

MICROGRAVITY SCIENCES AND PROCESSES (A2)
Microgravity Experiments from Sub-orbital to Orbital Platforms (3)

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AN OVERVIEW ABOUT BRAZILIAN MICROGRAVITY MISSIONS

Abstract

The Brazilian Microgravity Program was started in 1998 by the Brazilian Space Agency - *AEB*, having the goal to provide a regular sequence of flights opportunities to the Brazilian scientific community to perform experiments and test hardware facilities into microgravity environment. This paper intends to report the continuity of Program activities, giving a brief overview about the experiences and results accomplished on these missions and also showing the Program perspectives for the future. This paper reports the earliest orbital and suborbital flights [ISS Centenary mission (2006) and Sounding Rockets *Cumã II* (2007) and *Angicos* (2007) missions], and also brings some information about the last announcement of opportunity for sounding rocket and International Space Station flights. Although it is a national program, Brazilian Space Agency endorses international cooperation by encouraging the establishment of partnerships between Brazilian and international scientific communities. The *AEB* Microgravity Program has its activities performed by governmental institutions such as Institute of Aeronautics and Space - *IAE* and the Brazilian Space Research Institute - *INPE*, with the help of other scientific Brazilian institutions, such as the Brazilian Academy of Sciences - *ABC* and the National Council of Technological and Scientific Development - *CNPq*.