

Nonrelativistic QED approach to the fine- and hyperfine-structure corrections of order $m\alpha^6$ and $m\alpha^6(m/M)$: Application to the hydrogen atom

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The nonrelativistic QED (NRQED) approach is applied to the calculation of relativistic corrections to the fine and hyperfine structure of hydrogenlike atoms at orders $m\alpha^6$ and $m\alpha^6(m/M)$. Results are found to be in agreement with those of the relativistic theory. This confirms that the derived NRQED effective potentials are correct, providing a reliable basis for studies in more complex atoms or molecules. Furthermore, we verify the equivalence between different forms of the NRQED Lagrangian used in the literature. It is found that the gauge-invariant form derived according to the initial formulation of NRQED by Caswell and Lepage [Phys. Lett. B **167**, 437 (1986)] yields a different set of effective potentials, which are simpler for numerical computations.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Precision spectroscopy of simple atoms and molecules is a fruitful approach for testing fundamental physics at a low-energy scale. Since the discovery of the Lamb shift in hydrogen, comparisons between experiments and predictions of the bound-state QED theory have been performed at ever increased levels of accuracy, as experimental progress stimulated development of theoretical methods to compute high-order QED corrections. Among these, the nonrelativistic quantum electrodynamics (NRQED) approach [1,2] is a powerful tool to study QED corrections in weakly bound (low- Z) few-body systems. It has been applied to hydrogenlike (two-body) systems: muonium [2,3], positronium [4–6], and the hydrogen atom [7], but also to three-body systems such as the helium atom [8,9] and hydrogen molecular ions [10,11], and to four-body systems like Li, Be⁺ [12,13], or the hydrogen molecule [14], to cite only a few examples.

Here, we use NRQED to calculate relativistic corrections at the $m\alpha^6$ and $m\alpha^6(m/M)$ orders, more specifically, those contributing to the fine and hyperfine splitting. This is motivated by recent experimental advances in the HD⁺ molecular ion, where the comparison with theory is currently limited by the hyperfine structure calculations [15,16]. In particular, a pure rotational transition has been measured with a 0.5-kHz uncertainty (or 3.8×10^{-10} relative to the transition frequency), while the corresponding theoretical uncertainty of 1.0 kHz is dominated by the hyperfine structure [15]. To improve this, the calculation of higher-order corrections to the hyperfine structure, which so far has been done only for the leading term, i.e., the electron-nucleus spin-spin Fermi interaction [17,18], should be extended to the next largest terms, i.e., the electron spin-orbit interaction and electron-nucleus spin-spin tensor interactions [19].

The NRQED approach consists in constructing from QED a nonrelativistic Lagrangian describing the interaction of an electron (or a spin-1/2 nucleus) with the electromagnetic field, and then using it to calculate the QED corrections by applying the nonrelativistic perturbation theory. The NRQED Lagrangian may be constructed *ab initio* by writing all possible interactions satisfying the required symmetries; its coefficients are then fixed by imposing that the NRQED and QED scattering amplitudes coincide up to the desired order [2,20]. This procedure leads to a gauge-invariant expression of the Lagrangian. Alternatively, one can obtain the NRQED Hamiltonian directly from the Dirac Hamiltonian through Foldy-Wouthuysen (FW) transformations [21]. In this case, the expression of the effective Hamiltonian is not uniquely defined, and the form used, e.g., in recent works on $m\alpha^6(m/M)$ -order corrections to the energy levels in helium [9], differs from the gauge-invariant form.

The hydrogen atom, where the exact fine and hyperfine splitting in the nonrecoil limit is known from the relativistic theory (see, e.g., Ref. [22] for a summary of results on the hyperfine structure), plays an essential role to cross-check the derivation of the NRQED effective Hamiltonian. In the present work, we derive the effective Hamiltonian at the $m\alpha^6$ and $m\alpha^6(m/M)$ orders describing spin-dependent interactions in a hydrogen atom, using both forms of the NRQED Hamiltonian discussed above, i.e., the gauge-invariant form [2,20] and that obtained by FW transformation [9,21]. The effective Hamiltonian is then used to calculate the complete fine- and hyperfine-structure corrections for the $2P$ state, which are found to coincide with the $(Z\alpha)$ expansion of relativistic results [22]. This shows the equivalence between the two forms of the NRQED Hamiltonian, while the operators appearing in the effective Hamiltonian are different. Furthermore, we find that the effective potentials obtained by using the

gauge-invariant form of the Lagrangian are significantly simpler, making them a favored choice for future applications to more complex systems.

Natural relativistic units are used in Secs. II–V. For application to the $2P$ state (Sec. VI) we switch to atomic units.

II. NOTATIONS

In the NRQED framework, the general expression of the correction to the energy levels at order $m\alpha^6$ is

$$\Delta E^{(6)} = \langle \psi | H^{(4)} Q (E_0 - H_0)^{-1} Q H^{(4)} | \psi \rangle + \langle \psi | H^{(6)} | \psi \rangle, \quad (1)$$

where H_0 , E_0 , and ψ are respectively the nonrelativistic (Schrödinger) Hamiltonian, energy, and wave function. One takes into account the finite nuclear mass M :

$$H_0 = \frac{\mathbf{P}^2}{2M} + \frac{\mathbf{p}_e^2}{2m} + V = \frac{\mathbf{p}^2}{2m_r} + V, \quad (2)$$

where $\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{p}_e = -\mathbf{P}$, $V = -\frac{Z\alpha}{r}$, and $m_r = mM/(m+M)$. Q is a projection operator on a subspace orthogonal to ψ and $H^{(4)}$ is the Breit-Pauli Hamiltonian yielding the leading-order ($m\alpha^4$) relativistic correction. Since our goal is to calculate the $m\alpha^6$ and $m\alpha^6(m/M)$ orders, we select the terms of orders $m\alpha^4$ and $m\alpha^4(m/M)$:

$$H^{(4)} = H_B + H_{\text{rec}} + H_{\text{so}} + H_{\text{so-M}} + H_{\text{ss}}^{(0)} + H_{\text{ss}}^{(2)} + H_{\text{so-N}}, \quad (3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} H_B &= -\frac{p^4}{8m^3} + \frac{\pi Z\alpha}{2m^2} \delta(\mathbf{r}), \\ H_{\text{rec}} &= \frac{Z\alpha}{2} \frac{p^j}{m} \left(\frac{\delta^{ij}}{r} + \frac{r^i r^j}{r^3} \right) \frac{P^j}{M}, \\ H_{\text{so}} &= \frac{Z\alpha}{2m^2} \frac{[\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{p}]}{r^3} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e, \\ H_{\text{so-M}} &= -\frac{Z\alpha}{mM} \frac{[\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{P}]}{r^3} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e, \\ H_{\text{ss}}^{(0)} &= -\frac{8\pi}{3} \boldsymbol{\mu}_e \boldsymbol{\mu}_M \delta(\mathbf{r}), \\ H_{\text{ss}}^{(2)} &= \frac{\boldsymbol{\mu}_e \boldsymbol{\mu}_M}{r^3} - 3 \frac{(\boldsymbol{\mu}_e \mathbf{r})(\boldsymbol{\mu}_M \mathbf{r})}{r^5}, \\ H_{\text{so-N}} &= \frac{\alpha}{m} \frac{[\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{p}]}{r^3} \frac{\boldsymbol{\mu}_M}{|e|}. \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} H_{\text{FWP}} &= eA_0 + \frac{\boldsymbol{\pi}^2}{2m} - \frac{e}{2m} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B} - \frac{e}{8m^2} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}_{\parallel}) + \frac{e^2}{2m^2} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{E}_{\parallel} \times \mathbf{A}) - \frac{e}{8m^2} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{E}_{\parallel} \times \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{E}_{\parallel}) \\ &\quad - \frac{\boldsymbol{\pi}^4}{8m^3} + \frac{e^2}{8m^3} \mathbf{E}_{\parallel}^2 + \frac{e}{8m^3} \{p^2, \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B}\} - \frac{ie}{16m^3} [\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{p}), p^2] + \frac{5e}{128m^4} [p^2, [p^2, A_0]] \\ &\quad - \frac{3e}{64m^4} \{p^2, (\nabla^2 A_0)\} + \frac{3e}{32m^4} \{p^2, \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{E}_{\parallel} \times \mathbf{p})\} + \frac{p^6}{16m^5}, \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

where $\boldsymbol{\pi} = \mathbf{p} - e\mathbf{A}$, $\mathbf{E} = -\partial_t \mathbf{A} - \nabla A_0$, $\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}$, and $\mathbf{E}_{\parallel} = -\nabla A_0$. The ∇ and ∇^2 operators only act inside the parentheses that surround them.

