

# NASA GeneLab platform utilized for space radiation dosimetry biological response compared to radiation ground studies

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration



**Afshin Beheshti, PhD**  
**Bioinformatician at GeneLab**  
**Principal Investigator**  
**Space Biosciences Division, KBRWyle**  
**NASA Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, CA**

**Adjunct Assistant Professor at Department of Medicine**  
**Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School**

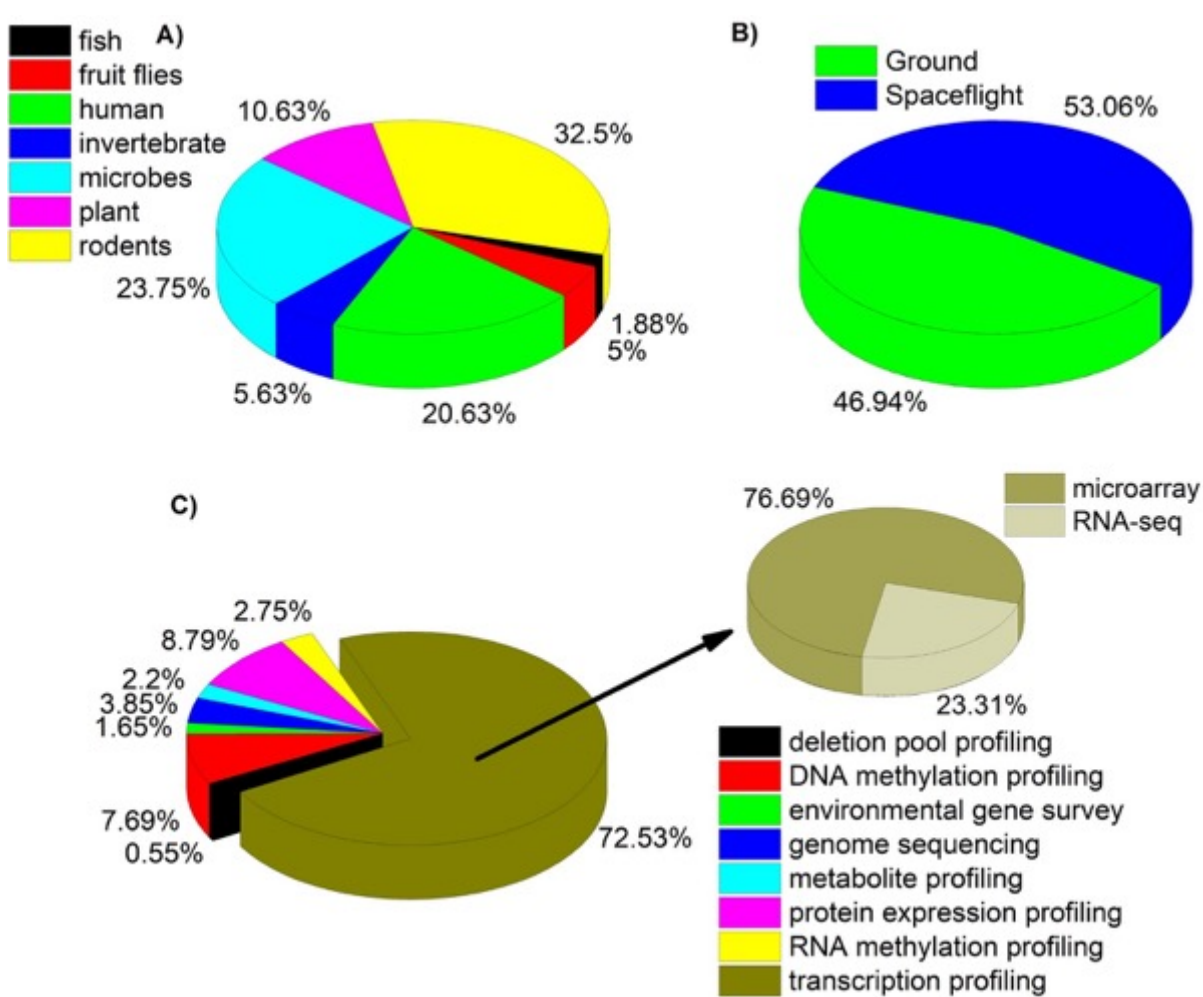
**Visiting Researcher at Broad Institute**  
**Cambridge, MA**

**[afshin.beheshti@nasa.gov](mailto:afshin.beheshti@nasa.gov)**  
**[abehesht@broadinstitute.org](mailto:abehesht@broadinstitute.org)**

