

The Remote Atmospheric and Ionospheric Detection System aboard the ISS

Jun 3, 2009

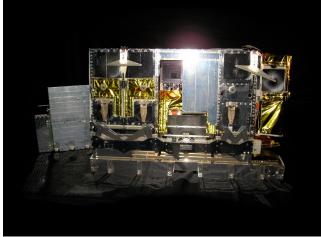


Figure 1: The RAIDS experiment after refurbishment was completed in July, including both the scan head and IR Detector Box (left side).

Introduction

After a long hiatus since the last *RAIDS Update*, we are pleased to report that several key milestones have been successfully completed. *RAIDS is ready to fly!*

During the summer of 2008 all refurbishment activities were concluded on the RAIDS hardware, and the experiment-level environmental qualification testing was successfully completed. Last September RAIDS was integrated into the HICO-RAIDS Experiment Payload (HREP). Payload-level environmental tests were conducted at the Naval Center for Space Technology facilities at NRL and completed in January.

After the completion of export-related paperwork in mid-April, HREP was flown, ferried, and trucked to the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) Tanegashima Space Center (TNSC) in Japan. HREP passed post-shipment testing, ground processing by the HREP and RAIDS teams, and final inspections. On May 12, 2009 by mutual agreement between NASA and JAXA, HREP was transferred for launch on the H-II Transfer Vehicle (HTV), and JAXA and NASA signed the Certificate for Flight aboard HTV-1.

In these remaining months prior to launch, the RAIDS Team will focus upon preparing for mission operations, data management and distribution, and data product algorithms. The HREP nominal mission is only one year long, although an extension up to three years may be possible. Our chief goal for the next five months is to be prepared for science data analysis before HREP is commissioned on the Space Station.



Figure 2: HREP (with RAIDS visible) is lowered onto the Experiment Pallet in a clean room at Tanegashima Space Center, Japan in May, 2009.

Current Status

The major refurbishments to the RAIDS sensors and IR Detector Box were completed by June 2008. Most of the planned modifications were successfully achieved, including optional tasks. Most importantly, the new 765nm photometer filter was installed, the IR detector box was outfitted with a better radiator, and the bad photomultiplier tube was replaced. Two proposed refurbishment tasks were not performed. First, the drive electronics' scan profile was not customized, after the work was determined to be difficult and risky. Second, the FUV detector was found to be performing well and needed no refurbishment, though the low sensitivity at short wavelengths persists in the FUV spectrograph.

Aerospace refurbished and qualified the RAIDS IR Detector Box in Los Angeles, then delivered the component to NRL in mid-June. In mid-September RAIDS was integrated into HREP, followed by environmental testing at the payload level: electromagnetic testing in September, vibration testing in October, and thermal-vacuum testing in November-January. The payload underwent command/data handling and electrical testing at Marshall Spaceflight Center in February and March. HREP shipped to Japan for delivery, post-ship testing, and final inspections. Currently, HREP is integrated onto the Experiment Pallet for its flight aboard the HTV.

The RAIDS sensors, scan hardware, and electronics continue to perform well, with no serious anomalies. HREP/RAIDS ground system development and testing continues as we address network security issues.

Program Milestones

A brief overview of major milestones in this fast-paced program follows, highlighting activities for the RAIDS Science Team (orange), RAIDS hardware (yellow), and HREP (blue):

