

$B \rightarrow K_1 \gamma$ decays in the light-cone QCD sum rules

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We present a detailed study of $B \rightarrow K_1(1270)\gamma$ and $B \rightarrow K_1(1400)\gamma$ decays. Using the light-cone sum rule technique, we calculate the $B \rightarrow K_{1A}(1^3P_1)$ and $B \rightarrow K_{1B}(1^1P_1)$ tensor form factors, $T_1^{K_{1A}}(0)$ and $T_1^{K_{1B}}(0)$, where the contributions are included up to the first order in m_{K_1}/m_b . We resolve the sign ambiguity of the $K_1(1270)$ – $K_1(1400)$ mixing angle θ_{K_1} by defining the signs of decay constants, $f_{K_{1A}}$ and $f_{K_{1B}}^\perp$. From the comparison of the theoretical calculation and the data for decays $B \rightarrow K_1 \gamma$ and $\tau^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1270)\nu_\tau$, we find that $\theta_{K_1} = -(34 \pm 13)^\circ$ is favored. In contrast to $B \rightarrow K^* \gamma$, the hard-spectator contribution suppresses the $B \rightarrow K_1(1270)\gamma$ and $B \rightarrow K_1(1400)\gamma$ branching ratios slightly. The predicted branching ratios are in agreement with the Belle measurement within the errors. We point out that a more precise measurement for the ratio $R_{K_1} = \mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K_1(1400)\gamma)/\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K_1(1270)\gamma)$ can offer a better determination for the θ_{K_1} , and consequently the theoretical uncertainties can be reduced.

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I. INTRODUCTION

$b \rightarrow s \gamma$ decays contain rich phenomenologies relevant to the standard model and new physics. Radiative B decays involving a vector meson have been observed by CLEO, Belle, and BABAR [1–3]. Recently, the Belle Collaboration has measured the $B \rightarrow K_1 \gamma$ decays for the first time [4]:

$$\mathcal{B}(B^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1270)\gamma) = (43 \pm 9 \pm 9) \times 10^{-6}, \quad (1.1)$$

$$\mathcal{B}(B^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1400)\gamma) < 15 \times 10^{-6}, \quad (1.2)$$

$$\mathcal{B}(\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \bar{K}_1^0(1270)\gamma) < 58 \times 10^{-6}, \quad (1.3)$$

$$\mathcal{B}(\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \bar{K}_1^0(1400)\gamma) < 15 \times 10^{-6}, \quad (1.4)$$

where K_1 is the orbitally excited (P-wave) axial-vector meson. The data indicate that $\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K_1(1270)\gamma) \sim \mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K^* \gamma)$ and $\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K_1(1270)\gamma) \gg \mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K_1(1400)\gamma)$. It is quite hard to explain the above-mentioned measurements using the existing theoretical calculations [5–10]. Therefore, these measurements represent a challenge for theory. The production of the axial-vector mesons has been seen in the two-body hadronic D decays and in charmful B decays [11]. As for charmless hadronic B decays, $B^0 \rightarrow a_1^\pm(1260)\pi^\mp$ are the first modes measured by B factories [12,13]. The BABAR Collaboration has recently reported the observation of the decays $\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow b_1^\pm \pi^\mp$, $b_1^+ K^-$, $B^- \rightarrow b_1^0 \pi^-$, $b_1^0 K^-$, $a_1^0 \pi^-$, $a_1^- \pi^0$ [14,15], and $\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow K_1^-(1270)\pi^+$, $K_1^-(1400)\pi^+$, $a_1^+ K^-$, $B^- \rightarrow a_1^- \bar{K}^0$, $f_1(1285)K^-$, $f_1(1420)K^-$ [16]. The related phenomenologies have been studied in the literature [17–23].

In this paper, we will focus on the study of the $B \rightarrow K_1 \gamma$ decays. The physical states $K_1(1270)$ and $K_1(1400)$ are the mixtures of 1^3P_1 (K_{1A}) and 1^1P_1 (K_{1B}) states. K_{1A} and K_{1B} are not mass eigenstates, and they can be mixed together

due to the strange and nonstrange light quark mass difference. Following the convention given in Ref. [24], their relations can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} |\bar{K}_1(1270)\rangle &= |\bar{K}_{1A}\rangle \sin\theta_{K_1} + |\bar{K}_{1B}\rangle \cos\theta_{K_1}, \\ |\bar{K}_1(1400)\rangle &= |\bar{K}_{1A}\rangle \cos\theta_{K_1} - |\bar{K}_{1B}\rangle \sin\theta_{K_1}. \end{aligned} \quad (1.5)$$

In Ref. [24], two possible solutions with twofold ambiguity, $|\theta_{K_1}| \approx 33^\circ$ and 57° , were obtained. A similar constraint, $35^\circ \leq |\theta_{K_1}| \leq 55^\circ$, was found in Ref. [25]. From the data of $\tau \rightarrow K_1(1270)\nu_\tau$ and $K_1(1400)\nu_\tau$ decays, the mixing angle is extracted to be $\pm 37^\circ$ and $\pm 58^\circ$ in [26]. The sign ambiguity for θ_{K_1} is due to the fact that one can add arbitrary phases to $|\bar{K}_{1A}\rangle$ and $|\bar{K}_{1B}\rangle$. This sign ambiguity can be removed by fixing the signs for $f_{K_{1A}}$ and $f_{K_{1B}}^\perp$, which do not vanish in the SU(3) limit and are defined by

$$\langle 0 | \bar{\psi} \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 s | \bar{K}_{1A}(P, \lambda) \rangle = -i f_{K_{1A}} m_{K_{1A}} \epsilon_\mu^{(\lambda)}, \quad (1.6)$$

$$\langle 0 | \bar{\psi} \sigma_{\mu\nu} s | \bar{K}_{1B}(P, \lambda) \rangle = i f_{K_{1B}}^\perp \epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} \epsilon_\alpha^{(\lambda)} P^\beta, \quad (1.7)$$

(with $\psi \equiv u$ or d) in the present paper. Following Ref. [27], we adopt the convention $f_{K_{1A}} > 0$, $f_{K_{1B}}^\perp > 0$, and $\epsilon^{0123} = -1$. Thus, the signs of the $\bar{B} \rightarrow \bar{K}_{1A,B}$ tensor form factors also depend on the definition mentioned above. See also the discussions after Eq. (5.2).

In the quark model calculation, it was argued that the radiative B decay involving the K_{1B} , which is the pure 1^1P_1 octet state, is forbidden because the effective operator O_7 is a spin-flip operator [5]. However, this is not true. Although, in the quark model, the 1^1P_1 meson is represented as a constituent quark-antiquark pair with total spin $S = 0$ and angular momentum $L = 1$, a real hadron in QCD language should be described in terms of a set of Fock states, for which each state with the same quantum number as the hadron can be represented using light-cone distribution amplitudes (LCDAs). In terms of LCDAs, the leading-twist

LCDAs of the \bar{K}_{1B} do not vanish, so that $\bar{B} \rightarrow \bar{K}_{1B}$ tensor form factors are not zero. As a matter of fact, due to the G parity, the leading-twist LCDA $\Phi_{\perp}^{K_{1A}}$ ($\Phi_{\parallel}^{K_{1B}}$) of the \bar{K}_{1A} (\bar{K}_{1B}) meson defined by the nonlocal tensor current (nonlocal axial-vector current) is antisymmetric under the exchange of *quark* and *antiquark* momentum fractions in the $SU(3)$ limit, whereas the $\Phi_{\parallel}^{K_{1A}}$ ($\Phi_{\perp}^{K_{1B}}$) is symmetric [27,28]. The above properties were not well recognized in the previous light-cone (LC) sum rule calculation [7,29]. In Ref. [7], the author used only the ‘‘symmetrically’’ asymptotic form for leading-twist distribution amplitudes of the real states $K_1(1270)$ and $K_1(1400)$: $\Phi_{\perp}^{K_1(1270)}(u) = \Phi_{\perp}^{K_1(1400)}(u) = 6u\bar{u}$, in the LC sum rule calculation. In Ref. [29], only the $\bar{B} \rightarrow \bar{K}_{1B}$ tensor form factor $T_1^{K_{1B}}(0)$ [see Eq. (3.1) for the definition] is computed. The correct forms of LCDAs for the axial-vector mesons have been studied in detail in Ref. [27]. Using the LCDAs in Ref. [27], $B \rightarrow K_1\gamma$ decays have recently been investigated in the perturbative QCD (PQCD) approach [30].

In this paper, making use of the LCDAs for the \bar{K}_{1A} and \bar{K}_{1B} in Refs. [27,28], we study the $B \rightarrow K_1\gamma$ decays. We compute the relevant $\bar{B} \rightarrow \bar{K}_{1A}$ and \bar{K}_{1B} tensor form factors in the LC sum rule approach. The method of LC sum rules has been widely used in the studies of nonperturbative processes, including weak baryon decays [31], heavy meson decays [32], and heavy to light transition form factors [33–35]. We find that the $B \rightarrow K_1\gamma$ data favor a negative θ_{K_1} . The more precise estimate can be made through the analysis for the $\tau^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1270)\nu_{\tau}$ data. The predicted branching ratios for $B \rightarrow K_1(1270)\gamma$, $K_1(1400)\gamma$ are in agreement with the data within errors.

