# **Higher-order contributions to fine structure in high-***L* **Rydberg states of Si2+**

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Measured fine-structure patterns of high-*L* Rydberg states have often been used to extract measurements of both the dipole and the quadrupole polarizability of their positive ion cores. Dipole polarizabilities deduced in this way are apparently quite accurate, judging by comparison with calculated values, but the accuracy of quadrupole polarizabilities is questionable. The polarizabilities of Na-like silicon are a good example. Recent fine-structure measurements seem to imply a quadrupole polarizability, in clear disagreement with calculations. This apparent discrepancy is due to misinterpretation of the experimental data, neglecting the effects of higher-order terms in the polarization potential that significantly alter the slope of the traditional polarization plots. When these terms are calculated, and their magnitude estimated, the discrepancy is eliminated. The implications of the higher-order terms for analysis of high-*L* fine-structure patterns are discussed.

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The deviation from pure hydrogenic values of the binding energies of nonpenetrating high-*L* Rydberg states with *S*-state cores can be expressed as the expectation value of an effective potential.

<span id="page-0-0"></span>
$$
V_{eff}(r) = -\frac{C_4}{r^4} - \frac{C_6}{r^6} - \frac{C_7}{r^7} - C_{8L} \frac{L(L+1)}{r^8} - \frac{C_8}{r^8} + \cdots, (1)
$$

where each coefficient  $C_i$  is a property of the free ion core. Since the expectation value of *r*−*<sup>s</sup>* decreases rapidly with increasing *s* for high-*L* states, the expectation value of  $V_{eff}$  can be rapidly convergent, giving a precise account of the Rydberg fine structure for a very wide range of Rydberg states. The most complete theoretical treatment of this approach occurs in the helium atom, where Drachman has proved the connection between the effective potential and the Rydberg energies and calculated each  $C<sub>i</sub>$  coefficient analytically for the case of a He<sup>+</sup> core ion  $[1]$  $[1]$  $[1]$ . In the more general case, a nonpenetrating high-*L* Rydberg electron bound to a multielectron *S*-state ion, the connection remains valid since its derivation requires only a zeroth-order hydrogenic Rydberg wave function. However, the coefficients become functions of the wave functions and energies of the core ion. In particular, it has long been known that

$$
C_4 = \frac{\alpha_d}{2}, \quad C_6 = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha_Q - 6\beta_d), \tag{2}
$$

<span id="page-0-1"></span>where

$$
\alpha_d = \frac{2}{3} \sum_{n_c} \frac{|\langle gS || \vec{D} || n_c P \rangle|^2}{E(n_c P)},
$$
  

$$
\alpha_Q = \frac{2}{5} \sum_{n_c} \frac{|\langle gS || \vec{Q} || n_c D \rangle|^2}{E(n_c D)},
$$

$$
\beta_d = \frac{1}{3} \sum_{n_c} \frac{|\langle gS||\vec{D}||n_c P \rangle|^2}{E(n_c P)^2},
$$
\n(3)

and  $\overrightarrow{D}$  and  $\overrightarrow{Q}$  represent the dipole and quadrupole moment operators acting on the  $(N-1)$ -electron core ion,

$$
\vec{D} = \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} r_i C^{[1]}(\Omega_i), \quad \vec{Q} = \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} r_i^2 C^{[2]}(\Omega_i).
$$
 (4)

where  $C(\Omega)$  is a convenient notation for the spherical harmonics, and  $E(n_C P)$  and  $E(n_C D)$  represent the excitation energies of the excited *P* and *D* states of the core ion. The parameters  $\alpha_d$  and  $\alpha_o$  are the dipole and quadrupole polarizabilities of the core ion, and  $\beta_d$  is the first "nonadiabatic" correction to the dipole polarizability  $\lceil 2 \rceil$  $\lceil 2 \rceil$  $\lceil 2 \rceil$ .

