

National Institute for Public Health  
and the Environment  
*Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport*

# NOVEL METHOD FOR RADIATION DOSE ESTIMATION APPLIED TO DISPERSION SIMULATIONS OF NUCLEAR DETONATIONS

Michiel de Bode

Arjan van Dijk, Astrid Kloosterman,  
Marte van der Linden, Jasper Tomas

RIVM

[michiel.de.bode@rivm.nl](mailto:michiel.de.bode@rivm.nl)

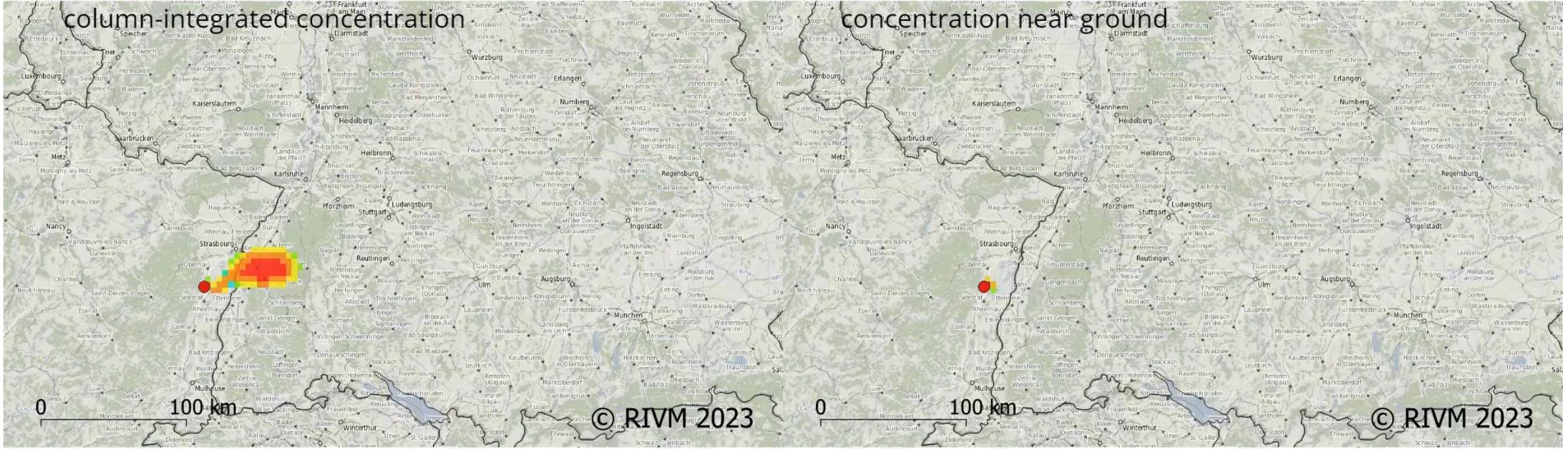


# Presentation lay-out

- › Example of dispersion of nuclear weapon fall-out
- › How do we do the radionuclide decay
  - Application of new decay-method
- › Simulation of a nuclear cloud
  - Definition of a nuclear cloud
- › Conclusions

