PHYSICAL REVIEW D 89, 091103(R) (2014)

Measurement of D^0 - \bar{D}^0 mixing and search for indirect CP violation using $D^0 \to K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$ decays

USING D⁰ → K^o₃π⁻π decays

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                     (Received 9 April 2014; published 30 May 2014)
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We report a measurement of D^0 - \bar{D}^0 mixing parameters and a search for indirect CP violation through a time-dependent amplitude analysis of $D^0 \to K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$ decays. The results are based on 921 fb⁻¹ of data accumulated with the Belle detector at the KEKB asymmetric-energy e^+e^- collider. Assuming CP conservation, we measure the mixing parameters $x = (0.56 \pm 0.19^{+0.03+0.06}_{-0.09-0.09})\%$ and $y = (0.30 \pm 0.15^{+0.04+0.03}_{-0.05-0.06})\%$, where the errors are statistical, experimental systematic, and systematic due to the amplitude model, respectively. With CP violation allowed, the parameters $|q/p| = 0.90^{+0.16+0.05+0.06}_{-0.15-0.04-0.05}$ and $arg(q/p) = (-6 \pm 11 \pm 3^{+3}_{-4})^\circ$ are found to be consistent with conservation of CP symmetry in mixing and in the interference between mixing and decay, respectively.

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevD.89.091103 PACS numbers: 13.25.Ft, 11.30.Er, 12.15.Ff

The mixing rate and size of CP violation (CPV) in the charm sector are predicted to be very small in the standard model (SM) [1–3]. Thus, the measurements of D^0 - \bar{D}^0 mixing and CPV are sensitive probes of possible

contributions from physics beyond the SM [4,5]. Several studies show evidence or observation of the mixing phenomenon in the D^0 - \bar{D}^0 system, while CPV is not yet observed [6–11]. In our study, the direct determination of

 D^0 - \bar{D}^0 mixing and CPV are achieved simultaneously by exploring the time-dependent decay rate of self-conjugated $D^0 \to K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$ decays.

The particle-antiparticle mixing phenomenon causes an initially produced (at proper time t=0) pure D^0 or \bar{D}^0 meson state to evolve in time to a linear combination of D^0 and \bar{D}^0 states. We describe the decay amplitudes for a D^0 or a \bar{D}^0 into the final state $K_S^0\pi^+\pi^-$, $A_f(\bar{A}_f)$, as a function of the Dalitz-plot (DP) variables $(m_+^2, m_-^2) = (m_{K_S^0\pi^+}^2, m_{K_S^0\pi^-}^2)$. If CP symmetry in the decays is assumed, i.e., $\bar{A}_f = A_{\bar{f}} = A(m_-^2, m_+^2)$, we can derive the time-dependent decay rates for D^0 and \bar{D}^0 decays to the final state f as [12]

$$|\mathcal{M}(f,t)|^{2} = \frac{e^{-\Gamma t}}{2} \left\{ \left(|\mathcal{A}_{f}|^{2} + \left| \frac{q}{p} \right|^{2} |\mathcal{A}_{\bar{f}}|^{2} \right) \cosh(\Gamma y t) \right.$$

$$\left. + \left(|\mathcal{A}_{f}|^{2} - \left| \frac{q}{p} \right|^{2} |\mathcal{A}_{\bar{f}}|^{2} \right) \cos(\Gamma x t) \right.$$

$$\left. + 2\Re\left(\frac{q}{p} \mathcal{A}_{\bar{f}} \mathcal{A}_{f}^{*} \right) \sinh(\Gamma y t) \right.$$

$$\left. - 2\Im\left(\frac{q}{p} \mathcal{A}_{\bar{f}} \mathcal{A}_{f}^{*} \right) \sin(\Gamma x t) \right\}, \tag{1}$$

$$|\bar{\mathcal{M}}(f,t)|^{2} = \frac{e^{-\Gamma t}}{2} \left\{ \left(|\mathcal{A}_{\bar{f}}|^{2} + \left| \frac{p}{q} \right|^{2} |\mathcal{A}_{f}|^{2} \right) \cosh(\Gamma y t) \right.$$

$$\left. + \left(|\mathcal{A}_{\bar{f}}|^{2} - \left| \frac{p}{q} \right|^{2} |\mathcal{A}_{f}|^{2} \right) \cos(\Gamma x t) \right.$$

