

## Revisiting $B \rightarrow \pi K, \pi K^*$ and $\rho K$ decays: CP violations and implication for new physics

Qin Chang,<sup>ab</sup> Xin-Qiang Li<sup>c\*</sup> and Ya-Dong Yang<sup>a†</sup>

<sup>a</sup>*Institute of Particle Physics, Huazhong Normal University,  
Wuhan, Hubei 430079, P.R. China*

<sup>b</sup>*Department of Physics, Henan Normal University,  
Xinxiang, Henan 453007, P.R. China*

<sup>c</sup>*Institut für Theoretische Physik E,  
Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule (RWTH) Aachen,  
D-52056, Aachen, Germany*

*E-mail:* changqin@iopp.ccnu.edu.cn, xinqiang@physik.rwth-aachen.de,  
yangyd@iopp.ccnu.edu.cn

**ABSTRACT:** Combining the up-to-date experimental information on  $B \rightarrow \pi K, \pi K^*$  and  $\rho K$  decays, we revisit the decay rates and CP asymmetries of these decays within the framework of QCD factorization. Using an infrared finite gluon propagator of Cornwall prescription, we find that the time-like annihilation amplitude could contribute a large strong phase, while the space-like hard spectator scattering amplitude is real. Numerically, we find that all the branching ratios and most of the direct CP violations, except  $A_{CP}(B^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm \pi^0)$ , agree with the current experimental data with an effective gluon mass  $m_g \simeq 0.5$  GeV. Taking the unmatched difference in direct CP violations between  $B \rightarrow \pi^0 K^\pm$  and  $\pi^\mp K^\pm$  decays as a hint of new physics, we perform a model-independent analysis of new physics contributions with a set of  $\bar{s}(1 + \gamma_5)b \otimes \bar{q}(1 + \gamma_5)q$  ( $q=u,d$ ) operators. Detail analyses of the relative impacts of the operators are presented in five cases. Fitting the twelve decay modes, parameter spaces are found generally with nontrivial weak phases. Our results may indicate that both strong phase from annihilation amplitude and new weak phase from new physics are needed to resolve the  $\pi K$  puzzle. To further test the new physics hypothesis, the mixing-induced CP violations in  $B \rightarrow \pi^0 K_S$  and  $\rho^0 K_S$  are discussed and good agreements with the recent experimental data are found.

**KEYWORDS:** Rare Decays, Beyond Standard Model, B-Physics, CP violation.

\*Alexander-von-Humboldt Fellow

†Corresponding author

---

## Contents

<b>1. Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2. Revisiting <math>B \rightarrow \pi K, \pi K^*</math> and <math>\rho K</math> decays in the SM</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1 Recalculate the hard-spectator scattering and the annihilation contributions	4
2.2 The branching ratios and direct CP asymmetries in the SM	7
<b>3. Possible resolution with new <math>(S + P) \otimes (S + P)</math> operators</b>	<b>9</b>
3.1 Numerical analyses and discussions of new pseudo-scalar operators	11
3.2 The mixing-induced CP asymmetries in $B \rightarrow \pi^0 K_S$ and $B \rightarrow \rho^0 K_S$	16
<b>4. Conclusions</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>A. Decay amplitudes in the SM with QCDF</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>B. Theoretical input parameters</b>	<b>20</b>
B.1 Wilson coefficients and CKM matrix elements	20
B.2 Quark masses and lifetimes	21
B.3 The decay constants and form factors	21
B.4 The LCDAs of mesons and light-cone projector operators.	22

---

## 1. Introduction

With the fruitful running of BABAR and Belle in past decade, plenty of exciting results has been produced, which provides a very fertile testing ground for the Standard Model (SM) picture of flavor physics and CP violations. Although most of the measurements are in perfect agreement with the SM predictions, there still exist some unexplained mismatches. Especially, a combination of experimental data on a set of related decays will increase the tension between the SM predictions and experimental measurements. At present, there are discrepancies between the measurement of several observables in  $B \rightarrow \pi K$  decays and the predications of the SM, the so-called “ $\pi K$  puzzle” [1], which have attracted extensive investigations in the SM [2–7], as well as with various specific New Physics (NP) scenarios [8].

Recently, Belle has measured the direct CP violations  $B \rightarrow K\pi$  decays [9]

$$A_{\text{CP}}(B^- \rightarrow K^- \pi^0) \equiv \frac{\Gamma(B^- \rightarrow K^- \pi^0) - \Gamma(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \pi^0)}{\Gamma(B^- \rightarrow K^- \pi^0) + \Gamma(B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \pi^0)} = +0.07 \pm 0.03 \pm 0.01, \quad (1.1)$$

$$A_{\text{CP}}(\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+) \equiv \frac{\Gamma(\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+) - \Gamma(B^0 \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-)}{\Gamma(\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+) + \Gamma(B^0 \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-)} = -0.094 \pm 0.018 \pm 0.008. \quad (1.2)$$

The difference between direct CP violations in charged and neutral modes is

$$\Delta A \equiv A_{\text{CP}}(B^- \rightarrow K^- \pi^0) - A_{\text{CP}}(\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+) = 0.164 \pm 0.037. \quad (1.3)$$

The averages of the current experimental data of BABAR [10], Belle [9], CLEO [11] and CDF [12] by the Heavy Flavor Averaging Group (HFAG) [13] are

$$\begin{aligned} A_{\text{CP}}(B^- \rightarrow K^- \pi^0) &= 0.050 \pm 0.025, \\ A_{\text{CP}}(\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+) &= -0.097 \pm 0.012, \end{aligned} \quad (1.4)$$

and the difference  $\Delta A = 0.147 \pm 0.028$  is established at  $5\sigma$  level. However, within the SM, it is generally expected that  $A_{\text{CP}}(\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^-)$  and  $A_{\text{CP}}(B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-)$  are close to each other. For example, the recent theoretical predictions for these two quantities based on the QCD factorization approach (QCDF) [14], the perturbative QCD approach (pQCD) [15] and the soft-collinear effective theory (SCET) [16] read

$$\begin{cases} A_{\text{CP}}(B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-)_{\text{QCDF}} = -3.6\%, \\ A_{\text{CP}}(\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^-)_{\text{QCDF}} = -4.1\%; \end{cases} \quad \text{QCDF Scenario S4 [3]} \quad (1.5)$$

$$\begin{cases} A_{\text{CP}}(B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-)_{\text{pQCD}} = (-1_{-5}^{+3})\%, \\ A_{\text{CP}}(\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^-)_{\text{pQCD}} = (-9_{-8}^{+6})\%; \end{cases} \quad \text{pQCD [5]} \quad (1.6)$$

$$\begin{cases} A_{\text{CP}}(B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-)_{\text{SCET}} = (-11 \pm 9 \pm 11 \pm 2)\%, \\ A_{\text{CP}}(\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^-)_{\text{SCET}} = (-6 \pm 5 \pm 6 \pm 2)\%. \end{cases} \quad \text{SCET [6]} \quad (1.7)$$

We can see that the present theoretical estimations within the SM are confronted with the established  $\Delta A$ . The mismatch may be due to our limited understanding of the strong dynamics in B decays which hinders precise estimations of the SM contributions, but equally possible due to new physics effects [17, 18].

As is known, the annihilation decay of B meson into two light mesons offers interesting probes for the dynamical mechanism governing these decays, as well as the exploration of CP violation. In most of B meson non-leptonic decays, the annihilation corrections could generate some strong phases, which are important for estimating CP violation. However, unlike the vertex-type correction amplitude, the calculation of annihilation amplitude always suffers from end-point divergence in collinear factorization approach. In the pQCD approach, such divergence is regulated by the parton transverse momentum  $k_T$  at expense of modeling additional  $k_T$  dependence of meson distribution functions [15], and a large strong phase is found. In the QCD factorization (QCDF) approach [14], to give a conservative estimation, the divergence is parameterized by complex parameters,  $X_A = \int_0^1 dy/y = \ln(m_b/\Lambda)(1 + \rho_A e^{i\phi_A})$ , with  $\rho_A \leq 1$  and unrestricted  $\phi_A$ , which will sometimes introduce large theoretical uncertainties in the final results. In refs. [6, 19], annihilation diagram is studied with SCET and also parameterized by a complex amplitude. At present, the dynamical origin of these corrections still remains a theoretical challenge.

In this paper, we will revisit  $B \rightarrow \pi K$ ,  $\pi K^*$  and  $\rho K$  decays within QCDF framework. However, we shall quote the infrared finite gluon propagator of Cornwall prescription [20] to regulate these divergences in hard-septator scattering and annihilation amplitudes. With

this alternative scheme, we could evaluate both the strength and the strong phase of hard spectator and annihilation corrections at the expense of a dynamic gluon mass, which will be fitted in the twelve decay modes. It is interesting to note that the infrared finite behavior of gluon propagator are not only obtained from solving the well known Schwinger-Dyson equation [20–22], but also supported by recent Lattice QCD simulations [23]. Numerically, a sizable strength and a large strong phase of annihilation corrections are found. Except  $A_{\text{CP}}(B^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm \pi^0)$ , our predictions for most of the branching ratios and the direct CP asymmetries of  $B \rightarrow \pi K$ ,  $\pi K^*$  and  $\rho K$  agree with the current experimental data with an effective gluon mass  $m_g = 0.45 \sim 0.55$  GeV. However, we get  $A_{\text{CP}}(B^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm \pi^0) = -0.109 \pm 0.008$  which is still in sharp contrast to experimental data  $0.050 \pm 0.025$ . To resolve this mismatch, we perform a model-independent analysis of new physics contributions with a set of flavor-changing neutral current (FCNC)  $\bar{s}(1+\gamma_5)b \otimes \bar{q}(1+\gamma_5)q$  ( $q=u,d$ ) operators. To fit the twelve decay modes, parameter spaces are found generally with large weak phases. Our results indicate that both strong phase from annihilation amplitude and new weak phase from new physics are needed to account for the experimental data.

In section 2, we revisit  $B \rightarrow \pi K$ ,  $\pi K^*$  and  $\rho K$  decays in the SM with QCDF modified by an infrared finite gluon propagator for annihilation and spectator scattering kernels. After recalculating the hard-spectator scattering and the weak annihilation corrections, we present our numerical results and discussions. In section 3, to find resolution to the CP violation difference  $\Delta A$ , we present analyses of NP operators. Then, using the constrained parameters for the operators, we discuss the mixing-induced CP violations in  $B \rightarrow \pi^0 K_S$  and  $\rho^0 K_S$ . Section 4 contains our conclusions. Appendix A recapitulates the decay amplitudes for the twelve decay modes within the SM [3]. All the theoretical input parameters are summarized in appendix B.

## 2. Revisiting $B \rightarrow \pi K, \pi K^*$ and $\rho K$ decays in the SM

In the SM, the effective weak Hamiltonian responsible for  $b \rightarrow s$  transitions is given as [24]

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}} = \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \left[ V_{ub}V_{us}^* (C_1 O_1^u + C_2 O_2^u) + V_{cb}V_{cs}^* (C_1 O_1^c + C_2 O_2^c) - V_{tb}V_{ts}^* \left( \sum_{i=3}^{10} C_i O_i + C_{7\gamma} O_{7\gamma} + C_{8g} O_{8g} \right) \right] + \text{h.c.}, \quad (2.1)$$

where  $V_{qb}V_{qs}^*$  ( $q = u, c$  and  $t$ ) are products of the Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa (CKM) matrix elements [25],  $C_i$  the Wilson coefficients, and  $O_i$  the relevant four-quark operators whose explicit forms could be found, for example, in refs. [2, 24].

In recent years, QCDF has been employed extensively to study the B meson non-leptonic decays. For example, all of the decay modes considered here have been studied comprehensively within the SM in refs. [2–4, 26]. The relevant decay amplitudes for  $B \rightarrow \pi K$ ,  $\pi K^*$  and  $\rho K$  decays within the QCDF formalism are shown in appendix A. It is also noted that the framework contains estimates of some power-suppressed but numerically important contributions, such as the annihilation corrections. However, due to the appearance of endpoint divergence, these terms usually could not be computed rigorously. In

refs. [2, 3], to probe their possible effects conservatively, the endpoint divergent integrals are treated as signs of infrared sensitive contribution and phenomenological parameterized by

$$\int_0^1 \frac{dx}{x} \rightarrow X_A = (1 + \rho_A e^{i\phi_A}) \ln \frac{m_B}{\Lambda_h}, \quad \int_0^1 dy \frac{\ln y}{y} \rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}(X_A)^2 \quad (2.2)$$

with  $\rho_A \leq 1$  and  $\phi_A$  unrestricted. The different scenarios corresponding to different choices of  $\rho_A$  and  $\phi_A$  have been thoroughly discussed in ref. [3]. Although this way of parametrization seems reasonable, it is still very worthy to find some alternative schemes to regulate these endpoint divergences, as precise as possible, to estimate the strength and the associated strong phase in these power suppressed contributions.

It is interesting to note that recent theoretical and phenomenological studies are now accumulating supports for a softer infrared behavior of the gluon propagator [22, 27, 28]. Furthermore, an infrared finite dynamical gluon propagator, which is shown to be not divergent as fast as  $\frac{1}{q^2}$ , has been successfully applied to the B meson non-leptonic decays [29, 30]. Following these studies, in this paper we adopt the gluon propagator derived by Cornwall [20], to regulate the endpoint divergent integrals encountered within the QCDF formalism. The infrared finite gluon propagator is given by (in Minkowski space) [20]

$$D(q^2) = \frac{1}{q^2 - M_g^2(q^2) + i\epsilon}, \quad (2.3)$$

where  $q$  is the gluon momentum. The corresponding strong coupling constant reads

$$\alpha_s(q^2) = \frac{4\pi}{\beta_0 \ln\left(\frac{q^2 + 4M_g^2(q^2)}{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2}\right)}, \quad (2.4)$$

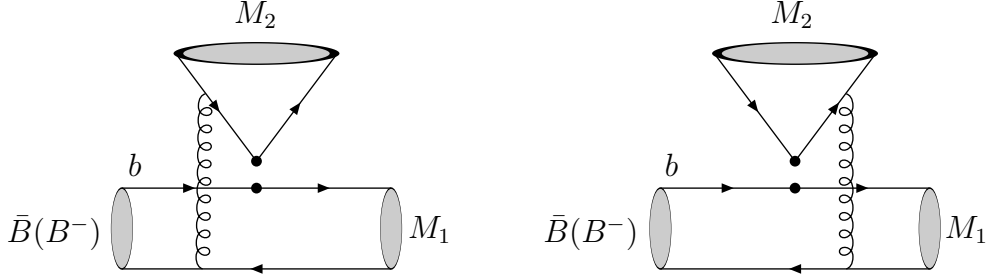
where  $\beta_0 = 11 - \frac{2}{3}n_f$  is the first coefficient of the beta function, and  $n_f$  the number of active flavors. The dynamical gluon mass  $M_g^2(q^2)$  is obtained as [20]

$$M_g^2(q^2) = m_g^2 \left[ \frac{\ln\left(\frac{q^2 + 4m_g^2}{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2}\right)}{\ln\left(\frac{4m_g^2}{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2}\right)} \right]^{-\frac{12}{11}}, \quad (2.5)$$

where  $m_g$  is the effective gluon mass, with a typical value  $m_g = 500 \pm 200$  MeV, and  $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}} = 225$  MeV.

