

Searching for possible large CP -violation effects in neutral-charm-meson decays

Dongsheng Du*

The Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey 08540

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Possible large CP -violation effects in the partial-decay-rate asymmetries for the D^0 - \bar{D}^0 system are discussed. All possible nonleptonic two-body final states are studied. It turns out that $D^0 \rightarrow \pi^- K^+$, $\pi^0 K^0$, $\pi^0 \eta$, $\pi^0 \omega$, $K^+ K^-$, ϕK^0 are the most promising channels. If the D^0 - \bar{D}^0 mixing is on $\sim 1\%$ level, 10^4 - 10^6 $D^0 \bar{D}^0$ pairs would be enough for testing these channels.

I. INTRODUCTION

There was a common belief in the literature that the CP -violation effects in D^0 - \bar{D}^0 decays were very small because of the small mixing. But some recent data from the Mark III group seem to show the possibility¹ that the D^0 - \bar{D}^0 mixing might be on 1% level (this corresponds to $\Delta m_D/\Gamma_D \sim 0.1$). Although more recent analysis has failed to support this possibility, it is not excluded. This inspired a hope for larger CP -violation effects in the neutral-charm-meson decays.²

Theoretically, some authors advocated that the long-distance effect dominates the D^0 - \bar{D}^0 mixing.^{3,4} They estimated, within the framework of the standard model with three generations of quarks and leptons, that

$$\frac{\Delta m_D}{\Gamma_D} \sim 10^{-3} \text{ (Ref. 4) ,}$$

$$\frac{\Delta m_D}{\Gamma_D} \sim 10^{-2} \text{ (Ref. 3) ,}$$

respectively. They even estimated the upper limit for $\Delta m_D/\Gamma_D$:

$$\frac{\Delta m_D}{\Gamma_D} \leq 0.1 \text{ (Ref. 3) .}$$

Obviously, in the extreme case of $\Delta m_D/\Gamma_D \sim 0.1$, the mixing should be $\sim 1\%$ level. Thus, if the Mark III data are confirmed, this would bring us to the border of new physics.

Keeping the large D^0 - \bar{D}^0 mixing in mind, there would be a hope of large CP -violation effects in D^0 - \bar{D}^0 decays owing to the interplay of mixing and amplitude interference just as in the B^0 - \bar{B}^0 case.^{5,6} The observation of CP -violation effects in D^0 - \bar{D}^0 decays will provide another sign of new physics in addition to the large mixing itself. In this short paper we shall discuss possible large CP -violation effects in the neutral- D -meson decays in detail.

II. PARTIAL-DECAY-RATE ASYMMETRIES

Take the phase convention as

$$CP |D^0\rangle = |\bar{D}^0\rangle . \tag{1}$$

Define

$$\begin{aligned} |D_S\rangle &= p |D^0\rangle + q |\bar{D}^0\rangle , \\ |D_L\rangle &= p |D^0\rangle - q |\bar{D}^0\rangle . \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

Assume the corresponding eigenvalues of D_S, D_L are

$$\lambda_S = m_S - i \frac{\gamma_S}{2} , \tag{3}$$

$$\lambda_L = m_L - i \frac{\gamma_L}{2} ,$$

respectively. Then the time-evolved states are (CPT invariance is assumed throughout this paper)

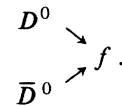
$$|D_P^0(t)\rangle = g_+(t) |D^0\rangle + \frac{q}{p} g_-(t) |\bar{D}^0\rangle , \tag{4}$$

$$|\bar{D}_P^0(t)\rangle = \frac{p}{q} g_-(t) |D^0\rangle + g_+(t) |\bar{D}^0\rangle ,$$

where

$$g_{\pm}(t) = \frac{1}{2} (e^{-i\lambda_S t} \pm e^{-i\lambda_L t}) . \tag{5}$$

We consider only those hadronic final states f which both D^0 and \bar{D}^0 can decay into:



In these cases, we have amplitude interference which will enhance the asymmetry.

