Calculation of autoionization widths for two-electron systems

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A procedure is used which combines the truncated diagonalization method with the open-channel closecoupling approximation in the calculation of widths of autoionization states in two-electron systems. The method is capable of systematically and efficiently calculating the widths for all two-electron systems. Calculations are made for ${}^{1}P^{o}$ and ${}^{3}P^{o}$ helium, and ${}^{1}P^{o}$ hydrogen below the N = 2 threshold. In particular, it is found that the lowest member of the third series [classified as (2, 3c)] has a width of 4.61×10^{-7} eV, four times smaller than any previous calculation. It is also shown that the (+)-(-) classification used by many authors is inadequate to describe these states. Detailed comparison is made with the three- and six-state close-coupling and other calculations.

I. INTRODUCTION

The doubly excited states of two-electron systems are fairly well understood qualitatively, but the energies and lifetimes of most of these levels are not known in detail. Although the intensities and shapes of resonances caused by the existence of such doubly excited states depend strongly on the type of process considered (e.g., electronatom collisions, atom-atom collisions, photoionization, etc.), the characteristic widths (or, equivalently, lifetimes) and positions are virtually independent of the particular process. A general knowledge of the energies and lifetimes of these autoionization states is needed by experimentalists in order to identify the peaks and valleys seen in their electron and photon spectra.

In this paper we describe a calculation which combines the truncated diagonalization method $(TDM)^1$ and the open-channel close-coupling (CC) approximation² to evaluate the autoionization widths of all doubly excited two-electron systems. We then discuss the results of applying this method to ${}^1P^o$ and ${}^3P^o$ helium, and to the ${}^1P^o$ configuration for the hydrogen negative ion. Preliminary results for the widths were first presented in Ref. 3. The energies and wave functions for all two-electron systems with nuclear charge less than or equal to 5 have been discussed and tabulated elsewhere.⁴

Although there have been many calculations made on various systems which have been relatively successful, they are not well suited for general use because either they fail in their attempts to calculate narrow resonances, or they are very difficult and costly to use (e.g., the close-coupling method), or because they become

increasingly difficult to apply to higher members of any series. In this paper we see that previous works have failed to predict correctly the positions and/or widths of the second and third Rydberg series in ${}^{1}P^{o}$ helium because not enough configurations (e.g., the 3dkf) have been included. In effect, the angular correlations between electrons have not been sufficiently accounted for. The width of the lowest member of the third series [previously classified as 2p3d, but here called (2, 3c) because it is 60% sp is too narrow to be calculated without careful numerical analysis of the procedure. We find this width to be 4.608 $\times 10^{-7}$ eV, about $\frac{1}{4}$ the width reported by Burke and McVicar.⁵ It is known that generally the widths calculated in the close-coupling approximation are highly dependent on the step size used, especially for narrow resonances; thus a numerical study of this dependence should be made, especially with the 3dkf channel included.

II. METHOD

Consider the problem of an electron elastically scattering off an atomic system of one electron and a nucleus with charge Z. In the static exchange approximation² (which is the same as the close-coupling approximation with only one channel), the wave functions satisfy the conditions:

$$\langle \psi_E | H | \psi_E \rangle = E \delta(E - E') ,$$
 (1a)

$$H = \frac{1}{2m_e} \left(P_1^2 + P_2^2 \right) - Z e^2 \left(\frac{1}{r_1} + \frac{1}{r_2} \right) + \frac{e^2}{r_{12}}, \qquad (1b)$$

where

$$\psi_{E}(1,2) = C[R_{1s}(1)F_{E}(2)Y_{l}^{m}(2) \pm R_{1s}(2)F_{E}(1)Y_{l}^{m}(1)]$$
(2)

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and R_{1s} is the hydrogenic 1s wave function for charge Z. The F_E 's are the continuum functions satisfying the differential equation

$$\frac{\hbar^{2}}{2m_{e}} \left(r^{-2} \frac{d}{dr} r^{2} \frac{d}{dr} + k^{2} - \frac{2m_{e}}{\hbar^{2}} Y_{0}(1s, 1s | r) \right) F_{E}$$

$$\mp \left(E_{0} - \frac{\hbar^{2} k^{2}}{2m_{e}} \delta_{10} \langle 1s | F_{E} \rangle + Y_{1}(1s, F_{E} | r) \right) R_{1s} = 0.$$
(3)

The Y's are the usual Slater integrals over $1/r_{12}$, which are defined below in Eq. (10).

Solving Eq. (3) for all energies is equivalent to finding the eigenfunctions of the operator *PHP* for the projection operator *P* given by O'Malley, and co-workers.^{6,7} Briefly, *P* is the operator which projects all two-electron functions onto the subspace in which one of the electrons is in the 1s state with nuclear charge *Z*. Such an operator is Hermitian and idempotent ($P^2 = P$), and is called a "projection operator." The ψ_E 's which satisfy Eqs. (2) and (3) have the property that $P\psi_E = \psi_E$ and, because Eq. (3) is derived from a variational principle, are eigenfunctions of *PHP*. If one includes the possible bound-state solutions of Eqs. (3), then these ψ_E 's are all the nonzero eigenfunctions of *PHP*.

The projection operator Q = I - P defines the Hamiltonian QHQ, whose eigenvalues can be interpreted as the energy positions of doubly excited states of the two-electron system. Many authors^{1, 4, 7-9, 11} have solved for approximate eigenfunctions of QHQ by variational methods. We, in particular, have used the truncated diagonalization method (TDM)^{1, 3, 4} with no $|1snl\rangle$ configurations included. Briefly, the TDM is a particular application of the Feshbach formalism¹⁰ whereby (1) Q space is defined in terms of an orthonormal set of square-integrable basis functions made from products of one-electron orbitals; (2) the basis functions are separately asymptotically orthogonal to the relevant adjacent continua. Hydrogenic functions are used here because they provide uniformly accurate information (albeit incomplete) about an entire series instead of just its lowest member(s). After all, these functions have mean radii which are proportional to n^2 , just as the true functions have, whereas Sturmians for instance are proportional to n.

When $|1snl\rangle$ configurations are not used, the TDM calculations become consistent with the Hahn, O'Malley and Spruch^{6,7} realization of the Feshbach formalism, and the equations to be solved are simpler than they would be if such basis functions were included. We feel that no useful information is lost by deviating from the Lipsky-Russek formulation and adhering to the more conventional one.