## 2.1 Recalculate the hard-spectator scattering and the annihilation contributions

The next-to-leading order penguin contractions and vertex-type corrections to these decays are known free of infrared divergence and well-defined in QCDF [2–4], for which we would not repeat the calculation and concentrate on the hard-spectator scattering and the annihilation contributions. With the infrared finite gluon propagator to deal with the endpoint divergences, we will re-calculate the hard spectator and the annihilation corrections in  $B \rightarrow PP$  and  $PV$  decays. The hard spectator scattering Feynman diagrams are shown in



**Figure 1:** Feynman diagrams of hard spectator-scattering contributions.

figure 1, where the spectator anti-quark goes from the  $\bar{B}$  meson to the final-state  $M_1$  meson and the  $M_2$  meson is emitted from the weak vertex. The longitudinal momentum fraction of the constituent quark in the  $M_{2(1)}$  meson is denoted by  $x$  ( $y$ ), and  $\xi$  is the light-cone momentum fraction of the light anti-quark in the B meson. To leading power in  $1/m_b$ , the hard spectator scattering contributions can be expressed as (where  $x, y \gg \xi$  is assumed)

$$H_i(M_1 M_2) = \frac{B_{M_1 M_2}}{A_{M_1 M_2}} \int_0^1 dx dy d\xi \frac{\alpha_s(q^2)}{\xi} \Phi_{B_1}(\xi) \Phi_{M_2}(x) \times \left[ \frac{\Phi_{M_1}(y)}{\bar{x}(\bar{y} + \omega^2(q^2)/\xi)} + r_\chi^{M_1} \frac{\phi_{m_1}(y)}{x(\bar{y} + \omega^2(q^2)/\xi)} \right], \quad (2.6)$$

for the contributions of operators  $Q_{i=1-4,9,10}$ ,

$$H_i(M_1 M_2) = -\frac{B_{M_1 M_2}}{A_{M_1 M_2}} \int_0^1 dx dy d\xi \frac{\alpha_s(q^2)}{\xi} \Phi_{B_1}(\xi) \Phi_{M_2}(x) \times \left[ \frac{\Phi_{M_1}(y)}{x(\bar{y} + \omega^2(q^2)/\xi)} + r_\chi^{M_1} \frac{\phi_{m_1}(y)}{\bar{x}(\bar{y} + \omega^2(q^2)/\xi)} \right], \quad (2.7)$$

for  $Q_{i=5,7}$ , and  $H_i(M_1 M_2) = 0$  for  $Q_{i=6,8}$ .

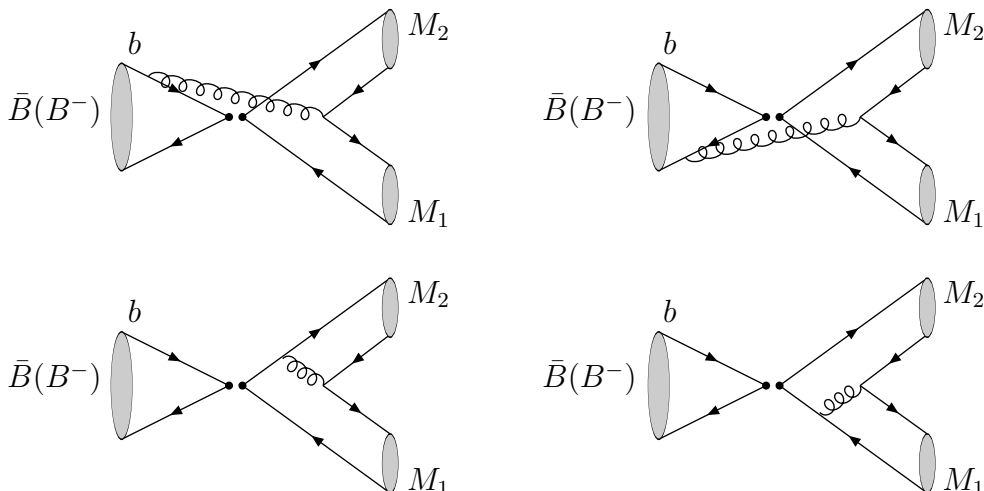
In the above eqs. (2.6) and (2.7),  $\Phi_{B_1}(\xi)$  is the B meson light-cone distribution amplitude(LCDA),  $\Phi_{M_1}(x)$  and  $\phi_{m_1}(y)$  are the twist-2 and the twist-3 LCDAs of light mesons, respectively, which are listed in appendix B.  $\omega^2(q^2) = M_g^2(q^2)/M_B^2$ ,  $q^2 = -Q^2$  and  $Q^2 \simeq -\xi\bar{y}M_B^2$  is the space-like gluon momentum square in the scattering kernels. The quantities  $A_{M_1 M_2}$  and  $B_{M_1 M_2}$  collect relevant constants which can be found in ref. [3].

The Feynman diagrams of the weak annihilation topologies are shown in figure 2. When both  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are pseudoscalars, the final decay amplitudes can be expressed as

$$A_1^i = \pi \int_0^1 dx dy \alpha_s(q^2) \left\{ \left[ \frac{\bar{x}}{(\bar{x}y - \omega^2(q^2) + i\epsilon)(1 - x\bar{y})} + \frac{1}{(\bar{x}y - \omega^2(q^2) + i\epsilon)\bar{x}} \right] \Phi_{M_1}(y) \Phi_{M_2}(x) + \frac{2}{\bar{x}y - \omega^2(q^2) + i\epsilon} r_\chi^{M_1} r_\chi^{M_2} \phi_{m_1}(y) \phi_{m_2}(x) \right\}, \quad (2.8)$$

$$A_1^f = A_2^f = 0, \quad (2.9)$$

$$A_2^i = \pi \int_0^1 dx dy \alpha_s(q^2) \left\{ \left[ \frac{y}{(\bar{x}y - \omega^2(q^2) + i\epsilon)(1 - x\bar{y})} + \frac{1}{(\bar{x}y - \omega^2(q^2) + i\epsilon)y} \right] \Phi_{M_1}(y) \Phi_{M_2}(x) + \frac{2}{\bar{x}y - \omega^2(q^2) + i\epsilon} r_\chi^{M_1} r_\chi^{M_2} \phi_{m_1}(y) \phi_{m_2}(x) \right\}, \quad (2.10)$$



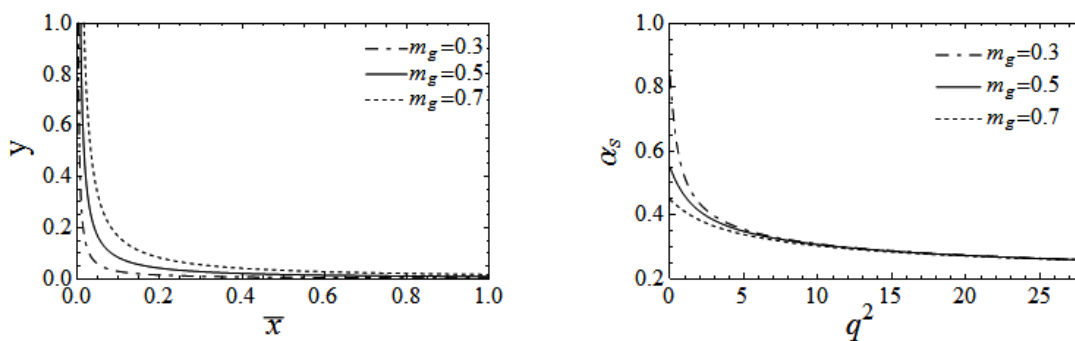
**Figure 2:** Feynman diagrams of weak annihilation contributions.

$$A_3^i = \pi \int_0^1 dx dy \alpha_s(q^2) \left\{ \frac{2\bar{y}}{(\bar{x}y - \omega^2(q^2) + i\epsilon)(1 - x\bar{y})} r_\chi^{M_1} \phi_{m_1}(y) \Phi_{M_2}(x) - \frac{2x}{(\bar{x}y - \omega^2(q^2) + i\epsilon)(1 - x\bar{y})} r_\chi^{M_2}(x) \phi_{m_2}(x) \Phi_{M_1}(y) \right\}, \quad (2.11)$$

$$A_3^f = \pi \int_0^1 dx dy \alpha_s(q^2) \left\{ \frac{2(1 + \bar{x})}{(\bar{x}y - \omega^2(q^2) + i\epsilon)\bar{x}} r_\chi^{M_1} \phi_{m_1}(y) \Phi_{M_2}(x) + \frac{2(1 + y)}{(\bar{x}y - \omega^2(q^2) + i\epsilon)y} r_\chi^{M_2}(x) \phi_{m_2}(x) \Phi_{M_1}(y) \right\}, \quad (2.12)$$

where  $q^2 \simeq \bar{x}yM_B^2$  is the time-like gluon momentum square. The “chirally-enhanced” factor  $r_\chi^M$  is presented in appendix B. The superscript “*i*” and “*f*” refer to the gluon emission from initial- and final-state quarks, respectively. The subscript “1”, “2”, and “3” correspond to three possible Dirac structure, with “1” for  $(V - A) \otimes (V - A)$ , “2” for  $(V - A) \otimes (V + A)$ , and “3” for  $(S - P) \otimes (S + P)$ , respectively. When  $M_1$  is a vector meson and  $M_2$  a pseudoscalar, the sign of the second term in  $A_1^i$ , the first term in  $A_2^i$ , and the second terms in  $A_3^i$  and  $A_3^f$  are needed to be changed. When  $M_2$  is a vector meson and  $M_1$  a pseudoscalar, one only has to change the overall sign of  $A_2^i$ .

As shown by eqs. (2.6) and (2.7) of the hard-spectator scattering contributions, the endpoint divergences are regulated by the infrared finite form of the gluon propagator. It is easy to observe from eqs. (2.6) and (2.7) that hard-spectator scattering contributions are real. For the annihilation contributions shown by eqs. (2.8)–(2.12), singularities of the time-like gluon propagators at the end-point of integrations (end-point divergence) are moved into integral intervals with the infrared finite form of the gluon propagator. Singularities in the integral intervals and variations of the effective strong coupling constant are shown in figure 3. It is noted that effective strong coupling constant is finite, but rather large in the small  $q^2$  region. However, there is strong cancellations among the contributions of the small  $q^2$  region nearby  $m_g^2$ , which renders the annihilation contribution dominated by



**Figure 3:** The singularities in integral spaces (left figure) in annihilation contributions and the variations of strong coupling constant corresponding to different  $m_g$  choices (in unit of GeV).

Decay Mode	QCDF			Experiment data
	$m_g = 0.3$	$m_g = 0.7$	$m_g = 0.45 \sim 0.55$	
$B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^- \bar{K}^0$	44.4	16.8	$23.17 \pm 3.28$	$23.1 \pm 1.0$
$B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-$	23.4	9.3	$12.50 \pm 1.65$	$12.9 \pm 0.6$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^-$	44.7	16.3	$22.71 \pm 3.27$	$19.4 \pm 0.6$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \bar{K}^0$	21.2	7.3	$10.50 \pm 1.63$	$9.9 \pm 0.6$
$B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^- \bar{K}^{*0}$	28.3	5.2	$8.90 \pm 1.59$	$10.0 \pm 0.8$
$B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^{*-}$	15.2	3.4	$5.25 \pm 0.83$	$6.9 \pm 2.3$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^{*-}$	28.7	5.3	$9.13 \pm 1.68$	$10.6 \pm 0.9$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \bar{K}^{*0}$	13.4	1.9	$3.89 \pm 0.82$	$2.4 \pm 0.7$
$B_u^- \rightarrow \rho^- \bar{K}^0$	31.8	5.6	$10.27 \pm 1.96$	$8.0^{+1.5}_{-1.4}$
$B_u^- \rightarrow \rho^0 K^-$	14.9	2.5	$4.81 \pm 0.94$	$3.81^{+0.48}_{-0.46}$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \rho^+ K^-$	38.6	8.0	$13.42 \pm 2.31$	$8.6^{+0.9}_{-1.1}$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \rho^0 \bar{K}^0$	21.0	4.8	$7.53 \pm 1.25$	$5.4^{+0.9}_{-1.0}$

**Table 1:** The  $CP$ -averaged branching ratios (in units of  $10^{-6}$ ) of  $B \rightarrow \pi K$ ,  $\pi K^*$  and  $\rho K$  decays in SM with different  $m_g$  (in unit of GeV) are presented in QCDF columns.

$q^2 > m_g^2$  region associated with a large imaginary part. This situation is quite similar to pQCD [15] where the large imaginary part from propagator regulated by  $k_T$

$$\frac{1}{xy m_B^2 - k_T^2 + i\epsilon} = P\left(\frac{1}{xy m_B^2 - k_T^2}\right) - i\pi\delta(xy m_B^2 - k_T^2), \quad (2.13)$$

and it is also found the power suppression of these terms relative to the leading contributions was not very significant, and important to account for  $CP$  violations in  $B \rightarrow \pi K$  decays.

