



Invited Plenary Talk
Spring Conference of the Korean Space Science Society (KSSS)
Gangneung-si, Gangwon-do, Republic of Korea

SPACE RADIATION RESEARCH AT NASA

John Norbury

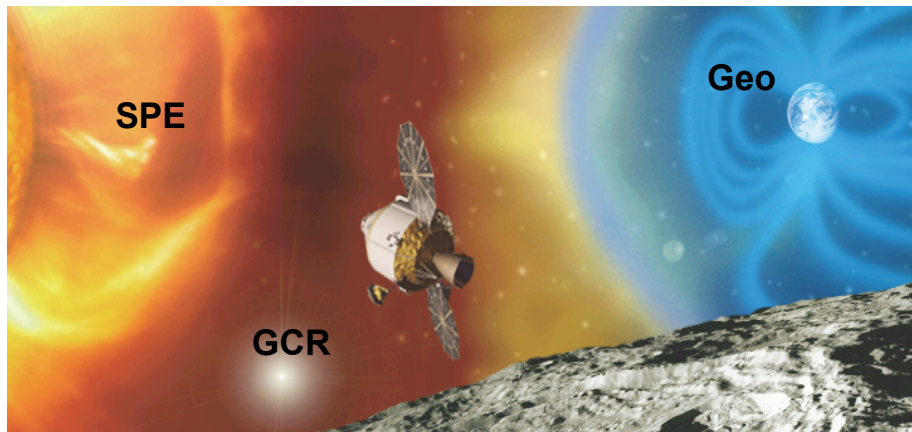
NASA Langley Research Center, Hampton, Virginia, USA

Friday April 29, 2016

OUTLINE

- 1 3 SOURCES OF SPACE RADIATION
- 2 RADIATION & DOSE
- 3 NUCLEAR & PARTICLE PHYSICS & TRANSPORT
- 4 MOON, MARS, JUPITER, SATURN
- 5 CONCLUSIONS

3 SOURCES OF SPACE RADIATION



<https://oltaris.larc.nasa.gov>

SPE= Solar Particle Event GCR = Galactic Cosmic Rays

Geo = Geomagnetically trapped particles

GCR COMPOSITION, SPECTRUM, ORIGIN

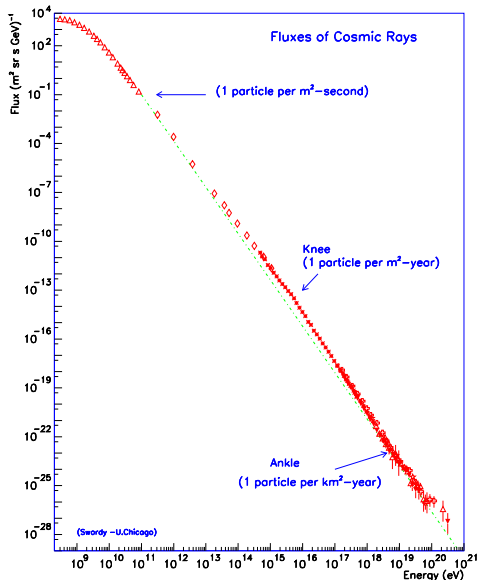
3 regions

- High Energy < PeV
- Very High Energy (knee) PeV - EeV
- Ultra High Energy (ankle) > EeV

keV = 10^3 eV MeV = 10^6 eV
GeV = 10^9 eV TeV = 10^{12} eV
PeV = 10^{15} eV EeV = 10^{18} eV
ZeV = 10^{21} eV

Large Hadron Collider

14 TeV cm \Rightarrow 400 PeV lab



Volk, ICRC, 2001:3

GCR HIGH ENERGY < PEV

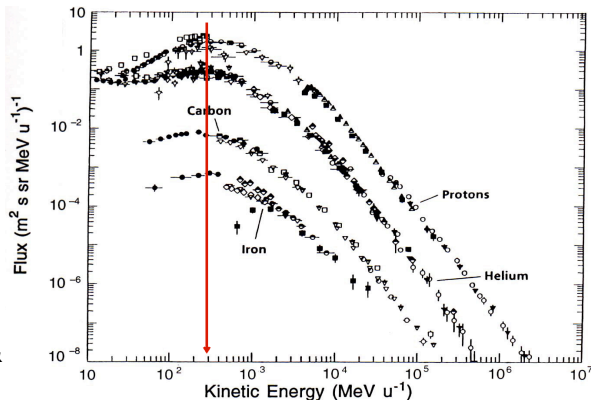
Space radiation problem

GCR (primary) composition

- 98% nuclei, 2% $e^+ e^-$
- Nuclear component:
 - 87% Hydrogen
 - 12% Helium
 - 1% heavy nuclei