The TDM calculations give a discrete set of wave functions ϕ_n , with energy levels E_n below the N=2 threshold. The ϕ_n 's satisfy the conditions

$$Q\phi_{n} = \phi_{n}, \qquad (4)$$

$$\langle \phi_{n} | QHQ | \phi_{m} \rangle = E_{n} \delta_{nm} = \langle \phi_{n} | H | \phi_{m} \rangle,$$

and themselves can be written as

$$\phi_n = \sum_j a_{nj} \mathfrak{u}_j \,, \tag{5a}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathfrak{u}_{j} &= (1/\sqrt{2}) \left[R_{n_{1}l_{1}}(1) R_{n_{2}l_{2}}(2) Y_{Ll_{1}l_{2}}^{M}(\hat{1}, \hat{2}) \right. \\ & \pm R_{n_{2}l_{2}}(1) R_{n_{1}l_{1}}(2) Y_{Ll_{1}l_{2}}^{M}(\hat{2}, \hat{1}) \right], \quad (5b) \\ Y_{Ll_{1}l_{2}}^{M}(\hat{1}, \hat{2}) &= \sum_{m_{1}} \left(l_{1}l_{2}L \left| m_{1}M - m_{1} \right) Y_{l_{1}}^{m_{1}}(\hat{1}) Y_{l_{2}}^{m_{2}}(\hat{2}) \right. \end{aligned}$$

(5c)

where $(l_1 l_2 L \mid m_1 m_2 M)$ is the Clebsch-Gordan coefficient, and Y_l^m is the spherical harmonic defined in Rose.¹²

The sets of functions ψ_{E} and ϕ_{n} together are the eigenfunctions of the Hamiltonian

$$H_0 = PHP + QHQ . (6a)$$

The total two-electron Hamiltonian can be written as

$$H = H_0 + V , (6b)$$

where

$$V = PHQ + QHP . (6c)$$

In comparing with Fano,¹³ we see that ψ_E and ϕ_n satisfy his Eqs. (1a) and (1c), where the ϕ_n 's are the discrete states imbedded in the continuum of the ψ_E 's. We define $V_n(E)$ by the following integral:

$$V_{n}(E) = \langle \psi_{E} | V | \phi_{n} \rangle = \langle \psi_{E} | PHQ + QHP | \phi_{n} \rangle$$
$$= \langle \psi_{E} | \frac{e^{2}}{\gamma_{12}} | \phi_{n} \rangle$$
$$= \int \int \psi_{E}^{*}(1, 2) \frac{e^{2}}{\gamma_{12}} \phi_{n}(1, 2) d^{3}r_{1} d^{3}r_{2}$$
$$= \sum a_{nj} \upsilon_{j}(E)$$
(7a)

with

$$\upsilon_{j}(E) = \int \int \psi_{E}^{*}(1,2) \frac{e^{2}}{r_{12}} \mathfrak{u}_{j}(1,2) d^{3}r_{1} d^{3}r_{2}.$$
 (7b)

The width of the nth state can then be calculated by

$$\Gamma_n = 2\pi \left| V_n(E_n) \right|^2. \tag{8}$$

This formula is strictly true only if the *n*th state is well separated from all other levels. We might consider two levels to be "well separated" if the sum of their widths divided by the difference of their energies is very small in magnitude. As it turns out, this ratio is always less than 0.032 for all pairs of states quoted here, and for the two closest series (the *b* and *c* series in ${}^{1}P^{o}$) this ratio is one-sixth as great.

Note that the \mathcal{V}_j 's are integrals over the product functions \mathfrak{U}_j , whereas the V_n 's are sums of \mathcal{V}_j 's, or integrals over the actual eigenfunctions of *QHQ*. (Compare Fig. 1 with Figs. 2, 3, and 4 below.)

If the resonances below the N=3 threshold are to be examined, then the appropriate projection operator \overline{P} to be used projects onto the 1s, 2s, and 2p states. The eigenfunctions ψ_{iE} of $\overline{P}H\overline{P}$ in this case are the functions of the close-coupling three-state calculations. The eigenfunctions ϕ_n of $\overline{Q}H\overline{Q}$, as before, can be approximated by the TDM where all configurations which include a 1s, 2s, or 2p function are excluded. The partial autoionization widths can be evaluated by

$$\Gamma_{in} = 2\pi \left| \left\langle \psi_{iE_n} \right| V \left| \phi_n \right\rangle \right|^2, \tag{9a}$$

where i labels the exit channel. The total width is the sum of the three widths,

$$\Gamma_n = \sum_{i=1}^3 \Gamma_{in} \tag{9b}$$

This method has several attractive features. In particular, the TDM can be used to get approximations of QHQ using an arbitrarily large basis set, with many different configurations (in this paper, for ^{1,3} P^{o} , 83 configurations were used), with relative ease. Of course, owing to the fact that the discrete set of hydrogenic functions is incomplete, the TDM can never fully describe the radial correlations between the electrons, although the angular correlations are well accounted for. The radial correlations are important only if there is a significantly high probability that both electrons will be near the nucleus at the same time, such as in the case of the $(1s^2)^1S$ ground state of isohelium.

III. DESCRIPTION OF CALCULATION

The calculation of widths of autoionization states by Eq. (8) was carried out for the dozen or so lowest singlet and triplet P odd states below the N=2 threshold in helium, and for the lowest ${}^{1}P^{o}$ state for the hydrogen negative ion. The calculation is actually made up of three separate parts. The first part involves solving Eq. (3) numerically for F_{E} at several different energies. This type of calculation has been discussed many times,² and nothing need be said about it further except that the phase shifts here agreed with the literature to within four places, and the interval step size used was small enough so that six-place stability of the wave functions F_E seemed assured.

The second step involves finding the eigenfunctions of QHQ, using the TDM. An enumeration of the 83 basis functions used here is significant. They were 2s2p to 2s10p, 3s2p to 10s2p, 2p3d to 2p10d, 3s3p to 3s10p, 4s3p to 10s3p, 3p3d to 3p10d, 4p3d to 10p3d, 3d4f to 3d10f, 4s4p to 4s6p, 5s4p, 6s4p, 4p4d to 4p6d, 5p4d, 6p4d, 4d4f to 4d6f, 5d4f, 6d4f, 4f5g, 4f6g, 5s5p, 5p5d, 5d5f, 5f5g. This represents a larger basis set than carried out in the past,^{1,9} and is the same as that quoted by Bruch *et al.*¹⁴ for Li^{*}, and Anania *et al.*⁴ generally.

It is not easy to compare this calculation with the CC calculations, since the TDM is superior to the three-state CC approximation in that it contains more channels (e.g., 3skp, ks3p, 3pkd, etc.), but is inferior in that the latter contains the equivalent of higher configurations such as 2s11p, etc., including the continua (e.g., 2skp). However, comparison of results from the two methods in which the same channels are represented, where such data is available, shows agreement of the resonant energy positions to within 0.01 eV, and in many cases the agreement is 20 times closer. This point will be discussed further in Sec. VI below.

