AE9/AP9-IRENE Radiation Environment Model: Future Development Plans and Needs

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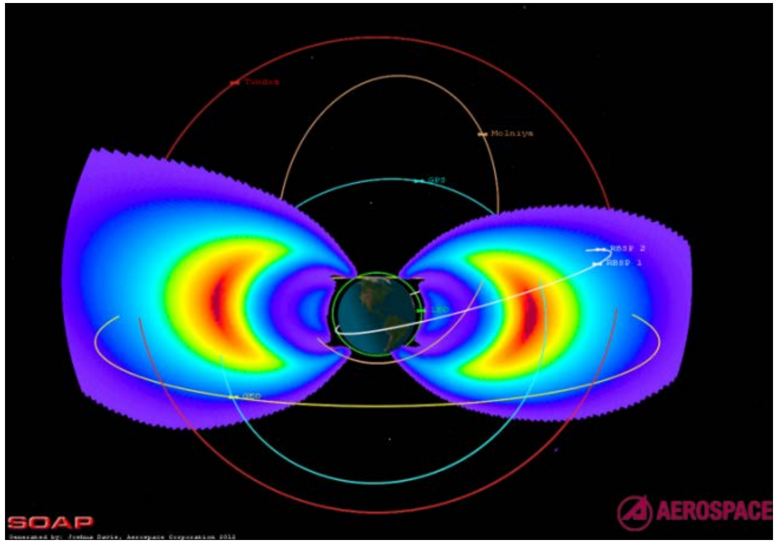
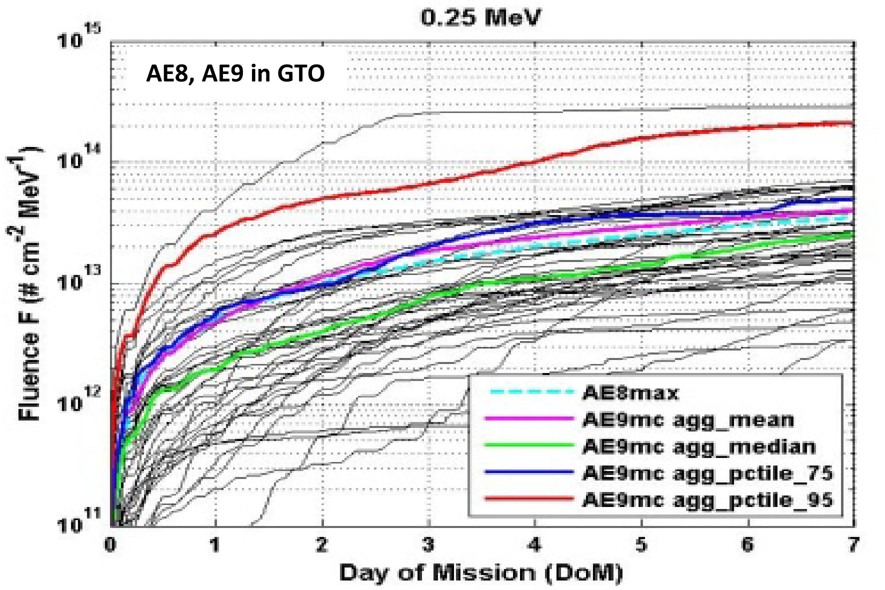
Outline

- Background on AE9/AP9-IRENE
- Model needs
- Data set needs
- Conclusion

What is AE9/AP9-IRENE?

