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Spacecraft Radiation Shielding by a Dispersed Array of Superconducting Magnets

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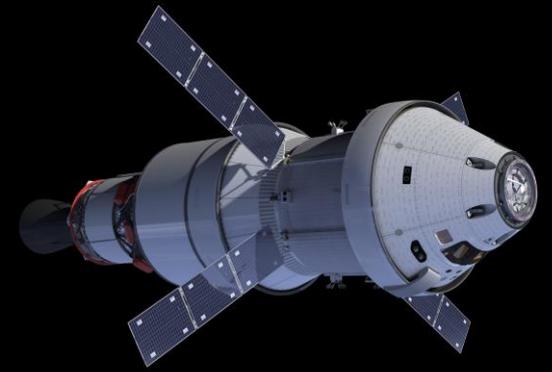
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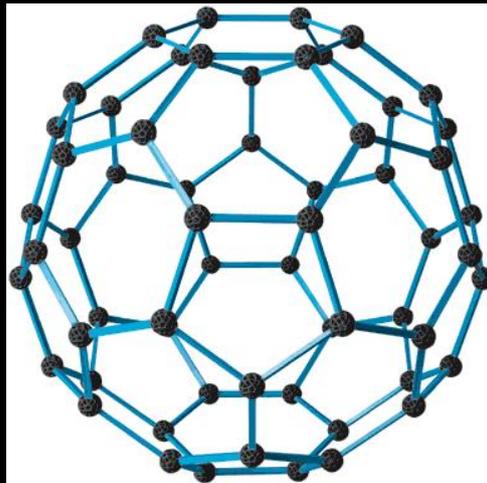
Spacecraft Radiation Shielding by a Dispersed Array of Superconducting Magnets

D. L. Chesny^{1,2,3}, S. T. Durrance¹, G. A. Levin¹, N. Brice Orange³

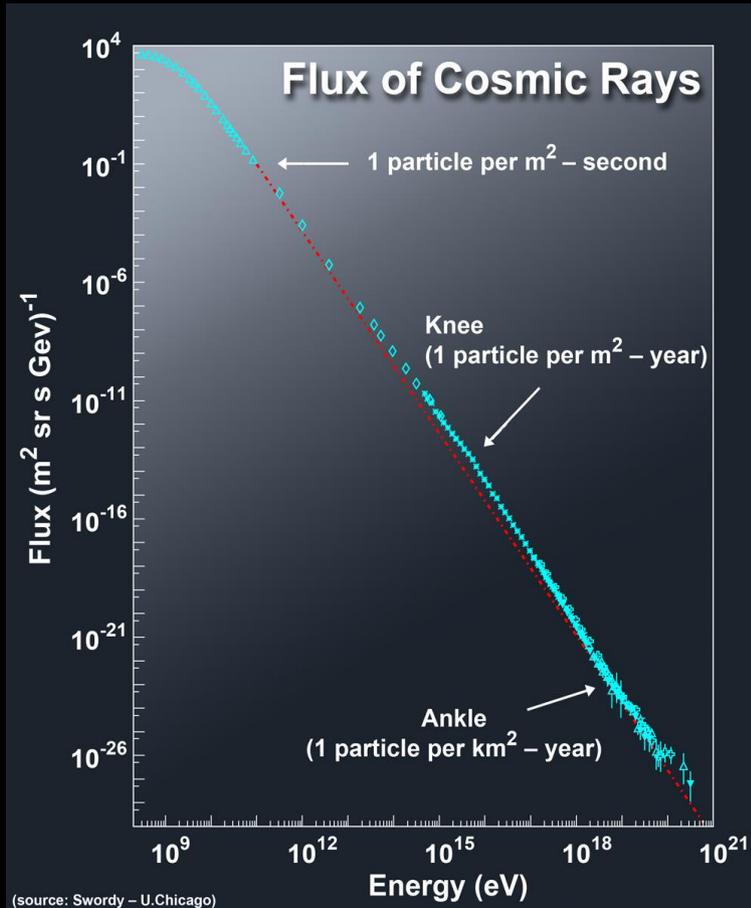
¹*Florida Institute of Technology*

²*National Space Biomedical Research Institute*

³*OrangeWave Innovative Science, LLC*

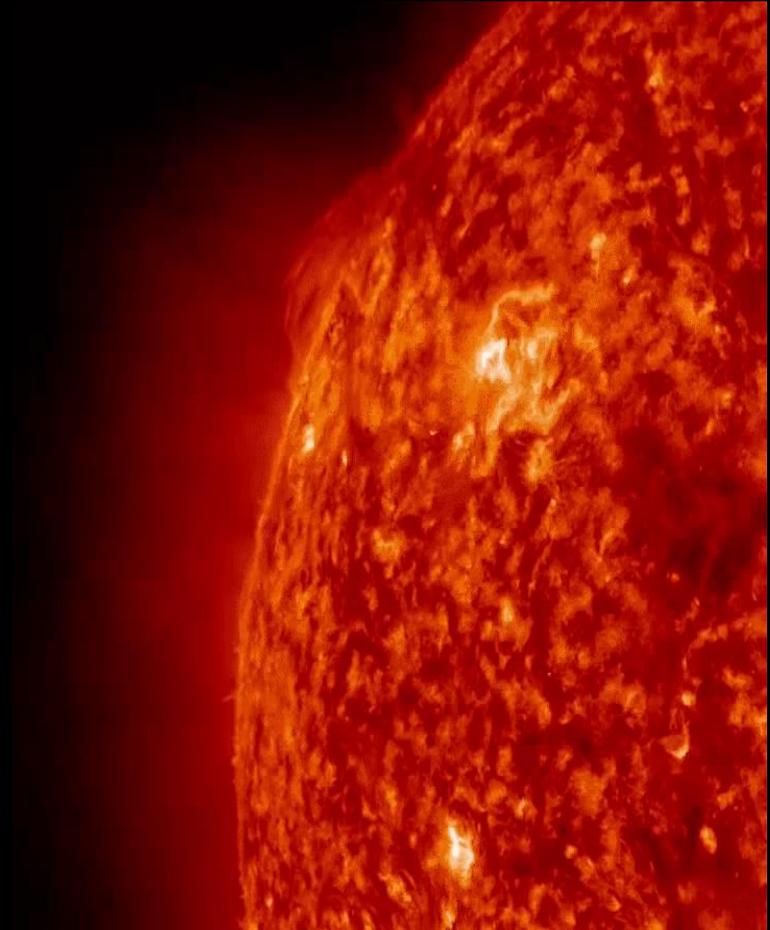


Interplanetary Radiation Environment



Galactic Cosmic Rays (GCRs)

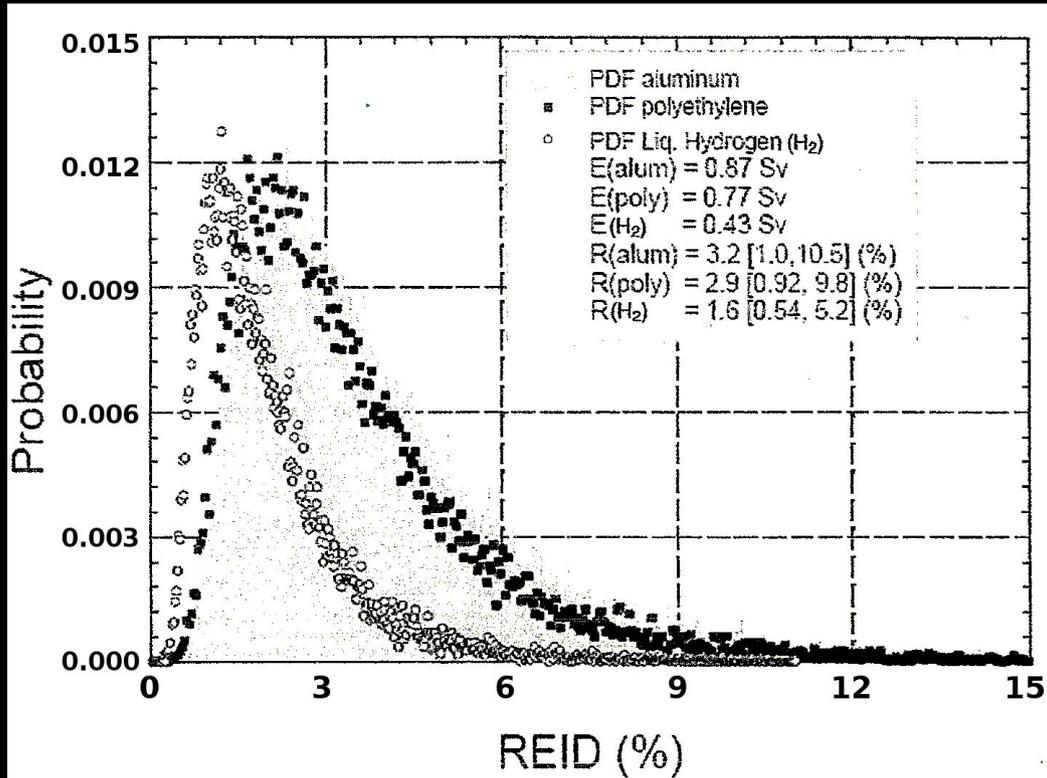
Isotropic
1—1000 GeV particles
protons, H, He, C, O, Ne, Fe
 $Z = 1, 2, 6, 8, 10, 26$



Solar Particle Events (SPEs)

Uni-directional
1—1000 MeV particles
protons, H, He, C, Si, Fe
 $Z = 1, 2, 6, 14, 26$

Radiation Threat



Radiation Exposure Induced Death (REID)

NASA Standard of **<3%** increase (95% confidence)

Mean REID = 3.2%

95% Confidence Level = 10.5%

REID Probability = 10.5%

Equivalent Dose (Sv)

$$H_T = \sum_R W_R \cdot D_{T,R}$$

Radiation (R)
Weighing
Factor

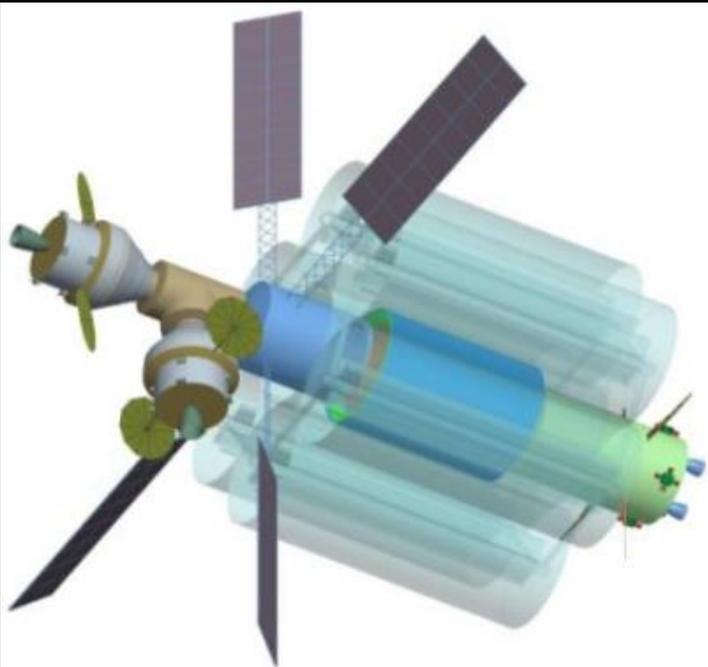
protons $W_R = 2$
heavy nuclei $W_R = 20$

**Absorbed Dose in Tissue (T)
by Radiation (R)**

Measured in Gray (Gy)

1 Gy is the absorption of 1 J/kg

Previously Proposed Safeguards



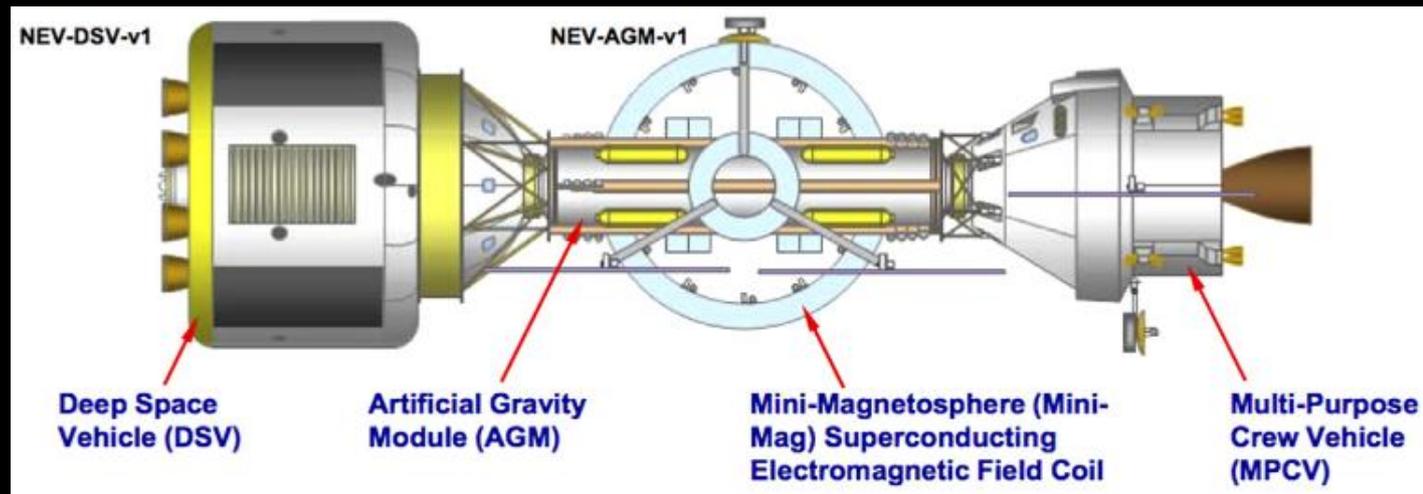
Superconducting magnets attached directly to spacecraft

