

Pre-Operational Environmental Radiation Survey of the
National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory*

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*This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under Grant Number PHY78-22696, the U.S. Department of Energy and the Office of the Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, Michigan State University.

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1.0 Introduction

The National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory (NSCL)

1.1 General Description and Location

Michigan State University is constructing two coupled superconducting cyclotrons. When operational, the ion beams will have maximum energy ranging from 40 MeV per nucleon for uranium ions to 200 MeV per nucleon for nuclei lighter than calcium.

The facility is located on the East Lansing campus at the site of the present Cyclotron Laboratory. The cyclotron is in the eastern portion of the campus, in the "Science Complex," and in the proximity of the Chemistry, Biochemistry and Plant Science Buildings.

Expansion of the existing Cyclotron is being done by an addition to the present building to house the new laboratories, equipment, shops etc.

The NSCL is in a campus area considered to be a mixture of academic and multiple unit residential. Geographically, the only significant feature near the site is the Red Cedar River which flows westward through campus (about 400 yards north) and joins the Grand River in Lansing about 3 miles west of the campus.

1.2 Climate and Meteorology

The climatological summary for Lansing, where the nearest National Weather Service (NOAA) station is located, is also descriptive of East Lansing and is excerpted here:

"The climate at Lansing alternates between continental and semimarine, depending on meteorological conditions. The marine

type is due to the influence of the Lakes, which, in turn, is governed by the force and direction of the wind. When there is little or no wind, the weather becomes continental in character, which means pronounced fluctuation in temperature -- hot weather in summer and severe cold in winter. On the other hand, a strong wind from the Lakes may immediately transform the weather into a semi marine type. Precipitation is fairly well distributed through the year, and no conspicuous variation is noted in the seasonal march generally, although the curve shows about one inch less a month in winter than in summer, the heavier amounts in summer being due to thundershowers. The wettest months of the year are May and June. Snowfall for Lansing is moderate, averaging 51 inches per year. Tornadoes sometimes occur in the area, but their frequency is less than in states farther to the south and west. Destructive thunder and wind storms are not uncommon".

1.2.1. Climate during Surveillance

General understanding of climatological conditions during the surveillance period is necessary since the natural radioactivity levels are influenced by changes in temperature, precipitation and pressure.

The local climatological monthly summaries for the periods when the environmental program took place are presented in Tables 1 to 3.

1.2.2. Meteorology during Surveillance

Meteorological conditions play an important role in the dispersion of any pollutants released to the environment. Therefore,

Table 1. Summary of Local Climatological Data for February 1980

FEBRUARY 1980
 LANSING, MICHIGAN
 NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE OFC
 CAPITAL CITY AIRPORT

Local Climatological Data

MONTHLY SUMMARY



LATITUDE 42° 47' N LONGITUDE 84° 36' W ELEVATION (GROUND) 841 FT. STANDARD TIME USED: EASTERN WBAN #14836

FEBRUARY 1980 LANSING, MICHIGAN

DATE	TEMPERATURE °F						DEGREE DAYS BASE 65°	WEATHER TYPES ON DATES OF OCCURRENCE	SNOW, ICE PELLETS OR ICE ON GROUND AT 07AM	PRECIPITATION			AVG. STATION PRESSURE IN.	WIND				SUNSHINE		SKY COVER TENTHS	
	MAXIMUM	MINIMUM	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	AVERAGE DEN POINT	HEATING (SEASON BEGINS WITH JULY)				COOLING (SEASON BEGINS WITH JAN.)	WATER EQUIVALENT IN.	SNOW, ICE PELLETS IN.		RESULTANT DIR.	RESULTANT SPEED M.P.H.	AVERAGE SPEED M.P.H.	FASTEST MILE	MINUTES	PERCENT OF POSSIBLE	SUNRISE TO SUNSET	MIDNIGHT TO MIDNIGHT
1																					
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29																					

SUM	SUM	SUM	SUM	SUM	SUM	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL
789	348					1308	0	0	0	0	0	29.46	3.2	9.0	25	26	7409	40	8.0	7.8
AVG	AVG	AVG	AVG	AVG	AVG	1.22	0	0	0	0	0	0.99	0.63	1.3	0.9	0.9	18396	19	1.0	1.0

* EXTREME FOR THE MONTH - LAST OCCURRENCE IF MORE THAN ONE.
 † TRACE AMOUNT
 ‡ ALSO ON AN EARLIER DATE, OR DATES.
 § FIGURES FOR WIND DIRECTIONS ARE TENS OF DEGREES CLOCKWISE FROM TRUE NORTH. 00 = CALM. DATA IN COLS. 8 AND 12-15 ARE BASED ON 7 OR MORE OBSERVATIONS PER DAY AT 3-HOUR INTERVALS. FASTEST MILE WIND SPEEDS ARE FASTEST OBSERVED. ONE-MINUTE VALUES WHEN DIRECTIONS ARE IN TENS OF DEGREES. THE / WITH THE DIRECTION INDICATES PEAK GUST SPEED.
 ANY ERRORS DETECTED WILL BE CORRECTED AND CHANGES IN SUMMARY DATA WILL BE ANNOTATED IN THE ANNUAL SUMMARY.
 WINDS UNDER FASTEST MILE HEADING ARE FASTEST OBSERVED 1-MIN. WINDS.

SEASON TO DATE
 SNOW, ICE PELLETS > 1.0 INCH 0
 THUNDERSTORMS 0
 PRECIPITATION > 1.0 INCH 13
 HEAVY FOG 2
 CLEAR 3 PARTLY CLOUDY 6 CLOUDY 20

HOUR	LOCAL TIME	SKY COVER TENTHS	AVERAGES					RELATIVE HUMIDITY		WIND		RESULTANT WIND	
			STATION PRESSURE IN.	AIR °F	NET BULB °F	DEW PT. °F	%	%	WIND M.P.H.	DIRECTION	SPEED M.P.H.	DIRECTION	
01	7:29	16	18	17	14	86	8.8	27	3.3				
04	7:29	16	16	12	95	6.6	26	2.7					
07	7:29	16	15	13	97	6.9	27	2.3					
10	8:29	18	20	19	83	8.5	29	2.4					
13	8:29	17	24	23	17	73	11.6	29	4.3				
16	8:29	14	26	24	17	69	11.8	28	4.3				
19	8:29	16	22	20	16	78	9.8	25	3.1				
22	8:29	17	19	19	15	84	8.8	26	3.3				

DATE	HOURLY PRECIPITATION (WATER EQUIVALENT IN INCHES)											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1												
2												
3												
4												
5												
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29												

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Daniel B. Mitchell
 DIRECTOR, NATIONAL CLIMATIC CENTER

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USCOMM--NOAA--ASHEVILLE 03/28/80 475

OBSERVATIONS AT 3-HOUR INTERVALS

Table with columns for HOUR, VISIBILITY, TEMPERATURE, WIND, and WEATHER, organized by DAY 01 through DAY 29. Each entry includes numerical data for various atmospheric conditions.

NOTES
CEILING
UNL INDICATES UNLIMITED

- WEATHER
* TORNADO
T THUNDERSTORM
Q SQUALL
R RAIN
RW RAIN SHOWERS
ZR FREEZING RAIN
L DRIZZLE
ZL FREEZING DRIZZLE
S SNOW
SP SNOW PELLETS
IC ICE CRYSTALS
SM SNOW SHOWERS
SG SNOW GRAINS
IP ICE PELLETS
A HAIL
F FOG
IF ICE FOG
GF GROUND FOG
SD BLOWING DUST
BN BLOWING SAND
BS BLOWING SNOW
BY BLOWING SPRAY
K SMOKE
H HAZE
D DUST

WIND
DIRECTIONS ARE THOSE FROM WHICH THE WIND BLOWS, INDICATED IN TENS OF DEGREES FROM TRUE NORTH; I.E., 09 FOR EAST, 18 FOR SOUTH, 27 FOR WEST. ENTRY OF 00 IN THE DIRECTION COLUMN INDICATES CALM.
SPEED IS EXPRESSED IN KNOTS; MULTIPLY BY 1.15 TO CONVERT TO MILES PER HOUR.

STATION
LANSGRICH
YEAR & MONTH
80 02

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Table 2. Summary of Local Climatological Data for March 1980

MARCH 1980
 LANSING, MICHIGAN
 NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE OFC
 CAPITAL CITY AIRPORT

-7- Local Climatological Data

MONTHLY SUMMARY



LATITUDE 42° 47' N LONGITUDE 84° 36' W ELEVATION (GROUND) 841 FT. STANDARD TIME USED: EASTERN WBAN #14836

DATE	TEMPERATURE °F			DEGREE DAYS BASE 65°		HEATHER TYPES ON DATES OF OCCURRENCE 1 FOG 2 HEAVY FOG 3 THUNDERSTORM 4 ICE PELLETS 5 HAIL 6 GLAZE 7 DUSTSTORM 8 SMOKE, HAZE 9 BLOWING SNOW	SNOW, ICE PELLETS OR ICE ON GROUND AT 07AM IN.	PRECIPITATION		STATION PRESSURE IN. ELEV. 874 FEET M.S.L.	WIND			SUNSHINE		SKY COVER TENTHS		DATE				
	MAXIMUM	MINIMUM	AVERAGE	DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL	AVERAGE DEW POINT			HEATING SEASON BEGINS WITH JAN. 1	COOLING SEASON BEGINS WITH JAN. 1		WATER EQUIVALENT IN.	SNOW, ICE PELLETS IN.	RESULTANT DIR.	RESULTANT SPEED M.P.H.	AVERAGE SPEED M.P.H.	FASTEST MILE	MINUTES		PERCENT OF POSSIBLE	SUNRISE TO SUNSET	MIDNIGHT TO MIDNIGHT	
1	15	3	4	5	6	7A	7B	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
2	25	-6*	10	-17	1	59	0		1	0	0	29.60	36	7.3	7.5	20	N	423	63	5	3	1
3	33	11	22	-6	11	43	0		1	0	0	29.38	25	5.7	6.3	17	N	510	76	4	3	2
4	41	22	32	-4	24	33	0		1	0	0	29.08	21	13.6	14.4	29	SW	502	74	4	3	3
5	34	14	24	-4	23	41	0		1	0	0	28.89	22	5.1	7.5	14	SW	225	39	5	3	4
6	37	9	18	-11	14	47	0		1	0	0	28.99	23	8.3	8.8	19	SW	244	36	10	3	5
7	31	10	21	-8	24	44	0		1	0	0	29.06	30	6.2	9.1	28	NW	244	36	10	3	6
8	32	14	23	-7	23	42	0		1	0	0	29.08	23	3.7	4.8	11	SE	363	53	8	3	7
9	36	16	26	-4	23	39	0		1	0	0	29.08	23	3.7	4.8	11	SE	219	32	10	3	8
10	43	18	31	-1	23	34	0		1	0	0	29.08	23	3.7	4.8	11	SE	258	37	10	3	9
11	27	10	19	-12	9	47	0		1	0	0	28.92	23	6.3	8.8	15	E	602	86	6	6	10
12	30	6	18	-13	9	47	0		1	0	0	28.65	26	15.1	11.5	20	SW	492	70	7	6	11
13	30	20	25	-6	6	40	0		1	0	0	29.06	29	17.8	19.8	36	NW	419	60	5	7	12
14	36	22	29	-3	31	36	0		1	0	0	29.23	09	11.1	13.5	20	SW	538	76	7	5	13
15	40	14	27	-5	31	36	0		1	0	0	28.79	07	10.2	12.7	16	NE	579	81	5	5	14
16	48	29	39	6	39	26	0		1	0	0	29.08	29	14.4	14.8	26	NE	701	97	2	2	15
17	55	30	43	10	33	28	0		1	0	0	29.06	18	15.9	16.7	24	S	701	97	2	2	16
18	42	22	32	-1	26	33	0		1	0	0	28.79	27	4.7	11.2	26	NW	526	73	3	3	17
19	53	34	44	10	29	-21	0		1	0	0	29.14	20	15.3	15.5	28	SW	608	84	2	2	18
20	62*	37	50*	16	39	15	0		1	0	0	28.86	21	9.8	11.4	20	SW	608	84	2	2	19
21	41	29	35	0	28	30	0		1	0	0	28.74	33	17.3	18.7	31	NW	408	56	9	9	20
22	40	25	30	-2	23	32	0		1	0	0	29.15	14	9.8	9.1	20	NW	619	84	5	4	21
23	41	31	36	-2	30	32	0		1	0	0	29.16	32	7.3	8.7	31	NW	408	56	9	9	22
24	34	31	33	-3	32	32	0		1	0	0	29.15	14	9.8	9.1	20	NW	619	84	5	4	23
25	38	28	33	-4	26	32	0		1	0	0	29.14	33	7.9	8.8	17	NE	129	18	10	10	24
26	39	27	33	-4	26	32	0		1	0	0	28.91	03	9.0	10.6	12	SE	0	0	10	10	25
27	47	28	38	0	30	32	0		1	0	0	29.14	33	7.9	8.8	17	NE	38	5	10	10	26
28	46	32	40	2	35	27	0		1	0	0	29.31	05	1.7	2.9	8	SE	177	24	10	10	27
29	47	31	39	0	33	26	0		1	0	0	29.32	18	4.4	7.6	20	NE	493	64	10	10	28
30	50	30	40	1	31	25	0		1	0	0	29.21	06	11.0	11.4	22	NE	562	75	9	9	29
31	57	33	45	1	34	20	0		1	0	0	29.08	03	14.4	14.5	25	NE	493	64	10	10	30
SUM	653											28.83	03	13.4	14.1	22	NE	636	84	9	9	31

MARCH 1980
 LANSING, MICHIGAN

TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL		TOTAL	
38.7	21.1	29.9	-3.0	24	86	0	0	0	0	1.94	8.8	29.06	28	1.5	11.4	36	NW	11734	FOR	236	210
PRECIPITATION		PRECIPITATION		PRECIPITATION		PRECIPITATION		PRECIPITATION		PRECIPITATION		PRECIPITATION		PRECIPITATION		PRECIPITATION		PRECIPITATION		PRECIPITATION	
2.01 INCH		2.01 INCH		2.01 INCH		2.01 INCH		2.01 INCH		2.01 INCH		2.01 INCH		2.01 INCH		2.01 INCH		2.01 INCH		2.01 INCH	
0.42		0.42		0.42		0.42		0.42		0.42		0.42		0.42		0.42		0.42		0.42	

* EXTREME FOR THE MONTH - LAST OCCURRENCE IF MORE THAN ONE.
 † TRACE AMOUNT.
 ‡ ALSO ON AN EARLIER DATE, OR DATES.
 REAVY FOG - VISIBILITY 1/4 MILE OR LESS.
 FIGURES FOR WIND DIRECTIONS ARE TENS OF DEGREES CLOCKWISE FROM TRUE NORTH. 00 = CALM.
 DATA IN COLS. 6 AND 12-15 ARE BASED ON 7 OR MORE OBSERVATIONS PER DAY AT 3-HOUR INTERVALS.
 FASTEST MILE WIND SPEEDS ARE FASTEST OBSERVED OF DEGREES, THE / WITH THE DIRECTION INDICATES PEAK GUST SPEED.
 ANY ERRORS DETECTED WILL BE CORRECTED AND CHANGES IN SUMMARY DATA WILL BE ANNOTATED IN THE ANNUAL SUMMARY.

