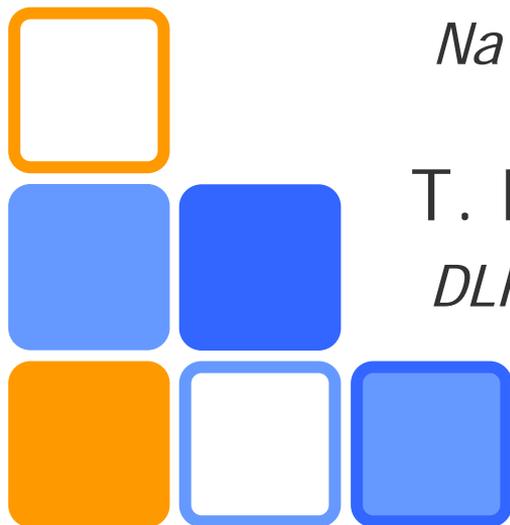


# A proposal on CR-39 PNTDs analysis for space radiation dosimetry

N. Yasuda, S. Kodaira, Y. Uchihori, H. Kitamura, M. Kurano, H. Kawashima  
*National Institute of Radiological Sciences (NIRS)*

T. Berger  
*DLR - German Aerospace Center*



# Discrepancy of LET spectrum and dose results obtained by CR-39 PNTDs

Preliminary results of CR-39 PNTDs measured by some Institutes in the DOSIS-I experiment have some discrepancies on LET spectra and dose results of  $\pm > 40 \%$  (T. Berger, 15<sup>th</sup> WRMIS presentation)

- ✓ Difference of material
- ✓ Difference of track measurement and analysis methods

For the understanding of such discrepancies...

Verify the variation of dose result by:

- 1) Position dependency
- 2) Analyzing area size dependency
- 3) Track selection criteria dependency

Trials were done as the part of work in DOSIS-I

## Typical “*NIRS method*” for space radiation dosimetry

- Detector: HARZLAS/TD-1 (0.9 mmt)
- Etching condition: 7mol/l NaOH 70°C 8hr  
→ Bulk etch: 14.7μm
- Scanning: - HSP-1000 microscope x20 (0.35mm/pix res.)  
- Area size 4mm<sup>2</sup>
- Analysis: - Semi-automatic analysis by PitFit software  
- Select only penetrating track by eye  
(i.e. taking no over-etched track)  
- Track registration sensitivity ( $S=V_t/V_b-1$ ) is obtained using the track size of opening-mouth:

$$S \equiv \frac{V_t}{V_b} - 1 = \sqrt{\frac{16B^2 D^2}{(4B^2 - d^2)^2} + 1} - 1$$

(D: major axis, d: minor axis, B: bulk etch)

## Typical “NIRS method” for space radiation dosimetry

- Detector: HARZLAS/TD-1 (0.9 mmt)
- Etching condition: 7mol/l NaOH 70°C 8hr  
→ Bulk etch: 14.7μm
- Scanning: - HSP-1000 microscope x20 (0.35mm/pix res.)  
- Area size 4mm<sup>2</sup>
- Analysis: - Semi-automatic analysis by PitFit software  
- Select only penetrating track by eye  
(i.e. taking no over-etched track)  
- Track registration sensitivity ( $S=V_t/V_b-1$ ) is obtained using the track size of opening-mouth:

$$S \equiv \frac{V_t}{V_b} - 1 = \sqrt{\frac{16B^2 D^2}{(4B^2 - d^2)^2} + 1} - 1$$

(D: major axis, d: minor axis, B: bulk etch)

## Typical “NIRS method” for space radiation dosimetry

- Detector: HARZLAS/TD-1 (0.9 mmt)
- Etching condition: 7mol/l NaOH 70°C 8hr  
→ Bulk etch: 14.7μm
- Scanning: - HSP-1000 microscope x20 (0.35mm/pix res.)  
- Area size 4mm<sup>2</sup>
- Analysis: - Semi-automatic analysis by PitFit software  
- Select only penetrating track by eye  
(i.e. taking no over-etched track)  
- Track registration sensitivity ( $S=V_t/V_b-1$ ) is obtained using the track size of opening-mouth:

$$S \equiv \frac{V_t}{V_b} - 1 = \sqrt{\frac{16B^2 D^2}{(4B^2 - d^2)^2} + 1} - 1$$

(D: major axis, d: minor axis, B: bulk etch)

## Typical “NIRS method” for space radiation dosimetry

- Detector: HARZLAS/TD-1 (0.9 mmt)
- Etching condition: 7mol/l NaOH 70°C 8hr
  - Bulk etch: 14.7μm
- Scanning: - HSP-1000 microscope x20 (0.35mm/pix res.)
  - Area size 4mm<sup>2</sup>
- Analysis: - Semi-automatic analysis by PitFit software
  - Select only penetrating track by eye (i.e. taking no over-etched track)
  - Track registration sensitivity ( $S=V_t/V_b-1$ ) is obtained using the track size of opening-mouth:

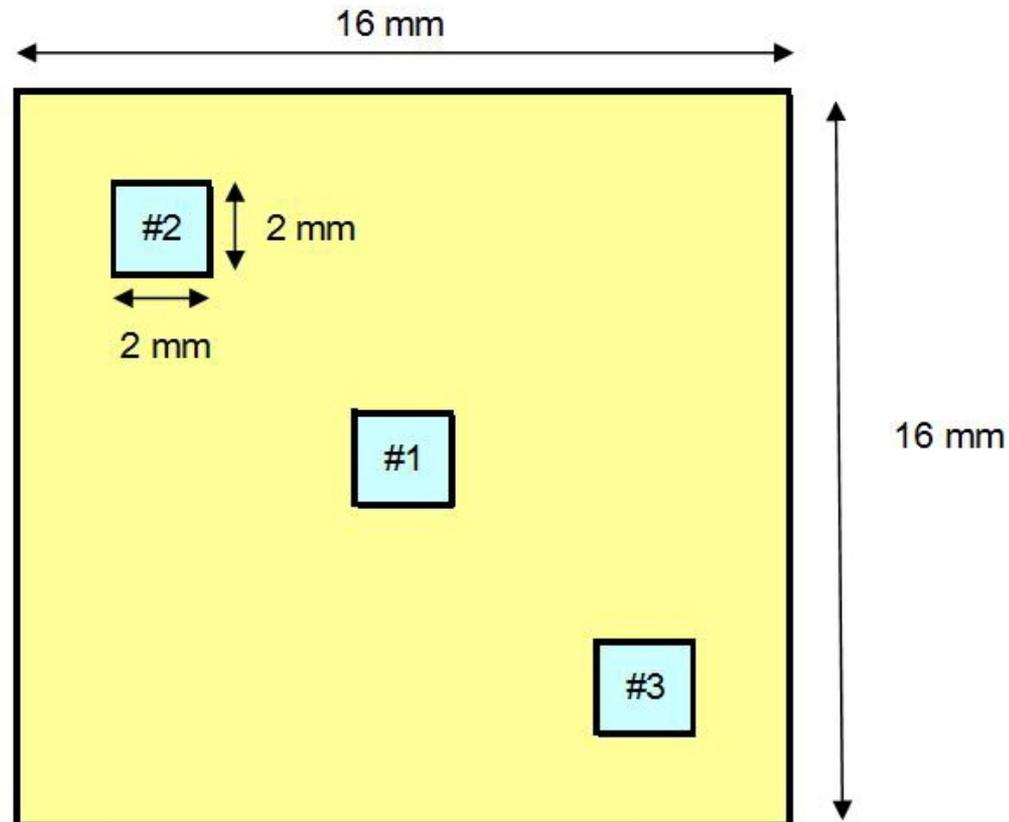
$$S \equiv \frac{V_t}{V_b} - 1 = \sqrt{\frac{16B^2 D^2}{(4B^2 - d^2)^2} + 1} - 1$$

(D: major axis, d: minor axis, B: bulk etch)

# 1) Position dependency

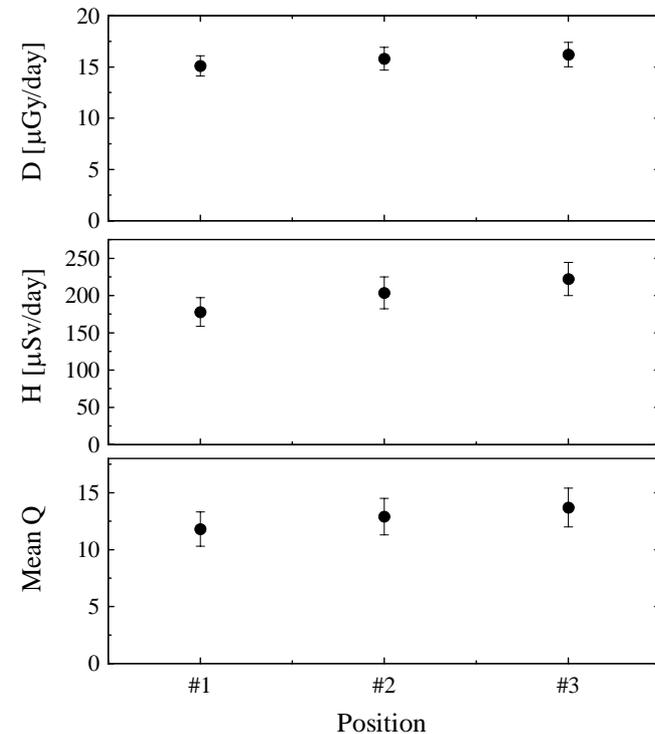
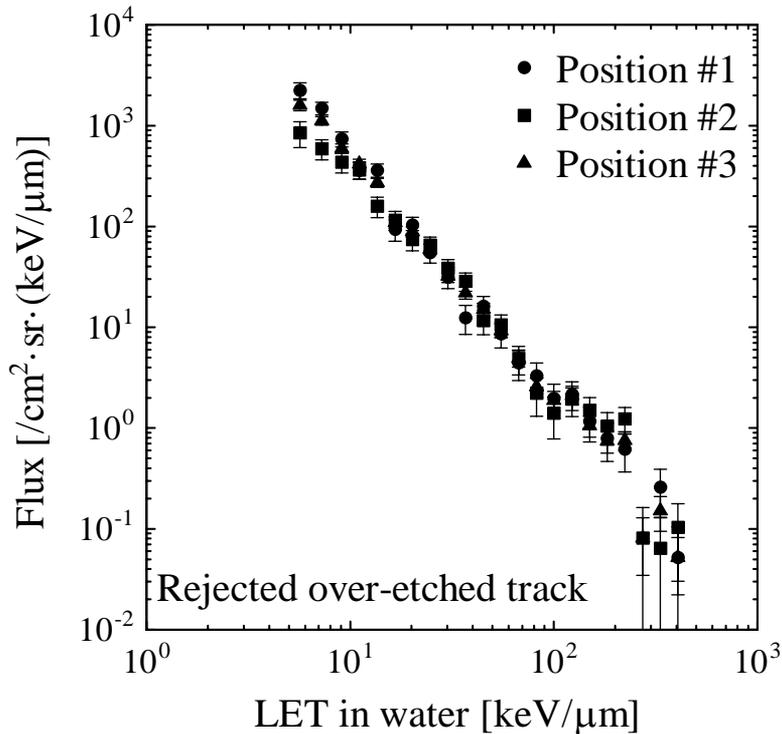
## Trial 1

