

# Modeling Nuclear Fallout Design Review

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Phys 305

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# Introduction

Accidents happen:

Fukushima - 2011

Chernobyl – 1986

How are the isotopes spread?

What is the impact on the region?

How long are the effects noticeable?



# Problem Statement

- Provide a program that will model atmospheric dispersion of radioactive particles from an event and provide ground level concentrations as well as estimated increase in radiation levels from calculated concentrations
- Base line
  - Fire in RAM of one isotope, immediate dispersion and dose
- Expansion
  - Time factor, account for decay to estimate concentrations and exposure-15y, 60y, 150y, 300y.
  - More violent source, i.e. – explosion vs. fire

# Dispersion

$$C(x, y, 0, H) = \frac{Q}{\pi \sigma_y \sigma_z u} e^{\frac{-y^2}{2\sigma_y^2}} e^{\frac{-H^2}{2\sigma_z^2}}$$

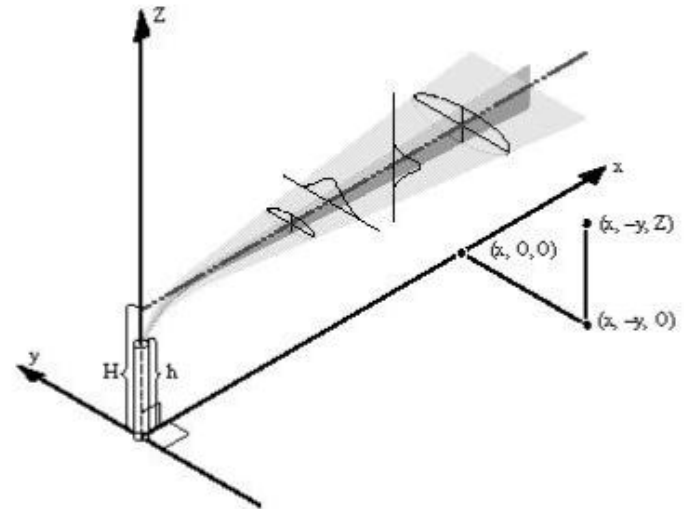
$C$  = concentration at point  $(x, y)$  ( $\text{kg}/\text{m}^3$ ) or ( $\text{Ci}/\text{m}^3$ )

$Q$  = mass flow of contaminants from source ( $\text{kg}/\text{s}$ ) or ( $\text{Ci}/\text{s}$ )

$H$  = effective height of emissions (m)

$u$  = wind speed (m/s)

$\sigma_y \sigma_z$  = standard deviation of plume concentration in  $y$  or  $z$  plane (m)



[http://www.faa.gov/regulations\\_policies/policy\\_guidance/envir\\_policy/airquality\\_handbook/media/App\\_I.PDF](http://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/policy_guidance/envir_policy/airquality_handbook/media/App_I.PDF)

# Atmospheric Considerations

TABLE 1. Key to P-G stability categories using objective and conventional Turner methods.

Surface wind speed (10 m) ( $\text{m s}^{-1}$ )	Day			Night	
	Incoming solar radiation ( $\text{W m}^{-2}$ )			Thinly overcast or more than 1/2 low clouds ( $-\Delta T$ )*	Clear or less than 1/2 clouds ( $+\Delta T$ )*
	Strong ( $>700$ )	Moderate ( $350-700$ )	Slight ( $70-350$ )		
$<2$	A	A	B	E	F
2-3	A	B	C	E	F
3-5	B	B	C	D	E
5-6	C	C	D	D	D
$>6$	C	D	D	D	D

\*  $\Delta T$  is change in temperature with height, such as 2-10 m AGL. Negative  $\Delta T$  indicates cooling with height; positive  $\Delta T$  indicates warming with height.

Bowen, Brent *Evaluation and Comparison of Several Methods to Determine Dispersion Coefficients*, 1994

# Atmospheric Considerations

TABLE 2. Formulas recommended by Briggs (1973) for sigma  $y$  and sigma  $z$ . Equations are valid for downwind distances ( $x$ ) from 100 m to 10 km.

P-G category	$\sigma_y$ (m)	$\sigma_z$ (m)
Open-country conditions		
A	$0.22x(1 + 0.0001x)^{-1/2}$	$0.20x$
B	$0.16x(1 + 0.0001x)^{-1/2}$	$0.12x$
C	$0.11x(1 + 0.0001x)^{-1/2}$	$0.08x(1 + 0.0002x)^{-1/2}$
D	$0.08x(1 + 0.0001x)^{-1/2}$	$0.06x(1 + 0.0015x)^{-1/2}$
E	$0.06x(1 + 0.0001x)^{-1/2}$	$0.03x(1 + 0.0003x)^{-1}$
F	$0.04x(1 + 0.0001x)^{-1/2}$	$0.016x(1 + 0.0003x)^{-1}$
Urban conditions		
A-B	$0.32x(1 + 0.0004x)^{-1/2}$	$0.24x(1 + 0.001x)^{1/2}$
C	$0.22x(1 + 0.0004x)^{-1/2}$	$0.20x$
D	$0.16x(1 + 0.0004x)^{-1/2}$	$0.14x(1 + 0.0003x)^{-1/2}$
E-F	$0.11x(1 + 0.0004x)^{-1/2}$	$0.08x(1 + 0.00015x)^{-1/2}$

