

Study of $B \to D^{(*)}h$ decays using 62.8 fb⁻¹ of Belle II data

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Abstract

We report measurements related to hadronic B decays to final states that contain charm mesons. The analyses are performed on a 62.8 fb⁻¹ data set collected by the Belle II experiment at a center-of-mass energy corresponding to the mass of the $\Upsilon(4S)$ resonance. The measurements reported are for the decay modes $B^- \to D^0 h^-$, $B^- \to D^{*0} h^-$, $\bar{B}^0 \to D^+ h^-$ and $\bar{B}^0 \to D^{*+} h^-$, where $h=\pi$ or K. These modes are either signal or control channels for measurements related to the unitarity triangle angle γ in direct or time-dependent CP-violation measurements. The reported observables are the ratios between the $B \to D^{(*)} K$ and $B \to D^{(*)} \pi$ decay rates, which are found to be in agreement with previous measurements.

1. INTRODUCTION

We report the first measurements at Belle II of observables related to $B^- \to D^{(*)0}h^-$ and $\bar{B}^0 \to D^{(*)+}h^-$ decays, where h^- is either a π^- or K^- meson. (Throughout this paper charge-conjugate is implied.) These decay modes are of interest for two reasons. Firstly, the decays $B^- \to D^{(*)0}\pi^-$ and $\bar{B}^0 \to D^{(*)+}\pi^-$ arise from the favoured $b \to c$ transition, which makes them some of the most abundant hadronic B decays with branching fractions between 0.25% and 0.5% [1]. Therefore, these modes are important control channels for other fully hadronic B-decay measurements, such as those of time-dependent CP violation and charmless B decays. Secondly, the decays $B^- \to D^{(*)0}K^-$ are sensitive to the b-d Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa (CKM) [2] unitarity-triangle angle ϕ_3 (or γ) [3]. A more precise determination of ϕ_3 is one of the primary goals of Belle II [4].

An important set of observables related to these modes are the ratios between the decay rates:

$$R^{(*)0} = \frac{\Gamma(B^- \to D^{(*)0}K^-)}{\Gamma(B^- \to D^{(*)0}\pi^-)}$$
 (1)

$$R^{(*)+} = \frac{\Gamma(\bar{B}^0 \to D^{(*)+}K^-)}{\Gamma(\bar{B}^0 \to D^{(*)+}\pi^-)} \,. \tag{2}$$

These observables can test theoretical predictions, particularly of factorization and SU(3) symmetry breaking in quantum chromodynamics (QCD) [5]. We present measurements of $R^{(*)0/+}$ for four decay modes: (1) $B^- \to D^0 h^-$, $D^0 \to K^- \pi^+$ or $D^0 \to K^0_S \pi^+ \pi^-$; (2) $B^- \to D^{*0} h^-$, $D^{*0} \to D^0 \pi^0$, $D^0 \to K^- \pi^+$; (3) $\bar{B}^0 \to D^+ h^-$, $D^+ \to K^- \pi^+ \pi^+$; and (4) $\bar{B}^0 \to D^{*+} h^-$, $D^{*+} \to D^0 \pi^+$, $D^0 \to K^- \pi^+$.

Among these decays $B^- \to D^0(K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^-) K^-$ is the single most sensitive mode to determine ϕ_3 [6–8] at Belle II [4]. Therefore, the demonstration of an efficient reconstruction of this mode at Belle II is a significant first step toward a determination of ϕ_3 . Hence, a more complex analysis is performed for $B^- \to D^0(K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^-) K^-$ compared to the other modes, which are used as high-statistics control samples or for tests of QCD.

The remainder of this paper is organised as followed. Section 2 describes the Belle II detector, as well as the data and simulation samples used in these analyses. The event selection requirements are outlined in Sec. 3. Section 4 describes how the values of $R^{(*)0/+}$ are determined from the data, the results are presented and the evaluation of systematic uncertainties described. Section 5 gives the conclusion and outlook.

