

Hadronic charm meson decays at BESIII

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(On behalf of the BESIII Collaboration)

BESIII experiment has collected e^+e^- collision data samples corresponding to integrated luminosities of 2.93 fb^{-1} , 3.19 fb^{-1} and 3.13 fb^{-1} at the center-of-mass (c.m.) energies of 3.773 GeV, 4.178 GeV, and 4.189-4.226 GeV, respectively. We report the measurements of strong phase differences in D^0 decays, including $K_{S/L}^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$, $K_{S/L}^0 K^+ K^-$, $K^+ \pi^- \pi^- \pi^+$ and $K^- \pi^+ \pi^0$, which can reduce the systematic uncertainty of γ/ϕ_3 measurement at LHCb and Belle II experiments. In addition, we report the amplitude analyses and measurements of the absolute branching fractions of D^0 , D^+ and D_s decays.

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1. Introduction

BEPCCII is a double-ring e^+e^- collider operating at c.m. energy between 2.0 GeV and 4.9 GeV, which has reached the design luminosity of $1 \times 10^{33} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ in April 2016. BESIII is a major spectrometer running at BEPCCII for the studies of hadron physics and τ -charm physics. Charm meson pairs $D\bar{D}(D_s\bar{D}_s^*)$ are produced near energy threshold 3.773 GeV (4.178 GeV and 4.189-4.226 GeV) without accompanying particles, corresponding to integrated luminosity of 2.93 fb^{-1} (3.19 fb^{-1} and 3.13 fb^{-1}) [1]. Based on these data samples, hadronic D decays can be studied with low background. A double tag (DT) technique is used in most analyses except 4.4, in which a single tag (ST) technique is used. DT is a method of fully reconstructing $D\bar{D}$ pair, which ST is a method of partially reconstructing a D meson. We report the recent results with precision significantly improved or observation for the first time. Charge-conjugate modes are implied throughout this paper.

2. Measurements of strong-phase parameters in D^0 decays

2.1 $D^0 \rightarrow K_{S/L}^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$

BESIII has reported the determination of strong-phase parameters in $D^0 \rightarrow K_{S/L}^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$ decay [2, 3]. In model-independent GGSZ approach [4], strong-phase parameters measured from quantum-correlated $D^0\bar{D}^0$ decays are the key input parameters for γ/ϕ_3 measurement. Three binning schemes are used in this work, equal $\Delta\delta_D$ ($\Delta\delta_D$ is the relative strong-phase between D^0 and $\bar{D}^0 \rightarrow K_{S/L}^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$), optimal and modified optimal. Two-dimensional fits are performed to extract signal events. In order to enlarge the amount of collected DT events, two partial-reconstruction methods are used by missing one π^+ from D and missing one π^0 from K_S^0 .

The results of c_i and s_i (c_i and s_i shown in Fig. 1 are the average $\cos\delta_D$ and $\sin\delta_D$ in Dalitz plot bin i , respectively.) from $D^0 \rightarrow K_{S/L}^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$, which are the most precise measurements to date. The strong-phase parameters are still limited by statistical uncertainty. BESIII results are a factor of 1.9 to 2.8 more precise than previous results, and the associated uncertainty on γ/ϕ_3 is reduced from 4 degrees to 1 degree. The improved results is important input for γ/ϕ_3 measurement in B decay.

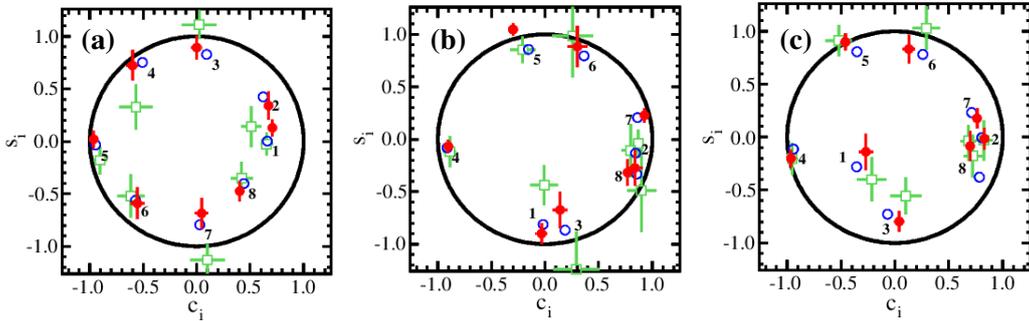


Figure 1: The c_i and s_i measured from this work, the predictions of Ref.[5] and the results of Ref. [6] corresponding to the red dots with error bars, the black open circles and green squares with error bars, respectively.