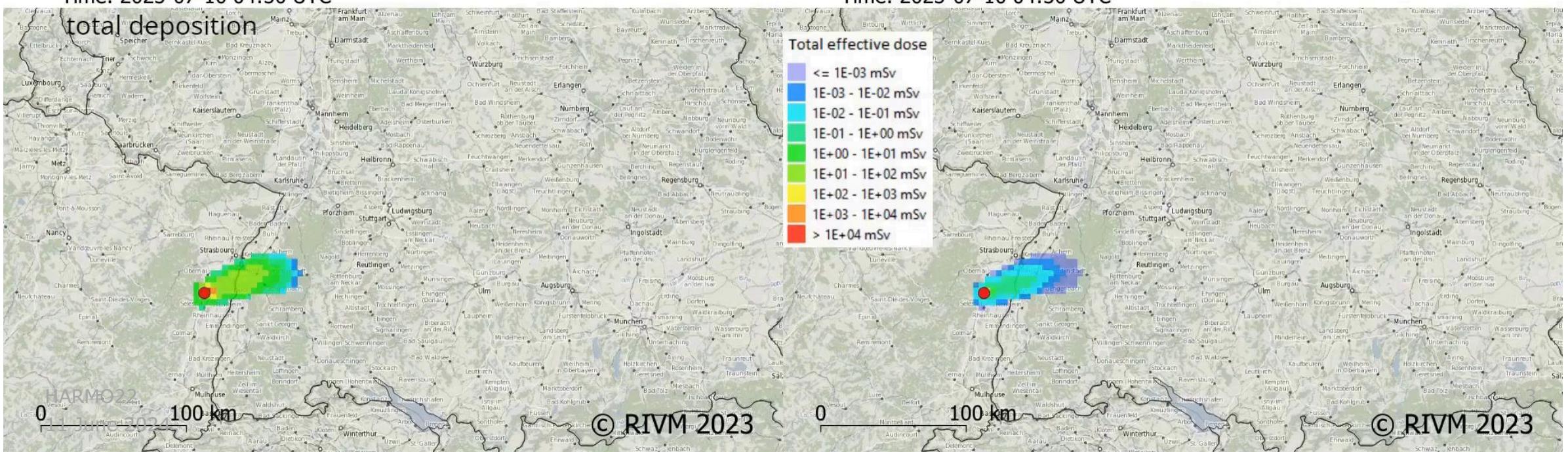
Time: 2023-07-10 04:30 UTC

## column-integrated concentration



Time: 2023-07-10 04:30 UTC

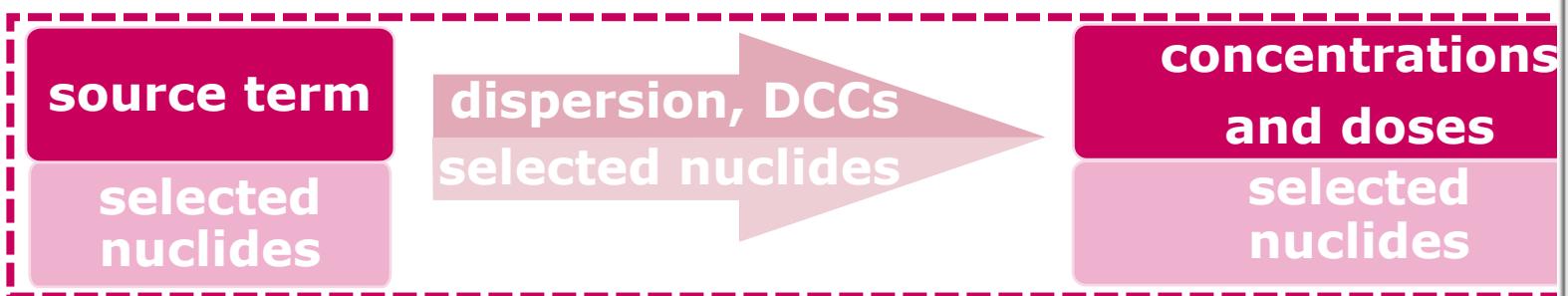
## total deposition





# Traditional - radionuclide composition

atmospheric dispersion and dose model chain - traditional



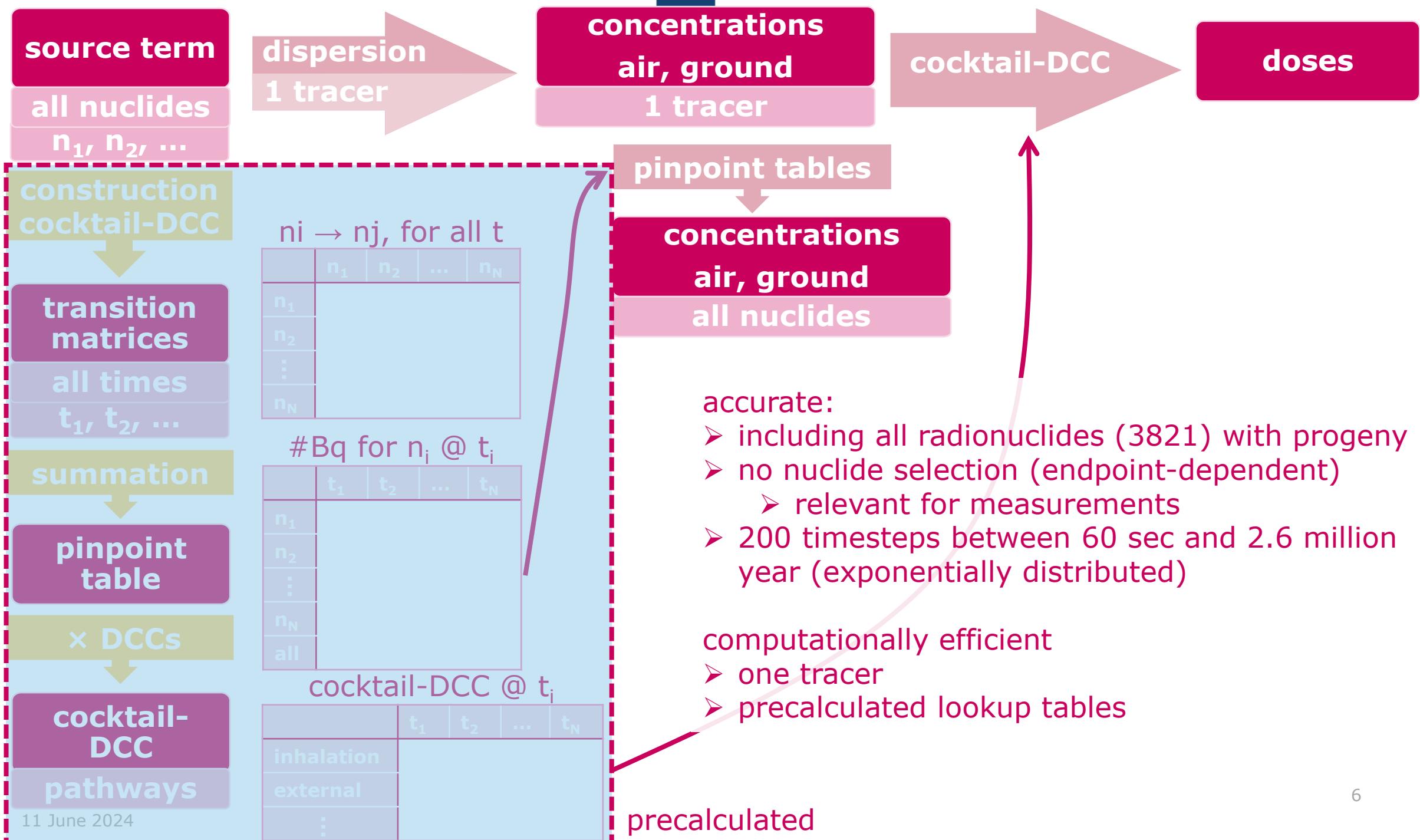
- › High computational costs
- › Large list of radionuclides
- › Limit progeny inclusion

93	I-132	3.38E+17
94	I-132m	4.34E+17
95	I-133	6.70E+17
96	I-134	1.99E+19
97	I-134m	2.00E+19
98	I-135	4.98E+18
99	Xe-131m	6.98E+11
100	Xe-133	8.32E+14
101	Xe-133m	2.44E+15
102	Xe-135	4.48E+17
103	Xe-135m	1.28E+19
104	Xe-137	8.68E+19
105	Xe-138	8.58E+19
106	Cs-136	2.16E+15
107	Cs-137	1.09E+14
108	Cs-138	2.46E+19
109	Cs-139	1.13E+20
110	Ba-137m	4.62E+16
111	Ba-139	1.23E+19
112	Ba-140	1.07E+17
113	Ba-141	7.36E+19
114	Ba-142	9.22E+19
115	La-140	3.00E+15
116	La-141	2.44E+18
117	La-142	9.72E+18
118	La-143	8.08E+19
119	Ce-141	1.85E+14
120	Ce-143	3.48E+17
121	Ce-144	4.14E+15
122	Ce-145	4.78E+19
123	Ce-146	4.36E+19
124	Pr-144	1.31E+16
125	Pr-145	3.08E+18
126	Pr-146	1.38E+19
127	Pr-147	3.44E+19
128	Nd-147	1.61E+16
129	Nd-149	3.94E+18
130	Nd-151	1.24E+19
131	Pm-151	6.56E+16
132	Pb-203	2.16E+17
133	U-237	6.96E+17
134	U-239	2.14E+20
135	Np-239	5.08E+17
136		



## New method – Cocktail-DCC

- › Separate dispersion from nuclear decay characteristics
- › Pre-calculate nuclear decay characteristics
- › Pre-calculate time dependent conversion for dose and activity
- › Not only applicable to radiological cases but also chemical, biological, or ....





