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Phys. Rev. D **84**, 114503 — Published 14 December 2011

DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevD.84.114503](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevD.84.114503)

## **$K$ to $\pi\pi$ Decay amplitudes from Lattice QCD**

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### Abstract

We report a direct lattice calculation of the  $K$  to  $\pi\pi$  decay matrix elements for both the  $\Delta I = 1/2$  and  $3/2$  amplitudes  $A_0$  and  $A_2$  on 2+1 flavor, domain wall fermion,  $16^3 \times 32 \times 16$  lattices. This is a complete calculation in which all contractions for the required ten, four-quark operators are evaluated, including the disconnected graphs in which no quark line connects the initial kaon and final two-pion states. These lattice operators are non-perturbatively renormalized using the Rome-Southampton method and the quadratic divergences are studied and removed. This is an important but notoriously difficult calculation, requiring high statistics on a large volume. In this paper we take a major step towards the computation of the physical  $K \rightarrow \pi\pi$  amplitudes by performing a complete calculation at unphysical kinematics with pions of mass 422 MeV at rest in the kaon rest frame. With this simplification we are able to resolve  $\text{Re}(A_0)$  from zero for the first time, with a 25% statistical error and can develop and evaluate methods for computing the complete, complex amplitude  $A_0$ , a calculation central to understanding the  $\Delta = 1/2$  rule and testing the standard model of CP violation in the kaon system.

PACS numbers: 11.15.Ha, 12.38.Gc 14.40.Be 13.25.Es

## I. INTRODUCTION

The Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa (CKM) theory for the weak interactions of the quarks when combined with QCD provides a framework describing in complete detail all the properties and interactions of the six quarks. This framework incorporates the most general assignment of masses and couplings and appears able to explain all observed phenomena in which these quarks participate. However, to date, the non-perturbative character of low energy QCD has obscured many of the consequences of the CKM theory. In particular, both the direct CP violation seen in K meson decay and the factor of 22.5 enhancement of the  $I = 0$ ,  $K \rightarrow \pi\pi$  decay amplitude  $A_0$  relative to the  $I = 2$  amplitude  $A_2$  (the  $\Delta I = 1/2$  rule) lack a quantitative explanation.

Wilson coefficients evaluated at a QCD scale of about 2 GeV represent the short distance physics and can be evaluated from the CKM theory using QCD and electro-weak perturbation theory. However, these factors explain only a factor of two enhancement of the  $I = 0$  amplitude [1, 2]. The remaining enhancement must arise from the hadronic matrix elements which require non-perturbative treatment.

Direct CP violation in kaon decays provides a critical test of the standard model's CKM mechanism of CP violation. While forty years of experimental effort have produced the measured result  $\text{Re}(\epsilon'/\epsilon) = 1.65(26) \times 10^{-3}$  [3], with only a 16% error, there is no reliable theoretical calculation of this quantity based on the standard model. A previous lattice QCD calculation using 2+1 dynamical domain wall fermions failed to give a conclusive result because of the large systematic errors associated with the use of chiral perturbation theory at the scale of the kaon mass [4]. (However, there are on-going efforts using chiral perturbation theory [5].) Earlier quenched results [6, 7] are subject to this same difficulty together with uncontrolled uncertainties associated with quenching [8–10].

A direct lattice calculation of  $K \rightarrow \pi\pi$  decay is extremely important to provide an explanation for the  $\Delta I = 1/2$  rule and to test the standard model of CP violation from first principles. This is an unusually difficult calculation because of the presence of disconnected graphs. However, with the continuing increase of available computing power and the development of improved algorithms, calculations with disconnected graphs are now no longer out of reach. In fact, our recent successful calculation of the masses and mixing of the  $\eta'$  and  $\eta$  mesons [11] was carried out in part to develop and test the methods needed for

the calculation presented here. In this paper, we present a first direct calculation of the complete  $K^0 \rightarrow \pi\pi$  decay amplitude. At this stage, we work with the simplified kinematics of a threshold decay in which the kaon is at rest and decays into two pions each with zero momentum and with mass one-half that of the kaon. The calculation with this choice of kinematics still contains the main difficulties we need to overcome in order to be able to compute the physical  $K \rightarrow \pi\pi$  decay amplitudes; i.e. the presence of disconnected diagrams coupled with the need to subtract ultraviolet power divergences. However, as explained below, with the pions at rest we are able to generate sufficient statistics to explore how to handle these difficulties. We stress that at this simplified choice of kinematics, we compute the  $K \rightarrow \pi\pi$  amplitudes directly and completely.

In order to calculate the decay amplitudes, we perform a direct, brute force calculation of the required weak matrix elements. The isospin zero  $\pi - \pi$  final state implies the presence of disconnected graphs in correlation functions and makes the calculation very difficult. For these graphs, the noise does not decrease with increasing time separation between the source and sink, while the signal does. Therefore, substantial statistics are needed to get a clear signal. This difficulty is compounded by the presence of diagrams which diverge as  $1/a^2$  as the continuum limit is approached ( $a$  is the lattice spacing). While these divergent amplitudes must vanish for a physical, on-shell decay they substantially degrade the signal to noise ratio even for an energy-conserving calculation such as this one. Studying the properties of the  $1/a^2$  terms and learning how to successfully subtract them is one of the important objectives of this calculation. The chiral symmetry needed to control operator mixing is provided by our use of domain wall fermions.

Recognizing the difficulty of this problem, we choose to perform this first calculation on a lattice which is relatively small compared to those used in other recent work and to use a somewhat heavy pion mass ( $m_\pi \approx 421$  MeV) so we can more easily collect large statistics. We concentrate on exploring and reducing the statistical uncertainty since the primary goal of this work is to extract a clear signal for these amplitudes. Therefore, the quoted errors on our results are statistical only.

The main objective of this paper is to calculate the  $\Delta I = 1/2$  decay amplitude  $A_0$ . A calculation of the  $\Delta I = 3/2$  part is included here for comparison and completeness. A much more physical calculation of this  $\Delta I = 3/2$  amplitude alone can be found in [12]. In the case of the  $I = 2$  final state no disconnected diagrams appear, there are no divergent eye diagrams

and isospin conservation requires that four valence quark propagators must join the kaon and weak operator with the operators creating the two final-state pions. This allows physical kinematics with non-zero final momenta to be achieved by imposing anti-periodic boundary conditions on one species of valence quark [13, 14]. As a result, the preliminary calculation of  $A_2$  reported in Ref. [12] is performed at almost physical kinematics on a lattice of spatial size 4.5 fm and determines complex  $A_2$  with controlled errors of  $O(10\%)$ . The present work is intended as the first step toward an equally physical but much more challenging calculation of  $A_0$ .

While we do not employ physical kinematics, the final results for the complex amplitudes  $A_0$  and  $A_2$  presented in this paper are otherwise physical. In particular, we use Rome-Southampton methods [15] to change the normalization of our bare lattice four-quark operators to that of the RI/MOM scheme. A second conversion to the  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  scheme is then performed using the recent results of Ref. [16]. Finally these  $\overline{\text{MS}}$ -normalized matrix elements are combined with the appropriate Wilson coefficients [17], determined in this same scheme, to obtain our results for  $A_0$  and  $A_2$ . Because of our unphysical, threshold kinematics and focus on controlling the statistical errors associated with the disconnected diagrams, we do not estimate the size of possible systematic errors. Similarly we do not include the systematic or statistical errors associated with the Rome-Southampton renormalization factors, both of which could be made substantially smaller than our statistical errors when required.

This paper is organized as follows. We first summarize our computational setup, including our strategy to collect large statistics. Next we discuss our results for  $\pi - \pi$  scattering which are a by-product of the necessary characterization of the operator creating the  $\pi - \pi$  final state and are also needed to evaluate the Lellouch-Lüscher, finite-volume correction [18]. After a section giving the details of the  $K^0 \rightarrow \pi\pi$  contractions, we provide our numerical results for the  $K^0 \rightarrow \pi\pi$  decay amplitudes for both the  $\Delta I = 3/2$  and  $1/2$  channels. The details of the operator renormalization required by the Wilson coefficients which we use are presented in Appendix A. Finally we present our conclusions and discuss future prospects.

## II. COMPUTATIONAL DETAILS

Our calculation uses the Iwasaki gauge action with  $\beta = 2.13$  and 2+1 flavors of domain wall fermions (DWF). While the computational costs of DWF are much greater than those

of Wilson or staggered fermions, as has been shown in earlier papers [6, 7, 19, 20], accurate chiral symmetry at short distances is critical to avoid extensive operator mixing, which would make the lattice treatment of  $\Delta S = 1$  processes much more difficult.

We use a single lattice ensemble with space-time volume  $16^3 \times 32$ , a fifth-dimensional extent of  $L_s = 16$  and light and strange quark masses of  $m_l = 0.01$ ,  $m_s = 0.032$ , respectively. This ensemble is similar to the  $m_l = 0.01$  ensemble reported in Ref. [21] except we use the improved RHMC-II algorithm of Ref. [22] and a more physical value for the strange quark mass. The inverse lattice spacing for these input parameters was determined to be  $1.73(3)\text{GeV}$  and the residual mass is  $m_{\text{res}} = 0.00308(4)$  [22]. The total number of configurations we used is 800, each separated by 10 time units. We initially generated an ensemble one-half of this size. When our analysis showed a non-zero result for  $\text{Re}A_0$ , we then doubled the size of the ensemble to assure ourselves that the result was trustworthy and to reduce the resulting error. We have performed the analysis described below both by treating the results from each configuration as independent and by grouping them into blocks. The resulting statistical errors are independent of block size suggesting that the individual configurations are essentially uncorrelated for our observables.

We use anti-periodic boundary conditions in the time direction, and periodic boundary conditions in the space directions for the Dirac operator. The propagators (inverses of the Dirac operator) are calculated using a Coulomb gauge fixed wall source (used for meson propagators) and a random wall source (used to calculate the loops in the *type3* and *type4* graphs shown in Figs. 5 and 6 below) for each of the 32 time slices in our lattice volume. The details of our choice of sources are provided in Appendix B. For each time slice and source type, twelve inversions are required corresponding to the possible 3 color and 4 spin choices for the source. Thus, all together we carry out 768 inversions for each quark mass on a given configuration. As will be shown below, this large number of inversions, performed on 800 configurations, provides the substantial statistics needed to resolve the real part of the  $I = 0$  amplitude  $A_0$  with 25% accuracy.

The situation described above in which 768 Dirac propagators must be computed on a single gauge background is an excellent candidate for the use of deflation techniques. The overhead associated with determining a set of low eigenmodes of this single Dirac operator can be effectively amortized over the many inversions in which those low modes can be used. Our  $m_l = 0.01$ , light quark inversions are accelerated by a factor of 2-3 by using exact,

TABLE I. Masses of pion and kaons and energies of the two-pion states. Here the subscript  $I = 0$  or 2 on the  $\pi - \pi$  energy,  $E_I^{\pi\pi}$ , labels the isospin of the state and  $E_0^{\pi\pi'}$  represents the isospin zero, two-pion energy obtained when the disconnected graph V is ignored. The superscript (0), (1) or (2) on the kaon mass distinguishes our three choices of valence strange quark mass,  $m_s = 0.066$ , 0.099 and 0.165 respectively.

$m_\pi$	$E_0^{\pi\pi}$	$E_0^{\pi\pi'}$	$E_2^{\pi\pi}$	$m_K^{(0)}$	$m_K^{(1)}$	$m_K^{(2)}$
0.24373(47)	0.443(13)	0.4393(41)	0.5066(11)	0.42599(42)	0.50729(44)	0.64540(49)

low-mode deflation [23] in which we compute the Dirac eigenvectors with the smallest 35 eigenvalues and limit the conjugate gradient inversion to the remaining orthogonal subspace.

In order to obtain energy-conserving  $K^0 \rightarrow \pi\pi$  decay amplitudes, the mass of the valence strange quark in the kaon is assigned a value different from that appearing in the fermion determinant used to generate the ensembles, *i.e.* the strange quark is partially quenched. Since the mass of the dynamical strange quark is expected to have a small effect on amplitudes of the sort considered here [22, 24], this use of partial quenching is appropriate for the purposes of this paper. Valence strange quark masses are chosen to be  $m_s = 0.066$ , 0.099 and 0.165, which are labeled 0, 1 and 2 respectively. The resulting kaon masses are shown in Tab. I. In the following section we will see that by using these values for  $m_s$  we can interpolate to energy-conserving decay kinematics for both the  $I = 2$  and  $I = 0$  channels.

### III. TWO-PION SCATTERING

The  $\pi - \pi$  scattering calculation requires 4 contractions which we have labeled direct (D), cross (C), rectangle (R), and vacuum (V) as in Ref. [25] and which are shown in Fig. 1. For convenience, the minus sign arising from the number of fermion loops is not included in the definition of these contractions. The vacuum contraction should be accompanied by a vacuum subtraction. These contractions can be calculated in terms of the light quark propagator  $L(t_{\text{snk}}, t_{\text{src}})$  for a Coulomb gauge fixed wall source located at the time  $t_{\text{src}}$  and a similar wall sink located at  $t_{\text{snk}}$ . The resulting complete vacuum amplitude, including the

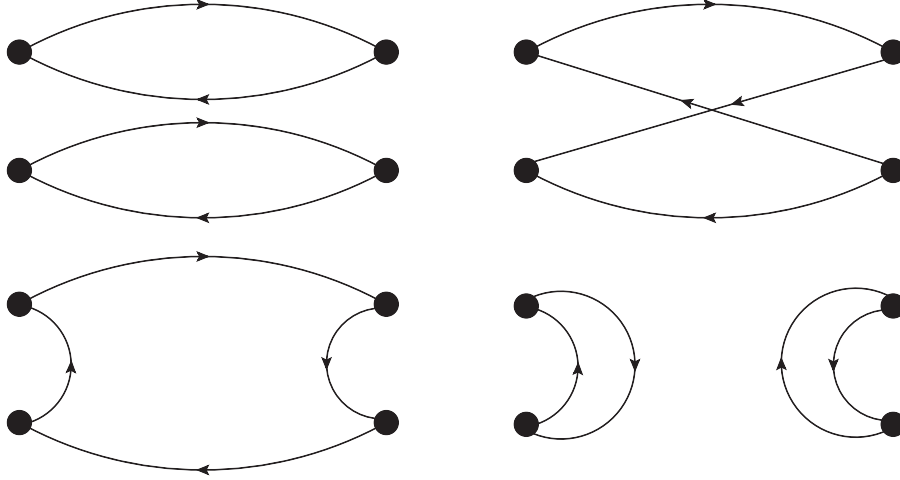


FIG. 1. The four diagrams which contribute to  $\pi - \pi$  scattering: direct (D), cross (C), rectangle (R), and vacuum (V), arranged from the left top to right bottom.

vacuum subtraction, is given by

$$V(t) = \frac{1}{32} \sum_{t'=0}^{31} \left\{ \left\langle \text{tr}[L(t', t')L(t', t')^\dagger] \text{tr}[L(t+t', t+t')L(t+t', t+t')^\dagger] \right\rangle - \left\langle \text{tr}[L(t', t')L(t', t')^\dagger] \right\rangle \left\langle \text{tr}[L(t+t', t+t')L(t+t', t+t')^\dagger] \right\rangle \right\}, \quad (1)$$

where the indicated traces are taken over spin and color, the hermiticity properties of the domain wall propagator have been used to eliminate factors of  $\gamma^5$  and we are explicitly combining the results from each of the 32 time slices.

Our results for each of these four types of contractions are shown in the left panel of Fig. 2. Notice that the disconnected (vacuum) graph has an almost constant error with increasing time separation between the source and sink, so it appears to have an increasing error bar in the log plot, while the signal decreases exponentially.