Shielding efficiencies: 90% for 1 GeV
57% for 2 GeV

Drawbacks

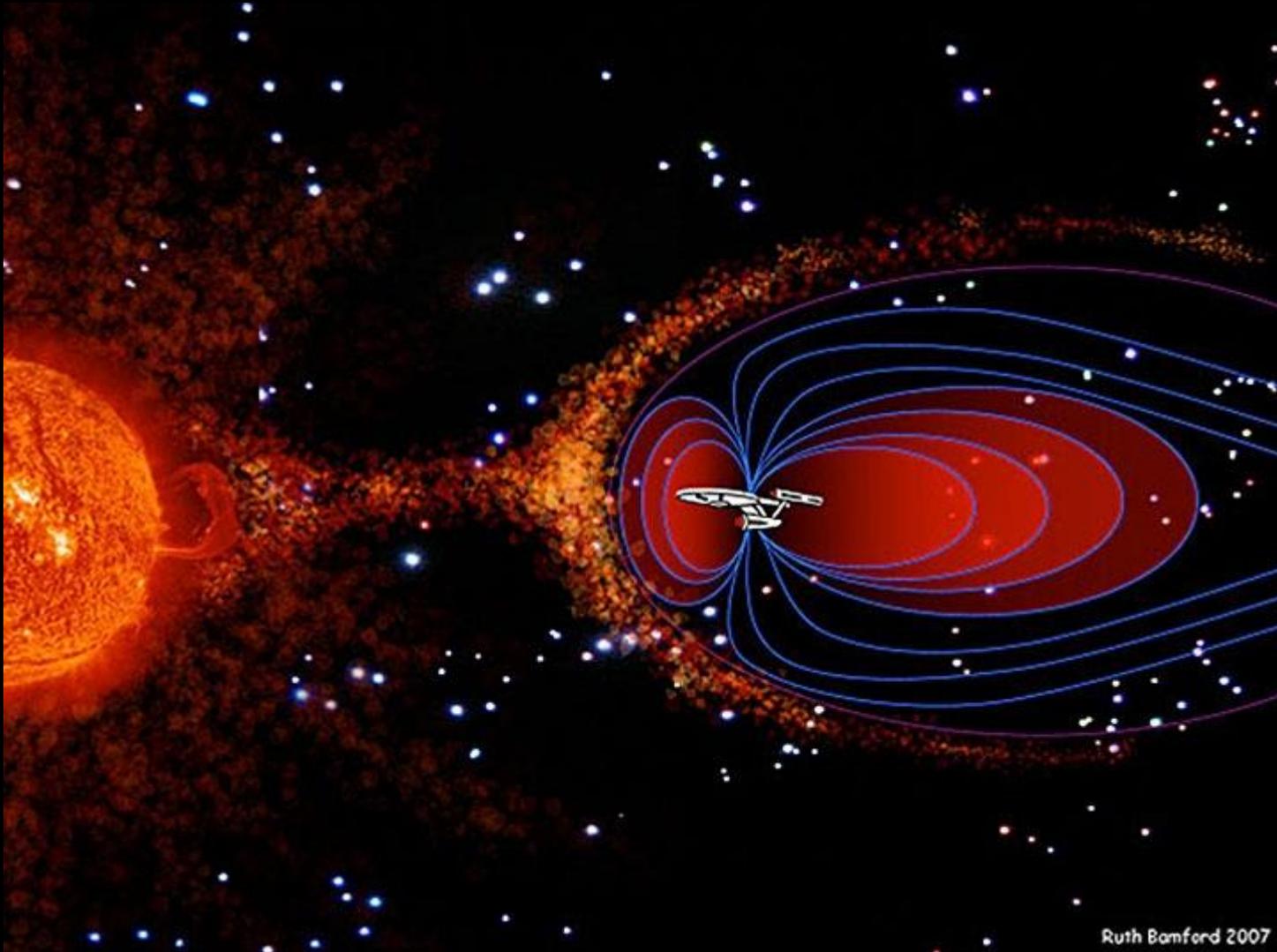
- Screen interior from field
- Thermal management
- Hinders EVAs
- Re-designing Orion

Kervendal, E., Kirk, D., Meinke, R. (2006)



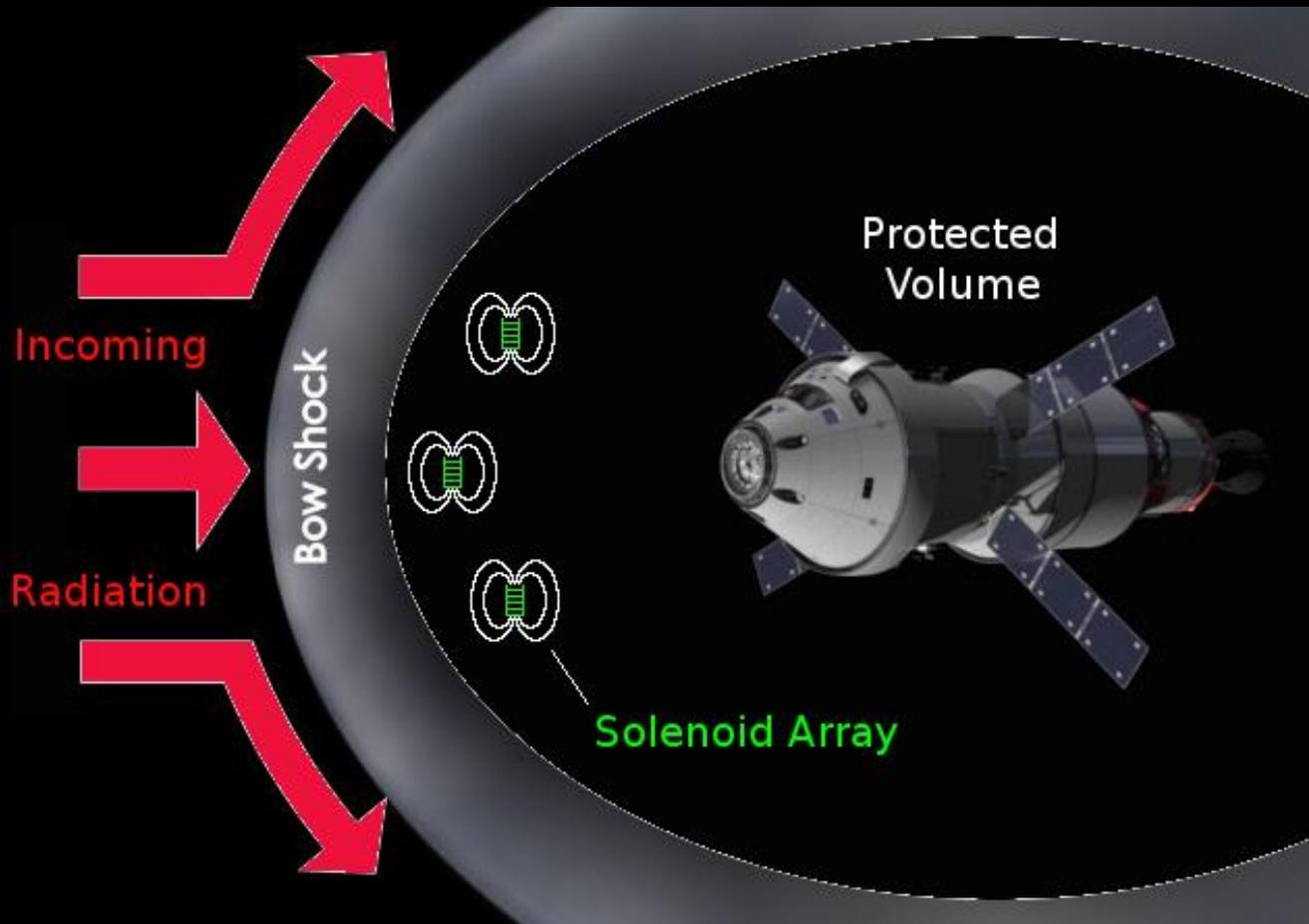
Bamford, R. A., et al. (2014)

Magnetic Shielding



New Concept

Dispersed Array of Superconducting Magnetic Satellites



Exploit the
Integral Field
Parameter

$$\int \vec{B} \times d\vec{l}$$

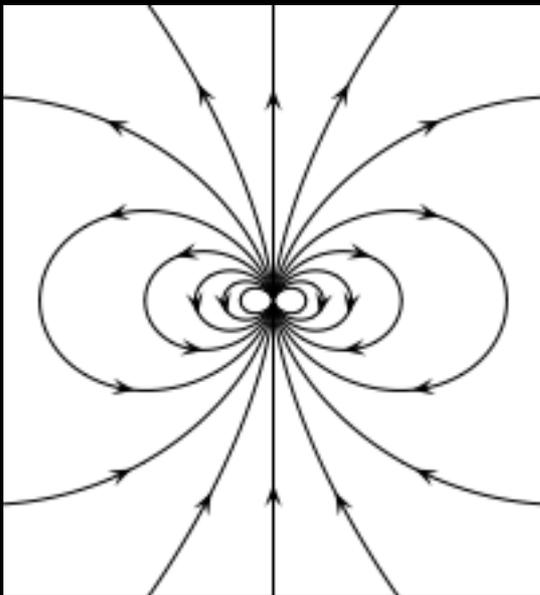
Small vs large
deflections

Code Formulation

Magnetic Dipole

$$\vec{B}_{dipole} = \frac{\mu_0}{4\pi} \left(\frac{3\vec{r}(\vec{r} \cdot \vec{m})}{|\vec{r}|^5} - \frac{\vec{m}}{|\vec{r}|^3} \right)$$

Throw away regions of divergence



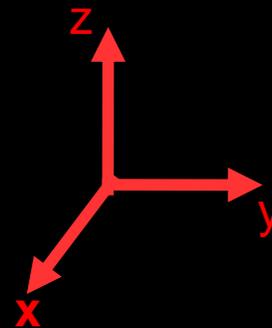
Translation, Rotation, and Superposition

Equation of Motion

$$\frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} = \frac{300}{E_n[\text{MeV}]} \frac{Z}{A} (\vec{u} \times \vec{B}[T])$$

$$u[n+1] = u[n] + a \cdot dt$$

$$r[n+1] = r[n] + u[n+1] \cdot dt$$



Plane of Solar System

y towards spacecraft

Effective Shields

Momentum “Maps”

Limit for small deflections

$$\Delta \vec{p} \left[\frac{\text{MeV}}{c} \right] = \frac{300Z}{A} \int \vec{B} \times d\vec{l}$$

