

# Solar Cell Radiation Environment Analysis Models (SCREAM)

THE VALUE OF PERFORMANCE.

**NORTHROP GRUMMAN**

2017 Space Environment Engineering  
& Science Applications Workshop  
(SEESAW)

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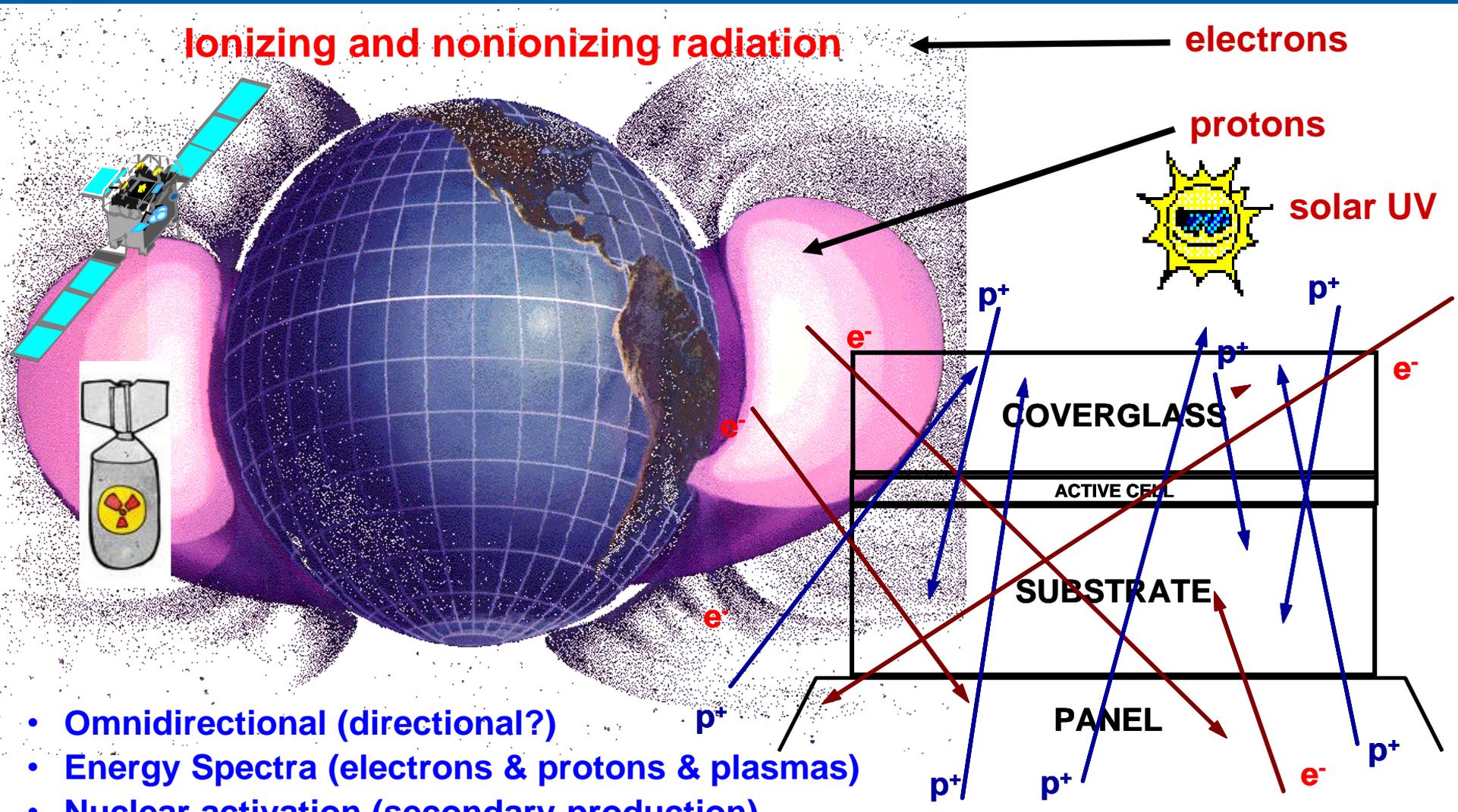
# Space Radiation Environment for Solar Arrays

**Ionizing and nonionizing radiation**

**electrons**

**protons**

**solar UV**



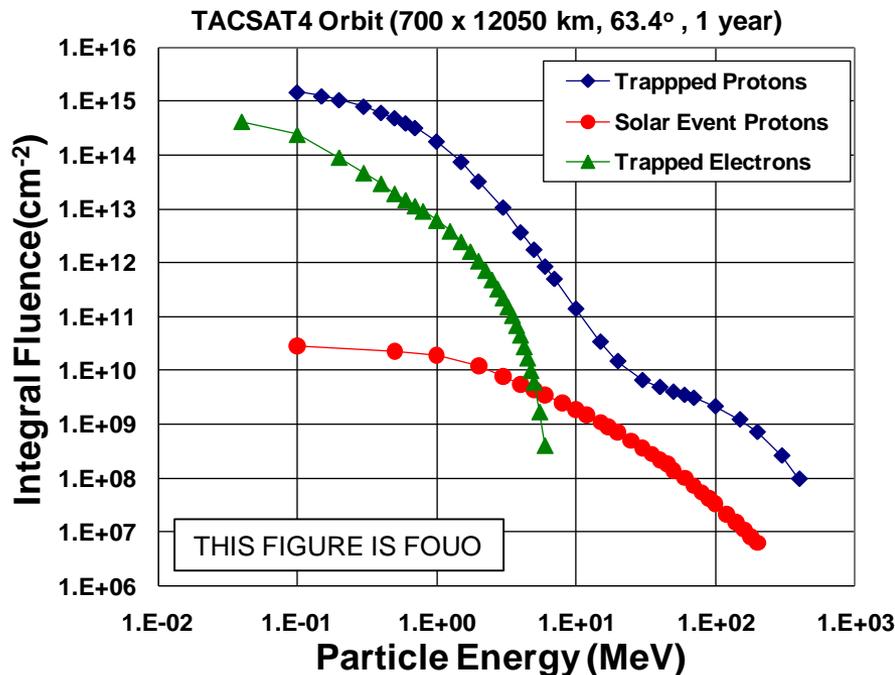
- Omnidirectional (directional?)
- Energy Spectra (electrons & protons & plasmas)
- Nuclear activation (secondary production)
- Prompt effects (EMP, gammas, neutrons)

- Space Solar Cell Modelling
- Displacement Damage Dose (DDD) Model
  - SCREAM
- SCREAM Success Stories
  - TacSat4
  - GPS-IIR SV41
  - Low Thrust Trajectories (DDD accumulation)
- Summary

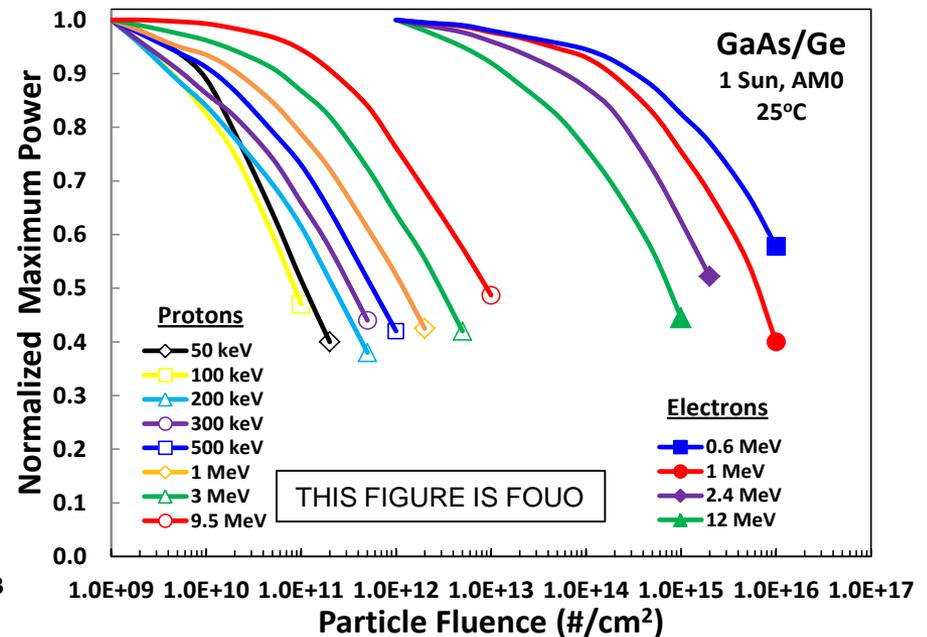
# Space Solar Cell Degradation Prediction: The Problem

- To generate ground irradiation data necessary to predict the effect of a space particle energy spectrum on a solar cell
- This is accomplished by reducing the ground data to a characteristic dataset

Electron & Proton Spectra for TacSat4



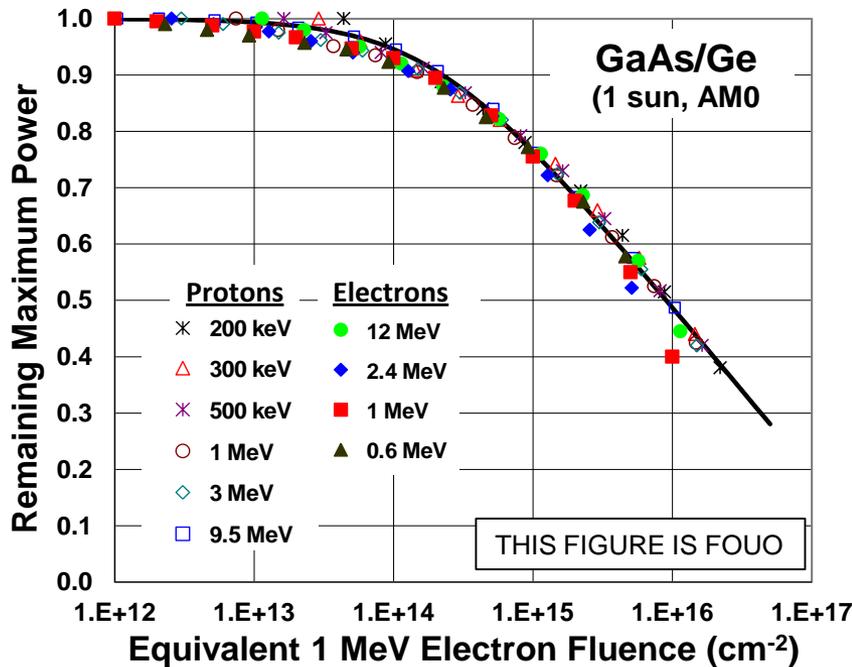
Electron & Proton Ground Irradiation Data  
(Single Junction GaAs/Ge, 1991)



# Space Solar Cell Degradation Prediction: The Solution(s)

## 1. JPL method $\Rightarrow$ RDCs $\Rightarrow$ equivalent 1 MeV electron fluence & $C_{pe}$

### JPL Model Data Collapse



### \*The *heritage* JPL model is well documented (1970-2000):

H.Y.Tada and J.R.Carter, Solar Cell Radiation Handbook, JPL Pub. 77-56 (1977) – Green Book (Si)

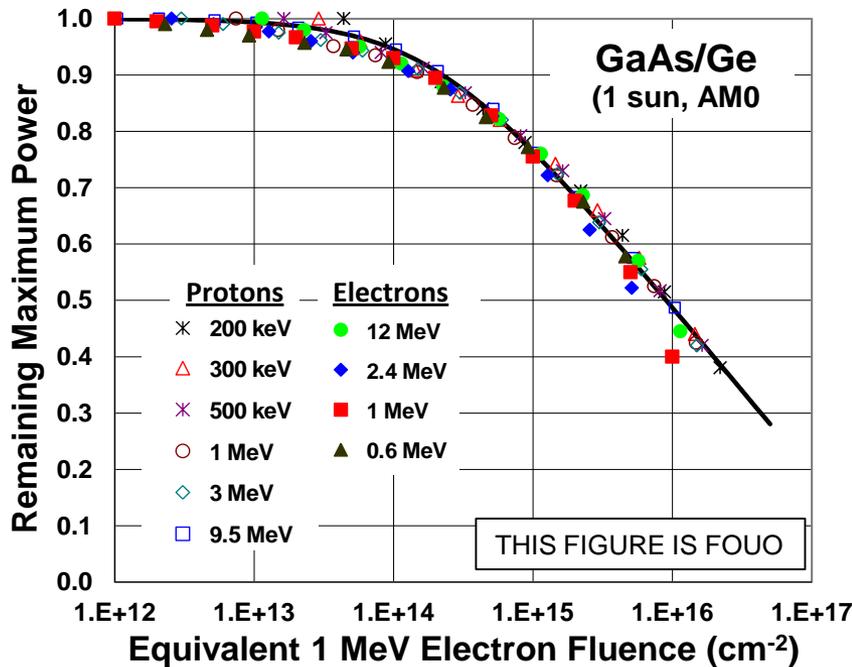
B.Anspaugh, GaAs Solar Cell Radiation Handbook, JPL Pub. 96-9 (1996) – Blue Book (GaAs)

