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Nuclear astrophysics experiments underground

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Cosmic ray induced background can seriously limit the determination of nuclear reaction cross sections at low collision energies relevant to astrophysical processes.

Underground sites, however, can drastically reduce the cosmic ray background, opening the way towards ultra low cross section determination.

Based on the experience of LUNA (Laboratory for Underground Nuclear Astrophysics) located at the LNGS underground facility in Italy a summary of the technology applied is given, recent results are discussed and future plans are summarized.

See the web pages *www.lngs.infn.it*; *luna.lngs.infn.it*.

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