$$\Delta p_x = 300 \frac{Z}{A} \int (B_y dz - B_z dy)$$

$$\Delta p_y = 300 \frac{Z}{A} \int (B_z dx - B_x dz)$$

$$\Delta p_z = 300 \frac{Z}{A} \int (B_x dy - B_y dx)$$

For +y velocity charged particles in a magnetic field

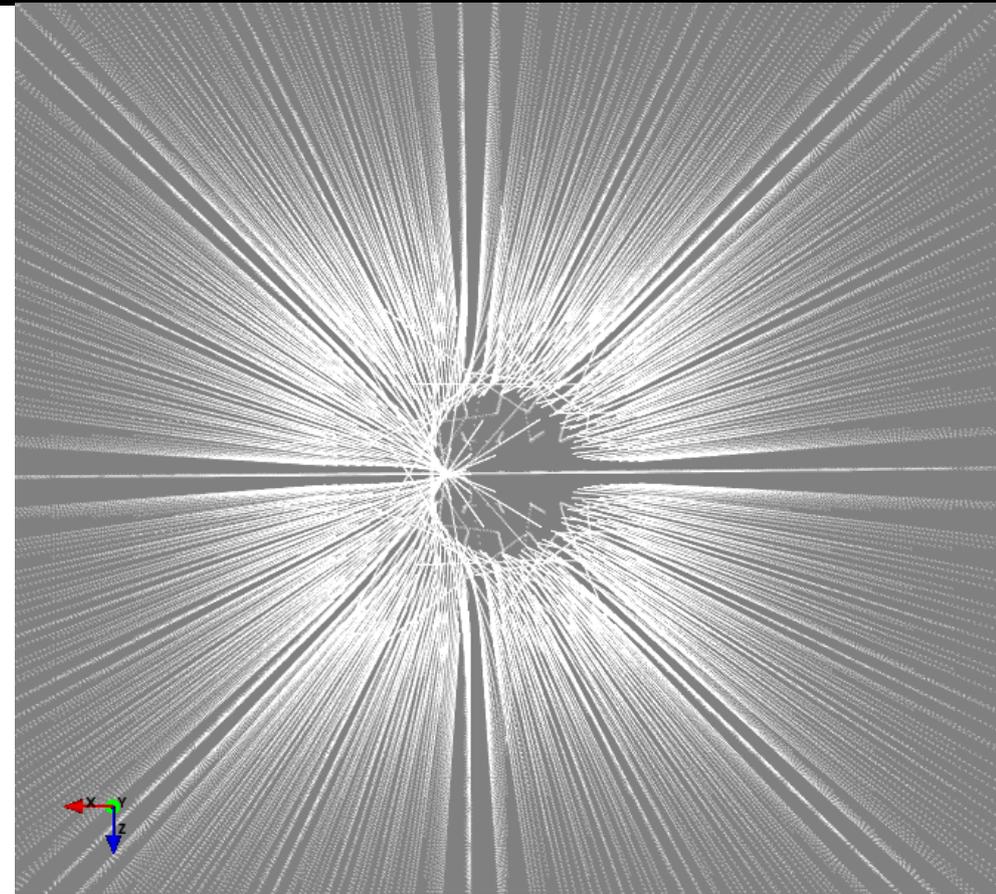
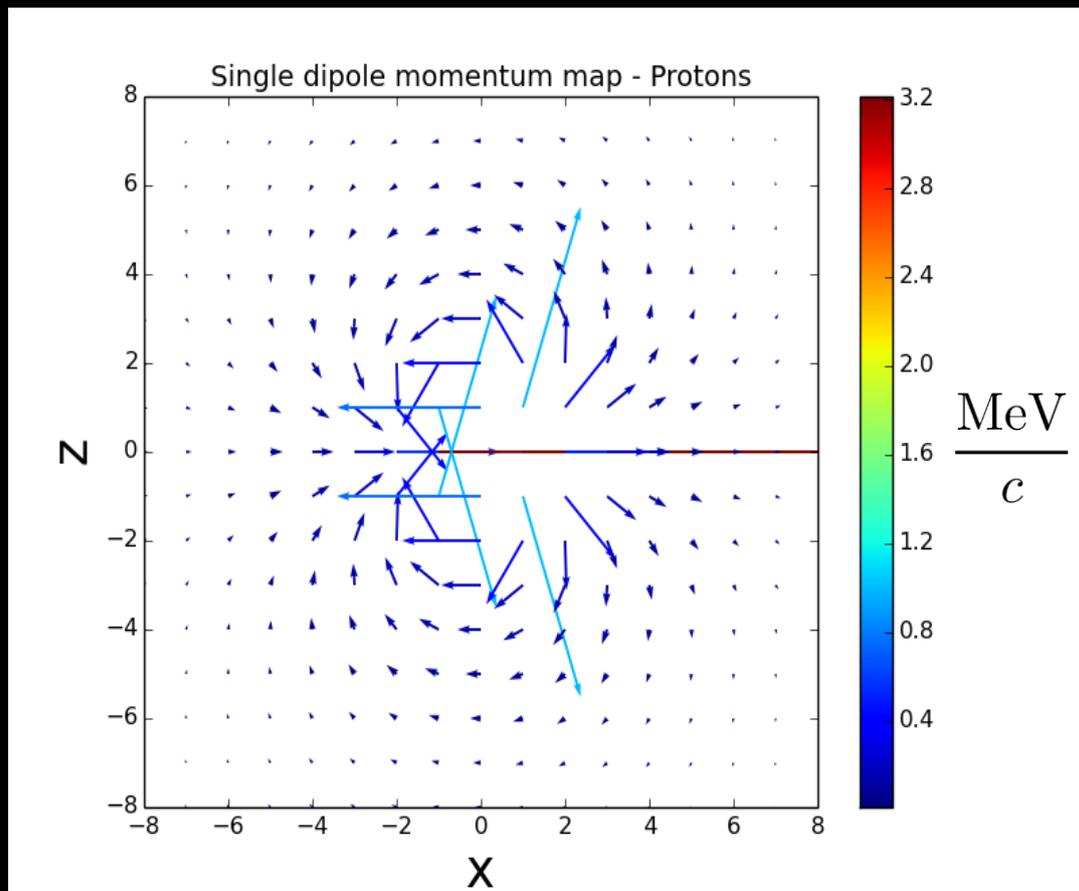
$$\Delta p_x = -300 \frac{Z}{A} \int B_z dy$$

$$\Delta p_z = 300 \frac{Z}{A} \int B_x dy$$

How do different magnetic dipole configurations affect particle momenta?

Momentum Map

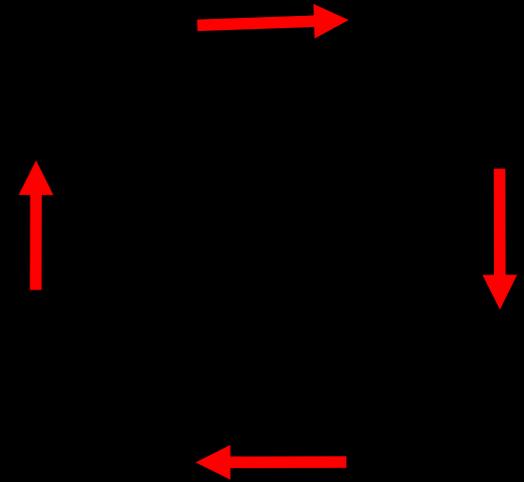
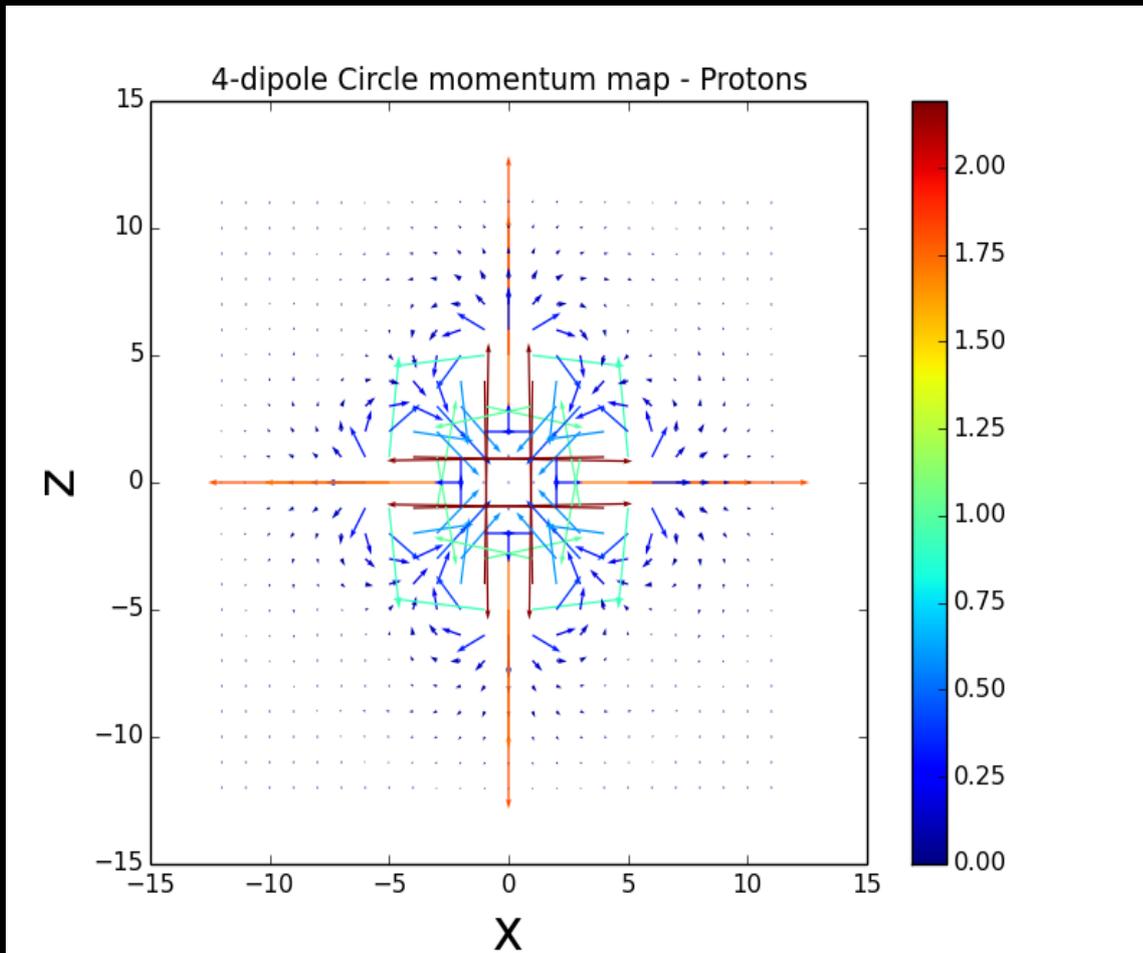
Single Dipole



$$E_n = 1 \text{ MeV}$$
$$m = \pi \times 10^4 \text{ A m}^2$$

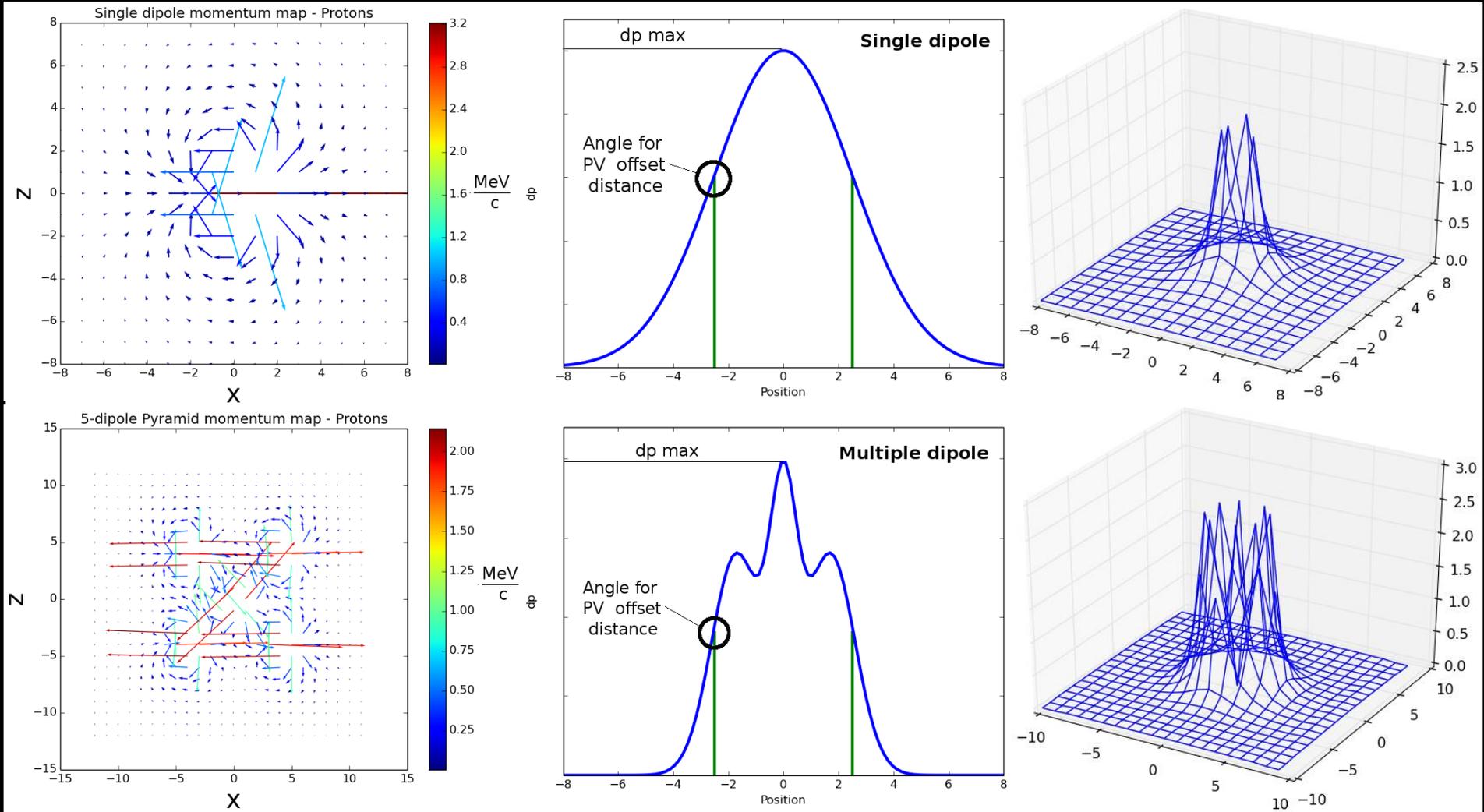
Momentum Map

4-dipole circle



Shield Optimization

2D Gaussian fits



Superconducting Magnets

For $m = \pi \times 10^4 \text{ Am}^2$ (20 cm radius loop) – 5.6 kg

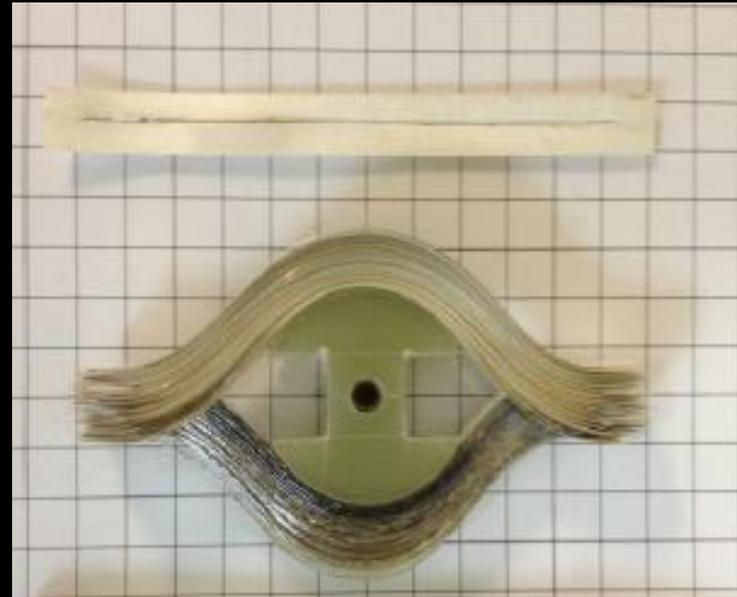
High-temperature superconducting wires (YBCO coated conductors)

Critical temperature 90 K - operating temperature 40-50 K, maintained using sunshield, similar to JWST, or “Solar White” coating

Magnets operate in persistent mode.