Bowen, Brent *Evaluation and Comparison of Several Methods to Determine Dispersion Coefficients*, 1994

# Source

$$\Delta T_c = \left( \frac{T_\infty}{g C_p^2 \rho_\infty^2} \right)^{1/3} \dot{Q}_c^{2/3} (z - z_0)^{-5/3}, \quad U_c = \left( \frac{g}{C_p \rho_\infty T_\infty} \right)^{1/3} \dot{Q}_c^{1/3} (z - z_0)^{-1/3}$$

$\Delta T_c$  = centerline mean temperature difference (K)

$T_\infty$  = ambient temperature (K)

$g$  = acceleration of gravity (m/s<sup>2</sup>)

$C_p$  = specific heat of air at constant pressure [(kJ/kg)/K]

$\rho_\infty$  = ambient air density (kg/m<sup>3</sup>)

$\dot{Q}_c$  = convective heat release rate (kJ/s) or (kW)

$z$  = elevation above fuel source (m)

$z_0$  = elevation of fuel source (m)

$U_c$  = centerline mean velocity (m/s)

Budnik, Edward *Simplified Fire Growth Calculations*, 1997

# Plume Rise Height

```

switch (sta) {
    case 1:
    case 2:
    case 3:
    case 4:
    case 5:
        ds=0.02;
        break;
    case 6:
        ds=0.035;
        break;
    default:
        ds=0.0;
}
double s= g/Ta*(ds);
double F= g*U*pow(D,2)/4*(1-Ta/T);
switch (sta) {
    case 1:
    case 2:
    case 3:
    case 4:
        if (F>=55) {
            dt=0.00575*T*pow(U,2.0/3.0)/pow(D,1.0/3.0);
            if ((T-Ta)<=dt) {Dh=3*D*U/u;}
            else {
                xst=34*pow(F,2.0/5.0);
                xf=3.5*xst;
                if (x>=xf) {Dh=1.6*pow(F,1.0/3.0)*pow(xst,2.0/3.0)/u; break;}
                else {Dh=1.6*pow(F,1.0/3.0)*pow(x,2.0/3.0)/u;}
            }
        }
        else {
            dt=0.0297*T*pow(U,1.0/3.0)/pow(D,2.0/3.0);
            if ((T-Ta)<=dt) {Dh=3*D*U/u;}
            else {
                xst=14*pow(F,5.0/8.0);
                xf=3.5*xst;
                if (x>=xf) {Dh=1.6*pow(F,1.0/3.0)*pow(xst,2.0/3.0)/u; break;}
                else {Dh=1.6*pow(F,1.0/3.0)*pow(x,2.0/3.0)/u;}
            }
        }
        break;
    case 5:
    case 6:
        dt=0.01958*Ta*U*pow(s,0.5);
        if ((T-Ta)<=dt) {Dh=1.5*pow(pow(U,2)*pow(D,2)*Ta/(4*T*u),1.0/3.0)*pow(s,-1.0/6.0);}
        else {
            xf=2.07*u/pow(s,0.5);
            if (x>=xf) {Dh=2.6*pow(F/(u*s),1.0/3.0); break;}
            else {Dh=2.6*pow(F/(u*s),1.0/3.0);}
        }
        break;
}
return Dh;
}

```

Bowen, Brent *Evaluation and Comparison of Several Methods to Determine Dispersion Coefficients*, 1994



# Exposure

$$\dot{X} = 5.263 \times 10^{-6} \frac{AyE(\mu_{en}/\rho)}{r^2}$$

$\dot{X}$  = exposure (mR/h)

$A$  = activity (Bq)

$y$  = number of photons emitted

$E$  = energy of photons (MeV)