The third step of the calculation requires bringing together the first two steps, in order to evaluate Eqs. (7) and (8), for each resonant energy considered. This involves a numerical integration of the function F_E , with each of the many different Slater integrals of the form $Y_l(1s, n_l l_1 | r)$ $\times R_{n_2 l_2}(r)$, where

$$Y_{l}(1s, nl | r) \equiv \frac{2l+1}{r^{l+1}} \int_{0}^{r} R_{1s}(r')R_{nl}(r')r'^{l+2} dr + (2l+1)r^{l} \int_{r}^{\infty} \frac{R_{1s}(r')R_{nl}(r') dr'}{r'^{l-1}}.$$
(10)

The Y_i 's can be expressed analytically as products of exponentials with a finite sum of powers of r. The coefficients of the powers of r must be evaluated carefully since they in turn are made up of alternating sums of rational numbers. An indiscriminate summation could introduce large roundoff errors, which would destroy the accuracy of the entire calculation.

The three steps together take about 20 minutes of processor time on an IBM 360/65 computer for

each energy *E*. Most of the time is consumed in step three (step two is the same for all energies and need not be repeated). Although Eq. (8) is defined at each resonant energy, it was decided to evaluate $V_n(E)$ and $\upsilon_j(E)$ at three energies only: at the lowest resonance energy (which for ${}^1P^{o}$ is E = 1.5 + 0.5 - 0.688383 a.u.), the 2s threshold (E = 1.5 a.u. above the 1s state), and halfway in between. The various $V_n(E_n)$'s were then evaluated by carrying out a quadratic interpolation. This procedure will only work if the $V_n(E)$'s are slowly varying functions of *E*, which, as we shall show below, they are indeed.

The results of these calculations are summarized in Tables I and II. The rows marked E(a.u.) come directly from the TDM calculations, while the effective quantum numbers (n^*) are defined by the formula

$$E(\mathbf{a}.\mathbf{u}.) = -\frac{Z^2}{2} \frac{1}{N^2} - \frac{(Z-1)^2}{2} \frac{1}{(n^*)^2},$$
 (11)

where

N=2 and Z=2.

Both of these sets of numbers are *ab initio*, in that no experimental constants are required for their evaluation. However, in order to compare with experiment and other calculations, it was also necessary to express the energies in eV.

There are no accepted conversion factors, although the equation can be written in the form

$$E(\mathbf{eV}) = A + (B \times E) (\mathbf{a.u.}) . \tag{12}$$

Since our main interest is to compare with Burke and McVicar,⁴ we have used their constants, as listed in Table III. For the convenience of the reader, we have included the conversion factors as used by several other authors. Bain *et al.*¹⁶ argue that the resonance position which experimentalists measure can differ from process to process because of the different reduced masses of the various systems. The different conversions can give differences of as much as 30 meV; thus it is best, whenever possible, for theoretical results to be compared in a.u.

The fourth rows of Tables I and II express the widths of each of the levels in eV. It is well known that each Rydberg series (for both ${}^{1}P^{o}$ and ${}^{3}P^{o}$ there are three such series) is approximately characterized by a quantum defect (the fractional part of the effective quantum number) and reduced widths ($\Gamma_{n}n^{*3}$), as well as the type of configuration mixings of the wave functions. For ${}^{1}P^{o}$ for instance, the series beginning with the lowest level (first, third, sixth, ninth states, etc.) follows these characterizations very closely since the quantum defects are (2 – 1.679 743)

= -0.370757, -0.181034, -0.157537, etc., and the reduced widths are all of the same order of magnitude (0.14726, 0.16279, 0.17610, 0.18261, 0.186 16). Furthermore, the hydrogenic components of each of these states [the a_{ni} 's of Eq. (5a)] are very similar in their configuration mixings. In these states, the coefficients of the 2snp, ns2p, and 2pnd configurations are all of the same sign for each n from 3 to 10, while the 2pnd configurations, although far from negligible, represent less than 20% of each state. This partly supports the Cooper-Fano-Prats¹⁷ notion that these states are more or less 2snp + ns2p. However, the ratio of the two configurations is not nearly 1:1, but rather 1:2. The other two series (except for the second lowest level at 62.77 eV) are even less describable by a simplistic \pm configuration, since both are 40% 2pnd. It is generally unreliable to classify series by their wavefunction correlations, and so the notation $(N, n\alpha)$ has been used, where N represents the threshold below which the state exists (the state of the inner electron-see also Fano and Macek¹⁸ who treat N as an actual quantum number). n represents the quantum number of the outer electron, and orders the members of a given series, and $\alpha = a, b, c...$ labels each series for a given L, S, and π . a is given to the series to which the lowest level of a given configuration belongs; b is given to the series to which the lowest member not belonging to series a belongs, and so on. The last rows of Tables I and II give these classifications for ${}^{1}P^{o}$ and ${}^{3}P^{o}$. Bruch *et al.*¹⁴ give a complete classification for all states in Li⁺, while Anania et al.⁴ give complete classifications and wave functions for all isohelium systems through Z = 5, below both the N = 2 and N = 3 thresholds.

Since the b and c series are very close to each other for ${}^{1}P^{o}$, it is not possible from the use of wave function and quantum defect alone to judge which series goes with the (2, 3b) state. However, the reduced widths do. The reduced widths show clearly that (2, 3b) goes with the higher member of the doublet, giving the sequence: 0.0015458, $0.003\,089\,78,\ 0.003\,421\,1,\ 0.003\,535\,3,\ 0.003\,598\,16.$ The c series has reduced widths of 1.6086×10^{-5} , $5.275\;62\times10^{-5},\;6.7948\times10^{-5},\;7.1178\times10^{-5}.$ It is most interesting to note that the reduced widths for each of the three series differ by more than a factor of 100, there being as much as a factor of 10000 between series a and c. This is true for ${}^{3}P^{o}$ as well as ${}^{1}P^{o}$. This observation, which may have general validity, has not been explained adequately, and may give some support to those who are looking for some, as yet undiscovered, symmetry property. See, however, Macek¹⁹ and Lin,²⁰ who have used hyperspherical coordinates

