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(G*) Two-photon decay rates in heliumlike ions: finite nuclear mass effects*

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Spontaneous two-photon decay rates for the $1s2s\ ^1S_0 - 1s^2\ ^1S_0$ transition in helium and its isoelectronic sequence up to $Z = 10$ are calculated, including the effects of finite nuclear mass. We use correlated variational wave functions in Hylleraas coordinates and pseudostate summations for intermediate states. The accuracy of previous work is improved by several orders of magnitude. Length and velocity gauge calculations agree to eight or more figures, demonstrating that the theoretical formulation correctly takes into account the three effects of (1) mass scaling, (2) mass polarization, and (3) radiation due to motion of the nucleus in the center-of-mass frame [1].

Algebraic relationships are derived and tested relating the expansion coefficients in powers of μ/M , where μ/M is the ratio of the electron reduced mass to the nuclear mass. Astrophysical applications of two-photon transitions to the continuum emission around $400\ \mu\text{m}$ in planetary nebulae will be briefly discussed.

[1] A. T. Bondy, D. C. Morton, and G.W.F. Drake, *Phys. Rev. A* **102**, 052807 (2020).

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