

# UC Berkeley

## UC Berkeley Previously Published Works

### Title

Measurement of the Branching Fraction and Polarization for the Decay  $B \rightarrow D^* 0 K^*$

### Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/32z7q2bj>

### Journal

Physical Review Letters, 92(14)

### ISSN

0031-9007

### Authors

Aubert, B  
Barate, R  
Boutigny, D  
et al.

### Publication Date

2004-04-09

### DOI

10.1103/physrevlett.92.141801

### Copyright Information

This work is made available under the terms of a Creative Commons Attribution License, available at <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

Peer reviewed

## Measurement of the Branching Fraction and Polarization for the Decay $B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} K^{*-}$

B. Aubert,<sup>1</sup> R. Barate,<sup>1</sup> D. Boutigny,<sup>1</sup> J.-M. Gaillard,<sup>1</sup> A. Hicheur,<sup>1</sup> Y. Karyotakis,<sup>1</sup> J. P. Lees,<sup>1</sup> P. Robbe,<sup>1</sup> V. Tisserand,<sup>1</sup> A. Zghiche,<sup>1</sup> A. Palano,<sup>2</sup> A. Pompili,<sup>2</sup> J. C. Chen,<sup>3</sup> N. D. Qi,<sup>3</sup> G. Rong,<sup>3</sup> P. Wang,<sup>3</sup> Y. S. Zhu,<sup>3</sup> G. Eigen,<sup>4</sup> I. Ofte,<sup>4</sup> B. Stugu,<sup>4</sup> G. S. Abrams,<sup>5</sup> A. W. Borgland,<sup>5</sup> A. B. Breon,<sup>5</sup> D. N. Brown,<sup>5</sup> J. Button-Shafer,<sup>5</sup> R. N. Cahn,<sup>5</sup> E. Charles,<sup>5</sup> C. T. Day,<sup>5</sup> M. S. Gill,<sup>5</sup> A. V. Gritsan,<sup>5</sup> Y. Groysman,<sup>5</sup> R. G. Jacobsen,<sup>5</sup> R. W. Kadel,<sup>5</sup> J. Kadyk,<sup>5</sup> L. T. Kerth,<sup>5</sup> Yu. G. Kolomensky,<sup>5</sup> J. F. Kral,<sup>5</sup> G. Kukartsev,<sup>5</sup> C. LeClerc,<sup>5</sup> M. E. Levi,<sup>5</sup> G. Lynch,<sup>5</sup> L. M. Mir,<sup>5</sup> P. J. Oddone,<sup>5</sup> T. J. Orimoto,<sup>5</sup> M. Pripstein,<sup>5</sup> N. A. Roe,<sup>5</sup> A. Romosan,<sup>5</sup> M. T. Ronan,<sup>5</sup> V. G. Shelkov,<sup>5</sup> A. V. Telnov,<sup>5</sup> W. A. Wenzel,<sup>5</sup> K. Ford,<sup>6</sup> T. J. Harrison,<sup>6</sup> C. M. Hawkes,<sup>6</sup> D. J. Knowles,<sup>6</sup> S. E. Morgan,<sup>6</sup> R. C. Penny,<sup>6</sup> A. T. Watson,<sup>6</sup> N. K. Watson,<sup>6</sup> K. Goetzen,<sup>7</sup> T. Held,<sup>7</sup> H. Koch,<sup>7</sup> B. Lewandowski,<sup>7</sup> M. Pelizaeus,<sup>7</sup> K. Peters,<sup>7</sup> H. Schmuecker,<sup>7</sup> M. Steinke,<sup>7</sup> N. R. Barlow,<sup>8</sup> J. T. Boyd,<sup>8</sup> N. Chevalier,<sup>8</sup> W. N. Cottingham,<sup>8</sup> M. P. Kelly,<sup>8</sup> T. E. Latham,<sup>8</sup> C. Mackay,<sup>8</sup> F. F. Wilson,<sup>8</sup> K. Abe,<sup>9</sup> T. Cuhadar-Donszelmann,<sup>9</sup> C. Hearty,<sup>9</sup> T. S. Mattison,<sup>9</sup> J. A. McKenna,<sup>9</sup> D. Thiessen,<sup>9</sup> P. Kyberd,<sup>10</sup> A. K. McKemey,<sup>10</sup> V. E. Blinov,<sup>11</sup> A. D. Bukin,<sup>11</sup> V. B. Golubev,<sup>11</sup> V. N. Ivanchenko,<sup>11</sup> E. A. Kravchenko,<sup>11</sup> A. P. Onuchin,<sup>11</sup> S. I. Serednyakov,<sup>11</sup> Yu. I. Skovpen,<sup>11</sup> E. P. Solodov,<sup>11</sup> A. N. Yushkov,<sup>11</sup> D. Best,<sup>12</sup> M. Bruinsma,<sup>12</sup> M. Chao,<sup>12</sup> D. Kirkby,<sup>12</sup> A. J. Lankford,<sup>12</sup> M. Mandelkern,<sup>12</sup> R. K. Mommensen,<sup>12</sup> W. Roethel,<sup>12</sup> D. P. Stoker,<sup>12</sup> C. Buchanan,<sup>13</sup> B. L. Hartfiel,<sup>13</sup> B. C. Shen,<sup>14</sup> D. del Re,<sup>15</sup> H. K. Hadavand,<sup>15</sup> E. J. Hill,<sup>15</sup> D. B. MacFarlane,<sup>15</sup> H. P. Paar,<sup>15</sup> Sh. Rahatlou,<sup>15</sup> V. Sharma,<sup>15</sup> J. W. Berryhill,<sup>16</sup> C. Campagnari,<sup>6</sup> B. Dahmes,<sup>6</sup> N. Kuznetsova,<sup>6</sup> S. L. Levy,<sup>6</sup> O. Long,<sup>6</sup> A. Lu,<sup>6</sup> M. A. Mazur,<sup>6</sup> J. D. Richman,<sup>6</sup> W. Verkerke,<sup>6</sup> T. W. Beck,<sup>17</sup> J. Beringer,<sup>17</sup> A. M. Eisner,<sup>17</sup> C. A. Heusch,<sup>17</sup> W. S. Lockman,<sup>17</sup> T. Schalk,<sup>17</sup> R. E. Schmitz,<sup>17</sup> B. A. Schumm,<sup>17</sup> A. Seiden,<sup>17</sup> M. Turri,<sup>17</sup> W. Walkowiak,<sup>17</sup> D. C. Williams,<sup>17</sup> M. G. Wilson,<sup>17</sup> J. Albert,<sup>18</sup> E. Chen,<sup>18</sup> G. P. Dubois-Felsmann,<sup>18</sup> A. Dvoretzskii,<sup>18</sup> D. G. Hitlin,<sup>18</sup> I. Narsky,<sup>18</sup> F. C. Porter,<sup>18</sup> A. Ryd,<sup>18</sup> A. Samuel,<sup>18</sup> S. Yang,<sup>18</sup> S. Jayatilake,<sup>19</sup> G. Mancinelli,<sup>19</sup> B. T. Meadows,<sup>19</sup> M. D. Sokoloff,<sup>19</sup> T. Abe,<sup>20</sup> F. Blanc,<sup>20</sup> P. Bloom,<sup>20</sup> S. Chen,<sup>20</sup> P. J. Clark,<sup>20</sup> W. T. Ford,<sup>20</sup> U. Nauenberg,<sup>20</sup> A. Olivas,<sup>20</sup> P. Rankin,<sup>20</sup> J. Roy,<sup>20</sup> J. G. Smith,<sup>20</sup> W. C. van