

Fiscal Year:	FY 2008	Task Last Updated:	FY 05/03/2011
PI Name:	Norbury, John Ph.D.		
Project Title:	Measurements and Transport Phase 2 Physics Project		
Division Name:	Human Research		
Program/Discipline:	HUMAN RESEARCH		
Program/Discipline--Element/Subdiscipline:	HUMAN RESEARCH--Radiation health		
Joint Agency Name:	TechPort:	No	
Human Research Program Elements:	(1) SR :Space Radiation		
Human Research Program Risks:	(1) ARS :Risk of Acute Radiation Syndromes Due to Solar Particle Events (SPEs) (2) Cancer :Risk of Radiation Carcinogenesis (3) CNS :Risk of Acute (In-flight) and Late Central Nervous System Effects from Radiation Exposure (4) Degen :Risk of Cardiovascular Disease and Other Degenerative Tissue Effects From Radiation Exposure and Secondary Spaceflight Stressors		
Space Biology Element:	None		
Space Biology Cross-Element Discipline:	None		
Space Biology Special Category:	None		
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Zip Code:	23681-2199	Congressional District:	1
Comments:			
Project Type:	GROUND	Solicitation / Funding Source:	Directed Research
Start Date:	10/01/2007	End Date:	09/30/2015
No. of Post Docs:	No. of PhD Degrees:		
No. of PhD Candidates:	No. of Master' Degrees:		
No. of Master's Candidates:	No. of Bachelor's Degrees:		
No. of Bachelor's Candidates:	Monitoring Center: NASA LaRC		
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Flight Program:			
Flight Assignment:			
Key Personnel Changes/Previous PI:			
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Grant/Contract No.:	Directed Research		
Performance Goal No.:			
Performance Goal Text:			

Task Description:	<p>Currently, the deterministic space radiation transport code HZETRN, is the major tool used by NASA to evaluate radiation environments inside spacecraft. Deterministic codes have been shown to be superior to Monte Carlo transport for engineering studies. However HZETRN is a one dimensional transport code. The transport of heavy ions ($Z > 2$) has been shown to be valid in the one dimensional approximation because the relativistic heavy ions found in the space radiation spectrum pass through materials relatively un-deflected from their initial trajectories. The cross sections required for one dimensional transport are total absorption and spectral distributions. Meson production and the associated electromagnetic cascade have not yet been incorporated into HZETRN. Phase 1 studies have shown the importance of these processes, which must be included in Phase 2. This project implements the recommendations of several workshops by emphasizing the development of a more accurate description of neutron and light ion transport. Neutrons and light ions scatter at large angles and the one dimensional approximation is no longer valid. Therefore, the one dimensional code HZETRN must begin to include the three dimensional transport of light ions and neutrons to more accurately quantify secondary radiation environments in tissue while maintaining computational speed and efficiency. Such a three dimensional transport code in turn requires fully double differential cross sections as input. Phase II Measurements and Physics Project focuses on light ion production and transport to develop space radiation transport codes capable of predicting primary and secondary spectra of space radiation environment interaction behind typical spacecraft shielding, planetary surfaces, and atmospheres with increased accuracy. Configuration managed V&V'ed source codes are released to the radiation user community including Exploration, RHO, and Operations as well as industry partners or commercial entities. Current exploration vehicle requirements specify that HZETRN shall be utilized by the government for radiation requirement verification. Transport codes directly support verification of NASA STD 3001 Vol. 2 requirements.</p> <p>Phase 2 focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current focus is on light ion and neutron transport and production including 3-D effects of neutron backscattered and inclusion of dose received from pion production • Future nuclear physic improvements will focus on improved models needed for definition of Mars Surface Environment <p>Implementation of Phase 2 Physics supports closing the following gaps,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cancer - 11: What are the most effective shielding approaches to mitigate cancer risks? • Cancer – 12: What level of accuracy do NASA’s space environment, transport code and cross sections describe radiation environments in space (ISS, Lunar, or Mars)? with improved models and transport to improve estimates/reduce uncertainty of light ion and neutron production and transport through spacecraft materials and secondary environments on the lunar and Mars surface.
Rationale for HRP Directed Research:	
Research Impact/Earth Benefits:	
Task Progress:	<p>New project for FY2008. [Ed. note: added to Task Book 5/3/2011 when received project information]</p>
Bibliography Type:	Description: (Last Updated: 01/11/2021)