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# The discrete contribution to $\psi' \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma\gamma$

Zhi-Guo He,<sup>1,\*</sup> Xiao-Rui Lu,<sup>2,†</sup> Joan Soto,<sup>1,‡</sup> and Yangheng Zheng<sup>2,§</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Departament d'Estructura i Constituents de la Matèria and Institut de Ciències del Cosmos*

*Universitat de Barcelona*

*Diagonal, 647, E-08028 Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain.*

<sup>2</sup>*Physics Department, Graduate University of Chinese Academy of Sciences,  
Beijing, 100049, China*

## Abstract

The decay mode  $\psi(2S) \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma\gamma$  is proposed in order to experimentally identify the effects of the coupling of charmonium states to the continuum  $D\bar{D}$  states. To have a better understanding of such two-photon decay process, in this work we restrict ourselves to investigate the contribution of the discrete part, in which the photons are mainly produced via the intermediate states  $\chi_{cJ}(nP)$ . Besides calculating the resonance contributions of  $\chi_{cJ}(1P)$  ( $J = 0, 1, 2$ ), we also take into account the contributions of the higher excited states  $\chi_{cJ}(2P)$  and the interference effect among the  $1P$  and  $2P$  states. We find that the contribution of the  $2P$  states and the interference terms to the total decay width is very tiny. However, for specific regions of the Dalitz plot, off the resonance peaks, we find that these contributions are sizable and should also be accounted for. We also provide the photon spectrum and study the polarization of  $J/\psi$ .

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\*Electronic address: [hzgzlh@ecm.ub.es](mailto:hzgzlh@ecm.ub.es)

†Electronic address: [xiaorui@gucas.ac.cn](mailto:xiaorui@gucas.ac.cn)

‡Electronic address: [joan.soto@ub.edu](mailto:joan.soto@ub.edu)

§Electronic address: [zhengyh@gucas.ac.cn](mailto:zhengyh@gucas.ac.cn)

## I. INTRODUCTION

Electromagnetic processes have always provided invaluable probes of the strong interactions, the most prominent example being the Deep Inelastic Scattering(DIS) experiments in the early 70s which eventually established QCD as the fundamental theory of the strong interactions. Among the current challenges of QCD is the description of the plethora of charmonium-like states discovered during the past years, the so-called “XYZ” (for reviews, see e.g. Refs.[1–4]), that lie above the  $D\bar{D}$  threshold, and do not fit potential model expectations. It is widely accepted that the effects of the coupling of a core charmonium, namely a mainly  $c\bar{c}$  bound state, to a  $D\bar{D}$  meson pair, the so-called coupled-channel effects, are an important ingredient to understand those states. We shall call the latter continuum states and the former valence states. We will argue below that two-photon transitions between heavy quarkonium states may provide important experimental information on the continuum-valence coupling.

Historically, it has been recognized for a long time that the continuum states may shift the mass spectrum of a pure  $c\bar{c}$  state considerably [5–7]. Recently, exploratory investigations on the mixing between discrete and continuum states in charmonium have been carried out in lattice QCD [8]. Lattice QCD has also provided a detailed study of the so called “string breaking” in the static approximation [9], which may be used to extract information on the continuum-valence coupling [10]. If the heavy quark mass  $m$  is much larger than the remaining scales in the system, then the heavy quarks move slowly in their center-of-mass frame, say with a typical velocity  $v_Q \ll 1$ , that is, with typical three momentum  $mv_Q$  and hence with typical binding energy  $mv_Q^2$ . Non-Relativistic QCD (NRQCD) [11–13] can be used to factorize the contributions from energies larger or of the order of  $m$ , and provides a good starting point. Recall that the heavy-light meson pair threshold lies at a typical non-relativistic energy  $\sim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$ , according to Heavy Quark Effective Theory counting rules [14]. Then, if the binding energy of a heavy quarkonium state lies much below open flavor threshold, namely  $mv_Q^2 \ll \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$ , one can integrate out energies of order  $\sim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$ . This leads to potential NRQCD (pNRQCD) in the strong coupling regime [15]. The dynamics of this effective theory reduces to a heavy quark and a heavy antiquark interacting through a potential[16–18] (see [19] for a review). Hence, in order to understand the properties of these states, there is no need to introduce explicitly the continuum states, if the potential is chosen

appropriately. However, for states close or above the open flavor threshold, the coupling of continuum to valence states needs to be addressed, and so far, it is not known how to proceed in a model independent way <sup>a</sup>. Hence, most of the analysis have been done by using different models. Recently, some general features of the coupled-channel effects have been obtained in the quark model [22] under the assumptions that valence-continuum coupling is described by the  $^3P_0$  model [23] and the interaction between two mesons is negligible. These results suggest that for the low-lying states the effect of continuum channels is hidden in the parameters in the potential model. In Ref. [25], it is mentioned that the radiative transition process may be sensitive to the continuum components. However, previous works, based on Cornell coupled-channel formalism, indicate that the relativistic corrections [26, 27] may be more important than the continuum contributions [28]. Therefore, it is not straightforward to disentangle the continuum contributions in the one photon transition process.

Here, we propose a new process, namely  $\psi(2S) \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma\gamma$ , which can provide an additional opportunity to pin down the valence-continuum coupling. From the theoretical point of view, electromagnetic transitions allow a cleaner analysis than hadronic decay processes. At the amplitude level, the contribution to this two photon transition can be divided into two parts. We refer to the first one as the discrete part, which involves charmonium states only. The discrete part is dominated by the following process: the  $\psi(2S)$  state decays into real or virtual  $\chi_{cJ}(nP)$  state by radiating one photon, and then, the real or virtual  $\chi_{cJ}(nP)$  state decays into  $J/\psi$  plus another photon. This process not only includes the cascade decay process (on-shell region), but also the off-shell region. We will study the whole phase space. The second part is referred to as the continuum part, in which at least one photon is emitted by an intermediate charmed meson. In the discrete part, the  $\chi_{cJ}(1P)(J = 0, 1, 2)$  states can be on-shell, so the total contribution of the discrete sub-process should be much larger than that of the continuum part. However, when the invariant mass of  $J/\psi$  and one of the photons is far away from the resonance regions of the  $\chi_{cJ}(1P)(J = 0, 1, 2)$  states, the discrete part contribution will drop down very fast. Thus the contribution of the continuum part may be important and measurable in the off-shell region. Let us mention that in Ref. [29], a similar decay process of  $B(D)^* \rightarrow B(D) + 2\gamma$  is suggested to determine the values of

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<sup>a</sup> An hadronic effective theory has recently been introduced to study particular states very close to threshold, most notably the  $X(3872)$ , which includes coupled channel effects [20]. See also [21] for an even more recent proposal.

the strong couplings  $g_{B(D)^*B(D)\pi}$  and  $g_{B(D)^*B(D)\gamma}$ .