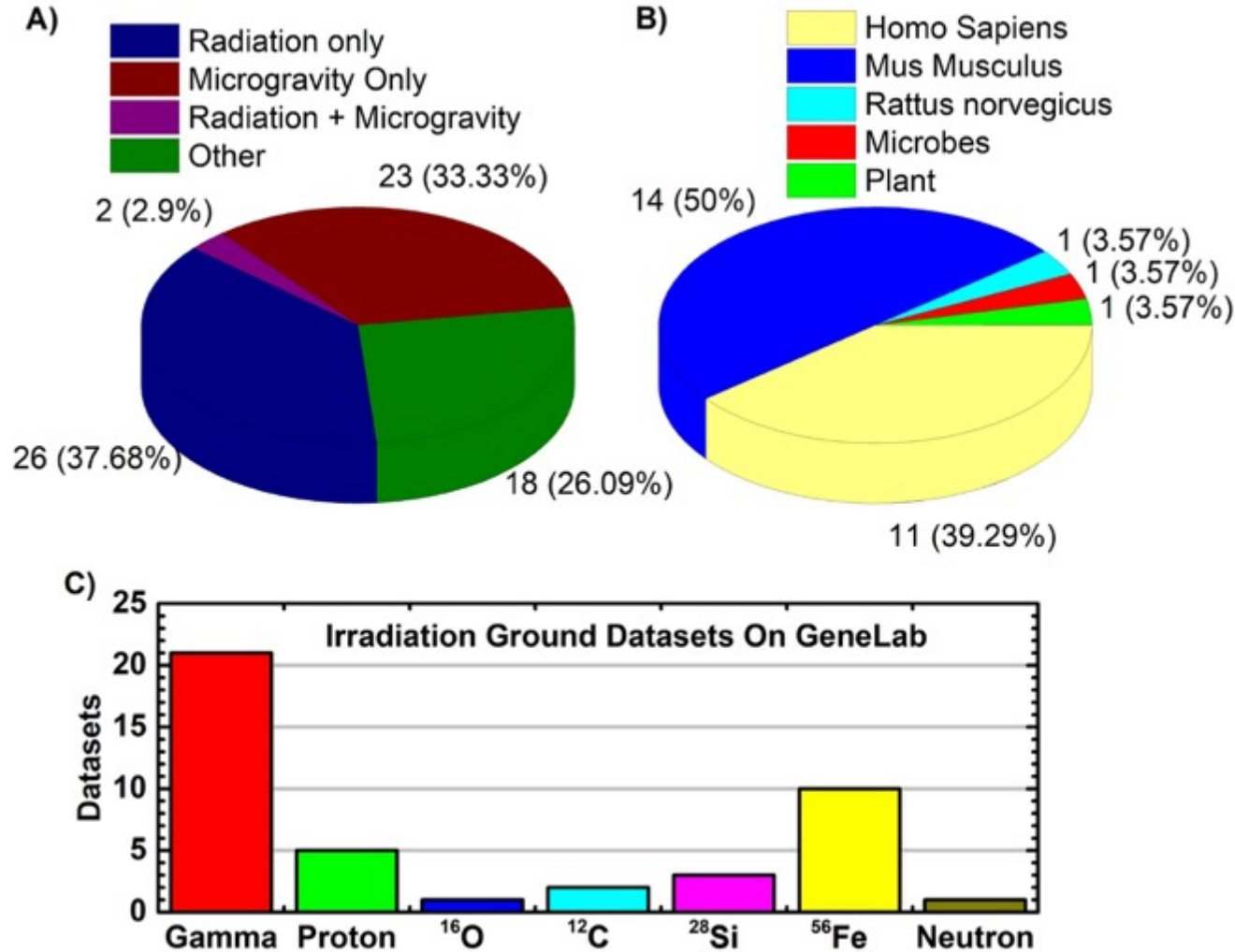


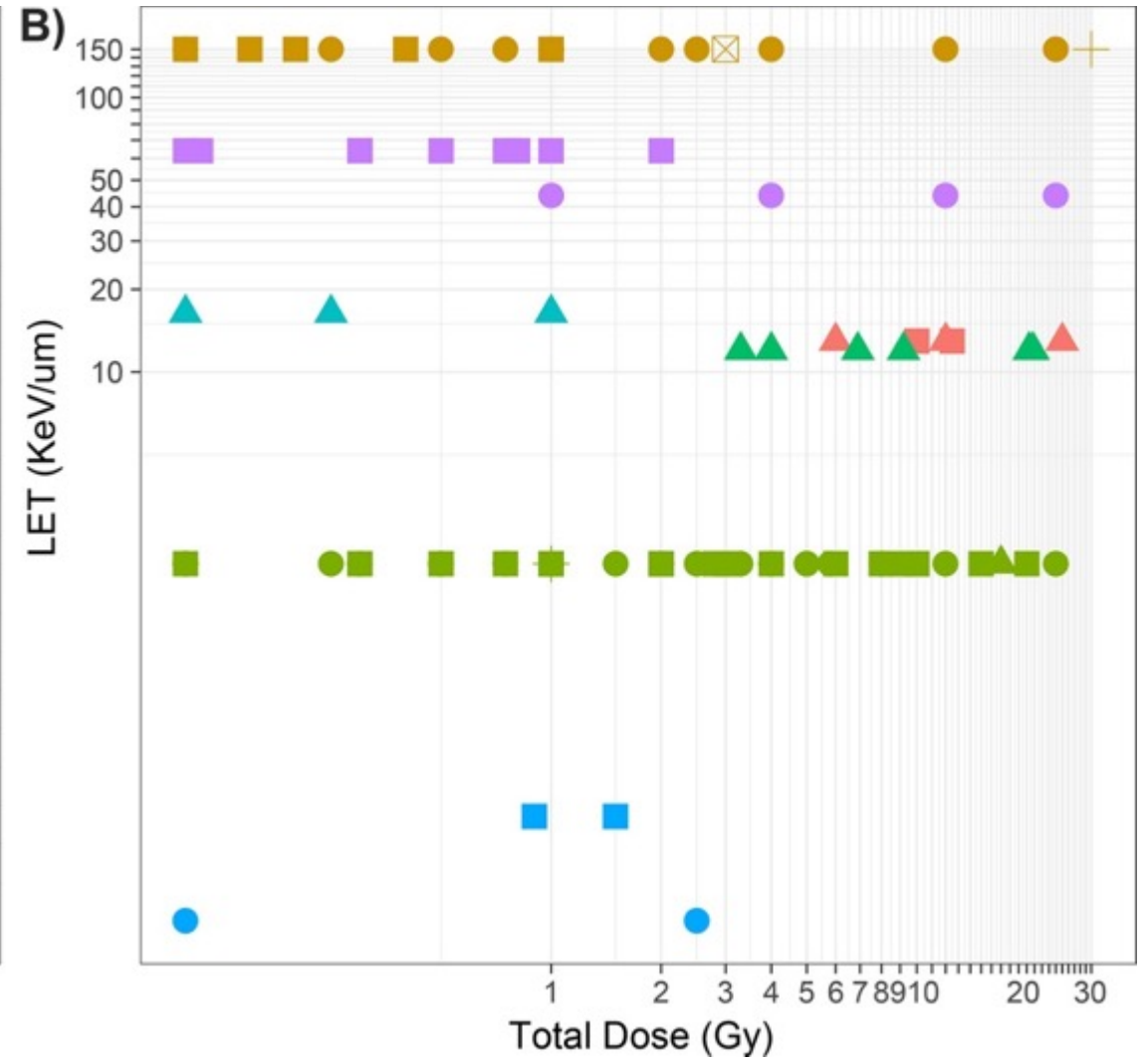
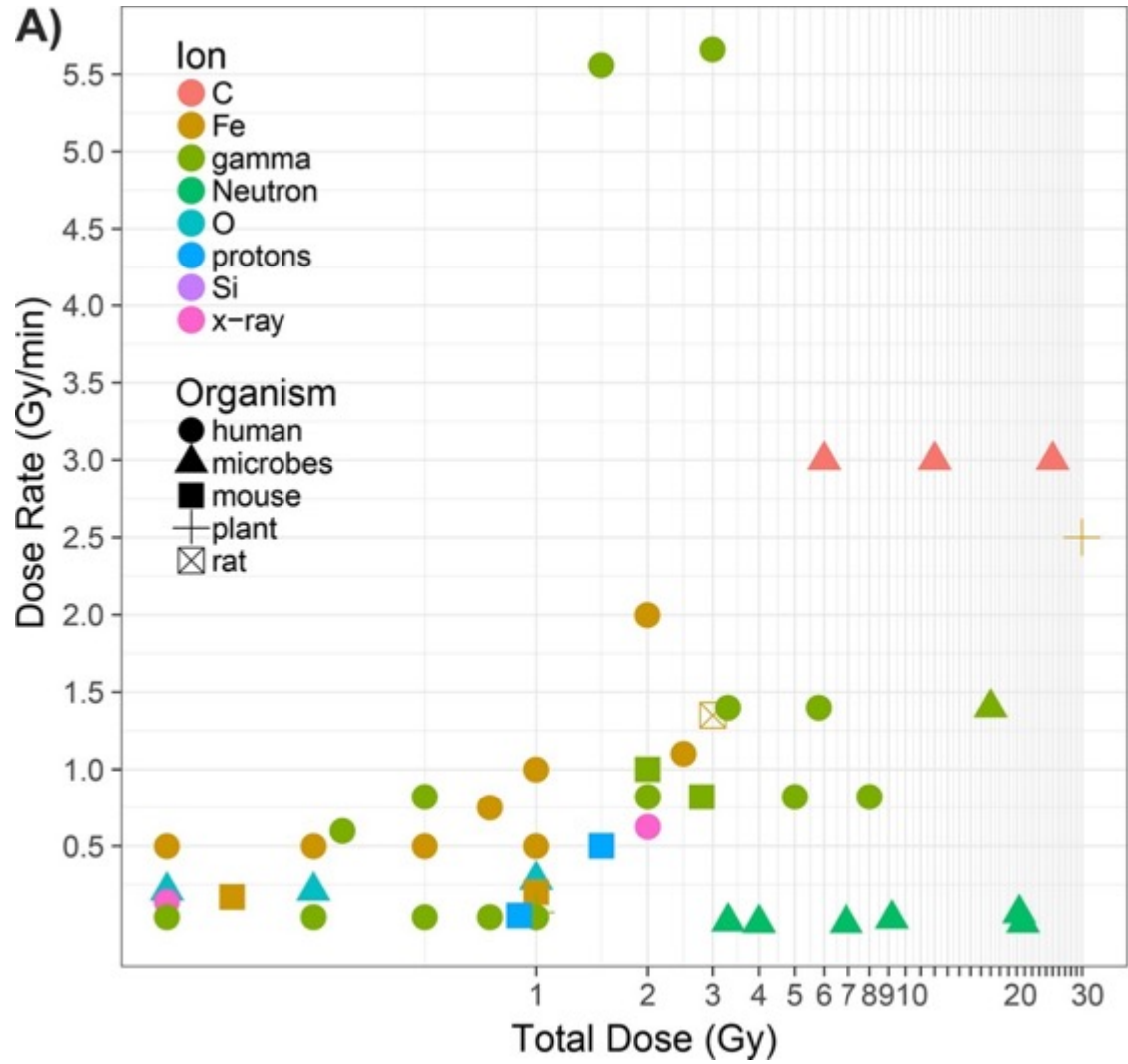