## 2.2 The branching ratios and direct $CP$ asymmetries in the SM

With the prescriptions for the endpoint divergences, we will present our numerical results of



Decay Mode	QCDF			Experiment data
	$m_g = 0.3$	$m_g = 0.7$	$m_g = 0.45 \sim 0.55$	
$B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^- \bar{K}^0$	0.06	0.19	$0.10 \pm 0.08$	$0.9 \pm 2.5$
$B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-$	-11.6	-8.3	$-10.85 \pm 0.84$	$5.0 \pm 2.5$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^-$	-11.0	-11.4	$-12.38 \pm 0.69$	$-9.7 \pm 1.2$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \bar{K}^0$	2.5	0.1	$1.39 \pm 0.35$	$-14 \pm 11$
$B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^- \bar{K}^{*0}$	0.3	-0.0	$0.16 \pm 0.16$	$-11.4 \pm 6.1$
$B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^{*-}$	-27.0	-34.1	$-41.20 \pm 6.69$	$4 \pm 29$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^{*-}$	-27.2	-47.6	$-47.58 \pm 8.42$	$-10 \pm 11$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \bar{K}^{*0}$	3.9	2.1	$4.67 \pm 1.14$	$-9_{-23}^{+32}$
$B_u^- \rightarrow \rho^- \bar{K}^0$	0.1	1.2	$0.53 \pm 0.21$	$-12 \pm 17$
$B_u^- \rightarrow \rho^0 K^-$	28.1	49.7	$46.27 \pm 5.94$	$37 \pm 11$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \rho^+ K^-$	19.3	31.5	$31.40 \pm 4.63$	$15 \pm 13$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \rho^0 \bar{K}^0$	-4.2	0.2	$-3.26 \pm 1.29$	$-2 \pm 29$

**Table 2:** The direct CP asymmetries ( in unit of  $10^{-2}$ ) of  $B \rightarrow \pi K, \pi K^*$  and  $\rho K$  decays in SM with different  $m_g$  (in unit of GeV). Other captions are the same as table 1.

branching ratios and CP violations in these decays. Decay amplitudes and input parameters are listed in appendices A and B, respectively. Our results are summarized in table 1 and table 2, where the relevant experimental data are also tabled for comparison.

In table 1 (2), the experimental data column is the up-to-date averages for these branching ratios (direct CP violations) by HFAG [13]. It is shown that all the results are in good agreements with the experimental data with  $m_g = 0.45 \sim 0.55$  GeV. It is also noted that the dynamical gluon mass  $m_g = 0.45 \sim 0.55$  GeV are also consistent with findings in other phenomenal studies of B decays [29, 30] and the different solutions of SDE [20–22]. The phenomenology successes may indicate that the gluon mass, although not a directly measurable quantity, furnishes a regulator for infrared divergences of QCD scattering processes.

From the CP averaged branching ratios in the fourth column of table 1, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_c &\equiv 2 \left[ \frac{Br(B^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-)}{Br(B^- \rightarrow \pi^- K^0)} \right] = 1.08 \pm 0.30, \\
 R_n &\equiv \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{Br(\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^-)}{Br(\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 K^0)} \right] = 1.08 \pm 0.32,
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{2.14}$$

which agree with the experimental data  $R_c = 1.12 \pm 0.10$  and  $R_n = 0.98 \pm 0.09$  [13].

Table 2 is our results for direct CP violations. The fourth column is the results estimated with  $m_g = 0.45 \sim 0.55$  GeV fixed by branching ratios, where the error-bars are simply due to the  $m_g$  variations. Compared with the experimental data, our results, except  $A_{CP}(B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-)$ , agree with the measurements. For the most significant experimental result among the measurements of direct CP violations in the twelve decay modes  $A_{CP}(\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^-) = -0.097 \pm 0.012$  [13], our result  $A_{CP}(\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^-) = -0.124 \pm 0.007$

is in good agreement with it. As expected in the SM, we find again  $A_{\text{CP}}(B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-) = -0.108 \pm 0.008$  very close to  $A_{\text{CP}}(\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^-)$ , which are generally in agreement with the results of refs. [3, 5, 6] listed in eq. (1.5)–(1.7). So, it is very hard to accommodate the measured large difference between  $A_{\text{CP}}(B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-)$  and  $A_{\text{CP}}(\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^-)$  in the SM with the available approaches for hadron-dynamics in B decays.

Although the problem could be due to hadronic effects unknown so far, the difference between  $A_{\text{CP}}(B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-)$  and  $A_{\text{CP}}(\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^-)$  could be an indication of new sources of CP violation beyond the SM [18, 31, 32].

### 3. Possible resolution with new $(S + P) \otimes (S + P)$ operators

In this section we will pursue possible NP solutions model-independently with a set of FCNC  $(S + P) \otimes (S + P)$  operators. The effects of anomalous tensor and (pseudo-)scalar operators on hadronic B decays have attracted many attentions recently [31, 33–37]. For example, it is shown that they could help to resolve the abnormally large transverse polarizations observed in  $B \rightarrow \phi K^*$  decay, as well as the large  $Br(B \rightarrow \eta K^*)$  [36].

The general four-quark tensor operators can be expressed as

$$O_T^q = \bar{s}\sigma_{\mu\nu}(1 + \gamma_5)b \otimes \bar{q}\sigma^{\mu\nu}(1 + \gamma_5)q, \quad O_T^q = \bar{s}_i\sigma_{\mu\nu}(1 + \gamma_5)b_j \otimes \bar{q}_j\sigma^{\mu\nu}(1 + \gamma_5)q_i, \quad (3.1)$$

which could be expressed, through the Fierz transformations, as linear combinations of the (pseudo-)scalar operators. In our present case, however, we find that the tensor operators with  $q=u,d$  give the same contributions to the  $B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-$  and  $B_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^-$  decays, so that they are hardly possible to resolve the direct CP violation difference, because after Fierz transformations,  $O_T^q$  and  $O_T^q$  with  $q = u, d$  will give operators like  $\bar{q}(1 + \gamma_5)b \otimes \bar{s}(1 + \gamma_5)q$  which are different from  $\bar{s}(1 + \gamma_5)b \otimes \bar{s}(1 + \gamma_5)s$  of the Fierz transforming  $O_T^s = \bar{s}\sigma_{\mu\nu}(1 + \gamma_5)b \otimes \bar{s}\sigma^{\mu\nu}(1 + \gamma_5)s$  for  $B \rightarrow \phi K^*$  decays. On the other hand, the new operators like  $\bar{s}(1 + \gamma_5)b \otimes \bar{q}(1 + \gamma_5)q$  may give a possible solution to  $\Delta A$  because of their different contributions to the  $B^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-$  and  $\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^-$  decays.

We write the NP effective Hamiltonian for  $b \rightarrow s$  transitions as

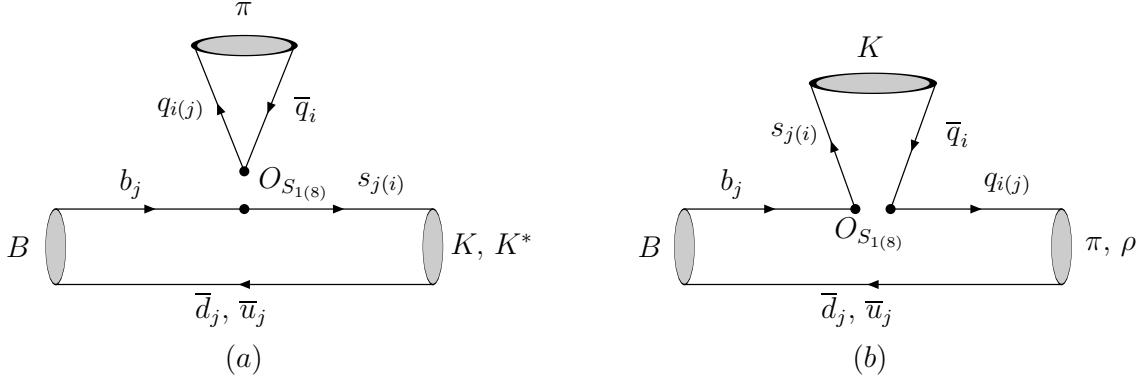
$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{NP}} = \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \sum_{q=u,d} |V_{tb}V_{ts}^*| e^{i\delta_S^q} \left[ C_{S1}^q O_{S1}^q + C_{S8}^q O_{S8}^q \right] + \text{h.c.}, \quad (3.2)$$

with  $O_{S1}^q$  and  $O_{S8}^q$  defined by

$$\begin{aligned} O_{S1}^u &= \bar{s}(1 + \gamma_5)b \otimes \bar{u}(1 + \gamma_5)u, & O_{S8}^u &= \bar{s}_i(1 + \gamma_5)b_j \otimes \bar{u}_j(1 + \gamma_5)u_i, \\ O_{S1}^d &= \bar{s}(1 + \gamma_5)b \otimes \bar{d}(1 + \gamma_5)d, & O_{S8}^d &= \bar{s}_i(1 + \gamma_5)b_j \otimes \bar{d}_j(1 + \gamma_5)d_i, \end{aligned} \quad (3.3)$$

where  $i$  and  $j$  are color indices. The coefficient  $C_{S1(S8)}^q$  describes the relative interaction strength of the operator  $O_{S1(S8)}^q$ , and  $\delta_S^q$  is their possible NP weak phase. Since both the coefficients and the weak phase are unknown parameters, for simplicity, we shall only consider their leading contributions with the naive factorization(NF) approximation.

The relevant Feynman diagrams of the NP operators are shown in figure 4 with  $q = u, d$ . With the NF approximation, it is easy to see that, for the  $B \rightarrow \pi^0 K^{*-}$  and  $\pi^0 \bar{K}^{*0}$



**Figure 4:** Feynman diagrams contributing to the amplitudes of  $B \rightarrow \pi K, \pi K^*$  and  $\rho K$  decays due to the  $(S + P) \otimes (S + P)$  operators.

decay modes, only figure 4 (a) contributes, for the  $B \rightarrow \pi^- \bar{K}^0, \pi^+ K^-$  and  $\rho K$  decay modes, only figure 4 (b) contributes, while both topology structures contribute to the  $B \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-$  and  $\pi^0 \bar{K}^0$  decay modes. However, none of them contributes to  $B \rightarrow \pi^- K^{*0}$  and  $\pi^+ K^{*-}$  decays. After some simple calculations, these NP contributions to the decay amplitudes of the  $B \rightarrow \pi K, \pi K^*$  and  $\rho K$  decays are obtained as

$$\mathcal{A}_{B^- \rightarrow \pi^- \bar{K}^0}^{\text{NP}} = i \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{4} |V_{tb} V_{ts}^*| m_{B_u}^2 e^{i\delta_S^d} g_S^d r_\chi^K F_0^{B \rightarrow \pi}(m_K^2) f_K, \quad (3.4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_{B^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-}^{\text{NP}} = & i \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2}} |V_{tb} V_{ts}^*| m_{B_u}^2 \left[ e^{i\delta_S^u} g_S^u r_\chi^K F_0^{B \rightarrow \pi}(m_K^2) f_K \right. \\ & \left. - 2(e^{i\delta_S^u} g_S^{lu} - e^{i\delta_S^d} g_S^{ld}) r_\chi^\pi F_0^{B \rightarrow K}(m_\pi^2) f_\pi \right], \quad (3.5) \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^-}^{\text{NP}} = i \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{4} |V_{tb} V_{ts}^*| m_{B_d}^2 e^{i\delta_S^u} g_S^u r_\chi^K F_0^{B \rightarrow \pi}(m_K^2) f_K, \quad (3.6)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_{\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \bar{K}^0}^{\text{NP}} = & i \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2}} |V_{tb} V_{ts}^*| m_{B_d}^2 \left[ -e^{i\delta_S^d} g_S^d r_\chi^K F_0^{B \rightarrow \pi}(m_K^2) f_K \right. \\ & \left. - 2(e^{i\delta_S^u} g_S^{lu} - e^{i\delta_S^d} g_S^{ld}) r_\chi^\pi F_0^{B \rightarrow K}(m_\pi^2) f_\pi \right], \quad (3.7) \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{B^- \rightarrow \pi^- \bar{K}^{*0}}^{\text{NP}} = 0, \quad (3.8)$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{B^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^{*-}}^{\text{NP}} = i \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} |V_{tb} V_{ts}^*| m_{B_u}^2 \left[ e^{i\delta_S^u} g_S^{lu} - e^{i\delta_S^d} g_S^{ld} \right] r_\chi^\pi A_0^{B \rightarrow K^*}(m_\pi^2) f_\pi, \quad (3.9)$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^{*-}}^{\text{NP}} = 0, \quad (3.10)$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \bar{K}^{*0}}^{\text{NP}} = i \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}} |V_{tb} V_{ts}^*| m_{B_u}^2 \left[ e^{i\delta_S^u} g_S^{lu} - e^{i\delta_S^d} g_S^{ld} \right] r_\chi^\pi A_0^{B \rightarrow K^*}(m_\pi^2) f_\pi, \quad (3.11)$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{B^- \rightarrow \rho^- \bar{K}^0}^{\text{NP}} = -i \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{4} |V_{tb} V_{ts}^*| m_{B_u}^2 e^{i\delta_S^d} g_S^d r_\chi^K A_0^{B \rightarrow \rho}(m_K^2) f_K, \quad (3.12)$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{B^- \rightarrow \rho^0 K^-}^{\text{NP}} = -i \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2}} |V_{tb} V_{ts}^*| m_{B_u}^2 e^{i\delta_S^u} g_S^u r_\chi^K A_0^{B \rightarrow \rho}(m_K^2) f_K, \quad (3.13)$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{B^0 \rightarrow \rho^+ K^-}^{\text{NP}} = -i \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{4} |V_{tb} V_{ts}^*| m_{B_u}^2 e^{i\delta_S^u} g_S^u r_\chi^K A_0^{B \rightarrow \rho}(m_K^2) f_K, \quad (3.14)$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{B^0 \rightarrow \rho^0 \bar{K}^0}^{\text{NP}} = i \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2}} |V_{tb} V_{ts}^*| m_{B_u}^2 e^{i\delta_S^d} g_S^d r_\chi^K A_0^{B \rightarrow \rho}(m_K^2) f_K, \quad (3.15)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} g_S^u &= C_{S1}^u + \frac{1}{N_c} C_{S8}^u, & g_S^u &= C_{S8}^u + \frac{1}{N_c} C_{S1}^u, \\ g_S^d &= C_{S1}^d + \frac{1}{N_c} C_{S8}^d, & g_S^d &= C_{S8}^d + \frac{1}{N_c} C_{S1}^d. \end{aligned} \quad (3.16)$$

Comparing the NP amplitudes eq. (3.5) with eq. (3.6), we expect that these new (pseudo-)scalar operators might provide a possible resolution to the direct CP violation difference, which is realized in the following numerical analyses.