$$\left. + 2\Re\left(\frac{p}{q} \mathcal{A}_{f} \mathcal{A}_{\bar{f}}^{*} \right) \sinh(\Gamma y t) \right.$$

$$\left. - 2\Im\left(\frac{p}{q} \mathcal{A}_{f} \mathcal{A}_{\bar{f}}^{*} \right) \sin(\Gamma x t) \right\}, \tag{2}$$

where the two dimensionless parameters that describe the D^0 - \bar{D}^0 mixing x and y are related to the mass and width difference of the two mass eigenstates $|D_{1,2}\rangle = p|D^0\rangle \pm$ $q|\bar{D}^0
angle$: $x=rac{m_1-m_2}{\Gamma},\ y=rac{\Gamma_1-\Gamma_2}{2\Gamma}.$ Here Γ is the mean decay width, $\Gamma = \frac{\Gamma_1 + \Gamma_2}{2}$. The coefficients p and q are complex coefficients satisfying $|p|^2 + |q|^2 = 1$. The time evolution of neutral D meson decays is exponential with the lifetime $\tau_{D^0} = 1/\Gamma$ modulated by the mixing parameters x and y. The possible *CPV* can cause $q/p \neq 1$, which will be considered later. So a time-dependent amplitude analysis of self-conjugated decays allows a direct measurement of charm mixing parameters (x, y) and a simultaneous search for the CPV in mixing, in the decay, and in interference between mixing and decay. This method was developed by CLEO [12] and extended by Belle [13] and BABAR [14]. In this paper, we report a measurement of mixing parameters xand y and parameters probing CP violation in charm mixing and interference between mixing and the decay. The results of this analysis supersede the previous Belle results given in Ref. [13].

We analyze a data sample of 921 fb $^{-1}$ recorded at or near the $\Upsilon(nS)$ (n=4, 5) resonances produced at the KEKB collider [15] and collected with the Belle detector [16]. The detector is a large-solid-angle magnetic spectrometer consisting of a silicon vertex detector (SVD), a 50-layer central drift chamber (CDC) for charged particle tracking and specific ionization measurement (dE/dx), an array of aerogel threshold Cherenkov counters (ACC), time-offlight scintillation counters (TOF), and an array of CsI (Tl) crystals for electromagnetic calorimetry located inside a superconducting solenoid coil that provides a 1.5 T magnetic field. An iron flux return located outside the coil is instrumented to detect K_L^0 mesons and identify muons. Two inner detector configurations were used. A 2.0 cm diameter beam pipe and a three-layer silicon vertex detector were used for the first sample of 156 fb⁻¹, while a 1.5 cm diameter beam pipe, a four-layer silicon detector, and a small-cell inner drift chamber were used to record the remaining 765 fb $^{-1}$.

We reconstruct the D^0 mesons through the decay chain $D^{*+} \to D^0 \pi_s^+$ and $D^0 \to K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$ [17], where π_s is referred to as the slow pion. The charge of π_s is used to tag the flavor of the D meson. We use information from ACC, TOF, and

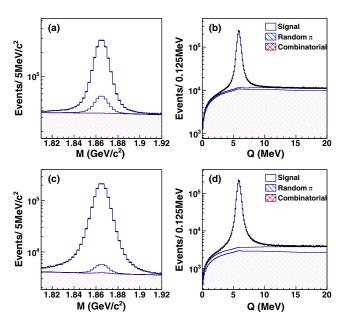


FIG. 1 (color online). The distributions of $M \equiv M_{K_s^0\pi^+\pi^-}$ and $Q \equiv (M_{K_s^0\pi^+\pi^-\pi_s} - M_{K_s^0\pi^+\pi^-} - m_{\pi_s}) \cdot c^2$. (a) The projections of M for data (points with error bars) and M-Q fit in the region 1.81 GeV/ $c^2 < M < 1.92$ GeV/ c^2 and 0 < Q < 20 MeV including signal, random π_s , and combinatorial background. (b) The projections of Q in the region 1.81 GeV/ $c^2 < M < 1.92$ GeV/ c^2 and 0 < Q < 20 MeV. (c) The corresponding projection of M in the Q signal region (5.75 MeV < Q < 5.95 MeV). (d) The corresponding projection of Q in the M signal region ($M - m_{D^0} < 1.5$ MeV/ c^2).

