# CONCEPTUAL BASIS FOR CALCULATIONS OF ABSORBED-DOSE DISTRIBUTIONS 

Recommendations of the NATIONAL COUNCIL ON RADIATION PROTECTION AND MEASUREMENTS

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## Appendix C <br> A Compilation of Geometric Reduction Factors for Standard Geometries

In the following, typical geometries are considered and the resulting geometric-reduction factors are given. The point-pair distance distributions are not listed but can readily be obtained from the geometric-reduction factor:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{p}_{\mathrm{AB}}(x)=4 \pi x^{2} \mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{AB}}(x) / V_{\mathrm{B}} . \tag{C.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

## C. 1 The Autologous Case ( $\mathbf{A}=\mathbf{B}$ )

As source region $A$ and receptor $B$ coincide in the autologous case, the simplified notation $\mathrm{U}(x)$ can be used instead of $\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{AB}}(x)$. Outside the specified intervals for $x$, all functions $\mathrm{U}(x)$ or $\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{AB}}(x)$ are zero.
a) Infinite slab of height $h$ :

$$
\mathrm{U}(x)=\left\{\begin{align*}
1-\frac{x}{2 h}, & 0 \leq x \leq h  \tag{C.2}\\
\frac{h}{2 x}, & x \geq h
\end{align*}\right.
$$

b) Sphere of radius $r$ :

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{U}(x)=1-\frac{3 x}{4 r}+\frac{x^{3}}{16 r^{3}}, 0 \leq x \leq 2 r . \tag{C.3}
\end{equation*}
$$

c) Spherical shell with outer radius $R$ and inner radius $r$ :

For $r \leq R / 3$ :
$\mathrm{U}(x)=\frac{1}{R^{3}-r^{3}} \begin{cases}R^{3}-r^{3}-3\left(R^{2}+r^{2}\right) x / 4+x^{3} / 8, & 0 \leq x \leq 2 r \\ R^{3}-2 r^{3}-3 R^{2} x / 4+x^{3} / 16, & 2 \mathrm{r} \leq x \leq R-r \\ -r^{3}+3\left(R^{2}-r^{2}\right)^{2} / 8 x+3 r^{2} x / 4-x^{3} / 16, & R-r<\mathrm{x} \leq R+r \\ R^{3}-3 R^{2} x / 4+x^{3} / 16, & R+r<\mathrm{x} \leq 2 R .\end{cases}$
For $r \geq R / 3:$
$\mathrm{U}(x)=\frac{1}{R^{3}-r^{3}} \begin{cases}R^{3}-r^{3}-3\left(R^{2}+r^{2}\right) x / 4+x^{3} / 8, & 0 \leq x \leq R-r \\ 3\left(R^{2}-r^{2}\right)^{2} / 8 x, & R-r \leq x \leq 2 r \\ -r^{3}+3\left(R^{2}-r^{2}\right)^{2} / 8 x+3 r^{2} x / 4-x^{3} / 16, & 2 r \leq x \leq R+r \\ R^{3}-3 R^{2} x / 4+x^{3} / 16, & R+r \leq x \leq 2 R .\end{cases}$
Limit of thin spherical shell with radius $r$ and thickness $\delta(\delta \ll r)$ :

$$
\mathrm{U}(x)= \begin{cases}1-\frac{x}{2 \delta}, & 0 \leq x \leq \delta  \tag{C.6}\\ \frac{\delta}{2 x}, & \delta<x \leq 2 \mathrm{r}\end{cases}
$$

d) Spheroid with two axes $d$ and the third axis $e \cdot d$ (Kellerer, 1984)

$$
\begin{align*}
& \mathrm{U}(x)=1-\frac{3 x}{2 d} \frac{\mathrm{c}_{1}}{e}+\frac{x^{3}}{2 d^{3}} \frac{\mathrm{c}_{2}}{e}  \tag{C.7}\\
&+\frac{3}{8} \frac{\epsilon}{\left(e^{-1}-e\right)} {\left[\sqrt{\left|\frac{d^{2}}{x^{2}}-1\right|}\left(\frac{x^{2}}{2 d^{2}}+1\right)+\left(\frac{x^{3}}{2 d^{3}}-\frac{2 x}{d}\right) \operatorname{ci}\left(\frac{d}{x}\right)\right], } \\
& \text { for } 0<x \leq \operatorname{Max}(d, e \cdot d) .
\end{align*}
$$

The expression in the first line of Equation (C.7) applies for $x \leq \operatorname{Min}(d, e \cdot d)$. In the case of $e<1$, the expression in the second line applies for $x>\mathrm{e} \cdot \mathrm{d}$; in the case of $e>1$, the sum of the expressions in the first and in the second lines is used for $x>d$.

