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Measurement of  $CP$  Asymmetries in  
 $B^0 \rightarrow K_s^0 \Pi^0 \Pi^0$

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# Measurement of $CP$ Asymmetries in $B^0 \rightarrow K_s^0 \pi^0 \pi^0$ Decays

The *BABAR* Collaboration

February 7, 2008

## Abstract

We present a preliminary measurement of the time-dependent  $CP$  asymmetry for the neutral  $B$ -meson decay into the  $CP = +1$  final state  $K_s^0 \pi^0 \pi^0$ , with  $K_s^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$  and  $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ . We use a sample of approximately 227 million  $B$ -meson pairs recorded at the  $\Upsilon(4S)$  resonance by the *BABAR* detector at the PEP-II  $B$ -Factory at SLAC. From a maximum likelihood fit we extract the mixing-induced  $CP$ -violation parameter  $S_{K_s^0 \pi^0 \pi^0} = 0.84 \pm 0.71$  (stat)  $\pm 0.08$  (syst) and the direct  $CP$ -violation parameter  $C_{K_s^0 \pi^0 \pi^0} = 0.27 \pm 0.52$  (stat)  $\pm 0.13$  (syst), where the first uncertainty is statistical and the second systematic.

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

$CP$  violation effects in decays of  $B$  mesons that are dominated by  $b \rightarrow s\bar{q}q$  transitions, where  $q = u, d, s$ , are potentially sensitive to contributions from physics beyond the Standard Model [1]. The  $B$ -factory experiments have explored time-dependent  $CP$ -violating (CPV) asymmetries in several such decays [2], including  $B^0 \rightarrow \phi K^0$  [3, 4],  $B^0 \rightarrow K_s^0 K_s^0 K_s^0$  [5],  $B^0 \rightarrow \eta' K_s^0$  [3, 6],  $B^0 \rightarrow K^+ K^- K_s^0$  [3, 7],  $B^0 \rightarrow f_0(980) K_s^0$  [8] and  $B^0 \rightarrow K_s^0 \pi^0$  [9]. Within the Standard Model the asymmetry in these decays is expected to be consistent with the asymmetry in  $b \rightarrow \bar{c}s$  decays, such as  $B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K_s^0$ , where the CPV asymmetry occurs due to a phase difference between mixing and decay amplitudes. These comparisons must take into account contributions of other amplitudes with different weak-interaction phases within the Standard Model. A major goal of the  $B$ -factory experiments is to reduce the experimental uncertainties of these measurements and to add more decay modes in order to improve the sensitivity to beyond-the-Standard-Model effects.

In this letter we present a preliminary measurement of the CPV asymmetry in the decay  $B^0 \rightarrow K_s^0 \pi^0 \pi^0$ , using data collected with the  $BABAR$  detector at the PEP-II asymmetric-energy  $e^+e^-$  collider. In the Standard Model this decay is dominated by the  $b \rightarrow s\bar{q}q$  amplitude, with  $q = u, d$ . A possible contribution from a tree-level  $b \rightarrow u\bar{u}s$  amplitude is doubly Cabibbo-suppressed with respect to the leading gluonic penguin diagram.

The  $K_s^0 \pi^0 \pi^0$  final state is a  $CP$ -even eigenstate, regardless of any resonant substructure [10]. In the Standard Model we expect  $S_{K_s^0 \pi^0 \pi^0} \simeq -\sin 2\beta$  and  $C_{K_s^0 \pi^0 \pi^0} \simeq 0$ . The angle  $\beta$  is defined as  $\beta = \arg(-V_{cd}V_{cb}^*/V_{td}V_{tb}^*)$  and  $V_{ij}$  are the elements of the CKM matrix [11]. A significant measurement of  $CP$  violation in this channel alone in comparison to other penguin modes constrains certain extensions of the Standard Model [12].

## 2 THE $BABAR$ DETECTOR AND DATASET

The data in this analysis were collected with the  $BABAR$  detector [13] at the PEP-II asymmetric  $e^+e^-$  collider [14]. A sample of  $226.6 \pm 2.5$  million  $B\bar{B}$  pairs was recorded at the  $\Upsilon(4S)$  resonance (center-of-mass energy  $\sqrt{s} = 10.58$  GeV). The  $BABAR$  detector is described in detail elsewhere [13]. Charged particles are detected and their momenta measured by the combination of a silicon vertex tracker (SVT), consisting of five layers of double-sided detectors, and a 40-layer central drift chamber, both operating in the 1.5 T magnetic field of a solenoid. Charged-particle identification (PID) is provided by the average energy loss in the tracking devices and by an internally reflecting ring-imaging Cherenkov detector (DIRC) covering the central region. Photons and electrons are detected by an electromagnetic calorimeter composed of 6580 CsI(Tl) crystals; the typical resolution for the  $\pi^0$  signal in the  $\gamma\gamma$  invariant mass spectrum is better than  $7 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ .

## 3 ANALYSIS METHOD

In the decay  $B^0 \rightarrow K_s^0 \pi^0 \pi^0$ , which has no charged tracks originating from the  $B^0$  decay vertex, we rely on the technique recently developed to reconstruct the  $B^0$  vertex in  $B^0 \rightarrow K_s^0 \pi^0$  decays (described in detail below) [9]. From a candidate  $B\bar{B}$  pair we reconstruct a  $B^0$  decaying into the  $CP$  eigenstate  $K_s^0 \pi^0 \pi^0$  ( $B_{CP}$ ). We also reconstruct the vertex of the other  $B$  meson ( $B_{\text{tag}}$ ) and identify its flavor. The difference  $\Delta t \equiv t_{CP} - t_{\text{tag}}$  of the proper decay times is obtained from the measured distance between the  $B_{CP}$  and  $B_{\text{tag}}$  decay vertices and from the boost ( $\beta\gamma = 0.56$ ) of the

$e^+e^-$  system. The  $\Delta t$  distribution is given by:

$$\mathcal{P}_{\pm}(\Delta t) = \frac{e^{-|\Delta t|/\tau}}{4\tau} [1 \mp \Delta w \pm (1 - 2w)(S \sin(\Delta m_d \Delta t) - C \cos(\Delta m_d \Delta t))]. \quad (1)$$

The upper (lower) sign denotes a decay accompanied by a  $B^0$  ( $\bar{B}^0$ ) tag,  $\tau$  is the mean  $B^0$  lifetime,  $\Delta m_d$  is the mixing frequency, and the mistag parameters  $w$  and  $\Delta w$  are the average and difference, respectively, of the probabilities that a true  $B^0$  is incorrectly tagged as a  $\bar{B}^0$  or vice versa. The tagging algorithm [15] has seven mutually exclusive tagging categories of differing purities (including one for untagged events that we retain only for yield determinations). The analyzing power, defined as efficiency times  $(1 - 2w)^2$  summed over all categories, is  $(30.5 \pm 0.6)\%$ , as determined from a large sample of  $B$ -decays to fully reconstructed flavor eigenstates ( $B_{\text{flav}}$ ).

We search for  $B^0 \rightarrow K_S^0 \pi^0 \pi^0$  decays in  $B\bar{B}$  candidate events selected using charged-particle multiplicity and event topology [16]. We reconstruct  $K_S^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$  candidates from pairs of oppositely charged tracks. The two-track combinations must form a vertex with a  $\chi^2$  probability greater than 0.001 and a  $\pi^+ \pi^-$  invariant mass within 11.2 MeV/ $c^2$  of the nominal  $K_S^0$  mass [17]. We form  $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  candidates from pairs of photon candidates in the EMC, each of which is isolated from any charged tracks, carries a minimum energy of 30 MeV, and has the expected lateral shower shape. Candidates for  $B^0 \rightarrow K_S^0 \pi^0 \pi^0$  are formed from  $K_S^0 \pi^0 \pi^0$  combinations and constrained to originate from the  $e^+e^-$  interaction point using a geometric fit. We require that the  $\chi^2$  consistency of the fit, which has one degree of freedom, be greater than 0.001. We extract the  $K_S^0$  decay length  $L_{K_S^0}$  and the  $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  invariant mass from this fit and require  $110 < m_{\gamma\gamma} < 160$  MeV/ $c^2$  and  $L_{K_S^0}$  greater than 5 times its uncertainty. The cosine of the angle between the direction of the decay photon in the center-of-mass system of the mother  $\pi^0$  and the  $\pi^0$  flight direction must be less than 0.92.

We extract the signal yield,  $S$  and  $C$  from an unbinned extended maximum likelihood fit where we parameterize the distributions of several kinematic and topological variables for signal and background events in terms of probability density functions (PDFs).

