

"SRAG in Wonderland"--Operational Space Weather Support for Manned Spaceflight



Michael J. Golightly

NASA Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas

Mark D. Weyland

Lockheed-Martin Space Operations Houston, Texas



Space Weather Support to Manned Spaceflight Operations

“This is an European/ESA meeting—why is NASA here?”

- Space weather and its impacts on human technologies spans geographic boundaries
- Space weather support services, in the not too distant future, will likely become so complex and costly that it will only be feasible only if it spans geographic boundaries
- International coordination/cooperation in manned spaceflight radiological support is increasing as the ISS program evolves
- Since inception of ISS missions (1995), **13 European astronauts** have flown on Shuttle missions in ISS-type orbits



Space Weather Support to Manned Spaceflight Operations

“Do space weather data and forecasts ever impact a manned mission?”

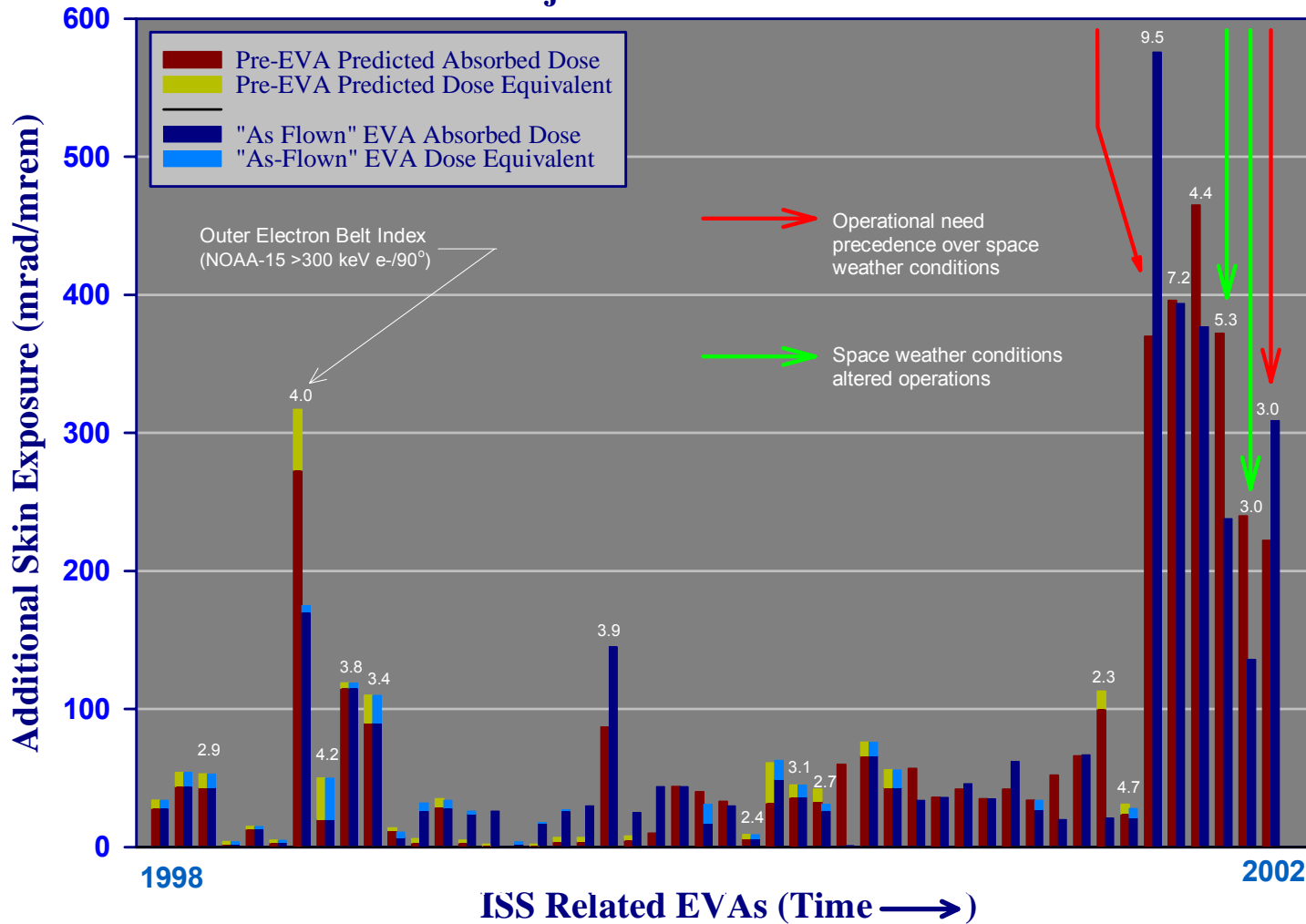
YES!!



Application of Space Weather Information to Flight Operations--*Example*

ISS Related EVA Dose Comparison

Projection versus "As-Flown"





Space Weather Support to Manned Spaceflight Operations

“What do you want/need from a space weather service provider?”