B. Gauge-invariant Hamiltonian

Alternatively, one can build the NRQED Lagrangian following an *ab initio* approach as initially proposed by Caswell and Lepage [1,2,20]. Starting from Eq. (1) of Ref. [20], and neglecting the dependence of coefficients on the anomalous magnetic

moments, which may be expressed in terms of the electronic and nuclear spins:

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_e = -\frac{|e|}{m} \mathbf{s}_e, \quad \boldsymbol{\mu}_M = \mu_M \frac{|e|}{2m_p} \frac{\mathbf{I}}{I}.$$

For a ^1H atom, $I = 1/2$ and $\mu_M = \mu_p = 2.79 \dots$. Throughout the paper, e denotes the electron's charge (and is thus negative); the elementary charge is then $|e|$. Note that the electron's anomalous magnetic moment is not taken into account here. The derivation of the $m\alpha^6$ -order effective Hamiltonian $H^{(6)}$ appearing in the second term of Eq. (1) is the object of Secs. III and IV.

It should be noted that $\Delta E^{(6)}$ as written in Eq. (1) contains contributions at all orders $m\alpha^6(m/M)^n$, $n = 0, 1, 2 \dots$ not only because of the recoil terms present in $H^{(4)}$ and $H^{(6)}$, but also because H_0 , E_0 , and ψ , which depend on the reduced mass m_r , may be expanded in powers of (m/M) .

III. NRQED LAGRANGIAN

As discussed in the Introduction, we have used two different expressions of the NRQED Lagrangian in order to derive the effective Hamiltonian at orders $m\alpha^6$ and $m\alpha^6(m/M)$. The general form of the NRQED Lagrangian for an electron is

$$\mathcal{L} = \psi^* (i\partial_t - H) \psi + \mathcal{L}_{\text{contact}}, \quad (5)$$

where ψ is the two-component Pauli spinor field for an electron and $\mathcal{L}_{\text{contact}}$ represents the contact type interactions. Since the latter do not contribute to the quantities of interest here (note that contact terms vanish for a state of angular momentum $l \neq 0$), they will not be considered further.

A. Foldy-Wouthuysen-Pachucki Hamiltonian

One way of deriving the NRQED Hamiltonian is to use successive FW transformations of the Dirac Hamiltonian as done in several papers by Pachucki and co-workers [9,21,23]. We will use as our starting point Eq. (23) of Ref. [9]:

TABLE I. NRQED ‘‘Feynman’’ rules for vertices. In order to facilitate the comparison with Ref. [2], the names of the vertices considered in that work are given in the first column. The first part of the table concerns the electron and the second part deals with the nucleus. $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{p}' - \mathbf{p}$ and $\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{P}' - \mathbf{P}$.

Name [2]	Foldy-Wouthuysen Hamiltonian	Gauge-invariant Hamiltonian
1. Coulomb		eA_0
2. Dipole		$-e \frac{\mathbf{p}' + \mathbf{p}}{2m} \mathbf{A}$
3. Fermi		$e \frac{i[\mathbf{q} \times \boldsymbol{\sigma}]}{2m} \mathbf{A}$
4. Darwin		$-e \frac{\mathbf{q}^2}{8m^2} A_0$
5. Seagull	$e^2 \frac{i[\mathbf{q}_1 \times \boldsymbol{\sigma}]}{2m^2} A_0(\mathbf{q}_1) \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{q}_2)$	$e^2 \frac{i[\mathbf{q}_1 \times \boldsymbol{\sigma}]}{4m^2} A_0(\mathbf{q}_1) \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{q}_2)$
6. Spin-orbit		$e \frac{i[\mathbf{p}' \times \mathbf{p}] \boldsymbol{\sigma}}{4m^2} A_0$
7. Time derivative	Absent	$-e \frac{i\mathbf{q}_0(\mathbf{p}' + \mathbf{p}) \times \boldsymbol{\sigma}}{8m^2} \mathbf{A}$
8.		$e \frac{(p'^2 + p^2)(\mathbf{p}' + \mathbf{p})}{8m^3} \mathbf{A}$
9.		$-e^2 \frac{q_1^i q_2^j}{8m^3} A_0(\mathbf{q}_1) A_0(\mathbf{q}_2)$
10. Derivative Fermi		$-e \frac{i(p'^2 + p^2)(\mathbf{q} \times \boldsymbol{\sigma})}{8m^3} \mathbf{A}$
11.	$-e \frac{i(p'^2 - p^2)(\mathbf{p}' + \mathbf{p}) \times \boldsymbol{\sigma}}{16m^3} \mathbf{A}$	Absent
12.		$e \left(\frac{3\mathbf{q}^2(p'^2 + p^2)}{64m^4} + \frac{5(p'^2 - p^2)^2}{128m^4} \right) A_0$
13.		$-e \left(\frac{3i(p'^2 + p^2)(\mathbf{q} \times \mathbf{p}) \boldsymbol{\sigma}}{32m^4} \right) A_0$
1M. Coulomb		$-Z e A_0$
2M. Dipole		$Z e \frac{\mathbf{P}' + \mathbf{P}}{2M} \mathbf{A}$
3M. Fermi		$i[\mathbf{Q} \times \boldsymbol{\mu}_M] \mathbf{A}$
4M. $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{A}$		$Z^2 e^2 \frac{\delta_{ij}}{2M} \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{q}_1) \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{q}_2)$

moment, we obtain a gauge-invariant NRQED Hamiltonian in the following form:

$$H_{\text{GI}} = eA_0 - \frac{\mathbf{D}^2}{2m} - \frac{e}{2m} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B} - \frac{e}{8m^2} (\mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{E} - \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{D}) - \frac{ie}{8m^2} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{D} \times \mathbf{E} - \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{D}) - \frac{\mathbf{D}^4}{8m^3} + \frac{e^2}{8m^3} \mathbf{E}^2 - \frac{e}{8m^3} (\mathbf{D}^2, \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B}) + \frac{5e}{128m^4} [\mathbf{D}^2, (\mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{E} + \mathbf{E} \cdot \mathbf{D})] + \frac{3e}{64m^4} \{\mathbf{D}^2, [\nabla, \mathbf{E}]\} - \frac{3ie}{16m^4} \{\mathbf{D}^2, \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{D} \times \mathbf{E} - \mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{D})\} - \frac{\mathbf{D}^6}{16m^5}, \quad (7)$$

where $\mathbf{D} = \nabla - ie\mathbf{A} = i\boldsymbol{\pi}$. By simple algebraic transformations, and keeping only the terms of order up to $m\alpha^6$, one can get an expression that is easier to compare to the FWP Hamiltonian:

$$H_{\text{GI}} = eA_0 + \frac{\boldsymbol{\pi}^2}{2m} - \frac{e}{2m} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B} - \frac{e}{8m^2} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E}_{\parallel}) + \frac{e^2}{4m^2} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{E}_{\parallel} \times \mathbf{A}) - \frac{e}{8m^2} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{E} \times \mathbf{p} - \mathbf{p} \times \mathbf{E}) - \frac{\boldsymbol{\pi}^4}{8m^3} + \frac{e^2}{8m^3} \mathbf{E}_{\parallel}^2 + \frac{e}{8m^3} \{p^2, \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{B}\} + \frac{5e}{128m^4} [p^2, [p^2, A_0]] - \frac{3e}{64m^4} \{p^2, (\nabla^2 A_0)\} + \frac{3e}{32m^4} \{p^2, \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\mathbf{E}_{\parallel} \times \mathbf{p})\} + \frac{p^6}{16m^5}. \quad (8)$$

