

The muon background in the shallow-underground laboratory Felsenkeller

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Muons, which are produced by cosmic rays in the atmosphere, are highly penetrating and are only mitigated by the roughly 50 m of rock above the shallow underground laboratory Felsenkeller in Dresden, Germany. In order to determine the precise flux and angular distribution amount of muons reaching the tunnels of Felsenkeller, a portable muon detector developed and built by the REGARD group [1] was employed. Data have been taken at four positions in Felsenkeller tunnels VIII and IX, where the new 5 MV accelerator will be hosted, and in addition for reference at three positions in Felsenkeller tunnel IV. At each position, seven different orientations of the detector were used to compile a map of the upper hemisphere. The measured muon flux data are compared with a GEANT4 simulation using the known shape and density of the local rock cover.

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