

Inclusive semileptonic $b \rightarrow c\ell\bar{\nu}$ decays to order $1/m_b^5$

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ABSTRACT: Inclusive semileptonic $B \rightarrow X_c\ell\bar{\nu}$ decays can be described in the Heavy Quark Expansion (HQE) and allow for a precision determination of the CKM element $|V_{cb}|$. We calculate the terms of $1/m_b^5$ and derive a “trace formula” which allows for the computation of the decay rate and kinematic moments of the spectrum up to this order in the HQE. We focus specifically on the reparametrization invariant (RPI) dilepton invariant mass q^2 moments of the spectrum, which depend on a reduced set of HQE parameters. At this order, “intrinsic charm” (IC) contributions proportional to $1/(m_b^3 m_c^2)$ enter, which are numerically expected to be sizeable. Using the “lowest-lying state saturation ansatz” (LLSA), we estimate the size of these contributions. Within this approximation, we observe a partial cancellation between the IC and the “genuine” $1/m_b^5$ contributions, resulting in a small overall contribution.

KEYWORDS: Bottom Quarks, CKM Parameters, Semi-Leptonic Decays

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1 Introduction

Heavy-quark methods have established themselves as indispensable tools in heavy flavor physics. For inclusive decays, the Heavy Quark Expansion (HQE) has been developed to the extent that one can obtain precision predictions. The HQE relies on a systematic expansion in powers of Λ_{QCD}/m_Q , where m_Q is the mass of the heavy quark and Λ_{QCD} is the scale induced by the running QCD coupling constant. One of the prime examples is the determination of the CKM parameter V_{cb} from inclusive $b \rightarrow c \ell \bar{\nu}$ transitions, which has reached a relative precision of about one to two percent [1–3].

The HQE for inclusive semileptonic $b \rightarrow c$ transitions is set up as an operator product expansion (OPE) using the full QCD heavy quark states. The HQE parameters, forward matrix elements of local operators, are the non-perturbative inputs of the order Λ_{QCD} raised to the appropriate power according to the dimension of the HQE parameter. The coefficients of the HQE parameters can be calculated in perturbation theory, such that the HQE is a combined expansion in α_s and Λ_{QCD}/m_Q .

For the inclusive $B \rightarrow X_c \ell \bar{\nu}$ decay, the leading term is known to α_s^3 for the total rate [4] and up to α_s^2 for the kinematic moments.¹ At $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2/m_Q^2$, two HQE parameters μ_π^2 and μ_G^2 enter, which are known up to order α_s [6–8]. At $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^3/m_Q^3$, the HQE parameters ρ_D^3 and ρ_{LS}^3 have known coefficients calculated to order α_s [9].

Starting at order $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4/m_Q^4$ the number of HQE parameters starts to proliferate, and the coefficients are known only at tree level. In general, there are nine independent HQE parameters at order $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4/m_Q^4$, and at order $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^5/m_Q^5$ there are 18 independent HQE parameters [10]. This proliferation is reduced in reparametrization invariant (RPI) observables, like the total rate, which depend on a reduced set of HQE parameters [11, 12].

In this respect, the recently measured dilepton invariant mass q^2 moments of the inclusive $B \rightarrow X_c \ell \bar{\nu}$ spectrum by the Belle [13] and Belle II [14] collaborations have provided new insights. These moments are RPI, unlike other observables like lepton energy and hadronic invariant mass moments. The reduction of HQE parameters through RPI could open the way for a full extraction of these HQE elements up to $1/m_b^4$ purely from data. A first analysis of q^2 moments was done [2], leading to small values for the $1/m_b^4$ elements consistent with zero within uncertainties.

For $B \rightarrow X_c$ decays, this expansion is usually set up by fixing the ratio $\rho \equiv m_c^2/m_b^2$ of the charm quark mass and the bottom quark mass, where the sensitivity to the infrared pole of the charm mass enters at $1/m_b^3$ as $\log \rho$ and at $1/m_b^5 \times 1/\rho = 1/(m_b^3 m_c^2)$. These “intrinsic charm (IC)” effects were discussed in [15, 16] and also more recently for inclusive D meson decays [17]. Numerically, we have approximately $m_c^2 = m_b \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$, which suggests to count $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^5/(m_b^3 m_c^2) \sim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^4/m_b^4$. Based on this power-counting argument, a full analysis of $1/m_b^4$ would require the inclusion of these terms.

In this paper, we derive these intrinsic charm contributions and simultaneously derive all the $1/m_b^5$ (i.e. the dimension-8) contributions to the HQE for inclusive semileptonic $b \rightarrow c$ transitions. We derive a “trace formula” which allows to compute any decay distribution (or moment) up to $1/m_b^5$. In addition, we derive the reduced set of RPI operators up to $1/m_b^5$ expanding on [11]. We explicitly study the effect of these higher-order terms on the q^2 moments of the spectrum. Our paper is outlined as follows. In section 2, we start by setting up the HQE and identify the HQE parameters as forward matrix elements of local operators up to $1/m_b^4$. In section 3, we determine all the RPI operators up to $1/m_b^5$. The trace formula is derived in section 4, which allows us to determine the IC contributions. In section 5 we make a quantitative estimate for the effects of these higher-order terms on q^2 moments. To do so, we make use of the “lowest-lying state saturation ansatz” (LLSA) as discussed in [18]. Based on this we give an estimate for the impact of the dimension-8

¹The α_s^2 corrections to the q^2 moments are currently known without a kinematic cut [5]. Recently, also the $\beta_0 \alpha_s^2$ were calculated [3].

contributions, for the intrinsic charm contributions as well as for the full dimension-8 terms. We conclude in section 6. Finally, we collect useful information in the appendices; conversions to switch between different bases of HQE parameters and details on the derivation of the RPI elements. Furthermore, we provide two Mathematica notebooks in the Supplementary material with the expressions for the trace formula and the q^2 moments.

2 HQE and reparametrization invariance

We consider the inclusive $B \rightarrow X_c \ell \bar{\nu}$ decay:

$$B(p_B) \rightarrow X_c(p_X) \ell(p_\ell) \bar{\nu}(p_\nu), \quad (2.1)$$

where $q \equiv p_\ell + p_\nu$. For semileptonic $b \rightarrow c$ decays, the HQE is set up by applying the optical theorem to the correlation function of two $b \rightarrow c$ weak currents

$$R_{\mu\nu}(q) = \int d^4x e^{iq \cdot x} \langle B(v) | T[\bar{b}(x) \Gamma_\mu c(x) \bar{c}(0) \bar{\Gamma}_\nu b(0)] | B(v) \rangle, \quad (2.2)$$

where $|B(v)\rangle$ is the B meson state of full QCD moving with the velocity $v = p_B/m_B$ and $\Gamma_\mu = \gamma_\mu(1 - \gamma_5)$. The b quark field is then redefined according to

$$b(x) = e^{-im_b(v \cdot x)} b_v(x), \quad (2.3)$$

which is equivalent to a decomposition of the b -quark momentum into $p_b = m_b v + k$, where k is a residual momentum with $k \sim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$. Expanding then in powers of k/m_b generates the OPE of the time-ordered product in (2.2), yielding the HQE for $R_{\mu\nu}$. Technically, this means that the dynamical degrees of freedom of the bottom quark are integrated out at some scale $\mu \sim m_b$, leaving us with a static b quarks. In our approach, we integrate out the bottom and charm quarks at the same scale $\mu \sim m_c \approx m_b$, e.g. at $\mu = \sqrt{m_b m_c}$, while keeping $\rho = m_c^2/m_b^2$ as a number of order unity. Only the light quarks (treated as massless) remain dynamical.

Symbolically, this leads to

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}_{\mu\nu}(S) &= \int d^4x e^{-im_b(S \cdot x)} T[\bar{b}_v(x) \Gamma_\mu c(x) \bar{c}(0) \bar{\Gamma}_\nu b_v(0)] \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_{\mu\nu \mu_1 \dots \mu_n}^{(n)}(S) \otimes \bar{b}_v(iD^{\mu_1}) \dots (iD^{\mu_n}) b_v, \end{aligned} \quad (2.4)$$

where $S \equiv v - q/m_b$, \otimes denotes the contraction of the Dirac indices, and the coefficients $C^{(n)}$ carry mass dimensions $1/m_b^{n+3}$. Taking the forward matrix element of (2.4) yields the desired $1/m_b$ expansion for the total rate as well as for kinematic moments. The matrix elements of the operators appearing in (2.4),

$$\langle B(v) | \bar{b}_v(iD^{\mu_1}) \dots (iD^{\mu_n}) b_v | B(v) \rangle$$

are decomposed into scalar quantities, which can be expressed in terms of forward matrix elements of scalar operators, and which define the HQE parameters.

It has been discussed at length that starting at order $1/m_Q^4$, the number of independent parameters in the HQE proliferates, making an extraction of all these parameters from data

impossible. However, as worked out in [11], and discussed before in [19–22], both the OPE as well as the HQE obey reparametrization invariance (RPI). Since the vector v has been introduced artificially in (2.3), the expression $\langle B(v)|\mathcal{R}(S)|B(v)\rangle$ cannot depend on v , so a reparametrization transformation $\delta_{\text{RP}} : v_\mu \mapsto v_\mu + \delta v_\mu$ and simultaneously $\delta_{\text{RP}} iD_\mu = -m_Q \delta v_\mu$ with $v \cdot \delta v = 0$ should leave $\langle B(v)|\mathcal{R}(S)|B(v)\rangle$ invariant. Consequently, δ_{RP} links different orders in $1/m_Q$ through [11]

$$\delta_{\text{RP}} C_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n}^{(n)}(S) = m_Q \delta v^\alpha \left(C_{\alpha \mu_1 \dots \mu_n}^{(n+1)}(S) + C_{\mu_1 \alpha \dots \mu_n}^{(n+1)}(S) + \dots + C_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_n \alpha}^{(n+1)}(S) \right), \quad (2.5)$$

which leads to a reduction of the number of independent parameters for RPI quantities.

Although we have derived all relations to order $1/m_b^5$ for the general case, we will restrict our discussion to the case of RPI observables. For the case at hand, this means the total rate and the moments of the leptonic invariant mass q^2 . Up to $1/m_b^4$, we define [11, 12],

$$\begin{aligned} 2m_B \mu_3 &= \langle \bar{b}_v b_v \rangle, \\ 2m_B \mu_G^2 &= \langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\alpha) (iD_\beta) (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle, \\ 2m_B \tilde{\rho}_D^3 &= \frac{1}{2} \left\langle \bar{b}_v \left[(iD_\mu), \left[\left((ivD) + \frac{1}{2m_b} (iD)^2 \right), (iD^\mu) \right] \right] b_v \right\rangle, \\ 2m_B r_G^4 &= \langle \bar{b}_v [(iD_\mu), (iD_\nu)] [(iD^\mu), (iD^\nu)] b_v \rangle, \\ 2m_B r_E^4 &= \langle \bar{b}_v [(ivD), (iD_\mu)] [(ivD), (iD^\mu)] b_v \rangle, \\ 2m_B s_B^4 &= \langle \bar{b}_v [(iD_\mu), (iD_\alpha)] [(iD^\mu), (iD_\beta)] (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle, \\ 2m_B s_E^4 &= \langle \bar{b}_v [(ivD), (iD_\alpha)] [(ivD), (iD_\beta)] (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle, \\ 2m_B s_{qB}^4 &= \langle \bar{b}_v [(iD_\mu), [(iD^\mu), [(iD_\alpha), (iD_\beta)]]] (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle, \end{aligned} \quad (2.6)$$

where we have introduced the notation $\langle \bar{b}_v \dots b_v \rangle \equiv \langle B(v) | \bar{b}_v \dots b_v | B(v) \rangle$, and where $\gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu = g^{\mu\nu} + (-i\sigma^{\mu\nu})$. We also note here that compared to its standard definition, ρ_D^3 is redefined to include higher-order terms in the $1/m_b$ expansion. The non-RPI matrix elements, required to describe for example the lepton energy spectrum are listed in appendix A, as well as a conversion to the iD^\perp basis used in [10, 23]. In [11] these parameters were written in terms of chromoelectric (\vec{E}) and chromomagnetic (\vec{B}) fields, giving some physical intuition on the meaning of these expressions.

We end the review of the dimension-seven operators by making a remark concerning the operators involving symmetrized products of color octets, such as r_G^4 and r_E^4 . At tree level, this involves

$$\{T^a, T^b\} = \frac{1}{3} \delta^{ab} + d^{abc} T^c. \quad (2.7)$$

However, beyond tree level the color singlet and the color octet contributions become independent operators [24] and thus will lead to additional HQE parameters. Nevertheless, defining the matrix elements as in (2.6) will be correct up to corrections of order $\alpha_s(m_b)$.

3 HQE parameters up to $1/m_b^5$

The HQE parameters at $1/m_b^5$ have been listed in [10] for the general case at tree level. For completeness we also give these operators in appendix A.

In order to determine the number of RPI parameters, we follow the construction outlined in [11]. Starting from (2.5), this requires writing down all possible tensor decomposition of the C coefficients. We discuss this derivation in detail in appendix B. We obtain in total 10 RPI parameters:

$$\begin{aligned}
 2m_B X_1^5 &= \langle \bar{b}_v [(ivD), [(ivD), (iD_\mu)]] [(ivD), (iD^\mu)] b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_B X_2^5 &= \langle \bar{b}_v [(ivD), [(iD_\mu), (iD_\nu)]] [(iD^\mu), (iD^\nu)] b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_B X_3^5 &= \langle \bar{b}_v [(iD_\mu), [(ivD), (iD_\nu)]] [(iD^\mu), (iD^\nu)] b_v \rangle \\
 2m_B X_4^5 &= \langle \bar{b}_v [(iD_\mu), [(iD_\nu), [(iD^\mu), [(ivD), (iD^\nu)]]]] b_v \rangle, \tag{3.1}
 \end{aligned}$$

for the spin-singlet contributions. In addition, we have 6 more operators which are spin-triplets:

$$\begin{aligned}
 2m_B X_5^5 &= \langle \bar{b}_v [(ivD), [(ivD), (iD_\alpha)]] [(ivD), (iD_\beta)] (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_B X_6^5 &= \langle \bar{b}_v [(ivD), [(iD_\mu), (iD_\alpha)]] [(iD^\mu), (iD_\beta)] (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_B X_7^5 &= \langle \bar{b}_v [(iD_\mu), [(ivD), (iD_\alpha)]] [(iD^\mu), (iD_\beta)] (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_B X_8^5 &= \langle \bar{b}_v [(iD_\mu), [(ivD), (iD_\alpha)]] [(iD^\mu), (iD_\beta)] (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_B X_9^5 &= \langle \bar{b}_v [(iD_\mu), [(ivD), (iD^\mu)]] [(iD_\alpha), (iD_\beta)] (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_B X_{10}^5 &= \langle \bar{b}_v [(iD_\mu), [(ivD), (iD^\mu)]] [(iD_\alpha), (iD_\beta)] (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle, \tag{3.2}
 \end{aligned}$$

These RPI parameters are specific linear combinations of the general list given in [10]. In appendix A, we list the relation between the RPI X_i^5 operators and the full basis. We note that these operators can be expressed in terms of gluon fields and their derivatives as done for the $1/m_b^4$ operators in [11]. Here, we do not give these relations since the differences between QED and QCD become more involved at higher orders. We also point out again that we deal here with tree level only, meaning that the remark made in section 2 applies also at dimension eight.