D.C. Marvin, Assessment of Multijunction Solar Cell Performance in Radiation Environments, TOR-00(1210)-1

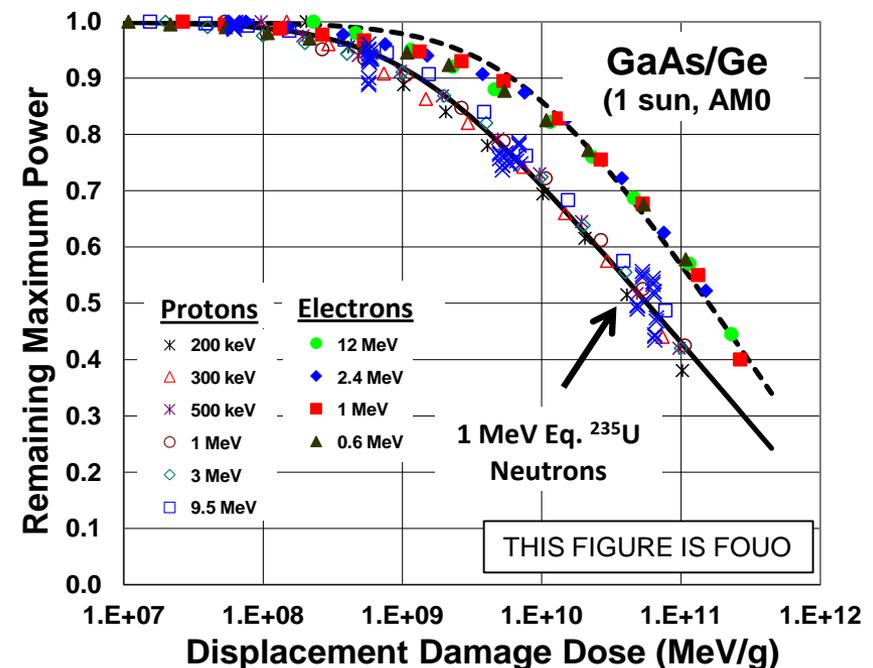
# Space Solar Cell Degradation Prediction: The Solution(s)

1. JPL method  $\Rightarrow$  RDCs  $\Rightarrow$  equivalent 1 MeV electron fluence &  $C_{pe}$
2. NRL method  $\Rightarrow$  NIEL  $\Rightarrow$  displacement damage dose (DDD)

## JPL Model Data Collapse



## NRL/DDD Model Data Collapse



\*The **advanced** NRL/DDD model is well documented (1994-2012):

S.R. Messenger, et al., "Modeling solar cell degradation in space: A comparison of the NRL displacement damage dose and JPL equivalent fluence approaches", Prog. Photovolt.: Res. Appl. vol. 9, pp. 103-121, 2001.

S.R. Messenger, et al., "SCREAM: A new code for solar cell degradation prediction using the displacement damage dose approach," 35th IEEE PVSC, 2010, p. 1106.

- **Data needed (\*AIAA S-111)**
  - **Protons**
    - $E > 1\text{-}4\text{ MeV}$  (need uniform DD)  
( $\phi = 10^{10}$  to  $10^{13}$  p<sup>+</sup>/cm<sup>2</sup>)
  - **Electrons**
    - $E = 1 \text{ \& } > 2\text{ MeV}$   
( $\phi = 10^{13}$  to  $10^{16}$  e<sup>-</sup>/cm<sup>2</sup>)

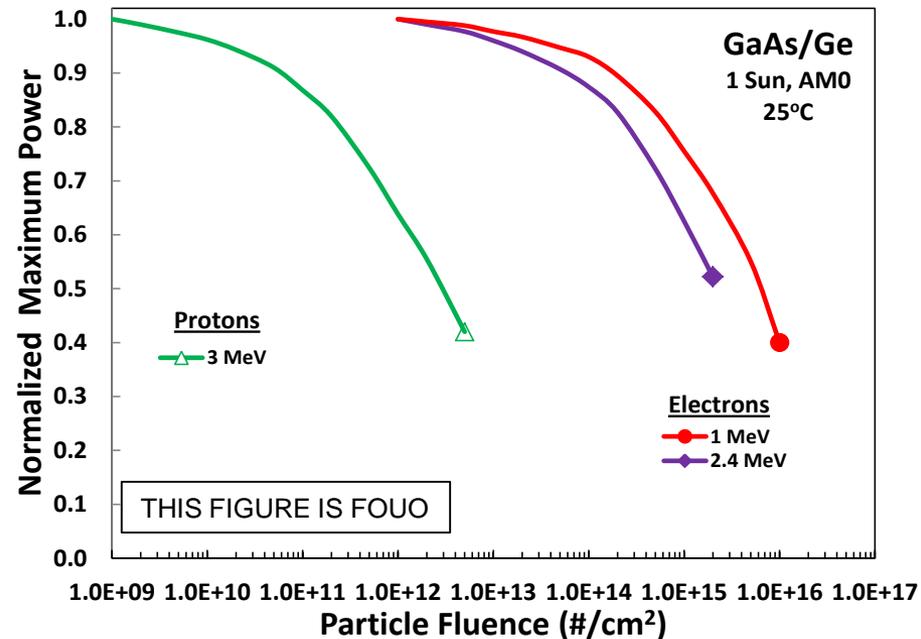
- **Advantages**

- ~3-4X cost reduction in qualification
- Convenient for new tech quals, design tweaks, requals

- **Disadvantages**

- Heritage Heritage Heritage
- Not applicable to protons on thick silicon

## Electron and Proton Ground Data

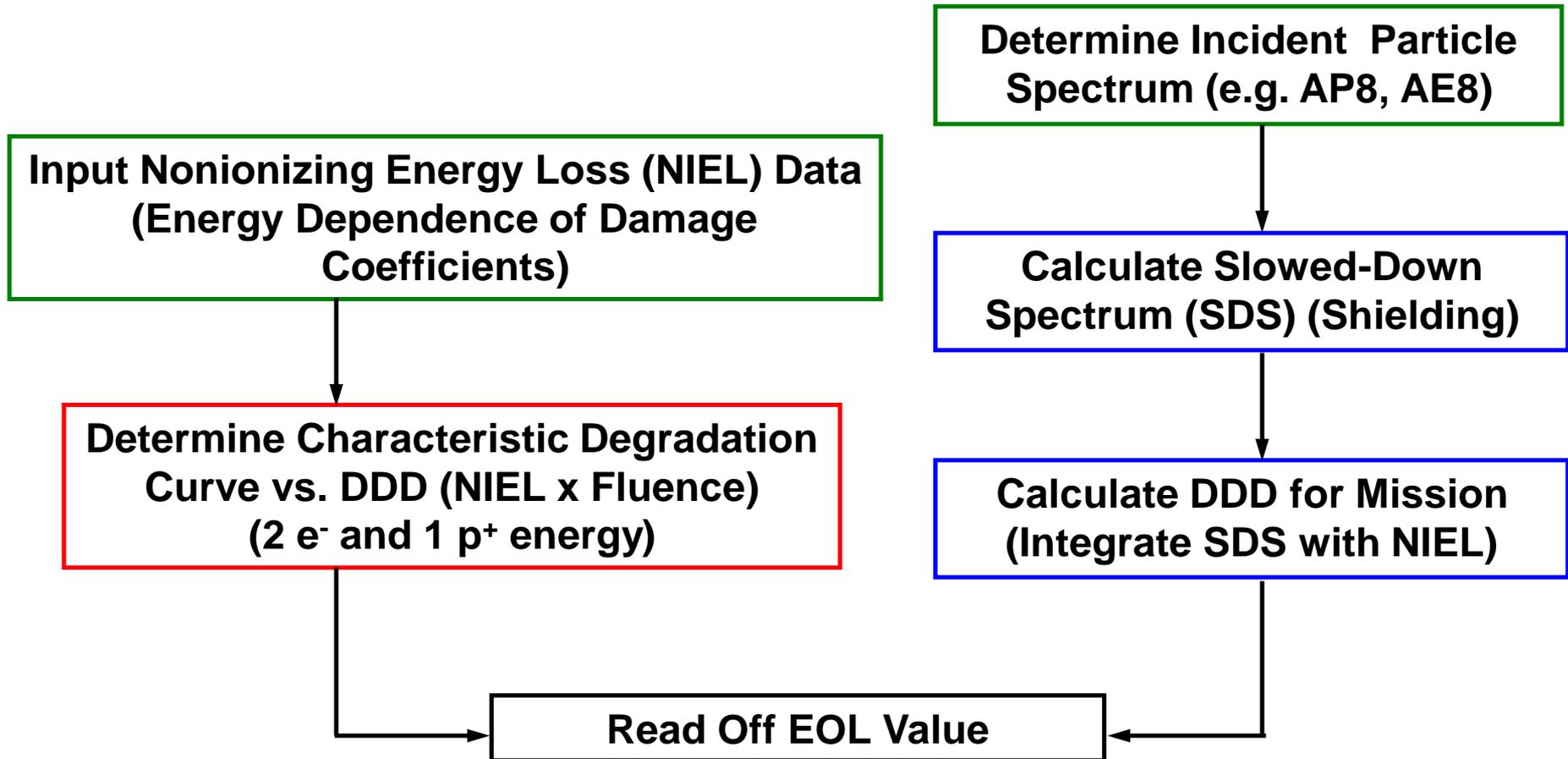


***“Qualification and Quality Requirements for Space Solar Cells”  
(AIAA S-111A-2014) – JPL and/or DDD models acceptable***

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# **Space Solar Cell Modeling: NRL Displacement Damage Dose (DDD)**