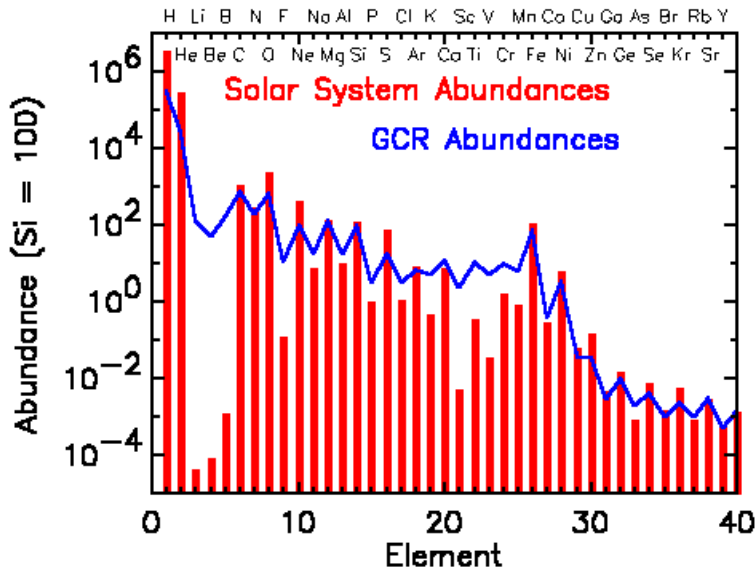
GCR origin

- Emitted in stellar wind & flares & accelerated by supernova shock waves (within our Galaxy)



Simpson, Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sci. vol.33, p.323, 1983

GCR HIGH ENERGY < PEV



<http://imagine.gsfc.nasa.gov/Images/science/abund2.gif>

APPLIED NUCLEAR PHYSICS RESEARCH



Relative contribution in **fluence**, **dose** and **dose equivalent** of different elements in the GCR spectrum. Calculation is an average over 1 year in solar minimum behind 5 g/cm² Al shielding.

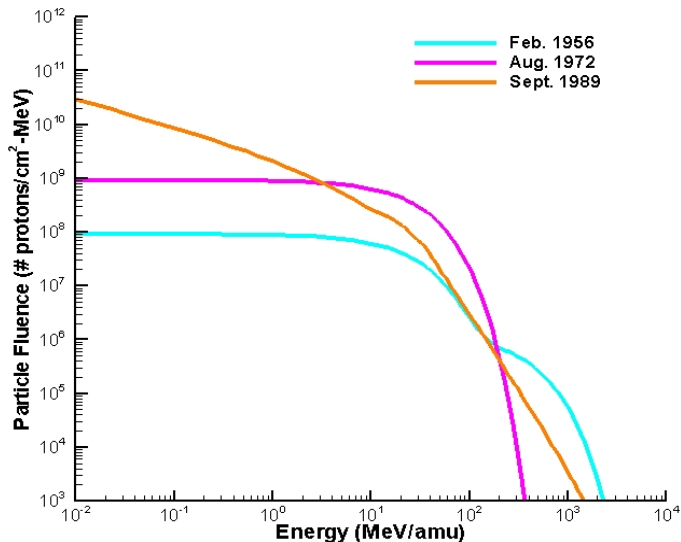
Durante & Cucinotta, Nat. Rev. Canc. vol.8, p.465, 2008

SOLAR PARTICLES

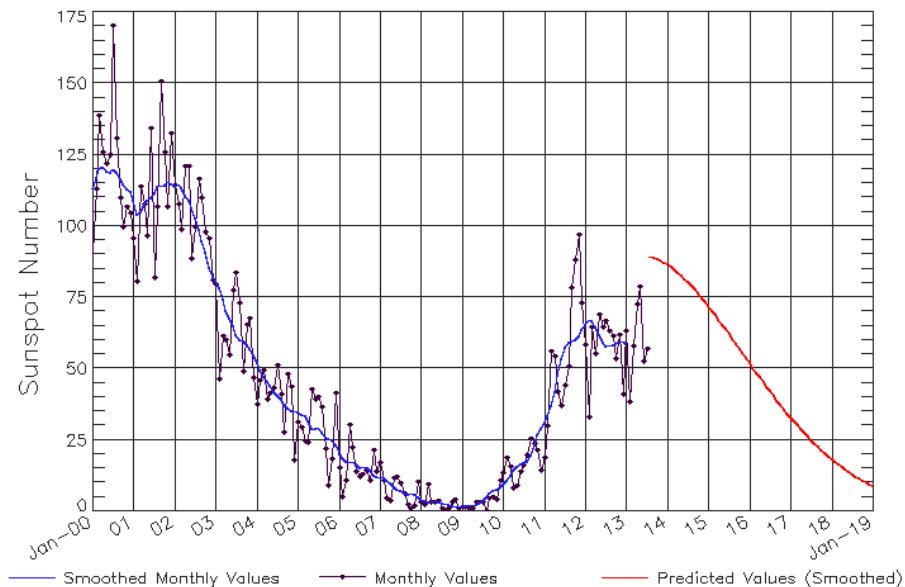
e, p & some heavy nuclei

$< 1 \text{ GeV/N}$

($v \sim 0.9c$)



SPE Proton spectra Cloudsley et al., AIAA, 2006



NOAA, 2013

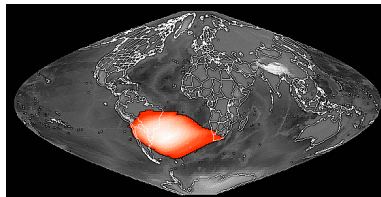
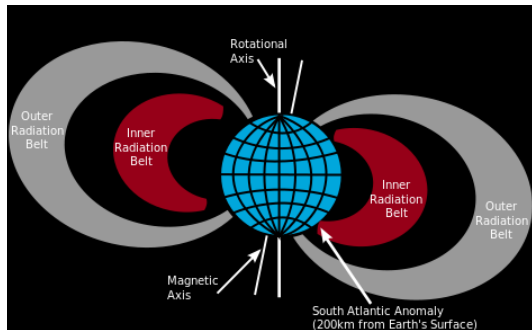
GEOMAGNETICALLY TRAPPED PARTICLES

