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Studies of Central Exclusive Production and Soft QCD phenomena at LHCb

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The LHCb detector at the LHC offers unique coverage of forward rapidities. This enables complementary measurements of soft QCD phenomena to those at the other LHC detectors. Measurements of the inelastic cross-section and of particle production will be presented. Measurements of Central Exclusive Production (CEP) at LHCb will also be presented. These measurements probe QCD, allowing investigation of the nature of pomerons, and provide constraints on low- x gluon phenomenology, probing potential saturation effects. CEP measurements at LHCb in the most recent LHC run have significantly benefited from the installation of new high rapidity shower counters (the “HeRSCHel” subdetector). The performance and use of this new detector for CEP studies will also be discussed.

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