

Evidence for Isospin Violation and Measurement of  $CP$  Asymmetries in  $B \rightarrow K^*(892)\gamma$ 

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We report the first evidence for isospin violation in  $B \rightarrow K^*\gamma$  and the first measurement of the difference of  $CP$  asymmetries between  $B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+}\gamma$  and  $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma$ . This analysis is based on the data sample containing  $772 \times 10^6 B\bar{B}$  pairs that was collected with the Belle detector at the KEKB energy-asymmetric  $e^+e^-$  collider. We find evidence for the isospin violation with a significance of  $3.1\sigma$ ,  $\Delta_{0+} = [+6.2 \pm 1.5(\text{stat}) \pm 0.6(\text{syst}) \pm 1.2(f_{+-}/f_{00})]\%$ , where the third uncertainty is due to the uncertainty on the fraction of  $B^+B^-$  to  $B^0\bar{B}^0$  production in  $\Upsilon(4S)$  decays. The measured value is consistent with predictions of the standard model. The result for the difference of  $CP$  asymmetries is  $\Delta A_{CP} = [+2.4 \pm 2.8(\text{stat}) \pm 0.5(\text{syst})]\%$ , consistent with zero. The measured branching fractions and  $CP$  asymmetries for charged and neutral  $B$  meson decays are the most precise to date. We also calculate the ratio of branching fractions of  $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma$  to  $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi\gamma$ .

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Radiative  $b \rightarrow s\gamma$  decays proceed predominantly via one-loop electromagnetic penguin diagrams. This process is also possible via annihilation diagrams; however, the amplitudes are highly suppressed by  $\mathcal{O}(\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}/m_b)$  and CKM matrix elements [1,2] in the standard model (SM) [3,4]. Since new heavy particles could contribute to the loops, the  $b \rightarrow s\gamma$  process is a sensitive probe for new physics (NP). Furthermore, new particles could mediate the annihilation diagrams or effective four-fermion contact interactions with different magnitudes in charged and neutral  $B$  meson decays, so that the penguin dominance in  $b \rightarrow s\gamma$  might be violated. The  $B \rightarrow K^*\gamma$  decay [5] is experimentally the cleanest exclusive decay mode among the  $B \rightarrow X_s\gamma$  decays. The branching fractions give weak constraints on NP since the SM predictions suffer from large uncertainties in the form factors, while the isospin ( $\Delta_{0+}$ ) and direct  $CP$  asymmetries ( $A_{CP}$ ) are theoretically clean observables due to cancellation of these uncertainties [6]. The  $\Delta_{0+}$ ,  $A_{CP}$ , and difference and average of  $A_{CP}$  between charged and neutral  $B$  mesons ( $\Delta A_{CP}$  and  $\bar{A}_{CP}$ ) are defined as

$$\Delta_{0+} = \frac{\Gamma(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma) - \Gamma(B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+}\gamma)}{\Gamma(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma) + \Gamma(B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+}\gamma)}, \quad (1)$$

$$A_{CP} = \frac{\Gamma(\bar{B} \rightarrow \bar{K}^*\gamma) - \Gamma(B \rightarrow K^*\gamma)}{\Gamma(\bar{B} \rightarrow \bar{K}^*\gamma) + \Gamma(B \rightarrow K^*\gamma)}, \quad (2)$$

$$\Delta A_{CP} = A_{CP}(B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+}\gamma) - A_{CP}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma), \quad (3)$$

$$\bar{A}_{CP} = \frac{A_{CP}(B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+}\gamma) + A_{CP}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma)}{2}, \quad (4)$$

$$\frac{\Gamma(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma)}{\Gamma(B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+}\gamma)} = \frac{\tau_{B^+}}{\tau_{B^0}} \frac{f_{+-}}{f_{00}} \frac{N(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma)}{N(B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+}\gamma)}, \quad (5)$$

where  $\Gamma$  denotes the partial width,  $N$  is the number of produced signal events,  $\tau_{B^+}/\tau_{B^0}$  is the lifetime ratio of  $B^+$  to  $B^0$  mesons, and  $f_{+-}$  and  $f_{00}$  are the  $\Upsilon(4S)$  branching fractions to  $B^+B^-$  and  $B^0\bar{B}^0$  decays, respectively. Predictions of the isospin asymmetry range from 2% to 8% with a typical uncertainty of 2% in the SM [6–11], while a