Since there are only a few parameters in Eq.  $(1)$  $(1)$  $(1)$ , the nonpenetrating Rydberg states are arranged in very systematic patterns. One way these patterns can be illustrated is to scale the fine-structure intervals between different Rydberg levels of the same principal quantum number with the well-known hydrogenic expectation values of  $\langle r^{-s} \rangle_{n}$  [[3](#page-5-2)] to form a "polarization plot"

$$
\frac{\Delta E}{\Delta \langle r^{-4} \rangle} \quad \text{vs} \quad \left( \frac{\Delta \langle r^{-6} \rangle}{\Delta \langle r^{-4} \rangle} \right). \tag{5}
$$

<span id="page-0-2"></span>This is similar to the procedure suggested by Edlen  $[4]$  $[4]$  $[4]$ , which is often used to determine the ionization limit of a Rydberg series of fixed *L*, but now applied to a set of energy intervals within the same *n*. In many cases, this results in an approximately linear plot. Some slight curvature can be accounted for by fitting the data to the expression

$$
\frac{\Delta E}{\Delta \langle r^{-4} \rangle} = B_4 + B_6 \left( \frac{\Delta \langle r^{-6} \rangle}{\Delta \langle r^{-4} \rangle} \right) + B_8 \left( \frac{\Delta \langle r^{-8} \rangle}{\Delta \langle r^{-4} \rangle} \right). \tag{6}
$$

<span id="page-0-3"></span>The fitted intercept  $B_4$  is identified as  $C_4$ , giving an experimental estimate of  $\alpha_d$ . The fitted slope  $B_6$  is often interpreted

as  $C_6$  and used to estimate  $\alpha_Q - 6\beta_d$ . This interpretation rests on the assumption that the contributions of higher-order terms proportional to  $C_7$  and  $C_{8L}$  will not affect the initial slope of the scaled plot, but only introduce curvature.

In recent years, as the precision of theoretical calculations of these properties has improved, and as more precise experimental measurements have also appeared, it has become possible to test the accuracy of this interpretation of Rydberg fine-structure measurements. The case of  $Si^{2+}$  presents a good example. A recent experimental study of *n*= 29 Rydberg levels with  $8 \le L \le 14$  determined [[5](#page-5-4)]

$$
B_4 = 3.702(6)
$$
 a.u.,  $B_6 = -14.6(1.6)$  a.u.

If these fitted coefficients were identified with  $C_4$  and  $C_6$ , they would imply

$$
\alpha_d = 7.404(12), \quad \beta_d \approx 11.3, \quad \alpha_Q \approx 39,
$$

where the approximate value of  $\beta_d$  is obtained from Eq. ([3](#page-0-1)) under the assumption that the lowest excited *P* state at 0.3262 a.u. is the dominant contribution to both  $\alpha_d$  and  $\beta_d$ .

In this case, the core ion is Na-like silicon. Atomic theory is quite accurate for such a system with one electron outside a closed shell. Theoretical calculations of the matrix elements involved in determining the core ion properties were carried out using the relativistic all-order method  $\lceil 6 \rceil$  $\lceil 6 \rceil$  $\lceil 6 \rceil$ . The calculated values of the core ion properties  $\alpha_d$ ,  $\alpha_Q$ , and  $\beta_d$ are  $[7]$  $[7]$  $[7]$ 

$$
\alpha_d = 7.418(9), \quad \beta_d = 11.0, \quad \alpha_Q = 11.2,
$$

resulting in the predicted coefficients

$$
C_4 = 3.709(5)
$$
 a.u.,  $C_6 = -27.4$  a.u.

The agreement between  $B_4$  and  $C_4$  is excellent, leading to excellent agreement between experimental and theoretical estimates of  $\alpha_d$ . However, the agreement between  $B_6$  and  $C_6$ is very poor, leading to almost a factor of 4 discrepancy between the inferred value of  $\alpha_0$  and theory. This dramatic disagreement, far outside the uncertainties of both experiment and theory, motivated this study. Though this case is more clearly defined, it is reminiscent of other disagreements noted in Rydberg systems, for either the slope  $B_6$   $[8]$  $[8]$  $[8]$  or the quadrupole polarizability derived from it  $[9]$  $[9]$  $[9]$ .