Finally, we stress that the equation of motion

$$\left((ivD) + \frac{1}{2m_b} (iD)^2 \right) b_v = -\frac{1}{2m_b} (\sigma \cdot G) b_v, \tag{3.3}$$

with

$$\sigma \cdot G \equiv (-i\sigma_{\mu\nu}) iD^\mu iD^\nu. \tag{3.4}$$

as well as $\sigma \cdot G$ itself is RPI. This already lead to the ‘‘RPI completed’’ expression for $\rho_D^3 \rightarrow \tilde{\rho}_D^3$ shown in (2.6), and likewise we will have the ‘‘RPI completed’’ expressions for r_E^4 and s_E^4 , which now also contain $1/m_b^5$ (and higher) terms:

$$\begin{aligned}
 2m_B \tilde{r}_E^4 &= \langle \bar{b}_v \left[\left((ivD) + \frac{1}{2m_b} (iD)^2 \right), (iD_\mu) \right] \left[\left((ivD) + \frac{1}{2m_b} (iD)^2 \right), (iD^\mu) \right] b_v \rangle, \tag{3.5} \\
 2m_B \tilde{s}_E^4 &= \langle \bar{b}_v \left[\left((ivD) + \frac{1}{2m_b} (iD)^2 \right), (iD_\alpha) \right] \left[\left((ivD) + \frac{1}{2m_b} (iD)^2 \right), (iD_\beta) \right] (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle.
 \end{aligned}$$

Combined, this gives the full list of RPI operators up to $1/m_b^5$.

4 $B \rightarrow X_c \ell \bar{\nu}$ at $1/m_b^5$

In this section, we outline the calculation to obtain the total rate and kinematic moments for the inclusive decay $B \rightarrow X_c \ell \bar{\nu}$. We start from $\mathcal{R}(S)$ in (2.4), which is related to the hadronic tensor of the $B \rightarrow X_c \ell \bar{\nu}$ transition via

$$W(v, q) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im} \langle B(v) | \mathcal{R}(S) | B(v) \rangle . \quad (4.1)$$

Our goal is to formulate a “trace formula” [10, 25, 26] to compute the observables for $B \rightarrow X_c \ell \bar{\nu}$ including all terms up to dimension-8 operators at tree level. This is achieved by observing that the time-ordered product in (2.2) can be written in terms of the “external field propagator” of the charm quark as

$$\begin{aligned} & \int d^4x e^{-im_b(S \cdot x)} T[\bar{b}_v(x) \Gamma_\mu c(x) \bar{c}(0) \bar{\Gamma}_\nu b_v(0)] = \bar{b}_v(0) \Gamma_\mu \left(\frac{1}{\not{Q} + i\not{D} - m_c} \right) \bar{\Gamma}_\nu b_v(0) \\ & = \bar{b}_v(0) \Gamma_\mu \left(\frac{1}{\not{Q} - m_c} \right) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left[(i\not{D}) \left(\frac{1}{\not{Q} - m_c} \right) \right]^k \bar{\Gamma}_\nu b_v(0) \\ & = \left\{ \Gamma_\mu \left(\frac{1}{\not{Q} - m_c} \right) \bar{\Gamma}_\nu \right\}_{\alpha\beta} \bar{b}_{v,\alpha} b_{v,\beta} \\ & \quad + \left\{ \Gamma_\mu \left(\frac{1}{\not{Q} - m_c} \right) \gamma^{\rho_1} \left(\frac{1}{\not{Q} - m_c} \right) \bar{\Gamma}_\nu \right\}_{\alpha\beta} \bar{b}_{v,\alpha} (iD_{\rho_1}) b_{v,\beta} \\ & \quad + \left\{ \Gamma_\mu \left(\frac{1}{\not{Q} - m_c} \right) \gamma^{\rho_1} \left(\frac{1}{\not{Q} - m_c} \right) \gamma^{\rho_2} \left(\frac{1}{\not{Q} - m_c} \right) \bar{\Gamma}_\nu \right\}_{\alpha\beta} \bar{b}_{v,\alpha} (iD_{\rho_1}) (iD_{\rho_2}) b_{v,\beta} \\ & \quad + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (4.2)$$

where $Q \equiv m_b v - q$. Taking the forward matrix element of this expression yields

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle B(v) | \bar{b}_v(0) \Gamma_\mu \left(\frac{1}{\not{Q} - m_c} \right) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left[(i\not{D}) \left(\frac{1}{\not{Q} - m_c} \right) \right]^k \bar{\Gamma}_\nu b_v(0) | B(v) \rangle \\ & = \text{Tr} \left[\left\{ \Gamma_\mu \left(\frac{1}{\not{Q} - m_c} \right) \bar{\Gamma}_\nu \right\} \mathcal{M}^{(3)} \right] \\ & \quad + \text{Tr} \left[\left\{ \Gamma_\mu \left(\frac{1}{\not{Q} - m_c} \right) \gamma^{\rho_1} \left(\frac{1}{\not{Q} - m_c} \right) \bar{\Gamma}_\nu \right\} \mathcal{M}_{\rho_1}^{(4)} \right] \\ & \quad + \text{Tr} \left[\left\{ \Gamma_\mu \left(\frac{1}{\not{Q} - m_c} \right) \gamma^{\rho_1} \left(\frac{1}{\not{Q} - m_c} \right) \gamma^{\rho_2} \left(\frac{1}{\not{Q} - m_c} \right) \bar{\Gamma}_\nu \right\} \mathcal{M}_{\rho_1 \rho_2}^{(5)} \right] \\ & \quad + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (4.3)$$

where the hadronic matrix elements are given by the Dirac matrices

$$\begin{aligned} \{ \mathcal{M}^{(3)} \}_{\beta\alpha} & = \langle \bar{b}_{v,\alpha} b_{v,\beta} \rangle , \\ \{ \mathcal{M}_{\rho_1}^{(4)} \}_{\beta\alpha} & = \langle \bar{b}_{v,\alpha} (iD_{\rho_1}) b_{v,\beta} \rangle , \\ \{ \mathcal{M}_{\rho_1 \rho_2}^{(5)} \}_{\beta\alpha} & = \langle \bar{b}_{v,\alpha} (iD_{\rho_1}) (iD_{\rho_2}) b_{v,\beta} \rangle , \\ & \dots \end{aligned} \quad (4.4)$$

In order to compute to the desired order, we start at the highest order corresponding to $n = k + 3$. Since we neglect all higher-order terms, we can compute this matrix element

in the static limit, which means

$$\langle \bar{b}_{v,\alpha} (iD_{\mu_1}) \dots (iD_{\mu_k}) b_{v,\beta} \rangle = \{ \mathcal{M}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_k}^{(k+3)} \}_{\beta\alpha} \quad \text{with} \quad \mathcal{M}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_k}^{(k+3)} = \mathbf{1} A_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_k} + s_\lambda B_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_k}^\lambda, \quad (4.5)$$

where $P_+ = (1 + \not{v})/2$ is the projector on the “large” components of a Dirac spinor and $s_\lambda = P_+ \gamma_\lambda \gamma_5 P_+$ corresponds to the three Pauli matrices in the rest frame $v = (1, \vec{0})$.

Matrix elements of lower dimension are then obtained with an iterative process taking into account all possible Dirac structures:

$$\langle \bar{b}_{v,\alpha} (iD_{\mu_1}) \dots (iD_{\mu_l}) b_{v,\beta} \rangle = \{ \mathcal{M}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_l}^{(l+3)} \}_{\beta\alpha} \quad \text{with} \quad \mathcal{M}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_l}^{(l+3)} = \sum_i \Gamma^i A_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_l}^i. \quad (4.6)$$

where the sum now runs over the complete set of Dirac matrices $\Gamma_i = \{ \mathbf{1}, \gamma_5, \gamma_\mu, \gamma_5 \gamma_\mu, \sigma_{\mu\nu} \}$. The tensors A^i are finally expressed in terms of the HQE parameters.

The resulting trace formulae including terms up to $1/m_b^5$ in the full basis are given in a Mathematica notebook in the Supplementary material (see appendix C for more details). We note that these formulae were already derived in [10], but there were not publicly available.²

Inserting the expression found with the trace formulae from (4.3) and taking the imaginary part of the hadronic correlator according to (4.1), allows us to find the functions $W_i(q^2, v \cdot q)$ of the Lorentz decomposition of W :

$$W_{\mu\nu} = -g_{\mu\nu} W_1 + v_\mu v_\nu W_2 - i \varepsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} v^\rho q^\sigma W_3 + q_\mu q_\nu W_4 + (q_\mu v_\nu + q_\nu v_\mu) W_5. \quad (4.7)$$

From this, the triple differential rate can be obtained and finally also moments of the kinematic distributions.

These moments are normalized integrated quantities defined by

$$\langle \langle O \rangle^n \rangle_{\text{cut}} = \int_{\text{cut}} (O)^n \frac{d\Gamma}{dO} dO \Big/ \int_{\text{cut}} \frac{d\Gamma}{dO} dO, \quad (4.8)$$

where O are observables like $O = E_\ell, M_X^2, q^2, \dots$. The subscript “cut” generically denotes some restriction in the lower integration limit. In the following, we discuss only the q^2 moments in detail, as these can be expressed in terms of the 10 X_i^5 RPI operators. We consider centralized moments defined through

$$q_1(q_{\text{cut}}^2) = \langle q^2 \rangle_{q^2 \geq q_{\text{cut}}^2}, \quad q_n(q_{\text{cut}}^2) = \left\langle (q^2 - \langle q^2 \rangle)^n \right\rangle_{q^2 \geq q_{\text{cut}}^2} \quad \text{for } n \geq 2.$$

We furthermore also define

$$R^*(\hat{q}_{\text{cut}}^2) \equiv \int_{\hat{q}_{\text{cut}}^2}^{(1-\sqrt{\rho})^2} \frac{d\Gamma}{d\hat{q}^2} d\hat{q}^2 \Big/ \int_0^{(1-\sqrt{\rho})^2} \frac{d\Gamma}{d\hat{q}^2} d\hat{q}^2. \quad (4.9)$$

For completeness, we give the total rate in terms of the RPI parameters in appendix D. We note that this expression differs from the one given in [23], where the $1/m_b^{4,5}$ parameters were extracted from moments of the lepton energy and M_X spectrum. Using the conversion between the different bases in appendix A, we find that the rate presented in [23] is not RPI. We also give in appendix E for the first time the q^2 moments up to $1/m_b^5$. The expressions for the first four moments including a q^2 -cut are also given in the Supplementary material (see appendix C for more details).

²We thank the authors for providing us with a Mathematica notebook containing their formulae. We reproduce their results up to $1/m_b^4$. At $1/m_b^5$, we found a few mistakes in their derivation which we correct in our trace formula.

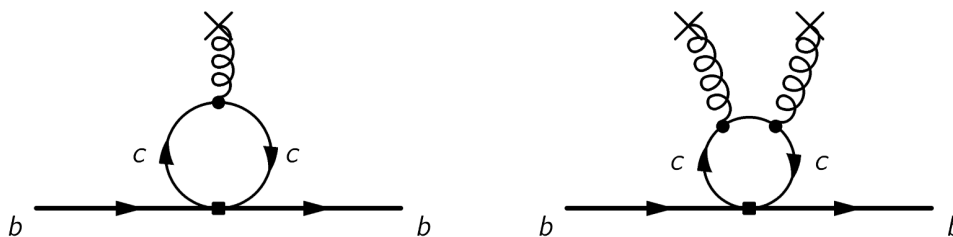


Figure 1. Feynman Diagrams for the “intrinsic charm” contributions.

4.1 Intrinsic charm contributions

As discussed in the introduction, the dimension-8 contributions contain terms involving negative powers of m_c^2 . In fact starting at $1/m_b^3$ the HQE, where the bottom and the charm quark are integrated out simultaneously, exhibits an infrared sensitivity to the charm-quark mass, and the effects related to this are usually called “intrinsic charm” (IC) [15, 16]. This IR sensitivity to the charm mass comes in through the phase space integration over $v \cdot Q$. The integrands are singular starting at dimension six, i.e. $1/m_b^3$, which finally results in $\log \rho$ terms in the total rate and the moments of $B \rightarrow X_c$. However, at higher dimensions n , we even pick up power-like singularities for $m_c \rightarrow 0$ resulting in a contribution to the total rate of

$$\Gamma_n \simeq \frac{1}{m_b^3} \left(\frac{1}{m_c^2} \right)^{(n-6)/2}, \tag{4.10}$$

where $n = 8, 10, 12, \dots$. Including α_s corrections will also introduce odd powers of $1/m_c$, but here we consider only tree-level contributions.

Following [15], we can extract the relevant expressions by considering the charm propagator in an external field according to the Feynman Diagrams shown in figure 1. Expanding this expressions to $1/m_c^2$, one finds

$$\langle \bar{c}_\alpha \gamma_\nu \gamma_5 c_\beta \rangle_A = \frac{1}{48\pi^2 m_c^2} \left(2 \left\{ [D_\kappa, G^{\kappa\lambda}], \tilde{G}_{\mu\lambda} \right\} + \left\{ [D_\kappa, \tilde{G}_{\mu\lambda}], G^{\kappa\lambda} \right\} \right)_{\beta\alpha} + \dots \tag{4.11}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \bar{c}_\alpha \gamma_\nu c_\beta \rangle_A &= \frac{2}{3} \frac{1}{16\pi^2} \ln \left(\frac{m_b^2}{m_c^2} \right) [D^\kappa, G_{\kappa\nu}]_{\beta\alpha} \\ &+ \frac{i}{240\pi^2 m_c^2} \left(13 [D^\kappa, [G_{\lambda\nu}, G^{\lambda\kappa}]] + 8i [D^\kappa, [D^\lambda, [D_\lambda, G_{\kappa\nu}]] \right. \\ &\left. - 4i [D^\lambda, [D^\kappa, [D_\lambda, G_{\kappa\nu}]] \right)_{\beta\alpha} + \dots \end{aligned} \tag{4.12}$$

where the subscript A denotes that the propagator is to be take in an external gluon field A , α and β are color indices, and we have inserted m_b as the proper UV cut-off in the first term of (4.12), which generates the well-known $\log(m_c^2/m_b^2)$ term in the coefficient of ρ_D^3 .

Inserting this into (4.2), we end up with dimension-eight operators proportional to $1/(m_b^3 m_c^2)$. Note that the IC contribution is RPI, so it can be expressed in terms of our basis of RPI operators X_1^5, \dots, X_{10}^5 defined in (3.1), (3.2):

$$X_{IC}^5 \equiv -24X_2^5 + 78X_3^5 - 12X_4^5 + 10X_7^5 - 20X_8^5 + 5X_9^5 + 5X_{10}^5, \tag{4.13}$$

Alternatively, having the full trace formula available, we can also easily identify this combination from the total rate, given in appendix D, by identifying the HQE parameters proportional to $1/\rho$. We explicitly checked that the same combination X_{IC}^5 of dimension-eight HQE parameters X_{IC}^5 also describes the intrinsic charm contributions proportional to $1/(m_b^3 m_c^2)$ in the centralized moments q_{1-4} as required by RPI.