# NRL Displacement Damage Dose Model for Solar Cell EOL Calculations



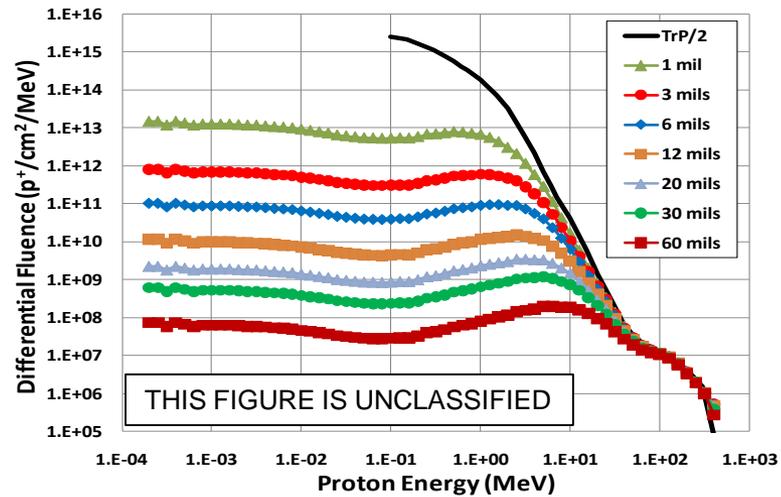
**\*RED – Measurements**

**\*Blue – Calculation**

**\*Green – Data input**

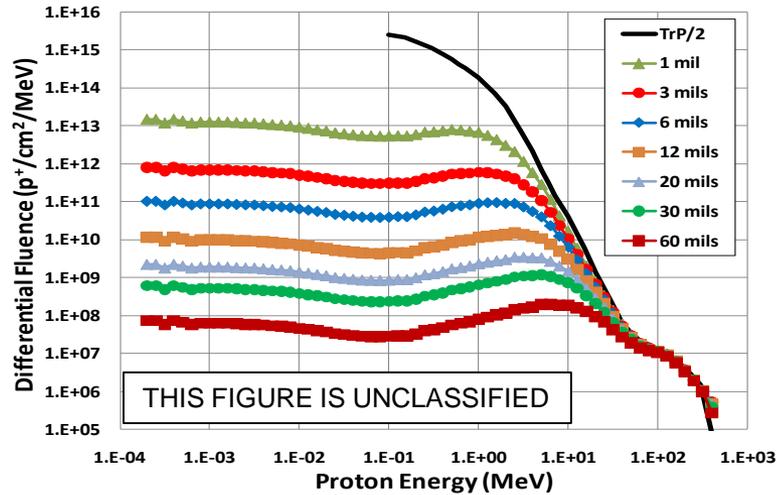
# DDD EOL Prediction Method

## Omnidirectional Spectra

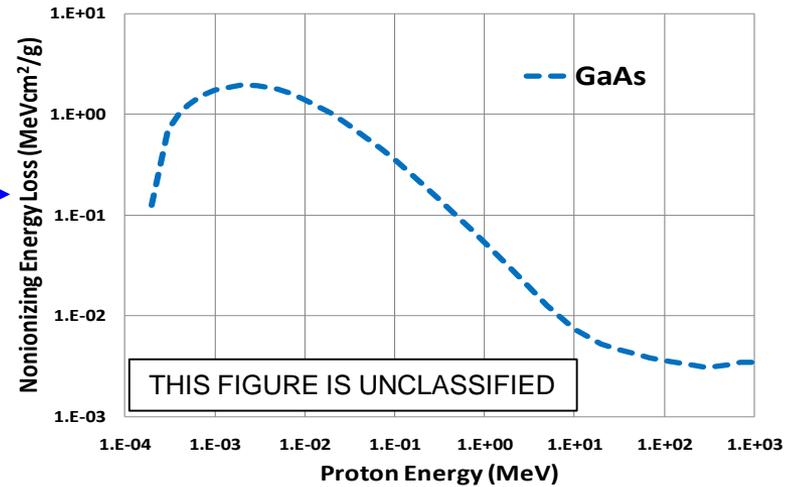


# DDD EOL Prediction Method

## Omnidirectional Spectra

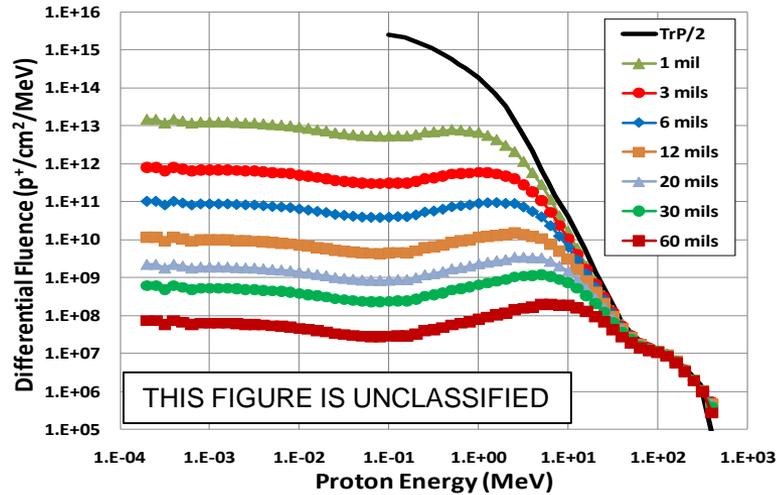


## Nonionizing Energy Loss (2006)

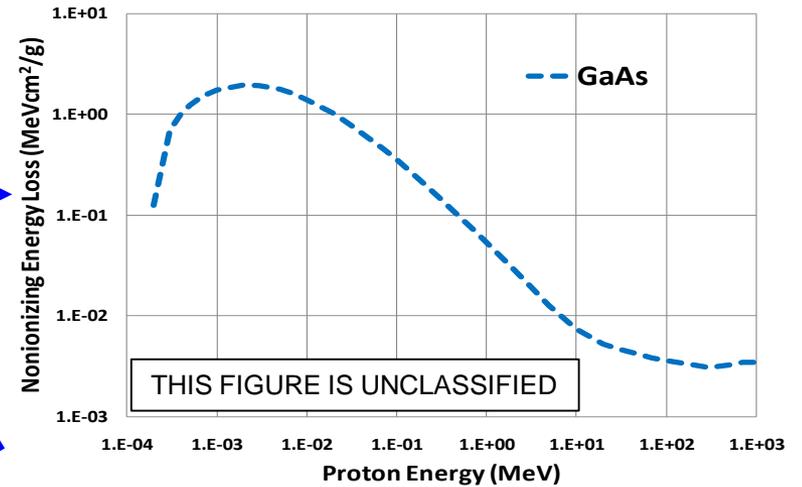


# DDD EOL Prediction Method

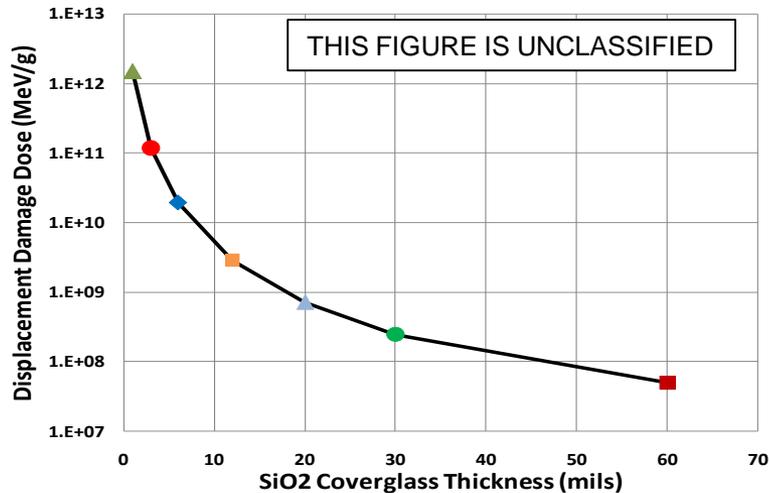
## Omnidirectional Spectra



## Nonionizing Energy Loss (2006)

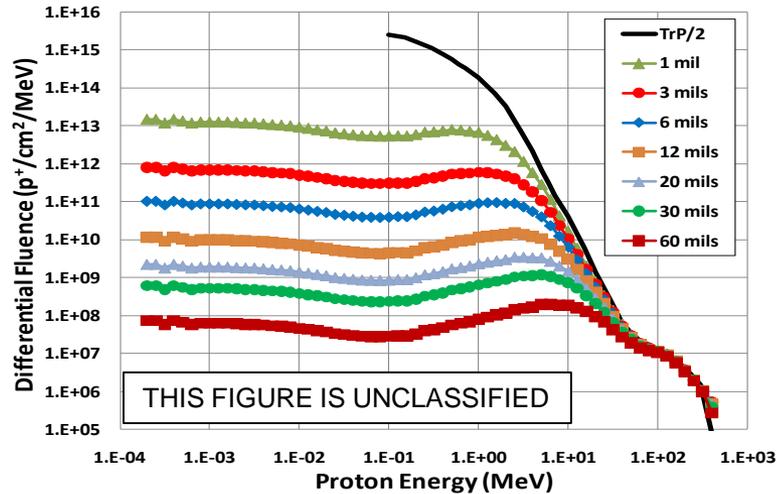


## Total Mission DDD

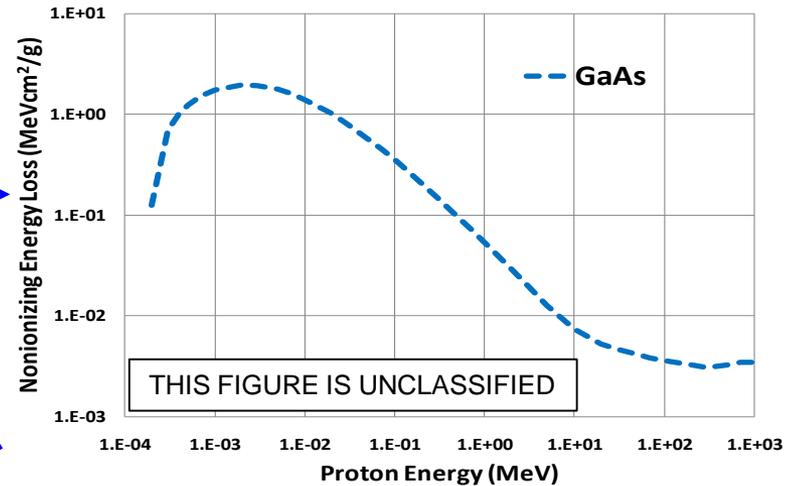


# DDD EOL Prediction Method

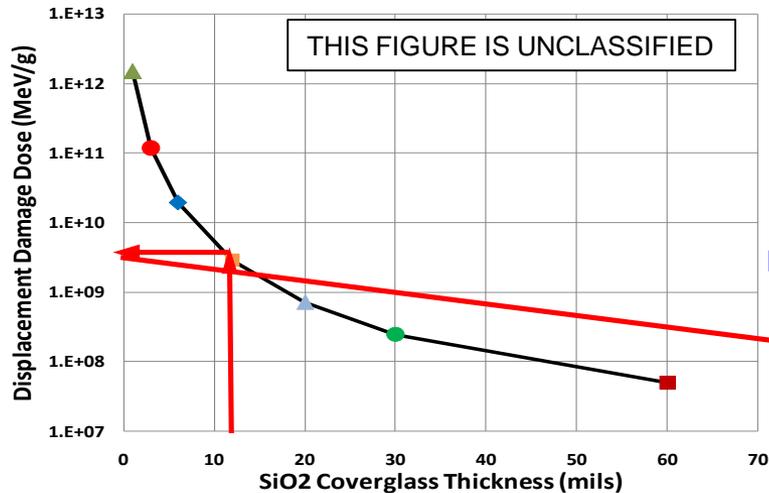
## Omnidirectional Spectra



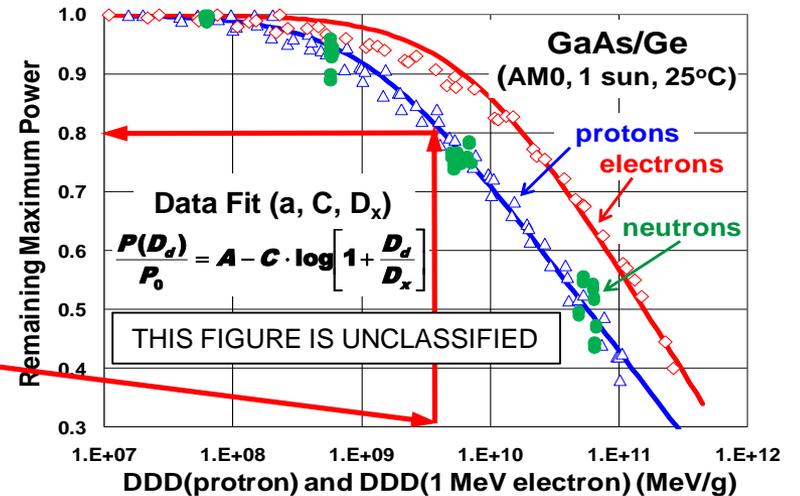
## Nonionizing Energy Loss (2006)



## Total Mission DDD

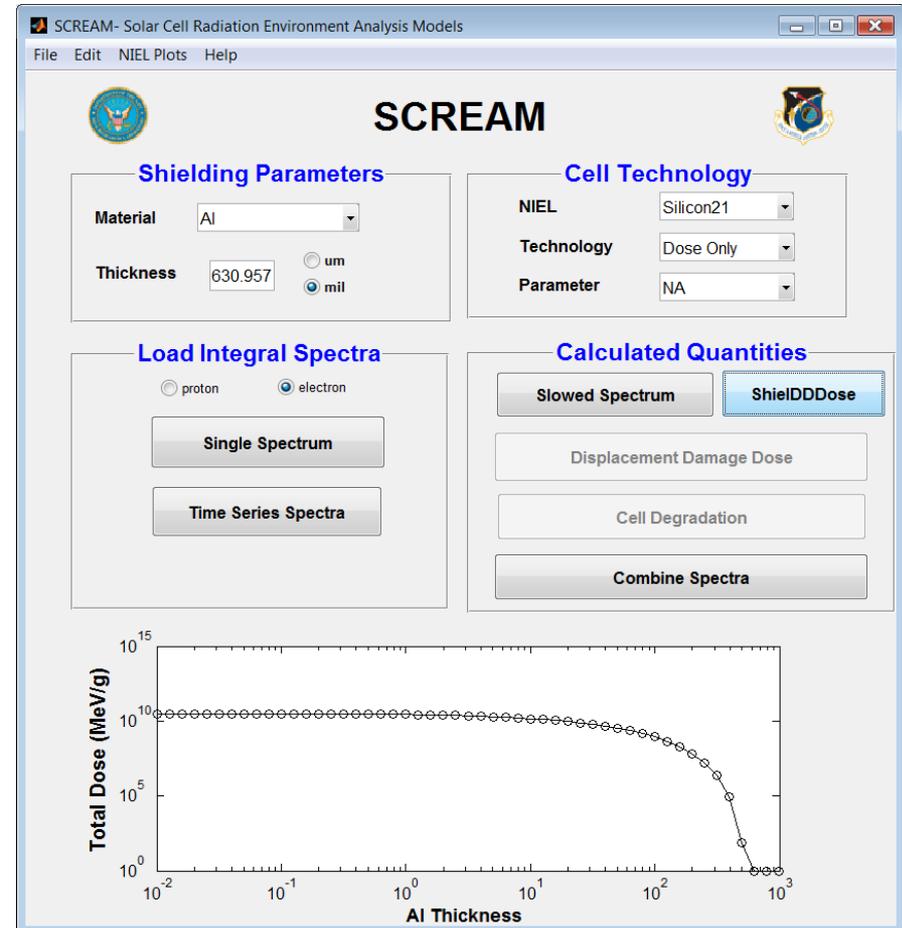


## P<sub>max</sub> Degradation



# SCREAM (Solar Cell Radiation Environment Analysis Models)

- Excel file driven menus as inputs
  - Input integral radiation spectra
    - Single & multi-spectra, electron and proton
  - Shielding material
  - Nonionizing energy loss (NIEL)
  - Multilayer shielding
  - Parametric degradation coefficients (GaAs, ITJ, UTJ, ATJ, Si-electrons, user)
- Output
  - Slowed-down radiation spectra
  - End-of-life (EOL) predictions
  - DDD only options (“ShieldDDDose”)
  - Trajectory capability through “Time Series Spectra” input option