## All GeneLab Datasets

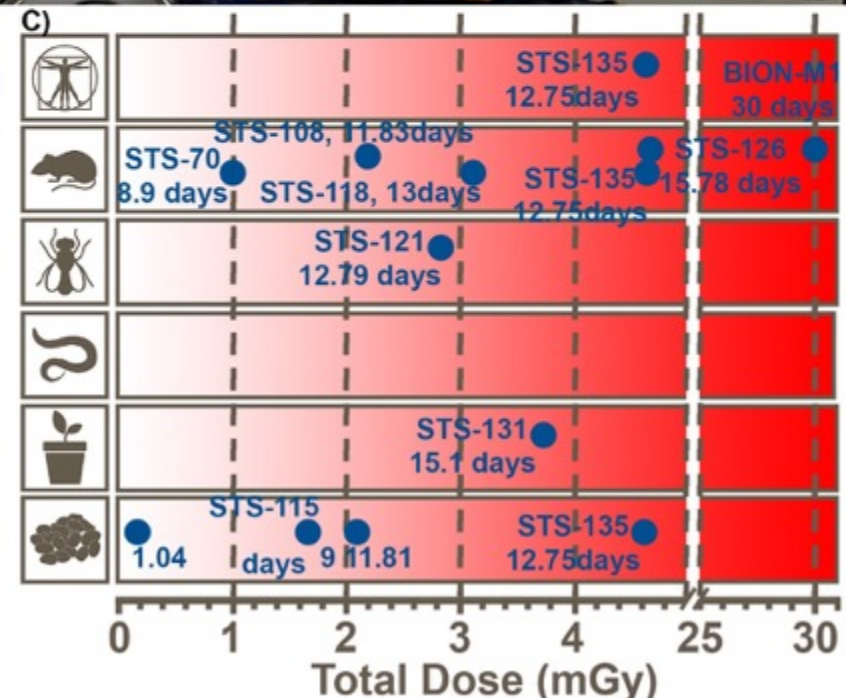
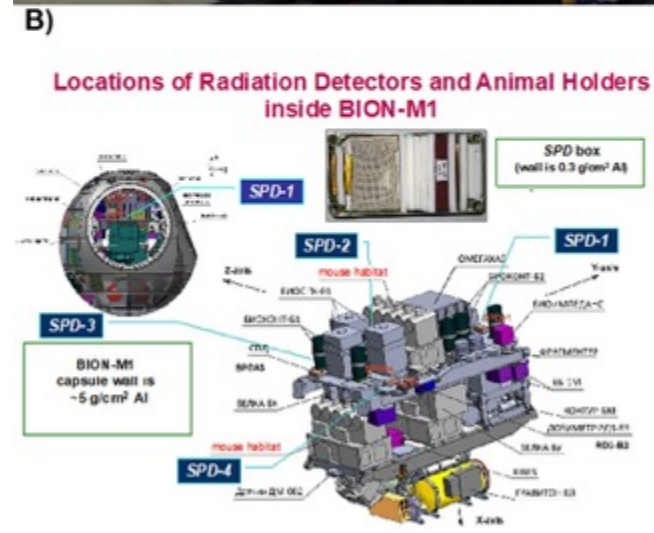
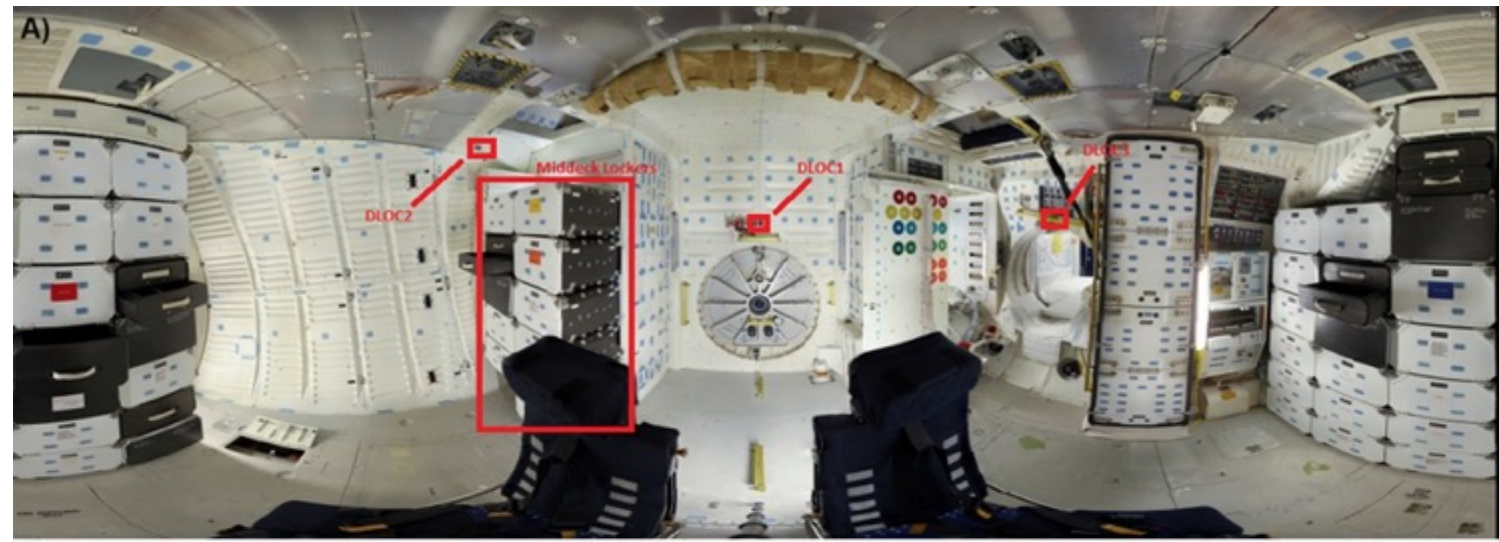


## Specific Ground Radiation GeneLab Datasets





# Radiation Dosimetry for STS samples (ISS to follow)



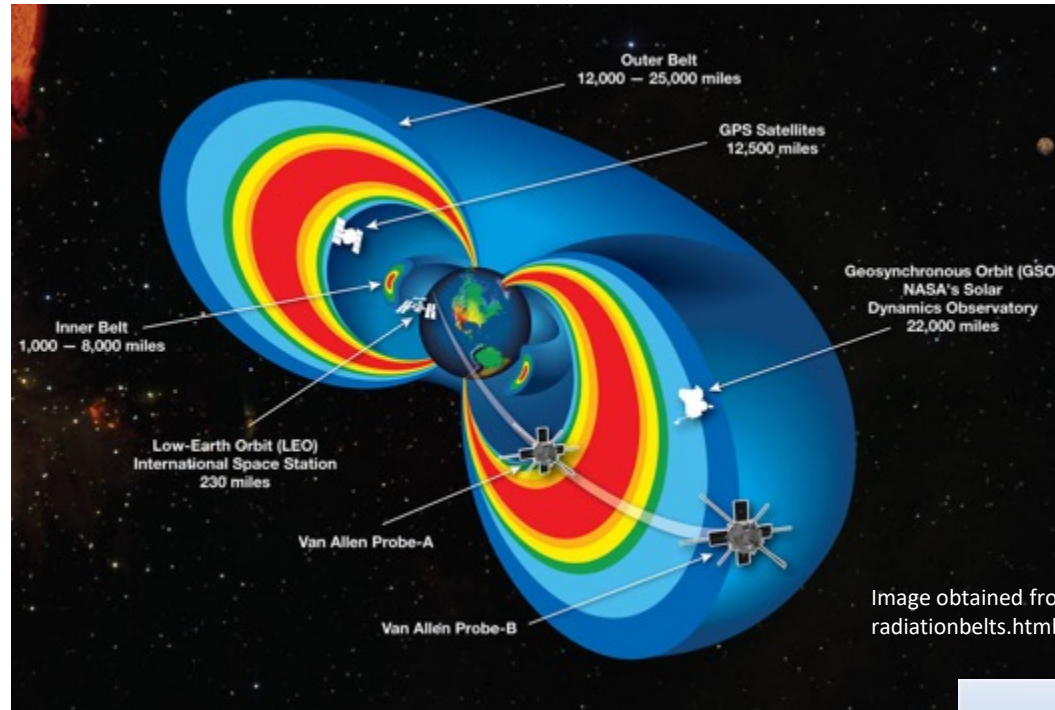


Image obtained from [radiationbelts.html](http://radiationbelts.html)

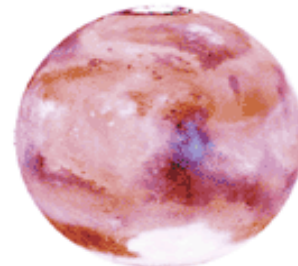


	MILLIREM:
CHEST X-RAY	8 to 50
AVG. YEARLY RADON DOSE	200
U.S. AVG. YEARLY DOSE	350
PET SCAN	1,000
1 YEAR IN KERALA, INDIA	1,300
U.S. NUCLEAR WORKER LIMIT PER YEAR	5,000
APOLLO 14 (9 DAYS)	1,140
SHUTTLE 41-C (18 DAYS)	5,600
SKYLAB 4 (84 DAYS)	17,800
MARS MISSION TOTAL	130,000

## 2½ Years, 2,600 X-Rays

Americans on average absorb the radiation equivalent of at least 7 chest X-rays each year.

Space missions, outside of Earth's protective atmosphere and magnetic field, expose astronauts to many times more.



