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Summary

Standard model predictions for several processes involving decays of B mesons deviate from measurements. We briefly review these anomalies, characterize what is required of new short distance physics to account for them and discuss a class of specific models —leptoquarks. The discrepancy in the determination of V_{cb} from exclusive $\{it\}$ vs $\{it\}$ inclusive decays cannot apparently be accounted for by short distance effects; an application of the small-velocity limit gives a simple conceptual explanation of this observation.

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