2.2 $D^0 \rightarrow K_{S/L}^0 K^+ K^-$

For the strong-phase parameters measured in $D^0 \rightarrow K_{S/L}^0 K^+ K^-$ decay [7], by using the equal $\Delta\delta_D$ binning scheme, the results of strong-phase parameters for N=2, 3 and 4 equal $\Delta\delta_D$ bins are obtained, which are consistent with the CLEO measurement [6] in all bins and are the most precise measurement to date of strong-phase difference in these decays. For N=2, 3 and 4 equal $\Delta\delta_D$ binning, the estimated uncertainties caused by the uncertainty of the measured values of c_i and s_i is 2.3° , 1.3° , and 1.3° , respectively. The values are also important for the determination of charm-mixing parameters and search of CP violation.

2.3 $D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$ and $D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^0$

Recently, BESIII reported a coherence factors and strong-phase differences study of $D \rightarrow K^\pm \pi^\mp \pi^+ \pi^-$ and $D \rightarrow K^\pm \pi^\mp \pi^0$ decays [8]. Based on the global analysis and equal $\Delta\delta_D$ binning scheme which the phase space is partitioned into 4 pairs of irregularly bin, the coherence factor (R) and average strong-phase difference (δ) of each decay are measured. The region of parameter spaces ($R_{K^3\pi}, \delta_D^{K^3\pi}$) and ($R_{K\pi\pi^0}, \delta_D^{K\pi\pi^0}$) encompassed by 2-3 σ confidence intervals are significantly more constrained than the measurements of CLEO-c [9]. The phase space is re-performed in four bins of the $D \rightarrow K^\pm \pi^\mp \pi^+ \pi^-$ to yield results, to which the γ/ϕ_3 is determined with the precision to be around 6° .

3. Amplitude analyses

3.1 $D_s^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^0 \eta$

BESIII has reported the first amplitude analysis of $D_s^+ \rightarrow \pi\pi^0\eta$ decay [10] which is a W-annihilation (WA) dominated channel. We retain a sample of 1239 $D_s^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^0 \eta$ candidates that has a purity of $(97.7 \pm 0.5)\%$. The WA dominant decays $D_s^+ \rightarrow a_0(980)^+ \pi^0$ and $D_s^+ \rightarrow a_0(980)^0 \pi^+$ are observed for the first time. The measured absolute branching fraction (BF) $\mathcal{B}(D_s^+ \rightarrow a_0(980)^{+(0)} \pi^{0(+)}, a_0(980)^{+(0)} \rightarrow \pi^{+(0)} \eta) = (1.46 \pm 0.15_{\text{stat.}} \pm 0.23_{\text{syst.}})$ is larger than the BFs of other measured pure WA decays by at least one order of magnitude. Furthermore, the BF of $D_s^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^0 \eta$ is measured with significantly improved precision.

3.2 $D_{(s)}^+ \rightarrow K_S^0 \pi^+ (K^+) \pi^0$

Using a data sample of 692 DT candidate events with a purity of 97.4%, we perform the first Dalitz plot (DP) analysis of the singly Cabibbo-suppressed (SCS) decay $D^+ \rightarrow K_S^0 K^+ \pi^0$ [11]. The DP analysis shows that the BF of dominated component $K^*(892)^+ K_S^0$ is $(8.69 \pm 0.46_{\text{stat.}} \pm 0.68_{\text{syst.}} \pm 0.18_{\text{ext.}}) \times 10^{-3}$, which is consistent with the previous results [12] but with a precision improved by a factor of 4.6.