This expression coincides with that obtained in the penultimate step of the FW transformations leading to Eq. (6); see Eqs. (19) and (20) of Ref. [9]. The FWP Hamiltonian (6) may be obtained from Eq. (8) by means of the canonical transformation $e^{iS}(H - i\partial_t)e^{-iS}$, where

$$S = \frac{e}{8m^2} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot (\boldsymbol{\pi} \times \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{A} \times \boldsymbol{\pi}). \quad (9)$$

C. Nuclear Hamiltonian

Since we are only interested in the first order in m/M , the nucleus can be treated nonrelativistically, using the Hamiltonian

$$H_M = -Z e A_0 + \frac{1}{2M} (\mathbf{P} - Z|e|\mathbf{A})^2 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_M \cdot \mathbf{B}. \quad (10)$$

D. NRQED vertices

For the derivation of effective potentials, it is convenient to translate NRQED Hamiltonian given by Eq. (6) or (8) in terms of NRQED vertices and ‘‘Feynman’’ rules, as done in Fig. 3 of Ref. [2]. The list of vertices which play a role in interactions up to the $m\alpha^6(m/M)$ order is given in Table I.

The differences between alternative expressions of the effective Hamiltonian are clearly apparent in this table. In the FWP Hamiltonian, the ‘‘seagull’’ vertex is multiplied by two, the ‘‘time derivative’’ vertex does not appear, and the vertex numbered 11 appears in addition to the ‘‘derivative Fermi’’ vertex.

IV. SPIN-DEPENDENT INTERACTIONS AT ORDER $m\alpha^6$ AND $m\alpha^6(m/M)$

From the NRQED vertices of Table I and the photon propagator in the Coulomb gauge, effective poten-

tials are obtained by systematic application of the nonrelativistic Rayleigh-Schrödinger perturbation theory (see, e.g., Refs. [2,17,21,23]).

A. Coulomb photon exchange

The only spin-dependent contribution of order $m\alpha^6$ from Coulomb photon exchange is obtained by having the nucleus interact via the Coulomb vertex (1M) while the electron interacts via the higher-order vertex (13). The corresponding potential in momentum space is given by

$$U_{1b} = \left[-e \frac{3i(p'^2 + p^2)[\mathbf{q} \times \mathbf{p}] \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}}{32m^4} \right] [-Z e] \left[\frac{1}{\mathbf{q}^2} \right]. \quad (11)$$

A Fourier transform yields the effective potential in coordinate space,

$$\mathcal{U}_{1b} = -\frac{3Z\alpha}{16m^4} \left\{ p^2, \frac{1}{r^3} [\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{p}] \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \right\}. \quad (12)$$

B. Transverse photon exchange without retardation

For illustration, let us write the potential obtained by having the nucleus interact via the dipole vertex (2M), while

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{U}_{3c}^{(5+)} &= \int \frac{d^4 q}{(2\pi)^4 i} \frac{4\pi}{(q^0)^2 - \mathbf{q}^2 + i\epsilon} \left(\delta^{ij} - \frac{q^i q^j}{\mathbf{q}^2} \right) \left[-\frac{ie}{8m^2} q^0 (\mathbf{p}' + \mathbf{p}) \times \boldsymbol{\sigma} \right]^i \\ &\quad \times \left\{ e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}_e} \frac{1}{E_0 - H_0 - q^0 + i\epsilon} e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{R}} \right\} \left(Z e \frac{\mathbf{P}' + \mathbf{P}}{2M} - i [(-\mathbf{q}) \times \boldsymbol{\mu}_M] \right)^j + (\text{H.c.}). \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

After integration over q_0 , one gets

$$\mathcal{U}_{3c}^{(5+)} = -\frac{ie}{16m^2} \int \frac{d^3 q}{(2\pi)^3} 4\pi \left(\delta^{ij} - \frac{q^i q^j}{\mathbf{q}^2} \right) [(\mathbf{p}' + \mathbf{p}) \times \boldsymbol{\sigma}]^i \left\{ e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}_e} \frac{1}{E_0 - H_0 - q} e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{R}} \right\} \left(Z e \frac{\mathbf{P}}{M} + i[\mathbf{q} \times \boldsymbol{\mu}_M] \right)^j + (\text{H.c.}). \quad (16)$$

We perform the expansion

$$\frac{1}{E_0 - H_0 - q} = -\frac{1}{q} + \frac{H_0 - E_0}{q^2} - \frac{(H_0 - E_0)^2}{q^3} + \dots, \quad (17)$$

where the first and second terms correspond to contributions of order $m\alpha^5$ and $m\alpha^6$, respectively. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{U}_{3c}^{(6)} &= -\frac{ie}{16m^2} \int \frac{d^3 q}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{4\pi}{q^2} \left(\delta^{ij} - \frac{q^i q^j}{\mathbf{q}^2} \right) [(\mathbf{p}' + \mathbf{p}) \times \boldsymbol{\sigma}]^i \\ &\quad \times \left\{ e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}_e} (H_0 - E_0) e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{R}} \right\} \left(Z e \frac{\mathbf{P}}{M} + i[\mathbf{q} \times \boldsymbol{\mu}_M] \right)^j \\ &\quad + (\text{H.c.}). \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

Using $\mathbf{R} = -m\mathbf{r}/(m+M)$, it is easy to show that

$$[H_0, e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{R}}] = e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{R}} O(m/M). \quad (19)$$

As a consequence, neglecting a term of order $(m/M)^2$ we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{U}_{3c}^{(6)} &\simeq -\frac{ie}{16m^2} \int \frac{d^3 q}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{4\pi}{q^2} \left(\delta^{ij} - \frac{q^i q^j}{\mathbf{q}^2} \right) [(\mathbf{p}' + \mathbf{p}) \times \boldsymbol{\sigma}]^i e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}} \\ &\quad \times (H_0 - E_0) \left(Z e \frac{\mathbf{P}}{M} + i[\mathbf{q} \times \boldsymbol{\mu}_M] \right)^j + (\text{H.c.}) \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

the electron interacts via the Fermi derivative vertex (10). The potential in momentum space is

$$\begin{aligned} U_{2b} &= \left[-e \frac{i(p'^2 + p^2)(\mathbf{q} \times \boldsymbol{\sigma})}{8m^3} \right] \left[Z e \frac{\mathbf{P}' + \mathbf{P}}{2M} \right] \\ &\quad \times \left[-\frac{1}{\mathbf{q}^2} \left(\delta^{ij} - \frac{q^i q^j}{\mathbf{q}^2} \right) \right] \\ &= \frac{iZ\alpha}{8m^3 M} (p'^2 + p^2) \frac{[\mathbf{q} \times \boldsymbol{\sigma}] \cdot \mathbf{P}}{\mathbf{q}^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