A closed loop made out of coated conductor.



An assembly of 100 loops.

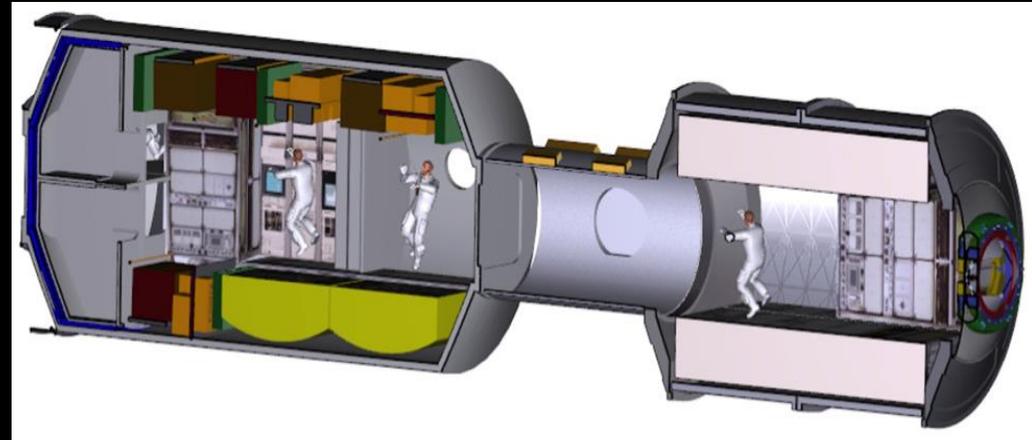
Protected Volumes

Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle



Sphere of 5 m diameter

Deep-Space Habitat



Cylinder of 5 m diameter and 15 m length

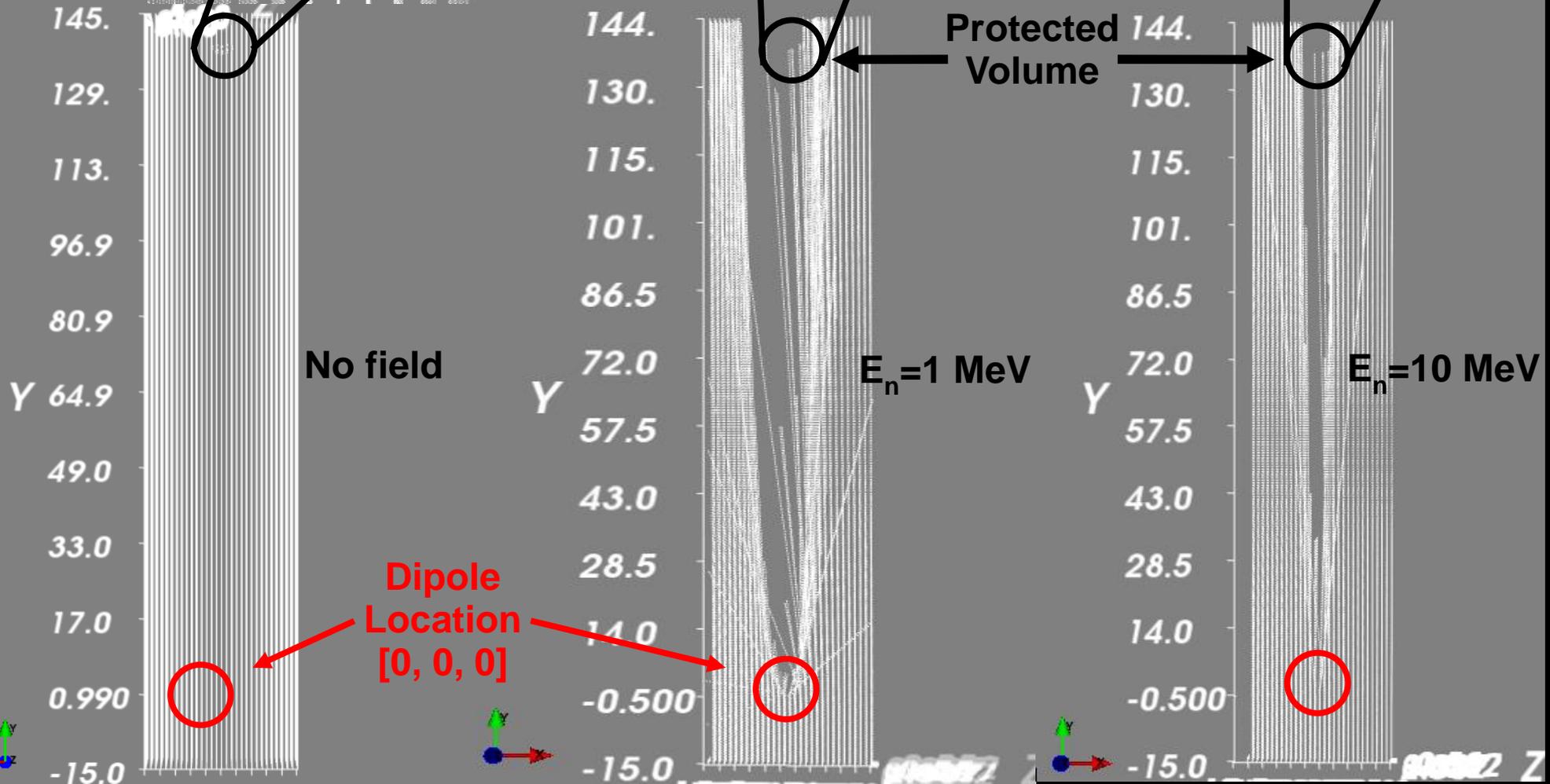
Simulation – Single Dipole ($m=\pi \times 10^4 \text{ Am}^2$)

Orion
Capsule

21 hits

6 hits

8 hits



$$\% \text{ Reduction} = \frac{\text{No field hits} - \# \text{ hits}}{\text{No field hits}}$$

1x resolution (21 hits)

Velocity Errors: 1.000 ± 0.006 , 1.000 ± 0.005 , 1.001 ± 0.02

E_n (MeV)	1	10	30	60	100	150	200	1000
$\pi \times 10^3 \text{ A m}^2$	61.9	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8
$\pi \times 10^4 \text{ A m}^2$	71.4	61.9	47.6	23.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8
$\pi \times 10^5 \text{ A m}^2$	85.7	71.4	61.9	66.7	61.9	52.4	61.9	4.8

2x resolution (81 no field hits)

Velocity Errors: 1.000 ± 0.003 , 1.000 ± 0.006 , 1.001 ± 0.02

E_n (MeV)	1	10	30	60	100	150	200	1000
$\pi \times 10^3 \text{ A m}^2$	60.5	14.8	7.4	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9
$\pi \times 10^4 \text{ A m}^2$	65.4	60.5	51.9	24.7	14.8	12.3	11.1	9.9
$\pi \times 10^5 \text{ A m}^2$	71.6	65.4	65.4	64.2	60.5	59.3	58.0	14.8

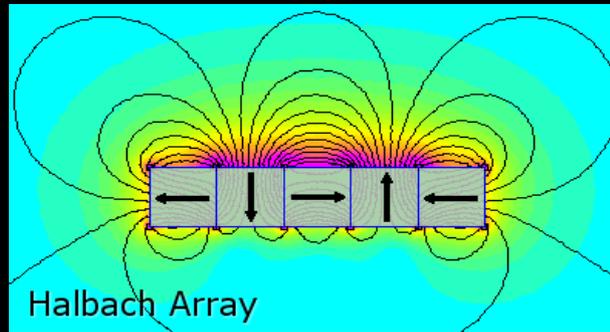
3x resolution (177 no field hits)

Velocity Errors: 1.000 ± 0.002 , 1.000 ± 0.006 , 1.001 ± 0.02

E_n (MeV)	1	10	30	60	100	150	200	1000
$\pi \times 10^3 \text{ A m}^2$	58.8	10.2	1.7	1.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
$\pi \times 10^4 \text{ A m}^2$	66.7	58.8	45.2	22.6	10.2	6.8	5.1	0.6
$\pi \times 10^5 \text{ A m}^2$	70.1	66.7	63.3	62.1	58.8	55.4	51.4	10.2

Simulation – Halbach Array

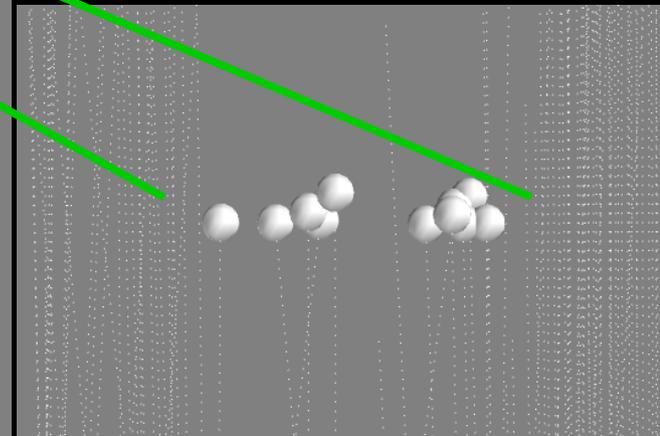
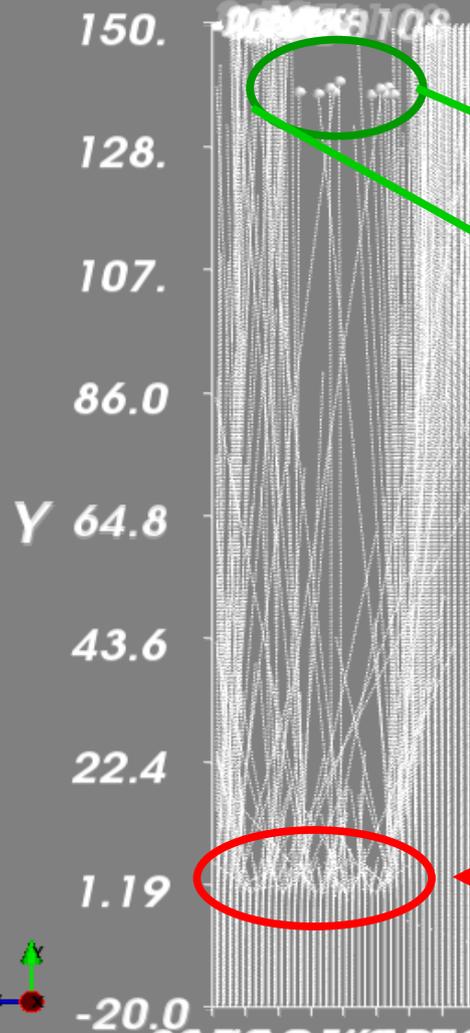
Deep Space
Habitat



← Increased B energy

← Decreased B energy

$E_n = 10 \text{ MeV}$



← Halbach 5-dipole location

Simulation Results – Halbach Array

$$\% \text{ Reduction} = \frac{\text{No field hits} - \# \text{hits}}{\text{No field hits}}$$

1x resolution (75 hits)

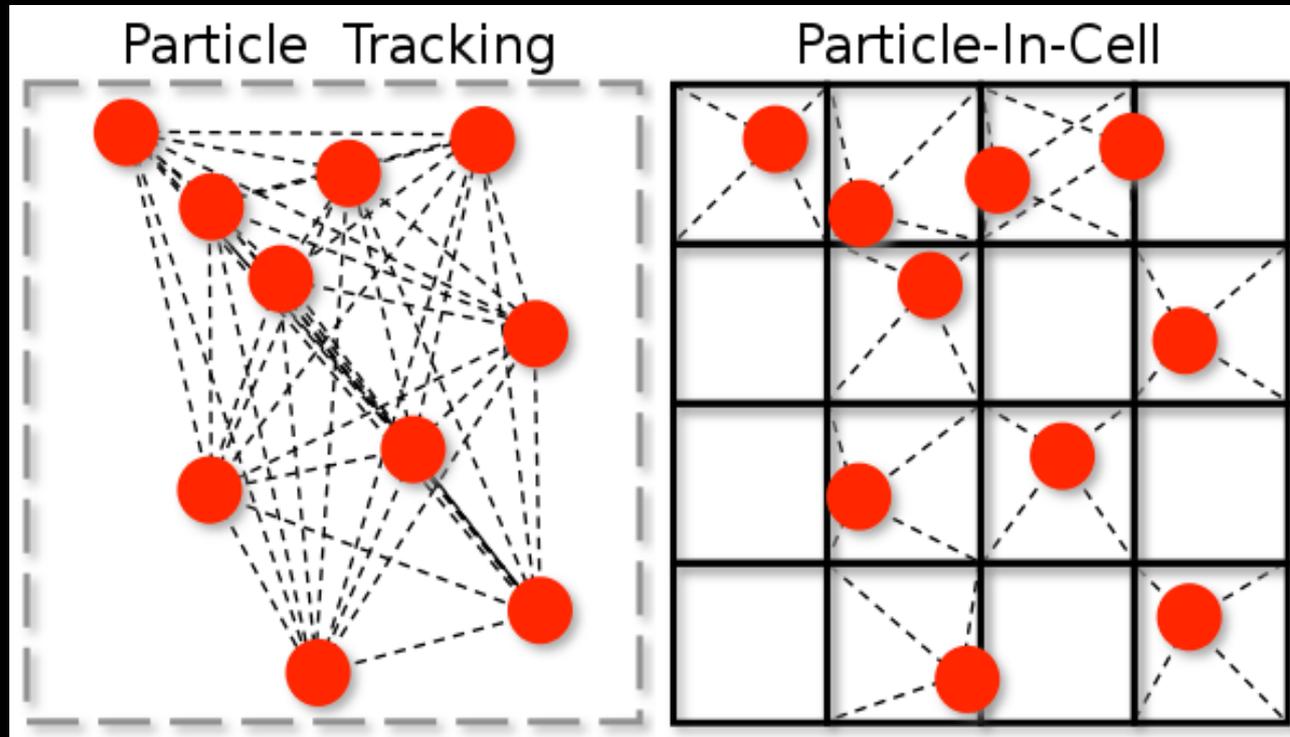
E_n (MeV)	1	10	30	60	100	150	200	1000
$\pi \times 10^3 \text{ A m}^2$	64.0	5.3	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
$\pi \times 10^4 \text{ A m}^2$	85.3	64.0	34.7	17.3	5.3	4.0	4.0	4.0
$\pi \times 10^5 \text{ A m}^2$	94.6	85.3	77.3	66.7	64.0	50.7	46.7	5.3

