

BENCHMARK SCENARIO
“POPULATION RESPONSE
TO CHRONIC
RADIATION EXPOSURE”

Preliminary
model comparison

Benchmark scenario "Population response to chronic irradiation".

Populations of the following species are subjected to chronic low-LET radiation exposure with dose rates 10, 20, 30, 50 mGy/day:

- Generic mice population;
- Generic hare/rabbit population;
- Generic wolf/wild dog population;
- Generic deer population.

Before irradiation, each population was in stable state, consisting of 1000 animals, which corresponds to the carrying capacity of the ecosystem.

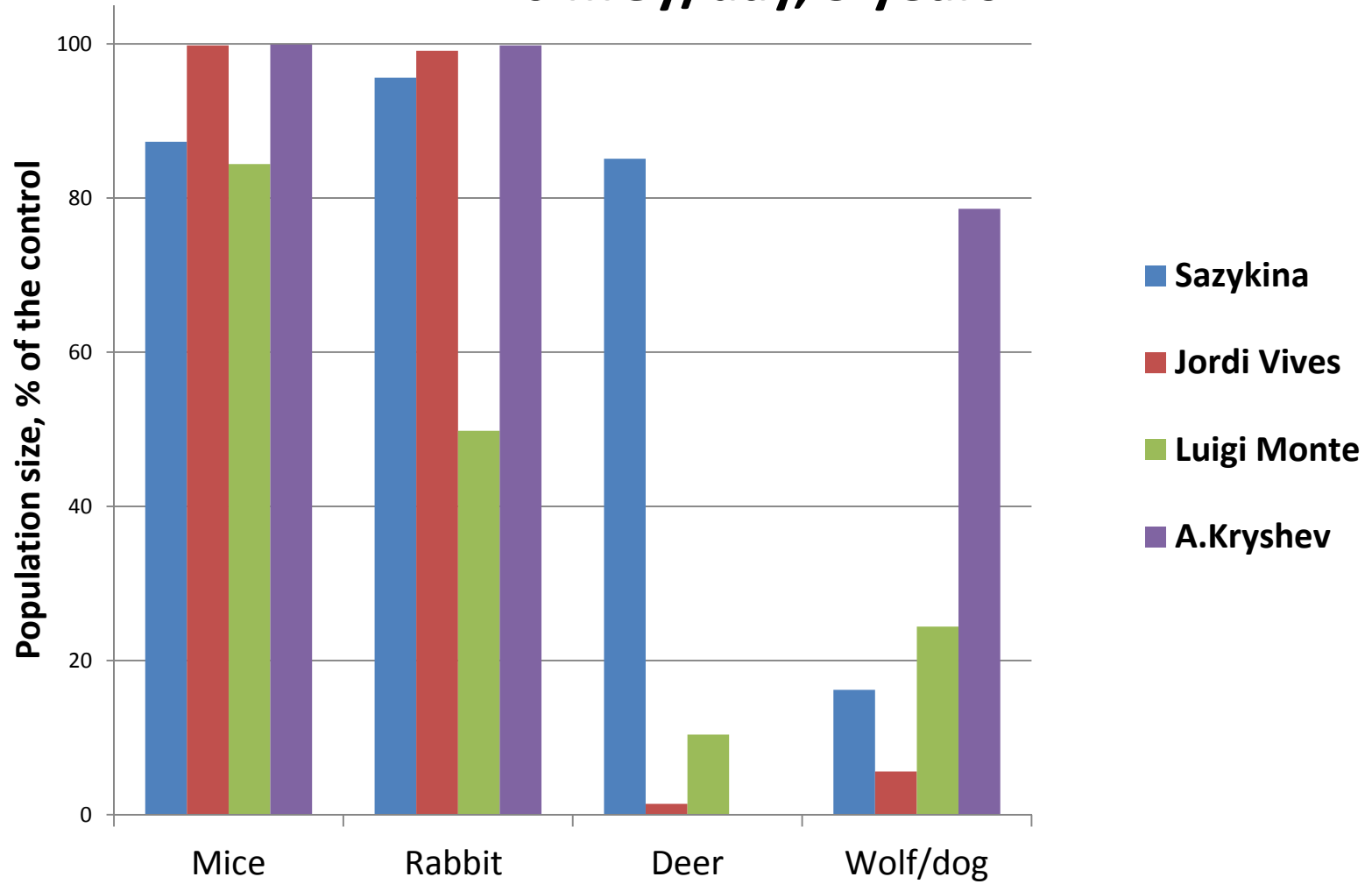
The duration of exposure is 5 years.