STATION RETURNED TO FASTEST MILE WINDS EFFECTIVE MARCH 1ST, 1980.

SUMMARY BY HOURS

HOUR LOCAL TIME	SKY COVER TENTHS	TEMPERATURE					RELATIVE HUMIDITY %	WIND SPEED M.P.H.	DIRECTION	RESULTANT WIND SPEED M.P.H.
		AIR °F	NET BULB °F	DEW PT. °F	WIND DIR.	WIND DIR.				
01	5	29.07	27	26	22	84	8.6	25	1.5	
04	5	29.06	26	25	22	86	9.6	27	1.4	
07	6	29.07	25	24	22	89	10.2	32	.9	
10	8	29.08	31	29	24	78	12.2	28	.8	
13	8	29.06	35	31	25	69	14.0	27	2.7	
16	8	29.03	36	32	25	67	14.9	30	3.3	
19	8	29.04	32	30	25	76	11.1	30	1.3	
22	7	29.06	30	28	24	82	10.9	29	1.1	

HOURLY PRECIPITATION (WATER EQUIVALENT IN INCHES)

DATE	A. M. HOUR ENDING AT												P. M. HOUR ENDING AT											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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Daniel B. Mitchell
 DIRECTOR, NATIONAL CLIMATIC CENTER

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Table 3. Summary of Local Climatological Data for April 1980

OBSERVATIONS AT 3-HOUR INTERVALS

Table with columns for HOUR, SKY COVER, VISIBILITY, WEATHER, TEMPERATURE (AIR, MET, SURF, DEW PT, REL. HUM.), WIND (DIR, SPEED, GUSTS), and various other meteorological data points for multiple days.

NOTES
CEILING
UNL INDICATES UNLIMITED

WEATHER

- T TORNAADO
T THUNDERSTORM
Q SQUALL
R RAIN
RW RAIN SHOWERS
ZR FREEZING RAIN
L DRIZZLE
ZL FREEZING DRIZZLE
S SNOW
SP SNOW PELLETS
IC ICE CRYSTALS
SM SNOW SHOWERS
SG SNOW GRAINS
IP ICE PELLETS
A HAIL
F FOG
IF ICE FOG
GF GROUND FOG
BD BLOWING DUST
BN BLOWING SAND
BS BLOWING SNOW
BY BLOWING SNYRAT
K SMOKE
M HAZE
O DUST

WIND

DIRECTIONS ARE THOSE FROM WHICH THE WIND BLOWS, INDICATED IN TENS OF DEGREES FROM TRUE NORTH: I.E., 09 FOR EAST, 18 FOR SOUTH, 27 FOR WEST. ENTRY OF 00 IN THE DIRECTION COLUMN INDICATES CALM.

SPEED IS EXPRESSED IN KNOTS; MULTIPLY BY 1.15 TO CONVERT TO MILES PER HOUR.

STATION LANSGING MICH YEAR & MONTH 80 04

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FIRST CLASS

wind speed and direction information is needed to help in the interpretation of the data obtained. Tables 4 to 13 give weekly distributions of wind speeds and directions for the area. Wind roses for the weekly periods when sampling took place are also shown in Figures 1 and 2. The positions of the spokes show the direction from which the wind was blowing, the length of the segments indicate the percentage of the time in various groups.

Table 4 : Distribution of Wind Speed and Direction at the NSCL (frequency given in percentages)*

FEB 13 - FEB 20				
Speed in Knots				
Direction	1-3	4-10	11-21	>22
N	0.0	2.33	0.0	0.0
NNE	0.47	4.21	0.0	0.0
NE	0.0	6.54	0.0	0.0
ENE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
E	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
ESE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SSE	0.0	0.93	0.0	0.0
S	0.0	5.14	2.80	0.0
SSW	0.0	8.88	9.35	0.0
SW	0.0	3.74	15.42	0.0
WSW	0.0	7.01	5.14	0.0
W	0.0	7.01	0.47	0.0
WNW	0.0	2.80	0.93	0.0
NW	0.47	4.21	3.74	0.0
NNW	0.47	3.27	0.93	0.0
----- Calm = 3.74%	-----	-----	-----	-----

*Based on 214 observations taken over a week period.

Table 5 : Distribution of Wind Speed and Direction at the NSCL (frequency given in percentages)*

FEB 20 - FEB 27				
Speed in Knots				
Direction	1-3	4-10	11-21	≥22
N	0.0	2.38	1.98	0.0
NNE	0.0	2.38	5.95	0.0
NE	0.0	1.59	0.79	0.0
ENE	0.0	2.38	0.79	0.0
E	0.0	5.16	2.38	0.0
ESE	0.0	0.79	1.19	0.0
SE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SSE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
S	0.0	1.98	0.79	0.0
SSW	0.0	4.37	1.98	0.0
SW	0.0	2.38	3.57	0.0
WSW	0.40	4.76	3.17	0.0
W	0.79	9.52	8.33	0.40
WNW	0.40	6.75	7.54	0.0
NW	0.79	2.38	2.78	0.0
NNW	0.0	2.78	1.59	0.0
----- Calm = 4.76				

*Based on 252 observations taken over a week period.

Table 6 : Distribution of Wind Speed and Direction at the NSCL (frequency given in percentages)*

Direction	FEB 27 - MAR 5			
	Speed in Knots			
	1-3	4-10	11-21	≥22
N	0.91	12.79	6.85	0.0
NNE	0.46	2.74	2.28	0.0
NE	0.0	0.91	0.0	0.0
ENE	0.91	2.74	0.0	0.0
E	1.37	0.91	0.46	0.0
ESE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SSE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
S	0.0	0.91	1.37	0.0
SSW	0.46	5.48	2.74	0.0
SW	0.0	5.48	5.02	0.0
WSW	0.0	5.48	0.46	0.0
W	0.46	4.11	1.83	0.0
WNW	0.0	4.28	7.31	0.0
NW	0.0	3.19	5.02	0.0
NNW	1.37	3.65	3.19	0.0
----- Calm = 6.85	-----	-----	-----	-----

*Based on 219 observations taken over a week period.

Table 7 : Distribution of Wind Speed and Direction at the NSCL (frequency given in percentages)*

MAR 5 - MAR 12	
Speed in Knots	
Direction	1-3 4-10 11-21 >22
N	0.44 3.04 2.17 0.0
NNE	0.0 3.48 0.44 0.0
NE	0.0 1.30 1.30 0.0
ENE	0.87 8.26 0.0 0.0
E	0.0 1.30 3.04 0.0
ESE	0.0 0.87 2.61 0.0
SE	0.44 1.74 0.87 0.0
SSE	0.0 0.44 0.0 0.0
S	0.0 1.30 0.87 0.0
SSW	0.0 2.17 3.91 0.0
SW	0.44 9.10 6.96 0.0
WSW	0.0 5.22 2.17 0.44
W	1.30 4.35 3.04 2.61
WNW	0.44 0.87 6.96 1.74
NW	0.44 1.74 2.17 0.44
NNW	0.0 1.74 1.30 0.0
-----	-----
Calm = 5.65	

*Based on 230 observations taken over a week period.

Table 8 : Distribution of Wind Speed and Direction at the NSCL (frequency given in percentages) *

Direction	MAR 12 - MAR 19			
	Speed in Knots			
	1-3	4-10	11-21	>22
N	0.0	2.21	0.44	0.0
NNE	0.0	0.44	0.0	0.0
NE	0.0	0.88	0.44	0.0
ENE	0.44	2.21	0.44	0.0
E	0.0	5.37	9.29	0.0
ESE	0.0	2.65	3.98	0.0
SE	0.0	1.33	3.54	0.0
SSE	0.0	0.44	3.98	0.0
S	0.44	2.21	9.29	0.0
SSW	0.0	5.31	5.75	0.0
SW	0.44	0.44	0.88	0.0
WSW	0.0	0.44	1.33	0.0
W	0.0	3.54	7.52	0.0
WNW	0.0	4.87	7.96	0.0
NW	0.0	3.10	1.77	0.0
NNW	0.0	2.65	1.77	0.0
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Calm = 2.21				

*Based on 226 observations taken over a week period.

Table 9 : Distribution of Wind Speed and Direction at the NSCL (frequency given in percentages)*

		MAR 19 - MAR 26			
		Speed in Knots			
Direction	1-3	4-10	11-21	≥22	
N	0.0	4.00	7.50	0.0	
NNE	0.0	2.50	4.00	0.0	
NE	0.0	4.50	1.00	0.0	
ENE	0.0	4.00	0.0	0.0	
E	0.0	2.50	0.0	0.0	
ESE	0.0	3.00	0.0	0.0	
SE	0.0	3.50	1.50	0.0	
SSE	0.0	4.00	3.00	0.0	
S	0.0	1.50	3.00	0.0	
SSW	0.0	4.00	8.50	0.0	
SW	0.0	1.50	2.00	0.0	
WSW	0.0	1.00	0.0	0.0	
W	0.50	0.0	0.0	0.0	
WNW	0.0	3.50	1.50	0.0	
NW	0.50	4.50	6.50	0.0	
NNW	1.00	4.50	4.50	0.0	
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Calm =	6.50				

*Based on 200 observations taken over a week period.

Table 10 : Distribution of Wind Speed and Direction at the NSCL (frequency given in percentages)*

Direction	MAR 26 - APR 2			
	Speed in Knots			
	1-3	4-10	11-21	≥22
N	0.46	2.29	0.92	0.0
NNE	0.46	7.34	12.84	0.46
NE	0.46	11.01	8.72	0.0
ENE	0.0	8.72	6.88	0.0
E	0.0	4.59	1.83	0.0
ESE	0.46	1.38	0.0	0.0
SE	0.0	5.05	0.0	0.0
SSE	0.46	0.46	1.38	0.0
S	0.0	4.13	0.46	0.0
SSW	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SW	0.0	1.83	0.0	0.0
WSW	0.0	0.92	0.0	0.0
W	0.46	0.46	0.0	0.0
WNW	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NW	0.46	0.0	0.0	0.0
NNW	1.38	0.0	0.0	0.0
----- Calm = 13.76	-----	-----	-----	-----

*Based on 218 observations taken over a week period.

Table 11 : Distribution of Wind Speed and Direction at the NSCL (frequency given in percentages)*

		APR 2 - APR 9			
		Speed in Knots			
Direction	1-3	4-10	11-21	>22	
N	0.0	0.86	0.0	0.0	
NNE	0.0	0.43	0.0	0.0	
NE	0.0	4.29	0.0	0.0	
ENE	0.0	3.43	0.0	0.0	
E	0.0	5.58	0.86	0.0	
ESE	0.0	2.58	5.58	0.0	
SE	0.0	4.29	3.00	0.0	
SSE	0.0	2.58	6.44	0.0	
S	0.0	4.29	13.30	0.43	
SSW	0.0	2.15	8.15	0.0	
SW	0.0	5.58	1.29	0.0	
WSW	0.0	2.15	0.43	0.0	
W	0.0	4.72	5.58	0.0	
WNW	0.0	0.86	0.86	0.0	
NW	0.0	0.43	2.58	0.0	
NNW	0.0	0.43	2.15	0.0	
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	
Calm = 5.58					

*Based on 233 observations taken over a week period.

Table 12 : Distribution of Wind Speed and Direction at the NSCL (frequency given in percentages)*

APR 9 - APR 16				
Speed in Knots				
Direction	1-3	4-10	11-21	≥22
N	0.0	4.00	2.22	0.0
NNE	0.0	0.84	0.0	0.0
NE	0.0	0.84	7.67	0.0
ENE	0.0	4.00	6.67	0.89
E	0.0	3.11	2.22	0.0
ESE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SE	0.0	1.33	0.0	0.0
SSE	0.44	1.33	0.0	0.0
S	0.0	1.78	5.78	0.44
SSW	0.0	4.89	6.22	0.0
SW	0.0	3.11	1.78	0.0
WSW	0.44	4.44	0.89	0.0
W	0.0	7.56	11.11	0.0
WNW	0.44	3.56	4.44	0.0
NW	0.0	4.44	3.56	0.0
NNW	0.0	1.78	1.78	0.0
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Calm = 0.89				

*Based on 225 observations taken over a week period.

Table 13 : Distribution of Wind Speed and Direction at the NSCL (frequency given in percentages)*

APR 16 - APR 23				
Speed in Knots				
Direction	1-3	4-10	11-21	>22
N	0.0	2.62	4.19	0.0
NNE	0.0	3.66	0.0	0.0
NE	0.0	1.05	0.0	0.0
ENE	0.52	1.57	0.52	0.0
E	0.0	2.62	0.0	0.0
ESE	1.5	0.52	0.0	0.0
SE	0.0	1.05	0.0	0.0
SSE	0.52	1.05	0.0	0.0
S	0.52	7.33	0.0	0.0
SSW	0.52	9.95	0.52	0.0
SW	0.52	4.19	1.57	0.0
WSW	1.05	6.81	3.66	0.0
W	0.0	4.71	5.24	0.0
WNW	0.52	5.76	2.09	0.0
NW	0.0	2.62	2.09	0.0
NNW	0.0	2.62	6.28	0.0
----- Calm = 9.95	-----	-----	-----	-----

*Based on 191 observations taken over a week period.