In Equation (C.7), $\epsilon=\sqrt{\left|e^{2}-1\right|}$ is the eccentricity; then

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{c}_{1}=\frac{1}{2}+\frac{e^{2}}{2 \epsilon} \mathrm{ci}\left(\frac{1}{e}\right), \quad \mathrm{c}_{2}=\frac{1}{4 e^{2}}+\frac{3}{4} \mathrm{c}_{1}, \tag{C.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\operatorname{ci}(x)= \begin{cases}\cos ^{-1}(x), & \text { for } 0 \leq x \leq 1  \tag{C.9}\\ \cosh ^{-1}(x)=\ln \left(x+\sqrt{x^{2}-1}\right), & \text { for } x>1\end{cases}
$$

The auxiliary function $\operatorname{ci}(x)$ is introduced to permit one common formula for the oblate and the prolate spheroid (Kellerer, 1984). Throughout Appendix C, $\mathrm{f}^{-1}(x)$ is defined as the inverse function of $\mathrm{f}(x)$.
e) Right cylinder with arbitrary cross section of width $d$ and height $h$ (Kellerer, 1981):

$$
\begin{gather*}
\mathrm{U}(x)=\frac{1}{x} \int_{z_{1}}^{z_{2}}\left(1-\frac{z}{h}\right) \mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{c}}\left(\sqrt{x^{2}-z^{2}}\right) \mathrm{d} z, x \leq \sqrt{h^{2}+d^{2}}  \tag{C.10}\\
z_{1}=\sqrt{\operatorname{Max}\left(0, x^{2}-d^{2}\right)} ; z_{2}=\operatorname{Min}(x, h) \tag{C.11}
\end{gather*}
$$

$\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{c}}(x)$ is the geometric-reduction factor of the cross section $(x \leq d)$ as follows:
Circular cross section:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{c}}(x)=\frac{2}{\pi}\left[\cos ^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{d}\right)-\frac{x}{d} \sqrt{1-\frac{x^{2}}{d^{2}}}\right], \quad x \leq d . \tag{C.12}
\end{equation*}
$$

Square cross section (see Coleman, 1969):

$$
\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{c}}(x)=\frac{1}{\pi}\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\frac{x^{2}}{d^{2}}-\frac{4 x}{d}+\pi, \quad x \leq d  \tag{C.13}\\
\pi-2-4 \cos ^{-1}\left(\frac{d}{x}\right)+4 \sqrt{\frac{x^{2}}{d^{2}}-1}-\frac{x^{2}}{d^{2}}, \quad d<x \leq \mathrm{d} \sqrt{2} .
\end{array}\right.
$$

Integrating the expression, one obtains for the unit cube the relation derived by Piefke (1978):

$$
\mathrm{U}(\mathrm{x})= \begin{cases}1-\frac{3}{2} \mathrm{x}+\frac{2}{\pi} x^{2}-\frac{1}{4 \pi} x^{3}, & 0 \leq \mathrm{x} \leq 1  \tag{C.14}\\ \frac{6 \pi-1}{4 \pi x}-2+\frac{3 x}{2 \pi}+\frac{x^{3}}{2 \pi}+\frac{6}{\pi} x \cos ^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)-\frac{2}{\pi x}\left(2 x^{2}+1\right) \sqrt{x^{2}-1}, & 1<x \leq \sqrt{2} \\ \frac{6 \pi-5}{4 \pi x}+1-\frac{3(1+\pi) x}{2 \pi}-\frac{x^{3}}{4 \pi}+\frac{2}{\pi x}\left(x^{2}+1\right) \sqrt{x^{2}-2}-\frac{6}{\pi \mathrm{x}} \mathrm{~A}(x), & \sqrt{2}<x \leq \sqrt{3}\end{cases}
$$

where

$$
\begin{gathered}
\mathrm{A}(x)=\tan ^{-1}\left(\sqrt{x^{2}-2}\right)+2 x \tan ^{-1}\left(x^{2}-1-x \sqrt{x^{2}-2}\right) \\
-x^{2} \tan ^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{x^{2}-2}}\right) .
\end{gathered}
$$

Figure C. 1 shows geometric-reduction factors and point-pair distance distributions for the autologous case according to some of the preceding equations.