These four types of correlators can be combined to construct physical correlation functions for two-pion states with definite isospin:

$$\langle O_2^{\pi\pi}(t+t')^\dagger O_2^{\pi\pi}(t') \rangle = 2(D(t) - C(t)) \quad (2)$$

$$\langle O_0^{\pi\pi}(t+t')^\dagger O_0^{\pi\pi}(t') \rangle = 2D(t) + C(t) - 6R(t) + 3V(t). \quad (3)$$

Here the operator  $O_I^{\pi\pi}(t)$  creates a two-pion state with total isospin  $I$  and  $z$ -component of isospin  $I_z = 0$  using two quark and two anti-quark wall-sources located at the time-slice  $t$ .



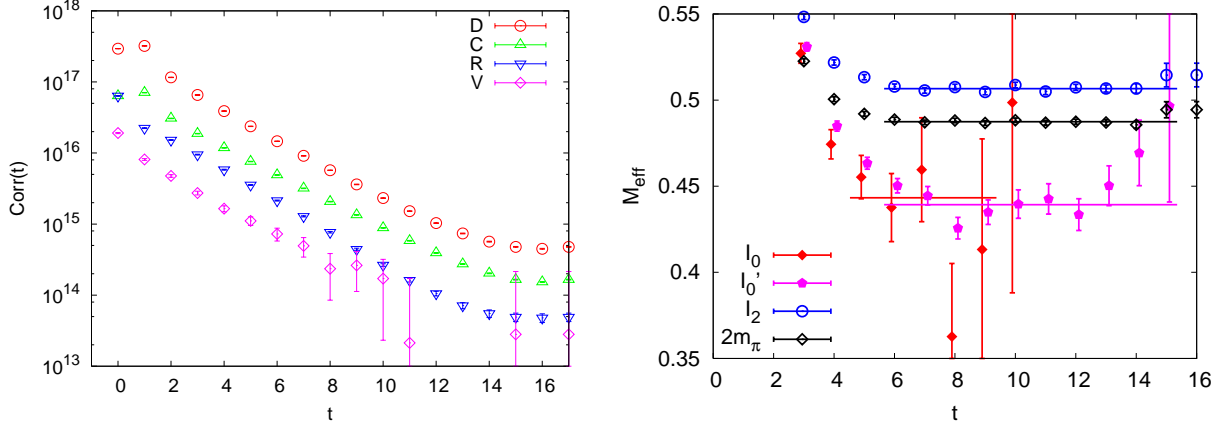


FIG. 2. Left: Results for the four types of contractions, direct (D), cross (C), rectangle (R), and vacuum(V) represented by the graphs in Fig. 1. Right: Effective mass plots for correlation functions for states with isospin two ( $I_2$ ), isospin zero ( $I_0$ ), isospin zero without the disconnected graph ( $I'_0$ ) and twice the pion effective mass ( $2m_\pi$ ).

As in Eq. 1 we will average over all 32 possible values of common time displacement  $t'$  to improve statistics.

The two-pion correlation functions for isospin  $I$  and  $I_z = 0$  are fit with a functional form  $\text{Corr}_I(t) = N_I^2 \{ \exp(-E_I^{\pi\pi} t) + \exp(-E_I^{\pi\pi}(T - t)) + C_I \}$ , where the constant  $C_I$  comes from the case in which the two pions propagate in opposite time directions. The fitted energies are summarized in Tab. I. In order to see clearly the effect of the disconnected graph, we also perform the calculation for the  $I = 0$  channel without the disconnected graphs. This result is given in Tab. I with a label with an additional prime ( $\prime$ ) symbol. The resulting effective mass plots for each case are shown in the right panel of Fig. 2. For comparison, a plot of twice the pion effective mass is also shown. This figure clearly demonstrates that the two-pion interaction is attractive in the  $I = 0$  channel with the finite volume,  $I = 0$   $\pi - \pi$  energy  $E_0^{\pi\pi}$  lower than  $2m_\pi$ . In contrast, the  $I = 2$  channel is repulsive with  $E_2^{\pi\pi}$  larger than  $2m_\pi$ . The fitted parameters  $N_I^{\pi\pi}$  and  $E_I^{\pi\pi}$  will be used to extract weak matrix elements from the  $K^0 \rightarrow \pi\pi$  correlation functions discussed below in which these same operators  $O_I^{\pi\pi}(t)$  are used to construct the two-pion states.

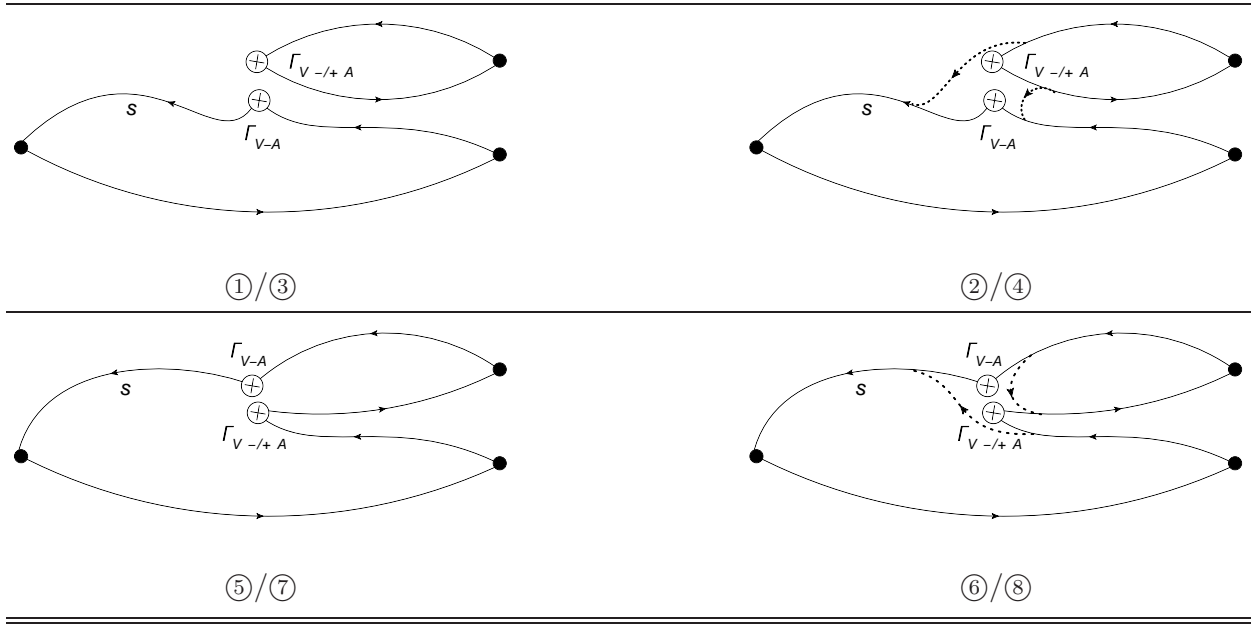


FIG. 3. Diagrams representing the eight  $K^0 \rightarrow \pi\pi$  contractions of *type1*, where  $\Gamma_{V\pm A} = \gamma_\mu(1 \pm \gamma_5)$ . The black dot indicates a  $\gamma_5$  matrix, which is present in each operator creating or destroying a pseudoscalar meson.

#### IV. CONTRACTIONS FOR $K^0 \rightarrow \pi\pi$ DECAYS

The effective weak Hamiltonian describing  $K^0 \rightarrow \pi\pi$  decay including the  $u$ ,  $d$ , and  $s$  flavors as dynamical variables is

$$H_w = \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{ud}^* V_{us} \sum_{i=1}^{10} [(z_i(\mu) + \tau y_i(\mu))] Q_i. \quad (4)$$

Throughout this paper we follow the conventions and notation of Ref. [6]. In Eq. 4 the  $Q_i$  are the ten conventional four-quark operators,  $z_i$  and  $y_i$  are the Wilson coefficients, and  $\tau$  represents a combination of CKM matrix elements:  $\tau = -V_{ts}^* V_{td} / V_{ud} V_{us}^*$ . To calculate the decay amplitudes  $A_2$  and  $A_0$ , we need to calculate the matrix elements  $\langle \pi\pi | Q_i | K^0 \rangle$  on the lattice.

We list all of the possible contractions contributing to the matrix elements  $\langle \pi\pi | Q_i | K^0 \rangle$  in Figs. 3-6. There are 48 different contractions which are labeled by circled numbers ranging from 1 to 48, and grouped into four categories labeled as *type1*, *type2*, *type3*, and *type4* according to their topology. Once we have calculated all of these contractions, the correlation functions  $\langle O_I^{\pi\pi}(t_\pi) Q_i(t_{\text{op}}) K^0(t_K) \rangle$  are then obtained as combinations of these

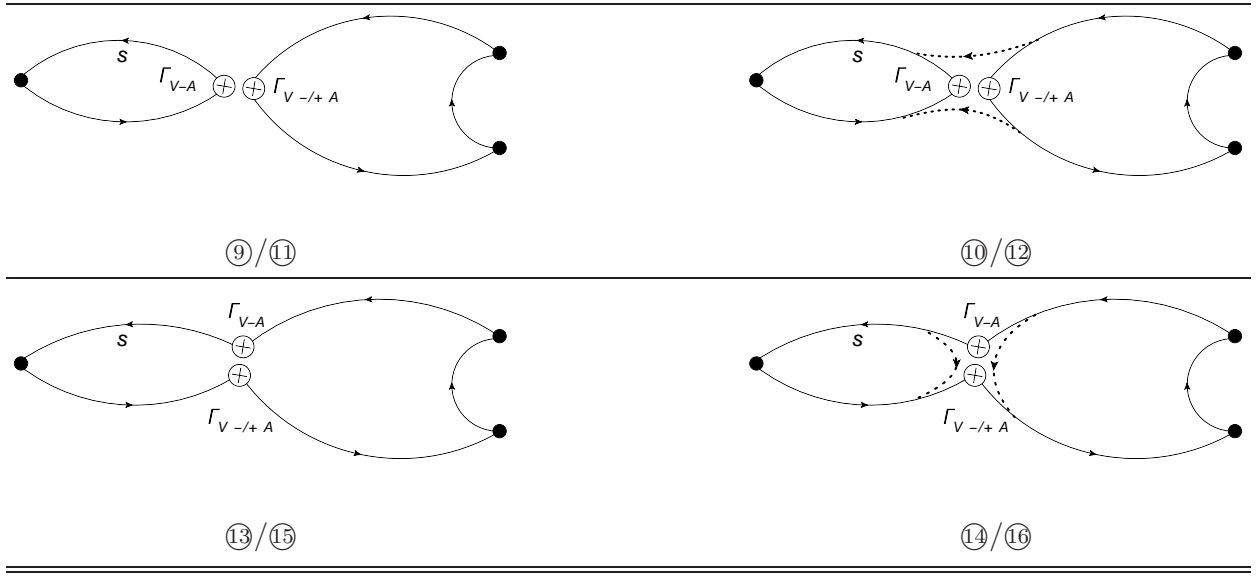


FIG. 4. Diagrams for the eight *type2*  $K^0 \rightarrow \pi\pi$  contractions.

contractions. In order to simplify the following formulae, we use the amplitude  $A_{I,i}(t_\pi, t, t_K)$  to represent three point function  $\langle O_I^{\pi\pi}(t_\pi) Q_i(t_{\text{op}}) K(t_K) \rangle$ . Using this notation, the  $I = 2$  amplitudes can be written,

$$A_{2,1}(t_\pi, t_{\text{op}}, t_K) = i\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}\{\textcircled{1} - \textcircled{5}\} \quad (5a)$$

$$A_{2,2}(t_\pi, t_{\text{op}}, t_K) = i\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}\{\textcircled{2} - \textcircled{6}\} \quad (5b)$$

$$A_{2,3}(t_\pi, t_{\text{op}}, t_K) = 0 \quad (5c)$$

$$A_{2,4}(t_\pi, t_{\text{op}}, t_K) = 0 \quad (5d)$$

$$A_{2,5}(t_\pi, t_{\text{op}}, t_K) = 0 \quad (5e)$$

$$A_{2,6}(t_\pi, t_{\text{op}}, t_K) = 0 \quad (5f)$$

$$A_{2,7}(t_\pi, t_{\text{op}}, t_K) = i\sqrt{\frac{3}{2}}\{\textcircled{3} - \textcircled{7}\} \quad (5g)$$

$$A_{2,8}(t_\pi, t_{\text{op}}, t_K) = i\sqrt{\frac{3}{2}}\{\textcircled{4} - \textcircled{8}\} \quad (5h)$$

$$A_{2,9}(t_\pi, t_{\text{op}}, t_K) = i\sqrt{\frac{3}{2}}\{\textcircled{1} - \textcircled{5}\} \quad (5i)$$

$$A_{2,10}(t_\pi, t_{\text{op}}, t_K) = i\sqrt{\frac{3}{2}}\{\textcircled{2} - \textcircled{6}\} \quad (5j)$$

and in the  $I=0$  case,

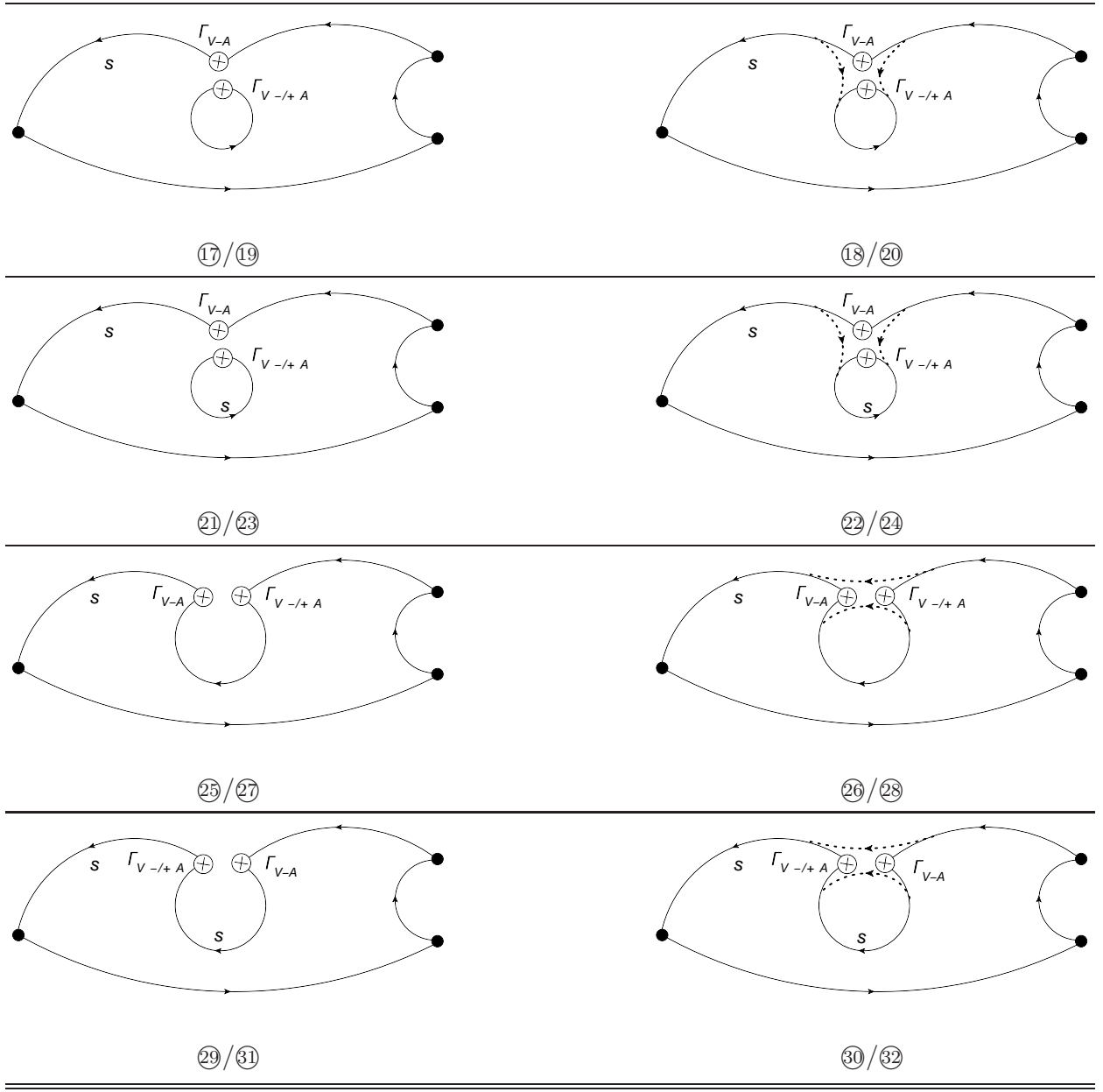


FIG. 5. Diagrams for the 16 *type3*  $K^0 \rightarrow \pi\pi$  contractions.