After Fourier transform, one obtains

$$U_{2b} = \frac{Z\alpha}{4m^3 M} \left\{ p^2, \frac{1}{r^3} [\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{P}] \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \right\}. \quad (14)$$

C. Retardation in the transverse photon exchange

The last example we will consider in some detail is a retardation term in the exchange of one transverse photon, where the electron interacts via the time derivative vertex while the nucleus interacts via the lowest-order vertices (dipole or Fermi). The total one-photon exchange potential, which contains contributions at orders $m\alpha^5$ and above, is [23]

and since $(H_0 - E_0)$ commutes with $[\mathbf{q} \times \boldsymbol{\mu}_M]$, the nuclear spin-dependent part of Eq. (20) has a vanishing expectation value in the state ψ . With the replacement $\mathbf{P} = -\mathbf{p}$ one obtains

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{U}_{3c}^{(6)} &= \frac{iZ\alpha}{16m^2 M} \int \frac{d^3 q}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{4\pi}{q^2} \left(\delta^{ij} - \frac{q^i q^j}{\mathbf{q}^2} \right) [(\mathbf{p}' + \mathbf{p}) \times \boldsymbol{\sigma}]^i \\ &\quad \times e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}} (H_0 - E_0) p^j + (\text{H.c.}) \\ &= \frac{iZ\alpha}{16m^2 M} \int \frac{d^3 q}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{4\pi}{q^2} \left(\delta^{ij} - \frac{q^i q^j}{\mathbf{q}^2} \right) [(\mathbf{p}' + \mathbf{p}) \times \boldsymbol{\sigma}]^i \\ &\quad \times e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}} [H_0, p^j] + (\text{H.c.}). \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

After Fourier transform,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{U}_{3c}^{(6)} &= \frac{iZ\alpha}{8m^2 M} [\mathbf{p} \times \boldsymbol{\sigma}]^i \frac{1}{2r} \left(\delta^{ij} + \frac{r^i r^j}{r^2} \right) [V, p^j] + (\text{H.c.}) \\ &= -\frac{Z\alpha^2}{8m^2 M} [\mathbf{p} \times \boldsymbol{\sigma}]^i \frac{1}{2r} \left(\delta^{ij} + \frac{r^i r^j}{r^2} \right) \frac{r^j}{r^3} + (\text{H.c.}) \\ &= -\frac{Z\alpha^2}{8m^2 M} [\mathbf{p} \times \boldsymbol{\sigma}]^i \frac{r^i}{r^4} + (\text{H.c.}) \\ &= -\frac{Z\alpha^2}{2m^2 M} \frac{1}{r^4} [\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{p}] \cdot \mathbf{s}_e = -\frac{Z\alpha^2}{2m^2 M} \frac{1}{r^4} \mathbf{1} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e. \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

TABLE II. Spin-dependent effective operators at order $m\alpha^6(m/M)$ for a hydrogenlike atom. The upper and lower parts respectively correspond to interactions depending on the electronic spin only and to those depending on the nuclear spin.

Type of interaction	Vertices	Foldy-Wouthuysen Hamiltonian	Gauge-invariant Hamiltonian
Transverse photon (no retard.)	10-2M	$\mathcal{U}_{2b} = -\frac{Z\alpha}{4m^3M} \{p^2, \frac{1}{r^3} \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e\}$	
	11-2M	$\mathcal{U}'_{2b} = \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{U}_{2b} - \left(\frac{iZ\alpha}{8m^3M} p^2 \frac{1}{r^3} [\mathbf{r} \times (\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{p}) \mathbf{p}] \cdot \mathbf{s}_e + (\text{H.c.})\right)$	Absent
Transverse photon (retard.)	3-2M	$\mathcal{U}_{3b} = \frac{Z^2\alpha^2}{2m^2M} \frac{1}{r^4} \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e$	
	7-2M	Absent	$\mathcal{U}_{3c} = -\frac{Z^2\alpha^2}{2m^2M} \frac{1}{r^4} \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e$
Seagull	5-1M-2M	$\mathcal{U}_{5a}^{(\text{FWP})} = -\frac{Z^2}{2m^2M} \frac{1}{r^4} \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e$	$\mathcal{U}_{5a}^{(\text{GI})} = -\frac{Z^2}{4m^2M} \frac{1}{r^4} \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e$
Double Coulomb photon	9-1M-1M	$\mathcal{U}_{6b} = -\frac{Z^2\alpha^2}{2m^2M} \frac{1}{r^4} \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e$	
Transverse photon (no retard.)	8-3M	$\mathcal{U}_{2c} = -\frac{\alpha\mu_M}{4m^3m_p} \{p^2, \frac{1}{r^3} \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{I}\}$	
	10-3M	$\mathcal{U}_{2d} = -\frac{\alpha\mu_M}{4m^3m_p} \left\{ p^2, \left[\frac{8\pi}{3} \delta(\mathbf{r}) \mathbf{s}_e \cdot \mathbf{I} - \frac{r^2 \mathbf{s}_e \cdot \mathbf{I} - 3(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{I})}{r^5} \right] \right\}$	
	11-3M	$\mathcal{U}'_{2d} = \frac{1}{2}\mathcal{U}_{2d} - \left(\frac{i\alpha\mu_M}{4m^3m_p} p^2 \frac{(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{p})(\mathbf{s}_e \cdot \mathbf{I}) - (\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{I})}{r^3} + (\text{H.c.})\right)$	Absent
Seagull	5-1M-3M	$\mathcal{U}_{5b}^{(\text{FWP})} = \frac{Z\alpha\mu_M}{m^2m_p} \frac{r^2 \mathbf{s}_e \cdot \mathbf{I} - (\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{I})}{r^6}$	$\mathcal{U}_{5b}^{(\text{GI})} = \frac{Z\alpha\mu_M}{2m^2m_p} \frac{r^2 \mathbf{s}_e \cdot \mathbf{I} - (\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{I})}{r^6}$

D. Total effective Hamiltonian

We give in this section the complete set of spin-dependent effective operators. At the (nonrecoil) $m\alpha^6$ order, there is only one term, which is the Coulomb photon exchange considered in Sec. IV A:

$$\mathcal{U}_{1b} = -\frac{3Z\alpha}{16m^4} \left\{ p^2, \frac{1}{r^3} \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \right\}. \quad (23)$$

The $m\alpha^6(m/M)$ -order (recoil) terms are listed in Table II, where we have separated the terms depending only on the electronic spin and those on the nuclear spin, which respectively contribute to the fine and hyperfine structure.

V. SECOND-ORDER AND FINITE-MASS CORRECTIONS

The total second-order contribution is given by the first term of Eq. (1). Using expression (3) of $H^{(4)}$, we pick up the terms contributing to the electronic spin-orbit interaction (fine structure) and those depending on nuclear spin (hyperfine structure). For the fine structure, we also separate the nonrecoil ($m\alpha^6$) and recoil [$m\alpha^6(m/M)$] terms.

A. Electronic spin-orbit interaction

(i) Nonrecoil contributions

$$\Delta E_{B\text{-so}}^{(2)} = 2 \langle H_B Q (E_0 - H_0)^{-1} Q H_{\text{so}} \rangle, \quad (24)$$

$$\Delta E_{\text{so-so}}^{(2)} = \langle H_{\text{so}} Q (E_0 - H_0)^{-1} Q H_{\text{so}} \rangle. \quad (25)$$

Note that the Darwin term in H_B [Eq. (4)] vanishes because we are considering $l \neq 0$ states.

