Energetic particles in the heliosphere current understanding and challenges for space weather services

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Energetic particle populations in space



- Corotating Interaction Regions (CIRs) (<u>only < 20 MeV/n ions</u>)
- Solar Energetic Particle (SEP) events (related to solar flares and CMEs)
- > Other populations of non solar origin, however strongly controlled by the large scale structure of the interplanetary magnetic field (i.e. modulation).
 - Galactic Cosmic Rays (GCRs)
 - Anomalous Cosmic Rays
 (ACRs) (only during solar minimum)
 - Jovian electrons

Credit: Adapted from M. Desai

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Energetic particle populations in space



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Solar Energetic Particle (SEP) events

The origin of SEP events

Impulsive Gradual > Since the 90s: Distinction of 2 classes of events: -Impulsive (small, frequent, presumably flare related) - Gradual (large, rare, presumably fast CME related) - The separation scheme is not that clear (mixed contributions, hybrid events) CME Shocks Flares Impulsive Gradual Flare-related CME-driven Shock Fe/O ~ 1 Fe/O ~ 0.1 ³He/⁴He ~ 0.1 - 1 ³He/⁴He <0.01 10 6 Q_{Fe} ~ 20 Q_{Fe} ~ 10-14 (B) Gradual (A) Impulsive W35 CME W59 Shock Shock W59 10 4 Particles/(cm² sr s MeV/n) W57 CME Narrow injection cone Broad injection cone W60 Shock 10 2 Radio type III Radio type II & IV * 0.2-2 MeV e 10 0 > Lower intensity, > Higher intensity, short duration 10 longer duration 10 -4 events \Rightarrow Significant 27 28 12 13 14 1982 August 15 16 17 18 19 21 23 25 \Rightarrow Less severe 989 October



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Credit: SOHO / NASA

ESA

- > The occurrence rate of SEP events is related to the solar cycle, however <u>short-term forecasting</u> is difficult:
 - "Strong flares and fast CMEs give ground to <u>SEP events</u>" but what does strong and fast really means ?
 - Prediction of the ICME/shock transit time to 1 AU and the importance of the possible *Energetic Storm Particles* (ESPs) spike is also complicated
- > However, correlations & dependencies between SEP occurrence rates, intensities and SF or CME properties have been found



⇒ Data Driven Methods

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Data-driven methods





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Data-driven methods



ESPERTA

Empirical model for Solar Proton Event Real Time Alert

> Time-integrated soft X-ray flux,
> Time-integrated radio intensity @ 1 MHz

Laurenza et al., Space Weather, 2009 Alberti et al., Astrophys. J, 2017 Laurenza et al., Astrophys. J, 2019

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Data-driven methods

UMASEP

- > Soft X-ray flux (derivative)
- > Proton flux at various energies (derivative)

Núñez, Space Weather, 2011; 2015; 2017

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Data-driven methods

REleASE

Relativistic Electron Alert System for Exploration

Posner, Space Weather, 2009

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- > In order to *improve* the **forecasting quality**, we need to <u>better understand</u> the **physical processes** that **govern the particle acceleration**, **injection** and **propagation**. In particular, we need to understand:
 - Acceleration and injection processes near the Sun
 - SEP interplanetary transport (diffusive models)

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Focused Transport

Aran et al., Charged Particle Transport in the Interplanetary Medium, ASSL, Springer, 2018

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SOLPENCO2

Aran et al., ESWW16, Session 8

http://sepem.eu/help/solpenco2_intro.html

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SOLPENCO2

June 6, 2000 SEP event

Aran et al., ESWW16, Session 8

http://sepem.eu/help/solpenco2_intro.html

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Beyond the Archimedean spiral IMF

MHD + transport modeling

> MHD background (<u>EUHFORIA code</u>) + 3D Particle Transport Modeling applied to a CIR

Wijsen et al., Astron. Astrophys., 2019

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A novel hybrid tool

Coupling Data-driven + Physics based models

TDM today [!] @ 14:00 Mozane 789

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Conclusions

- > Outside the protective barrier of the magnetosphere the most important contribution to radiation risk comes from gradual SEP events
- > Forecasting models and tools progressively <u>become more reliable</u>. With the coupling of Data-driven and Physics based models being already achieved.

→ <u>Better understanding of the physical processes is needed</u> (acceleration, propagation, transport) for better **forecasting quality**.

⇒ Such understanding will be (hopefully) achieved by new missions during the upcoming years: Solar Orbiter, Parker Solar Probe, BepiColombo ...

Thank you for your attention

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