

Probabilistic Modeling of the Space Radiation Environment

Solar Energetic Particles (SEP), Solar Modulation and Space
Radiation: New Opportunities in the AMS-02 ERA #2

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Overview

- Why we need models for the space radiation environment
- Probabilistic Modeling Methodology
- Two new models:
 - Episode-Integrated Fluence Model
 - Peak Flux model

Why we need these models

- To determine the environment the mission will encounter
 - Reduce costly-overdesign
- Give the mission the best chance to succeed
 - Protect instruments and humans from radiation

The Probabilistic Method

The probability that no event with a flux $\geq \phi$ in T years:

$$F_T(M) = \sum_n \frac{(\mu T)^n}{n!} \exp(-\mu T) [P(M)]^n$$

Where $M = \log(\phi)$

This can be simplified to :

$$F_T(M) = \exp\{-\mu T [1 - P(M)]\}$$

The Probabilistic Method

$$F_T(M) = \exp\{-\mu T[1 - P(M)]\}$$

- No assumption has be made to elements or energy range.
- Need to find the cumulative distributions and episodes per year.

Two Models

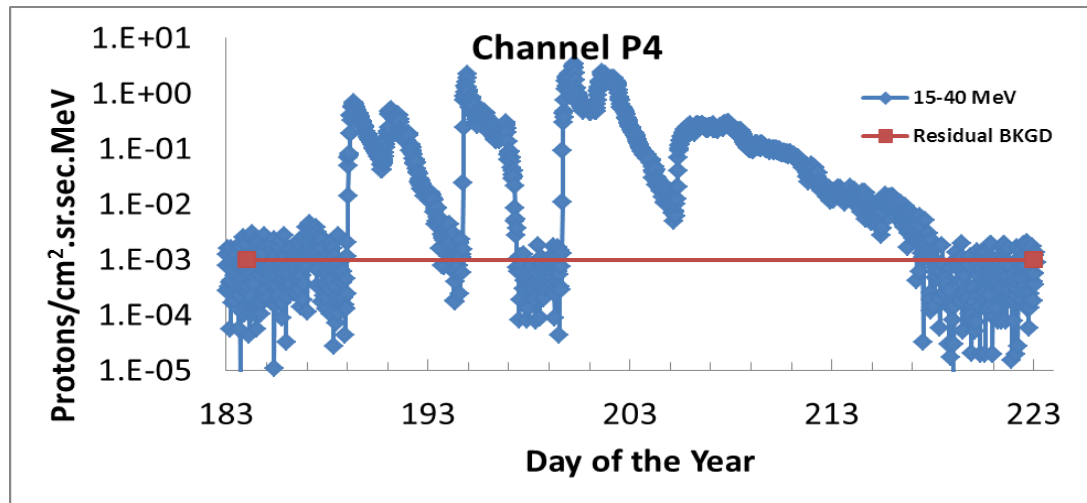
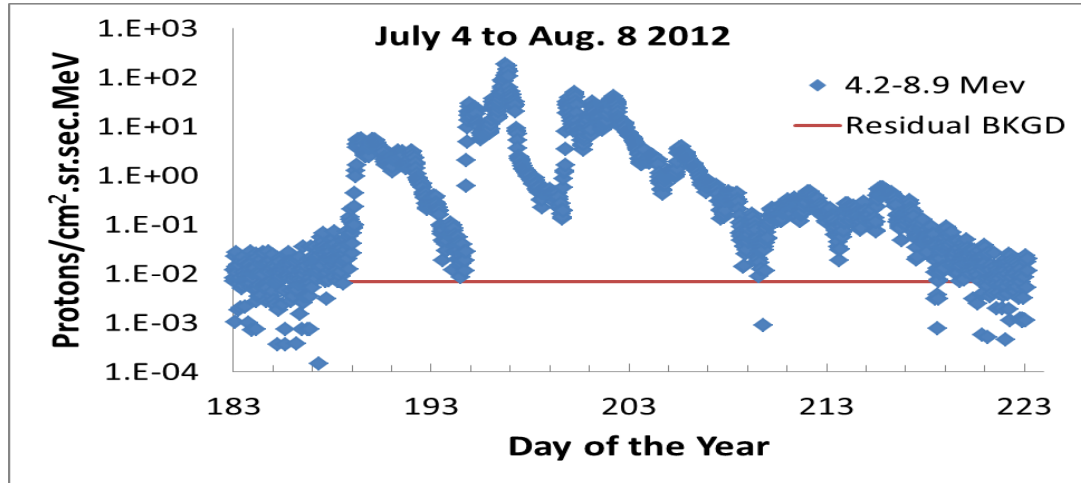
Both models:

- Use a database where periods of elevated particle flux are identified by eye
 - Allow the user to chose mission start date and duration.
 - Confidence level that the user wishes to attain with their design.
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- Episode-Integrated Fluence Model (Robinson, 2015)
 - Missions ranging from a few weeks to several years
 - Peak Flux Model
 - Missions ranging from 10's of minutes to several years