Denote the CP -conjugate state of f by \bar{f}

$$|\bar{f}\rangle = CP |f\rangle . \tag{6}$$

Here we do not restrict ourselves to the cases $\bar{f} = f$. Instead, we consider all possible final states. This is different from Bigi and Sanda.²

Because the very small lifetime difference of D_S, D_L , we have to consider time-integrated effects. So, we define the time-integrated partial-decay-rate asymmetry

$$C_f = \frac{\Gamma(D_P^0 \rightarrow f) - \Gamma(\bar{D}_P^0 \rightarrow \bar{f})}{\Gamma(D_P^0 \rightarrow f) + \Gamma(\bar{D}_P^0 \rightarrow \bar{f})} , \tag{7}$$

where

$$\Gamma(D_P^0 \rightarrow f) = \int_0^\infty dt |\langle f | D_P^0(t) \rangle|^2 , \tag{8}$$

$$\Gamma(\bar{D}_p^0 \rightarrow \bar{f}) = \int_0^\infty dt |\langle \bar{f} | \bar{D}_p^0(t) \rangle|^2. \quad (9)$$

We only discuss the following cases where there is no direct CP violation in the magnitude of the amplitude in pure D^0, \bar{D}^0 decays, i.e.,

$$|A(D^0 \rightarrow f)| = |\bar{A}(\bar{D}^0 \rightarrow \bar{f})|. \quad (10)$$

In order to guarantee the equality of Eq. (10), some conditions should be satisfied. Assume that there are two different strong-interaction channels,

$$A(D^0 \rightarrow f) \equiv A(f) = G_1 e^{i\alpha} + G_2 e^{i\beta}, \quad (11)$$

$$\bar{A}(\bar{D}^0 \rightarrow \bar{f}) \equiv \bar{A}(\bar{f}) = G_1^* e^{i\alpha} + G_2^* e^{i\beta}, \quad (12)$$

where G_1, G_2 are Kobayashi-Maskawa factors, and α, β are the strong-interaction phases. Obviously, if

$$G_1 = G_2 \quad (13)$$

or

$$\alpha = \beta, \quad (14)$$

Eq. (10) will be satisfied. We shall see later, Eq. (13) is usually satisfied.

Under the condition of Eq. (10), all the amplitudes cancel out in the calculation of the asymmetry C_f .

Define

$$x = \frac{\bar{A}(f)}{A(f)}; \quad (15)$$

$$\bar{x} = \frac{A(\bar{f})}{\bar{A}(\bar{f})}; \quad (16)$$

$$G_+ \equiv \int_0^\infty dt |g_+(t)|^2 = \frac{2+z^2-y^2}{2\gamma(1+z^2)(1-y^2)},$$

$$G_- \equiv \int_0^\infty dt |g_-(t)|^2 = \frac{z^2+y^2}{2\gamma(1+z^2)(1-y^2)}, \quad (17)$$

$$G_{+-} \equiv \int_0^\infty dt g_+^*(t)g_-(t) = \frac{(1+z^2)y + i(1-y^2)z}{2\gamma(1+z^2)(1-y^2)};$$

$$\Delta m = m_S - m_L,$$

$$\Delta\gamma = \gamma_S - \gamma_L > 0, \quad (18)$$

$$\gamma = \frac{\gamma_S + \gamma_L}{2}.$$

In Eq. (17),

$$z = \frac{\Delta m}{\gamma} \quad (19)$$

is the mixing parameter, while

$$y = \frac{\Delta\gamma}{2\gamma}. \quad (20)$$

Because y is the same order as z (Ref. 3), even in the extreme case of $z \sim 0.1$, we still have

$$z^2, y^2 \ll 1. \quad (21)$$

In that case

$$G_+ \approx \frac{1}{\gamma},$$

$$G_- \approx \frac{z^2 + y^2}{2\gamma}, \quad (22)$$

$$G_{+-} \approx \frac{y + iz}{2\gamma}.$$

After a lengthy but straightforward calculation, we arrive at

$$C_f = \frac{(z^2 + y^2) \left(\left| \frac{q}{p} x \right|^2 - \left| \frac{p}{q} \bar{x} \right|^2 \right) + 2y \operatorname{Re} \left[\frac{q}{p} x - \frac{p}{q} \bar{x} \right] - 2z \operatorname{Im} \left[\frac{q}{p} x - \frac{p}{q} \bar{x} \right]}{4 + (z^2 + y^2) \left(\left| \frac{q}{p} x \right|^2 + \left| \frac{p}{q} \bar{x} \right|^2 \right) + 2y \operatorname{Re} \left[\frac{q}{p} x + \frac{p}{q} \bar{x} \right] - 2z \operatorname{Im} \left[\frac{q}{p} x + \frac{p}{q} \bar{x} \right]}. \quad (23)$$

This expression is rephasing invariant because $(q/p)x$ and $(p/q)\bar{x}$ are phase-convention independent (see Ref. 6).