In this case, for the  $n=29$  high-*L* Rydberg levels of  $Si^{2+}$ , the apparent discrepancy can be traced to the incorrect assumption that the contributions of higher-order terms in Eq.  $(1)$  $(1)$  $(1)$  will not affect the initial slope of the polarization plot,  $B_6$ . It should be clear that this is a questionable assumption by examination of Fig. [1,](#page-1-0) which shows the contributions of terms proportional to  $C_6$ ,  $C_7$ , and  $C_{8L}$  to a plot such as Eq.  $(5)$  $(5)$  $(5)$ , for the specific fine-structure intervals reported in the silicon study  $[5]$  $[5]$  $[5]$ , assuming a unit coefficient for each term. For this choice of intervals, while the  $C_6$  term is the most important contributor to the slope, both  $C_7$  and  $C_{8L}$  appear to contribute significantly. To evaluate the contributions of the  $C_7$  and  $C_{8L}$  terms to the fitted slope of the experimental data, these two terms were fitted to the same function in Eq.  $(6)$  $(6)$  $(6)$ , using the same relative weights as in the experimental report. From these fits, it was determined that

<span id="page-1-0"></span>

FIG. 1. Potential contributions of the higher-order terms (HOT) in Eq. ([1](#page-0-0)) proportional to  $\langle r^{-7} \rangle$  and  $L(L+1)\langle r^{-8} \rangle$  to a normalized plot like Eq. ([5](#page-0-2)) in the text. The plotted points correspond to the intervals measured in the  $Si^{2+}$  study of [[5](#page-5-4)]. The *x* axis,  $\Delta \langle r^{-6} \rangle / \Delta \langle r^{-4} \rangle$ , is a decreasing function of *L*, so the plotted points increase in *L* from right to left. The solid line is a plot of this same function, for comparison. The circles represent the function  $\Delta \langle r^{-7} \rangle / \Delta \langle r^{-4} \rangle$ , and the squares represent the function *L*(*L*+1)  $\langle \chi \langle r^{-8} \rangle / \Delta \langle r^{-4} \rangle$ . Each of these terms can contribute to the slope *B*<sub>6</sub> of a plot of normalized energy differences if their coefficients are sufficiently large. The dashed and dash-dotted curves represent fits of these functions to Eq.  $(6)$  $(6)$  $(6)$  of the text, showing that each is well represented by this functional form, and determining the contribution of each to the fitted value of  $B_6$ .

$$
B_6 = C_6 + 0.056C_7 + 0.302C_{8L}.
$$
 (7)

<span id="page-1-1"></span>Depending on the size of the coefficients  $C_7$  and  $C_{8L}$ , the fitted experimental slope may differ considerably from the prediction based solely on  $C_6$ . In order to assess the significance of this correction, it is necessary to calculate those coefficients.

# **THEORY**

We assume a nonrelativistic atom, with a single distinguishable nonpenetrating Rydberg electron outside a core ion with an *S*-state ground state. For simplicity all spins are neglected. The eigenvalues can be developed in a perturbation series, starting from the zeroth-order states which are products of the free ion ground state, denoted by *g*, and a single hydrogenic Rydberg electron.

$$
\Psi^{[0]} = \Psi_{core}(g)\Psi_{nLm}(\vec{r}_N). \tag{8}
$$

The perturbation *V* contains all the Coulomb interactions excluded from the zeroth-order Hamiltonian  $[9]$  $[9]$  $[9]$ :

$$
V = \sum_{\substack{i=1 \ k=1}}^{\infty} \frac{r_i^{\kappa}}{r_N^{\kappa+1}} C^{[\kappa]}(\Omega_i) C^{[\kappa]}(\Omega_N).
$$
 (9)

The energy of the Rydberg level is given in perturbation theory by

<span id="page-2-2"></span>TABLE I. Matrix elements [[6](#page-5-5)[,7](#page-5-6)] and excitation energies [[10](#page-5-9)] used to estimate the values of coefficients  $\delta$ and  $\gamma$ , using Eqs. ([13](#page-2-1)) of the text.