Calculate the following benchmark endpoints:

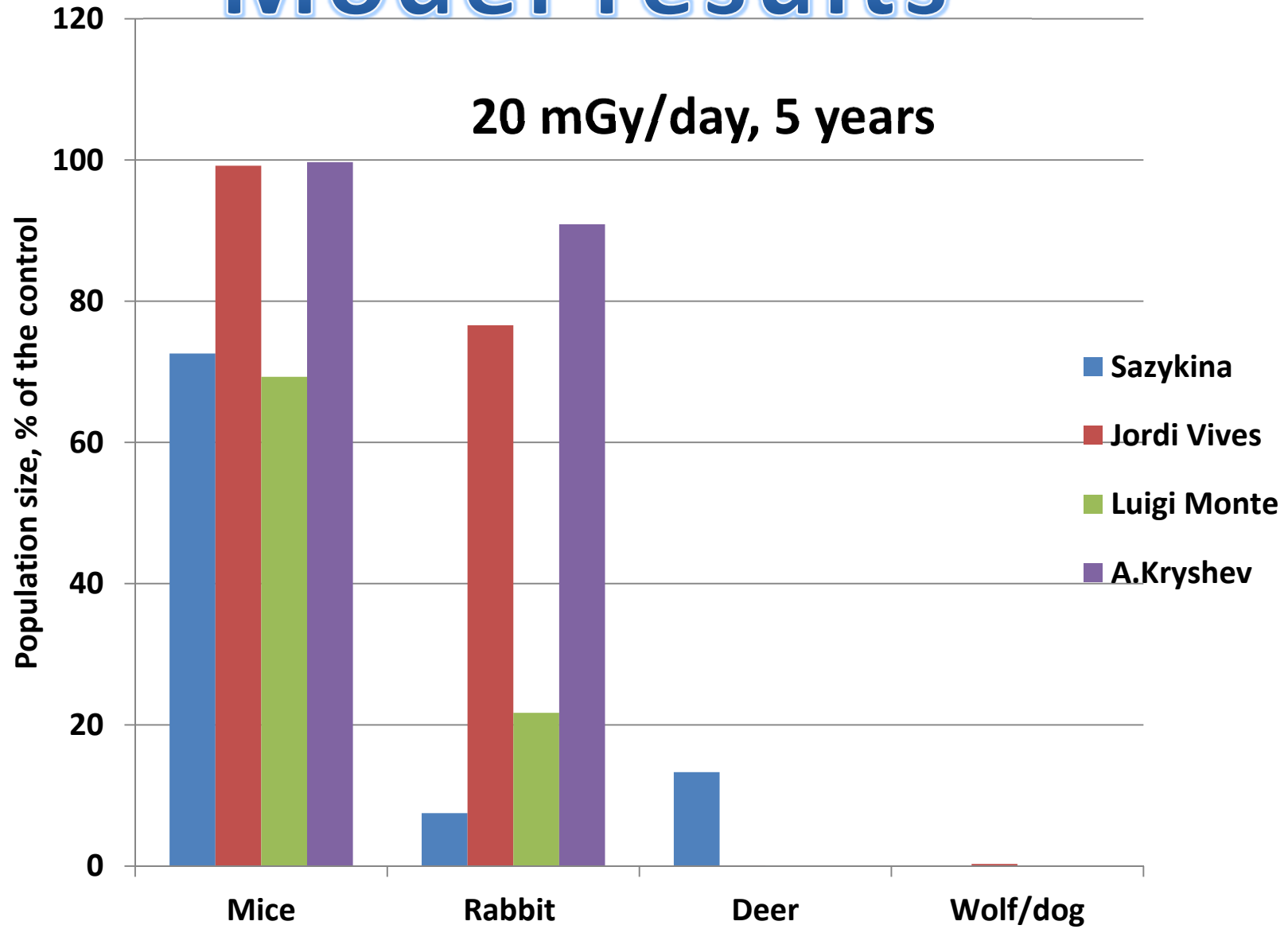
- Size of each population, in % of the initial size for each dose rate. (Control population size=1000).
- Population size is predicted for the following time checkpoints: the end of 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th years of exposure;
- After the exposure was finished, calculate the time for recovery of populations to their initial size.

Model results

10 mGy/day, 5 years



Model results



Preliminary conclusions:

- Population survival of short-lived species is better than that of long-lived animals;
- Dose rates about 10 mGy/day for 5 years produced significant reduction of wolf/dog and deer populations; populations of mice and rabbits survived at 80-100% of the control.
- Dose rate 20 mGy/day for 5 years produced considerable reduction of all populations, excepting short-lived mice, which survived at levels above 70% of the control.