

Blackbody Radiation Shifts and Theoretical Contributions to Atomic Clock Research

M. S. Safronova¹, Dansha Jiang, Bindiya Arora, Charles W. Clark, M. G. Kozlov,
U. I. Safronova, and W. R. Johnson

Abstract—A review of theoretical calculations of black-body radiation (BBR) shifts in various systems of interest to atomic clock research is presented. Calculations for monovalent systems, such as Ca^+ , Sr^+ , and Rb are carried out using a relativistic all-order single-double method, where all single and double excitations of the Dirac-Fock wave function are included to all orders of perturbation theory. A recently developed method for accurate calculations of BBR shifts in divalent atoms such as Sr is discussed. This approach combines the relativistic all-order method and the configuration interaction method. The evaluation of uncertainties in theoretical values of BBR shifts is discussed in detail.

I. INTRODUCTION

The current definition of a second in the International System of Units (SI) is based on the microwave transition between the two hyperfine levels ($F = 4$ and $F = 3$) of the ^{133}Cs ground state. The present relative standard uncertainty of the Cs microwave frequency standard is approximately 4×10^{-16} [1]. The operation of atomic clocks is generally carried out at room temperature, whereas the definition of the second refers to the clock transition in an atom at absolute zero. This implies that the clock transition frequency should be corrected for effects of finite temperature, of which the leading contributor is the blackbody radiation (BBR) shift. The BBR shift at room temperature effecting the Cs microwave frequency standard has been calculated to high accuracy (0.35%) in Refs. [2], [3] implying a 6×10^{-17} fractional uncertainty. These calculations are in agreement with a 0.2% measurement [4].

A significant further improvement in frequency standards is possible with the use of optical transitions, since frequencies of feasible optical clock transitions are five orders of magnitude larger than the relevant microwave transition frequencies. Significant recent progress in optical spectroscopy and measurement techniques has led to the achievement of relative standard uncertainties in optical frequency standards that are comparable to the Cs microwave benchmark. In 2006, the International Committee for Weights and Measures (CIPM) recommended that the following transitions frequencies be used as secondary representations of the second [5]: ground-state hyperfine microwave transition in ^{87}Rb [6], [7], $5s^2\ ^2S_{1/2} - 4d\ ^2D_{5/2}$ optical transition of the $^{88}\text{Sr}^+$ ion [8], [9], $5d^{10}6s\ ^2S_{1/2}(F = 0) - 5d^96s^2\ ^2D_{5/2}(F = 2)$ optical transition in $^{199}\text{Hg}^+$ ion [10], [11], $6s\ ^2S_{1/2}(F = 0) - 5d\ ^2D_{5/2}(F = 2)$ optical transition in $^{171}\text{Yb}^+$ ion [12], [13] and $5s^2\ ^1S_0 - 5s5p\ ^3P_0$ transition in ^{87}Sr neutral atom [14],

[15], [16]. With better stability and accuracy, as well as extremely low systematic perturbations, such optical frequency standards can reach a systematic fractional uncertainty of order 10^{-18} [9], [17]. The ability to develop more precise optical frequency standards will open ways of improving global positioning systems, tracking deep-space probes, performing accurate measurements of fundamental constants, and testing underlying postulates of physics.

The major contributions to systematic frequency shifts come from Stark shifts; the BBR shift being one of the most important contributions at room temperature for many of the frequency standards. Experimental measurements of the BBR shifts are difficult. In this paper, we review the current status of the theoretical calculations of BBR shifts in various systems of interest to the development of both microwave and optical frequency standards. New preliminary result for the BBR shift of the ground-state hyperfine microwave transition in ^{87}Rb is presented [18]. The evaluation of BBR shifts and their uncertainties in optical frequency standards in monovalent ions, such as Ca^+ [19] and Sr^+ [20] is discussed. New method for accurate calculations of the BBR shifts in divalent atoms such as Sr is outlined. This approach combines the relativistic all-order method and the configuration interaction (CI) method [21]. This method is generally applicable, i.e. not restricted to the specific type of the system.

The paper is organized as follows. We start by providing a brief general introduction into the calculation of the BBR shifts in Section II. BBR shifts of the ground-state hyperfine microwave transitions are discussed in Section III. BBR shifts of optical frequency standards with monovalent ions and their uncertainties are discussed in Section IV. BBR shifts of optical frequency standards with divalent ions and the recent development of a CI + all-order approach are discussed in Section V. A summary of results for fractional uncertainties $\delta\nu/\nu_0$ due to BBR shift and the fractional error in the absolute transition frequency induced by the BBR shift uncertainty in various frequency standards is given in Section VI.

II. THEORETICAL CALCULATION OF BBR SHIFTS

The electrical field E radiated by a blackbody at temperature T , as given by Planck's law,

$$E^2(\omega)d\omega = \frac{8\alpha^3}{\pi} \frac{\omega^3 d\omega}{\exp(\omega/k_B T) - 1}, \quad (1)$$

induces a nonresonant perturbation of atomic transitions at room temperature [22], [23]. The average electric field radiated

¹Email: msafrono@udel.edu

by a blackbody at temperature T is

$$\langle E^2 \rangle = (831.9 \text{ V/m})^2 \left(\frac{T(K)}{300} \right)^4. \quad (2)$$

Assuming that the system evolves adiabatically, the frequency shift of an atomic state due to such an electrical field can be related to the static electric-dipole polarizability α_0 by (see Ref. [24])

$$\delta\nu = -\frac{1}{2}(831.9 \text{ V/m})^2 \left(\frac{T(K)}{300} \right)^4 \alpha_0(1 + \eta), \quad (3)$$

where η is a small dynamic correction due to the frequency distribution and only the electric-dipole transition part of the contribution is considered. Contributions from M1 and E2 transitions are suppressed by factors of α^2 [24]. The overall BBR shift of the clock frequency is the difference between BBR shifts of the initial and final levels involved in the transition. Therefore, theoretical evaluation of the BBR shift requires accurate calculation of static scalar polarizabilities of the relevant states. The effect of the tensor part of the polarizability in the cases where it is non-zero averages out due to the isotropic nature of the electric field radiated by the blackbody.

In the case of the optical transitions, the lowest (second) order polarizabilities of the clock states are different. In the case of the ground-state hyperfine microwave frequency standards, the lowest (second) order polarizabilities of the clock states are identical and the lowest-order BBR shift vanishes. To evaluate the BBR shift, third-order F -dependent polarizabilities must be calculated. Therefore, we treat these cases separately. We note that from the theoretical standpoint, the number of the valence electrons (and the presence of core holes) defines the type (and final accuracy) of the approach. For example, the calculations of the BBR shift in Ca^+ and Sr^+ are effectively the same, but the treatment of Sr^+ and Sr are completely different. The main sources of uncertainties in these cases are also different for different systems and are discussed separately for each distinct case.

III. MICROWAVE FREQUENCY STANDARDS

The third-order F -dependent static polarizability $\alpha_F^{(3)}(0)$ required for the evaluation of the BBR shift for the microwave frequency standards in Rb and Cs can be evaluated as [24]

$$\alpha_F^{(3)}(0) = Ag_I \mu_n (2T + C + R), \quad (4)$$

where A is an angular coefficient, g_I is the nuclear gyromagnetic ratio, and μ_n is nuclear magneton. The quantities T , C , and R contain terms with two electric-dipole reduced matrix elements $\langle i||D||j \rangle$ and one matrix element of the magnetic hyperfine operator $\langle i||\mathcal{T}^{(1)}||j \rangle$. For example, term T is given by [24]

$$T = \sum_{m \neq v} \sum_{n \neq v} A_1 \delta_{j_n j_v} \frac{\langle v||D||m \rangle \langle m||D||n \rangle \langle n||\mathcal{T}^{(1)}||v \rangle}{(E_m - E_v)(E_n - E_v)}, \quad (5)$$

where A_1 is an angular coefficient and sums over m , n run over all possible states allowed by the selection rules. The sums are made finite with the use of finite B-spline basis

set in a spherical cavity. Two other terms, C and R , contain sums of the $D\mathcal{T}^{(1)}D$ and $\mathcal{T}^{(1)}D^2$ terms. It is practical to separate sum over states to the main contribution calculated using the high-precision all-order (or experimental) matrix elements and experimental energies, and the remainder (“tail”) calculated using either Dirac-Fock or random-phase (RPA) approximation. In Cs calculation [24], the main term contained sum over orbitals with the principal quantum number $n \leq 12$. While tail contribution is small, it is significant (on the order of 7% in Cs [24]). Off-diagonal hyperfine matrix elements between the s -states $\langle ns||\mathcal{T}^{(1)}||n's \rangle$ can be also evaluated using the formula

$$|\langle ns||\mathcal{T}^{(1)}||n's \rangle| = \sqrt{\langle ns||\mathcal{T}^{(1)}||ns \rangle \langle n's||\mathcal{T}^{(1)}||n's \rangle} \quad (6)$$

that is useful for the cases where accurate values of the hyperfine constants A are available. Therefore, the calculation of the BBR shift reduces to the evaluation of the electric-dipole and magnetic hyperfine matrix elements. Accurate evaluation of these quantities, in particular for heavy systems, requires all-order approaches where dominant electronic correlation terms are summed to all orders of many-body perturbation theory. Two such approaches implemented in significantly different ways have been used for the calculation of the blackbody radiation shifts: the relativistic all-order method (or linearized coupled-cluster method LCCSD[pT] method) [3], [18], [25], [26], [27] and perturbation theory in the screened Coulomb interaction (PTSCI) [2], [28] (also referred to as the correlation potential method). We describe the LCCSD[pT] method briefly below and summarize PTSCI method in Section III-C.

