

Earth, Approx. to Scale



# Heliophysics Robotics And HEOMD

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Sep. 17, 2014

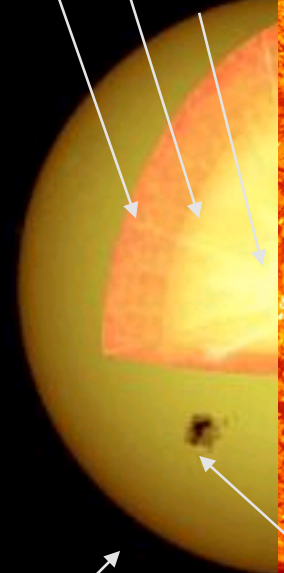


# SUN/ Variable Star

# EARTH/ Planet

## Where Humans Explore

convection zone  
radiative zone  
core



surface  
atmosphere

sunspot  
plage  
coronal mass ejection

- Varying
- Radiation
  - Solar Wind
  - Energetic Particles

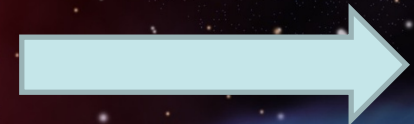
- Interacting
- Solar Wind
  - Energetic Particles

*bow shock*

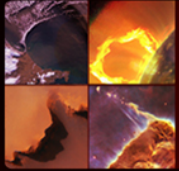
*solar wind*

*heliosphere*

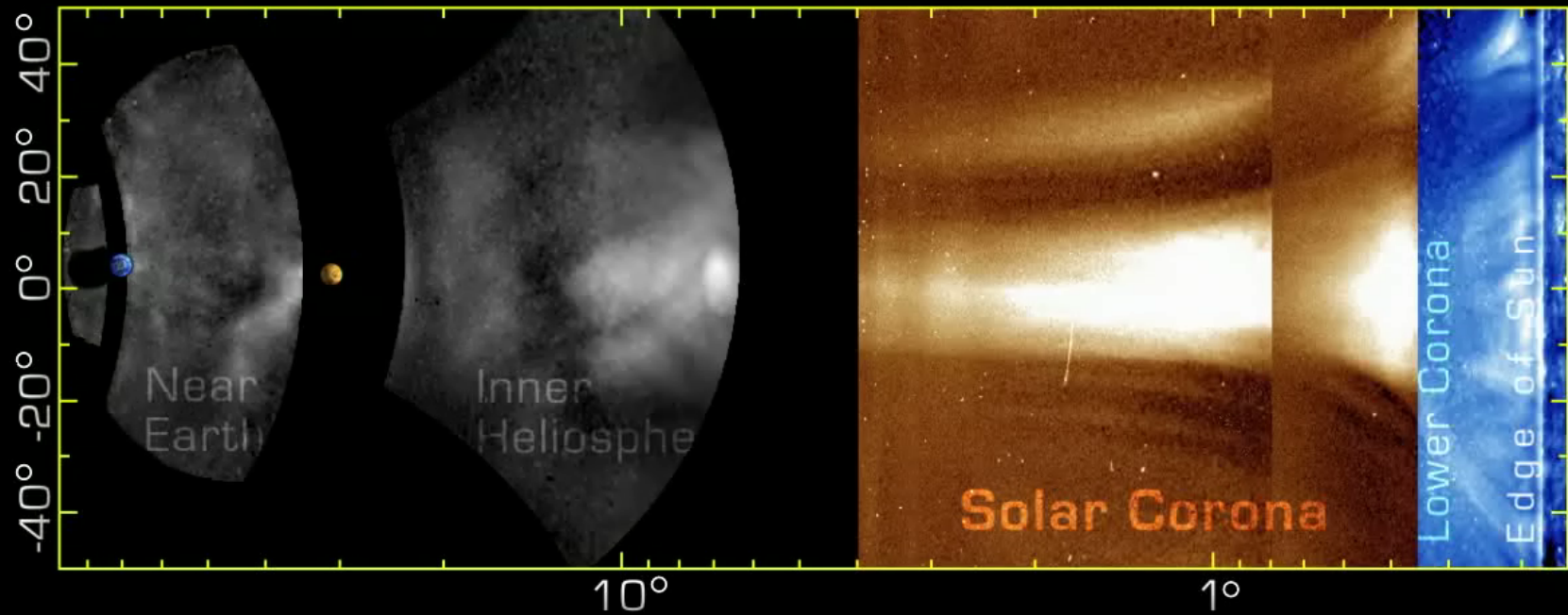
surface  
atmosphere  
ionosphere  
plasmasphere  
magnetosphere



