

Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna  
Archivio istituzionale della ricerca

The latest development and the new extended capabilities of the GENII-LIN soil transfer model

This is the final peer-reviewed author's accepted manuscript (postprint) of the following publication:

*Published Version:*

Teodori, F. (2020). The latest development and the new extended capabilities of the GENII-LIN soil transfer model. RADIATION PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY, 174, 1-6 [10.1016/j.radphyschem.2020.108949].

*Availability:*

This version is available at: <https://hdl.handle.net/11585/781340> since: 2024-09-25

*Published:*

DOI: <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.radphyschem.2020.108949>

*Terms of use:*

Some rights reserved. The terms and conditions for the reuse of this version of the manuscript are specified in the publishing policy. For all terms of use and more information see the publisher's website.

This item was downloaded from IRIS Università di Bologna (<https://cris.unibo.it/>).  
When citing, please refer to the published version.

(Article begins on next page)

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17

# The latest development and the new extended capabilities of the GENII-LIN soil transfer model

F. Teodori<sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> *University of Bologna - Laboratorio di Montecuccolino, via dei Colli, 16, 40136 Bologna Italy*

---

## Abstract

18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30

Some years ago, we started developing an enhanced soil transport model, where short life nuclide contributions were accurately accounted, Teodori (2017). The aim was to extend the code capabilities to handle incidental release of contaminant to soil, by evaluating exposure since the very beginning of the contamination event, before the radioactive decay chain equilibrium is reached. In this years those new capabilities have been widely extended: the leaching model has been reworked in a more physically based manner, by using a more sophisticated formulation for the transfer rate; the soil compartment number has been increased, by introducing an intermediate layer; bioturbation by animals now also affects downward transfer of materials, by modifying the leaching constant and by void collapse; plant transfer contributes to contaminant redistribution through all soil depth by plant recycle.

31  
32  
33

*Keywords:* Radiation Protection; Health Physics; Soil Contamination; Numerical Simulation; Safety; Environmental impact

---

## 1. Introduction

34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44  
45  
46  
47  
48  
49  
50  
51

GENII-LIN is an open source multipurpose health physics code, that has been developed at the University of Bologna to provide a reliable tool to be used for purposes such as siting facilities, environmental impact statements, and safety analysis reports. GENII-LIN is a descendant of the GENII code, a thoroughly peer-reviewed, DOE (2003), DOE (2004), and well documented, Napier et al. (1988a), Napier et al. (1988b), open source software system, which was developed at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNL) and reached maturity in the early 90s with the release 1.485. GENII-LIN has capabilities for calculating radiation dose and risk to individuals or populations from radionuclides released to the environment and from pre-existing environmental contamination. The code can handle a wide range of exposure pathways that comprehend: external exposure from finite or infinite atmospheric plumes; inhalation; external exposure from contaminated soil, sediments, and water; external exposure from special geometries; and internal exposures from consumption of terrestrial foods, aquatic foods, drinking water, animal products, and inadvertent soil intake. The radionuclide environmental concentrations are

---

\*Corresponding author

60  
61  
62  
63  
64  
65  
66  
67  
68  
69  
70  
71  
72  
73  
74  
75  
76  
77  
78  
79  
80  
81  
82  
83  
84  
85  
86  
87  
88  
89  
90  
91  
92  
93  
94  
95  
96  
97  
98  
99  
100  
101  
102  
103  
104  
105  
106  
107  
108  
109  
110  
111  
112  
113  
114  
115  
116  
117  
118

calculated over time up to the end of the exposure period by numerical models of appropriate transport phenomena through air, deep and surface water, deep and surface soil and biotic transport. A wide description of the software structure, the code progresses over time and the code conceptual design have been given in previous works. The code has been ported from DOS to Linux, and enhanced by adding a new modern graphical user interface built on the Qt3 libraries (Sumini et al. (2005)). The internal and external dose rate factor generators have been deeply revised to incorporate into the existing environmental pathway analysis models the more recent internal dosimetry models recommended by the ICRP (1991) and the radiological risk estimating procedures of EPA (2002) (Sumini and Teodori (2005); Teodori and Sumini (2008)). The graphical user interface has been redesigned by implementing the more recent Qt4 and Qt5 libraries, the input and output management deeply reviewed and the air transport model widely improved (Teodori and Sumini (2014)). The external dose rate factor generator has been rewritten to access the data libraries of radionuclide decay information and gamma and beta yields from ICRP (2008), to access the surface dose to organ dose conversion factors from information in ICRP (2010), and to calculate organ dose and total body effective dose following the recommendations of ICRP (2007) (Teodori (2017)). In this paper the attention is focused on the latest significant improvements of the soil contamination model.

## 2. The soil contamination model

Depending on land use and occupation, the GENII-LIN code simultaneously manages up to three soil distinct main areas: residential soils, non-agricultural soils, and agricultural soils. The non-agricultural soils are used only in near-field scenarios in order to define parameters for arid and humid climate biotic transport. Immediately after the beginning of human use of the soils, the soil reverts to either residential, when the person lives there, or agricultural, when crops are grown there. Each food pathway has its own associated zone of soil, with specific transfer properties, reason why a large number of soil zones can be active in a single simulation. A single soil zone may be composed of up to 4 compartments (Figure 1). The always present surface soil is modeled as a 15 cm thick layer and is the soil portion that can exchange pollutant with the atmosphere by air deposition, irrigation, and particulate resuspension. For most far-field and many near field scenarios, this is the only portion of soil that is used. In those scenarios, where subsurface contamination is present, radionuclides may be contained in waste forms or simply distributed in the deeper layers. Radionuclides, that are simply distributed in the available subsurface soil, may be transferred to the surface soils by root uptake by plants, by physical transport by native animals, or by human activities which lead to redistribution of contaminants from deeper to surface layers (Figure 2). When the contaminants are packaged in a form, they may be released to the deep soil and made available to biotic transfer. The release process is described by the waste package decomposition model. If the deep soil overburden is greater than 0.15 m, one optional intermediate layer is added, located between the surface and deep soils. Any soil layer may also loose radionuclides through harvest removal, radiological decay, and leaching to deeper soil strata. The soil zones corresponding to each food type, animal type, and residential exposure are treated separately.

