

Applications in nuclear explosion monitoring using predictive source models for radioxenon discharges from nuclear facilities

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INTRODUCTION AND MAIN RESULTS

Data collected by the Source Term Analysis of Xenon (STAX) project are used to create source models for medical isotope production facilities and nuclear power plants.

This presentation provides example source models for three model categories: Discharge characterizing parameters, patterns, and distributions.

The source models' usefulness in nuclear explosion monitoring is demonstrated by showing which isotopes can be expected to be seen at an IMS station.

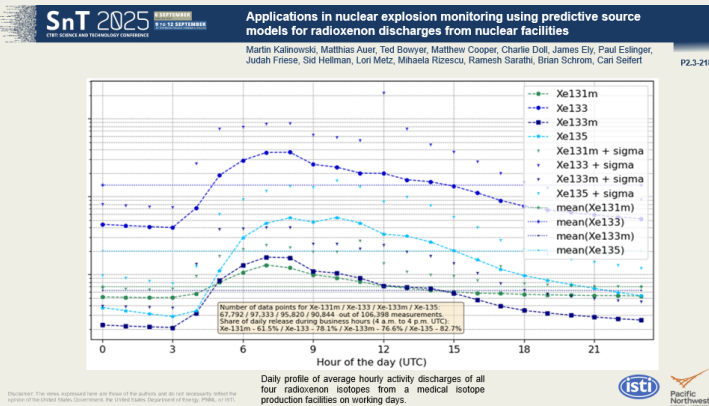


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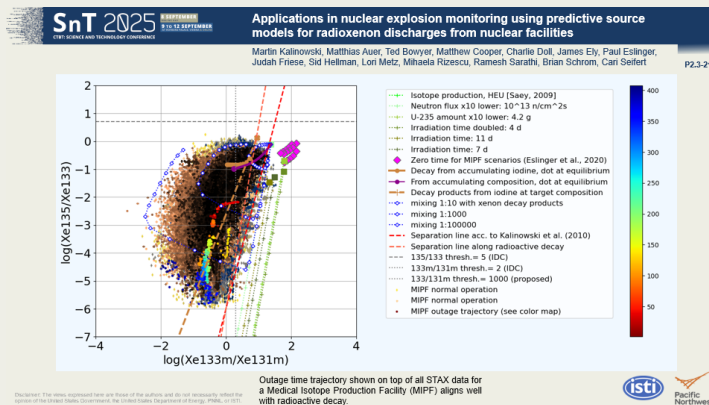
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Pattern

Daily profile of average hourly activity discharges of all four radioxenon isotopes from a medical isotope production facilities on working days.



Outage time trajectory shown on top of all STAX data for a Medical Isotope Production Facility (MIPF) aligns well with radioactive decay.