Data Base of SEP Episodes

- Episode-Integrated Fluence Proton Data Base
 - GME on IMP-8 and EPS on GOES
 - Normalized using isotropic periods of flux and Rodriguez et al. [2014]
 - Redistributed the GOES fluence in GME channels
- Peak Flux Data Bases
 - Proton
 - EPS on GOES
 - Normalized using periods of isotropic flux and Rodriguez et al. [2014]
 - Helium
 - Solar Energetic Particle Environment Modeling (SEP-EM) system [Crosby et al., 2015]

Episode Identification



Images from
Robinson, 2015

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Cumulative Distributions

- Each channel was graphed as $1 - P(M)$
- Used three equations to fit each distribution
 - Power law
 - Log polynomial
 - Frechet distribution (following work of Xapsos et al. 1998)

$$N = N_{tot} \left(\frac{\phi^{-b} - \phi_{max}^{-b}}{\phi_{min}^{-b} - \phi_{max}^{-b}} \right)$$

Cumulative Distributions

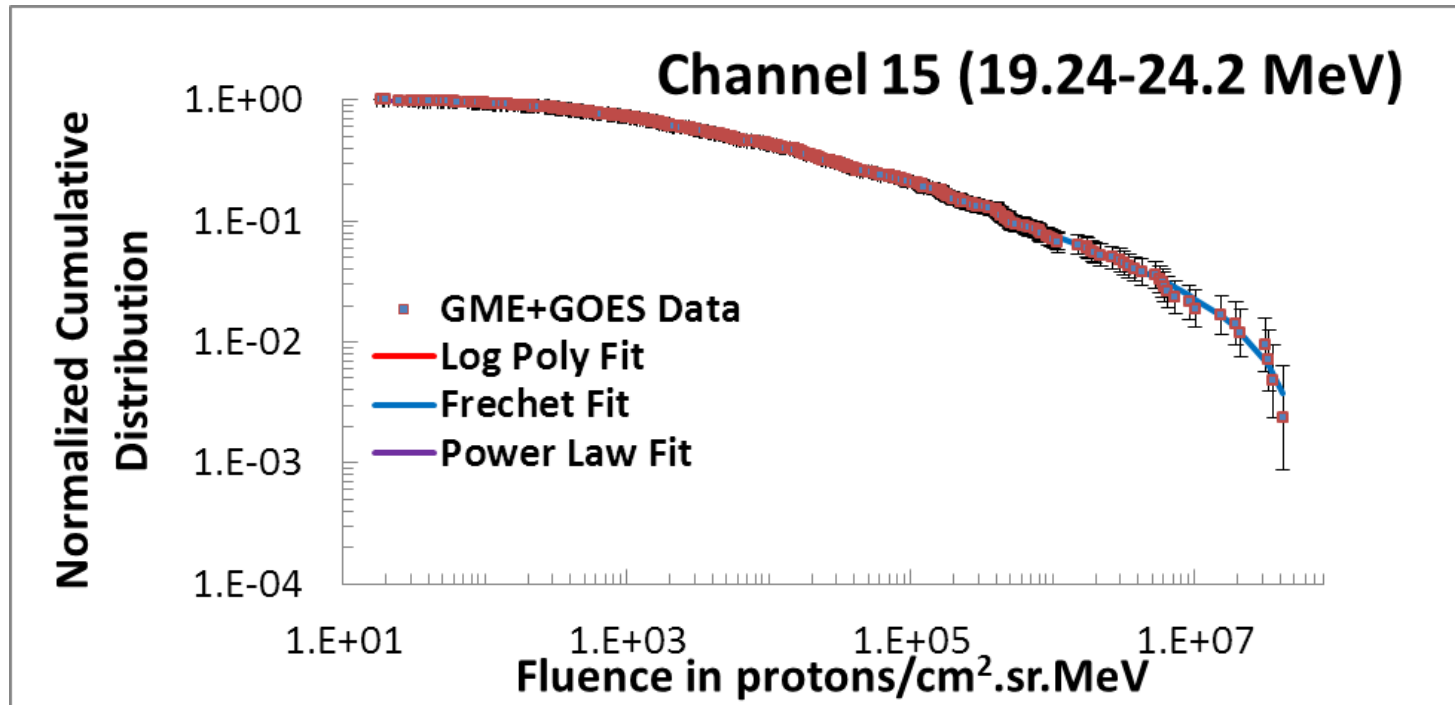


Image from
Robinson, 2015

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Episodes Per Year

Three different methods were used:

- Actual number of episodes per year (1974-2013)
- Sunspot Proxy (1953-1974, 2013-2019)
- 11-year solar cycle fit (2019 -2052)

