

TIDI TIMED Doppler Interferometer





Experiment Overview

The TIMED Doppler Interferometer (TIDI) will investigate the dynamics and energetics of the Earth's mesosphere and lower-thermosphere-ionosphere (MLTI) from an altitude of 60 to 300 km. TIDI measurements will allow us to obtain a global description of the vector wind and temperature fields, as well as important information on gravity waves, species densities, airglow and auroral emission rates, noctilucent clouds, and ion drifts. TIDI will provide basic information about global winds and temperatures. TIDI will also contribute to the study of MLTI energetics.

Science Objectives

The TIDI interferometer (or Profiler) primarily measures horizontal vector winds and neutral temperatures from 60 to 300 km, with a vertical resolution 2.5 km at the lower altitudes and with an accuracy that approaches \sim 3 m/sec and \sim 3 K, respectively, under optimum viewing conditions. The TIDI design allows for 100% duty cycle instrument operation during daytime, nighttime, and in auroral conditions. TIDI views emissions from OI 557.7 nm, OI 630.0 nm, OII 732.0 nm, O₂(0-0), O₂(0-1), Na D, OI 844.6 nm, and OH to determine Doppler wind and temperature throughout the TIMED altitude range. TIDI also makes spectral ratio observations to determine O₂ densities and rotational temperatures.

Key Spacecraft Characteristics

Orbital Altitude: 625 km Circular Orbital Inclination: 74.1° Total Spacecraft Weight: 660 kg Spacecraft Size: Mid-Lite class Launch Vehicle: Delta II 7920

Description and Specifications

TIDI comprises three major subsystems: four identical telescopes, a Fabry-Perot interferometer with a CCD detector, and an electronics box. Light from the selected regions of the atmosphere is collected by the telescopes and fiber-optically coupled to the detection optics. The four fields of view are scrambled along with a calibration field input and converted to an array of five concentric circular wedges. This input then passes through a selected filter, then through a Fabry-Perot etalon, and is finally imaged onto a CCD via a circle to line imaging optic (CLIO) device.

TIDI System

Mass: Electrical Power: Heater Power: Data Rate: Observations:

Wind accuracy: Altitude Resolution: Spectral Range: Lifetime: 19.32 watts (orbit ave.) 11.0 watts 2494 bits/sec winds, temperatures, and density 3 m/s (line of sight) 2.5 km 550 - 900 nm >2 years

41.8 kg

Electronics System

Hybrid Power supply 80C51 (UTMC) Flight computer Data acquisition CCD controller Filter wheel/ shutters/ PWM heaters Telescope servo amp Calibration lamp power supply





National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) P.O. Box 3000 Boulder, CO 80305 Phone: (303) 497-1111 Fax: (303) 497-1194 Email: killeen@ucar.edu

2455 Hayward St. Ann Arbor, MI 48109 Phone: (734)-647-3960 Fax: (734)-763-5567 Email: <u>wskinner@umich.edu</u>

TIDI Key Parameter Summary

The filter wheels for TIDI contain a complement of fourteen interference filters carefully chosen to allow full daytime altitudinal coverage of neutral wind and temperature measurements throughout the MLTI. Setting the filter wheels to view the most appropriate emission within each altitude range optimizes the measurement. Altitudinal coverage during nocturnal periods is reduced since the terrestrial airglow exhibits a discrete layer behavior when sunlight is absent. Tables 1 and 2 summarize the TIDI measurements for dayside and nightside modes, respectively, by listing the altitude range over which it is possible to obtain useful measurements from each emission. In cases of overlap it has yet to be determined which emission will be viewed at a given altitude.

Dayside Science		
Measurement	Feature	Altitude Range
Vector Wind	O ₂ At (0-1) P11	60 - 85 km
	O ₂ At (0-0) P9	85 - 120 km
	OI (5577Å)	90 - 250 km
	OI (6300Å)	200 - 300 km
	OII (7320Å)	170 - 300 km
Neutral Temperature	O ₂ At (0-1) P11 and	60 - 85 km
	O ₂ At (0-1) P7	
	O ₂ At (0-0) P9 and	85 - 120 km
	O ₂ At (0-0) P15	
	OI (5577Å)	100 - 150 km
	OI (6300Å)	200 - 300 km
O ₂ Density	O ₂ At (0-0) VER	~100 km
	O ₂ At (0-1) and	60 - 90 km
	O ₂ At (0-0)	
O Density	OII (7320Å) and	150 - 300 km
	OI (8446Ă)	
O_3 and $O(^1D)$ density	O ₂ At VER	70 - 95 km

Nightside Science		
Measurement	Feature	Altitude Range
Vector Wind	OH Meinel (7-3)	80 - 90 km
	Na D	85 - 95 km
	O ₂ At (0-0) P9	85 - 105 km
	OI (5577Å)	95 - 105 km
	OI (6300Å)	200 - 300 km
Neutral Temperature	OH Meinel (7-3)	80 - 90 km
	Na D	85 - 95 km
	O ₂ At (0-0) P9 and	85 - 105 km
	O ₂ At (0-0) P15	
	OI (5577Å)	95 - 105 km
	OI (6300Å)	200 - 300 km
O Density	OH Meinel	80 - 95 km
	O ₂ At	85 - 100 km
	OI (5577Å)	90 - 105 km

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The TIDI telescopes perform limb scans through the terrestrial airglow layers throughout the satellite orbit. TIDI obtains these scans simultaneously in four orthogonal directions: two at 45° forward but on either side of the satellite's velocity vector and two at 45° rearward of the satellite. These four views provide the measurements necessary to construct the horizontally resolved vector winds as a function of altitude within the MLTI region along two parallel tracks, one on either side of the spacecraft. Each vertical scan consists of individual views 2.5° (horizontal, along the limb) by 0.05° (vertical, normal to the limb) in angular size. The vertical altitude resolution of the instrument is 2.5 km, but the altitude spacing between views will be adjusted to yield a measurement vertical resolution of half a scale height throughout the limb scan. The altitude step size will range from 2.5 km in the MLTI region to 25 km in the thermosphere. Each up/down acquisition cycle will take

100-200 seconds to complete, resulting in a nominal horizontal spacing between profiles of approximately 750 km along the orbit track. The exact time per vertical scan will depend on the mode being run and the integration or dwell time needed at each altitude step. Each up/down scan cycles through a sequence of filter tunings, selecting the optimal emissions to be viewed within each altitude range to allow rotational and/or Doppler temperatures as well as neutral winds to be retrieved.