## C. 2 The Heterologous Case ( $\mathbf{A} \neq \mathrm{B}$ )

a) Two concentric spheres A and B with radii $R$ and $r$, respectively:
$\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{AB}}(x)= \begin{cases}\operatorname{Min}\left(1, r^{3} / R^{3}\right), & x<|R-r| \\ \left.\frac{3}{4 R^{3}} \frac{2}{3}\left(R^{3}+r^{3}\right)-\frac{1}{4}\left(R^{2}-r^{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{x}}-\frac{1}{2}\left(R^{2}+r^{2}\right) x+\frac{1}{12} x^{3}\right], & |R-r|<x<R+r .\end{cases}$
b) A spherical surface, A, of radius $R$ and a concentric sphere, B, of radius $r$ :
$\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{AB}}(x)= \begin{cases}\frac{1}{2}+\frac{r^{2}-R^{2}}{4 R x}-\frac{x}{4 R}, & |R-r|<x<R+r \\ 1, & R<r \text { and } x<r-R .\end{cases}$
c) A spherical surface, A , of radius $R$ and a concentric shell, B , of inner radius $r_{1}$ and outer radius $\mathrm{r}_{2}$ :

The geometric-reduction factor is equal to the preceding solution with $r=r_{2}$ minus the solution with $r=r_{1}$.

For $R>r_{2}$, i.e., for A outside B:

$$
\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{AB}}(x)= \begin{cases}\frac{1}{2}+\frac{r_{2}^{2}-R^{2}}{4 R x}-\frac{x}{4 R}, & \left\{\begin{array}{l}
R-r_{2} \leq x \leq R-r_{1} \\
R+r_{1} \leq x \leq R+r_{2}
\end{array}\right.  \tag{C.17}\\
\frac{r_{2}^{2}-r_{1}^{2}}{4 R x}, & R-r_{1}<x<R+r_{1}\end{cases}
$$




Fig. C.1. Geometric-reduction factors, $\mathrm{U}(x)$, or the point-pair distance distributions, $\mathrm{p}(x)$, for the autologous case.
a: Geometric-reduction factors for spherical shells according to Equations (C.4) and (C.5). The distance, $x$, is given relative to the outer diameter, $D$. The ratio of inner diameter, $d$, to outer diameter of the shell is indicated on the curves. The dashed curve corresponds to the sphere [Equation (C.3)].
b: Geometric-reduction factors for spheroids according to Equation (C.7). The distance, $x$, is given relative to the two equal diameters, $d$, of the spheroid. The ratio e of the third diameter to $d$ is indicated on the curves. The dashed curve represents the limit of an infinitely extended prolate spheroid, while the dotted curve represents, for comparison, an infinitely long circular rod of diameter $d$ [Equations (C.10) and (C.12)].


Fig. C.1. continued
c: Geometric-reduction factors for the sphere of diameter $d$ [Equation (C.3)], the circular right cylinder of diameter and height $d$ [Equations (C.10) and (C.12)], the cube of side length $d$ [Equation (C.14)], and the infinite slab of height $d$ [Equation (C.2)]. The distance, $x$, is given relative to $d$.
d: Point-pair distance densities for a disc of diameter $d$ [Equation (C.12)], a square of side length $d$ [Equation (C.13)], and a spherical surface of diameter $d$ [Equation (C.6)]. The distance, $x$, is given relative to $d$.