Hoek,<sup>20</sup> L. Zhang,<sup>20</sup> J. L. Harton,<sup>21</sup> T. Hu,<sup>21</sup> A. Soffer,<sup>21</sup> W. H. Toki,<sup>21</sup> R. J. Wilson,<sup>21</sup> J. Zhang,<sup>21</sup> D. Altenburg,<sup>22</sup> T. Brandt,<sup>22</sup> J. Brose,<sup>22</sup> T. Colberg,<sup>22</sup> M. Dickopp,<sup>22</sup> R. S. Dubitzky,<sup>22</sup> A. Hauke,<sup>22</sup> H. M. Lacker,<sup>22</sup> E. Maly,<sup>22</sup> R. Müller-Pfefferkorn,<sup>22</sup> R. Nogowski,<sup>22</sup> S. Otto,<sup>22</sup> J. Schubert,<sup>22</sup> K. R. Schubert,<sup>22</sup> R. Schwierz,<sup>22</sup> B. Spaan,<sup>22</sup> L. Wilden,<sup>22</sup> D. Bernard,<sup>23</sup> G. R. Bonneaud,<sup>23</sup> F. Brochard,<sup>23</sup> J. Cohen-Tanugi,<sup>23</sup> P. Grenier,<sup>23</sup> Ch. Thiebaux,<sup>23</sup> G. Vasileiadis,<sup>23</sup> M. Verderi,<sup>23</sup> A. Khan,<sup>24</sup> D. Lavin,<sup>24</sup> F. Muheim,<sup>24</sup> S. Playfer,<sup>24</sup> J. E. Swain,<sup>24</sup> M. Andreotti,<sup>25</sup> V. Azzolini,<sup>25</sup> D. Bettoni,<sup>25</sup> C. Bozzi,<sup>25</sup> R. Calabrese,<sup>25</sup> G. Cibinetto,<sup>25</sup> E. Luppi,<sup>25</sup> M. Negrini,<sup>25</sup> L. Piemontese,<sup>25</sup> A. Sarti,<sup>25</sup> E. Treadwell,<sup>26</sup> F. Anulli,<sup>27,\*</sup> R. Baldini-Ferrolli,<sup>27</sup> M. Biasini,<sup>27,\*</sup> A. Calcaterra,<sup>27</sup> R. de Sangro,<sup>27</sup> D. Falciai,<sup>27</sup> G. Finocchiaro,<sup>27</sup> P. Patteri,<sup>27</sup> I. M. Peruzzi,<sup>27</sup> M. Piccolo,<sup>27</sup> M. Pioppi,<sup>27</sup> A. Zallo,<sup>27</sup> A. Buzzo,<sup>28</sup> R. Capra,<sup>28</sup> R. Contri,<sup>28</sup> G. Crosetti,<sup>28</sup> M. Lo Vetere,<sup>28</sup> M. Macri,<sup>28</sup> M. R. Monge,<sup>28</sup> S. Passaggio,<sup>28</sup> C. Patrignani,<sup>28</sup> E. Robutti,<sup>28</sup> A. Santroni,<sup>28</sup> S. Tosi,<sup>28</sup> S. Bailey,<sup>29</sup> M. Morii,<sup>29</sup> E. Won,<sup>29</sup> W. Bhimji,<sup>30</sup> D. A. Bowerman,<sup>30</sup> P. D. Dauncey,<sup>30</sup> U. Egede,<sup>30</sup> I. Eschrich,<sup>30</sup> J. R. Gaillard,<sup>30</sup> G. W. Morton,<sup>30</sup> J. A. Nash,<sup>30</sup> P. Sanders,<sup>30</sup> G. P. Taylor,<sup>30</sup> G. J. Grenier,<sup>31</sup> S.-J. Lee,<sup>31</sup> U. Mallik,<sup>31</sup> J. Cochran,<sup>32</sup> H. B. Crawley,<sup>32</sup> J. Lamsa,<sup>32</sup> W. T. Meyer,<sup>32</sup> S. Prell,<sup>32</sup> E. I. Rosenberg,<sup>32</sup> J. Yi,<sup>32</sup> M. Davier,<sup>33</sup> G. Grosdidier,<sup>33</sup> A. Höcker,<sup>33</sup> S. Laplace,<sup>33</sup> F. Le Diberder,<sup>33</sup> V. Lepeltier,<sup>33</sup> A. M. Lutz,<sup>33</sup> T. C. Petersen,<sup>33</sup> S. Plaszczynski,<sup>33</sup> M. H. Schune,<sup>33</sup> L. Tantot,<sup>33</sup> G. Wormser,<sup>33</sup> V. Brigljević,<sup>34</sup> C. H. Cheng,<sup>34</sup> D. J. Lange,<sup>34</sup> D. M. Wright,<sup>34</sup> A. J. Bevan,<sup>35</sup> J. P. Coleman,<sup>35</sup> J. R. Fry,<sup>35</sup> E. Gabathuler,<sup>35</sup> R. Gamet,<sup>35</sup> M. Kay,<sup>35</sup> R. J. Parry,<sup>35</sup> D. J. Payne,<sup>35</sup> R. J. Sloane,<sup>35</sup> C. Touramanis,<sup>35</sup> J. J. Back,<sup>36</sup> P. F. Harrison,<sup>36</sup> H. W. Shorthouse,<sup>36</sup> P. Strother,<sup>36</sup> P. B. Vidal,<sup>36</sup> C. L. Brown,<sup>37</sup> G. Cowan,<sup>37</sup> R. L. Flack,<sup>37</sup> H. U. Flaecher,<sup>37</sup> S. George,<sup>37</sup> M. G. Green,<sup>37</sup> A. Kurup,<sup>37</sup> C. E. Marker,<sup>37</sup> T. R. McMahon,<sup>37</sup> S. Ricciardi,<sup>37</sup> F. Salvatore,<sup>37</sup> G. Vaitsas,<sup>37</sup> M. A. Winter,<sup>37</sup> D. Brown,<sup>38</sup> C. L. Davis,<sup>38</sup> J. Allison,<sup>39</sup> R. J. Barlow,<sup>39</sup> A. C. Forti,<sup>39</sup> P. A. Hart,<sup>39</sup> M. C. Hodgkinson,<sup>39</sup> F. Jackson,<sup>39</sup> G. D. Lafferty,<sup>39</sup> A. J. Lyon,<sup>39</sup> J. H. Weatherall,<sup>39</sup> J. C. Williams,<sup>39</sup> A. Farbin,<sup>40</sup> A. Jawahery,<sup>40</sup> D. Kovalskyi,<sup>40</sup> C. K. Lae,<sup>40</sup> V. Lillard,<sup>40</sup> D. A. Roberts,<sup>40</sup> G. Blaylock,<sup>41</sup> C. Dallapiccola,<sup>41</sup> K. T. Flood,<sup>41</sup> S. S. Hertzbach,<sup>41</sup> R. Kofler,<sup>41</sup> V. B. Koptchev,<sup>41</sup> T. B. Moore,<sup>41</sup> S. Saremi,<sup>41</sup> H. Staengle,<sup>41</sup> S. Willocq,<sup>41</sup> R. Cowan,<sup>42</sup> G. Sciolla,<sup>42</sup> F. Taylor,<sup>42</sup> R. K. Yamamoto,<sup>42</sup> D. J. J. Mangeol,<sup>43</sup> P. M. Patel,<sup>43</sup> A. Lazzaro,<sup>44</sup> F. Palombo,<sup>44</sup> J. M. Bauer,<sup>45</sup> L. Cremaldi,<sup>45</sup> V. Eschenburg,<sup>45</sup> R. Godang,<sup>45</sup> R. Kroeger,<sup>45</sup> J. Reidy,<sup>45</sup> D. A. Sanders,<sup>45</sup> D. J. Summers,<sup>45</sup> H. W. Zhao,<sup>45</sup> S. Brunet,<sup>46</sup> D. Cote-Ahern,<sup>46</sup> C. Hast,<sup>46</sup> P. Taras,<sup>46</sup> H. Nicholson,<sup>47</sup> C. Cartaro,<sup>48</sup> N. Cavallo,<sup>48,†</sup> G. De Nardo,<sup>48</sup> F. Fabozzi,<sup>48,†</sup> C. Gatto,<sup>48</sup> L. Lista,<sup>48</sup> P. Paolucci,<sup>48</sup> D. Piccolo,<sup>48</sup> C. Sciacca,<sup>48</sup> M. A. Baak,<sup>49</sup> G. Raven,<sup>49</sup> J. M. LoSecco,<sup>50</sup> T. A. Gabriel,<sup>51</sup> B. Brau,<sup>52</sup> K. K. Gan,<sup>52</sup> K. Honscheid,<sup>52</sup> D. Hufnagel,<sup>52</sup> H. Kagan,<sup>52</sup> R. Kass,<sup>52</sup> T. Pulliam,<sup>52</sup> Q. K. Wong,<sup>52</sup> J. Brau,<sup>53</sup> R. Frey,<sup>53</sup> C. T. Potter,<sup>53</sup> N. B. Sinev,<sup>53</sup> D. Strom,<sup>53</sup> E. Torrence,<sup>53</sup> F. Colecchia,<sup>54</sup>