5 Phenomenological implications

In the remainder of the paper, we will discuss the phenomenology of the dimension-8 contributions to the HQE. Since the number of HQE parameters - even for the reduced set using RPI - is too large to extract them from the data, we shall employ “lowest-lying state saturation ansatz” (LLSA) to obtain an idea of the size of the $1/(m_b^3 m_c^2)$ and $1/m_b^5$ terms of the HQE. Overall it turns out that both the IC contributions of order $1/(m_b^3 m_c^2)$ and the “genuine” $1/m_b^5$ pieces are sizable and of similar magnitude, although the IC contribution should be parametrically larger. However, the two contributions enter with different sign, which leads overall to a small contribution of the dimension-8 operators. We shall discuss this issue in subsection 5.3.

5.1 Estimation of the matrix elements

Before we proceed to discuss phenomenological implications of the decay $B \rightarrow X_c \ell \bar{\nu}$, we will try to estimate the size of the HQE parameters at dimension-8. To do so, we use the “lowest-lying state saturation ansatz” (LLSA) which has been elaborated upon in [18]. The starting point is to introduce a fictitious heavy quark Q with $m_Q \gg m_b$ for which we can derive the sum rule

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_n \frac{i(2\pi)^3 \delta^3(p_n^\perp)}{\omega - \epsilon_n + i\varepsilon} \langle B(p_B) | \bar{b}_v [(iD_{\mu_1}^\perp) \dots (iD_{\mu_k}^\perp)] Q_v | n \rangle \langle n | \bar{Q}_v [(iD_{\nu_1}^\perp) \dots (iD_{\nu_l}^\perp)] b_v | B(p_B) \rangle \\ & = \langle B(p_B) | \bar{b}_v [(iD_{\mu_1}^\perp) \dots (iD_{\mu_k}^\perp)] \left(\frac{i}{\omega + i\nu D + i\varepsilon} \right) [(iD_{\nu_1}^\perp) \dots (iD_{\nu_l}^\perp)] b_v | B(p_B) \rangle, \end{aligned} \quad (5.1)$$

where the superscript \perp denotes the “spatial” components of a vector,

$$a_\mu^\perp \equiv a_\mu - v_\mu (av) = (g_{\mu\nu} - v_\mu v_\nu) a^\nu \equiv g_{\mu\nu}^\perp a^\nu,$$

Q_v is the static field of the heavy quark, while b_v is still the field of full QCD with the definition

$$b(x) = e^{-im_b(v \cdot x)} b_v(x),$$

to remove the large part of the quark momentum $m_b v$.

This sum rule can now be expanded in powers of $1/\omega$ to generate the matrix elements defining the HQE parameters. The LLSA is to truncate the sum over all intermediate states on the left-hand side after the first non-vanishing terms.

Following [18], we anchor the LLSA by using (5.1) with $k = 1$ and $l = 1$. This requires to consider the matrix elements

$$\langle B(p_B) | \bar{b}_v (iD_\mu^\perp) Q_v | n \rangle$$

for the tower of states $|n\rangle$. The lowest lying states are the two spin-symmetry doublets of orbitally excited $\ell = 1$ states, consisting of $(0^+, 1^+)_{j_{\text{light}}=1/2}$ and $(1^+, 2^+)_{j_{\text{light}}=3/2}$ states, where j_{light} denotes the total angular momentum of the light degrees of freedom. The two states within the doublet are degenerate (in the $m_Q \rightarrow \infty$ limit), and the two doublets have excitation energies $\epsilon_{1/2}$ and $\epsilon_{3/2}$ relative to the ground state.

For the lowest term in the $1/\omega$ expansion of (5.1) with $k = 1$ and $l = 1$ the left hand side becomes $(\mu_\pi^2)^\perp$ or $(\mu_G^2)^\perp$ (see below), depending on which matrix Γ is inserted, while the sum on the left-hand side is truncated after the contributions of the two spin-symmetry doublets discussed above. This allows us to fix the values of the two matrix elements

$$\langle B(p_B) | \bar{b}_v (iD_\mu^\perp) Q_v | \ell = 1, j_{\text{light}} = 1/2 \rangle \quad \text{and} \quad \langle B(p_B) | \bar{b}_v (iD_\mu^\perp) Q_v | \ell = 1, j_{\text{light}} = 3/2 \rangle$$

in terms of $(\mu_\pi^2)^\perp$ or $(\mu_G^2)^\perp$. Inserting more \perp -derivatives, i.e. $k > 1$ and $l > 1$ and expanding to higher orders in $1/\omega$ one then can relate ρ_D^3 ($k = 1, l = 1$ and expanding to $1/\omega$) and all higher-order HQE elements to the $1/m_b^2$ HQE elements $(\mu_\pi^\perp)^2$ and $(\mu_G^\perp)^2$ and the excitation energies $\epsilon_{1/2}$ and $\epsilon_{3/2}$ of the orbitally excited states with $j_{\text{light}} = 1/2$ and $j_{\text{light}} = 3/2$, respectively. In appendix F, we list the LLSA approximations for all the RPI HQE elements up to $1/m_b^5$. Similar expressions can be found in [18] for the full basis of $1/m_b^5$ elements.

To obtain numerical estimates for the HQE parameters, we take the excitation energies from the decay spectrum [18]

$$\epsilon_{1/2} = 0.390 \text{ GeV}, \quad \epsilon_{3/2} = 0.476 \text{ GeV}. \quad (5.2)$$

In addition, the HQE parameters are known from a global analysis of the $B \rightarrow X_c \ell \bar{\nu}$ spectrum [1]³

$$(\mu_\pi^2)^\perp = 0.477 \text{ GeV}^2, \quad (\mu_G^2)^\perp = 0.306 \text{ GeV}^2, \quad (5.3)$$

which are defined as

$$\begin{aligned} 2m_B (\mu_\pi^2)^\perp &= -\langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\mu) (iD_\nu) b_v \rangle g_\perp^{\mu\nu}, \\ 2m_B (\mu_G^2)^\perp &= \langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\alpha) (iD_\beta) (-i\sigma_{\mu\nu}) b_v \rangle g_\perp^{\mu\alpha} g_\perp^{\nu\beta}. \end{aligned} \quad (5.4)$$

Using these values and the LLSA expressions in appendix F, we find the approximations for the HQE parameters presented in table 1. We do not show any uncertainty range, since we currently do not have a way to estimate the quality of the LLSA. Instead, we only use these numerical values to get an estimate for the size and sign of the contributions as was done also in [23]. We note that, we can also take the n^{th} root of the absolute values of the HQE parameters, which yields values of order Λ_{QCD} as expected. An exception to this is $\sqrt[4]{|s_{qB}^4|} \approx 1 \text{ GeV}$.

For the intrinsic charm contribution X_{IC}^5 defined in (4.13), we find

$$\begin{aligned} X_{\text{IC}}^5 &= \frac{10}{9} \left[4\epsilon_{1/2} \left((\mu_G^2)^\perp \right)^2 - 7(\mu_G^2)^\perp (\mu_\pi^2)^\perp + 6 \left((\mu_\pi^2)^\perp \right)^2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \epsilon_{3/2} \left(17 \left((\mu_G^2)^\perp \right)^2 + 67(\mu_G^2)^\perp (\mu_\pi^2)^\perp + 66 \left((\mu_\pi^2)^\perp \right)^2 \right) \right] \approx 14.71 \text{ GeV}^5, \end{aligned} \quad (5.5)$$

³Taking the extracted HQE parameters from the recent fit from [3] does not change our conclusions, but only changes the values for the HQE parameters in table 1 by approximately 0–10%.

Input values			LLSA approximation		LLSA approximation	
m_b^{kin}	4.573 GeV	[1]	μ_3	0.996	X_1^5	0.049 GeV ⁵
$\bar{m}_c(2 \text{ GeV})$	1.092 GeV	[1]	μ_G^2	0.290 GeV ²	X_2^5	0.00 GeV ⁵
$\epsilon_{1/2}$	0.390 GeV	[18]	$\tilde{\rho}_D^3$	0.205 GeV ³	X_3^5	0.094 GeV ⁵
$\epsilon_{3/2}$	0.476 GeV	[18]	\tilde{r}_E^4	0.098 GeV ⁴	X_4^5	−0.41 GeV ⁵
$(\mu_\pi^2)^\perp$	0.477 GeV ²	[1]	r_G^4	0.16 GeV ⁴	X_5^5	−0.039 GeV ⁵
$(\mu_G^2)^\perp$	0.306 GeV ²	[1]	\tilde{s}_E^4	−0.074 GeV ⁴	X_6^5	0.00 GeV ⁵
			s_B^4	−0.14 GeV ⁴	X_7^5	0.091 GeV ⁵
			s_{qB}^4	−1.00 GeV ⁴	X_8^5	−0.0030 GeV ⁵
					X_9^5	0.27 GeV ⁵
					X_{10}^5	0.025 GeV ⁵

Table 1. The input values used for the numerical analysis are presented in the left table. The other two tables show the values for the RPI HQE parameters based on the LLSA approximation.

where we obtained the numerical estimate by using the above defined inputs. Taking the appropriate root gives $\sqrt[5]{X_{\text{IC}}^5} \approx 1.7 \text{ GeV}$.

Finally, it is interesting to compare the estimate of the LLSA with the HQE parameters extracted from the $B \rightarrow X_c \ell \bar{\nu}$ spectra. Including only terms up to $1/m_b^3$, these fits yield $\rho_D^3 = (0.185 \pm 0.031) \text{ GeV}^3$ [1]. Using (5.1), we may write⁴

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\rho_D^3)^\perp &\equiv \frac{1}{2m_B} \langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\mu^\perp) (i\nu D) (iD_\nu^\perp) b_v \rangle g_\perp^{\mu\nu} \\
 &= \frac{1}{3} \epsilon_{1/2} ((\mu_\pi^2)^\perp - (\mu_G^2)^\perp) + \frac{1}{3} \epsilon_{3/2} (2(\mu_\pi^2)^\perp + (\mu_G^2)^\perp) = 0.22 \text{ GeV}^3. \quad (5.6)
 \end{aligned}$$

This estimate is in good agreement with the value extracted from data. This strengthens our belief in the LLSA as a first estimate of the HQE parameters. In [23], HQE elements up to $1/m_b^5$ in the full basis were extracted from moments of the lepton energy and M_X spectra using the LLSA estimate to constrain their sizes. Allowing the fit to vary the HQE quantities, they found that most of the HQE elements changed very little with respect to their LLSA values and concluded that there was low sensitivity to the higher-power elements. In addition, in [2], r_E^4 and s_E^4 were extracted from the q^2 moments, finding results consistent with zero. Within uncertainties they also agree with the values found in table 1.

5.2 The total rate and the q^2 moments

Using the LLSA estimates for the HQE elements, we can now consider the effects of the various contributions to observables. For simplicity, we focus here on RPI observables such as the total rate and the q^2 moments, including a cut on low values of q^2 :

$$\hat{q}_{\text{cut}}^2 \equiv \frac{q_{\text{cut}}^2}{m_b^2}. \quad (5.7)$$

In figure 2, we show the various contributions for the first four centralized q^2 moments $q_{1,2,3,4}$ as a function of \hat{q}_{cut}^2 . The black-dotted line is the leading term proportional to μ_3 , while the

⁴This expression holds up to $1/m_b^3$ terms. Introducing a commutator between the covariant derivatives (see (2.6)) also absorbs higher order terms into ρ_D^3 and thus would alter the LLSA expression.

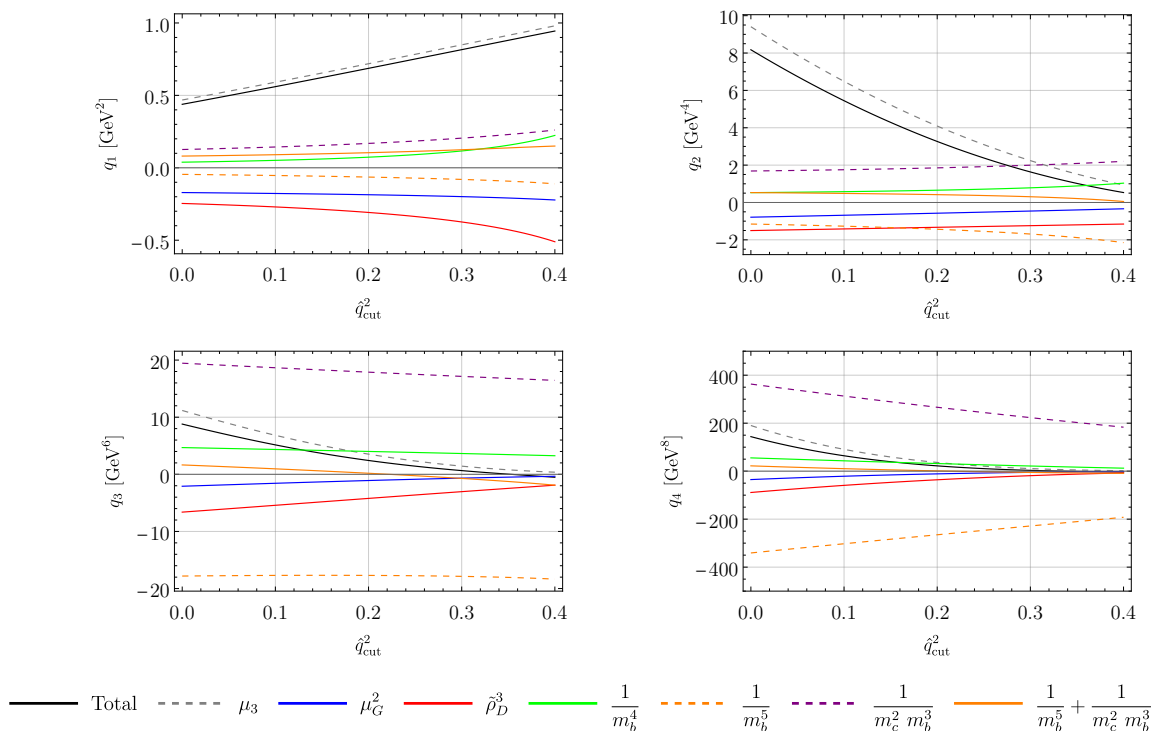


Figure 2. The dependence of the first four centralized q^2 moments on the different orders in the $1/m_b$ expansion, as a function of the cut-off \hat{q}_{cut}^2 . The black dashed, blue solid, red solid, and green solid lines represent the contributions from μ_3 , μ_G^2 , $\tilde{\rho}_D^3$, and $1/m_b^4$ HQE parameters, respectively. The dashed orange, dashed purple, and solid orange lines represent the “genuine” $1/m_b^5$ contributions, IC contributions, and their summed contribution respectively. The black solid lines are the predictions for the centralized moments including contributions up to $1/m_b^5$. The total and μ_3 results for q_1 have been divided by a factor of 10 to show the contributions at other orders more clearly.

black-solid line denotes the total contribution of all terms of the HQE up to dimension-8 operators. The colored lines show the individual contributions at each order in the HQE, where we have displayed the contributions of IC and the “genuine” $1/m_b^5$ pieces separately. As commented before, we do not show any uncertainties as we currently do not have a way to estimate the uncertainty associated to the LLSA. We find that, within the LLSA estimates, the IC and “genuine” $1/m_b^5$ terms are roughly equal in size, but contribute oppositely to the different q^2 moments. Most importantly, as discussed before, based on power-counting arguments the IC-parts would contribute at the same level as the $1/m_b^4$. We indeed observe that the IC contribution is large (in fact, larger than the $1/m_b^4$ terms in this estimate), but we also note that the other $1/m_b^5$ give large and opposite contributions. From this we conclude that, at least within the LLSA, only taking the IC-parts as part of a $1/m_b^4$ analysis could severely overestimate its effects, and we thus recommend to consider these terms only in a combined determination up to $1/m_b^5$. We will return to this issue in subsection 5.3.