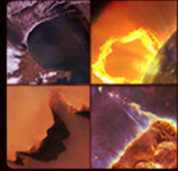
not to scale



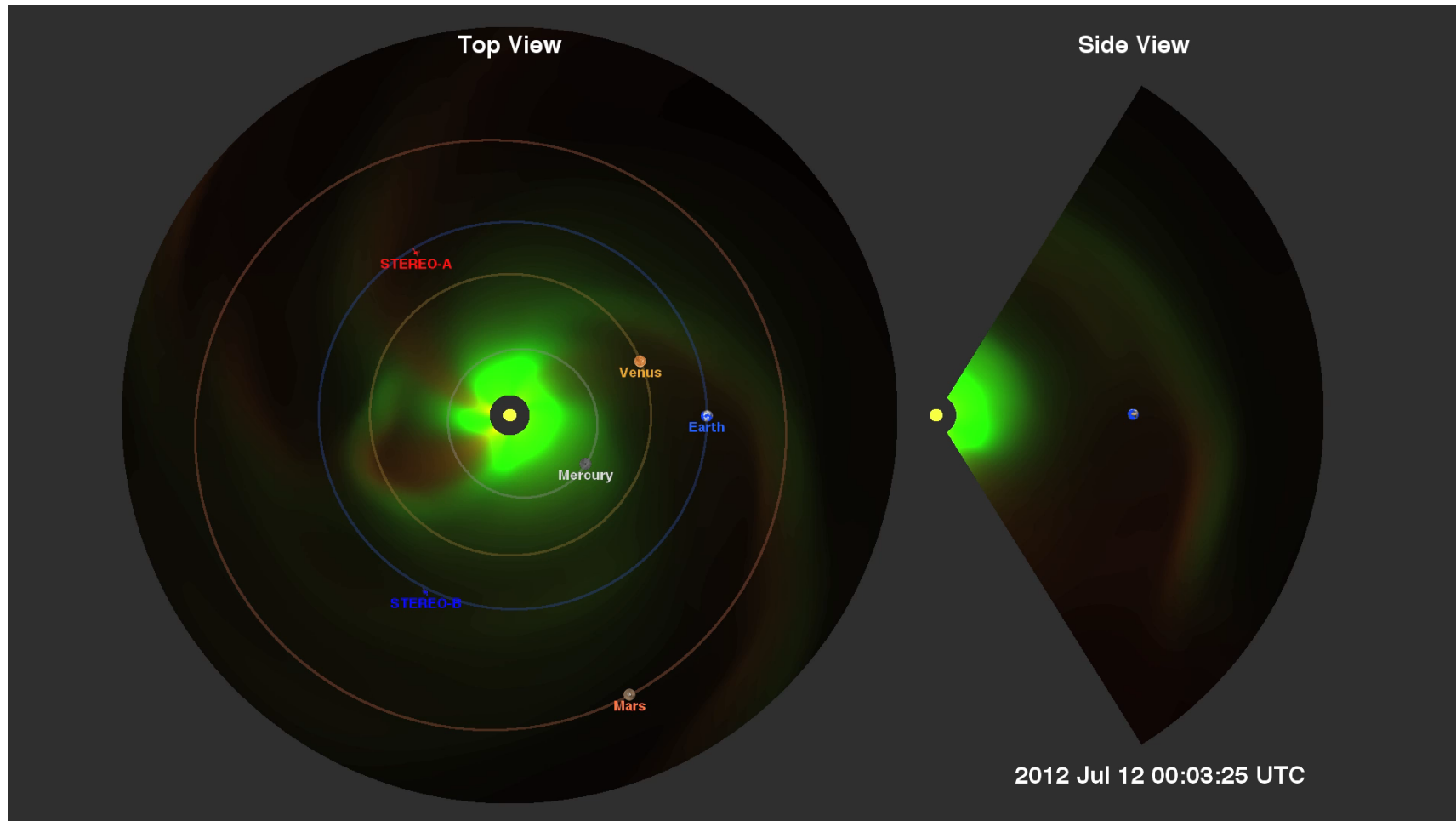
# STEREO Tracks a CME through Interplanetary Space



