SECTION 1

PIMS Interaction with Principal Investigator Teams

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March 5th, 2002
MEIT-2002

- Microgravity Environment Interpretation Tutorial (MEIT)

An educational opportunity for PI teams and other interested parties to understand the reduced gravity environment.

- **Purpose**

  Present to PI teams information about the reduced gravity environment regarding the:

  - effect of acceleration on experiments
  - nature of the reduced gravity acceleration environment
  - methods of measuring the accelerations
  - methods of processing the acceleration data
  - methods of presenting/displaying the acceleration data
  - examples of the reduced gravity environment and experiment effects
MEIT-2002

- Microgravity Environment Interpretation Tutorial (MEIT)

- Content:
  - PIMS Interaction with Principal Investigator Teams
  - Working in a Reduced Gravity Environment: “A Primer”
  - Developing Microgravity Tolerance Specifications
  - Accelerometer Systems Description
  - Analysis of Acceleration Data: Quasi-steady & Vibratory
  - Various Reduced Gravity Platform Signatures
  - Fundamentals of Microgravity Vibratory Isolation and a Survey of Microgravity Vibratory Isolation Systems
  - PIMS ISS Operation & How to Access PIMS ISS Acceleration data
  - Impact of the Reduced Gravity Environment on Experiments
  - Predicting Residual Acceleration Effects on Space Experiments
  - ISS Microgravity Requirements and Current Environment Predictions
  - ISS Increments II and III Measured Environment: Quasi-steady & Vibratory
PIMS’ Missions are:

• To assist PI teams in understanding different aspects of measuring and interpreting the reduced gravity environment of various platforms and ground-based facilities.

• To provide interpretation of the reduced gravity environment and perform detailed analyses for general and specialized characterization.

• To educate PIs, Project scientists and associates about the reduced gravity environment through the annual gatherings:
  - Microgravity Environment Interpretation Tutorial (MEIT)
  - MicroGravity Measurements Group (MGMG)
PIMS Interaction with Principal Investigator Teams

- PIMS performs the project scientist role for the accelerometer instruments
- PIMS works with the science experiment principal investigators, project scientists, and other program participants to assist in the understanding and utilization of the acceleration data
- PIMS products include general and specific analyses, vehicle characterization, and mission summary reports
- PIMS conducts the Microgravity Measurements Group (MGMG) meetings to foster interchange of data and information within the microgravity environment community and to the microgravity science community
- PIMS conducts the Microgravity Environment & Interpretation Tutorial (MEIT) to convey significant features of the reduced gravity environment to the microgravity Principal Investigator teams and other interested parties
Principal Investigator Microgravity Services (PIMS)

Support NASA’s Microgravity Research Program Principal Investigators (PIs) by providing acceleration data processing, analysis, and interpretation for a variety of reduced gravity carriers and ground-based facilities, such as:

- Space Shuttle
- ISS
- Sounding Rockets
- Parabolic Flight-Path Aircraft (KC-135)
- Drop Towers
- Ground Testing
- Microgravity Emission Lab (MEL)
Principal Investigator Microgravity Services (PIMS)

Analyze acceleration data from a number of acceleration measurement systems, such as:

• Space Acceleration Measurement System (SAMS)
• Space Acceleration Measurement System for Free-Flyers (SAMS-FF)
• Orbital Acceleration Research Experiment (OARE)
• Microgravity Acceleration Measurement System (MAMS)
Principal Investigator Microgravity Services (PIMS)

Support the following disciplines:

- Biotechnology
- Combustion Science
- Fluid Physics
- Materials Science
- Fundamental Physics
- Astronaut Office
- International Partners
- Vehicle Dynamics
PIMS Interaction with Principal Investigator Teams

Platforms Supported
- Sounding Rockets
- ISS
- STS
- KC-135

Science Supported
- Combustion
- Materials
- Fluid Physics
- Vehicle Dynamics
- Fundamental Physics
- Microgravity Emission Lab
- Biotechnology

Platforms:
- Sounding Rockets
- ISS
- STS
- KC-135

Science:
- Combustion
- Materials
- Fluid Physics
- Vehicle Dynamics
- Fundamental Physics
- Microgravity Emission Lab
- Biotechnology
PIMS Functions During Experiment Life Cycle

**Pre-Experiment Services**
- Educate investigators about the platform environment
- Select proper acceleration measurement system
- Develop displays

**Experiment Operations Services**
- Perform real-time acceleration data processing
- Disseminate acceleration data via Internet
- Provide real-time and near real-time data analysis and environment feedback

**Post-Experiment Services**
- Maintain acceleration data archives
- Generate Mission Summary Reports
- Perform general characterization of the environment
- Perform detailed experiment specific analysis of the environment

**Post-Experiment Feedback**
- Update the environment knowledge base
- Incorporate new data display options
- Refine data analysis techniques

Existing Pre-Experiment Microgravity Environment Knowledge Base

Updated/Refined Post-Experiment Microgravity Environment Knowledge Base
PIMS’ support to PIs includes the following:

- Receive, Process, Analyze, and Interpret Accelerometer Data to Characterize the Reduced Gravity Environment of Various Platforms for the Investigative Teams.