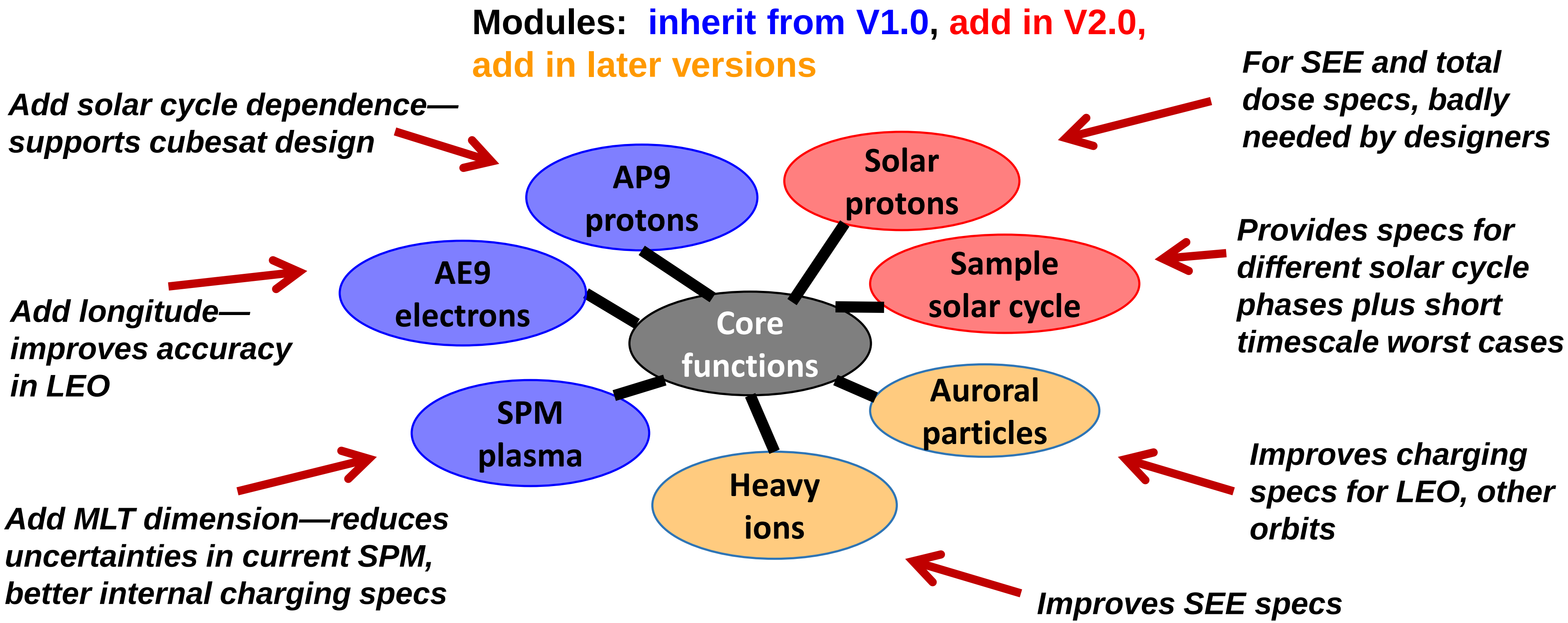
- AE9/AP9-IRENE specifies the natural trapped radiation environment for satellite design and mission planning
- It improves on legacy models to meet modern design community needs:
    - Uses 45 long duration, high quality data sets
    - Full energy and spatial coverage—plasma added
    - Introduces data-based uncertainties and statistics for design margins (e.g., 95th percentile)
    - Dynamic scenarios provide worst case estimates for hazards (e.g., SEEs)
    - Architecture supports routine updates, maintainability, third party applications
- V1.00 released in 2012, V1.55 in April 2019