large deviation from the SM predictions is possible due to NP [7,9,10].  $A_{CP}$  is predicted to be small in the SM [6,10,12,13]; hence, a measurement of  $CP$  violation is a good probe for NP [14]. The isospin difference of direct  $CP$  violation is theoretically discussed in the context of the inclusive  $B \rightarrow X_s\gamma$  process [15] but heretofore not in the exclusive  $B \rightarrow K^*\gamma$  channel; however,  $\Delta A_{CP}$  here will be useful to identify NP once  $A_{CP}$  is observed.

The  $B \rightarrow K^*\gamma$  decays were studied by CLEO [16], Belle [17], BABAR [18], and LHCb [19]. The current world averages of the isospin and direct  $CP$  asymmetries are  $\Delta_{0+} = (+5.2 \pm 2.6)\%$ ,  $A_{CP}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma) = (-0.2 \pm 1.5)\%$ ,  $A_{CP}(B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+}\gamma) = (+1.8 \pm 2.9)\%$ , and  $A_{CP}(B \rightarrow K^*\gamma) = (-0.3 \pm 1.7)\%$  [20], respectively, which are consistent with predictions in the SM and give strong constraints on NP [10,13,21–23]. The world averages of branching fractions are also consistent with predictions within the SM [3,6,8,10,12,24–26] and are used for constraining NP [10,13,27].

In this Letter, we report the first evidence of isospin violation in  $B \rightarrow K^*\gamma$ . In addition, we present measurements of the branching fractions, direct  $CP$  asymmetries, and their isospin difference and average. We use the full  $\Upsilon(4S)$  resonance data sample collected by the Belle detector at the KEKB energy-asymmetric collider [28]; this sample contains  $772 \times 10^6 B\bar{B}$  pairs. The results supersede our previous measurements [17].

The Belle detector is a large-solid-angle magnetic spectrometer that consists of a silicon vertex detector (SVD), a 50-layer central drift chamber (CDC), an array of aerogel threshold Cherenkov counters, a barrel-like arrangement of time-of-flight scintillation counters, and an electromagnetic calorimeter composed of CsI(Tl) crystals (ECL) located inside a superconducting solenoid coil that provides a 1.5 T magnetic field. An iron flux return located outside of the coil is instrumented to detect  $K_L^0$  mesons and to identify muons. The  $z$  axis is aligned with the direction opposite the  $e^+$  beam. The detector is described in detail elsewhere [29].

The selection is optimized with Monte Carlo (MC) simulation samples. The MC events are generated with EvtGen [30] and the detector simulation is done by

GEANT3 [31]. We reconstruct  $B^0 \rightarrow K^* \gamma$  and  $B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+} \gamma$  decays, where  $K^*$  is formed from  $K^+ \pi^-$ ,  $K_S^0 \pi^0$ ,  $K^+ \pi^0$ , or  $K_S^0 \pi^+$  combinations [32].

Prompt photon candidates are selected from isolated clusters in the ECL that are not associated with any charged tracks reconstructed by the SVD and the CDC. We require the ratio of the energy deposited in a  $3 \times 3$  array of ECL crystals centered on the crystal having the maximum energy to that in the enclosing  $5 \times 5$  array to be above 0.95. The photon energy in the center-of-mass (c.m.) frame is required to be in the range of  $1.8 < E_\gamma^* < 3.4$  GeV. The polar angle of the photon candidate is required to be in the barrel region of the ECL ( $33^\circ < \theta_\gamma < 128^\circ$ ) to take advantage of the better energy resolution in the barrel compared with the end cap and to reduce continuum  $e^+ e^- \rightarrow q\bar{q}$  ( $q = u, d, s, c$ ) background with initial state radiation. The dominant backgrounds to the prompt photons are from asymmetric-energy decays of high momentum  $\pi^0$  or  $\eta$  mesons, where one photon is hard and the other is soft. These events can be suppressed by using two probability density functions for  $\pi^0$  and  $\eta$  constructed from the following two variables: the invariant mass of the photon candidate and another photon in an event, and the energy of this additional photon in the laboratory frame. We require that the  $\pi^0$  and  $\eta$  probabilities are less than 0.3. These requirements retain about 92% of the signal events while removing about 61% of the continuum background.

