

ASTROPHYSICS SEMINAR

Tuesday, 18 Mai 2010 at 14:00

The JEM-EUSO Mission to Explore the Extreme Universe

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Abstract. The JEM-EUSO mission explores the origin of the extreme energy cosmic-rays (EECRs) above 10^{20} eV and challenges basic physics to the limit, through the observation of their arrival directions and energies. It is designed to observe more than 1,000 events of EECRs above 7×10^{19} eV in its five-year operation with an exposure larger than 1 million $\text{km}^2/\text{sr}/\text{year}$. The super-wide-field (60 degrees) telescope with a diameter of about 2.5 m looks down the atmosphere of the night-side of the earth to detect near UV photons (330-400nm, both fluorescent and Cherenkov photons) emitted from the giant air-shower produced by an EECR. The arrival direction map with 1,000 events naturally tells us the origin of the EECRs and allows us to identify the EECR sources to known astronomical objects. The comparison among the energy spectra of the spatially resolved individual sources will clarify the acceleration/emission mechanism, and also finally confirm the Greisen-Zatsepin-Kuzmin process for the validation of Lorentz invariance up to 10^{11} . Neutral components (neutrinos and gamma rays) can also be detected, if their fluxes are high enough. The JEM-EUSO mission is planned to be launched by a H2B rocket about 2015 and transferred to ISS by the H2 Transfer Vehicle. It will be attached to the external experiment platform of "KIBO" which was completed in July 2009 by the STS-127 mission of the space shuttle.

Additional Information

The seminars are given in the ISDC "Pavillon" building
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