- Difference of dose results for the measurement position on the detector with the detector size of 16mmx16mm
- Analysis at different 3 positions (#1, #2, #3)
- Analyzing area size for each position is 2mmx2mm



Dose results for different 3 positions. LET threshold: 10 keV/ $\mu\text{m}$ .

|    | D<br>[mGy]    | H<br>[mSv]     | D rate<br>[uGy/d] | H rate<br>[uSv/d] | Q              | Track density<br>[cm <sup>-2</sup> ] |
|----|---------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| #1 | 2.1 $\pm$ 0.1 | 24.1 $\pm$ 2.6 | 15.1 $\pm$ 1.0    | 177.8 $\pm$ 19.4  | 11.8 $\pm$ 1.5 | 6432                                 |
| #2 | 2.1 $\pm$ 0.2 | 27.6 $\pm$ 2.9 | 15.8 $\pm$ 1.1    | 203.5 $\pm$ 21.5  | 12.9 $\pm$ 1.6 | 6308                                 |
| #3 | 2.2 $\pm$ 0.2 | 30.2 $\pm$ 3.1 | 16.2 $\pm$ 1.2    | 222.2 $\pm$ 22.5  | 13.7 $\pm$ 1.7 | 6184                                 |

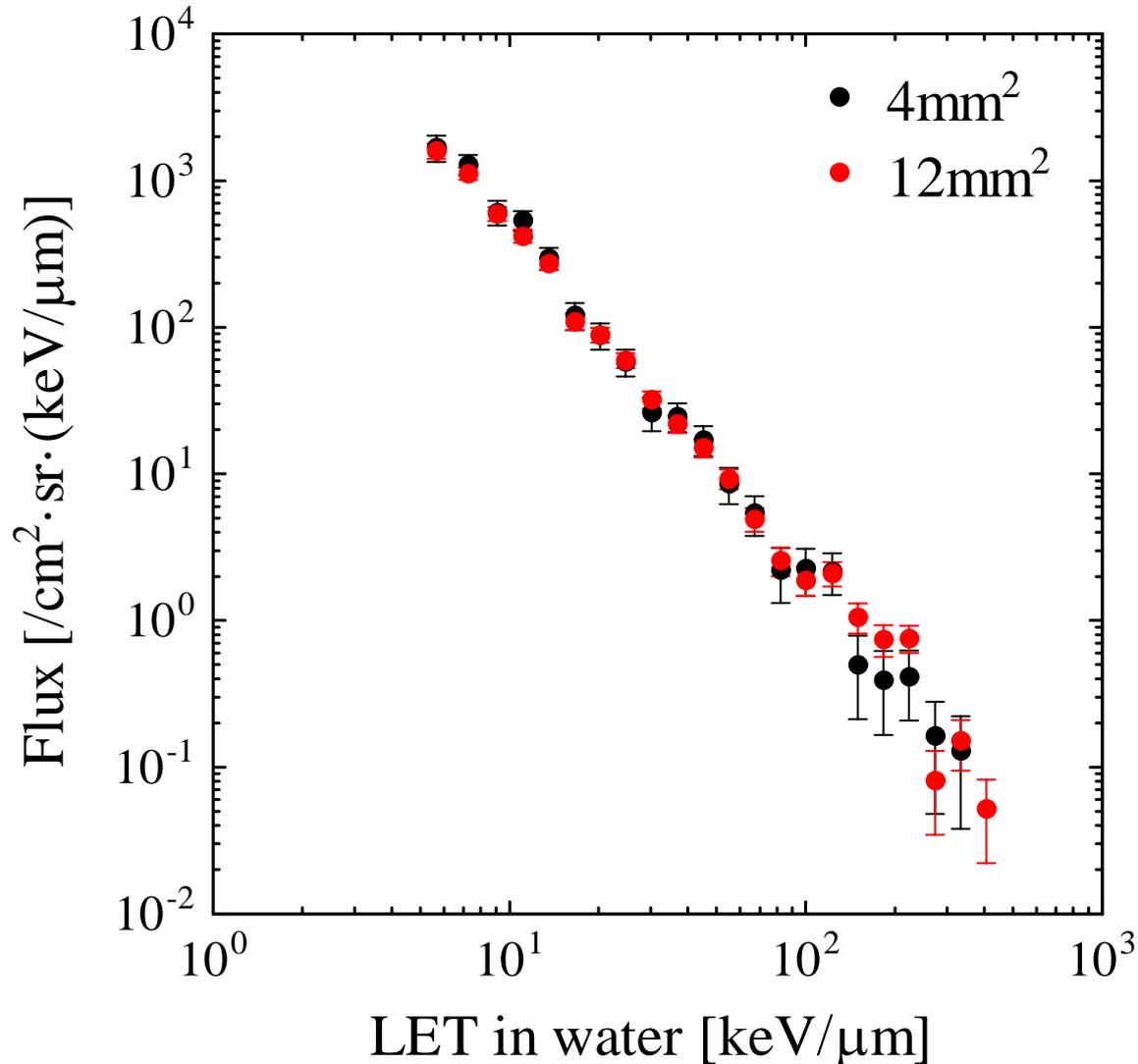


Remarkable dose dispersion was not found for position difference of 16 mm x 16 mm in size.

