

STEREO MOC Status Report
Time Period: 2014:307 - 2014:313

STEREO Ahead (STA) Status:

1. The following Ground System anomalies/events occurred during this reporting period:

- None.

2. The following spacecraft/instrument events occurred during this week. Note that the Ahead observatory is operating on the first side lobe of the HGA to prevent overheating of the HGA feed assembly.

- On day 309, the 73rd momentum dump was executed successfully at 2100z, which imparted a delta V of 0.097 m/sec.
- The average daily science data return for Ahead, while operating on the first side lobe on the HGA, was 47 Mbits during this week.

STEREO Behind (STB) Status:

1. The following Ground System anomalies/events occurred during this reporting period:

- None.

2. Detailed status of the activities that occurred on the Behind loss of communication anomaly, which occurred on day 274, are listed below. To ensure communications on the LGA during long term recovery efforts, the Behind track coverage will be reduced to 3 hour 70 meter supports for 3 days in a row each week commencing in week 46, on November 10th.

- On days 308 and 311, during the DSN 70 meter supports, recovery commanding was conducted on ensuring that the transmitter is in its operational configuration. No signal was received by the DSN radio science receivers.

Significant findings to date:

1. Analysis of the three DSN extracted telemetry frames from the carrier signal just before the planned observatory reset/anomaly occurred on day 274, October 1st, showed nominal performance of the spacecraft, i.e., no anomalies, IMU off, and the star tracker providing an attitude solution.
2. Post reset, from the very limited telemetry, three packets, extracted from the carrier signal by the DSN, the X-axis gyro on IMU-A had failed. Unfortunately, this telemetry contained only G&C anomaly data and no spacecraft summary data, i.e., the state of the RF, G&C, fault protection and other subsystems is not known at the time of the anomaly. With a failed IMU and the star tracker being off-line for an undetermined duration, the sun sensors will keep the observatory pointed at the Sun, though the G&C will not have any roll knowledge, and cannot roll the observatory as part of the safing configuration to re-establish communications on the LGAs. From analysis of this telemetry and initial G&C simulations, it is highly suspected that the observatory is rotating about the principal axis of inertia due to an autonomous momentum dump initiated by bad gyro data flagged good, but this has not yet been confirmed.
3. At least two anomalies occurred post reset, the star tracker not promoting to AAD mode and the X-axis gyro failure. Unfortunately, due to the number of possible combinations, the STEREO fault protection system is not designed for simultaneous failures.

The cause and effect analysis of the loss of communications from the LGAs is continuing. G&C simulations using the bad gyro data flagged good are continuing to better understand the potential impact to the observatory state. Recovery from a negative power state is also being investigated. Operational configuration changes to add robustness to the G&C rate sensor usage for the Ahead observatory are being developed.

Once communications are restored and the anomaly resolved, the operational plan for exiting the solar conjunction testing will continue to return the Behind observatory back to nominal science data collection as soon as safely possible.