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(Belle Collaboration)

1University of the Basque Country UPV/EHU, 48080 Bilbao
2Beihang University, Beijing 100191
3University of Bonn, 53115 Bonn
4Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York 11973
5Budker Institute of Nuclear Physics SB RAS, Novosibirsk 630090
6Faculty of Physics and Mathematics, Charles University, 121 16 Prague
7Chonnam National University, Kwangju 660-701
8Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok 10330 Thailand
9Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron, 22607 Hamburg
10Duke University, Durham, North Carolina 27708
11University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611
12Key Laboratory of Nuclear Physics and Ion-beam Application (MOE) and Institute of Modern Physics, Fudan University, Shanghai 200443
13Gifu University, Gifu 501-1193
14II. Physikalisches Institut, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, 37073 Göttingen
15SOKENDAI (The Graduate University for Advanced Studies), Hayama 240-0193
16Gyeongsan National University, Chinnu 660-701
17Seoul National University, 139-743 Seoul
18University of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
19High Energy Accelerator Research Organization (KEK), Tsukuba 305-0801
20J-PARC Branch, KEK Theory Center, High Energy Accelerator Research Organization (KEK), Tsukuba 305-0801
21Forschungszentrum Jülich, 52425 Jülich
22IKERBASQUE, Basque Foundation for Science, 48013 Bilbao
23Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Mohali, SAS Nagar, 140306
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We study charmless hadronic decays of charged $B$ mesons to the final states $K^+_S K^0_S K^\pm$ and $K^0_S K^0_S \pi^\pm$ using a 711 fb$^{-1}$ data sample that contains $772 \times 10^6 B\bar{B}$ pairs and was collected at the $\Upsilon(4S)$ resonance with the Belle detector at the KEKB asymmetric-energy $e^+e^-$ collider. For $B^\pm \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S K^\pm$, the measured branching fraction and direct $CP$ asymmetry are $[10.42 \pm 0.43(\text{stat}) \pm 0.22(\text{syst})] \times 10^{-6}$ and $[+1.6 \pm 3.9(\text{stat}) \pm 0.9(\text{syst})]\%$, respectively. In the absence of a statistically significant signal for $B^\pm \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S \pi^\pm$, we obtain a 90% confidence-level upper limit on its branching fraction as $8.7 \times 10^{-7}$.

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Charged $B$-meson decays to the three-body charmless hadronic final states $K^+_S K^0_S K^\pm$ and $K^0_S K^0_S \pi^\pm$ mainly proceed via $b \rightarrow s$ and $b \rightarrow d$ loop transitions, respectively. Figure 1 shows Feynman diagrams of the dominant amplitudes that contribute to these decays. These flavor-changing neutral current transitions, being suppressed in the standard model (SM), are interesting, as they could be sensitive to possible non-SM contributions [1].

Further motivation, especially to study the contributions of various quasi-two-body resonances to inclusive $CP$ asymmetry, comes from the recent results on $B^\pm \rightarrow K^+ K^- K^\pm$, $K^+ K^- \pi^\pm$ and other such three-body decays [2–4]. LHCb has found large asymmetries localized in phase space in $B^\pm \rightarrow K^+ K^- \pi^\pm$ decays [3]. Recently, Belle has also reported strong evidence for large $CP$ asymmetry at the low $K^+ K^-$ invariant mass region of $B^\pm \rightarrow K^+ K^- K^\pm$ [4]. The fact that the $K\bar{K}$ system of $B^\pm \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S h^\pm$ ($h = K, \pi$), in contrast to that of $B^\pm \rightarrow K^+ K^- h^\pm$, cannot form a vector resonance (Bose symmetry) may shed light on the source of large $CP$ violation in the latter decays.

The three-body decay $B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S K^+$ [5] was observed by Belle [6] and subsequently studied by BABAR [7]. Belle measured the decay branching fraction as $(13.4 \pm 1.9 \pm 1.5) \times 10^{-6}$ based on a data sample of 70 fb$^{-1}$ [6], and BABAR reported a branching fraction of $(10.6 \pm 0.5 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{-6}$ and a $CP$ asymmetry of $(+4.4^{+4.5}_{-5.2})\%$ using 426 fb$^{-1}$ of data [7]. The quoted uncertainties are statistical and systematic, respectively.