On the experimental side, such two-photon transition process has already been studied in the 1970s and 1980s [30, 31]. In recent years, more precise measurements were carried out by the BESIII [32, 33] and CLEO [34, 35] collaborations. However, they focused on the investigation of the cascade decay  $\psi(2S) \rightarrow \chi_{cJ} + \gamma$  followed by  $\chi_{cJ} \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma$  and on the study the properties of the  $\chi_{cJ}$  states. Only in Ref.[35], a discussion was made on the possible amplitude of the two-photon transition in treating the backgrounds of the  $\chi_{cJ}$  states. Hence, so far, no one has ever used it to study coupled-channel effects. Recently, BESIII [36] collaboration reported the significant data excess from the known cascade backgrounds, which was interpreted as the non-resonance decay of  $\psi(2S) \rightarrow J/\psi\gamma\gamma$ . We remark that this measurement is very sensitive to the line shapes of the  $\chi_{cJ}$  states, especially in the data selection region.

Due to the above reason, the significance of an eventual experimental determination of the continuous process depends very much on our knowledge on the discrete states. As far as we know, the discrete contribution has not been fully studied yet, and only the individual contribution of each  $\chi_{cJ}$  state is known by using the non-relativistic Breit-Wigner formula together with the dynamical factors to describe the  $\chi_{cJ}$  line-shape in the cascade decay of  $\psi(2S) \rightarrow \chi_{cJ} + \gamma$  and  $\chi_{cJ} \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma$  [35]. So, in this paper we restrict ourselves to analyze the discrete contribution to this decay assuming that the coupling of  $\psi'$  and  $J/\psi$  to  $D\bar{D}$  is zero, and leave for a future work for the detailed evaluation of  $D\bar{D}$  meson pair loops effects.

In this work, we will use effective field theory methods to calculate the decay width, the photon spectrum, and the  $J/\psi$  polarization in the discrete subprocess. A complete study of the whole contribution of the discrete  $\chi_{cJ}(1P)$  states together with some higher radial excitations,  $\chi_{cJ}(2P)^b$ , will be carried out. The rest of this paper is organized as followings: in Sec.II, we will briefly introduce the effective Lagrangian we use and determine the value of the effective couplings; in Sec.III, we will calculate the discrete contribution to the  $\psi(2S) \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma\gamma$  process and show the results, and the discussion and summary will be given in the last section.

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<sup>b</sup> The contribution of higher  $nP$  states, where  $n \geq 3$ , are ignored.

## II. EFFECTIVE LAGRANGIAN FOR RADIATIVE TRANSITIONS

The heavy quarkonium states are mainly constituted by a  $Q\bar{Q}$  pair and classified according to the spectroscopic notation  $n^{2S+1}L_J$ , where  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  is the radial quantum number,  $S = 0, 1$  is the total spin of the heavy quark pair,  $L = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  (or  $S, P, D, \dots$ ) is the orbital angular momentum, and  $J$  is the total angular momentum. They have parity  $P = (-1)^{L+1}$  and charge conjugation  $C = (-1)^{L+S}$ .

As mentioned in the introduction, NRQCD is a good starting point to describe this system. The LO NRQCD Lagrangian is invariant under  $S = SU(2)_Q \otimes SU(2)_{\bar{Q}}$  spin symmetry group, an approximate symmetry of the heavy quarkonium states, that is inherited in the subsequent effective theories. We assume that the entire dynamics of these states can be described by a (non-perturbative) potential. That is the case, if they are in the strong coupling regime of pNRQCD. This is a reasonable assumption for the  $\chi_{cJ}(1P)$  states [37], and to lesser extend for  $J/\psi^c$ . The remaining states are close or above threshold and are subject to the uncertainties due to the influence of  $D\bar{D}$  pairs, that we plan to analyze in a separate work. In any case, we will only use the fact that the typical energy of the emitted photons is at the ultrasoft scale  $mv_Q^2$ , and the typical size of the system at the soft scale  $\frac{1}{mv_Q}$ . This allows to carry out the multipole expansion of the photon field about the center of mass coordinate, which means that the photons see the heavy quarkonium states as point like particles. Hence, it is most convenient to introduce hadronic spin-symmetry multiplets, in an analogous way as it was initially done in HQET [14].

For heavy quarkonium states, this formalism was developed in Ref.[42]. The states have the same radial number  $n$  and the same orbital momentum  $L$  can also be expressed by means

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<sup>c</sup> There are indications that  $J/\psi$  may well be better described by the weak coupling regime of pNRQCD [39–41]. At leading order in this regime, the dynamics is described by a (perturbative) potential, and the multipole expansion also holds.