$$A_{0,1}(t_\pi, t_{\text{op}}, t_K) = i \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \{-\textcircled{1} - 2 \cdot \textcircled{5} + 3 \cdot \textcircled{9} + 3 \cdot \textcircled{17} - 3 \cdot \textcircled{33}\} \quad (6a)$$

$$A_{0,2}(t_\pi, t_{\text{op}}, t_K) = i \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \{-\textcircled{2} - 2 \cdot \textcircled{6} + 3 \cdot \textcircled{10} + 3 \cdot \textcircled{18} - 3 \cdot \textcircled{34}\} \quad (6b)$$

$$A_{0,3}(t_\pi, t_{\text{op}}, t_K) = i\sqrt{3} \{-\textcircled{5} + 2 \cdot \textcircled{9} - \textcircled{13} + 2 \cdot \textcircled{17} + \textcircled{21} \\ - \textcircled{25} - \textcircled{29} - 2 \cdot \textcircled{33} - \textcircled{37} + \textcircled{41} + \textcircled{45}\} \quad (6c)$$

$$A_{0,4}(t_\pi, t_{\text{op}}, t_K) = i\sqrt{3} \{-\textcircled{6} + 2 \cdot \textcircled{10} - \textcircled{14} + 2 \cdot \textcircled{18} + \textcircled{22}\} \quad (6d)$$

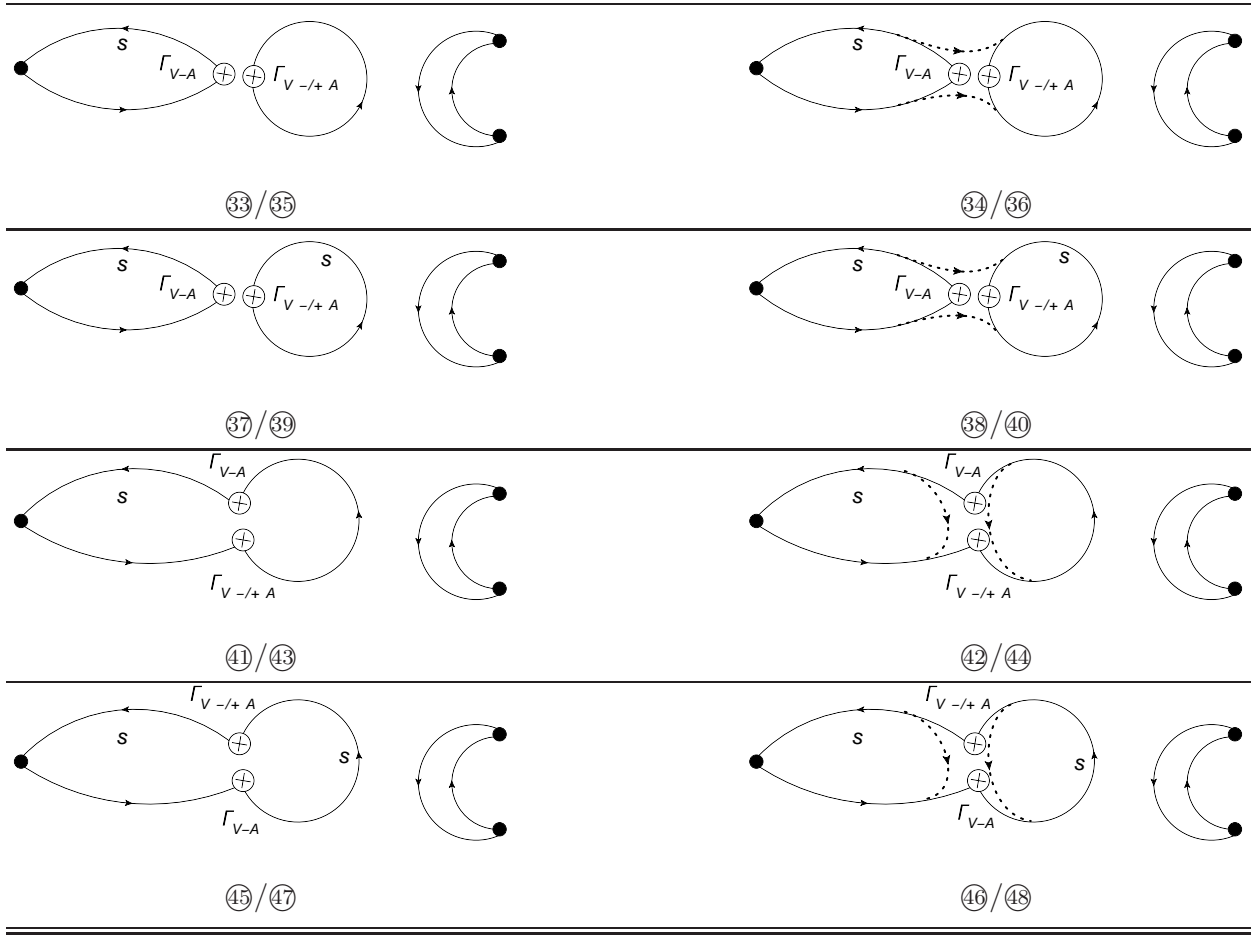


FIG. 6. Diagrams for the sixteen *type4*  $K^0 \rightarrow \pi\pi$  contractions.

$$A_{0,5}(t_\pi, t_{\text{op}}, t_K) = i\sqrt{3}\{-\textcircled{7} + 2 \cdot \textcircled{11} - \textcircled{15} + 2 \cdot \textcircled{19} + \textcircled{23} - \textcircled{26} - \textcircled{30} - 2 \cdot \textcircled{34} - \textcircled{38} + \textcircled{42} + \textcircled{46}\} \quad (6e)$$

$$A_{0,6}(t_\pi, t_{\text{op}}, t_K) = i\sqrt{3}\{-\textcircled{8} + 2 \cdot \textcircled{12} - \textcircled{16} + 2 \cdot \textcircled{20} + \textcircled{24} - \textcircled{27} - \textcircled{31} - 2 \cdot \textcircled{35} - \textcircled{39} + \textcircled{43} + \textcircled{47}\} \quad (6f)$$

$$A_{0,7}(t_\pi, t_{\text{op}}, t_K) = i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\{-\textcircled{3} - \textcircled{7} + \textcircled{11} + \textcircled{15} + \textcircled{19} - \textcircled{23} + \textcircled{27} + \textcircled{31} - \textcircled{35} + \textcircled{39} - \textcircled{43} - \textcircled{47}\} \quad (6g)$$

$$A_{0,8}(t_\pi, t_{\text{op}}, t_K) = i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\{-\textcircled{4} - \textcircled{8} + \textcircled{12} + \textcircled{16} + \textcircled{20} - \textcircled{24} + \textcircled{28} + \textcircled{32} - \textcircled{36} + \textcircled{40} - \textcircled{44} - \textcircled{48}\} \quad (6h)$$

$$A_{0,9}(t_\pi, t_{\text{op}}, t_K) = i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\{-\textcircled{1} - \textcircled{5} + \textcircled{9} + \textcircled{13} + \textcircled{17} - \textcircled{21} + \textcircled{25} + \textcircled{29} - \textcircled{33} + \textcircled{37} - \textcircled{41} - \textcircled{45}\} \quad (6i)$$

$$A_{0,10}(t_\pi, t_{\text{op}}, t_K) = i \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \{ -\textcircled{2} - \textcircled{6} + \textcircled{10} + \textcircled{14} + \textcircled{18} \\ - \textcircled{22} + \textcircled{26} + \textcircled{30} - \textcircled{34} + \textcircled{38} - \textcircled{42} - \textcircled{46} \}, \quad (6j)$$

where the factor  $i$  comes from our definition of the interpolation operator for the mesons, *e.g.*  $K^0 = i(\bar{d}\gamma_5 s)$ .

A few notes about the contractions shown in the Figs. 3 - 6 may be useful:

1. The contractions identified by circled numbers do not carry the minus sign required when there is an odd number of fermion loops. Instead, the signs are included explicitly in Eqs. 5 and 6.
2. The routing of the solid line indicates spin contraction while that of the dashed line indicates the contraction of color indices. If there is no dashed line, then solid line indicates connections implied by the trace over both color and spin indices. (This will be explained in more detail below.)
3. A line represents a light quark propagator if it is not explicitly labeled with 's'. Up and down quarks and particular flavors of pion are not distinguished in Figs. 3 - 6. Instead these specific contractions of strange and light quark propagators are combined in Eqs. 5 and 6 to give the  $I = 2$  and  $I = 0$  amplitudes directly.
4. Using Fierz symmetry, it can be shown that there are 12 identities among these contractions:

$$\textcircled{6} = -\textcircled{1}, \quad \textcircled{5} = -\textcircled{2}, \quad \textcircled{14} = -\textcircled{9}, \quad \textcircled{13} = -\textcircled{10}, \quad (7a)$$

$$\textcircled{26} = -\textcircled{17}, \quad \textcircled{25} = -\textcircled{18}, \quad \textcircled{29} = -\textcircled{22}, \quad \textcircled{30} = -\textcircled{21}, \quad (7b)$$

$$\textcircled{42} = -\textcircled{33}, \quad \textcircled{41} = -\textcircled{34}, \quad \textcircled{45} = -\textcircled{38}, \quad \textcircled{46} = -\textcircled{37}. \quad (7c)$$

A consequence of these identities is that Eq. 6 is consistent with only seven of the ten operators  $Q_i$  being linearly independent and with the three usual relations:

$$Q_{10} - Q_9 = Q_4 - Q_3 \quad (8a)$$

$$Q_4 - Q_3 = Q_2 - Q_1 \quad (8b)$$

$$2Q_9 = 3Q_1 - Q_3. \quad (8c)$$

5. Based on charge conjugation symmetry and  $\gamma^5$  hermiticity, the gauge field average of each of these contractions is real.
6. The loop contractions of *type3* and *type4* are calculated using the Gaussian, stochastic wall sources described in Sec. II.

In order to make our approach more explicit, we will discuss some examples. First consider the two contractions of *type1* identified as ① and ② and shown in the top half of Fig. 3:

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{1} = \text{Tr} \left\{ \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) L(x_{op}, t_\pi) L(x_{op}, t_\pi)^\dagger \right\} \\ \cdot \text{Tr} \left\{ \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) L(x_{op}, t_\pi) \gamma^5 \left[ \sum_{\vec{x}_\pi} L((\vec{x}_\pi, t_\pi), t_K) \right] S(x_{op}, t_K)^\dagger \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{2} = \text{Tr}_c \left\{ \text{Tr}_s \left\{ \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) L(x_{op}, t_\pi) L(x_{op}, t_\pi)^\dagger \right\} \right. \\ \left. \cdot \text{Tr}_s \left\{ \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) L(x_{op}, t_\pi) \gamma_5 \left[ \sum_{\vec{x}_\pi} L((\vec{x}_\pi, t_\pi), t_K) \right] S(x_{op}, t_K)^\dagger \right\} \right\}, \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

where  $t_K$  is the time of the kaon wall source,  $t_\pi$  the time at which the two pions are absorbed and  $x_{op} = (\vec{x}_{op}, t_{op})$  the location of the weak operator. The function  $L(x_{\text{sink}}, t_{\text{src}})$  is the light quark propagator, a  $12 \times 12$  spin-color matrix, while  $S(x_{\text{sink}}, t_{\text{src}})$  is the strange quark propagator. The hermitian conjugation operation,  $\dagger$ , operates on these  $12 \times 12$  matrices. We use  $\text{Tr}_c$  to indicate a color trace,  $\text{Tr}_s$  a spin trace, and  $\text{Tr}$ , with no subscript, stands for both a spin and color trace. We have also used the  $\gamma^5$  hermiticity of the quark propagators to realize the combination of quark propagators given in Eqs. 9 and 10, allowing both contractions to be constructed from light and strange propagators computed using Coulomb gauge fixed wall sources located only at the times  $t_\pi$  and  $t_K$ . Note the sum over the spatial components of the sink  $\vec{x}_\pi$  creates a symmetrical wall sink provided that the appropriate Coulomb gauge transformation matrix has been applied to the sink color index of this propagator to duplicate the Coulomb gauge transformation that was used to create the Coulomb gauge fixed wall source. We will sum over the spatial location,  $\vec{x}_{op}$ , of the weak operator, to project onto zero spatial momentum and improve statistics. Below we will show results as a function of the separations between  $t_\pi$ ,  $t_{op}$  and  $t_K$ .

As a third example, which illustrates the use of random wall sources, consider contraction ⑩ shown in Fig. 5. Using the notation introduced above, this contraction is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{10} = & \text{Tr} \left\{ \gamma_\mu (1 + \gamma_5) L^R(x_{\text{op}}, t_{\text{op}}) \right\} \eta(x_{\text{op}})^* \\ & \cdot \text{Tr} \left\{ \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) L(x_{\text{op}}, t_\pi) \left[ \sum_{\vec{x}'_\pi} L((\vec{x}'_\pi, t_\pi), t_\pi)^\dagger \right] \left[ \sum_{\vec{x}_\pi} L((\vec{x}_\pi, t_\pi), t_K) \right] S(x_{\text{op}}, t_K)^\dagger \right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

Here  $\eta(x)$  is the value of the complex, Gaussian random wall source at the space-time position  $x$ , while  $L^R(x_{\text{sink}}, t_{\text{src}})$  is the propagator whose source is  $\eta(x)\delta(x_0 - t_{\text{src}})$ . The Dirac delta function  $\delta(x_0 - t_{\text{src}})$  restricts the source to the time plane  $t = t_{\text{src}}$ . In the usual way, the average over the random source  $\eta(\vec{x})$  which accompanies the configuration average, will set to zero all terms in which the source and sink positions for the propagator  $L^R(x_{\text{op}}, t_{\text{op}})$  in Eq. 11 differ, giving us the contraction implied by the closed loop in the top left panel of Fig. 5. By using 32 separate propagators each with a random source non-zero on only one of our 32 time slices we obtain more statistically accurate results than would result from a single random source spread over all times.

An important objective of this calculation is to learn how to accurately evaluate the quark loop integration that is present in *type3* and *type4* graphs and which contains a  $1/a^2$ , quadratically divergent component. As can be recognized from the structure of the diagrams, these divergent terms can be interpreted as arising from the mixing between the dimension-six operators  $Q_i$  (for all  $i$  but 7 and 8) and a dimension-3 “mass” operator of the form  $\bar{s}\gamma_5 d$ . Such divergent terms are expected and do not represent a breakdown of the standard effective Hamiltonian written in Eq. 4. In fact, given the good chiral symmetry of domain wall fermions all other operators with dimension less than six which might potentially mix with those in Eq. 4 will vanish if the equations of motion are imposed. Therefore these operators cannot contribute to the Green’s functions evaluated in Eqs. 5 and 6 where the operators in  $H_W$  are separated in space-time from those operators creating the  $K$  meson and destroying the  $\pi$  mesons, a circumstance in which the equations of motion can be applied.