If we assume

$$\bar{x} = x^*, \quad (24)$$

then

$$\frac{q}{p} x = \left| \frac{q}{p} x \right| e^{i\phi}, \quad \frac{p}{q} x^* = \left| \frac{p}{q} x^* \right| e^{-i\phi}, \quad (25)$$

that is, $(q/p)x$ and $(p/q)x^*$ just have opposite phase.

Substituting Eqs. (24) and (25) into (23), we have

$$C_f = \frac{(z^2 + y^2) |x|^2 \left(\left| \frac{q}{p} \right|^2 - \left| \frac{p}{q} \right|^2 \right) + 2y |x| \left(\left| \frac{q}{p} \right| - \left| \frac{p}{q} \right| \right) \cos\phi - 2z |x| \left(\left| \frac{q}{p} \right| + \left| \frac{p}{q} \right| \right) \sin\phi}{4 + (z^2 + y^2) |x|^2 \left(\left| \frac{q}{p} \right|^2 + \left| \frac{p}{q} \right|^2 \right) + 2y |x| \left(\left| \frac{q}{p} \right| + \left| \frac{p}{q} \right| \right) \cos\phi - 2z |x| \left(\left| \frac{q}{p} \right| - \left| \frac{p}{q} \right| \right) \sin\phi}. \quad (26)$$

TABLE I. Final results. In the third column, spec and ex denote spectator and exchange diagrams, respectively.