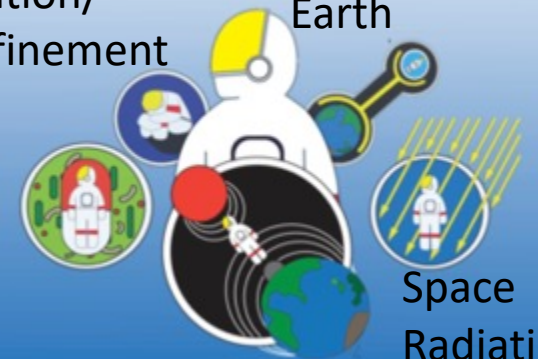
NASA

Source: Brookhaven National Laboratory, U.S. Department of Energy

Isolation/  
Confinement

Distance from  
Earth

Hostile/closed  
environments

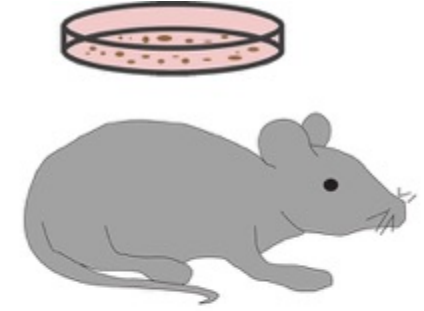
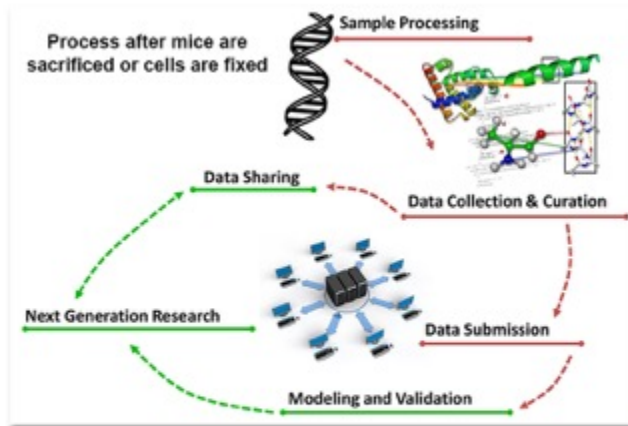


Space  
Radiation

Gravity Fields

Credits: NASA

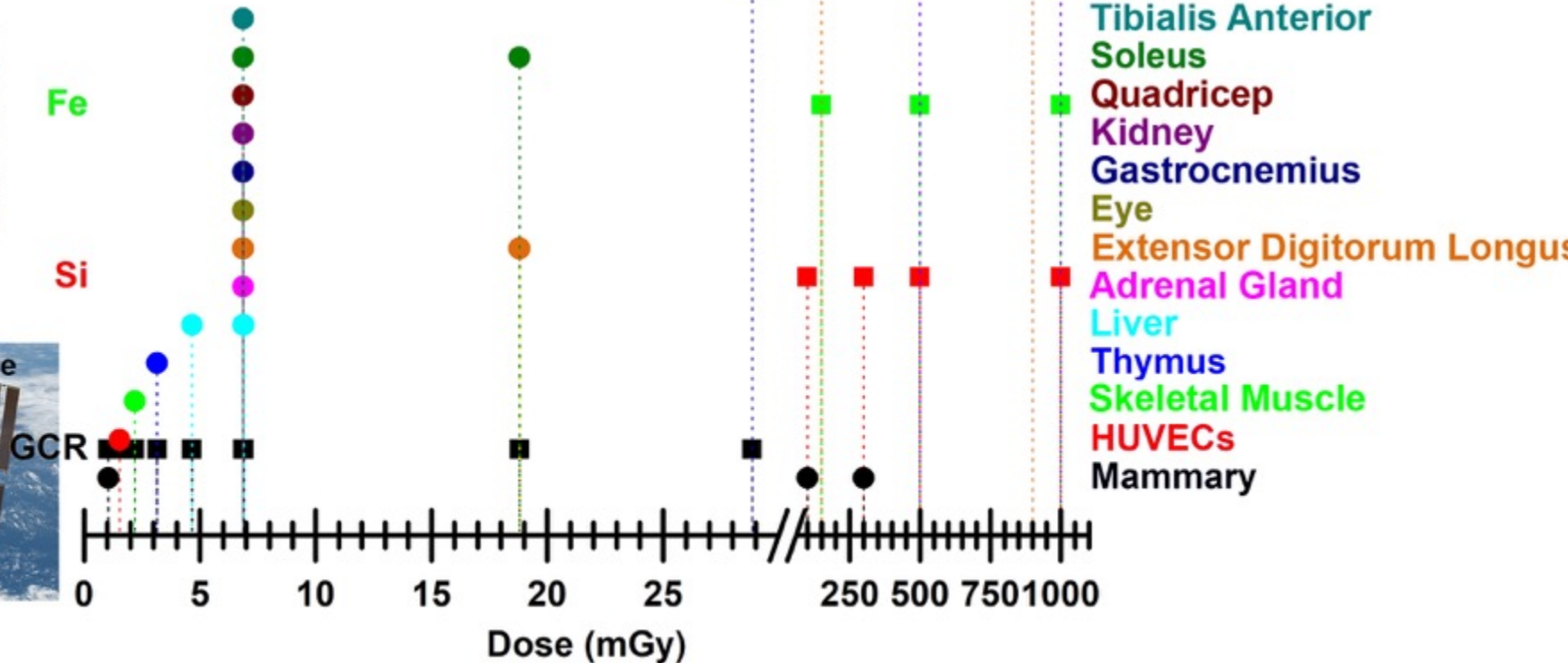
- Ground datasets will be compared to both *in vivo* and *in vitro* datasets from samples flown to the ISS and on shorter shuttle missions.
- From this analysis we will be able to associate distinct biological signatures associating specific ions to specific biological response to radiation exposure in space.



Proton

Fe

Si

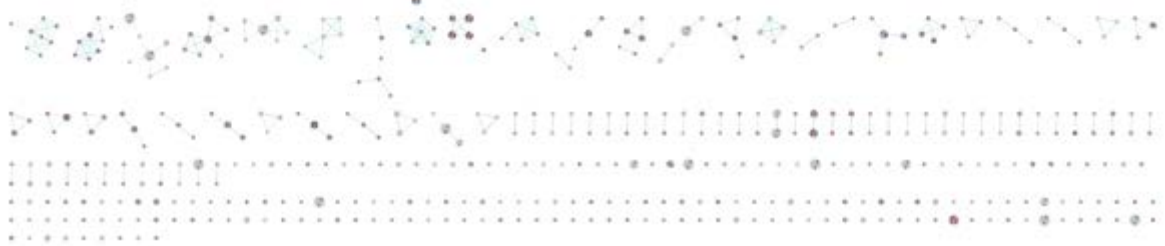


- HBECs
- Cardiomyocytes
- Skin
- Tibialis Anterior
- Soleus
- Quadriceps
- Kidney
- Gastrocnemius
- Eye
- Extensor Digitorum Longus
- Adrenal Gland
- Liver
- Thymus
- Skeletal Muscle
- HUVECs
- Mammary

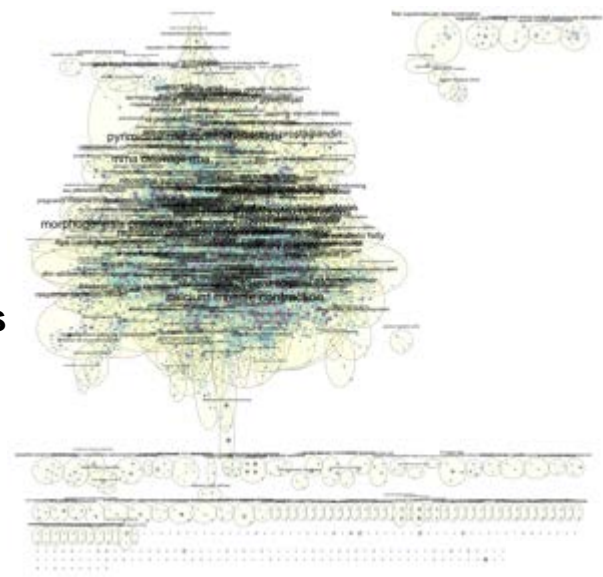
Gene Ontology (GO)