### 3.1 Numerical analyses and discussions of new pseudo-scalar operators

Our analysis consists of five cases with different assumptions for dominance of NP operators, namely,

- Case I:  $b \rightarrow su\bar{u}$  operators  $O_{S1}^u$  and  $O_{S8}^u$ ,
- Case II:  $b \rightarrow sdd$  operators  $O_{S1}^d$  and  $O_{S8}^d$ ,
- Case III:  $b \rightarrow sdd$  operator  $O_{S1}^d$  solely,
- Case IV: only color singlet operators  $O_{S1}^u$  and  $O_{S1}^d$ ,
- Case V: all the operators  $O_{S1}^u$ ,  $O_{S8}^u$ ,  $O_{S1}^d$  and  $O_{S8}^d$ .

For each case, the corresponding effective Hamiltonian could be read from eq. (3.2). It could be expected that a collection of related decay modes could constrain the relevant NP parameter spaces restrictively.

Our fitting is performed with the experimental data varying randomly within their  $2\sigma$  error-bars, while the theoretical uncertainties are obtained by varying the input parameters within the regions specified in appendix B. Our numerical results are summarized in table 3–5 where the assigned uncertainties of our fitting results should be understood at  $2\sigma$  statistical level. Illustratively, the constrained NP parameter spaces are shown in figures 5–9, respectively. It is noted that, to leading order approximation, both  $B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^- \bar{K}^{*0}$  and  $\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \bar{K}^{*-}$  decays do not receive these NP contributions, so we perform fitting for the remained ten decay modes. In the following, we present numerical analyses subdivided into five cases.

**Case I:  $b \rightarrow su\bar{u}$  operators  $O_{S1}^u$  and  $O_{S8}^u$ .** We just take into account the contributions of  $O_{S1}^u$  and  $O_{S8}^u$  in eq. (3.2), i.e.  $C_{S1}^d = C_{S8}^d = 0$ . In this case, we take the branching ratios of the seven relevant decays  $B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-$ ,  $\pi^0 K^{*-}$ ,  $\rho^0 K^-$  and  $\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^-$ ,  $\pi^0 \bar{K}^0$ ,  $\pi^0 \bar{K}^{*0}$ ,  $\rho^+ K^-$  as constraints and leave the direct CP asymmetries as our predictions. The allowed regions of the NP parameters  $C_{S1}^u$ ,  $C_{S8}^u$  and  $\delta_S^u$  are shown in figure 5. From which, we find

Decay Mode	Experiment data	NP				
		Case I	Case II	Case III	Case IV	Case V
$B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^- \bar{K}^0$	$23.1 \pm 1.0$	—	$23.0 \pm 1.0$	$22.9 \pm 0.9$	$21.5 \pm 0.3$	$22.4 \pm 0.9$
$B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-$	$12.9 \pm 0.6$	$12.1 \pm 0.4$	$12.8 \pm 0.7$	$12.7 \pm 0.6$	$12.1 \pm 0.3$	$12.1 \pm 0.4$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^-$	$19.4 \pm 0.6$	$20.2 \pm 0.3$	—	—	$20.4 \pm 0.2$	$20.1 \pm 0.4$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \bar{K}^0$	$9.9 \pm 0.6$	$9.0 \pm 0.3$	$9.9 \pm 0.6$	$10.0 \pm 0.7$	$9.0 \pm 0.2$	$9.1 \pm 0.4$
$B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^{*-}$	$6.9 \pm 2.3$	$4.2 \pm 0.2$	$4.4 \pm 0.4$	$4.4 \pm 0.4$	$4.3 \pm 0.3$	$4.3 \pm 0.3$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \bar{K}^{*0}$	$2.4 \pm 0.7$	$3.4 \pm 0.3$	$3.5 \pm 0.2$	$3.5 \pm 0.2$	$3.1 \pm 0.3$	$2.9 \pm 0.2$
$B_u^- \rightarrow \rho^- \bar{K}^0$	$8.0^{+1.5}_{-1.4}$	—	$8.6 \pm 0.7$	$8.6 \pm 0.7$	$7.4 \pm 0.4$	$7.1 \pm 0.4$
$B_u^- \rightarrow \rho^0 K^-$	$3.81^{+0.48}_{-0.46}$	$3.4 \pm 0.2$	—	—	$3.4 \pm 0.2$	$3.4 \pm 0.2$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \rho^+ K^-$	$8.6^{+0.9}_{-1.1}$	$9.7 \pm 0.5$	—	—	$9.7 \pm 0.5$	$9.8 \pm 0.5$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \rho^0 \bar{K}^0$	$5.4^{+0.9}_{-1.0}$	—	$6.5 \pm 0.4$	$6.5 \pm 0.4$	$5.5 \pm 0.3$	$5.4 \pm 0.4$

**Table 3:** The  $CP$ -averaged branching ratios (in units of  $10^{-6}$ ) in different NP Cases with  $m_g = 0.5\text{GeV}$ . The dash means (pseudo-)scalar operators of the Case irrelevant to the corresponding decay mode.

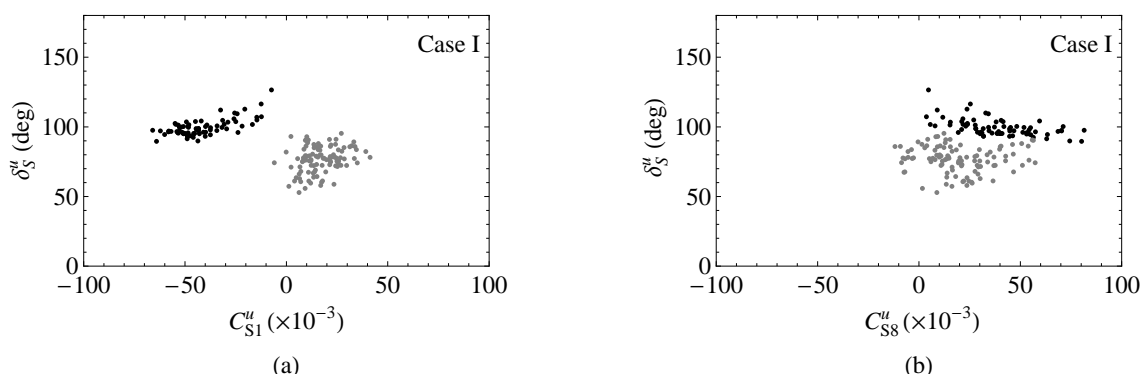
Decay Mode	Experiment data	NP				
		Case I	Case II	Case III	Case IV	Case V
$B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^- \bar{K}^0$	$0.9 \pm 2.5$	—	$1.7 \pm 2.9$	$2.0 \pm 0.2$	$3.9 \pm 1.0$	$3.2 \pm 1.3$
$B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-$	$5.0 \pm 2.5$	$8.8 \pm 6.4$	$1.1 \pm 0.9$	$1.2 \pm 0.9$	$2.8 \pm 5.5$	$1.8 \pm 1.3$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^-$	$-9.7 \pm 1.2$	$-5.7 \pm 4.4$	—	—	$-10.0 \pm 0.8$	$-9.2 \pm 1.3$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \bar{K}^0$	$-14 \pm 11$	$-18.6 \pm 7.5$	$-12.8 \pm 3.9$	$-12.6 \pm 1.6$	$-10.2 \pm 7.0$	$-8.2 \pm 2.8$
$B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^{*-}$	$4 \pm 29$	$4.2 \pm 19.3$	$-8.1 \pm 3.3$	$-8.0 \pm 3.3$	$-4.9 \pm 19.7$	$-13.2 \pm 4.6$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \bar{K}^{*0}$	$-9^{+32}_{-23}$	$-61.7 \pm 22.0$	$-49.9 \pm 3.4$	$-49.8 \pm 3.8$	$-52.8 \pm 24.2$	$-47.0 \pm 6.5$
$B_u^- \rightarrow \rho^- \bar{K}^0$	$-12 \pm 17$	—	$-5.9 \pm 10.9$	$-6.5 \pm 0.8$	$-15.1 \pm 4.2$	$-13.1 \pm 5.9$
$B_u^- \rightarrow \rho^0 K^-$	$37 \pm 11$	$32.8 \pm 16.5$	—	—	$48.3 \pm 3.5$	$43.9 \pm 5.2$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \rho^+ K^-$	$15 \pm 13$	$19.2 \pm 12.9$	—	—	$31.9 \pm 2.7$	$28.0 \pm 4.1$
$\bar{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \rho^0 \bar{K}^0$	$-2 \pm 29$	—	$-8.1 \pm 8.1$	$-8.5 \pm 0.9$	$-14.9 \pm 3.0$	$-13.5 \pm 4.4$

**Table 4:** The direct  $CP$  asymmetries (in unit of  $10^{-2}$ ) of  $B \rightarrow \pi K$ ,  $\pi K^*$  and  $\rho K$  decays. Other captions are the same as table 3

the spaces of  $C_{S1}^u$  and  $\delta_S^u$  consist of two parts (dark and gray). However, with the gray part, we get  $A_{CP}(B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-) = -0.154 \pm 0.038$  which conflicts with experimental data  $0.050 \pm 0.025$ . So, the gray region should be excluded. With the dark part of parameter spaces, our prediction  $A_{CP}(B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-) = 0.088 \pm 0.064$  is consistent with experimental data. Furthermore, the branching ratios and direct  $CP$  asymmetries of the other decay modes, listed in the third column of table 3 and 4, agree with experimental data within error bars. The constrained parameter space  $C_{S1}^u$ ,  $C_{S8}^u$  and  $\delta_S^u$  are listed in the second column of table 5. We note that  $C_{S1}^u \approx -C_{S8}^u \approx -0.04$  with  $\delta_S^u \approx 100^\circ$ , it means the strength of color-singlet and color-octet operators are similar, however, such a situation

NP para.	Case I	Case II	Case III	Case IV	Case V
$C_{S1}^u (\times 10^{-3})$	$-41.6 \pm 13.4$	—	—	$25.8 \pm 8.4$	$-6.7 \pm 10.5$
$C_{S8}^u (\times 10^{-3})$	$38.7 \pm 18.2$	—	—	—	$16.0 \pm 7.1$
$\delta_S^u$	$99.5^\circ \pm 6.1^\circ$	—	—	$107.0^\circ \pm 11.5^\circ$	$73.0^\circ \pm 23.8^\circ$
$C_{S1}^d (\times 10^{-3})$	—	$23.0 \pm 5.1$	$22.8 \pm 2.3$	$50.3 \pm 12.8$	$17.5 \pm 10.1$
$C_{S8}^d (\times 10^{-3})$	—	$-0.8 \pm 13.7$	—	—	$10.5 \pm 9.4$
$\delta_S^d$	—	$100.0^\circ \pm 8.7^\circ$	$99.3^\circ \pm 9.2^\circ$	$106.6^\circ \pm 7.3^\circ$	$114.7^\circ \pm 18.6^\circ$

**Table 5:** The numerical results for the parameters  $C_{S1}^u$ ,  $C_{S1}^d$ ,  $\delta_S^u$ ,  $C_{S1}^d$ ,  $C_{S8}^d$  and  $\delta_S^d$  in different NP Cases. The dashes mean the corresponding operators are neglected in the Case.



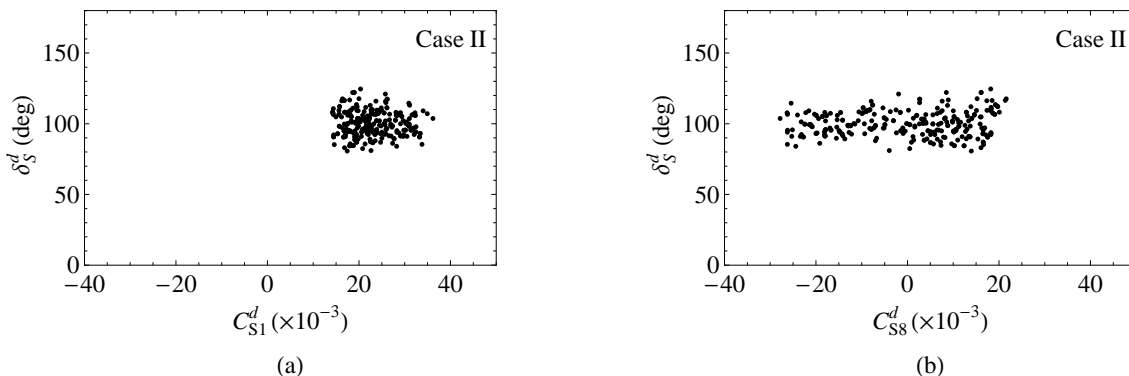
**Figure 5:** The allowed regions for the parameters  $C_{S1}^u$ ,  $C_{S8}^u$  and  $\delta_S^u$  of Case I.

may be hard to be generated with a realistic available NP model.

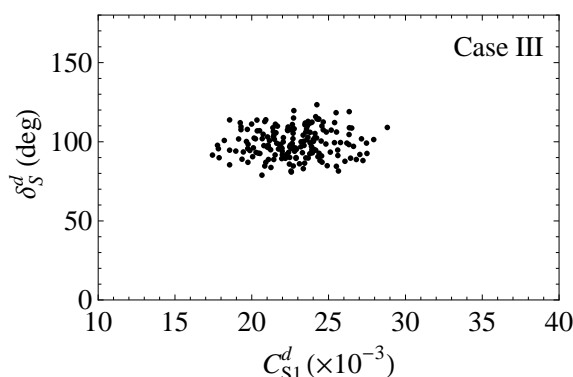
**Case II:  $b \rightarrow s d \bar{d}$  operators  $O_{S1}^d$  and  $O_{S8}^d$ .** In a large category of NP scenarios with scalar interactions, for example, two-Higgs doublets model II, down type fermion Yukawa couplings are enhanced. So, in this case, we evaluate the effects of  $O_{S1}^d$  and  $O_{S8}^d$  and neglect  $O_{S1}^u$  and  $O_{S8}^u$ .