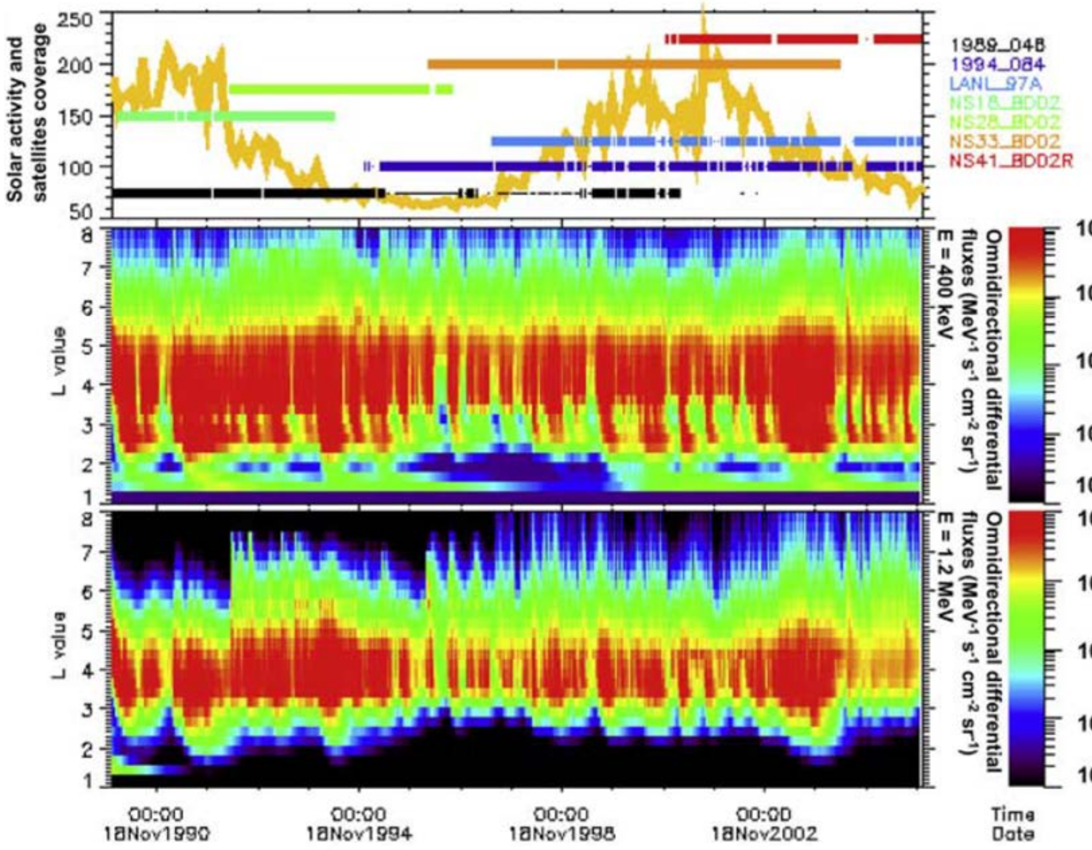
Version 2.0 Modules

- The module architecture is a generalization/combination of existing pieces
  - K-h_{min}/K-Phi stitching (runtime)
  - SPM/AX9 stitching (post-processing → runtime)
  - ESA framework for combining trapped + solar + GCR (post-processing → runtime)



Sample Solar Cycle

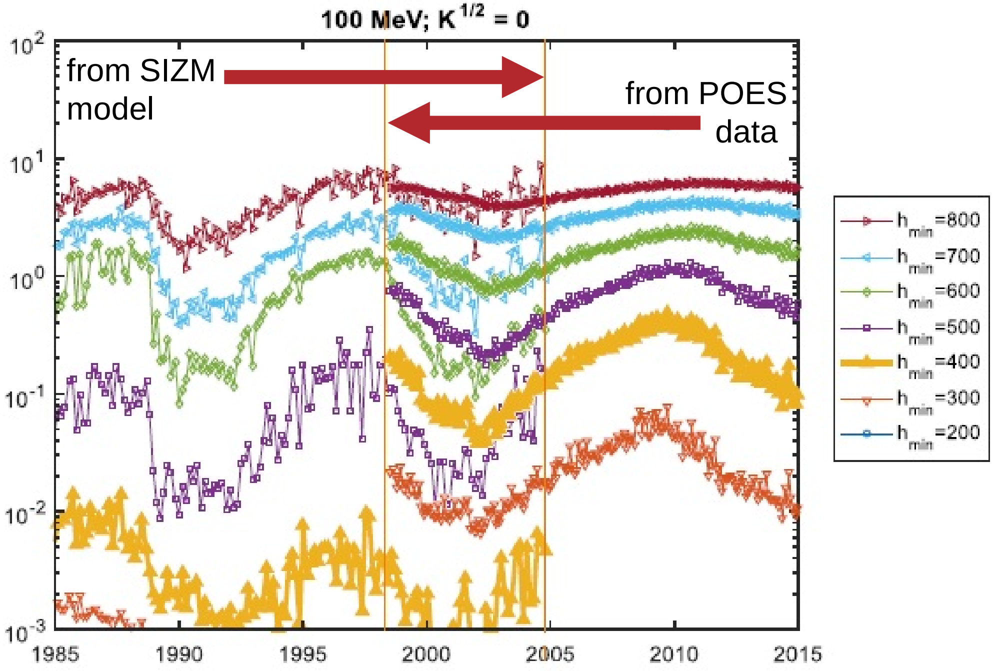
- Capture dynamics of realistic 11+ year solar cycle via data assimilative reanalysis
- “Fly through” this simulated dynamic environment as a check on Monte Carlo results
- Use the sample solar cycle to improve correlation matrices that drive Monte Carlo dynamics
- Use the sample solar cycle to help “fill in” flux maps where observations are missing
- What we need:
    - 10 eV – 10 MeV electrons
    - 10 eV – 1 GeV protons
    - 10 eV – 200 keV He+, O+
    - Data assimilative
    - At least 11 years
    - Prefer one giant simulation with all the above
    - Simulations addressing a subset can still inform correlation models and templates