This paper is organized as follows. In Sec. II, the relevant effective Hamiltonian is given. In Sec. III, we provide the definition of $\bar{B} \rightarrow \bar{K}_1$ tensor form factors and then give the formula for the $B \rightarrow K_1\gamma$ branching ratios. In Sec. IV we derive the LC sum rules for the relevant tensor form factors, $T_{K_{1A}}$ and $T_{K_{1B}}$. The numerical results and detailed analyses are given in Sec. V. We conclude in Sec. VI. The relevant expressions for two-parton and three-parton LCDAs are collected in Appendixes A and B, respectively.

II. THE EFFECTIVE HAMILTONIAN

Neglecting doubly Cabibbo-suppressed contributions, the weak effective Hamiltonian relevant to $b \rightarrow s\gamma$ is given by

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}}(b \rightarrow s\gamma) = \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \left\{ V_{cb}V_{cs}^* (c_1(\mu)O_1^c(\mu) + c_2(\mu)O_2^c(\mu)) - V_{tb}V_{ts}^* \sum_{i=3}^8 c_i(\mu)O_i(\mu) \right\}, \quad (2.1)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} O_1^c &= (\bar{c}b)_{V-A}(\bar{s}c)_{V-A}, \\ O_2^c &= (\bar{c}_{\alpha}b_{\beta})_{V-A}(\bar{s}_{\beta}c_{\alpha})_{V-A}, \\ O_3 &= (\bar{s}b)_{V-A} \sum_q (\bar{q}q)_{V-A}, \\ O_4 &= (\bar{s}_{\alpha}b_{\beta})_{V-A} \sum_q (\bar{q}_{\beta}q_{\alpha})_{V-A}, \\ O_5 &= (\bar{s}b)_{V-A} \sum_q (\bar{q}q)_{V+A}, \\ O_6 &= (\bar{s}_{\alpha}b_{\beta})_{V-A} \sum_q (\bar{q}_{\beta}q_{\alpha})_{V+A}, \\ O_7 &= \frac{em_b}{8\pi^2} \bar{s}_{\alpha} \sigma^{\mu\nu} (1 + \gamma_5) b_{\alpha} F_{\mu\nu}, \\ O_8 &= \frac{g_s m_b}{8\pi^2} \bar{s}_{\alpha} \sigma^{\mu\nu} (1 + \gamma_5) T_{\alpha\beta}^a b_{\beta} G_{\mu\nu}^a, \end{aligned} \quad (2.2)$$

where α, β are the $SU(3)$ color indices, $V \pm A$ correspond to $\gamma^{\mu}(1 \pm \gamma^5)$, and we have neglected corrections due to the s -quark mass. We will adopt the next-to-leading order (NLO) Wilson coefficients computed in Ref. [36].

III. THE FORMULA FOR THE $B \rightarrow K_1\gamma$ BRANCHING RATIO

The *penguin* form factors for $B \rightarrow K_1$ are defined as follows:

$$\langle \bar{K}_1(p, \lambda) | \bar{s} \sigma_{\mu\nu} \gamma_5 q^{\nu} b | \bar{B}(p_B) \rangle = 2T_1^{K_1}(q^2) \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \epsilon_{(\lambda)}^{*\nu} p_B^{\rho} p^{\sigma}, \quad (3.1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \bar{K}_1(p, \lambda) | \bar{s} \sigma^{\mu\nu} q_{\nu} b | \bar{B}(p_B) \rangle &= -iT_2^{K_1}(q^2) [(m_B^2 - m_{K_1}^2) \epsilon_{(\lambda)}^{*\mu} \\ &\quad - (\epsilon_{(\lambda)}^* q)(p + p_B)^{\mu}] \\ &\quad - iT_3^{K_1}(q^2) (\epsilon_{(\lambda)}^* q) \\ &\quad \times \left[q^{\mu} - \frac{q^2}{m_B^2 - m_{K_1}^2} \right. \\ &\quad \left. \times (p + p_B)^{\mu} \right], \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

with

$$T_1^{K_1}(0) = T_2^{K_1}(0), \quad (3.3)$$

where \bar{K}_1 can be \bar{K}_{1A} or \bar{K}_{1B} [or $\bar{K}_1(1270)$, $\bar{K}_1(1400)$].

At the next-to-leading order of α_s , the branching ratio can be expressed as [9,37,38]

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K_1\gamma) &= \tau_B \Gamma(B \rightarrow K_1\gamma) \\ &= \tau_B \frac{G_F^2 \alpha |V_{tb}V_{ts}^*|^2}{32\pi^4} m_{b,\text{pole}}^2 m_B^3 (T_1^{K_1}(0))^2 \\ &\quad \times \left(1 - \frac{m_{K_1}^2}{m_B^2} \right)^3 |c_7^{(0)\text{eff}} + A^{(1)}|^2, \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

where $m_{b,\text{pole}}$ is the pole mass of the b quark, and α is the

electromagnetic fine structure constant. The effective coefficient $c_7^{(0)\text{eff}}$ in the naive dimensional regularization (NDR) scheme is defined by $c_7^{(0)\text{eff}} = c_7 - \frac{1}{3}c_5 - c_6$. $A^{(1)}$ can be decomposed as

$$A^{(1)}(\mu) = A_{C_7}^{(1)}(\mu) + A_{\text{ver}}^{(1)}(\mu) + A_{\text{sp}}^{(1)K_1}(\mu_{\text{sp}}), \quad (3.5)$$

where $A_{C_7}^{(1)}$, $A_{\text{ver}}^{(1)}$, which are the NLO corrections due to the Wilson coefficient $c_7^{(0)\text{eff}}$ and in the $b \rightarrow s \gamma$ vertex, respectively, and $A_{\text{sp}}^{(1)K_1}$, which is the hard-spectator correction, are given by

$$A_{C_7}^{(1)}(\mu) = \frac{\alpha_s(\mu)}{4\pi} c_7^{(1)\text{eff}}(\mu), \quad (3.6)$$

$$A_{\text{ver}}^{(1)}(\mu) = \frac{\alpha_s(\mu)}{4\pi} \left\{ \frac{32}{81} [13c_1^{(0)}(\mu) - 9c_8^{(0)\text{eff}}(\mu)] \ln \frac{\bar{m}_b}{\mu} + \frac{4}{27} \times (33 - 2\pi^2 + 6\pi i) c_8^{(0)\text{eff}}(\mu) + r_2(z) c_1^{(0)}(\mu) \right\}, \quad (3.7)$$

$$A_{\text{sp}}^{(1)K_1}(\mu_{\text{sp}}) = \frac{\pi \alpha_s(\mu_{\text{sp}}) C_F}{3N_c} \frac{f_B f_{K_1}^\perp \lambda_B^{-1}}{m_B T_1^{K_1}(0)} \left\{ c_8^{(0)\text{eff}}(\mu_{\text{sp}}) \times \langle u^{-1} \rangle_{\perp}^{(K_1)} - c_1^{(0)}(\mu_{\text{sp}}) \left\langle \frac{\Delta i_5(z_0^{(c)}, 0, 0)}{\bar{u}} \right\rangle_{\perp} \right\}. \quad (3.8)$$

Here $c_8^{\text{eff}} = c_8 + c_5$, m_B/λ_B describes the first negative moment of the B -meson distribution amplitude Φ_{B1} [38,39], and

$$\langle u^{-1} \rangle_{\perp}^{(K_1)} \equiv \int_0^1 du \frac{\Phi_{\perp}^{K_1}(u)}{u}, \quad (3.9)$$

$$\left\langle \frac{\Delta i_5(z_0^{(c)}, 0, 0)}{\bar{u}} \right\rangle_{\perp} \equiv \int_0^1 du \frac{\Delta i_5(z_0^{(c)}, 0, 0)}{\bar{u}} \Phi_{\perp}^{K_1}(u), \quad (3.10)$$

with $z = (\bar{m}_c/\bar{m}_b)^2$ and $z_0^{(c)} \simeq m_B^2 \bar{u}/\bar{m}_c^2$, where $\bar{m}_c \equiv \bar{m}_c(\bar{m}_c)$ and $\bar{m}_b \equiv \bar{m}_b(\bar{m}_b)$ are the $\overline{\text{MS}}$ c - and b -quark masses, respectively. The detailed definitions of the functions $r_2(z)$ and $\Delta i_5(z_0^{(c)}, 0, 0)$ can be found in Refs. [36,37]. In the numerical calculation, we set the scale for the vertex corrections to be $\mu = \bar{m}_b$ and the scale for the spectator interactions to be $\mu_{\text{sp}} = \sqrt{\Lambda_h \bar{m}_b}$, where $\Lambda_h \simeq 0.5 \text{ GeV}$ corresponds to the hadronic scale.

