Contour of full potential energy curves of molecular hydrogen (N≤3)

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Synopsis We present the full potential energy curves of molecular hydrogen (N≤3). A new basis set of hydrogen atom is constructed, which can successfully describe the characters of the molecular hydrogen (H₂) in large scale of 0 ≤ R_{H-H} ≤ 120 Bohr. The spectroscopy orbitals determined by the key physical states for the H₂ are used in calculations of the full potential energy curves. These results are very useful for studies on spectroscopy, photoionization and photodissociation of the H₂.

Molecular hydrogen of H₂ is the simplest diatomic molecule and also a benchmark molecule to study the spectroscopy, photoionization, photodissociation, and so on. Many astronomical, physical and chemical researchers had paid much attention to this molecule system and carried out both the experimental and theoretical studies. In theoretical aspects, the potential energy curves (PECs) of molecules are the basis of studies in the collisions, spectroscopy, photoionization, photodissociation, etc[1-4]. Sharp [1] had summarized some early PECs of the H₂. However, most of previous calculations on PECs of the H₂ are focused on the ground and singly excited states. As for the highly or doubly excited state PECs, there are few studies had been reported, which may because it is a rather difficult and challenge work for the calculations.

By optimizing the lower energy of the hydrogen atom (H), we construct a new basis set of the H. This basis set can successfully describe the characters of the H₂ in large scale of 0 ≤ R_{H-H} ≤ 120 Bohr for N≤3. In our calculations, there are roughly divided into three districts. In large scale (R_{H-H} ≥ 7 Bohr), the wave function of the hydrogen molecular orbital can only be constituted of the basis set of the hydrogen atom. With decrease of the H₂ distance (in the medium distance), the problem of redundant appears.

This problem can be solved by reduce some basis set of the hydrogen atom, and put a dummy atom in the center of the H₂. The basis set of the dummy atom is the same with that of the helium atom. It can be understand because the two hydrogen atoms become one helium atom when the distance of the H₂ is approach zero. Adding some basis set of the dummy atom instead of that of the hydrogen atom, the redundant problem disappears. In the small scale (R_{H-H} ≤ 0.1 Bohr), the wave function of the H₂ is only constructed by the basis set of the dummy atom.

Based on the above method, we obtained the spectroscopy orbitals by optimizing the main physical states. Then, we carried out the Configuration Interaction (CI) calculations on the full PECs of H₂.

The quantum defects of the spectroscopic orbitals should have channel properties according to the quantum defect theory. To achieve this, the quantum defects of these orbitals are extracted from the calculations and are used as an important criterion for the convergence.

References

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