Inner belt: $0 - 3 R_E = 18,000 \text{ km}$ - mainly p

- Starts about 3,000 km
- But SAA dips down to 400 km

Outer belt: $3 - 12 R_E = 36,000 \text{ km (e,p)}$ - mainly e

(LEO: 200 - 500 km GEO: 22,000 miles = 35,000 km)



Wikipedia, 2014

<http://science1.nasa.gov/science-news/science-at-nasa/2001>

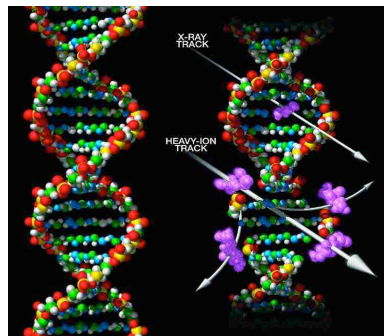
RADIATION & DOSE

Unit of absorbed dose:

1 Gray == 1 J/kg

Radiation quality factor Q

Sievert = Gray $\times Q$



<http://www.nasa.gov/centers/marshall/multimedia/photos/2003/photos03-183.html>

ICRP estimate: 5% per Gy

1 in 20,000 risk of fatal cancer per 1 mSv dose (lifetime)

RADIATION & DOSE

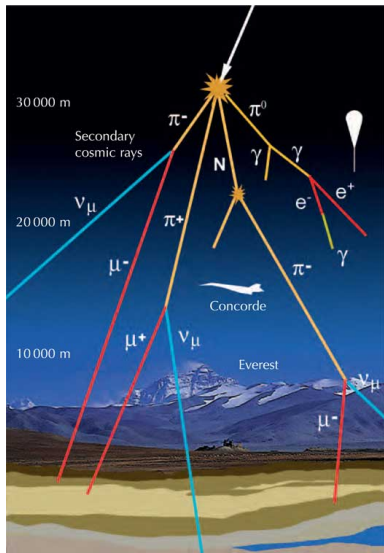
	Dose Equiv. (mSv)
Chest x-ray	0.1
USA annual background	4
Public annual limit (above background)	1
International Airline crews	4
Radiation worker annual limit	50
No observed effects (Abomb, instant)	200
Death (instantaneous dose)	3,000
ISS (with shield) annual	150
Astronaut career limit <i>effective dose</i>*	470
Mars (3 year, incl. surface) annual	1,000
Large solar flare (free space)	10,000

ICRP cancer risk estimate: 5% per Gy ~ **5% per Sv** (for Q=1)

1 in 20,000 risk of fatal cancer per 1mSv dose (lifetime)

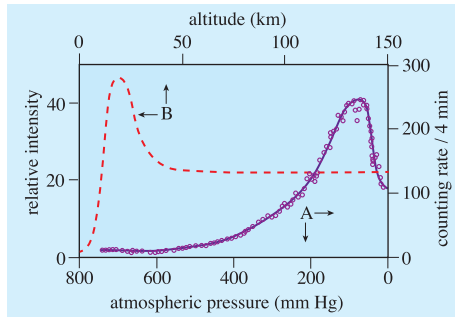
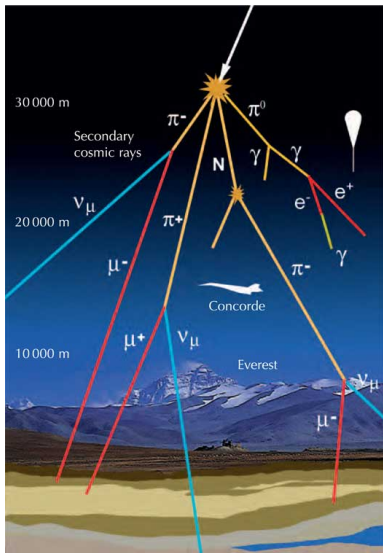
* 30 year old female, 1 year mission (50 yr m/f ~ 1,000 mSv)

AIRCRAFT



<http://www.scienceinschool.org/2010/issue14/cloud/maltese>

AIRCRAFT



Bancroft et al., Phys. Ed. vol.49, p.164, 2014

<http://www.scienceinschool.org/2010/issue14/cloud/maltese>

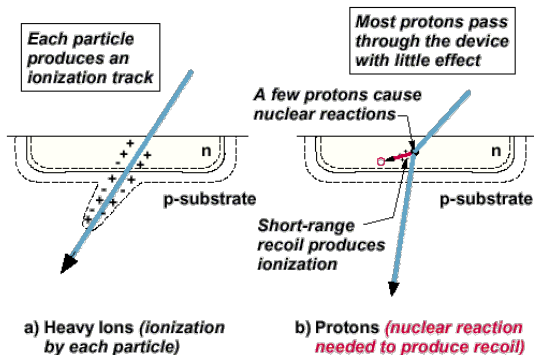
- Domestic crews 1 - 2 mSv /yr
- International crews < 4 mSv / yr
- Pregnant woman < 5 mSv
(to fetus per pregnancy)

AIRCRAFT - WHY ALL THE CONCERN NOW?

