

Geant4 Tools for Space

Pete Truscott, Fan Lei and Ramón Nartallo
Space Department, QinetiQ Ltd, UK

Bart Quaghebeur and Daniel Heyndericks
BIRA/IASB, Belgium

Colin Ferguson
University of Southampton, UK

Petteri Nieminen, Hugh Evans and Eamonn Daly
ESA/ESTEC

20th January 2003

Points of Contact

- Space Department, QinetiQ, Cody Technology Park, Farnborough, Hampshire, GU14 0LX, England
 - Dr Pete Truscott PTruscott@space.QinetiQ.com
Tel: +44 1252 393290 / Fax +44 1252 396330
 - Dr Fan Lei Flei@space.QinetiQ.com
Tel: +44 1252 393904 / Fax +44 1252 396330
 - Dr Ramón Nartallo RNartallo@space.QinetiQ.com
Tel: +44 1252 393280 / Fax +44 1252 396330
- Web-sites:
 - QinetiQ http://www.space.QinetiQ.com/geant4/geant_mn.html
 - REAT <http://reat.space.qinetiq.com>
 - SPENVIS <http://www.spervis.oma.be/spervis/>

Contents

- 1 Application of radiation transport simulation to spacecraft - historic perspective and drivers for future development
- 2 Tools developed:
 - Sector Shielding Analysis Tool
 - Multi-Layered Shielding Simulation Software
 - General Particle Source
 - Geant4 Microdosimetry Analysis Tool
- 3 Project SEPTIMESS
- 4 Summary

Section 1

Application of MC radiation transport to spacecraft: History & trends

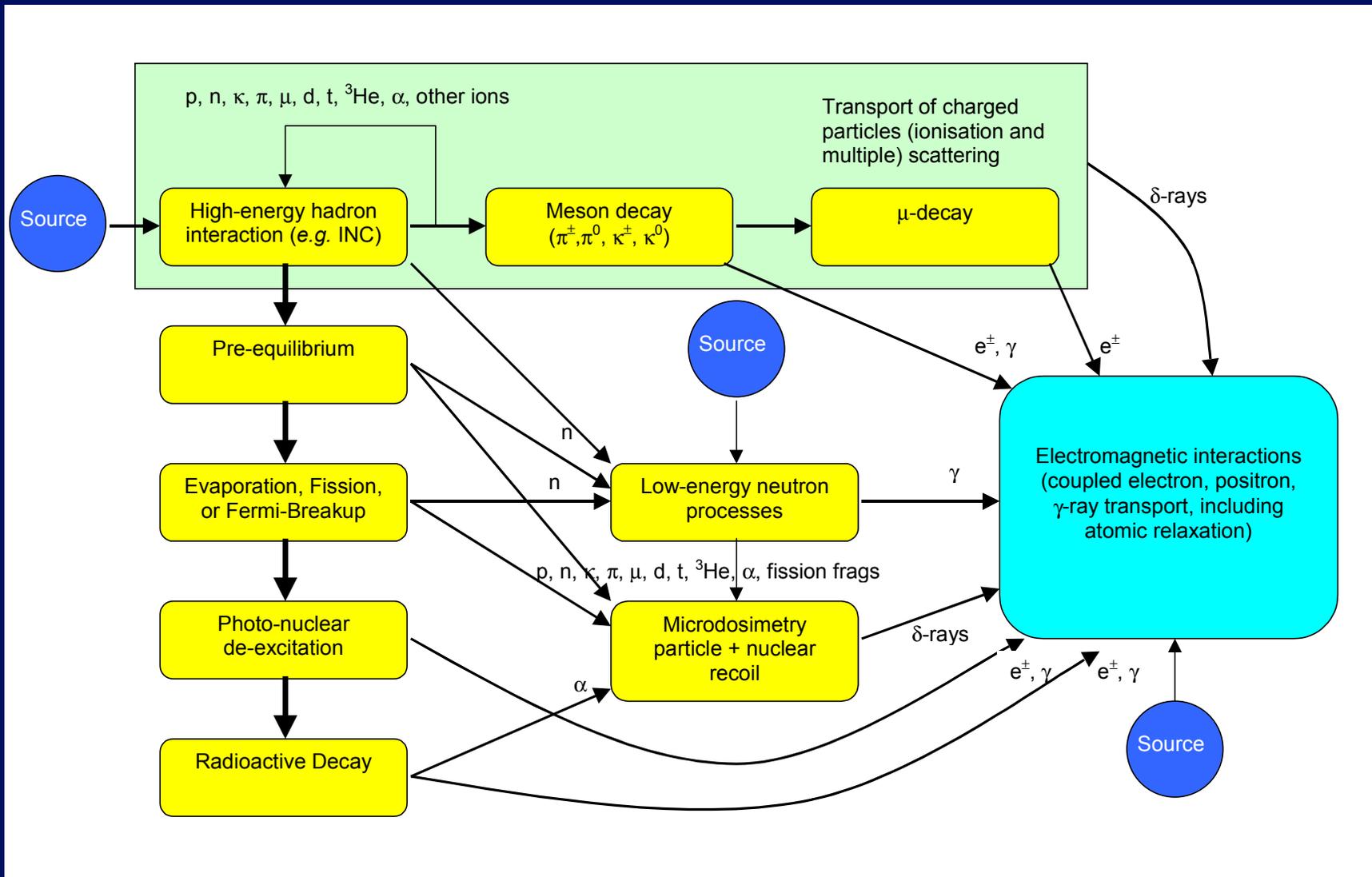
Previous applications of MC to space radiation studies

- Shielding studies based on Monte Carlo simulation applied in early 1960's (*e.g.* Hill *et al*, 1964)
- Calculations of atmospheric showers using HETC - Armstrong, Chandler and Barish (1973)
- Study of background rates in astrophysics gamma-ray missions by Dyer, Trombka, Seltzer *et al* (1975)
- Study of space-borne gamma-ray instrument performance using EGS by Dean, Lei and Knight (1989)

Trends in tools and analytical approach 1

- Previously codes tended to cover a limited range of physical processes (EM transport of leptons and photons, or high-energy hadronic simulation, *etc*)
- For some space radiation studies, vital to cover complete range of particles and physical processes
- Several codes integrated to form code suites to meet this requirement (*e.g.* GEANT3, GCALOR, MCNPX, HERMES and IRTS)
- Geant4 is really first code written from the outset to cover a wide range of physics without “bolting-together” old code

Space radiation interaction processes - a potted summary!