STEREO-A:12/11/08 12:40:00 AM



# Modeling Storms Throughout the Heliosphere

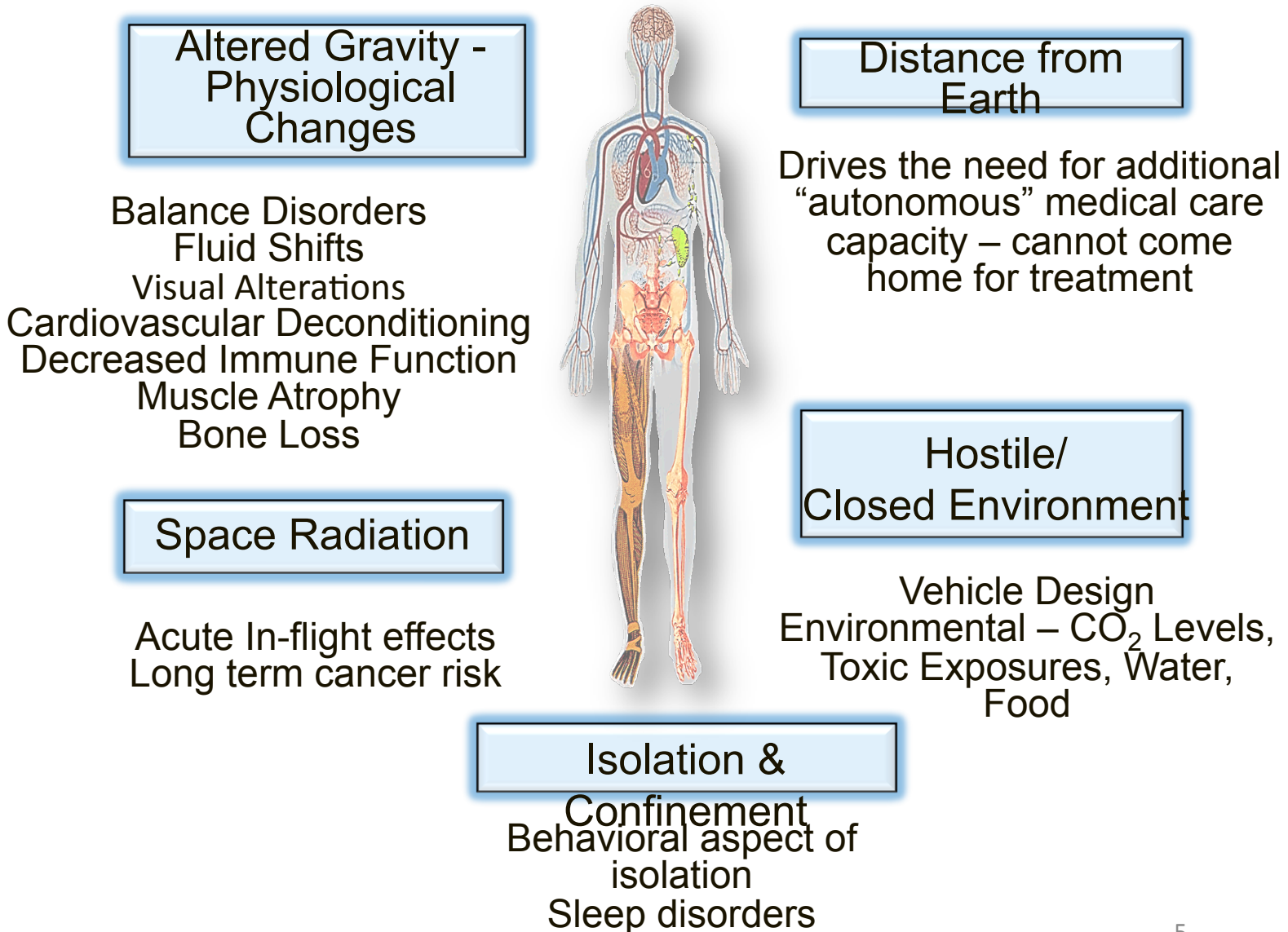


Numerical model of the July 23, 2012, CME and events leading up to it.



# Hazards of Spaceflight

## Hazards Drive Human Spaceflight Risks



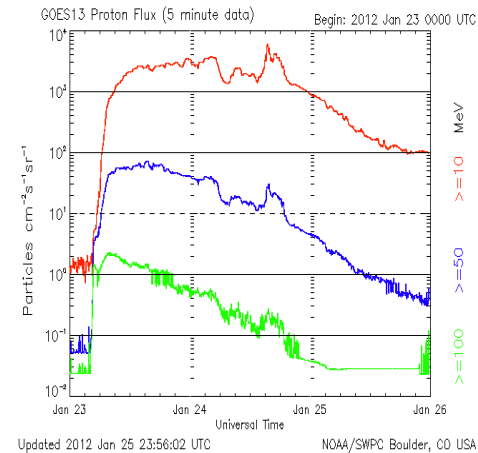
# Space Flight Health Standards Control Risks

- Standards Define An Accepted Level Of Health Risk And Limit Decrements To Protect Crew Health And Safety
  - Based on best available scientific/clinical evidence, expert recommendations, and vetted with National Academies
  - All risks will be mitigated to the maximum extent possible, yet some decrements may still occur (Crew may lose bone density, but only to a medically established level)
  - Countermeasures must support these standards to protect crew health
- Three Categories Of Space Flight Health Standards
  - **Fitness for Duty (FFD – e.g. cardiovascular):** Minimum measurable capability or capacity for a given physiological or behavioral parameter that allows successful performance of all required duties.