Velocity Errors: 1.002 ± 0.020 , 1.013 ± 0.032 ,
 1.052 ± 0.078

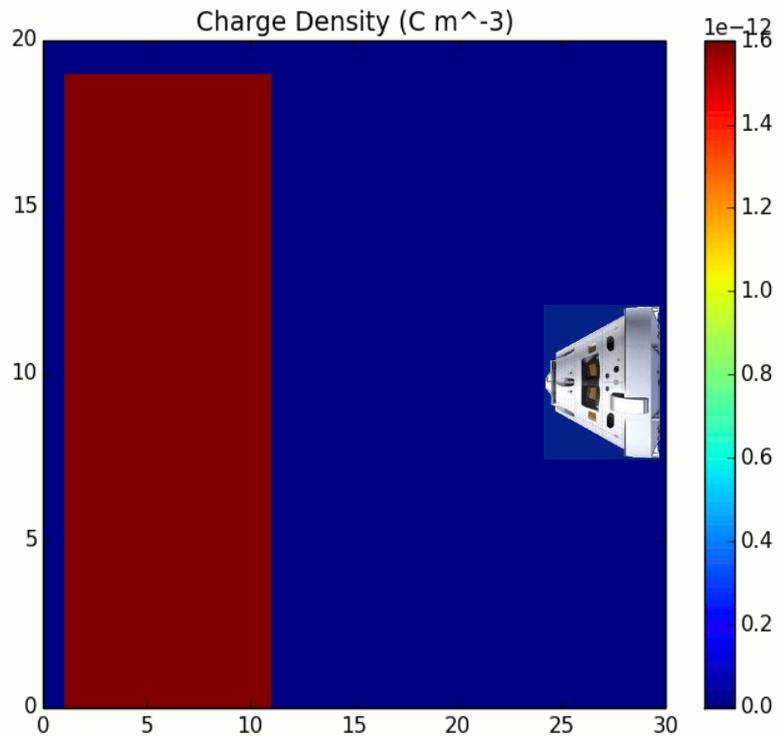
Robust Simulations

Plasma – an electrically neutral collection of a large number of positively and negatively charged particles

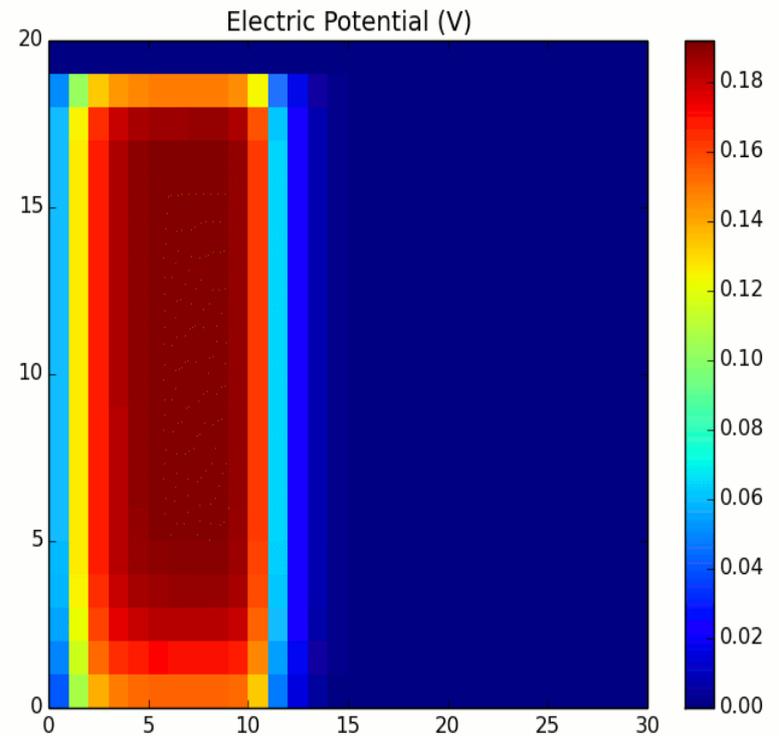
For accurate description of shields, we must account for BOTH
ions and electrons



Particle-in-cell Method



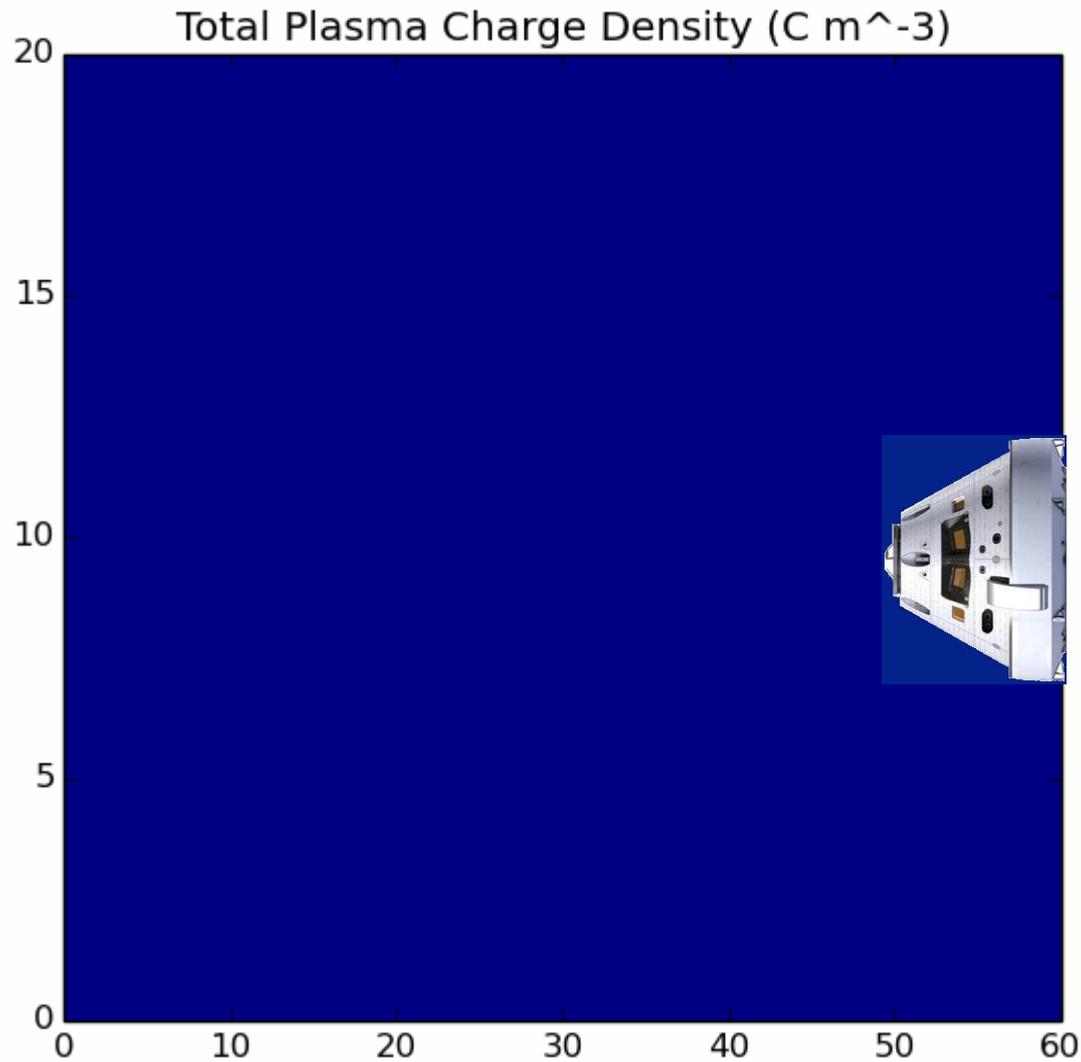
Ion charge density (C m⁻³)



Ion electric potential (V)

$$\vec{F} = q(\vec{E} + \vec{v} \times \vec{B})$$

Particle-in-cell Method



From Idea to Mission

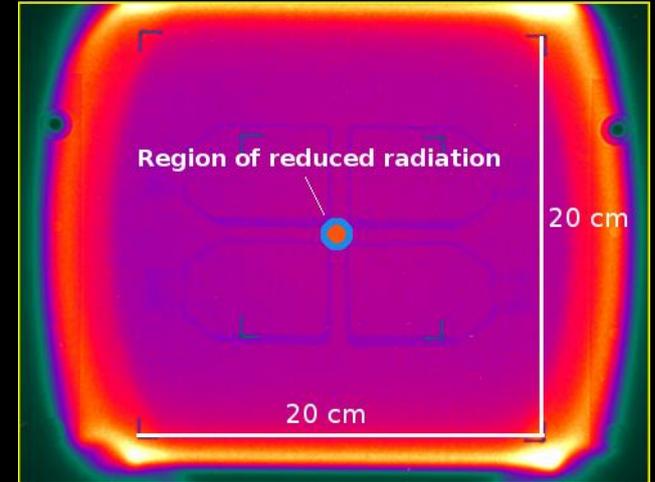
Increase **Technology Readiness Level (TRL)**

- Superconductors in Space
- Technology Demonstration
- On-board Control in Deep-space

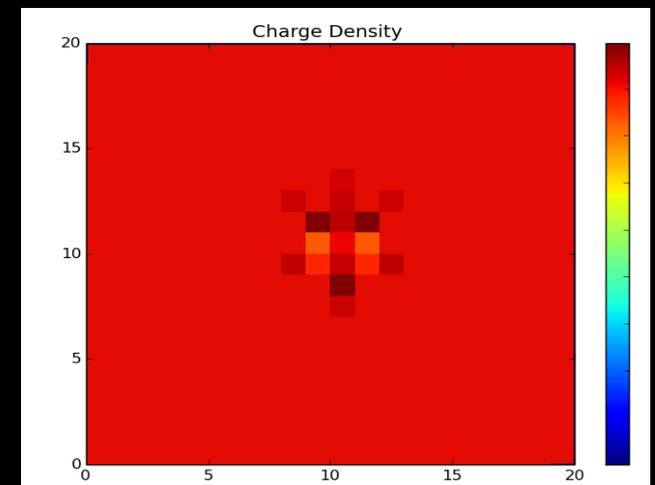
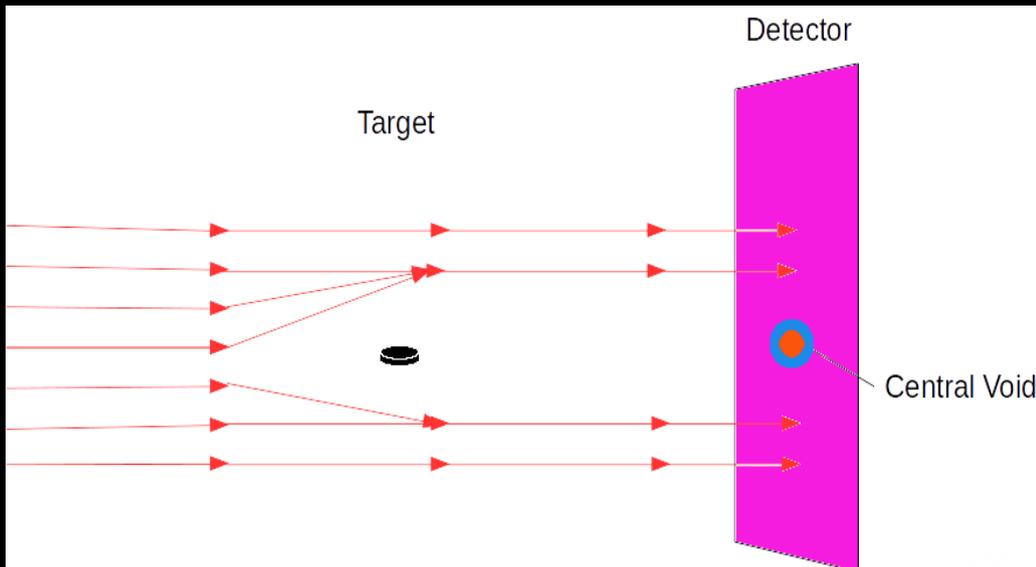
Increase TRL