- NCRP & ICRP have lowered radiation worker exposure
 - 50 mSv / yr to 20 mSv / yr
- Air crews most highly exposed of any occupation group
- FAA criticized for not paying enough attention
- Many more polar flights
- Future High Speed Civil Transport (HSCT) radiation levels
 - 3 times higher than for crews of subsonic transport
- Only solution available now:
 - reduce flight hours
- **NAIRAS** - Mertens (Langley)

Computers

- Junction density increasing
- Switching energy decreasing



<http://holbert.faculty.asu.edu/eee560/see.html>

Need for predicting Single Event Upsets (SEU)

- satellite electronics
- aircraft electronics (civilian & military)

Shuttle - several hundred SEU / mission

ELECTRONICS - DEEP SPACE

- Electronics on Spirit, Opportunity, Curiosity etc. are radiation hardened
- Shielding very important for Jupiter, Saturn



<http://mars.jpl.nasa.gov/msl/multimedia/images/?imageid=3504>



Credit: NASA/JPL/Space Science Institute

<http://photojournal.jpl.nasa.gov/catalog/PIA04866>

These are the doses received

- How were results obtained?
- How to design spacecraft & aircraft shields so dose is minimal?

Need

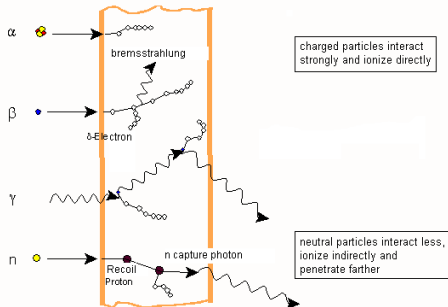
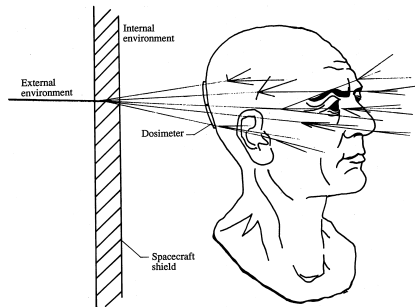
- Accurate atomic, nuclear, particle physics theory
- Accurate transport theory
- Biological models

TRANSPORT

Solve Boltzmann transport eqn (HZETRN)

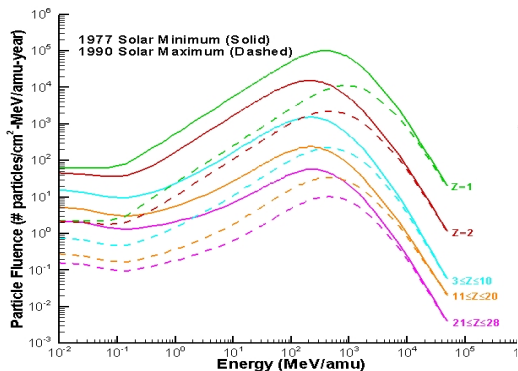
Deterministic, not Monte Carlo

- Want quick answers
- Real time dose as function of position & time
- Both transport & nuclear physics must run fast
- → Applied nuclear physics

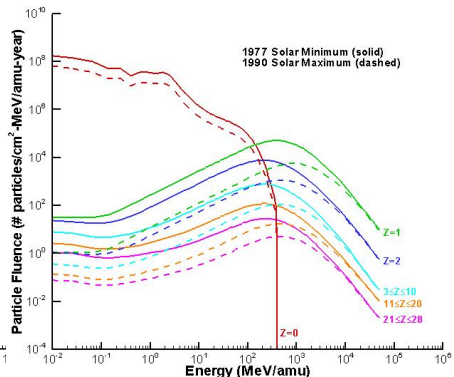


Wilson et al., NASA-RP 1257, 1991

http://www.wikidoc.org/index.php/Ionizing_radiation

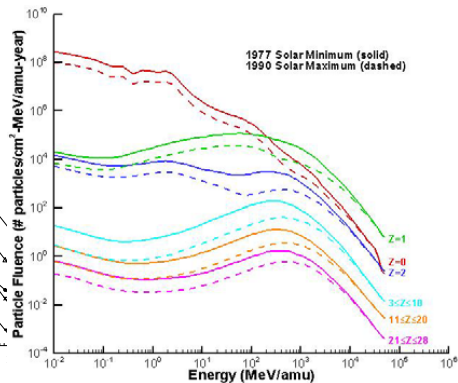
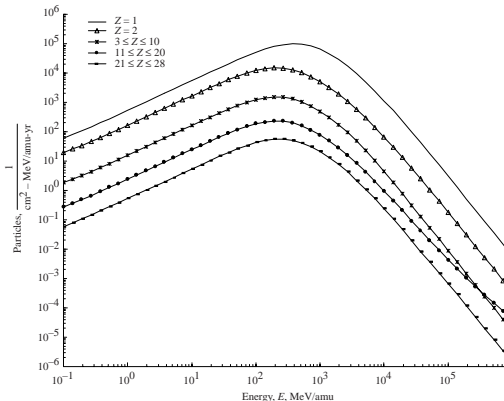