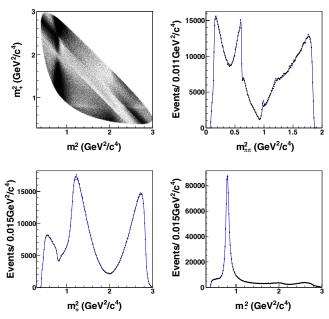


FIG. 2 (color online). Dalitz distribution and Dalitz variables $(m_+^2, m_-^2, \text{and } m_{\pi\pi}^2)$ projections for the selected data sample. The full line represents the result of the fit described in the text.

CDC to perform likelihood-based particle identification in order to select pions from D^0 decays. The K_S^0 candidates are reconstructed in the $\pi^+\pi^-$ final state; we require that the pion candidates are from a common vertex displaced from the e^+e^- interaction point (IP) and have an invariant mass within $\pm 10~{\rm MeV}/c^2$ of the nominal K_S^0 mass [18]. The D^0 candidates are reconstructed by combining each K_S^0 candidate with two oppositely charged pion candidates. These pions are required to have at least two SVD hits each in the z and azimuthal projections. A D^{*+} candidate is reconstructed by combining the D^0 candidate with a

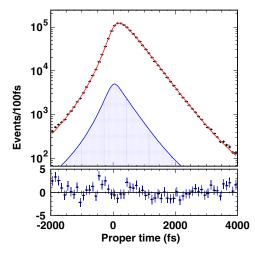


FIG. 3 (color online). The proper-time distribution for events in the signal region (points) and fit projection for the *CP*-conserved fit (curve). The shaded region shows the combinatorial components. The residuals are shown below the plot.

TABLE I. Results for $D^0 oup K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$ Dalitz-plot parameters obtained from the mixing fit, including complex amplitudes, $\pi\pi$ S-wave and $K_S^0 \pi$ S-wave parameters, and fit fractions for each intermediate component. The errors are statistical only.

Resonance	Amplitude	Phase (deg)	Fit fraction
K*(892)-	1.590 ± 0.003	131.8 ± 0.2	0.6045
$K_0^*(1430)^-$	2.059 ± 0.010	-194.6 ± 1.7	0.0702
$K_2^*(1430)^-$	1.150 ± 0.009	-41.5 ± 0.4	0.0221
$K^*(1410)^-$	0.496 ± 0.011	83.4 ± 0.9	0.0026
$K^*(1680)^-$	1.556 ± 0.097	-83.2 ± 1.2	0.0016
$K^*(892)^+$	0.139 ± 0.002	-42.1 ± 0.7	0.0046
$K_0^*(1430)^+$	0.176 ± 0.007	-102.3 ± 2.1	0.0005
$K_2^*(1430)^+$	0.077 ± 0.007	-32.2 ± 4.7	0.0001
$K^*(1410)^+$	0.248 ± 0.010	-145.7 ± 2.9	0.0007
$K^*(1680)^+$	1.407 ± 0.053	86.1 ± 2.7	0.0013
$\rho(770)$	1 (fixed)	0 (fixed)	0.2000
$\omega(782)$	0.0370 ± 0.0004	114.9 ± 0.6	0.0057
$f_2(1270)$	1.300 ± 0.013	-31.6 ± 0.5	0.0141
$\rho(1450)$	0.532 ± 0.027	80.8 ± 2.1	0.0012
$\pi\pi$ S wave			0.1288
β_1	4.23 ± 0.02	164.0 ± 0.2	
β_2	10.90 ± 0.02	15.6 ± 0.2	
β_3	37.4 ± 0.3	3.3 ± 0.4	
β_4	14.7 ± 0.1	-8.9 ± 0.3	
f_{11}^{prod}	12.76 ± 0.05	-161.1 ± 0.3	
f_{12}^{prod}	14.2 ± 0.2	-176.2 ± 0.6	
f_{13}^{prod}	10.0 ± 0.5	-124.7 ± 2.1	
$K\pi$ S wave	Parameters		
$M (MeV/c^2)$	1461.7 ± 0.8		
$\Gamma (\mathrm{MeV}/c^2)$	268.3 ± 1.1		
F	0.4524 ± 0.005		
ϕ_F (rad)	0.248 ± 0.003		
R	1(fixed)		
ϕ_R (rad)	2.495 ± 0.009		
a (GeV/ c^{-1})	0.172 ± 0.006		
$r (GeV/c^{-1})$	-20.6 ± 0.3		
$K^*(892)$	Parameters		
$M_{K^*(892)} \text{ (MeV}/c^2)$	893.68 ± 0.04		
$\Gamma_{K^*(892)}$ (MeV/ c^2)	47.49 ± 0.06		