**ANALYSIS SUPPORT:**

- Monitor the Reduced Gravity Environment in Real Time to Support PIs Operation (when needed)
- Provide Real Time Displays
- Provide Near Real Time Support
- Provide Post Mission Support
- Provide a Near Real Time ISS Reduced Gravity Environment Monitoring System (ISS MEMS) Via the PIMS’ web site (Future Capability)
PIMS’ support to PIs includes the following:

**DATA SUPPORT:**
- Provide easy access to plots of acceleration data from the PIMS’ web site
- Provide customized format plots to PI teams based on pre-mission inputs
- Publish Summary Report of Mission Acceleration Measurements

**EDUCATIONAL:**
- Annual Microgravity Environment Interpretation Tutorial (MEIT)
- Annual MicroGravity Measurements Group (MGMG)
## PIMS Plot Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Display Format</th>
<th>Regime(s)</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acceleration versus Time</td>
<td>Transient, Quasi-Steady,</td>
<td>• precise accounting of measured data with respect to time; best temporal resolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vibratory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interval Min/Max Acceleration versus Time</td>
<td>Vibratory, Quasi-Steady</td>
<td>• displays upper and lower bounds of peak-to-peak excursions of measured data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• good display approximation for time histories on output devices with resolution insufficient to display all data in time frame of interest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interval Average Acceleration versus Time</td>
<td>Vibratory, Quasi-Steady</td>
<td>• provides a measure of net acceleration of duration greater than or equal to interval parameter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interval RMS Acceleration versus Time</td>
<td>Vibratory</td>
<td>• provides a measure of peak amplitude for pure sinusoids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trimmed Mean Filtered Acceleration versus Time</td>
<td>Quasi-Steady</td>
<td>• removes infrequent, large amplitude outlier data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quasi-Steady Mapped Acceleration versus Time</td>
<td>Quasi-Steady</td>
<td>• use rigid body assumption and vehicle rates and angles to compute acceleration at any point in the vehicle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quasi-Steady Three-Dimensional Histogram (QTH)</td>
<td>Quasi-Steady</td>
<td>• summarize acceleration magnitude and direction for a long period of time</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• indication of acceleration &quot;center-of-time&quot; via projections onto three orthogonal planes</td>
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### PIMS Plots Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Display Format</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Power Spectral Density (PSD) versus Frequency</td>
<td>Vibratory</td>
<td>• displays distribution of power with respect to frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spectrogram (PSD versus Frequency versus Time)</td>
<td>Vibratory</td>
<td>• displays power spectral density variations with time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• identify structure and boundaries in time and frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative RMS Acceleration versus Frequency</td>
<td>Vibratory</td>
<td>• quantifies RMS contribution at and below a given frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequency Band(s) RMS Acceleration versus Time</td>
<td>Vibratory</td>
<td>• quantify RMS contribution over selected frequency band(s) as a function of time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RMS Acceleration versus One-Third Frequency Bands</td>
<td>Vibratory</td>
<td>• quantify RMS contribution over proportional frequency bands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• compare measured data to ISS vibratory requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal Component Spectral Analysis (PCSA)</td>
<td>Vibratory</td>
<td>• summarize magnitude and frequency excursions for key spectral contributors over a long period of time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• results typically have finer frequency resolution and high PSD magnitude resolution relative to a spectrogram at the expense of poor temporal resolution</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Principal Investigator Microgravity Services

Acceleration Measurement WWW links

- Microgravity Science Division at NASA Glenn Research Center
  - http://microgravity.grc.nasa.gov
- NASA Glenn Acceleration Measurement Program
  - http://microgravity.grc.nasa.gov/MSD/MSD_htmls/acceleration.html
- Principal Investigator Microgravity Services Home Page
  - http://microgravity.grc.nasa.gov/MSD/MSD_htmls/PIMS.html

Microgravity Environment References

- Microgravity Environment Description Handbook TM
  - Compilation of major microgravity environment disturbances, their sources, and their effects as measured on the Shuttle Orbiters and the Mir Space Station
  - NASA TM-107486 July 1997
- Acceleration Data Analysis and Presentation Techniques TM
  - Detailed description of acceleration data analysis techniques
- Mission Summary Reports
  - Mission specific characterizations for various Shuttle and Mir missions
# Principal Investigator Microgravity Services

## Acceleration Measurement WWW links

- **MAMS and SAMS**
  - [http://tsccrusader.grc.nasa.gov/pims](http://tsccrusader.grc.nasa.gov/pims)
- **PIs on-line acceleration data request form for MAMS and SAMS**
- **Microgravity Environment Interpretation Tutorial (MEIT)**

## Additional Links

- **Microgravity Meeting Group (MGMG)**
  - [http://www.grc.nasa.gov/WWW/MMAP/PIMS/MGMG/MGMG_main.html](http://www.grc.nasa.gov/WWW/MMAP/PIMS/MGMG/MGMG_main.html)
- **ISS Increment Mission Summary Reports**
  - [http://tsccrusader.grc.nasa.gov/pims/html/ISS_Reports.html](http://tsccrusader.grc.nasa.gov/pims/html/ISS_Reports.html)