## 2) Analyzing area size dependency

Trial 2

Difference of dose results for the difference of area size: 4 mm<sup>2</sup> and 12 mm<sup>2</sup>



Dose results for 4mm<sup>2</sup> and 12mm<sup>2</sup> area sizes. LET threshold: 10 keV/μm.

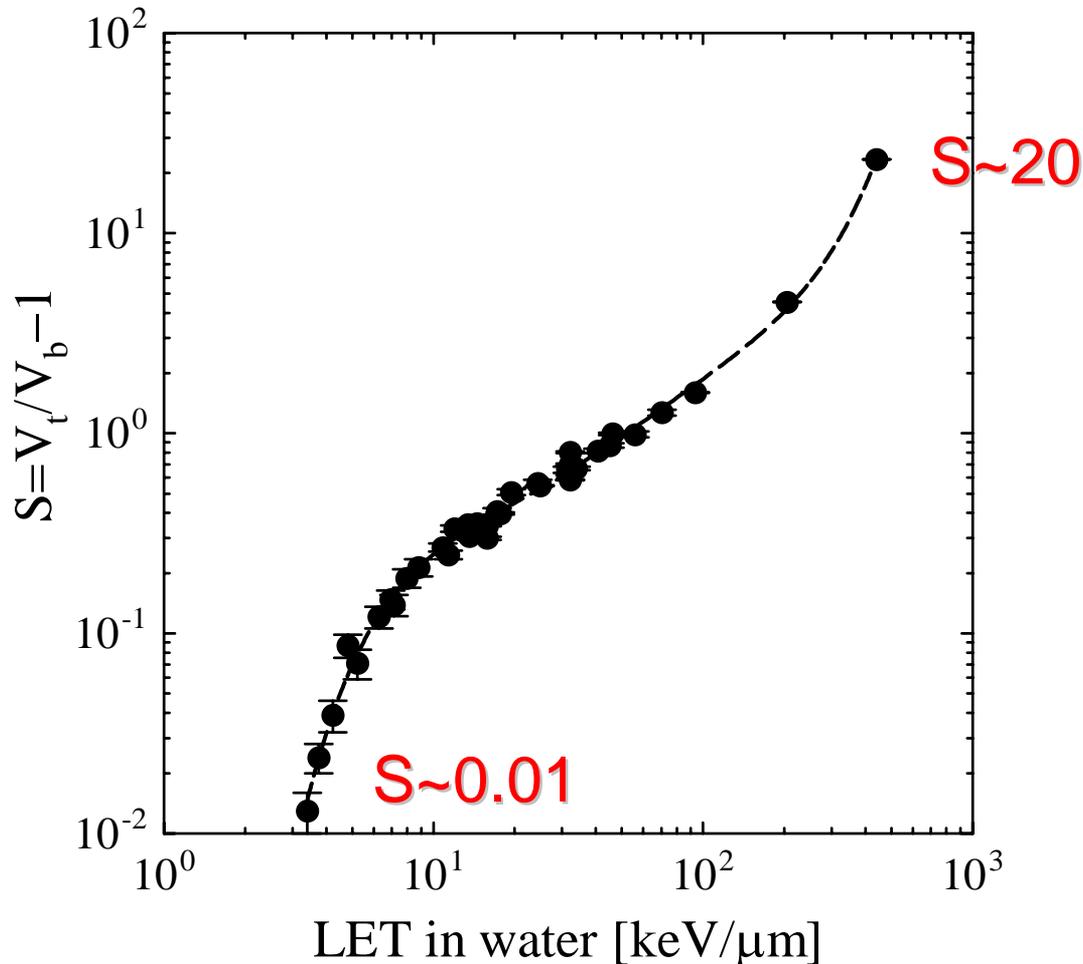
|                   | D<br>[mGy] | H<br>[mSv] | D rate<br>[uGy/d] | H rate<br>[uSv/d] | Q          | Track density<br>[cm <sup>-2</sup> ] |
|-------------------|------------|------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|
| 4mm <sup>2</sup>  | 2.1 ± 0.1  | 24.1 ± 2.6 | 15.1 ± 1.0        | 177.8 ± 19.4      | 11.8 ± 1.5 | 6432                                 |
| 12mm <sup>2</sup> | 2.1 ± 0.1  | 27.3 ± 1.7 | 15.7 ± 0.6        | 201.2 ± 12.2      | 12.8 ± 0.9 | 6308                                 |

- 3 times measurement statistics (4mm<sup>2</sup>→12mm<sup>2</sup>):
  - LET range: <366 keV/μm@4mm<sup>2</sup> → <447 keV/μm@12mm<sup>2</sup>
  - Remarkable dose dispersion was not found (within error bar)
  - Detected number of penetrating track over 500 keV/μm:
    - 4 mm<sup>2</sup> → 0 event
    - 12 mm<sup>2</sup> → 1 event
    - # This 1 event data was not included in the results because the measured track registration sensitivity (S) is too high to be out of range in our method (Limitation of S measurement in NIRS method is S<20)

# Calibration of NIRS CR-39 PNTD (TD-1)

- Measurable range of track registration sensitivity ( $S$ ) is  $S=0.01\sim 20$  in our analysis method

→ Calibrated LET range is from 5 to 450 keV/ $\mu\text{m}$  (proton~Krypton)



For detecting very high LET particles over  $500 \text{ keV}/\mu\text{m}$ , how large are size of CR-39 should we analyze ?

