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Theory of few-body kaon-nuclear systems

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The strong interaction between an antikaon and a nucleon is at the origin of various interesting phenomena in kaon-nuclear systems. In particular, the interaction in the isospin I=0 channel is sufficiently attractive to generate a quasi-bound state, the $\Lambda(1405)$ resonance, below the $\bar{K}N$ threshold. Based on this picture, it may be expected that the $\bar{K}N$ interaction also generates quasi-bound states in kaon-nuclear systems, sometimes called kaonic nuclei. At the same time, the $\bar{K}N$ quasi-bound picture of the $\Lambda(1405)$ is also related to the discussion of hadronic molecules in hadron spectroscopy. In this talk, an overview is presented of the theoretical studies developed for kaon-nucleon and kaon-nuclear systems [1]. We start from the modern understanding of the $\Lambda(1405)$ resonance [2]. We then discuss the $\bar{K}N$ interaction [3] and various aspects of few-body kaonic nuclei [4]. Related topics, such as the K^-p momentum correlation functions in high-energy collisions and the studies of kaonic atoms, are also discussed.

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