Quark decay	$D^0 \rightarrow f$	Diagram	$x = \frac{\bar{A}(f)}{A(f)}$	$ x ^2$	C_f	$C_f(C, I = \text{event})$	B (%)	$N_{D\bar{D}}(\sin\phi = 1)$	$N_{D\bar{D}}(\sin\phi = 0.1)$
$c \rightarrow s \bar{s}u$	$K^+ K^-$	spec, ex _u	$\frac{V_{cs} V_{us}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	1	$-0.1 \sin\phi$	$-0.2 \sin\phi$	0.68	1.5×10^4	1.5×10^6
	$\phi \pi^0$	spec	$\frac{V_{cs} V_{us}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	1	$-0.1 \sin\phi$	$-0.2 \sin\phi$	0.18	5.5×10^4	5.5×10^6
	$\phi \eta$	spec	$\frac{V_{cd} V_{ud}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	1	$-0.1 \sin\phi$	$-0.2 \sin\phi$	0.09 ^a	1.1×10^5	1.1×10^7
$c \rightarrow d \bar{d}u$	$\pi^+ \pi^-$	spec, ex _u	$\frac{V_{cd} V_{ud}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	1	$-0.1 \sin\phi$	$-0.2 \sin\phi$	0.18	5.5×10^4	5.5×10^6
	$\pi^0 \pi^0$	ex _d	$\frac{V_{cd} V_{ud}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	1	$-0.1 \sin\phi$	$-0.2 \sin\phi$	0.09 ^a	1.1×10^5	1.1×10^7
	$\eta \eta$	ex _d	$\frac{V_{cd} V_{ud}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	1	$-0.1 \sin\phi$	$-0.2 \sin\phi$	0.18	5.5×10^4	5.5×10^6
	$\omega \omega$	ex _d	$\frac{V_{cd} V_{ud}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	1	$-0.1 \sin\phi$	$-0.2 \sin\phi$	0.18	5.5×10^4	5.5×10^6
$c \rightarrow d \bar{s}u$	$\pi^- K^+$	spec, ex _u	$\frac{V_{cd} V_{ud}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	1	$-0.1 \sin\phi$	$-0.2 \sin\phi$	1.6×10^{-2a}	1.3×10^4	1.3×10^6
	$\pi^0 K^0$	ex _d	$\frac{V_{cd} V_{ud}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	1	$-0.1 \sin\phi$	$-0.2 \sin\phi$	1.6×10^{-2a}	1.3×10^4	1.3×10^6
	ηK^0	ex _d	$\frac{V_{cd} V_{ud}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	351	$-0.7 \sin\phi$	$-0.6 \sin\phi$	1.6×10^{-2a}	1.3×10^4	1.3×10^6
	ωK^0	ex _d	$\frac{V_{cd} V_{ud}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	351	$-0.7 \sin\phi$	$-0.6 \sin\phi$	1.6×10^{-2a}	1.3×10^4	1.3×10^6
$c \rightarrow s \bar{d}u$	ϕK^0	ex _d	$\frac{V_{cd} V_{ud}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	351	$-0.7 \sin\phi$	$-0.6 \sin\phi$	3.4×10^{-3a}	6.0×10^4	6.0×10^6
	$\phi \bar{K}^0$	ex _d	$\frac{V_{cd} V_{ud}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	351	$-0.7 \sin\phi$	$-0.6 \sin\phi$	1.18	3.0×10^6	3.0×10^8
	$\phi \bar{K}^0$	ex _s	$\frac{V_{cd} V_{ud}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	351	$-0.7 \sin\phi$	$-0.6 \sin\phi$	2.2	1.6×10^6	1.6×10^8
	$\pi^0 \bar{K}^0$	spec, ex _d	$\frac{V_{cd} V_{ud}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	351	$-0.7 \sin\phi$	$-0.6 \sin\phi$	1.8	2.0×10^6	2.0×10^8
	$\eta \bar{K}^0$	spec, ex _d	$\frac{V_{cd} V_{ud}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	351	$-0.7 \sin\phi$	$-0.6 \sin\phi$	3.8	9.4×10^5	9.4×10^7
	$\omega \bar{K}^0$	spec, ex _d	$\frac{V_{cd} V_{ud}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	351	$-0.7 \sin\phi$	$-0.6 \sin\phi$	3.8	9.4×10^5	9.4×10^7
	$\pi^0 \bar{K}^{0*}$	spec, ex _d	$\frac{V_{cd} V_{us}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	2.85×10^{-3}	$-5.3 \times 10^{-3} \sin\phi$	$-1.1 \times 10^{-2} \sin\phi$	2.1	1.7×10^6	1.7×10^8
	$\rho^0 \bar{K}^0$	spec, ex _d	$\frac{V_{cd} V_{us}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	2.85×10^{-3}	$-5.3 \times 10^{-3} \sin\phi$	$-1.1 \times 10^{-2} \sin\phi$	2.1	1.7×10^6	1.7×10^8
$c \rightarrow s \bar{d}u$	$\pi^+ K^-$	spec, ex _u	$\frac{V_{cd} V_{us}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	2.85×10^{-3}	$-5.3 \times 10^{-3} \sin\phi$	$-1.1 \times 10^{-2} \sin\phi$	1.3	2.7×10^6	2.7×10^8
	$\rho^+ K^-$	spec, ex _u	$\frac{V_{cd} V_{us}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	2.85×10^{-3}	$-5.3 \times 10^{-3} \sin\phi$	$-1.1 \times 10^{-2} \sin\phi$	5.6	6.4×10^5	6.4×10^7
	$\rho^+ K^-$	spec, ex _u	$\frac{V_{cd} V_{us}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	2.85×10^{-3}	$-5.3 \times 10^{-3} \sin\phi$	$-1.1 \times 10^{-2} \sin\phi$	13.7	2.6×10^5	2.6×10^7
	$\pi^+ K^-$	spec, ex _u	$\frac{V_{cd} V_{us}^*}{V_{cd}^* V_{ud}}$	2.85×10^{-3}	$-5.3 \times 10^{-3} \sin\phi$	$-1.1 \times 10^{-2} \sin\phi$	7.3	4.9×10^5	4.9×10^7

^aTheoretically estimated branching ratio from the known data.

In the case of the $B^0-\bar{B}^0$ system, the short-distance effect dominates $\Delta m, \Delta\gamma$. There we can calculate $q/p, p/q$ by means of the box diagram. It turns out that $|q/p| \sim |p/q| \sim 1$ is a very good approximation. In the $D^0-\bar{D}^0$ case, the long-distance effect dominates $\Delta m, \Delta\gamma$, and we do not know how to calculate q/p and p/q . In order to estimate the order of magnitude of C_f in Eq. (26), we here, as in Ref. 2, assume

$$\left| \frac{q}{p} \right| - \left| \frac{p}{q} \right| \ll 1, \quad \left| \frac{q}{p} \right|^2 - \left| \frac{p}{q} \right|^2 \ll 1. \quad (27)$$