Free space GCR environment at 1AU



Lunar surface environment due to GCR

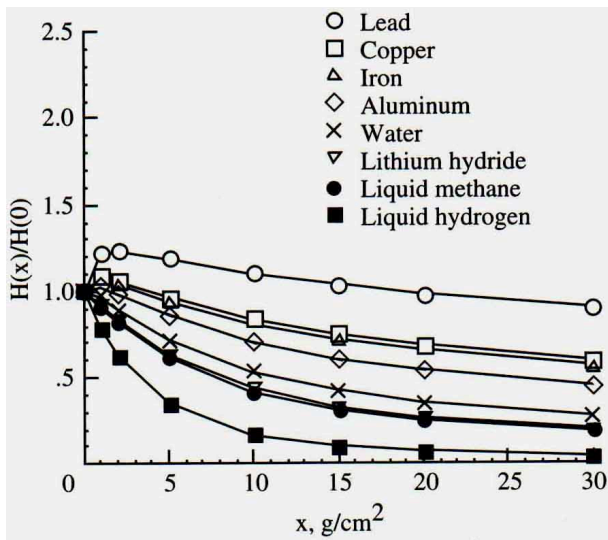
Clowdsley et al., AIAA, 2006



Left: Primary GCR spectra at Mars for 1977 solar minimum [Kim et al., NASA TP 208724, 1998](#)

Right: Martian surface environment due to GCR [Cloudsley et al., AIAA, 2006](#)

TRANSPORT - MATERIALS COMPARED TO ALUMINUM



Dose Equivalent as a function of depth for various materials

Wilson et al., Materials & Design vol.22, p.541, 2001

From radiation point of view, safest place is inside liquid hydrogen fuel tank!

Major result

- Low Z materials required for weight reduction necessary for future High Speed Civil Transport (HSCT) and for future spacecraft are *also* the best radiation protection materials
- Thank goodness!

Short duration

- Solar particle events

Long duration

- Solar particle events
- Galactic cosmic rays

Lunar regolith composition

Material	Mass percentage
----------	-----------------

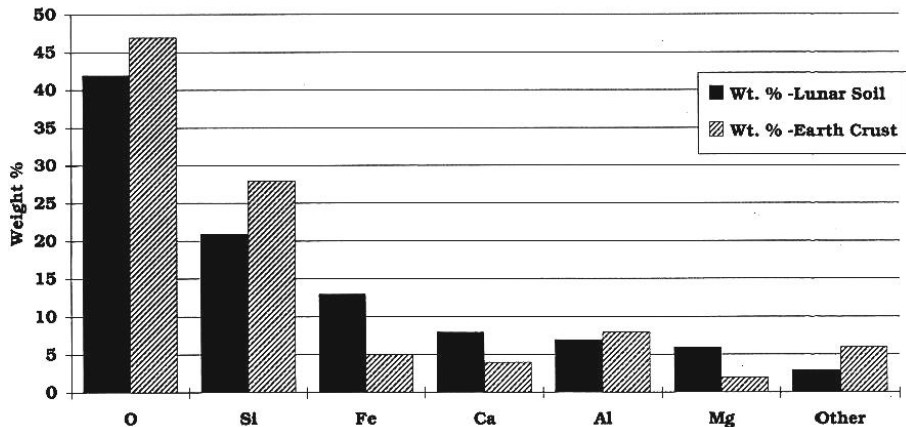
SiO ₂	52.6%
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FeO	19.8 %
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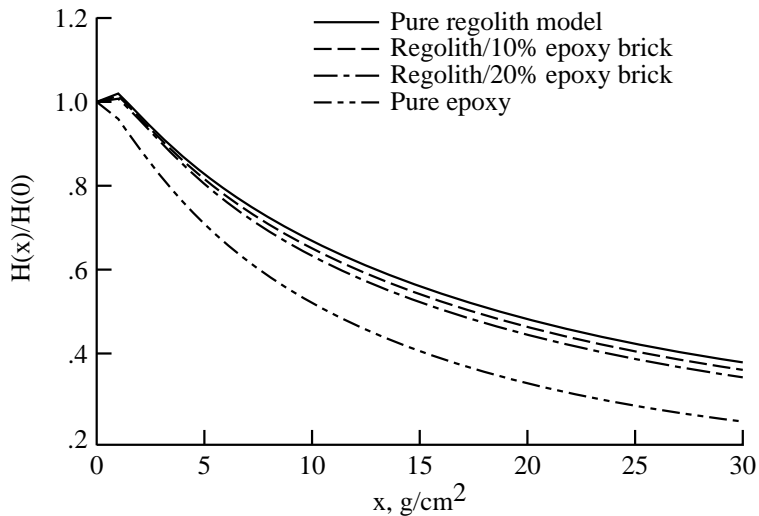
Al ₂ O ₃	17.6 %
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MgO	10.0 %
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The Surface of the Moon is Slightly Richer in Fe, Ca, and Mg Compared to the Earth's Crust