IV. THE LIGHT-CONE SUM RULE FOR $T_1^{K_1}$

To calculate the form factor $T_1^{K_1}$, we consider the two-point correlation function, which is sandwiched between the vacuum and transverse polarized K_1 meson,

$$i \int d^4 x e^{iqx} \langle \bar{K}_1(P, \perp) | T[\bar{s}(x) \sigma_{\mu\nu} b(x) j_B^\dagger(0)] | 0 \rangle = -i \mathbb{A}(p_B^2, q^2) \{ \epsilon_\mu^{*(\perp)}(2P+q)_\nu - \epsilon_\nu^{*(\perp)}(2P+q)_\mu \} + i \mathbb{B}(p_B^2, q^2) \{ \epsilon_\mu^{*(\perp)} q_\nu - \epsilon_\nu^{*(\perp)} q_\mu \} + 2i \mathbb{C}(p_B^2, q^2) \frac{\epsilon^{*(\perp)} q}{m_B^2 - m_{K_1}^2} \{ P_\mu q_\nu - q_\mu P_\nu \}, \quad (4.1)$$

where $j_B = i\bar{\psi}\gamma_5 b$ (with $\psi \equiv u$ or d) is the interpolating current for the B meson, $p_B^2 = (P+q)^2$, and P is the momentum of the K_1 meson. Note that in this section $K_1 \equiv K_{1A}$ or K_{1B} . \mathbb{A} is the only relevant term in the present study, and at the hadron level it can be written in the form

$$\mathbb{A}(p_B^2, q^2) = T_1^{K_1}(q^2) \cdot \frac{1}{m_B^2 - p_B^2} \cdot \frac{m_B^2 f_B}{m_b} + \dots, \quad (4.2)$$

where the dots denote contributions that have poles $p_B^2 = m_{B^*}^2$ with m_{B^*} being the masses of the higher resonance B^* mesons. To obtain the result for \mathbb{A} , we have taken into account here the transverse polarized K_1 , instead of its longitudinal component, because for the longitudinal K_1 , \mathbb{A} mixes with \mathbb{B} and \mathbb{C} for an energetic K_1 .

In a region of sufficiently large virtualities, $m_b^2 - p_B^2 \gg \Lambda_{\text{QCD}} m_b$, with a small $q^2 \geq 0$, the operator product expansion is applicable in Eq. (4.1), so that in QCD for an energetic K_1 meson the correlation function in Eq. (4.1) can be represented in terms of the LCDAs of the K_1 meson:

$$i \int d^4 x e^{iqx} \langle \bar{K}_1(P, \perp) | T[\bar{s}(x) \sigma_{\mu\nu} b(x) j_B^\dagger(0)] | 0 \rangle = \int_0^1 \frac{-i}{(q+k)^2 - m_b^2} \text{Tr}[\sigma_{\mu\nu} (\not{q} + \not{k} + m_b) \gamma_5 M_{\perp}^{K_1}] |_{k=uEn_-} du + \frac{1}{4} \int_0^1 dv \int_0^1 D\alpha \times \frac{2vE^2(n-q)(f_{3K_1}^A \mathcal{A}(\alpha) + f_{3K_1}^V \mathcal{V}(\alpha)) \text{Tr}(\sigma_{\mu\nu} \not{\epsilon}_{(\perp)}^* \not{\epsilon}_{(-)})}{\{m_b^2 - [q + (\alpha_1 + \alpha_g v)En_-]^2\}^2} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{m_{K_1}^2}{E^2}\right), \quad (4.3)$$

where $f_{3K_1}^A \sim \mathcal{O}(f_{K_1} m_{K_1})$, $f_{3K_1}^V \sim \mathcal{O}(f_{K_1} m_{K_1})$, $E = |\vec{P}|$, $P^\mu = En^\mu + m_{K_1}^2 n_+^\mu / (4E) \simeq En^\mu$ with two lightlike vectors satisfying $n_- n_+ = 2$ and $n_-^2 = n_+^2 = 0$. Here $E \sim m_b$, and we have assigned the momentum of the s quark in the K_1 meson to be

$$k^\mu = uEn^\mu + k_\perp^\mu + \frac{k_\perp^2}{4uE} n_+^\mu, \quad (4.4)$$

where k_\perp is of order Λ_{QCD} . In Eq. (4.3), in calculating contributions due to the two-parton LCDAs of the \bar{K}_1 in the momentum space, we have used the following substitution for the Fourier transform of $\langle \bar{K}_1(P, \perp) | \bar{s}_\alpha(x) \psi_\delta(0) | 0 \rangle$,

$$x^\mu \rightarrow -i \frac{\partial}{\partial k_\mu} \simeq -i \left(\frac{n_\perp^\mu}{2E} \frac{\partial}{\partial u} + \frac{\partial}{\partial k_{\perp\mu}} \right), \quad (4.5)$$

where the term of order k_\perp^2 is omitted. Thus, we can obtain the light-cone transverse projection operator $M_\perp^{K_1}$ of the \bar{K}_1 meson in the momentum space:

$$\begin{aligned} M_\perp^{K_1} &= i \frac{f_{\bar{K}_1}^\perp}{4} E \not{\epsilon}_\perp^{*(\lambda)} \not{\epsilon}_- \gamma_5 \Phi_\perp(u) - i \frac{f_{K_1} m_{K_1}}{4} \left\{ \not{\epsilon}_\perp^{*(\lambda)} \gamma_5 g_\perp^{(a)}(u) \right. \\ &\quad - E \int_0^u dv \Phi_a(v) \not{\epsilon}_- \gamma_5 \epsilon_{\perp\mu}^{*(\lambda)} \frac{\partial}{\partial k_{\perp\mu}} \\ &\quad + i \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \gamma^\mu \epsilon_{\perp}^{*(\lambda)\nu} n^\rho \left[n_+^\sigma \frac{g_\perp^{(v)'}(u)}{8} \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. - E \frac{g_\perp^{(v)}(u)}{4} \frac{\partial}{\partial k_{\perp\sigma}} \right] \right\} \Big|_{k=up} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{m_{K_1}^2}{E^2}\right), \quad (4.6) \end{aligned}$$

where $\Phi_a \equiv \Phi_\parallel - g_\perp^{(a)}$ and the detailed definitions for the relevant two-parton LCDAs are collected in Appendix A. A similar discussion for the vector meson projection operators can be found in Ref. [40]. From the expansion of the transverse projection operator, one can find that contributions arising from Φ_a , $g_\perp^{(v)'}$, and $g_\perp^{(v)}$ are suppressed by m_{K_1}/E as compared with that from Φ_\perp . Note that in Eq. (4.3) the derivative with respect to the transverse momentum acts on the hard scattering amplitude before the collinear approximation is taken. The three-parton chiral-even distribution amplitudes of twist 3, $\mathcal{A}(\underline{\alpha})$ and $\mathcal{V}(\underline{\alpha})$, together with their decay constants, $f_{3K_1}^A$ and $f_{3K_1}^V$, are defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \bar{K}_1(P, \lambda) | \bar{s}(x) \gamma_\alpha \gamma_5 g_s G_{\mu\nu}(vx) \psi(0) | 0 \rangle \\ = p_\alpha [p_\nu \epsilon_{\perp\mu}^{*(\lambda)} - p_\mu \epsilon_{\perp\nu}^{*(\lambda)}] f_{3K_1}^A \mathcal{A}(v, -px) + \dots, \quad (4.7) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \bar{K}_1(P, \lambda) | \bar{s}(x) \gamma_\alpha g_s \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}(vx) \psi(0) | 0 \rangle \\ = i p_\alpha [p_\mu \epsilon_{\perp\nu}^{*(\lambda)} - p_\nu \epsilon_{\perp\mu}^{*(\lambda)}] f_{3K_1}^V \mathcal{V}(v, -px) + \dots, \quad (4.8) \end{aligned}$$

where we have set $p_\mu = P_\mu - m_{K_1}^2 \bar{z}_\mu / (2P\bar{z})$ with

$$\bar{z}_\mu = x_\mu - \frac{P_\mu}{m_{K_1}^2} \{xP - [(xP)^2 - x^2 m_{K_1}^2]^{1/2}\}.$$

Here the ellipses stand for terms of twist higher than 3, the following shorthand notations are used,

$$\mathcal{A}(v, -px) \equiv \int \mathcal{D}\underline{\alpha} e^{ipx(\alpha_1 + v\alpha_g)} \mathcal{A}(\underline{\alpha}), \quad (4.9)$$

etc., and the integration measure is defined as

$$\int \mathcal{D}\underline{\alpha} \equiv \int_0^1 d\alpha_1 \int_0^1 d\alpha_2 \int_0^1 d\alpha_g \delta\left(1 - \sum \alpha_i\right), \quad (4.10)$$

with $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_g$ being the momentum fractions carried by the s quark, $\psi(\equiv \bar{u}$ or $\bar{d})$ quark, and gluon, respectively. At the quark-gluon level, after performing the integration of Eq. (4.3), the result for \mathbb{A}^{QCD} reads (with $\bar{u} = 1 - u$)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{A}^{\text{QCD}} &= -\frac{m_b f_{K_1}^\perp}{2} \int_0^1 du \left\{ \frac{1}{m_b^2 - up_B^2 - \bar{u}q^2} \left[\Phi_\perp(u) - \frac{m_{K_1} f_{K_1}}{m_b f_{K_1}^\perp} \left(u g_\perp^{(a)}(u) + \Phi_a(u) + \frac{g_\perp^{(v)}(u)}{4} - \frac{g_\perp^{(v)'}(u)}{4} \frac{p_B^2 + q^2}{p_B^2 - q^2} \right) \right] \right. \\ &\quad - \frac{m_{K_1} f_{K_1}}{4 m_b f_{K_1}^\perp} \frac{(m_b^2 + q^2)}{(m_b^2 - up_B^2 - \bar{u}q^2)^2} g_\perp^{(v)}(u) \left. \right\} - \int_0^1 v dv \int_0^1 \mathcal{D}\underline{\alpha} \frac{f_{3K_1}^A \mathcal{A}(\underline{\alpha}) + f_{3K_1}^V \mathcal{V}(\underline{\alpha})}{2(\alpha_1 + v\alpha_g)} \\ &\quad \times \left[\frac{1}{m_b^2 - (\alpha_1 + v\alpha_g)(p_B^2 - q^2) - q^2} - \frac{m_b^2 - q^2}{[m_b^2 - (\alpha_1 + v\alpha_g)(p_B^2 - q^2) - q^2]^2} \right]. \quad (4.11) \end{aligned}$$