of a single multiplet  $J^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_L}$  [42],

$$\begin{aligned}
J^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_L} = & \frac{1 + \not{v}}{2} (H_{L+1}^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_L \alpha} \gamma_\alpha + \frac{1}{\sqrt{L(L+1)}} \sum_{i=1}^L \epsilon^{\mu_i \alpha \beta \gamma} v_\alpha \gamma_\beta H_{L\gamma}^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_{i-1} \mu_{i+1} \dots \mu_L} \\
& + \frac{1}{L} \sqrt{\frac{2L-1}{2L+1}} \sum_{i=1}^L (\gamma^{\mu_i} - v^{\mu_i}) H_{L-1}^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_{i-1} \mu_{i+1} \dots \mu_L} \\
& - \frac{2}{L \sqrt{(2L-1)(2L+1)}} \sum_{i < j} (g^{\mu_i \mu_j} - v^{\mu_i} v^{\mu_j}) \gamma_\alpha H_{L-1}^{\alpha \mu_1 \dots \mu_{i-1} \mu_{i+1} \dots \mu_{j-1} \mu_{j+1} \dots \mu_L} \\
& + K_L^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_L} \gamma^5) \frac{1 - \not{v}}{2}
\end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

where  $v^\mu$  is the four-velocity associated to the multiplet  $J^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_L}$  (not to be mistaken by  $v_Q$ , the typical velocity of the heavy quark in the heavy quarkonium rest frame),  $K_L^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_L}$  represents the spin-singlet effective field, and  $H_{L-1}^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_{L-1}}, H_L^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_L}$  and  $H_{L+1}^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_{L+1}}$  represent the three spin-triplet effective fields with  $J = L-1, L$ , and  $L+1$  respectively. The four tensors are all completely symmetric and traceless and satisfy the transverse condition

$$v_{\mu_i} K_L^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_i \dots \mu_L} = 0 \quad , \quad v_{\mu_j} H_J^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_j \dots \mu_J} = 0. \tag{2}$$

$i = 1, \dots, L, j = 1, \dots, J$ . The properties of  $H$  and  $K$  under parity, charge conjugation and heavy quark spin transformations can be easily obtained by assuming that the corresponding transformation rules of the multiplet  $J^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_L}$  follow as:

$$J^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_L} \xrightarrow{P} \gamma^0 J_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_L} \gamma^0, v^\mu \xrightarrow{P} v_\mu, \tag{3a}$$

$$J^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_L} \xrightarrow{C} (-1)^{L+1} C [J_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_L}]^T C, \tag{3b}$$

$$J^{\mu_1 \dots \mu_L} \xrightarrow{S} S J_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_L} S'^\dagger, \tag{3c}$$

where  $C$  is the charge conjugation matrix ( $C = i\gamma^2\gamma^0$  in the Dirac representation), and  $S \in SU(2)_Q$  and  $S' \in SU(2)_{\bar{Q}}$  correspond to the heavy quark and heavy antiquark spin symmetry groups ( $[S, \not{v}] = [S', \not{v}] = 0$ ).

Since we are going to consider the two photon decay of  $\psi(2S)$  into  $\psi(1S)$  via the intermediate states  $\chi_{cJ}(nP)$ , it will be helpful to give the explicit expressions of the  $S$ - and  $P$ -wave multiplets that follow from Eq.(1). For the  $L = S$  case, we have

$$J = \frac{1 + \not{v}}{2} (H_1^\mu \gamma_\mu - K_0 \gamma^5) \frac{1 - \not{v}}{2}, \tag{4}$$

and for the  $L = P$  case,

$$J^\mu = \frac{1 + \not{v}}{2} \left\{ H_2^{\mu\alpha} \gamma_\alpha + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \epsilon^{\mu\alpha\beta\gamma} v_\alpha \gamma_\beta H_{1\gamma} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} (\gamma^\mu - v^\mu) H_0 + K_1^\mu \gamma_5 \right\} \frac{1 - \not{v}}{2}. \quad (5)$$

The radiative transitions between  $mS$  and  $nP$  charmonium states in the non-relativistic limit is given by the Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{m,n} \delta^{nP,mS} \text{Tr}[\bar{J}(mS) J_\mu(nP)] v_\nu F^{\mu\nu} + \text{h.c.}, \quad (6)$$

where  $\delta^{nP,mS}$  is the coupling constant, and  $F^{\mu\nu}$  is the electromagnetic tensor. The Lagrangian in Eq.(6) preserves parity, charge conjugation, gauge invariance and heavy quark and antiquark spin symmetry.

Using the effective Lagrangian, it is straightforwardly to calculate the E1 transition decay widths:

$$\Gamma(m^3 S_1 \rightarrow n^3 P_J) = (2J + 1) \frac{(\delta_J^{nP,mS})^2}{144\pi} k_\gamma^3 \frac{(M_{mS} + M_{nP})^4}{M_{mS}^3 M_{nP}}; \quad (7a)$$

$$\Gamma(n^3 P_J \rightarrow m^3 S_1) = \frac{(\delta_J^{nP,mS})^2}{48\pi} k_\gamma^3 \frac{(M_{mS} + M_{nP})^4}{M_{mS} M_{nP}^3}; \quad (7b)$$

where  $k_\gamma$  is the energy of the emitted photon. The results are slightly different from those given in Ref.[42, 43]. It is because the initial and final charmonium states can not be static simultaneously, and we choose different values of  $v_\mu$  for them to maintain the transverse condition in Eq.(2). Namely, in the vertex (6) we have substituted the velocity  $v^\mu$  in the current that produces the outgoing particle by  $v_f^\mu$ , its four-velocity. The remaining velocities (i.e. the explicit one and the one in the current that annihilates the incoming particle) are chosen as  $v_i^\mu$ , the four-velocity of the incoming particle. The explicit calculations in (7) show that these changes maintain the spin-symmetry ratios between the decay widths of the different states ( provided that the same mass is used for each spin multiplet ). Note that  $v_i \cdot v_f = 1 + \mathcal{O}(v_Q^4)$ , and the results of Ref.[43] differ from ours by  $\mathcal{O}(v_Q^4)$  contributions. In (7) we have also allowed the coupling constant  $\delta^{nP,mS}$  of the spin symmetry multiplet to depend on the total angular momentum  $J$ , namely  $\delta^{nP,mS} \rightarrow \delta_J^{nP,mS} = \delta^{nP,mS} + \mathcal{O}(1/m^2)$ . In this way we are accounting for spin symmetry breaking terms due to the spin-orbit, spin-spin and tensor potentials in pNRQCD (or in potential models). Note that although spin breaking terms look like an  $\mathcal{O}(1/m)$  in NRQCD (like in HQET), this is actually the case only when ultrasoft particles are emitted. For instance, in magnetic transitions, or in processes involving pseudo-Goldstone bosons [21]. Soft emissions can only be virtual and



lead to the above mentioned  $\mathcal{O}(1/m^2)$  spin-breaking potentials, which make the coupling constants different at this order. In conventional potential models, the differences between  $\delta_J^{nP,mS}$  are usually taken to be of order  $v_Q^2$ , although on general grounds they could be as large as order  $v_Q$  [17].  $\delta_J^{nP,mS}$  can in principle be obtained by calculating the matrix element of the electromagnetic current between the wave functions of the  $nP$  and  $mS$  states in pNRQCD (or in any potential model, see Ref.[46] for a recent review). Nowadays they can also be obtained from lattice QCD [47, 48]. Here we will determine their values using experimental data, except for those related to the  $\chi_{cJ}(2P)$  for which experimental data is not available. In the last case the values will be estimated using a potential model.

