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Absolute photoionization cross-section measurements of the Kr I isoelectronic sequence

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Photoionization spectra have been recorded in the 4s, 4p, and 3d resonance regions for the Kr I isoelectronic sequence using both the dual laser produced plasma (DLP) technique (at DCU) to produce photoabsorption spectra, and the merged ion beam and synchrotron radiation technique (at ASTRID) to measure absolute photoionization cross sections. Profile parameters are compared for the 4s-np resonances of Rb+ and Sr2+. Many 4p → ns, md transitions are identified with the aid of Hartree-Fock calculations, and consistent quantum defects are observed for the various ns and md Rydberg series. Absolute single and double photoionization cross sections recorded in the 3d region for Rb+ and Sr2+ ions show preferential decay via double photoionization. This is only the second report to our knowledge where both the DLP technique and the merged-beam technique have been used simultaneously to record photoionization spectra, and the advantages of both techniques (i.e., better resolution in the case of DLP and values for absolute photoionization cross sections in the case of the merged-beam technique) are highlighted.

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I. INTRODUCTION

There have been numerous systematic investigations of the photoionization of rare gas atoms [1] which were chosen for their simple spherically symmetric closed shell ground state configuration. However, the photoionization process was found to be affected by strong electron correlations and this departure from independent electron behavior resulted in complex excited electronic configuration states and decay dynamics. Dual plasma experiments [2–5], which can be performed on almost any element in any ion stage, have been an important source of experimental data on photoabsorption or photoionization of ions and continue to be an intriguing source of interesting and unusual systems. Measurement of the absolute photoionization cross section of ions with rare gas electronic structures by other methods was inhibited experimentally by the difficulty in generating a stable dense beam of ions in the ground or a selected excited state and the lack of a high flux, high spectral purity tuneable light source. The first measurements of the absolute photoionization cross section of ions (the cross section for the p → d resonances in singly ionized Ca, Sr and Ba) were performed on the Daresbury synchrotron radiation source (SRS) by Lyon et al. [6–8]. Since this pioneering work, much progress has been made in providing an intense light source which can be used in a merged-beam setup at synchrotron facilities worldwide, such as the Photon Factory in Japan, the ASTRID storage ring at the University of Aarhus in Denmark, SPring-8 facility in Japan, the Advanced Light Source at Berkeley, CA, USA, the Super-ACO in France, and in the near future at SOLEIL in France. The reader is referred to [9] for a comprehensive review of experimental progress on photoionization of atomic ions.

Experimental data on rare gaslike isoelectronic sequences are invaluable for many reasons, e.g., (i) to track the evolution of atomic dynamics with increasing nuclear charge and ionization; (ii) from a theoretical perspective, the data provide a testing ground for the many atomic codes used to predict atomic and ionic properties and to investigate the interplay between many-body electron-electron correlations and relativistic effects along each isoelectronic sequence; and (iii) measured photoexcitation and absolute photoionization cross sections are vital for correct modeling of stellar atmospheres [10].