Trends in tools and analytical approach 2

- Previously Monte Carlo radiation analysis tools were largely limited to scientific research
- Today, the availability of high-performance low-cost computers allows greater use of more complex simulation tools
- MC simulators can now be considered as engineering tools that may be regularly employed to aid spacecraft and space instrument design
- However, important to ensure ease of access and operation by someone who isn't necessarily a space radiation effects or radiation transport expert

Section 1

Trends in Systems, Missions & Technology

- Trends in missions:
 - mobile communications for higher, proton-intense orbits
 - GPS, including the proposed Galileo system, subject to the most intense radiation environment
 - increased processing power by using SOTA microelectronics and photonics
 - desire to use COTS to reduce component costs \Rightarrow accurate calc. of shielding
 - spacecraft sizes from nanosats (10 kg) to ISS dimensions \Rightarrow secondaries
- Microelectronics technology
 - rapidly decreasing feature size and increasing frequency bandwidth
 - microdose and SEE increasingly important (even terrestrially)
 - SiGe and InP in competition with GaAs. Displacement damage important
 - Use of GaAs and InP for solar cells requires accurate consideration of NIEL. Low energy populations and propagation important for cover glasses
 - power MOSFETs susceptible to SEB and SEGR (direct ionisation by ions, and ionisation by recoils following nuclear interactions of protons and neutrons).
 - total dose problems can arise in MEMS from charging of insulators near to micro-mechanical systems

Section 1

Trends in Systems, Missions & Technology

- Packaging and shielding
 - commercially available packages and coatings available for which dose reduction is claimed
 - graded shielding may afford factor of 3 improvement in shielding against electrons

Section 1

Areas for Tool Development

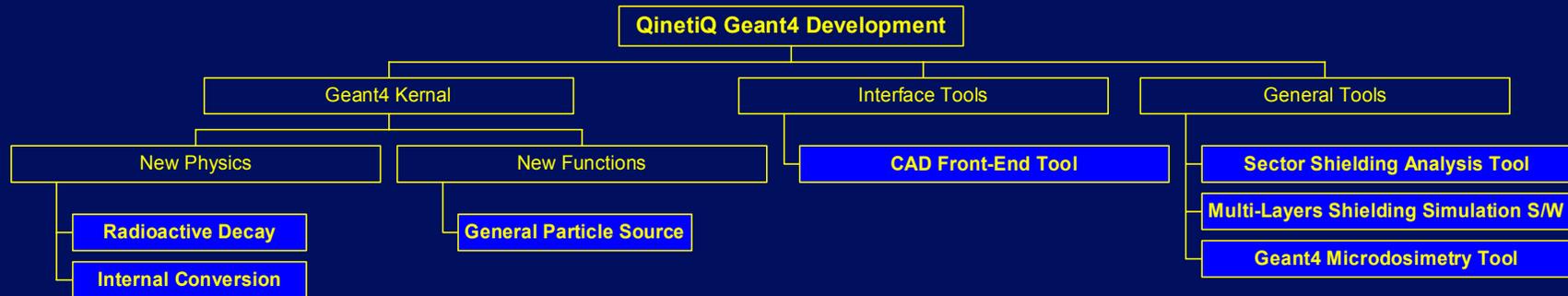
- Prediction of spacecraft secondaries and their spectra
 - More accurate assessment of material shielding distribution around a component/instrument
 - Generation of an engineering tool for quantifying secondaries
 - Effects of secondaries (including thermal neutrons) such as dose, damage, charge-deposition, SEE, radioactivity
 - Dose enhancement and graded shielding
- Prediction of microdosimetry effects
 - Propagation of heavy ions and secondary fragments
 - Microdosimetry down to 1 nm for SEE and biological effects
 - Consideration of track structure and influence on above
 - Correlations of energy depositions in sensitive regions for MBU and detector response