NASA Space Radiation Laboratory

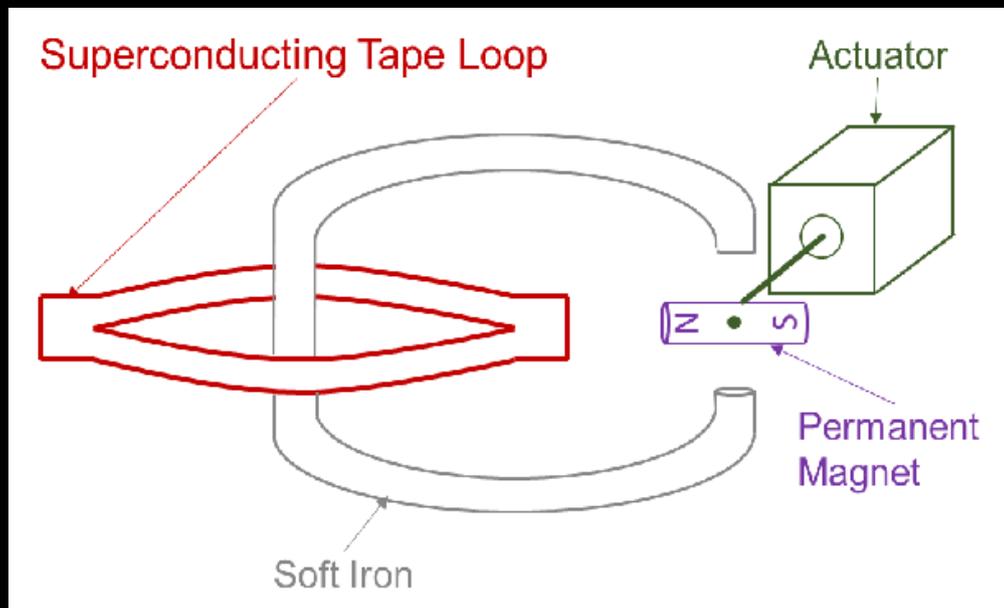
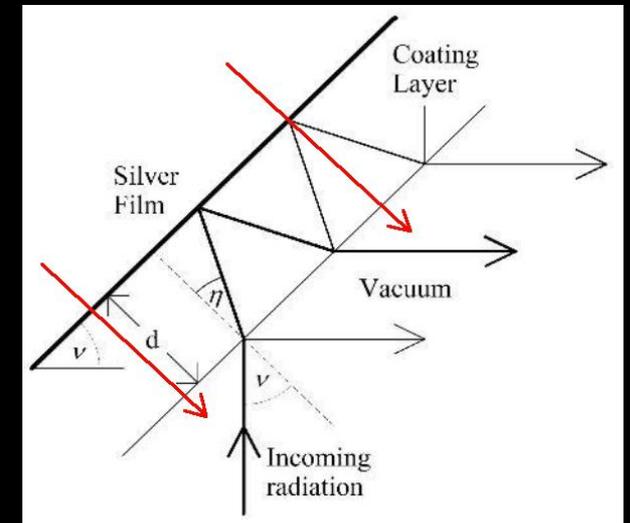
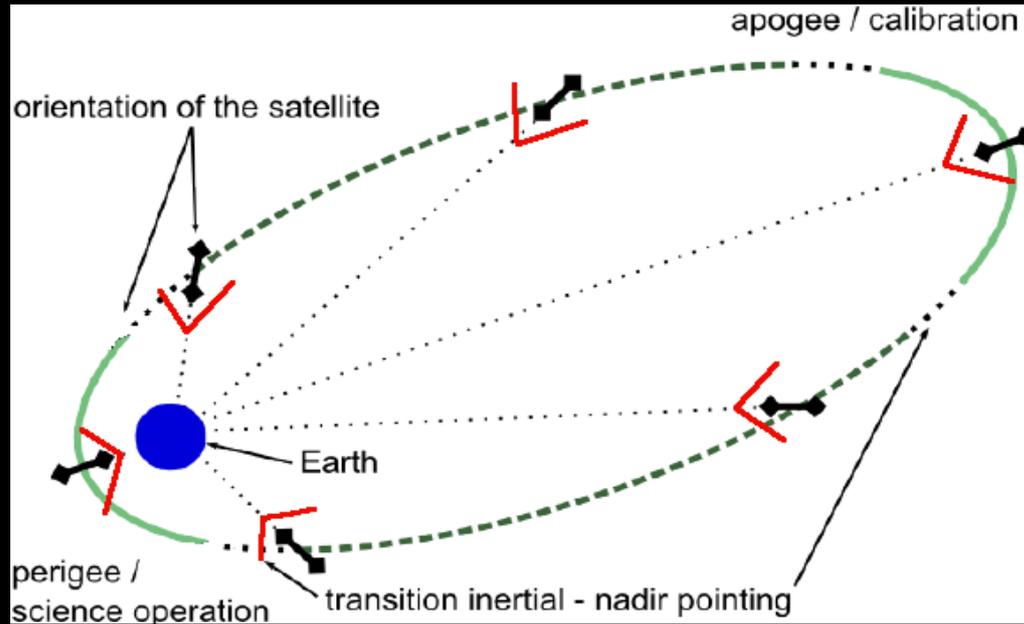


Digital Beam Imager



PIC prediction

Superconductors in Space



Cryogenic Select Surfaces

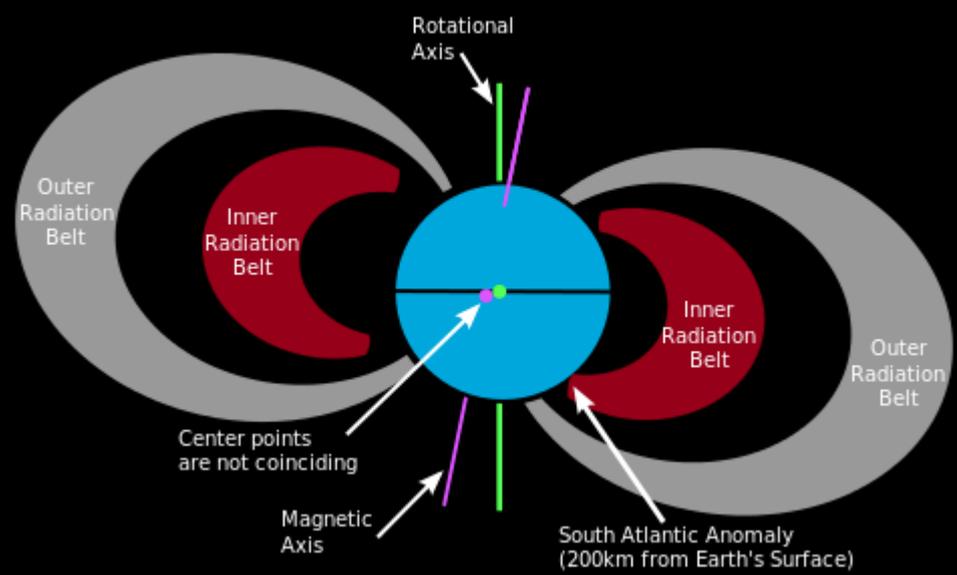
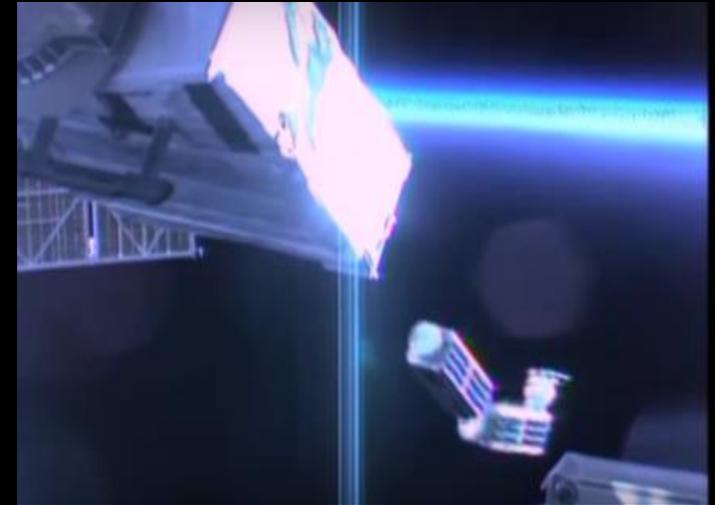
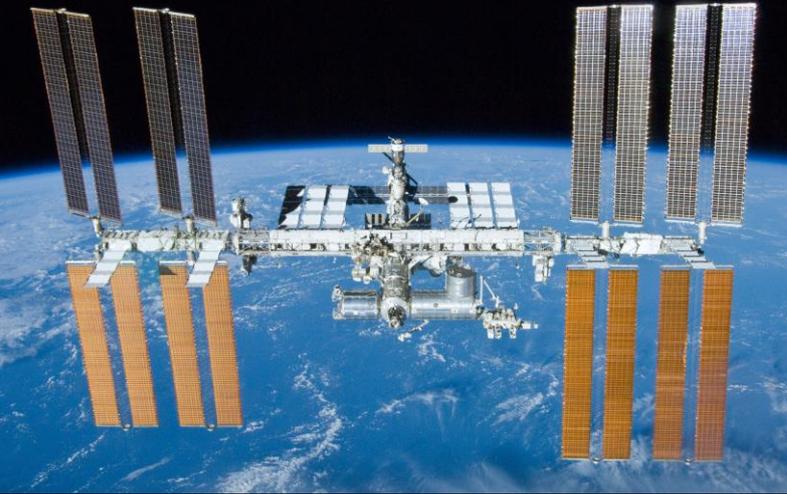
Reflects 99.9% solar irradiance

Transmits long infrared radiation from interior

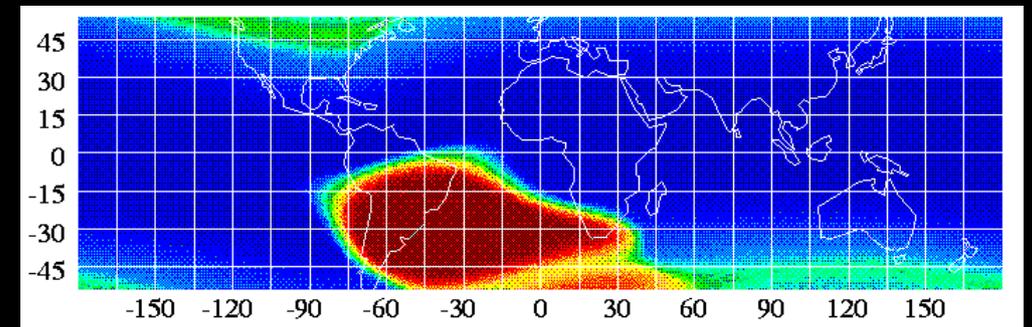
Result: Cryogenic temperatures below 50K

Technology Demonstration

Nanoracks CubeSat deployment



South Atlantic Anomaly



0.04 – 10 MeV inner Van Allen Belt particles

On-board, Deep-space Control



Heliospheric current sheet



Inputs

Solar Flare Class

Solar Origin Coordinates

Energy Spectra

Particle-in-cell Transport

Shield Optimization

Outputs

Shield Array Positions

Shield Array $\Delta\rho$

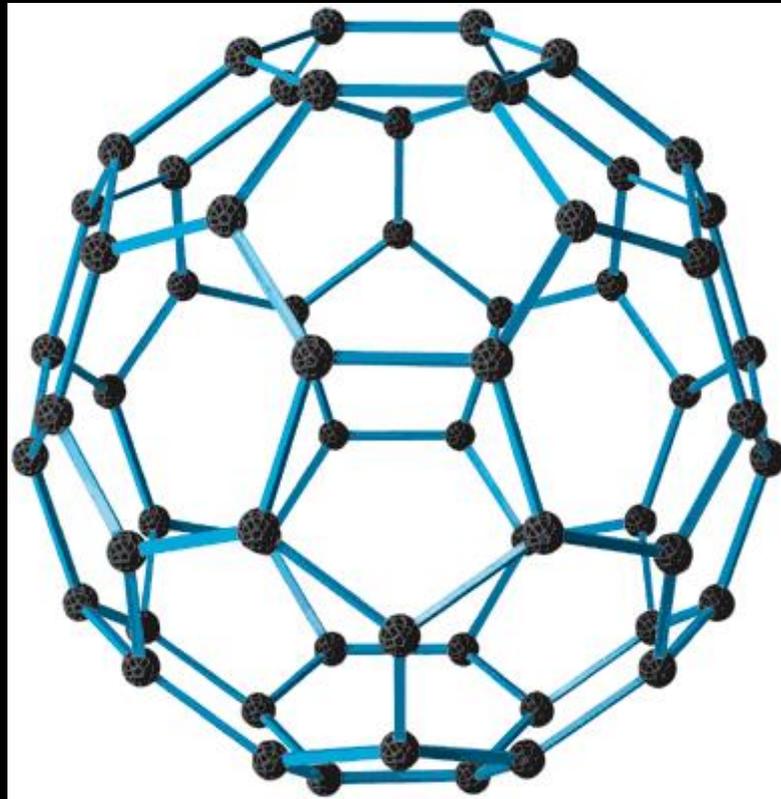
GCR Defense

For an isotropic distribution $f(\vec{r}, \vec{p})$ in a magnetic field,

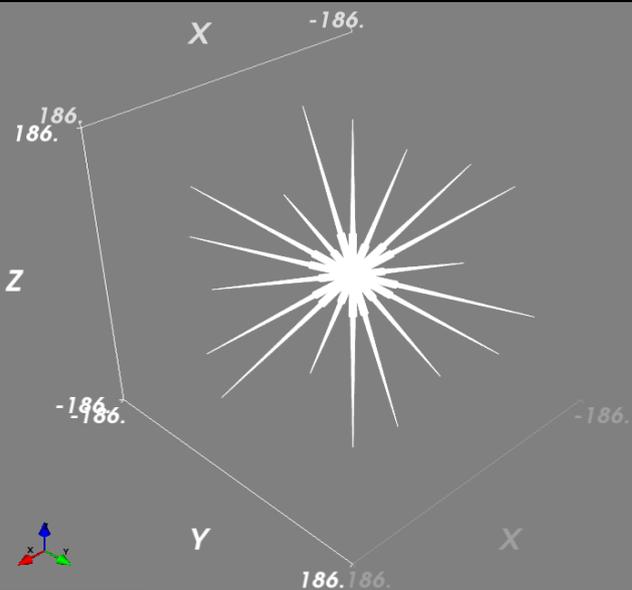
a first-order perturbation $f = f_0 + \sigma$ gives $\vec{v} \cdot \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial \vec{r}} = -(\vec{F} \cdot \vec{p}) \frac{\partial f_0}{\partial |\vec{p}|} \frac{1}{|\vec{p}|} = 0$