The relativistic all-order method including single, double, and partial valence triple excitations (or LCCSDpT) was applied to accurate calculations of energies, transition amplitudes, hyperfine constants, static and dynamic electric-dipole polarizabilities, quadrupole and octupole polarizabilities, magic wavelengths, atomic quadrupole moments, C_3 and C_6 coefficients, isotope shifts and other properties of monovalent atoms (Li, Na, Mg II, Al III, Si IV, P V, S VI, K, Ca II, In, In-like ions, Ga, Ga-like ions, Rb, Cs, Ba II, Tl, Fr, Ra II, Th IV, other Fr-like ions, Ra II) as well as the calculation of parity-violating amplitudes in Cs, Fr, and Ra^+ . We refer the reader to review [29] and references therein for a detailed description of this method, its extensions, and applications. The relativistic all-order method is applicable to the calculation of the monovalent systems, i.e. alkali-metal atoms, Ca^+ , Sr^+ , Zn^+ , etc. For example, it can be used to evaluate the properties of the ground or $5d^{10}6p$ excited state of Hg^+ , but not the properties involving $5d^96s^2$ configuration in Hg^+ since it is not a single valence electron state (but two-particle and one-hole state). We discuss an all-order approach capable of treating more complicated systems in Section V.

A. The all-order LCCSD[pT] method

The point of departure for our calculation is the relativistic no-pair Hamiltonian $H = H_0 + V_I$ [30] expressed in second

quantization as

$$H_0 = \sum_i \epsilon_i : a_i^\dagger a_i : , \quad (7)$$

$$V_I = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ijkl} v_{ijkl} : a_i^\dagger a_j^\dagger a_l a_k : , \quad (8)$$

in the case of *frozen-core* V^{N-1} Dirac-Fock potential. The quantities v_{ijkl} are two-particle matrix elements of the Coulomb interaction g_{ijkl} or Coulomb + Breit interaction $g_{ijkl} + b_{ijkl}$, ϵ_i in Eq. (7) is the eigenvalue of the Dirac equation, a_i^\dagger , a_i are creation and annihilation operators, and $: \ :$ designated normal ordering of operators with respect to the core. In the linearized LCCSDpT approach, the atomic wave function of a monovalent atom in a state v is given by an expansion

$$|\Psi_v\rangle = \left[1 + \sum_{ma} \rho_{ma} a_m^\dagger a_a + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{mnab} \rho_{mnab} a_m^\dagger a_n^\dagger a_b a_a + \sum_{m \neq v} \rho_{mv} a_m^\dagger a_v + \sum_{mna} \rho_{mnva} a_m^\dagger a_n^\dagger a_a a_v + \frac{1}{6} \sum_{mnrab} \rho_{mnrab} a_m^\dagger a_n^\dagger a_r^\dagger a_b a_a a_v \right] a_v^\dagger |\Psi_C\rangle, \quad (9)$$

where $|\Psi_C\rangle$ is the lowest-order frozen-core wave function. In Eq. (9), the indices m , n , and r range over all possible virtual states while indices a and b range over all occupied core states. The quantities ρ_{ma} , ρ_{mv} are single-excitation coefficients for core and valence electrons; ρ_{mnab} and ρ_{mnva} are core and valence double-excitation coefficients, respectively; ρ_{mnrab} are the valence triple excitation coefficients. In single-double (LCCSD) implementation of the all-order method, only single and double excitations are included. In the LCCSDpT variant of the all-order method, valence triple excitations are included perturbatively as described in Ref. [33]. Shorter designation SD and SDpT are used in other works on the all-order method, indicating exactly the same quantities.

Substituting the expressions for the wave function and Hamiltonian given above into the many-body Schrödinger equation $H|\Psi_v\rangle = E|\Psi_v\rangle$, gives the equations for the excitation coefficients listed in [33]. The equations for the correlation energy and all excitation coefficients are solved iteratively. Every iteration picks up correlation terms that correspond to the next order of perturbation theory until the correlation energy converges to sufficient numerical accuracy. Therefore, the all-order approach includes dominant many-body perturbation theory (MBPT) terms to all orders.

The matrix elements of any one-body operator $Z = \sum_{ij} z_{ij} a_i^\dagger a_j$ are obtained within the framework of the all-order method as

$$Z_{wv} = \frac{\langle \Psi_w | Z | \Psi_v \rangle}{\sqrt{\langle \Psi_v | \Psi_v \rangle \langle \Psi_w | \Psi_w \rangle}}, \quad (10)$$

where $|\Psi_v\rangle$ and $|\Psi_w\rangle$ are given by the expansion (9). In the SD approximation, the resulting expression for the numerator of Eq. (10) consists of the sum of the DF matrix element z_{wv} and 20 other terms that are linear or quadratic functions of the excitation coefficients. We note that the matrix elements of any

one-body operators (for example, electric-dipole and magnetic hyperfine ones needed for the evaluation of the BBR shifts) can be calculated with the same general code in this approach. In this approach, numerical wave functions on a radial grid are never explicitly generated; they are represented in terms of the numerical values of excitation coefficients.

B. Evaluation of the uncertainties

There are two distinct sources of uncertainties in the evaluation of the $\alpha_F^{(3)}(0)$ given by Eqs. (4-5):

- (1) uncertainty in the values of the individual matrix elements used in the calculation of the main terms and
- (2) uncertainty of the remaining tail contribution.

Stability checks must be carried out to ensure that no significant cancellations are present in the sums that may adversely affect the accuracy. In such tests, sets of completely *ab initio* LCCSD or LCCSDpT values are used in place of the experimental data and the final results are compared [3]. The uncertainty of the experimental energy values [34], [35] is negligible. Where the experimental (electric-dipole or hyperfine) matrix elements were used, the experimental uncertainties were taken. Uncertainty in theoretical matrix elements are assigned based on a comparison of theoretical and experimental values, estimation of the size of the correlation corrections, and the importance of the higher-order terms for particular matrix elements. An estimate of the uncertainty in the tail contribution can be carried out in the same fashion (by assigning the uncertainties to the individual terms) or by estimating the accuracy of the DHF approach for the entire tail. This issue will be addressed in detail in Section IV where the tail contribution is particularly large for polarizabilities of nd states. The accuracy of the tail contribution was also verified by replacing lowest-order contributions from orbitals with principal quantum numbers $n = 13 - 26$ by all-order values [3].

C. Summary of results

Following the designations of the Ref. [3], we give a summary of the results for the Stark shift coefficient k in 10^{-10} Hz/(V/m)² and the blackbody radiation shift parameter β . The Stark coefficient k is defined as

$$\delta\nu = kE^2, \quad (11)$$

where $\delta\nu$ is the frequency shift in the static electric field. The Stark coefficient for the transition between states F and I is related to the polarizability as

$$k = -\frac{1}{2}[\alpha_0(F) - \alpha_0(I)]. \quad (12)$$

Theoretical calculations of polarizabilities are generally expressed in atomic units (a.u.), in which, e , m_e , $4\pi\epsilon_0$ and the reduced Planck constant \hbar have the numerical value 1. The polarizability in a.u. has the dimension of volume, and its numerical values presented here are thus expressed in units of a_0^3 , where $a_0 \approx 0.052918$ nm is the Bohr radius. The atomic units for α can be converted to SI units via

TABLE I

SUMMARY OF THE RECENT THEORETICAL CALCULATIONS OF THE STARK SHIFT COEFFICIENT k IN 10^{-10} Hz/(V/m)² AND THE BLACKBODY RADIATION SHIFT PARAMETER β FOR TRANSITIONS BETWEEN THE GROUND HYPERFINE STATES AND COMPARISON WITH EXPERIMENT.

