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Search for muon catalyzed d^3He fusion.

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The measurement of cross-section for the nuclear fusion reaction $d + {}^3He \rightarrow {}^4He + p$ at ultra-low energies is of interest in pure and applied physics. This fusion process is involved in the primordial nucleosynthesis of the light elements in the early Universe. This reaction is a mirror reaction of the $d + t \rightarrow {}^4He + n$ fusion process and can be considered as a perspective source of thermonuclear energy.

We present a detailed study of the search for muon catalyzed d^3He -fusion, which was performed using the MuSun experimental setup. Based on the collected statistics, an upper limit for the rate λ_f of muon catalyzed d^3He fusion was set in this experiment performed with the $D_2 + {}^3He(5\%)$ gas mixture at 31 K temperature with the gas density $\phi = 6.2\%$ of the LHD $\lambda_f \leq 6.3 \cdot 10^4 s^{-1}$ at 90% C.L.

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