded isotropic source or leaking through a relatively thin shield. Region III represents the field behind a thick "biological shield" of half-angle ϵ . In both regions, the shield is assumed to be of approximately uniform attenuation with azimuth angle so the dose rate is a function of distance alone. Region II represents the transition between regions I and III. Because of variations in attenuation and/or source strength, the dose rate has an azimuthal dependence. The field studied here varies as the sine-cubed of a polar angle ϕ measured from an abscissa inclined an angle δ to the x-axis.

MOTION WITHIN A SINGLE PLANE

Consider first the case where the detector moves with constant velocity along a line p contained within a nonrotating plane which also contains the x-axis. Let us first examine the case where all motion is in region II, or

$$(\epsilon - \delta) \leq \phi \leq \frac{\pi}{2} .$$

Let the motion be outward along p from an initial position P_1 . Then, from Figure 4,

$$r(P_1) = r_1 = \text{constant} ,$$

$$\xi = \text{constant} ,$$

$$\alpha_1 = \text{constant} ,$$

$$\phi = \text{constant} ,$$

and

$$\frac{dp}{dt} = V = \text{constant} .$$

In region II, the dose rate is

$$\dot{D}_{II} = \frac{K_1 \sin^3 \phi}{R_{II}^2} ,$$

but

$$\phi = (\alpha - \xi) ;$$

thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{D}_{II} = & A \frac{\sin^3 \alpha}{r^2} + B \frac{\sin \alpha}{r^2} + C \frac{\sin \alpha'}{r^2} \\ & + D \frac{\sin^3 \alpha'}{r^2} \end{aligned}$$

where

$$A = K_1 \cos 3\delta ,$$

$$B = K_1 \cos \delta \sin^2 \delta ,$$

$$C = K_1 \sin \delta \cos^2 \delta ,$$

$$D = K_1 \sin 3\delta ,$$

$$\alpha' = \frac{\pi}{2} - \alpha ,$$

and

$$r = R_{II}$$

Consider the first term. Referring back to Figure 4 and introducing initial conditions,

(NOTE: MULTIPLY DOSE RATES BY 0.58 TO GET GAMMA DOSE RATE IN mrad/hr)

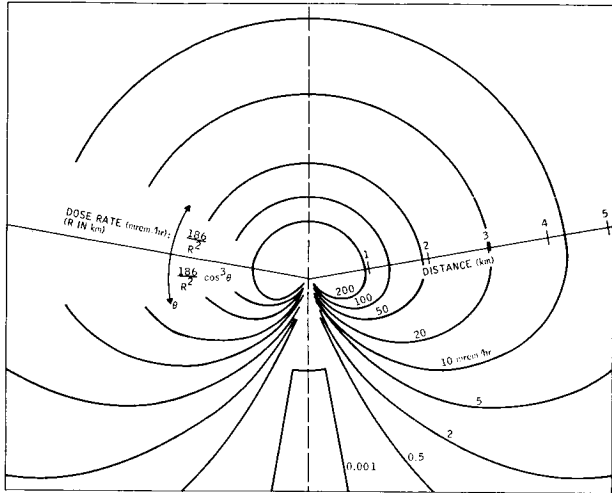
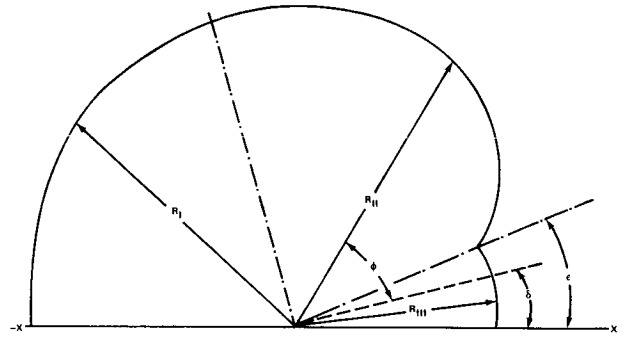


FIGURE 1. REACTOR INDUCED RADIATION FIELD ABOUT 25 kwe REACTOR-TE POWER SYSTEM

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$$\begin{aligned} \dot{D}_I &= K_1/R_1^2 \\ \dot{D}_{II} &= K_1 + \sin^2 \theta / R_1^2 \\ \dot{D}_{III} &= K_2/R_{II}^2 \\ K_2 &= K_1 + \sin^2 (\epsilon - \delta) \end{aligned}$$