FDR < 0.05 GO pathways utilized



Auto-Annotate GO Clusters

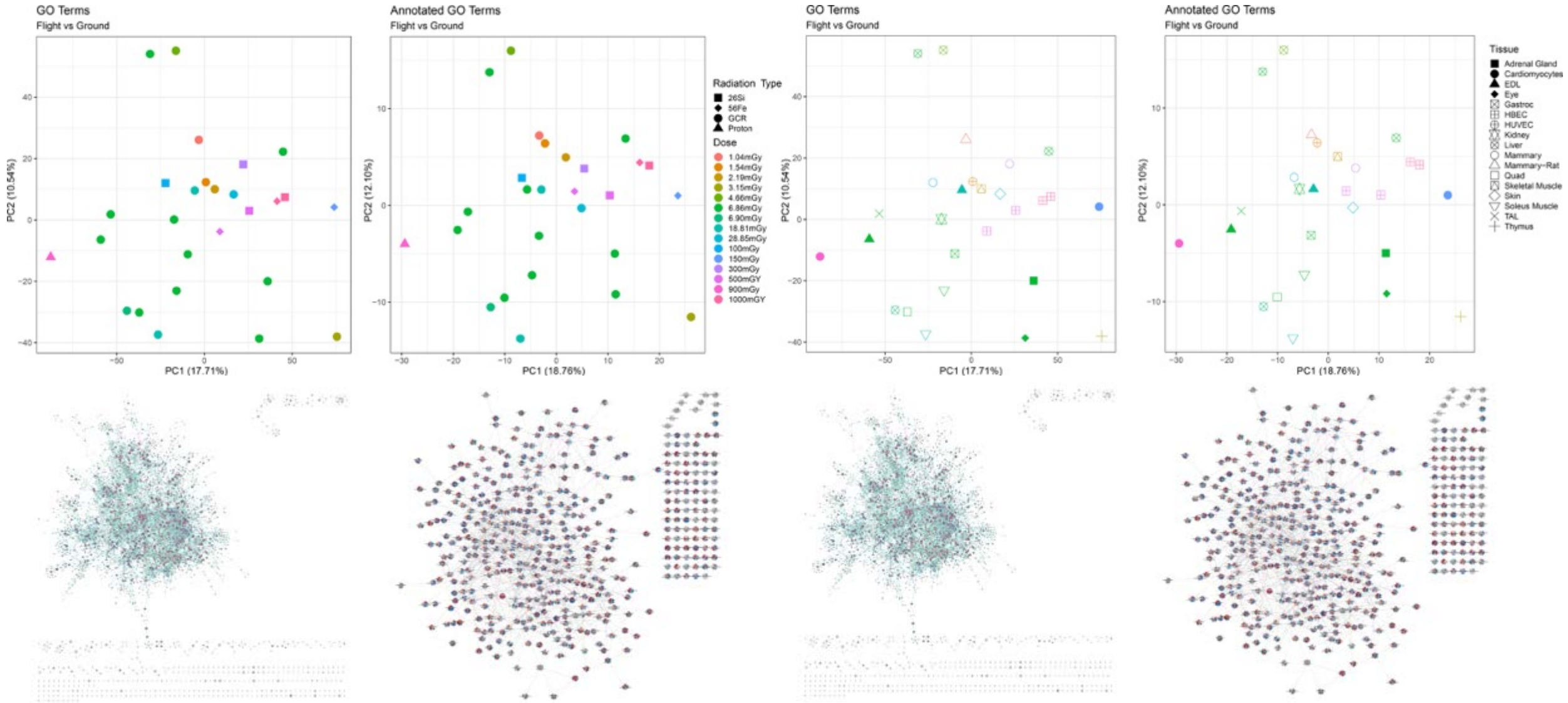


Use Normalized Enrichment Scores (NES) for downstream analysis

Create new GO network based on Annotated GO Clusters

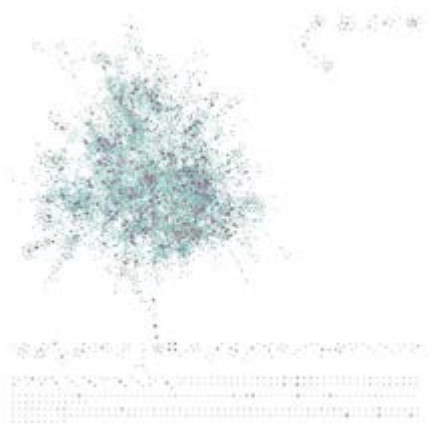


# Clustering of GO GSEA Terms Based on Normalized Enrichment Scores (NES)

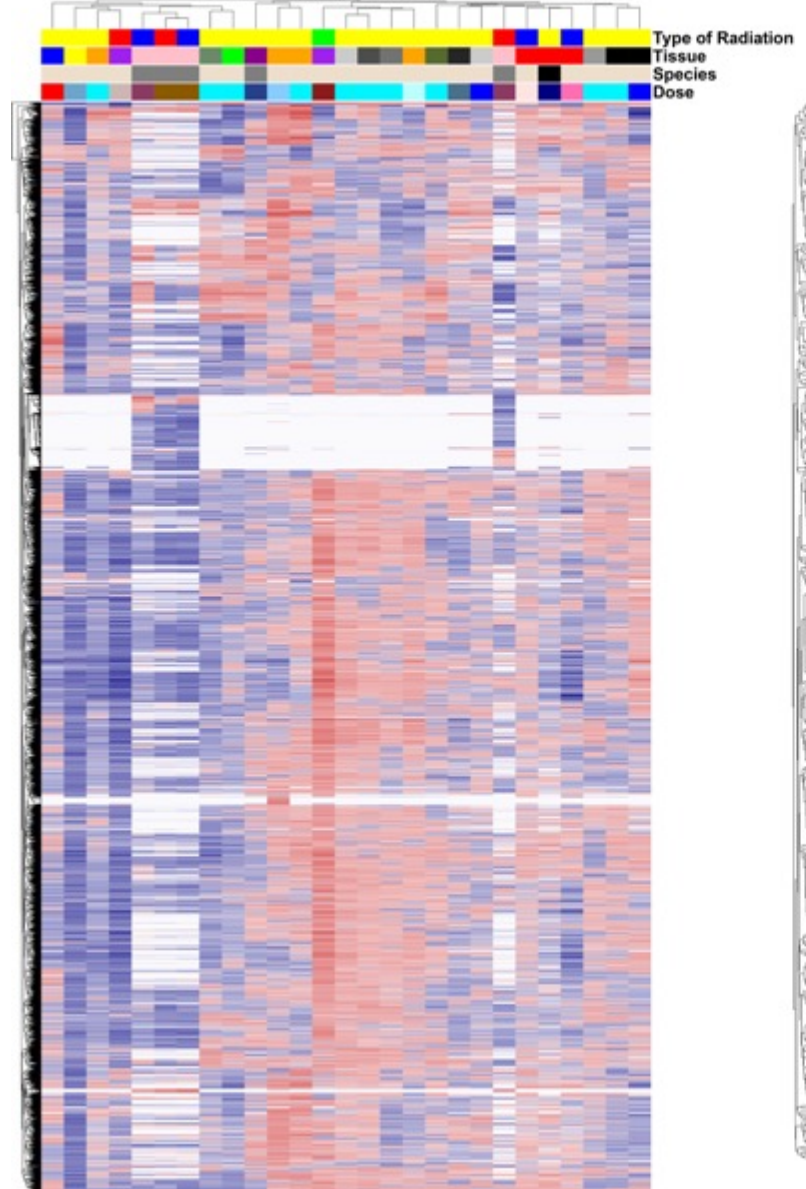


# Clustering of Pathways with Dose

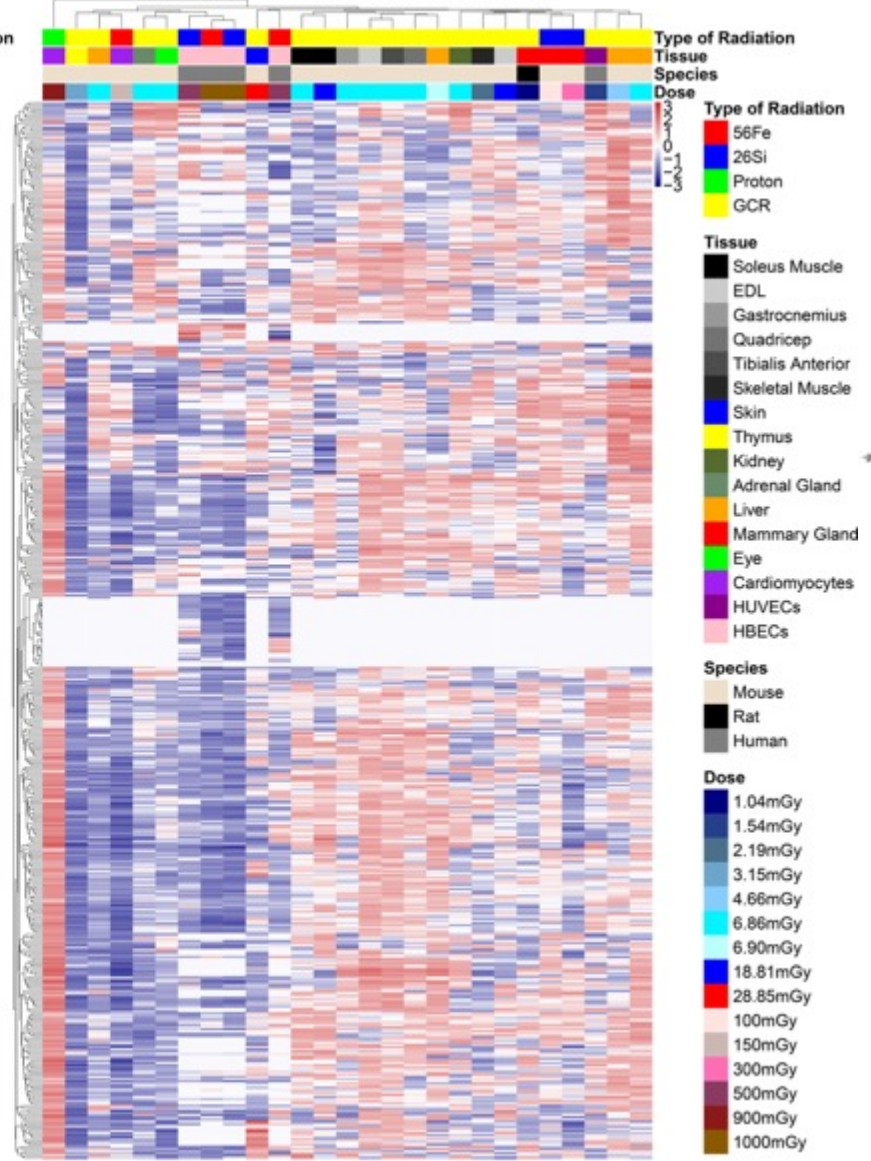
All Go Terms



GO Terms: Flight vs Ground