119  
120  
121  
122  
123  
124  
125  
126  
127  
128  
129  
130  
131  
132  
133  
134  
135  
136  
137  
138  
139  
140  
141  
142  
143  
144  
145  
146  
147  
148  
149  
150  
151  
152  
153  
154  
155  
156  
157  
158  
159  
160  
161  
162  
163  
164  
165  
166  
167  
168  
169  
170  
171  
172  
173  
174  
175  
176  
177

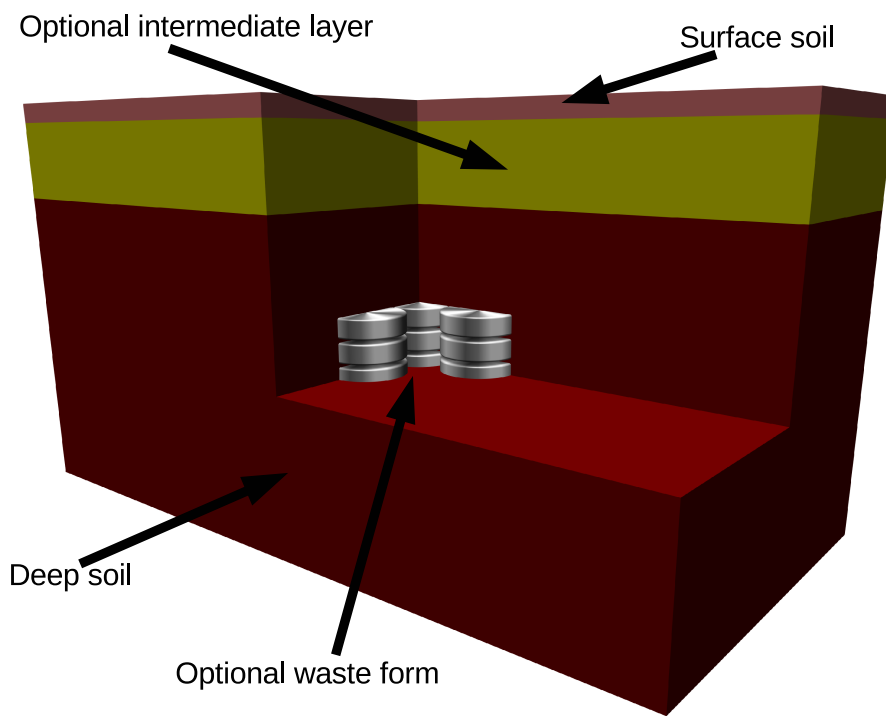


Figure 1: The soil compartment model in GENII-LIN

178  
179  
180  
181  
182  
183  
184  
185  
186  
187  
188  
189  
190  
191  
192  
193  
194  
195  
196  
197  
198  
199  
200  
201  
202  
203  
204  
205  
206  
207  
208  
209  
210  
211  
212  
213  
214  
215  
216  
217  
218  
219  
220  
221  
222  
223  
224  
225  
226  
227  
228  
229  
230  
231  
232  
233  
234  
235  
236

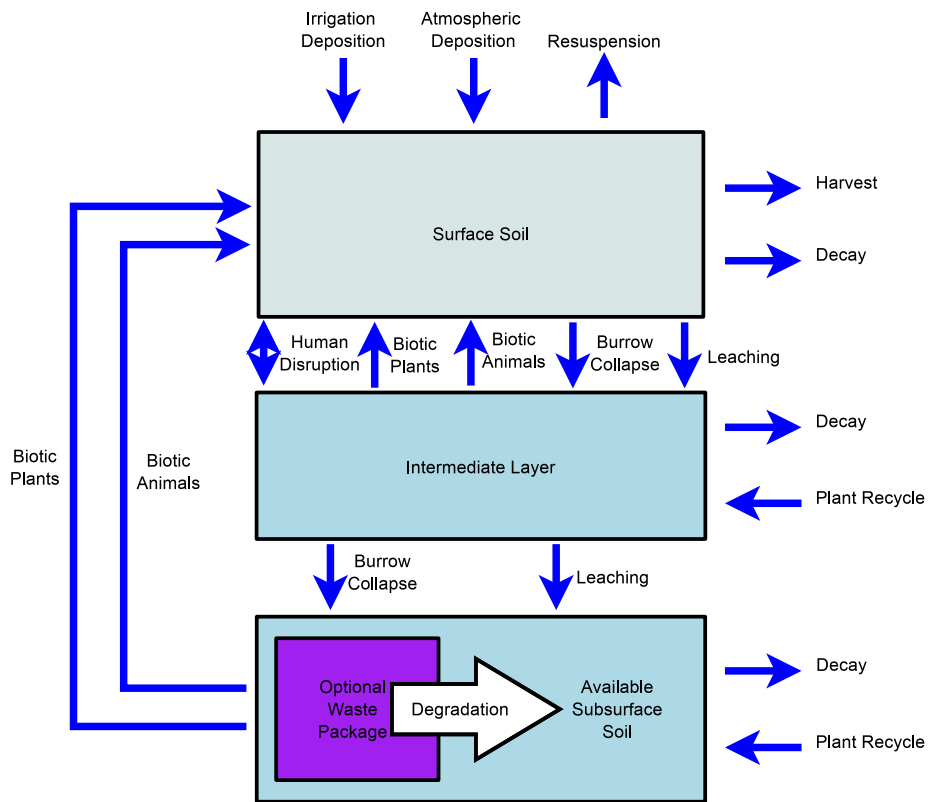


Figure 2: The soil transfer model in GENII-LIN

237  
238  
239  
240  
241  
242  
243  
244  
245  
246  
247  
248  
249  
250  
251  
252  
253  
254  
255  
256  
257  
258  
259  
260  
261  
262  
263  
264  
265  
266  
267  
268  
269  
270  
271  
272  
273  
274  
275  
276  
277  
278  
279  
280  
281  
282  
283  
284  
285  
286  
287  
288  
289  
290  
291  
292  
293  
294  
295