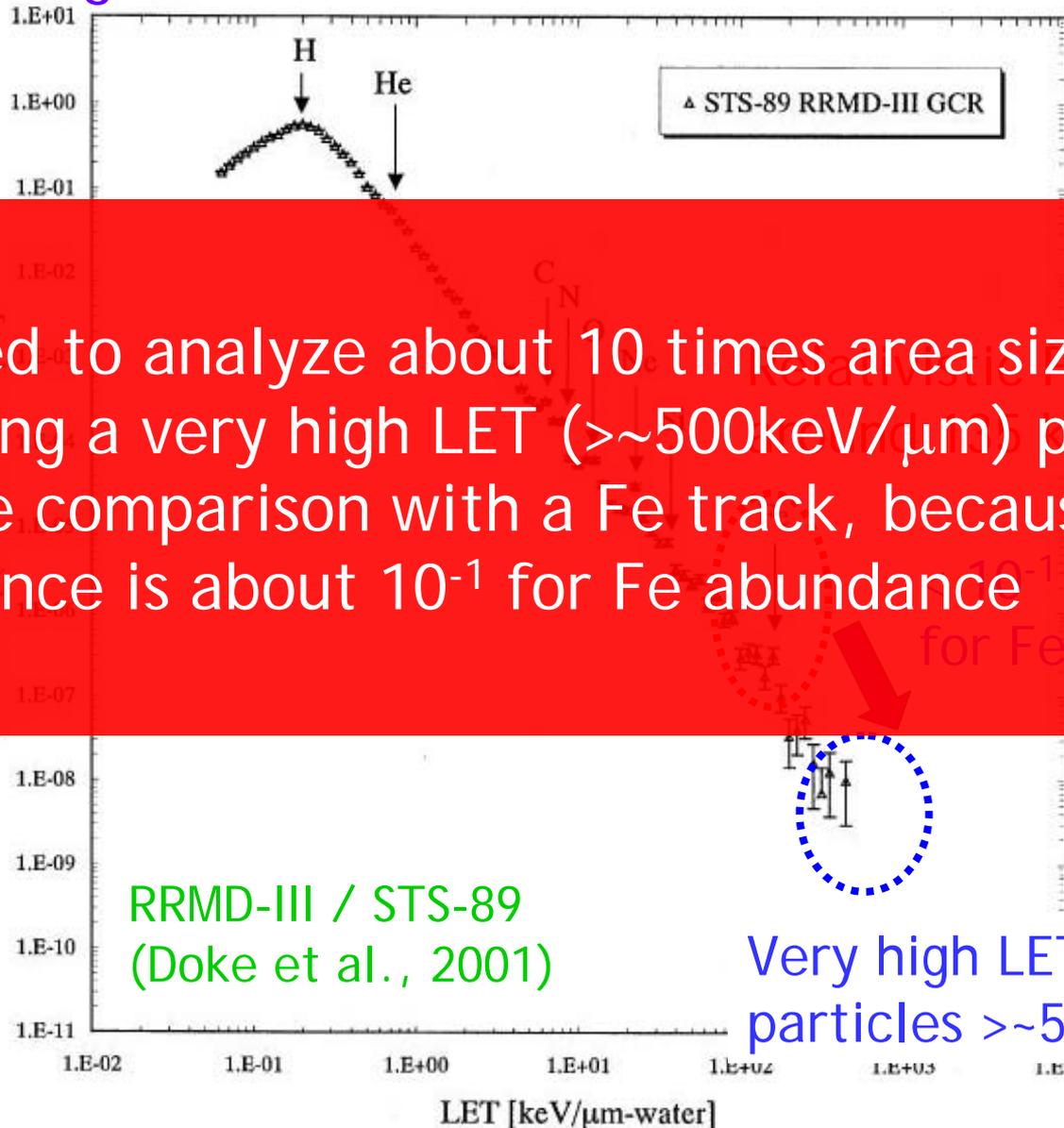


Fig. 10. LET distribution for GCR particles observed by RRMD-III on board STS-89.

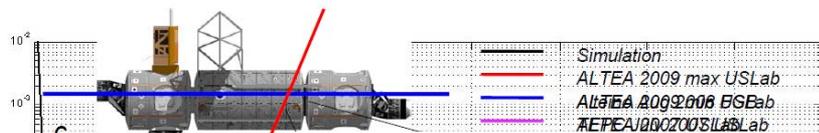
# Possibility of "self-calibration" of LET spectrum using relativistic Fe peak appeared around 135 keV/ $\mu\text{m}$



## ALTEA LET comparison

Thanks to  
 Thomas Berger (DLR)  
 Soenke Burmeister (Kiel Univ.)  
 Kerry Lee, Eddie Semones (NASA)

▲ STS-89 RRMD-III GCR



around 275 keV/ $\mu\text{m}$  in SI  
 → Around 140 keV/ $\mu\text{m}$  in Water

Relativistic Fe peak appeared on the LET spectrum can be used as self-calibration of CR-39 PNTDs during on-flight, because the Fe peak is obvious evidence of GCR component marking on the LET spectrum