Section 2

Tools Developed

Section 2

Space Specific Geant4 Modules



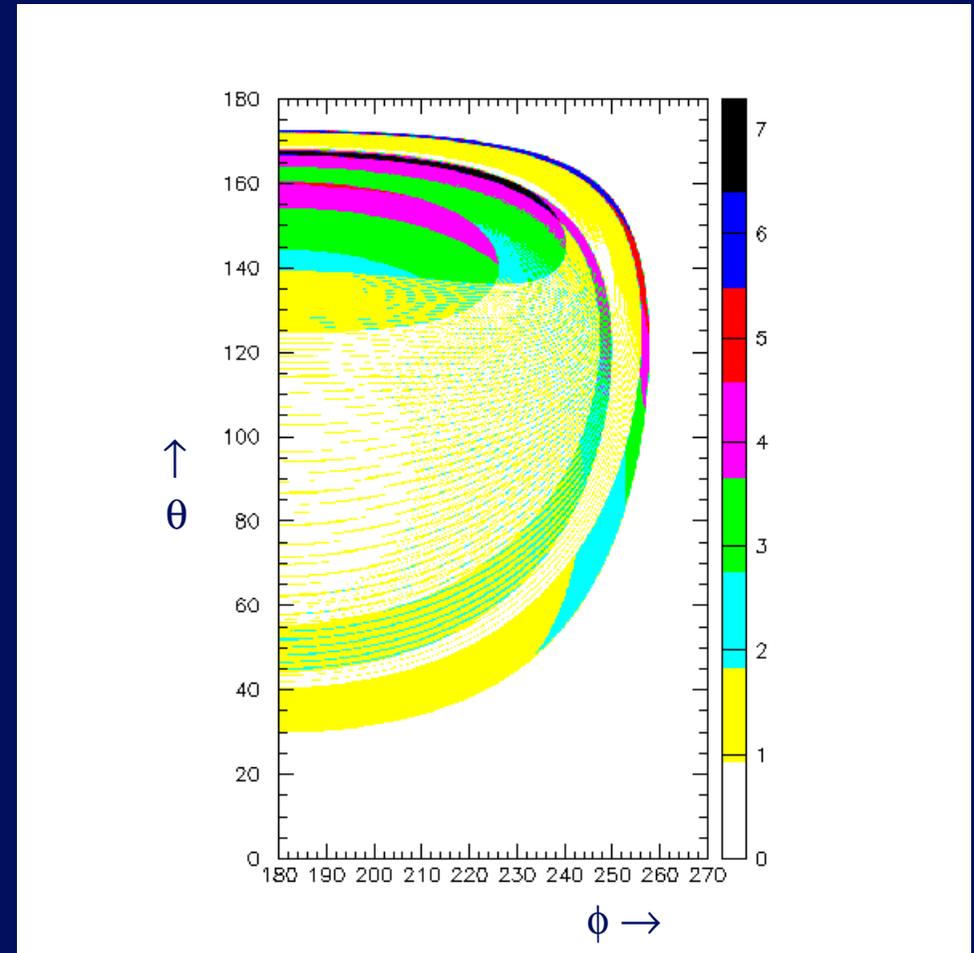
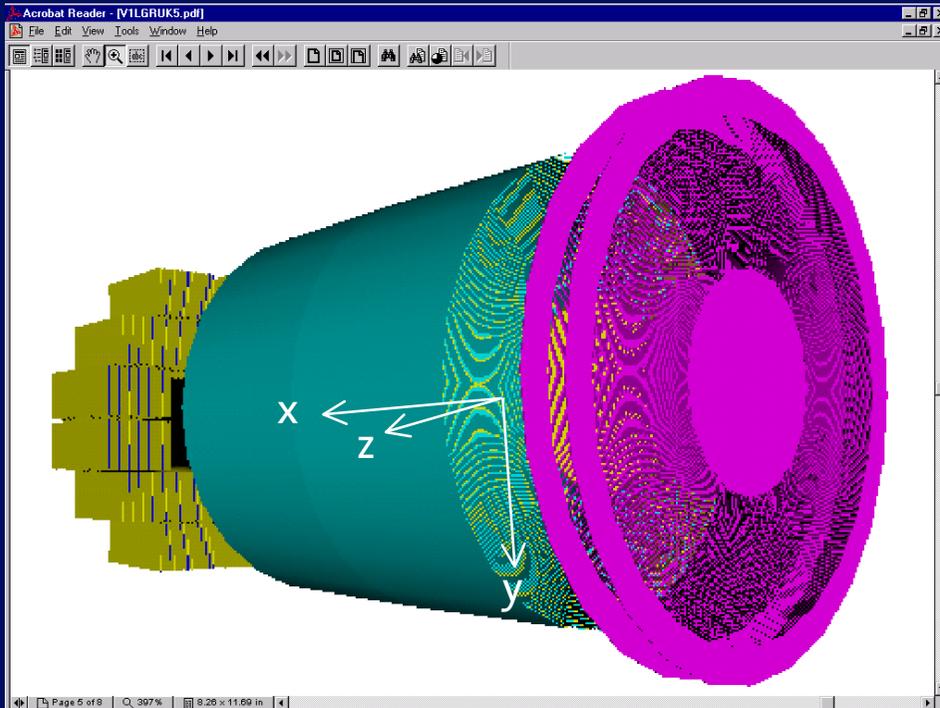
- **Sector Shielding Analysis Tool:** *1st-order shielding assessment*
- **MULASSIS:** *1D shielding tool using full Geant4 physics*
- **Geant4 μ dose Tool:** *3D simulation of microdosimetry*
- **Radioactive decay:** *induced background*
- **General Particle Source :** *specification of arbitrary source*
- **CAD Front-End Tool:** *specification of geometry and materials for G4 STEP interface with CAD file*