low-momentum charged track (the π_s^+ candidate). To suppress the combinatorial background and $B\bar{B}$ events, we require the D^{*+} momentum in the center-of-mass (c.m.) frame to be greater than 2.5 and 3.1 GeV/c for the data taken at the c.m. energy of $\Upsilon(4S)$ and $\Upsilon(5S)$ mass, respectively.

The proper decay time of the D^0 candidate is calculated by projecting the vector joining the production and decay vertices, \vec{l} , onto the D^0 momentum vector \vec{p}_D in the lab frame: $t = (m_{D^0}/p_D)\vec{l} \cdot (\vec{p}_D/p_D)$, where m_{D^0} is the nominal D^0 mass. The D^0 decay position is determined by fitting the two prompt charged tracks to a common vertex and the D^0 production point is taken to be the intersection of the trajectory of the D^0 candidate with the IP region. We constrain the π_s to originate from the obtained D^0

TABLE II. Fit results for the mixing parameters x and y from the CP-conserved fit and the CPV-allowed fit. The errors are statistical, experimental systematic, and systematic due to the amplitude model, respectively.

Fit type	Parameter	Fit result
No CPV	x(%)	$0.56 \pm 0.19^{+0.03+0.06}_{-0.09-0.09}$
	y(%)	$0.30 \pm 0.15^{+0.04+0.03}_{-0.05-0.06}$
CPV	<i>x</i> (%)	$0.56 \pm 0.19^{+0.04+0.06}_{-0.08-0.08}$
	y(%)	$0.30 \pm 0.15^{+0.04+0.03}_{-0.05-0.07}$
	q/p	$0.90^{+0.16+0.05+0.06}_{-0.15-0.04-0.05}$
	$arg(q/p)(^{\circ})$	$-6 \pm 11 \pm 3^{+3}_{-4}$

production vertex. The sum of the χ^2 from the D^0 production vertex fit, the decay vertex fit, and the π_s fit to the production vertex is required to be lower than 100. The uncertainty of the proper decay time (σ_t) is evaluated from the corresponding covariance matrices. We require $\sigma_t < 1$ ps to remove events with a poorly determined decay time (the maximum of the σ_t distribution is at 0.15 ps).

We select events satisfying 1.81 GeV/ $c^2 < M < 1.92$ GeV/ c^2 and 0 < Q < 20 MeV, where $M = M_{K_3^0 \pi^+ \pi^-}$ and $Q = (M_{K_3^0 \pi^+ \pi^- \pi_s} - M_{K_3^0 \pi^+ \pi^-} - m_{\pi_s}) \cdot c^2$ are the D^0 invariant mass and kinetic energy released in the D^* decay, respectively. About 3% of selected events have two or more D^* candidates. We select the best candidate as the one with the lowest fit-quality sum for the vertex fits. The M and Q distributions of the selected candidates are shown in Fig. 1.

We determine the signal yield from a two-dimensional fit to the M-Q distribution. We parametrize the signal shape by a triple-Gaussian function for M and the sum of a bifurcated Student's t function and a Gaussian function for Q. We take the correlation between M and Q into account by parametrizing σ_Q of the Student's t function for Q as a second-order polynomial in $|M-\mu_M|$ with μ_M being the

mean of the Gaussian distribution for M. We include an additional term to describe 0.5% of the signal candidates with a considerable amount of final state radiation. The backgrounds are classified into two types: random π_s background, in which a random π_s is combined with a true D^0 candidate, and combinatorial background. The shape of the M distribution for the random π_s background is fixed to be the same as that used for the signal. Other background distributions are obtained from Monte Carlo (MC) simulation. The fit results are shown in Fig. 1. The small peaking components in the Q distribution of combinatorial background are misreconstructed D^0 decays with missing daughters. We find $1231731 \pm 1633(\text{stat})$ signal candidates with a purity of 95.5% in the signal region defined as $|M-m_{D^0}| < 15 \text{ MeV}/c^2$, 5.75 MeV < Q < 5.95 MeV.