The purpose of this paper is to investigate quantitative changes of the 4s-np, 4p → nd, ms and 3d-photoionization processes for the Kr I isoelectronic sequence by measuring the absolute single and double photoionization cross sections for Rb+ and Sr2+ ions, and to make qualitative comparisons with previous studies performed using the dual laser produced plasma (DLP) technique. The two methods are complementary; the DLP technique has access to many more ion charge states, and is excellent in providing measurements of a high spectral quality over a wide energy range. The merged-beam technique provides absolute data directly comparable with sophisticated calculations such as the R-matrix method, and is more selective in determining the charge of the parent species. However, both methods suffer from the unwanted presence of metastable species, and this remains a major problem for both techniques. We note that a combination of DLP and synchrotron data has only taken place once before [11]; in that case, DLP data and relative photoion data were analyzed simultaneously. We summarize in what follows the status concerning what is known from previous work on the corresponding spectra (and where appropriate, related ions) which will help to bring the current paper into context.
The 3s-subshell photoabsorption spectra of the Ar-isoelectronic sequence was measured by van Kampen et al. [12], followed by the absolute photoionization measurements of Kjeldsen et al. [13]. These measurements gave rise to further systematic theoretical studies of the evolution of the photoionization cross section from Ar to K+ to Ca2+ [14]. Configuration interaction between single and double electron excited states along the sequence resulted in dramatic and unexpected (for a closed shell atomic system) changes in the 3s-np resonance profiles ranging from window resonances in Ar to almost symmetric absorption lines in Ca2+. Neogi et al. [15] provided a study of the homologous 4s-np resonances of the Kr I type isoelectronic sequence in the next row of the periodic table. The greater nuclear field experienced by the np-Rydberg electron induces a coupling between the direct and correlative 4s-np transition amplitudes resulting again in a drastic change in the 4s-np resonances from Kr to Rb+ to Sr2+. A followup to this work (with an upgraded DLP system) was performed on Y3+ by Yeates et al. [16]. It was found that the 4s-5p resonance drops below the 4p ionization threshold so that the first autoionizing member of the 4s-np photoionization resonance series becomes 4s-6p. Also, whereas the first such series member in Rb+ and Sr2+ appears as a window resonance, in Y3+ it switches to a normal, slightly asymmetric absorption peak. Concerning our measurements on the 4s subshell excitations we present absolute photoionization cross sections for the 4s-np resonances in Rb+ (n=5,6) and Sr2+ (n=5). Comparisons are made between resonance profile parameters [17] determined in this work and those obtained using the dual laser produced plasma technique, and theoretical cross sections computed within the framework of the configuration interaction Pauli-Fock approach presented in [15].

In relation to measurements on 4p-subshell spectra, Epstein, Reader, and Ekberg performed an elaborate series of emission experiments on the Kr I isoelectronic sequence from Rb II to Mo VII [18]. Using a sliding spark light source, a 10.6-m normal incidence and a 5-m grazing incidence spectrograph, they recorded resonance spectra consisting of the five transitions to the 4p6 1S0 ground state from levels with J=1 in the 4p5 4d and 5s configurations and calculated ionization energies of 27.285 eV for Rb+ and 42.87 eV for Sr2+. In [19] the energy-level system of Rb+ was extended to include previously missing levels which resulted in an improved ionization energy for Rb+ of 27.289 eV. As part of the current study the photoabsorption spectra and absolute photoionization cross sections in the 4p resonance region are presented for Rb+ and Sr2+. Resonances are presented and the energies and classifications of previously identified lines are compared. Finally quantum defect analyses of the Rydberg series are presented where possible.

In order to put measurements on the 3d-subshell excitations into context it is worth considering 4d-subshell excitations in the rare earths. One of the first photoionization studies concentrating on the 4d resonance region of the Ba, Ba+, and Ba2+ isonuclear sequence was performed by Lucatorto et al. [20] using the resonance laser driven ionization (RLDI) method. Dramatic changes in the photoabsorption spectra with increasing ionization were observed—a redistribution of the 4d oscillator strength from a broad 4d → nf giant resonance to 4d → nf discrete resonance structure. As the effective charge on the nucleus increases through the removal of the screening effect of the outer 6s electrons, the f wave function collapses into the core, which increases the overlap with the 4d wave function and the 4d → nf transitions become visible. Similar experiments were performed on the next member of the Xe isoelectronic series, La2+ [21] using the DLP technique, and on the Xe isonuclear sequence up to Xe7+ using merged-beam photoion yield spectroscopy [22–25]. However, these measurements were only on a relative scale and were superseded by the absolute partial and total photoionization data that followed on Xe [26–28] and Ba ions [29]. Absolute measurements made by Anderson et al. [30] on Xe+ and Xe2+ revealed the dominant partial cross section is due to the double-photoionization process in Xe+ → Xe3+, accounting for 90% or more of the total cross section for the giant 4d resonance. Similarly for Xe2+ most of the giant resonance is due to the double-photoionization process in Xe2+ → Xe4+. Systematic studies by Kjeldsen et al. on the following isoelectronic and isonuclear sequences I+ and 39 I+ [31], 31 Cs+, Ba+, and Ba2+ [32] led to the following general conclusion: the total oscillator strength over the 4d energy region is close to ten for all atoms and ions studied, which means that the 4d shell is relatively unperturbed by other shells. In other words, correlations involving the 4d shells are relatively minor. To initiate a study that would verify whether the same holds true for the 3d subshell of homologous ions and atoms, we measure here the absolute partial cross section for single and double photoionization in the 3d region of the Kr I-type isoelectronic series, Rb+ and Sr2+. Previous DLP [33,34] and ion yield spectra [35–37] only gave relative cross sections.