For $R<r_{1}$, i.e., for A in the interior void of the shell for $R \geq\left(r_{2}-r_{1}\right) /$ 2:
$\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{AB}}(x)= \begin{cases}\frac{1}{2}-\frac{r_{1}^{2}-R^{2}}{4 R x}+\frac{x}{4 R}, & r_{1}-R \leq x \leq r_{2}-R \\ \frac{r_{2}^{2}-r_{1}^{2}}{4 R x}, & r_{2}-R \leq x \leq R+r_{1} \\ \frac{1}{2}+\frac{r_{2}^{2}-R^{2}}{4 R x}-\frac{x}{4 R}, & R+r_{1}<x \leq R+r_{2} .\end{cases}$
For $R \leq\left(r_{2}-r_{1}\right) / 2$
$\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{AB}}(x)= \begin{cases}\frac{1}{2}-\frac{r_{1}^{2}-R^{2}}{4 R x}+\frac{x}{4 R}, & r_{1}-R \leq x \leq r_{1}+R \\ 1, & r_{1}+R<x \leq r_{2}-R \\ \frac{1}{2}+\frac{r_{2}^{2}-R^{2}}{4 R x}-\frac{x}{4 R}, & r_{2}-R<x \leq r_{2}+R .\end{cases}$
Special cases:
An outer surface of the shell $\left(R=r_{2}\right)$ :
$\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{AB}}(x)= \begin{cases}\frac{1}{2}-\frac{x}{4 r_{2}}, & \left\{\begin{array}{l}0<x<r_{2}-r_{1} \\ r_{1}+r_{2} \leq x \leq 2 r_{2}\end{array}\right. \\ \frac{r_{2}^{2}-r_{2}^{2}}{4 r_{2} x}, & r_{2}-r_{1}<x<r_{1}+r_{2} ;\end{cases}$
An inner surface of the shell $\left(R=r_{1}\right)$ and $R \geq r_{2} / 3$ :
$\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{AB}}(x)= \begin{cases}\frac{1}{2}+\frac{x}{4 R}, & 0 \leq x \leq r_{2}-r_{1} \\ \frac{r_{2}^{2}-r_{1}^{2}}{4 r_{1} x}, & r_{2}-r_{1}<x \leq 2 r_{1} \\ \frac{1}{2}+\frac{r_{2}^{2}-r_{1}^{2}}{4 r_{1} x}-\frac{x}{4 r_{1}}, & 2 r_{1}<x \leq r_{1}+r_{2} .\end{cases}$
d) Two concentric shells A and B of infinitesimal thickness and with radii $R$ and $r$ :

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{AB}}(x)=\frac{r \delta}{2 R x}, \quad|R-r|<x<R+r \tag{C.22}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\delta$ is the (infinitesimal) thickness of the shell $B$.
Note: Solutions b) to d) apply also if $A$ is part of the spherical surface, e.g., a sector, a spherical cap, a ring within the shell or a point.
e) A plane A (or part of a plane) and a parallel plate B of thickness $h$ at distance $a$ :
$\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{AB}}(x)= \begin{cases}\frac{1}{2}-\frac{a}{2 x}, & a \leq x \leq a+h \\ \frac{h}{2 x}, & a+h<x .\end{cases}$
f) Two parallel infinite plates A and B of thickness $H$ and $h$, respectively, and separated by distance a ( $H<h$ )

$$
\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{AB}}(x)=\left\{\begin{array}{ll}
\frac{1}{4}-\frac{a}{4 x}, & a \leq x \leq a+H \\
\frac{x-a-H / 2}{2 x}, & a+H<x \leq a+h  \tag{C.25}\\
\frac{h}{2 x}-\frac{(H+h+a-x)^{2}}{4 H x}, & a+h<x<a+H+h \\
\frac{h}{2 x}, & x>a+H+h
\end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{l}
\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{BA}}(x)=\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{AB}}(x) \cdot \frac{H}{h}
\end{array}\right.
$$

The same solution applies if A is a section of the infinite plate, i.e., a right cylinder (finite plate).
g) A point A and a right cylinder B:

$$
\left.\begin{array}{rl}
\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{AB}}(x) & =\frac{1}{2 x} \int_{z_{1}}^{z_{2}} \mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{AC}}\left(\sqrt{x^{2}-z^{2}}\right) \mathrm{d} z, \sqrt{y_{1}^{2}+b^{2}}<x<\sqrt{(b+h)^{2}+y_{2}^{2}}  \tag{C.26}\\
z_{1} & =\operatorname{Max}\left(b, \sqrt{\operatorname{Max}\left(0, x^{2}-y_{2}^{2}\right.}\right)
\end{array}\right), z_{2}=\operatorname{Min}\left(b+h, \sqrt{x^{2}-y_{1}^{2}}\right) . .
$$

$\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{AC}}(x)$ is the two-dimensional geometric-reduction factor for the cross section $C$ of the cylinder relative to the projection of point $A$,
$\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{A})$, into the plane which corresponds to $\mathrm{C} ; y_{1}$ and $y_{2}$ are the minimum and maximum distances in this plane between $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{A})$ and $\mathrm{C} ; h$ is the height of the cylinder; $b$ is the projected distance on the cylinder axis between $A$ and $P(A)$. Point $A$ is assumed to lie below the cylinder bottom. If A lies between the two planes through the faces of the cylinder, one obtains the solution as a sum by suitable subdivision of $B$ into two cylinders.