For each  $B$  candidate we compute two kinematic variables, the energy difference  $\Delta E = E_B^* - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{s}$  and the beam-energy-substituted mass  $m_{\text{ES}} = \sqrt{(\frac{1}{2}s + \vec{p}_0 \cdot \vec{p}_B)^2 / E_0^2 - p_B^2}$  [13], where  $s$  is the center-of-mass energy squared. The subscripts 0 and  $B$  refer to the initial  $\Upsilon(4S)$  and the  $B_{CP}$  candidate, respectively, and the asterisk denotes the center-of-mass frame. For signal events,  $\Delta E$  is expected to peak at zero and  $m_{\text{ES}}$  at the known  $B$  mass. From a detailed simulation we expect a signal resolution of about 3.6 MeV/ $c^2$  in  $m_{\text{ES}}$  and 45 MeV in  $\Delta E$ . Both distributions exhibit a low-side tail due to the response of the EMC to photons. We remove a small dependence of the signal  $\Delta E$  resolution on the location in the  $K_S^0 \pi^0 \pi^0$  Dalitz plot by using  $\Delta E / \sigma(\Delta E)$  instead of  $\Delta E$ , where  $\sigma(\Delta E)$  is the measured uncertainty in  $\Delta E$ . We select candidates with  $m_{\text{ES}} > 5.20$  GeV/ $c^2$  and  $-5 < \Delta E / \sigma(\Delta E) < 2$ . To suppress other  $B$  decays we also require  $-0.25 < \Delta E < 0.1$  GeV, which does not affect the signal  $\Delta E / \sigma(\Delta E)$  distribution.

The background  $B$  candidates come primarily from random combinations of  $K_S^0$  and neutral pions produced in events of the type  $e^+e^- \rightarrow q\bar{q}$ , where  $q = u, d, s, c$  (continuum). Background from  $B\bar{B}$  events may occur either in charmless decays  $B^0 \rightarrow K_S^0 X$ , or from decays where the  $K_S^0$  is from an intermediate charmed particle. The shapes of event variable distributions are obtained from signal and background Monte Carlo (MC) samples and high statistics data control samples. In  $m_{\text{ES}}$ , the charmless  $B$  background exhibits a broad enhancement near the  $B$ -meson mass while

other  $B$  background distributions show no peaking. In  $\Delta E/\sigma(\Delta E)$ ,  $B$  backgrounds in general show no clustering.

In continuum events, particles appear mostly in two jets. This topology can be characterized with several variables computed in the  $\Upsilon(4S)$  frame. One such quantity is the angle  $\theta_T$  between the thrust axis of the  $B_{CP}$  candidate and the thrust axis formed from the other charged and neutral particles in the event, where the thrust axis is defined as the axis that maximizes the sum of the magnitudes of the longitudinal momenta. This angle is small for continuum events and uniformly distributed for true  $B\bar{B}$  events. With the requirement  $|\cos\theta_T| < 0.9$  we suppress background by a factor of three while retaining 90% of the signal. We also use the angle  $\theta_B$  between the  $B_{CP}$  momentum and the beam axis, and the sum of the momenta  $p_i$  of the other charged and neutral particles in the event weighted by the Legendre polynomials  $L_0(\theta_i)$  and  $L_2(\theta_i)$  where  $\theta_i$  is the angle between the momentum of particle  $i$  and the thrust axis of the  $B_{CP}$  candidate. We combine these three variables in a neural net ( $NN$ ) that is trained and evaluated [18] on different subsets of simulated signal and continuum events and on data taken about 40 MeV below the nominal center-of-mass energy. The  $NN$  has two hidden layers with 4 neurons each. The  $NN$  output is divided into 10 consecutive intervals, chosen such that they are uniformly populated by the signal events; the PDF is modeled as a parametric step function [19] whose parameters are the heights of each bin. Since the parent distribution for the  $NN$  output is unknown any assumed functional form will suffer a systematic uncertainty due to the choice of the function.

We suppress background from other  $B$  decays by excluding several invariant mass intervals:  $m(K_S^0\pi^0) > 4.8$  GeV/ $c^2$  eliminates  $B^0 \rightarrow K_S^0\pi^0$ ,  $1.75 < m(K_S^0\pi^0) < 1.99$  GeV/ $c^2$  reduces  $B^0 \rightarrow \bar{D}^0\pi^0$  to fewer than 10 expected candidates,  $m(\pi^0\pi^0) < 0.6$  GeV/ $c^2$  removes  $\eta K_S^0$  and  $\eta' K_S^0$ , and  $3.2 < m(\pi^0\pi^0) < 3.5$  GeV/ $c^2$  removes  $\chi_{c0} K_S^0$  and  $\chi_{c2} K_S^0$  candidates.

From MC simulation we expect more than one candidate in 13% of the signal candidate events. Because the number of multiple  $K_S^0$  candidates is negligible (less than 0.1%), we select the candidate whose two reconstructed  $\pi^0$  masses are closest to the expected value. The signal reconstruction efficiency is about 15%.