In figure 3, we show the ratio R^* defined in (4.9). We observe that here the IC parts are larger than the $1/m_b^4$ terms and are not compensated by the genuine $1/m_b^5$ terms. So far, this ratio has only been measured with a lower cut on the lepton energy, which spoils its

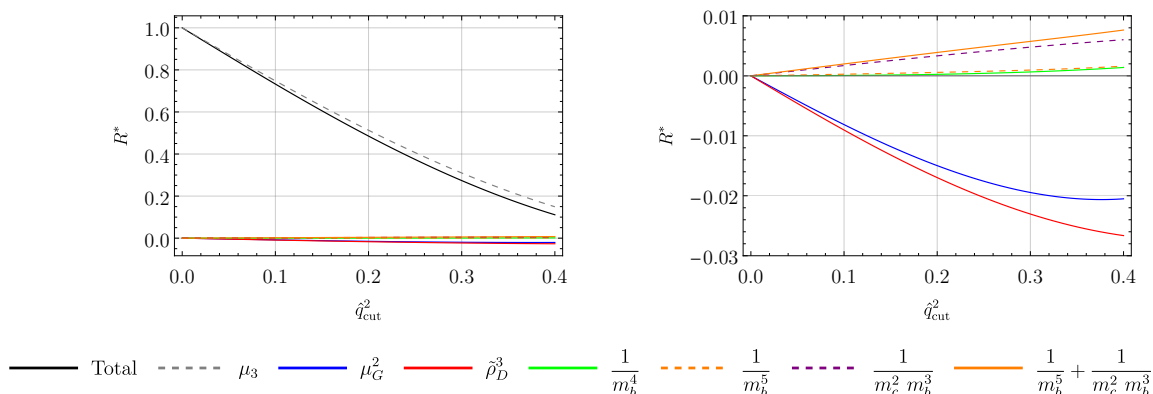


Figure 3. Similar as figure 2, but now for the ratio R^* and a zoom-in.

RPI behavior and introduces a dependence on the full set of HQE parameters. In trying to extract also the higher-order moments from data, it would be useful to have measurements of this observable given its different sensitivity compared to the q^2 moments. Finally, for the $|V_{cb}|$ extraction, the effect of the $1/m_b^5$ terms on the total rate is important. We list the full expression in appendix D. Numerically, employing the inputs of the previous section, we have⁵

$$\frac{\Gamma(B \rightarrow X_c \ell \bar{\nu})}{\Gamma_0} = 0.65|_{\mu_3} - 0.22|_{\mu_G^2} - 0.016|_{\tilde{\rho}_D^3} - 0.00026|_{1/m_b^4} + 0.0086|_{\text{IC}} - 0.0018|_{1/m_b^5} + \mathcal{O}(1/m_b^6), \quad (5.8)$$

where we indicate the effect of the different orders. We observe that the IC contribution and “genuine” $1/m_b^5$ contribute to the total rate with opposite sign. Note that this is different than for $R^*(\hat{q}_{\text{cut}}^2)$, as seen in figure 3 which also contains a term proportional to $\mu_G^2 \tilde{\rho}_D^3 / (\mu_3 m_b^5)$ which the total rate does not.

5.3 “Genuine” $1/m_b^5$ versus the IC contributions

Finally we discuss the observation that the “genuine” $1/m_b^5$ contribution almost cancels the IC pieces in the q^2 moments. We note that the Wilson coefficients C of the operators at dimension-8 have for the total rate the generic form

$$C = a_4 \rho^4 + a_3 \rho^3 + a_2 \rho^2 + a_1 \rho + a_0 + b_1 \frac{1}{\rho} + c_0 \ln \rho. \quad (5.9)$$

The fact that the total rate has to vanish at $\rho = 1$ due to the vanishing phase space implies the relation

$$0 = a_4 + a_3 + a_2 + a_1 + a_0 + b_1 \quad \text{or} \quad b_1 = -(a_4 + a_3 + a_2 + a_1 + a_0). \quad (5.10)$$

All the contributions proportional to the a_i are attributed to the “genuine” $1/m_b^5$ while the logarithmic term and in particular the one with negative powers will be attributed to IC. The relation (5.10) links the two contributions, explaining at least part of the cancellation.

⁵For $\tilde{\rho}_D^3$ we use here the estimate obtained in [12], using the determination in [23]: $\tilde{\rho}_D^3 = 0.127 \text{ GeV}^3$.

However, the details depend on the values of the HQE parameters, and for a detailed quantitative analysis we have to rely on the values obtained in LLSA shown in table 1, in particular on the relative signs of the X_i^5 contributions predicted by LLSA. To obtain a general idea, we investigate this effect by taking a generic absolute value for the different matrix elements but vary their signs. In order to do this, we write

$$q_n \supseteq \frac{m_b^{2n}}{\mu_3} \frac{1}{m_b^5} \left(a_{n0}^{m_b^5} \frac{\mu_G^2 \tilde{\rho}_D^3}{\mu_3} + \sum_{i=1}^{10} a_{ni}^{m_b^5} X_i^5 + \sum_{j \in J} a_{nj}^{\text{IC}} X_j^5 \right), \quad (5.11)$$

where $J = \{2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10\}$, i.e. dimension-8 operators which contribute to the IC part (see (4.13)). To obtain the expression for R^* , one sets $n = 0$. To compare the genuine contributions to the IC contributions, we make the following assumptions. We assume that $X_i^5 \sim \frac{\mu_G^2 \tilde{\rho}_D^3}{\mu_3} \sim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^5$. In addition, we assume that each X_i^5 contribution scales as Λ_{QCD}^5 , but we let the signs of these terms free.

We can then write

$$q_n \supseteq \frac{m_b^{2n}}{\mu_3} \frac{1}{m_b^5} \left(A_n^{m_b^5} + A_n^{\text{IC}} \right) \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^5, \quad (5.12)$$

where

$$A_n^{m_b^5} \equiv a_{n0}^{m_b^5} + \sum_{i=1}^{10} a_{ni}^{m_b^5} \cdot \text{sgn} \left(X_i^5 \right), \quad (5.13)$$

$$A_n^{\text{IC}} \equiv \sum_{j \in J} a_{nj}^{\text{IC}} \cdot \text{sgn} \left(X_j^5 \right), \quad (5.14)$$

where these A_n^k are functions of \hat{q}_{cut}^2 .

In figure 4, we show the A^{IC} , the $A^{m_b^5}$ and the sum of the two for all 2^{10} possible combinations of signs of the X_i^5 operators. From this, we see that the IC and genuine $1/m_b^5$ terms cancel each other to a large extent for most sign combinations, especially for the higher q^2 moments. Here, we show the results for $\hat{q}_{\text{cut}}^2 = 0$, but we have explicitly checked that a similar behaviour applies to other q^2 cuts. For R^* , we used $\hat{q}_{\text{cut}}^2 = 0.1$. Specifically, we find that if $\text{sgn}(X_3^5) = +1$, then the cancellation almost always occurs. This can be understood, because X_3^5 presents the dominant contribution of X_{IC}^5 due to its large prefactor. In light of our findings it seems advisable to also include all the $1/m_b^5$ terms and not only the IC contributions.

6 Conclusion

We presented the complete tree-level contributions of the dimension-8 operators for the HQE of the differential rate for $B \rightarrow X_c \ell \bar{\nu}$. We used the standard form of the HQE where the bottom- and the charm-quark are integrated out at the same scale $\mu^2 \sim m_b m_c$. Consequently the Wilson coefficients of the HQE depend on the mass ratio $\rho = m_c^2/m_b^2$.

Starting at dimension six (corresponding to order $1/m_b^3$ in the HQE) an infrared sensitivity to the charm-quark mass arises as a $\log \rho$, while at higher orders also negative powers of ρ appear. At tree level this happens first at order $1/m_b^5$, turning this into $1/(m_b^3 m_c^2)$. Adopting

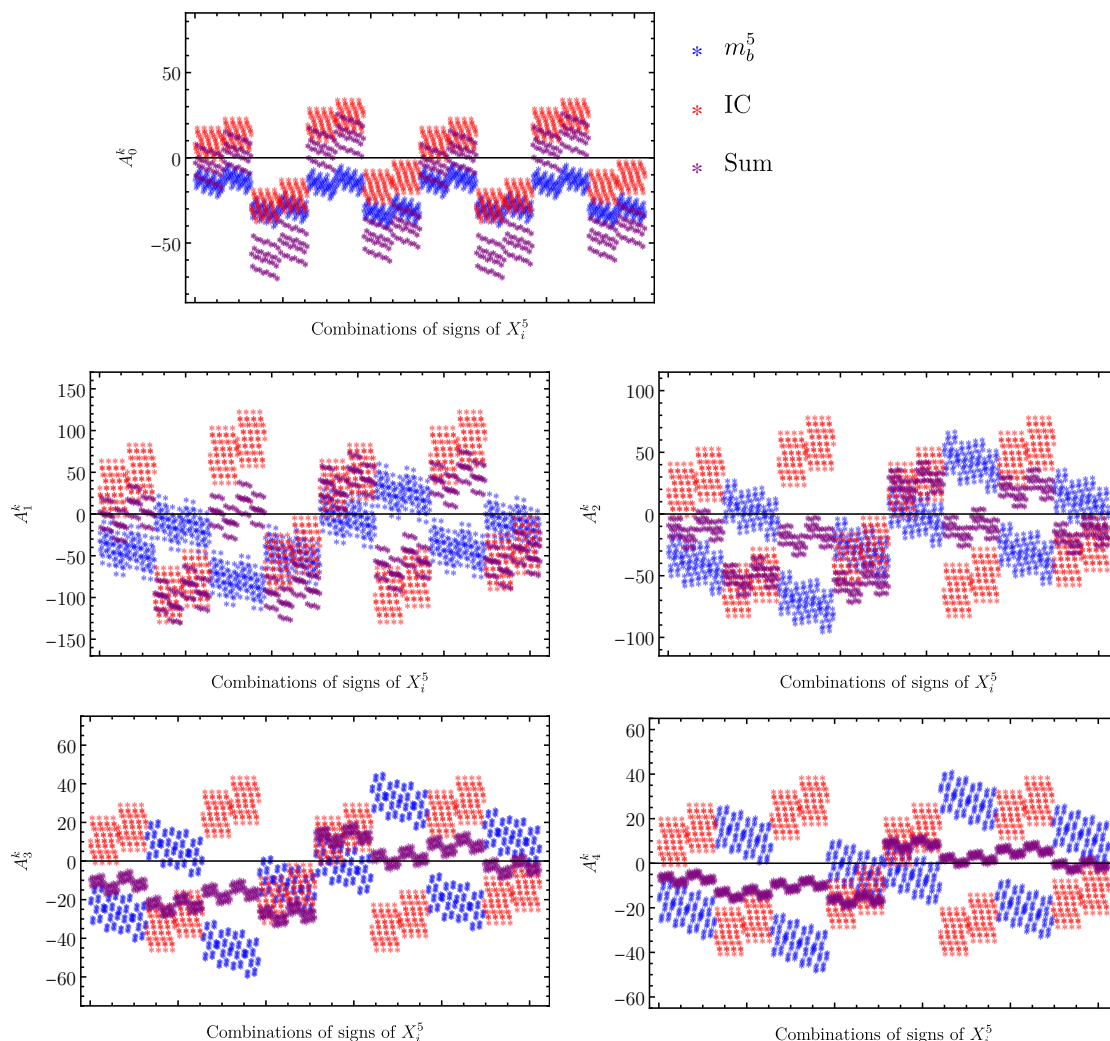


Figure 4. Relative contributions of the IC and the “genuine” $1/m_b^5$ terms, and their sum to the centralized q^2 moments q_n for $n = 1, 2, 3, 4$ and for the ratio R^* ($n = 0$). The x-axis enumerates the 2^{10} possible sign combinations of the HQE parameters X_i^5 .

a power counting of the form $m_c^2 \sim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}} m_b$ suggests, that such terms involving “intrinsic charm” should be counted as $1/m_b^4$, and hence could be parametrically larger than the “genuine” $1/m_b^5$ terms.

We have derived “trace formulae” allowing us to compute any observable for $B \rightarrow X_c \ell \bar{\nu}$ up to dimension-8 terms, i.e. up to $1/m_b^5$ of the HQE. As known, the number of independent HQE parameters proliferates significantly. A minimum of ten HQE parameters enters at $1/m_b^5$, even if we take advantage of the reduced set of operators that enters in reparametrization invariant observables. For a phenomenological study of the effects of these higher orders, we thus have to estimate the values of the HQE parameters in some way, which we do by using the lowest-lying state saturation ansatz (LLSA).

Using these values for the HQE parameters as a first estimate, we can make quantitative statements about the relative size of the previously unknown contributions of dimension-eight operators. However, it is currently challenging to assign an uncertainty to this estimate. We leave more detailed study of the higher-order corrections and the uncertainties of the LLSA to future work.

We observe two interesting points.

1. The size of the intrinsic-charm contributions is numerically of the expected (i.e. parametric) size, however, the genuine $1/m_b^5$ terms contribute with the same magnitude.
2. The intrinsic charm contributions have the opposite sign as the ones from the genuine $1/m_b^5$ terms, which leads in total to an unexpectedly small overall contribution of the dimension-eight operators.

These statements at least holds in the LLSA, however, we have played with different scenarios, most of which exhibit a similar cancellation. Overall, there are indications that at least the $1/m_b^5$ contributions in the HQE are smaller than expected, which will allow us to reduce the theoretical uncertainty for the inclusive determination of V_{cb} even further.