# Pinpoints with logarithmic intervals

FirstDelay:	60.0	DelayGrowthFactor:	1.15000	NStartingTimes:	200	Mn-54	Mn-56	Co-58	Co-58m	Sr-89	Sr-90	Sr-91	Sr-92	Y-92	Y-93	Y-94	Y-95
Pinpoint	t [s]	SumDoseRate															
0	0.0000	0.37203E+06	0.43658E-01	7905.0	0.27366	0.42618E-04	0.66867E-05	0.44183E-07	706.33	4769.3	1.1152	1.6240	25657.	65067.			
1	60.000	0.35766E+06	0.43658E-01	7869.7	0.27366	0.38752E-03	0.69760E-05	0.44391E-07	709.80	4752.1	1.1116	1.6222	24723.	60832.			
2	69.000	0.35557E+06	0.43658E-01	7864.4	0.27366	0.43922E-03	0.69831E-05	0.44422E-07	710.31	4749.5	1.1110	1.6219	24586.	60221.			
3	79.350	0.35318E+06	0.43658E-01	7858.3	0.27366	0.49866E-03	0.69885E-05	0.44458E-07	710.90	4746.6	1.1104	1.6216	24429.	59526.			
4	91.252	0.35046E+06	0.43658E-01	7851.3	0.27366	0.56700E-03	0.69923E-05	0.44499E-07	711.58	4743.2	1.1097	1.6212	24250.	58737.			
5	104.94	0.34736E+06	0.43658E-01	7843.3	0.27366	0.64557E-03	0.69948E-05	0.44546E-07	712.35	4739.2	1.1089	1.6208	24046.	57842.			
6	120.68	0.34385E+06	0.43658E-01	7834.1	0.27366	0.73590E-03	0.69963E-05	0.44601E-07	713.24	4734.7	1.1079	1.6203	23813.	56830.			
7	138.78	0.33987E+06	0.43658E-01	7823.5	0.27366	0.83974E-03	0.69971E-05	0.44664E-07	714.25	4729.6	1.1068	1.6197	23549.	55688.			
8	159.68	0.33536E+06	0.43658E-01	7811.4	0.27366	0.95911E-03	0.69975E-05	0.44736E-07	715.41	4723.6	1.1056	1.6191	23248.	54403.			
9	183.54	0.33027E+06	0.43658E-01	7797.4	0.27366	0.10963E-02	0.69976E-05	0.44819E-07	716.74	4716.8	1.1041	1.6184	22906.	52962.			
10	211.07	0.32455E+06	0.43658E-01	7781.4	0.27365	0.12540E-02	0.69976E-05	0.44914E-07	718.25	4709.0	1.1025	1.6175	22520.	51352.			
11	242.73	0.31812E+06	0.43658E-01	7763.0	0.27365	0.14352E-02	0.69976E-05	0.45024E-07	719.97	4700.0	1.1006	1.6166	22084.	49560.			
12	279.14	0.31094E+06	0.43658E-01	7742.0	0.27365	0.16435E-02	0.69976E-05	0.45150E-07	721.92	4689.7	1.0984	1.6154	21593.	47577.			
13	321.02	0.30295E+06	0.43658E-01	7717.8	0.27365	0.18828E-02	0.69975E-05	0.45296E-07	724.15	4677.9	1.0959	1.6142	21041.	45395.			
14	369.17	0.29410E+06	0.43658E-01	7690.1	0.27365	0.21578E-02	0.69975E-05	0.45462E-07	726.67	4664.3	1.0930	1.6127	20425.	43008.			
15	424.54	0.28434E+06	0.43658E-01	7658.4	0.27365	0.24736E-02	0.69974E-05	0.45654E-07	729.52	4648.8	1.0897	1.6110	19738.	40419.			
16	488.22	0.27366E+06	0.43658E-01	7622.0	0.27365	0.28364E-02	0.69974E-05	0.45875E-07	732.74	4631.0	1.0860	1.6091	18976.	37633.			
17	561.46	0.26204E+06	0.43658E-01	7580.5	0.27364	0.32530E-02	0.69973E-05	0.46129E-07	736.36	4610.6	1.0817	1.6068	18137.	34666.			
18	645.68	0.24950E+06	0.43658E-01	7533.0	0.27364	0.37312E-02	0.69972E-05	0.46420E-07	740.42	4587.2	1.0767	1.6043	17217.	31542.			
19	742.53	0.23609E+06	0.43657E-01	7478.7	0.27364	0.42802E-02	0.69971E-05	0.46755E-07	744.95	4560.5	1.0711	1.6014	16217.	28295.			
20	853.91	0.22190E+06	0.43657E-01	7416.8	0.27363	0.49100E-02	0.69970E-05	0.47141E-07	749.99	4530.0	1.0646	1.5980	15139.	24973.			

## Dose Conversion Coefficients

ICRP 119

ICRP 144



# Radionuclide decay and dose estimation

- › Radionuclide decay
  - Matrix exponential
  - Logarithmic steps
- › Dose Coefficients
  - ICRP 119
  - ICRP 144

**Dose conversion factors (DCCs) from:**

Inhalation:

Eckerman et al. (2013) (ICRP 119)

Kawai et al. (2002)

External radiation:

EDC-Viewer, conform ICRP Publication 144  
(Petoussi-Henss et al., 2020)



# Formulae to solve nuclear decay

- Following van Dillen et al. (2019):

$$A_i(t) = \sum_j H_{ij}(t) A_j(0)$$

- With:

$$H(t) = e^{Mt},$$

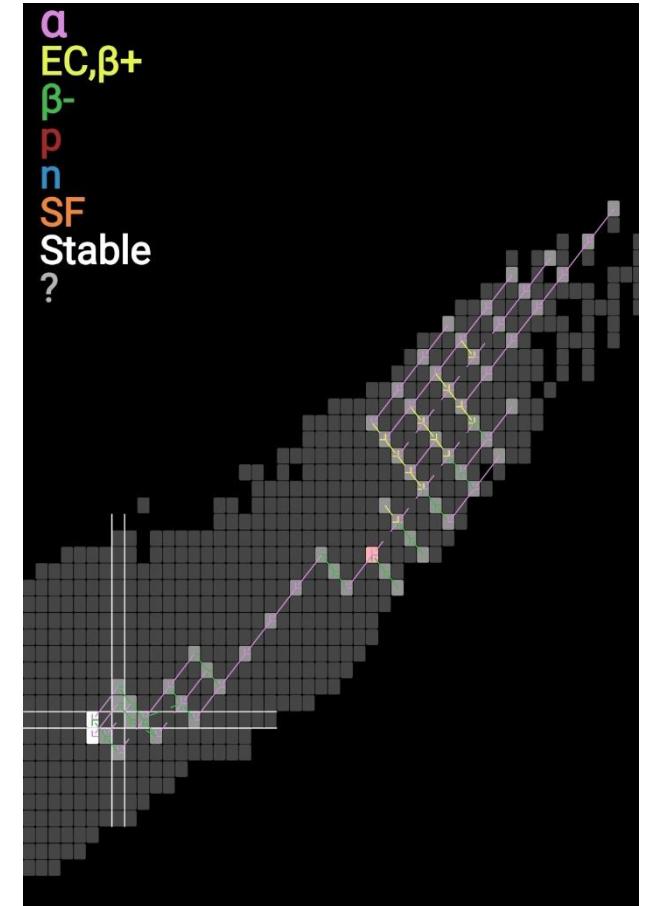
- Where matrix M is defined as:

$$M_{ij} = \nu_{ij} \lambda_i,$$

$\nu_{ij} = \begin{cases} \text{yield} & \text{if } i \neq j \\ -1 & \text{for } i = j \end{cases}$