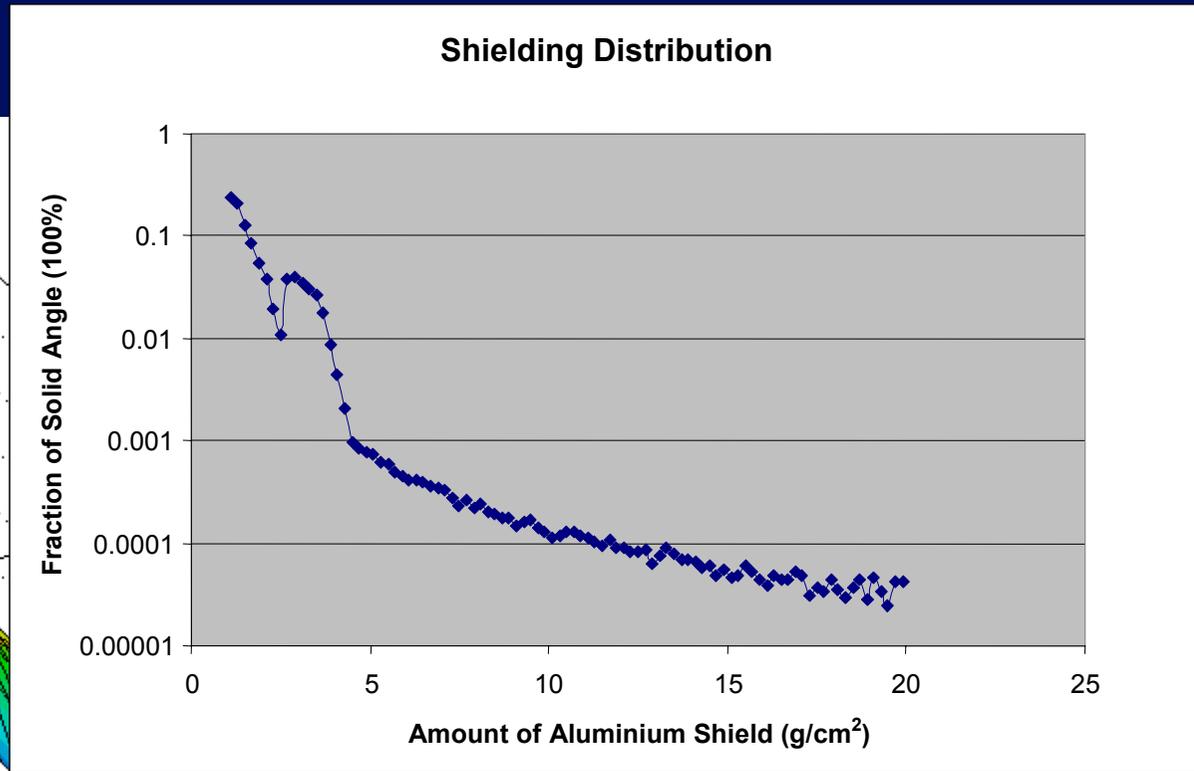
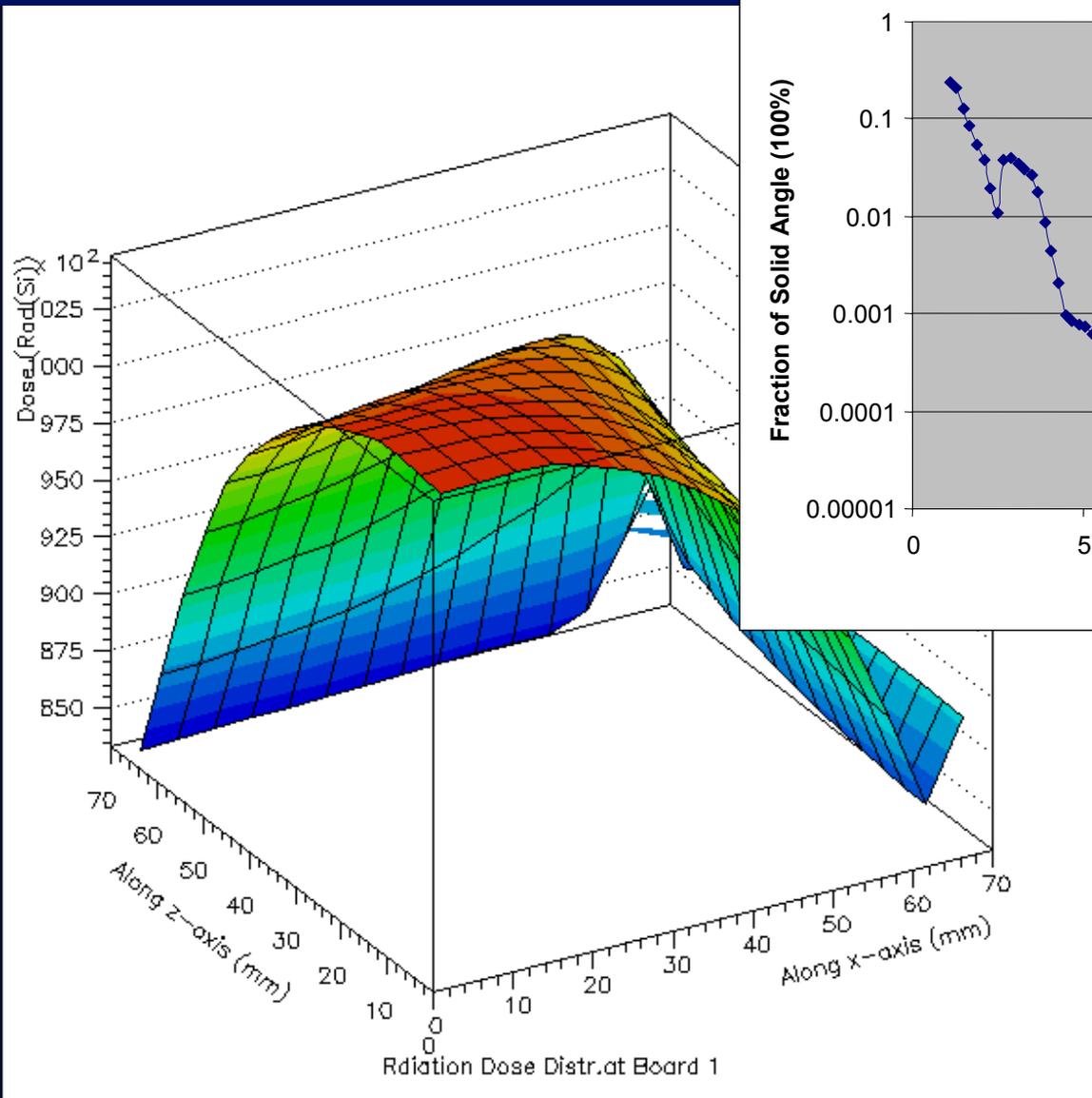
Section 2

Sector Shielding Analysis Tool

- Objective & application:
 - To determine the physical distribution of shielding around a user-defined point in the geometry using Geant4 particle tracking facilities
 - *1st assessment of shielding as a function of position*
- Functionality:
 - Uses “geantino” to determine pathlengths between material boundaries
 - Histogram of fraction of solid angle with shielding within a given interval as a function of shielding interval (+ Poisson errors)
 - 2D Histogram of mean shielding level (in g/cm², cm or radiation lengths) as a function of (θ, ϕ) (+standard deviation of shielding)
 - Output as a function of material and/or element type, as well as overall shielding (irrespective of material)

SSAT Analysis of XMM Baffle





Analysis of RF electronics subsystem

Section 2

Multi-Layered Shielding Simulation S/W

- Objective & application:
 - 1D simulation of shielding effects (planar or spherical)
- Functionality:
 - Facilities to determine:
 - Fluence as a function of layer, particle type, energy and angle
 - Integrate existing NIEL coefficients over fluence
 - Energy deposition or dose calculation as a function of layer
 - Energy deposition spectra as a function of layer
 - Uses General Particle Source
 - Interactive operation with a local implementation of Geant4
 - Also can be operated over WWW under SPENVIS

