Measurement of the time-dependent CP-violating asymmetry in $B^0 \to K^0_s \pi^0\gamma$ decays

B. Aubert,1 R. Barate,1 D. Boutigny,1 F. Couderc,1 Y. Karyotakis,1 J. P. Lees,1 V. Poireau,1 V. Tisserand,1 A. Zghiche,1 E. Grauges,2 A. Palano,3 M. Pappagallo,3 A. Pomplili,3 J. C. Chen,4 N. D. Qi,4 G. Rong,4 P. Wang,4 Y. S. Zhu,4 G. Eigen,5 I. Ofe,5 B. Stugu,5 G. S. Abrams,6 M. Battaglia,6 A. B. Breon,6 D. N. Brown,6 J. Button-Shafer,9 R. N. Cahn,6 E. Charles,6 C. T. Day,6 M. S. Gill,6 A. V. Gritsan,8 Y. Groysman,6 R. G. Jacobsen,6 R. W. Kadel,6 J. Kadky,6 L. T. Kerth,6 Y. G. Kolomensky,6 G. Kukartsev,6 G. Lynch,6 L. M. Mir,6 P. J. Oddone,6 T. J. Orimoto,6 M. Pripstein,6 N. A. Roe,6 M. T. Ronan,6 W. A. Wenzel,6 M. Barrett,7 K. E. Ford,7 T. J. Hunt,7 A. J. Hart,7 C. M. Hawkes,7 S. E. Morgan,7 A. T. Watson,7 M. Fritsch,8 K. Goetzen,8 T. Feld,8 H. Koch,8 B. Lewandowski,8 M. Pelizaeus,8 K. Peters,8 T. Schroeder,8 M. Steinke,8 J. T. Boyd,9 J. P. Burke,9 N. Chevalier,9 W. N. Cottingham,9 T. Cuhadar-Donszelmann,10 B. G. Fulsom,10 C. Heartly,10 N. S. Knecht,10 T. S. Mattison,10 J. A. McKenna,10 A. Khan,11 P. Kyberd,11 M. Saleem,11 L. Teodorescu,11 A. E. Blinov,12 V. E. Blinov,12 A. D. Bukin,12 V. P. Druzhinin,12 V. B. Golubev,12 E. A. Kravchenko,12 A. P. Onuchin,12 R. I. Serednyakov,12 Yu. I. Skovpen,12 E. P. Solodov,12 A. N. Yushkov,12 D. Best,13 M. Bondioli,13 M. Bruinsma,13 S. M. Chao,13 S. Curry,13 I. Eschrich,13 D. Kirkby,13 A. J. Lankford,13 P. Lund,13 M. Mandelkern,13 R. K. Mommersen,13 W. Roethel,13 D. P. Stoker,13 C. Buchanan,14 B. L. Hartfiel,14 A. J. R. Weinstein,14 S. D. Foulkes,15 J. W. Gary,15 O. Long,15 B. C. Shen,15 K. Wang,15 L. Zhang,15 D. del Re,16 H. K. Hadavand,16 E. J. Hill,16 B. MacFarlane,16 H. P. Paar,16 S. Rahatliou,16 V. Sharma,16 J. W. Berryhill,17 C. Campagnani,17 A. Cunha,17 B. Dahmes,17 T. M. Hong,17 M. A. Mazur,17 J. D. Richman,17 W. Verkerke,17 T. W. Beck,18 A. M. Eisner,18 C. J. Flacco,18 C. A. Heusch,18 J. Kroseberg,18 W. S. Lockman,18 G. Neson,18 T. Schalk,18 B. A. Schumm,18 A. Seiden,18 P. Spradlin,18 D. C. Williams,18 M. G. Wilson,18 J. Albert,19 E. Chen,19 G. P. Dubois-Felsmann,19 A. Dvoretski,19 D. H. Htilin,19 I. Narisy,19 T. Piatenko,19 F. C. Porter,19 A. Ryd,19 A. Samuel,19 R. Andreassen,20 S. Jayatilleke,20 G. Mancinelli,20 B. T. Meadows,20 M. D. Sokoloff,20 F. Blanc,20 P. Bloom,20 S. Chen,20 W. T. Ford,21 J. F. Hirschauer,21 A. Kreisel,21 U. Nauenberg,21 A. Olivas,21 P. Rankin,21 W. O. Ruddick,21 J. G. Smith,21 K. A. Ulmer,21 S. R. Wagner,21 J. Zhang,21 A. Chen,22 E. A. Eckhart,22 A. Soffer,22 W. H. Toki,22 R. J. Wilson,22 Q. Zeng,22 D. Altenburg,23 E. Feltresi,23 A. Hauke,23 B. Spaan,23 T. Brandt,24 J. Brose,24 M. Dickopp,24 V. Klose,24 H. M. Lacker,24 R. Nogowski,24 S. Otto,24 A. Petzold,24 G. Schott,24 J. Schubert,24 K. R. Schubert,24 R. Schwierz,24 J. E. Sundermann,24 D. Bernard,25 G. R. Bonneaud,25 P. Grenier,25 S. Schrenk,25 Ch. Thiebaux,25 