(production)  
(decay)

Full detail: Van Dijk et al. (2024), to be published



Source: IAEA isotope browser



# Adding dispersion

$$DCC_{\text{air,cocktail}}(t) = \sum_i DCC_{\text{air},i} \sum_j H_{ij}(t) A_j(0)$$

$$D_{\text{ext,air}}(\mathbf{x}, t_1 \rightarrow t_2) = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \sum_i DCC_{\text{ext,air},i} \rho_i(\mathbf{x}, \tau) d\tau$$

$$T_{\text{air}}(\mathbf{x}, \tau) = \rho_{\text{passive}}(\mathbf{x}, \tau) / A_{\text{passive}}(0)$$

$$D_{\text{ext,air}}(\mathbf{x}, t_1 \rightarrow t_2) = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} DCC_{\text{ext,air,cocktail}}(\tau) T_{\text{air}}(\mathbf{x}, \tau) d\tau$$

- ›  $\rho_i(\mathbf{x}, \tau)$  is concentration of a nuclide or tracer
- › The dispersion calculation is reduced to a *single* non-decaying tracer to determine 'thinning coefficients'.  $T_{\text{air}}(\mathbf{x}, \tau)$  and  $T_{\text{ground}}(\mathbf{x}, \tau)$ .

Radioactivity    1. has same origin in time  
                      2. does not 'unmix'

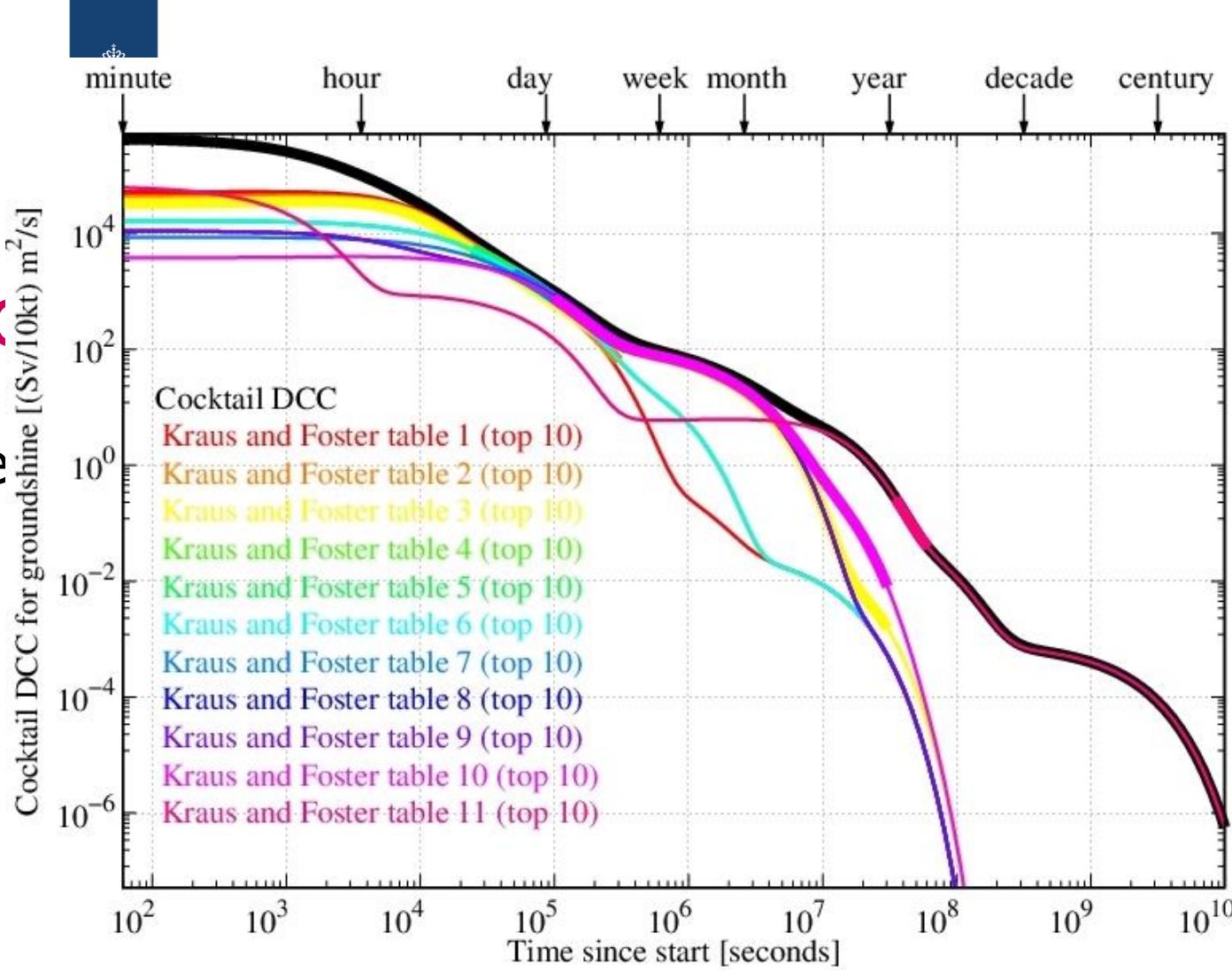


# Source terms of nuclear detonations

- › Kraus and Foster (2014)
  - Selection of 69 nuclides
- › Axelsson et al. (2023)
  - Selection of 129 nuclides
- › Based on Hicks (1982)