FIGURE 3. GEOMETRY OF A PLANAR ISODOSE CONTOUR

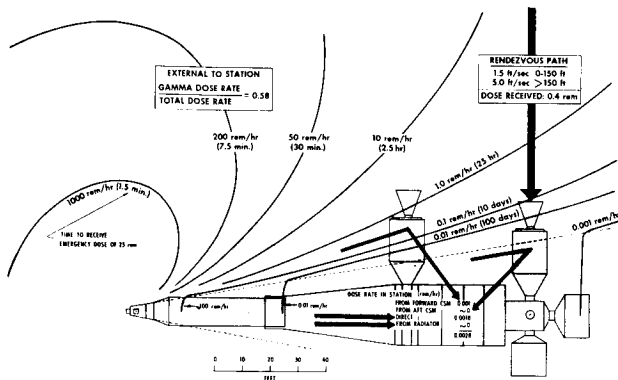


FIGURE 2. SPACE STATION RADIATION ENVIRONMENT FROM NUCLEAR REACTOR

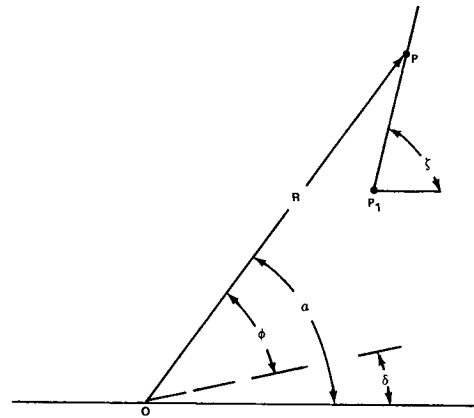


FIGURE 4. CONSTANT VELOCITY MOTION IN A PLANE

$$r \sin \alpha = r_1 \sin \alpha_1 + p \sin \zeta .$$

Also,

$$r^2 = p^2 + r_1^2 + 2pr_1 \cos (\zeta - \alpha_1) .$$

We now write

$$\dot{D}_{IIA} = \frac{A}{V} \frac{(r_1 \sin \alpha_1 + p \sin \zeta)^3}{[r_1^2 + 2pr_1 \cos (\zeta - \alpha_1) + p^2]^{5/2}} \frac{dp}{dt} .$$

The limits for the complete integral along the line are:

$$p(1) = 0$$

and

$$p(2) = \infty .$$

By integrating and inserting the limits and simplifying, the equation above eventually yields

$$D_{IIA} = \frac{A}{3r_1V} \left\{ \frac{(\sin^3 \alpha_1 + \sin^3 \zeta)}{[1 + \cos (\zeta - \alpha_1)]} + \frac{(\sin \alpha_1 + \sin \zeta)^3}{[1 + \cos (\zeta - \alpha_1)]^2} \right\} .$$

CHANGE OF VARIABLE

This general form is somewhat cumbersome to handle. A more useful, if somewhat restricted, form may be obtained through a change of variable before integration. Referring again to Figure 4, we observe that

$$r \cos \alpha = r_1 \cos \alpha_1 + p \cos \zeta .$$

Taking this in conjunction with the expressions above, we find that

$$r = r_1 \frac{\sin (\zeta - \alpha_1)}{\sin (\zeta - \alpha)} ,$$

$$p = r_1 \frac{\sin (\alpha - \alpha_1)}{\sin (\zeta - \alpha)} ,$$

and

$$\frac{dp}{dt} = \frac{\sin (\zeta - \alpha_1)}{\sin^2 (\zeta - \alpha)} \frac{d\alpha}{dt} .$$

Substituting into the dose rate expression,

$$\dot{D}_{IIA} = \frac{\sin^3 \alpha}{\sin (\zeta - \alpha_1)} \frac{d\alpha}{dt} .$$

The limits will be in general

$$\alpha(1) = \alpha_1$$

and

$$\alpha(2) = \alpha_2 .$$

By integrating and inserting the limits, we have the complete first term,

$$D_{IIA} = \frac{A}{3r_1V} \left[\frac{3(\cos \alpha_1 - \cos \alpha_2) - (\cos^3 \alpha_1 - \cos^3 \alpha_2)}{\sin (\zeta - \alpha_1)} \right] .$$

The second term of the expanded dose rate equation is

$$\dot{D}_{IIB} = \frac{B \sin \alpha}{r^2}$$

which yields immediately

$$D_{IIB} = \frac{B}{r_1V} \frac{(\cos \alpha_1 - \cos \alpha_2)}{\sin (\zeta - \alpha_1)}$$

using the limits above.