Transition	Dipole	Energy $(a.u.)$	Transition	Quadrupole	Energy $(a.u)$
$3S-3P$	1.87	0.326	$3S-3D$	4.58	0.731
$3P-3D$	2.99		$3P-3P$	$-5.317$	

$$
E(g, nL) = E^{[0]} + E^{[2]} + E^{[3]} + \cdots, \qquad (10)
$$

where the first-order perturbation energy is zero for an *S*-state core and a nonpenetrating Rydberg electron. The energy denominators that occur in  $E^{[2]}$  and  $E^{[3]}$  are sums of the energy differences in the two parts of the zeroth-order energy, and can be formally expanded using the "adiabatic expansion"

$$
\frac{1}{\Delta E_C + \Delta E_R} = \frac{1}{\Delta E_c} - \frac{\Delta E_R}{(\Delta E_C)^2} + \frac{(\Delta E_R)^2}{(\Delta E_C)^3} - \cdots, \quad (11)
$$

<span id="page-2-0"></span>where  $\Delta E_C$  and  $\Delta E_R$  are the changes in energy of the ion core and Rydberg electron, respectively. The first term in Eq.  $(11)$  $(11)$  $(11)$  leads to the adiabatic terms, and subsequent terms lead to a sequence of nonadiabatic corrections. Using the specific properties of hydrogenic wave functions and the multipole expansion of *V*, both  $E^{[2]}$  and  $E^{[3]}$  can be expressed as the expectation value of Eq.  $(1)$  $(1)$  $(1)$  over the Rydberg radial wave function with other terms involving higher inverse powers neglected. Transforming Eq. ([10](#page-1-0)) into this form is most easily accomplished using the identities of Appendix A.

The leading term in  $E^{[2]}$  is the adiabatic ( $\kappa = \kappa' = 1$ ) term, which leads to the first term in Eq.  $(1)$  $(1)$  $(1)$ , proportional to  $C_4$ . The similar term with  $(\kappa = \kappa' = 2)$  leads to the portion of  $C_6$ proportional to  $\alpha_Q$ , while the part proportional to  $\beta_d$  comes from the first nonadiabatic correction to the  $(\kappa = \kappa' = 1)$  term. The  $C_7$  term in Eq. ([1](#page-0-0)) comes partly from the lowestmultipole, adiabatic contribution to  $E^{[3]}$ , and partly from the second nonadiabatic correction to the  $(\kappa = \kappa' = 1)$  term in  $E^{[2]}$ , which is also responsible for the term proportional to  $C_{8L}$ . The coefficient  $C_8$  would contain contributions from several terms, and it is not calculated here. We find

$$
C_7 = -\left(\frac{\delta}{2} + \frac{8Q}{5}\gamma\right), \quad C_{8L} = \frac{18}{5}\gamma, \tag{12}
$$

<span id="page-2-1"></span>where

$$
\gamma \cong \frac{1}{6} \sum_{n_C} \frac{|\langle g \| \vec{D} \| n_C P \rangle|^2}{E(n_C P)^3},\tag{13a}
$$

$$
\delta \approx \frac{4\sqrt{2}}{15} \sum_{n_C, n'_C} \frac{\langle g \vert \vert \vec{D} \vert \vert n_C P \rangle \langle n_C P \vert \vert \vec{D} \vert \vert n_C' D \rangle \langle n_C' D \vert \vert \vec{Q} \vert \vert g \rangle}{E(n_C P) E(n'_C D)}
$$

$$
+ \frac{2\sqrt{30}}{45} \sum_{n_C, n'_C} \frac{\langle g \vert \vert \vec{D} \vert \vert n_C P \rangle \langle n_C P \vert \vert \vec{Q} \vert \vert n_C' P \rangle \langle n_C' P \vert \vert \vec{D} \vert \vert g \rangle}{E(n_C P) E(n'_C P)}.
$$
(13b)

Our notation is parallel to that established by Drachman in

the case of helium  $[1]$  $[1]$  $[1]$ , and aside from expressing the coefficients  $\alpha_d$ ,  $\alpha_Q$ ,  $\beta_d$ ,  $\delta$ , and  $\gamma$  in terms of core matrix elements and energy differences, our result differs only by generalizing to the case of a nonhydrogenic core ion with charge *Q* not necessarily equal to 1.

For positive ions in which the spin-orbit coupling in intermediate *P* and *D* states is not negligible, the results of Eqs.  $(3)$  $(3)$  $(3)$  and  $(13)$  $(13)$  $(13)$  can be generalized to include the spin-orbit energies. The results of this calculation are reported in Appendix B.