G. Vasileiadis,25 M. Verderi,25 D. J. Bard,26 P. J. Clark,26 W. Gradi,26 F. Muheim,26 S. Playfer,26 Y. Xie,26 M. Andreotti,27 V. Azzolini,27 D. Bettoni,27 C. Bozzi,27 R. Calabrese,27 G. Cibinetto,27 E. Lupp,27 M. Negri,27 L. Piemontese,27 F. Anulli,28 R. Baldini-Ferroli,28 A. Calcaterra,28 R. de Sangro,28 G. Finocchiaro,28 P. Patteri,28 I. M. Piacquadio,28 E. Passeri,28 M. Piccolo,28 A. Zallo,28 A. Buzzo,29 R. Capra,29 R. Contr,29 M. Lo Vetere,29 M. Macri,29 M. R. Monge,29 S. Passaggio,29 C. Patrignani,29 E. Robutti,29 A. Santroni,29 S. Tosi,29 D. Brandenburg,30 K. S. Chaisangvantham,30 M. Morii,30 E. Won,30 J. Wu,30 R. S. Dubitzky,31 U. Langenegger,31 J. Marks,31 S. Schenk,31 U. Uwer,31 W. Binhmji,32 D. A. Bowerman,32 P. D. Dauncey,32 U. Egede,32 R. L. Flack,32 J. R. Gaillard,32 G. W. Morton,32 A. A. Nash,32 M. B. Nikolich,32 G. P. Taylor,32 W. P. Vazquez,32 M. J. Charles,33 W. F. Mader,33 U. Mallik,33 A. K. Mohapatra,33 J. Cochran,34 H. B. Crawley,34 V. Eiges,34 W. T. Meyer,34 S. Prell,34 E. I. Rosenberg,34 A. E. Rubin,34 J. Yi,34 N. Arnaud,35 M. Davier,35 X. Giroux,35 G. Grosdidier,35 A. Hocker,35 F. Le Diberder,35 V. Lefortier,35 A. M. Lutz,35 A. Oyanguren,35 T. C. Petersen,35 M. Pierini,35 S. Plasczczynski,35 S. Rodier,35 P. Routdeau,35 M. H. Schune,35 A. Stocchi,35 G. Wormser,35 C. H. Cheng,36 J. D. Lange,36 M. C. Simani,36 D. M. Wright,36 A. J. Bevan,37 C. A. Chavez,37 I. J. Forster,37 R. J. Fry,37 E. Gabathuler,37 R. Gamet,37 K. A. George,37 D. E. Hutchcroft,37 R. J. Parry,37 D. J. Payne,37 K. C. Schofield,37 C. Touramanis,37 C. M. Cormack,38 F. Di Lodovico,38 W. Mengers,38 R. Sacco,38 C. L. Brown,39 G. Cowan,39 H. U. Fleucher,39 M. G. Green,39 D. A. Hopkins,39 P. S. Jackson,39 T. R. McAlmon,39 S. Ricciardi,39 F. Salvatore,39 D. Brown,40 C. L. Davis,40 J. Allison,41 N. R. Barlow,41 R. J. Barlow,41 C. L. Edgar,41 M. C. Hodgkinson,41 M. P. Kelly,41 G. D. Lafferty,41 M. T. Naisbit,41 J. C. Williams,41 C. Chen,42 W. D. Hulsbergen,42 A. Jawahery,42 D. Kovalskyi,42 C. K. Lai,42 D. A. Roberts,42 G. Simi,42 G. Blaylock,43 C. Dallapiccola,43 S. S. Hertzbach,43 R. Kofler,43 V. B. Koptchev,43
X. Li, T. B. Moore, S. Saremi, H. Staengle, S. Willocq, R. Cowan, K. Koencke, G. Sciolli, S. J. Sekula, M. Spitznagel, F. Taylor, R. K. Yamamoto, H. Kim, P. M. Patel, S. H. Robertson, A. Lazzaro, V. Lombardo, F. Palombo, J. M. Bauer, L. Cremaldi, V. Eschenburg, R. Godang, R. Kroeger, J. Reidy, D. A. Sanders, D. J. Summers, H. W. Zhao, S. Brunet, D. Côté, P. Taras, B. Vianu, H. Nicholson, N. Cavallo, G. De Nardo, F. Fabozzi, C. Gatto, L. Lista, D. Monorchio, P. Paolucci, D. Piccolo, C. Sciaccia, M. Baak, H. Bulten, G. Raven, L. H. Snoek, S. Wilden, C. P. Jessop, J. M. LoSecco, T. Allmendinger, G. Benelli, K. K. Gan, K. Honscheid, D. Hufnagel, P. D. Jackson, H. Kagan, T. Pulliam, A. M. Rahimi, R. Ter-Antonyan, Q. K. Wong, J. Brau, R. Frey, O. Igkonova, M. Lu, C. T. Potter, N. B. Sinev, D. Strom, J. Strube, E. Torrence, F. Galeazzi, M. Margoni, M. Morandin, M. Posocco, M. Rotondo, F. Simonetto, R. Stroili, C. Voci, M. Benayoun, H. Briand, J. Chauveau, P. David, L. Del