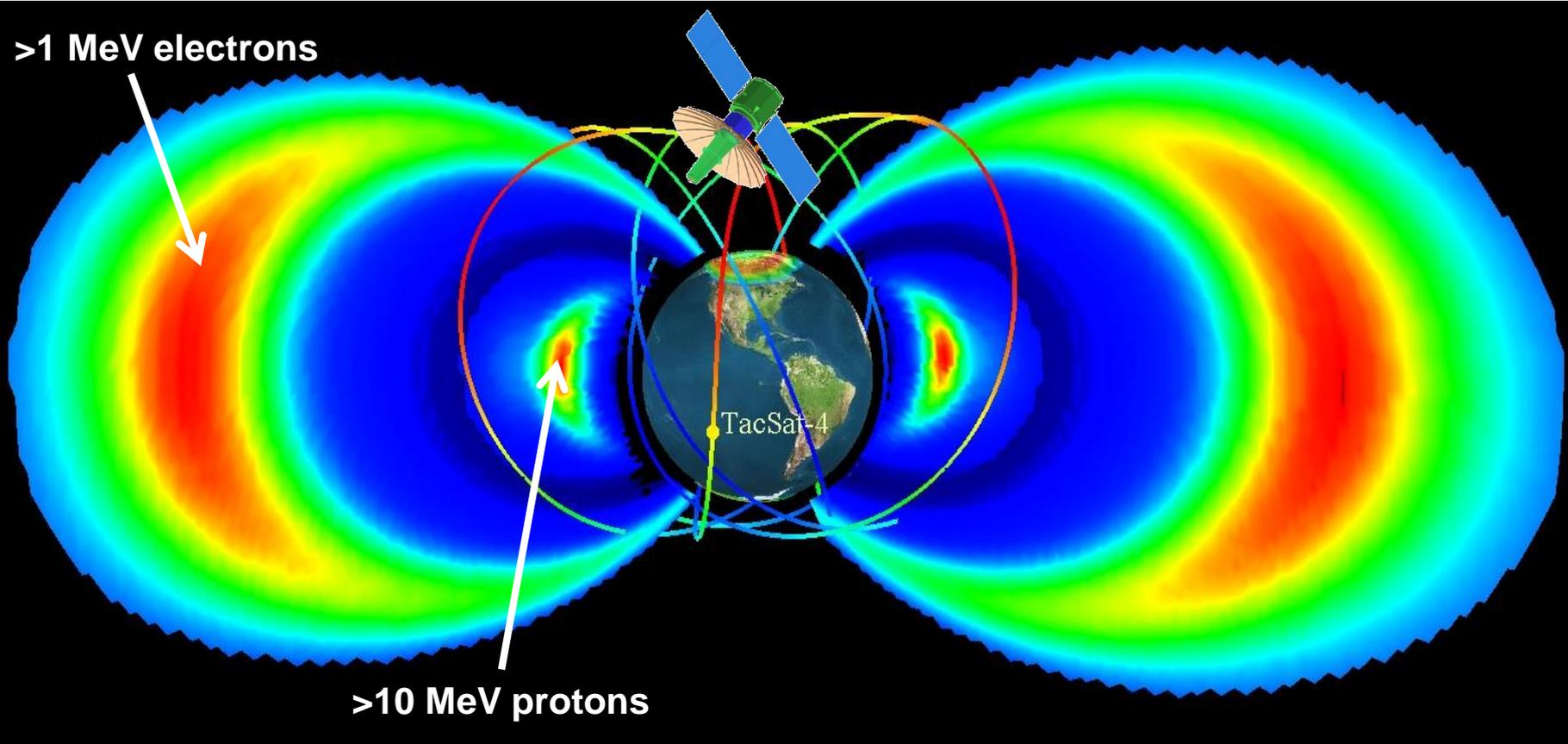


**SCREAM is available by request in CD format**  
**\* Contact: Dr. Scott R. Messenger (NGC)**

- TacSat4 (HEO: 700 km x 12,050 km, 63.4°)
  - Used onboard dosimetry (CEASE-II) and solar cell experiment to explain anomalously large solar array degradation rates
  - SCREAM used CEASE-II data to corroborate solar cell experiment (full IV) data and re-project mission lifetime
- GPS-IIR SV41 (MEO: 20,200 km, 55°)
  - GPS has been plagued with anomalous solar array degradation since onset (many mitigation paths successful, but anomaly continues)
  - SCREAM used LANL BDD Detector data to help understand damage mechanisms and eliminate displacement damage as the anomaly
- Low-Thrust Trajectory Orbit to GEO (LT2GEO)
  - Low-thrust trajectories are extreme mass & cost cutting measures
    - Spacecraft subjected to extreme proton belts
  - SCREAM can simply analyze accumulated DDD to optimize LT trajectory

# TacSat4 (HEO: 700 km x 12,050 km, 63.4°)

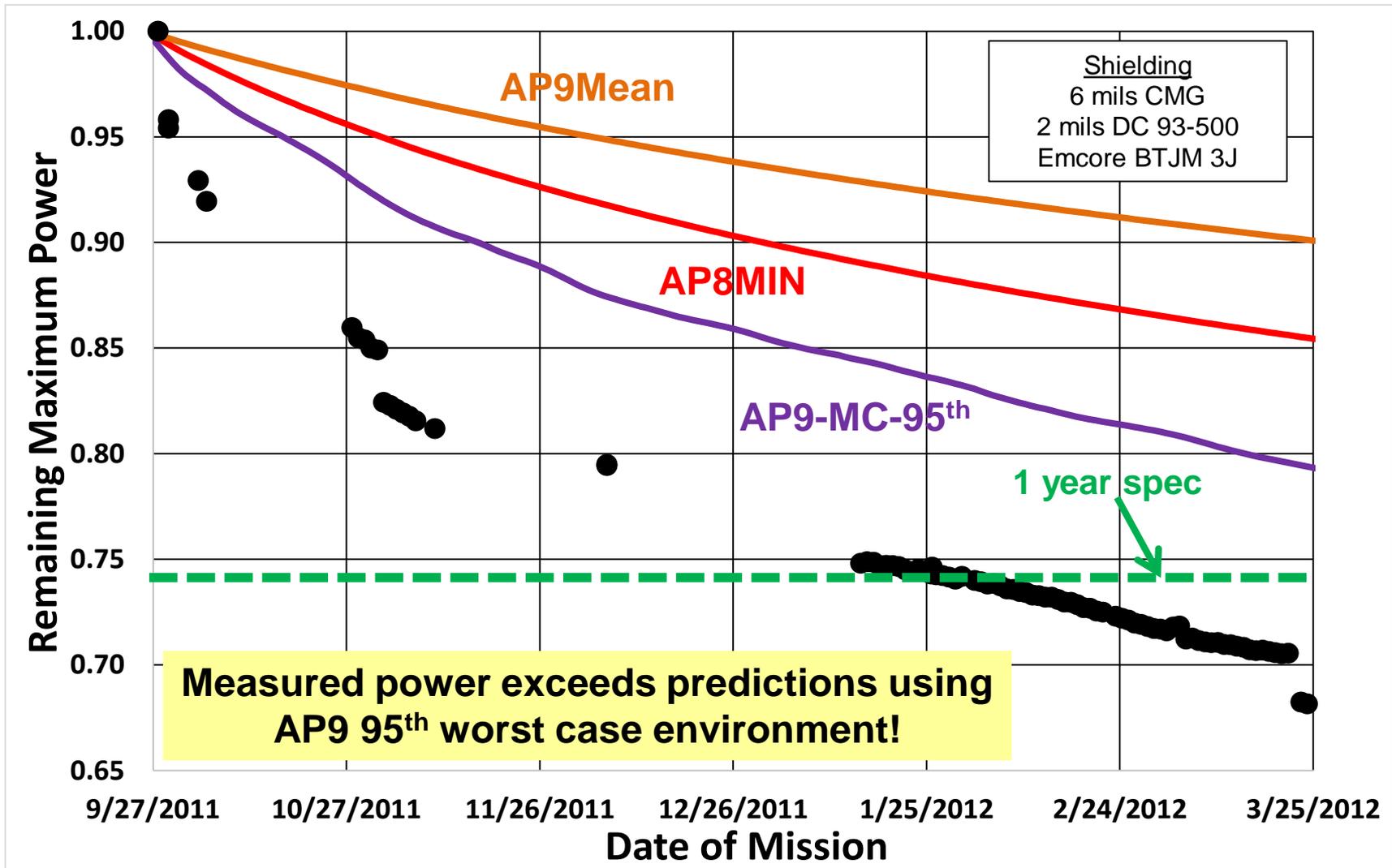
- NRL satellite launched 27 Sept. 2011 (Kodiak, AK)



\* Graphic created using AFGEOSPACE (V2.5)

# TacSat4 (HEO: 700 km x 12,050 km, 63.4°) – Trapped Protons Dominant

- Maximum Power Degradation on Emcore ATJ Solar Cell



# TacSat4 (HEO: 700 km x 12,050 km, 63.4°) – Trapped Protons Dominant

- **Two additional payloads on-board**
  - AFRL: CEASE-II dosimeter package
    - Several dosimeters (particle fluence, TID, SEE, SC)
    - 0.7-80 MeV protons & 0.05-3 MeV electrons
  - NRL: Two solar cell experiments yielding full IV curves
    - SCE#1: SolAero BTJM (3J w/ 6 mil CMG coverglass)