For the  $1P$  case, the  $\psi(2S) \rightarrow \chi_{cJ}(1P) + \gamma$  and  $\chi_{cJ}(1P) \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma$  processes have been measured with a very high precision [44], so we can determine the values of the relevant coupling constants by comparing with the experimental results. Using the PDG data [44],  $M_{2S} = 3.686\text{GeV}$ ,  $M_{\psi(1S)} = 3.097\text{GeV}$ ,  $M_{\chi_{cJ}} = 3.415, 3.511, 3.556 \text{ GeV}$  (for  $J = 0, 1, 2$ ),  $\Gamma_{\psi(2S)} = 304\text{keV}$ ,  $\Gamma_{\chi_{cJ}} = 10.3, 0.86, 1.97 \text{ MeV}$  (for  $J = 0, 1, 2$ ) and

$$\text{Br}(\psi(2S) \rightarrow \chi_{c0} + \gamma) = 9.62\%; \quad \text{Br}(\chi_{c0} \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma) = 1.16\%; \quad (8a)$$

$$\text{Br}(\psi(2S) \rightarrow \chi_{c1} + \gamma) = 9.2\%; \quad \text{Br}(\chi_{c1} \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma) = 34.4\%; \quad (8b)$$

$$\text{Br}(\psi(2S) \rightarrow \chi_{c2} + \gamma) = 8.74\%; \quad \text{Br}(\chi_{c2} \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma) = 19.5\%; \quad (8c)$$

we obtain the absolute values of  $\delta_J^{1P,2S}$  and  $\delta_J^{1P,1S}$  listed in Table I. For the  $2P$  case, only the  $\chi_{c2}(2P)$  (former  $Z(3930)$ [45],) has been included in the PDG, so we estimate the relevant parameters with the help of a potential model. The spectrum of the  $2P$  states and their radiative decay into the lower S-wave states have been calculated by numerous groups (for reviews see e.g. Ref.[46]). By using the screened potential, the update results of the charmonium spectrum and the E1 transition rates are given in Ref.[27]. In this work, besides setting  $M_{\chi_{c2}(2P)} = 3.929\text{GeV}$ ,  $X(3872)$  is assigned to the  $\chi_{c1}(2P)$  state and  $M_{\chi_{c0}(2P)} = 3.842\text{GeV}$  is predicted. From the non-relativistic results of  $\Gamma(\chi_{cJ}(2P) \rightarrow J/\psi(\psi(2S)) + \gamma)$  presented in Table IV of Ref.[27], we obtain the absolute values of the corresponding coupling constants and given them in Table I. Because the mass differences between the  $2P$  states are much smaller than the mass gap between the  $2P$  and  $2S$  ( $1S$ ) states, in practice we use the c.o.g (center of gravity) mass

$$M_{(2P)} = \frac{M_{\chi_{c0}(2P)} + 3 \times M_{\chi_{c1}(2P)} + 5 \times M_{\chi_{c2}(2P)}}{9} \quad (9)$$

TABLE I: The numerical values of the coupling constants  $\delta_J^{nP,mS}(\text{GeV}^{-1})$ . For  $n = 1$  case, the results are obtained by fitting the experimental data, and for  $n = 2$ , the results are determined by comparing with the potential model predictions [27].

	$\chi_{c0}(1P)$	$\chi_{c1}(1P)$	$\chi_{c2}(1P)$	$\chi_{c0}(2P)$	$\chi_{c1}(2P)$	$\chi_{c2}(2P)$
$J/\psi$	0.211	0.230	0.228	$5.27 \times 10^{-2}$	$5.30 \times 10^{-2}$	$5.34 \times 10^{-2}$
$\psi(2S)$	0.224	0.235	0.273	0.410	0.413	0.416

and the c.o.g. coupling constant

$$\delta^{2P,ms} \equiv \frac{\delta_0^{2P,ms} + 3 \times \delta_1^{2P,ms} + 5 \times \delta_2^{2P,ms}}{9} \quad (10)$$

rather than calculating the contribution of the individual  $2P$  states.

### III. DISCRETE CONTRIBUTION TO $\psi(2S) \rightarrow J/\psi + 2\gamma$

Now, we proceed to calculate the decay rate of the process  $\psi(2S)(p_0) \rightarrow J/\psi(p_1) + \gamma(p_2) + \gamma(p_3)$  via intermediate states  $\chi_{cJ}(nP)$ . Such  $1 \rightarrow 3$  process can be described by the following dimensionless variables:

$$x_i = \frac{2p_0 \cdot p_i}{M_{\psi(2S)}^2}, \quad \sum_i x_i = 2, \quad (11)$$

In terms of  $x_i$ , the three-body phase space  $\Phi_{(3)}$  can be written as:

$$d\Phi_{(3)} = \frac{M_{\psi(2S)}^2}{2(4\pi)^3} \delta(2 - x_1 - x_2 - x_3) dx_1 dx_2 dx_3, \quad (12)$$

For each intermediate  $\chi_{cJ}(nP)$ , there are two Feynman diagrams, which are shown in Fig.1. The corresponding Feynman amplitude is denoted by  $\mathcal{M}^{\chi_{cJ}(nP)}$ . Putting the contributions of the three  $2P$  states together, then the total Feynman amplitude is divided into four parts:

$$\mathcal{M}^{Tot} = \mathcal{M}^{\chi_{c0}(1P)} + \mathcal{M}^{\chi_{c1}(1P)} + \mathcal{M}^{\chi_{c2}(1P)} + \mathcal{M}^{\chi_{c2}(2P)}. \quad (13)$$

Each of the  $\mathcal{M}$  on the right hand side of the above equation can be obtained from the Lagrangian in Eq.(6) upon making the same replacements as discussed after (6). Since the propagator of the  $1P$  fields may become on-shell, self-energy corrections must be considered.