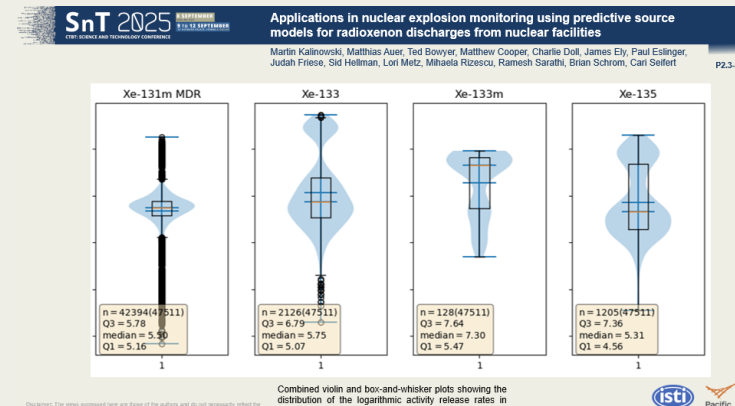


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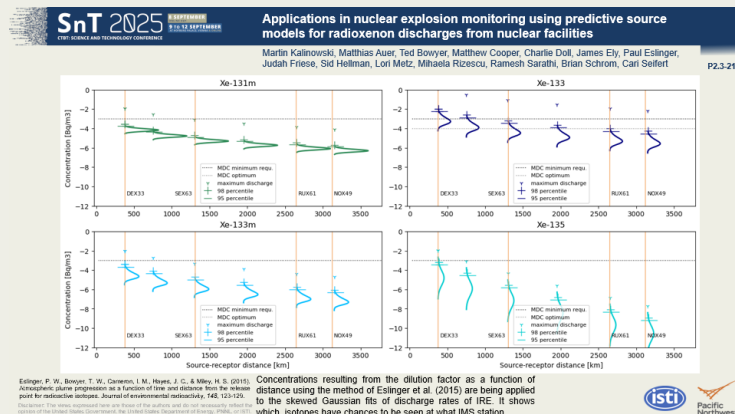
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Distributions

Combined violin and box-and-whisker plots showing the distribution of the logarithmic activity release rates in Bq/h of an NPP.

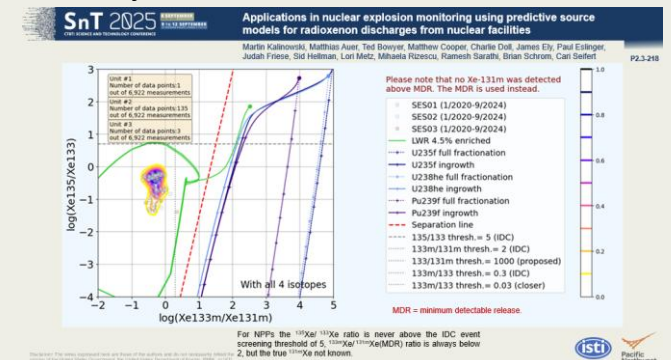


Concentrations resulting from the dilution factor as a function of distance are being applied to the skewed Gaussian fits of discharge rates of IRE. It shows which isotopes have chances to be seen at what IMS station.

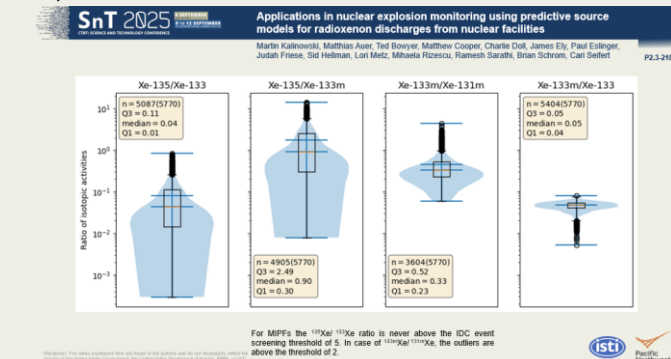


Parameters

For NPPs the $^{135}\text{Xe}/^{133}\text{Xe}$ ratio is never above the IDC event screening threshold of 5, $^{133m}\text{Xe}/^{131m}\text{Xe}(\text{MDR})$ ratio is always below 2, but the true ^{131m}Xe not known.



For MIPFs the $^{135}\text{Xe}/^{133}\text{Xe}$ ratio is never above the IDC event screening threshold of 5. In case of $^{133m}\text{Xe}/^{131m}\text{Xe}$, the outliers are above the threshold of 2.