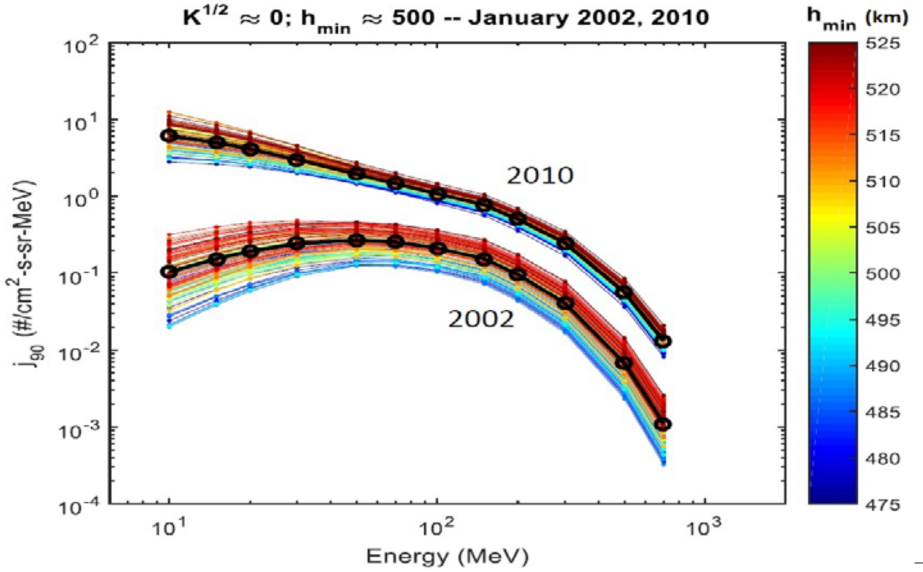


From Maget et al., Space Weather, 2007

Solar Cycle Variation of LEO Protons

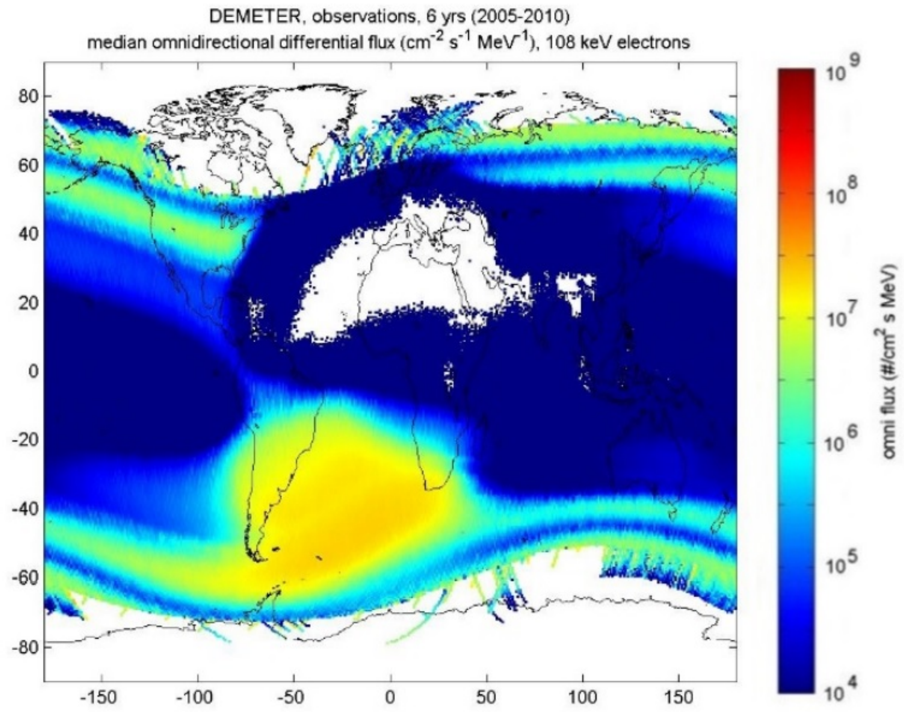
- No solar cycle dependence in AE9/AP9 currently
  - Statistics capture ranges across all solar cycle phases
- Users needs solar cycle dependence for trapped protons
  - Design for short duration LEO missions
  - Supports use of AP9 for nowcast estimates
- Work progressing towards solar cycle modulation of AP9:
  - Use stochastic model for future phase/intensity of solar cycle drivers of LEO protons
  - Use models (Selesnick Inner Zone Model) and data (POES SEM-2) to relate drivers to energy- and location-dependent variability
  - Use results to modulate AP9 flux maps (representing all data sets)
- What we need:
  - More information on altitude gradients
  - LEO data sets, energy & pitch angle resolved, at least ~20 years duration