Mixing parameters are extracted from an unbinned maximum likelihood fit to m_+^2 , m_-^2 and the decay time t for the events selected in the signal region. The $D^0 \rightarrow K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$ decay rates are expressed in Eqs. (1) and (2). The reconstruction efficiency over the DP plane is described by a cubic polynomial of m_+^2 and m_-^2 determined from a large MC sample of signal events. The proper decay-time resolution function is represented by a sum of three (two) Gaussians in the case of the four-layer (three-layer) silicon vertex detector configuration. We allow one of the Gaussians' means to differ from the other two for the case of the four-layer silicon vertex detector configuration.

The Dalitz amplitudes A_f and A_f are expressed as a sum of quasi-two-body amplitudes. For the P- and D-wave decays, we include 12 intermediate resonances described by relativistic Breit-Wigner parametrizations with mass-dependent widths, Blatt-Weisskopf penetration factors as form factors, and Zemach tensors for the angular dependence [19]. For the $\pi\pi$ S-wave dynamics, we adopt the K-matrix formalism with P-vector approximation [20]. For the $K_S^0\pi$ S wave, we follow the same description as in Ref. [14]. We tested different decay amplitude models by

TABLE III. Summary of the contributions to experimental systematic uncertainty on the mixing and *CPV* parameters. The positive and negative errors are added in quadrature separately.

	No CPV		CPV			
Source	$\Delta x/10^{-4}$	$\Delta y / 10^{-4}$	$\Delta x/10^{-4}$	$\Delta y / 10^{-4}$	$ q/p /10^{-2}$	$arg(q/p)/^{\circ}$
Best candidate selection	+1.0	+1.9	+1.3	+2.0	-2.3	+2.2
Signal and background yields	± 0.3	± 0.3	± 0.4	± 0.4	± 1.2	± 0.8
Fraction of wrong-tagged events	-0.7	-0.4	-0.5	+0.4	+1.1	+0.8
Time resolution of signal	-1.4	-0.9	-1.2	-0.8	+0.8	-1.2
Efficiency	-1.1	-2.1	-1.4	-2.2	+3.1	+1.3
Combinatorial PDF	$^{+1.9}_{-4.8}$	$^{+2.3}_{-3.9}$	$^{+2.4}_{-4.1}$	$^{+2.0}_{-4.4}$	$^{+1.2}_{-2.9}$	$^{+2.8}_{-2.3}$
$K^*(892)$ DCS/CF reduced by 5%	-7.3	+2.3	-6.9	+3.1	+3.3	-1.4
$K_2^*(1430)$ DCS/CF reduced by 5%	+1.7	-0.7	+2.2	-0.2	+1.1	+0.4
Total	+2.8 -8.9	+3.7 -4.6	+3.6 -8.3	+4.3 -5.1	+5.0 -4.0	+3.3 -3.0

TABLE IV. Summary of contributions to the modeling systematic uncertainty on the mixing and *CPV* parameters. The positive and negative errors are added in quadrature separately.

	No	CPV		CPV			
Source	$\Delta x / 10^{-4}$	$\Delta y / 10^{-4}$	$\Delta x/10^{-4}$	$\Delta y / 10^{-4}$	$ q/p /10^{-2}$	$arg(q/p)/^{\circ}$	
Resonance M & Γ	±1.4	±1.2	±1.2	±1.3	±2.1	±1.0	
$K^*(1680)^+$ removal	-1.8	-3.0	-2.2	-2.8	+2.1	-1.2	
$K^*(1410)^{\pm}$ removal	-1.2	-3.6	-1.7	-3.9	-1.3	+1.4	
$\rho(1450)$ removal	+2.1	+0.3	+2.1	+0.5	-1.9	+0.9	
Form factors	+4.0	+2.4	+4.3	+2.0	-2.4	-1.0	
$\Gamma(q^2) = \text{constant}$	+3.3	-1.6	+4.1	-2.3	-1.6	+1.3	
Angular dependence	-8.5	-3.9	-7.4	-3.6	+5.6	-3.2	
K-matrix formalism	-2.2	+1.8	-3.5	+2.4	-3.6	+1.1	
Total	+5.8 -9.1	+3.2 -6.4	$^{+6.4}_{-8.4}$	+3.4 -6.9	+6.4 -5.1	+2.5 -3.7	

adding or removing resonances with small contributions or by using alternative parametrizations.