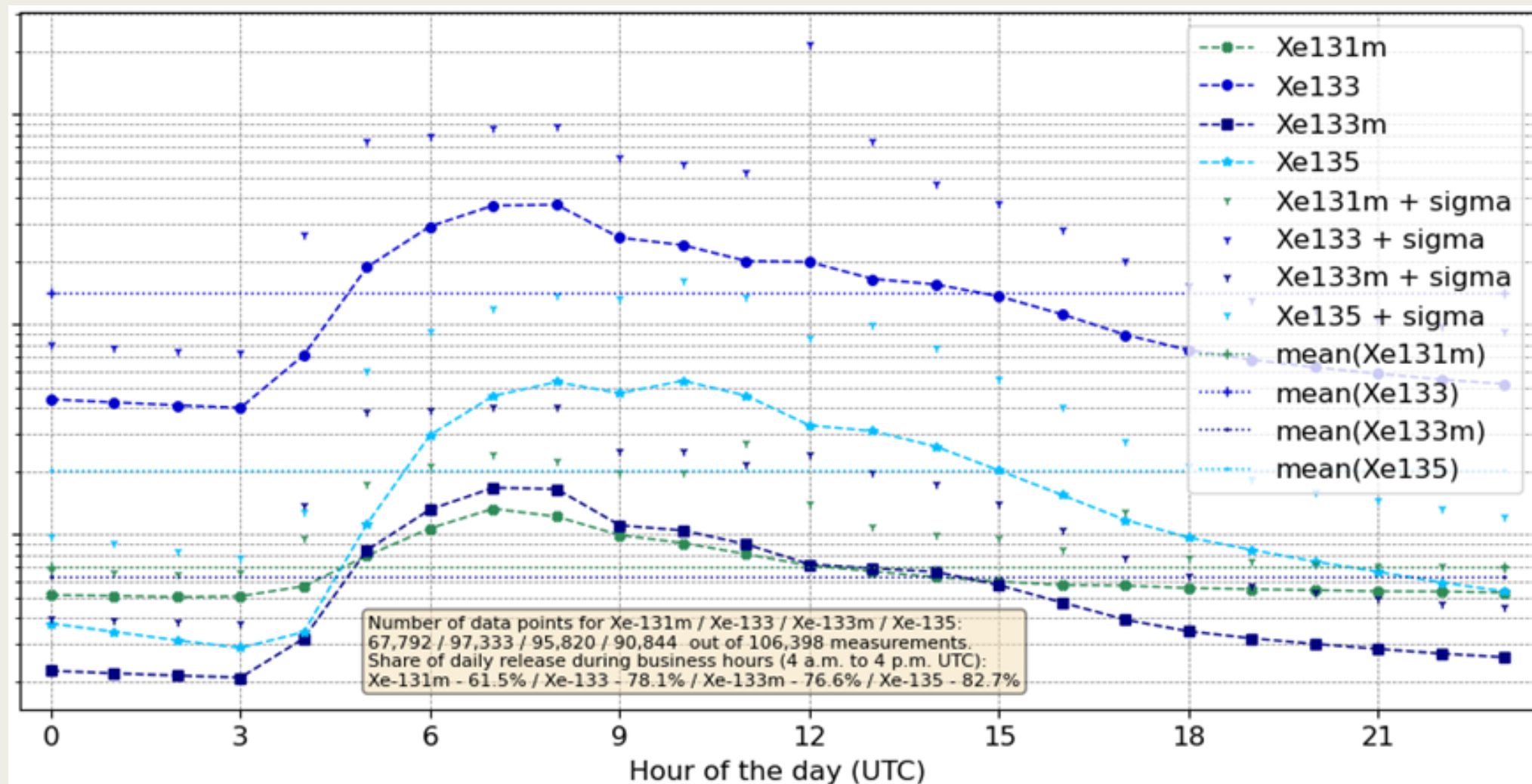