TABLE I. helium. A (n	Energies, w) means $A imes$	vidths, clas: 10".	sifications,	and configu	ration mix	ings of the	13 lowest 1	P ⁰ doubly e	cited state:	s below the	N=2 thresh	old in	
* 2	1.629243	2.275505	2.818 966	3.268 197	3.289 547	3.842463	4.267537	4.292655	4.850 682	5.267134	5.293813	5.854598	6.266850
Energy (a.u.)	-0.688364		-0.562920	-0.546812	-0.546206	-0.533865	-0.527455	-0.527 134	-0.521250	-0.518023	-0.517842	-0.514587	-0.512731
Energy(ev)	0.2771 2.405 / 9/	62.7750	63.6905 7.967 (9)	64.1288 4 600 / F)		64.4811			64.8244	64.9122 4.650 / m			65.0562
(Aa) UIDT M	(2-) 604.6	(+) 77 6.1	(8-) 192.1	4.008 (-1)	(c-) 129.2	3.104 (-3)	()) 88).9	(c-) c22.4	1.600 (-3)	4.650 (2.383 (-9)	9.282 (-4)	2.832 (-1)
$n_1 \ l_1 \ n_2 \ l_2$						Hydr	ogenic compo	nents					
2 0 2 1	0.877 584	-0.008 186	0.189966	0.031536	-0.026814	0.106309	-0.024188	-0.019313	-0.071499	0.018462	0.014472	-0.052643	0.014467
2 0 3 1	-0.183509	0.647687	0.339183	-0.127515	0.278852	0.174091	0.079352	0.149983	-0.113193	-0.054258	-0.098494	-0.081934	-0.039711
2 0 4 1	-0.027488	-0.255226	-0.382255	0.606806	0.201101	0.093437	-0.123036	0.184231	-0.085164	0.042851	-0.131974	-0.067473	0.019669
2 0 5 1	-0.013423	-0.040913	0.032056	-0.361263	-0.302150	-0.431337	-0.486400	0.028898	0.087149	0.242617	-0.073482	0.022666	0.146397
2 0 6 1	-0.008476	-0.023536	-0.006405	0.003797	-0.000628	0.149162	0.552830	-0.335224	0.366295	0.230118	0.094849	0.178090	0.201450
2 0 7 1	-0.006072	-0.016424	-0.006221	-0.009758	-0.015011	-0.008075	-0.097242	0.073286	-0.273732	-0.649998	0.296015	0.220061	-0.049013
2 0 8 1	-0.004690	-0.012679	-0.005440	-0.007749	-0.012605	-0.003029	0.006639	-0.010451	0.043099	0.253 638	-0.160220	-0.357714	-0.603517
2 0 9 1	-0.003810	-0.010425	-0.004 805	-0.006386	-0.010873	-0.003173	0.005462	-0.009015	0.001782	-0.024513	0.023310	0.116228	0.432751
2 0 10 1	-0.003219	-0.009018	-0.004399	-0.005654	-0.009 960	-0.003346	0.005564	-0.009312	0.002501	-0.004814	0.008206	-0.005578	-0.086009
$\sum (2 snp)^2$	0.804 921	0.487554	0.298430	0.516222	0.210816	0.258736	0.573787	0.175667	0.243741	0.604393	0.155630	0.236193	0.625476
3 0 2 1	-0.302015	-0.623263	0.421354	-0.167579	-0.090285	0.208 056	0.086772	-0.050709	-0.133310	-0.055803	0.034383	-0.095785	-0.040215
4 0 2 1	-0.056584	0.233959	-0.583756	-0.164120	-0.454258	0.114446	0.121318	-0.180163	-0.106071	-0.083818	0.106039	-0.083887	-0.062348
5 0 2 1	-0.031281	0.035921	0.056461	0.192445	0.376069	-0.658 947	0.040449	-0.271931	0.140781	-0.056390	0.172616	0.043093	-0.049714
6 0 2 1	-0.021346	0.020258	-0.010089	0.001666	-0.004304	0.245416	-0.208125	0.499454	0.559491	0.043725	0.053352	0.273897	0.003504
7 0 2 1	-0.016111	0.013961	-0.010440	0.009135	0.012956	-0.012817	0.041067	-0.100605	-0.442443	0.185862	-0.520582	0.332597	0.090262
8 0 2 1	-0.012910	0.010688	-0.009408	0.007532	0.010668	-0.004441	-0.005963	0.009349	0.071007	-0.092169	0.237251	-0.573400	0.133531
9 0 2 1	-0.010774	0.008738	-0.008475	0.006431	0.009027	-0.004858	-0.005260	0.007711	0.002385	0.012603	-0.027 946	0.190263	-0.137368
10 0 2 1	-0.009295	0.007527	-0.007872	0.005851	0.008148	-0.005263	-0.005389	0.007 949	0.003620	0.004726	-0.006965	-0.009946	0.034678
$\sum (ms 2p)^2$	0.096478	0.445337	0.521932	0.092271	0.356378	0.551061	0.068 978	0.368762	0.562688	0.058452	0.373193	0.568796	0.054038
2 1 3 2	-0.294276	0.222701	0.155096	0.417810	-0.203976	0.069102	-0.250956	-0.121349	-0.042591	0.172455	0.083347	-0.030017	0.128046
2 1 4 2	-0.069020	-0.126149	-0.389561	-0.455743	0.538383	0.020 776	-0.001270	0.111637	-0.029195	0.048667	-0.039268	-0.024518	0.051154
2 1 5 2	-0.040700	-0.022216	0.031644	0.080520	-0.316206	-0.400559	0.470342	0.419027	0.104197	-0.203365	-0.218232	0.043725	-0.107941
2 1 6 2	-0.028744	-0.013384	-0.012808	-0.007264	0.006883	0.152308	-0.265327	-0.493312	0.324593	-0.300183	-0.178788	0.165854	-0.222967
2 1 7 2	-0.022155	-0.009591	-0.012179	-0.005411	-0.007755	-0.011741	0.037587	0.094 278	-0.268040	0.397447	0.571111	0.184442	-0.070907
2 1 8 2	-0.017998	-0.007531	-0.010842	-0.004879	-0.006400	-0.005969	0.002914	-0.005853	0.046771	-0.122226	-0.236825	-0.340224	0.420534
2 1 9 2	-0.015165	-0.006266	-0.009762	-0.004457	-0.005393	-0.006067	0.003035	-0.004615	0.003814	0.005525	0.024156	0.118025	-0.237942
$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 10 & 2 \\ - & 1 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$	-0.013177	-0.005468	-0.009 090	-0.004240	-0.004858	-0.006342	0.003163	-0.004827	0.004838	-0.002671	0.004126	-0.003 686	0.035168
$\sum (2pnd)^2$	0.095064	0.066400	0.177422	0.388894	0.431650	0.189102	0.356041	0.455096	0.192955	0.336517	0.470933	0.194 637	0.320108
\sum (other) ²	0.003 538	0.000710	0.002216	0.002612	0.001156	0.001 100	0.001193	0.000475	0.000616	0.000 639	0.000245	0.000374	0.000378
Classification	(2, 2)a	(2, 3)b	(2,3) a	(2, 3) c	(2, 4)b	(2, 4)a	(2, 4) c	(2,5)b	(2,5)a	(2,5)c	(2, 6)b	(2, 6) a	(2, 6)c

