



Contribution ID: 212

Type: **Talk**

Multiplicity-dependent production of heavy mesons with strangeness in small systems at LHCb

Wednesday 15 June 2022 09:40 (20 minutes)

The phenomenon of strangeness enhancement, originally proposed as a signature of quark-gluon plasma formation, has received considerable new interest following recent observations in small collision systems. LHCb is uniquely well suited to study such effects in the heavy quark sector, down to very low transverse momentum. Here we will present new LHCb results on the production rates of B_s^0 relative to B^0 mesons and D_s^+ relative to D^+ mesons versus multiplicity in pp and pPb collisions. Potential implications for the hadronization mechanism of heavy quarks and our understanding of the factorization of fragmentation functions will be discussed.

Present via

Online

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Session Classification: PA-Heavy-flavor and Quarkonia

Track Classification: Heavy-flavor and Quarkonia