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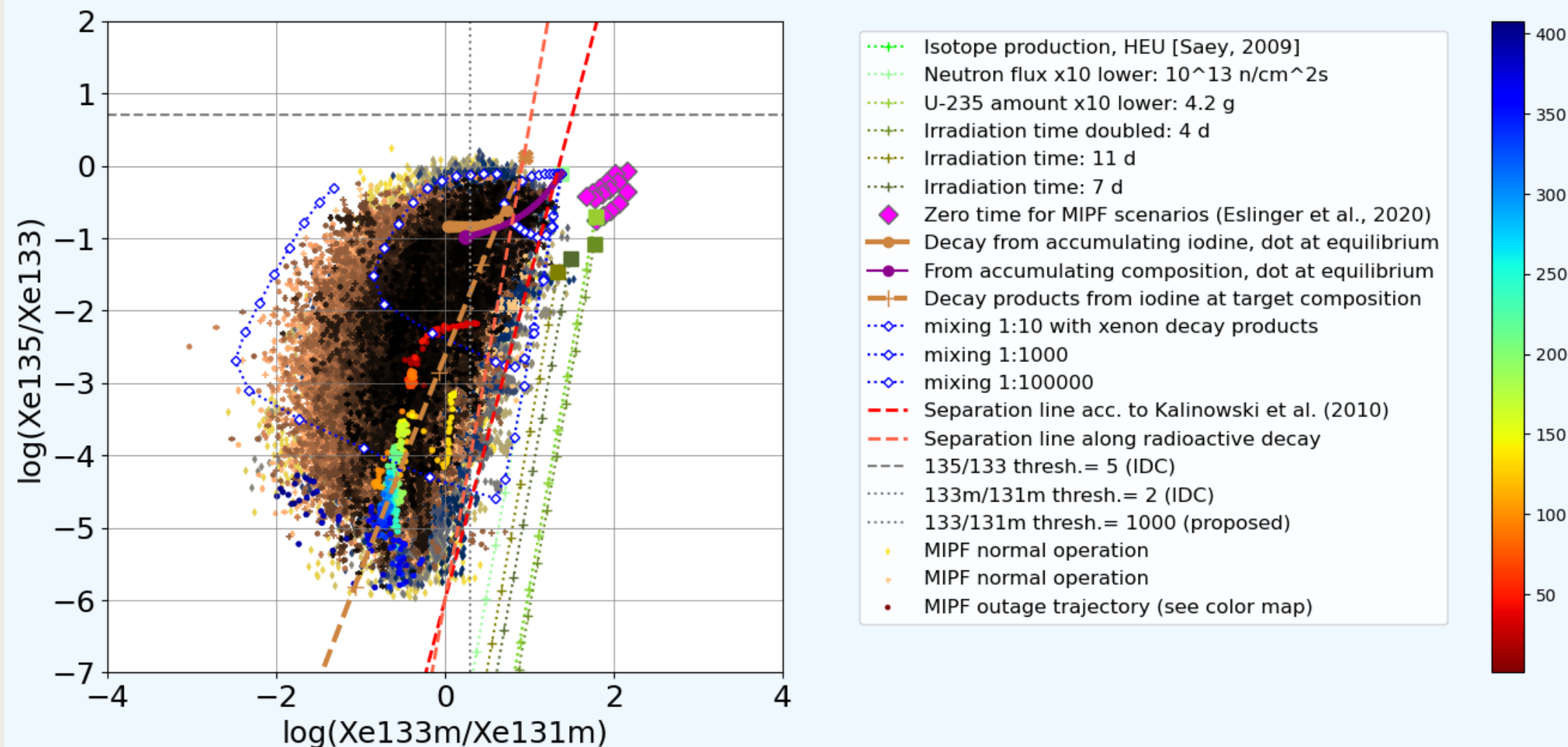