(ii) Recoil contributions

$$\Delta E_{B\text{-so-M}}^{(2)} = 2 \langle H_B Q (E_0 - H_0)^{-1} Q H_{\text{so-M}} \rangle, \quad (26)$$

$$\Delta E_{\text{rec-so}}^{(2)} = 2 \langle H_{\text{rec}} Q (E_0 - H_0)^{-1} Q H_{\text{so}} \rangle, \quad (27)$$

$$\Delta E_{\text{so-so-M}}^{(2)} = 2 \langle H_{\text{so}} Q (E_0 - H_0)^{-1} Q H_{\text{so-M}} \rangle. \quad (28)$$

We also have to take into account the corrections to the nonrecoil terms, Eqs. (23) induced by the finite nuclear mass

in H_0 , E_0 , and ψ , to first order in m/M :

$$\delta_M(\Delta E_{\text{fs}}^{(6)}) = \delta_M(\langle \mathcal{U}_{1b} \rangle) + \delta_M(\Delta E_{B\text{-so}}^{(2)}) + \delta_M(\Delta E_{\text{so-so}}^{(2)}). \quad (29)$$

B. Nuclear spin-dependent contributions

The second-order terms that involve nuclear spin at the $m\alpha^6(m/M)$ order are

$$\Delta E_{B\text{-ss}}^{(2)} = 2 \langle H_B Q (E_0 - H_0)^{-1} Q H_{\text{ss}}^{(2)} \rangle, \quad (30)$$

$$\Delta E_{B\text{-so-N}}^{(2)} = 2 \langle H_B Q (E_0 - H_0)^{-1} Q H_{\text{so-N}} \rangle, \quad (31)$$

$$\Delta E_{\text{so-ss}}^{(2)} = 2 \langle H_{\text{so}} Q (E_0 - H_0)^{-1} Q H_{\text{ss}}^{(2)} \rangle, \quad (32)$$

$$\Delta E_{\text{so-so-N}}^{(2)} = 2 \langle H_{\text{so}} Q (E_0 - H_0)^{-1} Q H_{\text{so-N}} \rangle. \quad (33)$$

Note that the scalar part of the spin-spin interaction $H_{\text{ss}}^{(0)}$ does not appear because we are considering $l \neq 0$ states.

VI. FINE AND HYPERFINE STRUCTURE OF THE $2P$ STATE

In this section, we calculate analytically all the first-order, second-order, and finite-mass contributions for the $2P$ state of the hydrogen atom and compare with known results from the relativistic theory. No ultraviolet divergences (at $r \rightarrow 0$) appear in any of the above expressions, because of the r factor in the $2P$ wave function. Such divergences are found in the case of S states, e.g., in the $m\alpha^6$ -order correction to the spin-averaged energy levels [24]. From here on, we switch from the relativistic units to atomic units.

A. Zero-order and first-order wave functions

In the limit of an infinite nuclear mass, the radial wave function and nonrelativistic energy of the $2P$ state are expressed as

$$\psi_0(r) = \frac{Z^{3/2}}{2\sqrt{6}} (Zr) e^{-\frac{1}{2}Zr}, \quad (34)$$

$$E_0 = -\frac{Z^2}{8}. \quad (35)$$

One may notice that all the second-order perturbation terms [Eqs. (24)–(28) and (30)–(33)] depend either on H_B or H_{so} [see Eq. (4)]. In order to calculate them, we introduce the first-order perturbation wave functions $\psi_B^{(1)}$ and $\psi_{so}^{(1)}$, defined by

$$(E_0 - H_0)\psi_B^{(1)} = (H_B - \langle H_B \rangle)\psi_0, \quad (36)$$

$$(E_0 - H_0)\psi_{so}^{(1)} = (H_{so} - \langle H_{so} \rangle)\psi_0. \quad (37)$$

These perturbation wave functions may be obtained analytically. For the $2P$ state we have

$$\psi_B^{(1)}(r) = Z^2 \left[\frac{1}{2} - \frac{Zr}{3} \ln Zr - \frac{\gamma_E Zr}{3} + \frac{97Zr}{144} - \frac{(Zr)^2}{48} \right] \frac{Z^{3/2}}{2\sqrt{6}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}Zr}, \quad (38)$$

$$\psi_{so}^{(1)}(r) = Z^2 \left[-\frac{1}{4} + \frac{Zr}{12} \ln Zr + \frac{\gamma_E Zr}{12} - \frac{31Zr}{144} + \frac{(Zr)^2}{48} \right] \frac{Z^{3/2}}{2\sqrt{6}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}Zr} \langle \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \rangle, \quad (39)$$

where γ_E is the Euler-Mascheroni constant. In the case of a finite nuclear mass, the zero- and first-order wave functions are obtained through the replacement $Z \rightarrow (m_r/m)Z$ in Eqs. (34), (38), and (39), and the nonrelativistic energy through multiplication of Eq. (35) by (m_r/m) .

B. Nonrecoil $m\alpha^6$ -order contributions to the fine structure

The total contribution to the fine-structure splitting is the sum of the first-order and second-order terms, respectively given by Eq. (23) and Eqs. (24),(25):

$$\Delta E_{fs}^{(6)} = \langle \mathcal{U}_{1b} \rangle + \Delta E_{B-so}^{(2)} + \Delta E_{so-so}^{(2)}. \quad (40)$$

The calculations are straightforward and require no particular explanations. One obtains

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \mathcal{U}_{1b} \rangle &= -2 \frac{3Z}{16} \int_0^\infty 2 \left(E_0 + \frac{Z}{r} \right) |\psi_0(r)|^2 \frac{1}{r^3} r^2 dr \langle \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \rangle \\ &= -\frac{7Z^6}{256} \langle \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \rangle, \end{aligned} \quad (41)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta E_{B-so}^{(2)} &= Z \int_0^\infty \psi_0(r) \psi_B^{(1)}(r) \frac{1}{r^3} r^2 dr \langle \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \rangle \\ &= \frac{115Z^6}{3456} \langle \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \rangle, \end{aligned} \quad (42)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta E_{so-so}^{(2)} &= \frac{Z}{2} \int_0^\infty \psi_0(r) \psi_{so}^{(1)}(r) \frac{1}{r^3} r^2 dr \langle (\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)^2 \rangle \\ &= -\frac{49Z^6}{3456} \langle (\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)^2 \rangle = \frac{49Z^6}{6912} \langle \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \rangle + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (43)$$

In the last line, we have used the fact that, in the $2p_{1/2} - 2p_{3/2}$ subspace, $(\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)^2 = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e$, and kept only the term that contributes to the fine-structure splitting. Note that a common factor of α^4 is omitted in all expressions. Finally,

$$\Delta E_{fs}^{(6)} = \frac{5Z^6}{384} \langle \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \rangle, \quad (44)$$

which is in agreement with the $Z\alpha$ expansion of the Dirac result [see, e.g., Eq. (3.5) of Ref. [25]].