Atom	Transition		Ref.	k	β
⁷ Li	$2s (F = 2 \leftrightarrow F = 1)$	Theory, LCCSD[pT]	[26]	-0.05824	-0.5017×10^{-14}
		Experiment	[31]	-0.061(2)	
²³ Na	$3s (F = 2 \leftrightarrow F = 1)$	Theory, LCCSD[pT]	Present	-0.1285	-0.5019×10^{-14}
		Experiment	[31]	-0.124(3)	
³⁹ K	$4s (F = 2 \leftrightarrow F = 1)$	Theory, LCCSD[pT]	[27]	-0.0746	-1.118×10^{-14}
		Experiment	[31]	-0.071(2)	
⁸⁷ Rb	$5s (F = 2 \leftrightarrow F = 1)$	Theory, LCCSD[pT]	Present, [18]	-1.272*	-1.287×10^{-14}
		Theory, PTSCI	[28]	-1.24(1)	$-1.26(1) \times 10^{-14}$
		Experiment	[31]	-1.23(3)	
¹³³ Cs	$6s (F = 4 \leftrightarrow F = 3)$	Theory, LCCSD[pT]	[3]	-2.271(8)	$-1.710(6) \times 10^{-14}$
		Theory, PTSCI	[2]	-2.26(2)	$-1.70(2) \times 10^{-14}$
		Experiment	[4]	-2.271(4)	$-1.710(3) \times 10^{-14}$
		Experiment	[32]	-2.05(5)	$-1.54(4) \times 10^{-14}$
¹³⁷ Ba ⁺	$6s (F = 2 \leftrightarrow F = 1)$	Theory, PTSCI	[28]	-0.284(3)	$-0.245(2) \times 10^{-14}$
¹⁷¹ Yb ⁺	$6s (F = 1 \leftrightarrow F = 0)$	Theory, RMBPT3	[25]	-0.1796	-0.0983×10^{-14}
		Theory, PTSCI	[28]	-0.171(9)	$-0.094(5) \times 10^{-14}$
¹⁹⁹ Hg ⁺	$6s (F = 1 \leftrightarrow F = 0)$	Theory, PTSCI	[28]	-0.060(3)	$-0.0102(5) \times 10^{-14}$

*Preliminary value

$\alpha/h[\text{Hz}/(\text{V}/\text{m})^2] = 2.48832 \times 10^{-8} \alpha[a.u.]$, where the conversion coefficient is $4\pi\epsilon_0 a_0^3/h$ and Planck constant h is factored out.

The parameter β of the relative temperature-dependent BBR shift of the microwave frequency standard is defined as

$$\frac{\delta\nu}{\nu_0} = \beta \left(\frac{T(K)}{T_0} \right)^4 \left(1 + \epsilon \left(\frac{T(K)}{T_0} \right)^2 \right), \quad (13)$$

where T_0 is generally taken to be room temperature, 300K, ϵ parameterizes the lowest-order (in T) contribution to the dynamic correction η in Eq. (3), and ν_0 is clock transition frequency. The parameter β is calculated directly from the Stark-shift coefficient k defined by Eqs. (11-12) as

$$\beta = \frac{k}{\nu_0} (831.9 \text{ V/m})^2. \quad (14)$$

The small parameter ϵ has been calculated in Ref. [28] to be equal to 0.011 for ⁸⁷Rb, 0.013 for ¹³³Cs, 0.004 for ¹³⁷Ba⁺, 0.002 for ¹⁷¹Yb⁺, and 0.0005 for ¹⁹⁹Hg⁺.

Recent high-precision theoretical results [2], [3], [18], [26], [27], [28] for the Stark shift coefficient k in 10^{-10} Hz/(V/m)² and the blackbody radiation shift parameter β are summarized in Table I. We use [pT] designation to indicate that valence triple excitations were taken into account where LCCSDpT data were expected to be more accurate than the LCCSD ones. The result for Yb⁺ from Ref. [25] is obtained using relativistic third-order perturbation theory (RMBPT3). Theoretical results are compared with experimental data from Refs. [31], [4], [32]. The most complete comparison with other theory and experimental results for Cs is given in Ref. [28].

A new preliminary *ab initio* value of β [18] for the ⁸⁷Rb frequency standards, obtained using the LCCSD[pT] method is presented. We have also evaluated the Stark shift coefficient

k and the parameter β for ²³Na to study how these quantities vary among alkali-metal atoms. We find that the value of β for Na is nearly identical to that for Li and is significantly (by a factor of 3.4) smaller than the value of β for Cs.

Theoretical results are in good agreement with each other. We note that both of the approaches contain all-order correlation corrections. However, these methods include somewhat different types of the high-order correlation terms and implementation is quite different. In the PTSCI (or correlation potential) method used in Refs. [2], [28] the calculations start from the relativistic Hartree-Fock method in the V^{N-1} approximation. The correlations are incorporated by means of a correlation potential Σ . The correlation potential is used to build a new set of single-electron states for subsequent evaluation of the hyperfine and electric-dipole matrix elements using the random-phase approximation. Structural radiation and the normalization corrections are included for hyperfine matrix elements. Hg⁺ and Yb⁺ calculations were carried out with the correlation potential calculated in second-order and scaled to fit the experimental energies. For the other systems, two classes of terms are included in the correlation potential to all orders: screening of the Coulomb interaction and hole-particle interactions. The resulting correlation potential is scaled to fit the experimental energies. Scaling of the all-order correlation potential leads to only small adjustments and serves as a part of the uncertainty evaluation. For Rb, Cs, and Ba⁺ scaling of both second-order and all-order correlation potential operator was carried out for additional confirmation of the quoted uncertainties. The assignment of the uncertainty values was also based on the comparison of the polarizabilities and hyperfine constants with experimental values.

The agreement of results in Table I obtained with dis-

TABLE II
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GROUND STATE STATIC SCALAR
POLARIZABILITIES IN Ca^+ AND Sr^+ IN UNITS OF a_0^3 .

Ca^+	$\alpha(4s)$	Sr^+	$\alpha(5s)$
$4s_{1/2} - 4p_{1/2}$	24.4	$5s_{1/2} - 5p_{1/2}$	29.23
$4s_{1/2} - 4p_{3/2}$	48.4	$5s_{1/2} - 5p_{3/2}$	56.48
$4s_{1/2} - (5,6)p_{1/2}$	0.014	$5s_{1/2} - (6-8)p_{1/2}$	0.008
$4s_{1/2} - (5,6)p_{3/2}$	0.022	$5s_{1/2} - (6-8)p_{3/2}$	0.008
α_{tail}	0.006	α_{tail}	0.02
$\alpha_{\text{core+vc}}$	3.25	$\alpha_{\text{core+vc}}$	5.55
α_{total}	76.1	α_{total}	91.30

tinct high-precision approaches gives another estimate of the accuracy of the theoretical values. The evaluation of the uncertainty of the Rb LCCSD[pT] result is in progress [18]. Table I illustrates the relative size of the electrostatic frequency shifts for the ground state hyperfine transitions in various systems. The ion $^{199}\text{Hg}^+$ has both the lowest value of β and the lowest resulting fractional uncertainty in the frequency standard (5×10^{-18}) due to BBR shift among the systems listed in Table I.

IV. OPTICAL FREQUENCY STANDARDS WITH Ca^+ AND Sr^+ IONS

In this section, we discuss the calculation of the BBR shifts for optical frequency standards based on the $4s - 3d_{5/2}$ transition in Ca^+ [19] and the $5s - 4d_{5/2}$ transition in Sr^+ [20]. We note that while the calculations were conducted for $^{43}\text{Ca}^+$ and $^{88}\text{Sr}^+$, we have verified that the results given in this section do not depend on the particular isotope. Therefore, we will omit the A labels in text and tables below. According to Eq. (3), the calculation of the BBR shift for these transitions requires the calculation of the lowest-order atomic polarizability (unlike the cases of the hyperfine transitions, it does not cancel out for optical frequency standards) and the evaluation of the dynamic correction η . The third-order F -dependent polarizability was verified in Ref. [19] to give a negligible contribution to the BBR shift.

Therefore, the evaluation of the BBR shift requires an accurate calculation of static scalar polarizabilities of the $ns_{1/2}$ ground and $(n-1)d_{5/2}$ excited states. As mentioned earlier, the effect of the tensor part of the $(n-1)d_{5/2}$ polarizability is averaged out due to the isotropic nature of the electric field radiated by the blackbody.