Episodes Per Year

Sunspot Proxy

- Hathaway et al. (1994) predicted sunspot numbers
- Sunspot numbers compared to episodes per year
 - Exponential distribution with dead time correction factor (Robinson 2015)

$$N = (a n + b) \exp[-q(a n + b)]$$

Episodes Per Year

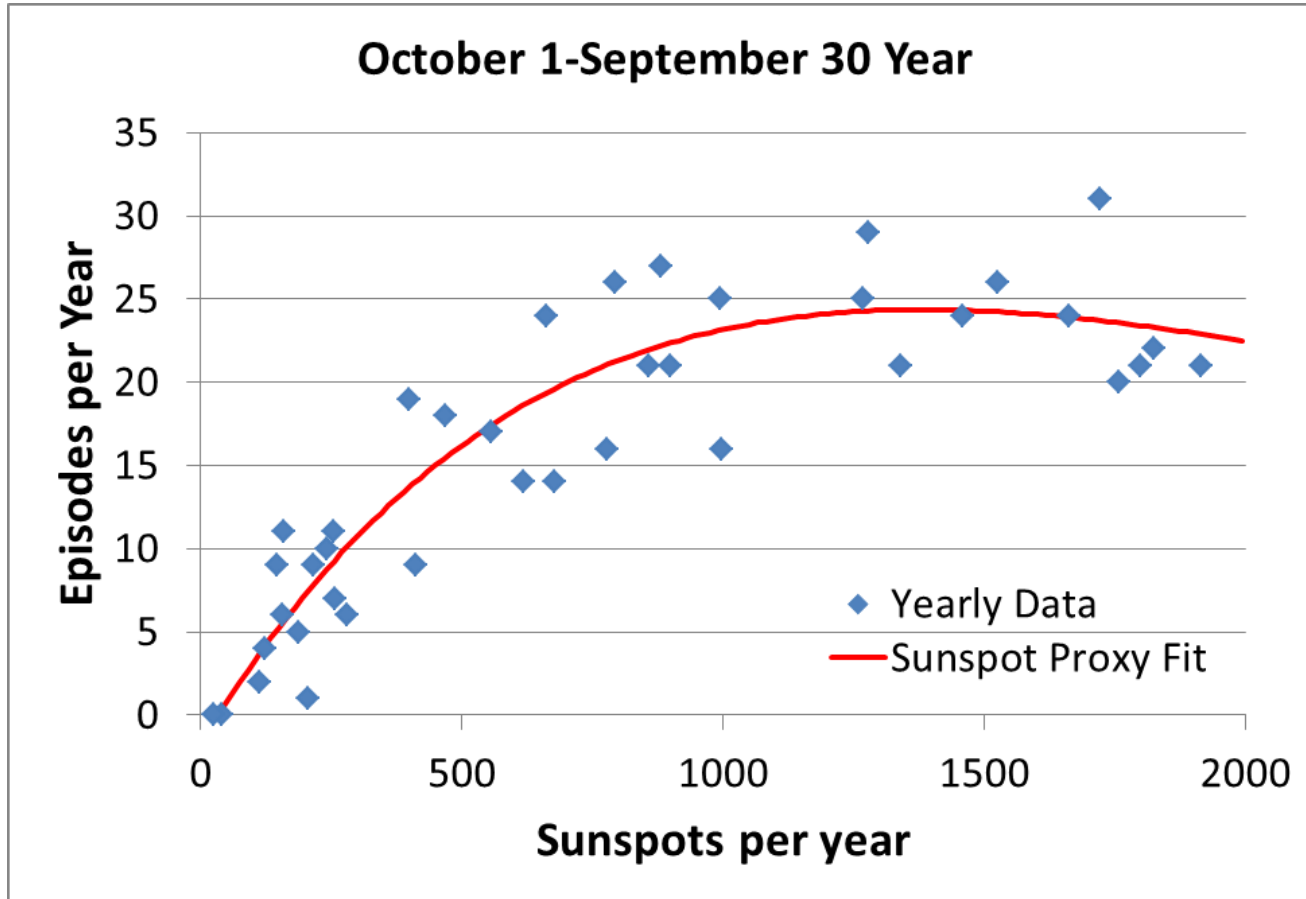


Image from
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Episodes Per Year

