## Using DNA damage to investigate the individual variability of human sensitivity to ionizing radiation

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Chancellor et al., Life, 2014



#### Hazardous Components of Space Radiation



Hassler et al., Science, 2014

### Predicting Individual Radiation Sensitivity





Cucinotta, Plos One, 2014



#### Investigation in a cohort of 780 human donors





#### Preliminary Results





### Individual Variability in Baseline Level of DNA Damage



**Nuclei Detection (DAPI)** 



#### Foci Detection (FITC)







# Influence of Demographic Variables on the Baseline Level of DNA Damage





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#### Radiation Response: DNA Damage



Selection of the 10 "highest baselines" and the 10 "lowest baselines", based on the average number of foci per individual, without irradiation





Radiation Response for Extreme Baselines

Individuals with low number of foci at baseline seem to be more responsive to radiation



Selection of the 10 "highest responders" and the 10 "lowest responders", based on the level of DNA damage at Fluence 1



NASA

#### Additional Radiation Response Phenotypes





### Perspectives: Systems Biology Analysis



Multiple Outputs of Radiation Sensitivity: DNA damage Cell death Oxidative Stress Example of Systems Biology strategy for the prediction of seroresponse to TIV vaccination<sup>1</sup>: *The node size encodes the titer response score The length of connecting edges encodes the distance between subject signatures* 



<sup>1</sup>Marchetti et al., Hindawi, Exploring the Limitations of Peripheral Blood Transcriptional Biomarkers in Predicting Influenza Vaccine Responsiveness, 2017

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## Thank you

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