Section 2

General Particle Source

- Objective & application:
 - To permit definition of an arbitrary source distribution without coding
 - By default Geant4 only allows unidirectional, monoenergetic sources
 - *Definition of general source particle distributions*
- Functionality:
 - **Spatial** : point, area source (disc, ellipse, rectangle), or simple volume (sphere, cylinder, RPP)
 - **Angular** : unidirectional, isotropic, cosine-law, arbitrary
 - **Energy** : mono-energetic, linear, exponential, power-law, arbitrary spectrum
 - **Source particle biasing** : according to point of origin, first interaction, energy
- Status
 - Currently integrated into Geant4

Section 2

General Particle Source

2D Surface sources	3D Surface sources	Volume sources	Angular distribution	Energy spectrum
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• circle• ellipse• square• rectangle	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• sphere• ellipsoid• cylinder• paralellapiped (incl. cube & cuboid)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• sphere• ellipsoid• cylinder• paralellapiped (incl. cube & cuboid)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• isotropic• cosine-law• user-defined (through histograms)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• mono-energetic• linear• exponential• power-law• bremsstrahlung• black-body• CR diffuse• user-defined (through histograms or point-wise data)

▲ Up

[SPENVIS Project: SIGMUND](#)[Tables](#)[Index](#)

Radiation models

Multi-Layered Shielding Simulation: Geometry

[Plots](#)[Help](#)

Mulassis allows the definition of a multi-layered, one-dimensional shield and incident particle source, and using the Geant4 toolkit simulates radiation transport through the geometry, treating electromagnetic and nuclear interactions.

Mulassis is a complex tool, so please consult the help page before using it. We would appreciate any feedback on the interface, please send your comments to B. Quaghebeur at B.Quaghebeur@oma.be.

Geometry:

Shape:	Number of layers:			
Layer number	Material <small>Edit</small>	Thickness (unit)		Visualisation colour
Layer 1	<input type="text" value="Aluminium"/>	<input type="text" value="1.5"/>	<input type="text" value="cm"/>	<input type="text" value="red"/>
Layer 2	<input type="text" value="Tungsten"/>	<input type="text" value="0.2"/>	<input type="text" value="cm"/>	<input type="text" value="dark grey"/>
Layer 3	<input type="text" value="Aluminium"/>	<input type="text" value="100"/>	<input type="text" value="µm"/>	<input type="text" value="red"/>
Layer 4	<input type="text" value="Silicon"/>	<input type="text" value="5.0"/>	<input type="text" value="µm"/>	<input type="text" value="white"/>

the particle tracks in the visualisation of the geometry in format.

Model developed by



User defined materials			
Material id	Name	Chemical formula	Density (g cm ⁻³)
Material 1	Tungsten	W	1.930E+01

Add predefined Antimony ▾

Add new material:

Name:

Chemical formula:

Density: (g cm⁻³)

Remove Tungsten ▾

<< Back

Reset

Update

[▲ Up](#)[Index](#)[SPENVIS Project: SIGMUND](#)[Tables](#)[Plots](#)[Help](#)

Radiation models

Multi-Layered Shielding Simulation: Source particles

Source particle type and spectrum

Incident particle type:	<input type="text" value="proton"/>
Number of primary particles to simulate:	<input type="text" value="10000"/>
Incident energy spectrum:	<input type="text" value="trapped protons"/>
Interpolation type:	<input type="text" value="linear"/>
Angular distribution:	<input type="text" value="isotropic"/>
Minimum angle:	<input type="text" value="0.0"/> <input type="text" value="degrees"/>
Maximum angle:	<input type="text" value="90.0"/> <input type="text" value="degrees"/>

Up

[SPENVIS Project: SIGMUND](#)
[Tables](#)
[Index](#)

Radiation models

[Plots](#)

Multi-Layered Shielding Simulation: Physical models

[Help](#)

Physical models and material cut-offs

 Simulation conditions: nuclear interactions

 neutrons

 transport

 processes

 Material/Particle cut-off lengths in:

Material	Particle	All	p ⁺	alpha	ion
All		<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>
Vacuum		<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>
Air		<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>
Aluminium		<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>
Silicon		<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>
Tungsten		<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>	<input type="text" value="1"/>

Application Scenario		Simulation conditions	Source	Models used	Particles
1		Hadron-nuclear interactions			
2		Low-energy neutron			
3		γ - e^+ - μ^+			
4		LowE electromagnetics			
5		Trapped protons			
6		Solar protons and light ions			
7		Cosmic ray protons			
8		Mono-energetic protons			
9		Reactor, fission, D-T, D-D neutron			
10		Spallation neutron			
11		Trapped electrons			
12		Mono-energetic electrons			
		X-ray spectra			
		Parameterised "low-energy" hadron-nuclear			
		Precompound			
		Neutron_hp			
		Evaporation			
		Fermi break up			
		Fission			
		Photo-evaporation			
		Std EM interactions for hadrons/ions			
		Std EM interactions for leptons/photons			
		LowE EM interactions for hadrons/ions			
		LowE EM interactions for leptons/photons			
		Protons			
		Anti-protons			
		Neutrons			
		Anti-neutrons			
		K^+ , K^- , K^0			
		π^+ , π^- , π^0			
		Light ions			
		General ions/nuclei			
		γ , X-rays			
		e^+ , e^-			
		μ^+ , μ^-			

[Up](#)
[Index](#)

SPENVIS Project: SIGMUND

[Tables](#)
[Plots](#)
[Help](#)

Radiation models
Multi-Layered Shielding Simulation: Analysis parameters

Analysis parameters

Fluence analysis

Fluence normalisation factor: /cm2

Select particle type(s) for fluence analysis:

Output units:

Fluence density type:

Select boundaries between layers for fluence analysis:
source 1 2 3 4 target

Energy binning mode:

Number of bins:

Lower edge of lowest energy bin: keV

Upper edge of highest energy bin: MeV

Angle binning mode:

NIEL Coefficients

Select set of NIEL coefficients:

Output units:

Select boundaries between layers for NIEL analysis:
source 1 2 3 4 target

Energy deposition/TID

Output units:

Select layers for energy deposition/total ionising dose analysis:
1 2 3 4

Pulse-height spectrum analysis

Select layers for pulse-height spectrum (PHS) analysis:
1 2 3 4

Energy binning mode:

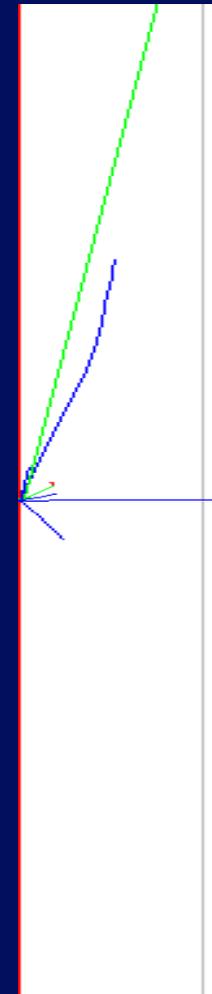
Number of bins:

Lower edge of lowest energy bin: keV

Upper edge of highest energy bin: MeV

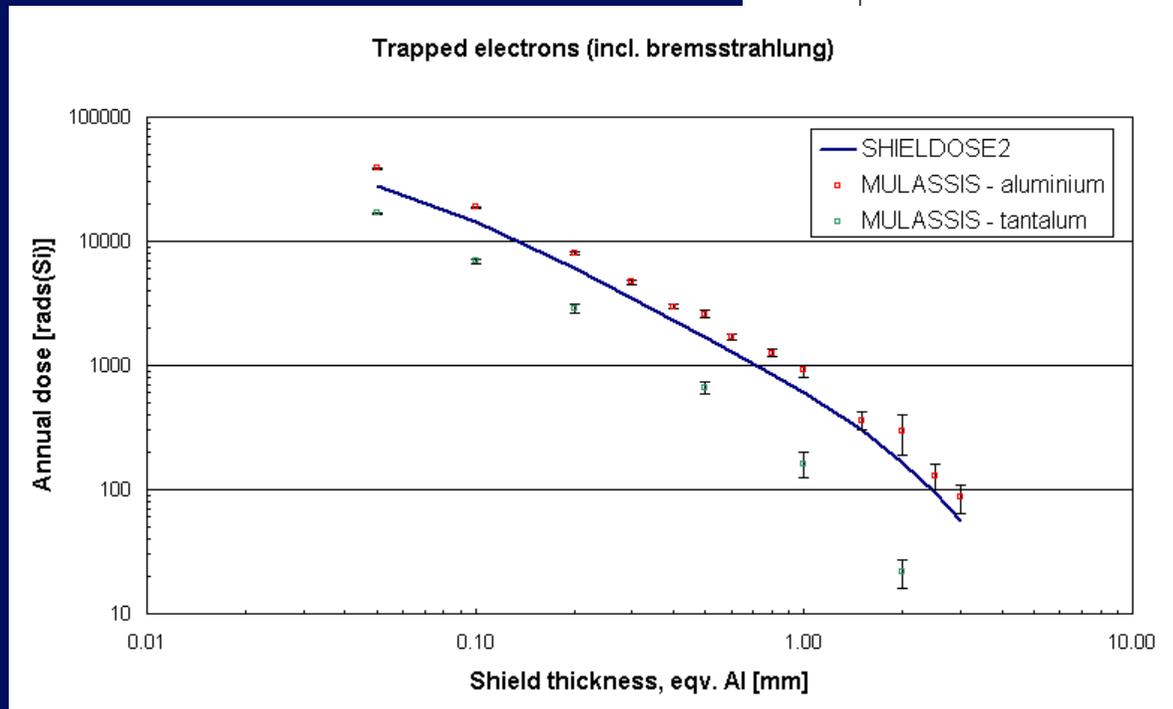
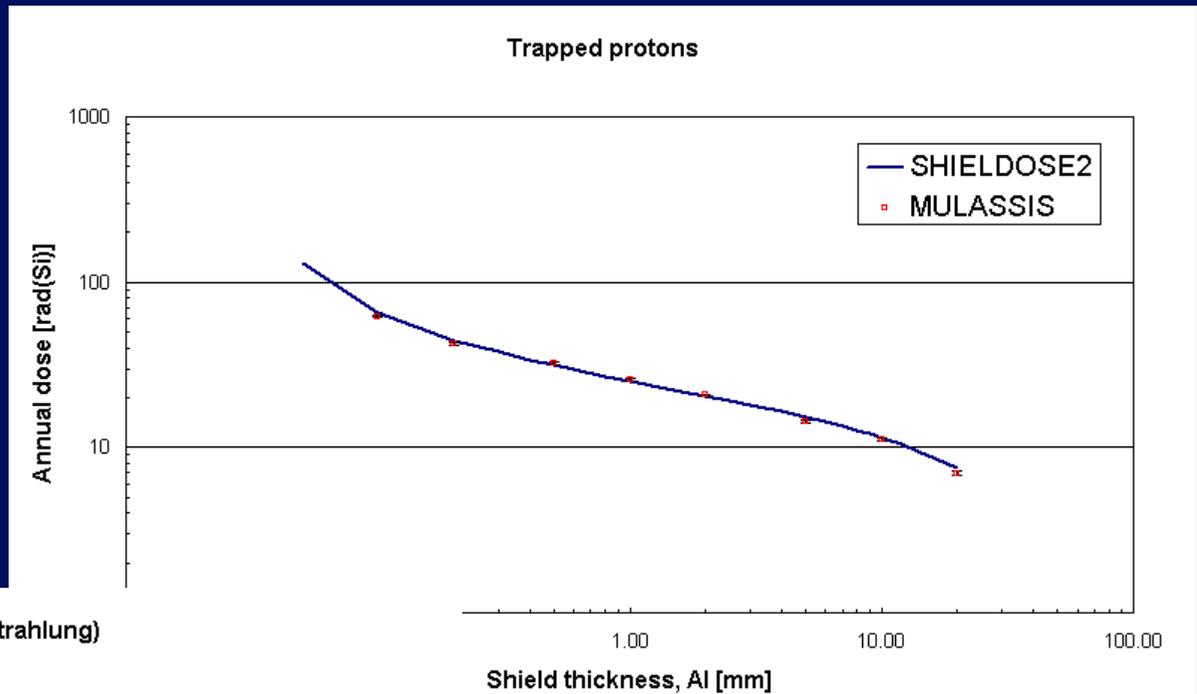
```
# some comments
/geometry/layer/delete 0
/geometry/material/add Tungsten W 1.930E+01
/geometry/layer/shape slab
/geometry/layer/add 0 Aluminium 4 1.500E+00 cm
/geometry/layer/add 1 Tungsten 3 2.000E-01 cm
/geometry/layer/add 2 Aluminium 4 1.000E+02 mum
/geometry/layer/add 3 Silicon 1 5.000E+00 mum
/phys/scenario hadron-em-ln
/phys/cuts/material/setcut Tungsten 0.000E+00 mum
/analysis/normalise 1.000E+00 cm2
/analysis/fluence/particle/add proton
/analysis/fluence/particle/add neutron
/analysis/file spenvis
/analysis/fluence/unit cm2
/analysis/fluence/type OMNI
/analysis/fluence/add 1
/analysis/fluence/add 4
/analysis/fluence/energy/mode log
/analysis/fluence/energy/nbin 15
/analysis/fluence/energy/min 1.000E+00 keV
/analysis/fluence/energy/max 1.000E+03 MeV
/analysis/fluence/angle/default
/analysis/niel/add 1
/analysis/niel/add 4
/analysis/niel/function cern
/analysis/niel/unit rad
.....
```