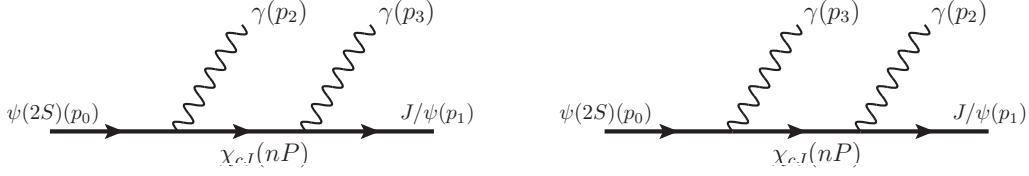


FIG. 1: The Feynman diagrams for  $\psi(2S)$  decay into  $J/\psi + 2\gamma$  via intermediate states  $\chi_{cJ}(nP)$ .

We approximate them by introducing a constant decay width, which, parametrically, is  $\mathcal{O}(m\alpha_s^2 v_Q^5, m\alpha v_Q^4)$ . Being these figures much smaller than  $mv_Q^2$ ,  $1/m$  corrections to the static propagator must be considered in order to match its size. As an alternative, we use relativistic propagators, which include them. For example, the Feynman amplitude of the first diagram in FIG. 1 for  $\mathcal{M}^{\chi_{c2}(1P)}$ , which is the most complicated one, is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}^{\chi_{c2}(1P)} &= \delta_2^{1P,1S} \delta_2^{1P,2S} \text{Tr} \left[ \frac{1 + \not{p}_{2S}}{2} \not{\epsilon}_{2S} \gamma^\alpha \frac{1 + \not{p}_p}{2} \right] \times \frac{(\Pi_{\alpha\alpha_1} \Pi_{\mu\mu_1} + \Pi_{\alpha\mu_1} \Pi_{\mu\alpha_1})/2 - \Pi_{\alpha\mu} \Pi_{\alpha_1\mu_1}/3}{v_p^2 - 1 + \text{I} * \Gamma_{\chi_{c2}(1P)}/M_{\chi_{c2}(1P)}} \\ &\times \text{Tr} \left[ \frac{1 + \not{p}_p}{2} \gamma^{\alpha_1} \not{\epsilon}_{1S}^* \frac{1 + \not{p}_{1S}}{2} \right] \times v_{\nu,2S} v_{\nu,p} \bar{F}_2^{\mu\nu} \bar{F}_3^{\mu_1\nu_1}. \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

where  $\Pi^{\alpha\beta} = (-g^{\alpha\beta} + v_p^\alpha v_p^\beta)$ ,  $\bar{F}_i^{\alpha\beta} = p_i^\alpha \epsilon_i^{\beta*} - p_i^\beta \epsilon_i^{\alpha*}$ ,  $v_p^\mu = (p_0^\mu - p_2^\mu)/M_{\chi_{c2}(1P)}$ , and  $\Gamma_{\chi_{c2}(1P)}$  is the total width of  $\chi_{c2}(1P)$ . In the above expression, we have omitted the imaginary unit  $\text{I}$ , which is a global factor and has no influence on the final result. For convenience of further discussion, we also divided the decay width of the discrete part into four parts:

$$\Gamma_{\text{dis}}(\psi(2S) \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma\gamma) = \Gamma_{\text{Ind}}^{1P} + \Gamma_{\text{Int}}^{1P} + \Gamma^{2P} \pm \Gamma_{\text{Int}}^{1,2P}, \quad (15)$$

where  $\Gamma_{\text{Ind}}^{1P}$  is the sum of the three individual contributions of  $\chi_{cJ}$  states, which is proportional to  $\sum_{J=0}^2 |\mathcal{M}^{\chi_{cJ}(1P)}|^2$ ,  $\Gamma_{\text{Int}}^{1P}$  is the interference between the  $1P$  states ( $\sim \Re\{\sum_{J \neq J'} \mathcal{M}^{*\chi_{cJ}(1P)} \mathcal{M}^{\chi_{cJ'}(1P)}\}$ ),  $\Gamma^{2P}$  is the contribution involving the  $2P$  states only, and  $\Gamma_{\text{Int}}^{1,2P}$  is the interference contribution between  $1P$  and  $2P$  states. The “+(-)” sign before the last term corresponds to the two possible relative phase angles  $0$  ( $\pi$ ) between  $1P$  and  $2P$  states.

We have computed  $\sum |\mathcal{M}^{Tot}|^2$  analytically, but the outcome is too lengthy to be presented here. After doing the phase space integrals numerically, we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{\text{Ind}}^{1P} &= 15.14 \text{keV} \simeq \sum_J \Gamma(\psi(2S) \rightarrow \gamma + \chi_{cJ}) \times \text{Br}(\chi_{cJ} \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma), \\ \Gamma_{\text{Int}}^{1P} &= 5.95 \times 10^{-2} \text{keV}, \quad \Gamma^{2P} = 2.80 \times 10^{-3} \text{keV}, \quad \Gamma_{\text{Int}}^{1,2P} = 4.13 \times 10^{-2} \text{keV}. \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