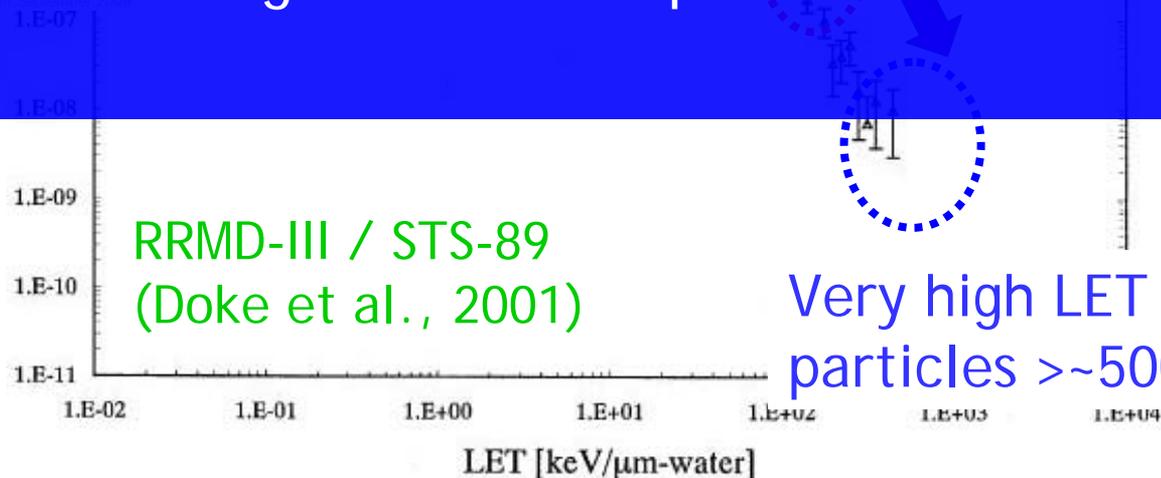
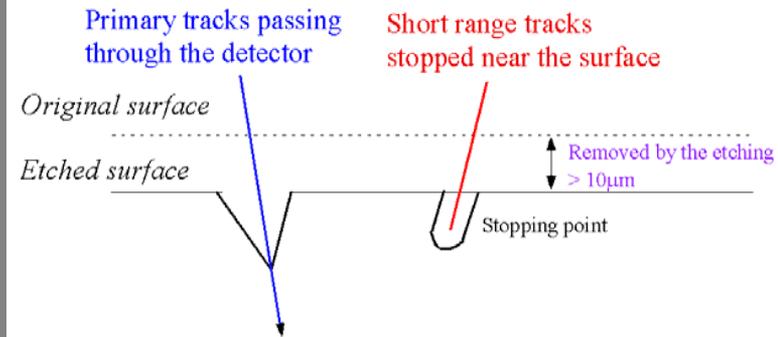
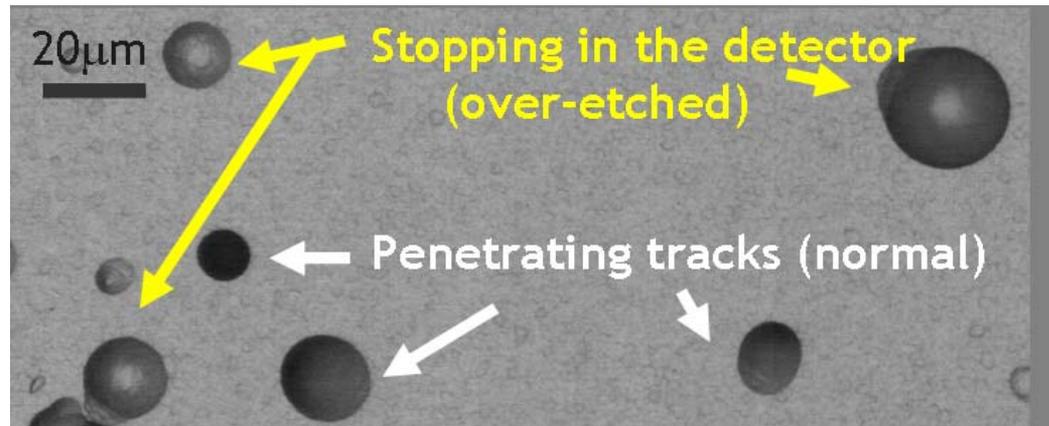


Fig. 10. LET distribution for GCR particles observed by RRMD-III on board STS-89.

# 3) Track selection criteria

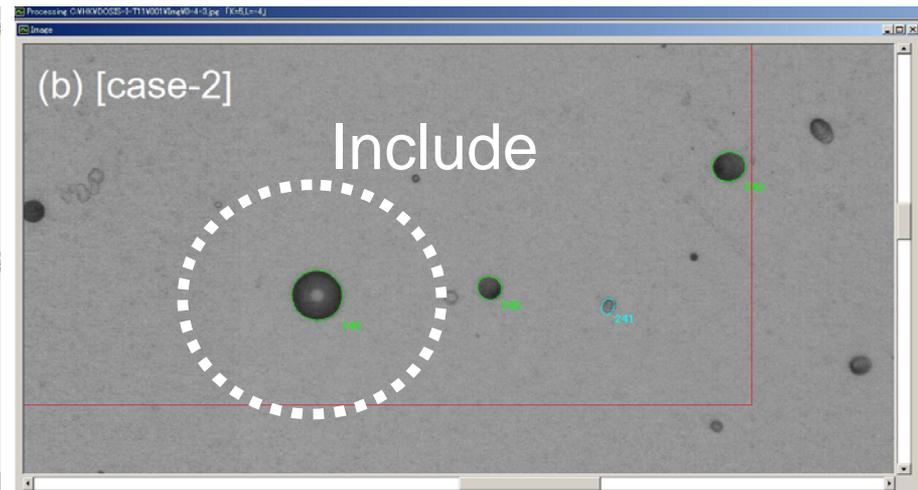
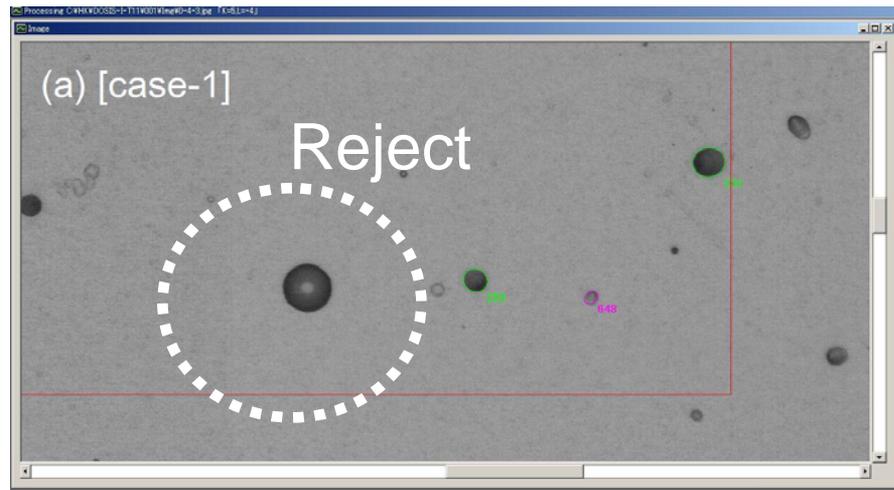
## Trial 3