The problematic operator  $\bar{s}\gamma_5 d$  is not explicitly removed from the effective Hamiltonian because, again using the equations of motion,  $\bar{s}\gamma_5 d$  can be written as the divergence of an axial current and hence will vanish in the physical case where the weak operator  $H_W$  carries no four-momentum and is evaluated between on-shell states. While we can explicitly sum the effective Hamiltonian density  $\mathcal{H}_W$  over space to ensure  $H_W$  carries no spatial momentum,



to ensure that no energy is transferred we must arrange that the kaon mass and two-pion energy are equal. We may achieve this condition, at least approximately, but there will be contributions from heavier states, which are normally exponentially suppressed, but which will violate energy conservation and hence will be enhanced by this divergent  $\bar{s}\gamma_5 d$  term.

Since  $\bar{s}\gamma_5 d$  will not contribute to the physical, energy-conserving  $K \rightarrow \pi\pi$  amplitude, there is no theoretical requirement that it be removed. The coefficient of this  $\bar{s}\gamma_5 d$  piece is both regulator dependent and irrelevant. The contribution of these terms in a lattice calculation of  $K \rightarrow \pi\pi$  decay amplitudes will ultimately vanish as the equality of the initial and final energies is made more precise and as increased time separations are achieved. However, the unphysical effects of this  $\bar{s}\gamma_5 d$  mixing are much more easily suppressed by reducing the size of this irrelevant term than by dramatically increasing the lattice size and collecting the substantially increased statistics required to work at large time separations.

A direct way to remove this  $1/a^2$  enhancement is to explicitly subtract an  $\alpha_i \bar{s}\gamma_5 d$  term from each of the relevant operators  $Q_i$  where the coefficient  $\alpha_i$  can be fixed by imposing the condition:

$$\langle 0 | Q_i - \alpha_i \bar{s}\gamma_5 d | K \rangle = 0, \quad (12)$$

a condition that is typically required in the chiral perturbation theory for  $K \rightarrow \pi\pi$  [6]. Of course, this arbitrary condition will leave a finite, regulator-dependent  $\bar{s}\gamma_5 d$  piece behind in the subtracted operator  $Q_i - \alpha_i \bar{s}\gamma_5 d$ . However, this unphysical piece will not contribute to the energy-conserving amplitude being evaluated. Since it is no longer  $1/a^2$ -enhanced its effects on our calculation will be similar to those of the many other energy non-conserving terms which we must suppress by choosing equal energy  $K$  and  $\pi\pi$  states and using sufficient large time separation to suppress the contributions of excited states.

Following Eq. 12 we will choose the coefficient  $\alpha_i$  from the ratio

$$\alpha_i = \frac{\langle 0 | Q_i | K^0 \rangle}{\langle 0 | \bar{s}\gamma_5 d | K^0 \rangle}. \quad (13)$$

(Note, with this definition the coefficient  $\alpha_i$  is proportional to the difference of the strange and light quark masses.) Thus, we will improve the accuracy when calculating graphs of *type3* and *type4* by including an explicit subtraction term for those operators  $Q_i$  where mixing with  $\bar{s}\gamma_5 d$  is permitted by the symmetries (all but  $Q_7$  and  $Q_8$ ):

$$\langle O_0^{\pi\pi}(t_\pi) Q_i(t_{\text{op}}) K^0(t_K) \rangle_{\text{sub}} = \langle O_0^{\pi\pi}(t_\pi) Q_i(t_{\text{op}}) K^0(t_K) \rangle - \alpha_i \langle O_0^{\pi\pi}(t_\pi) \bar{s}\gamma_5 d(t_{\text{op}}) K^0(t_K) \rangle. \quad (14)$$

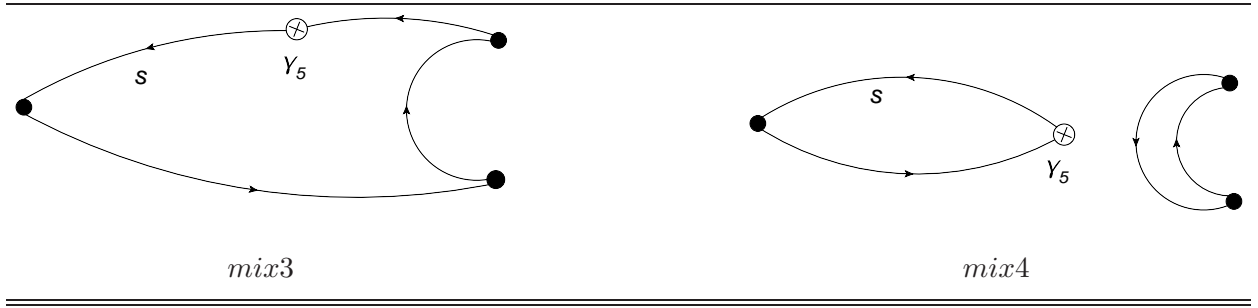


FIG. 7. Diagrams showing the contractions needed to evaluate the subtraction terms. These are labeled *mix3* and *mix4* and constructed from the *type3* and *type4* contractions by replacing the operator  $Q_i$  and fermion loop with the vertex  $\bar{s}\gamma_5 d$ .

We should recognize that there is a second, divergent, parity-even operator  $\bar{s}d$  which mixes with our operators  $Q_i$ . However, we choose to neglect this effect because parity symmetry prevents it from contributing to either the  $K \rightarrow \pi\pi$  or  $K \rightarrow |0\rangle$  correlation functions being evaluated here.

The amplitude  $\langle O_0^{\pi\pi}(t_\pi)\bar{s}\gamma_5 d(t_{\text{op}})K^0(t_K)\rangle$  includes two contractions, one connected and one disconnected as shown in Fig. 7. These terms, which arise from the mixing of the operators  $Q_i$  with  $\bar{s}\gamma_5 d$ , are labeled *mix3* and *mix4*. To better visualize the contributions from different types of contractions, we can write the right hand side of Eq. 14 symbolically as

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{type1} + \text{type2} + \text{type3} + \text{type4} - \alpha \cdot (\text{mix3} + \text{mix4}) \\ & = \text{type1} + \text{type2} + \text{sub3} + \text{sub4}, \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

where  $\text{sub3} = \text{type3} - \alpha \cdot \text{mix3}$  and  $\text{sub4} = \text{type4} - \alpha \cdot \text{mix4}$ . Note, here and in later discussions we refer to the term being subtracted as “mix” and the final difference as the subtracted amplitude “sub”.

## V. $K^0 \rightarrow \pi\pi$ $\Delta I = 3/2$ AMPLITUDE

As Eqs. 5 and 7a show, the  $\Delta I = 3/2$   $K^0 \rightarrow 2\pi$  decay amplitude includes only *type1* contractions and four of the correlation functions are related

$$A_{2,10} = A_{2,9} = \frac{3}{2}A_{2,1} = \frac{3}{2}A_{2,2}. \tag{16}$$

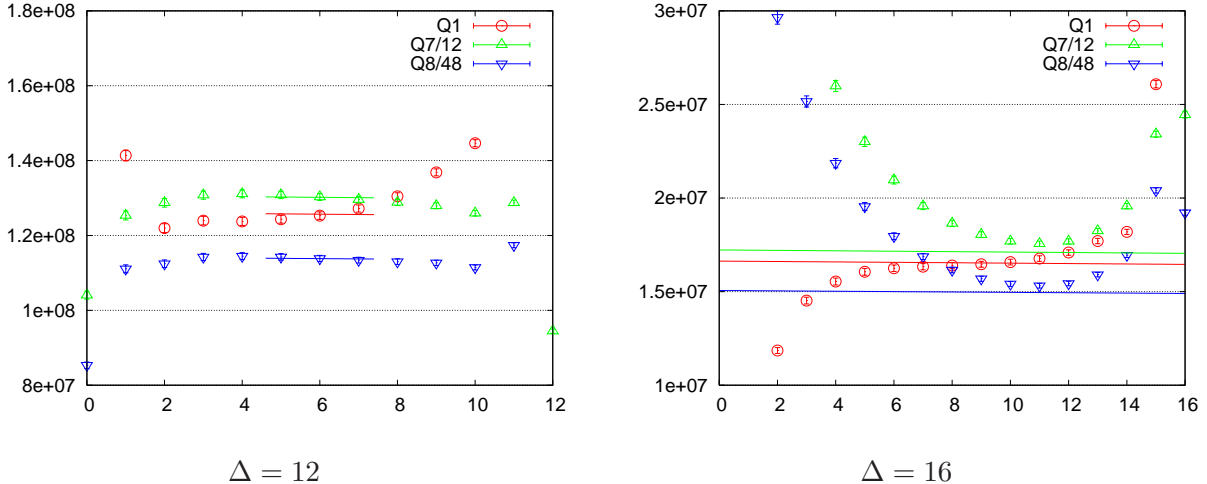


FIG. 8. Plots of the  $\Delta I = 3/2$   $K^0 \rightarrow \pi - \pi$  correlation functions for kaon source and  $\pi - \pi$  sink separations of  $\Delta = 12$  (left panel) and 16 (right panel). The  $x$ -axis gives the time  $t$  specifying the time slice over which the operator,  $Q_i(\vec{x}, t)$ ,  $i = 1, 7, 8$ , is averaged. The results for the operator  $Q_7$  are divided by 12, and those for  $Q_8$  by 48 to allow the results to be shown in the same graph. The correlators  $C_{2,i}(\Delta, t)$  are fit using the  $\Delta = 12$  data with a fitting range  $5 \leq t \leq 7$ . The resulting constants are shown as horizontal lines in both the  $\Delta = 12$  and 16 graphs. We can see that the  $\Delta = 16$  data are consistent with those from  $\Delta = 12$ , but receive large contributions from the around-the-world paths.

Therefore, we need only to calculate  $A_{2,1}$ ,  $A_{2,7}$  and  $A_{2,8}$ . The corresponding three correlation functions,  $C_{2,i}(\Delta, t)$  for  $i = 1, 7$  and 8, with the choice of  $m_K^{(1)}$  for the kaon mass, are shown in Fig. 8. Here we exploit our propagator calculation for sources on each of the 32 time slices to compute  $C_{2,i}(\Delta, t)$  from an average over all 32 source positions:

$$C_{2,i}(\Delta, t) = \frac{1}{32} \sum_{t'=0}^{31} A_{2,i}(t_\pi = t' + \Delta, t_{\text{op}} = t + t', t_K = t'). \quad (17)$$

In Fig. 8 we plot  $C_{2,i}(\Delta, t)$  for  $0 < t < \Delta$  at fixed  $\Delta = 12$  or 16. Table I shows that  $m_K^{(1)}$  is almost equal to the energy of  $I = 2$ ,  $\pi - \pi$  state, so the 3-point correlation function  $C_{2,i}(\Delta, t)$  should be approximately independent of  $t$  in the central region where the time coordinate of the operator is far from both the kaon and the two-pion sources,  $0 \ll t \ll \Delta$ .

We fit the correlators  $C_{2,i}(\Delta, t)$  using a single free parameter  $M_i^{3/2, \text{lat}}$ :

$$C_{2,i}(\Delta, t) = M_i^{3/2, \text{lat}} N_{\pi\pi} N_K e^{-E_{\pi\pi}\Delta} e^{-(m_K - E_{\pi\pi})t}, \quad (18)$$

TABLE II. Results for the lattice  $\Delta I = 3/2$ ,  $K \rightarrow \pi\pi$  transition amplitudes obtained from fitting the 3-point correlation functions to the functional form given in Eq. 18 for the six operators with  $\Delta I = 3/2$  components. The second column gives the lattice matrix elements  $M_i^{3/2,\text{lat}} (\times 10^{-2})$  while the third and fourth column give their contributions to the real and imaginary parts of  $A_2$ .

i	$M_i^{3/2,\text{lat}} (\times 10^{-2})$	$\text{Re}(A_2)(\text{GeV})$	$\text{Im}(A_2)(\text{GeV})$
1	0.4892(16)	-1.737(11)e-08	0
2	$= M_1$	6.665(42)e-08	0
7	6.080(18)	2.422(16)e-11	4.070(26)e-14
8	21.26(6)	-1.979(13)e-10	-9.646(61)e-12
9	$= 1.5M_1$	-7.917(50)e-15	5.185(24)e-13
10	$= 1.5M_1$	6.103(38)e-12	-1.448(9)e-13
Total	-	4.911(31)e-08	-5.502(40)e-13

where  $N_K$ ,  $m_K$  and  $N_{\pi\pi}$ ,  $E_{\pi\pi}$  are determined by fitting the kaon and two-pion correlators respectively:

$$\frac{1}{32} \sum_{t'=0}^{31} \langle K(t+t')K(t') \rangle = N_K^2 (e^{-m_K t} + e^{-m_K(T-t)}) \quad (19)$$

$$\frac{1}{32} \sum_{t'=0}^{31} \langle O_2^{\pi\pi}(t+t')O_2^{\pi\pi}(t') \rangle = N_{\pi\pi}^2 (e^{-E_{\pi\pi} t} + e^{-E_{\pi\pi}(T-t)} + C). \quad (20)$$

The constant  $C$  arises when the two pions join the source at  $t'$  and sink at  $t+t'$  by traveling in opposite time directions as discussed below. The fitted results for the matrix elements  $M_i^{3/2,\text{lat}}$  from  $\Delta = 12$  are listed in Tab. II in lattice units.

Figure 8 shows that for the operators  $Q_7$  and  $Q_8$  the larger separation,  $\Delta = 16$ , between the kaon source and  $\pi-\pi$  sink gives a much shorter plateau region than the case  $\Delta = 12$ . This behavior is inconsistent with the usual expectation that it is the contributions from excited states of the kaon and pion, contributions which should be suppressed for larger  $\Delta$ , that cause the poor plateau. An alternative, consistent explanation attributes the shortened plateau region seen for  $\Delta = 16$  to the ‘around-the-world’ effect. This is the contribution to the correlation function in which the two-pion interpolating operator at the sink annihilates one pion and creates another (instead of annihilating two pions as in the  $K \rightarrow \pi\pi$  contribution we are seeking) and the process at the weak operator is  $K\pi \rightarrow \pi$  (instead of  $K \rightarrow \pi\pi$ ).

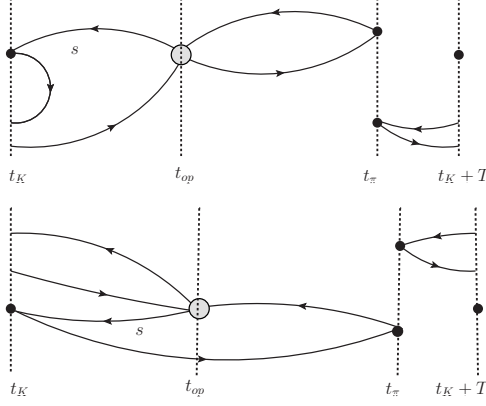


FIG. 9. Diagrams showing the dominant around-the-world paths contributing to graphs of *type1*. The space-time region between the kaon wall source at  $t_K$  and its periodic recurrence at  $t_K + T$  is shown, where  $T = 32$  is the extent of the periodic lattice in the time direction. For this around-the-world path, one pion travels directly from the pion wall source at  $t_\pi$  to the weak operator, represented by the grey dot at  $t_{op}$ . However, the second pion propagates in the other direction in time, passes through the periodic boundary and combines with the kaon before reaching the weak operator at  $t_{op}$ .