2007-Jan-23	RAIDS Science Team Meeting
2007-Mar-30	HREP Kickoff TIM
2007-May-02	RAIDS Science Team Meeting
2007-Jun-20	RAIDS Refurbishment Review
2007-Aug-06	RAIDS Modification Design Review (PDR-level)
2007-Aug-08	HREP PDR
2007-Sep-15	HREP PDR JAXA
2007-Dec-18	HREP Phase 0/1 Safety Review
2007-Nov-14	RAIDS Critical Modification Review (CDR-level)
2007-Dec-10	RAIDS ΔCritical Modification Review (CDR-level)
2008-Jan-14	HREP CDR
2008-Feb-04	HREP Critical Interface Review JAXA
2008-Apr-07	RAIDS Test Readiness Review
2008-May-29	HREP Phase 2 Safety Review
2008-Jun-13	RAIDS Vibration Testing Completed
2008-Jul-26	RAIDS TVAC Testing Completed
2008-Aug-15	RAIDS Delivery to HREP
2008-Aug-20	RAIDS Support Proposals Meeting
2008-Sep-09	HREP Pre-Environmental Review
2008-Oct-02	HREP EMI Testing Completed
2008-Oct-23	RAIDS Science Team Meeting
2008-Oct-31	HREP Vibration Testing Completed
2009-Jan-06	HREP TVAC Testing Completed
2009-Jan-12	RAIDS Special Modes Tests
2009-Jan-21	HREP Phase 3 Safety Review
2009-Jan-29	HREP Pre-Ship Review
2009-Feb-23	HREP POIC Testing Complete
2009-Mar-05	HREP Ground System Review
2009-May-12	HREP Handover to JAXA



Figure 3: The HREP Team stands with the payload integrated to the Experiment Pallet, showing RAIDS ready for flight with its red tag items removed.

Upcoming Events

2009-Jun-13	Kibo JEM-EF launch on STS-127. <i>This flight also carries NRL's</i> <i>Atmospheric Neutral Drag Experiment</i> <i>calibration spheres.</i>
2007-Sep	DMSP F-18 Launch RAIDS will contribute to the SSULI Calibration-Validation effort.
2007-Sep	HREP Launch on HTV-1 Specific launch date not identified

Mission Overview

RAIDS is a multispectral (50-870 nm) remote sensing experiment to study the Earth's thermosphere and ionosphere—regions of the atmosphere with high societal relevance due to their effects upon communications, navigation, and satellite drag. The eight RAIDS sensors scan or image the limb of the Earth to measure vertical profiles of naturally occurring airglow spectra from atmospheric gases. RAIDS will make global measurements of the temperature and composition of the lower thermosphere, along with more limited measurements of the ionosphere. RAIDS data will be available in real-time with 60-70% coverage, with the remaining data dumped from onboard recorder. The environmental data products and scientific results from the RAIDS experiment will contribute to on-going programs to study the neutral upper atmosphere and ionosphere and will support operational space weather programs.

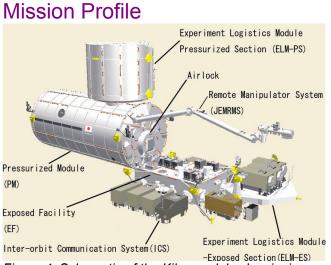


Figure 4: Schematic of the Kibo module showinging the JEM-EF and the payload attachment concept (Graphic credit: NASA.)

RAIDS has been approved by NASA and JAXA for for a September 2009 flight aboard the unmanned Japanese HTV-1 flight to the International Space Station, where RAIDS will operate from the Japanese Experiment Module – Exposed Facility (JEM-EF, Figure 4). RAIDS will fly with a companion experiment from NRL, the Hyperspectral Imager of Coastal Ocean (HICO). Both experiments will operate inside the HICO-RAIDS Experiment Payload (Figure 3), which is a structure about the size of a refrigerator that provides power and communications between the two experiments and the space station. RAIDS views aft (anti-RAM) from the open end of HREP.

After the HTV docks to the space station, an astronaut will use a robotic manipulator arm to remove HREP from the HTV and attach it to the JEM-EF. HREP will first be placed at a temporary location on the JEM-EF until astronauts have an opportunity to place HREP into its final location at Port #6. One year of mission operations will be provided by the Space Test Program, though the experiments could potentially operate aboard the ISS for a much longer period of time, if additional funding is secured. After mission operations cease, the payload is decommissioned and placed in a safe configuration, and the manipulator arm will load it into an empty HTV for de-orbiting and disposal by atmospheric re-entry.