A. Calculation of the ground state and $nd_{5/2}$ state polarizabilities

The calculation of the scalar polarizability of a monovalent atom can be separated into three parts: the contribution of the electrons in the ionic core, α_{core} ; a small term, α_{vc} , that changes the core polarizability due to the presence of the valence electron; and the dominant contribution, α_v , from the valence electron. The ionic core polarizability used here was calculated using the random-phase approximation (RPA) [36]. We calculate the contribution α_{vc} in the RPA as well

TABLE III
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE $3d_{5/2}$ AND $4d_{5/2}$ STATIC SCALAR
POLARIZABILITIES IN Ca^+ AND Sr^+ , RESPECTIVELY, IN UNITS OF a_0^3 .

Ca^+	$\alpha(3d_{5/2})$	Sr^+	$\alpha(4d_{5/2})$
$3d_{5/2} - 4p_{3/2}$	22.78(25)	$4d_{5/2} - 5p_{3/2}$	44.16(29)
$3d_{5/2} - 5p_{3/2}$	0.011(2)	$4d_{5/2} - 6p_{3/2}$	0.012(2)
$3d_{5/2} - 6p_{3/2}$	0.004	$4d_{5/2} - 7p_{3/2}$	0.003
$3d_{5/2} - 4f_{5/2}$	0.120(3)	$4d_{5/2} - 4f_{5/2}$	0.329(4)
$3d_{5/2} - 5f_{5/2}$	0.039(2)	$4d_{5/2} - 5f_{5/2}$	0.085(2)
$3d_{5/2} - 6f_{5/2}$	0.018(1)	$4d_{5/2} - 6f_{5/2}$	0.035
$3d_{5/2} - (7-12)f_{5/2}$	0.027	$4d_{5/2} - (7-12)f_{5/2}$	0.045
$3d_{5/2} - 4f_{7/2}$	2.392(53)	$4d_{5/2} - 4f_{7/2}$	6.576(70)
$3d_{5/2} - 5f_{7/2}$	0.773(33)	$4d_{5/2} - 5f_{7/2}$	1.699(30)
$3d_{5/2} - 6f_{7/2}$	0.350(12)	$4d_{5/2} - 6f_{7/2}$	0.698(11)
$3d_{5/2} - 7f_{7/2}$	0.191(7)	$4d_{5/2} - 7f_{7/2}$	0.360(5)
$3d_{5/2} - 8f_{7/2}$	0.117(4)	$4d_{5/2} - 8f_{7/2}$	0.212(4)
$3d_{5/2} - 9f_{7/2}$	0.077(3)	$4d_{5/2} - 9f_{7/2}$	0.136(2)
$3d_{5/2} - 10f_{7/2}$	0.054(2)	$4d_{5/2} - 10f_{7/2}$	0.093(1)
$3d_{5/2} - 11f_{7/2}$	0.039(1)	$4d_{5/2} - 11f_{7/2}$	0.067(1)
$3d_{5/2} - 12f_{7/2}$	0.029(1)	$4d_{5/2} - 12f_{7/2}$	0.050(1)
α_{tail}	1.7(1.1)	α_{tail}	2.06(20)
$\alpha_{\text{core+vc}}$	3.25(17)	$\alpha_{\text{core+vc}}$	5.41(31)
α_{total}	32.0(1.1)	α_{total}	62.0(5)

for consistency with the ionic core value. The valence scalar polarizability α_0 of an atom in a state v can be expressed as the sum over all excited intermediate states n allowed by electric-dipole selection rules:

$$\alpha_0 = \frac{2}{3(2j_v + 1)} \sum_n \frac{\langle n || D || v \rangle^2}{E_n - E_v}, \quad (15)$$

where $\langle n || D || v \rangle$ are the reduced electric-dipole matrix elements and E_i is the energy of the i th state. Just as in the case of the third-order sums in the previous section, the valence polarizability is separated into two parts, the main term containing the first few dominant contributions and the remainder α_{tail} . The matrix elements are calculated using the all-order LCCSD or LCCSDpT approaches described in Section III-A.

Contributions to the ground state static scalar polarizabilities in Ca^+ and Sr^+ in units of a_0^3 are listed in Table II. The tail contributions are grouped together as α_{tail} . For the main contribution, we use our *ab initio* LCCSD all-order values of the matrix elements and experimental energies from Ref. [34]. The first $ns - np$ transitions contribute over 99.9% to the valence polarizability.

Contributions to the $3d_{5/2}$ and $4d_{5/2}$ static scalar polarizabilities in Ca^+ and Sr^+ , respectively, are listed in Table III. Unlike the case of ground-state polarizabilities, contributions from other excited states are significant for the $nd_{5/2} - n'f_{7/2}$ terms, which converge very slowly. To improve accuracy, contributions with $n > 13$ were included in the main term and evaluated using the all-order approach. The evaluation of uncertainties in ground state and $nd_{5/2}$ polarizabilities is discussed in the next section.

TABLE IV
EVALUATION OF THE UNCERTAINTIES OF ELECTRIC-DIPOLE MATRIX ELEMENTS IMPORTANT FOR BBR SHIFT CALCULATION IN Ca^+ AND Sr^+ .
ABSOLUTE VALUES IN A.U. ARE GIVEN.

Atom	Transition	LCCSD	LCCSD _{sc}	LCCSDpT	LCCSDpT _{sc}	Final
Ca^+	$3d_{5/2} - 4p_{3/2}$	3.245	3.306	3.313	3.288	3.306(18)
	$3d_{5/2} - 4f_{5/2}$	0.501	0.516	0.517	0.511	0.516(6)
	$3d_{5/2} - 4f_{7/2}$	2.238	2.309	2.310	2.284	2.309(25)
Sr^+	$4d_{5/2} - 5p_{3/2}$	4.150	4.187	4.198	4.173	4.187(14)
	$4d_{5/2} - 4f_{5/2}$	0.779	0.789	0.790	0.785	0.789(4)
	$4d_{5/2} - 4f_{7/2}$	3.486	3.528	3.536	3.509	3.528(19)
	$4d_{3/2} - 5p_{1/2}$	3.083	3.112	3.119	3.102	3.112(10)
	$4d_{3/2} - 5p_{3/2}$	1.369	1.383	1.386	1.378	1.383(5)

B. Evaluation of the uncertainties

There are three sources of the uncertainties contributing to polarizabilities of Ca^+ and Sr^+ in the ground and $nd_{5/2}$ states. The ionic core contribution taken from Ref. [36] is relatively small and is expected to be accurate to better than 5%, based on the comparison of RPA and experimental polarizabilities for noble gases. Its uncertainty is, however, irrelevant to the evaluation of the uncertainty of the BBR shift since the core contribution is identical for both clock states. The small compensating term α_{vc} is different for the two states, but its entire contribution is below the present uncertainty of the other terms.

(1) Ground-state polarizability. The uncertainties in the values of the $4s - 4p_{1/2,3/2}$ and the $5s - 5p_{1/2,3/2}$ matrix elements for Ca^+ and Sr^+ , respectively, completely determine the uncertainty in the valence ground state polarizability values since they contribute over 99.9%. The LCCSD values for the primary $ns - np$ transitions in Li, Na, K, Rb, and Cs agree with various types of high-precision experiments to 0.1% - 0.4% [33]. There is no reason to expect reduced theoretical accuracy in the cases of either Ca^+ or Sr^+ , and 0.5% uncertainty was assigned to the $5s - 5p_{1/2}$ and $5s - 5p_{3/2}$ Sr^+ matrix elements [20]. The resulting uncertainty of the $5s$ polarizability is 1%. Our theoretical LCCSD $5p_{1/2,3/2}$ lifetimes [20] are in agreement with 1% experiment conducted in 1995 [37]. The contribution of the $5s - 5p$ transitions to the lifetimes is dominant (94%). However, the theoretical lifetimes of the Ca^+ $4p_{1/2,3/2}$ states calculated by exactly the same approach in [19] are in significant (over 3%) disagreement with 1993 0.3% measurement [38]. This issue is discussed in detail in Ref. [19]. Unfortunately, we know of no way to accurately estimate the missing additional contributions to the dominant correlation correction to these transitions as it can be done for some other transitions (see the discussion below). Accurate new measurements of the np lifetimes or $ns - np$ oscillator strengths in Ca^+ and Sr^+ are needed to help resolve this issue and improve the final BBR shift results.

