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Measurement of the $B^0 \rightarrow D^{*-} \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^+$ decay branching fraction ($10' + 5'$)

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We present a measurement of the decay branching fraction $BF(B^0 \rightarrow D^{*-} \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^+)$ obtained by using a data sample of about 471 million $B\bar{B}$ pairs collected by the BABAR detector at the PEP-II e^+e^- collider. This measurement is about 3 times more precise than the current world average value. This decay of the neutral B meson can be used as a normalization channel for the measurement of the ratio $BF(B^0 \rightarrow D^{*-} \tau^+ \nu) / BF(B^0 \rightarrow D^{*-} \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^+)$, with $\tau^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^+ \nu$ that can be extracted from hadron colliders, and could help to shed light on the excess, at the more than 3σ level with respect to the SM prediction, of $BF(B^0 \rightarrow D^{*-} \tau^+ \nu)$ as measured by several experiments. In addition, a significantly improved measurement of the 3π structure in this decay is presented.

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