Acknowledgments

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A Conversion between different conventions continued

A.1 $1/m_b^5$ definitions

The r_i are the full set of $1/m_b^5$ operators, including non-RPI operators, as defined in [10]. For completeness, we list them here [10]:

$$\begin{aligned}
 2m_{Br_1} &= \langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\mu) (ivD)^3 (iD^\mu) b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_{Br_2} &= \langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\mu) (ivD) (iD^\mu) (iD)^2 b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_{Br_3} &= \langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\mu) (ivD) (iD_\nu) (iD^\mu) (iD^\nu) b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_{Br_4} &= \langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\mu) (ivD) (iD)^2 (iD^\mu) b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_{Br_5} &= \langle \bar{b}_v (iD)^2 (ivD) (iD)^2 b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_{Br_6} &= \langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\mu) (iD_\nu) (ivD) (iD^\nu) (iD^\mu) b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_{Br_7} &= \langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\mu) (iD_\nu) (ivD) (iD^\mu) (iD^\nu) b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_{Br_8} &= \langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\alpha) (ivD)^3 (iD_\beta) (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_{Br_9} &= \langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\alpha) (ivD) (iD_\beta) (iD)^2 (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_{Br_{10}} &= \langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\mu) (ivD) (iD^\mu) (iD_\alpha) (iD_\beta) (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle,
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 2m_{BR11} &= \langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\mu) (ivD) (iD_\alpha) (iD^\mu) (iD_\beta) (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_{BR12} &= \langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\alpha) (ivD) (iD_\mu) (iD_\beta) (iD^\mu) (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_{BR13} &= \langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\mu) (ivD) (iD_\alpha) (iD_\beta) (iD^\mu) (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_{BR14} &= \langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\alpha) (ivD) (iD)^2 (iD_\beta) (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_{BR15} &= \langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\alpha) (iD_\beta) (ivD) (iD)^2 (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_{BR16} &= \langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\mu) (iD_\alpha) (ivD) (iD_\beta) (iD^\mu) (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_{BR17} &= \langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\alpha) (iD_\mu) (ivD) (iD^\mu) (iD_\beta) (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_{BR18} &= \langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\mu) (iD_\alpha) (ivD) (iD^\mu) (iD_\beta) (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle.
 \end{aligned} \tag{A.1}$$

The RPI operators X_i^5 we derived in this work and defined in (3.1), (3.2) can then be written as

$$\begin{aligned}
 X_1^5 &= r_1, \\
 X_2^5 &= 2r_6 - 2r_7, \\
 X_3^5 &= -r_2 + 2r_3 - r_4 + r_6 - r_7, \\
 X_4^5 &= 2r_2 + 4r_3 + 2r_4 - 2r_5 - 2r_6 - 2r_7, \\
 X_5^5 &= r_8, \\
 X_6^5 &= r_{16} + r_{17} - 2r_{18}, \\
 X_7^5 &= r_{11} - r_{12} - r_{13} + r_{14} + r_{16} - r_{18}, \\
 X_8^5 &= r_{11} + r_{12} - r_{13} + r_{16} - r_{18} - r_9, \\
 X_9^5 &= 4r_{10} - 2r_{15}, \\
 X_{10}^5 &= 2r_{10} + 2r_{13} - 2r_{15}.
 \end{aligned} \tag{A.2}$$

A.2 Differences at $1/m_b^4$

In the following, we expand the discussion on the conversion between different HQE parameter definitions in [12]. The covariant derivative can be split into a spatial and a time derivative via

$$iD_\mu = v_\mu ivD + iD_\mu^\perp. \tag{A.3}$$

The HQE parameters can be defined with either the full covariant derivatives or with iD^\perp as in [10, 23], which we will refer to as the ‘‘perp’’-basis.

Beside the RPI parameters in (2.6), we list the non-RPI parameters up to $1/m_b^4$ [12]:

$$\begin{aligned}
 2m_B \rho_{LS}^3 &= \frac{1}{2} \langle \bar{b}_v \{ (iD_\alpha), [(ivD), (iD_\beta)] \} (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_B \delta \rho_D^4 &= \frac{1}{2} \langle \bar{b}_v [(iD_\mu), [(iD)^2, (iD^\mu)]] b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_B \delta \rho_{LS}^4 &= \frac{1}{2} \langle \bar{b}_v \{ (iD_\alpha), [(iD)^2, (iD_\beta)] \} (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_B \delta_{G1}^4 &= \langle \bar{b}_v \left((iD)^2 \right)^2 b_v \rangle, \\
 2m_B \delta_{G2}^4 &= \langle \bar{b}_v \{ (iD)^2, (iD_\alpha) (iD_\beta) \} (-i\sigma^{\alpha\beta}) b_v \rangle.
 \end{aligned} \tag{A.4}$$

For completeness, it is interesting to consider the differences between these two bases up to $1/m_b^5$. We find

$$\begin{aligned}
(\mu_\pi^2)^\perp &= 2m_b^2(1 - \mu_3) + \mu_G^2 + \frac{1}{4m_b^2} \left[-\frac{r_G^4}{2} - s_B^4 + \delta_{G1}^4 + \delta_{G2}^4 \right] \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{4m_b^3} [-r_9 - r_{10} + r_{11} + r_{12} - 2r_{13} + r_{15} + r_{16} - r_{18}], \\
(\mu_G^2)^\perp &= \mu_G^2 + \frac{1}{m_b} [\tilde{\rho}_D^3 + \rho_{LS}^3] - \frac{1}{2m_b^2} \delta \rho_D^4, \\
(\rho_D^3)^\perp &= \tilde{\rho}_D^3 - \frac{1}{2m_b} \delta \rho_D^4, \\
(\rho_{LS}^3)^\perp &= \rho_{LS}^3 - \frac{1}{2m_b} [r_E^4 + s_E^4] + \frac{1}{2m_b^2} \left[-r_2 + r_3 - r_4 + \frac{r_5}{2} + \frac{r_6}{2} - \frac{r_7}{2} - r_9 - r_{10} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + r_{11} + r_{12} - r_{13} - r_{14} + r_{15} + \frac{r_{16}}{2} + \frac{r_{17}}{2} - r_{18} \right]. \tag{A.5}
\end{aligned}$$

Note that interestingly, $(\mu_G^2)^\perp$ does not get additional r_i contributions when writing ρ_{LS}^3 in the full derivative basis. We also note that in (3.5), we defined \tilde{r}_E^4 and \tilde{s}_E^4 operators, where

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{r}_E^4 &= r_E^4 + \frac{1}{m_b} [r_2 - r_4], \\
\tilde{s}_E^4 &= s_E^4 + \frac{1}{m_b} [r_9 - r_{14}]. \tag{A.6}
\end{aligned}$$

The relations between the dimension-7 parameters m_i (first introduced in [10]) and the RPI parameters have been presented in [12]. Here, we extend these relations by adding the dimension-8 corrections r_i via⁶

$$\begin{aligned}
m_1 &= \frac{1}{3} \left(r_E^4 + \frac{r_G^4}{2} + 2\delta \rho_D^4 + 3\delta_{G1}^4 \right) + \frac{1}{3m_b} [2r_2 + r_5 + 2r_{10} + r_{15}], \\
m_2 &= -r_E^4, \\
m_3 &= -2r_E^4 + r_G^4, \\
m_4 &= 2r_E^4 - 2r_G^4 - 2\delta \rho_D^4 + \frac{2}{m_b} [-r_2 + r_5 - r_{10} + r_{15}], \\
m_5 &= -s_E^4, \\
m_6 &= -s_B^4 + s_E^4 - \frac{1}{m_b} [-r_2 + 2r_3 - r_4 + r_6 - r_7 - r_{10} + r_{11} + r_{12} - r_{14} + r_{17} - r_{18}], \\
m_7 &= 2\delta \rho_{LS}^4 + 2s_E^4 + \frac{s_{qB}^4}{2} - \frac{2}{m_b} [r_1 - 2r_4 + r_7 + r_8 - r_9 + r_{12} - r_{13} - 2r_{14} + r_{18}], \\
m_8 &= 4\delta_{G2}^4 + \frac{4}{m_b} [-r_1 + r_2 + r_4 - r_5 + r_6 - r_7 - r_8 + r_9 + r_{14} + r_{16} + r_{17} - 2r_{18}], \\
m_9 &= -2s_B^4 + 2s_E^4 + \frac{s_{qB}^4}{2} - \frac{1}{m_b} [r_1 - 3r_2 + 2r_3 - 3r_4 + r_5 + r_6 + r_7 + r_8 - r_9 - 2r_{10} \\
&\quad + 2r_{12} - 3r_{14} - r_{16} + r_{17} + 2r_{18}]. \tag{A.7}
\end{aligned}$$

⁶This equation corrects a typo in [12] for the m_1 coefficient.

The expressions in (4.11), (4.12) for the calculation of the IC contribution result in five operators \tilde{f}_i describing the intrinsic charm, as defined in [15]. The conversions between the \tilde{f}_i from [15] and r_i and our RPI operators at $1/m_b^5$ are given by

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{f}_1 &= -2r_2 - 4r_3 - 2r_4 + 2r_5 + 4r_7 = -X_2^5 - X_4^5, \\
\tilde{f}_2 &= -2r_2 - 4r_3 - 2r_4 + 2r_5 + 2r_6 + 2r_7 = -X_4^5, \\
\tilde{f}_3 &= -2r_2 + 4r_3 - 2r_4 + 2r_6 - 2r_7 = 2X_3^5, \\
\tilde{f}_4 &= -2r_9 - 4r_{10} + 4r_{12} - 2r_{14} + 2r_{15} = -2X_7^5 + 2X_8^5 - X_9^5, \\
\tilde{f}_5 &= 2r_{10} + 2r_{11} - 2r_{12} - 4r_{13} + r_{14} + 2r_{16} - 2r_{18} = 2X_7^5 + X_9^5 - X_{10}^5. \tag{A.8}
\end{aligned}$$

The operator describing the $1/(m_b^3 m_c^2)$ intrinsic charm contribution can be written in terms of \tilde{f}_i and our dimension-8 RPI operators as

$$\begin{aligned}
X_{\text{IC}}^5 &= -24X_2^5 + 78X_3^5 - 12X_4^5 + 10X_7^5 - 20X_8^5 + 5X_9^5 + 5X_{10}^5 \\
&= 24\tilde{f}_1 - 12\tilde{f}_2 + 39\tilde{f}_3 - 10\tilde{f}_4 - 5\tilde{f}_5. \tag{A.9}
\end{aligned}$$

The combination of operators \tilde{f}_i in (A.9) agrees with the IC contribution for $\Gamma(B \rightarrow X_c \ell \bar{\nu})$ presented in [15].

B Determination of $1/m_Q^5$ RPI operators

Starting from (2.5), we require the tensor decomposition of $C_{\mu\alpha\beta\nu}^{(4)}$ and $C_{\mu\alpha\beta\delta\nu}^{(5)}$. The tensor decomposition of $C_{\mu\alpha\beta\nu}^{(4)}$ (dropping single γ matrices and \not{v} , considering only hermitian and parity-even operators⁷) is given by [11]

$$\begin{aligned}
C_{\mu\alpha\beta\nu}^{(4)}(v) &= y_1^{(4)} g_{\mu\nu} g_{\alpha\beta} + y_2^{(4)} g_{\mu\alpha} g_{\nu\beta} + y_3^{(4)} g_{\mu\beta} g_{\nu\alpha} \\
&+ z_1^{(4)} v_\alpha v_\beta g_{\mu\nu} + z_2^{(4)} v_\mu v_\nu g_{\alpha\beta} + z_3^{(4)} [v_\mu v_\alpha g_{\beta\nu} + v_\nu v_\beta g_{\mu\alpha}] + z_4^{(4)} [v_\mu v_\beta g_{\alpha\nu} + v_\nu v_\alpha g_{\beta\mu}] \\
&+ w^{(4)} v_\mu v_\alpha v_\beta v_\nu \\
&+ \alpha_1^{(4)} (-i\sigma_{\mu\nu}) g_{\alpha\beta} + \alpha_2^{(4)} (-i\sigma_{\alpha\beta}) g_{\mu\nu} + \alpha_3^{(4)} [(-i\sigma_{\mu\alpha}) g_{\beta\nu} + (-i\sigma_{\beta\nu}) g_{\mu\alpha}] \\
&+ \alpha_4^{(4)} [(-i\sigma_{\mu\beta}) g_{\alpha\nu} + (-i\sigma_{\alpha\nu}) g_{\mu\beta}] \\
&+ \beta_1^{(4)} (-i\sigma_{\mu\nu}) v_\alpha v_\beta + \beta_2^{(4)} (-i\sigma_{\alpha\beta}) v_\mu v_\nu + \beta_3^{(4)} [(-i\sigma_{\mu\alpha}) v_\beta v_\nu + (-i\sigma_{\beta\nu}) v_\mu v_\alpha] \\
&+ \beta_4^{(4)} [(-i\sigma_{\mu\beta}) v_\nu v_\alpha + (-i\sigma_{\alpha\nu}) v_\mu v_\beta]. \tag{B.1}
\end{aligned}$$

For simplicity, we consider the spin-independent and spin-dependent (those with σ terms) separately.

⁷We refer to [11] for the argumentation why single γ matrices and \not{v} can be dropped.

B.1 Spin-independent operators

The tensor decomposition of the spin-independent (SI) terms of $C_{\mu\alpha\beta\delta\nu}^{(5)}$ (dropping single γ matrices and ψ , considering only hermitian and parity-even operators) is

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_{\mu\alpha\beta\delta\nu}^{(5, \text{SI})}(v) = & y_1^{(5)} [g_{\mu\alpha} g_{\beta\delta} v_\nu + g_{\nu\delta} g_{\beta\alpha} v_\mu] + y_2^{(5)} [g_{\mu\alpha} g_{\beta\nu} v_\delta + g_{\nu\delta} g_{\beta\mu} v_\alpha] \\
 & + y_3^{(5)} g_{\mu\alpha} g_{\delta\nu} v_\beta + y_4^{(5)} [g_{\mu\beta} g_{\alpha\delta} v_\nu + g_{\nu\beta} g_{\delta\alpha} v_\mu] \\
 & + y_5^{(5)} [g_{\mu\beta} g_{\alpha\nu} v_\delta + g_{\nu\beta} g_{\delta\mu} v_\alpha] + y_6^{(5)} [g_{\mu\delta} g_{\alpha\beta} v_\nu + g_{\nu\alpha} g_{\delta\beta} v_\mu] \\
 & + y_7^{(5)} g_{\mu\delta} g_{\alpha\nu} v_\beta + y_8^{(5)} [g_{\mu\nu} g_{\alpha\beta} v_\delta + g_{\nu\mu} g_{\delta\beta} v_\alpha] + y_9^{(5)} g_{\mu\nu} g_{\alpha\delta} v_\beta \\
 & + z_1^{(5)} [g_{\mu\alpha} v_\beta v_\delta v_\nu + g_{\delta\nu} v_\beta v_\alpha v_\mu] + z_2^{(5)} [g_{\mu\beta} v_\alpha v_\delta v_\nu + g_{\nu\beta} v_\delta v_\alpha v_\mu] \\
 & + z_3^{(5)} [g_{\mu\delta} v_\alpha v_\beta v_\nu + g_{\nu\alpha} v_\delta v_\beta v_\mu] + z_4^{(5)} g_{\mu\nu} v_\alpha v_\beta v_\delta \\
 & + z_5^{(5)} [g_{\alpha\beta} v_\mu v_\delta v_\nu + g_{\delta\beta} v_\nu v_\alpha v_\mu] + z_6^{(5)} g_{\alpha\delta} v_\mu v_\beta v_\nu \\
 & + w^{(5)} v_\mu v_\alpha v_\beta v_\delta v_\nu .
 \end{aligned} \tag{B.2}$$

Then, (2.5) gives the following equations of motion:

$$\begin{aligned}
 z_1^{(4)} &= m_Q (y_5^{(5)} + y_7^{(5)} + 2y_8^{(5)} + y_9^{(5)}), \\
 z_2^{(4)} &= m_Q (2y_1^{(5)} + y_4^{(5)} + y_6^{(5)} + y_8^{(5)}), \\
 z_3^{(4)} &= m_Q (2y_1^{(5)} + y_2^{(5)} + y_4^{(5)} + y_6^{(5)}) = m_Q (y_2^{(5)} + 2y_3^{(5)} + y_5^{(5)} + y_8^{(5)}), \\
 z_4^{(4)} &= m_Q (2y_2^{(5)} + y_5^{(5)} + y_7^{(5)} + y_9^{(5)}) = m_Q (2y_4^{(5)} + y_5^{(5)} + 2y_6^{(5)}), \\
 w^{(4)} &= m_Q (2z_1^{(5)} + z_2^{(5)} + z_3^{(5)} + z_4^{(5)}) = m_Q (z_2^{(5)} + z_3^{(5)} + 2z_5^{(5)} + z_6^{(5)}).
 \end{aligned} \tag{B.3}$$