# Estimation of accuracy

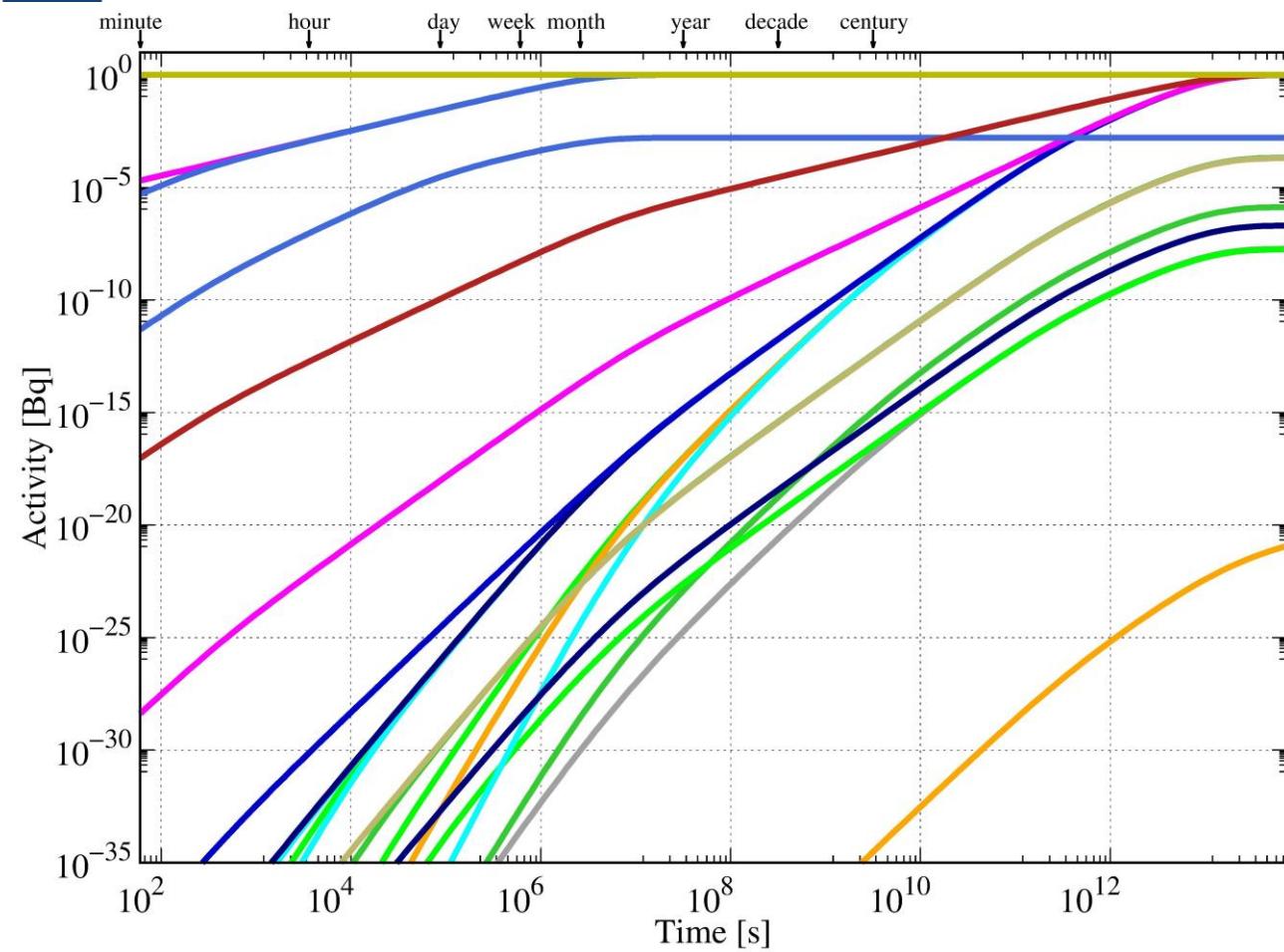
- › Sourceterm: Kraus and Foster (2014)



## Examples of applications

- > Ingrowth of 1 Bq U-238
- >  $T_{1/2}^{238U} = 1.41 \cdot 10^{17} \text{ sec}$

Hg-206  
Tl-206  
Tl-210  
Pb-209  
Pb-210  
Pb-214  
Bi-209  
Bi-210  
Bi-214  
Po-210  
Po-214  
Po-218  
At-218  
Rn-218  
Rn-222  
Ra-226  
Th-230  
Th-234  
Pa-234  
Pa-234m  
U-234  
U-238





# Modelling dispersion and dose of fallout from nuclear detonation

- › **Radionuclide composition**

- initial composition
- decay and ingrowth of progeny
- dose calculation for a large number of radionuclides

- › **Stabilized cloud characteristics**

- geometry based on yield, height of burst, etc.
- distribution of radioactivity
- particle size distribution

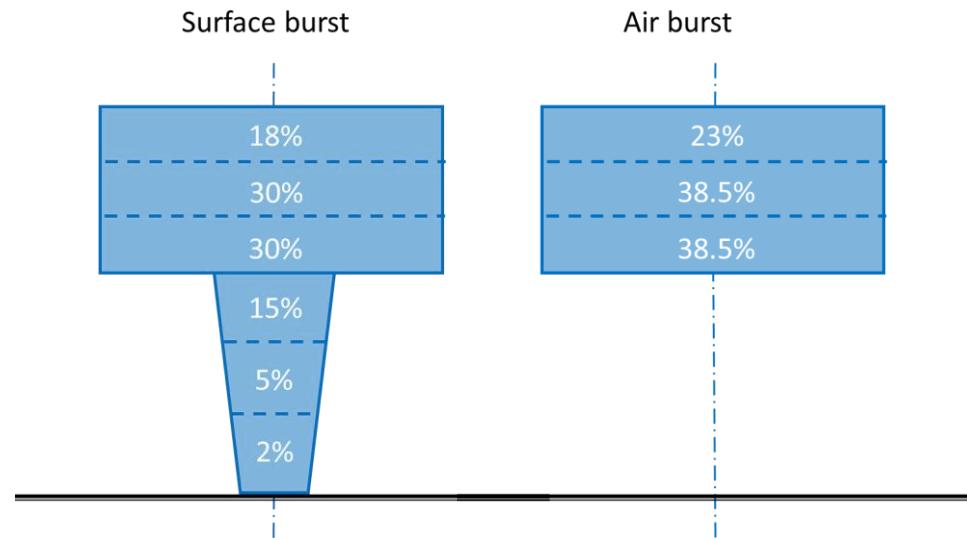


# Stabilized cloud characteristics

vertical distribution of radioactivity:

Initial cloud geometry:  
KDFOC3 – empirical  
Harvey (1992)

Distribution:  
Heffter (1969)



Radioactivity normally distributed in layers

$$h_{\text{top}} = \begin{cases} 3730 Y^{0.229} & \text{if } Y \leq 2 \\ 3330 Y^{0.393} & \text{if } 2 < Y \leq 20 \\ 6360 Y^{0.177} & \text{if } Y > 20 \end{cases}$$
$$r_{\text{stem,top}}[m] = r_{\hat{\text{h}}} / 3$$
$$r_{\text{stem,bottom}}[m] = 3r_{\text{fireball}}$$