<http://fti.neep.wisc.edu/neep602/lecture12.html>

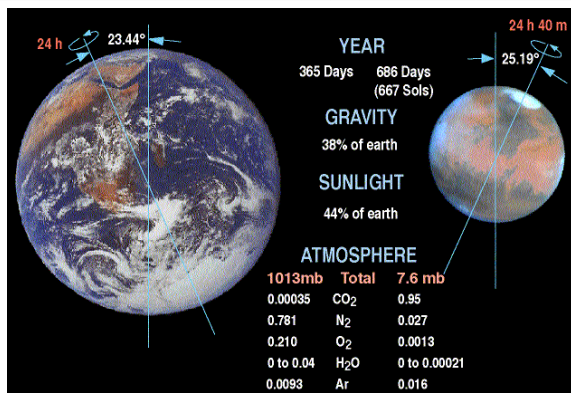


Attenuation of dose equivalent due to 1977 solar minimum GCR

Simonsen et al., NASA Conference Publication 3360, 1997

MARS

	Earth	Mars
Atmospheric thickness (g/cm ²)	1000	20
Magnetic field (Gauss)	1	0



<http://www-k12.atmos.washington.edu/k12/resources/>

Chemical composition of Martian atmosphere

Component	Percentage (%)
CO ₂	95.32
N ₂	02.70
Ar	01.60
O ₂	00.13
CO	00.08

De Angelis et al., Rad. Meas. vol.41, p.1097, 2006

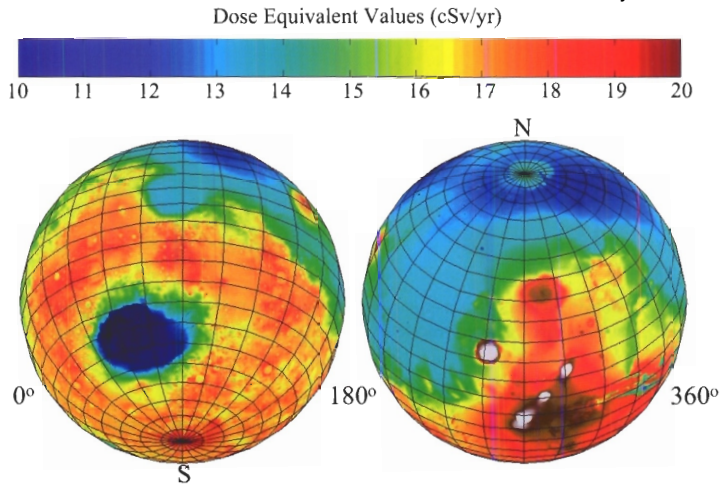
Chemical composition of Martian surface

Component	Percentage (%)
SiO ₂	44.2
Fe ₂ O ₃	16.8
Al ₂ O ₃	08.8
CaO	06.6
MgO	06.2
SO ₃	05.5
Na ₂ O	02.5
TiO ₂	01.0

De Angelis et al., Rad. Meas. vol.41, p.1097, 2006

GCR Environment

20 cSv/year = 200 mSv/year



Model prediction of dose equivalent from GCR. Calculations are shown at average skin depth near solar maximum. [Cucinotta, Rad. Res. vol.43, p.S35, 2002](#)

Curiosity MSL RAD Zeitlin et al. Science vol. 340, p.1080, 2013

Mars transit inside vehicle: 1.84 ± 0.33 mSv / day

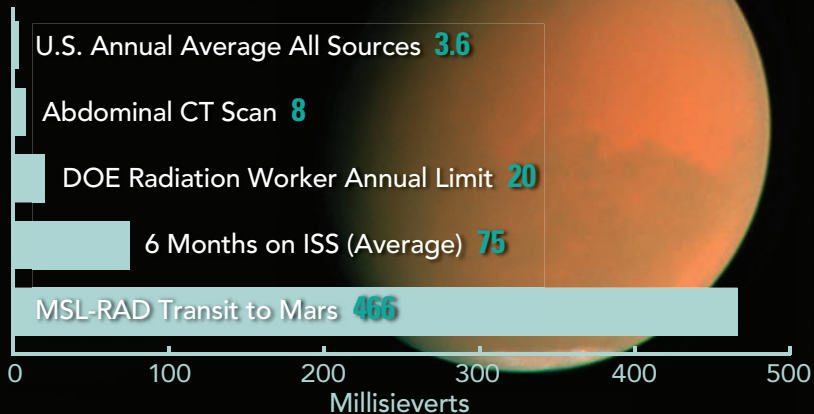
⇒ MSL (one way) 253 days gives 466 mSv

⇒ 331 mSv for 180 day cruise DRM

⇒ 662 mSv return trip

- Plus surface exposure 200 mSv ?
- Approaching and exceeding limits

Comparative Radiation Exposures

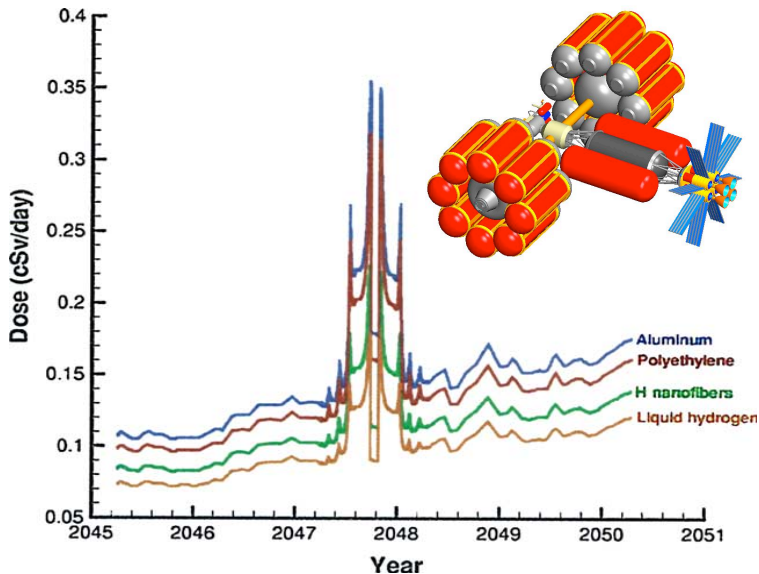


MSL-RAD= Mars Science Laboratory Radiation Assessment Detector [Kerr, Science vol.340, p.1031, 2013](#)