The doses D_{IIC} and D_{IID} may be evaluated using the arguments above but with the complementary angle α' . The complete dose expression can now be written as

$$D_{II} = \frac{K_1}{3r_1V \sin (\zeta - \alpha_1)} \left\{ \cos 3\delta [3(\cos \alpha_1 - \cos \alpha_2) - (\cos^3 \alpha_1 - \cos^3 \alpha_2)] + 3 \cos \delta \sin^2 \delta (\cos \alpha_1 - \cos \alpha_2) - 3 \sin \delta \cos^2 \delta (\cos \alpha_1' - \cos \alpha_2') + \sin 3\delta [3(\cos \alpha_1' - \cos \alpha_2') - (\cos^3 \alpha_1' - \cos^3 \alpha_2')] \right\}$$

This form is valid except in the case of radial motion discussed below. An additional minor constraint is that $\alpha_1 \geq \epsilon$.

This expression can be greatly simplified by performing a coordinate system rotation through an angle δ . Thus,

$$\alpha^* = \alpha - \delta = \phi ,$$

$$\zeta^* = \zeta - \delta ,$$

$$\delta^* = 0 ,$$

and, constraining the point P_1 , to lie along the $\alpha = \delta$ line,

$$D_{II}(\theta, \phi) = \frac{K_1}{3r_1V} \left[\frac{\cos^3 \phi - 3 \cos \phi + 2}{\sin (\zeta - \delta)} \right]$$

where the parentheses on the left are used to indicate the angular limits. The radial case may be integrated directly from the dose rate equation. It is unaffected by the coordinate system rotation;

$$D_{II}(\phi, \phi) = \frac{K}{V} \frac{1}{r_1} - \frac{1}{r} \sin^3 \phi .$$

The case of constant velocity co-planar motion in an inverse square field has been solved before and is included here only for completeness and notational consistency. Referring to Figure 5, we again let the motion be along a line p , and, as before,

$$r(P_1) = r_1 = \text{constant} ,$$

$$\zeta = \text{constant} ,$$

$$\alpha_1 = \text{constant} ,$$

$$\phi_1 = \text{constant} ,$$

and

$$\frac{dp}{dt} = \text{constant} = V .$$

The dose rate is given by

$$\dot{D} = \frac{K}{r^2} .$$

We observe that

$$\eta = \frac{\pi}{2} - (\zeta - \alpha) ,$$

$$r = r_1 \cos \eta_1 \sec \eta ,$$

$$p = r_1 \cos \eta_1 (\tan \eta - \tan \eta_1) ,$$

and

$$\frac{dp}{dt} = r_1 \cos \eta_1 \sec^2 \eta \frac{d\eta}{dt} ;$$

thus,

$$D = \frac{K}{r_1 V} \left[\frac{\alpha_2 - \alpha_1}{\sin(\zeta - \alpha_1)} \right] .$$

MOTION IN THREE DIMENSIONS

If isodose contours such as in Figure 3 are rotated through 2π radians around the x-axis, a complex three-dimensional radiation field will be produced. Assume constant velocity motion along an arbitrarily oriented straight line, as in Figure 6. Again, let us first examine the case of motion within region II along the line $P_1P = p$ outward from an initial position P_1 . The radiation field polar angle is again

$$\phi = \alpha - \delta ,$$

and, as before,

$$\dot{D}_{II} = A \frac{\sin^3 \alpha}{r^2} + B \frac{\sin \alpha}{r^2} + C \frac{\sin \alpha'}{r^2} + D \frac{\sin^3 \alpha'}{r^2}$$

The direct integral of the cubic term has not been obtained; however, the term has been successfully integrated after performing a variable change similar to that in the restricted solution of the co-planar case.