A. Dorigo,<sup>54</sup> F. Galeazzi,<sup>54</sup> M. Margoni,<sup>54</sup> M. Morandin,<sup>54</sup> M. Posocco,<sup>54</sup> M. Rotondo,<sup>54</sup> F. Simonetto,<sup>54</sup> R. Stroili,<sup>54</sup> G. Tiozzo,<sup>54</sup> C. Voci,<sup>54</sup> M. Benayoun,<sup>55</sup> H. Briand,<sup>55</sup> J. Chauveau,<sup>55</sup> P. David,<sup>55</sup> Ch. de la Vaissière,<sup>55</sup> L. Del Buono,<sup>55</sup> O. Hamon,<sup>55</sup> M. J. J. John,<sup>55</sup> Ph. Leruste,<sup>55</sup> J. Ocariz,<sup>55</sup> M. Pivk,<sup>55</sup> L. Roos,<sup>55</sup> J. Stark,<sup>55</sup> S. T'Jampens,<sup>55</sup> G. Therin,<sup>55</sup> P. F. Manfredi,<sup>56</sup> V. Re,<sup>56</sup> P. K. Behera,<sup>57</sup> L. Gladney,<sup>57</sup> Q. H. Guo,<sup>57</sup> J. Panetta,<sup>57</sup> C. Angelini,<sup>58</sup> G. Batignani,<sup>58</sup> S. Bettarini,<sup>58</sup> M. Bondioli,<sup>58</sup> F. Bucci,<sup>58</sup> G. Calderini,<sup>58</sup> M. Carpinelli,<sup>58</sup> V. Del Gamba,<sup>58</sup> F. Forti,<sup>58</sup> M. A. Giorgi,<sup>58</sup> A. Lusiani,<sup>58</sup> G. Marchiori,<sup>58</sup> F. Martinez-Vidal,<sup>58,‡</sup> M. Morganti,<sup>58</sup> N. Neri,<sup>58</sup> E. Paoloni,<sup>58</sup> M. Rama,<sup>58</sup> G. Rizzo,<sup>58</sup> F. Sandrelli,<sup>58</sup> J. Walsh,<sup>58</sup> M. Haire,<sup>59</sup> D. Judd,<sup>59</sup> K. Paick,<sup>59</sup> D. E. Wagoner,<sup>59</sup> N. Danielson,<sup>60</sup> P. Elmer,<sup>60</sup> C. Lu,<sup>60</sup> V. Miftakov,<sup>60</sup> J. Olsen,<sup>60</sup> A. J. S. Smith,<sup>60</sup> H. A. Tanaka,<sup>60</sup> E. W. Varnes,<sup>60</sup> F. Bellini,<sup>61</sup> G. Cavoto,<sup>60,61</sup> R. Faccini,<sup>15,61</sup> F. Ferrarotto,<sup>61</sup> F. Ferroni,<sup>61</sup> M. Gaspero,<sup>61</sup> M. A. Mazzone,<sup>61</sup> S. Morganti,<sup>61</sup> M. Pierini,<sup>61</sup> G. Piredda,<sup>61</sup> F. Safai Tehrani,<sup>61</sup> C. Voena,<sup>61</sup> S. Christ,<sup>62</sup> G. Wagner,<sup>62</sup> R. Waldi,<sup>62</sup> T. Adye,<sup>63</sup> N. De Groot,<sup>63</sup> B. Franek,<sup>63</sup> N. I. Geddes,<sup>63</sup> G. P. Gopal,<sup>63</sup> E. O. Olaiya,<sup>63</sup> S. M. Xella,<sup>63</sup> R. Aleksan,<sup>64</sup> S. Emery,<sup>64</sup> A. Gaidot,<sup>64</sup> S. F. Ganzhur,<sup>64</sup> P.-F. Giraud,<sup>64</sup> G. Hamel de Monchenault,<sup>64</sup> W. Kozanecki,<sup>64</sup> M. Langer,<sup>64</sup> M. Legendre,<sup>64</sup> G. W. London,<sup>64</sup> B. Mayer,<sup>64</sup> G. Schott,<sup>64</sup> G. Vasseur,<sup>64</sup> Ch. Yeche,<sup>64</sup> M. Zito,<sup>64</sup> M. V. Purohit,<sup>65</sup> A. W. Weidemann,<sup>65</sup> F. X. Yumiceva,<sup>65</sup> D. Aston,<sup>66</sup> R. Bartoldus,<sup>66</sup> N. Berger,<sup>66</sup> A. M. Boyarski,<sup>66</sup> O. L. Buchmueller,<sup>66</sup> M. R. Convery,<sup>66</sup> D. P. Coupal,<sup>66</sup> D. Dong,<sup>66</sup> J. Dorfan,<sup>66</sup> D. Dujmic,<sup>66</sup> W. Dunwoodie,<sup>66</sup> R. C. Field,<sup>66</sup> T. Glanzman,<sup>66</sup> S. J. Gowdy,<sup>66</sup> E. Grauges-Pous,<sup>66</sup> T. Hadig,<sup>66</sup> V. Halyo,<sup>66</sup> T. Hryn'ova,<sup>66</sup> W. R. Innes,<sup>66</sup> C. P. Jessop,<sup>66</sup> M. H. Kelsey,<sup>66</sup> P. Kim,<sup>66</sup> M. L. Kocian,<sup>66</sup> U. Langenegger,<sup>66</sup> D. W. G. S. Leith,<sup>66</sup> S. Luitz,<sup>66</sup> V. Luth,<sup>66</sup> H. L. Lynch,<sup>66</sup> H. Marsiske,<sup>66</sup> R. Messner,<sup>66</sup> D. R. Muller,<sup>66</sup> C. P. O'Grady,<sup>66</sup> V. E. Ozcan,<sup>66</sup> A. Perazzo,<sup>66</sup> M. Perl,<sup>66</sup> S. Petrak,<sup>66</sup> B. N. Ratcliff,<sup>66</sup> S. H. Robertson,<sup>66</sup> A. Roodman,<sup>66</sup> A. A. Salnikov,<sup>66</sup> R. H. Schindler,<sup>66</sup> J. Schwiening,<sup>66</sup> G. Simi,<sup>66</sup> A. Snyder,<sup>66</sup> A. Soha,<sup>66</sup> J. Stelzer,<sup>66</sup> D. Su,<sup>66</sup> M. K. Sullivan,<sup>66</sup> J. Va'vra,<sup>66</sup> S. R. Wagner,<sup>66</sup> M. Weaver,<sup>66</sup> A. J. R. Weinstein,<sup>66</sup> W. J. Wisniewski,<sup>66</sup> D. H. Wright,<sup>66</sup> C. C. Young,<sup>66</sup> P. R. Burchat,<sup>67</sup> A. J. Edwards,<sup>67</sup> T. I. Meyer,<sup>67</sup> B. A. Petersen,<sup>67</sup> C. Roat,<sup>67</sup> S. Ahmed,<sup>68</sup> M. S. Alam,<sup>68</sup> J. A. Ernst,<sup>68</sup> M. Saleem,<sup>68</sup> F. R. Wappler,<sup>68</sup> W. Bugg,<sup>69</sup> M. Krishnamurthy,<sup>69</sup> S. M. Spanier,<sup>69</sup> R. Eckmann,<sup>70</sup> H. Kim,<sup>70</sup> J. L. Ritchie,<sup>70</sup> R. F. Schwitters,<sup>70</sup> J. M. Izen,<sup>71</sup> I. Kitayama,<sup>71</sup> X. C. Lou,<sup>71</sup> S. Ye,<sup>71</sup> F. Bianchi,<sup>72</sup> M. Bona,<sup>72</sup> F. Gallo,<sup>72</sup> D. Gamba,<sup>72</sup> C. Borean,<sup>73</sup> L. Bosisio,<sup>73</sup> G. Della Ricca,<sup>73</sup> S. Dittongo,<sup>73</sup> S. Grancagnolo,<sup>73</sup> L. Lanceri,<sup>73</sup> P. Poropat,<sup>73,§</sup> L. Vitale,<sup>73</sup> G. Vuagnin,<sup>73</sup> R. S. Panvini,<sup>74</sup> Sw. Banerjee,<sup>75</sup> C. M. Brown,<sup>75</sup> D. Fortin,<sup>75</sup> P. D. Jackson,<sup>75</sup> R. Kowalewski,<sup>75</sup> J. M. Roney,<sup>75</sup> H. R. Band,<sup>76</sup> S. Dasu,<sup>76</sup> M. Datta,<sup>76</sup> A. M. Eichenbaum,<sup>76</sup> J. R. Johnson,<sup>76</sup> P. E. Kutter,<sup>76</sup> H. Li,<sup>76</sup> R. Liu,<sup>76</sup> F. Di Lodovico,<sup>76</sup> A. Mihalys,<sup>76</sup> A. K. Mohapatra,<sup>76</sup> Y. Pan,<sup>76</sup> R. Prepost,<sup>76</sup> S. J. Sekula,<sup>76</sup> J. H. von Wimmersperg-Toeller,<sup>76</sup> J. Wu,<sup>76</sup> S. L. Wu,<sup>76</sup> Z. Yu,<sup>76</sup> and H. Neal<sup>77</sup>