(2) Excited $nd_{5/2}$ state polarizability: the main term. The uncertainty in the main term of the $nd_{5/2}$ state polarizability is dominated by a very few terms as illustrated by Table III. We obtain accurate values for these matrix elements using a semi-empirical scaling procedure that evaluates some classes of correlation corrections omitted by the current all-order

calculations. The scaling procedure is described in Ref. [29]. Briefly, the single valence excitation coefficients are multiplied by the ratio of the corresponding experimental and theoretical correlation energies, and the matrix element calculation is repeated with the modified excitation coefficients. The scaling procedure is particularly suitable for these transitions because the matrix element contribution containing the single valence excitation coefficients is dominant in these cases (but not for the primary $ns - np$ matrix elements discussed earlier). We note that this procedure is equivalent to scaling of the correlation potential in the PTSCI approach discussed in Section III-C. We conduct scaling starting from both LCCSD and LCCSDpT approximations. The scaling factors for the LCCSD and LCCSDpT calculations are different, and we take scaled LCCSD values to be our final results based on comparisons of similar calculations in alkali-metal atoms with experiments [39], [40], [41]. The uncertainty evaluation of the reduced matrix elements that give significant contributions to the polarizabilities is illustrated in Table IV, scaled values are listed with subscript “sc”. The uncertainties quoted in the table are taken to be the maximum difference between the scaled LCCSD values and the *ab initio* LCCSDpT and scaled LCCSDpT values. A notable feature of this table is close agreement of the scaled LCCSD and LCCSDpT results.

(3) Excited $nd_{5/2}$ state polarizability: the tail term. The tail contribution of the $nd_{5/2} - n'f_{7/2}$ terms is particularly large; its DF value (3.5 a.u.) is 5% of the total polarizability for Sr^+ . The uncertainty in the tail dominates the uncertainty of the Ca^+ BBR shift value calculated in Ref. [19]. In a later work on Sr^+ , this issue was resolved by performing additional RPA calculations of the tail and carrying out scaling procedures starting from both DF and RPA approximations. Since the largest part of the correlation correction for the $4d_{5/2} - nf_{7/2}$ transitions with $n > 9$ comes from RPA-like terms, the RPA approximation is expected to produce a better result than the DF one. We carried out the RPA calculation of the tail and obtained a lower value of 2.9 a.u. We also calculated the main terms using the DF and RPA approximations and compared the results with our all-order values. Contributions to scalar polarizability of the $4d_{5/2}$ state in Sr^+ from terms involving $4d_{5/2} - nf_{7/2}$ transitions with $n = 4 - 12$ calculated in the DF, RPA, and all-order approximations are listed in Table V. The relative differences

TABLE V

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE $4d_{5/2}$ STATIC SCALAR POLARIZABILITIES IN Sr^+ FROM $nf_{7/2}$ STATES IN DF, RPA, AND ALL-ORDER APPROXIMATIONS IN UNITS OF a_0^3 . THE RELATIVE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN DF AND ALL-ORDER RESULTS AND BETWEEN RPA AND ALL-ORDER RESULTS ARE LISTED IN % IN THE LAST TWO COLUMNS.

	DF	RPA	All-order	$\Delta(\text{DF})$	$\Delta(\text{RPA})$
$4d_{5/2} - 4f_{7/2}$	11.427	10.903	6.576	42.46	39.69
$4d_{5/2} - 5f_{7/2}$	2.725	2.545	1.698	37.66	33.26
$4d_{5/2} - 6f_{7/2}$	1.089	1.004	0.698	35.91	30.51
$4d_{5/2} - 7f_{7/2}$	0.556	0.509	0.359	35.33	29.32
$4d_{5/2} - 8f_{7/2}$	0.327	0.297	0.212	35.10	28.70
$4d_{5/2} - 9f_{7/2}$	0.210	0.191	0.136	35.08	28.43
$4d_{5/2} - 10f_{7/2}$	0.144	0.130	0.093	35.09	28.25
$4d_{5/2} - 11f_{7/2}$	0.103	0.093	0.067	35.10	28.14
$4d_{5/2} - 12f_{7/2}$	0.077	0.069	0.050	35.15	28.03
Tail	3.48	2.86			
Adjusted tail	2.26	2.06			

between DF and all-order results, and between RPA and all-order results, are listed in % in columns labeled $\Delta(\text{DF})$ and $\Delta(\text{RPA})$, respectively. The DF and RPA approximations overestimate the polarizability contributions by 35% and 28%, respectively. To improve our accuracy, we scale both DF and RPA results for the tail by these respective amounts to obtain a DF-scaled value of 2.26 a.u. and RPA-scaled value of 2.06 a.u. We take the RPA-scaled value to be the final one and the difference between these two values to be its uncertainty.

C. Results for the BBR shifts

The scalar polarizability values are used to evaluate the BBR shifts in the Ca^+ and Sr^+ clock transitions at $T = 300\text{ K}$ using Eq. (3) [19], [20]. The dynamic correction was estimated for Sr^+ to be $\eta = 0.0013$ and $\eta = 0.0064$ for the $5s$ and $4d_{3/2}$ states, respectively, using formulas from [24]. The resulting correction to Sr^+ BBR shift is -0.002 Hz and the final value for the BBR shift is $0.250(9)\text{ Hz}$ [20]. The M1 and E2 contributions to the Sr^+ BBR shift were evaluated in [20] using the approach described in Ref. [24] and found to be negligible (below 0.01%). Comparisons of LCCSD[pT] BBR shift values with other theoretical results are given in Ref. [19] and Ref. [20], for Ca^+ and Sr^+ , respectively.

Results for the BBR shift $\delta\nu$ at $T = 300\text{ K}$, the corresponding fractional uncertainties $\delta\nu/\nu_0$, and the fractional error in the absolute transition frequency induced by the BBR shift uncertainties are listed in Table VI. We note that the relative uncertainty in the BBR shift is significantly larger than the polarizability uncertainties owing to the cancellation between the values of the polarizabilities of the clock states.

Further improvement in the BBR shift values will require settling the issue of the accuracy of the primary $ns - np$ matrix elements as well as experimental determination of the $np_{3/2} - (n-1)d_{5/2}$ matrix elements, where ns is the ground state. The types of experiments that can provide better understanding of the theoretical uncertainties or extraction of

TABLE VI

THE BBR SHIFT $\delta\nu$ AT $T = 300\text{ K}$, CLOCK TRANSITION FREQUENCY ν_0 , FRACTIONAL UNCERTAINTIES $\delta\nu/\nu_0$ DUE TO BBR SHIFT, AND THE FRACTIONAL ERROR IN THE ABSOLUTE TRANSITION FREQUENCY INDUCED BY THE BBR SHIFT UNCERTAINTY.

Ion	$\delta\nu$ (Hz)	ν_0 (Hz)	$\delta\nu/\nu_0$	Uncertainty
Ca^+	0.38(1) [19]	4.11×10^{14}	9.24×10^{-16}	2.4×10^{-17}
Sr^+	0.250(9) [20]	4.45×10^{14}	5.62×10^{-16}	2.0×10^{-17}

the specific matrix elements for more accurate evaluation of the BBR shifts include np lifetime (or $ns - np$ oscillator strength) measurements, light shift ratio measurements [42], or ac or dc Stark shift measurements on any of the lines involving ns , np , or $(n-1)d$ states. We estimate that the experimental determination of the $ns - np_{1/2,3/2}$ matrix elements, where ns is a ground state accurate to 0.15% (or 0.3% $np_{1/2,3/2}$ lifetime measurement) would reduce fractional error in the absolute transition frequency induced by the BBR shift uncertainty by a factor of 2.

V. OPTICAL FREQUENCY STANDARDS WITH DIVALENT ATOMS

BBR shifts for optical lattice clocks based on the $ns^2\ ^1S_0 - nsnp\ ^3P_0$ transitions in divalent atoms were calculated for Mg, Ca, Sr, and Yb in Ref. [24] and for Hg in Ref. [43]. The evaluation of the BBR shift in these systems requires evaluation of the ground and $nsnp\ ^3P_0$ state polarizabilities. Different theoretical methods are required for the evaluation of these polarizabilities in comparison with the monovalent systems discussed in the previous sections. The CI + MBPT approach initially developed in Ref. [44] that combines the configuration-interaction (CI) method and perturbation theory was used in Refs. [24], [43]. Experimental data were used where available for dominant contributions. The Sr BBR shift was later investigated in more detail in Ref. [45] using the same approach.

In the CI method, the many-electron wave function is obtained as a linear combination of all distinct states of a given angular momentum J and parity:

$$\Psi_J = \sum_i c_i \Phi_i, \quad (16)$$

in other words, a linear combination of Slater determinants of a proper symmetry from a model subspace [44].

Energies and wave functions of low-lying states are determined by diagonalizing an effective Hamiltonian:

$$H^{\text{eff}} = H_1 + H_2, \quad (17)$$

where H_1 represents the one-body part of the Hamiltonian, and the two-body part H_2 contains the Coulomb (or Coulomb + Breit) matrix elements v_{ijkl} . The resulting wave functions are used to calculate matrix elements and other properties.