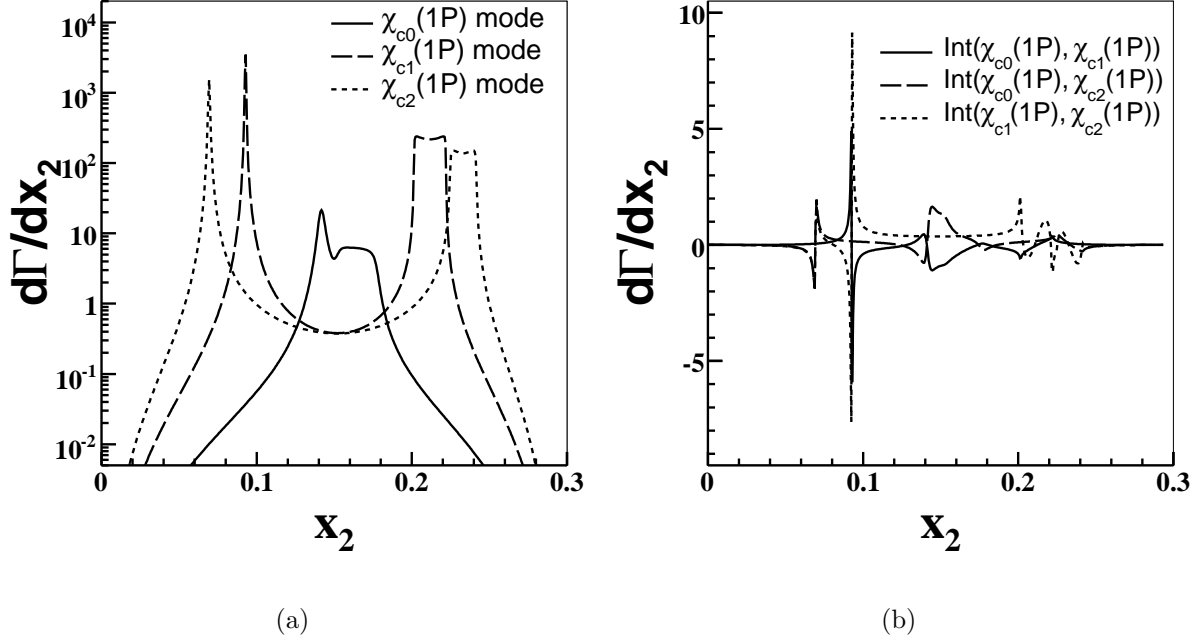


FIG. 2: The partial decay width as a function of the photon energy fraction  $x_2$ : (a) the individual contribution of the three  $\chi_{cJ}$  ( $J=0,1,2$ ) states, corresponding to  $\Gamma_{\text{Ind}}^{1P}$  in (15), (b) the contribution of the interference terms between the three  $\chi_{cJ}$  ( $J=0,1,2$ ) states, corresponding to  $\Gamma_{\text{Int}}^{1P}$  in (15).

The numerical results yield that on the total decay width level the effects of the interference among the  $\chi_{cJ}(1P)$  states as well as the effect of the  $2P$  states are so small that they can be neglected. We have also calculated the photon spectrum  $d\Phi_{(3)}/dx_2$ , and display the figures for each part separately in FIG. 2 and FIG. 3, respectively.

Since we have chosen different  $v$  for initial and final states in Eq.(14), we may also have a non-trivial  $J/\psi$  polarization, which should be zero in single  $v$  case. Similar to the production case [49], here, we define the polarization parameter  $\alpha$  as

$$\alpha = \frac{\Gamma_T - 2\Gamma_L}{\Gamma_T + 2\Gamma_L}, \quad (17)$$

where  $\Gamma_T$  and  $\Gamma_L$  are the decay widths for  $J/\psi$  in the transverse and longitudinal polarization states, respectively. We calculate  $\alpha$  in the rest frame of  $\psi(2S)$  and get  $\alpha \simeq -0.16$ . This is slightly different from zero, and we interpret it as a purely kinematic effect. We find that  $\alpha$  is mainly determined by the resonance contribution, being the influence of the interference and the  $2P$  terms tiny.

The experimental measurement of the  $\psi(2S) \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma\gamma$  decay can be implemented in

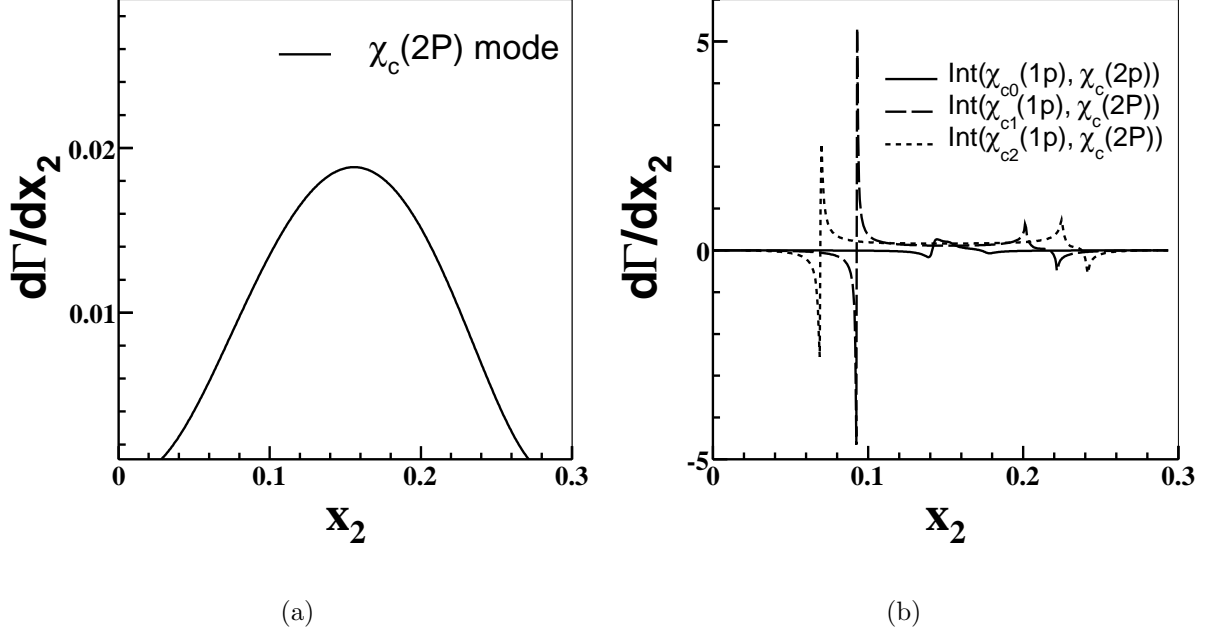


FIG. 3: The partial decay width as a function of the photon energy fraction  $x_2$ : (a) the contribution of the  $2P$  states, corresponding to  $\Gamma^{2P}$  in (15), (b) the contribution of the interference terms between the  $2P$  and the three  $1P$  states, corresponding to  $\Gamma_{\text{Int}}^{1,2P}$  in (15).