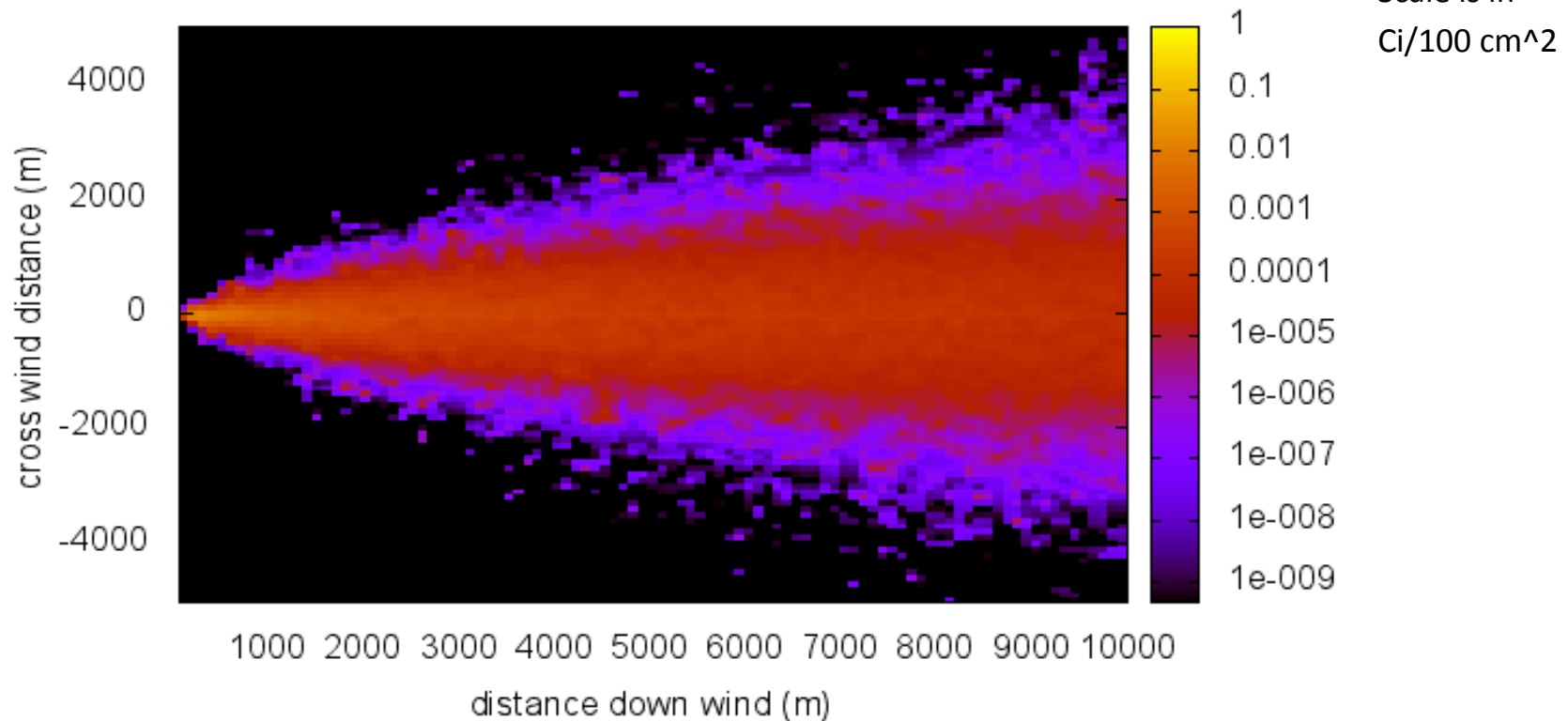
$\mu_{en}/\rho$  = mass energy absorption coefficient (m<sup>2</sup>/kg)

$r$  = distance from point (m)

Chabot, George *Relationship Between Radionuclide Gamma Emission and Exposure Rate*,  
<http://hps.org/publicinformation/ate/faqs/gammaandexposure.html>, Aug 27, 2011