### 3. Leaching

Leaching from upper soil layers into deeper soils is modeled by means of a soil removal rate constant,  $\lambda_{i,i+1}^r$  ( $y^{-1}$ ), which is a non-radiological decay constant accounting long-term percolation of deposited radionuclide  $r$  out of the layer  $i$  to the layer  $i + 1$ . As proposed in Muller-Lemans et al. (1996), we have

$$\lambda_{i,i+1}^r = \frac{Q_{i,i+1}^w + K_{d,i}^r Q_{i,i+1}^s}{V_{w,i} + K_{d,i}^r m_{s,i}} \quad (1)$$

In equation 1

- $Q_{i,i+1}^w$  ( $\frac{m^3}{y}$ ) and  $Q_{i,i+1}^s$  ( $\frac{kg}{y}$ ) are the water and solid matter flux from layer  $i$  to layer  $i + 1$ ;
- $K_{d,i}^r$  ( $\frac{m^3}{kg}$ ) is the distribution coefficient of radionuclide  $r$  in layer  $i$ ;
- $V_{w,i}$  ( $m^3$ ) is the volume of water in layer  $i$ ; and
- $m_{s,i}$  ( $kg$ ) is the mass of solid material in layer  $i$ .

The denominator in equation 1 can be expressed in terms of the total volume  $V_{t,i}$  of the layer:

$$\lambda_{i,i+1}^r = \frac{Q_{i,i+1}^w + K_{d,i}^r Q_{i,i+1}^s}{V_{t,i} (\theta_i + K_{d,i}^r \rho_i)} \quad (2)$$

where  $\theta_i$  is the soil volumetric water content and  $\rho_i$  ( $\frac{kg}{m^3}$ ) is the soil bulk density. Now, under the Hypothesis of one dimensional flow, after dividing both numerator and denominator by the layer cross sectional area, we obtain

$$\lambda_{i,i+1}^r = \frac{q_{i,i+1}^w + K_{d,i}^r q_{i,i+1}^s}{z_i (\theta_i + K_{d,i}^r \rho_i)} \quad (3)$$

where

- $q_{i,i+1}^w$  ( $\frac{m}{y}$ ) is the rate of water volume flow per unit area from the layer  $i$  to the layer  $i + 1$ ;
- $q_{i,i+1}^s$  ( $\frac{kg}{m^2 y}$ ) is the rate of solid matter flow per unit area from the layer  $i$  to the layer  $i + 1$ ; and
- $z_i$  ( $m$ ) is the layer thickness.

In the earlier releases of the code, leaching affected only the surface layer and leached material was moved out of the layer and lost by the system. Here we wanted to rework the model framework in a more physically based manner, by using a more sophisticated formulation for the transfer rate. The soil removal rate constant defined by equation 3 replace the one suggested by Baes and Sharp (1981), which was used in the previous soil model.

296  
297  
298  
299  
300  
301  
302  
303  
304  
305  
306  
307  
308  
309  
310  
311  
312  
313  
314  
315  
316  
317  
318  
319

#### 4. Biotic transport and harvest removal

The code estimates the transport of radioactivity through soil layers by plants and animals by means of embedded transfer models. These models are built on those ones primarily developed by McKenzie et al. (1986) to estimate potential radiation dose to individuals from biotic transport of activity at low-level radioactive waste burial sites. Biotic pathways involve translocation by plant root systems and by burrowing insects and small mammals. Plant examples comprise grass, shrubs, and trees; insect and mammal examples comprise pocket mice, badgers, moles, harvester ants, termites and earth worms. Flora and fauna activity results in the transport of soil components upwards against the force of gravity and against the downwards flow of water. The burrowing activity, which results in excavation of soil, all of which is deposited on the surface soil layer, is accounted by the simplified model expressed by eq. 4:

$$Q_{sir} = \sum_{j=1}^a C_{sir} \frac{M_{ji}}{\rho}. \quad (4)$$

In it:

- $Q_{sir}$  is the quantity of radionuclide  $r$  yearly moved to the surface from soil stratum  $i$   $\left(\frac{Bq}{m^2 \times y}\right)$ ;
- $a$  is the number of animal species considered;
- $C_{sir}$  is the concentration of radionuclide  $r$  in the soil stratum  $i$   $(Bq/m^3)$ ;
- $M_{jn}$  is the mass of soil yearly moved from the soil stratum  $i$  to the surface by animal  $j$   $\left(\frac{kg}{m^2 \times y}\right)$ ;
- $\rho$  is the soil density  $\left(\frac{kg}{m^3}\right)$ .

320  
321  
322  
323  
324  
325  
326  
327  
328  
329  
330  
331  
332  
333  
334  
335

Soil fauna activity also results in physical and biochemical conversion of soil and water, physical and biochemical conversion of soil components, and easier transport processes through voids and macropores, reason why the soil removal rate constant (3) is affected by animal activity by means of  $q_{i,i+1}^w$  and  $q_{i,i+1}^s$  parameters.

336  
337  
338  
339

Collapse of burrows results in transport of earth from upper soil layers to deeper ones. Under steady-state conditions, assuming that the number of burrows per unit area is constant over time, voids compaction and other processes must cause an equally large soil material flux in the opposite directions.