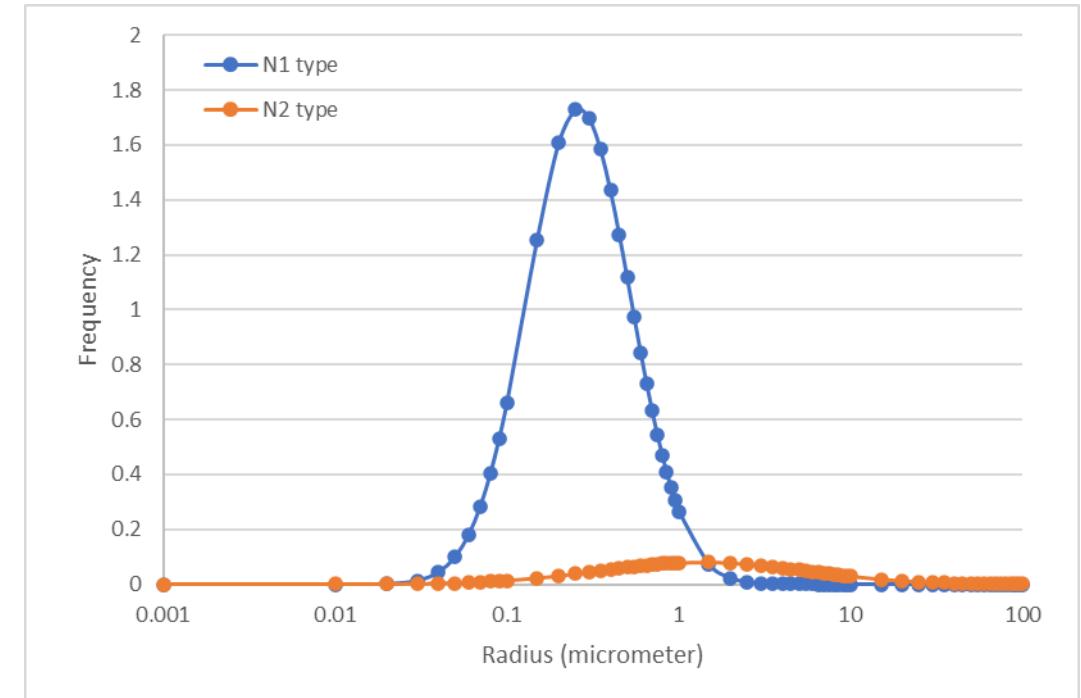
## particle size distribution:

St Ledger (2015) interpretation of Baker (1987)

Particle radius (in $\mu\text{m}$ )	Median radius	Surface burst fraction of total	Air burst activity (in %)
< 0.1	0.05	0.44	1.63
0.1-1	0.55	22.47	76.05
1-5	3	20.11	9.30
5-10	7.5	12.63	0.02
10-50	30	23.96	0
> 50	100	7.38	0
Gaseous	-	13	13
Total		100.00	100.00

# Particle size distribution

- › Bi-modal normal log-function
  - N1 is condensed particle
  - N2 is dust particles





# Possible improvements

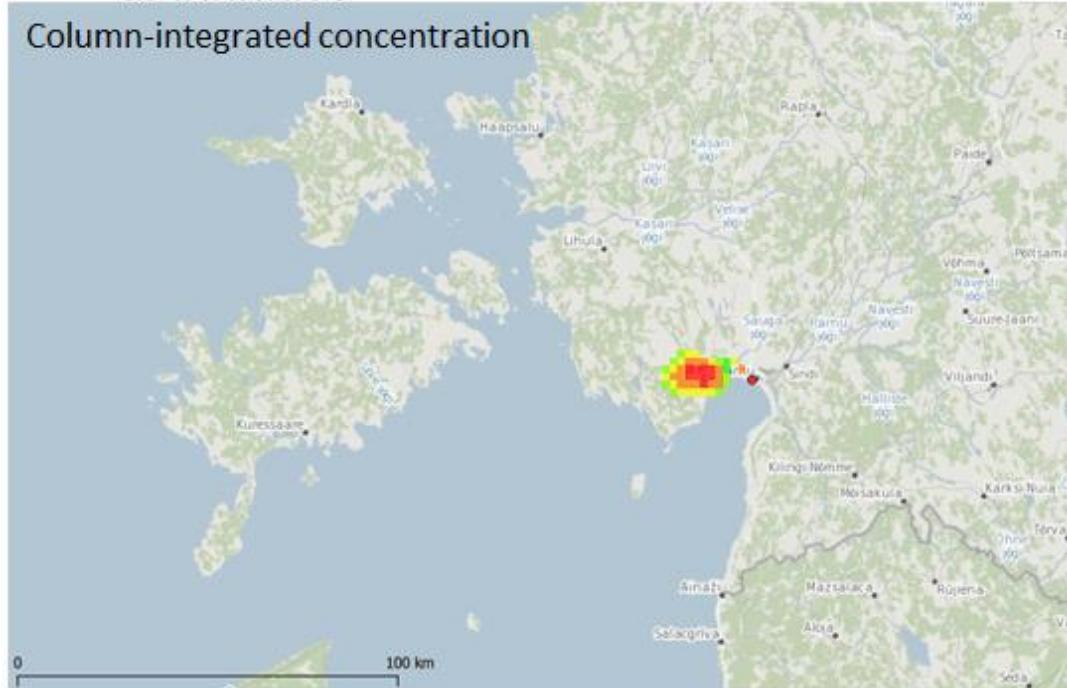
- Multiple-tracer simulations
- Adding shielding
- Include chemical transitions