C. Recoil $m\alpha^6(m/M)$ -order contributions to the fine structure

Let us first use the effective Hamiltonian derived from the gauge-invariant NRQED Hamiltonian of Eq. (8). Collecting results from the rightmost column of Table II and from Eqs. (26)–(29), the total $m\alpha^6(m/M)$ -order contribution is

$$\Delta E_{fs}^{(6M)} = \langle \mathcal{U}_{2b} \rangle + \langle \mathcal{U}_{3b} \rangle + \langle \mathcal{U}_{3c} \rangle + \langle \mathcal{U}_{5a}^{(GI)} \rangle + \langle \mathcal{U}_{6b} \rangle + \Delta E_{B-so-M}^{(2)} + \Delta E_{rec-so}^{(2)} + \Delta E_{so-so-M}^{(2)} + \delta_M(\Delta E_{fs}^{(6)}) \quad (45)$$

$$= \left(-\frac{Z}{2} \frac{m}{M} \left\langle p^2 \frac{1}{r^3} \right\rangle - \frac{3Z^2}{4} \frac{m}{M} \left\langle \frac{1}{r^4} \right\rangle \right) \langle \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \rangle + \Delta E_{B-so-M}^{(2)} + \Delta E_{rec-so}^{(2)} + \Delta E_{so-so-M}^{(2)} + \delta_M(\Delta E_{fs}^{(6)}). \quad (46)$$

Like in the preceding paragraph, a common factor of α^4 will be omitted in all the expressions. For the first-order terms we have

$$\left\langle p^2 \frac{1}{r^3} \right\rangle = \int_0^\infty 2 \left(E_0 + \frac{Z}{r} \right) |\psi_0(r)|^2 \frac{1}{r^3} r^2 dr = \frac{7Z^5}{96}, \quad (47)$$

$$\left\langle \frac{1}{r^4} \right\rangle = \int_0^\infty |\psi_0(r)|^2 \frac{1}{r^4} r^2 dr = \frac{Z^4}{24}. \quad (48)$$

The second-order terms are

$$\Delta E_{B-so-M}^{(2)} = 2 \frac{m}{M} \Delta E_{B-so}^{(2)} = \frac{115Z^6}{1728} \frac{m}{M} \langle \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \rangle, \quad (49)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta E_{rec-so}^{(2)} &= -Z \frac{m}{M} \left\{ \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{r} \left(E_0 + \frac{Z}{r} \right) \psi_0(r) \psi_{so}^{(1)}(r) r^2 dr + \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{r^3} r \frac{\partial \psi_0}{\partial r} \psi_{so}^{(1)}(r) r^2 dr - \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{r^3} r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r \frac{\partial \psi_0}{\partial r} \right) \psi_{so}^{(1)}(r) r^2 dr \right\} \langle \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \rangle \\ &= \frac{35Z^6}{576} \frac{m}{M} \langle \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \rangle, \end{aligned} \quad (50)$$

$$\Delta E_{so-so-M}^{(2)} = 4 \frac{m}{M} \Delta E_{so-so}^{(2)} = \frac{49Z^6}{1728} \frac{m}{M} \langle \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \rangle. \quad (52)$$

To get the second line of Eq. (50) we have used $\mathbf{r}(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{p})\mathbf{p} = (i + \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{p})\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{p}$. The finite mass corrections are

$$\delta_M(\langle \mathcal{U}_{1b} \rangle) = -5 \frac{m}{M} \langle \mathcal{U}_{1b} \rangle = \frac{35Z^6}{256} \frac{m}{M} \langle \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \rangle, \quad (53)$$

$$\delta_M(\Delta E_{B\text{-so}}^{(2)}) = -6 \frac{m}{M} \Delta E_{B\text{-so}}^{(2)} = -\frac{115Z^6}{576} \frac{m}{M} \langle \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \rangle, \quad (54)$$

$$\delta_M(\Delta E_{\text{so-so}}^{(2)}) = -5 \frac{m}{M} \Delta E_{\text{so-so}}^{(2)} = -\frac{245Z^6}{6912} \frac{m}{M} \langle \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \rangle \quad (55)$$

and the total finite-mass correction is

$$\delta_M(\Delta E_{\text{fs}}^{(6)}) = -\frac{85Z^6}{864} \frac{m}{M} \langle \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \rangle. \quad (56)$$

Finally, the total contribution of order $Z\alpha^6(m/M)$ is

$$\Delta E_{\text{fs}}^{(6M)} = -\frac{Z^6}{96} \frac{m}{M} \langle \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \rangle, \quad (57)$$

in agreement with the expansion in powers of $Z\alpha$ and m/M of the relativistic result [Eq. (3.5) of [25]].

We should now check that by using the FWP effective Hamiltonian of Eq. (6) we arrive at the same result. The second-order and finite-mass terms are unchanged, and the first-order contribution becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta E_{\text{fs-first order}}^{(6M)(\text{FWP})} &= \langle \mathcal{U}_{2b} \rangle + \langle \mathcal{U}'_{2b} \rangle + \langle \mathcal{U}_{3b} \rangle + \langle \mathcal{U}_{5a}^{(\text{FWP})} \rangle + \langle \mathcal{U}_{6b} \rangle \\ &= \left(-\frac{3Z}{4} \frac{m}{M} \left\langle p^2 \frac{1}{r^3} \right\rangle - \frac{Z^2}{2} \frac{m}{M} \left\langle \frac{1}{r^4} \right\rangle \right) \langle \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \rangle \\ &\quad - \frac{iZ}{4} \frac{m}{M} \left\langle p^2 \frac{1}{r^3} [\mathbf{r} \times (\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{p})\mathbf{p}] \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \right\rangle \\ &= \left(-\frac{Z}{2} \frac{m}{M} \left\langle p^2 \frac{1}{r^3} \right\rangle - \frac{iZ}{4} \frac{m}{M} \left\langle p^2 \frac{1}{r^3} (\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{p}) \right\rangle \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{Z^2}{2} \frac{m}{M} \left\langle \frac{1}{r^4} \right\rangle \right) \langle \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \rangle. \quad (58) \end{aligned}$$

To get the last line, we have used the relationship $\mathbf{r} \times (\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{p})\mathbf{p} = (i + \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{p})[\mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{p}]$. Comparing Eq. (58) with the first term of Eq. (46) one can see that both results are equivalent if the equality

$$\left\langle i p^2 \frac{1}{r^3} (\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{p}) \right\rangle = \left\langle \frac{Z}{r^4} \right\rangle \quad (59)$$

is verified. Using the relationship $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{p} = \frac{1}{i} r \frac{\partial}{\partial r}$ and integration by parts, it is straightforward to obtain this equality. This verifies the equivalence of results obtained from the Foldy-Wouthuysen and gauge-invariant forms of the NRQED effective Hamiltonian for an arbitrary bound state of a hydrogenlike atom.

D. $m\alpha^6(m/M)$ -order contributions to the hyperfine structure

1. Results from relativistic theory

We recall the relativistic expression of the hyperfine energy for the (n, l, j, F) level of a hydrogenlike atom in natural relativistic units [22,26]:

$$E_{\text{hfs}}(n, l, j, F) = \alpha(Z\alpha)^3 m(2\mu_M) \frac{m}{m_p} \times \frac{\kappa[2\kappa(\gamma + n - |\kappa|) - N]}{N^4(\kappa^2 - \frac{1}{4})\gamma(4\gamma^2 - 1)} \langle \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j} \rangle, \quad (60)$$

where $\mathbf{j} = \mathbf{l} + \mathbf{s}_e$, $\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{I}$, $\kappa = (-1)^{j-l+\frac{1}{2}}(j + \frac{1}{2})$ is the Dirac angular quantum number, $\gamma = \sqrt{\kappa^2 - (Z\alpha)^2}$, and $N = \sqrt{(n - |\kappa|)^2 + 2(n - |\kappa|)\gamma + \kappa^2}$ is the effective principal quantum number. Expansion of this formula in powers of $Z\alpha$ yields the relativistic correction of order $m\alpha^6(m/M)$ to the hyperfine structure [26]:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta E_{\text{hfs}}^{\text{rel}} &= (Z\alpha)^2 \left[\frac{12\kappa^2 - 1}{2\kappa^2(2\kappa - 1)(2\kappa + 1)} + \frac{3}{2n} \frac{1}{|\kappa|} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{3 - 8\kappa}{2n^2(2\kappa - 1)} \right] E_F, \quad (61) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$E_F = \alpha(2\mu_M) \frac{m}{m_p} \frac{\kappa}{|\kappa|} \frac{(Z\alpha)^3 m}{n^3(2\kappa + 1)(\kappa^2 - \frac{1}{4})} \langle \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j} \rangle \quad (62)$$