340  
341  
342  
343

To simulate this phenomenon, voids in the soil strata created by animal burrowing activity are removed at the end of each year to simulate cave-in of burrows. Radioactivity in each soil stratum is adjusted as the voids are removed according to the following expression:

$$Q_{r,i} = C_{r,i-1} V_{i-1} \quad (5)$$

344  
345  
346

where

- $Q_{r,i}$   $\left(\frac{Bq}{m^2 \times y}\right)$  is the rate of activity flow per unit area from layer  $i - 1$  to layer  $i$ ;

- $C_{r,i-1} \left( \frac{Bq}{m^3} \right)$  is the concentration of nuclide  $r$  in layer  $i - 1$ ; and
- $V_{i-1} \left( \frac{m^3}{m^2} \right)$  is the volume of soil per unit area yearly moved from soil layer  $i - 1$  to soil layer  $i$ .

The burrow collapse effectively mixes all radioactivity that has accumulated on the soil surface into the uppermost soil stratum. Equation 5 is assumed to be a reasonable approximation of biotic processes.

The transfer of activity by plants from the layer  $i$  to the surface is estimated as follows:

$$Q_{P_{ir}} = \sum_{l=1}^p C_{s_{ir}} B_{v_i} R_{li} \frac{B_l}{K} \quad (6)$$

where

- $Q_{P_{ir}}$  is the quantity of radionuclide  $r$  yearly moved from soil stratum  $i$  to the surface  $\left( \frac{Bq}{m^2 \times y} \right)$ ;
- $p$  is the number of plant species considered;
- $B_{v_r}$  is the soil-to-plant transfer factor  $\frac{\left( \frac{Bq}{g} \right)_{plant}}{\left( \frac{Bq}{g} \right)_{soil}}$ ;
- $B_l$  is the yearly total biomass production of plant  $l$   $\left( \frac{kg}{m^2 \times y} \right)$ ;
- $R_{li}$  is the fraction of roots of plant  $l$  in soil stratum  $i$ .

A portion, or all of the annual biomass production is assumed to be recycled. When plant material is recycled, the contaminant burden returns to the soil. By denoting with  $w_l$  the fraction of plant  $l$  biomass returned to surface soil, the rate of activity per unit area transferred to the surface soil stratum is:

$$Q_{P_{ir}}^S = \sum_{l=1}^p C_{s_{ir}} B_{v_i} R_{li} \frac{B_l}{K} w_l \left( \frac{Bq}{y \times m^2} \right) \quad (7)$$

At the end of each yearly time step, a second portion of the biomass production is assumed to be recycled, because some plants reach end of life. Radionuclides returned to the soil strata through end of life recycling are redistributed in proportion to the plant biomass in each layer. All above-ground contributions from end of life plant recycling are added to the soil surface. Radionuclides are transferred by end of life recycling from the plants to the soil stratum  $i$ , according to the following expression:

$$R_{ri} = \sum_{l=1}^p C_{rl} b_{li} f_i \quad (8)$$

where

- $R_{ri} \left( \frac{Bq}{m^2 y} \right)$  is the activity of radionuclide  $r$  returned to soil layer  $i$  as a result of the recycling of plant biomass;
- $C_{rl} \left( \frac{Bq}{kg} \right)$  is the concentration of nuclide  $r$  in plant  $l$ ;

- $b_{li}$   $\left(\frac{kg}{m^2}\right)$  is the biomass of plant  $l$  in soil layer  $i$ ; and
- $f_l$   $(y^{-1})$  is the fraction of biomass of plant  $l$ , which is recycled yearly.

Harvest removal is a discrete process and occurs at the end of each calculation year. A quantity of each radionuclide, expressed by calculated vegetation concentration from root uptake, multiplied by the harvested yield (an input parameter) is subtracted from the soil layers. The amount of subtracted material is normalized by the root penetration factor.

## 5. Deposition rates

For scenarios where air deposition is considered, the deposition rate for unit area is given by

$$R_{ar} = C_{ar}v_{dr} \quad (9)$$

In it:

- $R_{ar}$   $\left(\frac{Bq}{m^2y}\right)$  is the activity of nuclide  $r$  deposited for unit time and unit area on surface soil;
- $C_{ar}$   $\left(\frac{Bq}{m^3}\right)$  is the concentration of nuclide  $r$  in air; and
- $v_{dr}$   $\left(\frac{m}{y}\right)$  is the deposition velocity of nuclide  $r$ .

For scenarios where water pathways are considered, the deposition rate from irrigation for unit area is given by:

$$R_{wr} = C_{aw}I \quad (10)$$

In it:

- $R_{wr}$   $\left(\frac{Bq}{m^2y}\right)$  is the activity of nuclide  $r$  deposited for unit time and unit area on surface soil layer;
- $C_{aw}$   $\left(\frac{Bq}{m^3}\right)$  is the concentration of nuclide  $r$  in water; and
- $I$   $\left(\frac{m^3}{m^2y}\right)$  is the irrigation rate for unit area.

## 6. Manual Redistribution

Due to human activities on a site, material may be transferred from the deeper soil or contained waste compartments to the surface soil. This process is modeled simply by introducing a manual redistribution factor, which relates the resultant surface soil concentration, in  $Bq/m^3$ , to the initial subsurface concentration, in  $Bq/m^3$ .

473  
474  
475  
476  
477  
478  
479  
480  
481  
482  
483  
484  
485  
486  
487  
488  
489  
490  
491  
492  
493  
494  
495  
496  
497  
498  
499  
500  
501  
502  
503  
504  
505  
506  
507  
508  
509  
510  
511  
512  
513  
514  
515  
516  
517  
518  
519  
520  
521  
522  
523  
524  
525  
526  
527  
528  
529  
530  
531

## 7. Waste form decomposition

To account for the release of nuclides from waste containers and waste forms in deep soil, a simple waste availability model is implemented, based on the relationship proposed by McKenzie et al. (1982, 1983). In this relationship, the quantity of waste released to soil is defined by the expression:

$$Q_W^r = -\lambda_W W_0^r \quad (11)$$

In equation 11:

- $Q_W^r$   $\left(\frac{Bq}{m^2 y}\right)$  is the activity yearly released for unit area to deep soil layer;
- $W_0^r$   $\left(\frac{Bq}{m^2 y}\right)$  is the activity per unit area contained in the waste form;
- $\lambda_W = \frac{\ln 2}{T_{W, \frac{1}{2}}}$  ( $y^{-1}$ ); and
- $T_{W, \frac{1}{2}}$  ( $y$ ) is the package half life.