To reject misreconstructed tracks and beam backgrounds, charged tracks except for the  $K_S^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^-$  decay daughters are required to have a momentum in the laboratory frame greater than 0.1 GeV/c. In addition, we require that the impact parameter with respect to the nominal interaction point (IP) be less than 0.5 cm transverse to, and 5.0 cm along, the  $z$  axis. To identify  $K^+$  and  $\pi^+$ , a likelihood ratio is calculated from the specific ionization measurements in the CDC, time-of-flight information from the time-of-flight scintillation counters, and the response of the aerogel threshold Cherenkov counters.

$K_S^0$  candidates are reconstructed from pairs of oppositely charged tracks, treated as pions, and identified by a multivariate analysis with a neural network [33] based on two sets of input variables [34]. The first set of variables, which separate  $K_S^0$  candidates from combinatorial background, are (1) the  $K_S^0$  momentum in the laboratory frame, (2) the distance along the  $z$  axis between the two track helices at their closest approach, (3) the flight length in the  $x$ - $y$  plane, (4) the angle between the  $K_S^0$  momentum and the vector joining the  $K_S^0$  decay vertex and the nominal IP, (5) the angle between the  $\pi$  momentum and the laboratory-frame direction of the  $K_S^0$  in the  $K_S^0$  rest frame, (6) the distance of closest approach in the  $x$ - $y$  plane between the nominal IP and the pion helices, and (7) the pion hit information in the SVD and CDC. The second set of variables, which identify  $\Lambda \rightarrow p\pi^-$  background, are

(1) particle identification information, and momentum and polar angles of the two daughter tracks, and (2) invariant mass with the proton- and pion-mass hypotheses. In addition, the  $K_S^0$  candidate is required to have an invariant mass  $M_{\pi\pi}$ , calculated with the pion-mass hypothesis, that satisfies  $|M_{\pi\pi} - m_{K_S^0}| < 10$  MeV/ $c^2$ , where  $m_{K_S^0}$  is the nominal  $K_S^0$  mass; this requirement corresponds to a  $\pm 3\sigma$  interval in mass resolution.

We reconstruct  $\pi^0$  candidates from two photons each with energy greater than 50 MeV. We require the invariant mass to be within  $\pm 10$  MeV/ $c^2$  of the nominal  $\pi^0$  mass, corresponding to about  $2\sigma$  in resolution. To reduce the large combinatorial background, we require that the  $\pi^0$  momentum in the c.m. frame, calculated with a  $\pi^0$  mass-constraint fit, be greater than 0.5 GeV/c and the cosine of the angle between two photons be greater than 0.5.

$K^*$  candidates are selected with a loose invariant mass selection of  $M_{K\pi} < 2.0$  GeV/ $c^2$ .

$B$  meson candidates are reconstructed by combining a  $K^*$  candidate and a photon candidate. To identify the  $B$  mesons, we introduce two kinematic variables: the beam-energy constrained mass  $M_{bc} \equiv \sqrt{(E_{beam}^*/c^2)^2 - (p_B^*/c)^2}$ , and the energy difference  $\Delta E \equiv E_B^* - E_{beam}^*$ , where  $E_{beam}^*$  is the beam energy, and  $E_B^*$  and  $p_B^*$  are the energy and momentum, respectively, of the  $B$  meson candidate in the c.m. frame. The energy difference is required to be  $-0.2 < \Delta E < 0.1$  GeV; the  $M_{bc}$  distributions are used to extract the signal yield.