We have given the results of \mathbb{A} from the hadron and quark-gluon points of view, respectively. Thus, the contribution due to the lowest-lying K_1 meson can be further approximated with the help of quark-hadron duality:

$$T_1^{K_1}(q^2) \cdot \frac{1}{m_B^2 - p_B^2} \cdot \frac{m_B^2 f_B}{m_b} = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{m_b^2}^{s_0} \frac{\text{Im} \mathbb{A}^{\text{QCD}}(s, q^2)}{s - p_B^2} ds, \quad (4.12)$$

where s_0 is the excited state threshold. After applying the Borel transform $p_B^2 \rightarrow M^2$ to the above equation, we obtain

$$T_1^{K_1}(q^2) = \frac{m_b}{m_B^2 f_B} e^{-m_b^2/M^2} \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{m_b^2}^{s_0} e^{s/M^2} \text{Im} \mathbb{A}^{\text{QCD}}(s, q^2) ds. \quad (4.13)$$

Finally, the light-cone sum rule for $T_1^{K_1}$ reads

$$\begin{aligned}
 T_1^{K_1}(q^2) = & -\frac{m_b^2 f_{K_1}^\perp}{2m_B^2 f_B} e^{(m_b^2 - m_B^2)/M^2} \int_0^1 du \left\{ \frac{1}{u} e^{\bar{u}(q^2 - m_b^2)/(uM^2)} \theta[c(u, s_0)] \left[\Phi^\perp(u) - \frac{m_{K_1} f_{K_1}}{m_b f_{K_1}^\perp} \left(u g_\perp^{(a)}(u) + \Phi_a(u) + \frac{g_\perp^{(v)}(u)}{4} \right. \right. \right. \\
 & \left. \left. - \frac{g_\perp^{(v)}(u)}{4} \frac{m_b^2 + (u - \bar{u})q^2}{m_b^2 - q^2} \right) \right] - \frac{1}{u} e^{\bar{u}(q^2 - m_b^2)/(uM^2)} \frac{1}{4} \frac{m_{K_1} f_{K_1}}{m_b f_{K_1}^\perp} (m_b^2 + q^2) g_\perp^{(v)}(u) \left(\frac{\theta[c(u, s_0)]}{uM^2} + \delta[c(u, s_0)] \right) \\
 & \left. - \frac{m_{K_1} f_{K_1}}{m_b f_{K_1}^\perp} \frac{g_\perp^{(v)}(u)}{2} \frac{q^2}{m_b^2 - q^2} e^{(m_b^2 - q^2)/M^2} \right\} \\
 & - \frac{m_b}{2m_B^2 f_B} e^{(m_b^2 - m_B^2)/M^2} \int_0^1 v dv \int_0^1 D\alpha \frac{f_{3K_1}^A \mathcal{A}(\alpha) + f_{3K_1}^V \mathcal{V}(\alpha)}{(\alpha_1 + v\alpha_g)^2} e^{(1 - \alpha_1 - v\alpha_g)(q^2 - m_b^2)/[(\alpha_1 + v\alpha_g)M^2]} \\
 & \times \left\{ \theta[c(\alpha_1 + v\alpha_g, s_0)] - (m_b^2 - q^2) \left(\frac{\theta[c(\alpha_1 + v\alpha_g, s_0)]}{(\alpha_1 + v\alpha_g)M^2} + \delta[c(\alpha_1 + v\alpha_g, s_0)] \right) \right\}, \tag{4.14}
 \end{aligned}$$

where $c(u, s_0) = us_0 - m_b^2 + (1 - u)q^2$ and $\theta[\dots]$ is the step function. Note that here $f_{K_1A}^\perp$ is chosen to be f_{K_1A} , while f_{K_1B} is adopted to be $f_{K_1B}^\perp$ (1 GeV). [See Eq. (A4) and related discussions.]

V. RESULTS

A. $T_1^{K_1A}$ and $T_1^{K_1B}$ LCSR results and $B \rightarrow K_1 \gamma$ branching ratios

Parameters relevant to the present study are collected in Table I. We first analyze the $T_1(0)$ sum rules numerically. The pole b quark mass is adopted in the LC sum rule. The $f_{K_1}^\perp$ and parameters appearing in the distribution amplitudes are evaluated at the factorization scale $\mu_f = \sqrt{m_B^2 - m_{b,\text{pole}}^2}$. On the other hand, the form factor $T_1(0)$ depends on the renormalization scale of the effective Hamiltonian, for which the scale is set to be $\bar{m}_b(\bar{m}_b)$. The working Borel window is $7.0 \text{ GeV}^2 < M^2 < 13.0 \text{ GeV}^2$, where the correction originating from higher resonance states amounts to 15% to 35%. We do not include the contributions of the twist-4 LCDAs and three-parton twist-3 chiral-even LCDAs in the light-cone sum rule since these corrections to light-cone expansion series is of order $(m_{K_1}/m_b)^2$ and might be negligible. The excited state threshold s_0 can be determined when the most stable plateau of the LC sum rule result is obtained within the Borel window. We find that the corresponding threshold s_0 lies in the interval 32–36 GeV^2 .

Two remarks are in order. First, we have consistently used $f_B = 190 \pm 10 \text{ MeV}$ in all numerical analyses. In the literature, it was *assumed* that the theoretical errors due to the radiative corrections in the form factor sum rules can be canceled if one adopts the f_B sum rule result with the same order of α_s corrections in the calculation [34,35]. Nevertheless, the resulting sum rule result for $T_1^{BK^*}(0)$ seems to be significantly larger than the estimate extracted from the data [37], although the sum rule result can be improved by including α_s corrections [35]. We have checked that, using the physical value of f_B , that we adopt

here, in the $T_1^{BK^*}(0)$ LC sum rule with the same order in α_s and m_{K_1}/m_b , we get $T_1^{BK^*}(0) \approx 0.25_{-0.02}^{+0.03}$ which is in good agreement with the result constrained by the data [37,41]. Extracting from the data, the current estimation is $T_1^{BK^*}(0) = 0.267 \pm 0.018$ [41]. The lattice QCD result is $T_1^{BK^*}(0) = 0.24 \pm 0.03_{-0.01}^{+0.04}$ [42]. Therefore, although the radiative corrections can be important in the form factor sum rule calculations, its effects are significantly reduced and may be negligible in the present analysis. Second, a_1^{\parallel, K_1A} , a_0^{\perp, K_1A} , a_2^{\perp, K_1A} , a_0^{\parallel, K_1B} , a_2^{\parallel, K_1B} , and a_1^{\perp, K_1B} are G -parity violating Gegenbauer moments, which vanish in the SU(3) limit. Using the QCD sum rules, the relation $a_0^{\perp, K_1A} + (0.59 \pm 0.15)a_0^{\parallel, K_1B} = 0.17 \pm 0.11$ was obtained, instead of their individual values [27]. It will be seen later that, due to the data for $\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K_1(1270)\gamma) \gg \mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K_1(1400)\gamma)$ and for $\tau^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1270)\nu_\tau$, θ_{K_1} and a_0^{\parallel, K_1B} should be negative. Here we further make reasonable assumptions that $|a_0^{\parallel, K_1B} f_{K_1B}| \leq 30\% \times f_{K_1B}^\perp$ and $|a_0^{\perp, K_1A} f_{K_1A}^\perp| (1 \text{ GeV}) \leq 30\% \times f_{K_1A}$ to account for the possible SU(3) breaking effect; i.e., we assume the G -parity correction is roughly less than 30%. [See Eqs. (5.3), (5.4), (5.5), and (5.6) for the detailed definitions of parameters.] Finally, we arrive at $a_0^{\parallel, K_1B} = -0.15 \pm 0.15$ and $a_0^{\perp, K_1A} = 0.26_{-0.22}^{+0.04}$. As shown in Table I, once these two parameters are determined, the remaining G -parity violating Gegenbauer moments are thus updated according to the relations given in Eq. (141) in Ref. [27].

To illustrate the qualities and uncertainties of the sum rules, we plot the results for $T_1^{K_1A}(0)$ and $T_1^{K_1B}(0)$ as functions of M^2 in Fig. 1. We obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 T_1^{K_1A}(0) &= 0.31_{-0.04-0.01-0.03}^{+0.06+0.01+0.06}, \\
 T_1^{K_1B}(0) &= -(0.25_{-0.02-0.01-0.07}^{+0.03+0.01+0.05}), \tag{5.1}
 \end{aligned}$$

where the first, second, and third error bars come from the variations of $m_{b,\text{pole}}$, f_B , and the remaining parameters, respectively. The third errors are mainly due to the G -parity violating Gegenbauer moments of the leading-

TABLE I. Summary of input parameters [11,27,39].

