

## OTIC FILE CORY





#### SPACE SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CENTER

UNIVERSITY of WISCONSIN - MADISON 1225 West Dayton Street Madison, Wisconsin 53706

22 December 1987

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Dr. James Hollinger, Code 83-11 Naval Research Laboratory 4555 Overlook Ave., S.W. Washington, DC 20375-5000

Dear Dr. Hollinger:

In compliance with the bi-monthly reporting requirements of Contract N00014 86-2001, entitled "Validate Algorithms for the Determination of Rainfall Rates from SSM/I Microwave Satellite Imagery", enclosed is a progress report for the months of October and November, 1987.

If you have any questions or desire further information, please contact me at (608)262-0985. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John P. Roberts
Assistant Director

I of Pelesto

cc: Robert C. Lo, Code 7781-2 (1)

Administrative Contracting Officer, ONRRR (1)

Director, NRL (6)

Defense Technical Information Center, Code S47031 (12)

Achtor Olson 1550

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#### FINANCIAL PROGRESS REPORT

# October & November 1987 Progress Period

CONTRACT NUMBER: NOO	014-86-2001					
DESCRIPTION OF EFFORT: "Validate Algorithms for the Determination of						
	Rainfall Rates from SSM/I Microway	ve Satellite				
	Imagery"					
PROGRAM MANAGER: William	n Olson PHONE NUMBER	(608) 263–4085				
FUNDS ALLOCATED:		\$289,998.00				
FUNDS ON CONTRACT:		360,643.00				
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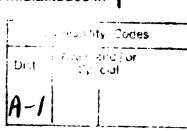
## Progress Report for October / November 1987

Since the end of September, our primary activities have been (a) amassing an extensive catalog of radar and raingage data over our primary and secondary validation sites (see Appendix) that correspond to SSM/I overpass times occurring between July 19 and Sept. 30, 1987, (b) ordering radar and calibrating raingage data for cases in this catalog, (c) ordering the SSM/I data for the same cases, (d) writing the software necessary for unpacking calibrated rain data from the United Kingdom, (e) upgrading the navigation of radar bins, based upon the geometry of radar beam propagation and the geodetic formulae of Sodano (Bull. Geodesique, 1965), and (f) imaging the 25 km resolution radar rain rate fields produced by our data merging programs (see Validation Software section). We are just beginning to analyze the radar data from our primary validation sites. comparing this data with the limited number of orbits of SSM/I data so far received. We are also continuing our cooperation with scientists of the Severe Storms Branch of NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center in order to expedite the radiative transfer modeling necessary for the analysis and improvement of the current rain rate algorithm. 🗻

#### **Validation Data**

We are beginning to collect high spatial- and temporal-resolution radar and raingage data from the primary validation site at Marshall, CO. The radar data are from the CP2 Doppler radar, and the raingage data are from the (PROFS) Mesonetwork of gages in north-central Colorado. We possess data for three cases and have ordered data for four more cases. Including secondary validation sites, our catalog contains over 180 radar-observed rain events at midlatitudes in





the United States that coincide with SSM/I overpasses.

We have received radar data from two cases at the primary validation site at Patrick AFB (Cape Canaveral), FL, with data from three more cases on order. We have identified over 70 rain cases in the subtropics with coincident SSM/I and radar/raingage coverage.

We have also received gage-calibrated radar data and calibrating raingage observations for the entire month of August, 1987, from the British Meteorological Office's network of six radars in the United Kingdom. Approximately 30 moderate- or heavy-rain cases have been identified which were covered by at least one of the network radars during SSM/I overpasses through Sept. 30.

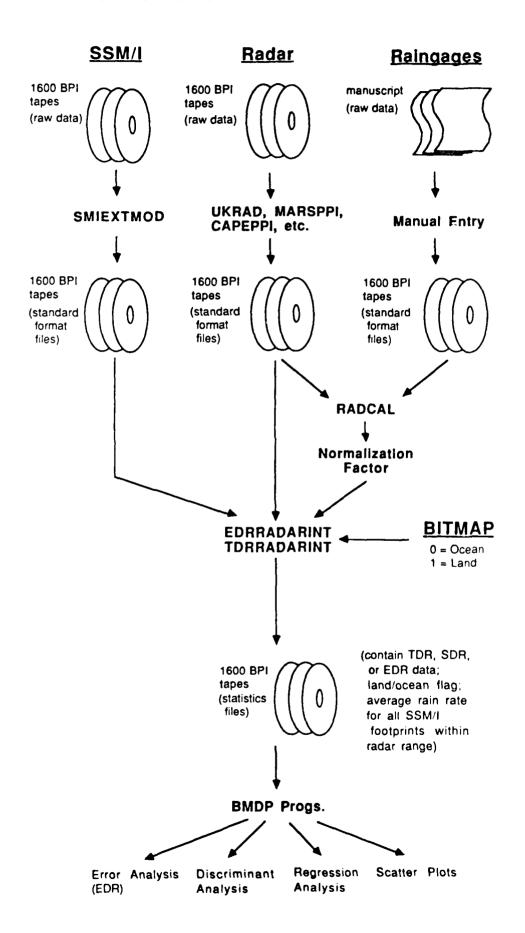
Acquistion of data from the Canadian radars and raingages will begin shortly.