For each  $B^0 \rightarrow K_S^0\pi^0\pi^0$  candidate we examine the remaining tracks in the event to determine the decay vertex position and the flavor of  $B_{\text{tag}}$ . We parameterize the performance of the tagging algorithm in a data sample ( $B_{\text{flav}}$ ) of fully reconstructed  $B^0 \rightarrow D^{(*)-}\pi^+/\rho^+/a_1^+$  decays. For the continuum background, the fraction of events tagged in category  $k$ ,  $\epsilon_k$ , is extracted from a fit to the data. The  $B_{\text{tag}}$  vertex is reconstructed inclusively from the remaining charged particles in the event [16].

To reconstruct the  $B_{CP}$  vertex from the single  $K_S^0$  trajectory we exploit the knowledge of the average interaction point (IP), which is determined every 10 minutes from the spatial distribution of vertices from two-track events. The uncertainty on the IP position, which follows from the size of the interaction region, is about 150  $\mu\text{m}$  horizontally and 4  $\mu\text{m}$  vertically. We compute  $\Delta t$  and its uncertainty from a geometric fit [20] to the  $\Upsilon(4S) \rightarrow B^0\bar{B}^0$  system that takes this IP constraint into account. We further improve the sensitivity to  $\Delta t$  by constraining the sum of the two  $B$  decay times ( $t_{CP} + t_{\text{tag}}$ ) to be equal to  $2\tau_{B^0}$  with an uncertainty of  $\sqrt{2}\tau_{B^0}$ , which effectively constrains the two vertices to be near the  $\Upsilon(4S)$  line of flight. This procedure provides an unbiased estimate of  $\Delta t$ . The extraction of  $\Delta t$  with the IP-constrained fit has been extensively tested on large samples of simulated  $B^0 \rightarrow K_S^0\pi^0\pi^0$  decays with different values of  $S$  and  $C$ , and in data [9].

The per-event estimate of the uncertainty on  $\Delta t$  reflects the strong dependence of the  $\Delta t$  resolution on the  $K_S^0$  flight direction and on the number of SVT layers traversed by the  $K_S^0$  decay daughters. In about 70% of the events both pion tracks are reconstructed from at least 4 SVT hits,

leading to sufficient resolution for the time-dependent measurement. The average  $\Delta t$  resolution in these events is about 1.0 ps. For events that fail this criterion or for which  $\sigma(\Delta t) > 2.5$  ps or  $\Delta t > 20$  ps, the  $\Delta t$  information is not used. However, since  $C$  can also be extracted from flavor tagging information alone, these events still contribute to the measurement of  $C$ .

By exploiting regions in data that are dominated by background, and simulated events for the signal, we have verified that with our selection the observables are sufficiently independent that we can construct the likelihood from the product of one-dimensional PDFs, apart from the signal  $m_{\text{ES}}$  and  $\Delta E/\sigma(\Delta E)$  which are correlated away from their mean signal positions and for which we use a two-dimensional PDF derived from a smoothed, simulated distribution. We obtain the PDF for the  $\Delta t$  of signal events from the convolution of Eq.(1) with a resolution function  $\mathcal{R}(\delta t \equiv \Delta t - \Delta t_{\text{true}}, \sigma_{\Delta t})$ . The resolution function is parameterized as the sum of two Gaussians with a width proportional to the reconstructed  $\sigma_{\Delta t}$ , and a third Gaussian with a fixed width of 8 ps [16]. The first two Gaussian distributions have a non-zero mean, proportional to  $\sigma_{\Delta t}$ , to account for the charm decays on the  $B_{\text{tag}}$  side. We have verified in simulation that the parameters of  $\mathcal{R}(\delta t, \sigma_{\Delta t})$  for  $B^0 \rightarrow K_S^0 \pi^0 \pi^0$  events are similar to those obtained from the  $B_{\text{flav}}$  sample, even though the distributions of  $\sigma_{\Delta t}$  differ considerably. We therefore extract these parameters from a fit to the  $B_{\text{flav}}$  sample. We use the same resolution function for background from other charmless  $B$  decays. The  $\Delta t$  distributions for background from  $B$  decays into open charm final states and continuum consist of a prompt component and a non-prompt component, and the resolution function has the same functional form as used for signal events. The parameters for the  $\Delta t$  PDF of the open-charm background are determined from MC simulation, while for the continuum they are varied in the fit to data.