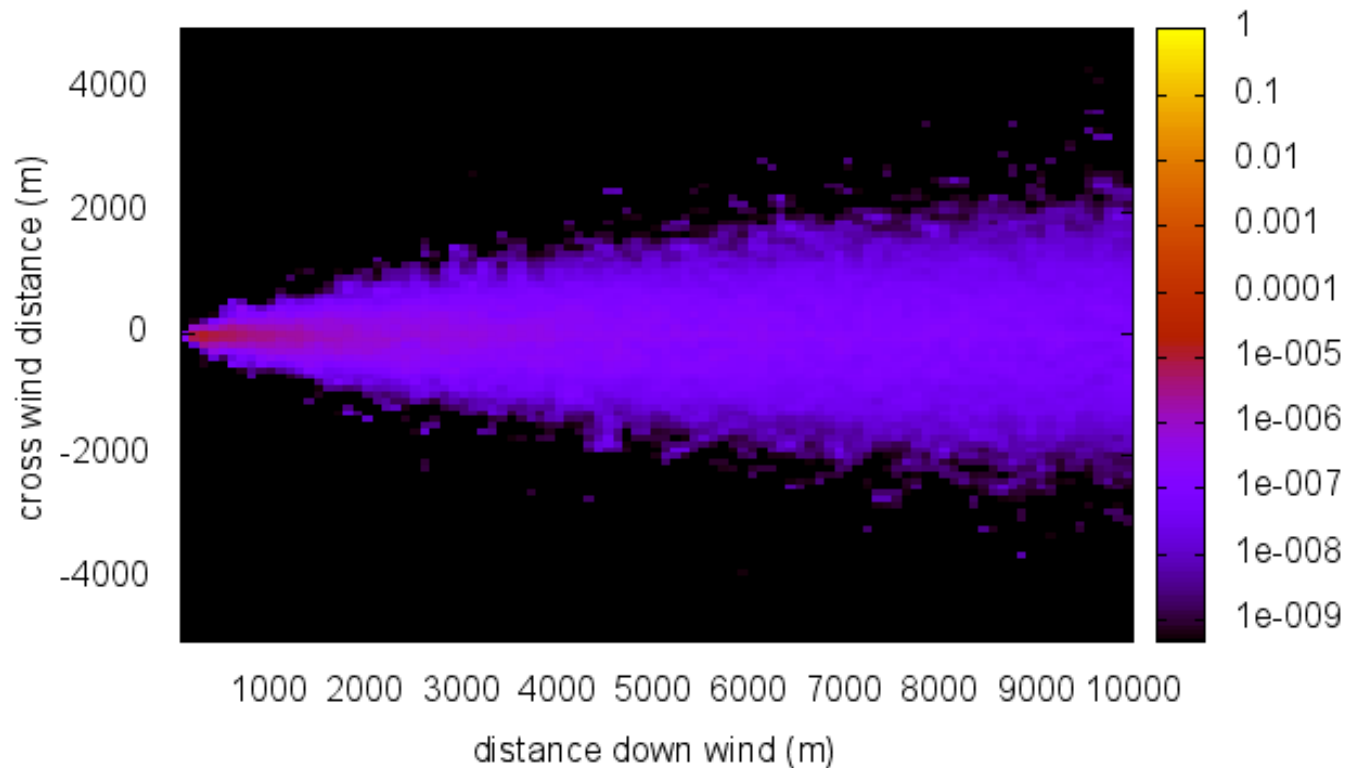
## Results

Waste basket fire, 1 Ci lost, 1m elevation, 5.8 m/s windspeed



## Results

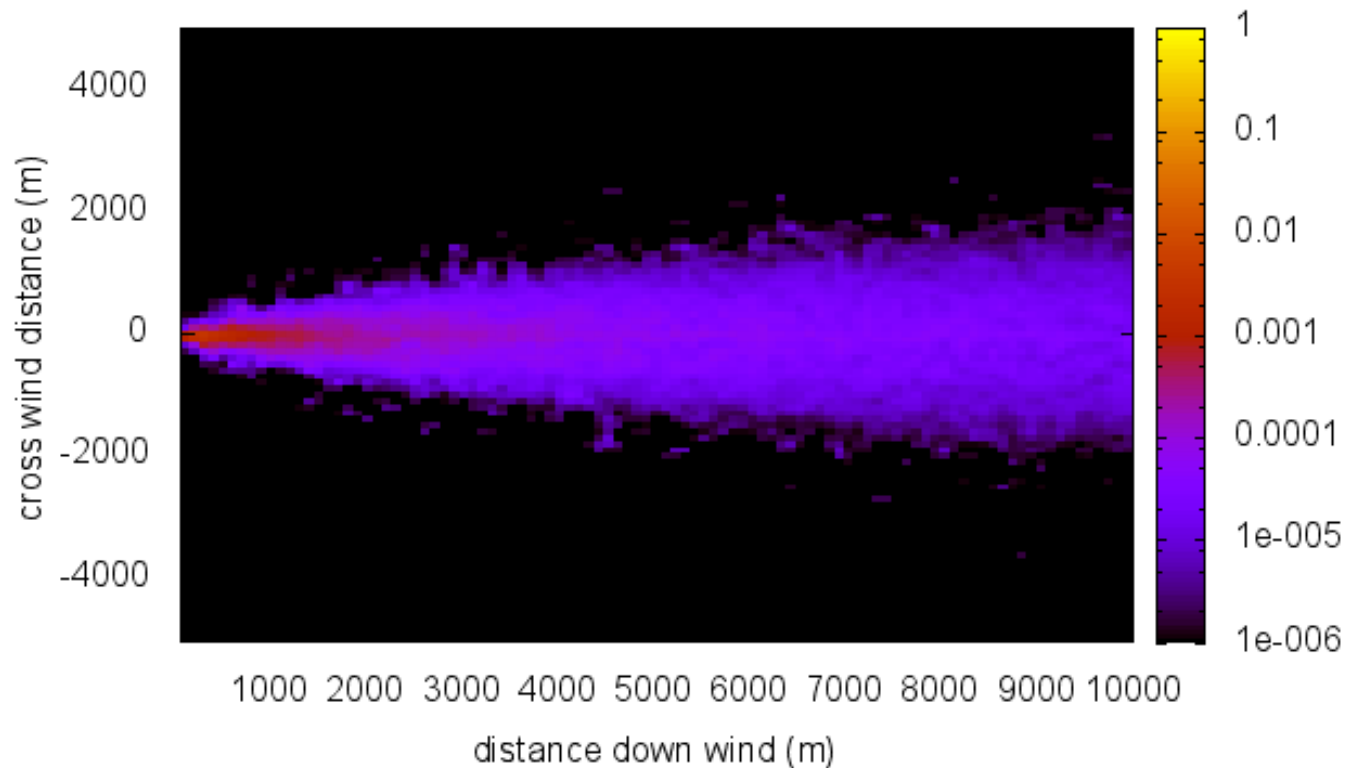
Waste basket fire, 1 Ci lost, 1m elevation, 5.8 m/s windspeed, 300 years later