2. THE BELLE II DETECTOR AND DATA SAMPLE

Belle II [9] is a particle-physics spectrometer with almost 4π solid-angle coverage, which is designed to reconstruct the products of electron-positron collisions produced by the SuperKEKB asymmetric-energy collider [10], located at the KEK laboratory in Tsukuba, Japan. The energies of the electron and positron beams are 7 GeV and 4 GeV, respectively. Belle II comprises several subdetectors arranged around the interaction point in a cylindrical geometry. The innermost subdetector is the vertex detector (VXD), which uses

position-sensitive silicon layers to sample the trajectories of charged particles (tracks) in the vicinity of the interaction region to extrapolate the decay positions of their long-lived parent particles. The VXD includes two inner layers of DEPFET-based pixel sensors and four outer layers of double-sided silicon microstrip sensors. The second pixel layer is currently incomplete covering only one sixth of the azimuthal angle. Charged-particle momenta and charges are measured by a large-radius, helium-ethane, small-cell central drift chamber (CDC), which also offers charged-particle-identification information through a measurement of particles' specific ionization. A Cherenkov-light angle and time-of-propagation (TOP) detector surrounding the chamber provides charged-particle identification in the central detector volume, supplemented by proximity-focusing, aerogel, ring-imaging Cherenkov (ARICH) detectors in the forward region with respect to the electron beam. A CsI(Tl)-crystal electromagnetic calorimeter (ECL) provides electron-energy measurements and photon reconstruction. A solenoid surrounding the calorimeter generates a uniform axial 1.5 T magnetic field filling its inner volume. Layers of plastic scintillator and resistive-plate chambers, interspersed between the magnetic flux-return iron plates, allow for identification of $K_{\rm L}^0$ and muons. The subdetectors most relevant for this work are the VXD, CDC, TOP, ARICH and ECL.

We use simulated data to optimize the event selection, study background and compare the distributions observed in experimental data with expectations. We use signal-only simulated data to model relevant signal features for fits and determine selection efficiencies. The so-called generic sample consists of Monte Carlo (MC) simulated events that include $B^0\bar{B}^0$, B^+B^- , $u\bar{u}$, $d\bar{d}$, $s\bar{s}$, and $c\bar{c}$ processes in realistic proportions and corresponds in size to more than ten times that of the $\Upsilon(4S)$ data. The generic MC sample is used to study background and make comparisons with the data. In addition, one million signal-only events are generated for each decay channel. The B-meson decays are simulated with the EVTGEN generator [11] and the effect of final-state electromagnetic radiation is simulated by the Photos package [12]. The simulation of the continuum background process $e^+e^- \to q\bar{q}$ (q=u,d,s,c) is carried out with the KKMC [13] generator interfaced to PYTHIA [14]. The interactions of particles with the detector are simulated using GEANT4 [15].

The data sample consists of all good-quality runs collected at a center-of-mass energy corresponding to the the $\Upsilon(4S)$ resonance from March 11th, 2019 until July 1st, 2020. The sample size corresponds to an integrated luminosity of 62.8 fb⁻¹. Events used in the analysis are required to satisfy data-skimming selection criteria, which reduces sample sizes such that the time required to analyse the full data sample is shortened significantly. These skimming criteria are placed on the total energy and charged-particle multiplicity in the event; the selection is almost 100% efficient on signal events rejecting only beam background and low-multiplicity events, such as those produced in two-photon collisions. All data are processed using the Belle II analysis software framework [16].

3. EVENT SELECTION AND RECONSTRUCTION

The selection has been designed to be largely common among the modes studied. An overview of the selection is as follows. Initially we select π^+ , K^+ , π^0 and K_S^0 candidates with baseline criteria that ensure high efficiency and purity. These candidates are combined to form D and D^* candidates, which are then combined with an h^- candidate to form B candidates. Constrained vertex and kinematic fits are applied to ensure consistency with

the topology of the decay. We reconstruct $B^- \to D^0 h^-$, $B^- \to D^{*0} h^-$, $\bar{B}^0 \to D^+ h^-$ and $\bar{B}^0 \to D^{*+} h^-$. Further, we reconstruct $D^{*+} \to D^0 \pi^+$ and $D^{*0} \to D^0 \pi^0$ cascades, as well as $D^0 \to K^- \pi^+$, $K^0_S \pi^+ \pi^-$ and $D^+ \to K^- \pi^+ \pi^+$ decays. The remainder of this section describes the details of the selection criteria.