Buono, Ch. de la Vaissière, O. Hamon, M. J. J. John, Ph. Leruste, J. Malcles, J. Ocariz, L. Roos, G. Therin, P. K. Behera, L. Gladney, Q. H. Guo, J. Panetta, M. Biasini, R. Covarelli, S. Pacetti, M. Pioppi, C. Angeline, G. Batignani, S. Bettarini, F. Bucci, G. Calderini, M. Carpinelli, R. Cenci, F. Forti, M. A. Giorgi, A. Lusiani, G. Marchiori, M. Morganti, N. Neri, E. Paoloni, M. Rama, G. Rizzo, J. Walsh, M. Haire, D. Judd, D. E. Wagoner, J. Biesiada, J. Danielson, P. Elmer, Y. P. Lau, C. Lu, J. Olsen, A. J. S. Smith, A. V. Telnov, F. Bellini, A. D’Orazio, E. Di Marco, R. Faccini, F. Ferrarotto, F. Ferroni, M. Gaspero, L. Li Gioi, M. A. Mazzoni, S. Morganti, G. Piredda, F. Polci, F. Safai Tehrani, C. Voena, H. Schröder, G. Wagner, R. Waldi, T. Adye, N. De Groot, B. Franek, G. P. Gopal, E. O. Olaya, F. F. Wilson, R. Aleksan, S. Emery, A. Gaidot, S. F. Ganzhur, P.-F. Giraud, G. Graziani, G. Hamel de Monchenault, W. Kozanecki, M. Legendre, G. W. London, B. Mayer, G. Vasseur, Ch. Yèche, M. Zito, M. V. Purohit, A. W. Weidemann, J. R. Wilson, F. X. Yumiceva, T. Abe, M. T. Allen, D. Aston, N. van Bakel, R. Bartoldus, N. Berger, A. M. Boyarski, O. L. Buchmueller, R. Claus, J. P. Coleman, M. R. Convery, M. Cristinziani, J. C. Dingfelder, D. Dong, J. Dorfan, D. Djunic, W. Dunwoodie, S. Fan, R. C. Field, T. Glanzman, S. J. Gowdy, T. Hadig, V. Halyo, C. Hast, T. Hryn’ova, W. R. Innes, M. H. Kelsey, P. Kim, M. L. Kocian, D. W. G. S. Leith, J. Libby, S. Lutz, V. Luth, H. L. Lynch, H. Marsiske, R. Messner, D. R. Muller, C. P. O’Grady, V. E. Ozcan, A. Perazzo, M. Perl, B. N. Ratcliff, A. Roodman, A. A. Sahikov, R. H. Schindler, J. Schwiening, A. Snyder, J. Stelzer, D. Su, M. K. Sullivan, K. Suzuki, S. Swain, J. M. Thompson, J. Va’vra, M. Weaver, W. J. Wisniewski, M. Wittgen, D. H. Wright, A. K. Yarritu, K. Yi, C. C. Young, P. R. Burchat, A. J. Edwards, S. A. Majewski, B. A. Petersen, C. Roat, M. Ahmed, S. Ahmed, M. S. Alam, J. A. Ernst, M. A. Saeed, F. R. Wappler, S. B. Zain, W. Bugg, M. Krishnamurthy, S. M. Spanier, R. Eckhardt, J. L. Ritchie, A. Satpathy, R. F. Schitters, J. M. Izen, I. Kitayama, X. C. Lou, S. Ye, F. Bianchi, M. Bona, F. Gallo, D. Gamba, M. Bomben, L. Bosio, C. Cartaro, F. Cossutti, G. Della Ricca, S. Dittongo, S. Grancagnolo, L. Lanceri, L. Vitale, F. Martinez-Vidal, R. S. Panvini, Sw. Banerjee, B. Bhuyan, C. M. Brown, D. Fortin, K. Hamano, K. Kowalewski, J. M. Roney, R. J. Sobie, J. J. Back, P. F. Harrison, T. E. Latham, G. B. Mohanty, H. R. Band, X. Chen, B. Cheng, S. Dasu, M. Datta, A. M. Eichenbaum, K. T. Flood, M. Graham, J. J. Hollar, J. R. Johnson, P. E. Kutter, H. Li, J. Liu, B. Mellado, A. Mihalyi, Y. Pan, R. Prepost, P. Tan, J. H. von Wimmersperg-Toeller, S. L. Wu, Z. Yu, and H. Neal