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helium. A (n) means A >	<10 ⁿ .											
n* Energy (a.u.) Energy (eV) Width (eV)	$\begin{array}{c} 1.391344 \\ -0.758286 \\ 58.3745 \\ 1.392(-2) \end{array}$	2.449180 -0.583354 63.1345 4.113(-3)	2.523 220 -0.578 534 63.2657 4.560 (-5)	3.209669 -0.548534 64.0820 3.301(-6)	$\begin{array}{c} 3.442\ 112\\ -0.542\ 201\\ 64\ 2543\\ 1.613\ (-3)\end{array}$	3.566105 -0.539317 64.3328 1.570(-5)	4.191338 -0.528462 64.6281 1.833(-6)	$\begin{array}{c} 4.438111\\ -0.525385\\ 64.7119\\ 7.682(-4)\end{array}$	4.581634 -0.523819 64.7545 7.823(-6)	$\begin{array}{c} 5.183 \ 650 \\ -0.518 \ 608 \\ 64.8963 \\ 1.041 \ (-6) \end{array}$	5.435 566 -0.516 923 64.9421 4.211 (-4)	5.589 101 -0.516006 64.9671 4.469 (-6)	6.179755 -0.513093 65.0463 6.387(-7)
$n_1 l_1 n_2 l_2$						Hydro	ogenic compor	aents					
2 0 2 1	0.955219	0,166933	-0.026010	-0.013706	-0.086246	-0.012068	-0.010076	-0.055301	0.007751	0.007504	-0.039519	-0.005585	0.005814
2 0 3 1	-0.189 989	0.535732	-0.485803	0.297020	-0.194018	-0.184007	0.163 085	-0.110 901	0.107 735	-0.106274	-0.075171	-0.074091	-0.076634
2 0 4 1 2 0 5 1	-0.054713 -0.030969	-0.398262 -0.040607	0.241621 0.011907	-0.403157 0.129275	-0.359552 0.558452	-0.243903 0.348147	0.037059 - 0.438125	-0.196921 -0.124644	0.150360 0.046574	-0.055166 0.154460	-0.129527 -0.119284	-0.104115 -0.063532	-0.059 105 0.069 015
2 0 6 1	-0.021322	-0.029512	0.010 030	-0.001499	-0.047521	-0.050609	0.284555	0.620202	-0.365393	0.308 576	0.097239	0.095077	0.205952
2 0 7 1	-0.016133	-0.021944	0.007162	0.000975	0.016135	0.004771	-0.035942	-0.196035	0.148729	-0.410847	0.558 634	0.296445	0.100469
2081 081	-0.012912	-0.017543	0.005535	0.000494	0.015105 0.013676	0.004629	0.000 787	0.017393	-0.012695	-0.007102	-0.363711 0.058413	-0.245958 0.048464	-0.448 673 0 237 846
2 0 10 1	-0.009206	-0.013044	0.003951	0.000128	0.012928	0.004117	0.000 556	0.010855	-0.003346	-0.000 586	0.008 851	0.001735	-0.035177
$\sum (2snp)^2$	0.953574	0.477186	0.295423	0.267660	0.489329	0.217340	0.302290	0.493273	0.192258	0.317718	0.495522	0.180163	0.325789
3 0 2 1	-0.169934	0.559 930	0.594823	-0.104305	-0.207724	0.201163	-0.059279	-0.120411	-0.113693	0.039197	-0.082212	0.076908	0.028471
4 0 2 1	-0.046925	-0.391807	-0.331880	0.223661	-0.341122	0.375456	0.012685	-0.192817	-0.213896	0.010111	-0.128688	0.143308	0.012838
5 0 2 1	-0.026034	-0.039053	-0.018356	-0.093002	0.532208	-0.533524	0.219441	-0.107437	-0.100206	-0.090037	-0.108509	0.111594	-0.047079
6 0 2 1	-0.017724	-0.028048	-0.015974	-0.000312	-0.045021	0.079301	-0.174624	0.581935	0.590251	-0.139387	0.100317	-0.132287	-0.100115
7 0 2 1	-0.013319	-0.020706	-0.011792	-0.002071	0.015192	-0.007944	0.022992	-0.184212	-0.241016	0.232891	0.517444	-0.498510	-0.029306
8 0 2 1	-0.010612	-0.016480	-0.009340	-0.001514	0.014173	-0.007829	-0.001473	0.016342	0.020853	-0.072232	-0.339371	0.407638	0.241365
9 0 2 1	-0.008 797	-0.013840	-0.007822		0.012801	-0.007382	-0.001309	0.009427	0.005 160 0.005 744	0.005294	0.0054.628	-0.080424	-0.137 683
$\sum_{i=1}^{1} \frac{1}{i} \frac{1}{i} \sum_{j=1}^{2} \frac{1}{i}$	-0.032495	0.470386	-0.000032 0.464886	0.069562	0.445 526	0.472600	0.082857	0.436261	0.475 698	0.088 659	0.431 130	0.477563	0.091 780
2 1 3 2	-0.105595	0.134020	-0.395058	-0.537663	-0.061621	-0.099488	-0.309264	-0.036906	0.051415	0.206523	-0.025498	-0.033384	0.151039
2 1 4 2	-0.032275	-0.171952	0.284075	0.584014	-0.089144	-0.306385	-0.052971	-0.055896	0.159502	0.097824	-0.038640	-0.102614	0.090052
2 1 5 2	-0.018730	-0.018088	0.021252	-0.167995	0.225369	0.448810	0.608685	-0.014413	0.095961	-0.221559	-0.025287	-0.096461	-0.101711
2 1 6 2	-0.013070	-0.013 997	0.018 117	0.002444	-0.022390	-0.063817	-0.376514	0.239939	-0.503286	-0.416642	0.057488	0.101708	-0.282449
7 0 7 1 0 7 1 0	278 800.0-	089 010.0-	197 ELU.0	7.7.7 000.0-	0.006.777	122600.0	0.046731	0.007475	106102.0	0.141012	0.150.301	0 345 707	097151.0-
2 1 0 c	-0.006702	-0.007382	0.009465	-0.000018	0.006258	0.008318	-0.000 526	0.004295	-0.006016	0.008 922	0.025068	0.069589	-0.309284
2 1 10 2	-0.005764	-0.006565	0.008433	0.000 100	0.005 989	0.008087	-0.000447	0.004719	-0.006629	0.000517	0.003683	0.004191	0.045195
$\sum (2pnd)^2$	0.012956	0.048339	$0.238\ 023$	0.658384	0.063206	0.309571	0.612896	0.069457	0.331832	0.592595	0.072767	0.342163	0.581827
$\sum (other)^2$	0.000 975	0.004089	0.001668	0.004394	0.001939	0.000490	0.001957	0.001008	0.000211	0.001028	0.000 581	0.000 111	0,000 603
Classification	(2, 2)a	(2, 3)a	(2, 3)b	(2,3) c	(2, 4)a	(2, 4)	(2, 4) c	(2,5) a	(2, 5)b	(2, 5)c	(2, 6)a	(2, 6)b	(2, 6) c