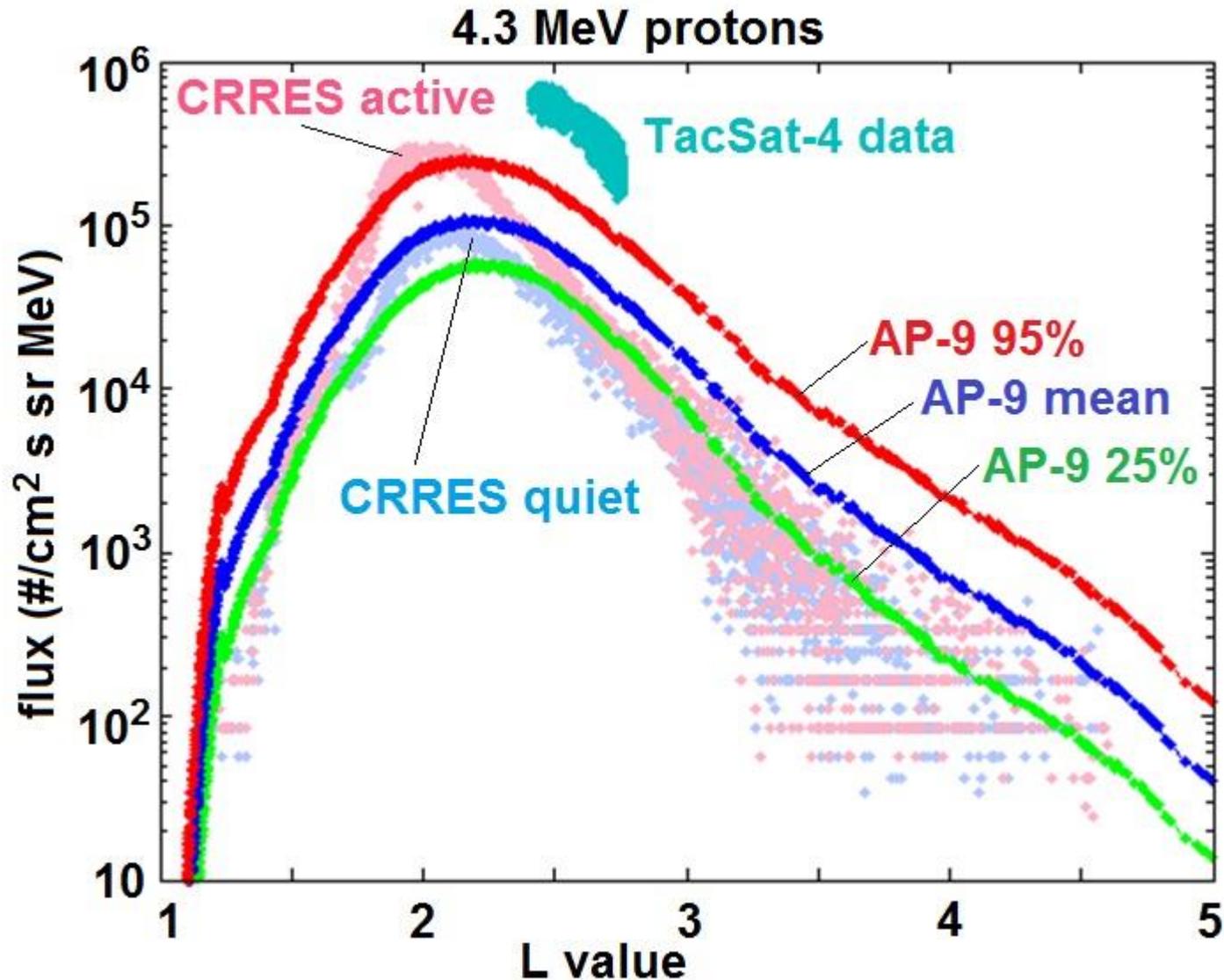


**CEASE-II**



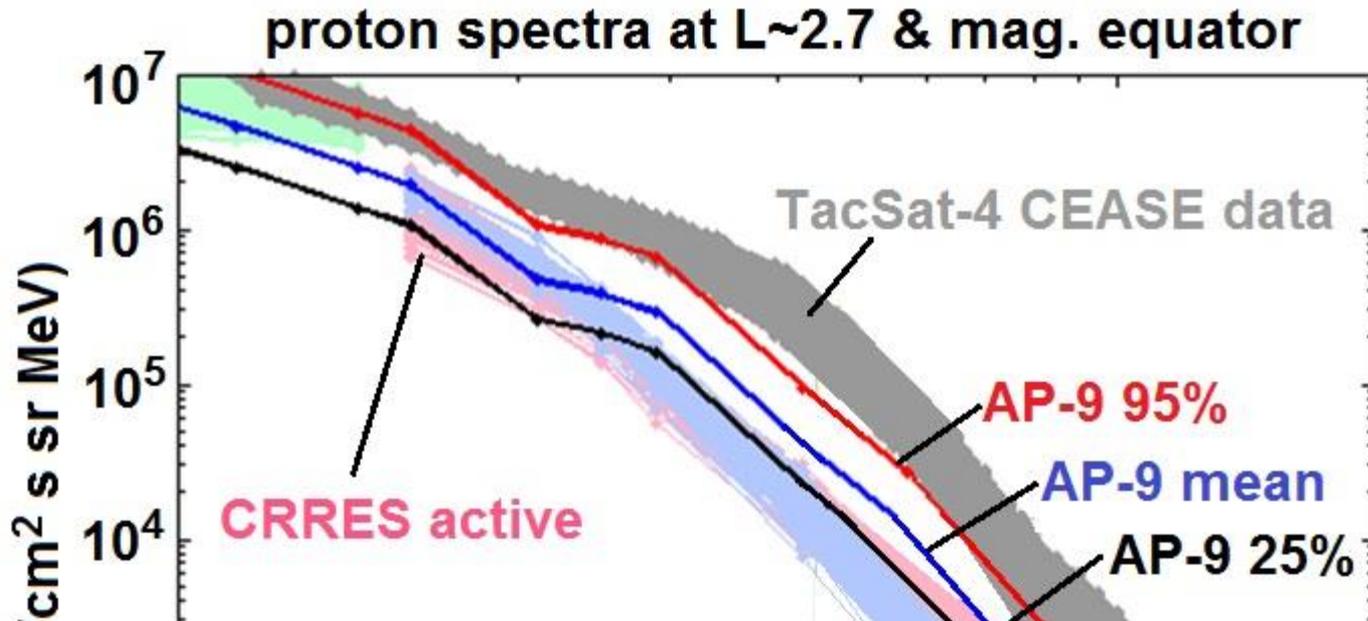
**SCE #1**

# CEASE Proton Energy Comparisons





# CEASE Proton Energy Comparisons



*\*For 6 mil coverglass, omnidirectionally incident protons having energy from 1-10 MeV are the most important in causing damage to the underlying cell. For 12-20 mil covers -- NO ANOMALY --- but definitely NO FUN.*

1

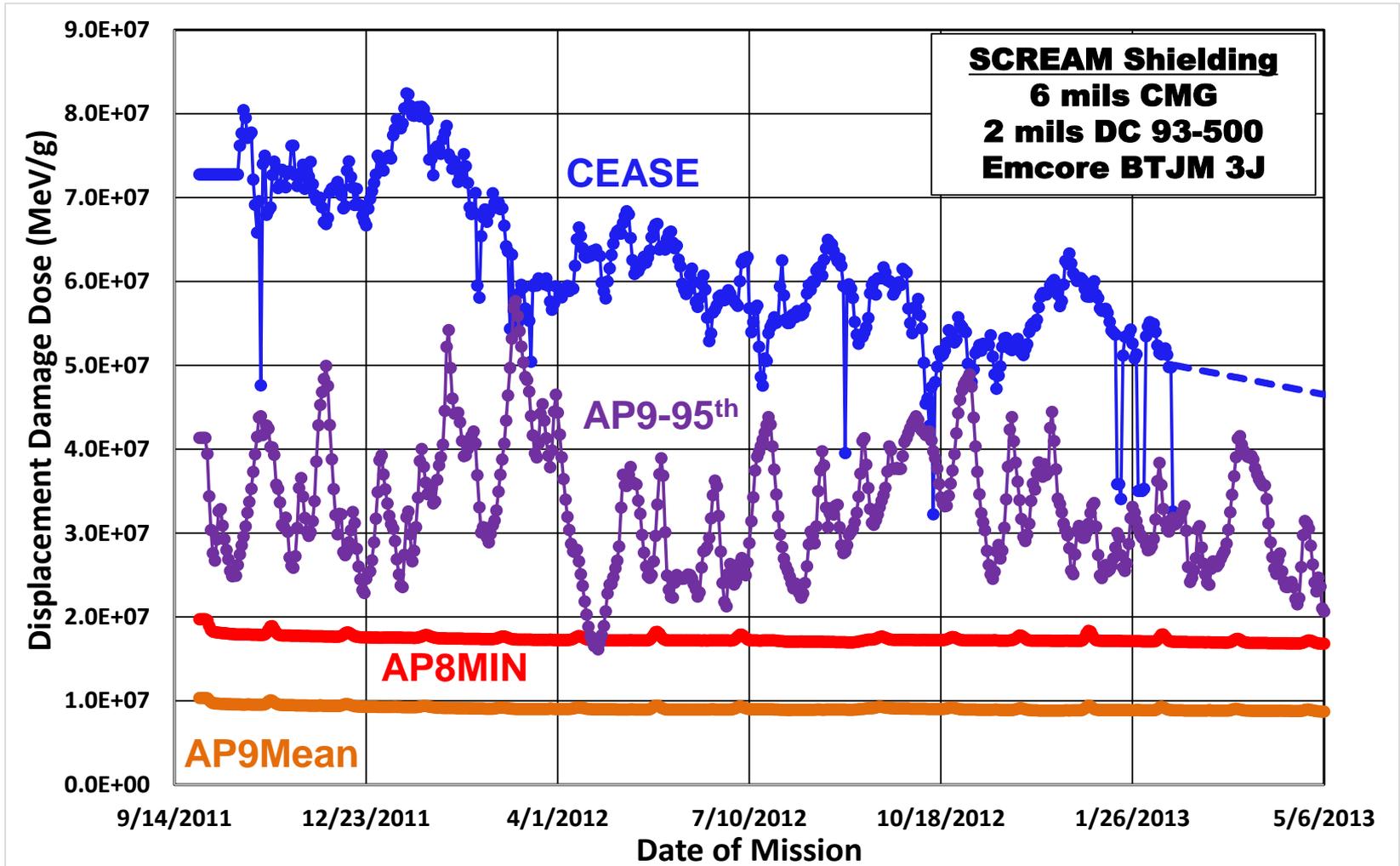
3

10

Energy (MeV)

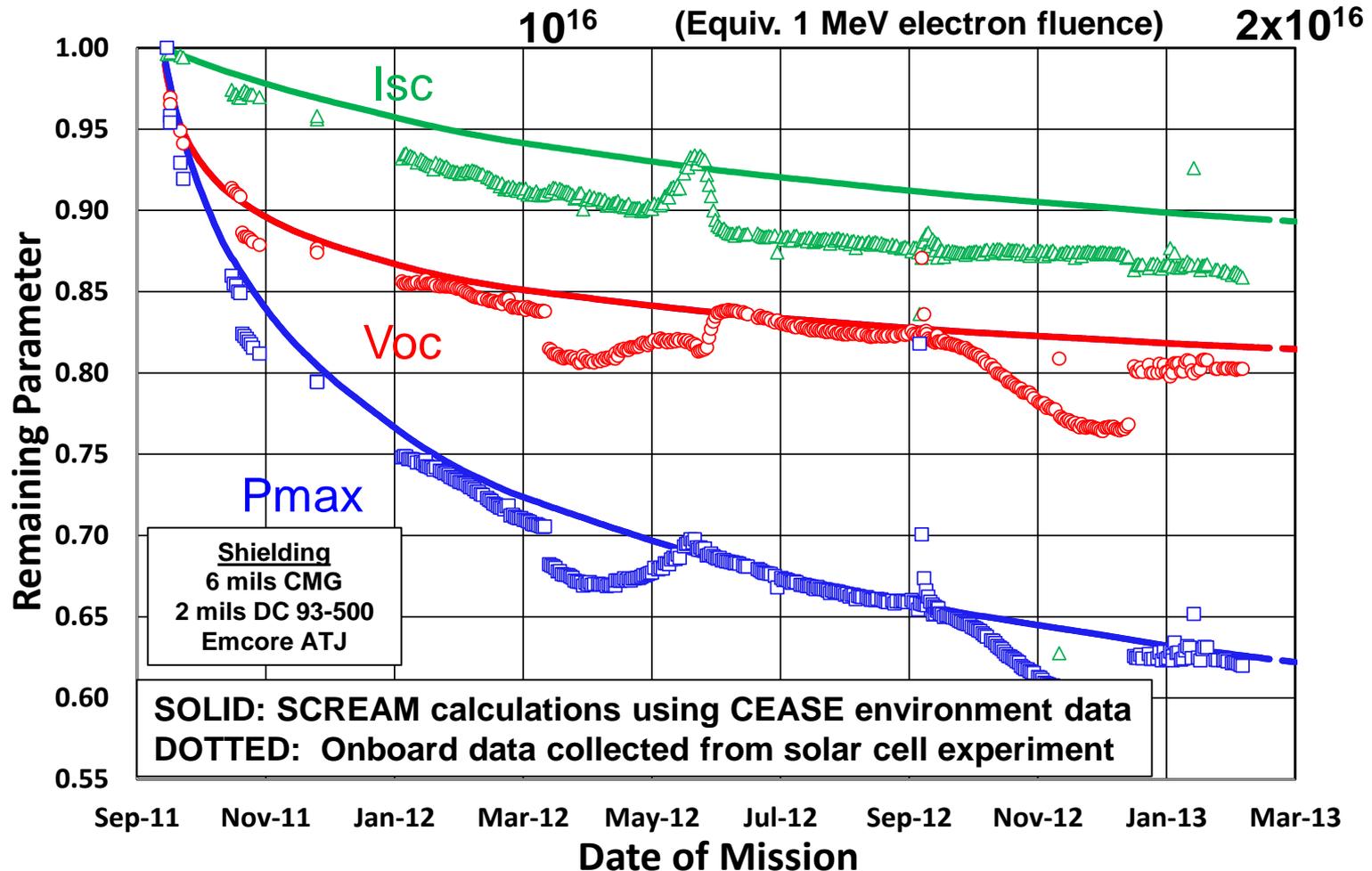
# TacSat4 (HEO: 700 km x 12,050 km, 63.4°) – Trapped Protons Dominant