## 4 MAXIMUM LIKELIHOOD FIT

We subdivide the data into the tagging categories  $k$ , events with and without  $\Delta t$  information (set  $I$  and  $II$ ), and those located in the inside or outside region of the Dalitz plot (*inside* or *outside*). The latter accounts for the higher contribution and different characteristics of continuum background near the Dalitz plot boundary. We define the quantity  $\delta = \min(m_{12}^2, m_{13}^2, m_{23}^2)$ , where  $m_{ij}$  is the invariant mass of the  $B$  decay daughters  $i$  and  $j$  combined. It corresponds to the distance of an event in the Dalitz plot to the nearest Dalitz plot boundary in the limit of massless daughters. We split the data at  $\delta = 3.5 \text{ GeV}^2/c^4$ . We maximize the logarithm of the extended likelihood  $\mathcal{L} = e^{(N_S + N_B)} \cdot \prod_k l_k$  with  $N_S$  and  $N_B (= \sum_B n_B)$  the total signal and background yields, respectively. The likelihood in each tagging category  $k$  (with tagging fraction  $\epsilon_k$ ) is given as:

$$\begin{aligned}
l_k = & \prod_j^{NI \text{ outside } k} \left[ N_S \epsilon_k^S f_g^S f_{out}^S P_{k,j}^S + \sum_B n_B \epsilon_k^B f_g^B f_{out}^B P_{k,out,j}^B \right] \times \\
& \prod_j^{NI \text{ inside } k} \left[ N_S \epsilon_k^S f_g^S (1 - f_{out}^S) P_{k,j}^S + \sum_B n_B \epsilon_k^B f_g^B (1 - f_{out}^B) P_{k,in,j}^B \right] \times \\
& \prod_j^{NII \text{ outside } k} \left[ N_S \epsilon_k^S (1 - f_g^S) f_{out}^S Q_{k,j}^S + \sum_B n_B \epsilon_k^B (1 - f_g^B) f_{out}^B Q_{k,out,j}^B \right] \times \\
& \prod_j^{NII \text{ inside } k} \left[ N_S \epsilon_k^S (1 - f_g^S) (1 - f_{out}^S) Q_{k,j}^S + \sum_B n_B \epsilon_k^B (1 - f_g^B) (1 - f_{out}^B) Q_{k,in,j}^B \right]. \quad (2)
\end{aligned}$$

The probabilities  $P^S$  ( $Q^S$ ) and  $P^B$  ( $Q^B$ ) for each measurement  $j$  are the products of PDFs for signal ( $S$ ) and background ( $B$ ) classes:  $P_{k,j} = PDF(m_{ESj}, \Delta E/\sigma(\Delta E)_j) \cdot PDF(NN_j) \cdot PDF(\Delta t_j, \sigma(\Delta t)_j, \text{tag}_{k,j}, k_j)$ , where for the background  $PDF(m_{ESj}, \Delta E/\sigma(\Delta E)_j) = PDF(m_{ESj}) \cdot PDF(\Delta E/\sigma(\Delta E)_j)$ . The probabilities  $Q$  do not depend on  $\Delta t$  and  $\sigma(\Delta t)$  and are used to extract  $C$  from the yields. The fractions of events with  $\Delta t$  information for signal and background are denoted by  $f_g^S$  and  $f_g^B$ , respectively, and fractions of events in the outside Dalitz plot region by  $f_{out}^S$  and  $f_{out}^B$ . For about 22% of our signal  $B$  candidates one or two of the  $\pi^0$  decay photons associated with  $B_{CP}$  originate from the  $B_{\text{tag}}$ . According to Monte Carlo simulation studies in these cross-feed events we expect to measure the same  $S$  and  $C$  as in the correctly reconstructed signal (*true*) since the contribution of the  $\pi^0$  to the  $\Delta t$  measurement is marginal. To account for differences in the PDF distributions for the signal probabilities  $P^S$  ( $Q^S$ ) we use:  $P = f_{cf}P_{cf} + (1 - f_{cf})P_{true}$ . The fraction of cross-feed events,  $f_{cf}$ , is fixed to the value obtained from the simulation. Parameters of signal PDFs are the same for the different Dalitz plot regions. The PDFs for  $B$  backgrounds are identical for the Dalitz inside and outside regions. The tagging fractions for the signal and the  $B$  decay backgrounds are the same; continuum background has different  $\epsilon_k^B$ . The good fractions  $f_g^S$  and  $f_g^B$  and the outside fractions  $f_{out}^S$  and  $f_{out}^B$  for continuum are varied in the fit, while these fractions for charm and charmless  $B$  backgrounds are determined from Monte Carlo simulations. The fit was tested with both a parameterized simulation of a large number of data-sized experiments and a full detector simulation.