As shown by eqs. (3.4)–(3.15),  $O_{S1(8)}^d$  contributes to the decays  $B \rightarrow \pi^- \bar{K}^0$ ,  $\pi^0 K^-$ ,  $\pi^0 K^{*-}$ ,  $\rho^- \bar{K}^0$ ,  $\pi^0 \bar{K}^0$ ,  $\pi^0 \bar{K}^{*0}$ , and  $\rho^0 \bar{K}^0$ . From table 1, one can find that the SM predictions for their branching ratios are consistent with the experimental data. So, in this Case, NP weak phase  $\delta_S^d$  would be arbitrary for very small strengths of  $C_{S1}^d$  and  $C_{S8}^d$ , we thus have to take into account both branching ratios and direct CP violations as constraints. The allowed region of  $C_{S1}^d$ ,  $C_{S8}^d$  and  $\delta_S^d$  are shown in figure 6. The fitted results are shown in the fourth column of table 3, 4 and the third column of table 5. Interestingly, we note that  $C_{S1}^d = 0.023 \pm 0.005$ ,  $C_{S8}^d = -0.001 \pm 0.013$  (consistent with zero) with  $\delta_S^d \approx 100^\circ$ . It indicates that color-singlet operator  $O_{S1}^d$  dominates the NP  $b \rightarrow s d \bar{d}$  contributions. Actually, with  $O_{S1}^d$  only, we could find a solution to the “ $\pi K$  puzzle” which will be discussed in next Case.

Compared with Case I, it is found that  $|C_{S1}^d| < |C_{S1}^u| \approx |C_{S8}^u|$ . However, we can’t



**Figure 6:** The allowed regions for the parameters  $C_{S1}^d$ ,  $C_{S8}^d$  and  $\delta_S^d$  in Case II with  $m_g = 0.5$  GeV.

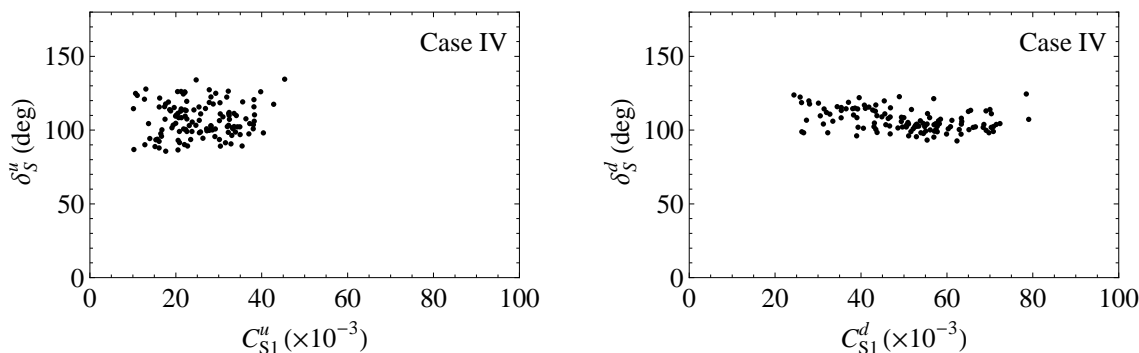


**Figure 7:** The allowed regions for the parameters  $C_{S1}^d$  and  $\delta_S^d$  of Case III.

conclude that  $O_{S1(8)}^u$  dominates the NP contribution until we consider the two operators simultaneously, which will be discussed in coming Case IV and Case V.

**Case III:  $b \rightarrow s d \bar{d}$  operator  $O_{S1}^d$  solely.** As the former Case, both branching ratio and direct CP violation are taken as constraints. With  $O_{S1}^d$  solely, we find a solution to the “ $\pi K$  puzzle” with the  $C_{S1}^d$  and  $\delta_S^d$  allowed region shown in figure 7. The numerical results are listed in fifth column of table 3, 4 and fourth column of table 5, respectively.  $C_{S1}^d$  and  $\delta_S^d$  are found similar to the ones of Case II. It confirms our findings in Case II that  $O_{S1}^d$  dominates the NP contributions and the contribution of  $O_{S8}^d$  is negligible. As known, it is easy to generate the situation in many NP scenarios. However, both the strength  $C_{S1}^d \approx 0.022$  and the new weak phase  $\delta^d \approx 99^\circ$  normalized to  $\frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}}|V_{tb}V_{ts}^*|$  may be toughly large for realistic NP models without violating other precise electro-weak measurements.

**Case IV: only color-singlet operators  $O_{S1}^u$  and  $O_{S1}^d$ .** In order to compare the relative strength of two color singlet operators  $O_{S1}^d$  and  $O_{S1}^u$ , we take them into account at the same time and neglect the other two color-octet ones. Taking the branching ratios



**Figure 8:** The allowed regions for the parameters  $C_{S1}^u$ ,  $\delta_S^u$ ,  $C_{S1}^d$  and  $\delta_S^d$  of Case IV.

of the relevant decays as constraints, we find the allowed regions for the NP parameters  $C_{S1}^u$ ,  $\delta_S^u$ ,  $C_{S1}^d$  and  $\delta_S^d$ , which are shown in figure 8. All our predictions for the direct CP violations, listed in sixth column of table 4, agree with experimental data. Especially, we note our predictions  $A_{CP}(B^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-) = 0.028 \pm 0.055$  and  $\Delta A = 0.128 \pm 0.056$  agree with experimental data very well.

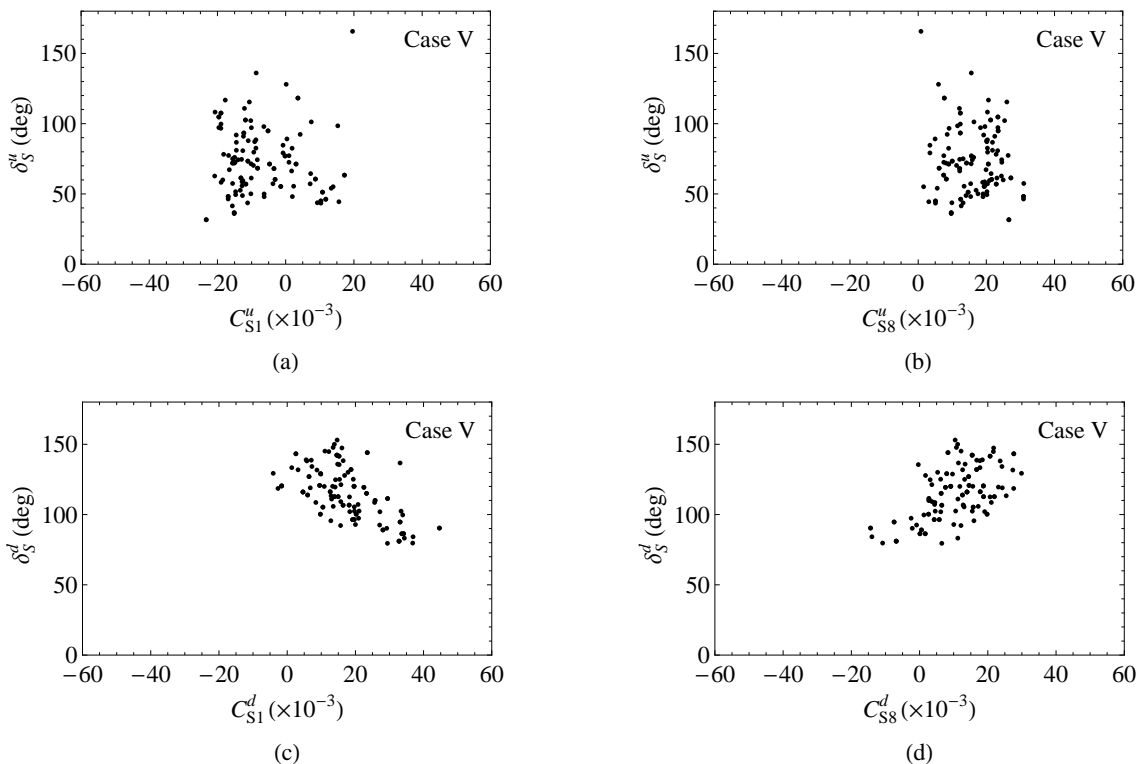
The fifth column of table 5 is the parameter space obtained for the present Case. We find that strength of  $C_{S1}^d$  in Case IV is larger than the ones in Case II and Case III, because the terms of  $C_{S1}^d$  and  $C_{S1}^u$  always have opposite sign in eqs. (3.5), (3.7), (3.9) and (3.11), but only one of them exists in the other decay modes. It is found that  $C_{S1}^d \approx 2 \times C_{S1}^u \approx 0.05$  with  $\delta_S^d \approx \delta_S^u \approx 107^\circ$ , which shows  $O_{S1}^d$  dominance.

**Case V: all the operators  $O_{S1}^u$ ,  $O_{S8}^u$ ,  $O_{S1}^d$  and  $O_{S8}^d$ .** At last, we fit the measured branching ratios and the direct CP violations of all the relevant ten decay models with the four operators in eq. (3.3). Generally the ten CP averaged branching ratios are measured with high significant, however, only  $A_{CP}(B^0 \rightarrow \pi^\pm K^\mp)$  is well established at  $8\sigma$  level and  $A_{CP}(B_u^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-)$  by itself is at  $2\sigma$  level only.

From the fit, the allowed regions for the six NP parameters  $C_{S1}^u$ ,  $C_{S8}^u$ ,  $\delta_S^u$ ,  $C_{S1}^d$ ,  $C_{S8}^d$  and  $\delta_S^d$  shown in figure 9. The fitted branching ratios and CP violations are listed in the seventh column of table 3 and 4, and the fitted values of the NP parameters are presented in the last column of table 5, respectively. Since the experimental data are allowed varying randomly within their  $2\sigma$  error-bars, the uncertainties of our fitting results are turned to be quite large.

We find  $C_{S1}^u = (-6.7 \pm 10.5) \times 10^{-3}$  and  $C_{S8}^u = (16.0 \pm 7.1) \times 10^{-3}$  with  $\delta_S^u = 73.0^\circ \pm 23.8^\circ$ , which shift our predication  $A_{CP}(\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \pi^\pm K^\mp) \approx -0.124$  in the SM more closer to the experimental data  $-0.097$ . However, it does not indicate that the  $b \rightarrow su\bar{u}$  operators are important for resolving CP violation difference  $\Delta A$ , since the sum of their contributions to  $B^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-$  is quite small due to cancellation among them. For the  $b \rightarrow s\bar{d}\bar{d}$  operators, we get  $C_{S1}^d = (17.5 \pm 10.1) \times 10^{-3}$  and  $C_{S8}^d = (10.5 \pm 9.4) \times 10^{-3}$  with  $\delta_S^d = 114.7^\circ \pm 18.6^\circ$ . The results are consistent with these of Case II and Case III as shown in table 5, however, due to interferences with  $b \rightarrow su\bar{u}$  contributions, the uncertainties are much larger than the





**Figure 9:** The allowed regions for the parameters  $C_{S1}^u$ ,  $C_{S8}^u$ ,  $\delta_S^u$ ,  $C_{S1}^d$ ,  $C_{S8}^d$  and  $\delta_S^d$  of Case V.

Decay Mode	Experiment data	SM	NP				
			Case I	Case II	Case III	Case IV	Case V
$\overline{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 K_S$	$38 \pm 19$	$77 \pm 4$	$45 \pm 11$	$56 \pm 5$	$57 \pm 3$	$59 \pm 9$	$62 \pm 8$
$\overline{B}_d^0 \rightarrow \rho^0 K_S$	$61^{+25}_{-27}$	$66 \pm 3$	—	$61 \pm 6$	$61 \pm 3$	$56 \pm 3$	$57 \pm 4$

**Table 6:** The mixing-induced CP asymmetries ( in unit of  $10^{-2}$ ) of  $\overline{B}^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 K_S, \rho^0 K_S$  decays. Other captions are the same as table 3

two former Cases where  $b \rightarrow su\bar{u}$  operators are dropped. Moreover, as shown by eq. (3.5),  $C_{S8}^d$  is suppressed by  $1/N_c$  in the amplitude of  $B^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-$ , thus, the dominate status of  $O_{S1}^d$  for resolving  $\Delta A$  is remained.

### 3.2 The mixing-induced CP asymmetries in $B \rightarrow \pi^0 K_S$ and $B \rightarrow \rho^0 K_S$

So far we have discussed the direct CP asymmetries in the these decays with five NP scenarios. However, it is naturally to question if we can account for the mixing-induced CP asymmetries in  $\overline{B}^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 K_S$  and  $\rho^0 K_S$  decays with these constrained parameter spaces obtained in the former subsection. As known, the mixing-induced asymmetries are more suitable for probing new physics effects entered via  $b \rightarrow sq\bar{q}$  parton processes than the direct ones, since the former ones could be predicted more accurately in QCDF. Detail discussions

for the interesting feature could be found in ref. [38]. Recently, the measured relative small mixing-induced asymmetry ( with large error-bar ) in  $\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 K_S$  has attracted much attention in the literature [18, 38–41].

The time-dependent CP asymmetries in  $\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 K_S$  and  $\rho^0 K_S$  decays could be written as

$$\mathcal{A}_f(t) = S_f \sin(\Delta m_d t) - C_f \cos(\Delta m_d t), \quad (3.17)$$

where  $-C_f \equiv \mathcal{A}_{\text{CP}}$  is the direct CP violation already discussed in former subsection.  $S_f = \mathcal{A}_{\text{CP}}^{\text{mix}}$  is the mixing-induced asymmetry

$$A_{\text{CP}}^{\text{mix}}(\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow f) = \frac{2\text{Im}\lambda_f}{1 + |\lambda_f|^2} \quad (f = \pi^0 K_S, \rho^0 K_S, \quad \eta_f = -1) \quad (3.18)$$

where  $\lambda_f = -e^{-2i\beta} \bar{A}^{00}/A^{00}$  and  $\sin(2\beta) = \sin(2\beta)_{\Psi K_S} = 0.68 \pm 0.03$  [13], since the NP operators are irrelevant to  $B^0 - \bar{B}^0$  mixing amplitude.

Using the constrained parameters of the NP operators in table 5 and taking  $m_g = 0.5 \text{ GeV}$ , our numerical results are listed in table 6 for the SM and the five Cases of NP operators. The experimental data column is the averages by HFAG [13]. In the SM, up to doubly Cabibbo suppressed amplitudes, one can expect

$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{CP}} \approx 0, \quad \mathcal{A}_{\text{CP}}^{\text{mix}} = S \approx \sin(2\beta)_{\Psi K_S} = 0.68 \pm 0.03 \quad (3.19)$$

for the two decay modes. We get  $A_{\text{CP}}^{\text{mix}}(\pi^0 K_S) = 0.77 \pm 0.04$  and  $A_{\text{CP}}^{\text{mix}}(\rho^0 K_S) = 0.66 \pm 0.03$ . It is noted that the former is slight larger than  $\sin(2\beta)_{\Psi K_S}$  which is due to corrections of the suppressed amplitudes proportional to  $V_{ub}V_{us}^*$  as discussed in ref. [38].<sup>1</sup> As shown in table. 6, the NP pseudoscalar operators decrease  $S_{\pi^0 K_S}$  and  $S_{\rho^0 K_S}$  (weaker than former), which seems to be favored by the experimental data.