(BABAR Collaboration)

<sup>1</sup>Laboratoire de Physique des Particules, F-74941 Annecy-le-Vieux, France

<sup>2</sup>Dipartimento di Fisica and INFN, Università di Bari, I-70126 Bari, Italy

<sup>3</sup>Institute of High Energy Physics, Beijing 100039, China

<sup>4</sup>Institute of Physics, University of Bergen, N-5007 Bergen, Norway

<sup>5</sup>Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and University of California, Berkeley, California 94720, USA

<sup>6</sup>University of Birmingham, Birmingham, B15 2TT, United Kingdom

<sup>7</sup>Institut für Experimentalphysik I, Ruhr Universität Bochum, D-44780 Bochum, Germany

<sup>8</sup>University of Bristol, Bristol BS8 1TL, United Kingdom

<sup>9</sup>University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada V6T 1Z1

<sup>10</sup>Brunel University, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 3PH, United Kingdom

<sup>11</sup>Budker Institute of Nuclear Physics, Novosibirsk 630090, Russia

<sup>12</sup>University of California at Irvine, Irvine, California 92697, USA

<sup>13</sup>University of California at Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California 90024, USA

<sup>14</sup>University of California at Riverside, Riverside, California 92521, USA

<sup>15</sup>University of California at San Diego, La Jolla, California 92093, USA

<sup>16</sup>University of California at Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, California 93106, USA

<sup>17</sup>Institute for Particle Physics, University of California at Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, California 95064, USA

<sup>18</sup>California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California 91125, USA

<sup>19</sup>University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio 45221, USA

<sup>20</sup>University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado 80309, USA

<sup>21</sup>Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado 80523, USA

<sup>22</sup>Technische Universität Dresden, Institut für Kern- und Teilchenphysik, D-01062 Dresden, Germany

<sup>23</sup>Ecole Polytechnique, LLR, F-91128 Palaiseau, France

<sup>24</sup>University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh EH9 3JZ, United Kingdom