## 5 PHYSICS RESULTS

The central values of  $S$  and  $C$  were hidden until the analysis was complete. From a data sample of 33,058  $B^0 \rightarrow K_S^0 \pi^0 \pi^0$  candidates, we find  $N_S = 117 \pm 27$  signal decays with  $S_{K_S^0 \pi^0 \pi^0} = 0.84 \pm 0.71$  (stat)  $\pm 0.08$  (syst) and  $C_{K_S^0 \pi^0 \pi^0} = 0.27 \pm 0.52$  (stat)  $\pm 0.13$  (syst). The linear correlation coefficient between the two  $CP$  parameters is 2%. The yield of charmless  $B$  background is consistent with zero. Figure 1 shows the distributions of the event variables  $m_{ES}$ ,  $\Delta E/\sigma(\Delta E)$ , and  $NN$ , and Fig. 2 shows the  $\Delta t$  distributions for the  $B^0$ - and the  $\bar{B}^0$ -tagged subsets with the raw asymmetry  $[N_{B^0} - N_{\bar{B}^0}]/[N_{B^0} + N_{\bar{B}^0}]$ . The  $N_{B^0}$  ( $N_{\bar{B}^0}$ ) is the number of  $B^0$  ( $\bar{B}^0$ )-tagged events. In all plots data are displayed together with the result from the fit after applying a requirement on the ratio of signal likelihood to signal-plus-background likelihood (computed without the variable plotted) to reduce the background.

## 6 SYSTEMATIC STUDIES

We consider systematic uncertainties listed in Table 1. These include the uncertainties in the parameterization of PDFs for signal and backgrounds which were evaluated by varying parameters within one standard deviation or using alternative shape functions. The largest uncertainty for  $C$  is caused by the  $NN$  shape for continuum inside the Dalitz plot ( $\sigma(C) = 0.10$ ) and for  $S$  from the 2-D parameterization ( $\sigma(S) = 0.04$ ). We consider uncertainties in the background fractions and  $CP$  asymmetry in the charmless  $B$  background, the parameterization of the  $\Delta t$  resolution function and the vertex finding method, knowledge of the event-by-event beam spot position, imprecision in the SVT alignment, and the possible interference between the suppressed  $\bar{b} \rightarrow \bar{u}\bar{d}$  amplitude with the favored  $b \rightarrow \bar{u}d$  amplitude for tag-side  $B$ -decays [21]. We fix  $\tau_{B^0} = 1.532$  ps and  $\Delta m_d = 0.505$  ps<sup>-1</sup> and vary them by one standard deviation [17]. We correct for the small fit bias which is determined