### Comparison of dose results by the track selection



**[case-1]** Only penetrating tracks are analyzed → NIRS method

**[case-2]** All tracks are analyzed including over-etched tracks

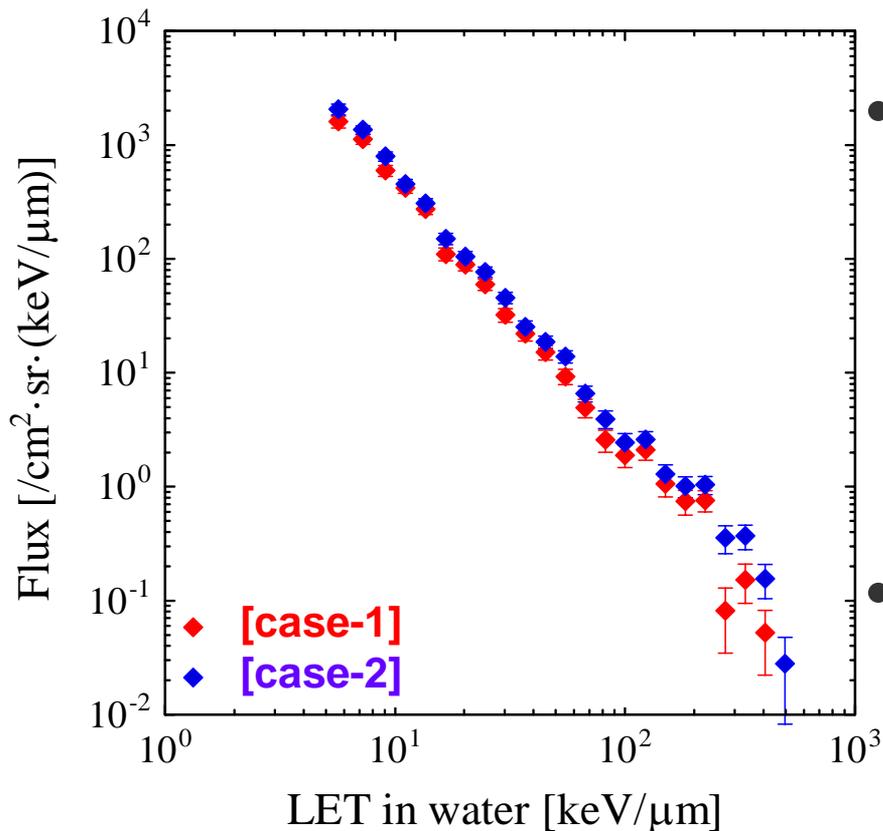


**[case-1]** Only penetrating tracks are analyzed

**[case-2]** All tracks are analyzed including over-etched tracks

Dose results for 2 case of track selection. # Area size: 12 mm<sup>2</sup>

|        | D<br>[mGy] | H<br>[mSv] | D rate<br>[uGy/d] | H rate<br>[uSv/d] | Q          | Track density<br>[cm <sup>-2</sup> ] |
|--------|------------|------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|
| Case-1 | 2.1 ± 0.1  | 27.3 ± 1.7 | 15.7 ± 0.6        | 201.2 ± 12.2      | 12.8 ± 0.9 | 6308                                 |
| Case-2 | 2.9 ± 0.1  | 39.6 ± 2.0 | 21.7 ± 0.8        | 291.7 ± 15.1      | 13.5 ± 0.9 | 8106                                 |



- Dose equivalent rate obtained by taking all tracks including over-etched tracks ([case-1]) is +45% larger than the case by taking only penetrating track ([case-2])
- Treatment of over-etched tracks largely contributes to the dose variation

## How to treat over-etched tracks

- Considerable candidate of such over-etched track is short range track produced by the proton-induced target fragmentation reaction
- For the precise measurement of short range tracks:
  - AFM method
  - 3D track determination method etc.
  - There are some difficulties for routine monitoring
  - Need to research for the quantitative evaluation of additional dose contribution
- For the convenient way to include short range tracks:
  - Short and long etching combination method
  - Need to determine adequate bulk etch condition and how to combine both data

# Summary

## Position dependency

Remarkable dose dispersion was not found for position difference of 16 mm x 16 mm in size

## Analyzing area size dependency

- Increase of statistics to be 3 times ( $4 \text{ mm}^2 \rightarrow 12 \text{ mm}^2$ ) did not make a remarkable change of dose results
- We need to analyze about 10 times area size for detecting a very high LET ( $> \sim 500 \text{ keV}/\mu\text{m}$ ) penetrating particle comparison with a Fe track