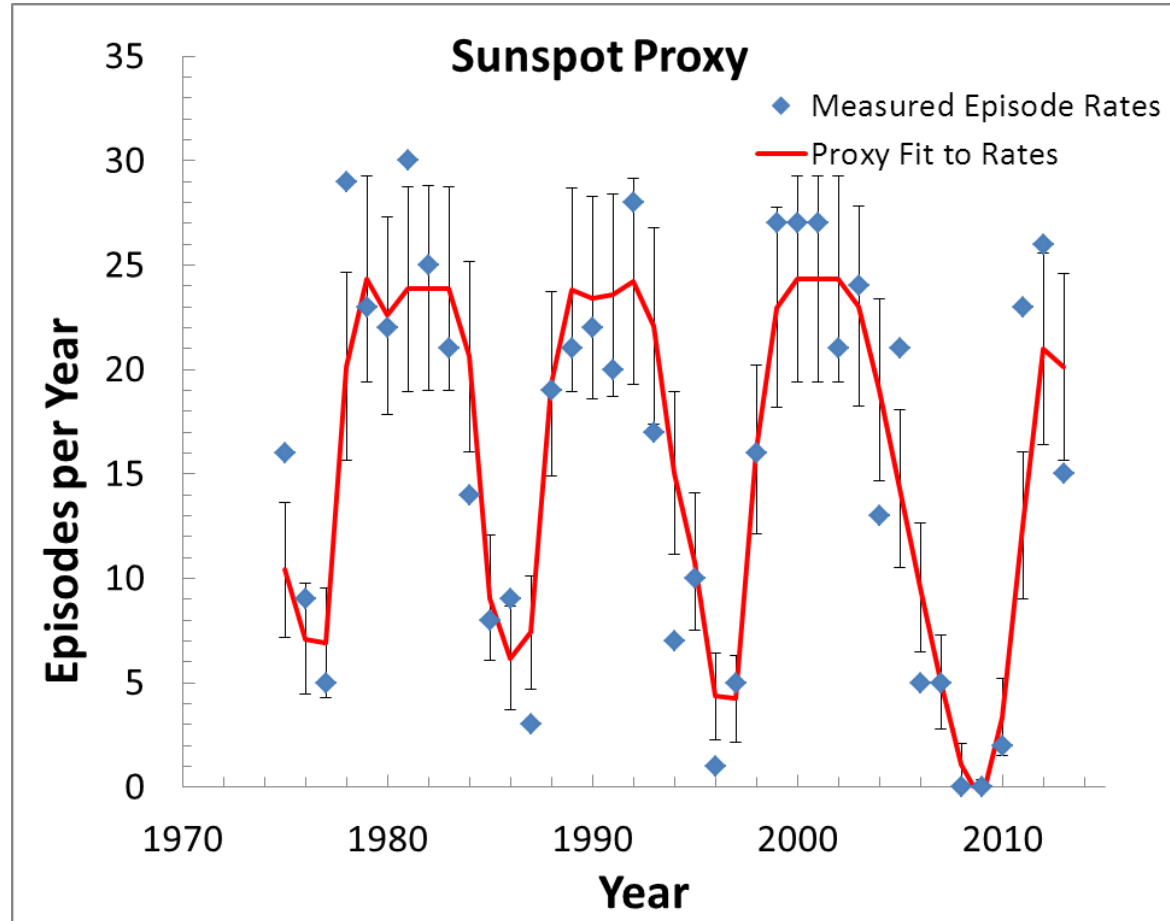


Image from
Robinson, 2015

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Episodes Per Year

11-year solar cycle fit

- Fit an 11-year cycle to the database
- The set with the best Reduced Chi Squared was the year starting October 1 ending September 30 (Robinson 2015)