We note that HFAG has not included the following data yet

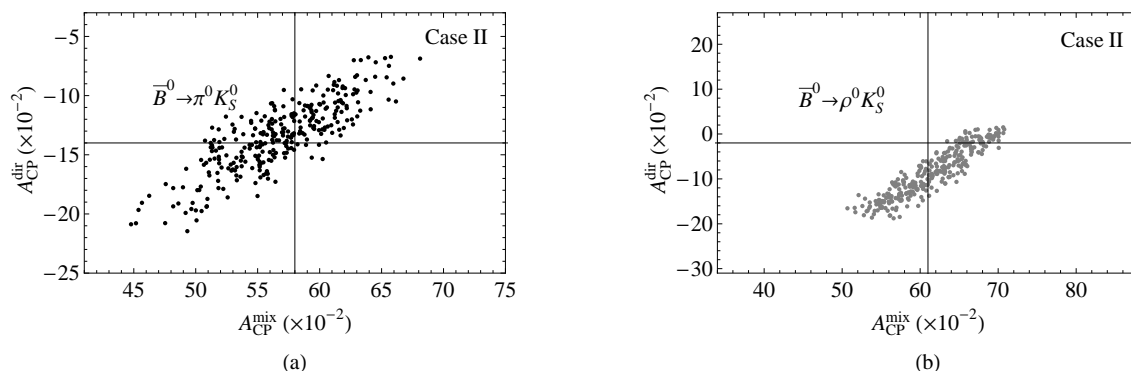
$$A_{\text{CP}}^{\text{mix}}(\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 K_S) = 0.55 \pm 0.20 \pm 0.03 \quad \text{BABAR [42]}, \quad (3.20)$$

$$A_{\text{CP}}^{\text{mix}}(\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 K_S) = 0.67 \pm 0.31 \pm 0.08 \quad \text{Belle [43]}, \quad (3.21)$$

which are reported very recently at ICHEP08. The average reads  $A_{\text{CP}}^{\text{mix}}(\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 K_S) = 0.58 \pm 0.17$ . Again from table 6, we find the outputs of all the five Cases with their fitted parameter spaces are in good agreements with the new experimental results since the error-bar are still large. Taking Case II as example, i.e., assuming NP from  $b \rightarrow s d \bar{d}$ , we present the correlations of the direct and the mixing-induced CP asymmetries for  $\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 K_S$  and  $\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \rho^0 K_S$  decays in figure 10, where the constrained parameters listed in table 5 are used. Although all points fall in the present experimental error-bars, figure 10 shows interesting correlations between  $A_{\text{CP}}^{\text{dir}}$  and  $A_{\text{CP}}^{\text{mix}}(S)$ . If the experimental  $S_{\pi^0 K_S}$  shrank to be much lower than  $\sin(2\beta)_{\Psi K_S}$ , the NP Case II would give large negative direct CP asymmetry. Similar implication also applies to  $\rho^0 K_S$  final states.

---

<sup>1</sup>If the old data  $\sin(2\beta)_{\Psi K_S} = 0.725 \pm 0.037$  used, we get  $\Delta S_{\pi^0 K_S} = S_{\pi^0 K_S} - \sin(2\beta)_{\Psi K_S} = 0.05 \pm 0.08$  and  $\Delta S_{\rho^0 K_S} = -0.05 \pm 0.07$ , which agree well with the results in the paper. Considering our different treatments of the end-piont divergences, the agreement numerically confirms the observation that the mixing induced CP violations are insensitive to strong phases in the decay amplitudes.



**Figure 10:** Correlation between direct and mixing-induced CP asymmetries for  $\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 K_S^0$  (a) and  $\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \rho^0 K_S^0$  (b) in Case II with  $m_g = 0.5$  GeV. The lines are the central value of experimental data presented at ICHEP 08. Our plot ranges corresponding the experimental error-bars.

In summary, assuming NP effects entering  $B \rightarrow \pi K, \pi K^*$  and  $\rho K$  decays via  $\bar{s}(S + P)b \otimes \bar{q}(S + P)q$  operators, we have performed fittings for the observables in these decays with a model-independent approach. It's found that all the experimental data, especially the direct CP violation difference  $\Delta A$ , could be accommodated by new  $b \rightarrow su\bar{u}$  or  $b \rightarrow sd\bar{d}$  contributions, of course by their combination. Assuming the dominance of new  $b \rightarrow su\bar{u}$  operators (Case I), we find the color-octet operator has the similar strength as the color-singlet one, which is rather exotic for electro-weak NP models. However, taking the new  $b \rightarrow sd\bar{d}$  operators dominant (Cases II and III), we have shown that color-singlet operator  $\bar{s}(S + P)b \otimes \bar{d}(S + P)d$  solely can provide a resolution to the derivations with a strength about half of  $b \rightarrow su\bar{u}$  operators. We also have performed fits (Cases IV and V) with both  $b \rightarrow su\bar{u}$  and  $b \rightarrow sd\bar{d}$  contributions to infer the their relative size in these decays. It is found that the strength of  $b \rightarrow sd\bar{d}$  is stronger than that of  $b \rightarrow su\bar{u}$ . In all cases, to account for the experimental deviations from the SM predictions for direct CP violations, especially for  $A_{CP}(B^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-)$ , new electro-weak phase about  $100^\circ$  relative to the SM  $b \rightarrow sq\bar{q}$  penguin amplitude is always required. With the fitted parameters, we present results for the mixing induced CP asymmetries in  $\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 K_S$  and  $\rho^0 K_S$  decays. It is found the NP effects generally reduce  $S_{\pi^0 K_S}$  and  $S_{\rho^0 K_S}$ . However, due to the large error-bars, the present experimental data do not further reduce the parameter spaces of the NP operators.

#### 4. Conclusions

At present, the successful running of the B factories with their detectors BABAR (SLAC) and BELLE (KEK) have already taken about  $10^9$  data together at  $\Upsilon(4S)$  resonance, and have produced plenty of exciting results. Tensions between the experimental data and the SM predictions based on different approaches for strong dynamics are accumulated, which may be due to our limited understanding of the strong dynamics, but equally possible due to NP effects. Motivated by the recent observed  $\Delta A$  of the difference in direct CP

violation between  $\mathcal{A}_{\text{CP}}(B^\mp \rightarrow \pi^0 K^\mp)$  and  $A_{\text{CP}}(B^0 \rightarrow K^\pm \pi^\mp)$  and theoretical issues of end-point divergences, strong phases and annihilation contributions in charmless hadronic B decays, we have revisited the  $B \rightarrow \pi K, \pi K^*$  and  $\rho K$  decays with an infrared finite form of the gluon propagator supplemented to the QCDF approach. In this way, we can get large strong phases from the annihilation contributions, while the hard spectator-scattering amplitudes are real. From our numerical analyses, we find that the contributions of the annihilation and the hard-spectator topologies are sensitive to the value of the effective gluon mass  $m_g$ . With  $m_g = 500 \pm 50$  MeV, our predictions in the SM agree with the current experimental data well, except  $A_{\text{CP}}(B^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm \pi^0)$ . Actually with  $m_g$  varying from 300 MeV to 700 MeV, we always get  $\mathcal{A}_{\text{CP}}(B^\mp \rightarrow \pi^0 K^\mp) \approx A_{\text{CP}}(B^0 \rightarrow K^\pm \pi^\mp)$  as shown in table 2, which also agree with the results in the literature. We conclude that NP effects is required, at least can not be excluded, to resolve the discrepancies between the observed  $\Delta A$  and the SM expectations.

With four effective NP  $b \rightarrow su\bar{u}$  and  $b \rightarrow sdd$  operators, we have performed a model-independent approach to the discrepancies. Our main conclusions are summarized as:

- Assuming dominance of  $b \rightarrow su\bar{u}$  operators, the fit gives a quite small center value for  $A_{\text{CP}}(B^0 \rightarrow K^\pm \pi^\mp)$  although consistent with the data within its large error-bar. Moreover, the strength of color-octet operator  $O_{S_8}^u$  is comparable with color-singlet  $O_{S_1}^u$  which may be rather exotic for most NP models.
- With the  $b \rightarrow sdd$  operator  $O_{S_1}^d$  solely, the observables in  $B \rightarrow \pi K, \pi K^*$  and  $\rho K$  decays could be well accommodated, since  $\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+$  is irrelevant to the  $b \rightarrow sdd$  operator and it's branching ratio and CP violation agree with the SM prediction very well.
- Assuming dominance of color-singlet operators  $O_{S_1}^u$  and  $O_{S_1}^d$ , it is found that the two operators have the similar weak phase with  $C_{S_1}^u \approx \frac{1}{2} C_{S_1}^d$ .
- For all Cases, to account for the experimental deviations from the SM predictions for direct CP violations, especially for  $A_{\text{CP}}(B^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-)$ , new electro-weak phase about  $100^\circ$  relative to the SM  $b \rightarrow sq\bar{q}$  penguin amplitude is always required.
- With the fitted parameter spaces, the NP operators decrease the mixing-induced CP violations in  $B^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 K_S$  and  $\rho^0 K_S$  decays, especially that of  $\pi^0 K_S$  final states.

It is reminded that both direct and mixing-induced CP violations have not been well established in most of charmless nonleptonic B decays. Although the difference in direct CP asymmetries between  $\mathcal{A}_{\text{CP}}(B^\mp \rightarrow \pi^0 K^\mp)$  and  $A_{\text{CP}}(B^0 \rightarrow K^\pm \pi^\mp)$  shows some hints of new physics activities, we still need refined measurements of the mixing-induced CP asymmetries in the related decays  $B^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 K_S$  and  $\rho^0 K_S$  to confirm or refute the NP hints, since the former strongly depends on strong phases in the decay amplitudes while the later not so much and can be predicted more precisely. In the coming years, the precision of experimental measurement of the observables in these decays will be improved much with LHCb at CERN, which will shrink the parameter space and reveal the relative

importance of the five Cases studied in this paper. Then, the favored Case will deserve detail studies with particular NP models.

## Acknowledgments

The work is supported by National Science Foundation under contract Nos.10675039 and 10735080. X.Q. Li acknowledges support from the Alexander-von-Humboldt Stiftung.

## A. Decay amplitudes in the SM with QCDF

The amplitudes for  $B \rightarrow \pi K$ ,  $\pi K^*$  and  $\rho K$  are recapitulated from ref. [3]

$$\mathcal{A}_{B^- \rightarrow \pi^- \bar{K}}^{\text{SM}} = \sum_{p=u,c} V_{pb} V_{ps}^* A_{\pi \bar{K}} \left[ \delta_{pu} \beta_2 + \alpha_4^p - \frac{1}{2} \alpha_{4,\text{EW}}^p + \beta_3^p + \beta_{3,\text{EW}}^p \right], \quad (\text{A.1})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{2} \mathcal{A}_{B^- \rightarrow \pi^0 K^-}^{\text{SM}} = \sum_{p=u,c} V_{pb} V_{ps}^* \left\{ A_{\pi^0 K^-} \left[ \delta_{pu} (\alpha_1 + \beta_2) + \alpha_4^p + \alpha_{4,\text{EW}}^p + \beta_3^p + \beta_{3,\text{EW}}^p \right] \right. \\ \left. + A_{K^- \pi^0} \left[ \delta_{pu} \alpha_2 + \frac{3}{2} \alpha_{3,\text{EW}}^p \right] \right\}, \quad (\text{A.2}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ K^-}^{\text{SM}} = \sum_{p=u,c} V_{pb} V_{ps}^* A_{\pi^+ K^-} \left[ \delta_{pu} \alpha_1 + \alpha_4^p + \alpha_{4,\text{EW}}^p + \beta_3^p - \frac{1}{2} \beta_{3,\text{EW}}^p \right], \quad (\text{A.3})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{2} \mathcal{A}_{\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \bar{K}^0}^{\text{SM}} = \sum_{p=u,c} V_{pb} V_{ps}^* \left\{ A_{\pi^0 \bar{K}^0} \left[ -\alpha_4^p + \frac{1}{2} \alpha_{4,\text{EW}}^p - \beta_3^p + \frac{1}{2} \beta_{3,\text{EW}}^p \right] \right. \\ \left. + A_{\bar{K}^0 \pi^0} \left[ \delta_{pu} \alpha_2 + \frac{3}{2} \alpha_{3,\text{EW}}^p \right] \right\}, \quad (\text{A.4}) \end{aligned}$$

where the explicit expressions for the coefficients  $\alpha_i^p \equiv \alpha_i^p(M_1 M_2)$  and  $\beta_i^p \equiv \beta_i^p(M_1 M_2)$  can also be found in ref. [3]. Note that expressions of the hard spectator terms  $H_i$  appearing in  $\alpha_i^p$  and the weak annihilation terms appearing in  $\beta_i^p$  should be replaced with our recalculated ones. The amplitudes of  $B \rightarrow \pi K^*$  and  $B \rightarrow \rho K$  decays could be obtained by setting  $(\pi K) \rightarrow (\pi K^*)$  and  $(\pi K) \rightarrow (\rho K)$ , respectively.

## B. Theoretical input parameters

### B.1 Wilson coefficients and CKM matrix elements

The Wilson coefficients  $C_i(\mu)$  have been evaluated reliably to next-to-leading logarithmic order [24, 44]. Their numerical results in the naive dimensional regularization scheme at the scale  $\mu = m_b$  ( $\mu_h = \sqrt{\Lambda_h m_b}$ ) are given by

$$\begin{aligned} C_1 &= 1.074(1.166), & C_2 &= -0.170(-0.336), & C_3 &= 0.013(0.025), \\ C_4 &= -0.033(-0.057), & C_5 &= 0.008(0.011), & C_6 &= -0.038(-0.076), \\ C_7/\alpha_{e.m.} &= -0.016(-0.037), & C_8/\alpha_{e.m.} &= 0.048(0.095), & C_9/\alpha_{e.m.} &= -1.204(-1.321), \\ C_{10}/\alpha_{e.m.} &= 0.204(0.383), & C_{7\gamma} &= -0.297(-0.360), & C_{8g} &= -0.143(-0.168). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.1})$$

The values at the scale  $\mu_h$ , with  $m_b = 4.80$  GeV and  $\Lambda_h = 500$  MeV, should be used in the calculation of hard-spectator and weak annihilation contributions.