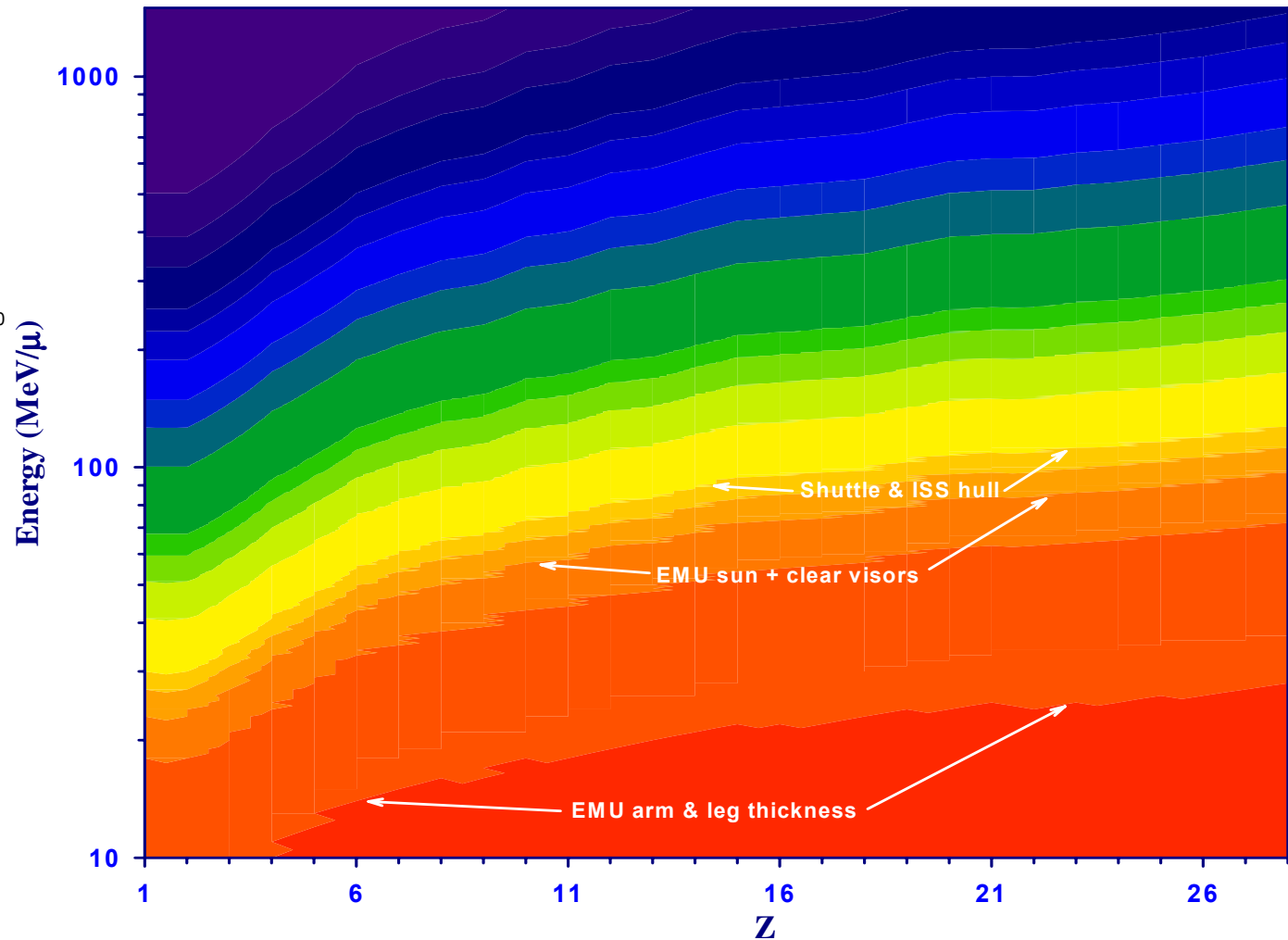
- Quantitative understanding of the state of energetic charged particle flux in low-Earth orbit (LEO)
- Forecasts of changes in the state of energetic charged particle flux in LEO due to space weather activity
 - Quantitative as well as qualitative
 - Temporal description as well as predicted maximum values
- Climatologic models of the energetic charged particle flux in LEO



SPE Charged Particle Spectra—Importance of Protons versus Heavy Ions to Astronaut Exposure

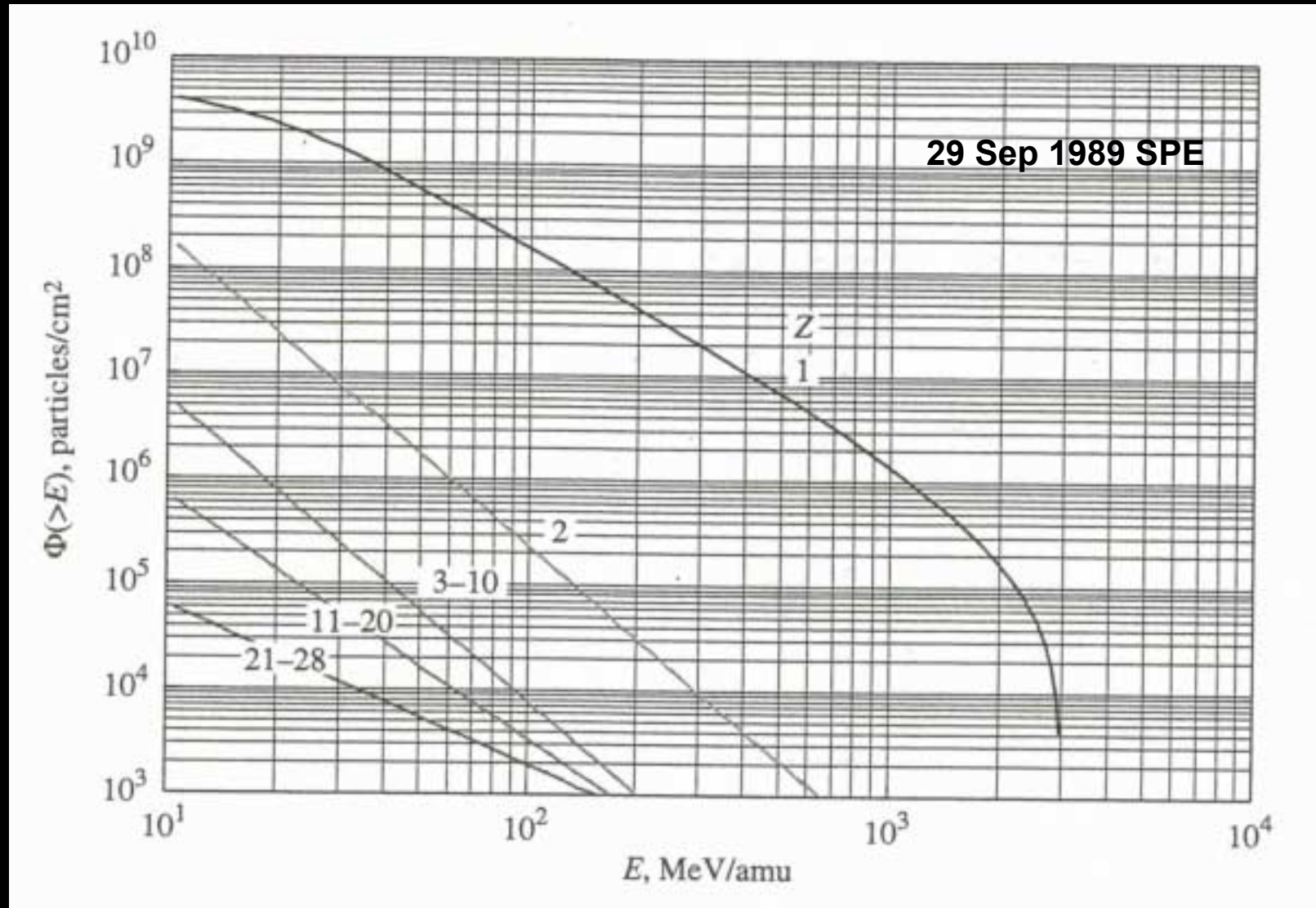
- $T \text{ g/cm}^2 \leq 0.16$
- $0.16 < T \text{ g/cm}^2 \leq 0.50$
- $0.50 < T \text{ g/cm}^2 \leq 0.79$
- $0.79 < T \text{ g/cm}^2 \leq 1.0$
- $1.0 < T \text{ g/cm}^2 \leq 1.2$
- $1.2 < T \text{ g/cm}^2 \leq 2.0$
- $2.0 < T \text{ g/cm}^2 \leq 3.0$
- $3.0 < T \text{ g/cm}^2 \leq 4.0$
- $4.0 < T \text{ g/cm}^2 \leq 5.0$
- $5.0 < T \text{ g/cm}^2 \leq 10$
- $10 < T \text{ g/cm}^2 \leq 15$
- $15 < T \text{ g/cm}^2 \leq 20$
- $20 < T \text{ g/cm}^2 \leq 30$
- $30 < T \text{ g/cm}^2 \leq 40$
- $40 < T \text{ g/cm}^2 \leq 50$
- $50 < T \text{ g/cm}^2 \leq 75$
- $75 < T \text{ g/cm}^2 \leq 100$
- $100 < T \text{ g/cm}^2 \leq 150$