The decay $B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S \pi^+$ is suppressed by the squared ratio of CKM matrix [8] elements $|V_{td}/V_{ts}|^2 (= 0.046)$ with respect to $B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S K^+$, and has not yet been observed. The most restrictive limit at 90% confidence level on its branching fraction, $B(B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S \pi^+) < 5.1 \times 10^{-7}$, comes from BABAR [9].

We present an improved measurement of the branching fraction and direct $CP$ asymmetry of the decay $B^\pm \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S K^\pm$ as well as a search for $B^\pm \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S \pi^+$ using a data sample of 711 fb$^{-1}$, which contains $772 \times 10^6 B\bar{B}$ pairs and was recorded near the $\Upsilon(4S)$ resonance with the Belle detector [10] at the KEKB $e^+e^-$ collider [11]. The direct $CP$ asymmetry is defined as

$$A_{CP} = \frac{N(B^- \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S h^-) - N(B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S h^+)}{N(B^- \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S h^-) + N(B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S h^+)};$$

where $N$ is the obtained signal yield for the corresponding mode. The detector components relevant for our study are a silicon vertex detector (SVD), a 50-layer central drift chamber (CDC), an array of aerogel threshold Cherenkov

![Feynman diagrams](https://example.com/fig1)

FIG. 1. Feynman diagrams of the dominant amplitudes that contribute to the decays $B^\pm \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S K^\pm$ (left) and $B^\pm \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S \pi^\pm$ (right).
To reconstruct $B^+ \rightarrow K_S^0 K_S^0 h^+$ candidates, we begin by identifying charged kaons and pions. A kaon or pion candidate track must have a minimum transverse momentum of 100 MeV/c in the lab frame, and a distance of closest approach with respect to the interaction point (IP) of less than 0.2 cm in the transverse $r - \phi$ plane and less than 5.0 cm along the $z$ axis. Here, the $z$ axis is defined opposite the $e^+ e^- \rightarrow q\bar{q}$ ($q = u, d, s, c$) continuum process. We use observables based on event topology to suppress it. The event shape in the c.m. frame is expected to be spherical for $BB$ events, whereas continuum events are jetlike. We employ a neural network based on NeuroBayes [13] to separate signal from background using the following six input variables: a Fisher discriminant formed from 16 modified Fox-Wolfram moments [15], the cosine of the angle between the $B$ momentum and the $z$ axis, the cosine of the angle between the $B$ thrust and the $z$ axis, the cosine of the angle between the thrust axis of the $B$ candidate and that of the rest of the event, the ratio of the second- to the zeroth-order Fox-Wolfram moments, and the vertex separation along the $z$ axis between the $B$ candidate and the remaining tracks. The first five quantities are calculated in the c.m. frame. The neural network training is performed with simulated signal and $q\bar{q}$ samples each containing 30 000 events after all selection requirements. Using MC events that are independent of the ones used for training, we verify that the network is not overtrained. Signal and background samples are generated with the EvtGen program [16]; for signal we assume a uniform decay in phase space. A GEANT-based [17] simulation is used to model the detector response.

We require the neural network output ($C_{NB}$) to be greater than $-0.2$ to substantially reduce the continuum background. For both decays, the relative signal efficiency due to this requirement is approximately 91%, and the achieved continuum suppression is close to 84%. The remainder of the $C_{NB}$ distribution strongly peaks near 1.0 for signal, making it challenging to model it analytically. However, its transformed variable

$$C'_{NB} = \ln \frac{C_{NB} - C_{NB,min}}{C_{NB,max} - C_{NB}},$$

where $C_{NB,min} = -0.2$ and $C_{NB,max} \approx 1.0$, can be parametrized by one or more Gaussian functions. We use $C'_{NB}$ as a fit variable along with $\Delta E$.