While one pion travels from the weak operator to the  $\pi - \pi$  sink the second is created at the sink and travels forward in time, passing through the periodic boundary to reach the weak operator together with the kaon. The corresponding dominant path is shown in Fig. 9. The time dependence of this behavior can be estimated as

$$\sim M_i^{3/2, \text{lat}} N_\pi^2 N_K e^{-m_\pi T} e^{-(E_{K\pi} - m_\pi)t} \quad (21)$$

which is  $\Delta$  independent but suppressed by the factor  $\exp(-m_\pi T)$ , where  $N_\pi$  is the analogue of  $N_K$  for the case of single pion production and  $T = 32$  is the temporal extent of the lattice. In contrast, the physical contribution in Eq. 18 is suppressed by  $\exp(-E_{\pi\pi}\Delta)$ . Thus, the second, standard term falls with increasing  $\Delta$  and the two factors are of similar size when  $\Delta = T/2$ . Therefore, we should expect to see a large contamination from such around-the-world effects in the  $\Delta = 16$  case, consistent with Fig. 8. In both panels of that figure, we plot as three horizontal lines the fitted result from  $\Delta = 12$  for the three amplitudes  $M_i^{3/2, \text{lat}} N_{\pi\pi} N_K \exp -\Delta E_{\pi\pi}$  for  $i = 1, 7$  and  $8$ . The agreement between these lines and the short plateaus seen in the right-hand,  $\Delta = 16$  panel indicates consistency between these two values of  $\Delta$ .

Additional evidence supporting this explanation for the short plateau in the case of  $\Delta = 16$  can be obtained by examining the explicit dependence on  $t$  given by Eq. 21 for the around-the-world contribution. Examining the exponential decay with  $t$  in the  $\Delta = 16$  correlators plotted in the right panel of Fig. 8, for operators  $Q_7$  and  $Q_8$  we find a value for  $E_{K\pi} - m_\pi$  varying between 0.4 and 0.5 depending on the choice of fit range. A more accurate value of 0.498(2) can be obtained by fitting the corresponding correlator for  $\Delta = 20$  and a fit range of 5 to 11. The strangeness-carrying state whose mass we have labeled  $E_{K\pi}$  can be formed from two quarks and must be parity even. Direct calculation of  $E_{K\pi}$  from a scalar  $\bar{s}d$  correlator yields  $E_{K\pi} = 0.752(12)$  which is consistent with the sum of the result above,  $E_{K\pi} - m_\pi = 0.498(2)$ , and the pion mass  $m_\pi = 0.2437(5)$ . (This energy difference is also close to the kaon mass  $m_K^{(1)} = 0.50729$  given in Tab. I.) Thus, the time dependence expected from the around-the-world path is quite consistent with that seen in Fig. 8.

We conclude that it is important to increase the lattice extent in the time direction both to suppress this around-the-world effect and to permit the use of a larger source-sink separation giving a longer plateau. We will return to discussion of the around-the-world effect below for the  $\Delta I = 1/2$  kaon decay where it creates even greater difficulties. However, here we can begin to appreciate the severity of this effect in the  $K^0 \rightarrow \pi\pi$  system for our temporal lattice extent of 32, given our values of the lattice spacing and meson masses.

The Wilson coefficients and operators which appear in Eq. 4 are typically expressed in the  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  scheme. Thus, we must change the normalization of our lattice operators  $Q_i$  to that of the  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  scheme. We begin by converting our bare lattice operators into the regularization invariant momentum (RI/MOM) scheme of Ref. [15]. Here we use the earlier results of Ref. [26] which were obtained for the present lattice action using the methods of Ref. [6]. In this previous work off-shell, Landau-gauge-fixed Green's functions containing the lattice operators  $Q_i$  are evaluated at specific external momenta characterized by an energy scale  $\mu$ . These results determine a renormalization matrix  $Z_{ij}^{\text{RI}}(\mu, a)$  which can be used to convert the lattice normalization into that of the RI scheme:

$$Q^{\text{RI}}(\mu)_i = \sum_{j=1}^7 Z_{ij}^{\text{lat} \rightarrow \text{RI}}(\mu, a) Q'_j. \quad (22)$$

As explained in Appendix A, these equalities hold only when the operators appear in physical matrix elements. The indices  $i$  and  $j$  take on seven values corresponding to the seven independent operators in what will be called the chiral basis. (The primes in this equation

indicate lattice operators defined in that basis.) This is referred to as nonperturbative renormalization (NPR) because the matrix  $Z_{ij}^{\text{lat} \rightarrow \text{RI}}(\mu, a)$  is computed using a lattice evaluation of off-shell Green's functions and perturbation theory is not used.

Next these  $Q^{\text{RI}}(\mu)_i$  operators are converted to the  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  scheme in which the Wilson coefficients are evaluated by applying a conversion matrix  $R_{ij}^{\text{RI} \rightarrow \overline{\text{MS}}}$  discussed in detail in Ref. [16]. Finally the matrix elements of these  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  operators are combined with the Wilson coefficients obtained in the  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  scheme [17] using the scale  $\mu = 2.15$  GeV to determine the results given later in this section for the  $\Delta I = 3/2$  amplitude  $A_2$  and in the following section for the  $\Delta I = 1/2$   $A_0$ . These procedures are described in greater detail in Appendix A.

A good approximation to the infinite volume decay amplitude can be obtained by including the Lellouch-Lüscher factor ( $F$ ) [18] which relates the  $K \rightarrow \pi\pi$  matrix element  $M$  of the effective weak Hamiltonian of Eq. 4 calculated using finite volume states normalized to unity to the infinite volume amplitude  $A$ :  $|A|^2 = F^2 M^2$  where

$$F^2 = 4\pi \left( \frac{E_{\pi\pi}^2 m_K}{p^3} \right) \left\{ p \frac{\partial \delta_2(p)}{\partial p} + q \frac{\partial \phi(q)}{\partial q} \right\}. \quad (23)$$

Here  $p$  is defined through  $E_{\pi\pi} = 2\sqrt{m_\pi^2 + p^2}$ ,  $q = Lp/2\pi$  and  $\delta_2(p)$  is the  $s$ -wave,  $I = 2$ ,  $\pi - \pi$  scattering phase shift for pion relative momentum  $p$ . The function  $\phi(q)$  is known analytically and given, for example, in Ref. [18]. The  $I = 2$  phase shift  $\delta_2(p)$  is determined from the measured two-pion energy  $E_{\pi\pi} = 0.443(13)$  given in Tab. I and the finite volume quantization condition [27]

$$\phi(q) + \delta_2(p) = n\pi. \quad (24)$$

For our threshold case we set the integer  $n$  to zero and obtain  $\delta_2(p) = -0.0849(43)$ . Because of the small value of  $p$  we assume that  $\delta_2(p)$  is a linear homogenous function of  $p$  and write  $\delta_2(p) = p \partial \delta_2(p) / \partial p$ , the quantity required in Eq. 23 and given in Tab. III. (Equation 23 differs by a factor of two from the expression given in the Lellouch-Lüscher paper because of our different conventions for the decay amplitude  $A$ . With our conventions the experimental value of  $\text{Re}(A_2) = 1.48 \times 10^{-8}$  GeV.)

In the limit of non-interacting pions, the factor  $F$  becomes  $F_{\text{free}}^2 = 2(2m_\pi)^2 m_K L^3$ , which reflects the different normalization of states in a box and plane wave states in infinite volume. Results for  $F$  in this  $I = 2$  case and the quantities used to determine it are given in Tab. III. We should note that applying the finite volume correction of Eq. 23 gives us a finite-volume

TABLE III. The calculated quantities which appear in the Lellouch-Lüscher factor  $F$  for  $I = 2$ . The corresponding factor for the case of non-interacting particles is  $F_{\text{free}} = 31.42$ . The difference reflects the final two-pion scattering in a box.

$p$	$q \frac{\partial \phi(q)}{\partial q}$	$p \frac{\partial \delta(p)}{\partial p}$	$F$
0.0690(13)	0.221(10)	-0.0849(43)	26.01(18)

corrected amplitude for a  $\Delta I = 3/2$ ,  $K \rightarrow \pi\pi$  decay that is slightly above threshold by the amount  $E_2^{\pi\pi} - 2m_\pi = 33(1)$  MeV.

We can now combine everything and calculate the  $K^0 \rightarrow \pi\pi$  decay amplitudes,

$$A_{2/0} = F \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{ud} V_{us} \sum_{i=1}^{10} \sum_{j=1}^7 \left[ \left( z_i(\mu) + \tau y_i(\mu) \right) Z_{ij}^{\text{lat} \rightarrow \overline{\text{MS}}} M_j^{\frac{3}{2}/\frac{1}{2}, \text{lat}} \right], \quad (25)$$

where the construction of the  $10 \times 7$  renormalization matrix  $Z_{ij}^{\text{lat} \rightarrow \overline{\text{MS}}}$  is explained in Appendix A. For later use we have written Eq. 25 in a way which is applicable for  $\Delta I = 1/2$  decays as well as for the  $\Delta I = 3/2$  transitions considered in this section. The results for the complex  $\Delta I = 3/2$  decay amplitude  $A_2$  are summarized in Tab. IV, including those for the other two, energy-non-conserving choices of kaon mass. Since  $m_K^{(1)}$  differs from the isospin-2  $\pi - \pi$  energy by only 0.2 percent, we quote this case as our energy-conserving kaon decay amplitude. Therefore, in physical units, we obtain the energy-conserving  $\Delta I = 3/2$ ,  $K^0 \rightarrow \pi\pi$  complex, threshold decay amplitude for  $m_K = 877$  MeV and  $m_\pi = 422$  MeV:

$$\text{Re}(A_2) = 4.911(31) \times 10^{-8} \text{GeV} \quad (26)$$

$$\text{Im}(A_2) = -0.5502(40) \times 10^{-12} \text{GeV}. \quad (27)$$

This result for  $\text{Re}(A_2)$  can be compared with the experimental value of  $1.48 \times 10^{-8}$  GeV given above. The larger result found in our calculation is likely explained by our unphysically heavy kaon and pions.

## VI. $K^0 \rightarrow \pi\pi$ $\Delta I = 1/2$ AMPLITUDE

Following the prescription given by Eq. 6 we have calculated all of the  $\Delta I = 1/2$  kaon decay correlation functions,

$$C_{0,i}(\Delta, t) = \frac{1}{32} \sum_{t'=0}^{31} A_{0,i}(t_\pi = t' + \Delta, t_{\text{op}} = t + t', t_K = t'), \quad (28)$$



TABLE IV. The complex,  $K^0 \rightarrow \pi\pi$ ,  $\Delta I = 3/2$  decay amplitudes in units of GeV.

$m_K$	$\text{Re}(A_2)(\times 10^{-8})$	$\text{Im}(A_2)(\times 10^{-12})$
$m_K^{(0)}$	4.308(28)	-0.5596(40)
$m_K^{(1)}$	4.911(31)	-0.5502(40)
$m_K^{(2)}$	5.916(38)	-0.5316(39)

for each of the ten effective weak operators. In the calculation we treat each of these ten operators as independent and then verify that the identities shown in Eq. 8 are automatically satisfied. Figures 10 and 11 show two examples of the resulting correlation functions for the operators  $Q_2$  and  $Q_6$ , in the case of the lightest kaon  $m_K^{(0)}$ . Table I shows that the mass of this kaon is very close to the energy of the I=0 two-pion state. Therefore, we expect to get a reasonably flat plateau when the operator is far from both the source and sink.

Given this good agreement between the energies of the  $K$  and  $\pi - \pi$  states, we might expect that the unphysical, dimension three operator,  $\bar{s}\gamma^5 d$  which mixes with the (8, 1) operators in Eq. 4 and is itself a total divergence, will also give a negligible contribution to such an energy and momentum conserving matrix element. However, as can be seen from Figs. 10(a) and 11(a), the matrix element of this term is large and the explicit subtraction described in Sec. IV is necessary.

This difficulty is created by the combination of two phenomena. First the mixing coefficient which multiplies the  $\bar{s}\gamma^5 d$  operator when it appears in our weak (8, 1) operators is large, of order  $(m_s - m_l)/a^2$ . Second, in our lattice calculation the necessary energy conserving kinematics (needed to insure that this total divergence does not contribute) is only approximately valid. The required equality of the spatial momenta of the kaon and  $\pi - \pi$  states is assured by our summing the location of the weak vertex over a complete temporal hyperplane. On the other hand, the equality of the energies of the initial and final states results only if we have adjusted the kaon mass to approximately that of the two-pion state and chosen the time extents sufficiently large that other states with different energies have been suppressed. However, as can be seen in Figs. 10(a) and 11(a) the subtraction terms *mix3* and *mix4* show strong dependence on the time at which they are evaluated. This implies that there are important contributions coming from initial and final states which have significantly different energies. One or both of these states is then not the intended  $K$

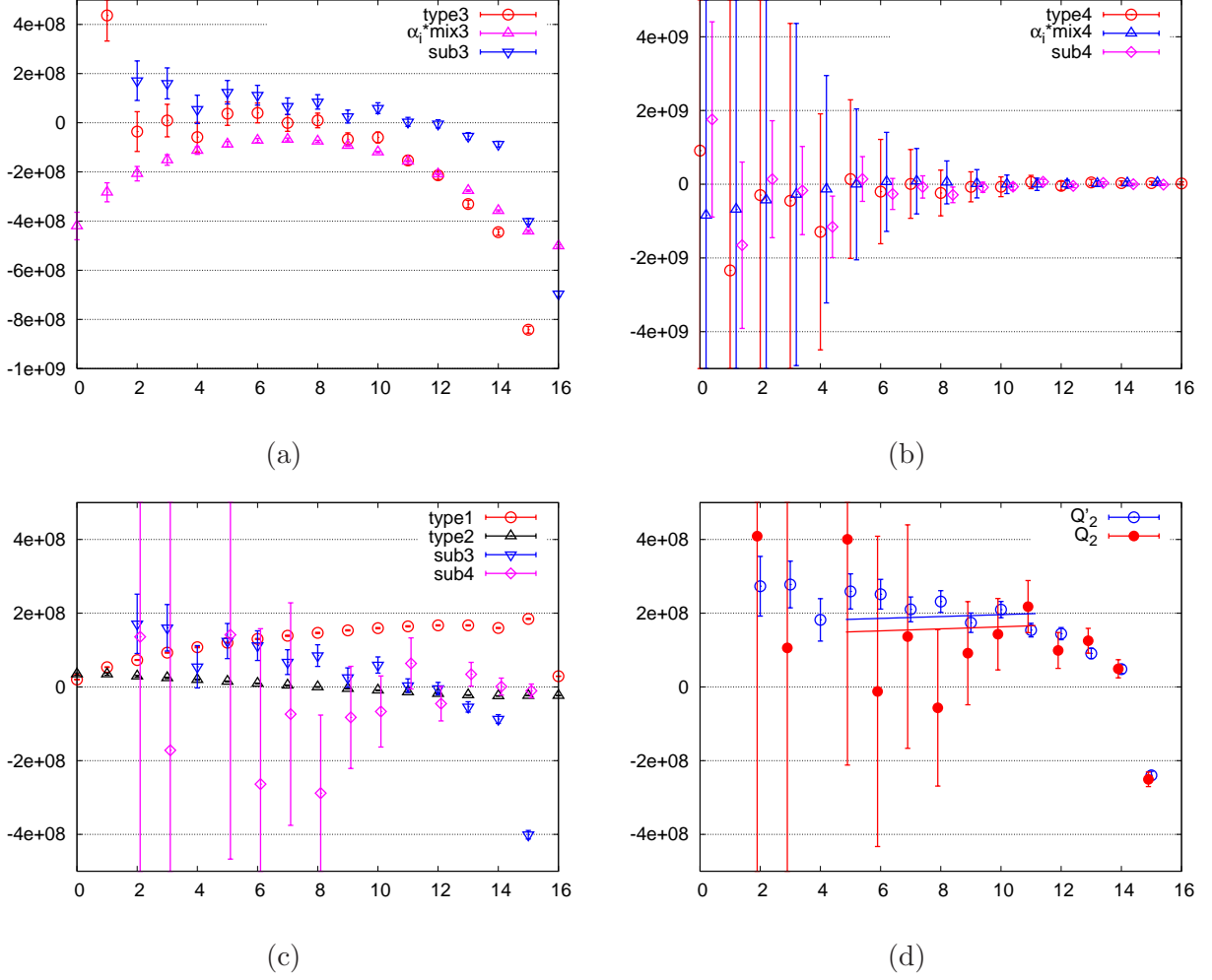


FIG. 10. Plots showing the  $t$  dependence of the various contractions which contribute to the  $\Delta I = 1/2$  correlation function  $C_{0,2}(\Delta = 16, t)$  for the operator  $Q_2$ . (a) Contractions of *type3*, the divergent mixing term *mix3* that will be subtracted and the result after subtraction, *sub3*. (b) Contractions of *type4*, the divergent mixing term *mix4* that will be subtracted and the result after subtraction, *sub4*. (c) Results for each of the four types of contraction after the needed subtractions have been performed. (d): Results for the complete  $Q_2$  correlation function  $C_{0,2}(\Delta = 16, t)$  obtained by combining these four types of contractions. The solid points labeled  $Q_2$  are the physical result while the open points labeled  $Q_2'$  are obtained by omitting all the vacuum graphs, *sub4*. The solid and dotted horizontal lines indicate the corresponding fitting results and the time interval,  $5 \leq t \leq 11$  over which the fits are performed.