Substituting Eq. (27) into (26), we have

$$C_f = \begin{cases} -z|x|\sin\phi & \text{for } |x| \leq 1, \\ \frac{-4z|x|\sin\phi}{4+2(z^2+y^2)|x|^2} & \text{for } |x| \gg 1. \end{cases} \quad (28)$$

We have searched for all possible two-body final states of $D^0-\bar{D}^0$ decays. Only $D^0, \bar{D}^0 \rightarrow K^0 \bar{K}^0$ do not satisfy the condition of Eq. (10). All other decay modes satisfy Eq. (10) and are listed in Table I. They have only three different values of $|x|^2$, namely, 1, 2.85×10^{-3} , and 351. Here we have taken $c_1 \sim c_2 \sim c_3 \sim 1$, $s_1 \sim 0.231$, $s_2 \sim s_1^2$, $s_3 \sim 0.5s_2$. If we take the mixing parameter $z \sim 0.1$, we have

$$C_f = \begin{cases} -0.1 \sin\phi & \text{for } |x|^2 = 1, \\ -5.3 \times 10^{-3} \sin\phi & \text{for } |x|^2 = 2.85 \times 10^{-3}, \\ -0.7 \sin\phi & \text{for } |x|^2 = 351. \end{cases} \quad (29)$$

For the branching ratios, there are already experimental data for most of the two-body decays.⁷ For the processes for which there are no data we can estimate the corresponding branching ratios through the known data. For example,

$$\frac{B(\pi^- K^+)}{B(\pi^+ K^-)} \simeq \frac{|V_{us} V_{cd}^*|^2}{|V_{ud} V_{cs}^*|^2} \sim 2.85 \times 10^{-3} \quad (30)$$

so we can deduce

$$B(\pi^- K^+) \sim 2.85 \times 10^{-3} B(\pi^+ K^-) \sim 1.6 \times 10^{-2} \sigma_0. \quad (31)$$

$$e^+ e^- \rightarrow \gamma^* \rightarrow D^* \bar{D} + D \bar{D}^* \rightarrow D \bar{D} \gamma, e^+ e^- \rightarrow \gamma^* \rightarrow D^* \bar{D}^* \rightarrow D \bar{D} + \pi \gamma, e^+ e^- \rightarrow 2\gamma^* \rightarrow D \bar{D}, \quad (35)$$

$\eta_c = \eta_l = 1$ because $D \bar{D}$ is in a S wave. For the processes

$$e^+ e^- \rightarrow \gamma^* \rightarrow D^* \bar{D}^* \rightarrow D \bar{D} + \pi \pi, \gamma \gamma, \quad (36)$$

$\eta_c = -1, \eta_l = +1$, i.e., $\eta_c = -\eta_l$ if $D \bar{D}$ is in a S wave. In all the above cases, we can always write the time evolved state as

$$|i\rangle = |D^0(k_1, t_1) \bar{D}^0(k_2, t_2)\rangle + \eta |D^0(k_2, t_2) \bar{D}^0(k_1, t_1)\rangle, \quad (37)$$

where $\eta = \eta_c$ or η_l .

Assume that $D^0 \rightarrow l^+ X, \bar{D}^0 \rightarrow l^- X$ only. Then we can use semileptonic decay to tag on one of the two time-evolved states $D_P^0(t)$ or $\bar{D}_P^0(t)$. So we define the leptonic tagging asymmetry C_{fl} as

$$C_{fl} = \frac{N(l^-, f) - N(l^+, \bar{f})}{N(l^-, f) + N(l^+, \bar{f})}, \quad (38)$$

We use a superscript a to denote the theoretically estimated branching ratios in the Table I.

For the number of $D^0-\bar{D}^0$ pairs needed for testing the asymmetries, we use

$$N_{D\bar{D}} \sim \frac{1}{B} \frac{1}{C_f^2} \quad (32)$$

for one-standard-deviation (1σ) signature, and

$$N_{D\bar{D}} \sim \frac{9}{B} \frac{1}{C_f^2} \quad (33)$$

for 3σ signature. In Table I we present only $N_{D\bar{D}}$ for the 1σ signature, but for different values of $\sin\phi$ ($\sin\phi = 1$ and $\sin\phi = 0.1$).

Because the leptonic tagging asymmetries C_{fl} are the same order as C_f (see the next section), we estimate $N_{D\bar{D}}$ only by use of C_f . In addition, in Table I we also give the quark diagrams responsible for the decays. Here, spec means spectator diagram and ex_q means exchange diagram with a $q\bar{q}$ pair created from the vacuum.