Other Related Experiments. A number of contemporaneous experiments are expected to provide measurements that can complement RAIDS remote sensing observations or provide validation, context, or missing information relevant to RAIDS science. As the various hardware programs have progressed, we now have more definitive information about mission plans.



Figure 5: Deployment of ANDE calibration spheres on STS-116 in December 2006.(Photo credit: NASA)

During the RAIDS mission the Atmospheric Neutral Density Experiment (ANDE) from NRL will measure in situ thermospheric composition, total density, and winds in the ISS orbital plane over the course of approximately a year. In addition, the Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP) F18 satellite is scheduled to carry the Special Sensor Ultraviolet Limb Imager (SSULI) to orbit in September 2009, and RAIDS is expected to contribute to the SSULI Calibration/Validation effort.

Flying aboard the JEM-EF with RAIDS will be the Superconducting Submillimeter-wave Limb Emission Sounder (SMILES) experiment, which measures trace gases in the stratosphere. Future payloads on the JEM-EF facility include the Space Environment Data Acquisition equipment-Attached Payload (SEDA-AP), a Japanese experiment to measure the local space environment (plasma, atomic O, etc.) in the ISS orbit. In the third year of RAIDS operations Japan's lonospheric, Mesosphere, Atmosphere, and Plasmasphere mapping (IMAP) experiment is planned to operate in the JEM port next to RAIDS, opening the possibility of collaborative science, such as volumetric remote sensing and cross-calibration.

RAIDS Science

RAIDS was originally conceived and built as a global remote sensing demonstration platform and as a survey experiment to completely characterize the aeronomically important species in the thermosphere and ionosphere. Nowadays, space science missions are generally expected to have objectives which are more tightly-focused than those of the original RAIDS mission. Though a global comprehensive thermospheric and ionospheric survey has never been performed, various space experiments over the last 15 years have advanced our understanding of the thermosphere. Yet compelling, fundamental science questions remain concerning (1) the structure of the thermosphere and ionosphere, (2) their responses to solar and geomagnetic forcing, and (3) the effect of tides and gravity waves upon the upper atmosphere. The RAIDS experiment will measure the composition, density, and temperature from which chemical and dynamical effects can be modeled or inferred to address aspects of these questions.

ISS Mission Science Objectives

The International Space Station platform is not wellsuited to high latitude (auroral) or ionospheric observations due to its 51.6° orbital inclination and low 330-425 km orbital altitude. Consequently, the ability of RAIDS to address the science questions above will be limited to what can be accomplished in low- to midlatitudes and in the lower portion of the thermosphere and ionosphere. As discussed at the August 2008 RAIDS Science Team Meeting, our mission objectives have been refined for this ISS mission:

Primary Objective: Measure the lower thermosphere temperature over altitudes 100-200 km to study the vertical temperature and compositional structure, the thermospheric response to solar UV variability, and search for the effect of tides and waves on the lower thermosphere.

Secondary Objective: Measure the O+ initial 83.4nm emission source in the lower F region ionosphere separately from the multiple scattering 83.4nm source near the F-region peak to validate remote sensing of the dayside ionosphere.

Secondary Objective: Measure the global distribution of minor species in the thermosphere to understand their role in chemical and ionic reaction in the lower thermosphere and ionosphere.

The primary objective of temperature measurements in the lower thermosphere is highly relevant to current community interest in the effects of tides on the thermosphere and ionosphere (Immel et al. 2006), the development and validation of improved empirical models of the thermosphere (Picone et al. 2002, Lean et al. 2006), and understanding the heat balance in the thermosphere with respect to global climate change and satellite drag (Qian et al 2006).

Mission Success Criteria

Based upon the scientific objectives and the instrument complement, we have developed mission success criteria. These criteria define the altitude range covered, the type of limb scan used, and the period of operation necessary to address the scientific objective. The success criteria also flow down to define other RAIDS mission requirements and provide guidance in prioritizing refurbishment tasks, mitigating technical risk, and planning mission operations.