Running quark masses (GeV), pole b -quark mass (GeV), and couplings					
$\bar{m}_c(\bar{m}_c)$	$m_s(2 \text{ GeV})$	$\bar{m}_b(\bar{m}_b)$	$m_{b,\text{pole}}$	$\alpha_s(m_Z)$	α
1.25 ± 0.10	0.09 ± 0.01	4.25 ± 0.15	4.90 ± 0.05	0.1176	1/137
CKM matrix elements and the moment of the B distribution amplitude					
$ V_{cs} $		$ V_{cb} $	λ_B		
0.957 ± 0.095		$(41.6 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{-3}$	$(0.35 \pm 0.15) \text{ GeV}$		
Masses (GeV) and decay constants (MeV) for mesons					
$m_{K_{1A}}$	$m_{K_{1B}}$	$f_{K_{1A}}$	$f_{K_{1B}}^\perp (1 \text{ GeV})$	f_B	
1.31 ± 0.06	1.34 ± 0.08	250 ± 13	190 ± 10	190 ± 10	
Gegenbauer moments for the K_{1A} meson at scales 1 GeV and 2.2 GeV (in parentheses)					
$a_1^{\parallel,K_{1A}}$	$a_2^{\parallel,K_{1A}}$	$a_0^{\perp,K_{1A}}$	$a_1^{\perp,K_{1A}}$	$a_2^{\perp,K_{1A}}$	
$-0.30^{+0.26}_{-0.00}$ ($-0.24^{+0.21}_{-0.00}$)	-0.05 ± 0.03 (-0.04 ± 0.02)	$0.26^{+0.03}_{-0.22}$ ($0.24^{+0.03}_{-0.21}$)	-1.08 ± 0.48 (-0.84 ± 0.37)	0.02 ± 0.20 (0.01 ± 0.15)	
Gegenbauer moments for the K_{1B} meson at scales 1 GeV and 2.2 GeV (in parentheses)					
$a_0^{\parallel,K_{1B}}$	$a_1^{\parallel,K_{1B}}$	$a_2^{\parallel,K_{1B}}$	$a_1^{\perp,K_{1B}}$	$a_2^{\perp,K_{1B}}$	
-0.15 ± 0.15 (-0.15 ± 0.15)	-1.95 ± 0.45 (-1.56 ± 0.36)	$0.09^{+0.16}_{-0.18}$ ($0.06^{+0.11}_{-0.13}$)	$0.30^{+0.00}_{-0.31}$ ($0.25^{+0.00}_{-0.26}$)	-0.02 ± 0.22 (-0.02 ± 0.17)	
Parameters of twist-3 three-parton LCDAs of the K_{1A} meson at the scale 2.2 GeV					
$f_{3,K_{1A}}^V$ (in GeV^2)	$\omega_{K_{1A}}^V$	$\sigma_{K_{1A}}^V$	$f_{3,K_{1A}}^A$ (in GeV^2)	$\lambda_{K_{1A}}^A$	$\sigma_{K_{1A}}^A$
0.0034 ± 0.0018	-3.1 ± 1.1	-0.13 ± 0.16	0.0014 ± 0.0007	0.70 ± 0.46	2.4 ± 2.0
Parameters of twist-3 three-parton LCDAs of the K_{1B} meson at the scale 2.2 GeV					
$f_{3,K_{1B}}^V$ (in GeV^2)	$\lambda_{K_{1B}}^V$	$\sigma_{K_{1B}}^V$	$f_{3,K_{1B}}^A$ (in GeV^2)	$\omega_{K_{1B}}^A$	$\sigma_{K_{1B}}^A$
0.0029 ± 0.0012	0.09 ± 0.24	0.31 ± 0.68	-0.0041 ± 0.0018	-1.7 ± 0.4	-0.05 ± 0.04

twist LCDAs. Corrections arising from the three-parton LCDAs are less than 3%.

In calculating the $B \rightarrow K_1(1270)\gamma$ and $K_1(1400)\gamma$ branching ratios, $B \rightarrow K_1$ tensor form factors have the expressions

$$\begin{aligned}
 T_1^{K_1(1270)}(0) &= T_1^{K_{1A}}(0) \sin\theta_{K_1} + T_1^{K_{1B}}(0) \cos\theta_{K_1}, \\
 T_1^{K_1(1400)}(0) &= T_1^{K_{1A}}(0) \cos\theta_{K_1} - T_1^{K_{1B}}(0) \sin\theta_{K_1}.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{5.2}$$

From Eq. (4.14), we know that $T_1^{K_{1A}}$ and $T_1^{K_{1B}}$ depend on the

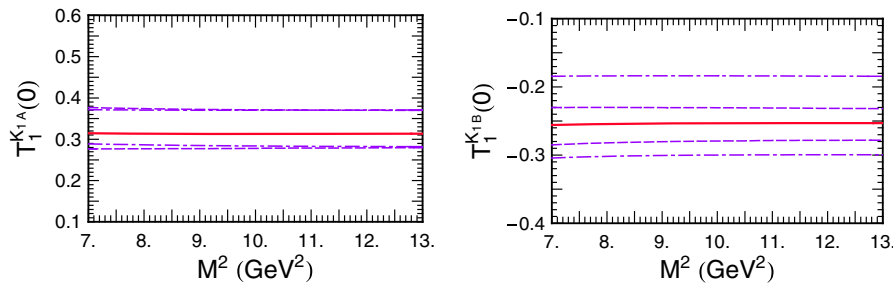


FIG. 1 (color online). $T_1^{K_{1A}}(0)$ and $T_1^{K_{1B}}(0)$ as functions of the Borel mass squared, where the central values of input parameters have been used in the solid curve. The dashed (dot-dashed) curves are for variation of the $m_{b,\text{pole}}$ (parameters for LCDAs) with the central values of the remaining theoretical parameters.

definition of the signs of $f_{K_{1A}}$ and $f_{K_{1B}}^\perp$, so that the resultant θ_{K_1} also depends on the signs of $f_{K_{1A}}$ and $f_{K_{1B}}^\perp$.

As for the relevant physical properties of \bar{K}_1 mesons, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 0 | \bar{\psi} \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 s | \bar{K}_1(1270)(P, \lambda) \rangle &= -i f_{K_1(1270)} m_{K_1(1270)} \epsilon_\mu^{(\lambda)} \\ &= -i (f_{K_{1A}} m_{K_{1A}} \sin \theta_{K_1} \\ &\quad + f_{K_{1B}} m_{K_{1B}} a_0^{\parallel, K_{1B}} \cos \theta_{K_1}) \epsilon_\mu^{(\lambda)}, \end{aligned} \quad (5.3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 0 | \bar{\psi} \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 s | \bar{K}_1(1400)(P, \lambda) \rangle &= -i f_{K_1(1400)} m_{K_1(1400)} \epsilon_\mu^{(\lambda)} \\ &= -i (f_{K_{1A}} m_{K_{1A}} \cos \theta_{K_1} \\ &\quad - f_{K_{1B}} m_{K_{1B}} a_0^{\parallel, K_{1B}} \sin \theta_{K_1}) \epsilon_\mu^{(\lambda)}, \end{aligned} \quad (5.4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 0 | \bar{\psi} \sigma_{\mu\nu} s | \bar{K}_1(1270)(P, \lambda) \rangle &= i f_{K_1(1270)}^\perp \epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} \epsilon_\alpha^{(\lambda)} P^\beta \\ &= i (f_{K_{1A}}^\perp a_0^{\perp, K_{1A}} \sin \theta_K \\ &\quad + f_{K_{1B}}^\perp \cos \theta_K) \epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} \epsilon_\alpha^{(\lambda)} P^\beta, \end{aligned} \quad (5.5)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \langle 0 | \bar{\psi} \sigma_{\mu\nu} s | \bar{K}_1(1400)(P, \lambda) \rangle &= i f_{K_1(1400)}^\perp \epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} \epsilon_\alpha^{(\lambda)} P^\beta \\ &= i (f_{K_{1A}}^\perp a_0^{\perp, K_{1A}} \cos \theta_K \\ &\quad - f_{K_{1B}}^\perp \sin \theta_K) \epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} \epsilon_\alpha^{(\lambda)} P^\beta, \end{aligned} \quad (5.6)$$

where the values of $f_{K_{1A}}$, $f_{K_{1B}}^\perp$, $m_{K_{1A}}$, $m_{K_{1B}}$, $a_0^{\parallel, K_{1B}}$, and $a_0^{\perp, K_{1A}}$ are given in Table I, and use of $f_{K_{1B}} = f_{K_{1B}}^\perp$ (1 GeV) and $f_{K_{1A}} = f_{K_{1A}}^\perp$ is made in the present study. Following this definition, $a_0^{\parallel, K_{1B}}$ and $a_0^{\perp, K_{1A}}$ vanish in the SU (3) limit, and we have the relations

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_\perp^{K_1(1270)}(u) &= \frac{f_{K_{1A}}^\perp}{f_{K_1(1270)}^\perp} \Phi_\perp^{K_{1A}}(u) \sin \theta_{K_1} \\ &\quad + \frac{f_{K_{1B}}^\perp}{f_{K_1(1270)}^\perp} \Phi_\perp^{K_{1B}}(u) \cos \theta_{K_1}, \end{aligned} \quad (5.7)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_\perp^{K_1(1400)}(u) &= \frac{f_{K_{1A}}^\perp}{f_{K_1(1400)}^\perp} \Phi_\perp^{K_{1A}}(u) \cos \theta_{K_1} \\ &\quad - \frac{f_{K_{1B}}^\perp}{f_{K_1(1400)}^\perp} \Phi_\perp^{K_{1B}}(u) \sin \theta_{K_1}. \end{aligned} \quad (5.8)$$