For the CKM matrix elements, we adopt the Wolfenstein parameterization [45] and choose the four parameters  $A$ ,  $\lambda$ ,  $\rho$ , and  $\eta$  as [46]

$$A = 0.807 \pm 0.018, \quad \lambda = 0.2265 \pm 0.0008, \quad \bar{\rho} = 0.141^{+0.029}_{-0.017}, \quad \bar{\eta} = 0.343 \pm 0.016, \quad (\text{B.2})$$

with  $\bar{\rho} = \rho(1 - \frac{\lambda^2}{2})$  and  $\bar{\eta} = \eta(1 - \frac{\lambda^2}{2})$ .

## B.2 Quark masses and lifetimes

As for the quark mass, there are two different classes appearing in our calculation. One type is the pole quark mass appearing in the evaluation of penguin loop corrections, and denoted by  $m_q$ . In this paper, we take

$$m_u = m_d = m_s = 0, \quad m_c = 1.64 \pm 0.09 \text{ GeV}, \quad m_b = 4.80 \pm 0.08 \text{ GeV}. \quad (\text{B.3})$$

The other one is the current quark mass which appears in the factor  $r_\chi^M$  through the equation of motion for quarks. This type of quark mass is scale dependent and denoted by  $\bar{m}_q$ . Here we take [47, 48]

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{m}_s(\mu)/\bar{m}_q(\mu) &= 27.4 \pm 0.4 [48], & \bar{m}_s(2 \text{ GeV}) &= 87 \pm 6 \text{ MeV} [48], \\ \bar{m}_b(\bar{m}_b) &= 4.20 \pm 0.07 \text{ GeV} [47], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.4})$$

where  $\bar{m}_q(\mu) = (\bar{m}_u + \bar{m}_d)(\mu)/2$ , and the difference between  $u$  and  $d$  quark is not distinguished.

As for the lifetimes of B mesons, we take [47]  $\tau_{B_u} = 1.638$  ps and  $\tau_{B_d} = 1.530$  ps as our default input values.

## B.3 The decay constants and form factors

In this paper, we take the decay constants

$$\begin{aligned} f_B &= (216 \pm 22) \text{ MeV} [50], & f_{B_s} &= (259 \pm 32) \text{ MeV} [50], & f_\pi &= (130.7 \pm 0.4) \text{ MeV} [47], \\ f_K &= (159.8 \pm 1.5) \text{ MeV} [47] & f_{K^*} &= (217 \pm 5) \text{ MeV} [49], & f_\rho &= (209 \pm 2) \text{ MeV} [47]. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.5})$$

and the form factors [49]

$$\begin{aligned} F_0^{B \rightarrow \pi}(0) &= 0.258 \pm 0.031, & F_0^{B \rightarrow K}(0) &= 0.331 \pm 0.041, & V^{B \rightarrow K^*}(0) &= 0.411 \pm 0.033, \\ A_0^{B \rightarrow K^*}(0) &= 0.374 \pm 0.034, & A_1^{B \rightarrow K^*}(0) &= 0.292 \pm 0.028, & V^{B \rightarrow \rho}(0) &= 0.323 \pm 0.030, \\ A_0^{B \rightarrow \rho}(0) &= 0.303 \pm 0.029, & A_1^{B \rightarrow \rho}(0) &= 0.242 \pm 0.023. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.6})$$

#### B.4 The LCDAs of mesons and light-cone projector operators.

The light-cone projector operators of light pseudoscalar and vector meson in momentum space read [51, 3]

$$\begin{aligned}
 M_{\alpha\beta}^P &= \frac{if_P}{4} \left( \not{x} \gamma_5 \Phi_P(x) - \mu_P \gamma_5 \frac{k_2 \cdot k_1}{k_2 \cdot k_1} \phi_p(x) \right)_{\alpha\beta}, \\
 (M_{\parallel}^V)_{\alpha\beta} &= -\frac{if_V}{4} \left( \not{x} \Phi_V(x) - \frac{m_V f_V^\perp}{f_V} \frac{k_2 \cdot k_1}{k_2 \cdot k_1} \phi_v(x) \right)_{\alpha\beta},
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{B.7}$$

where  $\mu_P$  is defined as  $m_b r_\chi^P/2$ , and  $f_P(V)$  is the decay constant. The chirally-enhanced factor appearing in this paper is defined as

$$\begin{aligned}
 r_\chi^\pi(\mu) &= \frac{2m_\pi^2}{m_b(\mu)2m_q(\mu)}, & r_\chi^K(\mu) &= \frac{2m_K^2}{m_b(\mu)(m_q + m_s)(\mu)}, \\
 r_\chi^V(\mu) &= \frac{2m_V}{m_b(\mu)} \frac{f_V^\perp}{f_V},
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{B.8}$$

where the quark masses are all running masses defined in the  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  scheme which we have given in appendix B2. For the LCDAs of mesons, we use their asymptotic forms [52, 53]

$$\Phi_P(x) = \Phi_V(x) = 6x(1-x), \quad \phi_p(x) = 1, \quad \phi_v(x) = 3(2x-1).
 \tag{B.9}$$

As for the B meson wave function, we take the form [54]

$$\Phi_B(\xi) = N_B \xi(1-\xi) \exp \left[ - \left( \frac{M_B}{M_B - m_b} \right)^2 (\xi - \xi_B)^2 \right],
 \tag{B.10}$$

where  $\xi_B \equiv 1 - m_b/M_B$ , and  $N_B$  is the normalization constant to make sure that  $\int_0^1 d\xi \Phi_B(\xi) = 1$ .

#### References

- [1] A.J. Buras, R. Fleischer, S. Recksiegel and F. Schwab, *B* →  $\pi\pi$ , *new physics in B* →  $\pi K$  and *implications for rare K and B decays*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **92** (2004) 101804 [[hep-ph/0312259](#)]; *Anatomy of prominent B and K decays and signatures of CP-violating new physics in the electroweak penguin sector*, *Nucl. Phys.* **B 697** (2004) 133 [[hep-ph/0402112](#)]; *Electroweak penguin hunting through B* →  $\pi\pi$ ,  $\pi K$  and *rare K and B decays*, *PoS(HEP2005)* 193 [[hep-ph/0512059](#)].
- [2] M. Beneke, G. Buchalla, M. Neubert and C.T. Sachrajda, *QCD factorization in B* →  $\pi K$ ,  $\pi\pi$  *decays and extraction of Wolfenstein parameters*, *Nucl. Phys.* **B 606** (2001) 245 [[hep-ph/0104110](#)];  
M. Beneke and M. Neubert, *Flavor-singlet B decay amplitudes in QCD factorization*, *Nucl. Phys.* **B 651** (2003) 225 [[hep-ph/0210085](#)].
- [3] M. Beneke and M. Neubert, *QCD factorization for B* →  $PP$  and *B* →  $PV$  *decays*, *Nucl. Phys.* **B 675** (2003) 333 [[hep-ph/0308039](#)].

- [4] T. Muta, A. Sugamoto, M.-Z. Yang and Y.-D. Yang,  $B \rightarrow \pi\pi$ ,  $K\pi$  decays in QCD improved factorization approach, *Phys. Rev. D* **62** (2000) 094020 [[hep-ph/0006022](#)];  
M.-Z. Yang and Y.-D. Yang,  $B \rightarrow PV$  decays in QCD improved factorization approach, *Phys. Rev. D* **62** (2000) 114019 [[hep-ph/0007038](#)].
- [5] H.-N. Li, S. Mishima and A.I. Sanda, Resolution to the  $B \rightarrow \pi K$  puzzle, *Phys. Rev. D* **72** (2005) 114005 [[hep-ph/0508041](#)].
- [6] A.R. Williamson and J. Zupan, Two body  $B$  decays with isosinglet final states in SCET, *Phys. Rev. D* **74** (2006) 014003 [*Erratum ibid.* **74** (2006) 03901] [[hep-ph/0601214](#)].
- [7] M. Gronau and J.L. Rosner, Rate and CP-asymmetry sum rules in  $B \rightarrow K\pi$ , *Phys. Rev. D* **74** (2006) 057503 [[hep-ph/0608040](#)];  
X.-Q. Li and Y.-D. Yang, Reexamining charmless  $B \rightarrow PV$  decays in QCD factorization approach, *Phys. Rev. D* **73** (2006) 114027 [[hep-ph/0602224](#)]; Revisiting  $B \rightarrow \pi\pi$ ,  $\pi K$  decays in QCD factorization approach, *Phys. Rev. D* **72** (2005) 074007 [[hep-ph/0508079](#)];  
J. Chay, H.-N. Li and S. Mishima, Possible complex annihilation and  $B \rightarrow K\pi$  direct CP asymmetry, [arXiv:0711.2953](#);  
C.W. Bauer, I.Z. Rothstein and I.W. Stewart, SCET analysis of  $B \rightarrow K\pi$ ,  $B \rightarrow K\bar{K}$  and  $B \rightarrow \pi\pi$  decays, *Phys. Rev. D* **74** (2006) 034010 [[hep-ph/0510241](#)];  
C.S. Kim, S. Oh and C. Yu, A critical study of the  $B \rightarrow K\pi$  puzzle, *Phys. Rev. D* **72** (2005) 074005 [[hep-ph/0505060](#)].
- [8] S. Baek, New physics in  $B \rightarrow \pi\pi$  and  $B \rightarrow \pi K$  decays, *JHEP* **07** (2006) 025 [[hep-ph/0605094](#)];  
R.L. Arnowitt, B. Dutta, B. Hu and S. Oh, The  $B \rightarrow K\pi$  puzzle and supersymmetric models, *Phys. Lett. B* **633** (2006) 748 [[hep-ph/0509233](#)];  
S. Khalil, CP asymmetries and branching ratios of  $B \rightarrow K\pi$  in supersymmetric models, *Phys. Rev. D* **72** (2005) 035007 [[hep-ph/0505151](#)];  
Y.-D. Yang, R. Wang and G.R. Lu, The puzzles in  $B \rightarrow \pi\pi$  and  $\pi K$  decays: possible implications for R-parity violating supersymmetry, *Phys. Rev. D* **73** (2006) 015003 [[hep-ph/0509273](#)];  
V. Barger, C.-W. Chiang, P. Langacker and H.-S. Lee, Solution to the  $B \rightarrow \pi K$  puzzle in a flavor-changing  $Z'$  model, *Phys. Lett. B* **598** (2004) 218 [[hep-ph/0406126](#)];  
W.-S. Hou, M. Nagashima and A. Soddu, Difference in  $B^+$  and  $B^0$  direct CP asymmetry as effect of a fourth generation, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **95** (2005) 141601 [[hep-ph/0503072](#)];  
W.-S. Hou, M. Nagashima, G. Raz and A. Soddu, Four generation CP-violation in  $B \rightarrow \Phi K^0$ ,  $\pi^0 K^0$ ,  $\eta' K^0$  and hadronic uncertainties, *JHEP* **09** (2006) 012 [[hep-ph/0603097](#)];  
C.S. Kim, S. Oh and Y.W. Yoon, Is there any puzzle of new physics in  $B \rightarrow K\pi$  decays?, *Phys. Lett. B* **665** (2008) 231 [[arXiv:0707.2967](#)];  
C.S. Kim, S. Oh, C. Sharma, R. Sinha and Y.W. Yoon, Generalized analysis on  $B \rightarrow K^* \rho$  within and beyond the Standard Model — can it help understand the  $B \rightarrow K\pi$  puzzle?, *Phys. Rev. D* **76** (2007) 074019 [[arXiv:0706.1150](#)].
- [9] THE BELLE collaboration, Difference in direct charge-parity violation between charged and neutral  $B$  meson decays, *Nature* **452** (2008) 332.
- [10] BABAR collaboration, B. Aubert et al., Observation of CP-violation in  $B^0 \rightarrow K^+ \pi^-$  and  $B^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$ , *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **99** (2007) 021603 [[hep-ex/0703016](#)].
- [11] CLEO collaboration, S. Chen et al., Measurement of charge asymmetries in charmless hadronic  $B$  meson decays, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **85** (2000) 525 [[hep-ex/0001009](#)].