III. LEPTONIC TAGGING AND CHARGED-CHARM TAGGING

In most cases $D^0 \bar{D}^0$ are produced in pair. So we have to consider² whether the $D^0 \bar{D}^0$ pair is produced in the charge-conjugation-even or -odd or orbital-angular-momentum-even or -odd states. We use η_c, η_l to denote charge-conjugation parity and angular-momentum parity of the $D \bar{D}$ pair, respectively. Then

$$\eta_c = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{for } C \text{ even,} \\ -1 & \text{for } C \text{ odd;} \end{cases}$$

$$\eta_l = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{for } l \text{ even,} \\ -1 & \text{for } l \text{ odd.} \end{cases}$$

In most cases, $\eta_c = \eta_l$. In some cases, $\eta_c = -\eta_l$. For instance, in the processes

$$e^+ e^- \rightarrow \gamma^* \rightarrow D \bar{D}, \quad (34)$$

$$e^+ e^- \rightarrow \gamma^* \rightarrow D^* \bar{D} + D \bar{D}^* \rightarrow D \bar{D} \pi,$$

$\eta_c = \eta_l = -1$ because $D \bar{D}$ is in a P -wave state. In the processes

where

$$N(l^-, f) = \int_0^\infty dt_1 dt_2 |\langle l^-, f | i \rangle|^2, \quad N(l^+, \bar{f}) = \int_0^\infty dt_1 dt_2 |\langle l^+, \bar{f} | i \rangle|^2. \quad (39)$$

Using

$$|(D^0 \rightarrow l^+ X)| = |\bar{A}(\bar{D}^0 \rightarrow l^- X)|, \quad |A(f)| = |\bar{A}(\bar{f})|, \quad (40)$$

and

$$z^2, y^2 \ll 1$$

we have

$$C_{fl} = \frac{N}{D}, \quad (41)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} N &= (2+\eta)(z^2+y^2) |x|^2 \left[\left| \frac{q}{p} \right|^2 - \left| \frac{p}{q} \right|^2 \right] + 2(1+\eta) |x| \left[y \left[\left| \frac{q}{p} \right| - \left| \frac{p}{q} \right| \right] \cos\phi - z \left[\left| \frac{q}{p} \right| + \left| \frac{p}{q} \right| \right] \sin\phi \right] \\ &\approx -4(1+\eta) |x| |z \sin\phi|, \end{aligned} \quad (42)$$

$$\begin{aligned} D &= 4 + (2+\eta)(z^2+y^2) |x|^2 \left[\left| \frac{q}{p} \right|^2 + \left| \frac{p}{q} \right|^2 \right] + 2(1+\eta) |x| \left[y \left[\left| \frac{q}{p} \right| + \left| \frac{p}{q} \right| \right] \cos\phi - z \left[\left| \frac{q}{p} \right| - \left| \frac{p}{q} \right| \right] \sin\phi \right] \\ &\approx 4 + 2(2+\eta)(z^2+y^2) |x|^2 + 4(1+\eta)y |x| \cos\phi. \end{aligned} \quad (43)$$

Thus

$$C_{fl} = \begin{cases} \frac{-8 |x| |z \sin\phi|}{4 + 6 |x|^2 (z^2 + y^2) + 8 |x| |y \cos\phi|} & \text{for } C(l) \text{ even,} \\ 0 & \text{for } C(l) \text{ odd.} \end{cases} \quad (44)$$

The corresponding values of C_{fl} for different decay modes are given in the Table I. They are in the same order of magnitude as C_f .

Sometimes, a charged-charm meson D^+ (D^-) is produced along with a neutral one, \bar{D}^0 (D^0):

$$e^+ e^- \rightarrow D^0 D^- X, \quad e^+ e^- \rightarrow \bar{D}^0 D^+ X. \quad (45)$$

Tagging on D^+ (D^-) we can know the other partner to be \bar{D}^0 (D^0) at $t=0$. In that case we can still use the asymmetry defined by Eq. (7).