Scale is in  
Ci/100 cm<sup>2</sup>

## Results

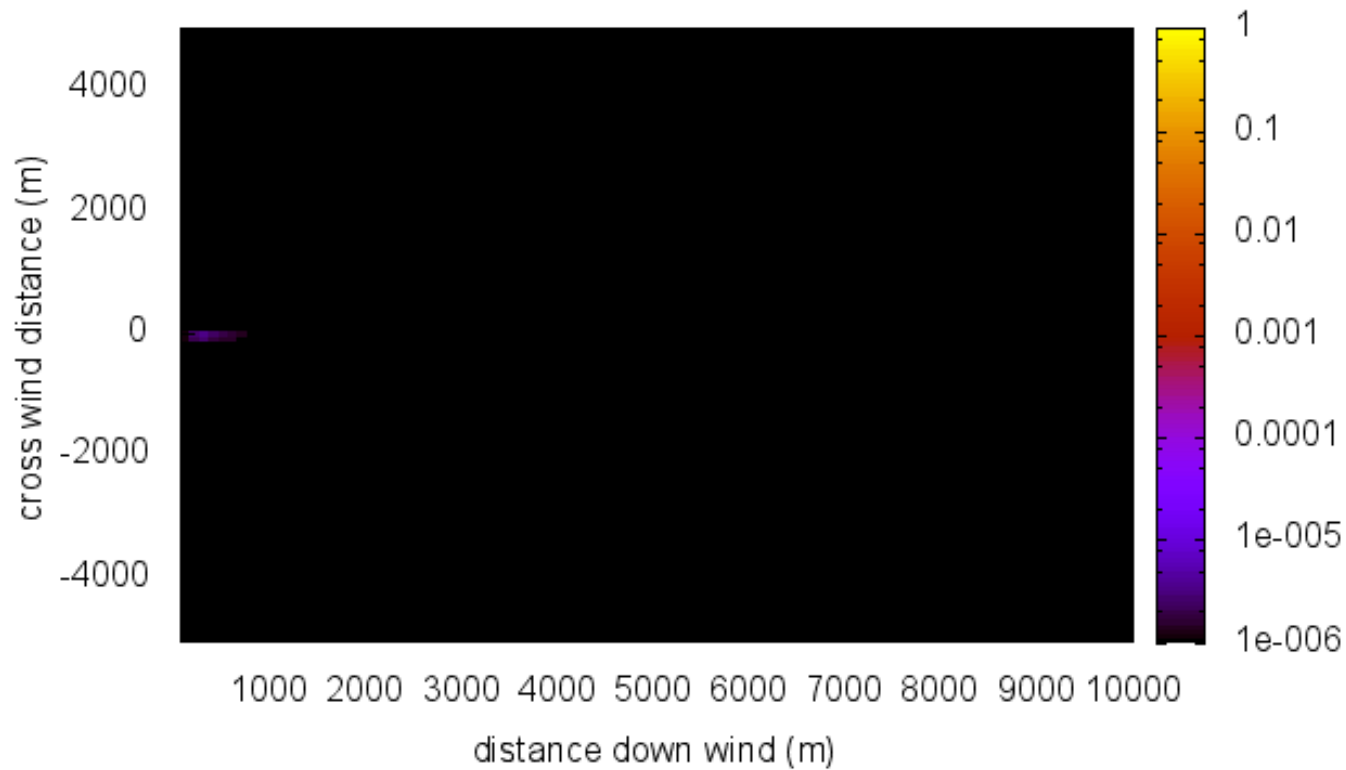
Waste basket fire, 1 Ci lost, 1m elevation, 5.8 m/s windspeed, Radiation Exposure