The background due to charmed $B$ decays, mediated via the dominant $b \rightarrow c$ transition, is studied with an MC sample. The resulting $\Delta E$ and $M_{bc}$ distributions are found to peak in the signal region for both $B^+ \rightarrow K_S^0 K_S^0 K^+$ and $B^+ \rightarrow K_S^0 K_S^0 \pi^+$ decays. For $B^+ \rightarrow K_S^0 K_S^0 K^+$, the peaking background predominantly stems from $B^+ \rightarrow D^0 K^+ K^-$ with $D^0 \rightarrow K_S^0 K_S^0$ and from $B^+ \rightarrow \chi_c(1P) K^+$ with $\chi_c(1P) \rightarrow K_S^0 K_S^0$. To suppress these backgrounds, we exclude candidates for which $M_{K_S^0 K_S^0}$ lies in the range [1.85, 1.88] GeV/$c^2$ or [3.38, 3.45] GeV/$c^2$, corresponding to a $\pm 3\sigma$ window around the nominal $D^0$ or $\chi_c(1P)$ mass [14], respectively.
In the case of $B^+ \to K_S^0 K_S^0 \pi^+$, the peaking background largely arises from $B^+ \to D^0 \pi^+$ with $D^0 \to K_S^0 K_S^0$. To suppress it, we exclude candidates for which $M_{K_S^0 K_S^0} < 100$ lies in the aforementioned $D^0$ mass window. The relative loss of signal efficiency due to these charm vetoes is 3% (1%) for $B^+ \to K_S^0 K_S^0 \pi^+$ ($K_S^0 K_S^0 \pi^+$).

A few background modes contribute in the $M_{bc}$ signal region, but having their $\Delta E$ peak shifted from zero to the positive side for $B^+ \to K_S^0 K_S^0 K^+$ or to the negative side for $B^+ \to K_S^0 K_S^0 \pi^+$. To identify these so-called “feed-across” backgrounds, mostly arising due to $K - \pi$ misidentification, we use a $B\bar{B}$ MC sample in which one of the $B$ mesons decays via $b \to u, d, s$ transitions, along with the charmed $B\bar{B}$ sample. For $B^+ \to K_S^0 K_S^0 \pi^+$, the feed-across background includes contributions from $B^+ \to K_S^0 K_S^0 K^+$ as well as $B^+ \to D^0 K^+$ and $B^+ \to \chi_c(1P) K^+$ that survive the $D^0$ and $\chi_c(1P)$ decays. For $B^+ \to K_S^0 K_S^0 \pi^+$, it comes entirely from $B^+ \to K_S^0 K_S^0 \pi^+$. All other events coming from neither the signal, the continuum, nor the feed-across components form the so-called “combinatorial” $B\bar{B}$ background.

After all selection requirements, the efficiencies for correctly reconstructed signal events are 24% for $B^+ \to K_S^0 K_S^0 K^+$ and 26% for $B^+ \to K_S^0 K_S^0 \pi^+$. The fractions of misreconstructed signal events for which one of the daughter particles comes from the other $B$-meson decay are 0.5% for $B^+ \to K_S^0 K_S^0 K^+$ and 1.1% for $B^+ \to K_S^0 K_S^0 \pi^+$.

We consider these events as part of the signal.

The signal yield and $A_{CP,j}$ are obtained with an unbinned extended maximum likelihood fit to the two-dimensional distribution of $\Delta E$ and $C_{NB}$. The extended likelihood function is

$$L = \frac{e^{\sum n_i} n!}{\prod_i \left(\sum_j n_j P_j \right)},$$

where

$$P_j = \frac{1}{2} (1 - q_j A_{CP,j}) \times \frac{P_j(\Delta E)}{P_j(C_{NB})}.$$

Here, $N$ is the total number of events, $i$ is the event index, and $n_j$ is the yield of the event category $j$ ($j$ = signal, $q\bar{q}$, combinatorial, and feed-across). $P_j$ and $A_{CP,j}$ are the probability density function (PDF) and the direct $CP$ asymmetry corresponding to the category $j$, and $q\bar{q}$ is the electric charge of the $B$ candidate in event $i$. As the correlation between $\Delta E$ and $C_{NB}$ is small (the linear correlation coefficient ranges from 0.5% to 7.0%), the product of two individual PDFs is a good approximation for the total PDF. We apply a tight requirement on $M_{bc}$ instead

![Figure 2](https://example.com/image.jpg)

**FIG. 2.** Projections of the two-dimensional simultaneous fit to $\Delta E$ for $C_{NB} > 0.0$ and $C_{NB}$ for $|\Delta E| < 50$ MeV. Black points with error bars are the data, solid blue curves are the total PDF, long-dashed red curves are the signal, dashed green curves are the continuum background, dotted magenta curves are the combinatorial $B\bar{B}$ background, and dash-dotted cyan curves are the feed-across background.