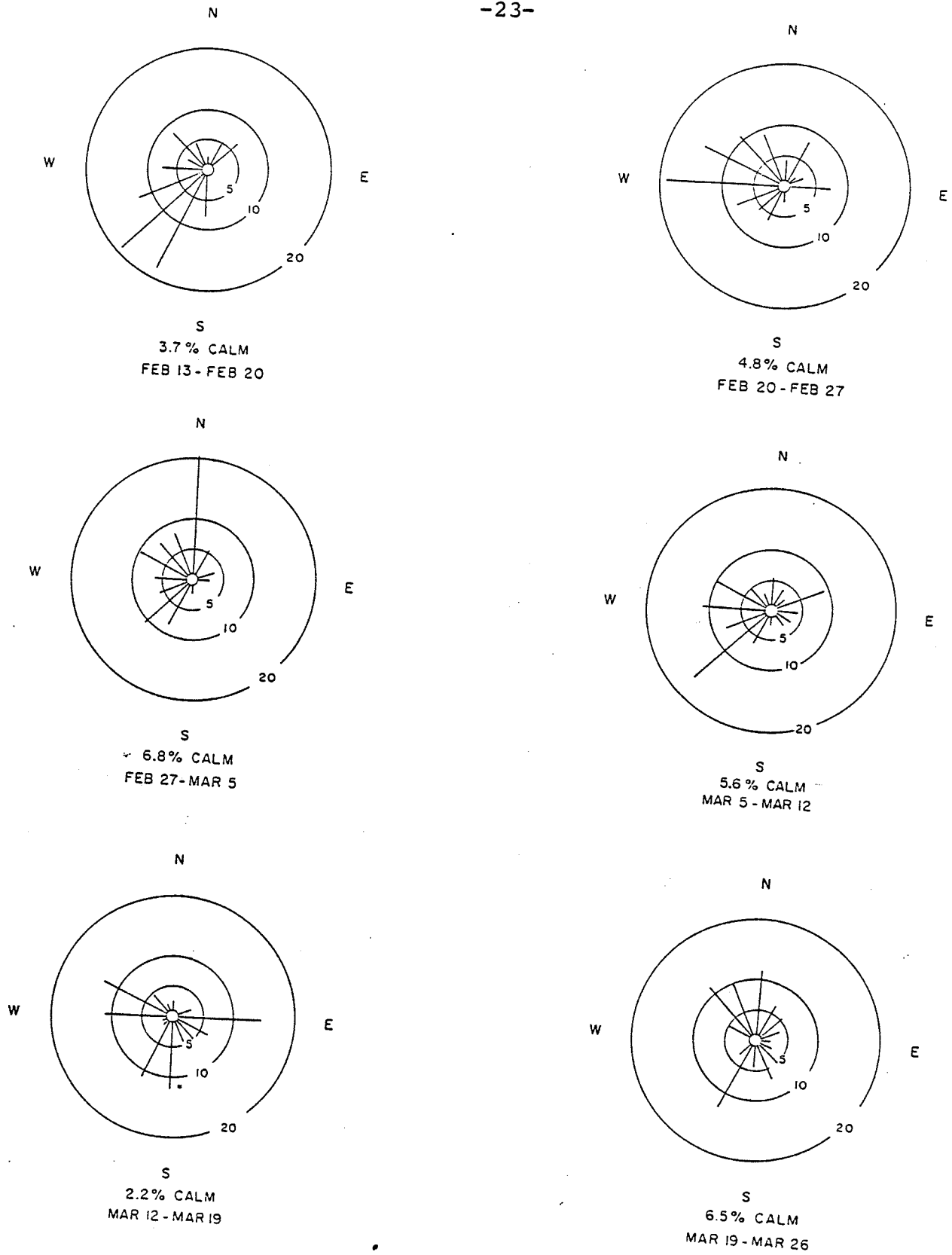


Figure 1. Wind Roses for the NSCL Area during February 13th to March 26th

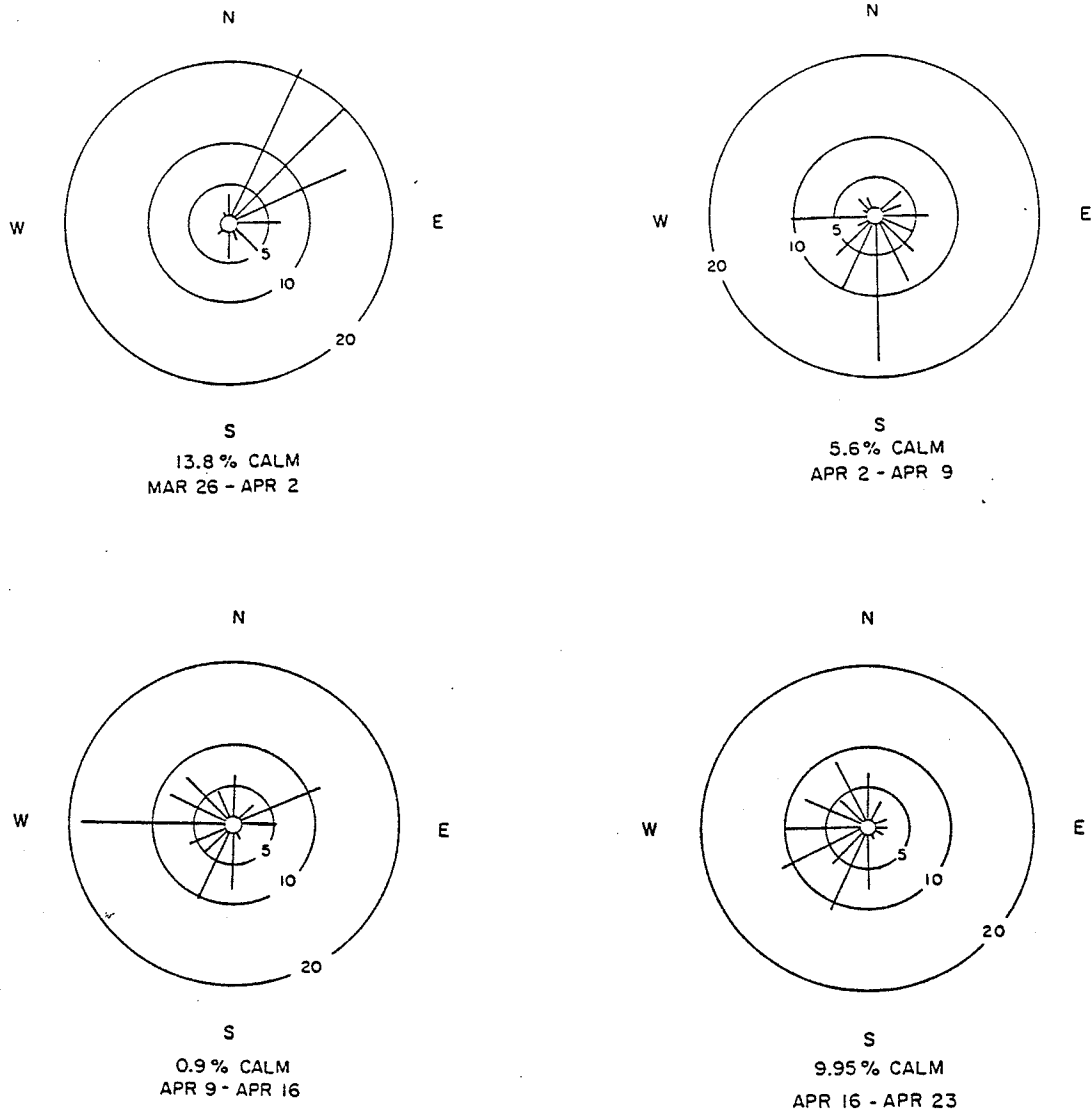


Figure 2. Wind Roses for the NSCL Area during March 26th to April 23rd

2. The Pre-operational Environmental Surveillance Program at the NSCL

Many objectives for environmental surveillance programs have been expressed before^{1,2,3,4,5,6,7}. According to Denham⁸, the 4 primary purposes are:

- "1) to assess the actual or potential radiation dose to persons in the site environs.
- 2) to test the compliance or non-compliance of observed data with standards and regulations expressed in annual doses.
- 3) to verify that effluent controls are adequate and have not deteriorated and
- 4) to check for long term build up and to predict environmental trends from plant-released radioactivity."

In order to fully understand the results of an environmental program during the operational phase of a nuclear facility, baseline environmental data are needed for comparison with later operational studies. Therefore a pre-operational program was established for the NSCL with the purpose of assessing "background" levels and their variations in environmental media, in the area surrounding the laboratory.

The study was conducted based on the two population exposure pathways considered the most important, which are the air and water.

2.1 Air Sampling

Radioactive air particles are measured because of the health hazard associated with their inhalation, deposition on surfaces or ingestion. Air monitors are used for environmental

and laboratory monitoring of airborne radioactivity.

The most common type of air sampling is done by membrane filtration. By this technique, a known volume of air is passed through a collecting medium with a vacuum pump. The deposited radioactivity is then measured with appropriate instrumentation. A flowmeter is used to record the flow rate (or total flow) through the system.

The collecting medium can be chosen from a variety of filters, for instance glass fiber, paper and cellulose-asbestos fiber. Collection efficiency, resistance to air flow and particle size selectivity are some of the considerations during selection of a filter⁵. Long sampling times can be the cause of a marked decrease in the air flow if proper filter selection is not accomplished. In those cases a combination of high collection efficiency and low pressure drop when loaded are desirable filter characteristics.

Glass fiber filters are often used in air samplers for environmental studies. Some of their advantages include reduced hygroscopicity and higher collection efficiencies at a comparable pressure drop. One of the major problems is in the quality control, due to the variability in the composition and properties of the glass fiber filters (glass, glass fiber, fiber mat and packing). Therefore, the chemical analysis is hindered. The loss of filter fibers during sample collection is another disadvantage⁹.

Advantages and disadvantages have to be balanced out so that the filter which is best adapted to the individual air sampling requirements can be chosen.

The filters collected can be used in a variety of ways, such as for particle size studies, autoradiography, or can be

counted individually for beta or alpha radioactivity. For gross alpha counting, high surface retention filters are desirable to minimize penetration, and loading should be kept below $1\text{mg}/\text{cm}^2$ to minimize self-absorption⁹. If gamma-spectrometry is to be used, a sample size of 300 m^3 of air is recommended. By continuous sampling at 1 cubic foot per minute, one week is necessary to acquire about 300 m^3 total volume¹.

Small volume continuous air samplers are used when long sampling times are involved. In those cases or when heavy dust loadings are present, variations of flow-rate can result in errors, even though small, in calculating the volume of air sampled. Initial and final flow-rate readings are usually recorded and the average result is used as representative of the flow during the sampling period¹⁰.

Changes with temperature and pressure can also lead to errors due to changes in the flowmeter calibration. All flow rates can be corrected to standard conditions by using the equation below:

$$F = \frac{273}{760} \times \frac{(P_L)}{(273+T)} \times F_m$$

equation 1

where,

F is the corrected flow-rate

P_L is the local pressure (mmHg)

T is the local temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)

F_m is the measured flow-rate

Once the sampling equipment is decided upon, the location of the unit(s) must then be considered. For nuclear power plants operational programs, it is recommended

that low volume air samplers be placed at each of the three locations where the offsite ground level concentration predicted is the highest. In addition, one sample from each of one to three communities from one to ten miles radius from the plant, and at a distant control site 20 or more miles away in the prevailing upwind direction¹. Such recommendations were used as guidelines for establishing the sampling stations for the pre-operational program at the NSCL.

The selection of the locations can be performed by using the plot in Figure 3, which positions the sampling sites at a distance from the release point based on the height of radionuclide release, in combination with prevalent wind direction and stability condition data. The predominant stability condition (Pasquill Atmospheric Stability Condition) of the time of the year during monitoring can be used^{1,11}.

2.1.1. Materials and Methods

Atmosphere sampling for the pre-operational program at the NSCL was performed by using two low volume air samplers*, properly sheltered in wooden boxes made especially for the weather conditions of the season, that is, from February 13th to April 23rd, 1980.

*Air sampling kit. cat. no. 4-25004. Bendix Environmental and process Instrument Division. Lewisburg, WV.
RAS-2 Air Sampler. Eberline Instrument Corporation, Santa Fe, NM

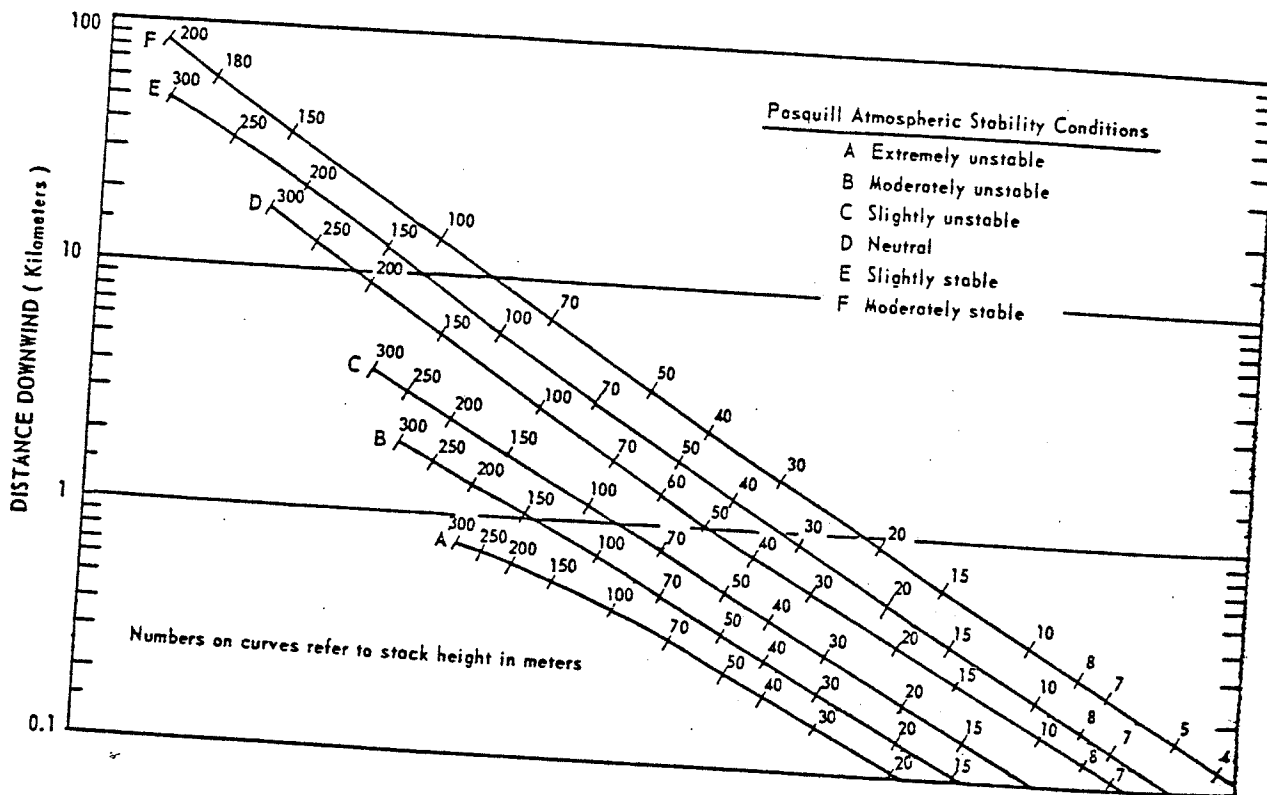


Figure 3. Estimated distance of maximum ground level concentrations as a function of Pasquill atmospheric stability conditions and stack height in meters¹¹.

Each sampler was randomly assigned to a location every week, so that, at the end of a nine week period of sampling, the background radioactivity level could be determined at all the chosen locations. The air samplers were continuously operated for a week before the filter* was collected. The samplers were checked for proper operating conditions prior to use. The calibration curve supplied with each sampler, that is, flow-rate reading versus vacuum at intake was also checked. From those tests, both samplers showed similar performance characteristics and were considered to be operating at these specifications during the course of the experiment.

The experimental layout is shown in Table 14, where one can see how the locations were assigned to the weekly sampling periods.

The locations selected are presented in Figures 4, 5, and 6 and they are:

- Location 1: Owen Hall (Co-Ed Dormitory);
- Location 2: Pesticide Research Bldg.;
- Location 3: Shaw Hall (Co-Ed Dormitory);
- Location 4: Veterinary Clinic;
- Location 5: McDonald Middle School; and
- Location 6: M.S.U. Credit Union (close to Spartan Village: University housing for married students.).