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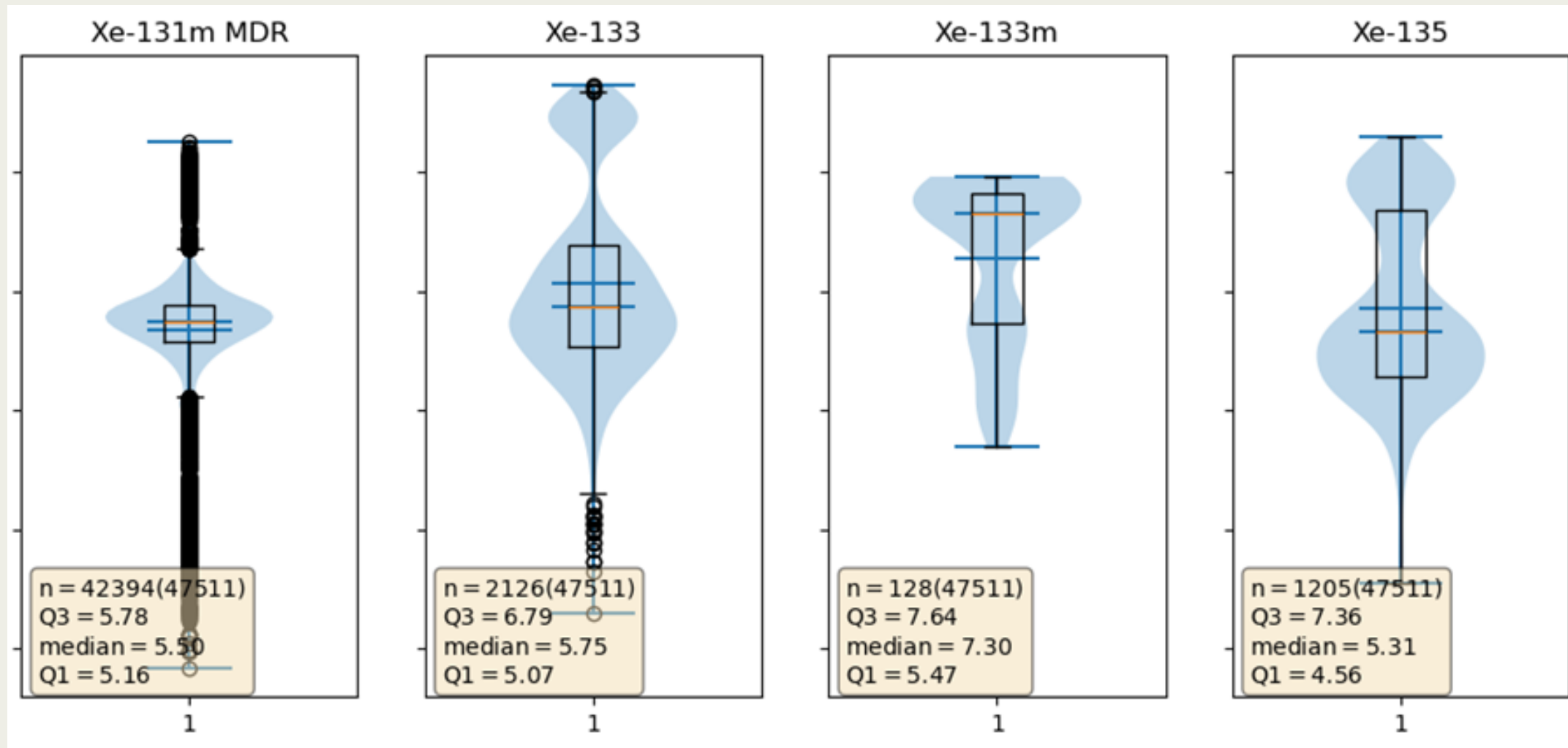
