

New Taiwanese centre to probe origins of universe



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Taiwan President Ma Ying-jeou (2nd ...

Taiwan opened a [space research control centre](#) Tuesday, as part of an ambitious international project aimed at exploring the [origins of the universe](#).

Facilities at the [Payload Operations and Control Centre](#) in the [northern Lungtan township](#) started monitoring signals transmitted from the International Space Station immediately after the inauguration.

"This is a new milestone in [Taiwan's scientific and research development](#)," [President Ma Ying-jeou](#) said at the ceremony attended by several Nobel laureates and scientists from NASA.

The centre, the first of its kind in Asia, is part of the [Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer](#), an [international space research project](#) launched in 1999.

Headed by Nobel laureate particle physicist Samuel Ting, the project measures cosmic rays, which among other things provide clues about the origins of the universe.

<http://news.yahoo.com/taiwanese-centre-probe-origins-universe-092848193.html>