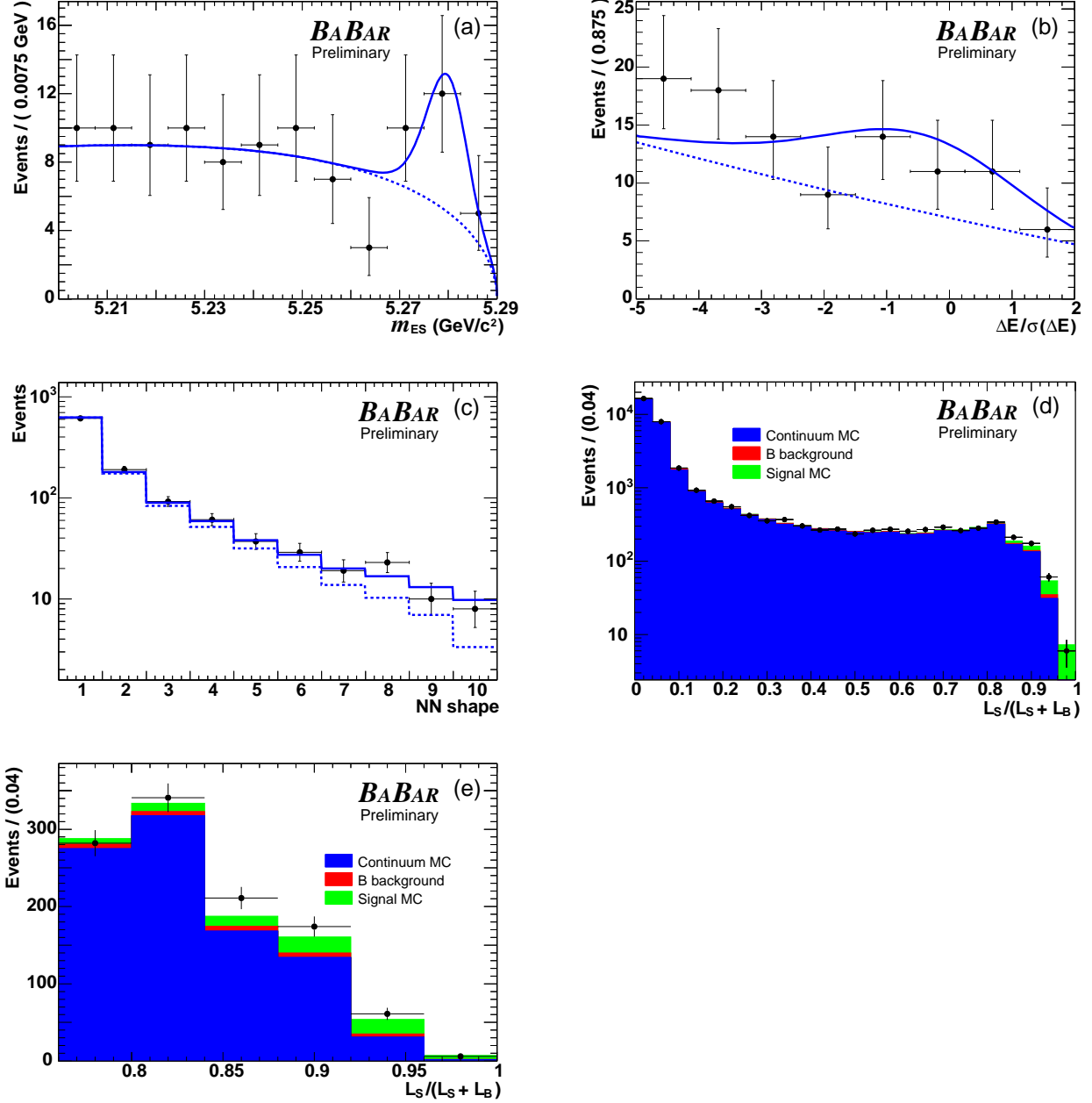


Figure 1: Distribution of the event variables (a)  $m_{ES}$ , (b)  $\Delta E/\sigma(\Delta E)$ , and (c)  $NN$  output in 10 bins after reconstruction and a requirement on the ratio of signal likelihood to the signal-plus-background likelihood, calculated without the plotted variable. The solid line represents the fit result for the total event yield and the dotted line for the total background. Plot (d) shows the ratio of the signal likelihood to signal-plus-background likelihood with all variables included, data (dots) with the fit result superimposed. Plot (e) shows the same quantity as (d) close to one and with a linear scale.