The CI + MBPT approach permits one to incorporate core excitations in the CI method by including certain perturbation theory terms into an effective Hamiltonian (17). The one-body

TABLE VII

COMPARISON OF THE CI + ALL-ORDER RESULTS FOR THE ENERGY LEVELS OF SR WITH EXPERIMENT. TWO-ELECTRON BINDING ENERGY IS GIVEN IN THE FIRST ROW, THE OTHER VALUES ARE COUNTED FROM THE GROUND STATE. THE ENERGIES ARE GIVEN IN cm^{-1} . THE RELATIVE DIFFERENCE WITH EXPERIMENTAL VALUES IS GIVEN IN THE LAST COLUMN IN %.

Level	Expt.	Present	$\Delta(\%)$
$5s^2\ ^1S_0$	134896	134894	0.001
$5s5p\ ^3P_0$	14318	14301	0.11
$5s5p\ ^3P_1$	14504	14487	0.12
$5s5p\ ^3P_2$	14899	14892	0.04
$5s4d\ ^3D_1$	18159	18148	0.06
$5s4d\ ^3D_2$	18219	18218	0.01
$5s4d\ ^3D_3$	18319	18335	-0.09
$5s4d\ ^1D_2$	20150	20222	-0.36
$5s5p\ ^1P_1$	21698	21746	-0.22
$5s6s\ ^3S_1$	29039	29090	-0.18
$5s6s\ ^1S_0$	30592	30656	-0.21
$4d5p\ ^3F_2$	33267	33389	-0.37
$4d5p\ ^3F_3$	33590	33756	-0.49
$4d5p\ ^3F_4$	33919	34110	-0.56
$4d5p\ ^1D_2$	33827	34005	-0.53
$5s6p\ ^3P_0$	33854	33881	-0.08
$5s6p\ ^3P_1$	33868	33894	-0.08
$5s6p\ ^3P_2$	33973	33915	0.17
$5s6p\ ^1P_1$	34098	34138	-0.12
$5s5d\ ^1D_2$	34727	34777	-0.14
$\Delta(^3D_1 - ^3P_0)$	3842	3847	0.14

part H_1 is modified to include the correlation potential Σ_1 that accounts for part of the core-valence correlations,

$$H_1 \rightarrow H_1 + \Sigma_1. \quad (18)$$

Either the second-order expression, $\Sigma_1^{(2)}$, or all-order chains of such terms can be used (see, for example, Ref. [46]). The two-body Coulomb interaction term H_2 is modified by including the two-body part of core-valence interaction that represents screening of the Coulomb interaction by valence electrons;

$$H_2 \rightarrow H_2 + \Sigma_2, \quad (19)$$

where Σ_2 is calculated using second-order MBPT in the CI+MBPT approach. The CI method is then applied as usual with the modified H^{eff} to obtain improved energies and wave functions. The estimated accuracy of BBR values calculated using this approach was 2.7% for Mg, 1.4% for Ca and Sr, and 10% for Yb [24]. The resulting fractional uncertainties in the clock transition frequencies ranged from 1×10^{-17} for Mg to 3×10^{-16} for Yb. The development of a more accurate approach is needed for further improvement of the BBR values for the optical lattice clocks.

A. CI+ all-order method

The MBPT corrections associated with terms Σ_1 in Eq. (18) and Σ_2 in Eq. (19) typically grow with nuclear charge Z . This leads to a deterioration in the accuracy of the CI + second

order MBPT results for heavier, more complicated systems (as illustrated by significantly reduced accuracy of the Yb BBR in Ref. [24]). The order-by-order extension of this method does not look promising as the complexity of the MBPT expansion for systems with more than one valence electron makes a third-order extension impractical. Moreover, although the convergence of the MBPT series is not well studied, it is known that third-order results are often less accurate than the second-order ones. This is why it is important to develop an all-order extension of the CI + MBPT method.

In the CI + all-order approach, introduced in Ref. [21], corrections to the effective Hamiltonian Σ_1 and Σ_2 are calculated using a modified version of the LCCSD all-order method described in Section III-A. Therefore, the effective Hamiltonian contains dominant core and core-valence correlation corrections to all orders. The core-core and core-valence sectors of the correlation corrections for systems with few valence electrons are treated in the all-order method with the same accuracy as in the all-order approach for the monovalent systems. The CI method is then used to treat valence-valence correlations.

The CI + all-order approach is based on the Brilloiun-Wigner variant of the many-body perturbation theory, rather than the Rayleigh-Schrödinger variant. Use of the Rayleigh-Schrödinger MBPT for systems with more than one valence electron leads to a non-symmetric effective Hamiltonian and to the problem of ‘‘intruder states’’. In the Brilloiun-Wigner variant of MBPT, the effective Hamiltonian is symmetric and accidentally small denominators do not arise; however, Σ_1 and Σ_2 became energy dependent (see Ref. [21] for the formulas and detail description of the CI + all-order method).

This approach has been tested on the calculation of energy levels of Mg, Ca, Sr, Zn, Cd, Ba, and Hg in Ref. [21]. The CI+all-order method described above treats electronic correlation in systems with several valence electrons in a significantly more complete way than the CI + MBPT approach owing to the inclusion of the additional classes of MBPT terms in Σ_1 and addition of all-order (rather than second-order) correction in Σ_2 . We also find almost no deterioration in accuracy of the two-electron binding energies from Ca to Hg with CI+all-order method. At least factor of three improvement in agreement with experimental values for the two-electron binding energies and most excited state energies in comparison with the CI + MBPT method was found even when completely *ab initio* version of the method was used. Theoretical values for energies are brought into very close agreement with experiment when the energy dependence of $\Sigma(\tilde{\epsilon}_v)$ is used to further improve the wave functions for subsequent use in the polarizability calculations. The results for Sr energy levels calculated by the CI + all-order method with adjusted $\tilde{\epsilon}_v$ are listed in Table VII for illustration of the CI + all-order approach. Two-electron binding energies are given in the first row, energies in other rows are counted from the ground state. The energies are given in cm^{-1} and the relative differences with experimental values are given in the last column in %.

Our preliminary calculations of the 3P_0 polarizability values in Ca and Sr indicate better agreement of the CI+all-order *ab initio* results with recommended values from Ref. [24] in

TABLE VIII

SUMMARY OF THE FRACTIONAL UNCERTAINTIES $\delta\nu/\nu_0$ DUE TO BBR SHIFT AND THE FRACTIONAL ERROR IN THE ABSOLUTE TRANSITION FREQUENCY INDUCED BY THE BBR SHIFT UNCERTAINTY AT $T = 300\text{ K}$ IN VARIOUS FREQUENCY STANDARDS.

Atom	Clock transition	Ref.	$\delta\nu/\nu_0$	Uncertainty
^{87}Rb	$5s (F = 2 - F = 1)$	[28]	-1.25×10^{-14}	1×10^{-16}
^{133}Cs	$6s (F = 4 - F = 3)$	[3]	-1.732×10^{-14}	6×10^{-17}
		[2]	-1.72×10^{-14}	2×10^{-16}
		[4]	-1.732×10^{-14}	3×10^{-17}
$^{137}\text{Ba}^+$	$6s (F = 2 - F = 1)$	[28]	-2.46×10^{-15}	2×10^{-17}
$^{171}\text{Yb}^+$	$6s (F = 1 - F = 0)$	[28]	-9.4×10^{-16}	5×10^{-17}
$^{199}\text{Hg}^+$	$6s (F = 1 - F = 0)$	[28]	-1.02×10^{-16}	5×10^{-18}
Ca^+	$4s - 3d_{5/2}$	[19]	9.24×10^{-16}	2×10^{-17}
Sr^+	$5s - 4d_{5/2}$	[20]	5.62×10^{-16}	2×10^{-17}
Mg	$3s^2 \ ^1S_0 - 3s3p^3 P_0$	[24]	-3.9×10^{-16}	1×10^{-17}
Al^+	$3s^2 \ ^1S_0 - 3s3p^3 P_0$	[47]	-3.8×10^{-18}	3×10^{-18}
Ca	$4s^2 \ ^1S_0 - 4s4p^3 P_0$	[24]	-2.6×10^{-15}	4×10^{-17}
Sr	$5s^2 \ ^1S_0 - 5s5p^3 P_0$	[24]	-5.5×10^{-15}	7×10^{-17}
Yb	$6s^2 \ ^1S_0 - 6s6p^3 P_0$	[24]	-2.6×10^{-15}	3×10^{-16}
Hg	$6s^2 \ ^1S_0 - 6s6p^3 P_0$	[43]	-1.6×10^{-16}	
Ag	$4d^{10}5s^2 \ ^2S_{1/2} - 4d^95s^2 \ ^2D_{5/2}$	[48]	-1.9×10^{-16}	
Yb^+	$4f^{14}6s^2 \ ^2S_{1/2} - 4f^{13}6s^2 \ ^2F_{7/2}$	[49]	-2.5×10^{-16}	1×10^{-16}

comparison with the CI+MBPT approach.

