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Status of the CANDLES project

Neutrinoless double beta decay is the only practical way to prove the Majorana nature of the neutrino. CANDLES is a ^{48}Ca double beta decay experiment with CaF_2 scintillator. The CANDLES III (U.G.) detector is currently running with 300kg CaF_2 crystals in the Kamioka underground observatory, Japan. New light collection system was installed in 2012, and accordingly photo-coverage has been enlarged by about 80%. Further improvement will be expected in 2014 by installing a detector cooling system in order to increase light emission from CaF_2 crystals. We present the detail of the latest CANDLES III (U.G.) system and its performance obtained from the data taken until 2013, as well as future prospect of the CANDLES project.

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