**Postdoctoral Scholar in the Department of Earth, Planetary, and Space Sciences, UCLA**

The BALBOA project of EPSS/UCLA is looking for a postdoctoral scholar in electrical and computer engineering. A postdoctoral candidate should complete his/her Ph.D. degree in the past year or soon complete it. The start date will be by agreement. BALBOA is a NASA funded balloon project for auroral investigations. The project provides an excellent opportunity for the candidate who desires to start and develop a career in the industry of space exploration.

The candidate should have good knowledge of Python and C++ scripting for accommodating and integrating different interfaces, software, and electronic elements. The candidate should have familiarity with and capability for payload software architecture design and development. We expect the candidate to have good communication skills, the ability and desire to work independently and as part of a multi-disciplinary team, and a willingness to expand into new fields.

The duration is one year with the potential renewal. Salary will follow standards for a postdoctoral researcher. To apply, candidates must submit (a) a cover letter, (b) names and contact information of three references, and (c) a CV. Applications will be accepted via the UC Recruit website at https://recruit.apo.ucla.edu/apply/JPF05328. Review of applications will begin upon receiving and continue until the position is filled. The preferred start date is immediate.

If applicants have questions, please email Dr. Xiaoyan Zhou at xyzhou@igpp.ucla.edu, who is the project principal investigator and has been dedicated to auroral science for 20 years. The BALBOA project is the first-ever dedicated balloon mission for imaging auroral under the Sun to investigate the solar wind-magnetosphere-ionosphere coupling. The enclosed figures provide a brief view of NASA balloons for interested applicants.
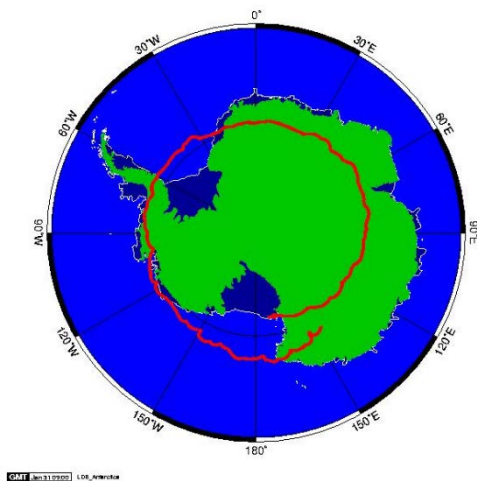
An example of the trajectory of a NASA balloon flight over Antarctica
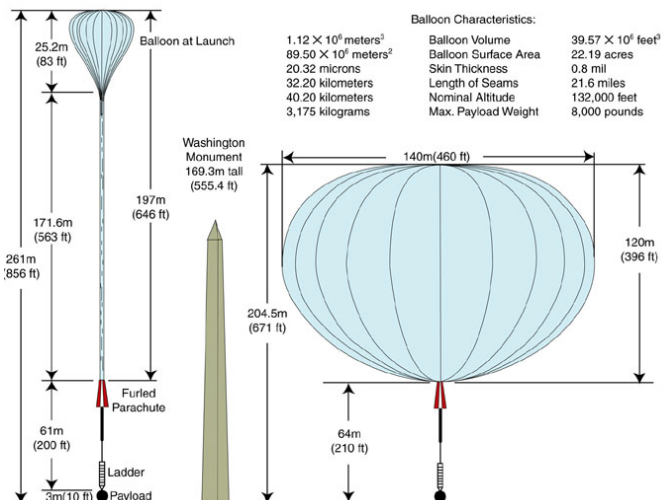
An example of NASA balloon characteristics