The paper is arranged as follows: the experimental methods used to obtain data in this work, namely, the DLP and merged-ion beam and synchrotron radiation techniques, are described briefly in Sec. II; results for (i) the 4s-np resonances, (ii) photoabsorption spectra, and absolute photoionization cross sections for 4p → ns, md transitions, and (iii) absolute partial single- and double-photoionization cross sections in the 3d region are presented and discussed in Sec. III; and finally, we draw some conclusions in Sec. IV.

II. EXPERIMENT

The dual laser plasma (DLP) technique [38] was used to record the vacuum ultraviolet (vuv) spectra of rubidium and strontium in this experiment. A Nd:YAG laser (~0.7 J in 15 ns) was used to create the absorbing (Rb or Sr) plasma of ions, while a second Nd:YAG laser (~0.65 J in 15 ns) tightly focused onto a tungsten target was used to create the backlighting extreme ultraviolet (euv) continuum plasma. In [39] a technique of taking a suitable composite or salt target and obtaining the photoabsorption spectra of its constituent elements was applied successfully to obtain the photoabsorption spectra of neutral, singly, and doubly ionized bromine using compressed pellets of KBr and CsBr. The technique is successful as long as both constituents of the target do not have transitions occurring in the energy range of interest. Here as in [15] compressed rubidium chloride crystal pellets

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were used. Optimization of absorption due to a particular ionic species was achieved by variation of the time delay between the generation of the absorbing and continuum emitting plasmas and of the position of the absorbing plasma with respect to the optic axis. The optimum time and position for recording Rb\(^+\) ion spectra were found to be 400 ns and 1 mm, while 150 ns and 1.5 mm gave the purest Sr\(^{2+}\) spectra. Once these times and positions had been established they were fixed for the remainder of the experiment irrespective of the detector position on the Rowland circle. This ensures similar plasma conditions for each spectrum which was recorded photoelectrically with a McPherson 2.2-m grazing incidence vacuum spectrometer fitted with an image intensified microchannel plate assembly coupled to a photodiode array detector [38]. The spectra were calibrated against known emission lines of aluminum and the system has a variable instrumental resolution of 1000 or better, dependent on the photon energy range used.

The absolute photoionization cross section measurements were performed in a merged-beam layout which is described in detail by Kjeldsen et al. [13,40]. The interaction between the ions and photons was obtained by merging a beam of Rb\(^+\) or Sr\(^{2+}\) ions, of energy 2 keV multiplied by the ion charge, with a synchrotron radiation beam over an interaction length of 50 cm, and the absolute single- and double-photoionization cross sections were determined from the yield of the multiply charged ions. The experiments were performed at the undulator beam line at the 580 MeV storage ring ASTRID at the University of Aarhus. The photon flux was typically \(10^{12}\) photons s\(^{-1}\) and the absolute photoionization cross sections of Rb\(^+\) and Sr\(^{2+}\) were calculated within the framework of the configuration interaction Pauli-Fock approach. With reference to Fig. 4 of that paper a qualitative comparison (between the theoretical and experimental absolute cross sections) of the