* Gelman, Type A/E glass fiber filter, 47mm, nominal pore rating of 1µm. Gelman Sciences Inc., Ann Arbor, MI

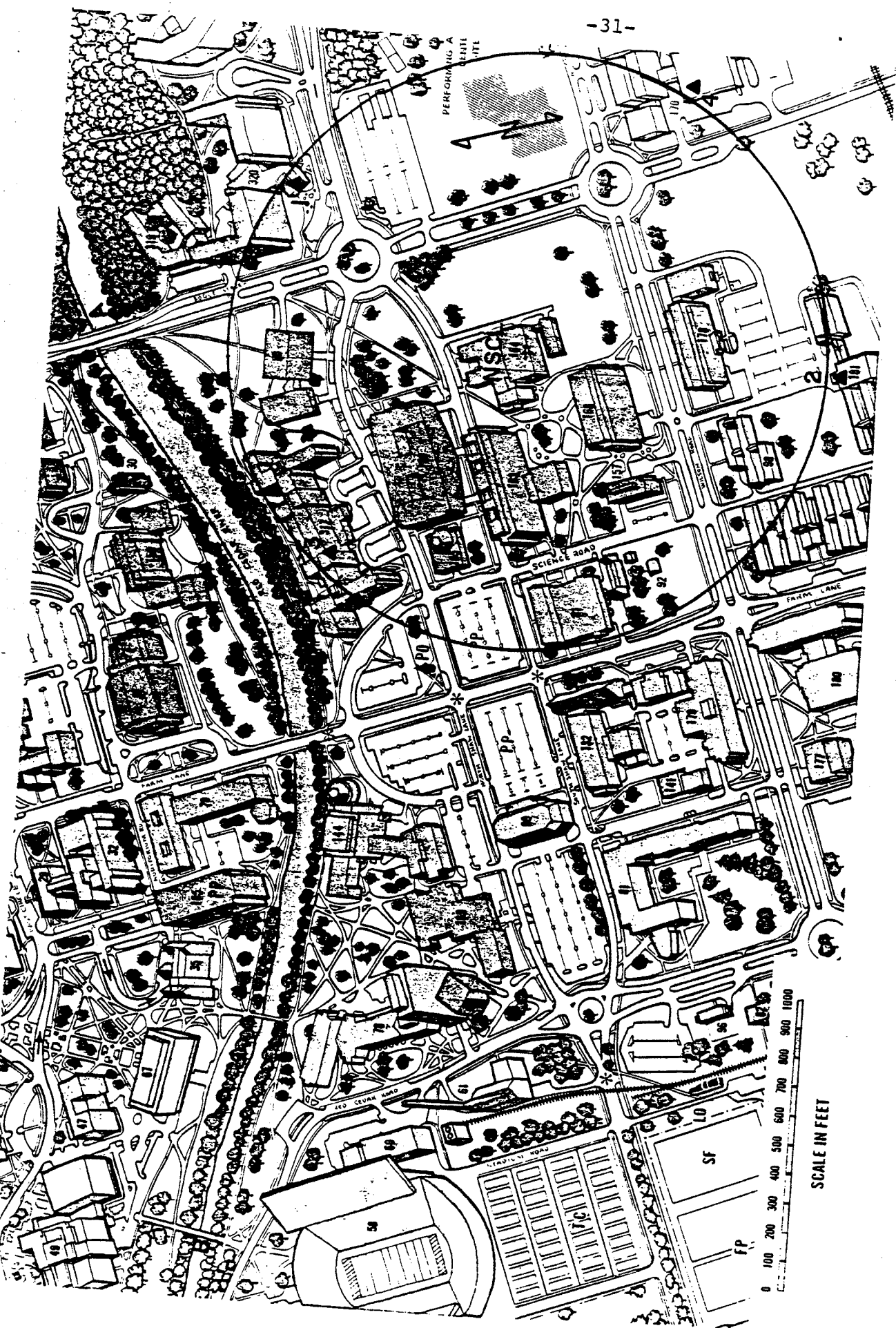


Figure 4. Air and Water Sampling Stations

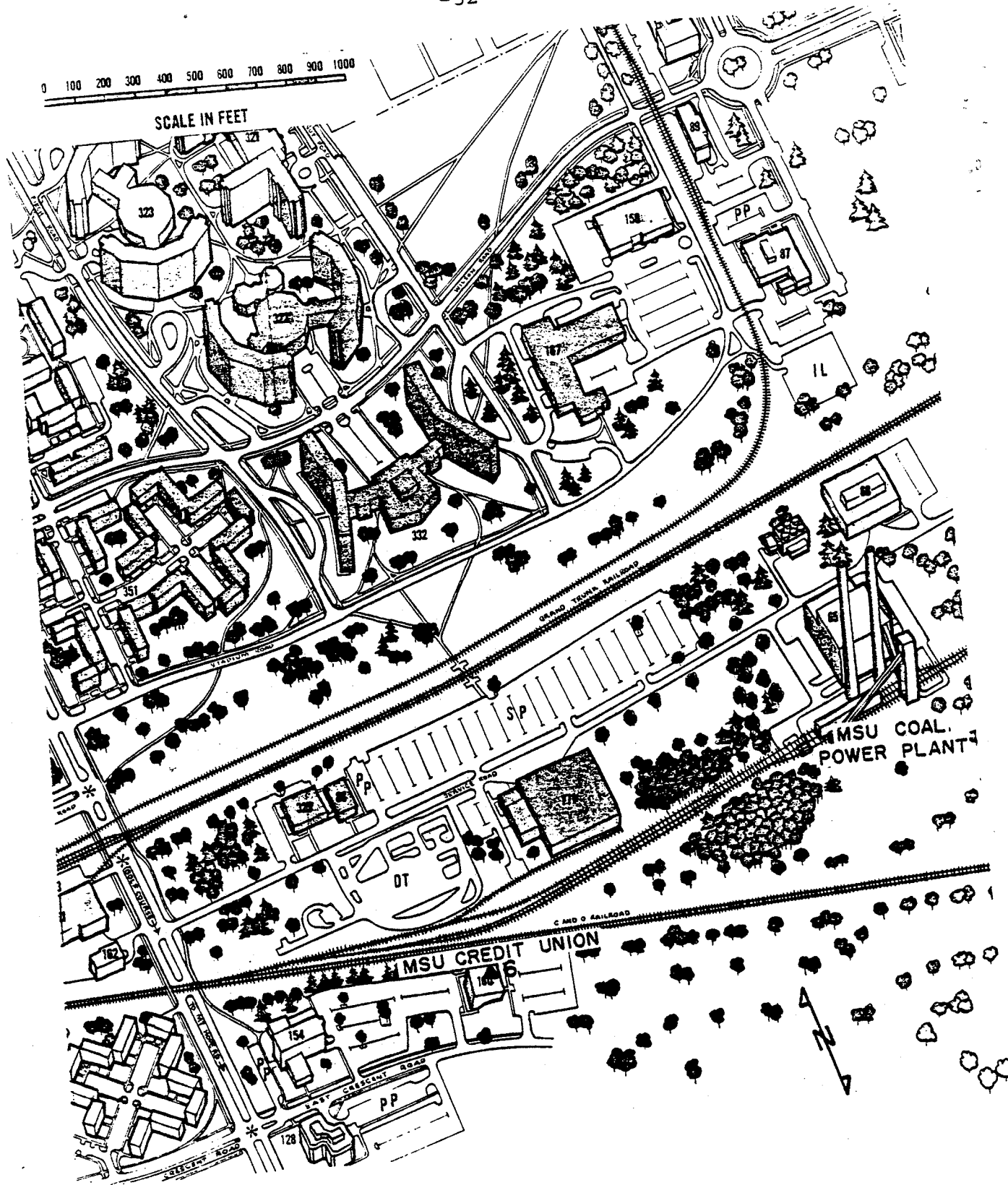


Figure 5. Air Monitoring Stations No. 6

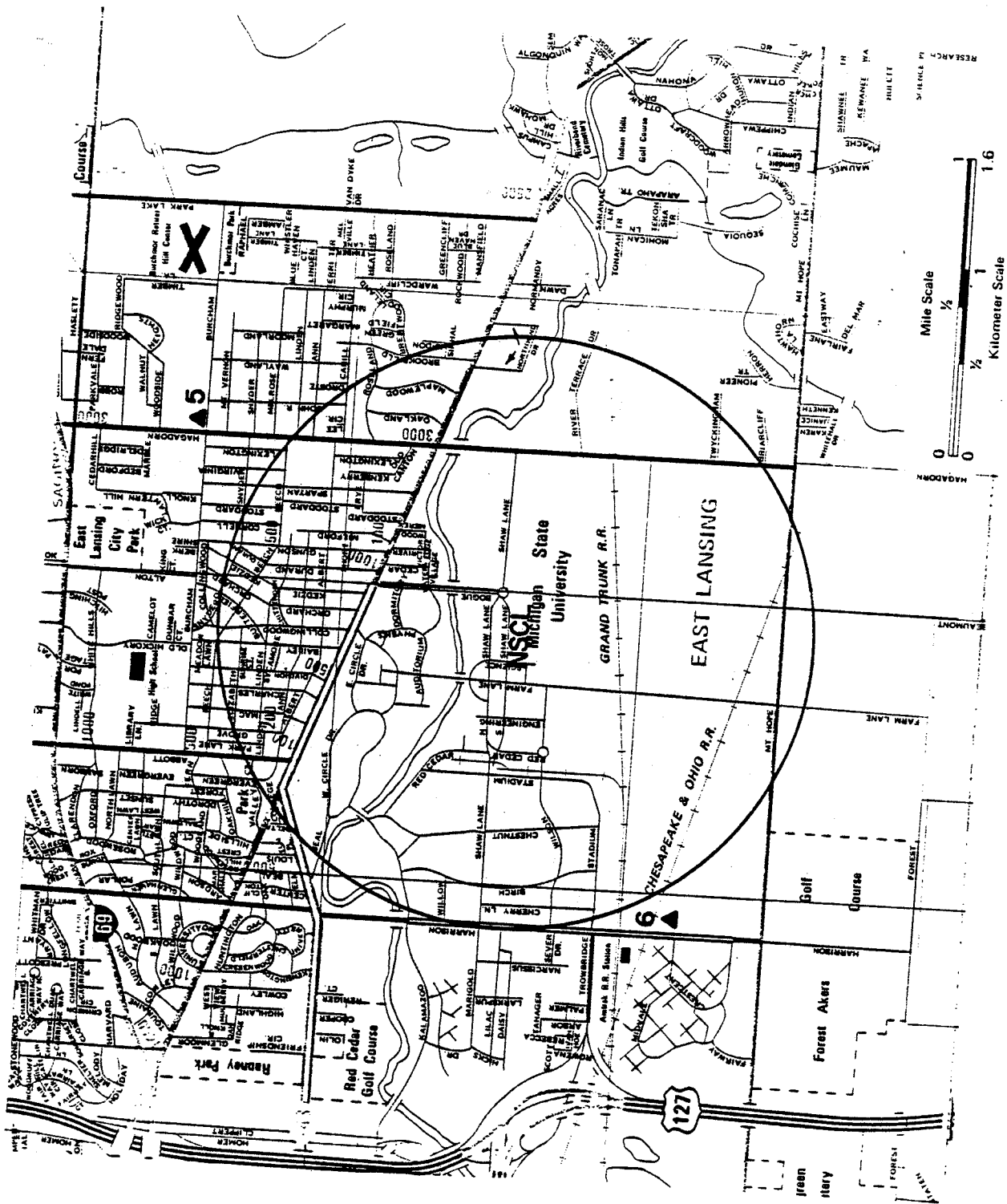


Figure 6. Air Monitoring Stations No. 5 and 6.

Table 14. Air Monitoring Experimental Design

SAMPLER					
I			II		
LOCATIONS					
4	1	2	3	5	6
WEEKS					
8	9	1	4	6	8
4	3	7	9	2	5
2	5	6	7	3	1

Locations 1 to 4 are 350m distant from the NSCL. This distance was determined using stability condition D and represents the distance where the offsite ground level concentration of the released radioactivity is the highest. According to Turner¹¹, stability condition D should be assumed for overcast winter days (or nights).

The yearly prevalent wind was reported to be southwesterly, averaging about 11 mph according to a past climatological survey by the U.S. Department of Commerce. This wind direction was used as a basis for locating the sampling stations 5 and 6, at about 1 mile from the NSCL. Location 7 shown in figure 7 was selected to be sampled only after all others were, and was not randomly assigned to the "weeks" referred to previously. Location 7 (Holt High School) is about 15 miles from the NSCL

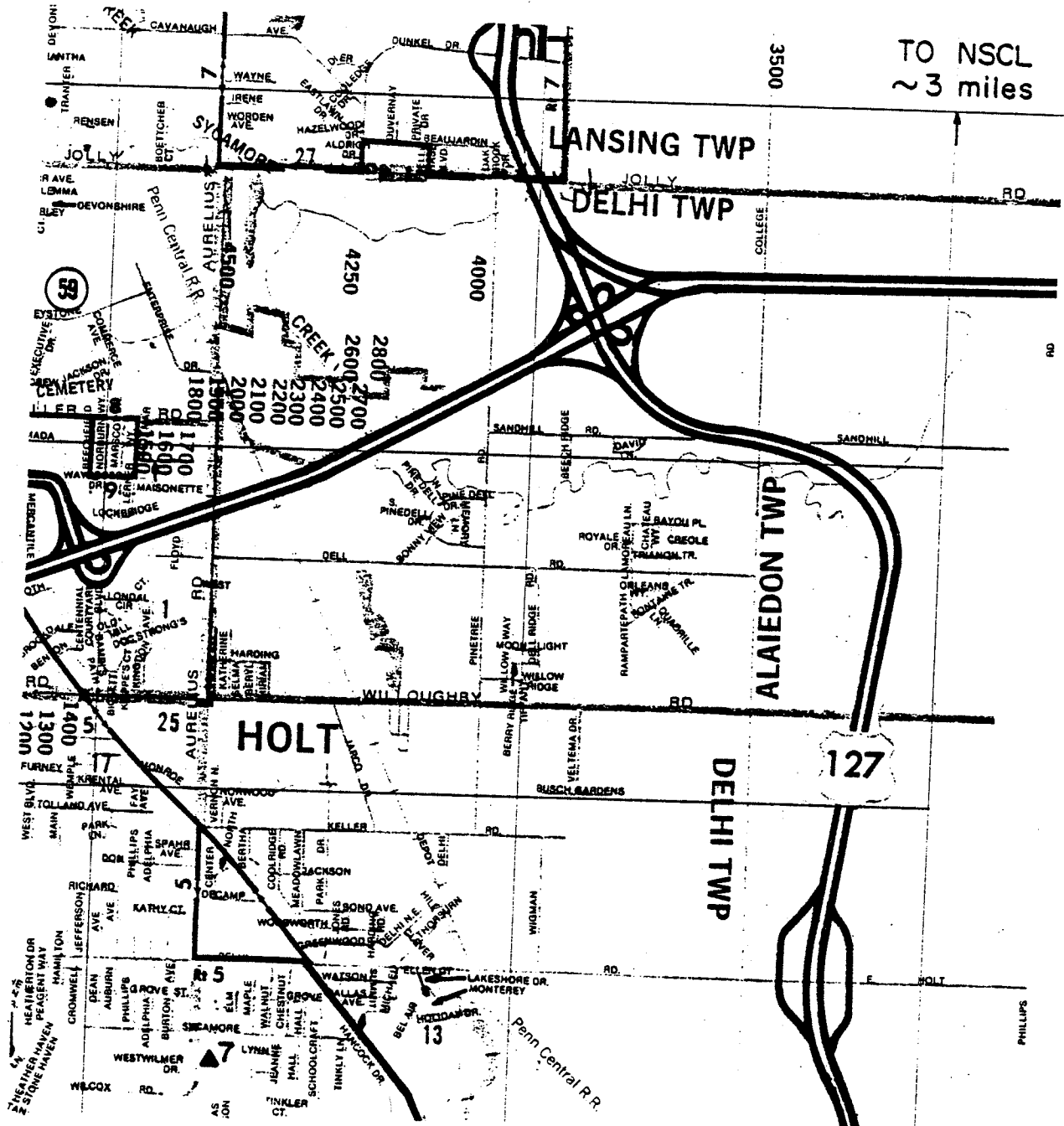


Figure 7. Air Monitoring Control Station

in the prevalent upwind direction, and it was thought to be a suitable "control" location for further studies to be carried out during the operational phase. Due to the fact that location 7 was not included in the randomization procedure, it will not be included in the statistical model selected for analysis of the samples and the results from this location will not be statistically compared to the results from the other 6 locations.