Range of Charged Particles in Aluminum HZETRN--Coulombic Energy Loss Only





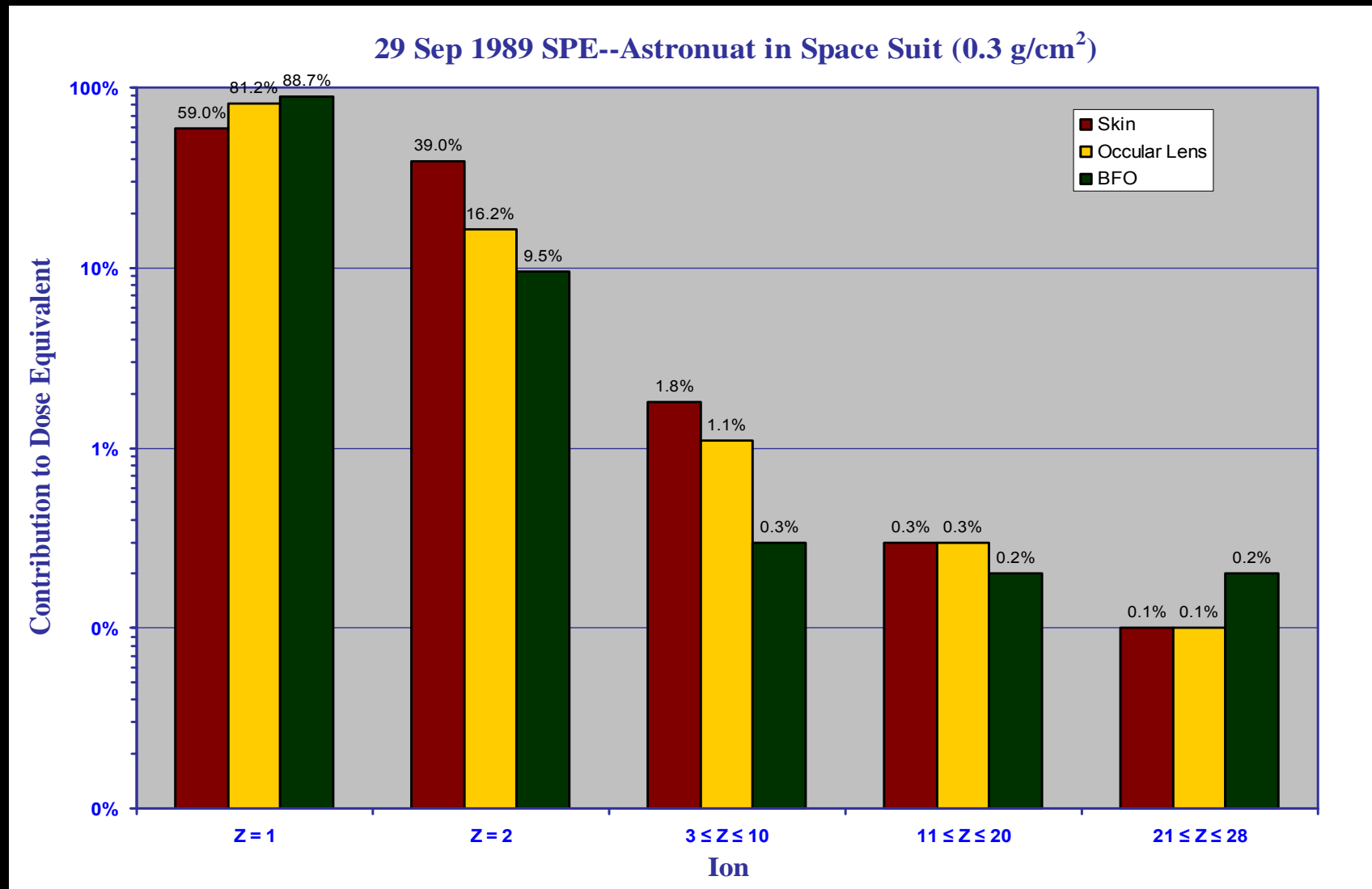
SPE Charged Particle Spectra—Importance of Protons versus Heavy Ions to Astronaut Exposure



Kim, M-H, J.W. Wilson, F.A. Cucinotta, *et. al.* "Contribution of High Charge and Energy (HZE) Ions During Solar-Particle Event of September 29, 1989." NASA/TP-1999-209320 (May 1999)



SPE Charged Particle Spectra—Importance of Protons versus Heavy Ions to Astronaut Exposure



Data from Kim, M-H, J.W. Wilson, F.A. Cucinotta, *et. al.* "Contribution of High Charge and Energy (HZE) Ions During Solar-Particle Event of September 29, 1989." NASA/TP-1999-209320 (May 1999)



Space Weather Support to Manned Spaceflight Operations

“For what types of particles and energies do you need nowcasts and forecasts?”

- Electrons: 0.5 – 10 MeV
- Protons: 10 – > 500 MeV
- Helium: 10 – ~60 MeV/amu



Space Weather Support to Manned Spaceflight Operations—Information Used in Operations

Ground-based

- K_p , A_p
- K_B , A_B
- F10.7
- Sunspot Number
- H- α images
- NOAA SEC active region location, size, and magnetic configuration
- Solar radio burst and sweep data
- Thule and Climax neutron monitor data
- NOAA SEC daily forecast, alerts and warnings

Space-based

- GOES p^+ flux: >10 MeV, >30 MeV, >100 MeV
- NOAA/TIROS e^- flux: >300 keV/90° belt index
- GOES/SXI (Apr 2003)
- SOHO/EIT 195 Å (movies)
- SOHO/LASCO C2, C3 (movies)
- SOHO/MDI images
- ACE/SIS p^+ flux: >10 MeV, >30 MeV
- ACE/MAG: B_T , B_Z
- ACE/SWEPAM: V_{SW} , ρ_{SW}



Space Weather Support to Manned Spaceflight Operations

There are four types of interactions between a U.S. space weather customer and national U.S. space weather service provider