Intense radiation

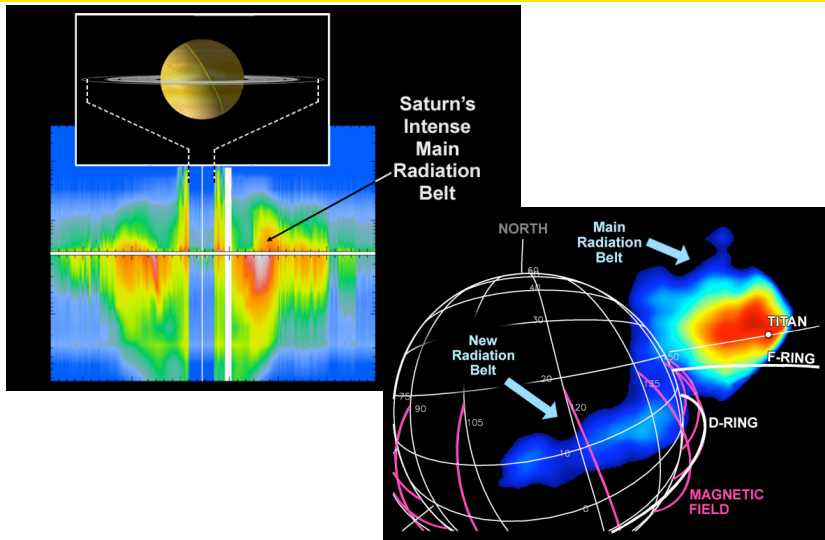
- On Jupiter moon Io humans could not survive for more than a few hours
- Callisto

L1 TO CALLISTO SURFACE OPS (30 DAYS) & RETURN



Wilson et al., Adv. Space Res. vol.34, p.1281, 2004

SATURN



<http://www.universetoday.com/15381/radiation-on-saturn/>

http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/cassini/multimedia/pia06421.html

HEALTH EFFECTS ON HUMAN BODY

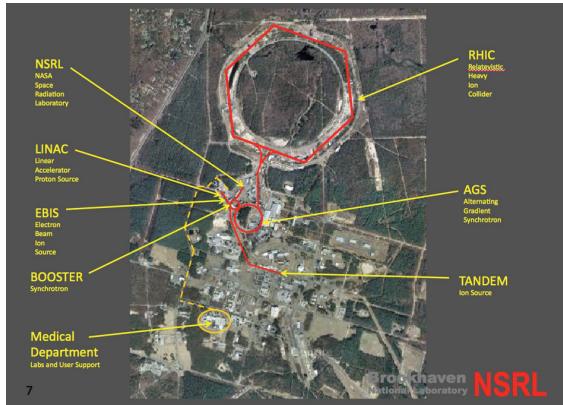
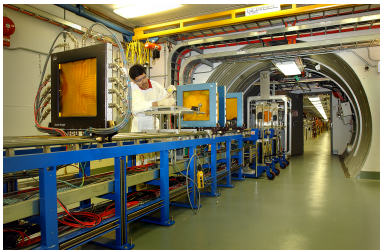
- Carcinogenesis
 - Earlier appearance and more aggressive tumors not seen with controls, gamma-rays or proton induced tumors
 - Persistent oxidative damage and inflammatory pathway responses
 - New genomics data showing distinct gene expression profiles in HZE versus γ -ray or x-ray irradiated cell models
- Acute Radiation Syndrome due to Solar Particle Events
 - Research addresses dose threshold, dose-rate effects with countermeasure evaluation
 - Future work to understand impact of possible high skin dose and microgravity on immune system and blood forming organs

HEALTH EFFECTS ON HUMAN BODY

- Acute or Late Central Nervous System (CNS) Effects
 - Concern for CNS risks originated with the prediction of the light flash phenomenon from single high-Z high-energy nuclei traversals of the retina; this phenomenon was confirmed by the Apollo astronauts
 - Major uncertainty how to extrapolate results from animals to humans
- Degenerative Tissue or other health effects
 - Occupational radiation exposure from the space environment may result in degenerative tissue diseases (non-cancer or non-CNS) such as cardiac, circulatory, or digestive diseases, & cataracts
 - Mechanisms & magnitude of influence of radiation leading to these diseases are not well characterized

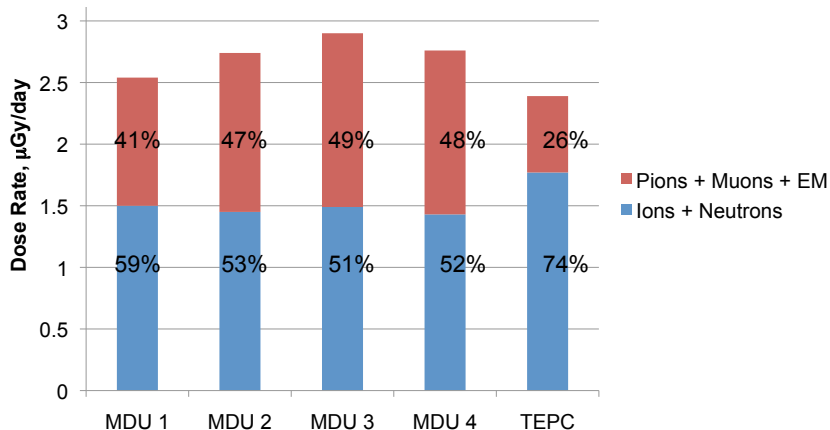
NASA SPACE RADIATION LABORATORY

- Brookhaven National Lab on Long Island
- protons: 4 GeV
- protons - Fe: 50 MeV/n - 1.5 GeV/n
- up to Au: 165 MeV/n