The air sampling procedure is summarized below in 5 phases.

Phase 1: Air samplers were assigned to the chosen locations every week. At the end of the weekly sampling period the 2 filters were collected and the samplers were placed in the next assigned location (as shown in Table 14). The flow rate was recorded at the beginning and end of the sampling period and an average value was calculated. Flow rate variation ranged from 58 lpm to 60 lpm. Flow rate readings were corrected for temperature and pressure to standard conditions. Elapsed time was also recorded (a timer was installed in the samplers, so that power outages during the week were detected and the total sampling time could be accurately known). The volume being sampled was calculated by multiplying the corrected average flow rate by the total sampling time.

Phase 2: Equipment to be used for filter analysis was calibrated every week before counting. The equipment consisted of: a) low background proportional counter,* operating at 43% efficiency (betas) and 32% (alpha) efficiency and calibrated using a ^{90}Sr ($\beta_{\text{max}}=0.546$ MeV) beta source and ^{241}Am (5.48 MeV, 85.2%) alpha

*Beckman Lowbeta II, model #1600. Beckman Instruments Incorporated, Fullerton, CA.

source. Such sources are normally used for environmental work and b) a Ge(Li) detector[†] used with a ND660[‡] system. A mixed radionuclide gamma-ray standard^{**}, placed in the same position as filters, was used for the gamma-system absolute calibration. The efficiency curve is shown in Figure 8. A blank filter background count was taken for 1 hour for the filters, prior to their usage.

Phase 3: Precisely 30 minutes after the sampling time ended, the filter was counted on the Ge(Li) detector for 30 minutes. The detector was completely enclosed in a 2 inch lead shield during counting. The data for the gamma analysis, accumulated on floppy disks were used to plot a spectrum to check on the naturally occurring radioactive particles deposited on the filters which were short lived plus any contribution of short lived contaminants that might be in the air. After the "30 minutes" spectrum was recorded, 3.5 additional hours of counting were stored so that better counting statistics would be achieved. Therefore, the second spectrum contained the data accumulated for 4 hours total, beginning 30 minutes after the sampling time ended. It was used to identify and quantify the longer lived radionuclides present in the filter.

Phase 4: Gross alpha counting of the filter was performed 27 hours after the end of the sampling period, and gross beta counting 2 days after. A blank filter was used as the background so that the net counts could be reported. Time intervals of 50 minutes

[†]Ortec, 4.5% Eff., model #8101-0325, 2.8 keV Resolution. Ortec Incorporated, Oak Ridge, TN.

[‡]Nuclear Data System, ND660. Nuclear Data Inc., Schaunburg, IL.

^{**}NBS standard Reference Material 4215-F No. 24, 1978.

were used for counting and filters were usually counted for 5 consecutive intervals.

Phase 5: The information accumulated on the floppy disks were read into a Xerox Sigma-7 computer located at the NSCL. Files were made of each spectrum and saved for later analysis. Such

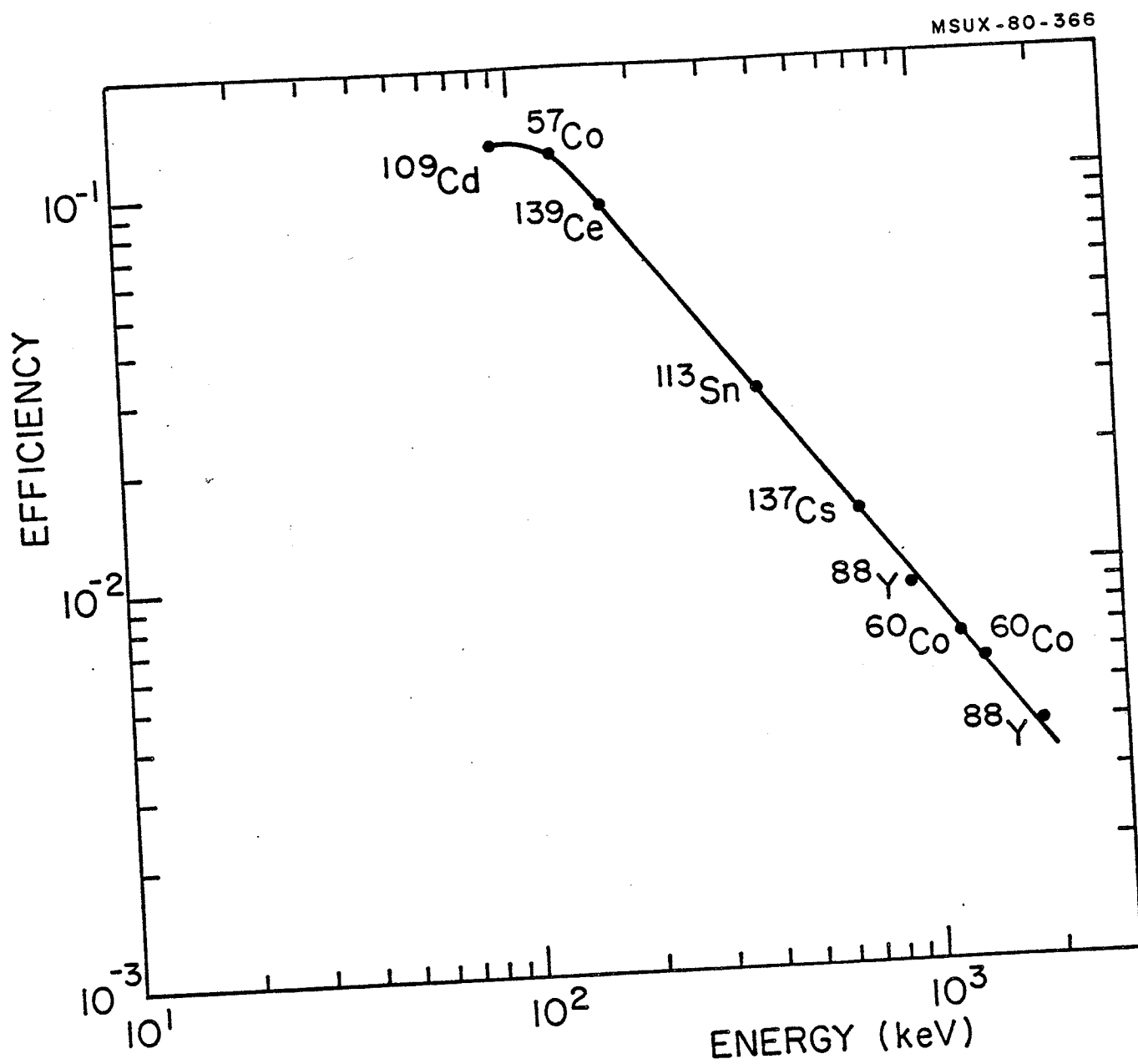


Figure 8. Efficiency Curve for Ge(Li) Used

analysis was performed by using a fitting program¹³ which gives the net area (counts) for each peak fitted and the percent error in the area. From these data, the activity in picoCuries (pCi) was determined by dividing the number of counts by the counting time and, peak efficiency and the conversion factor 2.22 dpm/pCi. Once the activity was determined for each long-lived radionuclide identified, not part of the Uranium or Thorium series, the concentration (C) expressed in pCi per m³ of air was determined, according to Helgeson¹², by

$$C = \frac{A}{cV(1-b)} \quad \text{equation 2}$$

where A = activity (pCi)

c = filter collection efficiency (0.99)

V = total volume (m³)

b = absorption factor of particles in filter media
(zero for γ 's)

A geometrical correction due to the finite sample size was also used.³⁶

The concentration equation, in case of short lived radionuclides, due to saturation during sampling, may be calculated by

$$C = \frac{A e^{-\lambda_i t_d}}{cV T_i (1-b)} \quad \text{equation 3}$$

where,

λ_i = the decay constant of the ith radionuclide

t_d = the delay time before counting

T_i = the half-life of the ith radionuclide

A, C, V, b = as in the previous equation.

The decay correction during sampling, $(1-e^{-\lambda_i t_s})$ will be equal to 1 in this case, since t_s (sampling time) is large and

$$e^{-\lambda_i t_s} = \bar{e}^\infty = 0.$$

2.1.2. Results

Gross Beta Analysis

Gross beta counting was performed 2 days after the filter was removed. It is recommended that particulate sample filters should be analysed for gross beta after at least 24 hours to allow for radon and thoron daughter decay¹.

The activity per cubic meter of air (pCi/m³) was calculated based on the knowledge of the average flow rate, the sampling time, the filter collection efficiency and the counting efficiency for the beta particles in question and it is reported in Table 15 in modified scientific notation. Two filters (week of Apr. 2-9 and 9-16) were not used due to problems during sampling. Vandalism and a blown fuse during a power outage were the causes.

Three regression analyses were performed on the data for the filters collected. The SPSS* program "Regression" was used. The mathematical models (first order) with independent variables L for "locations" and W for "weeks" are of the form:

*SPSS = Statistical Package for the Social Sciences

Table 15: Air Monitoring Gross β Concentrations^a

WEEK	LOCATION	(pCi/m ³)
		MEAN \pm SD
FEB 13-20	4	3.2(E-2) \pm 1.3(E-3)
FEB 13-20	5	4.5(E-2) \pm 2.9(E-3)
FEB 20-27	1	2.1(E-2) \pm 6.4(E-4)
FEB 20-27	5	2.3(E-2) \pm 5.7(E-4)
FEB 27 - MAR 5	4	2.0(E-2) \pm 8.4(E-4)
FEB 27 - MAR 5	3	1.9(E-2) \pm 2.0(E-3)
MAR 5 - MAR 12	1	2.1(E-2) \pm 8.0(E-4)
MAR 5 - MAR 12	6	2.2(E-2) \pm 2.7(E-3)
MAR 12 - MAR 19	2	1.6(E-2) \pm 1.3(E-3)
MAR 12 - MAR 19	5	1.8(E-2) \pm 1.0(E-3)
MAR 19 - MAR 26	2	1.6(E-2) \pm 1.5(E-3)
MAR 19 - MAR 26	3	1.9(E-2) \pm 4.0(E-4)
MAR 26 - APR 2	4	1.7(E-2) \pm 9.9(E-4)
MAR 26 - APR 2	6	1.5(E-2) \pm 2.4(E-4)
APR 2 - APR 9	1	1.5(E-2) \pm 4.6(E-4)
APR 9 - APR 16	6	6.0(E-3) \pm 5.2(E-4)
APR 16 - APR 23	7	3.1(E-2) \pm 3.4(E-3)

^aThe lower limit of detection (LLD) as defined in HASL-300 was calculated to be 4.8(E-3) pCi/m³ at the 95% confidence level.

model 1:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 L_1 + \dots + \beta_6 L_6 + \gamma_1 W_1 + \dots + \gamma_9 W_9 + \epsilon \quad \text{equation 4}$$

model 2:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 L_1 + \dots + \beta_6 L_6 + \epsilon \quad \text{equation 5}$$

model 3:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \gamma_1 W_1 + \dots + \gamma_9 W_9 + \epsilon \quad \text{equation 6}$$

where,

Y is the dependent variable in pCi/m³

β and γ's are regression parameters

L represents the locations where the samplers were placed

W represents the time periods sampling took place

ε is the error term

The null hypothesis tested in the first model was for "no week or location effect" on Y; in the second, for "no location effect", and in the 3rd, for "no week effect." Due to limitations on the length of time and number of samplers available for the pre-operational program, the experimental design does not allow for any statistical testing of the interaction effect of weeks and location upon the dependent variable. Therefore, the models used assume no interaction term.

The ANOVAs* ran based on each model are presented in Appendix I.

According to the results under all the hypothesis tested, the F test showed no significance at the 0.05 level. Therefore, statistically one can say that the best estimate of the mean gross beta concentration on the filters is the mean value, which is equal

*Analysis of Variance

to 2.0×10^{-2} pCi/m³ with an estimated standard error of 2.2×10^{-3} for all locations and sampling periods in question. The filter in location 7 was not included in the analysis as discussed before, and its result was not used in the determination of the mean value.

Figure 9 shows the individual values measured for the weekly periods and locations sampled. The bars represent the maximum and minimum values obtained experimentally.

Gross Alpha Analysis

The gross α activity per cubic meter of air was determined, as for the gross β analysis, based on the flow rate, the sampling time, the filter collection efficiency and the counting efficiency of the counter. Table 16 gives the gross concentration detected for the filters collected in the weekly periods assigned.

The same mathematical models as explained by Neter and Wasserman¹⁴ were used in the statistical analysis testing therefore the "no week or location effect", "no location effect and "no week effect" on the dependent variable Y. Due to the design limitations described before, the models used assume no interaction term. The ANOVAs are presented in the Appendix II.

According to the results, under all the hypothesis tested, no significance was shown for the F test at the 0.05 level. Therefore, one can say that statistically, the best estimate of the mean gross α concentration, for all the locations and weeks (with exception of the filter 7 data), is the mean value. The mean value was determined to be 6.2×10^{-3} pCi/m³ with an estimated standard error equal to 7.7×10^{-4} .