- User relies on generic products provided by service provider
- User requests service provider to provide a customized/ specialized product
- User pays service provider to provide a customized/ specialized product
- User builds own unique applications/products using service provider data
- User pays a third party vendor to build unique applications/ products using service provider data

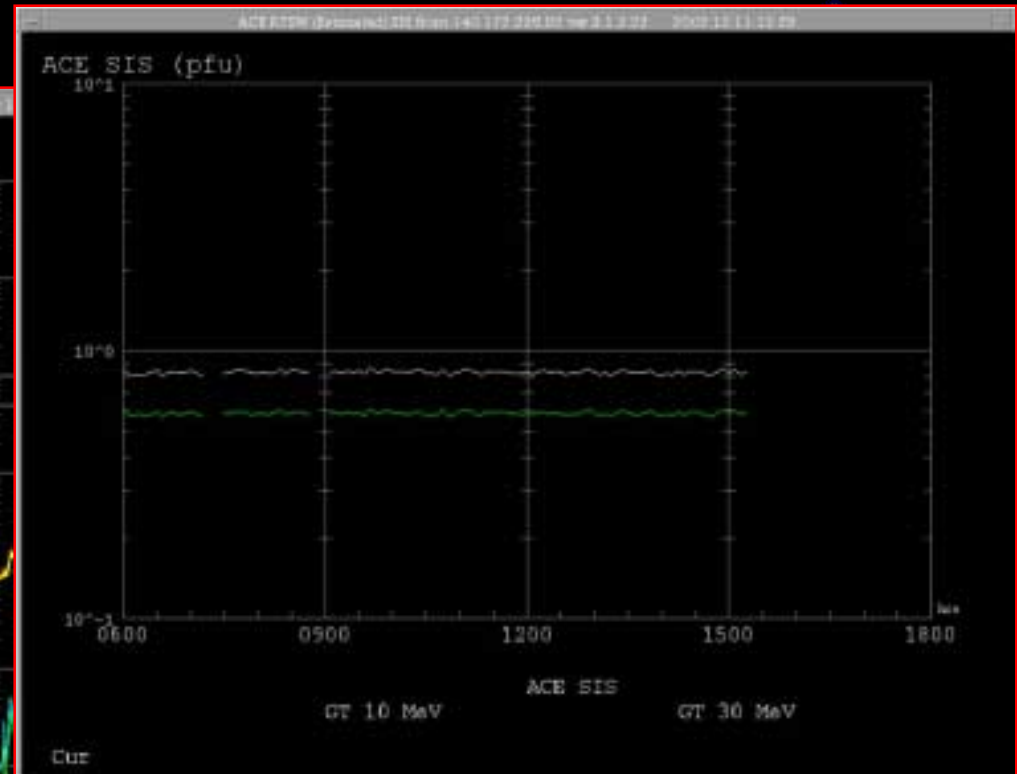
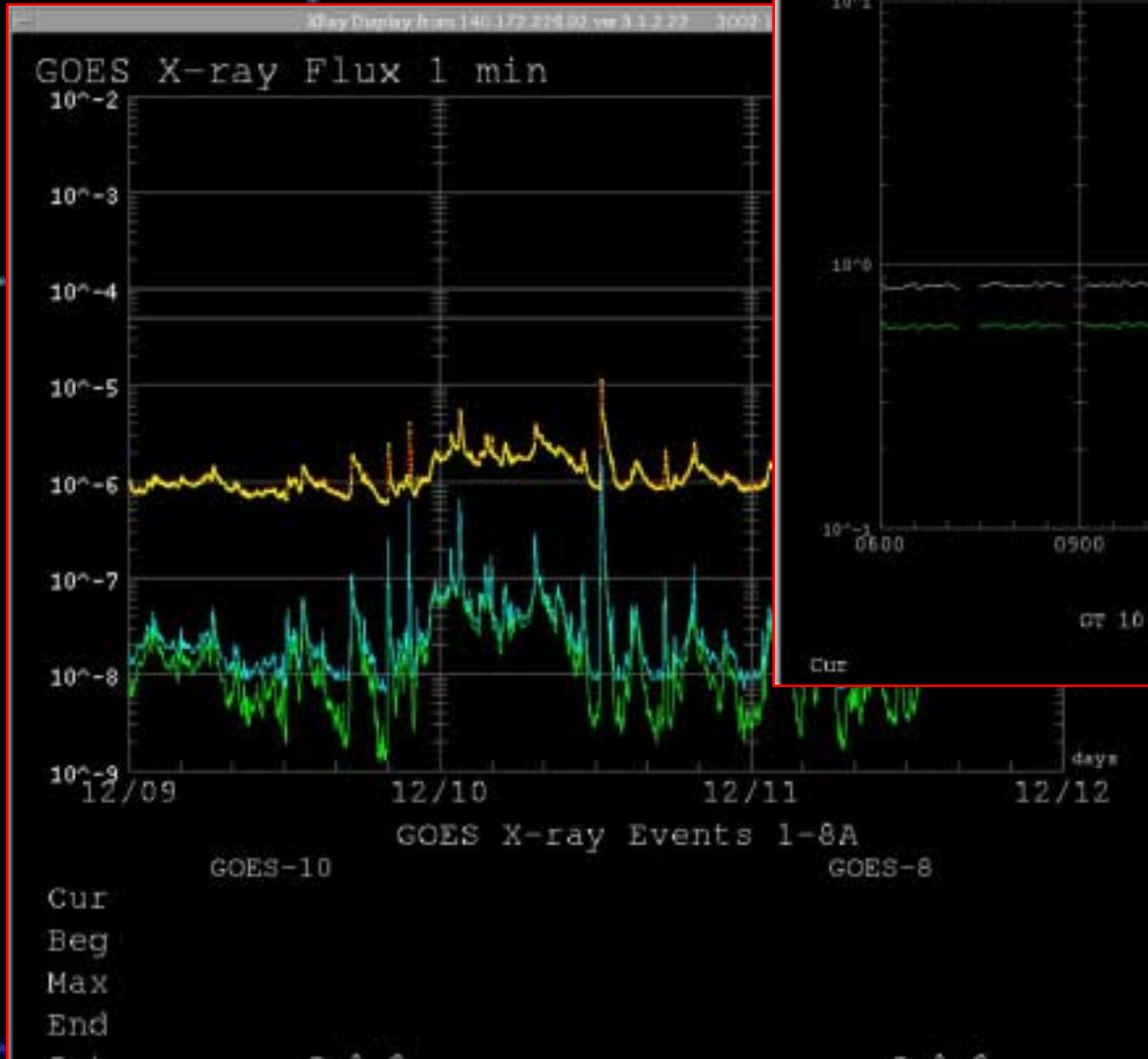


Space Weather Support to Manned Spaceflight Operations—Service Provider Applications