Episodes Per Year

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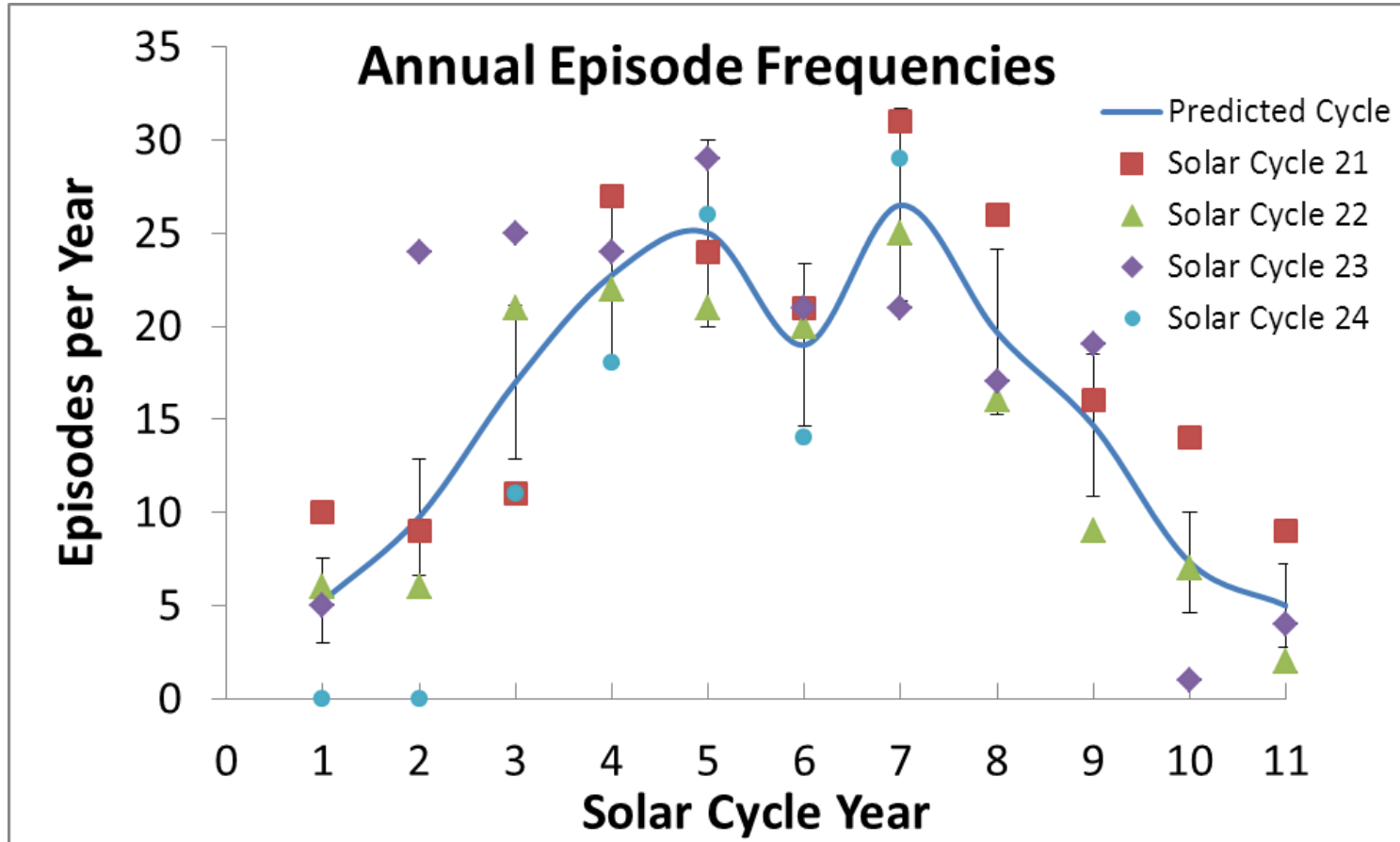
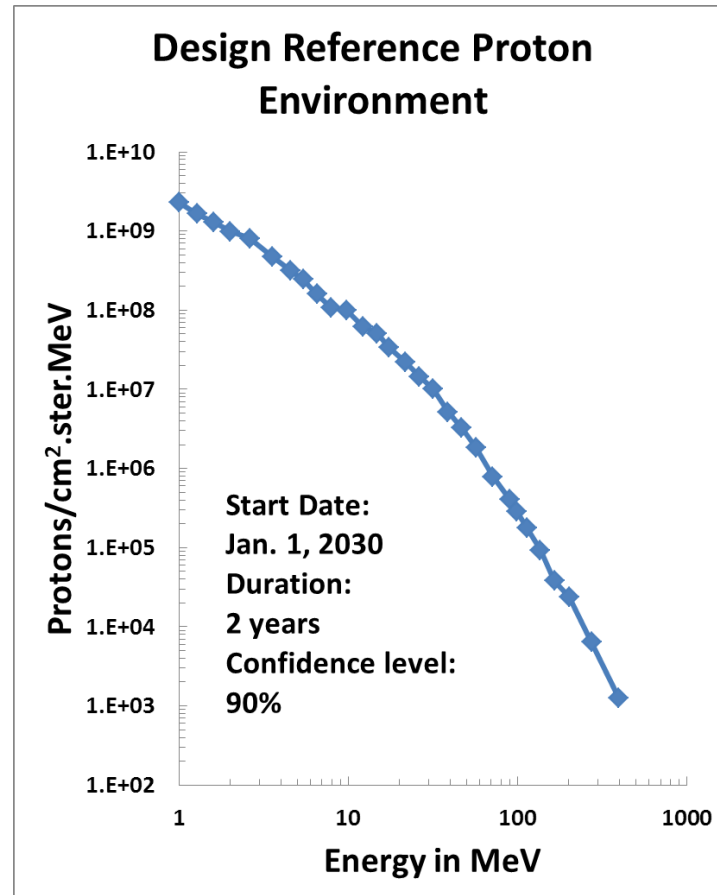
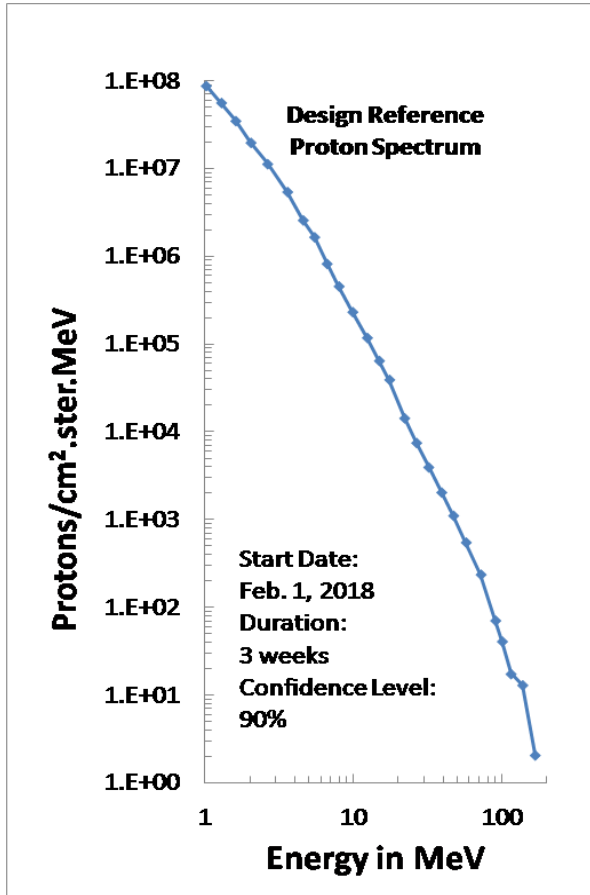