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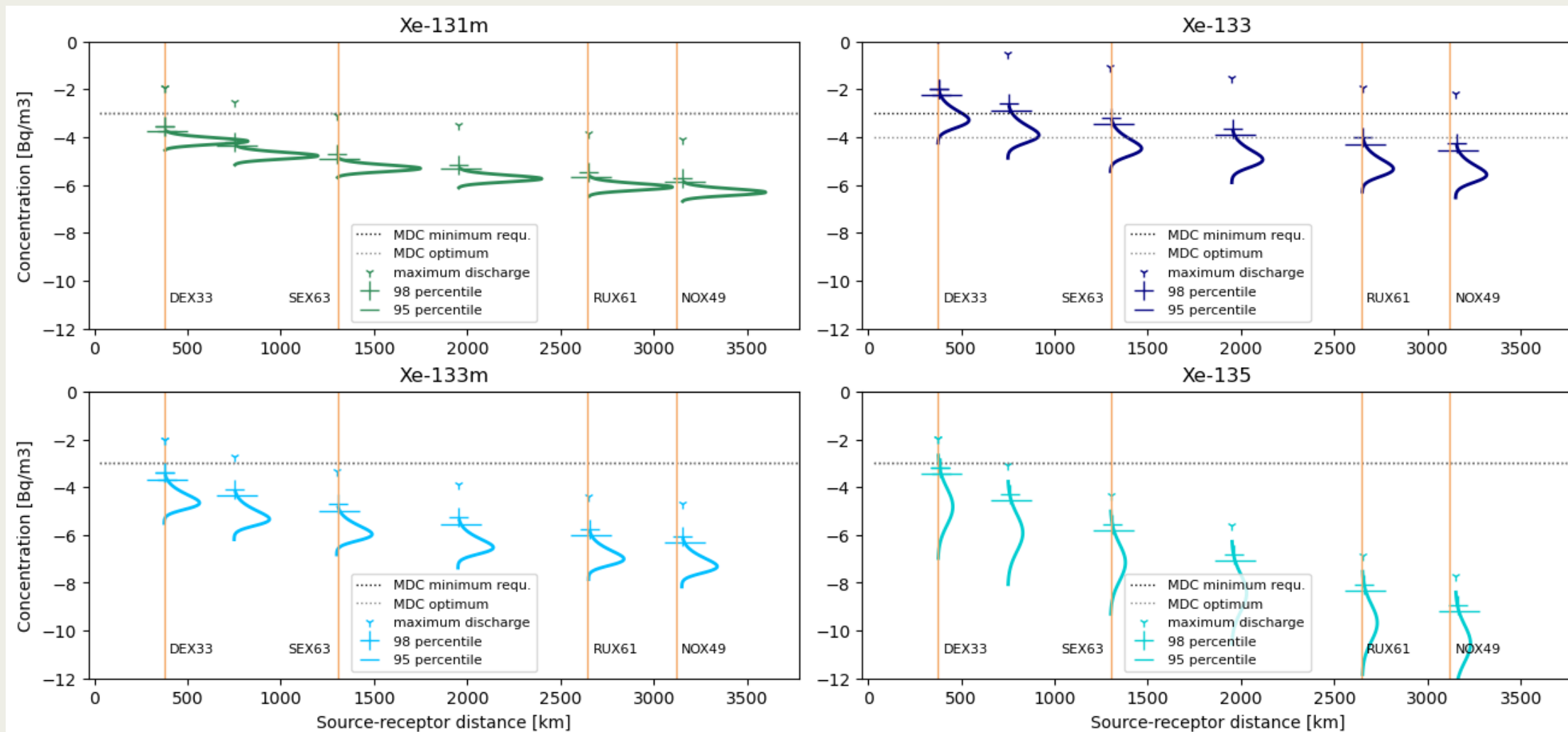