- Service provider requested to provide a customized/specialized product
 - NOAA/TIROS Trapped Radiation Belt Index
- Service provider paid to provide a customized/specialized product
 - NOAA Information Dissemination System (IDS)
 - NOAA Data Display System (DDS)
 - NOAA Data Simulation System (DSS)



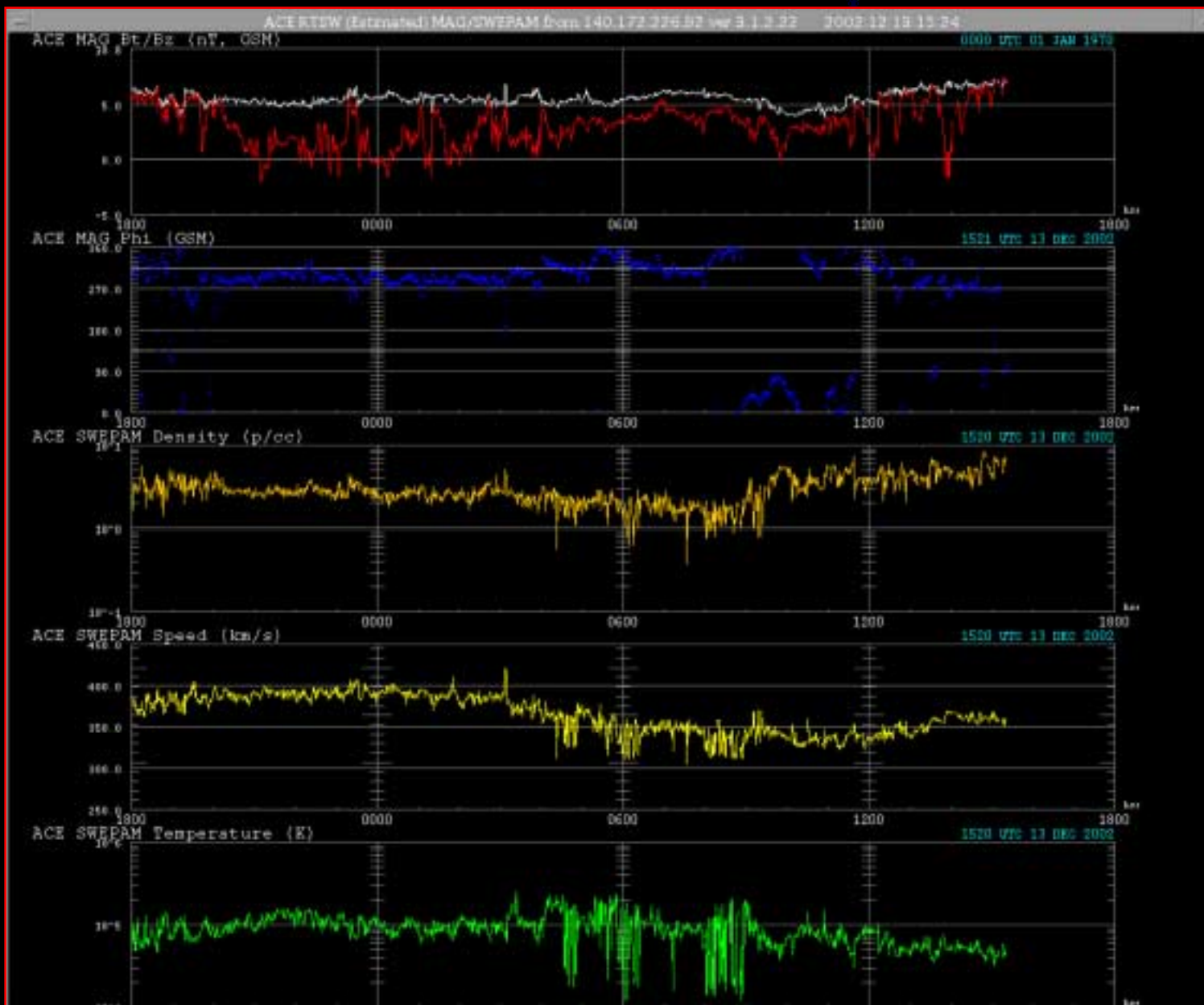
Space Weather Support to Manned Spaceflight Operations—Provider Funded to Develop Application



NOAA Information
Dissemination System
(IDS) and Data Display
System (DDS)



Space Weather Support to Manned Spaceflight Operations—Provider Funded to Develop Application





Space Weather Support to Manned Spaceflight Operations—User Developed Application



NOAA Space Environment Center (SEC)
Boulder, CO



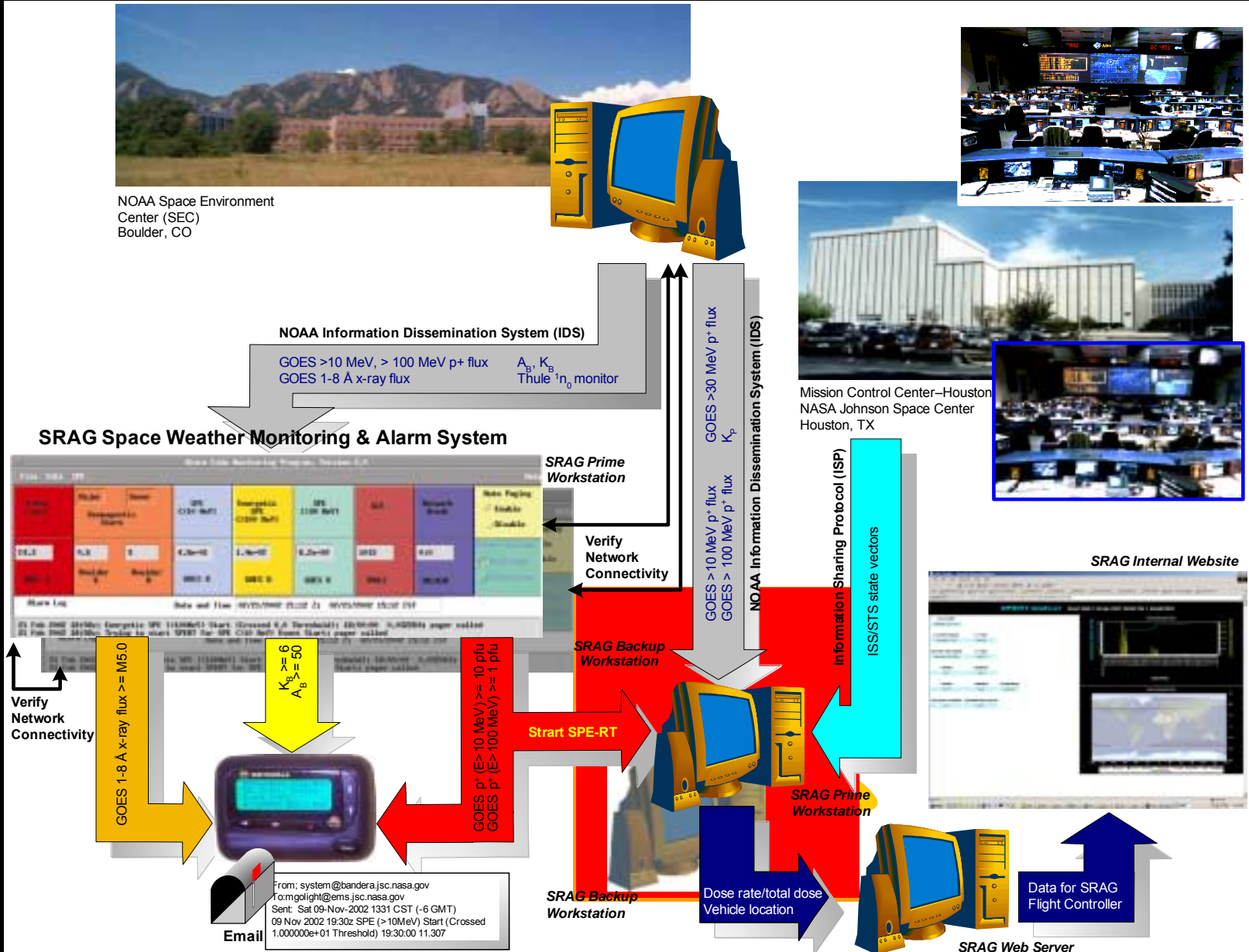
Mission Control Center—Houston
NASA Johnson Space Center
Houston, TX