- <sup>25</sup>*Dipartimento di Fisica and INFN, Università di Ferrara, I-44100 Ferrara, Italy*  
<sup>26</sup>*Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, Florida 32307, USA*  
<sup>27</sup>*Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati dell'INFN, I-00044 Frascati, Italy*  
<sup>28</sup>*Dipartimento di Fisica and INFN, Università di Genova, I-16146 Genova, Italy*  
<sup>29</sup>*Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138, USA*  
<sup>30</sup>*Imperial College London, London, SW7 2BZ, United Kingdom*  
<sup>31</sup>*University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa 52242, USA*  
<sup>32</sup>*Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa 50011-3160, USA*  
<sup>33</sup>*Laboratoire de l'Accélérateur Linéaire, F-91898 Orsay, France*  
<sup>34</sup>*Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, California 94550, USA*  
<sup>35</sup>*University of Liverpool, Liverpool L69 3BX, United Kingdom*  
<sup>36</sup>*Queen Mary, University of London, E1 4NS, United Kingdom*  
<sup>37</sup>*Royal Holloway and Bedford New College, University of London, Egham, Surrey TW20 0EX, United Kingdom*  
<sup>38</sup>*University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky 40292, USA*  
<sup>39</sup>*University of Manchester, Manchester M13 9PL, United Kingdom*  
<sup>40</sup>*University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742, USA*  
<sup>41</sup>*University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts 01003, USA*  
<sup>42</sup>*Laboratory for Nuclear Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139, USA*  
<sup>43</sup>*McGill University, Montréal, Quebec, Canada H3A 2T8*  
<sup>44</sup>*Dipartimento di Fisica and INFN, Università di Milano, I-20133 Milano, Italy*  
<sup>45</sup>*University of Mississippi, University, Mississippi 38677, USA*  
<sup>46</sup>*Laboratoire René J. A. Lévesque, Université de Montréal, Montréal, Quebec, Canada H3C 3J7*  
<sup>47</sup>*Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, Massachusetts 01075, USA*  
<sup>48</sup>*Dipartimento di Scienze Fisiche and INFN, Università di Napoli Federico II, I-80126, Napoli, Italy*  
<sup>49</sup>*National Institute for Nuclear Physics and High Energy Physics, NIKHEF, NL-1009 DB Amsterdam, The Netherlands*  
<sup>50</sup>*University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana 46556, USA*  
<sup>51</sup>*Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831, USA*  
<sup>52</sup>*The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio 43210, USA*  
<sup>53</sup>*University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon 97403, USA*  
<sup>54</sup>*Dipartimento di Fisica and INFN, Università di Padova, I-35131 Padova, Italy*  
<sup>55</sup>*Lab de Physique Nucléaire H. E., Universités Paris VI et VII, F-75252 Paris, France*  
<sup>56</sup>*Dipartimento di Elettronica and INFN, Università di Pavia, I-27100 Pavia, Italy*  
<sup>57</sup>*University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104, USA*  
<sup>58</sup>*Dipartimento di Fisica, Scuola Normale Superiore and INFN, Università di Pisa, I-56127 Pisa, Italy*  
<sup>59</sup>*Prairie View A&M University, Prairie View, Texas 77446, USA*  
<sup>60</sup>*Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey 08544, USA*  
<sup>61</sup>*Università di Roma La Sapienza, Dipartimento di Fisica and INFN, I-00185 Roma, Italy*  
<sup>62</sup>*Universität Rostock, D-18051 Rostock, Germany*  
<sup>63</sup>*Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Chilton, Didcot, Oxon, OX11 0QX, United Kingdom*  
<sup>64</sup>*CEA/Saclay, DSM/Dapnia, F-91191 Gif-sur-Yvette, France*  
<sup>65</sup>*University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina 29208, USA*  
<sup>66</sup>*Stanford Linear Accelerator Center, Stanford, California 94309, USA*  
<sup>67</sup>*Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305-4060, USA*  
<sup>68</sup>*State University of New York, Albany, New York 12222, USA*  
<sup>69</sup>*University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee 37996, USA*  
<sup>70</sup>*University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas 78712, USA*  
<sup>71</sup>*University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, Texas 75083, USA*  
<sup>72</sup>*Dipartimento di Fisica Sperimentale and INFN, Università di Torino, I-10125 Torino, Italy*  
<sup>73</sup>*Dipartimento di Fisica and INFN, Università di Trieste, I-34127 Trieste, Italy*  
<sup>74</sup>*Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee 37235, USA*  
<sup>75</sup>*University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada V8W 3P6*  
<sup>76</sup>*University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706, USA*  
<sup>77</sup>*Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut 06511, USA*  
(Received 22 August 2003; published 9 April 2004)

We present a study of the decay  $B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} K^{*-}$  based on a sample of  $86 \times 10^6$   $Y(4S) \rightarrow B\bar{B}$  decays collected with the *BABAR* detector at the PEP-II asymmetric-energy *B* Factory at SLAC. We measure the branching fraction  $\mathcal{B}(B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} K^{*-}) = (8.3 \pm 1.1(\text{stat}) \pm 1.0(\text{syst})) \times 10^{-4}$ , and the fraction of longitudinal polarization in this decay to be  $\Gamma_L/\Gamma = 0.86 \pm 0.06(\text{stat}) \pm 0.03(\text{syst})$ .

Following the discovery of  $CP$  violation in  $B$ -meson decays and the measurement of the angle  $\beta$  of the unitarity triangle [1], focus has turned towards the measurements of the angles  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$ . Measurement of all three angles overconstrains the triangle and constitutes a stringent test of the standard model. A precise determination of  $\gamma$  requires larger samples of  $B$  decays than are currently available, and is likely to be based on information from several decay modes. Decays of the type  $B \rightarrow D^{(*)}K^{(*)}$  are expected to play a leading role in this program [2]; among these modes, those with a  $K^*$  have distinct advantages in some of the proposed methods [3]. Decay modes into two vector mesons present unique opportunities due to interference between helicity amplitudes. It has been suggested that angular analysis of  $B^- \rightarrow D^{*0}K^{*-}$  can yield information on  $\gamma$  without external assumptions [4]. More generally, such a study would be sensitive to  $T$ -violating asymmetries that probe physics beyond the standard model [5].

The previously available information on  $B^- \rightarrow D^{*0}K^{*-}$  is based on a sample of 15 events [6]. Here we present an improved measurement of the branching fraction and the first measurement of the polarization in this decay.

Results are based on  $(85.8 \pm 0.8) \times 10^6$   $Y(4S) \rightarrow B\bar{B}$  decays ( $N_{B\bar{B}}$ ), corresponding to an integrated luminosity of  $79 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ , collected between 1999 and 2002 with the  $BABAR$  detector [7] at SLAC. A  $9.4 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  sample of off-resonance data, recorded at  $e^+e^-$  center-of-mass (c.m.) energy 40 MeV below the  $Y(4S)$  mass, is used to study “continuum” events,  $e^+e^- \rightarrow q\bar{q}$  ( $q = u, d, s, \text{ or } c$ ).

We reconstruct  $B^- \rightarrow D^{*0}K^{*-}$  in the following modes:  $D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0\pi^0$  and  $D^0\gamma$ ;  $D^0 \rightarrow K^-\pi^+$ ,  $K^-\pi^+\pi^0$ , and  $K^-\pi^+\pi^+\pi^-$ ;  $K^{*-} \rightarrow K_S\pi^-$ ;  $K_S \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$ ;  $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  (charged conjugate decay modes are implied throughout this Letter). The optimization of the event selection was based on studies of off-resonance data and simulated  $B\bar{B}$  events. A key feature of the analysis is the use of a sample of 4500  $B^- \rightarrow D^{*0}\pi^-$  events to determine efficiencies and resolutions. The event yield in this mode is consistent with expectations based on its known branching fraction and our acceptance calculation.

We select  $K_S$  candidates from pairs of oppositely charged tracks with invariant mass within 9 MeV ( $3\sigma$ ) of the known [8]  $K_S$  mass. Each  $K_S$  candidate is combined with a negatively charged track to form a  $K^{*-} \rightarrow K_S\pi^-$  candidate. We retain  $K^{*-}$  candidates with mass within 75 MeV of the known  $K^{*-}$  mass. The  $K_S$  vertex must be displaced by at least 3 mm from the  $K^{*-}$  vertex. This last requirement rejects combinatorial background and is 96% efficient for real  $K_S$  decays.

Photon candidates are constructed from calorimeter clusters with lateral profiles consistent with photon showers. Neutral-pion candidates are formed from pairs of

photon candidates with invariant mass between 115 and 150 MeV. The  $\pi^0$  mass resolution is 6.5 MeV.

To reduce backgrounds, tracks from  $D^0 \rightarrow K^-\pi^+\pi^0$  and  $D^0 \rightarrow K^-\pi^+\pi^+\pi^-$  must have momenta above 150 MeV. The  $K^\pm$  candidate track must satisfy particle identification criteria that provide a rejection factor of about 30 against pions. The efficiency of these criteria averaged over all kinematically allowed momenta and polar angles is 90%. For each  $D^0 \rightarrow K^-\pi^+\pi^0$  candidate, we compute the square of the decay amplitude ( $|A|^2$ ) from the kinematics of the decay products and the known properties of the Dalitz plot for this decay [9]. We retain candidates if  $|A|^2$  is greater than 5.5% of its maximum possible value. This requirement selects mostly the  $K\rho$  region of the Dalitz plot. It rejects 40% of the backgrounds, with an efficiency of  $(76 \pm 1)\%$ , as measured in the  $D^{*0}\pi$  control sample. The invariant mass of  $D^0$  candidates must be within  $2.5\sigma$  of the  $D^0$  mass.