Scale is in  
mR/hr

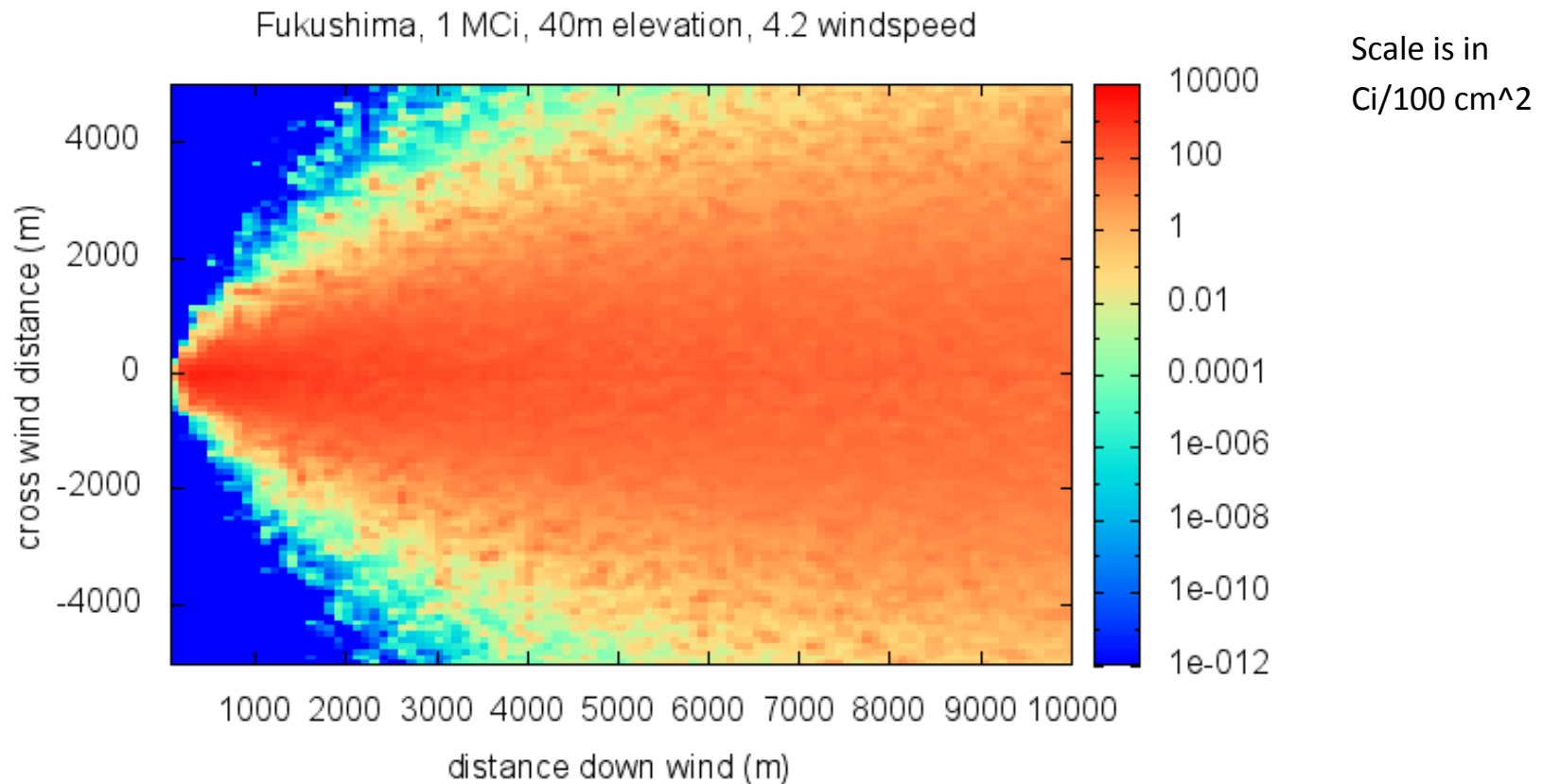
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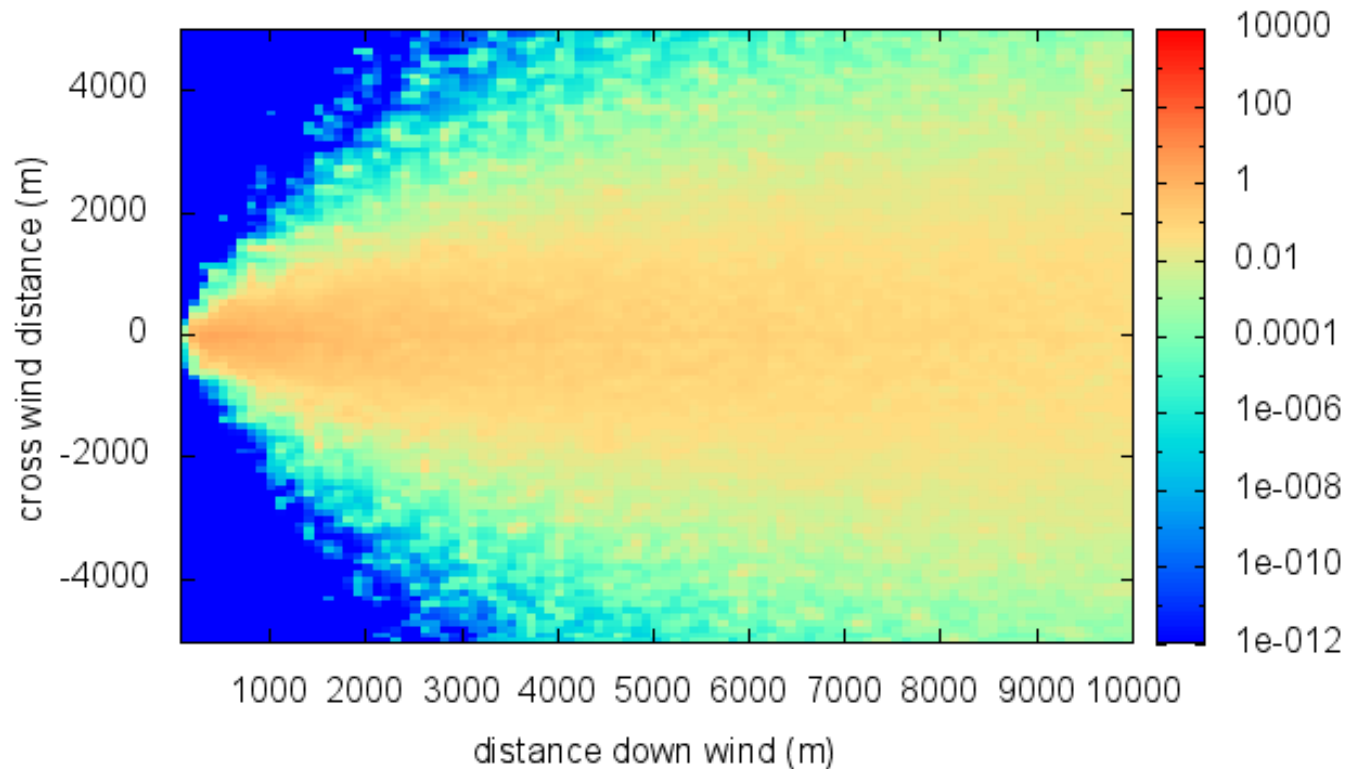
Scale is in  
mR/hr