the off-mass shell region of  $\chi_{cJ}$ , i.e., the experimentally sensitive region in Daltiz plot

$$0.15 < M_{\gamma\gamma} < 0.51 \text{ GeV}, \quad 3.43 < M_{J/\psi\gamma} < 3.49 \text{ GeV}, \quad (18)$$

where  $M_{\gamma\gamma}$  is the invariant mass of the two photons and  $M_{J/\psi\gamma}$  is the invariant mass of  $J/\psi$  and the lower energy photon, can mostly exclude the contribution from the highly-yielded  $\chi_{cJ}(1P)$  states. From the photon spectrum in the cut region indicated in FIG. 4, the different contributions to the decay width (15) read:

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{\text{Ind}}^{1P} &= 4.68 \times 10^{-2} \text{ keV}, \quad \Gamma_{\text{Int}}^{1P} = 6.5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ keV} \\ \Gamma^{2P} &= 1.82 \times 10^{-4} \text{ keV}, \quad \Gamma_{\text{Int}}^{1,2P} = 4.78 \times 10^{-3} \text{ keV}. \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

We have also computed the branching ratio, photon spectrum and the polarization parameter in the cut region. The result of the branching ratio is:

$$\mathcal{B}_{\text{dis}}^{\text{cut}}(\psi(2S) \rightarrow J/\psi + 2\gamma) = \begin{cases} 1.92 \times 10^{-4}, & (\text{for } \theta = 0) \\ 1.60 \times 10^{-4}, & (\text{for } \theta = \pi) \end{cases} \quad (20)$$

The result in Eq.(19,20) shows that, contrary to the case of the total decay width (16), in the cut region the effect of interference among  $1P$  states as well as the contribution from the

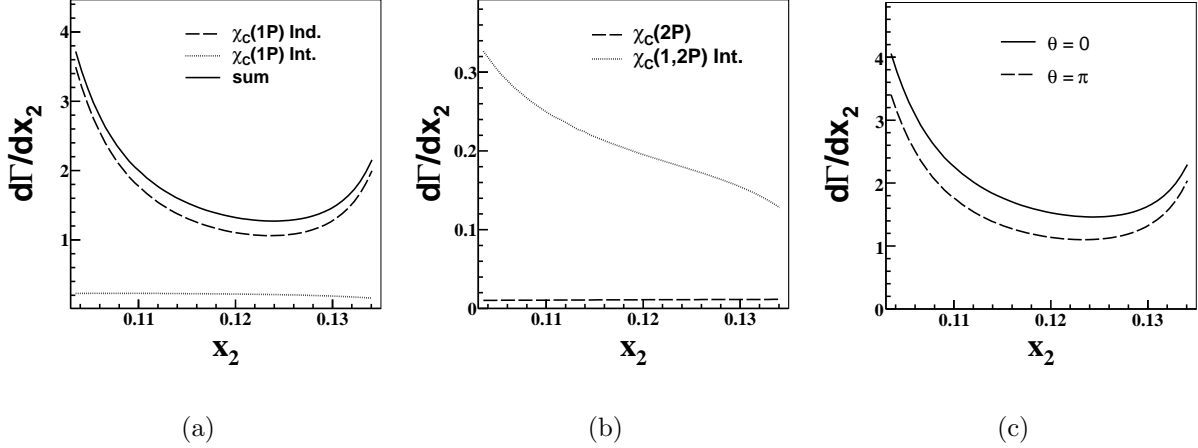


FIG. 4: The discrete contributions to the photon energy spectrum of the  $\psi(2S) \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma\gamma$  process in the cut region: (a) the contribution of the  $1P$  states, corresponding to  $\Gamma_{\text{Ind}}^{1P}$  and  $\Gamma_{\text{Int}}^{1P}$  in (15), (b) the contribution of the  $2P$  states and of the interference terms between  $1P$  and  $2P$  states, corresponding to  $\Gamma^{2P}$  and to  $\Gamma_{\text{Int}}^{1,2P}$  in (15), (c) the total contribution for different relative phase angle  $\theta$ , corresponding to the  $\pm$  sign in (15).

$2P$  states can not be ignored. It is more than 10% of the sum of the separated contributions of  $\chi_{cJ}(1P)$  states. The  $J/\psi$  produced in the cut region tend to be unpolarized and the polarization parameter in the cut region becomes  $\alpha^{\text{cut}} = -0.122$  and  $-0.107$  for  $\theta = 0$  and  $\theta = \pi$ , respectively. If we only include the three individual contributions of  $\chi_{cJ}(1P)$ , the value of  $\alpha^{\text{cut}}$  turns to be  $-0.078$ . Finally, the different contributions to the photon spectrum in the cut region are shown FIG. 4.

As mentioned before, the coupling constant  $\delta^{nP,mS}$  is related to the spatial matrix element  $\langle nP|r|mS \rangle = \int_0^\infty R_{nP}(r)R_{mS}(r)r^3dr$  in potential models. At least three different potential models, including the Cornell potential [50] and the screened potential [27], give the phase angle  $\theta$  to be  $\pi$  [51]. Hence, the  $\theta = \pi$  option in our calculation appears to be favored.

#### IV. DISCUSSION AND SUMMARY

We have estimated the discrete contribution to the  $\psi(2S) \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma\gamma$  due to electric dipole transitions in the whole phase space, and in particular in the cut region used at BESIII. Higher multipole electric transitions and the magnetic ones, are suppressed by at least  $v_Q^2$  in the amplitude. This is also the case for contributions arising from two-photon

vertexes. The largest uncertainty in our calculation comes from the fact that we neglect the contribution of  $nP$  states for  $n \geq 3$ . This contribution is not parametrically suppressed by powers of  $v_Q$ , although we expect it to be small for the following two reasons: (i) the propagator of the  $nP$  state is increasingly off-shell when  $n$  increases, and (ii) the coupling constants  $\delta_J^{nP,1S}$  and  $\delta_J^{nP,2S}$  are proportional to the overlap of the radial wave functions of the corresponding states, which decreases with  $n$ . Apart from this truncation, the estimate is reliable at leading order in  $v_Q^2$ . In fact, the modifications we have made in (14), which introduce terms of higher order in  $v_Q$ , take into account relativistic effects in the kinematics, and hence help in providing a better estimate.