From [11], we take the equations of motion

$$x_3^{(3)} = 2m_Q (z_2^{(4)} + z_4^{(4)}) = m_Q (2z_3^{(4)} + z_1^{(4)} + z_4^{(4)}). \tag{B.4}$$

The two contributions to the spin-independent part of $\mathcal{R}^{(5)}$ are

$$\mathcal{R}_1^{(5, \text{SI})} = \sum_{i=1}^9 y_i^{(5)} O_i^{(5)}, \tag{B.5}$$

$$\mathcal{R}_2^{(5, \text{SI})} = \sum_{i=1}^6 z_i^{(5)} P_i^{(5)}, \tag{B.6}$$

with the basis operators

$$\begin{aligned}
 O_1^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \left\{ (iD)^2, (ivD) \right\} Q_v, \\
 O_2^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \left\{ (iD)^2, (iD_\mu)(ivD)(iD^\mu) \right\} Q_v, \\
 O_3^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v (iD)^2 (ivD)(iD)^2 Q_v, \\
 O_4^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \left\{ (iD_\mu)(iD_\nu)(iD^\mu)(iD^\nu), (ivD) \right\} Q_v,
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 O_5^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \{ (iD_\mu)(iD_\nu), (iD^\mu)(ivD)(iD^\nu) \} Q_v, \\
 O_6^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \{ (iD_\mu)(iD)^2(iD^\mu), (ivD) \} Q_v, \\
 O_7^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v (iD_\mu)(iD_\nu)(ivD)(iD^\mu)(iD^\nu) Q_v, \\
 O_8^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \left((iD_\mu)(iD)^2(ivD)(iD^\mu) + (iD_\mu)(ivD)(iD)^2(iD^\mu) \right) Q_v, \\
 O_9^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v (iD_\mu)(iD_\nu)(ivD)(iD^\nu)(iD^\mu) Q_v, \\
 P_1^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \{ (iD)^2, (ivD)^3 \} Q_v, \\
 P_2^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \{ (iD_\mu)(ivD)(iD^\mu), (ivD)^2 \} Q_v, \\
 P_3^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \{ (iD_\mu)(ivD)^2(iD^\mu), (ivD) \} Q_v, \\
 P_4^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v (iD_\mu)(ivD)^3(iD^\mu) Q_v, \\
 P_5^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \{ (ivD)(iD)^2(ivD), (ivD) \} Q_v, \\
 P_6^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v (ivD)(iD_\mu)(ivD)(iD^\mu)(ivD) Q_v.
 \end{aligned} \tag{B.7}$$

Solving (B.3), (B.4) for the coefficients $y_i^{(5)}$ gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{R}_1^{(5, \text{SI})} &= \frac{x_3^{(3)}}{4m_Q^2} \left[O_1^{(5)} + O_3^{(5)} \right] + \frac{z_4^{(4)}}{2m_Q} \left[-\frac{3}{2}O_1^{(5)} + O_2^{(5)} - O_3^{(5)} + O_4^{(5)} \right] \\
 &\quad + \frac{z_1^{(4)}}{2m_Q} \left[\frac{1}{2}O_1^{(5)} - O_2^{(5)} - O_3^{(5)} - O_4^{(5)} + 2O_5^{(5)} \right] \\
 &\quad + y_6^{(5)} \left[-O_4^{(5)} + O_6^{(5)} \right] \\
 &\quad + y_7^{(5)} \left[-\frac{1}{4}O_1^{(5)} + \frac{1}{2}O_3^{(5)} + \frac{1}{2}O_4^{(5)} - O_5^{(5)} + O_7^{(5)} \right] \\
 &\quad + y_8^{(5)} \left[-O_1^{(5)} + O_2^{(5)} + O_4^{(5)} + O_8^{(5)} - 2O_5^{(5)} \right] \\
 &\quad + y_9^{(5)} \left[-\frac{1}{4}O_1^{(5)} + \frac{1}{2}O_3^{(5)} + \frac{1}{2}O_4^{(5)} - O_5^{(5)} + O_9^{(5)} \right],
 \end{aligned} \tag{B.8}$$

From (B.8), we can see that:

- The operators proportional to $x_3^{(3)}$ and $z_{1,4}^{(5)}$ are part of ‘‘RPI completions’’ of lower order operators. As an example, the operators proportional to $x_3^{(3)}$ are part of the RPI completion of the $\bar{Q}_v (ivD)^3 Q_v$ term at third order:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \bar{Q}_v (ivD)^3 Q_v &\xrightarrow{\text{RPI compl.}} \bar{Q}_v \left(ivD + \frac{1}{2m_Q} (iD)^2 \right)^3 Q_v \\
 &\supseteq \frac{1}{4m_Q^2} \left[O_1^{(5)} + O_3^{(5)} \right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{4m_Q^2} \bar{Q}_v \left((iD)^2 (ivD) (iD)^2 + \left((iD)^2 \right)^2 (ivD) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + (ivD) \left((iD)^2 \right)^2 \right) Q_v.
 \end{aligned} \tag{B.9}$$

- The operators proportional to $y_6^{(5)}$ consists of operators with an ivD acting on a quark field and therefore will only contribute at higher order.

We are therefore left with three independent RPI operators, i.e. the operators proportional to $y_{7,8,9}^{(5)}$ (dropping higher order operators):

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{K}_1^{(5, \text{RPI})} &\equiv \frac{1}{2}O_3^{(5)} - O_5^{(5)} + O_7^{(5)} = 2m_B \left(\frac{1}{2}r_2 - 2r_3 + r_7 \right), \\ \mathcal{K}_2^{(5, \text{RPI})} &\equiv O_2^{(5)} - 2O_5^{(5)} + O_8^{(5)} = 2m_B(2r_2 - 4r_3 + 2r_4), \\ \mathcal{K}_3^{(5, \text{RPI})} &\equiv \frac{1}{2}O_3^{(5)} - O_5^{(5)} + O_9^{(5)} = 2m_B \left(-2r_3 + \frac{1}{2}r_5 + r_6 \right),\end{aligned}\quad (\text{B.10})$$

where we have also included the conversion to the r_i parameters for $Q = b$, given in (A.1).

Solving (B.3) for the coefficients $z_i^{(5)}$ gives

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{R}_2^{(5, \text{SI})} &= \frac{w^{(4)}}{2m_Q} [P_1^{(5)} + P_5^{(5)}] + z_2^{(5)} \left[P_2^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}P_1^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}P_5^{(5)} \right] + z_3^{(5)} \left[P_3^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}P_1^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}P_5^{(5)} \right] \\ &\quad + z_4^{(5)} \left[P_4^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}P_1^{(5)} \right] + z_6^{(5)} \left[P_6^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}P_5^{(5)} \right].\end{aligned}\quad (\text{B.11})$$

From (B.11), we can see that:

- The operators proportional to $w^{(4)}$ are part of the RPI completion of the $\bar{Q}_v (ivD)^4 Q_v$ term at fourth order.
- The operators proportional to $z_{2,3,6}^{(5)}$ have an ivD acting on a quark field and therefore only contribute at higher orders.

We thus have one independent RPI operator (dropping higher order operators):

$$\mathcal{K}_4^{(5, \text{RPI})} \equiv P_4^{(5)} = 2m_B r_1. \quad (\text{B.12})$$

All in all, we find 4 spin-independent RPI operators at dimension-8.

B.2 Spin-dependent operators

The tensor decomposition of the spin-dependent (σ) terms of $C_{\mu\alpha\beta\delta\nu}^{(5)}$ (considering only hermitian and parity-even operators) is given by

$$\begin{aligned}C_{\mu\alpha\beta\delta\nu}^{(5, \sigma)}(v) &= \alpha_1^{(5)} [(-i\sigma_{\mu\alpha})g_{\beta\delta}v_\nu + (-i\sigma_{\delta\nu})g_{\alpha\beta}v_\mu] + \alpha_2^{(5)} [(-i\sigma_{\beta\delta})g_{\mu\alpha}v_\nu + (-i\sigma_{\alpha\beta})g_{\delta\nu}v_\mu] \\ &\quad + \alpha_3^{(5)} [(-i\sigma_{\mu\alpha})g_{\beta\nu}v_\delta + (-i\sigma_{\delta\nu})g_{\mu\beta}v_\alpha] + \alpha_4^{(5)} [(-i\sigma_{\beta\nu})g_{\mu\alpha}v_\delta + (-i\sigma_{\mu\beta})g_{\delta\nu}v_\alpha] \\ &\quad + \alpha_5^{(5)} [(-i\sigma_{\mu\alpha})g_{\delta\nu}v_\beta + (-i\sigma_{\delta\nu})g_{\alpha\mu}v_\beta] + \alpha_6^{(5)} [(-i\sigma_{\mu\beta})g_{\alpha\delta}v_\nu + (-i\sigma_{\beta\nu})g_{\alpha\delta}v_\mu] \\ &\quad + \alpha_7^{(5)} [(-i\sigma_{\alpha\delta})g_{\mu\beta}v_\nu + (-i\sigma_{\alpha\delta})g_{\beta\nu}v_\mu] + \alpha_8^{(5)} [(-i\sigma_{\mu\beta})g_{\alpha\nu}v_\delta + (-i\sigma_{\beta\nu})g_{\mu\delta}v_\alpha] \\ &\quad + \alpha_9^{(5)} [(-i\sigma_{\alpha\nu})g_{\mu\beta}v_\delta + (-i\sigma_{\mu\delta})g_{\beta\nu}v_\alpha] + \alpha_{10}^{(5)} [(-i\sigma_{\mu\delta})g_{\alpha\beta}v_\nu + (-i\sigma_{\alpha\nu})g_{\beta\delta}v_\mu] \\ &\quad + \alpha_{11}^{(5)} [(-i\sigma_{\alpha\beta})g_{\mu\delta}v_\nu + (-i\sigma_{\beta\delta})g_{\alpha\nu}v_\mu] + \alpha_{12}^{(5)} [(-i\sigma_{\mu\delta})g_{\alpha\nu}v_\beta + (-i\sigma_{\alpha\nu})g_{\delta\mu}v_\beta] \\ &\quad + \alpha_{13}^{(5)} [(-i\sigma_{\mu\nu})g_{\alpha\beta}v_\delta + (-i\sigma_{\mu\nu})g_{\delta\beta}v_\alpha] + \alpha_{14}^{(5)} [(-i\sigma_{\alpha\beta})g_{\mu\nu}v_\delta + (-i\sigma_{\beta\delta})g_{\nu\mu}v_\alpha] \\ &\quad + \alpha_{15}^{(5)} (-i\sigma_{\mu\nu})g_{\alpha\delta}v_\beta + \alpha_{16}^{(5)} (-i\sigma_{\alpha\delta})g_{\mu\nu}v_\beta \\ &\quad + \beta_1^{(5)} [(-i\sigma_{\mu\alpha})v_\beta v_\delta v_\nu + (-i\sigma_{\delta\nu})v_\beta v_\alpha v_\mu] + \beta_2^{(5)} [(-i\sigma_{\mu\beta})v_\alpha v_\delta v_\nu + (-i\sigma_{\beta\nu})v_\delta v_\alpha v_\mu] \\ &\quad + \beta_3^{(5)} [(-i\sigma_{\mu\delta})v_\alpha v_\beta v_\nu + (-i\sigma_{\alpha\nu})v_\delta v_\beta v_\mu] + \beta_4^{(5)} (-i\sigma_{\mu\nu})v_\alpha v_\beta v_\delta \\ &\quad + \beta_5^{(5)} [(-i\sigma_{\alpha\beta})v_\mu v_\delta v_\nu + (-i\sigma_{\beta\delta})v_\nu v_\alpha v_\mu] + \beta_6^{(5)} (-i\sigma_{\alpha\delta})v_\mu v_\beta v_\nu.\end{aligned}\quad (\text{B.13})$$

Then (2.5) gives the following equations of motion

$$\begin{aligned}
 \alpha_6^{(5)} - \alpha_7^{(5)} - \alpha_9^{(5)} &= 0, \\
 \alpha_4^{(5)} + \alpha_9^{(5)} + \alpha_{13}^{(5)} &= 0, \\
 \alpha_8^{(5)} + \alpha_{12}^{(5)} + \alpha_{15}^{(5)} &= 0, \\
 \alpha_8^{(5)} - \alpha_{12}^{(5)} - \alpha_{16}^{(5)} &= 0, \\
 \alpha_9^{(5)} + \alpha_{12}^{(5)} + 2\alpha_{13}^{(5)} + \alpha_{15}^{(5)} &= \frac{\beta_1^{(4)}}{m_Q}, \\
 2\alpha_2^{(5)} + \alpha_7^{(5)} + \alpha_{11}^{(5)} + \alpha_{14}^{(5)} &= \frac{\beta_2^{(4)}}{m_Q}, \\
 \alpha_3^{(5)} + 2\alpha_5^{(5)} + \alpha_8^{(5)} + \alpha_{14}^{(5)} &= \frac{\beta_3^{(4)}}{m_Q}, \\
 2\alpha_1^{(5)} + \alpha_3^{(5)} + \alpha_6^{(5)} + \alpha_{11}^{(5)} &= \frac{\beta_3^{(4)}}{m_Q}, \\
 \alpha_6^{(5)} + \alpha_7^{(5)} + \alpha_8^{(5)} + 2\alpha_{10}^{(5)} &= \frac{\beta_4^{(4)}}{m_Q}, \\
 \beta_2^{(5)} + \beta_3^{(5)} + \beta_4^{(5)} &= 0, \\
 \beta_2^{(5)} - \beta_3^{(5)} - \beta_6^{(5)} &= 0.
 \end{aligned} \tag{B.14}$$

