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Thermal Model Description of Collisions of Small Nuclei.

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The dependence of particle production on the size of the colliding nuclei is analysed in terms of the thermal model using the canonical ensemble.

The concept of strangeness correlation in clusters of sub-volume V_C is used to account for the suppression of strangeness.

A systematic analysis is presented of the predictions of the thermal model for particle production in collisions of small nuclei.

The pattern of the maxima in particle ratios as

a function of beam energy is quite special, as they do not occur at the same beam energy.

Also, the Λ/π^+ ratio shows a clear maximum even for the smallest systems while the maximum in the K^+/π^+ ratio disappears in small systems.

Primary author: CLEYMANS, Jean (University of Cape Town)

Presenter: CLEYMANS, Jean (University of Cape Town)

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