- **SCREAM: Environment data through 6 mil CMG & 2 mil adhesive**



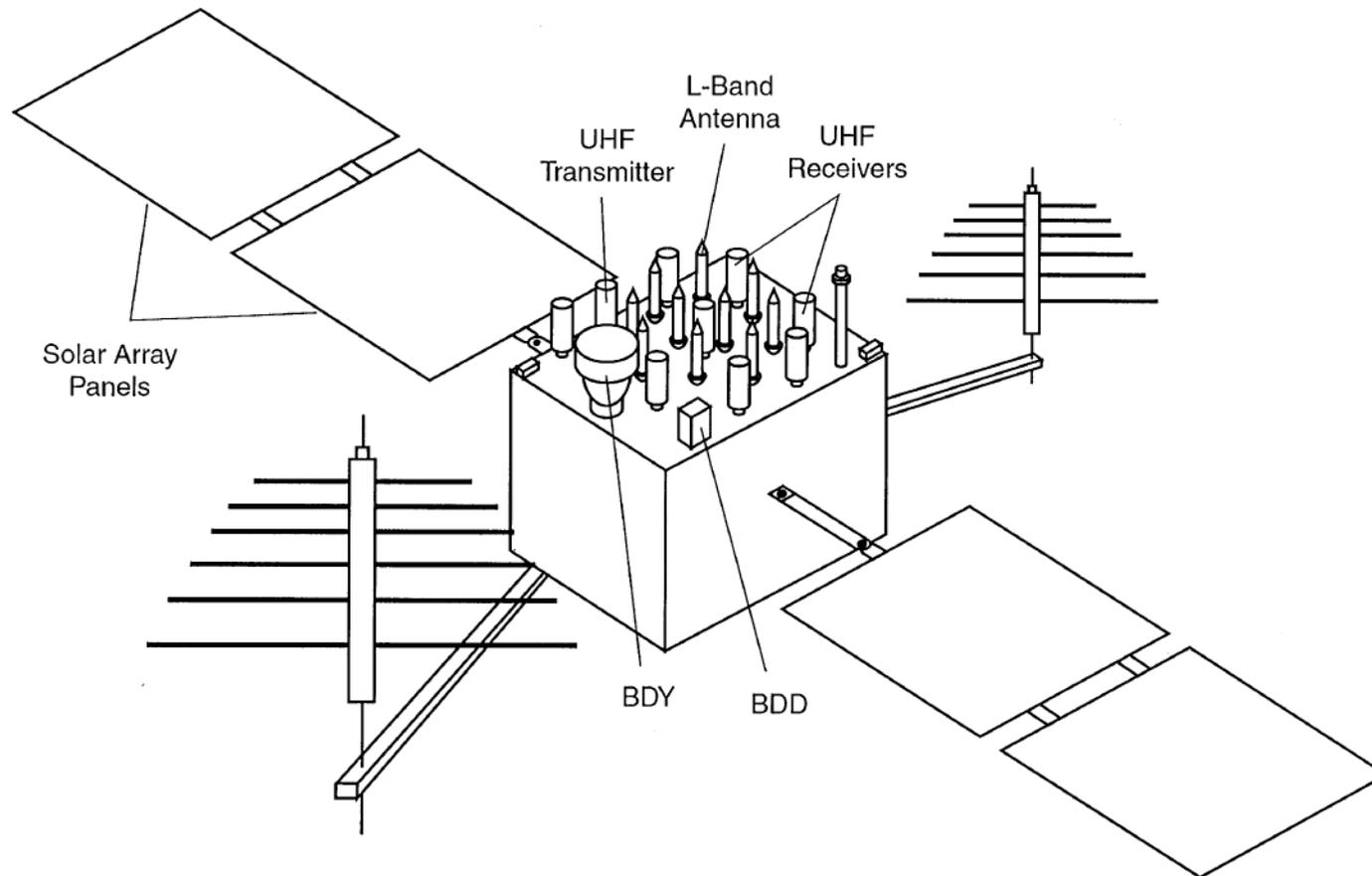
# TacSat4 (HEO: 700 km x 12,050 km, 63.4°) – Trapped Protons Dominant

- SCREAM: DDD results applied to SolAero ATJ solar cell technology



# GPS-IIR (MEO: 20,200 km, 55°)

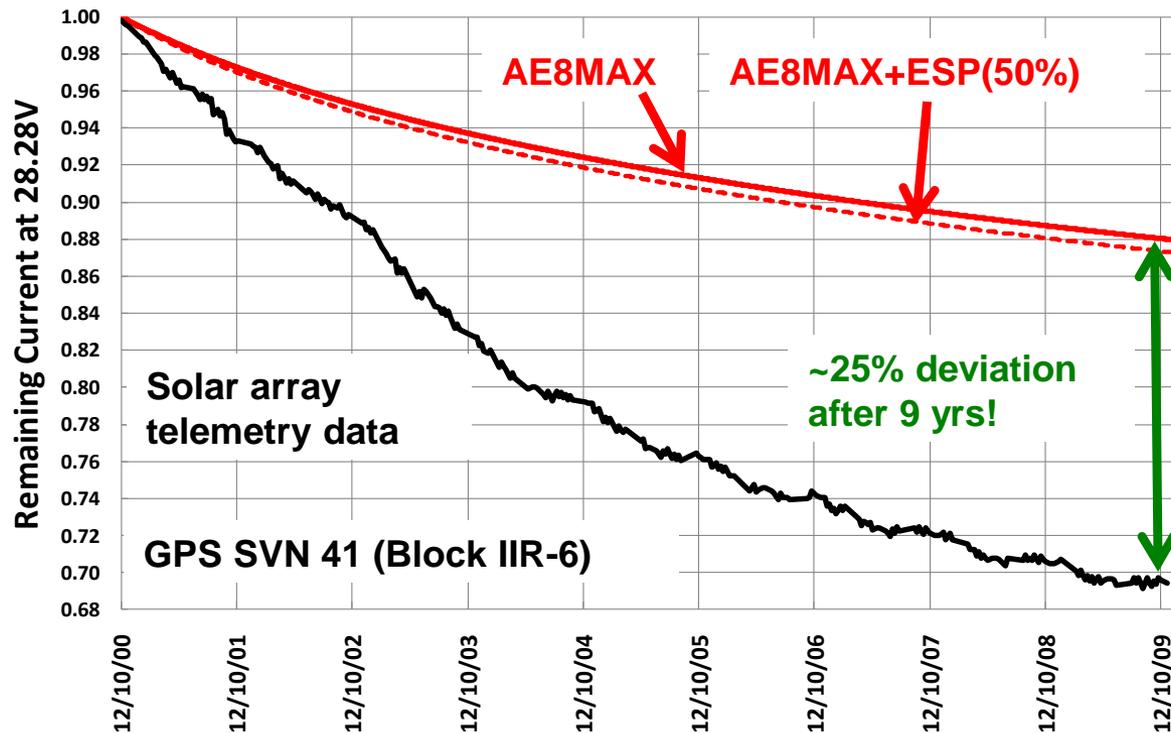
- SVN41 Launched 10 Nov 2000



\*NIM A 482, 653 (2002)

# GPS-IIR (MEO: 20,200 km, 55°) – Trapped Electrons Dominant

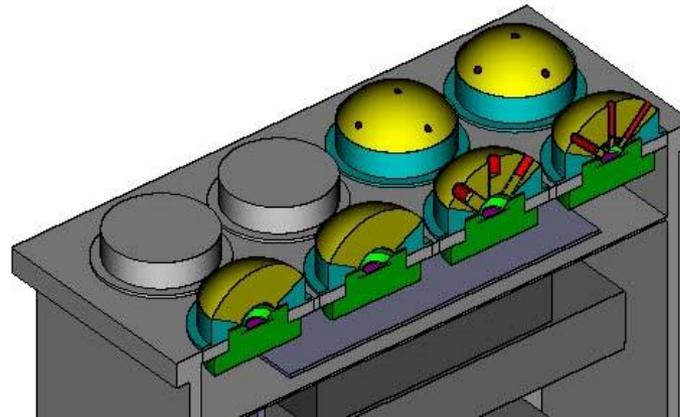
- GPS spacecraft have shown anomalous silicon solar array degradation throughout [ $>30$ ] year existence (Marvin, 1988)



- Many possibilities posed (coatings, coverglass, contamination, ESD, radiation environment related) but none confirmed
- GPS III plans on using oversized arrays to maintain necessary EOL levels

# GPS-IIR (MEO: 20,200 km, 55°) – Trapped Electrons Dominant

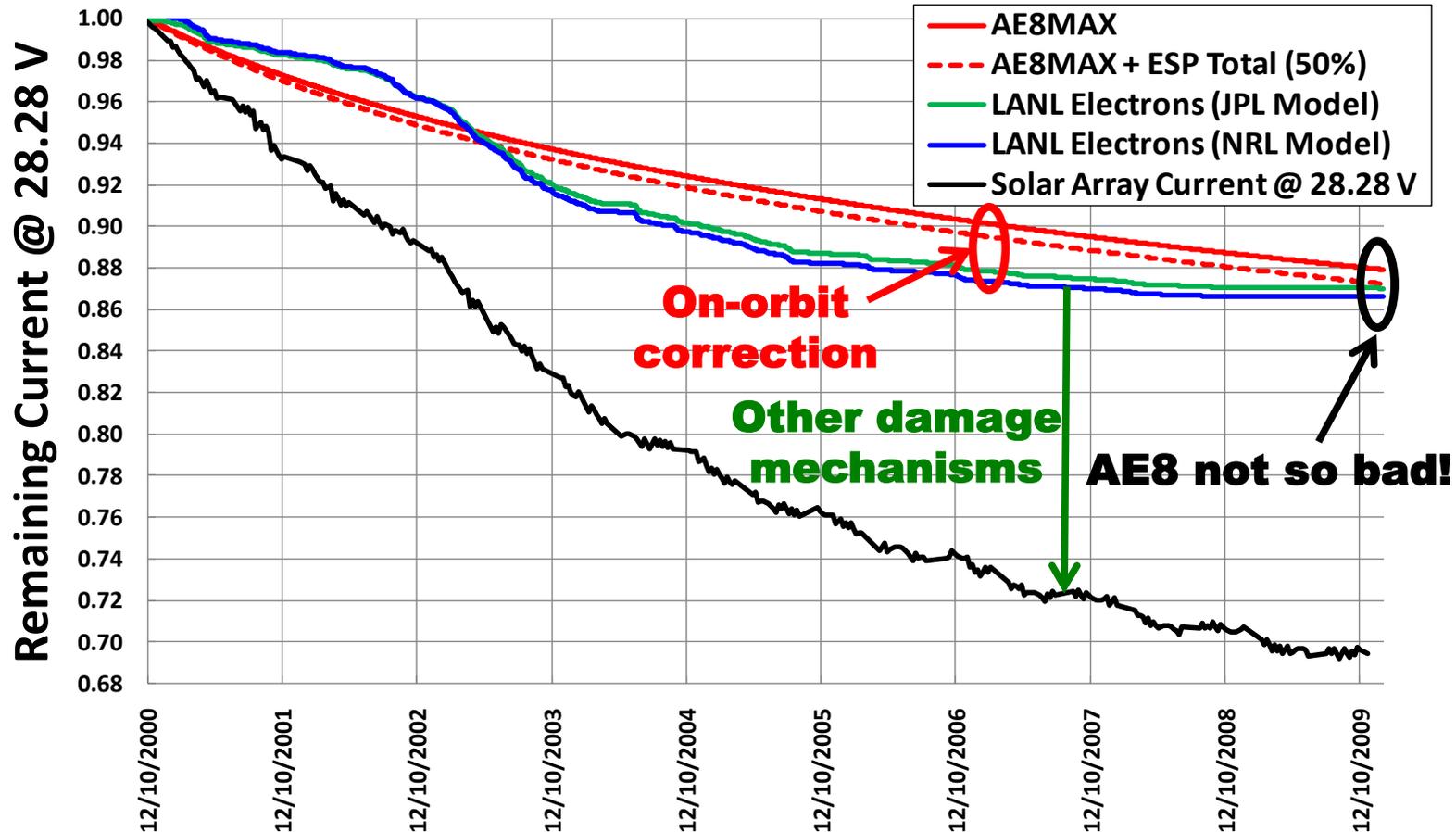
- LANL Burst Dosimeter Detector (BDD) onboard SVN41
  - Ion-implanted Si detectors behind varying shielding levels
  - Gives electron fluences for  $E > 0.04$  to  $> 10$  MeV
  - Gives proton fluences for  $E > 0.05$  to  $> 6$  MeV
  - Daily fluence and energy spectra supplied by LANL