### **APPLICATION**

For a quantitative estimate of the effects of the higherorder terms on the fits of the  $n=29$ ,  $Si<sup>2+</sup>$  data, the coefficients  $\delta$  and  $\gamma$  must be evaluated. For the case of the Na-like Si ion, the contributions of the lowest excited states of *P* and *D* symmetry should dominate. Therefore, truncating Eqs. ([13](#page-2-1)) and including only  $n_c = n'_c = 3$  should produce a good approximate value for  $\delta$  and  $\gamma$ . Table [I](#page-2-2) lists calculated matrix elements  $\lceil 6, 7 \rceil$  $\lceil 6, 7 \rceil$  $\lceil 6, 7 \rceil$  and the excitation energies  $\lceil 10 \rceil$  $\lceil 10 \rceil$  $\lceil 10 \rceil$  necessary to find  $\delta$  and  $\gamma$  in this approximation. The results are

$$
\delta \approx 83.1
$$
 a.u.,  $\gamma \approx 16.8$  a.u.

Using these approximate values of  $\delta$  and  $\gamma$ , the coefficients  $C_7$  and  $C_{8L}$  can be estimated and their effect on the fitted slope  $B_6$  evaluated:

$$
C_7 \approx -\left(\frac{83.1}{2} + \frac{24}{5} \times 16.8\right) = -122.2 \text{ a.u.},
$$

$$
C_{8L} \approx \frac{36 \times (16.8)}{10} = 60.5 \text{ a.u.}
$$

This leads to a theoretical estimate of the fitted slope  $B_6$ using Eq.  $(7)$  $(7)$  $(7)$ :

$$
B_6 \cong -27.4 - 6.8 + 18.3 = -15.9 \text{ a.u.}
$$

This prediction is completely consistent with the experimental result,

$$
B_6^{\text{expt}} = -14.5 \pm (1.6) \text{ a.u.}
$$

Thus, the effects of the higher-order terms in the polarization potential are seen to completely resolve the apparent contradiction between theoretical predictions and experimental results. Of course, a more complete evaluation of  $\delta$  and  $\gamma$ , avoiding the truncation of Eqs.  $(13)$  $(13)$  $(13)$  used here, would make better use of the experimental result.

It should be noted that the influence of the higher-order terms proportional to  $C_7$  and  $C_{8L}$  on the fitted intercept  $B_4$ , while very slight, is not entirely negligible. In the case of *n*  $= 29$  Si<sup>2+</sup>, it is found that

$$
B_4 = C_4 - 0.000053C_7 - 0.000290C_{8L}.
$$
 (14)

<span id="page-3-0"></span>Using the estimates of  $C_7$  and  $C_{8L}$  listed above, and the fitted value of  $B_4$  [[5](#page-5-4)], this modifies the inferred value of  $\alpha_d$  by about 0.3%,

$$
C_4 = 3.702(6) - 0.006 + 0.017 = 3.713(6),
$$

$$
\alpha_d = 7.426(12) \text{ a.u.}
$$

This result is in slightly better agreement with theoretical calculations than the result based on analysis without consideration of the higher-order terms  $\lceil 5 \rceil$  $\lceil 5 \rceil$  $\lceil 5 \rceil$ .

The coefficients  $\delta$  and  $\gamma$  can also be evaluated with the more complete expressions given in Appendix B and the additional matrix elements tabulated there, without significantly changing the results.

#### **DISCUSSION**

The central conclusion to be drawn from this study is that, even when a fine-structure data pattern is accurately parametrized by a fit to Eq.  $(6)$  $(6)$  $(6)$ , it may not be justified to identify the fitted parameters  $B_4$  and  $B_6$  with the coefficients of the effective potential  $C_4$  and  $C_6$ . If the contributions of higherorder terms in the effective potential proportional to  $\langle r^{-7} \rangle$ and  $L(L+1)\langle r^{-8} \rangle$  are significant, they can substantially alter the interpretation of the traditional polarization plots. This is especially true for the coefficient  $B_6$ , which in the case of  $Si^{2+}$ ,  $n=29$  differed by a factor of 2 from  $C_6$ , but it is also true to a lesser extent of the parameter  $B_4$ . As a consequence, it will be important for future works to at least estimate the size of these higher-order terms before drawing any conclusions from the fitted parameters. One particular case where published conclusions will need to be revised is the study of barium Rydberg levels [[9](#page-5-8)] where a value of  $\alpha_0$  was inferred from the measured fine-structure pattern without consideration of the higher-order terms.