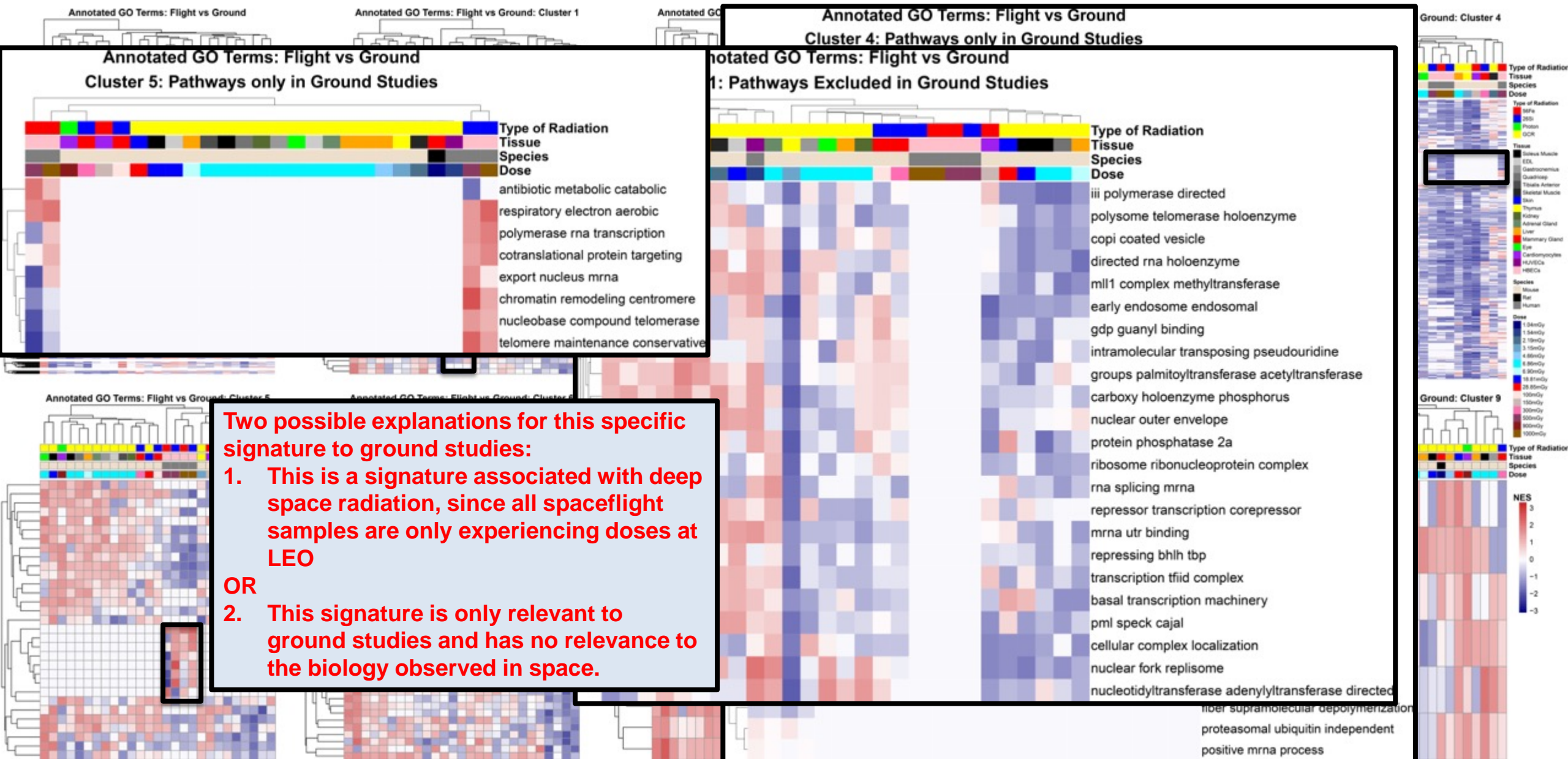


Annotated GO Terms: Flight vs Ground



Annotated Go Terms

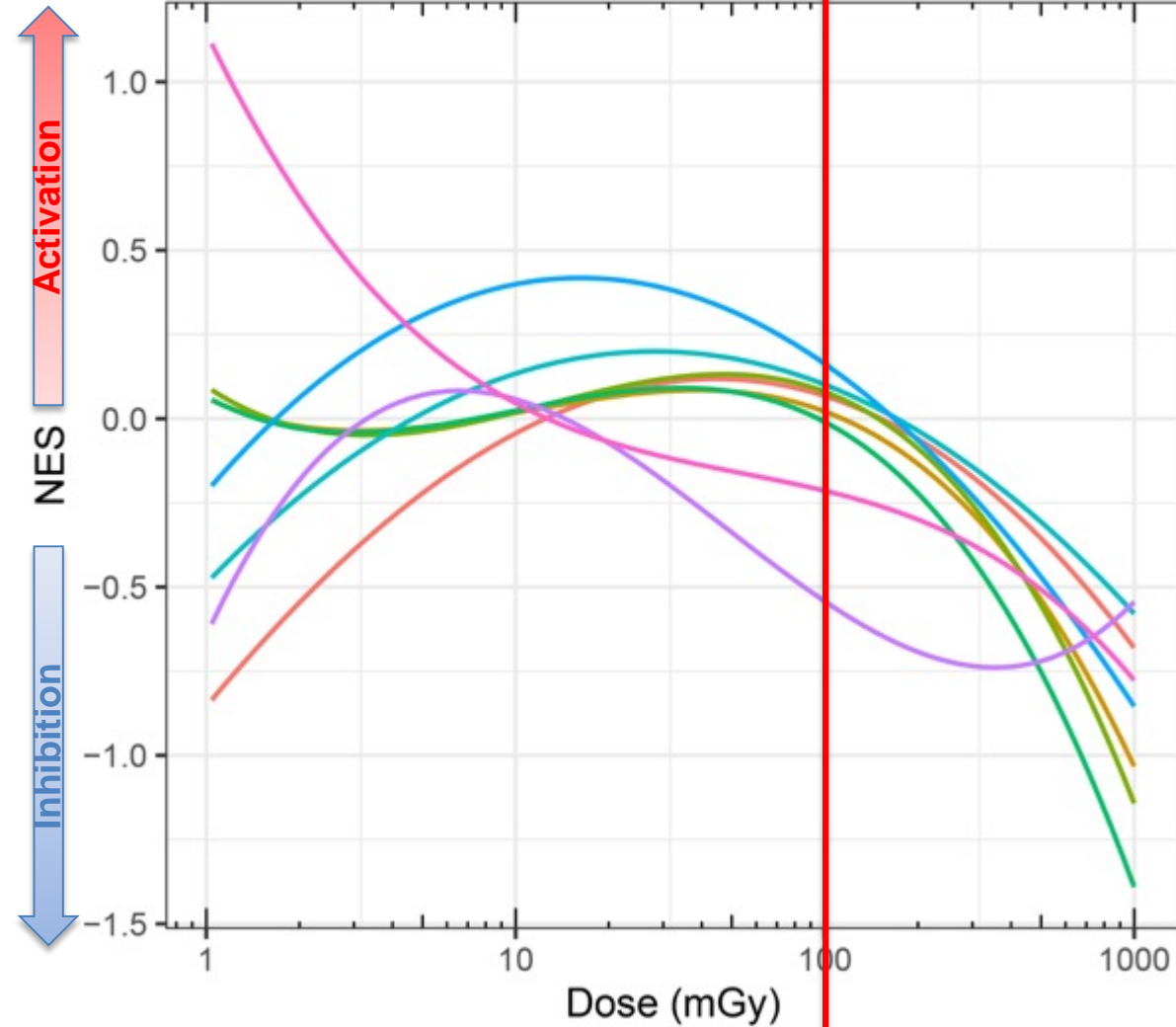




## Regression Splines

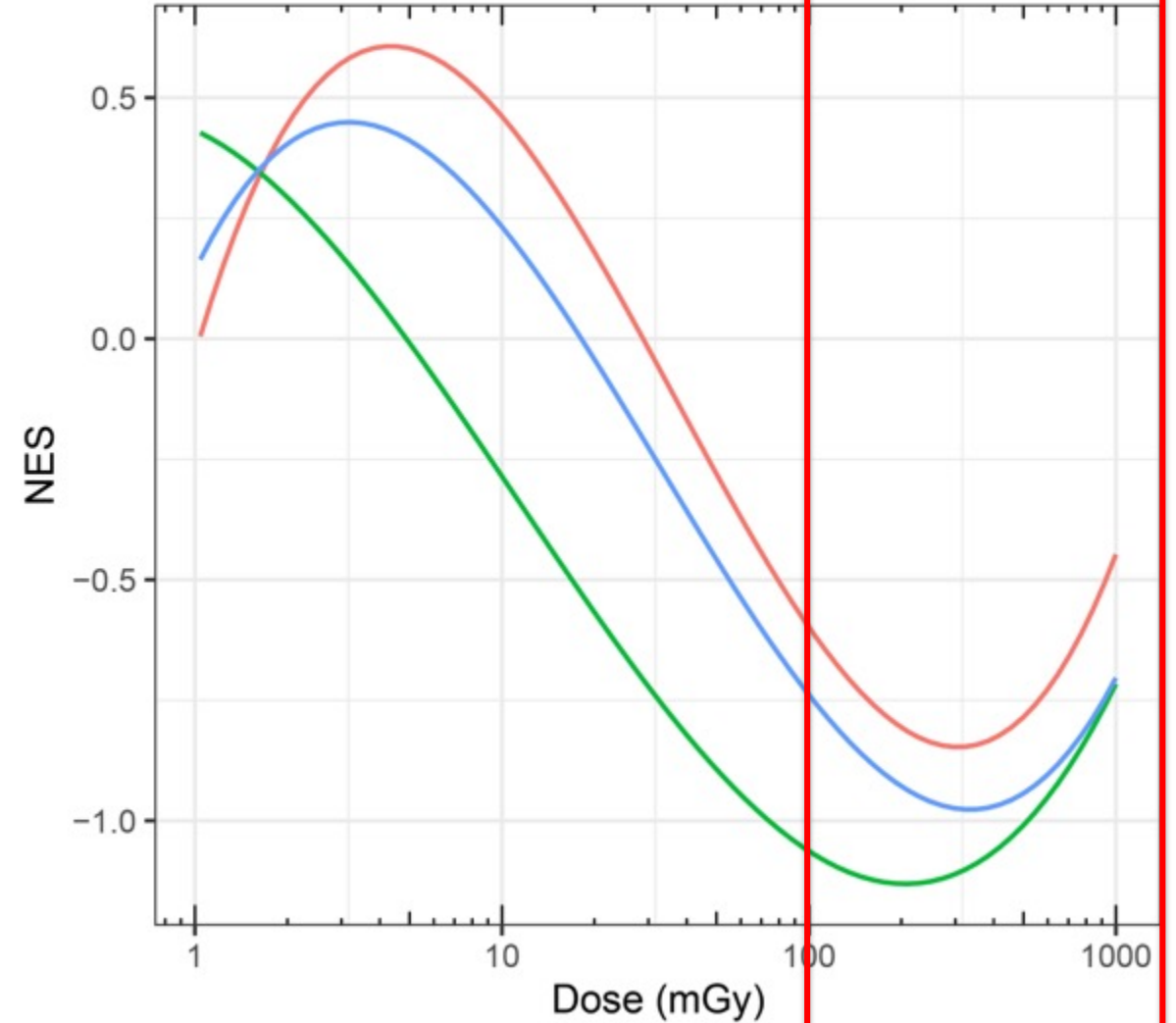
Annotated GO Pathways  
Muscle Related Pathways

Single Ion Data

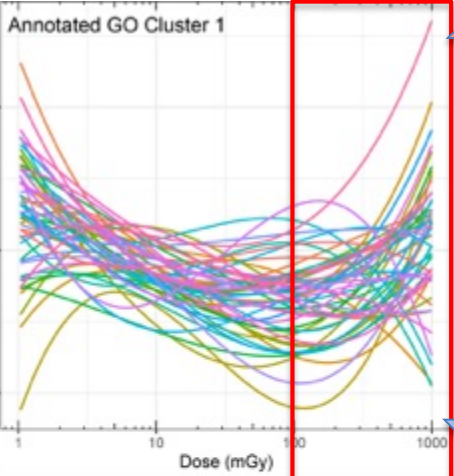


Annotated GO Pathways  
Cell Cycle

Single Ion Data

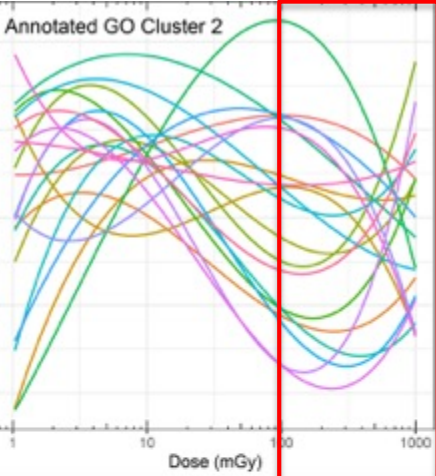


**Cluster 1: RNA processing, telomere lengthening, and mitochondrial pathways**

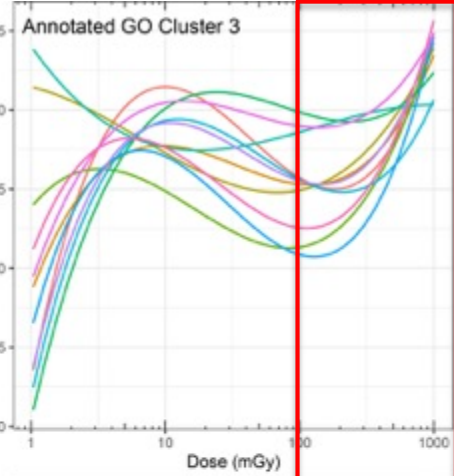