Combined violin and box-and-whisker plots showing the distribution of the logarithmic activity release rates in Bq/h of an NPP.



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Eslinger, P. W., Bowyer, T. W., Cameron, I. M., Hayes, J. C., & Miley, H. S. (2015). Atmospheric plume progression as a function of time and distance from the release point for radioactive isotopes. *Journal of environmental radioactivity*, 148, 123-129.

Disclaimer: The views expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the United States Government, the United States Department of Energy, PNNL, or ISTI.

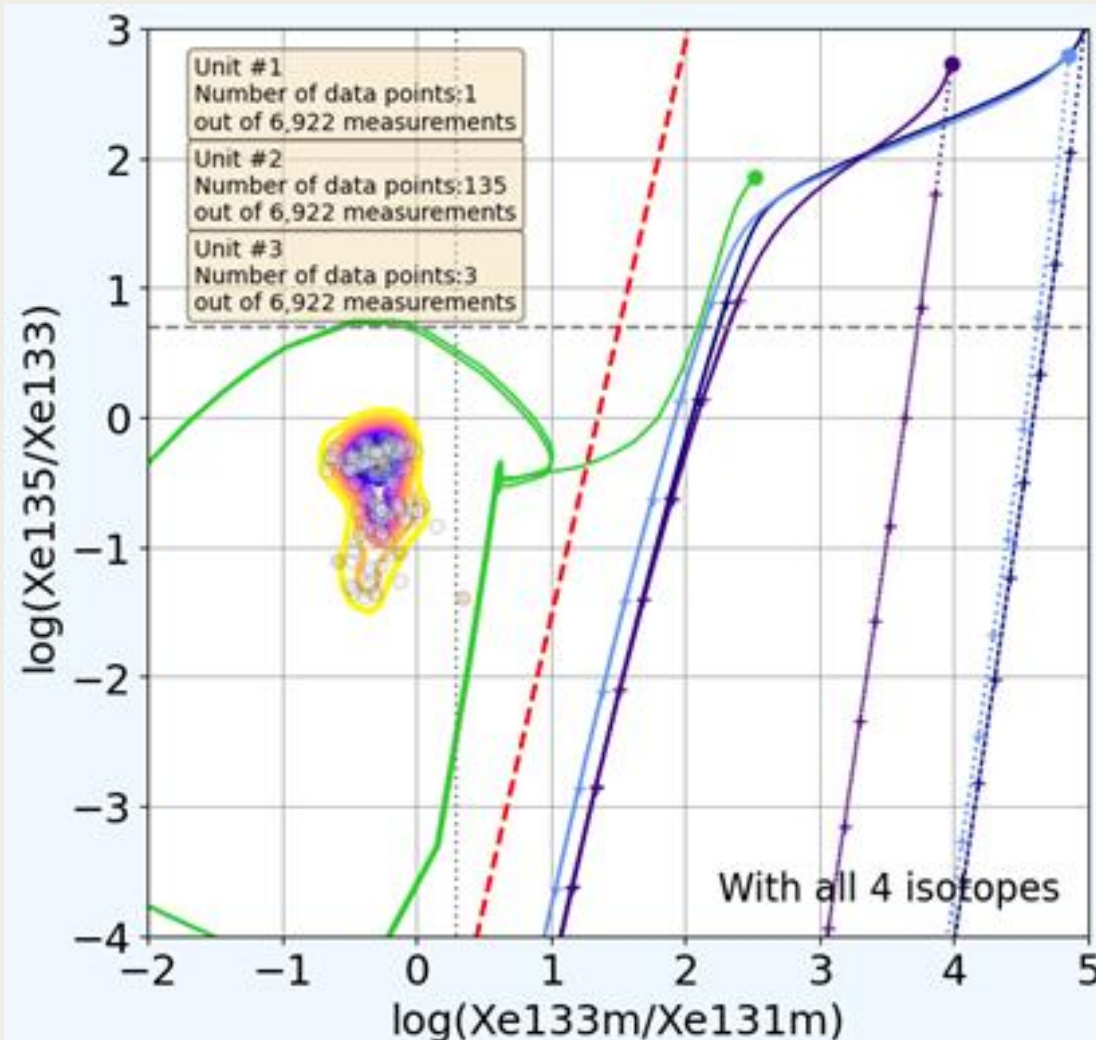
Concentrations resulting from the dilution factor as a function of distance using the method of Eslinger et al. (2015) are being applied to the skewed Gaussian fits of discharge rates of IRE. It shows which isotopes have chances to be seen at what IMS station.



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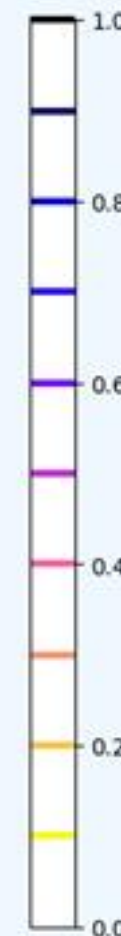
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P2.3-218



Please note that no Xe-131m was detected above MDR. The MDR is used instead.