is the Fermi energy. For the $2P$ state one obtains, going back to atomic units,

$$\Delta E_{\text{hfs}}^{\text{rel}}(2P_{1/2}, F) = \frac{47}{24} (Z\alpha)^2 E_F(2P_{1/2}, F), \quad (63)$$

$$E_F(2P_{1/2}, F) = Z^3 \alpha^2 \mu_M \frac{m}{m_p} \frac{1}{9} \langle \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j} \rangle, \quad (64)$$

$$\Delta E_{\text{hfs}}^{\text{rel}}(2P_{3/2}, F) = \frac{7}{24} (Z\alpha)^2 E_F(2P_{3/2}, F), \quad (65)$$

$$E_F(2P_{3/2}, F) = Z^3 \alpha^2 \mu_M \frac{m}{m_p} \frac{1}{45} \langle \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j} \rangle. \quad (66)$$

2. NRQED calculation

We will now evaluate this correction from NRQED using the gauge-invariant effective Hamiltonian (8). Collecting the results from Table II and Eqs. (30)–(33) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta E_{\text{hfs}}^{(6M)} &= \langle \mathcal{U}_{2c} \rangle + \langle \mathcal{U}_{2d} \rangle + \langle \mathcal{U}_{5b}^{(\text{GI})} \rangle + \Delta E_{B\text{-ss}}^{(2)} + \Delta E_{B\text{-so-N}}^{(2)} \\ &\quad + \Delta E_{\text{so-ss}}^{(2)} + \Delta E_{\text{so-so-N}}^{(2)}. \quad (67) \end{aligned}$$

Various combinations of spin operators appear in the above expression, and in order to make a comparison with Eqs. (63)–(66) they should be “projected” into $\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j}$. This is done in Appendix A for all the relevant operators. We now evaluate all terms and, using the results of Appendix A, express them in terms of $\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j}$. In order to alleviate the expressions, we have omitted a common factor of $\alpha^4 \mu_M(m/m_p)$.

(i) First-order terms:

$$\langle \mathcal{U}_{2c} \rangle = -\frac{1}{2} \left\langle p^2 \frac{1}{r^3} \right\rangle \langle \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{l} \rangle = -\frac{7Z^5}{192} \langle \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{l} \rangle = -\frac{7Z^5}{192} \frac{j(j+1) + 2 - 3/4}{2j(j+1)} \langle \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j} \rangle, \quad (68)$$

$$\langle \mathcal{U}_{2d} \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \left\langle p^2 \frac{1}{r^3} \right\rangle \left(\langle \mathbf{s}_e \cdot \mathbf{I} \rangle - 3 \left\langle \frac{(\mathbf{r}\mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{r}\mathbf{I})}{r^2} \right\rangle \right) = \frac{7Z^5}{192} \left(\langle \mathbf{s}_e \cdot \mathbf{I} \rangle - 3 \left\langle \frac{(\mathbf{r}\mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{r}\mathbf{I})}{r^2} \right\rangle \right) = \frac{7Z^5}{192} \frac{j(j+1) - 2 - 3/4}{2j(j+1)} \langle \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j} \rangle, \quad (69)$$

$$\langle \mathcal{U}_{5b}^{(GI)} \rangle = \frac{Z}{2} \left\langle \frac{1}{r^4} \right\rangle \left(\langle \mathbf{s}_e \cdot \mathbf{I} \rangle - \left\langle \frac{(\mathbf{r}\mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{r}\mathbf{I})}{r^2} \right\rangle \right) = \frac{Z^5}{48} \left(\langle \mathbf{s}_e \cdot \mathbf{I} \rangle - \left\langle \frac{(\mathbf{r}\mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{r}\mathbf{I})}{r^2} \right\rangle \right) = \frac{Z^5}{48} \frac{j(j+1) + 1/4 - 2}{2j(j+1)} \langle \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j} \rangle. \quad (70)$$

(ii) Second-order terms [we recall that the first-order wave functions $\psi_B^{(1)}$ and $\psi_{so}^{(1)}$ are taken from Eqs. (38) and (39)]:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta E_{B-ss}^{(2)} &= -2 \int_0^\infty \frac{\psi_0(r)}{r} \psi_B^{(1)}(r) dr \left(\langle \mathbf{s}_e \cdot \mathbf{I} \rangle - 3 \left\langle \frac{(\mathbf{r}\mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{r}\mathbf{I})}{r^2} \right\rangle \right) = -\frac{115Z^5}{1728} \left(\langle \mathbf{s}_e \cdot \mathbf{I} \rangle - 3 \left\langle \frac{(\mathbf{r}\mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{r}\mathbf{I})}{r^2} \right\rangle \right) \\ &= -\frac{115Z^5}{1728} \frac{j(j+1) - 2 - 3/4}{2j(j+1)} \langle \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j} \rangle, \end{aligned} \quad (71)$$

$$\Delta E_{B-so-N}^{(2)} = 2 \int_0^\infty \psi_0(r) \psi_B^{(1)}(r) \frac{1}{r^3} r^2 dr \langle \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{I} \rangle = \frac{115Z^5}{1728} \langle \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{I} \rangle = \frac{115Z^5}{1728} \frac{j(j+1) + 2 - 3/4}{2j(j+1)} \langle \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j} \rangle, \quad (72)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta E_{so-ss}^{(2)} &= -Z \int_0^\infty \psi_0(r) \psi_{so}^{(1)}(r) \frac{1}{r^3} r^2 dr \left(\langle (\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{s}_e \cdot \mathbf{I}) \rangle - 3 \left\langle \frac{(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{I})}{r^2} \langle \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \rangle \right\rangle \right) \\ &= \frac{49Z^5}{864} \left(\langle (\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{s}_e \cdot \mathbf{I}) \rangle - 3 \left\langle \frac{(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{I})}{r^2} \langle \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \rangle \right\rangle \right) \\ &= -\frac{49Z^5}{864} \frac{j(j+1) - 4 - 3/4}{4j(j+1)} \langle \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j} \rangle, \end{aligned} \quad (73)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta E_{so-so-N}^{(2)} &= Z \int_0^\infty \psi_0(r) \psi_{so}^{(1)}(r) \frac{1}{r^3} r^2 dr \langle (\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{I}) \rangle = -\frac{49Z^5}{864} \langle (\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{I}) \rangle \\ &= -\frac{49Z^5}{864} \left[2 \frac{j(j+1) - 2 - 1/4}{2} - \frac{j(j+1) - 2 - 3/4}{4} \right] \frac{\langle \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j} \rangle}{j(j+1)}. \end{aligned} \quad (74)$$

Adding up these results, we find

$$\Delta E_{\text{hfs}}^{(6M)}(2P_{1/2}, F) = \frac{47Z^5}{216} \langle \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j} \rangle, \quad (75)$$

$$\Delta E_{\text{hfs}}^{(6M)}(2P_{3/2}, F) = \frac{7Z^5}{1080} \langle \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j} \rangle, \quad (76)$$

in agreement with Eqs. (63)–(66). Finally, one can show that the FWP effective Hamiltonian leads to the same result, not only for the $2P$ state but for any bound state; see Appendix B for details.

