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Accessing the coupled-channels dynamics using femtoscopic correlations with ALICE at LHC

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Systems as K^-p and baryon-antibaryon ($B\bar{B}$) are both characterised by the presence, already at the production threshold, of strong inelastic channels which can affect the properties and the formation of bound states and resonances.

In the $\bar{K}N$ system, the $\Lambda(1405)$ arises from the interplay between the $\bar{K}N$ and the coupled $\Sigma\pi$ channel. Experimental constraints on the different $\bar{K}N$ coupled-channels are needed to provide a full description of the nature and properties of the $\Lambda(1405)$. Similarly, baryon-antibaryon systems are characterised by the dominant contribution of several mesonic channels related to the presence of annihilation processes acting below 1 fm. The possible existence of baryon-antibaryon bound states is still under debate due to a limited amount of data for the $p - \bar{p}$ system available, and either scarce or absent experimental data for $B\bar{B}$ systems containing strangeness.

The femtoscopy technique measures the correlation of particle pairs at low relative momentum. This method applied in small colliding systems, as pp and p-Pb collisions at ALICE provided high-precision data on several baryon-baryon and meson-baryon pairs showing a great sensitivity to the underlying strong potential and to the introduction of the different coupled-channels.

In this talk, we will present femtoscopic correlations measured in pp collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV by ALICE, separately for data samples obtained with minimum-bias and high-multiplicity triggers.

In particular, we will show results on the K^-p correlation function which for the first time provide experimental evidence of the opening of the coupled isospin breaking channel $\bar{K}^0 - n$ and on the $\Sigma\pi$ channel contributions. Finally, results from baryon-antibaryon pairs ($p\bar{p}$, $p-$ and $-$) will be shown for the first time. The effect of annihilation channels on the correlation function and a quantitative determination of the inelastic contributions in the three different pairs will be discussed.

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