The dominant background from continuum events is suppressed using a multivariate analysis with a neural network [33]. The neural network uses the following input variables calculated in the c.m. frame: (1) the cosine of the angle between the  $B$  meson candidate momentum and the  $z$  axis, (2) the likelihood ratio of modified Fox-Wolfram moments [35,36], (3) the angle between the thrust axes of the daughter particles of the  $B$  candidate and all other particles in the rest of the event (ROE), (4) the sphericity and aplanarity [37] of particles in the ROE, (5) the angle between the first sphericity axes of the  $B$  candidate and particles in the ROE, (6) the absolute value of the cosine of the angle between the first sphericity axes of the particles in the ROE and the  $z$  axis, and (7) the flavor quality parameter of the accompanying  $B$  meson that ranges from zero for no flavor information to unity for unambiguous flavor assignment [38]. The output variable  $\mathcal{O}_{NB}$  is required to maximize the significance, defined as  $N_S/\sqrt{N_S + N_B}$ , where  $N_S$  and  $N_B$  are the expected signal and background yields for four decay modes in the signal region of  $5.27 < M_{bc} < 5.29$  GeV/ $c^2$ , based on MC studies. The criterion  $\mathcal{O}_{NB} > 0.13$  suppresses about 89% of continuum events while keeping about 83% of signal events for the weighted average of the four decay modes. The average number of  $B$  candidates in an event with at least one candidate is 1.16; we select a single candidate among multiple

TABLE I. Signal yields for  $\bar{B}$  ( $N_S^{\bar{B}}$ ) and  $B$  ( $N_S^B$ ) mesons, efficiencies ( $\epsilon$ ), branching fractions, and direct  $CP$  asymmetries. The uncertainties are statistical and systematic except efficiencies. The uncertainties for efficiencies are systematics including statistical uncertainties of MC samples.

Mode	$N_S^{\bar{B}}$	$N_S^B$	$\epsilon$ [%]	$\mathcal{B}$ [ $10^{-5}$ ]	$A_{CP}$ [%]
$B^0 \rightarrow K_S^0 \pi^0 \gamma$	$349 \pm 23 \pm 15$		$1.16 \pm 0.04$	$4.00 \pm 0.27 \pm 0.24$	...
$B^0 \rightarrow K^+ \pi^- \gamma$	$2295 \pm 56 \pm 27$	$2339 \pm 56 \pm 30$	$15.61 \pm 0.49$	$3.95 \pm 0.07 \pm 0.14$	$-1.3 \pm 1.7 \pm 0.4$
$B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \pi^0 \gamma$	$572 \pm 32 \pm 12$	$562 \pm 31 \pm 11$	$3.66 \pm 0.12$	$3.91 \pm 0.16 \pm 0.16$	$+1.0 \pm 3.6 \pm 0.3$
$B^+ \rightarrow K_S^0 \pi^+ \gamma$	$745 \pm 32 \pm 8$	$721 \pm 32 \pm 9$	$5.01 \pm 0.14$	$3.69 \pm 0.12 \pm 0.12$	$+1.3 \pm 2.9 \pm 0.4$

candidates in an event randomly in order not to bias  $M_{bc}$  and other variables. Then, we require the invariant mass of the  $K\pi$  system to be within 75 MeV/ $c^2$  of the nominal  $K^*$  mass. The events with an invariant mass less than 2.0 GeV/ $c^2$  are used to check the contamination from  $B \rightarrow X_s \gamma$  events that include a higher kaonic resonance decaying to  $K\pi$ . The reconstruction efficiencies determined with MC calculations and calibrated by the difference between the data and MC calculations with control samples are summarized in Table I.

To determine the signal yields, branching fractions, and direct  $CP$  asymmetries in each of the four final states, we perform extended unbinned maximum likelihood fits to the  $M_{bc}$  distributions within the range  $5.20 < M_{bc} < 5.29$  GeV/ $c^2$ . The probability density function for the signal is modeled by a Gaussian for modes without a  $\pi^0$  and a Crystal Ball (CB) function [39] for modes with a  $\pi^0$ . The means of the Gaussian and CB functions are calibrated by  $B \rightarrow D\pi^-$  events in data while the normalizations and widths are floated. The tail parameters of the CB function are determined from signal MC samples. From MC studies, it is expected that signal cross feeds are 0.5% of the signal yield. We model this cross-feed distribution with a Gaussian and an ARGUS function [40]. The cross-feed shape and amount of cross feed relative to the correctly reconstructed signal is fixed to that of the signal MC calculations, such that the cross-feed normalization scales with the signal yield found in the data. The continuum background is described with an ARGUS function. The endpoint of the ARGUS function is calibrated using the combinatorial background in  $B \rightarrow D\pi$  reconstruction in the data with the  $\mathcal{O}_{NB} < 0.13$  selection to enhance the background statistics; the normalization and the shape parameter are floated. The width of the signal and the shape of the ARGUS functions are constrained to be equal between  $CP$ -conjugate modes but are determined separately across the four subdecay modes.