### TABLE I. Measured profile parameters of 4s-\(np\) resonances of Rb\(^+\) and Sr\(^{2+}\).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profile parameter Rb(^+) 4s → 5p</th>
<th>(E_r) (eV)</th>
<th>(\Gamma) (eV)</th>
<th>(q)</th>
<th>(\rho)</th>
<th>(\rho^2)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>35.708(^a)</td>
<td>0.117(^a)</td>
<td>0.255(^a)</td>
<td>0.40(^a)</td>
<td>0.40±0.10(^b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>35.71±0.02(^b)</td>
<td>0.09±0.03(^b)</td>
<td>0.24±0.06(^b)</td>
<td>0.30(^b)</td>
<td>0.277(^c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>35.714(^c)</td>
<td>0.143(^c)</td>
<td>0.267(^c)</td>
<td>0.277(^c)</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profile parameter Sr(^{2+}) 4s → 5p</th>
<th>(E_r) (eV)</th>
<th>(\Gamma) (eV)</th>
<th>(q)</th>
<th>(\rho)</th>
<th>(\rho^2)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>46.91(^a)</td>
<td>0.247(^a)</td>
<td>0.268(^a)</td>
<td>0.22(^a)</td>
<td>0.22±0.05(^b)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>46.89±0.03(^b)</td>
<td>0.08±0.03(^b)</td>
<td>0.28±0.07(^b)</td>
<td>0.22(^b)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>46.889(^c)</td>
<td>0.116(^c)</td>
<td>0.266(^c)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profile parameter Rb(^+) 4s → 6p</th>
<th>(E_r) (eV)</th>
<th>(\Gamma) (eV)</th>
<th>(q)</th>
<th>(\rho)</th>
<th>(\rho^2)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>39.442(^a)</td>
<td>0.291(^a)</td>
<td>0.28(^a)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>39.436(^c)</td>
<td>0.1955(^c)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^a\)Denotes values obtained from fitting the absolute cross section data.
\(^b\)Denotes values quoted in [15] for photoabsorption data.
\(^c\)Denotes values obtained from fitting the photoabsorption data [15] using the corrections to \(\Gamma\) and \(q\) described in the text.
shapes and strengths of these resonances can be made. In the case of Rb\(^+\) the overall shapes of the resonances are in good agreement. However, the calculated cross section seems to overestimate the background continuum; for example, at 35 eV, \(\sigma \sim 12.5\) Mb, whereas \(\sigma \sim 17\) Mb in the absolute cross section measurement. Likewise for Sr\(^{2+}\), while the overall shapes of the resonances are in good agreement again the continuum background is overestimated, i.e., at 46 eV the calculated cross section \(\sigma \sim 8\) Mb and the measured absolute value is \(\sigma \sim 7\) Mb.

Table I gives the resonance profile parameters calculated from a fit to Eq. (1) of the absolute cross sections and the photoabsorption cross sections. The spectral resolutions in the two experiments are similar and the data shown in Fig. I are in good agreement, once the DLP data have been normalized to the merged-beam data. In Table I there are clearly discrepancies in the \(\Gamma\) values for Rb\(^+\) and Sr\(^{2+}\) in the case of the 4s-5p resonances; in the case of Rb\(^+\) the values calculated using the two different methods for the DLP data lie on either side of the merged-beam value. This indicates that the DLP data do not have a well defined zero in the cross section, as can also be seen from the different values obtained for \(\rho^2\). In the case of Sr\(^{2+}\) the DLP data give lower values than the merged-beam method for \(\Gamma\), but the values obtained for \(\rho^2\) are in good agreement throughout. This perhaps indicates that the DLP experimental resolution was superior in this case.

Also presented in Fig. I is the 4s-6p resonance observed in Rb\(^+\) only and a comparison with the DLP experiment. The resonance profile was not fitted in the original work [15] but has been fitted here for comparison with the absolute cross section data, using the corrections for the DLP data defined in the first paragraph of this section. The agreement is very satisfactory.

B. 4p-ns,md region

Discrete features in the 4p-photoionization spectra were assigned using the Hartree plus exchange plus relativistic corrections (HXR) of the Cowan code [49]. To compensate for the effect of missing configurations, the Slater parameters \(F^\xi\), \(G^\xi\) and the configuration parameter \(R^\xi\) were fixed at 85% of the \(ab\) initio values while the spin-orbit parameter was left unchanged. Transitions from the ground state <3d\(^{10}\)4s\(^2\)4p\(^\delta\)1S\(_0\)> of Rb\(^+\) and Sr\(^{2+}\) were identified by performing configuration interaction calculations using the following basis set: 3d\(^{10}\)4s\(^2\)4p\(^\delta\)ns,md (5 \(\leq n \leq 19\), 4 \(\leq m \leq 18\)). Table II and Table III show the calculated and observed term energies, \(gf\) values, previously known emission lines [19] and, where possible, calculated quantum defects (\(\delta\)). The \(JJ\) coupling scheme was favored over the \(LS\) coupling scheme due to the strong spin-orbit mixing of the levels. Synthetic spectra were produced by convolving the calculated oscillator strengths for each transition with an instrumental function of width 0.03 eV followed by normalization to the experimental spectrum. It must be noted that while the energies in the synthetic spectra are usually quite accurate, the relative intensities cannot be compared quantitatively with the absolute cross sec-
The experimental absolute photoionization cross section for Rb⁺ in the region of 4p → ns, md excitations.