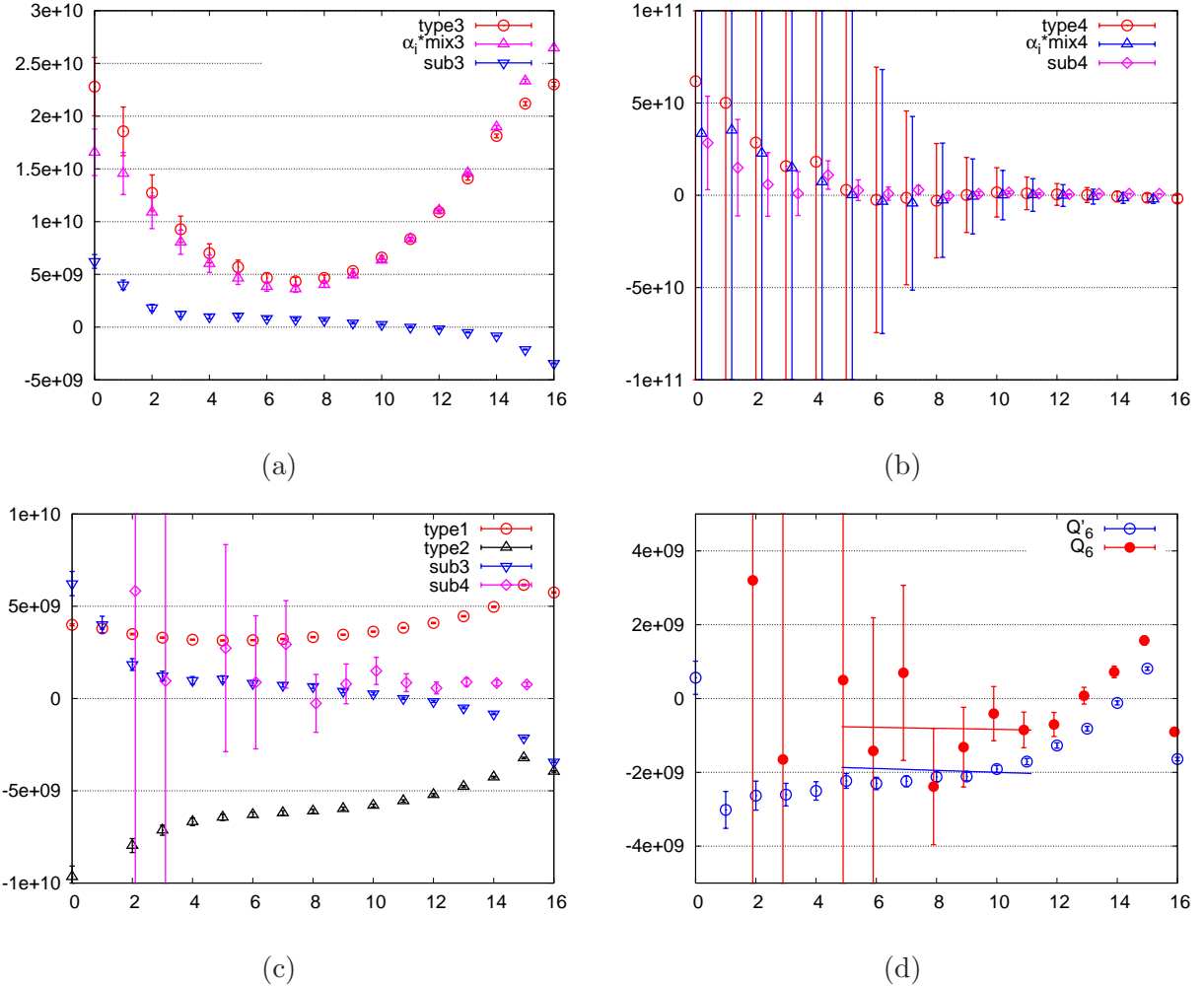


FIG. 11. The result for each type of contraction contributing to the 3-point correlation function  $C_{0,6}(\Delta = 16, t)$  for the operator  $Q_6$  following the same conventions as in Fig. 10.

or  $\pi - \pi$  state but instead an unwanted contribution which has been insufficiently suppressed by the time separations between source, weak operator and sink.

Thus, instead of relying on large time extents and energy conserving kinematics to suppress this unphysical,  $O(1/a^2)$  term we must explicitly remove it. As explained in Sec. IV this can be done by including an explicit subtraction which we fix by the requirement that the kaon to vacuum matrix element of the complete subtracted operator vanishes as in Eq. 12. Thus, we determine the divergent coefficient of this mixing term from the ratio  $\alpha_i = \langle 0|Q_i|K\rangle/\langle 0|\bar{s}\gamma^5 d|K\rangle$  and then perform the explicit subtraction of the resulting terms, labeled  $\alpha_i \cdot mix3$  and  $\alpha_i \cdot mix4$  in Figs. 10 and 11.

Of course, the finite part of such a subtraction is not determined from first principles

and our choice, specified by Eq. 12 is arbitrary. Thus, we must rely on our identification of a plateau and the approximate energy conservation of our kinematics to make the arbitrary part of this subtraction small, along with the other errors associated with evaluating the decay matrix element of interest between initial and final states with slightly different energies.

We now examine the very visible time dependence in Figs. 10(a) and 11(a) for both the original matrix elements and the subtraction terms in greater detail. As discussed above one might expect these divergent subtraction terms to contribute to excited state matrix elements in which the energies of the initial and final states are very different. Typical terms should be exponentially suppressed as the separation between the weak operator and the source or sink is increased, with the time behavior  $\exp\{-(m_K^* - m_K)t\}$  or  $\exp\{-(E_{\pi\pi}^* - E_{\pi\pi})(\Delta - t)\}$ , whichever is larger. (The \* denotes an excited state.) However, by carefully examining the time behavior of the *mix3* amplitude, we find that the time dependence, at least in the vicinity of the central region, is less rapid than might be expected from such excited states suggesting that it is probably not due primarily to contamination from excited states.

We believe that the dominant, energy-nonconserving matrix elements which cause the significant time dependence in Figs. 10 and 11 arise from the around-the-world effects identified and discussed in the previous  $\Delta I = 3/2$  section. In fact, for the reasons just discussed associated with divergent operator mixing, such around-the-world effects are a more serious problem in the  $\Delta I = 1/2$  case. The dominant around-the-world graphs are shown in Fig. 12. An estimate of the time dependence of these graphs gives,

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle K^0\pi|Q_i|\pi \rangle N_\pi N_K N_\pi e^{-m_\pi T} e^{-(E_{K\pi} - m_\pi)t} \\ & + \langle 0|Q_i|K^0\pi\pi \rangle N_\pi N_K N_\pi e^{-m_K((T-\Delta)+(\Delta-t))}, \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

where the first term comes from the first two graphs of Fig. 12, while the second term comes from the third graph. (Recall that  $t = t_{\text{op}} - t_K$  and  $\Delta = t_\pi - t_K$ ). Notice that these two terms involve amplitudes which are far from energy conserving and therefore contain large divergent contributions from mixing with the operator  $\bar{s}\gamma_5 d$  which will be removed only when combined with the corresponding around-the-world paths occurring in the *mix3* contraction.

We conclude that it is these around-the-world matrix elements which are the reason for the observed large divergent subtraction in the *type3* graph. The largest divergent contribution is thus not the subtraction for the matrix element we are trying to evaluate,

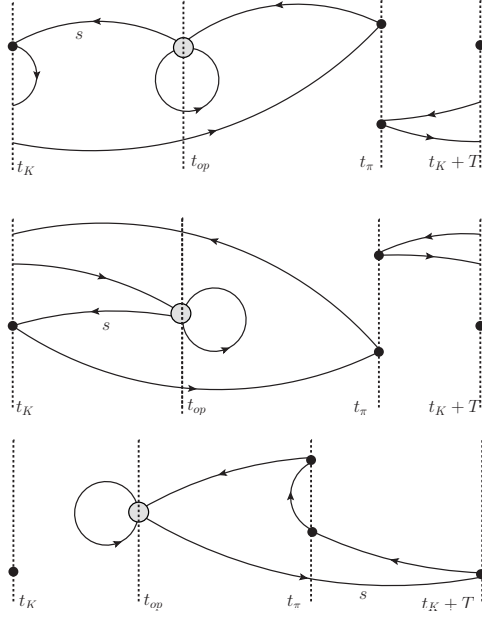


FIG. 12. The dominant around-the-world paths contributing to graphs of *type3*. As in Fig. 9 we show the space-time region between the kaon source at  $t = t_K$  and its periodic recurrence at  $t = t_K + T$ . The gray circle represents the four quark operator  $Q_i$ . For the first two graphs, one of the two pions created at the  $t = t_\pi$  source travels directly to the operator  $Q_i$  while the second pion travels in the other direction in time and reaches the kaon and weak operator by passing through the periodic lattice boundary. In the third diagram it is the kaon which travels in the opposite to the expected time direction.

$\langle \pi\pi|Q_i|K^0 \rangle$ ; rather, it is the divergent subtraction for the matrix elements  $\langle K^0\pi|Q_i|\pi \rangle$  and  $\langle 0|Q_i|K^0\pi\pi \rangle$  which arise from the around-the-world paths which are not sufficiently suppressed by our lattice size. Two important lessons can be learned from this analysis. First, it is important to perform an explicit subtraction of the divergent mixing with the operator  $\bar{s}\gamma_5 d$ . While this term will not contribute to the energy conserving matrix element of interest, in a Euclidean space lattice calculation there are in general, other, unwanted, energy non-conserving terms which may be uncomfortably large if this subtraction is not performed. Second it would be wise to work on a lattice with a much larger size  $T$  in time direction in order to suppress further the around-the-world terms which give such a large contribution in the present calculation. Using the average of propagators computed with periodic plus anti-periodic boundary conditions to effectively double the length in the time direction would be a good solution.

We should emphasize that these divergent, around-the-world contributions do not pose a fundamental difficulty. The largest part of these amplitudes are removed by the corresponding subtraction terms constructed from the operator  $\bar{s}\gamma_5 d$ . The remaining finite contributions from this and other around-the-world terms are suppressed by the factor  $\exp(-m_\pi T)$  or  $\exp(-m_K(T - \Delta))$ . Fortunately, the large divergent subtraction also reduces the statistical errors substantially, especially for the *type4* vacuum graphs, which indicates the expected strong correlation between the divergent part of the weak operator and the corresponding  $\bar{s}\gamma_5 d$  subtraction. Our results suggest that the separation of  $\Delta = 16$  gives a relatively longer plateau region, so we use that  $K - \pi\pi$  time separation in the analysis below.

The lattice matrix elements are determined by fitting the  $I = 1/2$  correlators  $C_0^i(\Delta, t)$  given in Eq. 28 using the fitting form:

$$C_{0,i}(\Delta, t) = M_i^{1/2,\text{lat}} N_{\pi\pi} N_K e^{-E_{\pi\pi}\Delta} e^{-(m_K - E_{\pi\pi})t}. \quad (30)$$

The fitted results for the weak,  $\Delta I = 1/2$  matrix elements of all ten operators are summarized in Tab. V. To see the effects of the disconnected graph clearly, a second fit is performed to the amplitude from which the disconnected, *type4* graphs have been omitted and the calculated results are shown with an additional  $\prime$  label, as in the earlier two-pion scattering section.

The calculation of the  $\Delta I = 1/2$  decay amplitude  $A_0$  from the lattice matrix elements  $M_i^{1/2,\text{lat}}$  given in Tab. V is very similar to the  $\Delta I = 3/2$  case: the values of  $M_i^{1/2,\text{lat}}$  are simply substituted in Eq. 25. However, the attractive character of the  $I = 0$ ,  $\pi - \pi$  interaction and resulting negative value of  $p^2$  makes the Lellouch-Lüscher treatment of finite volume corrections inapplicable. For the repulsive  $I = 2$  case, we could apply this treatment to obtain the decay amplitude for a two-pion final state which was slightly above threshold corresponding to the actual finite volume kinematics. In the present case there is no corresponding infinite-volume decay into two pions below threshold and an unphysical increase of  $m_\pi$  to compensate for the finite volume  $\pi - \pi$  attraction will introduce an  $O(1/L^3)$  error in the decay amplitude of the same size as that which the Lellouch-Lüscher treatment corrects. Thus, for this  $\Delta I = 1/2$  we do not include finite volume corrections and simply use the free-field value for the factor  $F$  in Eq. 25.

While we believe that we cannot consistently apply the Lellouch-Lüscher finite volume correction factor to improve our result for the  $I = 0$ ,  $K \rightarrow \pi\pi$  decay amplitude, we might

TABLE V. Fitted results for the weak,  $\Delta I = 1/2$  kaon decay matrix elements using the kaon mass  $m_K^{(0)}$ . The column  $M_i^{\text{lat}}$  shows the complete result from each operator. The column  $M_i^{\prime\text{lat}}$  shows the result when the disconnected graphs are omitted while the 4th and 5th columns show the contributions of each operator the real and imaginary parts of the physical decay amplitude  $A_0$ . These results are obtained using a source-sink separation  $\Delta = 16$ , and a fit range  $5 \leq t \leq 11$ .

i	$M_i^{1/2,\text{lat}}(\times 10^{-2})$	$M_i^{\prime 1/2,\text{lat}}(\times 10^{-2})$	$\text{Re}(A_0)(\text{GeV})$	$\text{Im}(A_0)(\text{GeV})$
1	-1.6(16)	-1.10(37)	7.6(64)e-08	0
2	1.52(61)	1.92(15)	2.86(97)e-07	0
3	-0.3(41)	0.3(10)	2.1(136)e-10	1.1(76)e-12
4	2.7(33)	3.32(78)	4.2(44)e-09	1.4(14)e-11
5	-3.3(38)	-6.81(86)	3.1(53)e-10	1.6(28)e-12
6	-7.8(48)	-19.6(9)	-5.6(33)e-09	-3.3(20)e-11
7	10.9(14)	15.20(42)	5.2(12)e-11	8.8(20)e-14
8	35.7(28)	47.2(10)	-3.66(28)e-10	-1.79(14)e-12
9	-2.2(12)	-1.79(29)	3.1(15)e-14	-2.01(96)e-12
10	0.9(12)	1.24(29)	1.2(11)e-11	-2.7(27)e-13
Total	-	-	3.46(78)e-07	-2.4(23)e-11

still be able to use the quantization condition of Eq. 24 to determine the  $I = 0$   $\pi - \pi$  scattering phase shift  $\delta_0(p)$ . Even though Eq. 24 can be analytically continued to imaginary values of the momentum  $p$ , its application for large negative  $p^2$  is uncertain since the function  $\phi(q)$  becomes ill defined. In fact, our value of  $p^2$  sits very close to a singular point of  $\phi(q)$ . We believe this happens because the condition on the interaction range  $R \ll L/2$  used to derive the quantization condition in Eq. 24 is not well satisfied for our small volume. This impediment to determining  $\delta_0(p)$  will naturally disappear once we work with lighter pions in a larger volume.