We select  $D^{*0}$  candidates by combining  $D^0$  candidates with a  $\pi^0$  or photon candidate. The  $\pi^0$  must have momentum between 70 and 450 MeV in the c.m. frame. The photon must have energy above 100 MeV in the laboratory frame. We reject photons consistent with originating from  $\pi^0$  decay when paired with another photon of energy greater than 100 MeV. We require the mass difference  $\Delta m \equiv m(D^{*0}) - m(D^0)$  to be between 138.7 and 145.7 (130.0 and 156.0) MeV for  $D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0\pi^0$  ( $D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0\gamma$ ). The  $\Delta m$  resolution is 1.1 (6.4) MeV for the  $D^0\pi^0$  ( $D^0\gamma$ ) mode.

Finally, we select  $B^-$  candidates by combining  $D^{*0}$  and  $K^{*-}$  candidates. A  $B^-$  candidate is characterized by the energy-substituted mass  $m_{ES} \equiv \sqrt{(\frac{1}{2}s + \vec{p}_0 \cdot \vec{p}_B)^2 / E_0^2 - p_B^2}$  and energy difference  $\Delta E \equiv E_B^* - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{s}$ , where  $E$  and  $p$  are energy and momentum, the asterisk denotes the c.m. frame, the subscripts 0 and  $B$  refer to the  $Y(4S)$  and  $B$  candidate, respectively, and  $s$  is the square of the c.m. energy. For signal events,  $m_{ES} = M_B$  within the resolution of about 3 MeV, where  $M_B$  is the known  $B^-$  mass.

We require  $|\Delta E| \leq 40$  MeV for  $B^-$  candidates with a  $D^0 \rightarrow K^-\pi^+\pi^0$ , and  $|\Delta E| \leq 27.5$  MeV for the other modes. The  $\Delta E$  resolution is approximately 19 MeV in the  $K^-\pi^+\pi^0$  mode and 10 MeV in the other modes.

To reduce continuum backgrounds, we use the ratio of the second to zeroth order Fox-Wolfman [10] moments ( $R_2 < 0.4$ ), and the angle  $\theta_T^*$  between the thrust axes of the  $B^-$  candidate and the remaining tracks and clusters in the event ( $|\cos\theta_T^*| < 0.85$ ). We also make requirements on the polar angle  $\theta_B^*$  of the  $B^-$  candidate ( $|\cos\theta_B^*| < 0.9$ ), and the energy flow in the rest of the event. We construct a Fisher discriminant  $\mathcal{F}$  based on the energy flow in nine concentric cones around the direction of the  $B^-$  candidate [11]. We select candidates consistent with an isotropic event energy flow by requiring  $\mathcal{F} < 0.40$  (0.28) for  $B^-$  candidates with a  $D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0\pi^0$  ( $D^0\gamma$ ). The energy

TABLE I. Summary of the elements of the branching fraction calculation.  $N_{m_{ES}}$  is the yield from the  $m_{ES}$  fit;  $N_{pk}$  is the number of peaking background events;  $\epsilon_{MC}^i$  is the event selection efficiency for the  $i$ th mode;  $\mathcal{B}^i \equiv \mathcal{B}_{K^{*-}} \cdot \mathcal{B}_{K_S} \cdot \mathcal{B}_{D^{*0}}^i \cdot \mathcal{B}_{D^0}^i$  is the product of branching fractions for the  $K^*$ ,  $K_S$ ,  $D^*$ , and  $D$  decays in the  $i$ th mode.

$D^{*0}$ mode	$D^0$ mode	$N_{m_{ES}}$	$N_{pk}$	$\sum(\epsilon_{MC}^i \times \mathcal{B}^i)(\times 10^{-3})$	$\mathcal{B}(B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} K^{*-})(\times 10^{-4})$	
All	All	$121 \pm 15$	$6.8 \pm 3.4$	$1.6 \pm 0.2$	$8.3 \pm 1.1 \pm 1.0$	
$D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0 \pi^0$	All	$96 \pm 12$	$4.8 \pm 2.4$	$1.0 \pm 0.1$	$10.2 \pm 1.3 \pm 1.3$	
$D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0 \gamma$	All	$24 \pm 8$	$2.0 \pm 1.0$	$0.6 \pm 0.1$	$4.4 \pm 1.7 \pm 0.8$	
				$\epsilon_{MC}^i$	$\mathcal{B}^i$	
$D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0 \pi^0$	$D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+$	$26 \pm 5$	$1.7 \pm 0.9$	$(6.5 \pm 0.6)\%$	$(0.54 \pm 0.03)\%$	$8.0 \pm 1.8 \pm 0.9$
$D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0 \pi^0$	$D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^0$	$39 \pm 8$	$1.7 \pm 0.9$	$(2.1 \pm 0.3)\%$	$(1.85 \pm 0.15)\%$	$10.9 \pm 2.4 \pm 1.7$
$D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0 \pi^0$	$D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$	$31 \pm 7$	$1.4 \pm 0.7$	$(2.9 \pm 0.4)\%$	$(1.06 \pm 0.07)\%$	$11.6 \pm 2.6 \pm 1.6$
$D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0 \gamma$	$D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+$	$11 \pm 4$	$0.1 \pm 0.1$	$(5.7 \pm 0.5)\%$	$(0.33 \pm 0.03)\%$	$6.8 \pm 2.7 \pm 1.0$
$D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0 \gamma$	$D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^0$	$11 \pm 5$	$1.7 \pm 0.9$	$(1.9 \pm 0.2)\%$	$(1.14 \pm 0.12)\%$	$5.3 \pm 2.9 \pm 1.0$
$D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0 \gamma$	$D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$	$0 \pm 5$	$0.2 \pm 0.1$	$(2.5 \pm 0.3)\%$	$(0.65 \pm 0.07)\%$	$-0.2 \pm 3.3 \pm 0.4$

flow,  $\theta_T^*$ , and  $\theta_B^*$  are computed in the c.m. frame. These requirements remove about 80% of the continuum backgrounds and are 79% (74%) efficient for signal in the  $D^0 \pi^0$  ( $D^0 \gamma$ ) mode.

In the 16% of the events with multiple  $B^-$  candidates, we pick the best candidate based on a  $\chi^2$  algorithm that uses the measured values, known values, and resolutions of the  $D^0$  mass and  $\Delta m$ .

We extract the yield of  $B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} K^{*-}$  events from a binned maximum likelihood fit to the  $m_{ES}$  distribution of  $B^-$  candidates. The signal distribution is parametrized as a Gaussian and the combinatorial background as a threshold function,  $f(m_{ES}) \propto m_{ES} \sqrt{1-x^2} \exp[-\zeta(1-x^2)]$ , where  $\zeta$  is a fit parameter,  $x = 2m_{ES}/\sqrt{s}$ . The parameters of the Gaussian are determined from the  $B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} \pi^-$  sample. The total signal yield is  $121 \pm 15$  events. Fits to the  $\Delta E$  distribution for events with  $m_{ES} > 5.27$  GeV give consistent results ( $140 \pm 21$ ). The third column of Table I lists the yields for the individual  $D^{*0}/D^0$  modes. Figure 1 shows the  $m_{ES}$  distribution of  $B^-$  candidates overlaid with the fit model.