Backgrounds from  $B\bar{B}$  events are small compared with continuum background. However, there are peaking backgrounds mainly from  $B \rightarrow K\pi\pi\gamma$ ,  $B \rightarrow K^*\eta$ , and  $B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+}\pi^0$  events. The  $B\bar{B}$  backgrounds are modeled with a bifurcated Gaussian for the peaking component and an ARGUS function for the combinatorial component. The shape and normalization are fixed with large-statistics

background MC samples. We take into account the measured  $CP$  and isospin violations in the  $B\bar{B}$  background [20] to fix the normalizations for  $B^+$ ,  $B^-$ ,  $B^0$ , and  $\bar{B}^0$  mesons.

The likelihood for a simultaneous fit over all modes to extract the charged and neutral branching fractions and direct  $CP$  asymmetries is defined as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(M_{bc} | \mathcal{B}^N, \mathcal{B}^C, A_{CP}^N, A_{CP}^C) \\ = \prod \mathcal{L}^{K^0 \pi^0}(M_{bc} | \mathcal{B}^N) \\ \times \prod \mathcal{L}^{K^- \pi^+}(M_{bc} | \mathcal{B}^N, A_{CP}^N) \times \prod \mathcal{L}^{K^+ \pi^-}(M_{bc} | \mathcal{B}^N, A_{CP}^N) \\ \times \prod \mathcal{L}^{K^- \pi^0}(M_{bc} | \mathcal{B}^C, A_{CP}^C) \times \prod \mathcal{L}^{K^+ \pi^0}(M_{bc} | \mathcal{B}^C, A_{CP}^C) \\ \times \prod \mathcal{L}^{K_S^0 \pi^-}(M_{bc} | \mathcal{B}^C, A_{CP}^C) \times \prod \mathcal{L}^{K^0 \pi^+}(M_{bc} | \mathcal{B}^C, A_{CP}^C), \quad (6) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathcal{L}^{K\pi}$  is the likelihood for each final state, and  $\mathcal{B}^i$  and  $A_{CP}^i$  are the branching fraction and direct  $CP$  asymmetry, respectively, in each of the neutral ( $N$ ) and charged ( $C$ )  $B$  mesons. Input parameters are the efficiencies for  $B^+$ ,  $B^-$ ,  $B^0$ , and  $\bar{B}^0$  decays, the number of  $B\bar{B}$  pairs,  $\tau_{B^+}/\tau_{B^0} = 1.076 \pm 0.004$ ,  $f_{+-} = 0.514 \pm 0.006$ , and  $f_{00} = 0.486 \pm 0.006$  [20]. Here, we assume the uncertainties in  $f_{+-}$  and  $f_{00}$  are perfectly anticorrelated. In the likelihood fit, we can also determine  $\Delta A_{CP}$ ,  $\bar{A}_{CP}$ , and  $\Delta_{0+}$ . The combined  $A_{CP}(B \rightarrow K^*\gamma)$  is then obtained by repeating the fit with the constraint  $A_{CP}^N = A_{CP}^C$ .

The main sources of the systematic uncertainty for the branching fraction measurements are the photon detection efficiency (2.0%), the number of  $B\bar{B}$  pairs (1.4%), the  $\pi^0$  detection efficiency (1.3%),  $f_{+-}/f_{00}$  (1.2%), and the peaking background yield (1.1% to 1.6%). For the modes with a  $\pi^0$  in the final state, fitter bias (1.3% to 2.4%) and fixed parameters in the fit (1.5% to 3.9%) are also significant sources of uncertainty. The contamination from  $B \rightarrow X_s \gamma$  events that include a higher-mass kaonic resonance decaying to  $K\pi$  is checked by looking at  $B \rightarrow K\pi\gamma$  events with  $M_{K\pi}$  less than 2.0 GeV/ $c^2$ . The  $M_{K\pi}$  distribution is fit with a  $P$ -wave relativistic Breit-Wigner function for  $K^*(892)$  and a  $D$ -wave relativistic Breit-Wigner function for  $K_2^*(1430)$  and the resulting uncertainty is 0.31%. We also check the helicity distribution of the  $K\pi$  system for  $K^*\gamma$  candidates and find that the distribution is consistent with a  $P$  wave. For the  $\Delta_{0+}$  measurement, the dominant systematic uncertainty is that due to  $f_{+-}/f_{00}$