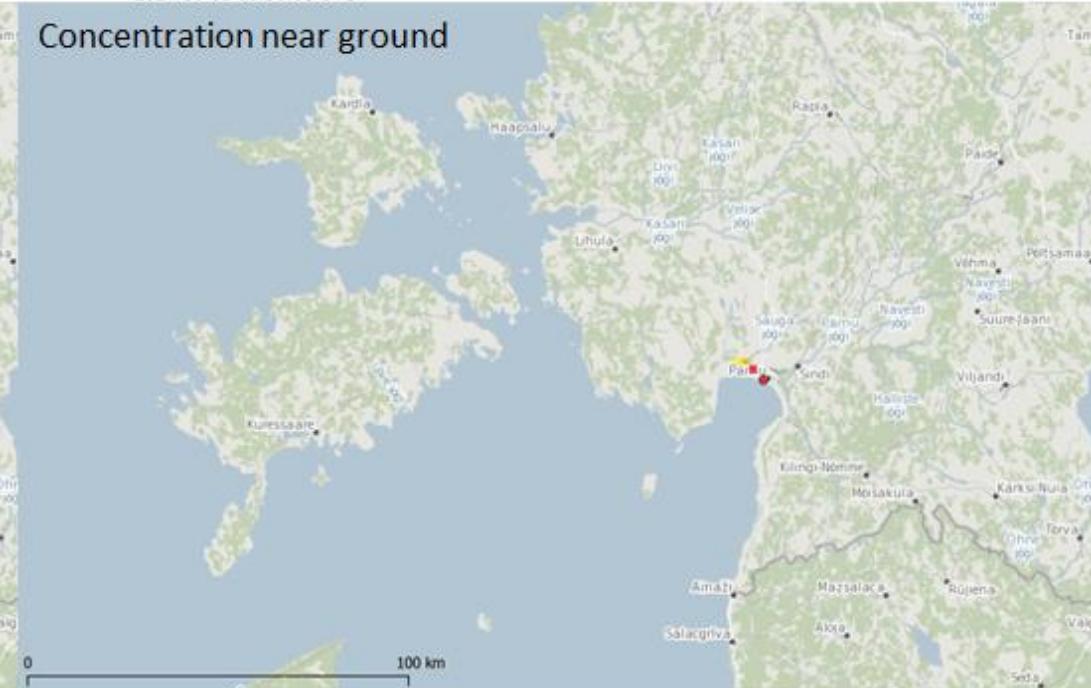
# Summary

- New method for decay chain calculations
  - Applicable on many different issues
- Extended modelling for nuclear detonations with method for accurate and fast estimation of radiological effects of fallout (accepted for publication - GitHub)
  - <https://github.com/rivm-syso/Cocktail-DCC>

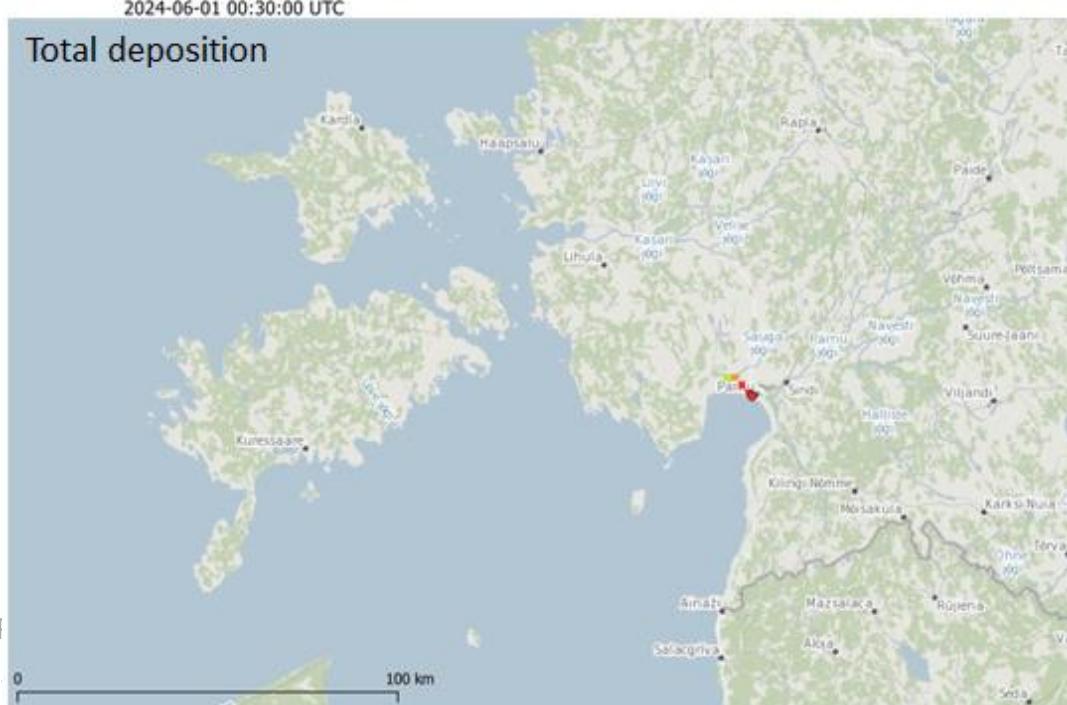
2024-06-01 00:30:00 UTC

**Column-integrated concentration**

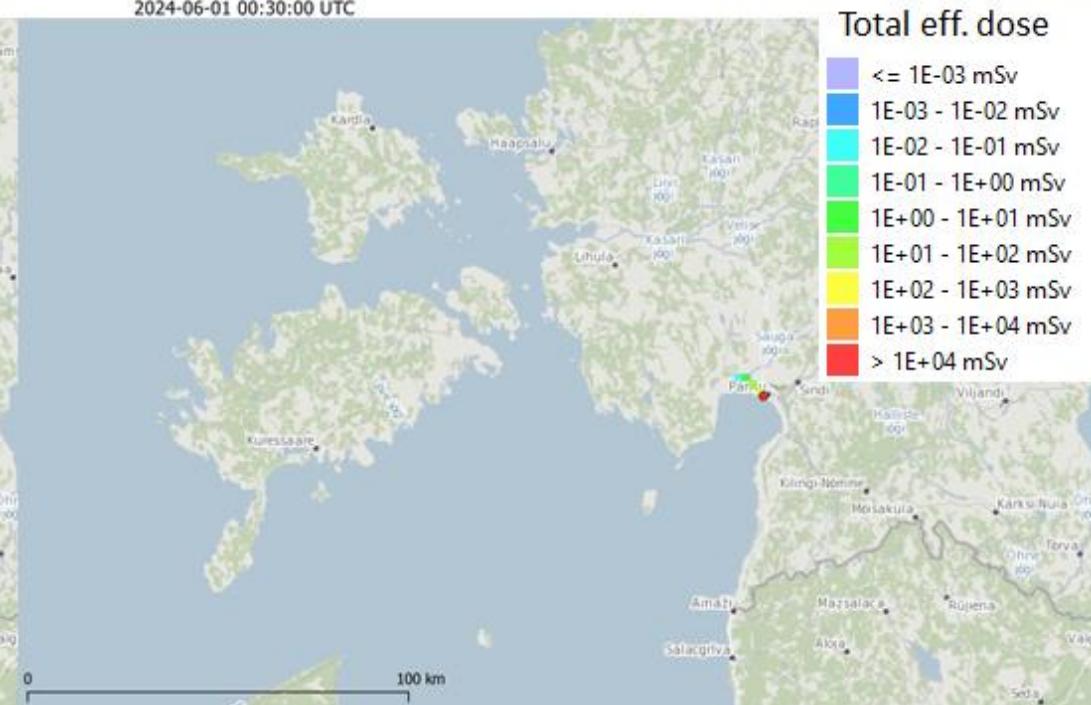
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**Concentration near ground**

2024-06-01 00:30:00 UTC

**Total deposition**

2024-06-01 00:30:00 UTC

**Total eff. dose**



# References (1)

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- › Hicks, H. G. (1982). Calculation of the Concentration of Any Radionuclide Deposited on the Ground by Offsite Fallout from a Nuclear Detonation. *Health Physics*, 42(5), 585–600.
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- › Eckerman, K., Harrison, J., Menzel, H.-G., & Clement, C. H. (2013). ICRP Publication 119: Compendium of Dose Coefficients Based on ICRP Publication 60. *Annals of the ICRP*, 42(4), 1–130.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.icrp.2013.05.003>
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<https://doi.org/10.1177/0146645320906277>