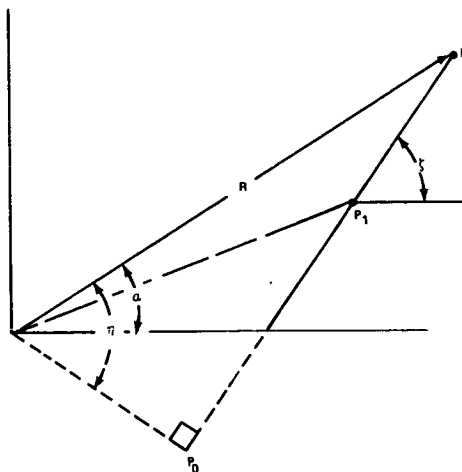


FIGURE 5. CONSTANT VELOCITY COPLANAR MOTION IN AN INVERSE SQUARE FIELD

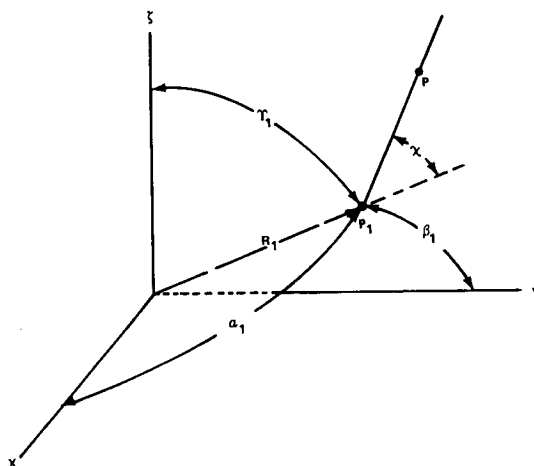


FIGURE 6. CONSTANT VELOCITY MOTION IN THREE DIMENSIONS

The radius vector to the initial point can be written

$$\vec{r}_1 = (\hat{i} \cos \alpha_1 + \hat{j} \cos \beta_1 + \hat{k} \cos \gamma_1) r_1 ,$$

where $r_1 = |\vec{r}_1|$ and $\cos \alpha_1$, $\cos \beta_1$, and $\cos \gamma_1$ are direction cosines. Similarly, the vector traced by the moving point is

$$\vec{p} = (\hat{i} \cos \alpha_p + \hat{j} \cos \beta_p + \hat{k} \cos \gamma_p) p .$$

Since the direction is constant, \vec{p}/p is constant. The angle between these two vectors is also a constant,

$$\begin{aligned} \cos \chi &= \cos \alpha_1 \cos \alpha_p + \cos \beta_1 \cos \beta_p \\ &+ \cos \gamma_1 \cos \gamma_p . \end{aligned}$$

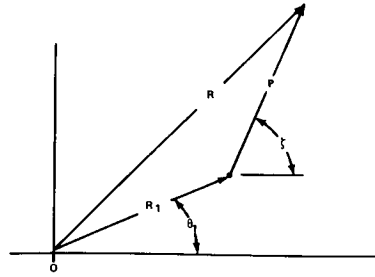


FIGURE 7. PLANE OF MOTION IN THREE-DIMENSIONAL CASE

Figure 7 illustrates the nonrotating plane containing the vectors \vec{r} , \vec{r}_1 , and \vec{p} . This plane contains the variable angle θ between the vector \vec{r} and the (x,y) plane. Consider the nonrotating plane containing the x -axis and \vec{r}_1 and the rotating plane containing the x -axis and \vec{r} . In the former, there is the constant angle α_1 and in the latter the variable angle α . If a unit sphere is constructed at the origin, these three angles become the sides of a spherical triangle. If the face angle opposite side α is called λ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \cos \alpha &= \cos \alpha_1 \cos (\theta - \theta_1) \\ &+ \sin \alpha_1 \sin (\theta - \theta_1) \cos \lambda . \end{aligned}$$

But, λ is also the angle between the planes containing POP_1 and P_1OX_1 . Thus,

$$\cos (\pi - \lambda) = \left(\frac{\vec{r}_1 \times \vec{p}}{r_1 p} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{\hat{i} \times \vec{r}_1}{r_1} \right) \frac{1}{\sin \chi \sin \alpha_1}$$

and

$$\cos \lambda = \frac{\cos \alpha_p \sin^2 \alpha_1 - \cos \alpha_1 (\cos \beta_p \cos \beta_1 + \cos \gamma_p \cos \gamma_1)}{\sin \chi \sin \alpha_1} .$$

Continuing, we simplify

$$\cos \alpha = k \cos [\theta - (\theta_1 - \psi)] ,$$

where the phase angle ψ is defined by

$$\tan \psi = \tan \alpha_1 \cos \lambda$$

and the modulus k is found from

$$k^2 = \cos^2 \alpha_1 + \sin^2 \alpha_1 \cos^2 \lambda .$$

We note in passing that θ_1 , ψ , and k are defined by initial conditions only and that $k^2 \leq 1$.