(The BABAR Collaboration)

1 Laboratoire de Physique des Particules, F-74941 Annecy-le-Vieux, France
2 IFAE, Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona, E-08193 Bellaterra, Barcelona, Spain
3 Università di Bari, Dipartimento di Fisica and INFN, I-70126 Bari, Italy
4 Instituto de Física de São Carlos – USP, São Carlos, Brazil
5 University of California at Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California 90024, USA
6 Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and University of California, Berkeley, California 94720, USA
7 University of Birmingham, Birmingham, B15 2TT, United Kingdom
8 Ruhr Universität Bochum, Institut für Experimentalphysik 1, D-44780 Bochum, Germany
9 University of Bristol, Bristol BS8 1TL, United Kingdom
10 University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada V6T 1Z1
11 Brunel University, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 3PH, United Kingdom
12 Budker Institute of Nuclear Physics, Novosibirsk 630090, Russia
13 University of California at Irvine, Irvine, California 92697, USA
14 University of California at Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California 90024, USA
We present a measurement of the time-dependent CP-violating asymmetry in $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma$ decays with $K^{*0} \rightarrow K^0\pi^0$ based on 232 million $\Upsilon(4S) \rightarrow BB$ decays collected with the BABAR detector at the PEP-II asymmetric-energy $e^+e^-$ collider at SLAC. In a sample containing 157 ± 16 signal decays, we measure $S_{K^*\gamma} = -0.21 \pm 0.40 \pm 0.05$ and $C_{K^*\gamma} = -0.40 \pm 0.23 \pm 0.03$, where the first error is statistical and the second systematic. We also explore $B^0 \rightarrow K^{0}\pi^0\gamma$ decays with $1.1 < m_{K^{0}\pi^0\gamma} < 1.8$ GeV/$c^2$ and find 59 ± 13 signal events with $S_{K^{0}\pi^0\gamma} = 0.9 \pm 1.0 \pm 0.2$ and $C_{K^{0}\pi^0\gamma} = -1.0 \pm 0.5 \pm 0.2$.

PACS numbers: 13.25.Hw, 13.25.-k, 14.40.Nd

The decay transition $b \rightarrow s\gamma$ is sensitive to contributions from physics beyond the Standard Model (SM)\footnote{Also with Università di Perugia, Dipartimento di Fisica, Perugia, Italy}. There has been extensive experimental and theoretical investigation of the inclusive decay rate $B(B \rightarrow X_s\gamma)$, which to date shows no significant deviation from the SM\footnote{Also with Università della Basilicata, Potenza, Italy}. Various new physics scenarios can accommodate large deviations from the SM in other $b \rightarrow s\gamma$ decay properties as well, in particular in CP-violating (CPV) asymmetries and the polarization of the final state photon\footnote{Deceased}. The photon polarization in $b \rightarrow s\gamma$ ($\bar{b} \rightarrow \bar{s}\gamma$) is predominantly left handed (right handed) in the SM. As a consequence, in the exclusive decay $B^0 \rightarrow (K^0\pi^0)^0\gamma$ interference of the amplitude for the direct decay and the amplitude for the decay via $B^0 - \bar{B}^0$ mixing is suppressed. Therefore, time-dependent CP-violating asymmetry is expected to be small\footnote{University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706, USA}, $S_{K^0\pi^0\gamma} \approx -2m_s\sin2\beta \approx -0.04$, where $m_s$ is the mass of the $s$ quark, $\beta \equiv \arg(-V_{td}V_{cb}^*/V_{td}V_{tb})$ and $V$ is the quark mixing matrix\footnote{Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut 06511, USA}. Any significant deviation that goes beyond possible hadronization corrections of order 0.1\footnote{Deceased} would indicate phenomena beyond the SM.

In this Communication we report new measurements of the time-dependent CPV asymmetry in $B^0 \rightarrow K^0\pi^0\gamma$\footnote{Also with Università di Perugia, Dipartimento di Fisica, Perugia, Italy} based on 232 million $\Upsilon(4S) \rightarrow BB$ decays collected with the BABAR detector at the PEP-II asymmetric-energy $e^+e^-$ collider at SLAC. Measurements of the CPV asymmetry in $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma$, the subset of events with $0.8 < m_{K^{*0}\gamma} < 1.0$ have previously been reported by BABAR on 110 fb$^{-1}$\footnote{Also with Università della Basilicata, Potenza, Italy} and BELLE on 253 fb$^{-1}$\footnote{Deceased}. The BELLE collaboration has also reported a measurement of inclusive $B^0 \rightarrow K^0\pi^0\gamma$ with $0.6 < m_{K^0\pi^0\gamma} < 1.8$ GeV/$c^2$\footnote{Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut 06511, USA}. The latter measurement is consistent with previous results in the SM prediction\footnote{University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706, USA}.