In Fig. 2 we plot the branching ratios of $B^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1270)\gamma$ and $B^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1400)\gamma$ as functions of θ_{K_1} . The mixing angle dependence of the $K_1^-(1270)\gamma$ mode is opposite to that of the $K_1^-(1400)\gamma$ mode. To satisfy the observable $\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K_1(1270)\gamma) \gg \mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K_1(1400)\gamma)$, we find that

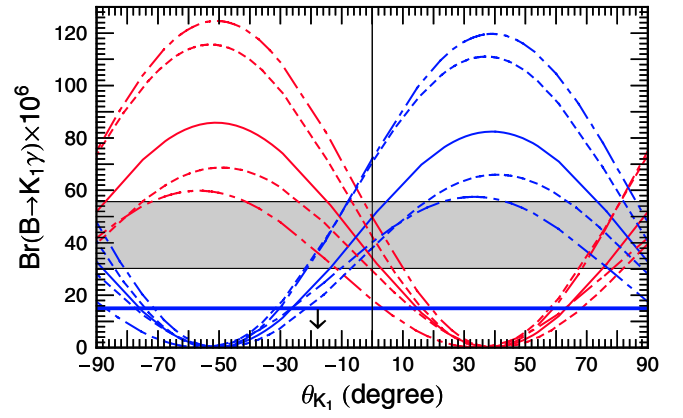


FIG. 2 (color online). Branching ratios as functions of the mixing angle θ_{K_1} . The upper five (red) curves at $\theta_{K_1} = -50^\circ$ are for the $K_1(1270)\gamma$ mode, and the lower five (blue) curves for the $K_1(1400)\gamma$ mode. The solid curves correspond to central values of the input parameters. The dot-dashed and dashed curves denote the theoretical uncertainties due to the parameters of LCDAs and $m_{b,\text{pole}}$, respectively. The horizontal line is the experimental limit on $B \rightarrow K_1(1400)\gamma$, and the horizontal band shows the experimental result for the $K_1(1270)\gamma$ mode with its 1σ error.

the sign of θ_{K_1} should be negative. The further constraint for θ_{K_1} can be obtained from the $\tau^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1270)\nu_\tau$ analysis.

B. The constraint for θ_{K_1} from the $\tau^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1270)\nu_\tau$ data

The decay constant $f_{K_1(1270)}$ can be extracted from the measurement $\tau^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1270)\nu_\tau$ by ALEPH [43]: $\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1270)\nu_\tau) = (4.7 \pm 1.1) \times 10^{-3}$, where the formula for the decay rate is given by

$$\Gamma(\tau \rightarrow K_1 \nu_\tau) = \frac{G_F^2}{16\pi} |V_{us}|^2 f_{K_1}^2 \frac{(m_\tau^2 + 2m_{K_1}^2)(m_\tau^2 - m_{K_1}^2)^2}{m_\tau^3}. \quad (5.9)$$

It was obtained in Refs. [26,30] that

$$|f_{K_1(1270)}| = 169_{-21}^{+19} \text{ MeV}. \quad (5.10)$$

As obtained in the previous subsection, θ_{K_1} should be negative to account for the observable $\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K_1(1270)\gamma) \gg \mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K_1(1400)\gamma)$. Using the values for $f_{K_{1A}}$ and $f_{K_{1B}}$ as given in Table I, the result for $f_{K_1(1270)}$ in Eq. (5.10), and the relation in Eq. (5.3), we find that $a_0^{\parallel, K_{1B}}$ should be negative. Further substituting $a_0^{\parallel, K_{1B}} = -0.15 \pm 0.15$ into Eq. (5.3), we obtain that θ_{K_1} lies in the interval $-21^\circ - 47^\circ$. We can use the obtained angle to predict the decay constants $f_{K_1(1270)}$ and $f_{K_1(1400)}$:

$$f_{K_1(1270)} = -(169_{-25-40}^{+25+49}) \text{ MeV}, \quad (5.11)$$

$$f_{K_1(1400)} = 179_{-13}^{+13+30}_{-39} \text{ MeV}, \quad (5.12)$$

for $\theta_{K_1} = (-34 \pm 13)^\circ$, where the first error is due to the uncertainties of decay constants and $a_0^{\parallel, K_{1B}}$, and the second due to the variation of θ_{K_1} . The first error is dominated by the variation of $a_0^{\parallel, K_{1B}}$. The predicted $\theta_{K_1} = (-34 \pm 13)^\circ$ is also consistent with the result given in Ref. [24], where $|\theta_{K_1}| \approx 33^\circ$ or 57° . We thus predict

$$\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1400)\nu_\tau) = (3.5_{-0.5}^{+0.5+1.2}) \times 10^{-3}, \quad (5.13)$$

to be compared with the current data $\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1400)\nu_\tau) = (1.7 \pm 2.6) \times 10^{-3}$ [11] which has large experimental error. If a more precise measurement for $\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1400)\nu_\tau)$ can also be achieved, we can extract directly the values of θ_{K_1} and $a_0^{\parallel, K_{1B}}$. Consequently, we can have more precise predictions for the $\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K_1(1270)\gamma)$ and $\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K_1(1400)\gamma)$ branching ratios and $B \rightarrow K_1$ transition form factors.

C. $B \rightarrow K_1\gamma$ branching ratios

Using $\bar{m}_c/\bar{m}_b = 1.25 \text{ GeV}/4.25 \text{ GeV}$, one finds

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K_1\gamma) &= \tau_B \frac{G_F^2 \alpha |V_{tb} V_{ts}^*|^2}{32\pi^4} m_{b,\text{pole}}^2 m_B^3 \left(1 - \frac{m_{K_1}^2}{m_B^2}\right)^3 \\ &\times (T_1^{K_1}(0))^2 |(-0.392 - i0.015) \\ &+ A_{\text{sp}}^{(1)K_1}(\mu_h)|^2, \end{aligned} \quad (5.14)$$

where $T_1^{K_1(1270)}(0)$ and $T_1^{K_1(1400)}(0)$, as given in Eq. (5.2), are θ_{K_1} dependent. For $\theta_{K_1} = (-34 \pm 13)^\circ$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} T_1^{K_1(1270)}(0) &= -(0.38_{-0.04}^{+0.06+0.08+0.02}), \\ T_1^{K_1(1400)}(0) &= 0.12_{-0.02}^{+0.03+0.02+0.08}, \end{aligned} \quad (5.15)$$

where the first uncertainty comes from the variation of $m_{b,\text{pole}}$ and f_B in the sum rules, the second from the parameters of LCDAs, and the third from θ_{K_1} . To illustrate the contribution due to the hard-spectator correction, it is interesting to note that, using $\lambda_B = 0.35 \text{ GeV}$, $\theta_{K_1} = -34^\circ$, $T_1^{K_{1A}}(0) = 0.31$, $T_1^{K_{1B}}(0) = -0.25$, and the center values of the remaining input parameters, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} A_{\text{sp}}^{(1)K_1(1270)}(\mu_h) &= 0.016 + i0.013, \\ A_{\text{sp}}^{(1)K_1(1400)}(\mu_h) &= 0.017 - i0.047, \end{aligned} \quad (5.16)$$

which suppress the decay rates slightly by about 8%, in contrast to the $B \rightarrow K^*\gamma$ decay where the interference between the hard-spectator correction $A_{\text{sp}}^{(1)K^*}(\mu_h) = -0.013 - i0.011$ and the remainder is constructive [37].

In Table II, we present a comparison of the resulting branching ratios in this work with the data. Our results are consistent with the Belle measurement [4] within errors. A much more precise determination of θ_{K_1} can be made by the measurement

TABLE II. Branching ratios for the radiative decays $B \rightarrow K_1(1270)\gamma$, $K_1(1400)\gamma$ (in units of 10^{-6}) in this work and experiment [4]. The branching ratios correspond to $\theta_{K_1} = (-34 \pm 13)^\circ$ in our work, where the first error comes from the variation of $m_{b,\text{pole}}$ and f_B , the second from the parameters of LCDAs, the third from λ_B , and the fourth from θ_{K_1} . The annihilation amplitudes are not included in the neutral B decay modes.