TABLE II. Energies, widths, classifications, and configuration mixings of the 13 lowest 3P0 doubly excited states below the N=2 threshold in e^{1} in A(n) means $A \times 10^{7}$

Authors	A	В	Value of -0.5 a.u. in eV
Lipsky and Russek ^a	78.983	27.210	65.378
Burke and McVicar ^b	79.0078	27.2106	65.4025
Bhatia and Temkin ^c			
(electron-atom)	79.01514	27.211 65	65.4093
Bhatia and Temkin ^c			
(photon-atom)	79.00439	27.207 95	65.4004
NBS (1973) ^d	79.0058	27.2116	65.4000

 TABLE III. Constants for conversion from a.u. to eV as chosen by various authors. See

 Eq. (12).

^a Reference 1 data taken from C. E. Moore, *Atomic Energy Levels*, Nat. Bur. Stand. (U.S.), Cir. 467 (U.S. GPO, Washington, 1949).

^b Reference 5.

^c Reference 8 (1975); authors claim that conversion depends on process.

^d Reference 15.

to approximately separate the Hamiltonian. The resulting equations, when decoupled, produce potential curves for each series which support the hierarchy of widths.

IV. ENERGY DEPENDENCY OF $\mathcal{V}_i(E)$ AND $V_n(E)$

In the previous section it was mentioned that only three energies were used to evaluate Eqs. (7) and (8) for all energies, by quadratic interpolation. To test the smoothness of these integrals, the calculations were actually carried out for many energies between E = 0.15 and 10 Ry. The value of $\upsilon_j(E)(2\pi k)^{1/2}$ for the lowest j's are plotted in Fig. 1. We see that in the range of interest (between 2.6 and 3 Ry) they are all slowly varying and of the same order of magnitude. This fact shows that even a simple model will give more or less correct results for the *a* series, since the corre-



FIG. 1. Dependence of \mathcal{V}_j $(2\pi k)^{1/2}$ on Energy (in rydbergs), for the four product functions 2s2p, 2s3p, 3s2p, and 2p3d in ${}^{1}P^{o}$ helium. The \mathcal{V}_j 's are defined in Eq. (7b).

sponding $V_n(E)$ will be more or less a positive weighted average of these curves, owing to the fact that all configurations have the same relative sign. Furthermore, even the poorest of calculations will show that the other series are much narrower than the *a* series, since the U's will subtract from each other. However, the supernarrowness of the *c* series must depend most heavily on a precise knowledge of the wave functions. This point will be discussed in more detail below, when comparison is made with other calculations.

It is of interest to see how the $V_n(E)$'s [Eq. (7a)] behave, since not only do they determine the widths, but they also can be used to evaluate Δ , the shift due to coupling to the continuum. From Fano¹³ or Feshbach^{6, 7,10} it can be shown that

$$\Delta_n = \mathbf{P} \int \frac{|V_n(E)|^2}{E - E_n} dE \tag{13}$$

where P stands for the principal value of the integral, and the integration is over all E, including a sum over discrete states of *PHP*, if any. We have not evaluated the shifts, but from Eq. (13) and Figs. 2-5 it can be seen that Δ_n and Γ_n are of the same order of magnitude.

The $V_n(E)$'s times $(2\pi k)^{1/2}$ for the three lowest *a*-series states are plotted in Fig. 2. It is clear that these are also smooth functions of *E*. Furthermore, they behave much better near the origin than the \mathcal{V}_i 's.

The three lowest *b*-series states are plotted in Fig. 3. Here too, their behavior near the origin seems regular. Note, however, that these curves reach their peaks below the resonance region rather than above and are a factor of 10 smaller than the *a*-series curves for all energies.

Figure 4 shows a different behavior for the c series. Here, the curves reach their minima



FIG. 2. Dependence of the interaction matrices $V_n(E)(2\pi k)^{1/2}$ as a function of energy (Ry), for the three lowest *a*-series doubly excited states in ${}^{1}P^{0}$ helium. The V_n 's are defined by Eq. (7a).

near the range of interest, rather than maxima as with the other two series. Except near the origin, these curves are an order of magnitude smaller than the *b*-series curves. This behavior may be inaccurate, indicating that either more configurations are needed to evaluate $V_n(E)$ far from the range of validity (2.6 to 3 Ry), or that even more care must be taken in the numerical procedures, or both. In any case, the V_n 's are still very accurate at the energies appropriate to this paper.

In Fig. 5, the width functions $\Gamma_n(E)$, expressed

in eV, are plotted against electron energy expressed in rydbergs for the six lowest states in ${}^{1}P^{o}$ He. The width functions are defined by

$$\Gamma_n(E) = 2\pi |V_n(E)|^2$$

and are the squares of those functions plotted in Figs. 2 to 4 divided by \sqrt{E} . Note that the ordinate axis has a logarithmic scale, and that the different series differ by over a factor of 10 throughout the entire energy range above 1 Ry. Also note that there is no evidence of $E^{-1/2}$ behavior even for energies as low as 0.1 Ry. The width of each



FIG. 3. Dependence of the interaction matrices $V_n(E)(2\pi k)^{1/2}$ as a function of energy (Ry), for the three lowest *b*-series doubly excited states in ${}^{1}P^{o}$ helium. The V_n 's are defined by Eq. (7a).

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FIG. 4. Dependence of the interaction matrices $V_n(E)(2\pi k)^{1/2}$ as a function of energy (Ry), for the three lowest *c*-series doubly excited states in ${}^{1}P^{o}$ helium. The V_n 's are defined by Eq. (7a).

state is determined by the value of Γ for that particular state at the energy of the resonance.