**TABLE I.** List of PDFs used to model the $\Delta E$ and $C_{NB}$ distributions for various event categories for $B^+ \to K_S^0 K_S^0 K^+$. “G,” “AG,” and “Poly1” denote Gaussian, asymmetric Gaussian, and first-order polynomial, respectively.

| Event category | $\Delta E$ | $C_{NB}$ |
|----------------|----------|---------|
| Signal         | $3 \ G$  | $G + AG$|
| Continuum $q\bar{q}$ | Poly1    | $2 \ G$ |
| Combinatorial $B\bar{B}$ | Poly1    | $2 \ G$ |
| Feed-across    | $G + Poly1$ | $G$     |
of including it as a fit variable, since it exhibits a large correlation with \( \Delta E \) for the signal and feed-across background. We choose \( \Delta E \) over \( M_{\text{bc}} \) in the fit because the former is a better variable to distinguish signal from feed-across background. To account for crossfeed between the two channels, they are fitted simultaneously, with the \( B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S \pi^+ \) branching fraction in the correctly reconstructed sample determining the normalization of the crossfeed in the \( B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S \pi^+ \) fit region, and vice versa.

Table I lists the PDFs used to model the \( \Delta E \) and \( C_{\text{NB}} \) distributions for various event categories for \( B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S \pi^+ \). For \( B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S \pi^+ \), we use the same PDF shapes except for the feed-across background component, where we add an asymmetric Gaussian function to the PDFs in Table I to accurately describe \( \Delta E \) and \( C_{\text{NB}} \) distributions. The free parameters in the fit are the continuum background yields and the branching fractions of \( B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S \pi^+ \) and \( B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S \pi^- \), and the signal \( \mathcal{A}_{CP} \) for \( B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S \pi^+ \). In addition, the following PDF shape parameters of the continuum background are floated in the fit for both \( B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S \pi^+ \) and \( K^0_S K^0_S \pi^- \): the slope of the first-order polynomial used for \( \Delta E \) and the mean and width of the dominant Gaussian component used to model \( C_{\text{NB}} \). The combinatorial \( BB \) yields are fixed to the MC values due to their correlation with the continuum yields. This is because \( C_{\text{NB}} \) is the only variable that offers some discrimination between the two background categories. To improve the overall fit stability, \( \mathcal{A}_{CP} \) for all components but for the \( B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S K^+ \) signal are fixed to zero. The other PDF shape parameters for signal and background components are fixed to the corresponding MC expectations for both decays. We correct the signal \( \Delta E \) and \( C_{\text{NB}} \) PDF shapes for possible data-MC differences, according to the values obtained with a control sample of \( B^+ \rightarrow D^0 \pi^+ \) with \( D^0 \rightarrow K^0_S \pi^+ \pi^- \). The same correction factors are also applied for the feed-across background component of \( B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S \pi^+ \).

We determine the branching fraction as

\[
B(B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S \pi^+) = \frac{n_{\text{sig}}}{e \times N_{BB} \times [B(K^0_S \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-)]^2},
\]

where \( n_{\text{sig}} \), \( e \), and \( N_{BB} \) are the total signal yield, average detection efficiency, and number of \( BB \) pairs, respectively. Figure 2 shows signal-enhanced \( \Delta E \) and \( C_{\text{NB}} \) projections of the separate fit to \( B^+ \) and \( B^- \) samples for \( B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S \pi^+ \) and of the charge-combined fit for \( B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S \pi^+ \). For \( B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S \pi^+ \), we fit a total of 5103 candidate events to obtain a branching fraction of

\[
B(B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S \pi^+) = (6.5 \pm 2.6 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-7},
\]

where the first uncertainty is statistical and the second is systematic (described below). Its signal significance is estimated as \( \sqrt{-2 \ln(L_0/L_{\text{max}})} \), where \( L_0 \) and \( L_{\text{max}} \) are the likelihood values for the fit with the branching fraction fixed to zero and for the best-fit case, respectively. Including systematic uncertainties by convolving the likelihood with a Gaussian function of width equal to the systematic uncertainty, we determine the significance to be 2.5 standard deviations. In view of the significance being less than 3 standard deviations, we set an upper limit on the branching fraction of \( B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S \pi^+ \). We integrate the convolved likelihood over the branching fraction to obtain the upper limit of \( 8.7 \times 10^{-7} \) at 90% confidence level. This limit is similar to that of BABAR [9].