Charged particle tracks originating from e^+e^- collisions are selected by requiring |dr| < 0.5 cm and |dz| < 3 cm, where dr and dz represent the distance of closest approach to the interaction point (IP) in the plane transverse to and along the z direction, respectively. (In the Belle II coordinate system, the z axis is aligned with the direction opposite to the positron beam.) These tracks are then identified as either K^+ or π^+ using information from the CDC, TOP and ARICH detectors. We apply likelihood-ratio requirements of $\mathcal{L}(K/\pi) = \frac{\mathcal{L}_K}{\mathcal{L}_K + \mathcal{L}_\pi} > 0.6$ for a kaon candidate and $\mathcal{L}(K/\pi) < 0.6$ for a pion candidate, where \mathcal{L}_K (\mathcal{L}_π) is the likelihood of a track being a kaon (pion). In order to reduce the pion fake rate, we require $\cos \theta > -0.6$, where θ is the polar angle in lab frame of the π or K candidate coming directly from the B decay, which is referred to as the prompt track. This requirement removes the tracks in the backward part of the detector, which are outside the TOP or ARICH acceptance. The kaon identification efficiency is approximately 83% and the pion-to-kaon misidentification rate is about 10%; the latter quantity is obtained from the simultaneous fit to $B \to D^{(*)}h^-$ data described in Sec. 4.

For $K_{\rm S}^0$ reconstruction, we use pairs of oppositely charged tracks that originate from a common space-point and have an invariant mass consistent with the nominal $K_{\rm S}^0$ mass [1], when the tracks are reconstructed assuming the pion mass hypothesis. No particle identification criteria are applied to these tracks. To improve the purity of the $K_{\rm S}^0$ selection, we use a multivariate discriminant implemented as a fast boosted decision tree (FBDT). Five variables are used as inputs to the FBDT:

- 1. The azimuthal angle between the momentum vector and the vector between the IP and the decay vertex of the K_S^0 candidate.
- 2. The smaller distance of closest approach between the extrapolated track of one of the pion candidates and the IP.
- 3. The longer distance of closest approach between the extrapolated track of the other pion candidate and the IP.
- 4. The flight length of the $K_{\rm S}^0$ candidate in the plane transverse to the beam direction.
- 5. The difference between the measured mass of $K_{\rm S}^0$ candidate and the nominal $K_{\rm S}^0$ mass [1] divided by uncertainty on the measured $K_{\rm S}^0$ candidate mass.

The efficiency and purity of the $K_{\rm S}^0$ selection are 91% and 97%, respectively.

We reconstruct π^0 candidates from photon pairs. The energy of each photon is required to be greater than 30, 80, and 60 MeV depending upon whether it is reconstructed in the barrel, forward, and backward endcap region of the ECL, respectively; the differing thresholds are motivated by the different levels of beam-induced background within the regions. Requirements are placed on the helicity angle of the π^0 decay to further reduce combinatorial candidates constructed from the beam-induced background. We also restrict the diphoton mass to be between $120 < M_{\gamma\gamma} < 145 \text{ MeV}/c^2$. The mass of the π^0 candidates

is constrained to its known value in subsequent kinematic fits to improve its four-momentum resolution.

Invariant-mass restrictions are placed on the the D and D^* candidates, formed from combinations of the selected π^+ , K^+ , K^0_S and π^0 candidates, to reduce combinatorial background:

- $1.84 < M(K^-\pi^+) < 1.89 \text{ GeV}/c^2$;
- $1.85 < M(K_S^0 \pi^- \pi^+) < 1.88 \text{ GeV}/c^2;$
- $1.844 < M(K^-\pi^+\pi^+) < 1.894 \text{ GeV}/c^2$;
- $0.140 < M(D^0\pi^0) M(D^0) < 0.144 \text{ GeV}/c^2$; and
- $0.143 < M(D^0\pi^+) M(D^0) < 0.147 \text{ GeV}/c^2$.