V. HYDROGEN NEGATIVE ION

The method described in this paper is equally applicable to all two-electron systems. The only



FIG. 5. Dependence of the width functions, Γ_n on energy for the six lowest doubly excited states in ${}^1P^o$ helium. The width of each state is the value of its Γ function in the resonance region. Note that the Γ scale is logarithmic, so the *a*, *b*, and *c* series differ by orders of magnitude above 1 Ry. The Γ 's are defined by Eq. (8).

question is whether TDM calculations can give good results for hydrogen, since the outer electron sees a polarized, neutral atom, whereas the TDM functions are all hydrogenic. In any case, these calculations for ${}^{1}P^{o}$ yield only one level below the N=2 threshold. Its energy, wave function and width are given in Table IV. The energy of $-0.126\,026\,89$ a.u., is lower than the variational calculation of O'Malley and Geltman⁷ who found two levels, the lower one of which was at $(-0.125\,965)$ a.u.

An examination of the hydrogenic components in Table IV shows that the configuration mixing of this state is very similar to the (2, 3b) state in helium, implying therefore that there is no 2s2pstate in H^{*}. This is in agreement with the work of Macek and Burke.²¹ The width calculated here is 0.311×10^{-4} eV, and matches the *b*-series widths in He. Lin,²⁰ following Macek, has calculated an energy value for the (2, 3b) state of -0.125955 a.u., and has calculated potential curves which show why the *a* series does not produce Feshbach resonances.

VI. COMPARISON WITH OTHER CALCULATIONS

A. Close coupling

Burke and McVicar⁵ performed a three-state CC calculation of ${}^{1}P^{o}$ and ${}^{3}P^{o}$ helium, results of which are in Table V and compared with the results of this paper. Several points of comparison between CC and this work are enumerated here. (1) All series *a* states agree to within 0.01 eV, and have comparable widths (although our results are consistently 20% narrower). (2) The calculations of the (2, 3b) state agree very closely as to

TABLE IV. Energy, width, and configuration mixings

of the lowest ${}^{1}P^{o}$ doubly excited states below the N=2 threshold in H⁻ [classified as (2,3b)].

Fn	0.000	w/o. r	• `	-0 126027
En En	erg	y (a.u	1.)	-0.120027
	dth.	y (ev)	0.211×10^{-4}
VV I	aun	ev)		0.311×10
 <i>n</i> ₁	<i>l</i> 1	n 2	l 2	
2	0	2	1	-0.024522
2	0	3	1	-0.316661
2	0	4	1	0.477804
2	0	5	1	-0.330664
2	0	6	1	0.167707
2	0	7	1	-0.055900
2	0	8	1	0.019355
2	0	9	1	-0.000683
2	0	10	1	0.005663
Σ	(251	n\$) ²		0.470168
3	0	2	1	0,336638
4	0	2	1	-0.451759
5	0	2	1	0.307 690
6	0	2	1	-0.152874
7	0	2	1	0.051965
8	0	2	1	-0.016803
9	0	2	1	0.001408
10	0	2	1	-0.003647
Σ	(ns:	2 p) ²		0.438453
2	1	3	2	-0.098 639
2	1	4	2	0.215255
2	1	5	2	-0.160464
2	1	6	2	0.085136
2	1	7	2	-0.028299
2	1	8	2	0.010474
2	1	9	2	0.000037
2	1	10	2	0.003 733
Σ	(2 <i>p</i> 1	$(d)^2$		0.089986
Σ	(oth	$er)^2$		0.001392
Cla	issi	ficat	ion	(2,3 <i>b</i>)

both width and position. (3) Except for the (2, 3b) state, both the *b* and *c* series differ by more than the expected 0.01 eV. (4) In both calculations, the *b* series is the broader and *c* is the narrower of the two series. However, in CC *b* is not as broad and *c* is not as narrow as our calculation. (5) The states classified as (2, (n + 1)b) are very close in energy to the corresponding states labeled (2, nc); however, in CC the *b*'s are slightly lower, while in TDM they are slightly higher.

The differences between the two calculations, especially item (5) above, deserve further investigation. It was mentioned in Sec. III that TDM and CC could be expected to be in close agreement as to the positions of the various resonances if the same channels are represented. But the three-state CC calculation only includes the 2skp, ks2p, and 2pkd channels, whereas the TDM calculation also includes among other things, the 3dkf channel. We therefore ran a restricted 67 configuration calculation which excluded all configurations which had orbitals with an l > 2. Those results are also included in Table V. The energy comparison between the 67- and 83-state TDM calculations is also made in Fig. 6, where the quantum defects are plotted against the energy of the states.

We see immediately that the 67 configuration calculation is again in very close agreement with the three-state CC calculations as to energies, thereby indicating that the Burke-McVicar work does not correctly predict the properties of the band c series, because it does not include all contributing channels. A similar situation occurred in the study of ¹S helium. There, CC and TDM differed in the calculation of the (2, 2b) state by 0.5 eV. The TDM calculation showed that the (2, 2b) state had 3.5% of d^2 configurations, and a recalculation by Macek,²² using a six-state code yielded an energy value which agreed with TDM to less than 0.01 eV. In the ${}^{1}P^{o}$ case, the contribution to b and c series from "other" channels is less than 0.2%. Even so, their effects cannot be neglected. Part of this sensitivity is certainly due to the closeness in energy of the two series, where even a small perturbation can have a large influence.

Thomas, Ormonde, and Lipsky²³ have made calculations for ${}^{1}P^{o}$ helium, using a six-state closecoupling code which included the 3s, 3p, and 3dtarget states. Their values for the energies of the (2, 3c) and (2, 4b) states agree very closely with our 83-state calculations. They are 64.1255 and 64.1405 eV, respectively, within 5 meV of the values quoted in Table I. They have had great difficulty in calculating the widths however, since these have proven to be highly dependent on the step size in the radial coordinate chosen to numerically solve the differential equations. This is not entirely unexpected. O'Shea²⁴ has shown in other cases, that the energy position of a resonance will stabilize even while the line profile is still uncertain. The line profile (and the apparent width) will eventually stabilize also if the step size of integration is made small enough. In general, the smaller the width, the smaller the step size must be.

TABLE V. Comparison of 83-state TDM calculation with that of the close-coupling calculation (Ref. a), several variational calculations (Refs. b and c) and a restricted 67-state TDM calculation, for ${}^{1}P^{o}$ and ${}^{3}P^{o}$ helium below the N=2threshold. The 67-state calculation does not include any configurations which have orbital angular momentum greater than 2. The CC calculation is a three-target-state calculation, including 1s, 2s, and 2p targets. All energy levels in eV were obtained using the second formula of Table III.