SRAG Internal Website

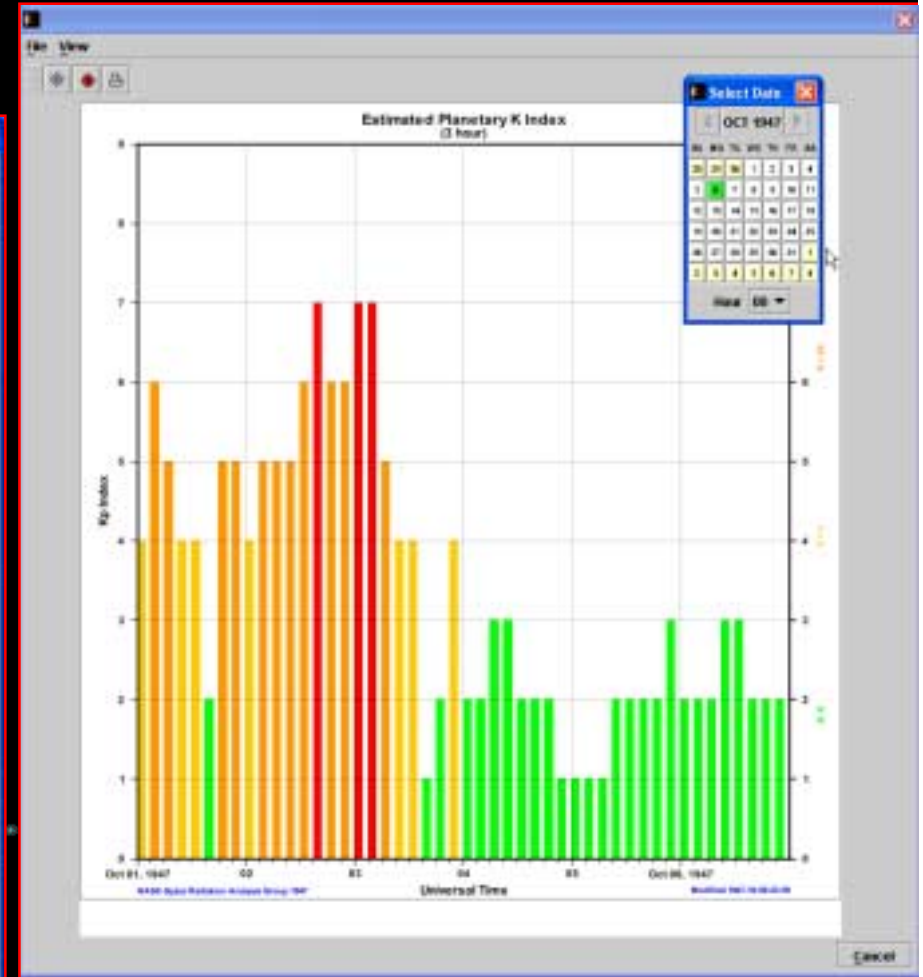
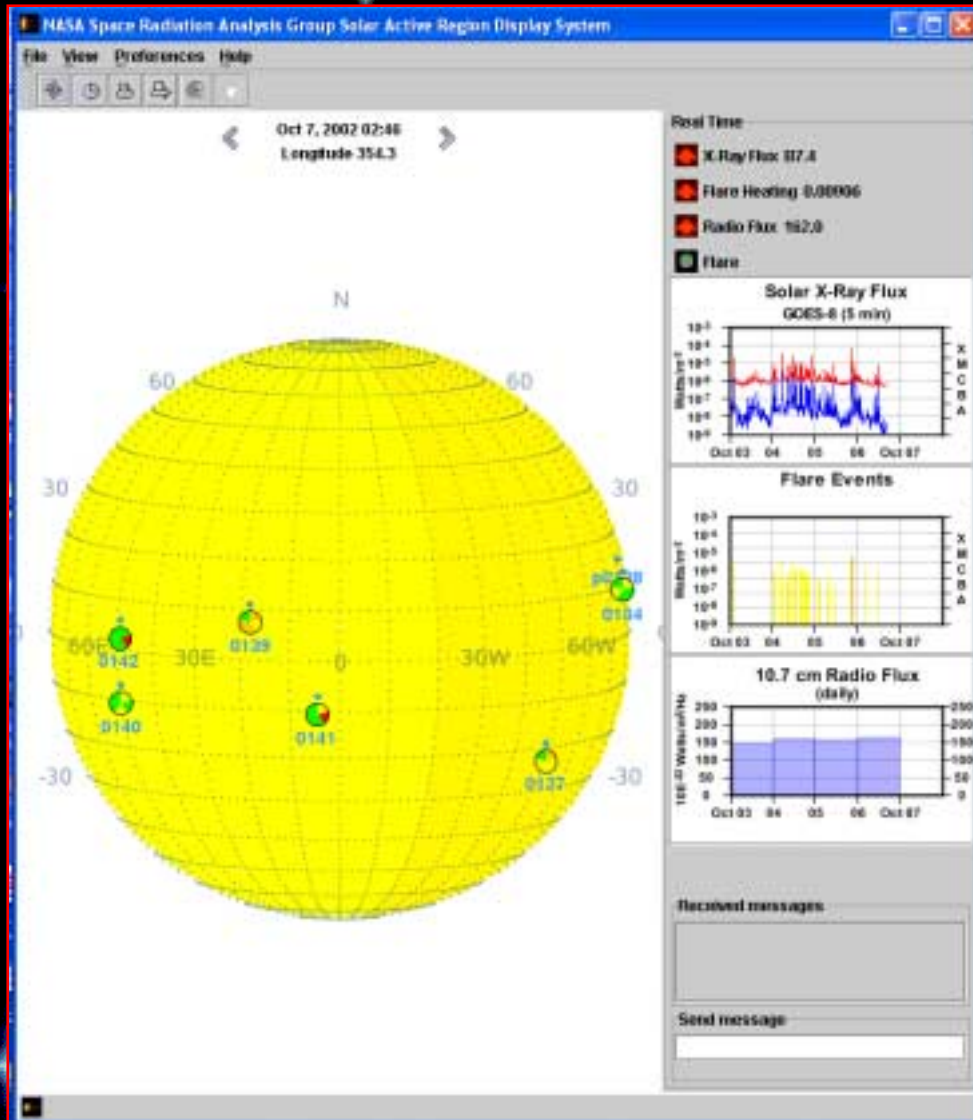