These intervals correspond to between $\pm 3.5\sigma$ and $\pm 4.0\sigma$ about the nominal $D^{(*)}$ masses [1], where σ is the invariant-mass resolution. To improve the resolution of the selected $D^{(*)}$ candidate's four-momentum, it is reconstructed using a kinematic fit that constraints the reconstructed mass to the known $D^{(*)}$ mass [1]. This fit improves the resolution of the beam-energy difference [defined in Eq. (4)] by approximately 11%.

B-meson candidates are reconstructed by combining a D or D^* candidate with a charged track without any particle identification criteria applied. The kinematic variables used to discriminate B decays from combinatorial or partially reconstructed background are the beam-energy-constrained mass

$$M_{\rm bc} = \frac{1}{c^2} \sqrt{E_{\rm beam}^2 - \left(\sum_i \vec{\mathbf{p}}_i c\right)^2} \,, \tag{3}$$

and the beam-energy difference

$$\Delta E = \sum_{i} E_i - E_{\text{beam}} , \qquad (4)$$

where $E_{\rm beam}$ is the beam energy and $(E_i, \vec{\mathbf{p}}_i c)$ is the four-momentum of the $i^{\rm th}$ decay product of the B candidate; all quantities are calculated in the center-of-mass frame. For correctly reconstructed signal, $M_{\rm bc}$ peaks at the nominal mass of the B meson [1] and ΔE peaks at zero. We retain candidates with $M_{\rm bc} > 5.27~{\rm GeV}/c^2$. The distribution of ΔE for selected candidates is fit to determine the values of $R^{(*)+/0}$. Therefore, mode-dependent ΔE criteria are placed to define the interval over which the distribution is fit. The reason for the differing ΔE ranges is two-fold: to remove partially reconstructed background and to increase sideband control regions for the two-dimensional fit in the mode $B^- \to D(K_{\rm S}^0 \pi^+ \pi^-) h^-$. The ΔE criteria are $-0.13 < \Delta E < 0.15~{\rm GeV}$ for $B^- \to D^0(K^- \pi^+) h^-$ and $B^- \to D^{*0}[D^0(K^- \pi^+) \pi^0] h^-$, $-0.13 < \Delta E < 0.18~{\rm GeV}$ for $B^- \to D^0(K_{\rm S}^0 \pi^+ \pi^-) h^-$, and $-0.15 < \Delta E < 0.15~{\rm GeV}$ for $\bar{B}^0 \to D^{(*)+} h^-$.

There are a few background modes that can peak in the same manner as the signal ('peaking background'). The decay $B^- \to J/\psi(\ell^+\ell^-)K^-$ may contribute to the background

for $B^- \to D^0(K^-\pi^+)\pi^-$ or similarly, $\bar{B}^0 \to J/\psi(\ell^+\ell^-)K^{*0}$ for $\bar{B}^0 \to D^+(K^-\pi^+\pi^+)\pi^-$. To reject this background arising from particle misidentification, we veto candidates satisfying $M(\pi\pi)$ being within $\pm 3\sigma$ of the nominal J/ψ mass.

Continuum background is suppressed by requiring the ratio of second and zeroth Fox-Wolfram moments [17], $R_2 < 0.3$. This criterion is applied for all modes except for $B^- \to 0.0$ $D(K_S^0\pi^+\pi^-)h^-$, for which we use instead an FBDT that combines variables known to provide statistical discrimination between B-meson signals and continuum background. The variables are also required to have negligible correlation with ΔE and $M_{\rm bc}$. These quantities are associated to event topology, which relate to both the whole event and signal-only angular configurations. We train the classifier to identify statistically significant signal and background features using simulated samples. We use the following event topology variables for differentiating the signal and continuum: the likelihood ratio obtained from Fisher discriminants formed from modified Super-Fox-Wolfram moment [18], the absolute value of the cosine of the angle between the B candidate and the z direction in the e^+e^- center-of-mass frame, the cosine of the angle between the thrust axis of the signal B and thrust axis of rest-of-the-event (ROE), the difference between the position of the signal B decay vertex and the vertex of the ROE in the z direction, and B flavor-tagger output [19]. The output of the FBDT lies in the range zero to one, where signal events peak around one and continuum events peak around zero. The fit to data in this mode includes a variable related to the FBDT output as well as ΔE . However, to simplify the background description of this variable, the FBDT output is required to be greater than 0.2; this criterion rejects 67% of background while retaining 96% of signal.