VII. CONCLUSION

In this work, we have used the NRQED approach to calculate relativistic corrections to the fine and hyperfine structure of hydrogenlike atoms. Our results are in agreement with those obtained by expanding the relativistic results in powers of $Z\alpha$ and m/M [22,26]. This constitutes a cross-check of the validity of the effective Hamiltonian we have derived, thus providing a sound basis for future applications to more complex systems. Such a cross-check is very useful since, in this type of calculation, the probability of mistakes is increased by the relatively large number of terms.

We have also verified the equivalence of two alternative forms of the NRQED Lagrangian, Eqs. (6) and (7). The choice of one or the other is largely a matter of taste, but it is worth noticing that the additional terms that appear when one uses the FWP Hamiltonian (\mathcal{U}'_{2b} and \mathcal{U}'_{2d} ; see Table II) have the

most complicated expressions. This is, of course, not an issue in the hydrogen atom case, but may give practical reasons to choose the gauge-invariant form for application to more complex systems, where matrix elements of the effective operators can only be calculated numerically. Application of this work to the hyperfine structure of hydrogen molecular ions [15] is now under consideration. Other applications include the helium atom fine structure, where the approach of Eq. (7) is expected to yield a simpler set of operators with respect to those derived by Douglas and Kroll [27].

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APPENDIX A: EXPRESSION OF SPIN-DEPENDENT OPERATORS IN TERMS OF $\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j}$

The coupling scheme of angular momenta is $\mathbf{j} = \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{s}_e$, $\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{I}$. All the expressions below are valid within a given

(n, l, j) subspace:

$$\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{I} = \frac{\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{j}}{j(j+1)} (\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j}) = \frac{j(j+1) + l(l+1) - 3/4}{2j(j+1)} (\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j}), \quad (\text{A1})$$

$$\mathbf{s}_e \cdot \mathbf{I} = \frac{\mathbf{s}_e \cdot \mathbf{j}}{j(j+1)} (\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j}) = \frac{j(j+1) + 3/4 - l(l+1)}{2j(j+1)} (\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j}), \quad (\text{A2})$$

$$\frac{(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{I})}{r^2} = \frac{(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{j})}{r^2} \frac{(\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j})}{j(j+1)} = \frac{(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)}{r^2} \frac{(\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j})}{j(j+1)} = \frac{1}{4} \frac{(\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j})}{j(j+1)}, \quad (\text{A3})$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{s}_e \cdot \mathbf{I}) &= (\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e) \frac{(\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j})}{j(j+1)} \\ &= \left[\frac{1}{4} \mathbf{l}^2 - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e + (\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e) \mathbf{s}_e^2 \right] \frac{(\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j})}{j(j+1)} = \frac{j(j+1) + l(l+1) - 3/4}{8j(j+1)} (\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j}), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A4})$$

$$(\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{I}) = (\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{j}) \frac{(\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j})}{j(j+1)} = \left[(\mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e) \mathbf{l}^2 + \frac{1}{4} \mathbf{l}^2 - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \right] \frac{(\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j})}{j(j+1)} \quad (\text{A5})$$

$$= \left[l(l+1) \frac{j(j+1) - l(l+1) - 1/4}{2} - \frac{j(j+1) - l(l+1) - 3/4}{4} \right] \frac{(\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j})}{j(j+1)}, \quad (\text{A6})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \iota(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{I}) &= \iota(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{j}) \frac{(\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j})}{j(j+1)} = \iota(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e) \frac{(\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j})}{j(j+1)} \\ &= \left[\frac{1}{4} \iota(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{p}) - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e \right] \frac{(\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j})}{j(j+1)} = \frac{1}{4} \{ \iota(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{p}) - [j(j+1) - l(l+1) - 3/4] \} \frac{(\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j})}{j(j+1)}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A7})$$

APPENDIX B: EQUIVALENCE OF THE FWP AND GAUGE-INVARIANT HAMILTONIANS FOR THE HYPERFINE STRUCTURE

If one uses the FWP Hamiltonian, the first-order contribution becomes

$$\Delta E_{\text{hfs-first order}}^{(6M)(\text{FWP})} = \langle \mathcal{U}_{2c} \rangle + \langle \mathcal{U}_{2d} \rangle + \langle \mathcal{U}'_{2d} \rangle + \langle \mathcal{U}_{5b}^{(\text{FWP})} \rangle. \quad (\text{B1})$$

Comparing with the first-order terms of Eq. (67), one can see that both expressions are equivalent if the following equality holds:

$$\langle \mathcal{U}'_{2d} \rangle = \langle \mathcal{U}_{5b}^{(\text{GI})} \rangle - \langle \mathcal{U}_{5b}^{(\text{FWP})} \rangle = -\langle \mathcal{U}_{5b}^{(\text{GI})} \rangle. \quad (\text{B2})$$

We separate \mathcal{U}'_{2d} into three terms:

$$\langle \mathcal{U}'_{2d}{}^{(1)} \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \langle \mathcal{U}_{2d} \rangle = \frac{1}{4} \left\langle p^2 \frac{1}{r^3} \right\rangle \left(\langle \mathbf{s}_e \cdot \mathbf{I} \rangle - 3 \left\langle \frac{(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{I})}{r^2} \right\rangle \right) = \left\langle p^2 \frac{1}{r^3} \right\rangle \frac{j(j+1) - l(l+1) - 3/4}{8j(j+1)} (\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j}), \quad (\text{B3})$$

$$\langle \mathcal{U}'_{2d}{}^{(2)} \rangle = -\frac{1}{2} \left\langle ip^2 \frac{1}{r^3} (\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{p}) \right\rangle \langle \mathbf{s}_e \cdot \mathbf{I} \rangle = -\frac{Z}{2} \left\langle \frac{1}{r^4} \right\rangle \langle \mathbf{s}_e \cdot \mathbf{I} \rangle = -\frac{Z}{2} \left\langle \frac{1}{r^4} \right\rangle \frac{j(j+1) + 3/4 - l(l+1)}{2j(j+1)} (\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j}), \quad (\text{B4})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \mathcal{U}'_{2d}{}^{(3)} \rangle &= \frac{1}{2} \left\langle ip^2 \frac{1}{r^3} (\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{I}) \right\rangle = \left\langle p^2 \frac{1}{r^3} \{ \iota(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{p}) - [j(j+1) - l(l+1) - 3/4] \} \right\rangle \frac{(\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j})}{8j(j+1)} \\ &= \left[Z \left\langle \frac{1}{r^4} \right\rangle - \left\langle p^2 \frac{1}{r^3} \right\rangle [j(j+1) - l(l+1) - 3/4] \right] \frac{(\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j})}{8j(j+1)}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B5})$$

$$-\langle \mathcal{U}_{5b}^{(\text{GI})} \rangle = -\frac{Z}{2} \left\langle \frac{1}{r^4} \right\rangle \left(\langle \mathbf{s}_e \cdot \mathbf{I} \rangle - \left\langle \frac{(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{s}_e)(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{I})}{r^2} \right\rangle \right) = -\frac{Z}{2} \left\langle \frac{1}{r^4} \right\rangle \frac{j(j+1) - l(l+1) + 1/4}{2j(j+1)} (\mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{j}). \quad (\text{B6})$$

In the above derivations, we have used the relationship (59). One finally gets

$$\langle \mathcal{U}'_{2d}{}^{(1)} \rangle + \langle \mathcal{U}'_{2d}{}^{(2)} \rangle + \langle \mathcal{U}'_{2d}{}^{(3)} \rangle = -\langle \mathcal{U}_{5b}^{(\text{GI})} \rangle, \quad (\text{B7})$$

which proves that the results from both forms of the NRQED Hamiltonian are identical for any $l \neq 0$ state of a hydrogenlike atom.

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