

RF02

Today was the second research flight. The launcher behaved itself this time, with no issues there. When loading sondes before the flight, there were a couple failures. One had a bad PTU (and refused to recondition). One had no blinking LED when the power pin was pulled (one had this problem on RF01 too, and was the only pre-flight failure then). One had the phone jack ripped off the board, as Jeff Smith had previously described having seen. All of the other sondes were functional.

During the flight, two sondes were dropped into convection (drop 12 and 32, sonde IDs 190510682 and 180450493 respectively). Both of these sondes failed at ~350mbar. The top of the drop worked well as expected, and then they both just stopped transmitting abruptly. This is especially concerning as we were 30/32 on this flight, and 0/2 for the interesting drops.