<http://science.energy.gov/np/benefits-of-np/applications-of-nuclear-science/archives/nasa-space-radiation-laboratory-nsrl/>
<http://spaceref.com/missions-and-programs/nasa/nasa-fiso-presentation-an-overview-of-the-nasa-space-radiation-laboratory.html>

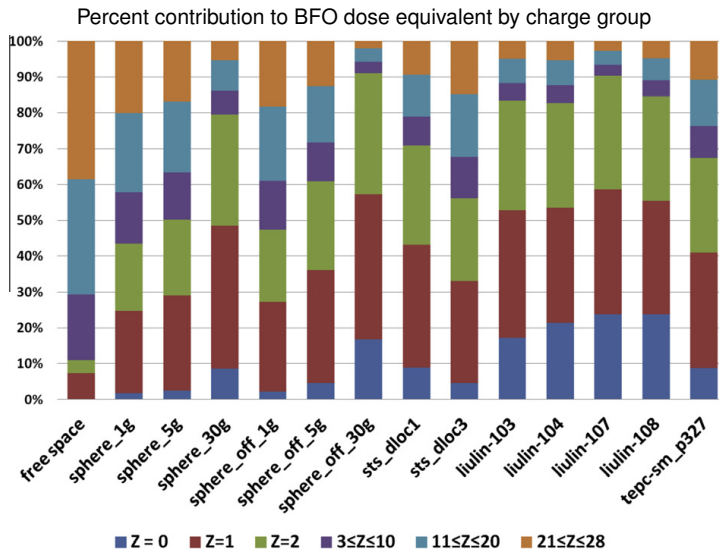
NEW DEVELOPMENTS - PION CONTRIBUTION TO DOSE



Norman, Blattnig, De Angelis, Badavi, Norbury: Adv. Space Res. 50, 146, 2012; Aghara, Blattnig, Norbury, Singleterry: Nucl. Inst. Meth. B 267, 1115, 2009; Slaba et al., NASA TP-2013-217983; Adv. Space Res. 52, 62, 2013;

Pions can contribute almost 50% to dose

NEW DEVELOPMENTS - NEUTRONS & LIGHT IONS



Walker, Townsend, Norbury, Adv. Space Res. vol.51, p.1792, 2013

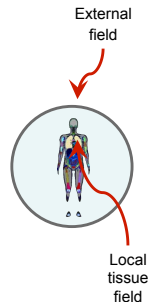
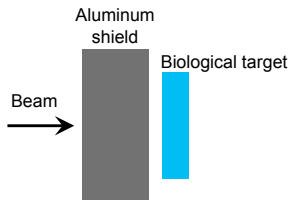
Neutrons and light ions (H, He) can dominate Dose Equivalent

NEW DEVELOPMENTS - GCR SIMULATION

Two approaches to Galactic Cosmic Ray (GCR) simulation:

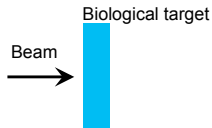
External field approach

Beams selected to represent external, free space field before shielding

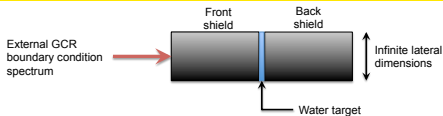


Local tissue field approach

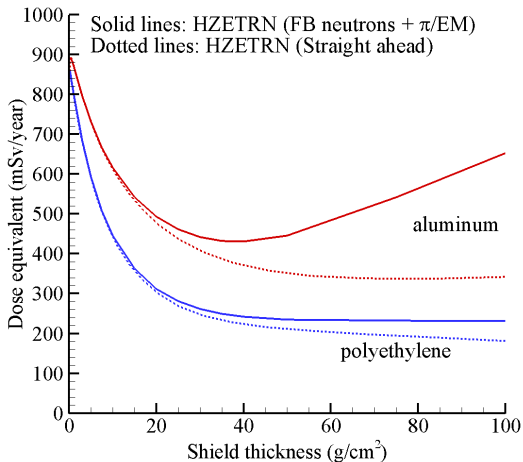
Beams selected to directly represent shielded tissue field



NEW DEVELOPMENTS - MINIMUM DOSE EQUIVALENT VS. DEPTH



$$X \text{ g/cm}^2 \text{ Al} \equiv X \text{ g/cm}^2 \text{ Al front} + 0.03 \text{ mm water} + X \text{ g/cm}^2 \text{ Al back}$$



Blattnig, Slaba, Bahadori, Norman, Cloudsley, Space Radiation Investigators' Workshop, Galveston, TX, 2014

KOREA CONTRIBUTIONS

- Human presence throughout solar system in 21 century
 - International endeavour
 - New frontier - many economic rewards - reaped by participants
- Korea Institute of Radiological and Medical Sciences (KIRAMS)
 - Expertise in proton and heavy ion therapy and radiological sciences
 - Highly relevant to space radiation
- Space Radiation
 - Major uncertainties associated with low dose rate
 - KIRAMS contribution?

CONCLUSIONS

- Human exploration of solar system
- Radiation protection is a major issue
- Fundamental studies in physics and radiobiology still needed
- Republic of Korea could make major contributions

THE END

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