## Track selection criteria dependency

- Dose equivalent rate obtained by taking all tracks including over-etched tracks is +45% larger than the case by taking only penetrating track
- How to treat over-etched tracks is important

# Suggestion of discussion for making guide line on CR-39 analysis

## 1. Analyzing area size

- Recommendation of statistics (analyzing area size) for detecting very high LET particles (penetrating)  $>500 \text{ keV}/\mu\text{m}$

## 2. How to treat the over-etched tracks

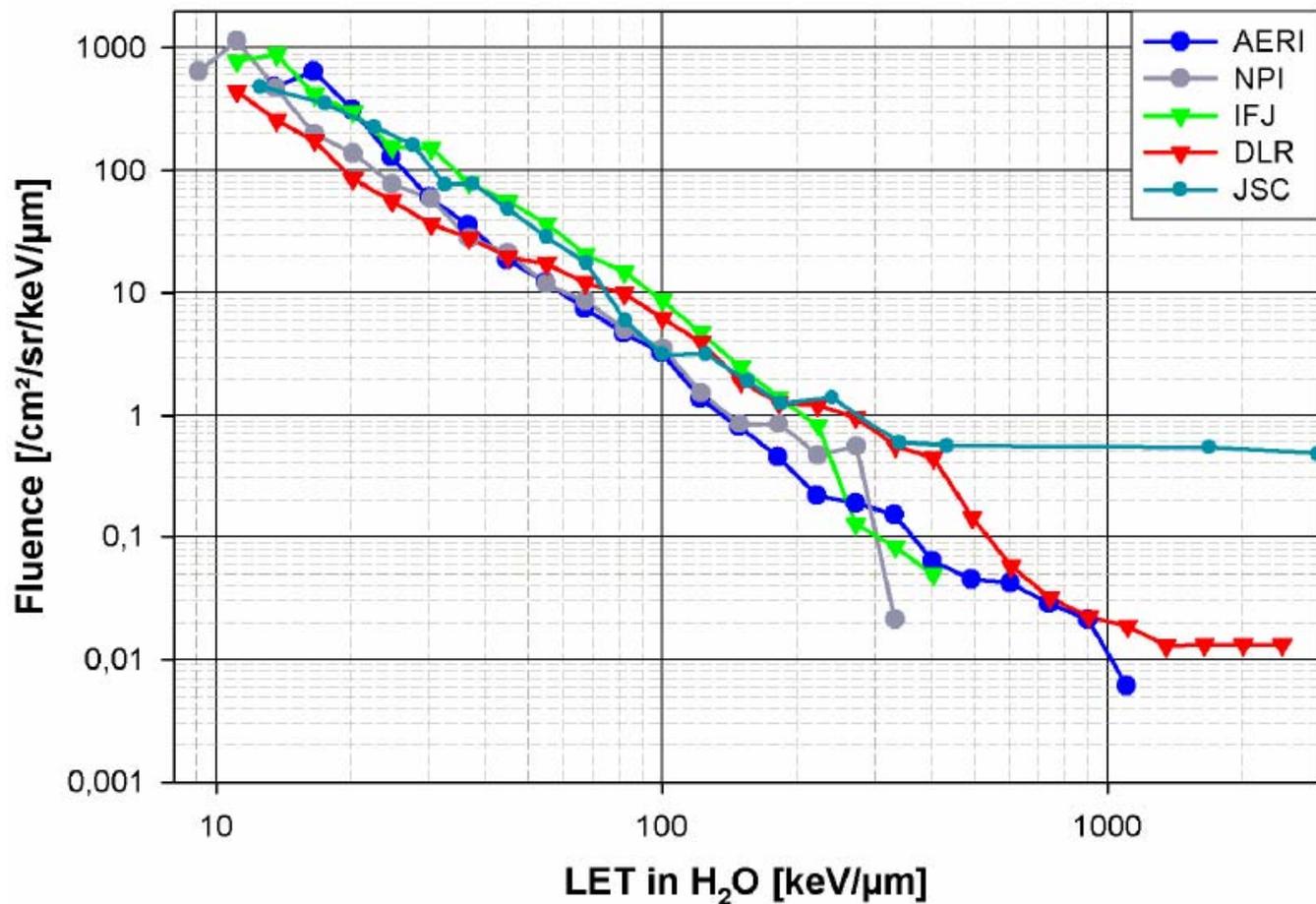
- Common methodology for the routine monitoring of daily dose e.g.) short and long etching combination
  - \* Common condition of bulk etch
  - \* Common way to combine the data from short & long etchings

**Working Group Prepare the Guideline on CR-39 Analysis  
(all of you agree)**

**Nakahiro will be back...soon!**

Back up slides

## DOSIS – CR-39 Preliminary results



# T. Berger, 38<sup>th</sup> COSPAR presentation

## DOSIS – CR-39 Preliminary results

|  | LET range<br>[keV/ $\mu$ m] | D<br>[mGy] | H<br>[mSv] | Q<br>[mean] |
|--|-----------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|
|  | 10 – 446                    | 6.36       | 77.75      | 12.22       |
|  | 8.2 – 366                   | 3.424      | 34.28      | 10.01       |
|  | 10 – 1000                   | 4.07       | 39.35      | 9.66        |
|  | 10 – 3305                   | 5.13       | 71.216     | 13.89       |
|  | 10 - 2600                   | 5.08       | 53.80      | 10.59       |

# Variation of LET spectrum for each etching level