This is not to say that these terms are always important; in many cases they may make negligible contributions and not alter the simplest interpretation of the experimental data pattern. One way to quickly estimate the probable size of these terms is to note that the coefficient  $\gamma$  is likely to be the largest contributor, as it is here. If the dipole polarizability is dominated by the lowest excited  $P$  state, as it is in  $Si<sup>3+</sup>$ , then  $\gamma$  is related to  $\alpha_d$  by the approximation

$$
\gamma \cong \frac{\alpha_d}{4E(P)^2}.\tag{15}
$$

<span id="page-3-2"></span>Given an estimate of  $\alpha_d$ , from either theory or experiment, this provides an estimate of  $C_{8L}$  and, through Eqs. ([7](#page-1-1)) and ([14](#page-3-0)), an estimate of the probable contribution to the fitted coefficients  $B_4$  and  $B_6$ . These estimates, of course, depend on the specific intervals measured and included in the fit. Comparison with the observed values of  $B_4$  and  $B_6$  then indicates whether the contribution of the higher-order terms is likely to be significant. Table [II](#page-3-1) compares two cases where recent

<span id="page-3-1"></span>TABLE II. Rough estimate of the contribution of  $C_{8L}$  to the fitted parameters  $B_4$  and  $B_6$  for two cases where recent measurements exist:  $Si^{2+}$ ,  $n=29$  [[5](#page-5-4)] and  $Si^{+}$ ,  $n=19$  [[11](#page-5-10)]. This estimate is obtained from the value of  $\alpha_d$  inferred from experimental data and the excitation energy of the lowest *P* state of the positive ion core, using Eq. ([15](#page-3-2)) of the text. The coefficients  $\varepsilon_{8L}^4$  and  $\varepsilon_{8L}^6$  are derived from fits of the function  $\Delta[L(L+1)(r^{-8})]/\Delta\langle r^{-4}\rangle$  for the specific intervals and relative weights reported in the experimental studies, as in Eqs.  $(7)$  $(7)$  $(7)$  and  $(14)$  $(14)$  $(14)$  of the text. The estimated contributions to the fitted coefficients  $B_4$  and  $B_6$  are shown along with, for comparison, the values reported in the experiments. The effects of the higherorder term proportional to  $C_{8L}$  appear to be much less significant in the  $Si<sup>+</sup>$  study than in the  $Si<sup>2+</sup>$  study.



measurements exist:  $Si^{2+}$  [[5](#page-5-4)] and  $Si^{+}$  [[11](#page-5-10)]. It shows the value of  $\gamma$  that would be estimated in this approximation, the coefficient of  $C_{8L}$  in the determination of  $B_4$  and  $B_6$  determined from a fit similar to Eq.  $(6)$  $(6)$  $(6)$ , and the probable contribution of  $C_{8L}$  to  $B_4$  and  $B_6$  for both cases. In this approximation, the significance of the higher-order terms appears to be negligible at the level of precision of the  $Si<sup>+</sup>$  study, but quite significant in the  $Si^{2+}$  study, as the discussion above confirms. Certainly, it would be preferable to have more precise theoretical estimates of the coefficients  $\delta$  and  $\gamma$  in any particular case.