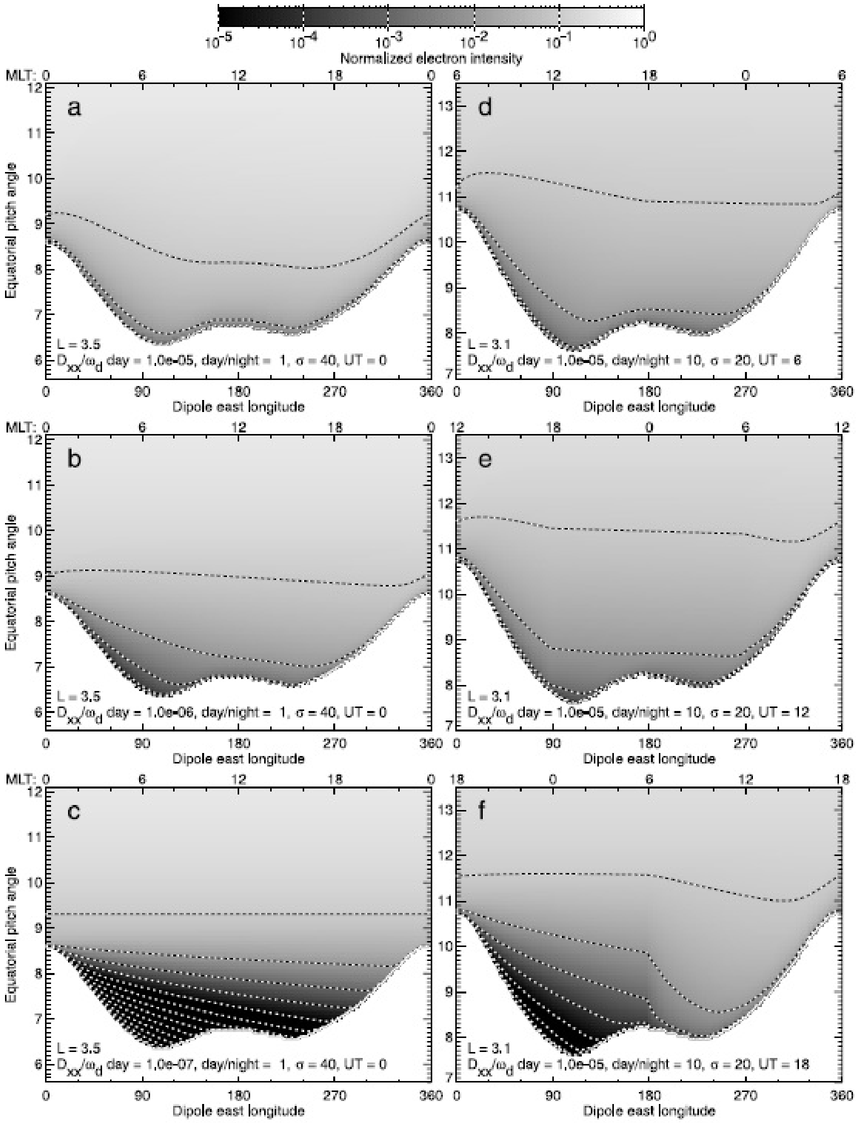
Fast, Compact LEO Electron Coordinates

- Intended to capture drift loss cone structure
- Must account for longitude structure, may also need to account for MLT dependence
- Must run quickly – no run-time drift shell tracing; use neural networks or other speed-ups instead
- Demonstrate on LEO data set like DEMETER or POES