SRAG Web Server





Space Weather Support to Manned Spaceflight Operations—Third Party Developed Application

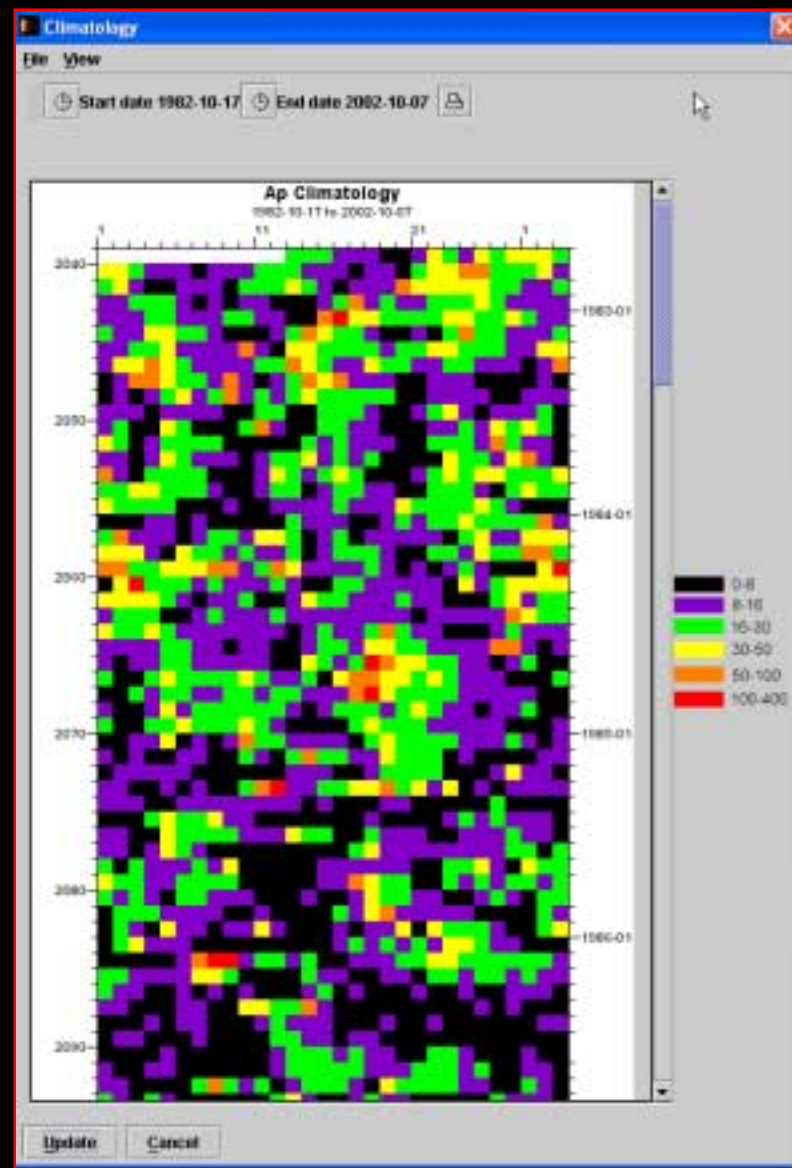
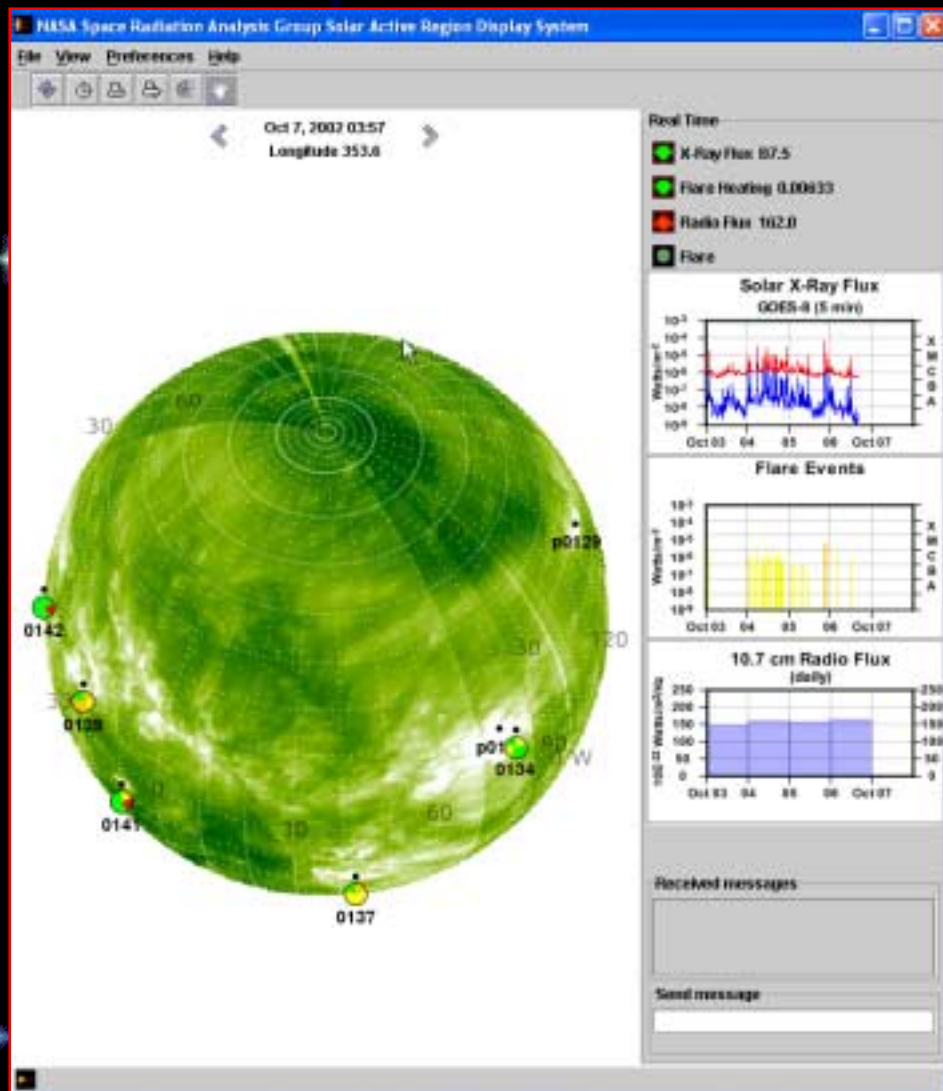