From [11], we also take the equation of motion

$$\beta_1^{(4)} = -\beta_4^{(4)}. \tag{B.15}$$

The two contributions to the spin-dependent part of $\mathcal{R}^{(5)}$ are

$$\mathcal{R}_1^{(5, \sigma)} = \sum_{i=1}^6 \beta_i^{(5)} U_i^{(5)}, \tag{B.16}$$

$$\mathcal{R}_2^{(5, \sigma)} = \sum_{i=1}^{16} \alpha_i^{(5)} S_i^{(5)}, \tag{B.17}$$

with operators

$$\begin{aligned}
 U_1^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \{(\sigma \cdot G), (ivD)^3\} Q_v, \\
 U_2^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \{(iD^\mu)(ivD)(iD^\nu), (ivD)^2\} (-i\sigma_{\mu\nu}) Q_v, \\
 U_3^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \{(iD^\mu)(ivD)^2(iD^\nu), (ivD)\} (-i\sigma_{\mu\nu}) Q_v, \\
 U_4^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v (iD^\mu)(ivD)^3(iD^\nu)(-i\sigma_{\mu\nu}) Q_v, \\
 U_5^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \{(ivD)(\sigma \cdot G)(ivD), (ivD)\} Q_v, \\
 U_6^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v (ivD)(iD^\mu)(ivD)(iD^\nu)(ivD)(-i\sigma_{\mu\nu}) Q_v,
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_1^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \left((\sigma \cdot G)(iD)^2(ivD) + (ivD)(iD)^2(\sigma \cdot G) \right) Q_v, \\
 S_2^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \left((iD)^2(\sigma \cdot G)(ivD) + (ivD)(\sigma \cdot G)(iD)^2 \right) Q_v, \\
 S_3^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \{ (\sigma \cdot G), (iD_\mu)(ivD)(iD^\mu) \} Q_v, \\
 S_4^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \left\{ (iD)^2, (iD^\alpha)(ivD)(iD^\beta) \right\} (-i\sigma_{\alpha\beta}) Q_v, \\
 S_5^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \left((\sigma \cdot G)(ivD)(iD)^2 + (iD)^2(ivD)(\sigma \cdot G) \right) Q_v, \\
 S_6^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \left((iD^\alpha)(iD_\mu)(iD^\beta)(iD^\mu)(ivD) + (ivD)(iD_\mu)(iD^\alpha)(iD^\mu)(iD^\beta) \right) (-i\sigma_{\alpha\beta}) Q_v, \\
 S_7^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \left((iD_\mu)(iD^\alpha)(iD^\mu)(iD^\beta)(ivD) + (ivD)(iD^\alpha)(iD_\mu)(iD^\beta)(iD^\mu) \right) (-i\sigma_{\alpha\beta}) Q_v, \\
 S_8^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \left((iD^\alpha)(iD_\mu)(iD^\beta)(ivD)(iD^\mu) + (iD_\mu)(ivD)(iD^\alpha)(iD^\mu)(iD^\beta) \right) (-i\sigma_{\alpha\beta}) Q_v, \\
 S_9^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \left((iD_\mu)(iD^\alpha)(iD^\mu)(ivD)(iD^\beta) + (iD^\alpha)(ivD)(iD_\mu)(iD^\beta)(iD^\mu) \right) (-i\sigma_{\alpha\beta}) Q_v, \\
 S_{10}^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \left((iD^\alpha)(iD)^2(iD^\beta)(ivD) + (ivD)(iD^\alpha)(iD)^2(iD^\beta) \right) (-i\sigma_{\alpha\beta}) Q_v, \\
 S_{11}^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \left((iD_\mu)(\sigma \cdot G)(iD^\mu)(ivD) + (ivD)(iD_\mu)(\sigma \cdot G)(iD^\mu) \right) Q_v, \\
 S_{12}^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v \left((iD^\alpha)(iD_\mu)(ivD)(iD^\beta)(iD^\mu) + (iD_\mu)(iD^\alpha)(ivD)(iD^\mu)(iD^\beta) \right) (-i\sigma_{\alpha\beta}) Q_v, \\
 S_{13}^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v (iD^\alpha) \left\{ (iD)^2, (ivD) \right\} (iD^\beta) (-i\sigma_{\alpha\beta}) Q_v, \\
 S_{14}^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v (iD_\mu) \{ (\sigma \cdot G), (ivD) \} (iD^\mu) Q_v, \\
 S_{15}^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v (iD^\alpha)(iD_\mu)(ivD)(iD^\mu)(iD^\beta) (-i\sigma_{\alpha\beta}) Q_v, \\
 S_{16}^{(5)} &= \bar{Q}_v (iD_\mu)(iD^\alpha)(ivD)(iD^\beta)(iD^\mu) (-i\sigma_{\alpha\beta}) Q_v.
 \end{aligned} \tag{B.18}$$

Solving the equations of motions in (B.14), (B.15) for $\alpha_i^{(5)}$ gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{R}_1^{(5, \sigma)} &= \frac{\beta_1^{(4)}}{2m_Q} \left[S_{13}^{(5)} - S_4^{(5)} - S_{10}^{(5)} \right] + \frac{\beta_2^{(4)}}{2m_Q} \left[S_2^{(5)} \right] + \frac{\beta_3^{(4)}}{2m_Q} \left[S_1^{(5)} + S_5^{(5)} \right] \\
 &+ \alpha_3^{(5)} \left[S_3^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}S_1^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}S_5^{(5)} \right] \\
 &+ \alpha_7^{(5)} \left[S_7^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}S_1^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}S_2^{(5)} - S_{10}^{(5)} + S_6^{(5)} \right] \\
 &+ \alpha_8^{(5)} \left[S_8^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}S_5^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}S_{10}^{(5)} + \frac{1}{2}S_{13}^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}S_4^{(5)} - S_{15}^{(5)} + S_{16}^{(5)} \right] \\
 &+ \alpha_9^{(5)} \left[S_9^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}S_1^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}S_{10}^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}S_{13}^{(5)} + S_6^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}S_4^{(5)} \right] \\
 &+ \alpha_{11}^{(5)} \left[S_{11}^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}S_1^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}S_2^{(5)} \right] \\
 &+ \alpha_{12}^{(5)} \left[S_{12}^{(5)} - S_{15}^{(5)} - S_{16}^{(5)} \right] \\
 &+ \alpha_{14}^{(5)} \left[S_{14}^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}S_2^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}S_5^{(5)} \right],
 \end{aligned} \tag{B.19}$$

The operators proportional to $\beta_i^{(4)}$ are parts of RPI completions. Dropping operators which have an ivD acting on a quark field (since they only contribute at higher orders), we arrive

at five independent RPI operators:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{K}_5^{(5, \text{RPI})} &\equiv S_3^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}S_5^{(5)} = 2m_B(2r_{10} - r_{15}), \\
\mathcal{K}_6^{(5, \text{RPI})} &\equiv S_9^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}S_{13}^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}S_4^{(5)} = 2m_B(2r_{12} - r_{14} - r_9), \\
\mathcal{K}_7^{(5, \text{RPI})} &\equiv S_{14}^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}S_5^{(5)} = 2m_B(2r_{13} - r_{15}), \\
\mathcal{K}_8^{(5, \text{RPI})} &\equiv S_8^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}S_5^{(5)} + \frac{1}{2}S_{13}^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}S_4^{(5)} - S_{15}^{(5)} + S_{16}^{(5)} \\
&= 2m_B(2r_{11} - r_{15} + r_{14} - r_9 - r_{17} + r_{16}), \\
\mathcal{K}_9^{(5, \text{RPI})} &\equiv S_{12}^{(5)} - S_{15}^{(5)} - S_{16}^{(5)} = 2m_B(2r_{18} - r_{17} - r_{16}),
\end{aligned} \tag{B.20}$$

Solving the relations in (B.14), (B.15) for $\beta_i^{(5)}$ gives

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{R}_2^{(5, \sigma)} &= \beta_1^{(5)}U_1^{(5)} + \beta_4^{(5)}\left[U_4^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}U_2^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}U_3^{(5)}\right] + \beta_5^{(5)}U_5^{(5)} \\
&\quad + \beta_6^{(5)}\left[U_6^{(5)} + \frac{1}{2}U_2^{(5)} - \frac{1}{2}U_3^{(5)}\right],
\end{aligned} \tag{B.21}$$

From (B.21), we can see that only the operator $U_4^{(5)}$ does not have an ivD term acting directly on a quark field. The other terms thus only contribute at higher orders. Therefore, the only relevant RPI operator left is (dropping higher order operators)

$$\mathcal{K}_{10}^{(5, \text{RPI})} \equiv U_4^{(5)} = 2m_B r_8. \tag{B.22}$$

B.3 RPI operators at dimension-8

We find in total 10 independent RPI operators at dimension-8, of which 4 spin-independent and 6 spin-dependent. We defined the X_i^5 in (3.1), (3.2) in section 3 with commutators of covariant derivatives in order to allow for an interpretation in terms of gluon fields and gluon momenta. A basis transformation gives the RPI operators X_i^5 in terms of $\mathcal{K}_i^{(5, \text{RPI})}$:

$$\begin{aligned}
X_1^5 &= \mathcal{K}_4^{(5, \text{RPI})}, \\
X_2^5 &= 2\mathcal{K}_3^{(5, \text{RPI})} - 2\mathcal{K}_1^{(5, \text{RPI})}, \\
X_3^5 &= \mathcal{K}_3^{(5, \text{RPI})} - \mathcal{K}_1^{(5, \text{RPI})} - \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{K}_2^{(5, \text{RPI})}, \\
X_4^5 &= \mathcal{K}_2^{(5, \text{RPI})} - 2\mathcal{K}_1^{(5, \text{RPI})} - 2\mathcal{K}_3^{(5, \text{RPI})}, \\
X_5^5 &= \mathcal{K}_{10}^{(5, \text{RPI})}, \\
X_6^5 &= -\mathcal{K}_9^{(5, \text{RPI})}, \\
X_7^5 &= -\frac{1}{2}\mathcal{K}_6^{(5, \text{RPI})} - \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{K}_7^{(5, \text{RPI})} + \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{K}_8^{(5, \text{RPI})} - \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{K}_9^{(5, \text{RPI})}, \\
X_8^5 &= \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{K}_6^{(5, \text{RPI})} - \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{K}_7^{(5, \text{RPI})} + \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{K}_8^{(5, \text{RPI})} - \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{K}_9^{(5, \text{RPI})}, \\
X_9^5 &= 2\mathcal{K}_5^{(5, \text{RPI})}, \\
X_{10}^5 &= \mathcal{K}_5^{(5, \text{RPI})} + \mathcal{K}_7^{(5, \text{RPI})}.
\end{aligned} \tag{B.23}$$

C Expressions for the trace formula and q^2 moments

The Mathematica notebook `Trace_Formula.nb` included in the Supplementary material contains expressions for trace formula $\mathcal{M}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_{n-3}}^{(n)}$, defined in (4.4), for dimensions $n = k + 3 = 3, \dots, 8$ which can be used to calculate forward matrix elements through

$$\langle B | \bar{b}_v (iD_{\mu_1}) \dots (iD_{\mu_k}) \Gamma_v^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_k} b_v | B \rangle = \text{Tr} \left[\mathcal{M}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_3}^{(k+3)} \Gamma_v^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_3} \right], \quad (\text{C.1})$$

where $\Gamma_v^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_{d-3}}$ is composed of Dirac matrices γ^μ , metrics $g^{\mu\nu}$, and four-momenta v^μ . The definitions of the matrix elements used in $\mathcal{M}_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_{n-3}}^{(n)}$ are included in the notebook itself, and contain all (non-RPI) operators at each dimension. The expressions can therefore also be implemented to calculate non-RPI quantities, like lepton-energy moments.

We also include in the Supplementary material a file `Q2_moments_with_q2cut.nb` with expressions for

$$\mathcal{Q}_n(\hat{q}_{\text{cut}}^2) = \frac{1}{\Gamma_0} \int_{\hat{q}_{\text{cut}}^2}^{(1-\sqrt{\rho})^2} d\hat{q}^2 (\hat{q}^2)^n \frac{d\Gamma}{d\hat{q}^2}, \quad (\text{C.2})$$

for $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$ up to $1/m_b^5$. These can be used to determine the total rate, the ratio R^* , and the q^2 moments by re-expanding the following relations in $1/m_b$:

$$\Gamma = \Gamma_0 \mathcal{Q}_0(0), \quad R^*(\hat{q}_{\text{cut}}^2) = \frac{\mathcal{Q}_0(\hat{q}_{\text{cut}}^2)}{\mathcal{Q}_0(0)}, \quad \langle (q^2)^n \rangle = m_b^{2n} \frac{\mathcal{Q}_n(\hat{q}_{\text{cut}}^2)}{\mathcal{Q}_0(\hat{q}_{\text{cut}}^2)}. \quad (\text{C.3})$$

The definitions of the HQE parameters are included in the notebook itself.

D Total rate up to $1/m_b^5$

For completeness, we also present the total decay rate in terms of our matrix elements and $\rho = m_c^2/m_b^2$. The intrinsic charm contribution can be easily identified as the terms proportional to $1/\rho$.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\Gamma_0} \Gamma(B \rightarrow X_c \ell \bar{\nu}) &= \mu_3 \left(1 - 8\rho + 8\rho^3 - \rho^4 - 12\rho^2 \log \rho \right) - \frac{2\mu_G^2}{m_b^2} \left(1 - 4\rho + 6\rho^2 - 4\rho^3 + \rho^4 \right) \\ &+ \frac{2\tilde{\rho}_D^3}{3m_b^3} \left(17 - 16\rho - 12\rho^2 + 16\rho^3 - 5\rho^4 + 12 \log \rho \right) - \frac{8\tilde{r}_E^4}{9m_b^4} \left(2 + 9\rho^2 - 20\rho^3 + 9\rho^4 + 6 \log \rho \right) \\ &+ \frac{4r_G^4}{9m_b^4} \left(16 - 21\rho + 9\rho^2 - 7\rho^3 + 3\rho^4 + 12 \log \rho \right) + \frac{2\tilde{s}_E^4}{9m_b^4} \left(25 - 36\rho + 20\rho^3 - 9\rho^4 + 12 \log \rho \right) \\ &+ \frac{2s_B^4}{3m_b^4} \left((\rho - 1)^3 (5\rho + 1) \right) - \frac{s_{qB}^4}{36m_b^4} \left(25 - 48\rho + 36\rho^2 - 16\rho^3 + 3\rho^4 + 12 \log \rho \right) \\ &- \frac{4X_1^5}{15m_b^5} \left((\rho - 1)^2 (72\rho^2 + 29\rho + 7) \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \frac{X_2^5}{90m_b^5} \left(279\rho^4 - 400\rho^3 + 180\rho^2 - 420 \log \rho + 85 - \frac{144}{\rho} \right) \\
 & - \frac{X_3^5}{5m_b^5} \left(-9\rho^4 + 30\rho^3 - 20\rho^2 - 20\rho - 20 \log \rho + 45 - \frac{26}{\rho} \right) \\
 & + \frac{X_4^5}{90m_b^5} \left(-63\rho^4 + 200\rho^3 - 180\rho^2 - 60 \log \rho + 115 - \frac{72}{\rho} \right) \\
 & + \frac{4X_5^5}{m_b^5} \left((\rho - 1)^2 (1 - \rho - 2\rho^2) \right) \\
 & - \frac{4X_6^5}{9m_b^5} \left(-18\rho^4 + 34\rho^3 - 9\rho^2 - 18\rho + 6 \log \rho + 11 \right) \\
 & + \frac{2X_7^5}{9m_b^5} \left(\rho^3 + 6\rho^2 - 36\rho + 24 \log \rho + 26 + \frac{3}{\rho} \right) \\
 & + \frac{4X_8^5}{9m_b^5} \left(-9\rho^4 + 26\rho^3 - 24\rho^2 + 9\rho - 6 \log \rho + 1 - \frac{3}{\rho} \right) \\
 & - \frac{X_9^5}{9m_b^5} \left(27\rho^4 - 61\rho^3 + 30\rho^2 + 12 \log \rho + 7 - \frac{3}{\rho} \right) \\
 & + \frac{X_{10}^5}{9m_b^5} \left(9\rho^4 - 23\rho^3 + 24\rho^2 - 36\rho + 24 \log \rho + 23 + \frac{3}{\rho} \right) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{m_b^6}\right). \tag{D.1}
 \end{aligned}$$

E Centralised q^2 moments

In this appendix, we present numerical values for the centralized q^2 moments. The full expressions including a \hat{q}_{cut}^2 can be obtained from the Mathematica notebook in the Supplementary material (see appendix C for more details). We employ the following values [1]:

$$q_{\text{cut}}^2 = 0 \text{ GeV}^2, \quad m_b^{\text{kin}} = 4.573 \text{ GeV}, \quad \bar{m}_c(2 \text{ GeV}) = 1.092 \text{ GeV}. \tag{E.1}$$