HREP is a Class-D space experiment, which is defined as a higher-risk, minimum-cost effort. The characteristics of Class D experiments usually involve short operational life, low complexity, single-string designs, lowest cost, and short development schedule —all features of the HREP/RAIDS program. This HREP and RAIDS mission is not being designed to *ensure* comprehensive success.

However, RAIDS was originally built to approximately Class-B standards using rad-hard parts and built-in redundancies. Therefore, we fully expect RAIDS to far exceed its minimum success criteria. Minimum Success was achievable by RAIDS even before the RAIDS hardware refurbishment activities.

	Minimum Success	Comprehensive Success						
Primary Objective	Thermosphere Temperature & Composition with Variability	Thermosphere Temperature & Composition with Variability						
	 100-200 km alt. discrete altitudes 30 days continuous 	 100-350 km alt. full altitude scan 1 year continuous 						
Secondary Objective	Dayside lonosphere Initial O+ 834 Source	Dayside & Nightside Ionosphere Variability						
	 200-350 km alt. full altitude scan 1 day 	 200-350 km alt. full altitude scan 1 year 						
Secondary Objective	MLTI Chemistry and Microphysics	MLTI Chemistry and Microphysics						
	 100-200 km alt. discrete altitudes 2 weeks 	 100-350 km alt. discrete altitudes 1 year 						

 30-day minimum time for Primary Science Objective was defined by ISS precession rate to achieve 24-hour local time coverage, excluding sun-safe periods. (Not merely 30 random days over a one-year period.)
 At least 80% data coverage expected.

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RAIDS Operations

Mission operations is an area of extensive on-going work. The missions operations are expected to occur in roughly four phases:

 RAIDS Checkout & Commissioning. Once on-orbit and attached to Port #6 on the JEM-EF, HREP/RAIDS will undergo a thorough operational checkout, followed by a period where tunable parameters (such as scan angle range) are optimized.

2. Thirty Days to Success.

Due to the high-risk nature of the HREP flight opportunity, RAIDS will focus upon a set of observations to achieve minimum mission success quickly. This mode is expected to gather complete spectral scans at a limited set of discrete altitudes.

3. Regular Mission Operations.

After the period of discrete altitude spectral data, RAIDS will move into operations performing continuous limb scans with spectrometers fixed at designated wavelengths.

4. Extended Operations and Campaigns. As opportunities arise, RAIDS may alter its operations to support observational campaigns or to follow-up on early observations. These plans are yet to be determined.

The RAIDS check-out plan is currently being adapted from the original plan for TIROS. The commissioning plan is a new effort as it depends upon ISS-specific constraints that must be taken into account. The Thirty Days to Success concept is defined, but some issues, such as how many and which discrete altitudes is under discussion by the science team. Regular mission operations for the primary science objective are straightforward, but them approach to accommodating the secondary objectives is open for discussion.

Command Capability. To supplement command modes already built into RAIDS, the HREP interface includes a scripting capability, which can send repeated sets of RAIDS commands. RAIDS will operate most of the time in a default mode, with regular shutdowns for sun-safing or ISS operations and occasional campaign observations. RAIDS has a number of built-in sequencer modes that were checked during integration and testing. In addition, we tested alternate limb scaning modes, such as an angle-restricted dither mode, which could improve the useful duty cycle for science observations.

RAIDS Sensor Capabilities

The refurbished RAIDS instrument complement will differ slightly from the 1992 configuration. In particular the 589nm sodium photometer has been replaced with a 765nm O_2 band photometer. Other changes include new photomultiplier tubes in the four the NIR instruments, new narrowband filters for the three photometers, and sensitivity loss in the FUV sensor.