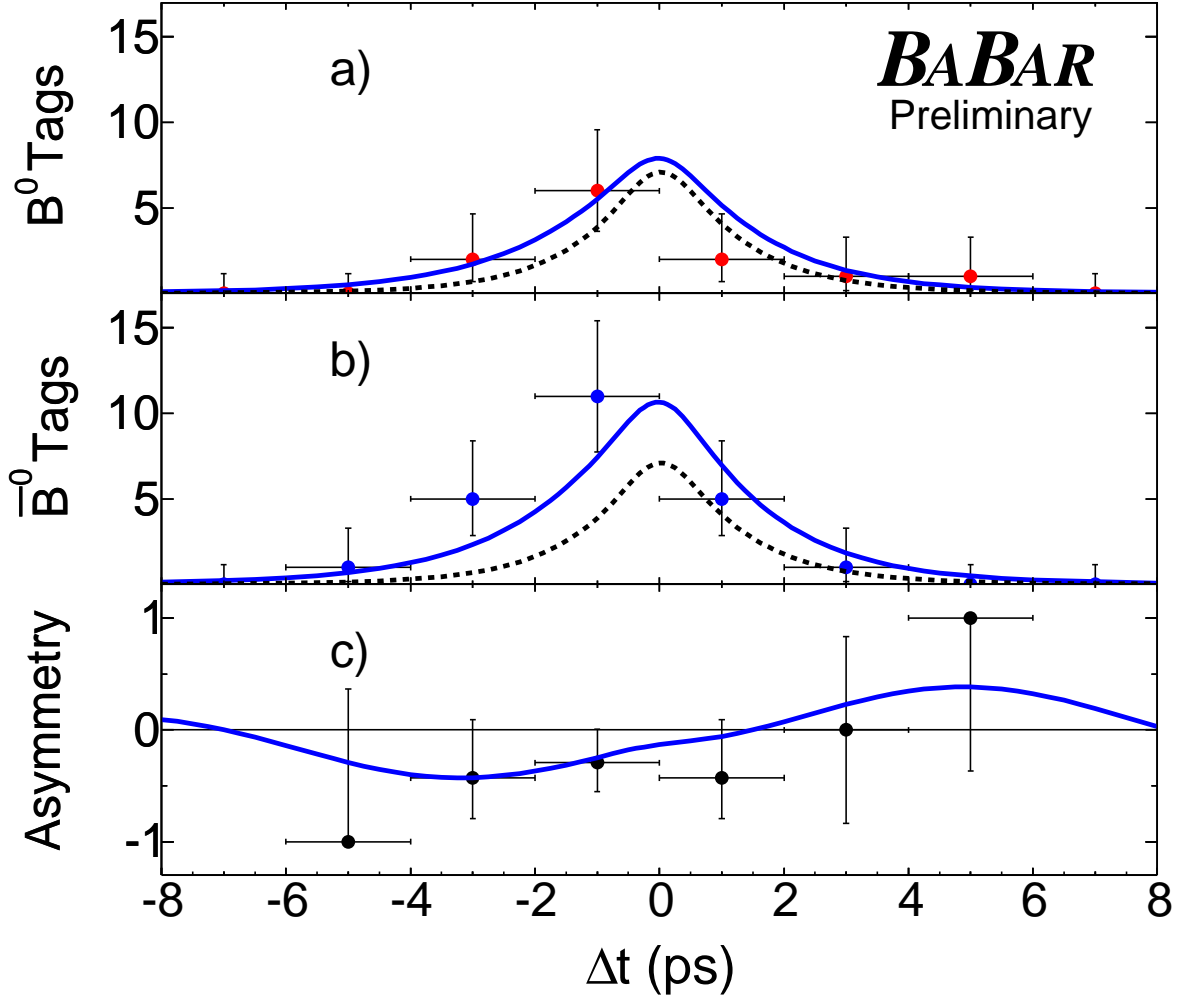


Figure 2: Plots (a) and (b) show the  $\Delta t$  distributions of  $B^0$ - and  $\bar{B}^0$ -tagged  $B^0 \rightarrow K_S^0 \pi^0 \pi^0$  candidates. The solid lines refer to the fit for all events; the dashed lines correspond to the total background. Plot (c) shows the raw asymmetry (see text). A requirement is applied on the event likelihood to suppress background.

from repeated fits to simulated events for signal and backgrounds mixed together with the expected yields, and the uncertainty of the method is accounted for as systematic error.

We perform several consistency checks, including the measurement of the  $B^0$  lifetime; we obtain  $\tau_{B^0} = 1.25 \pm 0.47$  ps. We embed different  $B$  background samples from Monte-Carlo simulation in the data sample and obtain consistent yields and  $CP$  parameters from the fit. We use the PDFs to generate signal and background samples and find that 47% of the simulated experiments had likelihood values greater than the one obtained in the fit to the data.

Table 1: Sources of systematic uncertainty on  $S$  and  $C$ . The total error is obtained by summing the individual errors in quadrature.

Source	$\sigma(S)$	$\sigma(C)$
PDF parameterization for signal and background	0.05	0.11
Background fractions	0.03	0.02
$CP$ in charmless $B$ background	0.03	0.01
Vertex finding/Resolution function	0.02	0.05
Beam spot position	0.00	0.00
SVT alignment	0.02	0.01
Tag side interference	0.00	0.01
$\Delta m_d, \tau_B$	0.02	0.01
Fit Bias	0.04	0.02
Total systematic error	0.08	0.13

## 7 SUMMARY

We have presented a preliminary measurement of the  $CP$  violating asymmetries in  $B^0 \rightarrow K_S^0 \pi^0 \pi^0$  ( $K_S^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$ ) decays reconstructed from a sample of approximately 227 million  $B\bar{B}$  pairs. From an unbinned extended maximum likelihood fit we obtain  $S_{K_S^0 \pi^0 \pi^0} = 0.84 \pm 0.71$  (stat)  $\pm 0.08$  (syst) and  $C_{K_S^0 \pi^0 \pi^0} = 0.27 \pm 0.52$  (stat)  $\pm 0.13$  (syst). The change in the log-likelihood when we fix the values of  $-S_{K_S^0 \pi^0 \pi^0}$  to the average  $\sin 2\beta$  measured in  $b \rightarrow \bar{c}s$  modes,  $\sin 2\beta = 0.725 \pm 0.037$  [22], and  $C_{K_S^0 \pi^0 \pi^0}$  to zero, and re-fit the data sample is 2.5. The signal yield is consistent with our findings in the  $B^0 \rightarrow K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$  decay [23] assuming the dominant charmless final states are  $f_0(980)K_S^0$ ,  $K^*(892)\pi^0$ ,  $K_0^*(1430)\pi^0$ , and non-resonant  $K_S^0 \pi^0 \pi^0$ , and isospin symmetry.

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