(1.16%), the second largest is related to particle identification (0.38%). The largest systematic uncertainty for the  $A_{CP}$  and  $\Delta A_{CP}$  measurements is from the charge asymmetries in charged hadron detection. The charged-pion detection asymmetry is measured using reconstructed  $B \rightarrow K^{*\pm}\gamma$ ,  $K^{*\pm} \rightarrow K_S^0\pi^{\pm}$  candidates in the  $\mathcal{O}_{NB}$  sideband. The charged kaon detection asymmetry is measured using a clean large kaon sample from  $D^0 \rightarrow K^+\pi^-$  decay, where the pion detection asymmetry in the decay is subtracted with pions from  $D_s^+ \rightarrow \phi\pi^+$  decays [41]. The raw asymmetries in  $B \rightarrow K^*\gamma$  are corrected with the measured charged kaon and pion detection asymmetries:  $-0.36\% \pm 0.40\%$ ,  $-0.01\% \pm 0.04\%$  and  $+0.34\% \pm 0.41\%$  for  $K^+\pi^-$ ,  $K^+\pi^0$ , and  $K_S^0\pi^+$  modes, respectively. The second largest is from fitter bias (0.07% to 0.16%) and the third largest is that due to the direct  $CP$  asymmetry in rare  $B$  meson decays, dominated by  $B \rightarrow X_s\gamma$ ,  $B \rightarrow K^*\eta$ , and  $B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+}\pi^0$  (0.05% to 0.13%) [42].

First, we extract the branching fraction and direct  $CP$  asymmetry in each of the four final states by fitting the  $M_{bc}$  distributions separated for  $\bar{B}$  and  $B$  mesons except for the  $K_S^0\pi^0$  final state. The results are summarized in Table I. Then, we perform a simultaneous fit to seven  $M_{bc}$  distributions (Fig. 1) with the likelihood described above to extract the combined branching fractions and direct  $CP$  asymmetries as well as  $\Delta_{0+}$ ,  $\Delta A_{CP}$ , and  $\bar{A}_{CP}$ . The results are

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma) &= (3.96 \pm 0.07 \pm 0.14) \times 10^{-5}, \\ \mathcal{B}(B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+}\gamma) &= (3.76 \pm 0.10 \pm 0.12) \times 10^{-5}, \\ A_{CP}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma) &= (-1.3 \pm 1.7 \pm 0.4)\%, \\ A_{CP}(B^+ \rightarrow K^{*+}\gamma) &= (+1.1 \pm 2.3 \pm 0.3)\%, \\ A_{CP}(B \rightarrow K^*\gamma) &= (-0.4 \pm 1.4 \pm 0.3)\%, \\ \Delta_{0+} &= (+6.2 \pm 1.5 \pm 0.6 \pm 1.2)\%, \\ \Delta A_{CP} &= (+2.4 \pm 2.8 \pm 0.5)\%, \\ \bar{A}_{CP} &= (-0.1 \pm 1.4 \pm 0.3)\%, \end{aligned}$$

where the first uncertainty is statistical, the second is systematic, and the third for  $\Delta_{0+}$  is due to the uncertainty in  $f_{+-}/f_{00}$  [42]. The  $\chi^2$  value and number of degrees of freedom in the simultaneous fit calculated from data points and fit curves in Fig. 1 are 256 and 296, respectively. We find evidence for isospin violation in  $B \rightarrow K^*\gamma$  decays with a significance of  $3.1\sigma$ , and this result is consistent with the predictions in the SM [6–12]. The  $A_{CP}$  and  $\Delta A_{CP}$  values are consistent with zero. All the measurements are the most precise to date.