Black DLP, blue absolute single-photoionization spectrum, and red synthetic spectrum shifted by −0.015 eV.

TABLE II. Observed and calculated energies and $gf$ values for the $3d^{10}4s^24p^6 \rightarrow 3d^{10}4s^24p^5nd, ms$ transition array of Rb⁺. The final state $JJ$ coupling of the $4p^5$ core is denoted in brackets by $J_{\text{core}}, J_{nl}$.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Upper state</th>
<th>$E_{\text{expt}}$ (eV)</th>
<th>$E_{\text{emis}}$ (eV)</th>
<th>$E_{\text{calc}}$ (eV)</th>
<th>$gf$ value</th>
<th>$\delta$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6d(3/2, 5/2)$^a$</td>
<td>24.93</td>
<td>24.929$^a$</td>
<td>24.9313</td>
<td>0.53</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8d(3/2, 5/2)$^a$</td>
<td>25.77</td>
<td>25.77$^a$</td>
<td>25.7530</td>
<td>0.24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8d(3/2, 5/2)$^a$</td>
<td>26.11</td>
<td>26.1090$^a$</td>
<td>26.0542</td>
<td>0.22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11d(3/2, 5/2)$^a$</td>
<td>26.37</td>
<td>26.5976$^a$</td>
<td>26.5270</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td>3.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7d(3/2, 5/2)$^a$</td>
<td>26.50</td>
<td>26.6342</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12d(3/2, 5/2)$^a$</td>
<td>26.60</td>
<td>26.7194</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>3.12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13d(3/2, 5/2)$^a$</td>
<td>26.72</td>
<td>26.7845</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>3.20</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9d(1/2, 3/2)$^a$</td>
<td>27.00</td>
<td>27.1055</td>
<td>0.22</td>
<td>2.27</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10d(1/2, 3/2)$^a$</td>
<td>27.31</td>
<td>27.3099</td>
<td>0.28</td>
<td>2.22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11d(1/2, 3/2)$^a$</td>
<td>27.50</td>
<td>27.4695</td>
<td>0.22</td>
<td>2.21</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12d(1/2, 3/2)$^a$</td>
<td>27.63</td>
<td>27.5900</td>
<td>0.17</td>
<td>2.23</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>13d(1/2, 3/2)$^a$</td>
<td>27.74</td>
<td>27.6814</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>2.22</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>14d(1/2, 3/2)$^a$</td>
<td>27.82</td>
<td>27.7519</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>2.04</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>15d(1/2, 3/2)$^a$</td>
<td>27.89</td>
<td>27.8072</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td>1.92</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16d(1/2, 3/2)$^a$</td>
<td>27.95</td>
<td>27.8515</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>1.34</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$^a$Calculated energies are shifted by −0.015 eV. Assignments in this work have been made using the $jj$ coupling scheme and vary slightly from the original assignments made in the $J_{1l}$ coupling scheme (for details of previous assignments see [19]).