Another conclusion that can be drawn from this study is that, even if the higher-order terms in  $V_{eff}$  proportional to  $C_7$ and  $C_{8L}$  are significant in the fine-structure pattern, the data pattern will still be accurately parametrized by Eq. ([6](#page-0-3)). This can be shown directly by fitting the higher-order contributions separately to Eq.  $(6)$  $(6)$  $(6)$  as was done above to obtain Eq. ([7](#page-1-1)) and is illustrated in Fig. [1.](#page-1-0) Although these fits are not exact, they are precise enough that it seems impractical to attempt to extract additional information from the data pattern beyond the fitted coefficients  $B_4$ ,  $B_6$ , and  $B_8$ . The single coefficient  $B_6$  is likely to be the only information available from the fine-structure data pattern relating to the effective potential coefficients  $C_6$ ,  $C_7$ , and  $C_{8L}$ . On the one hand, this complicates the job of extracting unambiguous information about the ion core, since prediction of  $B<sub>6</sub>$  requires calculation of four independent core properties  $\alpha_Q$ ,  $\beta_d$ ,  $\delta$ , and  $\gamma$ . On the other hand, it also widens the range of core matrix elements that can be checked by a measurement of  $B_6$ , including some dipole and quadrupole matrix elements that are not easily checked by other measurements.

The good agreement found here between theoretical and experimental values of  $B_6$  contrasts with the situation in

<span id="page-4-0"></span>

Transition	Dipole	Energy $(a.u.)$	<b>Transition</b>	Quadrupole	Energy $(a.u)$
$3S_{1/2} - 3P1/2$	1.530	0.324810	$3S_{1/2} - 3D3/2$	$-4.105$	0.730725
$3S_{1/2} - 3P_{3/2}$	2.165	0.326911	$3S_{1/2} - 3D_{5/2}$	5.028	0.730720
$3P_{1/2} - 3D_{3/2}$	2.436		$3P_{1/2} - 3P_{3/2}$	4.341	
$3P_{3/2} - 3D_{3/2}$	1.091		$3P_{3/2} - 3P_{3/2}$	$-4.341$	

TABLE III. Matrix elements between  $nLJ$  states  $\lceil 6,7 \rceil$  $\lceil 6,7 \rceil$  $\lceil 6,7 \rceil$  $\lceil 6,7 \rceil$  and excitation energies  $\lceil 10 \rceil$  $\lceil 10 \rceil$  $\lceil 10 \rceil$ .

lower-*L* Rydberg states of  $Si^{2+}$ , where polarization plots based on 3*sng*, 3*snh*, and 3*sni* Rydberg energies show dramatic variation in slopes  $[12]$  $[12]$  $[12]$ . It is well established that core penetration effects are significant in *nf* Rydberg levels and that these influence the slope of polarization plots since their contributions to the Rydberg binding energy scale with *n* approximately like  $\langle r^{-6} \rangle$  [[13](#page-5-12)[,14](#page-5-13)]. The extent of core penetration contributions to Rydberg levels with *L* 3 is less well understood, though it has been suggested that these could also be responsible for the slope variations seen in 3*sng*, 3*snh*, and 3*sni* levels of Si III [[12](#page-5-11)]. Calculations of penetration effects in *L* 4 levels predict effects that drop by almost two orders of magnitude with each unit increase in  $L[15]$  $L[15]$  $L[15]$ , but these have not been confirmed by experiment. The improved understanding of the long-range interactions found

here may help to clarify the extent of core penetration effects present in these lower-*L* Rydberg levels.

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# **APPENDIX A**

Equations for reducing the first and second nonadiabatic corrections are as follows:

$$
\sum_{n'} |\langle n', l'|r^s | n, l \rangle|^2 = \langle r^{2s} \rangle_{nl},\tag{A1}
$$

$$
\sum_{n'} |\langle n', l'|r^{-s}|n, l\rangle|^2 [E(n') - E(n)] = \frac{1}{2} [s^2 - l(l+1) + l'(l'+1)] \langle r^{-2s-2} \rangle_{nl},\tag{A2}
$$

$$
\sum_{n'} |\langle n',l'|r^{-s}|n,l\rangle|^2 [E(n') - E(n)]^2 = \frac{1}{4} [-s(s+1) - l(l+1) + l'(l'+1)]^2 \left(\frac{1}{Q}\right)^2 \langle r^{-2s-4}\rangle_{nl} + \frac{1}{4} (2s+3)s[-s(s+1) - l(l+1) + l'(l'+1)] \left(\frac{1}{Q}\right)^2 \langle r^{-2s-4}\rangle_{nl} + (s+1)(2s+3)s^2 \left(\frac{1}{Q}\right)^2 \langle r^{-2s-4}\rangle_{nl} - s^2 \left(\frac{1}{Q}\right)^2 \left(-2Q\langle r^{-2s-3}\rangle + l(l+1)\langle r^{-2s-4}\rangle + \frac{Q^2}{n^2} \langle r^{-2s-2}\rangle\right),
$$
\n(A3)

$$
-\frac{Q^2}{n^2}\langle r^{-6}\rangle = -\frac{11Q}{5}\langle r^{-7}\rangle + \frac{3}{10}[(2l+1)^2 - 36]\langle r^{-8}\rangle. \tag{A4}
$$