The random π_s background contains real D^0 and \bar{D}^0 candidates; for these events, the charge of the π_s is uncorrelated with the flavor of the neutral D. Thus the probability density function (PDF) is taken to be (1 – f_w $|\mathcal{M}(f,t)|^2 + f_w |\bar{\mathcal{M}}(f,t)|^2$ convolved with the same resolution function as that used for the signal, where f_w is the wrong-tagged fraction. We measure f_w by performing a fit to the candidates that populate the Q sideband 3 MeV < |Q - 5.85 MeV| < 14.15 MeVresulting 0.511 ± 0.003 . The DP and decay-time PDFs for combinatorial background are determined from the M sideband $(30 \text{ MeV}/c^2 < |M - m_{D^0}| < 50 \text{ MeV}/c^2)$. The decaytime PDF is described using the sum of a delta function and an exponential component convolved by a triple Gaussian as a resolution function. We validate the fitting procedure with fully simulated MC experiments. The fitter returns the mixing parameters consistent with the inputs for signal samples with and without background events included.

We first perform a decay-time integrated fit to the DP distribution by setting the amplitudes and phases for intermediate states free separately for D^0 and \bar{D}^0 decays. We observe that the two sets of parameters are consistent and so, hereinafter, assume $\bar{A}_f = A_{\bar{f}}$. In our subsequent fit to the data sample, we set the free parameters to be (x, y), the D^0 lifetime τ , the parameters of the proper decay-time resolution function, and the amplitude model parameters. We extract the mixing parameters $x = (0.56 \pm 0.19)\%$ and $y = (0.30 \pm 0.15)\%$, with the statistical correlation coefficient between x and y of 0.012. We also determine the D^0 mean lifetime $\tau = (410.3 \pm 0.6)$ fs, in agreement with the world average [18]. The projections of the DP distribution and D^0 proper time are shown in Figs. 2 and 3, respectively. Table I lists the results for the DP resonance parameters. To evaluate the fit quality of the amplitude fit, we perform a two-dimensional χ^2 test over the DP plane, obtaining $\chi^2/ndf = 1.207$ for 14264 - 49 degrees of freedom (ndf). The fit correctly reproduces the DP of the data, with some small discrepancies at the dips of the distribution in the central $m_{\pi\pi}^2$ region (1.0 GeV $^2/c^4 < m_{\pi\pi}^2 < 1.3$ GeV $^2/c^4$). We also search for CPV in $D^0/\bar{D}^0 \to K_S^0\pi^+\pi^-$ decays.

We also search for CPV in $D^0/\bar{D}^0 \to K_S^0\pi^+\pi^-$ decays. The CPV parameters |q/p| and $\arg(q/p)$ are included in the PDF. The values for the mixing parameters from this fit are essentially identical to the ones from the CP-conserved fit. The resulting CPV parameters are $|q/p| = 0.90^{+0.16}_{-0.15}$ and $\arg(q/p) = (-6 \pm 11)^{\circ}$. The results from the two fits are listed in Table II.

We consider several contributions to the experimental systematic uncertainty, which are summarized in Table III. The uncertainty associated with best candidate selection is estimated by fitting a data sample that excludes all events with multiple candidates. The uncertainties due to signal and background yields determination are evaluated by varying their values by the corresponding statistical uncertainties. The uncertainties due to determination of the fraction of wrong-tagged events in random π_s background are estimated by letting the fraction parameter free in the mixing fit, which leads to $f_w = 0.44 \pm 0.02$. To account for the uncertainty associated with signal time resolution parametrization, we remove the offset in the third Gaussian function for the case of the four-layer silicon vertex detector configuration. The uncertainty associated with the DP efficiency function is estimated by replacing it with the second-order polynomial parametrization. The uncertainties due to the small misalignment of detectors are

¹The correlations among the mixing and *CPV* parameters are

	Correlation coefficient				
	x	у	q/p	arg(q/p)	
x	1	0.054	-0.074	-0.031	
y		1	0.034	-0.019	
q/p			1	0.044	
arg(q/p)				1	