This simple model is based on the hypothesis that the waste form thickness fills the deep soil layer thickness.

## 8. The equations of the model

After collecting equations 3, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 10, and after denoting by  $\lambda^r$  the radiological decay constant of radionuclide  $r$ , the transfer of activity  $A$ , per unit area for the first layer, is given by

$$\frac{d}{dt} A_1^r = -(\lambda^r + \lambda_{1,2}^r) A_1^r + \sum_{i=2}^3 Q_{s_{ir}} + \sum_{i=2}^3 Q_{P_{ir}}^S + R_{ar} + R_{wr} \quad (12)$$

For the intermediate layer the transfer of activity is:

$$\frac{d}{dt} A_2^r = -(\lambda^r + \lambda_{2,3}^r) A_2^r + \lambda_{1,2}^r A_1^r - Q_{s_{2r}} - Q_{P_{2r}} \quad (13)$$

Finally, for deep soil, the transfer of activity is

$$\frac{d}{dt} A_3^r = -(\lambda^r + \lambda_{3 \rightarrow}^r) A_3^r + \lambda_{2,3}^r A_2^r - Q_{s_{3r}} - Q_{P_{3r}} + \lambda_W W_0^r e^{-(\lambda_W + \lambda^r)t} \quad (14)$$

In order to describe the evolution of isotopic changes in the soil layers, this set of linear equations need to be coupled with the Bateman equations describing the time evolution of nuclide concentrations undergoing serial or linear decay chain. This is achieved through the GENII-LIN generalized decay chain processor, which provides the activity of any member of a decay chain as a function of time from any initializing condition. Recently enhanced variants of the processor provide the total activities of chain members for conditions of continual input of nuclides to the system and non radiological removal to a sink. The resulting system is integrated sequentially over one-year time intervals up to cover the period of interest, from the beginning of contamination to the end of the exposure period. At the end of each step, the previously described discrete processes of end of life plant recycle, burrows collapse and harvest removal occur and are accounted.

532  
533  
534  
535  
536  
537  
538  
539  
540  
541  
542  
543  
544  
545  
546  
547  
548  
549  
550  
551  
552  
553  
554  
555  
556  
557  
558  
559  
560  
561  
562  
563  
564  
565  
566  
567  
568  
569  
570  
571  
572  
573  
574  
575  
576  
577  
578  
579  
580  
581  
582  
583  
584  
585  
586  
587  
588  
589  
590

Table 1: Soil contamination at the beginning of the exposure.

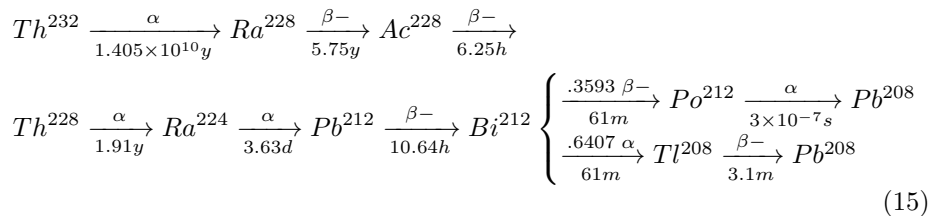
Initial contamination from $Th^{232}$ and $Th^{228}$			
Nuclide	Surface Soil	Intermediate layer	Deep Soil
$Th^{232}$	0	0	$1 \times 10^6$

Table 2: Dose by pathway from one year exposure to ground.

Effective Dose Equivalent by pathway (Sv)			
		GENII-LIN	ReSRAD
Internal	Inhalation	$5.5 \times 10^{-05}$	–
	Soil Ingestion	$2.4 \times 10^{-11}$	–
	Surface Soil	$7.2 \times 10^{-09}$	–
External	Intermediate layer	$3.8 \times 10^{-15}$	–
	Deep Soil	$4.0 \times 10^{-08}$	$4.15 \times 10^{-08}$

### 9. Test case

Here we want to display the new soil model capabilities. For this purpose we analyze a hypothetical residential scenario, where a receptor is one year exposed to 50 cm thick contaminated soil layer buried 50 cm below the ground. At the beginning of the exposure, the deep soil layer is assumed uniformly contaminated with  $Th^{232}$ . Being the overburden greater than 15 cm, the code adds an intermediate layer 35 cm thick:



The input to the code is shown in table 1. No daughters need to be added, when they are not present at the beginning of the contamination scenario. The code itself adds them, after reading the Master Nuclide Library. Table 2 reports the dose by pathway. The code estimates radioactivity biotic transport from deep soil layer to surface soil, from the beginning of the contamination up to the end of the exposure period, reason why the receptor receives dose from direct exposure to ground surface contamination, suspended activity inhalation, and inadvertent soil ingestion. In the third column we reported the dose assessed by running the ResRAD-onsite code, Kamboj (2018). ResRAD does not consider nuclide transfer to upper layers, however the computed deep soil contribution to the external dose is very close to the deep soil contribution estimated by running GENII-LIN.