Returning to Figure 7, we may write

$$r = r_1 \frac{\sin (\zeta - \theta_1)}{\sin (\zeta - \theta)} ,$$

$$p = r_1 \frac{\sin (\theta - \theta_1)}{\sin (\zeta - \theta)} ,$$

and

$$\frac{dp}{dt} = r_1 \frac{\sin (\zeta - \theta_1) d\theta}{\sin^2 (\zeta - \theta) dt} .$$

The dose rate is now

$$\dot{D}_{IIA} = \frac{A}{r_1 V} \frac{\{1 - k^2 \cos^2 [\theta - (\theta_1 + \psi)]\}^{3/2}}{\sin (\zeta - \theta)} \frac{d\theta}{dt} .$$

Let

$$\sin^2 \mu = \cos^2 [\theta - (\theta_1 + \psi)]$$

and

$$\Delta = (1 - k^2 \sin^2 \mu)^{1/2} , \quad k^2 \leq 1$$

and the expression integrates to

$$\begin{aligned} D_{IIA} &= \frac{A}{3r_1 V \sin (\zeta - \theta_1)} [k^2 \Delta \sin \mu \cos \mu \\ &- (1 - k^2) F(k, \mu) \\ &+ 2(2 - k^2) E(k, \mu)]_{\mu(1)}^{\mu(2)} , \end{aligned}$$

where $F(k, \mu)$ is the incomplete elliptic integral of the first kind and $E(k, \mu)$ is the incomplete elliptic integral of the second kind. The limits of integration are indicated outside the bracket on the right.

Values from this table give the integral dose along a line originating on the $\phi = 0$ or $\alpha_1 = \delta$ line and proceeding outward until $\alpha - \delta = \phi$. The inclination of the line is accounted for in the normalizing constants. Integral dose accrued between the points at ϕ_1 and ϕ_2 on the same line as $[D_{II}(0, \phi_2) - D_{II}(0 - \phi_1)]$.

This allows one to correct for the small difference between $\alpha = \epsilon$, the closest the axis may be approached in region II, and $\alpha = \delta$, the abscissa of the extended field contours.

Another useful form results from constraining P_1 to lie along the $\phi = \frac{\pi}{2}$ line; thus,

$$D_{II}\left(\frac{\pi}{2}, \phi\right) = \frac{K_r}{3r_1V} \left[\frac{3 \cos \phi - \cos^3 \phi}{\cos(\zeta - \delta)} \right].$$

This dose is related to the tabulated dose by

$$D_{II}\left(\frac{\pi}{2}, \phi\right) = \left[D_{II}\left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right) - D_{II}(0, \phi) \right] \tan(\zeta - \delta).$$

The three-dimensional problem in region II contains too many variables to allow simple parametric representation. To obtain sample results, a specific field pattern was chosen and values of the integral above were obtained. The field axis offset angle, $\delta = 8.663$ degrees, corresponds to the field illustrated in Figures 1 and 2. Generalized values of the resulting integral are shown in Table 2 as functions of the modulus k and the field angle μ defined above. The table is read in a manner similar to Table 1; thus,

$$D_{II}(k, \mu_1, \mu_2) = D_{II}(k, \mu_2) - D_{II}(k, \mu_1),$$

where it is understood that the normalizing factor $[r_1V \sin(\zeta - \theta)/k]$ has been divided out of both sides of the expression.

TABLE 2. NORMALIZED DOSE INTEGRALS FOR A THREE-DIMENSIONAL CASE, $\delta = 8.667$ DEGREES

Range Angle μ , Degrees	Modulus Angle $\sin^{-1} k$, Degrees									
	00	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90
00	0.0	0.0271	0.0620	0.1101	0.1722	0.2441	0.3172	0.3907	0.4240	0.4393
10	0.1605	0.1874	0.2218	0.2692	0.3308	0.4017	0.4743	0.5373	0.5802	0.5954
20	0.3216	0.3464	0.3784	0.4224	0.4800	0.5473	0.6162	0.6764	0.7173	0.7320
30	0.4824	0.5030	0.5302	0.5655	0.6149	0.6727	0.7326	0.7859	0.8223	0.8353
40	0.6432	0.6590	0.6764	0.6990	0.7312	0.7720	0.8155	0.8569	0.8852	0.8954
50	0.8040	0.8139	0.8161	0.8185	0.8266	0.8425	0.8639	0.8859	0.9024	0.9065
60	0.9649	0.9610	0.9499	0.9265	0.9018	0.8847	0.8763	0.8746	0.8766	0.8777
70	1.1256	1.1142	1.0782	1.0215	0.9594	0.9029	0.8592	0.8308	0.8159	0.8115
80	1.2864	1.2663	1.2027	1.1130	1.0040	0.9036	0.8214	0.7640	0.7320	0.7220
90	1.4539	1.4152	1.3250	1.1930	1.0418	0.8962	0.7728	0.6959	0.6369	0.6217

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