Our further development of this method will include addition of the all-order terms beyond RPA to the treatment of the transition matrix elements for precision calculation of BBR shifts in divalent systems.

VI. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

In this work, we have presented a review of the most recent high-precision *ab initio* theoretical calculations of the blackbody radiation (BBR) shifts in various systems of interest to atomic clock research. A recently developed method that combines the relativistic all-order method and the configuration interaction method for accurate calculations of BBR shifts in divalent systems such as Sr is discussed. High-precision methods used in the recent calculations of the BBR shifts are described. The evaluation of uncertainties in theoretical BBR shifts is discussed in detail. Results for fractional uncertainties $\delta\nu/\nu_0$ due to BBR shifts and the fractional error in the absolute transition frequencies induced by the BBR shift uncertainty at $T = 300\text{ K}$ in various frequency standards are summarized in Table VIII. As illustrated by Table VIII, the fractional errors in absolute transition frequencies induced by uncertainties in theoretical values of the BBR shift are still large for most of the optical frequency standards. Both new experiments and improvement of the theoretical accuracy will be needed to reduce these uncertainties to 10^{-18} level.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Part of this research was performed under the sponsorship of the US Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology. This work was supported in part by US National Science Foundation Grant No. PHY-07-58088

and by the RFBR grant No. 08-02-00460. MGK thanks University of Delaware for hospitality.

REFERENCES

- [1] M. Lombardi, T. Heavner, and S. Jefferts, "NIST primary frequency standards and the realization of the SI second," *Measure: The Journal of Measurement Science*, vol. 2, p. 74, 2007.
- [2] E. J. Angstmann, V. A. Dzuba, and V. Flambaum, "Frequency shift of the cesium clock transition due to blackbody radiation," *Phys. Rev.Lett.*, vol. 97, p. 040802, 2006.
- [3] K. Beloy, U. I. Safronova, and A. Derevianko, "High-accuracy calculation of the blackbody radiation shift in the ^{133}Cs primary frequency standard," *Phys. Rev.Lett.*, vol. 97, p. 040801, 2006.
- [4] E. Simon, P. Laurent, and A. Clairon, "Measurement of the stark shift of the Cs hyperfine splitting in an atomic fountain," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 57, p. 426, 1998.
- [5] International Committee for Weights and Measures, Proceedings of the sessions of the 95th meeting (October 2006), URL=<http://www.bipm.org/utis/en/pdf/CIPM2006-EN.pdf>.
- [6] A. Godone, F. Levi, S. Micalizio, E. K. Bertacco, and C. E. Calosso, "Frequency-stability performances of the pulsed optically pumped rubidium clock: recent results and future perspectives," *IEEE Transactions on Instrumentation and Measurement*, vol. 56, p. 378, 2007.
- [7] J. Vanier and C. Mandache, "The passive optically pumped Rb frequency standard: the laser approach," *Appl. Phys. B*, vol. 87, p. 565, 2007.
- [8] A. A. Madej, J. E. Bernard, P. Dube, and L. Marmet, "Absolute frequency of the $^{88}\text{Sr}^+ 5s \ ^2S_{1/2} \rightarrow 4d \ ^2D_{5/2}$ reference transition at 445 THz and evaluation of systematic shifts," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 70, p. 012507, 2004.
- [9] H. S. Margolis, G. P. Barwood, G. Huang, H. A. Klein, S. N. Lea, K. Szymaniec, and P. Gill, "Hertz-level measurement of the optical clock frequency in a single $^{88}\text{Sr}^+$ ion," *Science*, vol. 306, p. 19, 2004.
- [10] J. E. Stalnaker, S. A. Diddams, T. M. Fortier, K. Kim, L. Hollberg, J. C. Bergquist, W. M. Itano, M. J. Delany, L. Lorini, W. H. Oskay, T. P. Heavner, S. R. Jefferts, F. Levi, T. E. Parker, and J. Shirley, "Optical-to-microwave frequency comparison with fractional uncertainty of 10^{-15} ," *Appl. Phys. B*, vol. 89, p. 167, 2007.
- [11] W. H. Oskay, S. A. Diddams, E. A. Donley, T. M. Fortier, T. P. Heavner, L. Hollberg, W. M. Itano, S. R. Jefferts, M. J. Delaney, K. Kim, F. Levi, T. E. Parker, and J. C. Bergquist, "Single-atom optical clock with high accuracy," *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, vol. 97, p. 020801, 2006.

