

Abstract Submitted  
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**Double beta decay of  $^{48}\text{Ca}$  in CANDLES III -development of the calibration system-** YOSHIYUKI HIRANO, Graduate School of Science, Osaka University, TDAFUMI KISHIMOTO, IZUMI OGAWA, RYUTA HAZAMA, SEI YOSHIDA, SAORI UMEHARA, KAYOKO ICHIHARA, CANDLES COLLABORATION — We have been studying double beta decay of  $^{48}\text{Ca}$ . The observation of neutrino-less double beta decay is important since it establishes lepton number non-conservation and the Majorana nature of neutrinos. The detector system CANDLES were developed for the study of neutrino-less double beta decay. We are now constructing CANDLES III, which consists of 40 large PMTs and 60 undoped  $\text{CaF}_2$  crystals immersed in a liquid scintillator acts as an active veto. And the detector has to be in low background environment because double beta decay is quite rare event. The Q-value (4.27MeV) of  $^{48}\text{Ca}$  is the highest among the double beta nuclei. Therefore, the least background rate is expected because the Q-value is higher than the natural gamma ray energy. With regarding to the energy calibration, there are no commercially available sources with gamma ray energy around the Q-value. Consequently, we use sum energy (4.11MeV) of 1.36 MeV and 2.75 MeV emitted from  $^{24}\text{Na}$ , which is activated by neutron source. According to a simulation, it is applicable for CANDLES by making use of the 4 pi active shield. I will report CANDLES and its calibration system.

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