Figure 9 shows the individual values measured for all the

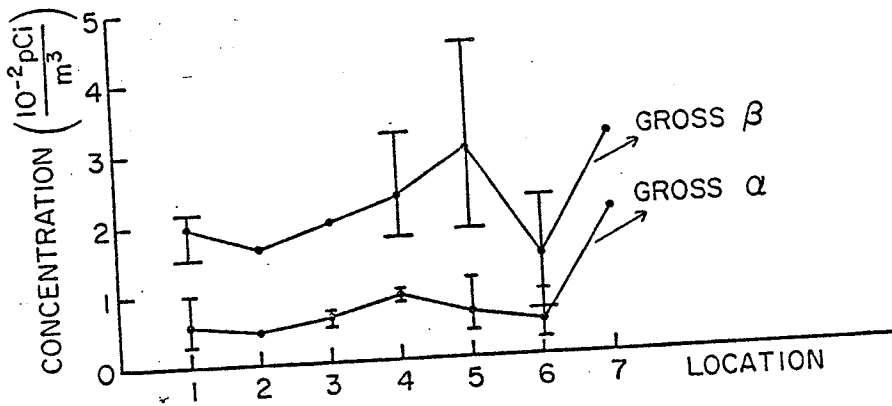
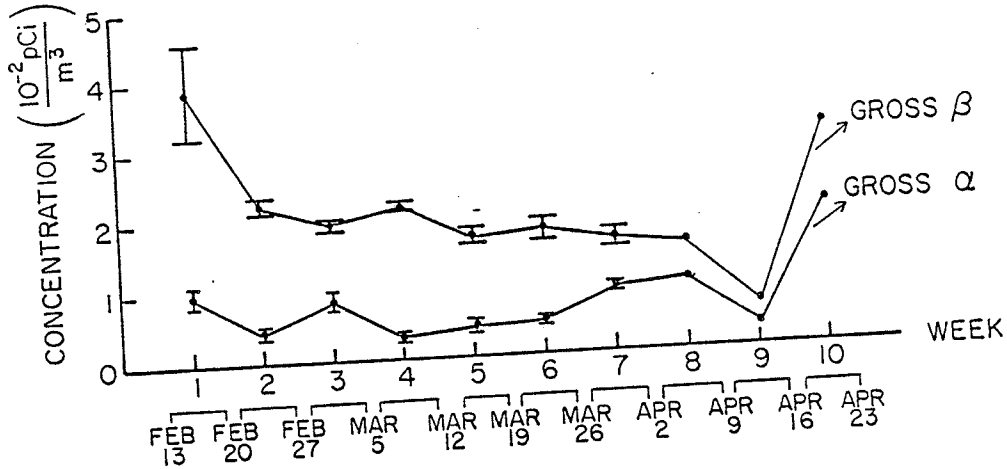


Figure 9. Gross Beta and Alpha Concentrations by Location and by Sampling Periods

Table 16 : Air Monitoring Gross Alpha Concentrations^a

WEEK	LOCATION	PCi/m ³ (Mean±SD)
FEB 13 - FEB 20	4	7.8(E-3)+5.8(E-4)
FEB 13 - FEB 20	5	1.1(E-2)+3.2(E-3)
FEB 20 - FEB 27	1	4.6(E-3)+3.9(E-4)
FEB 20 - FEB 27	5	3.7(E-3)+7.0(E-4)
FEB 27 - MAR 5	4	9.9(E-3)+8.7(E-4)
FEB 27 - MAR 5	3	7.5(E-3)+9.4(E-4)
MAR 5 - MAR 12	1	3.0(E-3)+2.7(E-4)
MAR 5 - MAR 12	6	2.4(E-3)+1.5(E-4)
MAR 12 - MAR 19	2	4.5(E-3)+2.6(E-4)
MAR 12 - MAR 19	5	3.8(E-3)+3.4(E-4)
MAR 19 - MAR 26	2	4.1(E-3)+1.6(E-4)
MAR 19 - MAR 26	3	5.0(E-3)+6.2(E-4)
MAR 26 - APR 27	4	8.5(E-3)+2.9(E-4)
MAR 26 - APR 27	6	9.6(E-3)+8.8(E-4)
APR 2 - APR 9	1	9.9(E-3)+1.1(E-3)
APR 9 - APR 16	6	2.8(E-3)+3.7(E-4)
APR 16 - APR 23	7	2.0(E-2)+2.3(E-3)

^aThe lower limit of detection (LLD), as defined in HASL-300¹⁰, was calculated to be 2.0(E-3) pCi/m³ at the 95% confidence level.

week periods and locations sampled. The bars in these figures represent the maximum and minimum values obtained experimentally.

Gamma Isotopic Analysis

"Gamma isotopic analysis means the identification and quantification of gamma-emitting radionuclides that may be attributable to the effluents from the facility"⁷.

In the case of the NSCL pre-operational study, this kind of analysis will provide information on the concentration of the radionuclides present in the filtered air at the time period sampling was performed. The spectrum collected for each filter analysed was studied and due to the similarities found among them, one was chosen as representative of the time period and locations being sampled, during the NSCL pre-operational surveillance. Due to the high ⁴⁰K which could be collected in the filters, the blank filters were counted and quantitated for the radionuclides originally present before sampling was performed. In this way, the filter background can be subtracted from the amount detected. The filter background spectrum and the sample spectrum representative of the 2 types of analysis done are shown in Figure 10 and 11. Energies (in keV) were taken from Nuclear Data Tables 15.

The results of the filters analysed are shown in Tables 17 and 18. They were reported by location and by week (so that it would be easier to detect possible differences).

Spectrometric analysis of the filters collected during the first 2 weeks were disregarded. It seemed at first that the 300 m³ total volume sampled was too low to collect enough activity

COUNTS PER CHANNEL

72

54

36

18

0

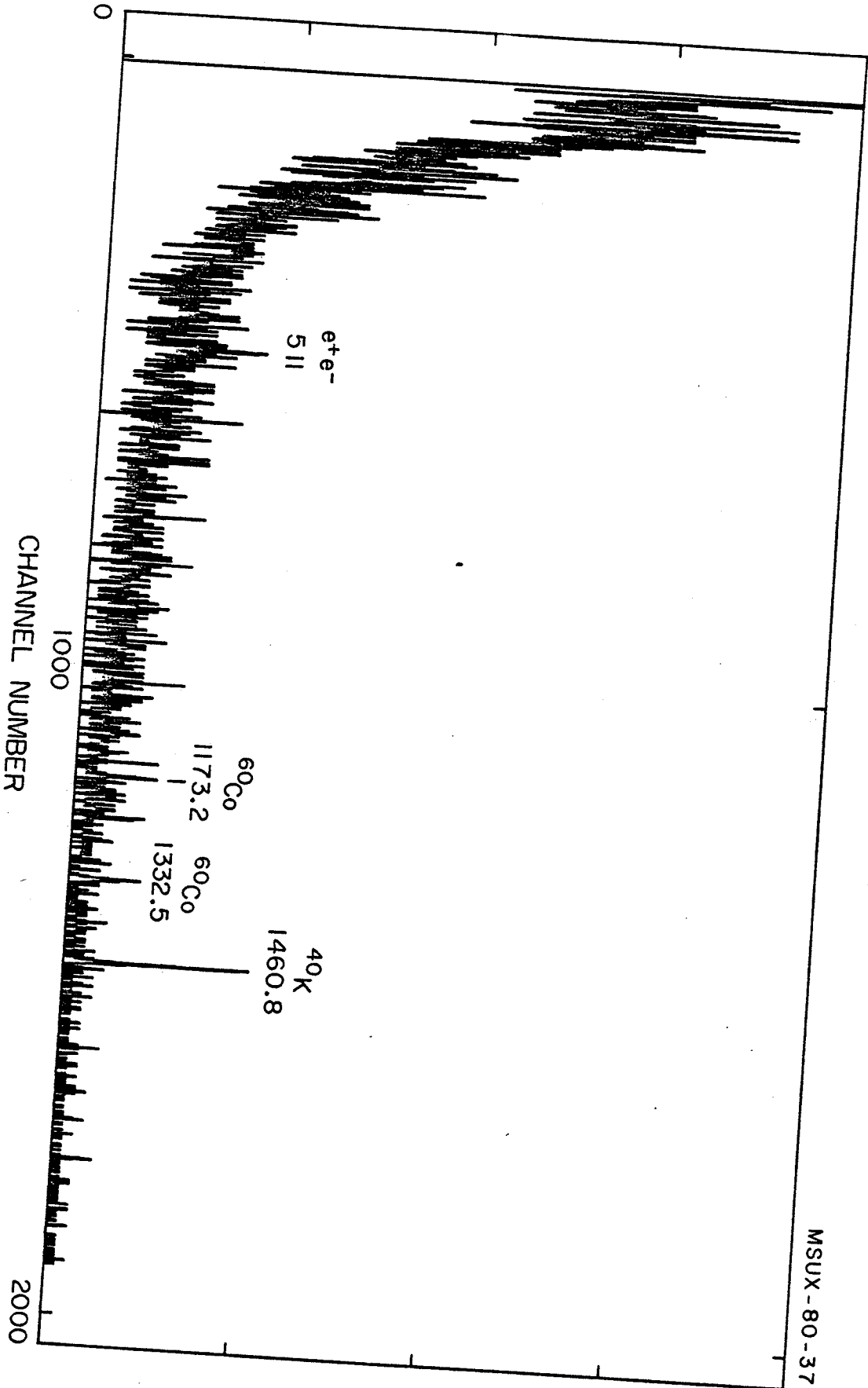


Figure 10. Ge(Li) Detector Spectrum of Gamma-Rays for the Glass Fiber Filter

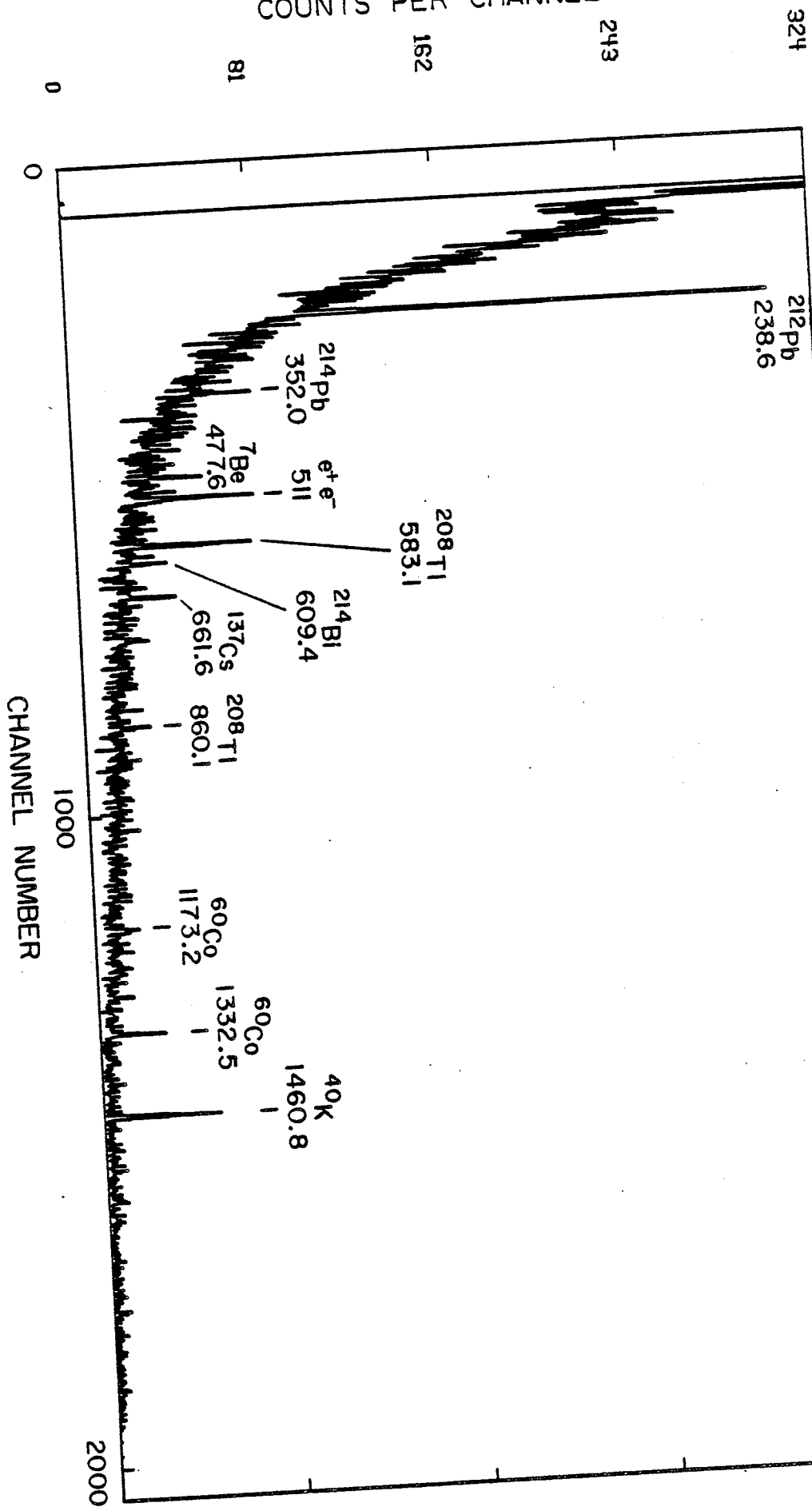


Figure 11. Ge(Li) Detector Spectrum of Gamma-Rays for the Filter Sample

in the filters to show in the spectrum. Therefore, the sample size was increased to about 600m³ total volume thereafter. Also, problems associated with the detector initially used conclusively eliminated the data collected in the first weeks. The detector was then changed to the one already specified on page

. The combination of the replacement detector and increased total volume brought the desirable improvement to the analysed spectra.

Tables 17 and 18 show only the concentrations for ⁴⁰K, ⁶⁰Co, ¹³⁷Cs and ⁷Be. The natural background contribution of the Uranium (²¹⁴Pb, ²¹⁴Bi) and Thorium (²⁰⁸Tl, ²¹²Pb, ²²⁸Ac) series and the problems associated with their quantification, for the experimental set up used in the NSCL pre-operation program, will be discussed later.

The blank filters analysed before their use showed the presence of ⁴⁰K and ⁶⁰Co. The average amounts in the blank filter as well as the amounts collected after sampling are presented in Table 19.

Table 17: Radionuclides identified by "location"

LOCATION ^b	40 K	60 Co	137 Cs	7 Be
1*	1.4(E-1) + 1.0(E-2)	5.5(E-2) + 8.0(E-3)	ND ^c	1.1 (E-2) + 2.3(E-3)
2	1.2(E-1) + 1.6(E-2)	5.1(E-2) + 5.5(E-3)	ND	8.4 (E-2) + 2.2(E-3)
3	1.2(E-1) + 1.1(E-2)	5.9(E-2) + 5.5(E-3)	1.5 (E-2) + 2.4(E-3)	9.2 (E-3) + 2.8(E-3)
4*	1.2(E-1) + 1.4(E-2)	5.1(E-2) + 9.9(E-3)	ND	1.2 (E-2) + 1.9(E-3)
5+	1.4(E-1) + 7.3(E-3)	5.5(E-2) + 5.1(E-3)	ND	1.1 (E-2) + 2.1(E-3)
6	1.3(E-1) + 5.1(E-2)	4.4(E-2) + 6.2(E-3)	ND	9.5 (E-3) + 2.9(E-3)
7+	1.3(E-1) + 9.8(E-3)	3.7(E-2) + 4.4(E-3)	1.8(E-2) + 1.5(E-3)	1.5 (E-2) + 4.4(E-3)

- a The error term represents only the error in the peak area, given by the fitting program used.
- b Numbers represent averages of 3 filters per location unless specified by *, meaning 2 filters or +, meaning only 1.
- c ND = not detectable. It means that the fitting program used was not able to fit a Gaussian to the peak even though it was seen in some of the cases in the spectrum plotted. In those cases usually the statistics were very poor.