			Energies (eV)			Width	s (eV)	
Classification	TDM 83 state	TDM 67 state	Burke and McVicar ^a	Bhatia a n d Temkin ^b	Chung and Chen ^c	TDM 83 state	TDM 67 state	Burke and McVicar ^a	Bhatia and Temkin ^b
			Singlet P odd	l, below the	N=2 threshol	d in helium			
(2, 2a)	60.2771	60.2791	60.2687	60.1537	60.1602	0.3405^{-1}	0.341^{-1}	0.4375^{-1}	0.363-1
(2, 3a)	63.6905	63.691 8	63.6905	63.6828	63.6649	0.7266^{-2}	0.730^{-2}	0.8718^{-2}	0.10^{-1}
(2, 4a)	64.4811	64.4814	64.4811	-	64.4738	0.3104^{-2}	0,311 ⁻²	0.3690 ⁻²	-
(2, 5a)	64.8244	64.8245	64.8244	-	64.8249	0.1600^{-2}	0.161-2	0.1891^{-2}	-
(2,6 <i>a</i>)	65.0051	65.0057	-	-	65.0120	0.9282^{-3}	0.932 ⁻³	-	-
(2, 3b)	62.7750	62.7754	62.7726	62.7607	62.7606	0.1312-3	0.133-3	0.1394-3	0.1165-3
(2, 4b)	64.1453	64.1381	64.1342	-	64.1396	0.8680-4	0.341^{-4}	0.5032^{-4}	-
(2, 5b)	64.6643	64.6604	64.6579	-	64.6618	0.4325^{-4}	0.144^{-4}	0.2300^{-4}	-
(2, 6b)	64.9171	64.9149	-	-	65.0120	0.2383-4	0.750^{-5}	-	-
(2,7b)	65.0592	65.0578	-	-	65.0621	0.1443^{-4}	0.441^{-5}	-	-
(2, 3c)	64.12 88	64.1625	64.1716	-	64.1232	0.461^{-6}	0.379^{-4}	0.1539-5	-
(2, 4c)	64.6555	64.6717	64.6756	-	64.6545	0.679^{-6}	0.220^{-4}	0.7759^{-6}	-
(2, 5c)	64.9122	64.9210	-	-	64.9135	0.465^{-6}	0.128^{-4}	-	-
(2, 6c)	65.0562	65.0615	-	-	65.0584	0.289-6	0.795 ⁻⁵	-	-
			Triplet P ode	d, below the	N=2 threshol	d in helium			
(2, 2a)	58.3745		58.3599	58.2872	58.2880	0.1392^{-1}		0.1064^{-1}	0.890-2
(2, 3a)	63,1345		63.1412	63.0969	63.0926	0.4113 ⁻²		0.3101^{-2}	0.261^{-2}
(2, 4a)	64.2543		64.2551	-	64.2368	0.1615^{-2}		0.1231^{-2}	-
(2, 5a)	64.7119		64.7119	-	64.7041	0.7682-3		0.5928-3	-
(2, 6a)	64.9421		-	-	64.9405	0.4211 ⁻³		-	-
(2, 7 <i>a</i>)	65.0739		-	-	65.0764	0.2548 ⁻³		-	-
(2, 3b)	63.2657		63.2757	63,2533	63.2527	0.4560^{-4}		0.7764^{-4}	0.488-4
(2, 4b)	64.3328		64.3336	-	64.3281	0.1570^{-4}		0.3157^{-4}	-
(2, 5b)	64.7545		64.7543	-	64.7532	0.7823-5		0.1592^{-4}	-
(2, 6b)	64.9671		-	-	64.9668	0.4469^{-5}		-	-
(2,7b)	65.0897		-	-	65.0896	0.2829-5		-	-
(2,3 <i>c</i>)	64.0820		64.1211	-	64.0756	0.3301^{-5}		0.4528^{-5}	-
(2, 4c)	64.6281		64.6453	-	64.6275	0.1833^{-5}		0.2725-5	-
(2,5 <i>c</i>)	64.8963		-	-	64.9024	0.1041 ⁻⁵		-	-
(2, 6c)	65.0463		-	-	65.0521	0.6387 ⁻⁶		-	-

^a Reference 4.

^b Reference 8 (1975).

^c Reference 11 (1972 for ${}^{1}P^{o}$ and 1974 for ${}^{3}P^{o}$).

B. Variational calculations

There have been numerous variational calculations of the lowest ${}^{1}P^{o}$ and ${}^{3}P^{o}$ states in helium. Table V contains two of the more recent sets of results, those of Bhatia and Temkin (1975),⁸ and Chung and Chen.¹¹ All energy levels were obtained using the second conversion formula of Table III. Almost invariably, variational calculations provide lower energy eigenvalues for the first few members of each series [a notable exception is the (2, 3b) ${}^{1}P^{o}$ state for H⁻], but for increasing n, the TDM values get better, and in all but one case, provide lower eigenvalues for the higher members of each series.

There are very few width calculations available. Bhatia and Temkin (1975),⁸ using their variational wave functions together with the same continuum functions as used here evaluated the widths of the three lowest states in both ${}^{1}P^{o}$ and ${}^{3}P^{o}$ helium. We see from Table V, that where comparison can be made, agreement is reasonable. Note, however, that for the *a* series in ${}^{3}P^{o}$ helium, our disagreement with Bhatia and Temkin is as much



FIG. 6. Quantum defects $(n^* - n)$ of the various doubly excited states in ${}^{1}P^{o}$ helium below the N = 2 threshold, plotted against their energies. The defects are plotted modulo 1, making -0.2 the same as 0.8. Thus, the (n+1) b level, with quantum defect near -0.7 interacts closely with the nth c series level with quantum defect near 0.3. "[©]" are both 83 and 67state TDM calculations for a series. \times and \odot are 83state TDM calculations, although (2, 3b) has the same value for the 67-state calculation. " Δ " and " ∇ " represent c and b series respectively for the 67-state calculation. Note that although each solid line is below a dotted line (in accordance with the Hylleraas-Undheim theorem), the bseries have actually moved up in going from 67 to 83 states.

as 50%, whereas Burke and McVicar are halfway in between. On the other hand, for the *b* series in ${}^{3}P^{o}$, this paper and Bhatia and Temkin are very close, and Burke and McVicar differ by 70%.

Since Bhatia and Temkin do not quote any width values for the narrowest (c) series for either ${}^{1}P^{o}$ or ${}^{3}P^{o}$, we can make no comparisons here. It has been recognized, however, that calculation of such narrow widths is difficult indeed.

VII. SUMMARY

The method described in this paper has shown itself to be a practical and efficient way to systematically calculate autoionization widths for all doubly excited states in two-electron systems. It can be applied in an automatic, straightforward manner. No heuristic effects (such as deciding when a root has stabilized or hunting for rapid changes in phase shifts) are necessary.

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