SPENVIS generates a text macro file for Geant4/MULASSIS



Note actual aspect ratio of geometry is 100 and total number of particle histories followed is 100,000

SHIELDOSE2 and MULASSIS results for 450km, 61.8° LEO



MULASSIS will predict shielding effects for any shield/device material, and perform better treatment of secondaries

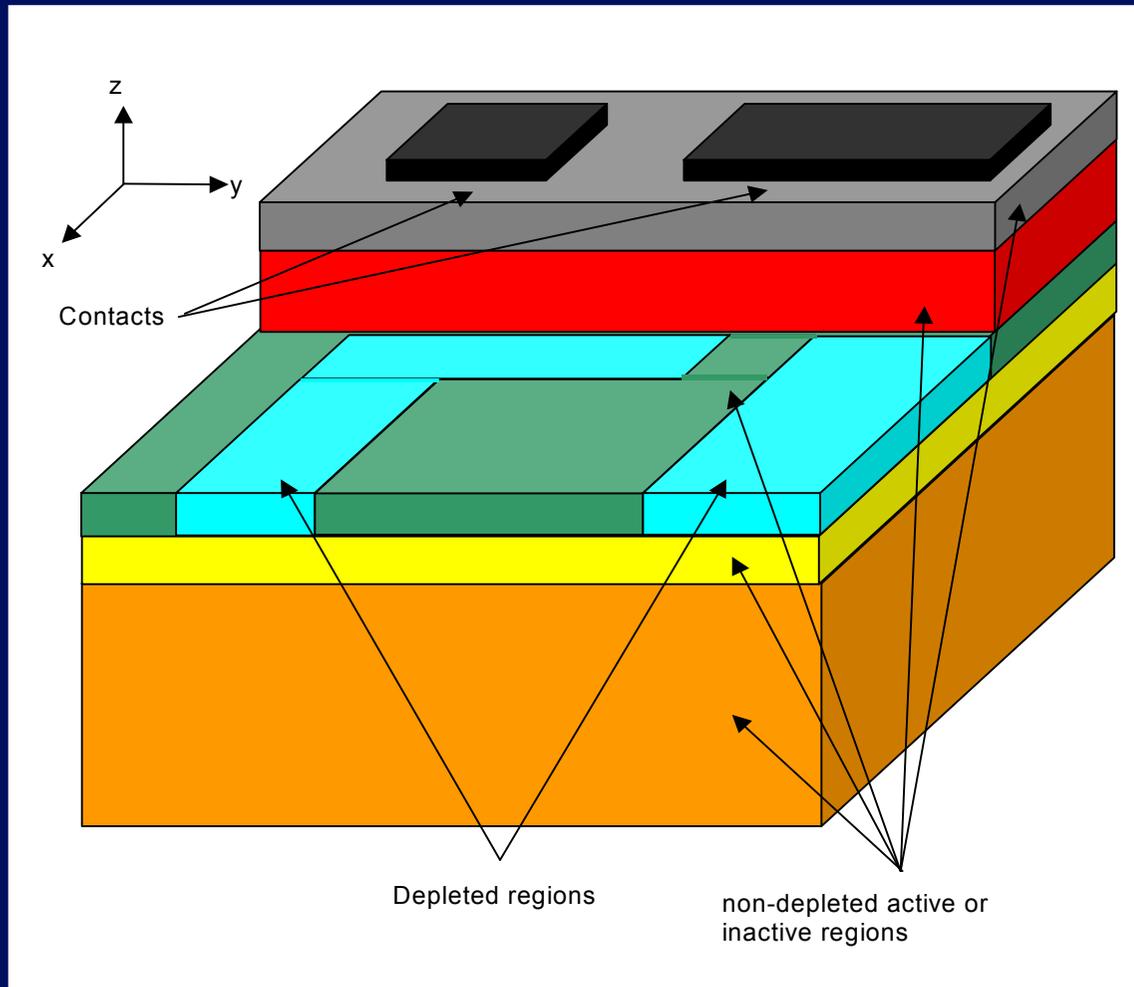
Section 2

Geant4 Microdosimetry Tool (GEMAT)

- Objective & application:
 - 3D simulation of microdosimetry in parallelepiped and trapezoid geometries
- Functionality:
 - Facilities to determine:
 - Energy deposition spectra in depletion layer and funnel
 - Pathlength distribution function for complex micro-volumes may also be determined (for geantino particles)
 - Simultaneous energy deposition in different depletion regions (MBUs)
 - Uses General Particle Source
 - Intended for local and WWW operation (implemented under SPENVIS)
- Status
 - Interactive version implemented in prototype