EUV Spectrograph						
Passband	55-111 nm @ 1.25nm res.					
Field-of-View	0.1° x 2.4°					
Integration Time	0.5 sec					
Aperture Area	70mm x 70mm					
Telemetry Rate	2560 bits/sec					
Sensitivity	0.2-0.5 counts/sec/Rayleigh					
FUV Imaging Spec	trograph					
Passband	130-170 nm @ 0.7nm res.					
Field-of-View	4.0° x 0.1°					
Integration Time	64-90 sec					
Aperture Area	21mm x 25mm					
Telemetry Rate	4096 bits/sec					
Sensitivity	0.1-1.5 counts/sec/Rayleigh					
MUV Spectrometer						
Passband	190-317 nm @ 0.95nm res.					
Field-of-View	0.1° x 2.1°					
Integration Time	0.025 sec					
Aperture Area	42mm x 50mm					
Telemetry Rate	800 bits/sec					
Sensitivity	2-6 counts/sec/Rayleigh					
NUV Spectrometer	•					
Passband	295-399 nm @ 0.7nm res.					
Field-of-View	0.1° x 2.1°					
Integration Time	0.025 sec					
Aperture Area	21mm x 25mm					
Telemetry Rate	800 bits/sec					
Sensitivity	5-8 counts/sec/Rayleigh					

NIR Spectrometer								
Passband	722-874 nm @ 0.84nm res.							
Field-of-View	0.1° x 2.1°							
Integration Time	0.025 sec							
Aperture Area	21mm x 25mm							
Telemetry Rate	800 bits/sec							
Sensitivity	0.05-0.13 counts/sec/Rayleigh							
630 nm Photometer								
Passband	1.5 nm @ 630nm							
Field-of-View	0.2° x 2.1°							
Integration Time	0.1 sec							
Aperture Area	42mm x 50mm							
Telemetry Rate	200 bits/sec							
Sensitivity	4.03 counts/sec/Rayleigh*							
777.4 nm Spectrometer								
Passband	1.5 nm @ 777.4nm							
Field-of-View	0.2° x 2.1°							
Integration Time	0.1 sec							
Aperture Area	42mm x 50mm							
Telemetry Rate	200 bits/sec							
Sensitivity	2.57 counts/sec/Rayleigh							
765 nm Spectrome	eter (formerly 589 nm)							
Passband	1.5 nm @ 765nm							
Field-of-View	0.1° x 2.1°							
Integration Time	0.1 sec							
Aperture Area	21mm x 25mm							
Telemetry Rate	200 bits/sec							
Sensitivity	0.86 counts/sec/Rayleigh							
Notes: Sensitivities from	post-refurbishment calibration.							

Science Traceability Matrix

At the RAIDS Science Team meeting at NRL in October, 2008 and at a follow-up meeting in Redondo Beach in February, 2009 we developed a science traceability matrix. The goals of this exercise were:

 to connect science objectives to particular observational requirements and strategies;

- to prioritize and coordinate observational strategies for meeting science objectives;
- and to identify scientific leads to coordinate algorithm development and data analysis.

At this point we have iterated on the traceability matrix several times, sent it out for comment to the Science Team, and incorporated suggested improvements. Currently, the medium- and high-priority objectives in the science matrix are well-defined. However, there is a wide variety of lower priority science objectives that are associated with a surprisingly small number of (otherwise busy) science leads. If you see a science question in which you would like to participate, please contact the designated science lead. Some of the lower-priority, smaller-scope topics might work well for student or post-doc projects.

Upcoming Meetings

Time is short to prepare for mission operations and data analysis. With a guaranteed mission length of only one year, we will need to hit the ground running. Science Team members will be key to these efforts, and we have several opportunities in upcoming months to discuss, plan, and coordinate activities.

- CEDAR, Santa Fe, NM, June 28-July 2 RAIDS poster and oral presentations
- CEDAR, Santa Fe, NM, June 29 9:30-11:30am RAIDS Instrument Team meeting to discuss the Software Plan and mission ops status.
- SPIE, San Diego, CA, Aug 6-8 RAIDS papers on the new mission, UV sensors & algorithms, and NIR sensors & algorithms
- Aerospace, August (TBD, post-SPIE) RAIDS Science Team meeting. Finalize mission operations plan, discuss data products and data distribution, review algorithm status

We look forward to hearing from you as we move quickly toward launch and science operations.

