



Contribution ID: 55

Type: poster

Search for the η -mesic Helium in $pd \rightarrow pd\pi^0$ Reaction with WASA-at-COSY

Tuesday, 25 June 2019 13:30 (1h 30m)

The negatively charged pions and kaons can be trapped in the Coulomb potential of atomic nucleus forming so called mesonic atoms. It is also conceivable that a neutral meson could be bound to a nucleus. In this case the binding is exclusively due to the strong interaction and hence such object can be referred to as a mesic nucleus.

The most promising candidate for such state is the η -mesic nucleus since the η -nucleon interaction is strongly attractive. The existence of the mesic nuclear matter was postulated over thirty years ago [1], however, until now it has not been confirmed experimentally. Such system in the form of the η -mesic Helium may be created for example in the deuteron-deuteron or proton-deuteron fusions [2].

Three experiments dedicated to the search for η -mesic Helium were performed up to now using the WASA detector system installed at the Cooler Synchrotron COSY at the Forschungszentrum Jülich (Germany) [2-8]. The poster will be focused on the status and perspectives of the search for the η -mesic Helium in $pd \rightarrow ({}^3He\eta)_{bound} \rightarrow pd\pi^0 \rightarrow pd\gamma\gamma$ reaction.

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Primary author: KHREPTAK, Aleksander (Jagiellonian University)

Co-authors: SKURZOK, Magdalena (INFN-LNF Frascati); MOSKAL, Pawel (Jagiellonian University)

Presenter: KHREPTAK, Aleksander (Jagiellonian University)

Session Classification: Poster session