We search for $B^0 \rightarrow K^0\pi^0\gamma$ decays in $BB$ candidate events, which are selected based on charged particle multiplicity and event topology\footnote{Also with Università di Perugia, Dipartimento di Fisica, Perugia, Italy}. Candidates for $K^{*0} \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$ are formed from pairs of oppositely charged tracks with a vertex $\chi^2$ probability larger than 0.001, a $\pi^+\pi^-$ invariant mass $487 < m_{\pi^+\pi^-} < 507$ MeV/$c^2$ and a reconstructed decay length greater than five times its uncertainty. Photon candidates are reconstructed from clusters in the EMC that are isolated from any charged tracks and have the expected lateral shower shape. We form $\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ candidates with an invariant mass $115 < m_{\gamma\gamma} < 155$ MeV/$c^2$ and energy $E_{\gamma\gamma} > 590$ MeV from
pairs of candidate photons each of which carries a minimum energy of 30 MeV. For the photon from the \( B \) decay, the so-called primary photon, we require an energy in the \( e^+e^- \) frame of \( 1.5 < E_{e^-}^* < 3.5 \) GeV. We veto primary photons that form a \( \pi^0 \to \gamma\gamma (\eta \to \gamma\gamma) \) candidate with invariant mass \( 115 < m_{\gamma\gamma} < 155 \) MeV/c\(^2\) (\( 470 < m_{\gamma\gamma} < 620 \) MeV/c\(^2\)) when combined with another photon with energy \( E_{e^-} > 50 \) MeV (\( E_{e^-} > 250 \) MeV).

To identify \( B^0 \) decays in \( K_s^{0}\pi^0\gamma \) combinations we use the energy-substituted mass \( m_{\text{ES}} = \sqrt{|s/2 + p_i \cdot p_B^*/E_{i}^* - p_B^*|^2} \) and the energy difference \( \Delta E = E_B^* - \sqrt{s}/2 \). Here \((E_B, \mathbf{p}_B)\) and \((E_\gamma, \mathbf{p}_\gamma)\) are the four-vectors of the initial \( e^+e^- \) system and the \( B \) candidate, respectively. \( \sqrt{s} \) is the center-of-mass energy, and the asterisk denotes the \( e^+e^- \) rest frame. For signal decays, the \( m_{\text{ES}} \) distribution peaks near the \( B \) mass with a resolution of about 3.5 MeV/c\(^2\) and \( \Delta E \) peaks near 0 MeV with a resolution of about 50 MeV. Both \( m_{\text{ES}} \) and \( \Delta E \) exhibit a low-side tail from energy leakage in the EMC. We require \( 5.2 < m_{\text{ES}} < 5.3 \) GeV/c\(^2\) and \( |\Delta E| < 250 \) MeV, which includes the signal region as well as a large “sideband” region for background estimation. We also require \( |\cos \theta_K^*| < 0.9 \), where \( \theta_K^* \) is the angle of the \( B \) candidate with respect to the \( e^+e^- \) momentum in the \( e^+e^- \) rest frame. Finally, for the subset of events with \( m_{K_S^0\pi^0} < 1.1 \) GeV/c\(^2\), we require \( |\cos \theta_{K^*}| < 0.9 \), where \( \theta_{K^*} \) is the angle between the \( K^0_s \) and the primary photon in the \( K_s^{0}\pi^0 \) rest frame (the “helicity” angle).

Event topology is exploited to further suppress the background from continuum \( e^+e^- \to q\bar{q} \) \((q = u, d, s, c)\) events. We calculate the ratio \( L_2/L_0 \) of two moments defined as \( L_j = \sum_i |p_i^*||\cos \theta_i^*|^j \), where \( p_i^* \) is the momentum of particle \( i \) in the \( e^+e^- \) rest frame, \( \theta_i^* \) is the angle between \( p_i^* \) and the thrust axis of the \( B \) candidate and the sum runs over all reconstructed particles except for the \( B \) candidate daughters. We require \( L_2/L_0 < 0.55 \), which suppresses the background by more than a factor 3 at the cost of approximately 10\% signal efficiency. After all selections are applied the average candidate multiplicity in events with at least one candidate is approximately 1.1. We select the candidate with a reconstructed \( \pi^0 \) mass closest to the expected value and if ambiguity persists we select the candidate with \( K_S^0 \) mass closest to the expected value.