In total, over 350 significant rain cases coinciding with both SSM/I overpass and coverage by the primary or secondary radars have been identified by our team of weather analysts. Contact with Australian authorities for data from the 5 Australian radars is currently underway. The outlook is good for acquistion of both radar and raingage data from the Australian sites in the near future. This is particularly important because the Darwin site is our only source of tropical rain data having sufficient quality for quantitative analysis.

#### Validation Software

A processing flow chart for data utilized in the SSM/I rain rate retrieval validation is shown on the following page. Software for unloading and processing the SSM/I data (SMIEXTMOD) and the radar (UKRAD, etc.) and raingage data issued from the primary validation sites has been completed. At present the standard format files created by the unpacking programs would be stored on magnetic tape to await subsequent processing.

## Schematic for SSM/I Validation



Data in the standard format files is merged to create statistics files using EDRRADARINT and TDRRADARINT. A radar rain rate normalization factor is computed using radar and coincident raingage observations (RADCAL) and input to the merging procedure to calibrate rain rates derived by radar at the SSM/I overpass time. A 5 n. mi. resolution bitmap is also called during the merging procedure to determine whether or not a given SSM/I footprint is over land or ocean. To date, the merging routines are operational and the bitmap can be accessed by these routines. The RADCAL procedure for determining the radar normalization factor should be completed shortly, pending a decision on what type of ground truth rain rate product is most appropriate for validation (see Future Plans and Goals section).

Statistics files resulting from the file merge would again be stored on magnetic tape. BMDP subroutines can then be invoked to statistically analyze the TDR, SDR, EDR, and rain rate ground truth data. The BMDP software package is currently on line.

#### **Future Plans and Goals:**

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During the next two months we expect that all validation software will be completed, and that we will have received enough SSM/I and ground truth data to statistically evaluate the current rain algorithm performance at our primary validation sites, at least for seasons during which the SSM/I is operating. A final decision will be made as to whether gage-calibrated rain rates derived from low-level PPI scans, CAPPI scans or both will be utilized in the algorithm validation. This decision will be based upon both a comparison of radar-derived rain rates from both PPI's and CAPPI's to raingage totals and an assessment of the availablity of both types of data.

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Regardless of the type of ground truth used, the large volume of satellite and radar data required for the validation will probably make it necessary to utilize an optical disk in order to store standard format, statistics, and image files. Optical disk storage is a cost-effective and space-saving alternative to magnetic tape for permanent file storage, and it allows faster access to data. The Vax computer system we have been using in the validation effort is equipped with an optical disk drive and controlling software which are used routinely.

As soon as sufficient data are received, alternative statistically-based algorithms will be developed and evaluated. Modeling support for alternate algorithm development will be provided in part by our colleagues at the Severe Storms Branch of GSFC.

## **Appendix**

## Validation Sites (\* indicates primary sites)

### U.S. (Midlatitudes)

Marshall, CO\*
Limon, CO
Amarillo, TX
Garden City, KN
Wichita, KN
Oklahoma City, OK
Monett, MO
Nashville, TN

### U.S. (Subtropics)

Cape Canaveral, FL\*
Tampa, FL

### Canada (N. Midlatitudes)

Exeter, ONT
Carp, ONT
Montreal, QUE
Villeroy, QUE
Trepassey, NFLD

## United Kingdom (N. Midlatitudes)

Hameldon Hill, Lancashire\* Chenies, Buckinghamshire\* Clee Hill, Shropshire\* Camborne, Cornwall\* Upavon, Wiltshire\* Shannon, Eire\*

## Australia (Tropics, Subtropics, Midlatitudes)

Darwin, NA Perth, WA Hobart, TAS Sydney, NSW Melbourne, VIC

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