We also calculate the ratio of branching fractions of  $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma$  to  $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi\gamma$ , which is sensitive to annihilation diagrams [7], based on the branching fraction measurement reported here and the Belle result for the  $\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi\gamma)$  [43]. To cancel some systematic uncertainties, we take only the

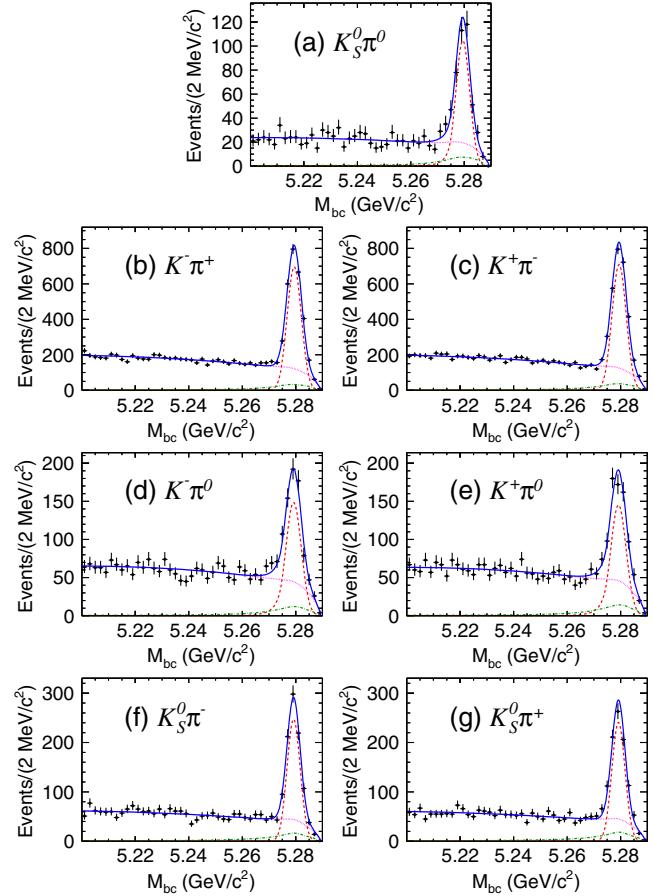


FIG. 1.  $M_{bc}$  distributions for (a)  $K_S^0\pi^0$ , (b)  $K^-\pi^+$ , (c)  $K^+\pi^-$ , (d)  $K^-\pi^0$ , (e)  $K^+\pi^0$ , (f)  $K_S^0\pi^-$ , and (g)  $K_S^0\pi^+$ . The points with error bars show the data, the dashed (red) curves represent the signal, the dotted-dashed (green) curves are the  $B\bar{B}$  background, the dotted (magenta) curves show the total background, and the solid (blue) curves are the total.

$K^+\pi^-$  mode for the branching fractions for  $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma$ . The result is

$$\frac{\mathcal{B}(B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma)}{\mathcal{B}(B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi\gamma)} = 1.10 \pm 0.16 \pm 0.09 \pm 0.18,$$

where the first uncertainty is statistical, the second is systematic, and the third is due to the fraction of  $B_s^{(*)0}\bar{B}_s^{(*)0}$  production in  $\Upsilon(5S)$  decays. This result is consistent with predictions in the SM [7,25] and with LHCb [19].

In summary, we have measured branching fractions, direct  $CP$  asymmetries, the isospin asymmetry, and the difference and average of direct  $CP$  asymmetries between charged and neutral  $B$  mesons in  $B \rightarrow K^*\gamma$  decays using  $772 \times 10^6$   $B\bar{B}$  pairs. We find the first evidence for isospin violation in  $B \rightarrow K^*\gamma$  with a significance of  $3.1\sigma$ . We have made the first measurement of  $\Delta A_{CP}$  and  $\bar{A}_{CP}$  in  $B \rightarrow K^*\gamma$  and the result is consistent with zero. The measured

branching fractions, direct  $CP$ , and isospin asymmetries are the most precise to date, and are consistent with SM predictions [3,6–10,13] and also previous measurements [16–19]. These results will be useful for constraining the parameter space in NP models. We also calculate the ratio of  $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0}\gamma$  to  $B_s^0 \rightarrow \phi\gamma$  branching fractions. Current  $A_{CP}$  measurements are dominated by the statistical uncertainty; thus, the upcoming Belle II experiment will further reduce the uncertainty. To observe the isospin violation with  $5\sigma$  significance at Belle II, reduction of the dominant uncertainty due to  $f_{+-}/f_{00}$  is essential, and can be performed at both Belle and Belle II.

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