**\*LA-UR-10-04234, LA-UR-08-2816**

# GPS-IIR (MEO: 20,200 km, 55°) – Trapped Electrons Dominant

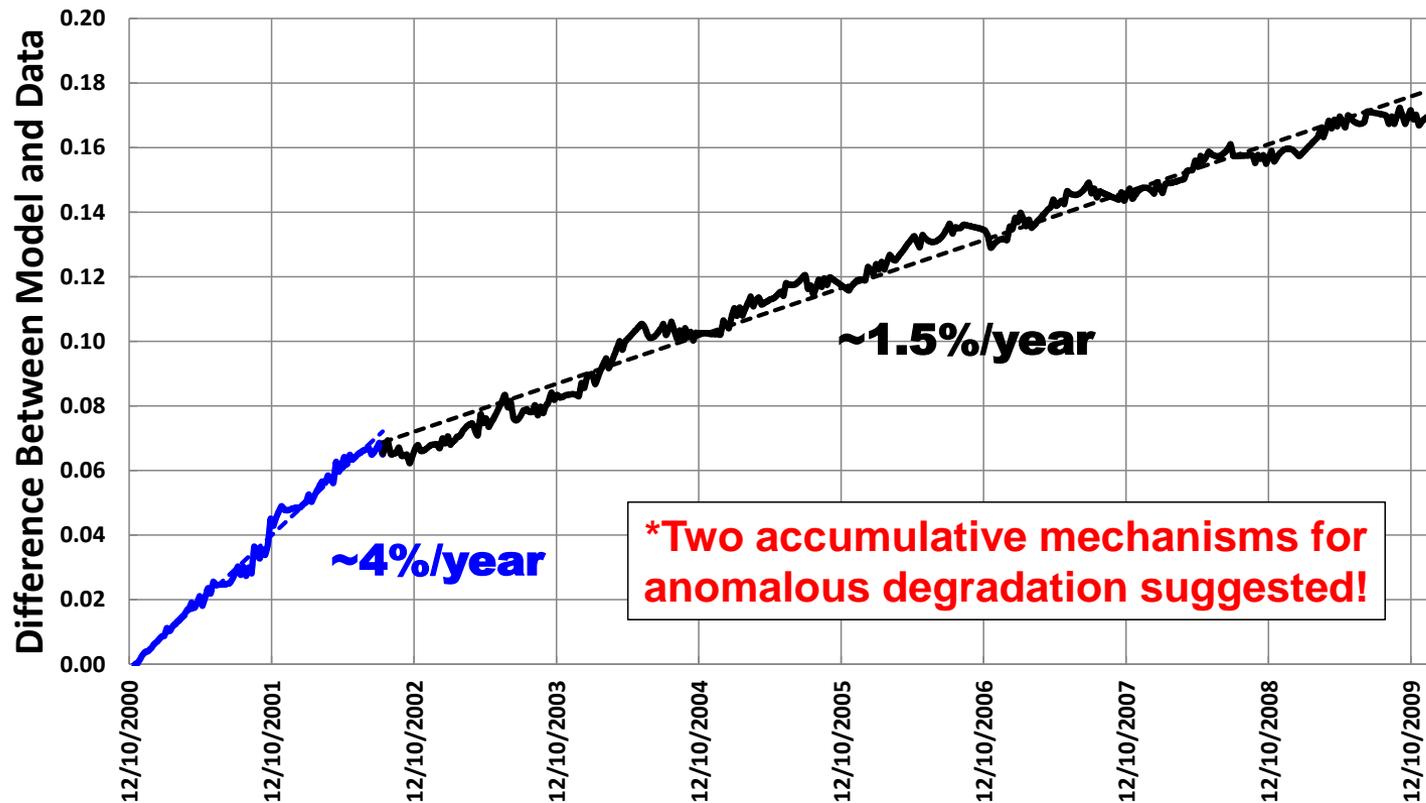
- SCREAM used BDD data to determine expected Si solar cell degradation behind 12 mil CMX coverglass



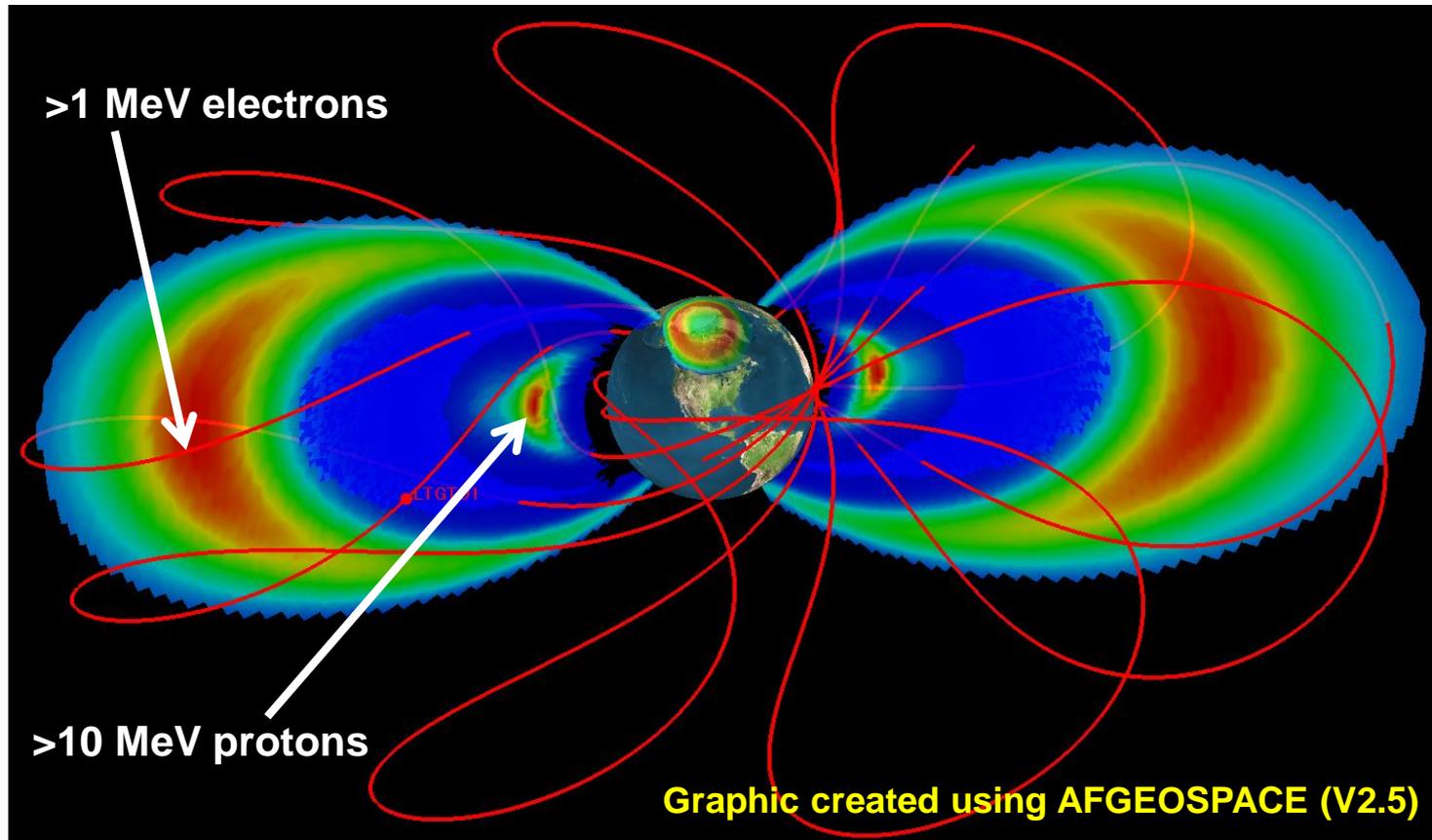
- Displacement damage eliminated from secondary damage mechanism
- Other damage mechanism causing anomaly

# GPS-IIR (MEO: 20,200km, 55°) – Trapped Electrons Dominant

- Analytical determination between expected (SCREAM) and measured showed interesting trends (IEEE Trans. Nucl. Sci. 58, p.3188 (2011))
  - Fast rate (4%/yr): contamination, UV, photo-fixing --- AR coating/conductive oxide?
  - Slow rate (1.5%/yr): trapped electrons --- coverglass damage, ESD (Ferguson et al. 2015)?



# Low-Thrust Trajectory to GEO (LT2GEO)



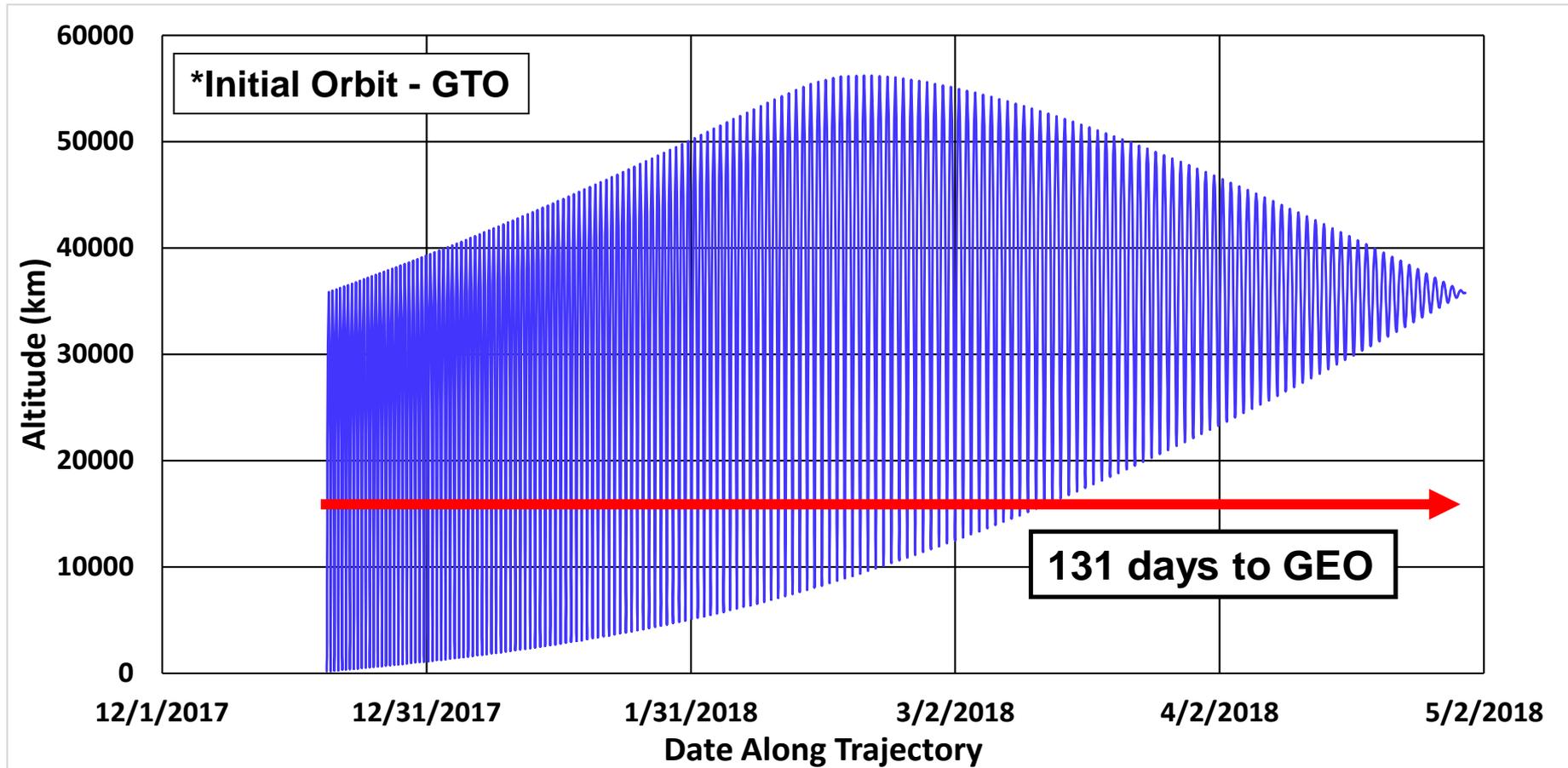
- Reduced Launch Costs
- Increased Payload