- [12] J. Stenger, C. Tamm, N. Haverkamp, S. Weyers, and H. R. Telle, "Absolute frequency measurement of the 435.5-nm $^{171}\text{Yb}^+$ -clock transition with a Kerr-lens mode-locked femtosecond laser," *Opt. Lett.*, vol. 26, p. 1589, 2001.
- [13] P. J. Blythe, S. A. Webster, H. S. Margolis, S. N. Lea, G. Huang, S.-K. Choi, W. R. C. Rowley, P. Gill, and R. S. Windeler, "Subkilohertz absolute-frequency measurement of the 467-nm electric octupole transition in $^{171}\text{Yb}^+$," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 67, p. 020501, 2003.
- [14] G. K. Campbell, A. D. Ludlow, S. Blatt, J. W. Thomsen, M. J. Martin, M. H. G. de Miranda, T. Zelevinsky, M. M. Boyd, J. Ye, S. A. Diddams, T. P. Heavner, T. E. Parker, and S. R. Jefferts, "The absolute frequency of the ^{87}Sr optical clock transition," *Metrologia*, vol. 45, pp. 539–548, 2008.
- [15] X. Baillard, M. Fouché, R. L. Targat, P. G. Westergaard, A. Lecallier, F. Chapelet, M. Abgrall, G. D. Rovera, P. Laurent, P. Rosenbusch, S. Bize, G. Santarelli, A. Clairon, P. Lemonde, G. Grosche, B. Lipphardt, and H. Schnatz, "An optical lattice clock with spin-polarized ^{87}Sr atoms," *Eur. Phys. J. D*, vol. 48, p. 11, 2008.
- [16] M. M. Boyd, A. D. Ludlow, S. Blatt, S. M. Foreman, T. Ido, T. Zelevinsky, and J. Ye, " ^{87}Sr lattice clock with inaccuracy below 10^{-15} ," *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, vol. 98, p. 083002, 2007.
- [17] S. A. Diddams, T. Udem, J. C. Bergquist, E. A. Curtis, R. E. Drullinger, L. Hollberg, W. M. Itano, W. D. Lee, C. W. Oates, K. R. Vogel, and D. J. Wineland, "An optical clock based on a single trapped $^{199}\text{Hg}^+$ ion," *Science*, vol. 293, p. 825, 2001.
- [18] M. S. Safronova and U. I. Safronova, "Blackbody-radiation shift in the rubidium frequency standard," to be submitted to *Phys. Rev. A* (2009).
- [19] B. Arora, M. S. Safronova, and C. W. Clark, "Blackbody-radiation shift in a $^{43}\text{Ca}^+$ ion optical frequency standard," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 76, p. 064501, 2007.
- [20] D. Jiang, B. Arora, M. S. Safronova, and C. W. Clark, "Blackbody-radiation shift in a $^{88}\text{Sr}^+$ ion optical frequency standard," arXiv:0904.2107, accepted for publication to *J. Phys. B* (2009).
- [21] M. S. Safronova, M. G. Kozlov, W. R. Johnson, and D. Jiang, "Development of the configuration-interaction + all-order method for atomic calculations," to be submitted to *Phys. Rev. A* (2009).
- [22] J. W. Farley and W. H. Wing, "Accurate calculation of dynamic Stark shifts and depopulation rates of Rydberg energy levels induced by blackbody radiation. Hydrogen, helium, and alkali-metal atoms," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 23, p. 2397, 1981.
- [23] W. M. Itano, L. L. Lewis, and D. J. Wineland, "Shift of $^2s_{1/2}$ hyperfine splittings due to blackbody radiation," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 25, p. 1233, 1982.
- [24] S. G. Porsev and A. Derevianko, "Multipolar theory of blackbody radiation shift of atomic energy levels and its implications for optical lattice clocks," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 74, p. 020502(R), 2006.
- [25] U. I. Safronova and M. S. Safronova, "Third-order relativistic many-body calculations of energies, transition rates, hyperfine constants, and blackbody radiation shift in $^{171}\text{Yb}^+$," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 79, p. 022512, 2009.
- [26] W. R. Johnson, U. I. Safronova, A. Derevianko, and M. S. Safronova, "Relativistic many-body calculation of energies, lifetimes, hyperfine constants, and polarizabilities in ^7Li ," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 77, p. 022510, 2008.
- [27] U. I. Safronova and M. S. Safronova, "High-accuracy calculation of energies, lifetimes, hyperfine constants, multipole polarizabilities, and blackbody radiation shift in ^{39}K ," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 78, p. 052504, 2008.
- [28] E. J. Angstmann, V. A. Dzuba, and V. V. Flambaum, "Frequency shift of hyperfine transitions due to blackbody radiation," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 74, p. 023405, 2006.
- [29] M. S. Safronova and W. R. Johnson, "All-order methods for relativistic atomic structure calculations," *Adv. At. Mol., Opt. Phys.*, vol. 55, p. 191, 2007.
- [30] G. E. Brown and D. G. Ravenhall, "On the interaction of two electrons," *Proc. Roy. Soc. A*, vol. 208, p. 552, 1951.
- [31] J. R. Mowat, "Stark effect in alkali-metal ground-state hyperfine structure," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 5, p. 1059, 1972.
- [32] A. Godone, D. Calonico, F. Levi, S. Micalizio, and C. Calosso, "Stark-shift measurement of the $^2S_{1/2}, F = 3 \rightarrow F = 4$ hyperfine transition of ^{133}Cs ," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 71, p. 063401, 2005.
- [33] M. S. Safronova, W. R. Johnson, and A. Derevianko, "Relativistic many-body calculations of energy levels, hyperfine constants, electric-dipole matrix elements, and static polarizabilities for alkali-metal atoms," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 60, p. 4476, 1999.
- [34] C. E. Moore, "Atomic energy levels," vol. II, NSRDS-NBS 35 (U.S. Govt. Printing Office, 1971).
- [35] Handbook of Basic Atomic Spectroscopic Data, <http://physics.nist.gov/PhysRefData/Handbook/index.html>.
- [36] W. R. Johnson, "Susceptibilities and shielding factors for closed-shell ions," *At. Data Nucl. Data Tables*, vol. 28, p. 334, 1983.
- [37] E. H. Pinnington, R. W. Berendst, and M. Lumsdent, "Studies of laser-induced fluorescence in fast beams of Sr^+ and Ba^+ ions," *J. Phys. B*, vol. 28, p. 2095, 1995.
- [38] J. Jin and D. A. Church, "Precision lifetimes for the $\text{Ca}^+ 4p\ ^2P$ levels: Experiment challenges theory at the 1% level," *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, vol. 70, p. 3213, 1993.
- [39] B. Arora, M. S. Safronova, and C. W. Clark, "Determination of electric-dipole matrix elements in K and Rb from Stark shift measurements," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 76, p. 052516, 2007.
- [40] M. Gunawardena, D. Elliott, M. Safronova, and U. Safronova, "Determination of the static polarizability of the $8s\ ^2S_{1/2}$ state of atomic cesium," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 75, p. 022507, 2007.
- [41] M. S. Safronova and C. W. Clark, "Inconsistencies between lifetime and polarizability measurements in Cs," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 69, p. 040501, 2004.
- [42] J. A. Sherman, A. Andalkar, W. Nagourney, and E. N. Fortson, "Measurement of light shifts at two off-resonant wavelengths in a single trapped Ba^+ ion and the determination of atomic dipole matrix elements," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 78, p. 052514, 2008.
- [43] H. Hachisu, K. Miyagishi, S. G. Porsev, A. Derevianko, V. D. Ovsianikov, V. G. Pal'chikov, M. Takamoto, and H. Katori, "Trapping of neutral mercury atoms and prospects for optical lattice clocks," *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, vol. 100, p. 053001, 2008.
- [44] V. A. Dzuba, V. V. Flambaum, and M. G. Kozlov, "Combination of the many-body perturbation theory with the configuration-interaction method," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 54, p. 3948, 1996.
- [45] S. G. Porsev, A. D. Ludlow, M. M. Boyd, and J. Ye, "Determination of Sr properties for a high-accuracy optical clock," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 78, p. 032508, 2008.
- [46] V. A. Dzuba and J. S. Ginges, "Calculation of energy levels and lifetimes of low-lying states of barium and radium," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 73, p. 032503, 2006.
- [47] J. Mitroy, J. Y. Zhang, M. W. J. Bromley, and K. G. Rollin, "Blackbody radiation shift of the Al^+ clock transition," *Eur. Phys. J. D*, vol. 53, p. 15, 2009.
- [48] S. Topcu, J. Nasser, L. M. L. Daku, and S. Fritzsche, "Ab initio calculations of external-field shifts of the 661-nm quadrupolar clock transition in neutral Ag atoms," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 73, p. 042503, 2006.
- [49] K. Hosaka, S. A. Webster, A. Stannard, B. R. Walton, H. S. Margolis, and P. Gill, "Frequency measurement of the $^2S_{1/2} - ^2F_{7/2}$ electric octupole transition in a single $^{171}\text{Yb}^+$ ion," *Phys. Rev. A*, vol. 79, p. 033403, 2009.



Marianna Safronova is an Associate Professor at the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Delaware, working in the field of Theoretical Atomic Physics. She has received her Ph. D. from the Physics Department of the University of Notre Dame in 2001. Her Theoretical Atomic physics group focuses on the development of methodologies for high-precision atomic calculations and their applications. Her research involves both the study of the fundamental physics problems (fundamental symmetries) and applications of

atomic physics to future technological developments (such as quantum computing and optical atomic clocks).



Dansha Jiang is currently pursuing a Ph. D. degree in physics at the Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Delaware, where she is working on the development of high-precision methods for atomic calculations and their applications. Her thesis advisor is Prof. Marianna Safronova.

Bindiya Arora has received her Ph.D. from the Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Delaware in 2008 for work on modeling of atomic systems for quantum information and atomic clocks. Her thesis advisor was Prof. Marianna Safronova.



Charles W. Clark is the Chief of the Electron and Optical Physics Division of the National Institute of Standards and Technology and a Fellow of the Joint Quantum Institute, University of Maryland. He received his Ph. D. in physics from the University of Chicago in 1979. He is also an Adjunct Professor at the Institute for Physical Science and Technology (UMCP) and a Program Manager for Atomic and Molecular Physics at the Office of Naval Research. His research interests include dynamics of ultracold atoms, physical implementation of quantum information processing, absolute optical radiometry with synchrotron radiation sources, quantitative tomographic imaging, and atomic electronic excitation in nuclear reactions.

His research interests include dynamics of ultracold atoms, physical implementation of quantum information processing, absolute optical radiometry with synchrotron radiation sources, quantitative tomographic imaging, and atomic electronic excitation in nuclear reactions.



Mikhail G. Kozlov is a Leading scientific collaborator at the Molecular beam laboratory, Neutron Research Division, Petersburg Nuclear Physics Institute, Russia. He is also a member of the Foundational Questions Institute (FQXi). Dr. Kozlov received his Ph. D. from the Department of Physics of the Leningrad State University, Russia, in 1982. His research interests include development of new methods in atomic and molecular theory, parity non-conservation, time-reversal violation, and permanent electric dipole moments of atoms and molecules, space-time variation of fundamental constants, and quantum chaos.



Ulyana Safronova is a Research Professor at the Department of Physics, University of Nevada, Reno, and Adjunct Professor of Physics at the University of Notre Dame. She has received Ph.D. in Physics from Vilnius University, USSR, in 1964. In 1985, she has become a Professor of Theoretical Physics, Principal Scientific Researcher at the Institute of Spectroscopy of the Russian Academy of Science, Russia. Professor Safronova's current research interests include high-precision electronic structure calculations such as relativistic many-body calculations of one, two and three valence electron systems with arbitrary core, theoretical calculation of intensity of dielectronic satellites lines, and comparison of the synthetic and experimental spectra.



Walter R. Johnson is Frank M. Freimann Professor of Physics (Emeritus) at the University of Notre Dame. He received his Ph. D. from the University of Michigan in 1957. Professor Johnson investigates relativistic and correlation effects in atoms using relativistic many-body methods derived from Quantum Electrodynamics. Particular attention is given to heavy atoms used in experimental studies of fundamental symmetry (P) and (T) violation. His current research interests also include plasma physics: average atom model and the Kubo-Greenwood theory applied to study the optical response in a warm dense plasma.

applied to study the optical response in a warm dense plasma.