- SES01 (1/2020-9/2024)
- SES02 (1/2020-9/2024)
- SES03 (1/2020-9/2024)
- LWR 4.5% enriched
- U235f full fractionation
- U235f ingrowth
- U238he full fractionation
- U238he ingrowth
- Pu239f full fractionation
- Pu239f ingrowth
- Separation line
- 135/133 thresh.= 5 (IDC)
- 133m/131m thresh.= 2 (IDC)
- 133/131m thresh.= 1000 (proposed)
- 133m/133 thresh.= 0.3 (IDC)
- 133m/133 thresh.= 0.03 (closer)

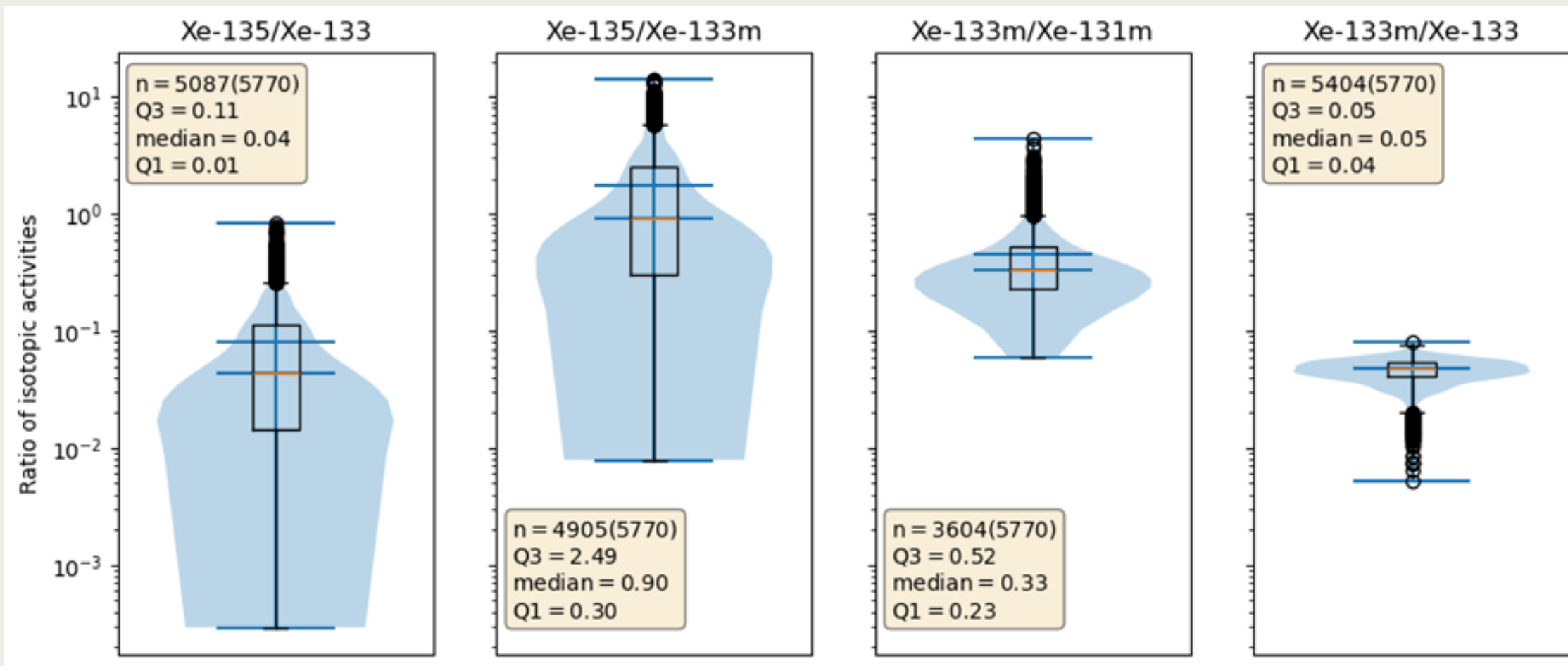


MDR = minimum detectable release.

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