Conclusions and perspectives

Jean Francois Bottollier-Depois, IRSN, France



Summary (1)

■ GLE characteristics may vary in a wide range: intensity, energy spectrum, anisotropy at the Earth surface...
→ Many input parameters to be used by models

GLEs are not predictable

 \rightarrow The dose assessment to be done *a posteriori*

Selection of GLEs for the EURADOS study:

- GLE42 on 29 September 1989

- GLE69 on 20 January 2005
- \rightarrow The two most important for the last 40 years

Summary (2)

- Nine codes used for calculating doses due to GLEs to crew members, some of them being used on a routine basis for occupational exposure
- Two main families:
 - Monte Carlo techniques
 - Semi-empirical solution based on a fit to experimental data
- Selection of the most exposed routes at high latitudes



Conclusion

The increase of the dose is significant for a given flight at high latitude

- GLE42: Effective $Dose_{GLE} = 2$ to 3 x Effective $Dose_{GCR}$
- GLE69: Effective $Dose_{GLE} = 4$ to 6 x Effective $Dose_{GCR}$
- → Significant for a given flight but neglectable in comparison to the annual dose for crew members



The better the inputs are known, the better the results

- ± 29 % for GLE42, with a precisely specified primary proton spectra
- ± 50 % for GLE69, based solely on literature data

 \rightarrow In a real situation, the reliability may be significantly worse!

Recommendations

- Investigate for a traceable and robust procedure for the determination of the primary proton spectral data for GLEs
- Validate the models by experimental data
 - \rightarrow Continuous onboard measurements
 - already existing with some airlines
- Define a procedure to decide to consider (or not) a GLE for dosimetric purposes
 - \rightarrow Ongoing within the WG11/TG10 using NM measurements

Examples of on-board measurements

Continuous measurements on-board more than 30 aircrafts with Air France



TEPC reference measurements at aircraft altitudes during Halloween solar storms, 2003



Ref: TEPC reference measurements at aircraft altitudes during a solar storm, P. Beck, M. Latocha, S. Rollet, G. Stehno, Advances in Space Research, Volume 36, Issue 9, 2005, Pages 1627-1633.

Questions & Answers

Peter Beck (Coordinator)