From the point of view of potential models, the leading corrections to the  $E1$  transition processes,  $\psi(2S) \rightarrow \chi_{cJ} + \gamma$  and  $\chi_{cJ} \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma$ , mainly arise from the three following sources: (i) relativistic modification of the non-relativistic wave functions, (ii) finite size effects and (iii) contribution of high  $v_Q^2$  order electromagnetic operators [46]. In this work, we use the effective Lagrangian, Eq.(14), to describe the  $E1$  transition process. For the  $1P$  case, we determine the values of the corresponding coupling constants from the experimental data. Thus, the effects of (i), which are dominant, are taken into account in our results, as far as the vertexes involving the  $1P$  states is concerned. Therefore, our results for the two photon decay width in the off-shell region are more accurate than a potential model calculation for the one-photon  $E1$  transition process. Both the corrections due to (ii) and to (iii) could be taken into account by including higher dimensional operators in the vertexes (6). As mentioned before these operators are suppressed by at least order  $v_Q^2$ .

Let us next discuss how our results compare with the usual inputs in the Monte-Carlo (MC) codes that are used to analyze the experimental data. In the experimental treatment of the four contributions in Eq.(15) in the peaking region, usually only the first one,  $\Gamma_{\text{Ind}}^{1P}$ , is taken into account, and is often modeled using the non-relativistic Breit-Wigner line-shape of  $\chi_{cJ}$  and  $J/\psi$ . The other three components are negligible and generally omitted. But in the off-shell region, as argued above, the other three components will be sizable and have to be considered in the data treatment. Furthermore, in the off-shell cut region (18), even this naive non-relativistic Breit-Wigner line-shape description of the individual  $\chi_{cJ}$  states contribution needs improvement. The reason is that a (single) non-relativistic Breit-Wigner is only a good approximation to the lineshape of  $d\Gamma^{1P}/dx_2$  in the resonance peaking region, as shown in FIG. 2(a). In the cut region Eq. (18), which lies between the  $\chi_{c0}$  and  $\chi_{c1}$

resonance peaks, there is no guarantee that the non-relativistic Breit-Wigners will provide a correct description of data. Let us next point out the main ingredients it misses. In the  $E1$  transition process, the decay rate is proportional to the factor  $k_\gamma^3$  as shown in Eq.(7). We may then improve on the non-relativistic Breit-Wigner approximation by just introducing the correct photon energy dependence in each vertex i.e. the full  $k_{\gamma 1}^3 k_{\gamma 2}^3$  scale factor from the two  $E1$  transitions. Note that if one only includes the  $k_\gamma^3$  correction due to the first  $E1$  transition,  $\Gamma^{1P}$  in the cut region will be overestimated, because the energies of the two photons are negatively correlated.

In FIG. 5, the MC simulation results of the line-shapes in the cut region are shown, which are implemented in two ways. One is done by including the  $k_{\gamma 1}^3 k_{\gamma 2}^3$  correction from double  $E1$  transition, and the other one is not. The difference between these two MC simulation results can be understood as follows: the  $E1$  transition enhances the right tail of photon energy peak and depresses the left tail of the non-relativistic Breit-Wigner. As a whole, the effect of the correlated emitted photons in the double  $E1$  transition increases the  $\chi_{cJ}$  contribution in the cut region. For comparison, we also plot the effective lagrangian result of the sum of the three individual  $\chi_{cJ}$  states contribution in FIG. 5. It is clear that neither of the simulation result agrees with that of the effective lagrangian calculation, although they are qualitatively similar. From the amplitude in Eq.(14), it can be verified that the  $k_{\gamma 1}^3 k_{\gamma 2}^3$  factor and the non-relativistic Breit-Wigner is only the leading-order non-relativistic approximation of the effective lagrangian calculation in the off-shell region. Hence, even for a delicate description of the individual contribution in the off shell region, including the double  $E1$  transition correction in the naive non-relativistic Breit-Wigner only may not be enough.

In summary, we have estimated the discrete contribution to the  $\psi(2S) \rightarrow J/\psi + \gamma\gamma$  due to electric dipole transitions in the whole phase space, and in particular in the cut region in the experimental measurement. We find that for the full decay width the interference contribution and the contributions of higher excited states can be safely neglected. However, in the regions of the phase space off the resonance peaks, their contributions are considerable and important for a delicate experimental measurement. As argued in the introduction, a large deviation of our results from experimental observation, would indicate that the effects of the  $D\bar{D}$  threshold are significant.



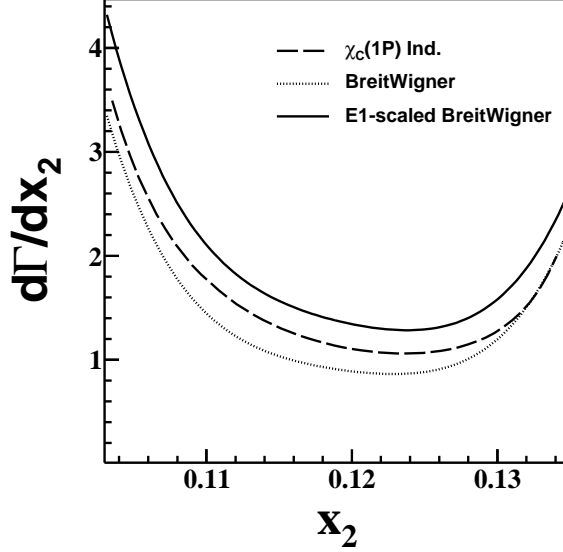


FIG. 5: The MC simulation of the cascade decay of  $\psi(2S) \rightarrow (J\psi\gamma_1)_{\chi_{cJ}}\gamma_2$  in the cut region, where the branching fractions are from PDG2010 [44]. The dotted line denotes the naive non-relativistic Breit-Wigner simulation, the solid line is the simulation including the  $k_{\gamma_1}^3 k_{\gamma_2}^3$  factor and the dashed line is the contribution of the three individual  $\chi_{cJ}(1P)$  states, corresponding to  $\Gamma_{\text{Ind}}^{1P}$  in (15), calculated in this paper.

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