	$\mathcal{B}(B^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1270)\gamma)$	$\mathcal{B}(B^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1400)\gamma)$
Experiment	43 ± 13	< 15
This work	$79_{-16}^{+25+36+2+7}$	$7.7_{-2.6}^{+4.7+2.4+0.1+14.2}$
	$\mathcal{B}(\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \bar{K}_1^0(1270)\gamma)$	$\mathcal{B}(\bar{B}^0 \rightarrow \bar{K}_1^0(1400)\gamma)$
Experiment	< 58	< 15
This work	$74_{-15}^{+23+34+2+7}$	$7.2_{-2.4}^{+4.4+2.2+0.1+13.3}$

$$R_{K_1} = \frac{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K(1400)\gamma)}{\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K(1270)\gamma)}. \quad (5.17)$$

The current upper bound of this ratio is $R_{K_1} < 0.5$. It can be seen from Fig. 3 that R_{K_1} weakly depends on the theoretical uncertainty. Thus, R_{K_1} is a suitable quantity for measuring the mixing angle θ_{K_1} . In the light-cone sum rule calculation, the physical quantities, including the branching ratios and transition form factors, receive large errors from the uncertainties of G -parity violating Gegenbauer moments. A more precise value for θ_{K_1} can be used to extract a better result of $a_0^{\parallel, K_{1B}}$ from the data for $\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1270)\nu_\tau)$; the remaining G -parity violating Gegenbauer moments can thus be determined using Eq. (141) in Ref. [27]. On the other hand, we can also obtain good estimates for θ_{K_1} and $a_0^{\parallel, K_{1B}}$ from the data $\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1270)\nu_\tau)$ and $\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1400)\nu_\tau)$ if we can improve the measurement for $\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1400)\nu_\tau)$. Consequently, theoretical uncertainties due to G -parity violating Gegenbauer moments

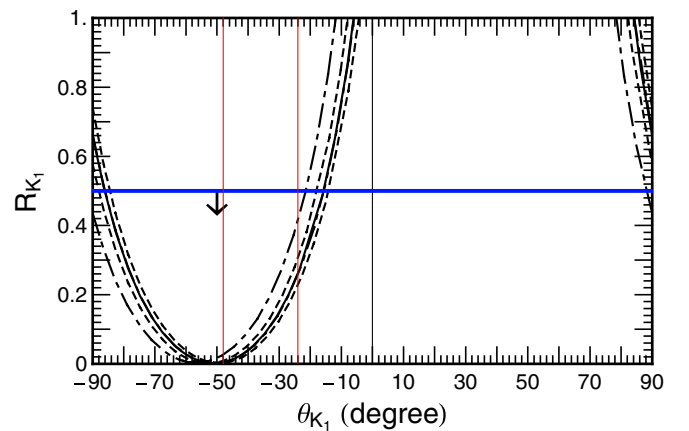


FIG. 3 (color online). Same as Fig. 2 except for the ratio $R_{K_1} = \mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K_1(1400)\gamma)/\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K_1(1270)\gamma)$ as a function of the mixing angle θ_{K_1} .

and θ_{K_1} can be reduced in the form factor and branching ratio calculations.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

We have presented a detailed study of $B \rightarrow K_1(1270)\gamma$ and $B \rightarrow K_1(1400)\gamma$ decays. Our main results are as follows.

- (i) Using the light-cone sum rule technique, we have evaluated the $B \rightarrow K_{1A}, K_{1B}$ tensor form factors, $T_1^{K_{1A}}(0)$ and $T_1^{K_{1B}}(0)$, where the contributions have been included up to the first order in m_{K_1}/m_b . We obtain $T_1^{K_{1A}}(0) = 0.31^{+0.06+0.01+0.06}_{-0.04-0.01-0.03}$ and $T_1^{K_{1B}}(0) = -(0.25^{+0.03+0.01+0.05}_{-0.02-0.01-0.07})$.
- (ii) The sign ambiguity of the $K_1(1270)$ - $K_1(1400)$ mixing angle θ_{K_1} can be resolved by defining $f_{K_{1A}}$ and $f_{K_{1B}}$ to be positive. Combining the analysis for the decays $B \rightarrow K_1 \gamma$ and $\tau^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1270)\nu_\tau$, we find that the mixing angle θ_{K_1} should be negative, and its value lies in the interval $-(34 \pm 13)^\circ$. We obtain $f_{K_1(1270)} = -(169^{+25+49}_{-25-40})$ MeV and $f_{K_1(1400)} = 179^{+13+30}_{-13-39}$ MeV, and predict $\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1400)\nu_\tau) = (3.5^{+0.5+1.2}_{-0.5-1.5}) \times 10^{-3}$.
- (iii) We find $T_1^{K_1(1270)}(0) = -(0.38^{+0.06+0.08+0.02}_{-0.04-0.07-0.04})$, $T_1^{K_1(1400)}(0) = 0.12^{+0.03+0.02+0.08}_{-0.02-0.00-0.09}$. The hard-spectator

contribution suppresses the $B \rightarrow K_1(1270)\gamma$ and $B \rightarrow K_1(1400)\gamma$ decay rates slightly by about 8%, in contrast with the situation for $B \rightarrow K^* \gamma$. The predicted branching ratios for the decays $B \rightarrow K_1(1270)\gamma$ and $B \rightarrow K_1(1400)\gamma$ agree with the data within the errors.

- (iv) We point out that better determinations of the θ_{K_1} and G -parity violating Gegenbaur moments of leading-twist light-cone distribution amplitudes can be obtained from a more precise measurement for the ratio $R_{K_1} = \mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K_1(1400)\gamma)/\mathcal{B}(B \rightarrow K_1(1270)\gamma)$ or from an improved measurement for $\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1400)\nu_\tau)$ together with the $\mathcal{B}(\tau^- \rightarrow K_1^-(1270)\nu_\tau)$ data. Thus, the theoretical uncertainties can be further reduced.

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APPENDIX A: TWO-PARTON DISTRIBUTION AMPLITUDES

In the calculation, the LCDAs of the axial meson appear in the following way:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \bar{K}_1(P, \lambda) | \bar{s}_\alpha(y) \psi_\delta(x) | 0 \rangle = & \frac{i}{4} \int_0^1 du e^{i(uPy + \bar{u}Px)} \left\{ f_{K_1} m_{K_1} \left[\not{P} \gamma_5 \frac{\epsilon_{(\lambda)z}^*}{P_z} \Phi_{\parallel}(u) + \left(\not{\epsilon}^* - \not{P} \frac{\epsilon_{(\lambda)z}^*}{P_z} \right) \gamma_5 g_{\perp}^{(a)}(u) \right. \right. \\ & - \not{\epsilon} \gamma_5 \frac{\epsilon_{(\lambda)z}^*}{2(P_z)^2} m_{K_1}^2 \bar{g}_3(u) + \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} \epsilon_{(\lambda)}^* p^\rho z^\sigma \gamma^\mu \frac{g_{\perp}^{(v)}(u)}{4} \left. \right] + f_{K_1}^{\perp} \left[\frac{1}{2} (\not{P} \not{\epsilon}_{(\lambda)}^* - \not{\epsilon}_{(\lambda)}^* \not{P}) \gamma_5 \Phi_{\perp}(u) \right. \\ & - \frac{1}{2} (\not{P} \not{\epsilon} - \not{\epsilon} \not{P}) \gamma_5 \frac{\epsilon_{(\lambda)z}^*}{(P_z)^2} m_{K_1}^2 \bar{h}_{\parallel}^{(t)}(u) - \frac{1}{4} (\not{\epsilon}_{(\lambda)}^* \not{\epsilon} - \not{\epsilon} \not{\epsilon}_{(\lambda)}^*) \gamma_5 \frac{m_{K_1}^2}{P_z} \bar{h}_3(u) + i(\epsilon_{(\lambda)z}^*) m_{K_1}^2 \gamma_5 \frac{h_{\parallel}^{(p)}(u)}{2} \left. \right] \Big\}_{\delta\alpha} \\ & + \mathcal{O}((x-y)^2), \end{aligned} \quad (A1)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{g}_3(u) &= g_3(u) + \Phi_{\parallel} - 2g_{\perp}^{(a)}(u), \\ \bar{h}_{\parallel}^{(t)}(u) &= h_{\parallel}^{(t)}(u) - \frac{1}{2}\Phi_{\perp}(u) - \frac{1}{2}h_3(u), \\ \bar{h}_3(u) &= h_3(u) - \Phi_{\perp}(u), \end{aligned} \quad (A2)$$

$z^2 = (y-x)^2 \neq 0$, and $P^2 = m_{K_1}^2$. The detailed LCDAs are defined in Ref. [27]. Here $\Phi_{\parallel}, \Phi_{\perp}$ are of twist 2, $g_{\perp}^{(a)}, g_{\perp}^{(v)}, h_{\parallel}^{(t)}, h_{\parallel}^{(p)}$ of twist 3, and g_3, h_3 of twist 4. In the SU(3) limit, due to G parity, $\Phi_{\parallel}, g_{\perp}^{(a)}, g_{\perp}^{(v)}$, and g_3 are symmetric (antisymmetric) under the replacement $u \leftrightarrow 1-u$ for the 1^3P_1 (1^1P_1) states, whereas $\Phi_{\perp}, h_{\parallel}^{(t)}, h_{\parallel}^{(p)}$, and h_3 are antisymmetric (symmetric). For convenience, we normalize the distribution amplitudes of the 1^3P_1 and 1^1P_1 states to be subject to

$$\int_0^1 du \Phi_{\parallel}^{3P_1}(u) = 1, \quad \int_0^1 du \Phi_{\perp}^{1P_1}(u) = 1. \quad (A3)$$

We take $f_{3P_1}^{\perp} = f_{3P_1}$ and $f_{1P_1} = f_{1P_1}^{\perp}$ ($\mu = 1$ GeV) in the study, such that we define

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \bar{K}_{1A}(P, \lambda) | \bar{s}(0) \sigma_{\mu\nu} \gamma_5 \psi(0) | 0 \rangle &= f_{K_{1A}}^{\perp} a_0^{\perp, K_{1A}} (\epsilon_{\mu}^{*(\lambda)} P_{\nu} - \epsilon_{\nu}^{*(\lambda)} P_{\mu}), \\ \langle \bar{K}_{1B}(P, \lambda) | \bar{s}(0) \gamma_{\mu} \gamma_5 \psi(0) | 0 \rangle &= i f_{K_{1B}} a_0^{\parallel, K_{1B}} m_{K_{1B}} \epsilon_{\mu}^{*(\lambda)}, \end{aligned} \quad (A4)$$

where $a_0^{\perp, K_{1A}}$ and $a_0^{\parallel, K_{1B}}$ are the Gegenbaur zeroth moments, which vanish in the SU(3) limit.