For the circular area of radius $r$ relative to the point at distance $a$ from the center, one has:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{Ac}}(x)=\frac{1}{\pi} \cos ^{-1}\left[\operatorname{Max}\left(-1, \frac{x^{2}+a^{2}-r^{2}}{2 a x}\right)\right], \quad \operatorname{Max}(a-r, 0) \leq x \leq a+r \tag{C.27}
\end{equation*}
$$

h) A point A and a planar domain B of infinitesimal thickness $\delta$ :

Let $h$ be the distance of A from the plane C of B , and let $\mathrm{U}_{2}(y)$ be the 2 -dimensional geometric-reduction factor ( $y_{1}<y<y_{2}$ ) of B relative to the projection of A in C . Then:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{AB}}(x)=\frac{\delta}{2 x} \mathrm{U}_{2}\left(\sqrt{x^{2}-h^{2}}\right), \sqrt{h^{2}+y_{1}^{2}}<x<\sqrt{h^{2}+y_{2}^{2}} . \tag{C.28}
\end{equation*}
$$

For a disc of radius $r$ and a projected distance $a$ of A from its center, one obtains

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{AB}}(x)=\frac{\delta}{2 \pi x} \cos ^{-1}\left[\operatorname{Max}\left(-1, \frac{x^{2}+a^{2}-r^{2}-h^{2}}{2 a \sqrt{x^{2}-h^{2}}}\right)\right] . \tag{C.29}
\end{equation*}
$$

For a rectangle with side lengths $a$ and $b$, we restrict to a special case for A: The straight lines which come out from the sides divide the plane into 8 rectangles with infinite content; the projection of A, $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{A})$, is assumed to lie in the left lowest rectangle with infinite content; $s$ is the distance of $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{A})$ to the next rectangle line parallel to $a, t$ is analogously related to $b$. (Different positions of A can be reduced to the described special case.) For the two dimensional geometrical factor, one has:

$$
\begin{align*}
\mathrm{U}_{2}(y)= & \frac{1}{2 \pi}\left[\sin ^{-1}\left(\frac{\operatorname{Min}\left(a+s, \sqrt{y^{2}-t^{2}}\right)}{y}\right)\right.  \tag{C.30}\\
& \left.-\sin ^{-1}\left(\frac{\operatorname{Max}\left(s, \sqrt{\operatorname{Max}\left(0, y^{2}-(b+t)^{2}\right)}\right)}{y}\right)\right] ;
\end{align*}
$$

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therefore,

$$
\begin{align*}
\mathrm{U}_{\mathrm{AB}}(x)= & \frac{\delta}{4 \pi x}\left[\sin ^{-1}\left(\frac{\operatorname{Min}\left(a+s, \sqrt{x^{2}-h^{2}-t^{2}}\right)}{\sqrt{x^{2}-h^{2}}}\right)\right.  \tag{C.31}\\
& \left.-\sin ^{-1}\left(\frac{\operatorname{Max}\left(s, \sqrt{\operatorname{Max}\left(0, x^{2}-h^{2}-(b+t)^{2}\right)}\right)}{\sqrt{x^{2}-h^{2}}}\right)\right]
\end{align*}
$$

The diagrams in Figure (C.2) give geometric-reduction factors and point-pair distance distributions for the heterologous case according to some of the preceding equations.



Fig. C.2. Geometric reduction factors, $\mathrm{U}(x)$, or the point-pair distance distributions, $\mathrm{p}(x)$, for the heterologous case.
a: Geometric-reduction factors for a sphere, A , of radius $R$, and a concentric sphere, B , of radius $r$ according to Equation (C.15). The ratio $r / R$ is indicated on the curves. The distance, $x$, is given relative to $R$.
b : Geometric-reduction factors for a spherical surface, A , of radius $R$ and a concentric sphere, B, of radius $r$ according to Equation (C.16). The ratio $r / R$ is indicated on the curves. The distance, $x$, is given relative to $R$.


Fig. C.2. continued
c: Geometric-reduction factors for a plane, A, separated by distance $a$ from an infinite plate, B, of height $h$ according to Equation (C.23). The ratio $a / h$ is indicated on the curves. The distance, $x$, is given relative to $h$.
d: Point-pair distance distributions between a spherical surface of radius $R$ and a concentric spherical surface of radius $r$ according to Equation (C.22). The ratio $r / R$ is indicated on the curves. The distance, $x$, is given relative to $r$.