  - **Permissible Outcome Limits (POL – e.g. limit bone loss):** POLs delineate an acceptable maximum decrement or change in a physiological or behavioral parameter, as the result of exposure to the space environment.
  - **Permissible Exposure Limits (PEL – e.g. radiation exposure):** Quantifiable limit of exposure to a space flight factor over a given length of time.

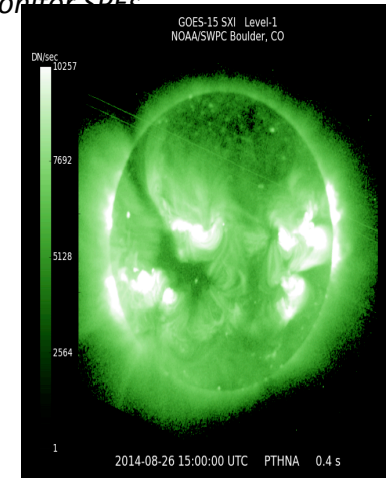


# Protecting ISS Crew: Solar Particle Event (SPE) Action Summary

- Radiation flight controller returns to console during contingency operations such as SPEs
  - Alert/Warning messages to management and flight control team
  - Ensure radiation monitoring system availability
- If SPE dose projection is determined to be negligible by the flight surgeon, then no action will be taken
- If energetic solar particle event has increased above threshold or radiation detector alarm activation is confirmed, inform crew to remain in higher shielded areas during intervals of high risk orbital alignments.
- ISS higher shielded locations used to protect crew
  - Service module aft of treadmill (panel 339), Node 2 crew quarters, and U.S. Lab



*Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite (GOES) Proton Flux Monitor used to monitor SPEs*