Low-Altitude Electron Gradients

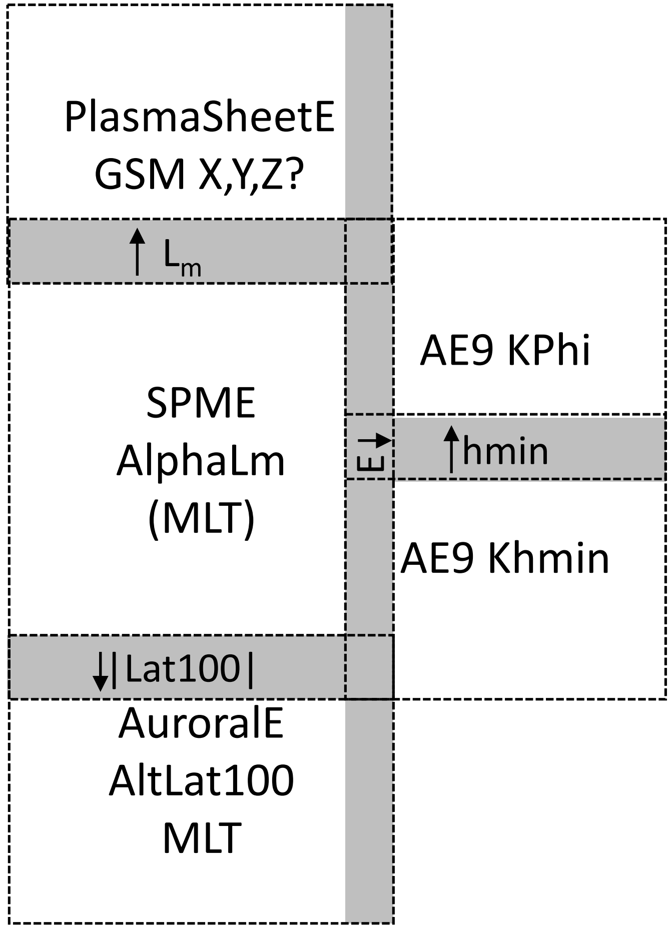
- At plasma and radiation belt energies, we do not have a great ability to model the altitude gradient below ~1000 km.
- This is due in part to paucity of data, which could be remedied with DEMETER and other LEO data sources
- We expect a modeling component, e.g., the Selesnick drift-scattering model, will be needed.
- What we need:
  - Model providing a realistic description of LEO electron variability as a function of energy 10 eV to 10 MeV (especially 10 keV to 10 MeV) and location, 100-1000 km
  - Could be done with a 1-year simulation, or simulation of several storm periods plus a few quiet periods.
  - Intended use: building LEO electron templates.



From Selesnick et al., JGR, 2003

Statistical Alternative to Weibull-LogNormal Dichotomoy

- Currently AE9 uses Weibull distributions with 2 parameters, while all other models use LogNormal
- This creates statistical discontinuities, which we can, at best, stitch together at run time
- We would prefer a new framework that allows a smooth transition between Weibull and Log-Normal
- Note that the model tracks uncertainty on the statistical parameters via error covariance
  - A naïve table of N percentiles will have N(N+1)/2 error parameters at every grid point
  - Table-of-percentiles approach with a simplified error covariance might work
  - Alternately, a new analytical framework that somehow merges Weibull and LogNormal could work
- Performance is an issue, both in terms of number of parameters and speed of computation