After applying all the selection criteria, there can be more than one candidate per event in the $B^- \to D(K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^-) h^-$ mode with an average multiplicity of approximately 1.06. In such events we retain the candidate that has $M(K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^-)$ and M_{bc} values closest to the corresponding nominal values [1]; the efficiency of this criterion is approximately 65%. The number of events with multiple candidates is negligible in all other decay modes studied.

4. RESULTS

We select both $B \to DK$ and $B \to D\pi$ decays, the $B \to D\pi$ branching fraction is typically an order of magnitude larger than that of $B \to DK$, hence it can serve as an excellent calibration sample for the signal determination procedure. Furthermore, there is a significant background from $B \to D\pi$ decays in the $B \to DK$ sample due to the misidentification of the charged pion as a kaon; a simultaneous fit to samples enhanced in prompt tracks that are either pions $[L(K/\pi) < 0.6]$ or kaons $[L(K/\pi) > 0.6]$, allows this cross-feed to be directly determined from data. The signal extraction is done by fitting only the ΔE distribution simultaneously in pion and kaon enhanced samples for all the modes other than $B^- \to D^0 h^-$ where $D^0 \to K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$. In this last case, the signal yield is determined from a two-dimensional extended maximum-likelihood fit to ΔE and the transformed FBDT output (C'). The continuum suppression FBDT output is transformed using the μ -transformation [20, 21]. The principal advantage to using this transformation compared to the commonly used Gaussian transformation (see for example Ch. 9 in Ref. [22]) is that the PDFs can be described by analytic functions that have fewer parameters.

The yields of the signal $B \to D^{(*)}\pi$ and $B \to D^{(*)}K$, and their cross-feed, in the pion

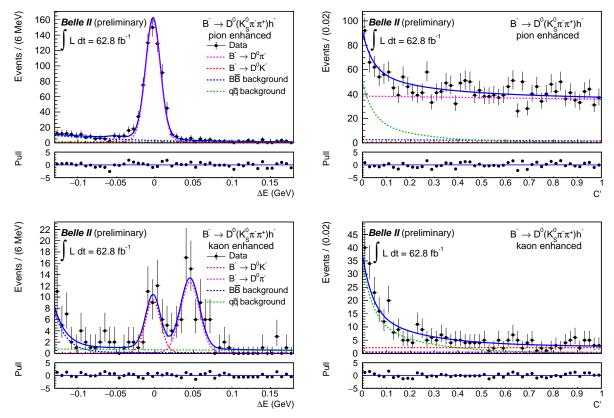


FIG. 1. Signal-enhanced (left) ΔE and (right) C' distributions for $B^- \to D^0(K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^-) h^-$ for the pion-enhanced (top) and kaon-enhanced (bottom) data sample. The projection of the total and individual components of a simultaneous unbinned maximum-likelihood fit are overlaid. The signal-enhancement is achieved by requiring $|\Delta E| < 0.03$ GeV and 0.65 < C' < 1 on the C' and ΔE distributions, respectively.

and kaon-enhanced samples can be expressed by the following relations:

$$N_{\text{pion enhanced}}^{D^{(*)}\pi} = (1 - \kappa) N_{\text{tot}}^{D^{(*)}\pi}$$

$$\tag{5}$$

$$N_{\text{kaon enhanced}}^{D^{(*)}\pi} = \kappa N_{\text{tot}}^{D^{(*)}\pi}$$

$$N_{\text{kaon enhanced}}^{N^{(*)}\pi} = \kappa N_{\text{tot}}^{D^{(*)}\pi}$$

$$N_{\text{kaon enhanced}}^{N^{(*)}K} = \epsilon R^{(*)} N_{\text{tot}}^{D^{(*)}\pi}$$

$$N_{\text{pion enhanced}}^{D^{(*)}K} = (1 - \epsilon) R^{(*)} N_{\text{tot}}^{D^{(*)}\pi} .$$
(8)

$$N_{\text{kaon enhanced}}^{D^{(*)}K} = \epsilon R^{(*)} N_{\text{tot}}^{D^{(*)}\pi}$$
 (7)

$$N_{\text{pion enhanced}}^{D^{(*)}K} = (1 - \epsilon) R^{(*)} N_{\text{tot}}^{D^{(*)}\pi}$$
 (8)