The results for  $\text{Re}(A_0)$  and  $\text{Im}(A_0)$  are summarized in Tab. VI and the individual contribution from each of the operators is detailed in the last two columns of Tab. V. Within a large uncertainty Tab. V shows that the largest contribution to  $\text{Re}(A_0)$  comes from operator  $Q_2$ , and that to  $\text{Im}(A_0)$  from  $Q_6$  as found, for example, in Refs. [6, 7].

Since the choice  $m_K^{(0)}$  for the kaon mass is not precisely equal to the energy of the  $I = 0$   $\pi\pi$

TABLE VI. Amplitudes for  $\Delta I = 1/2$   $K^0 \rightarrow \pi\pi$  decay in units of GeV. The energy conserving amplitudes are obtained by a simple linear interpolation between  $m_K^{(0)}=0.42599$  and  $m_K^{(1)}=0.50729$  to the energy of two-pion state. As in the previous tables, the  $\prime$  indicates results from which the disconnected graphs have been omitted.

$m_K$	$\text{Re}(A_0)(\times 10^{-8})$	$\text{Re}(A'_0)(\times 10^{-8})$	$\text{Im}(A_0)(\times 10^{-12})$	$\text{Im}(A'_0)(\times 10^{-12})$
$m_K(0)$	36.1(78)	42.3(20)	-21(21)	-66.1(43)
$m_K(1)$	45(10)	48.8(24)	-41(26)	-74.6(47)
$m_K(2)$	65(15)	58.6(32)	-69(39)	-89.6(63)
Energy conserving	38.0(82)	43.4(21)	-25(22)	-67.5(44)

state, we carried out a simple linear interpolation between  $m_K^{(0)}$  and  $m_K^{(1)}$  to obtain an energy conserving matrix element, which is shown in the last row of Tab VI. In terms of physical units, therefore, our full calculation gives the energy conserving,  $K^0 \rightarrow \pi\pi$ ,  $\Delta I = 1/2$ , complex decay amplitude  $A_0$  for  $m_K = 766$  MeV and  $m_\pi = 422$  MeV:

$$\text{Re}(A_0) = 3.80(82) \times 10^{-7} \text{GeV} \quad (31)$$

$$\text{Im}(A_0) = -2.5(2.2) \times 10^{-11} \text{GeV}. \quad (32)$$

These complete results can be compared with those obtained when the disconnected graphs are neglected given in Tab. VI and the experimental value for  $\text{Re}(A_0) = 3.3 \times 10^{-7}$  GeV.

## VII. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

Comparing the results of  $\text{Re}(A_2)$  in Tab. IV and  $\text{Re}(A_0)$  in Tab. VI, we find the  $\Delta I = 1/2$  enhancement ratio  $\text{Re}(A_0)/\text{Re}(A_2)$  to be roughly 7-9. This comparison is degraded by our threshold kinematics which, since the  $I = 0$  and  $I = 2$  two-pion states have different energies in a finite volume, causes us to use a different kaon mass in the calculations of  $(A_2)$  and  $(A_0)$  in order to have energy conserving decays in each case. These two energy conserving amplitudes have a ratio of  $38.0/4.911 = 7.7$ , while if we ignore energy conservation and use the same  $m_K^{(1)}$  value for kaon mass, the ratio becomes  $45.0/4.911 = 9.2$ . Of course, both estimates are far from the experimental ratio of 22.5 suggesting that our 422 MeV pion mass and small lattice volume are far from physical.



For completeness, we also calculate the measure of direct CP violation,

$$\text{Re}\left(\frac{\epsilon'}{\epsilon}\right) = \frac{\omega}{\sqrt{2}|\epsilon|} \left[ \frac{\text{Im}(A_2)}{\text{Re}(A_2)} - \frac{\text{Im}(A_0)}{\text{Re}(A_0)} \right], \quad (33)$$

where  $\omega = \text{Re}(A_2)/\text{Re}(A_0)$  is the inverse of the  $\Delta I = 1/2$  enhancement factor. Using our kinematics, the kaon mass  $m_K^{(1)}$  and substituting the experimental value for  $\epsilon$ , we get  $\text{Re}(\epsilon'/\epsilon) = (2.7 \pm 2.6) \times 10^{-3}$ . If we instead use the experimental value for  $\omega$ , we get  $\text{Re}(\epsilon'/\epsilon) = (1.11 \pm 0.91) \times 10^{-3}$ .

Our calculation is sufficiently far from physical kinematics, that it is not appropriate to compare these results with experiment.<sup>1</sup> Instead, our objective is to show how well our method performs. We have been able to calculate  $\text{Re}(A_0)$ , the key element needed to explain the  $\Delta I = 1/2$  rule, with a 25% statistical error. Comparing our results for  $\text{Re}(A_0)$  obtained on sub-samples of  $N=100$ , 400 and all 800 configurations we find that the statistical errors on the quantities we measure do indeed scale as  $1/\sqrt{N}$ . Therefore, we believe that our non-zero signal for  $\text{Re}(A_0)$  is real and that we could reduce this statistical error to 10 percent by quadrupling the size of our sample to 3200 configurations. It is interesting to note the results for primed (disconnected graphs omitted) and unprimed (all graphs included) quantities contributing to  $\text{Re}(A_0)$  have similar values suggesting that the disconnected graphs, while contributing significantly to the statistical error, have an effect on the final result for  $\text{Re}(A_0)$  at or below 25%.

In contrast, the result for  $\text{Im}(A_0)$  has an 80% error. Thus, it is not clear whether the size of the result will survive a quadrupling of the sample with its statistical error reducing to a 40% error or whether the result itself will shrink, remaining statistically consistent with zero. Considering the substantial systematic errors associated with our small volume and the fact that our kinematics are far from the physical, we present this trial calculation as a guideline for future work and a proof of method rather than giving accurate numbers to compare with experiment.

From our observation of the around-the-world effect, we conclude that it is important to use the average of quark propagators obeying periodic and anti-periodic boundary conditions to extend the lattice size in the time direction. In addition, explicit subtraction of the divergent mixing term  $\bar{s}\gamma^5 d$  is necessary even for kinematics which are literally energy

<sup>1</sup> A further unphysical aspect of our kinematics is the inequality of the strange quark mass used in the fermion determinant and the self contractions appearing in the eye graphs ( $m_s = 0.032$ ) and strange quark masses used in the valence propagator of the K meson ( $m_s = 0.066, 0.99$  and  $0.165$ ).

conserving because the around-the-world path and possibly other excited state matrix elements are far off shell and can be substantially enhanced by such a divergent contribution. Finally, future work should be done using a much larger lattice which can contain two pions without any worry about finite size effects.

The focus of this paper is on developing techniques capable of yielding statistically meaningful results from the challenging lattice correlation functions involved in the amplitude  $A_0$ . However, there are other important problems that will also require careful attention if physically meaningful results are to be obtained for this amplitude with an accuracy of better than 20%. Two important issues are associated with operator mixing. As discussed in Appendix A, a proper treatment of the non-perturbative renormalization of the four independent  $(8, 1)$  four-quark operators requires that additional operators containing gluonic variables (some of which are not gauge invariant) be included. While including such operators is in principle possible and the subject of active research, controlling such mixing using RI/MOM methods offers significant challenges.

A second problem is operator mixing induced by the residual chiral symmetry breaking of the DWF formulation. The mixing of such wrong-chirality operators should be suppressed by a factor of order  $m_{\text{res}}$ . However, the  $K \rightarrow \pi\pi$  matrix elements of the important  $(8, 1)$  four-quark operators are themselves suppressed by at least one power of  $m_K^2$ , a suppression that is absent from similar matrix elements of the induced, wrong-chirality operators. Therefore, such mixing has been ignored in this paper because its effect on the matrix elements of interest are expected to be of order  $m_{\text{res}}/m_s \approx 0.08$ , suggesting that these effects will be smaller than our 25% statistical errors. To perform a more accurate calculation in the future, these mixing effects may be further suppressed by adopting a gauge action with smaller residual chiral symmetry breaking. For example, this ratio reduces to 0.04 for the DSDR gauge action now being used in RBC/UKQCD simulations [28] and to 0.023 for those ensembles with the smallest lattice spacing created to date using the Iwasaki gauge action [29]. When greater accuracy is required either an improved fermion action, larger  $L_s$  or explicit subtraction of wrong-chirality mixing must be employed.

As we move closer to the physical pion mass we must overcome a further important difficulty: giving physical relative momentum to the two pions. This can be accomplished while keeping the two-pion state in which we are interested as the ground state, if the kaon is given non-zero spatial momentum relative to the lattice. In this case the lowest

energy final state can be arranged to have one pion at rest while the other pion carries the kaon momentum, as in the  $\Delta I = 3/2$  calculation of Ref. [30]. However, this requires the momentum carried by the initial kaon and final pion to be 739 MeV, which is 5.4 times larger than the physical pion mass. Such a large spatial momentum will likely make the calculation extremely noisy. For the  $\Delta I = 3/2$  calculation, it is possible to use anti-periodic boundary conditions in one or more spatial directions for one of the light quarks so that each pion necessarily carries the physical, 206 MeV momentum present in the actual decay while the kaon can be at rest [12, 13]. However, this approach cannot be used in the case of the  $I = 0$  final state being studied here. Instead, the use of G-parity boundary conditions [31] may be the solution to this problem.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank Dirk Brömmel and our other colleagues in the RBC and UKQCD collaborations for discussions, suggestions, and assistance. We acknowledge RIKEN BNL Research Center, the Brookhaven National Laboratory and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) for providing the facilities on which this work was performed. NC, QL, RM were supported in part by U.S. DOE grant DE-FG02-92ER40699, TB and RZ by U.S. DOE grant DE-FG02-92ER40716 and AS and TI by DOE contract DE-AC02-98CH10886(BNL). EG was supported by an STFC studentship and CTS was partially supported by UK STFC Grant PP/D000211/1 and by EU contract MRTN-CT-2006-035482 (Flavianet). Finally, QL would like to thank the U.S. DOE for support as a DOE Fellow in High Energy Theory and CL acknowledges support of the RIKEN FPR program.

## Appendix A: Operator normalization

In order to combine our lattice matrix elements with the Wilson coefficients describing the short-distance weak interaction physics responsible for  $K \rightarrow \pi\pi$  decay we must convert our lattice operators into those normalized according to that  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  scheme in which the Wilson coefficients are evaluated. We will discuss the details of this procedure in this appendix.

The first step is converting the lattice operators into those normalized according to the RI/MOM scheme [15]. We follow the procedure of Ref. [6] and make use of the fact that the

ten operators which enter the conventional expression given in Eq. 4 are linearly dependent and can be reduced to a set of seven independent operators,  $Q'_1, Q'_2, Q'_3, Q'_5, Q'_6, Q'_7$  and  $Q'_8$  defined in Eq. 172-175 Ref. [6]. These have been defined so that the resulting operators belong to specific irreducible representations of  $SU_L(3) \times SU_R(3)$ . The operator  $Q'_1$  transforms as a  $(27, 1)$ . The four operators  $Q'_2, Q'_3, Q'_5$  and  $Q'_6$  all belong to the  $(8, 1)$  representation, while  $Q'_7$  and  $Q'_8$  each transform as an  $(8, 8)$ . Here  $(m, n)$  denotes the product of an  $m$ -dimensional irreducible representation of  $SU_L(3)$  with an  $n$ -dimensional irreducible representation of  $SU_R(3)$ . We refer to the basis of these seven independent operators as the chiral basis. Because  $SU_L(3) \times SU_R(3)$  is an exact symmetry of the large momentum, massless limit which our NPR calculation is intended to approximate, the mixing matrix  $Z^{\text{lat} \rightarrow \text{RI}}$  given in Eq. 22 which relates the lattice and RI-normalized operators will be block diagonal, only connecting operators which belong to the same irreducible representation of  $SU_L(3) \times SU_R(3)$ .

The RI/MOM conditions which define the operators  $O_i^{\text{RI}}$  and determine the  $7 \times 7$  matrix  $Z^{\text{lat} \rightarrow \text{RI}}$  are imposed on the Green's functions:<sup>2</sup>

$$G_i(p_1, p_2)_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}^f = \prod_{i=1}^4 \left\{ \int d^4x_i \right\} \langle s(x_1)_\alpha f(x_2)_\beta Q_i^{\text{RI}}(0) \bar{d}_\gamma(x_3) \bar{f}_\delta(x_4) \rangle e^{-ip_2(x_1+x_2)} e^{ip_1(x_3+x_4)} \quad (\text{A1})$$

evaluated for  $p_1^2 = p_2^2 = (p_1 - p_2)^2 = \mu^2$ . Here  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  and  $\delta$  are spin and color indices. The fields  $\bar{d}$  and  $\bar{f}$  create a down quark and a quark of flavor  $f = u$  or  $d$  while  $s$  and  $f$  destroy a strange quark and a quark of flavor  $f$ . The RI/MOM conditions are imposed by removing the four external quark propagators from the amplitudes in Eq. A1, and then contracting each of the resulting seven amputated Green's functions obtained from Eq. A1 with seven projectors  $\{\Gamma_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}^{ij:f}\}_{1 \leq j \leq 7}$ . The matrix  $Z^{\text{lat} \rightarrow \text{RI}}$  is then determined by requiring that the resulting 49 quantities take their free field values, as is described in detail in Refs. [6] and [16].

The choice of external momenta specified by Eq. A1 is non-exceptional since no partial sum of these momenta vanish (if their signs are chosen so that all four momenta are incoming) and is the choice used in Refs. [26] and [16]. Such a choice of kinematics is expected to result in normalization conditions which are less sensitive to non-zero quark masses and QCD

<sup>2</sup> While this equation agrees with Eqs. 143 and 152 of Ref. [6], a different choice of momenta was actually used in that earlier reference. These two equations accurately describe the earlier kinematics only after one pair of the momenta  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  are exchanged:  $p_1 \leftrightarrow p_2$ .

TABLE VII. The renormalization matrix  $Z^{\text{lat}\rightarrow\text{RI}}/Z_q^2$  in the seven operator chiral basis at the energy scale  $\mu = 2.15$  GeV. These values were obtained from Ref. [26] by performing an error weighted average of the values given in Tabs. 40, 41 and 42 (corresponding to bare quark masses of 0.01, 0.02 and 0.03) and inverting the resulting matrix with an uncorrelated propagation of the errors. Since the results given in these three tables are equal within errors, we chose to combine them to reduce their statistical errors rather than to perform a chiral extrapolation.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	0.825(7)	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.
2	0.	0.882(38)	-0.111(41)	-0.009(12)	0.010(10)	0.	0.
3	0.	-0.029(69)	0.962(92)	0.013(22)	-0.011(25)	0.	0.
4	0.	-0.04(12)	-0.01(13)	0.924(42)	-0.149(35)	0.	0.
5	0.	0.17(18)	0.08(23)	-0.042(55)	0.649(63)	0.	0.
6	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.943(8)	-0.154(9)
7	0.	0.	0.	0.	0.	-0.0636(53)	0.680(11)

vacuum chiral symmetry breaking than would be the case if an exceptional set of momenta had been used [32]. The resulting matrix  $Z^{\text{lat}\rightarrow\text{RI}}(\mu, a)/Z_q^2$  obtained for  $\mu = 2.15$  GeV in Ref. [26] is given in Tab. VII.