Selected events are divided in events with \( 0.8 < m_{K_S^0\pi^0} < 1.0 \) GeV/c\(^2\), where signal decays are predominantly \( B^0 \to K^{*0}\gamma \), and events with \( 1.1 < m_{K_S^0\pi^0} < 1.8 \) GeV/c\(^2\), where the contribution from \( K^*(892) \) is small. In the data we find respectively 1469 and 2629 candidate events in these categories. The selection efficiency for \( B^0 \to K^{*0}\gamma \) evaluated with simulated events, is approximately 16\%. Using the current world average for the branching fraction \( \mathcal{B}(K^{*0}\gamma) \) we expect \( 176 \pm 18 \) signal events. Compared to our previous measurement \( \hat{\mathcal{B}} \) the current event selection is more effective in suppressing background from \( B \) decays, leading to a reduced systematic uncertainty from an eventual CPV asymmetry in the background without a significant loss in statistical sensitivity. The selection efficiency for \( B^0 \to K^{*0}\pi^0\gamma \) events with \( 1.1 < m_{K_S^0\pi^0} < 1.8 \) GeV/c\(^2\) is approximately 15\%, but depends on the helicity structure. Besides the \( K^*(892) \) the only observed \( K\pi \) resonance in \( B \to K\pi\gamma \) decays is the \( K^*_2(1430) \). Using the world average for the \( B^0 \to K^*_2(1430)\gamma \) branching fraction \( \mathcal{B}(K^{*0}\gamma) \) we expect \( 24 \pm 7 \) events. However, since upper bounds on other resonances are weak, the actual observed signal yield may be appreciably higher.

For each \( B \) candidate we examine the remaining tracks in the event to determine the decay vertex position and the flavor of \( B_{\text{tag}} \). Using a neural network based on kinematic and particle identification information \( B_{\text{tag}} \) each event is assigned to one of seven mutually exclusive tagging categories, designed to combine flavor tags with similar performance and \( \Delta t \) resolution. We parameterize the performance of this algorithm in a data sample \( (B_{\text{tag}}) \) of fully reconstructed \( B^0 \to D^{(*)-}\pi^+\rho^+\pi^-/a_1^+ \) decays. The average effective tagging efficiency obtained from this sample is \( Q = \sum \epsilon_\gamma^* (1 - 2w^*)^2 = 0.305 \pm 0.004 \), where \( \epsilon_\gamma^* \) and \( w^* \) are the efficiencies and mistag probabilities, respectively, for events tagged in category \( e = 1, \ldots, 7 \).

The proper-time difference is extracted from the separation of the \( B_{\text{CP}} \) and \( B_{\text{tag}} \) decay vertices in a manner analogous to Ref. \( \hat{\alpha} \). The \( B_{\text{tag}} \) vertex is reconstructed from the remaining charged particles in the event \( \hat{\beta} \). To reconstruct the \( B_{\text{CP}} \) vertex from the single \( K_S^0 \) trajectory we exploit the knowledge of the average interaction point (IP), which is determined from the spatial distribution of vertices in two-track events and is calculated separately for each 10-minute period of data-taking. We compute \( \Delta t \) and its uncertainty from a geometric fit \( \hat{\gamma} \) to the \( \Upsilon(4S) \to B^0\overline{B^0} \) system that takes this IP constraint into account. We further improve the \( \Delta t \) resolution by constraining the sum of the two \( B \) decay times \( (t_\gamma + t_{\text{tag}}) \) to be equal to \( 2 \tau_{B^0} \) with an uncertainty \( \sqrt{2} \tau_{B^0} \). We have verified in a Monte-Carlo simulation that this procedure provides an unbiased estimate of \( \Delta t \).

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 1.1 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, these events still contribute to the measurement of \( \mathcal{B}(K^{*0}\gamma) \), which can also be extracted from flavor-tagging information alone.

Signal yields and CPV asymmetries are extracted using an unbinned maximum-likelihood fit to \( m_{\text{ES}}, \Delta E, L_2/L_0, \) flavor-tag, \( \Delta t \) and \( \sigma(\Delta t) \), as in Ref. \( \hat{\beta} \). For the analysis of the \( B^0 \to K^{*0}\gamma \) sample \( m_{K_s^{0}\pi^0} \) is also used in the fit. Because we expect a contribution from other \( B \) decays (“\( BB \) background”), we allow the fit to extract the fraction of such decays as well. We have
verified using fits to simulated samples that the correlation between the observables is sufficiently small that the event likelihoods for signal $P_S$, $B \overline{B}$ background $P_{B \overline{B}}$ and continuum background $P_{\sigma}$ can be described by the product of one-dimensional probability density functions (PDF). The PDFs for signal events and $B \overline{B}$ background events are parameterized using either the $B_{\text{flav}}$ sample (for the flavor-tag efficiency, mistag probabilities and $\Delta t$-resolution function) or simulated events. For the continuum background, we select the functional form of the PDFs in background-enhanced samples. We exploit the large fraction of background events in the final sample to extract the background parameters along with the physics measurements in the fit. The asymmetry in the rate of $B^0$ versus $\overline{B}^0$ tags in background events is also extracted from in the fit.

