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Microgravity Sciences onboard the International Space Station and Beyond (6)

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AN OVERVIEW OF THE KOREAN ASTRONAUT'S SPACE EXPERIMENTS

Abstract

A Soyuz TMA-12 spacecraft with the first Korean astronaut and two Russian astronauts was launched at Bikonur cosmodrome on April 8, 2008 and reached the International Space Station (ISS) two days later. And she came back to the Earth on April 19, 2008. During the 10 days stay on ISS, the Korean astronaut has completed 13 scientific experiments, 5 educational space experiments, and 3 kinds of international cooperation experiments successfully. That was the first Korean manned space experiments and those missions were the first step for making progress toward the manned space exploration in Korea. In this paper, we will introduce a full development process of space experiment such as mission selection, conceptual design of experiments, qualification test, and space experiment results.