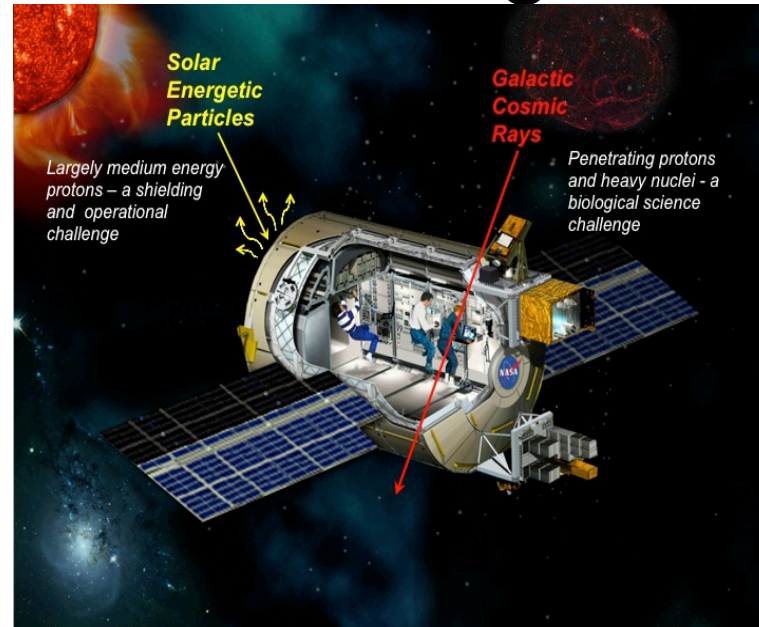


*GOES Solar X-ray Image for the early detection of solar flares and coronal mass ejections 7*

# Primary Space Radiation Mitigations

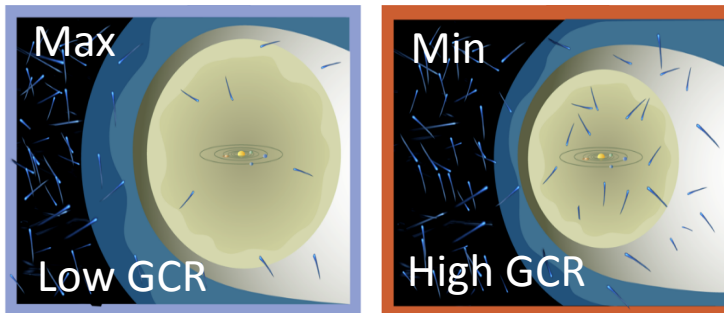
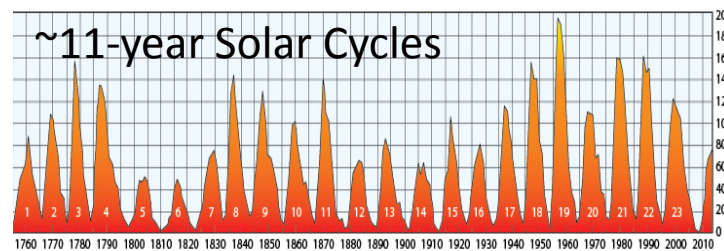
## Optimized Spacecraft Shielding/Storm Shelters Can Protect Crew Against Solar Particle Events (SPEs)

- Shielding is only marginally effective against galactic cosmic rays (GCRs)
- Increasing shielding thickness adds substantial mass with minimal additional GCR exposure reduction



## Timing A Mars Mission Around Solar Cycle's Maximum Can Help Protect Crew Against GCRs

- At solar maximum, the interplanetary magnetic field & solar wind increase to expand the heliosphere, shielding the solar system from incoming GCRs
- GCR exposure can be reduced at solar max by up to a factor of two





# NASA Work to Enable

## Mars

### Advanced Medical Approaches Applied Pre-/Post-Mission

- Understanding the individual sensitivities
- Enhancing post mission care
- Do not currently use pre-mission screening or post mission cancer monitoring

### Exploration Space Radiation Storm Shelter Design and Real-time Radiation Alert System

- Development of these capabilities for exploration missions can reduce crew exposure risk to SPEs to negligible levels