We take into account the approximate forms of twist-2 distributions for the \bar{K}_{1A} meson to be [27]

$$\Phi_{\parallel}(u) = 6u\bar{u} [1 + 3a_1^{\parallel} \xi + a_2^{\parallel} (5\xi^2 - 1)], \quad (A5)$$

$$\Phi_{\perp}(u) = 6u\bar{u}[a_0^{\perp} + 3a_1^{\perp}\xi + a_2^{\perp}\frac{3}{2}(5\xi^2 - 1)], \quad (\text{A6})$$

and for the \bar{K}_{1B} meson to be

$$\Phi_{\parallel}(u) = 6u\bar{u}[a_0^{\parallel} + 3a_1^{\parallel}\xi + a_2^{\parallel}\frac{3}{2}(5\xi^2 - 1)], \quad (\text{A7})$$

$$\Phi_{\perp}(u) = 6u\bar{u}[1 + 3a_1^{\perp}\xi + a_2^{\perp}\frac{3}{2}(5\xi^2 - 1)], \quad (\text{A.8})$$

where $\xi = 2u - 1$.

For the two-parton twist-3 chiral-even LCDAs, which are relevant here, we take the approximate expressions up to conformal spin 9/2 and $\mathcal{O}(m_s)$ [27]:

$$\begin{aligned} g_{\perp}^{(a)}(u) &= \frac{3}{4}(1 + \xi^2) + \frac{3}{2}a_1^{\parallel}\xi^3 + \left(\frac{3}{7}a_2^{\parallel} + 5\xi_{3,K_{1A}}^V\right)(3\xi^2 - 1) + \left(\frac{9}{112}a_2^{\parallel} + \frac{105}{16}\xi_{3,K_{1A}}^A - \frac{15}{64}\xi_{3,K_{1A}}^V\omega_{K_{1A}}^V\right)(35\xi^4 - 30\xi^2 + 3) \\ &+ 5\left[\frac{21}{4}\xi_{3,K_{1A}}^V\sigma_{K_{1A}}^V + \xi_{3,K_{1A}}^A\left(\lambda_{K_{1A}}^A - \frac{3}{16}\sigma_{K_{1A}}^A\right)\right]\xi(5\xi^2 - 3) - \frac{9}{2}\bar{a}_1^{\perp}\tilde{\delta}_+ \left(\frac{3}{2} + \frac{3}{2}\xi^2 + \ln u + \ln \bar{u}\right) \\ &- \frac{9}{2}\bar{a}_1^{\perp}\tilde{\delta}_-(3\xi + \ln \bar{u} - \ln u), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A9})$$

$$\begin{aligned} g_{\perp}^{(v)}(u) &= 6u\bar{u}\left\{1 + \left(a_1^{\parallel} + \frac{20}{3}\xi_{3,K_{1A}}^A\lambda_{K_{1A}}^A\right)\xi + \left[\frac{1}{4}a_2^{\parallel} + \frac{5}{3}\xi_{3,K_{1A}}^V\left(1 - \frac{3}{16}\omega_{K_{1A}}^V\right) + \frac{35}{4}\xi_{3,K_{1A}}^A\right](5\xi^2 - 1) + \frac{35}{4}\left(\xi_{3,K_{1A}}^V\sigma_{K_{1A}}^V\right. \right. \\ &\left. \left. - \frac{1}{28}\xi_{3,K_{1A}}^A\sigma_{K_{1A}}^A\right)\xi(7\xi^2 - 3)\right\} - 18a_1^{\perp}\tilde{\delta}_+(3u\bar{u} + \bar{u}\ln\bar{u} + u\ln u) - 18a_1^{\perp}\tilde{\delta}_-(u\bar{u}\xi + \bar{u}\ln\bar{u} - u\ln u), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A10})$$

for the \bar{K}_{1A} state, and

$$\begin{aligned} g_{\perp}^{(a)}(u) &= \frac{3}{4}a_0^{\parallel}(1 + \xi^2) + \frac{3}{2}a_1^{\parallel}\xi^3 + 5\left[\frac{21}{4}\xi_{3,K_{1B}}^V + \xi_{3,K_{1B}}^A\left(1 - \frac{3}{16}\omega_{K_{1B}}^A\right)\right]\xi(5\xi^2 - 3) + \frac{3}{16}a_2^{\parallel}(15\xi^4 - 6\xi^2 - 1) \\ &+ 5\xi_{3,K_{1B}}^V\lambda_{K_{1B}}^V(3\xi^2 - 1) + \frac{105}{16}\left(\xi_{3,K_{1B}}^A\sigma_{K_{1B}}^A - \frac{1}{28}\xi_{3,K_{1B}}^V\sigma_{K_{1B}}^V\right)(35\xi^4 - 30\xi^2 + 3) \\ &- 15\bar{a}_2^{\perp}\left[\tilde{\delta}_+\xi^3 + \frac{1}{2}\tilde{\delta}_-(3\xi^2 - 1)\right] - \frac{3}{2}[\tilde{\delta}_+(2\xi + \ln\bar{u} - \ln u) + \tilde{\delta}_-(2 + \ln u + \ln\bar{u})](1 + 6a_2^{\perp}), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A11})$$

$$\begin{aligned} g_{\perp}^{(v)}(u) &= 6u\bar{u}\left\{a_0^{\parallel} + a_1^{\parallel}\xi + \left[\frac{1}{4}a_2^{\parallel} + \frac{5}{3}\xi_{3,K_{1B}}^V\left(\lambda_{K_{1B}}^V - \frac{3}{16}\sigma_{K_{1B}}^V\right) + \frac{35}{4}\xi_{3,K_{1B}}^A\sigma_{K_{1B}}^A\right](5\xi^2 - 1) \right. \\ &\left. + \frac{20}{3}\xi\left[\xi_{3,K_{1B}}^A + \frac{21}{16}\left(\xi_{3,K_{1B}}^V - \frac{1}{28}\xi_{3,K_{1B}}^A\omega_{K_{1B}}^A\right)\right](7\xi^2 - 3)\right\} - 5a_2^{\perp}[2\tilde{\delta}_+\xi + \tilde{\delta}_-(1 + \xi^2)] \\ &- 6[\tilde{\delta}_+(\bar{u}\ln\bar{u} - u\ln u) + \tilde{\delta}_-(2u\bar{u} + \bar{u}\ln\bar{u} + u\ln u)](1 + 6a_2^{\perp}), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A12})$$

for the \bar{K}_{1B} state, where

$$\tilde{\delta}_{\pm} = \pm \frac{f_{\bar{K}_1}^{\perp}}{f_{K_1}} \frac{m_s}{m_{K_1}}, \quad \xi_{3,K_1}^{V,A} = \frac{f_{3K_1}^{V,A}}{f_{K_1}m_{K_1}}. \quad (\text{A13})$$

APPENDIX B: THREE-PARTON CHIRAL-EVEN DISTRIBUTION AMPLITUDES OF TWIST 3

Taking into account the contributions up to terms of conformal spin 9/2 and considering the corrections of order m_s , the twist-3 three-parton chiral-even distribution amplitudes, defined in Eqs. (4.7) and (4.8), can be approximately written as [27]

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}(\underline{\alpha}) &= 5040(\alpha_s - \alpha_{\psi})\alpha_s\alpha_{\psi}\alpha_g^2 \\ &+ 360\alpha_s\alpha_{\psi}\alpha_g^2[\lambda_{K_{1A}}^A + \sigma_{K_{1A}2}^A(7\alpha_g - 3)], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B1})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{V}(\underline{\alpha}) &= 360\alpha_s\alpha_{\psi}\alpha_g^2[1 + \omega_{K_{1A}2}^V(7\alpha_g - 3)] \\ &+ 5040(\alpha_s - \alpha_{\psi})\alpha_s\alpha_{\psi}\alpha_g^2\sigma_{K_{1A}}^V, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B2})$$

for the \bar{K}_{1A} state, and

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}(\underline{\alpha}) &= 360\alpha_s\alpha_{\psi}\alpha_g^2[1 + \omega_{K_{1B}2}^A(7\alpha_g - 3)] \\ &+ 5040(\alpha_s - \alpha_{\psi})\alpha_s\alpha_{\psi}\alpha_g^2\sigma_{K_{1B}}^A, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B3})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{V}(\underline{\alpha}) &= 5040(\alpha_s - \alpha_{\psi})\alpha_s\alpha_{\psi}\alpha_g^2 \\ &+ 360\alpha_s\alpha_{\psi}\alpha_g^2[\lambda_{K_{1B}}^V + \sigma_{K_{1B}2}^V(7\alpha_g - 3)], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B4})$$

for the \bar{K}_{1B} state, where λ 's correspond to conformal spin 7/2, while ω 's and σ 's are parameters with conformal spin 9/2. Note that as the SU(3)-symmetry (and G parity) is restored, we have λ 's = σ 's = 0.

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