IV. THE PENGUIN-DIAGRAM CONTRIBUTION

The penguin diagram can only cause $c \rightarrow u$ and $\bar{c} \rightarrow \bar{u}$ decays. The effective Hamiltonian is⁸

$$H_{\text{penguin}}^{c \rightarrow u} = C_p \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{ub} V_{cb}^* \bar{u} \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \lambda_a c (\bar{u} \gamma^\mu \lambda_a u + \bar{d} \gamma^\mu \lambda_a d + \bar{s} \gamma^\mu \lambda_a s) + \text{H.c.}, \quad (46)$$

where

$$C_p = \frac{\alpha_s(m_c^2)}{12\pi} \ln \left[\frac{m_b^2}{m_c^2} \right] \approx 0.013. \quad (47)$$

In view of Eq. (46), for the two-body final states, the penguin diagram can only contribute to

$$D^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0, \eta \eta, \omega \omega, \pi^+ \pi^-, K^+ K^-.$$

But the ratios between the penguin and the spectator or exchange diagram contributions are very small, namely,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\Gamma_{\text{penguin}}(D^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0)}{\Gamma_{\text{exchange}}(D^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0)} &\approx C_p^2 \frac{|V_{ud} V_{cb}^*|^2}{|V_{cd}^* V_{ud}|^2} \\ &\sim C_p^2 s_2^2 \sim C_p^2 s_1^4 \\ &\sim 4.8 \times 10^{-7}, \end{aligned} \quad (48a)$$

$$\frac{\Gamma_{\text{penguin}}(D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-)}{\Gamma_{\text{spectator}}(D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-)} \approx C_p^2 \frac{|V_{ub} V_{cb}^*|^2}{|V_{cd}^* V_{ud}|^2} \sim C_p^2 s_2^2 \sim 4.8 \times 10^{-7}, \quad (48b)$$

$$\frac{\Gamma_{\text{penguin}}(D^0 \rightarrow K^+ K^-)}{\Gamma_{\text{spectator}}(D^0 \rightarrow K^+ K^-)} \approx C_p^2 \frac{|V_{ub} V_{cb}^*|^2}{|V_{us} V_{cs}^*|^2} \sim C_p^2 s_2^2 \sim 4.8 \times 10^{-7}. \quad (48c)$$

So, the penguin contributions can be completely neglected.

V. DISCUSSION

In our estimations, we have used two conditions: Eqs. (10) and (24). Equation (10) is always satisfied, but Eq. (24) is not because of the final-state interactions. The detailed discussion can be found in Ref. 6. Here we only want to emphasize that $\bar{x} = x^*$ is just a qualitative approximation. The only decay channel where $\bar{x} = x^*$ might be exact is $D^0 \rightarrow \phi \bar{K}^0$ or ϕK^0 . These two modes have only one isospin final state so that $\bar{x} = x^*$ might be true. Unfortunately, the rescattering of $D^0 \rightarrow \bar{K}^{0*} \eta \rightarrow \bar{K}^0 \phi$, $D^0 \rightarrow K^{0*} \eta \rightarrow K^0 \phi$ also contribute to these decays,⁹ and the rescattering involves different isospin states, that makes $\bar{x} = x^*$ even for $D^0 \rightarrow \phi \bar{K}^0, \phi K^0$, approximate. In

addition to $\phi \bar{K}^0, \phi K^0$, the rescatterings of $D^0 \rightarrow \bar{K}^{0*} \eta \rightarrow \bar{K}^0 \pi^0$ and $D^0 \rightarrow K^{0*} \eta \rightarrow \pi^0 K^0$ also contribute to the decays of $D^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \bar{K}^0$ and $D^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 K^0$, respectively.

Now we turn to the final results given in Table I. From the table we can see that the most promising decay channels to observe CP violation in $D^0 - \bar{D}^0$ decays might be

$$D^0 \rightarrow \pi^- K^+, \pi^0 K^0, \pi^0 \eta, \pi^0 \omega, K^+ K^-, \phi K^0.$$

They would need only $\sim 10^4 D^0 \bar{D}^0$ pairs if $\sin \phi$ is the order of unity. At the SLAC $e^+ e^-$ storage ring SPEAR the Mark III group has collected $3762 \pm 42 D^0 \bar{D}^0$ pairs within the integrated luminosity of 9.2 pb^{-1} (Ref. 10). It seems not difficult to collect $\sim 10^4 D^0 \bar{D}^0$ pairs at the $\psi(3700)$ resonance for longer running time. So we hope our experimental colleagues will undertake these efforts.

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*Permanent address: Institute of High Energy Physics, Academia Sinica, Beijing, The People's Republic of China.

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