The computed dose by nuclide is reported in table 3. The embedded generalized decay chain processor calculates the activity of any member of the decay

591  
592  
593  
594  
595  
596  
597  
598  
599  
600  
601  
602  
603  
604  
605  
606  
607  
608  
609  
610  
611  
612  
613  
614  
615  
616  
617  
618  
619  
620  
621  
622  
623  
624  
625  
626  
627  
628  
629  
630  
631  
632  
633  
634  
635  
636  
637  
638  
639  
640  
641  
642  
643  
644  
645  
646  
647  
648  
649

Table 3: Dose by radionuclide from one year exposure to ground. Dose from  $Bi^{212}$  comprehends doses from  $Po^{212}$  and  $Tl^{208}$

Nuclide	Effective Dose Equivalent (Sv)				
	Inhalation	Ingestion	External	Internal	Annual
$Th^{232}$	$5.40 \times 10^{-05}$	$1.90 \times 10^{-11}$	$1.70 \times 10^{-11}$	$5.40 \times 10^{-05}$	$5.40 \times 10^{-05}$
$Ra^{228}$	$2.50 \times 10^{-07}$	$4.50 \times 10^{-12}$	$1.40 \times 10^{-17}$	$2.50 \times 10^{-07}$	$2.50 \times 10^{-07}$
$Ac^{228}$	$1.10 \times 10^{-09}$	$2.60 \times 10^{-15}$	$4.00 \times 10^{-08}$	$1.10 \times 10^{-09}$	$4.10 \times 10^{-08}$
$Th^{228}$	$3.50 \times 10^{-07}$	$5.80 \times 10^{-14}$	$3.40 \times 10^{-13}$	$3.50 \times 10^{-07}$	$3.50 \times 10^{-07}$
$Ra^{224}$	$3.30 \times 10^{-08}$	$5.00 \times 10^{-14}$	$2.60 \times 10^{-12}$	$3.30 \times 10^{-08}$	$3.30 \times 10^{-08}$
$Pb^{212}$	$1.90 \times 10^{-09}$	$4.60 \times 10^{-15}$	$3.30 \times 10^{-11}$	$1.90 \times 10^{-09}$	$1.90 \times 10^{-09}$
$Bi^{212}$	$2.60 \times 10^{-10}$	$2.00 \times 10^{-16}$	$6.80 \times 10^{-09}$	$2.60 \times 10^{-10}$	$7.10 \times 10^{-09}$
Total	$5.46 \times 10^{-05}$	$2.36 \times 10^{-11}$	$4.69 \times 10^{-08}$	$5.46 \times 10^{-05}$	$5.47 \times 10^{-05}$

chain (15) as a function of time, in this vein each nuclide contribution to dose is accurately accounted.

In Teodori (2017) and Teodori (2019), we compared dose from direct exposure to soil contamination calculated by using GENII-LIN code with dose calculations made by running widely used international Monte Carlo codes: MCNP and PHITS. In other words, we compared GENII-LIN exposure model with site specific models. We found good agreement for different nuclides and different contamination scenarios. Here we wanted to compare GENII-LIN with a similar multipurpose health physics code. Calculations show that neglecting continuous upward transfer from plants uptake and bioturbation may lead to underestimate significantly the dose to receptor.

## 10. Conclusions

In this years we have revised and enhanced the GENII-LIN soil transfer model, whose capabilities have been extended to cover a wider range of exposure and contamination scenarios. The most significant improvements, we have introduced, are here summarized:

- short life nuclide contributions are now correctly accounted;
- the soil compartment number has been increased, by introducing an intermediate layer;
- the leaching model has been reworked in a more physically based manner, by using a more sophisticated formulation for the transfer rate; leaching is no longer limited to soil surface, and leached material is no longer lost, but transferred to deeper soils;
- bioturbation by animals also affects downward transfer of materials, by modifying the leaching constant and by void collapse;
- plant transfer contributes to contaminant redistribution through all soil depth by plant recycle.

Though still under an intensive test phase to check stability and reliability, the new soil transfer module is simple to use, low resource consuming, perfectly

650  
651  
652  
653  
654  
655  
656 working and well interfaced with the other modules of the GENII-LIN compu-  
657 tational framework, whose capabilities are remarkably extended. We decided to  
658 develop a transfer model, which falls between the two main categories of equi-  
659 librium models and dynamic ones, Owen Hoffman et al. (1988). Equilibrium  
660 parameters have been used to set up a compartment and multilayer dynamic  
661 model, where transfer among compartment and layers is simulated according  
662 to first order kinetics equations. By choosing appropriate parameters, the model  
663 may be applied and adapted to a large variety of sites, where root uptake, plant  
664 recycle, bioturbation and leaching are actively involved in the transfer of ra-  
665 dionuclides, permitting the estimation of human exposures and doses in case of  
666 nuclear and radiological accidents, and for routine calculations.