# Thank you for your attention





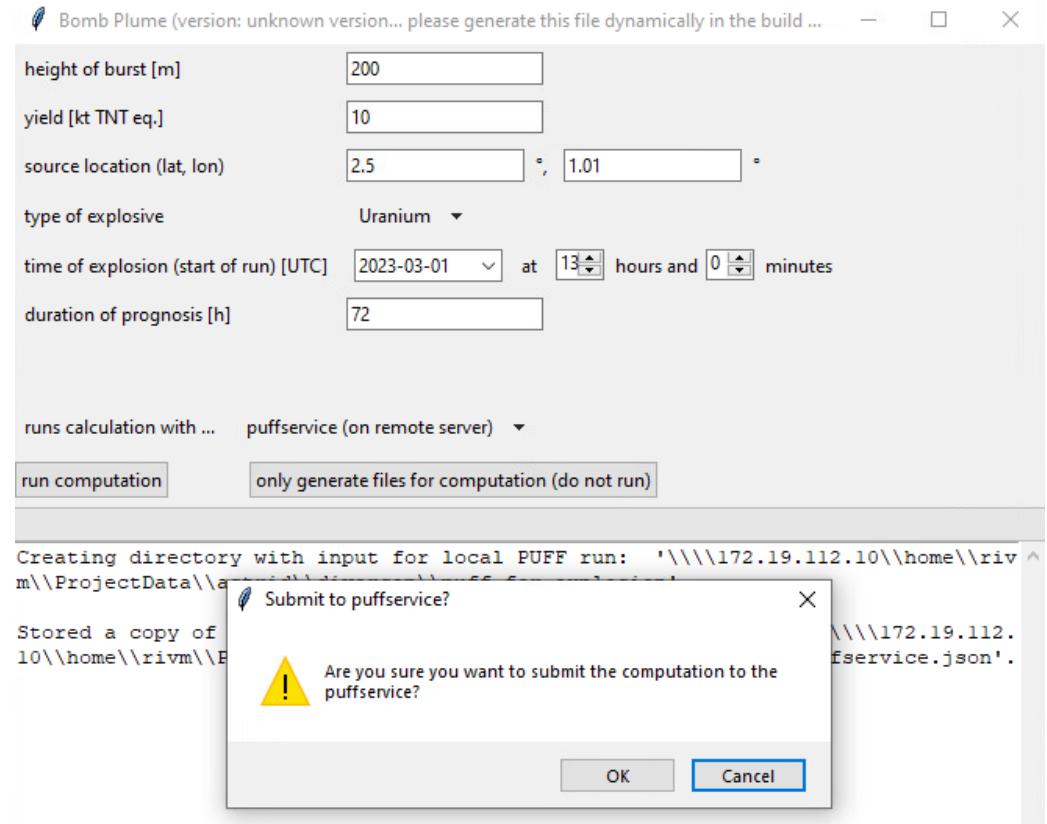
Any questions?



# Application in tool IRIS

- › 100 kT yield uranium weapon
  - source term Kraus & Foster (2014), 69 initial nuclides
- › dispersion model NPK-Puff, 48h prognosis
- › instantaneous plume: 1491 puffs
- › meteorology: ECMWF-HRES, resolution 0.1°
  - 15 levels up to 11.5 km height

flexible in yield, cocktail, output,...



**IRIS: Initial Radiological Interpretation Software**



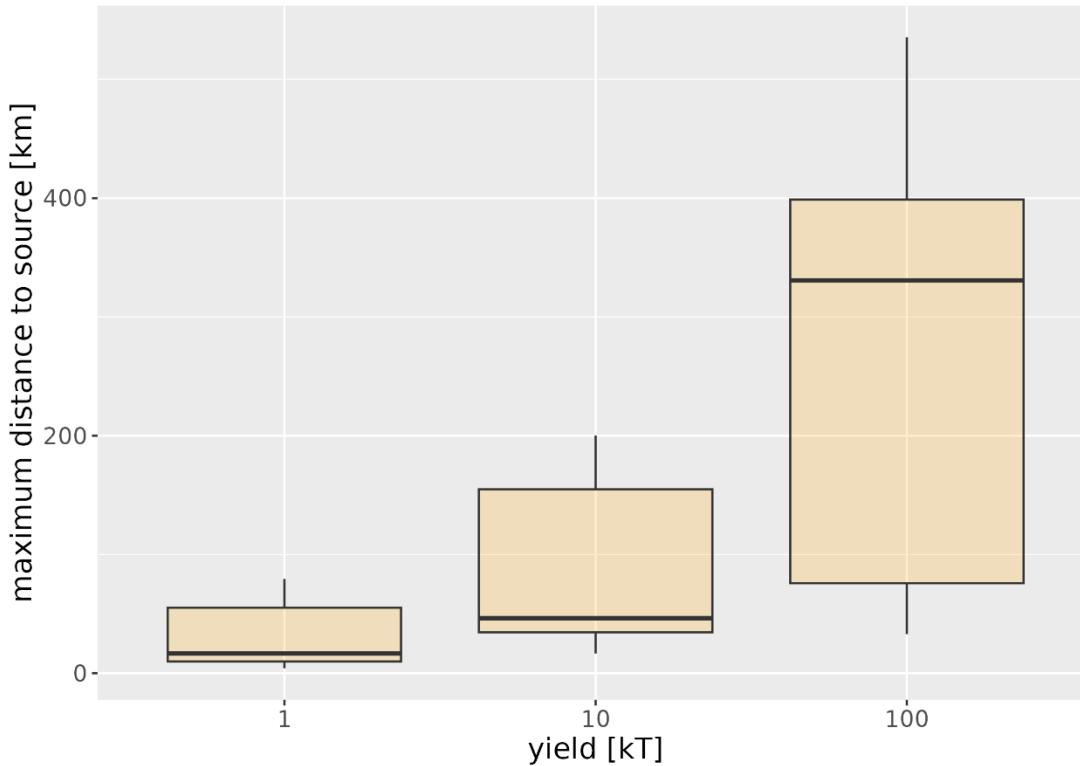
# Additional model assumptions

- No shielding (yet), but location and occupancy factor
- In principle every nuclide can be considered from ENDF-database (DCC is needed for dose calculation)
- DCCs for groundshine dose are from Petoussi-Hens and ICRP
- No soil mitigation (with cocktail-DCC), but implicitly in time-integrated DCC's in traditional dispersion and dose modelling
- Deposition wet: bulk,
- Deposition dry: particle size dependent surface resistance-values combined with other resistances



# Outlook: gathering statistics *varying yield, location, and release time*

Exceedance effective dose > 10mSv



Exceedance effective dose > 10mSv