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estimated to be negligible by varying the offset of the resolutions function. The uncertainties associated with the combinatorial-background PDF are estimated by choosing different sideband samples to fit distributions and varying the PDF shape parameters by their statistical errors. To evaluate uncertainties associated with a possible correlation between the DP and the time distribution for the combinatorial background, we parametrize the DP distribution in different decay-time intervals. We also vary the ratios of certain doubly Cabibbo suppressed (DCS) intermediate states and corresponding Cabibbo favored (CF) ones by estimated biases using simulated samples (\sim 5%) in order to estimate uncertainties raised by the fitting procedure. The dominant contributions of experimental systematic error are from the determination of background PDFs and the DP's fitting procedure.

We estimate uncertainties due to the Dalitz model assumptions by repeating the fit with slightly different models as described below, and the results are summarized in Table IV. We vary the average values of masses and widths for the included resonances by their uncertainties from [18]. We remove the $K^*(1680)^+$, $K^*(1410)^{\pm}$, and $\rho(1450)$ resonances which contribute small fractions in the $D^0 \to K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$ channel. We perform fits with no form factors and with constant Breit-Wigner widths. The uncertainty due to the angular distribution for intermediate states is estimated by trying an alternative helicity angular formalism [19]. We replace the model for the $\pi\pi$ S wave of DP by a different K-matrix formalism [21]. The main contributions are from the parametrizations of angular dependence. By exploring the negative log-likelihood distribution on the plane of mixing parameters, we draw the two-dimensional (x, y) confidence-level (C.L.) contours for both the CP-conserved and CPV-allowed fits (Fig. 4). We combine the statistical and systematic uncertainties using the method described in [13].

In summary, an updated measurement of D^0 - \bar{D}^0 mixing in $D^0 \to K_S^0 \pi^+ \pi^-$ decays was performed based on 921 fb⁻¹ of data collected with the Belle detector. The results supersede our results in Ref. [13]. We obtain $x = (0.56 \pm 0.19^{+0.03+0.06}_{-0.09-0.09})\%$, $y = (0.30 \pm 0.15^{+0.04+0.03}_{-0.05-0.06})\%$ assuming no CPV, where the errors are statistical, experimental systematic, and systematic due to the amplitude model,

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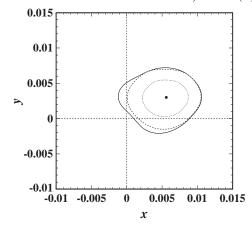


FIG. 4. Central value (point) and C.L. contours for (x, y): dotted (dashed) corresponds to 68.3% (95%) C.L. contour for CP-conserved Dalitz fit, and solid corresponds to 95% C.L. contour for CPV-allowed fit with statistical, experimental, and model uncertainties included.

respectively. The significance of D^0 - \bar{D}^0 mixing is estimated to be 2.5 standard deviations relative to the no-mixing point $(x=0,\ y=0)$. Comparing with previous measurements [13,14], these results give a consistent determination of D^0 - \bar{D}^0 mixing with significantly improved sensitivity. A search for CP violation results in the most accurate values of the |q/p| and $\arg(q/p)$ parameters in a single experiment: $|q/p| = 0.90^{+0.16+0.05+0.06}_{-0.15-0.04-0.05}$, $\arg(q/p) = (-6\pm 11\pm 3^{+3}_{-4})^\circ$. The values are consistent with no CPV.

We thank the KEKB group for excellent operation of the accelerator, the KEK cryogenics group for efficient solenoid operations, and the KEK computer group, the NII, and PNNL/EMSL for valuable computing and SINET4 network support. We acknowledge support from MEXT, JSPS and Nagoya's TLPRC (Japan), ARC and DIISR (Australia), FWF (Austria), NSFC (China), MSMT (Czechia), CZF, DFG, and VS (Germany), DST (India), INFN (Italy), MEST, NRF, GSDC of KISTI, and WCU (Korea), MNiSW and NCN (Poland), MES and RFAAE (Russia), ARRS (Slovenia), IKERBASQUE and UPV/EHU (Spain), SNSF (Switzerland), NSC and MOE (Taiwan), and DOE and NSF (USA).

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