Trade Off

- Delayed GEO operations
- More Radiation Exposure

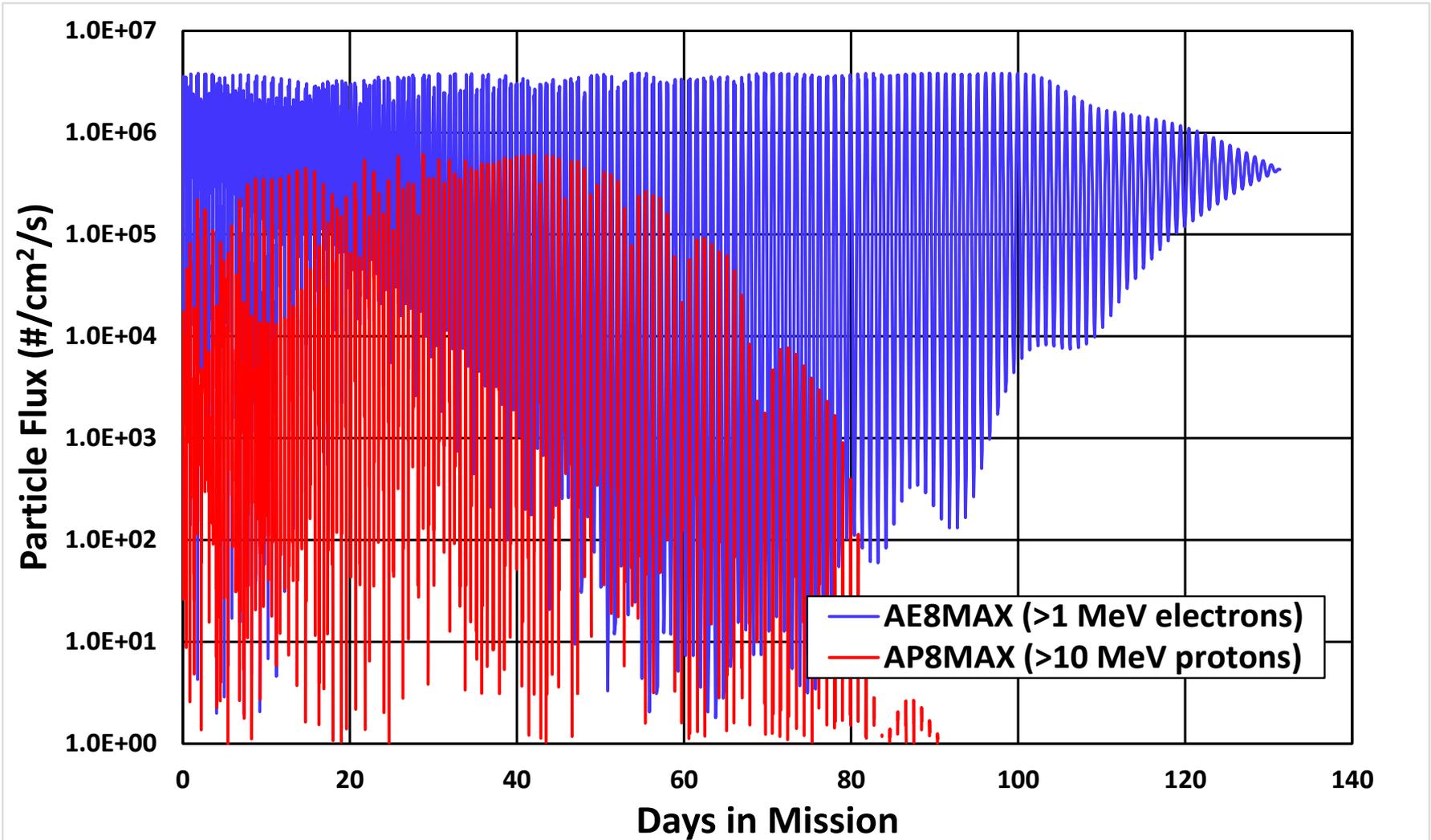
# Low-Thrust Trajectory to GEO (LT2GEO)

## *“Minimum-Time”* Low-Thrust Trajectory



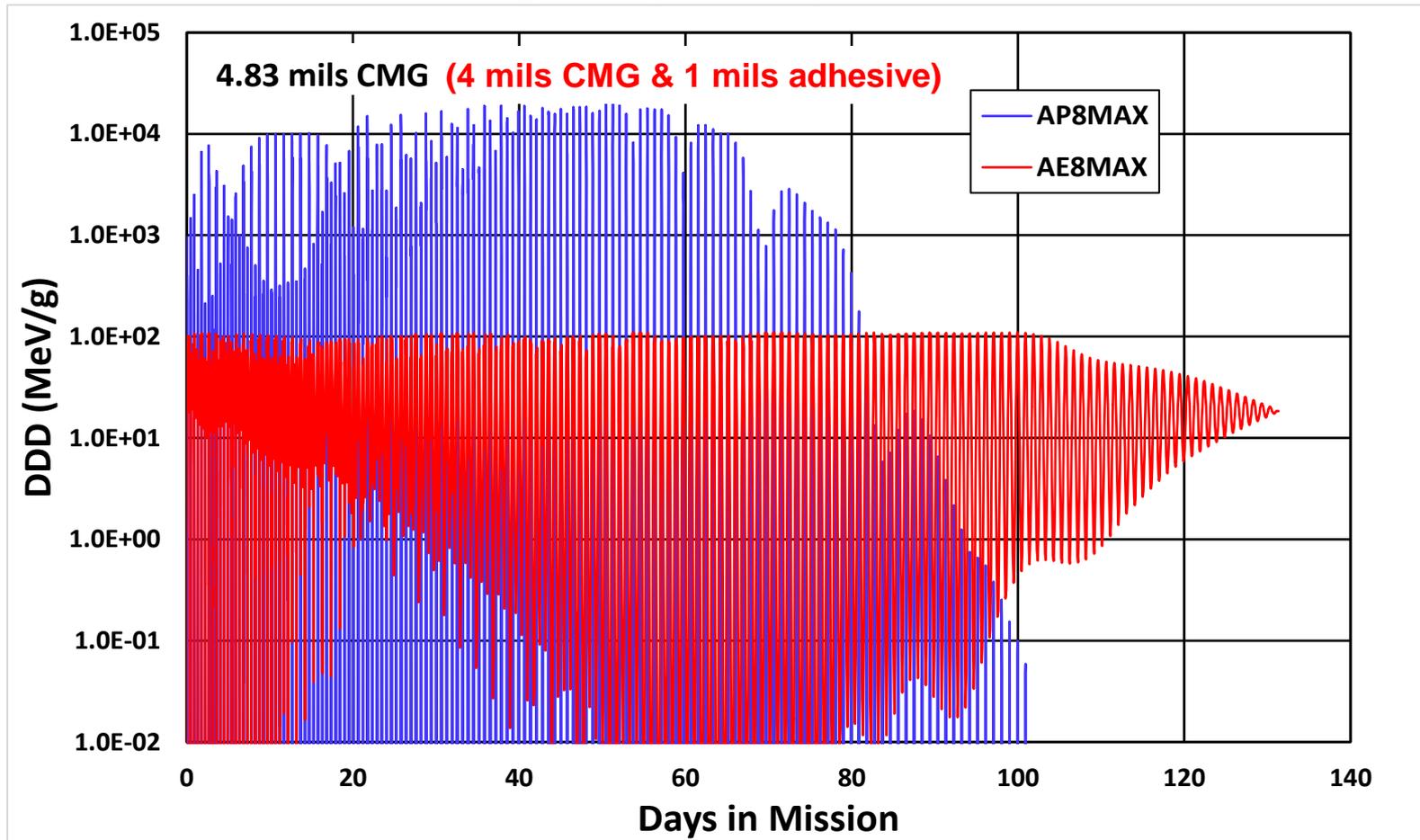
# Low-Thrust Trajectory to GEO (LT2GEO)

## Electron & Proton Fluxes Along Trajectory (AE8MAX/AP8MAX)



# Low-Thrust Trajectory to GEO (LT2GEO) – Trapped Protons Dominant

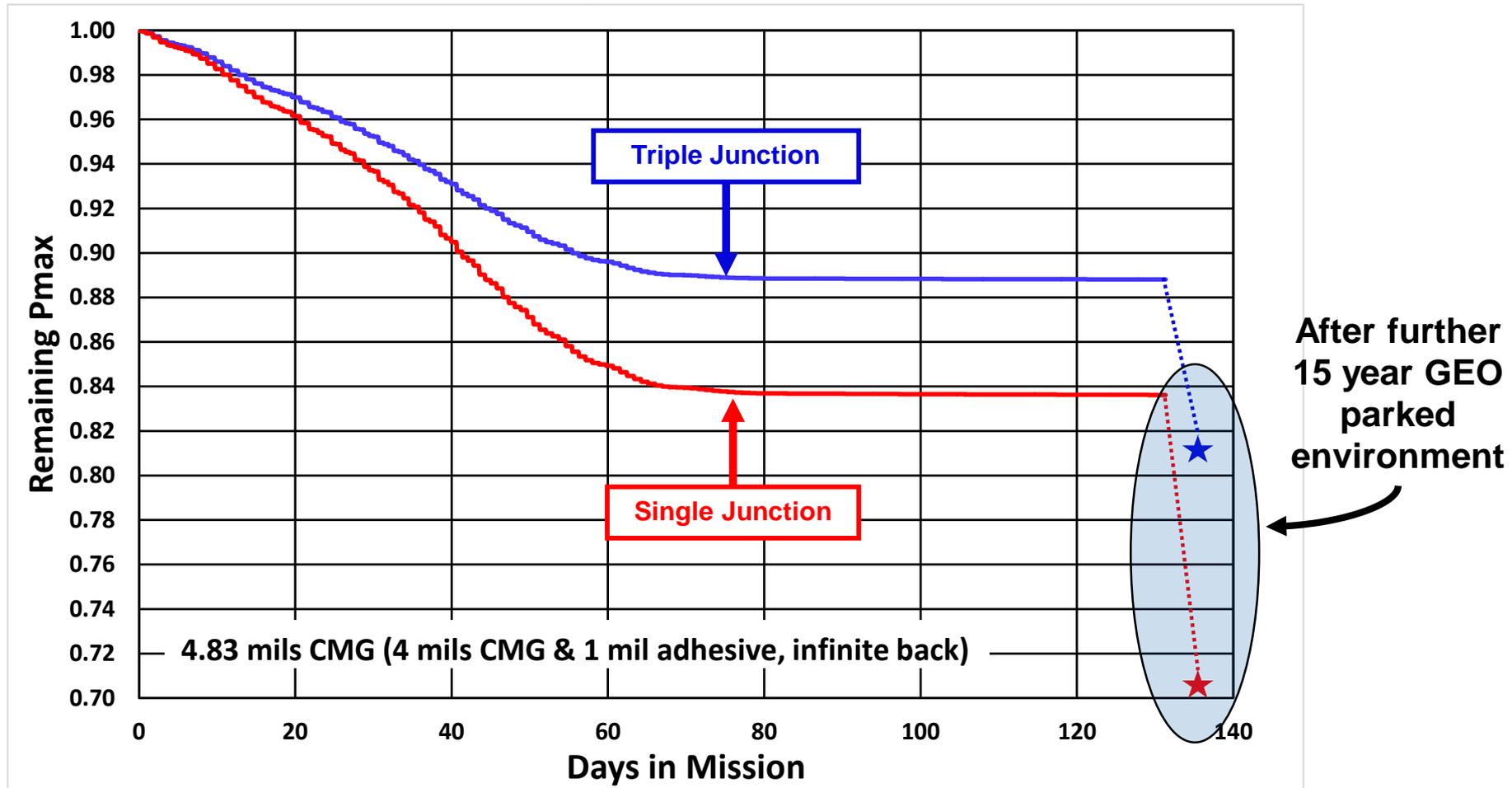
## DDD Along Trajectory (AE8MAX/AP8MAX)



\* Trapped protons dominate the DDD for the LT2GEO transfer

# Low-Thrust Trajectory to GEO (LT2GEO) – Trapped Protons Dominant

## Solar Cell Degradation (AP8MAX/AE8MAX)



\*The LT2GEO transfer significantly degrades both 1J and 3J solar cells

- SCREAM employs the DDD model for solar cell degradation
  - Slab geometry ( $2\pi$ )
- Bonus Capabilities
  - Multi-layered shielding
  - Time series spectra (on-orbit data, trade studies)
  - ShieldDDDose (Depth-DDD curves)
- Applications
  - Easy interpretation of dosimeter data onboard spacecraft for ORS
    - TacSat4 – helped understand extra radiation to project mission lifetime
    - GPS – eliminated DDD effects in solar cell to push efforts elsewhere
    - LT2GEO – aids in better solar array designs in present low-cost needs
  - Not only for solar cells (LEDs, laser diodes, CCDs, etc.)
    - Any ground data for which a parametric vs. DDD curve can be created

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