Image from
Robinson, 2015

Episode-Integrated Fluence Model

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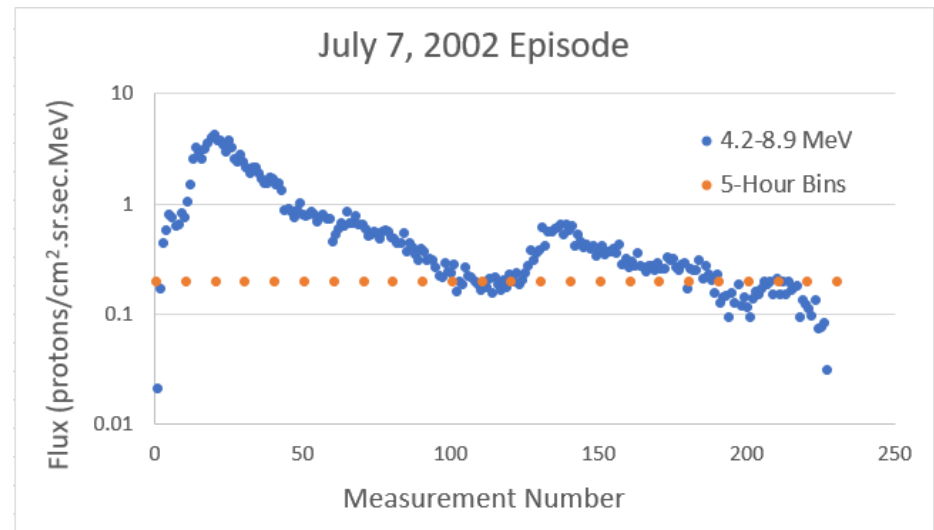
Images from
Robinson, 2015



Peak Flux Model

Short Mission:

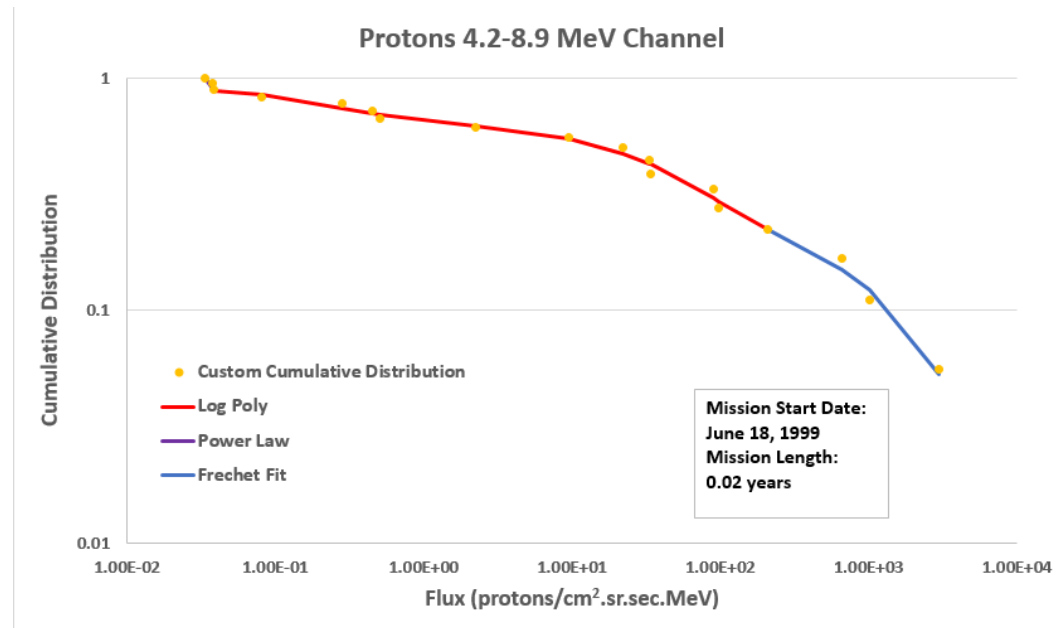
- Chronological list of flux measurements
 - Remove measurement at BKGD
- Mission length used to group data
 - Maximum flux taken to build a custom cumulative distribution
- Confidence Level used to determine if flux is above BKGD



Peak Flux Model

Short Mission:

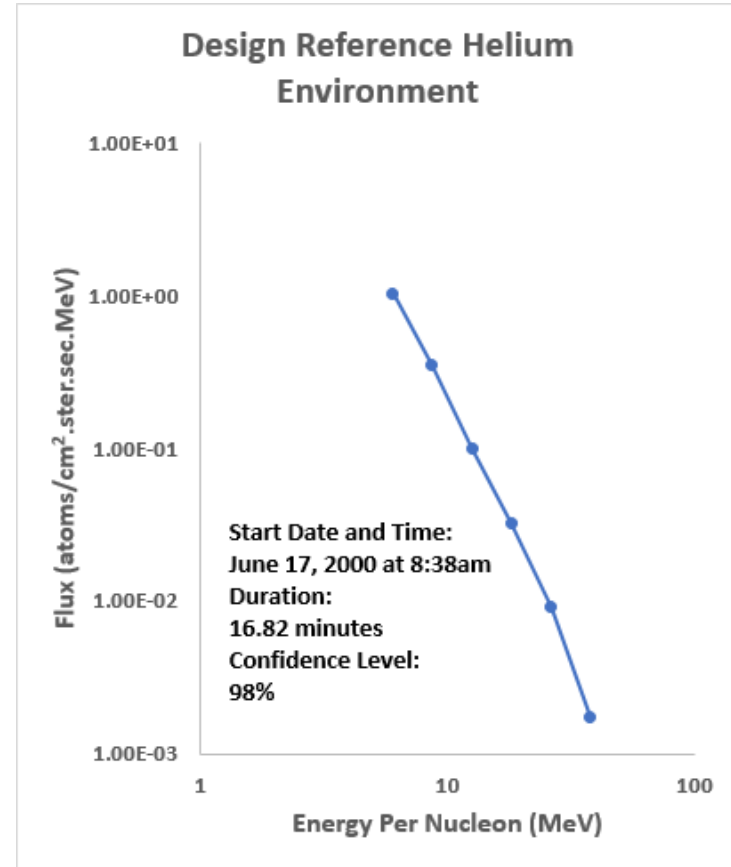
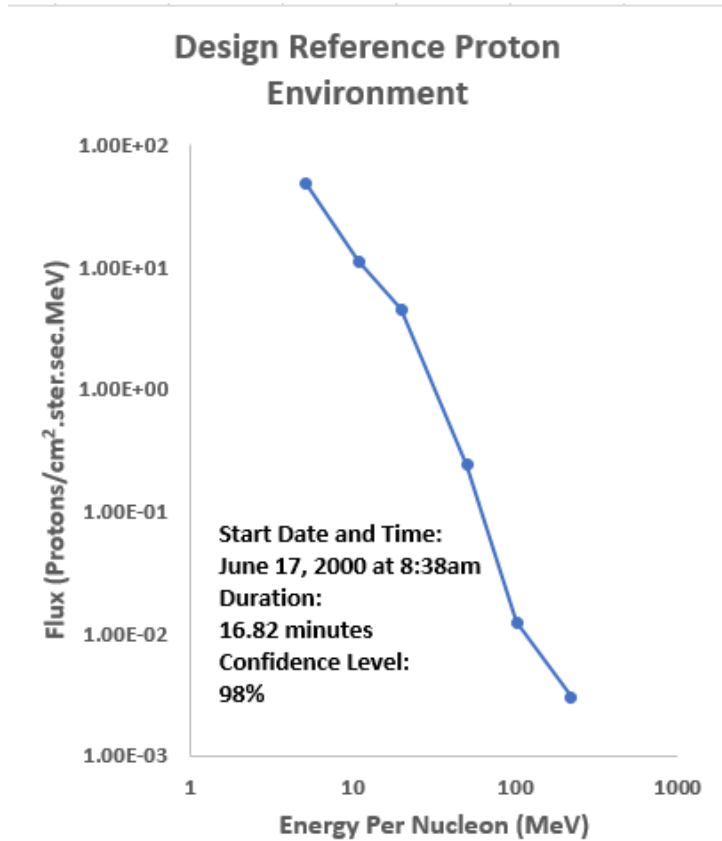
- If under 1000 groups, use 3 fits [Robinson, 2015]:
 - Power Law
 - 6th Order Logarithmic Polynomial
 - Fréchet Distribution
- If over 1000 groups, use the custom distribution
- Linear interpolation used between values in distribution



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Peak Flux Model

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Future Work

- Update the Episode-Integrated Fluence Model
 - Include data from 2014-2016
 - Improve the normalization between the satellites
- Add the heavier ions to the Peak Flux Model
 - Build data bases for the most abundant elements
 - Use elemental ratios to scale distributions

References

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Extreme Value Theory

- Provides a way to study the extremes of a distribution in order to provide better predictions of the tails of a statistical distribution.
- Used in a wide range of fields (including radioactive emission and rainfall analysis)
 - Determining whether outlying observations should be used by astronomers. (Kotz and Nadarajah, 2000)
- This method used in the two models discussed today follows the work of Xapsos et al. (1998).