Here the pion fake rate κ is a free parameter, as well as $R^{(*)}$ and $N_{\text{tot}}^{D^{(*)}\pi}$, respectively the ratio between the decay rates defined in Eq. (2) and the signal yield of $B \to D^{(*)}\pi$ mode. Due to the low yield of $B \to D^{(*)}K$ cross feed to the pion-enhanced sample, the kaon identification efficiency ϵ is fixed to the value obtained from the tagged D control samples that are used to calibrate the particle identification [23] performance.

Three background components are considered:

- continuum $q\bar{q}$ background;
- combinatorial BB background, in which the final state particles could be coming from both B mesons in an event; and

TABLE I. R^+ and R^0 results compared to those reported by the LHCb Collaboration [24, 25].

	$B^- \to D^0(K^-\pi^+)h^-$	$B^- \to D^0(K_{\rm S}^0 \pi^+ \pi^-) h^-$	$\bar{B}^0 \to D^+ h^-$
Belle II $R^{+/0} \ (\times 10^{-2})$	$7.66 \pm 0.55 ^{~+0.11}_{~-0.08}$	$6.32 \pm 0.81 ^{+0.09}_{-0.11}$	$9.22 \pm 0.58 \pm 0.09$
LHCb $R^{+/0} \ (\times 10^{-2})$	$7.77 \pm 0.04 \pm 0.07$ [24]	$7.77 \pm 0.04 \pm 0.07$ [24]	$8.22 \pm 0.11 \pm 0.25$ [25]

• cross-feed peaking background from $B^+ \to Dh^+$, where $h = \pi$, K, in which the charged kaon is misidentified as a pion or vice versa.

There is no significant correlation between ΔE and C', so the two-dimensional PDF for each of the components is the product of one-dimensional ΔE and C' PDFs. The sum of a double Gaussian function and an asymmetric Gaussian function with a common mean is used as the PDF to model the ΔE signal component in both samples. A uniform distribution is used to model the C' signal component in both samples. The continuum background distribution is modeled with a first-order polynomial in ΔE and by the sum of two exponential functions in C'. The ΔE distribution of combinatorial $B\bar{B}$ background in $D\pi$ is described by an exponential function. A first-order polynomial is added to the above two PDFs in the case of $B \to DK$ decays. The C' distribution in the $B \to D\pi$ ($B \to DK$) sample is modeled by a first-order (third-order) polynomial. The cross-feed peaking background in ΔE is modeled by the sum of a (double) Gaussian and an asymmetric Gaussian in the $B \to DK$ ($B \to D\pi$) sample and a first-order polynomial is used to model the C' distribution for both samples.

All yields are determined from the fit to data. For the ΔE PDFs the following parameters are determined in the fit to data: the signal PDF mean value, polynomial coefficient for continuum background ΔE distribution, the exponential parameter for $B\bar{B}$ background, and the difference between the means of the signal and cross-feed peaks in the $B \to DK$ sample. For the C' PDFs the following parameters are determined from the fit to data: the polynomial coefficient of the $B\bar{B}$ background and one of the exponential parameters of the continuum background. All other shape parameters are fixed to those obtained from fits to appropriate MC samples. A scaling factor is applied on the ΔE signal resolution, which is a free parameter in the fit. The signal-enhanced fit projections for the data are shown in Fig. 1, where the signal regions are defined as $|\Delta E| < 0.03$ GeV and 0.65 < C' < 1.