The PDF for the $\Delta t$ of signal events and $B \overline{B}$ background events is obtained from the convolution of Eq. 11 with a resolution function $R(\delta t = \Delta t - \Delta t_{\text{true}}, \sigma_{\Delta t})$. The asymmetries $S_{B \overline{B}}$ and $C_{B \overline{B}}$ for the $B \overline{B}$ background are fixed to zero in the fit, but we account for a possible deviation from zero in the systematic uncertainty. The resolution function is parameterized as the sum of three Gaussian distributions. The first two Gaussian distributions have a width proportional to the reconstructed $\sigma_{\Delta t}$ and a non-zero mean proportional to $\sigma_{\Delta t}$ to account for the small bias in $\Delta t$ from charm decays on the $B_{\text{tag}}$ side. The third distribution is centered at zero with a fixed width of 8 ps. We have verified in simulation that the parameters of $R(\delta t, \sigma_{\Delta t})$ for $B^0 \to K_S^0 \pi^0 \gamma$ 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 assume that the continuum background consists of prompt decays only and find that the $\Delta t$ distribution is well described by a resolution function with the same functional form as used for signal events. The parameters of the background function are determined in the fit.

Figure 1 shows the background-subtracted distributions for $m_{ES}$ and $\Delta E$ for the selected $B^0 \to K^{*0} \gamma$ candidates. The background subtraction is performed with the event weighting technique described in [21]. Events contribute according to a weight constructed from the covariance matrix for the signal, $B \overline{B}$ background and continuum background yields and the probability $P_S$, $P_{B \overline{B}}$ and $P_{\sigma}$ for the event, computed without the use of the variable that is being displayed. The curves in the figure represent the signal PDFs used in the fit. Figure 2 shows the background-subtracted distributions of $\Delta t$ for $B^0$- and $\overline{B}^0$-tagged events, and the asymmetry as a function of $\Delta t$.

In the fit to the $B^0 \to K^{*0} \gamma$ sample we find $157 \pm 16$ signal events, with

$$S_{K^{*0}\gamma} = -0.21 \pm 0.40 \pm 0.05$$

and

$$C_{K^{*0}\gamma} = -0.40 \pm 0.23 \pm 0.03,$$
in the range $1.1 < m_{K_S^0 \pi^0} < 1.8$ GeV/c$^2$. In the fit to this sample we find $59 \pm 13$ signal events with

$$S_{K_S^0 \pi^0 \gamma} = 0.9 \pm 1.0 \pm 0.2$$

and

$$C_{K_S^0 \pi^0 \gamma} = -1.0 \pm 0.5 \pm 0.2,$$

and $130 \pm 40$ $B\bar{B}$ background events. The linear correlation coefficient between $S_{K_S^0 \pi^0 \gamma}$ and $C_{K_S^0 \pi^0 \gamma}$ is $-0.09$.

We consider several sources of systematic uncertainties related to the level and possible asymmetry of the background contribution from other $B$ decays. We evaluate this contribution using simulated samples of generic $B$ decays and of generic $B \to X \gamma \gamma$ decays. For the latter we use the Kagan-Neubert model $[23]$ for the photon energy spectrum and JETSET for the fragmentation of the $s$ quark. Since the final state multiplicity predicted by the fragmentation model is significantly different from a recent BABAR measurement $[24]$, we reweight events according to their multiplicity. From these studies we estimate about 30 (140) events in the $K^*$ (non-$K^*$) sample, with approximately equal contributions $B \to X \gamma \gamma$ decays and other (generic) $B$ decays. In the $K^*$ sample we fit a contribution from $B\bar{B}$ background consistent both with zero and with the rate predicted from the simulation. In the non-$K^*$ sample the fitted contribution from other $B$ decays is significantly larger, as expected from the simulation. Using the Monte Carlo estimates for the yields, we assess the impact of a potential CPV asymmetry in the $B\bar{B}$ background by varying $S_{B\bar{B}}$ and $C_{B\bar{B}}$ within an appropriate range that is derived from the composition of the $B\bar{B}$ background sample. We assign a systematic uncertainty of 0.04 (0.03) on $S$ ($C$) in the $K^*$ sample and an uncertainty of 0.2 for both $S$ and $C$ in the non-$K^*$ sample.

We quantify possible systematic effects due to the vertex reconstruction method in the same manner as in Ref. $[19]$, estimating systematic uncertainties on $S$ ($C$) of 0.023 (0.014) due to the vertex reconstruction technique and uncertainties in the resolution function, and 0.020 (0.007) due to possible misalignments of the SVT. Finally, we include a systematic uncertainty due to imperfect knowledge of the PDFs used in the fit, which amounts to 0.02 (0.01) for the $K^*$ (non-$K^*$) sample.

In summary, we have performed a new measurement of the time-dependent CPV asymmetry in $B^0 \to K^{*0}\gamma$ decays. Within the large statistical uncertainties our measurement is consistent with the SM expectation of a small CPV asymmetry and with other measurements $[8]$. We have also explored the possibility of measuring the CPV asymmetry in the region with a $K_S^0\pi^0$ invariant mass above the $K^{*0}$ region, $1.1 < m_{K_S^0\pi^0} < 1.8$ GeV/c$^2$. We find that the signal yield, though consistent with the expectation, is too small for a meaningful asymmetry measurement. These results supersede our previous measurement $[7]$ which was based on a subset of the data presented here.