## Results



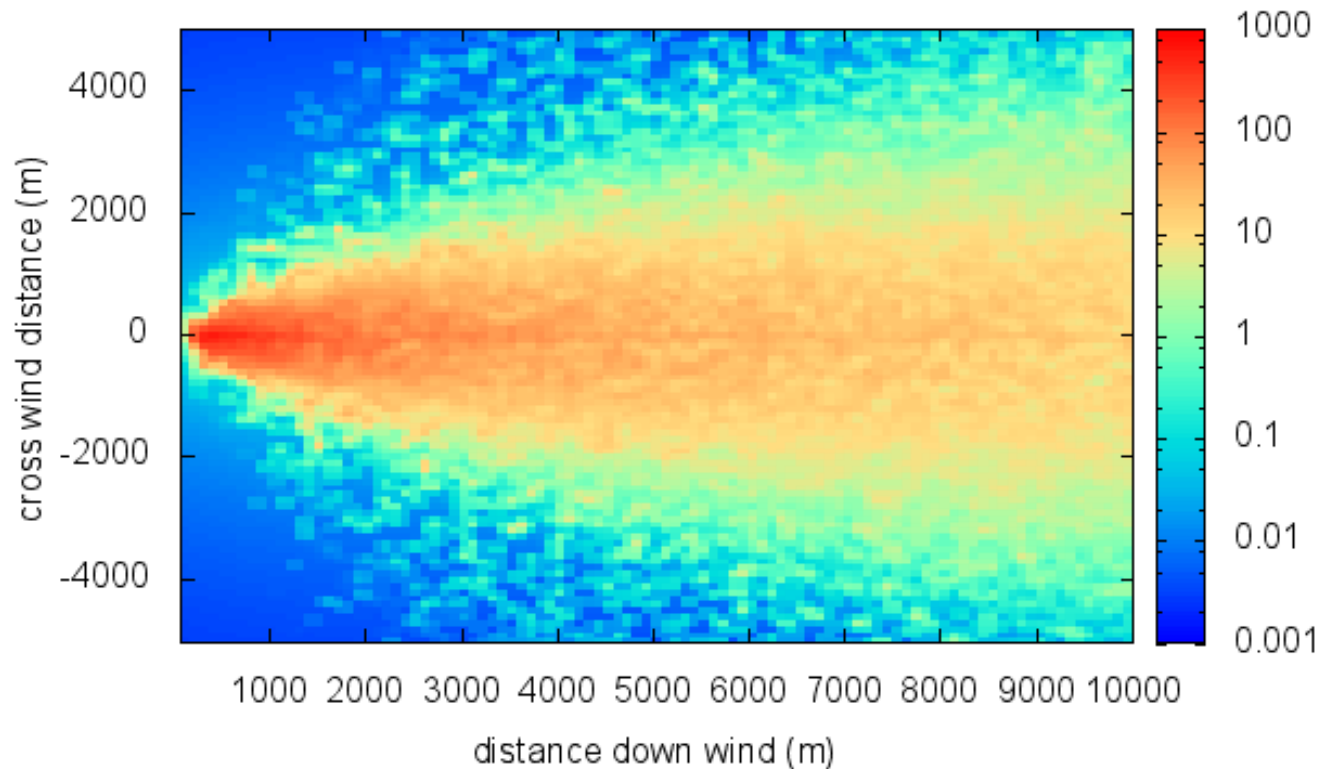
## Results

Fukushima, 1 MCi, 40m elevation, 4.2 windspeed, 300 years later



## Results

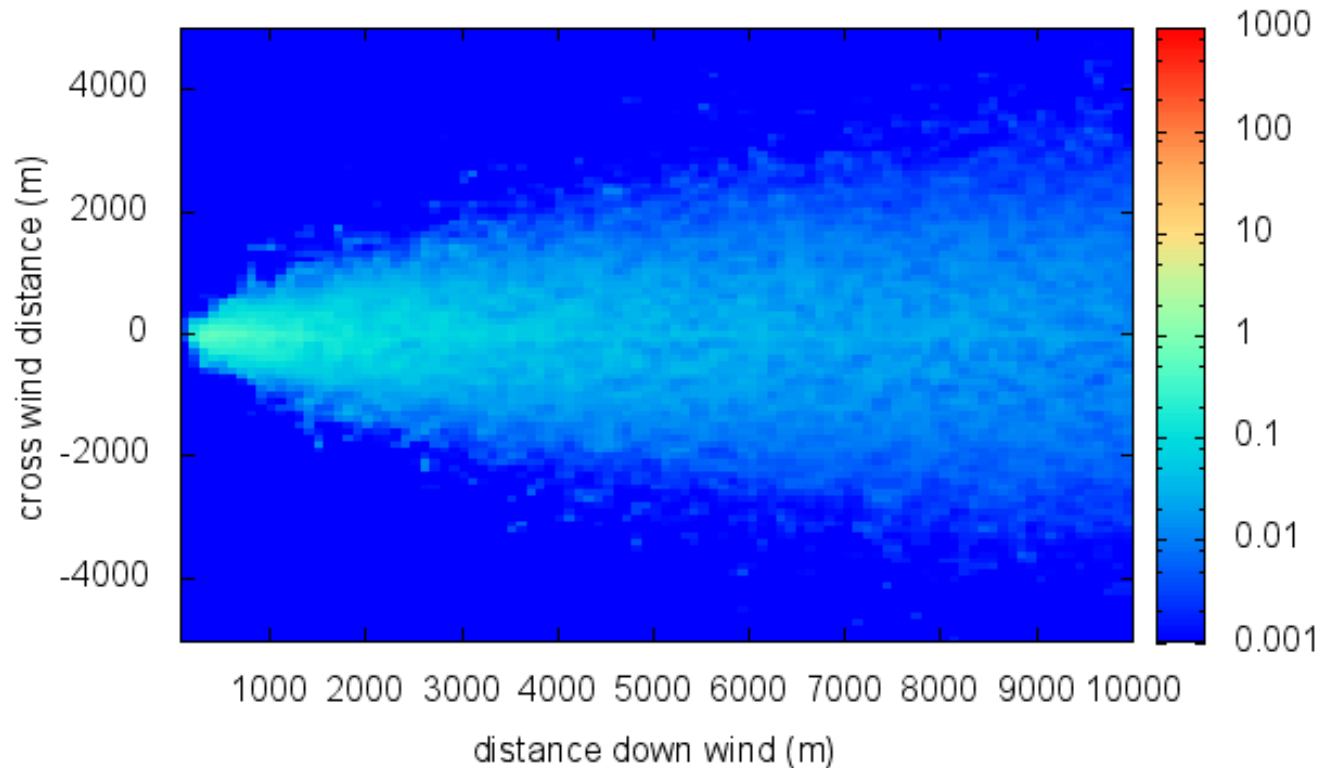
Fukushima, 1 MCi, 40m elevation, 4.2 windspeed, Radiation Exposure