Extreme Value Theory

- Maximize entropy

$$S = - \int_0^{M_{max}} p(M) \ln[p(M)] dM$$

Where $M = \log(\phi)$

- Conditions:

$$\int_0^{M_{max}} p(M) dM = 1$$

$$\int_0^{M_{max}} M p(M) dM = \omega$$

$$M_{min} = 0$$

$$M_{max} \text{ is finite}$$

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Extreme Value Theory

- Using Lagrange multipliers

$$p(M) = \frac{\lambda}{1 - \exp(-\lambda M_{\max})} \exp(-\lambda M)$$

- Integrate from 0 to M :

$$P(M) = \frac{1 - \exp(-\lambda M)}{1 - \exp(-\lambda M_{\max})}$$

Extreme Value Theory

- The probability that n events won't have a flux $\geq \phi$:

$$[P(M)]^n$$

- Using Poisson's equation:

$$\frac{[e^{(-\mu T)} (\mu T)^n]}{n!}$$

Cumulative Distributions

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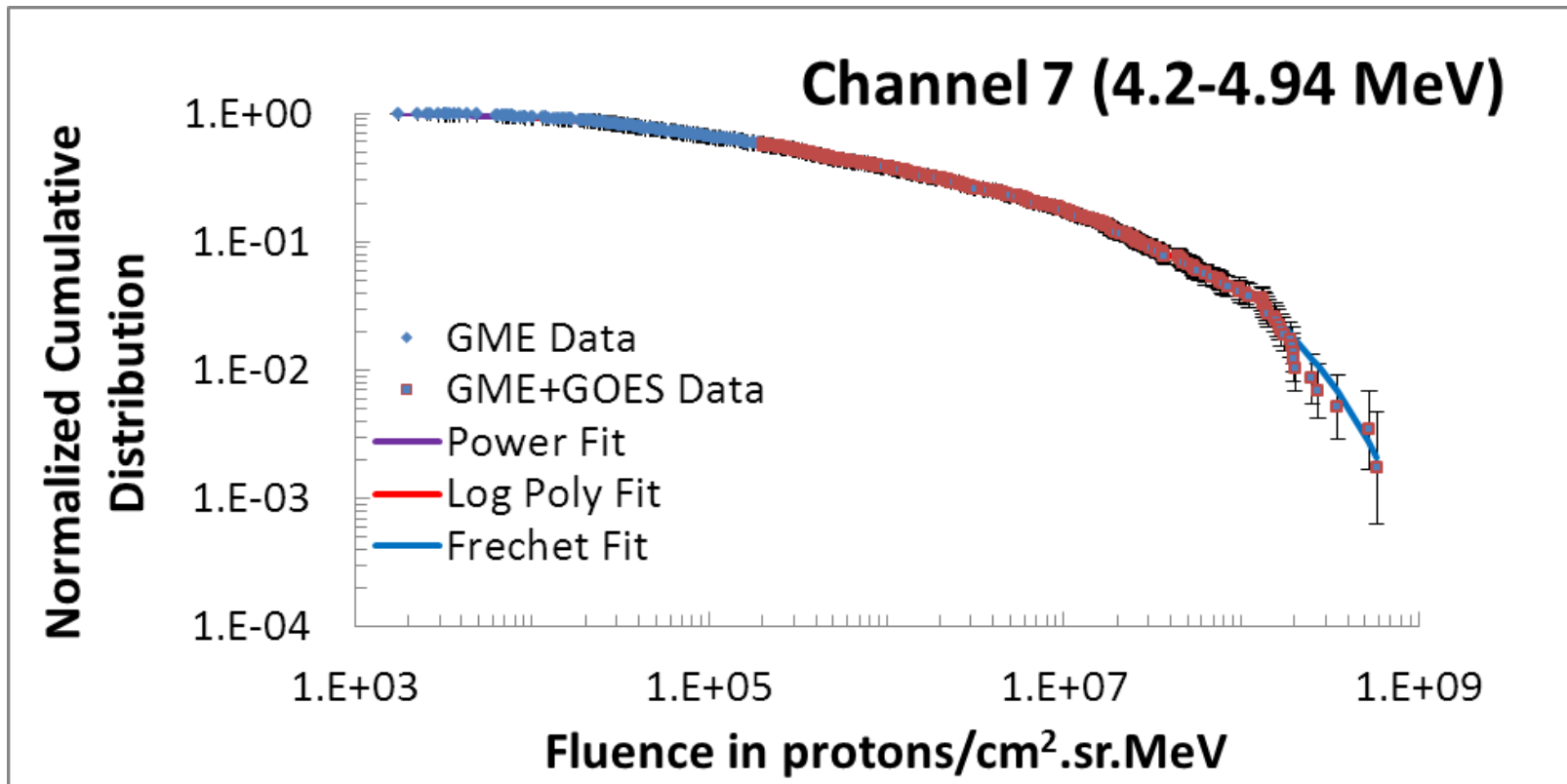


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