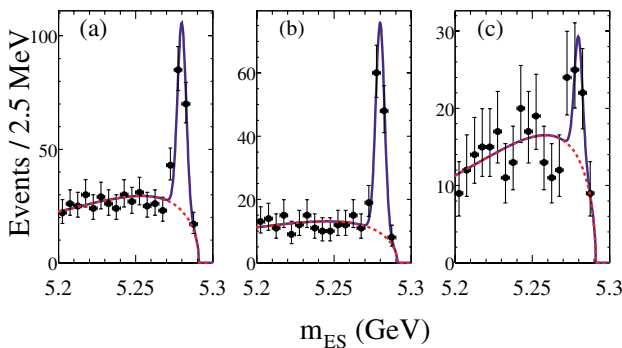


FIG. 1 (color online). Distributions of  $m_{ES}$  for  $B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} K^{*-}$ : (a) all modes; (b)  $D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0 \pi^0$  modes; (c)  $D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0 \gamma$  modes. The dashed lines represent the combinatorial background.

The yield from the  $m_{ES}$  fit includes contributions from “peaking” backgrounds (those with  $m_{ES}$  near  $M_B$ ). The main modes contributing to these backgrounds are  $B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} K_S \pi^-$ ,  $\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow D^{*+} K^{*-}$ , and  $B^- \rightarrow D^0 K^{*-}$ . From a Monte Carlo simulation we estimate that they contribute  $6.8 \pm 3.4$  events to the signal yield, where the uncertainty reflects the limited knowledge of the branching fractions for these modes. The predicted amount of  $B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} K_S \pi^-$  background ( $2.7 \pm 2.7$  events) is consistent with the observed  $m(K_S \pi^-)$  distribution.

The branching fraction  $\mathcal{B}(B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} K^{*-})$  is calculated from

$$\mathcal{B} = \frac{N_{m_{ES}} - N_{pk}}{N_{B\bar{B}} \cdot \mathcal{B}_{K^{*-}} \cdot \mathcal{B}_{K_S} \cdot \sum_i (\epsilon_{MC}^i \cdot \mathcal{B}_{D^{*0}}^i \cdot \mathcal{B}_{D^0}^i)},$$

where  $N_{m_{ES}}$  is the event yield from the  $m_{ES}$  fit,  $N_{pk}$  is the peaking background,  $\mathcal{B}_{K^{*-}}$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{K_S}$  are the branching fractions for  $K^{*-} \rightarrow K_S \pi^-$  and  $K_S \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$ , the index  $i$  runs over the six  $D^{*0}/D^0$  modes,  $\epsilon_{MC}^i$  is the event selection efficiency, and  $\mathcal{B}_{D^{*0}}^i$  ( $\mathcal{B}_{D^0}^i$ ) is the  $D^{*0}$  ( $D^0$ ) branching fraction for the  $i$ th mode. This calculation assumes  $\mathcal{B}(Y(4S) \rightarrow B^+ B^-) = \mathcal{B}(Y(4S) \rightarrow B^0 \bar{B}^0)$ . The Monte Carlo efficiency determination uses the value of the polarization reported in this Letter.

The inputs to this calculation are shown in Table I. Combining the six  $D^{*0}/D^0$  modes, we find

$$\mathcal{B}(B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} K^{*-}) = (8.3 \pm 1.1(\text{stat}) \pm 1.0(\text{syst})) \times 10^{-4}.$$

We list the uncertainties on  $\mathcal{B}$  in Table II. The largest systematic errors, the uncertainty in the reconstruction efficiencies for photons (2.5% per photon) and charged tracks (0.8% per track), are determined from independent control samples. The efficiencies of most requirements are measured with the large  $B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} \pi^-$  sample.

Table I also shows the branching fractions for the  $D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0 \gamma$  and  $D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0 \pi^0$  modes separately. Though the latter is somewhat larger than the former, we find agreement for the same quantities in the

$B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} \pi^-$  sample, where the  $D^{*0}$  is reconstructed with identical techniques. Thus, we ascribe the difference between the two modes to statistical fluctuations.

The angular distributions for the decays are expressed in terms of three amplitudes  $H_0$  (longitudinal),  $H_+$ , and  $H_-$  (transverse), and three angles,  $\theta_D$ ,  $\theta_K$ , and  $\chi$  [12]. The angle  $\theta_D$  ( $\theta_K$ ) is the angle of the  $D^0$  ( $K_S$ ) with respect to the  $B^-$  direction in the  $D^{*0}$  ( $K^{*-}$ ) rest frame;  $\chi$  is the angle between the decay planes of the  $D^{*0}$  and the  $K^{*-}$  in the  $B^-$  rest frame. Since the acceptance is nearly independent of  $\chi$ , we integrate over  $\chi$ , obtaining

$$\frac{d^2\Gamma}{d\cos\theta_D d\cos\theta_K} \propto 4|H_0|^2 \cos^2\theta_D \cos^2\theta_K + (|H_+|^2 + |H_-|^2) \sin^2\theta_D \sin^2\theta_K,$$

$$\frac{d^2\Gamma}{d\cos\theta_D d\cos\theta_K} \propto 4|H_0|^2 \sin^2\theta_D \cos^2\theta_K + (|H_+|^2 + |H_-|^2) (1 + \cos^2\theta_D) \sin^2\theta_K$$

for  $D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0 \pi^0$  and  $D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0 \gamma$ , respectively.

The longitudinal polarization fraction  $\Gamma_L/\Gamma$ , given by

$$\frac{\Gamma_L}{\Gamma} = \frac{|H_0|^2}{|H_0|^2 + |H_+|^2 + |H_-|^2},$$

is extracted from an unbinned maximum likelihood fit to the data distribution  $D(\theta_D, \theta_K)$  for events with  $m_{ES} > 5.27$  GeV. This distribution is fit to the sum of those for longitudinally ( $L$ ) and transversely ( $T$ ) polarized signal events, and combinatorial background events ( $C$ ):

$$D(\theta_D, \theta_K) = a \cdot L(\theta_D, \theta_K) + b \cdot T(\theta_D, \theta_K) + c \cdot C(\theta_D, \theta_K).$$

Here  $c$  is the fraction of background, combinatorial and peaking, determined from the  $m_{ES}$  yield fit and simulation, respectively, and  $b = 1 - a - c$ . Thus,  $a$  is the only free parameter in the fit.

The distributions of  $L$  and  $T$  are obtained from simulations, including detector acceptance effects. The distribution of  $C$  is estimated from data candidates in a sideband of  $m_{ES}$  ( $5.20 < m_{ES} < 5.27$  GeV) and has been verified to describe the angular distributions of both combinatorial and peaking backgrounds. We exclude from the fit  $(\theta_D, \theta_K)$  regions where the efficiency

changes rapidly:  $\cos\theta_K < -0.9$  and, in the  $D^0 \gamma$  mode,  $\cos\theta_D > 0.85$ .