Activation  
Inhibition

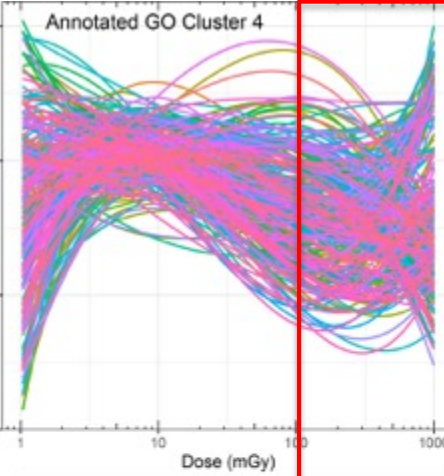
**Cluster 2: Developmental Pathways**



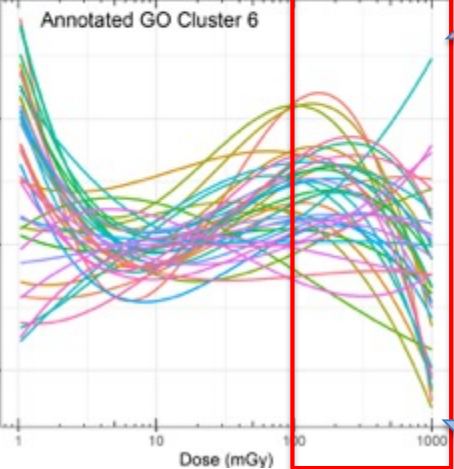
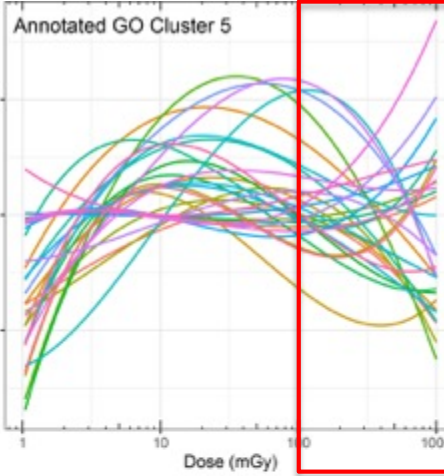
**Cluster 3: Calcium Signaling and Actin Binding**



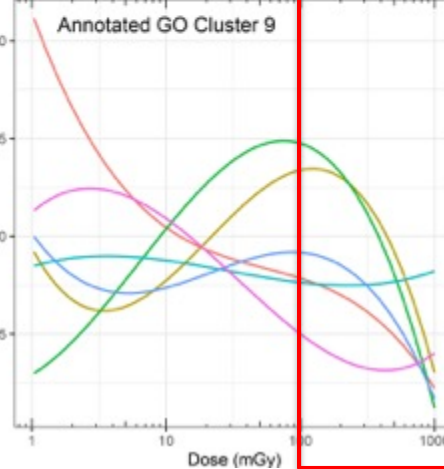
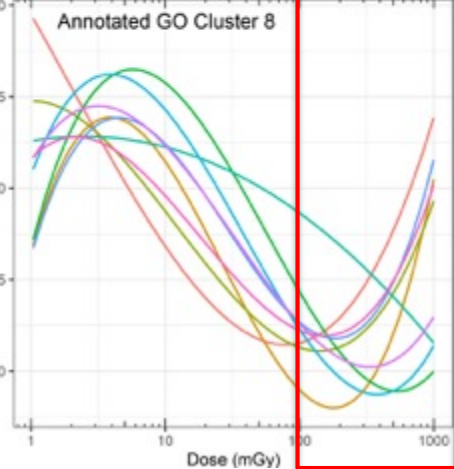
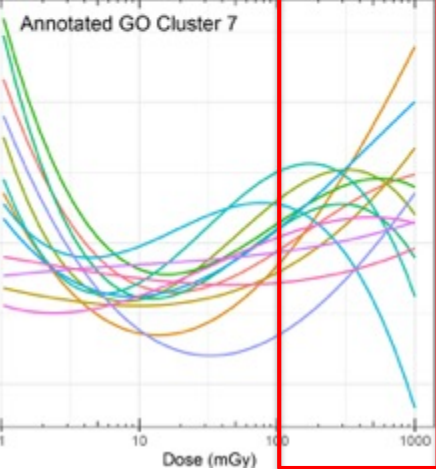
**Cluster 4: Immune, Inflammation, muscle, and lipid related pathways**