For \( B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S K^+ \), we perform the fit for 2709 candidate events in seven unequal bins of \( M_{K^0_S K^0_S} \) to decipher contributions from possible quasi-two-body

![FIG. 3. Differential branching fraction (left) and \( \mathcal{A}_{CP} \) (right) as functions of \( M_{K^0_S K^0_S} \) for \( B^+ \rightarrow K^0_S K^0_S \pi^+ \). Black points with error bars are the results from the two-dimensional fits to data and include systematic uncertainties. Blue squares in the left plot show the expectation from a phase-space MC sample, and the red line in the right plot indicates a zero \( CP \) asymmetry.](image-url)
TABLE III. Systematic uncertainties in the branching fraction of \( B^+ \rightarrow K_S^0 K_L^0 \pi^+ \).

| Source                        | Relative uncertainty in \( B \) (%) |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Tracking                     | 0.35                              |
| Particle identification      | 0.80                              |
| Number of \( BB \) pairs     | 1.37                              |
| Continuum suppression        | 0.34                              |
| Requirement on \( M_{bc} \)  | 0.03                              |
| \( K_S^0 \) reconstruction   | 3.22                              |
| Fit bias                     | 1.86                              |
| Signal PDF                   | 1.30                              |
| Combinatorial \( BB \) PDF   | \(+1.31, -1.98\)                  |
| Feed-across PDF              | \(+3.57, -4.10\)                  |
| Fixed background yield       | \(+2.63, -2.27\)                  |
| Fixed background \( A_{CP} \) | 0.50                              |
| Total                        | \(+6.30, -6.67\)                  |

resonances. The efficiency, differential branching fraction, and \( A_{CP} \) thus obtained are listed in Table II. Figure 3 shows the differential branching fraction and \( A_{CP} \) plotted as a function of \( M_{K^0_S K^0_L} \). We observe an excess of events around 1.5 GeV/\( c^2 \) beyond the expectation of a phase-space MC sample. No significant evidence for \( CP \) asymmetry is found in any of the bins. Upon inspection, no peaking structure beyond kinematic reflection is seen in the \( M_{K^0_S K^0_L} \) distribution. We calculate the branching fraction by integrating the differential branching fraction over the entire \( M_{K^0_S K^0_L} \) range:

\[
B(B^+ \rightarrow K_S^0 K_L^0 K^+) = (10.42 \pm 0.43 \pm 0.22) \times 10^{-6},
\]

where the first uncertainty is statistical and the second is systematic. The \( A_{CP} \) over the full \( M_{K^0_S K^0_L} \) range is

\[
A_{CP}(B^+ \rightarrow K_S^0 K_L^0 K^+) = (1.6 \pm 3.9 \pm 0.9)\%.
\]

This is obtained by weighting the \( A_{CP} \) value in each bin with the obtained branching fraction in that bin. As the statistical uncertainties are bin independent, their total contribution is a quadratic sum. For the systematic uncertainties, the contributions from the bin-correlated sources are linearly added, and those from the bin-uncorrelated sources are added in quadrature. The results agree with BABAR [7], which reported an \( A_{CP} \) consistent with zero.

TABLE IV. Systematic uncertainties in the differential branching fraction and \( A_{CP} \) in \( M_{K^0_S K^0_L} \) bins for \( B^+ \rightarrow K_S^0 K_L^0 K^+ \). “†” indicates that the uncertainty is independent of \( M_{K^0_S K^0_L} \), with the listed value being applicable for all the bins. An ellipsis indicates a value below 0.05% in \( dB/dM \) and below 0.001% in \( A_{CP} \).

| \( M_{K^0_S K^0_L} \) (GeV/\( c^2 \)) | 1.0–1.1 | 1.1–1.3 | 1.3–1.6 | 1.6–2.0 | 2.0–2.3 | 2.3–2.7 | 2.7–5.0 |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Source                            | Relative uncertainty in \( dB/dM \) (%) |
| Tracking                          | 0.35    |
| Particle identification†          | 0.80    |
| Number of \( BB \) pairs†         | 1.37    |
| Continuum suppression†            | 0.34    |
| Requirement on \( M_{bc} \)†      | 0.03    |
| \( K_S^0 \) reconstruction†       | 3.22    |
| Fit bias†                         | 0.53    |
| Signal PDF                        | \(+0.33, -0.63\) |
| Feed-across PDF                   | \(+0.08, -0.13\) |
| Fixed background yield            | \(+0.12, -0.23\) |
| Fixed background \( A_{CP} \)     | \(+0.10, -0.11\) |
| Total                             | \(+3.68, -3.72\) |