We perform an amplitude analysis of the $D_s^+ \rightarrow K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^0$ decay [13] to better understand the vector-pseudoscalar channels of the SCS D_s^+ decay. We obtained 609 DT events with a purity of 83.1%. Amplitudes, fit fractions (FFs) and phases contributing to this final state are measured. The BF for the decay $D_s^+ \rightarrow K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^0$ is measured to be $(5.43 \pm 0.30_{\text{stat.}} \pm 0.15_{\text{syst.}}) \times 10^{-3}$ with an improved precision by a factor of 3 compared to the previous measurement [14]. The decay BFs

with intermediate states like $K^*(892)^{0(+)}\pi^{+(0)}$ and $K_S^0\rho$ are consistent with the theoretical predictions in Ref. [13].

3.3 $D_s^+ \rightarrow K^+K^-\pi^+(\pi^0)$

BESIII perform an amplitude analysis of $D_s^+ \rightarrow K^+K^-\pi^+$ [16], this results provides important inputs for theory and refines theoretical models. Meanwhile, there are obvious difference between FFs of BaBar and CLEO results [17, 18]. We obtain 4399 DT events with a purity of 99.6% which means a background free. And a model-independent partial wave analysis in the low K^+K^- mass region is performed to determine the K^+K^- S-wave lineshape. The BF of $D_s^+ \rightarrow K^+K^-\pi^+$ is determined to be $(54.7 \pm 0.08_{\text{stat.}} \pm 0.13_{\text{syst.}})\%$ which is the most precise measurement up to know. The decay BFs with intermediate states like $\bar{K}^*(892)^0K^+$ and $\phi(1020)\pi^+$ are consistent with theoretical predictions [19].

An amplitude analysis of decay $D_s^+ \rightarrow K^+K^-\pi^+\pi^0$, which BF has a large systematic uncertainty, has performed by BESIII [20]. This analysis allows to probe the substructures involving $K_1(1270)$, $K_1(1400)$ and $f_1(1420)$ mesons. Using a data sample of 3088 DT events with a purity of 97.5%, the magnitudes, FFs and phases of different components have been determined. For the BFs measurements, the BF of $D_s^+ \rightarrow K^+K^-\pi^+\pi^0$ is measured to be $(5.42 \pm 0.10_{\text{stat.}} \pm 0.17_{\text{syst.}})\%$ with the precision significantly improved. The BFs of intermediate processes like $(\phi\rho^+)$ and $\bar{K}^{*0}K^{*+}$ are obtained with a much better precision than previous measurements [21, 22]. The inconsistency exists between different experiments of the ratio of $K_1(1270)$ decay, $R_{K_1(1270)} = \frac{\mathcal{B}(K_1(1270) \rightarrow K^*\pi)}{\mathcal{B}(K_1(1270) \rightarrow K\rho)}$ [23]. This ratio is measured to be $(0.51 \pm 0.12_{\text{stat.}} \pm 0.09_{\text{syst.}})\%$ in this analysis, which is consistent with the results using CLEO's and Belle' data within uncertainties.

4. Absolute branching fractions

4.1 $D \rightarrow \eta X$

BESIII report the first measurements of the absolute BFs of 14 hadronic decays to exclusive final states with an η [24] which are key potential backgrounds in some lepton flavor universality (LFU) tests. The known exclusive $D^{0(+)} \rightarrow \eta X$ decays only account for 44% (16%) of their corresponding inclusive rates. Moreover, these decays are crucial to address the tensions found in LFU tests with semi-leptonic B decays, as well as searches for CP violation. In this analysis, two decay channels with largest BFs are $\mathcal{B}(D^0 \rightarrow K^-\pi^+\eta) = (1.853 \pm 0.025_{\text{stat.}} \pm 0.031_{\text{syst.}})\%$ and $\mathcal{B}(D^+ \rightarrow K_S^0\pi^+\eta) = (1.309 \pm 0.037_{\text{stat.}} \pm 0.031_{\text{syst.}})\%$. The charge-parity asymmetries for the six decays with highest event yields are determined, and so no evidence of CP violation is found.