## Results

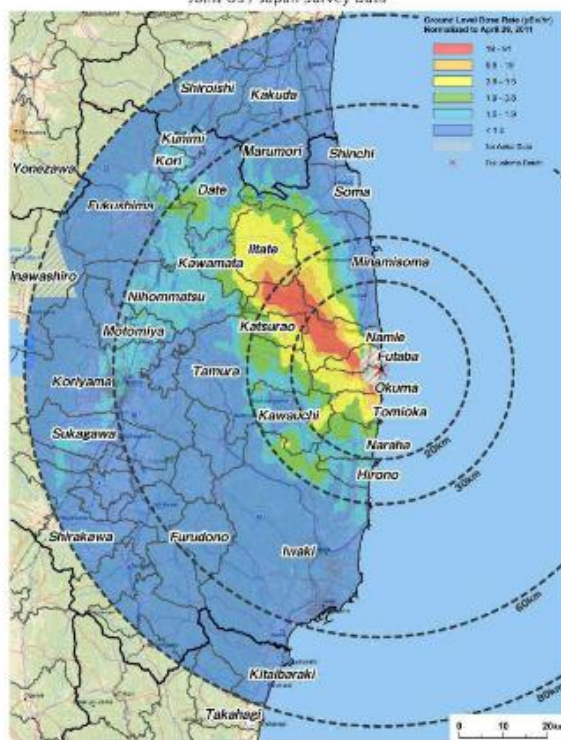
Fukushima, 1 MCi, 40m elevation, 4.2 windspeed, Radiation Exposure, 300 years later



# Actual Fukushima Distribution

**Aerial Measuring Results**

Joint US / Japan Survey Data



**Aerial Measuring Results**

Joint US / Japan Survey Data

