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Strangeness production and nuclear modification at LHC energies

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The presence of a strongly interacting medium produced in relativistic heavy-ion (AA) collisions modifies the final transverse momentum (p_T) spectra of hadrons with respect to proton-proton (pp) collisions. While the production at high- p_T is suppressed by in-medium energy loss of high- p_T partons, at lower p_T other mechanisms dominate strangeness production. In order to explore this issue, a system size scan of the production rates of strange hadrons is warranted.

The ALICE Collaboration reports on the nuclear modification factors R_{AA} and R_{pA} of several light-flavour hadrons, including (multi)strange particles. In addition, we also explore the crucial issue of how strangeness production scales with system size by presenting recent results on the multiplicity dependence of light-flavour production in pp collisions. The results are compared to measurements from lower energies and to predictions from QCD-inspired event generators.

Summary

Presentation type

Oral

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