Solar Active Region Display System (SARDS) by *Raben Systems, Inc.*



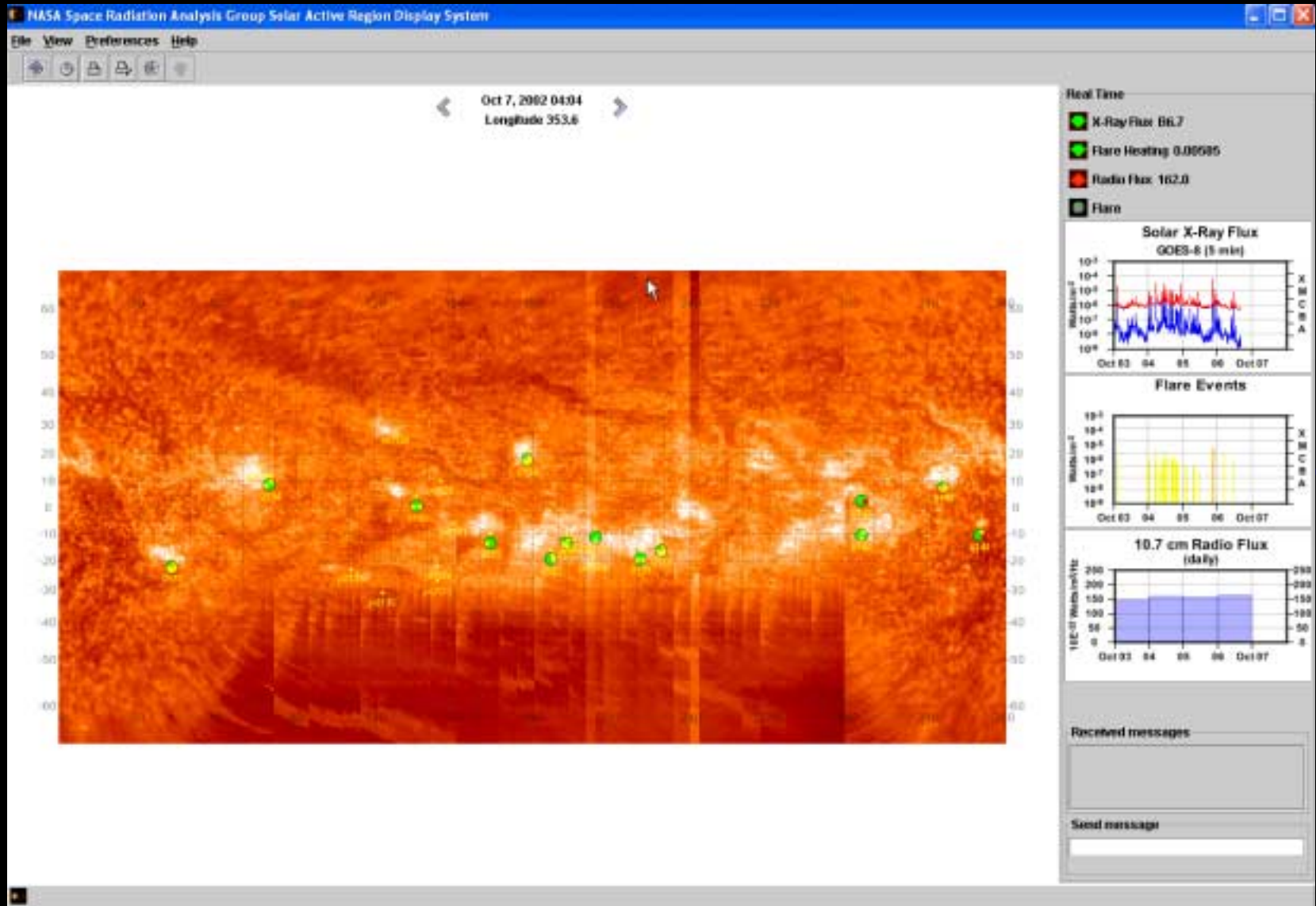
Space Weather Support to Manned Spaceflight Operations—Third Party Developed Application

Solar Active Region Display System (SARDS) by *Raben Systems, Inc.*





Space Weather Support to Manned Spaceflight Operations—Third Party Developed Application



Solar Active Region Display System (SARDS) by *Raben Systems, Inc.*



SRAG in Space Weather Support “Wonderland”

“Wonderland” Data Providers

- Data available in (near) real-time
- Data reliably available on a fixed schedule
- Preferably redundant data access methods
- Data quality control
 - Bad and/or missing data flagged
- Data accessible autonomously by computer systems
- Data access method supports firewalls



SRAG in Space Weather Support “Wonderland”

“Wonderland” Space Weather Model Providers

- Models are relatively evolutionarily stable
 - Do not want to frequently update/revise software or system integration
- Models can be successfully run with available operational space weather data
 - e.g., (near) real-time data available from NOAA Space Environment Center
- Model architecture must be robust
 - Handle missing/corrupted data
 - Validate input parameters
 - Return intelligible error codes/messages
- Model output includes uncertainty & confidence interval
- Model can’t require a supercomputer to run, yet!



SRAG in Space Weather Support “Wonderland”

“Wonderland” Space Weather Model Providers (*cont.*)

- Model runs fast enough on typical “high-end” PC or workstation to keep pace with operational needs
 - “Operational need” time scales range from once per minute to once every few months
- Modularized software architecture/design for easy updating
 - Include version control at the module level
- Software available as source code and/or libraries with well-defined interface
 - Need to be able to integrate into existing operational support systems
 - Need to be able to add a GUI (if one not provided with system)
- Software is preferably platform independent



SRAG in Space Weather Support “Wonderland”

“Wonderland” Space Weather Model Providers (*cont.*)

- Did we mention comment statements and documentation?
and
- Shouldn't have to be the world's expert to run