We find longitudinal polarization fractions  $\Gamma_L/\Gamma = 0.87 \pm 0.07(\text{stat}) \pm 0.03(\text{syst})$  and  $0.80 \pm 0.14(\text{stat}) \pm 0.04(\text{syst})$  from fits to the  $D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0 \pi^0$  and  $D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0 \gamma$  samples, respectively. Figure 2 shows projections of the  $(\theta_D, \theta_K)$  distributions for the event sample. Combining these two results, we find  $\Gamma_L/\Gamma = 0.86 \pm 0.06(\text{stat}) \pm 0.03(\text{syst})$ . The systematic uncertainty reflects the accuracy of the simulation ( $\pm 0.017$ ), the uncertainty on  $c$  ( $\pm 0.017$ ), the finite statistics of the simulation and sideband data ( $\pm 0.010$ ), the uncertainties related to the fit assumptions ( $\pm 0.010$ ), and the assumption that the acceptance is independent of  $\chi$  ( $\pm 0.004$ ). As a consistency check, we fit the  $\theta_D$  distribution in the  $B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} \pi^-$  sample. We find  $\Gamma_L/\Gamma = 1.00 \pm 0.01$ , in agreement

TABLE II. Uncertainties for  $\mathcal{B}(B^- \rightarrow D^{*0} K^{*-})$ .

Source	Uncertainty
Statistical	13.1%
$\pi^0$ and $\gamma$ efficiency	6.0%
Tracking efficiency	4.5%
$m_{ES}$ fitting assumptions	3.8%
Event selection criteria	3.8%
$D^{*0}$ and $D^0$ branching fractions	3.2%
Peaking background estimates	3.0%
Kaon identification efficiency	2.0%
$K_S$ efficiency	1.9%
Polarization uncertainty	1.8%
Monte Carlo statistics	1.7%
$N_{BB}$	1.1%
Total systematics	11.7%

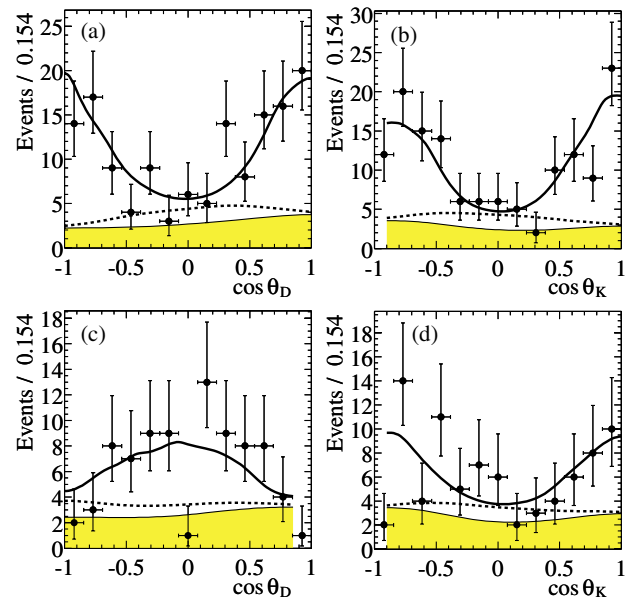


FIG. 2 (color online). Distributions of (a)  $\cos\theta_D$  and (b)  $\cos\theta_K$  for  $D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0 \pi^0$ . Distributions of (c)  $\cos\theta_D$  and (d)  $\cos\theta_K$  for  $D^{*0} \rightarrow D^0 \gamma$ . The solid line represents the full fit model, the dashed line represents the transverse component, and the shaded region represents the combinatorial background component.

with the expectation  $\Gamma_L/\Gamma = 1$  from angular momentum conservation.

In summary, we have measured  $\mathcal{B}(B^- \rightarrow D^{*0}K^{*-}) = (8.3 \pm 1.1(\text{stat}) \pm 1.0(\text{syst})) \times 10^{-4}$ . Our measurement is 2.5 times more precise than the previous result. It is in agreement with predictions based on the measured  $B^- \rightarrow D^{*0}\rho^-$  branching fraction [13], and the value of the Cabibbo angle. We have also measured the longitudinal polarization fraction in this decay to be  $\Gamma_L/\Gamma = 0.86 \pm 0.06(\text{stat}) \pm 0.03(\text{syst})$ . This last result is consistent with expectations [14] based on factorization, heavy quark effective theory, and the measurement of semileptonic  $B$ -decay form factors, assuming that the external spectator amplitude ( $b \rightarrow cW^{*-}$ ;  $W^{*-} \rightarrow K^{*-}$ ) dominates in  $B^- \rightarrow D^{*0}K^{*-}$ . This study represents a first step towards a measurement of  $\gamma$  from an analysis of  $B^- \rightarrow D_{(\text{CP})}^{*0}K^{*-}$  as described in [4].

We are grateful for the excellent luminosity and machine conditions provided by our PEP-II colleagues, and for the substantial dedicated effort from the computing organizations that support *BABAR*. The collaborating institutions wish to thank SLAC for its support and kind hospitality. This work is supported by DOE and NSF (USA), NSERC (Canada), IHEP (China), CEA and CNRS-IN2P3 (France), BMBF and DFG (Germany), INFN (Italy), FOM(The Netherlands), NFR (Norway), MIST (Russia), and PPARC(United Kingdom). Individuals have received support from the A. P. Sloan Foundation, Research Corporation, and Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

---

\*Also with Università di Perugia, Perugia, Italy.

<sup>†</sup>Also with Università della Basilicata, Potenza, Italy

<sup>‡</sup>Also with IFIC, Instituto de Física Corpuscular, CSIC-Universidad de Valencia, Valencia, Spain.

<sup>§</sup>Deceased.

- [1] *BABAR* Collaboration, B. Aubert *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **89**, 201802 (2002); Belle Collaboration, K. Abe *et al.*, Phys. Rev. D **66**, 071102 (2002).
- [2] M. Gronau and D. Wyler, Phys. Lett. B **265**, 172 (1991); I. Dunietz, Phys. Lett. B **270**, 75 (1991); D. Atwood, G. Eilam, M. Gronau, and A. Soni, Phys. Lett. B **341**, 372 (1995); D. Atwood, I. Dunietz, and A. Soni, Phys. Rev. Lett. **78**, 3257 (1997).
- [3] J. H. Jang and P. Ko, Phys. Rev. D **58**, 111302 (1998); M. Gronau and J. L. Rosner, Phys. Lett. B **439**, 171 (1998).
- [4] N. Sinha and R. Sinha, Phys. Rev. Lett. **80**, 3706 (1998).
- [5] D. London, N. Sinha, and R. Sinha, hep-ph/0304230.
- [6] CLEO Collaboration, R. Mahapatra *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **88**, 101803 (2002).
- [7] *BABAR* Collaboration, B. Aubert *et al.*, Nucl. Instrum. Methods Phys. Res., Sect. A **479**, 1 (2002).
- [8] We take particle masses from Particle Data Group, K. Hagiwara *et al.*, Phys. Rev. D **66**, 010001 (2002).
- [9] CLEO Collaboration, S. Kopp *et al.*, Phys. Rev. D **63**, 092001 (2001).
- [10] G. C. Fox and S. Wolfram, Phys. Rev. Lett. **41**, 1581 (1978).
- [11] CLEO Collaboration, D. M. Asner *et al.*, Phys. Rev. D **53**, 1039 (1996).
- [12] See, for example, G. Kramer and W. F. Palmer, Phys. Rev. D **45**, 193 (1992).
- [13] CLEO Collaboration, S. E. Csorna *et al.*, Phys. Rev. D **67**, 112002 (2003).
- [14] J. Korner and G. Goldstein, Phys. Lett. B **89**, 105 (1979); M. Neubert and B. Stech, in *Heavy Flavors*, edited by A. J. Buras and M. Lindner (World Scientific, Singapore, 1997), 2nd ed.