FIG. 2. (Color online) The experimental absolute photoionization cross section for Rb⁺ in the region of 4p → ns, md excitations. (Black) DLP, (blue) absolute single-photoionization spectrum, and (red) synthetic spectrum shifted by −0.015 eV.
tion measurements and are presented as a qualitative guide only. Figure 2 shows the $4p$-photoabsorption spectrum, the absolute $4p$-photoionization cross section, and the synthetic spectrum for Rb$^+$. As noted in Sec. I, Reader [19] established the ionization energy of Rb$^+$ to be 27.2898±0.0001 eV, the $2P_{3/2}$ series limit of Rb$^{2+}$ with the $2P_{1/2}$ series limit lying 0.914 33 eV above this [19]. The most intense features are due to the $4p \rightarrow nd$ transitions which are quite complicated below the $2P_{3/2}$ limit. Although good agreement is obtained between lines recorded here and previously identified lines [19], a complete quantum defect analysis was not possible. Above the ionization threshold a clear Rydberg series of $4p \rightarrow nd$ transitions converging on the $2P_{1/2}$ limit is observed both in the DLP and merged-beam experiments. Autoionization calculations were not performed, however, as the calculated ionization energy (27.497 eV) for Rb$^{2+}$ does not coincide with the actual ionization energy. A quantum defect analysis (presented in Table II) gave acceptable values for $n=9$ to $n=15$. However there was some difficulty in determining the peak energies as most of this Rydberg series consists of a blend of a number of $md$ and $ns$ transitions, the $ns$ transitions being too weak to be prominent to any observable degree in the synthetic spectra. The $md$ energies were chosen to be the center of the first Gaussian profile encountered on increasing energy (as is expected $md$ followed by less intense $ns$).

The $4p$-photoabsorption spectrum, the absolute $4p$-photoionization cross section, and the synthetic spectrum for Sr$^{2+}$ are shown in Fig. 3. The ionization energy of Sr$^{2+}$ is 42.87 eV [18], the $2P_{3/2}$ series limit of Sr$^{3+}$, and the $2P_{1/2}$ series limit lies at 1.2061 eV higher [50]. Numerous $nd$ and $ns$ energy levels are classified in Table III, with the results of the quantum defect analysis proving to be more consistent for the $ms$ levels. Above the ionization threshold one observes one or two possible resonances in the absolute photoionization cross section. These are not reproduced in the photoabsorption spectrum but are reproduced in the synthetic
spectrum. Overall agreement between experiment and theory is good, in particular the energy positions. In the case of the continuum cross sections, we are aware of one calculation relevant to this work \cite{51}, but it is difficult to make a direct comparison since data specifically for Rb\textsuperscript{+} and Sr\textsuperscript{2+} were not presented. However, the indication in that paper was that the continuum cross section should lie between 20 and 50 Mb, in broad agreement with our results.

FIG. 3. (Color online) The experimental absolute photoionization cross section for Sr\textsuperscript{2+} in the region of 4p→ns, md excitations. (Blue) DLP, (black) absolute single-photoionization spectrum, (red) synthetic spectrum, and (gray) synthetic metastable spectrum (divided by 100).

FIG. 4. (Color online) The experimental absolute photoionization cross section for (a) Rb\textsuperscript{+} and (b) Sr\textsuperscript{2+} in the region of 3d excitations. Absolute single photoionization (black) and absolute double photoionization (red) are presented.
Contributions from metastable states were observed in the photoabsorption spectrum, the closest lying metastable level to the ground state being $4s^24p^5$ with a calculated average energy of 28.388 eV. To estimate the contribution from these metastable states, a separate calculation was performed using the following basis set to account for these metastable contributions:

$$4s^24p^5 \rightarrow 4p^44s^pns, md$$

The synthetic spectrum was calculated in the usual way, i.e., the resulting oscillator strengths were convolved with a Gaussian instrument function of width 0.045 eV and superimposed on the ground state spectrum shown in Fig. 3. Note that this spectrum had to be scaled by a factor of 100 to bring it in line with the experimental spectra, which means that even a small amount of this state being populated could be problematic for the merged-beam measurements. However, judging from the data shown in Figs. 2–4, where it can be seen that the cross section is close to zero just below the threshold for ionization, the contribution from metastable levels to the merged-beam data seemed negligible and our conclusion is that, within the uncertainty given above, the absolute data are reliable.
C. 3d region

The experimental photoionization cross sections for Rb$^+$ and Sr$^{2+}$ in the 3d region are shown in Fig. 4. The $3d^104s^24p^6 \rightarrow 3d^24s^24p^9np$ transitions have been recorded previously using the DLP technique for Rb$^+$ and Sr$^{2+}$ \cite{33,34}, which offers better resolution (~200 meV) than is possible with the merged-beam experiment (~730 meV and ~1100 meV, respectively) in this photon energy range. As was the case for the Xe$^+$ ion the dominant process is double photoionization, i.e., $Rb^+ \rightarrow Rb^{3+}$ and $Sr^{2+} \rightarrow Sr^{4+}$.