### MSL-RAD Measurements of Mars Radiation Environment

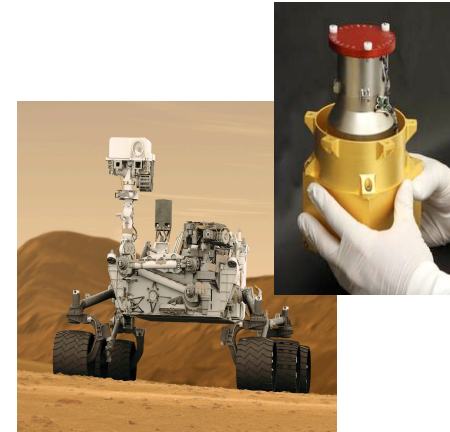
- MSL-RAD is providing important data on the radiation environment on the surface of Mars

### Mars Mission Design & Advanced Deep Space Propulsion

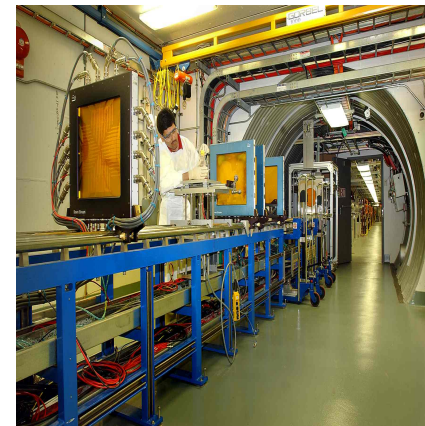
- Reducing deep space transit times can reduce space radiation exposure and mitigate human health risks

### Space Radiation Research at NSRL

- Key to reducing the space radiation health effects uncertainties, refinement of cancer risk model, and understanding cardiovascular and CNS risks



*MSL-RAD is making radiation measurements on Mars*



*NSRL is the only USA facility that can simulate the harsh cosmic and solar radiation environment found in space*

# Space Flight Health Standards for Exploration

## Standards for Space Exploration Missions

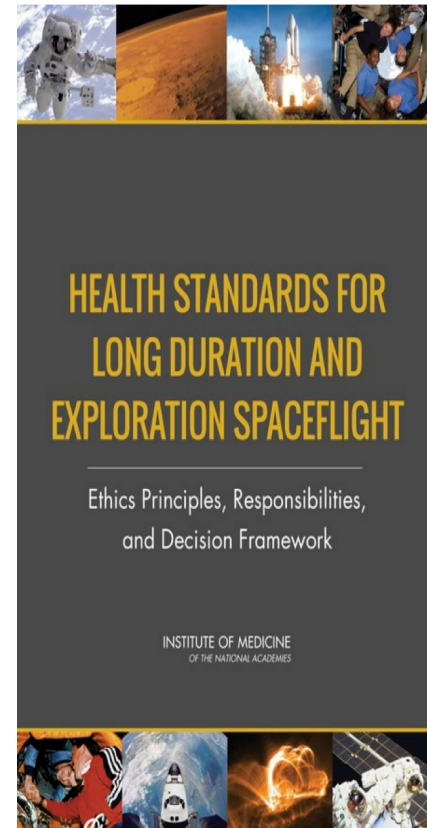
If existing LEO space radiation exposure standards cannot be fully met for a Mars Mission, an ethics framework, developed by the Institute of Medicine, could help to guide decision making about health standards for exploration class missions

“Health Standards for Long Duration and Exploration Spaceflight: Ethics Principles, Responsibilities, and Decision Framework” released April, 2014

- Provides information and discussion of ethical principles and responsibilities
- Office of the Chief Health and Medical Officer can incorporate into its health/medical standards processes and decision-making
- Recommendations are being implemented within the context of existing Agency decision making and risk assessment processes

National Council On Radiation Protection (NCRP)  
Draft Report Is Under Review

- It is anticipated that no changes will be recommended to the current NASA radiation standard (3% REID) for exploration missions





# Summary

- Space Weather impacts all aspects of human exploration of space – human and robotic
- Advancements in forecasting and modeling have and will benefit both
- Understanding the nature of space weather is important for both science and operations
- Risks to “systems” can be mitigated in a variety of ways
- Result = ability to explore beyond LEO