4.2 $D \rightarrow \omega\pi\pi$

We measure the BFs of SCS decays $D \rightarrow \omega\pi\pi$ [25]. In this analysis, the BF of $D^0 \rightarrow \omega\pi^+\pi^-$ is determined to be $(1.33 \pm 0.16_{\text{stat.}} \pm 0.12_{\text{syst.}}) \times 10^{-3}$ with the statistical significance of 12.9σ , and corresponding precision highly improved than CLEO measurement. We also measure the BF of $D^+ \rightarrow \omega\pi^+\pi^0$, which is $(3.87 \pm 0.83_{\text{stat.}} \pm 0.25_{\text{syst.}}) \times 10^{-3}$, for the first time with the statistical significance of 7.7σ . In addition, no significant signal of $D^0 \rightarrow \omega\pi^0\pi^0$ is observed, and the upper limit on the BF is set to be $\mathcal{B}(D^0 \rightarrow \omega\pi^0\pi^0) < 1.10 \times 10^{-3}$ at 90% confidence level.

4.3 $D \rightarrow K\bar{K}\pi\pi$

We report the first direct measurements of the absolute BF's of nine $D^{0(+)} \rightarrow K\bar{K}\pi\pi$ decays containing K_S^0 or π^0 mesons. The $D^0 \rightarrow K^+K^-\pi^0\pi^0$, $D^0 \rightarrow K_S^0K^-\pi^+\pi^0$, $D^0 \rightarrow K_S^0K^+\pi^-\pi^0$, $D^+ \rightarrow K_S^0K^+\pi^0\pi^0$ and $D^+ \rightarrow K_S^0K_S^0\pi^+\pi^0$ decays are observed for the first time, while the BF's of the $D^0 \rightarrow K_S^0K_S^0\pi^+\pi^-$, $D^+ \rightarrow K^+K^-\pi^+\pi^0$, $D^+ \rightarrow K_S^0K^-\pi^+\pi^+$ and $D^+ \rightarrow K_S^0K^+\pi^+\pi^-$ decays are measured with improved precision in comparison with the world-average values. Our results can be used to explore $D\bar{D}$ mixing or CP violation and to understand quark SU(3)-flavor symmetry.

4.4 $D_s^+ \rightarrow PP$

The BF's D_s^+ to two pseudo-scalar mesons ($K^+\eta'$, $\pi^+\eta'$, $K^+\eta$, $\rho^+\eta$, $K^+K_S^0$, $\pi^+K_S^0$ and $K^+\pi^0$) are measured by analyzing data collected at $\sqrt{s} = 4.178\text{-}4.226$ GeV with BESIII [27], which can be used to explore SU(3) asymmetries and provide crucial calibrations to different theoretical models. The signal yields are extracted by fitting the invariant mass of D_s^+ with ST events and the normalization mode $D_s^+ \rightarrow K^+K^-\pi^+$ is used in this work. Precision of our measurements are significantly improved in comparison with current world average values.

4.5 $D^+ \rightarrow \eta\eta\pi^+$ and $D^{0(+)} \rightarrow \eta\pi^+\pi^{-(0)}$

We measure the absolute BF's of $D^+ \rightarrow \eta\eta\pi^+$, $D^+ \rightarrow \eta\pi^+\pi^0$ and $D^0 \rightarrow \eta\pi^+\pi^-$ to be $(2.96 \pm 0.24_{\text{stat.}} \pm 0.10_{\text{syst.}}) \times 10^{-3}$, $(2.23 \pm 0.15_{\text{stat.}} \pm 0.10_{\text{syst.}}) \times 10^{-3}$, and $(1.20 \pm 0.07_{\text{stat.}} \pm 0.04_{\text{syst.}}) \times 10^{-3}$, respectively. The BF of $D^+ \rightarrow \eta\eta\pi^+$ is measured for the first time. The BF's of $D^{0(+)} \rightarrow \eta\pi^+\pi^{-(0)}$ are consistent with the CLEO's results with improved precision. We also test CP asymmetries of the BF's of D and \bar{D} decays, but no evidence of CP violation is found [28].

5. Summary

We report the measurements of the strong-phase parameters in D^0 decays with best precision, which can reduce the systematic uncertainty for γ/ϕ_3 measurements at LHCb and Belle II. In excess of five amplitude analyses of D decays are performed. In addition, more than 20 D meson decays are reported for the first time and exceeding D decays are measured with best precision. These results have been used to check SU(3) asymmetry and to support isospin symmetry, but no CP violation is found. At the c.m. energy $\sqrt{s} = 3.773$ GeV, BESIII plans to take another 17 fb^{-1} data [26]. More results in hadronic charm meson decays can be expected.

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