For the other modes, in which continuum background is suppressed by simply requiring $R_2 < 0.3$, the signal yield is extracted using a simultaneous fit to only the ΔE distributions in both samples. In few modes, there remains a peaking background from charmless hadronic B decays which have the same final state as the signal, e.g. $B \to K\rho$ for the $B \to D(K\pi)\pi$ mode. The peaking background yield is fixed from MC simulation properly scaled by their measured branching fraction [1]. The fit projections for the data are shown for $B^- \to D^0(K^-\pi^+)h^-$, $B^- \to D^{*0}[D^0(K^-\pi^+)\pi^0]h^-$, $\bar{B}^0 \to D^+(K^-\pi^+\pi^+)h^-$ and $\bar{B}^0 \to D^{(*)+}h^-$ in Figs. 2, 3, 4 and 5, respectively. The measured values of $R^{(*)+}$ and $R^{(*)0}$ are listed in Tables I and II, respectively. The results reported by the LHCb Collaboration [24–26] are also given in these tables; these measurements dominate the world-average values reported by the Particle Data Group (PDG) [1].

We consider several sources of systematic uncertainties. We assume the sources are independent, such that the total systematic uncertainty is the sum in quadrature of the contributions from individual sources. The individual contributions to the $R^{(*)+/0}$ systematic

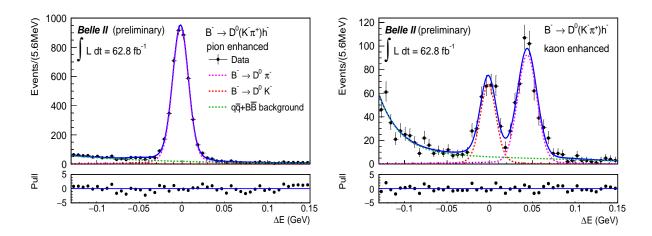


FIG. 2. ΔE distributions for $B^- \to D^0(K^-\pi^+)h^-$ candidates that are (left) pion-enhanced and (right) kaon-enhanced from an 62.8 fb⁻¹ data sample. The projection of the total and individual components of a simultaneous unbinned maximum-likelihood fit are overlaid.

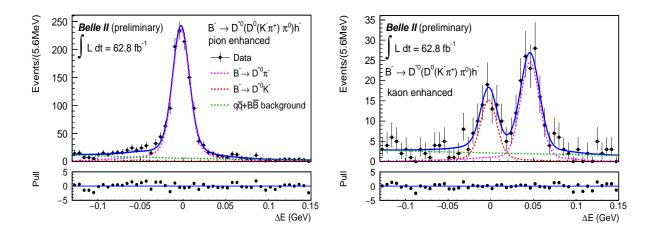


FIG. 3. ΔE distributions for $B^- \to D^{*0}(D^0(K^-\pi^+)\pi^0)h^-$ candidates that are (left) pion-enhanced and (right) kaon-enhanced from an 62.8 fb⁻¹ data sample. The projection of the total and individual components of a simultaneous unbinned maximum-likelihood fit are overlaid.

TABLE II. R^{*+} and R^{*0} results compared to those reported by the LHCb Collaboration [24, 26].

	$B^- \to D^{*0} h^-$	$\bar{B}^0 \to D^{*+}h^-$
Belle II $R^{*+/0} \ (\times 10^{-2})$	$6.80 \pm 1.01 \pm 0.07$	$5.99 \pm 0.82 {}^{+0.17}_{-0.08}$
LHCb $R^{*+/0}$ (×10 ⁻²)	$7.93 \pm 0.11 \pm 0.56$ [24]	$7.76 \pm 0.34 \pm 0.26$ [26]

uncertainties, as well as the total systematic uncertainties, are reported in Table III. The major three sources of systematic uncertainty are the momentum scale factor applied in the reconstruction to account for the incorrect magnetic field mapping, the fixed parameters

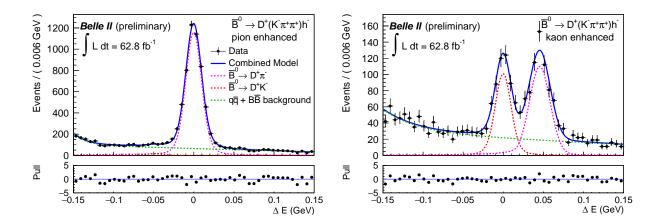


FIG. 4. ΔE distributions for $\bar{B}^0 \to D^+(K^-\pi^+\pi^+)h^-$ candidates that are (left) pion-enhanced and (right) kaon-enhanced from an 62.8 fb⁻¹ data sample. The projection of the total and individual components of a simultaneous unbinned maximum-likelihood fit are overlaid.

