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The Calibration of EUSO Balloon using airborne light sources mounted to a Helicopter

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The Extreme Universe Space Observatory (EUSO) Balloon was launched from Timmins, Ontario, Canada on the moonless night of August 24, 2014. Before the balloon reached altitude, a helicopter carrying UV flashers and a UV laser took off from Timmins and flew to the balloon. For the next 2.5 hours the helicopter circled under the balloon operating the UV flashers and a UV laser to simulate the optical signals from extreme energy cosmic rays. Many of these signals were recorded onboard EUSO Balloon and have been used to calibrate this instrument as discussed in this and another paper in this conference. This paper will describe the helicopter operations, flashers carried on the helicopter and the calibration of EUSO Balloon made using the flashers.

Collaboration

JEM-EUSO

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Primary author: Dr ADAMS, James (Univ. of Alabama in Huntsville)**Co-authors:** Mr HUIE, Douglass (University of Alabama in Huntsville); Mr JOHANNES, Eser (Colorado School of Mines); Mr KUZNETSOV, Evgeny (University of Alabama in Huntsville); Mr SAWATZKI, Jurgen (University of Alabama in Huntsville); WIENCKE, Lawrence (Colorado School of Mines); MUSTAFA, Malek (University of Alabama in Huntsville); Dr CHRISTL, Mark (NASA Marshall Space Flight Center); Prof. BONAMENTE, Massimiliano (University of Alabama in Huntsville); Mr RODENCAL, Matthew (University of Alabama in Huntsville)**Presenter:** Dr ADAMS, James (Univ. of Alabama in Huntsville)**Session Classification:** Poster 3 CR**Track Classification:** CR-IN