- [12] CDF collaboration, M. Morello, *Branching fractions and direct CP asymmetries of charmless decay modes at the Tevatron*, *Nucl. Phys.* **170** (Proc. Suppl.) (2007) 39 [hep-ex/0612018].
- [13] HEAVY FLAVOR AVERAGING GROUP (HFAG) collaboration, E. Barberio et al., *Averages of b-hadron properties at the end of 2006*, arXiv:0704.3575, and online update at <http://www.slac.stanford.edu/xorg/hfag>.
- [14] M. Beneke, G. Buchalla, M. Neubert and C.T. Sachrajda, *QCD factorization for  $B \rightarrow \pi\pi$  decays: strong phases and CP-violation in the heavy quark limit*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **83** (1999) 1914 [hep-ph/9905312];  
A.V. Belitsky, A. Freund and D. Mueller, *NLO exclusive evolution kernels*, hep-ph/0006142.
- [15] Y.-Y. Keum, H.-N. Li and A.I. Sanda, *Fat penguins and imaginary penguins in perturbative QCD*, *Phys. Lett.* **B 504** (2001) 6 [hep-ph/0004004]; *Penguin enhancement and  $B \rightarrow K\pi$  decays in perturbative QCD*, *Phys. Rev.* **D 63** (2001) 054008 [hep-ph/0004173].
- [16] C.W. Bauer, S. Fleming and M.E. Luke, *Summing Sudakov logarithms in  $B \rightarrow X_s\gamma$  in effective field theory*, *Phys. Rev.* **D 63** (2000) 014006 [hep-ph/0005275];  
C.W. Bauer, S. Fleming, D. Pirjol and I.W. Stewart, *An effective field theory for collinear and soft gluons: heavy to light decays*, *Phys. Rev.* **D 63** (2001) 114020 [hep-ph/0011336];  
C.W. Bauer and I.W. Stewart, *Invariant operators in collinear effective theory*, *Phys. Lett.* **B 516** (2001) 134 [hep-ph/0107001];  
C.W. Bauer, D. Pirjol and I.W. Stewart, *Soft-collinear factorization in effective field theory*, *Phys. Rev.* **D 65** (2002) 054022 [hep-ph/0109045].
- [17] M.E. Peskin, *Particle physics: song of the electroweak penguin*, *Nature* **452** (2008) 293.
- [18] T. Feldmann, M. Jung and T. Mannel, *Is there a non-Standard-Model contribution in non-leptonic  $b \rightarrow s$  decays?*, arXiv:0803.3729.
- [19] T. Feldmann and T. Hurth, *Non-factorizable contributions to  $B \rightarrow \pi\pi$  decays*, *JHEP* **11** (2004) 037 [hep-ph/0408188].
- [20] J.M. Cornwall, *Dynamical mass generation in continuum QCD*, *Phys. Rev.* **D 26** (1982) 1453;  
J. Papavassiliou and J.M. Cornwall, *Coupled fermion gap and vertex equations for chiral symmetry breakdown in QCD*, *Phys. Rev.* **D 44** (1991) 1285.
- [21] A.C. Aguilar, A.A. Natale and P.S. Rodrigues da Silva, *Relating a gluon mass scale to an infrared fixed point in pure gauge QCD*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **90** (2003) 152001 [hep-ph/0212105];  
A.C. Aguilar and A.A. Natale, *A dynamical gluon mass solution in a coupled system of the Schwinger-Dyson equations*, *JHEP* **08** (2004) 057 [hep-ph/0408254].
- [22] L. von Smekal, R. Alkofer and A. Hauck, *The infrared behavior of gluon and ghost propagators in Landau gauge QCD*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **79** (1997) 3591 [hep-ph/9705242];  
R. Alkofer and L. von Smekal, *The infrared behavior of QCD Green's functions: confinement, dynamical symmetry breaking and hadrons as relativistic bound states*, *Phys. Rept.* **353** (2001) 281 [hep-ph/0007355];  
C.S. Fischer and R. Alkofer, *Non-perturbative propagators, running coupling and dynamical quark mass of Landau gauge QCD*, *Phys. Rev.* **D 67** (2003) 094020 [hep-ph/0301094];  
R. Alkofer, W. Detmold, C.S. Fischer and P. Maris, *Analytic structure of the gluon and quark propagators in Landau gauge QCD*, *Nucl. Phys.* **141** (Proc. Suppl.) (2005) 122 [hep-ph/0309078].

- [23] I.L. Bogolubsky, E.M. Ilgenfritz, M. Muller-Preussker and A. Sternbeck, *The Landau gauge gluon and ghost propagators in 4D SU(3) gluodynamics in large lattice volumes*, PoS(LATTICE 2007)290 [arXiv:0710.1968];  
 A. Cucchieri and T. Mendes, *What's up with IR gluon and ghost propagators in Landau gauge? A puzzling answer from huge lattices*, PoS(LATTICE 2007)297 [arXiv:0710.0412];  
 P.O. Bowman et al., *Scaling behavior and positivity violation of the gluon propagator in full QCD*, *Phys. Rev. D* **76** (2007) 094505 [hep-lat/0703022].
- [24] G. Buchalla, A.J. Buras and M.E. Lautenbacher, *Weak decays beyond leading logarithms*, *Rev. Mod. Phys.* **68** (1996) 1125 [hep-ph/9512380].
- [25] N. Cabibbo, *Unitary symmetry and leptonic decays*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **10** (1963) 531;  
 M. Kobayashi and T. Maskawa, *CP violation in the renormalizable theory of weak interaction*, *Prog. Theor. Phys.* **49** (1973) 652.
- [26] D.-S. Du, *Global analysis of  $B \rightarrow PP$ ,  $PV$  charmless decays with QCD factorization*, *J. Korean Phys. Soc.* **45** (2004) S285 [hep-ph/0311135]; *QCD factorization and rare B meson decays*, *Int. J. Mod. Phys. A* **21** (2006) 658 [hep-ph/0508287];  
 D.-S. Du, J.-F. Sun, D.-S. Yang and G.-H. Zhu, *Charmless two-body B decays: a global analysis with QCD factorization*, *Phys. Rev. D* **67** (2003) 014023 [hep-ph/0209233];  
 D.-S. Du, H.-J. Gong, J.-F. Sun, D.-S. Yang and G.-H. Zhu, *Phenomenological analysis of charmless decays  $B \rightarrow PV$  with QCD factorization*, *Phys. Rev. D* **65** (2002) 094025 [Erratum *ibid.* **66** (2002) 079904] [hep-ph/0201253];  
 D.-S. Du, D.-S. Yang and G.-H. Zhu, *QCD factorization for  $B \rightarrow PP$* , *Phys. Rev. D* **64** (2001) 014036 [hep-ph/0103211]; *Infrared divergence and twist-3 distribution amplitudes in QCD factorization for  $B \rightarrow PP$* , *Phys. Lett. B* **509** (2001) 263 [hep-ph/0102077]; *Analysis of the decays  $B \rightarrow \pi\pi$  and  $\pi K$  in QCD factorization in the heavy quark limit*, *Phys. Lett. B* **488** (2000) 46 [hep-ph/0005006].
- [27] D. Zwanziger, *Non-perturbative Faddeev-Popov formula and infrared limit of QCD*, *Phys. Rev. D* **69** (2004) 016002 [hep-ph/0303028];  
 D.M. Howe and C.J. Maxwell, *All-orders infra-red freezing of  $R(e^+e^-)$  in perturbative QCD*, *Phys. Lett. B* **541** (2002) 129 [hep-ph/0204036]; *All-orders infrared freezing of observables in perturbative QCD*, *Phys. Rev. D* **70** (2004) 014002 [hep-ph/0303163];  
 S. Furui and H. Nakajima, *Infrared features of lattice Landau gauge QCD and the Gribov copy problem*, *AIP Conf. Proc.* **717** (2004) 685 [hep-lat/0309166].
- [28] S.J. Brodsky, S. Menke, C. Merino and J. Rathsmann, *On the behavior of the effective QCD coupling  $\alpha_\tau(s)$  at low scales*, *Phys. Rev. D* **67** (2003) 055008 [hep-ph/0212078];  
 A.C. Mattingly and P.M. Stevenson, *Optimization of  $R(e^+e^-)$  and 'freezing' of the QCD couplant at low-energies*, *Phys. Rev. D* **49** (1994) 437 [hep-ph/9307266];  
 M. Baldicchi and G.M. Prosperi, *Infrared behavior of the running coupling constant and bound states in QCD*, *Phys. Rev. D* **66** (2002) 074008 [hep-ph/0202172].
- [29] Y.-D. Yang, F. Su, G.-R. Lu and H.-J. Hao, *Revisiting the annihilation decay  $\bar{B}_s \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$* , *Eur. Phys. J. C* **44** (2005) 243 [hep-ph/0507326];  
 F. Su, Y.-L. Wu, Y.-D. Yang and C. Zhuang, *Large strong phases and CP-violation in the annihilation processes  $\bar{B}_0 \rightarrow K^+K^-$ ,  $K^{*\pm}K^\mp$ ,  $K^{*+}K^{*-}$* , *Eur. Phys. J. C* **48** (2006) 401 [hep-ph/0604082]; *QCD approach to  $B \rightarrow D\pi$  decays and CP-violation*, arXiv:0705.1575.
- [30] A.A. Natale and C.M. Zanetti, *Non-leptonic annihilation B mesons decays with a natural infrared cut-off*, arXiv:0803.0154.

- [31] S. Baek, A. Datta, P. Hamel, O.F. Hernandez and D. London, *Polarization states in  $B \rightarrow \rho K^*$  and new physics*, *Phys. Rev. D* **72** (2005) 094008 [[hep-ph/0508149](#)];  
S. Baek and D. London, *Is there still a  $B \rightarrow \pi K$  puzzle?*, *Phys. Lett. B* **653** (2007) 249 [[hep-ph/0701181](#)].
- [32] W.-S. Hou, M. Nagashima and A. Soddu, *Difference in  $B^+$  and  $B^0$  direct CP asymmetry as effect of a fourth generation*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **95** (2005) 141601 [[hep-ph/0503072](#)].
- [33] A.L. Kagan, *Polarization in  $B \rightarrow VV$  decays*, *Phys. Lett. B* **601** (2004) 151 [[hep-ph/0405134](#)].
- [34] P.K. Das and K.-C. Yang, *Data for polarization in charmless  $B \rightarrow \Phi K^*$ : a signal for new physics?*, *Phys. Rev. D* **71** (2005) 094002 [[hep-ph/0412313](#)].
- [35] H. Hatanaka and K.-C. Yang, *Pseudoscalar and scalar operators of Higgs-Penguins in the MSSM and  $B \rightarrow \phi K^*$ ,  $K\eta'$  decays*, *Phys. Rev. D* **77** (2008) 035013 [[arXiv:0711.3086](#)].
- [36] Q. Chang, X.-Q. Li and Y.-D. Yang, *Constraints on the anomalous tensor operators from  $B \rightarrow \phi K^*$ ,  $\eta K^*$  and  $\eta K$  decays*, *JHEP* **06** (2007) 038 [[hep-ph/0610280](#)].
- [37] S. Nandi and A. Kundu, *New physics in  $b \rightarrow s\bar{s}s$  decay. II: study of  $B \rightarrow V_1 V_2$  modes*, *J. Phys. G* **32** (2006) 835 [[hep-ph/0510245](#)].
- [38] M. Beneke, *Corrections to  $\sin(2\beta)$  from CP asymmetries in  $B^0 \rightarrow (\pi^0, \rho^0, \eta, \eta', \omega, \Phi) K_S$  decays*, *Phys. Lett. B* **620** (2005) 143 [[hep-ph/0505075](#)].
- [39] G. Buchalla, G. Hiller, Y. Nir and G. Raz, *The pattern of CP asymmetries in  $b \rightarrow s$  transitions*, *JHEP* **09** (2005) 074 [[hep-ph/0503151](#)].
- [40] R. Fleischer, S. Jager, D. Pirjol and J. Zupan, *Benchmarks for the New-Physics search through CP-violation in  $B^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 K_S$* , [arXiv:0806.2900](#).
- [41] M. Gronau and J.L. Rosner, *Implications for CP asymmetries of improved data on  $B \rightarrow K^0 \pi^0$* , [arXiv:0807.3080](#).
- [42] BABAR collaboration, J.F. Hirschauer, *CP violation in hadronic penguins at BABAR*, talk presented at *ICHEP08, the 34<sup>th</sup> International Conference on High Energy Physics*, Philadelphia Pennsylvania U.S.A. July 30 – August 5 2008.
- [43] BELLE collaboration, J.P. Dalseno, *Measurements of CKM angle  $\phi_1$  with charmless penguins at BELLE*, talk presented at *ICHEP08, the 34<sup>th</sup> International Conference on High Energy Physics*, Philadelphia Pennsylvania U.S.A. July 30 – August 5 2008.
- [44] A.J. Buras, P. Gambino and U.A. Haisch, *Electroweak penguin contributions to non-leptonic  $\Delta_F = 1$  decays at NNLO*, *Nucl. Phys. B* **570** (2000) 117 [[hep-ph/9911250](#)].
- [45] L. Wolfenstein, *Parametrization of the Kobayashi-Maskawa matrix*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **51** (1983) 1945.
- [46] CKMFITTER GROUP collaboration, J. Charles et al., *CP violation and the CKM matrix: assessing the impact of the asymmetric B factories*, *Eur. Phys. J. C* **41** (2005) 1 [[hep-ph/0406184](#)], updated results and plots available at <http://ckmfitter.in2p3.fr>.
- [47] PARTICLE DATA GROUP collaboration, W.M. Yao et al., *Review of particle physics*, *J. Phys. G* **33** (2006) 1.
- [48] HPQCD collaboration, Q. Mason, H.D. Trottier, R. Horgan, C.T.H. Davies and G.P. Lepage, *High-precision determination of the light-quark masses from realistic lattice QCD*, *Phys. Rev. D* **73** (2006) 114501 [[hep-ph/0511160](#)].

- [49] P. Ball and R. Zwicky, *New results on  $B \rightarrow \pi, K, \eta$  decay formfactors from light-cone sum rules*, *Phys. Rev. D* **71** (2005) 014015 [[hep-ph/0406232](#)];  *$B_{d,s} \rightarrow \rho, \omega, K^*, \Phi$  decay form factors from light-cone sum rules revisited*, *Phys. Rev. D* **71** (2005) 014029 [[hep-ph/0412079](#)]; *SU(3) breaking of leading-twist  $K$  and  $K^*$  distribution amplitudes: a reprise*, *Phys. Lett. B* **633** (2006) 289 [[hep-ph/0510338](#)].
- [50] HPQCD collaboration, A. Gray et al., *The  $B$  meson decay constant from unquenched lattice QCD*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **95** (2005) 212001 [[hep-lat/0507015](#)].
- [51] B.V. Geshkenbein and M.V. Terentev, *The phenomenological formula for the pion electromagnetic form-factor*, *Yad. Fiz.* **40** (1984) 758 [*Sov. J. Nucl. Phys.* **40** (1984) 487].
- [52] M. Beneke and T. Feldmann, *Symmetry-breaking corrections to heavy-to-light  $B$  meson form factors at large recoil*, *Nucl. Phys. B* **592** (2001) 3 [[hep-ph/0008255](#)].
- [53] A. Ali, P. Ball, L.T. Handoko and G. Hiller, *A comparative study of the decays  $B \rightarrow (K, K^*)\ell^+\ell^-$  in standard model and supersymmetric theories*, *Phys. Rev. D* **61** (2000) 074024 [[hep-ph/9910221](#)];  
P. Ball and V.M. Braun, *Exclusive semileptonic and rare  $B$  meson decays in QCD*, *Phys. Rev. D* **58** (1998) 094016 [[hep-ph/9805422](#)];  
P. Ball, V.M. Braun, Y. Koike and K. Tanaka, *Higher twist distribution amplitudes of vector mesons in QCD: formalism and twist three distributions*, *Nucl. Phys. B* **529** (1998) 323 [[hep-ph/9802299](#)].
- [54] G. Eilam, M. Ladisa and Y.-D. Yang, *Study of  $B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi D^{(*)}$  and  $\eta_c D^{(*)}$  in perturbative QCD*, *Phys. Rev. D* **65** (2002) 037504 [[hep-ph/0107043](#)].