We then find⁸

$$\begin{aligned}
 q_1 &= \frac{m_b^2}{\mu_3} \left(0.22\mu_3 - 0.57\frac{\mu_G^2}{m_b^2} - 1.4\frac{(\mu_G^2)^2}{m_b^4\mu_3} - 5.5\frac{\tilde{\rho}_D^3}{m_b^3} + 16\frac{\tilde{r}_E^4}{m_b^4} - 5.7\frac{r_G^4}{m_b^4} - 1.7\frac{\tilde{s}_E^4}{m_b^4} \right. \\
 & + 0.097\frac{s_B^4}{m_b^4} - 0.064\frac{s_{qB}^4}{m_b^4} - 24\frac{\mu_G^2\tilde{\rho}_D^3}{m_b^5\mu_3} - 19\frac{X_1^5}{m_b^5} + 18\frac{X_2^5}{m_b^5} - 15\frac{X_3^5}{m_b^5} + 2.3\frac{X_4^5}{m_b^5} \\
 & \left. + 6.5\frac{X_5^5}{m_b^5} + 0.91\frac{X_6^5}{m_b^5} - 7.0\frac{X_7^5}{m_b^5} + 8.0\frac{X_8^5}{m_b^5} + 5.2\frac{X_9^5}{m_b^5} - 4.4\frac{X_{10}^5}{m_b^5} + 0.047\frac{X_{\text{IC}}^5}{m_b^3m_c^2} \right), \\
 q_2 &= \frac{m_b^4}{\mu_3} \left(0.022\mu_3 - 0.12\frac{\mu_G^2}{m_b^2} - 0.61\frac{(\mu_G^2)^2}{m_b^4\mu_3} - 1.6\frac{\tilde{\rho}_D^3}{m_b^3} + 7.7\frac{\tilde{r}_E^4}{m_b^4} - 2.1\frac{r_G^4}{m_b^4} - 0.66\frac{\tilde{s}_E^4}{m_b^4} \right. \\
 & + 0.20\frac{s_B^4}{m_b^4} - 0.082\frac{s_{qB}^4}{m_b^4} - 12\frac{\mu_G^2\tilde{\rho}_D^3}{m_b^5\mu_3} - 20\frac{X_1^5}{m_b^5} + 15\frac{X_2^5}{m_b^5} - 22\frac{X_3^5}{m_b^5} + 3.2\frac{X_4^5}{m_b^5} \\
 & \left. + 4.2\frac{X_5^5}{m_b^5} - 0.32\frac{X_6^5}{m_b^5} - 4.9\frac{X_7^5}{m_b^5} + 7.6\frac{X_8^5}{m_b^5} + 1.8\frac{X_9^5}{m_b^5} - 2.3\frac{X_{10}^5}{m_b^5} + 0.030\frac{X_{\text{IC}}^5}{m_b^3m_c^2} \right),
 \end{aligned}$$

⁸This corrects for a typo in the coefficient of s_{qB}^4 in q_3 in [12]. The other rounding differences arise due to the higher precision used here for the quark masses.

$$\begin{aligned}
 q_3 &= \frac{m_b^6}{\mu_3} \left(0.0012\mu_3 - 0.013 \frac{\mu_G^2}{m_b^2} - 0.24 \frac{(\mu_G^2)^2}{m_b^4 \mu_3} - 0.34 \frac{\tilde{\rho}_D^3}{m_b^3} + 2.9 \frac{\tilde{r}_E^4}{m_b^4} - 0.56 \frac{r_G^4}{m_b^4} - 0.19 \frac{\tilde{s}_E^4}{m_b^4} \right. \\
 &\quad + 0.093 \frac{s_B^4}{m_b^4} - 0.035 \frac{s_{qB}^4}{m_b^4} - 5.8 \frac{\mu_G^2 \tilde{\rho}_D^3}{m_b^5 \mu_3} - 12 \frac{X_1^5}{m_b^5} + 9.3 \frac{X_2^5}{m_b^5} - 17 \frac{X_3^5}{m_b^5} + 2.5 \frac{X_4^5}{m_b^5} \\
 &\quad \left. + 2.0 \frac{X_5^5}{m_b^5} - 0.42 \frac{X_6^5}{m_b^5} - 2.8 \frac{X_7^5}{m_b^5} + 5.1 \frac{X_8^5}{m_b^5} + 0.10 \frac{X_9^5}{m_b^5} - 1.0 \frac{X_{10}^5}{m_b^5} + 0.016 \frac{X_{\text{IC}}^5}{m_b^3 m_c^2} \right), \\
 q_4 &= \frac{m_b^8}{\mu_3} \left(0.0010\mu_3 - 0.012 \frac{\mu_G^2}{m_b^2} - 0.10 \frac{(\mu_G^2)^2}{m_b^4 \mu_3} - 0.22 \frac{\tilde{\rho}_D^3}{m_b^3} + 1.6 \frac{\tilde{r}_E^4}{m_b^4} - 0.33 \frac{r_G^4}{m_b^4} - 0.11 \frac{\tilde{s}_E^4}{m_b^4} \right. \\
 &\quad + 0.047 \frac{s_B^4}{m_b^4} - 0.018 \frac{s_{qB}^4}{m_b^4} - 2.6 \frac{\mu_G^2 \tilde{\rho}_D^3}{m_b^5 \mu_3} - 7.8 \frac{X_1^5}{m_b^5} + 7.6 \frac{X_2^5}{m_b^5} - 17 \frac{X_3^5}{m_b^5} + 2.5 \frac{X_4^5}{m_b^5} \\
 &\quad \left. + 1.2 \frac{X_5^5}{m_b^5} - 0.26 \frac{X_6^5}{m_b^5} - 2.5 \frac{X_7^5}{m_b^5} + 4.7 \frac{X_8^5}{m_b^5} - 0.40 \frac{X_9^5}{m_b^5} - 1.0 \frac{X_{10}^5}{m_b^5} + 0.015 \frac{X_{\text{IC}}^5}{m_b^3 m_c^2} \right). \quad (\text{E.2})
 \end{aligned}$$

We stress that even though X_{IC}^5 has a small prefactor, it consists of a linear combination of the X_i^5 HQE parameters, and thus the value of X_{IC}^5 itself may be much larger compared to the individual X_i^5 and therefore the IC contribution to the q^2 moments may become significant despite the small prefactor. This depends on the signs of the X_i^5 , but in the LLSA we find that $X_{\text{IC}}^5 \approx 14.71 \text{ GeV}^5$. Finally, one can write the expression for the q^2 moments using only $X_{1\dots 10}^5$ through the following replacement:

$$\frac{X_{\text{IC}}^5}{m_c^2} \mapsto \left(\frac{4.573}{1.092} \right)^2 \frac{1}{m_b^2} \left(-24X_2^5 + 78X_3^5 - 12X_4^5 + 10X_7^5 - 20X_8^5 + 5X_9^5 + 5X_{10}^5 \right). \quad (\text{E.3})$$

F LLSA expressions

Using the LLSA for the “perp”-basis matrix elements from [18], we can find LLSA expressions for our RPI-basis matrix elements. These expressions are functions of $\epsilon_{1/2}$, $\epsilon_{3/2}$, and the “perp”-matrix elements [18]

$$\begin{aligned}
 2m_B \mu_\pi^\perp &= -\langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\mu) (iD_\nu) b_v \rangle g_\perp^{\mu\nu}, \\
 2m_B \mu_G^\perp &= \langle \bar{b}_v (iD_\alpha) (iD_\beta) (-i\sigma_{\mu\nu}) b_v \rangle g_\perp^{\mu\alpha} g_\perp^{\nu\beta}, \quad (\text{F.1})
 \end{aligned}$$

where $g_{\mu\nu}^\perp \equiv g_{\mu\nu} - v_\mu v_\nu$ and where we have dropped the usual power of 2 in the definitions of $(\mu_{\pi(G)}^2)^\perp$ to simplify the expressions in this appendix. The LLSA expressions up to $1/m_b^5$ we find for the RPI operators and IC operator are given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mu_3 &= 1 + \frac{1}{2m_b^2} \left[\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp \right] + \frac{\epsilon_{1/2}}{2m_b^3} \left[\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp \right] + \frac{1}{8m_b^4} \left[(\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp)(\mu_\pi^\perp - \mu_G^\perp + 3\epsilon_{1/2}^2) \right] \\
 &\quad + \frac{\epsilon_{1/2}}{8m_b^5} \left[(\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp)(\mu_\pi^\perp - \mu_G^\perp + 4\epsilon_{1/2}^2) \right], \\
 \mu_G^2 &= \mu_G^\perp + \frac{\epsilon_{1/2}}{m_b} \left[\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp \right] + \frac{1}{2m_b^2} \left[(\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp)(\mu_\pi^\perp - \mu_G^\perp + \epsilon_{1/2}^2) \right] \\
 &\quad + \frac{\epsilon_{1/2}}{2m_b^3} \left[(\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp)(\mu_\pi^\perp - \mu_G^\perp + 2\epsilon_{1/2}^2) \right],
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tilde{\rho}_D^3 &= -\frac{1}{3} \left[\epsilon_{1/2}(\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp) - \epsilon_{3/2}(\mu_G^\perp + 2\mu_\pi^\perp) \right] \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{12m_b} \left[2\epsilon_{1/2}^2(\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp) - \epsilon_{3/2}^2(\mu_G^\perp + \mu_\pi^\perp) + (\mu_G^\perp)^2 - 6\mu_G^\perp\mu_\pi^\perp + 2(\mu_\pi^\perp)^2 \right] \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{12m_b^2} \left[-\epsilon_{1/2}(\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp)(4\mu_\pi^\perp - \mu_G^\perp + 3\epsilon_{1/2}^2) \right], \\
 \tilde{r}_E^4 &= -\frac{1}{3} \left[\epsilon_{1/2}^2(\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp) - \epsilon_{3/2}^2(\mu_G^\perp + 2\mu_\pi^\perp) \right] \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{18m_b} \left[2\epsilon_{1/2}(4(\mu_G^\perp)^2 - 5\mu_G^\perp\mu_\pi^\perp + (\mu_\pi^\perp)^2) - \epsilon_{3/2}(5(\mu_G^\perp)^2 + 8\mu_G^\perp\mu_\pi^\perp - 4(\mu_\pi^\perp)^2) \right], \\
 r_G^4 &= -\frac{2}{3} \left[(\mu_G^\perp)^2 + \epsilon_{1/2}^2(\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp) - \epsilon_{3/2}^2(\mu_G^\perp + 2\mu_\pi^\perp) \right] \\
 &\quad + \frac{2}{3m_b} \left[(\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp)(\epsilon_{1/2}(\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp) - \epsilon_{3/2}(\mu_G^\perp + 2\mu_\pi^\perp)) \right], \\
 \tilde{s}_E^4 &= -\frac{1}{3} \left[2\epsilon_{1/2}^2(\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp) + \epsilon_{3/2}^2(\mu_G^\perp + 2\mu_\pi^\perp) \right] \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{18m_b} \left[4\epsilon_{1/2}(4(\mu_G^\perp)^2 - 5\mu_G^\perp\mu_\pi^\perp + (\mu_\pi^\perp)^2) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \epsilon_{3/2}(5(\mu_G^\perp)^2 + 8\mu_G^\perp\mu_\pi^\perp - 4(\mu_\pi^\perp)^2) - 18\epsilon_{1/2}^3(\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp) \right], \\
 s_B^4 &= -\frac{1}{3} \left[2\epsilon_{1/2}^2(\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp) + \epsilon_{3/2}^2(\mu_G^\perp + 2\mu_\pi^\perp) + 2(\mu_G^\perp)^2 \right] \\
 &\quad - \frac{1}{9m_b} \left[(\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp)(2\epsilon_{1/2}(2\mu_G^\perp + \mu_\pi^\perp) - 4\epsilon_{3/2}(\mu_G^\perp + 2\mu_\pi^\perp) + 9\epsilon_{1/2}^3) \right], \\
 s_{qB}^4 &= -\frac{2}{3}\mu_G^\perp(\mu_G^\perp + 10\mu_\pi^\perp) \\
 &\quad - \frac{2}{9m_b} \left[(\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp)(9\epsilon_{1/2}^3 - \epsilon_{1/2}(\mu_G^\perp - 10\mu_\pi^\perp) + 4\epsilon_{3/2}(\mu_G^\perp + 2\mu_\pi^\perp)) \right], \\
 X_1^5 &= -\frac{1}{3} \left[\epsilon_{1/2}^3(\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp) - \epsilon_{3/2}^3(\mu_G^\perp + 2\mu_\pi^\perp) \right], \\
 X_2^5 &= 0, \\
 X_3^5 &= \frac{1}{18} \left[2\epsilon_{1/2}(3(\mu_G^\perp)^2 - 5\mu_G^\perp\mu_\pi^\perp + 2(\mu_\pi^\perp)^2) + \epsilon_{3/2}(3(\mu_G^\perp)^2 + 10\mu_G^\perp\mu_\pi^\perp + 8(\mu_\pi^\perp)^2) \right], \\
 X_4^5 &= \frac{1}{9} \left[2\epsilon_{1/2}((\mu_G^\perp)^2 + 5\mu_G^\perp\mu_\pi^\perp - 6(\mu_\pi^\perp)^2) + \epsilon_{3/2}((\mu_G^\perp)^2 - 10\mu_G^\perp\mu_\pi^\perp - 24(\mu_\pi^\perp)^2) \right], \\
 X_5^5 &= -\frac{1}{3} \left[2\epsilon_{1/2}^3(\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp) + \epsilon_{3/2}^3(\mu_G^\perp + 2\mu_\pi^\perp) \right], \\
 X_6^5 &= 0, \\
 X_7^5 &= -\frac{4}{9}\mu_G^\perp \left[\epsilon_{1/2}(\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp) - \epsilon_{3/2}(\mu_G^\perp + 2\mu_\pi^\perp) \right], \\
 X_8^5 &= \frac{1}{18} \left[4\epsilon_{1/2}((\mu_G^\perp)^2 - 3\mu_G^\perp\mu_\pi^\perp + 2(\mu_\pi^\perp)^2) + \epsilon_{3/2}(5(\mu_G^\perp)^2 + 6\mu_G^\perp\mu_\pi^\perp - 8(\mu_\pi^\perp)^2) \right], \\
 X_9^5 &= -\frac{4}{3}\mu_G^\perp \left[\epsilon_{1/2}(\mu_G^\perp - \mu_\pi^\perp) - \epsilon_{3/2}(\mu_G^\perp + 2\mu_\pi^\perp) \right], \\
 X_{10}^5 &= -\frac{1}{9} \left[\epsilon_{1/2}(6(\mu_G^\perp)^2) - 2\mu_G^\perp\mu_\pi^\perp - 4(\mu_\pi^\perp)^2 - \epsilon_{3/2}(3(\mu_G^\perp)^2 + 4\mu_G^\perp\mu_\pi^\perp - 4(\mu_\pi^\perp)^2) \right], \\
 X_{1C}^5 &= \frac{10}{9} \left[4\epsilon_{1/2}((\mu_G^\perp)^2 - 7\mu_G^\perp\mu_\pi^\perp + 6(\mu_\pi^\perp)^2) + \epsilon_{3/2}(17(\mu_G^\perp)^2 + 67\mu_G^\perp\mu_\pi^\perp + 66(\mu_\pi^\perp)^2) \right]. \quad (\text{F.2})
 \end{aligned}$$

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