Evenly spherical
distribution of
dipoles

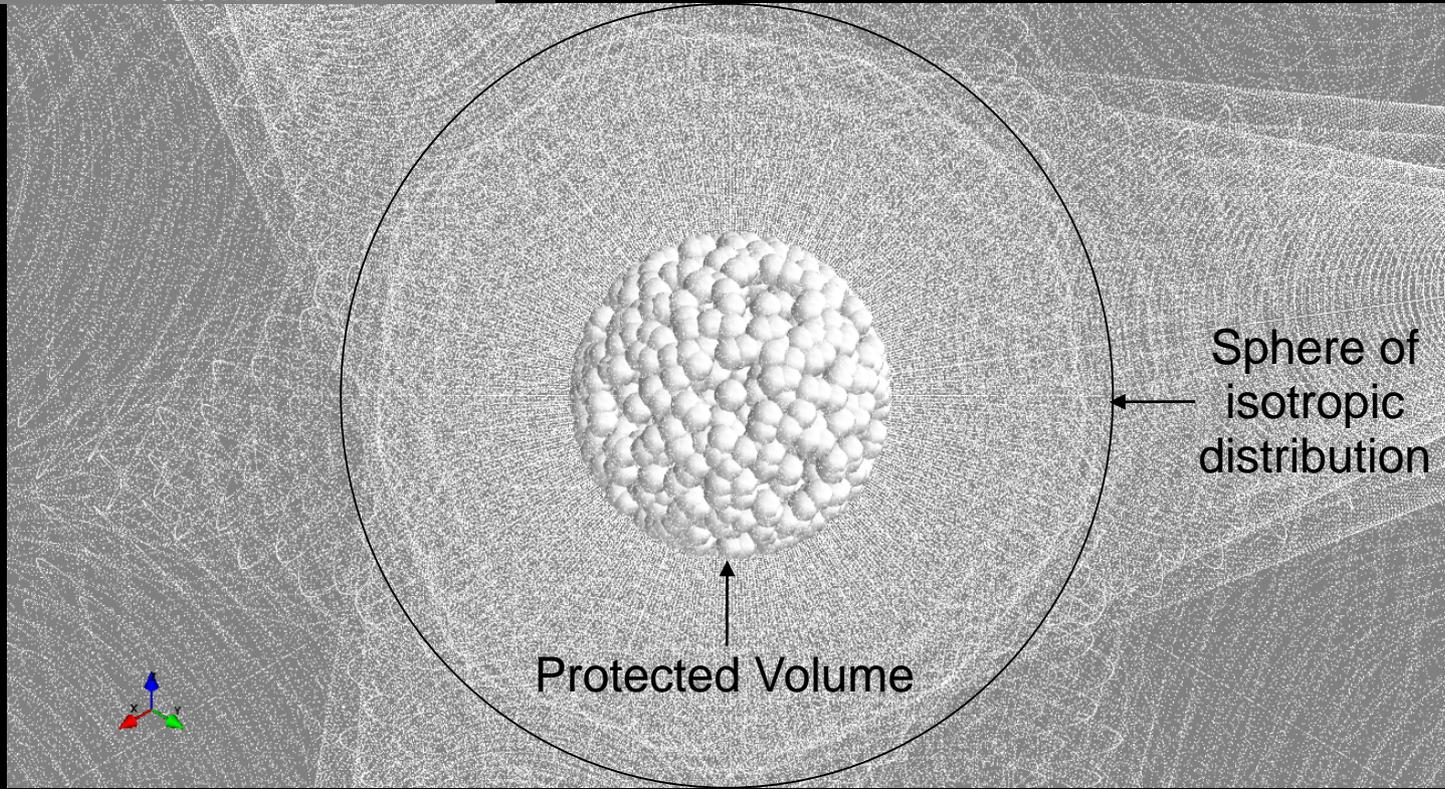
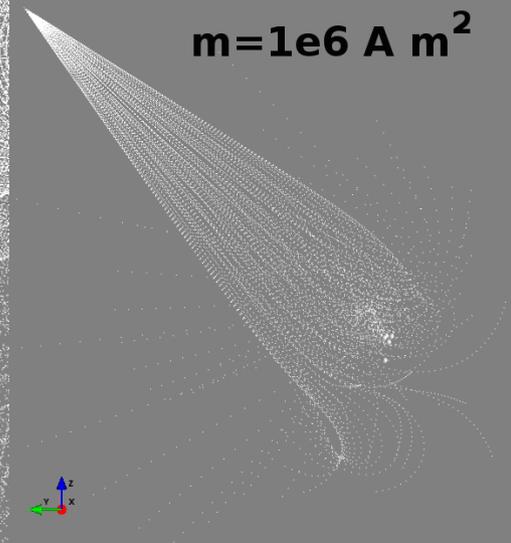
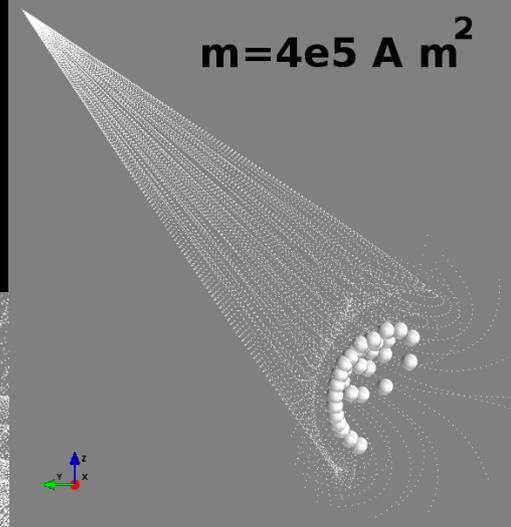
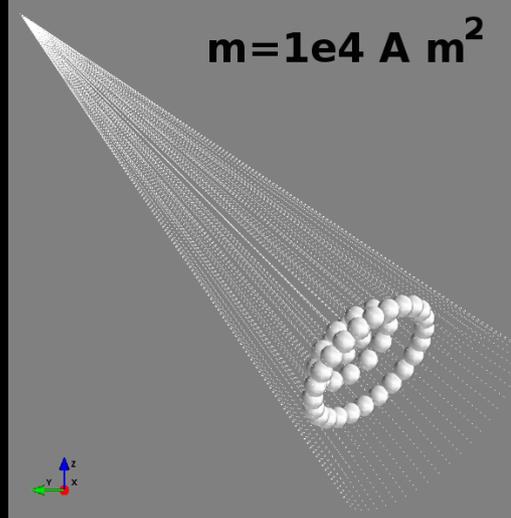
Create isotropic
distribution