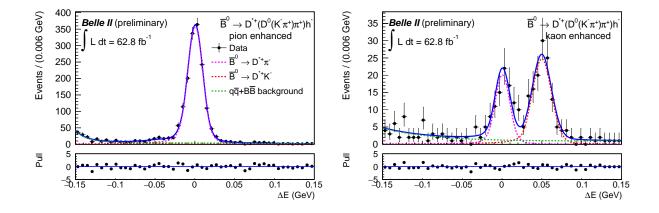


FIG. 5. ΔE distributions for $\bar{B}^0 \to D^{*+}(D^0(K^-\pi^+)\pi^+)h^-$ candidates that are (left) pion-enhanced and (right) kaon-enhanced data sample from an 62.8 fb⁻¹ data sample. The projection of the total and individual components of a simultaneous unbinned maximum-likelihood fit are overlaid.

in the PDF shape, and the kaon efficiency. The momentum of charged particle tracks is corrected from the calibration results obtained with invariant masses of well-known resonances. Those corrections are varied within their uncertainty. Those due to the ΔE PDFs for the DK signal, the $D\pi$ signal, and the $D\pi$ cross-feed are evaluated by varying the shape parameters by $\pm 1\sigma$, by replacing common parameter (ΔE mean of the $D\pi$ and DK components) by a different parameter. The uncertainties due to the kaon identification efficiency are obtained by varying the assumed values by their uncertainties as obtained in data from the tagged D control samples. The uncertainty due to the peaking background is obtained by varying its yield by the uncertainty in its estimation.

TABLE III. Systematic uncertainties for $R^{*+/0}$ measurements.

	$D^0(K_{\rm S}^0\pi^+\pi^-)h^-$	$D^0(K^-\pi^+)h^-$	$D^{*0}h^{-}$	D^+h^-	$D^{*+}h^-$
Kaon identification $(\times 10^{-2})$	$^{+0.008}_{-0.008}$	$^{+0.010}_{-0.011}$	$^{+0.020}_{-0.019}$	$^{+0.023}_{-0.015}$	$+0.014 \\ -0.013$
Momentum correction $(\times 10^{-2})$	$^{+0.065}_{-0.100}$	$^{+0.109}_{-0.064}$	$^{+0.016}_{-0.018}$	$^{+0.054}_{-0.040}$	$^{+0.161}_{-0.030}$
PDF shape $(\times 10^{-2})$	$^{+0.066}_{-0.053}$	$^{+0.030}_{-0.034}$	$^{+0.066}_{-0.064}$	$^{+0.093}_{-0.079}$	$^{+0.039}_{-0.036}$
Cross-feed fraction $(\times 10^{-2})$	_	$^{+0.004}_{-0.005}$	$^{+0.028}_{-0.025}$	$^{+0.009}_{-0.003}$	$^{+0.017}_{-0.014}$
Common mean $(\times 10^{-2})$	+0.025	-0.039	+0.004	-0.003	-0.067
Peaking background ($\times 10^{-2}$)	_	± 0.013	_	$^{+0.022}_{-0.015}$	$^{+0.002}_{-0.002}$
$Total (\times 10^{-2})$	$^{+0.093}_{-0.114}$	$^{+0.114}_{-0.084}$	$+0.071 \\ -0.068$	$+0.112 \\ -0.091$	$+0.166 \\ -0.083$

5. SUMMARY

We have reported measurements of the decay rate ratio between $B \to D^{(*)}K^-$ and $B \to D^{(*)}\pi^-$. We use data collected by the Belle II experiment in 2019 and 2020, corresponding to 62.8 fb⁻¹ of integrated luminosity, collected at the $\Upsilon(4S)$ resonance. The measurements reported are for the decay modes $B^- \to D^0 h^-$, $B^- \to D^{*0} h^-$, $\bar{B}^0 \to D^+ h^-$ and $\bar{B}^0 \to D^{*+}h^-$, where $h=\pi$ or K. The results are compatible with the world-average values reported by the PDG [1].

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