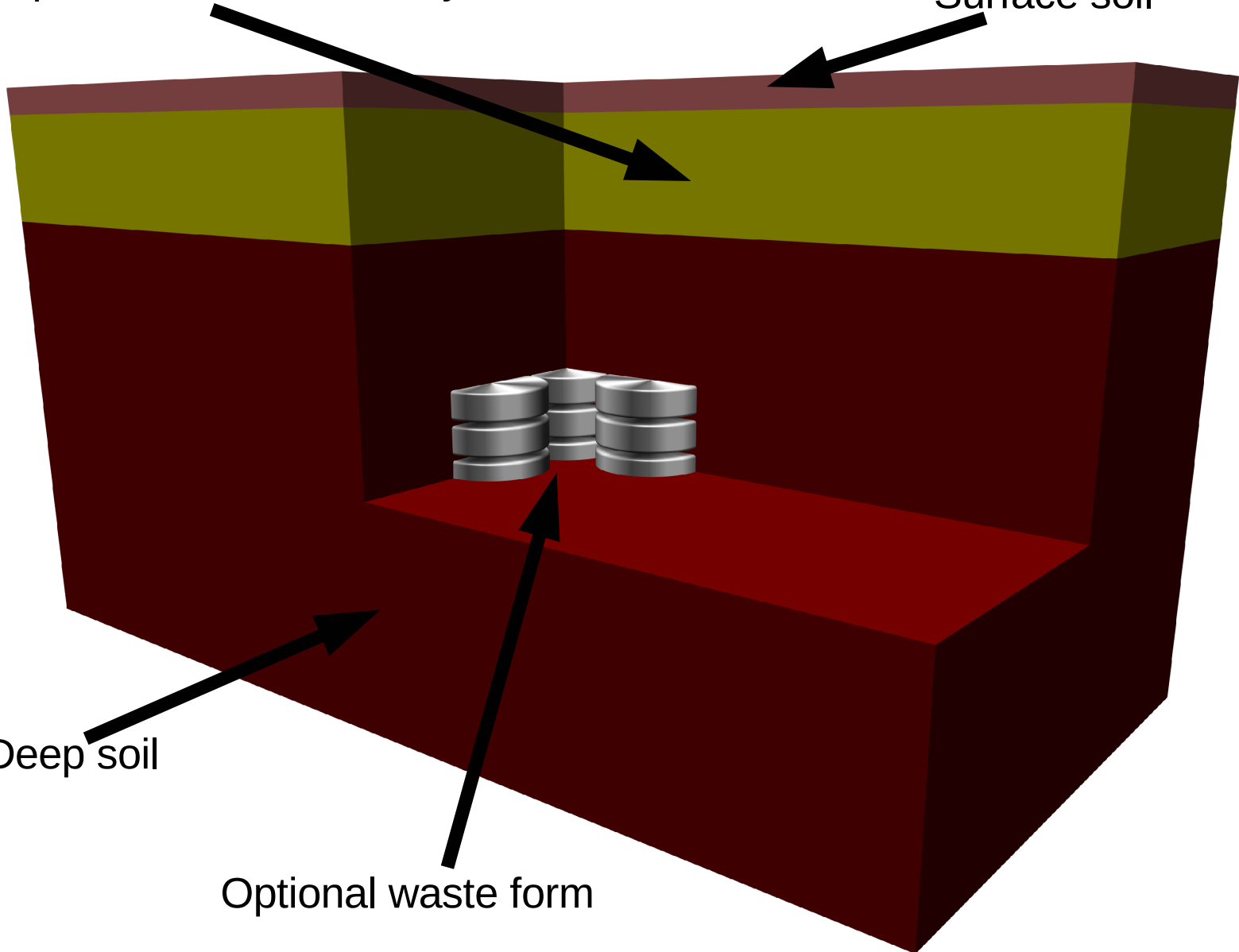
## 667 References

- 669 Baes C F, and Sharp R D 1981 *Predicting Radionuclide Leaching From Root*  
670 *Zone Soil From Assessment Applications*, CONF81606, Oak Ridge National  
671 Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee.
- 672  
673 DOE 2003 *Software Quality Assurance Plan and Criteria for the Safety Analy-*  
674 *sis Toolbox Codes, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Recommendation*  
675 *2002-1 Software Quality Assurance Improvement Plan Commitment 4.2.1.2*,  
676 U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, D.C.
- 677 DOE 2004 *Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Recommendation 2002-1,*  
678 *Software Quality Assurance Improvement Plan, Commitment 4.2.1.3: Soft-*  
679 *ware Quality Assurance Improvement Plan: GENII Gap Analysis. DOE-EH-*  
680 *4.2.1.3-GENII-Gap Analysis* U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, D.C.
- 681 EPA 1993 *Federal Guidance Report No. 12: External Exposure to Radionuclides*  
682 *in Air, Water, and Soil*, FGR No. 12, (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,  
683 Washington, DC).
- 684 EPA 2002 *Federal Guidance Report 13 Cancer Risk Coefficients for Environ-*  
685 *mental Exposure to Radionuclides: CD Supplement*, EPA 402-C-99-001, Rev.  
686 1 (Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN; U.S. Environmental Pro-  
687 tection Agency, Washington, DC)
- 688 ICRP 1991, 1990 Recommendations of the International Commission on Radi-  
689 ological Protection. ICRP Publication 60. Ann. ICRP 21 (1-3).
- 690 Kamboj S, Gnanapragasam E, Yu C 2018 User's Guide for RESRAD-ONSITE  
691 Code, ANL/EVS/TM-18/1, Argonne National Laboratory, March
- 692 ICRP 2007, The 2007 Recommendations of the International Commission on  
693 Radiological Protection. ICRP Publication 103. Ann. ICRP 37 (2-4).
- 694 ICRP 2008, Nuclear decay data for dosimetric calculations, ICRP Publication  
695 107, Ann. ICRP 38 (3).
- 696 ICRP 2010, Conversion Coefficients for Radiological Protection Quantities for  
697 External Radiation Exposures. ICRP Publication 116, Ann. ICRP 40(2-5).
- 700 Owen Hoffman F., Hofer E., Desmet G. 1988, Reliability of Radioactive Transfer  
701 Models, Springer, Netherlands.