**Cluster 5: photoreceptor and synapse pathways**



Activation  
Inhibition



**Cluster 6: amino acid and ribosomal pathways**

Single Ion Data

**Cluster 7: drug response and catabolic process pathways**

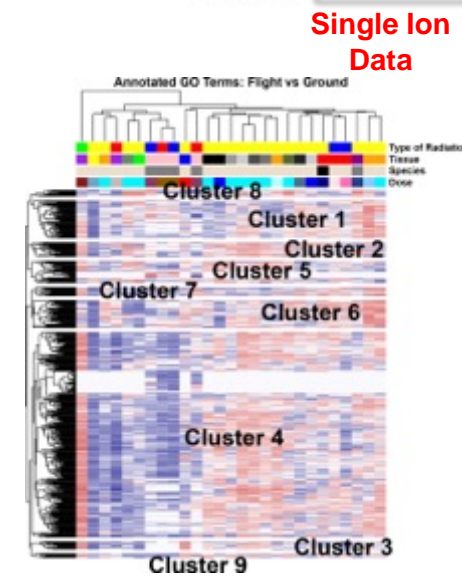
Single Ion Data

**Cluster 8: Mitotic and Cell Cycle Related Pathways**

Single Ion Data

**Cluster 9: hydration related pathways**

Single Ion Data



Single Ion Data

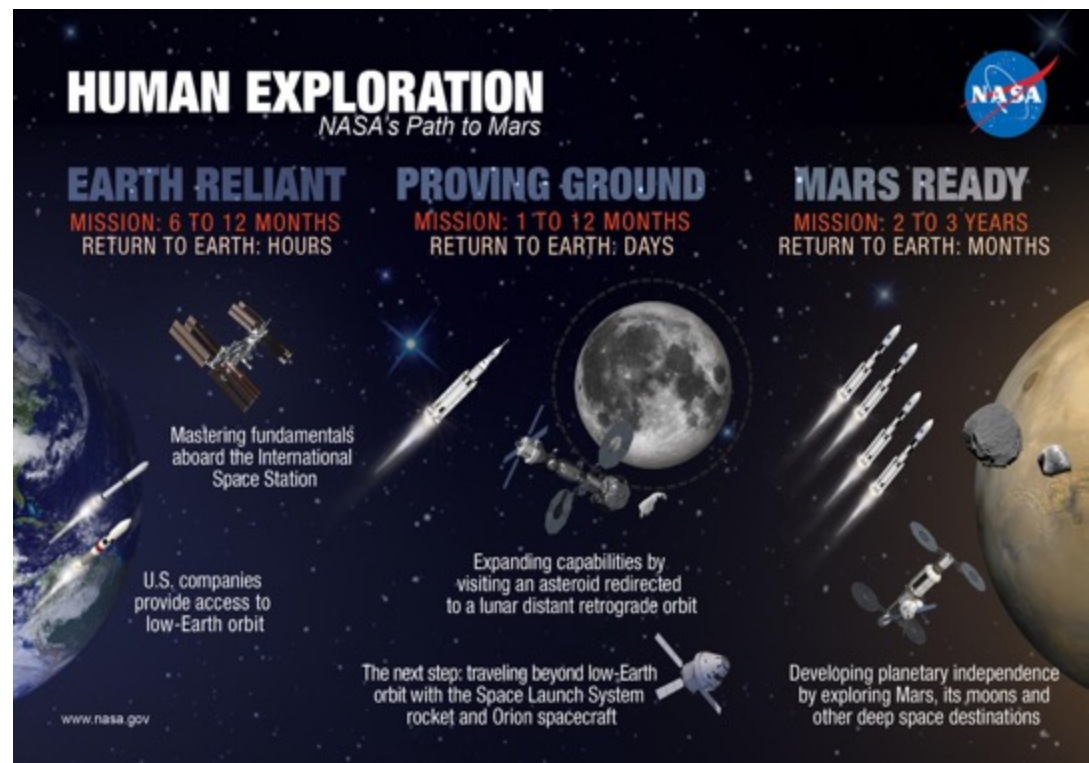
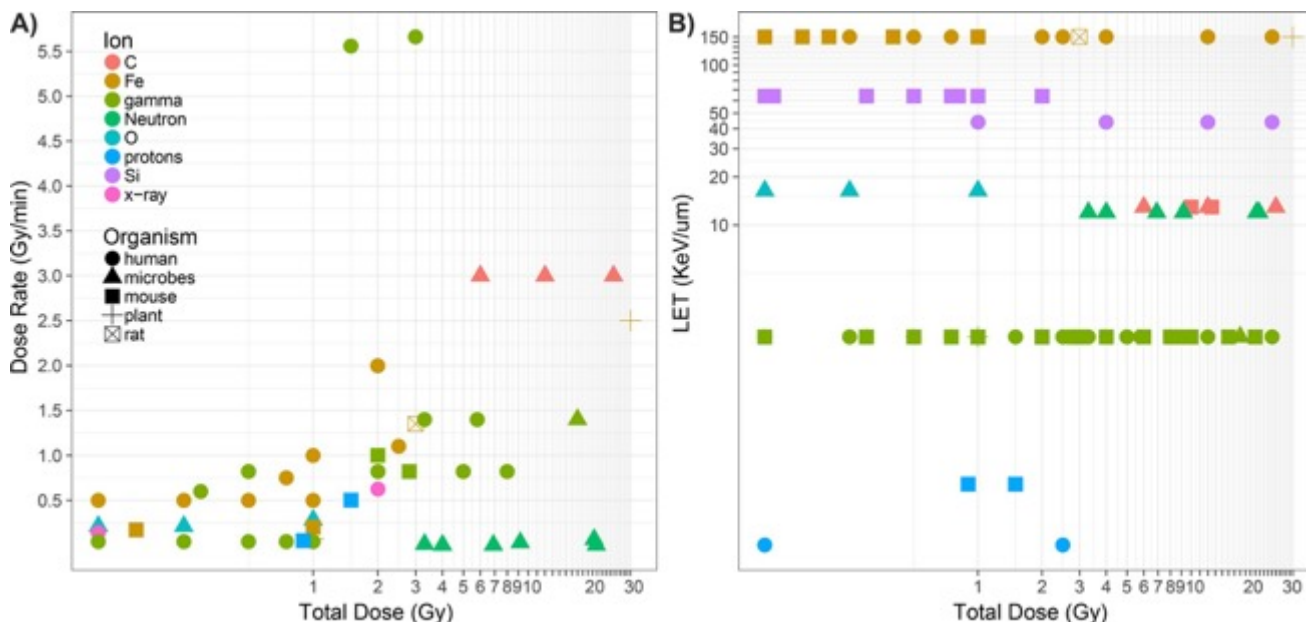
**Regression Splines**

## Summary:

- This technique and results can be used to determine what pathways to filter out from ground experiments to provide relevance to actual space radiation exposure
- Help identify unique signatures associated with spaceflight

## Analysis left to do:

- Add predictions and potentially modeling to predict impact on pathway regulation in deep space
- Add LET, Energy, and Dose Rate information to analysis



# Acknowledgements



Open Science for Life in Space

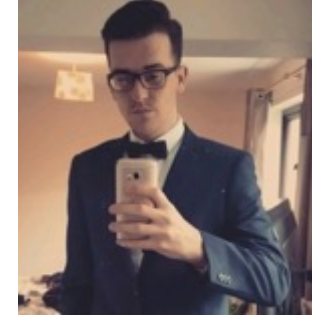
<https://genelab.nasa.gov/>



Gary Hardiman



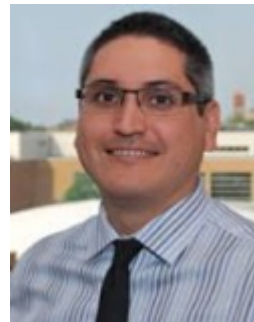
Willian da Silveira



Thomas Cahill



Robert Meller



J. Tyson McDonald



Jack Miller



Sylvain Costes