- Scott Budzien, RAIDS PI Naval Research Laboratory
- Rebecca Bishop, RAIDS Aerospace PI
 The Aerospace Corporation
- Andrew Stephan, RAIDS Project Scientist Naval Research Laboratory

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Low Self-consistent understanding of nighttime Nighttime O emissions 1356, 911, 7774, 6300 150-350 @10 km Any complete night half of orbit half of			Mg+, Fe+, Na+, Ca+		90-350 @ 3 km	1000 km	consecutive	Stepped	Short		Scan	Scan					Bishop
Low Can 834 downward viewing be used to characterize HmF2 Dayside ionosphere density consistent with observations? Dayside ionosphere 0 density 300 and 7774 (and 911) altitude profiles B34 full limb scans; 617 optional mode? Disk view (sunsafe mode?) Any 40 scans w/ ground furth days Stare Either Stephar Low Aremistry and Minor Species 00 and 7774 (and 911) altitude profiles 150-350 @10 km 500 km ? 100 km 130 sec, 30 days Scan Long Y Y Straus Low What causes low latitude NO density enhancements? NO density profiles 2365 profile inversion? 90-175 @.?? km 1000 km 130 sec, 30 days Scan 2365 Bailey Low N+O recombination aeronomy at night delta-band, Hertzberg attributed profiles ?? ?? ?? ?? Delta 7600, bond Y yorker Y yorker			Nighttime O emissions	1356, 911, 7774, 6300	-	-	complete night	Scan	Long	Y				Y	Y		Stephan
Are first-principles models O2 and ionosphere consistent with observations? 6300 and 7774 (and 91) altitude profiles Inversion of altitude profiles, nighttime 150-350 @10 km 500 km ? 1 orbit/day, 30 days Scan Long Y Y Straus Important with observations? Intrude profiles 2365 profile inversion? 90-175 @ ?? km 1000 km 1000 km 130 sec, 30 days Scan Long Y Y Straus Low Hydrocarbons in the upper atmosphere? ?? ?? ?? ?? ?? ?? ?? ?? ?? ?? ??? ??? ??? ?? <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Disk view (sunsafe mode?)</td> <td>^e Any</td> <td>40 scans w/</td> <td>Stare</td> <td>Either</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Stephan</td>					Disk view (sunsafe mode?)	^e Any	40 scans w/	Stare	Either								Stephan
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Low What causes low allube NO density enhancements? NO density profiles 2305 profile inversion? 90-175 @ ?? Nill foldo kin days Scan 2305 Balley Low Hydrocarbons in the upper atmosphere? ?? ?? ?? ?? ?? ?? ??? ??? ??? ??? ??? ??? ??? ??? ??? ??? ??? ??? ??? ??? ??? ??? ??? ??																	
Low Hydrocarbons in the upper atmosphere? ?? ?? ?? ?? ?? ??? Low N+O recombination aeronomy at night delta-band, Hertzberg delta-band, Hertzberg titude profiles ??? ?? ?? ??? Delta band 7600, 8600- Y Yonker	Low V	Vhat causes low latitude NO density enhancements?	NO density profiles	2365 profile inversion?	90-175 @ ?? km	1000 km		Scan			2365						Bailey
Low N+O recombination aeronomy at night altricule profiles Emission altitude profiles ?? ?? ?? Scan? Delta 8600- Y Yonker	Low	hydrocarbons in the upper atmosphere?	??	??	??	??		??									????
	Low N	V+O recombination aeronomy at night		Emission altitude profiles	??	??	??	Scan?					8600-			Y	Yonker

This eye chart is the The RAIDS Science Traceability Matrix (version 0.2). It connects science questions, measurables, and and lists priorities and science leads for topics. The assignment of priorities incorporates diverse factors in addition to scie capabilities, technical risk, and staffing.