- 709  
710  
711  
712  
713  
714  
715  
716 McKenzie. D. H., Cadwell L. L., Eberhardt L. E., Kennedy Jr. W. E., Peloquin R. A. and Simmons M. A. 1982 Relevance of Biotic Pathways to the Long-Term Regulation of Nuclear Waste Disposal, Topical Report on Reference Western Arid Low-Level Sites. NUREG/CR-2675:PNL-4241, Vol 2 U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington D.C.
- 720  
721 McKenzie. D. H., Cadwell L. L., Eberhardt L. E., Kennedy Jr. W. E., Peloquin R. A. and Simmons M. A. 1983 Relevance of Biotic Pathways to the Long-Term Regulation of Nuclear Waste Disposal, Topical Report on Reference Eastern Humid Low-Level Sites. NUREG/CR-2675:PNL-4241, Vol 3. U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Washington, D.C.
- 725  
726 McKenzie D. H., Cadwell L. L., Gano K. A., Kennedy Jr. W. E., B. A. Napier, Peloquin R. A., Prohammer L. A. , and Simmons M. A. 1986 Estimation of Radiation Dose to Man Resulting from Biotic Transport: The Bioport MAXII Software Package. NUREG CR-2675 Vol. 5, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington D.C.
- 730  
731 Muller-Lemans H. and van Dorp F. 1996 Bioturbation as a mechanism for radionuclide transport in soil: Relevance of earthworms. *Journal of Environmental Radioactivity*, **31**(1) 7–20.
- 732  
733 Napier B A, Peloquin R A, Strenge D L and Ramsdell J V 1988 *GENII - The Hanford Environmental Radiation Dosimetry Software System, Vol. 1: Conceptual Representation*, PNL-6584.
- 734  
735 Napier B A, Peloquin R A, Strenge D L and Ramsdell V J 1988 *GENII - The Hanford Environmental Radiation Dosimetry Software System, Vol. 2: Users' Manual*, PNL-6584.
- 736  
737 Sumini M, Teodori F and Cantoro N 2005 GENII-LIN: a new object-oriented interface for the GENII Code, *Radiation Protection Dosimetry*, **116** 1-4 597-600
- 738  
739 Sumini M and Teodori F 2005 GENII-LIN: a Multipurpose Health Physics Code Built on GENII-1.485, *Journal of Systemics, Cybernetics and Informatics*, **4** 5 36-42.
- 740  
741 Teodori F, Sumini M 2008 GENII-LIN-2.1 an open source software system for calculating radiation dose and risk from radionuclides released to the environment *Journal of Radiological Protection*, **27** 465-470
- 742  
743 Teodori F, Sumini M 2014 GENII-LIN project: a Multipurpose Health Physics Code to Estimate Radiation Dose and Risk from Environment Contamination, *Radiation Physics and Chemistry*, **104** 15–22.
- 744  
745 Teodori F, 2017 A new nuclide transport model in soil in the GENII-LIN health physics code, *Radiat. Phys. Chem.*, **140**, 146–149.
- 746  
747 Teodori F, 2019 The new external dose rate factor generator of the GENII-LIN health physics code , *Radiat. Phys. Chem.*, **155**, 107–114.
- 748  
749  
750  
751  
752  
753  
754  
755  
756  
757  
758  
759  
760  
761  
762  
763  
764  
765  
766  
767

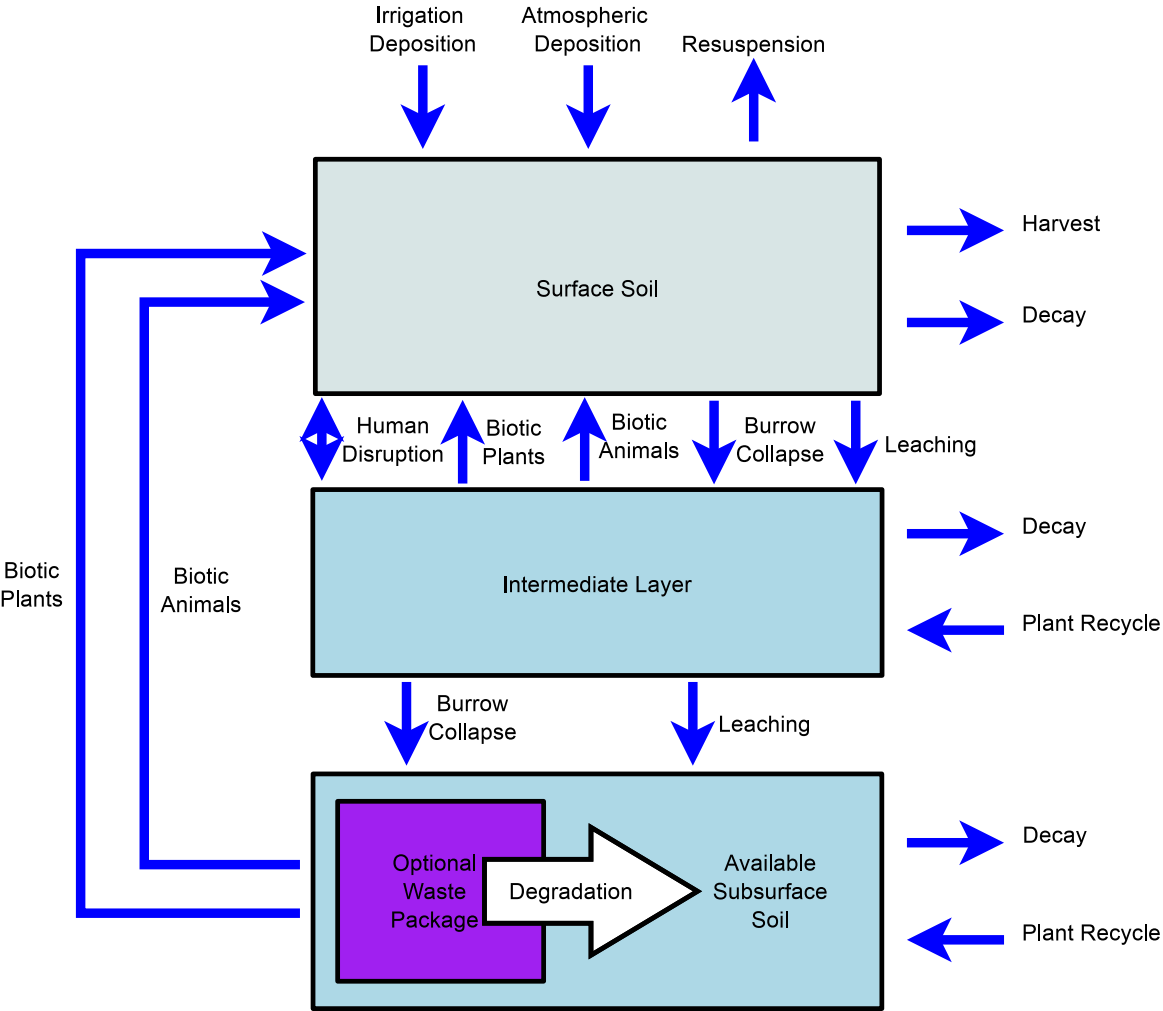
Optional intermediate layer

Surface soil



Deep soil

Optional waste form



### Declaration of interests

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

The authors declare the following financial interests/personal relationships which may be considered as potential competing interests:

**Francesco Teodori:** Conceptualization, Methodology, Software, Data curation,, Visualization, Software, Validation, Writing, Reviewing and Editing,