| \( M_{K^0_S K^0_L} \) (GeV/\( c^2 \)) | 1.0–1.1 | 1.1–1.3 | 1.3–1.6 | 1.6–2.0 | 2.0–2.3 | 2.3–2.7 | 2.7–5.0 |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Source                            | Absolute uncertainty in \( A_{CP} \) |
| Signal PDF                        | \(0.001\) |
| Combinatorial \( BB \) PDF        | \(0.001\) |
| Feed-across PDF                   | \(0.001\) |
| Fixed background yield            | \(0.001\) |
| Fixed background \( A_{CP} \)     | \(0.001\) |
| Total                             | \(0.009\) |
as well as the presence of quasi-two-body resonances $f_0(980), f_0(1500)$, and $f_2(1525)$ in the low $M_{K_SK_S}$ region.

Major sources of systematic uncertainty in the branching fractions are similar for both $B^+ \to K_S^0K_SK^+ \to K^0SK^+_S$ and $K^0S\pi^-\pi^+$ decays. These are listed along with their contributions in Tables III and IV. We use partially reconstructed $D^{+} \to D^0\pi^+\pi^0$ with $D^{0} \to K_S^0\pi^-\pi^+$ decays to assign the systematic uncertainty due to charged-track reconstruction (0.35% per track). The $D^{+} \to D^0\pi^+$ with $D^{0} \to K_S^0\pi^-\pi^+$ sample is used to determine the systematic uncertainty due to particle identification. The uncertainty due to the number of $B\bar{B}$ pairs is 1.37%. The uncertainties due to continuum suppression and $M_{bc}$ requirements are estimated with the control sample of $B^+ \to D^0\pi^+\pi^0$ with $D^{0} \to K_S^0\pi^-\pi^+$. The uncertainty arising due to $K_S^0$ reconstruction is estimated from $D^{0} \to K_S^0K^0_S$ decays [18]. A potential fit bias is checked by performing an ensemble test comprising 1000 pseudoexperiments in which signal events are drawn from the corresponding MC sample and background events are generated according to their PDF shapes. The uncertainties due to signal PDF shape are estimated by varying the correction factors by $\pm 1\sigma$ of their statistical uncertainty. Similarly, the uncertainties due to background PDF shape are calculated by varying all fixed parameters by $\pm 1\sigma$. We evaluate the uncertainty due to fixed background yields by varying them up and down by 20% of their MC values. The uncertainty due to fixed background $A_{CP}$ is estimated by varying the $A_{CP}$ values up and down by one unit of their statistical uncertainties. As for a possible systematics due to efficiency variation across the Dalitz plot in the $B^+ \to K_S^0K^0_SK^+$ channel, we find its impact to be negligible.

Systematic uncertainties in $A_{CP}$ are listed in Table IV. The systematic uncertainties due to the PDF modeling, fixed background yields, and $A_{CP}$ are estimated with the same procedure as for the branching fraction. Uncertainties due to the intrinsic detector bias on charged particle detection are evaluated with the samples of $D^+ \to \phi\pi^+$ and $D^+_s \to \phi\pi^+$ in conjunction with $D^{0} \to K^-\pi^+\pi^0$ [19]. The total systematic uncertainty is calculated by summing all individual contributions in quadrature.

In summary, we have reported measurements of the charmless three-body decays $B^+ \to K^0SK^0_SK^+ \to K^0SK^0_K^+$ and $B^+ \to K^0SK^0_K^+$ using the full $\Upsilon(4S)$ data sample collected with the Belle detector. We perform a two-dimensional simultaneous fit to extract the signal yields of both decays. For $B^+ \to K^0SK^0_K^+$, a 90% confidence-level upper limit is set on the branching fraction at $8.7 \times 10^{-7}$. We measure the branching fraction and $A_{CP}$ of $B^+ \to K^0SK^0_K^+$ to be $B(B^+ \to K^0SK^0_K^+) = (10.42 \pm 0.43 \pm 0.22) \times 10^{-6}$ and $A_{CP}(B^+ \to K^0SK^0_K^+) = (+1.6 \pm 3.9 \pm 0.9)%$. These results supersede Belle’s earlier measurements [6] and are consistent with those of BABAR [7,9].

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Inclusion of charge-conjugate reactions are implicit unless stated otherwise.

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