Double photoionization cannot be explained within the framework of a single-particle model such as the Hartree-Fock method used here and so as a visual aid and following the work of \cite{36}, Fig. 5 shows Grotrian diagrams for the possible decay schemes in both single and double photoionization. Known energy levels and ionization potentials (IP) were taken from the following sources: Rb$^+$ $27.2898\pm0.0001$ eV \cite{19}, Rb$^{2+}$ $39.0\pm0.3$ eV \cite{18}, Rb$^{3+}$ $52.198\pm0.248$ eV \cite{52}, Sr$^{2+}$ $42.87$ \cite{18}, and Sr$^{3+}$ $56.3\pm0.2$ eV \cite{50}. Unknown energy levels and the Sr$^{4+}$ ionization potential (estimated to be $\sim115.5$ eV) were obtained from ab initio calculations performed using the HXR mode of the Cowan code \cite{49}. The single-photoionization cross section arises from either direct photoionization to the ground state $4s^24p^6$ of Rb$^{2+}$ or by the following allowed Auger decay schemes \cite{53}.

\begin{equation}
(3d^44s^24p^6np,mp) \rightarrow Rb^{3+}(3d^104s^24p^5ns,md) + e_1
\end{equation}

\begin{equation}
\rightarrow Rb^{4+}(3d^24s^24p^4ns,md) + e_2
\end{equation}

\begin{equation}
\rightarrow Rb^{5+}(3d^34s^04p^9ns,md) + e_3.
\end{equation}

Likewise, double photoionization can occur via direct photoionization to the ground state $4s^24p^6$ of Rb$^{3+}$ or by the following energetically allowed Auger decay scheme, $(3d^44s^24p^6np,mp) \rightarrow Rb^{4+}(3d^104s^24p^5ns,md) + 2e$; it has long been known that it is the latter which is responsible for the major part of the d-shell continuum cross section. A similar situation exists for Sr$^{2+}$ as is illustrated in Fig. 5. The preferential decay via double photoionization which accounts for 90% of the total 4d cross section in Xe$^+$ is again observed here for the early members of the Kr I isoelectronic sequence for the total 3d cross section. However, comparisons of the 3d oscillator strengths cannot be made as this would require measurements over a far greater spectral range than is accessible either in the DLP or the merged-beam experiment. Indeed with increasing photon energies, resolution becomes poorer and contributions from scattered light can inhibit measurements.

IV. CONCLUSION

The 4s-, 4p-, and 3d-photoionization spectra have been recorded for the first members of the Kr I isoelectronic sequence, namely Rb$^+$ and Sr$^{2+}$. Photoabsorption spectra were recorded using the dual laser produced plasma technique and absolute photoionization cross section measurements were made using the merged ion beam and synchrotron setup at ASTRID. Good agreement was observed in the case of the fitted profile parameters for the 4s-5p resonances of Rb$^+$ while the reason for the relatively poor agreement in the case of the resonance width for Sr$^{2+}$ was not clear, but could be due to the poorer resolution of the absolute cross section measurement. Many $4p \rightarrow ns,md$ transitions identified with the aid of Hartree-Fock calculations were presented and consistent quantum defects were observed for the various $ns$ and $md$ Rydberg series in both Rb$^+$ and Sr$^{2+}$. In agreement with previous observations \cite{30}, partial single and double absolute photoionization cross sections recorded in the 3d region for Rb$^+$ and Sr$^{2+}$ ions show preferential decay via double photoionization. Problems due to contamination from metastable species remain, although in the case of the merged beam data presented here, are unlikely to have affected the result. It is hoped that the measurements presented here will encourage further theoretical developments, leading to a greater understanding of the underlying atomic dynamics in the Kr I isoelectronic sequence.

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