



Status of the GRACE Follow-On Mission

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GRACE Follow-On, a joint US/German mission to extend the critical global mass flux data records from the GRACE mission, continues to mature and advance on both sides of the Atlantic. In early January 2012, GRACE FO was advanced by NASA to Phase A following the successful Mission Concept Review in late October, 2011. The key teams are now onboard for major spacecraft and payload system (microwave system, GPS, Accelerometer, and Laser interferometer system) development in both the US and in Germany, heading for System Requirements Review in May 2012, allowing transition to Phase B in summer 2012. In this talk, we will present the latest programmatic and technical status of the mission, with special attention to important improvements to observed systematic errors in GRACE, and potential impact to gravity field accuracy.