## **APPENDIX B**

Expressions for  $\alpha_d$ ,  $\alpha_Q$ ,  $\beta_d$ ,  $\delta$ , and  $\gamma$ , including core fine-structure energies are given below. (Also Table [III](#page-4-0) gives the matrix elements between *nLJ* states):

$$
\alpha_d = \frac{1}{3} \sum_{n_c} \left( \frac{|\langle g || \vec{D} || n_c P_{1/2} \rangle|^2}{E(n_c P_{1/2})} + \frac{|\langle g || \vec{D} || n_c P_{3/2} \rangle|^2}{E(n_c P_{3/2})} \right),\tag{B1}
$$

$$
\alpha_{Q} = \frac{1}{5} \sum_{n_c} \left( \frac{|\langle g || \vec{Q} || n_c D_{3/2} \rangle|^2}{E(n_c D_{3/2})} + \frac{|\langle g || \vec{Q} || n_c D_{5/2} \rangle|^2}{E(n_c D_{5/2})} \right),\tag{B2}
$$

$$
\beta_d = \frac{1}{6} \sum_{n_c} \left( \frac{|\langle g || \vec{D} || n_c P_{1/2} \rangle|^2}{E(n_c P_{1/2})^2} + \frac{|\langle g || \vec{D} || n_c P_{3/2} \rangle|^2}{E(n_c P_{3/2})^2} \right),\tag{B3}
$$

$$
\gamma = \frac{1}{12} \sum_{n_c} \left( \frac{|\langle g \|\vec{D}\| n_c P_{1/2} \rangle|^2}{E(n_c P_{1/2})^3} + \frac{|\langle g \|\vec{D}\| n_c P_{3/2} \rangle|^2}{E(n_c P_{3/2})^3} \right),\tag{B4}
$$

$$
\delta = \frac{1}{30} \sum_{n_C, n'_C} \left( -2\sqrt{10} \frac{\langle g \|\vec{D}\| n_c P_{1/2} \rangle \langle n_c P_{1/2} \|\vec{D}\| n_c' D_{3/2} \rangle \langle n_c' D_{3/2} \|\vec{Q}\| g \rangle}{E(n_c P_{1/2}) E(n_c' D_{3/2})} - 2 \frac{\langle g \|\vec{D}\| n_c P_{3/2} \rangle \langle n_c P_{3/2} \|\vec{D}\| n_c' D_{3/2} \rangle \langle n_c' D_{3/2} \|\vec{Q}\| g \rangle}{E(n_c P_{3/2}) E(n_c' D_{3/2})} + 2\sqrt{6} \frac{\langle g \|\vec{D}\| n_c P_{3/2} \rangle \langle n_c P_{3/2} \|\vec{D}\| n_c' D_{5/2} \rangle \langle n_c' D_{5/2} \|\vec{Q}\| g \rangle}{E(n_c P_{3/2}) E(n_c' D_{5/2})} + \sqrt{5} \frac{\langle g \|\vec{D}\| n_c P_{3/2} \rangle \langle n_c P_{3/2} \|\vec{Q}\| n_c' P_{3/2} \rangle \langle n_c' P_{3/2} \|\vec{D}\| g \rangle}{E(n_c P_{3/2}) E(n_c' P_{3/2})} + 2\sqrt{10} \frac{\langle g \|\vec{D}\| n_c P_{1/2} \rangle \langle n_c P_{1/2} \|\vec{Q}\| n_c' P_{3/2} \rangle \langle n_c' P_{3/2} \|\vec{D}\| g \rangle}{E(n_c P_{1/2}) E(n_c' P_{3/2})} \right). \tag{B5}
$$

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