We are grateful for the extraordinary contributions of our PEP-II colleagues in achieving the excellent luminosity and machine conditions that have made this work possible. The success of this project also relies criti-
cally on the expertise and dedication of the computing organizations that support BABAR. The collaborating institutions wish to thank SLAC for its support and the kind hospitality extended to them. This work is supported by the US Department of Energy and National Science Foundation, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (Canada), Institute of High Energy Physics (China), the Commissariat à l’Energie Atomique and Institut National de Physique Nucléaire et de Physique des Particules (France), the Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung and Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (Germany), the Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare (Italy), the Foundation for Fundamental Research on Matter (The Netherlands), the Research Council of Norway, the Ministry of Science and Technology of the Russian Federation, and the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council (United Kingdom). Individuals have received support from CONACyT (Mexico), the A. P. Sloan Foundation, the Research Corporation, and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

[1] B. Grinstein and M. B. Wise, Phys. Lett. B 201, 274 (1988); W. S. Hou and R. S. Willey, Phys. Lett. B 202, 591 (1988); J. L. Hewett and J. D. Wells, Phys. Rev. D 55, 5549 (1997).
[2] For a recent review see T. Hurth, Rev. Mod. Phys. 75, 1159 (2003).
[3] D. Atwood, M. Gronau and A. Soni, Phys. Rev. Lett. 79, 185 (1997).
[4] N. Cabibbo, Phys. Rev. Lett. 10, 531 (1963); M. Kobayashi and T. Maskawa, Prog. Theor. Phys. 49, 652 (1973).
[5] B. Grinstein, Y. Grossman, Z. Ligeti and D. Pirjol, Phys. Rev. D 71, 011504 (2005).
[6] Unless explicitly stated, charge conjugate decay modes are included implicitly throughout this paper.
[7] B. Aubert et al. [BABAR Collaboration], Phys. Rev. Lett. 93, 201801 (2004).
[8] Y. Ushiroda, et al. [BELLE Collaboration], arXiv:hep-ex/0503008.
[9] D. Atwood, T. Gershon, M. Hazumi and A. Soni, Phys. Rev. D 71, 076003 (2005).
[10] B. Aubert et al. [BABAR Collaboration], Nucl. Instr. Methods Phys. Res., Sect. A 479, 1 (2002).
[11] D. J. Lange, Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 462 (2001) 152.
[12] S. Agostinelli et al. [GEANT4 Collaboration], Nucl. Instrum. Meth. A 506, 250 (2003).
[13] See, for example, D. Kirkby and Y. Nir in S. Eidelman et al., Phys. Lett. B592, 1 (2004).
[14] J. Alexander et al. [Heavy Flavor Averaging Group], arXiv:hep-ex/0412073 Average computed from M. Nakao et al. [BELLE Collaboration], Phys. Rev. D 69, 112001 (2004) and B. Aubert et al. [BABAR Collaboration], Phys. Rev. D 70, 112006 (2004).
[15] A. L. Kagan and M. Neubert, Phys. Rev. D 58, 094012 (1998).
[16] B. Aubert et al. [BABAR Collaboration], Phys. Rev. D 66, 032003 (2002).
[17] J. Alexander et al. [Heavy Flavor Averaging Group], arXiv:hep-ex/0412073 Average computed from T. E. Coan et al. [CLEO Collaboration], Phys. Rev. Lett. 84, 5283 (2000), M. Nakao et al. [BELLE Collaboration], Phys. Rev. D 69, 112001 (2004) and B. Aubert et al. [BABAR Collaboration], Phys. Rev. D 70, 112006 (2004).
[18] B. Aubert et al. [BABAR Collaboration], Phys. Rev. Lett. 94, 161803 (2005).
[19] B. Aubert et al. [BABAR Collaboration], Phys. Rev. Lett. 93, 131805 (2004).
[20] W. D. Hulsbergen, arXiv:physics/0503191.
[21] M. Pivk and F. R. Le Diberder, arXiv:physics/0402083 submitted to Nucl. Instr. Methods Phys. Res.
[22] J. Alexander et al. [Heavy Flavor Averaging Group], arXiv:hep-ex/0412073 Average computed from S. Nishida et al. [BELLE Collaboration] Phys. Rev. Lett. 89, 231801 (2002) and B. Aubert et al. [BABAR Collaboration], Phys. Rev. D 70, 091105 (2004).
[23] A. L. Kagan and M. Neubert, Eur. Phys. J. C 7, 5 (1999).
[24] R. Mommsen, talk at XL Rencontres de Moriond, La Thuile, 5-12 March 2005.