Since these RI/MOM renormalization conditions are being imposed for off-shell, gauge-fixed external quark lines, we must in principle include a larger number of operators than the minimal set of seven independent operators which can represent all gauge invariant matrix elements between physical states of  $H_W$ . Therefore, we must also employ a correspondingly larger set of conditions to distinguish among this larger set of operators. These additional operators are two-quark operators of dimension three, four and six and are either gauge invariant or non gauge invariant. The treatment of those operators of dimension three and four follows closely that given in Ref. [6]. Equations (12) and (89) of Ref. [16] give a complete list of the corresponding gauge-invariant operators of dimension six. If evaluated between on-shell states, however, these additional operators can be expressed by linear combinations of the seven operators  $Q'_i$ .<sup>3</sup> Thus, as stated in Sec. V, the relations given in Eq. 22 between

<sup>3</sup> Exceptions to this statement come from the two dimension-3, mass operators  $\bar{\psi}(1\pm\gamma^5)d$  which do contribute independently to on-shell matrix elements in which four-momentum is not conserved.

the seven lattice and the seven RI operators are valid only when those operators appear in physical matrix elements between on-shell states. For this equation to be valid when the operators appear in the off-shell, gauge-fixed Green's functions that define the RI scheme, additional RI/MOM-normalized operators must be added.

This is the meaning of the  $7 \times 7$  matrix  $Z^{\text{lat} \rightarrow \text{RI}}$  matrix given in Tab. VII: gauge symmetry and the equations of motion must be imposed to reduce to seven the RI-normalized operators to which the seven lattice operators are equated. In the calculation of  $Z^{\text{lat} \rightarrow \text{RI}}$  presented in Ref. [26] all such extra, dimension six operators are neglected. For all but one, this might be justified for the current calculation because these operators enter only at two loops or beyond and the perturbative coefficients that we are using in later steps are computed at only one loop. A single operator, given in Eq. 146 of Ref. [6] and Eq. 12 of Ref. [16] does appear at one loop but has also been neglected because it is expected to give a smaller contribution than other two-quark operators with quadratically divergent coefficients whose effects are indeed small. While these contributions of such extra operators are believed to be small for the current calculation, care must be taken in future calculations in which a continuum limit is attempted that any neglected counter terms with coefficients of the form  $\log(\mu a)$  do not become important.

A final imperfection in the results presented in Tab. VII is that the subtraction of a third dimension-four, two-quark operator which contains a total derivative was not performed. However, the effect of subtracting this third operator is expected to be similar to those of the two operators which were subtracted, effects which were not visible outside of the statistical errors (see *e.g.* Tabs. XIV and XVIII in Ref. [6]).

In the second step we convert the seven *RI* operators obtained above into the  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  scheme:

$$Q'_i{}^{\overline{\text{MS}}} = \sum_j \left(1 + \Delta r^{\text{RI} \rightarrow \overline{\text{MS}}}\right)_{ij} Q_j^{\text{RI}}. \quad (\text{A2})$$

Here the indices  $i$  and  $j$  run over the set  $\{1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8\}$  corresponding to the chiral basis of the operators  $Q_j$  defined above and a set of operators  $Q'_j{}^{\overline{\text{MS}}}$ , with identical chiral properties, which are defined in Ref. [16]. We use the computational framework described in Ref. [16] and the resulting  $7 \times 7$  matrix  $\Delta r^{\text{RI} \rightarrow \overline{\text{MS}}}$  is given in Tab. VIII of that reference. As in the case of Eq. 22, the two sets of seven RI and  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  operators are related by this  $7 \times 7$  matrix only when appearing in physical matrix elements. Since the values in this table were obtained for the case that the wave function renormalization constant for the quark field is the quantity

$Z_q^{\not{q}}$  it is that factor which we use to extract  $Z^{\text{lat}\rightarrow\text{RI}}$  from the matrix  $Z^{\text{lat}\rightarrow\text{RI}}/Z_q^2$  given in Tab. VII. For our  $\beta = 2.13$ , Iwasaki gauge ensembles  $Z_q^{\not{q}} = 0.8016(3)$ . (Note,  $Z_q^{\not{q}}$  is the same as the quantity  $Z'_q$  introduced in earlier, exceptional momentum schemes [33].)

A third and final step is needed before we can combine the Wilson coefficients with the matrix elements determined in our calculation to obtain the physical amplitudes  $A_0$  and  $A_2$ . The  $7 \times 7$  matrix given in Tab. VIII of Ref. [16] gives us  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  operators defined in the chiral basis. However, the Wilson coefficients which are available in Ref. [17] are defined for the ten operator basis referred to as basis I in Ref. [16]. The conversion between the linearly independent, seven operator basis and the conventional set of ten linearly dependent operators is correctly given by the application of simple Fierz identities for the case of the lattice and RI/MOM operators. As is explained, for example, in Ref. [16], this procedure is more complex for operators defined using  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  normalization. Here subtleties of defining  $\gamma^5$  in dimensions different from four, result in ten  $\overline{\text{MS}}$ -normalized operators,  $Q_i^{\overline{\text{MS}}}$ , which are not related by the usual Fierz identities, with Fierz violating terms appearing at order  $\alpha_s$ .

Thus, the conventional ten  $\overline{\text{MS}}$ -normalized operators  $Q_i^{\overline{\text{MS}}}$  which appear in Eq. 4 must be constructed, again through one-loop perturbation theory, from the seven operators  $Q_j^{\overline{\text{MS}}}$ :

$$Q_i^{\overline{\text{MS}}} = \sum_j \left( T + \Delta T_I^{\overline{\text{MS}}} \right)_{ij} Q_j^{\overline{\text{MS}}}, \quad (\text{A3})$$

in the notation of Ref. [16]. The  $10 \times 7$  matrices,  $T$  and  $\Delta T_I^{\overline{\text{MS}}}$  are given in Eqs. 59 and 65 of that reference. (The subscript  $I$  on the matrix  $\Delta T_I^{\overline{\text{MS}}}$  identifies the particular ten-operator,  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  basis required by the Wilson coefficients of Ref. [17].)

This entire set of non-perturbative and perturbative transformations can be summarized by the following equation which expresses the ten  $\overline{\text{MS}}$ -normalized operators  $Q_i^{\overline{\text{MS}}}$  in terms of the seven, chiral basis, lattice operators whose matrix elements we actually compute:

$$Q_i^{\overline{\text{MS}}} = \sum_j \left[ \left( T + \Delta T_I^{\overline{\text{MS}}} \right)_{10 \times 7} \left( 1 + \Delta r^{\text{RI}\rightarrow\overline{\text{MS}}} \right)_{7 \times 7} \left( Z^{\text{lat}\rightarrow\text{RI}} \right)_{7 \times 7} \right]_{ij} Q_j^{\text{lat}} \quad (\text{A4})$$

$$= \sum_j \left[ \left( Z^{\text{lat}\rightarrow\overline{\text{MS}}} \right)_{10 \times 7} \right]_{ij} Q_j^{\text{lat}}, \quad (\text{A5})$$

where the subscripts indicate the dimensions of the matrices being multiplied and the matrix  $Z_{ij}^{\text{lat}\rightarrow\overline{\text{MS}}}$  is used in Eq. 25.

The physical matrix elements listed in Tabs. II and V are obtained by using Eq. A5 to determine the matrix elements of the ten conventional operators  $Q_i^{\overline{\text{MS}}}$  in term of the matrix

TABLE VIII. Wilson Coefficients in the  $\overline{MS}$  scheme, at energy scale  $\mu = 2.15\text{GeV}$ .

$i$	$y_i^{\overline{MS}}(\mu)$	$z_i^{\overline{MS}}(\mu)$
1	0	-0.29829
2	0	1.14439
3	0.024141	-0.00243827
4	-0.058121	0.00995157
5	0.0102484	-0.00110544
6	-0.069971	0.00657457
7	-0.000211182	0.0000701587
8	0.000779244	-0.0000899541
9	-0.0106787	0.0000150176
10	0.0029815	0.0000656482

elements of the seven lattice operators  $Q_j$ . These ten matrix elements are then combined with the twenty Wilson coefficients computed for the renormalization scale  $\mu = 2.15\text{ GeV}$  using the formulae in Ref. [17]. The values obtained for these Wilson coefficients are listed in Tab. VIII.

Note, there are many important details of the RI/MOM renormalization procedure, such as the subtraction of dimension three and four operators, which are not repeated here because they are already discussed with some care in Refs. [6] and [16].

### Appendix B: Propagator sources

The calculations presented in this paper rely on propagators computed using two types of sources. The propagators for the quarks which make up the initial and final state mesons are constructed from Coulomb gauge fixed wall sources while the fermion loops appearing in the eye diagrams are formed from propagators using random Gaussian wall sources. In this appendix we specify how each of these sources is constructed. (Our conventions for the five dimensional Dirac operator  $D$  and its coupling to the gauge field are given in Ref. [34].)

A Coulomb gauge fixed wall source located at the time  $t_w$  with spin  $\alpha$  and color  $a$  is a five-dimension color and spin vector field  $\mathcal{C}(\vec{x}, t, s; t_w, \alpha, a)_{\beta, b}$  with spinor and color indices



$\beta$  and  $b$  and is given by:

$$\mathcal{C}(\vec{x}, t, s; t_w, \alpha, a)_{\beta, b} = \left\{ \left( \frac{1 + \gamma^5}{2} \right)_{\beta, \alpha} \delta_{s, L_s - 1} + \left( \frac{1 - \gamma^5}{2} \right)_{\beta, \alpha} \delta_{s, 0} \right\} \delta_{t, t_w} V^C(\vec{x}, t)^\dagger_{b, a} \quad (\text{B1})$$

where  $V^C(\vec{x}, t)$  is the  $3 \times 3$  local gauge transformation matrix that transforms the gauge links  $U_i(\vec{x}, t)$  into links  $U_i^C(\vec{x}, t)$  in Coulomb gauge:

$$U_i^C(\vec{x}, t) = V^C(\vec{x}, t) U_i(\vec{x}, t) V^C(\vec{x} + \hat{e}_i a, t)^\dagger. \quad (\text{B2})$$

Here  $\hat{e}_i$  is a unit vector in the  $i^{\text{th}}$  direction.

The color and spinor field  $\mathcal{C}(\vec{x}, t, s; t_w, \alpha, a)_{\beta, b}$  is used to define a five-dimensional propagator  $G(\vec{x}, t, s; t_w, \alpha, a)_{b, \beta}$  which obeys the domain wall fermion Dirac equation:

$$\sum_{x', t', s'} \left\{ D_{\vec{x}, t, s; \vec{x}', t', s'} G(\vec{x}', t', s'; t_w, \alpha, a) \right\}_{\beta, b} = \mathcal{C}(\vec{x}, t, s; t_w, \alpha, a)_{\beta, b}, \quad (\text{B3})$$

using the notation of Ref. [34]. Following those conventions we can project the five-dimensional propagator  $G$  onto the four-dimensional walls to construct the four-dimensional propagators  $L$  and  $S$  for the light and strange quarks used in Eqs. 1, 9, 10 and 11. For example, the light quark propagator is constructed as follows:

$$L(\vec{x}, t; t_w)_{\beta, b; \alpha, a} = \left\{ \frac{1 + \gamma^5}{2} G(\vec{x}, t, L_s - 1; t_w, \alpha, a) \right\}_{\beta, b} + \left\{ \frac{1 - \gamma^5}{2} G(\vec{x}, t, 0; t_w, \alpha, a) \right\}_{\beta, b}. \quad (\text{B4})$$

Critical to this approach is the limited gauge covariance of Eq. B3 under general gauge transformations of the underlying gauge configuration. This gauge covariance can be seen by considering a gauge transformation

$$U_\mu(x) \rightarrow U_\mu^V(x) = V(x) U_\mu(x) V(x + \hat{e}_\mu a)^\dagger \quad (\text{B5})$$

where  $x = (\vec{x}, t)$  identifies a four vector and links in the general space-time direction  $\mu$  are being transformed. The gauge covariance of Eq. B3 can be established if we view the Coulomb gauge transformation matrices  $V^C[\{U\}](x)$  which appear in the source  $\mathcal{C}$  as functionals of the gauge ensemble from which they were defined and observe that candidate Coulomb gauge transformation matrices for the transformed links can be easily constructed from the original Coulomb gauge transformation matrices  $V^C[\{U\}]$  as:

$$V^C[\{U^V\}](x) = \mathcal{G} V^C[\{U\}](x) V(x)^\dagger \quad (\text{B6})$$

where  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $3 \times 3$  position-independent, global gauge transformation. If the original matrices  $V^C[\{U\}](x)$  transform the configuration  $\{U\}$  to Coulomb gauge, then by construction, the new matrices  $V^C[\{U^V\}](x)$  will do the same for the gauge-transformed links  $\{U^V\}$ . Thus, if Eq. B6 holds, the left- and right-hand sides of Eq. B3 transform similarly under the gauge transformation of Eq. B5 (recall that  $G(x, s; t_w)$  will also transform as a color vector at  $x$ ).

However, there are two issues that must be addressed. First the global gauge transformation  $\mathcal{G}$  transforms the right-hand indices of the  $(V^C)^\dagger$  on the right-hand side of Eq. B3 but does not appear on the left-hand side when a gauge transformation is performed. Nevertheless, this lack of invariance under a general gauge transformation can be removed if the propagators  $G(\vec{x}, t, s; t_w, \alpha, a)_{\beta, b}$  always appear in products in which the source color indices  $a$  are arranged in gauge invariant combinations. Second, the Coulomb gauge transformation for the gauge-transformed configuration can be guaranteed to be given by Eq. B6 only if the transformation to Coulomb gauge is unique up to a global gauge transformation, an assumption violated by Gribov copies. Thus, we expect hadronic propagators constructed from these Coulomb gauge fixed wall sources to be affected by gauge noise generated by Gribov copies. However, in practice we find these are excellent sources for creating pseudoscalar mesons providing good statistics from volume averaging and long plateaus when the effective mass of the mesons is examined.

The construction of the random Gaussian wall sources is more straight-forward. As described earlier, a separate random source is generated for each spin-color pair  $\alpha, a$ . Thus, a random Gaussian wall source at the time  $t_w$  with spin  $\alpha$  and color  $a$  is given by the five-dimensional spin-color vector

$$\mathcal{R}(\vec{x}, t, s; t_w, \alpha, a)_{b, \beta} = \eta(\vec{x}, t) \delta_{t, t_w} \delta_{a, b} \left\{ \left( \frac{1 + \gamma^5}{2} \right)_{\alpha, \beta} \delta_{s, L_s - 1} + \left( \frac{1 - \gamma^5}{2} \right)_{\alpha, \beta} \delta_{s, 0} \right\} \quad (\text{B7})$$

where  $\eta(\vec{x}, t)$  are independent Gaussian random numbers defined for each space-time point. An independent set of random numbers,  $\eta(\vec{x}, t)$  is generated each of the twelve separate sources corresponding to the twelve possible choices of spin( $\alpha$ ) and color( $a$ ). The corresponding propagators  $G^R$  and  $L^R$  are constructed in a fashion completely analogous to that described above for  $G$ ,  $L$  and  $S$  in Eqs. B3 and B4.

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