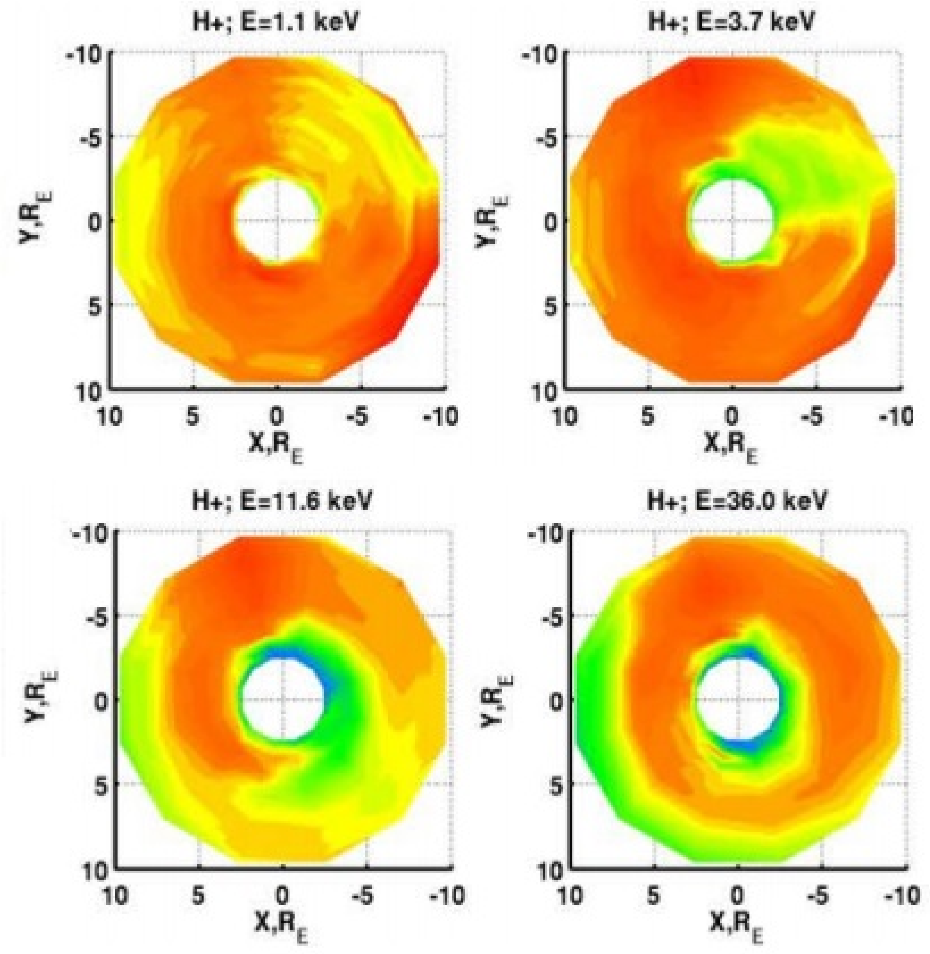
Arrow indicates direction of increase of stitching variable

Effects Kernels

- Precomputed kernels convert flux-energy spectrum into linear radiation effects
- Kernels allow use of AE9/AP9 statistical machinery to compute effects at every time step or for every scenario, as needed, before computing confidence levels – removes unneeded conservatism
- Kernels are “fast” to allow calculation of worst case transients by converting every spectrum to its effects
- V1.55 introduces dose vs. depth kernel derived from SHIELDOSE2
  - SHIELDOSE2 does not give accurate results for depths <0.1 mm (4 mils) Al equivalent
- What we need:
  - Dose-depth kernel for thin depths
  - Covering 2.5 nm – 0.1 mm (10^{-4} – 4 mils) Al equivalent
  - Addresses plasma effects (10 eV – 200 keV)
  - Also includes heavy ion effects (O^+, He^+)