Table 18 : Radionuclides identified by "week"

WEEK ^b	AVERAGE CONCENTRATION (pci/m ³) + ERROR ^a			
	40 K	60 Co	137 Cs	7 Be
3	1.2 (E-1) \pm 1.5 (E-2)	5.5 (E-2) \pm 1.2 (E-2)	ND ^c	8.8 (E-3) \pm 1.9 (E-3)
4	1.4 (E-1) \pm 1.7 (E-2)	5.1 (E-2) \pm 1.0 (E-2)	ND	1.0 (E-2) \pm 3.1 (E-3)
5	1.2 (E-1) \pm 1.5 (E-2)	5.1 (E-2) \pm 7.3 (E-3)	ND	9.5 (E-3) \pm 3.1 (E-3)
6	1.2 (E-1) \pm 1.1 (E-2)	ND	1.5 (E-2) \pm 2.4 (E-3)	9.5 (E-3) \pm 2.0 (E-3)
7	1.8 (E-1) \pm 5.1 (E-2)	ND	ND	1.1 (E-2) \pm 2.2 (E-3)
8 ^d	1.3 (E-1) \pm 8.4 (E-3)	ND	ND	ND
9 ^d	1.2 (E-1) \pm 7.0 (E-2)	ND	ND	ND
10	1.3 (E-1) \pm 9.9 (E-3)	3.7 (E-2) \pm 4.4 (E-3)	1.8 (E-2) \pm 1.5 (E-3)	1.5 (E-2) \pm 4.4 (E-3)

a The error term represents only the error in the peak area, given by the fitting program used.

b Numbers represent averages of 2 filters per week.

c ND = not detectable. It means that the fitting program used was not able to fit a Gaussian to the peak even though in some of the cases, it was seen in the spectrum plotted. In those cases usually the statistics were very poor.

d Data shown represent only 1 filter since the other was not used due to blown fuse and vandalism problems mentioned before.

Table 19: Glass Fiber Filter Radionuclide Content

	AVERAGE pCi ± ERROR ^a	
	⁴⁰ K ^b	⁶⁰ Co ^b
Blank Filters	7.7(E+1)±8.0	2.6(E+1)±5.1
Used Filters	7.7(E+1)±1.9(E+1)	3.0(E+1)±1.1(E+1)

a The error term represents only the error in the peak area, given by the fitting program used.

b The LLD values for ⁴⁰K and ⁶⁰Co were calculated to be 4.4(E+1) and 2.3(E+1) pCi respectively (α=0.05).

2.1.3. Discussion and Conclusions

The interpretation of the results of any air sampling program should take into consideration the contribution of natural airborne radioactivity. Such contribution results in a large portion from the uranium and thorium decay series. ²³⁸U and ²³²Th are present in the earth's crust and decay to ²²²Rn and ²²⁰Rn respectively, which are inert gases and enter the atmosphere by diffusion through the soil. The daughter products of both isotopes are electrically charged when formed and they tend to attach themselves to the dust particles normally present in the atmosphere. Thus, they become the only significant natural radionuclides leading to widespread exposure through inhalation¹⁶.

The concentration of the ²²²Rn and ²²⁰Rn daughters depend on many geological and meteorological factors. Some are: the soil content of ²²²Rn and ²²⁰Rn and its porosity, changes in atmospheric pressure, wind speed and direction, rainfall and soil moisture content, freezing conditions of the soil, atmospheric stability and

weather effects.^{17,18,19} In addition, hourly and daily variations, as well as seasonal variations, have been reported^{20,21}.

The extremely variable natural radioactivity in the air samples and its dependence upon so many interrelated factors, make their analysis and predictions very difficult.

Methods for determination of radon daughters in air, particularly ^{218}Po ($t_{1/2}=3.05$ min); ^{214}Pb ($t_{1/2}=26.8$ min); ^{214}Bi ($t_{1/2}=19.7$ min); ^{214}Po ($t_{1/2}=1.6 \times 10^{-4}$ s); ^{212}Pb ($t_{1/2}=10.64$ h); and ^{212}Bi ($t_{1/2}=60.5$ min), have been developed^{22,23,24,25}. In those methods, the radon daughters are almost always determined by measurement of the alpha activity of the air filter, as a function of time after the end of sampling.²⁵ They also use short sampling and counting times (1 to 30 min).

The NSCL experimental set up used long sampling and counting times due to the interest in determining any long lived, contaminant present during longer periods of time. Long sampling at a low-flow rate is thus more representative of the period being sampled. Therefore, in order to go into determination of radon daughter concentrations in an accurate way, a special experiment would be required.

The results of the gross beta analysis are of the same order of magnitude as the values reported by the Environmental Radiation Ambient Monitoring System (ERAMS) program.¹⁶ They reported network averages of airborne particulates collected continuously at 21 sampling stations over the country. From July 1973 to June 1976 values ranged from 1.7×10^{-2} to 2.0×10^{-1} pCi/m³ (Fall 1975 and Spring 1974 respectively). Winter values were 1.8×10^{-2} to 2.1×10^{-2} (1976), 6.5×10^{-2} to 1.0×10^{-1} (1975) and 2.8×10^{-2} to 1.0×10^{-1} (1974). Unfortunately, more specific data on gross betas in airborne particulates, collected for different areas of the country,

were not available.

The statistical analysis performed on the gross alpha and beta data showed the absence of any significant difference, that is, their concentration in the air did not change, either from one location sampled to another or from week to week. Nevertheless, by looking at the F values at the ANOVA tables in the Appendices, one can see some indication of temporal variation as compared to no effects due to location. The experimental design limitations, with so few degrees of freedom left for the error term should tell us to be careful in making any definite conclusions towards proving that effect.

The ICRP* and NCRP† have recognized that in many cases, identification and quantification of radionuclides can be time-consuming and expensive. Therefore, "if it is known that certain of the more dangerous radionuclides are not present, MPC‡ levels for mixtures of unknown radionuclides can be prepared. The committees have published such a table for 168-hour occupational exposures. The most general case, which excludes no radionuclides, requires that mixed radionuclides do not exceed a concentration of 0.4 pCi/m³ of air."²⁶ In this way, the "gross" counts are used as a screening procedure.

The peaks identified in the gamma spectra collected, with enough counts to be accepted by the fitting program were ⁴⁰K, ⁶⁰Co, ⁷Be, and ¹³⁷Cs plus the uranium and thorium series decay products

*International Commission on Radiological Protection

†National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements

‡Maximum Permissible Concentration

discussed earlier.

The average amounts of ^{40}K and ^{60}Co detected in the samples were too close to that originally present in the blank filter to be considered as part of the radionuclides contributing to the air radioactivity levels being measured around the NSCL.

Naturally occurring cosmogenic radionuclides are continuously generated by cosmic-ray interactions in the atmosphere. The radionuclides on the air filters usually include cosmogenic ^7Be ($t_{1/2}=53.3$ days).

The typical range of ^7Be in surface air has been reported to be from 2×10^2 to 20×10^2 pCi/m³, with a mean value equal to 6×10^2 pCi/m³.⁵ Results of the NSCL environmental surveillance are in reasonable agreement with those values. More detailed studies on ^7Be concentrations in air and terrestrial ecosystem, its comparison with patterns of larger atmospheric nuclear detonations, as well as its latitudinal distribution have been reported.^{27,28,29}

^{137}Cs is a very important fission product because of its long physical half life (30 years) and its uptake and retention in biological system. Principal sources of ^{137}Cs in the environment are the atmospheric testing of nuclear weapons, nuclear power reactors, nuclear fuel reprocessing facilities and accidental releases.³⁰ It is mainly found deposited near the soil surface in concentrations which vary with erosion and leaching and their gradual depletion by decay.⁵ UNSCEAR estimates that "the average integrated deposits of ^{137}Cs in the northern and southern temperate latitudes are 128 and 35 nCi/m², respectively."¹⁶

Results of the air sampling program at the NSCL showed small

amounts of ^{137}Cs collected in 2 of the filters analyzed. Values were 1.5×10^{-2} pCi/m³ and 1.8×10^{-2} pCi/m³ of air. Both samples were taken during different weeks, one on campus and the other at the "control" location, about 15 miles from the NSCL. With only 2 filters showing detectable amounts of ^{137}Cs it would be difficult to discuss the existence of trends among location and time period during which sampling took place. Also, no value could be chosen as representative of the ^{137}Cs concentration in the air surrounding the NSCL area.

When low level radionuclides emit both beta particles and gamma rays, as in the case of ^{137}Cs a method of choice for counting is selected. Even though assay by beta particle counting is desirable due to the higher counting efficiencies of most beta detectors, the efficiency is energy dependent. This factor turns out to be a source of error mainly when gross activity measurements are performed. Since the sample being counted in those cases contains a mixture of unknown radionuclides, an arbitrary standard has to be selected. Such standard may not have the same spectrum characteristics of the nuclides in the sample. Therefore, the arbitrary choice of the standard introduces the largest uncertainty mainly in thick samples due to the energy dependence of factors such as self-absorption⁵.

According to a NCRP report⁵, the end point energies of environmental betas range from about 0.02 to 3 MeV which correspond to a difference in beta-ray range of about 1.5 g cm⁻². Therefore, the true disintegration rate inferred may be seriously in error.

For alpha particles, most are in the energy range of 4 to 8 MeV, and the results are usually in agreement with the ones for a 5 MeV

alpha standard within a factor of two.⁵⁵

The errors from gross activity measurements may increase as the number of radionuclides in the sample, with different energies, increase. Values averaging 75% higher for the calibration standard have been reported when fission product mixtures were the principal beta emitters.⁵

Total counting should be used only as a screening procedure since it provides a rapid measure of natural radioactivity plus any abnormal levels of radioactivity. Otherwise, samples should be measured by gamma-ray spectrometry and by specific radiochemical analyses.

Still gross alpha and beta analyses are helpful provided that the radionuclide composition of the contaminant and natural activity is specified so that its significance can be assessed without ambiguity.

2.2 Water Sampling

Water sampling for the pre-operational program at the NSCL was performed at 2 different locations at the Red Cedar River. The storm drainage from the laboratory flows into this river, which goes through the M.S.U. campus.

The purpose of such sampling was the determination of any long-lived contaminants present in the river at the time of sampling or the background levels of the samples if no contamination was found.

Gross alpha and beta, and gamma spectrometric analysis were performed.

This initial data collected will provide the NSCL with a baseline measurement of surface water radioactivity to be compared against future results to be taken when the laboratory starts operation.

2.2.1. Materials and Methods

Surface water (first 6 inches) grab samples were collected from 2 locations in the Red Cedar River, as shown in Figure 4. Location A, upstream from the laboratory will provide control data for comparison with location B, downstream from the NSCL and distant enough to allow for mixing. Usually, as a rule of thumb, the discharge-to-downstream site distance, should be at least 10 times the river width.¹

Sampling was performed once a week, at both location, for a period of 4 weeks (April to first week of May, 1980). The experimental design lay out is shown in Table 20.

Table 20: Water Sampling Experimental Design

SAMPLES LOCATION		
WEEK	A	B
1	A1	B1
2	A2	B2
3	A3	B3
4	A4	B4

The samples, collected in glass bottles, were acidified with nitric acid as recommended by the American Public Health Association.³

This is done to reduce the possibility of the loss of radionuclides on the walls of the collection bottle. Most environmental samples are close to neutral and acidification to 0.1 to 0.5N is adequate.⁵ More detailed considerations on sample treatment problems is given by the NCRP.⁵

Due to the unavailability of a Ge(Li) detector which could be used with a Marinelli breaker, the 3.5 liters of surface water recommended for gamma isotopic analysis¹ were evaporated on a 2 inches planchet and then a spectrum was collected. The sample preparation procedure was as follows:

Phase 1: Collected water samples from each location were separately evaporated in large beakers by slow heating on a hot plate to near dryness. Stirring rods were used during the phase.

Phase 2: Each residue was then transferred to a separate metal planchet. Distilled water was used to wash the beakers residues into the planchets.

Phase 3: The planchets were slowly evaporated to dryness on a hot plate and allowed to cool.

The whole procedure took 3 days. Because of that, counting had to be performed when samples were ready. Thus, no short lived radionuclide could be expected to be identified.

A blank planchet was used for background and counted in both detectors (same ones used for the air sampling phase), that is internal proportional counter and a Ge(Li) detector. Calibration was performed as specified before in the sampling section of the report. Counting times for blank planchets were five-50 minute

intervals for gross beta and alpha and 1 hour to accumulate a spectrum using the Ge(Li).

Five days after sample collection, the planchets were counted for gross alpha and beta, for five-50 minute intervals (consecutive) each. Six days after collection, the planchets were counted in the Ge(Li) for gamma-spectrometric analysis, for periods of 3 hours each.

2.2.2. Results

Gross Beta and Alpha Analysis

The activity per liter of surface water collected was calculated based on known values of the total volume sampled and the counter efficiency for the particles in question. Gross alpha analysis was disregarded. The 3.5 liters of water used for gamma isotopic analysis, when evaporated produced a sample planchet too thick to be analyzed for alphas without going into large errors due to self absorption. Thus, only gross beta counts were recorded. Results are reported in Table 21.

Table 21: Water Monitoring Gross Beta Concentration

WEEK	pCi/l (Mean±SD) ^a	
	LOCATION	
	A	B
1	25 (E-1) ± 1.3 (E-1)	20 (E-1) ± 6.0 (E-2)
2	20 (E-1) ± 1.6 (E-1)	21 (E-1) ± 1.2 (E-1)
3	13 (E-1) ± 8.0 (E-2)	16 (E-1) ± 1.2 (E-1)
4	24 (E-1) ± 1.1 (E-1)	16 (E-1) ± 7.0 (E-2)

^aThe LLD value calculated for the gross beta analysis was 4.5 (E-1) pCi/l

The statistical model underlying the design is of the form:

$$Y_{ij} = \mu + L_i + W_j + E_{(ij)} \quad \text{equation 7}$$

where,

Y_{ij} = dependable variable in pCi/l

μ = overall mean

L_i = the effect of the i^{th} location on Y

W_j = the effect of the j^{th} week on Y

$E_{(ij)}$ = error term

The model assumes no interaction term, so the effects due to interaction of the i^{th} location with the j^{th} week will be confounded with the random error.

An ANOVA was performed on the data to check for any significant differences among the locations and weeks when sampling took place. The ANOVA table is presented in Appendix III. According to the results, no significance was found for locations or weeks, at the 0.05 level. Therefore, one can express the results of the gross beta analysis by saying that the best estimate of the mean gross beta concentration in the surface water collected, is the mean value, which is equal to 19(E-1) pCi/l with an estimated standard error equal to 1.5(E-1), for all the locations and sampling periods in question.

Gamma Isotopic Analysis

The spectrum collected for each planchet was analyzed. Due to the similarities among the spectra, one was chosen to represent both locations sampled. The fitting program used was SAMPO, as mentioned earlier in this report.