Section 2

Geant4 Microdosimetry Tool (GEMAT)



- Microdosimetry without restrictions to parallelepipeds
- Depleted regions can have “L” and “U” shapes with rectangular or trapezoidal cross-sections

Section 3

Project SEPTIMESS

SEPTIMESS

Space Energetic Particle Transport and
Interaction Modelling for ESA Science Studies

Geant4 Space User Forum, ESTEC/ESA

Fan Lei

Space Department, QinetiQ

20.01.2003

Introduction

An ESA funded project (Contract No. 16339/02/NL/FM)

- ITT AO/1-3867/01/NL/FM “ Energetic Particle Shielding and Interaction Software ”
- QinetiQ as the prime contractor.
- Started at 01/09/02, and will last for 30 months.
- Five academic institutions, selected under a separated ESA ITT, are working in parallel, managed by QinetiQ.
- Activities will cover both Geant4 kernel developments and specific space applications

Main Study Objectives:

- Review the potential energetic particle radiation effects on payloads of future ESA missions, science missions in particular.
- Identify radiation transport analysis requirements to quantify effects and thereby reduce risks for these missions.
- Develop Geant4 based applications for quantifying the specific radiation effects.

Other Objectives:

- Support ESA and the European space science community through the provision of information and tools to quantify the risks to current and future missions from the natural radiation environment.
- Help expand the utilisation of Geant4 within the European space science community, and make Geant4 the preferred tool for space radiation effects analysis.
- To strengthen the collaboration between ESA and CERN, established in 1998, and between ESA and the Geant4 consortium.

Major Activities:

- Review of radiation effects to future ESA science missions:
 - Radiation environment
 - Radiation as background noise and potential damage to the scientific instruments
 - Methods for quantifying such effects
- Investigating new requirements in Geant4 for space applications and identify areas for further developments
- Software developments in both Geant4 kernel and space applications.

The List of Missions

- Mercury Orbiter
- Solar Orbiter
- INTEGRAL
- GAIA
- STEP
- LISA
- Eddington
- Darwin
- XEUS
- FIRST-Herschel
- Planck
- Rosetta
- NGST
- SMART-1
- Mars Express

Geant4 Developments:

- Implementation Process Biasing
- Improvement of Geant4 CAD/STEP file interface
- Implementation of hadronic cross-section based simulation
- Improvement of Geant4 atomic relaxation process
- Development of Geant4 statistical testing system

Possible Application Developments:

- Background study of the INTEGRAL mission
- Simulation of the proof-masses experiment on LISA
- Simulation of the proof-masses experiment on STEP
- Simulation of the MGS and MXS on BepiColumbo
- Simulation of the X-ray imaging spectrometer on SMART-1
- Analysis of low-energy electron and proton scattering in X-ray mirror shells, such as that of XEUS.

Possible Application Developments (con.):

- Study of X-ray CCD background, such as XMM.
- Simulation of the SREM detector system via CAD/STEP interface.
- Cosmic ray trajectory tracing and rigidity cut-off calculation.
- Cosmic ray atmospheric penetration and secondary radiation production.

Parallel Activities:

- Four institutes selected from proposals to ESA AO/1-4051/01/NL/FM:
 - Imperial College (Prof. Tim Sumner)
 - University of Southampton (Prof. Tony Dean)
 - University of Geneva (Prof. Alain Blondel)
 - INFN(Genova)/CERN (Dr. Maria Grazia Pia, Dr. Andreas Pfeiffer)
- One from unsolicited proposals:
 - University of Bern (Prof. E. Fluckiger, Dr. L Desorgher)

Imperial College:

The transport of low-energy secondaries in experiments using proof-masses:

- Effects:
 - Charging
 - momentum transfer
 - thermal input
- Missions to be studied:
 - LISA
 - STEP

University of Southampton:

- INTEGRAL Background Studies:
 - To develop a Geant4 based Mass Model
 - Understanding of the background noise in all detector systems
 - Induced radioactivity in the germanium detector
 - Solar Flare effects
- XEUS Radiation Studies:
 - Background sources and potential radiation damage
 - tools/methods to quantify the effects.

University of Geneva:

- Implementation of hadronic cross-sections in Geant4
 - To identify the shortcomings in Geant4, in studies of impact of hadronic showers on materials.
 - Compilation of c-s data: GSI, PSI, Los Alamos, former Soviet Union, and compare them with those collected in AMS and HARP
 - Code development in Geant4: projectile energy range of 0.1 to 10 GeV.
 - Validation and benchmarking.

INFN(Genova)/CERN:

- Design and development of a "standard" analysis toolkit/library based on the AIDA standard, to be used by all Geant4 applications within the SEPTIMESS project, including an example on its usage.
- Elicitation, specification and analysis of User Requirements for a general purpose tool for test and validation of Geant4 electromagnetic physics processes; object oriented analysis and design, development and testing.
- Refinement of Geant4 atomic relaxation package, including design iteration, implementation and test.

University of Bern:

Geant4 cosmic ray applications:

- Propagation of cosmic rays through the Earth's magnetosphere:
 - Dynamic internal and external magnetospheric magnetic field models (IGRF/DGRF + Tsyganenko).
 - Improved tracking algorithm in magnetic fields
- Propagation of cosmic rays through the Earth's atmosphere.

Section 4

Summary

Section 4

Summary

- Geant4 provides an environment to enable comprehensive simulation in 3D of radiation interaction processes from PeV to keV energies (and below for thermal neutrons, and EM processes)
- Several physics enhancements required for space as well as HEP have or are being addressed
- There is also a need to permit easy access to space radiation effects *engineering* tools based on detailed MC

Section 4

Summary

- SSAT, MULASSIS and GEMAT are a significant improvement over conventional engineering tools used in space radiation effects simulation
- The availability of MULASSIS over WWW increases general accessibility (user doesn't have to download Geant4), although the interactive version is available if required for user-dedicated application
- There is now an ongoing programme (SEPTIMESS) to help develop applications for Geant4 in space science missions