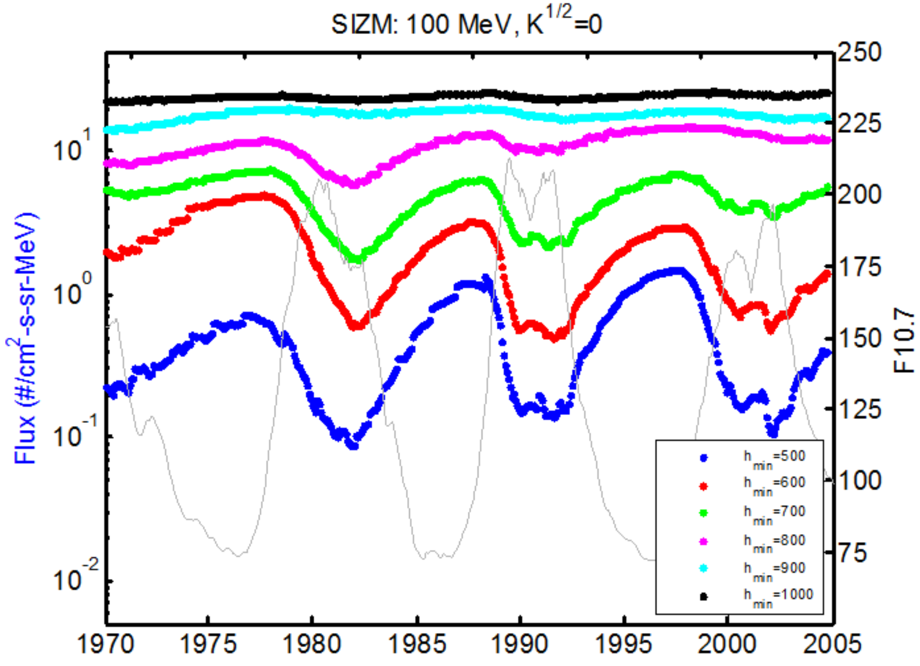
Data Set Needs—Plasma

- Space Plasma Model (SPM) does not currently include MLT dependence
- What we need:
  - Reprocessed or new data sets with MLT coverage
  - Electrons, protons, He^+, O^+
  - 10 eV – 100 keV
- AMPTE/CCE data set is an example of a desired data set
  - GTO orbit, ~5 yrs of data
  - Energy coverage 1.5 – 300 keV/e



Data Set Needs—General

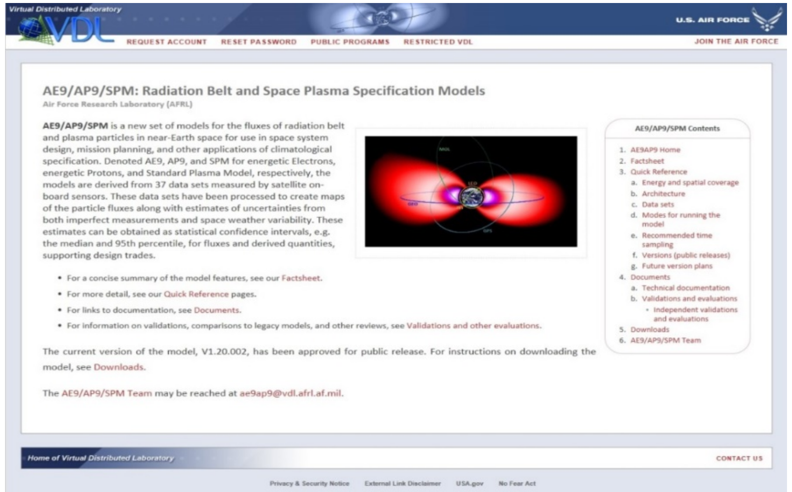
- Additional data sets for all particle populations are needed for:
  - Addressing known spatial/energy regimes with limited coverage
- Planned addition of solar cycle dependence requires data sets for:
  - Informing/validating solar cycle variability
  - Informing/validating low altitude gradients
- What we need:
  - Low altitude, energy- and angle-resolved data sets
  - Long duration (11 years or more) for solar cycle variation



From Selesnick et al., JGR,

Conclusion

- AE9/AP9-IRENE continues to be maintained and upgraded as a comprehensive radiation environment design standard
  - Future releases will include new data sets and new features, driven by user needs
  - We seek models and data from the community to further these improvements
- **Comments, questions, etc. are welcome and encouraged!**
- Please send questions, feedback, requests for model or documentation, etc., to (**copy all**):
  - Bob Johnston, Air Force Research Laboratory, AFRL.RVBXR.AE9.AP9.Org.Mbx@us.af.mil
  - Paul O'Brien, The Aerospace Corporation, paul.obrien@aero.org



- Current model downloads, documentation, news are available at AFRL's Virtual Distributed Laboratory: **https://www.vdl.afrl.af.mil/programs/ae9ap9**