Figure 12 shows the blank planchet background spectrum and

COUNTS PER CHANNEL

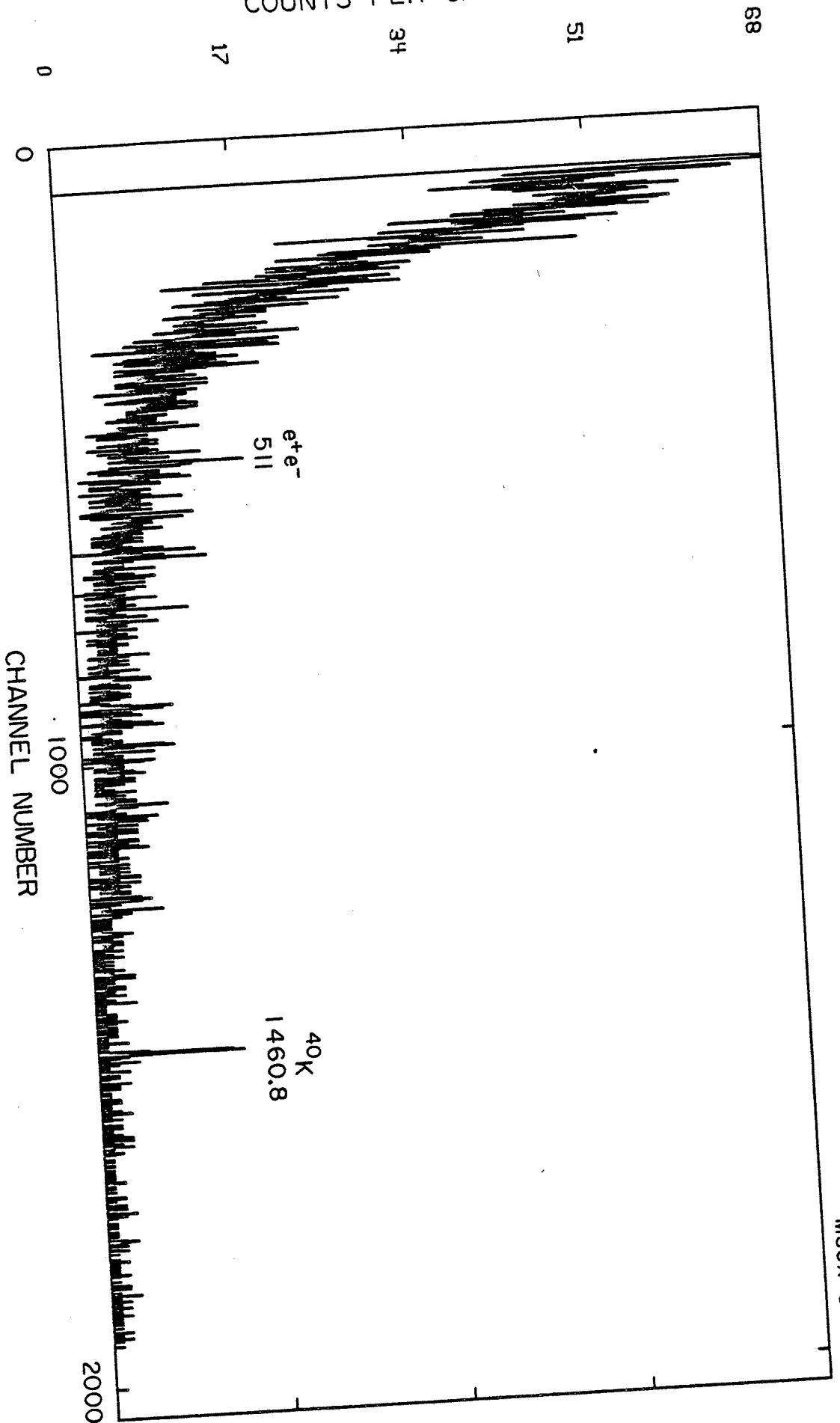


Figure 12. Ge(Li) Detector Spectrum of Gamma-Rays for the Blank Planchet

Figure 13, the one representative of the water sampling study.

The results of the identification and quantification of the radionuclides are shown in Tables 22 and 23, by week and location respectively. As in the air sampling study, no quantification of the radon daughters present was carried out.

The concentration, in pCi/l of the long-lived radionuclides detected was calculated by

$$C = \frac{\text{cpm}}{E \times V \times 2.22 \frac{\text{dpm}}{\text{pCi}}} \quad \text{equation 8}$$

where,

cpm = counts under the peak (area)/counting time (min).

E = detector efficiency

V = volume of water sampled (in liters)

A correction for geometry due to the finite sample size was also used.³⁶

Table 24 shows the results of the blank planchet background compared to the water samples, by week.

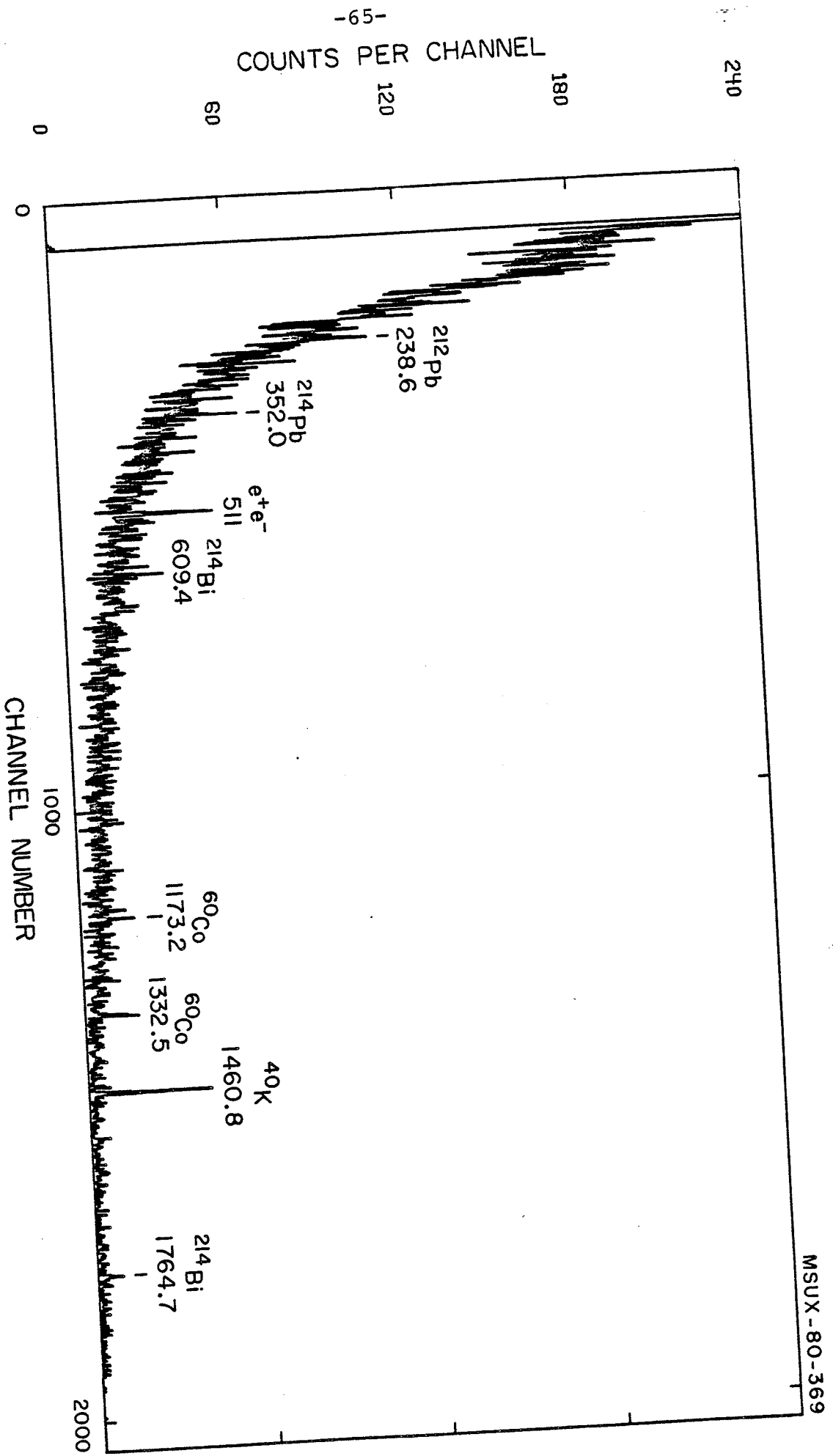


Figure 13. Ge(Li) Detector Spectrum of Gamma-Rays for the Water Sample

Table 22: Radionuclides Concentrations Detected by "Week"

WEEK	Concentration (pCi/l+error) ^a		
	⁴⁰ K	⁶⁰ Co	¹³⁷ Cs
1	1.6 (E+1) _{+2.4}	4.4 _{+1.1}	---
2	2.5 (E+1) _{+2.4}	8.4 _{+1.7}	4.0 _{+0.6}
3	2.2 (E+1) _{+2.0}	4.0 _{+1.0}	3.6 _{+0.6}
4	2.2 (E+1) _{+2.2}	1.7 _{+0.5}	---

a The error term represents only the error in the peak area, given by the fitting program used.

Table 23: Radionuclides Concentrations Detected by "Location"

	Concentration (pCi/l+error) ^a	
	LOCATION	
	A	B
⁴⁰ K	2.1 (E+1) _{+3.5}	2.2 (E+1) _{+2.9}
⁶⁰ Co	4.8 _{+1.6}	5.9 _{+1.6}
¹³⁷ Cs	3.6 _{+0.6}	4.0 _{+0.6}

a The error term represents only the error in the peak area, given by the fitting program used.

Table 24: ^{40}K Activity in the Planchet and Samples^a

		pCi of $^{40}\text{K} \pm \text{Error}^b$
WEEKLY SAMPLES	BLANK	$5.9(\text{E}+1) \pm 1.8(\text{E}+1)$
	1	$5.5(\text{E}+1) \pm 8.4$
	2	$7.7(\text{E}+1) \pm 7.3$
	3	$7.7(\text{E}+1) \pm 7.0$
	4	$7.7(\text{E}+1) \pm 7.3(\text{E}+1)$

^aThe lowest limit of detection (LLD) as defined by HASL-300¹⁰, was calculated to be 104 pCi for ^{40}K .

^bThe error term represents only the error in the peak area, given by the fitting program used.

2.2.3. Discussion and Conclusion

Radon-222, one of the naturally occurring radionuclides discussed before, may be formed in aquatic systems through on enrichment of ^{226}Ra decays, it produces ^{222}Rn which as a noble gas can easily migrate into water.

The flux of ^{222}Rn depends on many things such as changes in atmospheric conditions, initial ^{226}Ra concentration, depth of water and/or ice covering, and porosity of the substrate in which the gas is trapped.³²

Radon daughters (^{214}Pb , ^{214}Bi) can be detected in surface water samples. Concentrations though, are dependent on the factors mentioned above.

According to a NCRP report²⁹, "Radon in streams is dissipated to the atmosphere in such way that its concentration decreases exponentially with distance, increasing abruptly at points where radon-bearing water flows in". Also, abrupt decreases in flow rate tend to deposit sediments with their load of attached or contained radionuclides. ^{137}Cs has been found in layer amounts in the bottom sediments at the intersection of the Susquehanna River and the Chesapeake Bay (in Maryland), as reported by Riel.³³

Due to the many factors controlling the variability of the natural radioactivity detected in the water samples, no quantification was performed for the pre-operational program at the NSCL. Thus, only identification of the peaks was carried out and quantification was left for the longer lived radionuclides present in the sample due to nuclear explosions and nuclear facilities.

Even though ^{40}K is naturally radioactive, its quantification was possible (long half life) and necessary in order to evaluate the amount present in the sample as compared to the blank planchet used. The results shown on Table 24 indicate that no difference can really be accounted for.

Results of the gross beta analysis show an average of about 2 pCi/l.

Water sampling conducted at the Argonne National Laboratory and assayed for total activity (by counting the residue obtained on evaporation) showed values ranging from 5 to 10 pCi/l of natural beta activity. Uranium decay products and ^{40}K were the main contributors.³⁴ When fallout is high and radioactivity is added to the water directly from the air, values are increased.

Again, as discussed before in the air sampling section of this report, the accuracy of gross beta analysis may be hindered by energy dependent factors such as self absorption. In the case of thick samples, the error may be very large. Other factor, the desirable homogeneity of the evaporated sample, is hard to acquire when large volume is evaporated. In this case, variation in the sample thickness and the deposition of the radionuclides in different layers of the sample may introduce more errors, in gross beta counting.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors wish to thank Tom Nees and Guy Thompson for their help during the experimental part of this project.

The authors are grateful to Jose Carvalho for his assistance in the use of the gamma-ray peak fitting program.

The authors also want to extend their appreciation to Dr. Stapleton for his assistance with the statistical analysis.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I: GROSS BETA ANALYSIS. AIR MONITORING

Table I.1: ANOVA for "no weeks or locations effect"

	S.S.	df	M.S.	F	F _c 0.05
Treatments (locations and weeks)	1.06 (E-3)	13	8.15 (E-5)	3.26*	3.81
Error	5.0 (E-5)	2	2.40 (E-5)		

*not significant at the 0.05 level³⁵

Table I.2: ANOVA for "no weeks effect"

	S.S	df	M.S.	F	F _c 0.05
Locations	4.0 (E-4)	5	---	---	
Weeks	6.6 (E-4)	8	8.25 (E-5)	3.3*	4.46
Error	5.0 (E-5)	2	2.50 (E-5)		

*not significant at the 0.05 level³⁵

Table I.3: ANOVA for "no locations effect"

	S.S	df	M.S.	F
Weeks	1.01 (E-3)	8	---	---
Locations	5.0 (E-5)	5	1.0 (E-5)	<1*
Error	5.0 (E-5)	2	2.5 (E-5)	

*not significant

APPENDIX II: GROSS ALPHA ANALYSIS. AIR MONITORING

Table II.1: ANOVA for "no weeks or locations effect"

	S.S	df	M.S.	F	F _C 0.05
Treatments (weeks and locations)	1.3(E-4)	13	1.0(E-5)	2.0*	3.81
Error	1.0(E-5)	2	5.0(E-5)		

*not significant at the 0.05 level³⁵

Table II.2: ANOVA for "no weeks effect"

	S.S	df	M.S.	F	F _C 0.05
Weeks	9.0(E-5)	8	1.12(E-5)	2.25*	4.46
Locations	4.0(E-5)	5	---		
Error	1.0(E-5)	2	5.0(E-6)		

*not significant at the 0.05 level³⁵

Table II.3: ANOVA for "no locations effect"

	S.S	df	M.S.	F
Weeks	1.2(E-4)	8	1.5(E-5)	
Locations	1.0(E-5)	5	2.0(E-6)	<1*
Error	1.0(E-5)	2	5.0(E-6)	

*not significant

APPENDIX III: GROSS BETA ANALYSIS. H₂O SAMPLING

Table III.1: Two-way ANOVA

Source	DF	S.S.	M.S.	F	F _c 0.05
Locations	1	0.0760	0.076	<1*	10.13
Weeks	3	0.6235	0.208	1.54	9.28
LW and/or Error	3	0.4040	0.135		

*not significant at the 0.05 level³⁵