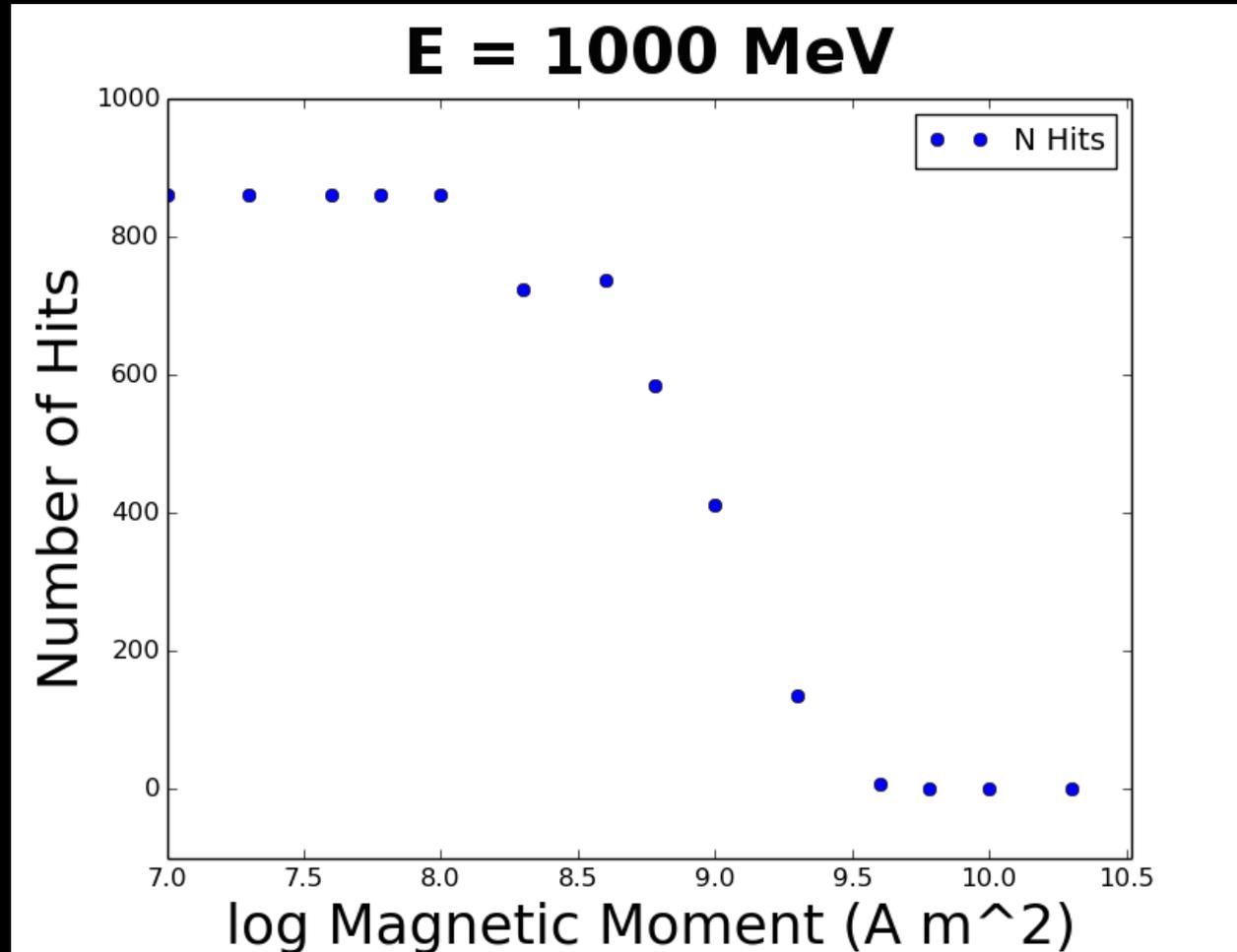
20-pt Buckyball Simulation



- Arbitrary number of particles per injection
- Arbitrarily narrow beam

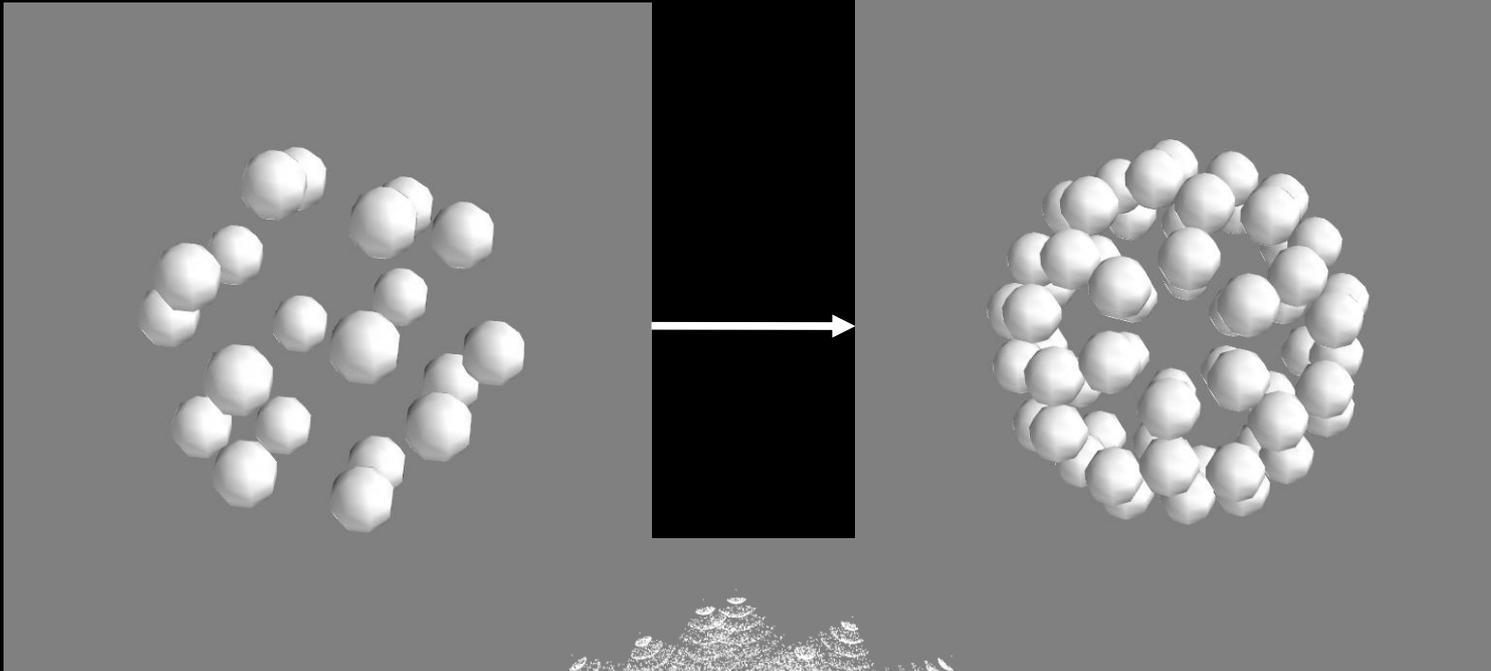


GCR Deflection



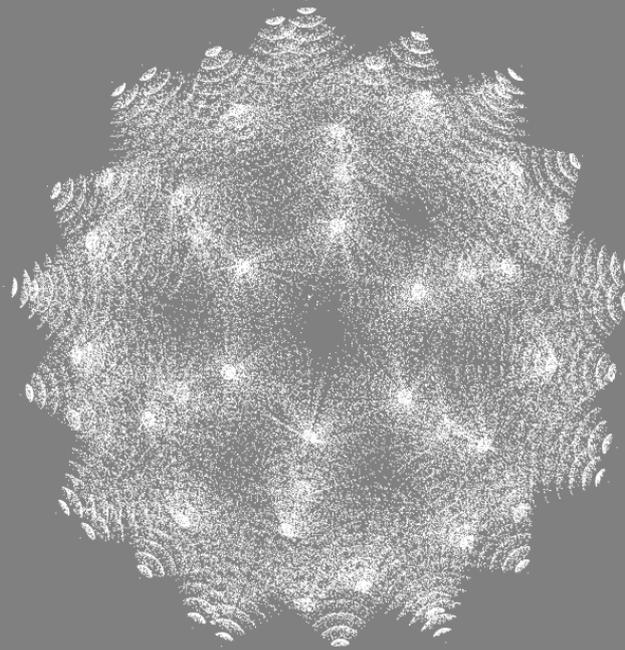
Code validation run

Robust Simulations

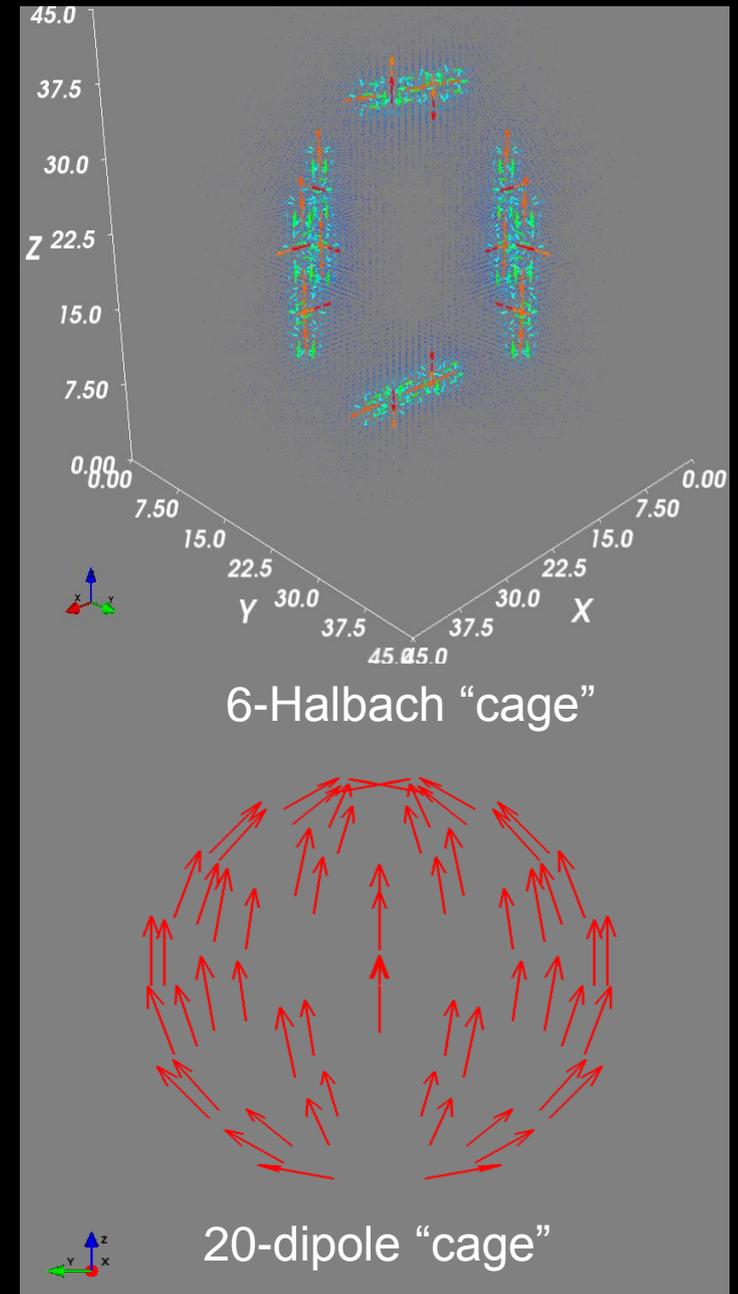
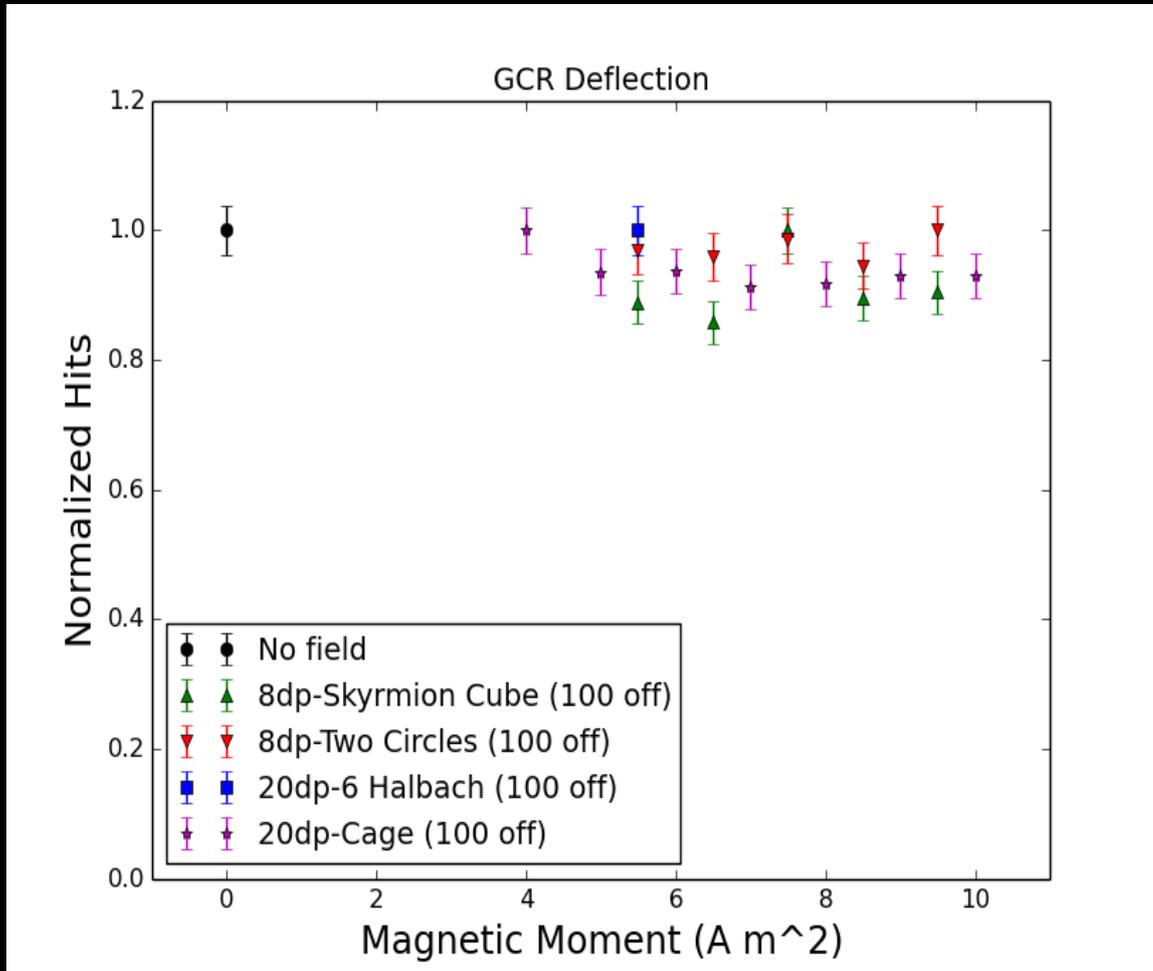


Approximate GCRs
with random
distribution of input
particles

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Cos}\Theta &\rightarrow 0, 1 \\ \Phi &\rightarrow 0, 2\pi\end{aligned}$$



Results



Thank You

Percent reductions in SPE radiation show **feasibility**

Existing technology shows **viability**

Equivalent Dose

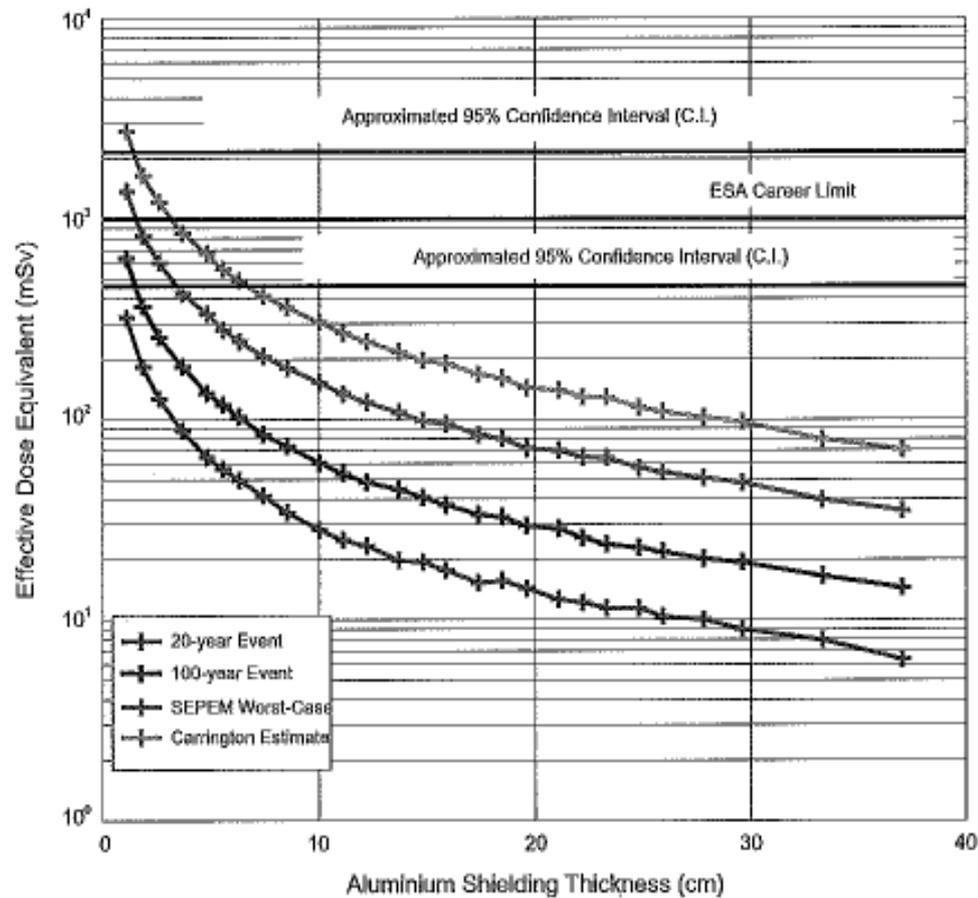


Fig. 13. Effective Dose Equivalent (milli-sieverts) in an astronaut as a result of extreme SPEs compared to the recommended ESA career limit for the four SPEs shown in Figure 9.

Enabling Technology

Consider 12 mm wide and 50 μm thick (no stabilizer) coated conductor.

Critical current at 77 K is 300 A. Lift factor at 50 K in 2 T field is about 2.

Then the critical current at 50 K is about 600 A.

We can take persistent current to be 50% of the critical.

Then, the engineering current density of persistent current is approximately
 $J = 50 \text{ kA/cm}^2$

Consider a loop of 20 cm radius creating a dipole moment $d = \pi \times 10^4 \text{ Am}^2$.

This required current of 250 kA or 5 cm^2 cross-section of the loop.

Enabling Technology

Mass density of Hastelloy (the substrate) is about 9 g/cm^3 .

The total volume of a torus 20 cm in radius and 5 cm^2 cross-section is 630 cm^3 .

The mass of the superconducting material then is 5.6 kg.

For greater or smaller dipole of the same size the mass is scaled proportionally.

Increasing the size of the loop decreases the required current and the amount of the superconducting material inversely proportional to the radius.

These estimates do not take into account the support structure, power supply, electronics, sunscreen, etc.